

Russian River Estuary Management Project 2017 Review and 2018 Update



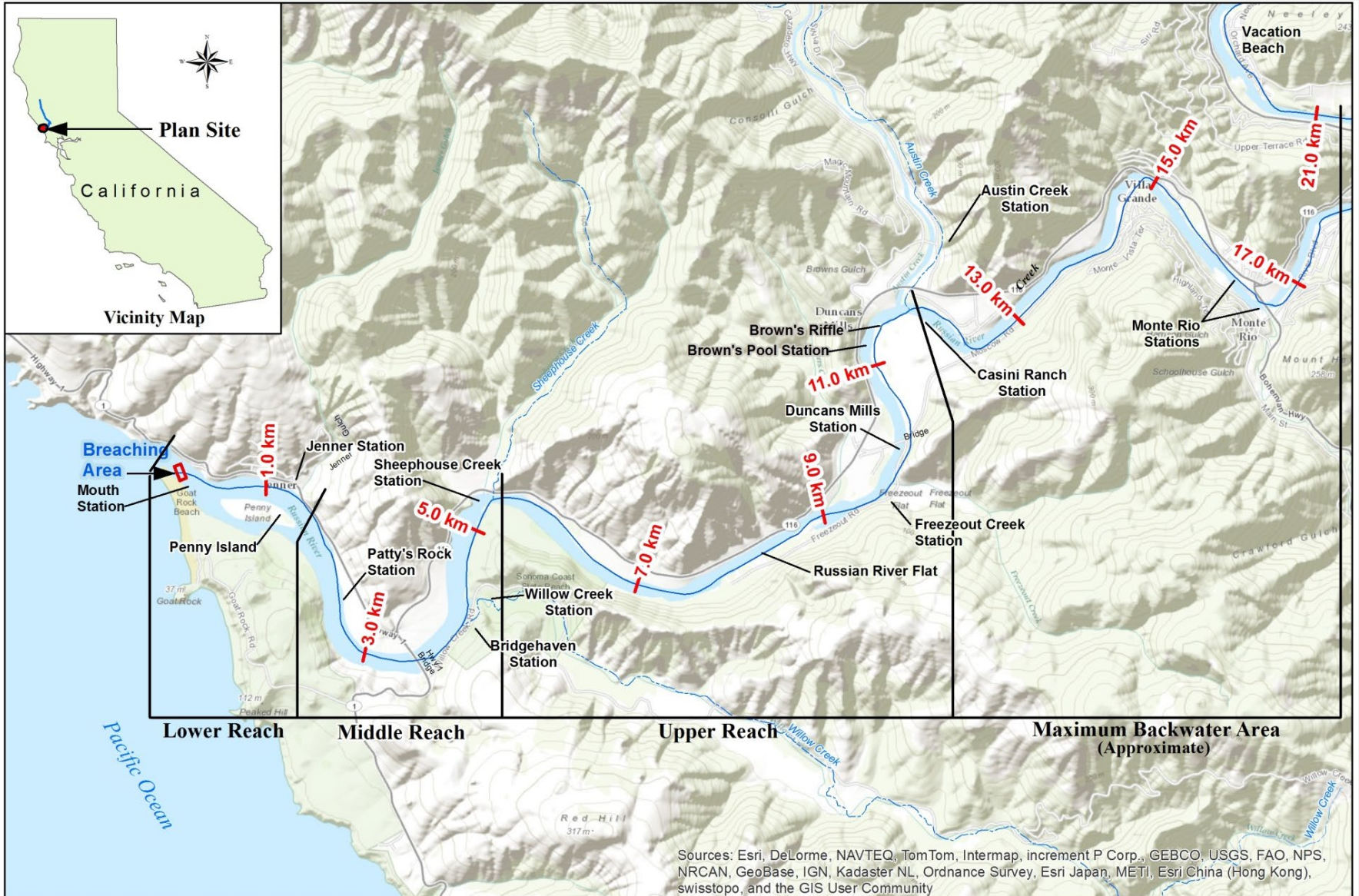
Jessica Martini-Lamb

Environmental Resources Manager

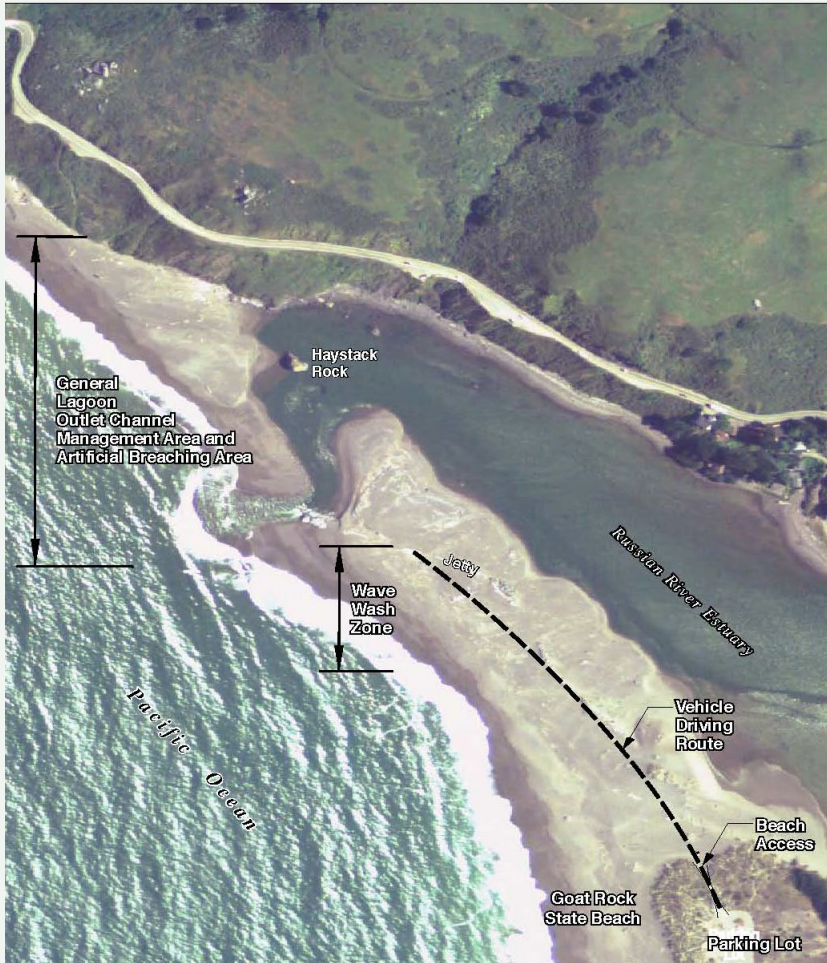
jessicam@scwa.ca.gov



Project Summary



Beach Management Activities



Artificial breach

Outlet channel



Estuary Management Project Status

- 4 closures during 2017 lagoon mgt. season
 - 2 outlet channel attempts



July 17



October 3



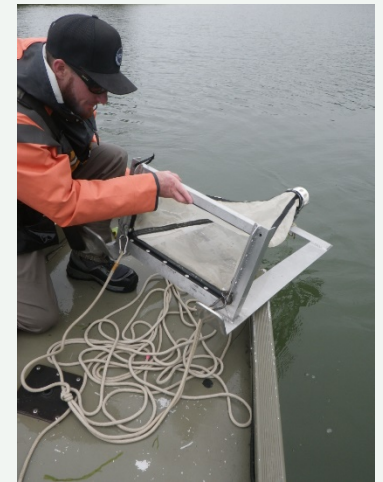
Estuary Monitoring

- Fisheries: downstream migrant trapping, seining, PIT-tag antennas
- Invertebrates and prey availability
- Pinnipeds
- Water quality
- Beach topography



2018 Estuary Activities

- Adaptive Management Plan
- Continue to monitor biological and water quality conditions



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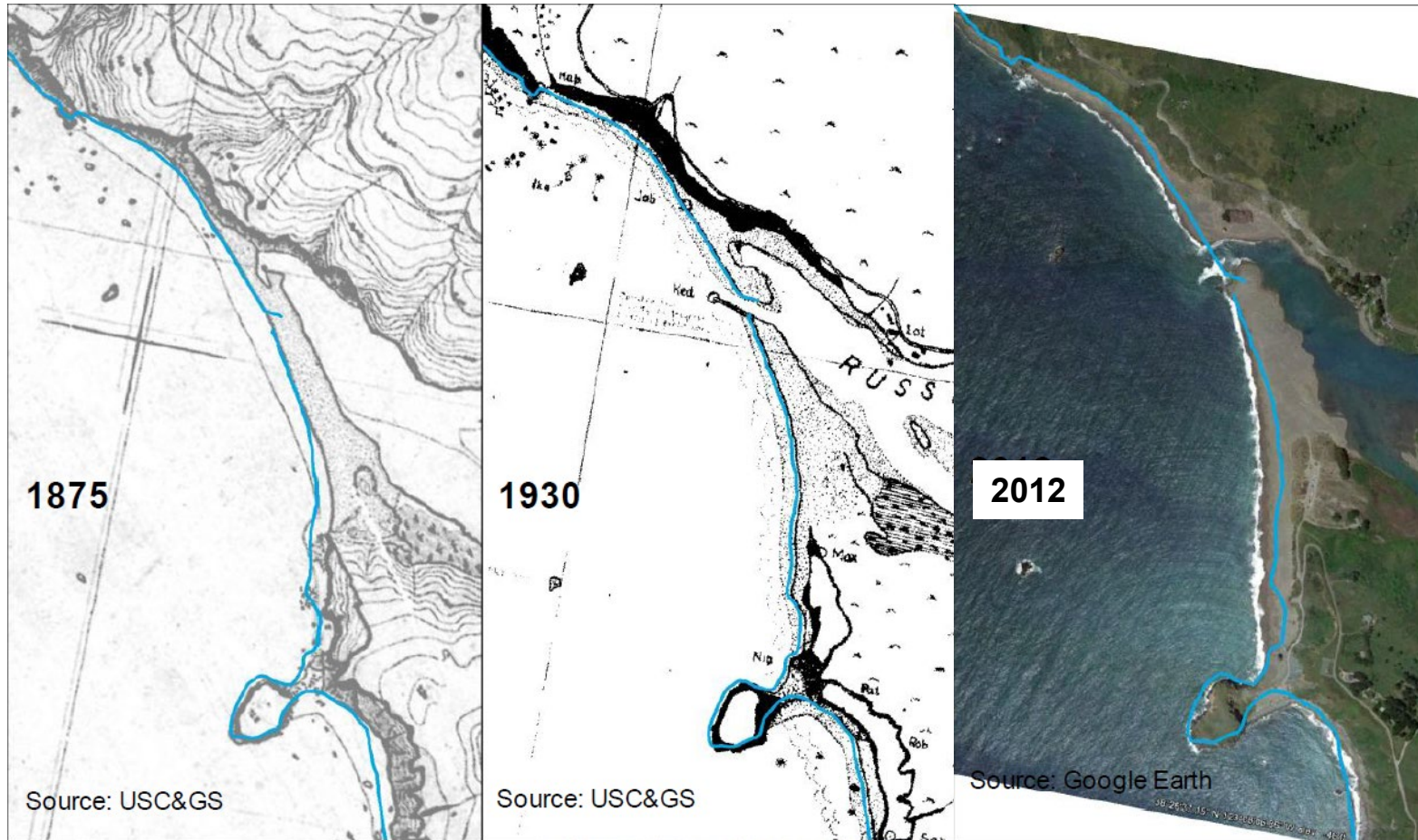


Beach Morphology at Goat Rock



Dane Behrens
DBehrens@esassoc.com

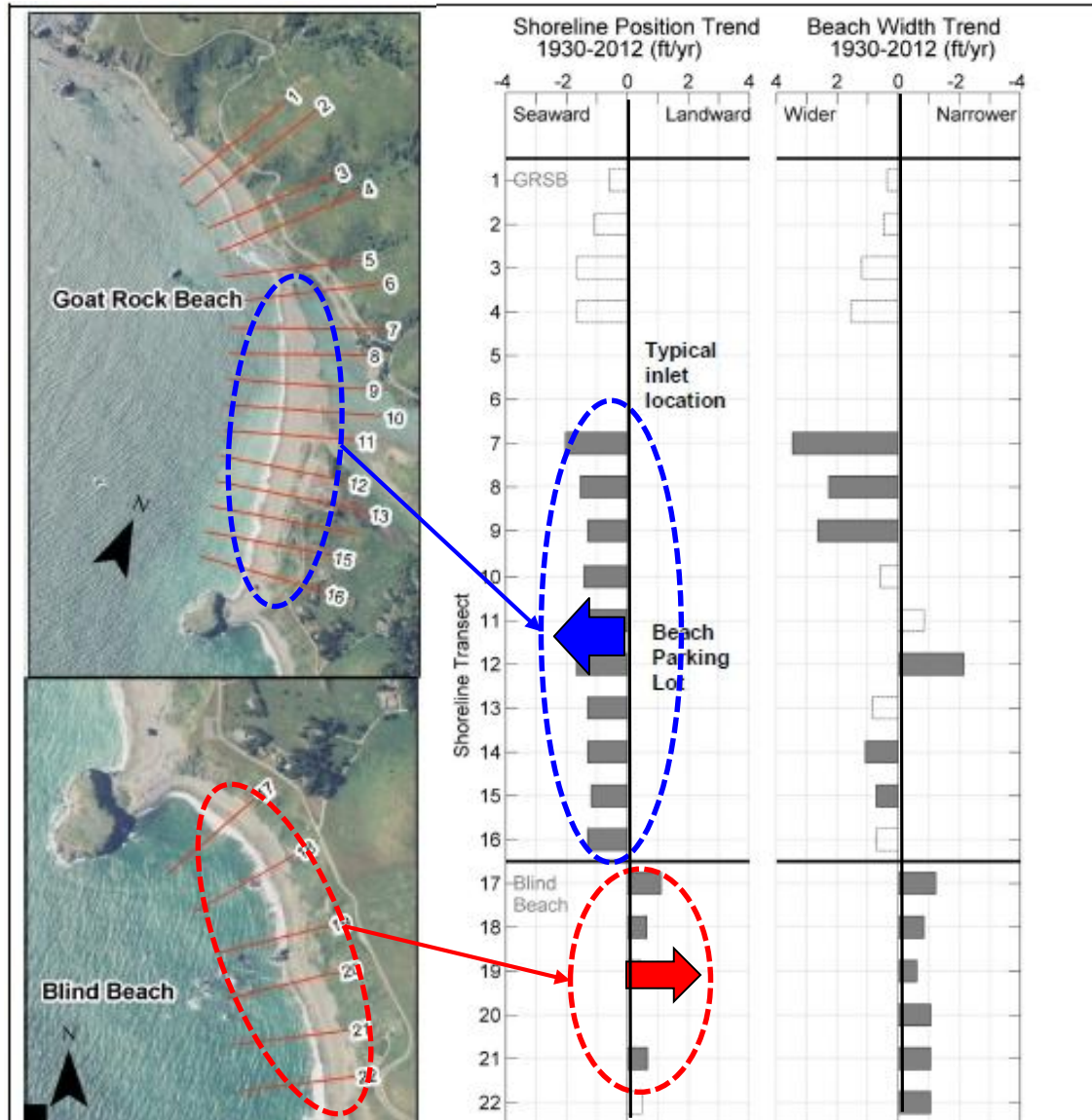
Beach Morphology: Influence of Construction Adjacent to Goat Rock



