

US EPA ARCHIVE DOCUMENT

Technical Expert Working Group (TEWG) Conference Call

April 26, 2013
10:00 – 11:00 a.m.

CALL SUMMARY

Attendees:

EPA Region 3 and contractors: Bill Arguto, Wendy Gray, Michelle Hoover, Beth Garcia, Kathy Martel (Cadmus), Anne Sandvig (Cadmus)

The Washington Aqueduct: Tom Jacobus

DC Water: Maureen Schmelling, Jessica Edwards-Brandt, John Civardi (Hatch Mott)

Concerned Citizen: Susan Kanen

Parents for Non-Toxic Alternatives: Yanna Lambrinidou

District Department of the Environment: Pierre Erville, Shah Nawaz, Collin Burrell, William Slade

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 Region 3. Bill reviewed the meeting agenda that is included as Attachment A to this call summary.

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 summarize data for the period November 2010 to April 3, 2013 and graphs for the Dalecarlia WTP pipe loops include data for the period March 2005 to April 11, 2013.

Tom Jacobus said that the pipe loop data for the last few months are normal other than one sample collected from the McMillan WTP pipe loop when a hose was being repaired. Mr. Jacobus received an email today from Marc Edwards requesting that the Aqueduct increase the flow rate on the pipe loop to evaluate particulate lead levels. Mr. Jacobus agrees to make this change and plans to conduct the evaluation in July when water temperatures are higher. He will coordinate with Marc Edwards.

Susan Kanen stated that the lead concentration is very low in the pipe loops now. Ms. Kanen asked if Mr. Jacobus agrees that lead concentration decreases except for periods of warmer water temperature and his opinion of her hypothesis provided during the March 2012 call. Mr. Jacobus replied that the Aqueduct collects samples from the pipe loops, reports the results and the Aqueduct is not seeing an upward trend. As the trend is low, the Aqueduct will continue to perform passivation. Mr. Jacobus also said that the Aqueduct has not conducted a evaluation of her hypothesis.

Susan Kanen said she is skeptical of pipe loop results beginning in April 2008. She also said that she thinks that compliance samples are not representing the maximum or potential lead that exists. Ms. Kanen questioned the occurrence of low lead levels in the pipe loops and asked if any operational parameters or design of the pipe loops had changed. Mr. Jacobus replied that no parameters have changed. Ms. Kanen also questioned whether the pipe loops represent the same conditions as conditions before 2008. Mr. Jacobus replied that the Aqueduct is using the pipe loops for background surveillance of trends and is not conducting a scientific study to set or prove a hypothesis.

2. DC Water Pipe Loop Update

Maureen Schmelling provided pipe loop data prior to the call. She indicated that the pipe loop samples show an overall trend of lead levels a little bit down, with one loop showing results slightly higher. A few recent samples with higher lead levels are most likely a result of physical vibrations due to construction activity (i.e. jack hammering) at Fort Reno in areas adjacent to the pipe loops.

Ms. Kanen raised questions on the location of sample collection, the sampling method (i.e. flow-through vs. stagnation samples), the pipe loop configuration and operation and sample dilution. These same questions were raised in previous TEWG meetings since March 2012 Ms Kanen said that she is concerned that DC Water is getting the same results over and over again and that 5 parts per billion lead concentration would be high due to the pipe loop stagnation procedure. Maureen Schmelling clarified that pipe loop samples are collected directly from the lead pipes and are not collected from the in-line reservoir. Ms. Kanen asked whether the samples are collected from water that is recirculated. Ms. Schmelling said the samples are from water that is recirculated. Ms. Kanen asked whether this would cause dilution and whether DC Water had reviewed her calculations provided in March 2012. Wendy Gray commented that she had looked at Ms. Kanen's calculations and found that the calculation method assumes linear increase in concentration and no equilibrium concentration.

3. DC Water Update on Posting Data to the Website

Maureen Schmelling reported that she has updated LCR compliance data on the DC Water website, but that detailed lead profiles need to be reviewed before they can be uploaded. Ms. Schmelling also posted a Powerpoint presentation that was recently delivered to the Board of Directors; this presentation includes lead profiles from the last several years.

