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Discrete Organic Phosphorus Signatures are Evident in Pollutant Sources within a Lake Erie
Tributary

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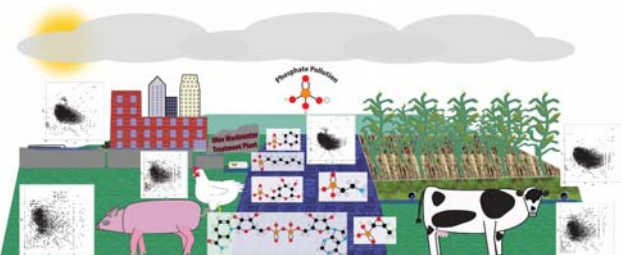
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TOC ART



26 **ABSTRACT**

27 Phosphorus loads are strongly associated with the severity of harmful algal blooms in Lake Erie,
28 a Great Lake situated between the United States and Canada. Inorganic and total phosphorus
29 measurements have historically been used to estimate nonpoint and point source contributions,
30 from contributing watersheds with organic phosphorus often neglected. Here, we used ultrahigh
31 resolution mass spectrometry to characterize the dissolved organic matter and specifically
32 dissolved organic phosphorus composition of several nutrient pollutant source materials and
33 aqueous samples in a Lake Erie tributary. We detected between 23-313 organic phosphorus
34 formulae across our samples, with manure samples having greater abundance of phosphorus- and
35 nitrogen containing compounds compared to other samples. Manures also were enriched in lipids
36 and protein-like compounds. The greatest similarities were observed between the Sandusky
37 River and wastewater treatment plant effluent (WWTP), or the Sandusky River and agricultural
38 edge of field samples. These sample pairs shared 84% of organic compounds and 59 to 73% of
39 P-containing organic compounds, respectively. This similarity suggests that agricultural and/or
40 WWTP sources dominate the supply of organic phosphorus compounds to the river. We identify
41 formulae shared between the river and pollutant sources that could serve as possible markers of
42 source contamination in the tributary.

43

44 INTRODUCTION

45 Freshwater lakes, such as the Great Lakes in North America, provide numerous economic
46 opportunities to shoreline communities in the form of tourism, recreation, fisheries,
47 manufacturing, and the transportation of goods across local and international boundaries. Lake
48 Erie is one of five Great Lakes in the United States and Canada, and as with many freshwater
49 resources worldwide, it has experienced recurrent harmful algal blooms that are believed to be
50 propagated from anthropogenically-sourced nutrients from within its drainage basins^{1,2}. Primary
51 productivity in freshwater systems is most often limited by phosphorus or nitrogen^{1,2}, therefore
52 changes in the abundance and form of these nutrients from upstream sources can have a
53 profound effect on the downstream ecosystem. Since the early 2000s, increased nutrient loads
54 have led to recurrent toxic cyanobacterial blooms along the southern coastline of the western
55 Lake Erie basin, while hypoxia has developed in the hypolimnion of the central basin in the
56 lake^{1,3,4}.

57 The magnitude of Lake Erie algae blooms in a given year is most strongly correlated to
58 spring (May-June) phosphorus loads from its tributaries⁵, with small blooms sometimes inflicting
59 severe damage to the ecosystem. For example, although it was smaller in size compared to years
60 past, the *Microcystis* bloom at the Toledo water treatment facility intake pipe in 2014 had a
61 major impact on the shoreline community⁴. Microcystin concentrations in the treated water were
62 twice as high as state guidelines (currently 1.6 µg/l in Ohio), causing the shutdown of the
63 drinking water treatment plant serving over 400,000 Toledo residents and resulting in \$65
64 million in economic damages to property values, tourism, recreation, and emergency water
65 handling⁴. The impact of this and other phytoplankton blooms on the local economy has served

66 as a call-to-action for Ohio legislators to improve our understanding of nutrient pollutants
67 contributing to this problem and develop best management practices to minimize discharge.

68 Phosphorus pollution in drainage basins is derived from both point (e.g.
69 municipal/industrial wastewater effluents or combined sewer overflows) and nonpoint sources
70 (sewage leaks, urban area runoff, or agricultural runoff/tile drainage)^{6, 7}, making individual
71 pollutant sources difficult to isolate and manage. An extensive sampling network has been
72 established in select Lake Erie tributaries to monitor loads to the lake⁷, with an emphasis on
73 reactive and total phosphorus. Reactive phosphorus, a term used interchangeably with
74 orthophosphate (PO_4^{3-}), is readily assimilated by algae and simple to measure^{7, 8}. Total
75 phosphorus has been useful in forecasting harmful algal bloom severity⁵. Models have helped fill
76 in the gaps between discrete sampling locations by considering local land usage to estimate
77 spatial contributions^{3, 7}. However, despite efforts made toward monitoring and modeling source
78 contributions to Lake Erie, distinguishing between specific pollutant sources in order to mitigate
79 the most impactful loads to the lake has proven difficult.

80 To gain further insight into pollutant sources and phosphorus pool dynamics, researchers
81 are applying new mass spectrometry tools. One method, analysis of oxygen isotopic
82 fractionation, has allowed for partial source tracking of phosphate entering Lake Erie from its
83 tributaries⁹. Isotopic fractionation arises, in part, from the enzymatic hydrolysis of dissolved
84 organic phosphorus (DOP). Analysis of oxygen isotopes in Lake Erie samples indicated a non-
85 riverine source of phosphate was supplying the algal bloom, but the analysis could not establish
86 whether organic or inorganic forms were the source of this phosphorus⁹. DOP is rarely analyzed
87 in environmental samples because (1) concentrations are low^{8, 10, 11}, and (2) the low elemental
88 abundance of phosphorus within dissolved organic matter (DOM) makes detection using mass

89 spectrometry difficult¹²⁻¹⁴. For example, DOP typically accounts for less than 15% of TDP, or
90 around 5-15 $\mu\text{g P L}^{-1}$ in the Lake Erie waterways⁷. Analysis of DOP has been disregarded in
91 favor of measuring total dissolved phosphorus (TDP), as TDP effectively defines bioavailable
92 phosphorus^{6, 15}. However, TDP obscures the diversity of DOP formulae elucidated through mass
93 spectrometry^{14, 16} which may aid in source identification and provide a better understanding of
94 biogeochemical controls in the system.

95 Electrospray ionization Fourier-transform ion cyclotron resonance mass spectrometry
96 (ESI FT-ICR-MS) can provide new insight into the molecular composition of environmental
97 samples through non-targeted identification of phosphorus in dissolved organic matter (DOM).
98 To date, ESI FT-ICR-MS has rarely been used to investigate DOP, and, in some cases,
99 phosphorus has been excluded from these analyses^{17, 18} due in part to a low elemental abundance
100 of phosphorus (~0.3%) in organic matter. In general, the negative mode of electrospray
101 ionization has yielded a greater number of DOP formulae compared to positive mode^{19, 20}.
102 However, despite its low relative abundance, concentration through chemical precipitation and
103 filtration prior to ESI FT-ICR-MS analysis identified a diversity of recalcitrant DOP formulae in
104 Everglades samples¹⁴. Organophosphorus compounds can also be concentrated for mass
105 spectrometry analysis using solid phase extraction (SPE), which removes background
106 interferences (*i.e.*, salts) while retaining organic constituents that resemble the original sample²¹,
107 ²². Even in the absence of selective concentration, ESI FT-ICR-MS analysis revealed an
108 abundance of organic nitrogen-, sulfur-, phosphorus-containing compounds in Lake Superior and
109 its tributaries¹⁶. Based on the frequency of harmful algal blooms and the results of the
110 aforementioned study conducted in Lake Superior, we expected Lake Erie would be replete in
111 unique organic phosphorus compounds that could be related to tributary sources.

112 The objective of this study was to characterize organic-bound phosphorus from select
113 point and non-point pollutant sources in a Lake Erie tributary. Using ultrahigh resolution mass
114 spectrometry, we analyzed samples from several nonpoint and point sources. The nonpoint
115 sources included three fertilizers (hog, chicken, and dairy manures), as well as runoff from the
116 edge of an agricultural field previously amended with mineral fertilizers. A sample of municipal
117 wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) effluent was collected as a point source. Finally, a grab
118 sample was taken from the Sandusky River. The following data describe the signatures of
119 nutrient pollutants in these sources, including the understudied pool of organic phosphorus.

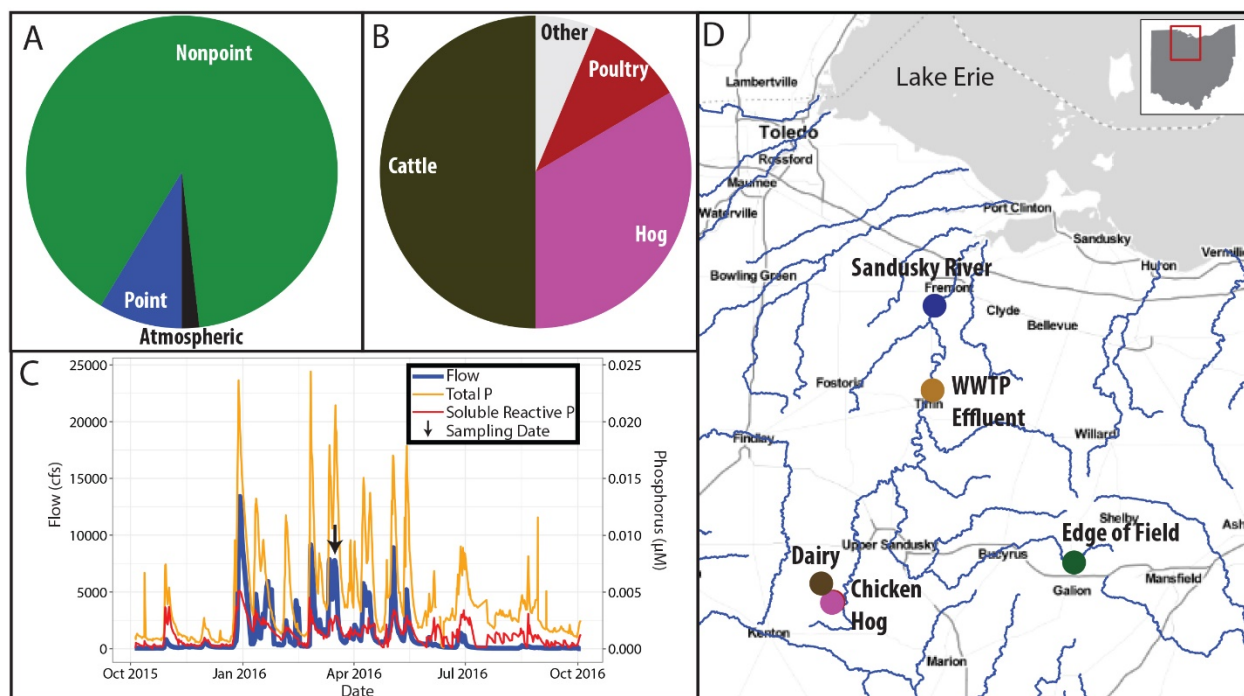
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121 **Methods**

122 Site Description and Sample Collection

123 Sampling was performed in the Sandusky River tributary system, which drains into the
124 Western Lake Erie Basin at Sandusky Bay. The Sandusky River is dominated by nonpoint
125 phosphorus pollution (90%) with smaller contributions from point (9%) and atmospheric (1%)
126 sources (Figure 1A)²³. The primary land use in the watershed is agricultural, with the vast
127 majority of fertilizer application derived from inorganic (66%) forms rather than from manure
128 (27%) or biosolids (7%)²³. Most of the manure applied in the Lake Erie basin originates from
129 cattle (50%), hog (34%), and poultry (5%) sources (Figure 1B)²³. Sampling was conducted on
130 March 14, 2016 following a precipitation event (Figure 1C). At the time of collection, flows
131 were high (>90th percentile) and corresponded with a high total phosphorus load
132 (www.heidelberg.edu/NCWQR)⁷. Six samples were collected from the Sandusky River tributary
133 network (Figure 1D), including (1) an edge of field site, (2) hog manure, (3) chicken (poultry)
134 manure, (4) dairy (cattle) manure, and (5) wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) effluent.

