

# Chloride Reduction Initiatives

Kathy Lake, Environmental Specialist

April 20, 2015

Madison Metropolitan  
Sewerage District



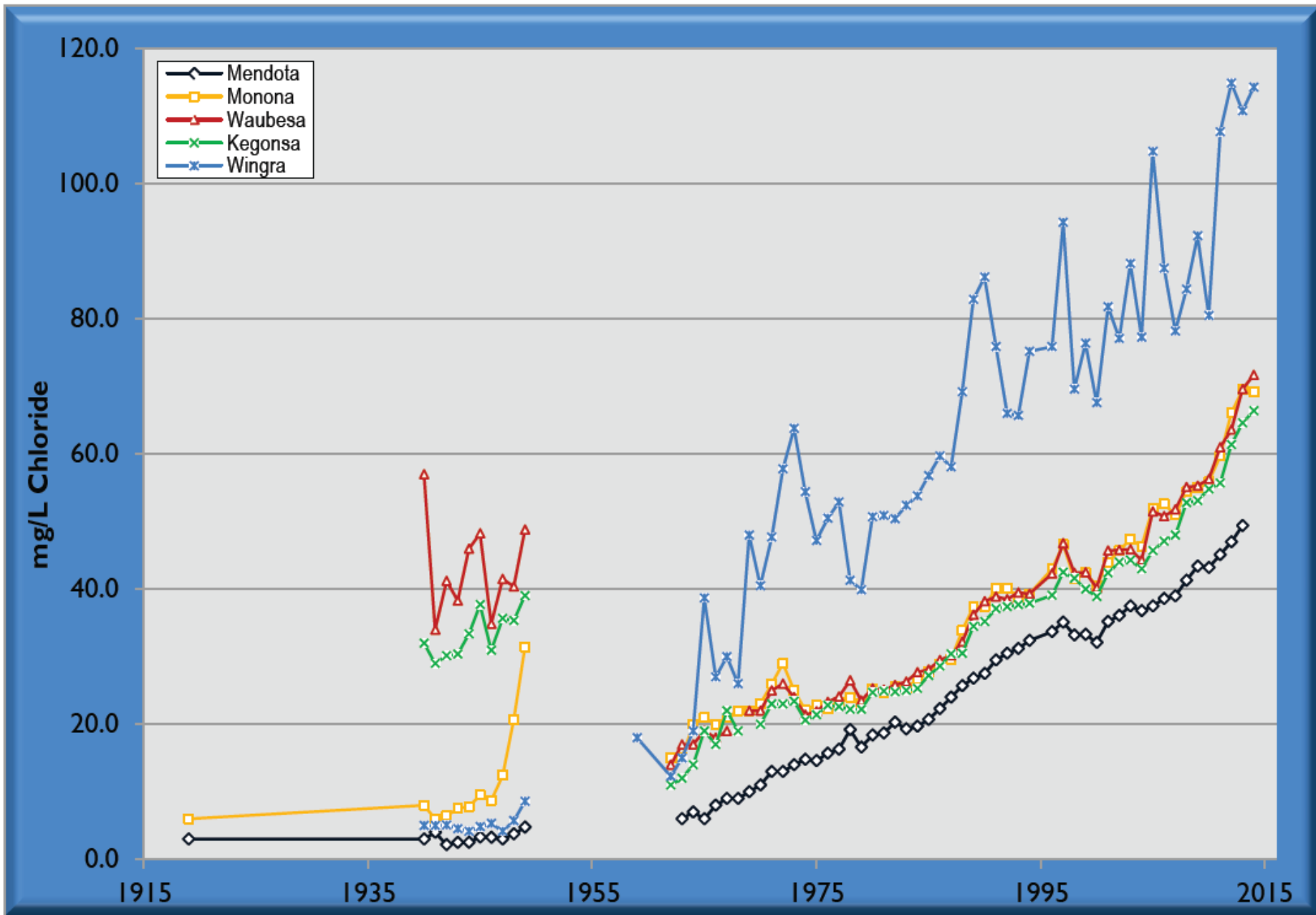
# Salt

- Financially cheap and very effective.
- Dissolves in water, but does not go away.

