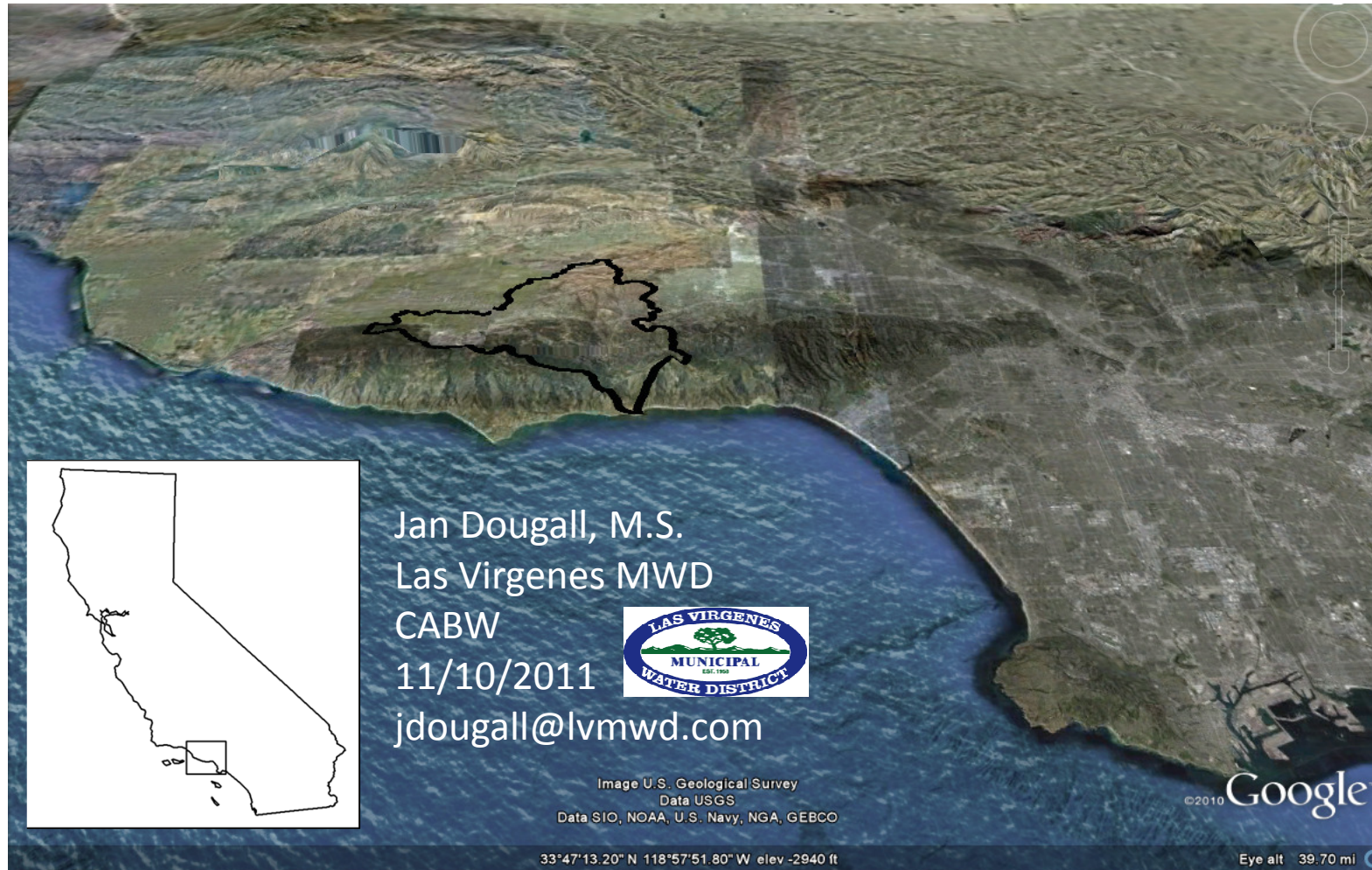


Malibu Creek watershed as an outlier on Water Quality and Macroinvertebrate IBI Scores



Outline

1. Malibu Creek watershed has five 303(d) listings for Benthic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments
 - The EPA must establish a TMDL by March 24, 2013, so will select their own criteria and target
2. Causes of impairment could be
 - hydromodification,
 - mineral water quality from geologic sources,
 - man-made pollutants, or
 - Seasonality of flow
3. How can anthropogenic effects be distinguished from natural?

Malibu Creek watershed

Undeveloped
headwaters

101 Freeway

Tapia WRF

Cold Creek

USGS gage

Image U.S. Geological Survey

Data USGS

Image © 2011 City of Thousand Oaks

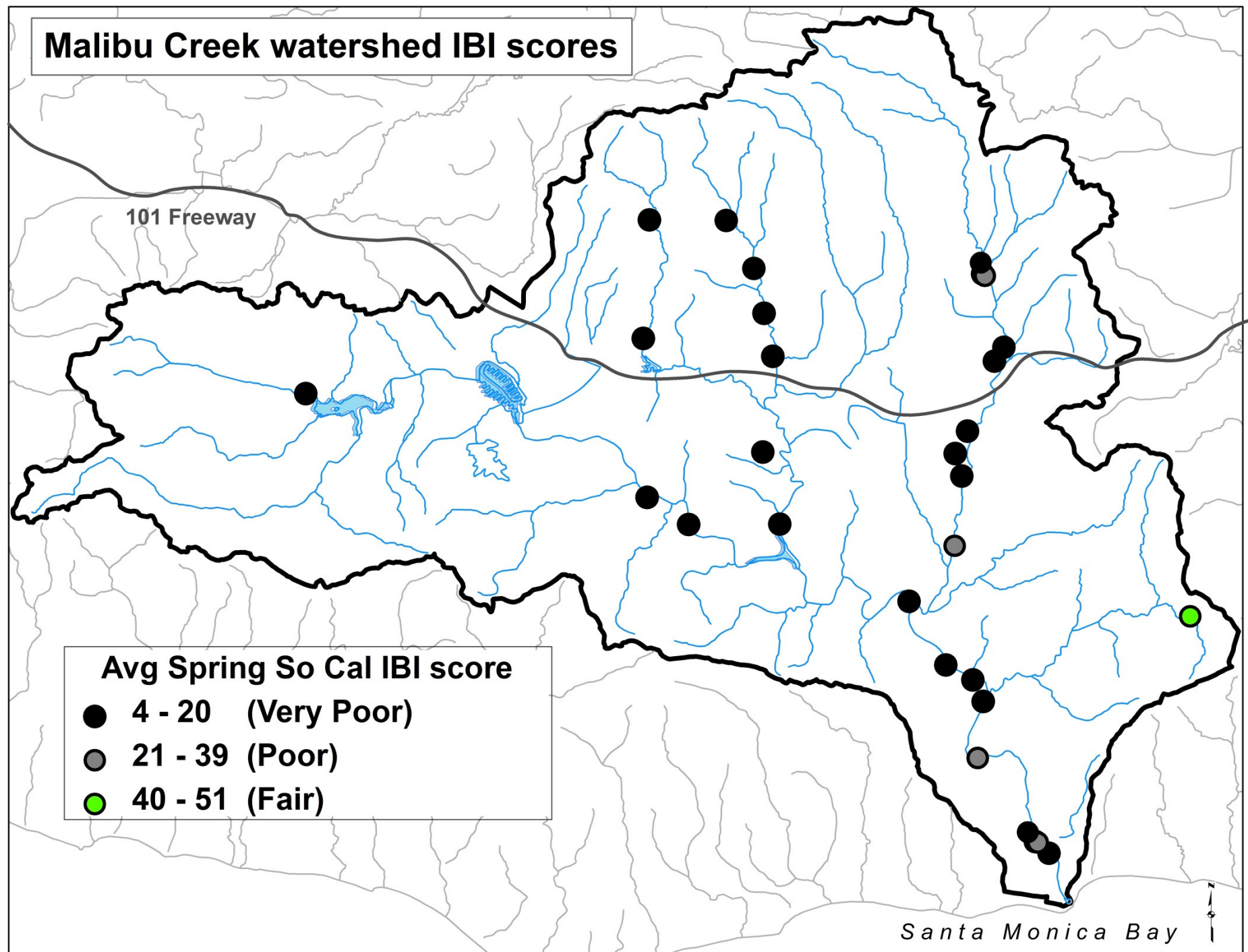
34°06'39.38"N 118°42'21.16"W elev 916 ft