Susan Kanen expressed interest in seeing the detailed lead profiles and asked if Maureen could send them directly to her even if they could not be posted on the website. Maureen replied that Ms. Kanen could submit a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request if she would like a copy of the detailed profiles. Yanna Lambrinidou asked if there was a system in place to address the questions raised by Susan Kanen on the TEWG calls. Ms. Lambrinidou thinks that Ms. Kanen has serious concerns and has not received adequate responses. Ms. Lambrinidou asked if Ms. Kanen needed to put the questions in writing, as she thought that all TEWG members could benefit from reviewing the answers to these questions. Ms. Lambrinidou asked why the profiles cannot be shared directly as the FOIA process requires a lot of work. Ms. Schmelling replied that due to limited staffing, she has not had the time to conduct the data review needed before the profiles can be shared. Since DC Water now has a new water quality manager, Jessica Edwards-Brandt, and is expecting to hire a summer intern, Ms. Schmelling expects that she will have time this summer to complete the data review of the lead profiles. She also indicated that a FOIA request would force this work to become a higher priority. Ms. Schmelling is currently busy with other high priority water quality issues.

4. Review of Lead Sampling Procedures

Bill Arguto said that he will respond to Yanna Lambrinidou's questions, raised in a previous TEWG call, in a response email to be sent this afternoon via email. Ms. Lambrinidou requested that the response be sent to the whole TEWG call list. Mr. Arguto agreed.

Susan Kanen asked questions related to use of the sampling site in the 4300 block of 38th Street. For the sample collected on 11/4/11, this site was listed on the website as having a copper service line. Ms. Kanen questioned if this sample was valid. Wendy Gray reported that George Rizzo reviewed the sampling records and found that the November 4, 2011 sample was collected before the lead service line was fully replaced later that same month. Ms. Kanen asked if it was an error on the DC Water website or in the compliance report that this site was listed as a copper service line site. Wendy Gray indicated that since it was included in the 100 compliance samples in the LCR compliance report, it would have been collected before lead service line replacement, however she will have to look into it further to determine why it was listed as a copper service line site. In 2012, this sampling site was removed from the LCR sampling program.

[Following the meeting it was determined that the LCR Compliance Report, listed the site as a full lead service line site while the DC Water website listed the same sample on 11/4/11 as collected from a copper service line. The sample chain of custody indicated that it was a lead service line on 11/4/11. The lead service line replacement was performed later in November 2011. The DC Water website should list the service line as full lead for the sample collected on 11/4/11.]

Maureen Schmelling commented that DC Water conducts an extensive review of sampling sites to confirm that they contain a lead service line. Detailed reports are prepared by DC

Water and submitted to EPA. Further, Ms. Schmelling reported that DC Water collects more LCR samples than required by regulation.

Susan Kanen asked additional questions as to why sampling under the LCR does not represent the worst case lead concentration. Bill Arguto suggested that Ms. Kanen send written questions to EPA and EPA will respond in the context of the current LCR requirements. Further, Mr. Arguto noted that the LCR will be revised in the near future and there will be an opportunity to provide comments on the proposed revisions.

5. DC Water Preliminary Lead and Copper Rule Results Update

Maureen Schmelling reported that 48 samples have been collected to date for this semester. Two of the 48 samples have lead levels greater than 15 ppb; these results are typical of any semester.

Sue Kanen asked if DC Water plans to collect samples during warmer weather. Ms. Schmelling replied that samples will be collected during July, August and September which are the warmest months. Ms. Kanen asked whether samples would be collected in June. Ms. Schmelling said that no samples would be collected in June due to quality control procedures and report preparation in advance of the July 10 deadline.

