

Illinois NLRs Nutrient Monitoring Council

Virtual Meeting
September 14, 2023
9:00 – 11:30 AM



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Welcome

Trevor Sample, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Roles

Welcome: *Trevor Sample, IEPA*

Moderator: *Joan Cox, Illinois Extension*

Technology Assistance: *Layne Knoche, Illinois Extension*

Meeting minutes: *Amanda Christenson, Illinois Extension*



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Attendance

Please type your name and affiliation into the chat box.



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Agenda

9:00 (10 min.)	Welcome <i>Trevor Sample, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency</i>
9:10 (30 min.)	USGS nutrient load update <i>Kelly Warner, United States Geological Survey</i> Q & A
9:40 (30 min.)	Which Experiments, Measurements and Analyses Should be Done to Quantify Causes of Total Phosphorus Load Increases in Illinois Rivers? <i>Greg McIsaac, University of Illinois</i> Q & A
10:10 (5 min.)	Break
10:15 (30 min.)	Illinois EPA Harmful Algal Bloom Program Update <i>Alex Terlep, Illinois Environmental Protection Agency</i> Q & A
10:45 (20 min.)	Illinois River Biological Station Monitoring on the Illinois Waterway <i>Sara Sawicki, Illinois Natural History Survey</i> Q & A
11:05 (25 min.)	NMC Member Updates
11:30	Adjourn





U.S. Geological Survey Local and National Update for Illinois Nutrient Monitoring Council

Kelly Warner

Deputy Director

USGS Central Midwest Water Science Center

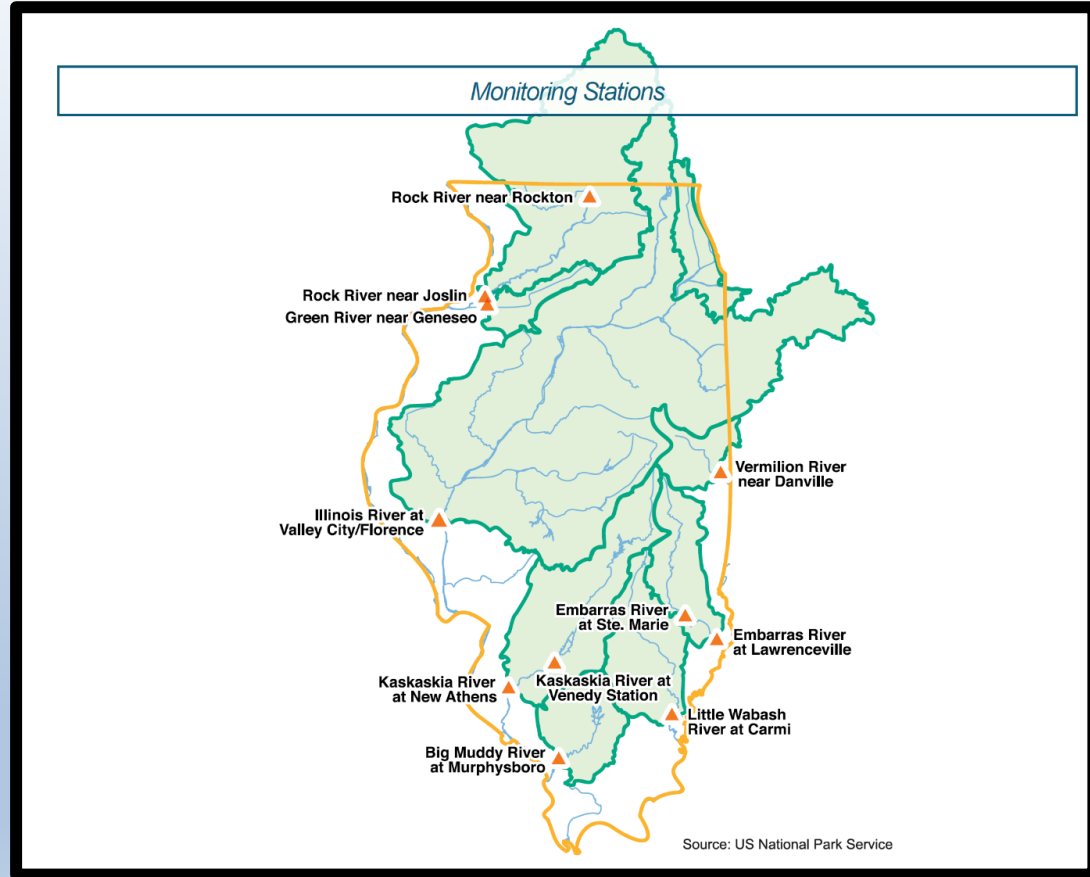
Monitoring Change

Monitor changes in nutrient loads from Illinois' eight largest rivers relative to the 1980-96 baseline

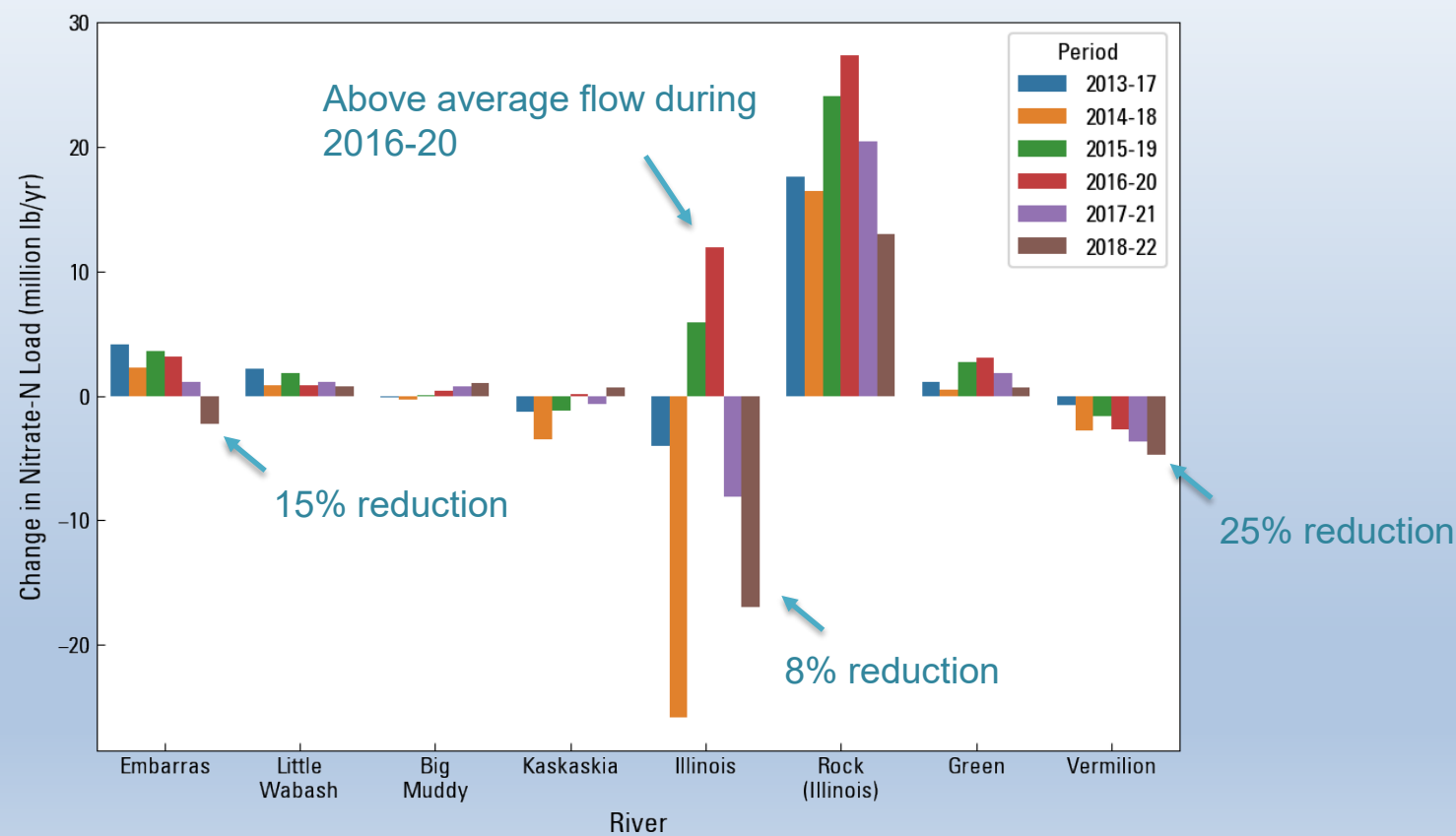
- **baseline:** water years 1980–1996 estimated by periodic sampling
- **super gage:** continuous water-quality monitoring sites used to estimate loads since 2019.
- **INLRS:** *Since 2017, progress assessed based on the 5-year average loading.*



Courtesy of Tim Hodson



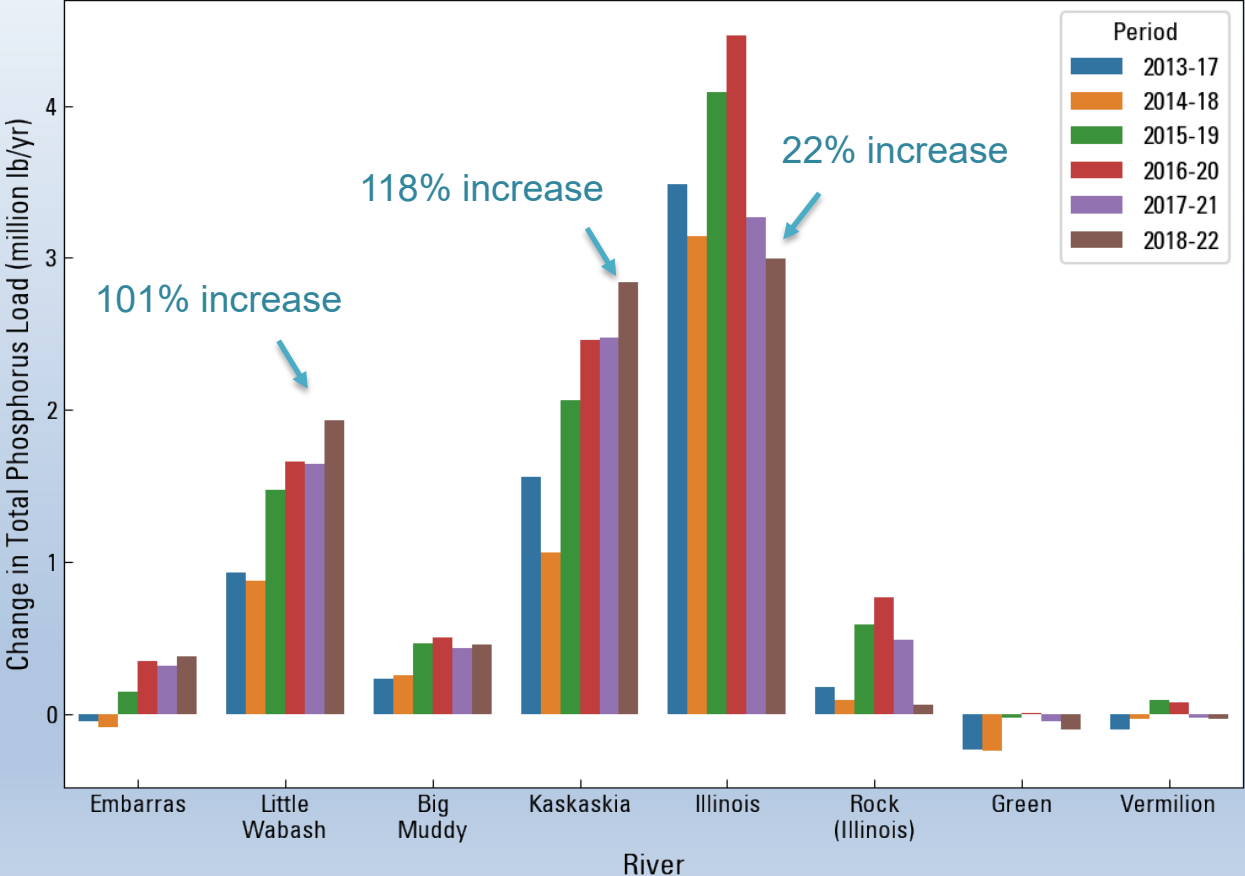
Change in nitrate relative to baseline



Courtesy of Tim Hodson

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

Change in phosphorus relative to baseline

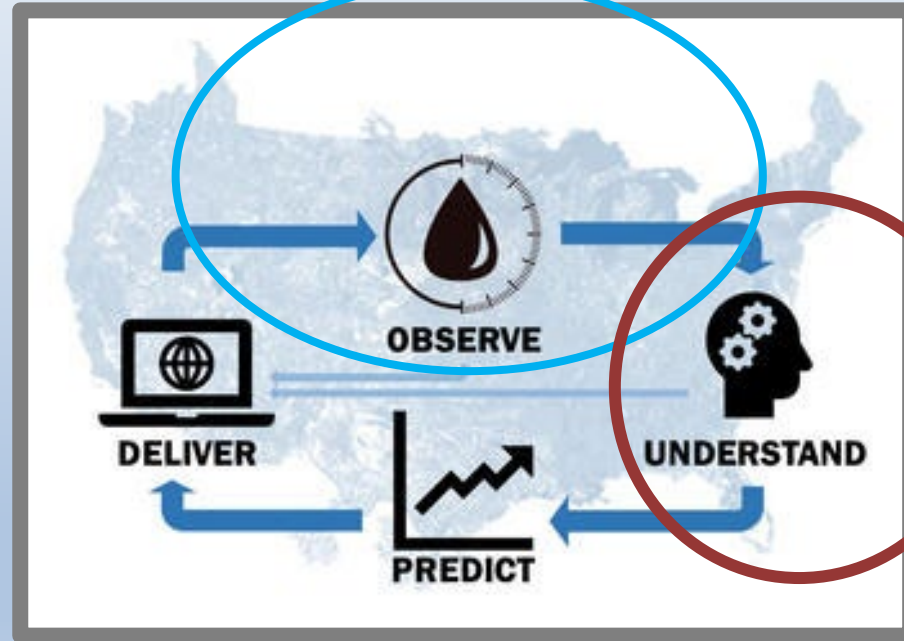


Courtesy of Tim Hodson

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

USGS Integrated Water Science (IWS) Basins

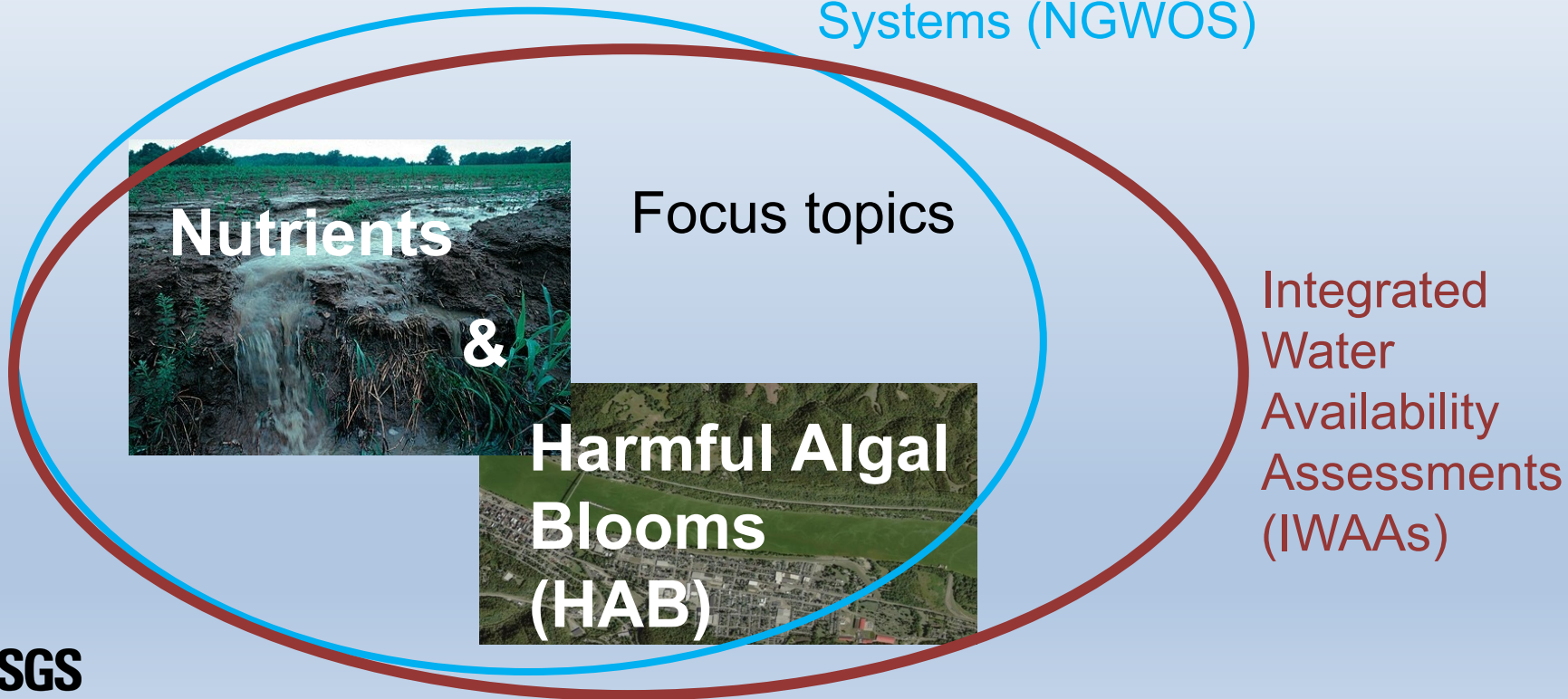
Next Generation Water Observing Systems (NGWOS)



Integrated
Water
Availability
Assessments
(IWAAs)

USGS Integrated Water Science (IWS) Basins

Next Generation Water Observing
Systems (NGWOS)

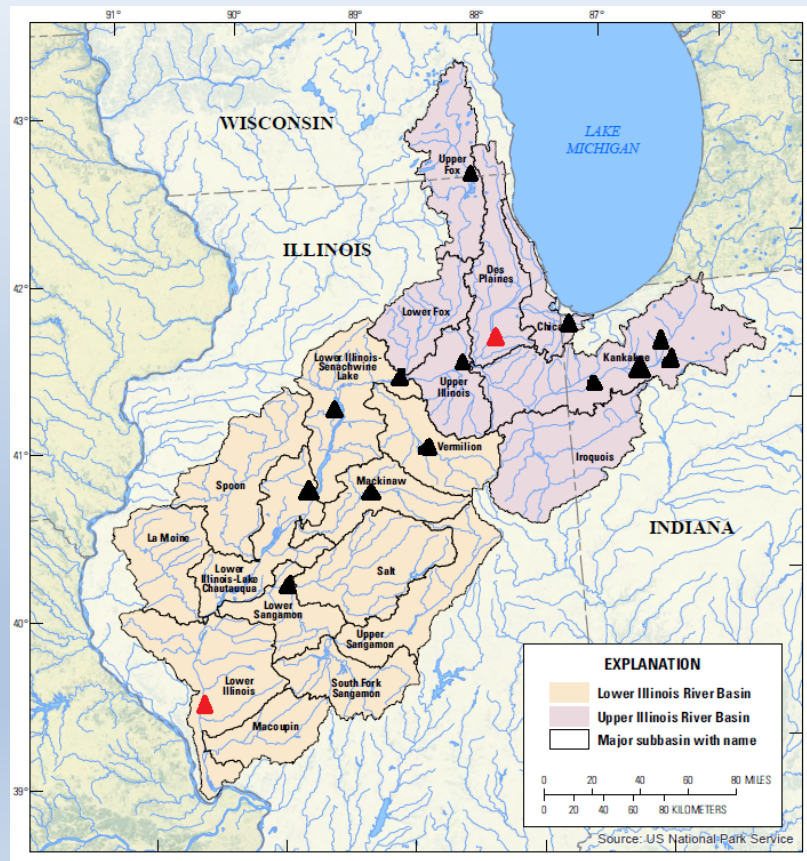


USGS Next Generation Observing Systems (NGWOS)

Super gage network-super gages provide continuous water quality measurements at fixed locations on the mainstem Illinois River (ILR) and major tributaries within the Illinois River Basin (ILRB). NGWOS expanded the network of super gages from 2 to 15 in the ILRB.



Courtesy of Jim Duncker



Illinois River at Starved Rock Testbed

**HABs-discrete sampling
and Next Generation
sensors** MicaSense
redband camera,
Phytofind, AlgaeTracker
among instruments being
tested



Photograph by Heather Krempa, U.S. Geological Survey



Courtesy of Jim Duncker

Improve understanding of conditions driving/triggering CyanoHABs and cyanotoxin production

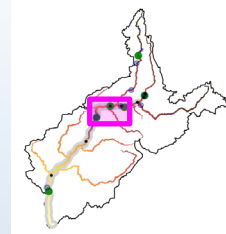
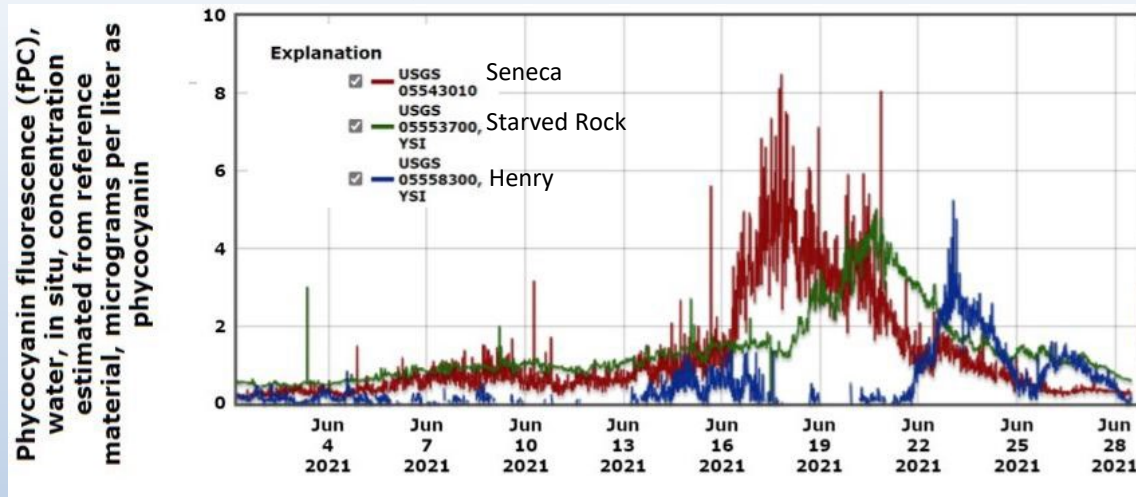
- **NGWOS ILRB sample plan**
 - Nutrients, suspended sediment, selected metals
 - Phytoplankton and periphyton community structure
 - Chlorophyll *a*, pheophytin *a*, and ash-free dry mass
 - Cyanotoxins
 - Taste and odor compounds
 - DNA-based toxin gene assays



Photographs by Heather Krempa, U.S. Geological Survey



2022 HAB Preliminary Data Review



<https://waterdata.usgs.gov/nwis>

- Phycocyanin concentrations peaked at the upstream location near Seneca, IL then downstream near Starved Rock and later further downstream near Henry, IL.
- 2-Methylisoborneol (MIB) and Geosmin taste and odor compounds were elevated during HAB
- Cyanobacteria were dominant during visible HAB and Diatoms generally dominant during non-HAB



Courtesy of Heather Krempa

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution

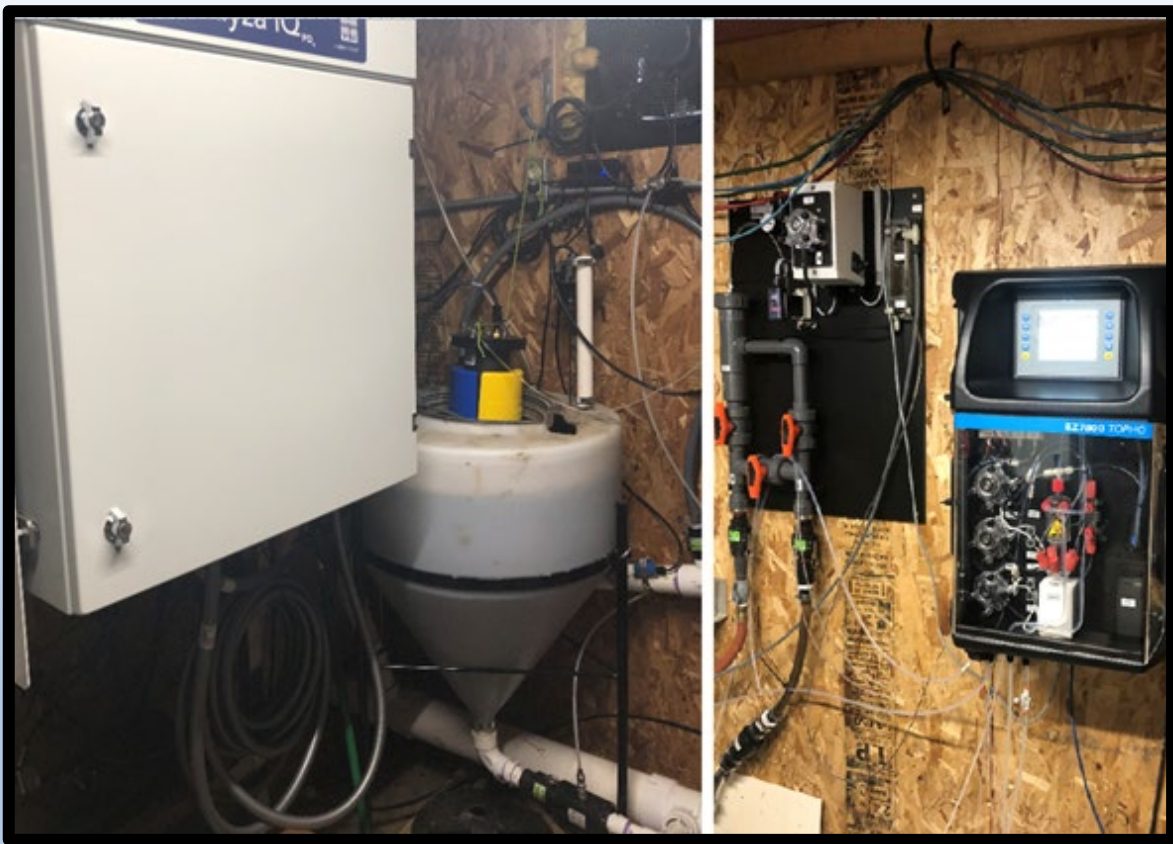


Testbed-Nutrient Diffusing Substrates

- Determine which nutrient(s) are limiting algal growth, toxin production, and species composition
- When a HAB occurs the communities shift thus altering these gross primary productivity rates—the balance between photosynthesis and respiration.

Nutrient (N and P) sensor evaluation testbed

- Continuous N and P sensors from various manufacturers are currently being evaluated in Urbana. The basin focus topics and CMWSC expertise make the ILRB an ideal location for these evaluations.

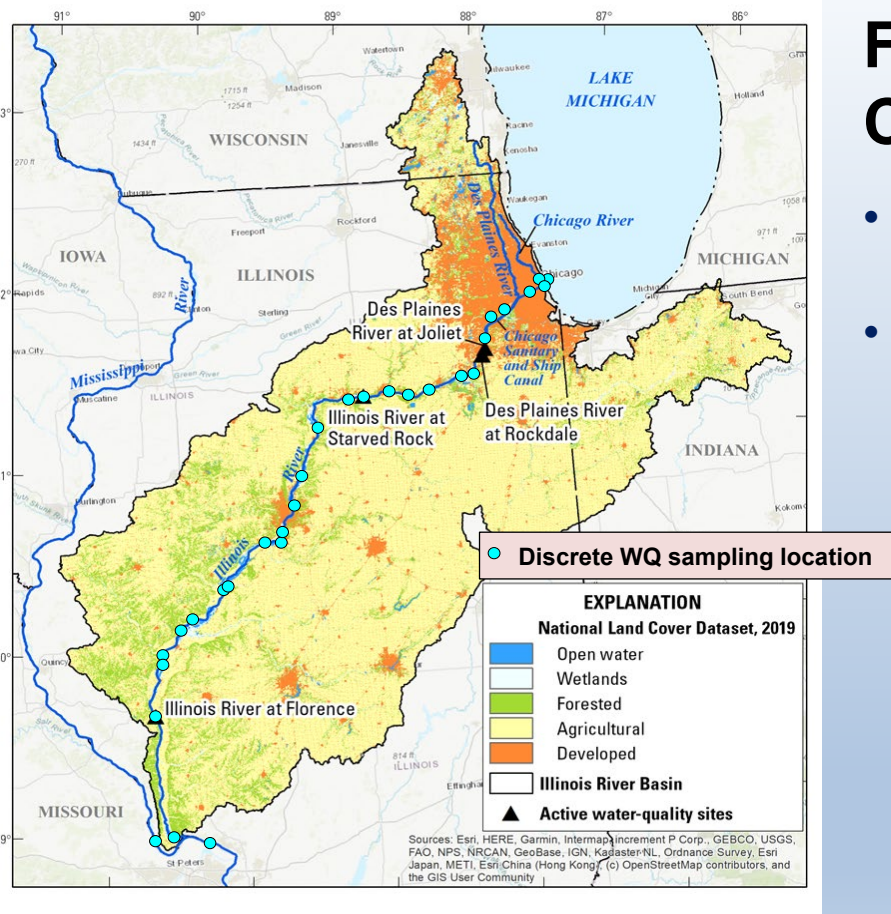


Photographs by the U.S. Geological Survey



FLAMe Water Quality Sampling Campaigns

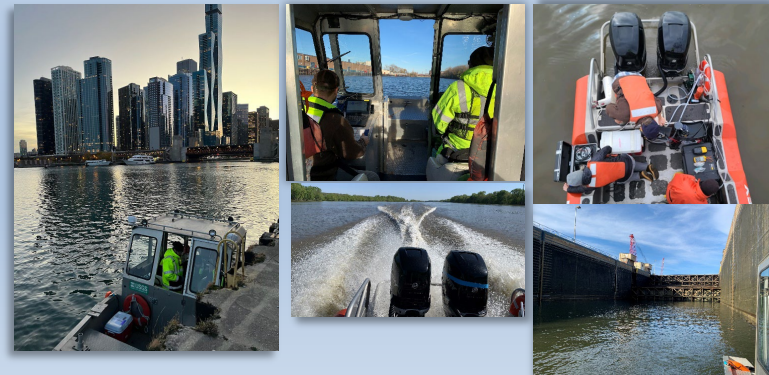
- Lake Michigan to Mississippi River (~335 miles)
- Nutrients (N, P, C), major ions, dissolved CO₂ & CH₄, C isotopes, dissolved organic matter chemical characterization, PFAS, pharmaceuticals, algal communities (select sites)



Map courtesy of J. Sharpe, U.S. Geological Survey



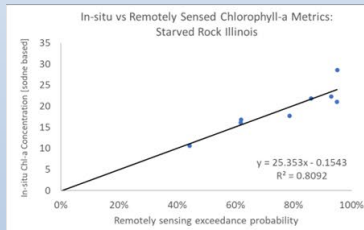
Courtesy of Jim Duncker



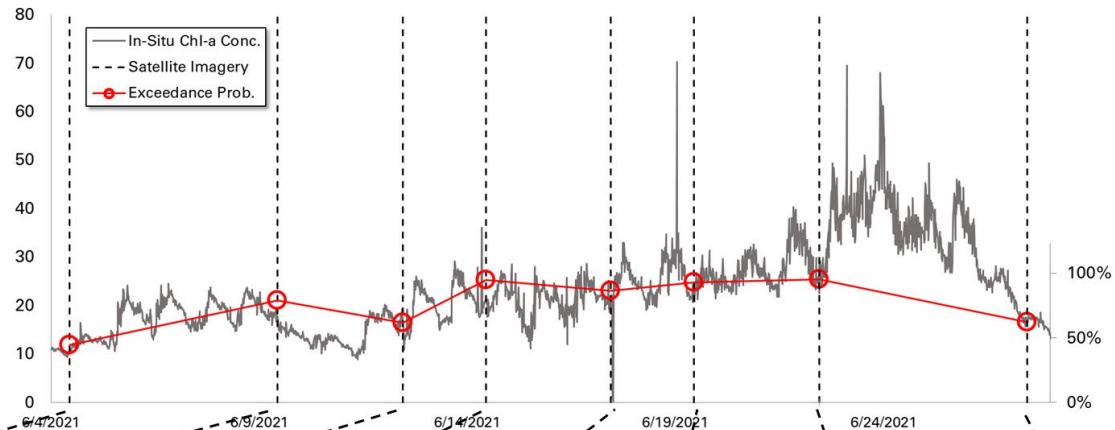
Illinois River Basin: Chlorophyll for HABs monitoring

Imagery for Starved Rock, Illinois (USGS 05553700).

Exceedance probability: the estimated probability that a given pixel has a chlorophyll-a concentration greater than 10 ug/L.



Chlorophyll-a Concentration [mg/L]

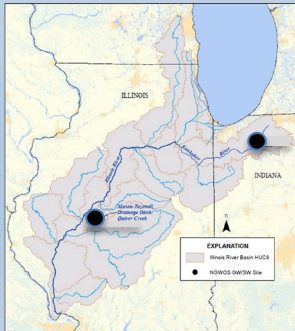


Courtesy of Tyler King

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution

Groundwater-surface water (GW-SW) interaction

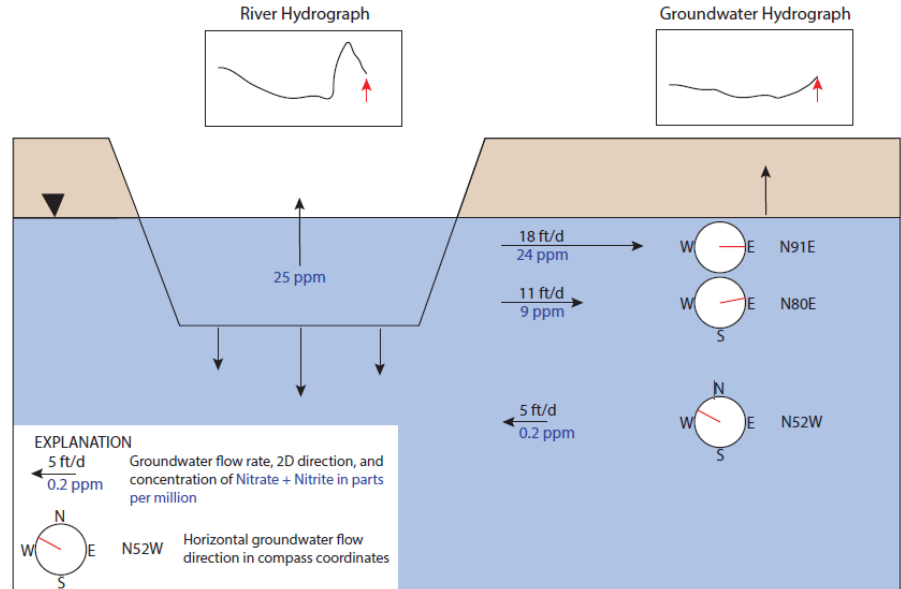
- GW-SW interaction with emphasis on nutrient contribution to stream from shallow groundwater at two locations:
 - Kankakee River at Davis, Indiana
 - Quiver Creek near Havana, Illinois



Courtesy of Dave Lampe

Arrows, headings, velocities, compass directions, nutrient concentrations, and hydrographs change in real time!

