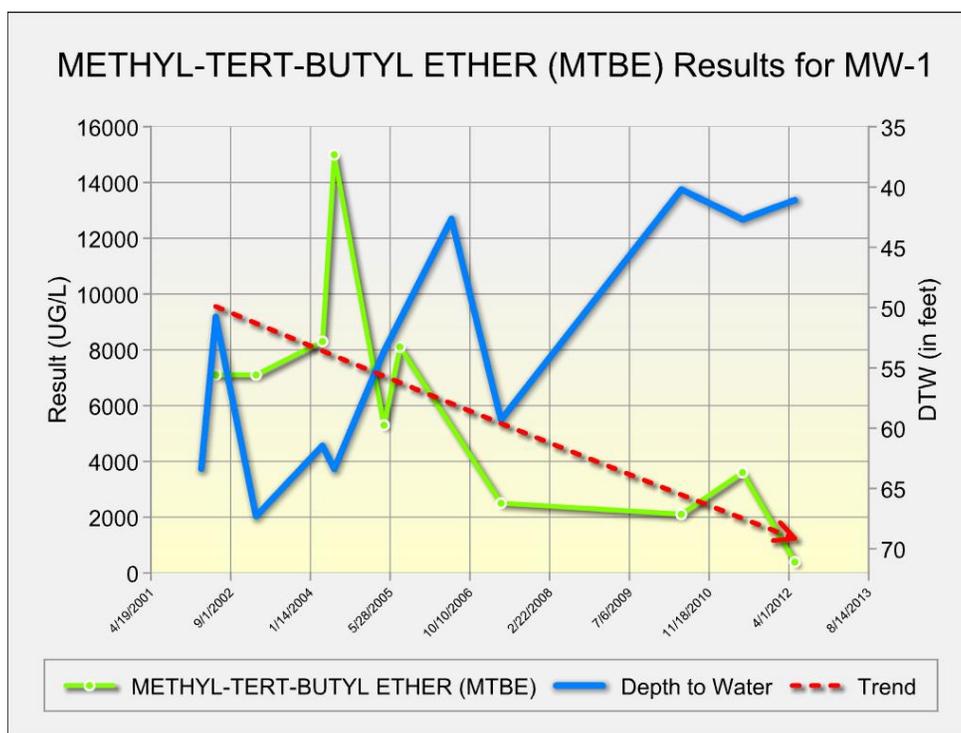


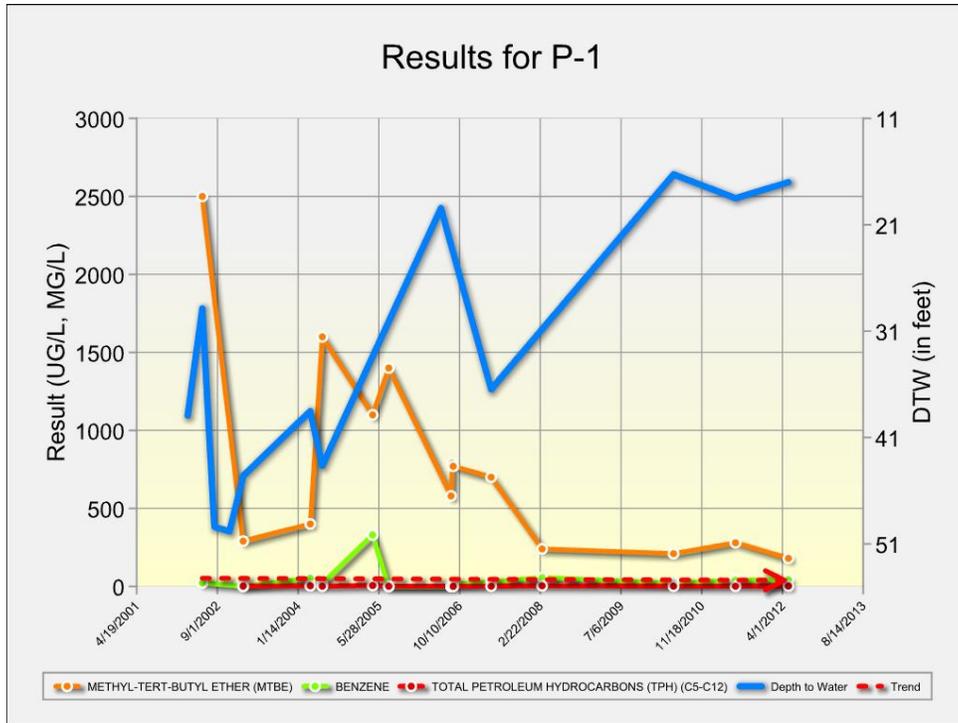
RESPONSE TO COMMENTS RECEIVED FROM THE US DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
FOREST SERVICE, LAKE SHASTA UNIT
DATED JANUARY 22, 2014
REGARDING THE CLOSURE OF CLAIM 12577

Comment: A review of the documents associated with this case highlight that the groundwater in the shallow zone exhibit seasonal variation due to varying lake levels. A closer examination of historical monitoring data for the Digger Bay Marina Site shows: 1) that groundwater is only present in MW-1 and P-1 when the Shasta Dam reservoir elevation is above 1,030 feet which is usually from April through June depending upon annual precipitation and 2) elevated levels of contaminants in MW-1 and P-1 were observed in May 2012 sample when the lake was at full lake level.

The Forest Service is concerned that the relationship between the seasonal variation in the groundwater in the shallow zone and the varying lake levels has resulted in a single piece of monitoring data (May 2012) being used as the basis for stating that the contaminant levels are decreasing or have stabilized.

Response: The State Water Board used more than ten years of groundwater monitoring data to determine the plume was decreasing. Please note these sampling events were conducted during varying months of the year in order to reflect an accurate picture of the changing lake levels over this time period. The graphs below clearly demonstrate that the constituent trends are decreasing.





Note: The units for TPHg were not normalized with the benzene and MTBE