

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Technical Expert Working Group (TEWG) Conference Call

Friday August 24, 2012
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

CALL SUMMARY

Attendees:

EPA Region 3 and contractors: Bill Arguto, George Rizzo, Wendy Gray, Michelle Hoover, Enid Chiu, Kathy Martel (Cadmus), Karen Sklenar (Cadmus)

The Washington Aqueduct: Tom Jacobus

DC Water and contractors: Maureen Schmelling, John Civardi (Hatch Mott McDonald)

DC Department of the Environment: Collin Burrell, William Slade

Virginia Tech: Marc Edwards

Concerned Citizen: Susan Kanen

Parents for Non-Toxic Alternatives: Yanna Lambrinidou

EPA Office of Research and Development: Darren Lytle

Agenda and Housekeeping Issues

Bill Arguto led the call. He indicated that minutes have been distributed for the last call. Any comments or revisions to the minutes can be sent to Wendy Gray. Bill reviewed the meeting agenda that is included as Attachment A to this call summary. He noted that two new topics were added: review of lead sampling procedures and an update on a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request regarding the galvanic corrosion study.

Summary of Discussions by Topic Area

1. Washington Aqueduct Pipe Loop Update

Prior to the call, Mike Chicoine distributed graphs showing total and dissolved lead concentrations for the pipe loops of both of Washington Aqueduct's water treatment plants (WTPs). Graphs for the McMillan WTP pipe loops present data for the period November 2010 to August 2012 and graphs for the Dalecarlia WTP pipe loops present data for the period March 2005 to July 2012.

Tom Jacobus noted that changes were made to the flows at both sets of pipe loops – a flow decrease at Dalecarlia WTP and a flow increase at McMillan WTP. The pipe loop sample data show that lead levels are sensitive to these changes in flow. Mr. Jacobus asked if anyone had questions on the pipe loop data. Sue Kanen asked why the three pipe loops have not always been synchronized in terms of stagnation time. Mr. Jacobus said that he

was not prepared to answer the question but he will review the information, prepare a response and send it to Wendy Gray so that she can distribute it to the group. Marc Edwards commented that he is pleased with the pipe loop changes and the results. Mr. Jacobus thanked Mr. Edwards for his suggestions.

2. DC Water Pipe Loop Update

Maureen Schmelling distributed DC Water's latest pipe loop data prior to the call. Ms. Schmelling reported that the graph shows that all samples collected in the last three months had lead concentrations of 5 ppb or less. Ms. Schmelling asked if anyone had questions. Sue Kanen asked whether changes in stagnation time would affect the lead level in pipe loop samples. She also asked whether the pipe loop samples represent a lead service lines in the District or if it is diluted too much. She thought that cleanout may not have always been once per day and that earlier it may have been upwards of a week and then was changed to every three days. Ms. Schmelling replied that the pipe loops were designed with input from industry experts and took into account the stagnation issue. Ms. Kanen replied that she wants to keep discussing the issue that a closed system is not representative of compliance samples..

3. DC Water Update on Posting Data to the Website

Lead data has been posted on DC Water's website. Maureen Schmelling asked if anyone had questions on the posted data. Sue Kanen asked if the posted lead profile from 2009, with a lead level of 30 ppb, is representative of all lead profiles. Ms. Schmelling said that this profile is representative of a higher lead level. Ms. Kanen asked if more lead profiles can be posted on the website such as samples representing a similar timeframe as the original profile posted, a profile completed in the summer months, and other profiles from the last two years. Ms. Schmelling said that DC Water does intend to post more lead profiles when staff is available.

Ms. Kanen reported that she has reviewed the posted data and has found that more than 50 percent of the sampling sites consistently have lead levels less than 3 ppb. She also expressed concern that the number of sites with lead levels less than 3 ppb is increasing every year. She is concerned about the process used to select Lead and Copper Rule sampling sites and encouraged EPA to review this site selection process. Mr. Arguto responded that similar concerns have been raised by Yanna Lambrinidou and will be discussed later in the meeting. Ms. Kanen offered to send her data analysis in an Excel worksheet to Mr. Arguto. Ms. Kanen questioned how the lead loops has generated 3 ppb lead while compliance results are less than 3 ppb. She also noted that seasonality (i.e. temperature change) does not appear to be a prominent factor for lead concentrations of compliance samples. Maureen Schmelling agreed with Ms. Kanen and said that the slight seasonality may be masked because the lead in tap samples is predominantly particulate lead, and release of particulate lead is intermittent and may be related to the amount of construction activity.

