

RELATIVE INFLUENCE OF TRANS-PACIFIC AND REGIONAL ATMOSPHERIC TRANSPORT OF PAHS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, USA

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1 **RELATIVE INFLUENCE OF TRANS-PACIFIC AND REGIONAL ATMOSPHERIC**
2 **TRANSPORT OF PAHS IN THE PACIFIC NORTHWEST, USA**

3
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21
22 **ABSTRACT**

23 The relative influences of trans-Pacific and regional atmospheric transport on measured
24 concentrations of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), PAH derivatives [Nitro- (NPAH)
25 and Oxy-(OPAH)], organic carbon (OC), and particulate matter (PM) less than 2.5 µm in
26 diameter (PM_{2.5}) were investigated in the Pacific Northwest, USA in 2010-2011. Ambient high
27 volume PM_{2.5} air samples were collected at two sites in the Pacific Northwest: 1.) Mount
28 Bachelor Observatory (MBO) in the Oregon Cascade Range (2763 m above sea level (asl)) and
29 2.) Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) in the Columbia River
30 Gorge (CRG) (954 m asl). At MBO, the 1,8-dinitropyrene concentration was significantly
31 positively correlated with the time a sampled air mass spent over Asia, suggesting that this
32 NPAH may be a good marker for trans-Pacific atmospheric transport. At CTUIR, NO_x, CO₂,
33 and SO₂ emissions from a 585 MW coal fired power plant, in Boardman OR, were found to be
34 significantly positively correlated with PAH, OPAH, NPAH, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations. By

35 comparing the Boardman Plant operational time frames when the plant was operating to when it
36 was shut down, the plant was found to contribute a large percentage of the measured PAH
37 (67%), NPAH (91%), OPAH (54%), PM_{2.5} (39%) and OC (38%) concentrations at CTUIR and
38 the CRG prior to Spring 2011 and likely masked trans-Pacific atmospheric transport events to the
39 CRG. Upgrades installed to the Boardman Plant in the spring of 2011 dramatically reduced the
40 plant's contribution to PAH and OPAH concentrations (by ~72% and ~40%, respectively) at
41 CTUIR and the CRG, but not NPAH, PM_{2.5} or OC concentrations.

42 **Introduction**

43 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) are formed during incomplete combustion
44 and are emitted directly into the gas-phase, as well as sorbed onto particulate matter of 2.5 μm
45 in diameter (PM_{2.5}), composed of black carbon (BC) and organic carbon (OC).¹⁻³ Incomplete
46 combustion sources include anthropogenic sources, such as coal combustion⁴ and vehicular
47 emissions⁵, as well as natural sources, such as forest fires⁶ and volcanoes⁷. PAHs are a human
48 health concern because some PAHs are mutagenic components of PM_{2.5}.^{8,9}

49 Previous studies have determined that there is significant outflow of particulate-phase
50 PAHs from Asia,¹⁰ as well as the trans-Pacific atmospheric transport of polluted dust¹¹,
51 mercury¹², ozone¹³, PM¹⁴ and particulate phase PAHs^{6, 15, 16} to the western U.S. Zelenyuk et al.¹⁷
52 recently explained the relatively high PAH concentrations measured during trans-Pacific
53 atmospheric transport events by rationalizing that, during particle formation, PAHs become
54 entrapped in a semi solid secondary organic aerosol and protected from evaporation or oxidation
55 during transport. In addition, Timonen et al.¹⁴ estimated that, during the spring (March-May),
56 Asian sources account for approximately 50 – 80% of the total PM_{2.5} measured in clean
57 background areas of the Pacific Northwest (PNW) and approximately 36% - 50% in urban areas

58 of the PNW. Given that PM_{2.5} and PAHs are often co-emitted from the same sources, the
59 percentages may be similar for PAHs.

60 PAH derivatives (nitro-PAH (NPAH) and oxy-PAH (OPAH)) form directly during
61 incomplete combustion processes, as well as from gas phase reaction and heterogeneous
62 reactions of PM-bound parent PAHs with other atmospheric pollutants, such as OH radical, O₃,
63 NO₂, and NO₃ radical. Based on the behavior of their analogous parent PAHs, NPAHs and
64 OPAHs may undergo trans-Pacific atmospheric transport bound to PM_{2.5}.^{18, 19} Previous studies
65 have measured PAH derivatives at remote and rural sites far from point sources,²⁰ as well as
66 urban sites²¹.

67 The primary objectives of this research were to 1.) measure the PAH and PAH derivative
68 (NPAH and OPAH) concentrations on PM_{2.5} in ambient air masses in the Pacific Northwest and
69 2.) determine the relative influence of trans-Pacific and regional transport at a remote mountain
70 site in the Oregon Cascade Range (Mt. Bachelor Observatory) and at a regional, rural site on the
71 Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) located on the Columbia
72 Plateau and bordering the Columbia River Gorge (CRG) national scenic area in 2010 and 2011.
73 Understanding the relative influence of these transport pathways will help to formulate regional,
74 national, and international air quality regulations.

75 **Experimental**

76 *Chemicals.*

77 All of the PAHs, NPAHs and OPAHs analyzed for in this study, and their abbreviations,
78 are listed in Table 1. PAHs, NPAHs and OPAHs were purchased from AccuStandard (New
79 Haven, CT), Chem Service (West Chester, PA), Chiron AS (Trondheim, Norway) and Sigma-
80 Aldrich (St. Louis, MO). Deuterium-labeled PAHs and NPAHs were purchased from CDN
81 Isotopes (Point-Claire, Quebec, Canada) and Cambridge Isotope Laboratories (Andover, MA).

82 These isotopically labeled standards were used as recovery surrogates and internal standards as
83 previously described in detail by Wang et al.² Only HR-GC OmniSolv[®] grade solvents
84 (Reagents, Charlotte, NC) were used.

85 *Sampling Sites and Sample Collection*

86 Two sampling sites, in Oregon, were chosen for this study (Figure 1B). The mountain top
87 sampling site at Mount Bachelor Observatory (MBO) (43.98°N 121.69°W, 2783 m above sea
88 level (asl)) is located ~180 km east of the Pacific Ocean in Oregon's Cascade Range and was
89 established to observe trans-Pacific atmospheric transport events.¹² Previous studies at MBO
90 have measured the trans-Pacific and regional atmospheric transport of particulate phase PAHs¹⁵
91 and PM¹⁴. Episodic trans-Pacific atmospheric transport is most likely to occur at MBO in the
92 spring of the year, from March to May.¹⁵ PM_{2.5} samples were collected at MBO from March to
93 May 2010 (27 samples collected) and March to May 2011 (16 samples collected). The specific
94 dates sampled at MBO are shown in Figure 2.

95 The other sampling site was on the CTUIR on Cabbage Hill (45.60°N 118.61°W, 929.34
96 m asl) (see Figure 1B) and was selected because it was a representative site for the CRG and the
97 CRG Plateau. This sampling site lies ~302 km northeast of MBO and ~179 km from the eastern
98 edge of the CRG National Scenic area in the rolling hills of the Columbia Plateau. PM₁₀ and
99 PM_{2.5} concentrations were observed by Vaughan et al. to increase by 370% and 134%
100 respectively, from the trans-Pacific transport of Asian dust to sites on the Columbia Plateau.²³
101 The Cabbage Hill sampling site lies ~20 km south east of Pendleton, OR (estimated 2013
102 population ~16,935)²⁴ and ~2 km from a section of I-84, with an annual daily traffic volume of
103 ~10,000 vehicles/day,²⁵ including diesel and personal automobiles. PM_{2.5} samples were collected
104 at the Cabbage Hill site on the CTUIR from March to December 2010 (43 samples collected) and

105 March to September 2011 (43 samples collected). The specific dates sampled at CTUIR are
106 shown in Figure 3. PM_{2.5} samples were collected at both MBO and CTUIR from March to May
107 in 2010 and 2011.

