

# STEP ONE FOR WATER REUSE: ESTABLISH BASELINE CONCENTRATIONS FOR COMPOUNDS OF EMERGING CONCERN (CEC) IN SURFACE WATER SUPPLY SYSTEMS

---



— The —  
UNIVERSITY  
— of —  
OKLAHOMA

*Mewbourne College  
of Earth and Energy*

**Kyle E. Murray, Ph.D. Hydrogeologist**

[KyleMurrayH2O@gmail.com](mailto:KyleMurrayH2O@gmail.com)

[Kyle.Murray@ou.edu](mailto:Kyle.Murray@ou.edu)

<https://twitter.com/KyleMurrayH2O>

<http://kylemurray.oucreate.com/>

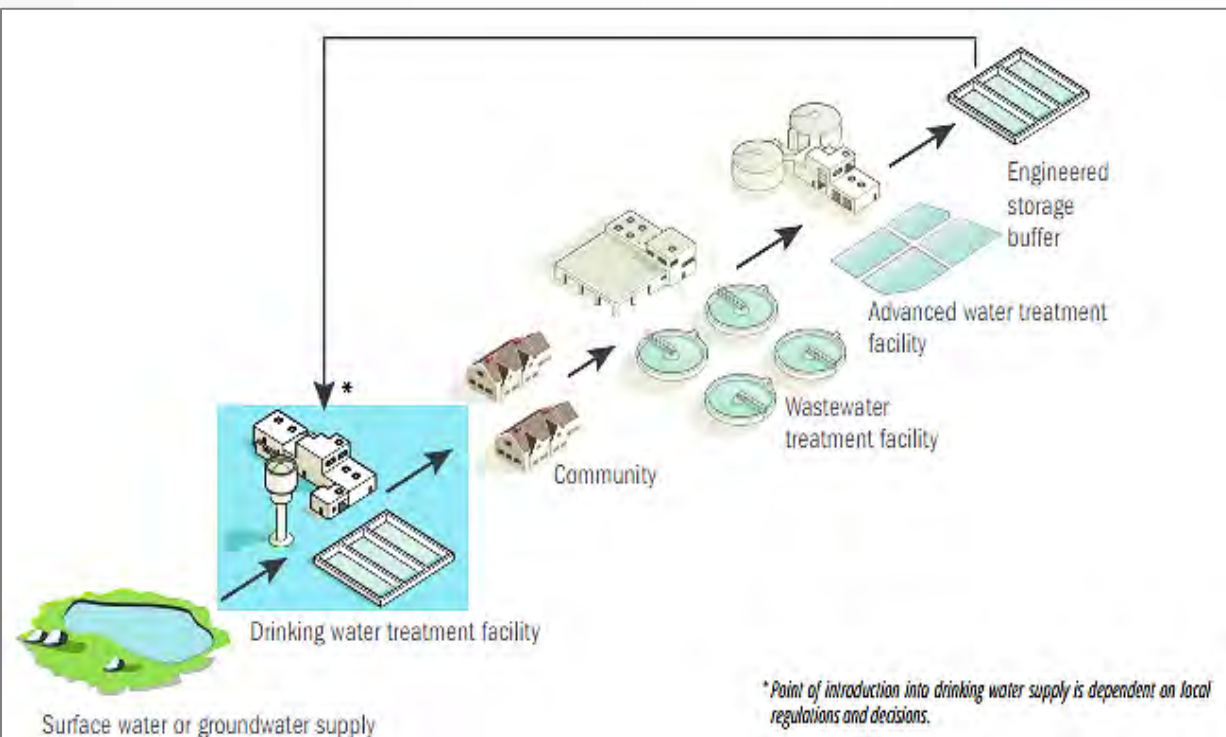


# Demand >>> Supply

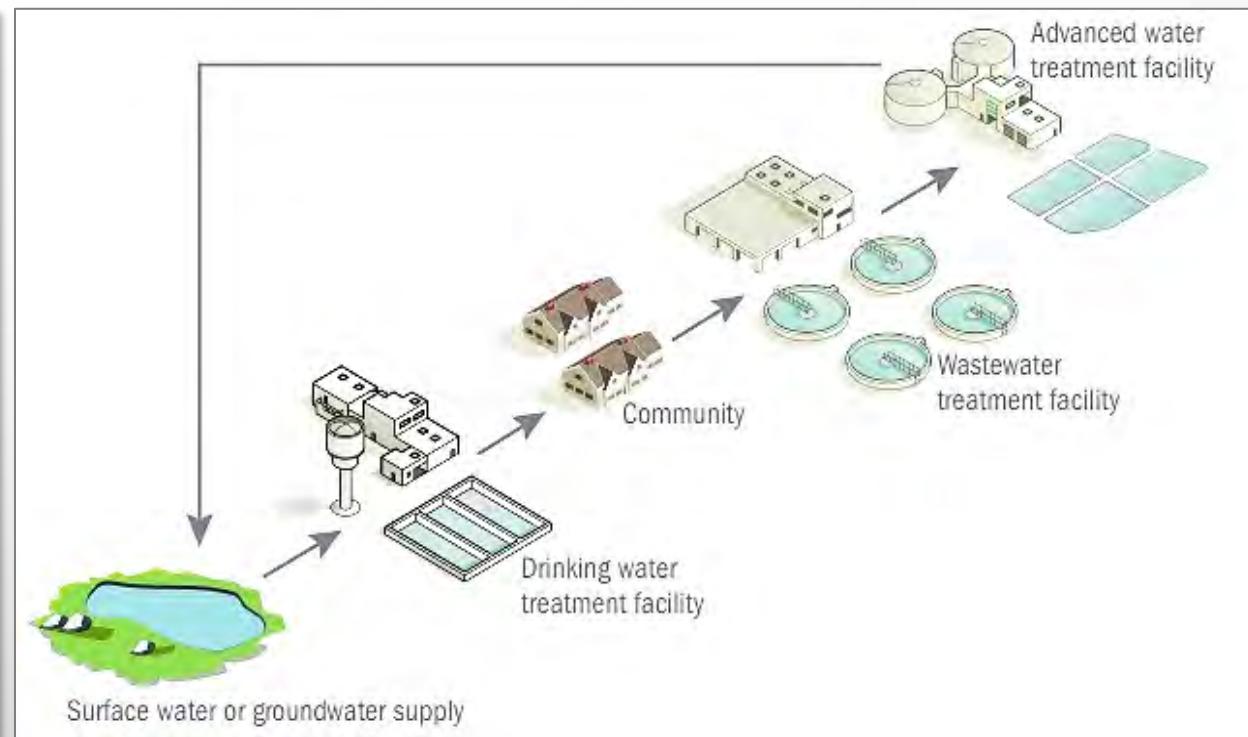
=

# Augment with Reuse

## Direct Potable Reuse



## Indirect Potable Reuse



# Major Public Concern: Compounds of Emerging Concern (CEC)

CEC are chemical solutes potentially found in surface waters at trace levels, ng/L, that may have an impact on aquatic and animal life (US EPA 2015)

- Over 84,000 chemicals in use today as inventoried by US EPA under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA)
- Approximately 700 new chemicals added each year to the US EPA inventory





# Categories of CEC (Murray et al., 2010)

**Pesticides**



**Pharmaceuticals and Personal  
Care Products (PPCPs)**

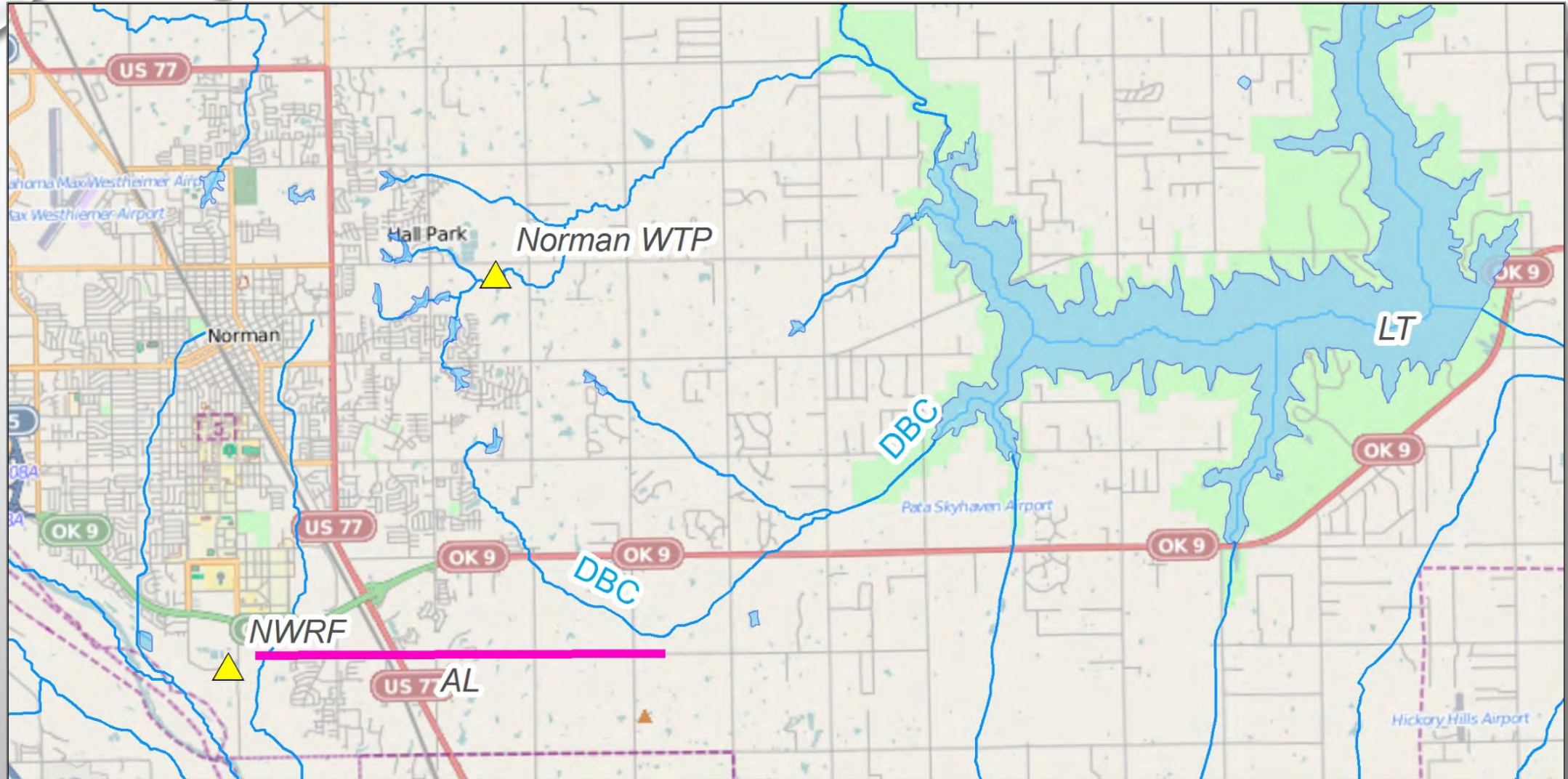
**Industrials**



**Other**



# City of Norman – Top Rated Plan for Water Augmentation



WTP = (drinking) Water Treatment Plant    NWRF = Norman Water Reclamation Facility  
AL = Augmentation Line    DBC = Dave Blue Creek  
LT = Lake Thunderbird

