

West Valley Probabilistic Performance Assessment (PPA) Exposure Scenarios

Neptune and Company, Inc.
August 26, 2026



QPM Exposure Scenario Topics

August 2026 QPM

1. Summary of modeling approach, development of parameter values, and exposure routes
2. On-Site Resident Farmer exposure scenario
3. Off-Site Resident Farmer exposure scenario and recreational activities

Future QPM

1. Development of the Seneca Nation traditional lifeways exposure scenario
2. Evaluation of Lake Erie and Niagara River drinking water supply exposures



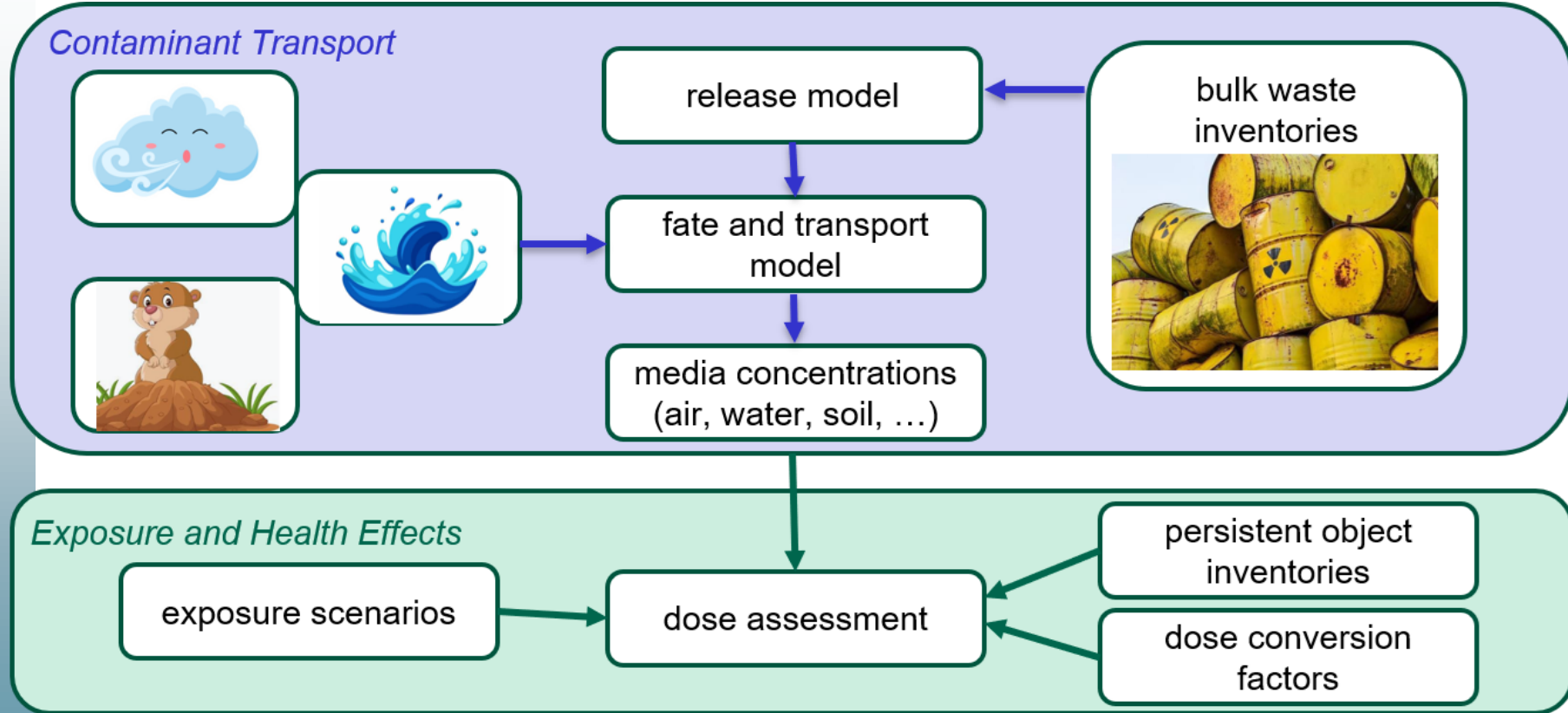
Focus of August QPM Exposure Scenario Topics

Address request to discuss several specific topics:

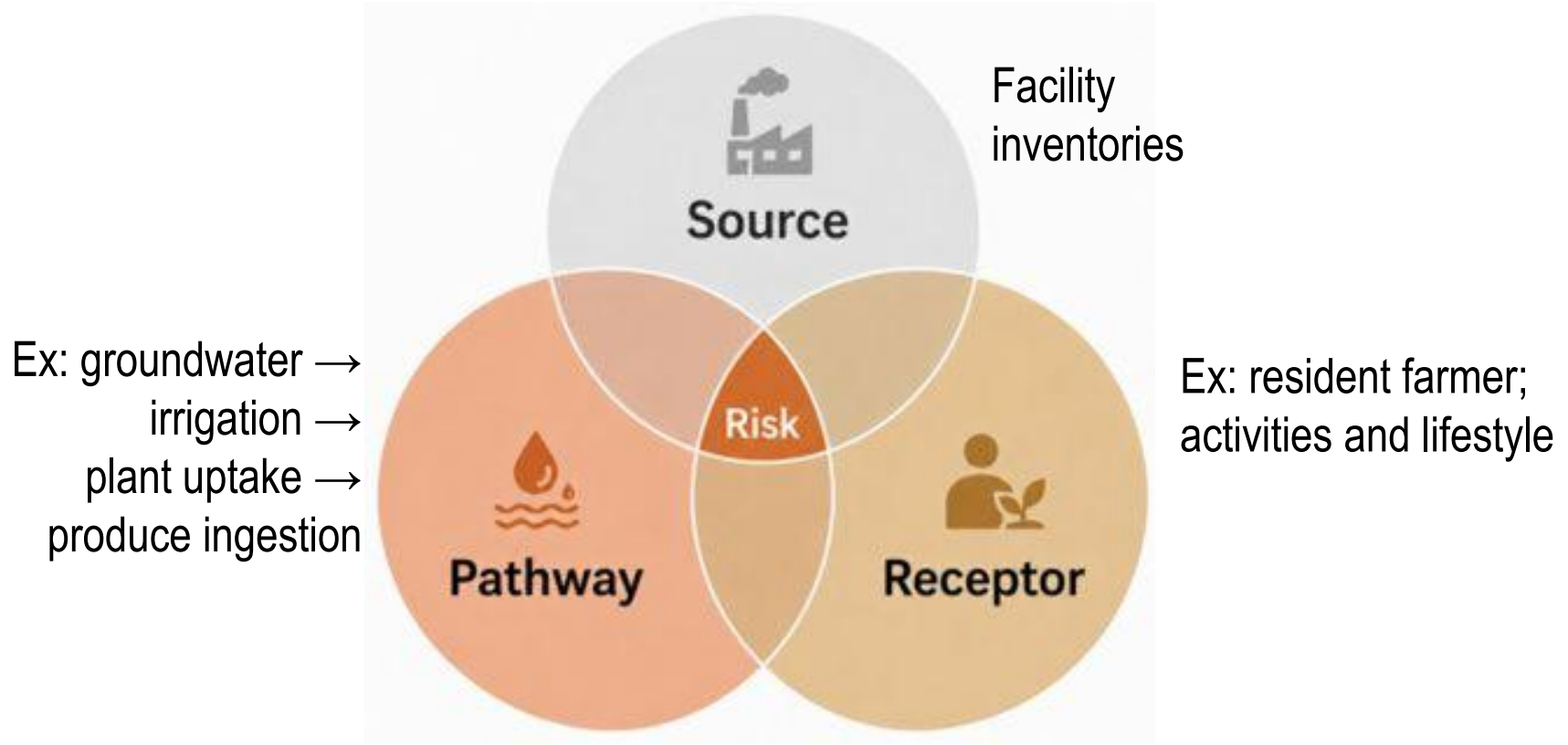
- exposure parameter values, and which are probabilistic vs. deterministic
- exposure routes, and relationship to gamma, beta, and alpha radiation types
- primary exposure pathways and On-Site and Off-Site exposure scenarios
- primary transport pathways
- consideration of recreational exposures in the Zoar Valley