108 At both MBO and Cabbage Hill, PM_{2.5} was collected a High Volume Cascade Impactor
109 (Series 230, Tisch Environmental, Cleves, OH) which was operated in accordance to the
110 procedures established by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (CFR40, Part 50.11,
111 Appendix B, July 1, 1975) and ASTM Specification D2009.²⁶ We cannot eliminate the potential
112 for both positive²⁷ and negative²⁸⁻³⁰ sampling artifacts. However, given that both sites are
113 relatively rural and remote, we have assumed that the measured PAH, NPAH and OPAH
114 concentrations at the sites are representative. Quartz fiber filters (QFFs) were used and were
115 prebaked at 350°C prior to sample collection. Field blanks were also collected over the sampling
116 time periods (10 field blanks at CTUIR and 4 field blanks at MBO) along with lab blanks and
117 were analyzed for the PAH, NPAH, and OPAH listed in Table 1 following the procedure
118 outlined in both Wang et al. and Jariyasopit et. al.^{2,19}

119 During the sampling periods, direct mass measurements of PM_{2.5} were also made at
120 CTUIR's Mission sampling site (45.68°N 118.65°W, 391.7 m asl, ~10 km from Cabbage Hill
121 site) (see Figure 1) using a Thermo Scientific Taper Oscillating Microbalance (TEOM) monitor
122 (Thermo Scientific, Franklin, MA, USA). Direct PM_{2.5} mass measurements were also made
123 during the sampling periods at the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality (ODEQ) air
124 quality monitoring station in Pendleton, OR (45.65°N 118.82°W, 318.8 m asl, ~18 km from the
125 Cabbage Hill Sampling site) using a nephelometer (see Figure 1B). Additional information on
126 sample collection is provided in the SI.

127 ***Sample Extraction and Chemical Analysis.***

128 The sample extraction and analysis procedures have been previously validated^{2, 15, 19} and
129 are described in the SI. In brief, the samples were extracted using a pressurized liquid extraction
130 (PLE) method outlined by in Wang et al. and Jariyasopit et al.^{2, 19} After extracting the filters twice
131 with dichloromethane (DCM), the resulting extract was split in half by weight for chemical
132 analysis using GC/MS and toxicological analysis using the Ames assay.² A signal-to-noise ratio
133 of 10:1 was used to define the limit of quantitation. Site specific estimated detection limits
134 (EDLs) were calculated from EPA-method 8280A,³¹ and were defined as a signal-to-noise ratio
135 of 3:1 in the sample matrix.

136 ***Organic Carbon and Black Carbon Analysis***

137 A Sunset EC/OC analyzer (Sunset Lab, Tigard, OR) was used to analyze for organic
138 carbon (OC) and black carbon (BC),³² concentrations on the ambient PM_{2.5} samples collected at
139 MBO and Cabbage Hill using a 1"x 1" section cut from the filters. We focus on OC here
140 because PAHs are a component of the OC on PM.

141 ***Back Trajectory Analysis and Calculation of Source Region Impact Factors***

142 The methods used to conduct the back trajectory analysis and calculation of source region
143 impact factors (SRIFs) have been described in detail by Primbs et al.¹⁵ and are given in the SI.
144 In brief, ten day air mass back-trajectories were calculated using NOAA's ARL HYSPLIT online
145 model³³ and data from the GDAS (Global Data Assimilation System) archive and were
146 calculated at three arrival elevations above model ground level (1300, 1500, and 1700 m for
147 MBO and 400, 600 and 800 m for CTUIR), every 3 h, over the 24 h sampling period (including
148 the start and stop time), for a total of 27 trajectories per sample. The 10 day back trajectories
149 were used to determine the impact of different source regions (Oregon, Washington, California,

150 Asia, Siberia, British Columbia, Alaska, West and East) on the air masses sampled (Figure 1A)
151 and the calculation of SRIFs was based on Primbs et al.¹⁰

152 *Ames Assay*

153 The method reported by Maron et al.³⁴ was used as described by Wang et. al² and the
154 details are provided in the SI. Salmonella strain TA98 (Xenometrix, Inc, Allschwil, Switzerland)
155 was used and the test was conducted, with and without metabolic activation, by using rat S9 mix.

156 **Results and Discussion**

157 *Pollutant Concentrations and Sources to MBO*

158 Figure 2 shows the $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations on $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ measured at
159 MBO. Significant positive correlations ($p < 0.05$) between $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$ and $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$
160 concentrations, as well as between $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$ and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$, were measured. However, $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$
161 and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations were not significantly correlated with each other. Overall, the
162 individual PAH and $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$ concentrations were relatively low (pg/m^3) at MBO in 2010 and
163 2011 compared to other studies that identified trans-Pacific transport of PAHs^{6, 16}, including at
164 MBO¹⁵. This suggests that the trans-Pacific transport of PAHs was not particularly strong in the
165 spring of 2010 and 2011 and is consistent with Fischer et. al.^{35, 36} who found that anomalous
166 meteorology (such as cloud scavenging of aerosols and a more persistent wind flow from the
167 south) reduced the aerosol concentration at MBO during this time period. It is unclear why the
168 $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations were significantly elevated at MBO on March 26
169 and 27, 2011 (Figure 2). However, the mean $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations at
170 MBO were not statistically different between 2010 and 2011.

171 PM_{1} , and not $\text{PM}_{2.5}$, mass concentration was measured at MBO, during the sampling
172 periods¹⁴ and is shown in Figure S1. The difference between PM_{1} and $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentrations has

173 been shown to be ~10-40%³⁷⁻⁴⁰. However, we assumed that the fluctuations in PM₁
174 concentration at MBO would be representative of fluctuations in the PM_{2.5} concentrations at
175 MBO. No statistical difference in the mean PM₁ concentration was found between 2010 and
176 2011. The OC, \sum PAH_{5,6ring}, and individual PAH (RET, BaA, CHR+TRI, BbF BkF, BeP, BaP
177 DcaA, IcdP and BghiP) concentrations were positively correlated with the PM₁ concentrations
178 (p<0.05) at MBO. However, there were no statistically significant correlations between
179 \sum PAH₃₂, \sum OPAH₁₀, \sum NPAH₂₇, and PM₁ concentrations at MBO.

180 *Source Region Impact Factors and Meteorological Conditions at MBO*

181 The source regions to MBO have been previously defined¹⁵ and include regional/urban
182 sources regions (Oregon, Washington, Urban Oregon, Urban Washington, British Columbia,
183 Alaska, and California), as well as source regions in Asia and Siberia (Figure 1A). Figure S2
184 shows the calculated SRIFs for MBO for the sampling days. Similar to Primbs et al. in 2004-
185 2006 at MBO,¹⁵ elevated SRIFs for California, Oregon and Washington were observed during
186 the spring sampling periods in 2010 and 2011. There were minimal correlations between the
187 individual PAHs and PAH derivative concentrations and SRIFs (Table S1). There were
188 significant positive correlations (p < 0.05) with 6-NCH and OC concentrations and CA %, with
189 BenzANT and OC concentration and Urban WA % and with 1-NP concentration and Alaska%
190 and BC%. These correlations indicate that these compounds may be a result of regional
191 atmospheric transport.

