

**DRAFT Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Directors**  
**February 20, 2020**  
**4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**  
**Location: RCD Office**

Directors present: Barbara Kossy, Jim Reynolds, Neal Kramer, Adrienne Etherton  
RCD staff present: Kellyx Nelson (remotely), Lau Hodges, Noah Katz, Bryanna Whitney, Joe Issel  
Guests Present: Ron Sturgeon, Chuck Clark, Shannon Webb, Dave Olsen, Erica Sagrafina, Maria McCulloch and Michael McCulloch

**1. Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.

**2. Approval of Agenda**

Kramer moved to approve the agenda, Etherton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**3. Introductions of Guests and Staff**

All in attendance introduced themselves.

**4. Public Comment**

Webb noted that art was not on the agenda but was excited about the possibility. Kossy agreed that she was excited to see it move forward. Clark liked the idea of celebrating the completion of an RCD project with an art show. Nelson noted the RCD was partnering with John Muir Laws' Field Journaling Group.

**5. Consent Agenda**

- Kossy pulled item 5.3 Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and mid-year budget review from consent.
- Etherton moved to approve the agenda as amended, Kramer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**6. Regular Agenda**

**6.1 Director's Report**

- Kramer reported:
  - His interest in First Flush results. Kossy asked Kramer if spring had arrived early; Kramer explained that on the Coastsides summer can arrive anytime and noted that his job as a botanist was starting to ramp up for the year.
- Etherton reported:

- The City of Brisbane's Bay Lands Development Plan's Environmental Impact Report had just been released kicking off a 30 day public comment period. She participated in a Climate & Housing Task Force focusing on best practices of where and how more housing can be built.
- Reynolds reported:
  - He showed a plant specimen and Kramer confirmed it was an acacia. Reynolds stated it was upstream from his property; Nelson suggested he get rid of it before it spreads.
  - He believed Maryna Sedoryk from the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission had been measuring and counting steelhead in Butano Creek; Nelson said she believed the CA Department of Fish and Wildlife Department had been leading the count. Nelson also noted that PIT tag studies had confirmed the presence of coho salmon.
- Kossy reported:
  - She stated that she was looking forward to being the RCD's Board President and welcomed any ideas.
  - She thanked Whitney for all of her work on the RCD's communications noting that Whitney brought great energy, tone and accuracy to the RCD's website, social media and e-newsletters. Nelson noted the RCD had begun working with Light Box Communications consultants.

## **6.2 Presentation of 2019 First Flush water quality monitoring results by Noah Katz, Water Quality Program Manager (see attached)**

- There was discussion about the First Flush program and results, other aspects of the RCD's water quality program, secondary sources of bacteria when high counts of might not be a large initial source of bacteria but instead really good conditions for bacteria to thrive and grow.
- The culvert through which Saint Augustine Creek flows was clogged with so much fats oils and grease, a substance that bacteria grows in, that it was impossible to scope the entire pipe. RCD and partners have been working to mitigate by installing a manhole cover to clean it out.
- Kramer asked how the public could access the Google Earth portion of the presentation; Whitney confirmed it would be available on the RCD's website.
- There was discussion about efforts to incorporate youth in water quality monitoring, including previous and current efforts and challenges e.g. First Flush often happens in the middle of the night on a school day and cannot be planned for a specific date.
- There was discussion about "Slow it. Spread it. Sink it." techniques to improve water quality.
- There was discussion about why, given the amount of money spent on the Capistrano Outflow, results were not yet more positive, how bacteria is regulated, what had been ruled out as likely pollutants, and what are reasonable goals.

**6.3 Board will consider approval of a Grading Permit Exemption to Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (MROSD) for Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project.**

- There was discussion about the Grading Permit Exemption program and the Board's role; the Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project goals, scope and designs; the use of the material to be excavated; and other regulatory compliance.
- Kramer moved to approve a grading permit exemption to MROSD for the Mindego Ponds Enhancement Project; Reynolds seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**6.4 Board will consider approving "Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and San Mateo Resource Conservation District, State of California and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts."**

- Nelson explained the three different levels of agreements with the NRCS at the local, state, and federal levels; how the RCD- NRCS partnership and staffing model has evolved; and the value of an updated MOA.
- There was discussion about the value of the partnership in San Mateo County, how the staffs work together, how the two agencies leverage each other's strengths and resources, and NRCS participation in RCD Board meetings.
- Kramer moved to approve "Memorandum of Agreement between the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service and San Mateo Resource Conservation District, State of California and the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts;" Etherton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**5.3 Fiscal Year 2019 Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and mid-year budget review**

- Nelson explained that the RCD was in a strong financial position and she looked forward to spending money on a strategic plan, a communications audit, increased 401K contributions, salary adjustments, allocations to the operational reserve, and potentially installing a kitchenette.
- Etherton noted the individual contributions were higher than budgeted for Fiscal Year 2019; Nelson explained \$75K of it was a donation from the Golden Gate Parks Conservancy, fiscal agent for the California Landscape Stewardship Network, in lieu of a contract or grant allowing her to work on the Cutting Green Tape Initiative.
- Reynolds moved to approve the Draft Second Quarter Financial Statements and mid-year budget review; Kramer seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

**7 Adjourn Meeting**

Meeting adjourned at 5:57 p.m.

# First Flush 2019 Water Quality Results



SAN MATEO  
RESOURCE  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

Presentation to:  
San Mateo RCD Board  
February 20, 2020

# Resource Conservation District

## Non-Regulatory Technical Assistance



Water



Climate



Wildlife



Agriculture



# What is First Flush?

- First big rain of the season
- Freshwater runoff enters creeks, storm drains, and the ocean
- High pollution







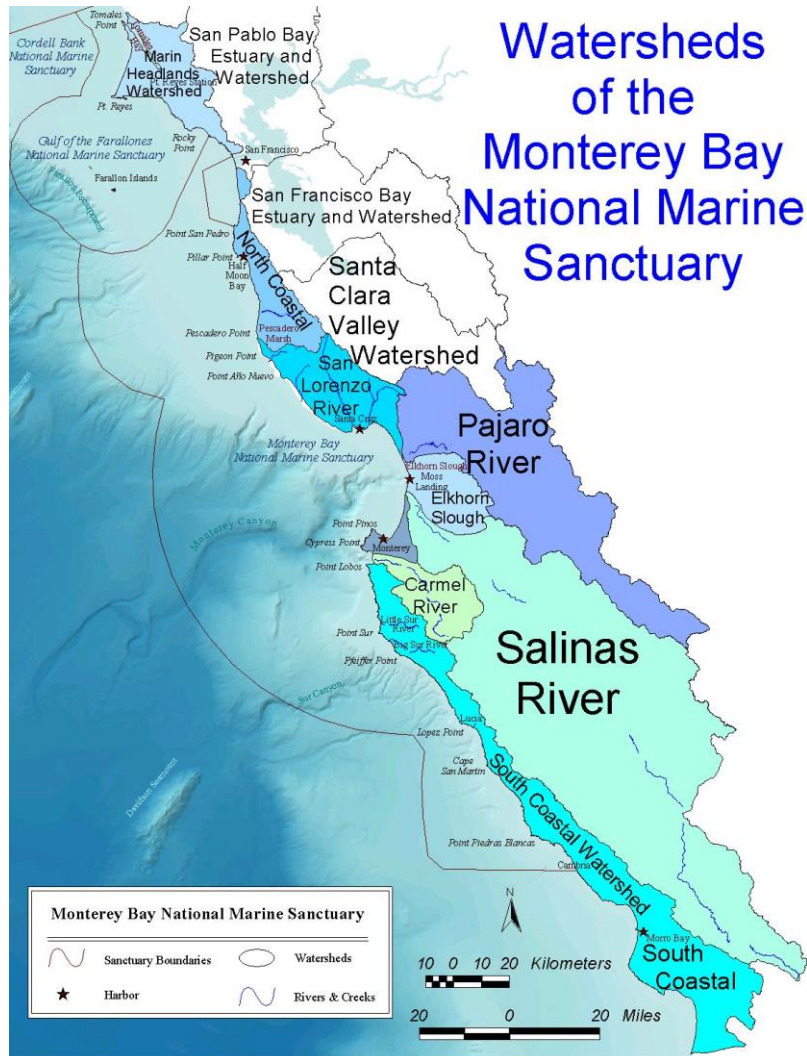
# Why Do We Care? Why Do We Do This?

- Helps identify what pollutants are of greatest concern and where
- Establishes a continuous and consistent water quality dataset
- Provides information to support water quality improvements
- Allows informed management
- Good stewardship!





# First Flush Partners



Sewer Authority Mid-Coastside  
**SAM**



**COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**  
HEALTH SYSTEM

# Volunteers!

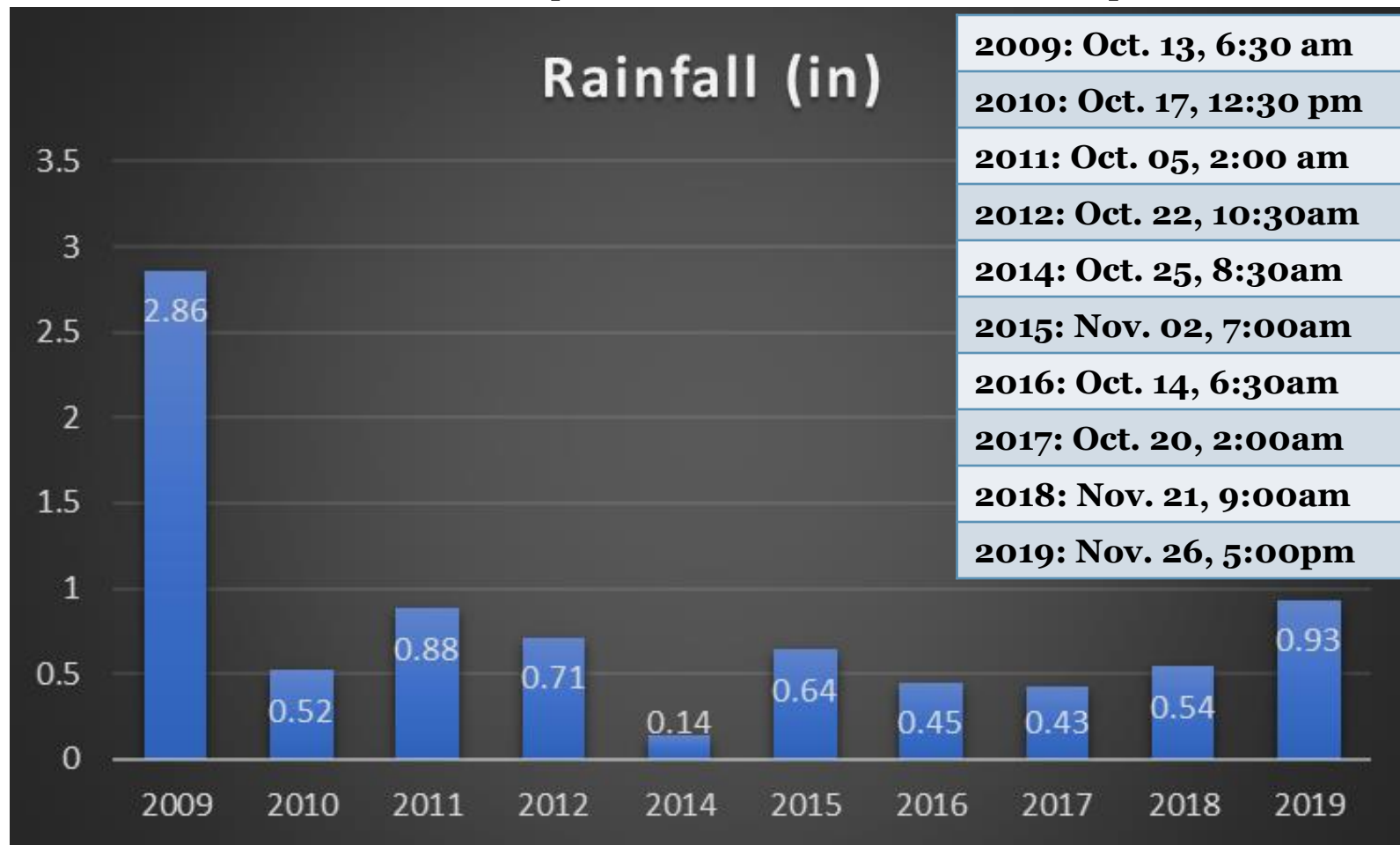
Rely completely on volunteer involvement.  
Thank you to all our volunteers!

