[redacted] TELEPHONE LOG

Call to: Dave Mayack, Hale Creek Field Station, NYSDEC
Telephone Number: 518-773-7318
Call from: Helen Chernoff, TAMS Consultants, Inc.
Date: 30 August 1999
Subject: Hudson River Furbearer Studies

Dave Mayack at the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Hale Creek Field Station was contacted for information on Hudson River mink and river otter. He said that Foley had published some organochlorine data from 1983/84 on Hudson River mink and otter. Concentrations of PCBs were greater in river otter, which feed almost exclusively on aquatic prey. Mink have a more varied diet and therefore concentrations are lower than in otter. Two otter were observed to have some (reproductive?) impairment. The degree of dietary exposure is the critical factor in exposure to organochlorines.

Currently NYSDEC is conducting a telephone survey of trappers to establish mink takes. DNA work on relatedness on mink/otter individuals is also being considered to help determine the immigration rates.

Samples collected in 1999 are going to the lab. Mink, otter, and muskrat have been collected from the Upper Hudson River.