6. Wrap-Up

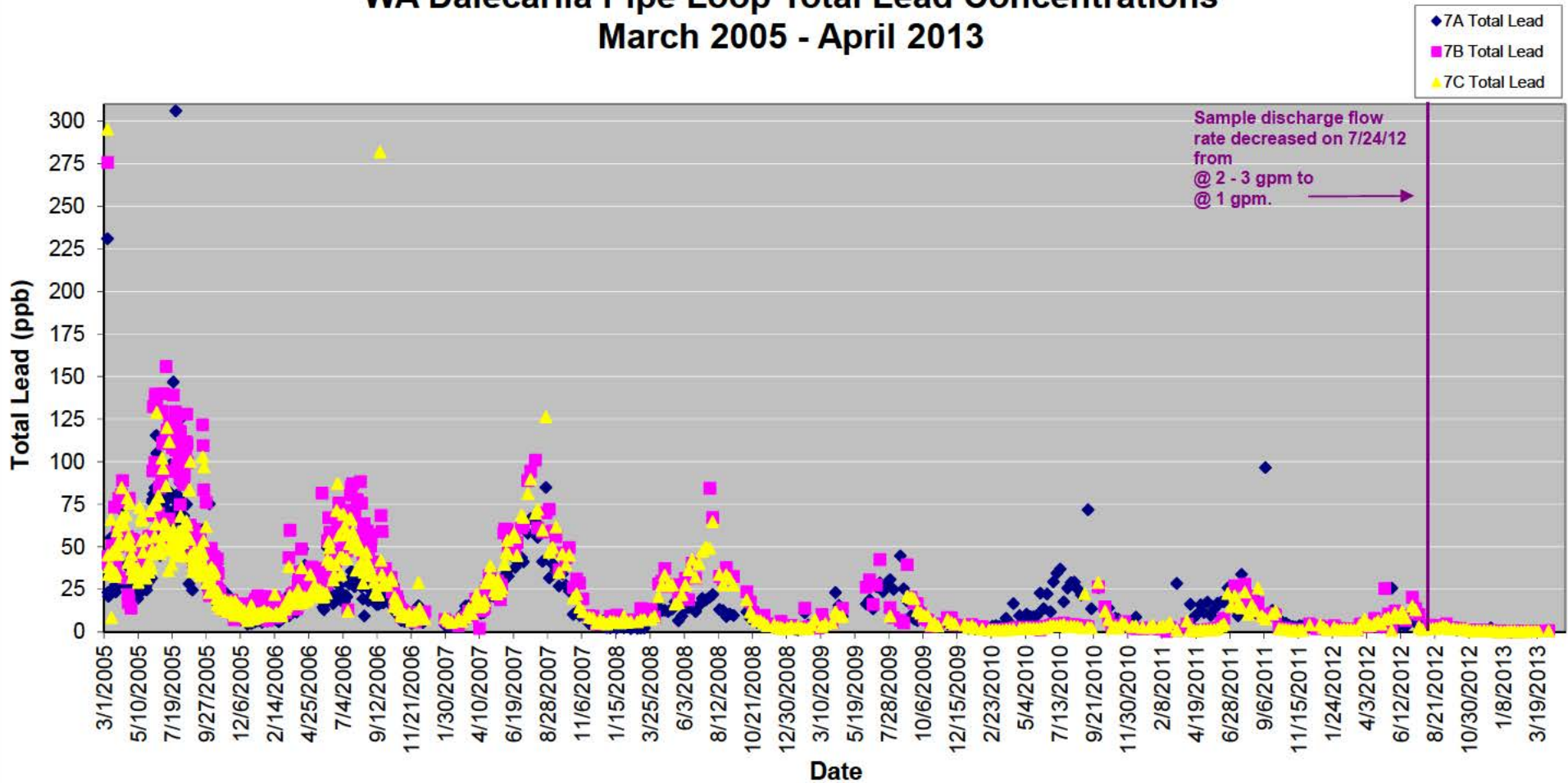
Sue Kanen asked if it would be possible to get an update on the inquiry by Marc Edwards. Bill Arguto said that he prefers to not give an update at this time because Mr. Edwards is not on the call and it would be more appropriate to talk with Mr. Edwards directly about his request.

The meeting notes will be prepared and distributed to TEWG members prior to the next call. The next call is scheduled for August 2, 2013 at 10:00 a.m. If anyone has additional questions or comments, please email Bill Arguto or Wendy Gray.