Citizen science

Conduct training to teach protocol



# First Flush Precipitation History

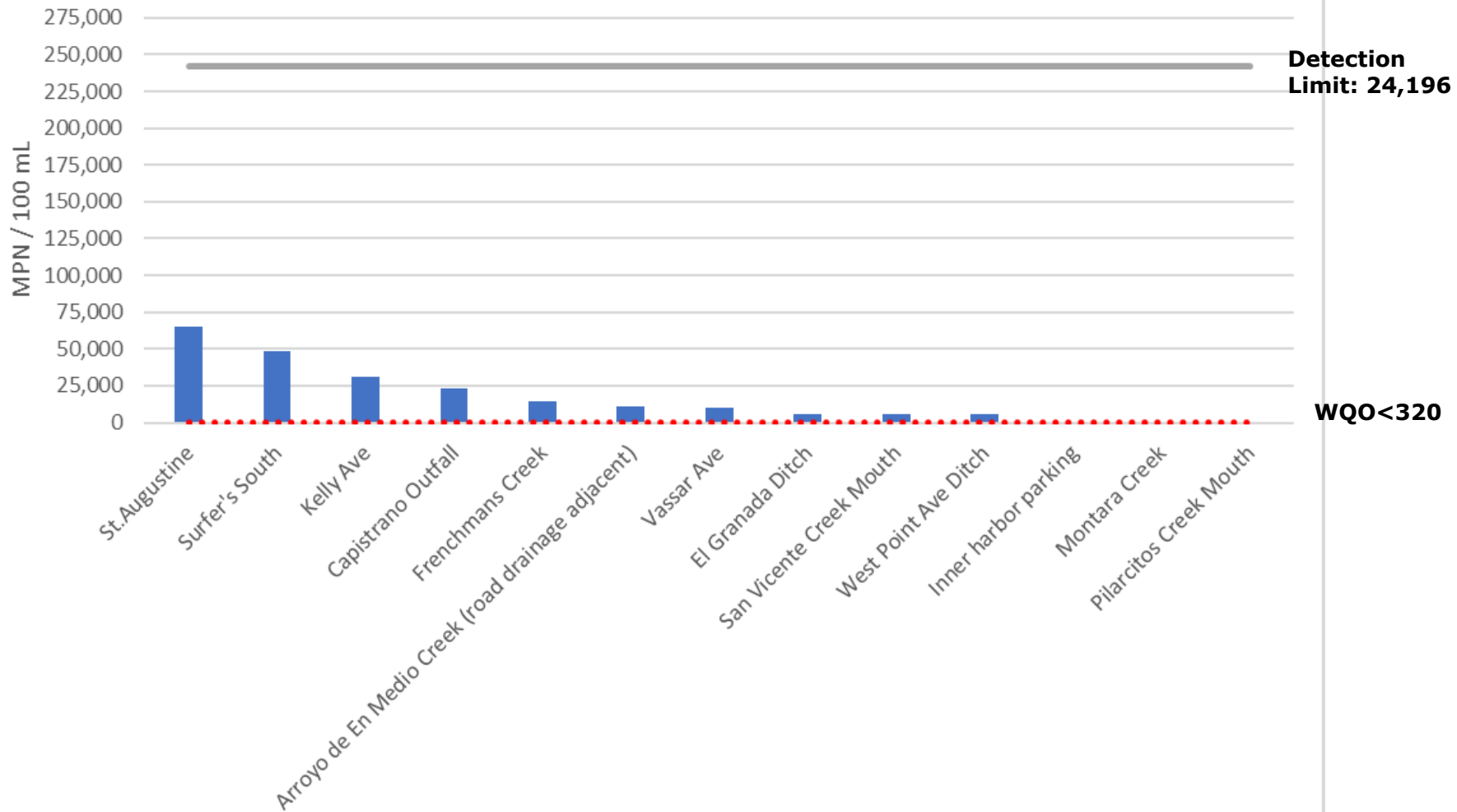


Rain Decides!  
This year was November 26

# What did we test for?

Pollutant	Potential Sources	Effects
<b>Fecal <u>Indicator</u> Bacteria</b> ( <i>E.Coli</i> , <i>Enterococcus</i> )	Feces of warm blooded animals (Humans, dogs, horses, etc.)	Indicator for pathogens that can harm human health
<b>Nutrients(Nitrate, Orthophosphate)</b>	Fertilizers, pesticides, detergents	Ecosystem and recreation impacts
<b>Metals (Copper, Zinc, Lead)</b>	Gutters/roofs, brake pads, tires, industrial waste, paint, fires	Human health impacts, reduced reproduction and mortality of marine organisms
<b>Total Suspended Solids</b>	Construction, erosion, agricultural runoff, fires	Marine organism impacts (ex: respiratory effects in aquatic organisms)
<b>Physical Measurements:</b> Electrical conductivity, Water temperature, observations	Rain influenced, minerals (salts),	Conductivity tells us if we captured the rain. High temperatures have ecological impacts, observations give context to data

### *E. Coli* 2019 (1:100 Dilutions)





# Site tour

Now we know what we look for.

Lets see where we collected data and what we found:

First Flush 2019 Site and Results [Tour](#)

# 2019 Pollutant Summary

- Pollutants are compared to Water Quality Objectives (WQOs) which are the upper limits of recommended ranges

Which contaminants were above and below their Water Quality Objectives:

<b>FIB</b> All sites (but Montara and Pilarcitos)	<b>Phosphorous</b> All but (Montara and Pilarcitos)	<b>Zinc</b> Capistrano and Arroyo	<b>Copper</b> Capistrano, Vassar, Kelly, Arroyo	<b>Bad</b>
<hr/>				
	<b>Nitrogen</b> All but Capistrano	<b>Lead</b> All Sites	<b>TSS</b> All Sites	<b>Conductivity</b> All Sites
				<b>Good</b>

**WQO**



# Slow it. Spread it. Sink it!

## A Homeowner's Guide to Greening Stormwater Runoff

Practical and Eco-Friendly Ways to Protect  
Your Property and the Environment from  
the Effects of Stormwater Runoff





# What can you do?

Collect your roof water in a **RAIN BARREL**.



**Cost:** LOW  
**Installation difficulty:** EASY  
See page 24

Plant a **RAIN GARDEN** in your landscape.



**Cost:** LOW to MODERATE  
**Installation difficulty:** EASY to INTERMEDIATE  
See page 27

Install a **WATERBAR** on your driveway.



**Cost:** MODERATE  
**Installation difficulty:** INTERMEDIATE  
See page 35

Use **PERVIOUS PAVERS** when renovating your patio.



**Cost:** MODERATE - HIGH  
**Installation difficulty:** INTERMEDIATE  
See page 30



# Next Steps



- Raise Awareness
- Distribute Data
- Recruit for Next Year

Continue First Flush and other education/outreach initiatives (FY20-FY22)