4. DC Water Preliminary Lead and Copper Rule Results Update

Ms. Schmelling reported that the first semester 90th percentile lead level was 3 ppb. July sampling results are not available yet.

5. Review of Lead Sampling Procedures

Bill Arguto said that EPA is currently reviewing questions raised by Yanna Lambrinidou on lead sampling procedures. Mr. Arguto anticipates that this review will be complete in the next two months. He recommends that no further action be taken until EPA completes this review. Ms. Lambrinidou replied that she can wait for a month or two. She feels strongly that a face-to-face meeting is needed to discuss the review and would be more constructive than a written response. Mr. Arguto responded that EPA will complete the review before deciding the best approach for discussing the results. Mr. Burrell said that he thought a meeting would be helpful.

6. Update on Freedom of Information Act Request

EPA attempted to send a letter on July 11, 2012 to respond to Marc Edwards' FOIA request for data used in the galvanic corrosion study. Mr. Edwards did not receive the letter. Bill Arguto apologized to Mr. Edwards and said that the letter will be sent again in today's mail. Mr. Edwards responded that he appreciates EPA's response to the FOIA request. Mr. Edwards asked if EPA had found the data in question. Mr. Arguto responded that the data have not been found. Mr. Edwards asked for an update on whether EPA will be discounting the data of the study and an update on EPA's decision process regarding next steps. Mr. Arguto replied that the matter is still being reviewed. Mr. Edwards reiterated his concerns for the missing data because he requested the data before the study report was finalized, the report is endorsed by EPA on its website, and contradicted by other research in the last 18 months. Mr. Edwards said that information will be coming out in the next month or so that legitimizes his concerns. Mr. Arguto repeated that the matter is under review and that he wanted to address all of the concerns and evaluate the impact of the question while not jumping to conclusions. Yanna Lambrinidou asked why EPA has not responded to Mr. Edwards' request for a meeting. Mr. Arguto apologized for not responding to Mr. Edwards email and said that he will address Mr. Edwards' concerns. Ms. Lambrinidou asked when EPA will complete the review. Mr. Arguto replied that he did not know how long the review will take.

7. Wrap-Up

The meeting notes will be prepared and distributed to TEWG members prior to the next call. The next call is scheduled for November 30th at 10:00 a.m. EST. If anyone has additional questions or comments, please email Bill Arguto or Wendy Gray.