Performance Assessment Modeling Framework



Risk Assessment Modeling Framework



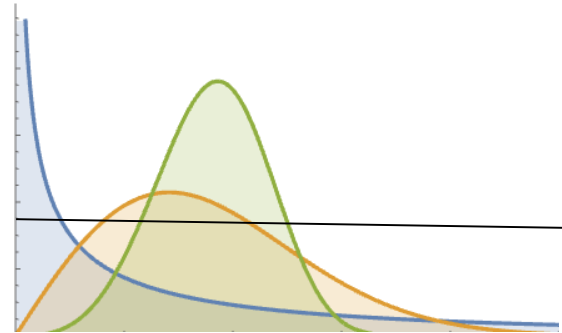
Deterministic vs. Probabilistic Parameters

Deterministic Parameters (a single value):

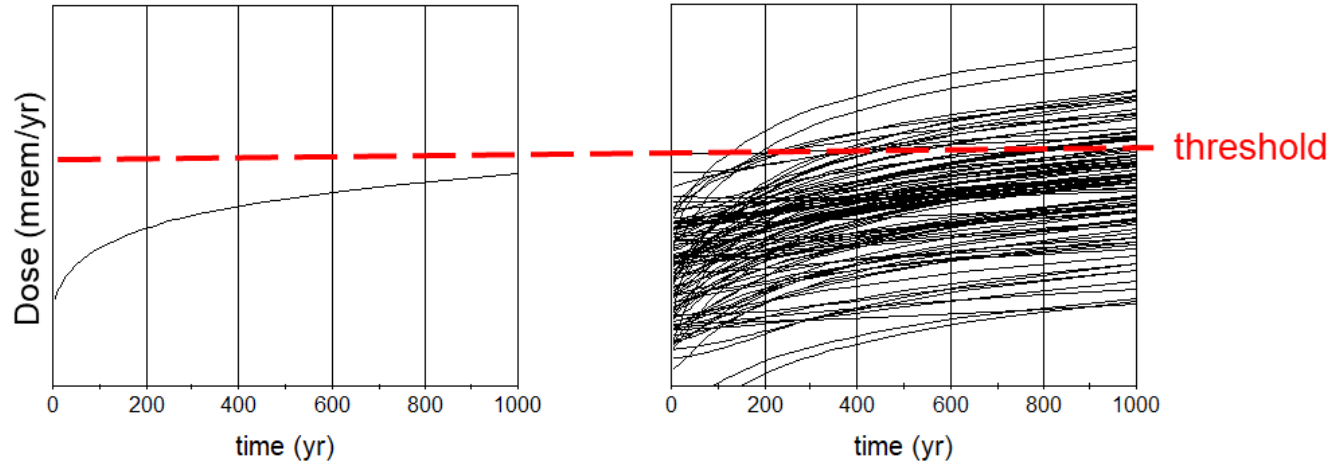
- Dose-response values (Ex: radiological dose coefficients)

Probabilistic Parameters (a distribution of values):

- Exposure variables (Ex: food and water ingestion rates, indoor and outdoor exposure times)
- Transfer factors (Ex: plant-to-soil concentration ratios)
- Almost everything else in the Probabilistic Performance Assessment model!

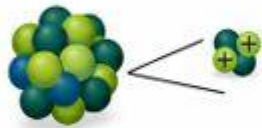


Output of Deterministic vs. Probabilistic Methods



- Does not represent uncertainty
- Decision appears clearer than it really is
- Reflects uncertainty clearly
- Decision accommodates state of knowledge

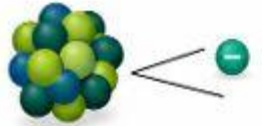
Types of Radiation



α

Alpha particles

Stopped by a sheet of paper and cannot penetrate the outer dead layer of skin.