SAM Estimate=\$20,000 for 3 years= \$60,000 total

PPH Estimate = \$10,000 for 3 year= \$30,000 total



***Thank you!***

***Questions?***

Noah Katz

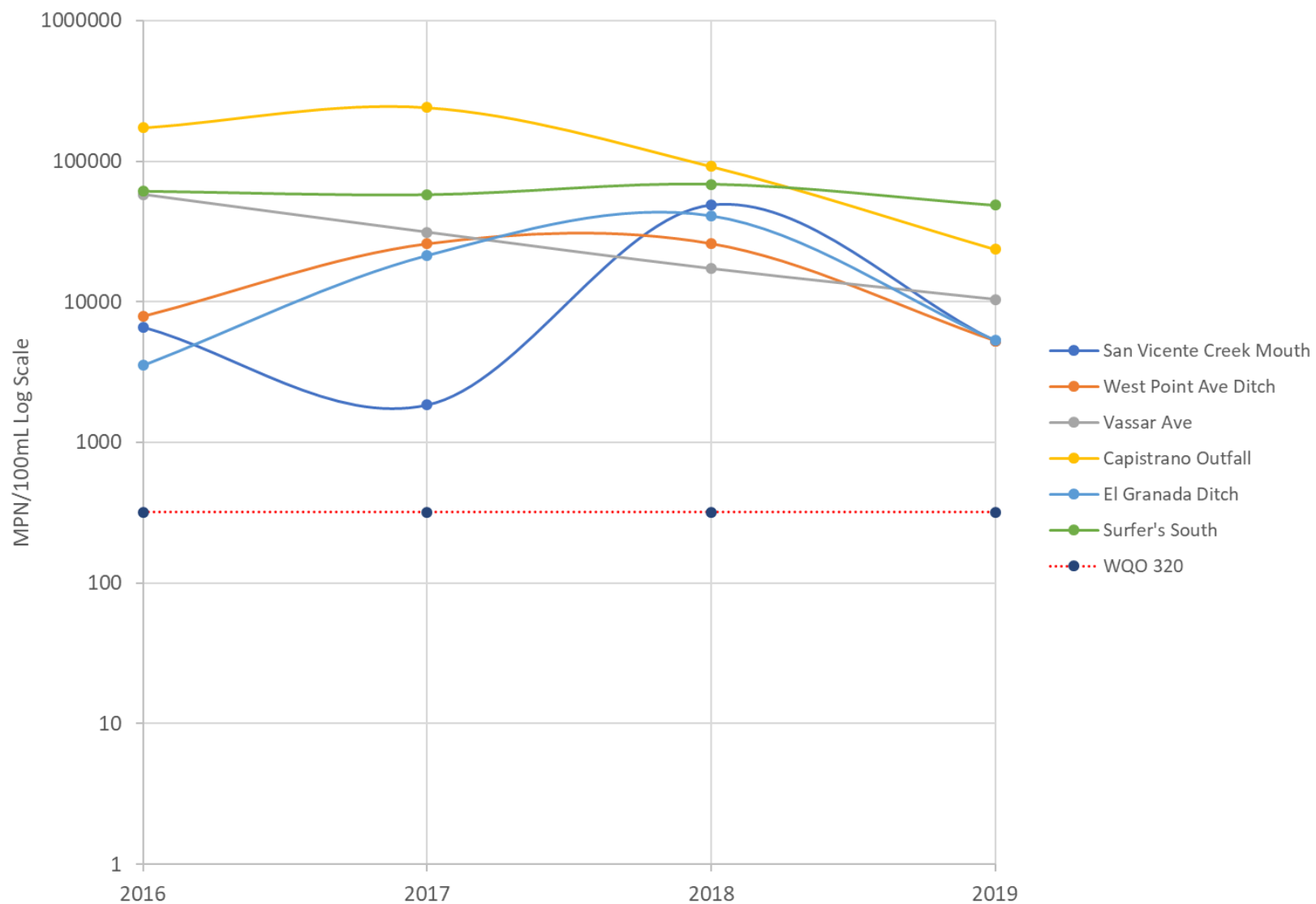
[noah@sanmateorcd.org](mailto:noah@sanmateorcd.org)

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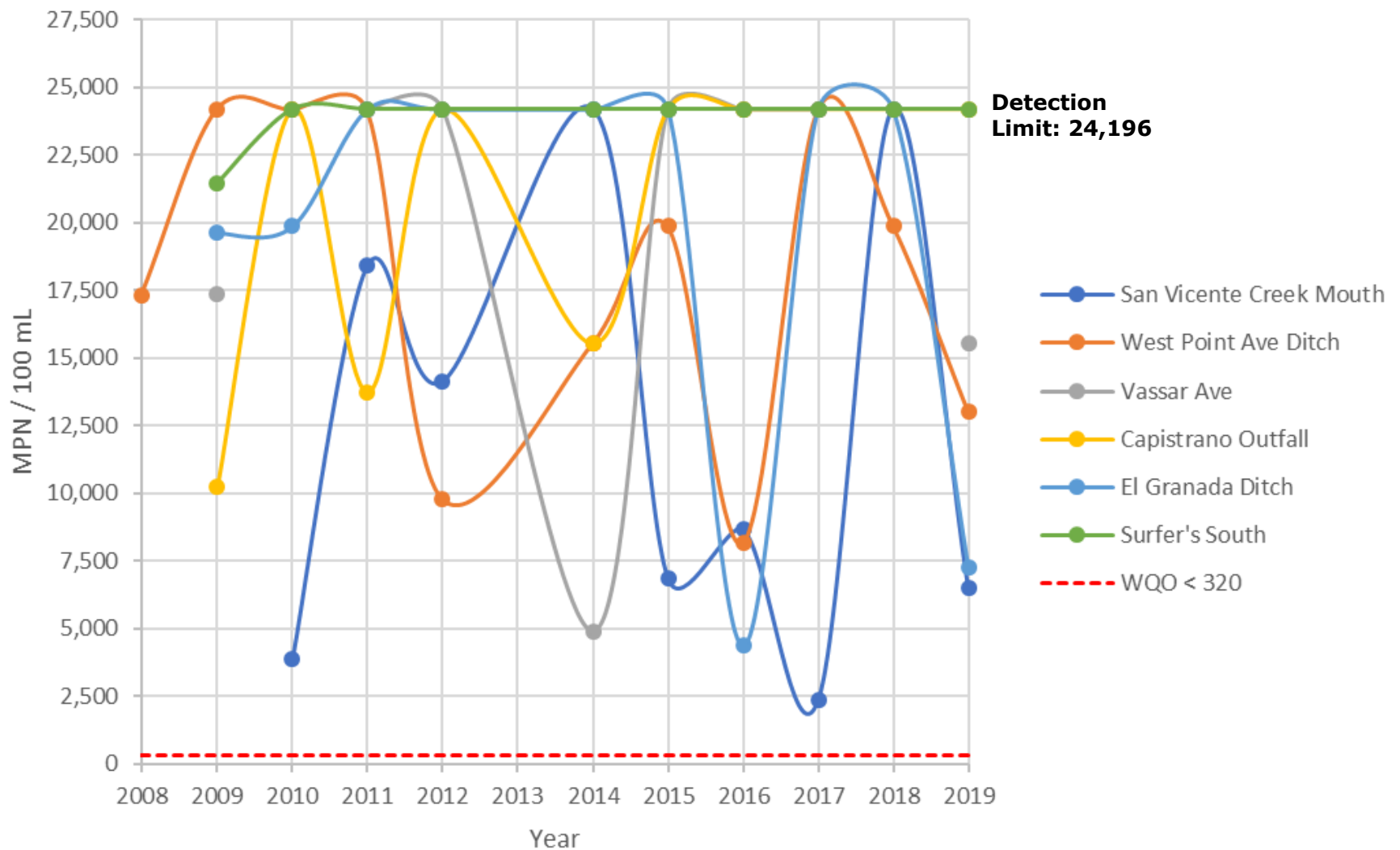
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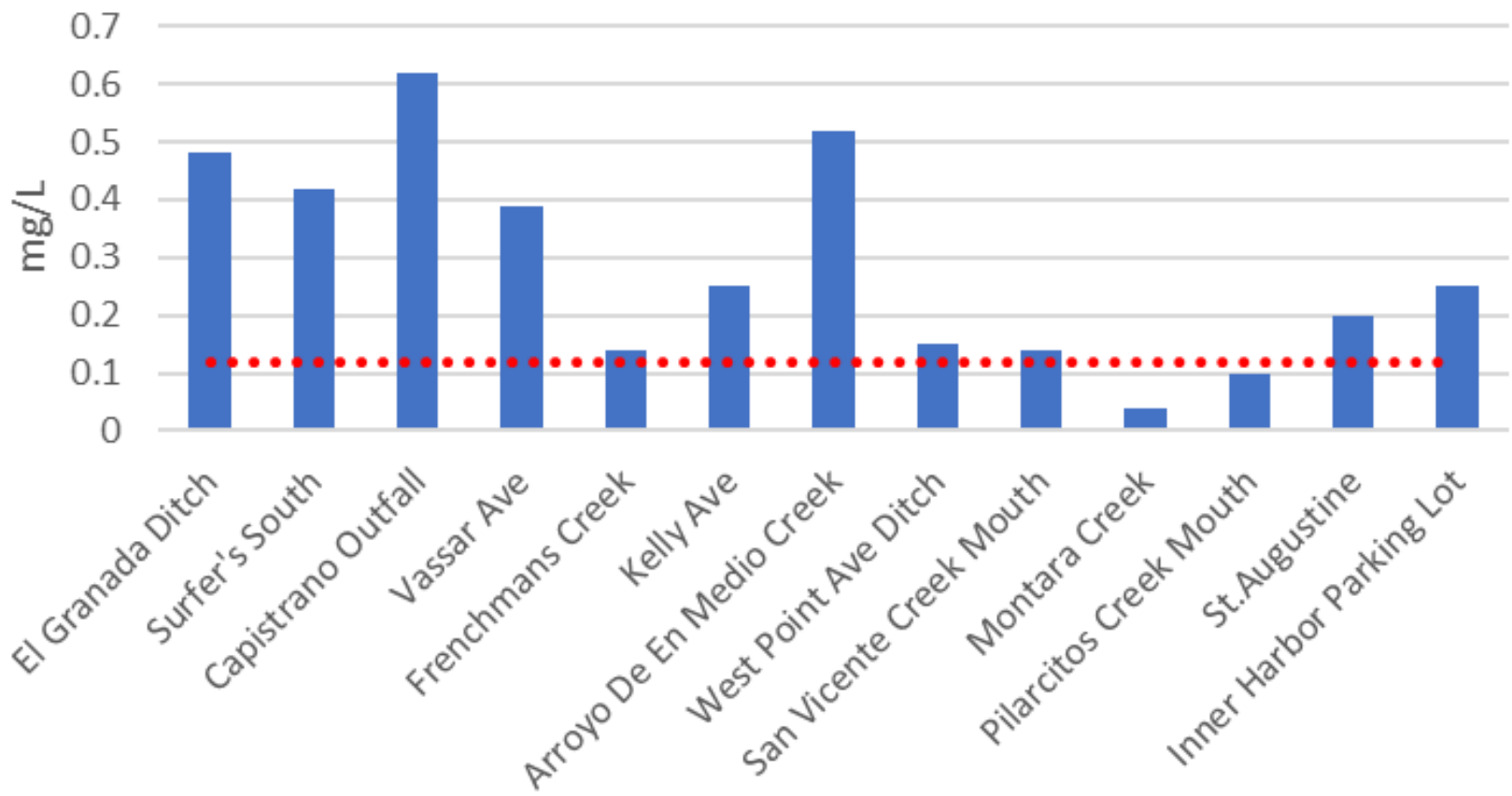
## First Flush Historic *E. Coli* (1:100 Dilutions)