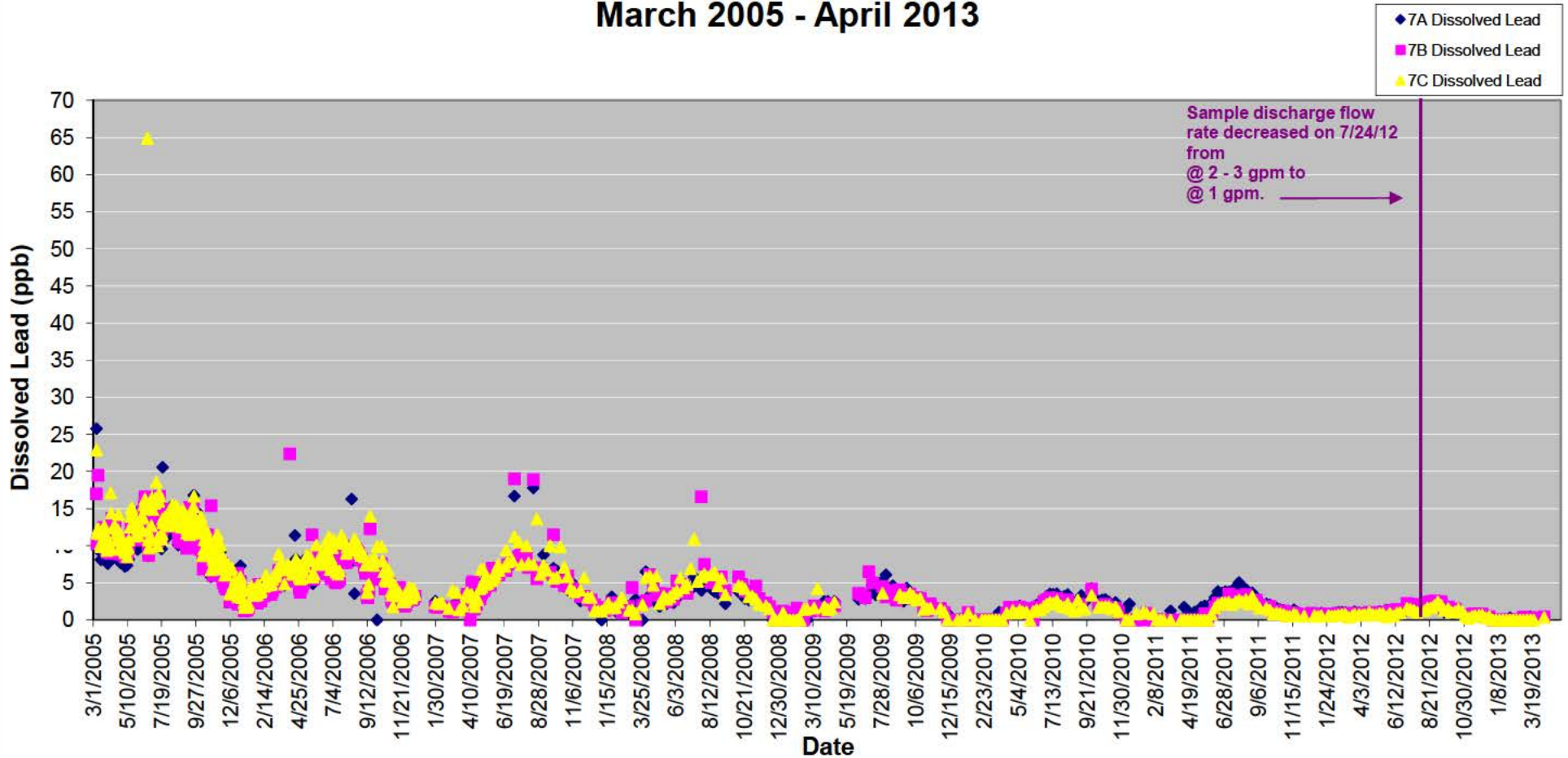
Attachment A: Call Agenda

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

WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Total Lead Concentrations March 2005 - April 2013