**1 tsp salt dissolved in  
5-gal water equals 230  
mg/L chloride – EPA limit  
for chronic toxicity in  
streams**

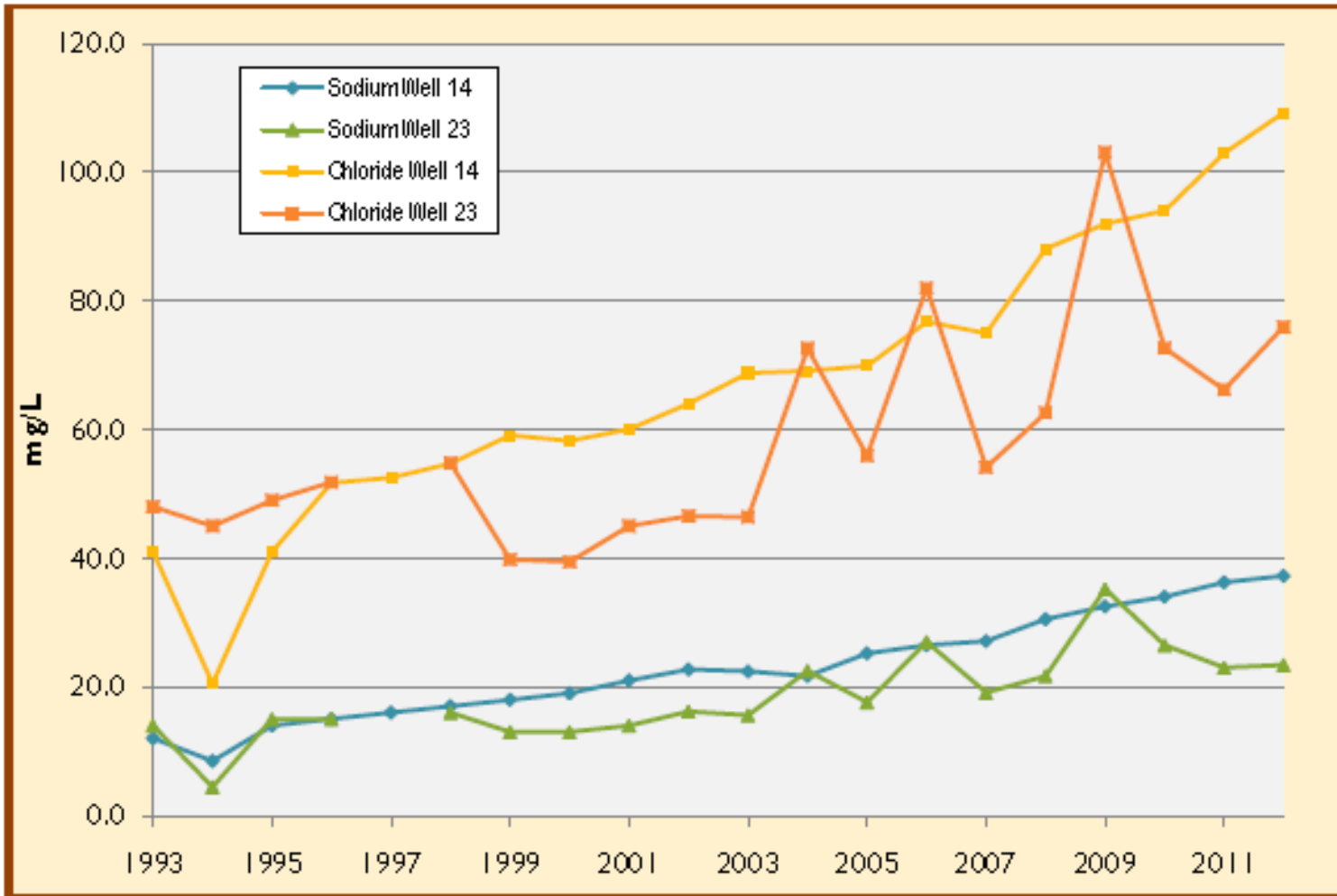


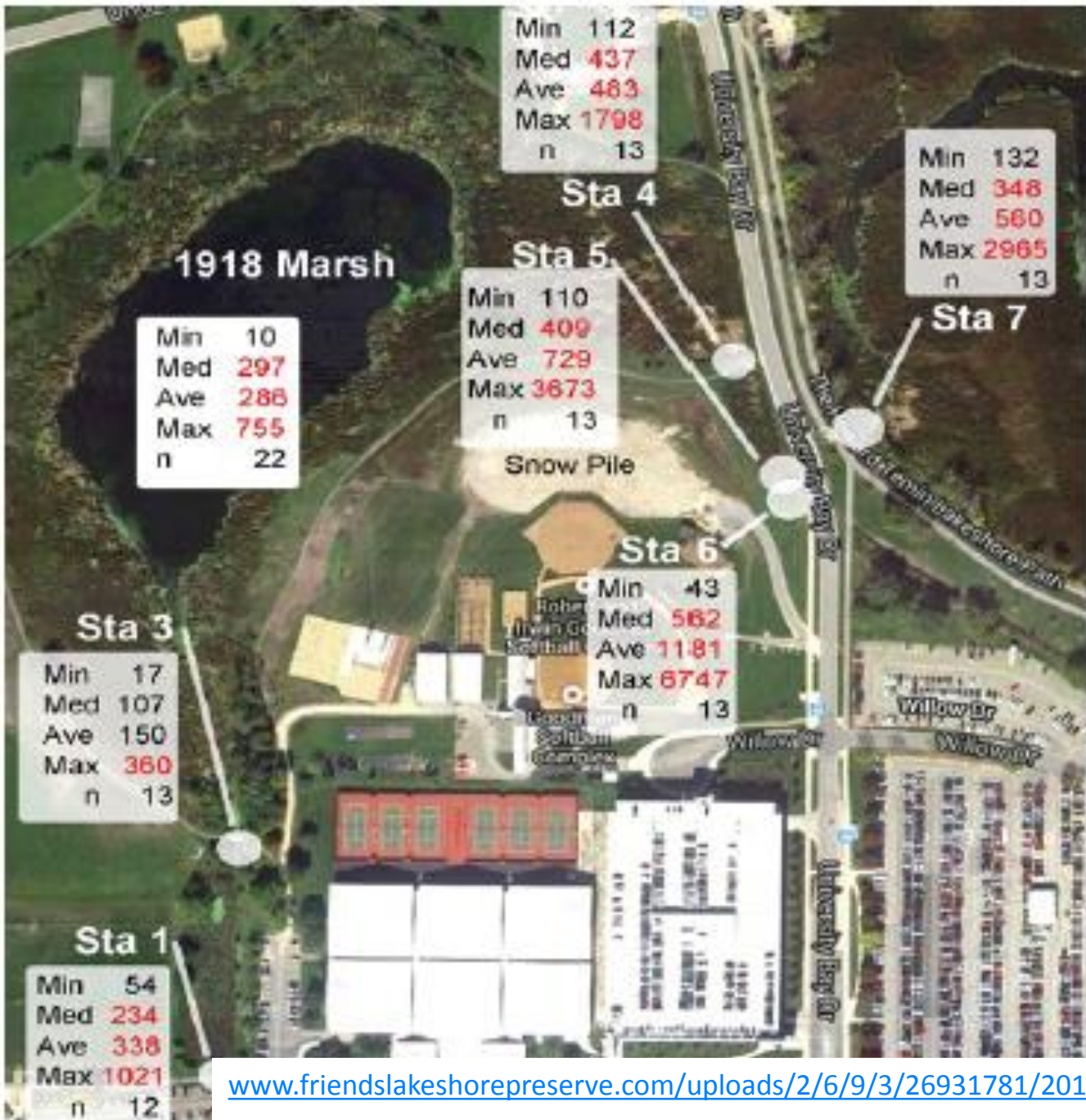
Figure 2: Yahara Lakes Annual Chloride



# Sodium and Chloride in MWU Wells

Sodium and Chloride in Madison's most affected wells.



