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Identification and assessment of ecotoxicological hazards attributable to pollutants in urban wet weather discharges

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- Abstract

 The phenomenon of urbanization leads to considerable pressure on urban/suburban aquatic ecosystems. Urban Wet Weather Discharges (UWWDs) during rainfall events are a major source of pollutants leached onto and into urban surfaces and sewers, which in turn affect aquatic ecosystems. The aim of this study is to assess the ecotoxicity of the different compounds identified in UWWDs and identify the hazard represented by each of them. To this end, hazard quotients (HQ) were calculated for each compound detected in UWWDs, based on their Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC) values and 19 their maximum concentration (MEC_{max}) found in the dissolved part of UWWDs. For the 207 compounds 20 identified in UWWDs, sufficient data existed for 165 of them to calculate their PNEC. The ecotoxicity of these compounds is greatly variable. Pesticides represent a high proportion of the wide variety of 22 hazardous compounds whose HO were calculated (a total of 94 HO), and they are among the most 23 hazardous pollutants (HQ >1000) transported by stormwater. On the contrary, the hazard of Combined Sewer Overflows (CSO) is mainly linked to heavy metals and pharmaceutical compounds. Consequently, the monitoring of these pollutants is a priority in the future. Lastly, it is to bear in mind that the hazard level of certain pollutants could be underestimated, due to their adsorption on particles, leading their low presence in the dissolved phase of UWWDs. So, an in-depth study of these pollutants will be required to clarify their effects on aquatic organisms.

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32 Introduction

33 Urban Wet Weather Discharges (UWWDs) are complex and variable polluted matrices, notably 34 due to the different types of catchments leached by the rain, and the variable flows for different events.¹ 35 Many micropollutants have been detected in these effluents as a function of population density and 36 anthropogenic activities. Among them, we can cite here: (i) European priority substances such as 37 Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs), $2-5$ diethylexylphtalate, 4.6 4-nonylphenol, 4.6 bisphenol A and 38 alkylphenolethoxylate⁷, (ii) other micropollutants like heavy metals (copper, lead, zinc, etc.), 39 polychlorobiphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, phthalates^{3,5,8,9,10}, and (iii) pharmaceutical residues (PC) in the 40 particular case of the Combined Sewer Overflows $(CSO)^{11,12}$. These micropollutants have also already 41 been detected in receiving river water having received these discharges.^{13,14} Many of them are potentially hazardous for aquatic organisms. That is why UWWDs have toxic effects on aquatic species, ^{15,16,17} and 43 can thus modify biological communities.^{15,18,19,20,21} Treatment to diminish UWWD pollutants through 44 abatement are nonexistent or very limited depending on municipal sewer systems, and raw UWWD are 45 often release into (sub)urban aquatic ecosystems. It is therefore necessary to optimize their management. 46 This optimization can concern: (i) a better monitoring of toxic pollutants and their effects, including 47 continuous monitoring with biosensors;^{22,23} (ii) a specific treatment of pollutants;²⁴ and (iii) the 48 suppression or the substitution at source of the toxic products at the origin of these pollutants (in 49 particular, certain detergents, disinfectants and pharmaceuticals) by less toxic but equally efficient 50 products. For that, it is necessary to identify and prioritize the hazardous pollutants present in UWWDs.

 To establish the list of the compounds most concerned by the ecotoxicological hazard represented by a specific urban effluent, many authors have proposed to formulate and apply a hazard quotient based on the ratio "Concentration of the selected pollutant in filtered polluted 54 matrices"/"Predicted No Effect Concentration (PNEC) of the molecules selected".^{25,26,} This quotient is used to distinguish the hazardousness of the different compounds and families of compounds found in 56 UWWDs. Orias and Perrodin²⁵ proposed comparing the maximum Measured Effluent Concentrations (MECmax) measured in hospital effluents to their PNEC value, which is the method used in the current study. This method was also applied by many other authors for contaminated matrices such as rivers 59 polluted by raw or treated municipal wastewaters polluted by various pharmaceuticals, 26 pesticides, 27 or

60 Iakes by antibiotics.²⁸ The choice of using the maximum value of MEC (MECmax) is to be place us in 61 the worst (extreme conditions) case scenario^{25,27} and in the context of the precautionary principle. This method was applied here for the first time to the UWWDs, translating its originality.

