

NOTICE OF MEETING

LAS VEGAS WASH COORDINATION COMMITTEE Tuesday, October 22, 2024 8:30 a.m.

MEETING TO BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS Call-in Information: 1-702-602-7697 ID: 650 638 323#

The Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee makes reasonable efforts to assist and accommodate persons with physical disabilities who desire to attend the meeting. For assistance, please contact the Agenda Coordinator at (702) 258-3185 or agendas@snwa.com at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting.

Visit our website at https://www.lvwash.org/about-the-wash/who-we-are/index.html for Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee agenda postings, copies of supporting material and approved minutes. To receive meeting information, including supporting material, contact the Agenda Coordinator at (702) 258-3185 or agendas@snwa.com.

Any Committee member may combine two or more agenda items for consideration, consider an item out of order, remove an item from the agenda or delay discussions relating to an item on the agenda at any time.

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

No Action May Be Taken: This is a period devoted to comments by the general public pertaining to items on this agenda. If you wish to speak to the Committee about items within its jurisdiction, but not appearing on this agenda, you must wait until the "Comments by the General Public" period listed at the end of this agenda. Please limit your comments to three minutes or less. No action may be taken upon a matter not listed on the posted agenda.

ITEM NO.

I. For Information Only: Welcome/Call to Order

II. For Possible Action: Approve April 23, 2024 Meeting Summary

III. For Information Only: Receive Presentation on Phytoplankton Community Compositions in Lake Mead

during Two Decades of Severe Drought

IV. For Information Only: Receive Update on Recent Activities

a. Las Vegas Wash Project Coordination Team

b. Clark County Wetlands Park

c. Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee

d. Lake Mead Water Quality Forum

e. Emerging Issues

V. For Possible Action: Set Next Meeting Date/Time and Propose Items for the Next Meeting's Agenda

COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC

No Action May Be Taken: At this time, the Committee will hear general comments from the public on matters under the jurisdiction of the Las Vegas Wash Coordination Committee. Please limit your comments to three minutes or less.

LAS VEGAS WASH COORDINATION COMMITTEE - OCTOBER 22, 2024 - PAGE TWO

THIS MEETING HAS BEEN PROPERLY NOTICED AND POSTED IN THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

City of Boulder City, City Hall 401 California Avenue Boulder City, NV 89005

City of Henderson, City Hall 240 Water Street Henderson, NV 89015

Las Vegas Valley Water District 1001 S. Valley View Boulevard Las Vegas, NV 89153

Clark County Water Reclamation District 5857 E. Flamingo Road Las Vegas, NV 89122 City of North Las Vegas, City Hall 2250 Las Vegas Boulevard North North Las Vegas, NV 89030

Clark County Government Center 500 S. Grand Central Parkway Las Vegas, NV 89106

Southern Nevada Water Authority 100 City Parkway, Ste. 700 Las Vegas, NV 89106

City of Las Vegas, City Hall 495 S. Main Street Las Vegas, NV 89106

Phytoplankton and water quality Lake Mead

Charlotte van der Nagel, PhD, Deena Hannoun, PhD, Todd Tietjen, PhD





Environmental Science and Ecotechnology

Volume 23, January 2025, 100491



Phytoplankton quality Lake drought Charlotte van der I

Original Research

Stable phytoplankton community compositions in Lake Mead (Nevada-Arizona, USA) during two decades of severe

Charlotte van der Nagel ^{a b c} ♣ 🖾 , Deena Hannoun ^b, Todd Tietjen ^b

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https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ese.2024.100491 7

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Charlotte van der Nagel, PhD, Deena Hann

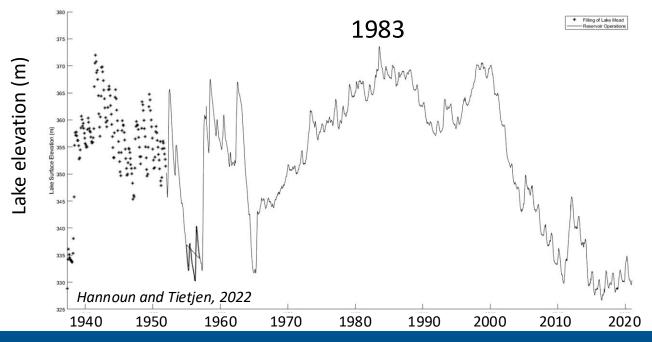
Highlights

- 17 years of phytoplankton data shows stable assemblages in most of Lake Mead.
- · Large, oligotrophic reservoirs are resilient to environmental change.
- Temperature and nutrient increases elevated phytoplankton biovolume locally.
- Machine learning can predict large-scale phytoplankton structures.



Drought has declined Lake Mead elevation rapidly since 2000

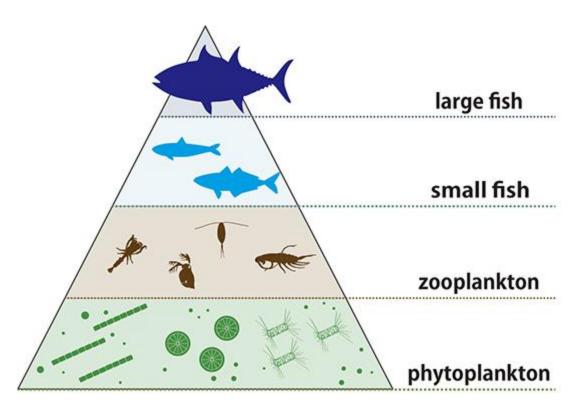
160ft / 50m elevation loss between 1983-2021







Drought can change phytoplankton community structures



Smith, 2016



https://www.riverkeeper.org/blogs/boat-blog/using-community-science-document-wallkill-rivers-harmful-algal-bloom/



Research

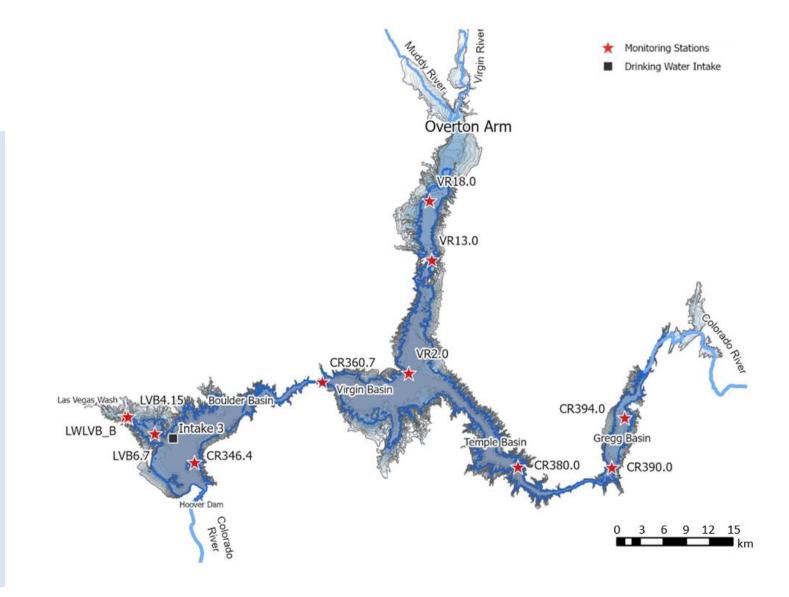
- Spatial variability of phytoplankton in Lake Mead
- Water quality and phytoplankton trends
- Machine learning to predict phytoplankton



Methods

DATA

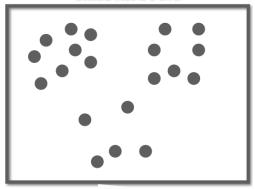
- 9 monitoring stations
 - 2002-2018
- Water quality data
 - Water temperature
 - Secchi depth
 - Nutrients
- Phytoplankton data
 - Chlorophyll-a
 - Total and group specific phytoplankton biovolume

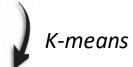




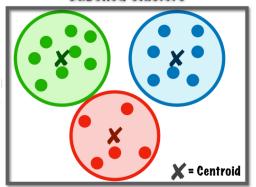
Spatial variability in phytoplankton

Unlabelled Data





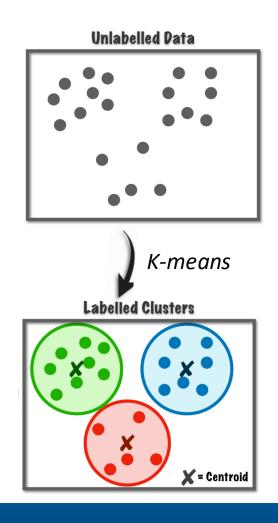
Labelled Clusters

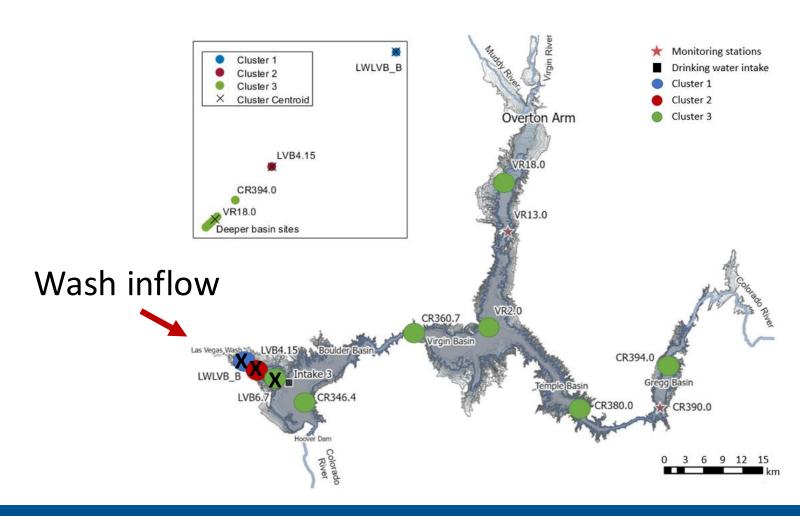


- K-means clustering
- Chlorophyll a
- 9 monitoring stations
- Optimal number of clusters based on AIC



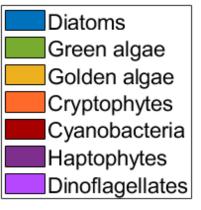
Spatial variability mainly affected by the Wash inflow