## *E. Coli* Historic Sites (1:10 Dilutions)



## Orthophosphate 2019

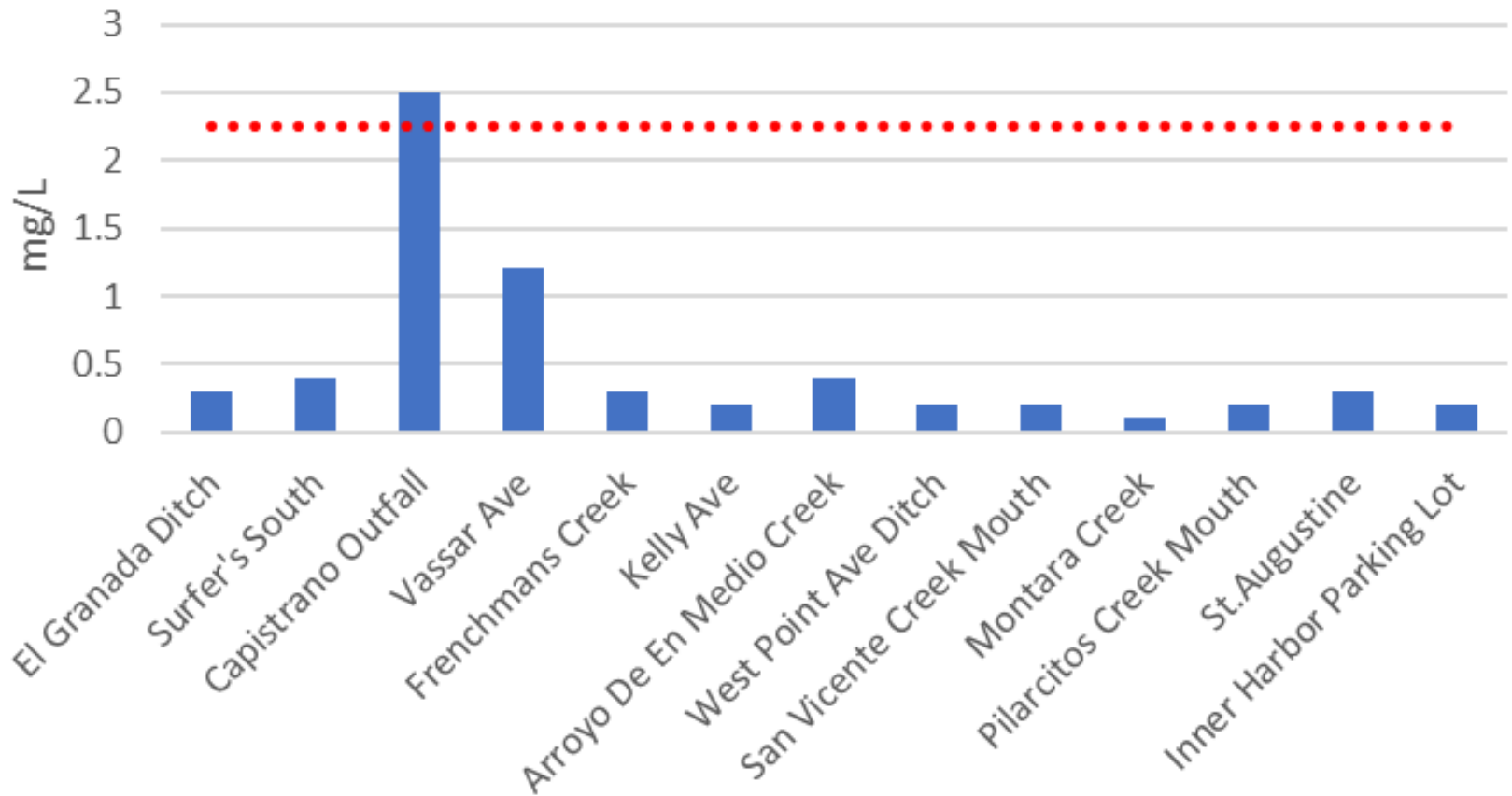




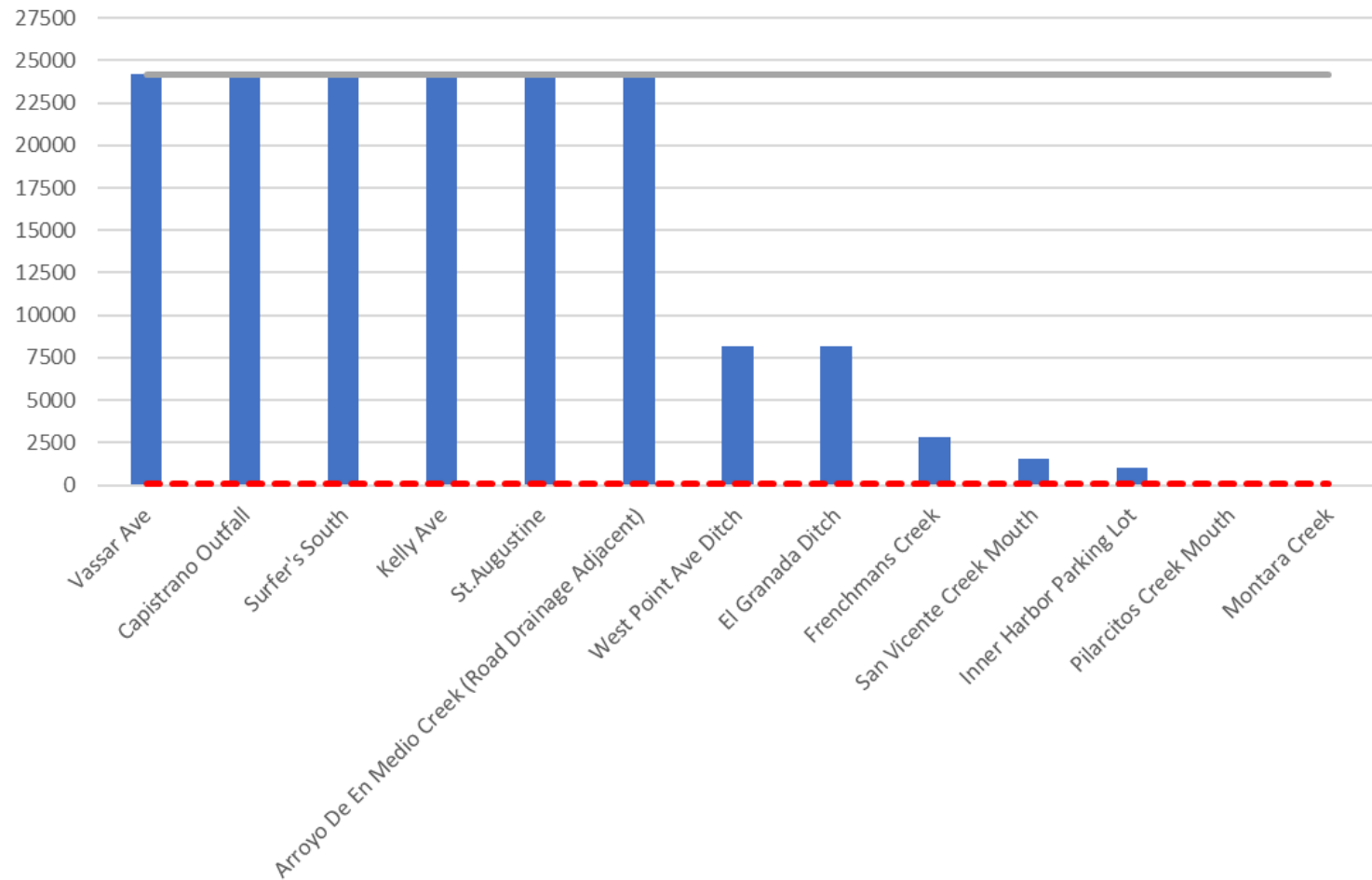
## Nitrate 2019



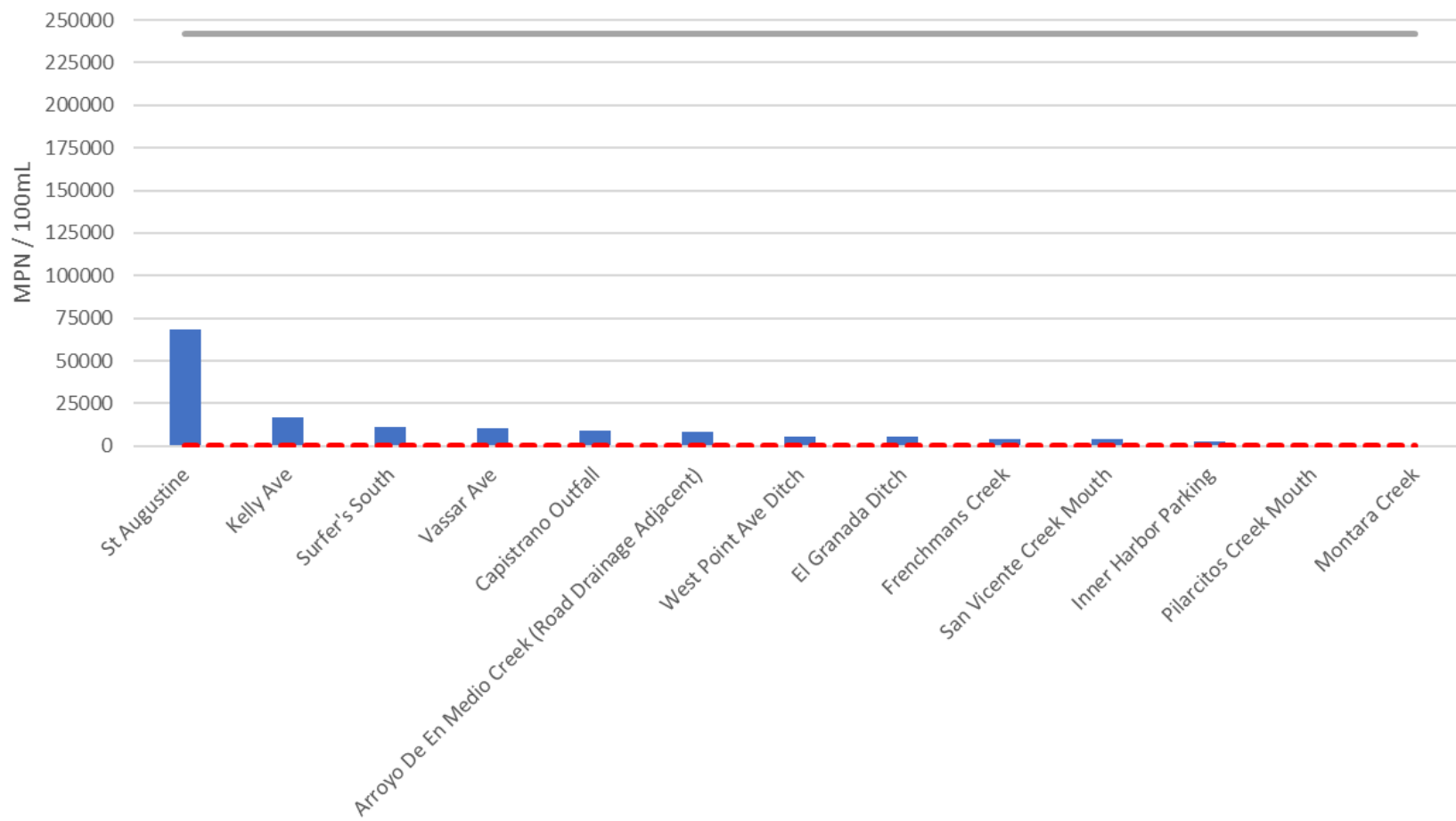
## Nitrate 2019



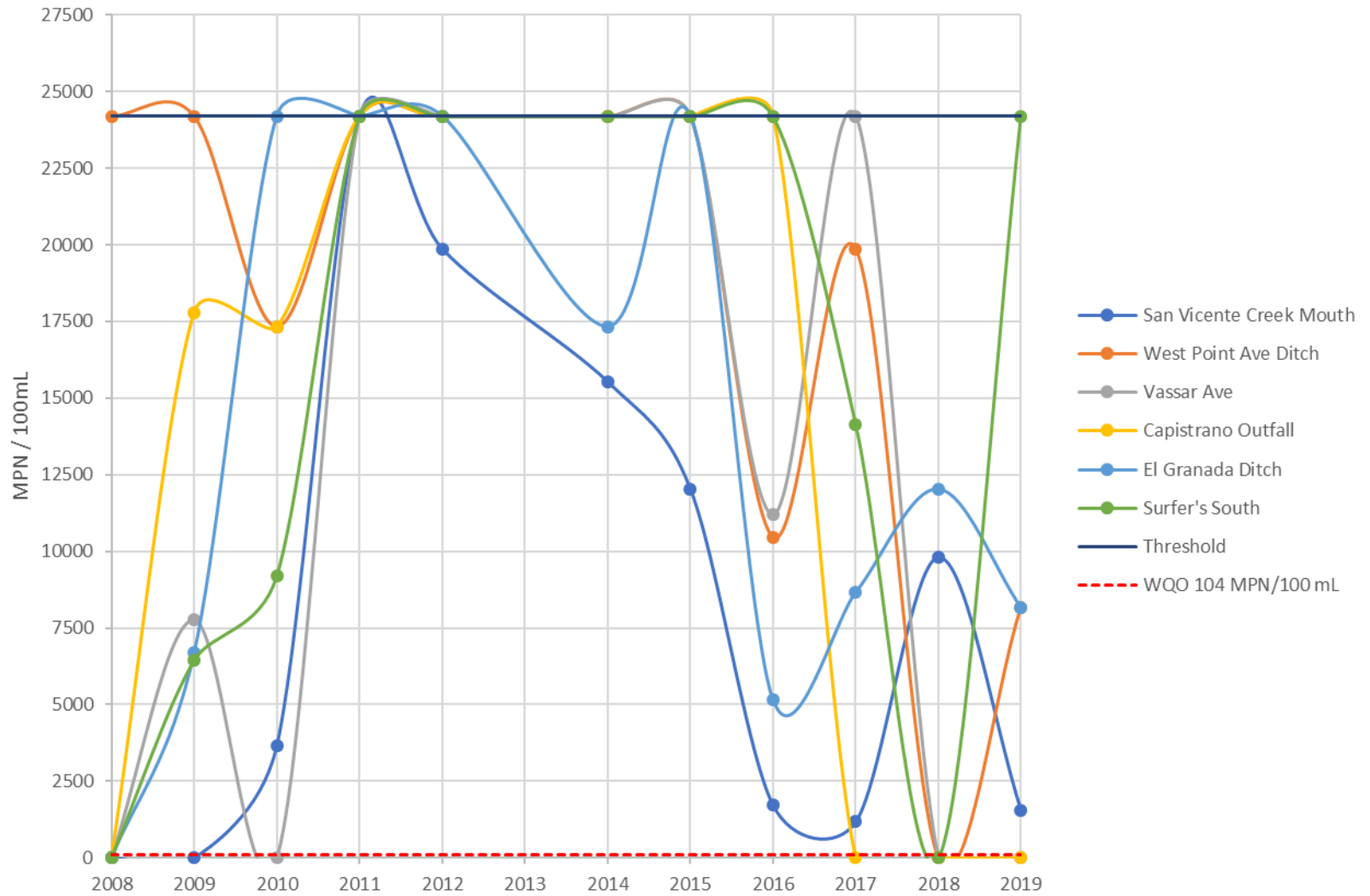
Entero 2019 (1:10 Dilutions)



Entero 2019 (1:100 Dilution)