 Consequently, the main objectives of our study were to: (i) conduct a review of the ecotoxicity data available for the different compounds commonly detected in UWWDs; (ii) assess the concentrations of these pollutants in UWWDs performing a literature review of UWWDs pollutant compositions; and (iii) calculate the potential hazard of these pollutants for aquatic ecosystems. Several 67 studies have already proposed to identify and prioritize hazardous pollutants in UWWDs.²⁹⁻³² Nevertheless, they generally considered only the stormwater (no studies were reported for the CSO). Moreover, these pollutant hazard assessments were based only on the intrinsic properties of the pollutants (bioaccumulation, biodegradability, physicochemistry, ecotoxicity) and did not take into account the concentrations found *in situ*.

 In this article, we present the PNEC values inventoried for all the pollutants identified in UWWDs, and the MECmax found in these discharges. Lastly, we calculated the HQ for each pollutant found in UWWDs. We also chose to focus on combined and separate stormwater systems (named here "CSO" and "stormwater" systems) due to the very different sources and types of pollutants they contain.

2. Methodology

 All the pollutants used and analyzed (on dissolved and particles phases of UWWDs) in this study were classified into families of chemical compounds, as detailed in Table 1. Scientific research papers for UWWD pollutants identification were obtained using databases such as the Web of Knowledge, Science Direct and Google Scholar, using key search terms (e.g. "stormwater", "CSO", "UWWD", "pollutants", "chemicals"). An identified paper's bibliography and citations were also checked to find other suitable studies. Finally, papers used in this study were restricted to peer-reviewed research articles published between 1995 and 2016. Other scientific productions (e.g. conference papers, non-peer reviewed procedures) were not retained for this study.

2.1 Obtaining and determining the PNEC values of micropollutants in UWWDs

 To define the hazard of the different pollutants identified in UWWD physico-chemical studies, the first step of our method was to determine their ecotoxicity by seeking or calculating their PNEC. PNEC values were found/calculated for all pollutants sought in physico-chemical studies (on particle and dissolved phases). In this study, the PNEC values were obtained for all the pollutants using the following approach: (i) When they were available, PNEC values were obtained from free European 91 databases^{33,34} (INERIS and AGRITOX) containing ecotoxicological data from international scientific literature, (ii) When values were not available in these databases, PNEC values were calculated using 93 experimental ecotoxicological data found in the EPA ECOTOX database³⁵, following the method 94 broposed by Orias et Perrodin,³⁶ and in agreement with the guidelines proposed by the EU (European 95 Union) in the Technical Guidance Document $(TGD)^{37}$ (see Table 2). This method is the following: for each compound, bibliographical research using the EPA ECOTOX database allowed identifying all the bioassays performed, the trophic level concerned (decomposers, primary producers, primary consumers and secondary consumers) and the chronicity (or not) of the bioassay (e.g. reproduction). Using all the ecotoxicity data, an Extrapolation Factor (EF), calculated following the criteria presented in Table S1, was applied to the lowest toxicity values to establish the PNEC of the compound concerned. No 101 differentiation was done between the ecotoxicity data used (e.g. EC_{50} , EC_{10}) for the EF and PNEC calculation. However, several minor modifications in comparison to TGD were made: ecotoxicity data on fungi were considered as data on decomposers while data on periphyton were considered to originate from chronic bioassays on decomposers. In the case where only acute ecotoxicity data were available, but not for all trophic levels, PNEC values were calculated with the ECOSAR model, by applying an EF to the lowest ecotoxicological value. In all cases, no PNEC values were calculated if at least one acute ecotoxicity value was available for each trophic level. The chronic algae and macrophyte bioassays did not permit lowering the EF when they were the only ecotoxicological data available. Finally, the EF was not reduced when rotifer (*Brachionus calyciflorus*, noted "Bc") bioassays were the only tests 110 performed on the trophic level of secondary consumers.³⁷ Finally, when no PNEC and ecotoxicity data were available in databases and literature, PNEC values were estimated with modelled ecotoxicological 112 data obtained using the ECOSAR method.