135 Downstream of these sampling locations, another sample was collected from the (6) Sandusky
136 River.
137



138 **Figure 1.** (A) The Ohio Lake Erie Task Force (Ohio EPA) has estimated the nonpoint
139 contribution from point and nonpoint sources for the Sandusky River²³. (B) This group has also
140 detailed the contributions of various manures, as elemental P, to the Western Lake Erie basin²³.
141 (C) Flow, total phosphorus, and soluble reactive phosphorus were reported in the 2015-2016
142 water year by Heidelberg University (www.heidelberg.edu/NCWQR)⁷. The arrow shows the
143 flow conditions at the time of sampling. (D) Six samples were collected from the Sandusky River
144 watershed situated in north-central Ohio. The chicken and hog samples were collected on the
145 same property.
146

147
148 Sampling equipment was pre-conditioned by triple rinsing sampling devices and storage
149 containers with Milli-Q water. The chicken manure sample was retrieved from the center of an
150 open-air stockpile following excavation by landowner equipment. The hog manure was
151 sampled from a hog manure pit using a PVC sampling device. Dairy manure was collected from

152 a secondary lagoon using the PVC sampling device. An edge of field sample was collected from
153 the mouth of a tile drainage pipe flowing into the connected stream. At this field, fertilizer was
154 applied as monoammonium phosphate (11-52-0, NPK) in 2014 and anhydrous ammonia (82-0-0)
155 in 2015. No fertilizer was added in 2016 for soybean planted that year. Wastewater effluent was
156 collected following chlorination but prior to discharge from the Tiffin Water Pollution Control
157 Center. Finally, the Sandusky River sample was collected from the faucet of the USGS station
158 (USGS 04198000). All samples were collected in pre-rinsed (Milli-Q water) polyethylene
159 containers, transported on ice to the OSU Environmental Biotechnology Laboratory, and held at
160 4°C. Wet samples were processed within 24 hours.

161

162 Sample Processing

163 The dry weight of manure samples was determined by weighing subsamples into
164 porcelain dishes and heating for 24 hours at 70°C. Following the dry weight determination,
165 duplicate manure samples were suspended at equivalent ratios of water to dry weight (15:1)
166 using Milli-Q water¹⁹. The manure-water mixtures were equilibrated overnight at 4°C.
167 Combusted glassware (30 min at 500°C) was used for the remainder of sample preparation. All
168 samples were vacuum-filtered through pre-rinsed (methanol and DI water) 0.7 µm glass fiber
169 filters (Whatman GF/F). The concentrations of dissolved organic carbon (NPOC) and nitrogen
170 (TDN) were determined using a Shimadzu TOC-V/TNM-1 analyzer. Phosphorus (TDP)
171 concentrations were measured using an Agilent ICP-AES. Samples were run as previously
172 described for NPOC/TDN²⁴, while TDP was measured at wavelength 213.648 nm²⁵. Each
173 sample was prepared in duplicate at a concentration of 6.5 mg L⁻¹ NPOC in preparation for solid-
174 phase extraction.

175 We previously determined that the Plexa-PAX solid phase extraction columns were most
176 efficient at retaining organic phosphorus compounds used as laboratory standards (Figures S1
177 and S2). Thus, Plexa-PAX SPE columns were used for the concentration of DOM. The 6
178 samples we collected were prepared in duplicate along with two reference standards (Pony Lake
179 Fulvic Acid [PLFA], Suwannee River Fulvic Acid [SRFA]) for a total of 14 samples. Briefly,
180 columns were prepared by wetting with 3 mL 100% HPLC grade methanol and were then rinsed
181 with 2L DI water. While still wet, 275 mL of each sample were gravity filtered through the
182 conditioned SPE columns to collect and concentrate the organic contents. The binding efficiency
183 of samples was calculated from the concentrations of C, N, and P measured before and after SPE
184 filtration (Table S1).

185 Samples were eluted from the columns with 5 mL of HPLC grade methanol, followed by
186 5 mL of methanol with 5% formic acid. These elutions were combined into amber glassware and
187 stored at -20°C. The samples were shipped on dry ice to the Woods Hole Oceanographic
188 Institution for ESI(-) FT-ICR MS analysis.

189

190 ESI FT-ICR-MS Data Analysis

191 Mass spectrometry data was collected as previously described (SI Methods)¹⁶. Peaks
192 were detected in the range of 200-1000 Da. Molecular formula assignments were made with the
193 Compound Identification Algorithm^{17, 18}. A total of 14,637 unique peaks were detected under this
194 analysis (SI Excel file). Quality controls were used to quality filter the dataset: peaks observed in
195 DI water or solvent blanks, and singletons were removed (SI Table S2). Only m/z values with an
196 assigned formula were considered for further analysis.

197 Additional data analyses were performed using R Statistics (version 3.1.1). The
198 distributions of peak heights and m/z values were compared among replicates and samples. Then
199 the peak heights were normalized to the sum of peaks for each replicate. Replicates were
200 combined through averaging of these normalized peak heights. Sample similarity was compared
201 based on presence/absence of the formula using Venn Euler diagrams, and based on relative peak
202 heights using a Bray-Curtis dissimilarity matrix generated by the ‘vegan’ package. A list of
203 organic phosphorus formulae, shared between the Sandusky River and at least one source
204 material, were filtered as a subset from the data. Putative tracers were further screened from this
205 list with the stipulation that the maximum relative peak height was observed in a source sample.

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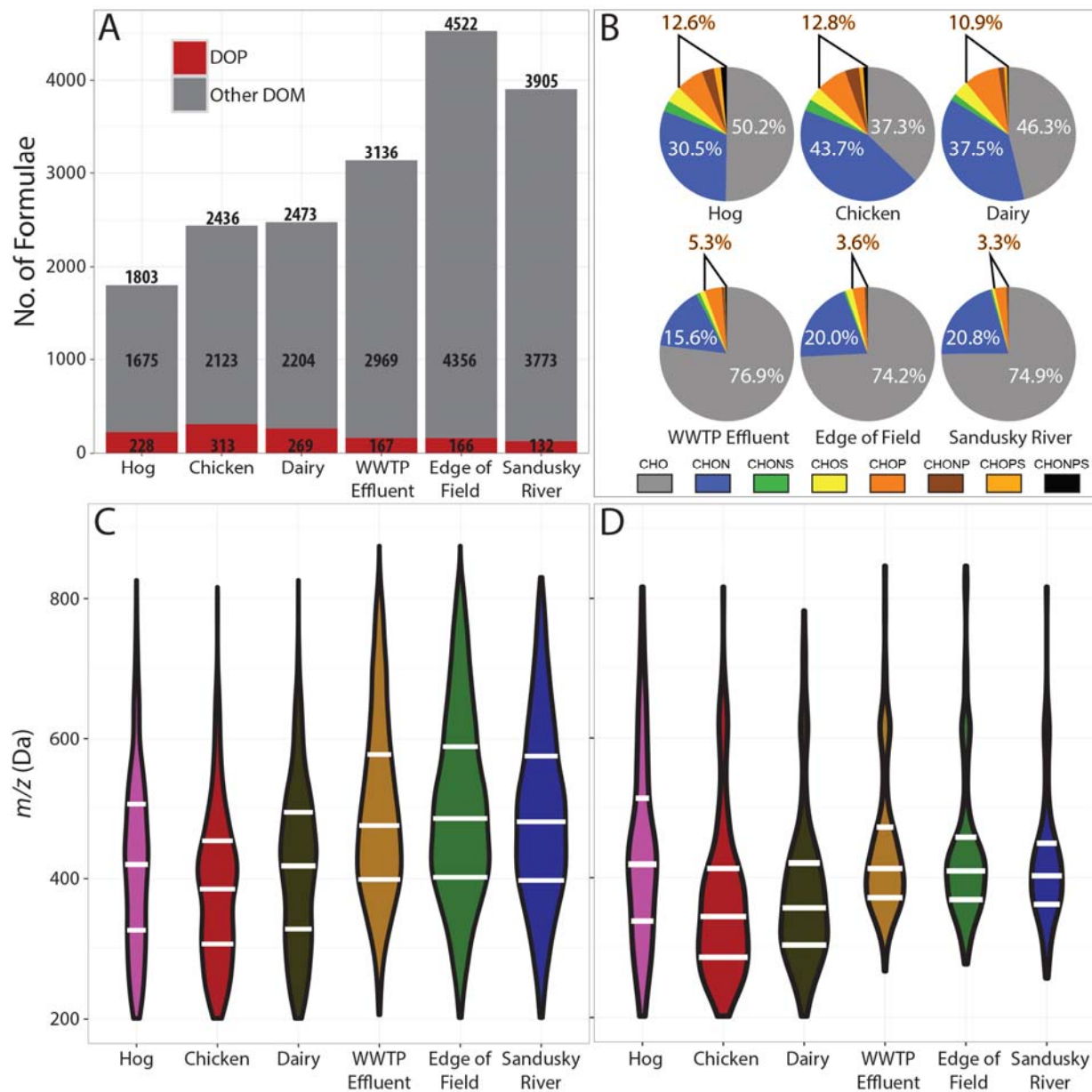
207 **Results**

208

209 The amount of carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus varied across samples (SI Figure S3),
210 with manure-extracted DOM having considerably higher concentrations relative to other aqueous
211 samples. The manure samples had nutrient concentrations in the range of 30-76 mg C L⁻¹, 12-60
212 mg N L⁻¹, and 4.8-9.6 mg P L⁻¹ as compared to WWTP effluent, edge of field, and Sandusky
213 River samples (6.5-8.8 mg C L⁻¹, 2.6-11 mg N L⁻¹, and <0.03-0.09 mg P L⁻¹). The influent and
214 effluent concentrations for these samples were measured to estimate the amounts that were
215 retained by PAX columns. PAX extraction efficiency varied considerably, with 8-44% C, 6-
216 41%N, and <0-100% P retained by the columns (SI Table S1). Despite a low recovery in a few
217 replicates, average recoveries across our samples were within the range of those reported in other
218 studies using solid phase extraction^{20, 22}. Moreover, several P recoveries reported in S1 were
219 derived from low concentration measurements near our analytical quantitation limits.

220 ESI FT-ICR-MS analysis was used to characterize the molecular properties of organic
221 matter isolated from the six sample materials (Figure S4). A total of 7250 formulae were

222 identified in the dataset following QA/QC removal of contaminants and formula assignment (SI
223 Table S2). Reproducibility between replicates were generally high (>80% shared formula) for all
224 six samples (SI Table S2), which allowed for a combination of replicate data by averaging the
225 normalized signal between duplicates as well as including any detected formulae in the final
226 representative sample (SI Table S3). The number of identified formulae ranged from 1803 to
227 4522 across the samples (Figure 2A and SI Table S3). Despite the considerably higher
228 concentration of C, N, and P in the manures, they held a significantly lower number of total
229 DOM formulae (between 1803 and 2473) than the other samples (3136 to 4522). Within these
230 data, the number of formulae containing a P atom ranged from 132 to 313 across the six sources,
231 representing between 3.3% and 12.8% of detected formulae (Figure 2B). The manure samples
232 contained the greatest proportion of DOP formulae (10.9% to 12.8%), 2 to 3-fold what was
233 detected in the edge of field, WWTP effluent, and Sandusky River samples (3.3% to 5.3%).
234 Manure samples also had a greater abundance of formulae with N or S atoms compared to the
235 other samples, with CHON representing 30-40% of the manure formulae versus 16-21% in the
236 other three samples.