# Project Objectives

Measure CEC concentrations in Lake Thunderbird, Norman, OK

- Evaluate seasonal variations
- Compare to established health standards

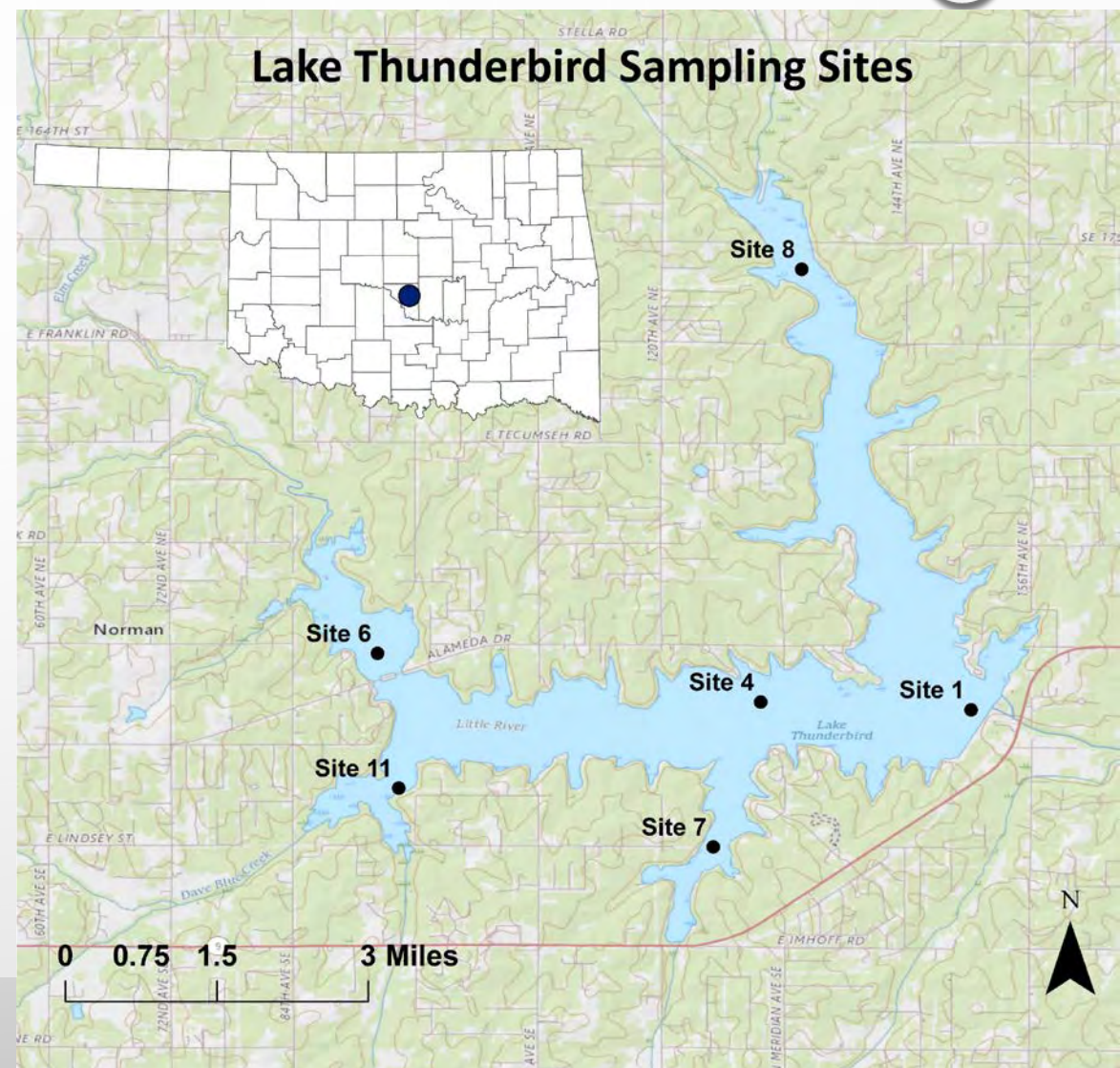
Assess potential sources of CEC from Lake Thunderbird sub-watersheds using land use and a loading factor index model



# Methods: Collect Water Samples



- Locations consistent with OWRB water quality studies
- Sampled in Jun 2016 (Summer), Oct 2016 (Fall), Jan 2017 (Winter), Apr 2017 (Spring)
- Kemmerer 1.2 L stainless steel, Teflon-ended water sampler
- Composite samples of 1/3, 2/3, and 3/3 depth



Acknowledgement to:

Central Oklahoma Master Conservancy District (COMCD) for funding the research project

# Methods: Measure Field Parameters

## YSI 6920 multi-parameter water quality sonde

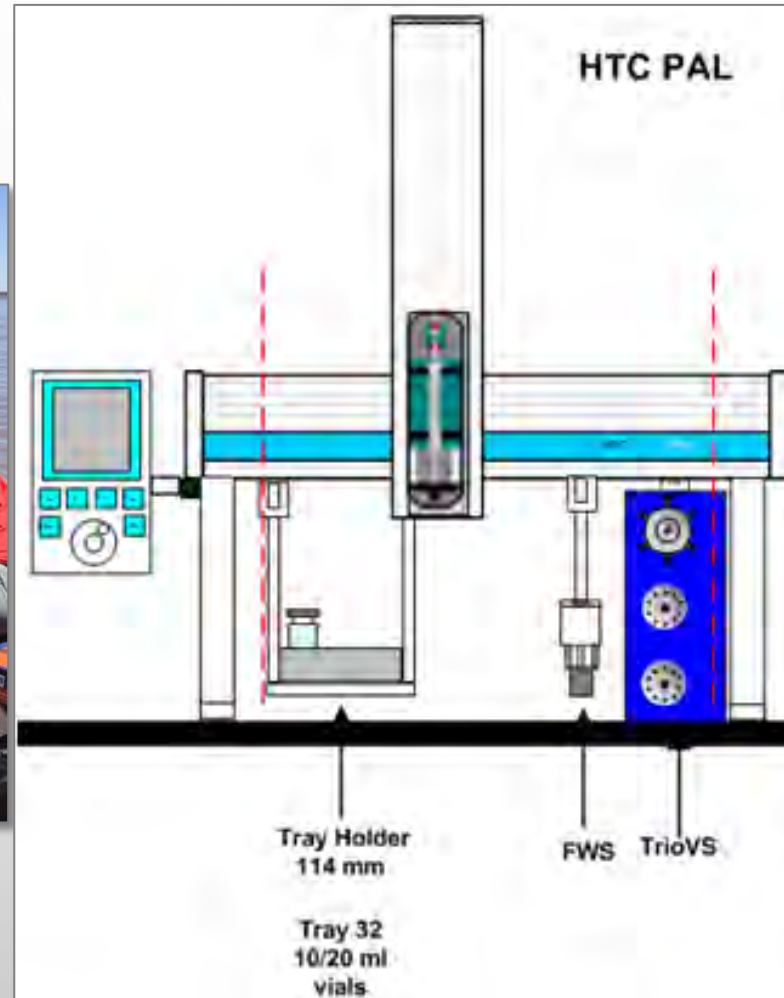
- Point sampling at 2/3 depth
- Measured
  - Temperature
  - pH
  - ORP
  - DO
  - Specific conductance
  - TDS
  - Salinity
  - Chlorophyll

Acknowledgement to Dr. Robert Nairn's CREW lab





# Methods: Analyze for CEC



## **Eurofins Eaton Analytical (EEA), Monrovia, CA**

- 98 analytes
- SPE-LC/MS/MS method
- Equipment blank and blind duplicate
- All seasons

## **Univ of Arizona WEST**

- 43 analytes
- UHPLC-MS/MS method
- Equipment blank and blind duplicate
- Winter and Spring