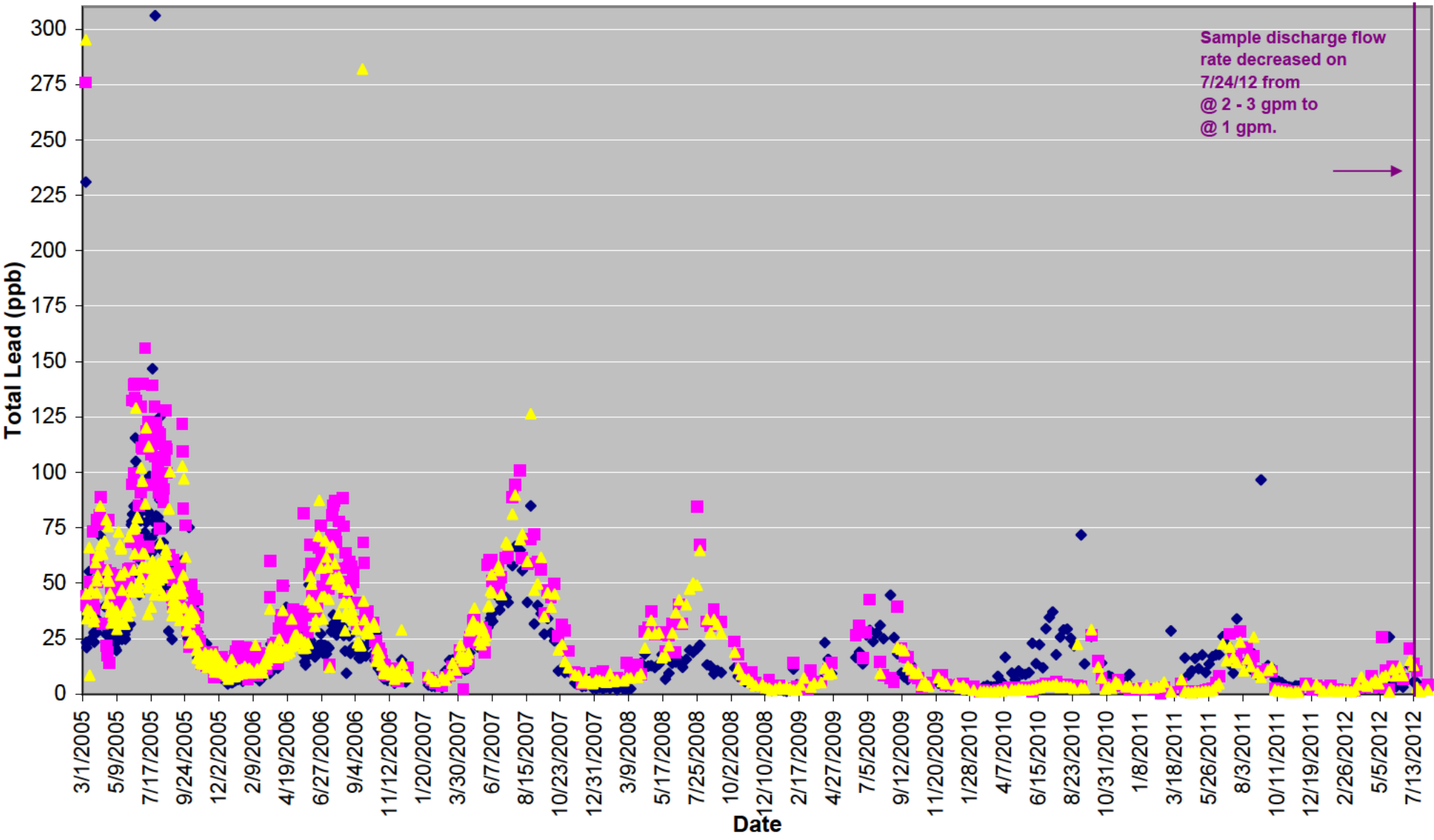
Attachment A: Call Agenda

1. Washington Aqueduct pipe loop update
2. DC Water pipe loop update
3. DC Water update on posting data to website
4. DC Water preliminary lead and copper rule results update
5. Review of lead sampling procedures
6. Update on FOIA request

WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Total Lead Concentrations March 2005 - August 2012