©2010 Google

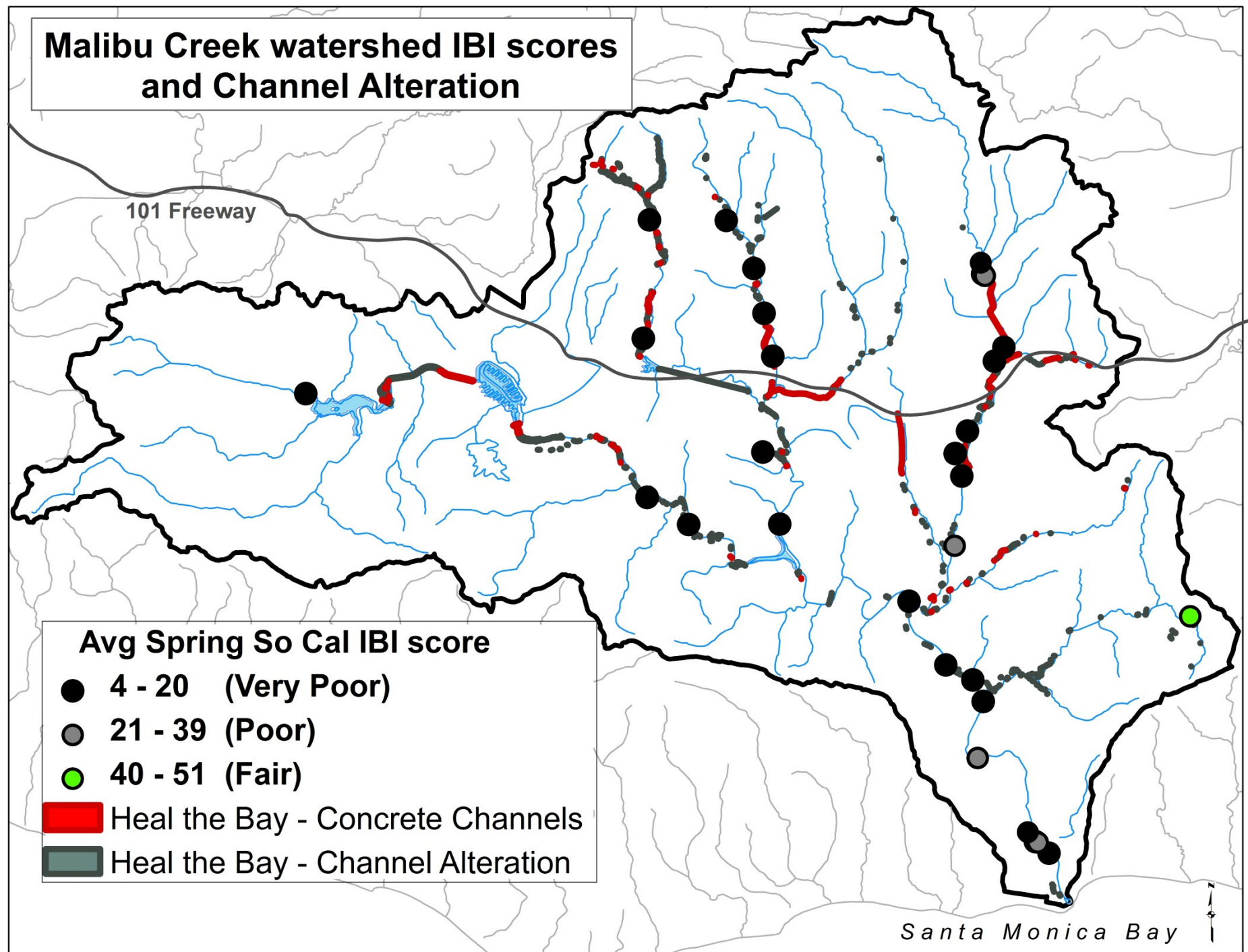
Imagery Date: 10/22/2007

Eye alt 38466 ft

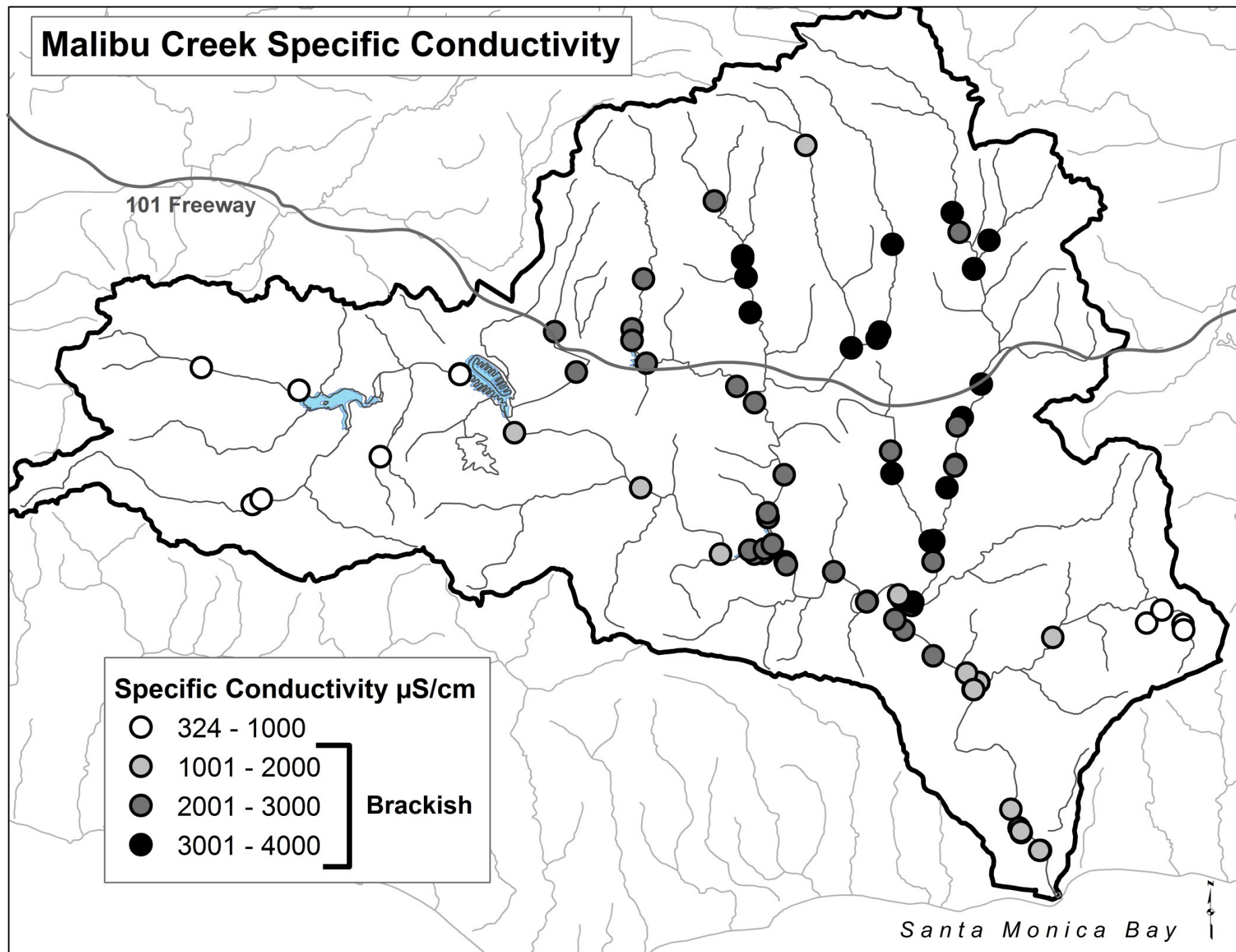
Malibu Creek watershed IBI scores



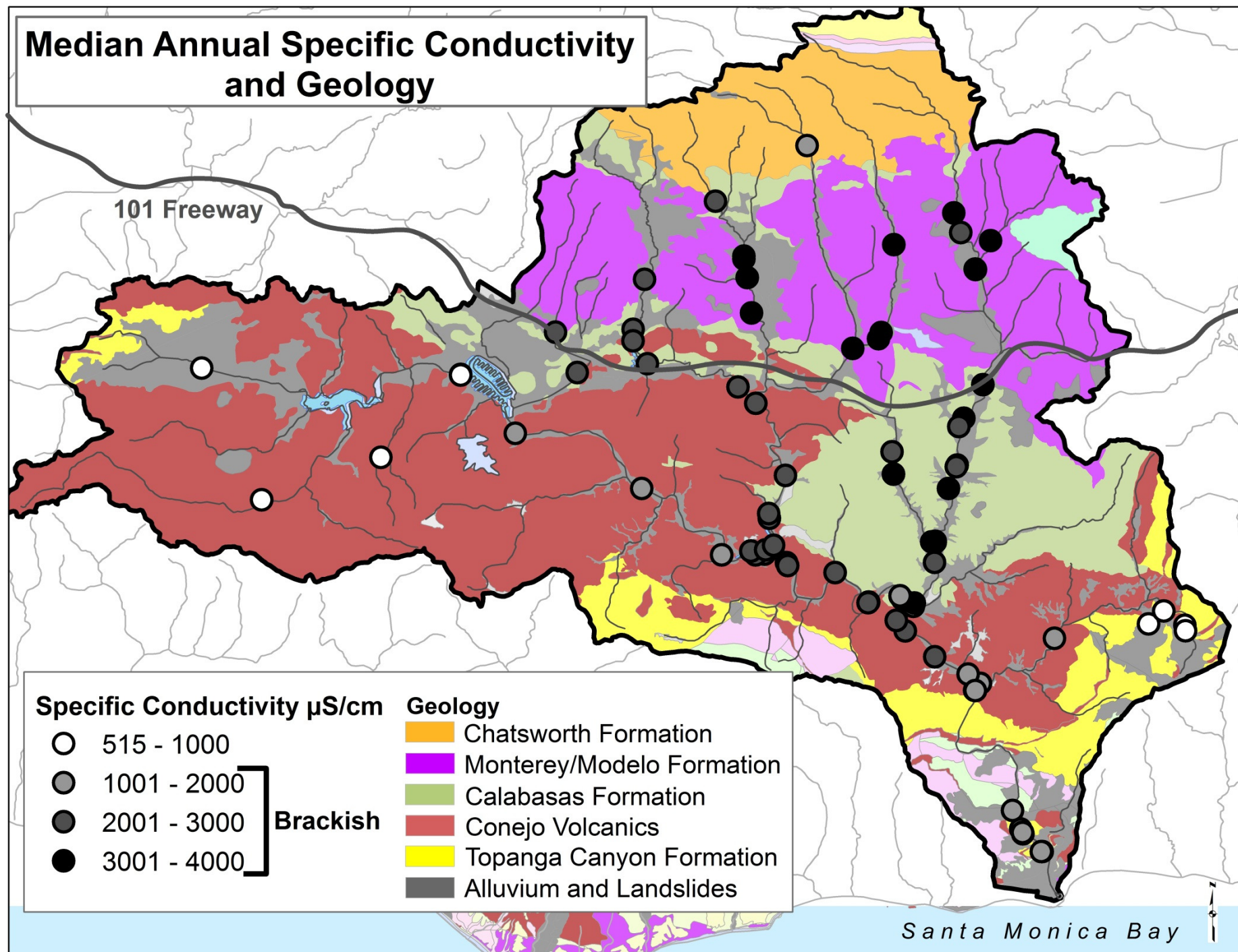
Malibu Creek watershed IBI scores and Channel Alteration



Malibu Creek Specific Conductivity



Median Annual Specific Conductivity and Geology



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Hazardous Trace Elements in Petroleum Source Rocks

Monterey Formation

The major petroleum source rock of California, the Miocene Monterey Formation is widely regarded as one of the world's classic petroleum source rocks and the origin of most of the oil in California's giant oil fields.

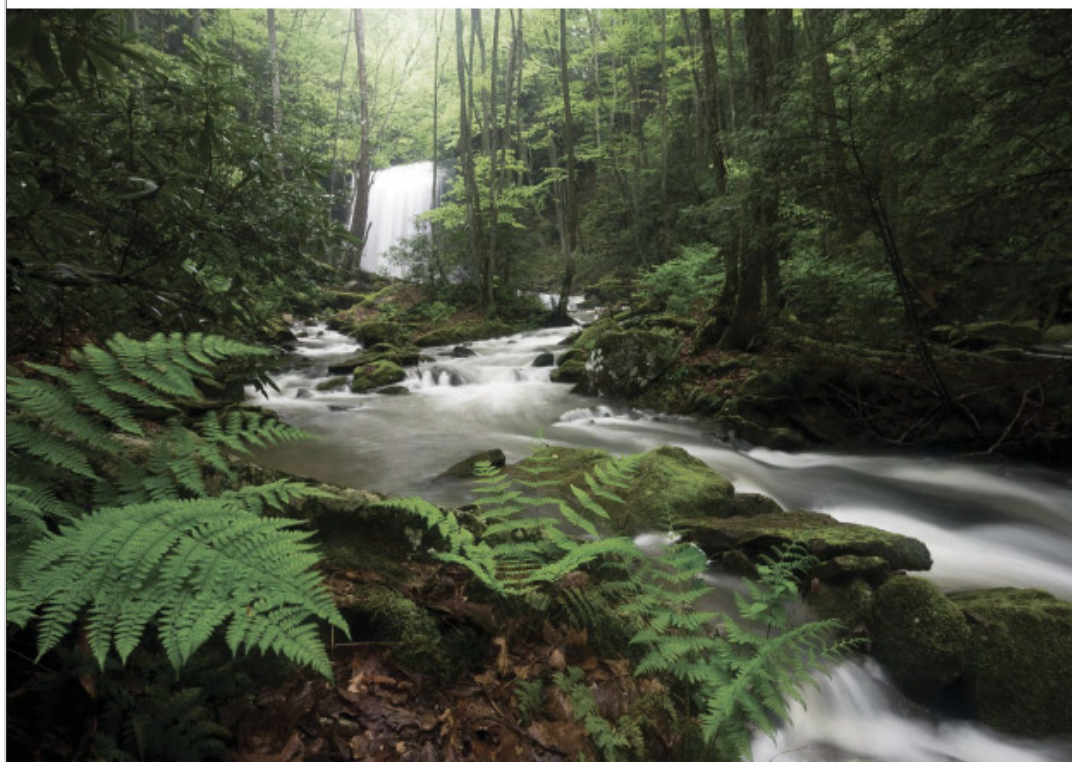
<http://energy.cr.usgs.gov/TraceElements/monterey.html>

Element	Average Shale (WSA)*	Organic-carbon-rich Monterey Formation*	Relative Enrichment Factor
Silver	0.07	2.1	30
Bromine	4	75	19
