

*Lower Fox River Basin Volunteer Monitoring Program
Lower Fox River Basin TMDL
2025 Annual Summary*



February 17th, 2025

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Lower Fox River Basin Volunteer Monitoring Program

2025 Data summary

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Lower Fox River Basin Volunteer Monitoring Program

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Project Overview

The Lower Fox River Basin (LFRB) volunteer monitoring program started in 2015 and is in support of the Lower Fox River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). The volunteer program has 20 surface water monitoring sites on 16 streams within the LFRB in Northeast Wisconsin. These tributaries and streams in the LFRB contribute nutrients and sediment directly to the Fox River, Lower Green Bay, and Fox River Area of Concern (AOC). The LFRB is approximately 640 sq. miles and extends from the outlet of Lake Winnebago to Green Bay and includes portions of four counties (Outagamie, Brown, Winnebago, and Calumet) and Oneida Nation.

The LFRB volunteer monitoring program relies on citizen volunteers to collect monthly surface water samples during the growing season (May-October). In 2025 there were 16 volunteers, and since the program started in 2015 there have been over 40 volunteers that have participated. The samples are analyzed for total phosphorus (TP), total suspended solids (TSS), dissolved reactive phosphorus (DRP), and total nitrogen (TN) at the Wisconsin State Laboratory of Hygiene.

Phosphorus and sediment cause numerous impairments to waterways, including low dissolved oxygen concentrations, degraded habitat, and excessive turbidity. These impairments adversely impact fish and aquatic life, water quality, recreation, and potentially navigation.

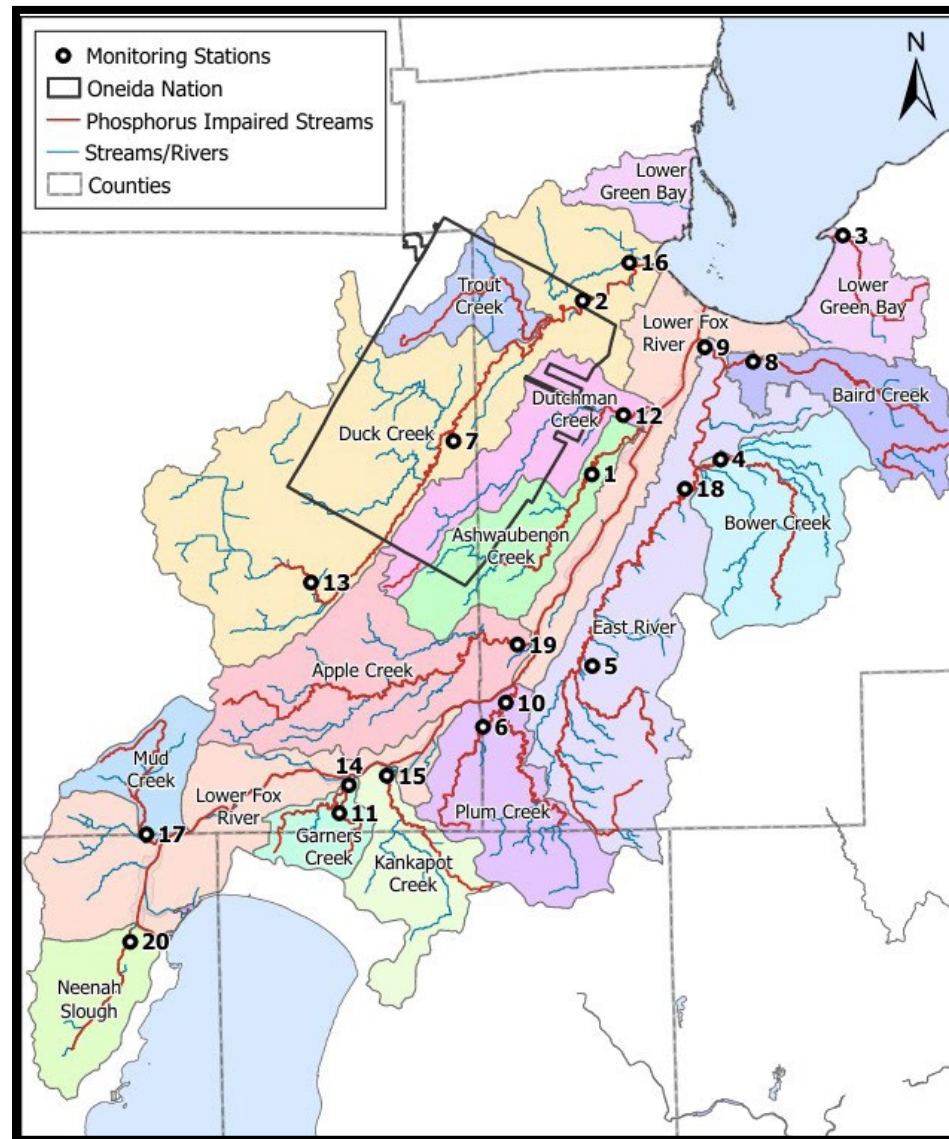
Phosphorus is an essential nutrient for plant growth, however when excess amounts are introduced to a system, harmful algal blooms can occur. Total phosphorus is a key indicator of water quality.