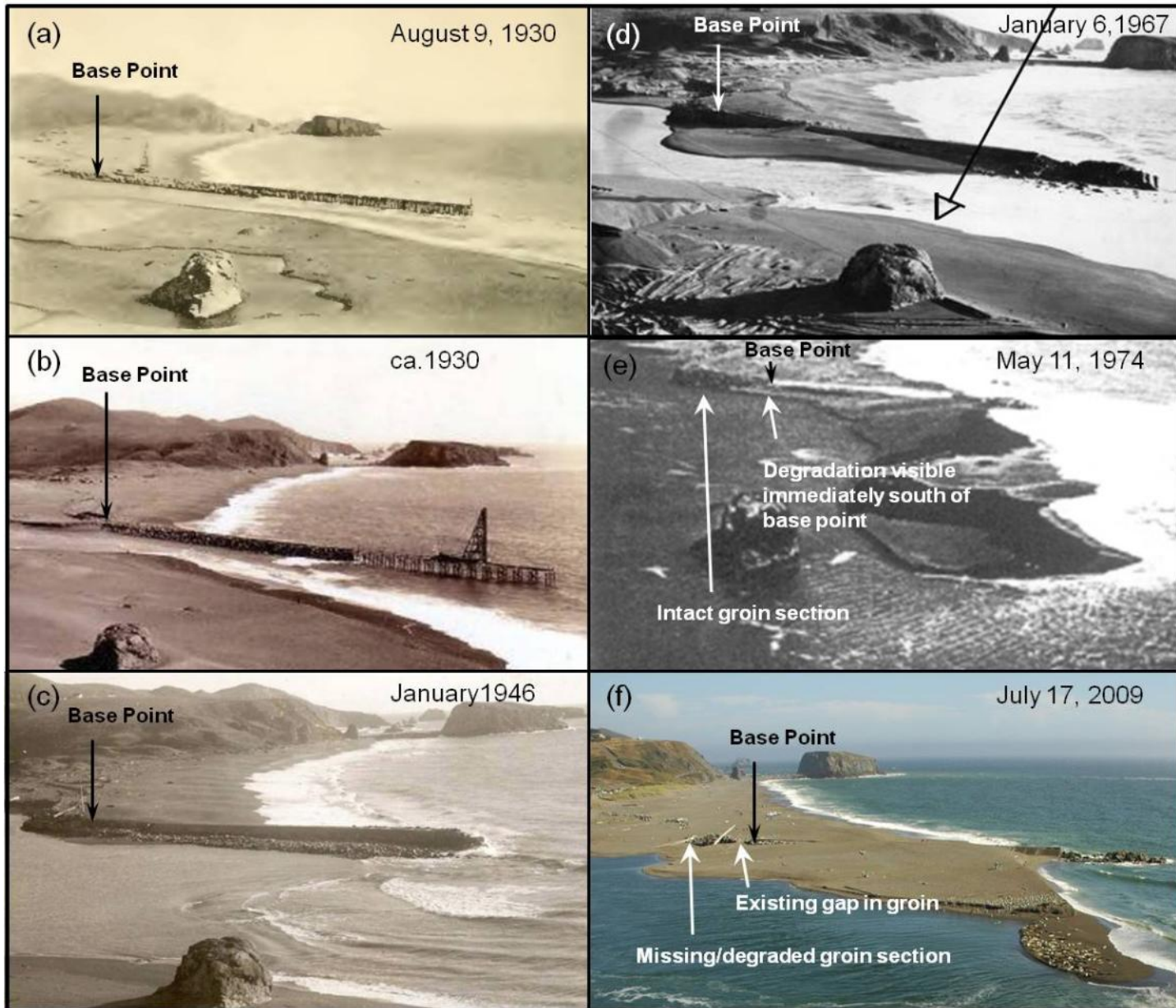
- Goat Rock previously connected to the shore at low tide
- Shoreline **growing** 1.5 feet per year since 1930.

Beach Morphology:

Influence of Goat Rock Parking Lot

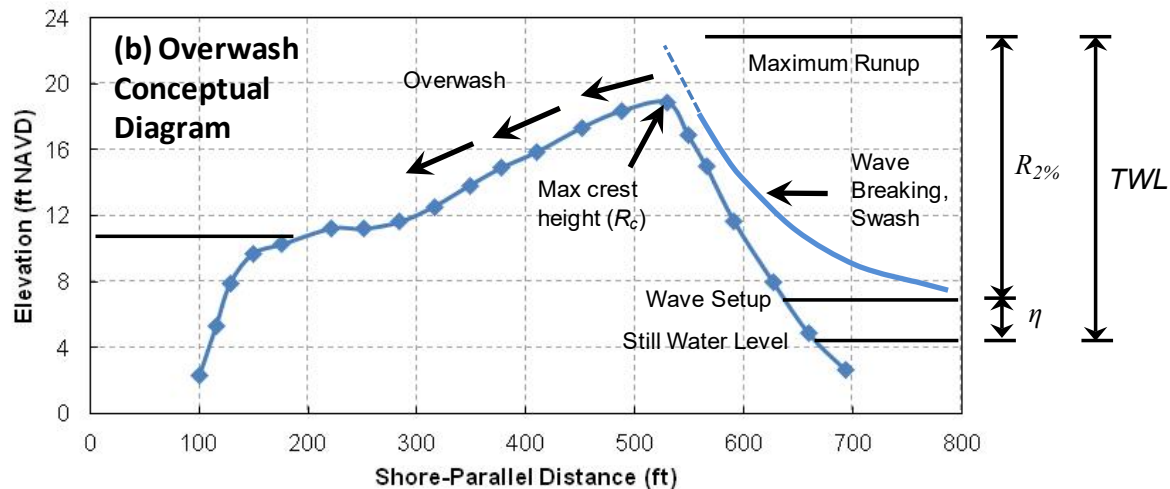


Evolution of the Back Beach

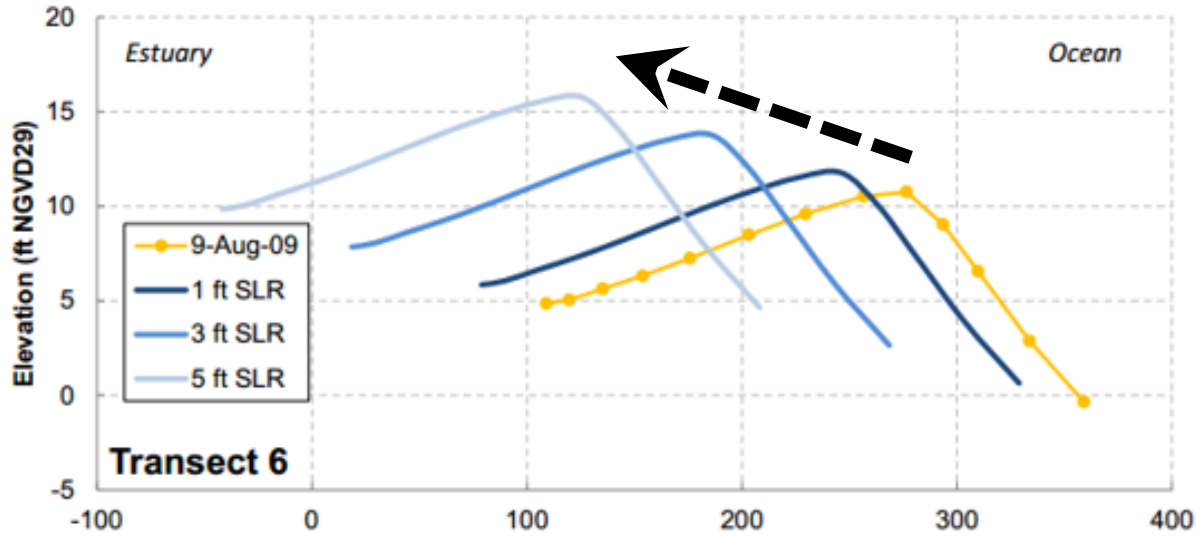


Beach Morphology: Influence of Jetty on Overwash

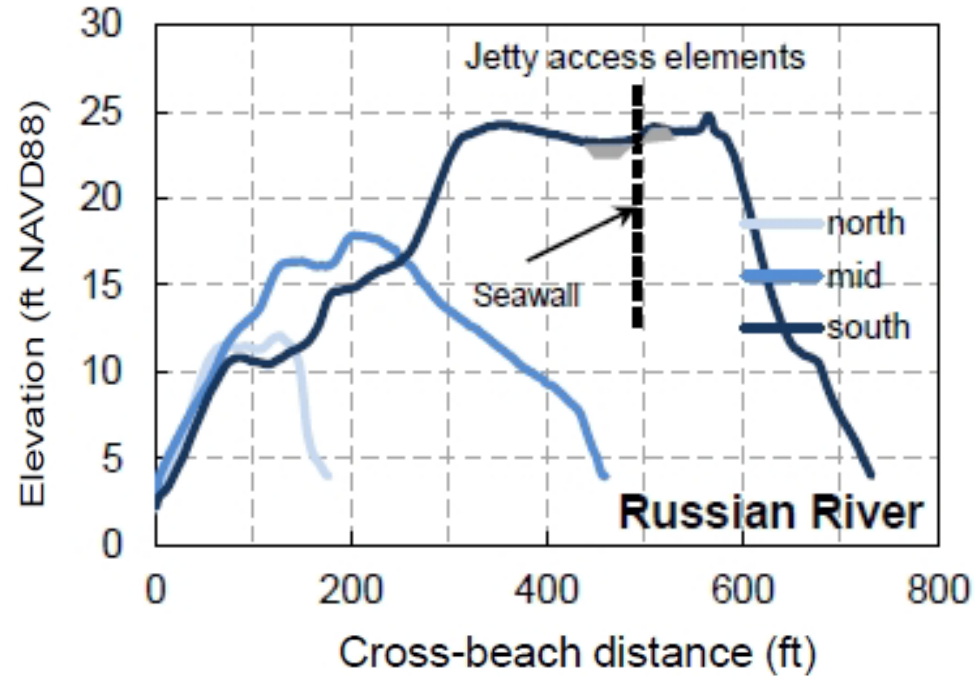
(a) Beach Overwash on December 9, 2009



Beach Morphology: Response to Sea Level Rise



Jetty Components



Beach Morphology at Goat Rock



Dane Behrens
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2017 Lower Russian River and Estuary Water Quality Monitoring