192 \sum NPAH₂₇ and 1,8-DNP concentrations were significantly positively correlated with the
193 Asia SRIF% (p<0.05). 1,8-DNP was found to form in chamber reaction studies under simulated
194 atmospheric conditions with Beijing PM under exposure to NO₃/N₂O₅ and expected to lead to

195 increased mutagenicity.¹⁹ This indicates that 1,8-DNP may be a potential marker for trans-Pacific
196 atmospheric transport.

197 Table S2 shows the statistically significant correlations between the PAH, NPAH, and
198 OPAH concentrations at MBO and HYSPLIT model output (Σ precipitation during the trajectory
199 (ppt (mm/hr)) and the amount of time the trajectories spent above or below the boundary layer
200 (% above and % below, respectively)⁴¹), weather conditions (water vapor (WV) (g/kg), relative
201 humidity (RH) and ambient pressure (mbar) and $1000/\text{Temperature (K}^{-1}\text{)}$), and atmospheric
202 pollutant concentrations (O_3 (ppbv) and CO (ppbv))^{12, 42}. At MBO during the spring, increased
203 CO and O_3 concentrations have been shown to be associated with Asian air masses.^{15, 42}
204 Significant negative correlations ($p < 0.05$) between CO concentrations and 2-MNAP, 1-MNAP,
205 2,6-DMNAP, 1,3-DMNAP, 2-MPHE, 1-MPHE, NAP, ACY, and ACE concentrations at MBO
206 (Table S2 and S3) suggest that these PAHs may be indicators of regional transport. Primbs et al.
207 attributed these same PAHs to regional transport from the Western U.S.¹⁵ There was a significant
208 positive correlation ($p < 0.05$) between BghiP and CO concentrations (Table S2), suggesting that
209 BghiP concentrations at MBO may be a marker for trans-Pacific air masses.

210 Significant negative correlations, between many PAH and PAH derivative concentrations
211 and O_3 concentrations were observed at MBO (Table S2). Recently, Jariyasopit et al.¹⁹ found
212 that, under simulated trans-Pacific transport conditions, O_3 exposure resulted in significant
213 degradation of PAHs bound to Beijing PM. This may suggest that some PAHs, including BbF,
214 BkF, BeP, BaP, IcdP, degrade during trans-Pacific transport due to reaction with O_3 . However,
215 we cannot eliminate the possibility that this result may be due to a sampling artifact from
216 drawing O_3 over the PM-bound PAHs on the filter, resulting in their degradation.

217 ***Ames Assay Results at MBO***

218 There were 10 sampling days (3/6/10, 3/7/10, 3/19/10, 4/9/10, 4/15/10, 4/19/10, 4/30/11,
219 5/2/11, 5/9/11, and 5/12/11) out of 43 sampling days at MBO with direct acting mutagenicity (-
220 S9 rat liver enzyme) statistically different ($p < 0.05$) from the negative control (Figure S3). Of
221 these 10 days, 2 days were previously identified by Timonen et al. as trans-Pacific events at
222 MBO (4/19/10 and 5/12/11).¹⁴ NPAHs and OPAHs have been shown to be direct acting
223 mutagens². However, no correlations were found between OPAH and NPAH concentrations at
224 MBO and revertants/(plate·m³), likely because of the low OPAH and NPAH concentrations
225 measured. There were no sampling days at MBO in which the indirect acting mutagenicity (+S9
226 rat liver enzyme) was statistically different from the negative control.

227 *Pollutant Concentrations and Sources to CTUIR*

228 Figure 3 shows the $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations measured at the
229 CTUIR Cabbage Hill site. The $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations were significantly
230 positively correlated ($p < 0.05$) with each other. In addition, the mean $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, and
231 $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations were significantly higher in 2010 than in 2011, at Cabbage Hill ($p <$
232 0.05) (by ~ 2.5 x for PAHs and OPAHs and ~ 4 x for NPAHs). .

233 The measured PAH, OPAH, and NPAH concentrations at MBO and CTUIR (Cabbage
234 Hill site) were directly compared using only overlapping sampling periods (March to May in
235 2010 and 2011). In 2010, the mean $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations at
236 CTUIR were significantly different ($p < 0.05$) and were ~ 1.3 x, ~ 20 x, and ~ 6 x, times higher,
237 respectively, than at MBO. However, in 2011, the mean $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$
238 concentrations at CTUIR were not statistically different from the concentrations at MBO.

239 Figure S6 shows the 24 hr $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ concentration at the Mission site, the 24 hr $\text{PM}_{2.5}$
240 concentration at the ODEQ site, and the organic carbon concentration on $\text{PM}_{2.5}$ at Cabbage Hill.

241 Over the entire sampling period, the 24 hr PM_{2.5} concentration at the Mission and ODEQ sites
242 were significantly positively correlated ($p < 0.05$) with each other. Over the same time period,
243 the mean 24 hr PM_{2.5} concentration at the Mission site was $5.78 \pm 2.6 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ and was statistically
244 significantly higher than the mean 24 hr PM_{2.5} concentration of $4.69 \pm 3.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$ measured at the
245 ODEQ site ($p < 0.05$). This is likely because the Mission site is impacted more by local PM_{2.5}
246 sources (including wood smoke), than the ODEQ site.

247 ***Source Regions Impact Factors and Meteorological Conditions at CTUIR***

248 The source regions to CTUIR are shown in Figure 1A and were used to assess the path
249 the air masses traveled prior to being sampled at CTUIR. The SRIFs for CTUIR are shown in
250 Figure S4. The majority of the air masses sampled at CTUIR had spent a large percentage of
251 time locally, passing over Washington (WA), British Columbia (BC), or California (CA) in late
252 spring/summer, and Asia and Siberia in early spring (and periodically throughout the year).
253 Table S4 shows that few individual PAH and PAH derivative concentrations or sums of PAH
254 and PAH derivative concentrations at CTUIR were correlated with SRIFs, except for 2,6-
255 DMNAP, 1-MPYR, ACY, DBT, FLA, PYR, BcFLO, DacA, 3-NBP, 3-NBF, 1-NP, 6-NCH,
256 2NTP, 9,10-ANQ, Ben(c)-1,4, BcdPYRO which were correlated with local source regions,
257 including BC, WA, and CA. In general, the mean Asia% SRIF for MBO was greater than for
258 CTUIR (14% and 8%, respectively).

259 To understand the effect of meteorological conditions on the air quality at the Cabbage
260 Hill, Mission and ODEQ sampling sites, the measured PAH, NPAH, OPAH, OC, PM_{2.5}
261 concentrations were compared to meteorological conditions around the sampling sites.
262 Precipitation data recorded at Eastern Oregon Airport was used to assess the impact of
263 precipitation scavenging on the measured PAH, NPAH, OPAH, PM_{2.5} and OC concentrations but

264 no statistically significant correlations were observed. Wind data (direction and speed) from the
265 Eastern Oregon Airport was used to generate wind rose plots for the 2010 and 2011 sampling
266 periods at CTUIR (Figure S5). The predominant wind direction was westerly, occurring over
267 ~50% of the sampling time, in both 2010 and 2011. Table S3 shows the statistically significant
268 correlations between the PAH, NPAH, and OPAH concentrations at CTUIR and HYSPLIT
269 model output (Σ precipitation during the trajectory (ppt (mm/hr)) and the amount of time the
270 trajectories spent above or below the boundary layer (% above and % below, respectively)⁴¹),
271 weather conditions (water vapor (WV) (g/kg), relative humidity (RH) and ambient pressure
272 (mbar) and 1000/Temperature (K⁻¹)), and atmospheric pollutant concentrations (O₃ (ppbv) and
273 CO (ppbv)).