β

Beta particles

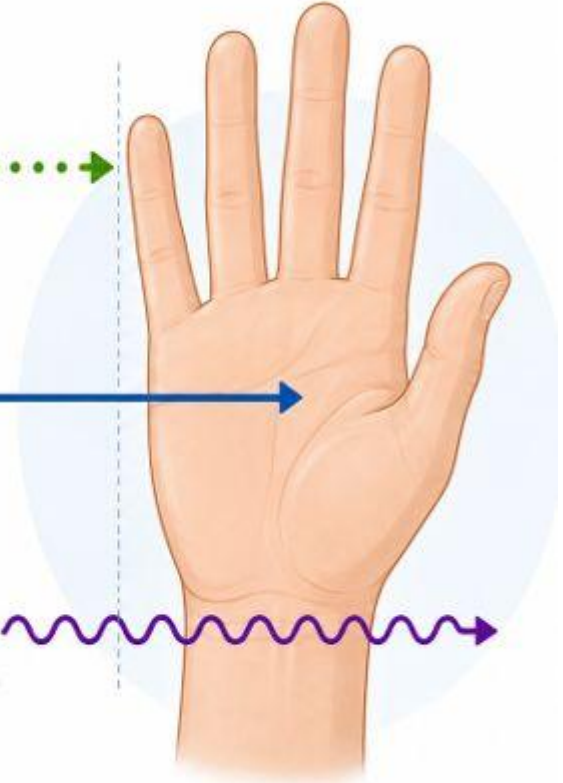
Stopped by clothing or a thin sheet of material, such as aluminum.



γ

Gamma rays and X-rays

Stopped by several feet of concrete or a few inches of lead.



Exposure Routes and Radiation

External Radiation Exposure Route

- Surface soil and sediment, subsurface soil (basement exposure), and persistent objects such as pieces of activated metal like fuel cladding hulls
- Primarily gamma and x-ray radiation, and skin dose for beta radiation

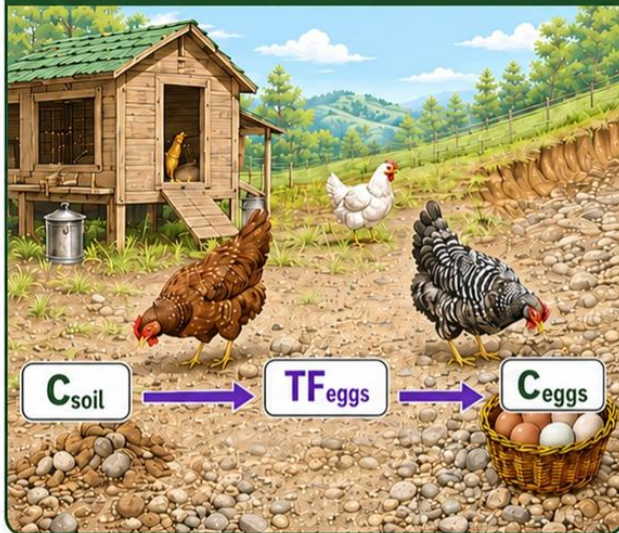
Ingestion and Inhalation Exposure Routes

- Surface soil and sediment (ingestion), surface and well water (ingestion), home-produced foods (ingestion; produce, chicken meat and eggs, milk, fish), and air (inhalation of fine particulates and gases)
- Alpha, beta, and gamma/x-ray radiation, with alpha being the most damaging