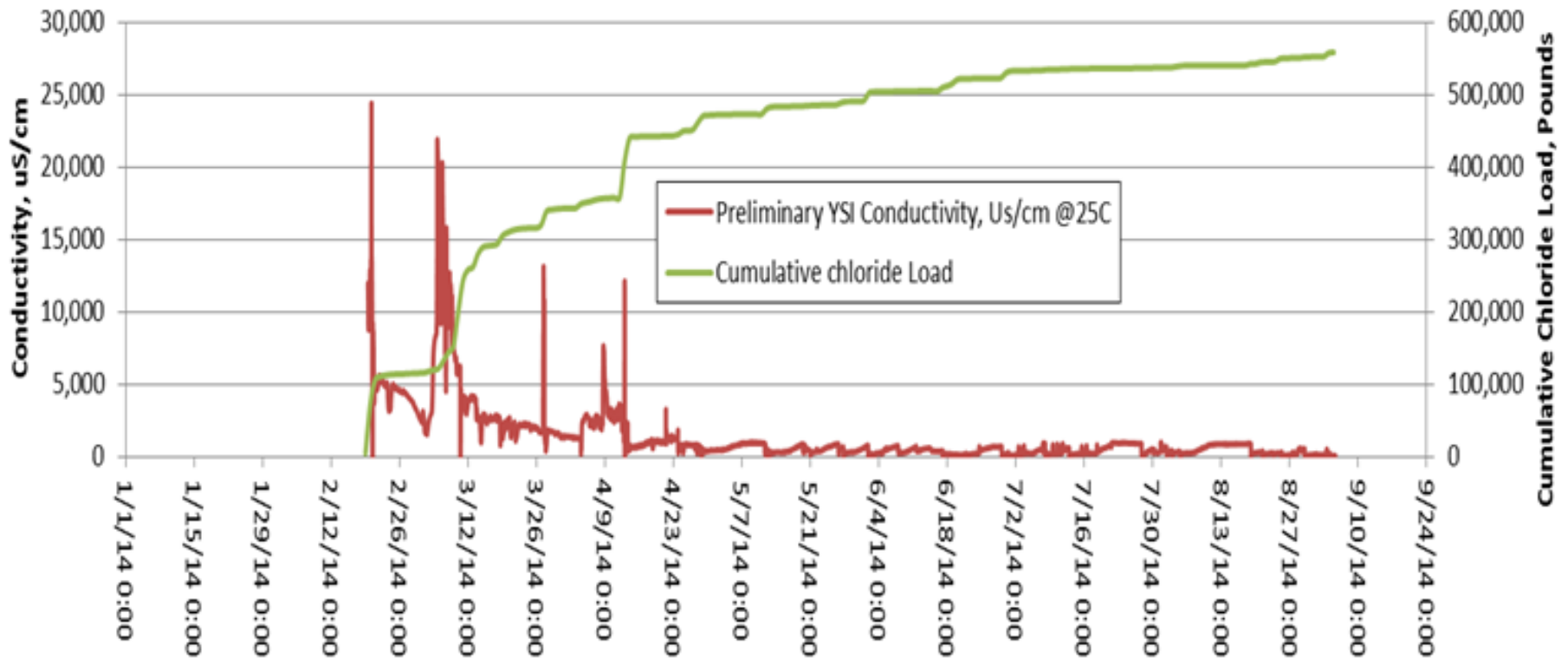


# John Magnuson's work – 1918 Marsh

During:  
2012-2013

Madison Metropolitan  
Sewerage District

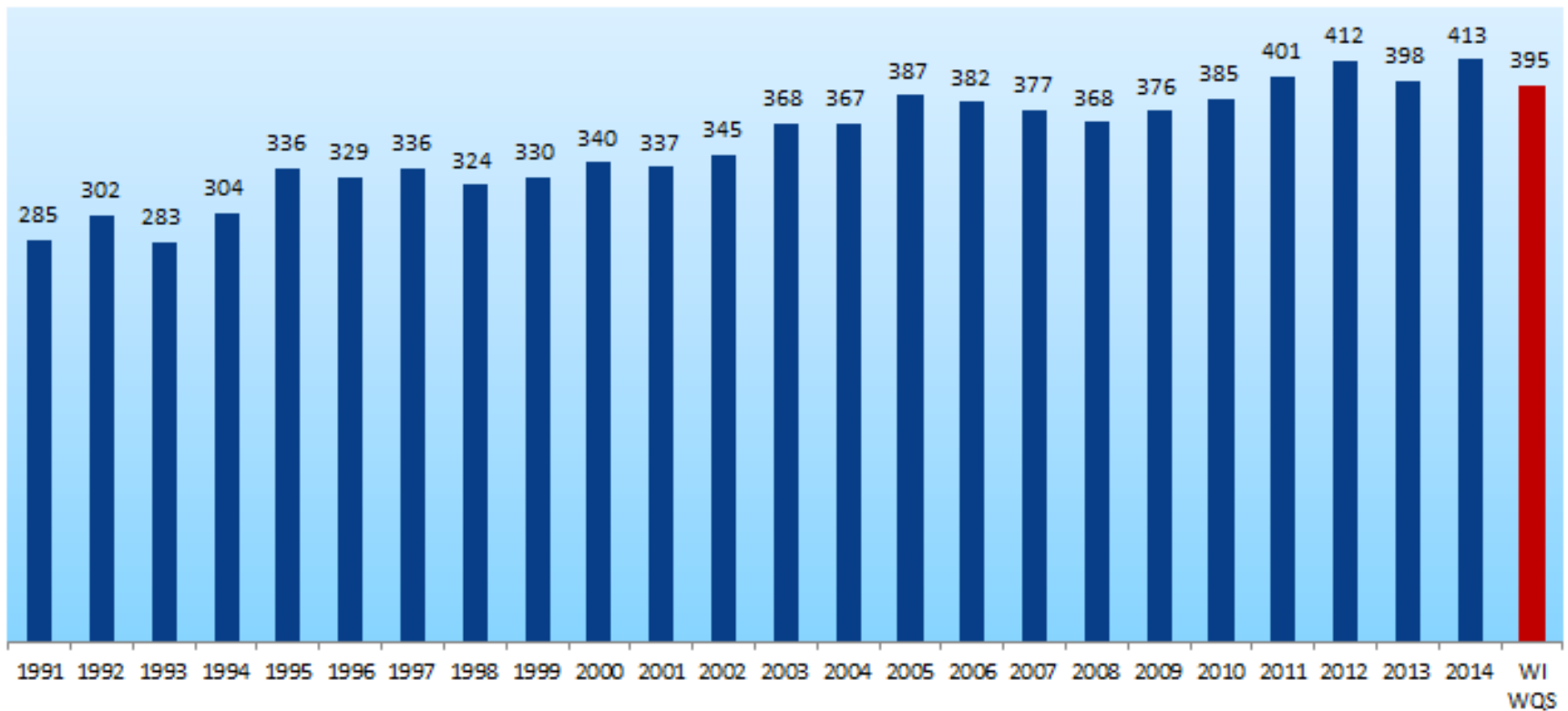