NEXT GENERATION WATER OBSERVATION SYSTEM
Groundwater - Surface Water Interaction and Nutrient Monitoring
USGS 05569500 SPOON RIVER AT LONDON MILLS, IL



USGS Integrated Water Science (IWS) Basins

Next Generation Water Observing Systems (NGWOS)



&



Focus topics

Integrated
Water
Availability
Assessments
(IWAAs)

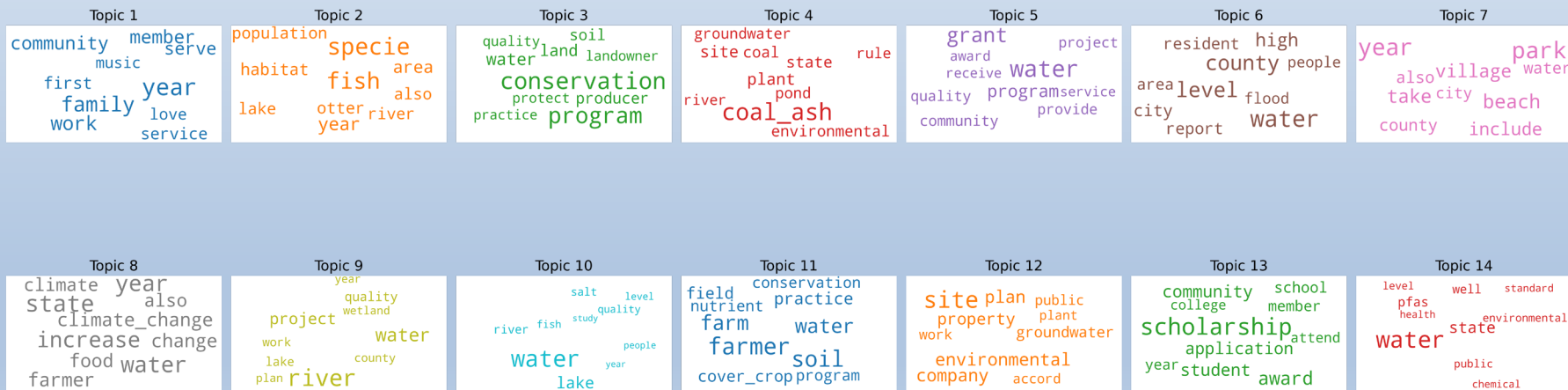


Advancing the State of the Science

- HABs history in the ILRB**

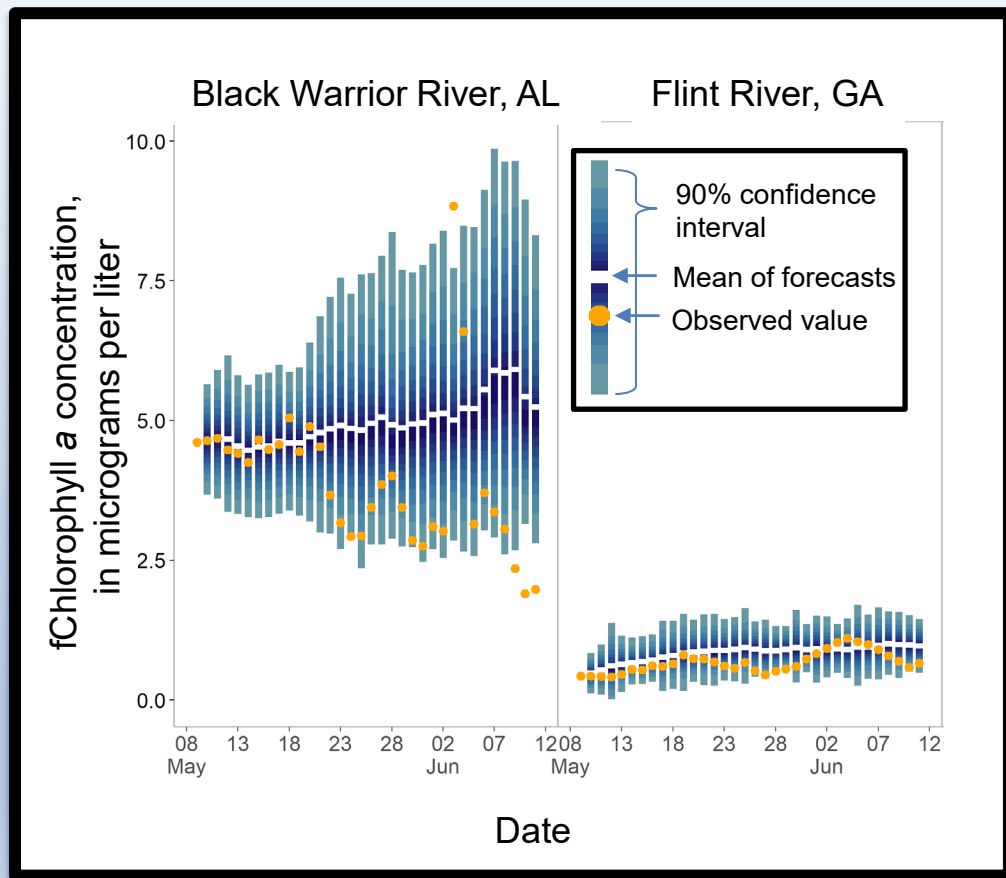
(1) Regional trend analysis with diverse set of data

(2) Natural language processing of water quality related newspaper articles



Predicting/forecasting HABs in nutrient-rich river systems

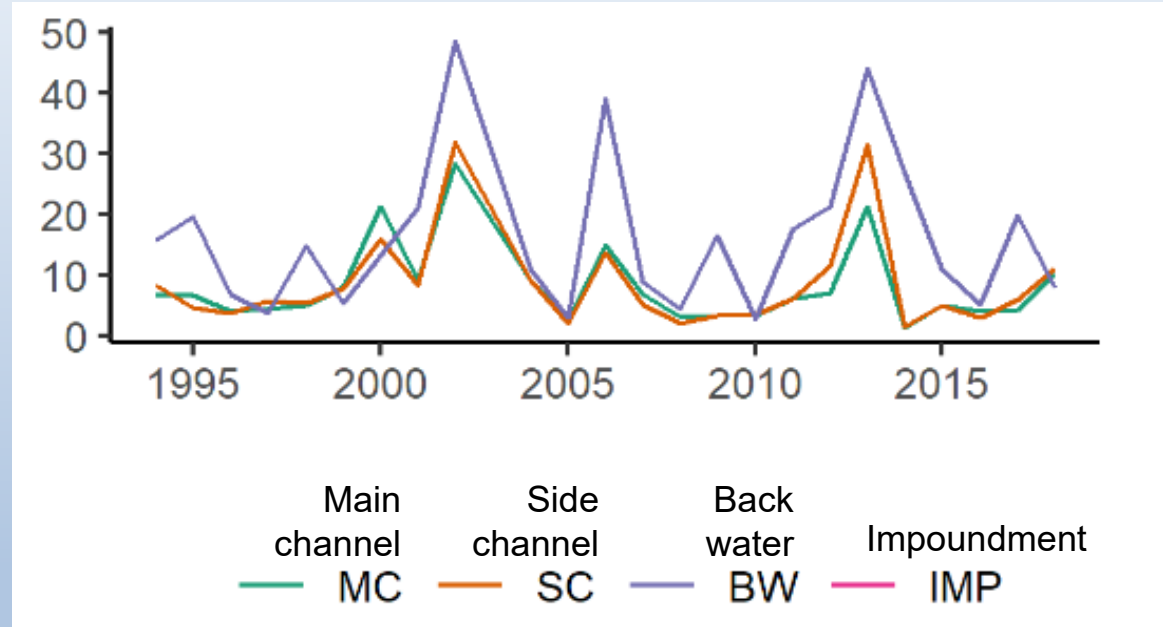
- River HABs modeling literature review
- Expand ongoing 30-day chlorophyll fluorescence (fChl) forecasting work



Understanding the history

For example,
Lower Illinois River
chlorophyll trends
(Jankowski, et al., 2021)

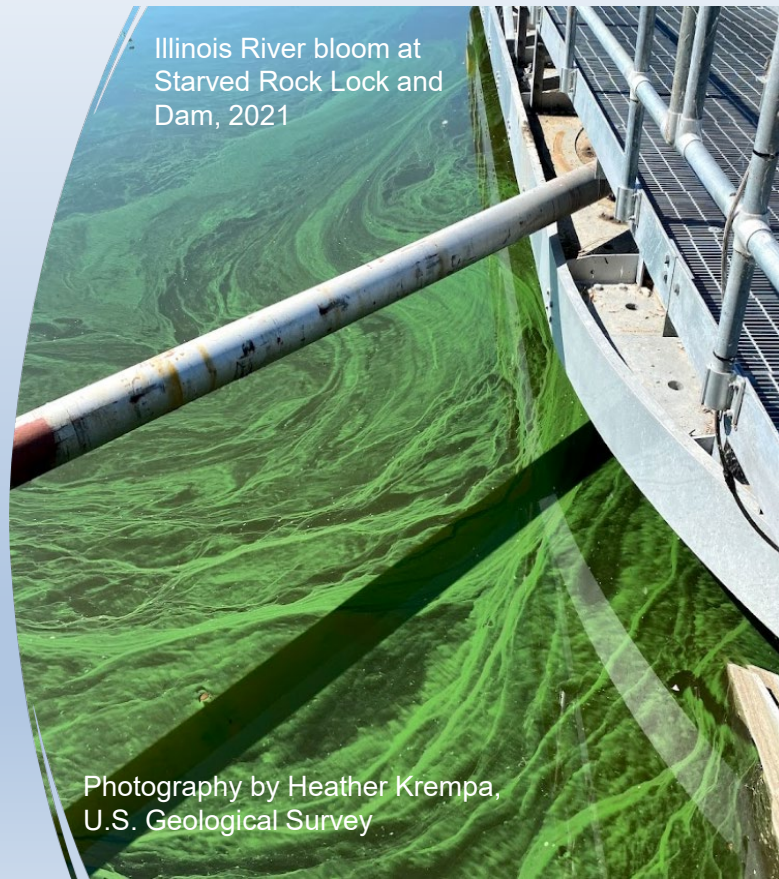
Annual average winter CHL



What is overlooked or noticed when a particular metric is used to identify the occurrence of a river HAB?

Approach

- Compile State-level HAB guidelines
- Explore use of routine and novel metrics for HAB identification
- Explore early warning indicators
- Apply at seven sites in the Illinois River Basin to demonstrate application in rivers



Illinois River bloom at Starved Rock Lock and Dam, 2021

Photography by Heather Krempa,
U.S. Geological Survey



Courtesy of Sarah Stackpoole

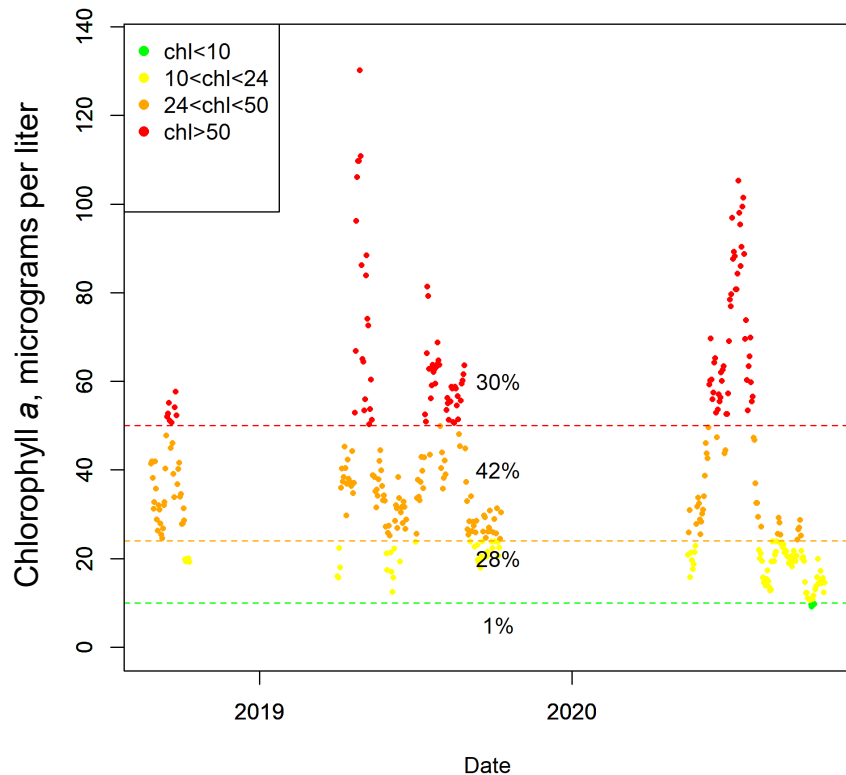
	Indicator	Number of States	Lowest threshold	Highest threshold
Recreational				
Qualitative	Visual	45		
	Olfactory	26		
Quantitative	Microcystin (micrograms per liter, ug/L)	31	Detection	20
	Cylindrospermopsin (ug/L)	21	Detection	15
	Anatoxin <i>a</i> (ug/L)	15	Detection	80
	Saxitoxin (ug/L)	10	Detection	75
	Chlorophyll <i>a</i> (ug/L)	2	7.1	30
	Cyanobacteria (ug/L)	19	Detection	100,000
	Secchi Disk Depth (meters, m)	2	1	1.5
Drinking Water				
Quantitative	Microcystin (ug/L)	15	0.16	1
	Cylindrospermopsin (ug/L)	14	0.5	0.7
	Anatoxin <i>a</i> (ug/L)	3	0.3	0.7
	Saxitoxin (ug/L)	2	0.3	0.3



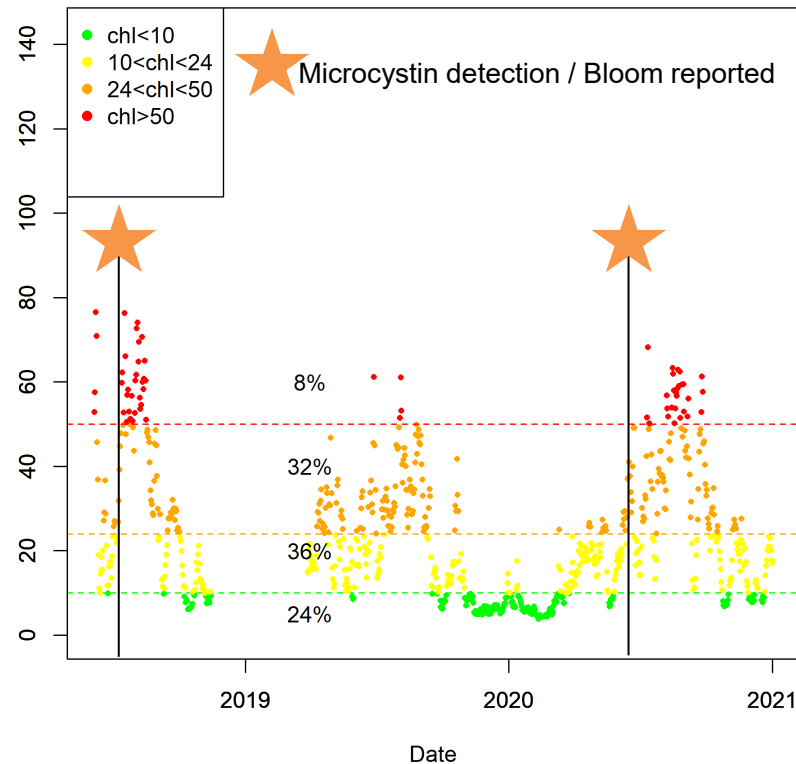
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Fox River near McHenry, Illinois



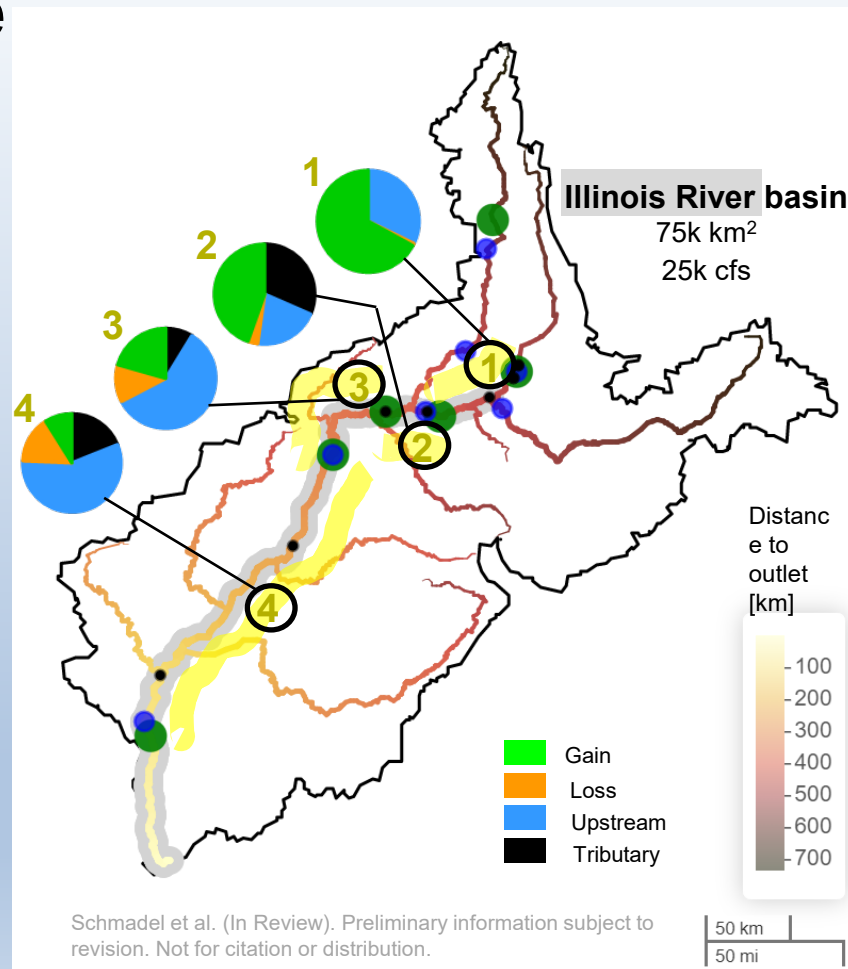
Illinois River at Starved Rock, Illinois



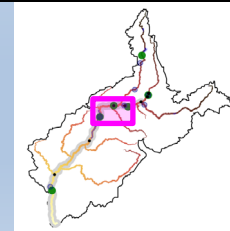
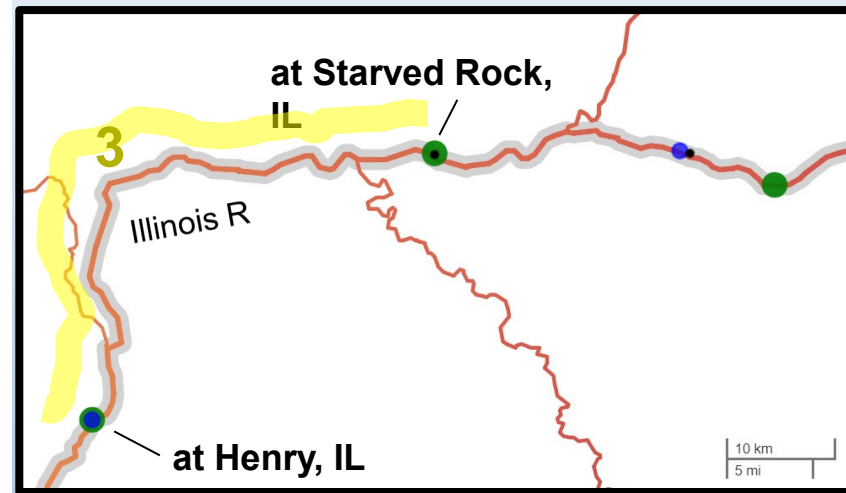
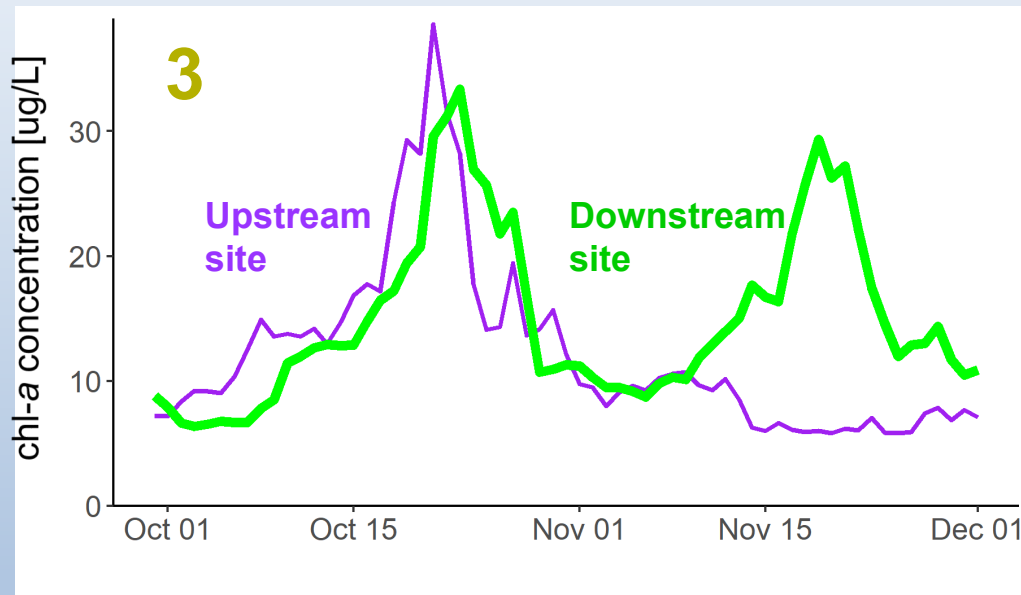
How does transport obscure algal biomass growth?

Approach

- Quantify advected chlorophyll *a* concentration and tributary dilution between five sites on the Illinois River mainstem (red dots)
- Transport model for *both* unsteady and nonuniform conditions
- Mass and water balances



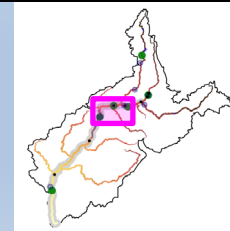
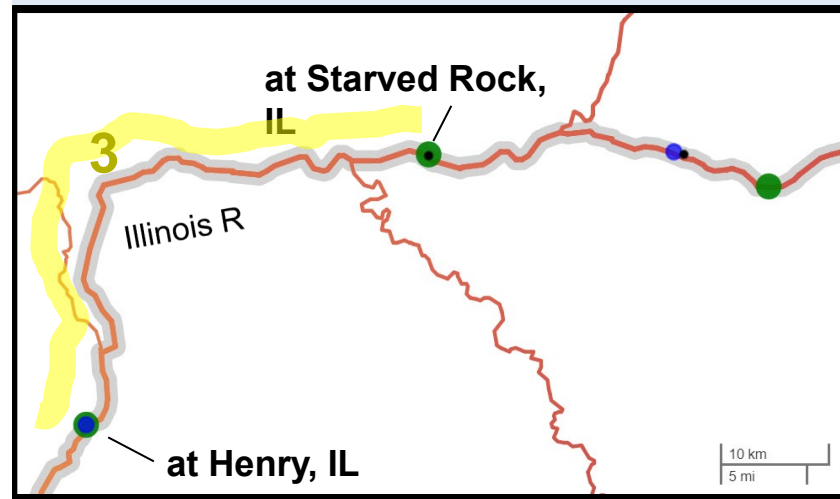
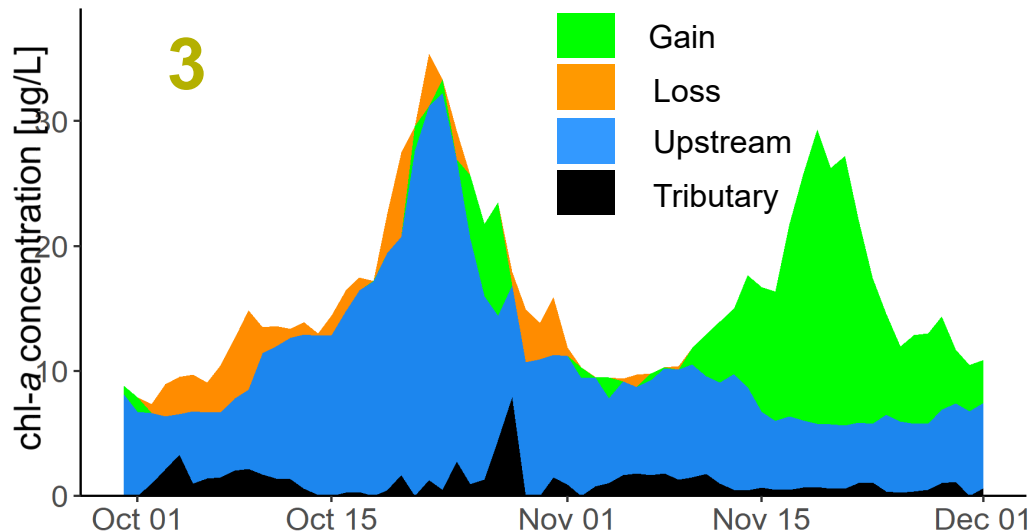
Quantify advected mass and tributary inputs: When and where is growth occurring?



Courtesy of Noah Schmadel

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution.

Quantify advected mass and tributary inputs: When and where is growth occurring?



Courtesy of Noah Schmadel

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CONSTITUENT SELECT

Showing results for:

☒ Inorganic

☐ Organic

Constituent:

Nitrate

For more information, see [User Guide](#)

TREND PERIOD

Trend period

☐ Decade 1-2

☐ Decade 1-3

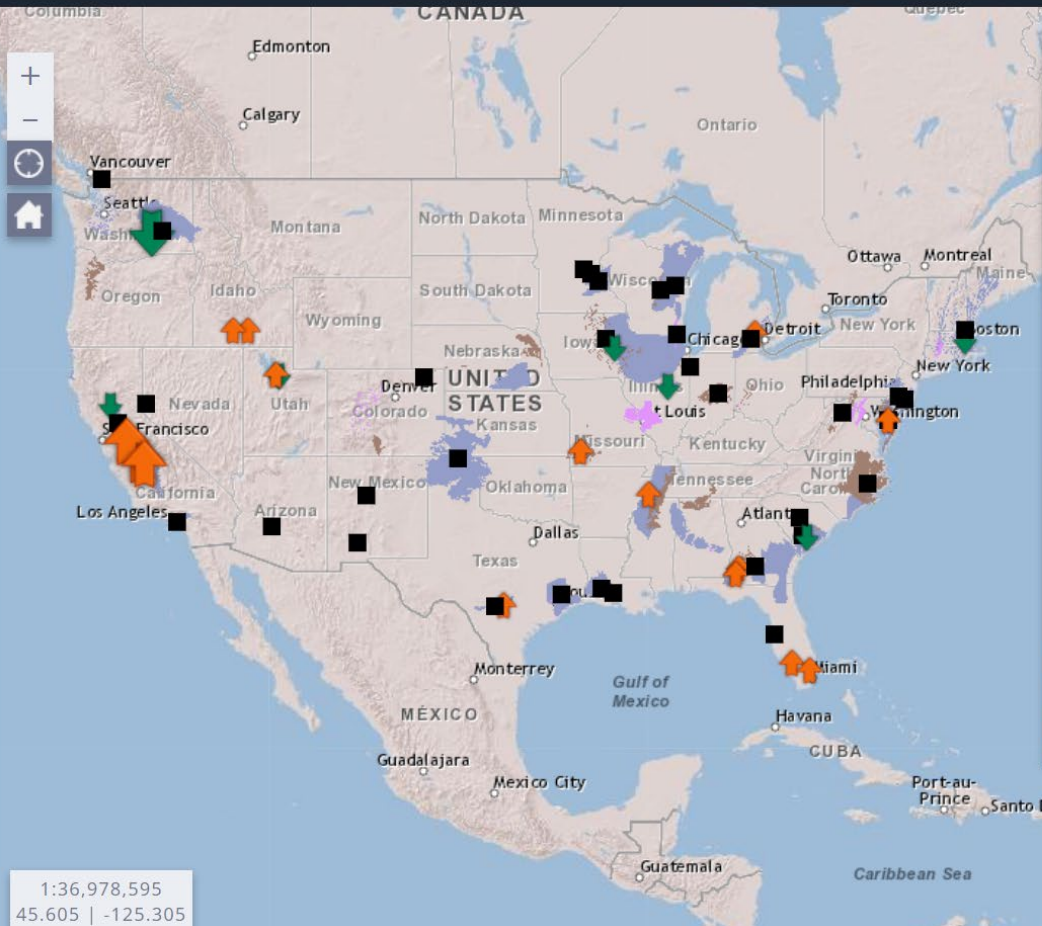
☐ Decade 2-3

☒ Decade 1-2-3

Timeline (years)



BASEMAPS



EXPLANATION

For more information, see [User Guide](#).

Magnitude of change

- Large increase
- Small increase
- No significant change
- Small decrease
- Large decrease

Network Boundaries

- Agricultural land use network
- Urban land use network
- Domestic supply well network

Small change indicates the median of all differences is $\leq 5\%$ of the benchmark or 0.5 mg/L per decade.

Large change indicates the median of all

National dynamic SPARROW modeling of surface water total nitrogen and phosphorus

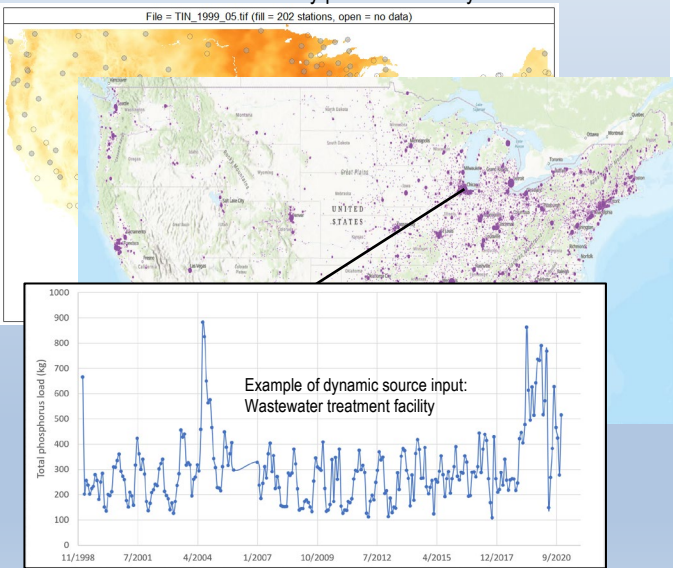
Simulate reach-by-reach seasonal stream water quality across continental scale and evaluate water availability relative to established criteria.

Approach: (1) Build CONUS datasets

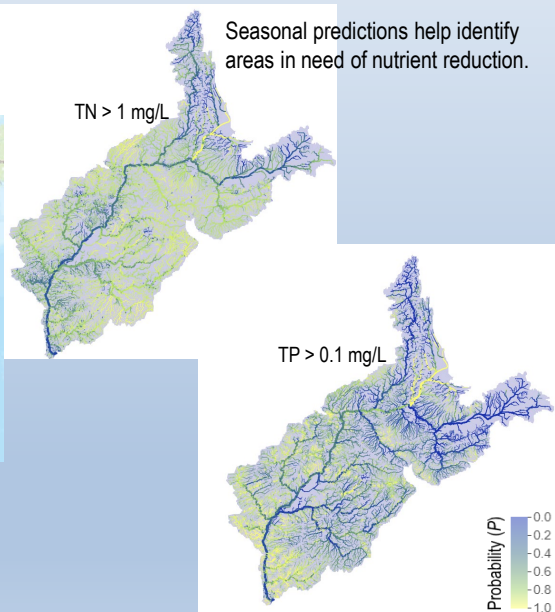
(2) Develop and test models in smaller basin

(3) Scale up models to CONUS

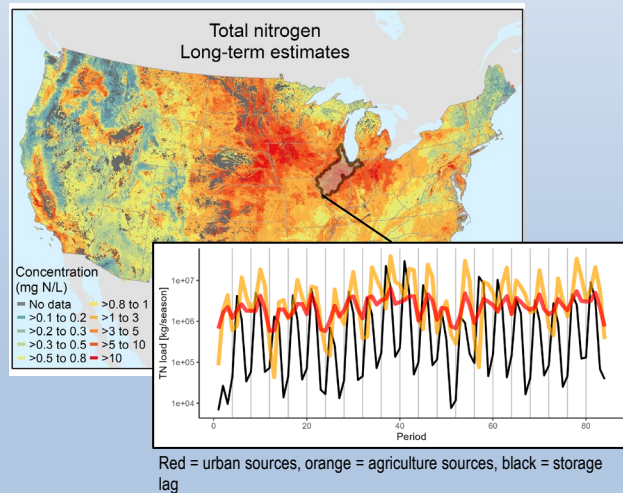
Sources and delivery processes are dynamic.



Seasonal predictions help identify areas in need of nutrient reduction.



Models will provide a new quantification of contributors and how they change over both space and time.



Courtesy of Olivia Miller and Noah Schmadel

Preliminary Information-Subject to Revision. Not for Citation or Distribution

Questions?

It is not the answer that enlightens, but the question.

– *Eugene Ionesco*



What Experiments, Measurements and Analyses Should Be Done to Quantify Causes of TP Load Increases in Illinois Rivers?

Who will do it? Who will pay for it?

Outline:

Review Changes in TP loads in The Illinois River Basin

What about other IL rivers (Little Wabash and Kaskaskia)?

Possible causes and how to quantify their impacts on River P loads

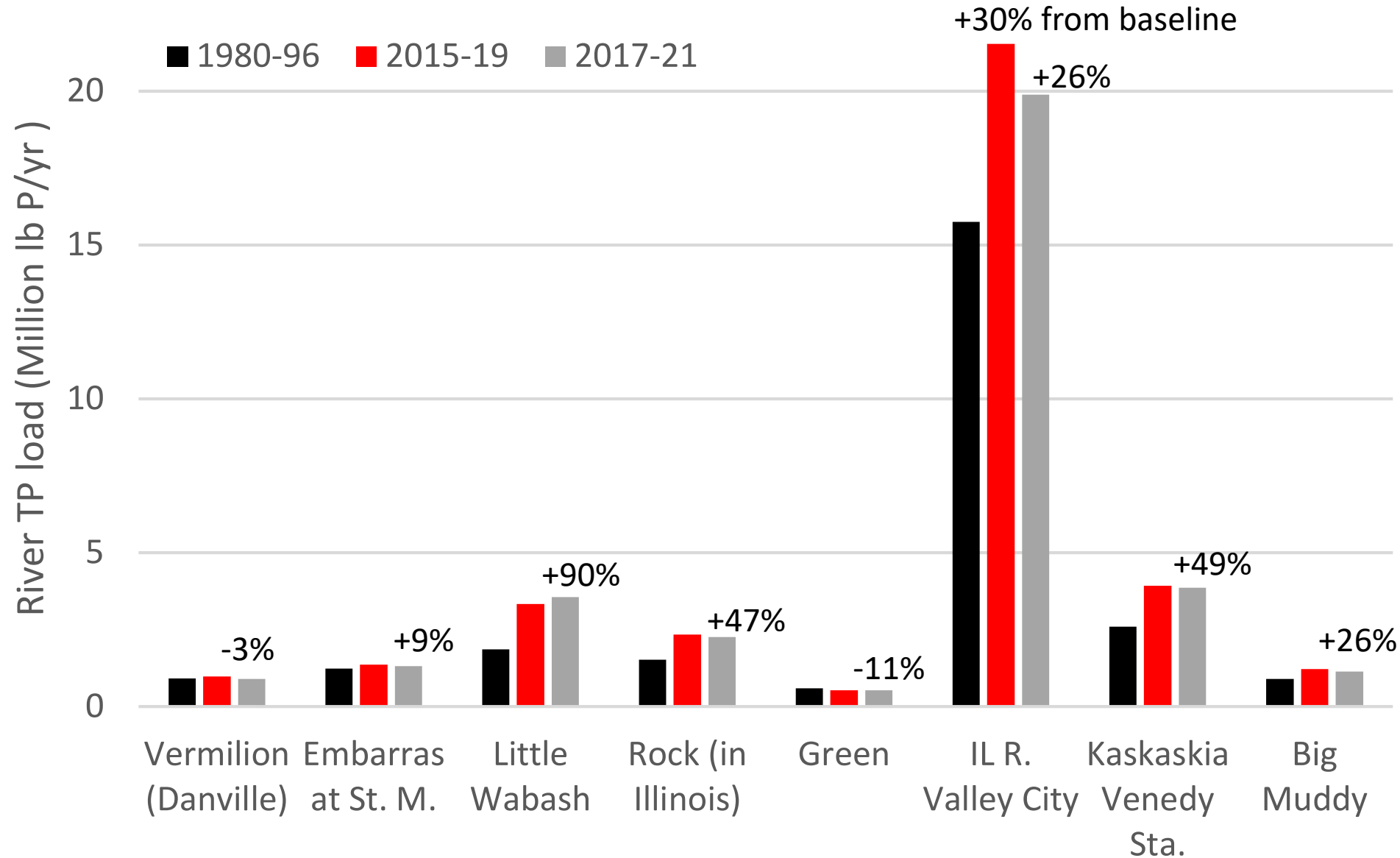
Gregory McIsaac

University of Illinois Urbana Champaign

gmcisaac@illinois.edu

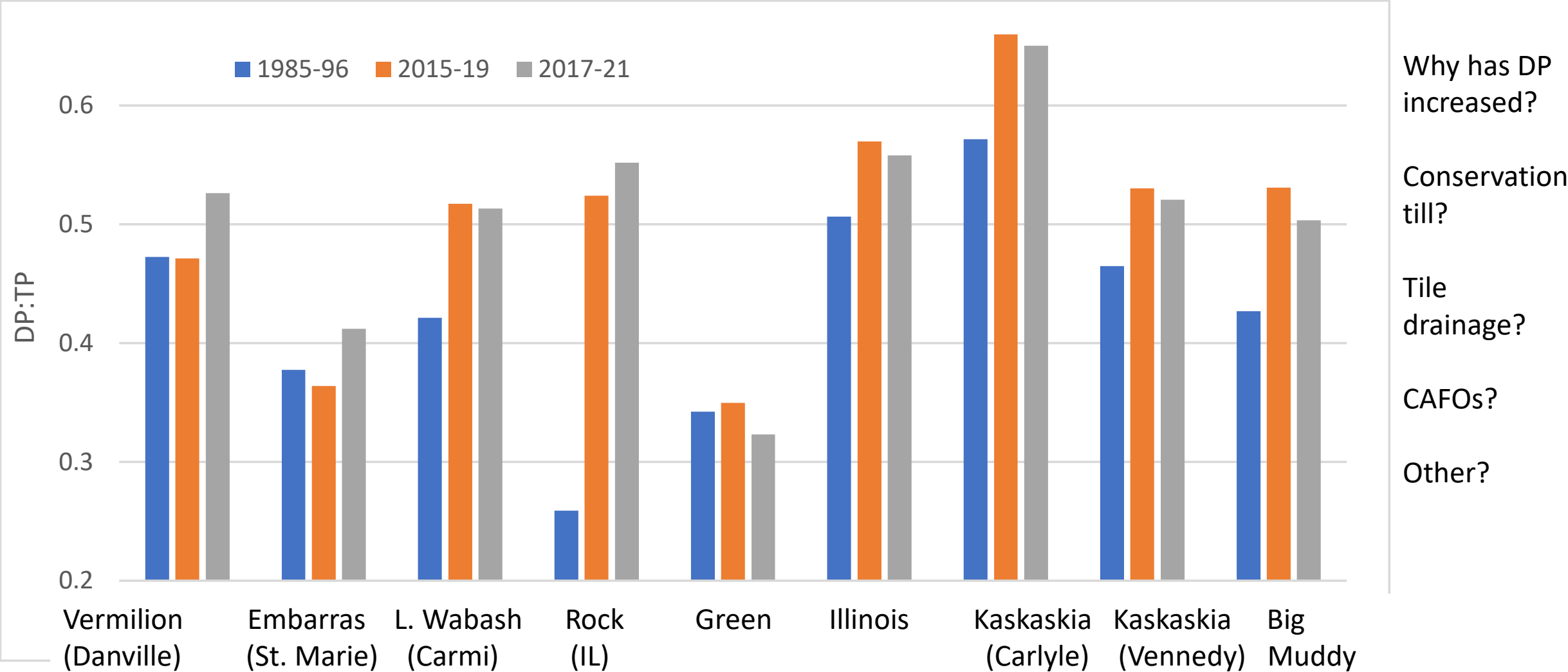
TP Load Estimates for Major Rivers draining Illinois