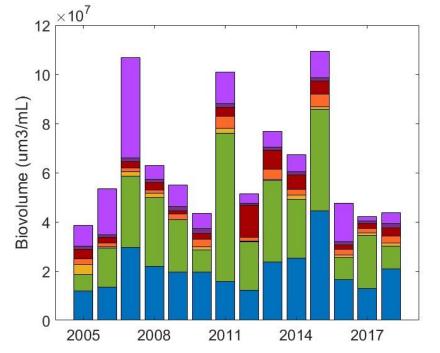




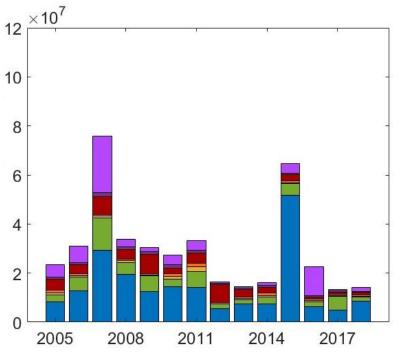
Total biovolume significantly decreases moving away from the Wash inflow



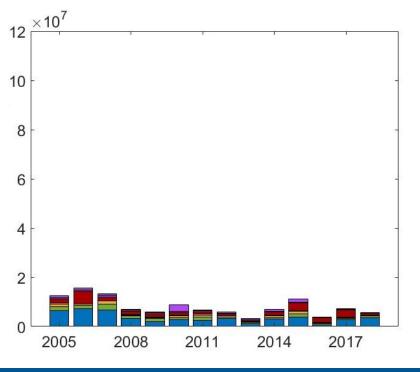
Cluster 1 Las Vegas Wash inflow



Cluster 2 4.15 miles from LVW

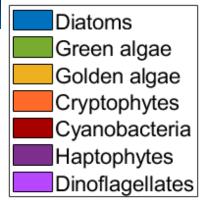


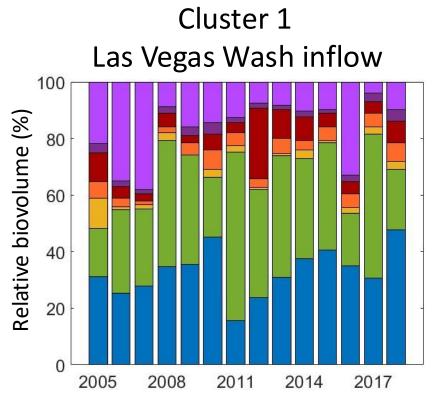
Cluster 3
6.7 miles from LVW

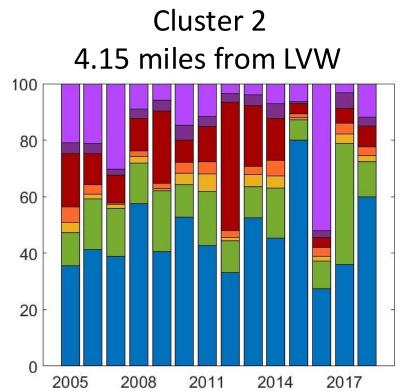


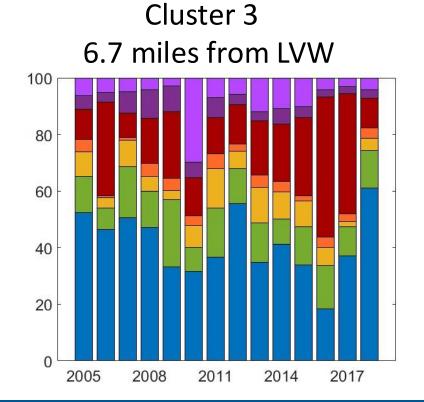


Phytoplankton structure differs throughout clusters



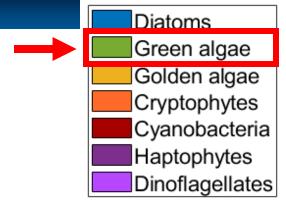


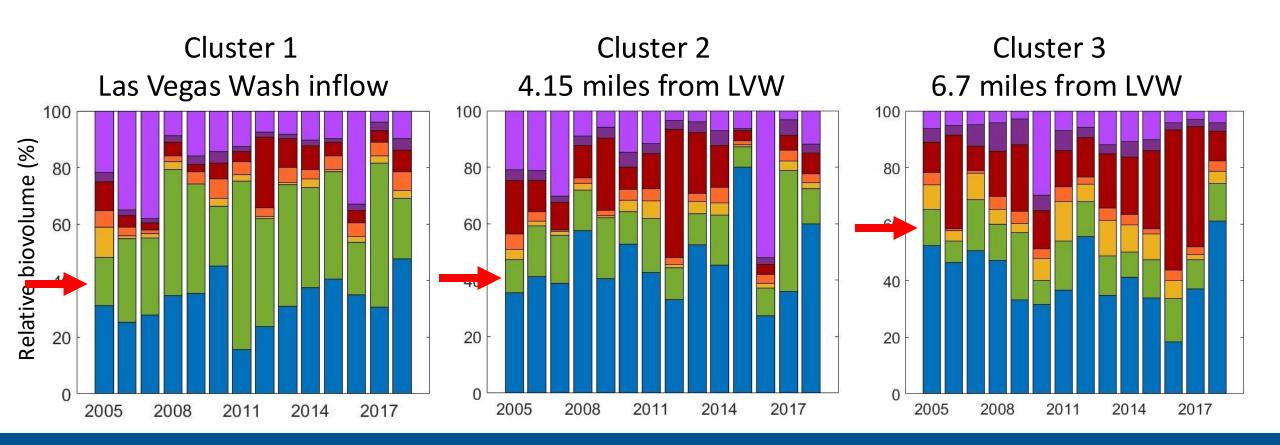






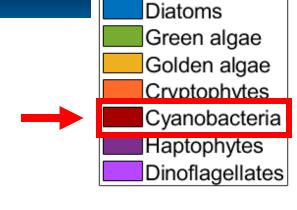
Phytoplankton structure differs throughout clusters

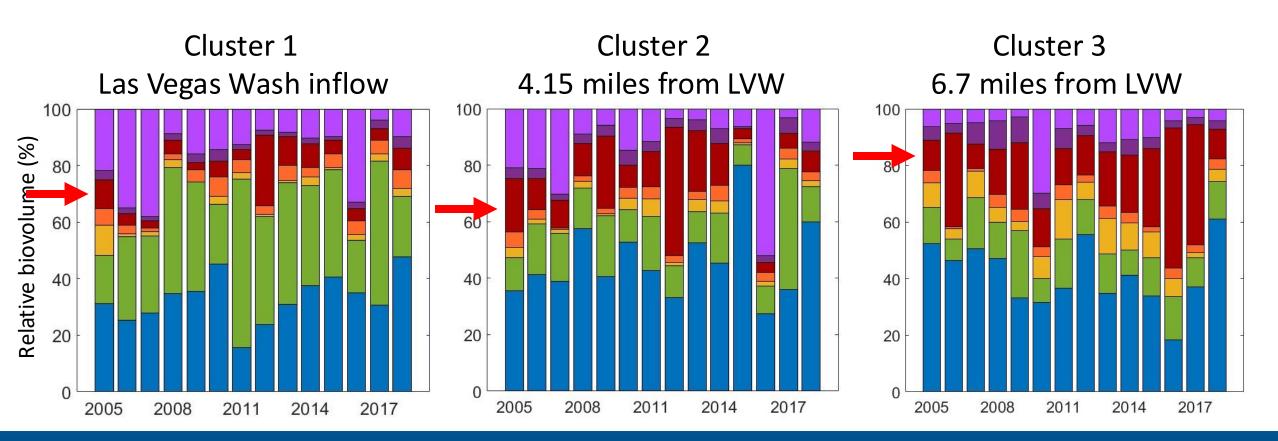






Phytoplankton structure differs throughout clusters

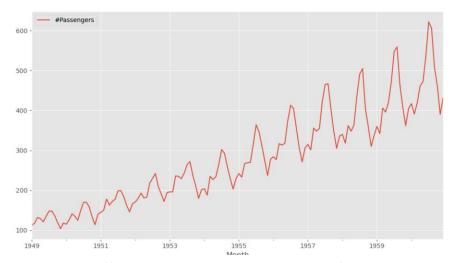






Stability in major phytoplankton groups in most of Lake Mead

Seasonal Mann-Kendall test for trend analysis



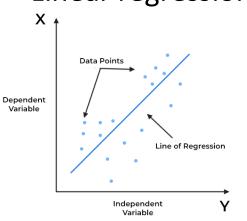
https://abhinaya-sridhar-rajaram.medium.com/mann-kendall-test-in-python-for-trend-detection-in-time-series-bfca5b55b

Cluster	Station	Diatoms	Green Algae	Cyanobacteria	Dinoflagellates
1	LWLVB_B	+	+	+	
2	LVB4.15	+			_
3	LVB6.7				

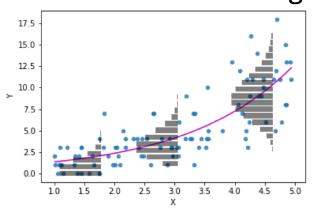


Machine learning can be used to predict phytoplankton communities

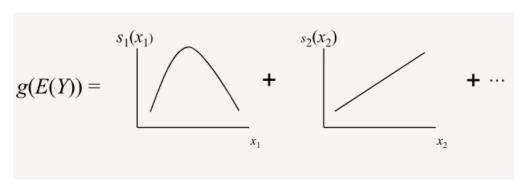
Linear regression



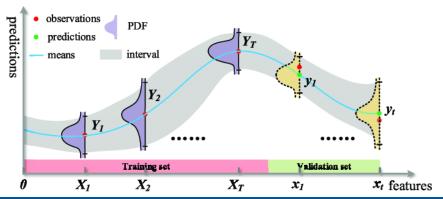
Generalized Linear regr.