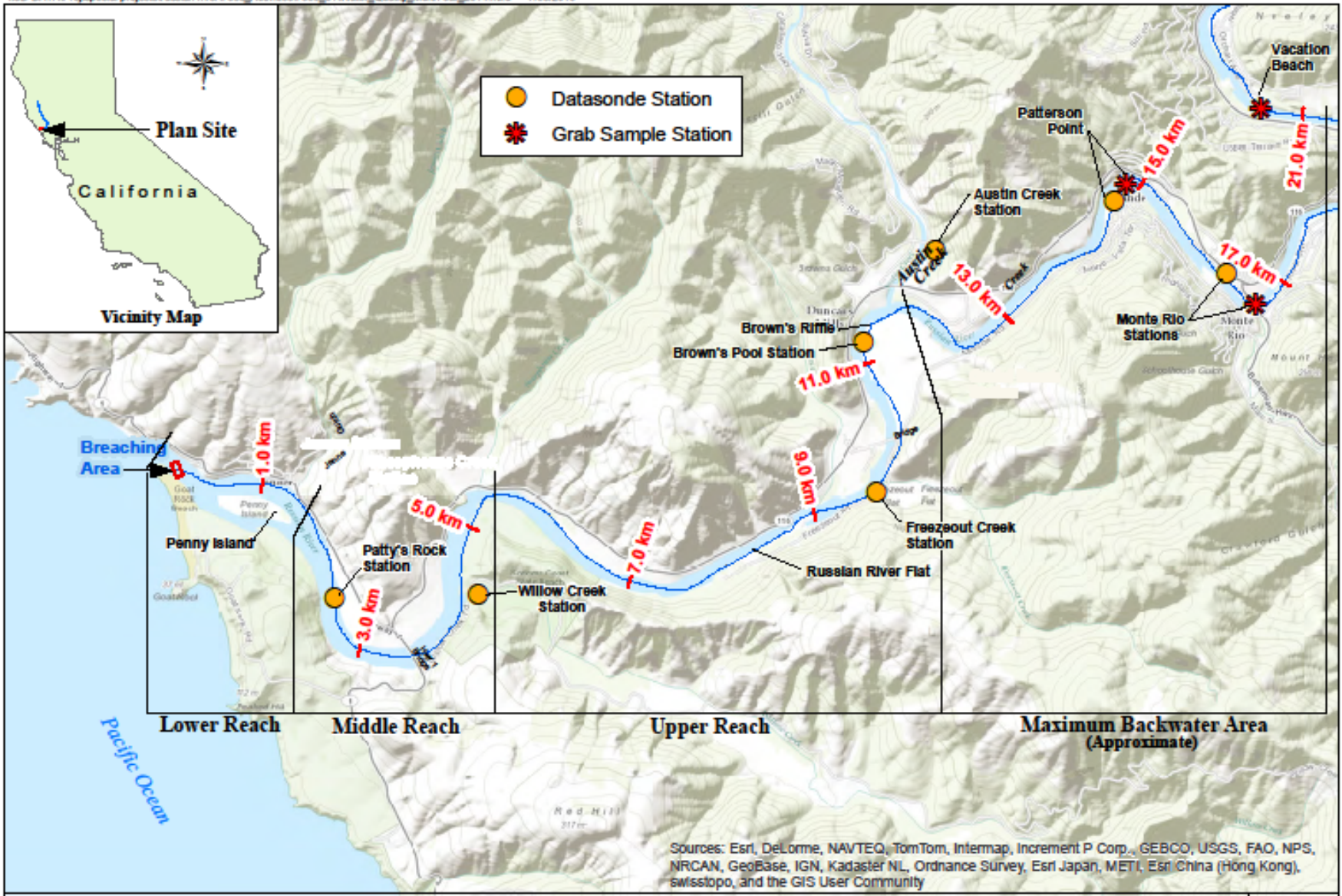


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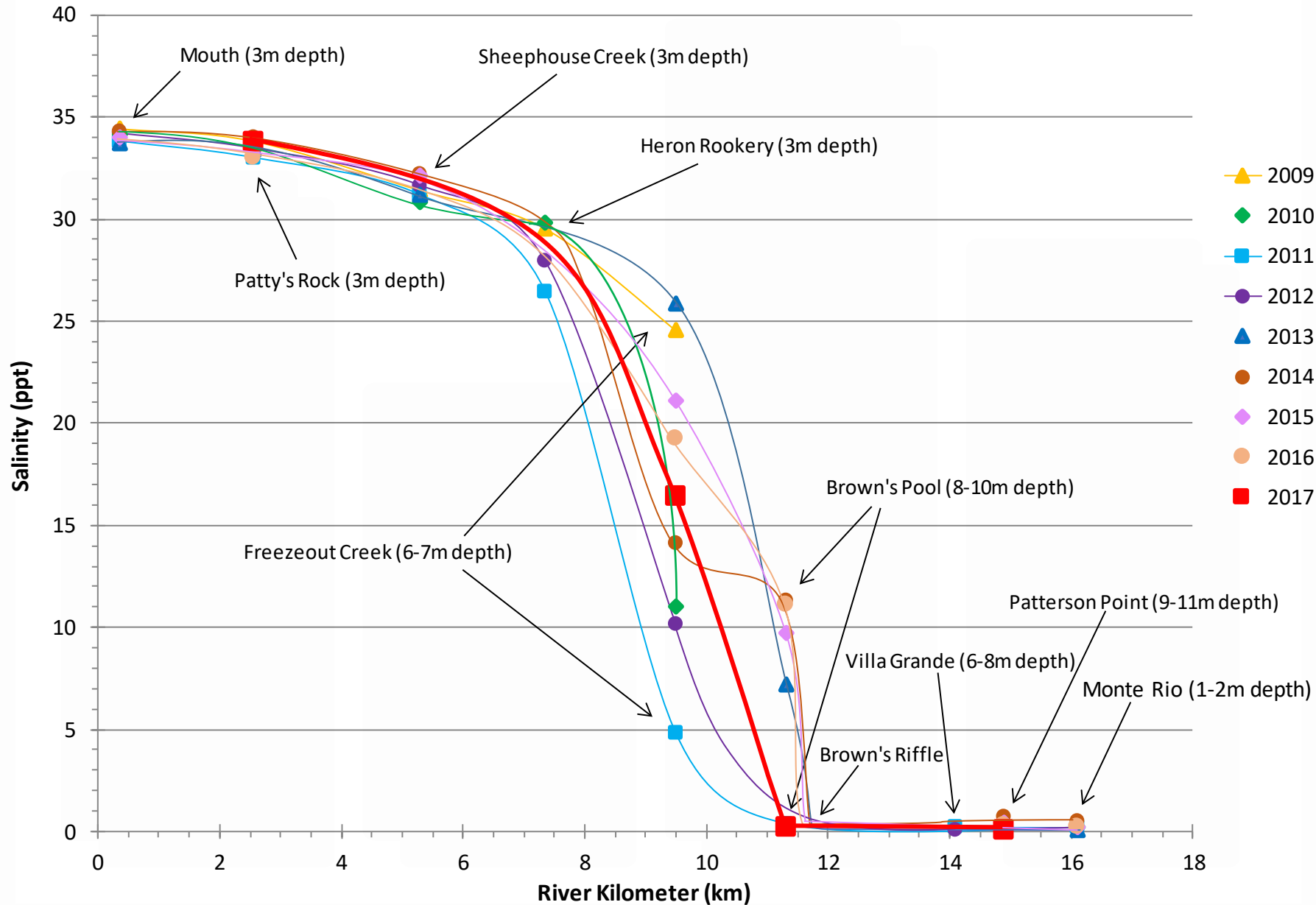


**Russian River Estuary
Water Quality Monitoring Stations**

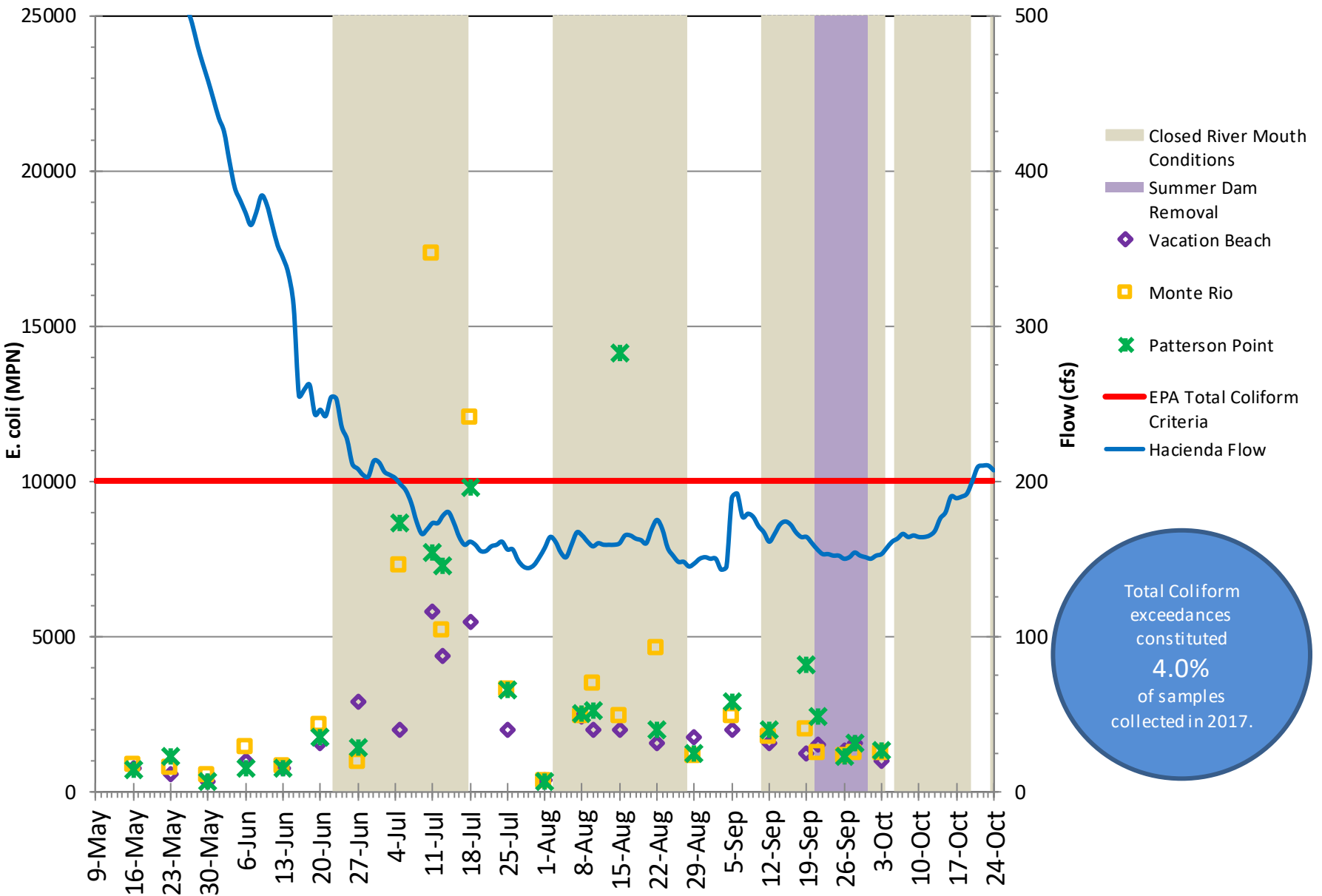
**Figure
1**

This Map is for general reference only.

Maximum Annual Observed Salinity by Russian River Estuary Monitoring Station

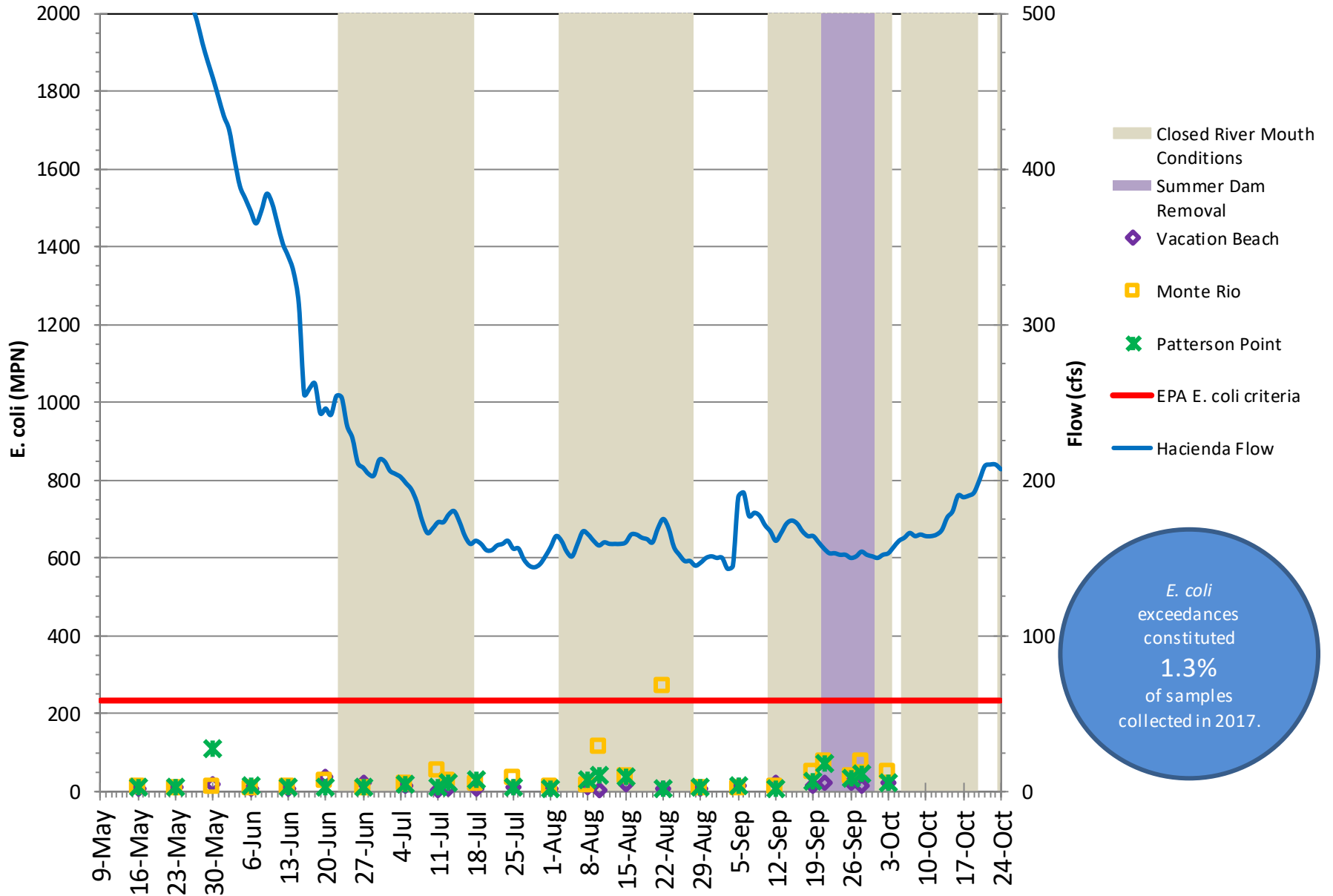


Total Coliform - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



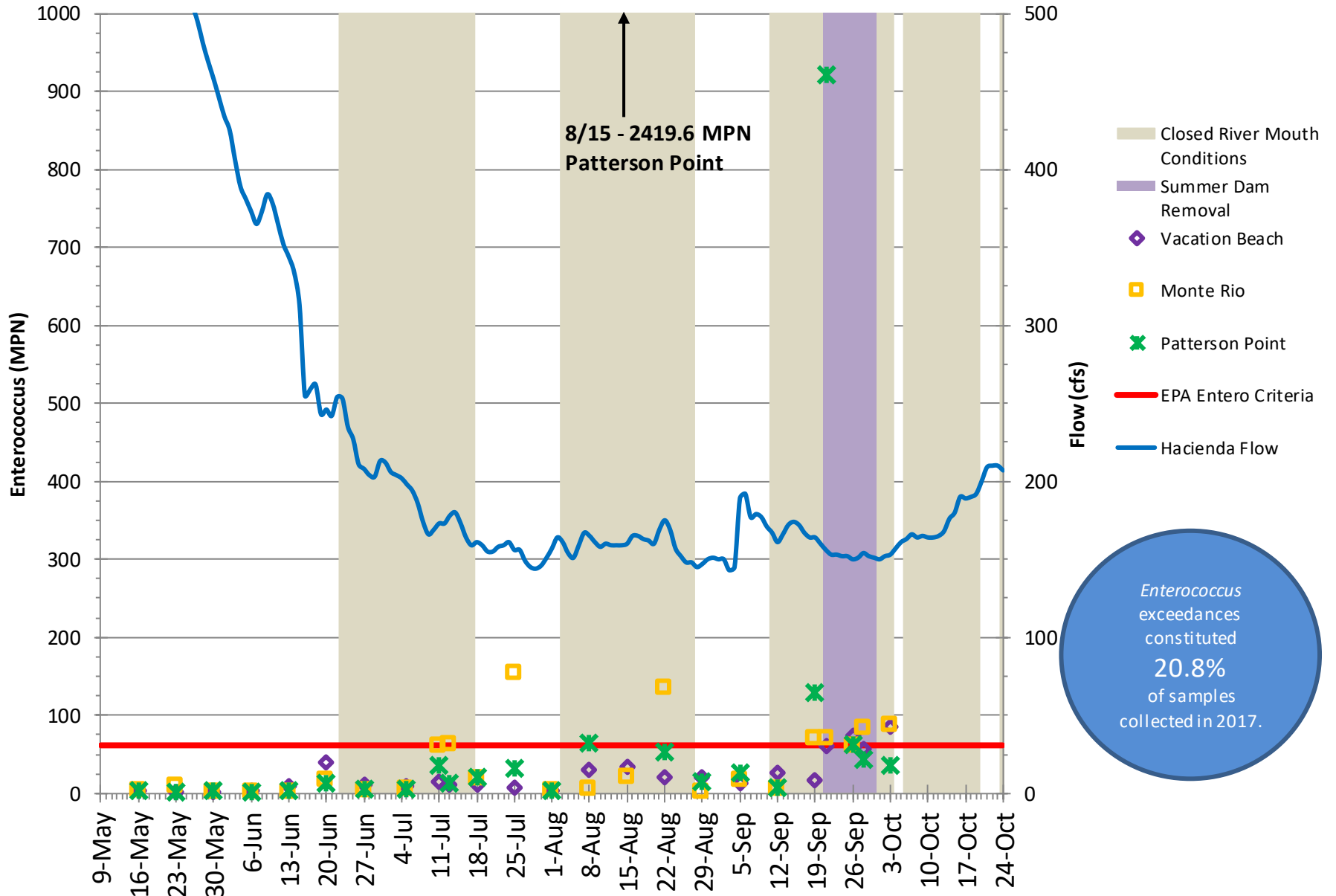
Total Coliform
exceedances
constituted
4.0%
of samples
collected in 2017.