- ◆ 7A Total Lead
- 7B Total Lead
- ▲ 7C Total Lead

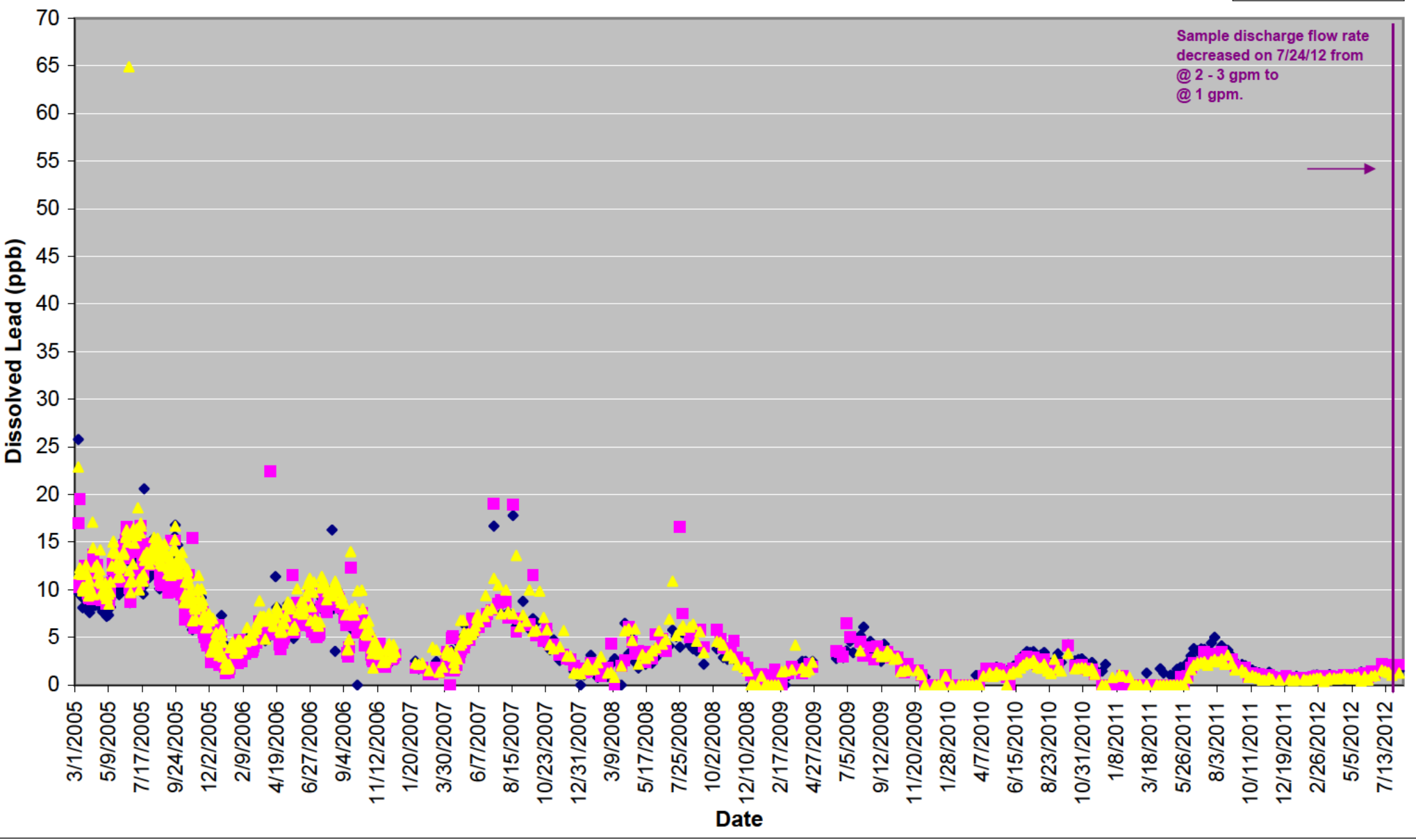
Sample discharge flow rate decreased on 7/24/12 from @ 2 - 3 gpm to @ 1 gpm.