 It is important to point out that the authors of several studies did not indicate the speciation or the isomer of the compounds measured. This is the case of chromium, for which we chose to keep the two speciation forms (chromium III and chromium VI), as it has been reported that the annual 116 concentrations of these two chromium species in rainwater samples are similar.³⁹ In the case of dichloroethane, we chose to keep the two isomers (1-1 and 1-2-dichloroethane), while the hazard quotient was calculated twice for this pollutant, using two PNECs.

2.2 Obtaining micropollutant MECmax

120 The second step for UWWD pollutant hazard assessment was the MEC_{max} determination for 121 each of them. As described in Orias and Perrodin²⁵, two different approaches can be used to obtain the concentration of micropollutants in UWWDs: (i) a theoretical method based on the calculation of PEC (Predicted Effluent Concentration) with the design of a scenario, and (ii) an experimental approach based on analyses of the pollutants in the dissolved phase of the UWWDs. The second method (MECmax determination) is more realistic, because it is based on real measured concentrations in UWWDs, contrary to the calculation of PEC values presenting a high level of uncertainty due to the parameters used (e.g. product consumption). Therefore, this option was selected although not all the compounds were analyzed in the discharges.

 In this study, we will discuss the different choices made to select concentration data (see section 3.5). Firstly, we considered studies providing compound concentration values only in the soluble phase (<1.2 μm). Indeed, ecotoxicity assays performed to calculate PNEC values for the different pollutants have relied only on pure liquid solutions. Moreover, it is impossible to evaluate the bioavailability of the contaminants in the particulate phase for aquatic organisms. Additionally, taking into account the concentrations on particles could lead to overestimating the hazard (see section 3.5). Regarding the formulation of the Hazard Quotient (HQ), we also chose to separate concentration values for separate and combined sewer systems, thus we calculated the hazard for both cases. The hazards of these two systems differ, as the source and type of pollutants (i.e. the presence of pharmaceuticals in discharges from combined sewer overflows) are also different.

163 Pollutants analyzed in UWWDs were classified as shown in Table 1. All the PNECs, 164 concentrations and hazard data were analyzed as per the pollutant ranking presented in Table 1.

165 Table 1: Families of compounds considered in this study and colour codes associated in the 166 various figures.

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170 3.2 Ecotoxicity of the pollutants sought in UWWDs

171 Of the 207 compounds sought in the UWWD samples (total, dissolved and/or particle phases), 161 were obtained by calculation using data from the European database and the international literature. In addition, we formulated ourselves 52 new PNEC values based on experimental data and 4 were modelled using ECOSAR model, as detailed in Table 2. Finally, we listed a total of 165 PNEC values.

175 Figure 1 presents the distribution of available PNEC values for each pollutant family. This figure shows

176 that 5 families present a large number of molecules for which PNEC data are not available: PAH, PC,

177 ALK, O and PCB. This lack of data poses a problem for estimating UWWD compound hazards.

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182 Figure 1: Distribution of the number of molecules and their PNEC available for the different families of 183 pollutants identified in UWWDs.

184 The 165 PNEC values obtained have been separated into three categories according to the 185 ranking of Orias and Perrodin (2014): a PNEC less than 0.1 μ g L⁻¹ (the most hazardous, the most 186 ecotoxic) (Figure 2), a PNEC between 1 and 0.1 μ g L⁻¹ (intermediate ecotoxicity) (Figure 3) and a PNEC $187 > 1 \mu$ g L⁻¹ (less ecotoxic) (Figure 4). Finally, due to the results obtained, 59 of the compounds were 188 ranked as very ecotoxic, 30 as ecotoxic and 76 as slightly ecotoxic.