E. coli - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



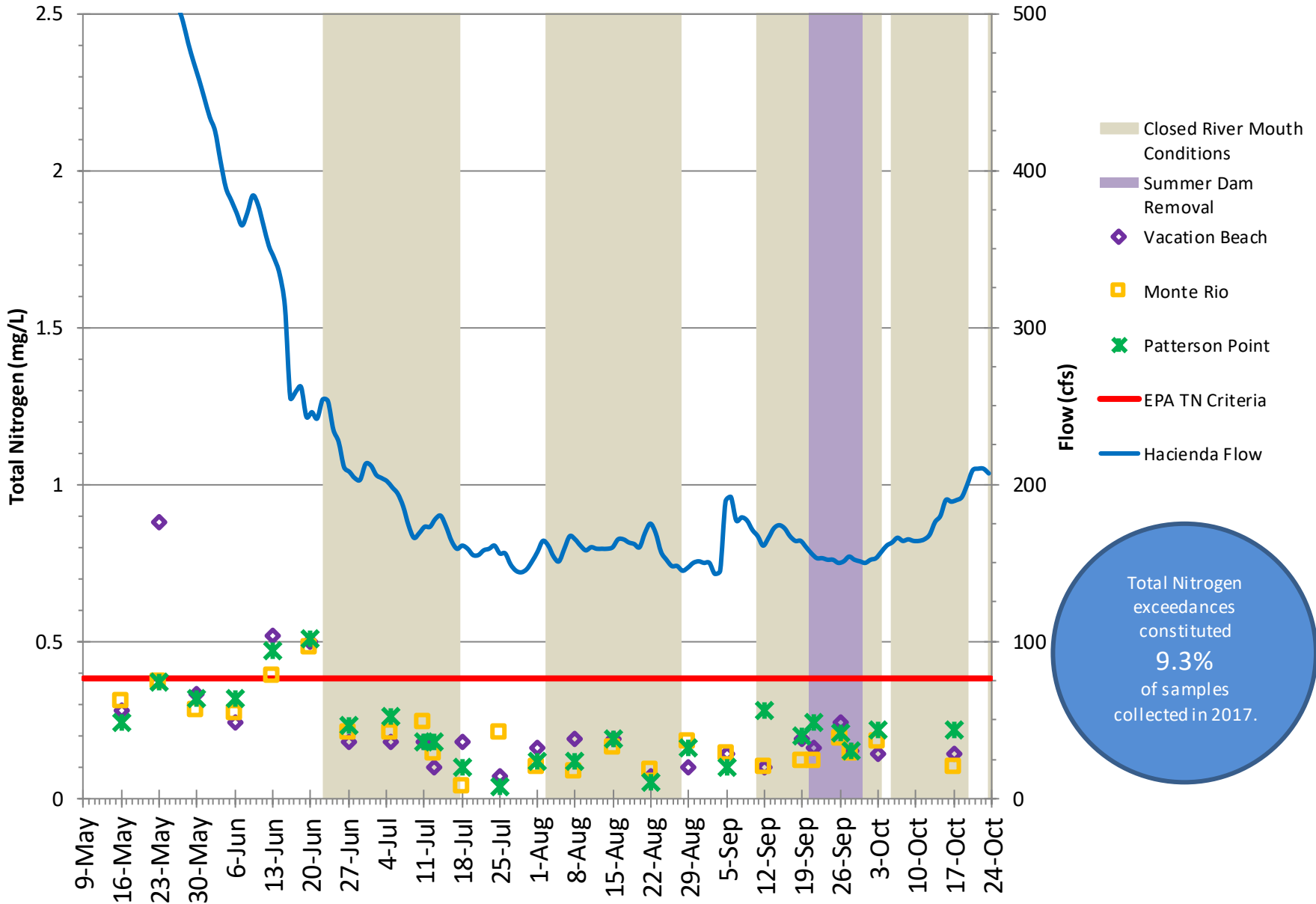
E. coli exceedances constituted 1.3% of samples collected in 2017.

Enterococcus - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



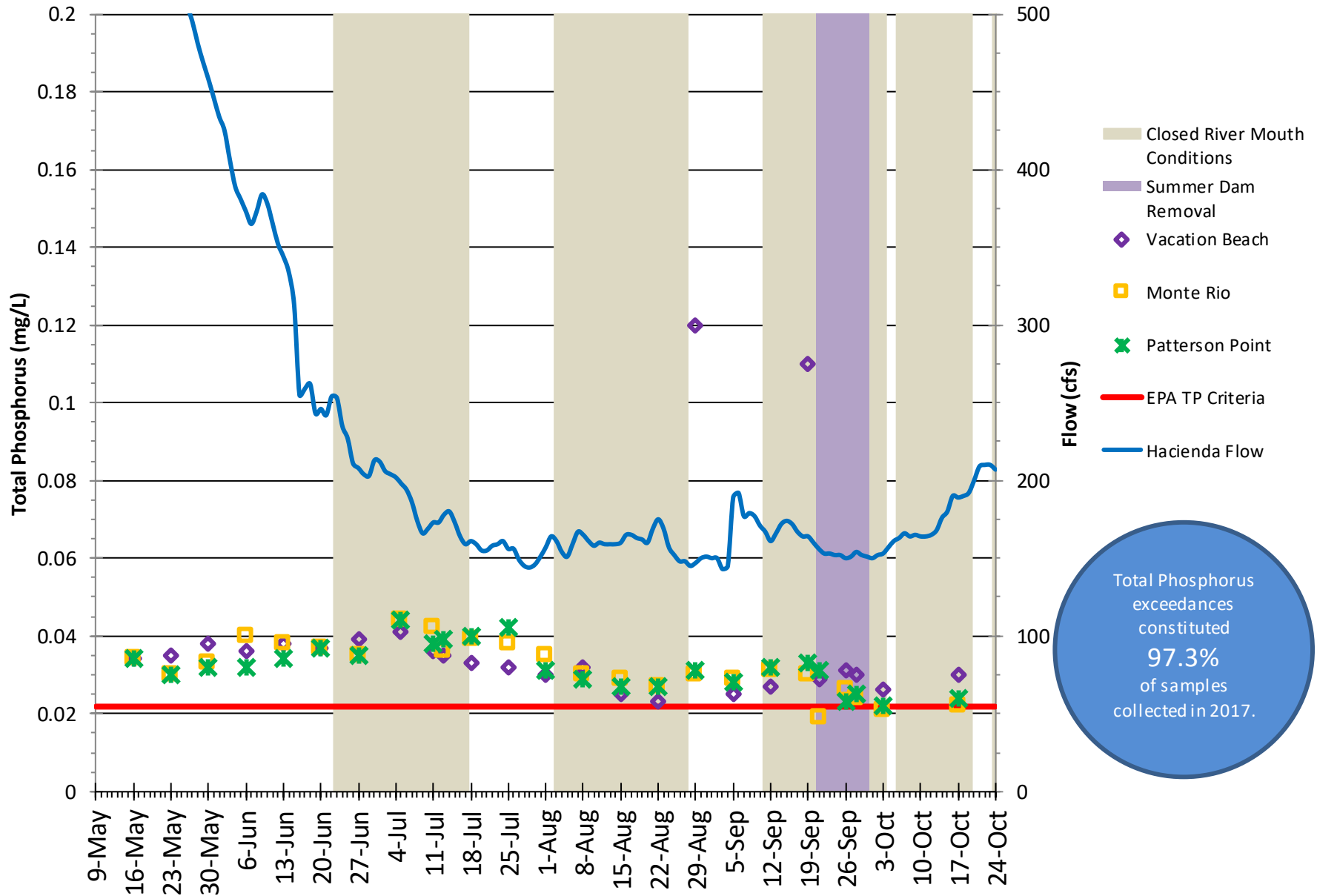
Enterococcus exceedances constituted 20.8% of samples collected in 2017.

Total Nitrogen - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



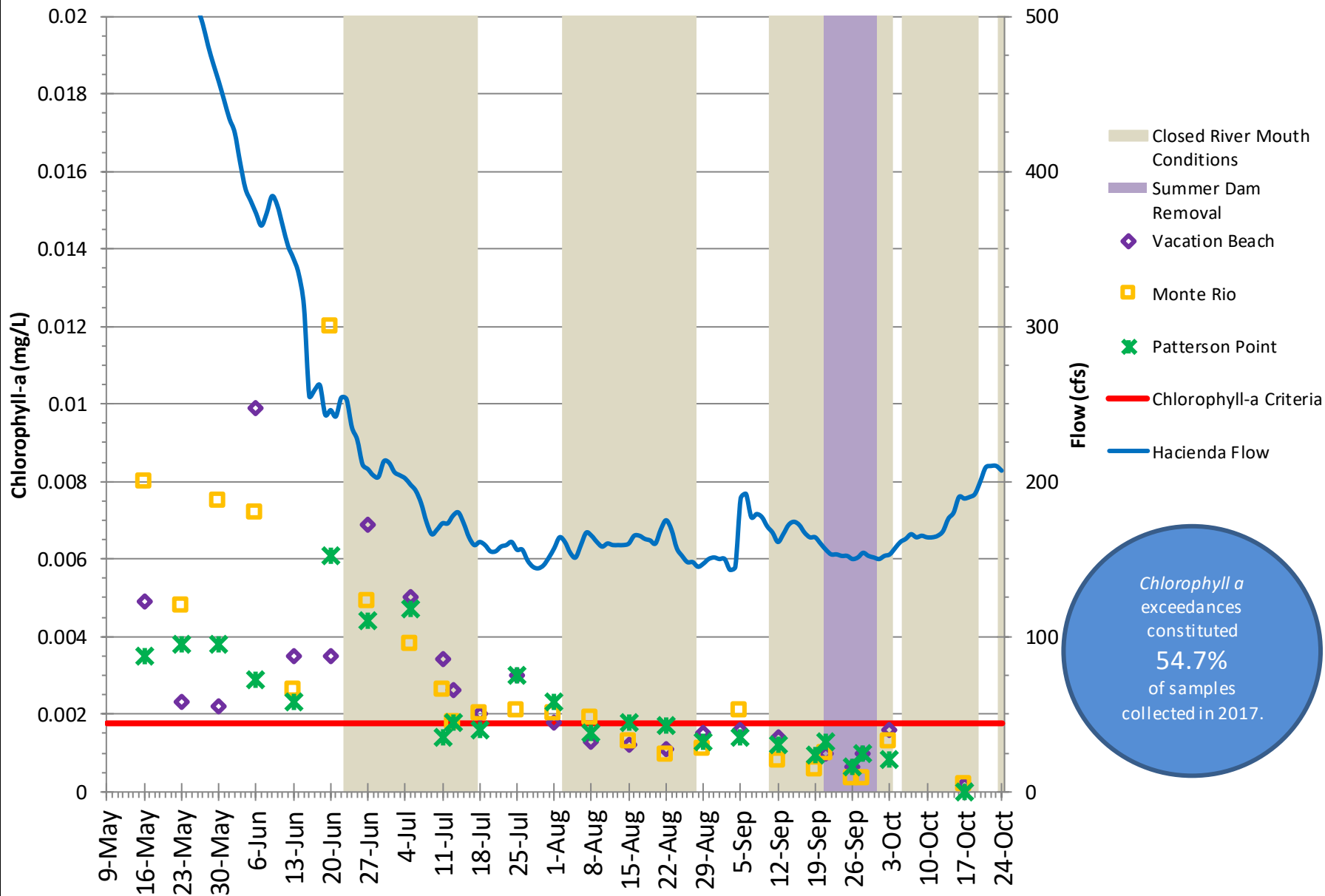
Total Nitrogen exceedances constituted 9.3% of samples collected in 2017.

Total Phosphorus - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



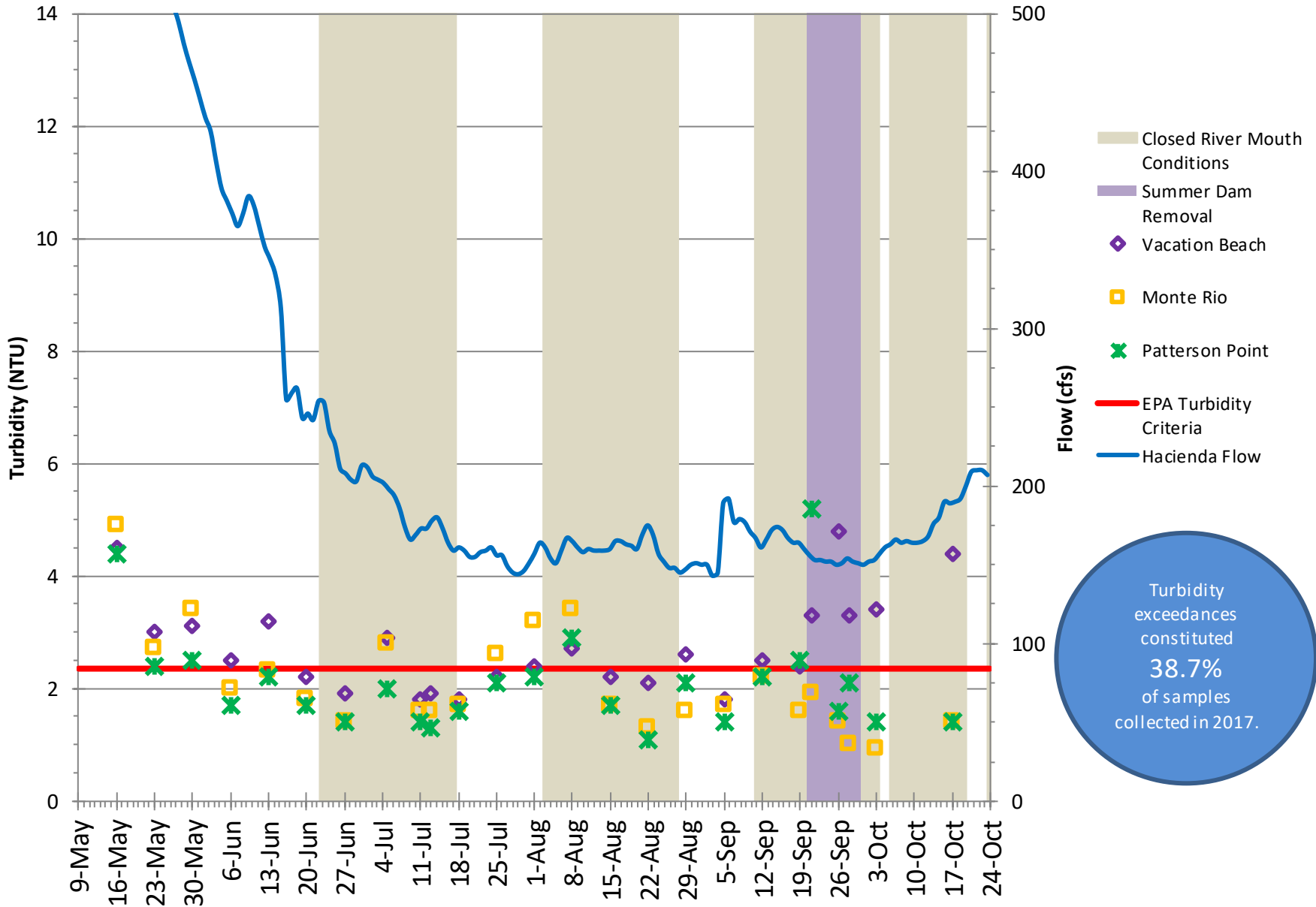
Total Phosphorus exceedances constituted 97.3% of samples collected in 2017.