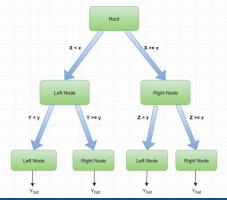
Generative Additive model



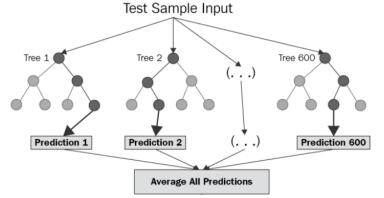
Gaussian Process Regression Model



Regression tree



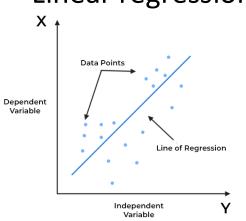
Regr. tree ensemble & random forest



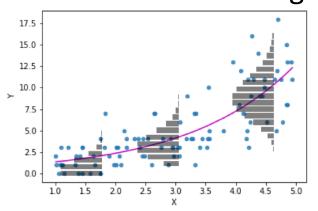


Machine learning can be used to predict phytoplankton communities

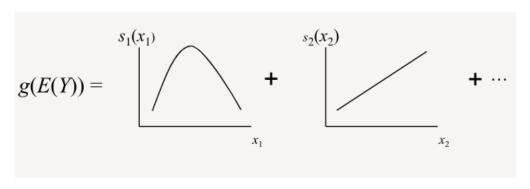
Linear regression



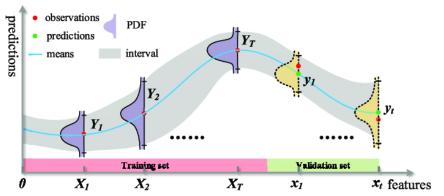
Generalized Linear regr.



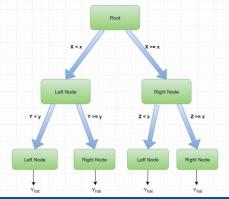
Generative Additive model



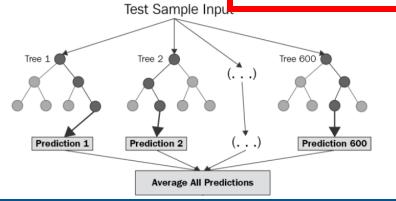
Gaussian Process Regression Model



Regression tree



Regr. tree ensemble & random forest

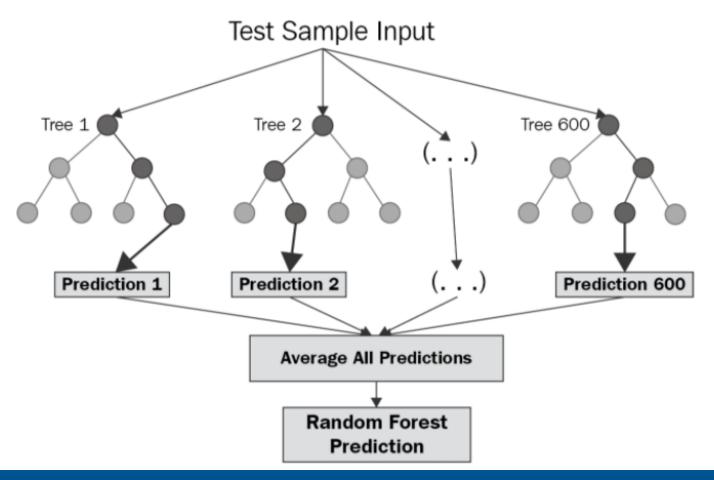




Machine learning can aid in further understanding and predicting phytoplankton community dynamics

Input

- Water Temperature
- Water clarity
- Total Phosphorus
- Salinity
- Lake elevation





MODELS CREATED FOR:

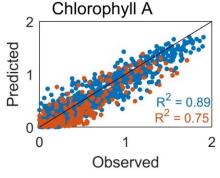
- Chlorophyll-a
- Total biovolume
- Diatoms
- Green Algae
- Cyanobacteria



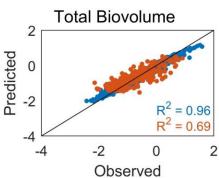
MODELS CREATED FOR:

- Chlorophyll-a
- Total biovolume
- Diatoms
- Green Algae
- Cyanobacteria





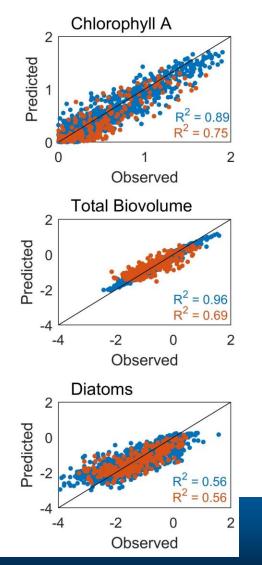
Testing R-Squared = 0.75



Testing R-Squared = 0.69

Testing R-Squared = 0.56



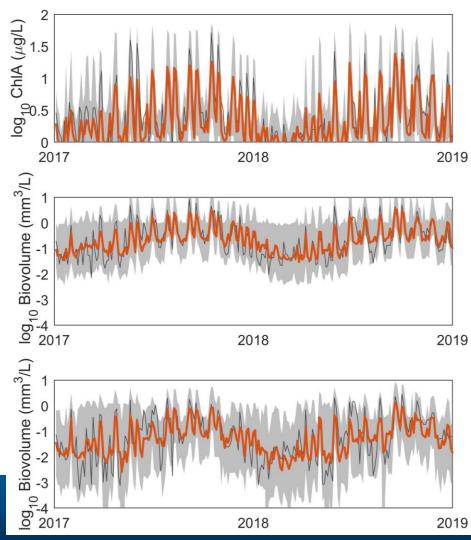


Testing R-Squared = 0.75

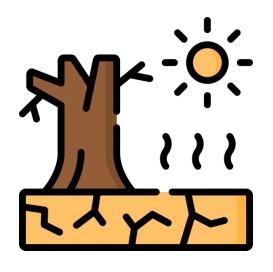
Testing R-Squared = 0.69

Testing R-Squared = 0.56





Conclusions



Stability besides prolonged drought



Significant changes in phytoplankton structure near the Wash inflow

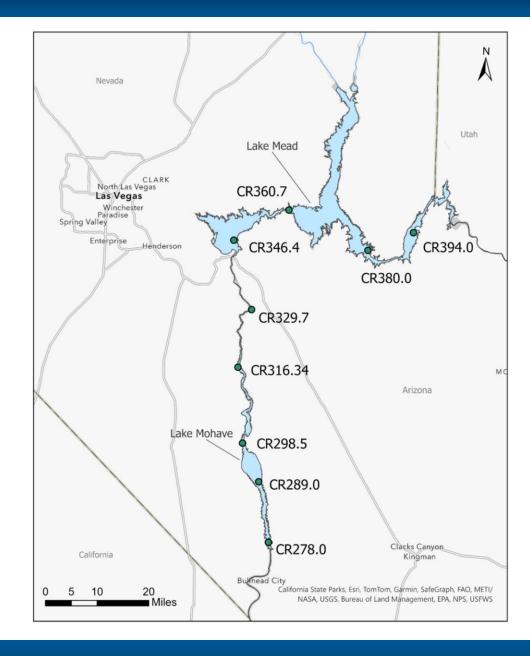


Machine learning is best for predicting peaks in Chlorophyll-a



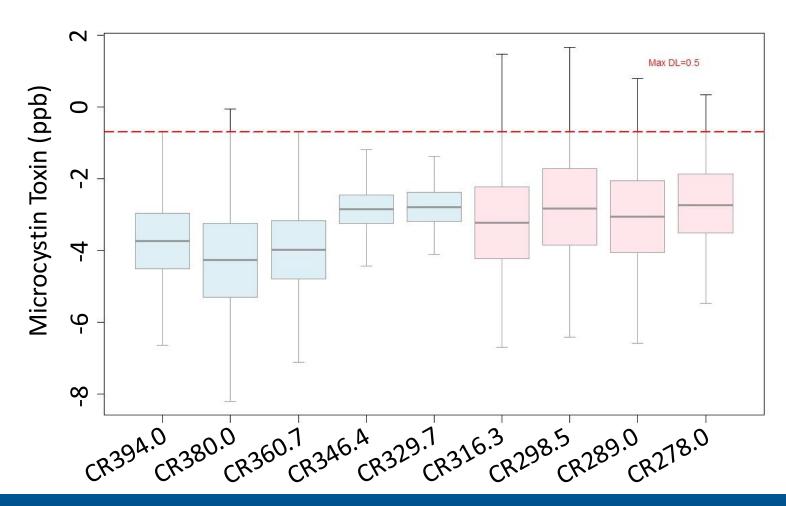
Mead vs. Mohave

- 9 study locations
 - 4 Lake Mead
 - 5 Lake Mohave
- 2013 2018



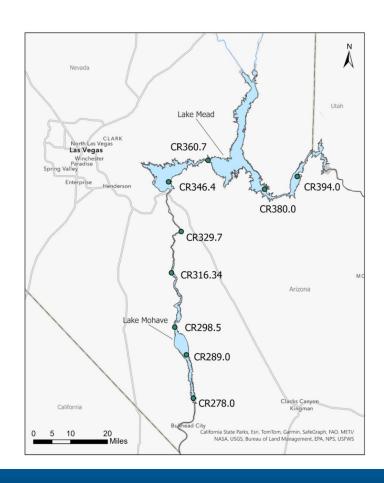


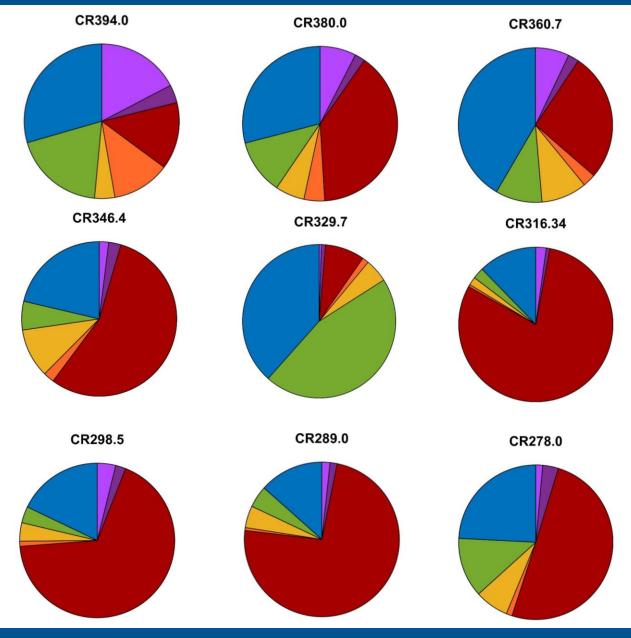
Microcystin levels





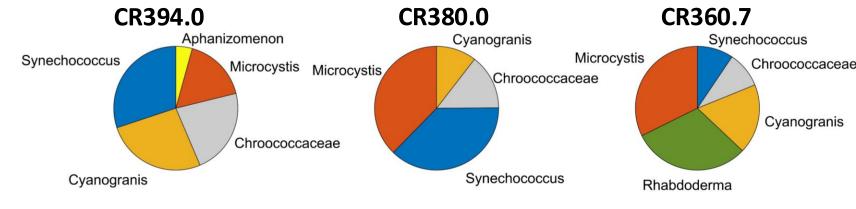
Biovolume

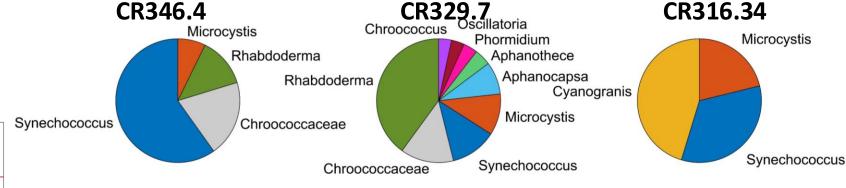


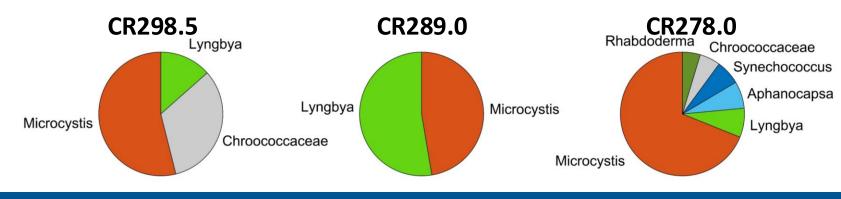


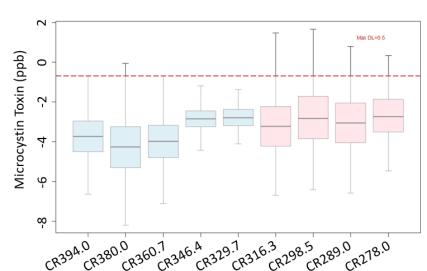


Cyanobacteria













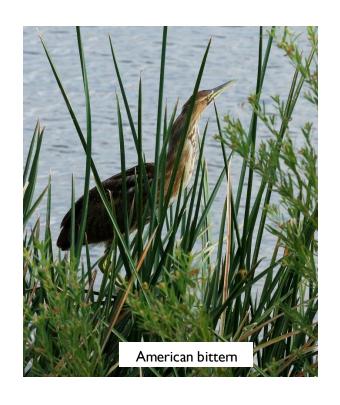
Wildlife Management Plan Bird Surveys

Annual T&E surveys

- Yuma Ridgway's rail (E) Since 2000
- Southwestern willow flycatcher (E) -Since 1998
- Yellow-billed cuckoo (T) 2002–2004;2013–present

Biweekly point counts year-round at >30 points

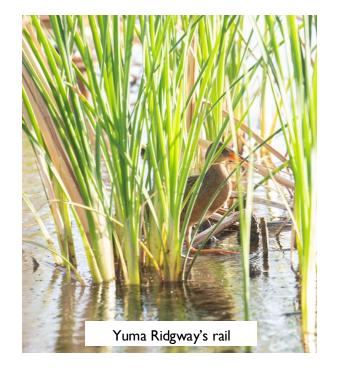
- o 2005–09 SBCM
- 2009–11; 2014–present GBBO





Marsh birds/Yuma Ridgway's rail (YRRA)

- Surveys take place in April–May
- 5 individuals counted in 2024
 - 5–7 annually since 2021
 - All other years 0 or 1





Southwestern willow flycatcher (SWFL)

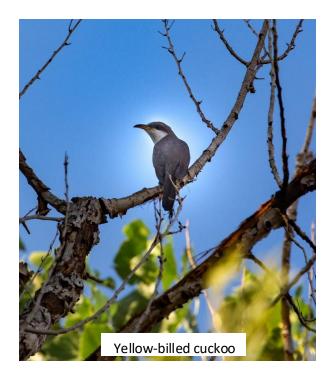
- Surveys conducted May–June, territory monitoring continued into August
- 2 territories in 2024, including 1 pair that fledged 1 young, 2nd ever!
 - 2023 was first year with a confirmed successful nest, also with 1 fledge





Yellow-billed cuckoo (YBCU)

- Surveys conducted June–August
- 1 detection, in August
 - Only 2 years without detections since annual surveys began in 2013

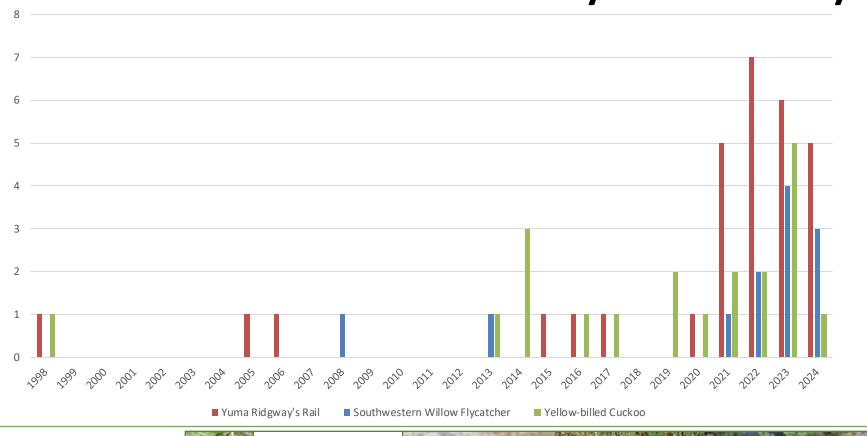




Wildlife Management Plan

Threatened and Endangered Bird Surveys

Estimated # Individuals 27 years of surveys











- The increase in detections/breeding records requires new ESA compliance coverage for LTOP activities
 - Section 7 consultation for Reclamation lands/funding for the three listed birds and monarch (candidate) - BO with incidental take statement received in January
 - SNWA is working with Clark County and partners on measures for YRRA, which is not covered by the MSHCP (SWFL & YBCU are). No incidental take is expected, so coverage is not needed.

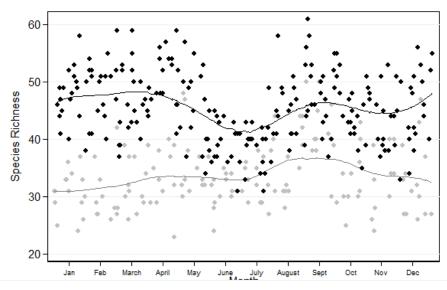


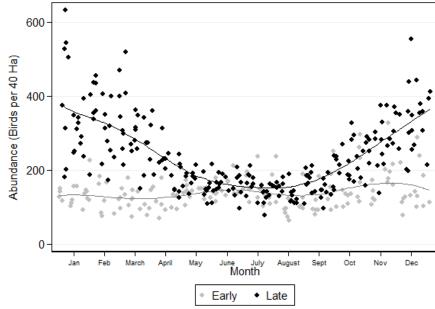


WMP Avian Point Count Study

- Biweekly counts by GBBO, began alternating years 9/2023; off until spring 2025
 - Large dataset and less change with move to LTOP; no longer need to collect data annually
- o 2005–2023
 - Report posted to Ivwash.org
 - o 252 species
 - Significant increases in richness and abundance (see figures)

Figures show seasonal changes in number of species and individuals detected in the early (Years 1–6) versus late (Years 10–18) period



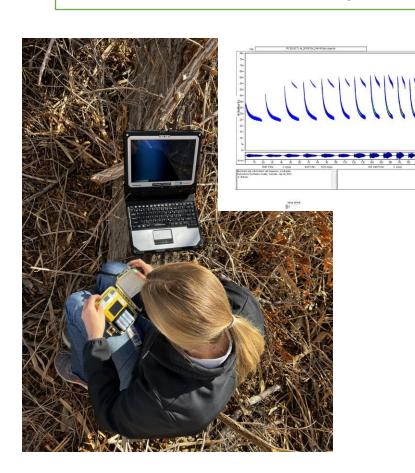






Wildlife Management Plan

Bat Surveys – Acoustic Monitoring



Acoustic Monitoring

- Three acoustic stations added in January 2023
 - Two stations for a period
- Collect echolocation calls every night
- Data downloaded monthly
- Ongoing through December 2024
- Finalized contract with Vesper Bat Detection
 Services to analyze acoustic data







Wildlife Management Plan

Bat Surveys – Mist Netting

Captured 171 individuals (Preliminary results)
2023 - 23 bats

April – June over 10 nights (paused)

- 9 Pallid bats
- 1 California myotis
- 1 Yuma myotis
- 9 Mexican free-tailed bats
- 3 Hoary bats

2024 - 148 captured

March – September over 26 nights

- 86 Pallid bats
- 1 California myotis
- 36 Yuma myotis
- 20 Mexican free-tailed bats
- 4 Hoary bats
- 1 Canyon bat

All swab samples collected during 2024 came back negative for the fungus that causes White-nose Syndrome.

















Wildlife Management Plan

2024 Surveys



Benthic Macroinvertebrates

- First samples collected in September
- Quarterly sampling
- 11 sampling sites









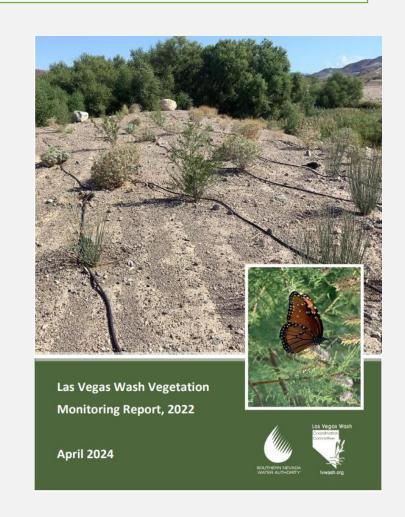
Revegetation

2022 vegetation monitoring report complete and available on Ivwash.org

- Of 69 sites monitored in the field
 - 36 had cover that stayed the same
 - 23 increased in cover
 - 9 decreased in cover
 - 1 first year sampled

2023 report under internal review

- This report includes modifications to survey protocols
- Transitioning into long-term monitoring:
 - Combined sites of similar habitats to reduce total site numbers
 - Will conduct timed-meander surveys
- 2024 surveys started September 17th and completed October 1.