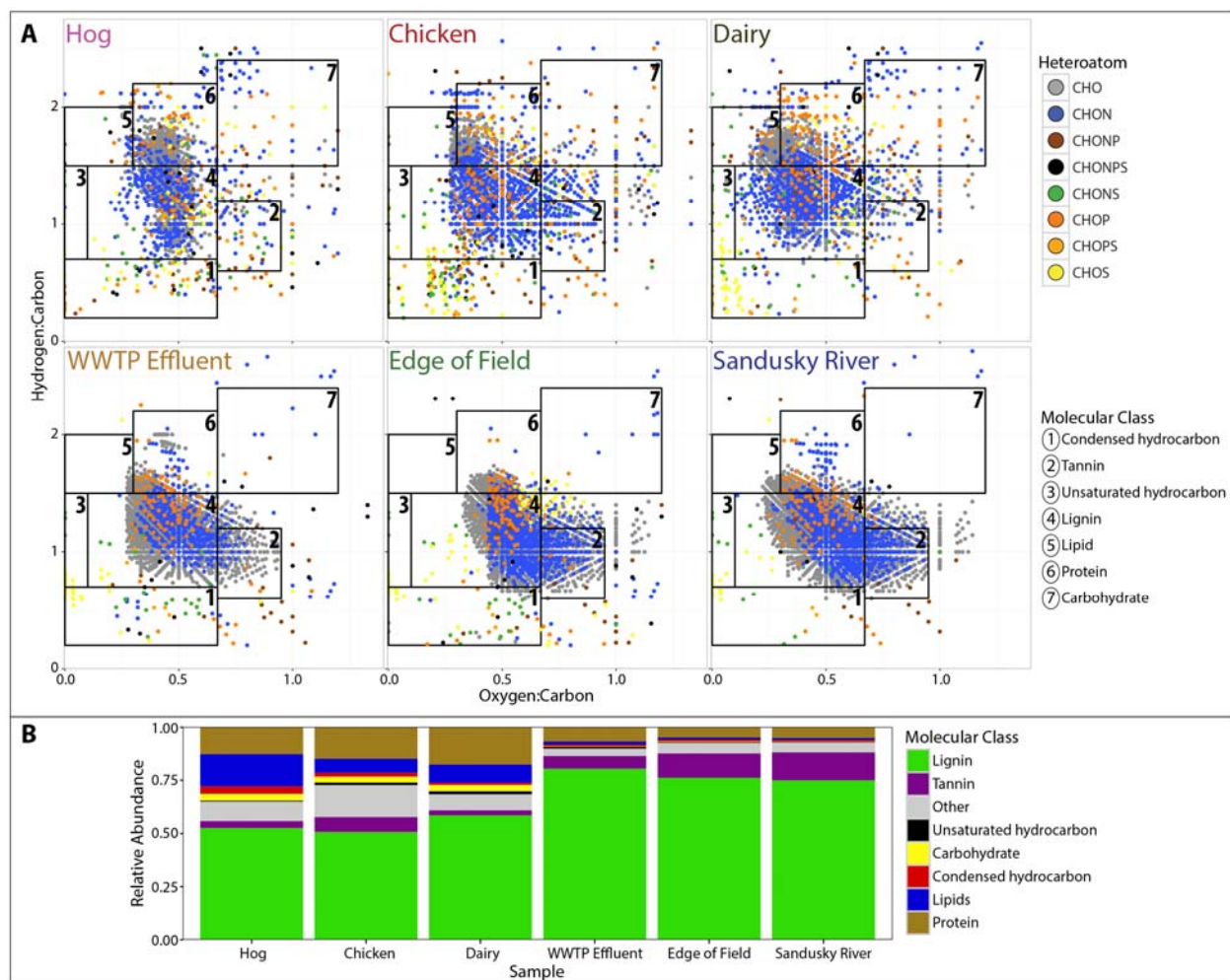


237
 238 **Figure 2.** (A) The number of assigned formulae representing DOM (full bar) and DOP (red bar)
 239 varied across the six watershed samples. Actual values are printed within their respective bars,
 240 with the total noted above. Note that any formula containing a P atom was considered to be
 241 DOP. (B) The proportional distribution of major atom classes for each sample shown with pie
 242 charts, with percentages indicating the total proportion of DOP. The distribution of (C) DOM
 243 and (D) DOP m/z values were visualized using kernel-based cumulative density plots (violin
 244 plots). The width of each band indicates the kernel-based density of m/z values relative to total
 245 number, with white bands representing sample quartiles.

246 In our assessment of the distribution of molecular formula, we observed the manure
247 samples to be composed of a greater number of low molecular mass formulas compared to the
248 other samples (Figure 2C). Specifically, the median molecular mass of observed m/z values for
249 hog (420 Da), chicken (387 Da), and dairy (419 Da) manures were on average 70 Da lower than
250 that of the WWTP effluent (474 Da), edge of field (485 Da) and Sandusky River (481 Da). DOP
251 formula generally followed this trend, with the chicken (341 Da) and dairy (355 Da) manures
252 having a lower median mass than the WWTP effluent (414 Da), edge of field (412 Da), and
253 Sandusky River (404 Da) samples (Figure 2C). The hog manure sample had the highest median
254 molecular mass of DOP m/z values (424 Da). Furthermore, unlike the other 5 samples, which
255 were shifted toward lower molecular mass of DOP relative to DOM, the hog manure DOP
256 molecular mass distribution resembled that of its overall DOM.

257 Sample signatures were visualized using Van Krevelen diagrams, which relate the C:H to
258 the O:C molar ratios for all observed formulas (Figure 3A). The relative placement of each
259 formula provides an estimation of molecular class, which we refer to as “-like” types. The
260 overall scatter had considerable differences across sources, with manure samples exhibiting a
261 greater diversity of molecular type classes (*i.e.*, more scatter) compared to the Sandusky River,
262 edge of field, and WWTP effluent samples, which more tightly clustered around the lignin-like
263 features. To further highlight these differences in overall scatter, we tallied the relative
264 abundance of formulae within the 7 different molecular classes (Figure 3B). Although the
265 majority of formulae across all samples were lignin-like (51-80%), the WWTP effluent, edge of
266 field, and Sandusky River samples were especially dominated by lignin- and tannin-like features
267 (86-88%) compared to manures. In contrast, the three manure samples consisted of a higher

268 proportion of most other molecular classes, notably protein-, lipid, and carbohydrate-like
269 features.



270
271 **Figure 3.** (A) Van Krevelen diagrams showing the molar ratio of hydrogen:carbon versus
272 oxygen:carbon for each assigned formula, color-coded based on atomic composition. Lipid-,
273 protein-, carbohydrate-, unsaturated hydrocarbon-, lignin-, tannin-, and uncondensed
274 hydrocarbon-like molecular class ranges are represented by boxes. (B) The relative abundance of
275 molecular classes was summarized for each sample.

276 To further probe sample similarity, we compared DOM and DOP signatures based upon
277 the abundance of shared formulae using Euler diagrams (Figure S5). Although they were
278 collected from 12 to 41 miles apart, the WWTP effluent, edge of field, and Sandusky River
279 samples shared 54% of all assigned DOM formula. When we calculated the intersection between

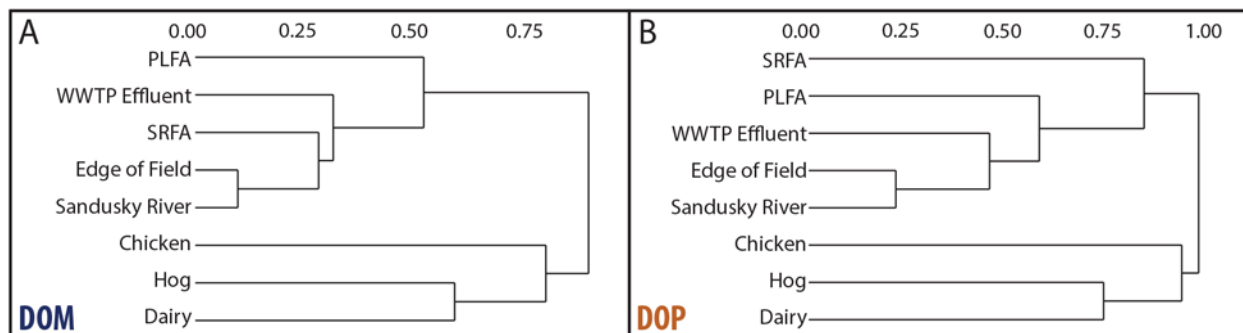
280 the Sandusky River and either the WWTP effluent or the edge of field sample, over 84% of
281 assigned formulae were shared for both data sets. This level of similarity is comparable to our
282 replicates (81-90% shared formula, SI Table S2). Interestingly, the edge of field sample shared a
283 considerably greater number (124) and percentage (75%) of DOP formula with the Sandusky
284 River as compared to the WWTP effluent sample (98, 59%).

285 Across the three manure samples, only 33% of the formulae were shared with the
286 Sandusky River. In pairwise comparisons, the intersection between the Sandusky River and
287 individual manures ranged from 31-36%. Moreover, these shared formulae were not unique
288 among manures and the Sandusky River; all but one were also present in the WWTP effluent and
289 edge of field runoff samples. Only five *m/z* values were uniquely shared between the manures
290 and Sandusky River sample.

291 We expanded our analysis to consider the similarity of two NOM standards (PLFA and
292 SRFA) based on relative peak heights of all assigned formulae using hierarchal clustering
293 analysis (Figure 4A-B). Dendrogram clustering patterns for DOM (Figure 4A) reaffirmed the
294 calculated similarities between the Sandusky River, edge of field, and WWTP effluent samples
295 based on the presence/absence analysis (Figure S5A). These three samples and the NOM
296 standards formed a separate branch from the manure samples, which exhibited greater
297 dissimilarity between one another and the rest of the samples (Figure 4A). When considering
298 only DOP formulae, dissimilarity grew between all samples, although the two major branches
299 remained the same (Figure 4B). We found that the SRFA clustered among our samples for
300 DOM, yet when we only considered DOP, both SRFA and PLFA were separated from the
301 WWTP effluent, edge of field, and Sandusky River samples. These two NOM standards are

302 primarily derived from a terrestrial origin, with the Pony Lake (Antarctica) more geographically
303 remote and less anthropogenically-impacted than the Suwannee River (Georgia, USA).

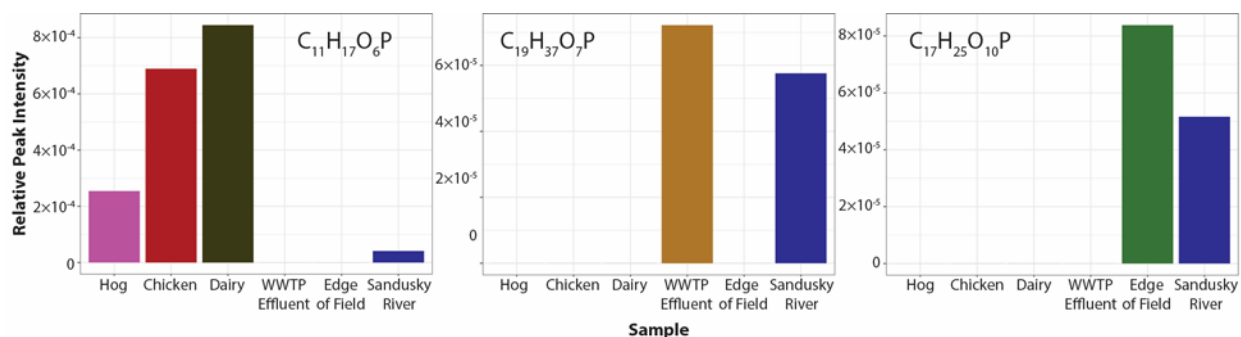
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306
307 **Figure 4.** Hierarchical clustering dendrograms for (A) DOM and (B) DOP prepared from Bray-
308 Curtis dissimilarity matrices generated from relative peak heights from m/z values with assigned
309 formulae. Numbers along the top reflect the level of dissimilarity between samples at the branch
310 point.