274 ***Influence of the Boardman Plant Emissions on Measured PM_{2.5} and PAH concentrations at*** 275 ***CTUIR***

276 The PAH isomer diagnostic ratios, BaA/ (BaA+CHR) and IcdP/ (IcdP+BghiP), have been
277 used in numerous studies⁴³⁻⁴⁵ to aid the identification of the combustion source types. The
278 thresholds, determined by Yunker et al.,⁴⁶ were used to help identify PAH sources to Cabbage
279 Hill and the data is shown in Figure 4. Figure 4A shows that in 2010, CTUIR was influenced
280 primarily by a wood, grass, or coal combustion sources, while in 2011, CTUIR was influenced
281 primarily by mixed sources/petroleum sources. This suggested that a shift occurred in PAH
282 source types at the CTUIR Cabbage Hill site between 2010 and 2011.

283 This prompted us to investigate the significant difference in mean Σ PAH₃₂, Σ OPAH₁₀,
284 Σ NPAH₂₇, and OC concentrations at Cabbage Hill in 2010 and 2011 (Figure 3 and S6), as well
285 as the difference in PAH diagnostic ratios in 2010 and 2011 (Figure 4). The Cabbage Hill site
286 lies ~2 km from I-84, the likely source of mixed source/petroleum source, as well as 80 km east

287 of Portland General Electric's 585 MW coal fired power plant in Boardman, OR (Figure 1B).
288 The Boardman Plant has been previously shown to be a source of PM_{2.5} in the CRG National
289 Scenic Area.^{47, 48} According to data from the EPA AirData website, the Boardman Plant was also
290 the largest point source of SO₂ and NO_x in the State of Oregon for 2010 and 2011..⁴⁹ Using the
291 IMPROVE Wishram site (~102 km west of Boardman in the CRG), in 2010, Jaffe et al.⁴⁷ found
292 that the Boardman Plant had a significant impact on the PM_{2.5} concentration in the CRG,
293 increasing background PM_{2.5} concentrations by 14% over the entire year and by 56% during the
294 month of November.

295 To see if the air masses sampled at CTUIR passed over the Boardman Plant, source region boxes
296 "West" and "East" of CTUIR were added (Figure 1B) and the SRIFs for these boxes were
297 calculated for each sampling day. Only statistically significant negative correlations ($p < 0.05$)
298 were found for PYR, 6-NBaP, and 9-FLU concentrations with the west box SRIF, indicating that
299 days not influenced from the west may have been enhanced in these PAH concentrations and
300 could be associated with other sources, such as diesel emissions from I-84. Because there was
301 minimal correlation between PAH and PAH derivative concentrations at Cabbage Hill and the
302 West and East SRIFs, in addition to no differences in PAH concentration on sampling days
303 defined as "west" or "east" based on predominant wind direction, the atmosphere of the
304 Columbia Plateau and at the Cabbage Hill sampling site appeared to be well mixed during the
305 sampling periods. This may be due to the relatively high wind speeds in the CRG and on the
306 plateau.

307 The operational NO_x, SO₂, and CO₂ emissions data from the Boardman Plant was
308 compared to the PAH, PAH derivative, OC and PM_{2.5} concentrations measured at CTUIR, during
309 normal plant operation and during temporary plant closures, to directly assess the impact of the

310 Boardman Plant on air quality at CTUIR. The NO_x, SO₂, and CO₂ emissions from the Boardman
311 Plant were obtained from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Air Markets Program
312 Data Acid Rain program archive⁴⁹ for the entire sampling period at CTUIR. In the spring of
313 2011, after the annual shutdown of the power plant from April to June, two new emission
314 controls were added to the Boardman Plant: 1.) low-NO_x burners and modified airports and 2.)
315 an activated carbon injection system to allow for the capture and removal of mercury.⁵⁰

316 Figure 3 shows the three distinct operational timeframes of the Boardman Plant, when the
317 plant was on (before the upgrade), when the plant was on (after the upgrade), and when the plant
318 was off, as well as the temporal variation and mean \sum PAH₃₂, \sum OPAH₁₀, \sum NPAH₂₇
319 concentrations measured during these operational time frames. The mean PAH, OPAH and
320 NPAH concentrations when the plant was on (before the upgrade) were statistically different ($p <$
321 0.05), and $\sim 3x$, $\sim 2x$ and $\sim 12x$ higher, respectively, than when the plant was off. PAH and OPAH
322 concentrations measured when the plant was off and when it was on (after the upgrade) were not
323 found to be statistically significantly different, while NPAH concentrations were still
324 significantly ($p < 0.05$) different and $\sim 6x$ higher when the plant was on.

325 Figure S6 shows the temporal variation of the mean OC concentration at Cabbage Hill
326 and PM_{2.5} concentrations at the Mission and ODEQ sites. When the plant was off, the PM_{2.5}
327 concentrations at Mission were statistically significant higher by $\sim 1.5x$ than at the ODEQ site (p
328 < 0.05). When the plant was on (after the upgrade), the PM_{2.5} and OC concentration were
329 significantly increased, by $\sim 1.3x$ and $2x$ respectively, as compared to when the plant was off at
330 both sites. In addition, the PM_{2.5} concentration at both sites and OC concentrations measured at
331 Cabbage Hill when the plant was on (after the upgrade) were not statistically different from
332 concentrations measured when the plant was on (before upgrade). Together, these data suggest

333 that the emission controls installed to the Boardman Plant in the spring of 2011 reduced PAH
334 and OPAH concentrations, but not PM_{2.5}, OC, NPAH concentrations at CTUIR.

335 The PAH isomer diagnostic ratio cross plot in Figure 4B shows that, when the Boardman
336 Plant was off, the PAH source type at the Cabbage Hill site was primarily mixed sources, while
337 when the Boardman Plant was on (before upgrade) the PAH source type was primarily coal,
338 grass, or wood combustion. When the plant was on (after upgrade) the PAH source type at the
339 Cabbage Hill site was primarily mixed sources. This data also suggests that the Boardman Plant
340 had a greater impact on PAH concentrations at the Cabbage Hill site before the 2011 upgrade, as
341 compared to after the upgrade.

342 The hourly SO₂, NO_x and CO₂ (kg/hr) emission rates from the Boardman Plant were
343 used to calculate the total SO₂, NO_x and CO₂ (kg) emissions for each sampling day at CTUIR.⁴⁹
344 Figures S7, S8, and S9 show the correlation of the NO_x, SO₂ and CO₂ emissions from the
345 Boardman Plant with the \sum PAH₃₂, \sum OPAH₁₀, \sum NPAH₂₇, and OC concentrations measured at
346 Cabbage Hill, as well as the PM_{2.5} concentrations measured at the Mission and ODEQ sites. The
347 \sum PAH₃₂, \sum OPAH₁₀, \sum NPAH₂₇, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations at CTUIR were significantly
348 positively correlated with the NO_x, SO₂ and CO₂ emissions from the Boardman Plant (p < 0.05).
349 Many individual PAH, NPAH and OPAH isomers, as well as the \sum PAH_{16-US} priority, were also
350 significantly positively correlated (p < 0.05) with the SO₂, NO_x and CO₂ emissions from the
351 Boardman Plant. These statistically significant positive correlations strongly suggest that the air
352 quality at the CTUIR sampling sites was impacted by emissions from the Boardman Plant.