Grant FundingBureau of Reclamation



- \$350,000 in funding added for FY24
 - Revegetation, water quality monitoring, wildlife management plan implementation and LVWCC program management
- \$900,500 restoration grant
 - Downstream Pabco area
 - Staff is working with a design firm and engineering
 - Remove gravel sediment and restore riparian trees
 - Plan for construction to begin this winter





Grant Funding

Nevada Division of Environmental Protection



- \$34,750 that covered
 FY2023/24 Mabel Hoggard and
 Wash Green-Up programs
- Awarded \$28,000 for FY24/25 that will cover Wash Green-Up





Grant Funding Potential



- SNPLMA RD 20 \$1,048,553 recommended
 - Historic Lateral North area
 - Riparian and wetland restoration
- BOR EWRP FY 2024 \$663,875 submitted
 - Pabco South, Three Kids North and Powerline on both sides
 - Riparian and wetland restoration
 - Invasive weed removal





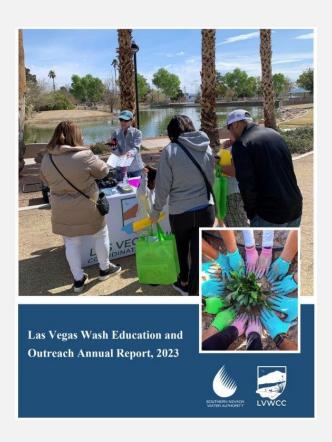
Outreach Green-Up



- Spring 2024 40th event
 - April 6, 2024
 - Lower Narrows/Homestead South
 - Previously revegetated in 2011
 - 4 acres
 - 3,500 plants
- Spring 2025 41st event
 - March 29, 2025
 - Lower Narrows/Homestead South
 - Beside 2024 GU site
 - ~5 acres
 - ~4,000 plants
 - Registration will open in January



Outreach Events



- Annual reports began in 2023
- Summarizes all events and outreach conducted within the year
- Available on Ivwash.org

Upcoming events:

- Mabel Hoggard Fieldtrips
 - March 2025
- World Wetlands Day
 - February 2025

Fieldtrips, presentations and events will be added as requests are received





QUESTIONS?











Water Quality Monitoring Update

October 22, 2024

2024 Water Quality Sampling Schedule

Project	Frequency	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24
Mainstream Wash Water Quality Sampling	quarterly		x			x			x			x	
Tributary Water Quality Sampling	quarterly	x			x			x			x		
Tributary Flow Measurements and Se sampling	monthly	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
Real Time Water Quality Monitoring (3 stations)	bi-weekly	2x											
TSS and Perchlorate Study in the Wash	monthly	x		x	x		x	x		x	x		x
Shallow Groundwater Quality Sampling along the Wash	quarterly		x			x			x			x	
Water Quality Sampling at Nature Preserve	monthly	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x

Water Quality Data from the Mainstream Las Vegas Wash

(2024 vs. previous years)

LW11.5 LW9.3 LW8.85 LW6.85 LW6.85 LW5.5 Whitney LW7.2 LW6.05 LW6.05 CALICO RIDGE LW6.05 © 2024 TomTom, © 2024 Microsoft Corporation, © OpenStreetMap Terms

Water Quality in the Las Vegas Wash

Year

Select all

2000

2001

2002

□ 2003□ 2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

20092010

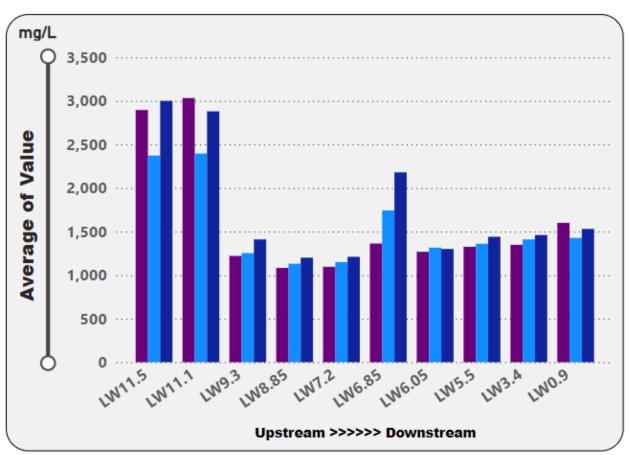
2011

2012

20132014

20152016

□ 2017
□ 2018
□ 2019
□ 2020
□ 2021
☑ 2022
☑ 2023
☑ 2024





LW8.85

LW7.2

LW6.85

LW6.05

LW5.5

LW3.4

LW0.9

Site Name

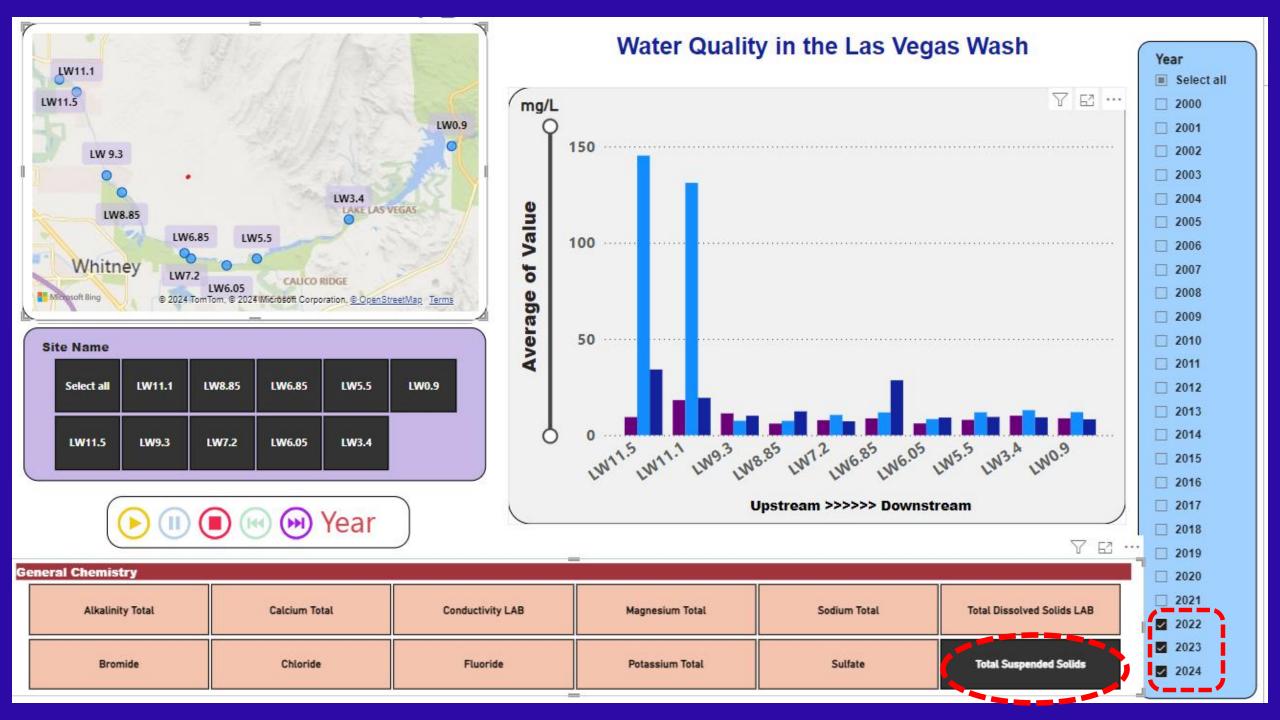
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LW11.5

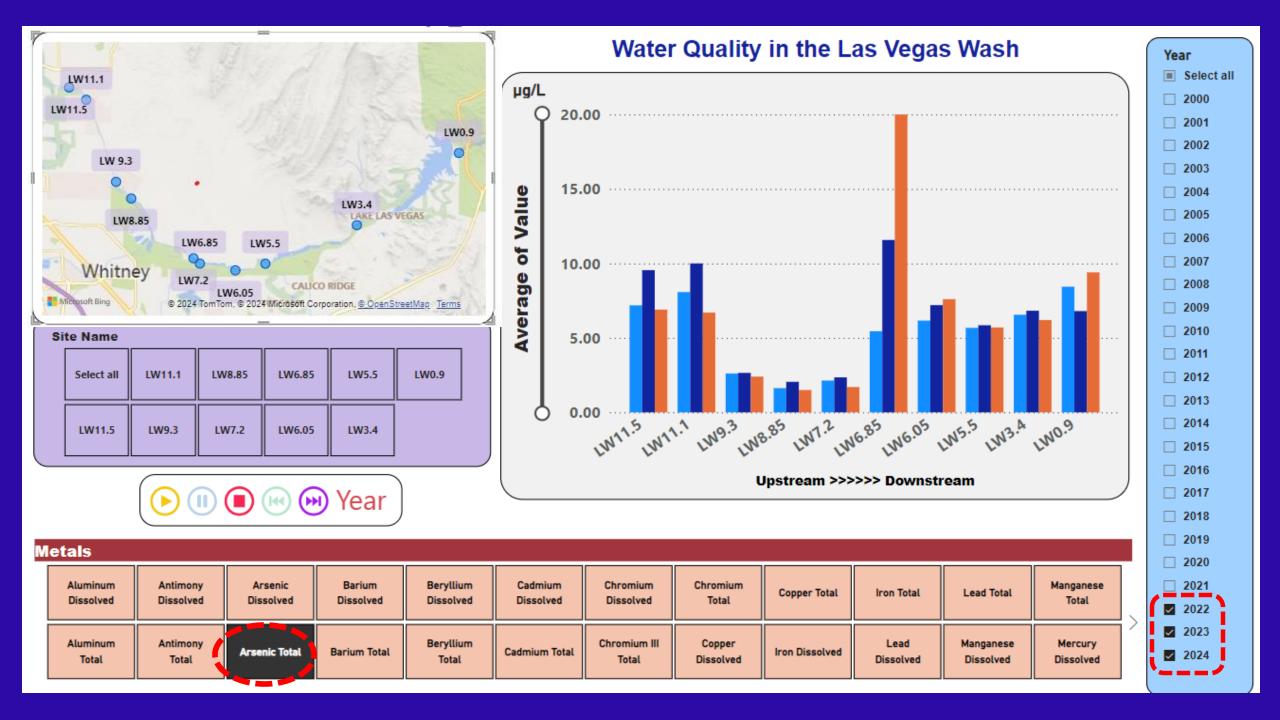
LW11.1

LW9.3

General Chemistry									
	Alkalinity Total	Calcium Total	Conductivity LAB	Magnesium Total	Sodium Total	Total Dissolved Solids LAB			
	Bromide	Chloride	Fluoride	Potassium Total	Sulfate	Total Suspended Solids			