# Spring Harbor Stormsewer



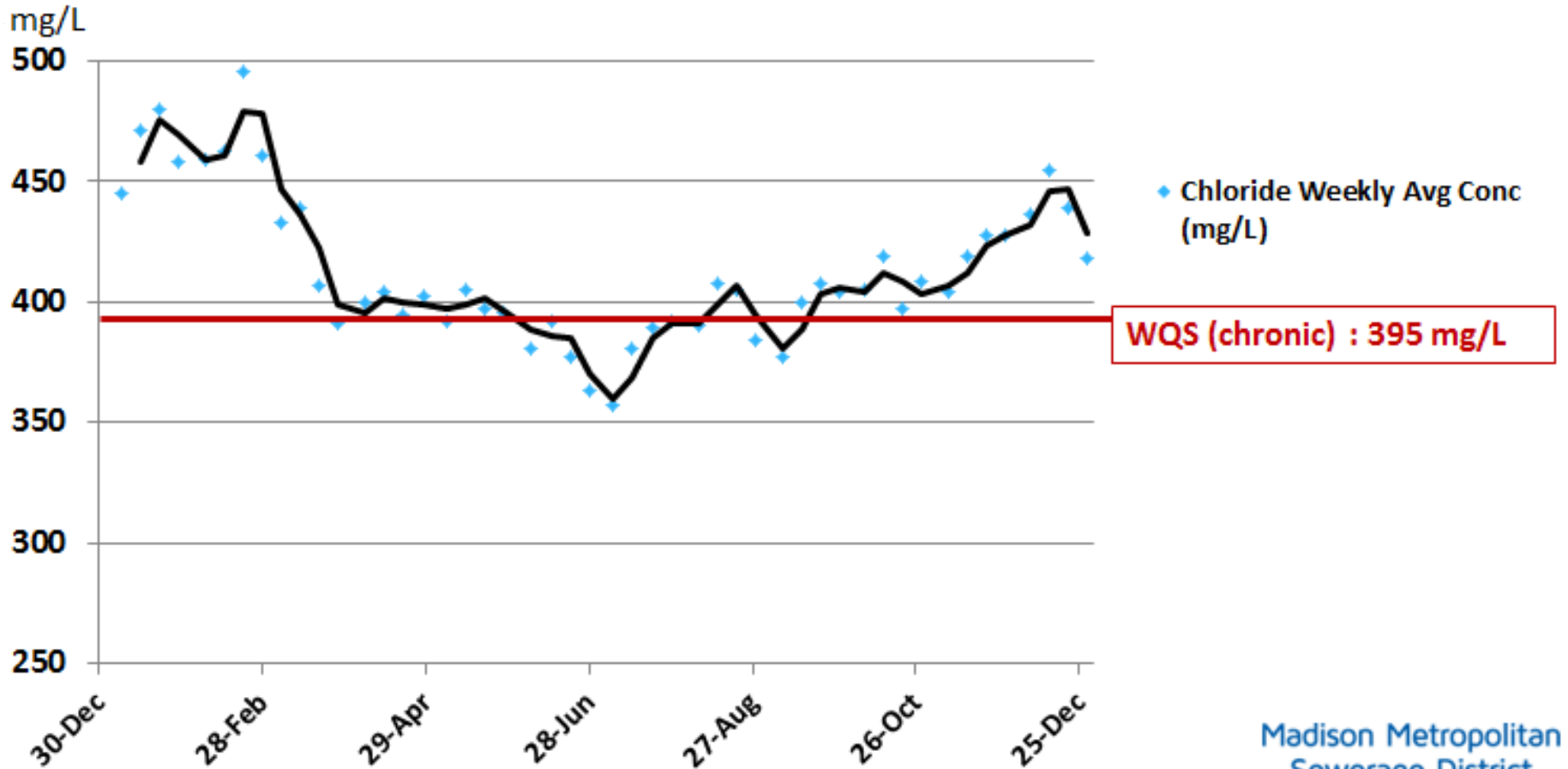
- 3.29 sq mile watershed

# Effluent Concentration Trend

MMSD Effluent Chloride Conc (annual average, mg/L)

