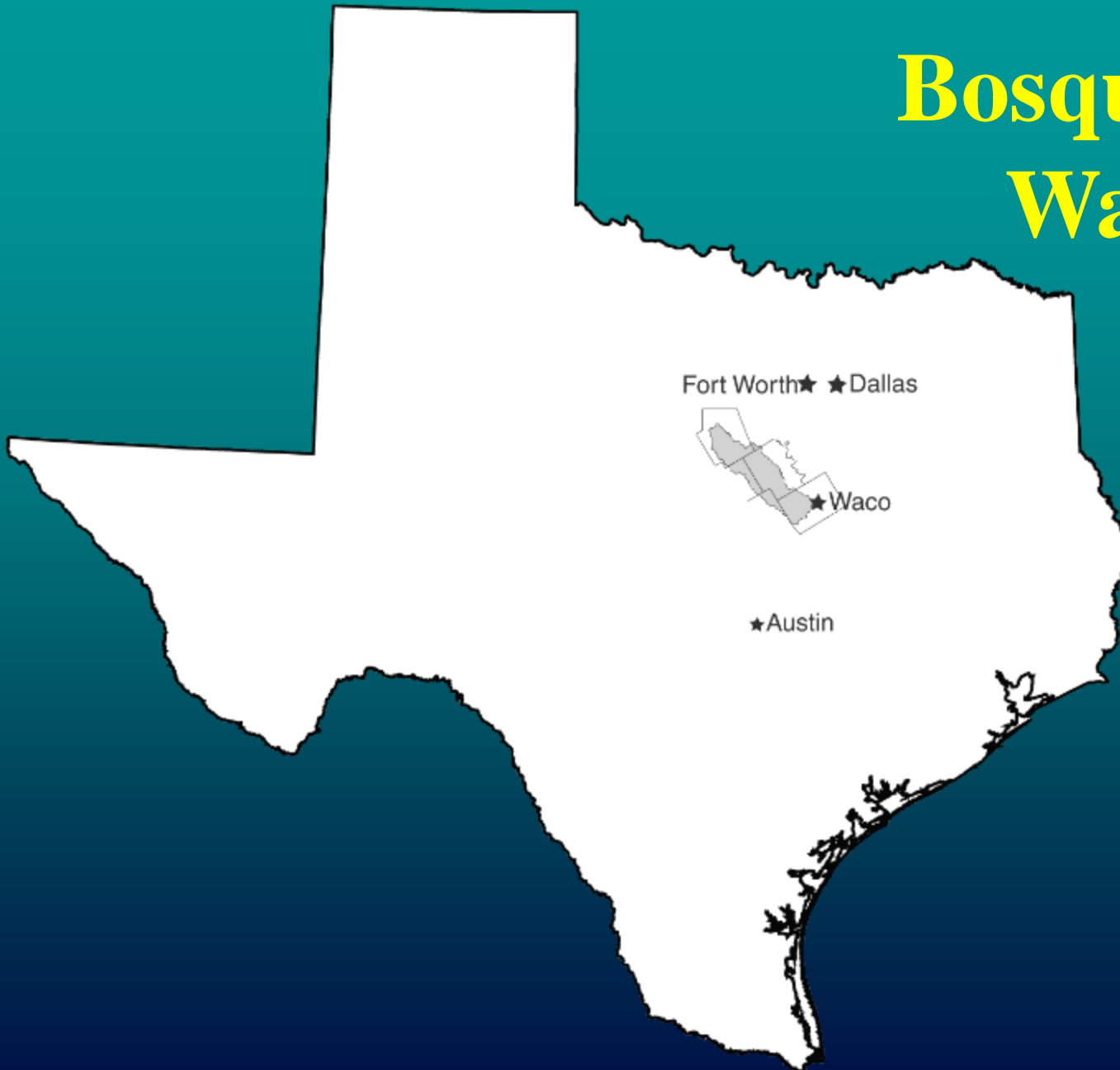