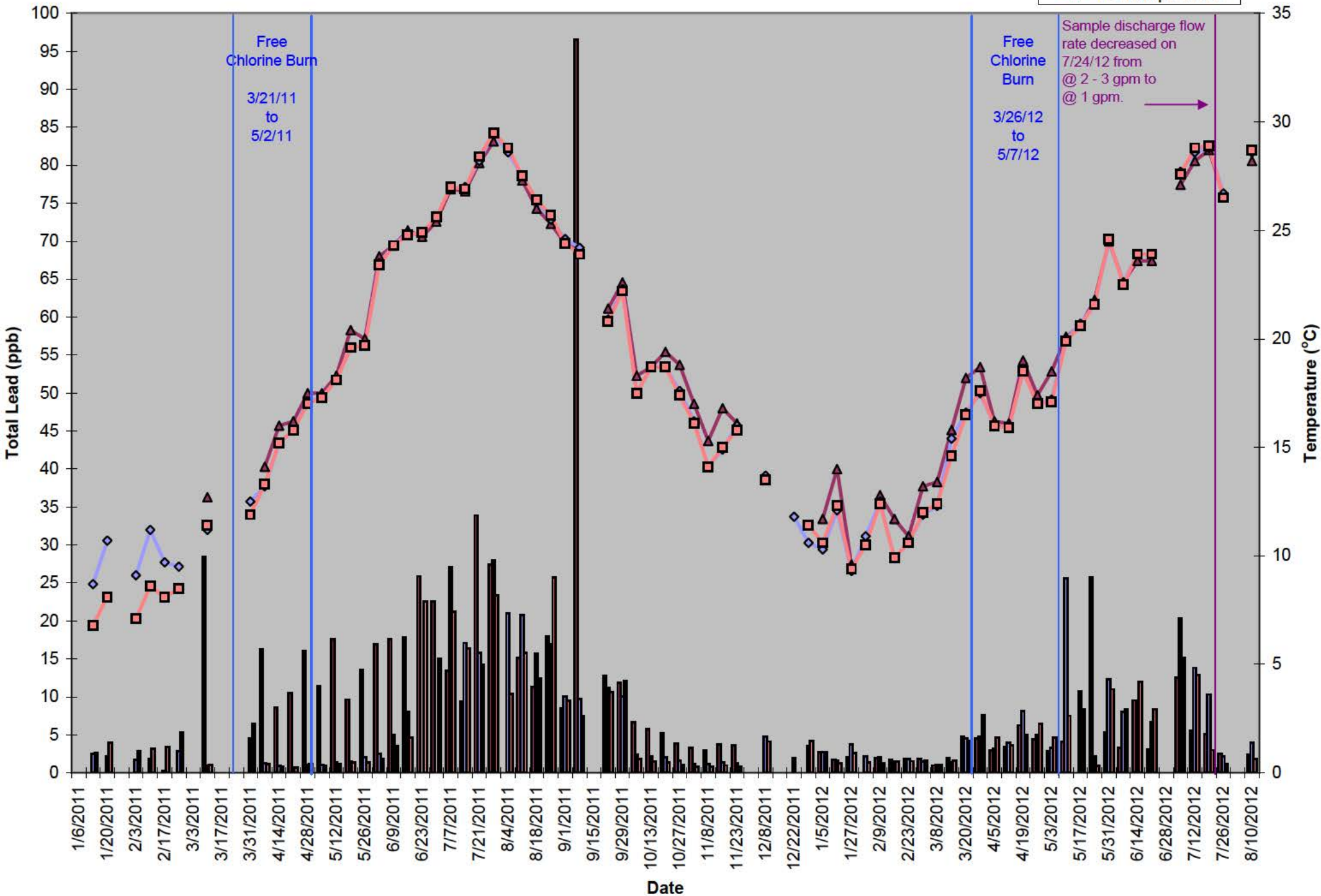
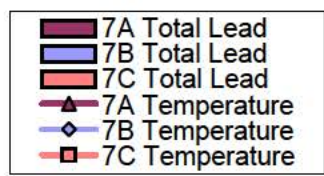
WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Dissolved Lead Concentrations March 2005 - August 2012

- ◆ 7A Dissolved Lead
- 7B Dissolved Lead
- ▲ 7C Dissolved Lead

Sample discharge flow rate
decreased on 7/24/12 from
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@ 1 gpm.