353 The Boardman Plant emissions were also significantly correlated (p < 0.05) with
354 \sum PAH₃₂, \sum OPAH₁₀, \sum NPAH₂₇, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations (at Mission and ODEQ) when
355 separated into the different plant operational timeframes. However, during the operational

356 timeframe when the plant was on (after upgrade), only statistical positive correlations were found
357 between Boardman Plant CO₂ emissions and \sum NPAH₂₇, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations (at
358 Mission and ODEQ). This indicates that the Boardman Plant emissions could still have
359 influenced the NPAH, PM_{2.5} and OC concentrations at CTUIR even after the upgrade.

360 *Boardman's Impact on Columbia River Gorge and Columbia Plateau Air Quality*

361 To quantify the effect of the Boardman Plant emissions on the PAH and PAH derivative
362 concentrations at Cabbage Hill, the PAH concentrations measured when the plant was off were
363 compared to when the plant was on. Table S5 compares the PAH, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations
364 at CTUIR when the Boardman Plant was on (before the upgrade) to when the plant was off.
365 Significantly increased ($p < 0.05$) concentrations (in pg/m³) of: individual PAHs (0.30-2.51),
366 \sum PAH_{3ring} (1.48), \sum PAH_{4ring} (7.76), \sum PAH_{56ring} (3.64), \sum PAH_{16-US priority} (9.10), \sum PAH₃₂ (6.48),
367 individual NPAHs (0.04-.18), \sum NPAH₂₇ (1.16), individual OPAHs (0.12-9.95), \sum OPAH₁₀
368 (18.35), OC (0.62 μ g/m³), and PM_{2.5} (2.19 μ g/m³), (at ODEQ) were measured when the
369 Boardman Plant was on (before upgrade) as compared to when the plant was off. This indicates
370 that, when the Boardman Plant was on (before upgrade), it was a significant source of PAHs,
371 NPAHs, OPAHs, OC, and PM_{2.5} to CTUIR and the CRG.

372 Table S6 compares the PAH, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations at Cabbage Hill when the
373 Boardman Plant was on (after upgrade) to when the Boardman Plant was off. Significantly
374 increased ($p < 0.05$) concentrations of (in pg/m³) of: 6-NBaP (0.58), \sum NPAH₂₇ (0.60), OC (1.21
375 μ g/m³), EC (0.06 μ g/m³) and PM_{2.5} (2.20 and 1.08 μ g/m³) (for Mission and ODEQ,
376 respectively), as well as significantly reduced ($p < 0.05$) concentrations of (in pg/m³) of: 2,6-
377 DMNAP(-0.20), 1,3-DMNAP (-0.30), BaA (-0.16), IcdP (-0.29) and \sum PAH_{2ring} (-0.74), and
378 \sum PAH_{56ring} (-1.67) were measured when the plant was on. These results indicate the Boardman

379 Plant had a more significant negative impact on CTUIR air quality before the upgrade than after
380 the upgrade. The upgrades installed to the Boardman Plant significantly reduced the PAH and
381 OPAH concentrations at CTUIR so that the PAH concentrations at the site were comparable to
382 when the plant was off. The NPAH, OC and PM_{2.5} concentrations at CTUIR were not
383 significantly reduced by the Boardman Plant upgrades.

384 Table S7 compares the PAH, OC, and PM_{2.5} concentrations when the Boardman Plant
385 was on (before the upgrade) to when the Boardman Plant was on (after the upgrade).
386 Significantly reduced ($p < 0.05$) concentrations (in pg/m³) of: individual PAHs (-0.14 to -1.62),
387 $\sum\text{PAH}_{2\text{ring}}$ (-1.32), $\sum\text{PAH}_{3\text{ring}}$ (-1.20), $\sum\text{PAH}_{4\text{ring}}$ (-7.05), $\sum\text{PAH}_{56\text{ring}}$ (-5.00), $\sum\text{PAH}_{16\text{-US priority}}$ (-
388 10.98), $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$ (-14.64), individual NPAHs (-0.01 to -0.54), individual OPAHs (-0.12 to -9.94),
389 and $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$ (-13.43) were measured when the plant was on (after upgrade). There was no
390 statistically significant difference in the $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$, OC and PM_{2.5} concentrations between the
391 two timeframes and there was a significant increase ($p < 0.05$) in 6-NBaP concentration (0.54
392 pg/m³) after the upgrade. This further indicates that the Boardman Plant upgrades significantly
393 reduced the PAH and OPAH concentrations at CTUIR, but not the $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$, OC and PM_{2.5}
394 concentrations.

395 The installation of low-NO_x burners and modified airports at the Boardman Plant
396 potentially resulted in more incomplete combustion, which would result in an increase in PAH
397 emissions.⁵¹ However, the activated carbon injection system also installed at the Boardman Plant
398 captures and removes mercury by injecting activated carbon into the flue gas before the
399 electrostatic precipitator and has been shown to reduce PAH emissions in coal fired plants >
400 90%³⁷ and, in simulated waste incineration facilities, by >80%.⁵² Therefore, the activated carbon
401 injection system may have led to reduced PAH emissions from the Boardman Plant, and in turn,

402 reduced PAH concentrations at CTUIR and the CRG. It is unclear why the NPAH emissions
403 were not reduced and may indicate that I-84 traffic is the major source of NPAHs to the Cabbage
404 Hill site.

405 ***Ames Assay Results at CTUIR***

406 Figure S10 shows there was low direct acting mutagenicity in the CTUIR samples,
407 especially in 2011. There were 16 days in 2010 (3/15/10, 3/19/10, 3/26/10, 4/13/10, 4/19/10,
408 4/23/10, 4/26/10, 5/14/10, 5/19/10, 5/21/10, 8/12/10, 8/18/10, 8/24/10, 9/17/10, and 9/23/10) and
409 only 1 day in 2011 (4/9/11), when the Boardman Plant was on and before the upgrade, with
410 significant direct acting mutagenicity (-S9 rat liver enzyme) statistically different ($p < 0.05$) from
411 the negative control. Of these 16 days in 2010, 3 occurred on days when the Boardman Plant was
412 off (5/14/10, 5/19/10, and 5/21/10) and 13 occurred on days when the Boardman Plant was on
413 (before the upgrade). No correlations were found between OPAH and NPAH concentrations and
414 revertants/plate·m³. There were no days at CTUIR in which the indirect acting mutagenicity
415 (+S9 rat liver enzyme) was statistically different from the negative control. These data further
416 show that the Boardman Plant had a significant impact on CTUIR (and CRG) air quality prior to
417 the installation of the upgrades in the spring of 2011.

418 No trans-Pacific transport events, with high PAH transport, were readily identifiable at
419 CTUIR during the 2010 and 2011 sampling periods, likely because the Boardman Plant was a
420 major regional source of PAHs. Now that the Boardman Plant is no longer a major source of
421 PAHs to the CRG Plateau, trans-Pacific atmospheric transport of PAHs may be more evident to
422 this region of the Pacific Northwest.

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430 **Supporting Information Available**

431 This information is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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596
597 **Figure 1.** A.) Representative 10 day air mass backtrajectories from MBO for April 23, 2010 and
598 the source region boxes used for both CTUIR and MBO (Oregon, OR; Washington, WA;
599 Alaska; California, CA; British Columbia, BC, Siberia and Asia). B.) Location of air sampling
600 sites in the Pacific Northwest at MBO and CTUIR, as well as the locations of regional air quality
601 sites near Pendleton, OR: ODEQ and CTUIR Mission Site. The location of the coal fired power
602 plant in Boardman, OR is also indicated.

