



236th Technical Committee Meeting

Scott Mandirola, Chair

Presiding

October 8-9, 2024



The meeting will begin at 1:00 P.M. (Eastern) on October 8, 2024. Below are a few tips to effectively navigate the meeting:

- *Mute your microphone at all times unless speaking.*
- *Disable your camera unless you are a Technical Committee member.*
- *The presenter will prompt participants for verbal questions, or use the Chat feature.*
- *Detailed instructions and important information can be found in the previously emailed document, "ORSANCO Virtual Technical Committee and Commission Meeting Instructions."*



Chairman's Welcome & Roll Call

Scott Mandirola
Chair, Technical Committee

TEC Member Roll Call



- IL – Scott Twait *
- IN – Gabrielle Ghreichi *
- KY – Katie McKone *
- NY – Damianos Skaros *
- OH – Melinda Harris *
- PA – Kevin Halloran *
- VA – Jeffrey Hurst *
- WV – Scott Mandirola *
- USACE – Erich Emery *
- USCG – LTJG Connor Sullivan *
- USEPA – David Pfeifer *
- USGS – Jeff Frey *
- CIAC – Kathy Beckett
- PIAC – Cheri Budzynski
- PIACO – Betsy Bialosky
- POTW – Reese Johnson (Jim Gibson)
- WOAC – Heather Hulton VanTassel
- WUAC – Chris Bobay (Erica Pauken)
- Chair – Scott Mandirola *
- Executive Director – Richard Harrison *

* Voting member



Agenda Item 1:

Request for action on minutes of the 235th Technical Committee Meeting

Chair Mandirola

Minutes were emailed with the agenda package on September 19, 2024



Agenda Item 2: Chief Engineer's Report

Executive Director Richard Harrison



Agenda Item 3:

USEPA's New Recommendations for Contaminants to Monitor in Fish and Shellfish

Lisa Larimer, USEPA HQ



Updating Recommended Contaminants to Monitor for Fish and Shellfish Advisories

Lisa Larimer, P.E.

ORSANCO Technical Committee
October 8, 2024

What will be covered today?

- List of contaminants to monitor in fish and shellfish
 - What it is, process to update it, what's new
- Analysis methods for new additions
- Toxicity values for new additions and how they can be used in advisories
- Results from National Aquatic Resource Surveys

What is the Contaminant List? How is it Used?

- List of contaminants that EPA recommends fish and shellfish advisory programs in states, Tribes, and territories monitor and analyze.
- When contaminants occur in high enough concentrations to potentially affect the health of people eating fish and shellfish, those programs issue consumption advisories for those waterbodies.

Why did EPA update the list?

- Part of larger effort to update fish advisory guidance for states and Tribes (from 2000)
- Adding contaminants found to accumulate in fish at levels that could be problematic for human health
- Part of EPA's PFAS Strategic Roadmap
- Released on July 11; can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/choose-fish-and-shellfish-wisely/epa-guidance-developing-fish-advisories>

What was the process for updating the list?

1. Searched Literature

Searched databases using specified terms.
Removed articles containing non-U.S. species or lab dosing studies.

2. Extracted Data

Compiled concentrations in fish and shellfish from articles and toxicity information from U.S. government sources.

3. Performed Analyses

Calculated if the concentrations in fish or shellfish would exceed thresholds for safely eating 8 oz/week or 5 oz/day.

4. Compiled Lists

Created two lists of contaminants that have been found in fish and shellfish at concentrations that may be of concern for human health.

5. Sent Through Peer Review

Submitted the process and results to independent subject matter experts in toxicology and human health risk assessment.

6. Revised After Peer Review

Made revisions to incorporate peer reviewers' suggestions.

Why are there two lists of contaminants?

1. Contaminants to monitor for advisories (existing list)

- These have measures of oral toxicity in humans (e.g., RfD).
- Recommended for issuing advisories

2. Contaminants to monitor to watch (new list)

- Federal agencies have not released a toxicity measure.
- Recommended for monitoring to see if accumulating in fish.
- If so, state or Tribe could wait for federal value or determine toxicity value on their own and issue advisory.

Which contaminants were added to “Monitor For Advisories” and “Monitor to Watch” lists?

Contaminant Group	Monitor for Advisories List: Contaminant	Monitor to Watch List: Contaminant	
Cyanotoxins	Microcystins	BMAA DABA	
Flame retardants	BDE-47		
Metals	Lead		
PFAS	PFDA PFHxS PFNA PFOA PFOS	PFDS PFDoA PFHpS PFOSA	PFTeDA PFTrDA PFUnDA
Pharmaceuticals	Amphetamine		

Which EPA methods can be used to analyze the new contaminants?

Contaminant Group	Contaminant			EPA Method
Cyanotoxins	Microcystins BMAA DABA			For MC: method using the 2-methoxy-3-methyl-4-phenylbutyric acid (MMPB) procedure is under development
Flame retardants	BDE-47			EPA Method 1614A
Metals	Lead			EPA Method 200.8, Rev. 5.4 , with sample preparation by SW-846 Method 3050B or other suitable strong acid digestion procedure applicable to tissues
PFAS	PFDA PFHxS PFNA PFOA	PFOS PFDS PFDoA PFHpS	PFOSA PFTeDA PFTTrDA PFUnDA	EPA Method 1633
Pharmaceuticals	Amphetamine			EPA Method 1694

Which toxicity values is EPA using for PFAS?

PFAS	Non-cancer Toxicity Value (mg/kg BW-day)	Cancer Slope Factor (mg/kg/day) ⁻¹
PFDA	2E-09	N/A
PFHxS	2E-06 (IRIS draft: 4E-10)	N/A
PFNA	3E-06	N/A
PFOS	1E-07	39.5
PFOA	3E-08	29,300

Which toxicity values is EPA using for the new non-PFAS contaminants?

Contaminant	Non-cancer Toxicity Value (mg/kg BW-day)	Cancer Slope Factor (mg/kg/day) ⁻¹
Microcystins	5E-5	N/A
BDE-47	1E-4	N/A
Amphetamine	8.3E-06	N/A

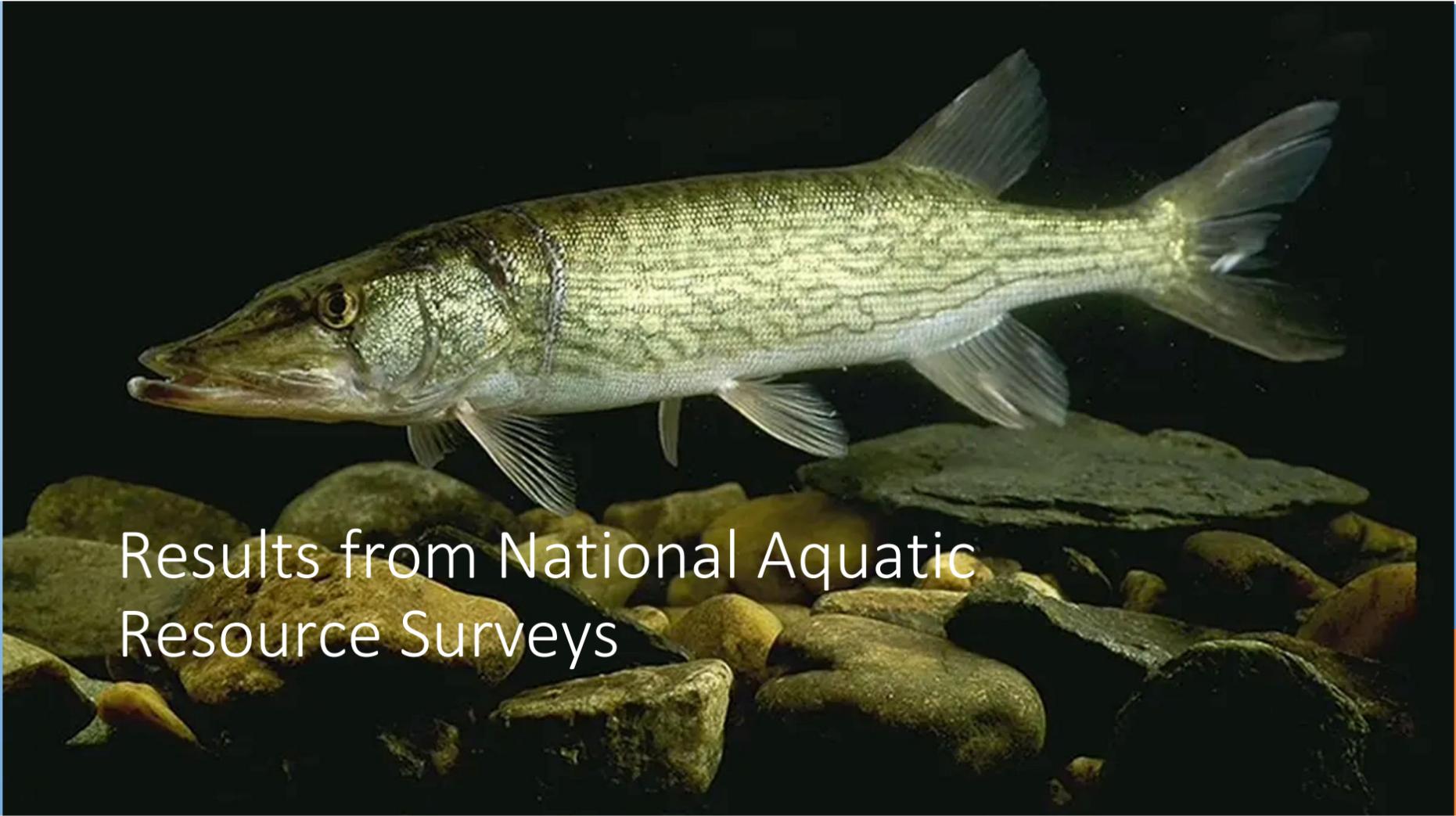
Equations for Calculating Fish Consumption Rates for Advisories (single contaminant)

Carcinogenic effects

$$CR_{\text{daily}} \left(\frac{kg}{d} \right) = \frac{\text{Cancer Risk Level} \times \text{Body Weight (kg)}}{\text{Cancer Slope Factor} \left(\frac{mg}{kg-day} \right)^{-1} \times \text{Concentration in fish} \left(\frac{mg}{kg} \right)}$$

Non-carcinogenic effects

$$CR_{\text{daily}} \left(\frac{kg}{d} \right) = \frac{\text{Reference Dose} \left(\frac{mg}{kg-d} \right) \times \text{Body Weight (kg)}}{\text{Concentration in fish} \left(\frac{mg}{kg} \right)}$$

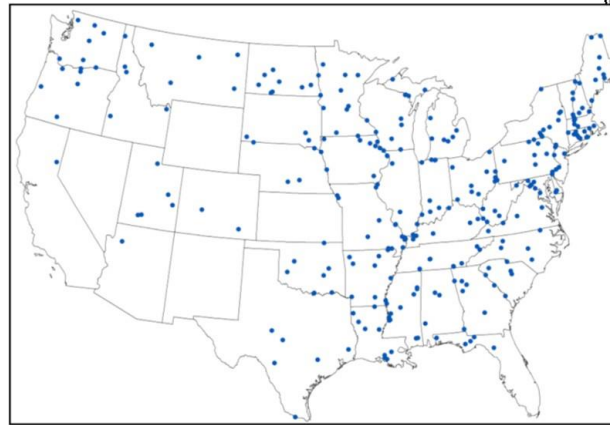


Results from National Aquatic
Resource Surveys

Which fish tissue studies does EPA's Office of Water do?

Part of EPA's National Aquatic Resource Surveys

- Rivers (NRSA)
- Great Lakes (NCCA)
- Lakes (NLA)
- **Next year:** Estuaries (NCCA)



<https://www.epa.gov/choose-fish-and-shellfish-wisely/studies-fish-tissue-contamination>

How does EPA monitor contaminants in fish tissue?

Collect composite samples of fish commonly consumed by people

- Up to 5 fish of same species
- Harvestable size
- 75% rule



Analyze skin-on fillet tissue for:

- Mercury (total)
- PCBs (209 congeners)
- PFAS (40 compounds)

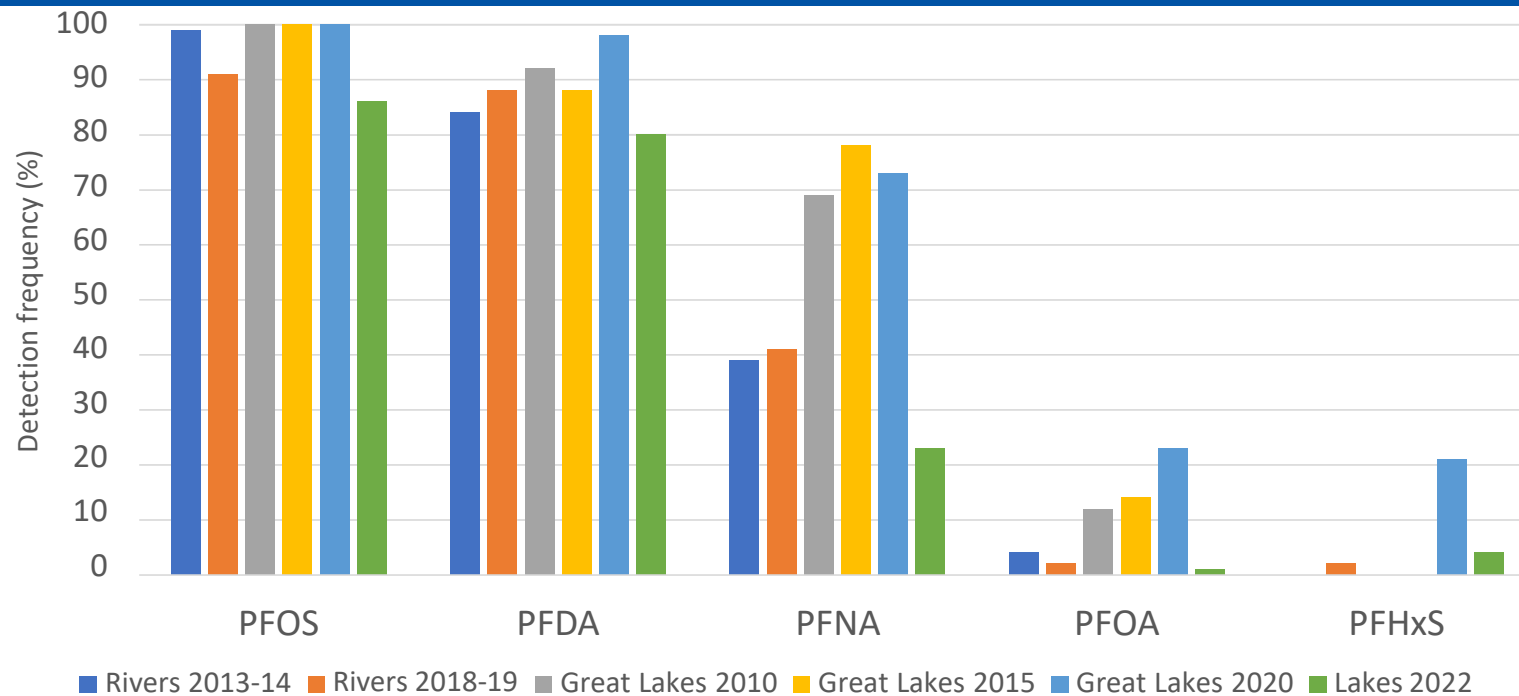
What has EPA been finding?

- Mercury and PCBs have been detected in **100%** of the samples, regardless of waterbody type.
- PFAS has been detected in **86-100%** of the samples, differing slightly by waterbody type.
- Almost all fish that contain PFAS have multiple PFAS compounds.
- The specific PFAS compounds that are found differ by waterbody type.

How often is EPA finding in fish the PFAS on the monitoring lists?

	PFAS	Detection frequency in most recent NARS		
		Lake s (of 413)	Great Lakes (of 165)	River s (of 290)
Perfluoroalkyl carboxylic acids	PFOA	1%	23%	2%
	PFNA	23%	73%	41%
	PFDA	80%	98%	88%
	PFUnA	85%	98%	85%
	PFDoA	71%	89%	69%
	PFTTrDA	50%	52%	56%
	PFTeDA	40%	62%	36%
Perfluoroalkyl sulfonic acids	PFHxS	4%	21%	2%
	PFHpS	3%	12%	<1%
	PFOS	86%	100%	91%
	PFDS	22%	44%	30%
	PFOSA	2%	28%	24%

How often is EPA detecting in fish the PFAS on the Monitor For Advisories list?





Any questions?
Thank you!

Lisa Larimer
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202-566-1017



Agenda Item 4:

Identifying Sources of Microplastics in the Aquatic Environment

**Amy Bergdale, USEPA Region 3, Wheeling
Field Office**

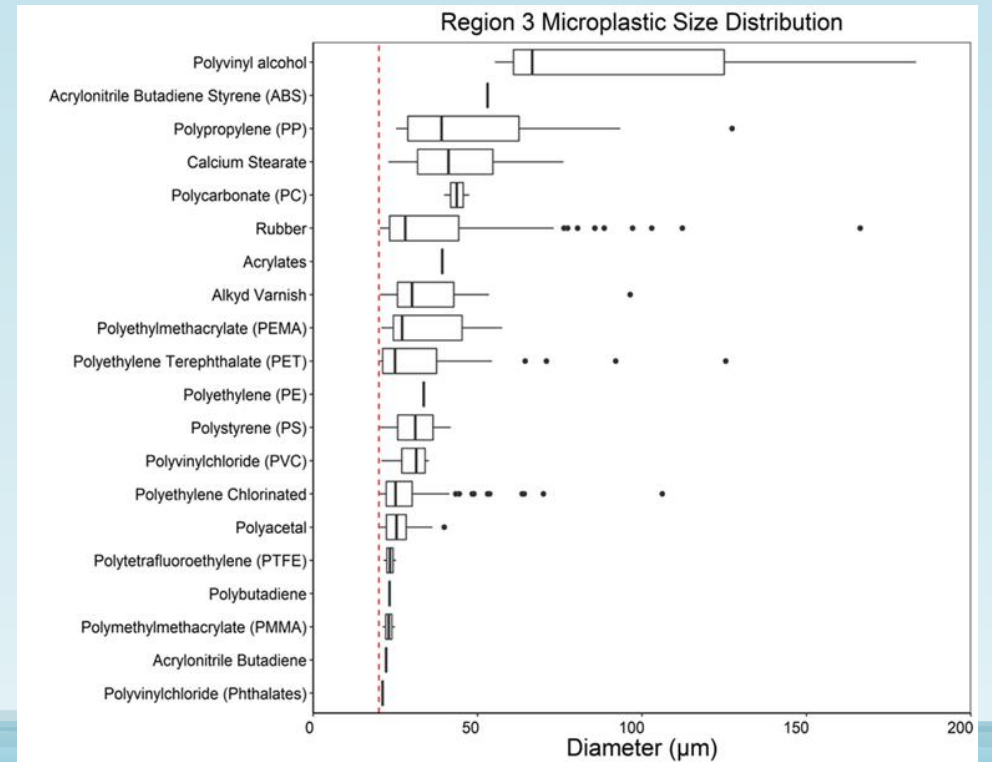
Identifying Sources of Microplastics in the Aquatic Environment

REGIONAL ACTIVITIES TO ADDRESS POLLUTION FROM MICROPLASTICS

Amy Bergdale, US EPA Region 3 LSASD Field Services Branch
October 2024

Identifying Sources of Microplastics in the Aquatic Environment

- Discuss Chesapeake Bay Microplastic activities
- Regional and ORD Applied Research (ROAR, 2022)
 - Led by Region 7 with Region 3 as a partner



Microplastics are ubiquitous in the Chesapeake Bay

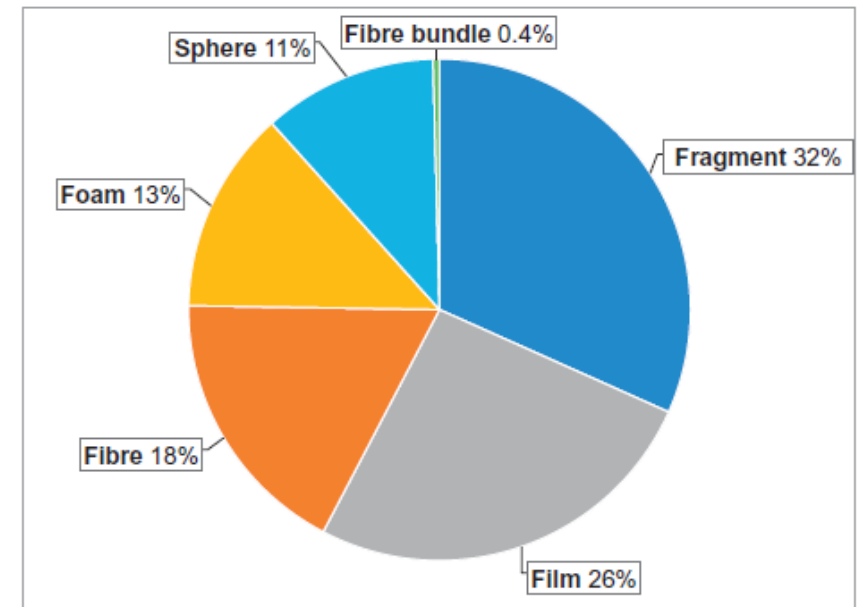
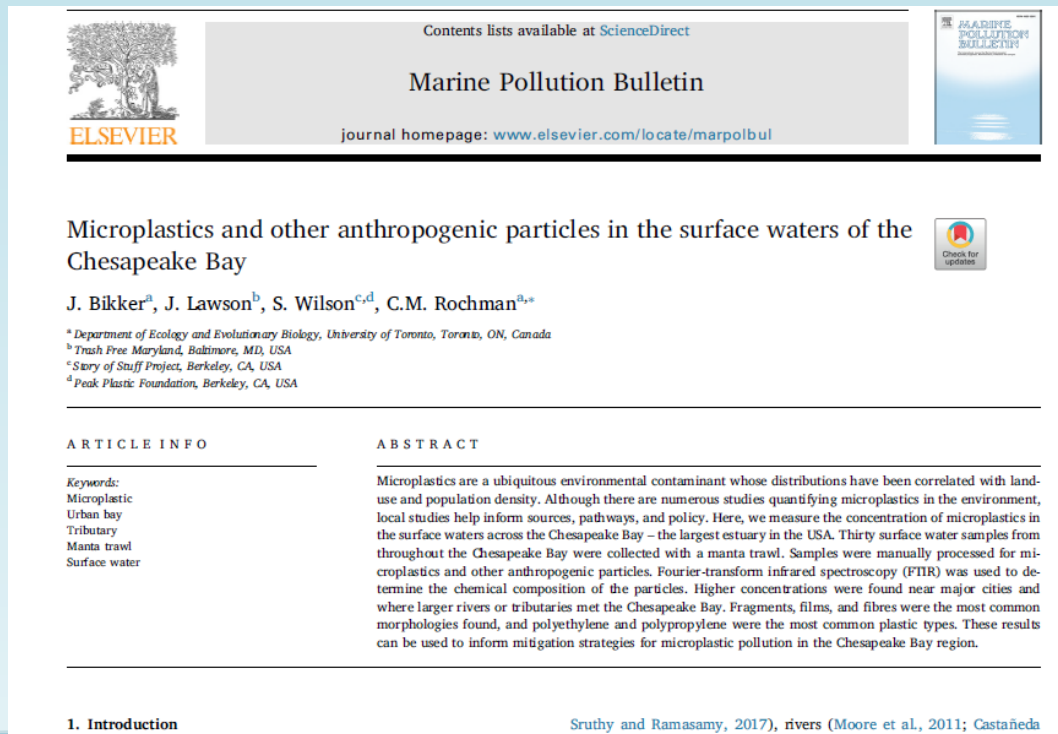


Fig. 3. Morphology of particles from thirty surface water samples (after blank correction) in the Chesapeake Bay.

2019 Microplastics STAC Workshop Recommendations

1. The CBP should create a cross-GIT Plastic Pollution **Action Team** to address the growing threat of plastic pollution to the bay and watershed.
2. The Scientific, Technical Assessment and Reporting Team should incorporate development of ERAs of microplastics into the CBP strategic science and research framework, and the Plastic Pollution Action Team should oversee the **development of the ERAs** focused on assessment of microplastic pollution on multiple living resource endpoints.
3. STAC should undertake a technical review of terminology used in microplastic research, specifically size classification and concentration units, and **recommend uniform terminology** for the CBP partners to utilize in monitoring and studies focused on plastic pollution in the bay and watershed.
4. The CBP should **develop a source reduction strategy** to assess and address plastic pollution emanating from point sources, non-point sources, and human behavior.
5. The CBP should direct the Plastic Pollution Action Team and STAR Team to collaborate on utilizing the existing bay and watershed monitoring networks to monitor for microplastic pollution.

Microplastics in the Chesapeake Bay and its Watershed: State of the Knowledge, Data Gaps, and Relationship to Management Goals



STAC Workshop Report
April 24-25, 2019
Woodbridge, VA



STAC Publication 19-006

First Steps to Addressing Microplastic Pollution

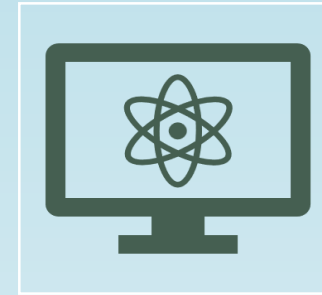


Establish A Plastic Pollution Action Team

The Plastic Pollution Action Team is comprised of various stakeholders from Federal, State, Local, NGO and Academia

The PPAT was given a charge by the CB Management Board

The PPAT is responsible for guiding the various deliverables in this project and providing expertise



Support EPA funded projects

Develop an ecological risk assessment (ERA) conceptual model looking at the effects of microplastics on various ecological endpoints

Compile the best available science to develop a preliminary ERA. Identify data gaps.

Develop uniform size classification and concentration unit terminology.

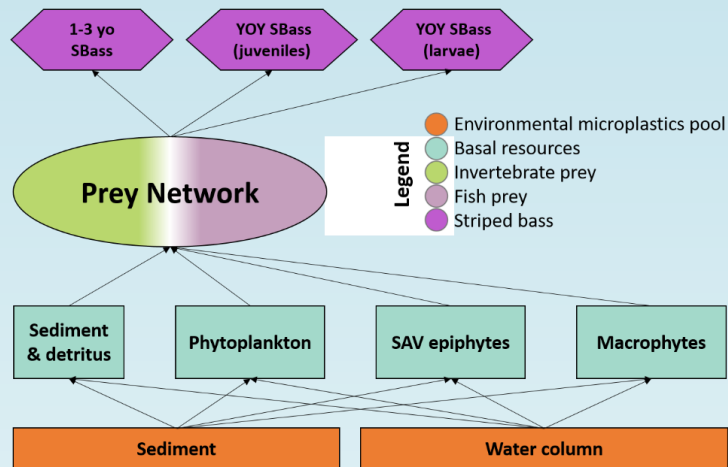
Task 1: Uniform Size Classification and Concentration Unit Terminology

Classification	Size	Rationale
Microplastic	5 mm - 1000 nm (1µm)	--NOAA and GESAMP precedence --Upper size limit is consistent with previous monitoring studies in Chesapeake Bay and tributaries --Use of 333 µm as a lower bound potentially excludes the inclusion of laboratory or monitoring studies that include data below that value -- The lower size limit is consistent with the SI naming convention.
Nanoplastic	1 nm - <1000 nm (1µm)	--The upper limit is consistent with the SI naming convention. --Limit is inclusive of particles <100 nm as defined for non-polymer nanomaterials in the field of engineered nanoparticles -- The lower size limit is consistent with the SI naming convention.

- Setting concentration recommendations for various medias was also a part of this process to support standardized monitoring and broaden the capacity to share and utilize data
- Media Considered
 - Water Column
 - Sediment
 - Organisms
 - Submerged Aquatic Vegetation

Task 2: Develop a Conceptual Preliminary Eco Risk Assessment for MP in the Potomac River

Model Developed by Bob Murphy, Tetra Tech



Potential Assessment Endpoints

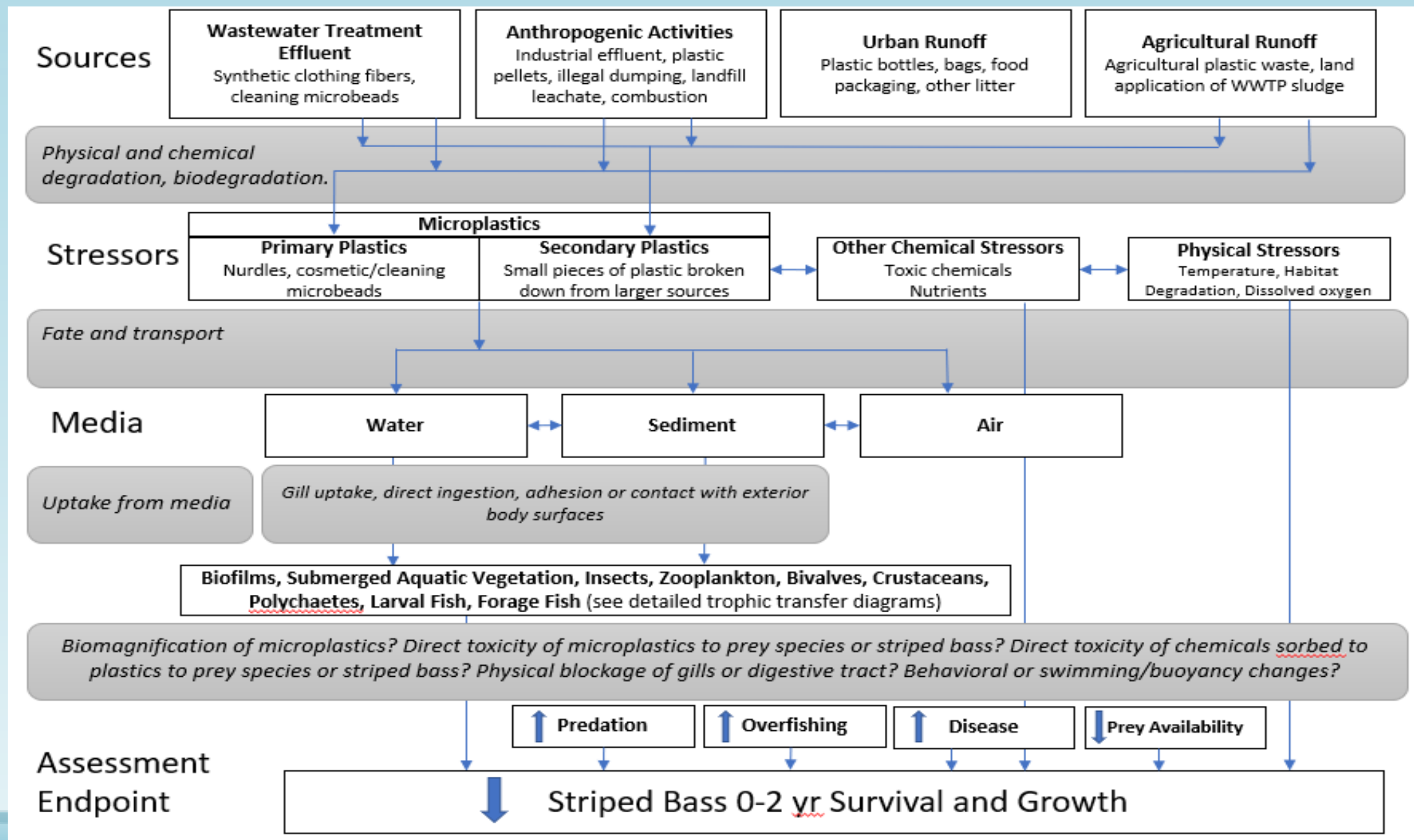
Individual Assessment Endpoints

- Growth rates
- Fecundity
- Predator susceptibility
- Direct mortality
- Physiological condition
- Behavior change

Population Assessment Endpoints

- Catch-per-unit-effort
- Size-at-age
- Age-structure
- Mortality
- Spawning stock biomass





Task 3: Monitoring and Science Strategy

- Modeled after San Francisco Bay's Microplastic Strategy
- This strategy document provides an overview of management needs regarding implementing policies to reduce plastic pollution, which would result in reduction in microplastics.
- This strategy is intended to be a starting point to develop research priorities, monitoring efforts, and policy development.
- It is expected to be updated in the future as more work and research is completed

MICROPLASTIC MONITORING & SCIENCE STRATEGY FOR THE CHESAPEAKE BAY



Tetra Tech, Inc.
10711 Red Run Blvd.
Suite 105
Owings Mills, MD 21117

Photo credits: Tetra Tech, Inc.; Striped bass by USFWS Pacific Southwest Region is licensed under Public Domain; Hasegawa and Nakazaki 2021; 040/566 Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, Cambridge, Maryland by Judy Gellertner is licensed under CC-BY 4.0 December 3, 2017; Tetra logo across the top from Paton Leighton, Lido Beach, NY for USFWS is licensed as a United States government work.

Initial Project Summary Conclusions

Identified Data Gaps

- Lack of observational and experimental data on the types, sources, and fates of microplastics in the ecosystem
- Need more understanding on trophic transfer
- Need more direct studies on the prevalence, intensity and efforts of microplastics contamination on focal species, their prey and the environment

Conclusions

- Studies have shown microplastics are ubiquitous throughout the bay and its tributaries. They have been found in both tidal (Yonkos, 2014; Rochman, 2019) and non-tidal waters (Fisher, 2019).
- There is general agreement that plastics represent a widespread, but largely *unquantified*, threat to the Chesapeake Bay ecosystem.
- There is no systematic and organized effort directed at researching plastic pollution.
- The ERA reveals there could be significant impacts on a valuable Chesapeake resource, Striped
- Implementation of the science strategy will put us on a path for understanding the impacts of plastic pollution on ecosystem endpoints



Framework for Monitoring Plastic Pollution in the Chesapeake Bay, July 2024



- This framework makes recommendations on monitoring strategies across various media, such as surface water, sediment, and key living resources, as well as scale, frequency, and locations for broad application throughout the Chesapeake Bay and its watershed.
- The framework focuses on leveraging existing programs to limit the resources required.
- The Framework report includes a Field Sampling Reference Guide and a Laboratory Reference Guide as appendices.

Monitoring Framework Recommendations

Consider adding the goal of no net increase in MP pollution to the Bay Agreement

Institute & implement a monitoring program to measure attainment of goal and support related goals

Add MP sampling and analysis of water & sediment to existing or new CBP monitoring networks

Estimate bay loads of MP to Bay tributaries for annual status & trends reporting

Facilitate incorporation of MP sampling into state & local monitoring programs

Conduct focused sampling of known MP sources (ie wastewater)

Monitor plastic type in 20% of samples to understand plastic products and sources

Determine MP concentrations in select species of ecological and human health importance

Conduct focused food web studies to better understand trophic pathways

Undertake scientific studies of the degradation of plastics and their role as a vector of toxicity

Current and Recent Projects



Assessing Biological Effects of Plastic Pollution Exposure on Young of Year Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*) in the Chesapeake Bay and its Tributaries

To develop a lab-based study examining biological impacts of microplastics on young of year striped bass fed with microplastic contaminated mysid shrimp coupled with field surveys sampling environmental concentrations of mysid shrimp in the CB watershed



Microplastics Source Tracking in the Chesapeake Bay (CB) Watershed

To source track plastics to understand the major conveyances and compositions of plastics entering the watershed.

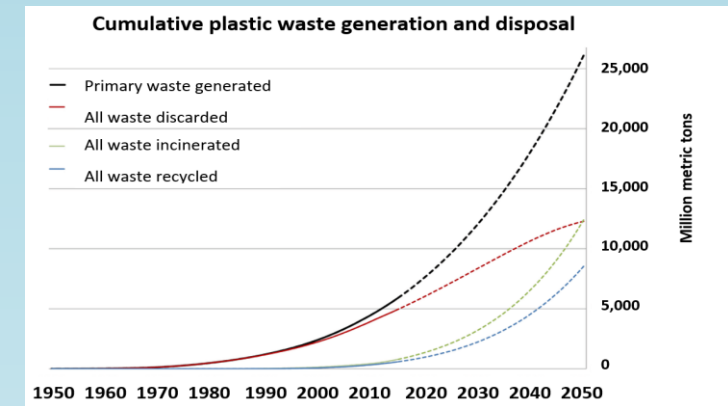


Region 7 & 3 ORD Applied Research (ROAR 2022)

Begin to identify, quantify and characterize Microplastics in a large river such as the Ohio river.

Where are the MPs found?

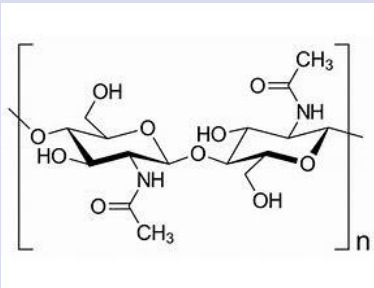
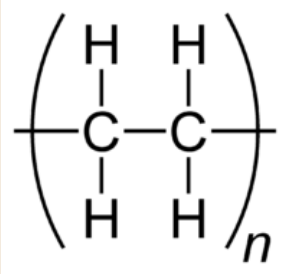
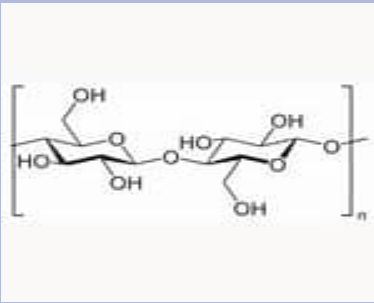
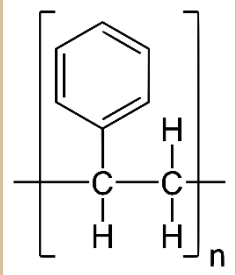
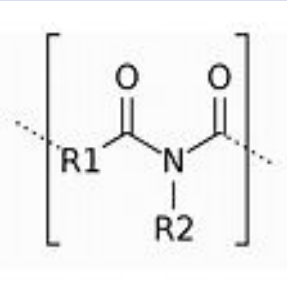
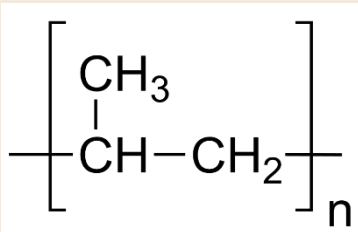
- Microplastics (MPs) are small plastic particles (e.g., fibers, fragments, films, and pellets) < 5 mm across (largest crosswise dimension) and > 100 nm.
- Two categories:
 - *Primary*: Designed to be small. (e.g., PE/PP microbeads in personal care products, glitter, industrial pellets ‘nurdles’)
 - *Secondary*: Breakdown of larger plastic debris, tire wear, nylon/polyester fibers shed from laundry.
- Many MPs sources in urban watersheds
 - Household, food and beverage containers, sewage, solid waste, storm water, WWTPs, industrial effluents, road drainage, landfill leachates and many others
 - WWTPs
 - High removal efficiency but many MPs released due to high discharge volumes
 - MPs trapped in sludge released as agricultural runoff from sludge-treated soils
 - Laundry – major source of microfibers



Source: Cumulative plastic waste generation and disposal, Geyer (2017)

Pollutant: “Dredged spoil, solid waste... sewage, garbage...chemical wastes, biological materials...and industrial, municipal, and agricultural waste discharged into water”(does not include sewage from vessels or injected wastes)

Common Polymers found in Samples

Natural Polymer Identification	Environmental Source	Structure	Anthropogenic Polymer Identification	Source	Structure
Chitin	A component of cell walls in fungi, the exoskeleton of arthropods, and scales of fish		Polyethylene	Packing film, trash & grocery bags, squeeze bottles, toys	
Cellulose/Cellulosic	Component of plant cell walls, bacteria, algae. "Most abundant natural polymer"		Polystyrene	Insulation, protective foam packing material, food packaging	
(Natural) Polyamide	Proteins, collagen, DNA, protein with amide groups		Polypropylene	Packaging, bottles, caps, straws	

Extraction, Separation, & Purification of Plastics from Environmental Media: Chemical

- Effectively removes all organic material while keeping plastic particles intact

Type of Oxidation	Description
H_2O_2 + Heat	Spike 30% H_2O_2 in the sample and heat at 70 °C Typically takes many hours to days to fully oxidize sample (depending on organic matter concentration) Heat can degrade plastics
H_2O_2 + UV light	Like “ H_2O_2 + Heat”, but with UV light initiating hydroxyl radical formation UV light could degrade plastics
Fenton	Uses 30% H_2O_2 with iron (II) as a catalyst to form hydroxyl radicals Fast reaction and doesn't affect plastics integrity
Ozonation	Bubble ozone in the sample until oxidation is complete

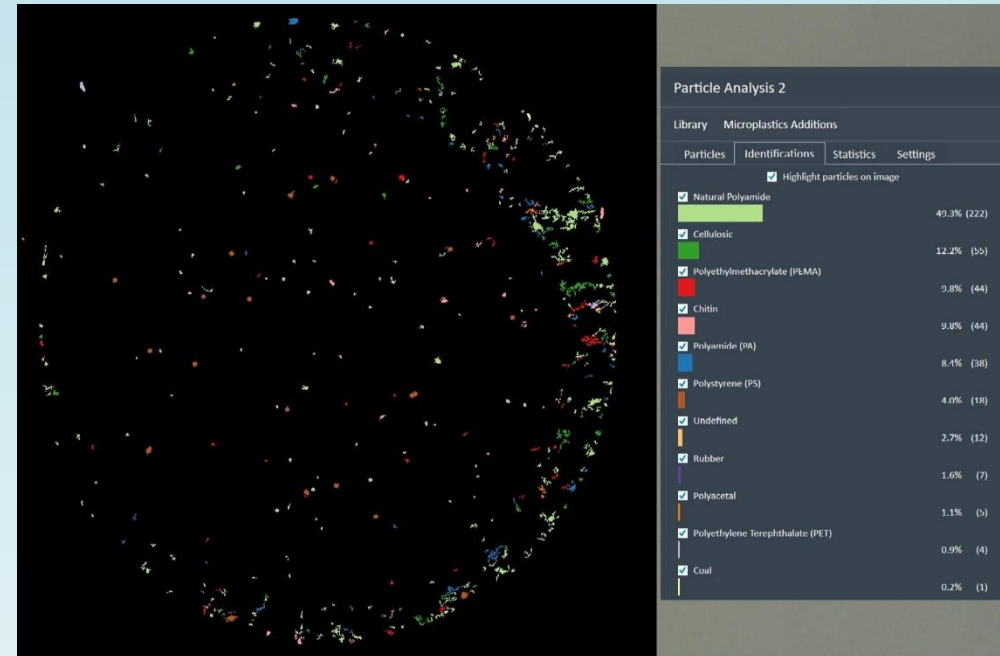
Where to collect samples? Is it a sink or a source?

- Influent and effluent of wastewater treatment plants (sludge would be a plus)
- Creeks and rivers upstream and downstream of industrial areas
- Upstream and downstream of intersection of residential and industrial areas
- Trash collectors, if present upstream and downstream
- Leachate from landfills, streams affected by landfill leachate?

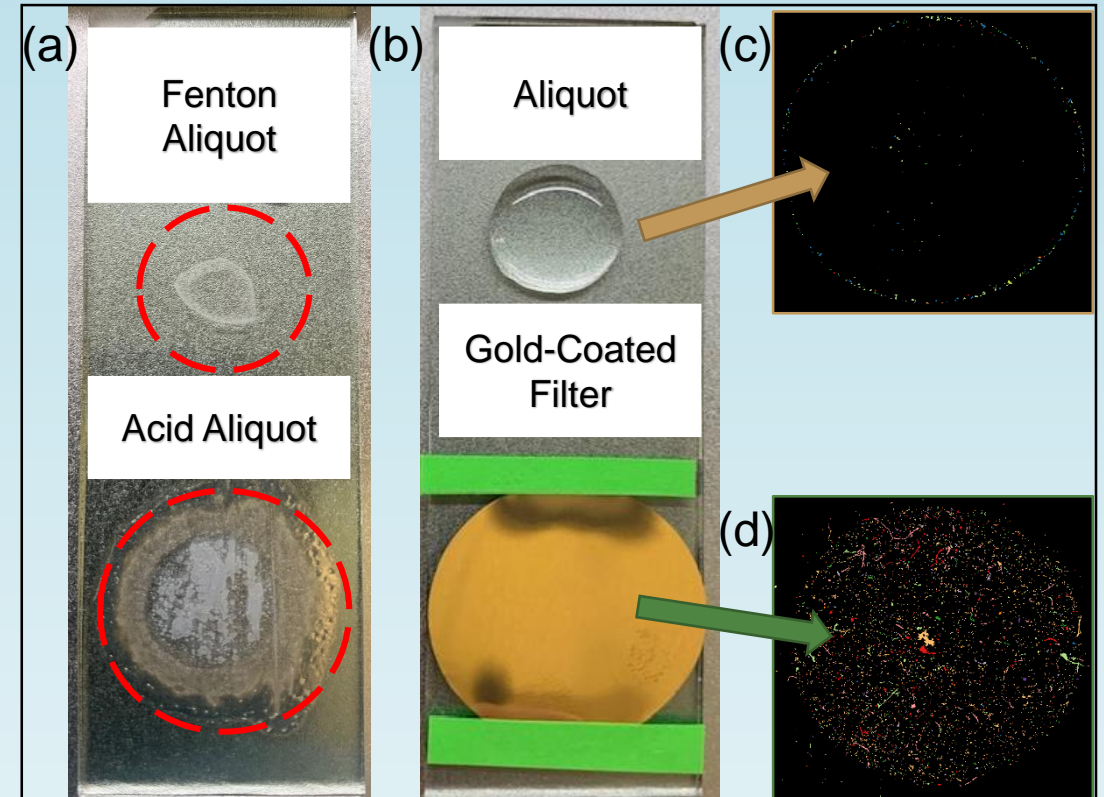
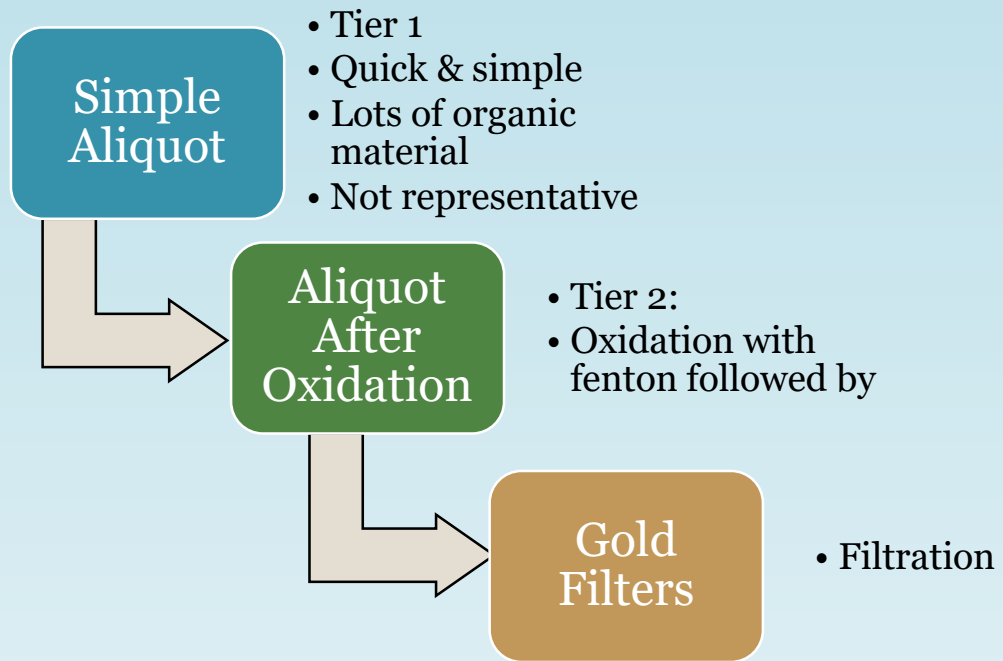


Laser Direct Infrared Spectroscopy (LDIR)

- LDIR Chemical Imaging System
- Obtains IR spectra of all particles and identifies the polymer type
 - Uses an IR reference library
- Obtains particle size and shape parameters
 - 10 μm is the detection limit

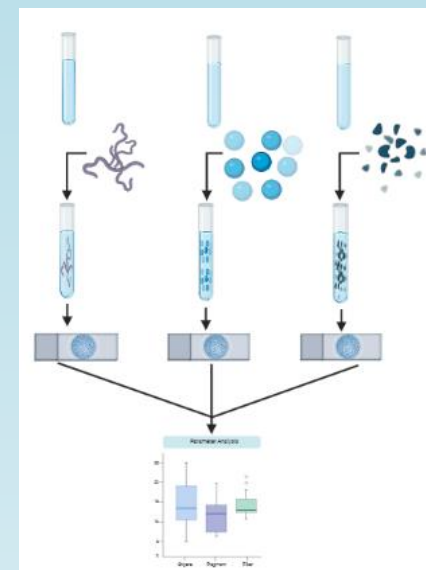


Sample Preparation for LDIR Analysis



Analysis Parameters

Parameter	Description/unit
#	Particle number
Id	Alphanumeric particle ID
Width	Measurement of latitude (μm)
Height	Measurement of longitude (μm)
Diameter	Assuming a circle shape, back-calculate for diameter (μm)
Aspect Ratio	Ratio of width/height
Area	Width*height (μm^2)
Perimeter	Length of boundary line (μm)
Eccentricity	Characterizes shape, (0-1) a circle has a value of 0 and 1 suggests a high aspect ratio
Circularity	Characterizes shape, (0-1) a perfect circle has a value of 1
Solidity	Ratio of particle area over area of its convex hull (0-1) (see image)
Identification	Polymer identification
Quality	How well the spectra matches the library
Is valid	If the identification is accepted

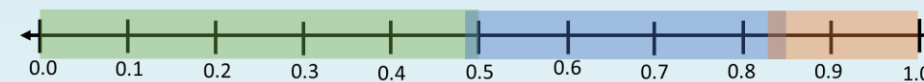


Fiber Fragment Sphere

Circularity



Solidity

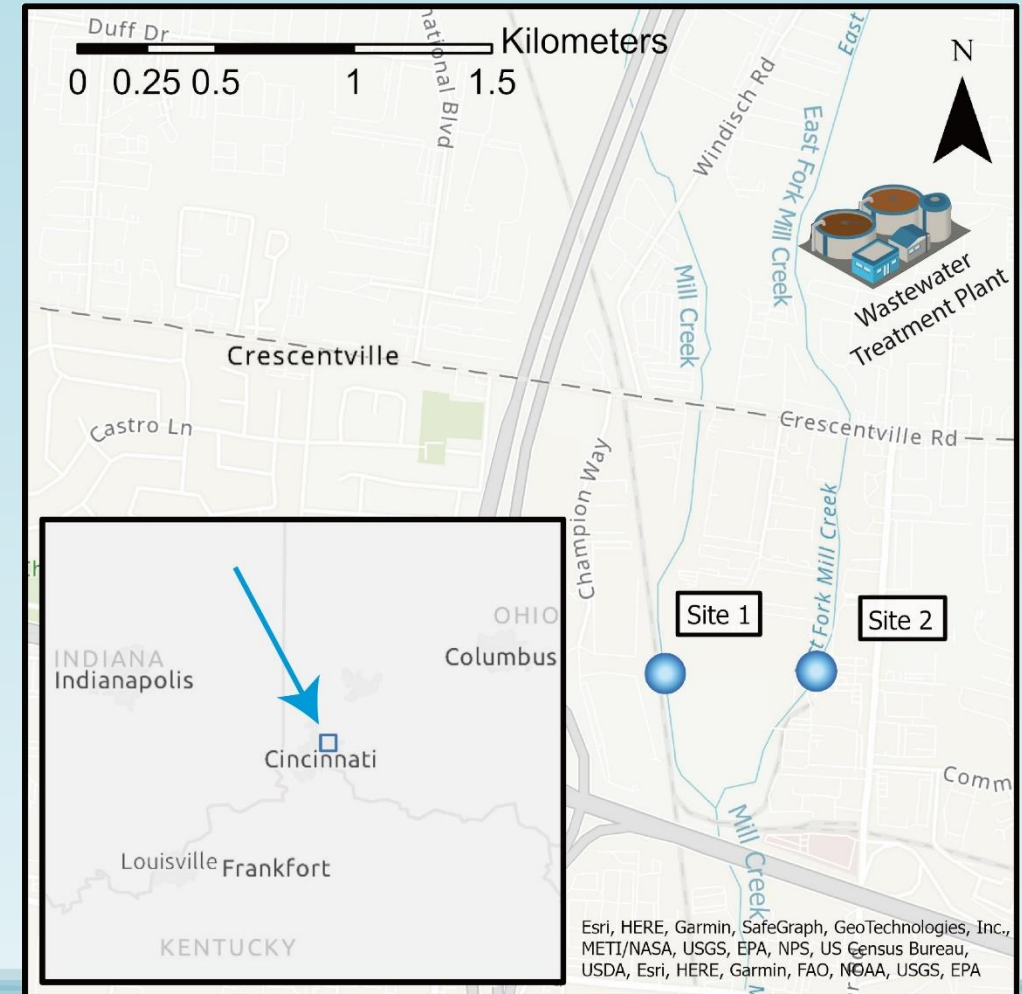


Calculated Aspect Ratio



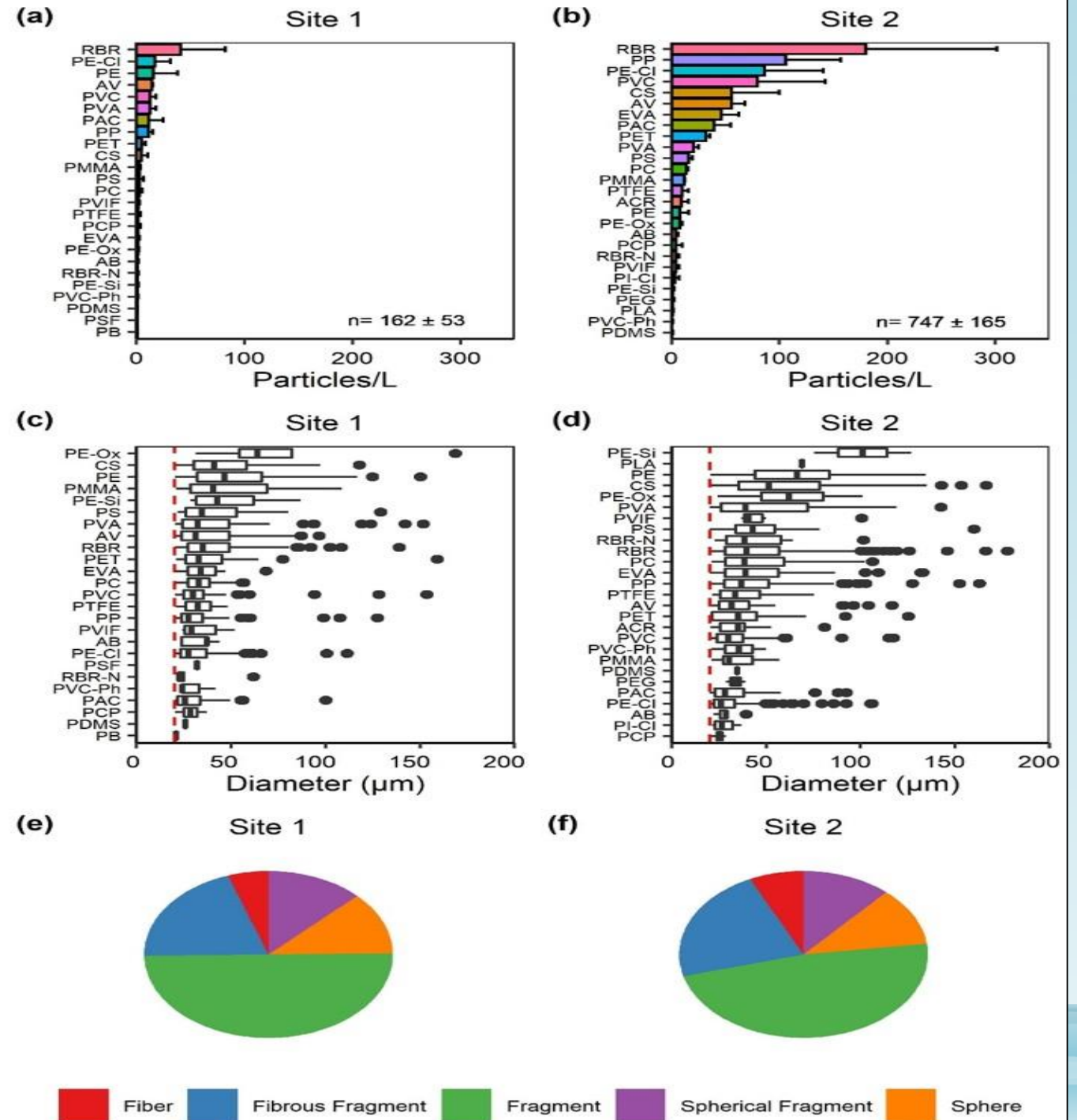
Urban Creek Sample Analysis

- 2 sampling locations
 - Site 2 has WWTP effluent
 - Urbanized area with heavy industry
- Location: Cincinnati, OH, USA