189 Among the 59 very ecotoxic compounds, pesticides feature predominantly in the most 190 hazardous category of pollutants sought in UWWDs. Indeed, 33 of the compounds with a PNEC less than 0.1 μ g L⁻¹ are pesticides. Moreover, regarding the PNEC values of a very large number of pesticides 192 sought in UWWDs (54 compounds), they represent a potentially considerable source of hazard for this 193 kind of matrix: 43 compounds have a PNEC value under 1.0 μ g L⁻¹ and 33 have a PNEC value under 194 0.1 μ g L⁻¹). Two other families represent a significant share of the most ecotoxic pollutants: PCs (7 195 compounds) and PAHs (also 7). The share of the other families is lower. The most ecotoxic compound 196 is Endrin, a pesticide with a PNEC of $1.22.10^{-8}$ µg.L⁻¹. However, when examining slightly ecotoxic 197 compounds (PNEC $>1 \mu$ g.L⁻¹), VOCs are largely represented, with 24 of the compounds listed in this

 category. The gap between the share of the other families is narrower: FR (3 compounds), PHT (6), PFAA (3), PAH (5), P (11), O (5), M (6), PC (10), ALK (1). The least toxic compound sought in 200 UWWDs is Iohexol, a PC with a PNEC value of $45705 \mu g.L^{-1}$.

 The large number of very ecotoxic pollutants sought in UWWDs can be explained by the fact 202 that many substances found in UWWDs were developed to eliminate certain families of organisms, thus they have a considerable impact on many aquatic species belonging to the same family (the most relevant example is pesticides). Nevertheless, a large number of pollutants of this family present low toxicity regarding PNEC values. This observation may be explained by three possibilities: the pollutant specifically affects the organism targeted without having any effect on the others (the case of similar pesticides), it is only slightly toxic for aquatic organisms, or there are not enough data to lower the PNEC value.

 We also note that no or insufficient ecotoxicity data are available for 13 of the compounds (3 PC, 6 PAH, 2 ALK, 1 ORG, 1 PFAA) detected in UWWDs. These compounds include a high number of PCs and PAHs. More ecotoxicity data are necessary for these families of compounds to avoid an underestimation of the hazard represented by UWWDs. Moreover, as it can be seen in Table 2, the PNECs of certain pollutants, such as PCBs, propylparaben and cotinine, were calculated using a small number of ecotoxicological data, and consequently their toxicity could be underestimated. However, we should bear in mind that these PNEC values were created with high safety factors (1000).

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223 Figure 2: PNEC values lower or equal to 0.1 μ g L⁻¹ for the different compounds sought in UWWDs. Letters in brackets correspond to the classification in

0,1 µg.L⁻¹ < UWWD pollutant PNECs \leq 1 µg.L⁻¹

225 Figure 3: PNEC values between 0.1 μ g L⁻¹ and 1 μ g L⁻¹ for the different compounds sought in UWWDs. Letters in brackets correspond to the classification in

226 Table 1. PNEC values are ranked in ascending order into each separated pollutant family.

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UWWD pollutant PNECs $> 1 \mu g.L^{-1}$

230 ranked in ascending order into each separated pollutant family.

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232 Table 2: Summary of ecotoxicity data and PNEC formulated by calculation or modelling for 60 pollutants sought in UWWDs. (Legend: D: Decomposers; P:

- 233 Primary producers; 1C: Primary consumers; 2C: Secondary consumers; C: ecotoxicity data available for organism community bioassays; Bc: *Brachionus*
- 234 *calyciflorus*; EF: Extrapolation factor).

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236 3.3 Concentration of pollutants in separate and combined systems

237 Maximum pollutant concentrations found in UWWDs were assessed using available literature 238 and are presented in Tables 3 and 4. MECmax were very variable, with some pollutants (e.g. 239 hexachlorobenzene) found at several $ng.L^{-1}$, while others (e.g. copper) were found at a few mg. L^{-1} . 240 However, the compound concentrations generally ranged between ng. L⁻¹ and several hundred μ g. L⁻¹.