1980-96 baseline, 2015-19 and 2017-2021



estimates
from Hodson,
2023 USGS

DP:TP in major rivers increased except for the Green River



Data from Hodson, 2023
<https://www.usgs.gov/data/annual-nutrient-loads-illinois-epa-ambient-water-quality-monitoring-network-sites-water-years>

Illinois River Basin Study

Identify locations and quantify factors contributing to increased phosphorus loads in the Illinois River at Valley City

Funding from Illinois Nutrient Research and Education Council and USGS



Research Article | Open Access |

Spatial and Temporal Variations in Phosphorus Loads in the Illinois River Basin, Illinois USA

Gregory F. McIsaac , Timothy O. Hodson, Momcilo Markus, Rabin Bhattarai, Daniel Chulgi Kim

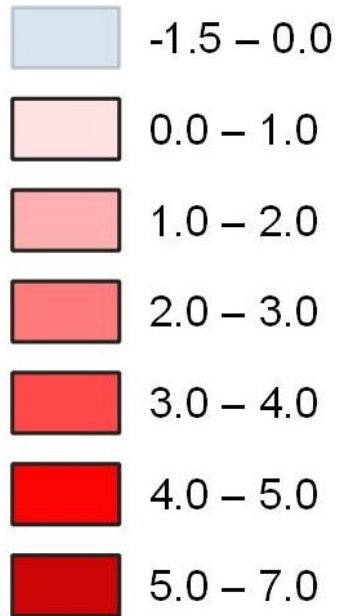
First published: 27 August 2022 | <https://doi.org/10.1111/1752-1688.13054>

The past: 1989-96

Incremental Total Phosphorus (TP) yields

TP load per unit area for each watershed segment
1 kg P/ha = 0.89 lb P/ac

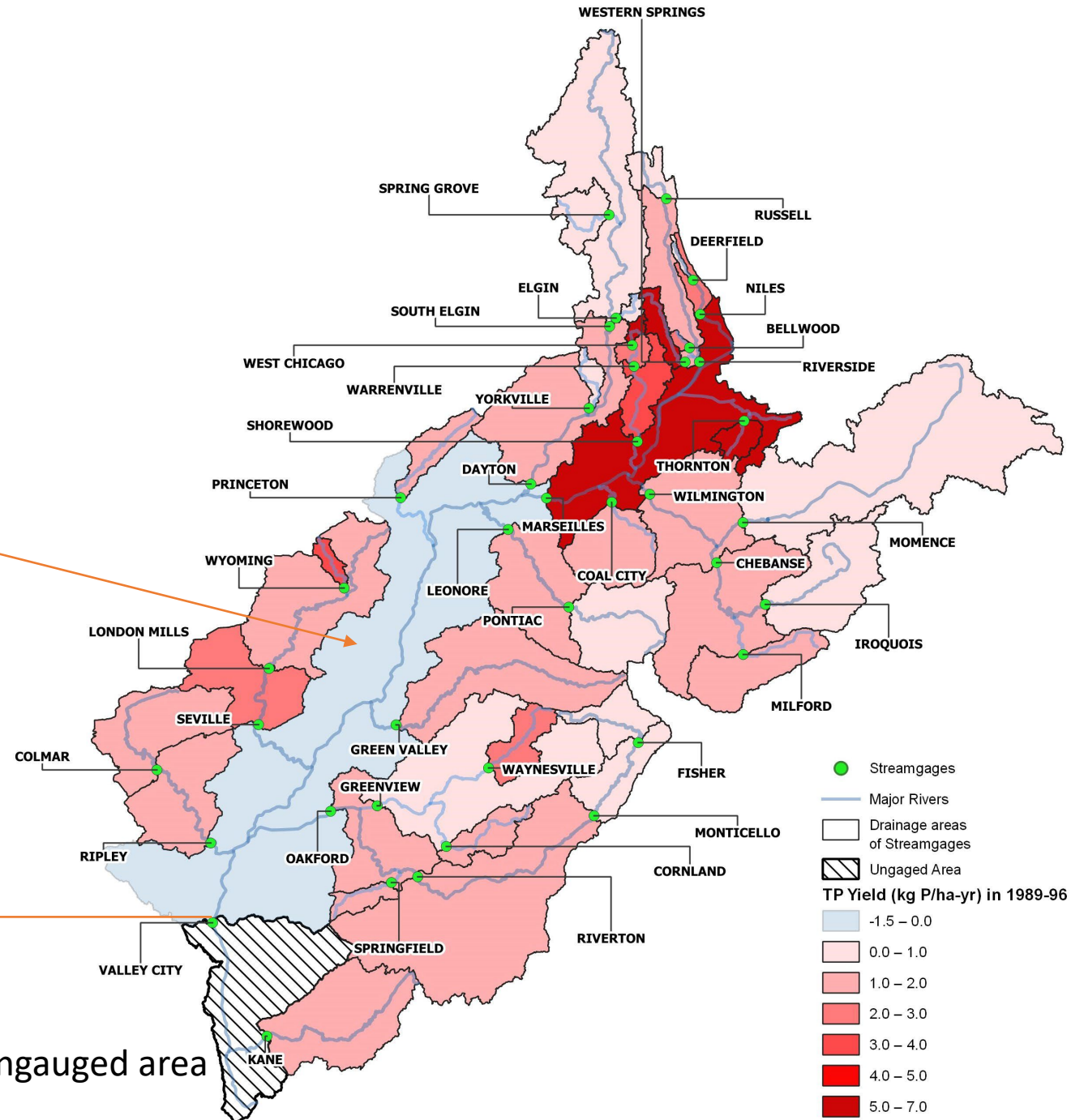
TP Yield (kg P/ha-yr)



Lower Mainstem
Subwatershed

Valley City annual
TP load:
15.2 Million lb P/yr
Water yield:
13.8 in/yr

Ungauged area

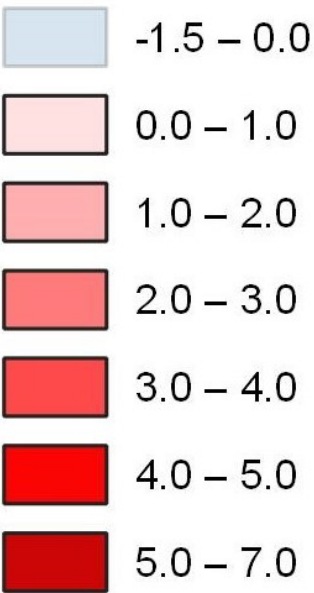


2015-19

Incremental Total Phosphorus (TP) yields

TP load per area for each watershed segment

TP Yield (kg P/ha-yr)

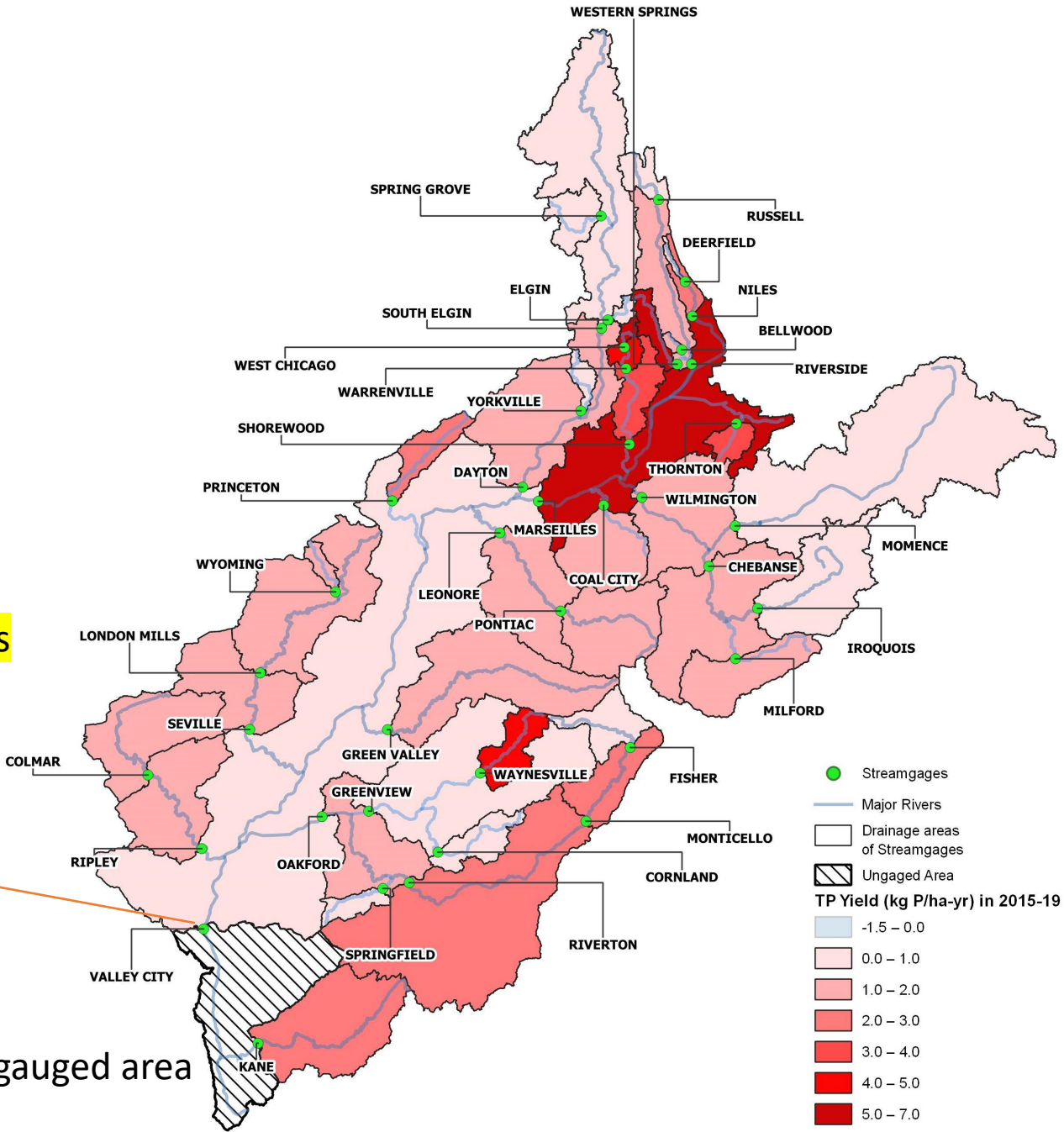


Generally:
Increased dissolved P
Reduced particulate P
Reduced Suspended Solids
Increased [Cl⁻] some locations

Valley City annual
TP load:
21.2 Million lb P/yr
(39% increase from
1989-96)
Water yield:
15.9 in/yr

(McIsaac et al.
2023)

Ungauged area

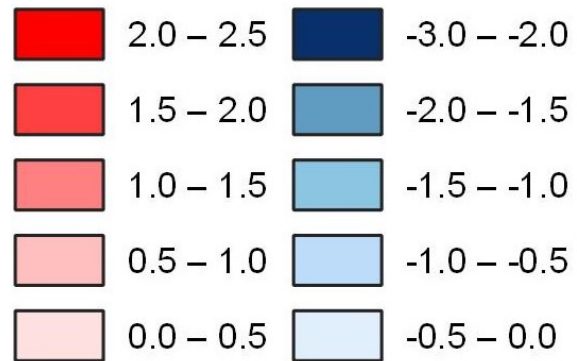


Change from 1989-96 to 2015-19
Incremental Total Phosphorus (TP) yields

TP load per unit area for each watershed segment
kg P/ha-yr

Blue indicates decrease
Red indicates increase

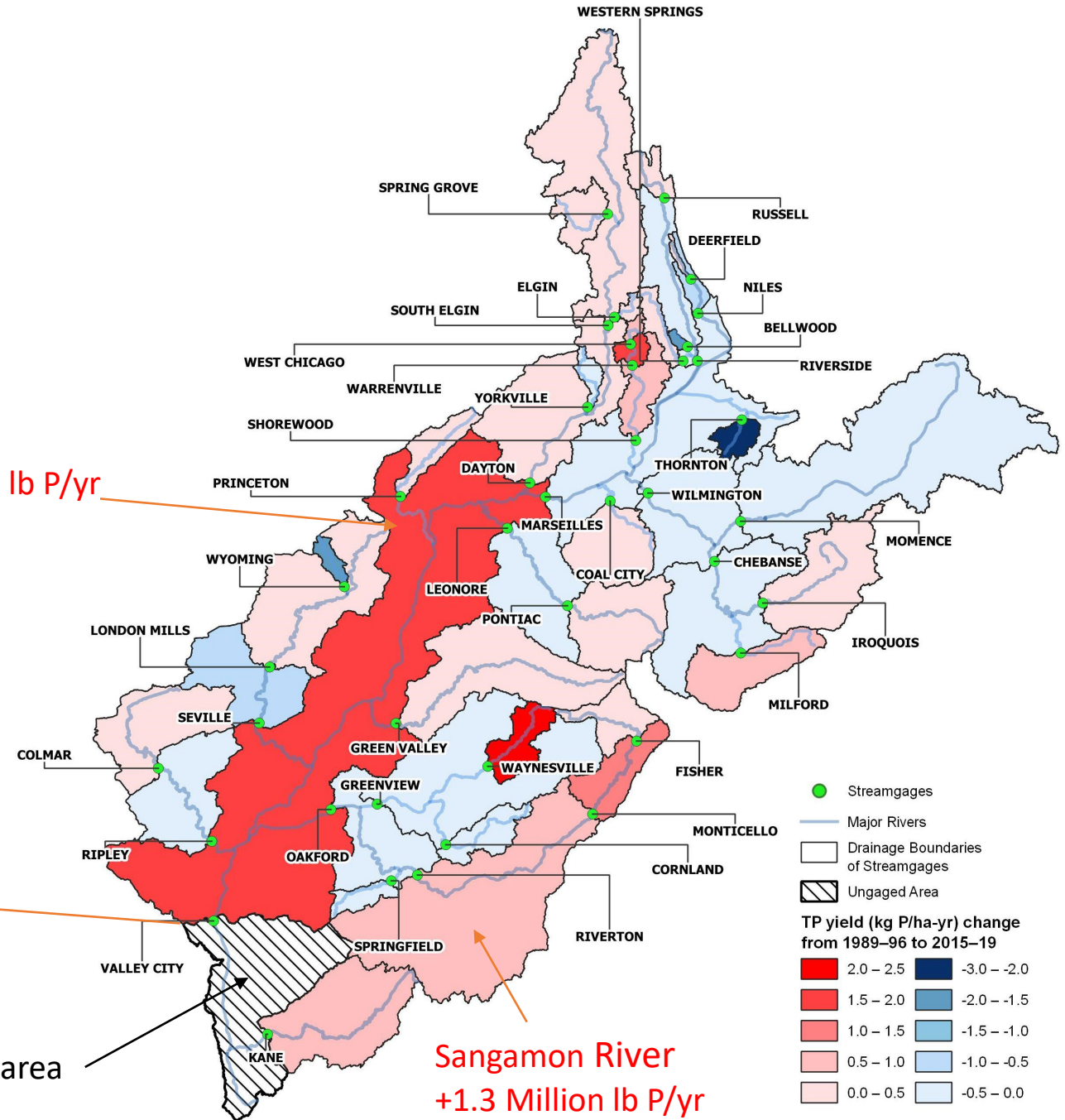
**TP yield (kg P/ha-yr) change
from 1989–96 to 2015–19**



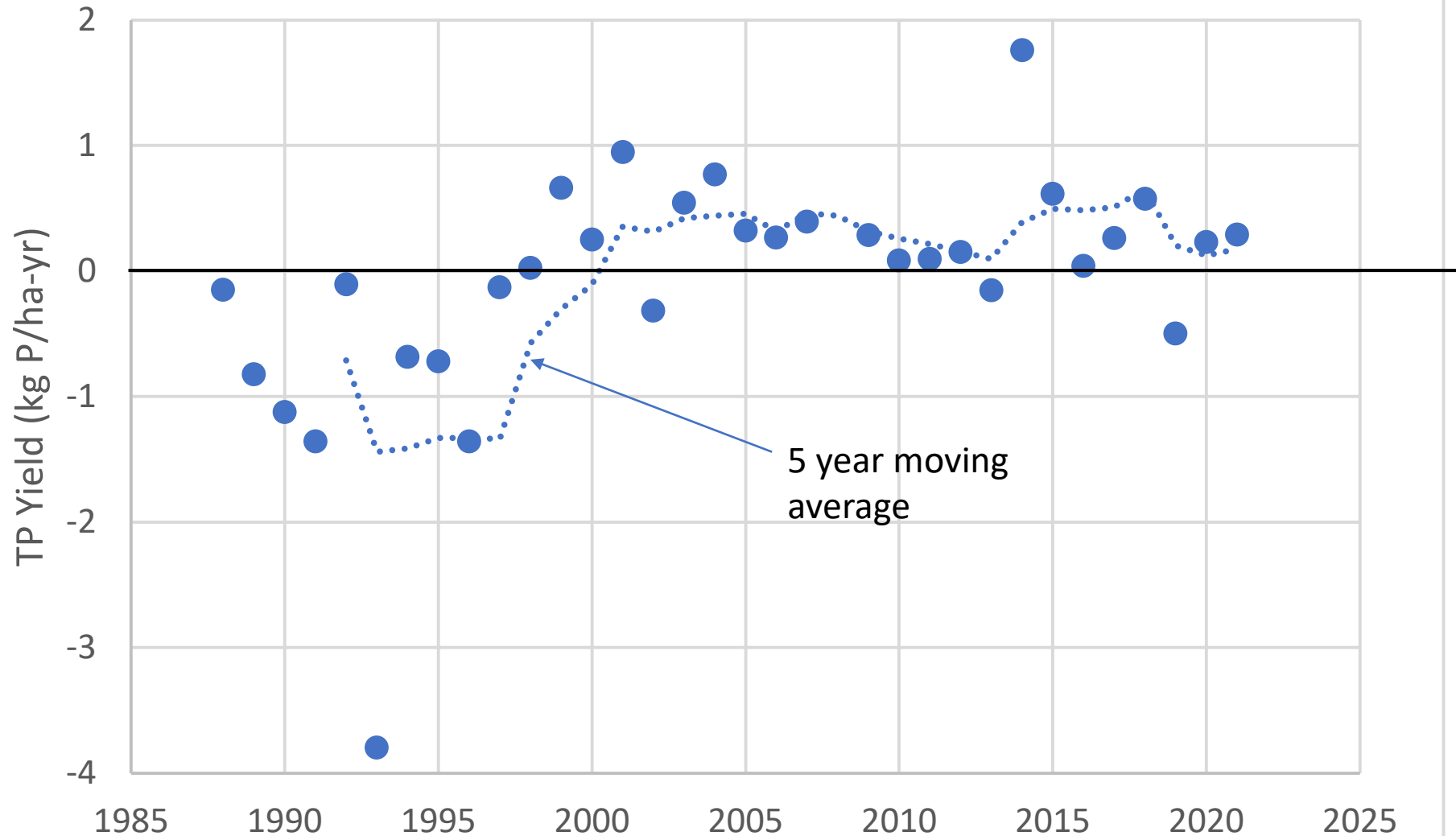
Change in load at
Valley City: ←
+6 Million lb P/yr
(+39% from 1989-96)

(Mclsaac et al. 2023)

Ungauged area



Illinois River Lower Mainstem subwatershed incremental TP yield



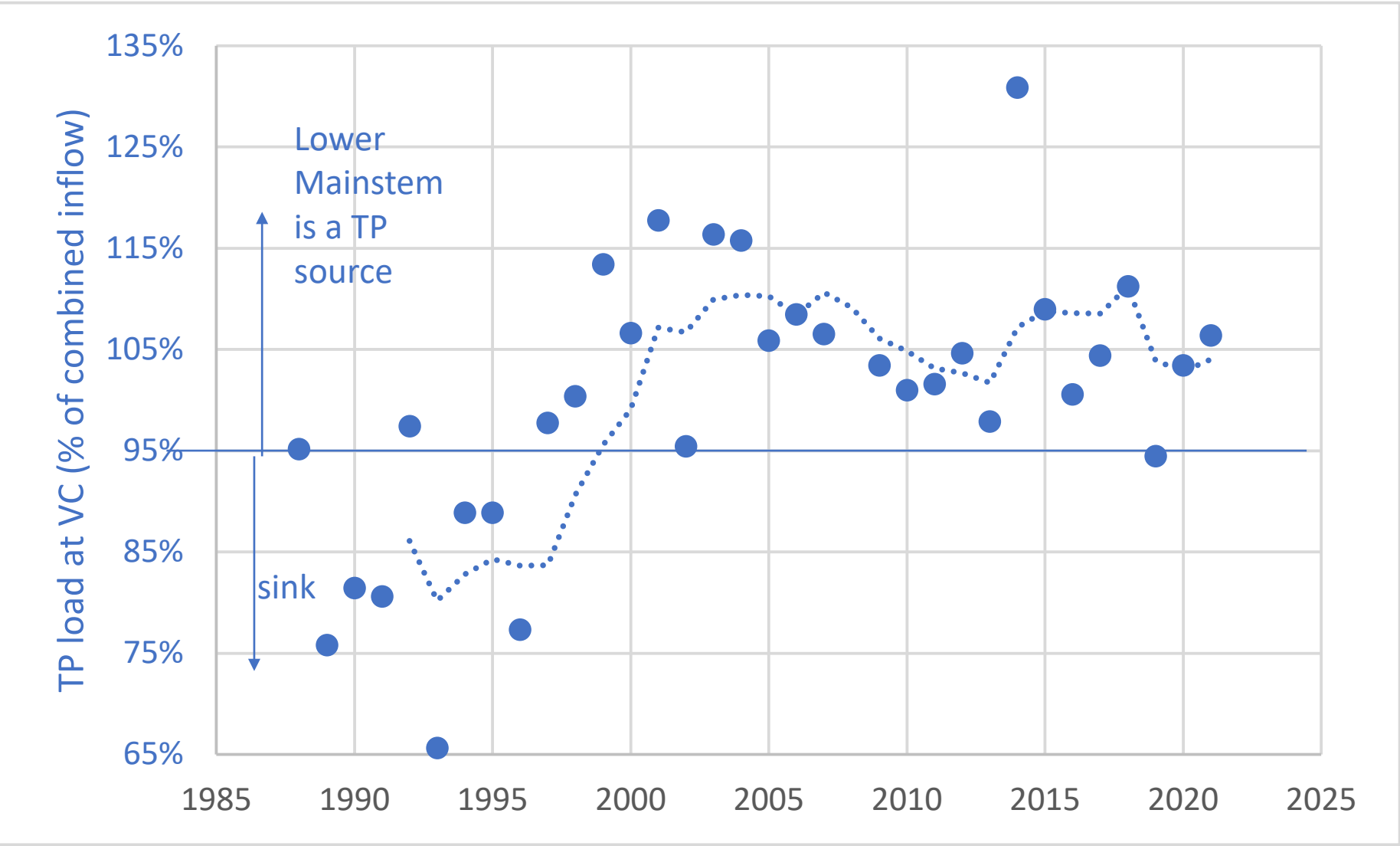
Why the shift from
sink to source?

Correlations and Possible causes

Increased DP
Reduced NO₃
Increased Chloride
CAFOs
Zebra Mussels
Carp

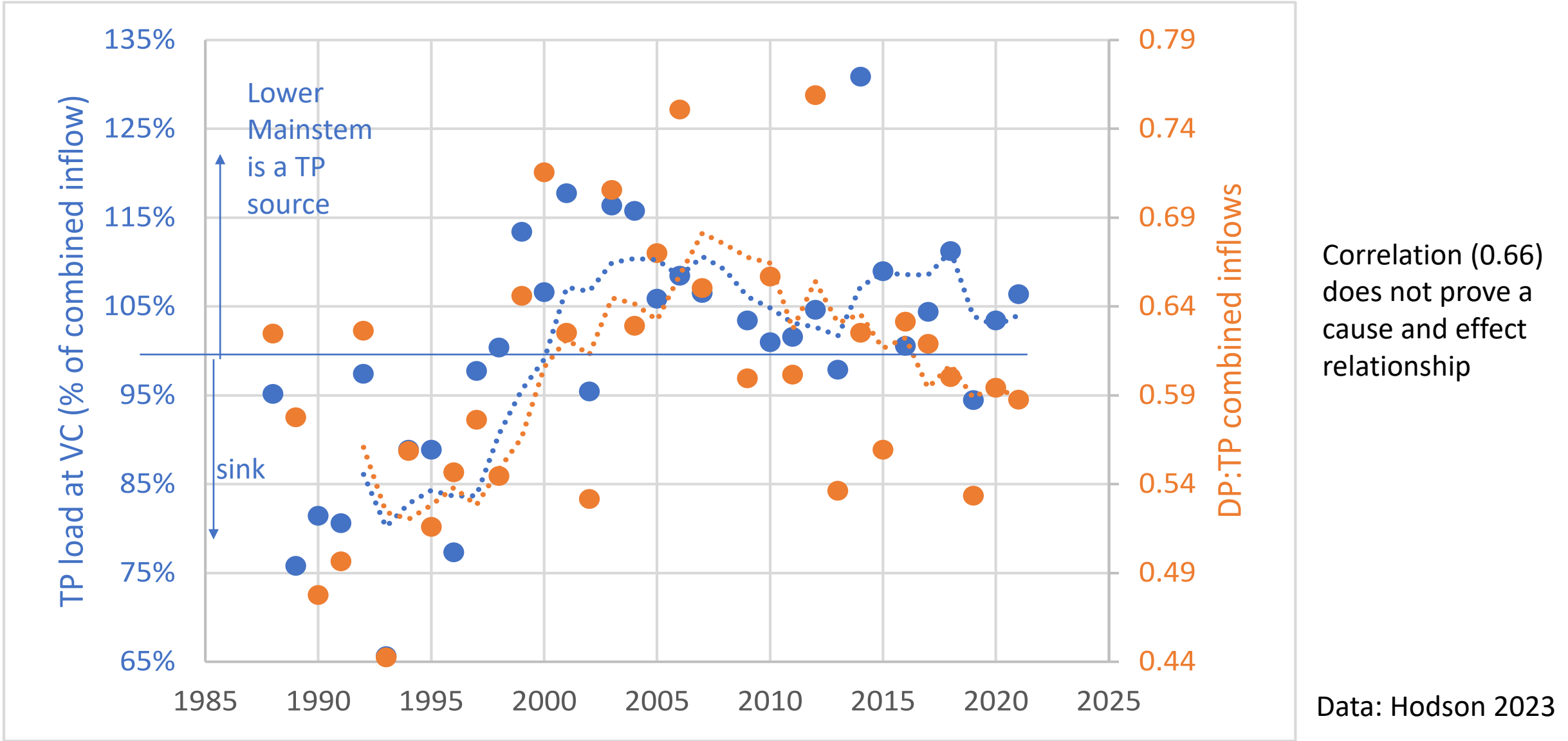
Data: Hodson 2023

Valley City TP load as a % of upstream loads (Marseilles + lower tributaries)

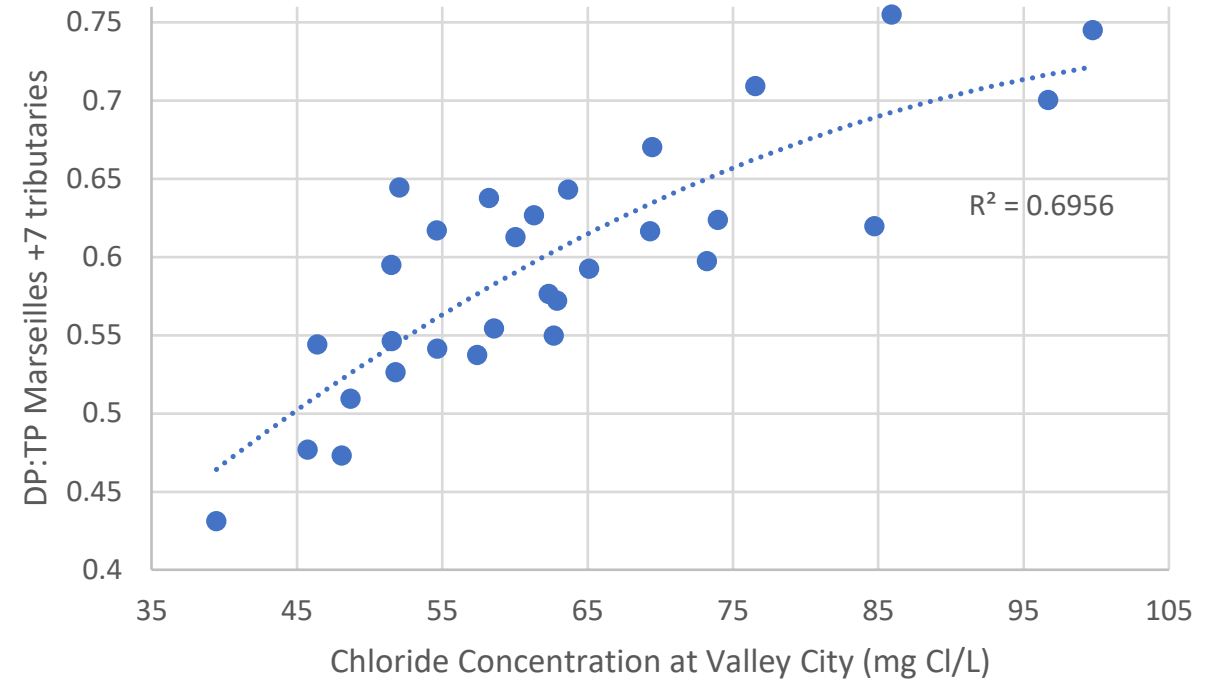
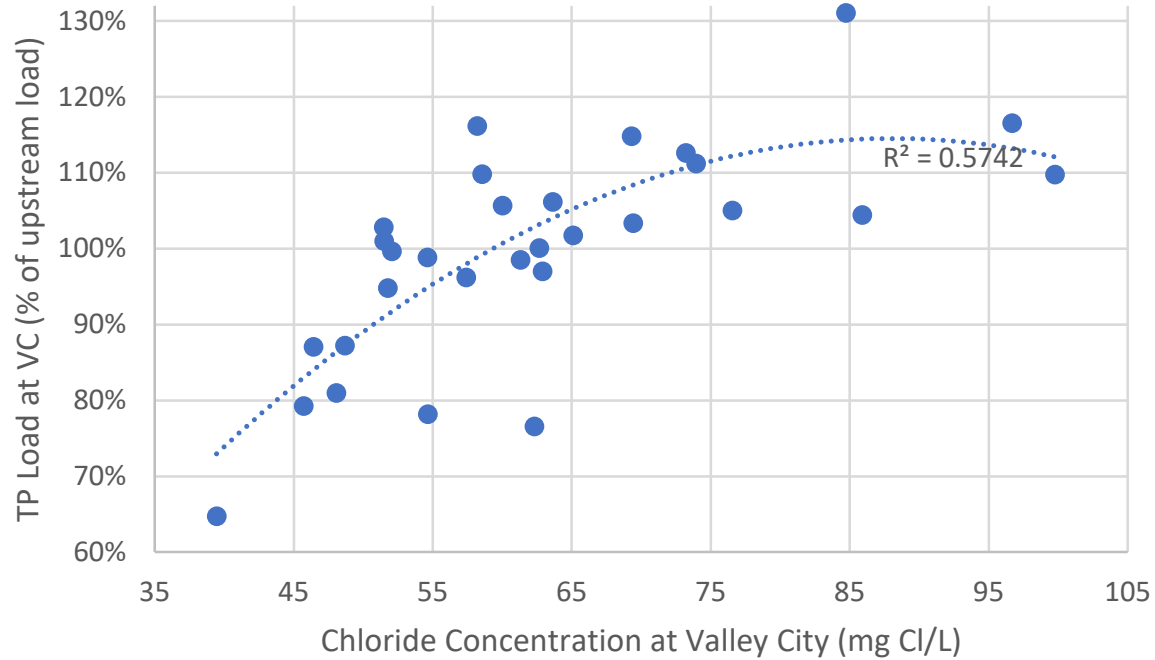


Data: Hodson 2023

Valley City TP load as a % of upstream loads (Marseilles + lower tributaries) and ratio of dissolved to total P (DP:TP) for Marseilles + lower tributaries



Several Confounding Correlations: TP load at Valley City vs Chloride Concentration vs Upstream DP:TP



77% of the chloride increase came from above Marseilles + Fox R, while these contributed 16% of the increased DP load at Valley City

Because these two factors are highly correlated, we were unable to determine how much causation to assign to each.

Nitrate and sulfate concentrations were also correlated to these and can affect redox and P desorption.

Data: Hodson 2023

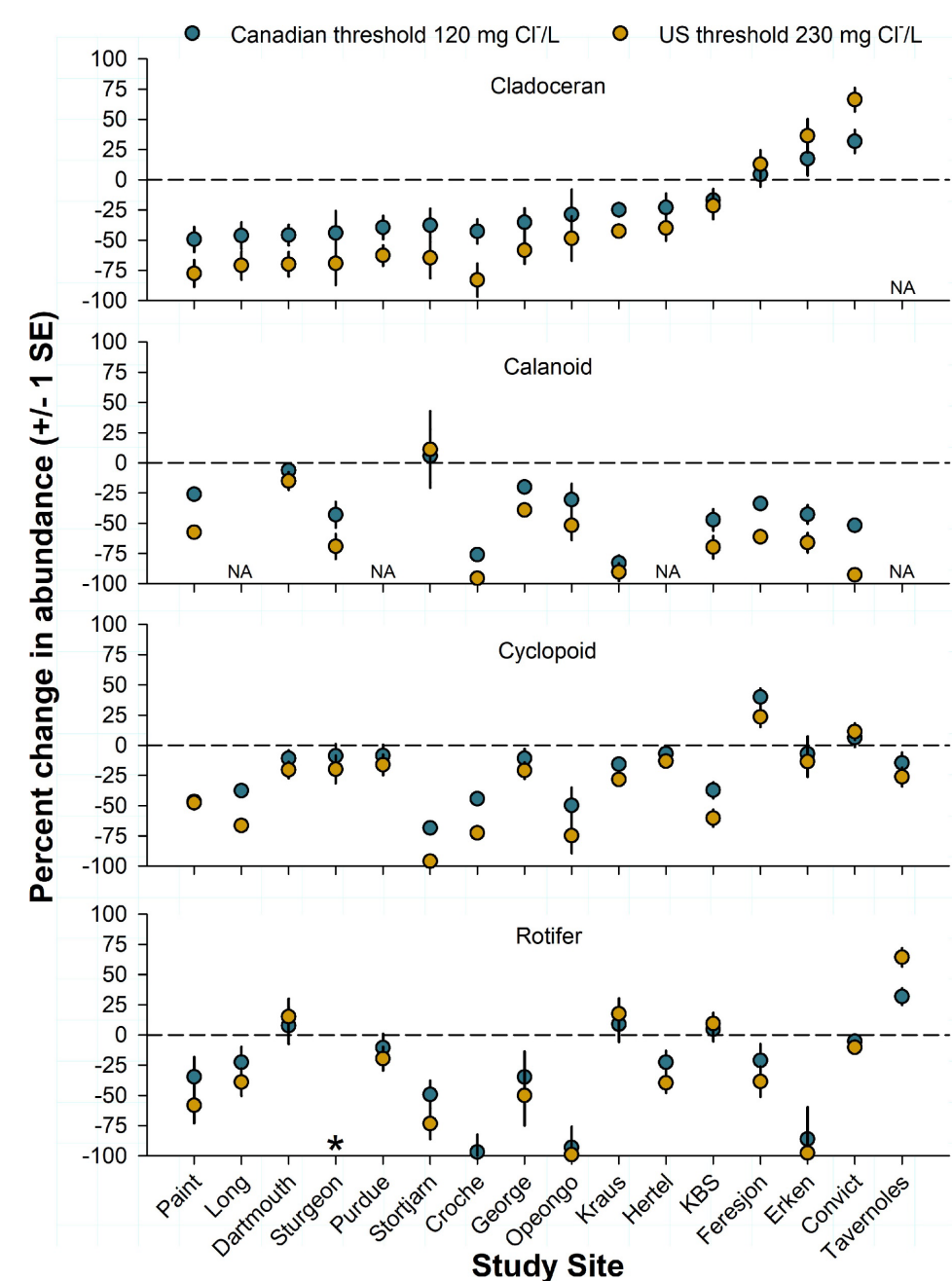
Chloride reduced zooplankton abundances in mesocosm experiments.
(Hintz et al. 2022, PNAS)

Has this been observed in the Illinois River?
Does this also result in higher algae density and periodic lower DO?