Cadmium	0.3	16.5	55
Chromium	90	310	3
Copper	45	103	2
Molybdenum	2.6	38.5	15
Nickel	68	267	4
Antimony	1.5	10.3	7
Selenium	0.6	30.5	51
Uranium	3.7	20.8	6
Vanadium	130	564	4
Zinc	95	335	4

Mean Range Number of samples	EPA Mined Sites	EPA Unmined Sites	Malibu Creek watershed	Malibu Northern tributaries	Malibu Lower Creek
Specific Cond. (μS/cm)	1023 159-2540 27	62 34-133 10	2362 66-9240 2,397	3046 71-9240 1,203	1916 750-3690 285
Potassium (mg/L)	9.9 (3-19) 13	1.6 (1.3-2) 7	Only collected in North	9.4 (2.0-23.8) 97	No Data
Bicarbonate alkalinity (mg/L)	183 (10.7-501.8) 13	20.9 (6.1-3.5) 7	Only collected in North	454 (250-1000) 97	No Data
Magnesium (mg/L)	122.4 (28-248) 13	4.3 (2.3-7) 7	Only collected in North	172 (104-234) 78	No Data
Chloride (mg/L)	4.6 (<2.5-11) 13	2.8 (<2.5-4) 7	159 (20-325) 395	188 (92-325) 149	146 (78-196) 114
Sulfate (mg/L)	695.5 (155-1520) 13	16 (11-21.6) 7	949 (16-2300) 358	1524 (901-2300) 124	609 (264-2050) 108

