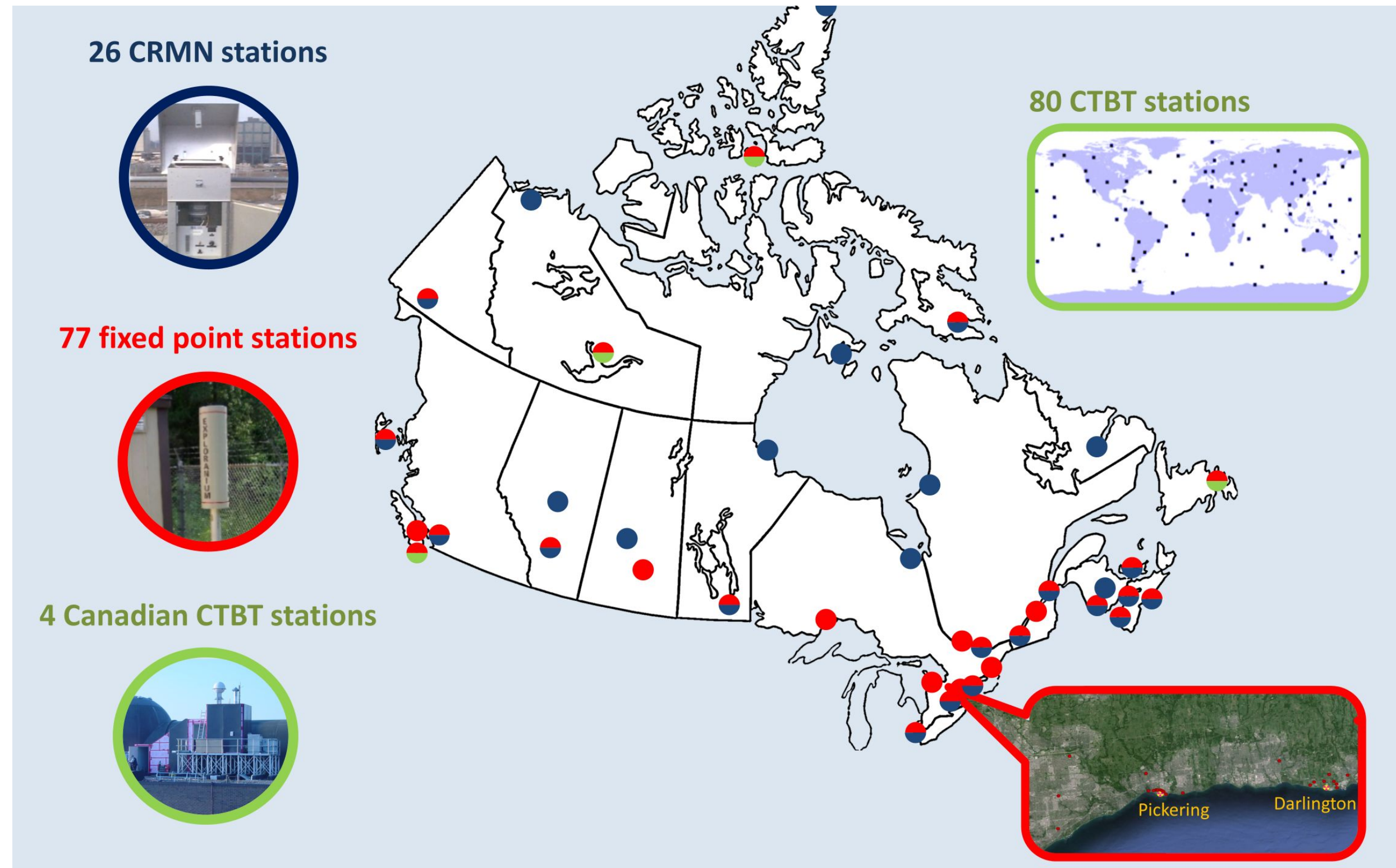




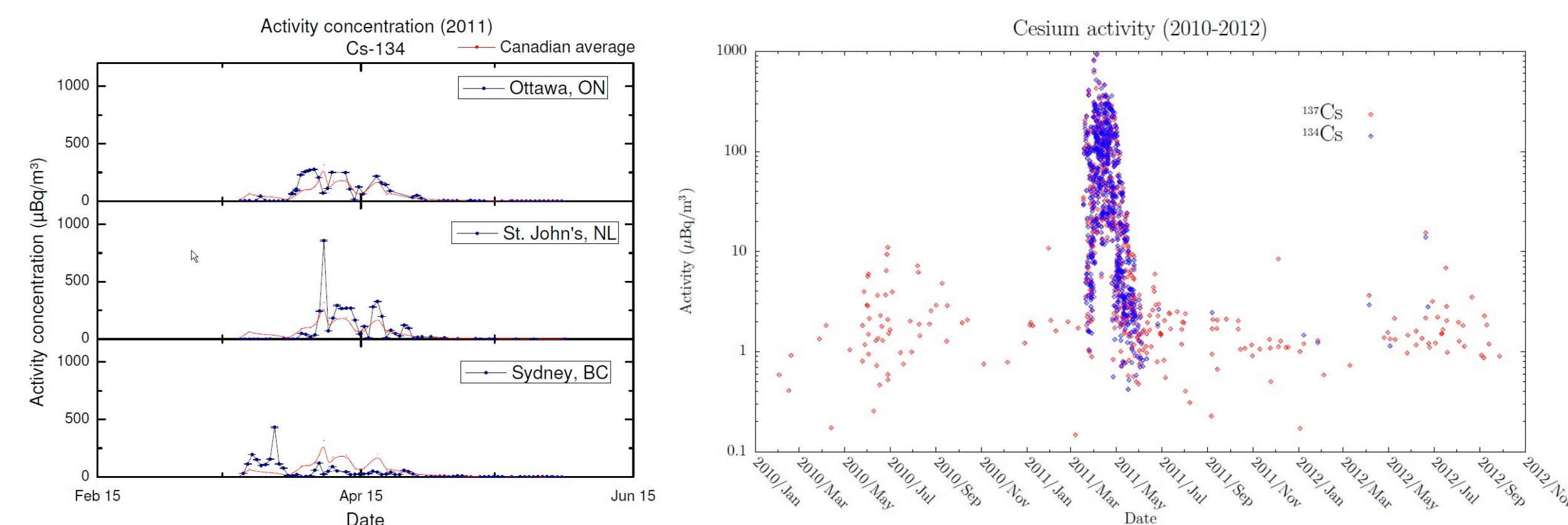
# Risk communication from a government perspective: Advantages of a collaborative approach

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## Canadian Radiological Monitoring Network (CRMN)



The CRMN **monitors** and **assesses** radiation in the