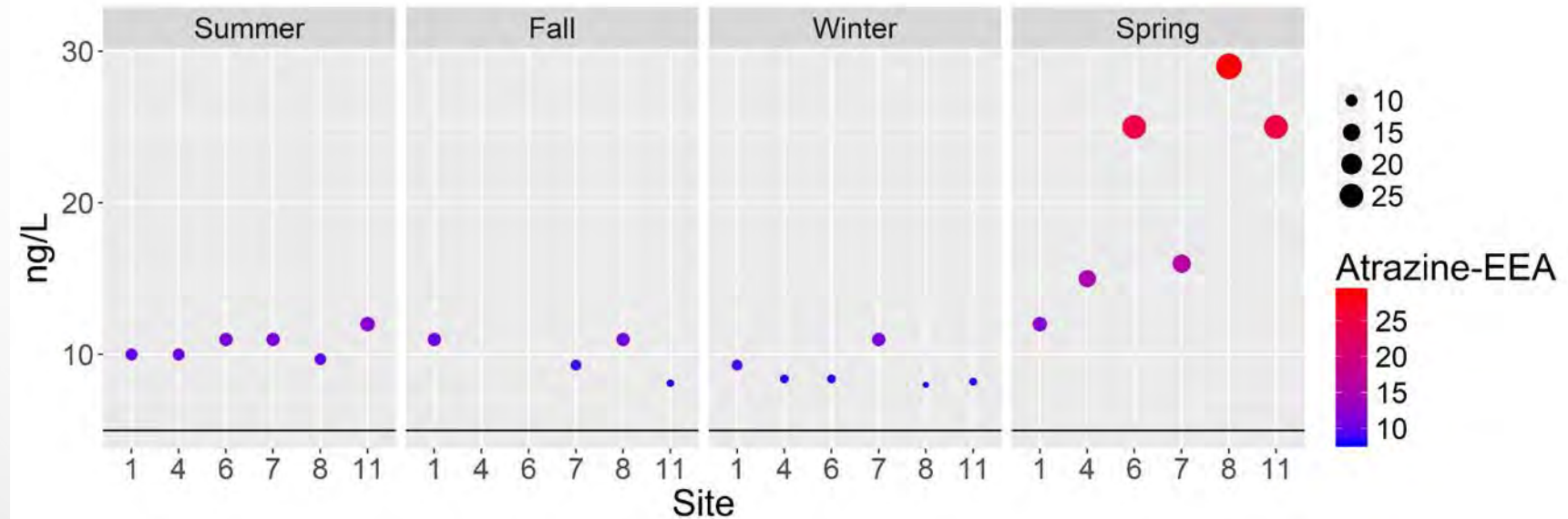
*113 unique analytes*

Acknowledgement of:  
Ashley Horton, current MS student  
Ella Walker, former Research Associate

# Results: Detections of Benchmark Pesticides

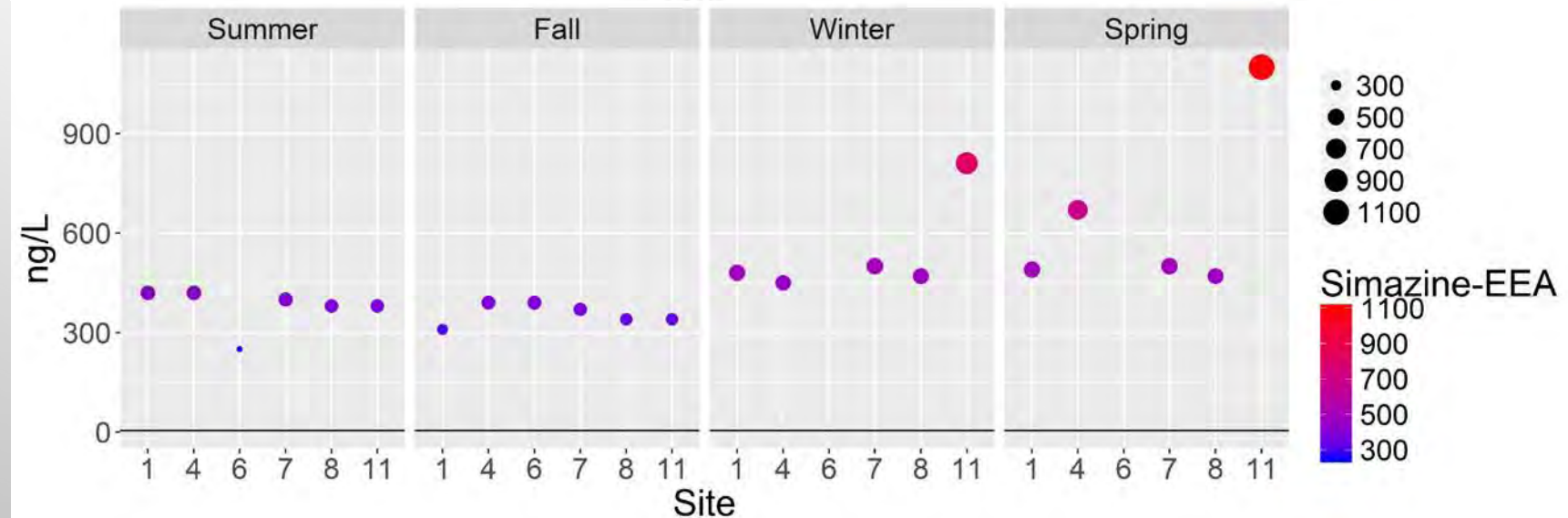
## Atrazine

- Herbicide
- Half life = > 200 days  
(U.S. Department of Health, 2003)
- Did not exceed health standards  
(EPA, 2017)



## Simazine

- Herbicide
- Half life = 145 days  
(Environmental Monitoring Branch, 2004)
- Did not exceed health standards  
(EPA, 2017)



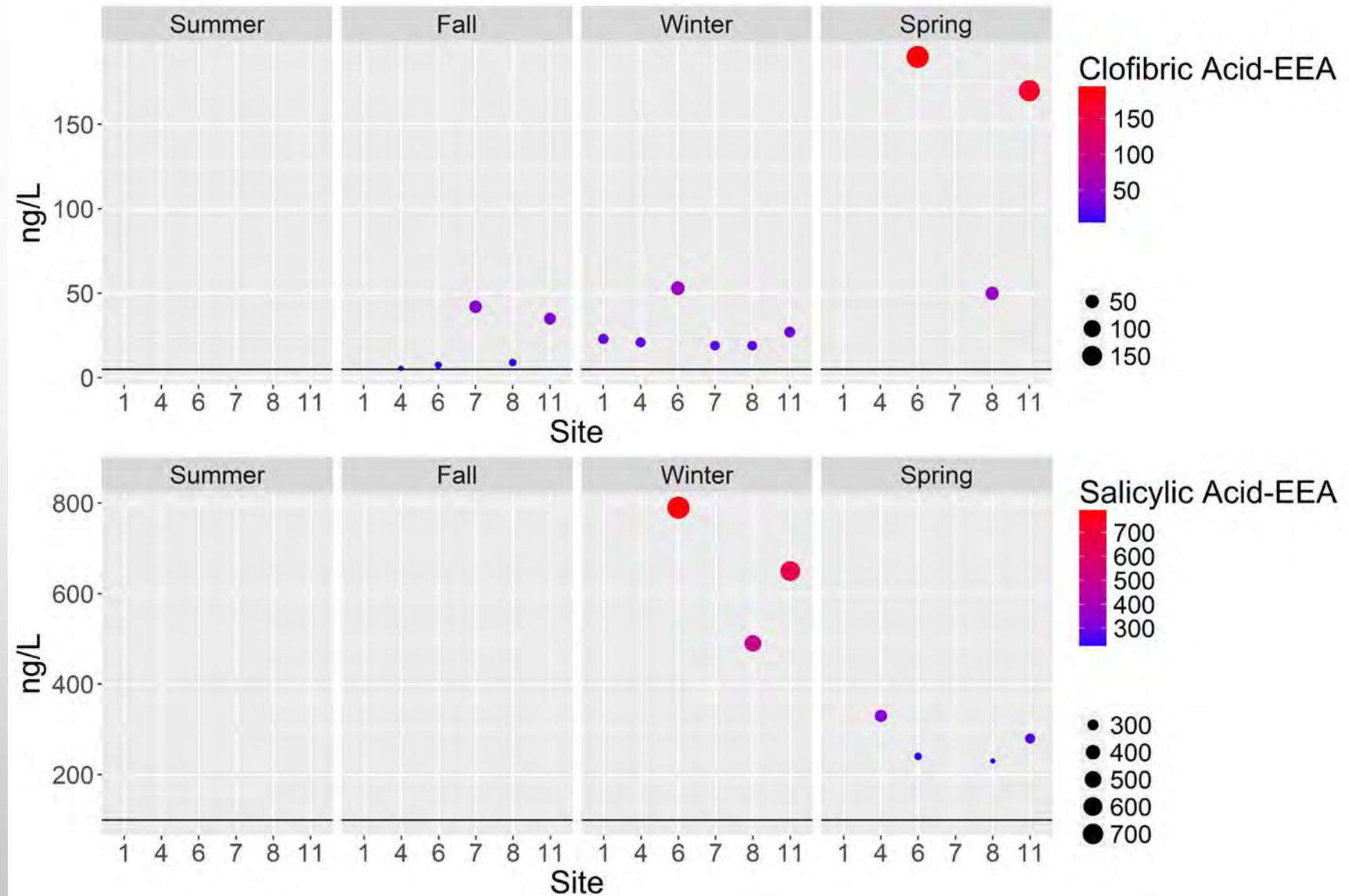
# Results: Detections of Benchmark PPCPs

## Clofibric Acid

- Lipid regulator and herbicide
- Half life = 2 days  
(Kunkel and Radke, 2011)
- No available health standards