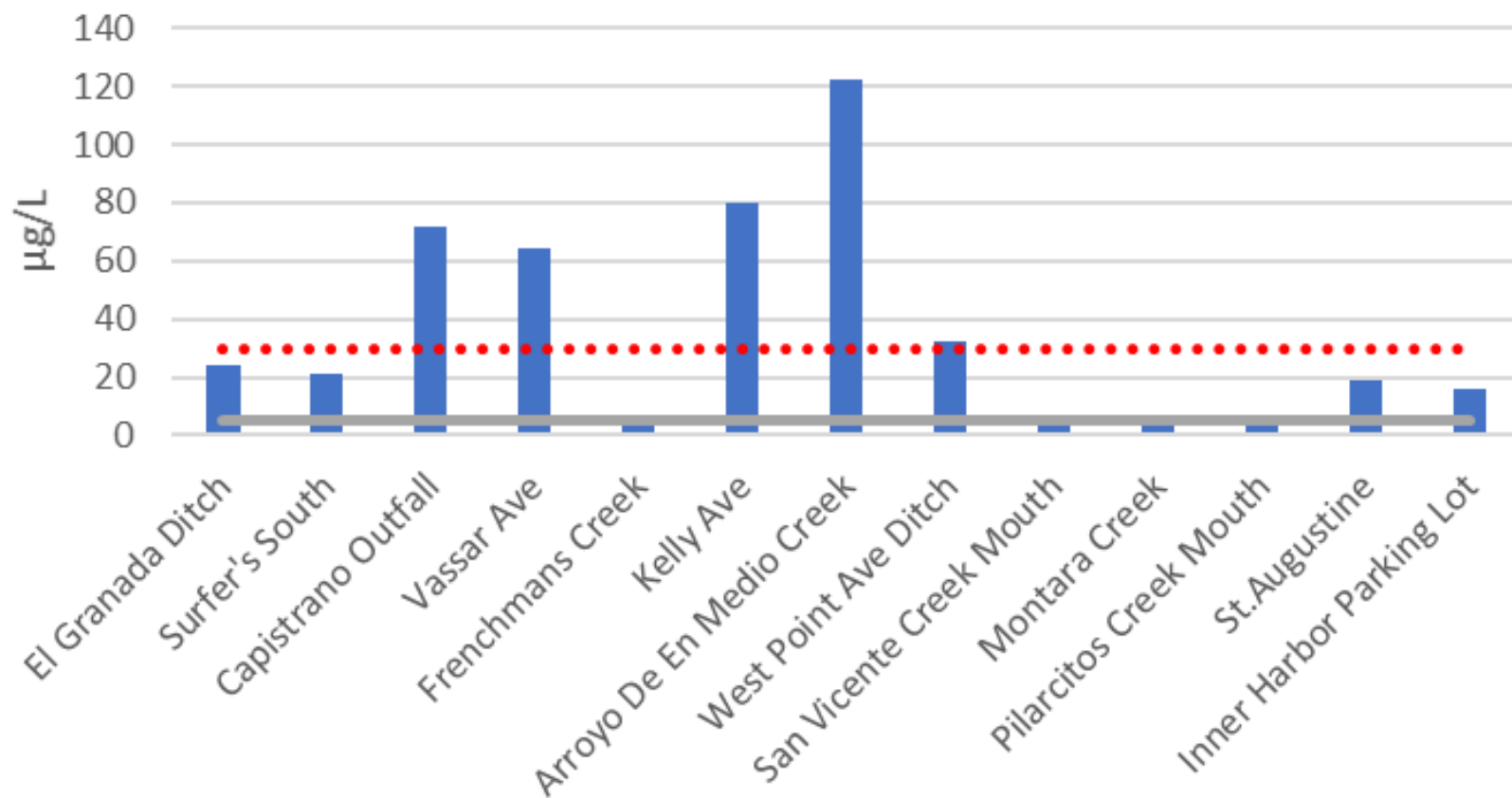


## Enterococcus Historic Sites

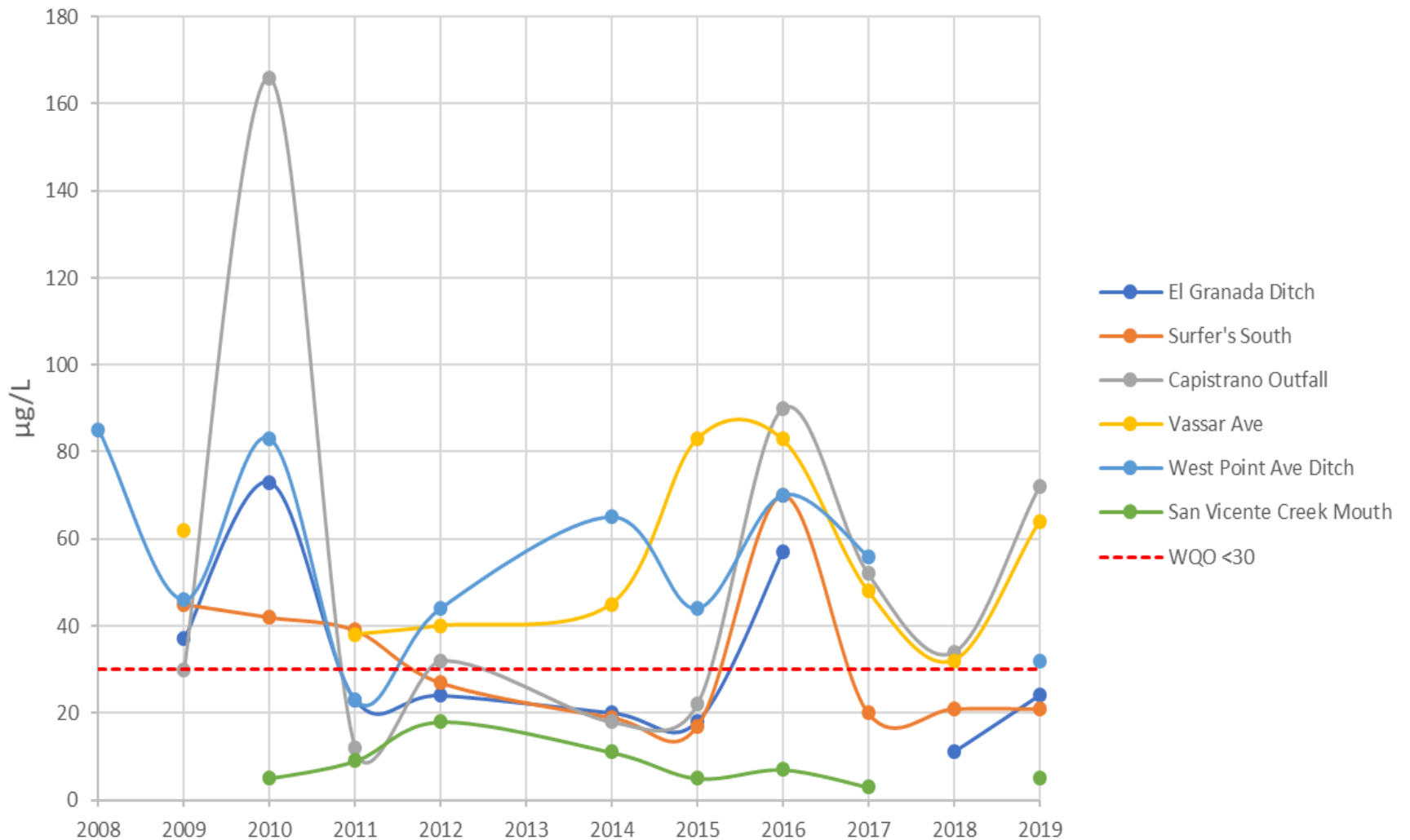




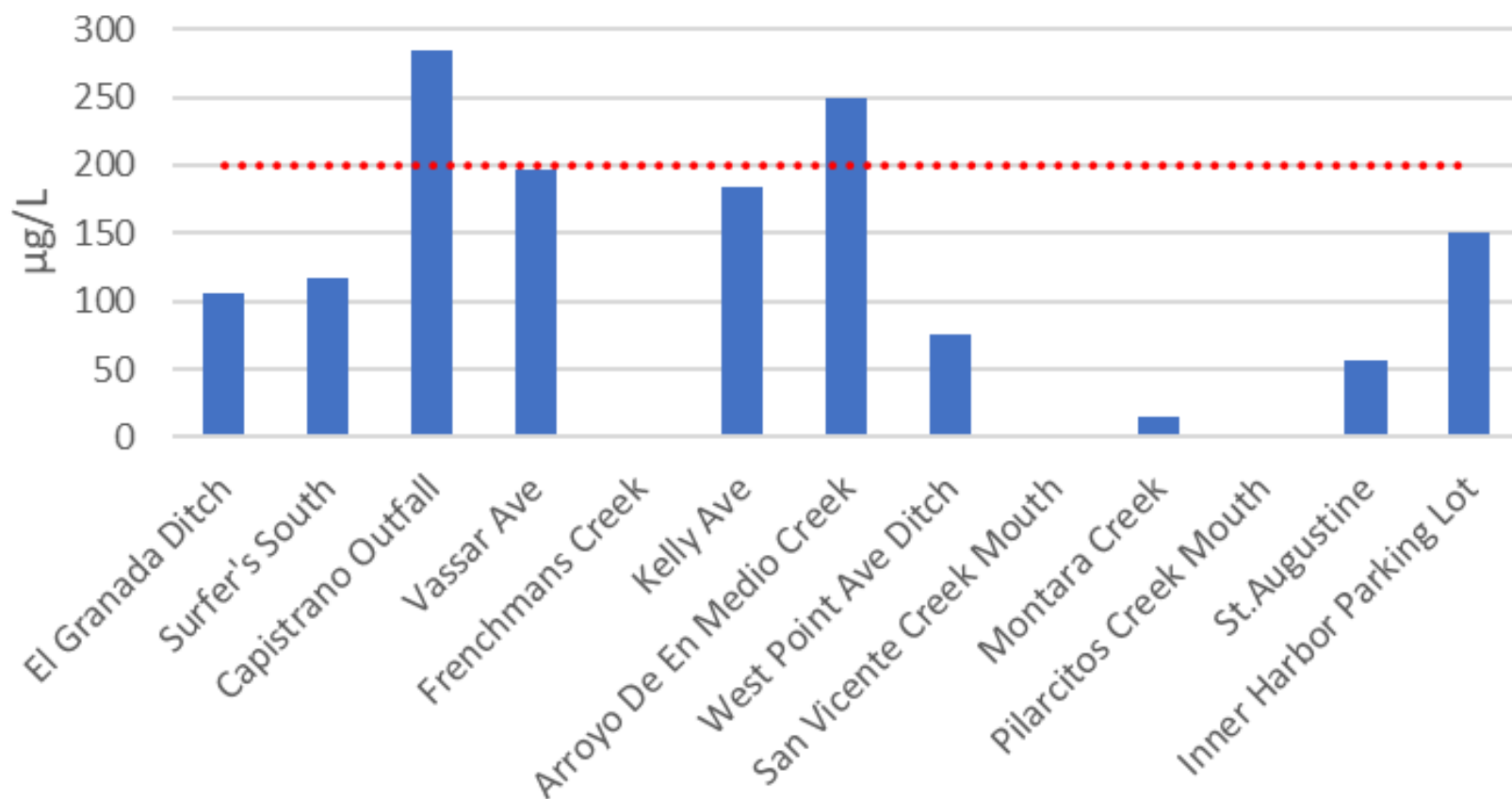