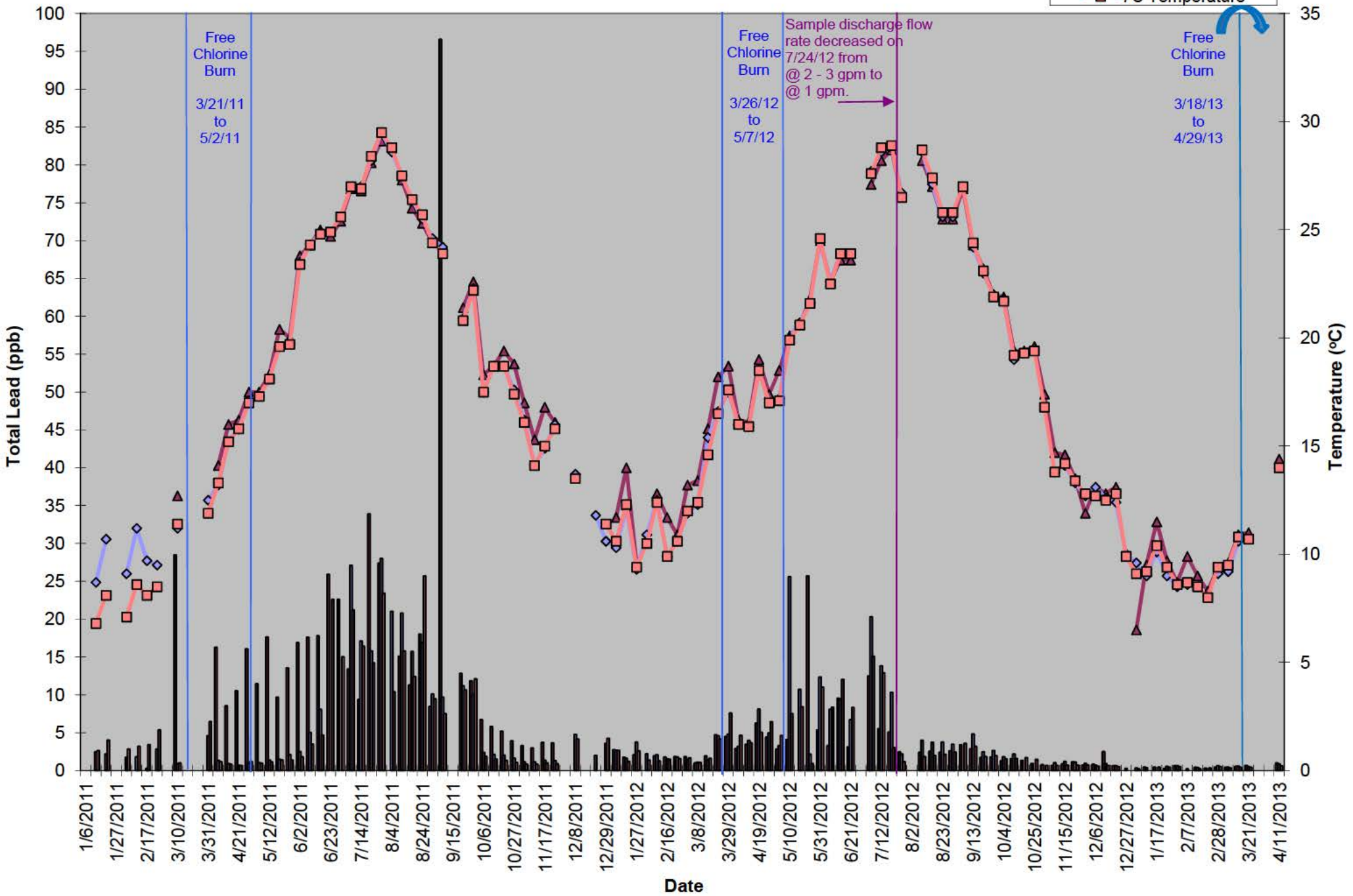


WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Dissolved Lead Concentrations March 2005 - April 2013



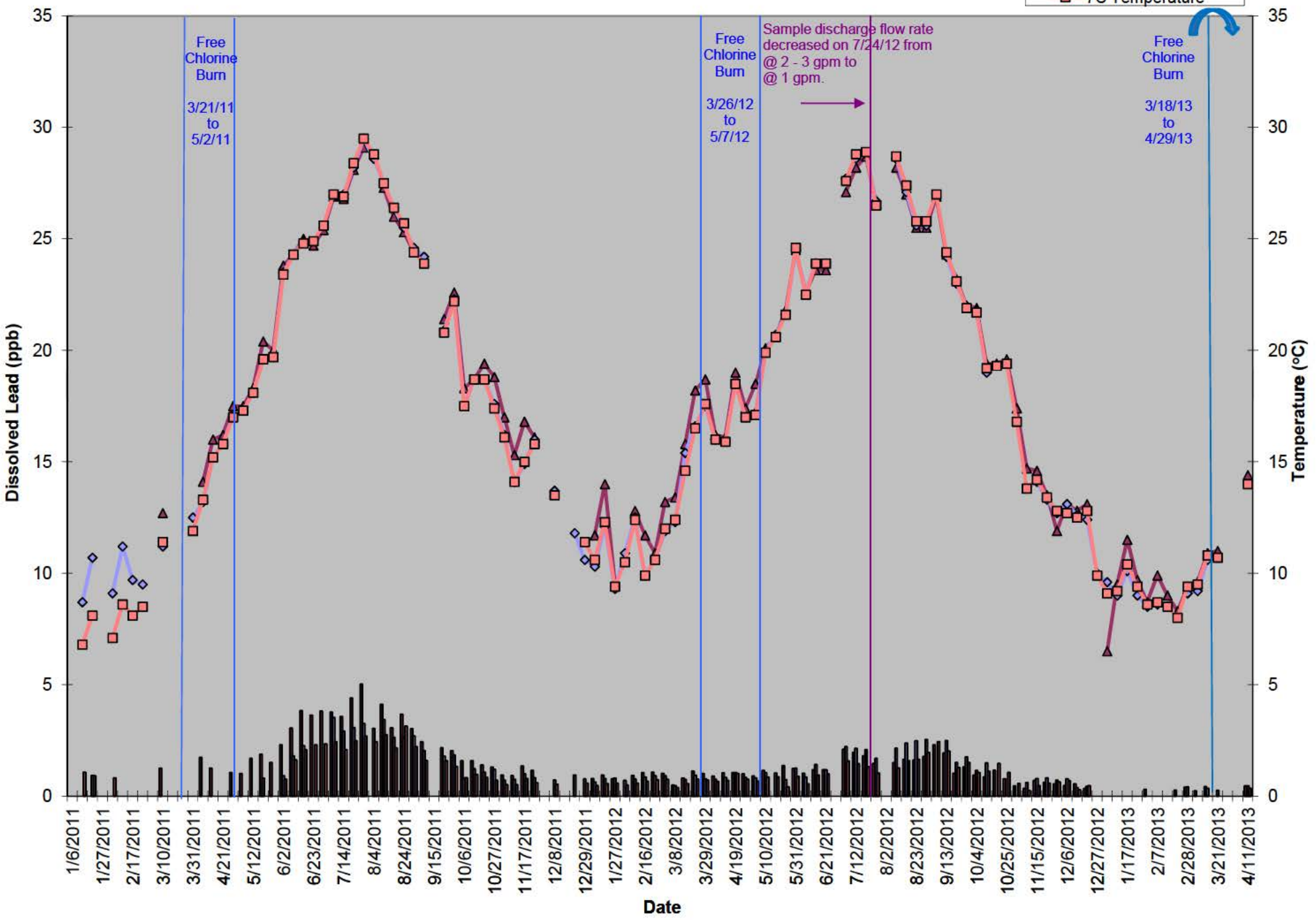
WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Total Lead Concentrations vs Temperature January 2011 - April 2013