## Salicylic Acid

- Phenolic acid
- Half life = not available
- No available health standards

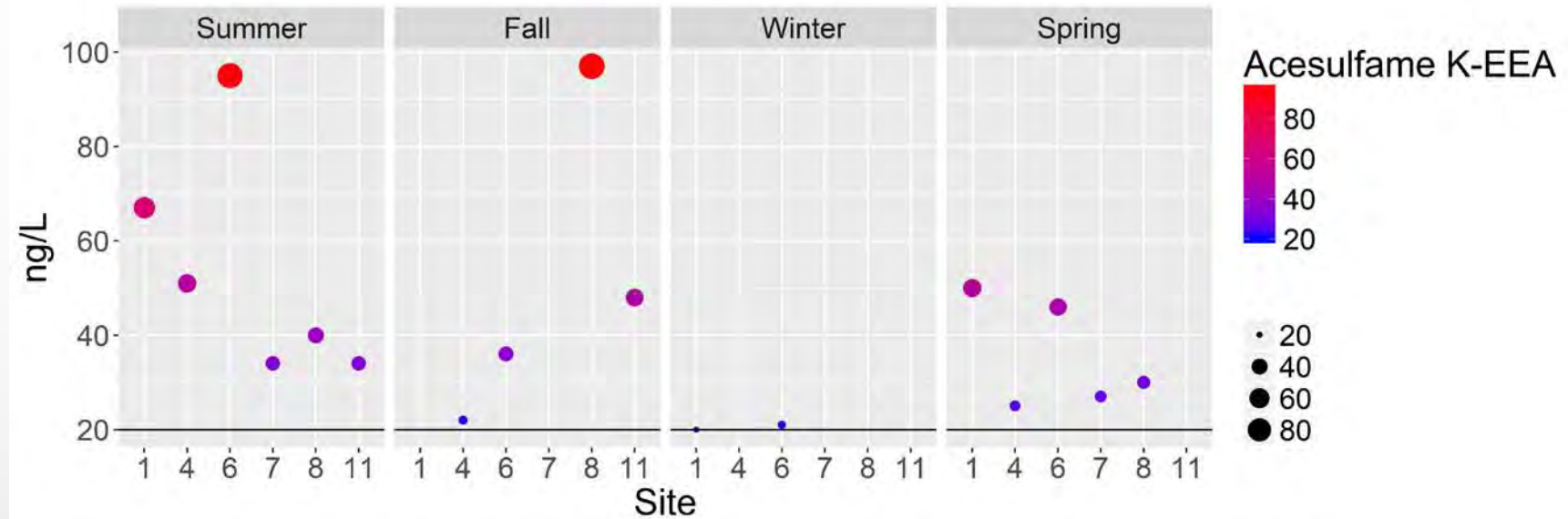




# Results: Detections of Benchmark Other Compounds

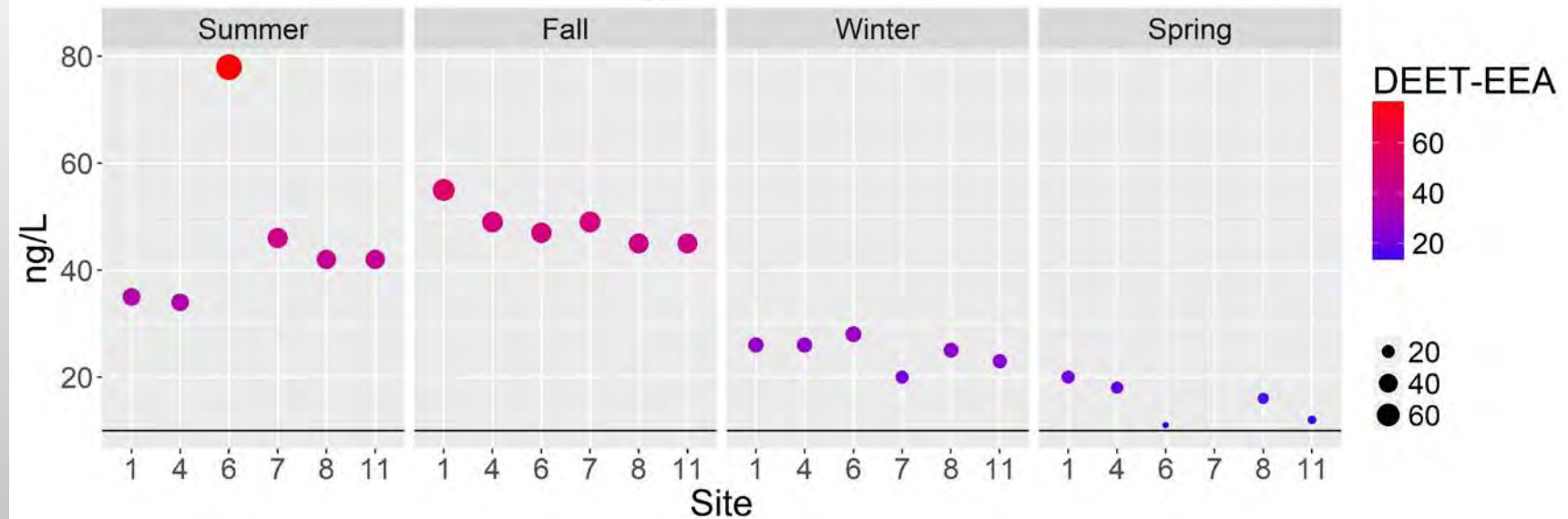
## Acesulfame-K

- Artificial sweetener
- Half life = 7 - 9 days  
(*Gan et al., 2014*)
- No available health standards



## DEET

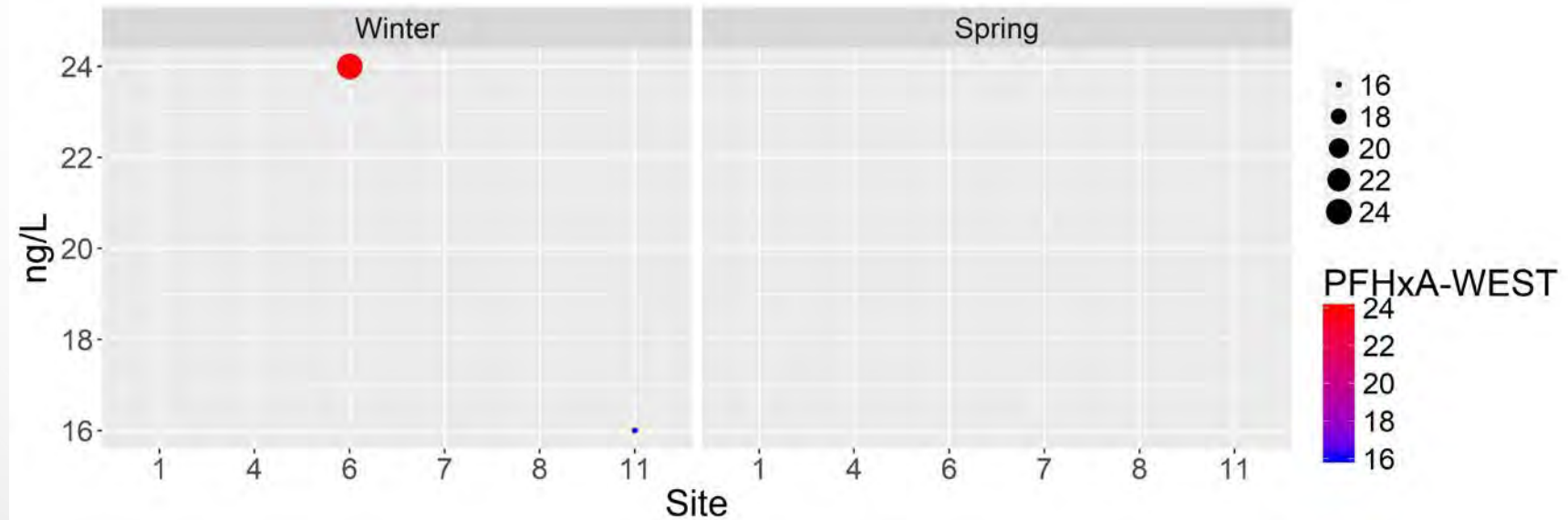
- Insect repellent
- Half life = 5 - 15 days  
(*ECHA, 2010*)
- Did not exceed health standards  
(*MDH, 2013*)



# Results: Detections of Benchmark Industrials

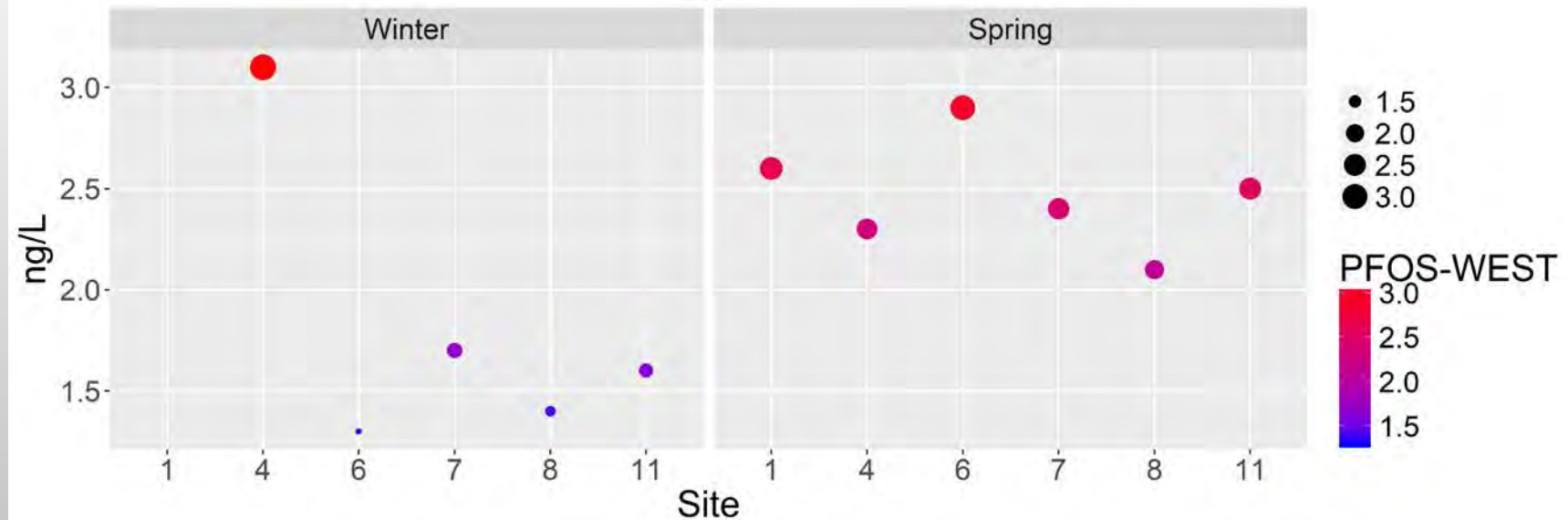
## PFHxA

- Surfactant
- Half life = not available
- No available health standards



## PFOS

- Surfactant
- Half life = 3.3 years  
(Worley et al., 2017)
- Did not exceed health standards  
(MPCA, 2008)