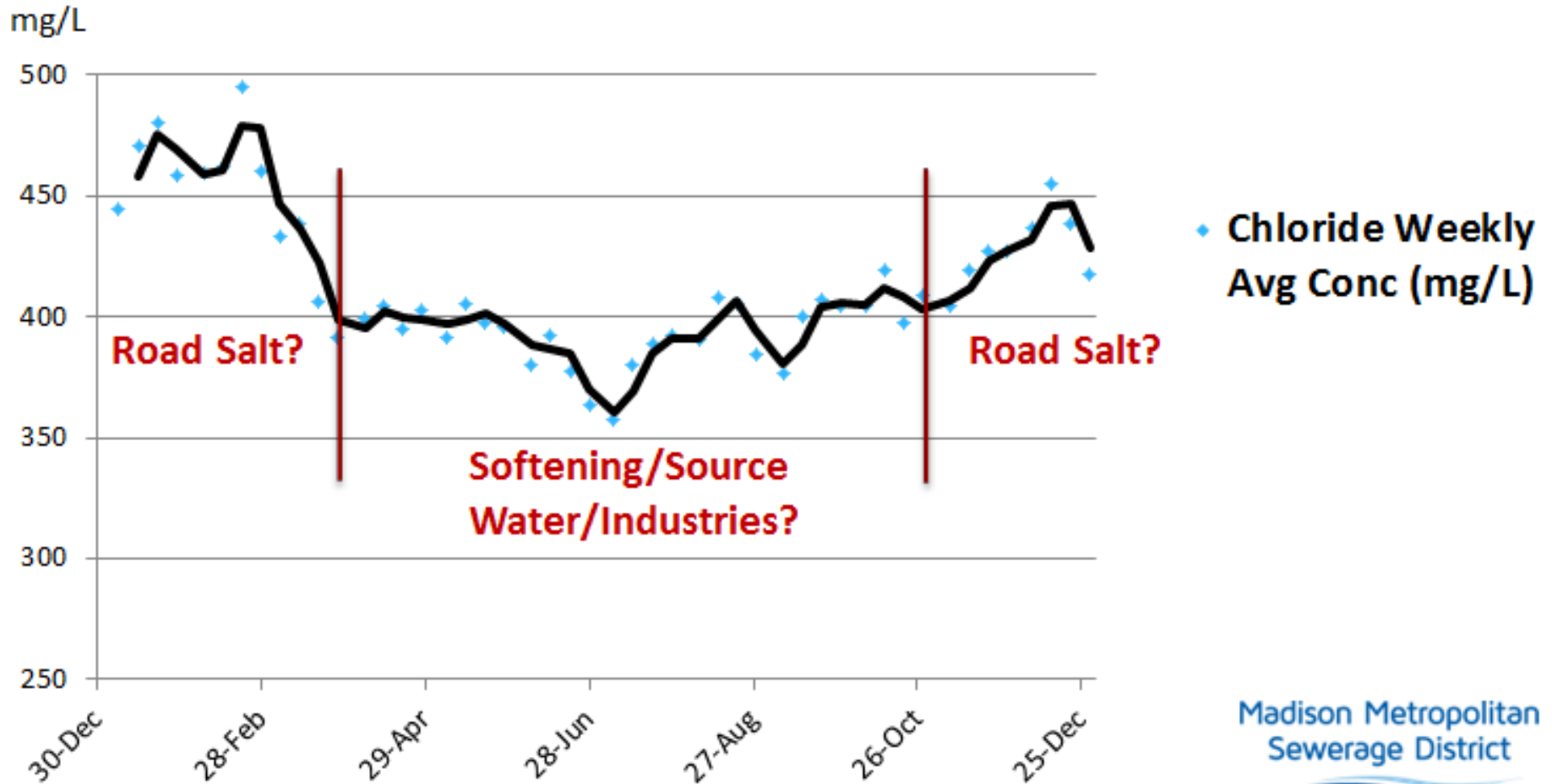


# 2014 Weekly Avg Concentration

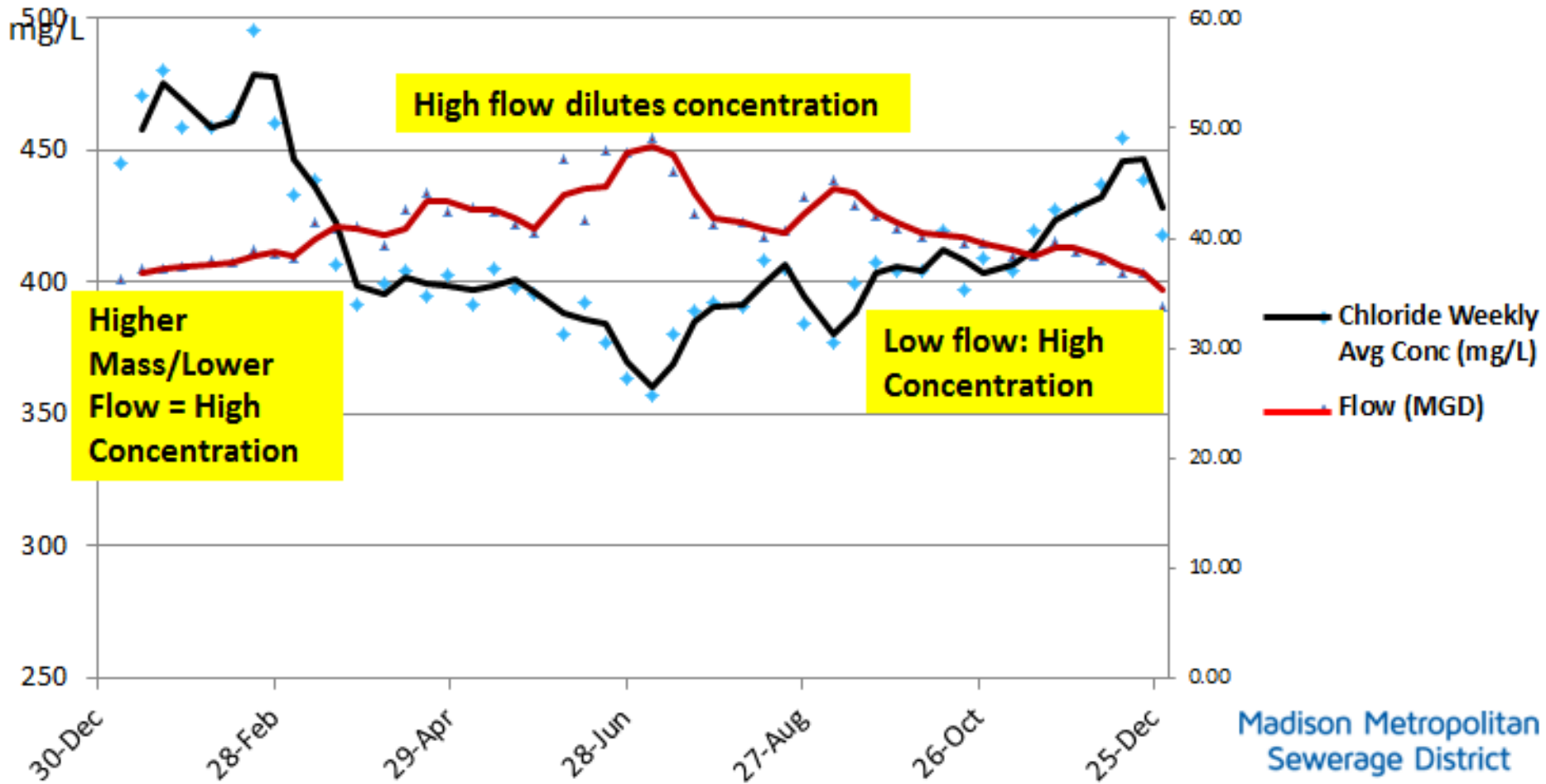




# Source Identification



# Competing initiatives



# District Initiatives & Partnerships

- **Water Softening improvement**
  - Residential Study
  - Mini-Grant Program
- **Treatment Feasibility Study**
- **Inflow Reduction**
- **Road Salt Outreach**
  - Messaging
  - Website
- **Winter “Salt” Training**



# District Initiatives & Partnerships

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# Residential Water Softening Study

- Paired-basin study with diverse partnerships/funders
- How much chloride from softeners, how much controllable, how \$
- Apparent chloride reductions:
  - ~53%↓ chloride in replacement area
  - ~16%↓ chloride in optimization area