environment across the country. In the days to weeks after the Fukushima accident, the network routinely picked up signals from the airborne plume.



Data was used to confirm that the radiation levels were low and were not of health concern in Canada.

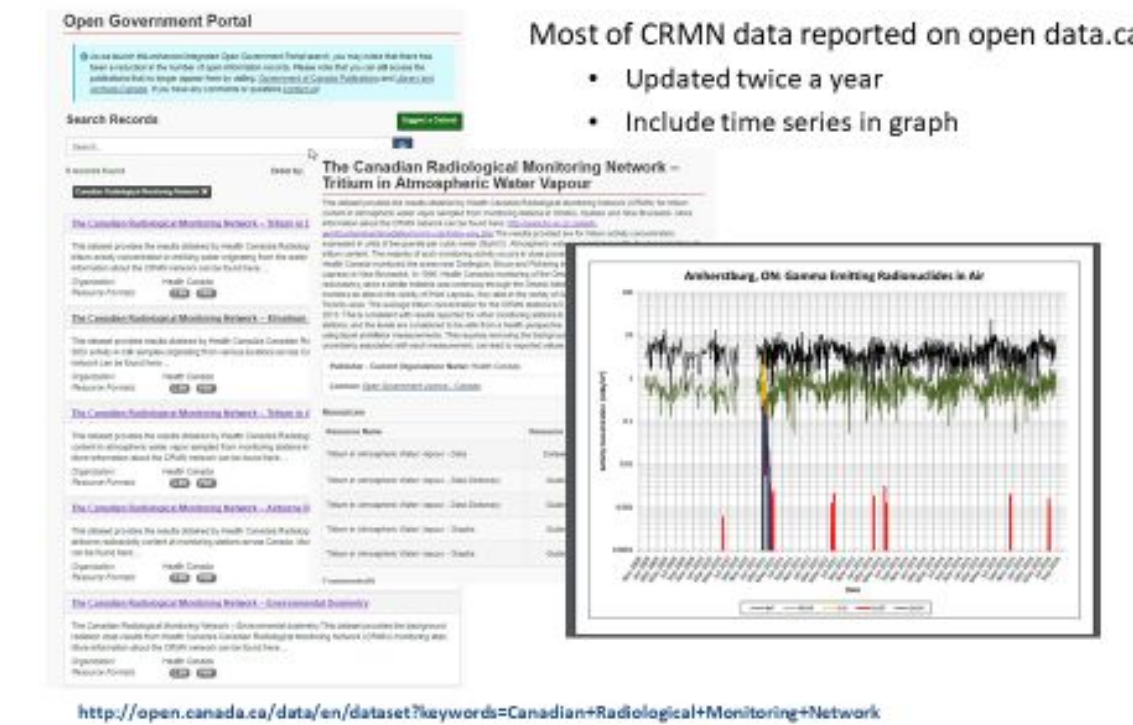
## When the dust settled, 5 conclusions became clear:

1. Most of the radiation was released into the ocean
2. The oceanic plume would take years to reach Canada
3. The expected radiation levels were not a health concern
4. Measurements would be challenging but of great value and
5. Our message was not reaching Canadians as much as hoped and misinformation was being widely disseminated.

### HC Public Reporting 1: HC's website



### HC Public Reporting 2: open data



## Fukushima InFORM Integrated Fukushima Ocean Radionuclide Monitoring network

The **InFORM** collaboration relies on academics, governments, NGOs, indigenous communities and citizen scientists to track the arrival and dispersion of the contaminated plume in Canadian waters.

**Three types of samples** were collected and analyzed. The results are published and explained on the web site **fukushimainform.ca**

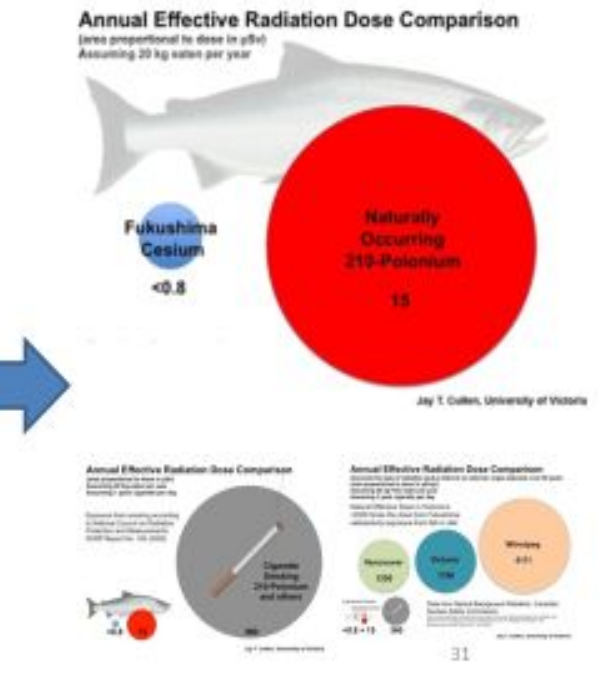
**Open Ocean Water**  
Samples taken at the same location every year (lead by DFO)