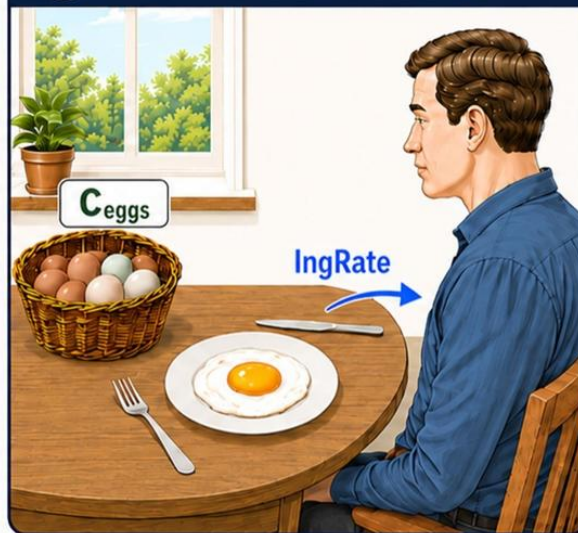


Simplified Dose Calculation: Egg Ingestion Dose from Contaminated Soil

① Chickens Exposed to Contaminated Soil



② Ingestion of Home-Raised Eggs



③ Radiation Dose



DCF

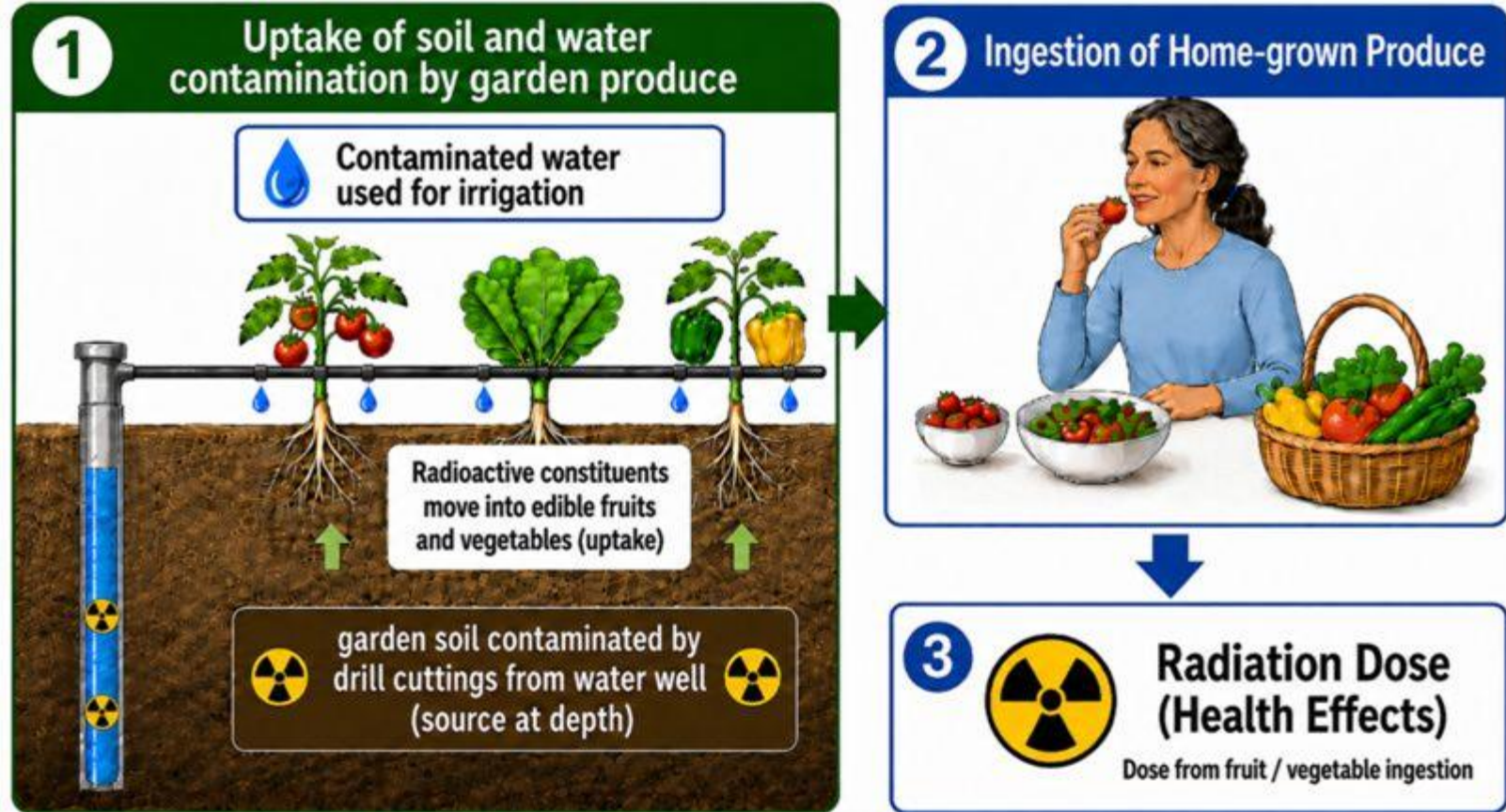
Dose Conversion Factor

Converts ingested radioactivity to dose

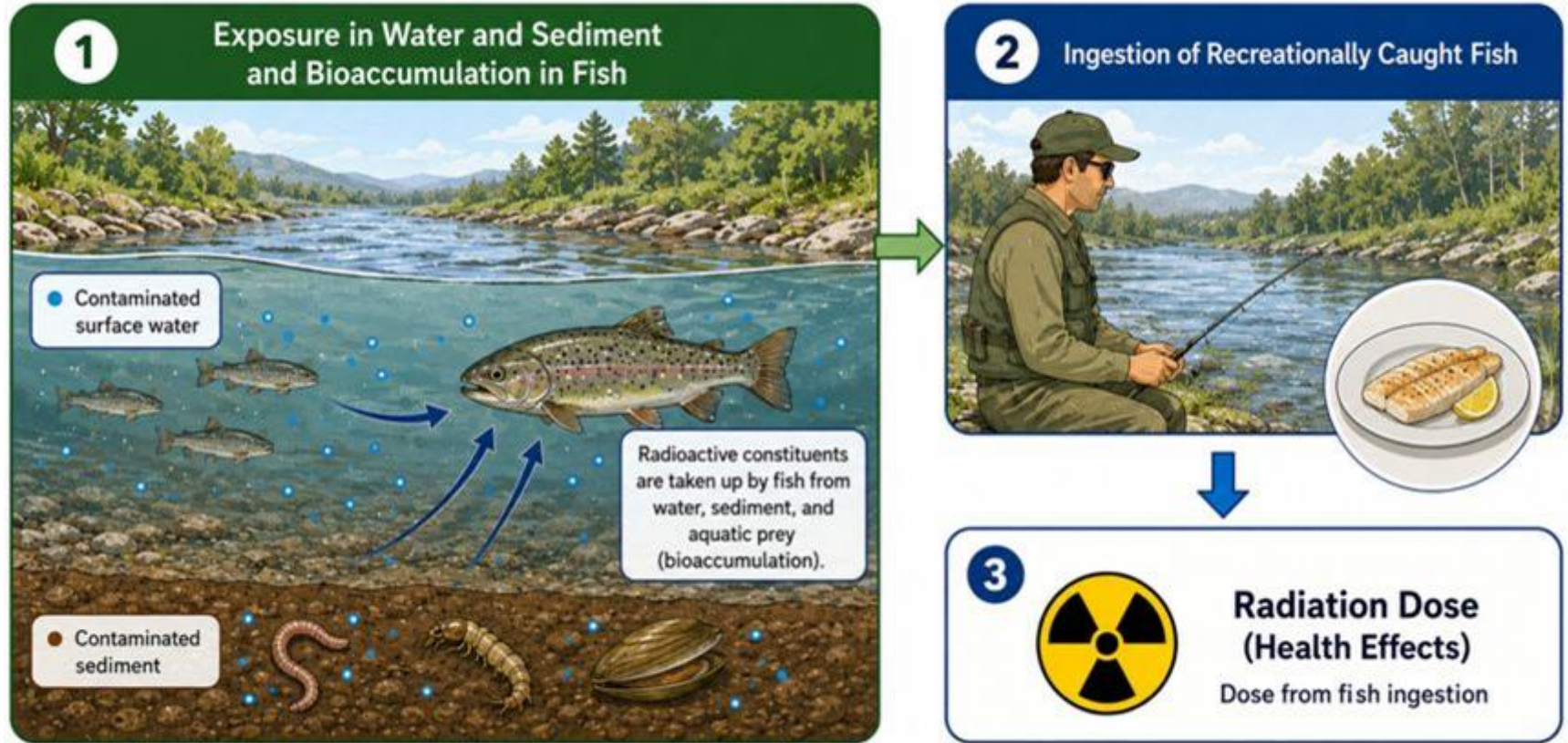
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{①} \\
 C_{\text{soil}} \\
 \text{Concentration of radioactivity in soil}
 \end{array}
 \times
 \begin{array}{c}
 TF_{\text{eggs}} \\
 \text{Soil-to-egg transfer factor}
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 C_{\text{eggs}} \\
 \text{Concentration of radioactivity in eggs}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{②} \\
 C_{\text{eggs}} \\
 \text{Concentration of radioactivity in eggs}
 \end{array}
 \times
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{IngRate} \\
 \text{Ingestion rate}
 \end{array}
 \times
 \begin{array}{c}
 \text{DCF} \\
 \text{Dose Conversion Factor}
 \end{array}
 = \text{Dose}$$