 On one hand, as observed in Table 3, 61 compounds were detected in stormwater samples, and 242 50 were sought but not detected. We found the highest concentrations for zinc $(2.12 \text{ mg} L^{-1})$. High concentrations of pollutants such as other heavy metals (copper, nickel) and pesticides (such as glyphosate and AMPA) and PAH (e.g. pyrene) were also detected. The main families of pollutants detected at high concentrations were PAH, VOC, ALK, PHT, P and M.

246 On the other hand, out of the 81 chemicals of interest sought in the dissolved part of the CSO 247 samples, 49 were reported (see Table 4). The highest concentration was obtained for zinc $(236 \mu g.L^{-1})$. 248 The main families found at high concentrations were M, P and PC. The occurrence of high 249 concentrations of heavy metals in separate systems and CSO is not surprising due to the source of 250 wastewater and rainfall runoff. More precisely, tyre wear, vehicle brake deposition, conveyance system 251 infrastructure (e.g. downspouts and culverts), and atmospheric deposition can lead to the presence of heavy 252 metals.⁴ Moreover, the remobilization of wastewater and in-sewer deposits (due to pollutant 253 water/particle partition) can represent a large share of the pollutant load in CSO, such as Cu and PAH.⁵⁸ 254 Launay et al.⁶⁴ observed the same phenomenon for pharmaceutical compounds and industrial chemicals. 255 Contrary to stormwater, we note the presence of PC compounds sought and detected in the dissolved 256 phase (18 compounds), **probably** due to the contribution of urban wastewater to the pollution of CSO.

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 methods employed do not reduce concentration of many identified pollutants, considerable amounts of these substances may enter surface waters.

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3.4 Hazard of pollutants in separate and combined systems

295 Using ecotoxicological (PNEC) and chemical (MEC_{max}) results previously enunciated we were able to calculate a very wide range of HQs in discharges (see Figures 5 and 6). The high dispersion of HQ values calculated could be explained by the heterogeneity of PNEC values observed in Figures 2 to 298 4 and the heterogeneity of pollutant concentrations due to the high variability of anthropic activities, and thus that of the catchment leached by rain, and the variability of rainfall events (length, height, flow rate, etc.). Due to the relatively different nature and composition of stormwater and CSO, pollutant hazards associated to these two matrices are discussed separately in the following sections.

3.4.1 Hazard quotients in separate systems

 Concerning stormwater samples, only 51 hazard quotients were calculated due to the low number of compounds found in the dissolved part (Figure 5). We found 14 compounds with an HQ 305 lower than 1. The lowest hazard quotient was calculated for Metaldehyde (P) with an HQ of $6.7.10^{-5}$. On the contrary, the majority of the micropollutants detected in stormwater samples had an HQ as high as 1 and are therefore potentially hazardous for aquatic ecosystems. Among these 37 compounds, 10 (27.1%) were pesticides, and 9 PAHs (24.32%). It is also noteworthy that 4 of the 6 most hazardous compounds (HQ >1000) were pesticides. Among these very hazardous compounds, we also observed the presence of one ALK (4-p-nonylphenol) and one PAH (fluoranthene). The most hazardous compound found was permethrin, with a hazard quotient of 4166.6. The important hazard from pesticides (pyrethroids) linked to high HQ could be explained by the high ecotoxicity of these pesticides 313 rather than by the concentrations found in discharges (around ng.L⁻¹). As pointed out before, most of these pesticides (such as bifenthrin, cypermethrin) have a very low PNEC value, lower than 0.1 ng.L- 315 .

3.4.2 Hazard quotients in combined systems

 Regarding CSO, only 43 HQs were calculated, also due to the low number of molecules measured in dissolved phase in CSO (Figure 6). The HQs obtained were lower than for separate systems.