# Achieve 20,000 lb/day reduction?

- Replacement
- 53% ↓ (of 0.58 lb/day)
- 0.30 lbs/day
- ~60,000 units

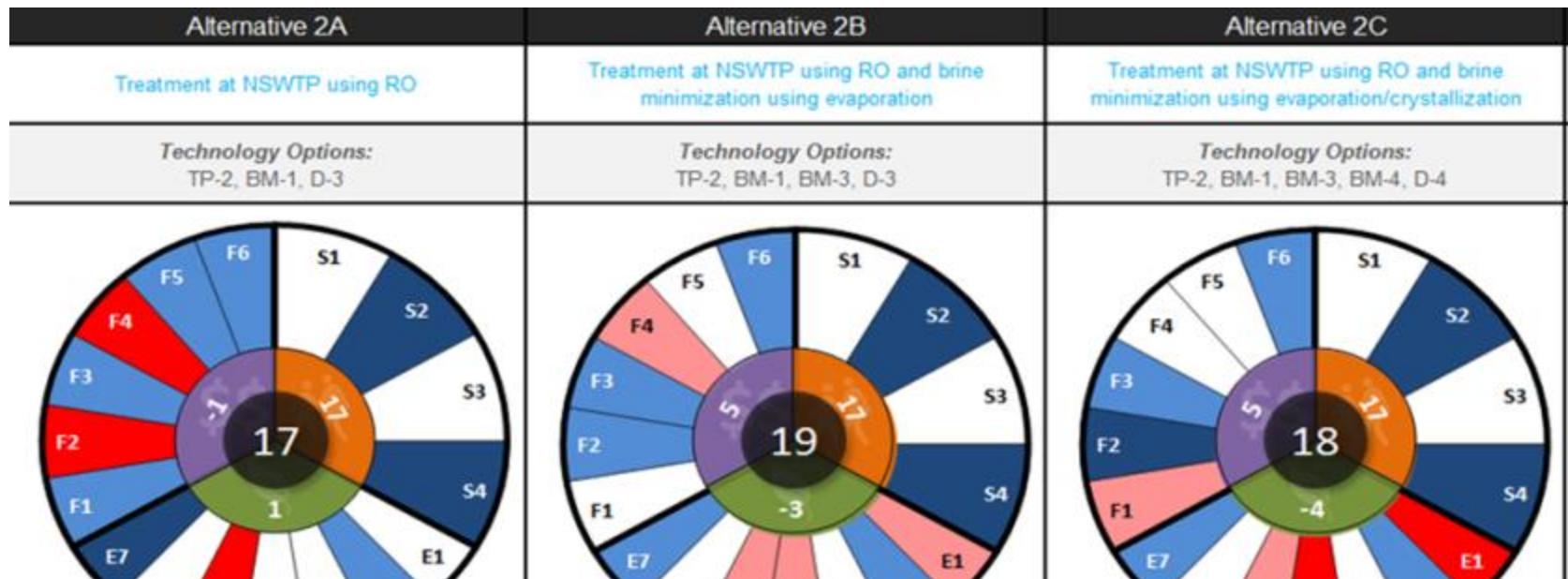
- Optimization
- 16% ↓ (of 0.58 lb/day)
- 0.1 lbs/day
- ~200,000 units

- Sensitivity analysis currently being conducted



# Treatment Feasibility Study

- **Consultant evaluated 8-options:**
  - Hardness reduction (reduce need for softening)
  - Filtration to remove chloride: RO or EDR
- Triple-bottom Line Analysis



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ct

# Treatment Feasibility

- **Preliminary data:**
  - **Capital costs: \$80 million - \$200 million**
- **Significant brine volume needs to be handled**
  - Equals ~15% of what is treated
    - Impacts construction and operation cost
    - **Operational costs range from \$10m to over \$200-million/year**
- **Challenging:**
  - Treating portion of flow & blending to maintain effluent quality



# Possible Filtration Building

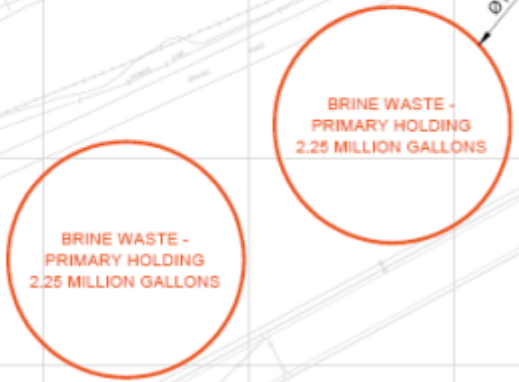
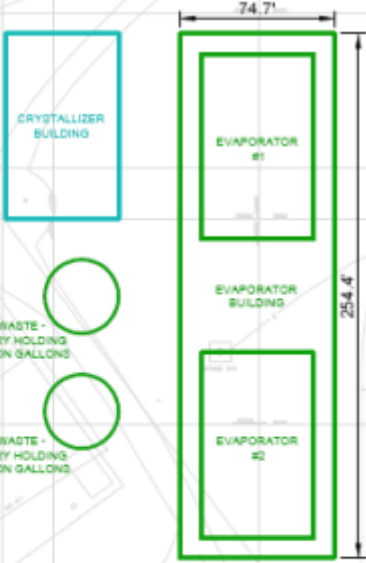




NOTE:  
 SITE PLAN LAYOUT IS INTENDED TO PROVIDE RELATIVE SPACE REQUIREMENTS ONLY. MEMBRANE TREATMENT EQUIPMENT SHOULD BE LOCATED IN CLOSE PROXIMITY TO THE EFFLUENT BUILDING TO FACILITATE SLIP STREAM TREATMENT OF THE SECONDARY EFFLUENT. EVAPORATOR AND CRYSTALLIZER PROCESSES MAY REQUIRE REMOTE PLACEMENT DUE TO SPACE CONSTRAINTS IN THIS AREA.