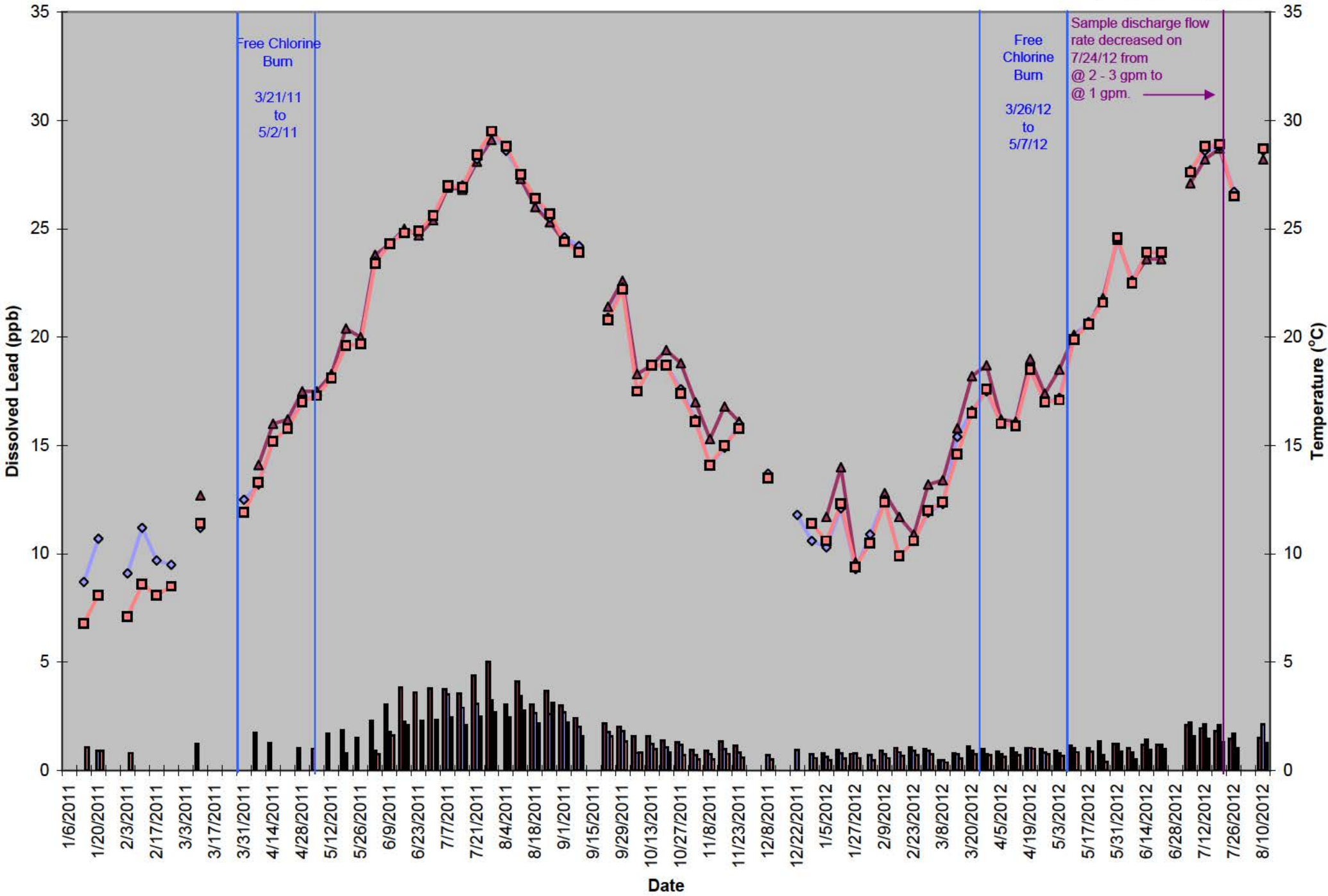


WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Total Lead Concentrations vs Temperature January 2011 - August 2012