Water Quality in the Las Vegas Wash Year Select all LW11.1 76... μg/L 2000 14.00 2001 LW0.9 2002 0 12.00 LW 9.3 2003 Value Xiaoping Zhou (zhoux@lvvwd.com) is signed in 2004 10.00 LW3.4 LAKE LAS VEGAS 2005 LW8.85 LW6.85 2006 LW5.5 8.00 2007 Whitney Average 6.00 2008 CALICO RIDGE © 2024 TomTom, © 2024 Microsoft Corporation, @ OpenStreetMap Terms 2009 4.00 2010 Site Name 2011 2.00 ... Select all LW11.1 LW8.85 LW6.85 LW5.5 LW0.9 2012 2013 0.00 [M11.2 [M11.1 [M8.3 [M8.82 [M1.5 [M6.82 [M6.02 [M2.2 [M3.4 [M0.9 2014 LW11.5 LW9.3 LW7.2 LW6.05 LW3.4 2015 2016 Upstream >>>> Downstream 2017 2018 2019 Metals 2020 Beryllium Cadmium Chromium Chromium Manganese Molybdenum Copper Total Iron Total Lead Total Mercury Total Nickel Total Selenium Total Dissolved Dissolved Dissolved Total Total Total ✓ 2022 **2023** Beryllium Chromium III Copper Lead Manganese Mercury Molybdenum Nickel Silver Cadmium Total Iron Dissolved ✓ 2024 Total Dissolved Dissolved Dissolved Total Dissolved Dissolved Dissolved Dissolved



LW11.1 LW11.5 LW0.9 0 LW 9.3 LW3.4 LAKE LAS VEGAS LW8.85 LW6.85 LW5.5 Whitney LW7.2 CALICO RIDGE LW6.05 Microsoft Bing © 2024 TomTom, © 2024 Microsoft Corporation, © OpenStreetMap Terms Site Name LW8.85 LW6.85 LW5.5 LW0.9 Select all LW11.1 LW9.3 LW7.2 LW6.05 LW3.4 LW11.5

Water Quality in the Las Vegas Wash

Year

2000

2001

2002

2003

2004

2005

2006

2007

2008

2009

2011

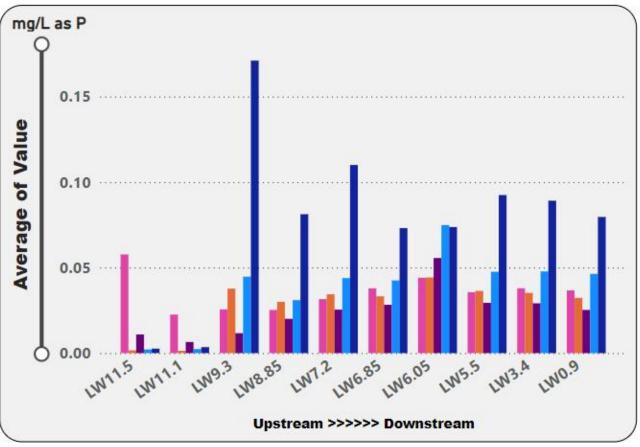
2012

2013 2014

201520162017

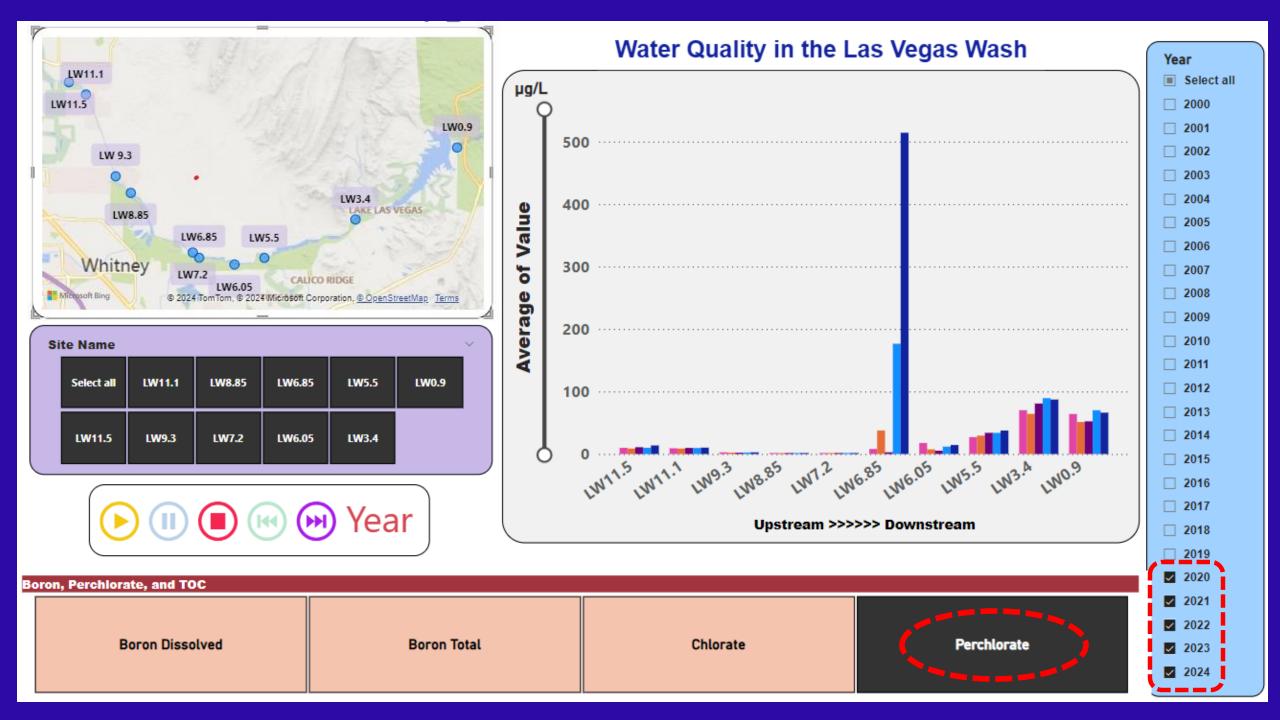
☐ 2018 ☐ 2019

Select all





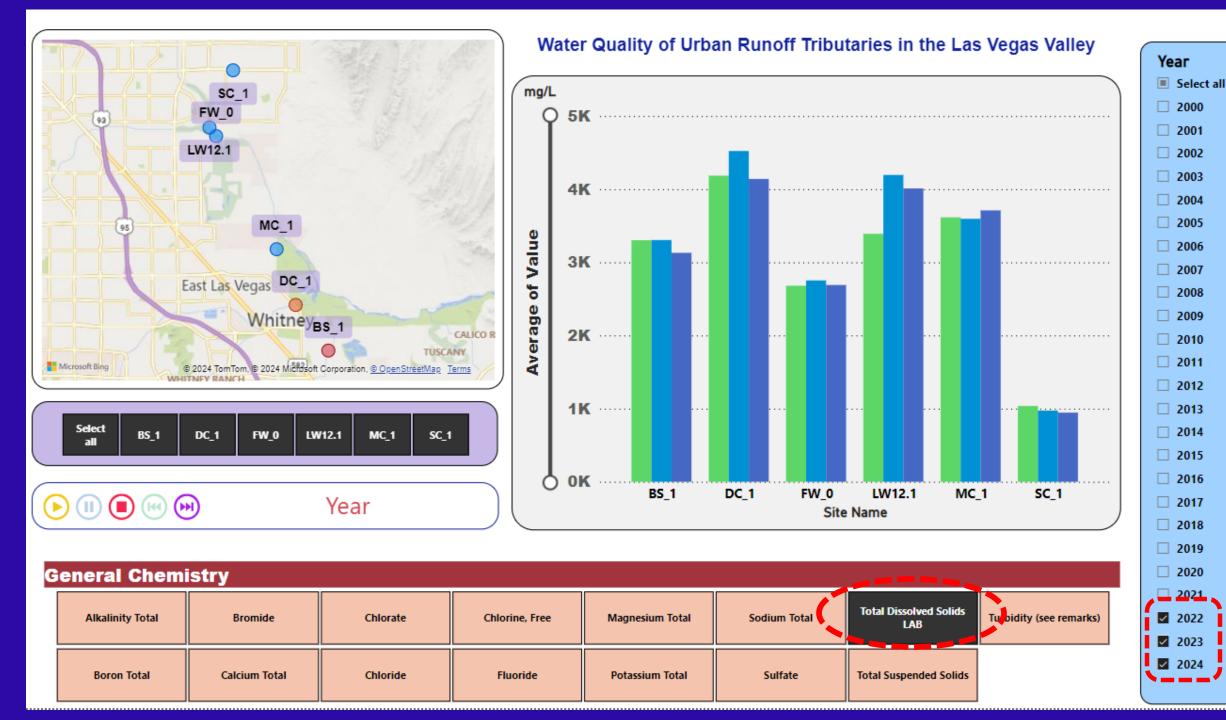


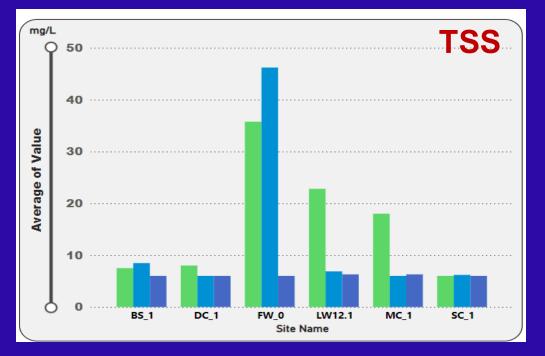


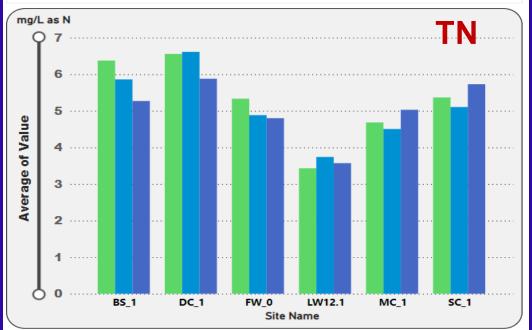


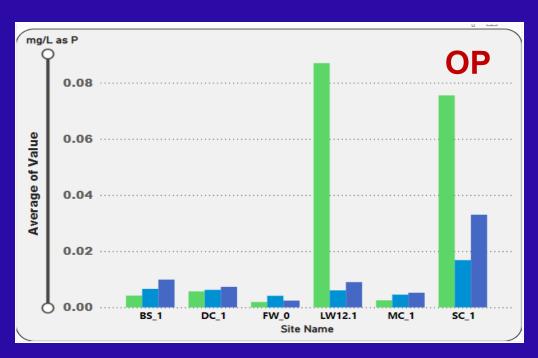
Water Quality Data from Urban Runoff Tributaries