# Methods: Hypothesize Potential Sources of CEC w/ a Loading Model

## Coefficients:

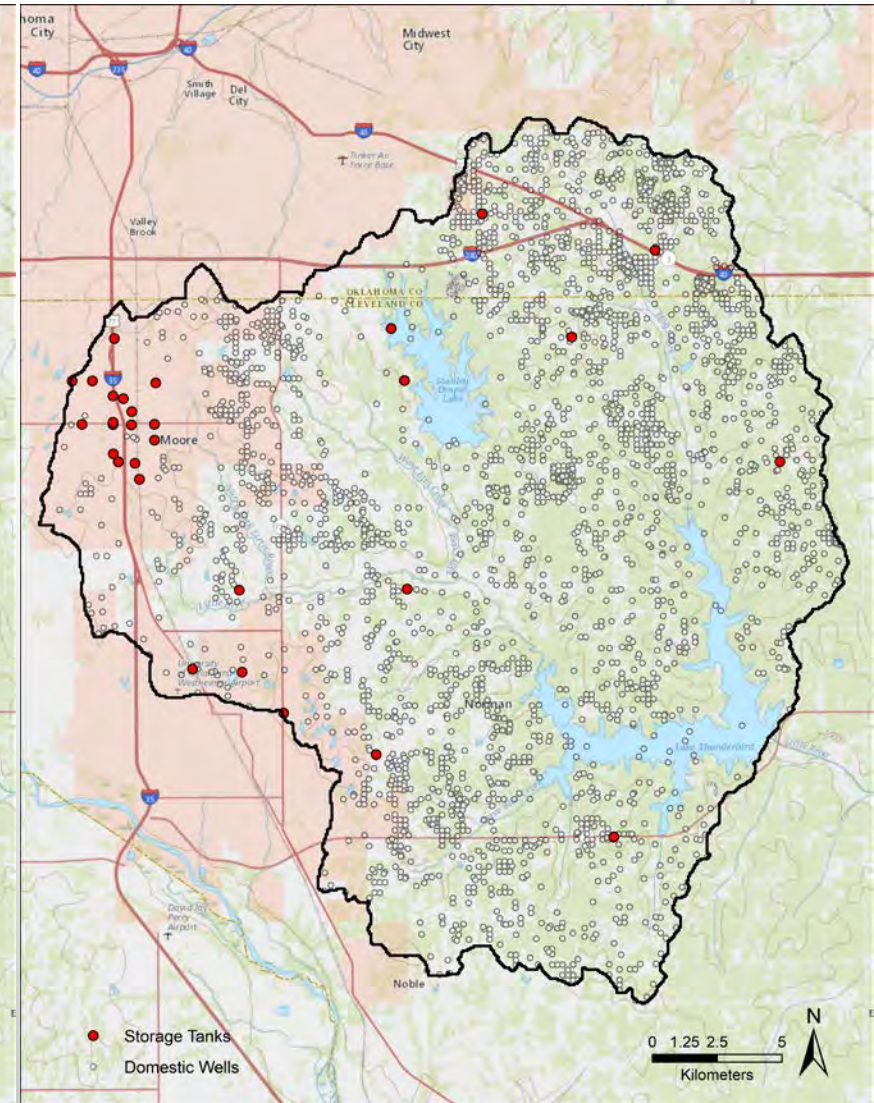
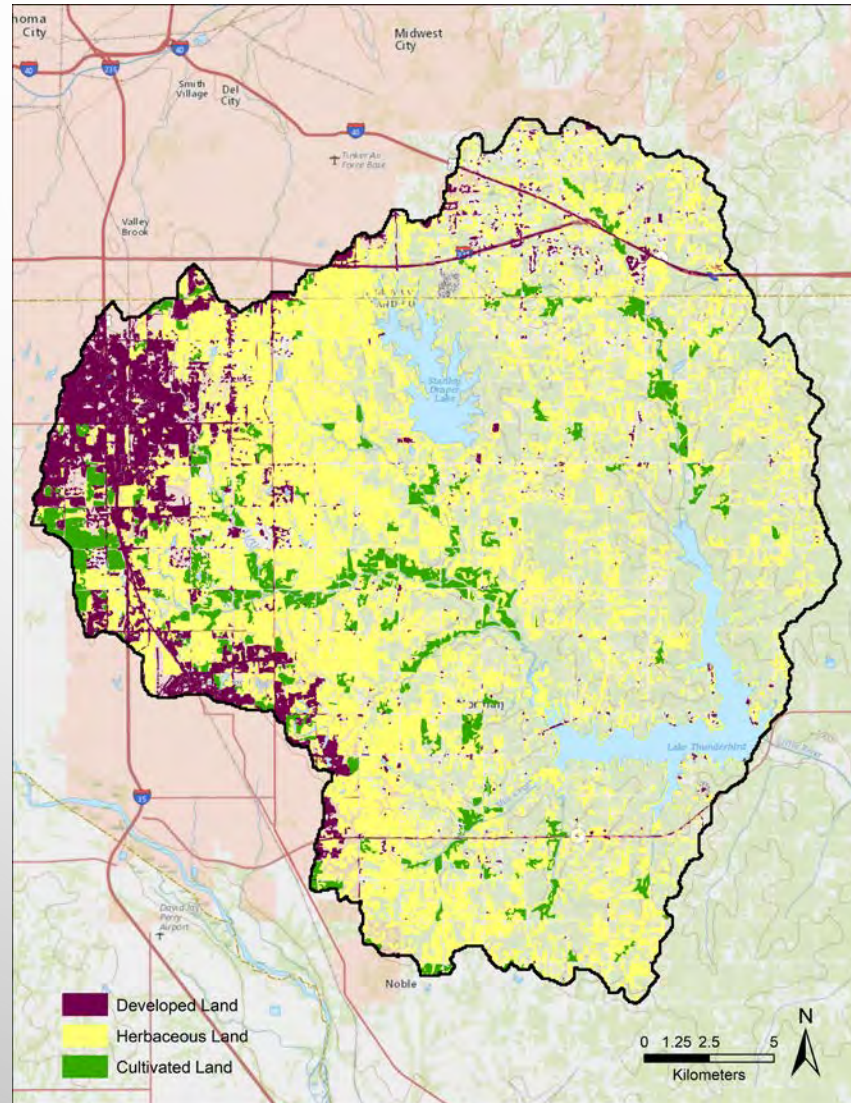
- ST = # of in use storage tanks per acre
- DW = # of domestic wells per acre (proxy for Septic Systems)
- D = proportion of developed land use
- C = proportion of cultivated land use
- H = proportion of herbaceous land

$$\text{Industrial} = \text{ST} + \text{DW} + \text{D} + \text{C}$$

$$\text{Pesticide} = \text{C} + \text{D} + \text{H}$$

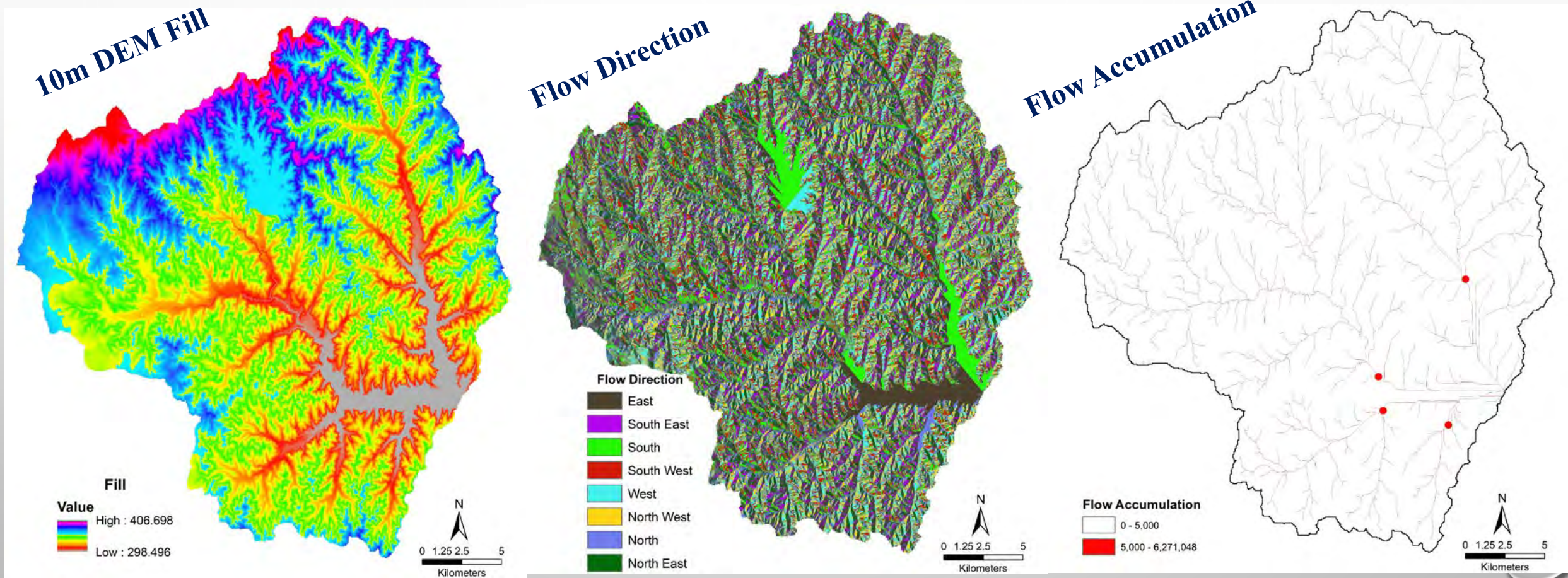
$$\text{PPCP} = \text{DW} + \text{D} + \text{C}$$