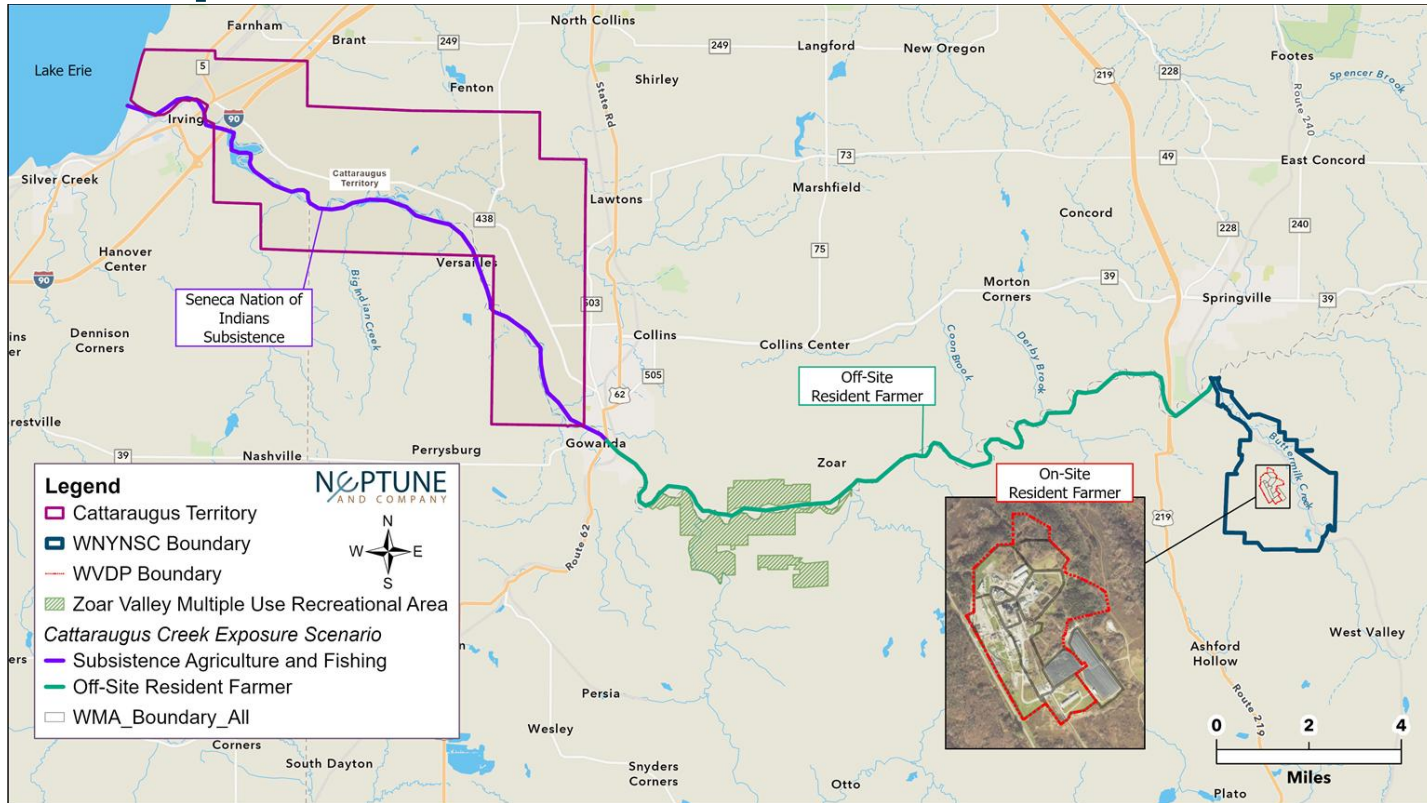
Example Dose Pathway: Fruit and Vegetable Ingestion