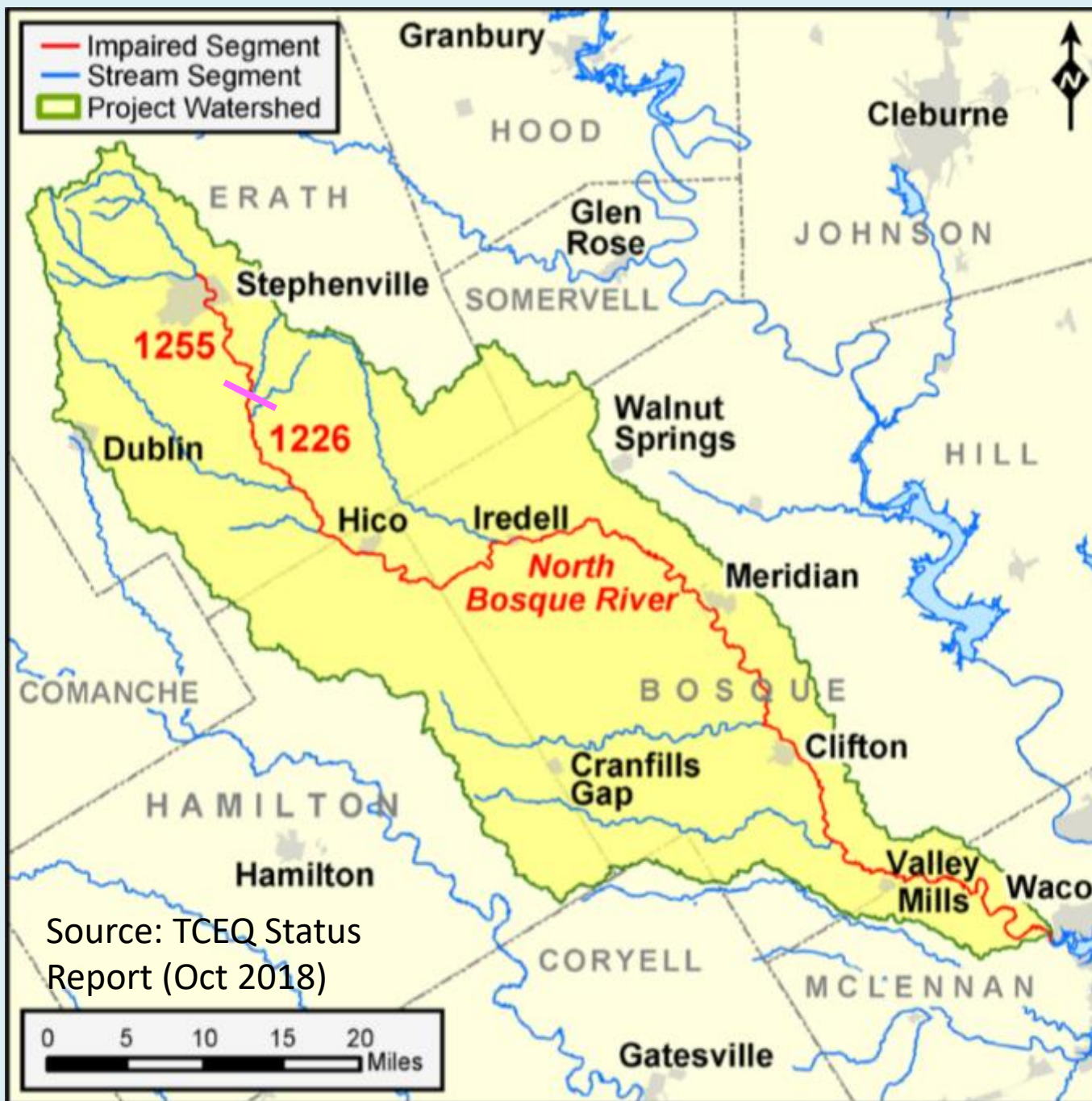