$$\text{Other} = \text{DW} + \text{D}$$



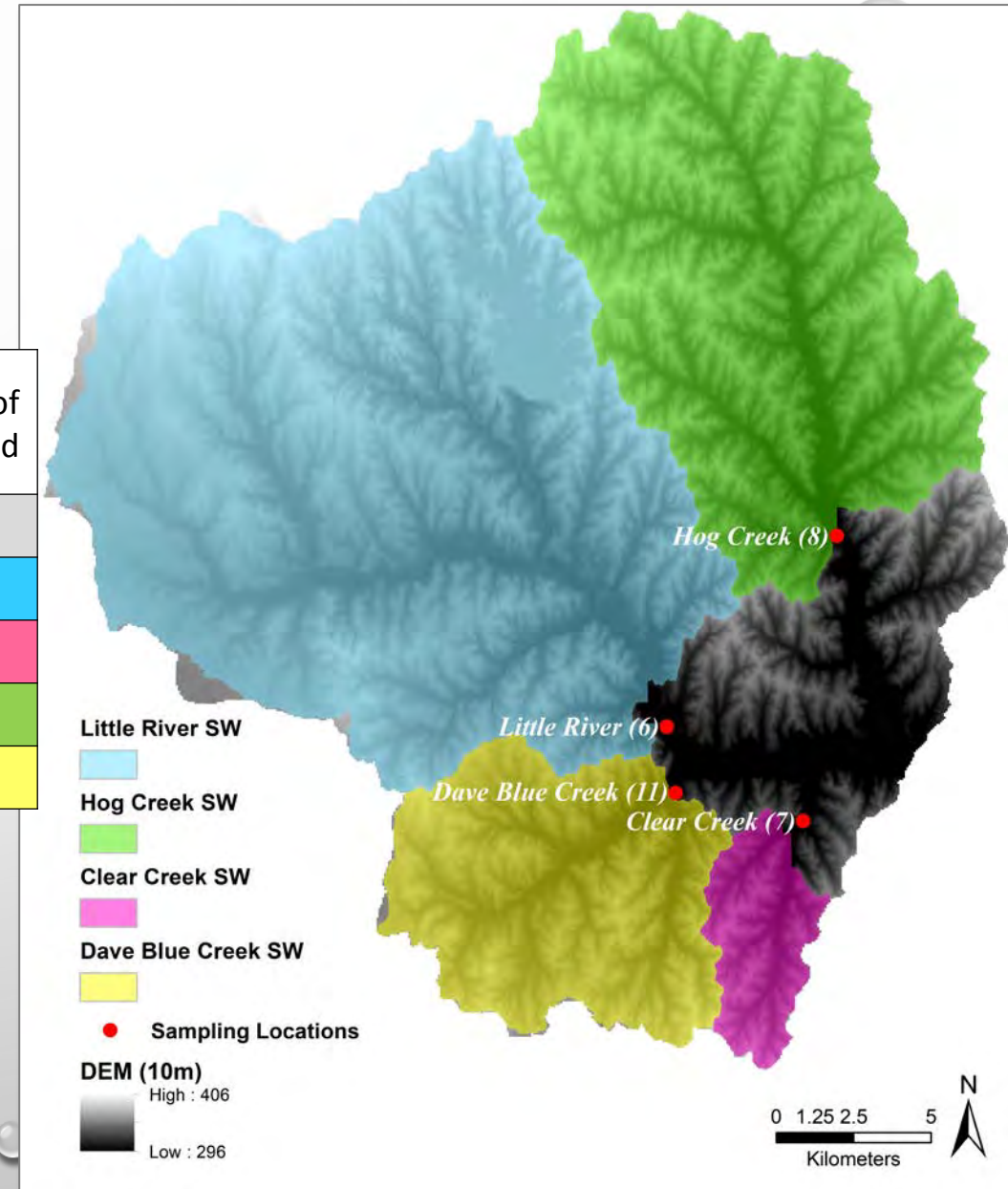


# Methods: Sub-Watershed Delineation

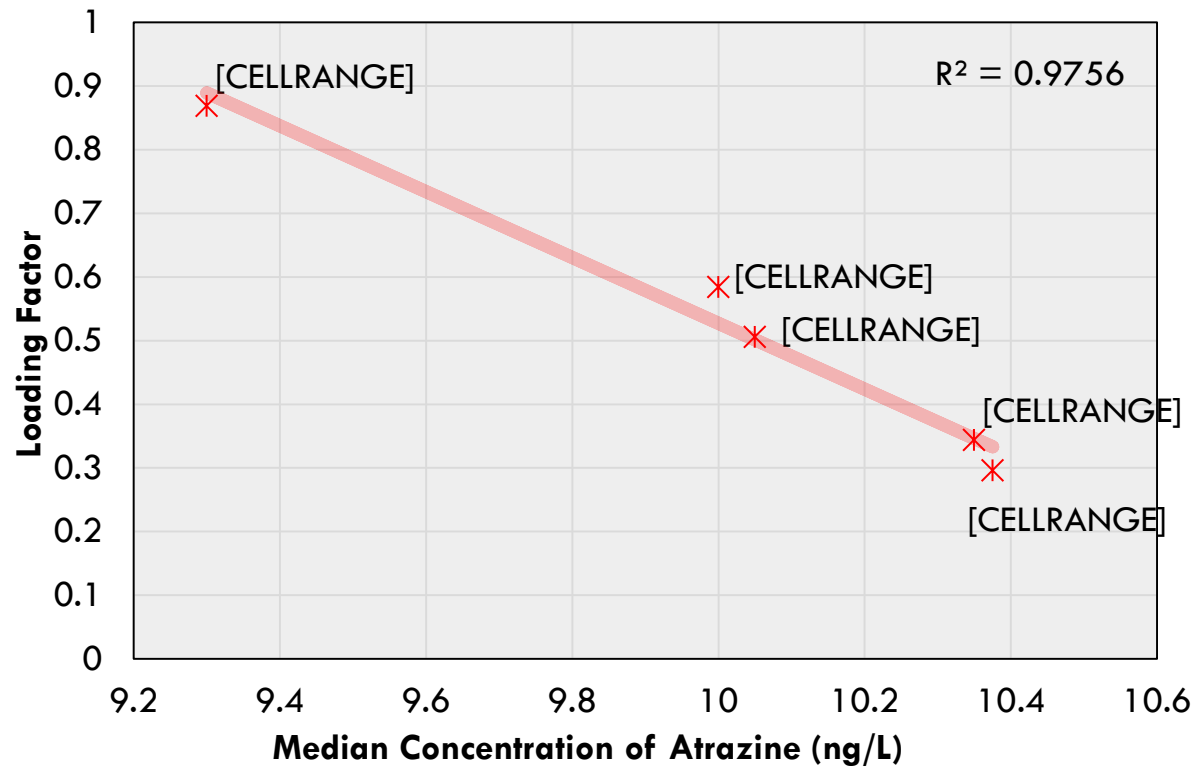


# Results: Sub-Watersheds and Land Use Factors

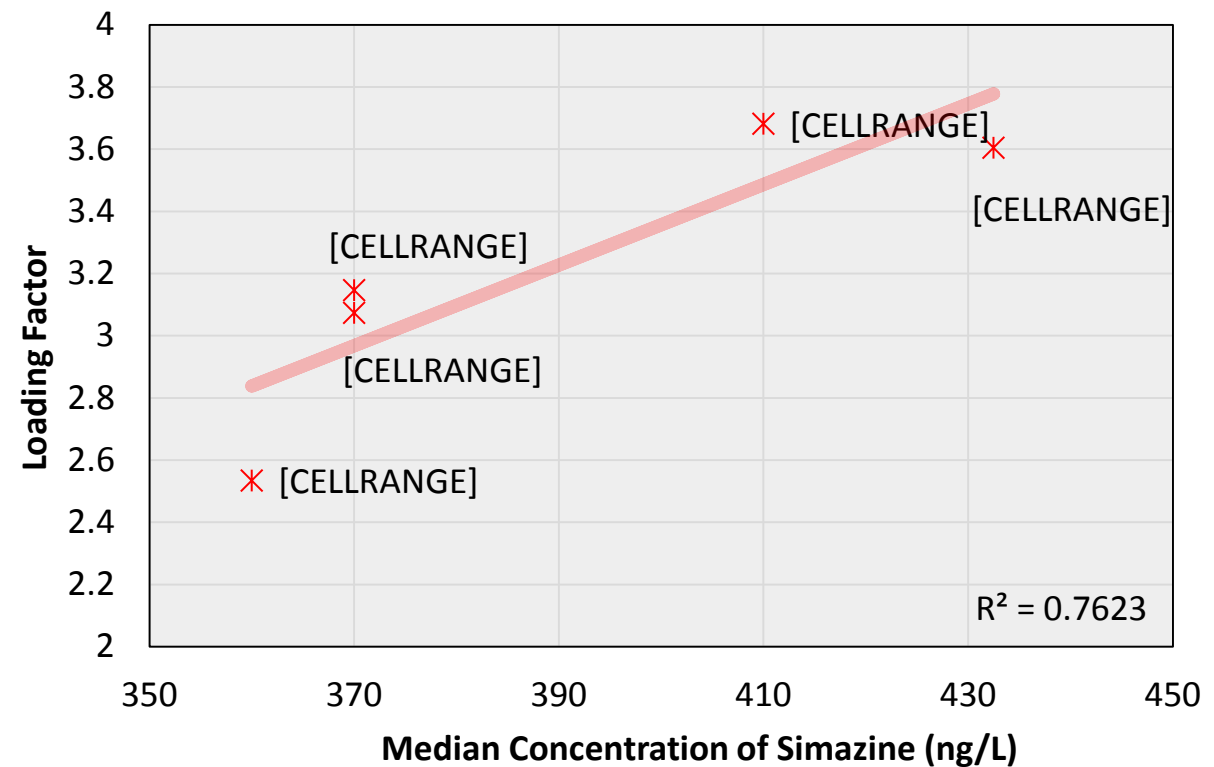
Name	Area (Acre)	LST (in use)/Acre	Domestic Wells/Acre	Fraction of Herbaceous	Fraction of Cultivated	Fraction of Developed
Entire Watershed	165465.41	0.00048	0.022	0.368	0.054	0.079
Little River SW	74878.95	0.00077	0.013	0.431	0.082	0.141
Clear SW	5145.96	0.00058	0.015	0.396	0.022	0.006
Hog SW	43230.52	0.00030	0.039	0.311	0.032	0.025
Dave Blue SW	20136.78	0.00000	0.024	0.437	0.054	0.024