Example Dose Pathway: Fish Ingestion

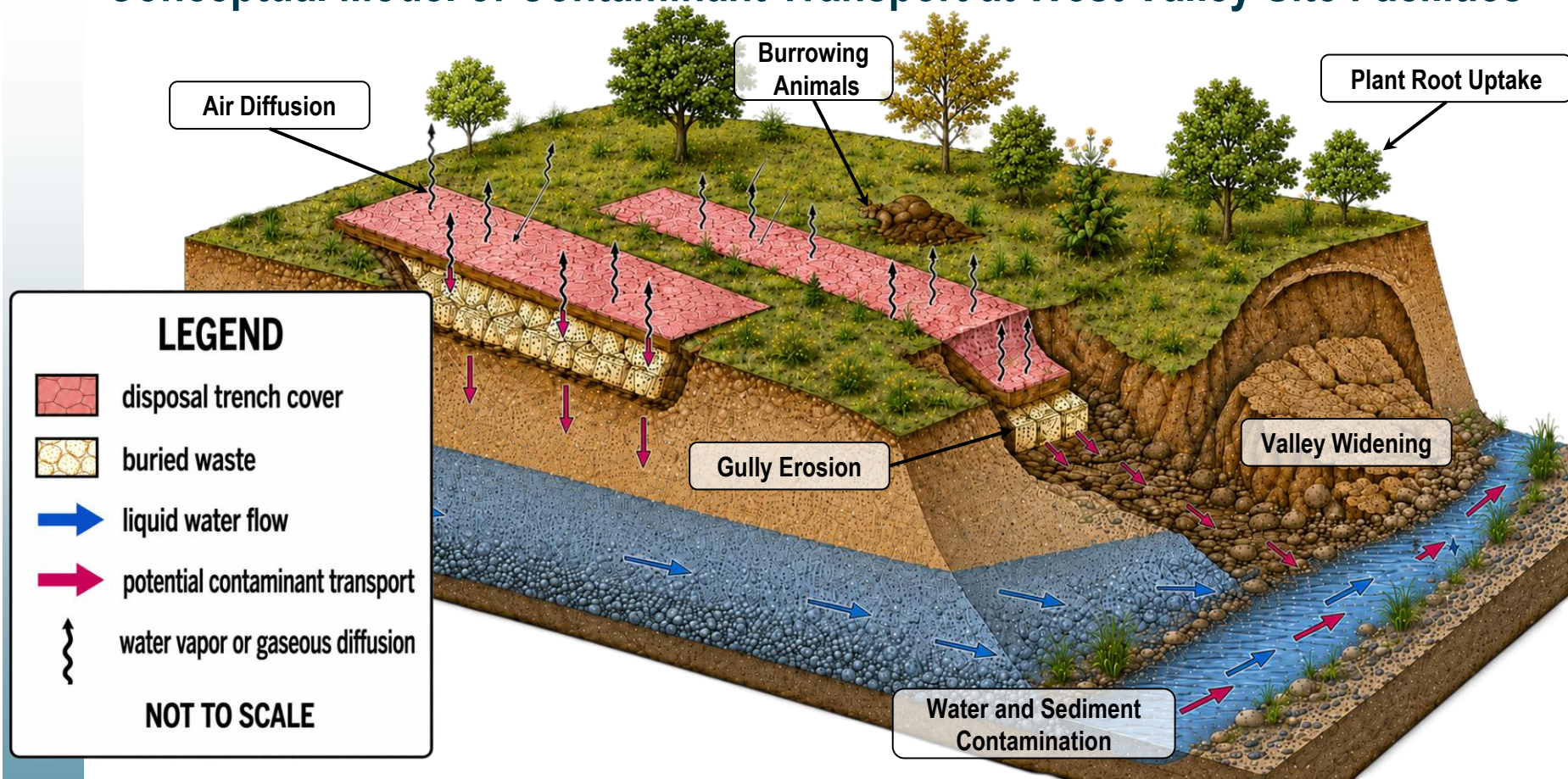


Exposure Scenarios and Locations

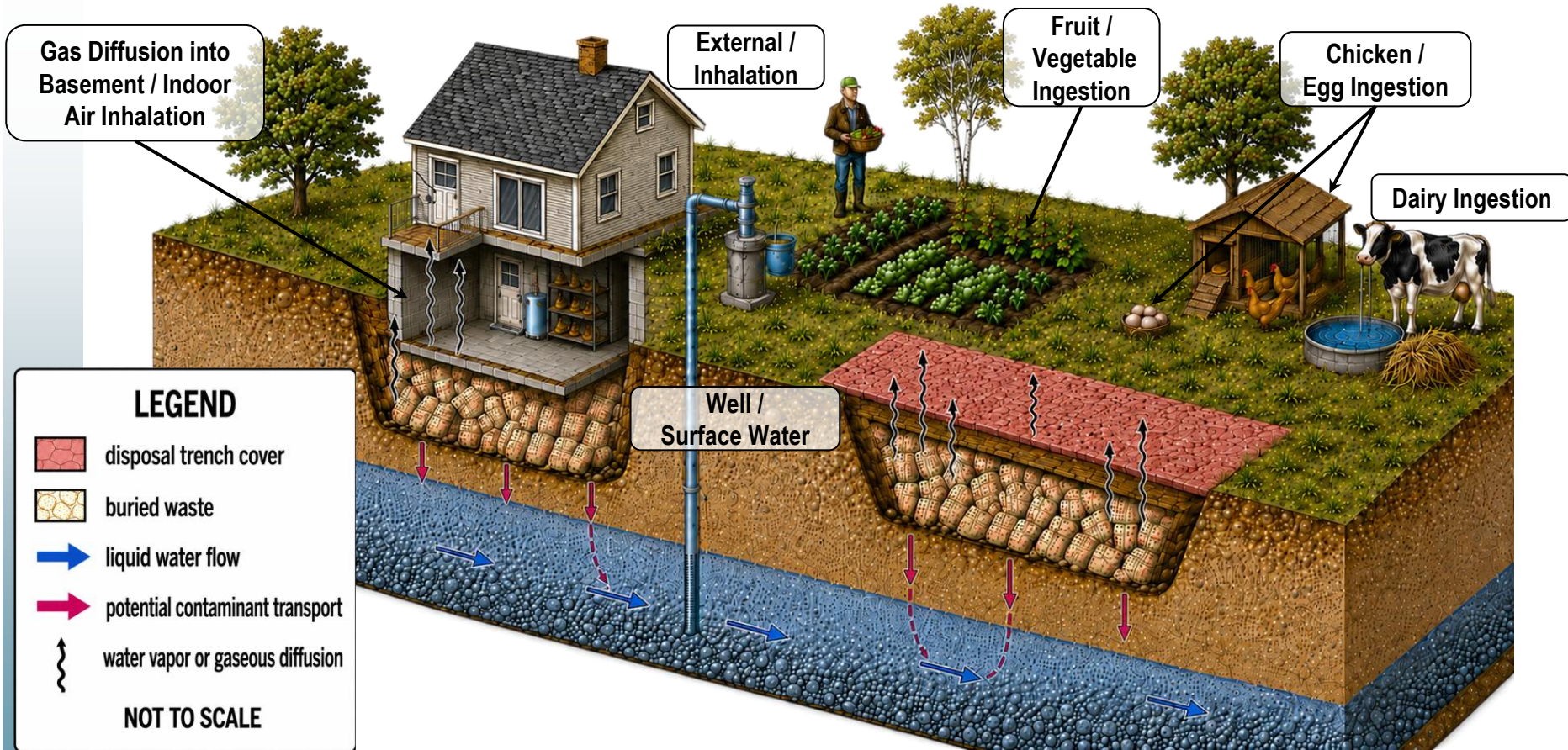


Locations of Cattaraugus Creek Exposure Scenarios