## Copper 2019



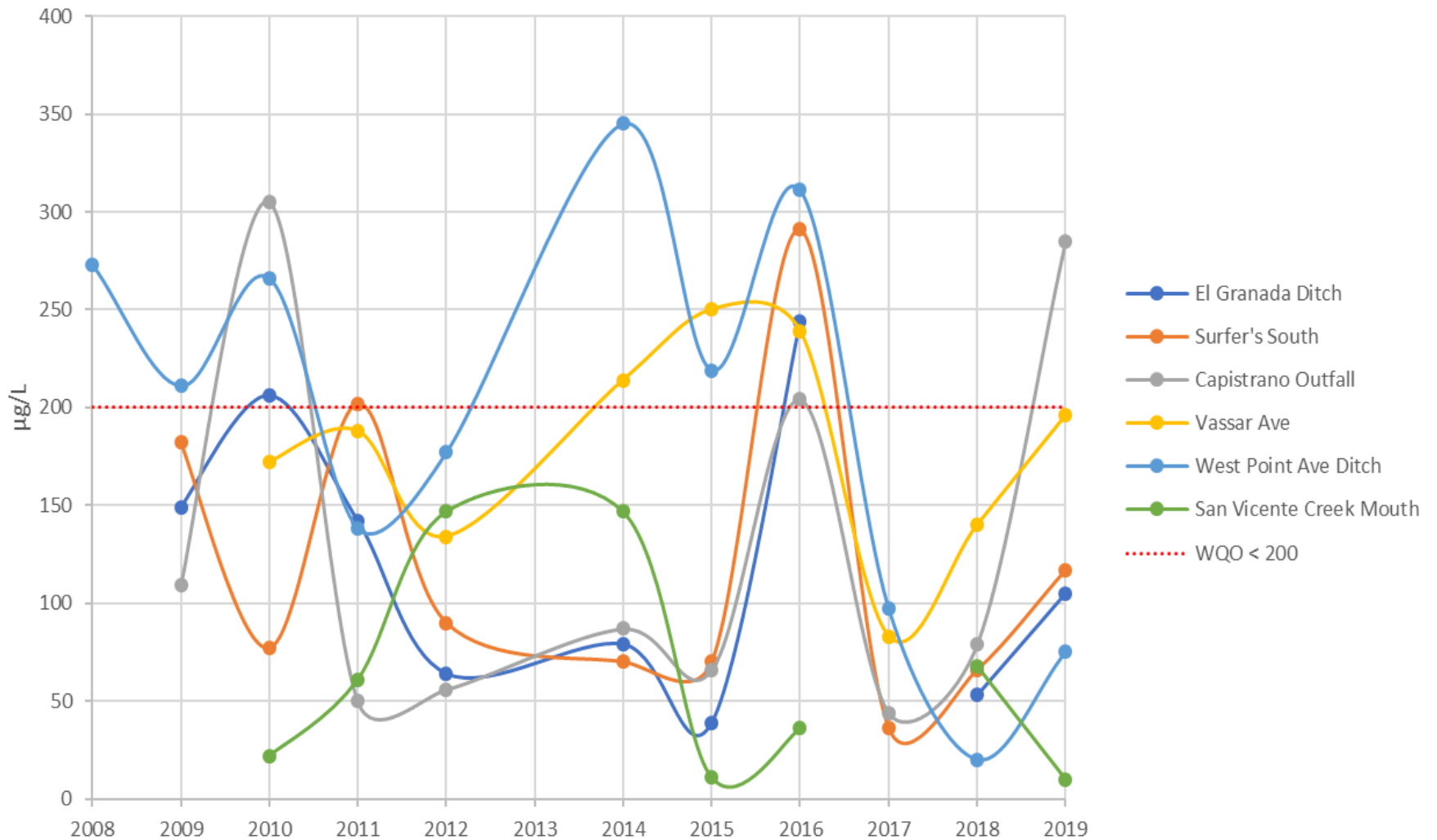
## Copper Historic Sites



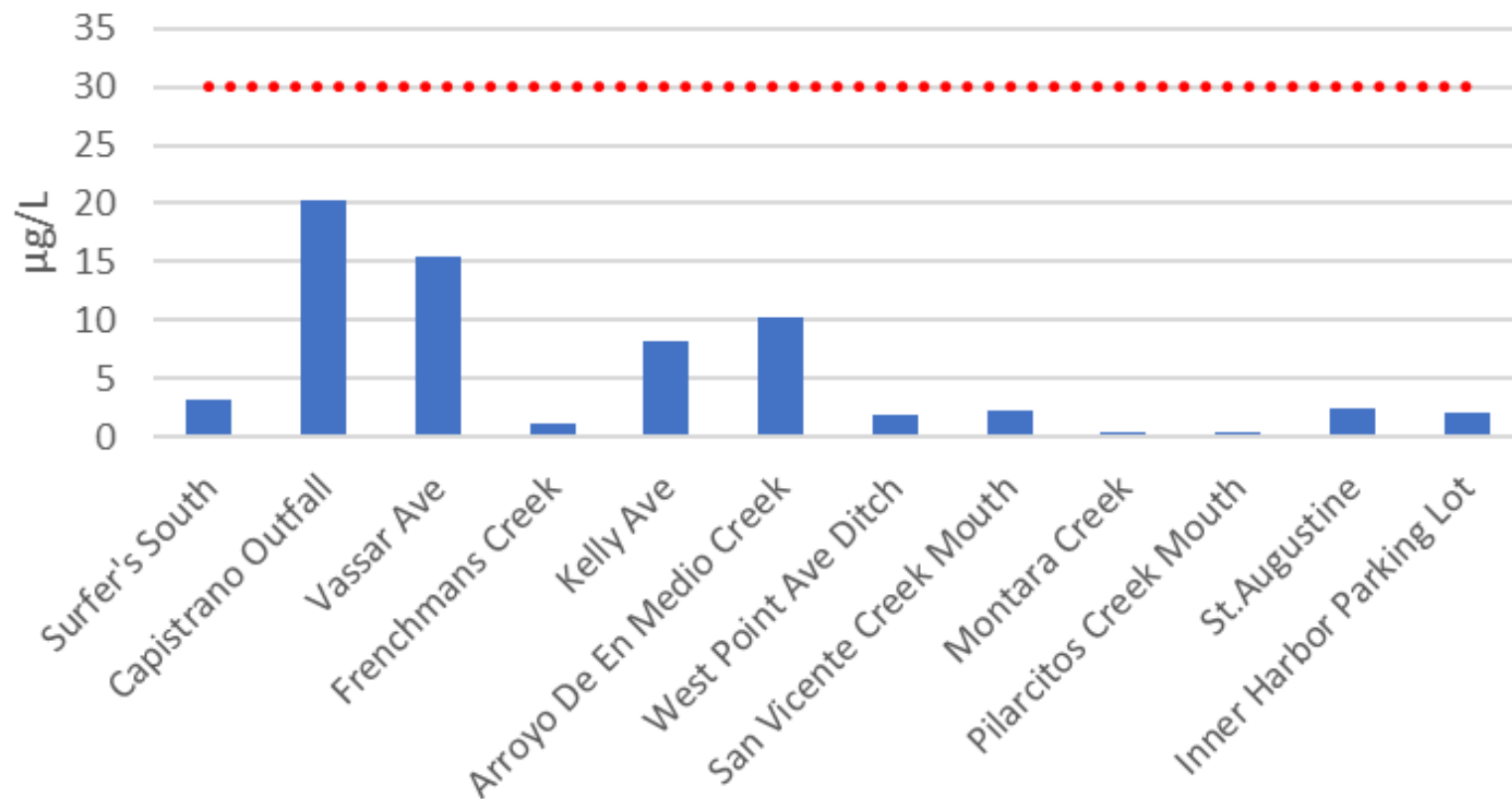
## Zinc 2018



## Zinc Historic Sites

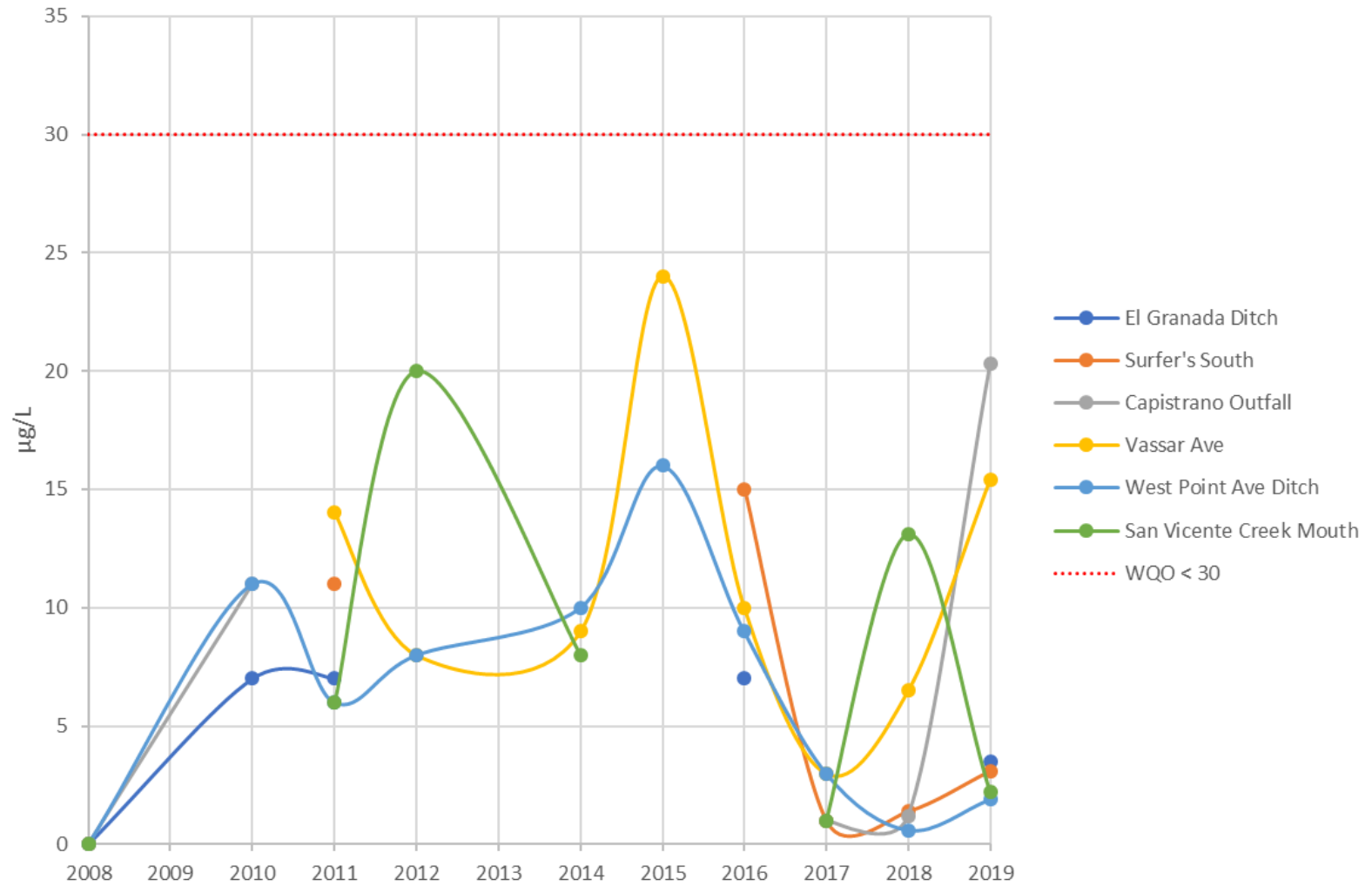