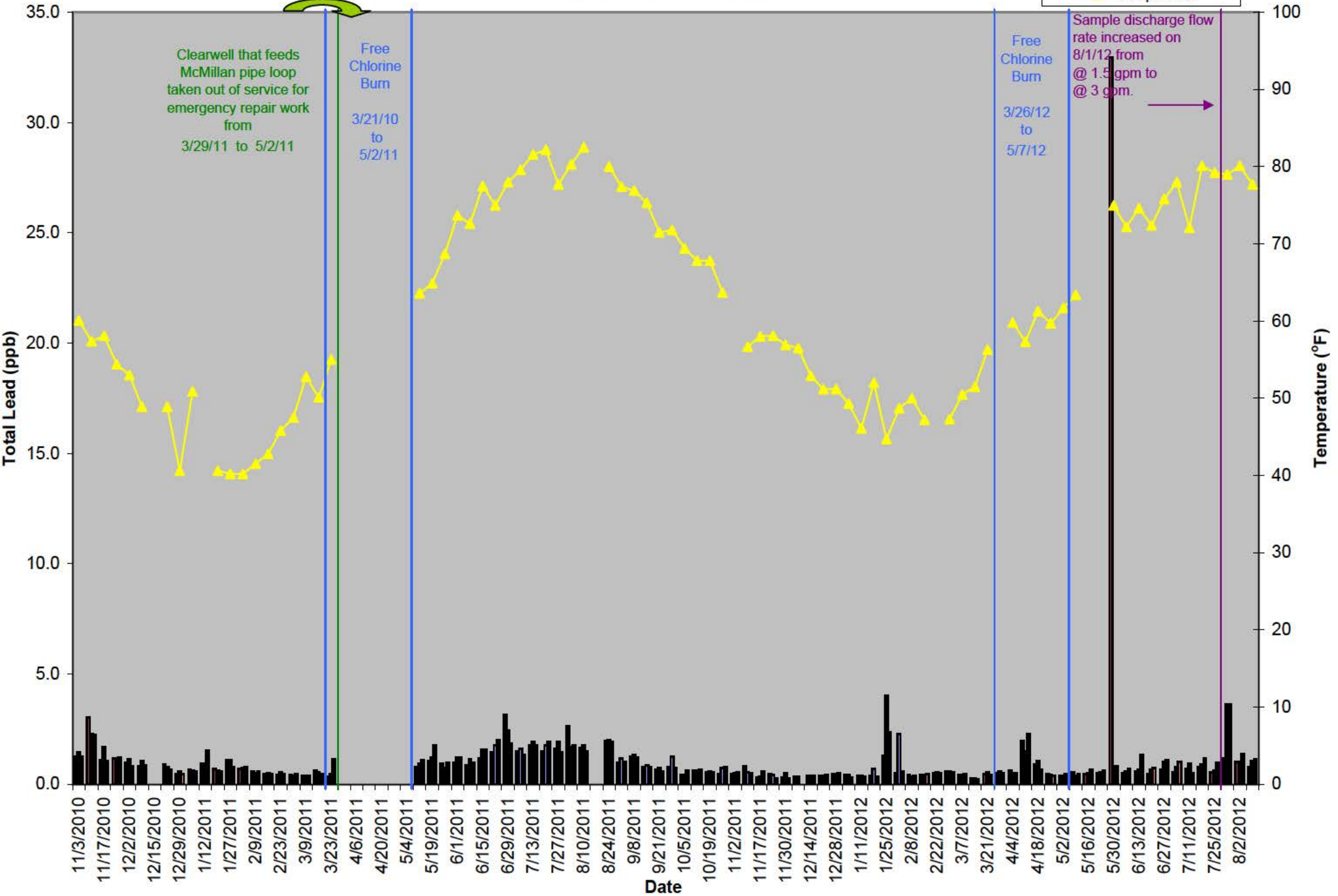
WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Dissolved Lead Concentrations vs Temperature January 2011 - August 2012

- 7A Dissolved Lead
- 7B Dissolved Lead
- 7C Dissolved Lead
- ▲ 7A Temperature
- ◆ 7B Temperature
- 7C Temperature



WA McMillan Pipe Loop Stagnation Samples Total Lead Concentrations vs Temperature November 2010 - August 2012