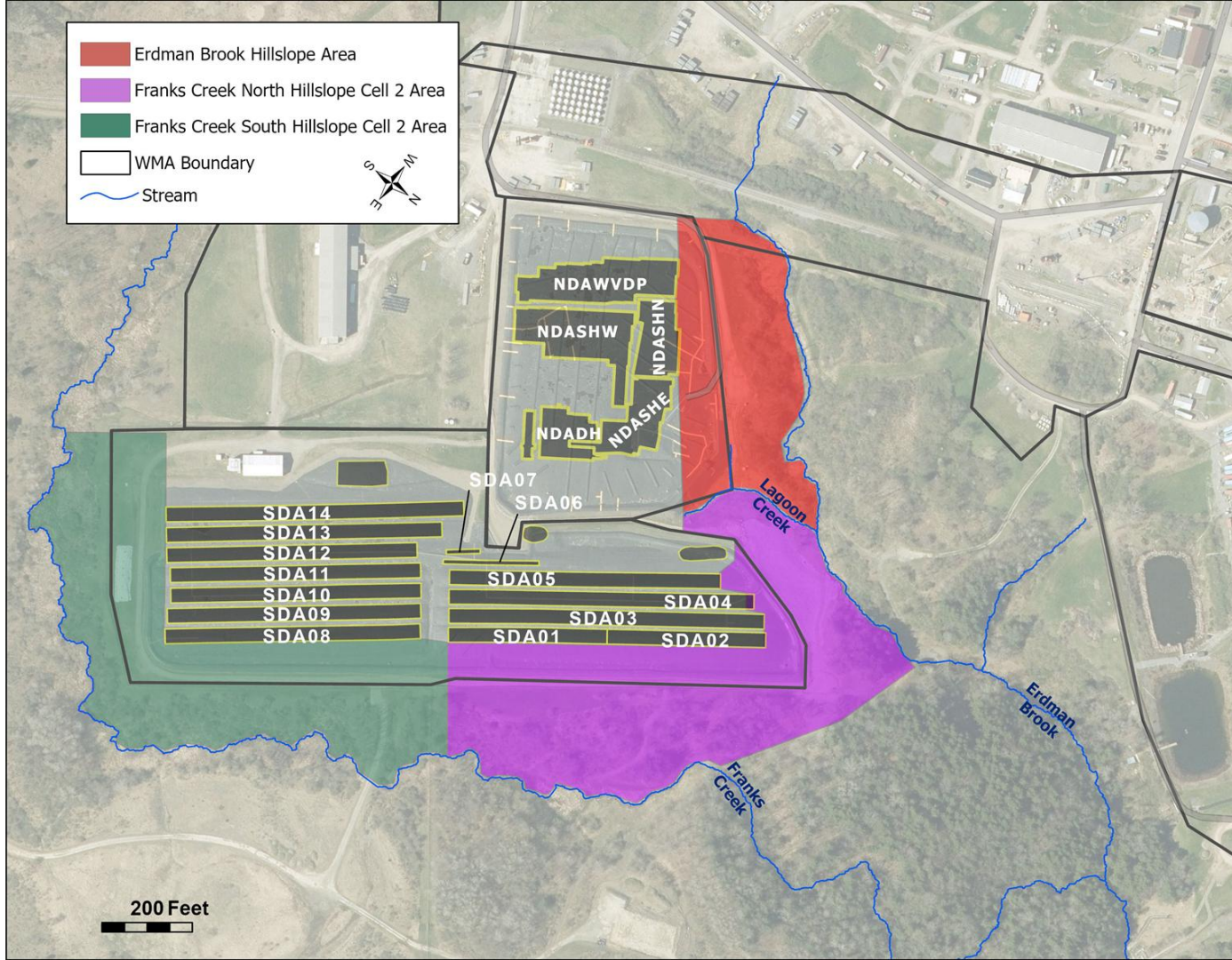
Conceptual Model of Contaminant Transport at West Valley Site Facilities



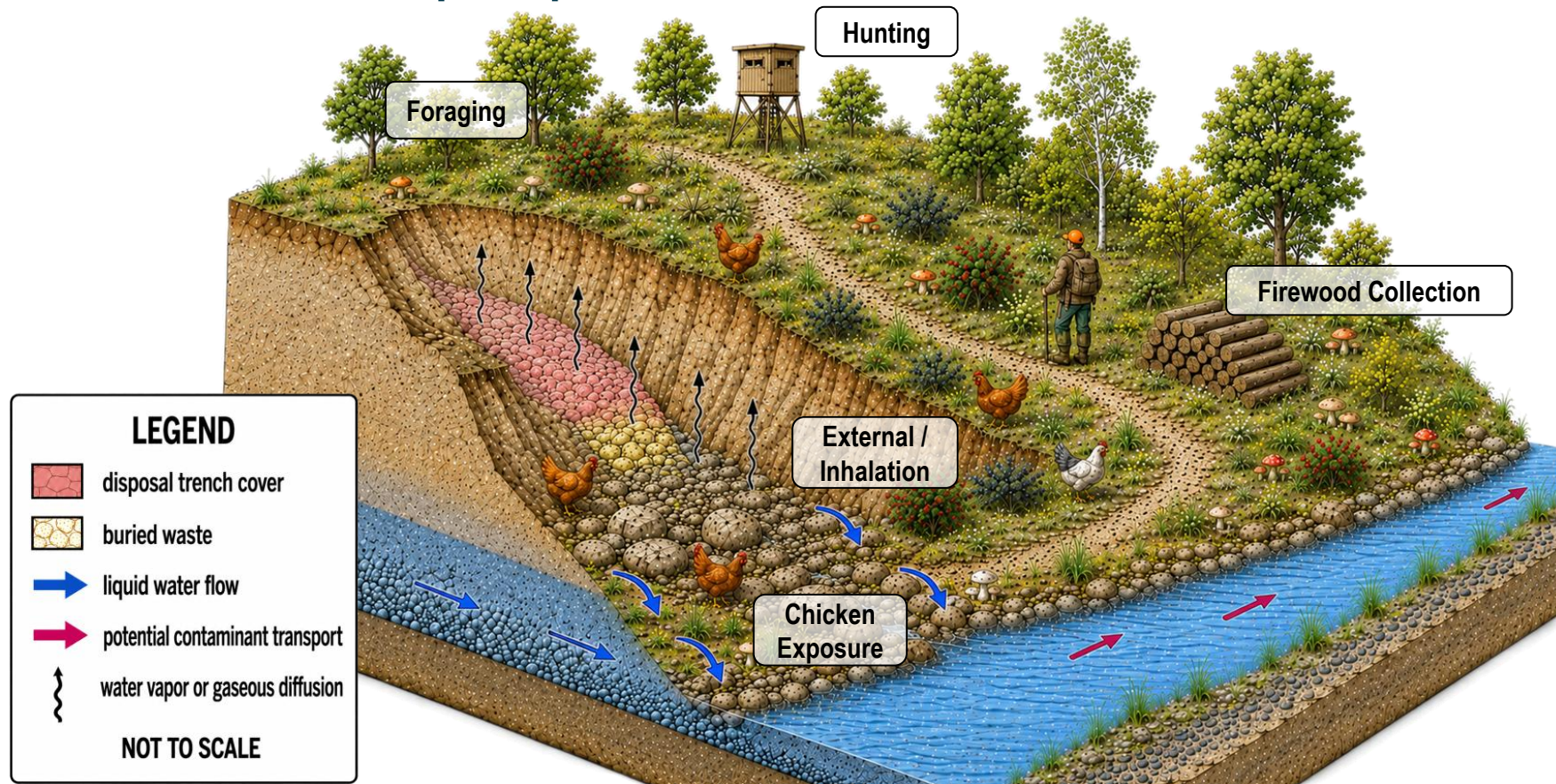
On-Site Resident Farmer Exposure Scenarios