311 In an effort to identify phosphorus formulae originating from our point source (WWTP
312 effluent) and non-point sources (all others) in the Sandusky River, we generated a list of DOP
313 formulae present in at least one sample and the Sandusky River. The list was further screened to
314 remove formulae that increased in peak abundance from the source to the Sandusky River, as this
315 could indicate origination of these m/z values within the river. Our filtering resulted in 72
316 formulae, which we propose could serve as markers for detecting or tracking source-derived
317 nutrients (SI Table S5). We next identified formulae from this list that were unique to the (1)
318 edge of field, (2) WWTP effluent, or (3) the three manure samples (Figure 5). The relative peak
319 height for the manure marker was an order of magnitude higher than was observed in the
320 Sandusky River, while peak heights for edge of field and WWTP effluent markers were
321 comparable between the source and Sandusky River sample. Marker compounds are one

322 potential tool for regulatory agencies to identify the sources of nutrient contamination in
323 waterways.



324
325 **Figure 5.** Relative peak heights for potential markers for detecting or tracking source-derived
326 DOP nutrients shared uniquely by the Sandusky River and either the (1) three manures, (2)
327 WWTP effluent, or (3) edge of field samples. Please note different scales on y-axis for each
328 graph.

329

330 Discussion

331 Worldwide, eutrophication has been linked to human agricultural practices including
332 dense animal operations and/or the application of inorganic fertilizers to crop fields^{26, 27}. In Lake
333 Erie tributaries where land use is dominated by agriculture, the majority of phosphorus is thought
334 to be derived from inorganic fertilizer applied to fields^{7, 23}. However, this finding relies upon
335 bulk phosphorus analyses of total or dissolved reactive P, measurements that cannot be used to
336 discriminate between point and non-point pollution sources within the watershed. Our ultrahigh
337 resolution MS analysis showed that DOM and DOP signatures collected from drainage tiles at
338 the edge of an agricultural field in the Sandusky River were highly similar (84% DOM, 75%
339 DOP) to that of the river itself collected 41 miles downstream. This level of similarity is
340 remarkable considering Sandusky River replicates shared 85% of m/z values. Closer in
341 hydrologic proximity (12 miles between sampling locations), the Sandusky River and WWTP
342 effluent sample also had similar DOM (84% shared formula), but were more dissimilar in their

343 DOP (59% shared m/z values). It is notable that the edge of field and Sandusky River are most
344 alike in their DOP character, as this finding is consistent with the type of nutrient pollution,
345 primary land use, and fertilizer form previously reported for the Sandusky River²³.

346 The signatures of the three manure samples were vastly different from all of the other
347 samples. Manures account for 27% of total P applied as fertilizer to agricultural systems for the
348 Lake Erie basin²³ serving as a rich source of natural fertilizer despite challenges associated with
349 their handling. Our analysis shows manure samples are abundant in N- (> 30%) and P- (>10%)
350 containing organic molecules that are easily liberated from the solids by water. The DOM that
351 was extracted from these manures in our labs had higher relative phosphorus and nitrogen
352 concentrations than our other samples, and this can likely explain the high abundance of DOP
353 formulae. Manure DOM also consisted of lower molecular m/z values, relative to the other
354 samples, which may represent more labile compounds that are easily assimilated into the
355 ecosystem²⁸. The lower molecular weights of these molecules may be due to mineralization or
356 enzymatic degradation of complex materials within the digestive tracts of these animals^{29,30}.
357 Future studies should consider the signatures associated with manure-applied field runoff.

358 DOP and DOM signatures from point and non-point sources would be altered by abiotic
359 (*i.e.*, photodegradation) or biotic (*i.e.*, biodegradation) processes in soils, groundwater and
360 surface waters as it moves through the watershed. In particular, the transport of organic
361 compounds, derived from biosolids and manure, through porous media into the water column
362 could be retarded by adsorption to solid materials^{31,32}. Sorption affinity of phosphorus is specific
363 to each compound and is also affected by soil type³³ therefore we would expect hydrophilic
364 compounds to be more prominent in manure-derived runoff. Although the molecular masses in

365 our analysis provide little information about hydrophobicity, the extraction method we used to
366 obtain our manure DOM was likely to have selected for the more hydrophilic compounds

367 The DOM of our samples consisted of between 3-13% DOP, with 132-313 P-formulae
368 detected in each sample. While the manures were loaded with these P-formulae, the values
369 observed in the edge of field and Sandusky River samples appeared low in comparison to those
370 reported in the literature. Specifically, between 3.8-12% DOP (89-481 formulae) were reported
371 in Lake Superior and its tributaries while New Zealand coastal waters consisted of 5-27% (82-
372 293 formulae) phosphorus^{16,20}. Our Sandusky River and edge of field samples were in the lower
373 range of these reported values, both in terms of percent and by the number of P-formulae
374 detected. In general, Lake Erie tributaries are loaded with dissolved phosphorus primarily in the
375 form of inorganic orthophosphate⁷. That inorganic phosphate can be readily assimilated by most
376 plants and organisms, while organic phosphorus requires enzymatic cleavage¹³. Natural organic
377 phosphorus exists in the P(V) (organophosphates) or P(III) state (organophosphonates), with the
378 latter requiring enzymatic oxidation to phosphate following liberation of the phosphonate
379 groups^{13,34}. Conversely, organophosphates are directly hydrolyzed into inorganic phosphate by
380 enzymes such as alkaline phosphatase^{13,15}. Organophosphonates therefore require a greater
381 investment of activation energy that has been found to slow microbial growth, leading to a
382 buildup of these compounds in natural systems^{13,35}. Organophosphorus can be utilized
383 concurrently with inorganic P, but its nutrient value is greater when total phosphorus supplies are
384 limited^{15,36}. The Lake Erie tributary network has relatively high phosphate concentrations
385 compared to other aquatic systems suggesting organic phosphorus turnover will be slower
386 relative to inorganic forms in its rivers and streams⁷. Whether these compounds persist and
387 accumulate in the lake remains to be seen.

388 Certain organic molecules in these samples are more susceptible to chemical
389 transformations and would be more readily assimilated by microorganisms. The WWTP effluent
390 sample was enriched with microbially-derived features (e.g. lipid- and protein-like) from the
391 activated sludge process, while the edge of field and Sandusky River, like the SRFA standard,
392 were greatly dominated by lignin. Tannin- and lignin-like features are regarded to have a
393 terrestrial (plant-derived) origin compared to protein-, carbohydrate-, and lipid-like features
394 which instead originate from endogenous microorganisms^{16, 37}. In addition to indicating the
395 source material, these molecular classes also correlate to the nominal oxidation state of carbon
396 (NOSC, Figure S6), which describes the redox potential of the formula. Specifically, tannin-like
397 features are oxidized; lipid-like features are reduced; and lignin-like features have an average
398 oxidation state around zero³⁸. This suggests that the reduced lipid- and protein-like features more
399 common to the manure formula can be expected to oxidize during the transport in aerobic
400 surface waters. We would therefore expect manure derived DOM to undergo the greatest amount
401 of signature change relative to other samples. A targeted analysis of similar samples (e.g. using
402 LC MS/MS of authentic standards to validate these proposed compounds) would be useful in
403 elucidating these structures of m/z values shared between our samples, which would provide
404 greater insights to their molecular properties³⁹.

405 The ESI FT-ICR MS approach is largely qualitative in nature and was used here to
406 discern organic phosphorus signatures in distinct point- and non-point pollutant sources. While
407 pollutant concentrations are likely correlated to the strength of detected peaks (i.e., peak heights)
408 ^{40, 41}, the potential for multiply-charge ions, differences in ionization efficiency, and multiple
409 formulae for each m/z value currently limit the application of these tools in a more quantitative
410 way^{14, 42}. Therefore, although this approach holds merit for identifying end members in a

411 hydrologically complex system, a more integrated and quantitative approach is necessary if these
412 tools are to be applied in practice. Studies that better connect ESI FT-ICR MS data to pollutant
413 concentrations and marker compounds would greatly advance the feasibility of this approach for
414 land management purposes.

415 The similarity observed in our ultrahigh resolution MS analysis between an agricultural
416 edge of field sample and a Sandusky River supports the previously reported data that nutrient
417 loads are predominantly sourced from agricultural fields in this Lake Erie tributary. However,
418 the edge of field, WWTP effluent, and Sandusky River samples are hydrologically connected
419 and would be expected to share some background DOM signature received from rainwater,
420 runoff, and/or groundwater in the watershed. Still, the DOP signatures were highly divergent
421 between manures and other source materials, which should allow us to detect the presence of
422 these nonpoint and point sources in the tributary network. One limitation of this study is the
423 number of end members evaluated. We would not necessarily expect the hog, chicken, and dairy
424 manure signatures reported here to encompass signatures for all animal manures used in the
425 watershed. However, given the high degree of separation between manures and other samples
426 presented here, we would expect to be able to differentiate between most manure and non-
427 manure sources in a watershed. Future studies could consider a broader spectrum of manures and
428 their processing in order to better characterize these highly variable nutrient pollutant sources.
429 Despite our low sample number limitation, this study identified formulae shared between the
430 Sandusky River and other samples that could serve as source markers in the watershed.
431 Additionally, we elucidated unique DOM and DOP signatures which could be tested by
432 regulatory agencies for detecting and monitoring the presence of nutrient pollutant sources in
433 similar tributaries.

434 ASSOCIATED CONTENT

435 **Supporting Information**

436 The solid phase extraction trials; molecular formula assignment methodology; sample elemental
437 compositions; Venn Euler diagrams of shared molecules; molecular class NOSC values; sample
438 sorption efficiency; full ESI FT-ICR-MS results; quality filtering of samples; number of detected
439 peaks across samples; Venn count data; and tracer formula are provided in supporting
440 information available free of charge on the ACS Publication website.

441

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1 **Supporting Information**

2

3 Discrete Organic Phosphorus Signatures are Evident in Pollutant Sources within a Lake Erie
4 Tributary

5

6 **Brooker, MR^{1,2*}; Longnecker, K³; Kujawinski, EB³; Evert, MH^{1,2}; and Mouser, PJ^{1,4*}.**

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18 This document includes one Excel file, and 19 pages including additional experimental
19 methodology, 5 figures, and 5 tables including: ESI FT-ICR-MS results
20 (SanduskyMaterialResults.xlsx); solid phase extraction efficiency for wastewater (Figures S1);
21 solid phase extraction of organic phosphorus standards (Figure S2); sample elemental
22 compositions (Figure S3); sample spectra (Figure S4); Venn Euler diagrams of shared molecules
23 between samples (Figure S5); molecular class NOSC values (Figure S6); sample sorption
24 efficiency (Table S1); quality filtering of samples (Table S2); number of peaks per sample (Table
25 S3); Venn count data (Table S4); and formula for potential markers (Table S5).