**Biota**  
Salmon samples provided by 11 British Columbia Indigenous communities

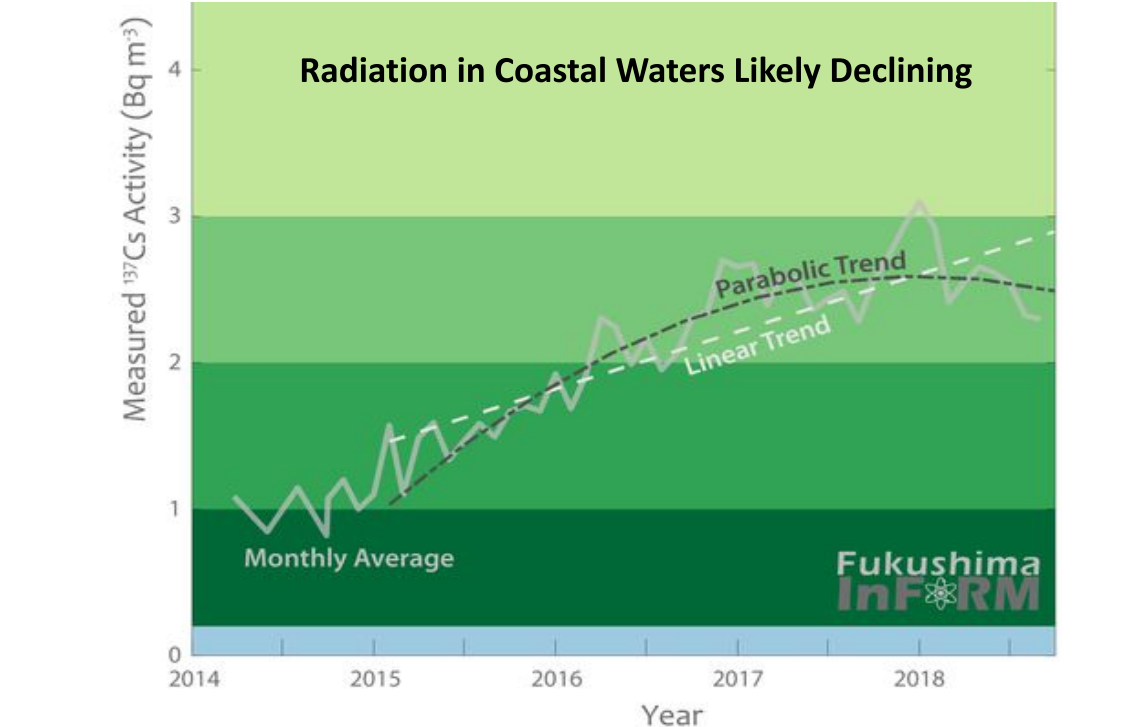
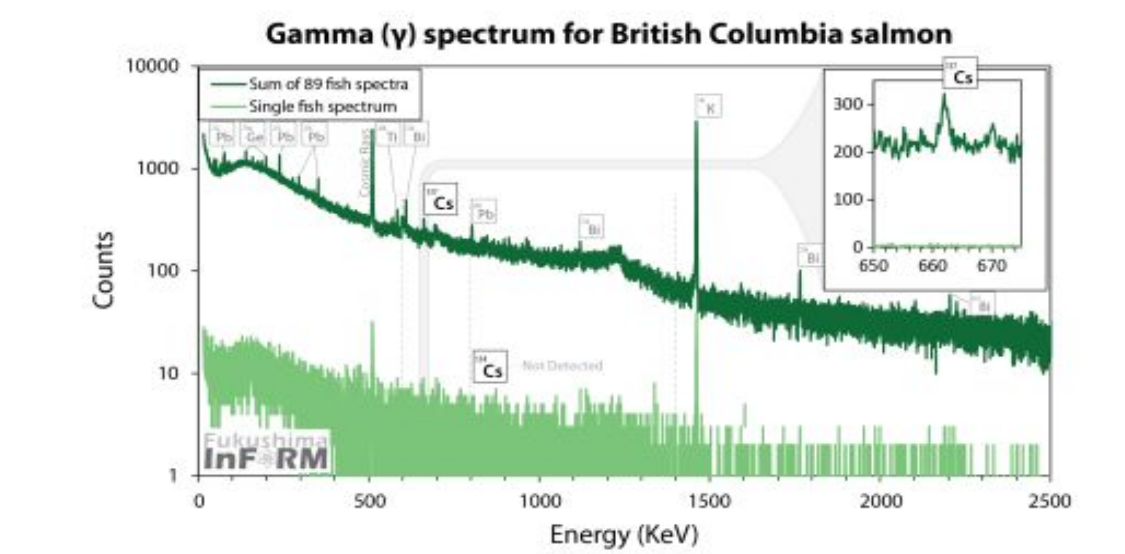
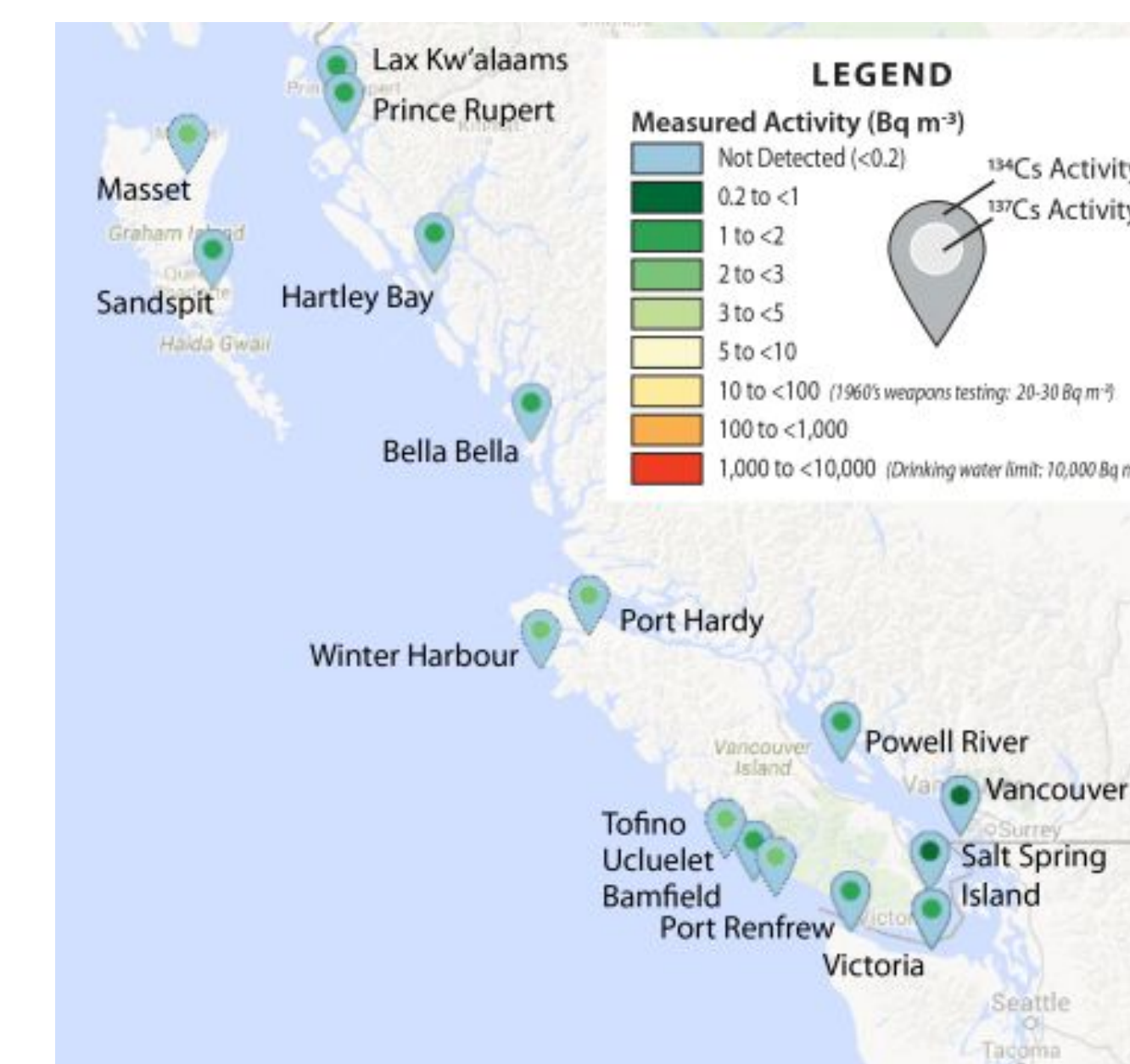
**Coastal water**  
Collected from 16 locations along the British Columbia coast by citizen scientists

## Disseminate the information

fukushimainform.ca  
100's thousands visitors



## Results



Joining the collaboration positioned us outside our government comfort zone. However, the benefits were immense.

- We **leverage our capacity** to contribute to a larger scientific effort
- Our monitoring data was better **disseminated** and **understood**
- Engaging directly with **Indigenous communities** and **citizen scientists** helped us better understand and address their concerns.

Ultimately, InFORM became an important source of scientifically sound information and helped counter misinformation.