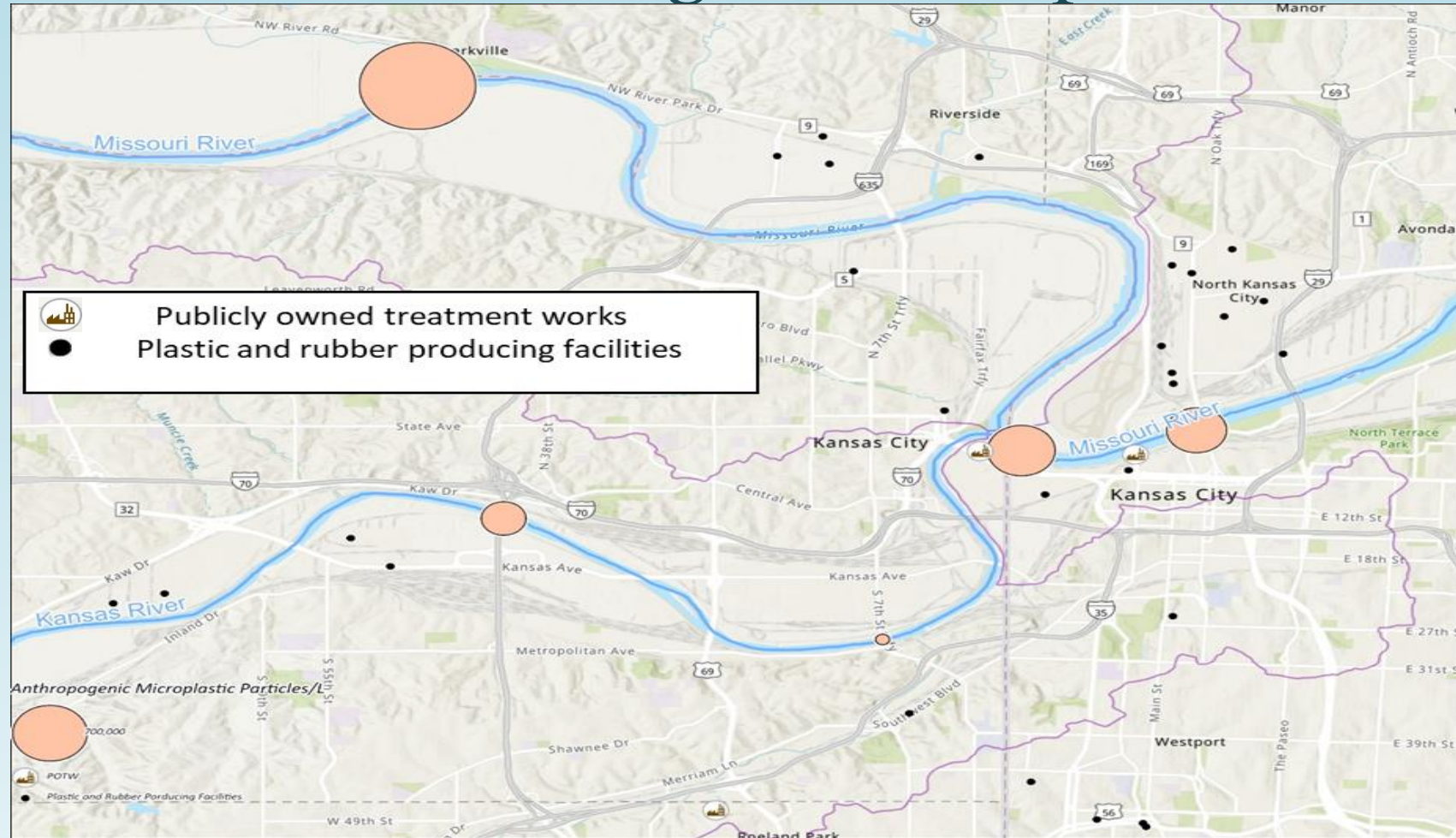


Urban Creek Sample Analysis

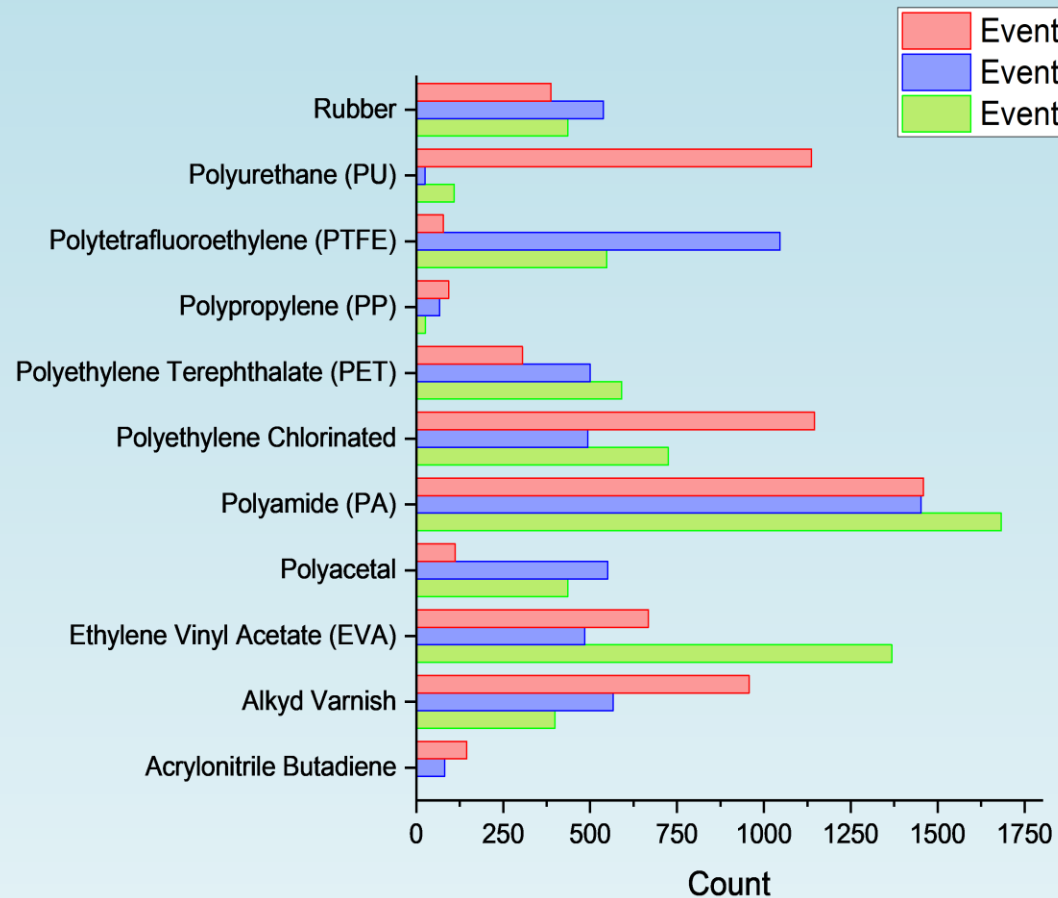
- Spatial variation in MP content
 - Total number of MPs
 - MP identities
 - Higher MPs near WWTP (site 2)
- Shapes and sizes are relatively similar



Kansas river MP loading and transportation



Trends across three flow events



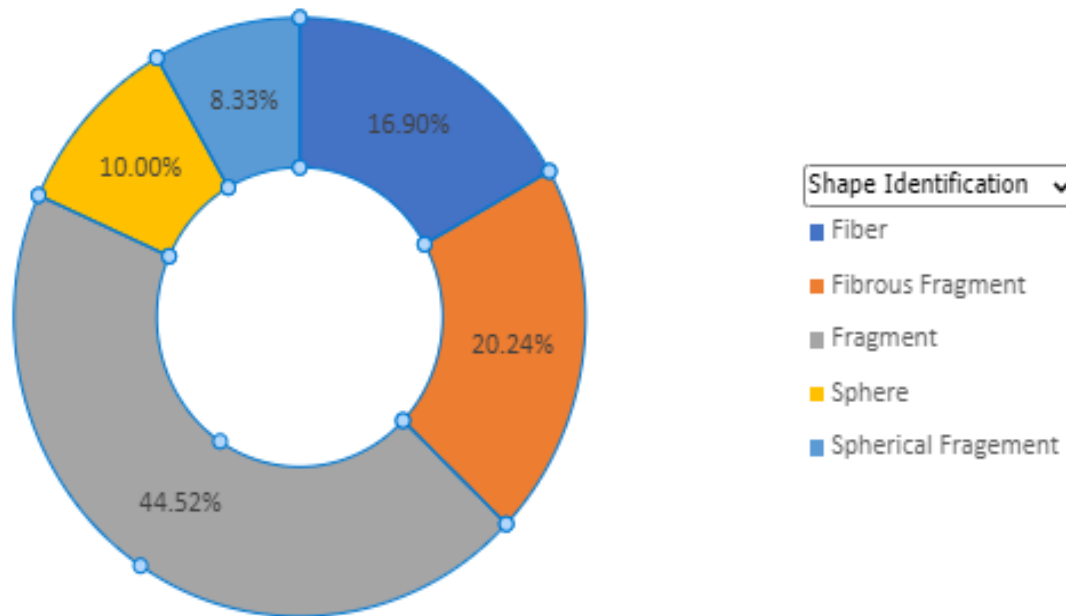
- Event 1: Sep 2022-Base flow of Missouri and Kansas river.
- Event 2: Oct 2022-Run off/High flow (Rain event).
- Event 3: Jan 2023 low flow for both rivers.

Region 3 Upstream and Downstream of Ethane cracker plant, samples Feb 2023

Count of Shape Identification

Upstream of cracker plant

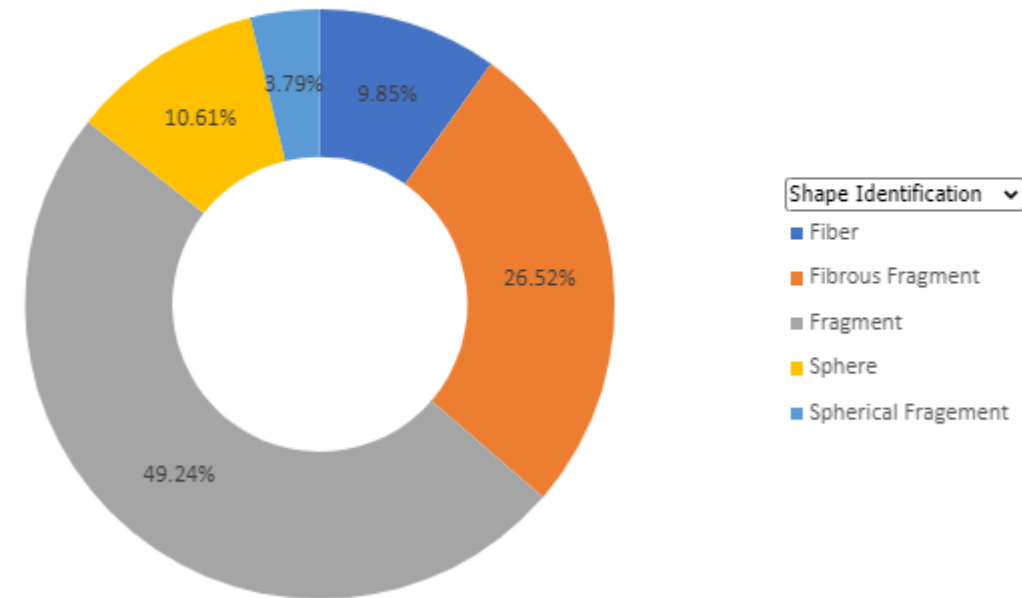
Total



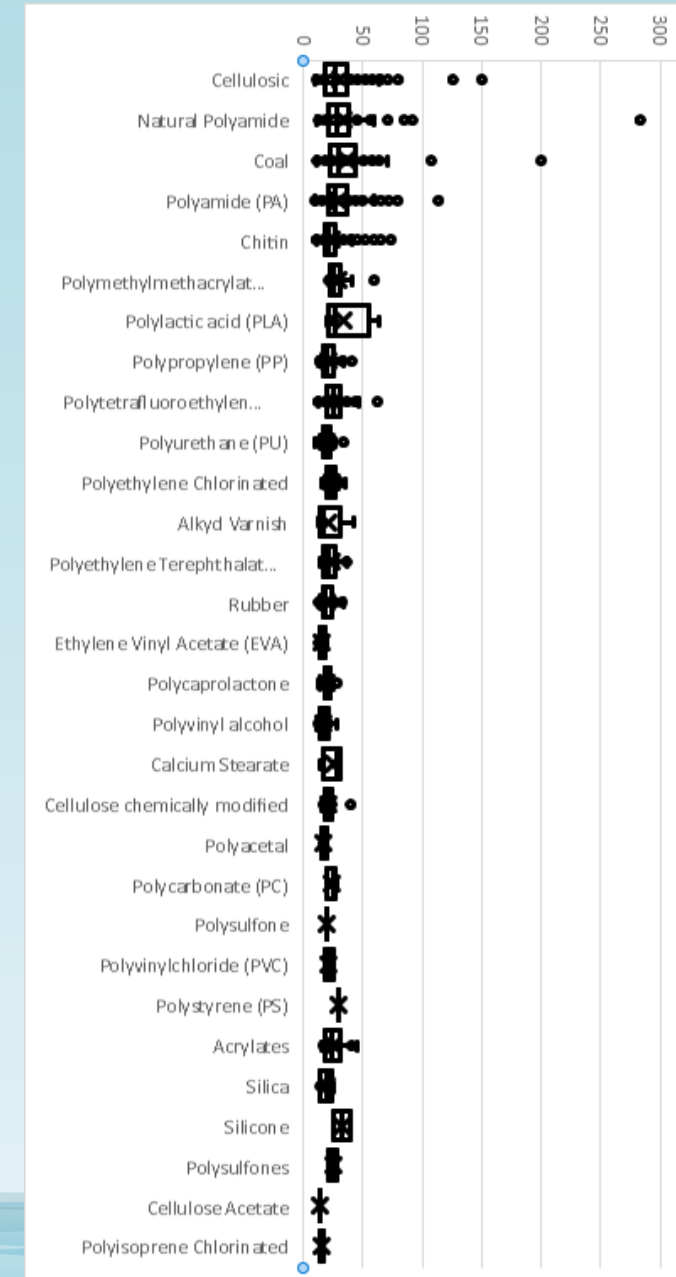
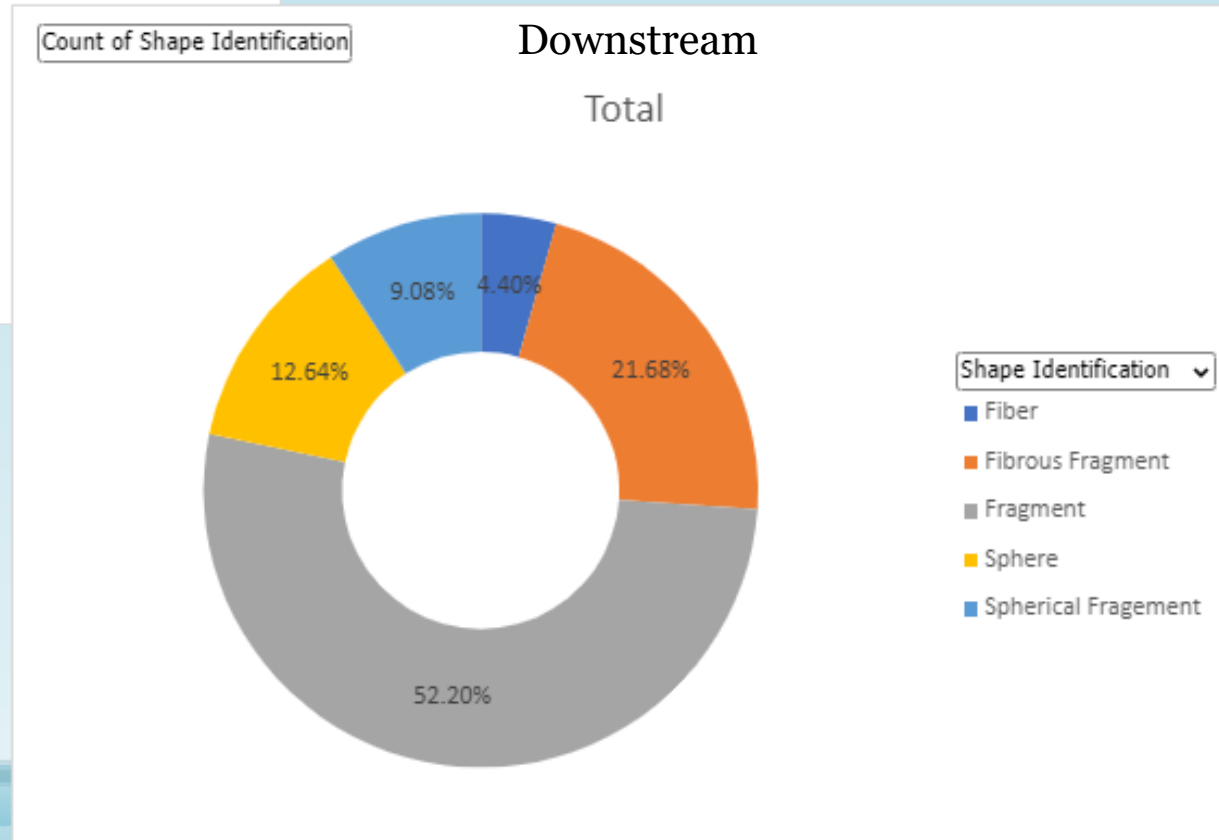
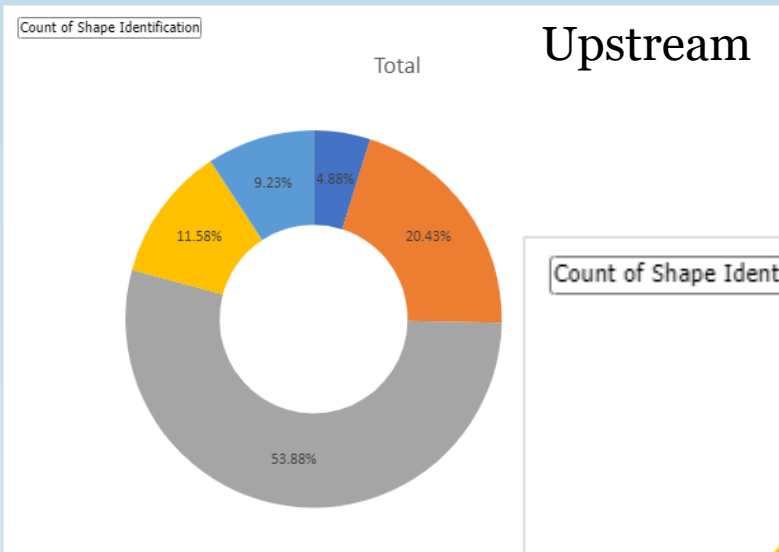
Count of Shape Identification

Downstream of Cracker and BASF facility

Total



Penn Plastic in Washington Co, PA



Conclusions to ROAR 2022

- Extraction, separation and analysis of MP reveal various polymer types, sizes, and shapes in urban watershed water.
- Abundance of anthropogenic MPs in urban watershed is contributed to multiple sources and the hydrodynamic in the watershed.
- Distribution of various MPs is source dependent.





Agenda Item 5:

Three Rivers Waterkeeper Plastics Monitoring in the Upper Ohio Basin

**Heather Hulton VanTassel, Three Rivers
Waterkeeper**



THREE RIVERS WATERKEEPER®

Three Rivers Waterkeeper's Programs and Plastics Monitoring in the Upper Ohio Basin

Heather Hulton VanTassel, Executive Director

Heather@ThreeRiversWaterKeeper.org

www.ThreeRiversWaterKeeper.org

Photo Credit: Dave DiCello

Three Rivers Waterkeeper

Mission

To protect the water quality of the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers, and their respective watersheds.

Vision

To have drinkable, fishable, swimmable waters in the Monongahela, Allegheny, and Ohio Rivers.

Member of the Waterkeeper Alliance

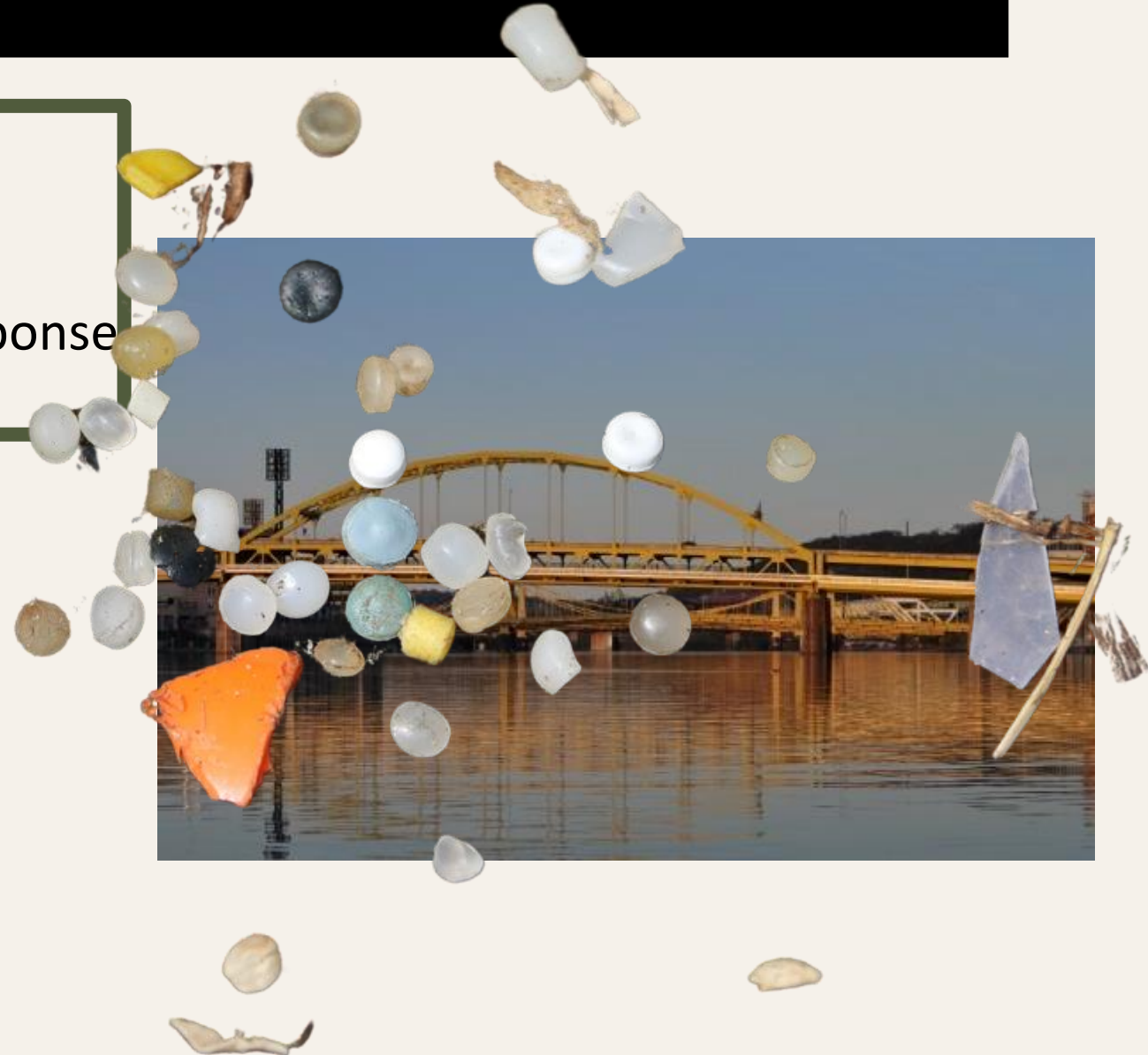


Three Rivers Waterkeeper



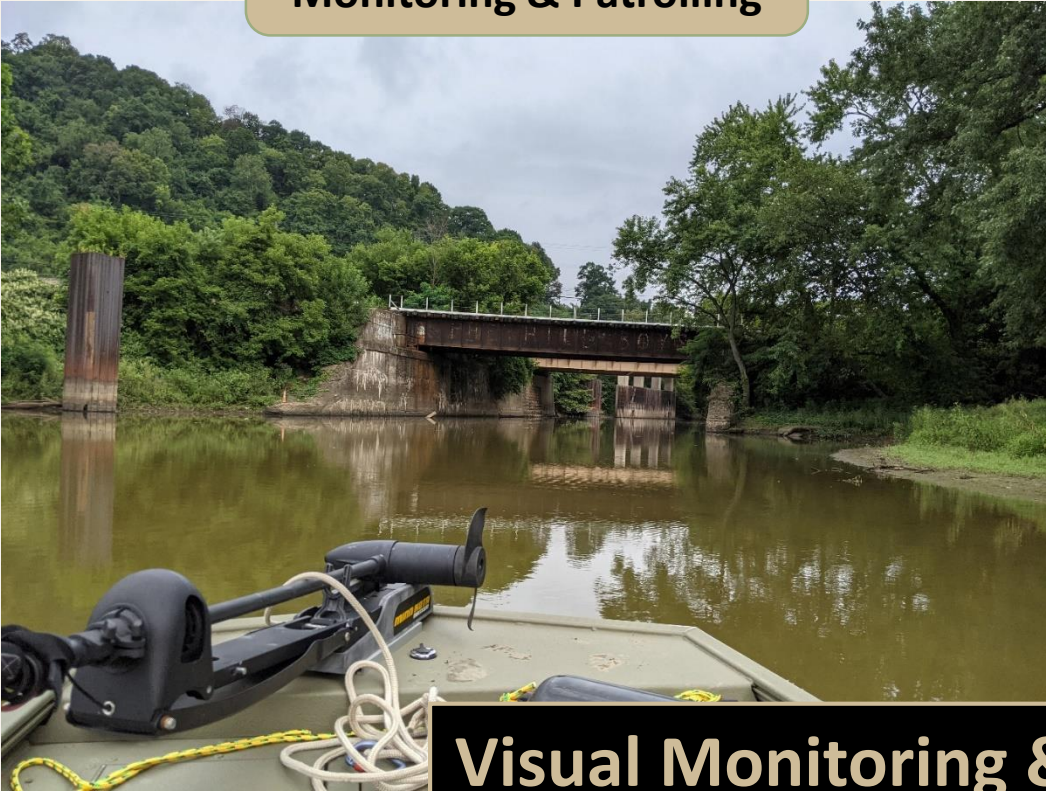
How do we protect our waters?

- On The Water
 - General Monitoring & Patrolling
 - Targeted monitoring & Pollution Response
- In the Community
 - Community Events
 - Education & Outreach
- Through Advocacy
 - Clean Water Laws Enforcement
 - *We hold polluters accountable!*

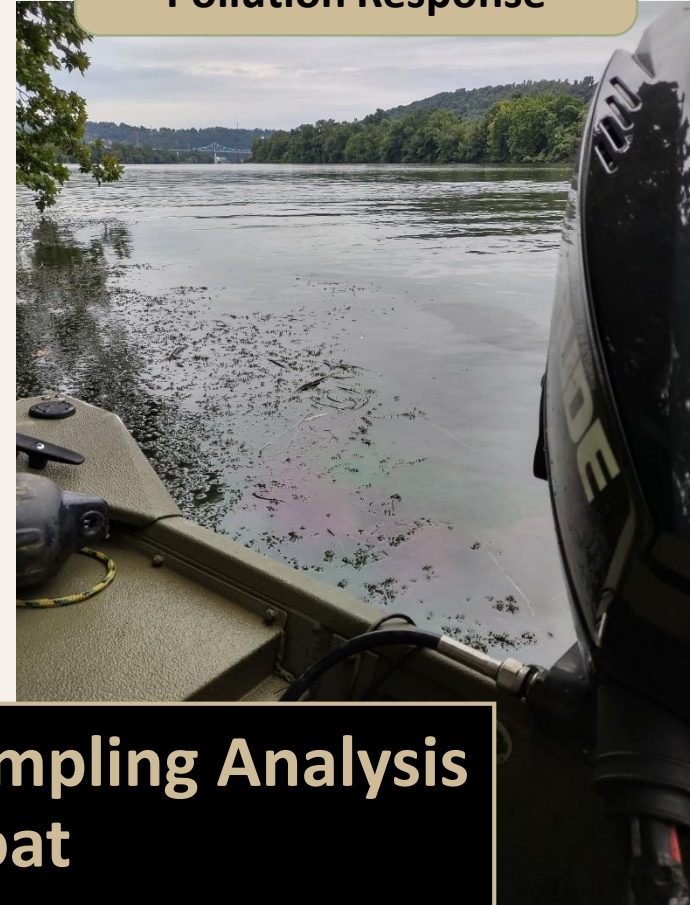


On-the-Water Programs

**General
Monitoring & Patrolling**

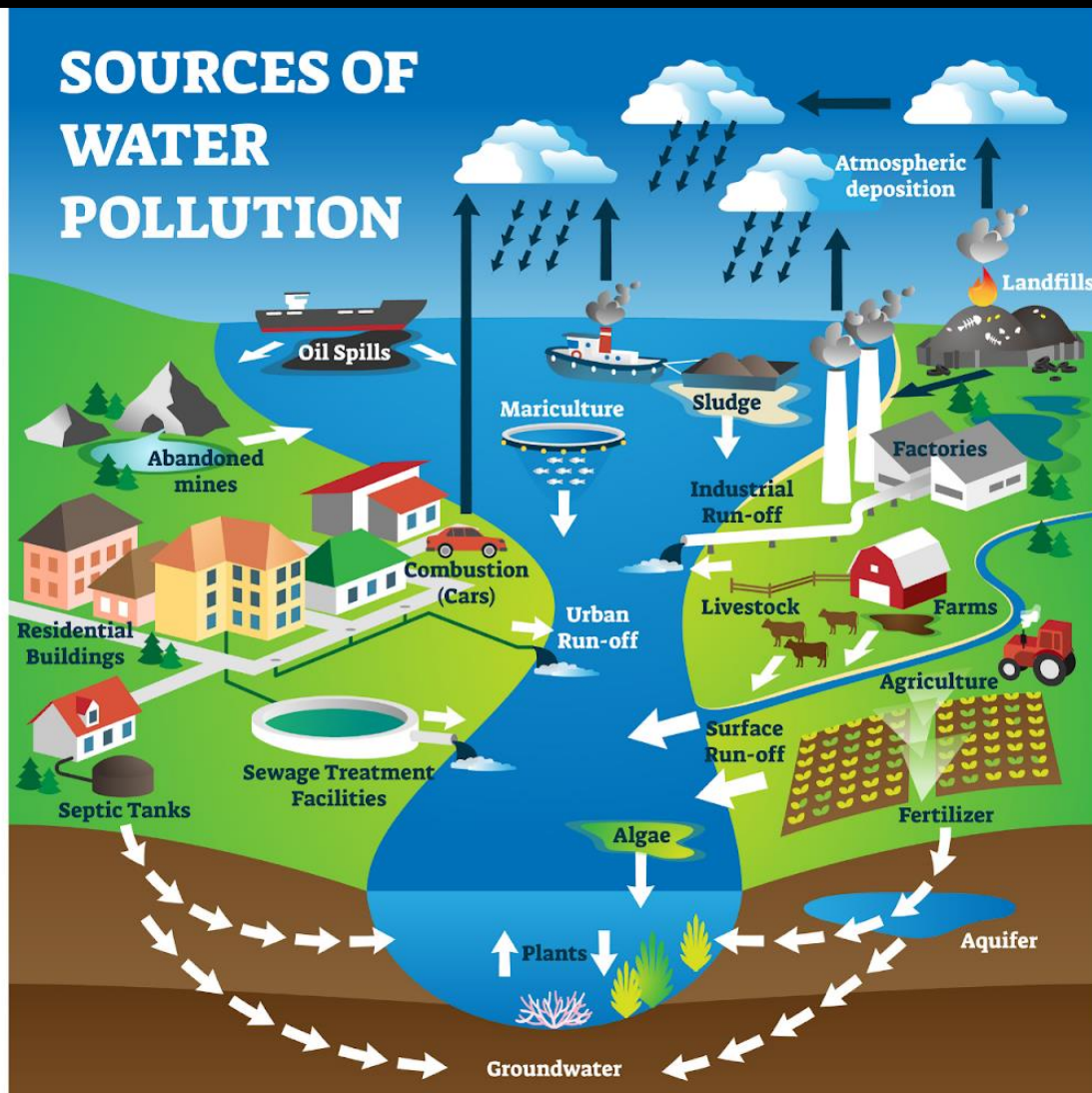


**Targeted Monitoring &
Pollution Response**



**Visual Monitoring & Water Sampling Analysis
By foot and by boat**

Where does pollution come from?



WATER POLLUTION

Water pollution occurs when water sources are contaminated by harmful substances which can lead to poor water quality. There are two types of water pollution:

POINT SOURCE

This is pollution that originates from a single source such as factory discharge into a river.

NONPOINT SOURCE

This is pollution that comes from many sources such as motor oil in a parking lot or pesticides and fertilizers from a farm or lawn.

CONNECT WITH US!

3RWK.ORG

 @3RWATERKEEPER
OPS@THREERIVERSWATERKEEPER.ORG

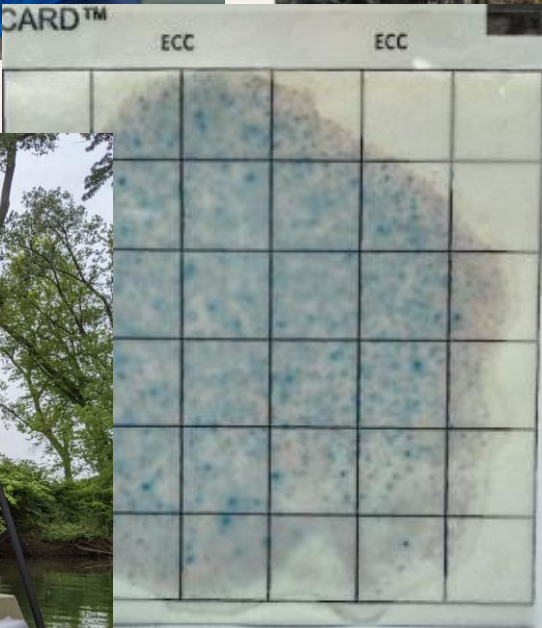
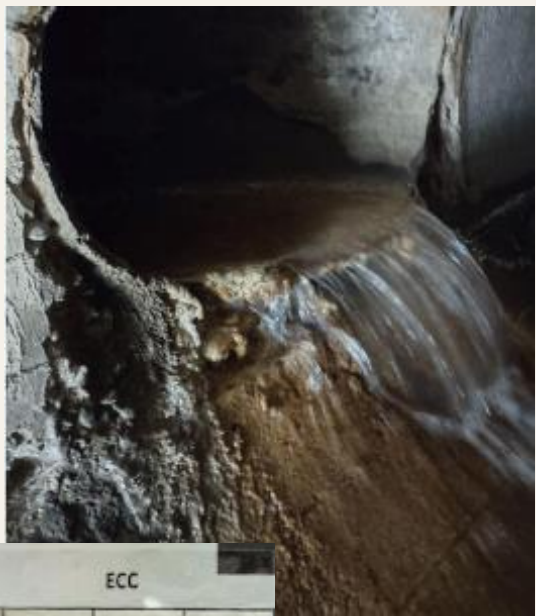


THREE RIVERS
WATERKEEPER®

Baseline Monitoring

- 2021 & 2022 Created a baseline of 25 sites along the three rivers with 4 season sampling with The Pittsburgh Water Collaboratory
 - <http://3rwk.org/baseline>
- Constantly re-evaluating and **building baseline data via general patrols**
 - Visual & Olfactory Monitoring
 - YSI & handheld meters
 - Water Samples & Lab Analysis





Iron Concentrations

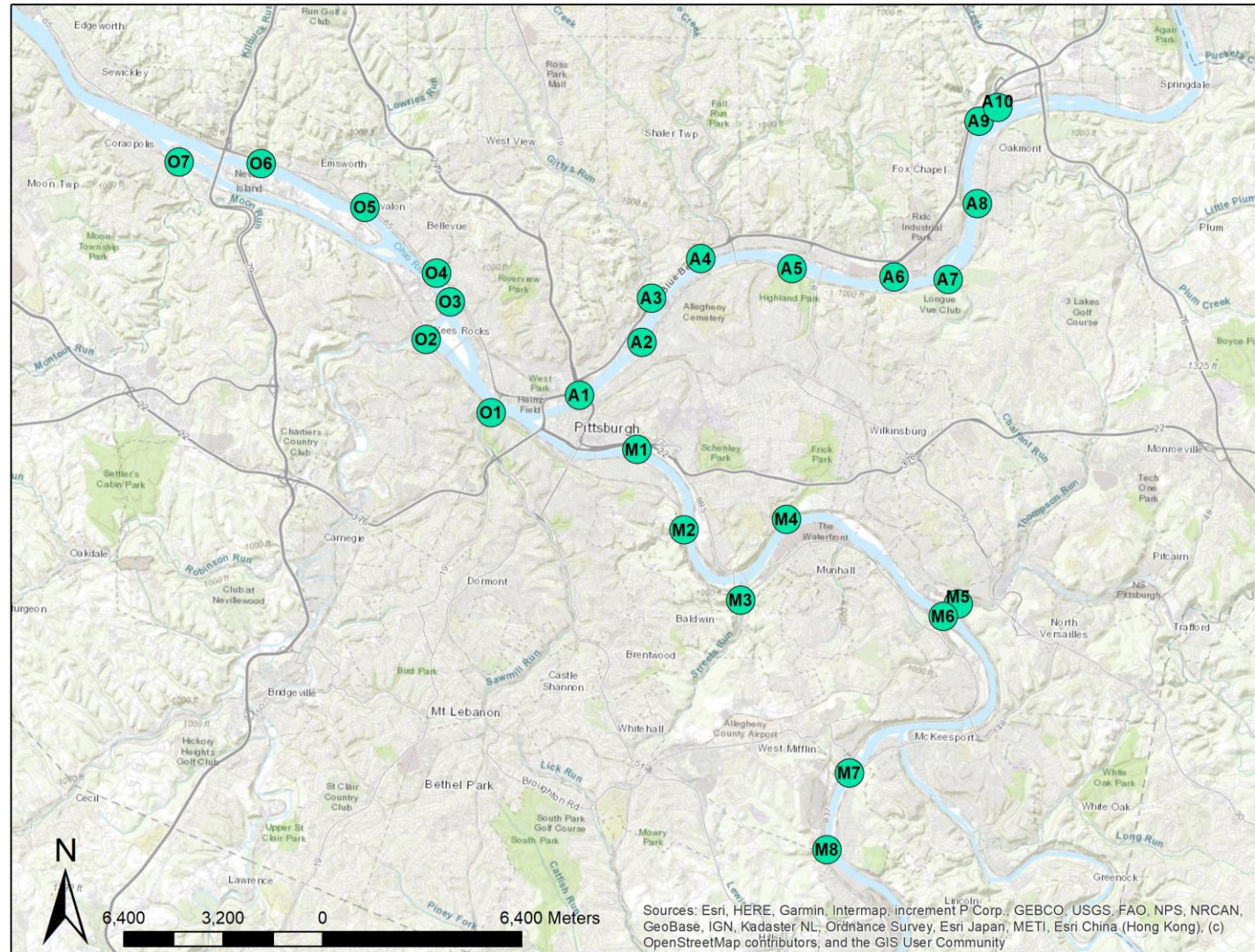
Iron concentrations are consistent in the streams draining to the Monongahela and Allegheny Rivers.

Quarter 1 (August 2022)

Quarter 2 (November 2022)

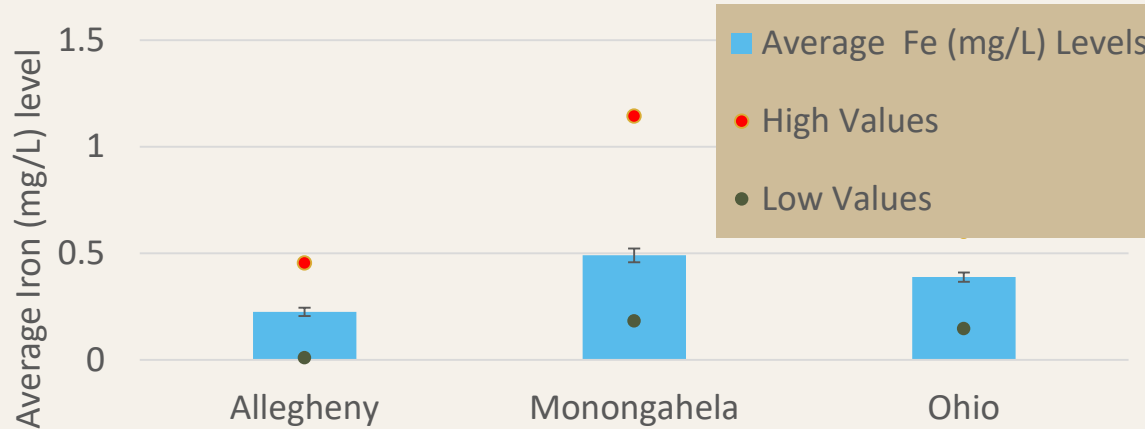
Quarter 3 (February 2023)

Quarter 4 (May 2023)

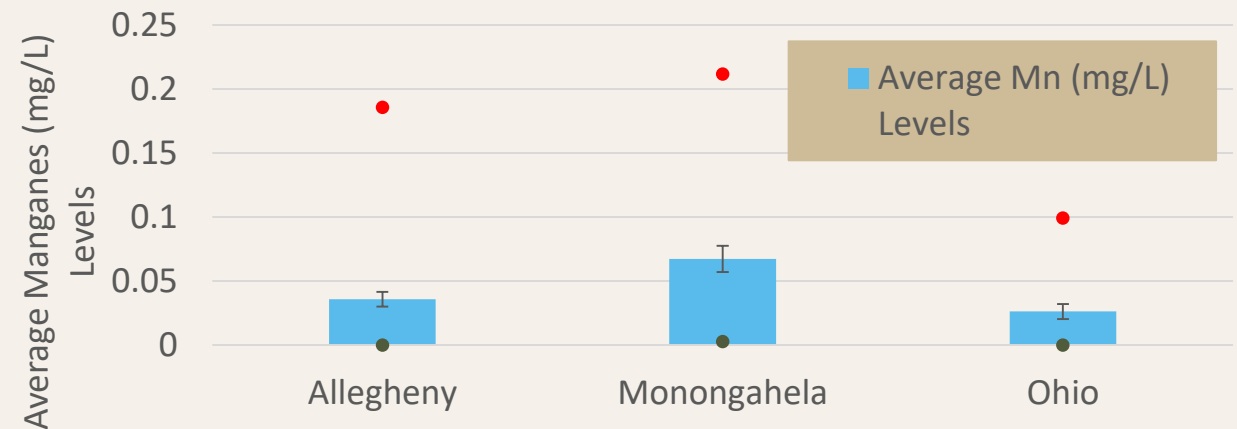


3rwk.org/baseline

Average Iron (mg/L) Levels by River
With Standard Error and Range



Average Manganese (mg/L) Levels by River
with Standard Error and Range



3rwk.org/baseline

2023 State of the Waters

- Spent over 1000 hours on-the-water, over 230 samples analyzed

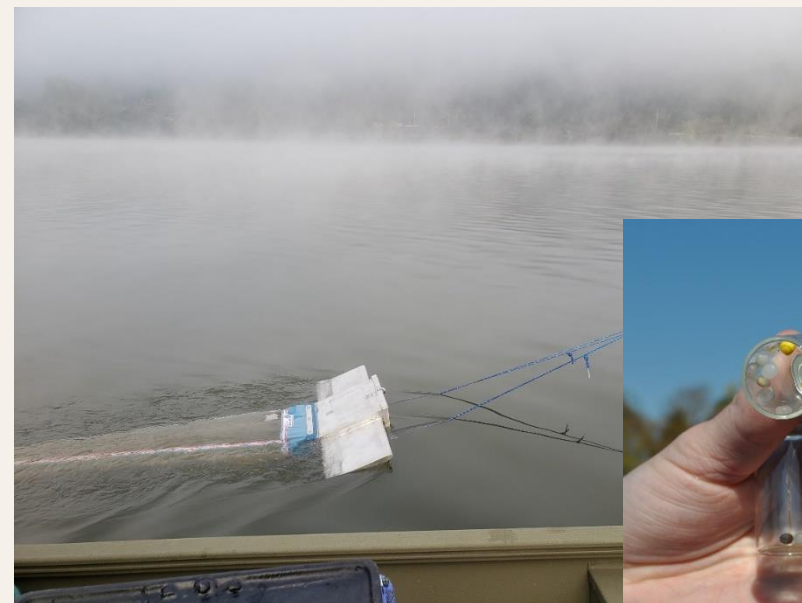
- General Monitoring
- PFAS
- Plastic Pellet (nurdles)
- Industrial Contaminants
- E coli (swim guide)
- Emergency or Pollution Response

Parameter	NUMBER OF TIMES EACH PARAMETER IS EXCEEDED CONCERNED LEVELS		
	Allegheny [4]	Monongahela [28]	Ohio [73]
Chloride (mg/L) [100]	0	16	33
TDS (mg/L) [1000]	2	0	14
pH [6.9-9.5]	2	0	8
Ammonia (NH3) (mg/L) [17]	0	0	0
Conductivity (µS/cm)[1500]	2	0	9
Salinity (ppm) [1000]	2	0	8
ORP (mV) [300-500]	2	7	20

<http://3rwk.org/2023WatersReport>

TARGETED Monitoring

- Monitoring Marcellus Shell Cracker Plant in Beaver County
 - Monthly Nurdle Patrols with Mountain Watershed Association
 - Water Quality Sampling with The Water Collaborative, 3Rivers Quest, and other partners
 - Frequent visual monitoring & assessments



Plastics Monitoring



Plastics Monitoring



Plastics Monitoring



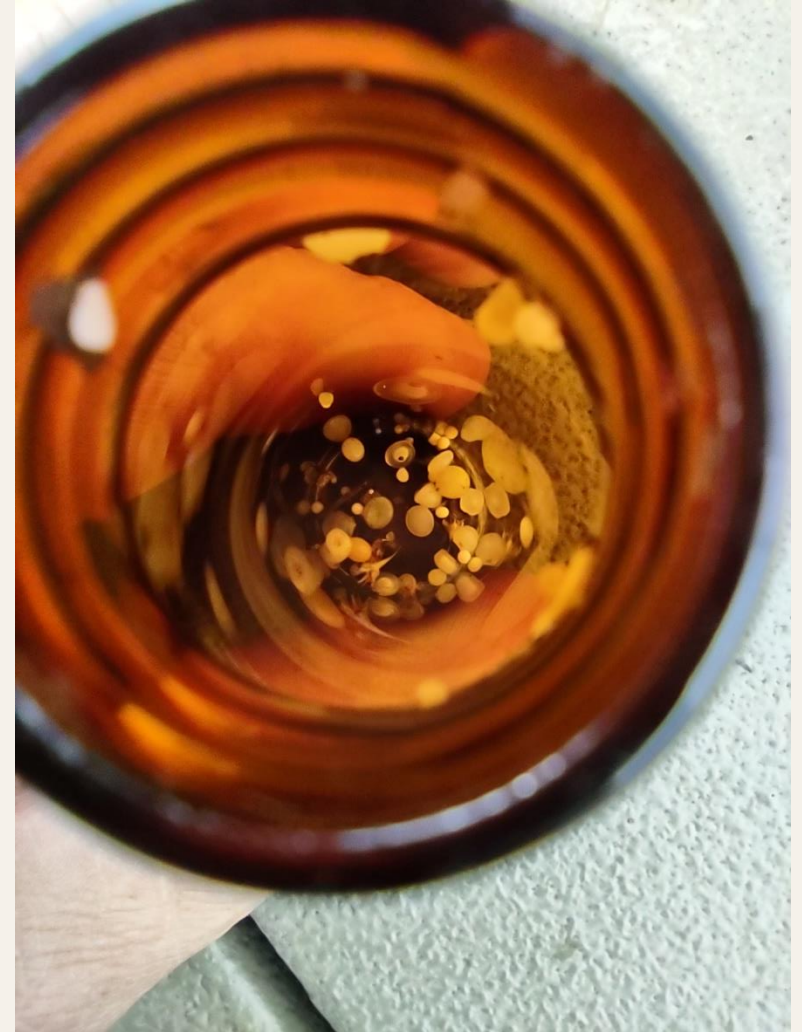
Plastics Monitoring



Plastics Monitoring



Plastics Monitoring



Monitor Spills & Major Incidents



Monitor Spills & Major Incidents



How do we protect our waters?

- On The Water
 - General Monitoring & Patrolling
 - Targeted monitoring & Pollution Response

- In the Community
 - Community Events
 - Education & Outreach

- Through Advocacy
 - Clean Water Laws Enforcement
 - *We hold polluters accountable!*



In the Community

Community Education

- Connecting land activities to water quality
- Education on pollution issues are prevalent in our rivers
- Amplify our right to clean water
- Stewardship

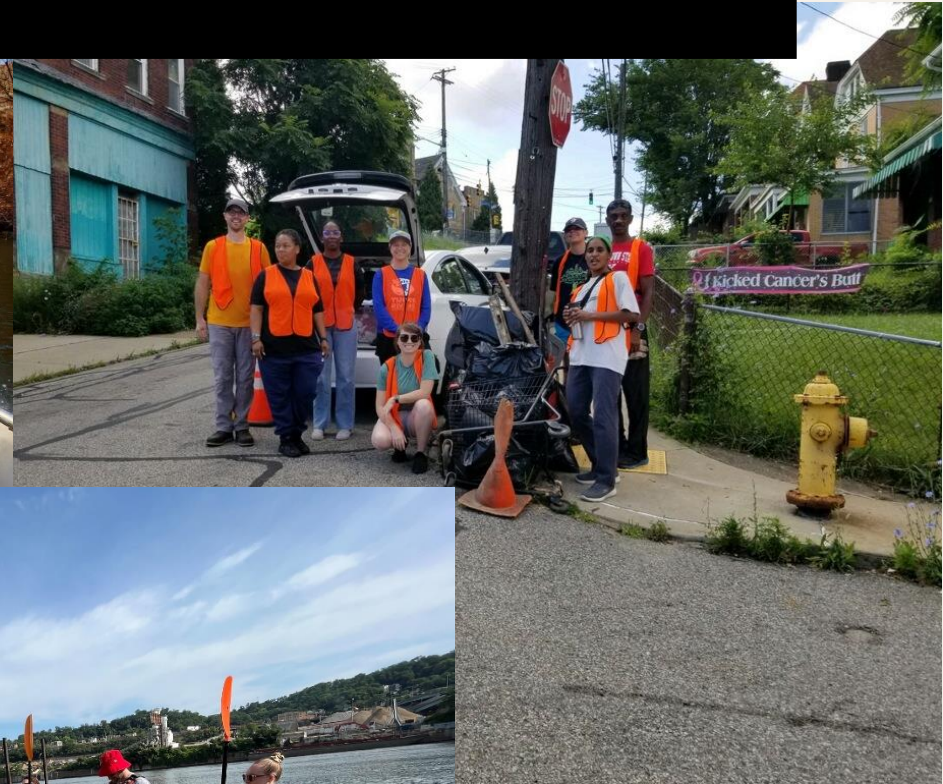
3 Rivers Ambassador

- 3 Rivers Watch Program
- Water Ecology & Art-based programming
- Stewardship

<https://3rwk.org/Events>



Sense of Community & Love for our Rivers



Community Nurdle Patrols



Upcoming Events!

October 13th: Colors of the River at Powdermill Nature Reserve

Time: 1 PM - 2:30 PM

Location: *Powdermill Nature Reserve Visitor Center - 1795 PA-381, Rector, PA 15677*

October 22nd: How to Be A Water Advocate (Brookline)

Time: 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM

Location: *Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh - Beechview, 1910 Broadway Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15216*


October 26th: Creatures of the Watershed - A Big Sewickley Creek Nature Festival

Time: 11 AM - 4 PM

Location: *Big Sewickley Creek Fire Hall: 1850 Big Sewickley Creek Rd, Sewickley, PA 15143*

<http://3rwk.org/EVENTS>

Upcoming Events!



DRINK YOUR WATERSHED
THREE RIVERS WATERKEEPER'S
ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR CLEAN WATER

COME JOIN!

NOVEMBER 2
2024

GET YOUR
TICKET TODAY!

5:00PM -
9:00PM

PITTSBURGH BREWING COMPANY

<http://3rwk.org/water>

How do we protect our waters?