Project Goals

- 1) Increase public awareness and involvement in water quality issues by engaging the public in citizen science.
- 2) The collection of reliable surface water quality data to assess long-term water quality trends/success.
- 3) Evaluate nutrient and sediment concentrations in the tributaries discharging to the Fox River.
- 4) Monitor the health of the watershed overtime.
- 5) Provide a basis for evaluation of the long-term effectiveness of implementation of the Lower Fox River Basin TMDL; are there water quality improvements in watersheds with the implementation of best management practices?
- 6) Share water quality data broadly among stakeholders to collectively assess water quality.

Lower Fox River Basin Volunteer Monitoring Program 2025 Data summary

Median Total Phosphorus by Monitoring Site



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TP Median Concentrations (mg/L) by Monitoring Site

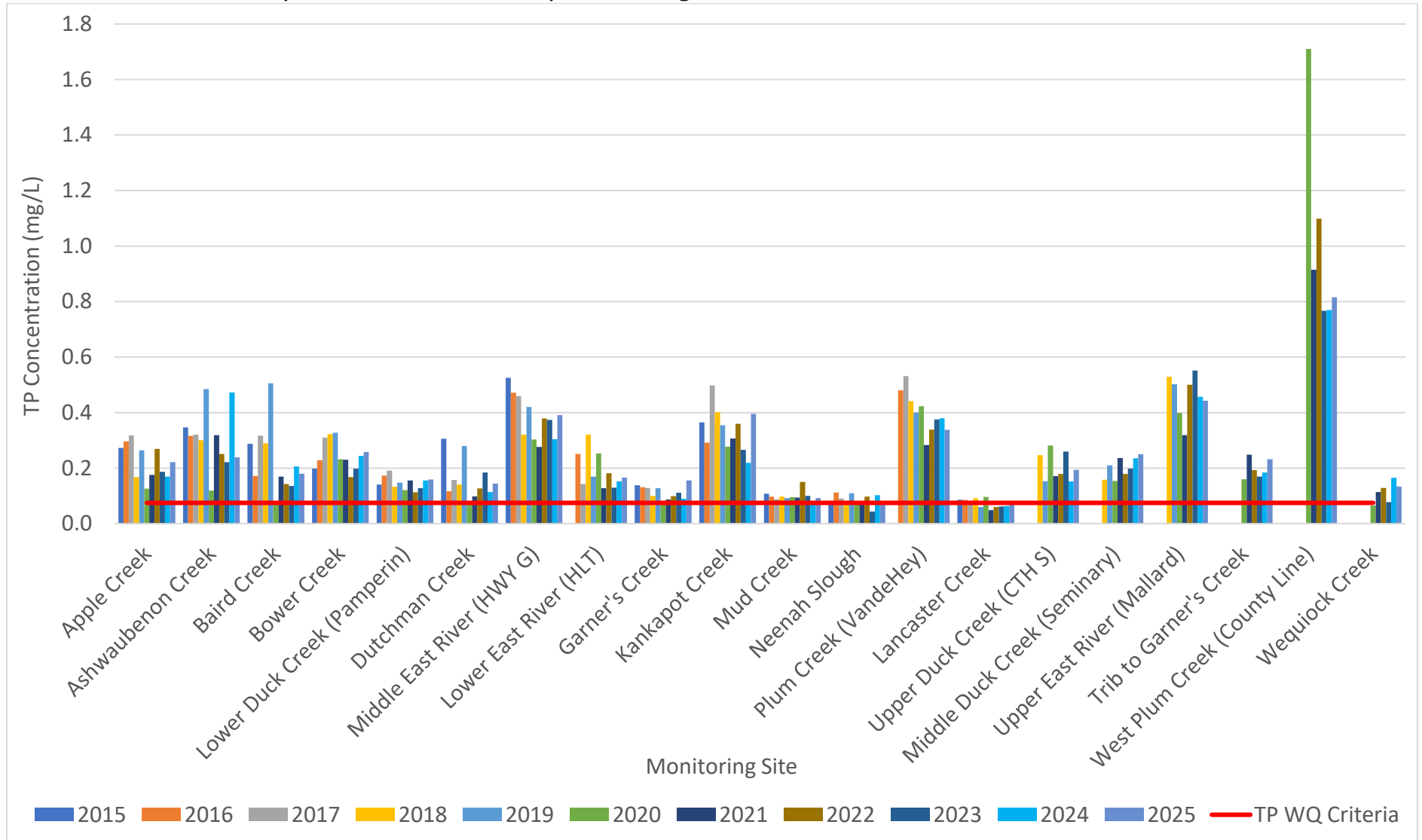
Site #	Monitoring Site	2015-2024	2025
1	Ashwaubenon Creek- Grant St	0.316	0.239