603
604 **Figure 2.** Temporal variation of mean $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$, and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations at
605 MBO during the sampling periods.

606
607 **Figure 3.** Three operational timeframes of the Boardman Plant (plant on (before upgrade), plant
608 on (after upgrade) and plant off) and $\sum\text{PAH}_{32}$, $\sum\text{OPAH}_{10}$ and $\sum\text{NPAH}_{27}$ concentrations at
609 Cabbage Hill during the sampling periods.

610
611 **Figure 4.** A.) PAH diagnostic ratio cross plot $\text{BaA}/(\text{BaA}+\text{CHR})$ vs $\text{IcdP}/(\text{IcdP}+\text{BghiP})$ using
612 thresholds from Yunker et al.⁴⁶ at CTUIR in 2010 and 2011 and B) the three operational
613 timeframes of Boardman Plant (plant on (before upgrade), plant off and plant on (after
614 upgrades).

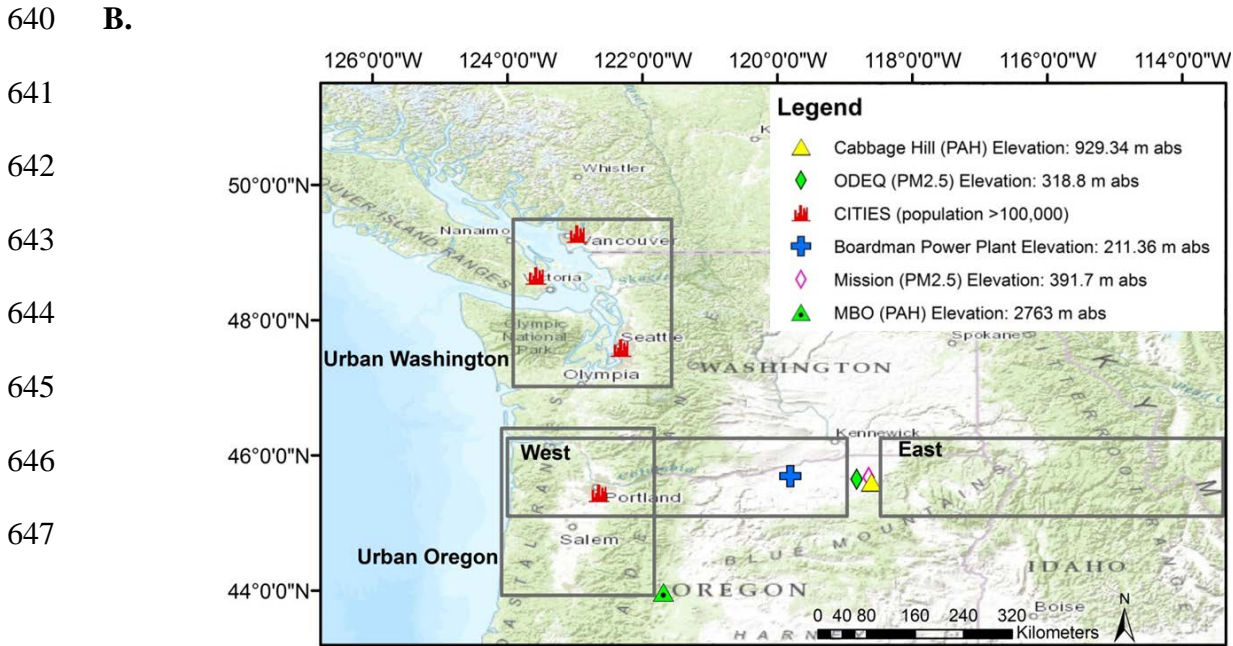
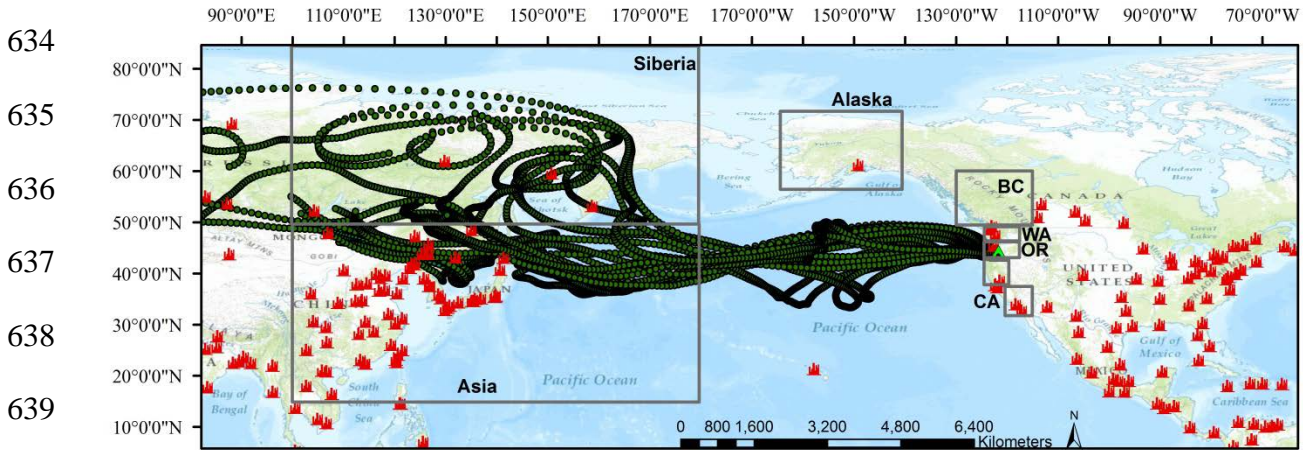
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625 **Table 1.** List of the PAHs, NPAHs and OPAHs measured in this study and their abbreviations.