- On The Water
 - General Monitoring & Patrolling
 - Targeted monitoring & Pollution Response
- In the Community
 - Community Events
 - Education & Outreach
- Through Advocacy
 - Clean Water Laws Enforcement
 - *We hold polluters accountable!*



Through Advocacy

Finding Evidence of Pollution
On the water programs



Empowering & Educating
Communities
In the community programs



Holding Polluters Accountable
Through Advocacy

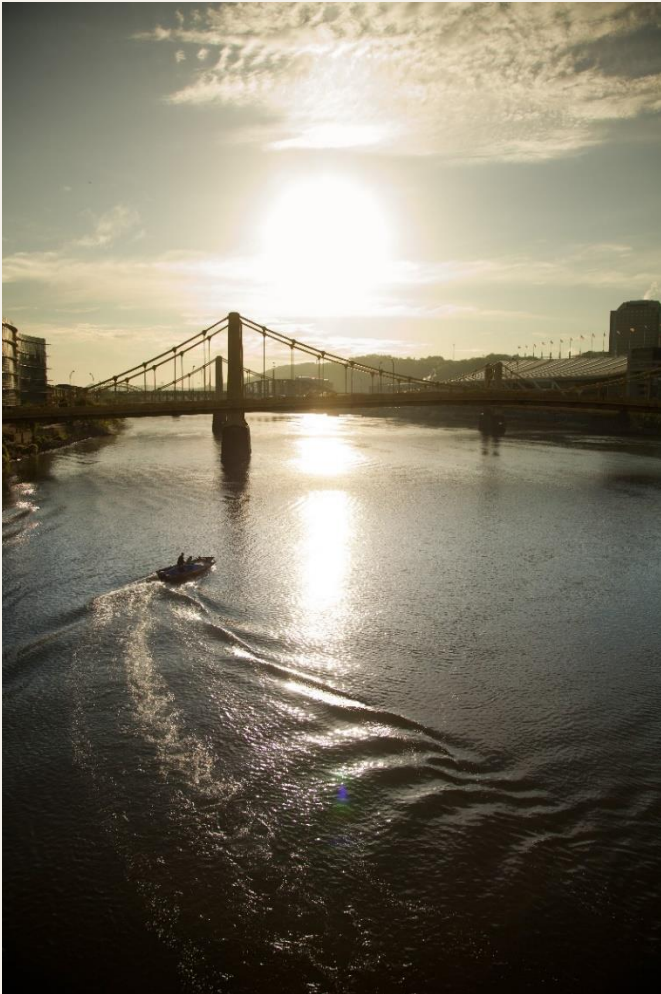
Through Advocacy

Enforcement our Right to Clean Water

Scientific and Legal Advocate for our

CLEAN WATER LAWS

- ◆ Clean Water Act
- ◆ PA Clean Streams Law
- ◆ Safe Drinking Water Act



How we Advocate

Prevent Pollution

- Rulemaking Comments and Hearings
- NPDES & Zoning Permit Monitoring

Enforce Current Regulations

- Rulemaking Comments and Hearings
- Legal Research

Decrease Pollution Allowances

- Rulemaking Comments and Hearings
- Legal Research

Hold Polluters Accountable

- Pressure on Regulators
- Litigation



76 Actions in 2023

60+ Actions in 2024 to-date

Plastics Advocacy



Finding Evidence of Pollution
On the water programs



Empowering & Educating
Communities
In the community programs



Holding Polluters Accountable
Through Advocacy

Current Advocacy

STYROPEK FACILITY ALLEGEDLY IN VIOLATION OF THE FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT



On December 5, 2023, PennEnvironment and Three Rivers Waterkeeper filed a federal lawsuit against BVPV Styrenics LLC and its parent company, Styropek USA, Inc.

Thank you!

@3RWaterkeeper



Heather Hulton VanTassel

Heather@ThreeRiversWaterKeeper.org

<https://3rwk.org/Newsletter>

<http://3rwk.org/EVENTS>

<http://3rwk.org/Harmar>

<http://3rwk.org/sulphurrun>

<http://3rwk.org/PFASreport>

<http://3rwk.org/swim>

<http://3rwk.org/Annual23>



See Pollution? Report Pollution.

It is always better to overreport than assume what you see is less serious.

CALL

Safety is always the number one priority. Call 911 if you suspect an emergency or call one of the following pollution contacts:

Three Rivers Waterkeeper: **412-589-9411**

Southwest PA DEP hotline: **412-442-4000**

PA Fish and Boat : **855-347-4545**

EPA Region 3: **1-800-424-8802**


DOCUMENT

Take pictures and document the visuals, smells, time and location.

Obtain as much information as possible while remaining safe and following all laws.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT
3RWK.ORG

REPORT ONLINE

1. Submit a report for free at WaterReporter.org
2. Submit a report to us using this QR Code 
3. Follow and tag us on social media

@3RWaterkeeper

#3RiversWatch

or email us at ops@threeriverswaterkeeper.org



Monitor Spills & Major Incidents



[ohurrun](#)



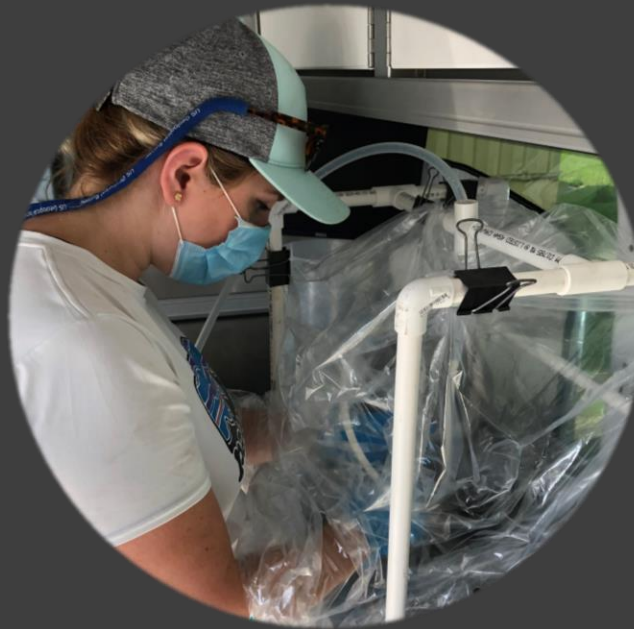
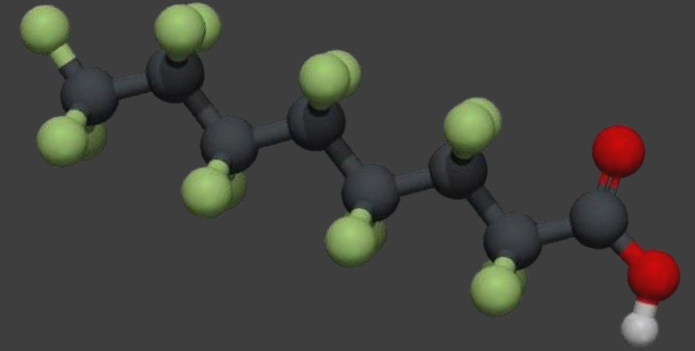
Agenda Item 6:

Occurrence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in West Virginia's Public Water Supplies

Mitch McAdoo, USGS, WV Science Center

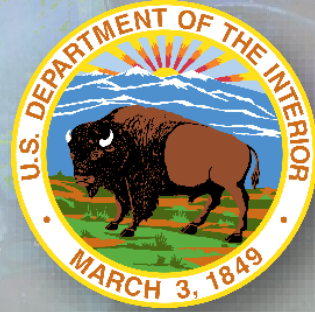
Occurrence of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances in West Virginia's Public Water Supplies

Mitch McAdoo, Hydrologist



Outline

- **USGS Overview**
- **Description of PFAS**
- **Timeline of PFAS studies**
- **Ohio River Valley Studies**
- **PFAS in source water**
- **PFAS in drinking water**
- **Future PFAS studies in WV**



USGS serves the Nation by providing reliable scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy, and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.

USGS Virginia & West Virginia Water Science Center



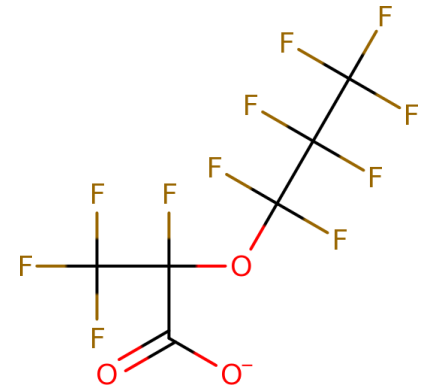
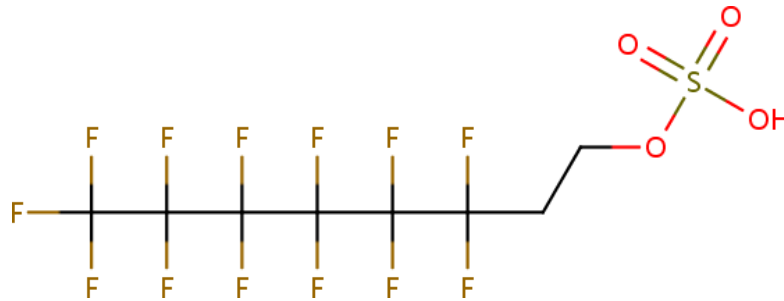
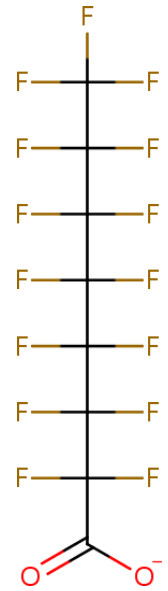
≈ 30 scientists

≈ 40 technicians

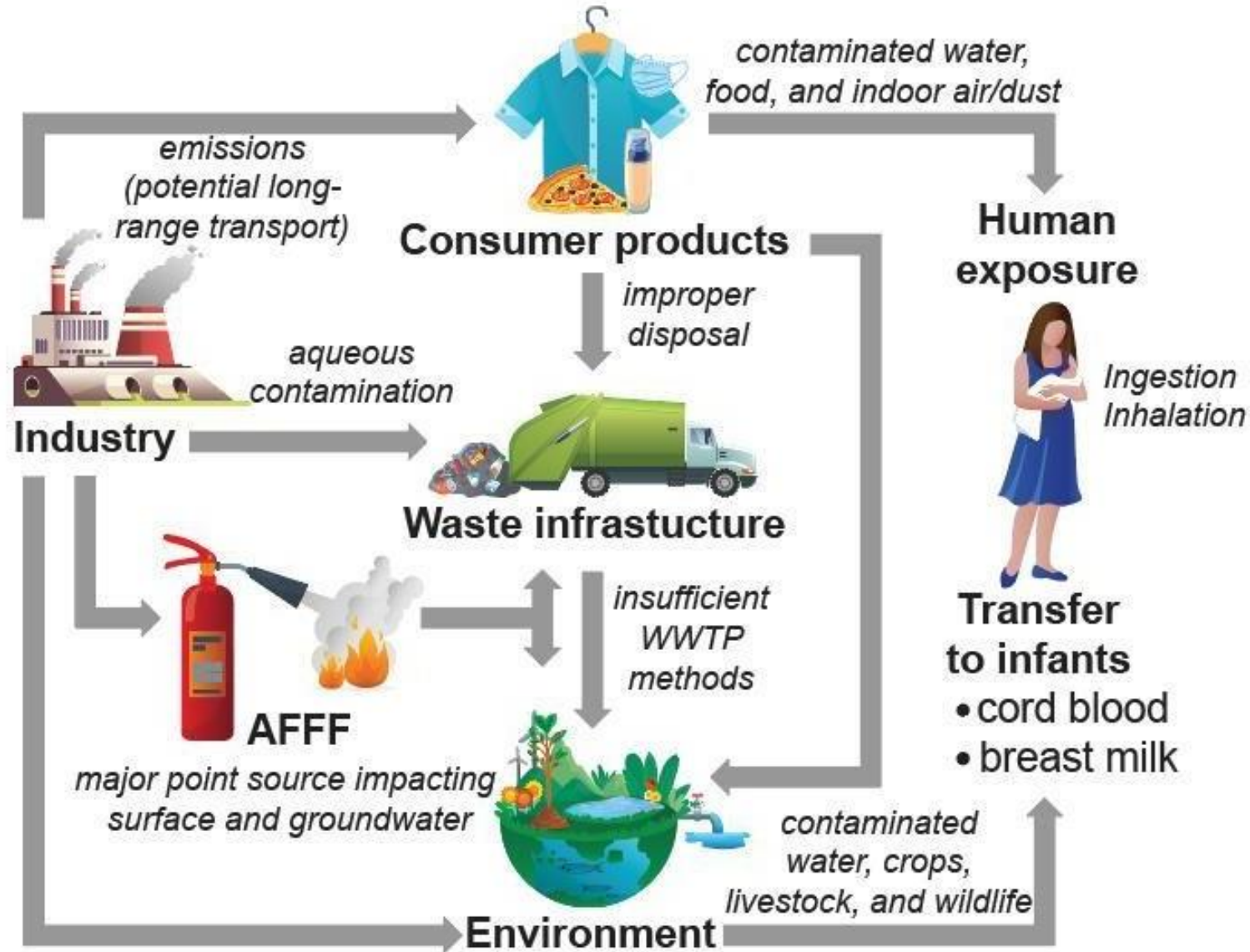
≈ 10 management & support

What are Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)?

- Family of thousands of synthetic organic compounds
- Used in numerous industrial applications
- Used in numerous consumer products
- Used in aqueous film forming foam (AFFF)
- Persistent in the environment
- The subject of several state and federal regulatory actions



PFAS Sources and Exposure Pathways



After Sunderland and others, 2019

A. PFAS Family Tree Explanation

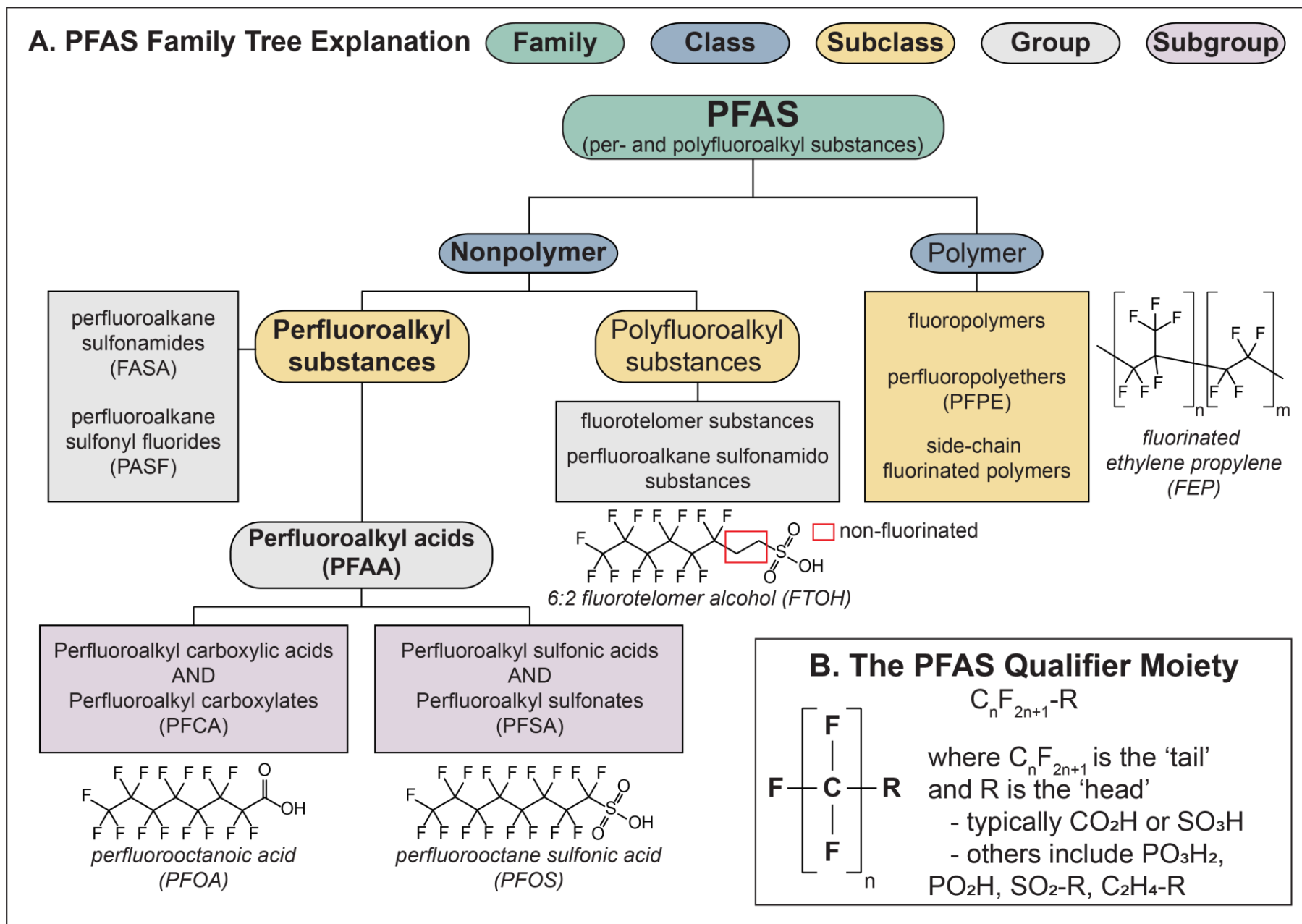
Family

Class

Subclass

Group

Subgroup

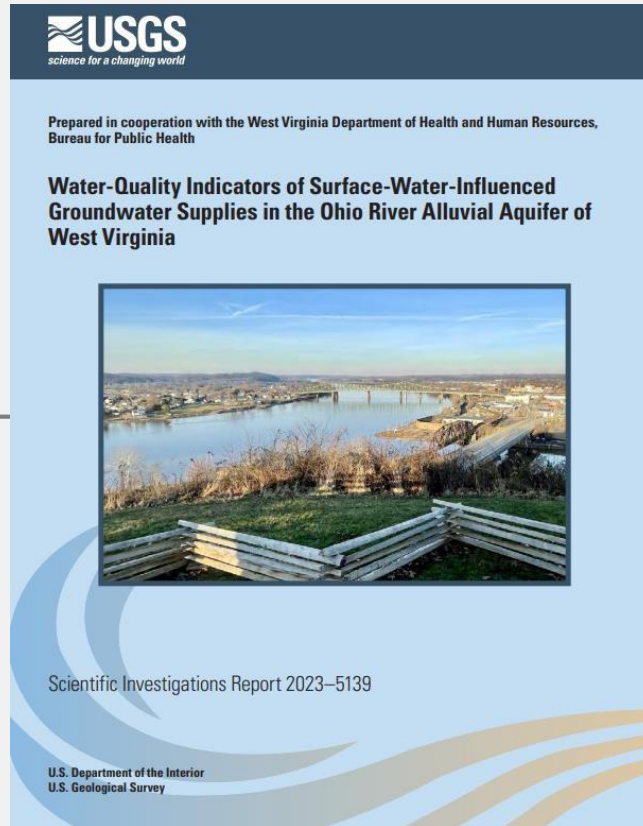


Timeline of PFAS Projects in WV

Spring 2019



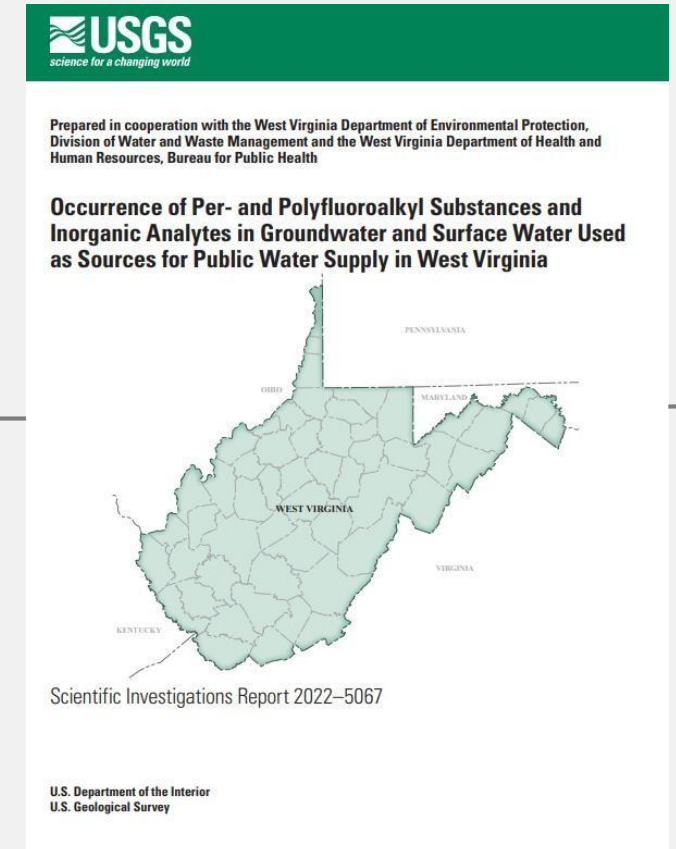
WVDH OR
Alluvium



WVDEP
Source water



July 2020



Timeline of PFAS Projects in WV

Oct 2022



WVDH
Finished Water

Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Drinking Water at Select Public Water Systems in West Virginia, 2022 View

Dates
Publication Date : 2023-05-04
Start Date : 2022-07-27
End Date : 2023-01-11

Citation
McAdoo, M.A., 2023, Per- and polyfluoroalkyl Substances in Drinking Water at Select Public Water Systems in West Virginia, 2022: U.S. Geological Survey data release, <https://doi.org/10.5066/P9WZ9Y4K>.

Summary
These data were collected to understand the occurrence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in drinking water samples at public water systems identified to have perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) or perfluorooctane sulfonic acid (PFOS) above laboratory reporting levels in previously collected raw-water samples (McAdoo and others, 2022), and provide a review of the analytical results. These data are stored in the USGS National Water Information System (NWIS) but are not available to the public from that platform because West Virginia State Law §22-26-4, and USGS policy concerning the release of sensitive water related information, prohibits the release of public water system infrastructure location information. This USGS data release serves as the public release of available data for this project and provides a reference location for all users. Additional identifying information for public water systems related to these data are provided by WVDHHR at the following website: <https://oehs.wvdhhr.org/media/ueulasaq/usgs-sir-2022-site-key.pdf>.

Description of Available Datasets:
These data are available in Excel (.xlsx) files that contain water-quality and quality-assurance results. The Excel files are duplicated as tab-delimited text files to increase accessibility to nonproprietary formats. The files titled WV_PFAS_Finished_Water_Results contain analytical results for PFAS in drinking water collected at 39 public water systems. [... show more ...](#)

Contacts
Point of Contact : Mitchell A McAdoo, North Atlantic Appalachian Region: Virginia and West Virginia Water Science Center
Originator : Mitchell A McAdoo
Metadata Contact : Mitchell A McAdoo, US Geological Survey West Virginia Water Science Center
Publisher : U.S. Geological Survey
Distributor : U.S. Geological Survey - ScienceBase
SDC Data Owner : Virginia and West Virginia Water Science Center
USGS Mission Area : Water Resources

Map »

Spatial Services
ScienceBase WMS : <https://www.sciencebase.gov/catalog>

Communities
USGS Data Release Products

Tags
Categories : Data
Harvest Set : USGS Science Data Catalog (SDC)
Theme : PFAS, per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances, water quality
Place : West Virginia
USGS Scientific Topic Keyword : Environmental Health
Types : Map Service, OGC WFS Layer, OGC WMS Layer, OGC WMS Service

Provenance

WVDEP
Finished Water



June 2024
In Progress

In Development

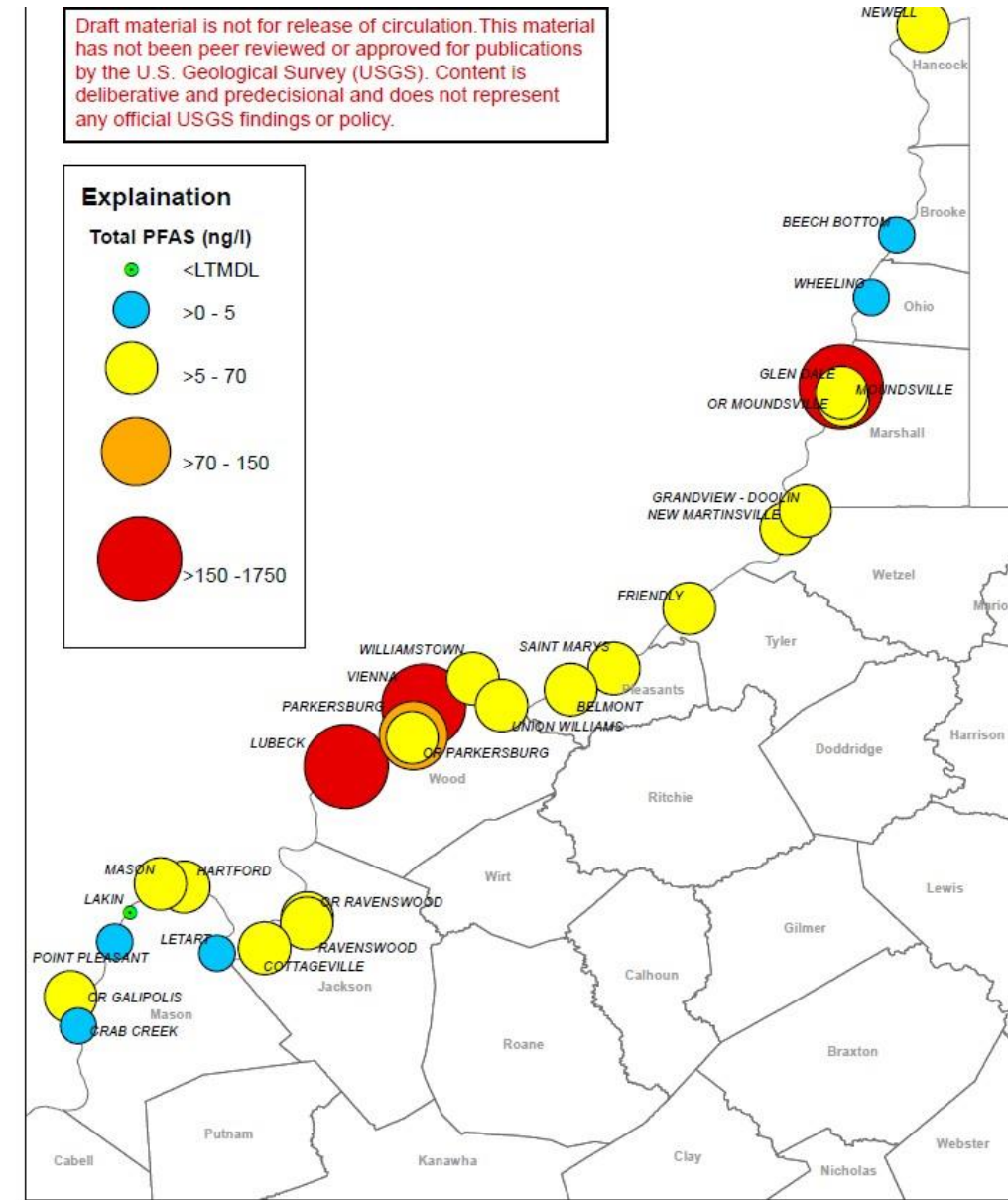


WVDEP
Source Tracking



Spring 2019: Ohio River Valley Alluvium Studies

- USGS NAWQA initiated a study to understand water quality in the Ohio River Valley alluvial aquifer (5 sites)
- DHHR funded additional sampling at several public water systems
- PFAS was sampled at all sites but was not the specific objective of the projects
- At this time health advisory for PFAS was 70 ng/L PFOA+PFOS
- PFAS was found at almost all of the sites we sampled



Fall 2019: WV PFAS Work Group

- State regulatory agencies called a meeting to discuss results and establish a PFAS work group consisting of WVDEP, WVDH, and USGS
- The work group concluded that initial results from the Ohio River Valley Alluvium necessitated additional sampling of source water at all public water systems
- WV legislature recognized the need for additional data and passed Senate Concurrent Resolution 46 (SCR46)



Senate Concurrent Resolution 46 of 2020

- First study specifically focused on understanding PFAS occurrence and distribution in WV source water

“Requesting the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Health and Human Resources cooperatively propose and initiate a public source-water supply study plan to sample perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances for all community water systems in West Virginia, including schools and daycares that operate treatment systems regulated by the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources.”

https://www.wvlegislature.gov/bill_status/bills_text.cfm?billdoc=SCR46%20ORG.htm&yr=2020&sesstype=RS&i=46&house=orig=s&billtype=cr



Spring 2020: WV Source Water Study

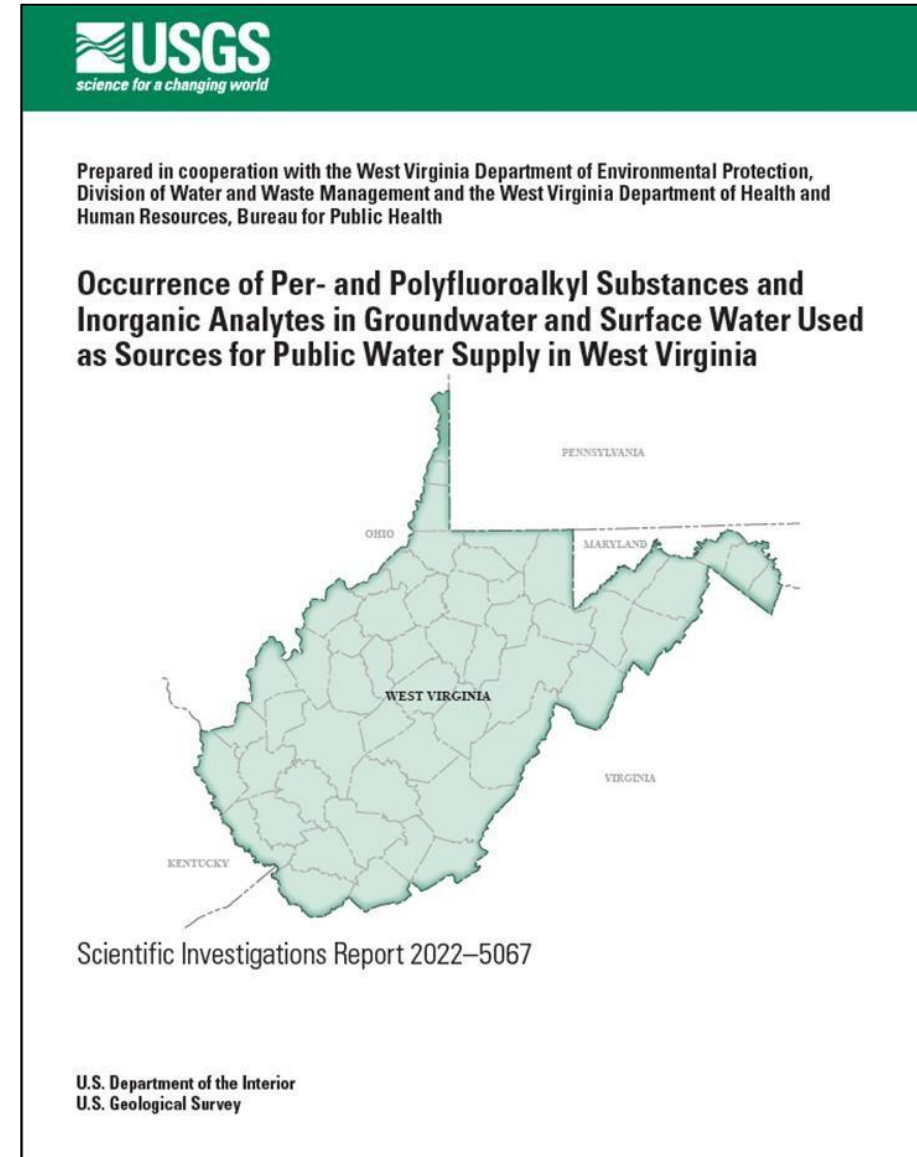
Meet the Requirements of SCR46

1. Identify drinking water sources with measurable amounts of PFAS
2. Determine processes or land use factors affecting PFAS concentrations
3. Inform state agencies of any need for additional PFAS investigation
4. Assist state regulatory agencies in protecting public health by providing information on statewide PFAS distribution in source water



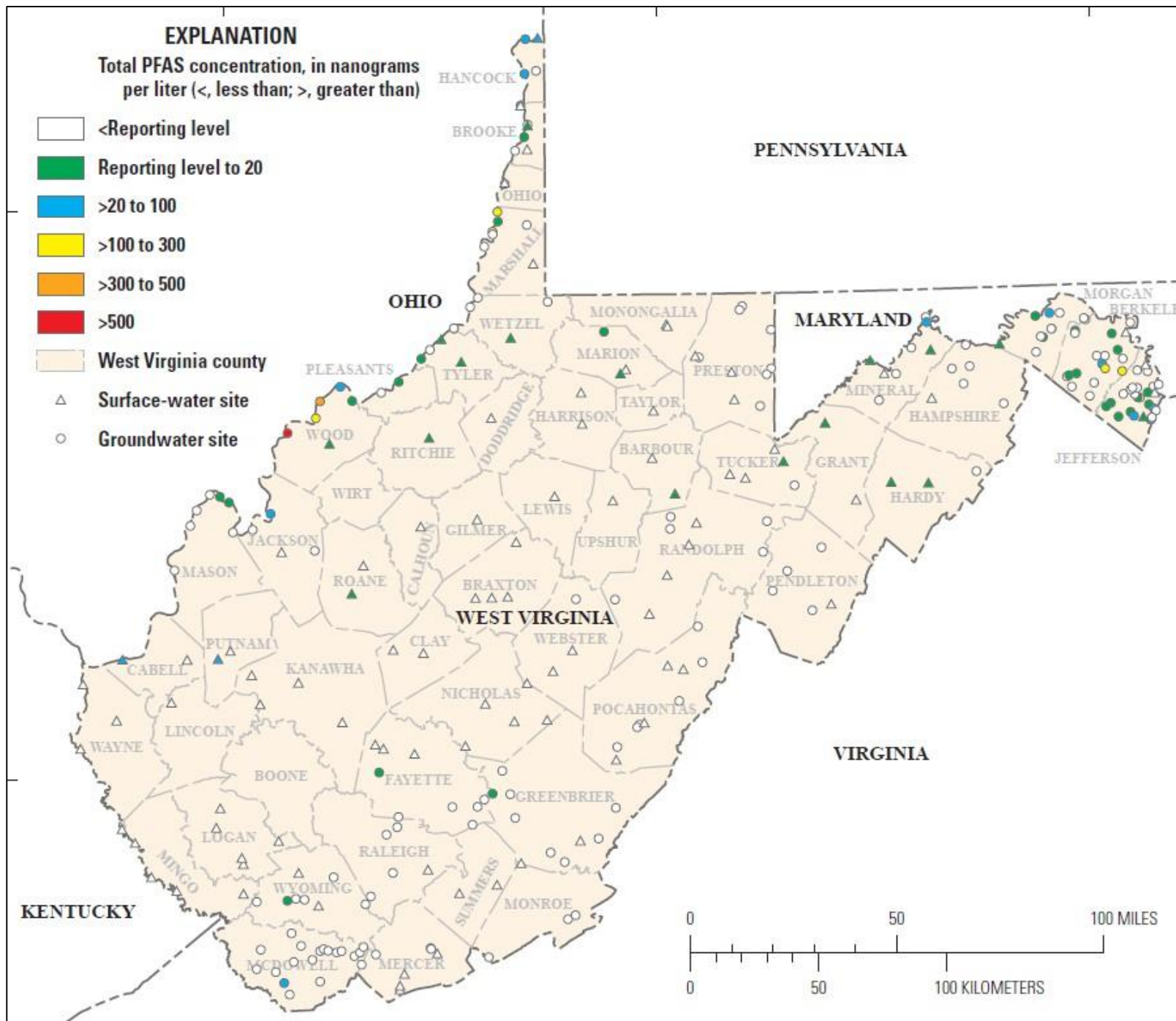
Source Water Study Results

- 279 sites were sampled between 2019 -2021
- Method 537m, 28 analytes
- USGS Scientific Investigations report published in summer 2022
- 67 (24%) of sites had at least one PFAS detected above the reporting level
- 37 (13%) sites had detections for PFOA or PFOS above the reporting level



Source Water Study Results

- Most of the source water in West Virginia is potentially susceptible to PFAS contamination if a source of PFAS exists within the source area
- Ohio River Valley is the most vulnerable region to PFAS contamination in the state of West Virginia for surface water and groundwater
- Three counties of Morgan, Berkely, and Jefferson in the Eastern Panhandle of West Virginia are also highly vulnerable to PFAS contamination



Questions and Possible Future Investigations

- What is the PFAS concentration in treated finished water at sites that had detections for PFAS?
 - Sample finished water at public-water systems. (in progress)
- What is the distribution of PFAS in domestic wells in areas of contamination or where there is a lack of groundwater data?
 - Sample domestic wells in specified locations.
- What are the major sources and exposure pathways of PFAS in West Virginia?
 - Sample suspected sources contributing PFAS to public-water supplies and understand how those PFAS sources affect drinking water, fish tissue, and other pathways of human exposure.
- What are influences on transformation and change in PFAS concentrations over time in surface water and groundwater?
 - Long-term monitoring for PFAS in groundwater, surface water, sediment, and tissues to understand PFAS fate and transport in areas of known contamination.

Spring 2022: Sample finished water at 37 sites

- 37 sites with detections of PFOA or PFOS over the reporting level
- Drinking water sampled fall 2022
- USGS Data Release Published Spring 2023
- 19 systems exceeded the new proposed EPA MCL's



EPA Proposed MCL's as of 6/8/2023

Compound	Proposed MCLG	Proposed MCL (enforceable levels)
PFOA	Zero	4.0 parts per trillion (also expressed as ng/L)
PFOS	Zero	4.0 ppt
PFNA	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index	1.0 (unitless) Hazard Index
PFHxS		
PFBS		
HFPO-DA (commonly referred to as GenX Chemicals)		

$$\text{Hazard Index} = \left(\frac{[\text{GenX}_{\text{water}}]}{[10 \text{ ppt}]} \right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFBS}_{\text{water}}]}{[2000 \text{ ppt}]} \right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFNA}_{\text{water}}]}{[10 \text{ ppt}]} \right) + \left(\frac{[\text{PFHxS}_{\text{water}}]}{[9.0 \text{ ppt}]} \right)$$



Spring 2023: WV PFAS Protection Act

- WV Legislature passed the PFAS Protection Act
- Requires WVDEP create PFAS action plans for 37 systems where PFOA, PFOS, HFPO-DA or PFBS was detected above reporting levels in raw water
- Requires WVDEP initiate a plan to sample additional sites with detection of PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, HFPO-DA above minimum detection levels and HA's (n=100)
- Requires WVDEP create PFAS action plans for any system with detections of PFOA, PFOS, PFBS, or HFPO-DA above health advisory in finished water



Spring 2024: Finished Water Study

- In progress
- Sample finished water at additional 110 public water systems
- Meet finished drinking water sampling requirements of PFAS protection Act
- All sites have been sampled
- Waiting for results from lab



In Development: Source Tracking Study

- Proposal in development to assist WVDEP in identifying PFAS sources affecting public water supplies



Identification of PFAS Sources Impacting Selected Public Water Systems in West Virginia

Virginia and West Virginia Water Science Center

Purpose and Scope

The US Geological Survey (USGS), in cooperation with West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection (WVDEP) and West Virginia Department of Health (WVDH), has conducted previous investigations to understand the occurrence and distribution of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in West Virginia's public water supplies (McAdoo and others, 2022; McAdoo, 2023) but sources of PFAS affecting many sites have not been identified. This document outlines an approach for the U.S. Geological Survey to assist WVDEP in identifying sources of PFAS affecting West Virginia's public water systems (PWS) and meet some requirements of the West Virginia PFAS Protection Act.

Background

PFAS are used extensively in industrial, commercial, and consumer applications and have been shown to be persistent in the human body (Gains, 2022). PFAS is estimated to be present in the blood of almost all US residents and several human exposure pathways exist (Calafat and others, 2007). Toxicology and epidemiological studies suggest health effects may occur because of long-term exposure to some PFAS at environmentally relevant levels (USEPA, 2024a).

Increased knowledge of the toxicological affects caused by PFAS exposure has prompted regulatory authorities to reduce PFAS exposure risk within the United States population. In Spring of 2024, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) finalized a national primary drinking water regulation to establish maximum contaminant levels (MCLs) for perfluorooctanoate (PFOA), perfluorooctanesulfonate (PFOS), perfluorobutanesulfonate (PFBS), perfluorohexanesulfonate (PFHxS), perfluorononanoate (PFNA), and perfluoro-2-propoxypropanoate (HFPO-DA). During the 2023 legislative session, the West Virginia Legislature passed the PFAS Protection Act (HB3189) which requires the WVDEP to identify and address sources of PFAS in raw water sources of public drinking water systems.

Usage of PFAS is found in nearly all industries (for example, automotive, electronics, construction, agriculture), many consumer products (for example, textiles, cosmetics, food packaging), and notably form an essential component of aqueous film forming foams (AFFF) used in fire-fighting applications (Gains, 2022). Qualities desirable for industrial and commercial use have simultaneously enabled PFAS to effectively permeate and accumulate across all Earth systems on a global scale. Major sources of PFAS contamination in the environment may include wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs), biosolids application, landfills, industrial manufacturing sites, military bases, airports, and other yet to be identified activities or locations.

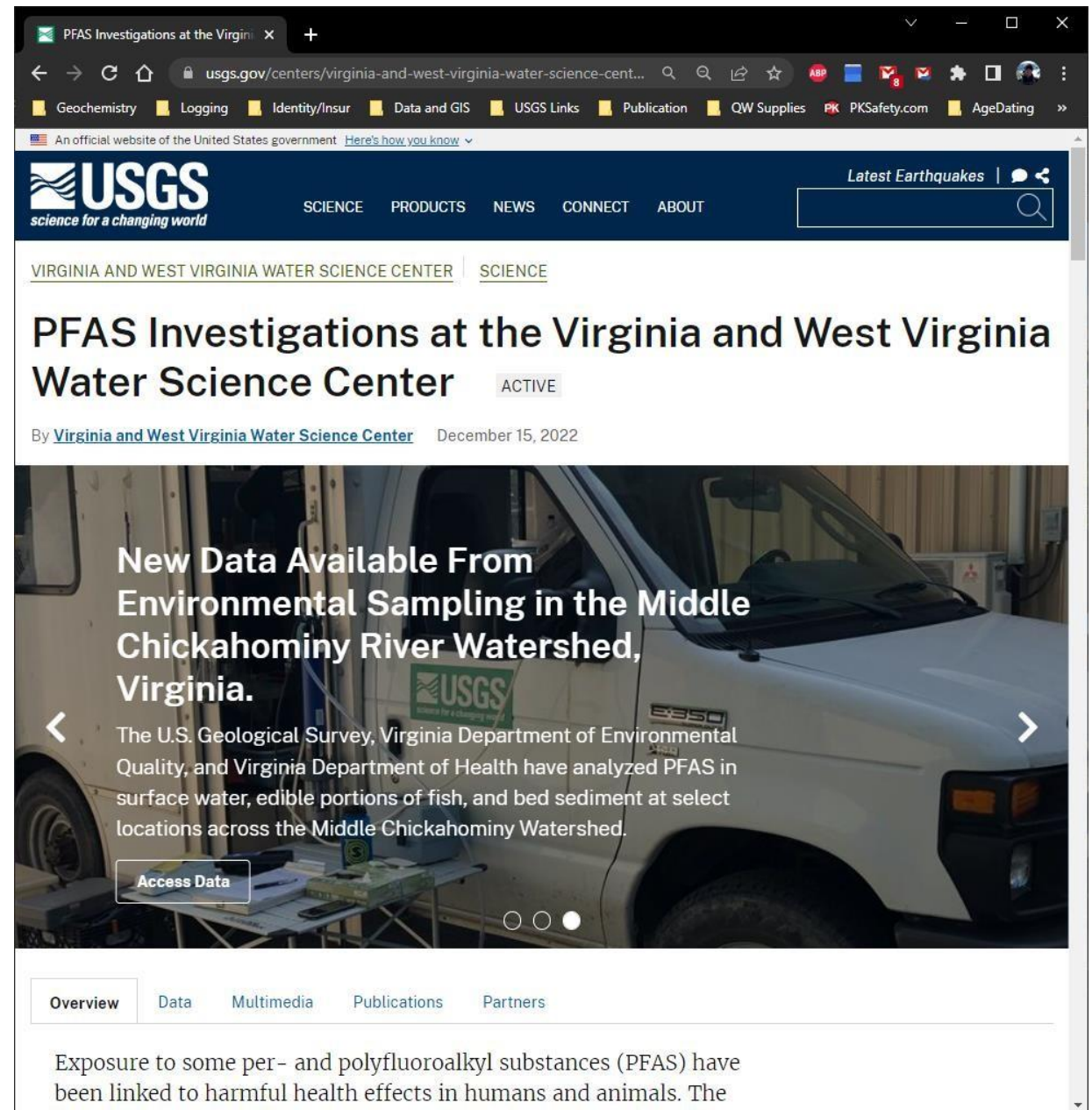
Differentiating between background-concentrations and multiple local point-sources of PFAS contamination may be impossible at some sites. PFAS is a synthetic compound and there are no natural sources contributing to background concentrations of PFAS in the environment. Nevertheless, non-specific human activities have contributed to background concentrations of PFAS on a world-wide scale and at levels of regulatory significance. Low-level PFAS contamination on such a large scale may be due to different mechanisms but notably PFAS may travel over long distances through atmospheric transport and deposited through precipitation (Pike and Others, 2021) or be associated with dispersed and poorly documented human waste sources such as domestic septic systems (Silver and others, 2023).

For More Information:

USGS VA/WV PFAS Web Site

- Highlights all the PFAS projects in VA/WV
- Capabilities
- Interactive Site Mapper
- Background on PFAS
- USGS PFAS Strategic Vision

<https://www.usgs.gov/centers/virginia-and-west-virginia-water-science-center/science/pfas-investigations-virginia-and>





Questions?

Mitch McAdoo

mmcadoo@usgs.gov



References

ITRC, 2020. Fact Sheet: Naming Conventions for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS). https://pfas-1.itrcweb.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/naming_conventions_508_2020Aug_Final.pdf

McAdoo, M.A., Connock, G.T., and Messinger, T., 2022, Occurrence of per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances and inorganic analytes in groundwater and surface water used as sources for public water supply in West Virginia: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2022–5067, 37 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20225067>

Sunderland, E.M., Hu, X.C., Dassuncao, C. et al, 2019, A review of the pathways of human exposure to poly- and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFASs) and present understanding of health effects. J Expo Sci Environ Epidemiol 29, 131–147. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41370-018-0094-1>





Agenda Item 7:

Summary of Stream Gages and Monitoring in the Ohio River Basin

Jeff Frey, USGS, IN-KY-OH Science Center



Ohio-Kentucky-Indiana
Water Science Center (OKI WSC)

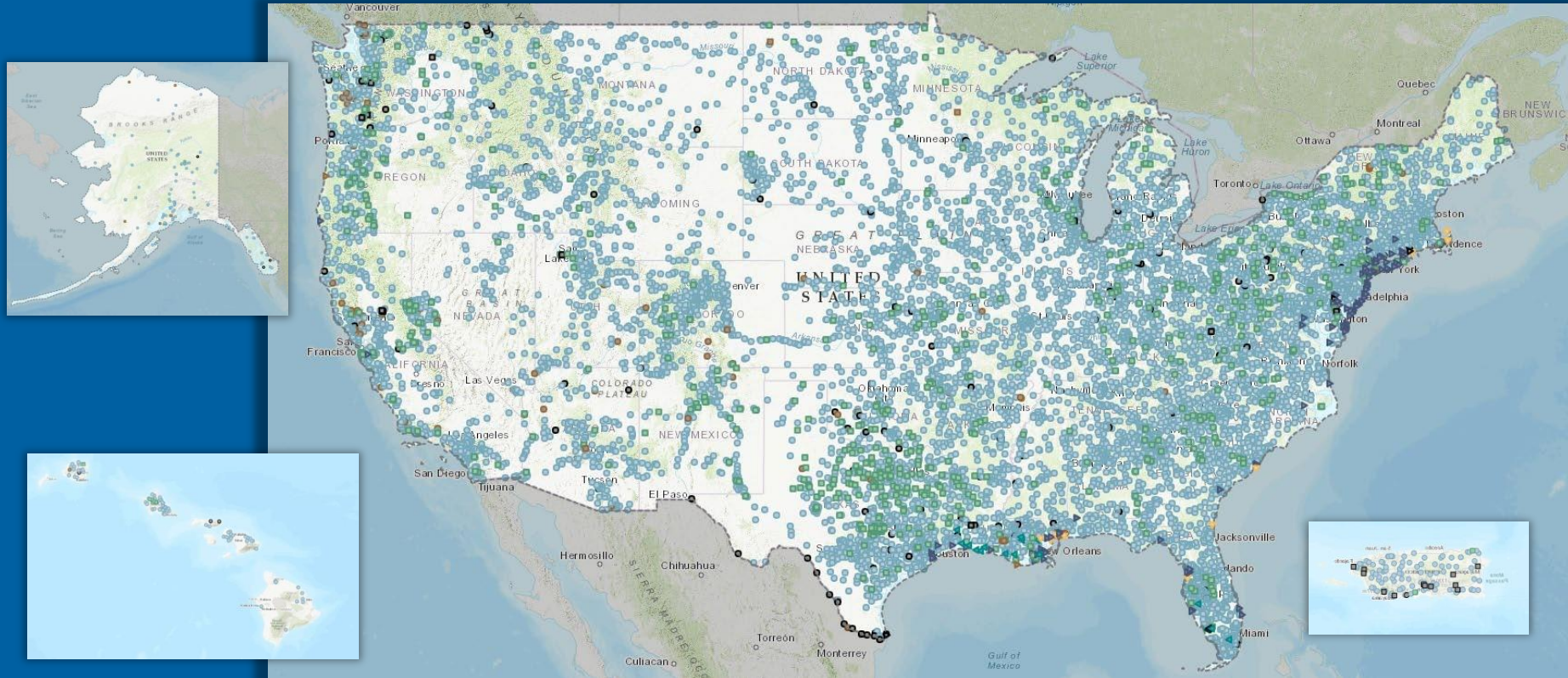
Summary of streamgages and monitoring in the Ohio River Basin and USGS Tools and Resources for Water Data

Jeff Frey and Jeff Woods

U.S. Department of the Interior
U.S. Geological Survey



Nationwide ~11,600 sites in the USGS Streamgauge Network



Standardized approach regardless of location
National techniques and methods
Provide hourly data real-time even in disasters

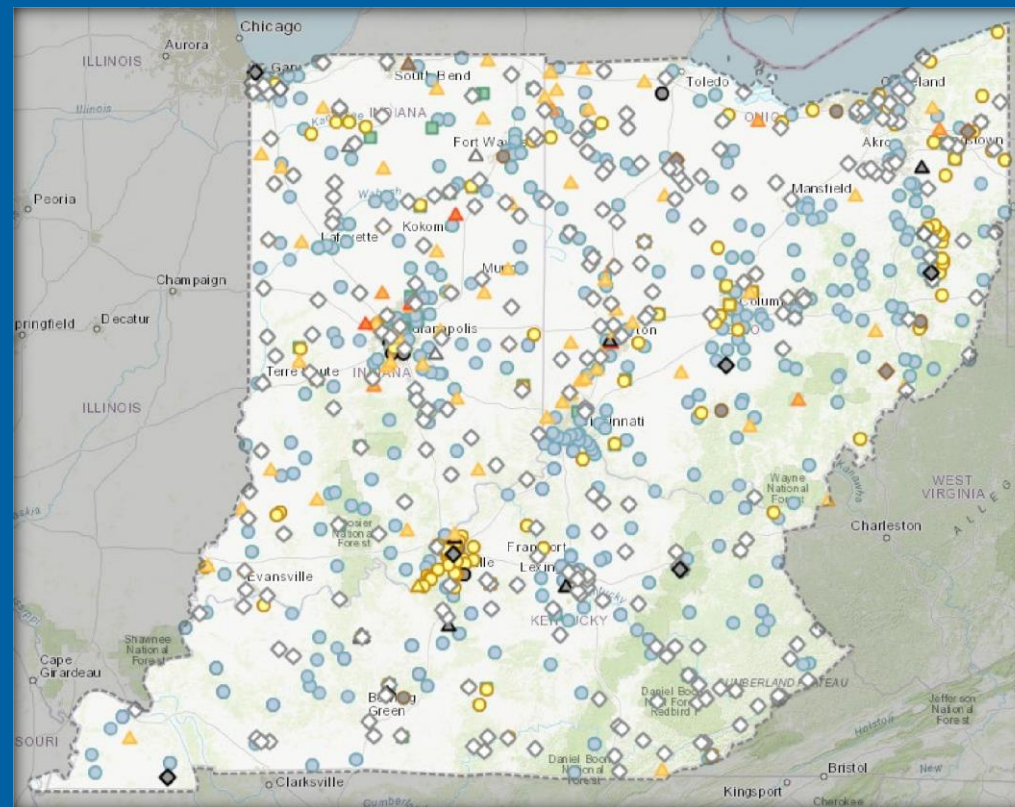
USGS Streamgauge have multiple uses

- Flood forecasting
- Water Use
- Ecological monitoring
 - Industry effluence temperatures at low flows
 - Endangered species – Ecoflows
 - Nutrient loads related to Gulf hypoxia, Lake Erie
- Operation of dams, locks, and reservoirs
- Navigation
- Emergency management
- Infrastructure design and monitoring



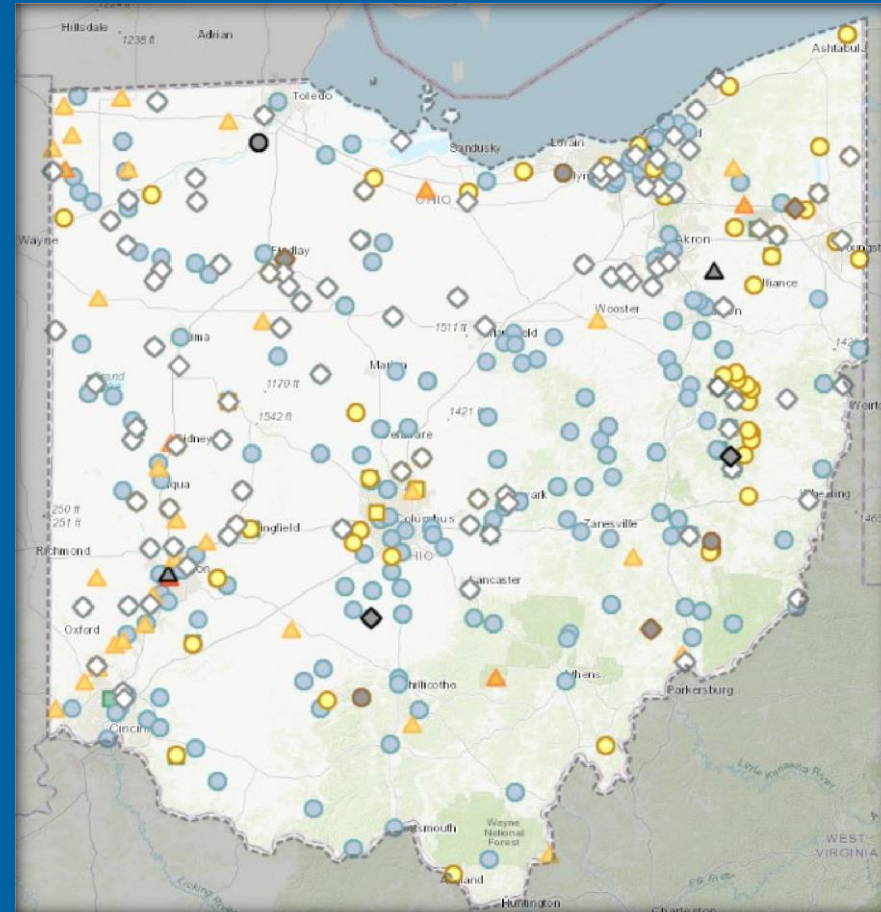
OKI Monitoring Network

- 808 Surface Water Gages
- 265 Precipitation Gages
- 166 Continuous Water Quality sites
- 94 Continuous Groundwater Wells