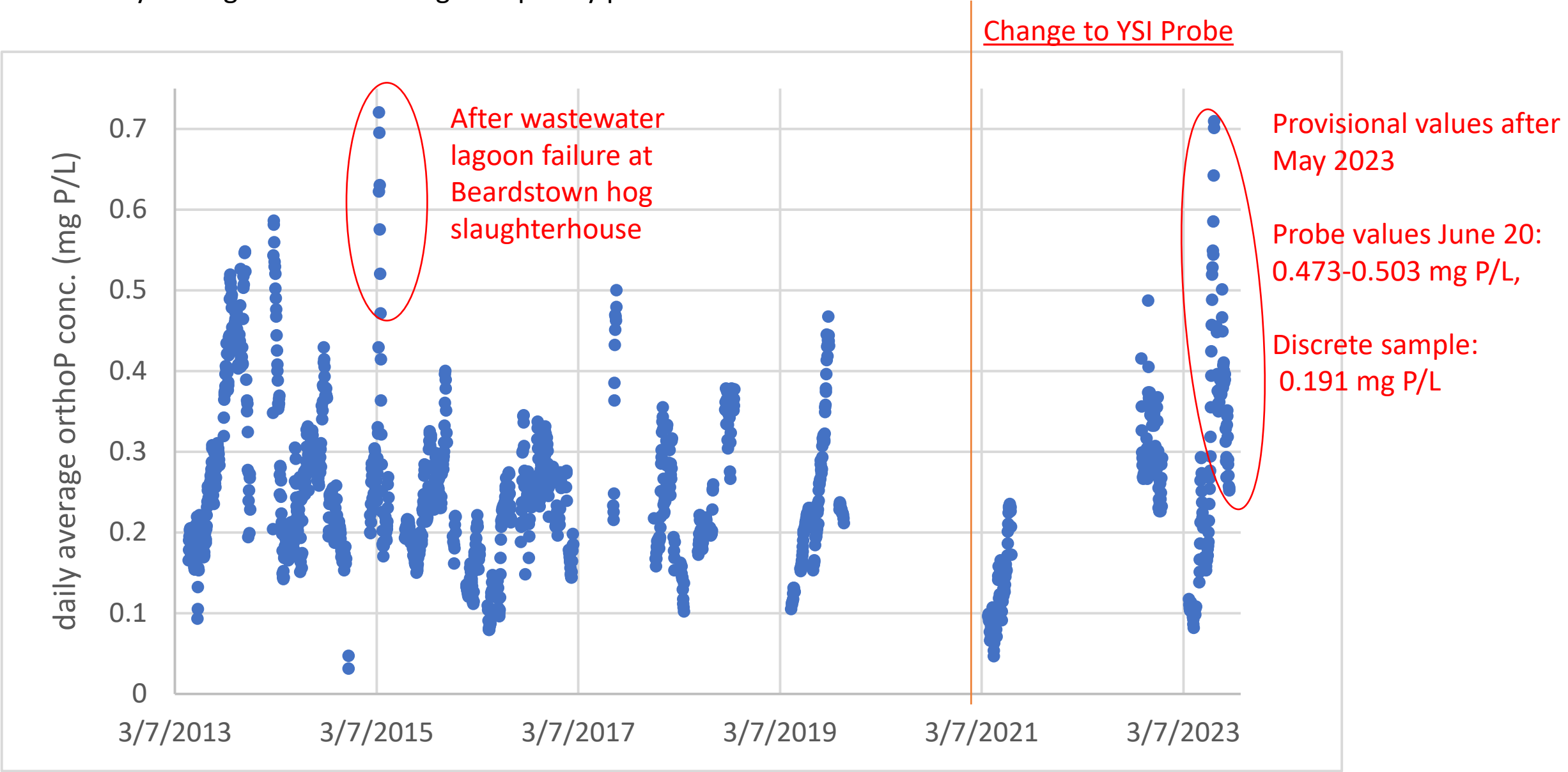
Release of P from sediments?

Mean (± 1 SE) of the estimated percent change in zooplankton abundances for each taxa at the Canadian (120 mg Cl⁻/L) and US (230 mg Cl⁻/L) chronic threshold for Cl⁻.

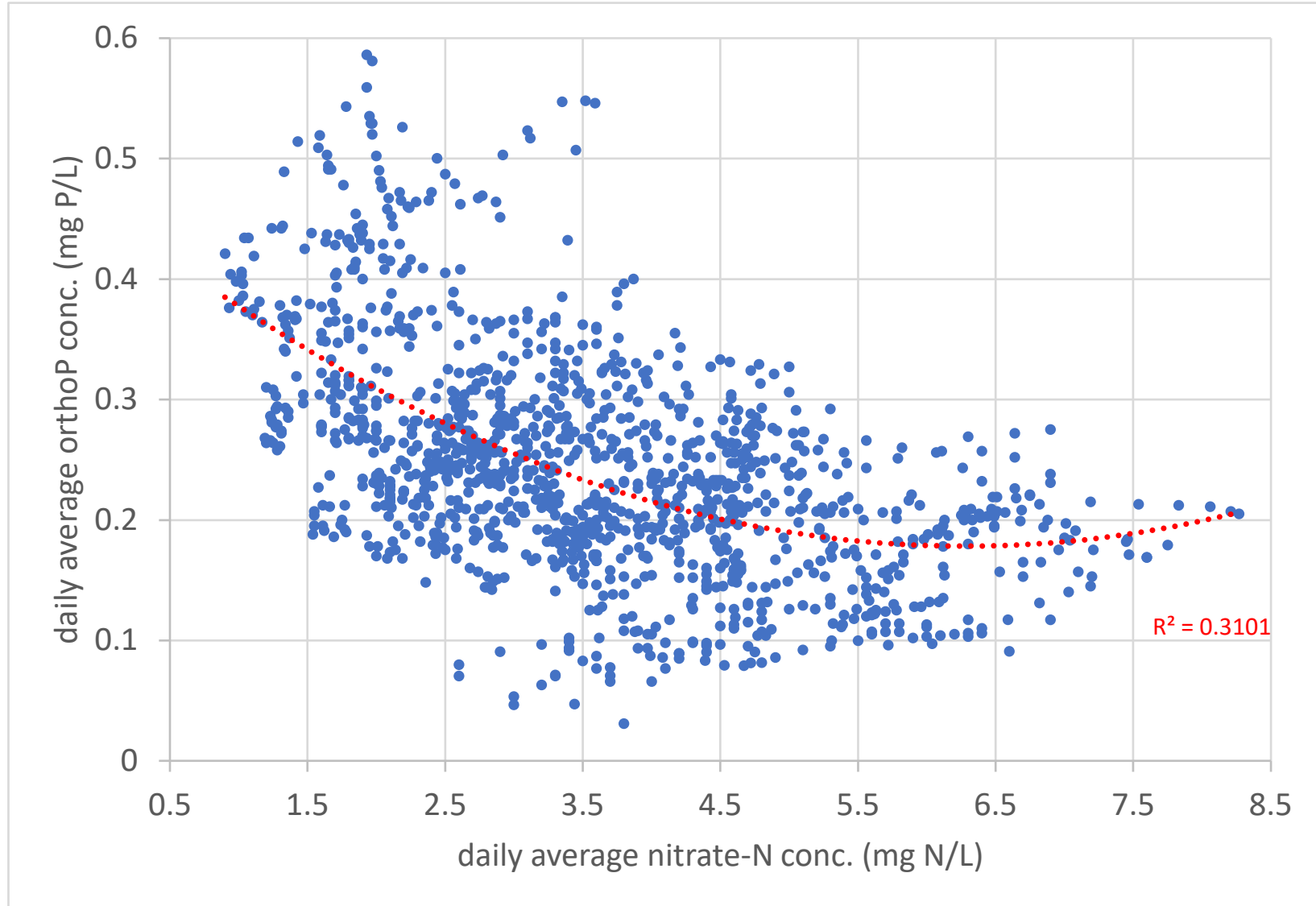
Percent changes were estimated using GAM models to compare the predicted abundances at each threshold to the predicted abundance in control conditions.



Ortho-P concentrations at Florence
Daily average values from high frequency probes



Ortho-P concentrations plotted against nitrate-N concentrations at Florence
daily average concentrations from continuous probe measurements 2012-2023
excluding values following the March 2015 lagoon failure and 2023 provisional values



Similar conditions contribute to denitrification and P release from sediments:

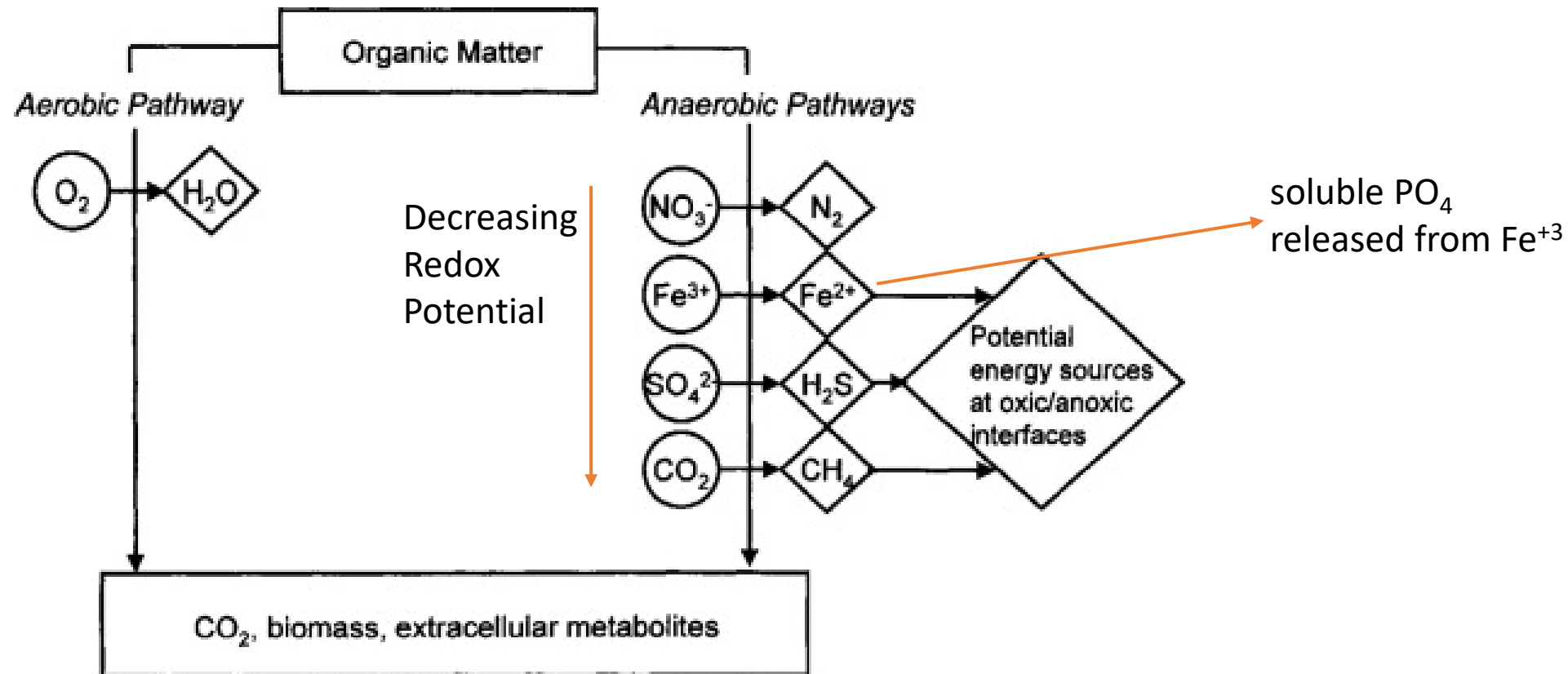
- Low DO in sediment
- High temperatures
- Low flow
- Low nitrate in bottom waters and sediment.

No relationship with daily average water column DO, but there are few observations with DO <4 ppm

Low nitrate concentrations may be a proxy for lower DO in sediment. Water column DO was significant in multivariate regression.

Data: USGS

Anaerobic respiration/decomposition of organic matter



Past studies have shown that nitrate additions can reduce PO₄ release from sediment

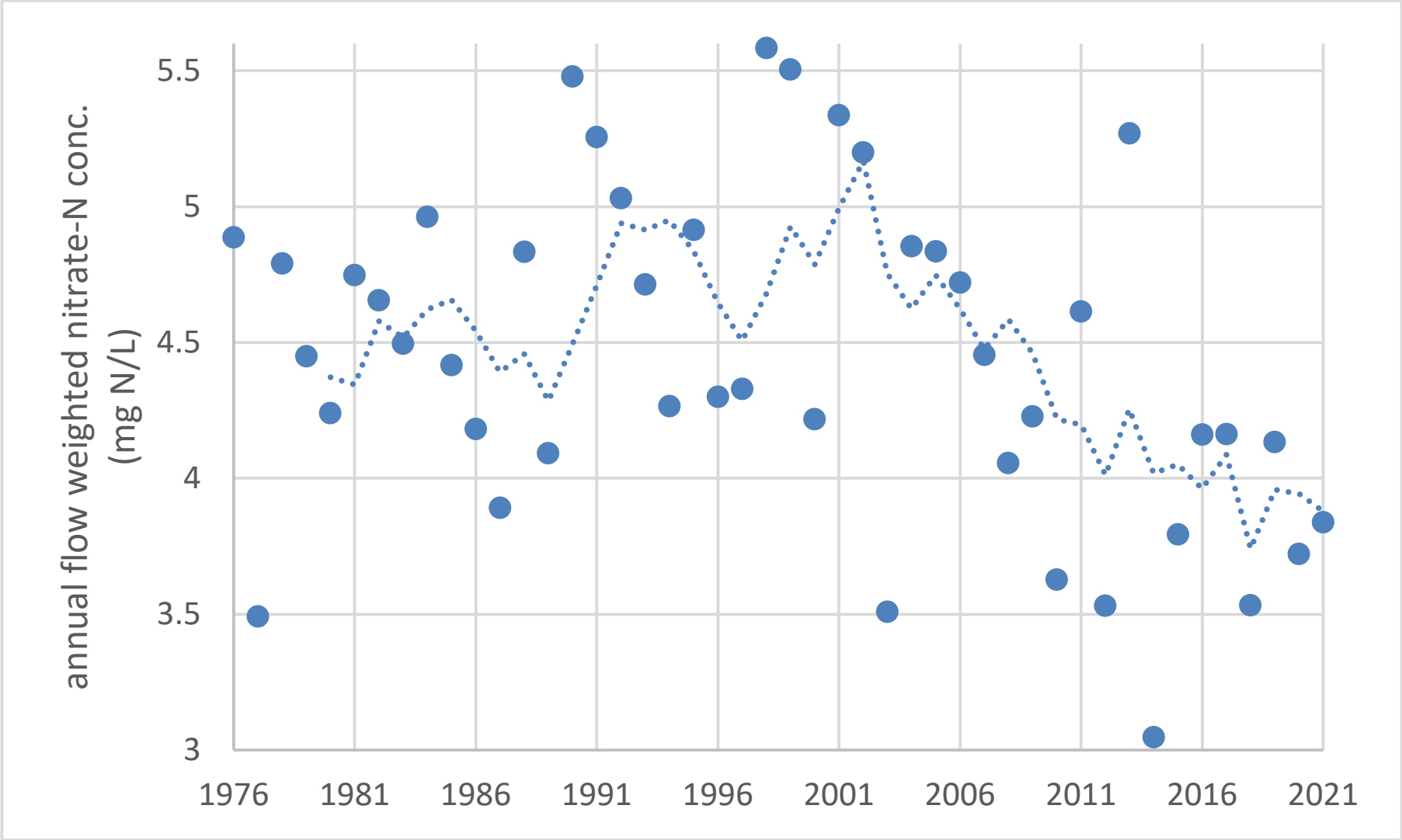
- Hemond and Lin (2010) Massachusetts <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2010.04.018>
- Hansen et al. (2003) Denmark <https://doi.org/10.1023/A:1024826131327>
- Ma et al. (2021) China <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.watres.2021.116894>
 - Mixed result, when nitrate addition promoted phytoplankton growth, it promoted P release from sediment

A thorough literature review may indicate whether similar experiments in Illinois River are warranted

Laboratory incubations or mesocosm experiments with different additions of nitrate, chloride and/or sulfate may be informative.

Illinois River at Valley City & Florence

Annual Flow-Weighted Nitrate-N Concentrations

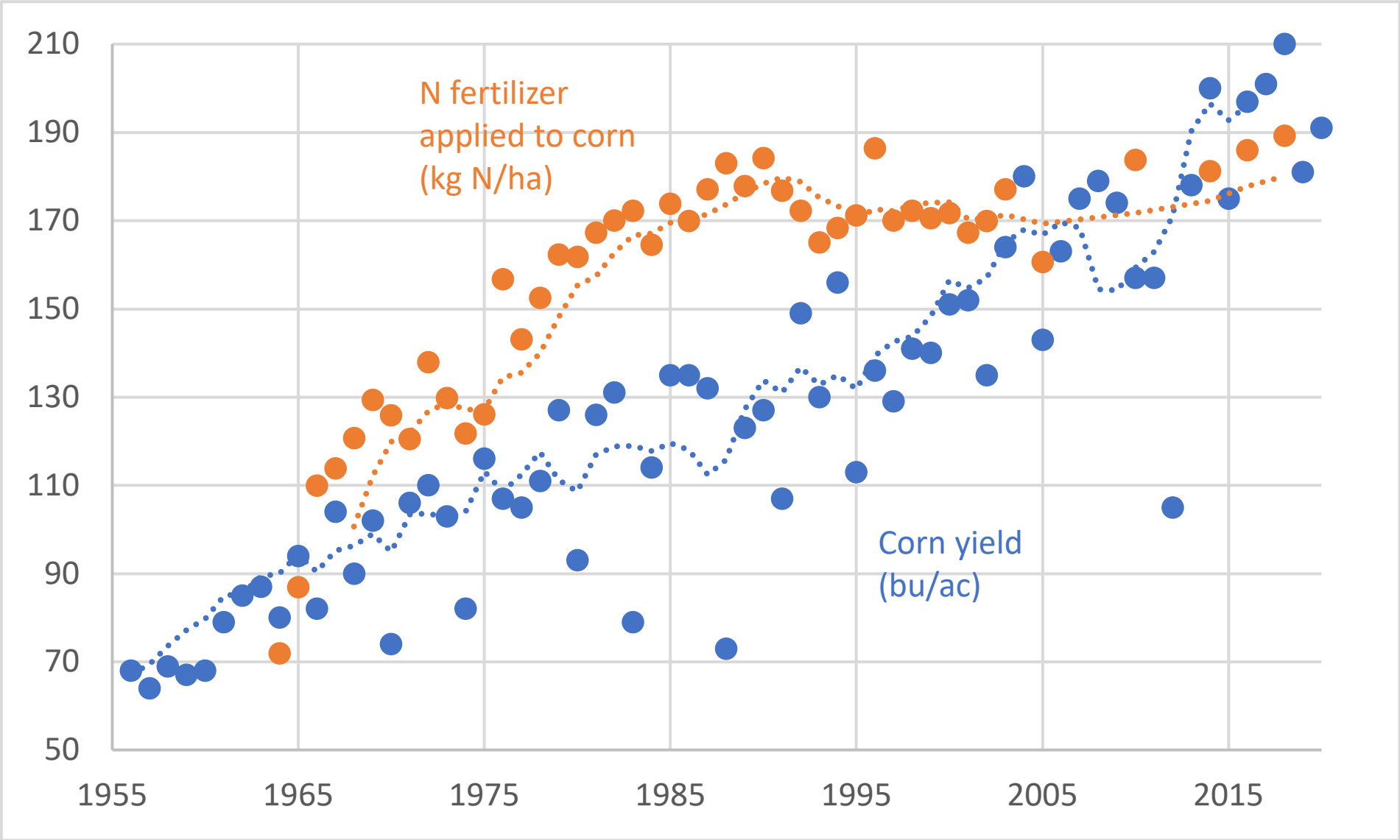


(Data: Hodson 2023)

Reduced loads from tributaries and increased flow providing dilution;

Possibly increased denitrification in the Lower Mainstem.

Illinois average corn yields and N fertilizer applied to corn



(Data: USDA Surveys)

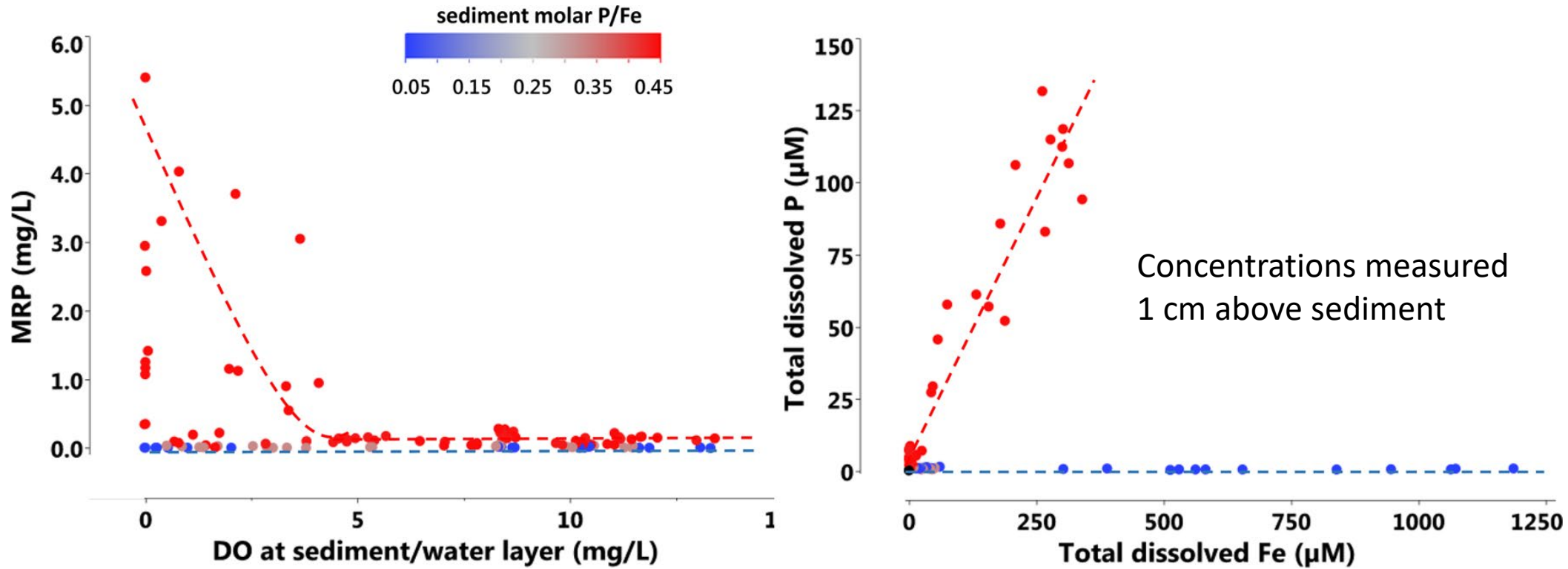
12 Subwatersheds with highest NO3-N yields in Illinois 1989-95

(Data: Hodson 2023)

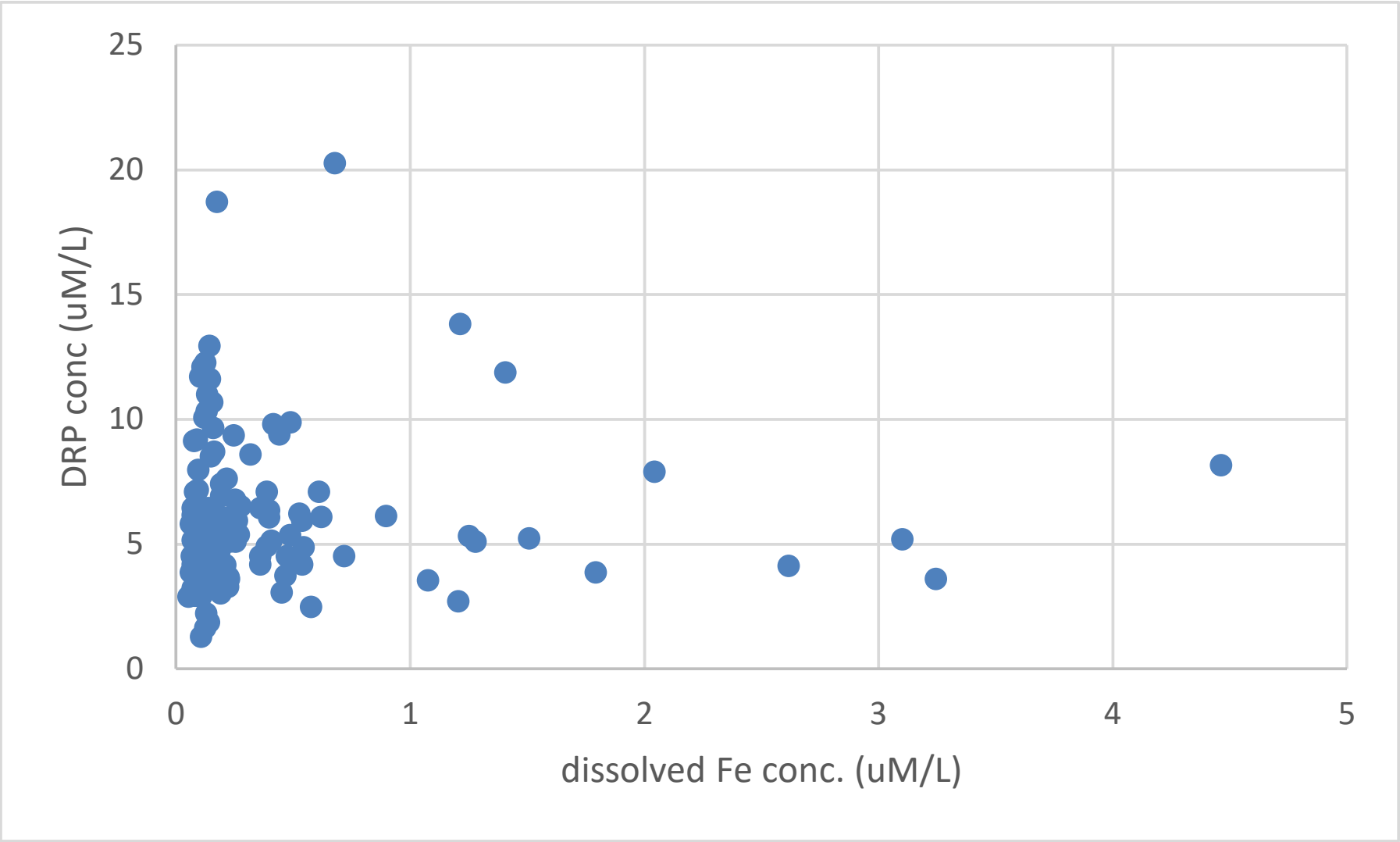
Incremental subwatershed	Drainage area (sq. mi)		Annual Average Nitrate-N yields (kg N/ha-yr)			Water Yield
			1989-95	2015-19	% Change	% Change
Kankakee R. between Wilmington, Momence and Iroquois	765	Mixed	42.3	33.3	-21%	-30%
Mazon R. @Coal City	455	Ag	41.3	35.4	-14%	+12%
Vermilion R. @Pontiac	579	Ag	38.7	31.1	-20%	+12%
Big Bureau Cr. @Princeton	196	Ag	37.6	31.3	-17%	+18%
Vermilion R. between Leonore and Pontiac	672	Ag	35.8	28.7	-20%	-3%
Indian Cr. @Wyoming	62.7	Ag	34.6	29.3	-15%	-1%
Sangamon R. @Fisher	240	Ag	34.3	39.1	+14%	+8%
Embarras R. @Camargo	186	Ag	33.6	31.1	-7%	-12%
Kaskaskia R. @Cooks Mills	473	Ag	33.5	27.4	-18%	-8%
Iroquois R. @Chebanse	959	Ag	33.5	21.5	-36%	-6%
Mackinaw R. @Green Valley	1073	Ag	33.3	23.0	-31%	+9%
Sangamon R. between Monticello and Fisher	310	Mixed	32.1	12.5	-61%	-26%

Iron (Fe)

Lab incubations in Belgium: P release from sediments influenced by DO and P:Fe in sediment



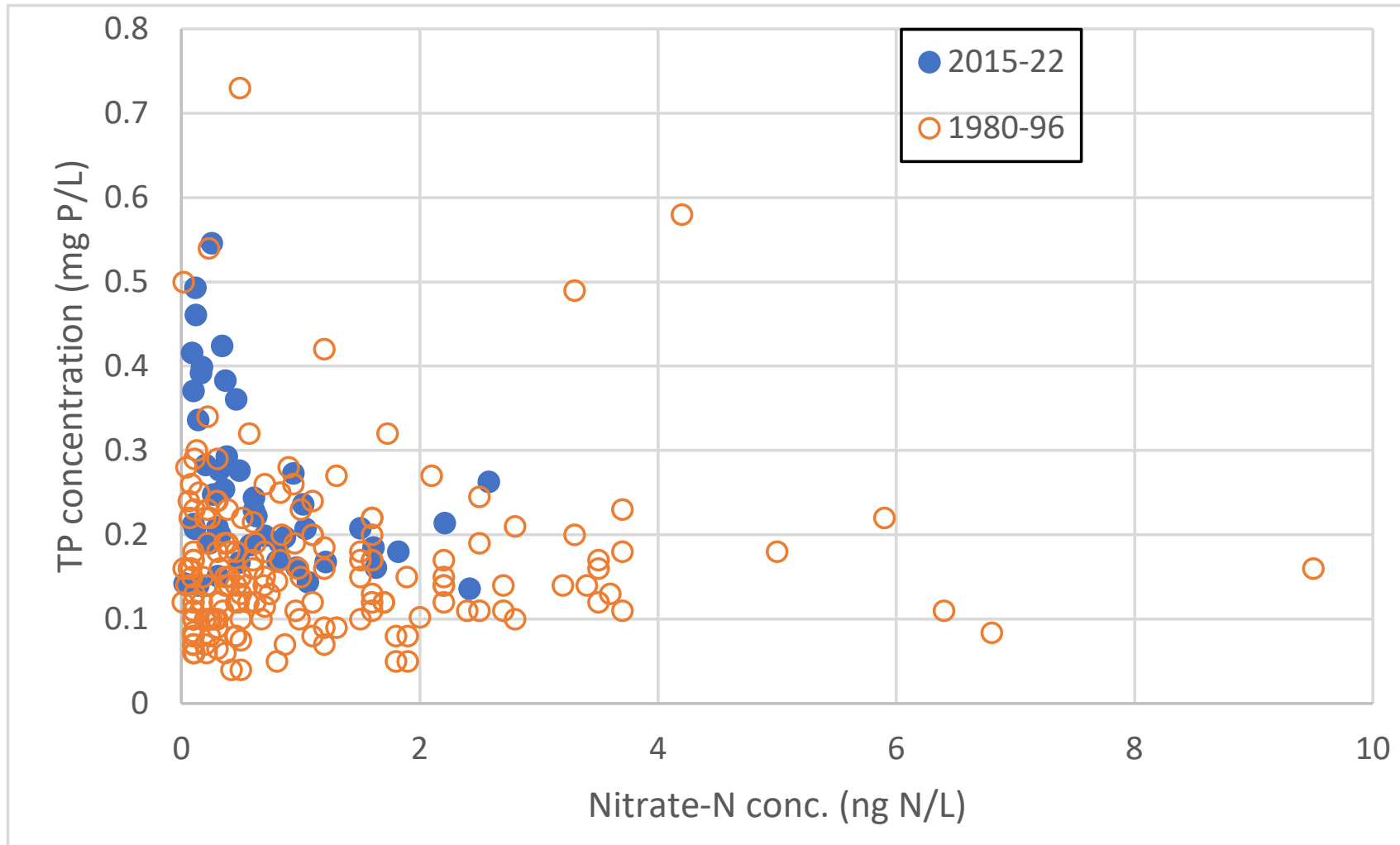
Illinois River at Valley City Ortho P concentrations vs Dissolved Fe Concentration (USGS data)



Data:USGS & IEPA

Kaskaskia River at Carlyle

TP conc. plotted against nitrate-N conc.

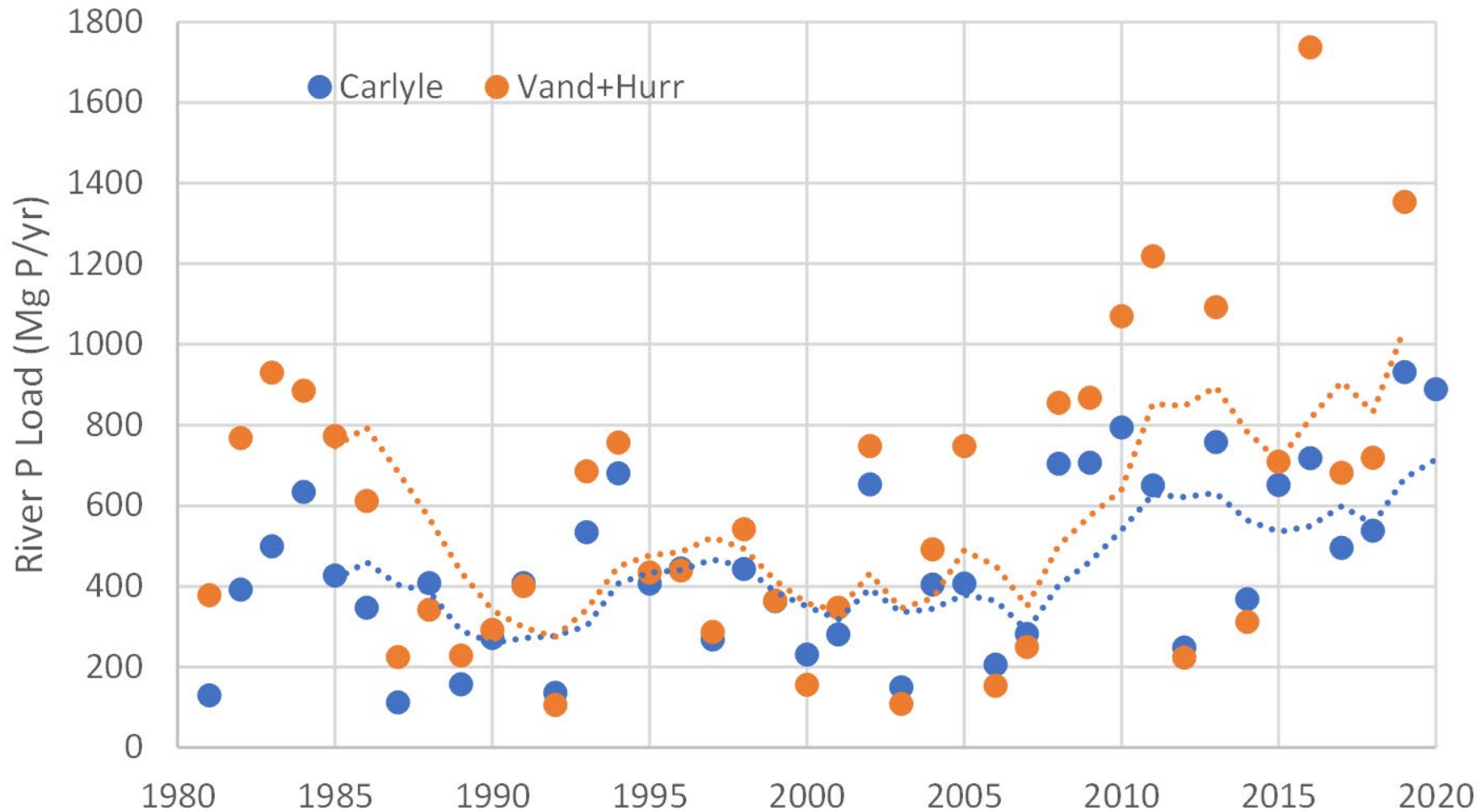


High TP concentrations sometimes occur at low nitrate concentrations, usually during warm months and low flow.

Nitrate concentrations and loads at Carlyle have decreased

Data: IEPA and USGS

Kaskaskia River TP loads at Carlyle and upstream at Vandalia and Hurricane Creek

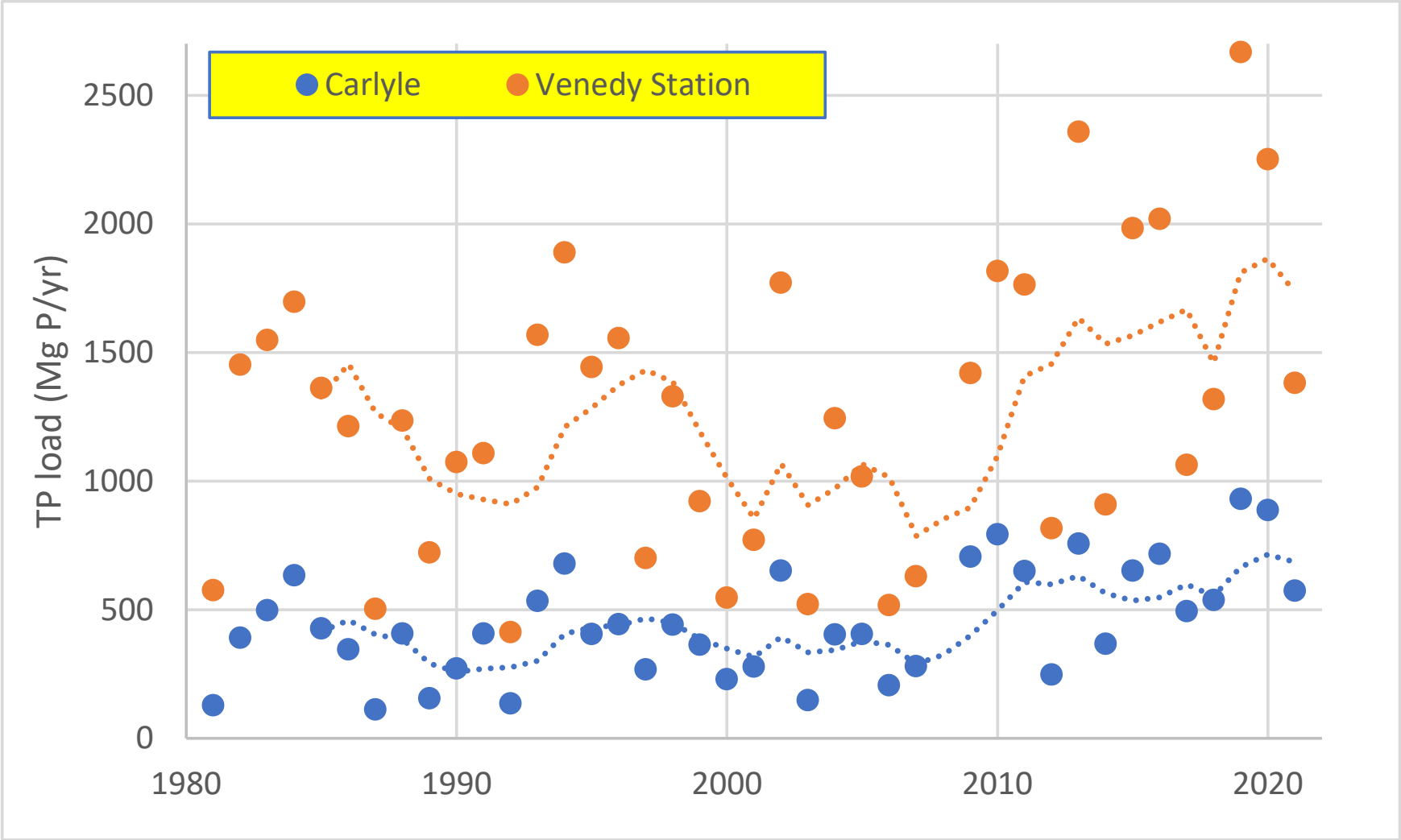


TP loads are higher upstream of Carlyle even without considering TP load from 627 sq miles of drainage area that is not monitored.