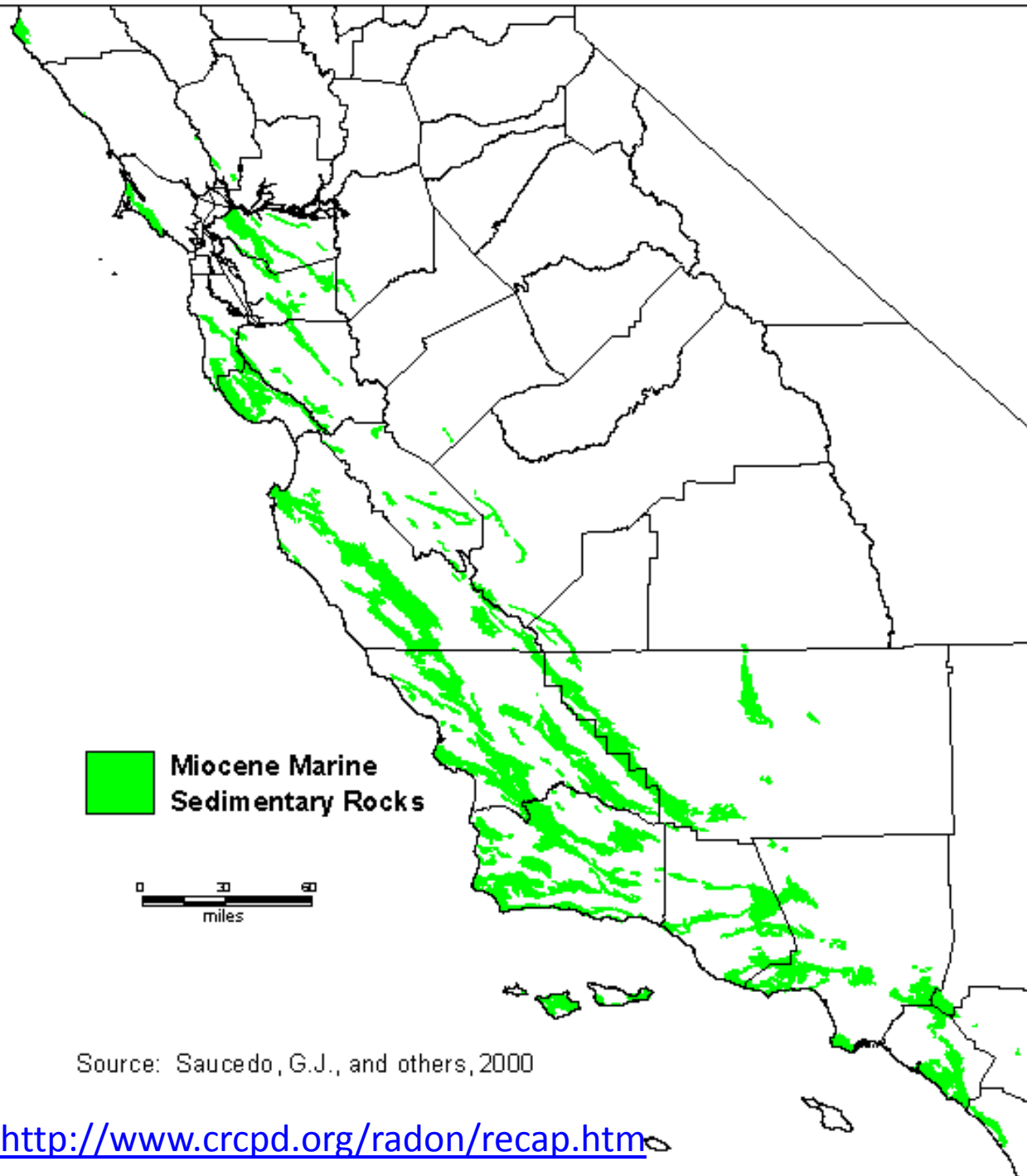
EPA Study:
Downstream effects
of mountaintop coal
mining:
 comparing biological
 conditions using
 family and genus
 level
 macroinvertebrate
 bioassessment tools
Pond et al. (2008)

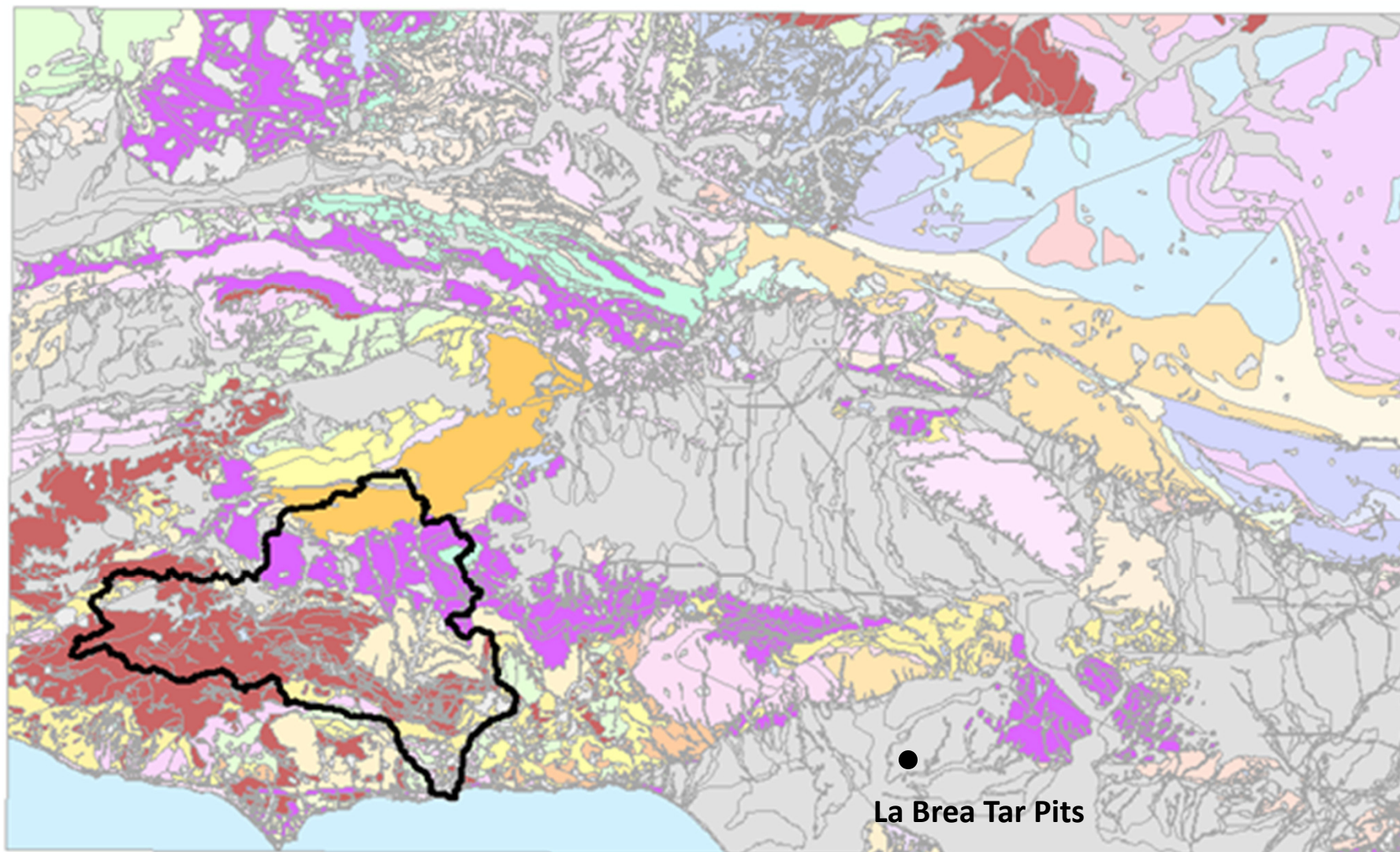
Mount et al. (1997) reported relative major ion toxicity as **K > HCO₃ ≈ Mg > Cl > SO₄**



A Field-Based Aquatic Life Benchmark for Conductivity in Central Appalachian Streams

“The chronic aquatic life benchmark value for conductivity derived from all-year data from West Virginia is 300 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$.”