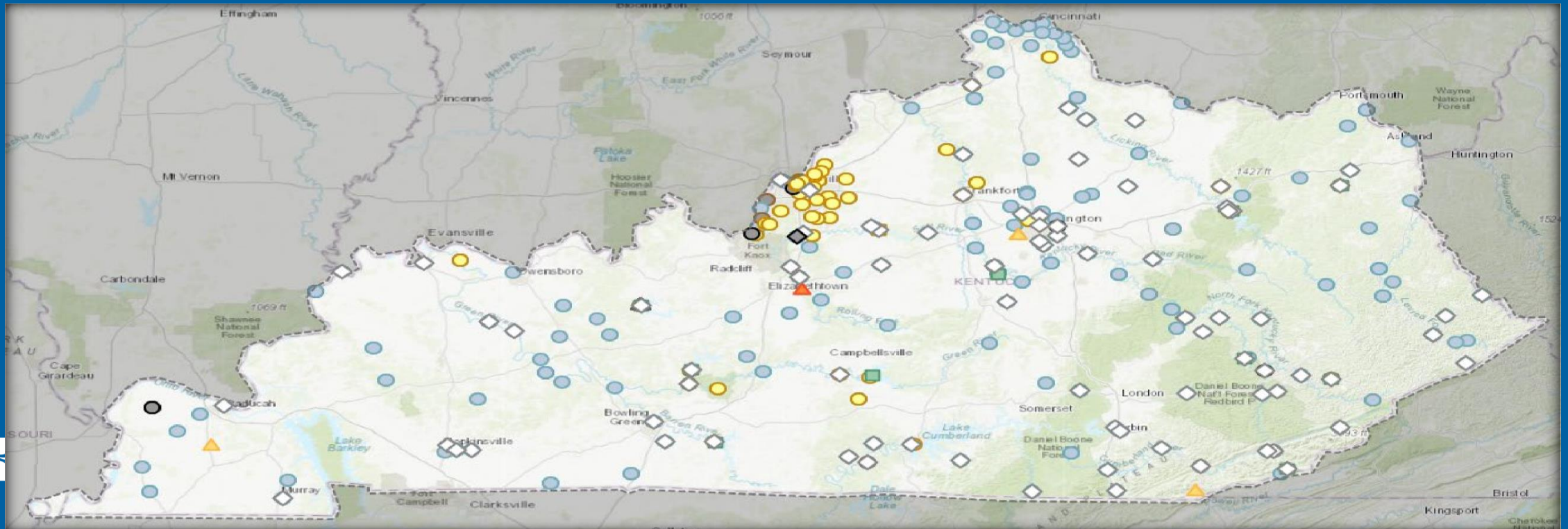
OKI - Ohio Monitoring Network

- 332 Surface Water Gages
- 65 Continuous Water Quality Sites
- 97 Precipitation Gages
- 38 Continuous Groundwater Wells



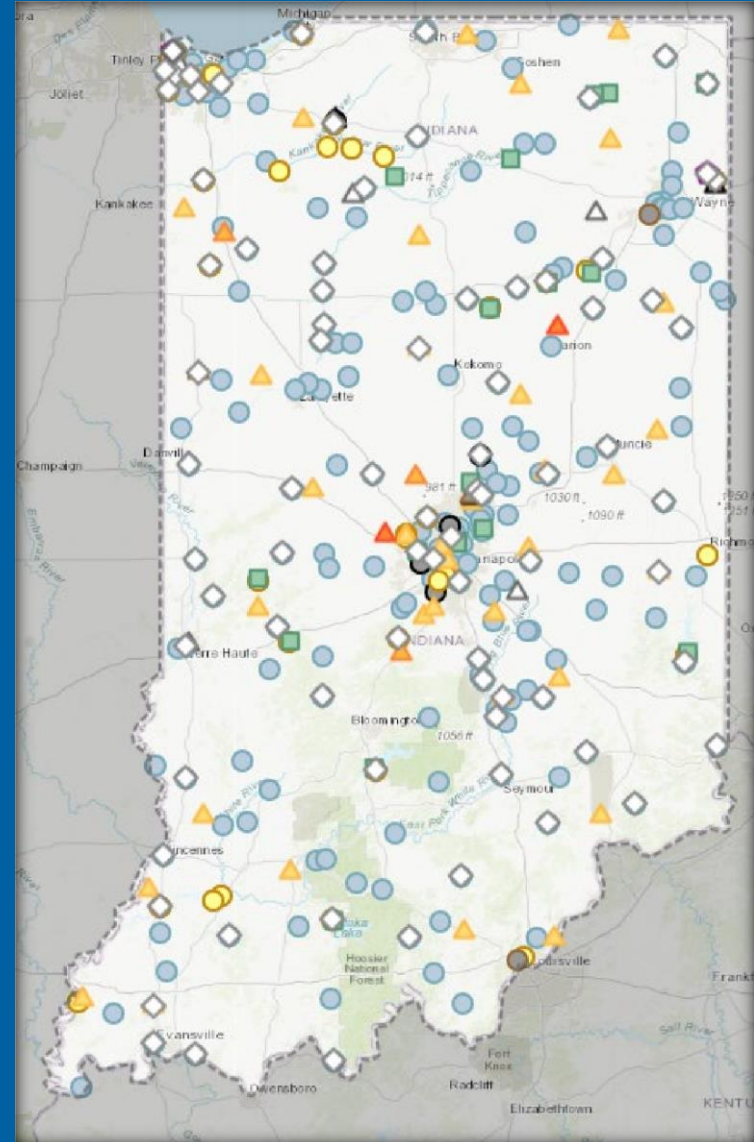
OKI - Kentucky Monitoring Network

- 216 Surface Water Gages
- 53 Continuous Water Quality Locations
- 83 Precipitation Gages
- 4 Continuous GW Wells

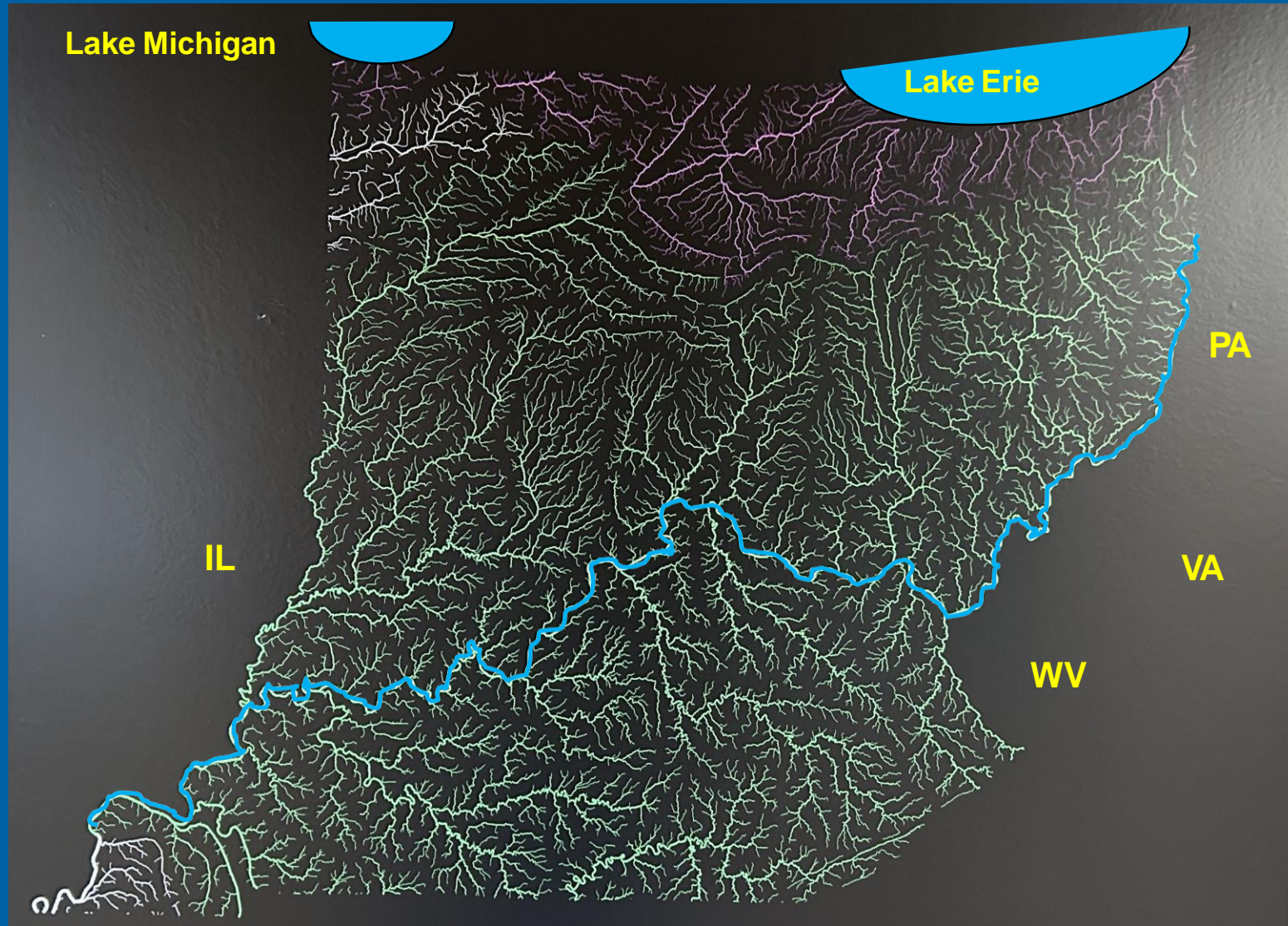


OKI - Indiana Monitoring Network

- 260 Surface Water Gages
- 48 Continuous Water Quality Locations
- 85 Precipitation Gages
- 52 Continuous Groundwater Wells



The Ohio River Basin dominates OKI



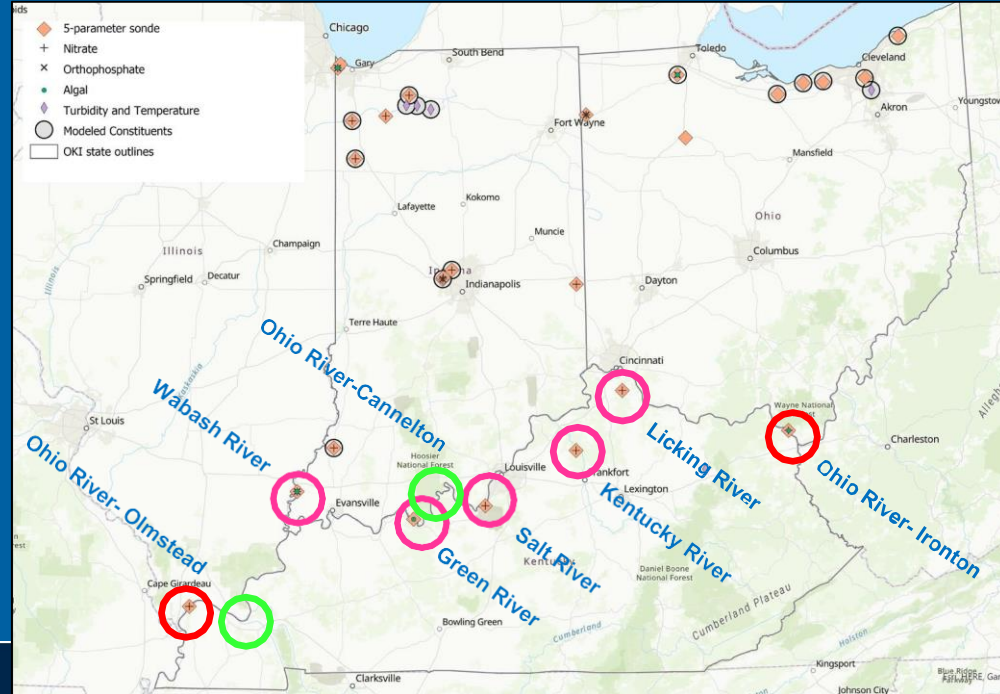
Ohio River Monitoring Network

Ohio River Basin Nutrient Supergages

- Ohio River at Ironton
- Ohio River at Olmstead
 - Licking River near Alexandria
 - Kentucky River at Lockport
 - Salt River at West Point
 - Green River at Spottsville
 - Wabash River at New Harmony

National Water Quality Network

- Ohio River at Cannelton
 - Tennessee River nr Paducah
-



Real-time water
quality (usgs.gov)



WaterQualityWatch — Continuous Real-Time Water Quality of Surface Water in the United States

Home

About USGS WaterQualityWatch

Current RTWQ Maps

State:

Measurement:

Map of all USGS Water Data

RTWQ FAQ

State Links to Surrogates and Reports

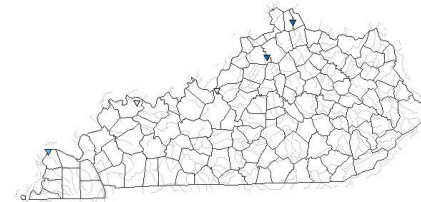
Technical Resources

Other Links

Search USGS Publications

Real-Time Nitrate, in mg/L as N

August 28, 2024 17:31ET



Explanation							
<1	1-2.9	3-9.9	10-29.9	>30	No Data		
Temp	Cond	pH	D.O.	Turb	Nitrate	Disch	Chlorophyll

* Site operated on a seasonal basis or currently is not operating.
No values are available for the last 6 hours.

The nitrate measurement is actually nitrate plus nitrite. Nitrite absorbs strongly at wavelengths similar to nitrate, and is not explicitly accounted for in the nitrate calculations by the sensors. For practical purposes, the concentration of nitrite is usually negligible in surface waters and has little effect on reported nitrate concentrations.

The "Real-time" map tracks short-term changes (over several hours) of water quality. Although the general appearance of the map changes very little from one hour to the next, individual sites may change rapidly in response to major rain events or to reservoir releases. The data used to produce this map are provisional.



OKI Streamgage Fit for Purpose

How can we deal with flashy, deadly streams, especially in poorer regions, where it is too costly?



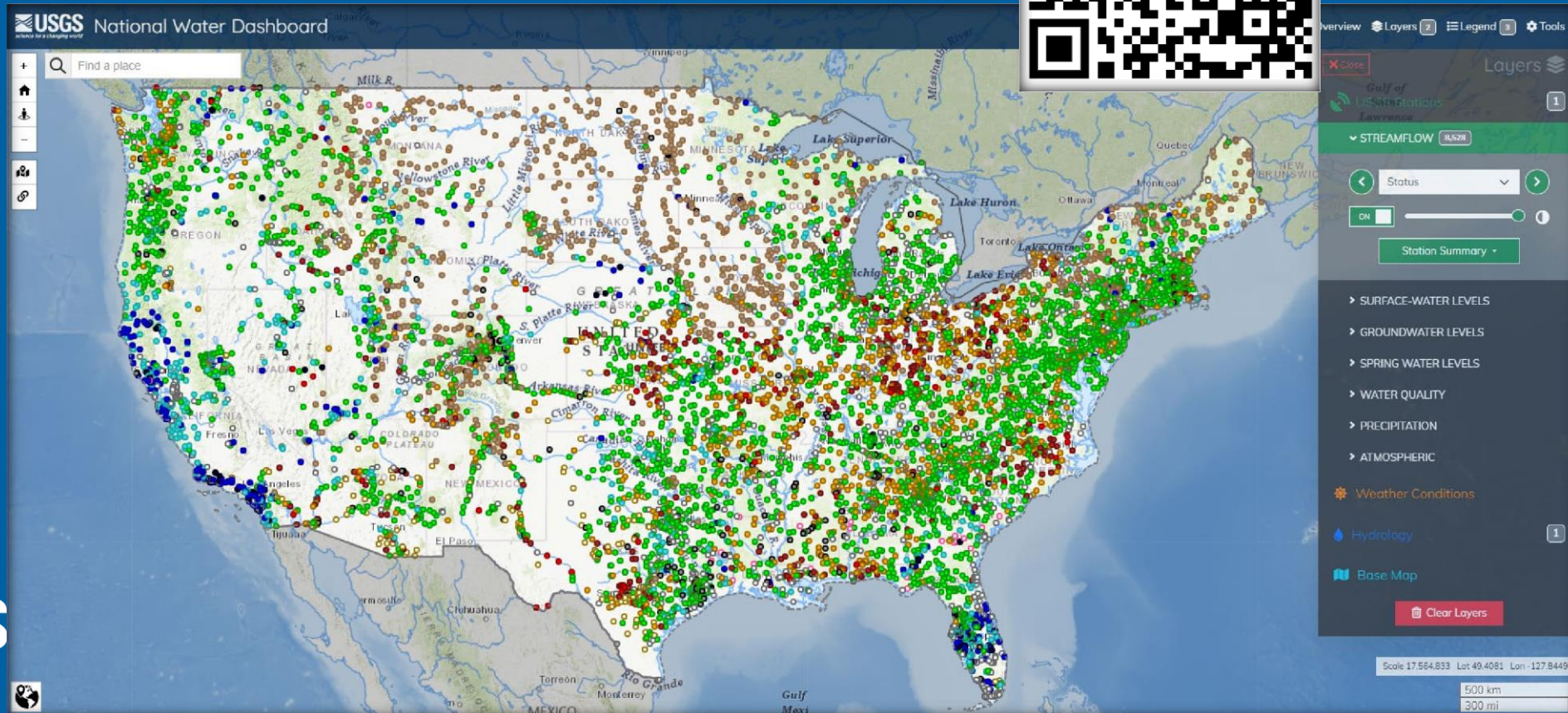
How can we determine what all of the streamgages are being used for?



USGS Tools for Water Resources

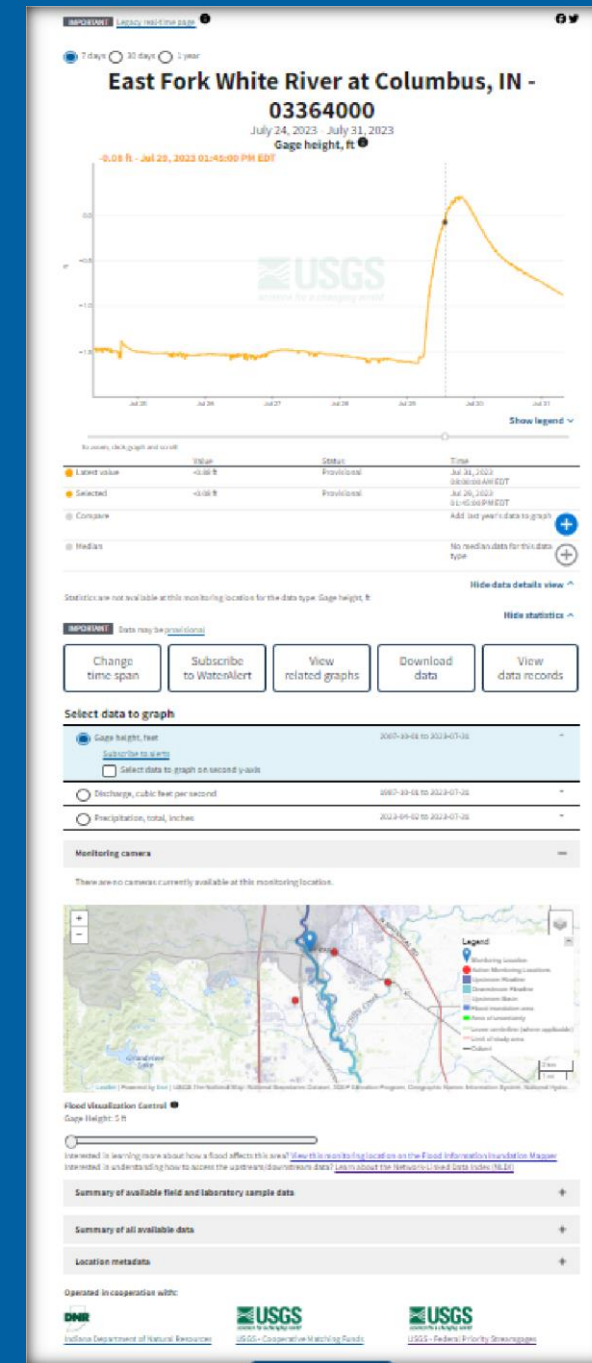
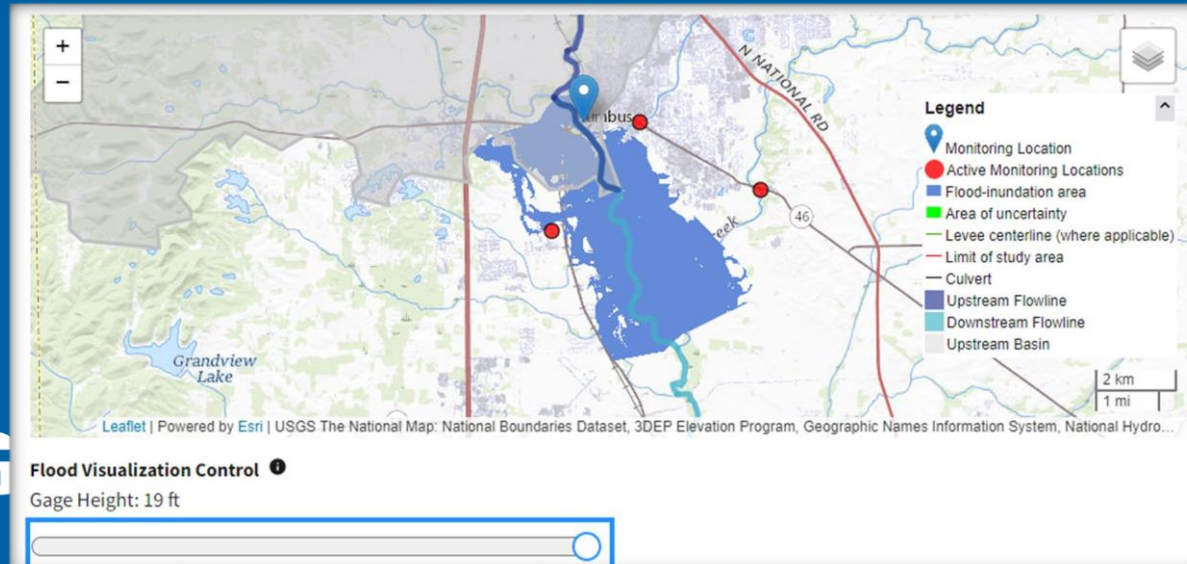
Water Data for the Nation (WDFN)

■ National Water Dashboard



Water Data for the Nation

- Interactive webpages
- Plot multiple sites or parameters
- Flood Inundation Maps



Water Alert

- Provides alerts via text or email
- Daily updates or real-time.
- Surface Water, groundwater, WQ, or precipitation



8:16 78%

Create Alerts for This Location

Gage height, feet
Latest Value: -0.88 ft
on Mon, 31 Jul 2023 12:00:00 GMT UTC

What values have been seen in the past? +

Your alert's trigger range -- units: ft

-3 28.6

i What does this graphic tell me?

Send alert when current condition value is
greater than less than
ft

☐ I'd like to use a value range

Quick click to set options

Flood levels - ft

4.5 9 14 16

i What do these colors mean?

Questions or Comments

AA accounts.waterdata.usgs.gov

Verizon LTE 7:16 AM 100%

< Back WaterAlert@usgs.gov Details

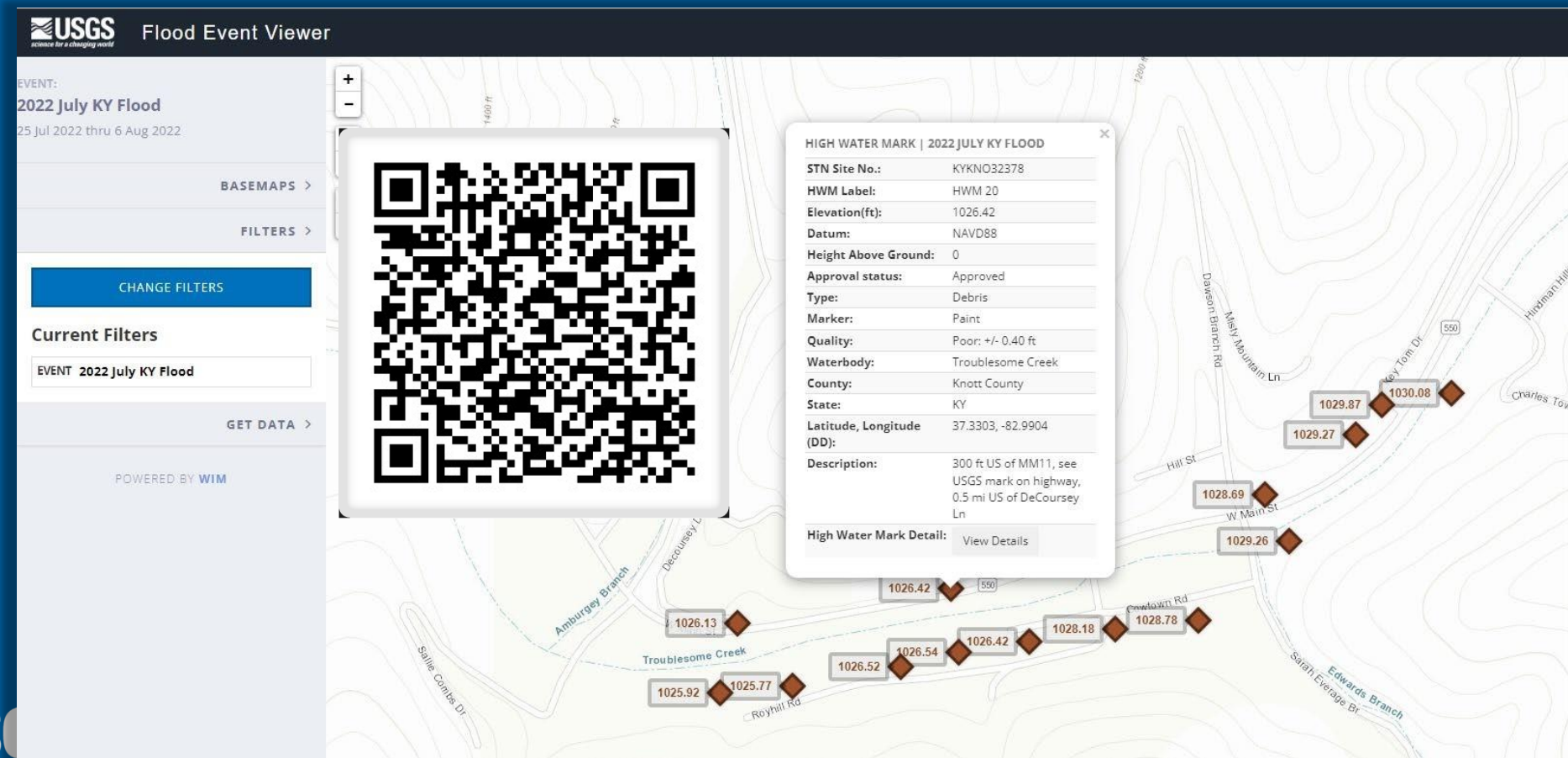
Text Message
Yesterday 3:52 PM

3.73 ft Gage height,
2015-08-18 14:45:00
WHITEWATER RIVER
NEAR ECONOMY, IN
<http://water.usgs.gov/hns?gFC4F:03274650>



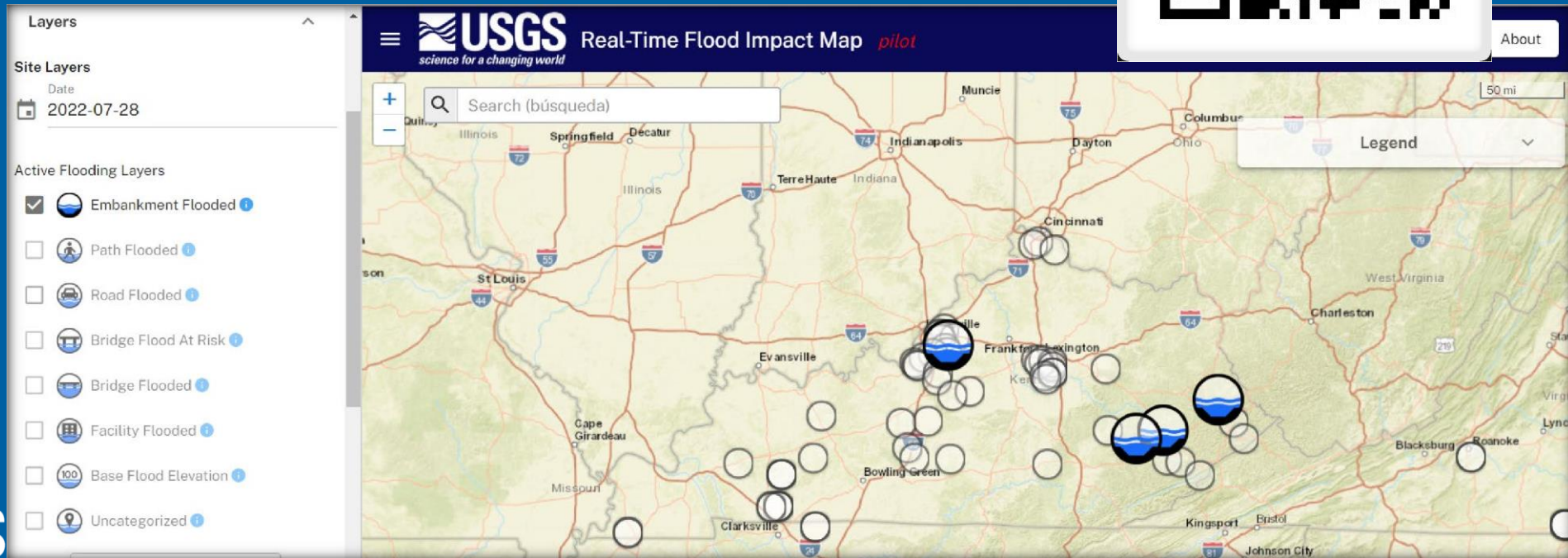
Text Message Send

USGS Flood Event Viewer (FEV)



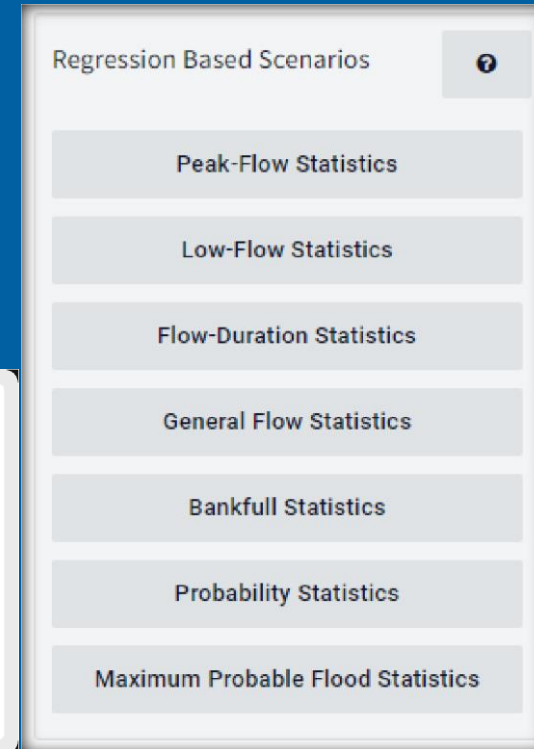
USGS Realtime Flood Impact Map

- Surveyed points of interest



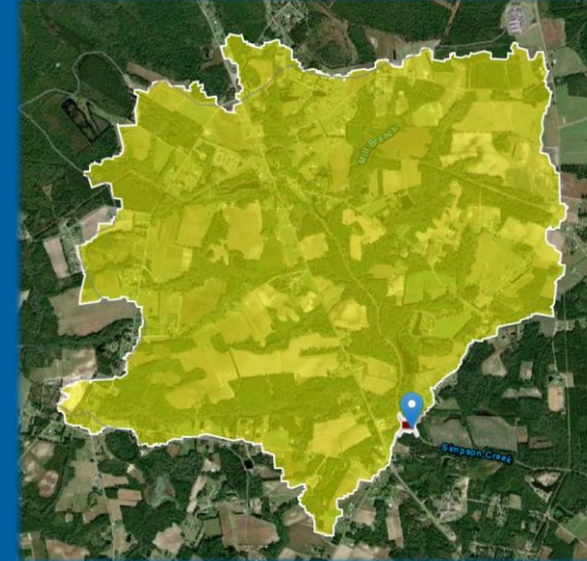
Indiana Streamstats

- Spatial analytical tools that are useful for water-resources planning and management, and for engineering and design purposes
 - Delineation
 - Basin edit tools
 - At-site statistics and data
 - Ungaged estimates
 - Flood frequency estimates



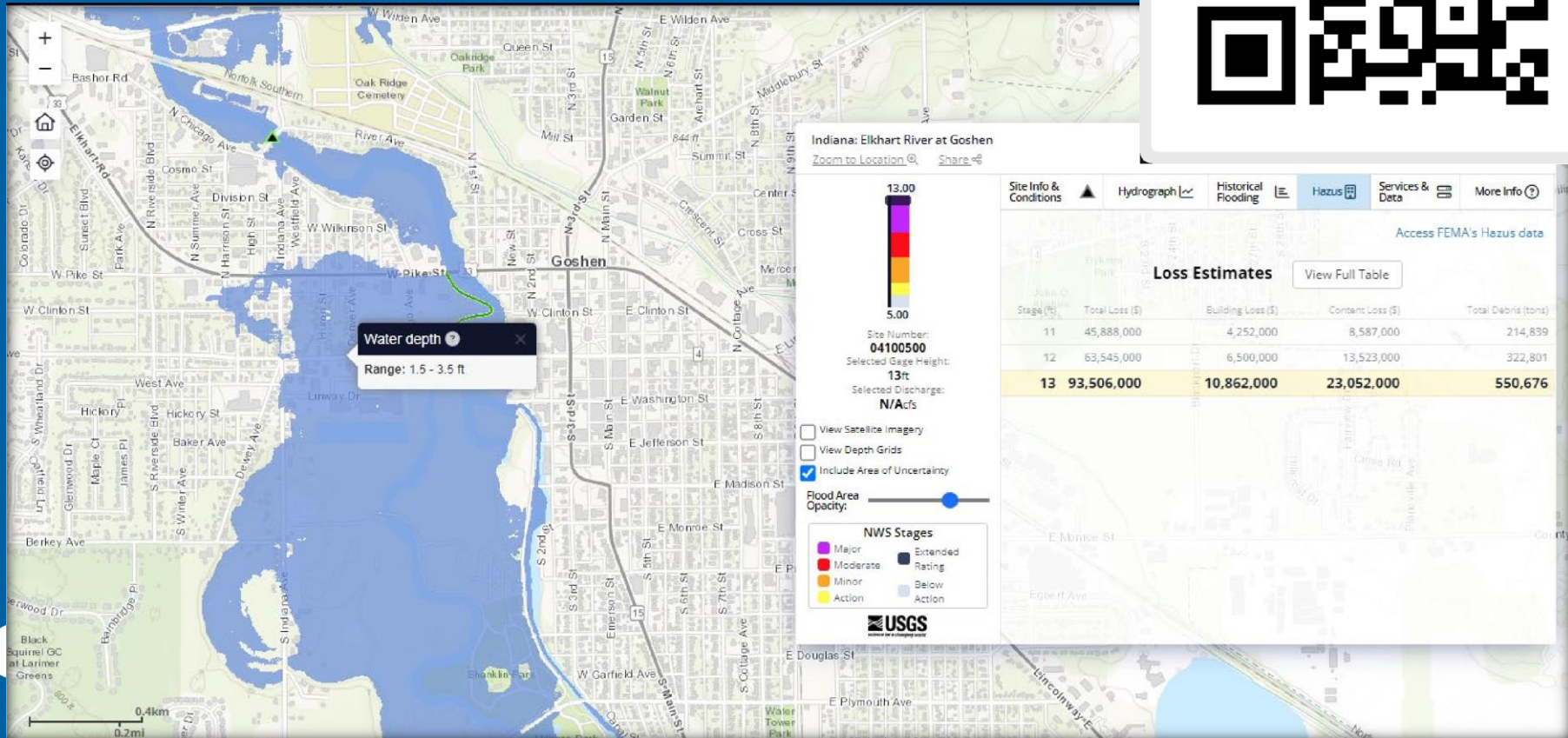
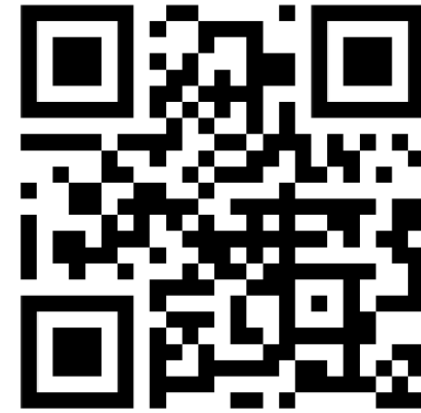
Indiana StreamStats

- StreamStats functions to delineate a basin at ungaged sites
 - Compute (or retrieve) basin characteristics
 - Compute (or retrieve) streamflow estimates
 - Other estimates (bankfull, etc)
 - Peak-flow equations
 - Bankfull-channel-dimension equations
 - Harmonic mean, low-flow frequency, and probability of zero flow equations



USGS Flood Inundation Mapper

- High resolution flood impacts



Questions?



Jeff Frey: iwfrey@usgs.gov

Jeff Woods: iwoods@usgs.gov





Agenda Item 8:

Ohio Freshwater Mussel Propagation, and Mussel Surveying and Abundance, in the Ohio Basin in Pennsylvania

Andrew Phipps, USFWS

Rick Spear, PA DEP



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Field Operations



PADEP/ USFWS Mussel Propagation Memorandum of Agreement

ORSANCO TEC Meeting
October 8, 2024

Josh Shapiro, Governor

Jessica Shirley, Acting Secretary

Aquatic Life Kill Dunkard Creek 2009



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Aquatic Life Kill Dunkard Creek 2009



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

► Aquatic Life Kill Dunkard Creek 2009



Dunkard Creek had 22 Freshwater Mussels Species all gone.



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Aquatic Life Kill Dunkard Creek 2009

Dunkard Creek had an estimated 15,382 Freshwater Mussels perish due to the discharge of Highly Saline Mine water and a subsequent invasive Golden Algae Bloom (*Prynesium parvum*).



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

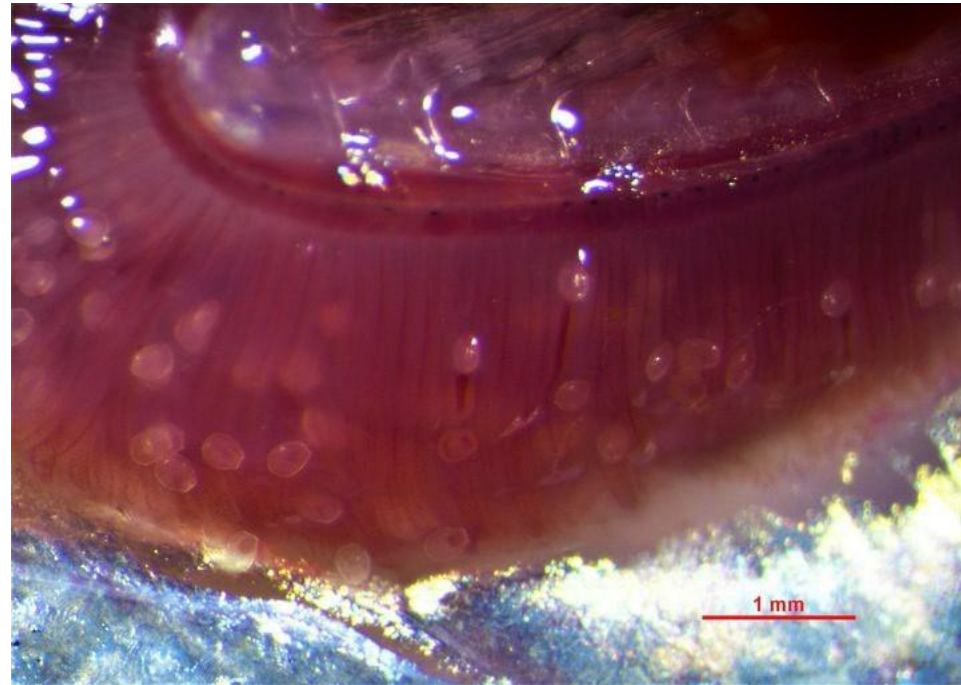
Sand and Gravel Dredging



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Plain Pocketbooks

In 2017 in Dunkard Creek we stocked 4,003 juvenile Plain Pocketbook Mussels (*Lampsilis cardium*) into Dunkard Creek from the WSSNFH



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Fatmucket Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Wavy Rayed Lampmussel



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Pink Muckets



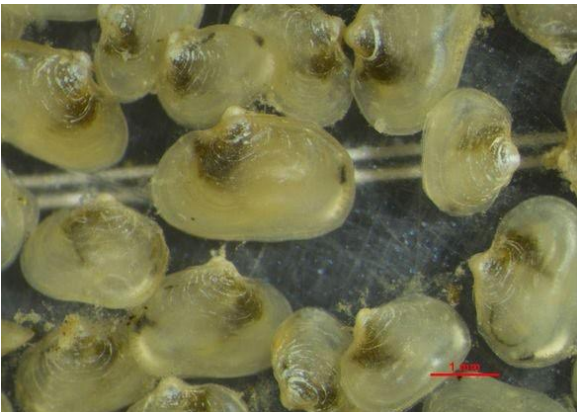
Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Round Hickorynuts



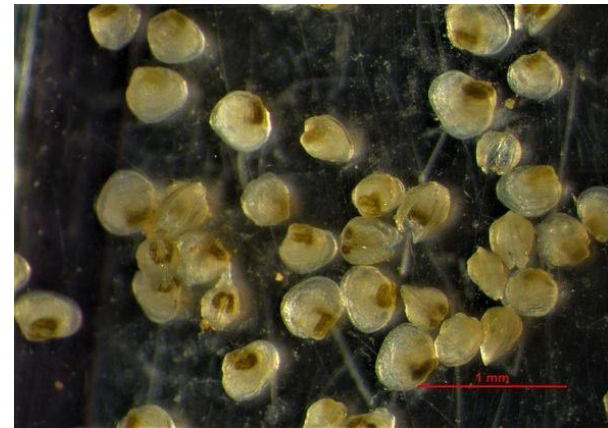
Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Salamander Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Propagation of Pistogrip Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Stocking of Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Stocking of Mussels



Photo credit Janell
Howard (PFBC)



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Stocking of Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection

Stocking of Mussels



Pennsylvania
Department of Environmental Protection



pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

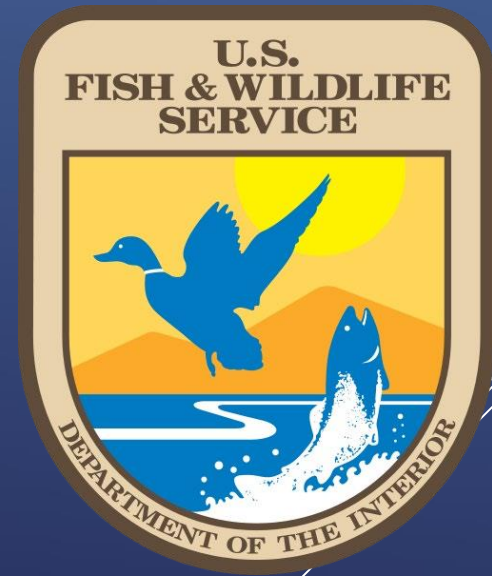
Field Operations



Rick Spear
Aquatic Biologist Supervisor
PA DEP SWRO Pittsburgh, PA
412-442-5874
rspear@pa.gov



WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS NFH







MUSSEL BUILDING





2019-2023
PRODUCTION



<https://alleghenyriverstone.org/local-attractions/>

PROPAGATION FOR PENNSYLVANIA DEP



https://tpwd.texas.gov/huntwild/wild/wildlife_diversity/texas_nature_trackers/mussel/biology/

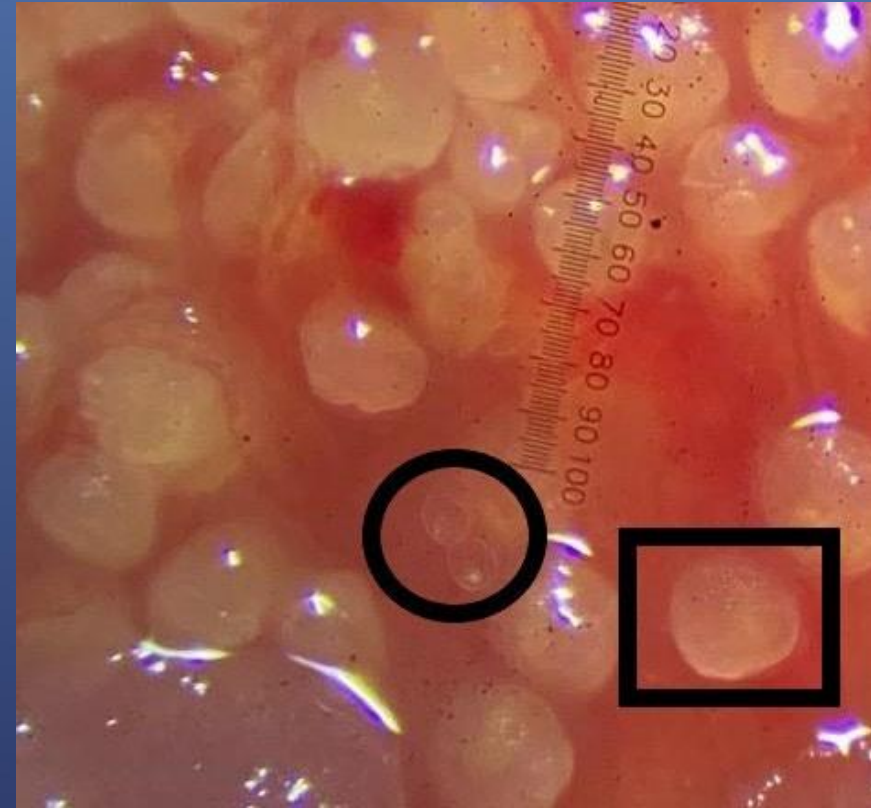
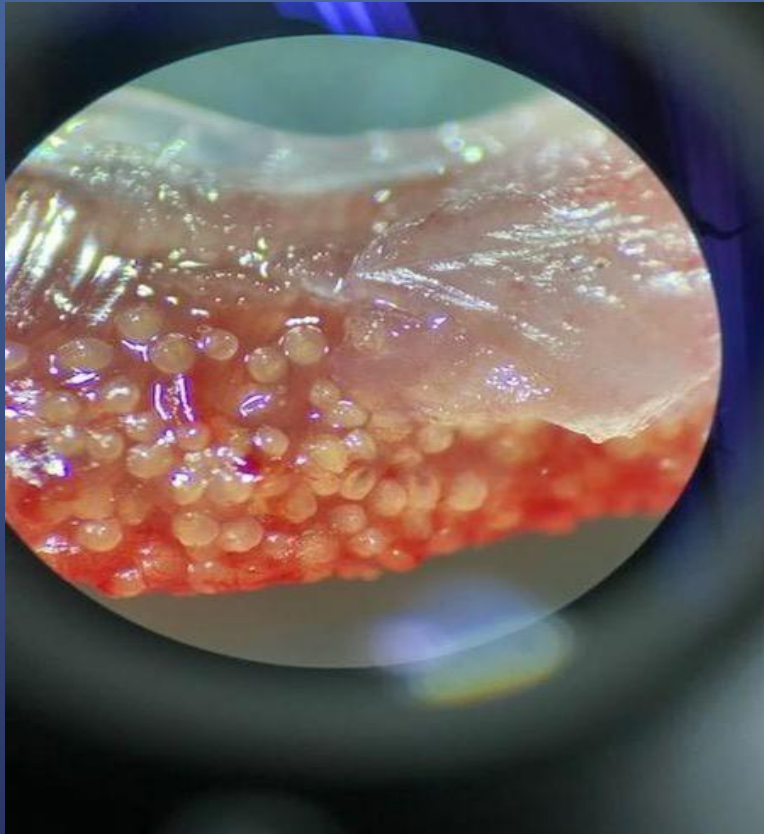


<https://inaturalist.ca/taxa/112591-Simpsonaias-ambigua>

SPECIES PROPAGATED

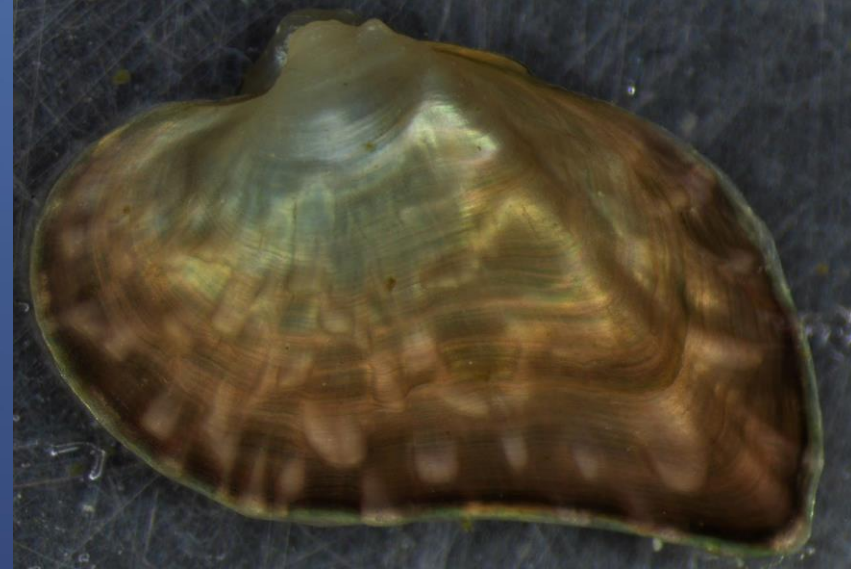
Problems with Pistolgrip





PISTOLGRIP

- Stocked ~1000 individuals in 2022
- ~25mm in October
- Stocked ~10,200 individuals in 2024
- Allegheny River, Dunkard Creek



2023 SUCCESS

- Broodstock Collected by PAFBC PADEP
- 8 gravid individuals
- ~6000 juveniles produced
- 93 Taggable Individuals Produced in 2023



A close-up photograph of an axolotl, a white, aquatic salamander with prominent pink, feathery external gills. It has a blue eye and a yellowish mouth. The background is black.

SALAMANDER SITUATION

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/magazine/issues/summer-2021/articles/meet-the-peter-pan-of-salamanders-the-axolotl>

- Is one Salamander as good as another?
- Many issues with Mudpuppies
- Axolotls and Western Tiger Salamander



Species	Common Name	Year	Number Produced	Value
Lampsilis abrupta	Pink Mucket	2019	1103	77210
Obovaria subrotunda	Round Hickorynut	2019	2,049	102450
Lampsilis cardium	Plain Pocketbook	2019	1,933	57990
Lampsilis siliquoidea	Fat Mucket	2023	4,500	135000
Simpsonaias ambigua	Salamander Mussel	2023	93	19760.64
Tritogonia verrucosa	Pistolgrip	2022	1,000	129300
Tritogonia verrucosa	Pistolgrip	2024	10,200	1318860
			20,878	1,840,570.64

ROUND HICKORYNUT

- 2 host species confirmed
- Possible that host fish differ by drainage
- Culture slowly
- Stocked 129 individuals Ohio River Islands NWR



FOOD COLOR TREATMENT



Control



Red



Blue



Purple



Orange



Group

FUTURE WORK

- *P. clava*, *E. rangiana*
 - Develop Host and Propagation Methods for Clava
 - Cooperation with PAFO PAFBC
 - Animals to be stocked throughout Ohio




RESEARCH

- Tagging Study
- Food Studies
- Host Fish Production
- Graduate Students

PARTNERS

- PADEP
 - PFBC
 - Normandeau Associates, Inc
- 
- A series of four parallel white lines of varying lengths, slanted diagonally upwards from left to right, located in the bottom right corner of the slide.



QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS

5 mm



Agenda Item 9:

Long-Term Water Quality Trends in Indiana Streams

Jessica Weir, IDEM



Long Term Water Quality Trends in Indiana:

Trends in Concentrations of Nutrients, Metals, and Ions in Indiana Streams 2011-2020

Jit Weir, PhD
*Technical Environmental Specialist
Indiana Department of Environmental Management*

ORSANCO Technical Committee Meeting, Charleston, WV
October 8-9, 2024

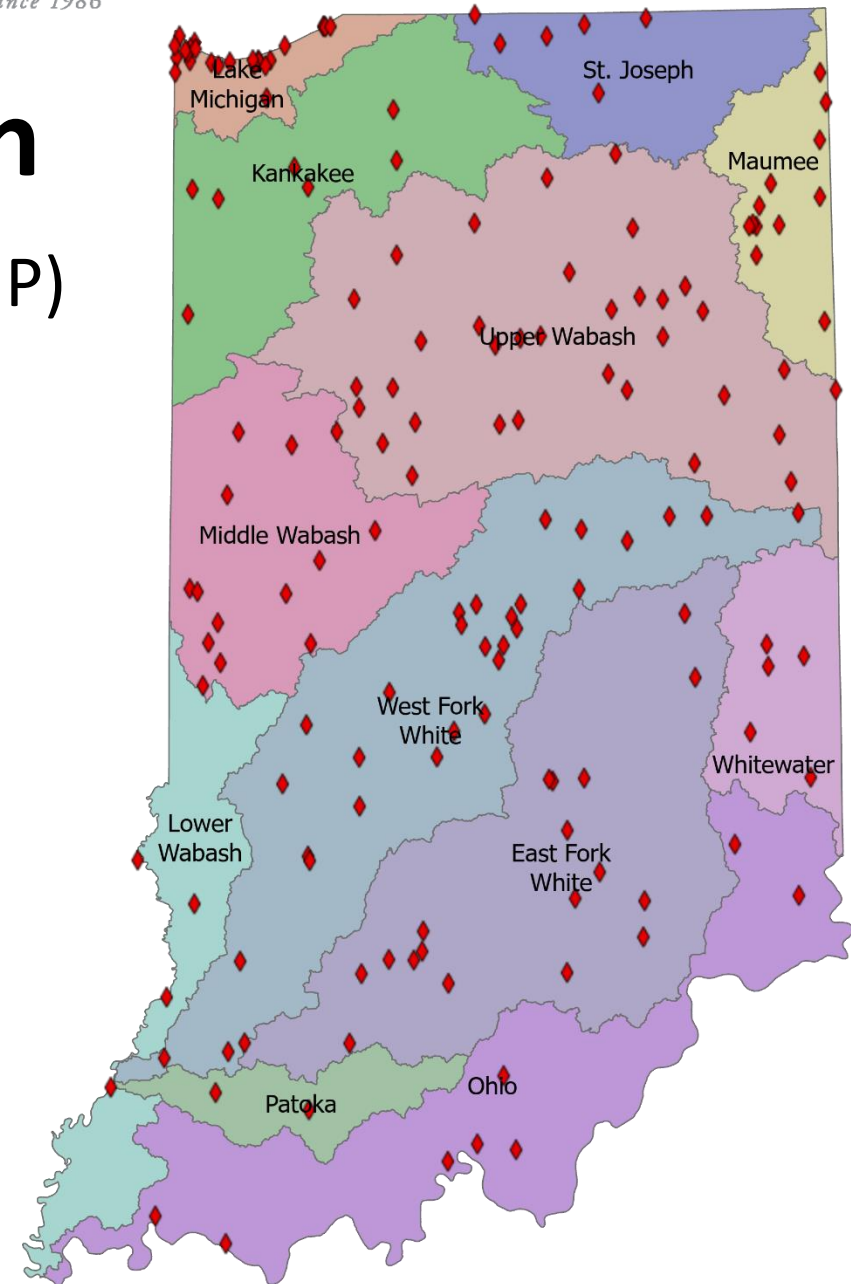
Introduction

Fixed Station Monitoring Program (FSMP)

- Began in 1957
- Water samples collected monthly
- 165 sites



Bridge sampling device



Introduction – FSMP data use

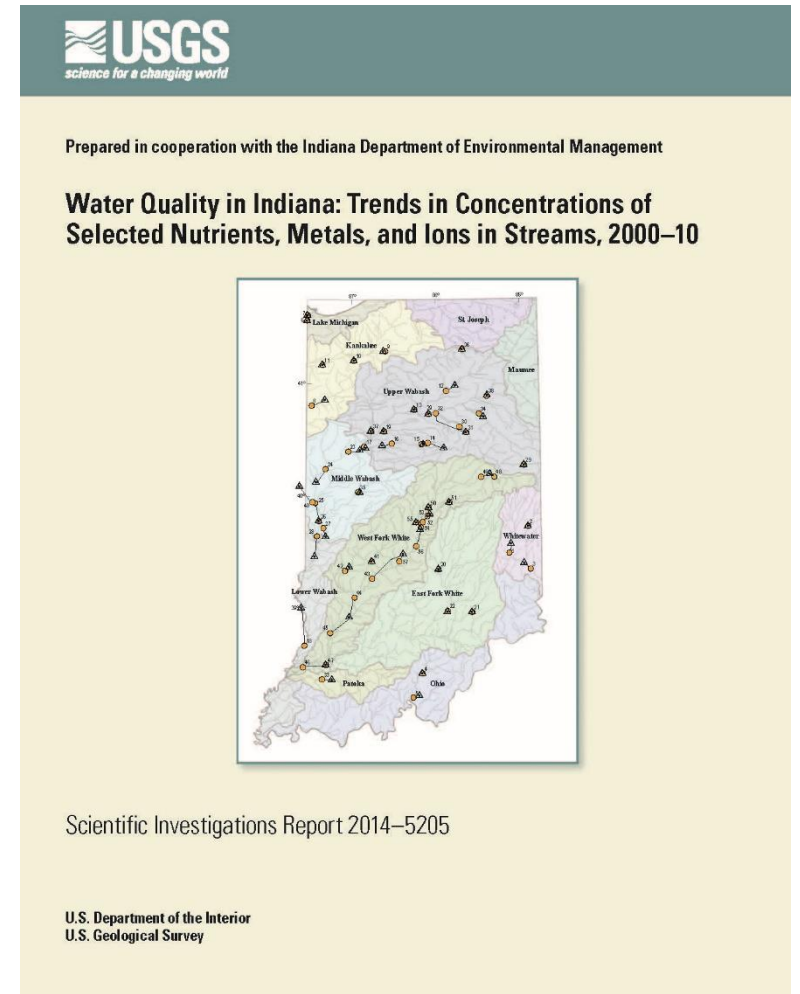
Waste load allocation models

Designated use assessments

- Define water quality goals for waterbodies

Water quality trends

- USGS study 2000-2010



Methods

R-QWTREND package (Vecchia & Nustad, 2020):

- Variability in streamflow impacts measured concentration
- Co-located with a USGS streamgage

Limitations:

- Time period (10 years)
- Completeness of samples
- Sensitivity of lab analyses (non-detects)



USGS Streamgage

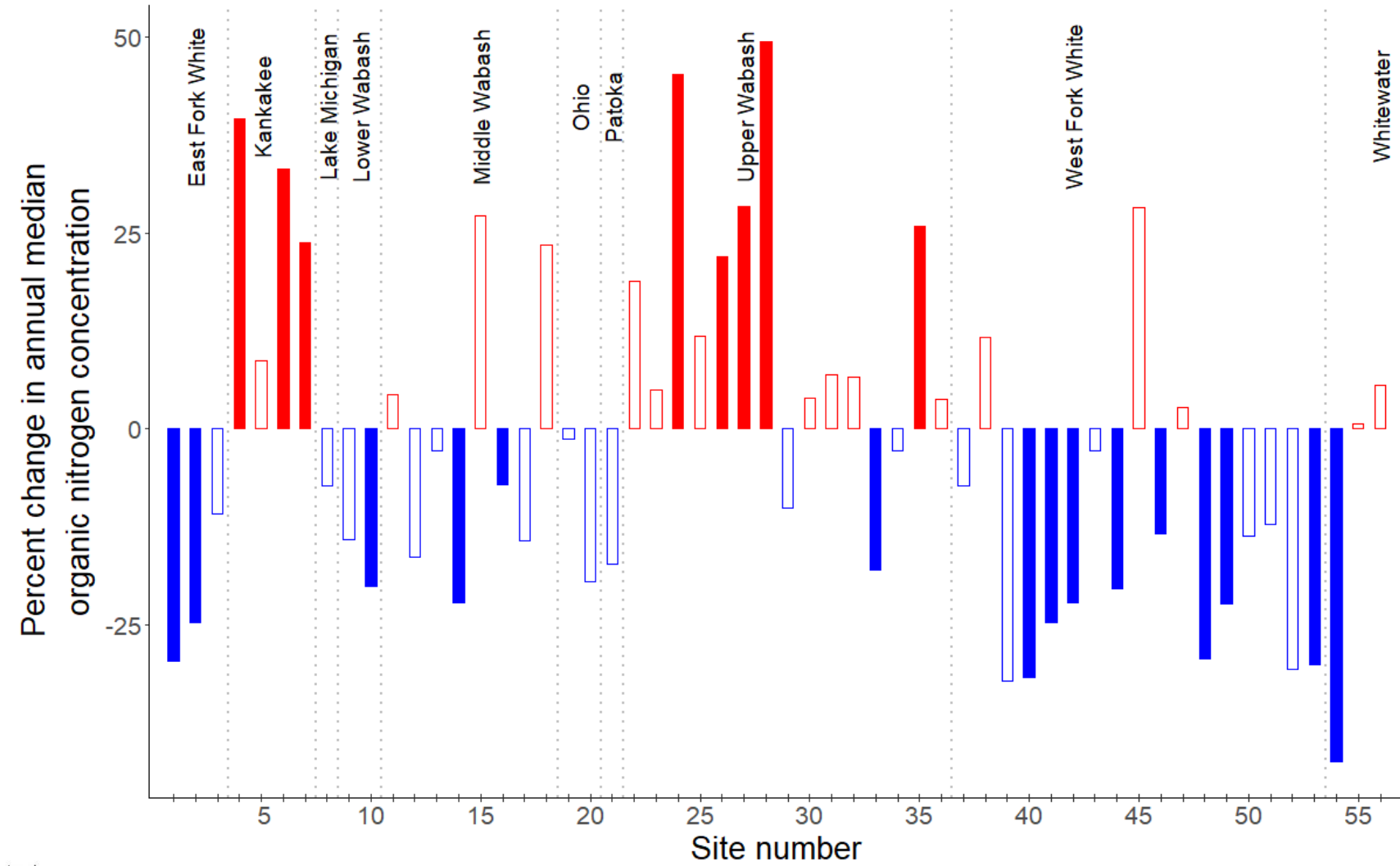
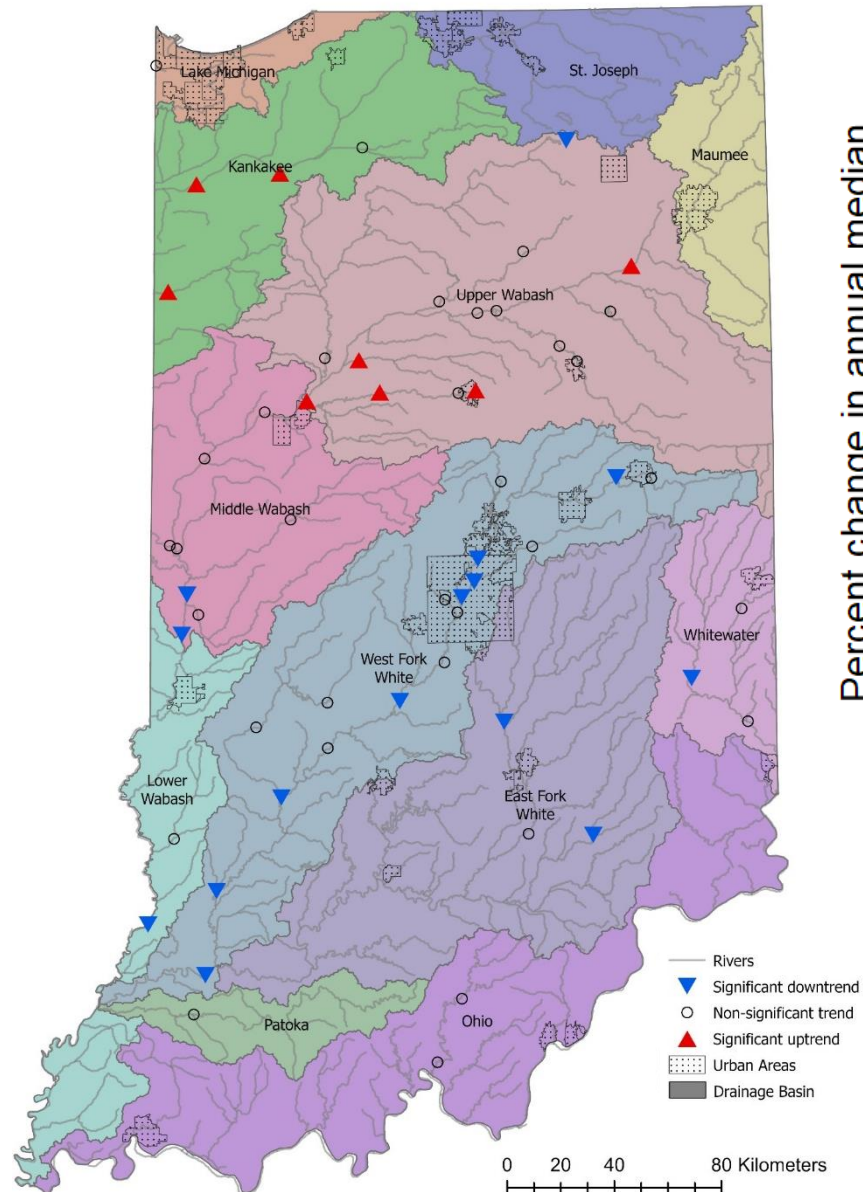
Methods

- 56 sites
- 12 contaminants
 - **Nutrients:** Nitrate, organic nitrogen, phosphorus, and total suspended solids
 - **Ions:** Chloride, sulfate, hardness, and total dissolved solids
 - **Metals:** Lead, iron, copper, and zinc
- 8,530 stream samples
- 672 trend analyses



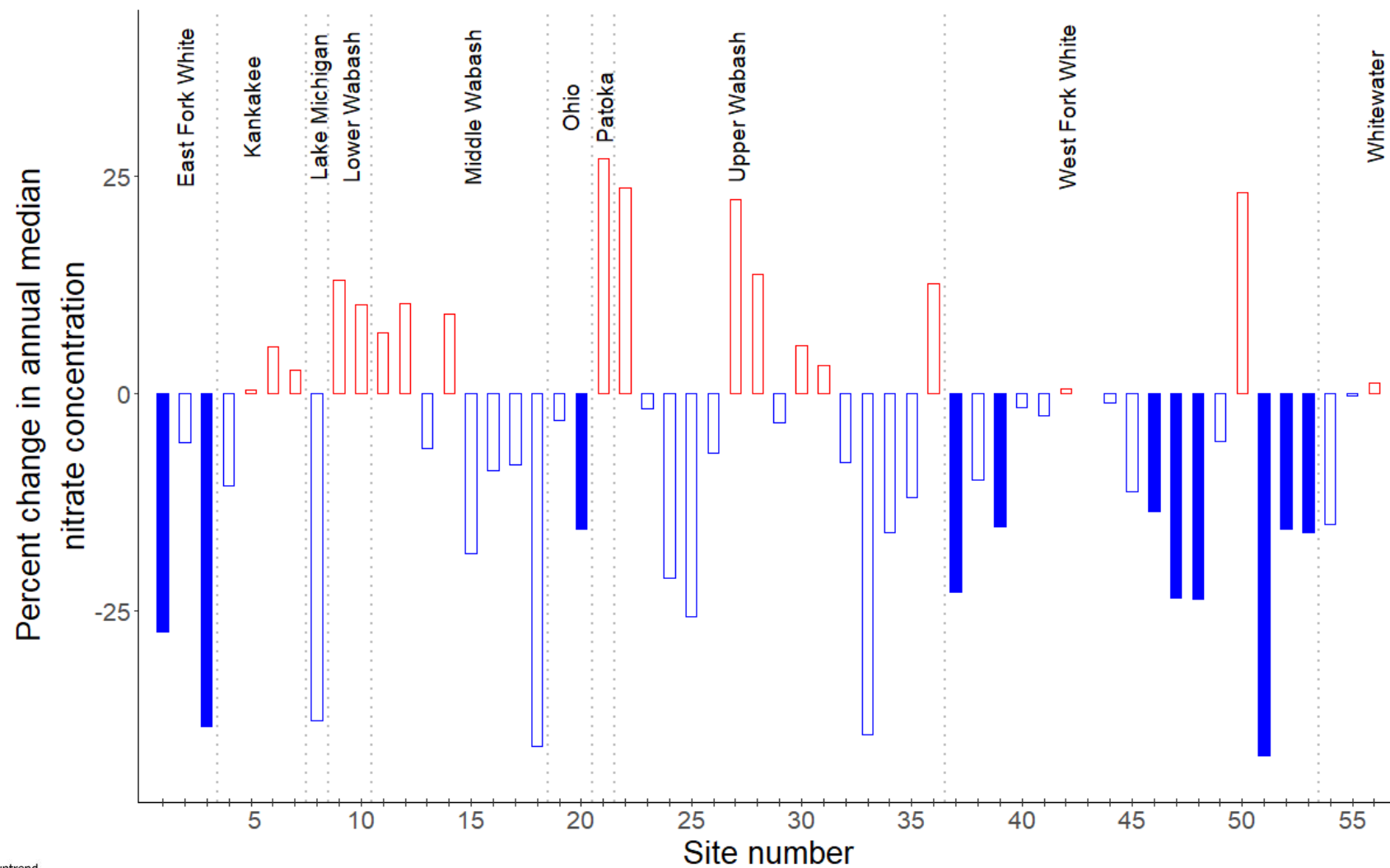
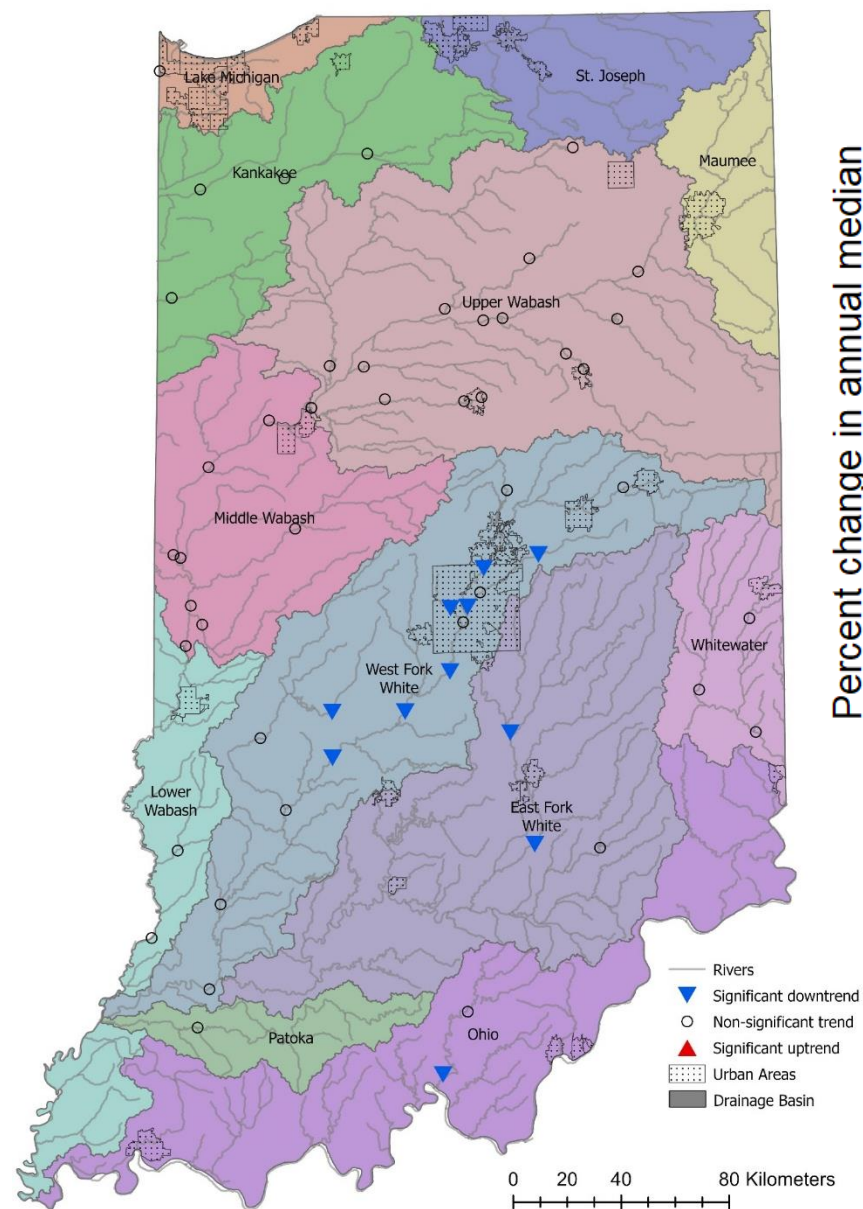
IDEM staff Joel Armstrong manages water samples at a fixed station site.

Organic nitrogen



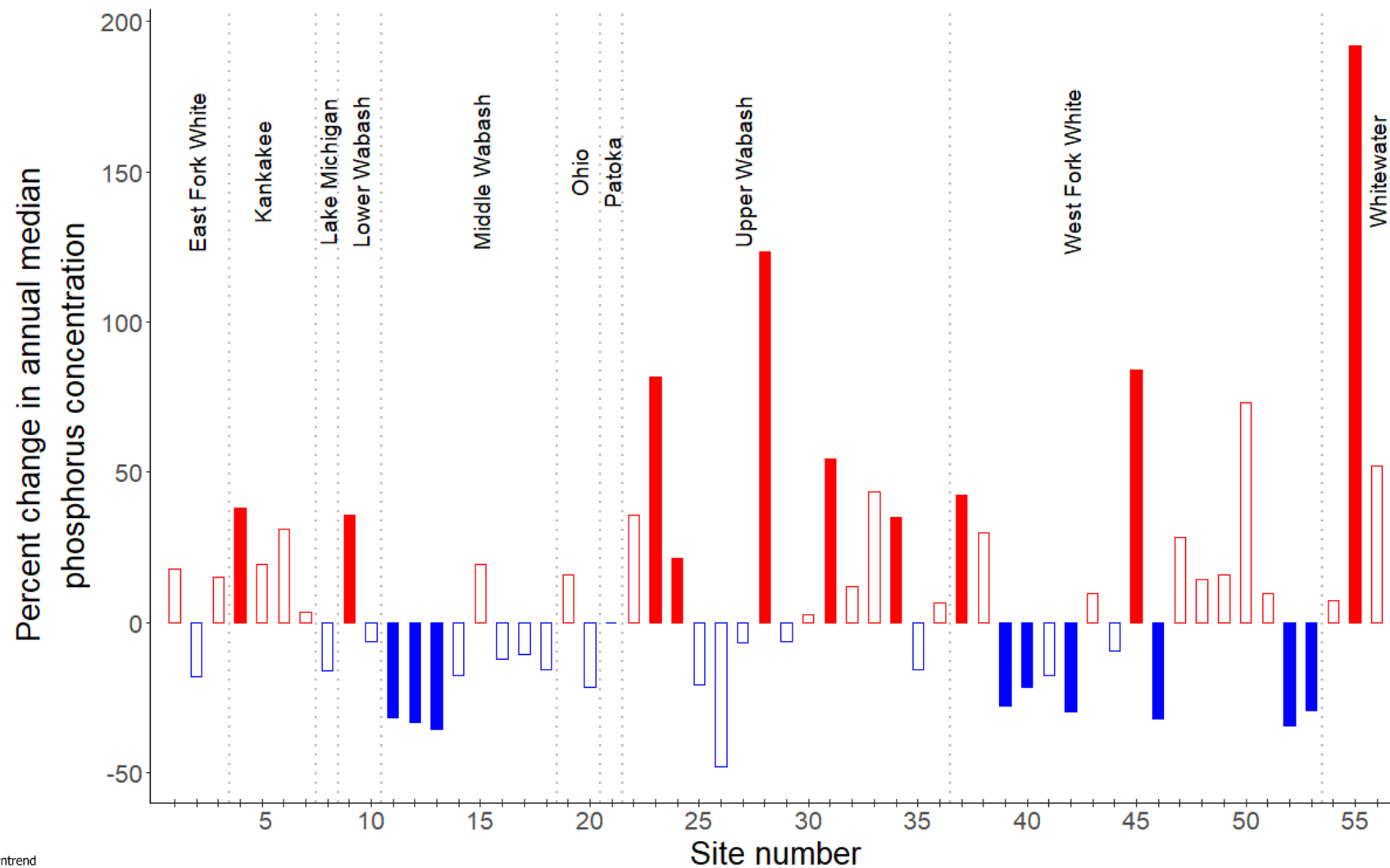
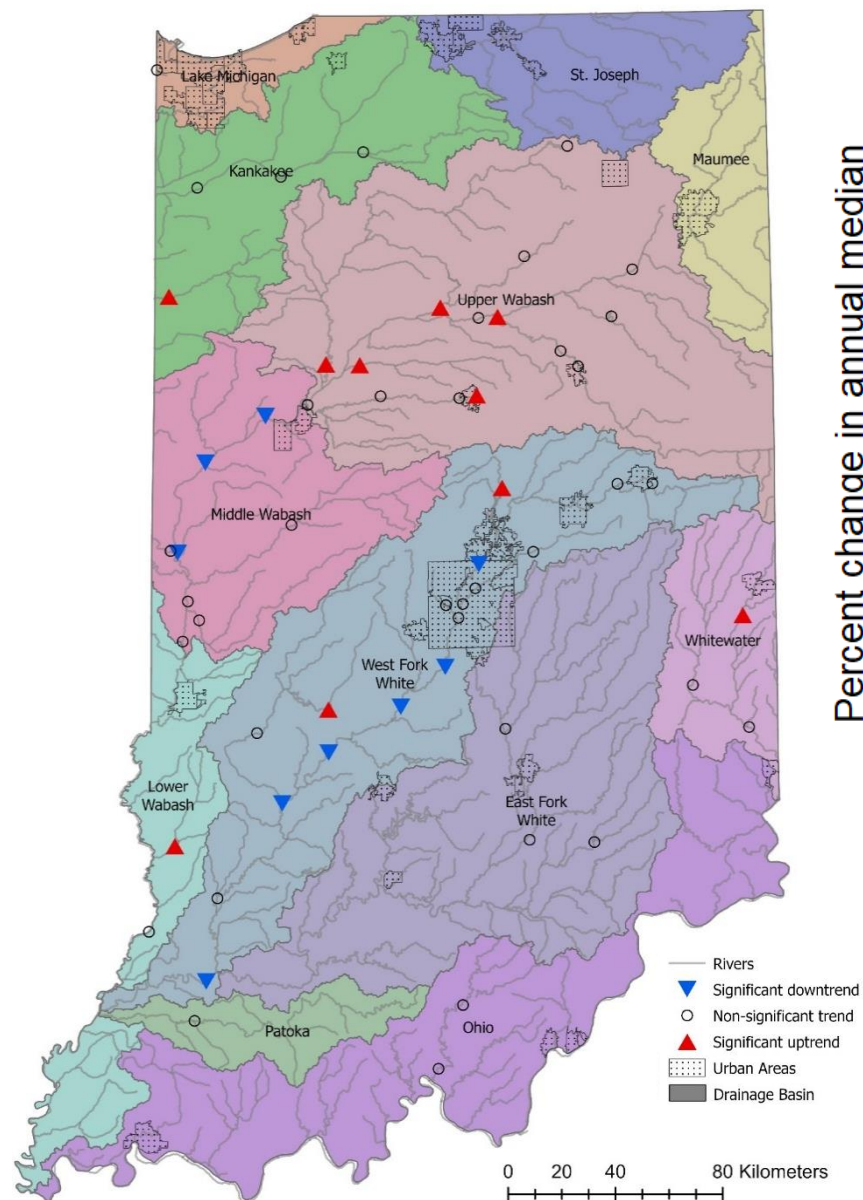
- Organic nitrogen declined at 15 sites – Southern
- Increases at 8 sites – Northern

Nitrate



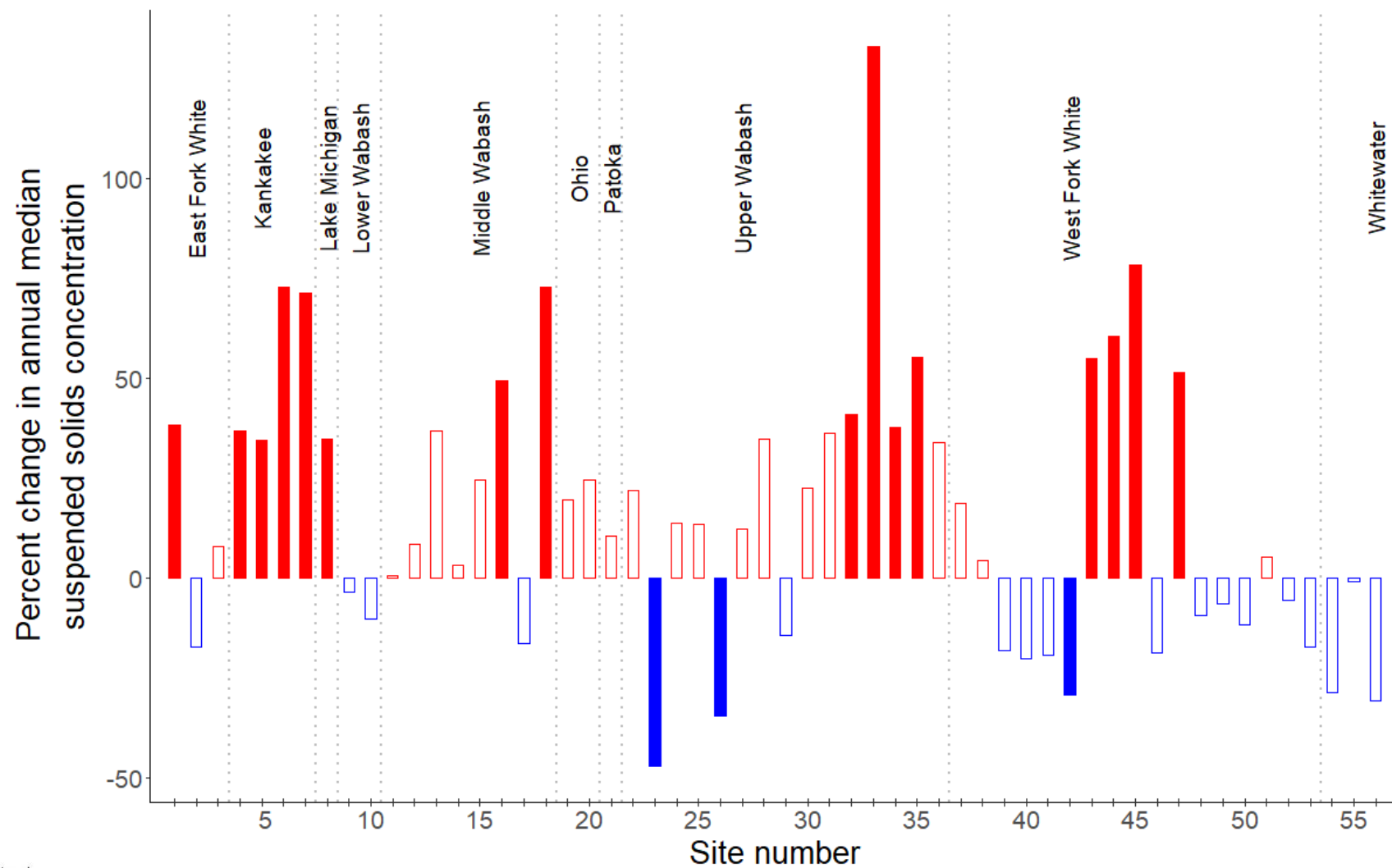
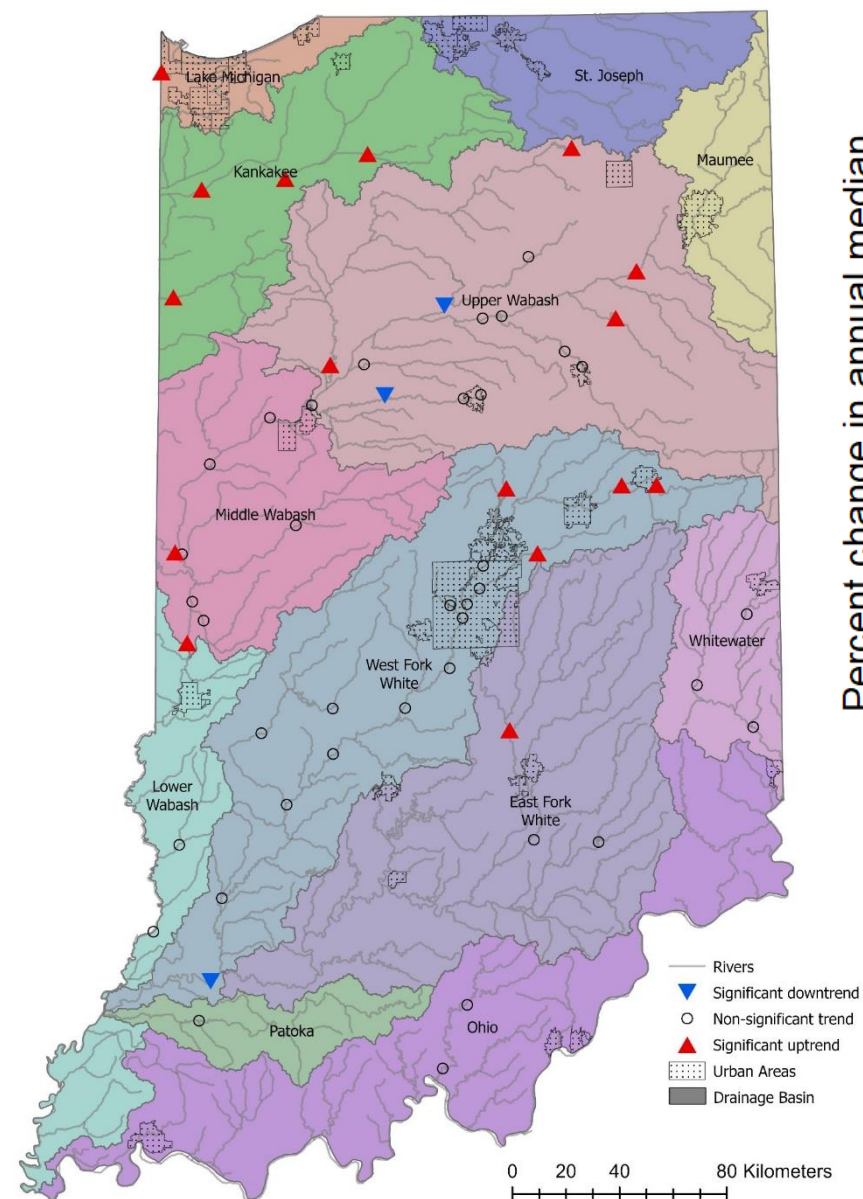
- Nitrate (nitrate + nitrite) has significantly declined; many sites in the West Fork White River Basin

Phosphorus



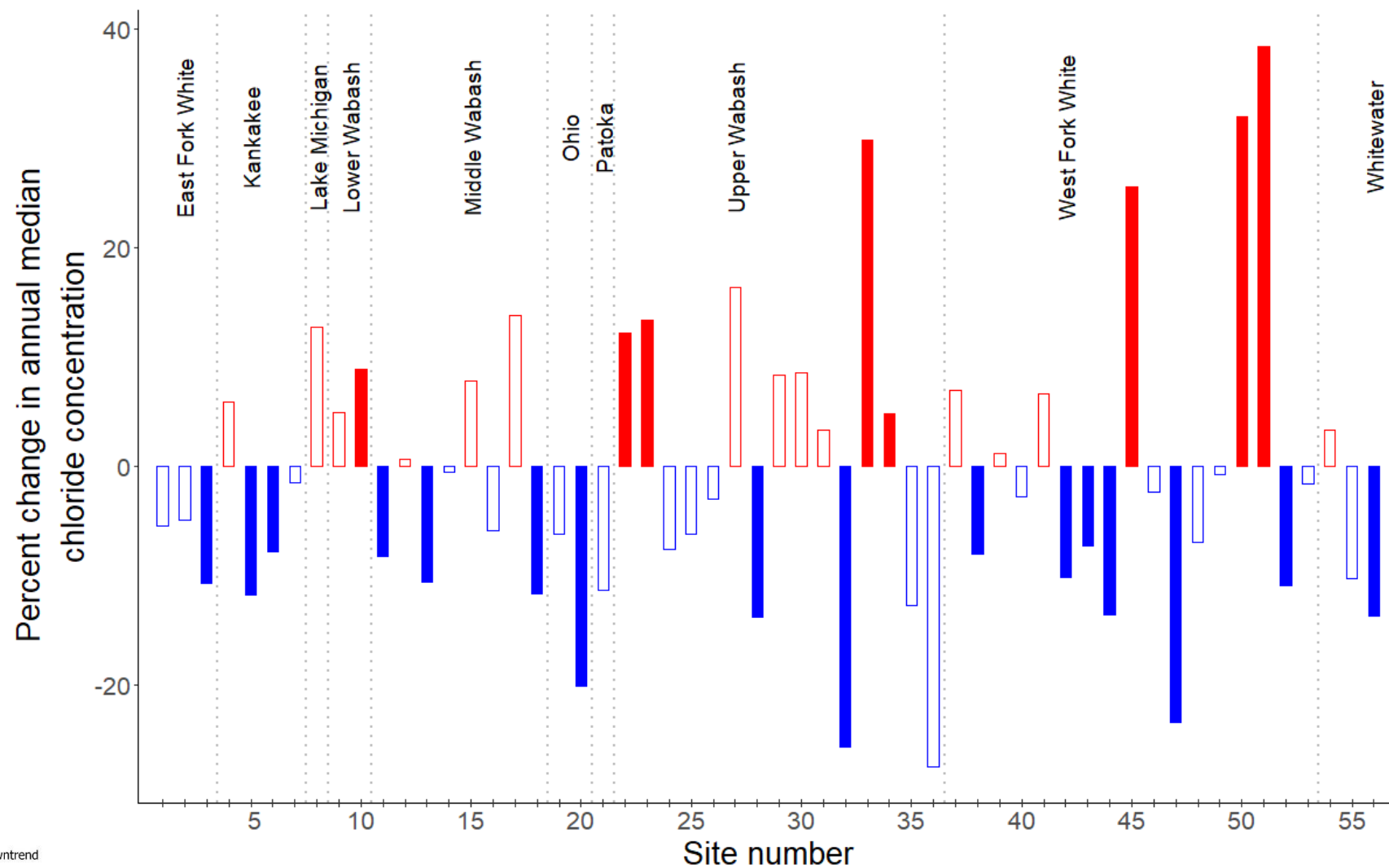
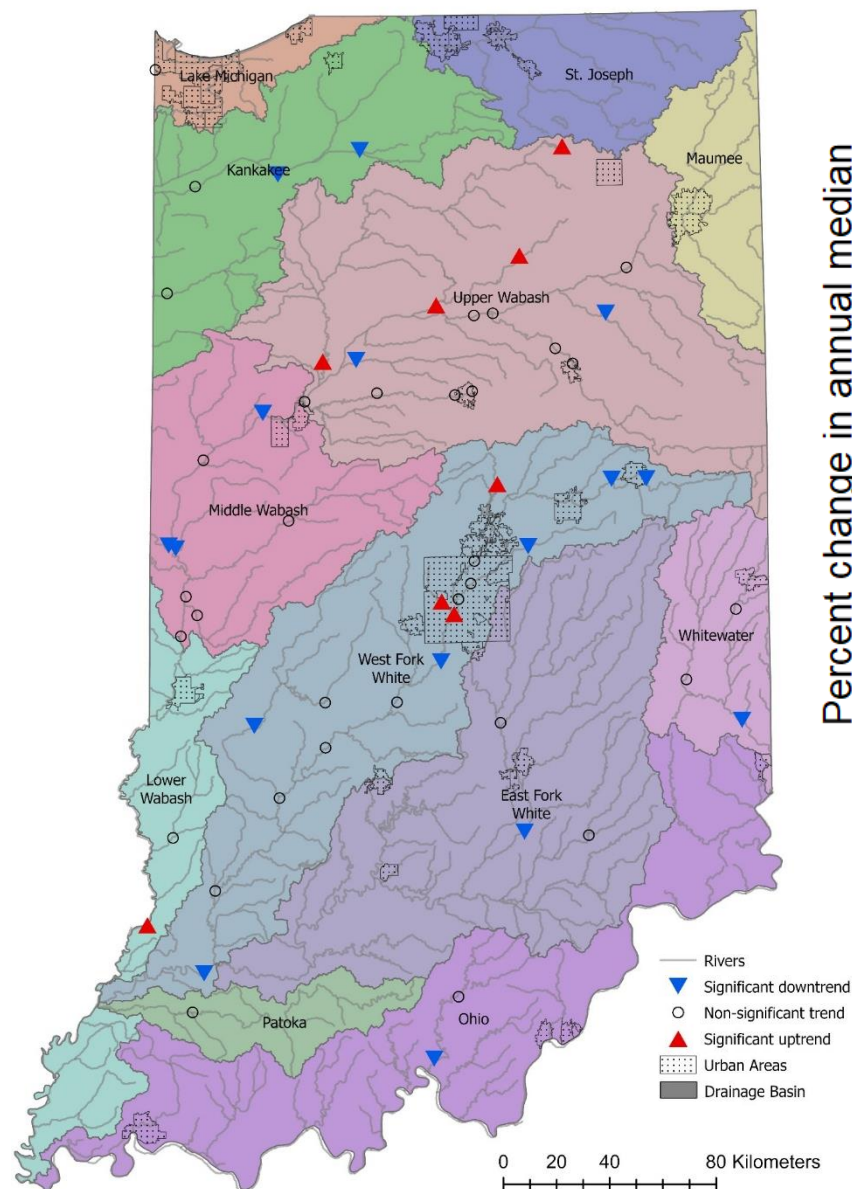
- Phosphorus declined at 9 sites across the state
- Increases seen at 10 sites

Suspended solids



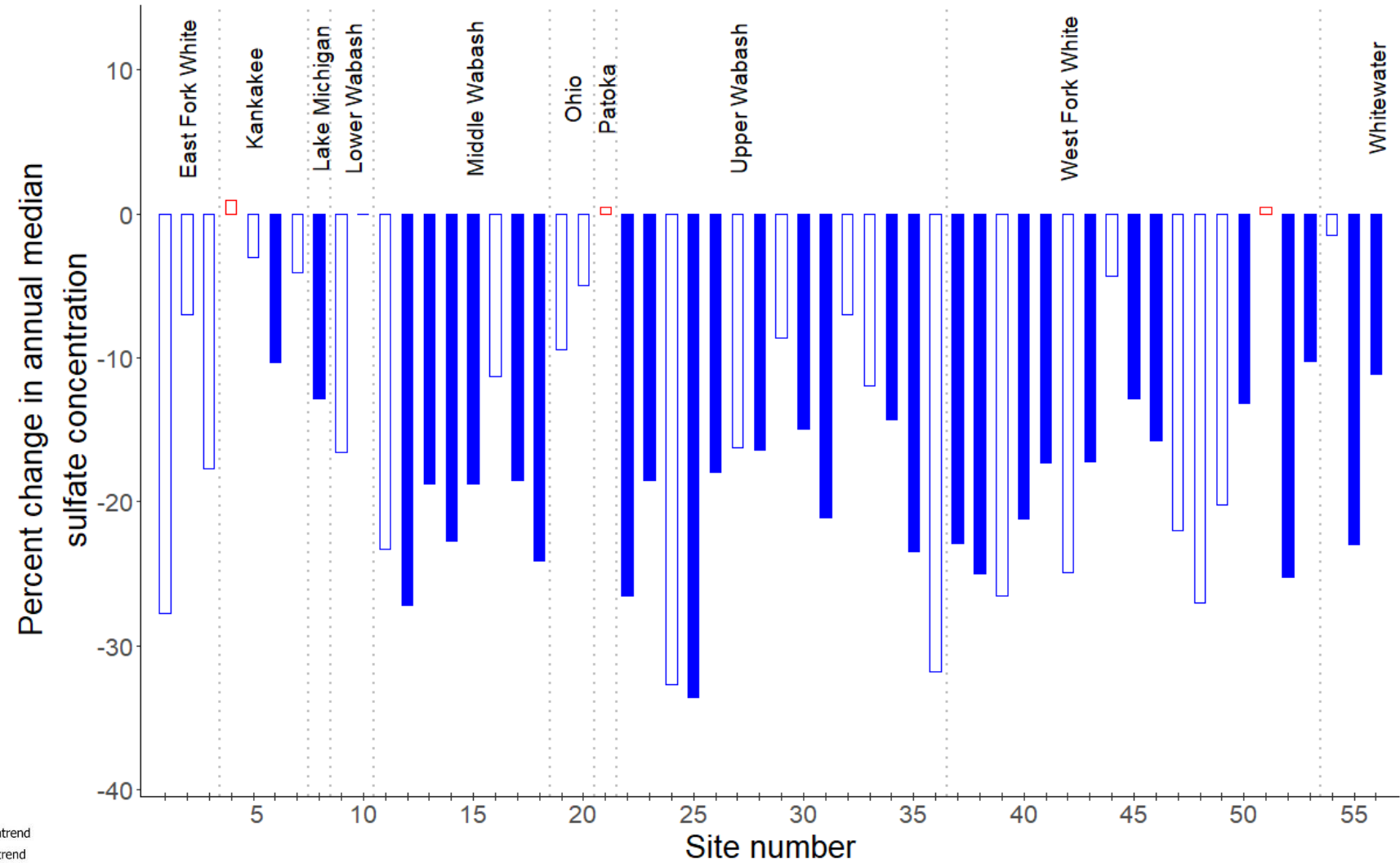
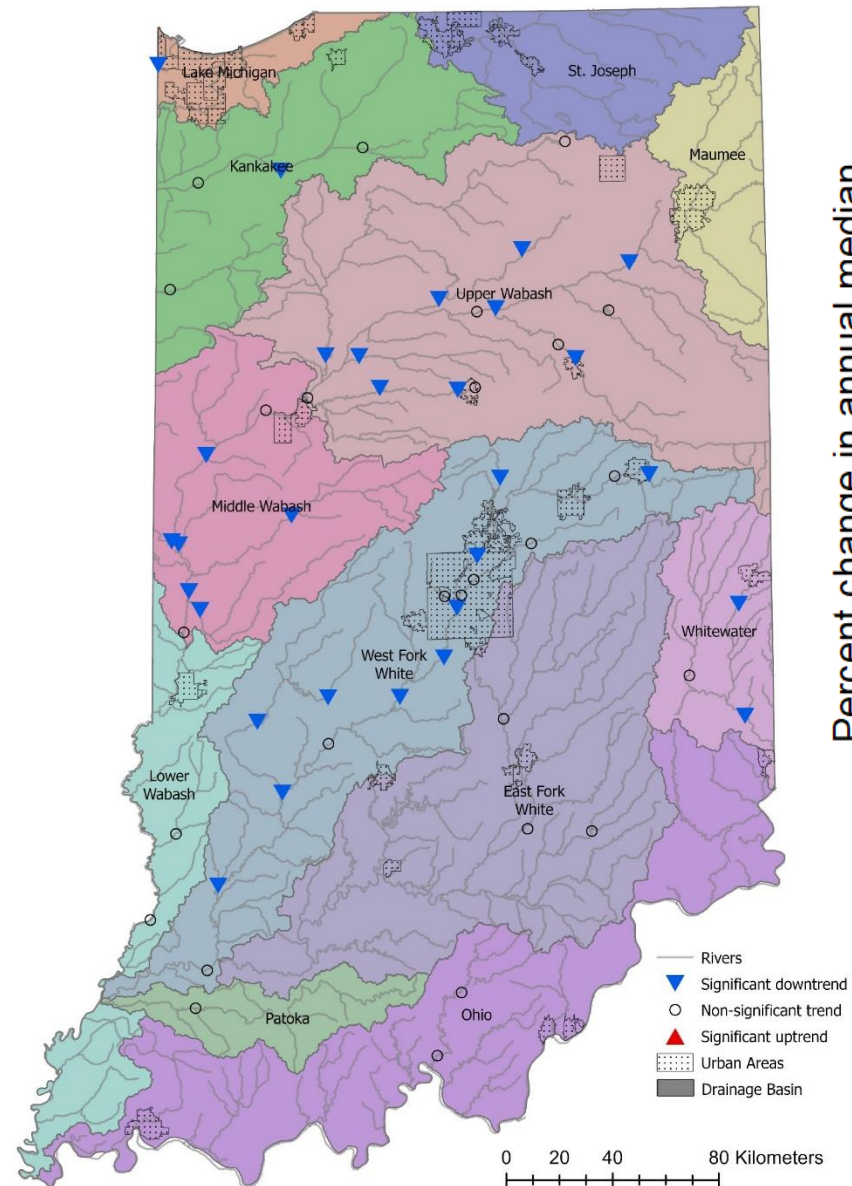
- Suspended solids declined in 3 sites
- Significant increases seen at 16 sites

Chloride



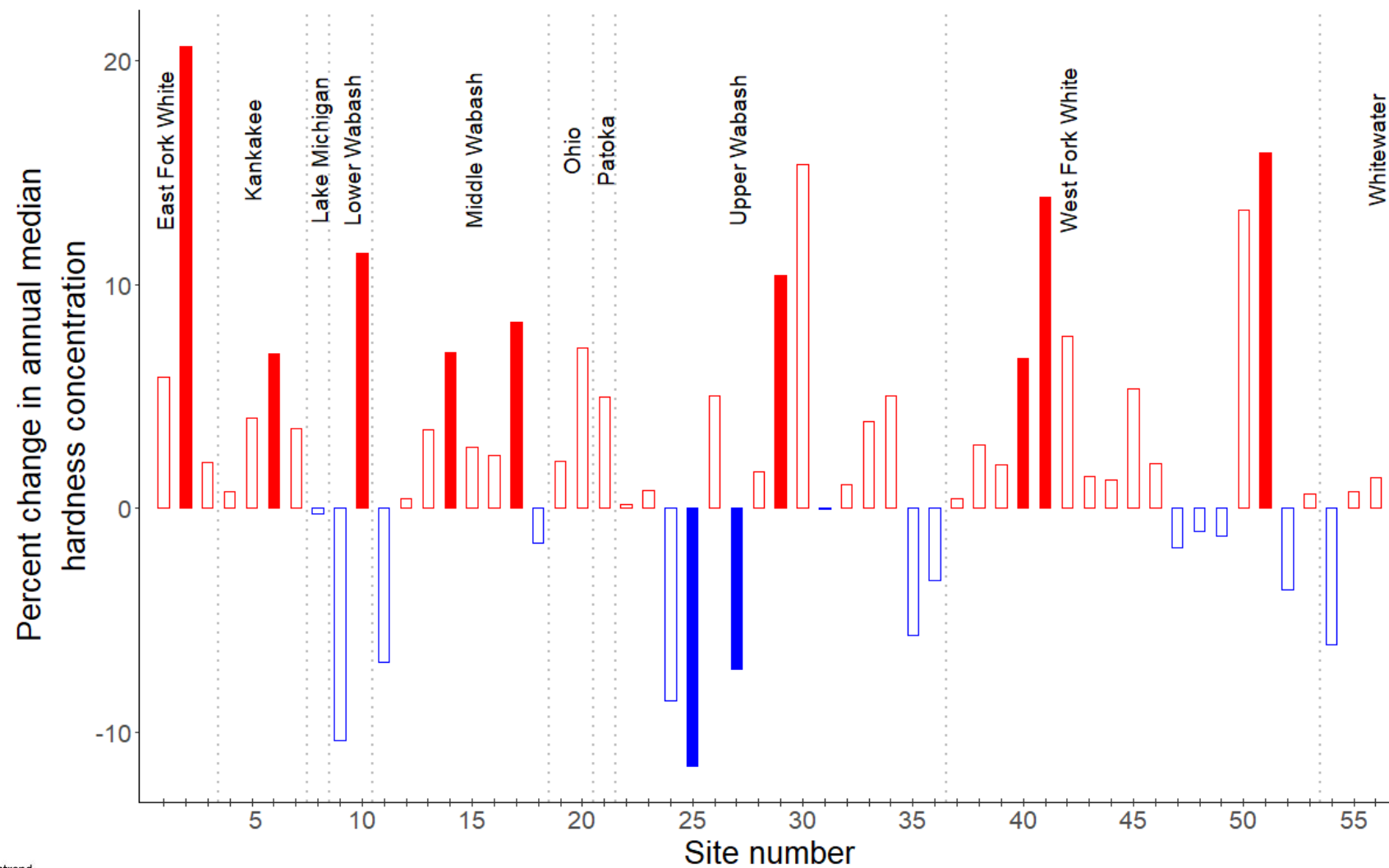
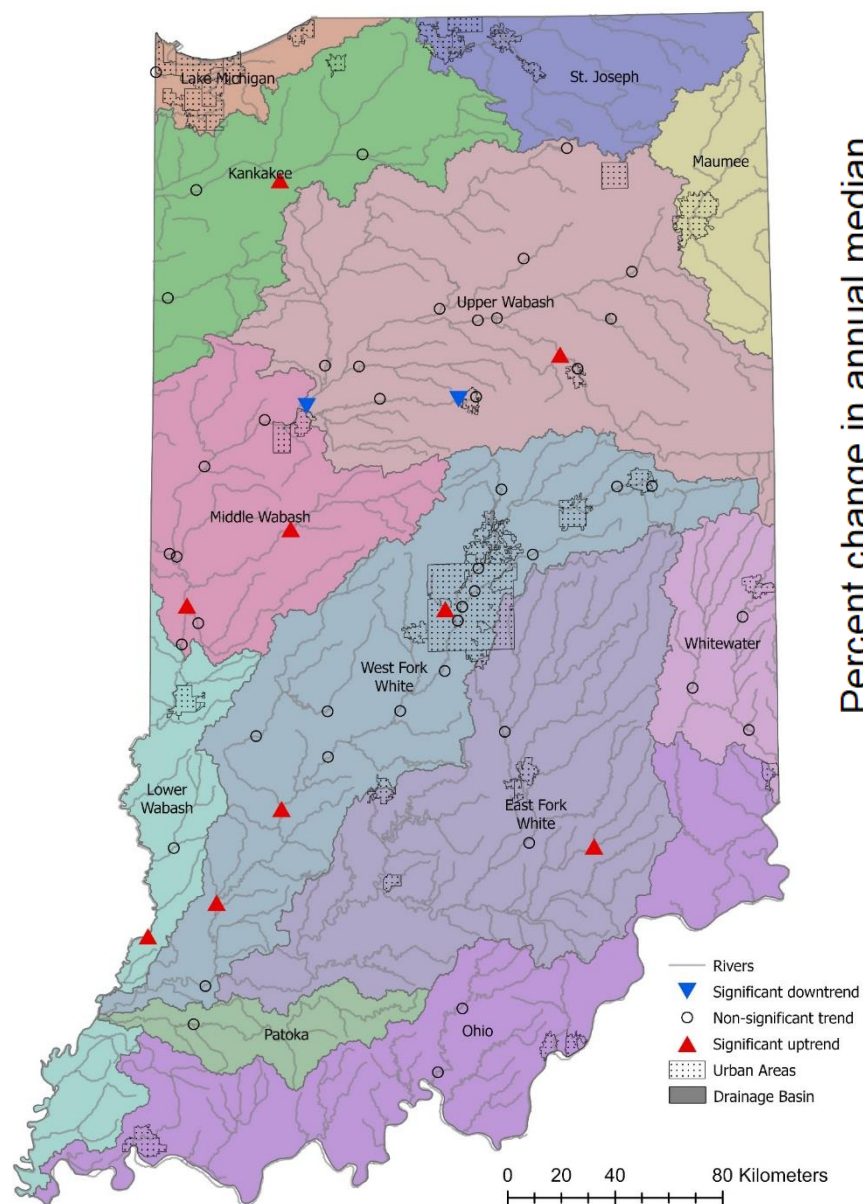
- 8 sites with significant increase in chloride; 4 in the Upper Wabash
- 16 sites with significant declines in chloride across the state