2	Lower Duck Creek- Pamperin Park	0.148	0.160
3	Wequiock Creek- Nicolet Rd/CTH A	0.121	0.134
4	Bower Creek- 50m Upstream of CTH GV	0.232	0.259
5	Upper East River- Mallard Rd	0.479	0.443
6	West Plum Creek- Downstream of County Line Rd	0.865	0.816
7	Middle Duck Creek- Seminary Rd	0.204	0.251
8	Baird Creek- Preble, WI	0.180	0.180
9	Lower East River- Harold Lewis Trail off Main St	0.168	0.166
10	Plum Creek- VandeHey Farm Crossing	0.390	0.338
11	Trib to Garner's Creek- CTH CE	0.189	0.232
12	Dutchman Creek- Oneida St	0.141	0.144
13	Upper Duck Creek- CTH S	0.187	0.194
14	Garner's Creek- Downstream of CTH Z	0.111	0.156
15	Kankapot Creek- CTH Z Dodge St 100ft upstream of bridge	0.355	0.395
16	Lancaster Creek- Lakeview Dr	0.068	0.068
17	Mud Creek- CTH BB	0.096	0.093
18	Middle East River-CTH G	0.379	0.391
19	Apple Creek- Rosin Rd	0.222	0.222
20	Neenah Slough- 100ft South of Adams St	0.080	0.070

The median is calculated for rivers and streams in accordance with Wisconsin Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology (WisCALM) protocol.