**7.5% of the L.A. area has surface geology that may be enriched:
Monterey, Modelo, Puente and Rincon Formations**

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2005/1019/>

California Toxics Rule (CTR) test results

Detected

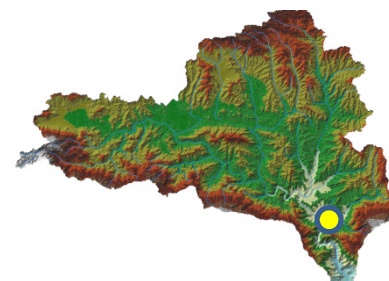
Not Detected

Volatile organic compounds

Semi-volatile organic compounds

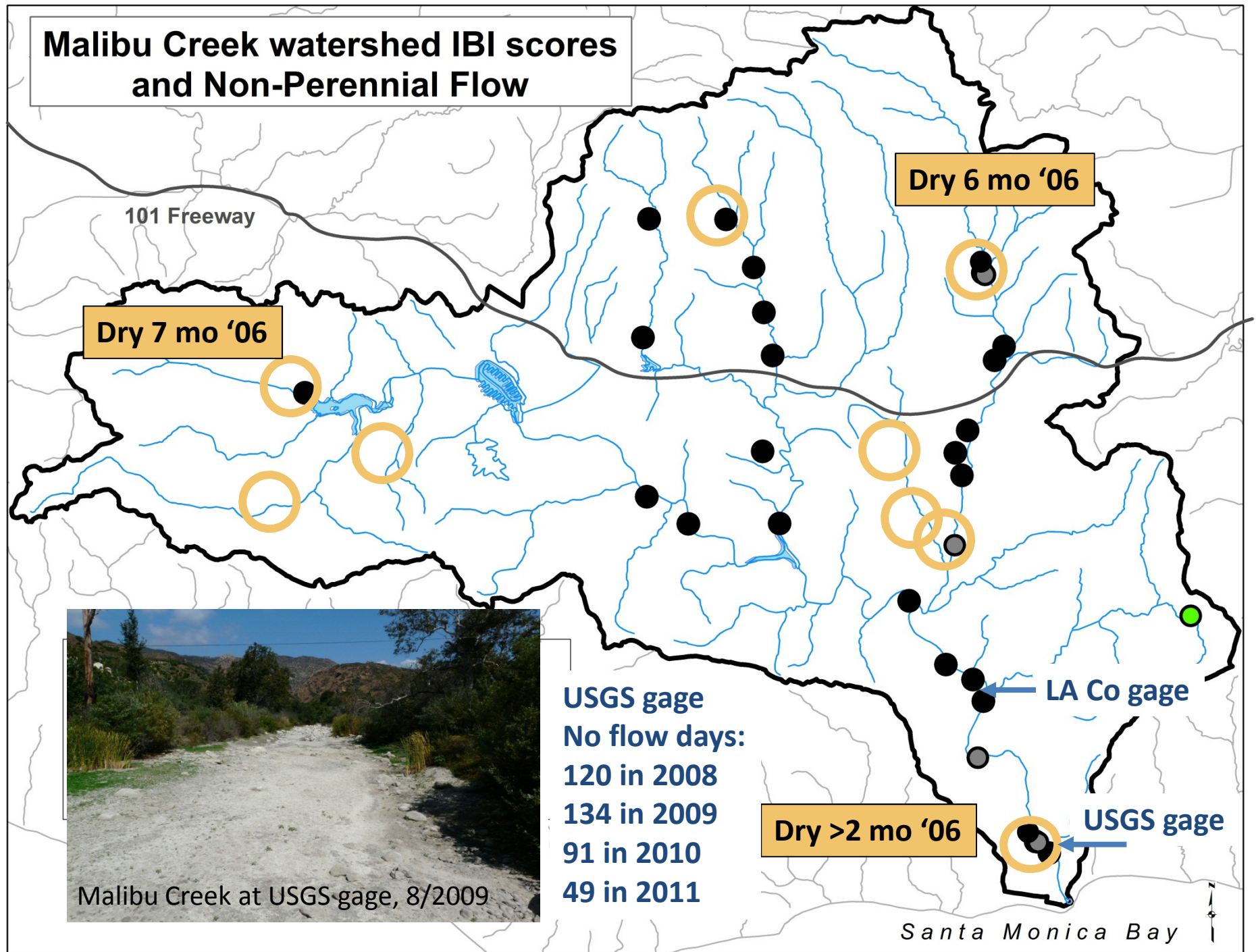
Metals

Pesticides



Pollutant ID	Constituent	USEPA Method Used	MDL (µg/L)	07-19-01	08-02-01	09-20-01	10-09-01	11-13-01	12-11-01	01-22-02	02-12-02	03-12-02	04-16-02	05-07-02	06-04-02	07-09-02	08-07-02	09-10-02	10-08-02	11-05-02	12-03-02	
8260B	POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC POLYNUCLEOTIDES	1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
		1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		1,1-Dichloroethane	0.14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
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Malibu Creek watershed IBI scores and Non-Perennial Flow



New Zealand Periphyton Guideline:

Detecting, Monitoring and Managing Enrichment of Streams

Prepared for

Ministry for the Environment

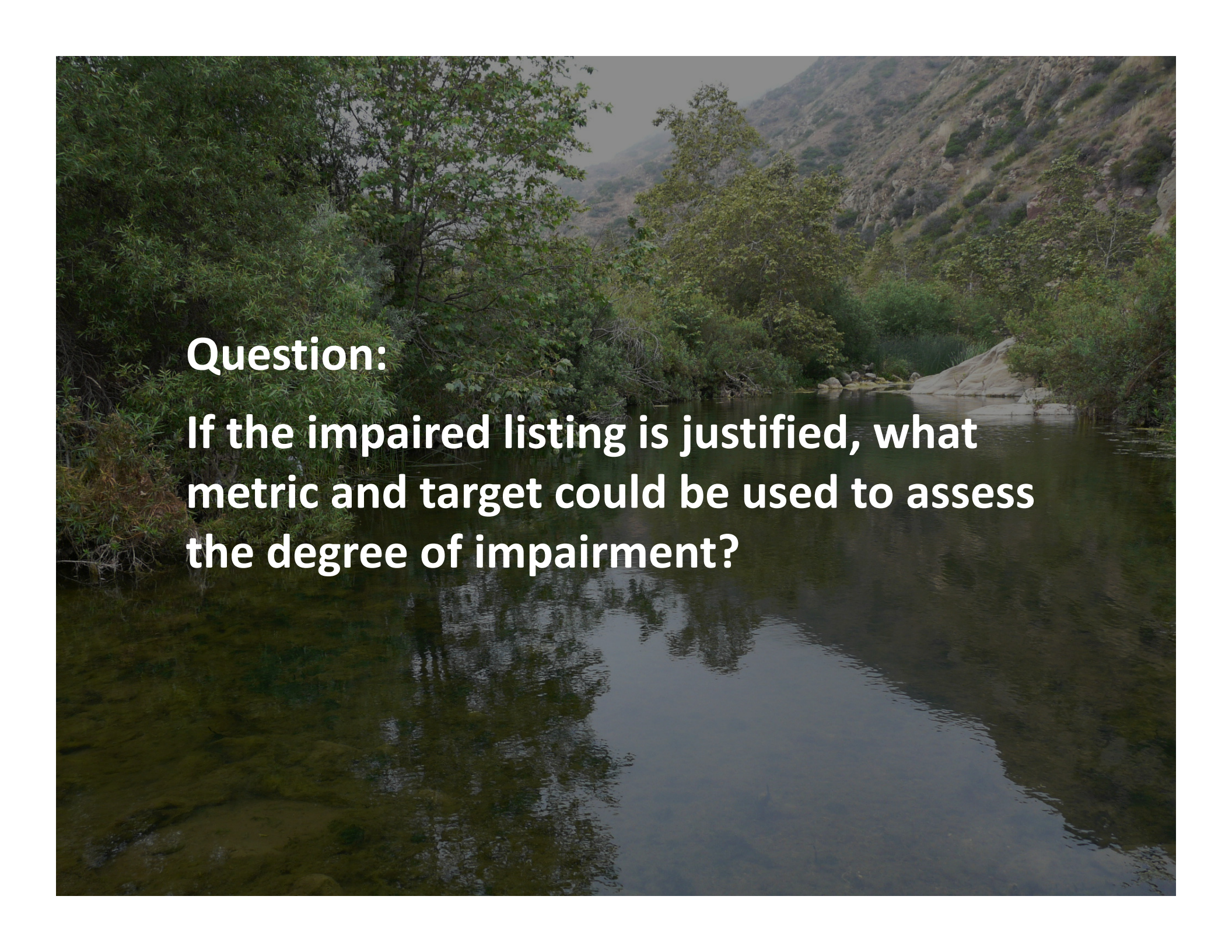
by Barry J F Biggs,

NIWA, Christchurch, June 2000

p. 53 ... a large degree of natural enrichment occurs through leachate from nutrient rich rocks such as ... Tertiary marine ... siltstone ... Indeed only small amounts of these rock types in a catchment can cause proliferations during low flows.

Figure 20: Proliferations of *Cladophora* in the Waipara River, North Canterbury downstream of seepage zones draining Tertiary marine sediments.



A photograph of a river flowing through a lush, green forest. The water is calm, reflecting the surrounding trees and foliage. The banks are covered in dense vegetation, including tall trees and shrubs. In the background, steep, rocky hills rise above the forest. The overall scene is serene and natural.

Question:

If the impaired listing is justified, what metric and target could be used to assess the degree of impairment?