- 7A Total Lead
- 7B Total Lead
- 7C Total Lead
- 7A Temperature
- 7B Temperature
- 7C Temperature

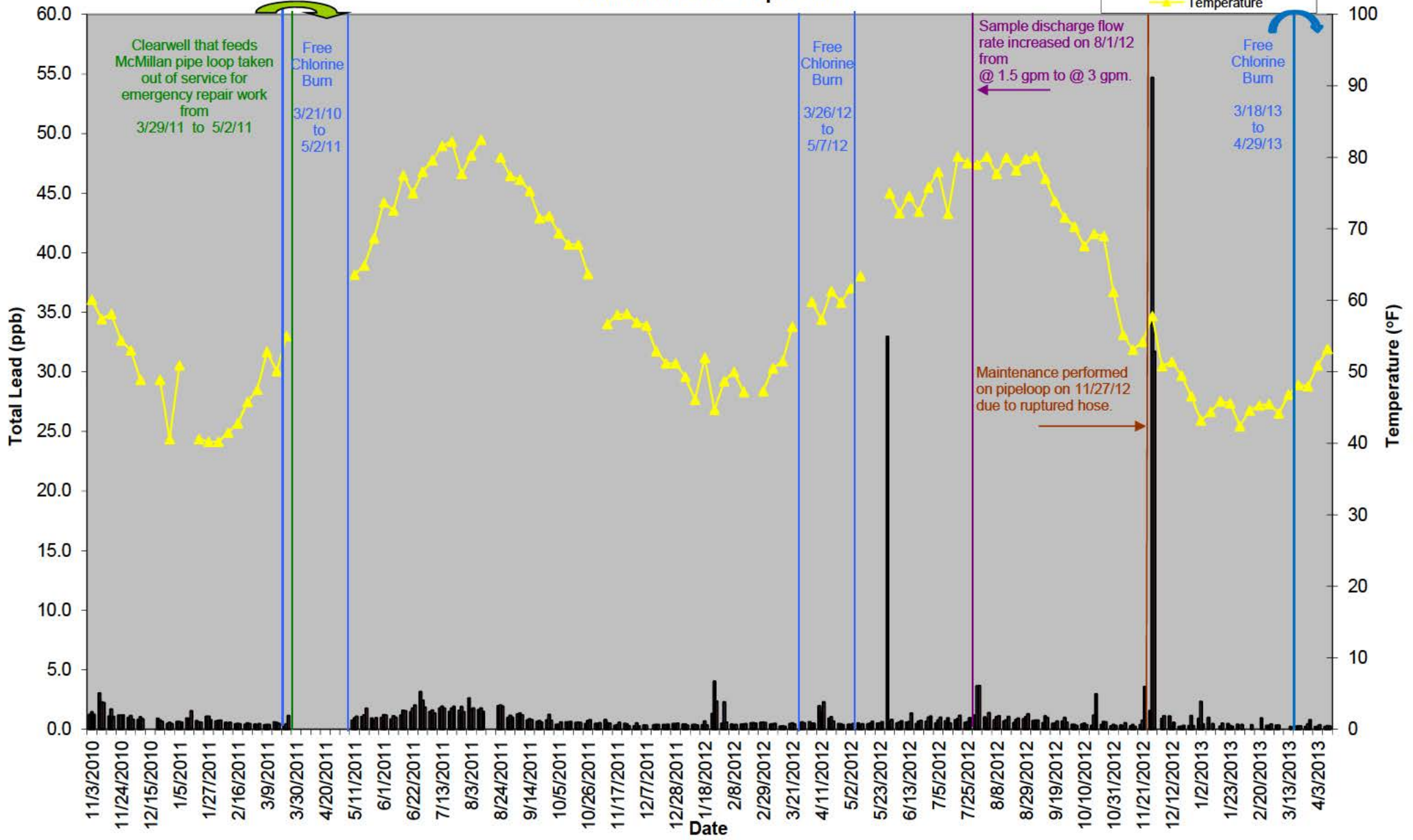
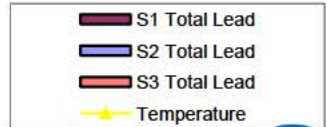