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Annual Median Total Phosphorus Concentration by Monitoring Site

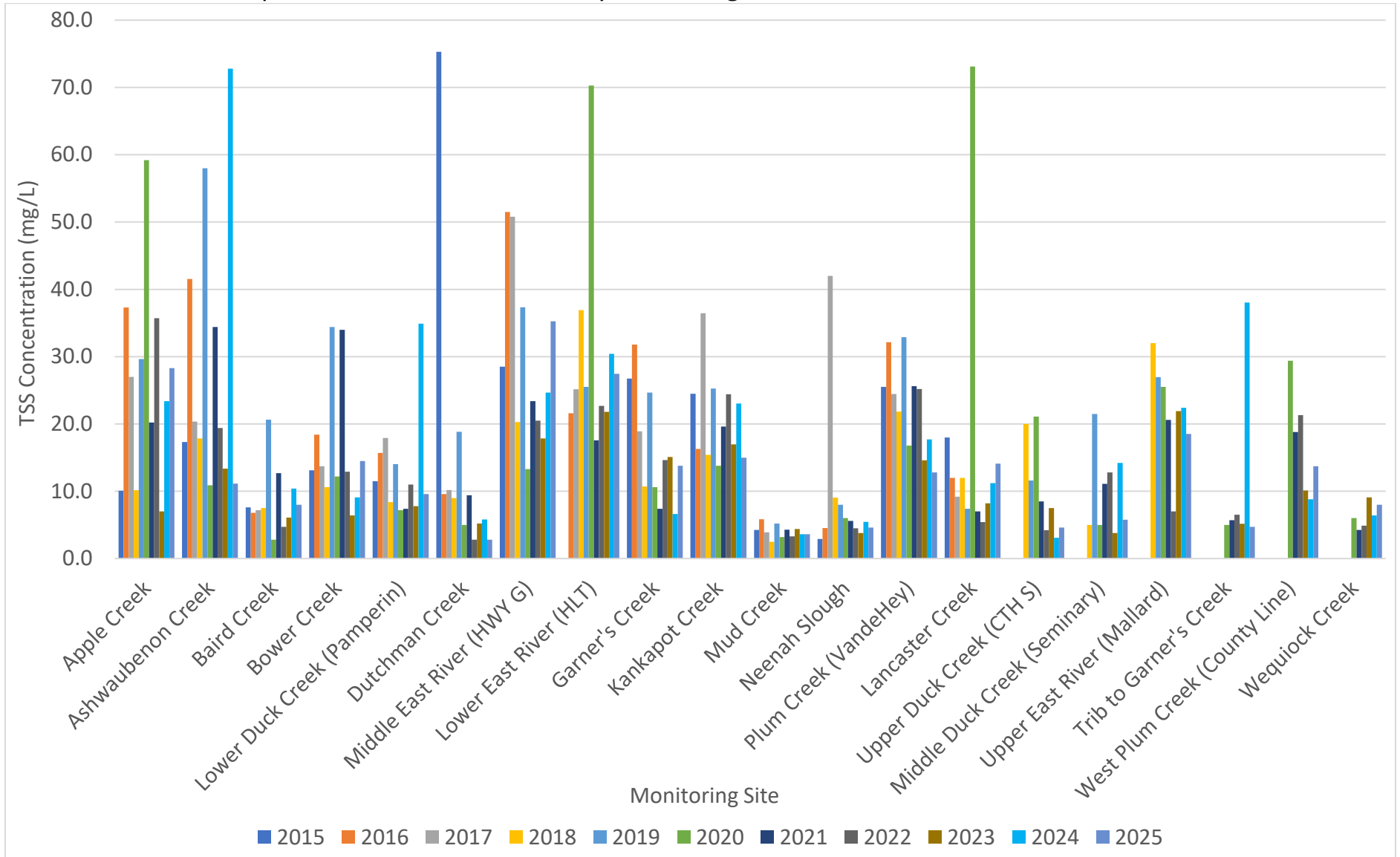


TP Water Quality Criteria (WQC) is 0.075mg/L.