P is accumulating in Lake Carlyle. Estimating the amount depends on TP load estimates from the unmonitored 627 sq miles.

Data: Hodson, 2023

Kaskaskia River TP loads at Carlyle (2,719 mi²) and Venedy Station (4,393 mi²)



Most of the load at Venedy Station comes from below Carlyle (lower 38% of the watershed)

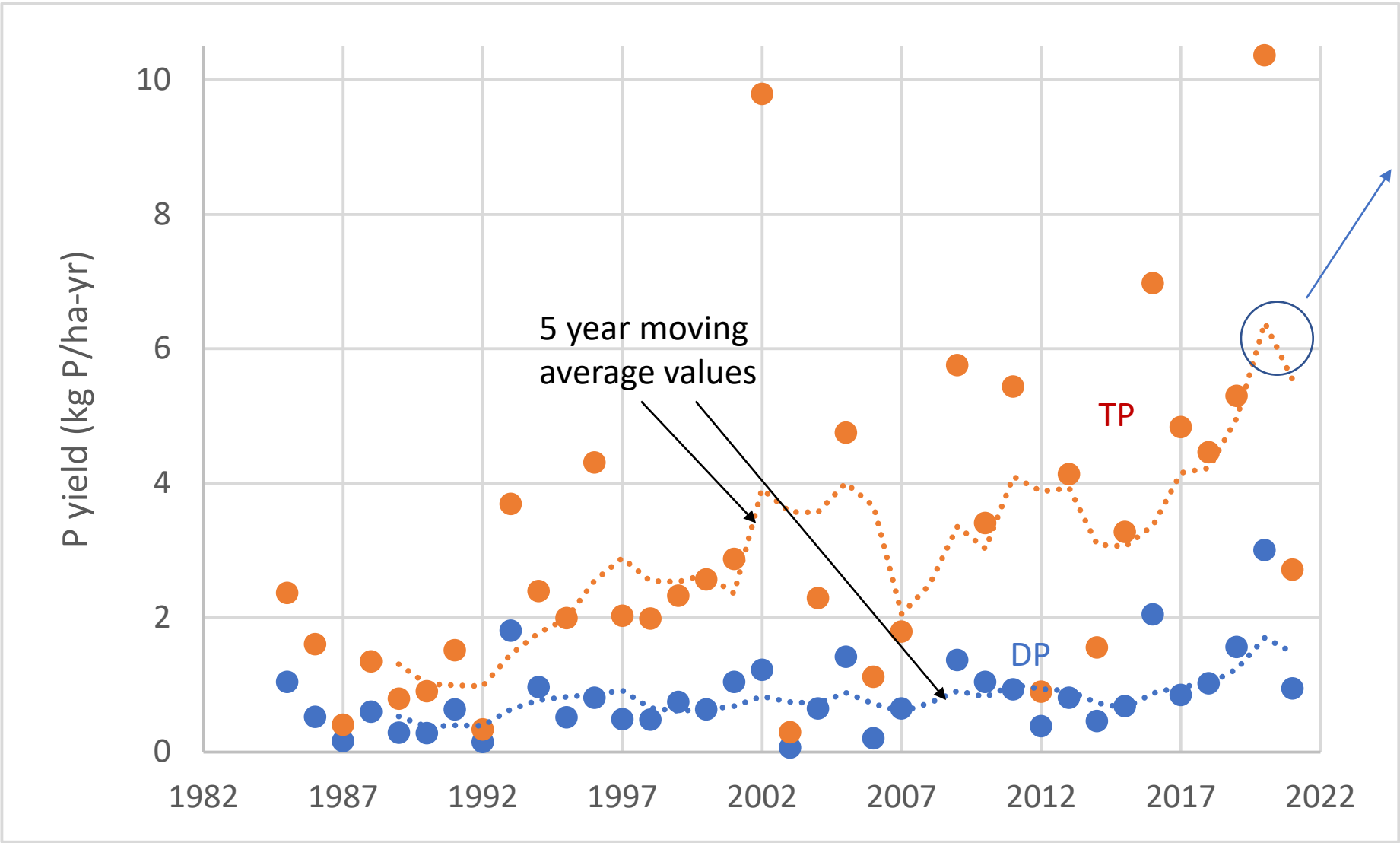
TP yield 2015-19	
Carlyle	0.95 kg P/ha-yr
Ven. Sta. – Carlyle	2.6 kg P/ya-yr

DP:TP 2015-19	
Carlyle	0.66
Ven. Sta. – Carlyle	0.46

Load estimates from Tim Hodson (2023), USGS

Little Wabash River at Effingham TP and DP Yields

240 mi²



2016-20 average is among the highest TP yields in the state, similar in magnitude to rivers draining Cook County and Chicago suburbs, which have high wastewater inputs.

Increase is mostly particulate P (+180 Mg P/yr), associated with increased peak flows.

Expanded impervious surfaces likely contribute.

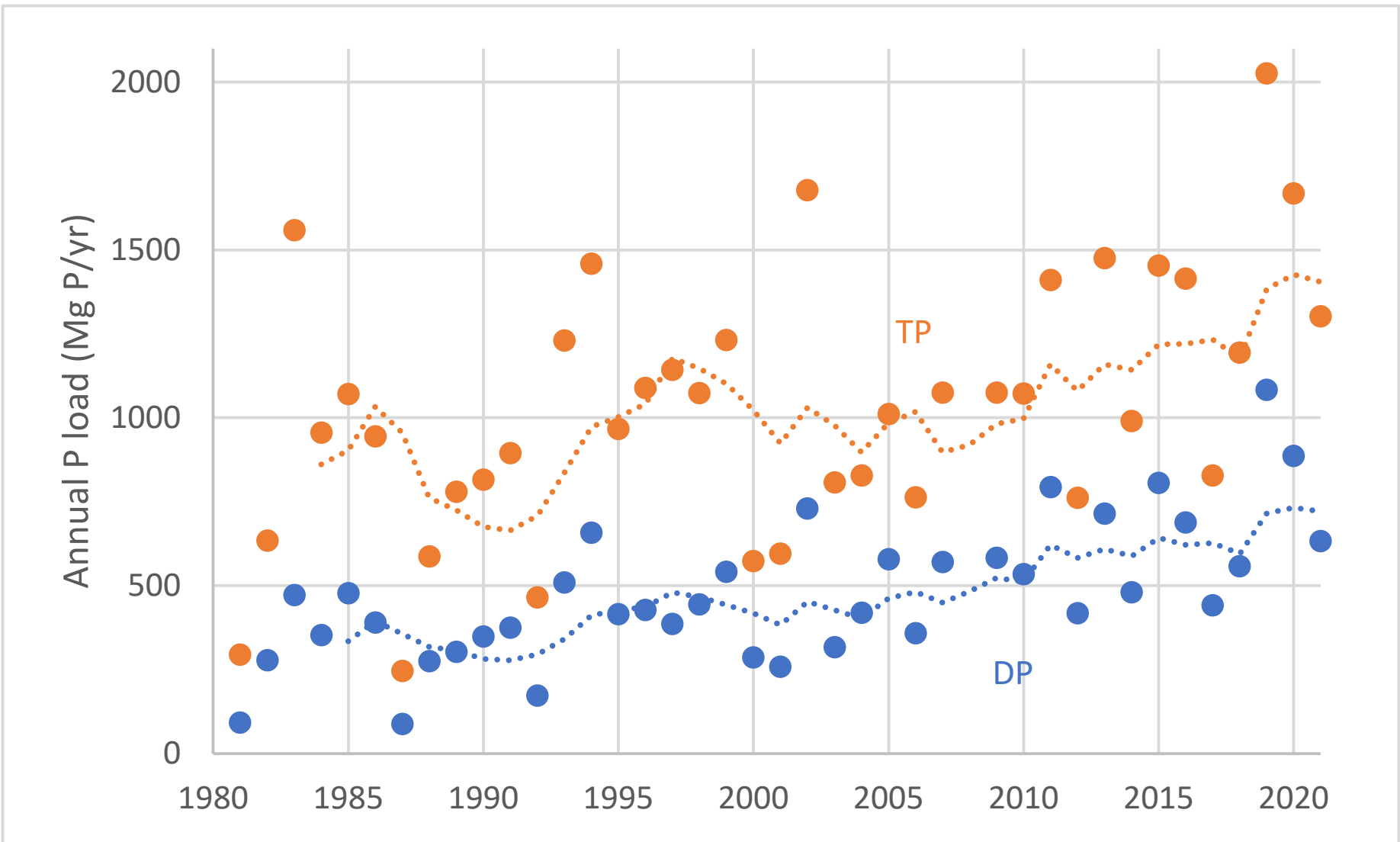
TSS yields (Mg/ha)

1985-96 2.2

2017-21 7.1

Load estimates from Tim Hodson (2023), USGS

Little Wabash at Carmi (3102 mi²)



Load estimates from Tim Hodson (2023), USGS

**P Load increases from
1981-1996 to 2017-21:**

DP: +368 Mg P/yr

PP: +161 Mg P/yr

**P Load increases from
1985-1996 to 2017-21:**

DP: +350 Mg P/yr

PP: +175 Mg P/yr

Increase in TP load is
mostly from DP

PP load increase at Carmi
similar to increase at
Effingham +180 Mg P/yr

TSS yield at Carmi Mg/ha

1981-96 0.4

1985-96 0.4

2017-21 0.4

What Experiments, Measurements and Analyses Should Be Done to Quantify Causes of TP Load Increases in Illinois Rivers?

(Who will do it? Who will pay for it?)

Examine statewide landcover/land use relationships to river P loads (livestock, tile drains and other factors)

Examine monthly P loads to evaluate seasonal/temperature impacts

Investigate whether conditions likely to produce low DO in sediment have become more frequent?
(e.g., longer periods of low flow and high water temp?)

Examine trends in zooplankton, algae and DO (past measurements may be available)

Investigate sediment P:Fe ratios (past measurements may be available)

Lab and/or Mesocosm incubations to examine whether NO_3^- , Cl^- , SO_4^{2-} inhibit or enhance P release

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Questions and Comments

Gregory McIsaac

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gmcisaac@illinois.edu

5-minute break

If you have recently joined, please type your name and affiliation into the chat box.



2023 ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOM PROGRAM

Alexandrea Terlep and Erica Becker



PRESENTATION OVERVIEW



MONITORING

Routine and Bloom
Event Response
monitoring



BLOOM REPORTING

How to report a bloom



BLOOM EVENTS

2023 Illinois bloom
events



SAMPLE RESULTS

Cyanotoxin sample
collections are
analysed by IL EPA
Division of
Laboratories



PHYCOTECH KITS

Cyanotoxin sample
collections are
analysed by IL EPA
Division of
Laboratories



HAB DASHBOARD

How to communicate
with public and HAB
dashboard



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

The Bureau of Water has been monitoring Illinois surface waters since 1970

2013

Started collecting
microcystin

2015

US EPA established
Health Advisories
for microcystins and
cylindrospermopsin

2016

Started routinely
collecting
microcystin and
cylindrospermopsin

2020

US EPA Grant to
expand IL EPA HAB
Program

2021

Started collecting
anatoxin-a and
saxitoxin

WHERE DOES CYANOTOXIN MONITORING OCCUR?

ROUTINE MONITORING

- Public water supply intakes in Illinois lakes, streams, and Lake Michigan
- Lake beaches
- Lake Michigan nearshore and harbor areas

EVENT RESPONSE

Investigates potential cyanobacteria blooms in lakes or in streams where blooms may threaten public health.

ROUTINE MONITORING

STREAMS



MICROCYSTIN



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN



ANATOXIN



SAXITOXIN

LAKES



MICROCYSTIN



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN



ANATOXIN



SAXITOXIN

BEACHES



MICROCYSTIN



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN



ANATOXIN



SAXITOXIN



2023

PUBLIC WATER SUPPLY

WHERE

Routine samples are collected at select waterbodies used for public water supplies

WHAT

Samples collected at depth from in-lake water intakes and at the raw and finished taps in water treatment plant

FOLLOW-UP?

collected if toxins detected in treated water or at request of Public Water Supply staff



MICROCYSTIN



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN



ANATOXIN



SAXITOXIN



Photo Credit: Bridget Kiernan – Chicago Botanic Garden

2023

BLOOM EVENT RESPONSE

WHERE

Event Response investigates cyanobacteria blooms in publicly owned lakes or in streams where blooms may threaten public health.

ANNUALLY

50-65 bloom event response samples at waterbodies across the state

FOLLOW-UP?

If sample results show the need



MICROCYSTIN



CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN



ANATOXIN



SAXITOXIN

Algal Bloom

2022 Statewide Harmful Algal
Bloom Program

Identifying Cyanobacteria
Blooms

**Reporting a Harmful Algal
Bloom**

USEPA Issues Health Advisories
Regarding Algal Tox...

Harmful Algal Bloom Poster

Document: Recommended
Human Health Recreational
Am...

Links to Other Resources

Contact

BLOOM REPORT FORM



Click or scan QR Code for [IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

The Bloom Report Form is a fillable online survey located on the [Illinois EPA's Reporting a Harmful Algal Bloom Page](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

Illinois EPA staff will review all submissions

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

IEPA Bloom Report Form

Bloom Reporting

Provide as much information as possible when reporting a suspected algal bloom.

Report Completed By:

Name*

Your name.

Organization

Optional field.

Title

Optional field.

Phone Number

Optional field.

E-mail Address*

Provide a valid e-mail address in case of follow up questions.

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. Bloom Description
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

E-mail Address*

Provide a valid e-mail address in case of follow up questions.

Waterbody Information:**Waterbody Name***

If unnamed or unknown, can use name of nearby street, park, property owner, etc.

Waterbody Code (if known)

Optional field. Include IEPA Lake Code if known.

County*

Include county as many waterbody names are not unique.

Waterbody Type

Select water type.

☐ Stream/River☐ Lake☐ Other

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. **Waterbody Information**
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. Bloom Description
6. Human/Animal Illness Report

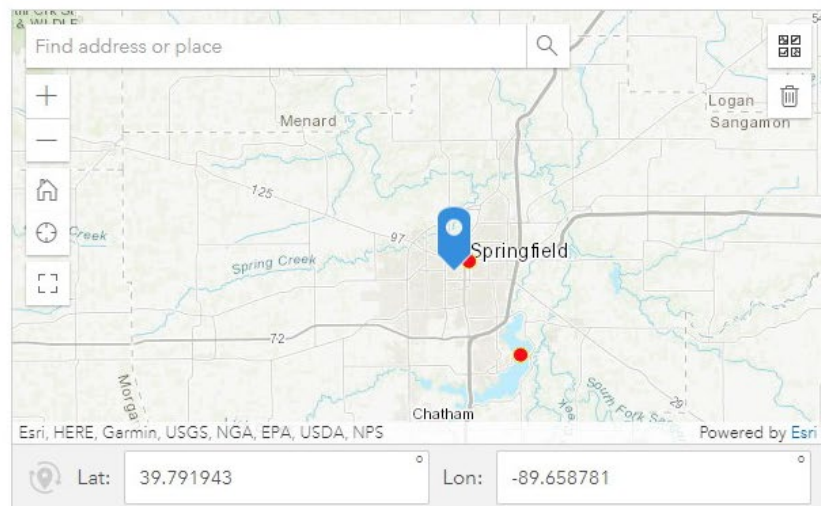


[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Record GPS Points*

Use location finder (circular icon) or search map to record GPS points. You can also search for an address or landmark and click on the map to drop a pin.

**Are You Able To Submit Photos?***

Submit photos if possible as they help our biologists identify blooms.

☐ Yes☐ No**Bloom Description:****When Did You First Observe Bloom?**

Record the date on which you first observed the algal bloom.

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. **GPS**
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. Bloom Description
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS Powered by Esri

Lat: Lon:

Are You Able To Submit Photos?*

Submit photos if possible as they help our biologists identify blooms.

☒ Yes☐ No**Take A Close Up Photo of the Algal Bloom***

Focus on capturing color and other details.

Drop image here or select image

**Comment On Close Up Photo**

Optional description.

Take A Landscape Photo of the Algal Bloom*

Include as much of the bloom as possible.

Drop image here or select image

**Comment On Landscape Photo**

Optional description.

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. **Photo(s) of Bloom**
5. Bloom Description
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

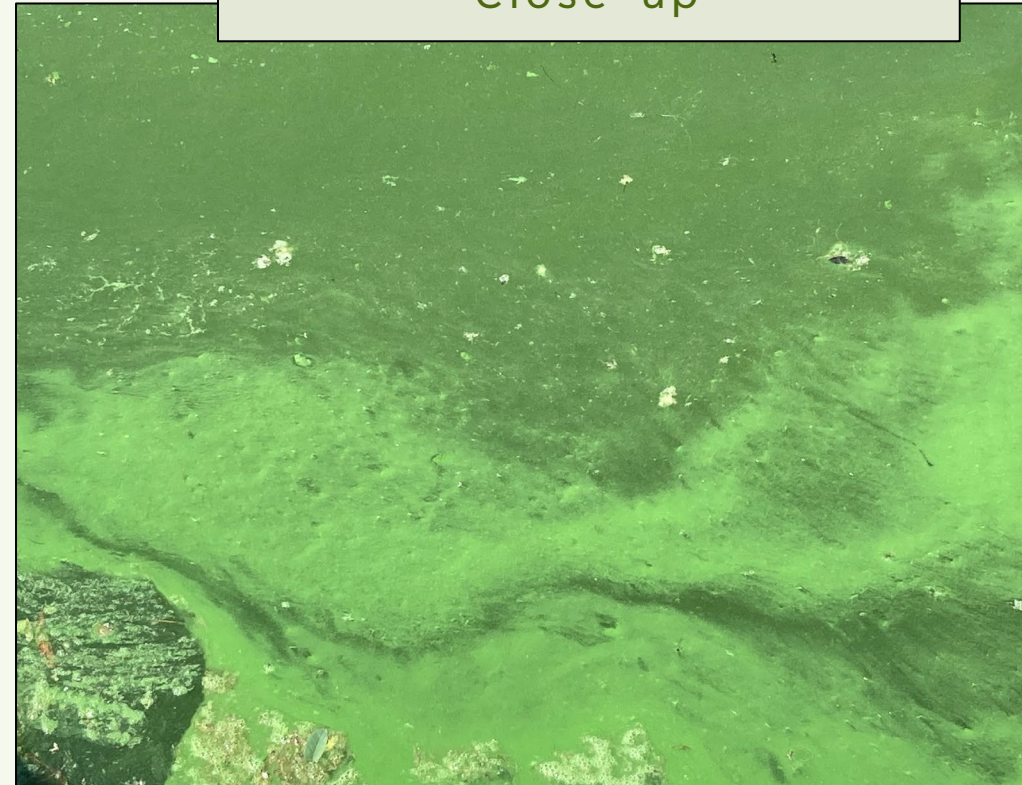
PUBLIC BLOOM REPORT FORM (SURVEY 123)

Photos

Distance/Landscape



Close-up



Esri, HERE, Garmin, USGS, NGA, EPA, USDA, NPS Powered by Esri

Lat: Lon:

Are You Able To Submit Photos?*

Submit photos if possible as they help our biologists identify blooms.

☒ Yes☐ No**Take A Close Up Photo of the Algal Bloom***

Focus on capturing color and other details.

Drop image here or select image

**Comment On Close Up Photo**

Optional description.

Take A Landscape Photo of the Algal Bloom*

Include as much of the bloom as possible.

Drop image here or select image

**Comment On Landscape Photo**

Optional description.

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. **Photo(s) of Bloom**
5. Bloom Description
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Bloom Description:**When Did You First Observe Bloom?**

Record the date on which you first observed the algal bloom.

 MM/DD/YYYY

When Did You Last Observe Bloom?

Record the date on which you last observed the algal bloom.

 MM/DD/YYYY

Is The Bloom Present Today?

Indicate if the bloom is visible today.

☐ Yes

☐ No

☐ Uncertain

Estimated Bloom Size

Description of bloom size (ex: size of a car, 30 sq. ft, etc.).

Describe Bloom Location

Center of lake, boat dock, beach , etc.

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. **Bloom Description**
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Describe Bloom Color

Describe any colors you see in bloom.

Describe Bloom Odor

Describe any odors associated with bloom (ex: septic, rotten, fishy, earthy, etc.).

Is There An Accumulation Of Algae At The Surface?☐ Yes☐ No☐ Uncertain**Is The Bloom Near A Public Beach, Boat Ramp, Or Marina?**☐ Yes☐ No☐ Unknown**Is The Bloom Near A Public Water Supply Intake?**

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
- 5. Bloom Description**
6. Human/Animal Illness Report



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Is The Bloom Near A Public Water Supply Intake?

☐

Yes

☐

No

☐

Unknown

Are There Any Recreational Or Other Uses Associated With This Waterbody?

Describe uses of the waterbody (ex: dog training, fishing, swimming, etc.).

Are You Aware Of Any Human Or Animal Illnesses Associated With The Bloom?

Includes humans, pets, and wildlife, including fish kills.

☐

Yes

☐

No

Additional Comments

Provide any additional details.

NA

Submit

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. Bloom Description
6. **Human/Animal Illness Report**



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

Are There Any Recreational Or Other Uses Associated With This Waterbody?

Describe uses of the waterbody (ex: dog training, fishing, swimming, etc.).

Are You Aware Of Any Human Or Animal Illnesses Associated With The Bloom?

Includes humans, pets, and wildlife, including fish kills.

☒ Yes☐ No**Illness Comments**

Provide details on any observed illnesses.

Additional Comments

Provide any additional details.

Submit

BLOOM REPORT FORM

1. Contact Information
2. Waterbody Information
3. GPS
4. Photo(s) of Bloom
5. Bloom Description
6. **Human/Animal Illness Report**



[IEPA Bloom Report Form](https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html)

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/reporting.html>

NEXT STEPS



Illinois EPA staff review submitted information and photos



Staff may reach out to request more photos or specific information



If we suspect that a cyanobacteria bloom is present, we may send staff to collect a toxin sample

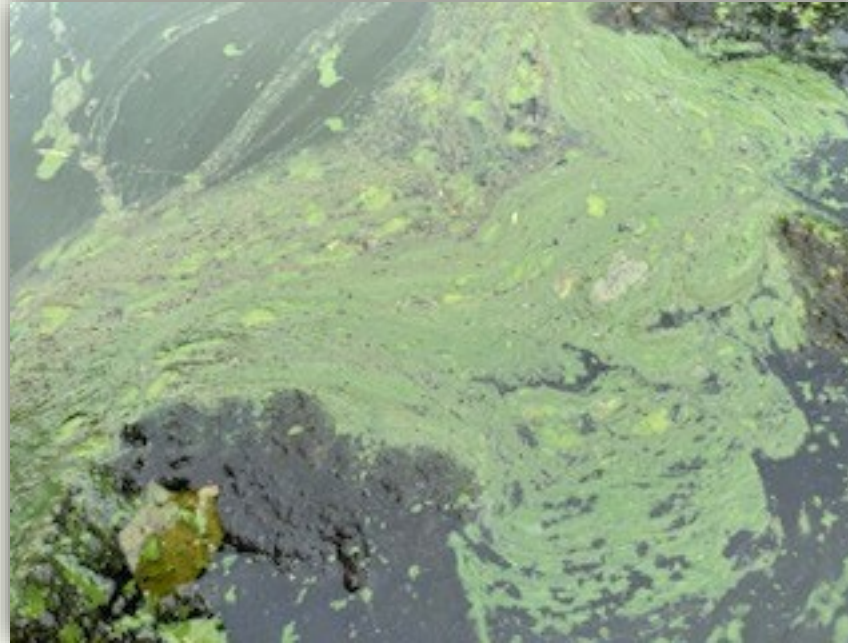


2023 BLOOM EVENTS– EAST BRANCH DOG PARK



- Reported by Forest Preserve District of DuPage County
- Aware of the bloom and risks
- Strip tests for fast results.
- Posted signs and updated information on website

2023 BLOOM EVENTS– GILLESPIE NEW 7.31.2023



- Discovered during routine sampling
- Collected samples for all four toxins
- Public Water Supply
 - Sample sent for ID and enumeration

2023 BLOOM EVENTS– DUBOIS



06.22.2023



08.30.2023

- Ongoing bloom reported via online bloom report form
- Microcystin and Saxitoxin detected this year
- Swimming beach has been closed most of season
- Bloom persists despite treatment efforts

SAMPLE ANALYSIS

ILLINOIS
EPA DOL

All samples are sent to the Illinois EPA Division of Laboratories in Springfield, IL

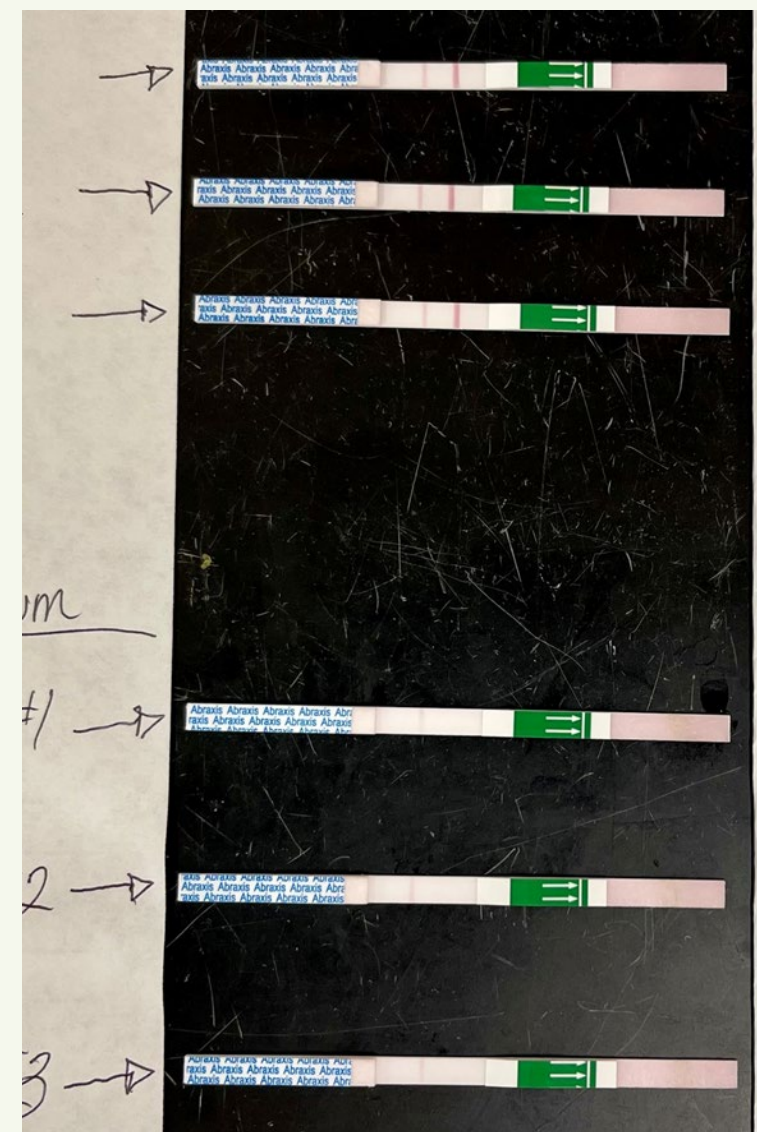
7-14
BUSINESS
DAYS

Toxin results within 7-14 business days → Tell us how much, if any toxin is present

RESULTS

Staff at headquarters send results to regional staff who will reach out to waterbody manager/operator

Staff sometimes use strip tests for fast results



UNDERSTANDING SAMPLE RESULTS

Cyanotoxin	Recreational Advisory	Drinking Water Advisory
Microcystin <small>*US EPA</small>	8 ug/L	0.3 ug/L
Cylindrospermopsin <small>*US EPA</small>	15 ug/L	0.7 ug/L
Anatoxin-a <small>*WHO</small>	60 ug/L	6 ug/L
Saxitoxin <small>*WHO</small>	30 ug/L	3 ug/L

If results exceed guidance levels, avoid contact

When in doubt, keep out!



2023 SURFACE WATER SAMPLE RESULTS

(AS OF 8/30/2023)

MICROCYSTIN

- 248 samples analyzed.
- Microcystin detected in 24% of samples
- Highest detected= **335 ug/L**

CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN

- 248 samples analyzed
- Cylindrospermopsin detected in 3% of samples
- Highest detected = **4.95 ug/L**

ANATOXIN-A

- 175 samples analyzed
- Anatoxin-a detected in 0.6% of samples
- Highest detected = **1.0351 ug/L**

SAXITOXIN

- 175 samples analyzed
- Saxitoxin detected in 16% of samples
- Highest detected = **0.868 ug/L**

2023 SURFACE WATER SAMPLE RESULTS

(AS OF 8/30/2023)

MICROCYSTIN

Microcystin (reporting limit 0.3 ug/L)				
ND	0.3 ug/L < 8 ug/L	8 ug/L < 20 ug/L	20 ug/L <	Total Samples
188	57	0	3	248

CYLINDROSPERMOPSIN

Cylindrospermopsin (reporting limit 0.1 ug/L)		
ND	Detect	Total Samples
240	8	248

ANATOXIN-A

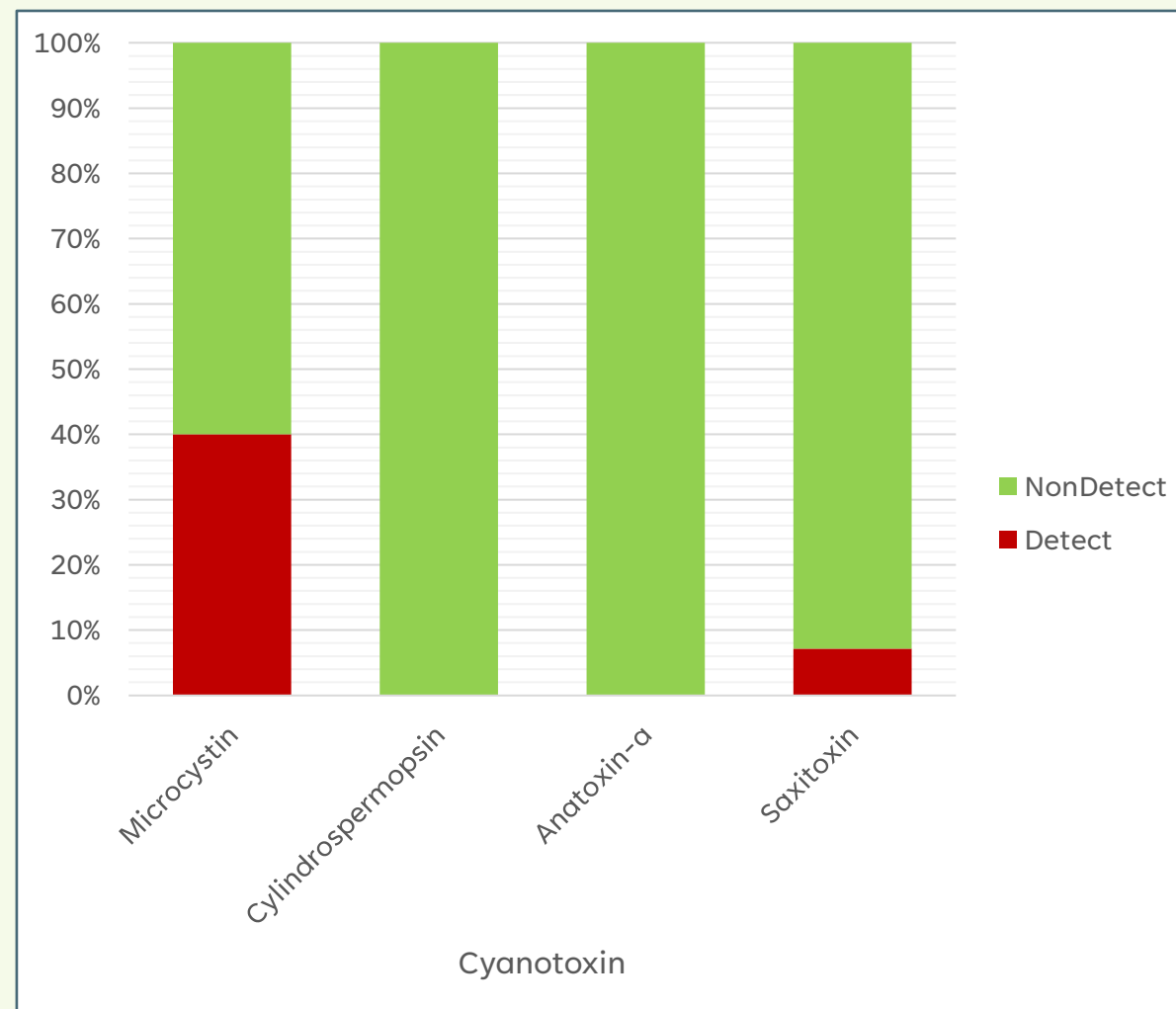
Anatoxin-a (reporting limit 0.44 ug/L)		
ND	Detect	Total Samples
174	1	175

SAXITOXIN

Saxitoxin (reporting limit 0.055 ug/L))		
ND	Detect	Total Samples
151	24	175

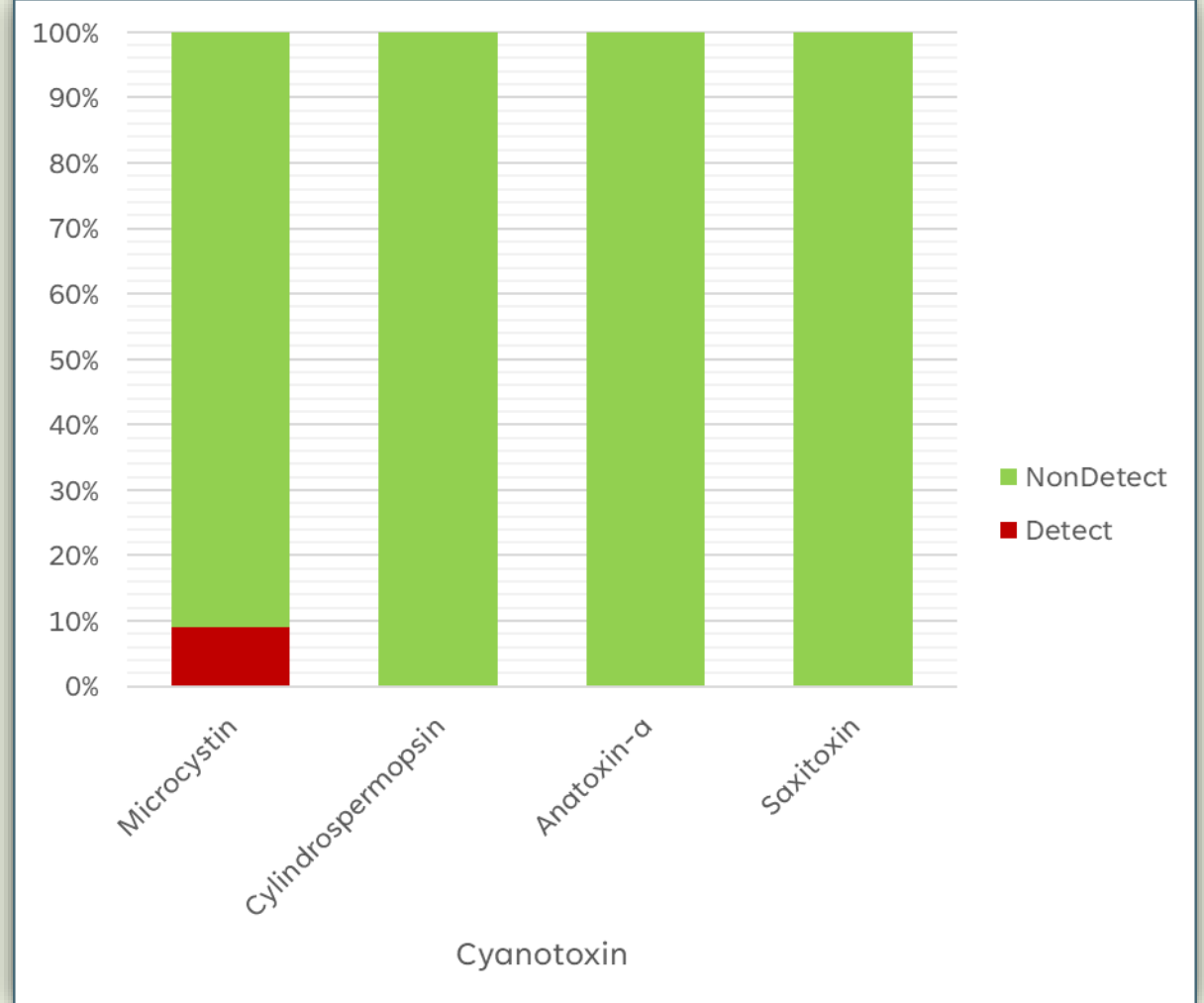
2023 Source Waters (RAW)

- Total Microcystin samples analyzed: 35
 - Microcystin detected in 14/35 (40%) of samples collected
- Total cylindrospermopsin samples analyzed: 35
 - Cylindrospermopsin detected in 0/35 of samples collected
- Total anatoxin-a samples analyzed: 28
 - Anatoxin-a detected in 0/28 of samples collected
- Total saxitoxin samples analyzed: 28
 - Saxitoxin detected in 2/28 (7%) of samples collected

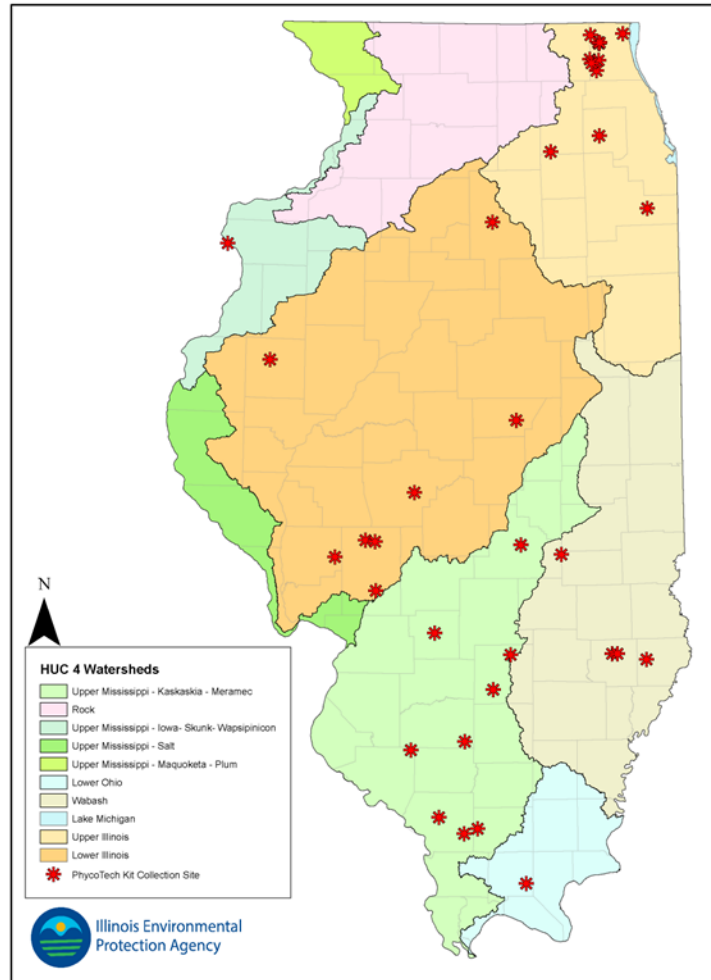


2023 Source Waters (Finished)

- Total Microcystin samples analyzed: 33
 - Microcystin detected in 3/33 (9%) of samples collected
- Total cylindrospermopsin samples analyzed: 33
 - Cylindrospermopsin not detected
- Total anatoxin-a samples analyzed: 28
 - Anatoxin-a not detected
- Total saxitoxin samples analyzed: 28
 - Saxitoxin not detected



PhycoTech Kit Collection Locations



PHYCOTECH KITS

- US EPA Multipurpose Grant
- First Kit collected in 2021
- Originally used just for blooms
- 2023 use kits for blooms and routine monitoring
- Species identification, enumeration, and an estimate of cyanobacteria biovolume
- Also collect samples for toxin analysis

HAB concentration is high - Toxin testing recommended.
Taste and odor producer concentration is high.