26

27

28 **Methods**

29 Prior to ESI(-) FT-ICR MS analysis, the protocols used for organic matter collection were
30 tested to determine their ability to isolate organic phosphorus compounds. Several organic
31 phosphorus compounds were purchased to be used as reference compounds: 2-aminoethyl
32 phosphonate (2-AEP); fosfomycin (FOM); *n*-hexylphosphonic acid (HexP); glucose-6-phosphate
33 (G6P); phenyl phosphate (PhP); nicotinamide dinucleotide phosphate (reduced, NADH);
34 monopotassium phosphate (PO₄); and sodium pyrophosphate (P₂O₇). Each standard was
35 prepared as a stock 1 mg L⁻¹ P solution in DI water. A sample of primary clarifier water was
36 collected from the Southerly Wastewater Plant (Columbus, OH) following the methods described
37 in the manuscript. An initial experiment was designed to determine the carbon, nitrogen and
38 phosphorus retention efficiency of four SPE column types (Agilent Bond Elut): functionalized
39 styrene divinylbenzene (PPL); hydrophobic, bonded silica (C18); polymer anionic exchange
40 (PAX); strong anionic exchange (SAX). While the manufacturer instructions call for the
41 adjustment of samples to a pH 2 for the PPL and C18 columns, the PAX and SAX columns
42 recommend adjusting the sample to a pH 10. The primary clarifier water was used to determine
43 the retention of phosphorus by all four columns, both at pH 2 and pH 10 with duplicates for each
44 column (n=16). Following the determination of pH adjustments, a mixture of the reference
45 organic phosphorus compounds were used to determine the retention of these compounds for
46 each filter at pH 10 using duplicate columns. However, due to observed desorption, the SAX
47 columns were excluded from this subsequent analysis (n=6).

48 Primary clarifier water was passed through the SPE columns using the methods described
49 in the manuscript. The amount of carbon applied to each column type was determined to meet
50 the maximum sorption capacity. The retention efficiency of NPOC and TDN were determined by

51 the change in concentration between the influent and effluent of samples as measured with the
52 Shimadzu TOC-V/TN. The retention efficiency of TDP was determined by the change in
53 concentration between the influent and effluent samples using an Agilent ICP-OES.

54 A 7.5 mg L⁻¹ P concentration mixture using equal parts (0.9375 mg L⁻¹ P) of the eight
55 phosphorus reference compounds – six organic, and two inorganic – was prepared for further
56 analysis of the SPE columns. The mixture was analyzed using ion chromatography with an AS-
57 11HC column on a Dionex ICS-2100 ion chromatograph (Dionex Corporation, Sunnyvale, CA).
58 The flow rate was set at 1.5 mL/min for 15 min a sample, eluted in a 1-60 mM gradient of KOH
59 at 30°C¹. This method allowed for the detection of seven out of the eight compounds, with the
60 lone exception being 2-AEP. These samples were made basic (pH 10) using KOH and gravity
61 filtered through three SPE column types in duplicate (n=6). The effluent was collected in
62 combusted glassware and ion chromatography analysis was used to visually detect the
63 presence/absence of the compounds following passage through the solid phase columns.

64 Collection of Mass Spectrometry Data and Peak Detection

65 The samples were analyzed with electrospray ionization under the negative ionization
66 mode on a 7T FTICR mass spectrometer (Thermo Fisher Scientific, Waltham, MA USA). The
67 instrument settings were optimized by tuning on the SRFA standard. The samples were infused
68 into the ESI interface at 4 μL min⁻¹, and the instrumental and spray parameters were optimized
69 for each sample. The capillary temperature was set at 250°C, and the spray voltage was between
70 3.7 and 4 kV. For each sample, 200 scans were collected spanning the 200-1000 *m/z* range. An
71 external calibration mixture (Thermo Calibration Mix; Thermo Fisher Scientific) was used to
72 calibrate the mass accuracy to <1.5 ppm. The target average resolving power was 400,000 at *m/z*

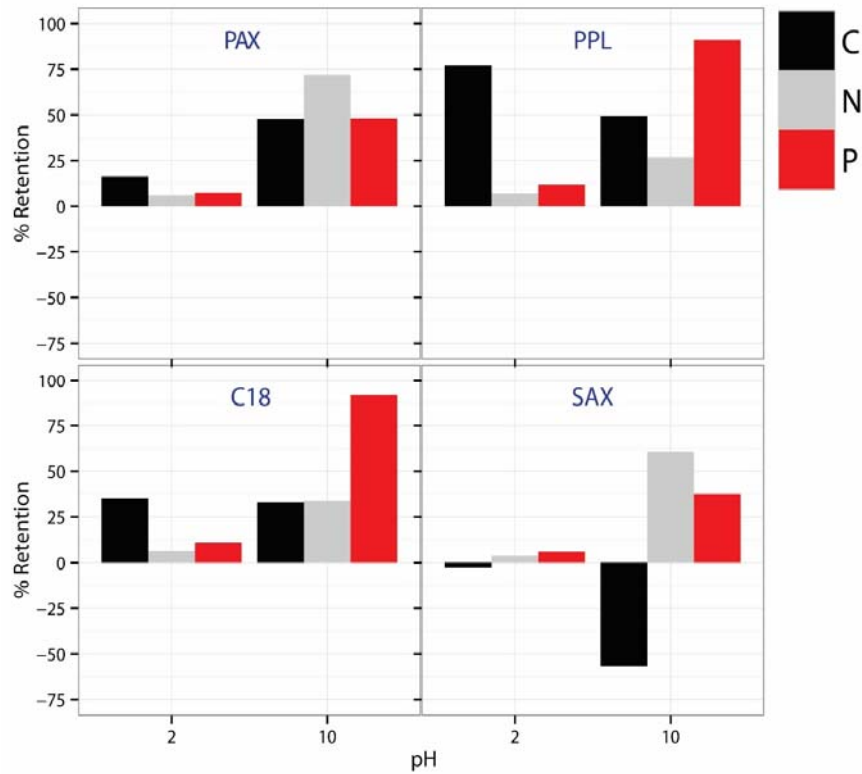
73 400 (where resolving power is defined as $m/\Delta m$ 50% where Δm is the width at half-height of
74 peak m).

75 Individual transients as well as a combined raw file were collected using xCalibur 2.0
76 (Thermo Fisher Scientific). Transients were co-added and processed with custom-written
77 MATLAB code². Only transients with a total ion current >20% of the maximum value observed
78 in each sample were added, processed with Hanning apodization, and zero-filled prior to fast
79 Fourier transformation. All m/z values with a signal:noise ratio > 10 were retained. Spectra were
80 internally re-calibrated using a list of m/z values present in the majority of samples resulting in a
81 mass accuracy of < 1 ppm³. Individual sample peak lists were then aligned in MATLAB⁴.
82 Formula assignments were made through the custom-built Compound Identification Algorithm at
83 the Wood Hole Oceanographic Institution, as previously described^{5,6}.

84 The nominal oxidation state of carbon (NOSC) for each identified formula was calculated
85 according to the equation of *Boye et al.* (2016). The equation is based on the count of individual
86 atom counts according to equation 1. The distribution of the NOSC values were considered for
87 each molecular classification, using only unique formula (no duplicates between ¹²C and ¹³C
88 isotopologues).

89
$$NOSC = 4 - \frac{4C+H-2O-3N-2S+5P}{c} \quad (\text{equation 1})$$

90
91



93

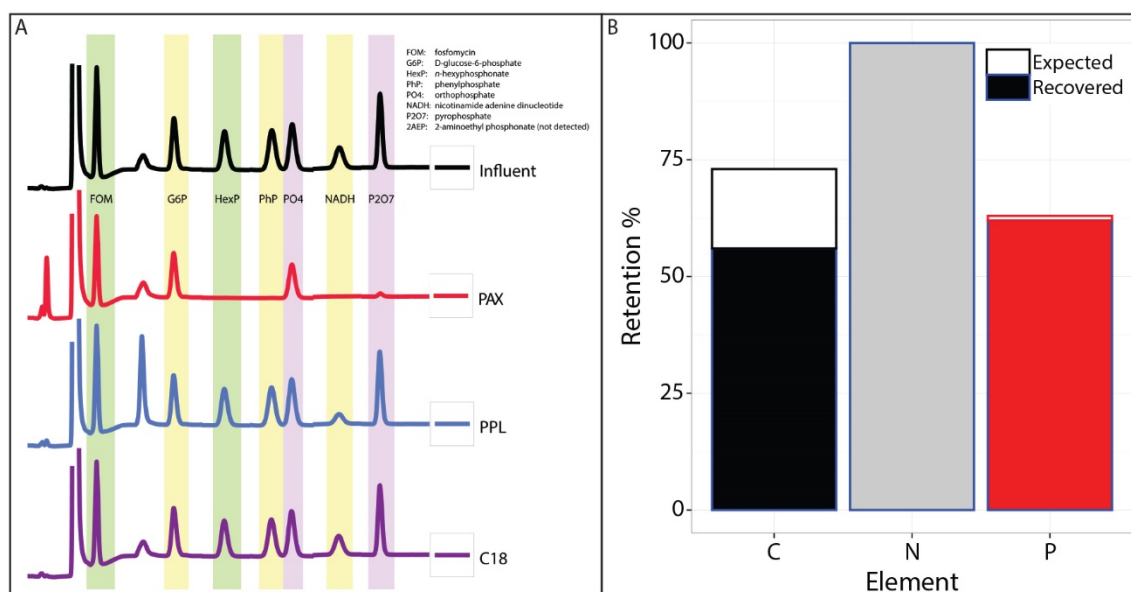
94 **Figure S1.** Wastewater primary clarifier water was used to assess the retention of dissolved
 95 organic carbon, total dissolved nitrogen, and total dissolved phosphorus by the solid phase
 96 extraction materials. Four different resins were tested: PAX, PPL, C18, and SAX. Samples of the
 97 wastewater were adjusted to pH 2 or 10 using hydrochloric acid or sodium hydroxide,
 98 respectively. The change in concentration was multiplied by the volume which was passed
 99 through the filter to estimate the % retention of these elements.

100

101

102 The selection of SPE materials has been principally chosen so that the resulting sample
 103 best reproduces the signature that would be observed in the original sample. Previous research
 104 has used PPL filters for its broad selectivity of carbon⁷. However, phosphorus represents a minor
 105 portion of dissolved organic matter pool. Selective concentration of organic phosphorus
 106 compounds enhances their detectability in the organic matter spectrum⁸. Our objective was to
 107 determine which SPE material and methodology would best suit our needs to retain organic
 108 phosphorus compounds. The retention efficiencies of the all four SPE materials had enhanced P
 recovery when samples were adjusted to a pH 10 (SI Figure S1). Carbon retention displayed

109 some differences using this method with increased recovery for the PAX column, but a reduction
110 in the carbon recovery for the other three columns. Most notably, the SAX column had an
111 increased carbon concentration in the effluent, and therefore was removed from subsequent
112 analyses. As the majority of phosphorus may have been inorganic in the primary clarifier water,
113 it was important to demonstrate that these columns were retaining organic phosphorus
114 compounds.



115
116 **Figure S2.** A standard solution consisting of equal parts phosphorus of: (inorganic)
117 orthophosphate, pyrophosphate, (organophosphate) D-glucose-6-phosphate, phenylphosphate,
118 NADH, (organophosphonate) fosfomycin, 2-aminoethyl phosphonate, and *n*-hexylphosphonate
119 was prepared. The sample was basified to a pH 10 and passed through the Plexa-PAX, PPL, and
120 C18 columns. The standard solution was read using ion chromatography before (influent) the
121 eluent was collect from its respective column. The disappearance of a peak has been interpreted
122 as the adsorption of that compound to the SPE column. The 2-aminoethyl phosphonate
123 compound could not be detected using anionic IC. However, the expected retention % assuming
124 complete recovery of 1-aminoethyl phosphonate, hexylphosphonate, phenylphosphate, NADH,
125 and pyrophosphate by the Plexa-PAX filter indicated that this compound also adhered to this
126 filter (e.g., 100% recovery of nitrogen).