 Indeed, the highest HQ was found for lead, with a value of 68.29. Contrary to separate systems, the highest hazards were due to heavy metals, pesticides and pharmaceutical compounds. Only five families 321 were found in this ranking $(HQ > 1)$: PC (3 compounds), M (4), PAH (1), P (5) and ALK (1), and were potentially hazardous for aquatic ecosystems. Results highlighted for heavy metals can be explained by 323 the fact that certain heavy metals in these effluents were in high concentrations (e.g. 2.1 μ g.L⁻¹ for lead 324 and 1.6 μ g.L⁻¹ for copper), and not because of their low ecotoxicity, as shown by their relatively high PNEC values. The presence of hazardous PC in CSO can be easily explained by the discharge of large amounts of these often very ecotoxic molecules coming from urban wastewater in stormwater, without any treatment. Comparing hazard quotients from CSO samples to those of separate systems, we can observe that calculated HQs are often lower (e.g. 65.4 in CSO against 950 in stormwater for copper). We can simply explain these results by a dilution of stormwater pollutants by wastewater in CSO.

3.4.3 The case of pharmaceutical compounds in CSO studies

 With the hazardous pharmaceutical compounds that have been highlighted above, 15 HQs have been calculated only and presented in Figure 6. As urban wastewater is mixed with stormwater in combined sewers, all the pharmaceutical compounds classically consumed in cities could be found in this type of discharge. However, few of them (28) have been taken into account to date in scientific literature. Consequently, our study and all the other ecotoxicological studies dealing with CSO contain a bias attributable to the fact that the potentially considerable hazard represented by these types of 337 molecules is not taken into account. Indeed, as shown by Orias et al.³⁶, many of them can have very low 338 PNEC values (e.g. 17β-estradiol: 8 pg.L⁻¹, clotrimazole: 0.5 pg.L⁻¹), and/or are widely consumed (e.g. ibuprofen and salicylic acid).

3.4.4 The case of molecules (e.g., pesticides) forbidden by European legislation

How to cite this paper: Gosset, A., Durrieu, C., Orias, F., Bayard, R., Perrodin, Y. (2017) Identification and assessment of ecotoxicological hazards attributable to pollutants in urban wet weather discharges. Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts DOI: 10.1039/C7EM00159B Some of the pesticides involved in the hazard of UWWDs (found in both stormwater and CSO, such as diuron) were forbidden in 2008 by European legislation. However, several European studies^{65,66,67} have detected the presence of these pesticides (with concentrations reaching 0.64 µg L^{-1} in discharges). This observation can be notably explained by the fact that farmers have stored pesticides

- 345 purchased in the past and that they continue to use. Moreover, some of them linger on in the environment
- 346 for long periods (due to their high half-life times) and their release can continue due to rainfall events.
- 347 Consequently, it is true to say that the hazard represented by these pesticides continues to exist even if
- 348 they are no longer on the market.

Stormwater pollutant hazard quotients

- 349 Figure 5: Hazard quotients calculated for micropollutants detected in stormwater samples (the red line delimits the compounds with an HQ up to 1000,
- 350 considered very hazardous). Hazard quotients are ranked in ascending order into each separated pollutant family.

CSO pollutant hazard quotients

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- 352 pollutant family.

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3.5 Discussion of the method and data used

How to cite this paper: Gosset, A., Durrieu, C., Orias, F., Bayard, R., Perrodin, Y. (2017) Identification and assessment of ecotoxicological hazards attributable to pollutants in urban wet weather discharges. Environmental Science: Processes & Impacts DOI: 10.1039/C7EM00159B The method presented in this study proved to be relevant to detect UWWD pollutant hazards. It could be applied for many other matrices, and included in many risk assessment scenarios or chemical prioritization programs. Nevertheless, our method and results are subject to limitations that need to be developed. The first one is the non-consideration of certain parameters, such as the bioconcentration, 359 bioaccumulation³⁰ and biomagnification of pollutants in the aquatic food web, which could amplify considerably the hazard of UWWDs pollutants. Indeed, these phenomena have already been demonstrated for many families of pollutants, such as the most hazardous found in UWWDs: heavy 362 metals⁶⁸, pesticides^{69,70} and pharmaceutical compounds.^{71,72,73,74} Other parameters such as pH, temperature, water chemistry (pH, hardness) can also modify pollutant toxicity. The "mixture" effect, linked to antagonisms of synergisms effects between sought, but also non-potentially thousand molecules not yet identified in UWWDs, are not considered into this study and can modify their hazardousness. Secondly, the use of NOECs for PNEC values construction can be discussed. The authors are aware that ECx values are more accurate than NOEC. ECx values are calculated from the modeling of the dose-response curve, which is itself based on the results of the whole range of concentration, whereas NOEC corresponds only to the identification of the last concentration of the range without effect. However, in the context of this work, it has been chosen to use to the largest set of values available in the literature and in international databases for the two reasons: (1) In the specific context of the PNEC calculation (i.e., a no-effect value for all aquatic organisms), considering the scarcity of existing data in the literature, it seems more useful to consider values for one or several additional species than using accurate values for a limited number of species. In other words, inter- species variability is more important to take into account than intra-species variability, (2) This is the most common approach adopted by international Agencies in charge of the establishment of PNECs for substances, such as INERIS in France, or the European Chemical Bureau in Europe, through the TGD guidelines. Thirdly, our method considers only the maximum concentrations of the different pollutants in UWWDs. Consequently, these values represent only the maximum hazard for each compound. This work could also have been done with median values if sufficient data had been available. This problem