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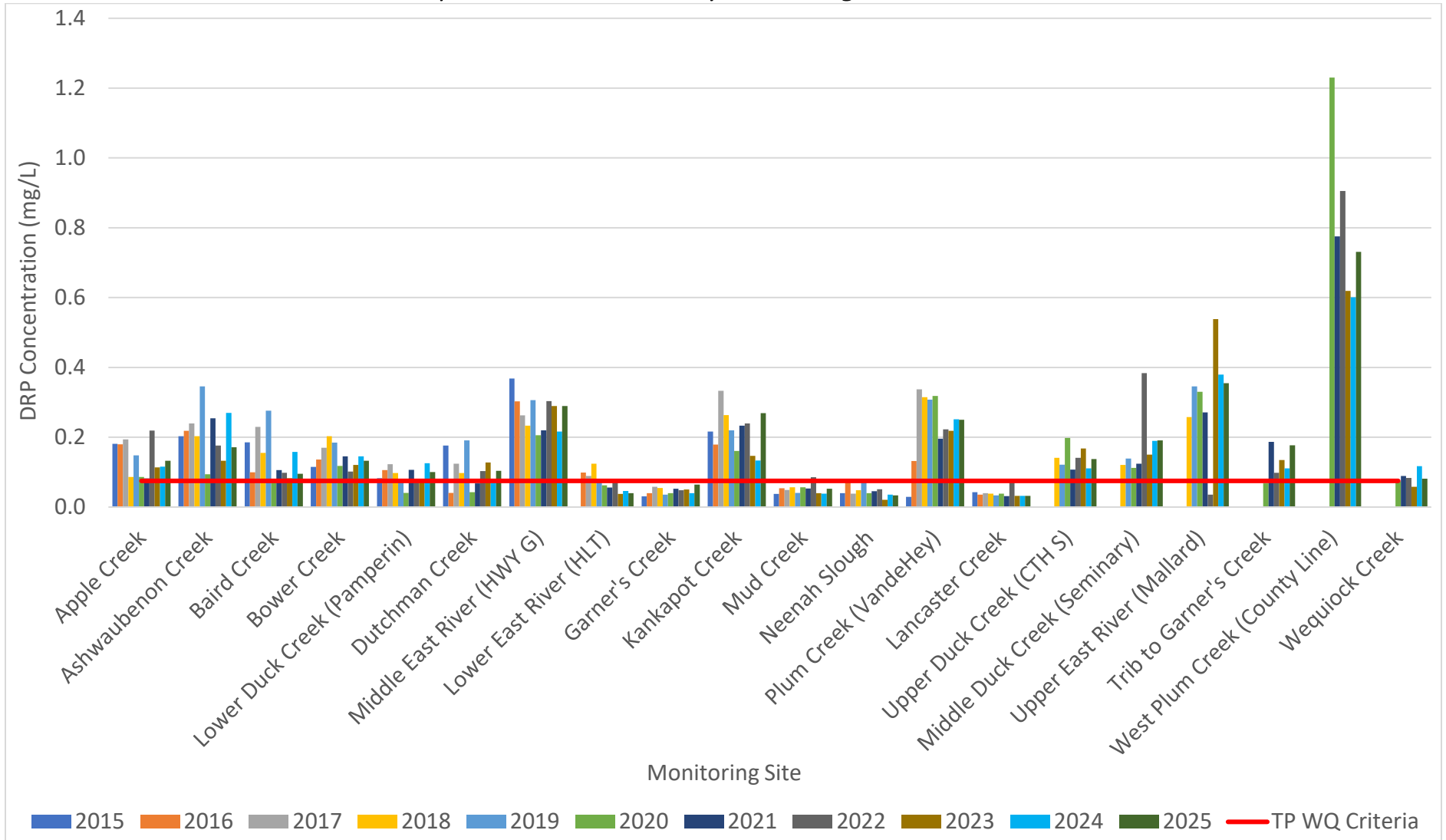
Annual Median Total Suspended Solids Concentration by Monitoring Site



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Annual Median Dissolved Reactive Phosphorus Concentration by Monitoring Site



TP Water Quality Criteria (WQC) is 0.075mg/L.

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Annual Median Total Nitrogen Concentration by Monitoring Site