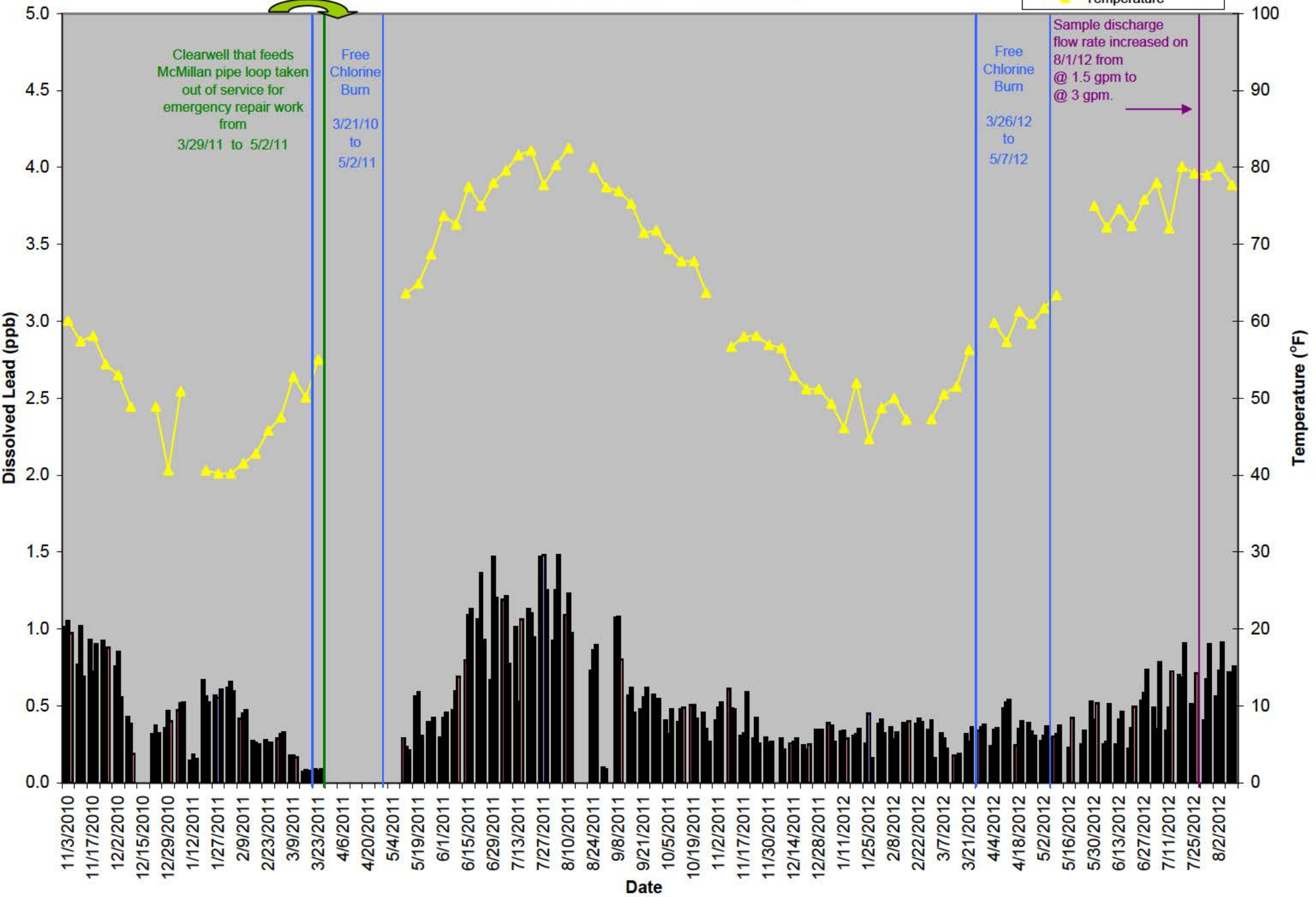
- S1 Total Lead
- S2 Total Lead
- S3 Total Lead
- Temperature



Note: Solenoids were installed on 6/7/2012 in order to isolate the sample discharges for loops 1, 2, and 3 from a common discharge. Lead data prior to this date represent the three loops being tied together at their discharge. So roughly, prior to 6/7/2012, the first sample contains the first third of all three loops, the second sample the second third, and the last sample the final third.

WA McMillan Pipe Loop Stagnation Samples Dissolved Lead Concentrations vs Temperature November 2010 - August 2012

- S1 Dissolved Lead
- S2 Dissolved Lead
- S3 Dissolved Lead
- Temperature



Note: Solenoids were installed on 6/7/2012 in order to isolate the sample discharges for loops 1, 2, and 3 from a common discharge. Lead data prior to this date represent the three loops being tied together at their discharge. So roughly, prior to 6/7/2012, the first sample contains the first third of all three loops, the second sample the second third, and the last sample the final third.

DC Water Pipe Loop

Pipe Loop 1 Final (Control Loop): 1/08 - Current

