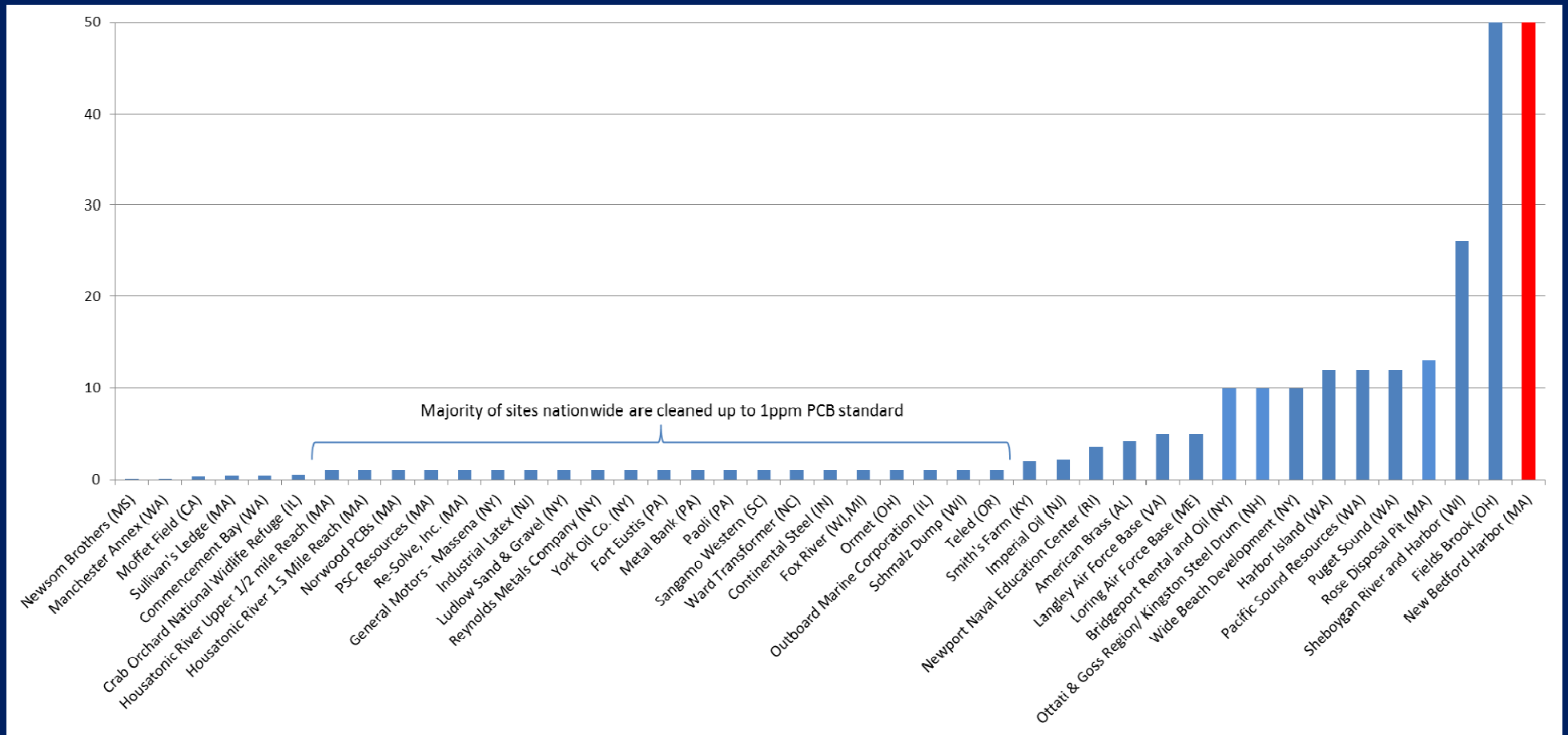


National Comparison of PCB-Contaminated Aquatic Sediment Superfund Site Cleanup Levels

US EPA-Selected Cleanup Levels in ppm representing the Maximum Level of PCB Contamination Left Behind by EPA after “Cleanup”



Notes:

(1) For the sites above, EPA selected a cleanup level based on a target PCB concentration in sediments after removal action was taken. Depending on the site, these cleanup levels are referred to as a ‘remedial action level’, a ‘cleanup standard’, a ‘sediment target level’, a ‘sediment quality criteria’ or a ‘cleanup goal’. The Hudson River (NY) and Onandaga Lake (NY) Superfund Sites also met our search criteria for this national comparison but were not included in this graph as EPA did not specify a ‘cleanup value’ for PCBs in sediment but rather selected, in the case of the Hudson, a “mass per unit area (MPA)” method of cleanup and at Onandaga, a “probable effect quotient” rather than selecting a concentration. Therefore, they are not readily comparable to the sediment target level used at the vast majority of sites across the country.

(2) Fields Brook, OH and New Bedford Harbor are dramatically different sites. New Bedford Harbor contains more than 900,000 cubic yards of sediment at PCB-contamination levels of up to 10,000ppm. The Fields Brook site in Ohio is 53,000 cubic yards with maximum PCB-contamination levels of 610 ppm. Also, Fields Brook is a relatively small site in active industrial use which bears little, if any, resemblance to the complexity of residential, recreational, commercial and industrial land uses surrounding New Bedford Harbor.