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Vibrio parahaemolyticus:
Potential Environmental Indicators

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Outline

- Purpose
- Assumptions
- Potential Factors
- Public Health Rationale

Purpose

- Characterize physical growing area environments
- Identify environmental indicators or triggers
- Concentrate monitoring efforts
- Refine environmental data collection
- Propose tiered proactive controls

Assumptions

- Physical characteristics of growing areas (and subsets of growing areas) affect V_p growth
- Environmental variables are correlated with V_p presence and growth
- There are regional differences in V_p presence and growth

Potential Factors

- Water temperature
- Ambient air temperature
- Weather
- Tidal exposure
- Tidal movements and water flow
- Geology and bathymetry

Questions

- What constitutes safe harvest conditions?
- What environmental variables may serve as triggers?
 - At what levels?
- When should TTCs become more restrictive?
- When should harvest be suspended?
- What data is needed to assess the use of environmental indicators or triggers?

Public Health Rationale

- Provide a more proactive approach to *Vp* management
- Expand *Vp* management approaches to include a more holistic look at the issue
- Assess environmental factors and their potential relationships with *Vp*
- Compare growing area environments
- Understand how environmental factors may affect the presence and growth of *Vp*

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