# Results: Sub-Watershed Land-Use Loading vs. Pesticide Detections



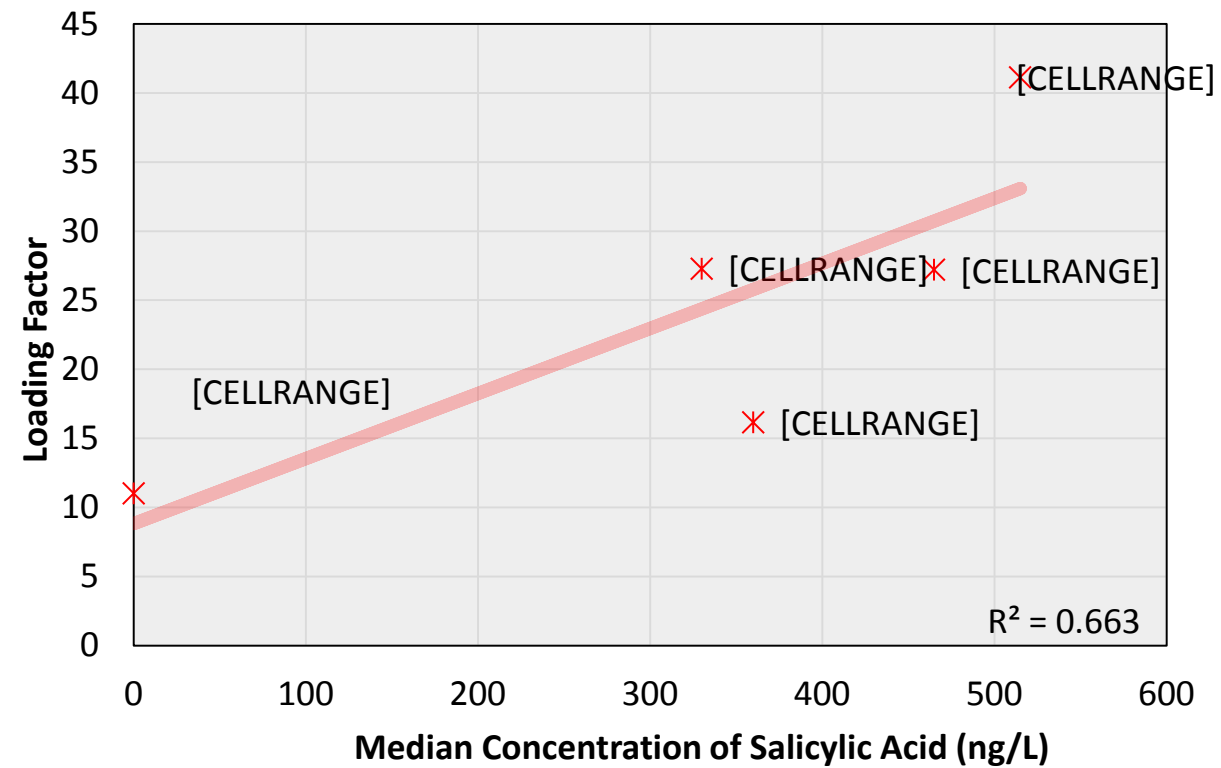
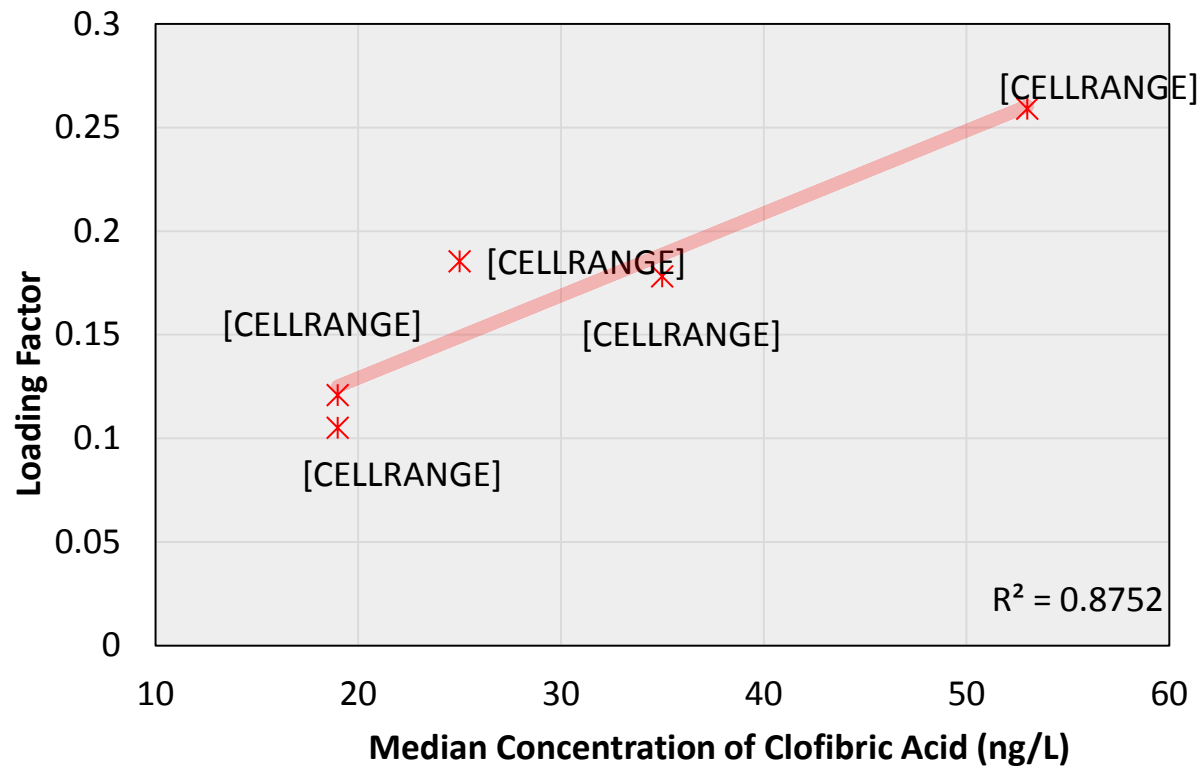
$$\text{Atrazine} = 4.8 C + 2 D + 0.45 H$$
$$R^2 = 0.9756$$



$$\text{Simazine} = 4.4 C + 0.01 D + 7.7 H$$
$$R^2 = 0.7623$$



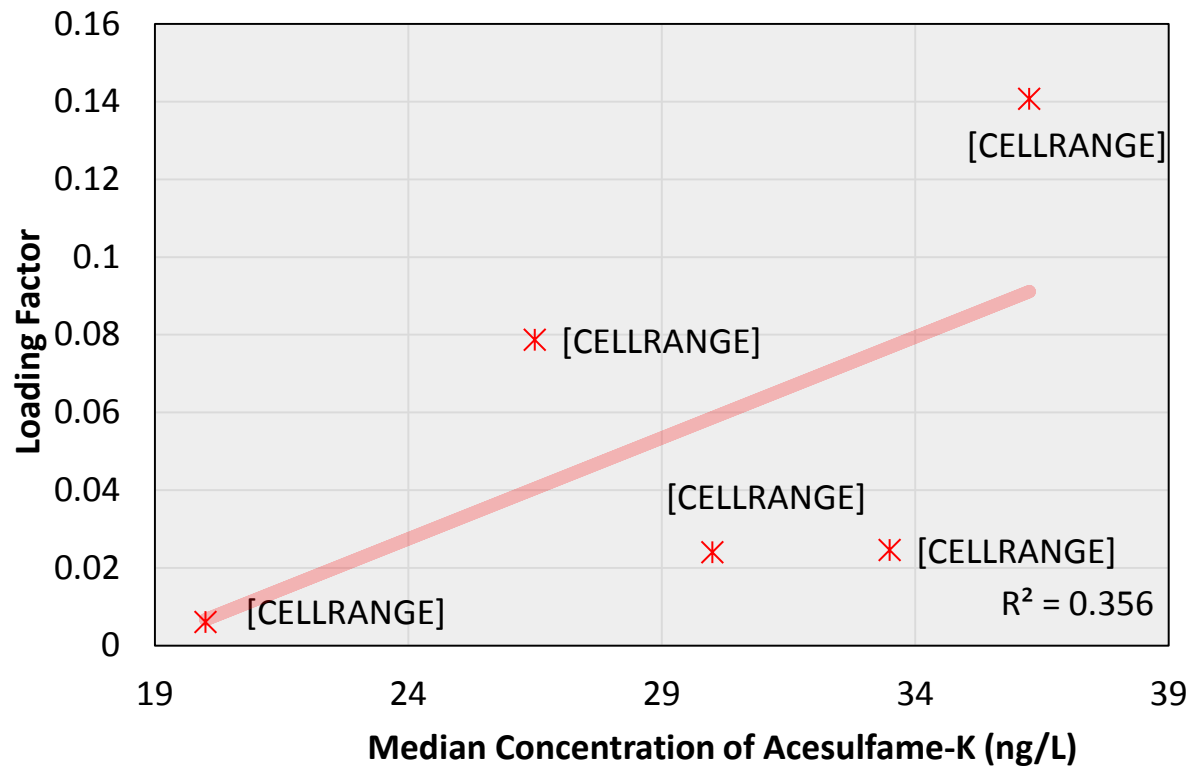
# Results: Sub-Watershed Land-Use Loading vs. PPCP Detections