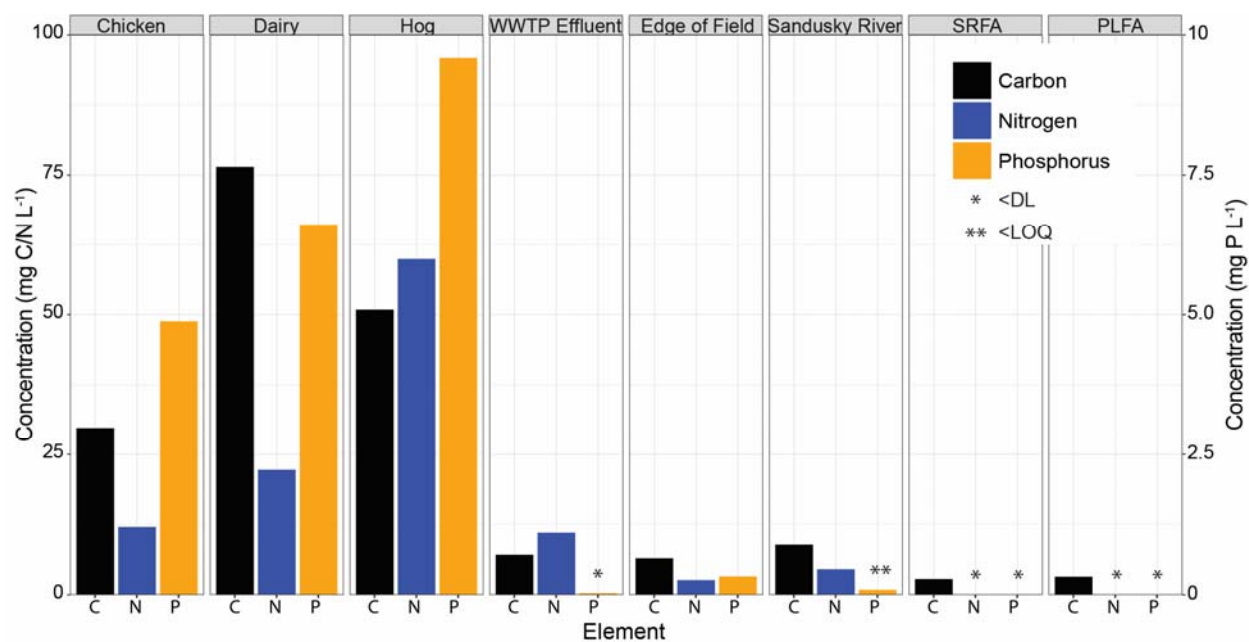
127
128
129

130 The primary clarifier water was likely to contain minerals that could interfere with the
131 interpretation of our results. For instance, the presence of magnesium in the water combined with
132 the pH adjustment could lead to the precipitation of inorganic phosphates⁹. In fact, precipitates
133 were visually observed in the samples prior to filtration. Therefore, using the laboratory
134 phosphorus standards allowed us to detect their retention in the absence of interfering chemicals.
135 Rather than quantifying the change in concentrations, the ion chromatographs were used to
136 identify changes to the presence of particular compounds before and after SPE filtration (SI
137 Figure S2A). The PAX column nearly lacked four of the compounds in its effluent
138 chromatograph: HexP, PhP, NADH, and P2O7. These represented three organic and one
139 inorganic compound. Notably, there was a near complete recovery of nitrogen – as determined
140 by TDN analysis – that could indicate the recovery of the 2-AEP compound (Figure S2B). The
141 determined recovery percent of nitrogen and phosphorus matched the results expected presuming
142 complete recovery of 2-AEP, PhP, NADH, and P2O7. These results confirmed that the PAX
143 column and methodology was adequate for organic phosphorus retention, and therefore this solid
144 phase extraction resin was selected for future analyses.

145 The DOM of our samples ranged were composed of $\leq 12.8\%$ DOP. Despite our efforts to
146 enhance organic phosphorus recovery by using the anionic exchange SPE column, the non-
147 manure samples were composed of less organic phosphorus than samples of Lake Superior
148 tributaries¹⁰. It is noteworthy that we did not discern any retention of organic phosphorus
149 standards by the C18 column, which had been used in the Lake Superior study¹⁰. Rather than
150 retaining a greater number of phosphorus compounds, it is possible that our method simply
151 enhanced the recovery amounts rather than isolating new compounds. ESI FT-ICR-MS does not
152 measure concentrations so there is no valid way of determining this for our sample set¹¹.

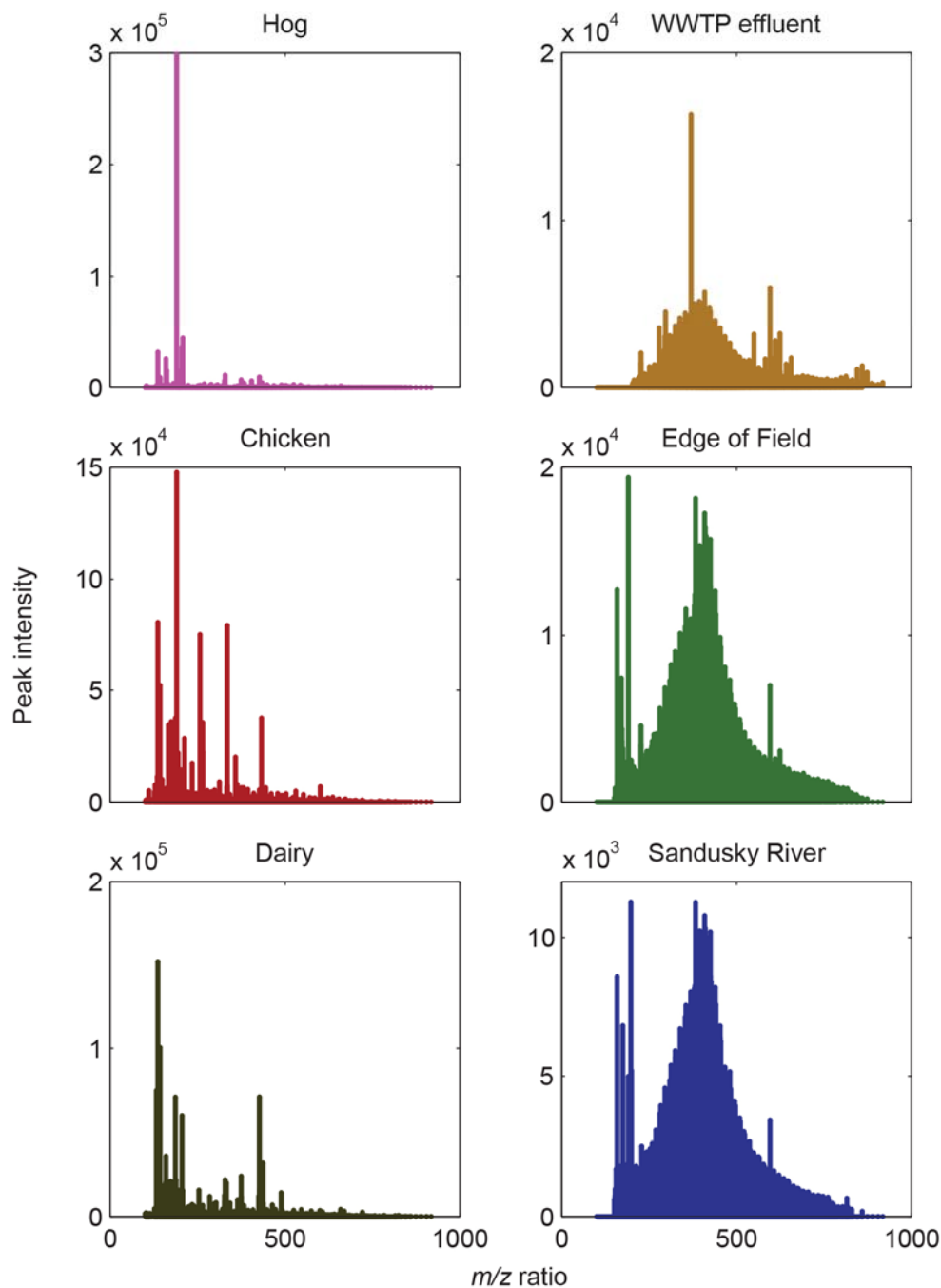
153 Additionally, the formula algorithm also has an implicit bias against organic phosphorus in that it
 154 preferentially selects formula with the lowest non-oxygen (N+S+P) atom counts^{5, 6}. For every
 155 phosphorus atom incorporated in a formula, it becomes less likely for that formula to be selected.
 156 Formula assignments are made within a 1 ppm error window, meaning that more options are
 157 available at higher molecular masses. Supporting this notion of an assignment bias, the organic
 158 phosphorus compounds were more often assigned in the lower molecular masses where there
 159 were fewer alternatives (data not shown). Our study is a rare instance in which organic
 160 phosphorus was the intended focal point of ESI FT-ICR-MS analysis. It would be useful to
 161 challenge the existing protocols if this technology is to be applied for other studies centering
 162 around organic phosphorus.

163
 164



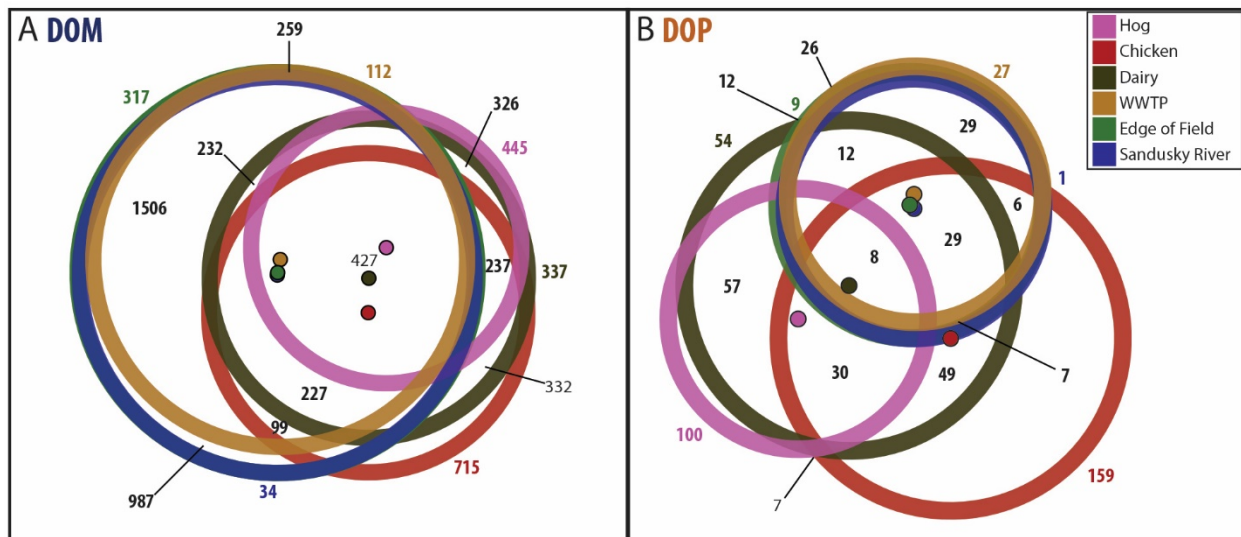
165

166 **Figure S3.** (A) The carbon, nitrogen and phosphorus concentrations were measured as non-
167 non-purgeable carbon (NPOC), total dissolved nitrogen (TDN); and total dissolved phosphorus (ICP-
168 OES). The detection limit (DL) for N was 0.01 mg N L⁻¹, while it was 0.03 mg P L⁻¹ leading to a
169 lower limit of quantification (LOQ) of 0.1 mg P L⁻¹. Concentrations were diluted prior to solid
170 phase extraction.
171
172