 of limited data collection is at the origin of another limit: most of the chemical studies focusing on dissolved compound concentrations found in stormwater and CSO have dealt with relatively small areas of the world and many of them were published in Europe. Thus data are lacking for some continents, a factor which limits our studies due to differences in, for example, PC consumption, pesticide use (e.g. glyphosate is widely used in South America), sewer systems, etc. Consequently, we can confidently assert that the HQs calculated here are underestimated and would probably increase if more data were available. Fourthly, dissolved part of UWWDs were only considered in this study because the PNEC values were established for dissolved substances and it was impossible to extend them to pollutants whose bioavailability is unknown but present on particles in UWWDs. Indeed, pollutant bioavailability is linked to particle desorption which depends on multiple parameters like pH, molar mass, solubility/lipophily, and the number of carboxyl groups (for organic pollutants).⁷⁵ It is therefore possible that our method underestimated the hazard of these UWWD pollutants for aquatic environments. For example, as in the study of Zgheib et al.⁴ if we had considered the concentration of fluoranthene in the 394 dissolved phase (0.018 μ g L⁻¹) and the total effluent (0.832 μ g L⁻¹), assuming that all the pollutants are available, the hazard index of the pollutants would have increased from 1.5 to 69.33, making it one of the most hazardous compounds for aquatic organisms. This point is illustrated in Figure 7. Similar findings were recorded by Baun et al.³⁰ who prioritized 56 organic pollutants in the water phase of stormwater, against 121 in the solid phase. Fifthly, many chemical studies have considered only mineral and organic priority pollutants from the EU Water Framework Directive and other international legislations. However, many emerging compounds currently used present proven ecotoxic effects but have not yet been analyzed. For example, pesticides used massively in Europe like metam-sodium and 402 epoxiconazole present relatively low PNEC values (respectively 0.79 and 0.18 μ g L⁻¹). We can therefore expect high hazard quotients linked to these kinds of molecule. Finally, the presence of high concentrations of bacteria in CSO has already been detected, for example by Passerat et al. (with 405 concentrations up to 10^7 cell/L for *E.coli*).⁷⁶ It is now known that bacteria can transform pollutants and create by-products that are more or less toxic than their parent compounds detected in CSO. These bacteria can therefore influence the composition of CSO and their toxicity with time.