Sulfate



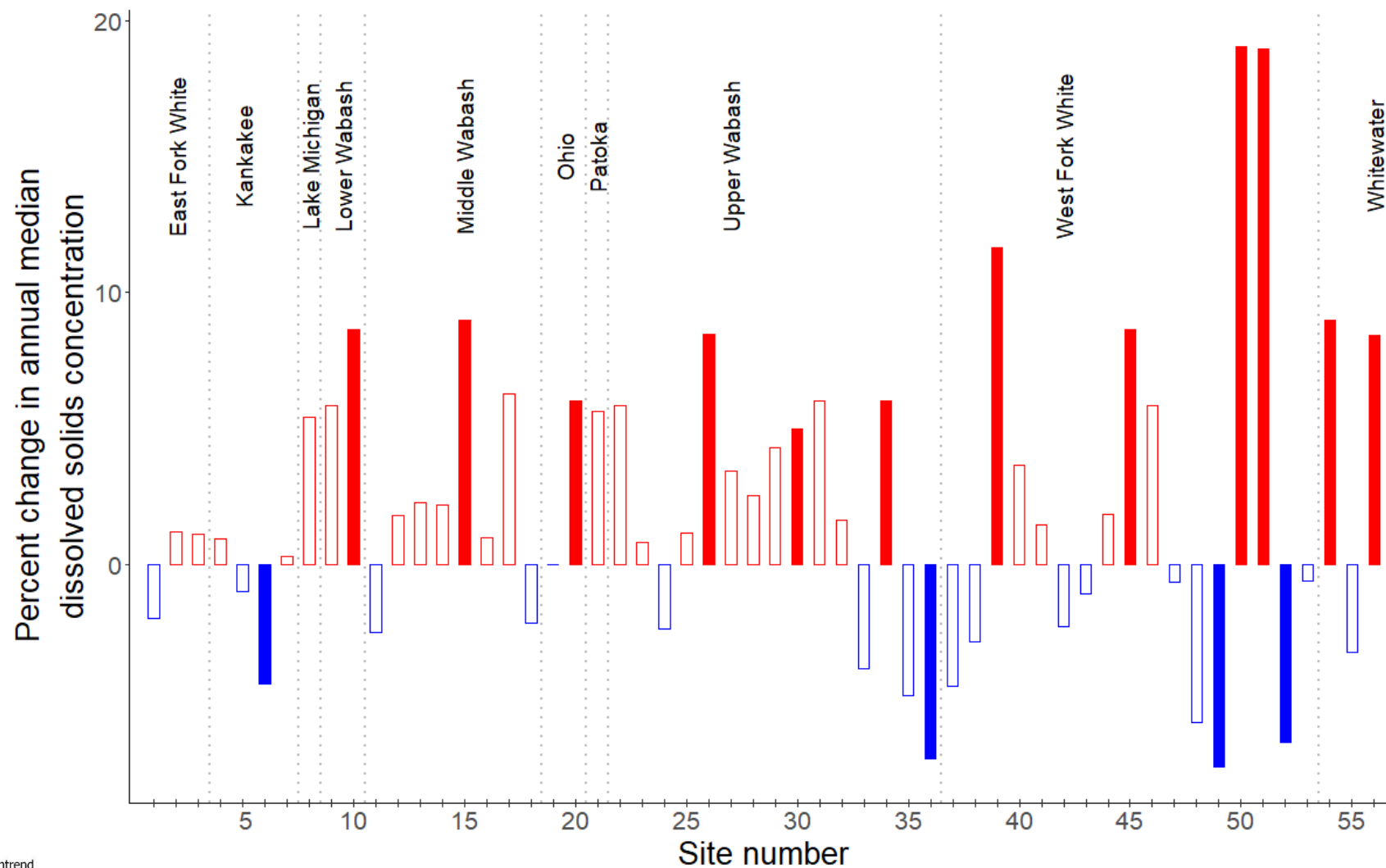
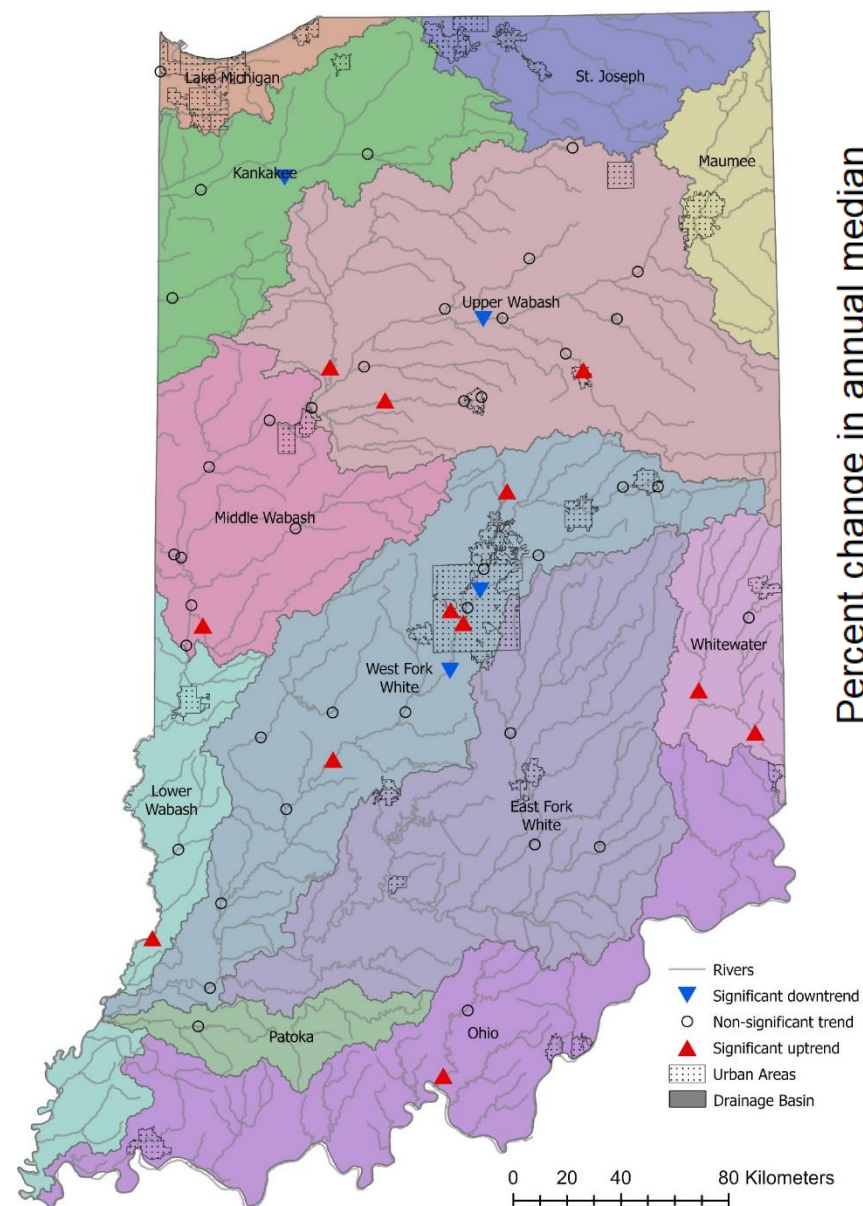
- Sites across the state with significant declines in sulfate concentration

Hardness



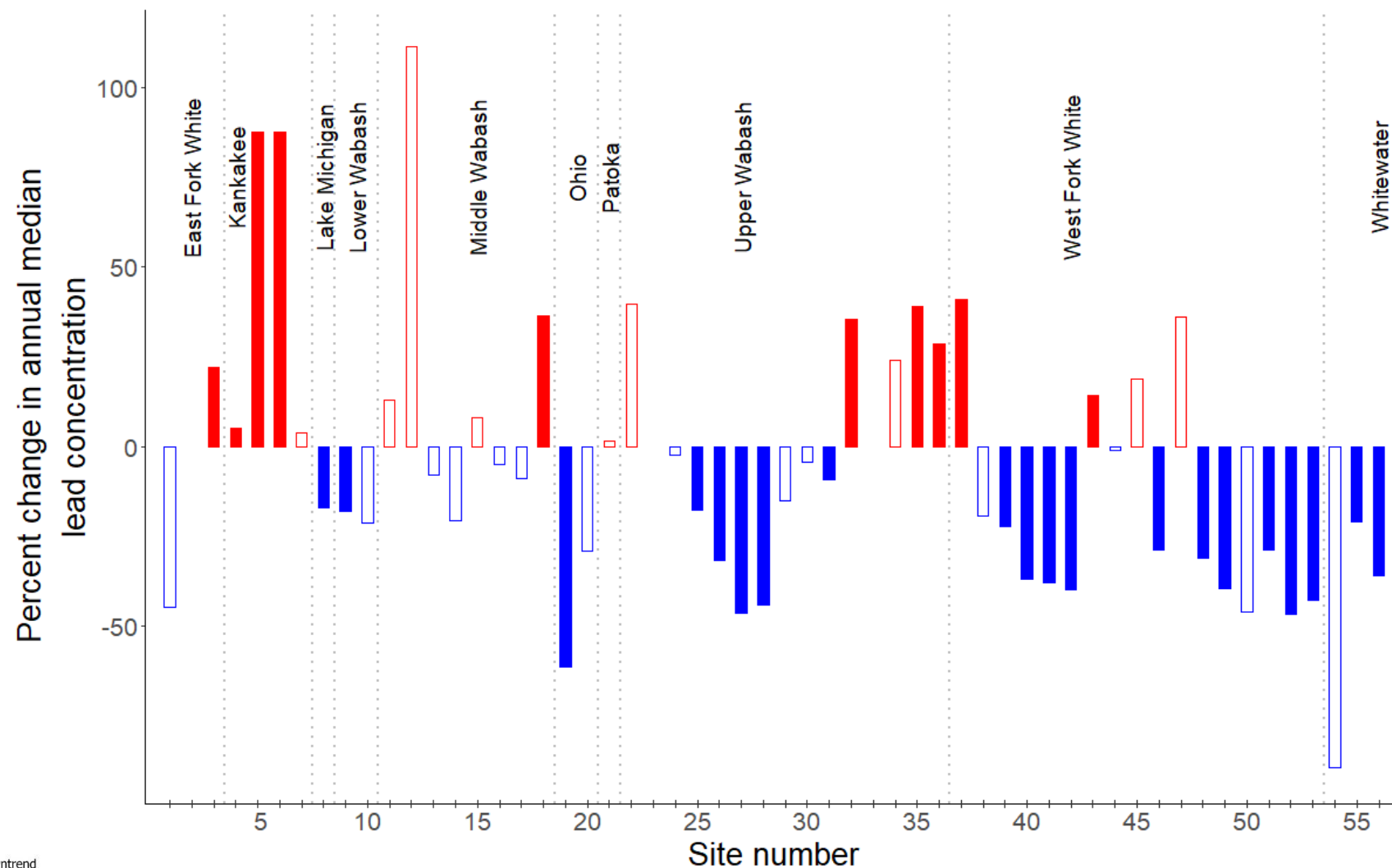
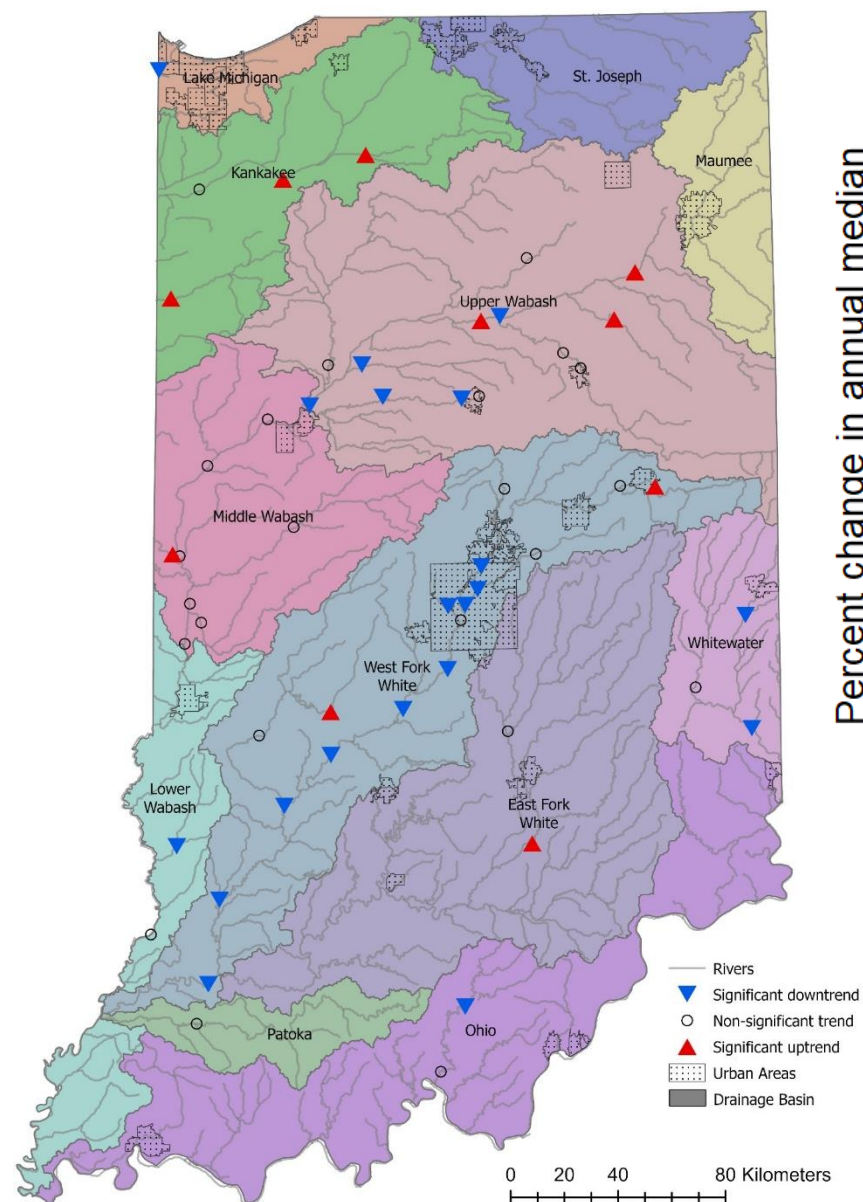
- 9 sites with significant increase in hardness across the state
- 2 sites with significant declines in the Upper Wabash

Dissolved solids



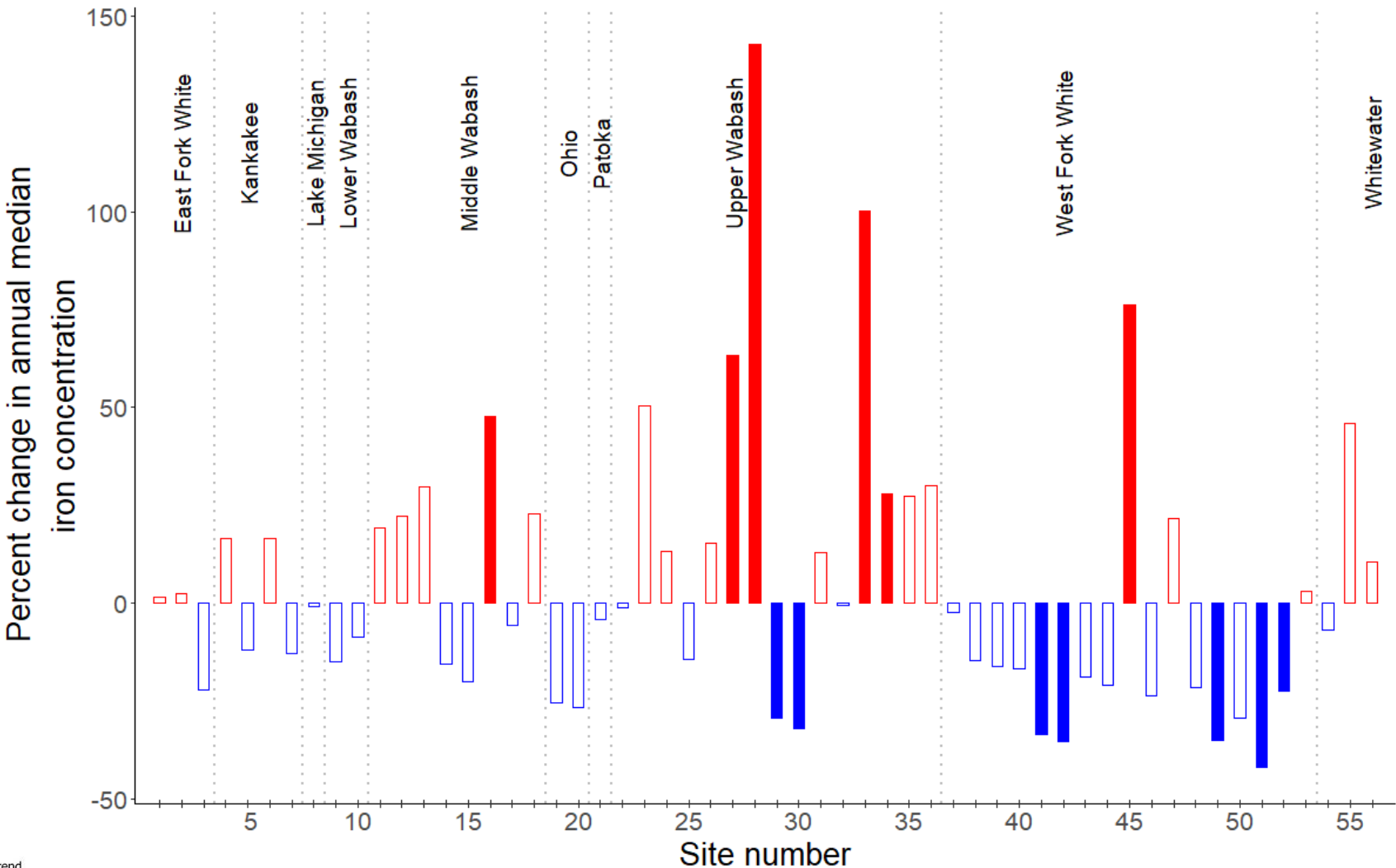
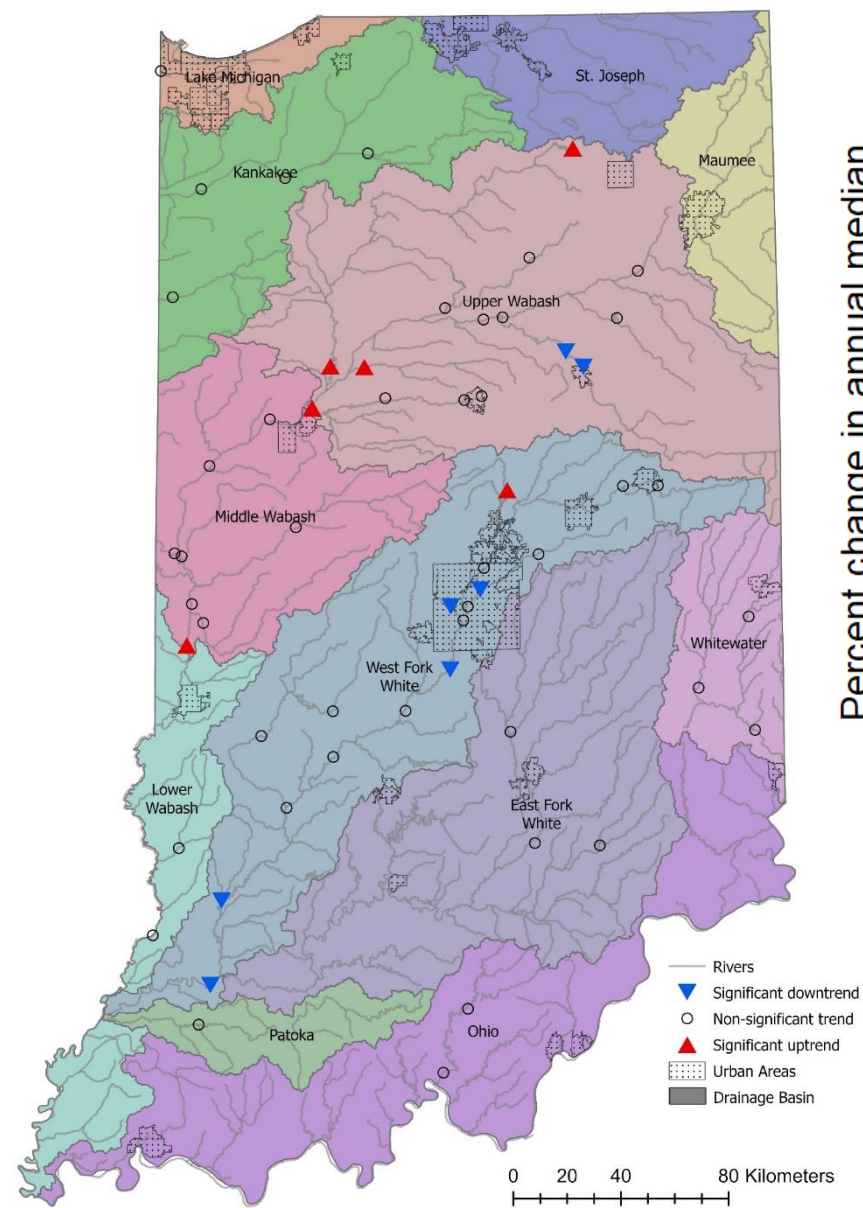
- Dissolved solids increased significantly in 12 sites across the state.
- Significant declines observed in 4 sites across the state

Lead



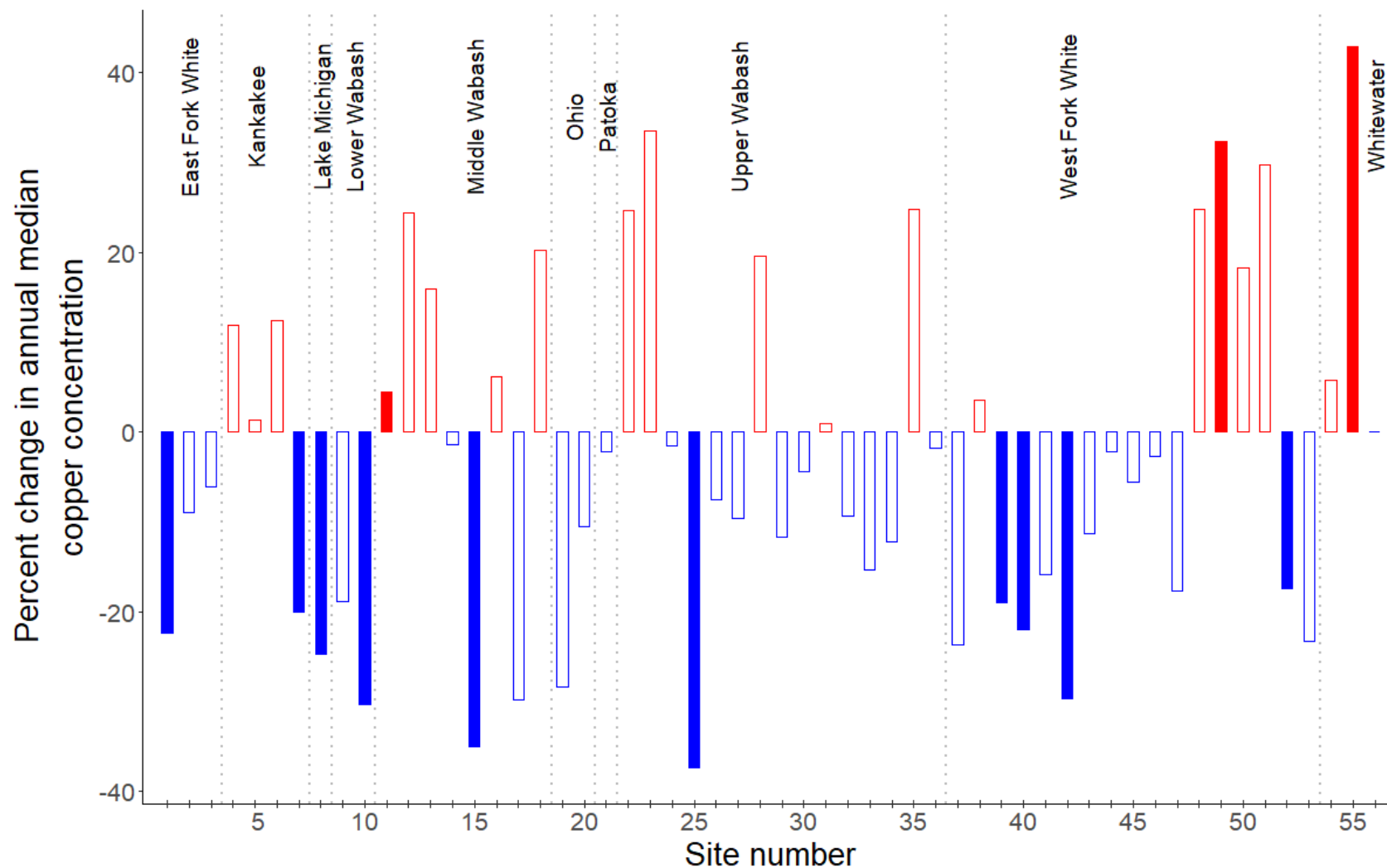
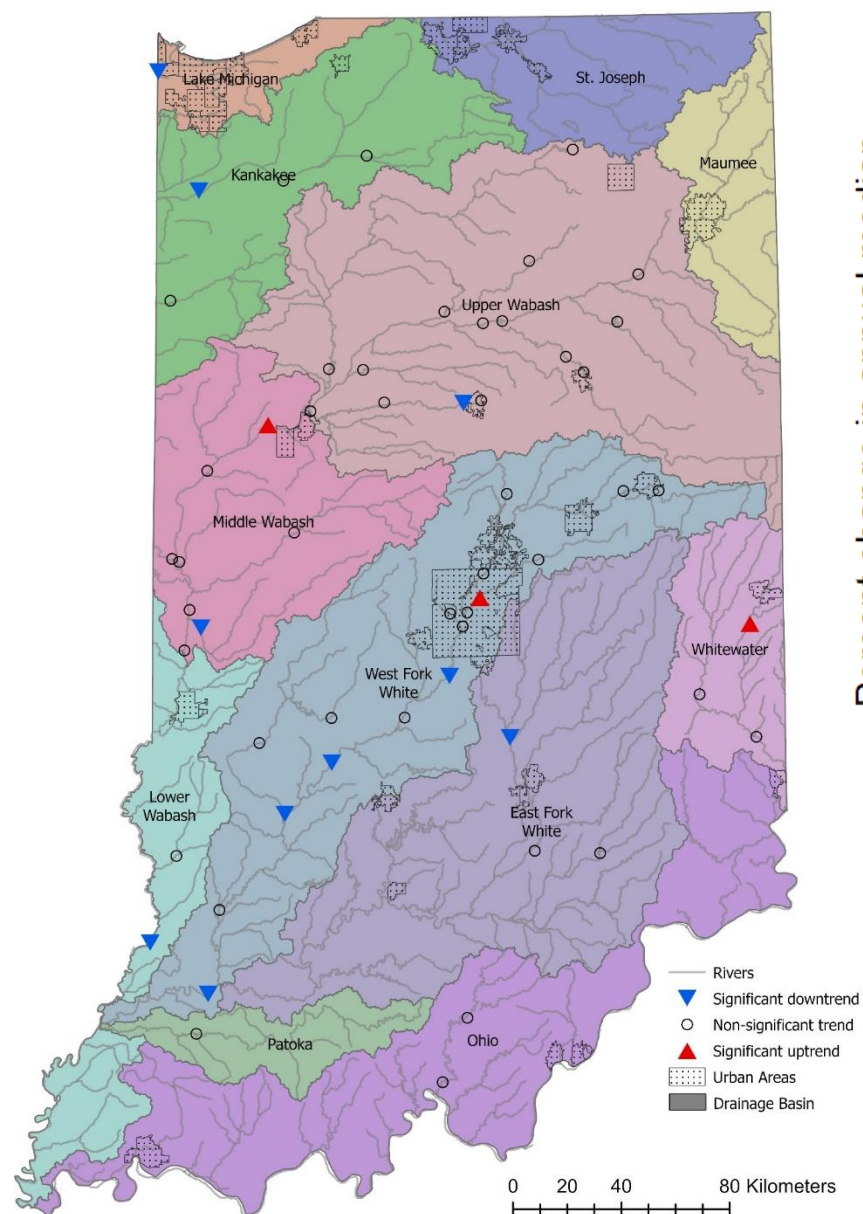
- 20 sites with significant declines in total lead
- 10 sites with significant increase in total lead across the state

Iron



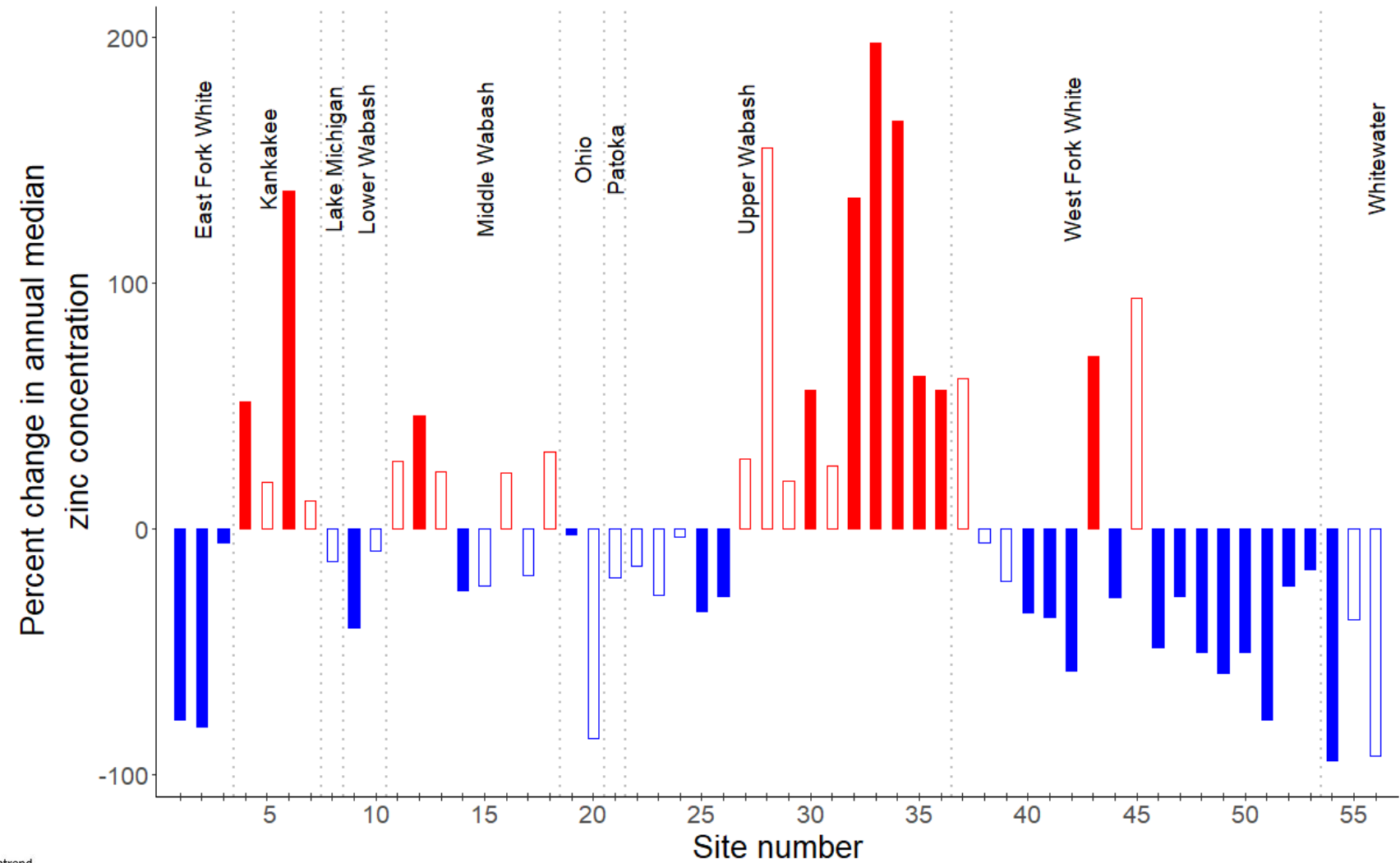
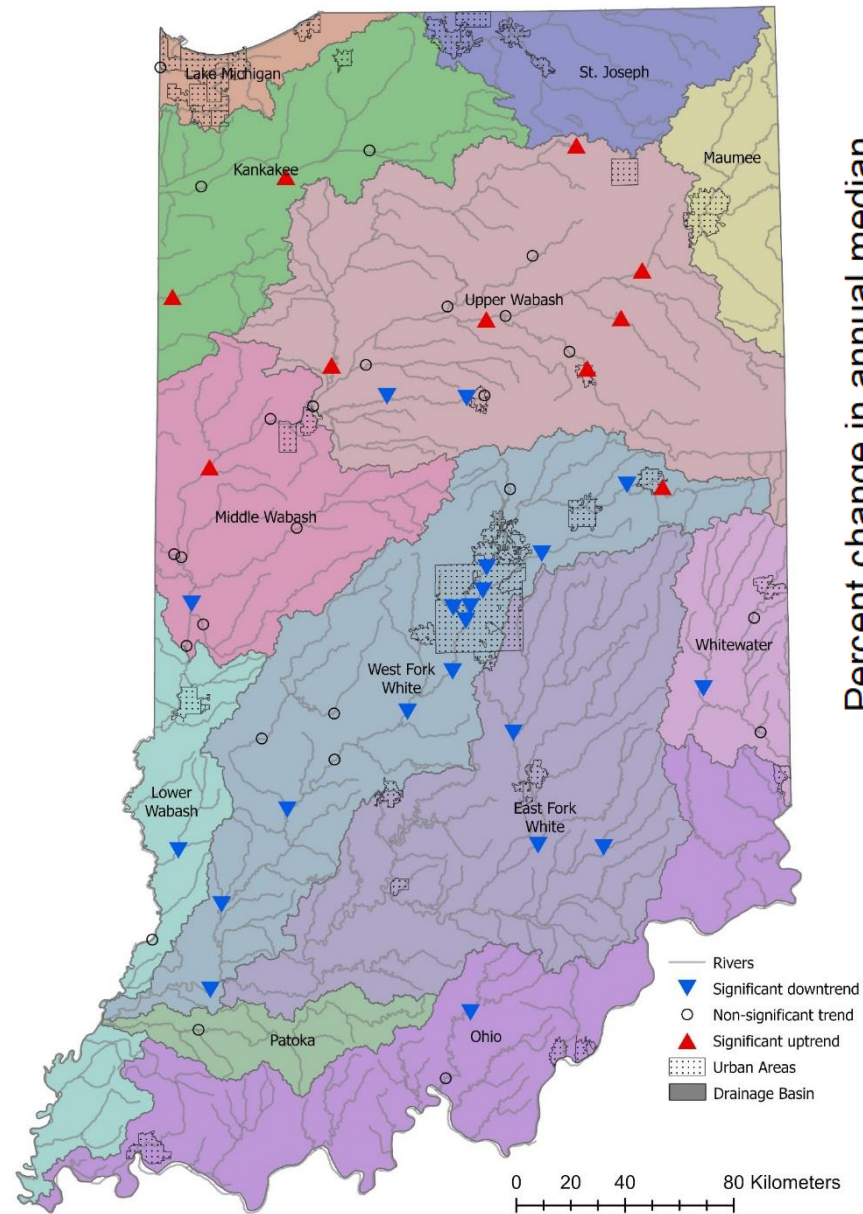
- 6 sites with significant increase in iron concentration (Northern)
- 7 sites with significant decline in iron concentration; 5 sites in the West Fork White River Basin

Copper



- 3 sites downstream of urban areas with significant increase in copper concentration
- 10 sites with significant declines across the state

Zinc

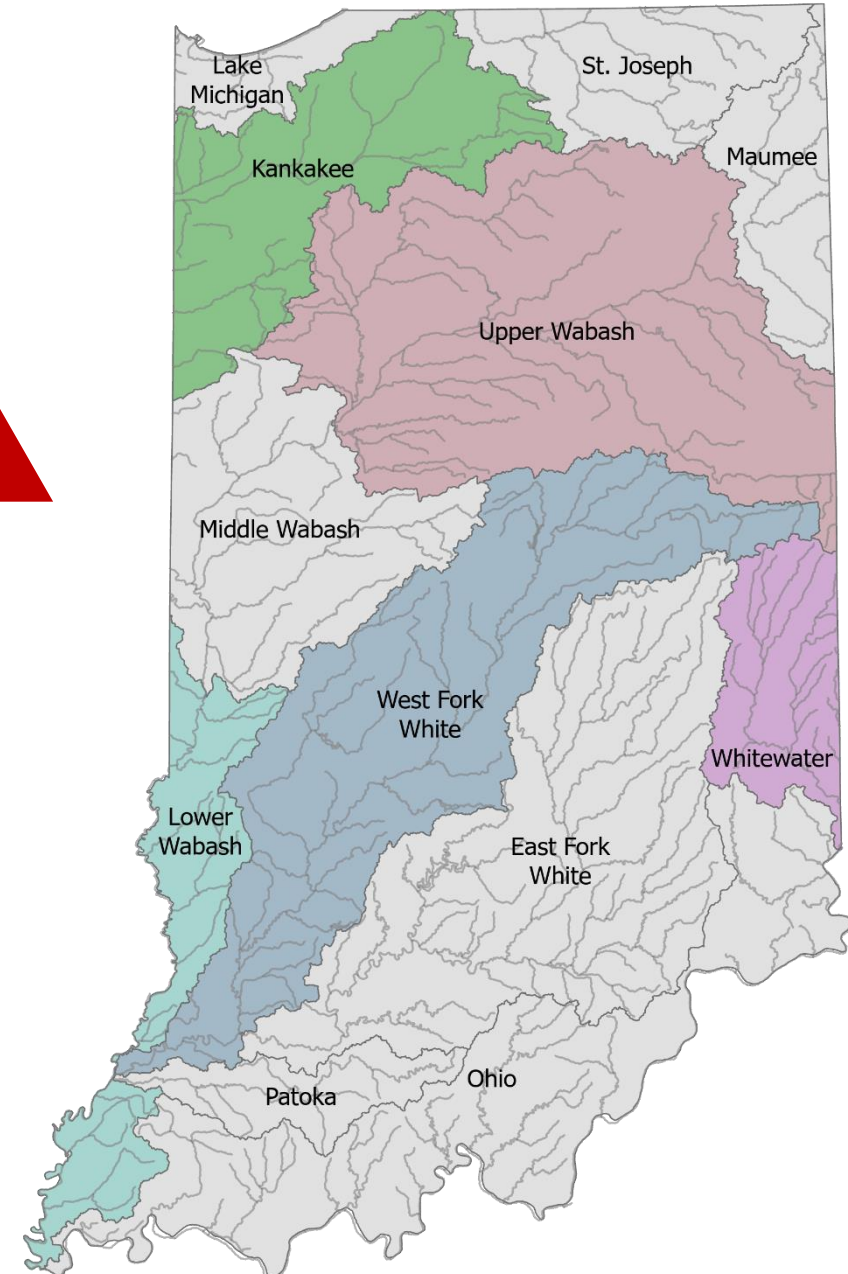


- 21 sites with significant declines in zinc concentration - Southern
- 10 sites with significant increase in zinc concentration - Northern



Summary – Regional results

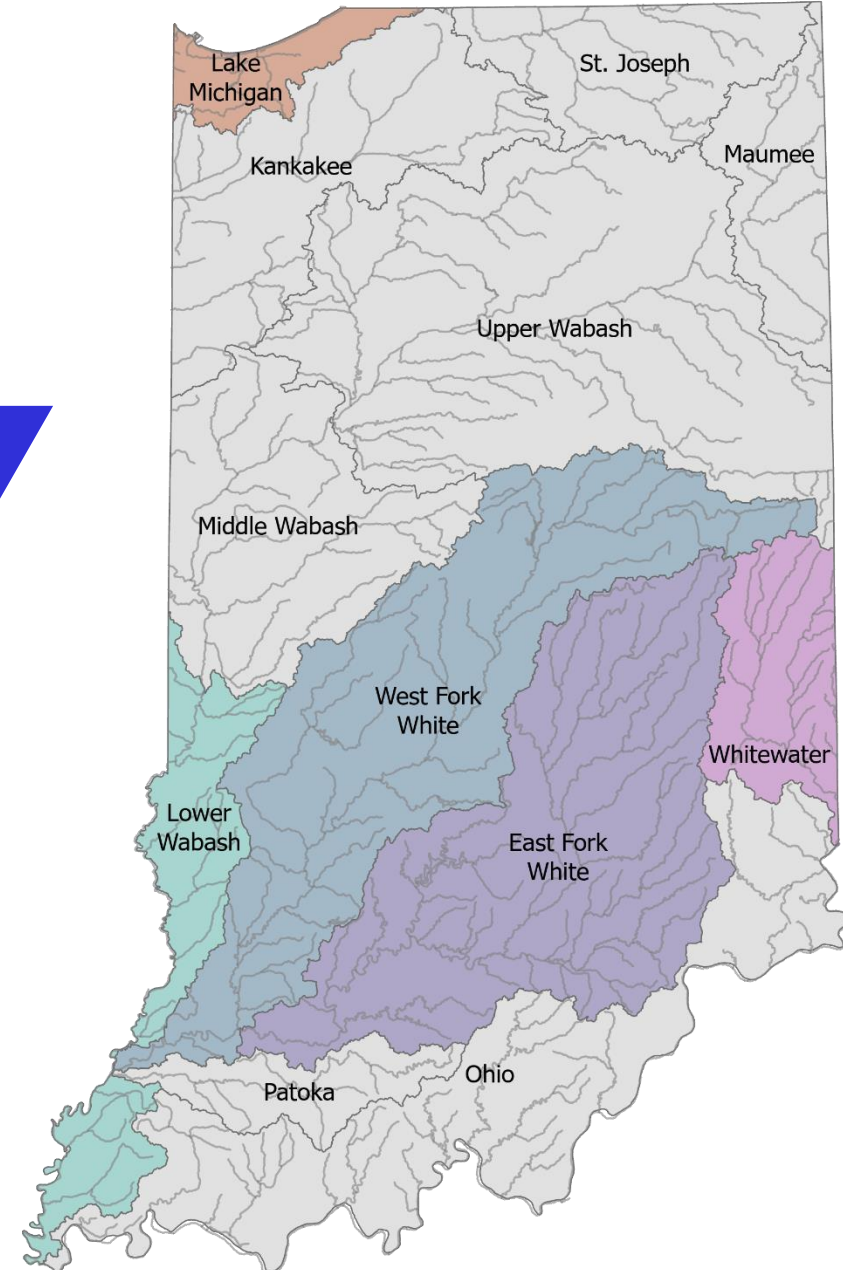
River Basin	Uptrends
Kankakee	29%
Upper Wabash	20%
Lower Wabash	17%
Whitewater	11%
West Fork White	10%





Summary – Regional results

River Basin	Downtrends
West Fork White	35%
East Fork White	26%
Lake Michigan	25%
Whitewater	19%
Lower Wabash	17%





Summary – Surface Water Criteria

Substance	Criteria	% samples exceeding
Nitrate*	10 mg/L	0.4%
Chloride	516 - 881 mg/L	0%
Sulfate*	500- 2,689 mg/L	0%
Lead	37 – 280 µg/L	0%
Copper	10 - 63 µg/L	0.05%
Zinc	76 – 379 µg/L	0%

* Criteria for the protection of human health



Questions?

Take a closer look on our **ArcGIS Story Map**
and **Interactive Maps**

Contact:

Jit Weir

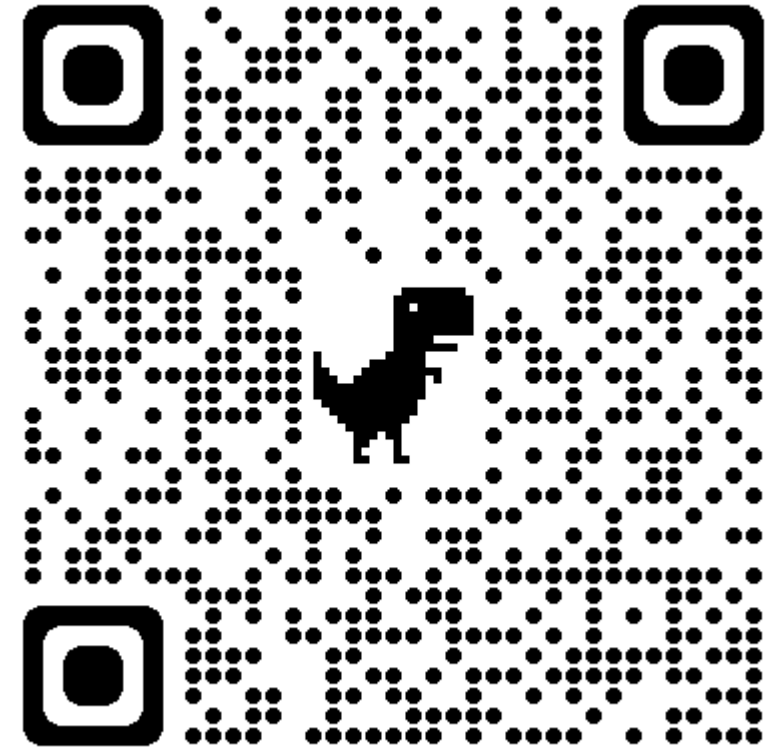
Technical Environmental Specialist

Watershed Assessment & Planning Branch,

Office of Water Quality,

Indiana Department of Environmental Management

jweir@idem.IN.gov





236th Technical Committee Meeting

Scott Mandirola, Chair

Presiding

October 8-9, 2024



The meeting will reconvene at 8:30 A.M. (Eastern) on October 9 and conclude by Noon. Below are a few tips to effectively navigate the meeting:

- *Mute your microphone at all times unless speaking.*
- *Disable your camera unless you are a Technical Committee member.*
- *The presenter will prompt participants for verbal questions, or use the Chat feature.*
- *Detailed virtual meeting instructions and important information can be found in the previously emailed document, “ORSANCO Virtual Technical Committee and Commission Meeting Instructions.”*

Agenda Item 10:

TEC Members Reports



- IL – Scott Twait
- IN – Gabrielle Ghreichi
- KY – Katie McKone
- NY – Damianos Skaros
- OH – Melinda Harris
- PA – Kevin Halloran
- VA – Jeffrey Hurst
- WV – Scott Mandirola
- USACE – Erich Emery
- USCG – Michael Franke-Rose
- USEPA – David Pfeifer
- USGS – Jeff Frey
- CIAC – Kathy Beckett
- PIAC – Cheri Budzynski
- PIACO – Betsy Bialosky
- POTW – Reese Johnson (Jim Gibson)
- WOAC – Heather Hulton VanTassel
- WUAC – Chris Bobay (Erica Pauken)



Agenda Item 11:

Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Program Update, and States' Round Robin Updates on Regulation of Nutrients and Nutrient Reduction Efforts

Jessica Fox and Jeff Thomas, EPRI

State TEC Members

Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Project

Update and Next Steps



Jessica Fox & Jeff Thomas - EPRI

ORSANCO Technical Committee Meeting
Charleston, West Virginia
October 9, 2024

OH, IN, and KY Sign Water Quality Trading Plan.

August 9th, 2012 in Cincinnati Ohio



June 22: A [nutrient pollution article](#) in The Economist mentions EPRI's Water Quality Trading Program.

Media Coverage



The
Economist

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

Bloomberg
BNA

IHS The Energy Daily

Greenwire

Environmental
Finance

DAYTON
BUSINESS JOURNAL

The Columbus Dispatch

INSIDE EPA.COM
an online news service from the publishers of Inside EPA

courier-journal.com

AG PROFESSIONAL

INSIDE INDIANA™
BUSINESS
WITH GERRY DICK

BROWNFIELD
AGRICULTURE TODAY

Media Coverage



EPRI @EPRINews · Oct 26
Regenerating forests play an important role in improving #WaterQuality. Today, we planted 3 of more than 3,000 trees that will be planted at Coyote Run Farm to help reduce nutrient runoff into watersheds.
Ohio EPA, ODA and Indiana Dept of Ag

BUSINESS JOURNAL



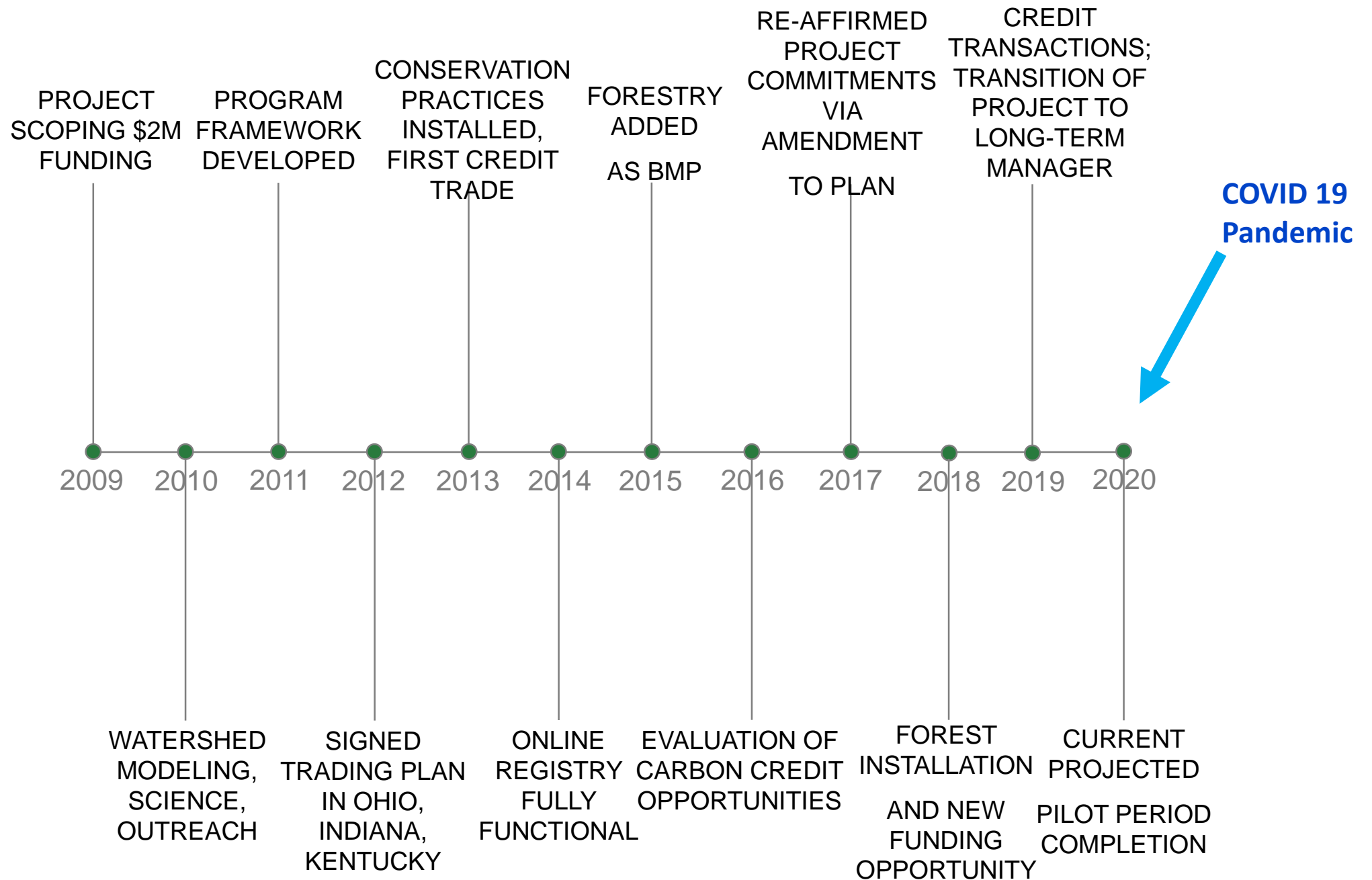
National Public Radio 2016-2017



Water Quality Trading Program



The CEO Water Mandate



USEPA Supports Water Quality Trading

Wheeler unveils proposal to boost 'market-based' approaches

Philip Athey, E&E News reporter

Published: Thursday, September 5, 2019

News Releases from Headquarters > Water (OW)

EPA Announces New Water Quality Trading Policy Memorandum

EPA efforts seek to modernize the agency's water quality trading policies to leverage emerging technologies and facilitate broader adoption of market-based programs

02/06/2019

News Releases from Headquarters > Water (OW)


EPA Seeks Comment on New Policy Proposals to Facilitate Market-Based Opportunities to Improve Water Quality

09/05/2019



Tools & Methods

Watershed Model



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Ecosystems Research Division

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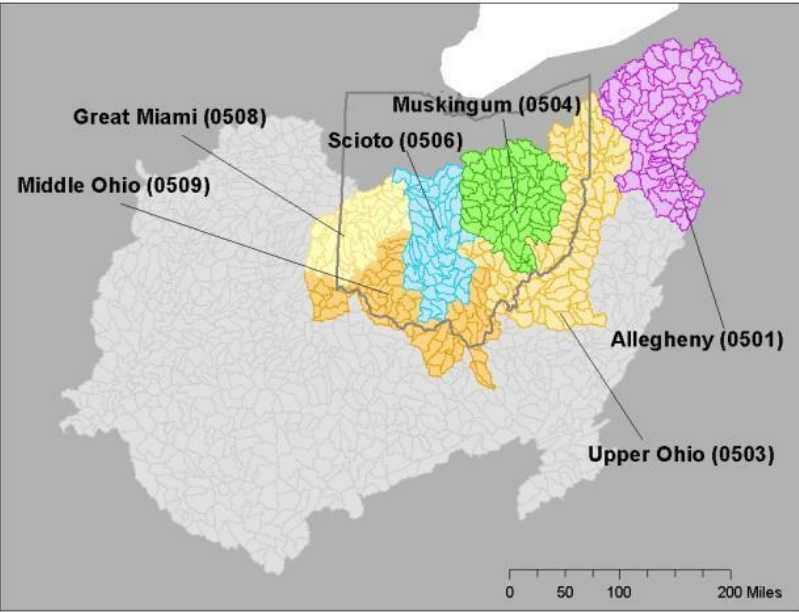
You are here: [EPA Home](#) » [athens](#) » [wwqtsc](#) » [html](#) » Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework (WARMF)

Watershed Analysis Risk Management Framework (WARMF)

To facilitate TMDL analysis and watershed planning, WARMF was developed under sponsorship from the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) as a decision support system for watershed management. The system provides a road map to calculate TMDLs for most conventional pollutants (coliform, TSS, BOD, nutrients). It also provides a road map to guide stakeholders and the cons under EPA guidelines to GIS-based gr modelers as

WARMF Com

The Engineer ground water network of la layers for hyc land cover ar hydrology or



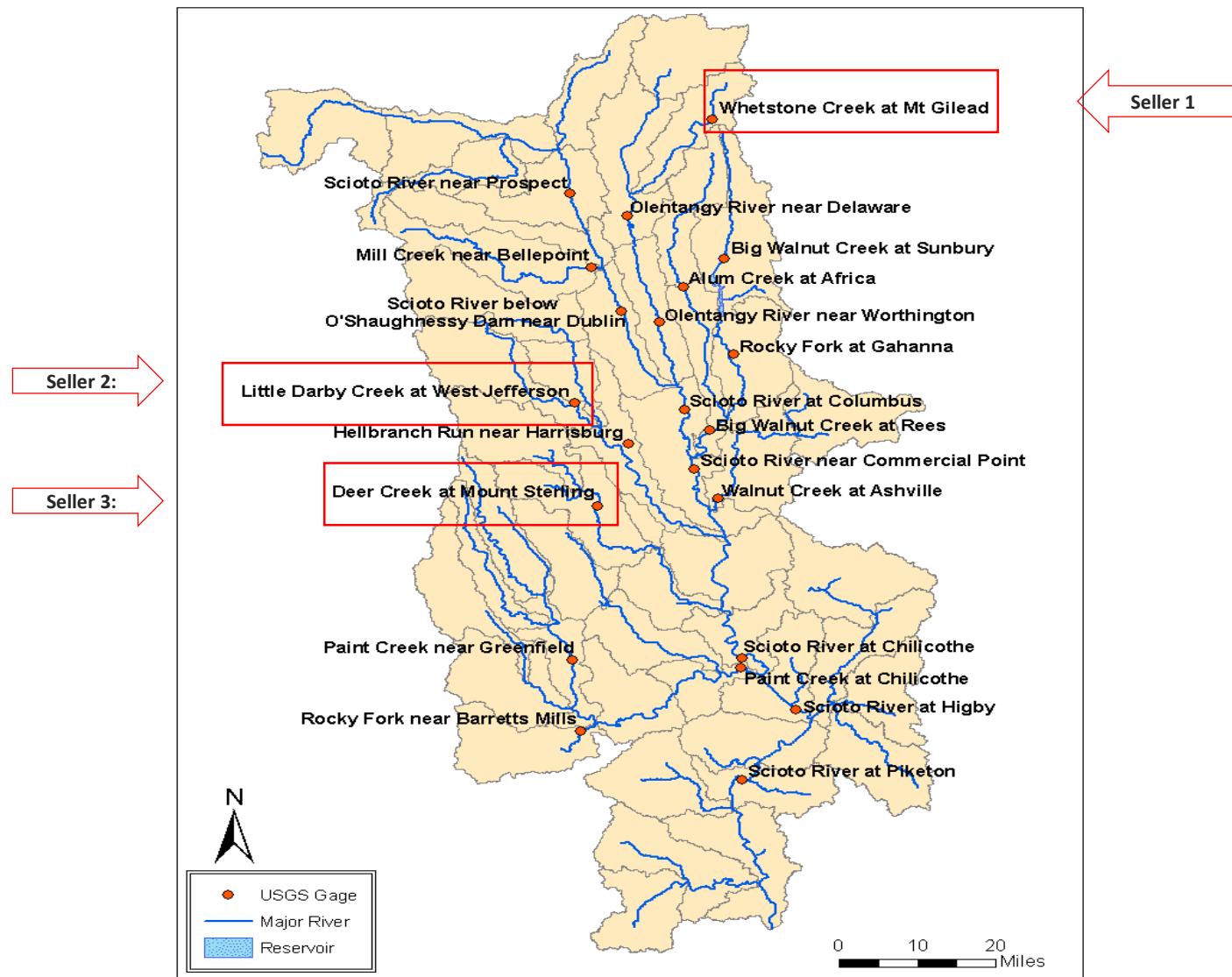
the model experts rshed ider one, expert

if, shallow ded into a nd lake / land use / and soil is. Water is

WWQTCS Info

- [WWQTCS Home](#)
- [Technical Support](#)
- [Tools](#)
 - [Watershed Models](#)
 - Basins
 - LSPC
 - WAMView
 - SWMM
 - WARMF
 - [Water Quality Models](#)
 - WASP
 - QUAL2K
 - Aquatox
 - EPD-RIV1
 - [Hydrodynamic Models](#)
 - EFDC
 - EPD-RIV1

Attenuation Tool & Modeling Specific Locations



First Journal paper on Credit Calculation Methods.