Chlorophyll a - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017

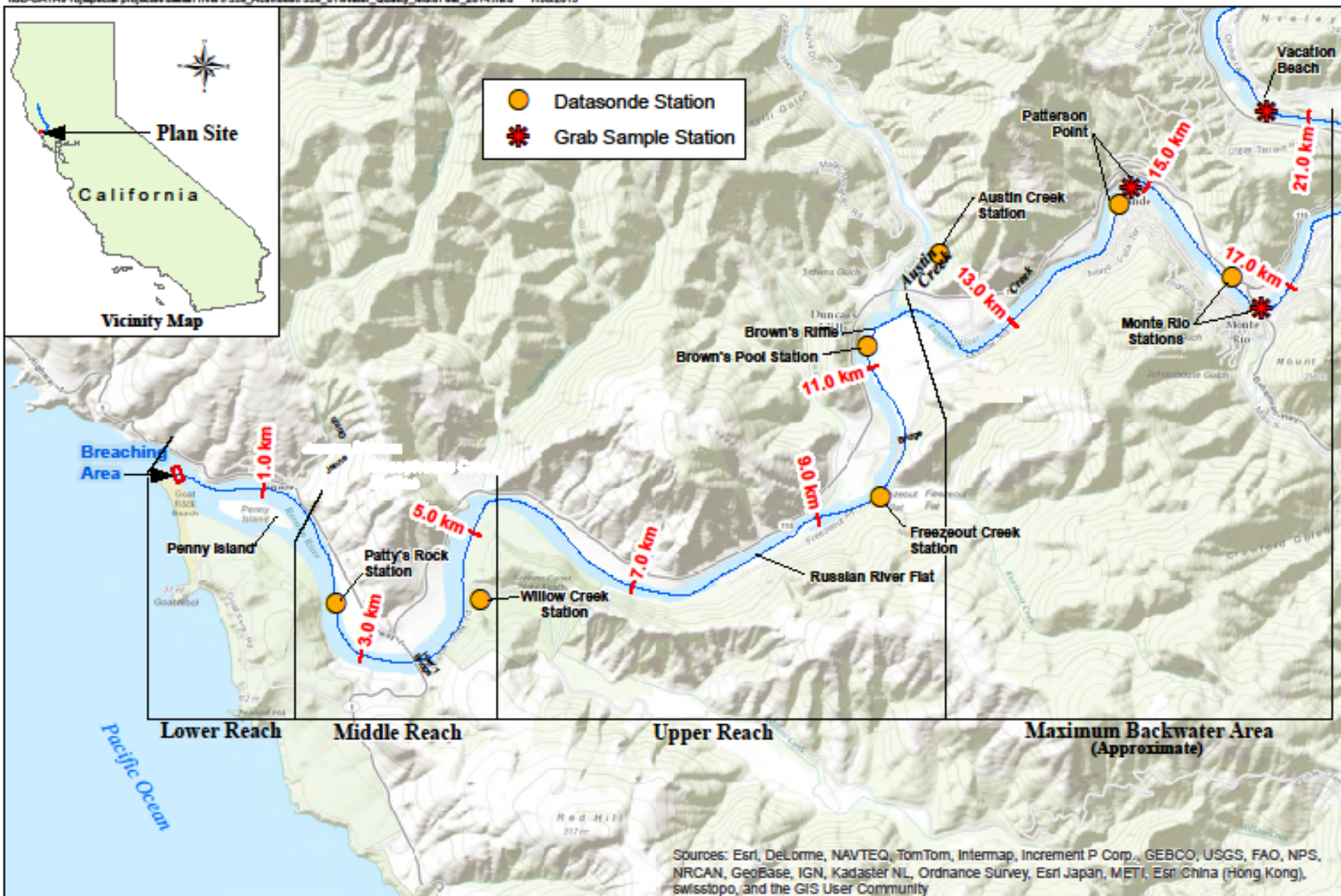


Chlorophyll a exceedances constituted 54.7% of samples collected in 2017.

Turbidity - Lower Russian River and Estuary - 2017



Turbidity exceedances constituted 38.7% of samples collected in 2017.

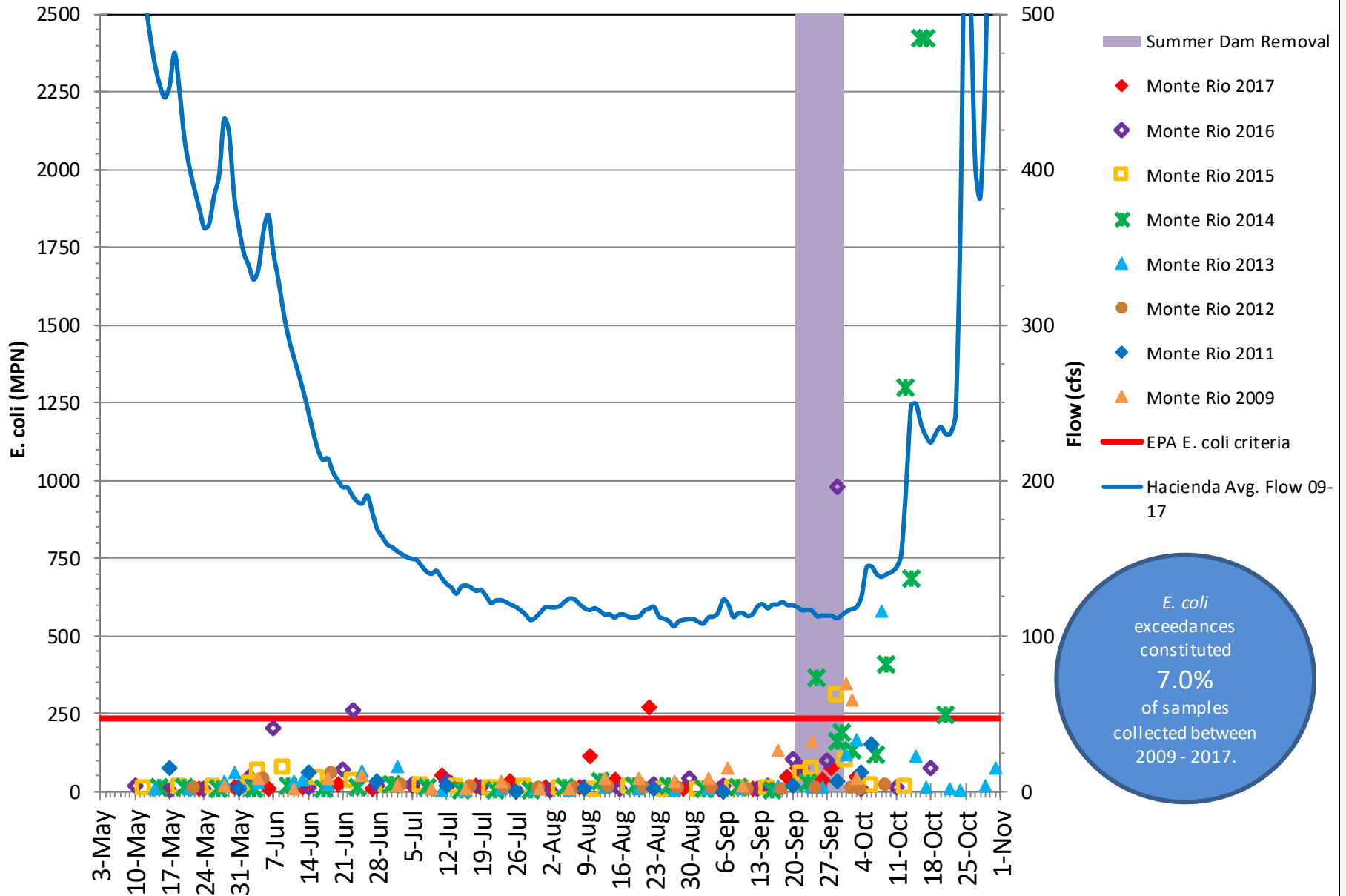


**Russian River Estuary
Water Quality Monitoring Stations**

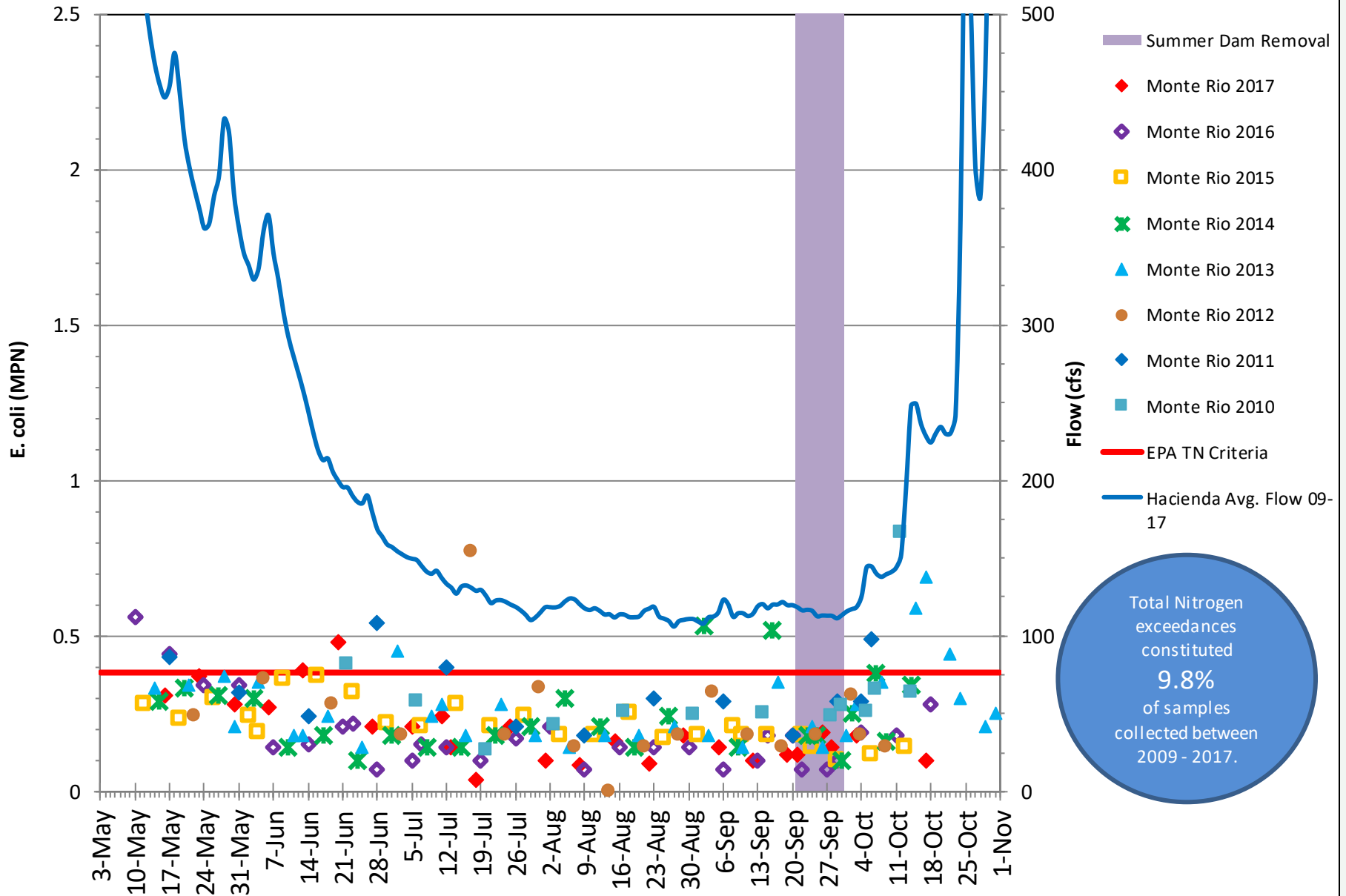
**Figure
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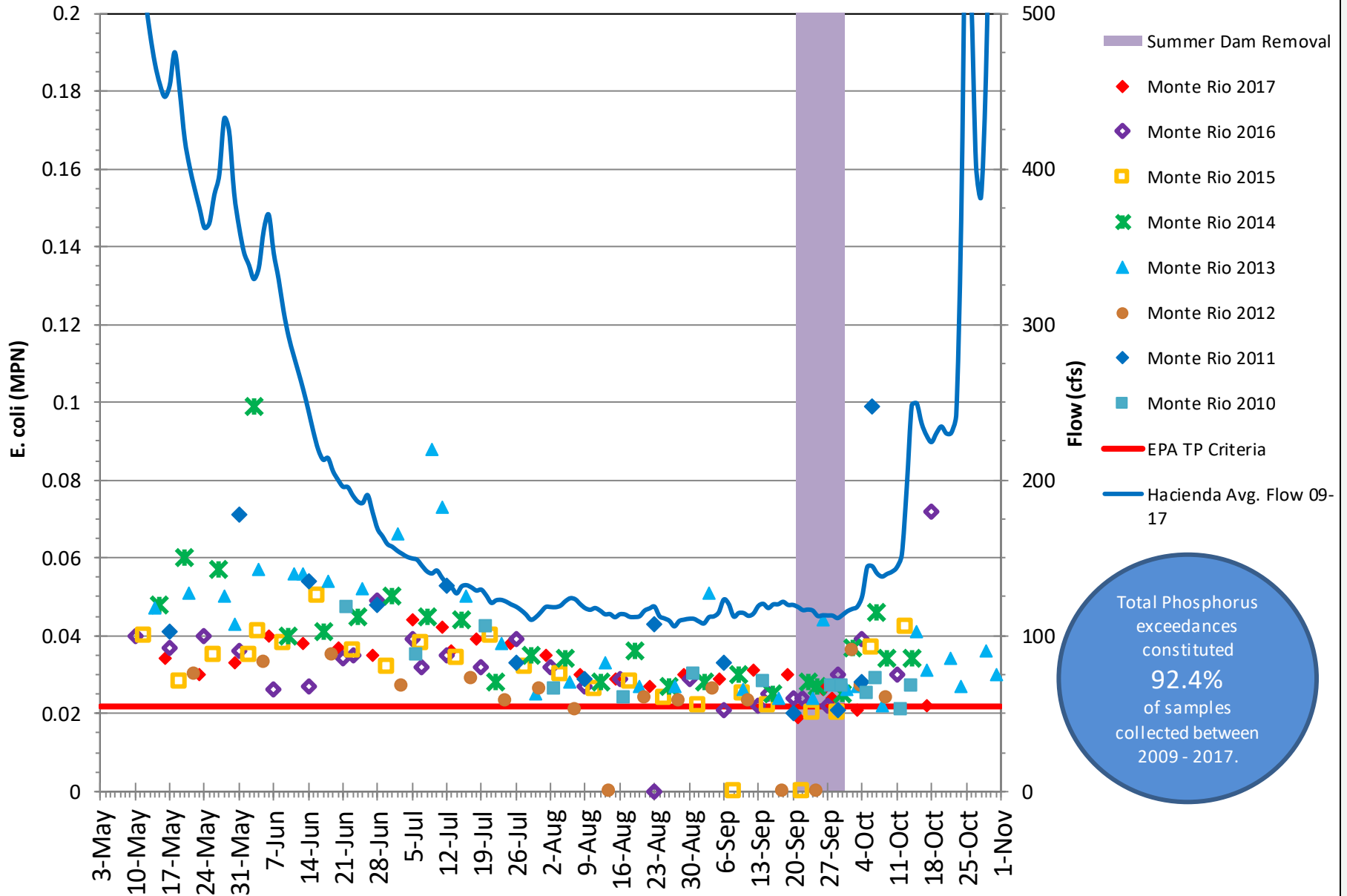
Russian River at Monte Rio *E. coli* - 2009 - 2017