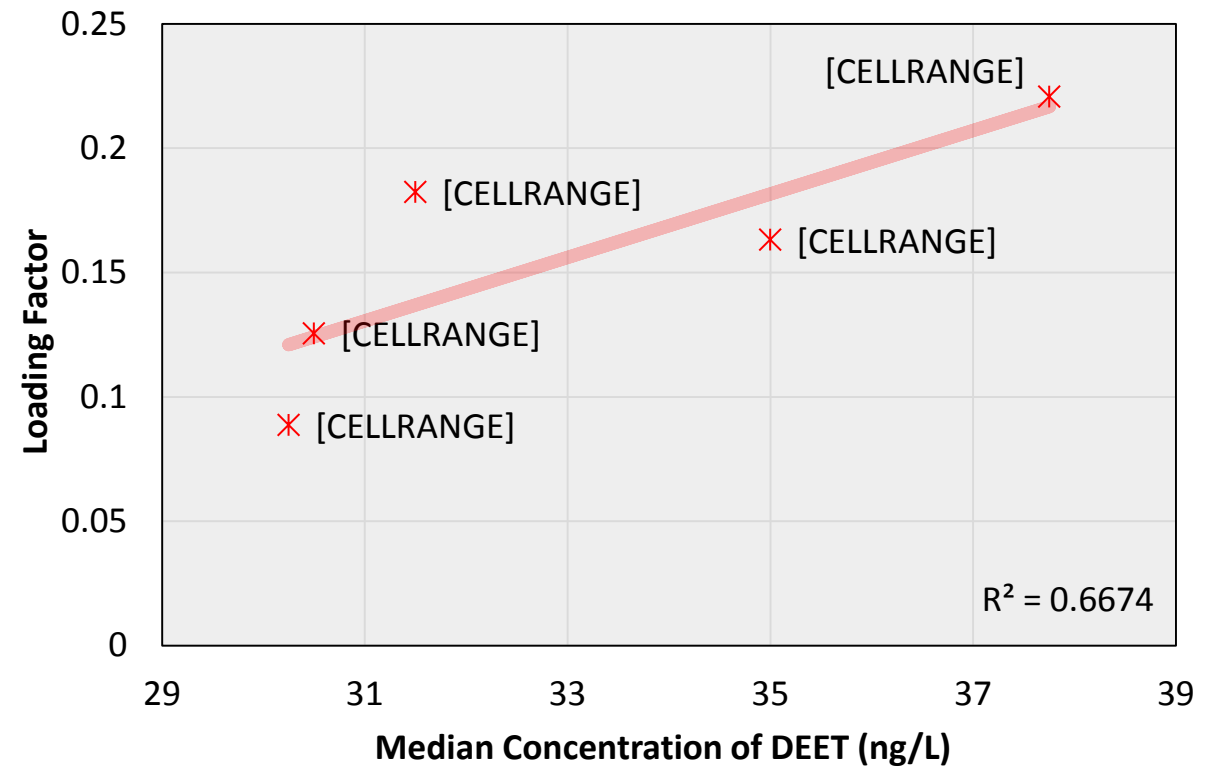
$$\text{Clofibric Acid} = 1 \text{ DW} + 0.001 \text{ D} + 3 \text{ C}$$
$$R^2 = 0.8752$$

$$\text{Salicylic Acid} = 0.001 \text{ DW} + 1 \text{ D} + 500 \text{ C}$$
$$R^2 = 0.6630$$

# Results: Sub-Watershed Land-Use Loading vs. Other Detections

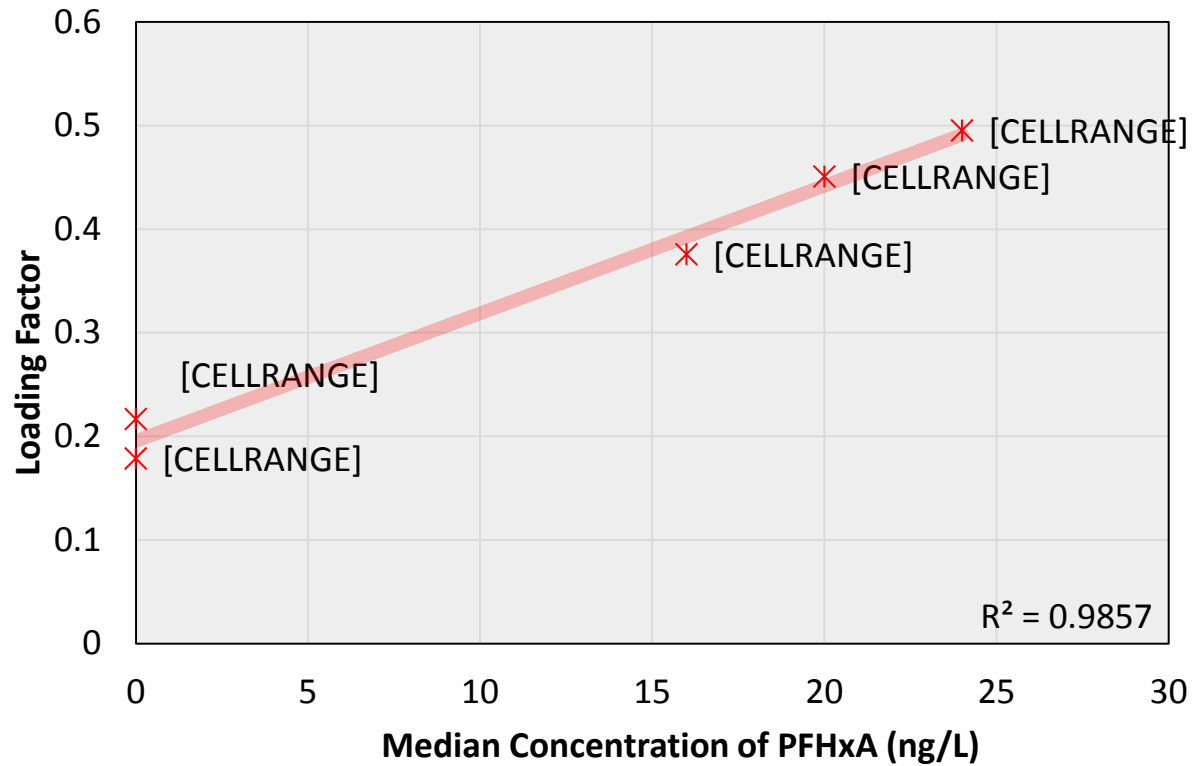


$$\text{Acesulfame-K} = 4 \text{ DW} + 1.2 \text{ D}$$
$$R^2 = 0.6674$$

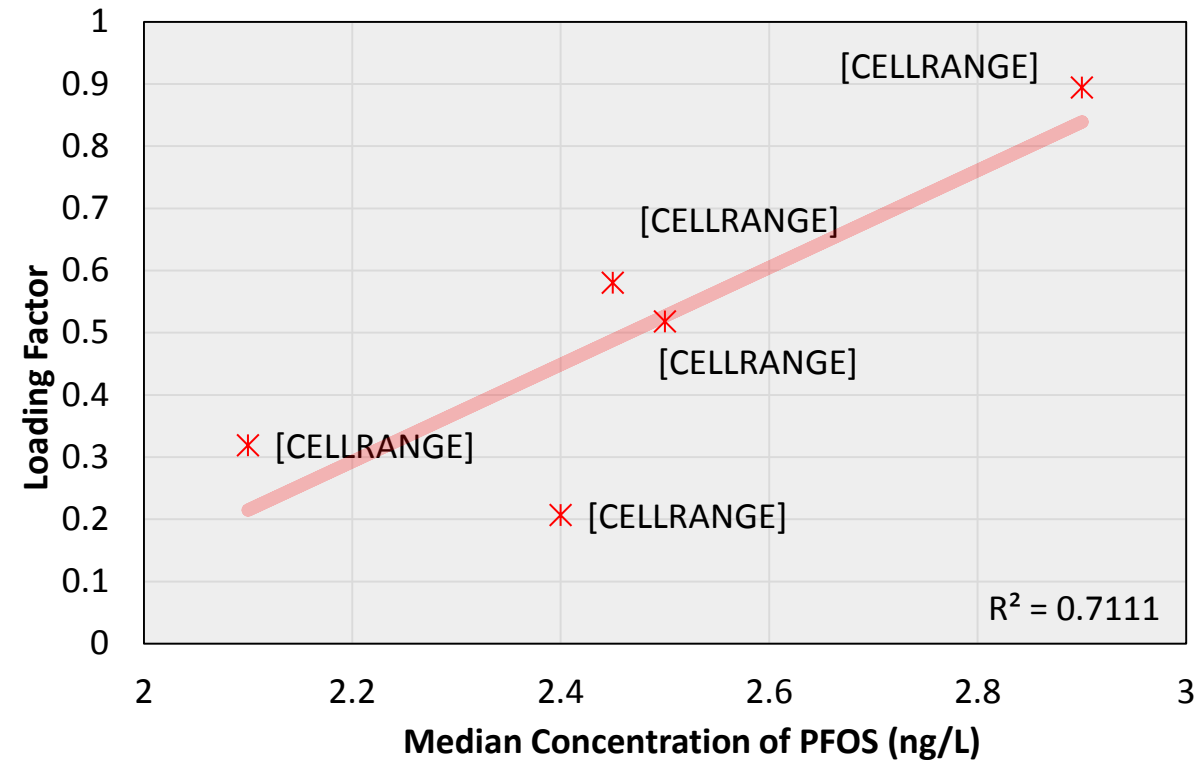


$$\text{DEET} = 0.001 \text{ DW} + 1 \text{ D}$$
$$R^2 = 0.3560$$

# Results: Sub-Watershed Land-Use Loading vs. Industrial Detections



$$\text{PFHxA} = 0.01 \text{ ST} + 5 \text{ DW} + 0.001 \text{ D} + 4.7 \text{ C}$$
$$R^2 = 0.9857$$



$$\text{PFOS} = 0.1 \text{ ST} + 0.1 \text{ DW} + 1.1 \text{ D} + 9 \text{ C}$$
$$R^2 = 0.7111$$



## Summary: CEC & Wastewater Reuse in a Regional Water Supply System

- It will take years to **build public acceptance** for a reuse project
- Major **public concern** are PPCPs, specifically hormones
- CEC are present in all waters, **WE > WF > WS > WG > WT**
- Typical water reclamation facility with primary and **secondary clarifiers** will **reduce concentrations and remove a high percentage of CEC**
- Pesticides are present at highest concentrations in WS and WG, but **PPCPs are most toxic** at current environmental concentrations
- Human health standards are only established for a few CEC, continued **work to establish toxicity levels and health advisory levels**
- **Potable reuse of municipal wastewater is feasible and can be safe**

Stay tuned...study of Bartlesville, OK underway and will be presented in the future