[illegible]

IEPA Roles

Routine
Monitoring

Event
Response

Reporting

Bloom Events

Results

PhycoTech
Kits

Dashboard

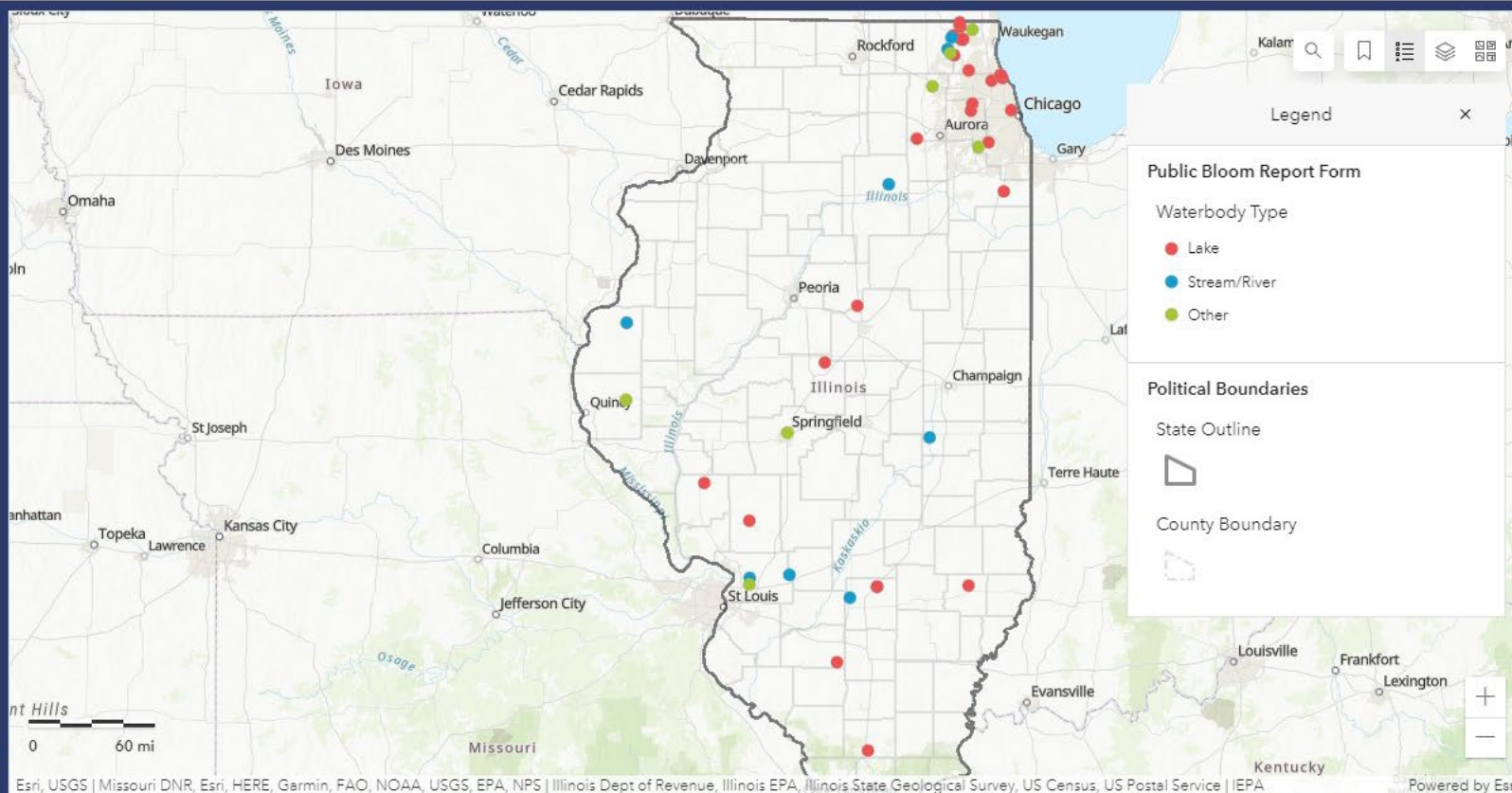
Conclusion

HAB DASHBOARD



Illinois Environmental Protection Agency Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Dashboard

Best Experienced with Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge Browsers

Algal Bloom Monitoring and
Response Quick Links[Report Algal Blooms](#)[Statewide Algal Bloom Program](#)[Harmful Algal Bloom FAQs](#)[Identifying Cyanobacterial Blooms](#)[Health Questions](#)[Algae Bloom Poster](#)**POISON CONTROL:**
1 (800) 222- 1222**Recommended Magnitude
for Cyanotoxins in Recreational Water**

Microcystins	8 µg/L ^a
Cylindrospermopsin	15 µg/L ^a

^a Swimming Advisory: not to be exceeded on any day.

- Big Rock
- Monee
- Borah
- Kinmundy Old
- Marie
-
-
- Long
- Little Silver Creek
- Evergreen Lake
- Nippersink/Fox Lake/Dunns Lake
- Citation Lake
- Arcadia (Old Marion Country Club Lake)

CONTACT IDPH

Illinois Department of Public Health

Report suspected human or animal cases of HAB - related illnesses [Here](#)**CONTACT LCHD**Lake County Health Department
(847) 377-8030**CONTACT ILLINOIS EPA**

Surface Water Section

(217) 782-3362
epa.hab@illinois.gov**More Information on Cyanobacteria Blooms**Interstate Technology
Regulatory CouncilWorld Health
OrganizationUS Environmental
Protection AgencyUpper Mississippi River
Basin Association**Algal Blooms
Reported in 2022****45**



Illinois Environment
Best Experienced with Google Chrome

Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response Quick Links

Report Algal Blooms

Statewide Algal Bloom Program

Harmful Algal Bloom FAQs

Identifying Cyanobacterial Blooms

Health Questions

Algae Bloom Poster

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CONTACT LCHD

Lake County Health Department

(847) 377-8030

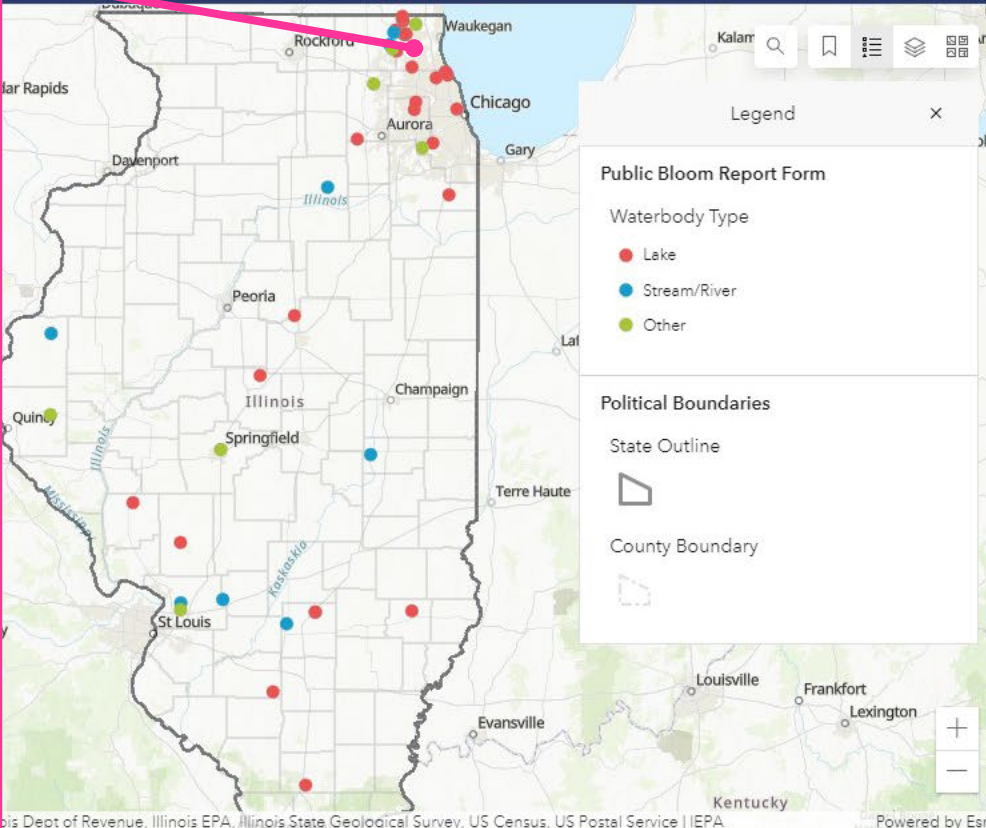
Waterbody Name: **Unnamed-Shelley Dr Lake. /West Branch Spring Creek**

County	DuPage
Waterbody Code	
Waterbody Type	Lake
Latitude	41.96
Longitude	-88.04
Collection Date	September 15, 2022



Last edited on 9/15/2022, 10:53 AM.

HAB Dashboard



Legend

Public Bloom Report Form

Waterbody Type

Lake

Stream/River

Other

Political Boundaries

State Outline

County Boundary

POISON CONTROL:
1 (800) 222- 1222

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Algal Blooms Reported in 2022

45


More Information on Cyanobacteria Blooms



World Health Organization



US Environmental Protection Agency



Upper Mississippi River Basin Association

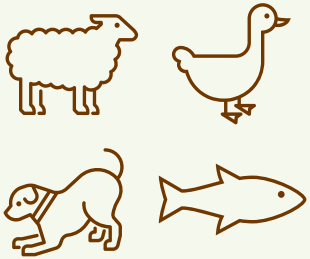
REPORTING SUSPECTED ILLNESS

Human HAB-related Illness



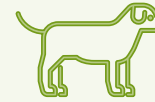
<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/hab-human-report-form-042616.pdf>

Animal HAB-related Illness



<https://dph.illinois.gov/content/dam/soi/en/web/idph/files/forms/hab-animal-report-form-042616.pdf>

PROTECT YOUR PETS



<https://www.avma.org/resources-tools/animal-health-and-welfare/animal-health/harmful-algal-blooms-habs>



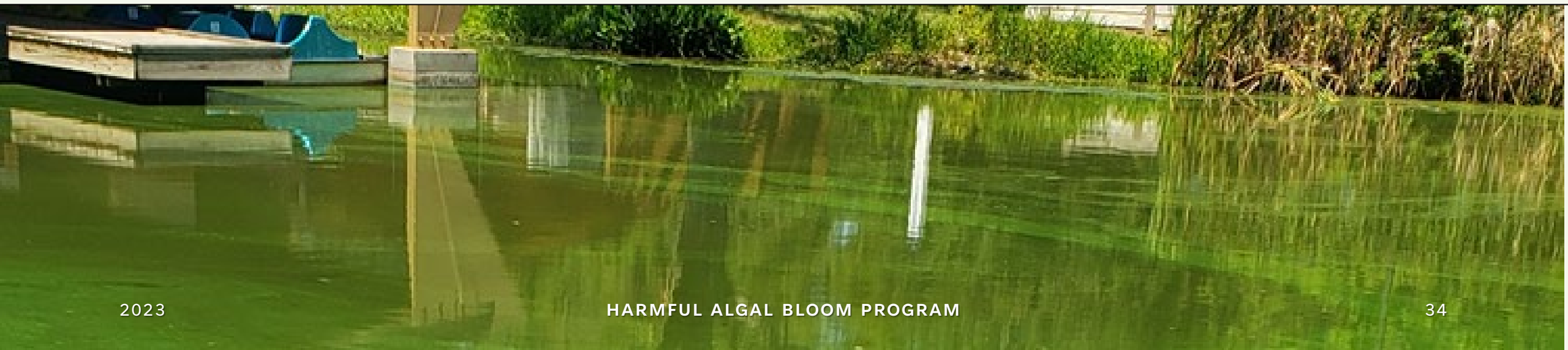
https://www.cdc.gov/habs/pdf/habsveterinarian_card.pdf



https://www.uvm.edu/seagrant/sites/default/files/uploads/publication/HABs_brochure_2018_05_05.pdf



<https://coastalscience.noaa.gov/news/protecting-your-dog-from-harmful-algal-blooms-information-and-resources/>



RESOURCES



ILLINOIS ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT
OF PUBLIC HEALTH



US ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY



CENTER FOR DISEASE
CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Reporting a Bloom
Examples of Blooms

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom.html>

HABs and Health:
Human & Animal
Illness Report Forms

<https://dph.illinois.gov/topics-services/environmental-health-protection/toxicology/harmful-algal-blooms.html>

Useful for waterbody
managers:
Prevention & Control

<https://www.epa.gov/cyano-habs>

Examples of Social
media, Signage, and
Printable posters

<https://www.cdc.gov/habs/index.html>

CONTACT INFORMATION

Surface Water Section

Manager

Nicole Vidales | Nicole.Vidales@Illinois.gov

HAB Unit Coordinator

Alexandrea Terlep | Alexandrea.Terlep@Illinois.gov

NMU

Northern Monitoring Unit

Kevin Zidonis | Kevin.Zidonis@Illinois.gov

CMU

Central Monitoring Unit

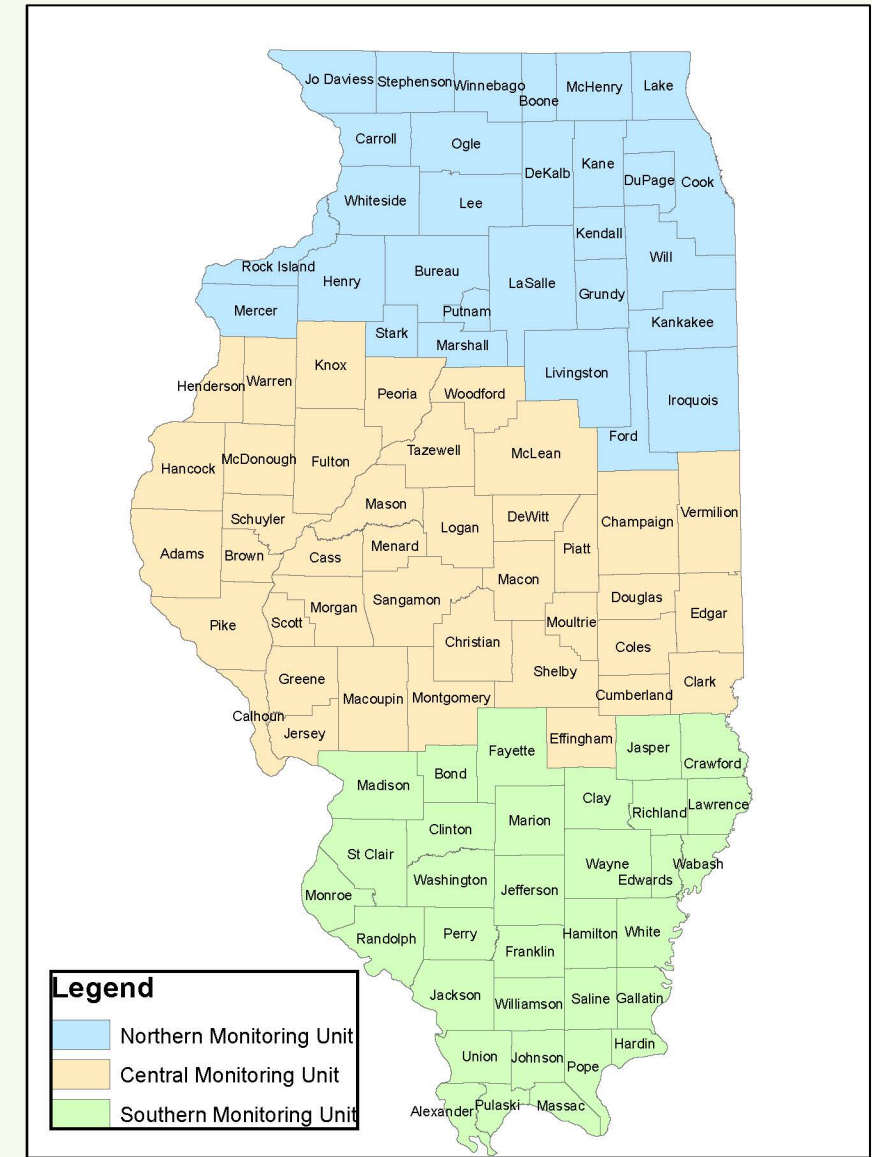
Logan Schippert | Logan.Schippert@Illinois.gov

SMU

Southern Monitoring Unit

Mike Bundren | Mike.Bundren@Illinois.gov

<https://epa.illinois.gov/topics/water-quality/monitoring/algal-bloom/contact.html>





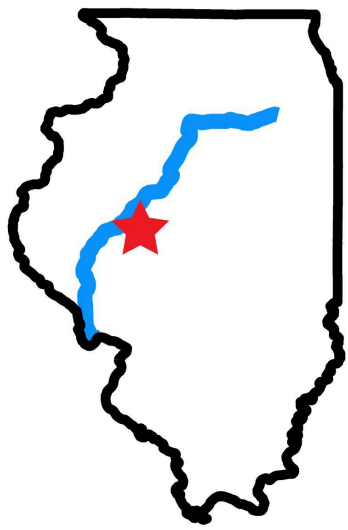
THANK YOU



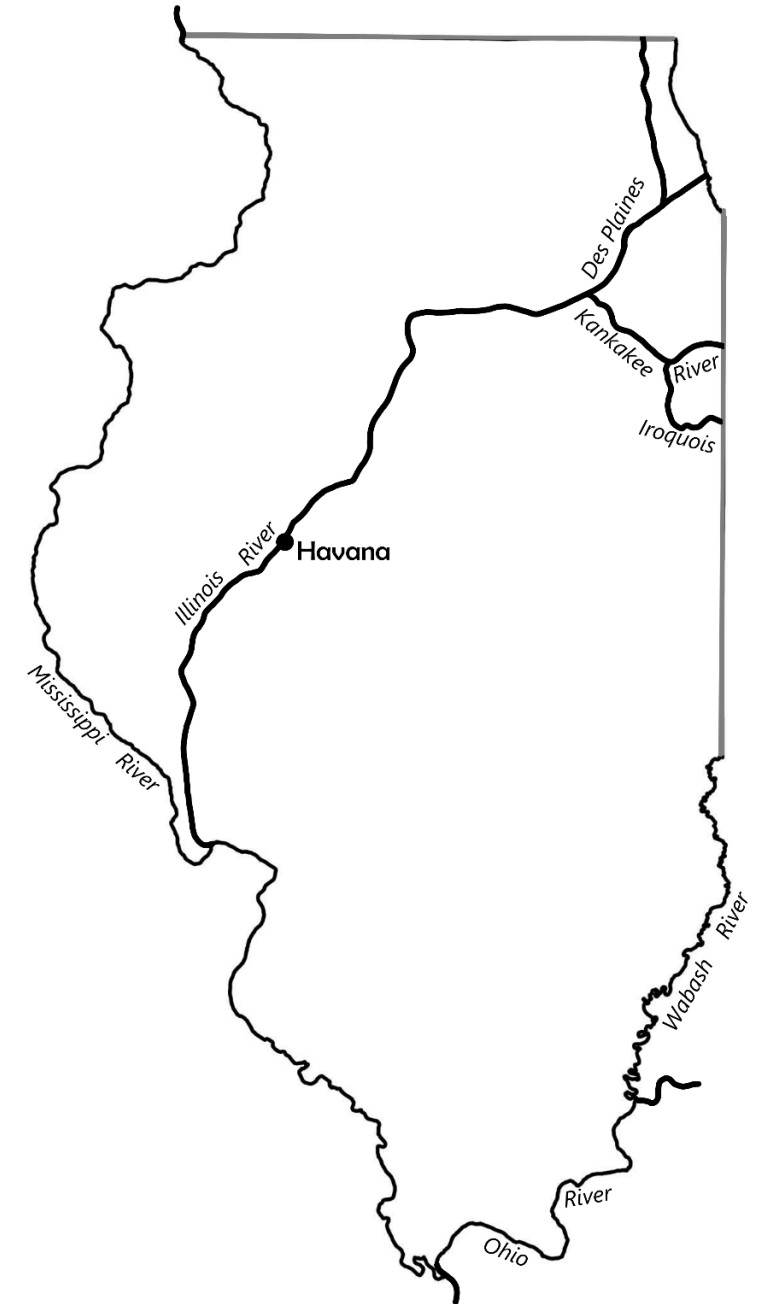
ILLINOIS RIVER BIOLOGICAL STATION

Monitoring on the Illinois Waterway

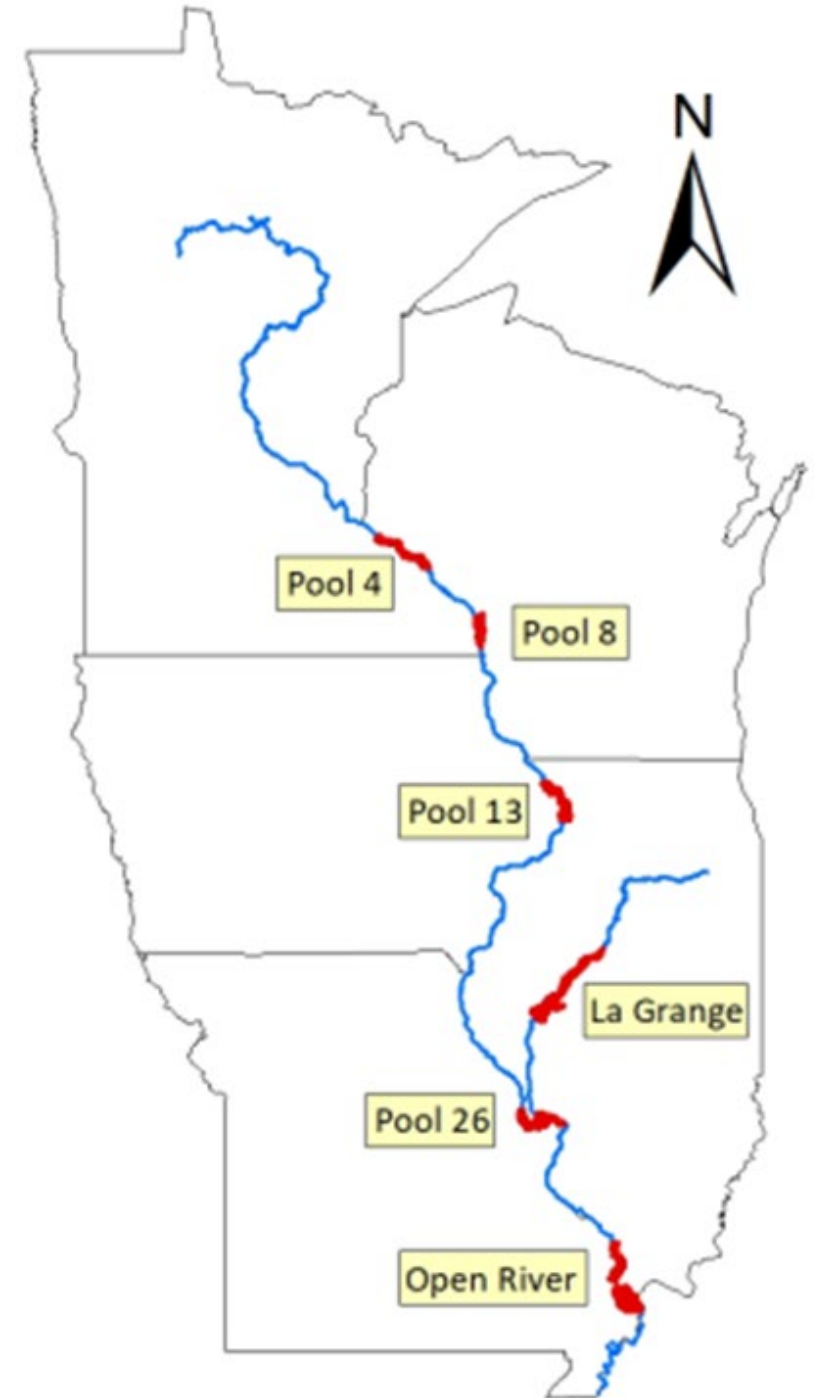
Illinois Natural History Survey – Prairie Research Institute



Illinois River Biological Station Havana



Long Term River Monitoring

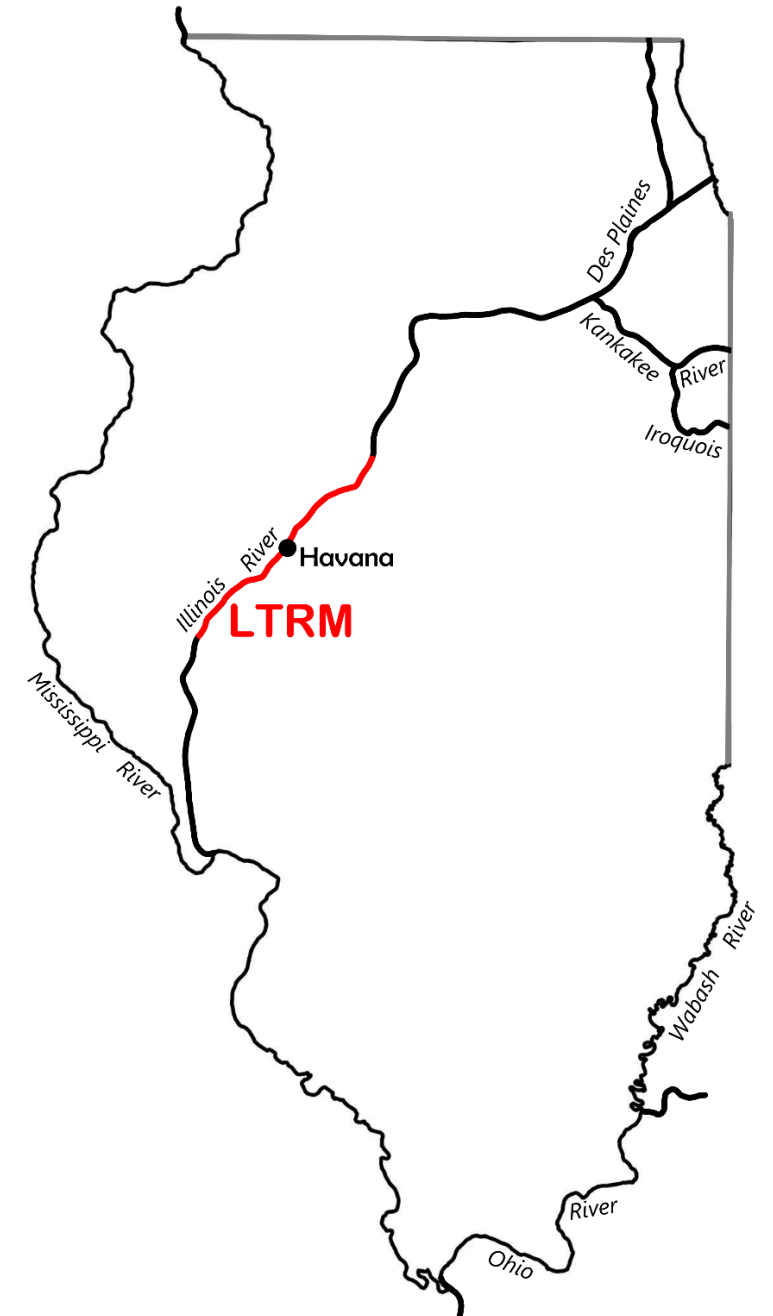


Long Term River Monitoring (LTRM)

Water Quality



- ~ 80 river mile stretch
- Peoria to LaGrange, IL
- Standardized methods 1993-current



Fish



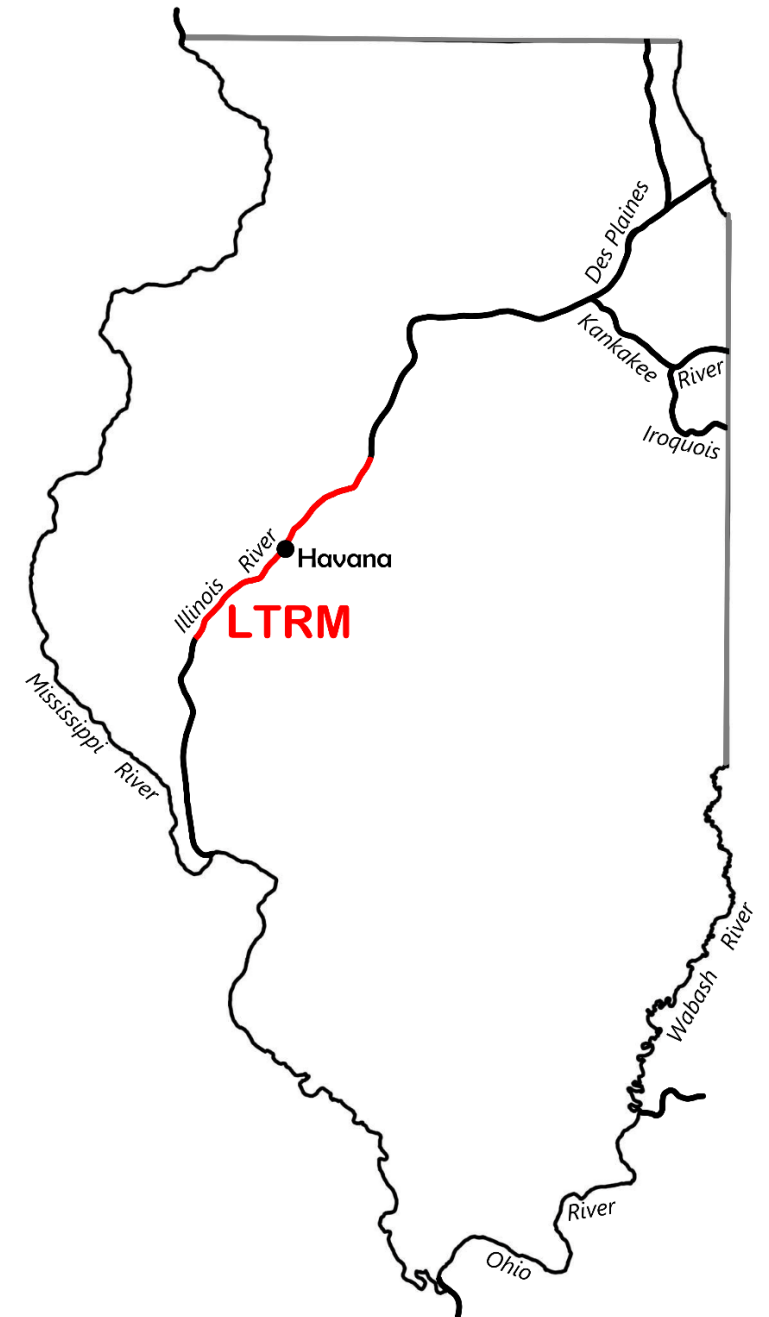
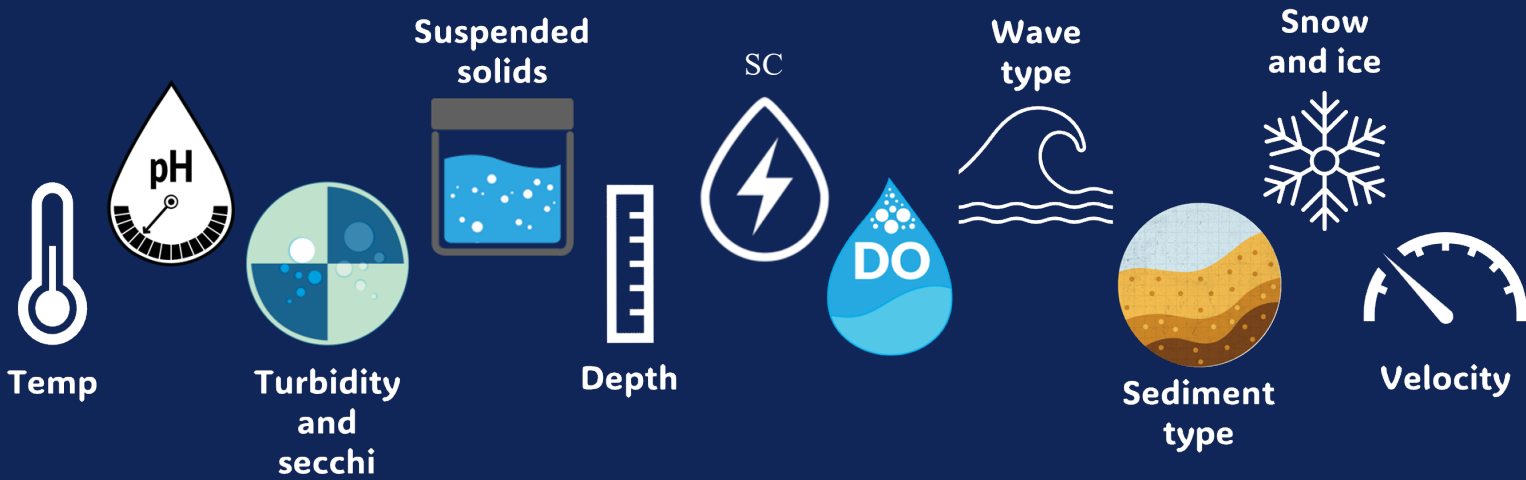
Macroinvertebrates

LTRM Water Quality

- Physical, chemical, and biological
- Year round
- Started 1988, standardized 1993
- Over 33,000 records of WQ in the LaGrange Reach
- Fixed and random sites