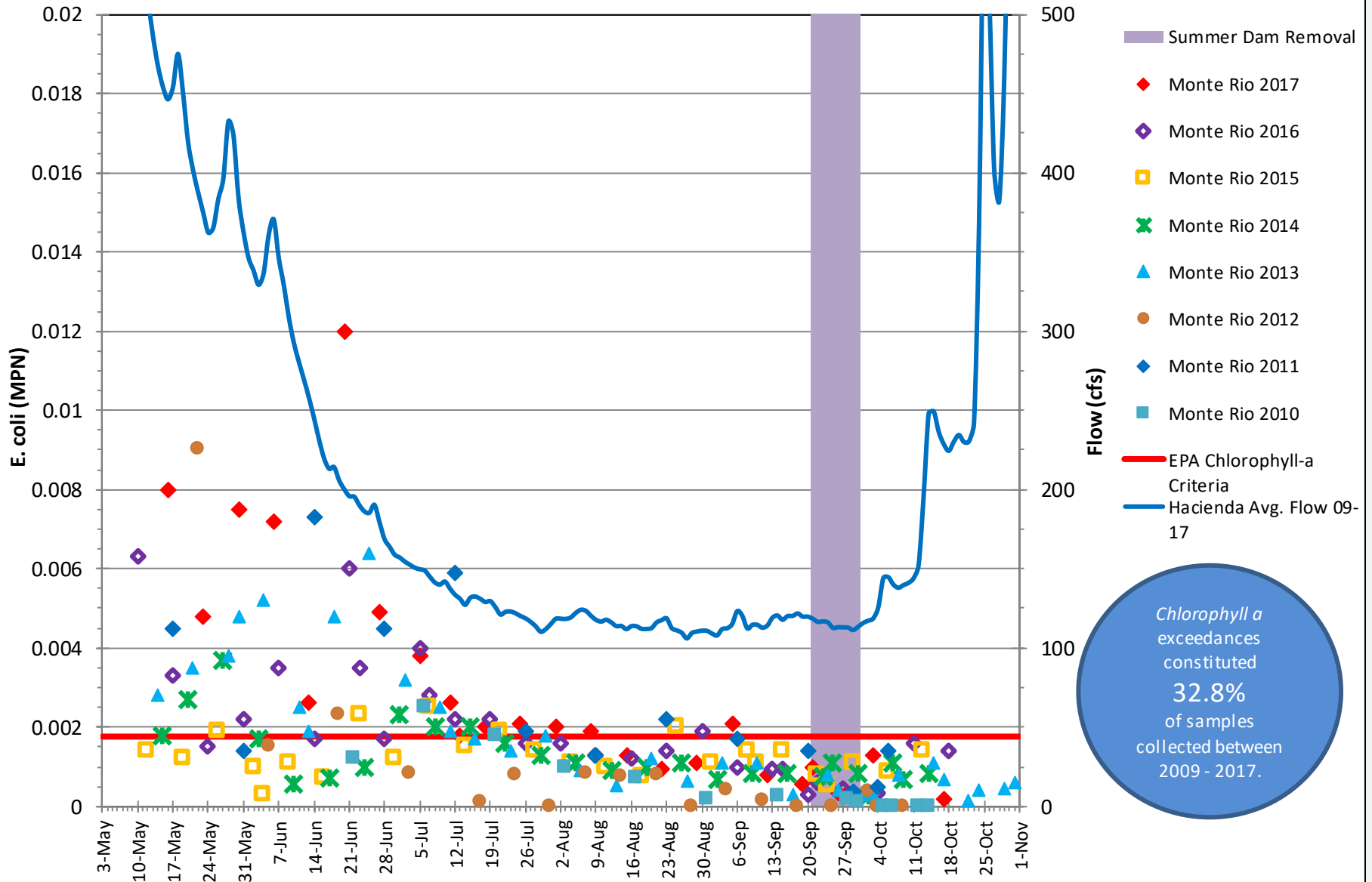
Russian River at Monte Rio Total Nitrogen - 2009 - 2017



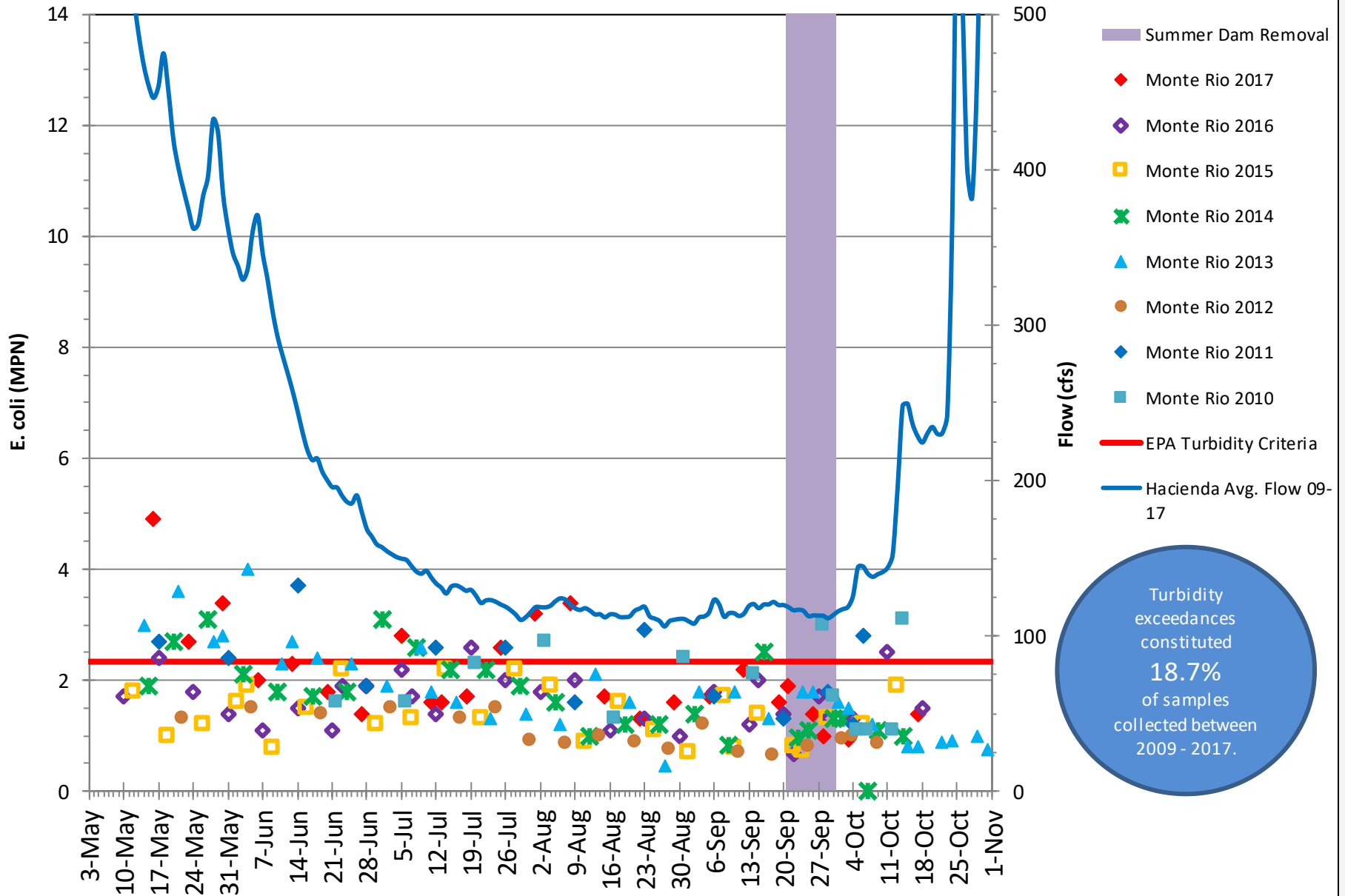
Russian River at Monte Rio Total Phosphorus - 2009 - 2017



Russian River at Monte Rio *Chlorophyll-a* - 2009 - 2017



Russian River at Monte Rio Turbidity - 2009 - 2017



2018 Estuary and MBA Monitoring

- Deploy datasondes in Estuary and MBA
- Collect weekly grab samples for:
 - Nutrients
 - Bacteria
 - Chlorophyll a (algae)
- Green and Blue-Green (Cyanobacteria)
Algae monitoring

Russian River Ambient Algae and Nutrient Sampling

● Water Agency Algae Station



USD-DATA\VP\pdpesd\proj\esd\7339_RR\FR-Estuary\Management\FR_WaterQual_Maps_July2016.mxd 6/22/2016

Mainstem Russian River Algae and Nutrient Grab Sampling

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0 3 6 Miles



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Blue-Green Algae (Cyanobacteria) Monitoring

- SCWA – green and blue-green (cyanobacteria) algae monitoring in mainstem Russian River
- Regional Board – blue-green (cyanobacteria) algae and cyanotoxin monitoring in mainstem Russian River.
- Sonoma County Department of Health Services (DHS) – cyanotoxin monitoring at 10 Russian River public beaches.

<http://www.sonoma-county.org/health/services/bluegreen.asp>

2017 Lower Russian River and Estuary Water Quality Monitoring



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Monitoring Pinnipeds at Jenner