WATER QUALITY IN THE MALIBU CREEK WATERSHED - CURRENT STATUS

Source: California Integrated §303(d) Report (2010)

POLLUTANT / IMPAIRMENT →		Algae*	Ammonia	Eutrophic*	Nutrients (Algae)*	Odor*	Scum/Foam/unnatural*	Organic Enrichment/Low Diss. O ₂ *	Coliform Bacteria	Indicator Bacteria	Viruses (enteric)	Swimming Restrictions	Trash	Benthic Community Effects	Benthic-Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments*	Chloride*	DDT (Dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane)	Fish Barriers (Fish Passage)	Invasive Species	Lead	Mercury	Mercury (tissue)	PCBs	pH	Sedimentation/Siltation	Selenium*	Specific Conductivity*	Sulfates*	Total Listings per Creek
Proposed Regulatory Remedies →		NUTRIENT TMDL						BACTERIA TMDL				TRASH TMDL	TMDLs PENDING																↓
STREAMS	Las Virgenes Creek			x		x	x	x					x		x				x						x	x			9
	Lindero Creek Reach 1	x					x	x					x		x				x							x			7
	Lindero Creek Reach 2	x					x	x					x													x			5
	Malibu Creek				x		x	x					x		x			x	x						x	x		x	10
	Medea Creek Reach 1	x						x					x												x	x			5
	Medea Creek Reach 2	x						x					x		x				x						x	x			7
	Palo Comado Creek							x																					1
	Stokes Creek							x																					1
	Triunfo Canyon Creek Reach 1																		x	x					x				3
	Triunfo Canyon Creek Reach 2														x				x	x					x				4
LAKES	Lake Lindero	x		x		x							x			x										x	x		7
	Lake Sherwood	x	x	x				x															x						5
	Malibou Lake	x		x				x																					3
	Westlake Lake	x	x	x				x												x									5
BEACH	Malibu Beach								x								x												2
	Malibu Lagoon Beach (Surfrider)							x									x						x						3
LAGOON	Malibu Lagoon			x				x		x	x			x										x					6

Total listings in the watershed	8	2	5	2	1	4	4	10	1	1	1	7	1	5	1	2	1	4	3	2	1	1	1	6	7	1	1	83
---------------------------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	----

* Probable natural source (Monterey Formation)

Extra slide: Regulatory Context

1997 – EPA sued for failure to implement TMDLs in LA Region

1998 - Federal Consent Decree – 92 pollutant - water body combinations scheduled for TMDLS

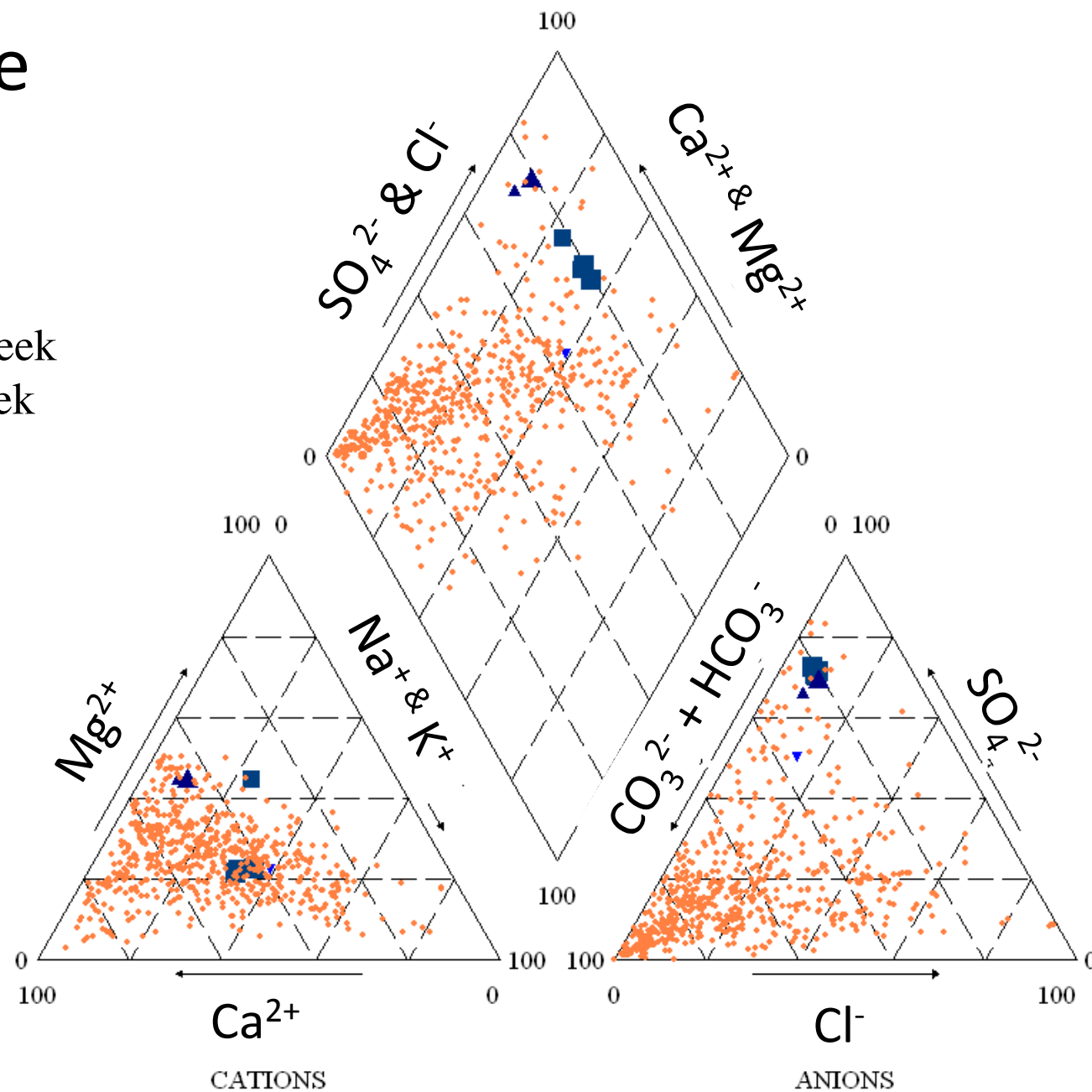
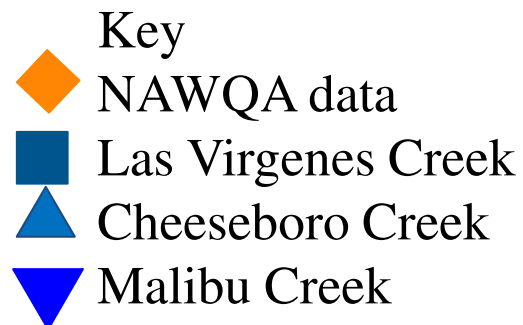
2009 – Benthic Macroinvertebrate listing for Malibu Creek added to the 303(d) list

2010 – Consent Decree amended with deletions and additions, including:

- Malibu Creek Benthic Macroinvertebrate Bioassessments
- Malibu Creek Sedimentation and Siltation