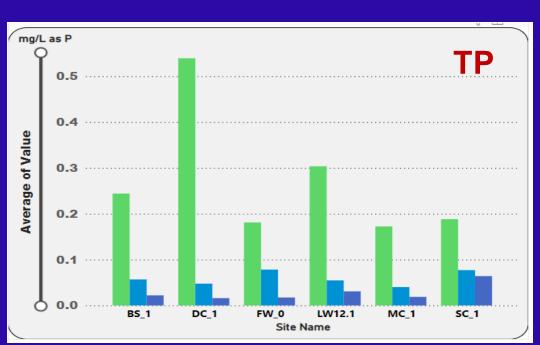
(2024 vs previous years)





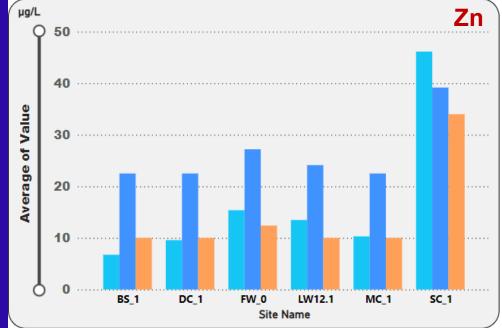


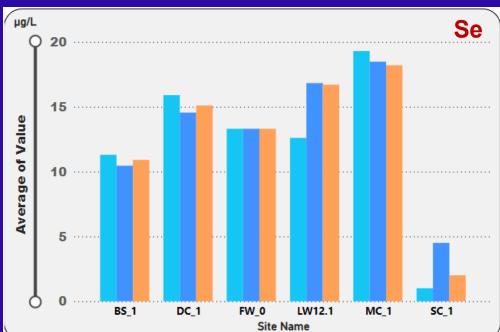


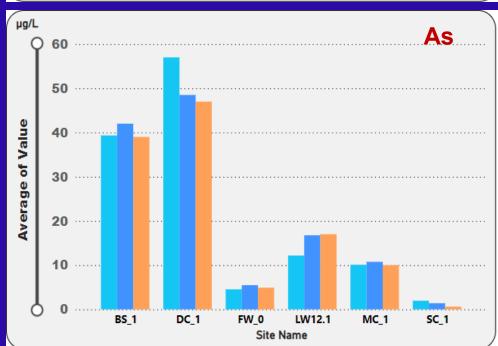


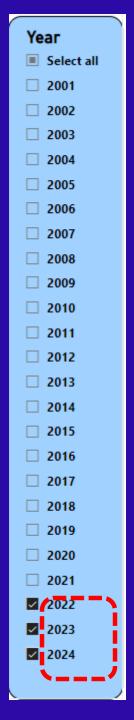




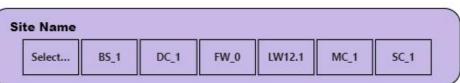




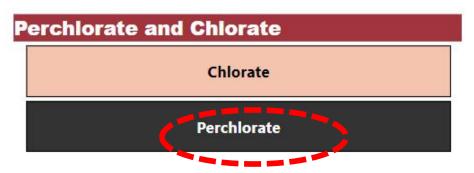




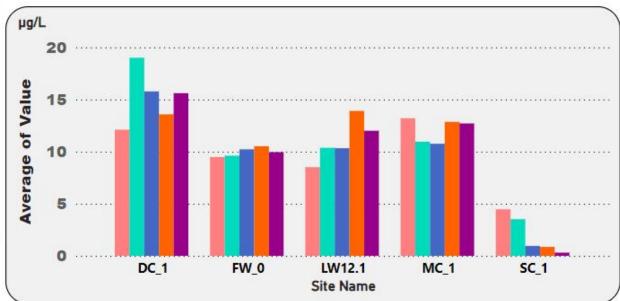


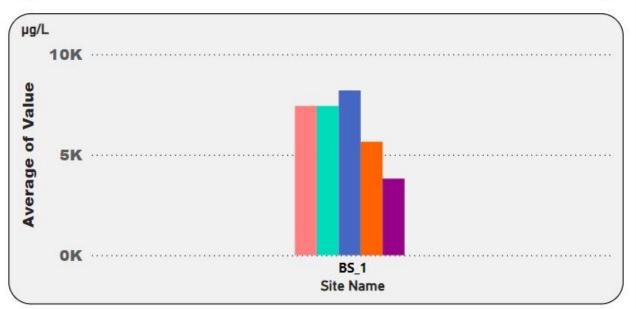






Water Quality of Urban Runoff Tributaries in the Las Vegas Valley







Water Quality Data from Shallow Groundwater Monitoring wells along the Wash

(2020 - 2024)

Map showing monitoring wells along the Wash Site Name COH1A COH2B1 LNDMW1 LNDMW2 W002 W003 W006 CALICO RIDGE Microsoft Bing © 2024 TomTom, © 2024 Microsoft Corporation, © OpenStreetMap Terms 564

Parameter

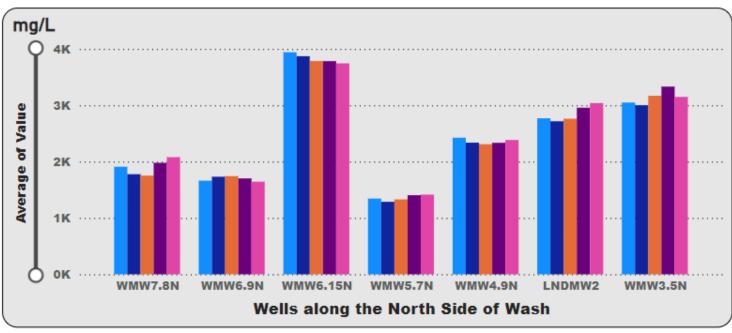
- Alkalinity Bicarb...
- Alkalinity Total
- Bromide
- O Calcium
- O Chloride
- O Fluoride
- Hardness, Total
- O Magnesium
- OPotassium
- Silica
- Sodium

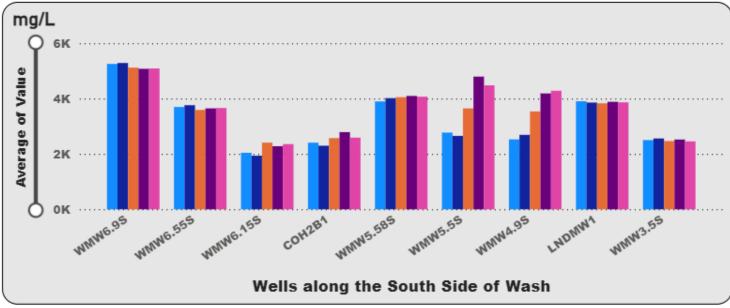
Total Dissolved S...

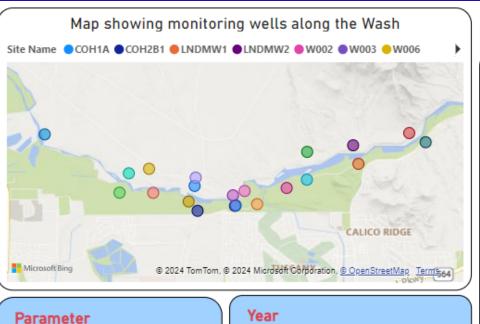




Groundwater Quality from the Monitoring Wells along the Las Vegas Wash







Aluminum Total

Antimony Take

Arsenic Total

O Beryllium Total

Cadmium Total
Chromium Total

O Copper Total

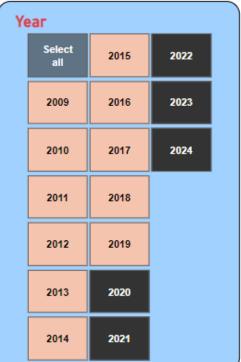
O Iron Total

Lead Total

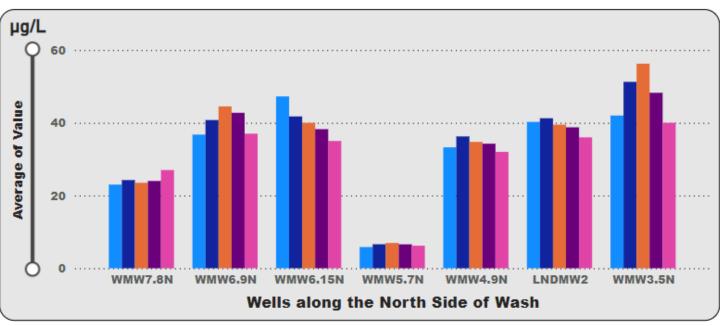
Manganese Total

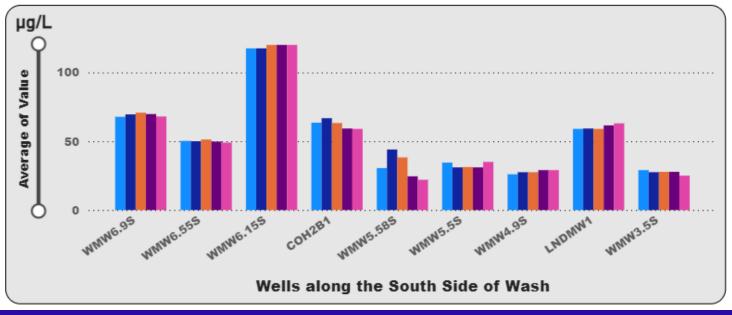
Year

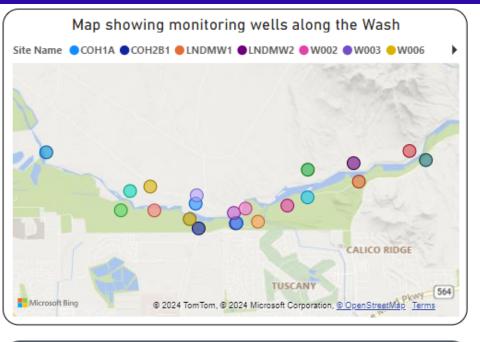
Mercury Total



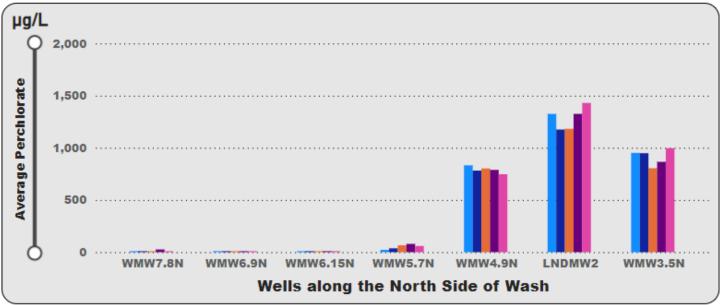
Groundwater Quality from the Monitoring Wells along the Las Vegas Wash