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Seals and sea lions

harbor seals



fur seals



California sea lions

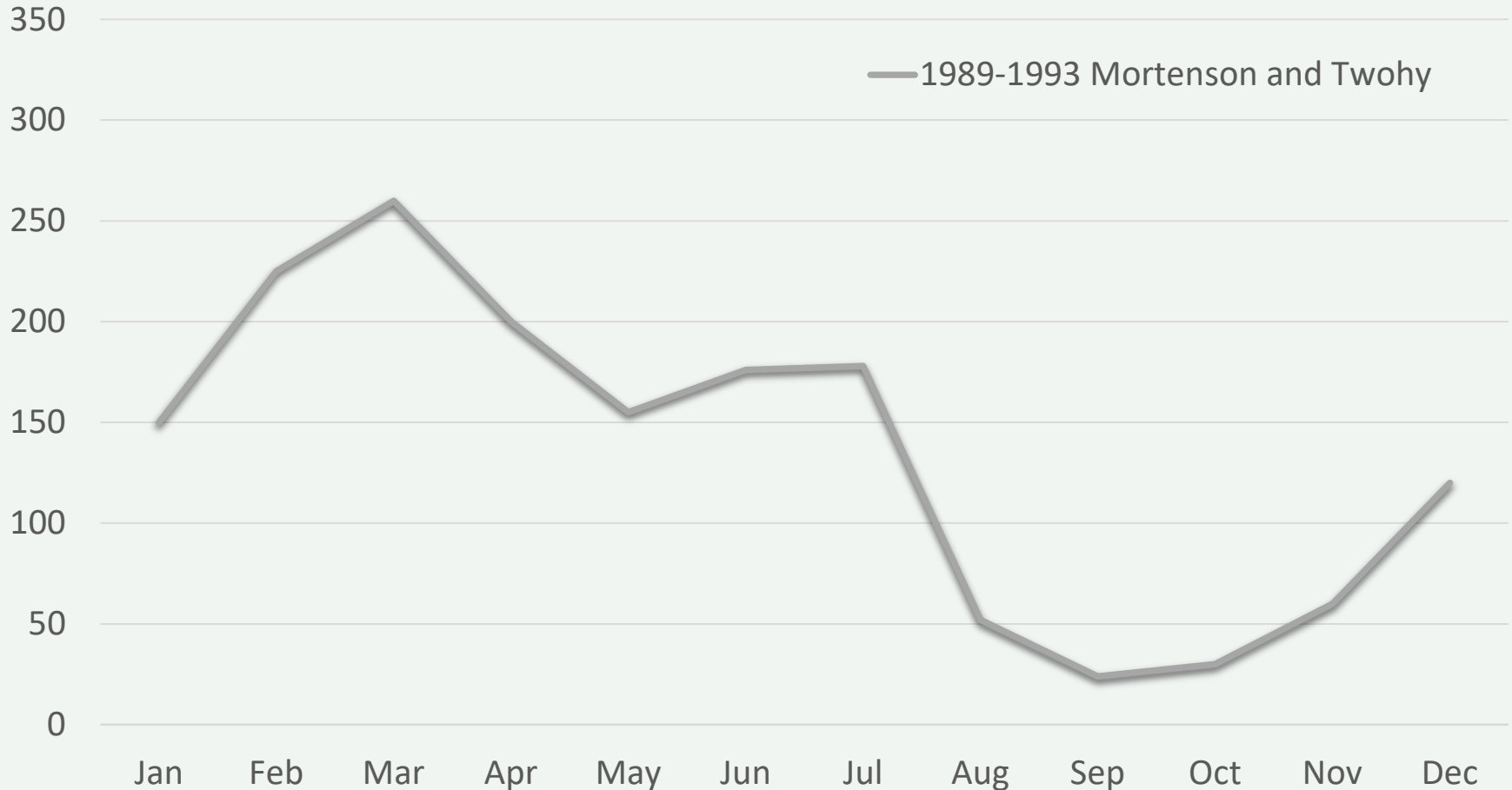


Northern elephant seals



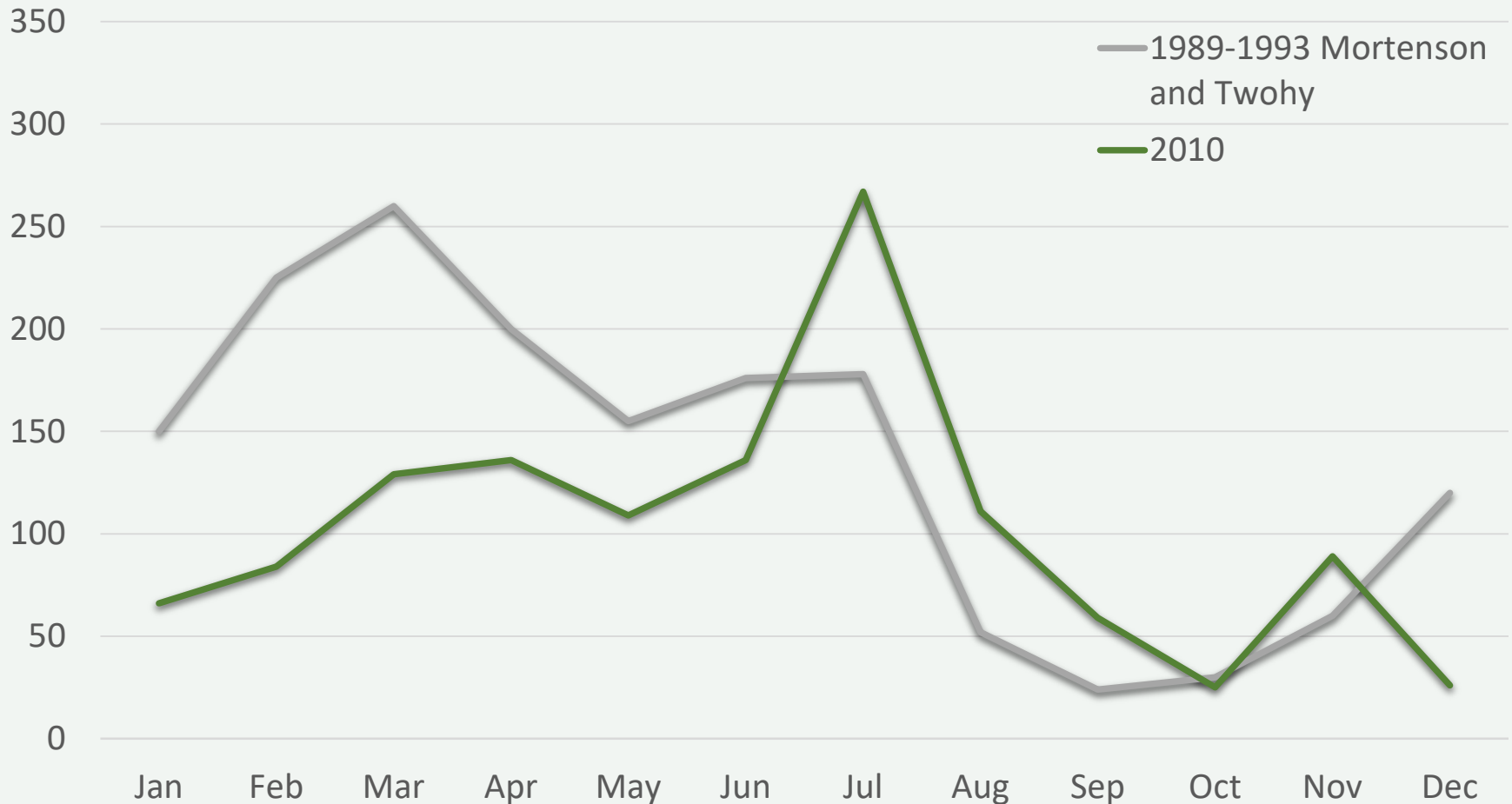
Historic patterns

Average abundance of harbor seals at Goat Rock State Beach by month



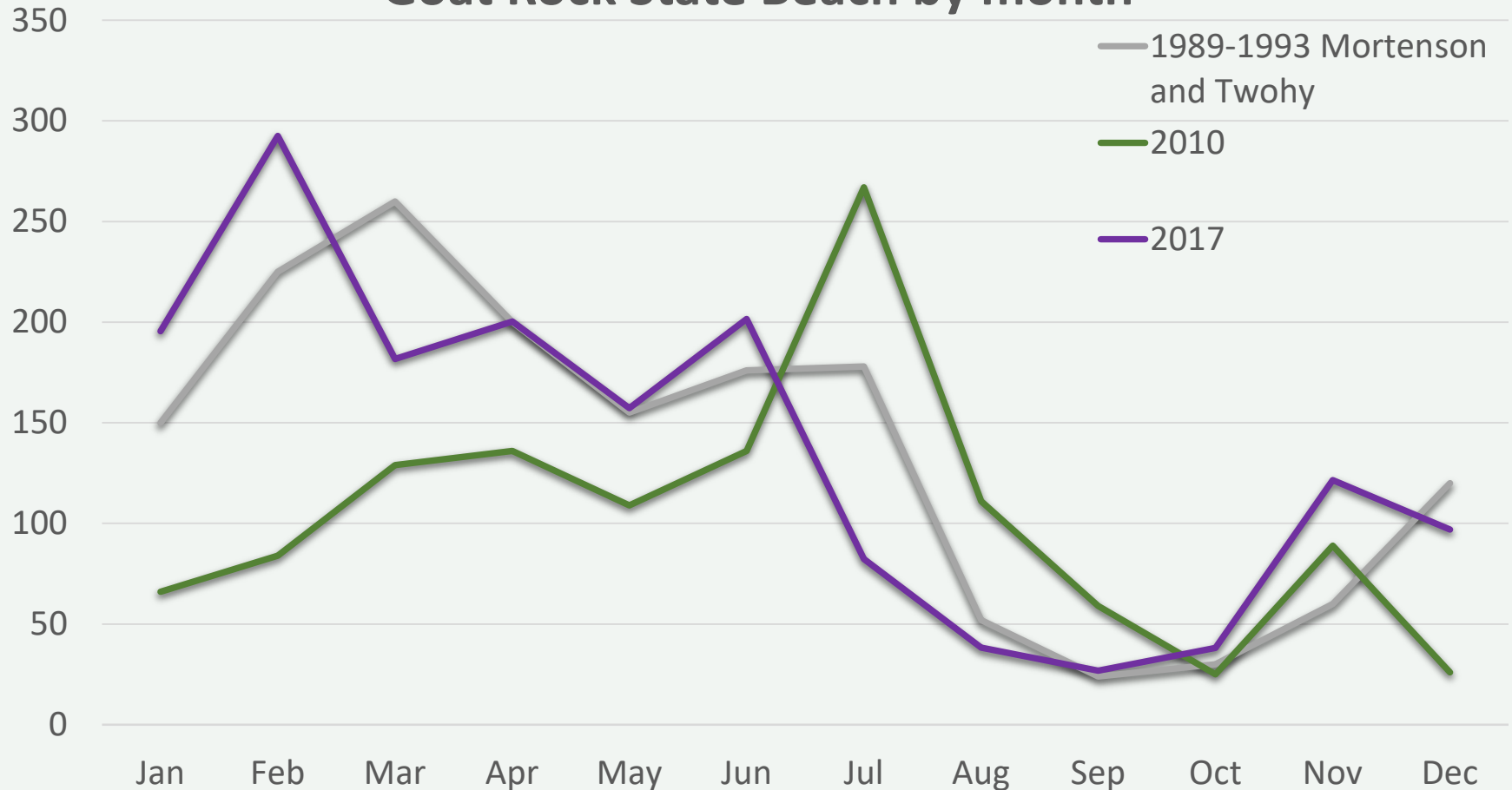
Historic patterns

Average abundance of harbor seals at
Goat Rock State Beach by month



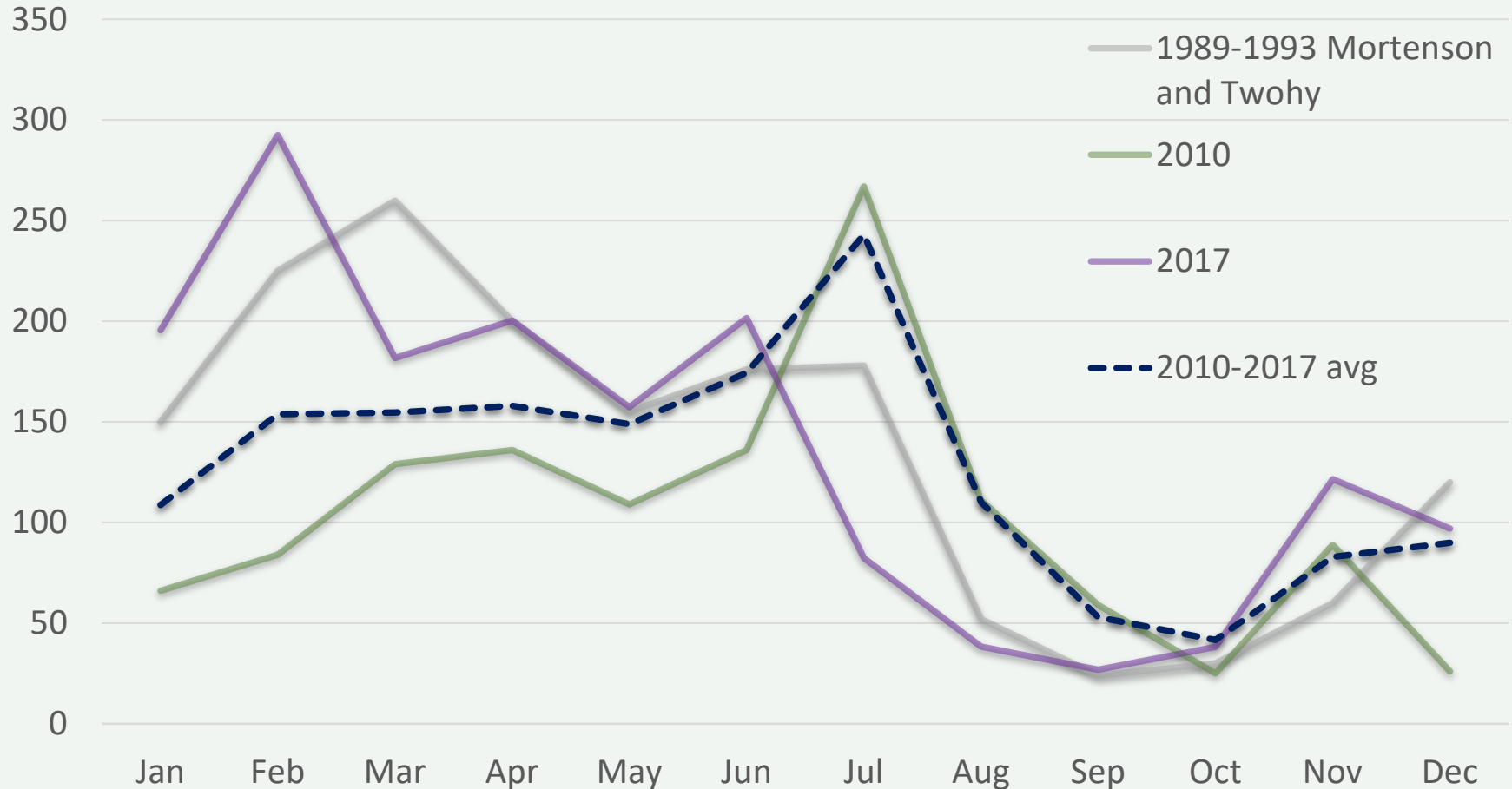
Historic patterns

Average abundance of harbor seals at
Goat Rock State Beach by month



Historic patterns

Average abundance of harbor seals at
Goat Rock State Beach by month



Seasonal patterns

Pupping/mating



Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Seasonal patterns

molting



Jan

Feb

Mar

Apr

May

Jun