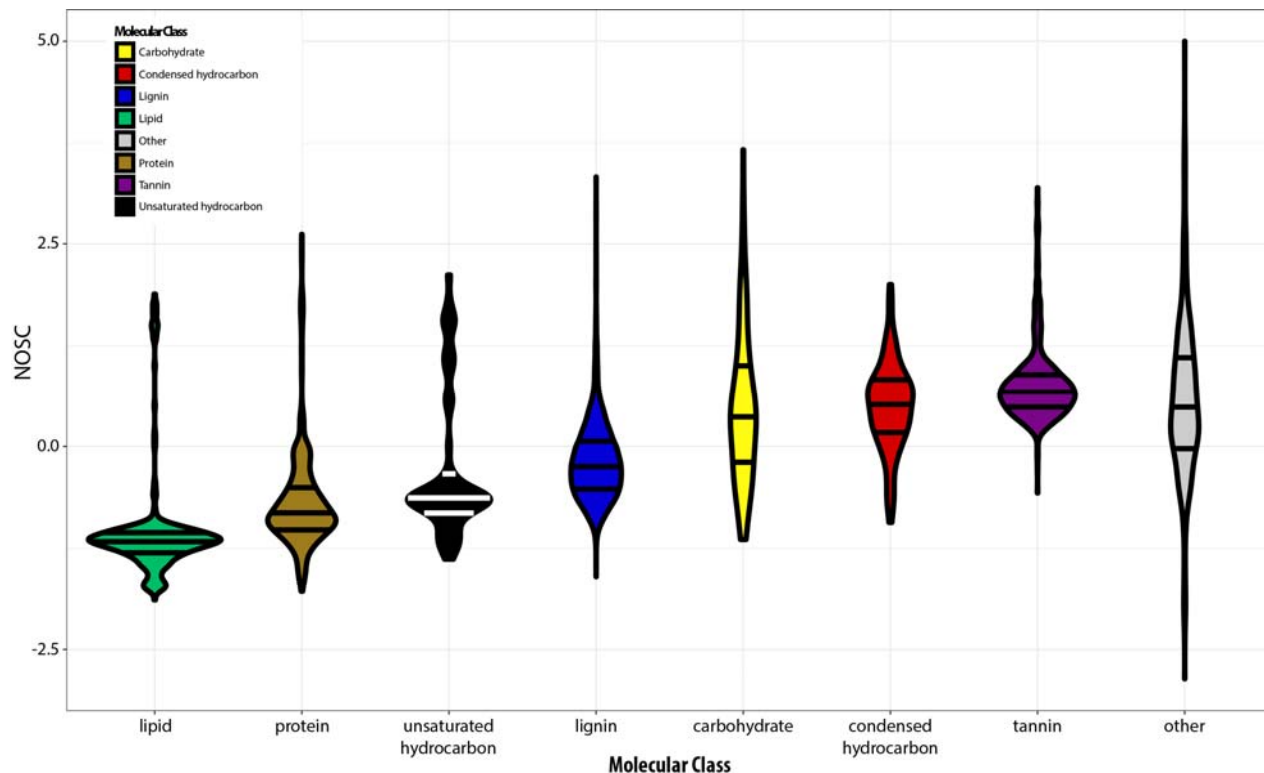


173

174 **Figure S4.** Negative ion mode spectra from DOM from the six watershed samples. The data
175 have been blank-corrected and represent the average peak heights across the two replicates from
176 each sample type.
177



178
 179 **Figure S5.** Sample similarity based on presence/absence data, visualized using Euler diagrams
 180 for (A) DOM and (B) DOP. The centroid is marked by a small circle with numbers indicating the
 181 number of formula shared within an intersection. Not all numbers are indicated but may be found
 182 in SI Table S4. The number of unique formula for each sample is color-coded and placed
 183 adjacent to that sample's ring.
 184



185
 186
 187 **Figure S6.** The nominal oxidation state of carbon (NOSC) calculated by molecular class across
 188 all samples in this dataset, as visualized in a violin plot. A negative value represents carbon in a
 189 reduced state; a positive value represents carbon in an oxidized state; and zero represents carbon
 190 which is neutrally charged.

191 **Table S1.** Adsorption efficiency across samples using the Bond Elut PAX solid phase extraction
 192 resin. Carbon was measured using non-purgeable organic carbon, while nitrogen and phosphorus
 193 were measured as the change in concentrations following sample dilution and after passing
 194 through the solid phase extraction columns. Values below the limit of quantification ($10 \mu\text{g N L}^{-1}$,
 195 $100 \mu\text{g P L}^{-1}$) are reported as estimates. Where effluent values were above influent, values are
 196 reported as <0%. BDL indicates that the N or P concentration was below the detection limit.
 197

| Sample | Replicate | C | N | P |
|----------------|-------------|-----|-----|-----------|
| Chicken | replicate 1 | 18% | 26% | <0% |
| | replicate 2 | 19% | 28% | 15% |
| Dairy | replicate 1 | 20% | 13% | 6.4% |
| | replicate 2 | 8% | 31% | 5.2% |
| Hog | replicate 1 | 10% | 41% | <0% |
| | replicate 2 | 19% | 41% | <0% |
| WWTP Effluent | replicate 1 | 44% | 32% | est. 100% |
| | replicate 2 | 12% | 32% | est. 97% |
| Edge of Field | replicate 1 | 21% | 6% | est. 17% |
| | replicate 2 | 16% | 7% | est. 9.1% |
| Sandusky River | replicate 1 | 36% | 25% | est. 59% |
| | replicate 2 | 28% | 33% | est. 76% |
| SRFA | - | 41% | BDL | BDL |
| PLFA | - | 42% | BDL | BDL |

198
 199

Table S2. ESI(-) FT-ICR-MS analysis detected a total of 14637 peaks, spread across the samples and replicates. The data was quality filtered by removing peaks detected in the DI procedural blank; the extraction solvent; singletons (detected in only 1 sample of the entire dataset); and peaks which had no assigned formula. The reproducibility was determined between sample replicates (shared#/mean#).

| | | | | Hog | | Chicken | | Dairy | | Wastewater | | Edge of field | | Sandusky River | | NOM | |
|---|-------------|------|---------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|-------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Processing | Total | DI | Solvent | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | PLFA | SRFA |
| All Detected Peaks | 14637 | 3014 | 534 | 2497 | 2352 | 3452 | 2493 | 3519 | 1626 | 2388 | 3602 | 4449 | 4702 | 4169 | 3154 | 3412 | 3707 |
| Remove Peaks in Blank | 11633 | - | 377 | 2094 | 2053 | 3219 | 2312 | 3215 | 1232 | 2245 | 3341 | 4338 | 4483 | 3983 | 3023 | 3262 | 3415 |
| Remove Peaks in Solvent | 11246 | - | - | 1983 | 1931 | 3098 | 2200 | 3070 | 1128 | 2171 | 3270 | 4260 | 4396 | 3895 | 2939 | 3146 | 3325 |
| Removed Singleton Peaks | 7438 | - | - | 1673 | 1700 | 2364 | 2072 | 2476 | 995 | 2070 | 3096 | 3979 | 4254 | 3853 | 2815 | 2630 | 3027 |
| Assigned Formula | 7250 | - | - | 1590 | 1625 | 2315 | 2021 | 2444 | 964 | 2046 | 3071 | 3974 | 4220 | 3846 | 2798 | 2622 | 3021 |
| Reproducibility between sample replicates | | | | 88% | | 88% | | 68% | | 81% | | 90% | | 85% | | - | |

Table S3. ESI(-) FT-ICR-MS analysis provided peaks which were assigned formulas with C/H/O/N/P/S elements. The distribution of the m/z values detected in each sample were distributed across 8 formula classes. The numbers of formula are printed for each sample replicate with the number in bold indicating the total number detected in the combined samples.

| | | Hog | | Chicken | | Dairy | | WWTP Effluent | | Edge of field | | Sandusky River | | NOM | |
|--------|-------------|-------------|------|-------------|------|-------------|-----|---------------|------|---------------|------|----------------|------|-------------|-------------|
| Total | | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | PLFA | SRFA |
| CHO | 3981 | 772 | 857 | 824 | 801 | 1139 | 475 | 1700 | 2374 | 3037 | 3190 | 2913 | 2154 | 1749 | 2727 |
| | | 906 | | 908 | | 1144 | | 2413 | | 3356 | | 2924 | | | |
| CHON | 2198 | 502 | 466 | 1047 | 814 | 923 | 276 | 239 | 479 | 732 | 827 | 769 | 549 | 751 | 119 |
| | | 550 | | 1064 | | 927 | | 488 | | 903 | | 811 | | | |
| CHOP | 394 | 111 | 99 | 172 | 150 | 203 | 112 | 57 | 126 | 117 | 117 | 109 | 75 | 70 | 78 |
| | | 119 | | 179 | | 207 | | 129 | | 132 | | 111 | | | |
| CHOS | 254 | 62 | 68 | 75 | 69 | 89 | 37 | 7 | 40 | 68 | 35 | 21 | 2 | 38 | 74 |
| | | 72 | | 82 | | 93 | | 40 | | 75 | | 22 | | | |
| CHONP | 147 | 50 | 44 | 81 | 79 | 30 | 23 | 9 | 19 | 7 | 18 | 12 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| | | 53 | | 83 | | 35 | | 19 | | 18 | | 13 | | | |
| CHONS | 149 | 39 | 46 | 66 | 61 | 37 | 20 | 22 | 19 | 10 | 19 | 15 | 9 | 8 | 12 |
| | | 47 | | 69 | | 40 | | 28 | | 22 | | 16 | | | |
| CHOPS | 62 | 30 | 24 | 24 | 23 | 18 | 14 | 2 | 5 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| | | 30 | | 25 | | 18 | | 5 | | 3 | | 2 | | | |
| CHONPS | 65 | 24 | 21 | 26 | 24 | 5 | 7 | 10 | 9 | 3 | 11 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 4 |
| | | 26 | | 26 | | 9 | | 14 | | 13 | | 6 | | | |
| Total | 7250 | 1590 | 1625 | 2315 | 2021 | 2444 | 964 | 2046 | 3071 | 3974 | 4220 | 3846 | 2798 | 2622 | 3021 |
| | | 1803 | | 2436 | | 2473 | | 3136 | | 4522 | | 3905 | | | |

Table S4. The Venn counts used to produce the Euler diagrams plotted in Figure 4. The samples columns are binary (0 not included; 1 included) with the numbers in the DOM and DOP columns indicating the number of formula for that group of samples.

| Hog | Chicken | Dairy | WWTP Effluent | Edge of Field | Sandusky River | DOM | DOP |
|-----|---------|-------|---------------|---------------|----------------|------|-----|
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 34 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 317 | 9 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 987 | 12 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 112 | 27 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 26 | 2 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 259 | 26 |
| 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1506 | 29 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 337 | 54 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 2 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 17 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 17 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 15 | 3 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 26 | 1 |
| 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 232 | 12 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 715 | 159 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 59 | 4 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 6 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 99 | 6 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 332 | 49 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 18 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 61 | 7 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 4 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 5 | 0 |
| 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 227 | 29 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 445 | 100 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 |

| | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|-----|----|
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 9 | 3 |
| 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 35 | 8 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 326 | 57 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 7 | 1 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 11 | 0 |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 52 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 69 | 7 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 6 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 45 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 237 | 30 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 17 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 14 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 49 | 4 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 12 | 1 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 0 |
| 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 427 | 8 |