LTRM Water Quality - Physical



LTRM Water Quality – Chemical

Current

7

N

Nitrogen

15

P

Phosphorus

14

Si

Silicon

SiO_2

17

Cl

Chlorine

Cl^-

7

N

Nitrogen

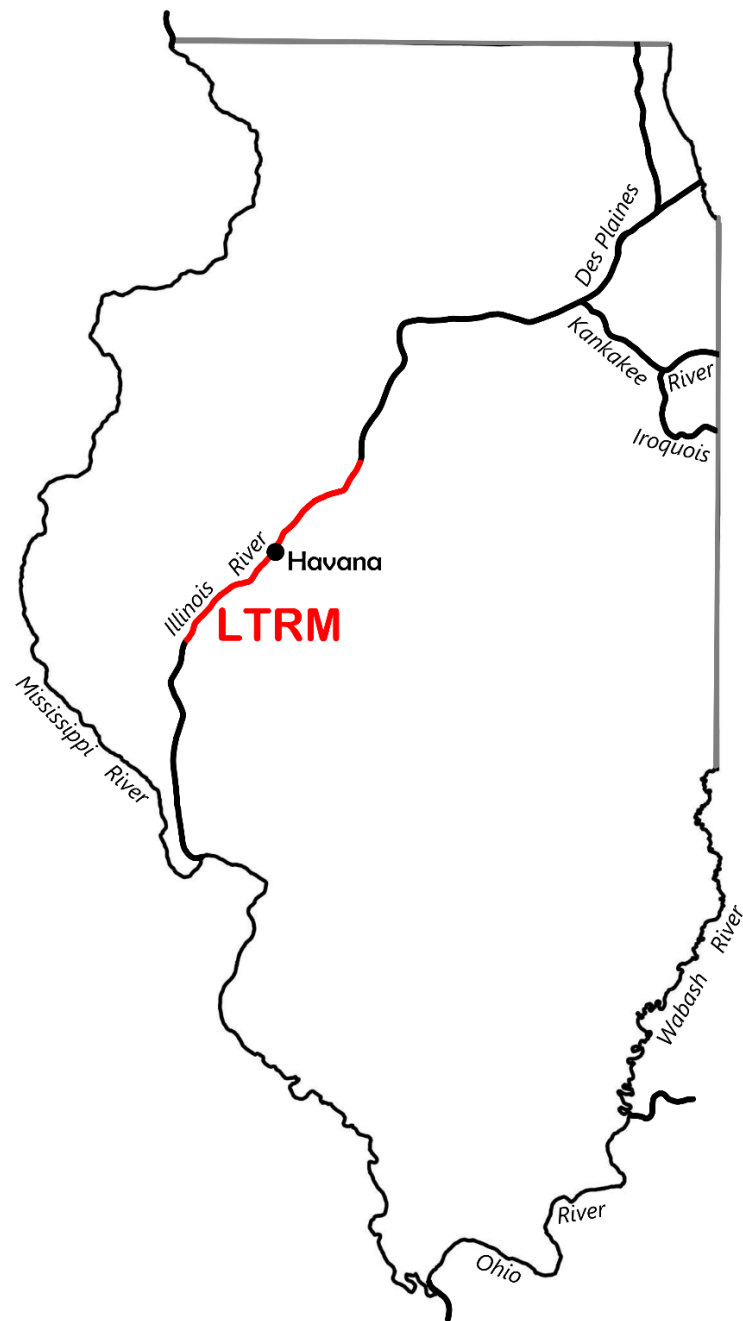
NH_4^+

7

N

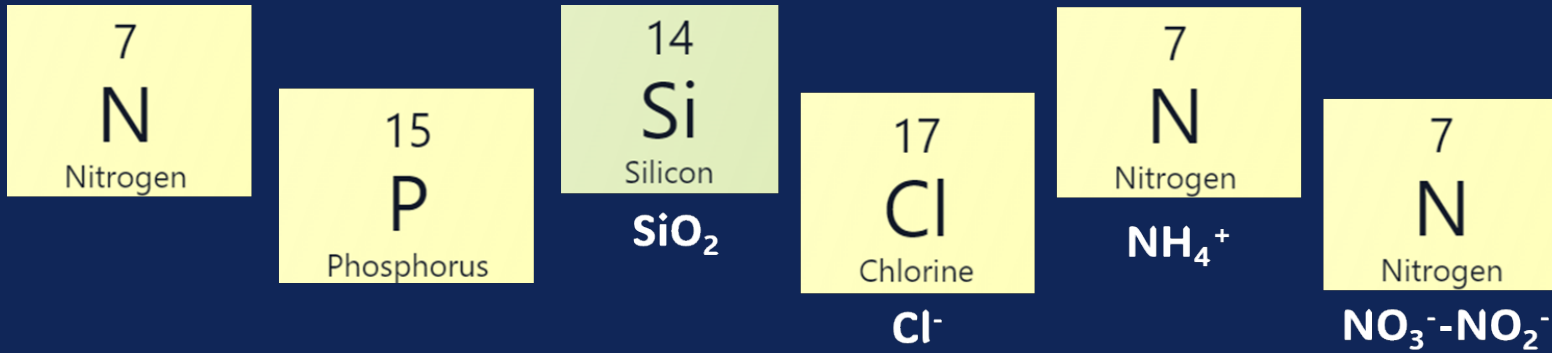
Nitrogen

$\text{NO}_3^- - \text{NO}_2^-$

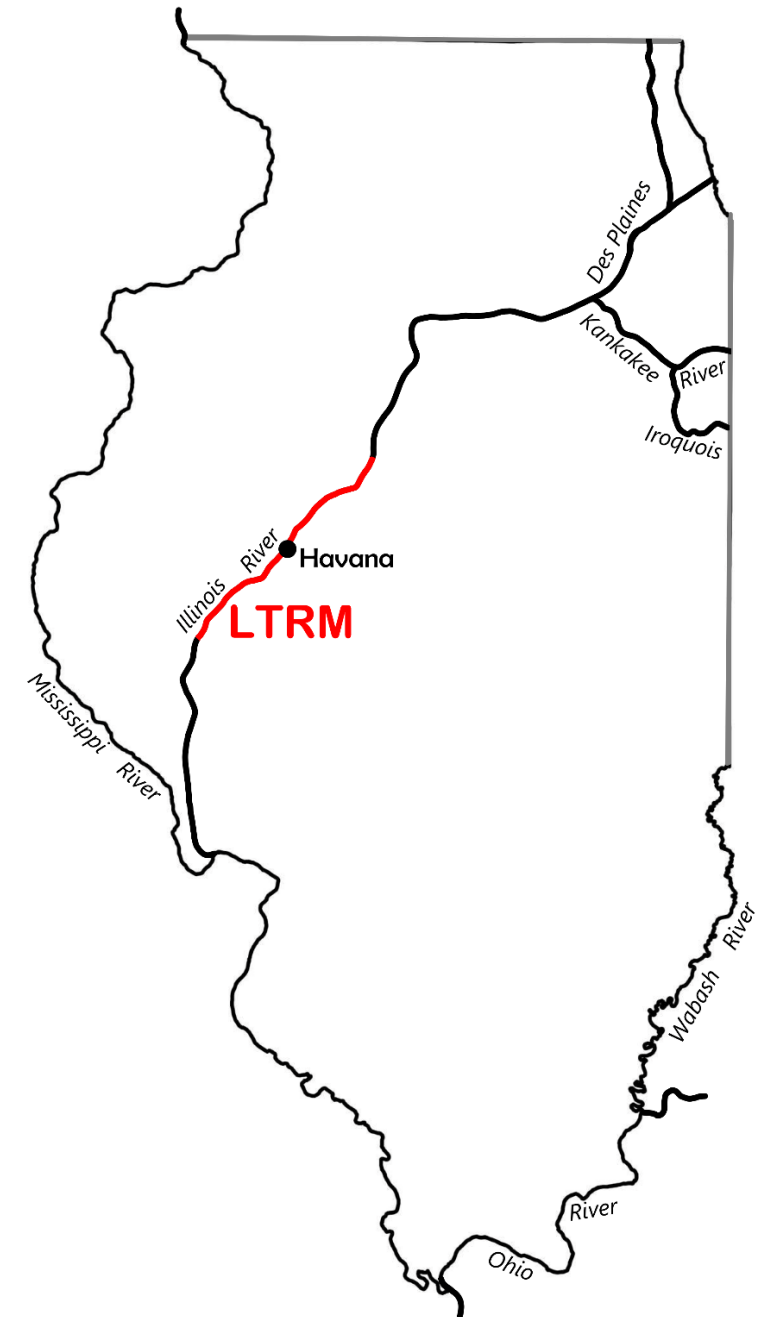
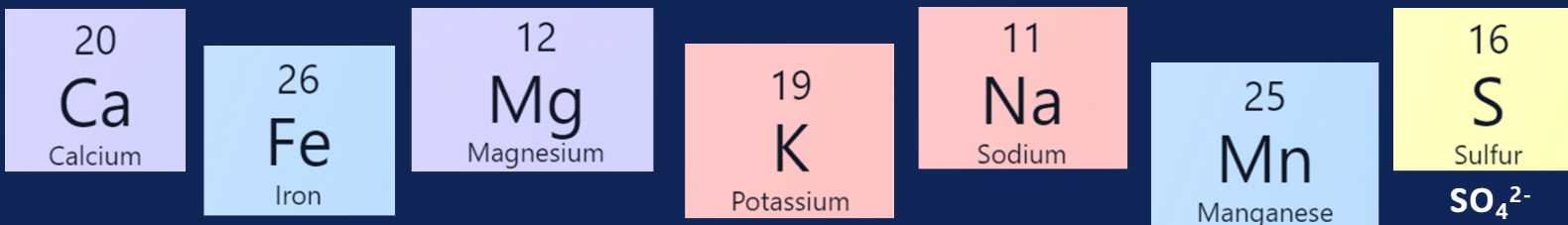


LTRM Water Quality – Chemical

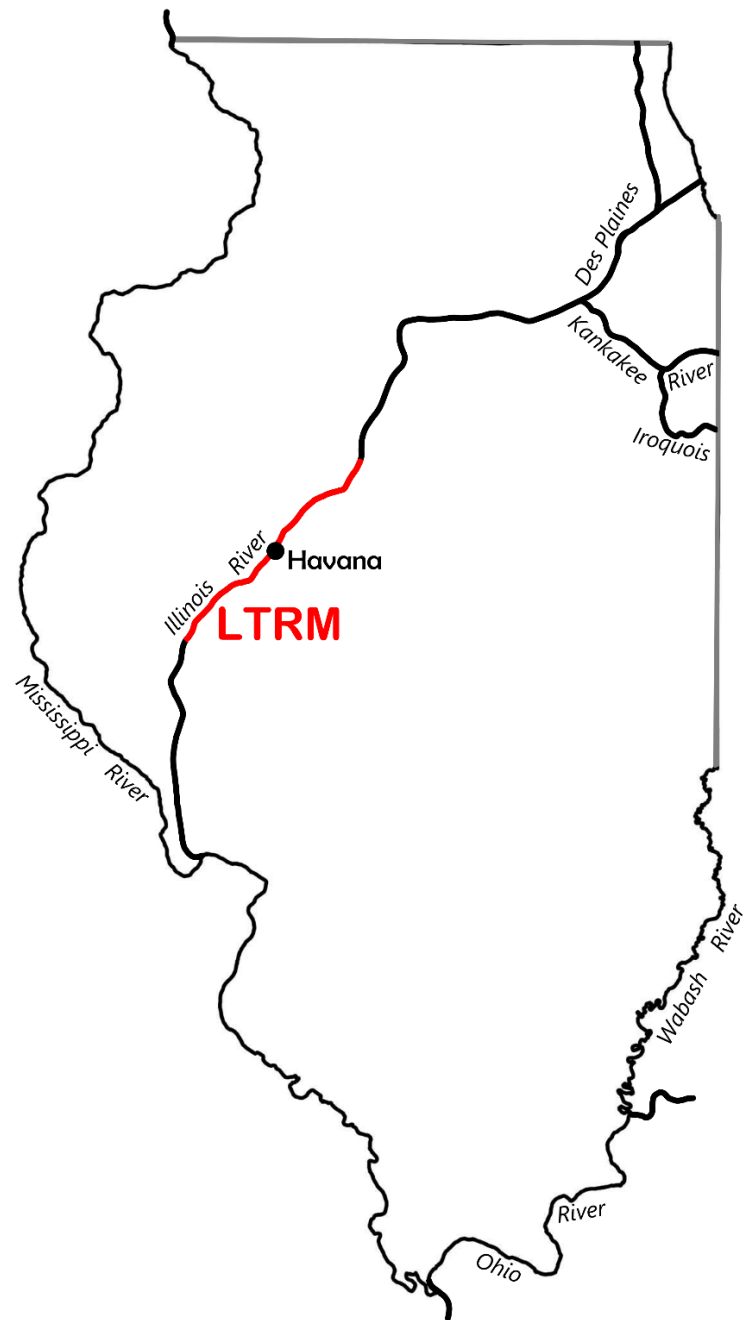
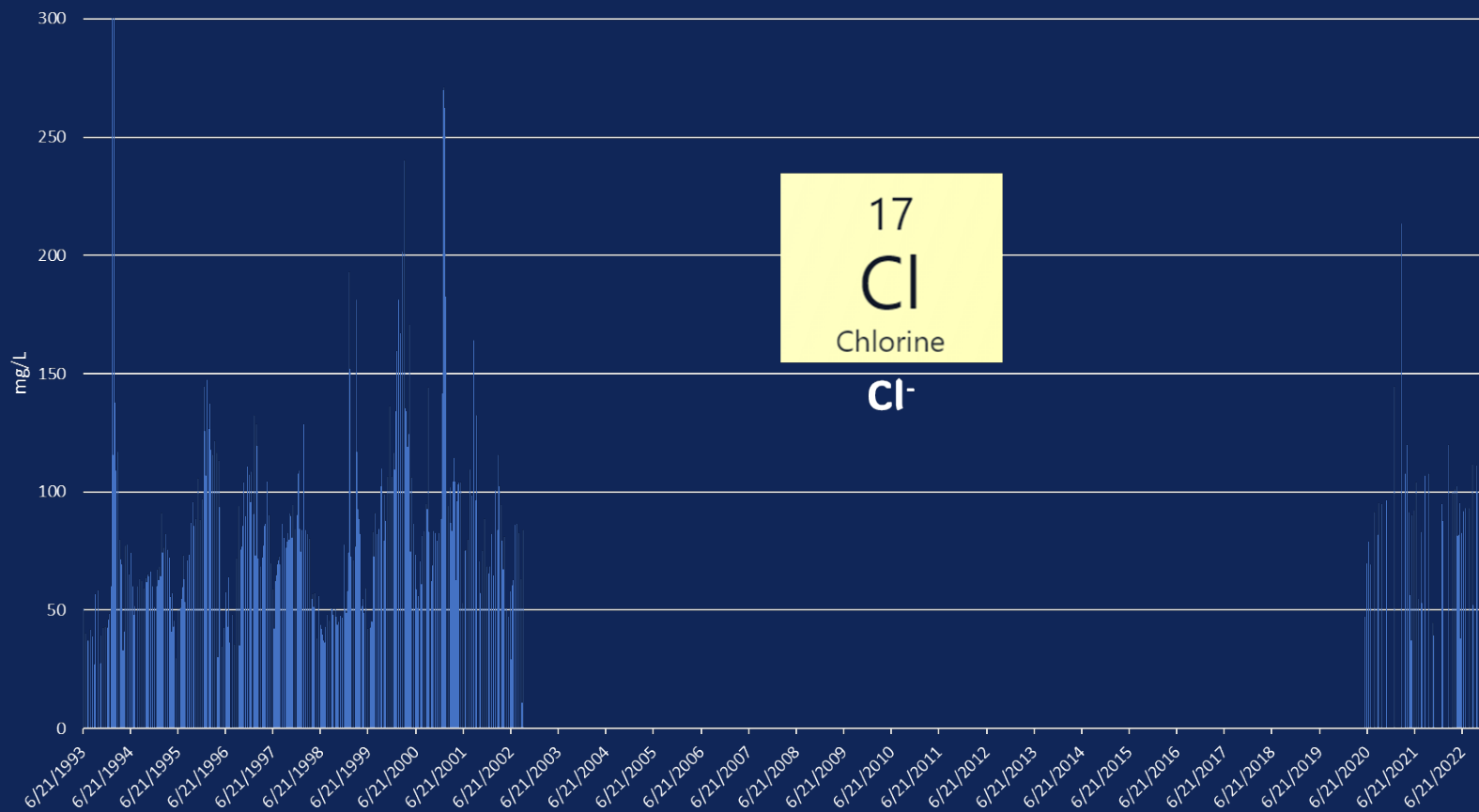
Current



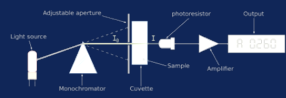
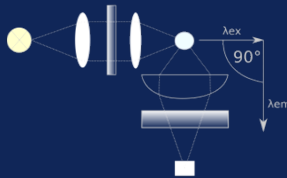
Past up to 2002~



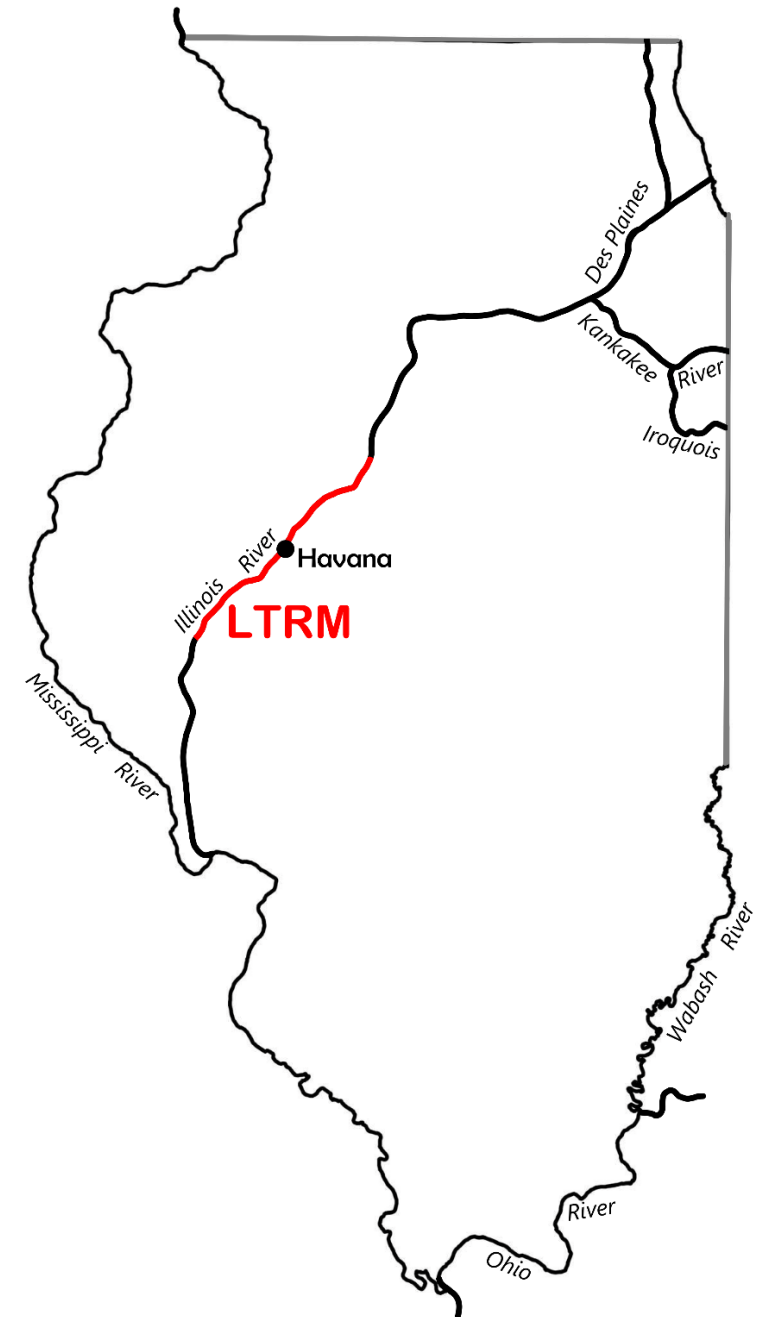
LTRM Water Quality – Chemical



LTRM Water Quality - Biological



Phaeophytin (past)




LTRM Water Quality

USGS
science for a changing world

Upper Mississippi River Restoration
Leading by Example

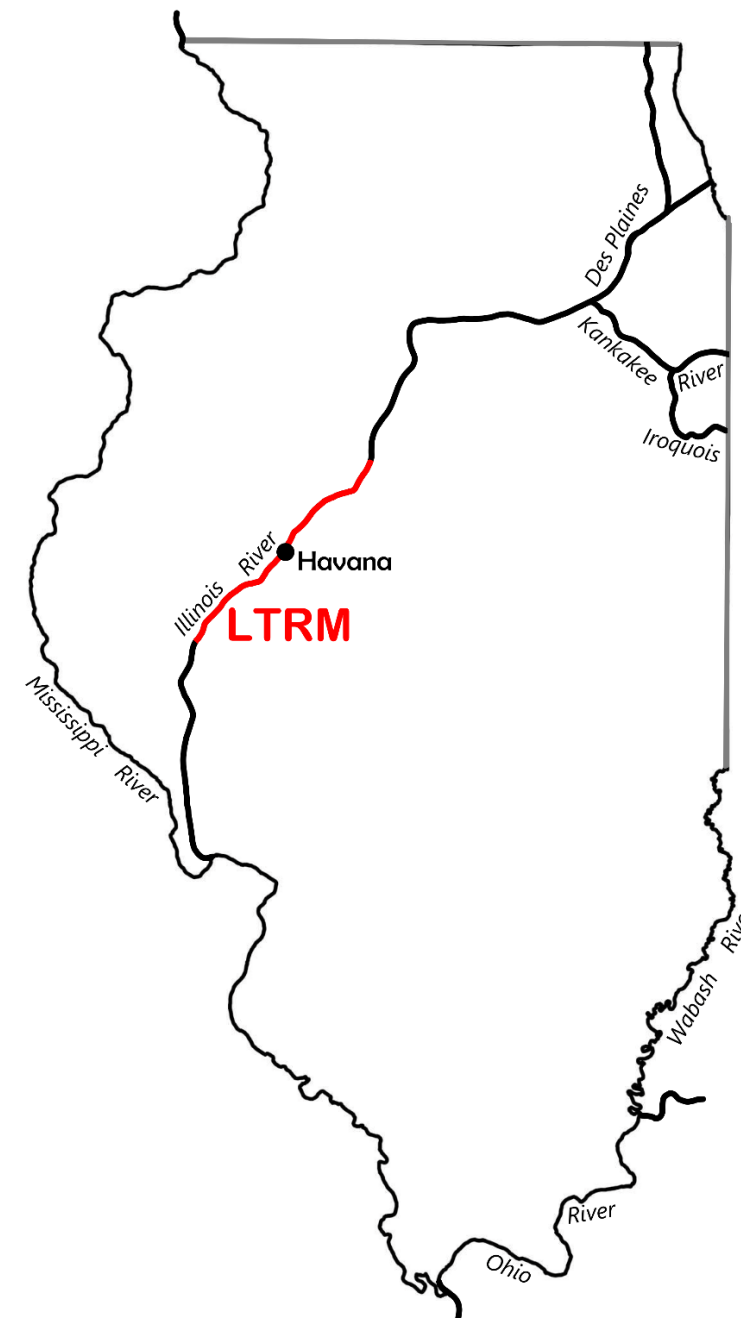
Species Management Research Program and Land Management Research Program
In cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Ecological Status and Trends of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers



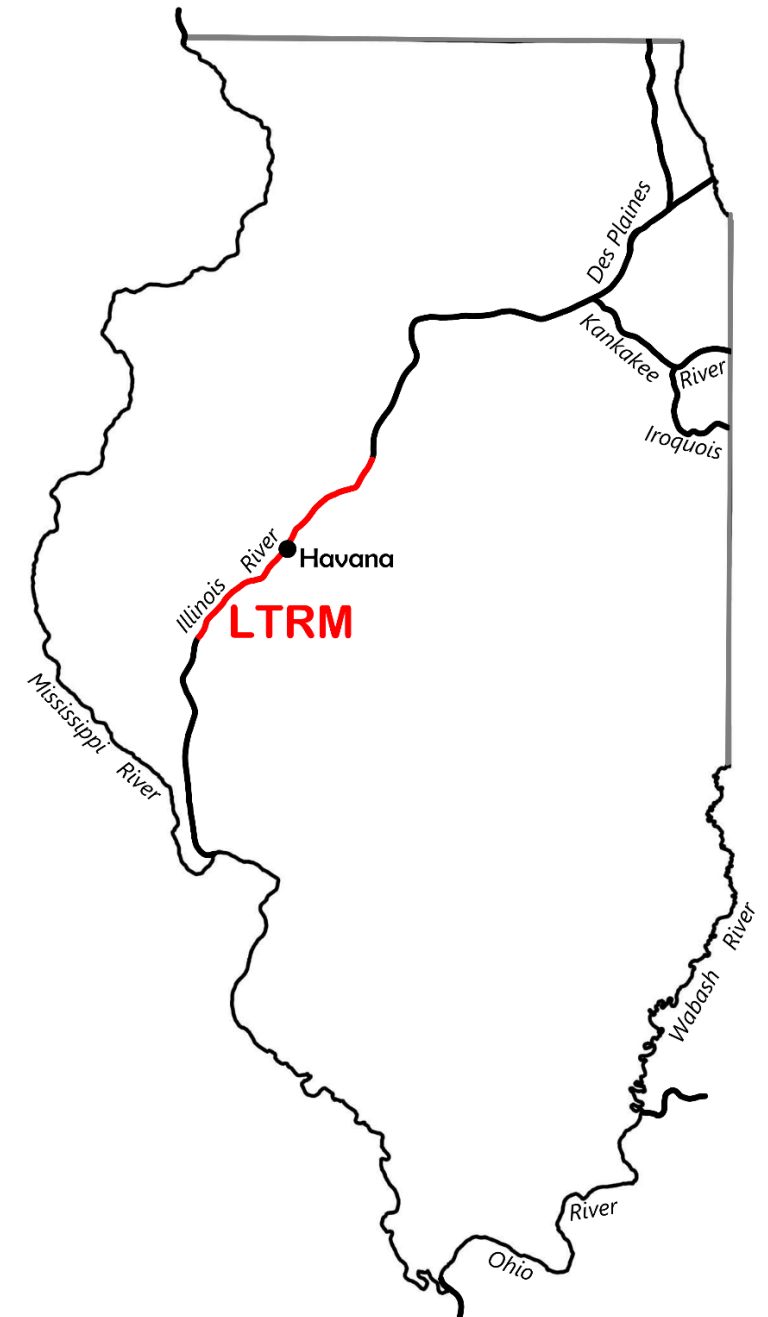
Open-File Report 2022-1039
Version 1.1, July 2022

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



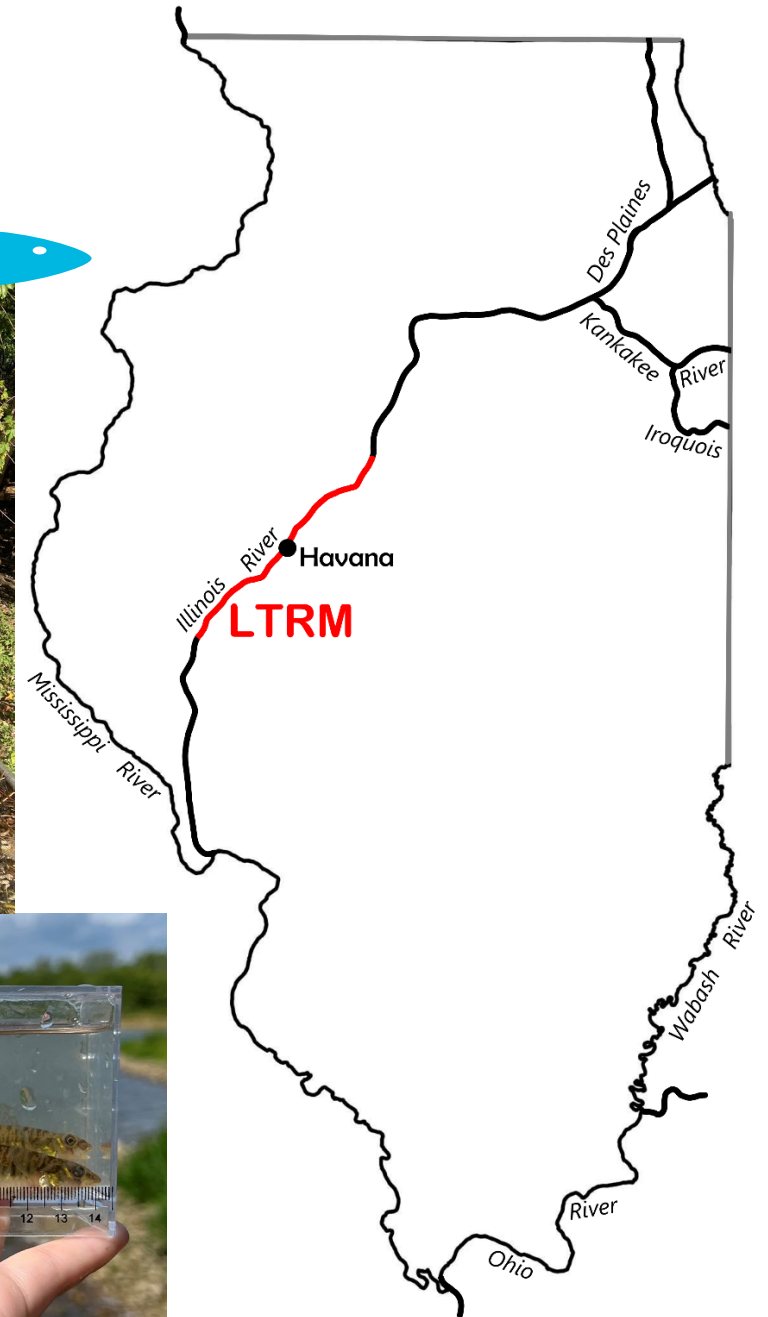
LTRM Water Quality

Indicator		Upper Mississippi River					Illinois River
		Upper Impounded			Lower Impounded	Unimpounded	La Grange
		Pool 4	Pool 8	Pool 13	Pool 26	Open River	
Water quality	Main channel suspended solids (flow-normalized concentration)	▼	▼	■	▼	▼	▼
	Main channel nutrients (flow-normalized concentration)						
	Nitrogen	▲	■	▲	■	▲	▼
	Phosphorus	▼	▼	▼	▼	■	▲
	Chlorophyll <i>a</i>						
	Main channel	■	■	■	■	■	~
	Backwater	~	▼	■	■	■	■
	Backwater hypoxia (dissolved oxygen < 5 milligrams per liter)						
	Summer	~	~	~	~	■	~
	Winter	▲	~	~	■	■	■
Aquatic vegetation	Submersed aquatic vegetation prevalence	▲	▲	~	■	■	■
	Invasive submersed species	▼	▼	▼	■	■	■
	Aquatic vegetation diversity	~	▲	~	■	■	■
	Free-floating plant dominance	▼	▼	▼	■	■	■
	Emergent vegetation	▲	▲	■	■	▲	▲
Fisheries	Fish community	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Lentic fishes	▲	▲	■	■	▲	▼
	Lotic fishes	■	■	■	■	■	■
	Nonnative fishes (excluding <i>cyprinus carpio</i> [common carp])	■	■	■	▲	■	▲
	Forage fishes	▼	■	■	▼	▼	▼
	Recreationally valued native fishes	■	▲	▲	▼	■	▼
	Commercially valued fishes						
	Native	■	▲	▲	■	■	▼
	Nonnative	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼	▼
EXPLANATION							
▲ Significant long-term increase ▼ Significant long-term decrease ■ No trend ■ No data available or analyzed ~ Dynamic trend							



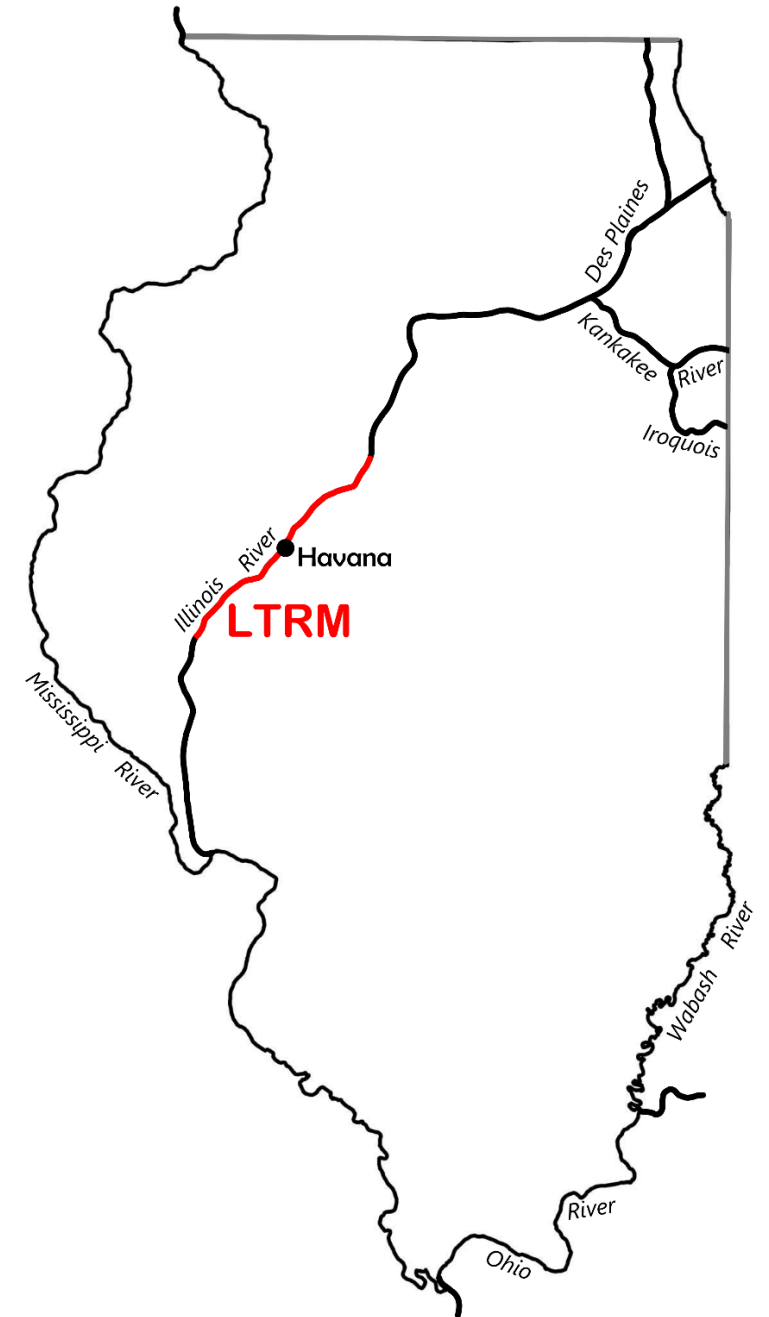
LTRM Fish

- Three periods, June 15-Oct 31
- 1993- current
- 252 random, 54 fixed sites
 - Stratified by habitat use areas (SCB, MCB, BW, IMP)
- Netting and electrofishing
- Goal: Monitor fish populations on the La Grange Reach



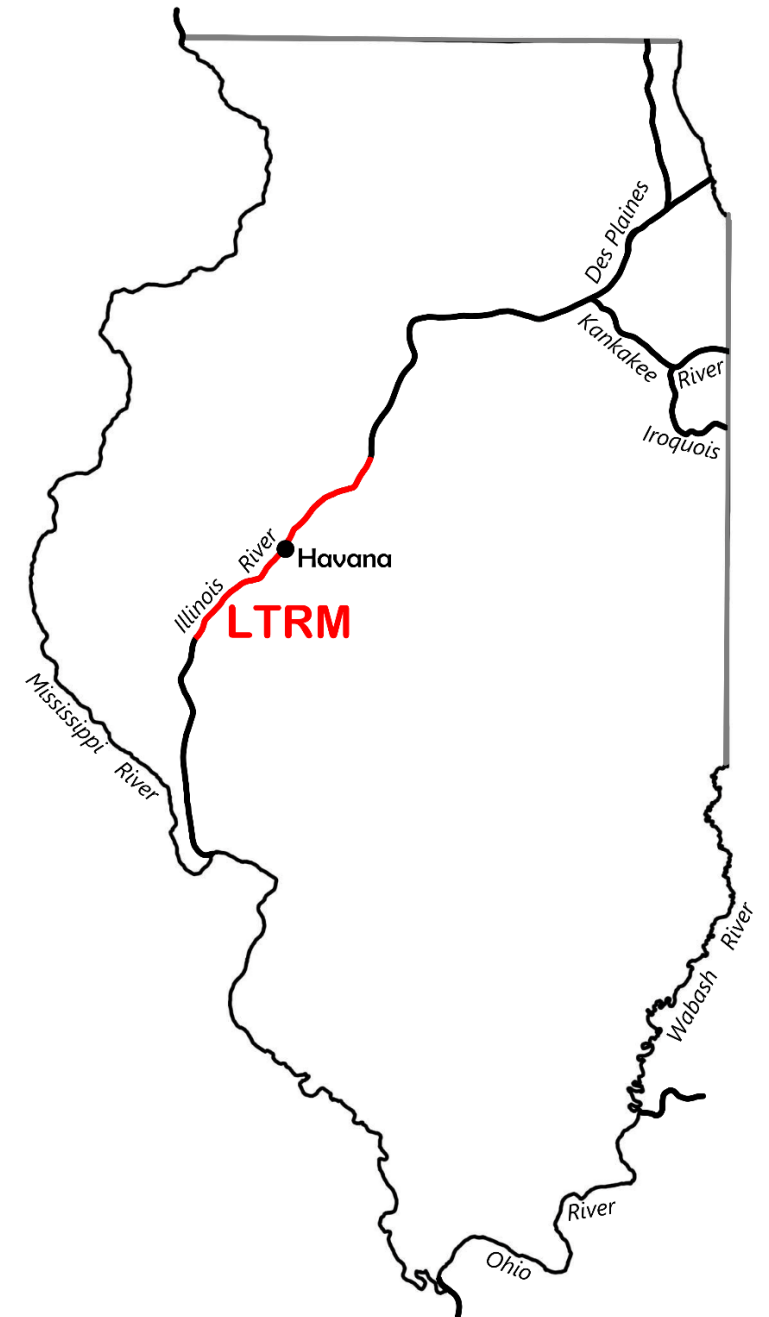
LTRM Fish

- Multi-gear, multi-strata
- Track trends in catch-per-unit-effort



LTRM Fish

- Water and environment



And more...