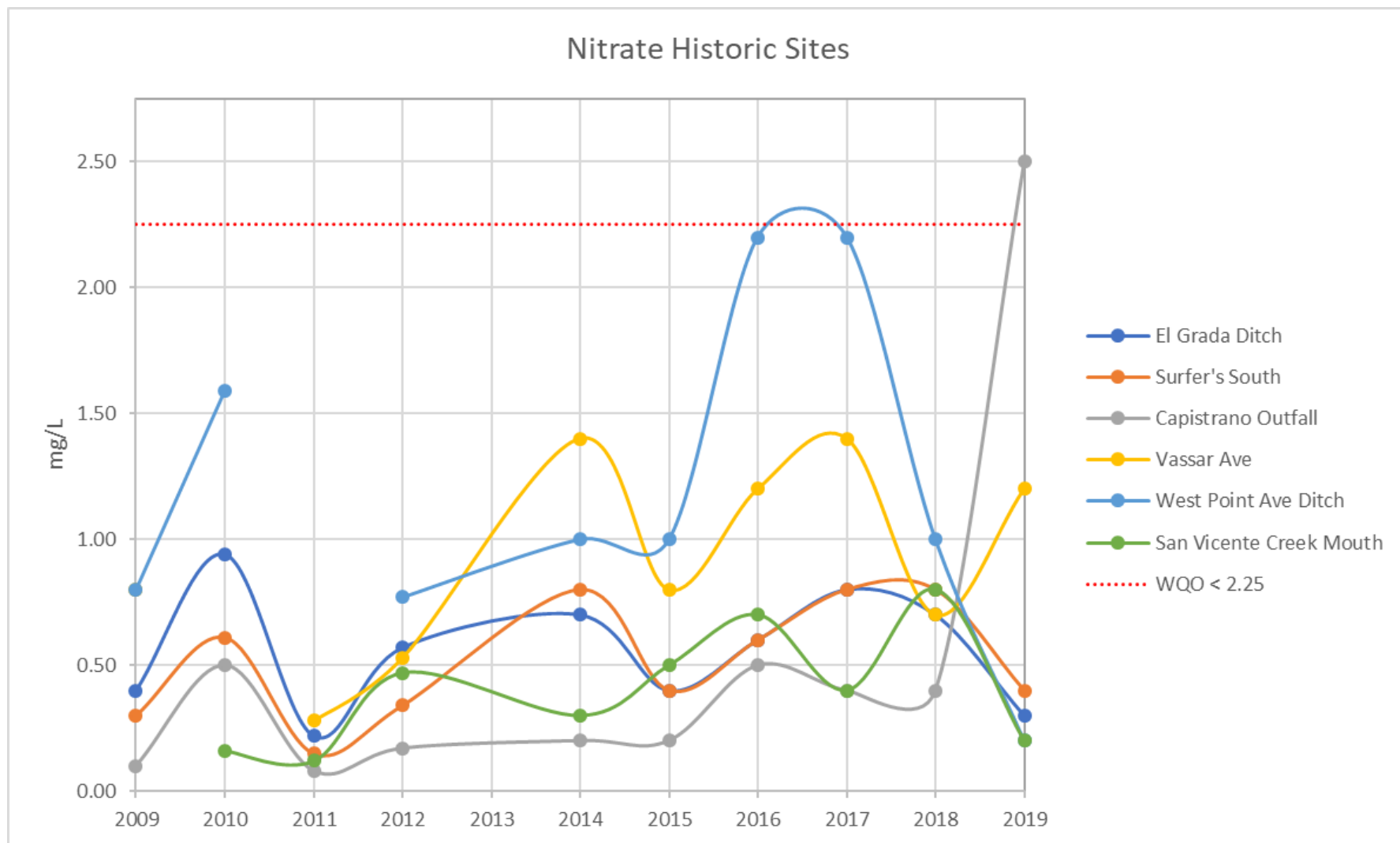
## Lead 2019



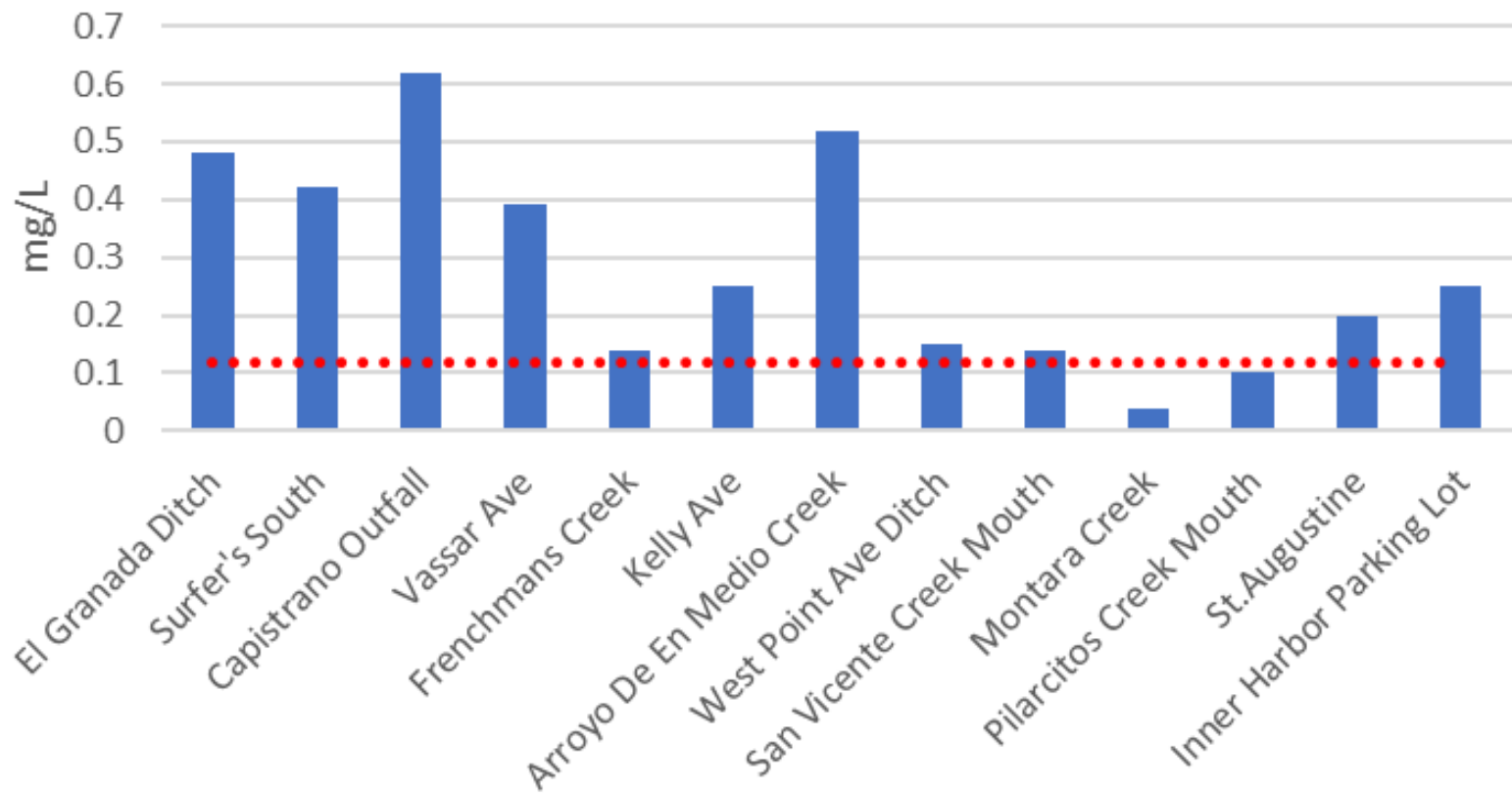


## Lead Historic Sites

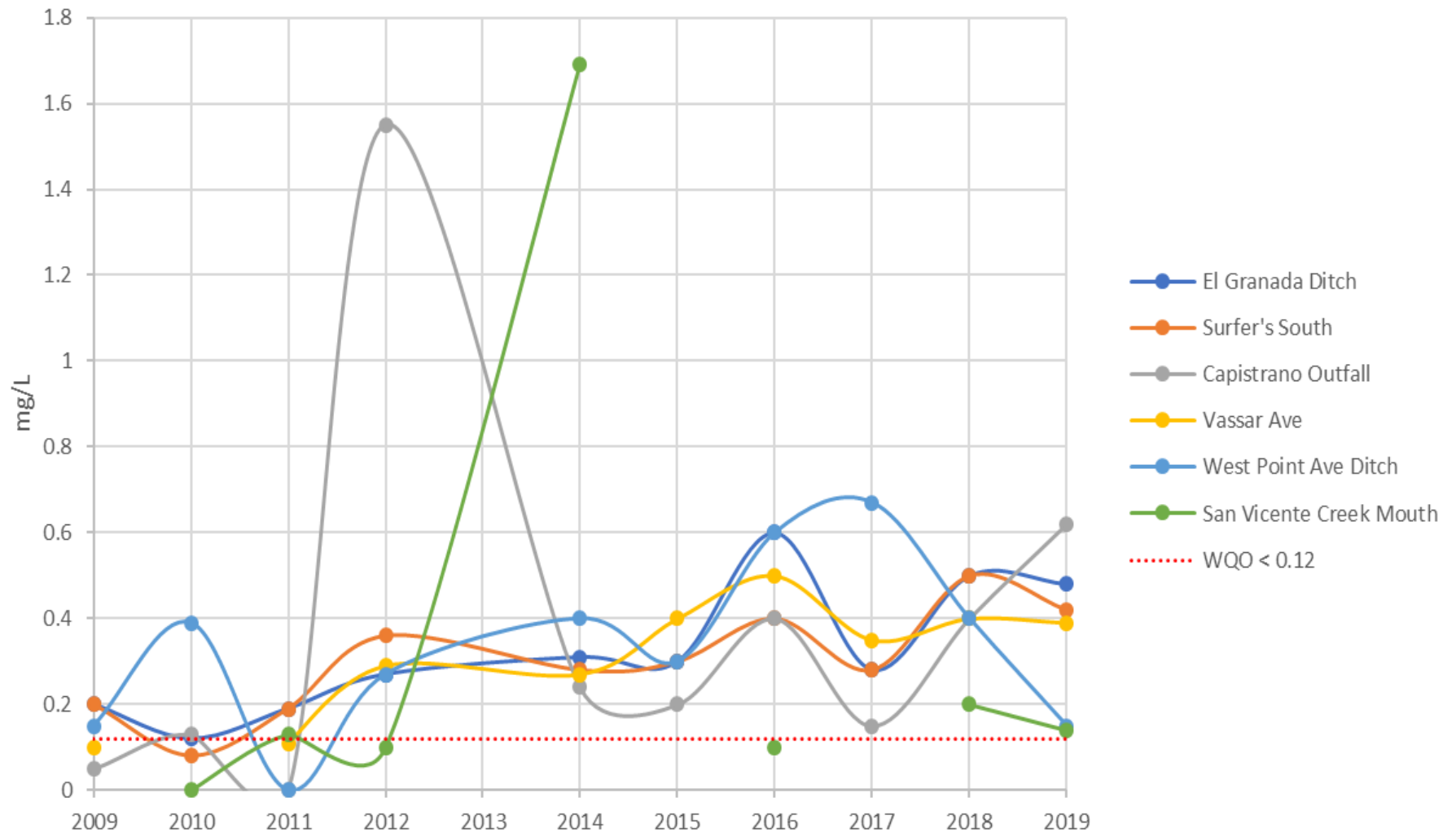