Table S5. List of potential marker formulas found in source and Sandusky River samples. The mass to charge (m/z) ratios were used to identify a molecular formula. C13 indicates the presence (1) or absence (0) of a single ^{13}C isotope in the formula. The relative peak height for the m/z values in the samples is provided, and - signifies that the m/z value was not detected for that sample.

| m/z | Formula | C13 | Hog | Chicken | Dairy | WWTP Effluent | Edge of field | Sandusky River |
|-------------|-------------|-----|----------|----------|----------|---------------|---------------|----------------|
| 432.0675772 | C20H20O6NPS | - | - | - | 2.14E-04 | - | - | 6.62E-05 |
| 464.1477252 | C22H28O8NP | - | - | - | 3.78E-04 | - | - | 8.25E-05 |
| 277.1433072 | C10H23O3N4P | - | - | 1.10E-04 | 4.24E-04 | - | - | 3.39E-05 |
| 276.0724817 | C11H17O6P | 1 | 2.54E-04 | 6.89E-04 | 8.44E-04 | - | - | 4.09E-05 |
| 408.2239451 | C19H37O7P | 1 | - | - | - | 7.22E-05 | - | 5.76E-05 |
| 376.0885573 | C15H21O9P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 1.13E-04 | 6.34E-05 |
| 420.0783553 | C16H21O11P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 9.02E-05 | 4.77E-05 |
| 420.1147941 | C17H25O10P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 8.38E-05 | 5.16E-05 |
| 430.0779524 | C21H19O8P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 9.68E-05 | 5.18E-05 |
| 434.0940188 | C17H23O11P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 8.76E-05 | 5.08E-05 |
| 502.1565882 | C22H31O11P | 1 | - | - | - | - | 8.25E-05 | 5.05E-05 |
| 406.135515 | C17H27O9P | 1 | - | - | 7.44E-05 | - | 8.54E-05 | 4.73E-05 |
| 332.0623426 | C13H17O8P | 1 | - | 2.05E-04 | - | - | 9.30E-05 | 4.94E-05 |
| 392.0834377 | C15H21O10P | 1 | - | 2.02E-04 | - | - | 7.88E-05 | 4.62E-05 |
| 302.0881438 | C13H19O6P | 1 | - | 2.59E-04 | 4.41E-04 | - | 8.02E-05 | 4.26E-05 |
| 304.0674032 | C12H17O7P | 1 | - | 5.06E-04 | 4.50E-04 | - | 7.36E-05 | 4.10E-05 |
| 318.0830637 | C13H19O7P | 1 | - | 5.92E-04 | 1.91E-04 | - | 8.09E-05 | 4.78E-05 |
| 330.0830667 | C14H19O7P | 1 | - | 2.01E-04 | 1.47E-04 | - | 1.36E-04 | 1.38E-04 |
| 332.0987091 | C14H21O7P | 1 | - | 2.57E-04 | 1.13E-04 | - | 9.82E-05 | 4.42E-05 |
| 362.1092918 | C15H23O8P | 1 | - | 6.35E-05 | 7.52E-05 | - | 9.24E-05 | 4.80E-05 |
| 275.0260021 | C9H13O4N2PS | - | 4.46E-04 | 1.31E-04 | 7.34E-04 | - | 4.33E-05 | 8.45E-05 |
| 294.0619326 | C14H15O5P | 1 | 3.39E-04 | 4.22E-04 | 6.09E-04 | - | 9.19E-05 | 1.27E-04 |
| 320.0775812 | C16H17O5P | 1 | 3.64E-04 | 1.78E-04 | 4.03E-04 | - | 4.06E-05 | 4.53E-05 |
| 421.236256 | C20H39O7P | - | 3.57E-04 | 1.97E-04 | 1.33E-03 | - | 3.64E-05 | 7.27E-05 |
| 372.1664215 | C18H29O6P | 1 | - | - | - | 3.03E-04 | 1.33E-04 | 1.76E-04 |
| 386.1820806 | C19H31O6P | 1 | - | - | - | 2.22E-04 | 9.86E-05 | 1.10E-04 |
| 388.1613368 | C18H29O7P | 1 | - | - | - | 2.70E-04 | 1.54E-04 | 1.69E-04 |
| 402.1769532 | C19H31O7P | 1 | - | - | - | 2.09E-04 | 1.05E-04 | 1.38E-04 |
| 403.1165379 | C17H25O9P | - | - | - | - | 1.00E-04 | 9.28E-05 | 4.57E-05 |
| 413.100923 | C18H23O9P | - | - | - | - | 1.10E-04 | 8.84E-05 | 3.93E-05 |
| 416.1926161 | C20H33O7P | 1 | - | - | - | 1.74E-04 | 1.04E-04 | 1.08E-04 |
| 417.095797 | C17H23O10P | - | - | - | - | 9.12E-05 | 4.37E-05 | 4.11E-05 |
| 418.0990897 | C17H23O10P | 1 | - | - | - | 7.87E-05 | 1.75E-04 | 1.74E-04 |
| 418.1718666 | C19H31O8P | 1 | - | - | - | 7.17E-05 | 9.78E-05 | 5.75E-05 |
| 429.1322172 | C19H27O9P | - | - | - | - | 1.18E-04 | 7.46E-05 | 3.66E-05 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------|------------|---|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 488.1773569 | C22H33O10P | 1 | - | - | - | 5.45E-05 | 8.69E-05 | 4.83E-05 |
| 344.1351164 | C16H25O6P | 1 | - | - | 8.28E-05 | 2.60E-04 | 1.41E-04 | 1.60E-04 |
| 370.1507808 | C18H27O6P | 1 | - | - | 9.10E-05 | 3.58E-04 | 1.57E-04 | 2.28E-04 |
| 372.1300277 | C17H25O7P | 1 | - | - | 9.49E-05 | 3.00E-04 | 2.15E-04 | 2.31E-04 |
| 382.1507627 | C19H27O6P | 1 | - | - | 1.11E-04 | 3.36E-04 | 2.01E-04 | 2.34E-04 |
| 384.166397 | C19H29O6P | 1 | - | - | 9.51E-05 | 2.90E-04 | 1.77E-04 | 2.08E-04 |
| 399.0852169 | C17H21O9P | - | - | - | 4.55E-04 | 7.87E-05 | 8.40E-05 | 3.89E-05 |
| 414.176966 | C20H31O7P | 1 | - | - | 7.62E-05 | 3.70E-04 | 2.13E-04 | 2.34E-04 |
| 458.1668009 | C21H31O9P | 1 | - | - | 7.86E-05 | 2.57E-04 | 1.63E-04 | 1.92E-04 |
| 484.1824486 | C23H33O9P | 1 | - | - | 7.72E-05 | 2.19E-04 | 1.65E-04 | 2.03E-04 |
| 360.130038 | C16H25O7P | 1 | - | 7.45E-05 | - | 2.13E-04 | 1.59E-04 | 1.88E-04 |
| 456.1147265 | C20H25O10P | 1 | - | 7.61E-05 | - | 2.90E-04 | 2.52E-04 | 2.77E-04 |
| 342.1194474 | C16H23O6P | 1 | - | 1.67E-04 | 1.17E-04 | 3.47E-04 | 1.65E-04 | 2.11E-04 |
| 344.0987134 | C15H21O7P | 1 | - | 1.87E-04 | 1.48E-04 | 8.20E-05 | 1.40E-04 | 1.73E-04 |
| 350.0881719 | C17H19O6P | 1 | - | 2.26E-04 | 4.02E-04 | 2.42E-04 | 1.37E-04 | 1.56E-04 |
| 354.0830662 | C16H19O7P | 1 | - | 3.05E-04 | 1.23E-04 | 2.32E-04 | 2.25E-04 | 2.50E-04 |
| 356.0623315 | C15H17O8P | 1 | - | 3.92E-04 | 1.82E-04 | 6.87E-05 | 2.34E-04 | 2.79E-04 |
| 356.1351082 | C17H25O6P | 1 | - | 6.45E-05 | 1.11E-04 | 2.68E-04 | 1.47E-04 | 1.73E-04 |
| 358.1143977 | C16H23O7P | 1 | - | 6.54E-05 | 1.13E-04 | 2.56E-04 | 2.25E-04 | 2.31E-04 |
| 368.0987153 | C17H21O7P | 1 | - | 2.04E-04 | 1.38E-04 | 3.00E-04 | 2.26E-04 | 2.86E-04 |
| 370.1143768 | C17H23O7P | 1 | - | 1.06E-04 | 1.22E-04 | 2.99E-04 | 2.25E-04 | 2.70E-04 |
| 380.098741 | C18H21O7P | 1 | - | 1.02E-04 | 3.92E-04 | 3.54E-04 | 2.54E-04 | 3.08E-04 |
| 382.1143594 | C18H23O7P | 1 | - | 2.00E-04 | 1.27E-04 | 3.69E-04 | 2.99E-04 | 3.32E-04 |
| 396.1300303 | C19H25O7P | 1 | - | 2.24E-04 | 1.46E-04 | 4.39E-04 | 3.31E-04 | 3.48E-04 |
| 398.1456726 | C19H27O7P | 1 | - | 2.14E-04 | 1.23E-04 | 4.31E-04 | 3.05E-04 | 3.31E-04 |
| 410.109275 | C19H23O8P | 1 | - | 1.94E-04 | 1.33E-04 | 4.50E-04 | 3.60E-04 | 4.13E-04 |
| 410.145669 | C20H27O7P | 1 | - | 2.18E-04 | 1.17E-04 | 4.47E-04 | 2.96E-04 | 3.49E-04 |
| 412.1613237 | C20H29O7P | 1 | - | 1.75E-04 | 1.18E-04 | 4.35E-04 | 2.96E-04 | 3.38E-04 |
| 430.1354991 | C19H27O9P | 1 | - | 6.31E-05 | 1.10E-04 | 2.77E-04 | 2.47E-04 | 2.50E-04 |
| 440.119842 | C20H25O9P | 1 | - | 1.73E-04 | 9.72E-05 | 3.63E-04 | 3.13E-04 | 3.41E-04 |
| 440.1562514 | C21H29O8P | 1 | - | 1.85E-04 | 1.13E-04 | 3.42E-04 | 2.81E-04 | 3.06E-04 |
| 426.067739 | C18H19O10P | 1 | 3.78E-04 | - | 1.20E-03 | 2.03E-04 | 2.97E-04 | 3.55E-04 |
| 296.0775853 | C14H17O5P | 1 | 2.26E-04 | 5.66E-04 | 4.98E-04 | 5.81E-05 | 1.02E-04 | 6.58E-05 |
| 322.0932496 | C16H19O5P | 1 | 5.06E-04 | 2.23E-04 | 8.40E-04 | 7.76E-05 | 1.00E-04 | 1.61E-04 |
| 336.1088903 | C17H21O5P | 1 | 1.91E-04 | 2.01E-04 | 1.31E-04 | 2.15E-04 | 9.13E-05 | 1.17E-04 |
| 366.0830953 | C17H19O7P | 1 | 6.32E-04 | 2.19E-04 | 1.42E-03 | 2.65E-04 | 1.95E-04 | 2.55E-04 |
| 384.0936035 | C17H21O8P | 1 | 2.21E-04 | 3.47E-04 | 8.02E-04 | 2.89E-04 | 3.47E-04 | 3.64E-04 |

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