LTRM Macroinvertebrates

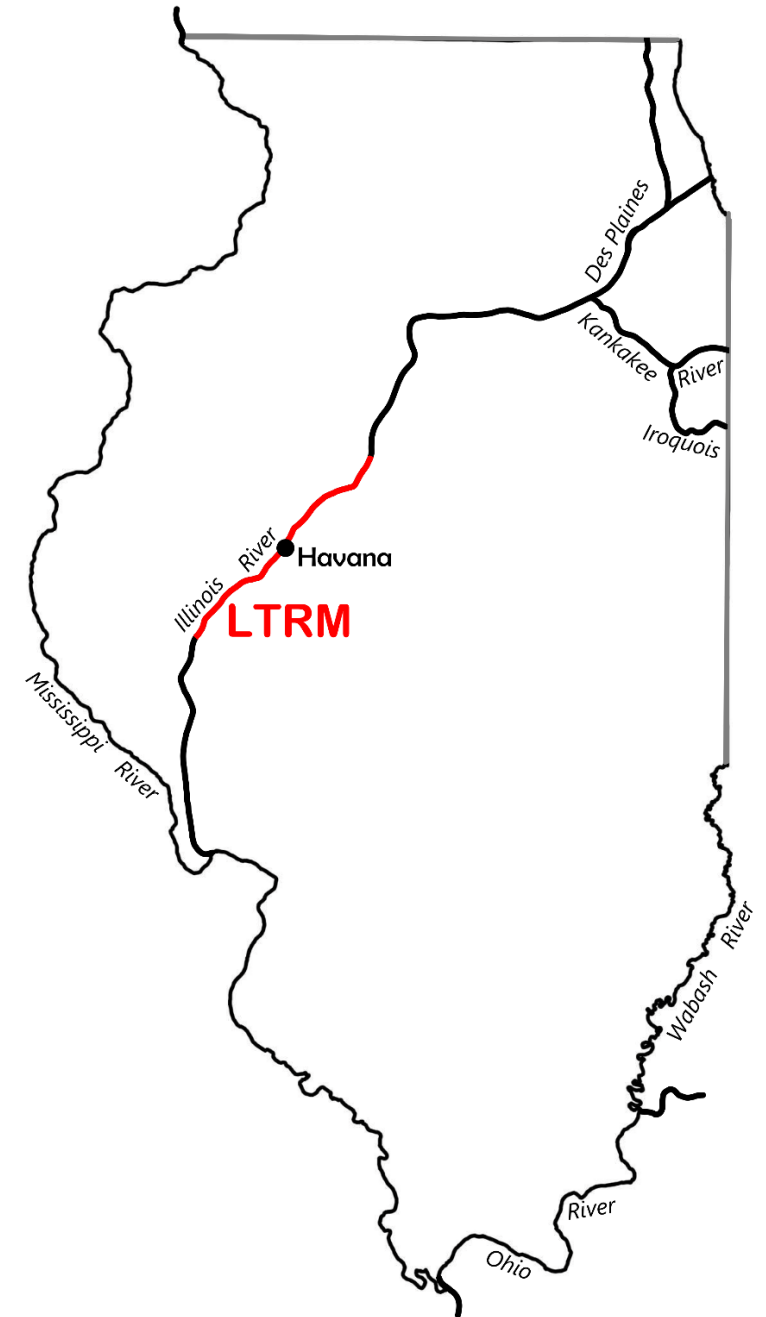
- Spring/summer only (May-June)
- Ponar and suction dredge sampling
- Mayflies and contaminants
- Started Spring 2023
- Comparison to historical data (ponar) 1991-2004



Manisha



Hester-Dendy/rock bag



LTRM Macroinvertebrates

- Manages/coordinates all six pools in LTRM



Long Term River Monitoring (LTRM)

<https://umesc.usgs.gov/ltrm-home.html>



Water Quality



Fish






Macroinvertebrates



Upper Mississippi River Restoration
Leading. Innovating. Partnering.

Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program

Long Term Resource Monitoring



Conducting Research and Monitoring on the Upper Mississippi River System since 1986

About LTRM

[Mission and Goals](#)

[Background](#)

[Fact Sheets](#)

[Program Documents](#)

Components

[Fish](#)

[Aquatic Vegetation](#)

[Water Quality](#)

[Macroinvertebrates](#)


[Land Cover](#)

[Bathymetry and Elevation](#)

[GIS Data](#)

[Other Research](#)

Search...




Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR)
Celebrates 35 Years of History and Partnership



Fish



Vegetation



Water Quality



Invertebrate



Land Cover



Bathymetry



GIS Data



Other Research



Ecological Status and Trends
of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers

UMRR LTRM Science Director, U.S. Geological Survey: [Jeff Houser](#)
UMRR Regional Program Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: [Marshall Plumley](#)
UMRR LTRM Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers: [Karen Hagerty](#)

Quick links

[USGS contacts](#)

[State Field Stations](#)

[Field Station contacts](#)

[ATeam Corner](#)

[Reports and Publications](#)

[Data Visualization](#)

[Sampling Design and Statistics](#)

[Strategic Plan 2010-2014](#)

[Status and Trends Report 2008](#)

[Status and Trends Report 2022](#)



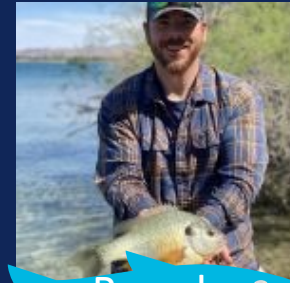
UMRR LTRM Story Map

The LTRM element is one of two components of the federally mandated Upper Mississippi River Restoration Program. A cooperative program between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Geological Survey-Upper Midwest Environmental Science Center, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service and the states of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin.

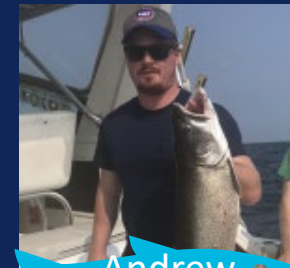
Multi-Agency Monitoring (MAM)



- Grew out of LTRM after Lock closures
- 2019-current
- Lockport to Alton; LGR uses LTRM data
- Silver and Bighead Carp focus
- Goal: invasive carp detection, fish response, impact of contracted commercial harvest
- ~1,880 sites each year
- Chlorophyll collected once a year



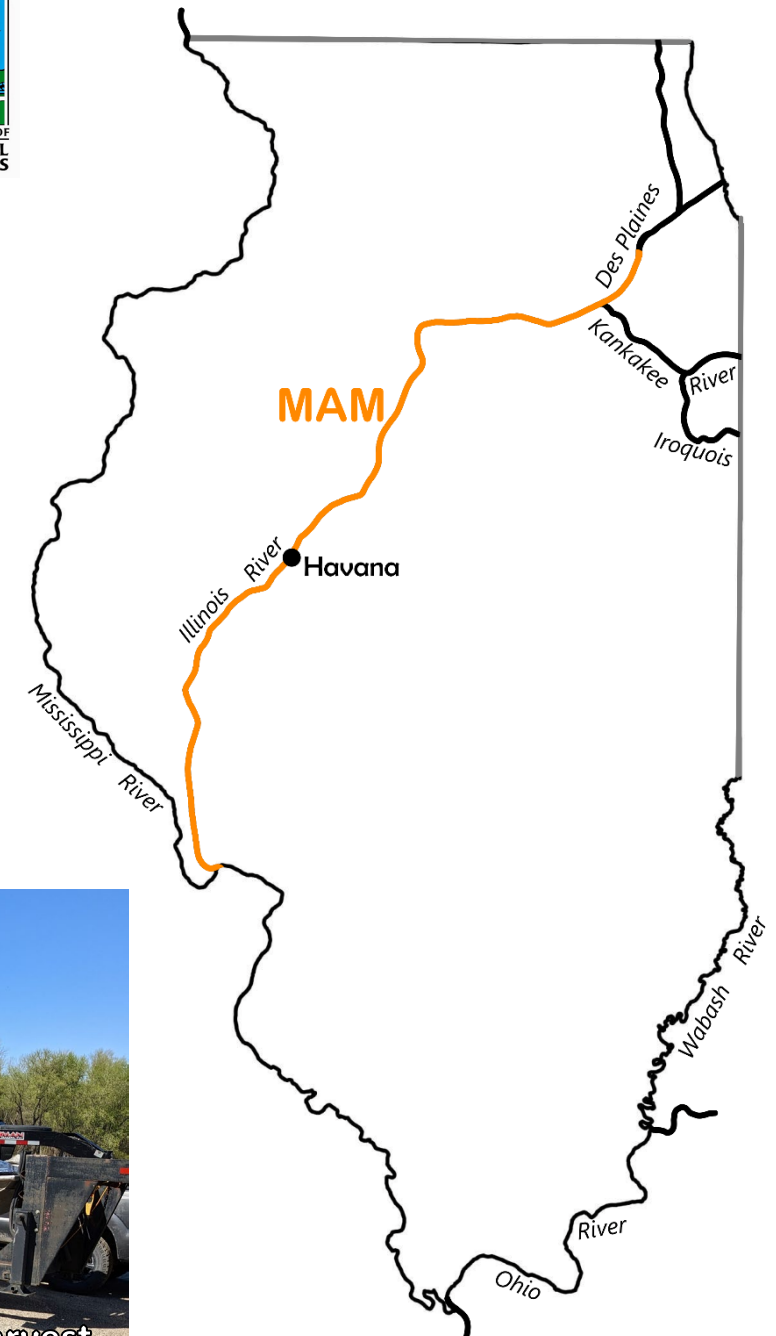
Brandon



Andrew



Commerical fisherman carp harvest



Multi-Agency Monitoring (MAM)



Hoop



Fyke



Mini-Fyke

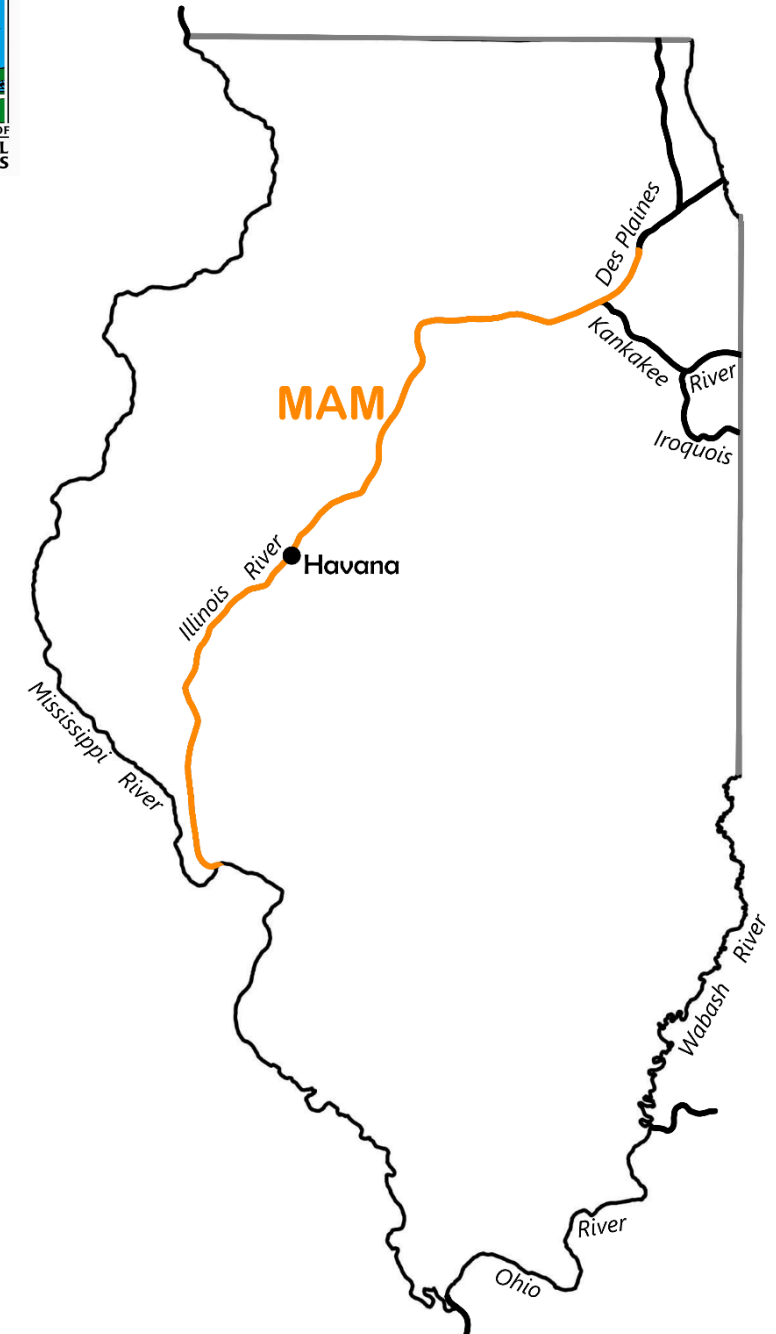


Electrofishing

Wave (pressure) sensors



2018, 2020, 2021



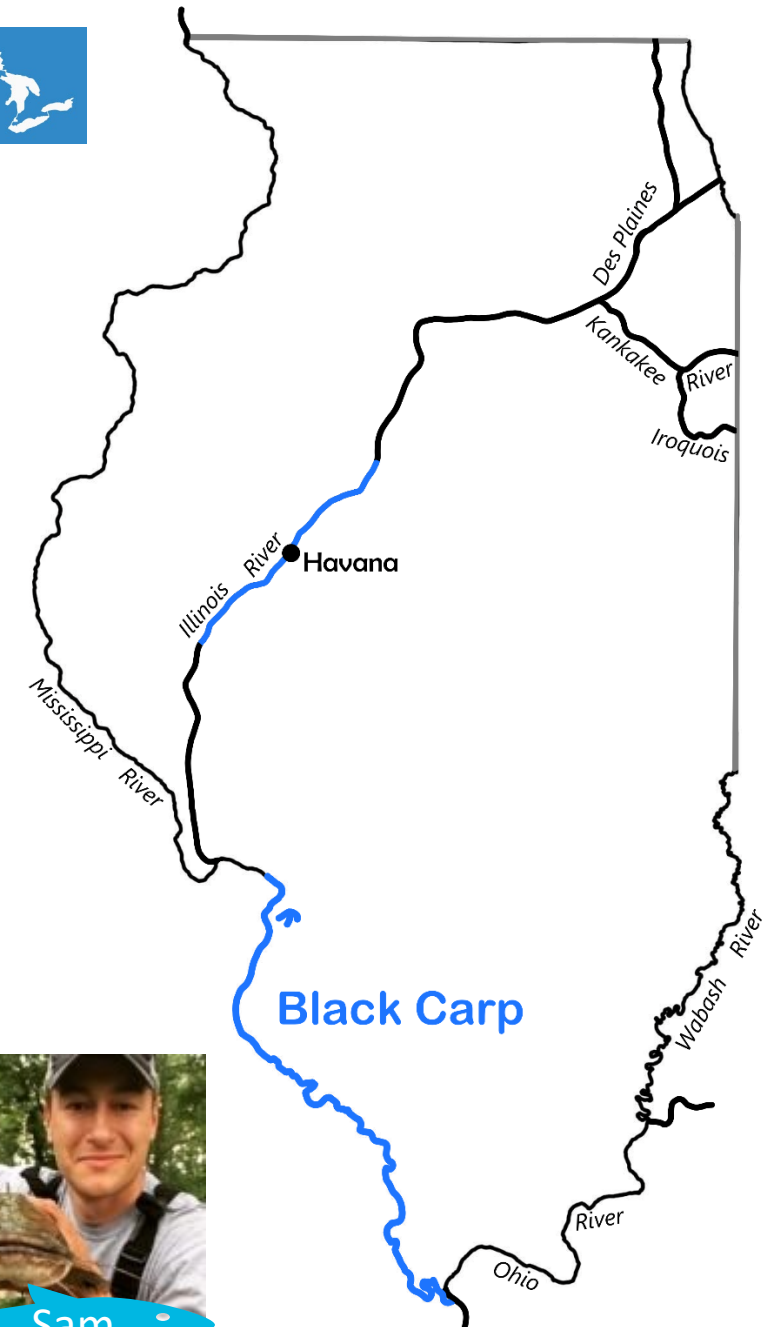
Black Carp Detection



Great Lakes
RESTORATION



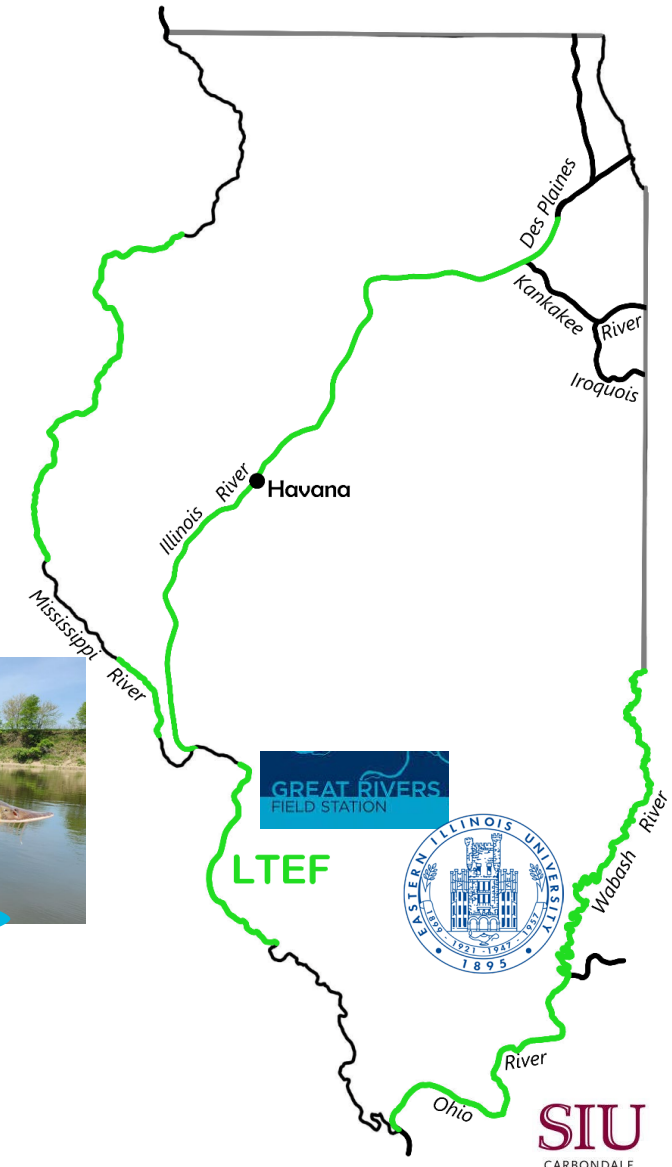
- From increased commercial fisherman black carp catches
- June 15-October 31 since 2019
- Focus predominantly on LGR and some work below Melvin Price Lock and Dam + Horseshoe Lake
- Experimental bait in hoop nets
- Same stratified design as LTRM in La Grange Reach



Long-Term Survey and Assessment of Large River Fishes (LTEF)



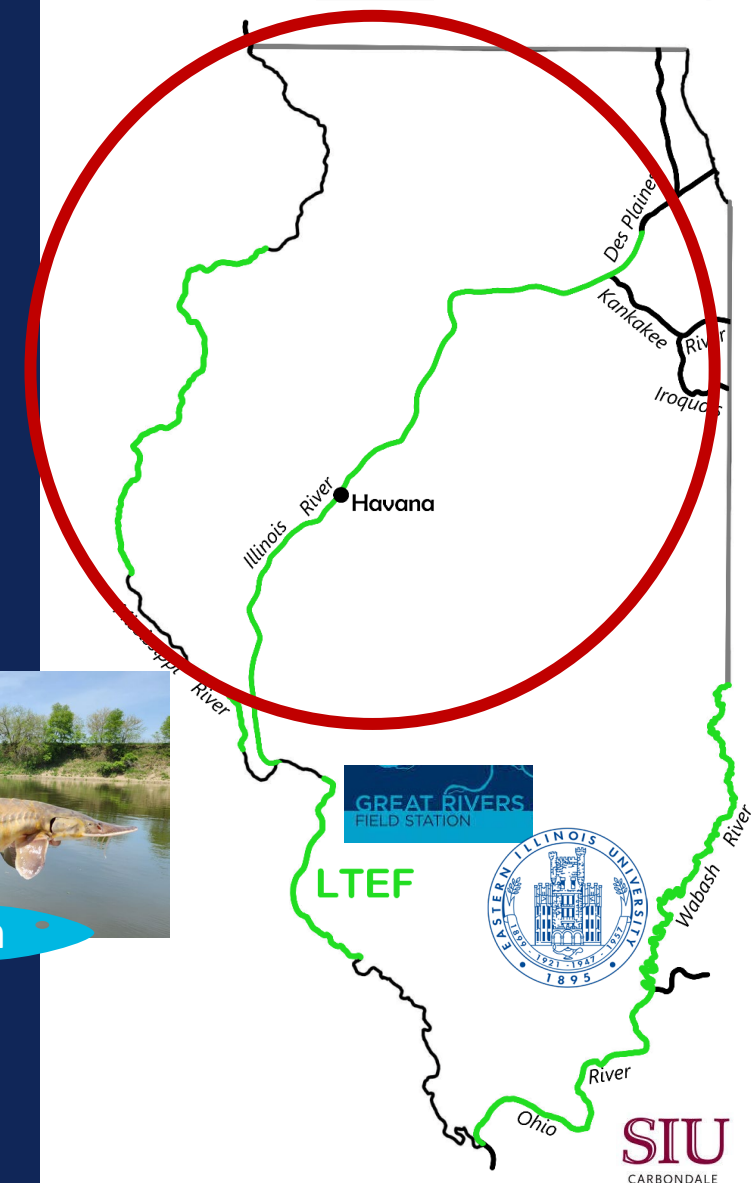
- Summer only, June 15-Oct 31
- Electrofishing with LTRM methods (since 2016)
- Fixed sites since 1959, random sites added in 2009
- Southwest Chicago to Alton, IL (Lockport-Alton Reaches), and pools 16-22, 25, 26 on the Mississippi River, Wabash and Ohio
- Species ID, weights, lengths, and the occurrences of external lesions, parasites, and deformities (standardized 2015)



Long-Term Survey and Assessment of Large River Fishes (LTEF)

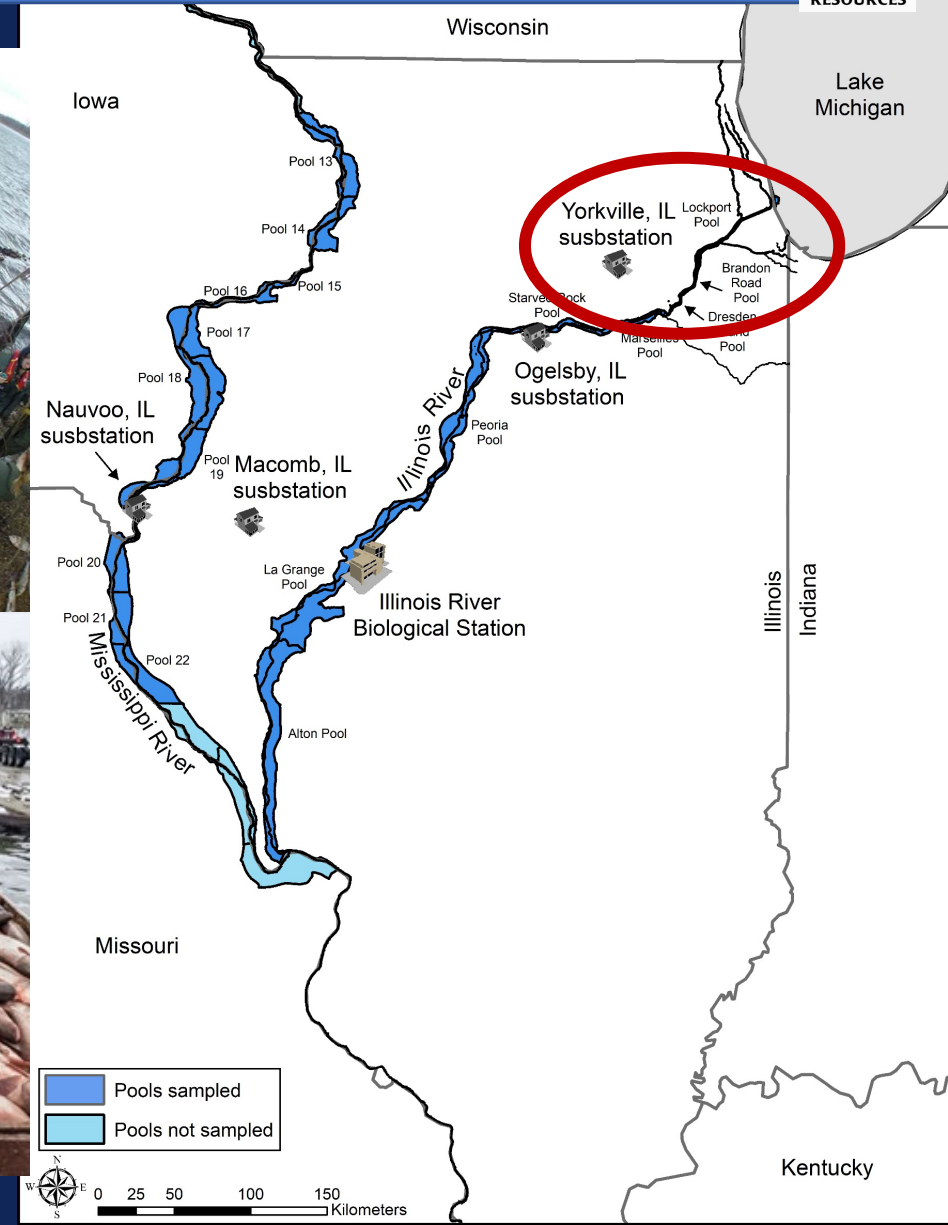


- Summer only, June 15-Oct 31
- Electrofishing with LTRM methods (since 2016)
- Fixed sites since 1959, random sites added in 2009
- Southwest Chicago to Alton, IL, and pools 16-22, 25, 26 on the Mississippi River, Wabash and Ohio
- Species ID, weights, lengths, and the occurrences of external lesions, parasites, and deformities (standardized 2015)
- Jason manages data from SIU, Eastern, and Great Rivers Station



Upper Illinois River Invasive Carp Harvest

- Yorkville, IL
- Uses contracted commercial fishermen to target invasive carp species to reduce invasion pressure at the electric barrier
- Monitor upstream of the electric barrier for invasive carp presence
- 12.7 million pounds of invasive carps harvested since 2010



Allie Lenaerts



Madison Myers



MJ Oubre



Andrew Wieland



Upper Mississippi River Invasive Carp Harvest

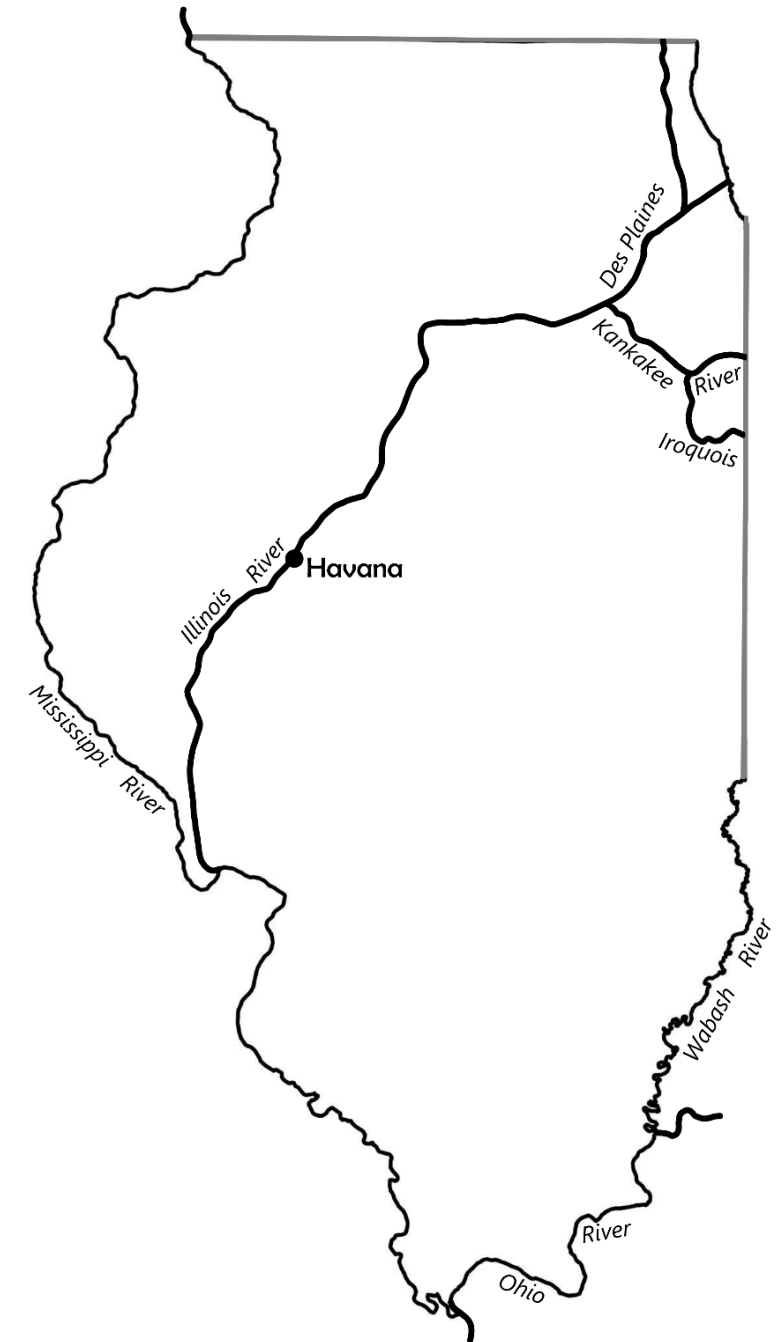
- Macomb/Nauvoo
- contracted commercial fishers intensively target invasive carp species for removal at the established front and invasion front (reaches above pool 16)
- determine population abundance to evaluate effectiveness of harvest
- survey for the presence of invasive carp reproduction using larval light traps (Pool 17, 18, and 19)
- determine the frequency and rate of fish passage at LD14 and LD15 using telemetered fish (Asian carp and native fishes: bigmouth buffalo and paddlefish)
- 1.06 million lbs of invasive carps removed since 2015



The Emiquon Preserve



The Nature
Conservancy



The Emiquon Preserve projects



The Nature Conservancy



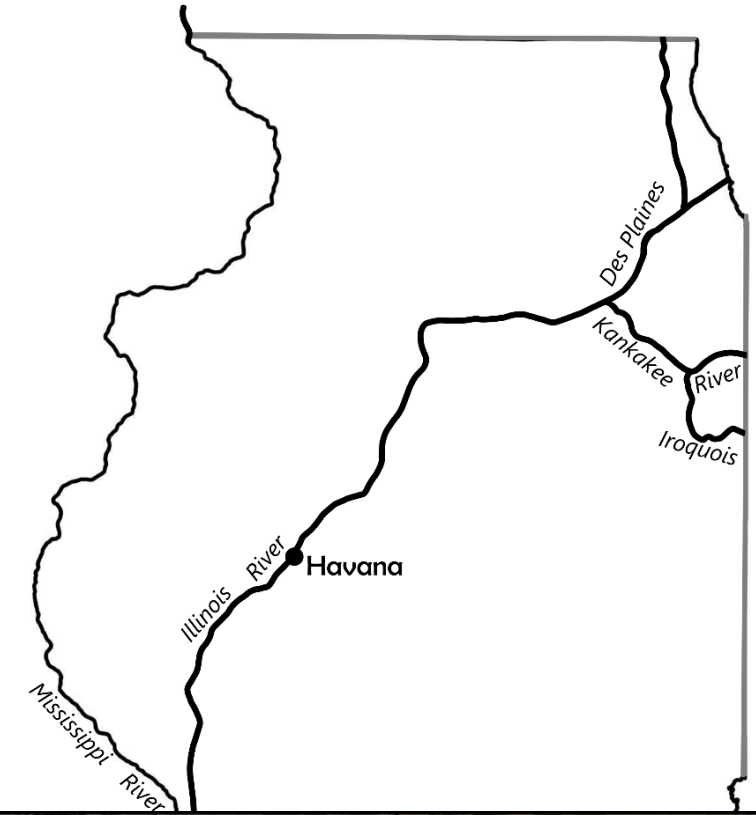
WHOOSH INNOVATIONS



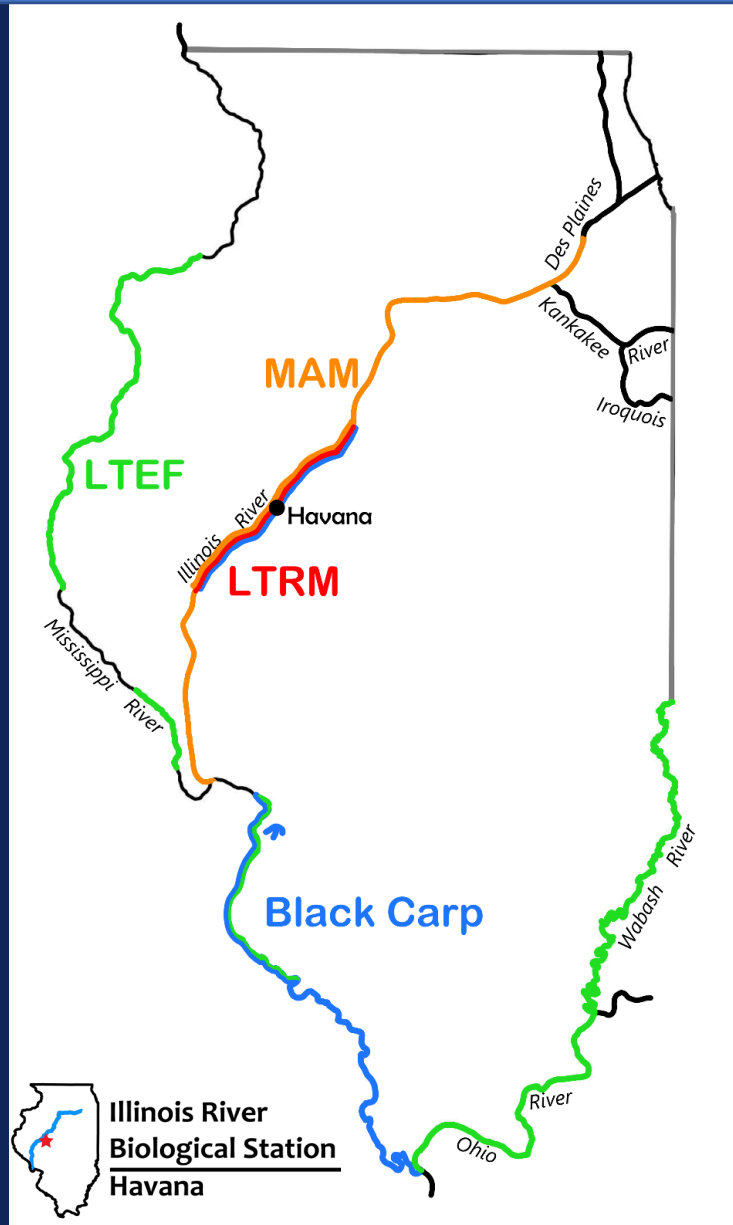
- Vegetation
- Electrofishing



WHOOSH fish cannon



IRBS presence on Illinois Waterways



IRBS presence on Illinois Waterways



Thank You

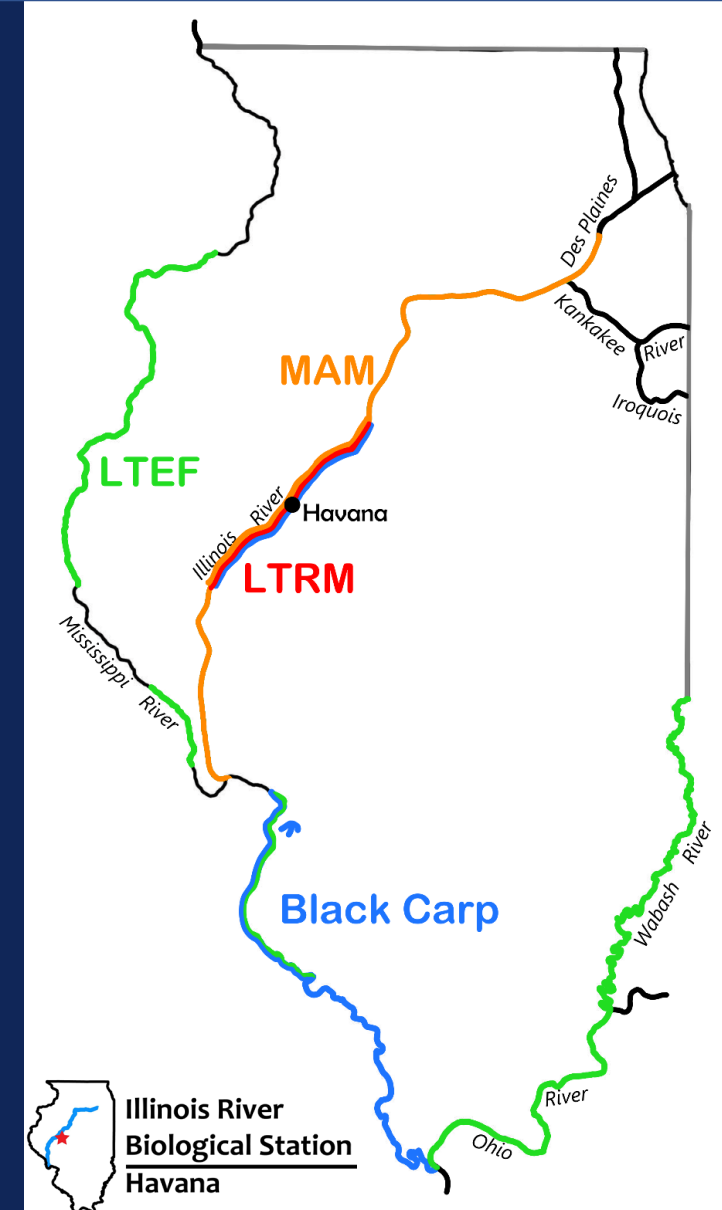
- University of IL UC
- IL Natural History Survey
- LTRM UMESC page
- Staff
- IRBS website and FB page
- Captains of the IRBS Ship



April

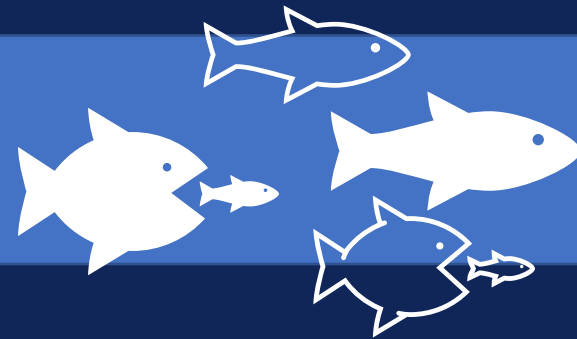


Jim





Questions?



Nutrient Monitoring Council Member Updates

*If you have a member update,
please type “update” in the chat box.*



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Announcement: NLRs Conference

Thursday, January 25, 2024

Hybrid Format

Virtual on WebEx and In-person

Illinois Department of Agriculture

John Block Auditorium, Springfield, IL



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY

Thank you

Contact IllinoisNLRs@gmail.com if you have any questions.



ILLINOIS
NUTRIENT LOSS
REDUCTION STRATEGY