Jul

Aug

Sep

Oct

Nov

Dec

Seasonal patterns

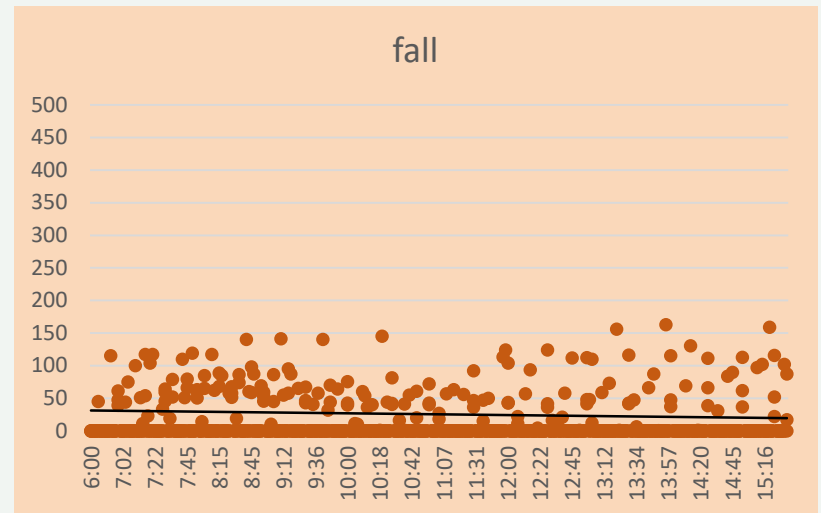
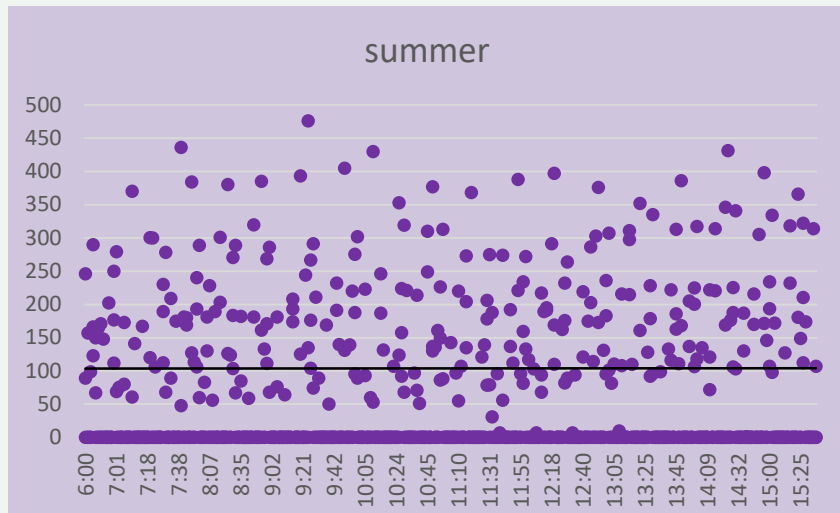
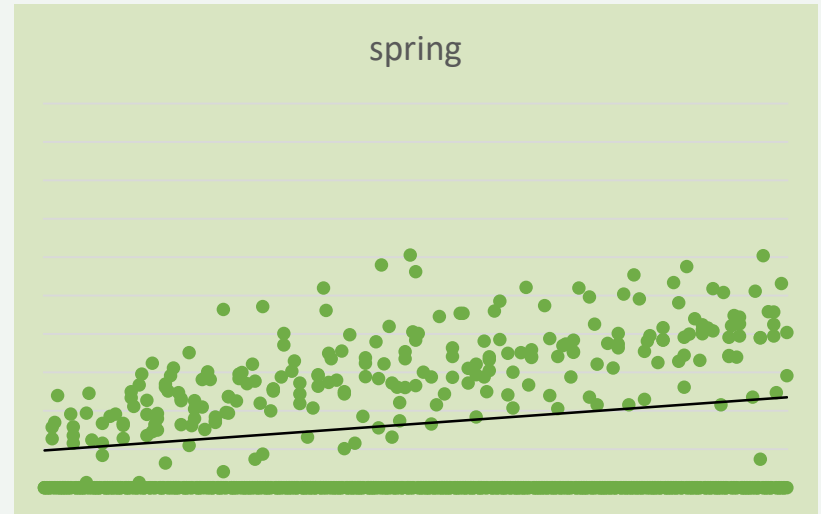
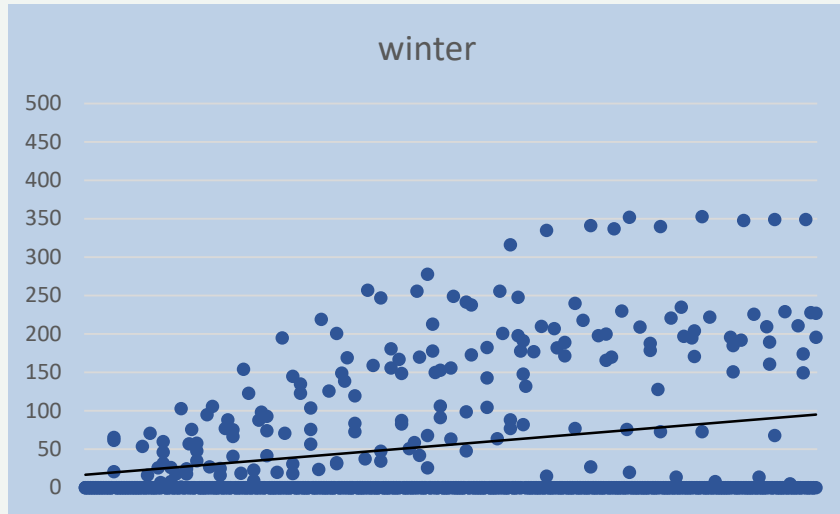


Hungry seals

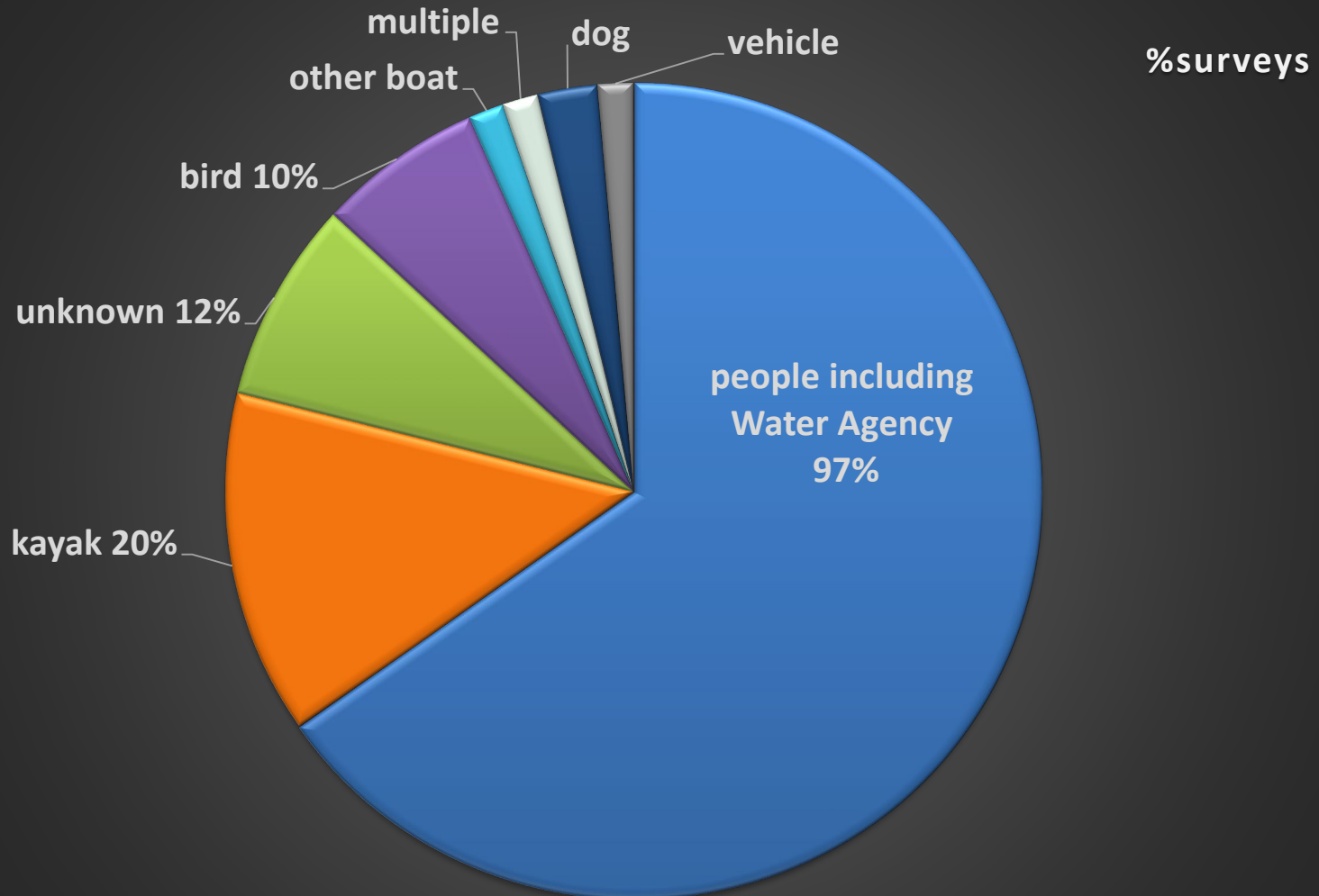


Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

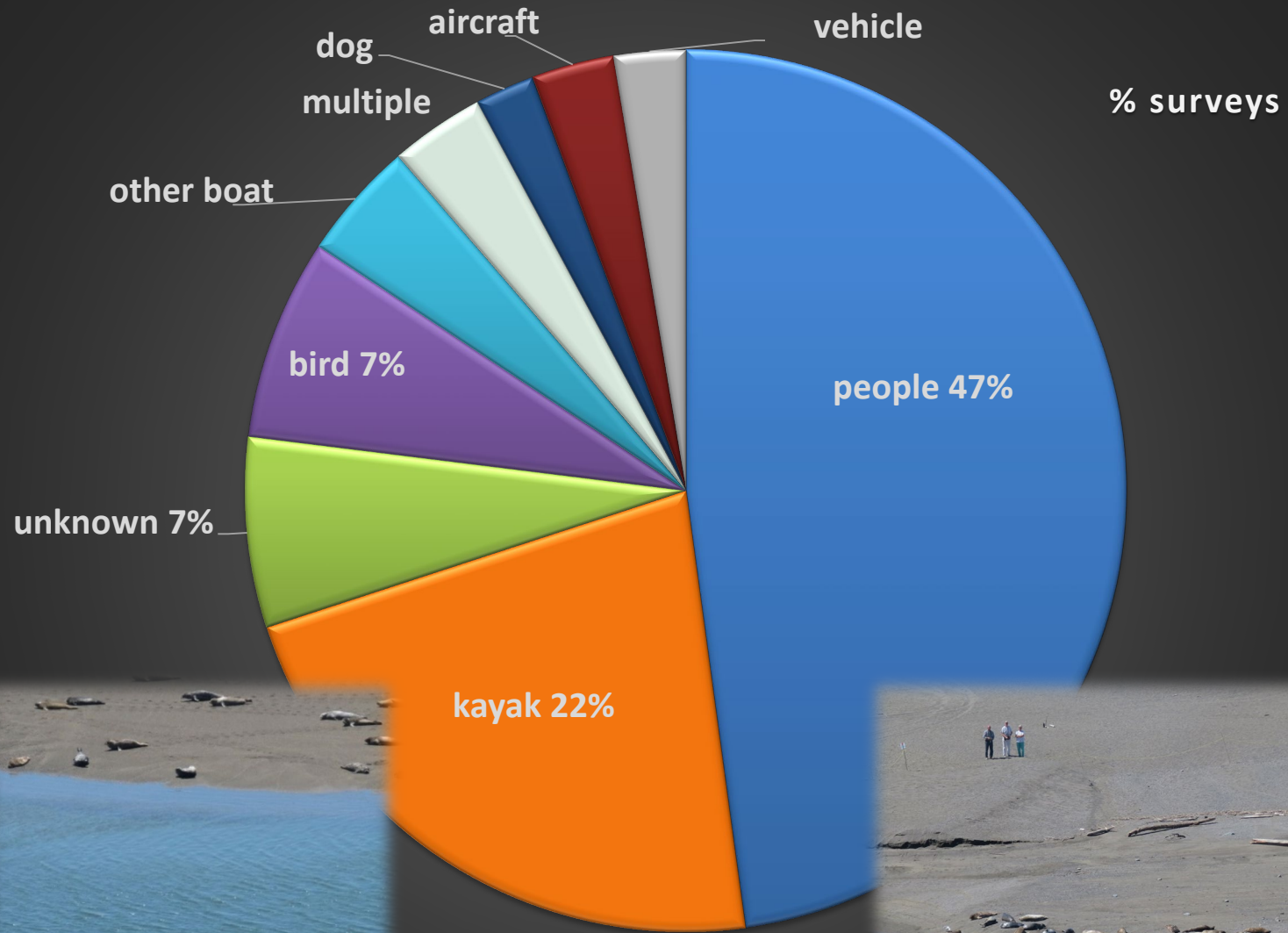
Daily patterns



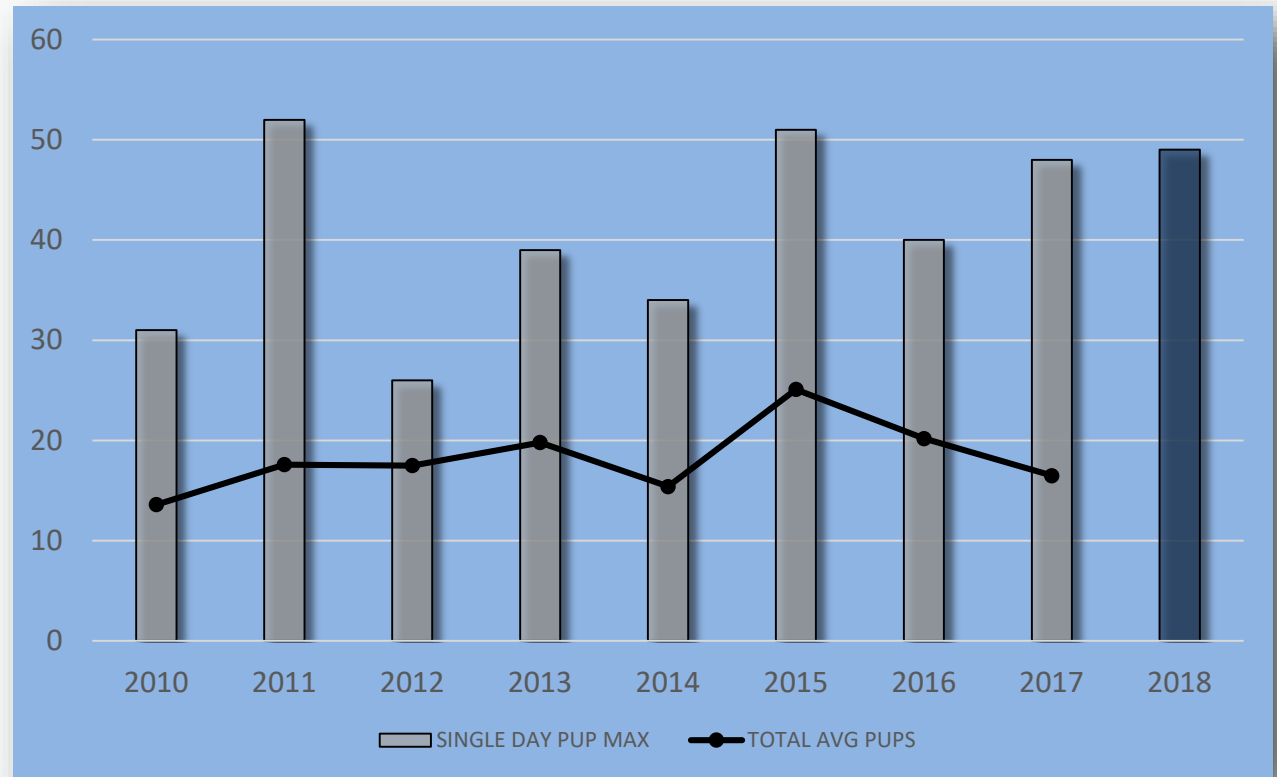
Disturbance: 2009-2017 management activities



Disturbance: 2009-2017 baseline surveys



Healthy
pups =
healthy
haul out



Newborn pups

- Special protections for newborn pups
- Pup will stay with mother for about 30 days
- Pups are born able to swim



- First pup of 2018
born March 30th



One month later...



Monitoring Pinnipeds at Jenner



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