WA Dalecarlia Pipe Loop Dissolved Lead Concentrations vs Temperature January 2011 - April 2013

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

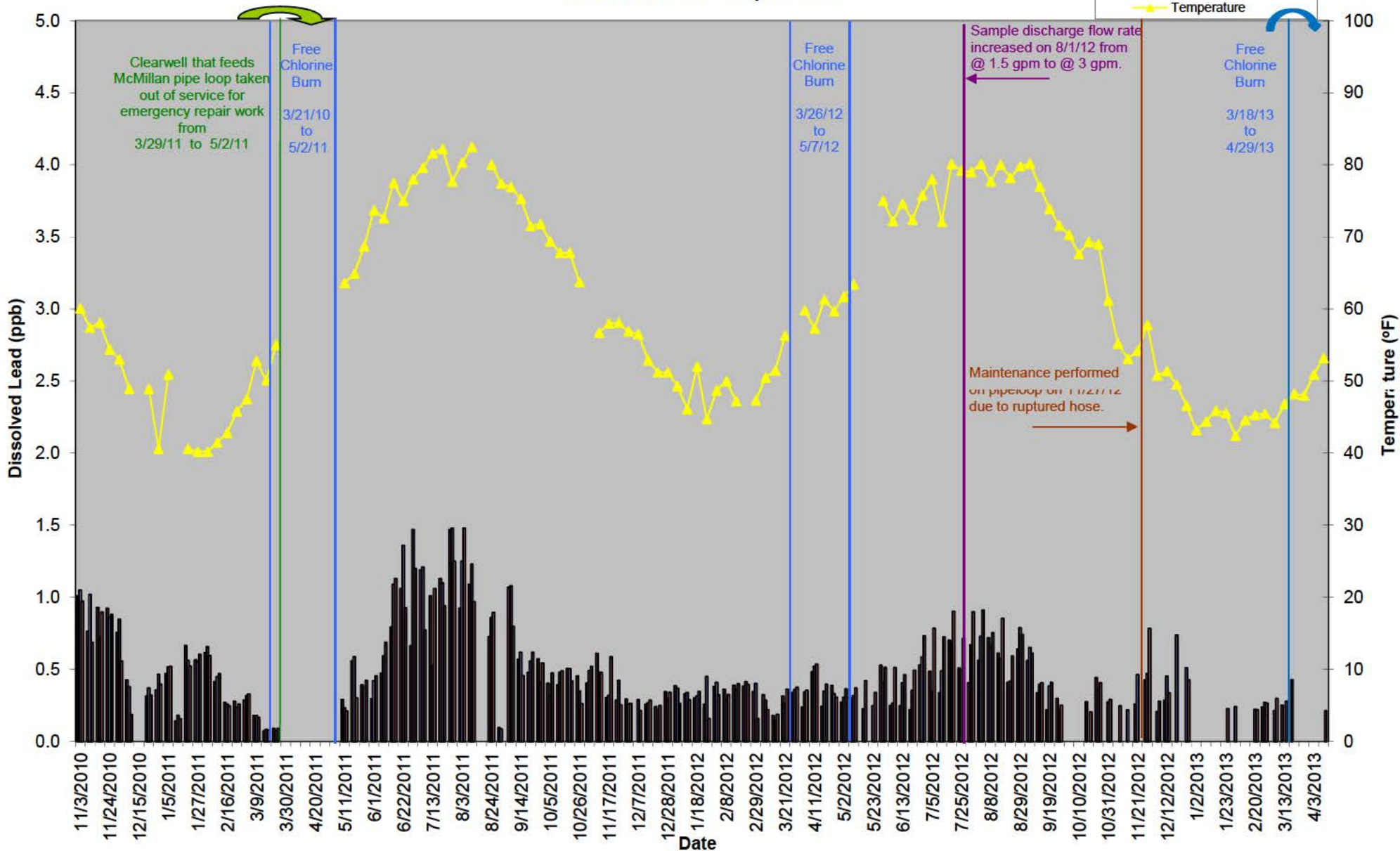


WA McMillan Pipe Loop Stagnation Samples Total Lead Concentrations vs Temperature November 2010 - April 2013