Published June 2014



Article

pubs.acs.org/est

Attenuation Coefficients for Water Quality Trading

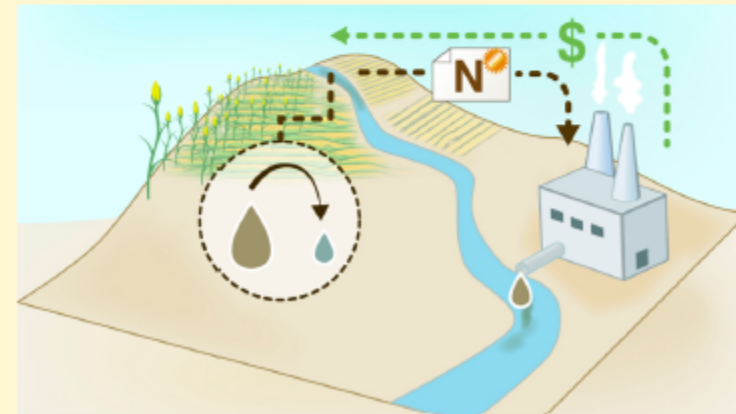
Arturo A. Keller,^{*,†} Xiaoli Chen,[†] Jessica Fox,[‡] Matt Fulda,[†] Rebecca Dorsey,[†] Briana Seapy,[†] Julia Glenday,[†] and Erin Bray[†]

[†]Bren School of Environmental Science and Management, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106-5131, United States


[‡]Electric Power Research Institute, Palo Alto, California 94304, United States

Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: Water quality trading has been proposed as a cost-effective approach for reducing nutrient loads through credit generation from agricultural or point source reductions sold to buyers facing costly options. We present a systematic approach to determine attenuation coefficients and their uncertainty. Using a process-based model, we determine attenuation with safety margins at many watersheds for total nitrogen (TN) and total phosphorus (TP) loads as they transport from point of load reduction to the credit buyer. TN and TP in-stream attenuation generally increases with decreasing mean river flow; smaller rivers in the modeled region of the Ohio River Basin had TN attenuation factors per km, including safety margins, of 0.19–1.6%, medium rivers of



Registry



Ohio River Basin Trading Project

EPRI

ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ohio River Basin - Water Quality Trading Project

Clear

Search:

Account Holders	Projects	Issuances / Listings	Holdings	Retired Credits	Cancelled Units			
△ Project Name	Account Name	Project Type	Installation Date	State / Province	Watershed (HUC 4)	Sub-Watershed (HUC 10)	BMP	Detail
IN-029-2013-106	Dearborn County SWCD	Nitrogen Reduction	04 Sep 2013	IN	Middle Ohio	South Hogan Creek-North Hogan Creek	Feedlot: Waste Management System	View
IN-029-2013-106	Dearborn County SWCD	Phosphorus Reduction	04 Sep 2013	IN	Middle Ohio	South Hogan Creek-North Hogan Creek	Feedlot: Waste Management System	View
IN-115-2013-108	Ohio County SWCD	Nitrogen Reduction	26 Aug 2013	IN	Middle Ohio	South Fork Laughery Creek-Laughery Creek	Feedlot: Waste Management System	View
IN-115-2013-108	Ohio County SWCD	Phosphorus Reduction	26 Aug 2013	IN	Middle Ohio	South Fork Laughery Creek-Laughery Creek	Feedlot: Waste Management System	View
IN-115-2013-109	Ohio County SWCD	Phosphorus Reduction	20 Nov 2013	IN	Middle Ohio	Gunpowder Creek-Ohio River	Feedlot: Waste Management System	View

Credit Calculation Report

<p>Project Name: <u>IN -</u></p> <p>Date: <u>1-30-14</u></p> <p>Name: <u>Brian Br</u></p> <p>Title: <u>Director -</u></p> <p>Organization: <u>Americ</u></p> <p>Method(s) for estimating r the signed Trading Plan. N variables such as soil types of livestock to calculate re</p> <p>Specify which method was</p> <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EPA Region 5</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Ohio DNR Lo</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Other. Specify</p> <p>Briefly Describe the BMP</p> <p><u>The Best Man</u></p>	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Year</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td><u>1</u> 2013</td></tr><tr><td><u>2</u> 2014</td></tr><tr><td><u>3</u> 2015</td></tr><tr><td><u>4</u> 2016</td></tr><tr><td><u>5</u> 2017</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>I certify that I am trained in the use calculator(s) according to the criteri knowledge the credit estimates are</p> <p>Attach a screenshot of credit calcul</p> <p>Signed: <u>[Signature]</u></p> <p>Print Name: <u>Brian Braun</u></p> <p>Organization Name: <u>AFT</u></p>	Year	<u>1</u> 2013	<u>2</u> 2014	<u>3</u> 2015	<u>4</u> 2016	<u>5</u> 2017	<h3>Feedlot Pollution Reduction</h3> <p>Please fill in the gray areas below.</p> <p>Notes: An animal lot refers to an open lot or combination of open lots intended for confined feeding, breeding, raising or holding animals. It is specifically designed as a confinement area in which manure accumulates or where the concentration of animals is such that vegetation cannot be maintained. The purpose of these calculations is to represent Biological Oxygen Demand (BOD), phosphorus (P), and nitrogen reductions after an animal waste system is installed. This method has two assumptions: 1) the feedlot is adjacent to a receiving hydrologic system without any buffering areas; and 2) installing the animal waste system will prevent any further pollutants from the lot from reaching the hydrologic system. Feedlots that cannot show impact to the hydrologic system being protected should not be evaluated with this computation.</p> <p>The fundamental methodology of this worksheet is based on "Pollutants Controlled Calculation and Documentation for Section 319 Watersheds Training Manual" (Michigan DEQ, June 1999). However, the Michigan DEQ methodology was modified to calculate annual load through inclusion of climatological data. In addition, biological oxygen demand, phosphorus, and nitrogen constants used in this worksheet were derived from U.S. EPA's STEPL model, developed by Tetra Tech, Inc. in order to enhance consistency between methods.</p> <p>STEP 1 <u>0.19</u> Contributing Area (acres): the area contributing polluted water to the discharge point(s).</p> <p>STEP 2 Percent Paved: Percent of the contributing area that is paved</p> <p><input checked="" type="radio"/> 0-24% <input type="radio"/> 25-49% <input type="radio"/> 50-74% <input type="radio"/> 75-100%</p> <p>STEP 3 Please select your State: <u>Indiana</u> Please select your County: <u>Dearborn</u> Nearest Weather Station: <u>IN VERSAILLES WATER</u> RK</p> <p>Note: Precipitation data for Alaska and Hawaii were unavailable for this version of the workbook.</p> <p>STEP 4</p> <table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Animal Numbers</th><th>Animal Type</th><th>Design Weight*</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Slaughter Steer</td><td>1,000</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Young Beef</td><td>500</td></tr><tr><td><u>32</u></td><td>Dairy Cow</td><td>1,400</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Young Dairy Stock</td><td>500</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Swine</td><td>200</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Feeder Pig</td><td>50</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Sheep</td><td>100</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Turkey</td><td>10</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Chicken</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Duck</td><td>4</td></tr><tr><td><u>0</u></td><td>Horse</td><td>1,000</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>*Design weight in pounds. Interpolation of values should be based on the maximum weight animals would be expected to reach.</p>	Animal Numbers	Animal Type	Design Weight*	<u>0</u>	Slaughter Steer	1,000	<u>0</u>	Young Beef	500	<u>32</u>	Dairy Cow	1,400	<u>0</u>	Young Dairy Stock	500	<u>0</u>	Swine	200	<u>0</u>	Feeder Pig	50	<u>0</u>	Sheep	100	<u>0</u>	Turkey	10	<u>0</u>	Chicken	4	<u>0</u>	Duck	4	<u>0</u>	Horse	1,000
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<u>0</u>	Chicken	4																																										
<u>0</u>	Duck	4																																										
<u>0</u>	Horse	1,000																																										

SWCD Installation Report

SWCD Installation Report



Before

05/31/2013

9/4/13



After

Date of confirmation by S

Name of SWCD Person d

COORD.

Signed: Dennis Wirth

Print Name: Heather Wirth

Date: 11-11-13

Verification Report – State Ag Agency

Credit Verification Report

The completion of this report must be done during or after

Project Name: IN-

Verifier Information

Organization Name:

Contact Person, Title:

Project Documents

☒ Project

☒ Credit

☒ Sign

☒ SWC

☒ Other

Additional Requirements

☒ On-site

☒ New Credit Calculation Report, if it was re-

1 of 5

Verification Opinion

IN-029-2013-106

Based on confirmation of Edge-of-Field nutrient load reductions calculations as specified in the calculation Report, the Indiana State Department of

of the specified BMP Practice(s) will result in the





1 site investigations conducted in accordance

ORB Program eligibility requirements;

plemented and maintained in accordance with

dards or approved modifications;

antified using appropriate metrics and

RB Trading Plan;

ntained and are performing as designed; and

ace to ensure the specified BMPs are

ntract.

Date: 10/9/2013

Agency: Indiana State Dept. of Agriculture

215

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Credit Certification Report – State Permit Authority

Credit Certification Report

Completion of this report can only occur after the following conditions are met:

Project Name: IN-029-2013

HUC 10 Project Location: 05090
(10-digit HUC watershed number)

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management certifies that IN-029-2013-106 conforms in all respects to the requirements of the Trading Plan, as amended, and all other applicable state requirements, that the specific Credits noted above are hereby authorized for registration and sale on the ORB Program Online Registry, and that these credits can be applied towards regulatory compliance requirements or stewardship commitments, as detailed in the Trading Plan, as amended. The foregoing certification shall be conditioned on the maintenance of the Trading Plan, as amended.

The Indiana Department of Environmental Management certifies that IN-029-2013-106 conforms in all respects to the requirements of the Trading Plan, as amended, and all other applicable state requirements, that the specific Credits noted above are hereby authorized for registration and sale on the ORB Program Online Registry, and that these credits can be applied towards regulatory compliance requirements or stewardship commitments, as detailed in the

☒ Credit Calculation Report

☒ Signed Producer Contract

Year	TP	
2013	TP	
2014	TP	
	TN:	TP:

Signature: [Signature]

Print Name: Paul Higginbotham

Title: Branch Chief

State Agency: IDEM

Date: 2/13/14

216

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Credit Purchase Receipt



Transfer Details:

Source Account ID: 100000000026540
Source Account Name: EPRI Holdings Account
Project Name: TEST ORB PROJECT 09162013
Standard Name: Ohio River Basin Water Quality Interstate Trading Program
Vintage Year: 2014
Quantity: 20.00000
Credit Type: TP lbs/year
Serial number: ORB-BAW-US-100000000033830-01102013-30092014-1680154.001-1680174-MER-0-P
Watershed (HUC4): Scioto
Sub Watershed (HUC10): Headwaters Scioto River

Additional Information:






Nutrient Type: Nitrogen
Calculation Methodology: EPA Region 5 Model
Best Management Practice: Cover Crops & Buffer Strips
Potential Ancillary Benefits*: Carbon Sequestration, Pollinator Habitat, Soil Health, Erosion Control



ENVIRONMENTAL RESEARCH
LETTERS

TOPICAL REVIEW • OPEN ACCESS

Footprint tools tiptoeing towards nitrogen sustainability

James N Galloway^{1,*} , Elizabeth A Castner² , Elizabeth S M Dukes¹ , Jessica Fox³  and Allison M Leach⁴ 

Published 17 September 2024 • © 2024 The Author(s). Published by IOP Publishing Ltd

[Environmental Research Letters](#), Volume 19, Number 10

[Focus on Environmental Footprint Tools for Sustainability](#)

Citation James N Galloway *et al* 2024 *Environ. Res. Lett.* **19** 103003

DOI 10.1088/1748-9326/ad677c

September 2024: This paper reviews footprint tools for people, institutions and communities, with a focus on nitrogen footprint tools (NFT).

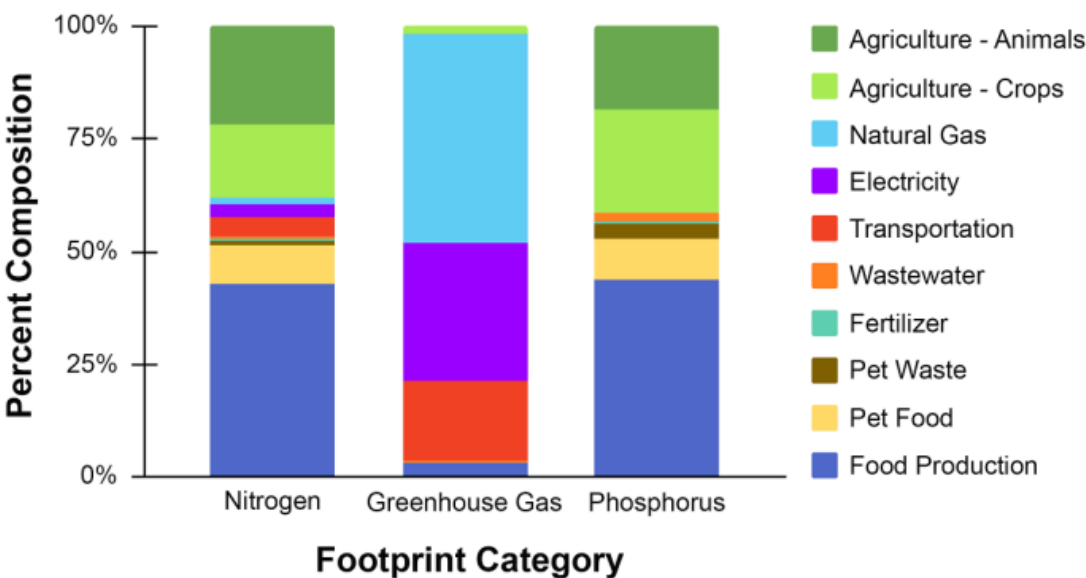


Figure 4. The percent composition of each of the three footprints (N, GHG, and P) by category. The percent composition shows the drivers which influence the footprint. N and P are largely driven by food purchased and agriculture while GHGs are largely driven by electricity and on-site natural gas use. Reproduced from Dukes (2022). CC BY 4.0.

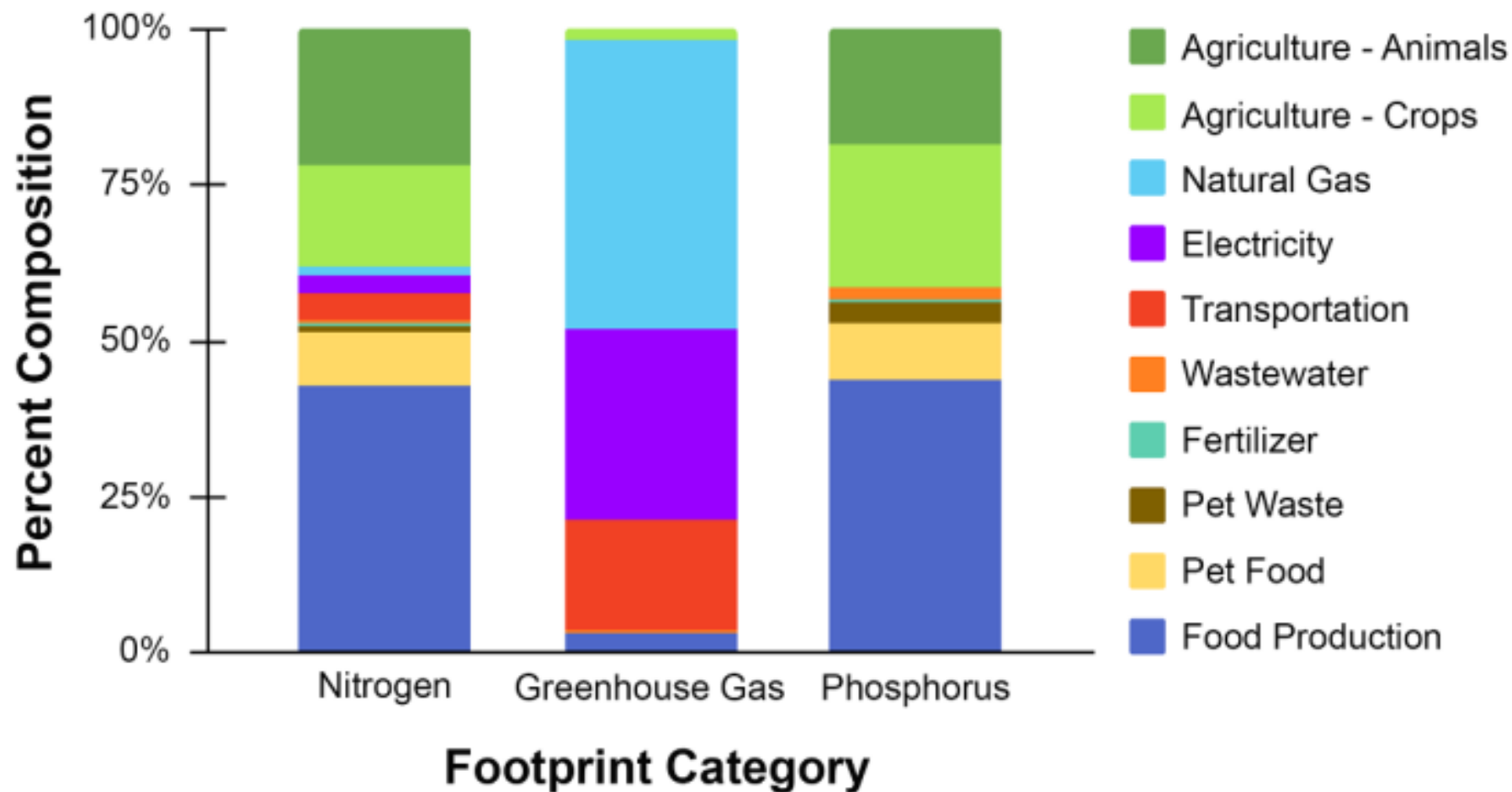


Figure 4. The percent composition of each of the three footprints (N, GHG, and P) by category. The percent composition shows the drivers which influence the footprint. N and P are largely driven by food purchased and agriculture while GHGs are largely driven by electricity and on-site natural gas use. Reproduced from Dukes (2022). CC BY 4.0.



Credit Supply - Farmers

Farmer & Landowner Funding Available!!

Ohio River Basin Trading Project

Request for Proposals for Producer Funding under the Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Pilot (Released January 11, 2013)

River Basin (ORB) Water Quality Trading (WQT) Pilot Project is accepting cost-share for agricultural conservation projects that reduce loading of pollutants to waterways. Producers are invited to submit funding requests per the terms set forth in the Request for Proposals (RFP).

and, producers are encouraged to seek the implementation of the program by the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) Farmland Trust. The RFP is detailed below at www.epri.com/ohioriver.



FUNDING OPPORTUNITY NOTICE \$600,000

PRIVATE LANDOWNERS & PRODUCERS IN OHIO, INDIANA, AND KENTUCKY
UNDER THE OHIO RIVER BASIN WATER QUALITY TRADING PROJECT

With support from Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky, the Electric Power Research Institute, American Farmland Trust, and a team of collaborators have been working since 2012 to install best management practices (BMPs) that generate "water quality credits" to improve water quality. Under this funding opportunity, EPRI is releasing \$600,000 across Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky to plant trees and complimentary agricultural BMPs. Funding applications will be ranked first by the cost per pound of nitrogen and phosphorus runoff avoided, and secondarily by the related positive benefits to the environment and community.

Go to <http://wqt.epri.com> for the full notice and watch videos of landowners who have previously received funding.

ELECTRIC POWER
RESEARCH INSTITUTE

American Farmland Trust

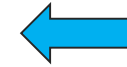
Jessica Fox
Electric Power Research Institute
(650) 855-2138 (office)
jfox@epri.com

Brian Brandt
American Farmland Trust
(614) 430-6130 (office)
bbrandt@farmland.org



Before and After

Before



Runoff, erosion,
sedimentation.



After



'Heavy Use Protection Area'



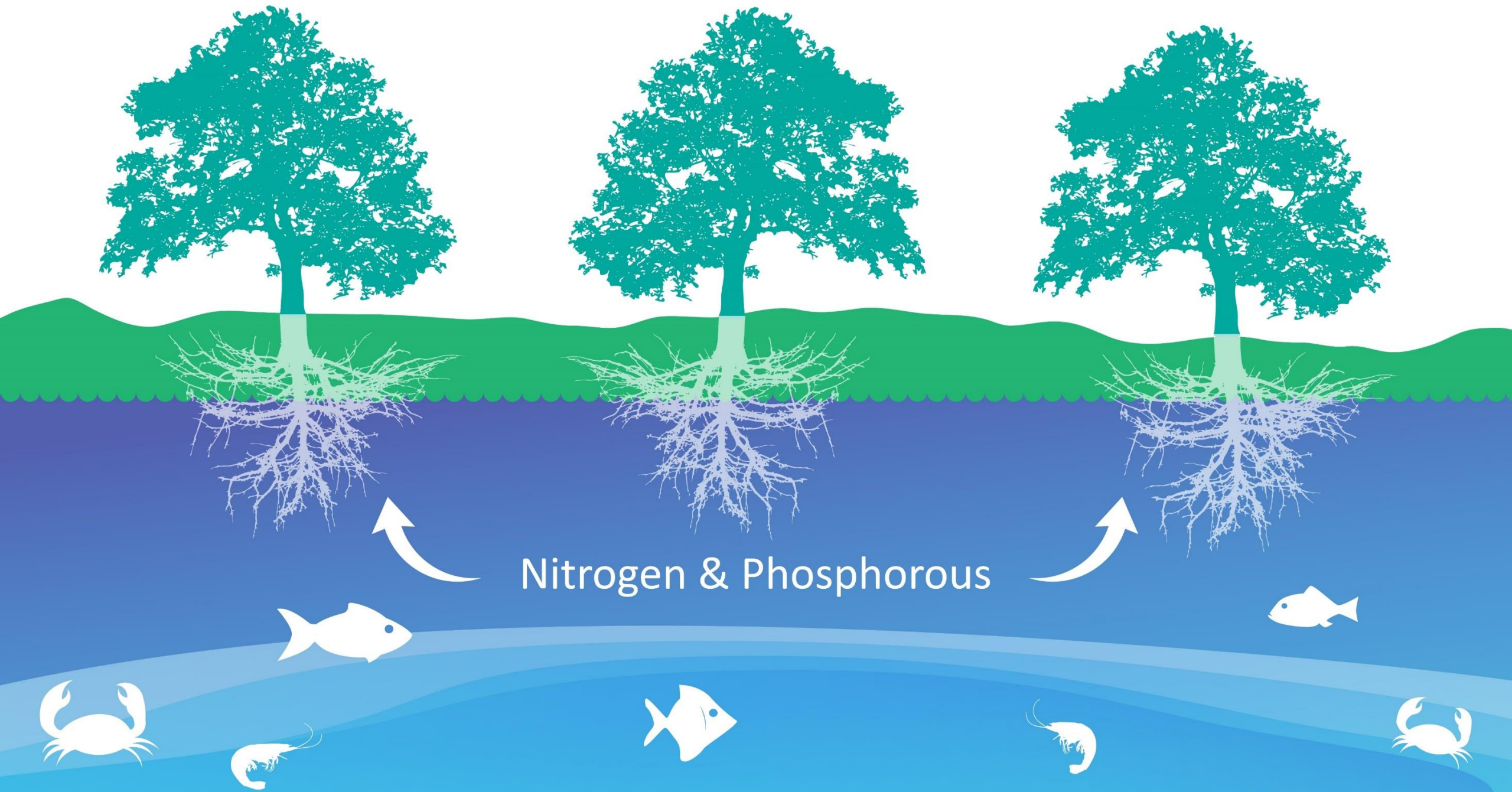
Social Aspects and Stories: Watch on YouTube



From the Field: Candid Comments from our Farmers

“My grandpa used to catch catfish in the area. The only thing I’ve seen was a little minnow. I know that someday I’m not gonna be here and somebody else will deal with whatever I leave them. This is a much better way to leave my legacy than some people in the past have done.”





Credit Pool and Pipeline

- 49 Landowner Contracts
- 150,000 TN and TP Credits Available **NOW**
- Pipeline of Credits:
 - 5- to 40-year agreements with landowners.
 - BMPs: cover crops, hay conversion, cattle exclusion fencing, milkhouse waste management, heavy use areas, forestry.



Credit Sales

March 11, 2014: First Transactions

Hoosier Energy

Duke Energy

American Electric Power

CREDIT PURCHASE OUTCOMES


- Support U.S. small farmers.
- Protect local and regional water quality.
- Protect the Gulf of Mexico.
- Offset personal and corporate impacts.


CREDIT PURCHASE BENEFITS

- Meet personal and corporate stewardship targets.
- Report credit purchase within United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (Goal 6), CDP Water, Global Reporting Initiative, and CEO Water Mandate.



Purchase of Stewardship Credits



Ohio River Basin Trading Project  ELECTRIC POWER RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Ohio River Basin - Water Quality Trading Project

9,000 credits purchased and retired

Clear

Search:

Account Holders		Projects	Issuances / Listings	Holdings	Retired Credits			
Retirement Date	Vintage	Project	Account	Project Type	Retirement Quantity	Measurement	Type	Details
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-177-2013-111	AEP	Phosphorus Reduction	403	TP lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005902-01122012-30112013-183599.001-184002-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-177-2013-111	AEP	Nitrogen Reduction	809	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005902-01122012-30112013-184103.001-184912-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	OH-029-2013-104	AEP	Nitrogen Reduction	338	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000006082-01122012-30112013-191270.001-191608-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-115-2013-108	AEP	Nitrogen Reduction	91	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005550-01122012-30112013-177677.001-177768-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-137-2013-105	AEP	Phosphorus Reduction	59	TP lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005898-01122012-30112013-180588.001-180647-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-137-2013-102	Duke Energy	Phosphorus Reduction	22	TP lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005895-01122012-30112013-182758.001-182780-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-115-2013-108	Duke Energy	Nitrogen Reduction	46	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005550-01122012-30112013-177768.001-177814-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-137-2013-103	Duke Energy	Nitrogen Reduction	19	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005896-01122012-30112013-183237.001-183256-MER-0-P								
06 Mar 2014	2013	IN-029-2013-106	Duke Energy	Nitrogen Reduction	374	TN lbs/year	UNIT	View
Serial No.: ORB-BAW-US-103000000005996-01122012-30112013-174927.001-175301-MER-0-P								

Unleashing Credit Sales - 2019

- EPRI Challenges to Unleashing Sales:
 - Require Large(ish) Buyer Contracts
 - Non-profit research organization focus on science
 - Not established for quick, on-line, transactions
- Solution:
 - Collaborate with another organization
 - Expertise: client reach, experience with environmental credits, easy transactions for credit buyers, trusted & respected.

Carbon-Water Collaboration: First Climate



News Release

Contacts:

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clperry@epri.com

Christopher Mahoney
Communications Manager – Energy and Environment
704-595-2653
cmahoney@epri.com

EPRI and First Climate Bring Water Quality Credits to Environmental Stewardship Markets

PALO ALTO, Calif. – (May 29, 2019) – The Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI) and First Climate announced today an agreement that will move credits from EPRI's Ohio River Basin Water Quality Trading Project to international credit trading markets. This is a unique collaborative between a water quality project and an environmental asset credit broker to provide access to some of the world's largest environmental credit buyers.

<https://www.firstclimate.com/en/water-quality-credits/>



Ohio River Basin Water Quality Credit Program Program Overview



Public Events beginning 2019



Environmental Markets Summit, Washington DC, October 2019
Navy Bean Festival 2019, Indiana
PaddleFest 2019. Cincinnati, Ohio, August 2019

DISCOUNT FOR PADDLEFEST!

Visit Our Booth with Aquarium Display

Get your t-shirt & certificate!
Support the river, community, and farmers.

**Need a Creative Gift?
Water Quality Credits!**

Farmers Create Credits

YOUR NAME HERE!!!



Purchase Volume	1 - 100 credits	101 - 500 credits	> 500 credits
Unit Price (USD)	\$14 \$12 if purchased at Paddlefest	\$13 \$12 if purchased at Paddlefest	\$12

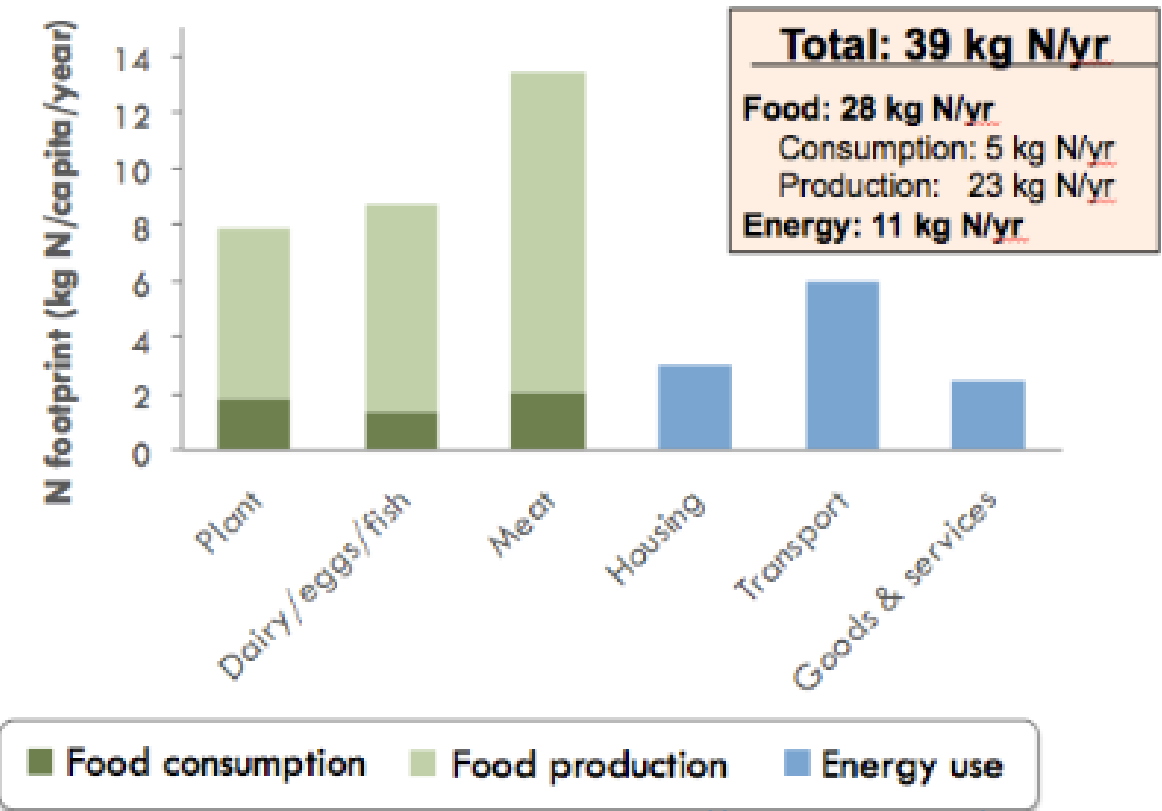
PURCHASE NOW

What's YOUR Footprint?



Booth visitors could run their own N footprint using the web-based tool and determine the number of credits to purchase.

Personal N footprint in the US



<http://n-print.org/>



T-shirt with purchase of credits (\$50).



Paper includes reflections on selling WQT Credits at public events people like Jeff!



Navy Bean Festival 2019, Indiana

← “ use of the nitrogen foot print tool was **incentivized by friendly project team members** being on-site to help people use the tool in real time, explain the results, and talk about personal connections to the ecosystem.

Even with scientifically informed calculations based on personal inputs, **most people simply purchased enough credits to get the 'free' T-shirt and certificate.**”



WHO declares coronavirus a global health emergency | ABC News



Watch later



Share

COVID-19 • Coronavirus disease 2019 is a contagious disease caused by the... >

January 31, 2020

**FIRST
HUMAN-TO-HUMAN
CASE IN U.S.**

MORE VIDEOS



0:05 / 4:04

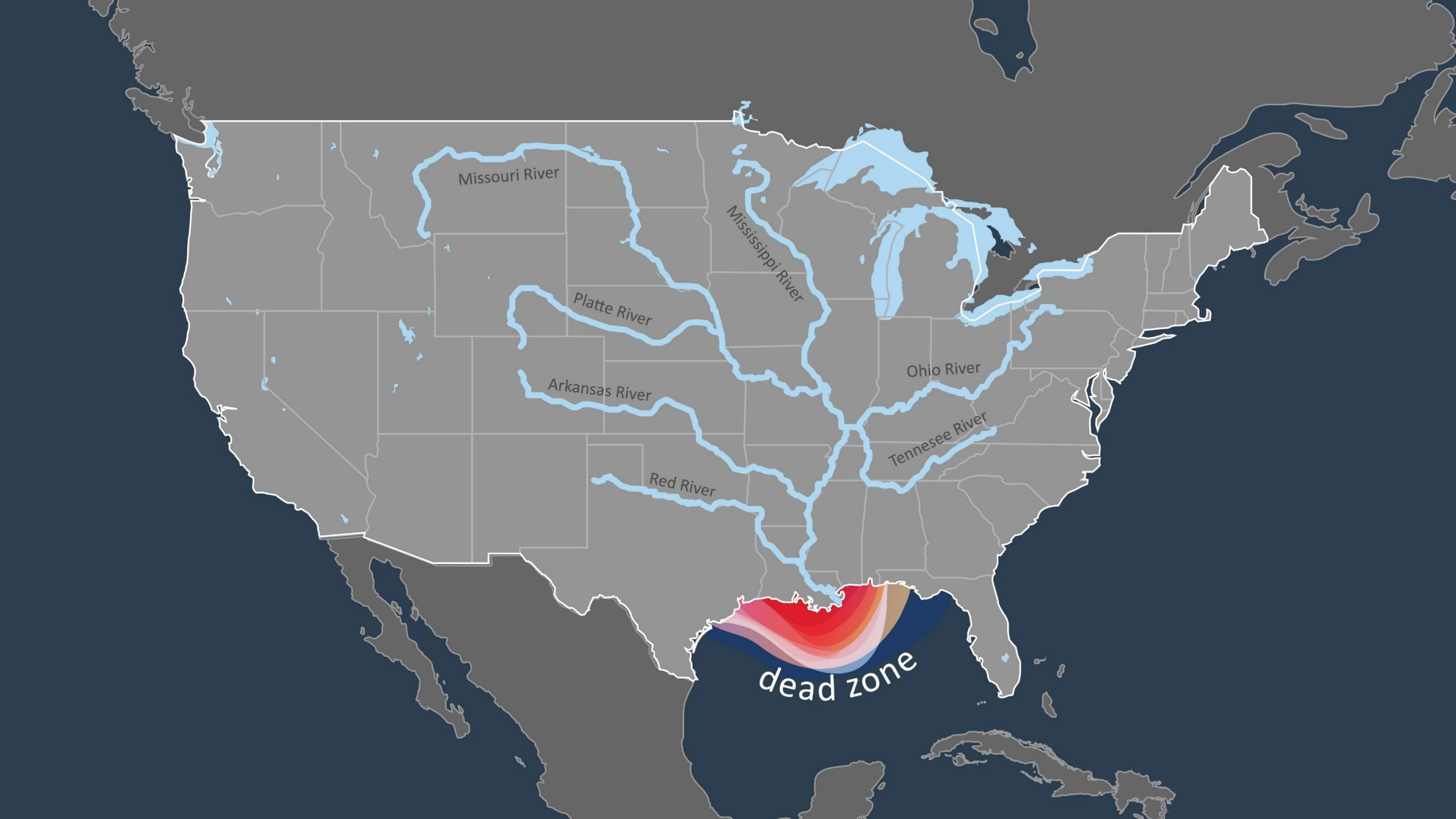


YouTube



The image features a pair of hands cupping a globe, set against a deep blue background filled with stars and nebulae. The word "Potential" is centered over the globe in a white, bold, sans-serif font. The entire scene is monochromatic, using various shades of blue to create a sense of depth and cosmic scale.

Potential





Protect your dog and the Gulf of Mexico's Dead Zone..... with a water credit.



**Heartbroken dog owners mourn the loss of
their pets from deadly algae**



August 14,
2019



**ACROSS THE SOUTH DOGS ARE DYING FROM TOXIC
ALGAE EXPOSURE AFTER SWIMMING IN LAKES, PONDS**

(The Daily BRIEFING + w/DANA PERINO +)

Can WQT Achieve Nutrient reduction in Gulf of Mexico? (2016)

- **For cover crops**
 - Typical BMP achieves 3-14 lb N and 1-7 lb P per acre/year
 - We need more than 100 million acres of new cover crops.
 - That's more than we have.
- **For cattle and dairy feedlots**
 - Typical BMP achieves 2.4-22 lb N and 0.7-5 lb P per head/year
 - We need more than 23 million heads of cattle under these practices.
 - There are only ~12M in the region.

	N (tons/yr)	P (tons/yr)
Reductions needed to achieve 40%	228,000 to 247,000	10,000 to 16,000

Answer:

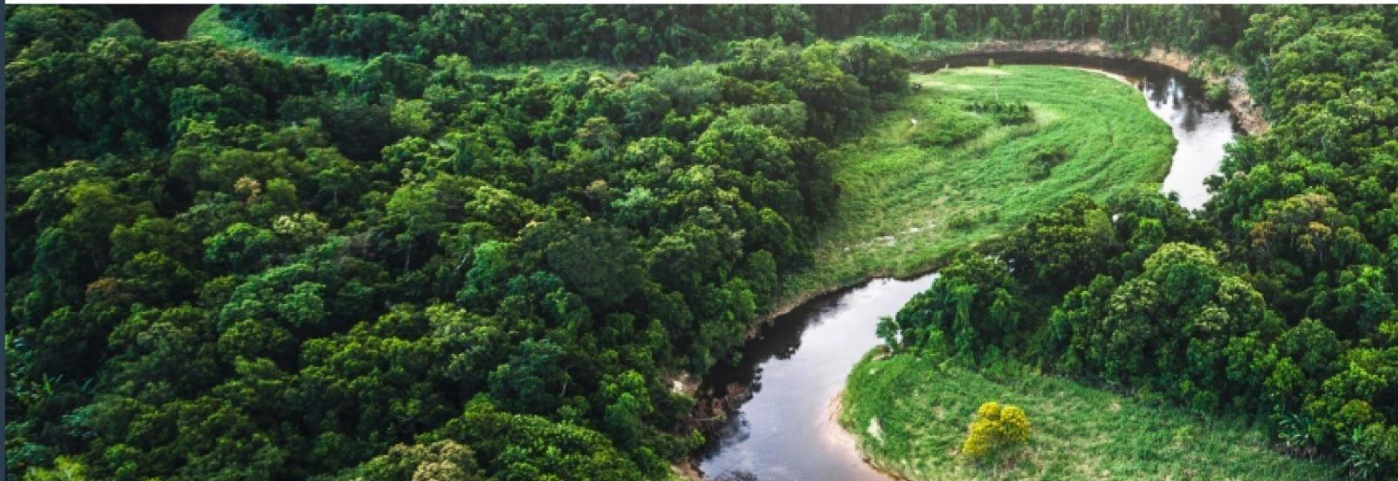
- WQT is a tool in the toolbox.
- A combination of crop, feedlot, and other more efficient BMPs will be required, as well as other approaches.
- Need to look at paying for performance, not paying for acres or calf/cow pairs. – I.e. optimizing placement and types of BMPs.



| ENVIRONMENT |

How to improve the quality of water? By planting (many) trees

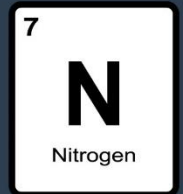
American researchers have made the link between reforestation and improved water quality. They call today polluting facilities to reforest their lands.



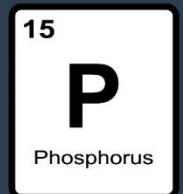
=250 million



= 60 million kg



= 2 million kg



= 1.54 million

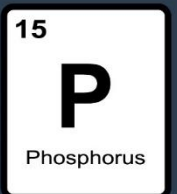
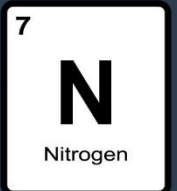




250 million

0 million kg

million kg



Overall, there is the potential for avoiding 60 million kg N and 2 million kg P from reaching the streams and rivers of the northern ORB as a result of conversion of marginal farmland to tree planting. This represents a significant fraction of the goal of the USEPA Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia Task Force to reduce TN and TP reaching the dead zone in the Gulf of Mexico.

Aligning with Sustainability Principles & Disclosures



The CEO Water Mandate

Food

Milk

Beef

Corn

Soy

Tobacco

Bourbon/Beer

Corporate

Walmart

Eli Lilly

Jim Beam

Wendy's

JP Morgan Chase

Limited Brands

Proctor & Gamble

KFC/Pizza Hut

Honda

Purchase Volume	1 – 100 credits	101 – 500 credits	> 500 credits
Unit Price (USD)	\$14	\$13	\$12

Credibility

"Through solid science, transparency, and exceptional management, the EPRI project is a national model for how to advance non-traditional collaborations that benefit our common good. Now companies have the opportunity to be part of this effort, receive turn-key verified credits to meet their stewardship goals, and support local communities. Efforts like this will be critical for protecting America's waters for years to come."

Bob Perciasepe, President, Center For Climate and Energy Solutions
Former Deputy Administrator, United States Environmental Protection Agency



Brooks Smith, Partner, Troutman Sanders
Recognized as "Best Lawyer in America"

How can this program be helpful going forward?



OHIO RIVER BASIN WATER QUALITY TRADING PROJECT



Environmental
Finance
Voluntary Carbon
Markets Rankings
WINNER



WaterWorld.





Agenda Item 12:

Report of the Monitoring Strategy Committee

Jason Heath, ORSANCO

Report of the Monitoring Strategy Committee On Future Monitoring Needs and Priorities

- 1) Committee last met August 2024 to consider future monitoring needs and priorities.
- 2) An updated Monitoring Strategy document was also circulated for comment.
- 3) Recommendations for use of FFY25 EPA Supplemental Monitoring grant funds (~\$66,000)

Monitoring Strategy Summary and Prioritization of Monitoring Needs

- Update bacteria, PCBs and dioxin data for 305b.
 - Bacteria data are so highly dependent on precipitation, unclear if there is any benefit to updating this data.
 - Bacteria trends showing some improvement.
 - PCBs and dioxin require high volume sampling which is resource intensive and not likely to change impairments
 - Could more easily do a subset of the last PCBs/dioxin survey.
 - Fish tissue showing improving trend for PCBs.
- Evaluate Proteus real time monitor for bacteria – this project begins in April.
 - Evaluate other technologies (Fluidion)? USGS is conducting an evaluation.
- Completing long-term trends on bacteria data.
- Add PFAS to the Bimonthly Clean Metals Sampling Program?
 - Currently monitoring fish tissue
 - Grab versus EDI sampling? Passive sampling?
- Mussel Surveys/Indicator development - \$50k per pool. ID of threatened/endangered mussels would trigger enhanced protections.
- Tributary Metals - \$60K annually + shipping.
- Microplastics Monitoring
- Long-Term Trends Analysis on Bimonthly/Clean Metals data (staff recommendation for FFY25 Supplemental Monitoring funds).
- Analysis of water quality data at high flow versus low flows versus normal flows (climate change analysis).
- Review Broad Scan Survey results (sampling completed 2023) for consideration of adding parameters to routine monitoring programs.
- Add new EPA recommendations for fish tissue contaminants monitoring.
- Additional Flow Measurement Stations.
- Add Hexavalent Chromium to suite of Bimonthly/Metals Analytes.
- Bacteria monitoring on major tributaries.

Summary of Committee Input (received from 4 states)

- Top Priority (2 points)

• Long-term Trends Analysis	IL, IN, OH	6
• Add Hex Chrome to Bimonthly Metals Ambient Monitoring	IL, IN	4
• Add PFAS to Bimonthly Ambient Monitoring	IN	2 (3)
• BacT Monitoring – Tributaries; Mainstem to Update 305b/303d	KY	2
• Mussel Surveys	KY	2 (3)
• Metals Monitoring on Tributaries	KY	2

- Medium Priority (1 point)

• Add PFAS to Bimonthly Ambient Monitoring	KY	1
• Mussel Surveys	IN	1
• Microplastics Monitoring	IN	1
• New Recommendations from EPA on Fish Tissue Monitoring	IN, KY	2
• Additional Flow Measurement Stations	IN	1

- Low Priority or Not Mentioned (0 points)

• Additional BacT Monitoring	IN	
• PCBs & Dioxin Monitoring to Update 305b/303d data	IN, KY	
• Evaluation of Proteus & Other BacT monitors.	IN, KY	
• Long-term BacT trends analysis	IN	
• WQ data analysis by flow regimes		

Prioritization by Score

- 1) Long-term Trends Analysis
- 2) Add Hex Chrome to Bimonthly/Clean Metals Ambient Monitoring
- 3) PFAS Ambient Water Monitoring
- 3) Mussel Surveys
- 4) BacT Monitoring Tribs & Mainstem to Update 305b/303d
- 4) Metals Monitoring on Tribs
- 5) Add New EPA Recommendations for Fish Tissue Monitoring
- 6) Microplastics Monitoring
- 6) Add Flow Measurement Stations

Staff Recommendations Based on Committee Priorities

- Complete Long Term Trends Analysis of Bimonthly/Clean Metals data under EPA Supplemental Grant funding.
- Include Committee priorities in Monitoring Strategy document.
- Complete revised Monitoring Strategy document by year end.
- Continue regular meetings of the Monitoring Strategy Committee.
- Implement top priority recommendations as the budget allows.

Item 13: Alternative Waterbody Impairment Compilation Maps for the Ohio River Basin



Presenter: Bridget Borrowdale (bborrowdale@orsanco.org)

Content Creators:

Bridget Taylor (formerly ORSANCO)

Bridget Borrowdale (bborrowdale@orsanco.org)

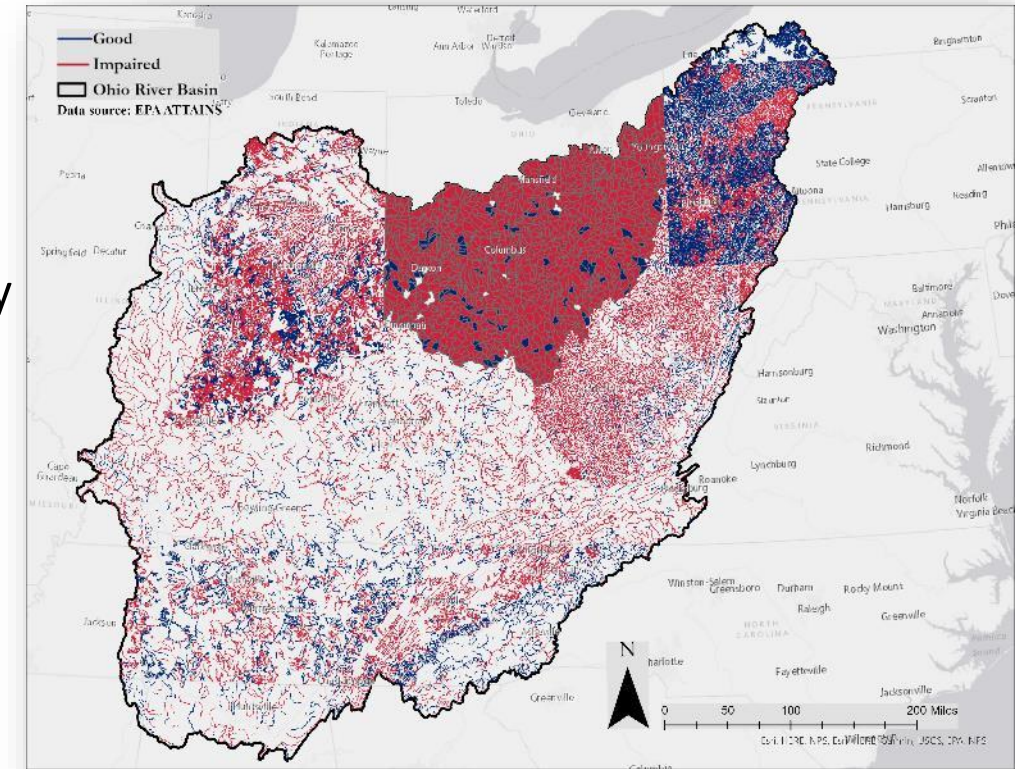
Importance of the Basin Impairment Map

Goal: Provide a basin-level perspective of impaired waterbodies and their contributing causes in order to inform and demonstrate the need for future restoration efforts within the Ohio River Basin (ORB)

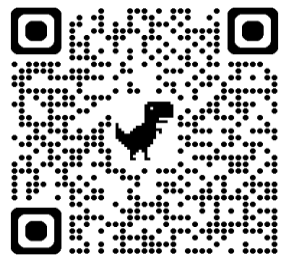
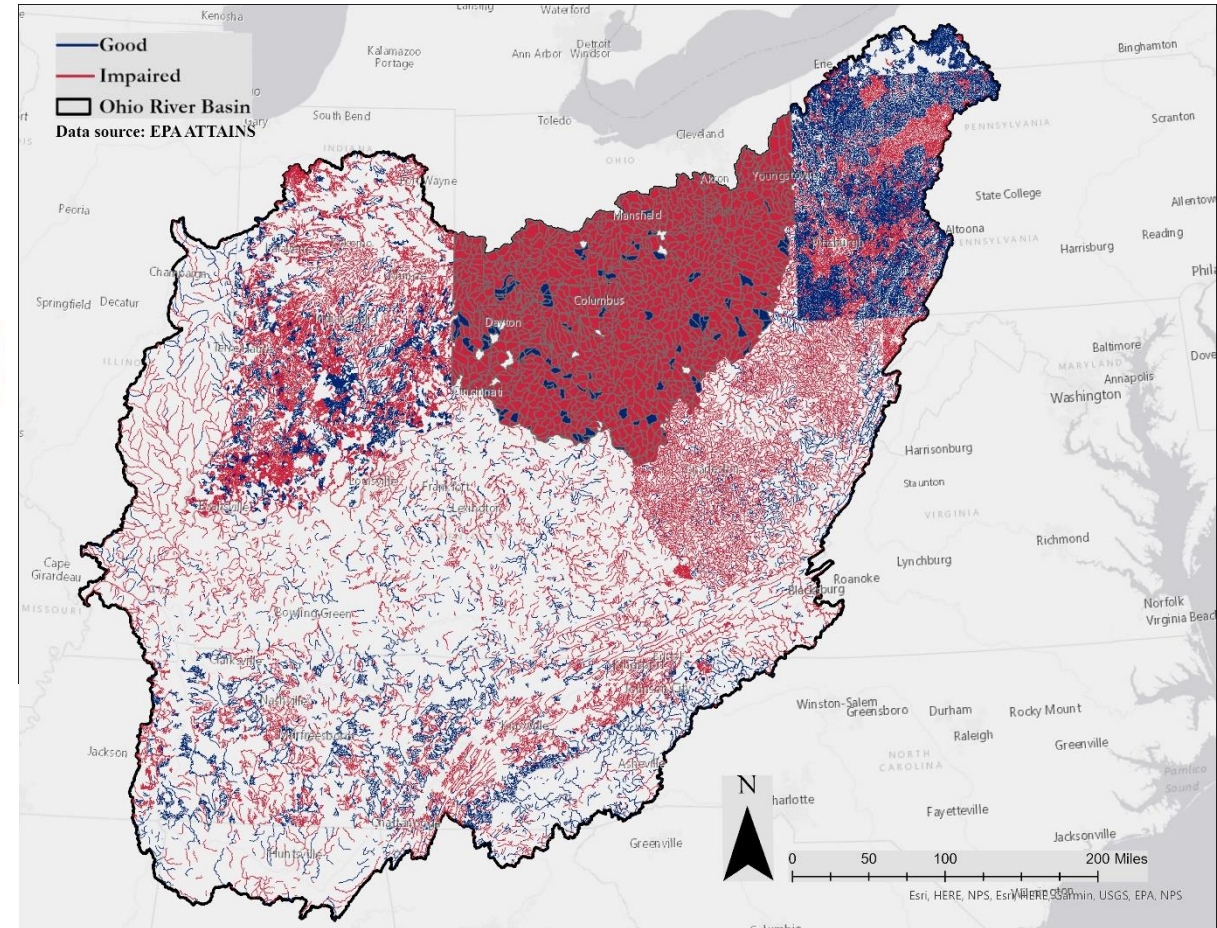
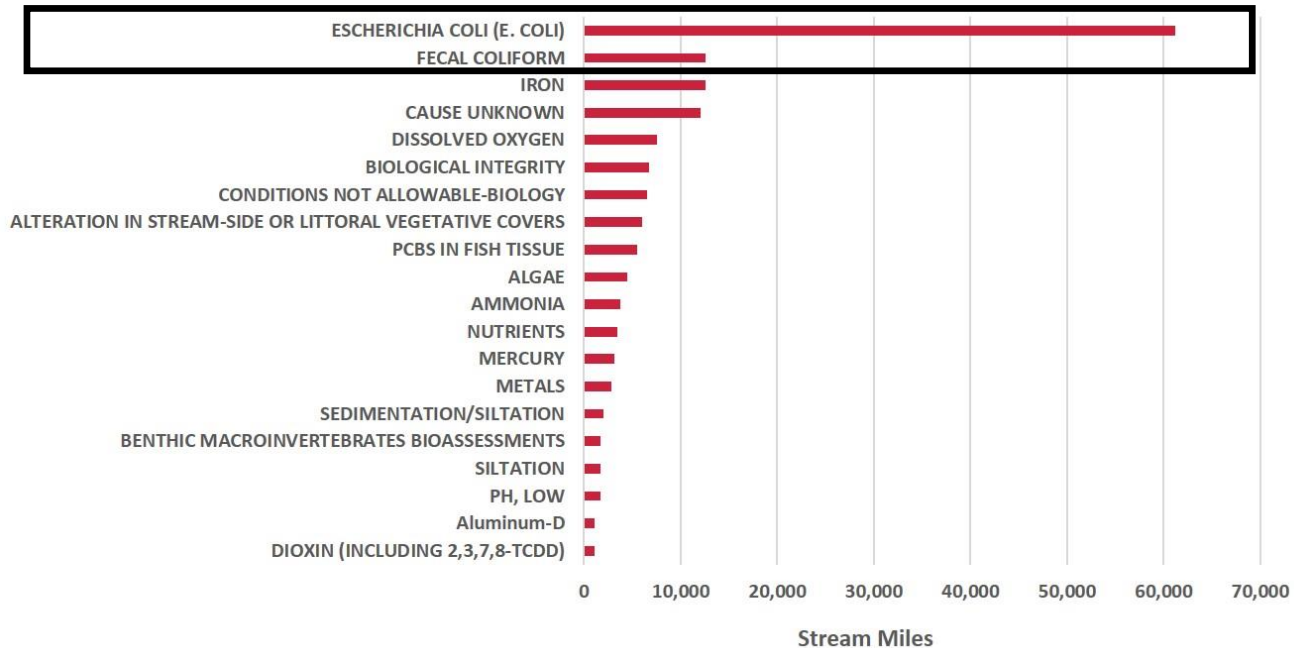
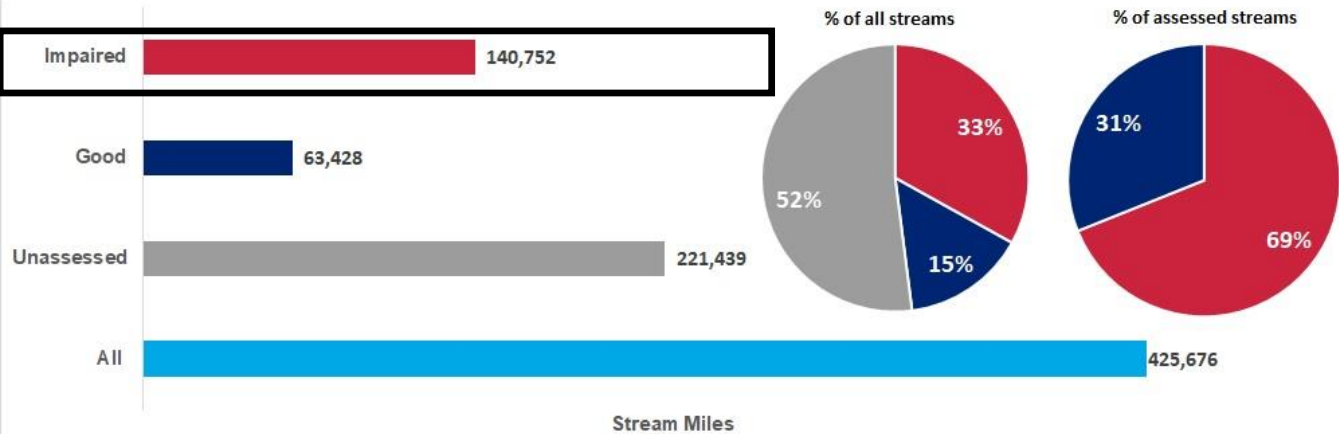
Main Application: Garner support for additional basin funding (Ohio River Basin Restoration Plan). Communicate to representatives the impaired waterways within their individual congressional districts