 Despite these limits, our method enabled us to highlight new outlooks in terms of prioritization and management of UWWD pollutants. Comparing our results to previous works done with the same purpose, we can observe that considering only intrinsic characteristics (e.g. particle solubility, sorption 411 potential, ecotoxicity) of the pollutants selected, Baun et al.³⁰ classified 56 organic compounds as priority pollutants dissolved in water using their RICH (Ranking and Identification of Chemical Hazards) method against 37 in our case (of which 31 are organic). The difference between the two 414 studies is particularly notable for pesticides (10 against 33 pesticides for the method of Baun et al.³⁰). This difference can be explained by non-detected or low environmental concentrations of many pesticides dissolved in water of our studied discharges. On the contrary, we revealed here 9 hazardous 417 PAH and 3 hazardous PHT instead of respectively 5 and 2 in Baun et al.³⁰ An explanation of this discrepancy could be the multiplication of decision filters (sorption/volatilization, technical problems, persistence, bioaccumulation, toxicity) applied by Baun et al. when selecting their compounds, and the lack of data for some pollutants that can lead to the rejection or selection of the priority list, as suggested by these authors. In the case of CSO linked hazard, no studies have investigated a similar prioritization method. Consequently, no comparison can be done.

 Looking for the scientific literature, our study enabled us to find new hazardous and priority pollutants. The same observation could be made for the European (Urban Wastewater Directive (UWD 91/271/EEC)) and American (USA EPA) priority pollutant lists. In fact, as stated in Table S2, some pollutant identified here as hazardous such as diuron or fluoranthene are already under the regulation of international instances. On the contrary, some pollutants are absent from these lists. For example, some heavy metals (e.g. copper and zinc in UWD list), pesticides as glyphosate or pyrethrinoids in stormwater, phthalates (e.g. diisononyl phthalate) and pharmaceuticals such as ibuprofen or trimethoprim in CSO absent in UWD and EPA priority lists, are revealed to be at the origin of an important hazard for aquatic receiving ecosystems, and thus should be so the object of reinforced controls and could be proposed to be added to these lists.

433 Figure 7: Example of hazard quotients (HQ) calculated with dissolved and total concentrations of pollutants in stormwater samples from Zgheib et al.⁴

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Conclusion and perspectives

 The aim of our study was to develop and apply a methodology to determine and calculate hazard quotients associated with the different pollutants sought and found in UWWDs. A wide range of pollutants was sought in the latter, with highly variable ecotoxicity and concentrations. Although many families of pollutants (PC, PAH, VOC, ALK, M, P, O, PFAA and PHT) play a role in the UWWD hazards identified, we emphasize that they are comprise of a large number of pesticides and heavy metals (e.g. pyrethrinoïds, copper and cadmium). The hazards of the pollutants identified in this study have different origins: (i) the presence of high concentrations of certain highly ecotoxic compounds (e.g. Pyrene in stormwater), (ii) the presence of high concentrations of slightly ecotoxic compounds (e.g. heavy metals in CSO), (iii) the presence of weak concentrations of certain highly ecotoxic compounds (e.g. pesticides like Bifenthrin and Permethrin in stormwater samples), (iv) the presence of intermediate concentrations of compounds with intermediate ecotoxicity (e.g. alkylphenols in UWWDs). We showed that the hazard linked to CSO was lower than that linked to stormwater from separate systems. However, these results should be considered with caution because only a few pharmaceutical compounds (just 28 compounds) were sought in CSO, compared to the huge range of drugs consumed by human beings. Moreover, no ecotoxicity data were available for 13 of the compounds (3 PC, 6 PAH, 2 ALK, 1 ORG, 1 PFAA) detected in UWWDs, and therefore no PNEC or HQ values could be calculated. Consequently, it will be necessary in further studies to obtain more ecotoxicity data on these compounds. Moreover, current hazard and risk assessment methods must be improved to take into account pollutant bioconcentration/accumulation, which can represent a serious risk for higher trophic levels.

 To conclude, this work enabled us to identify the potential hazard of UWWDs and the pollutants involved. We now know which pollutants require an in-depth monitoring. We have also identified different points which require in-depth studies. In particular, it is now necessary to better assess the hazard of certain pollutants bound to the particulate phase. Lastly, this work should help managers to identify the largest and most hazardous pollution sources in order to treat them in priority.

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593 Table S1: Extrapolation Factor assessment criteria derivate from Orias and Perrodin³⁶ and TDG³⁷.

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617 Table S2: Comparison of hazardous compounds list identified in UWWDs in this study with the 618 classification of these compounds as priority pollutants or not by European Water Framework

619 Directive and In Environmental Protection Agency.