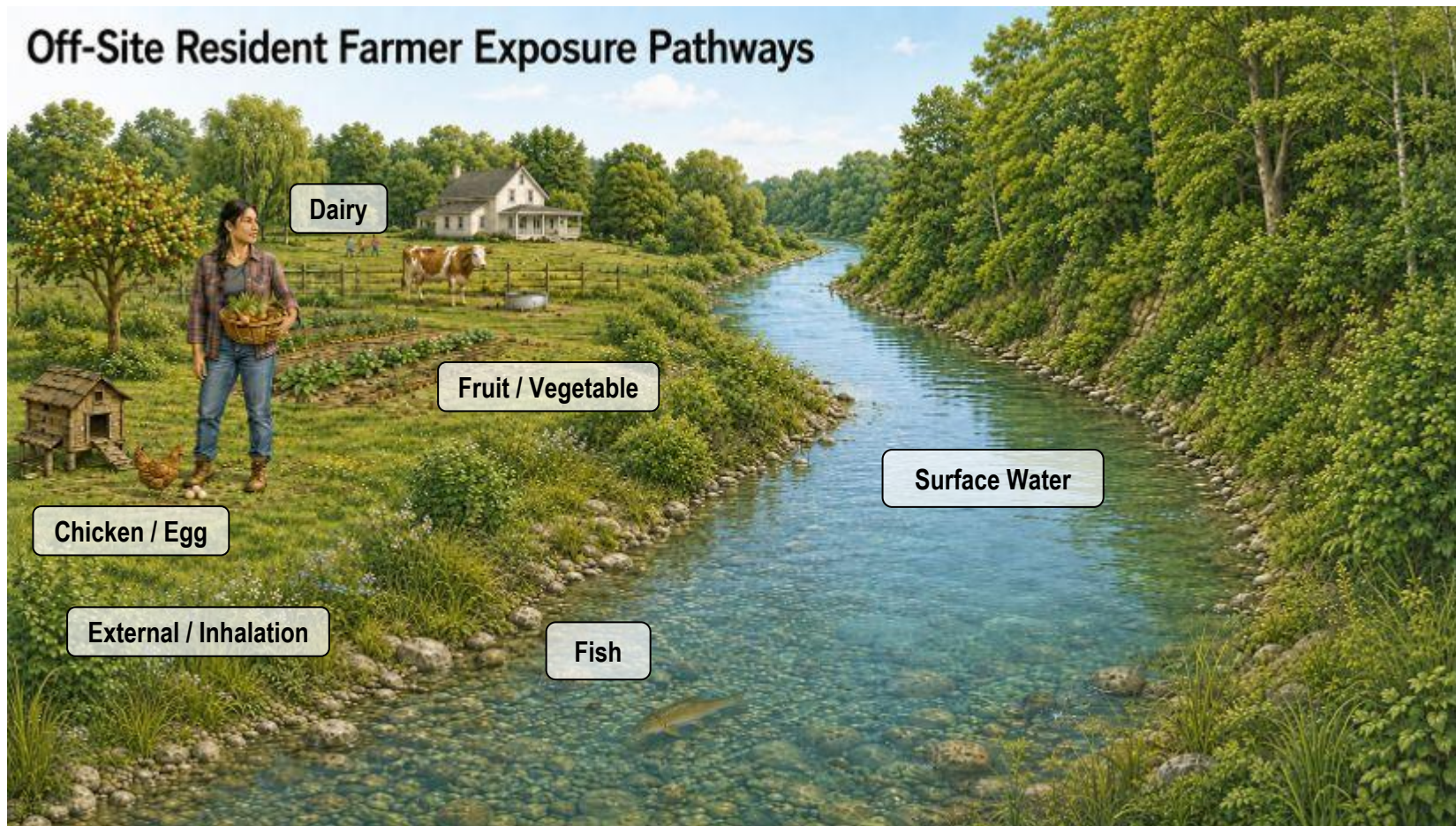
Hillslopes Visualization South Plateau



Hillslope Exposure to On-Site Resident Farmer



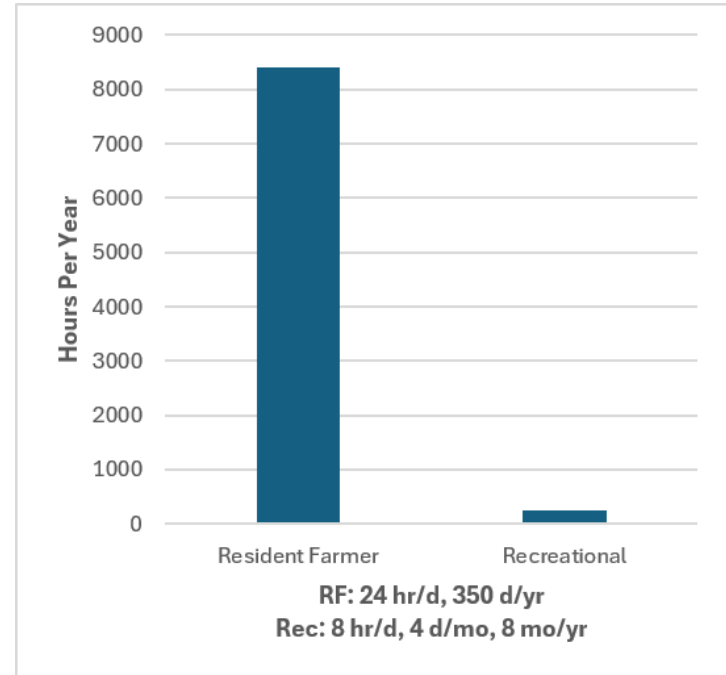
Off-Site Resident Farmer Exposure Pathways



Hikers in Zoar Valley (Recreational)

The Off-Site resident farmer (RF) scenario serves as a highly protective proxy for recreational exposure scenarios, such as hikers, because:

- Cattaraugus Creek water and floodplain concentrations from the first Cattaraugus Creek reach downstream of Buttermilk Creek are evaluated for Off-Site RF.
- The Off-Site RF scenario assumes use of creek water for the home, and 40% of calories from fish and homegrown foods.



Review of QPM Exposure Scenario Topics

Future QPM

1. Development of the Seneca Nation traditional lifeways exposure scenario
2. Evaluation of Lake Erie and Niagara River drinking water supply exposures
3. Overview of population dose calculations