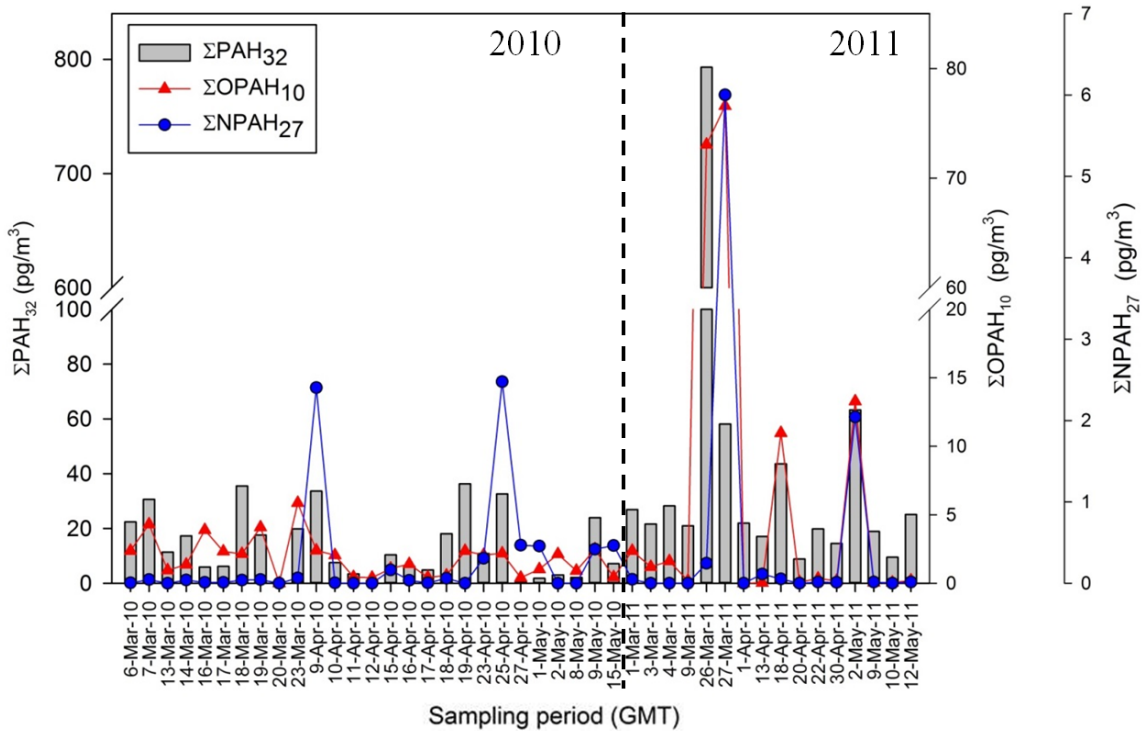
PAHs	Abv.	NPAHs	Abv.	OPAHs	Abv.
2-Methylnaphthalene	2-MNAP	1-nitronaphthalene	1-NN	9-fluorenone	9-FLU
1-Methylnaphthalene	1-MNAP	2-nitronaphthalene	2-NN	phenanthrene-1,4-dione	PHEN-1,4
2,6-Dimethylnaphthalene	2,6-DMNAP	2-nitrobiphenyl	2-NBP	9,10-anthraquinone	9,10-ANQ
1,3-Dimethylnaphthalene	1,3-DMNAP	3-nitrobiphenyl	3-NBP	2-methyl-9,10-anthraquinone	2-MANQ
2-Methylphenanthrene	2-MPHE	4-nitrobiphenyl	4-NBP	Benzo(a)fluorenone	BaFLO
2-Methylanthracene	2-MANT	3-nitrodibenzofuran	3-NBF	benzanthrone	BenzANT
1-Methylphenanthrene	1-MPHE	5-nitroacenaphthene	5-NAC	Aceanthrenequinone	AceANQ
3,6-Dimethylphenanthrene	3,6-DMPHE	2-nitrofluorene	2-NFL	benz[a]anthracene-7,12-dione	Ba-7,12-AD
1-Methylpyrene	1-MPYR	9-nitroanthracene	9-NAN	benzo[c]phenanthrene-1,4 quinone	Benz[c]-1,4
6-Methylchrysene	6-MCHR	9-nitrophenanthrene	9-NPH	Benzo[cd]pyreone	BcdPYRO
Naphthalene	NAP	2-nitrodibenzothiophene	2-NDB	SUM OF ALL 10 INDIVIDUAL OPAH	Σ OPAH ₁₀
Acenaphthylene	ACY	3-nitrophenanthrene	3-NPH		
Acenaphthene	ACE	2-nitroanthracene	2-NAN		
Fluorene	FLO	(2+3)-nitrofluoranthene	(2+3)NF		
Dibenzothiophene	DBT	1-nitropyrene	1-NP		
Phenanthrene	PHE	2-nitropyrene	2-NP		
Anthracene	ANT	2,8-dinitrodibenzothiophene	2,8-DNDB		
Fluoranthene	FLA	7-nitrobenz[a]anthracene	7-NBaA		
Pyrene	PYR	1-nitrotriphenylene	1-NTP		
Retene	RET	6-nitrochrysene	6-NCH		
Benzo[c]fluorene	BcFLO	3-nitrobenzanthrone	3-NBENZ		
Benzo(a)anthracene	BaA	2-nitrotriphenylene	2-NTP		
Chrysene + Triphenylene	CHR+TRI	1,3-dinitropyrene	1,3-DNP		
Benzo(b)fluoranthene	BbF	1,6-dinitropyrene	1,6-DNP		
Benzo(k)fluoranthene	BkF	1,8-dinitropyrene	1,8-DNP		
Benzo(e)pyrene	BeP	6-nitrobenzo[a]pyrene	6-NBaP		
Benzo(a)pyrene	BaP	SUM OF ALL 27 INDIVIDUAL NPAH	Σ NPAH ₂₇		
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	DahA				
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	IcdP				
Dibenzo[a,c]anthracene	DacA				
Benzo(ghi)perylene	BghiP				
NAP + 2-MNAP + 1-MNAP + 2,6-DMNAP + 1,3-DMNAP + ACY + FLO + DBT	Σ PAH _{2ring}				
PHE + ANT + 2-MPHE + 2-MANT + 1-MPHE + 3,6-DMPHE	Σ PAH _{3ring}				
FLA + PYR + RET + 1-MPYR + BaA + (CHR+TRI) + 6-MCHR	Σ PAH _{4ring}				
BbF + BkF + BeP + BaP + DahA + IcdP + DacA + BghiP	Σ PAH _{5ring}				
NAP + ACY + FLO + PHE + ANT + FLA + PYR + BaA + (CHR+TRI) + BbF + BkF + BaP + IcdP + DahA + BghiP	Σ PAH _{USpri}				
SUM OF ALL 32 INDIVIDUAL PAH	Σ PAH ₃₂				

626 **Figure 1.** A.) Representative 10 day air mass backtrajectories from MBO for April 23, 2010 and
 627 the source region boxes used for both CTUIR and MBO (Oregon, OR; Washington, WA;
 628 Alaska; California, CA; British Columbia, BC, Siberia and Asia). B.) Location of air sampling
 629 sites in the Pacific Northwest at MBO and CTUIR, as well as the locations of regional air quality
 630 sites near Pendleton, OR: ODEQ and CTUIR Mission Site. The location of the coal fired power
 631 plant in Boardman, OR is also indicated.
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633 **A.**