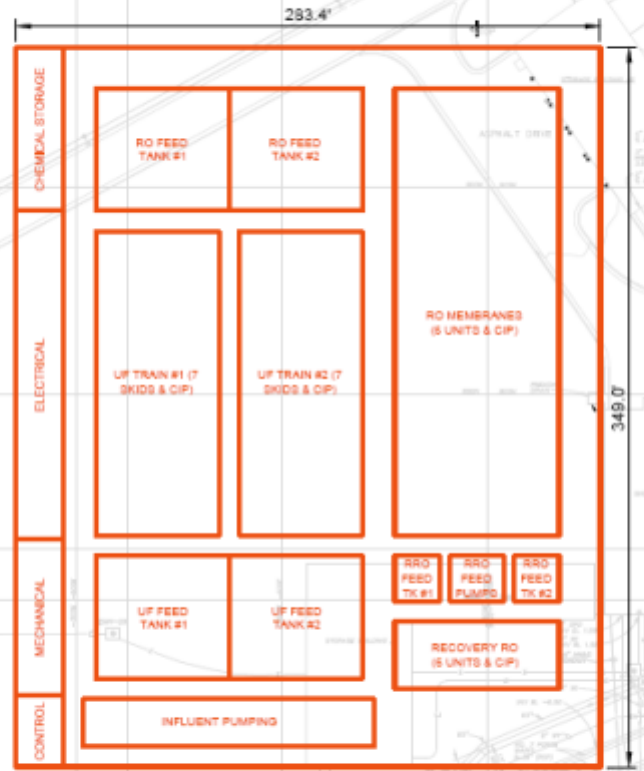
ALTERNATIVES:

- 2A - EDR
- 2B - EDR + EVAPORATOR
- 2C - EDR + EVAPORATOR + CRYSTALLIZER



**2, 2.25 MG Tanks (115' dia. each)**

**20,000 SF**



**101,500 SF**

# Road Salt Program

## 2014 Road Salt Report: Public Health Madison Dane County

- *Current levels of salt applications cannot be sustained without degrading our drinking and surface waters. Motorists' expectations have to change before meaningful reductions will be achieved.*
- **Education campaign: [WiSaltWise.com](http://WiSaltWise.com)**

## Brought to you by the WI Salt Wise Partnership:

Dane County, City of Madison, Madison Metropolitan Sewerage District, Madison Water Utility  
Public Health Madison Dane County, UW-Madison Department of Environment, Health & Safety, MAMSWaP



Madison Metropolitan  
Sewerage District



Public Health  
MADISON & DANE COUNTY  
*Healthy people. Healthy places.*



# Let's be Salt Wise!

We live in Wisconsin, so we know winter. We combat the brutal season by using winter maintenance procedures that keep us safe. But one of these practices, dealing with salt, is costly and destroys our water, vegetation and infrastructure. It's time for Wisconsin to wise up and slow down on speeding salt.

What did WI spend on salt for its highways last year?

## \$40,456,343!

And that doesn't include what consultants, businesses and homeowners spend



>>> Learn more <<<

So, how many tons of salt is that?

## 669,807

That many tons permanently pollutes almost half a trillion gallons of Wisconsin's water.



And costs \$3,304 per lane mile!

>>> Learn more <<<

We can all work together to improve our salt use!  
Click below to see what you can do.



Use less than **4 pounds** of salt

## Homeowners Salt Resources

© Thinkstock by Getty Images

Homeowners | Municipal | Motorists | EMS | Applicators

Contact us

## Salt Goes Beyond the Pavement

Using more salt doesn't make your sidewalks safer — it harms plants and animals, pollutes our water, damages buildings and corrodes vehicles, roads and bridges. Once you put salt down, it doesn't go away. Instead, it travels into our lakes and streams, putting our aquatic life at risk and endangering our freshwater resources. Salt also alters the composition of soil, slows plant growth and weakens the concrete, brick and stone that make up your home and garage. Using the right amount of salt maximizes your family's safety.

1 pound of salt =

12 ounce coffee mug

Hand spreaders are helpful, but if you don't have one, aim for a pattern like this.



## Salting for Safety

It's understandable that you want to keep your home safe, especially when a snowstorm hits. Fortunately, there are ways you can improve your salt use and safety:

- Pre-treat walkways with a small amount of liquid deicer before the storm hits to prevent snow and ice from building up. Dissolve salt in warm water until salt no longer dissolves (or take some from your water softener tank), and apply it with a watering can. Learn how to make a brine.

# WISaltWise Handouts

## GET A GRIP ON SALT



Be Wisconsin

Salt Wise

## WISCONSIN TASTES A LITTLE TOO SALTY



Make Your Environment



Your Priority

## TAKE CHARGE OF SALT

Take Charge of



Our Environment's Health



Speed up

## SLOW DOWN ON SALT

on Safety



# Variety of Potential Partners

**Agencies**  
**Municipalities**  
**Schools**  
**Associations**  
**Businesses**  
**Public health**  
**Water Utility**  
**Stormwater Utility**  
**Individuals**



# Source Reduction: Challenges

- **Different kind of risk/lack of control**
- **Different skill sets**
  - Collaboration
  - Behavior Change
  - Education/Outreach
- **Non-traditional investment**



# Salt impacts our water

## **We all have a role:**

- Support joint initiatives – protect water and keep rates down
- Expand outreach, education and training
- Optimize our use (homes, City facilities, etc.)