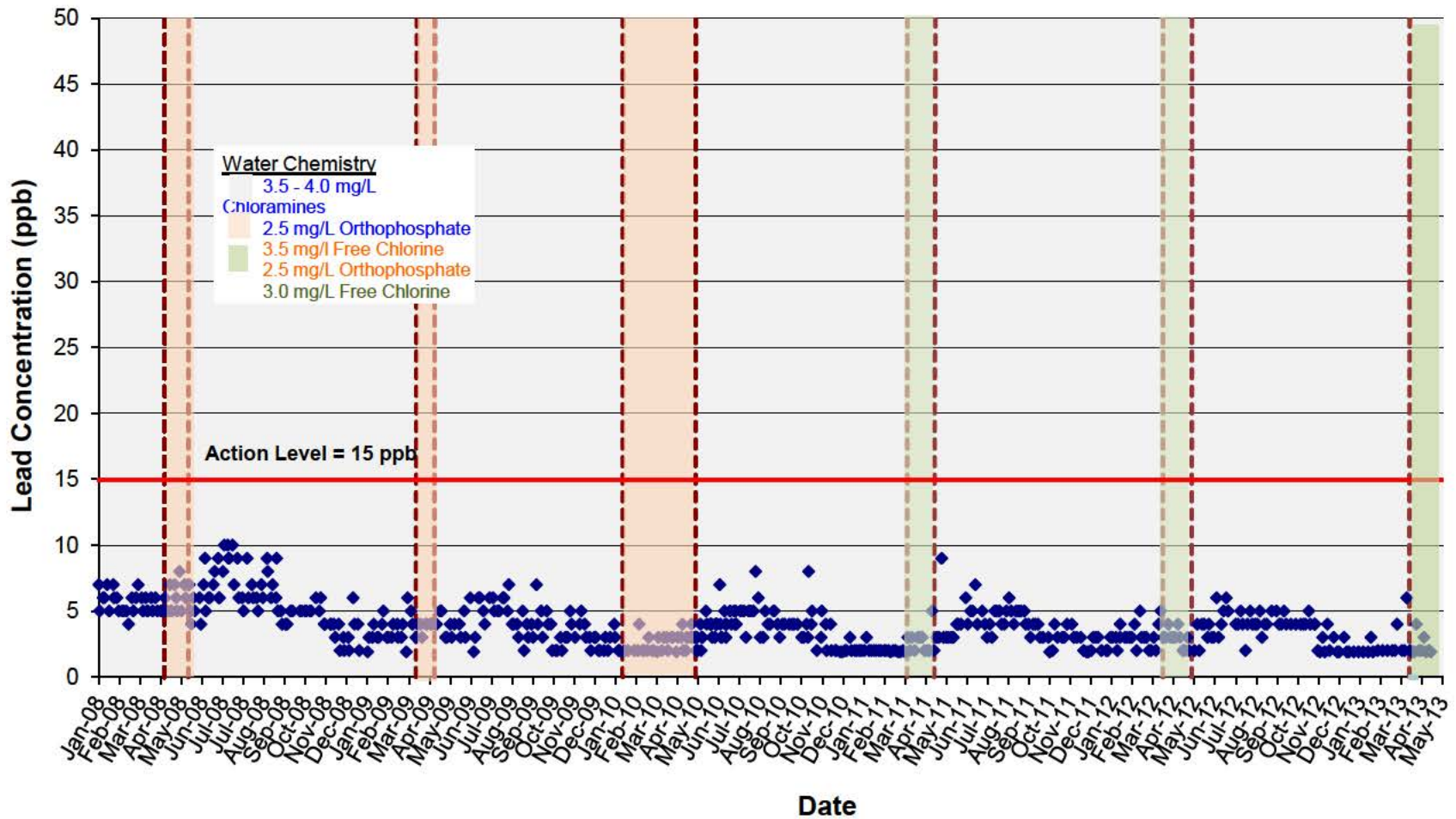
Note: Solenoids were installed on 6/7/2012 in order to isolate the sample discharges for loops 1, 2, and 3 from a common discharge. Lead data prior to this date represent the three loops being tied together at their discharge. So roughly prior to 6/7/2012, the first sample contains the first third of 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 - April 2013



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.

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



Pipe Loop 3 Final: 1/08 - Current