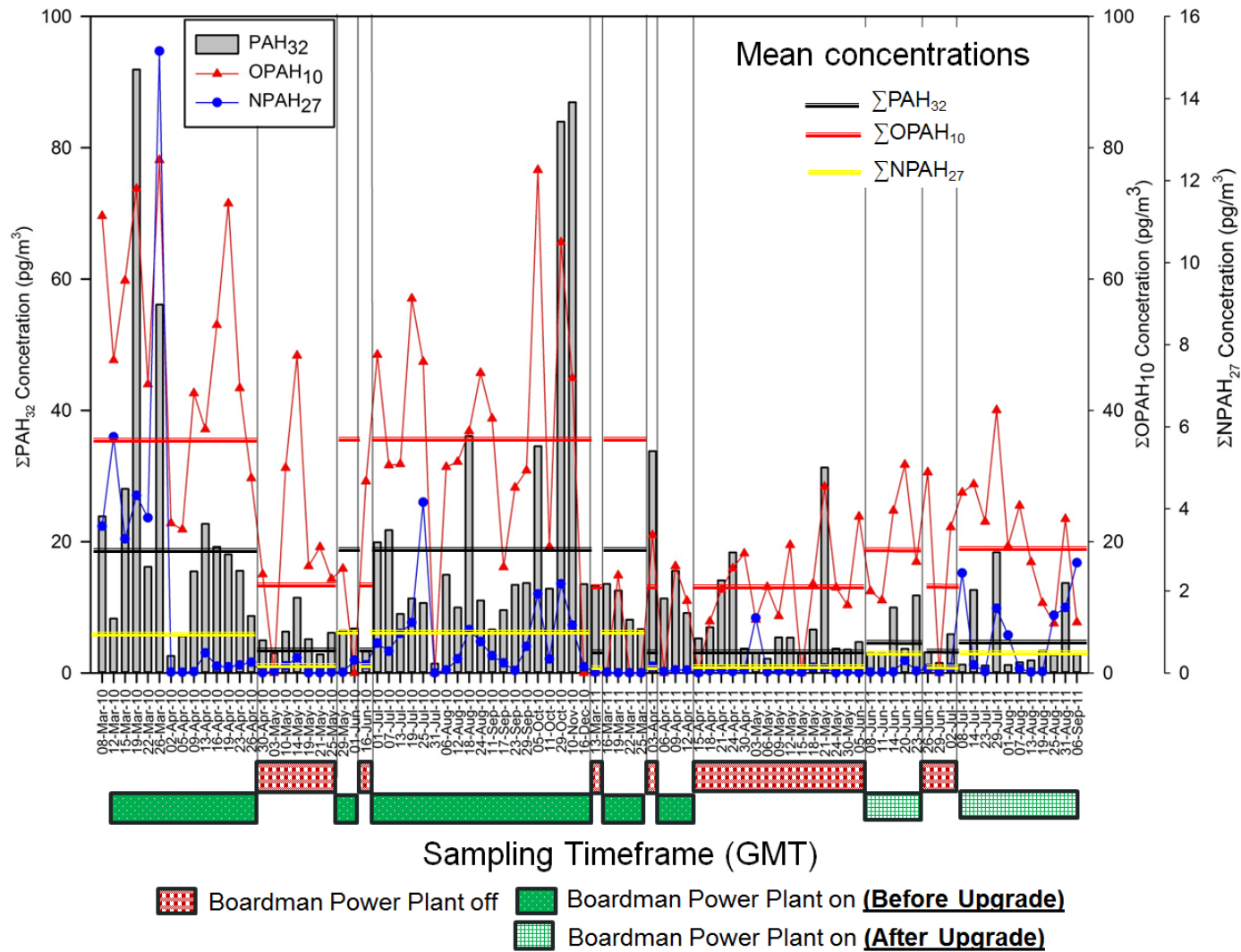


648 **Figure 2.** Temporal variation of mean ΣPAH_{32} , ΣOPAH_{10} , and ΣNPAH_{27} concentrations at
 649 MBO during the sampling periods.
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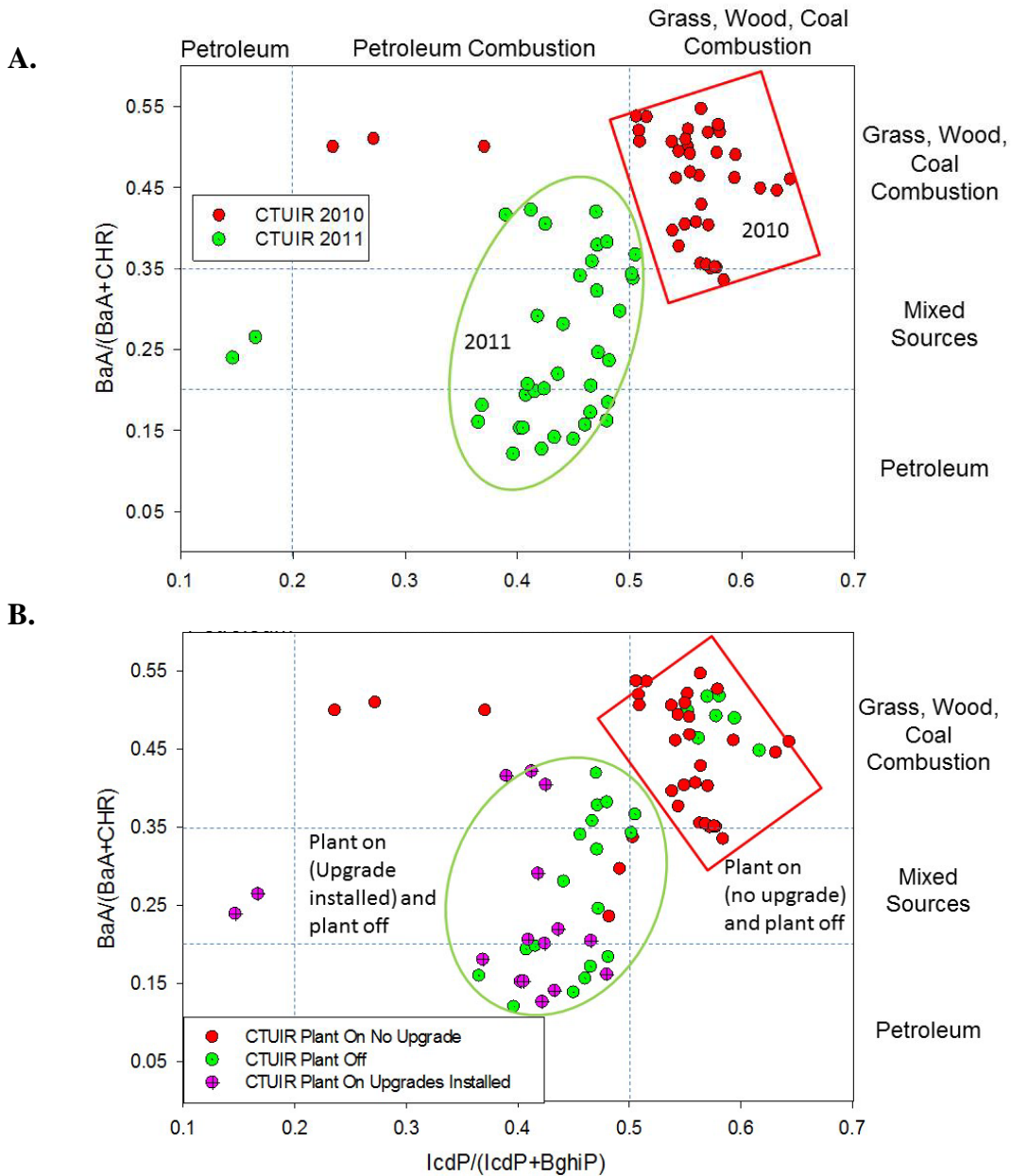
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690 **Figure 3.** Three operational timeframes of the Boardman Plant (plant on (before upgrade), plant on (after upgrade) and plant off) and
 691 ΣPAH_{32} , ΣOPAH_{10} and ΣNPAH_{27} concentrations at CTUIR (Cabbage Hill) during the sampling periods.
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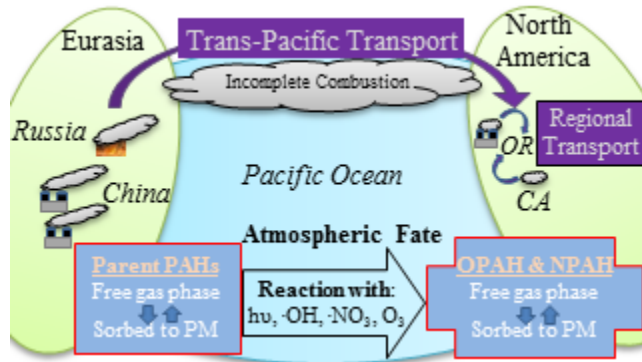


718 **Figure 4.** A.) PAH diagnostic ratio cross plot $BaA/(BaA+CHR)$ vs $IcdP/(IcdP+BghiP)$
 719 using thresholds from Yunker et al.⁴⁶ at CTUIR in 2010 and 2011 and B) the three
 720 operational timeframes of Boardman Plant (plant on (before upgrade), plant off and plant
 721 on (after upgrades)).

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