March 24, 2013 – EPA's TMDL implementation deadline

Ion Balance

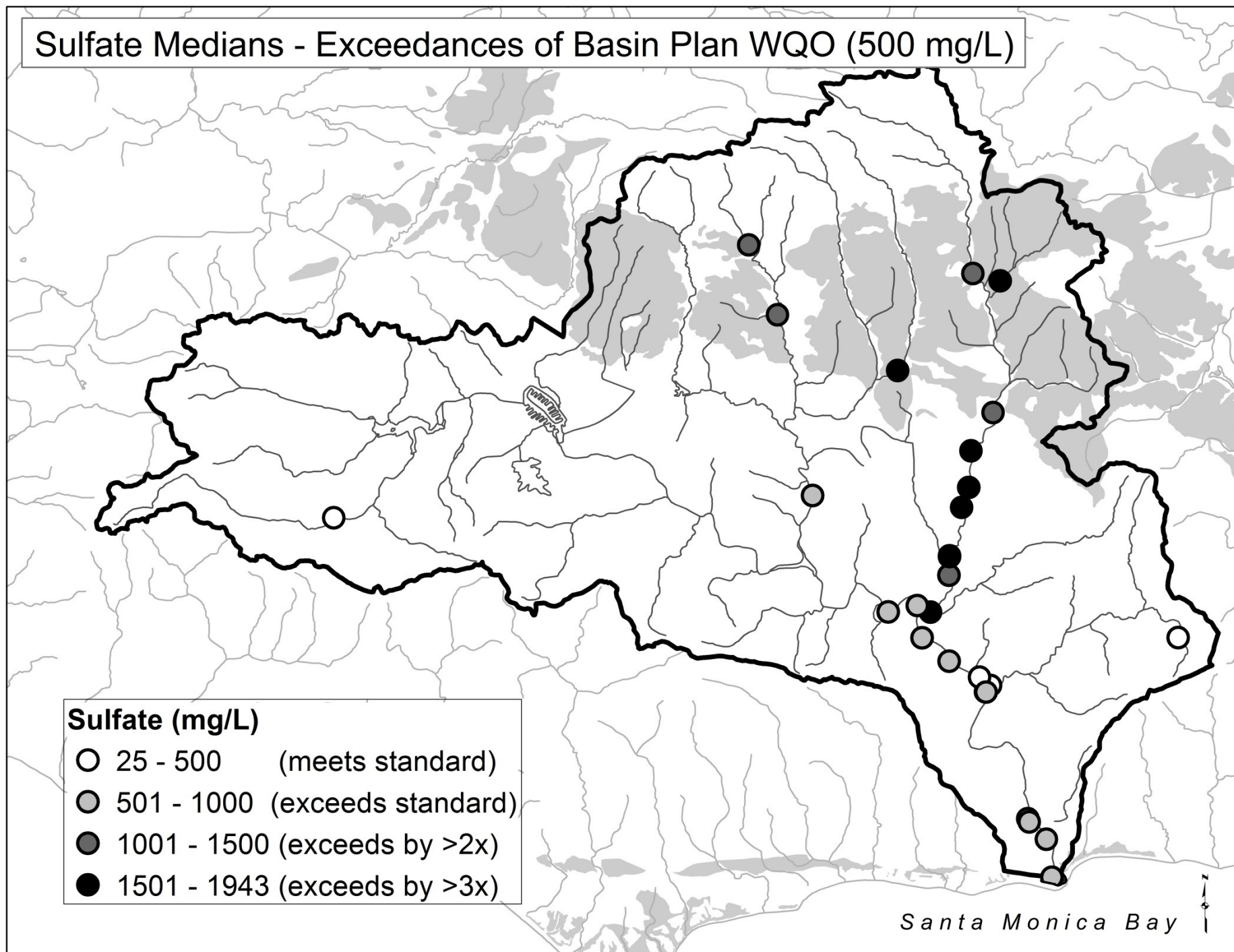


Sulfate Medians - Exceedances of Basin Plan WQO (500 mg/L)

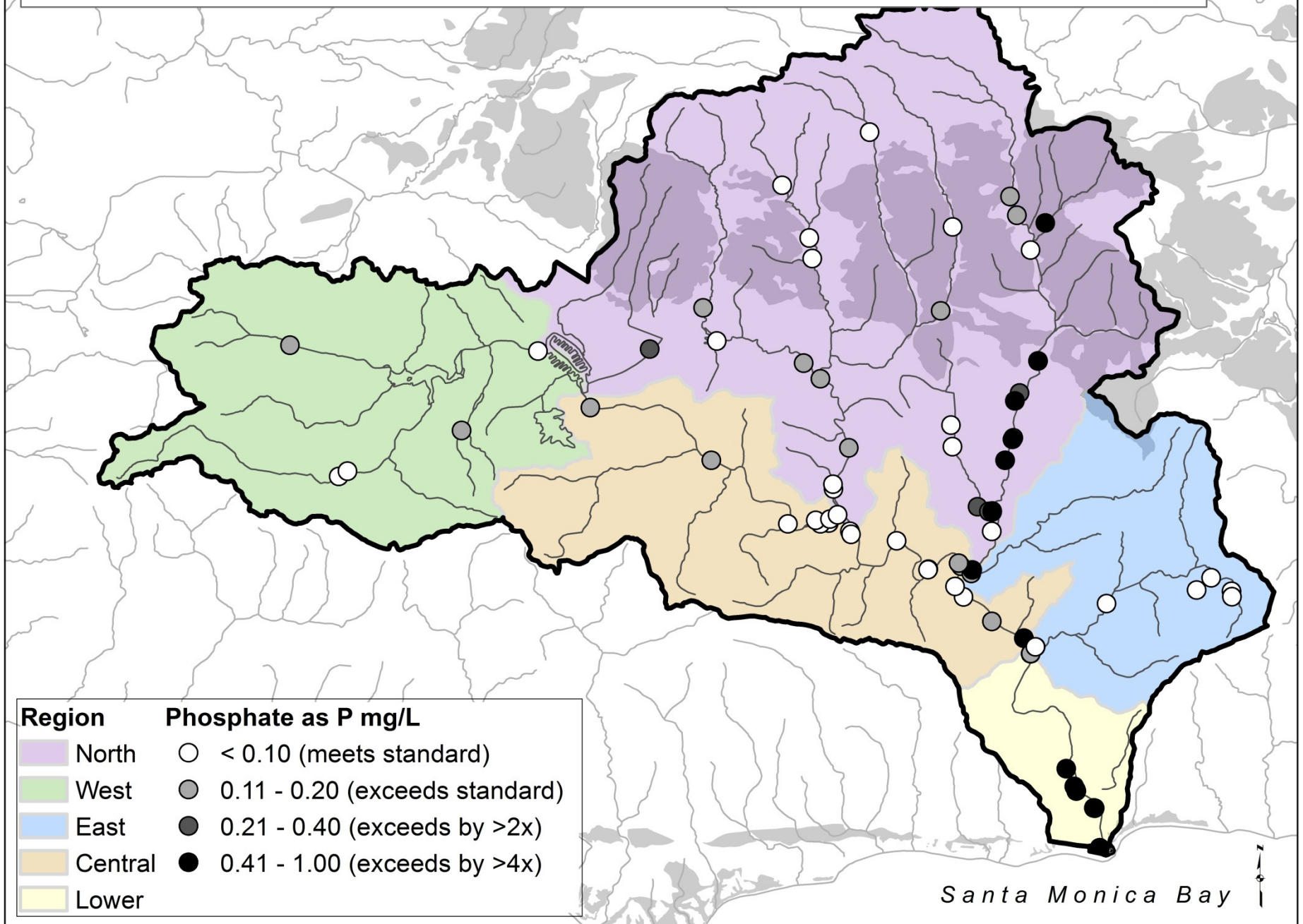
Sulfate (mg/L)

- 25 - 500 (meets standard)
- 501 - 1000 (exceeds standard)
- 1001 - 1500 (exceeds by >2x)
- 1501 - 1943 (exceeds by >3x)