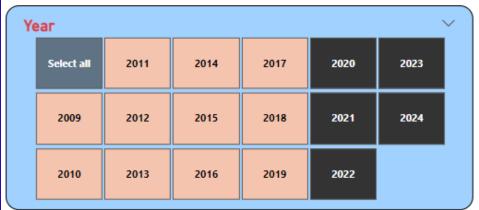




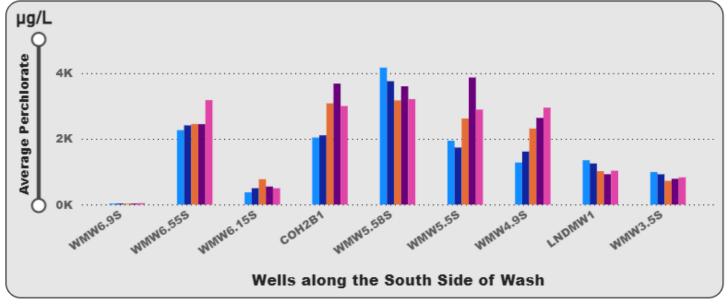
Groundwater Quality from the Monitoring Wells along the Las Vegas Wash





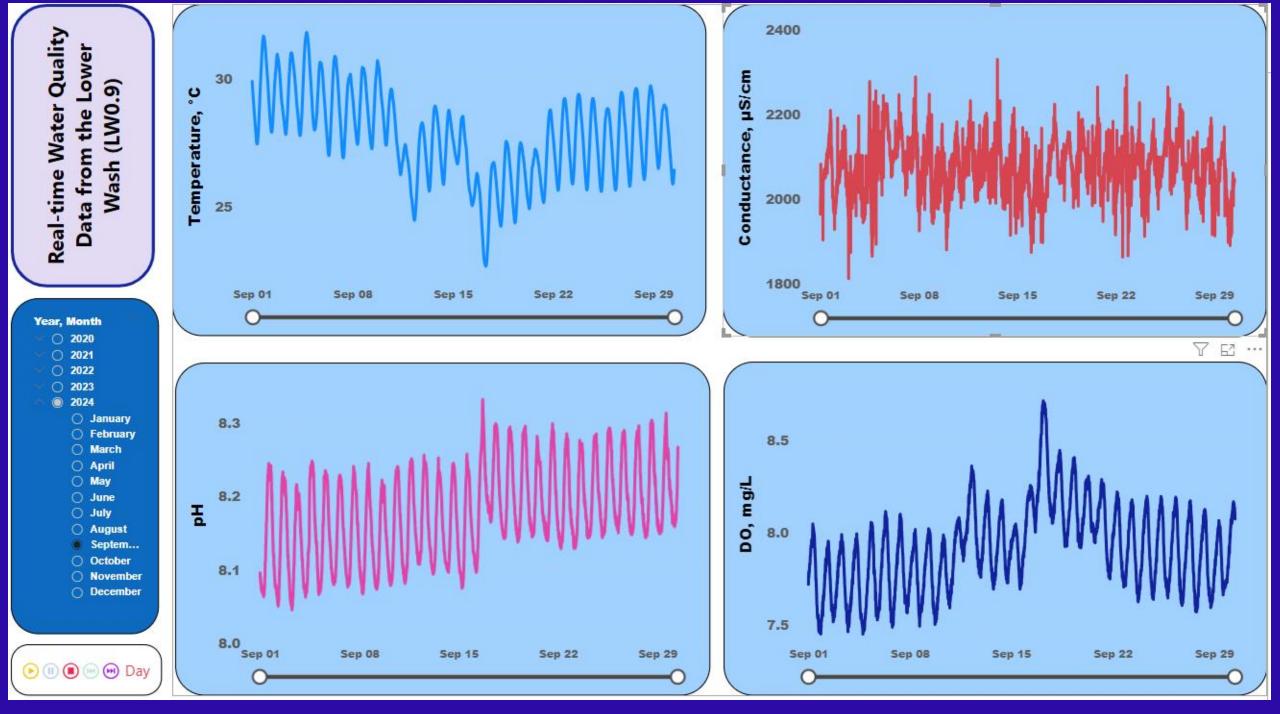




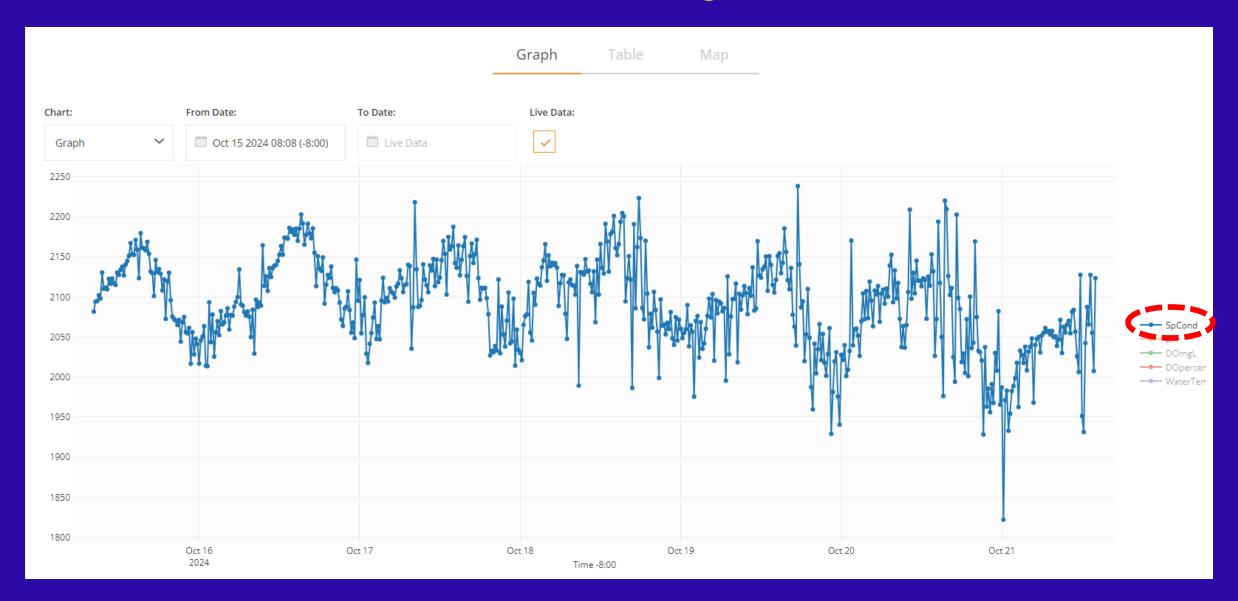


Real-time Water Quality Monitoring from 3 Stations in the Las Vegas Valley





Real-time Water Quality Data at LW0.9











Las Vegas Valley Watershed Advisory Committee (LVVWAC) Update

CB

October 22, 2024

LVVWAC Update: April 9, 2024 Meeting

03

Charles Trushel (CLV) and Joemel Llamado (CNLV) were selected as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively

Approved 2022–2023 Accomplishments Document; some highlights include:

- Expanded the capabilities of the Lake Mead Model to forecast potential water quality conditions under future water surface elevation scenarios
- Continued year-round phosphorus removal at wastewater treatment facilities to meet the 334 pounds-per-day waste load allocation for total phosphorus, surpassing permit requirements
- Spent \$23 million on the maintenance work program to ensure efficient operation of the flood control network

LVVWAC Update: April 9, 2024 Meeting

03

Received update from wastewater dischargers:

CCWRD, CLV, CNLV, COH

Received update from CCRFCD on Stormwater Quality Management Committee

- Os Discussed updates on the Construction General Permit and the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permit
- Received update on the new MS4 Permit
- Received update on a revised SWMP for review/approval by the NDEP

LVVWAC Update: May 14, 2024 Meeting

03

Approved a five-year Interlocal Agreement to establish funding allocations and the budget for Las Vegas Wash Long-Term Operating Plan (LTOP) actions

03

Approved the FY 2025/2026 LTOP budget

- Total operating budget: \$2,774,205
 - Estimated Bureau of Reclamation and Nevada Division of Environmental Protection contributions: \$333,000
 - Coal contribution: \$2,441,205
- ☐ Budget reflects an annual increase of 2.5 percent
- 3 Budget received unanimous approval

Received update on accomplishments of the LVWCC

03

Received update on the Clark County Wetlands Park

- Continued coordination with CCWRD and CCPW on several projects
- Submitted proposal for SNPLMA funding for a new interpretation and event area
- Wetlands Loop Trail completion project under way
- Os Programs, field trips and events are ongoing, and notable awards were received

03

Received update on regional water quality

- Lake Mead surface elevation looks stable for the coming year; elevation predictions for 2025 are between 1,050 and 1,065 ft
- Os Discussed temperature profiles, dissolved oxygen levels, salinity specific conductance, algae biomass concentrations, and quagga mussels
 - Algal toxins showed occasional detections this summer in Lake Mead, and more frequently, Lake Mohave
- Upcoming efforts to utilize the Lake Mead Model for water quality concerns, specifically looking at nitrite-nitrate concentrations

03

Received update on Lower Las Vegas Wash

- Since 2019, SNWA's focus has been on Weirs 5–9, particularly Weir 5, and work began on environmental compliance for that project
- Serosion continues and Weir 3 failed in 2023
- Oue to changes in NPS leadership and staff; challenges regarding environmental compliance, funding and authorizations; and significant cost inflation, staff researched stabilization alternatives to Weirs 5–9
 - Two major questions for alternatives: 1) how much will they cost, and 2) how long will they protect upstream infrastructure?
 - Proposed project: Weir 3.5, a sheet-pile control structure, to protect upstream infrastructure for 30+ years; total cost estimated at \$52.5 million; construction to start summer of 2028 and take 30 months

Next Meeting

03

April 8, 2025 2 p.m.