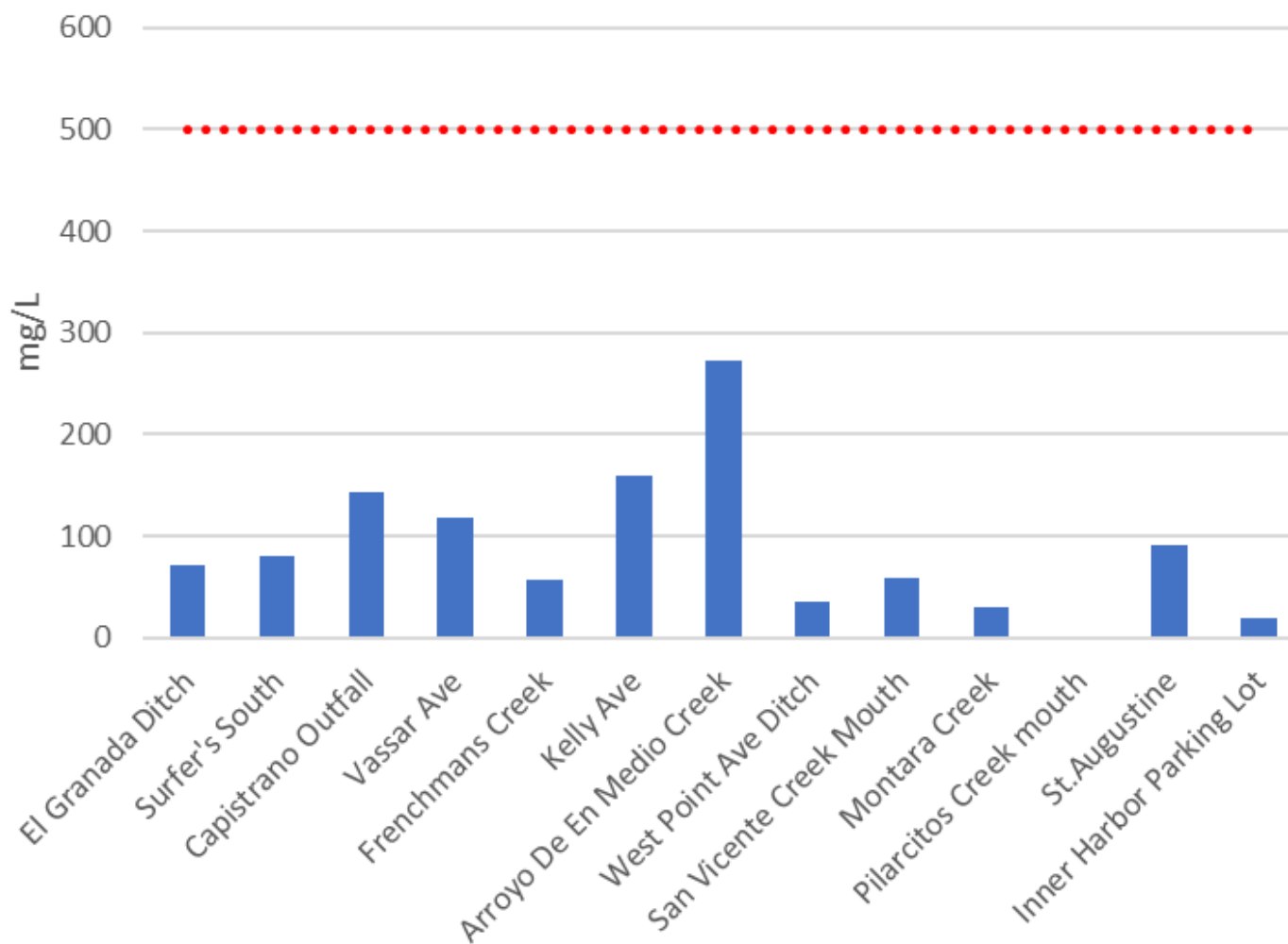
## Orthophosphate 2019



## Orthophosphate Historic Sites



## Total Suspended Solids 2019





## Total Suspended Solids Historic Sites