Addressing Storymap Comments (Feb 12th – May 8th)

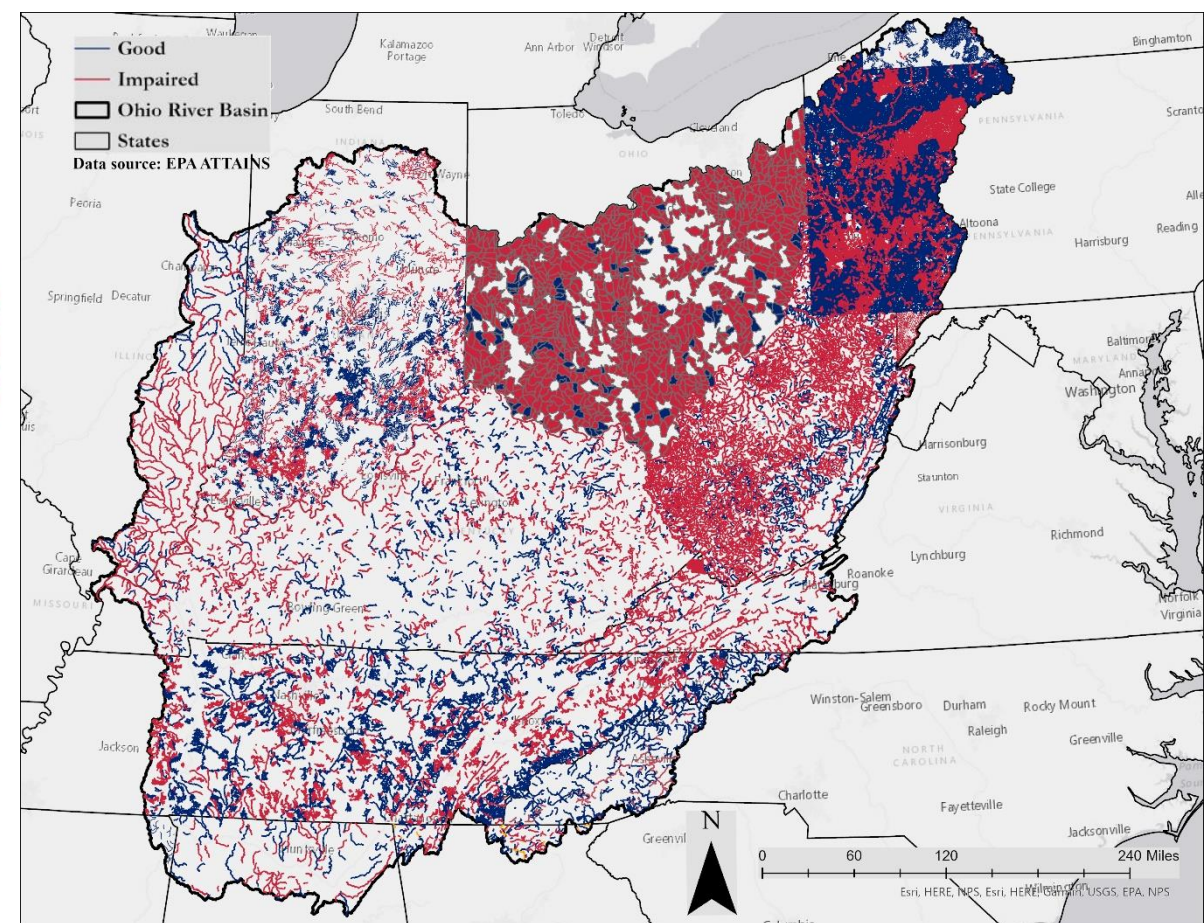
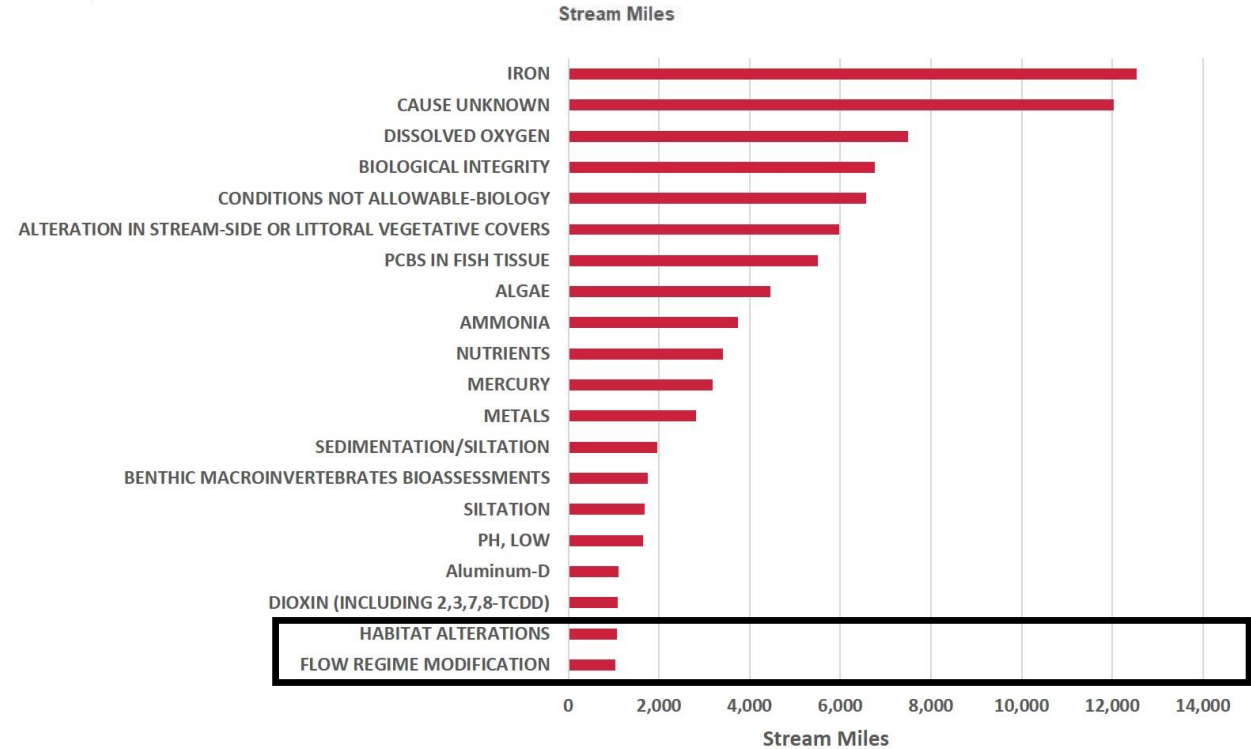
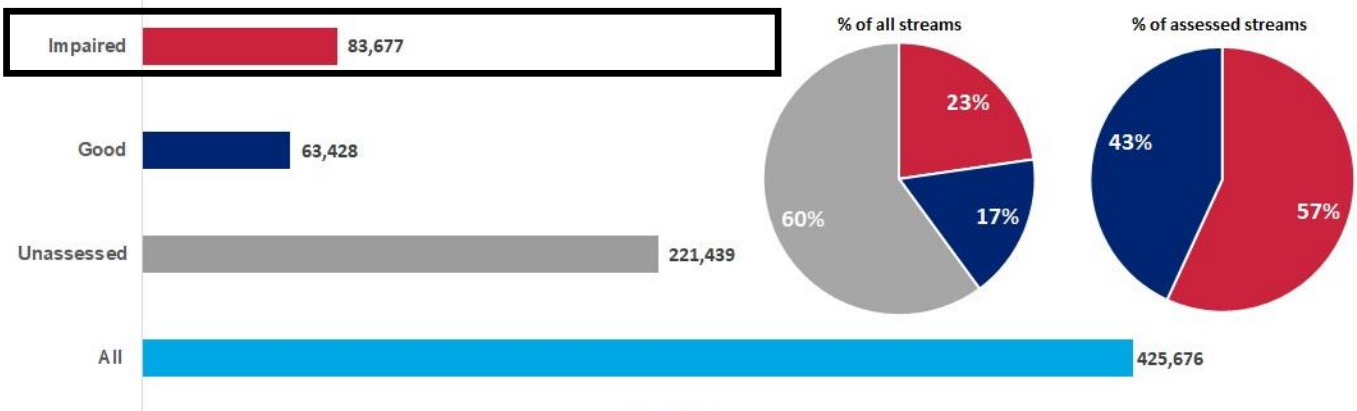
- Contacted all 14 State Agencies to confirm:
 - Correct resolution of “blue line” streams and lakes
 - i.e. What streams or lakes are assessed by each agency
 - Assessment content displayed
 - Correctly extracted from ATTAINS
 - Proportion contribution graphs of pollutants/causes
- Incorporated suggested edits
 - Addition of a “Goal” statement
 - Methods clarification in introduction
 - Additional links to state agency materials, as requested
 - Removal of non-point source pollution



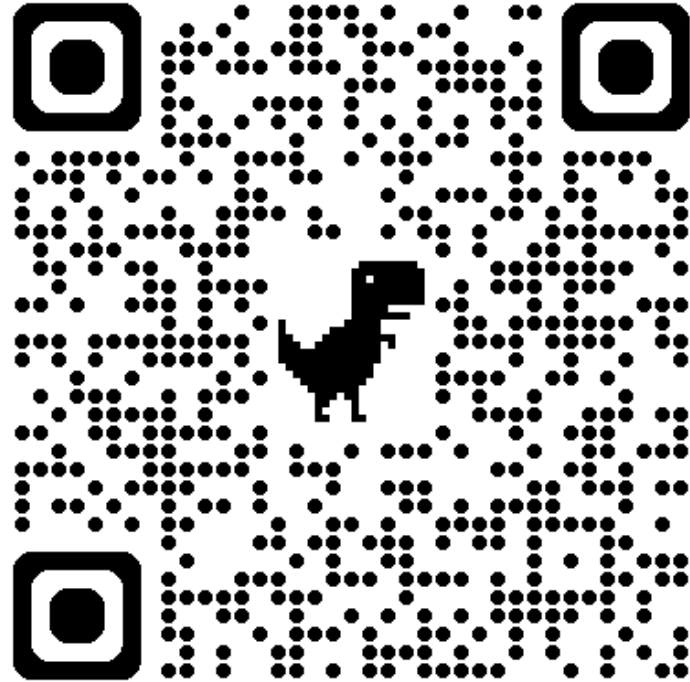
Original Storymap



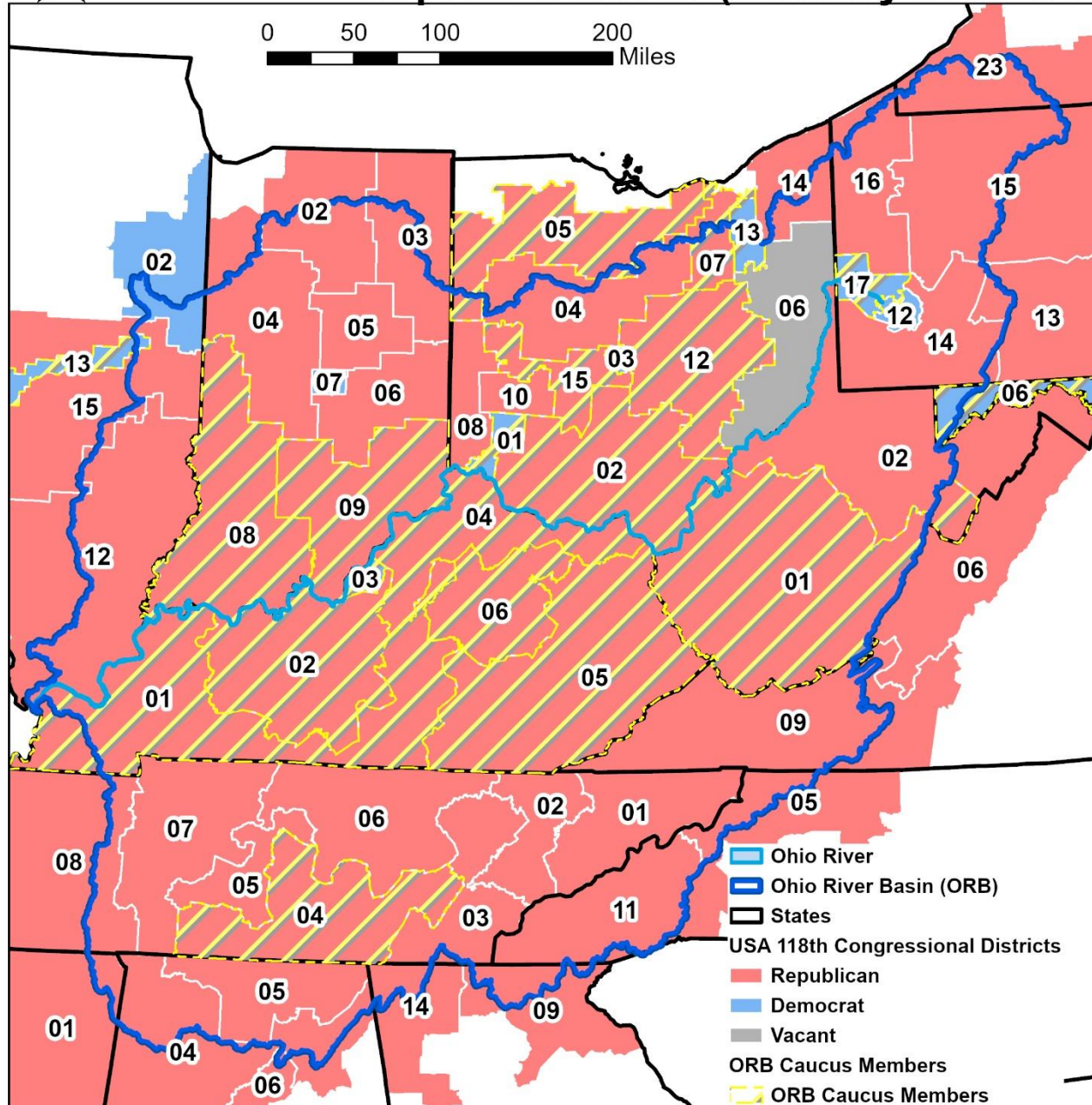
Alternative Storymap Excluding Bacteria Impairments



Status of ORB Streams & Lakes



Ohio River Basin 118th U.S. Congressional Representatives (January 2023-2025)



Alabama
 04 Robert Aderholt
 05 Dale Strong
 06 Gary Palmer

Georgia
 09 Andrew Clyde
 14 Marjorie Taylor Greene

Illinois
 02 Robin Kelly
 12 Mike Bost
13 Nikki Budzinski
 15 Mary Miller

Indiana
 02 Rudy Yakym III
 03 Jim Banks
 04 James Baird
 05 Victoria Spartz
 06 Greg Pence
 07 André Carson
08 Larry Bucshon
09 Erin Houchin

Kentucky
01 James Comer
02 Brett Guthrie
03 Morgan McGarvey
04 Thomas Massie
05 Hal Rogers
06 Andy Barr

Maryland
06 David Trone

Mississippi
 01 Trent Kelly

New York
 23 Nicholas Langworthy

North Carolina
 05 Virginia Foxx
 11 Chuck Edwards

Ohio
01 Greg Landsman
02 Brad Wenstrup
 03 Joyce Beatty
 04 Jim Jordan
05 Robert Latta
 06 Michael Rulli
07 Max Miller
 08 Warren Davidson
 10 Michael Turner
12 Troy Balderson
13 Emilia Strong Sykes
 14 David Joyce
15 Mike Carey

Pennsylvania
 12 Summer Lee
 13 John Joyce
 14 Guy Reschenthaler
 15 Glenn Thompson
 16 Mike Kelly
17 Christopher Deluzio

Tennessee
 01 Diana Harshbarger
 02 Tim Burchett
 03 Charles Fleischmann
04 Scott DesJarlais
 05 Andrew Ogles
 06 John Rose
 07 Mark Green
 08 David Kustoff

Virginia
 06 Ben Cline
 09 H. Morgan Griffith

West Virginia
01 Carol Miller
 02 Alexander Mooney

**Caucus Members are highlighted and underlined

Cartographer: Bridget Borrowdale, ORSANCO

Thank you for your
assistance!

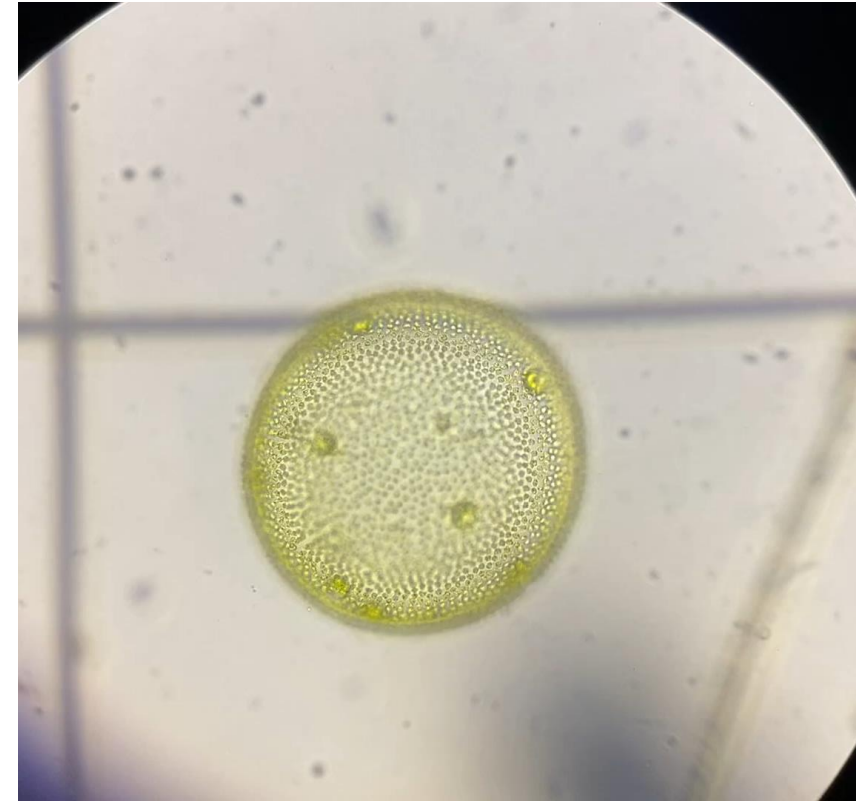
Questions?



Agenda Item 14:

Report of 2024 HABs and Algal Conditions in the Ohio River

Greg Youngstrom, ORSANCO



2024 HABs and Algal Conditions

Agenda Item 14
Greg Youngstrom

Aulacoseira Bloom #1

A microscopic image showing a dense population of Aulacoseira diatoms. The diatoms are elongated, needle-shaped cells with distinct silica frustules, appearing as thin, parallel lines. They are interspersed with several spherical clusters of smaller, greenish-yellow cells, likely other algae or bacteria. The background is a light blueish-purple, typical of a water sample under a microscope.

> **June 14th**

Maysville (RM 408) reported reduced filter run time (from 5 days to less than 1)
4418.78 cells/mL at Maysville (60% diatoms)
end date?

> **June 17th**

Slight increase in algal concentrations at GCWW (RM 463) and LWC (RM 600.5),
mostly diatoms with some greens
No decline in plant performances

Water sample taken from downtown Cincinnati

Aulacoseira Bloom #2



June 24th

First signs of Aulacoseira bloom in Louisville
(RM 600.5)



July 3rd

Major Skeletonema bloom in Westport
(RM 580.5)
24,193 total cells/mL



July 9th

Plankton tows at Cincinnati (RM 470) & Meldahl
(RM 436.5) look like oil sludge due to high
concentrations of Aulacoseira; some Microcystis
colonies present



July 19th

Decreased abundance of Aulacoseira

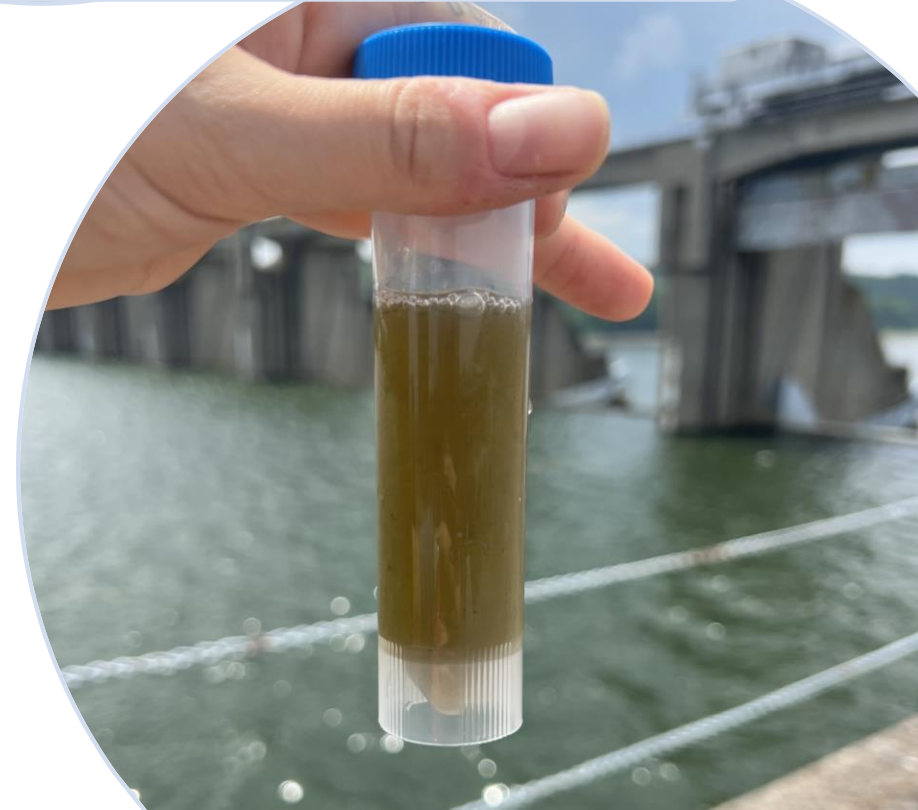


July 23rd

Still some Aulacoseira, increases in Greens
(Pediastrum and Volvox) and Cyanobacteria
(Oscillatoria and Dolicospermum)



July 9th plankton tow at Meldahl Lock and Dam



Microcystis on the Kentucky River



July 25th

Louisville Water reported Microcystis bloom on Kentucky River (RM 546)
Estimated cell counts of 35,000-50,000, toxin levels 4.69ug/L



July 26th

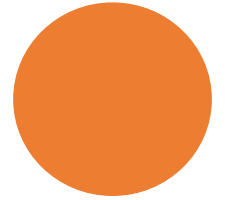
Kentucky Division of Water sent crews to investigate, reported no signs of bloom



July 31st

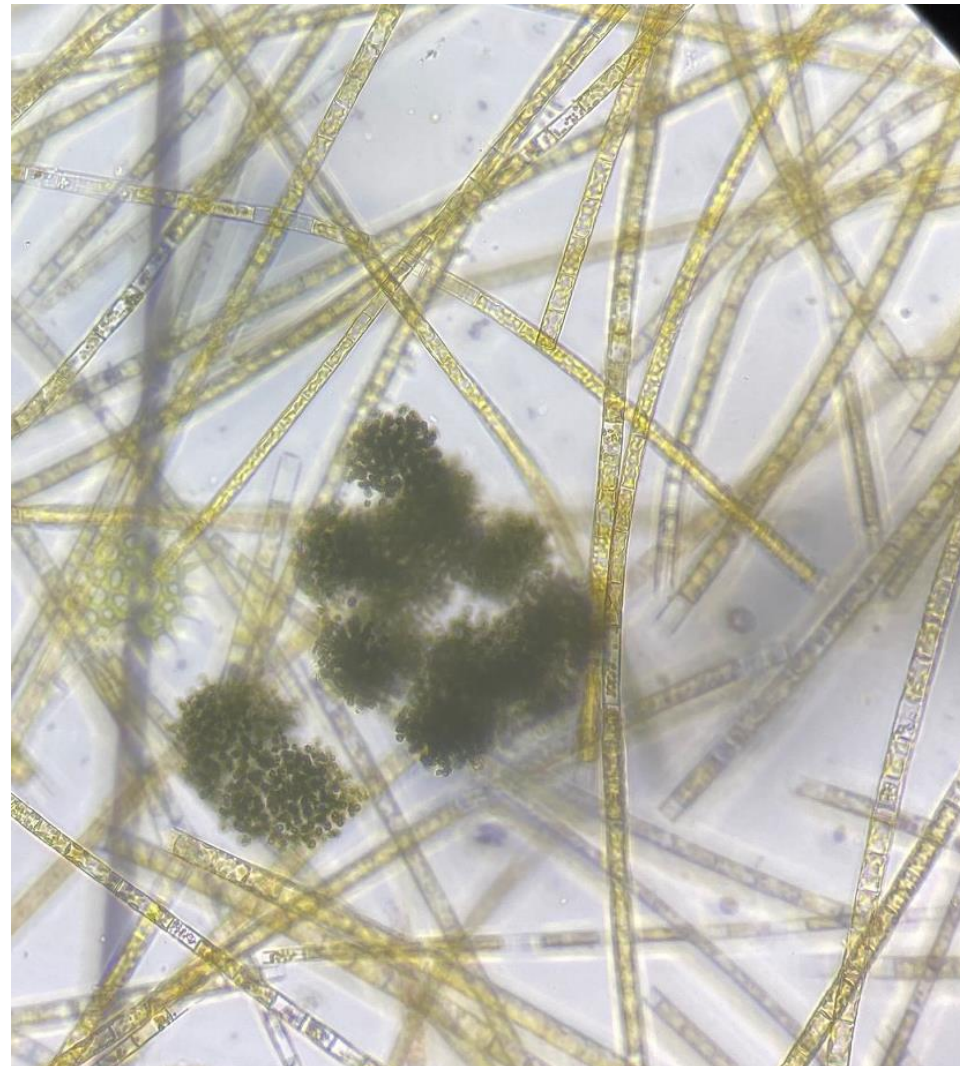
ORSANCO sampled the area, no signs of bloom. Toxin levels Non-Detect

July 31st: Clear water with no visible Microcystis colonies



July 25th: Water sample collected by Louisville Water with visible Microcystis colonies

Louisville Microcystis Bloom



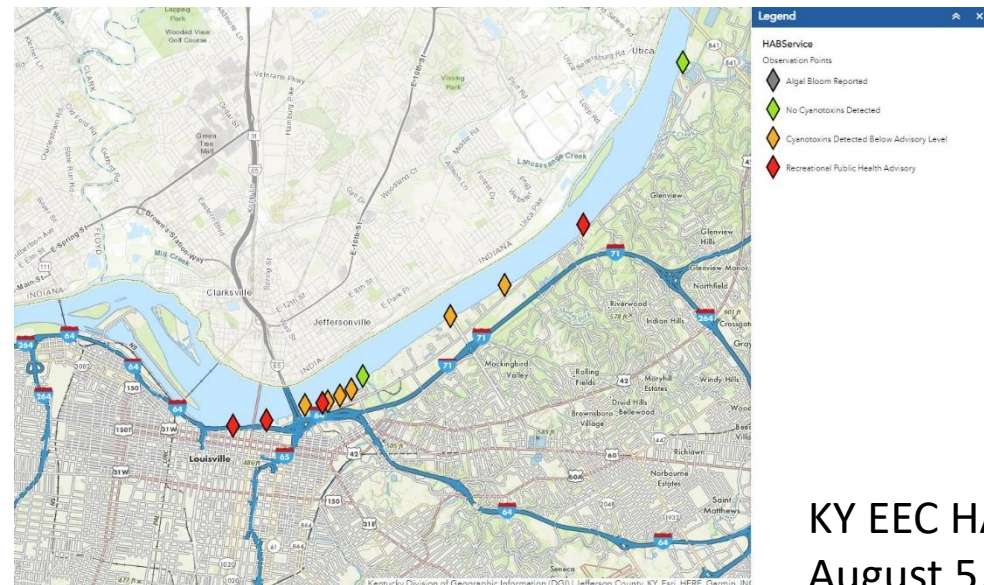
Microcystis and Aulacoseira

> **August 1st**

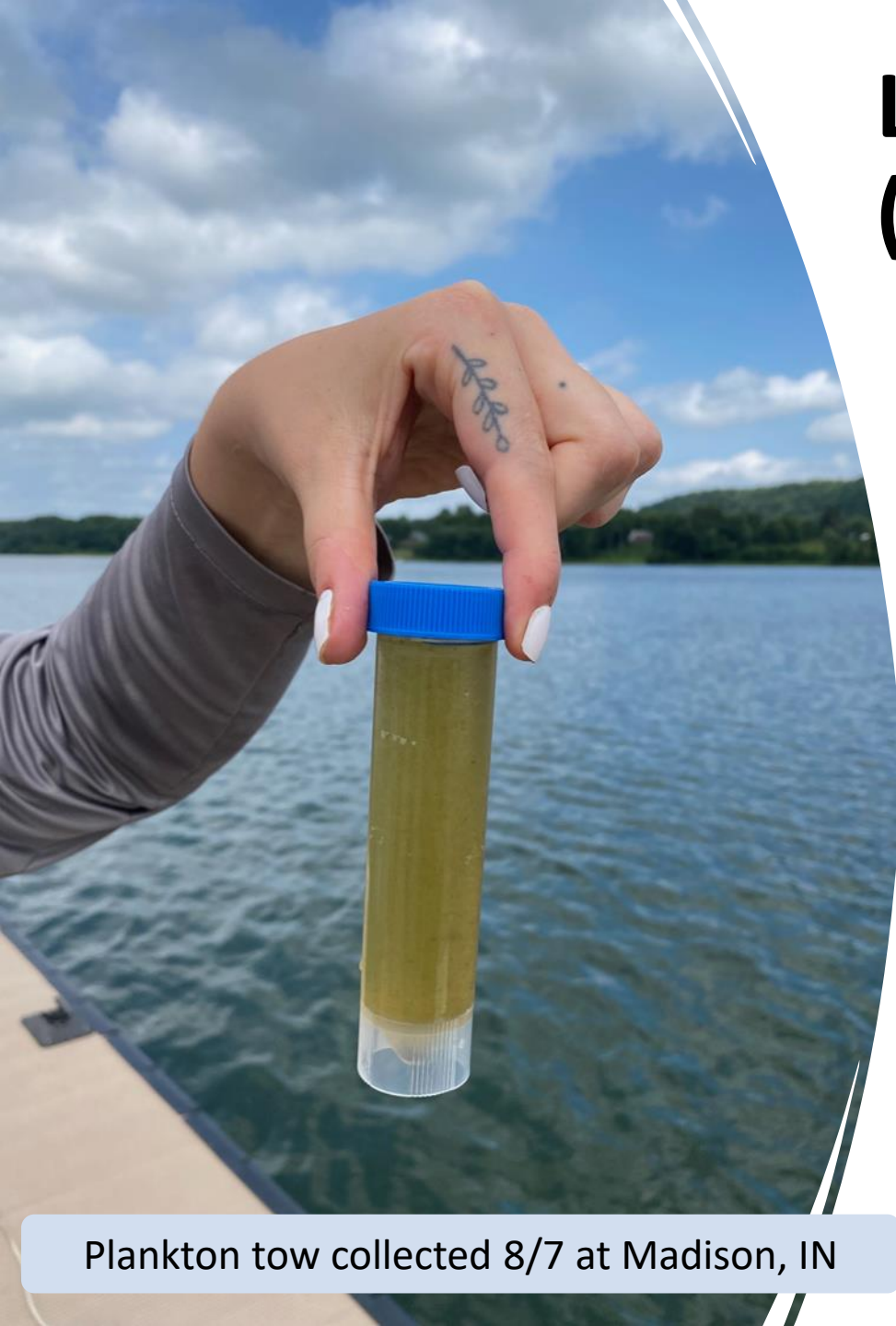
Report of HAB near Louisville (RM 502)
Algal toxins present but below standard 8.0ug/L

> **August 2nd**

Algal toxins exceed standard, Kentucky Dept. of Water issues advisory (TOXIN RESULT)



Louisville Microcystis Bloom (continued)



August 7th

ORSANCO sampled Markland L&D (RM 531.5); Carrollton, KY (RM 545.5); Madison, IN (RM 558); and Jeffersonville, IN (RM 602.5)

All samples were non-detect



August 8th

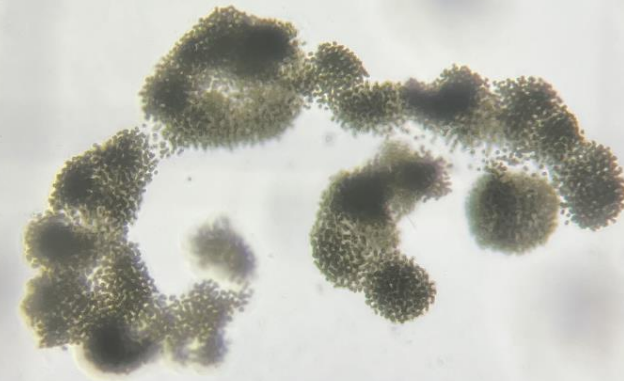
ORSANCO sampled at Ashland, KY (RM 323) and Kenova, WV (RM 317)

All samples were non-detect

Plankton tow collected 8/7 at Madison, IN

Louisville Microcystis Bloom (Cont)

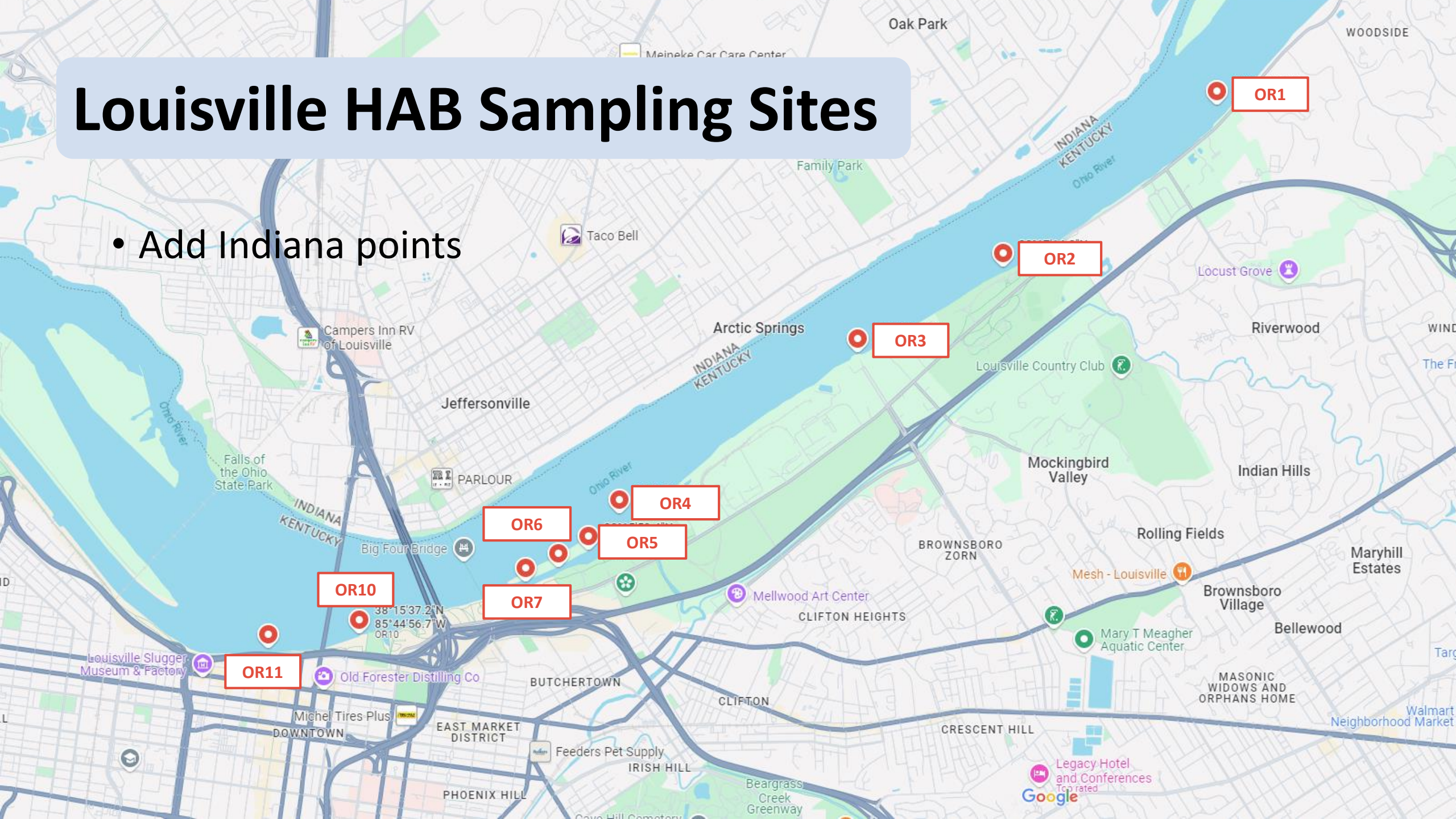
- > **August 14th** ORSANCO sampled at Louisville, KY and Jeffersonville, IN
Two samples contained algal toxins below 8.0 ug/L
- > **August 15th** ORSANCO sampled at Louisville, KY
Three samples contained algal toxins below standard 8.0 ug/L
- > **August 22nd** Recreational public health advisory lifted



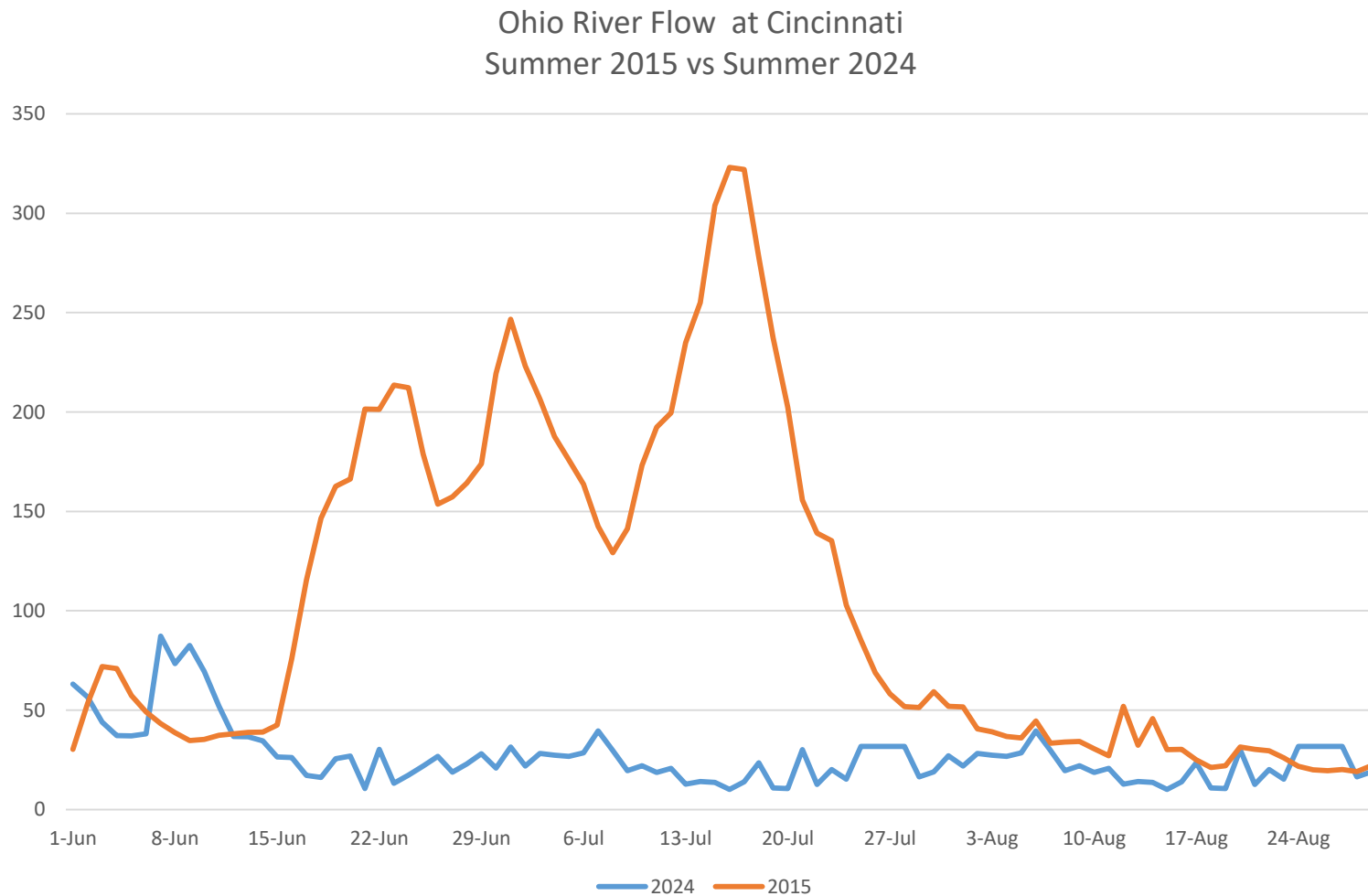
Microcystis sp. colony under microscope

Louisville HAB Sampling Sites

- Add Indiana points



2015 vs 2024 Flows





Agenda Item 15:

Update Regarding ORSANCO's Communication Plan

Annette Shumard, ORSANCO



ORSANCO

Communication & Public Involvement



Annette Shumard

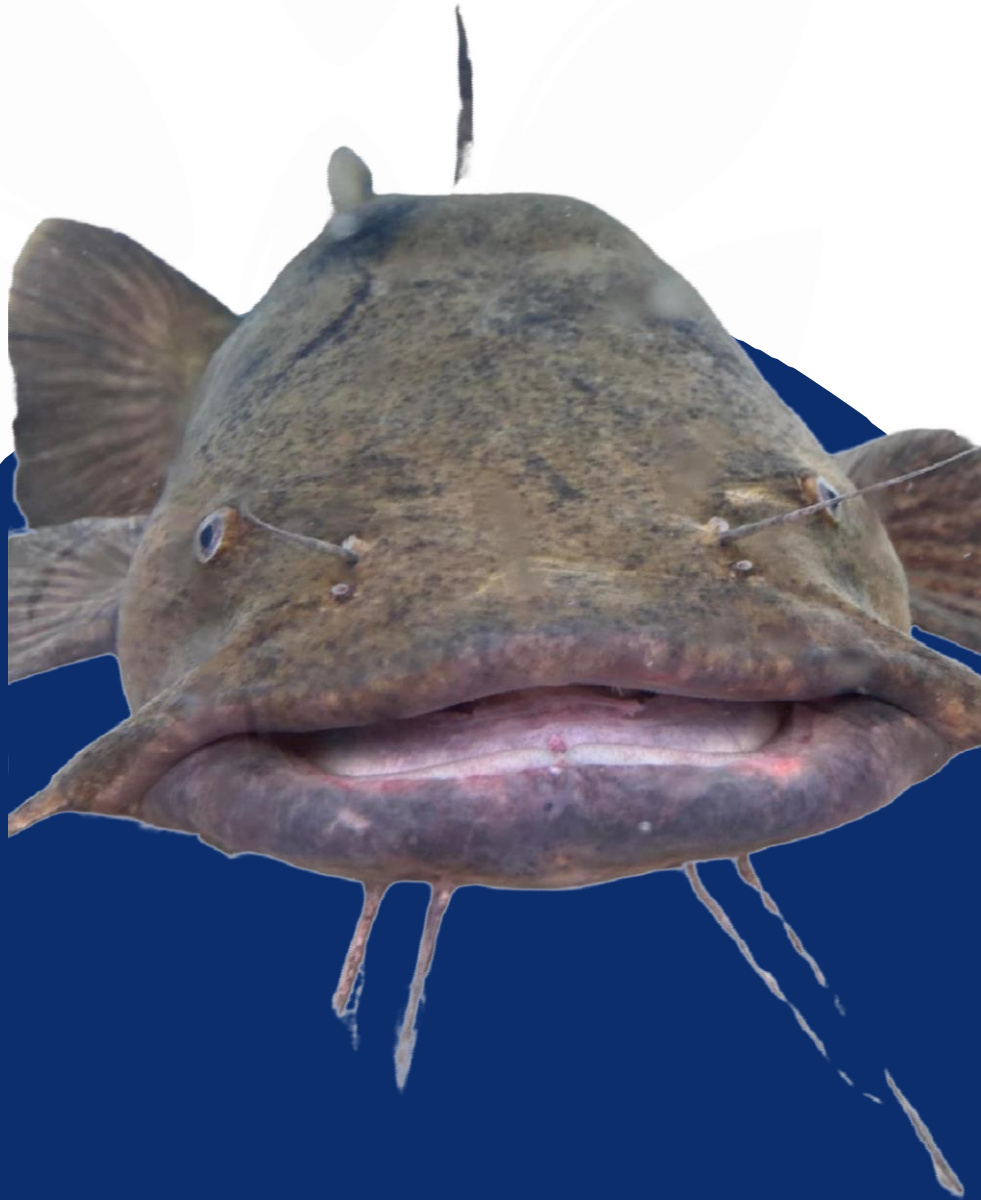
ORSANCO Communication & Environmental Education Manager
FORE Executive Director



Communication & Public Information



Public Involvement



Budget & Fundraising



The Team Behind Us

Teamwork Is The Key



The Team Behind Us

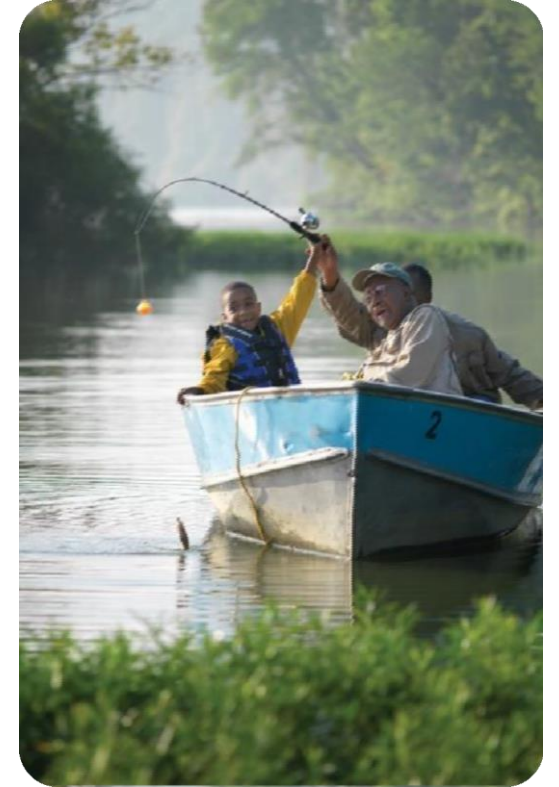
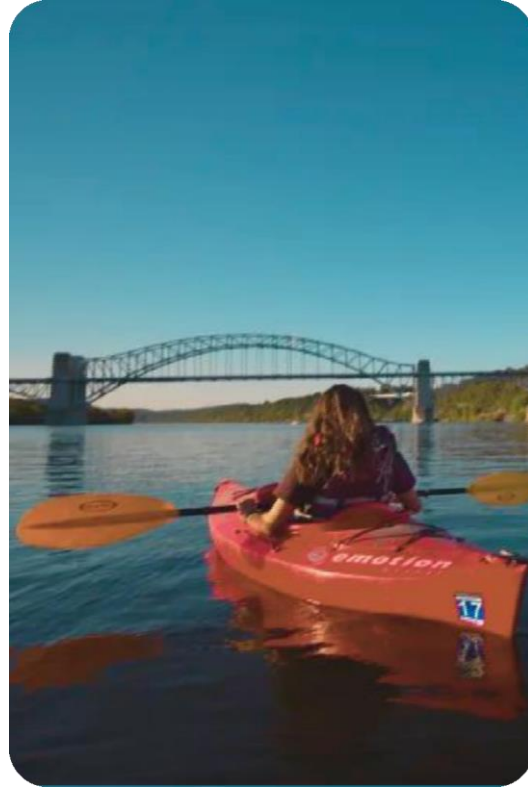
Teamwork Is The Key



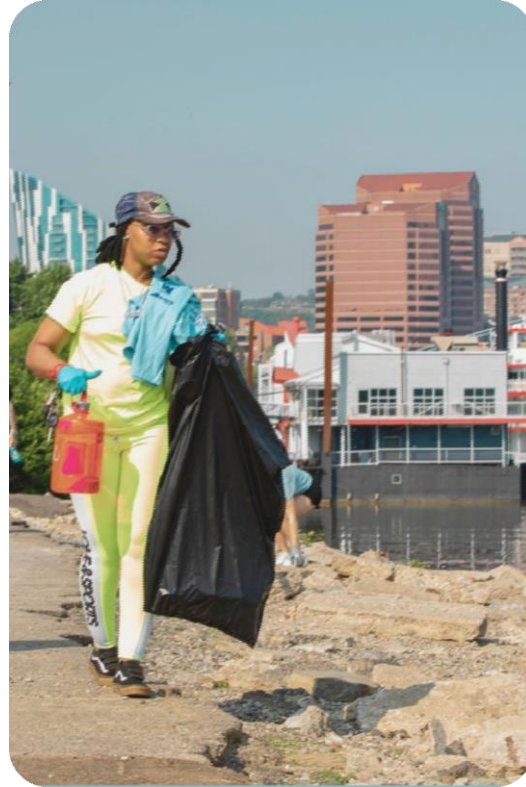
ORSANCO Data Collection



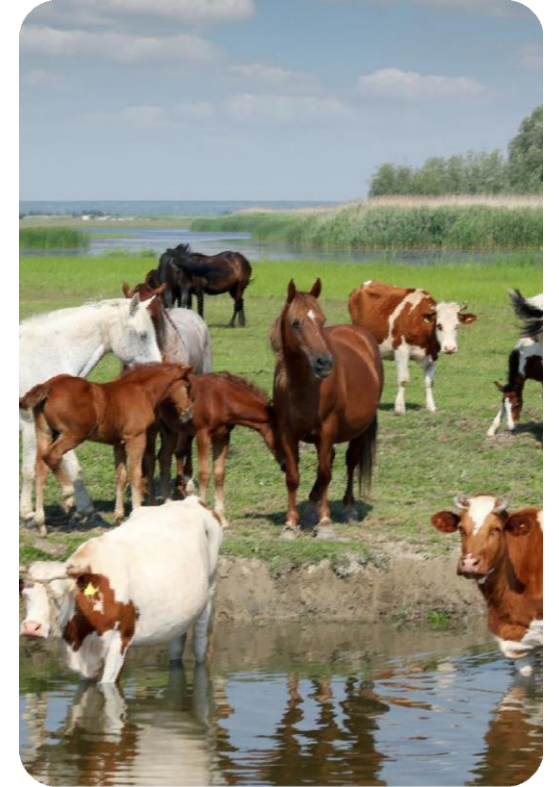
Public Information



Public Involvement



Changed Behavior





2023 YEAR IN REVIEW

ORSANCO



OHIO RIVER VALLEY WATER SANITATION COMMISSION

Another year of protecting and promoting the vital uses of the Ohio River

WHAT WE DO



Water Quality
Monitoring Programs



24/7 Emergency &
Spill Response



Public Information &
Outreach

BROAD SCAN SURVEY

This two part survey took place along three locations on the Ohio River in high and low flow conditions

The survey tested for **114** pollution control standard analytes and is meant to identify pollutants with criteria that should be routinely monitored for in the Ohio River

CONTACT RECREATION

ORSANCO monitors fecal coliform and E. coli bacteria levels in the river

455
samples collected

BIMONTHLY & CLEAN METALS SAMPLING

198
samples collected

Bimonthly water quality sampling has provided long term monitoring in the Ohio River and mouth of major tributaries since 1975

102
samples collected

The Clean Metals program data evaluates the river's ability to support fish and macroinvertebrates

DRINKING WATER

19,000 Number of samples taken by our Organics Detection System monitoring for volatile contaminants in the Ohio River

356 Number of spills calls & notifications received by ORSANCO

19 Number of gas chromatographs (GCs) positioned along the 961 miles of the Ohio River

HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS

30 Number of sensors on monitoring stations along the Ohio River that collect data every thirty minutes (pH, conductivity, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and chlorophyll a)

LIFE BELOW THE WATERLINE

2,500 gallon mobile aquariums

4 Events **25** Species caught & displayed **1,000** visitors

FOUNDATION FOR OHIO RIVER EDUCATION (FORE)

FORE provides environmental education and outreach opportunities to people of all ages. FORE programs include:

- RiverEACH: floating classroom and canoe program
- RiverWatchers: Citizen science water quality testing program
- Educational demonstrations and public outreach events

13,751

Individuals reached across 5 states

58

Education & Outreach Events

OHIO RIVER SWEEP

121 Clean-up events

4,596 Volunteers

85 Tons of trash collected

902 Tires removed

218.5 Miles covered



In 2023, ORSANCO celebrated 75 years of dedication and partnership to improve the water quality in the Ohio River Basin, ensuring the Ohio River can be used for drinking, industrial supplies, recreational purposes, and can support a healthy and diverse aquatic habitat



OHIO RIVER WATERSHED

The Ohio River drainage basin covers 295,000 square miles, encompassing parts of 15 states, and equals approximately 5% of the United States mainland

ORSANCO

Impact

Other Business:

- Comments by Guests
- Announcement of Upcoming Meetings
 - February 11-12, 2025: Covington, KY
 - June 10-11, 2025: Morgantown, WV
- Adjourn

Chair, Scott Mandirola