Santa Monica Bay

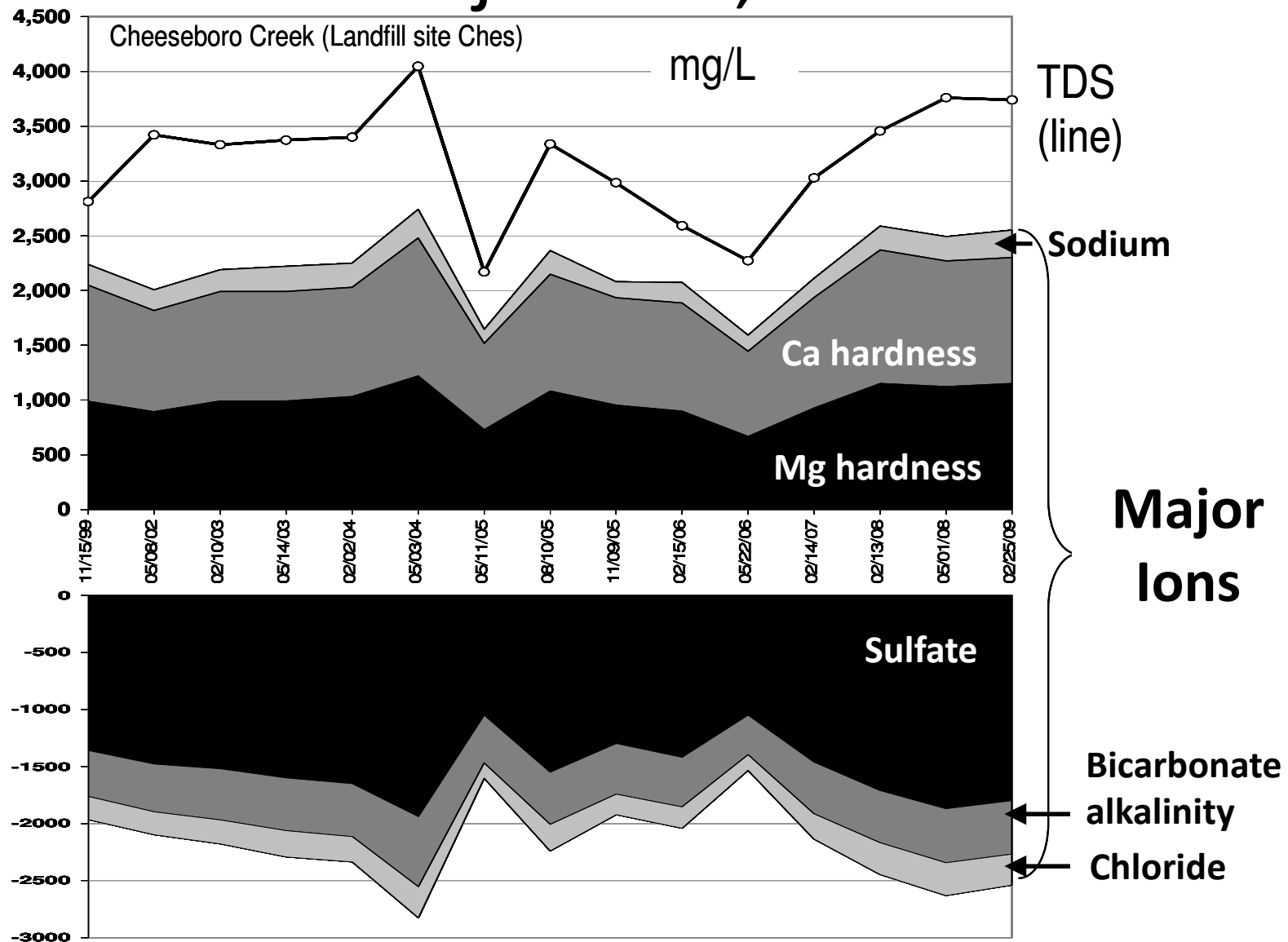


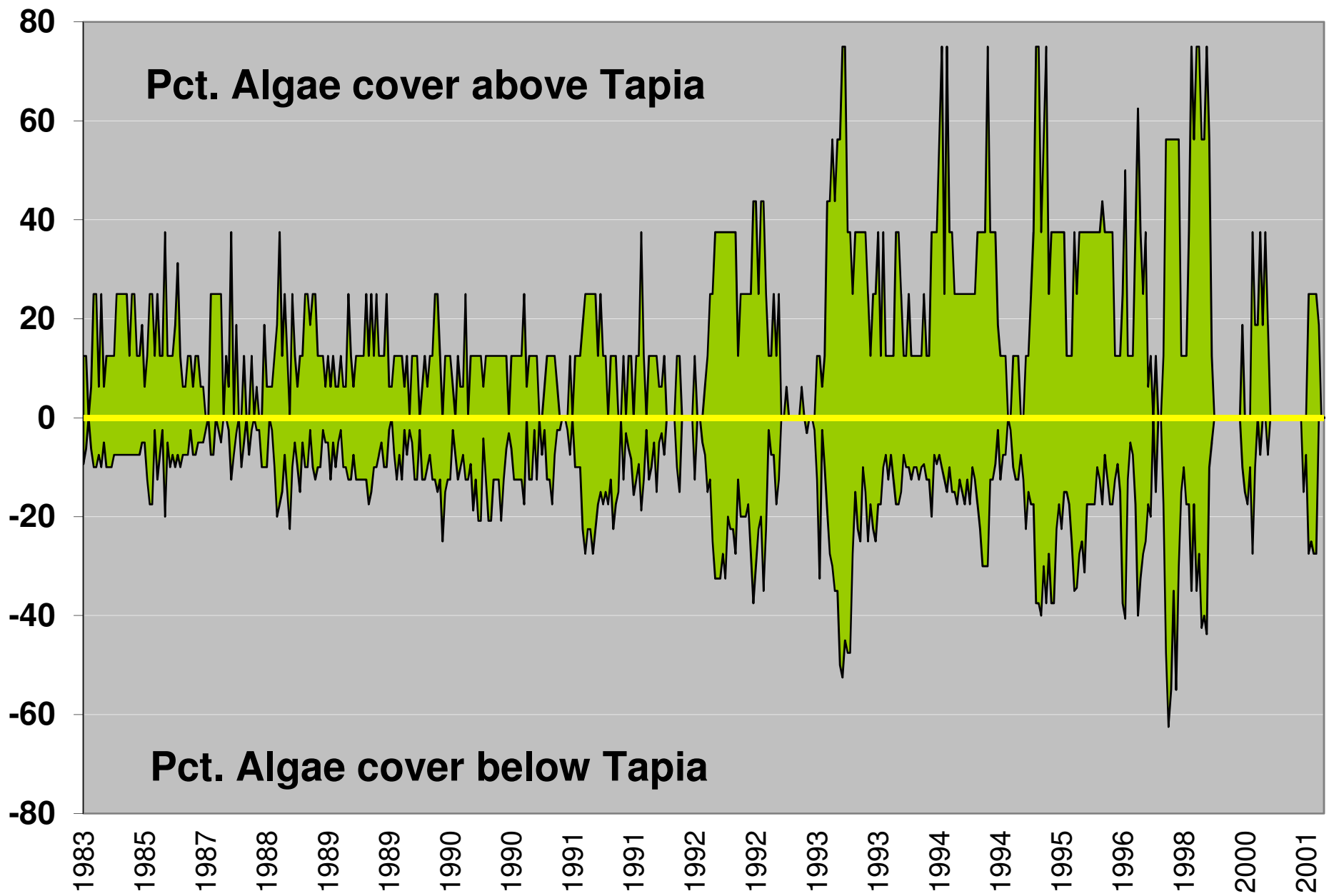
Phosphate Medians - Exceedances of TMDL Summer Target (0.1 mg/L)

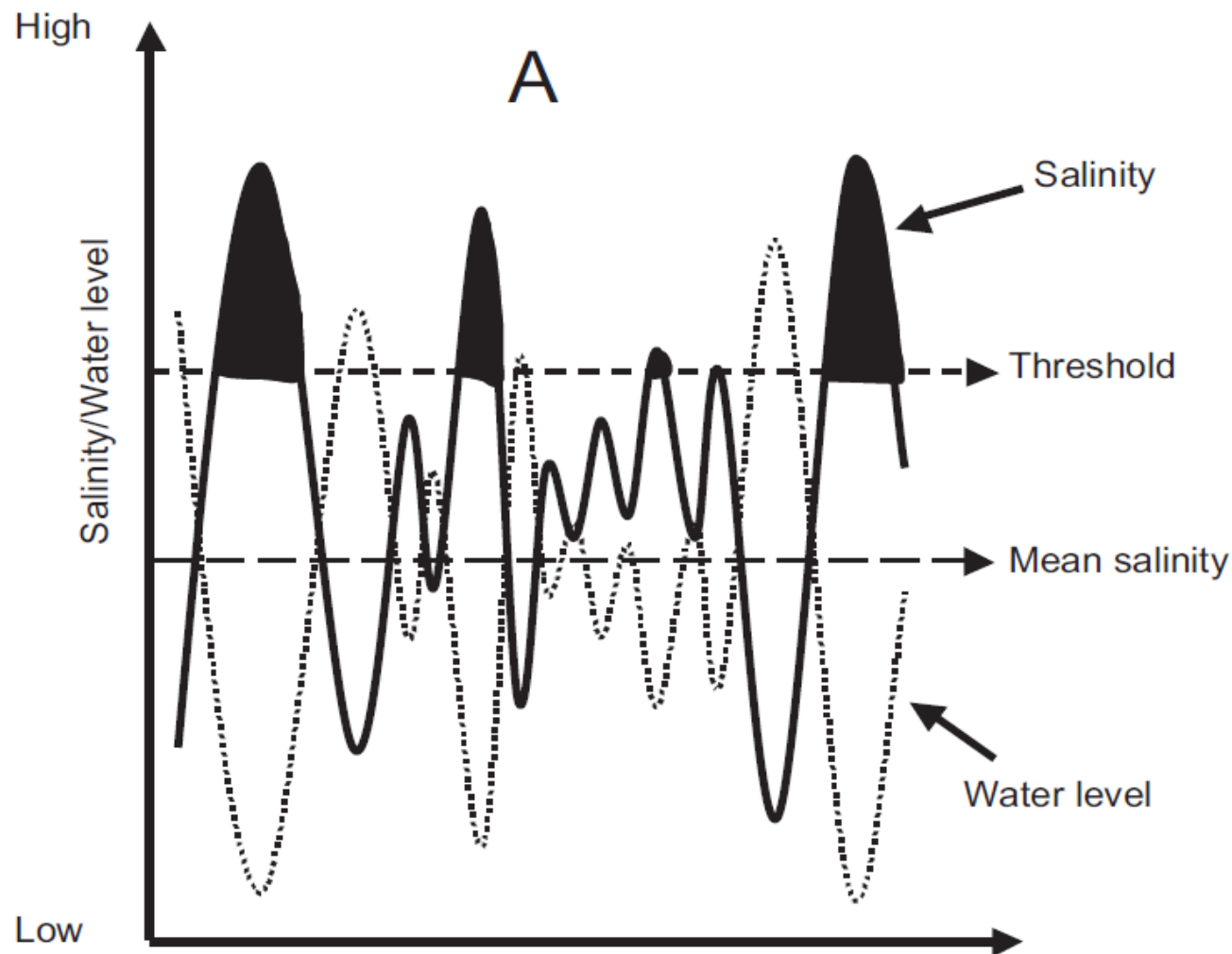


Why are SC and TDS so high?

Extra slide: Major ions, Cheseboro site







Nielsen et al. (2003) Effects of increasing salinity on freshwater ecosystems in Australia

“aquatic biota will be adversely affected as salinity exceeds 1000 mg/L (1500 μ S/cm)” – citing Hart et al. 1991