# Bosque River Watershed





# Impairment History

- **1990 – North Bosque identified as problem watershed**
- **1992 – Listed as impaired on 303(d) List**
- **1996 – Bosque River Advisory Committee formed**
- **1998 – TMDL development initiated for excessive algae associated with high nutrients**
- **2001 –TMDLs for phosphorus approved**
- **2002 – Implementation Plan approved**

# North Bosque TMDL

A photograph of a river with green water and sandy banks, surrounded by dense green trees and vegetation. The river is the central focus, with its water reflecting the surrounding greenery. The banks are composed of light-colored sand and gravel, with some exposed tree roots. The background shows a dense forest of green trees under a cloudy sky.

**Narrative Criteria -  
excessive aquatic plant  
growth due to elevated  
nutrients**

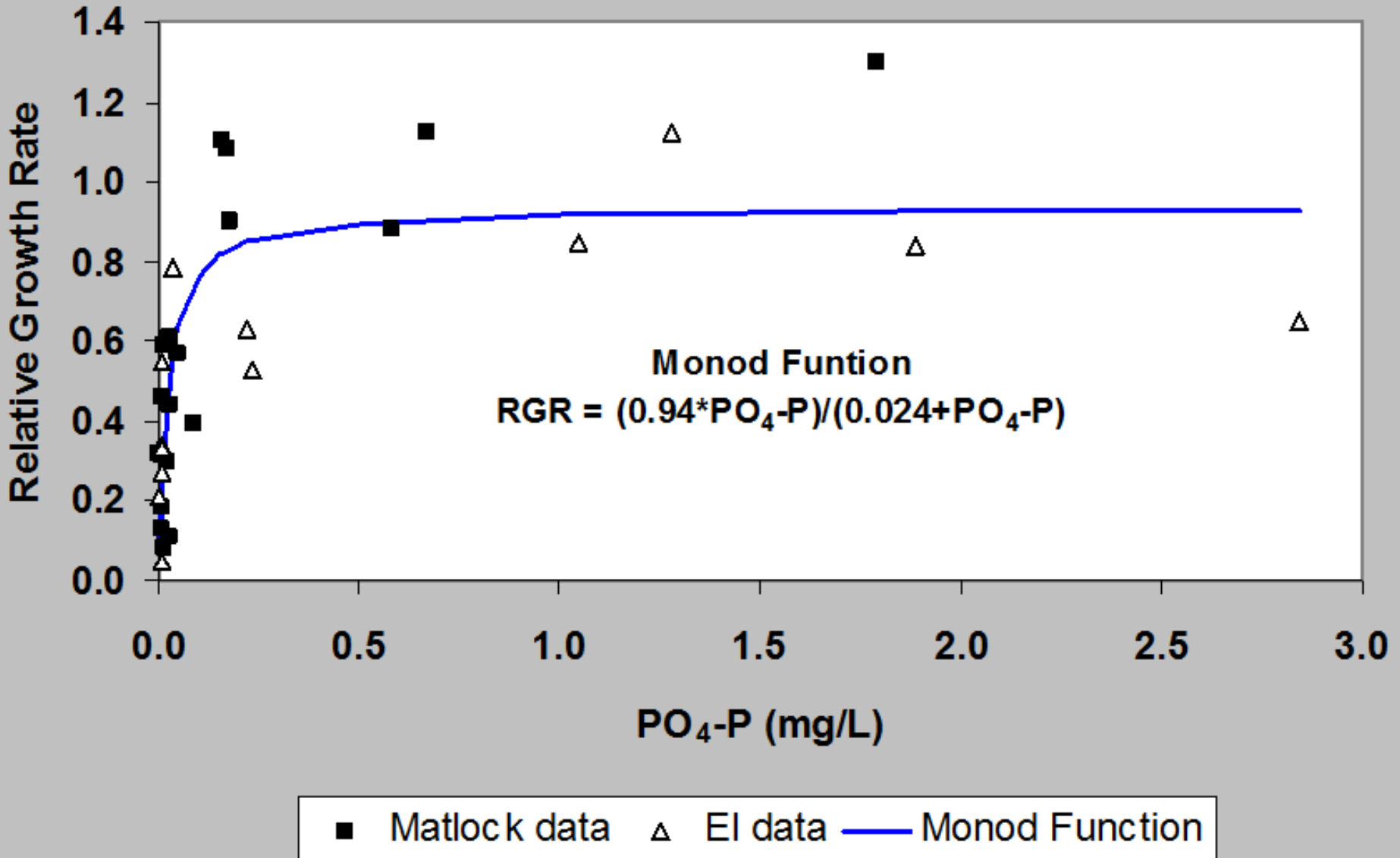


# Limiting Nutrient - Phosphorus



**Instream & Laboratory  
Bioassays**

# Relationship between P & Algal Growth Rate

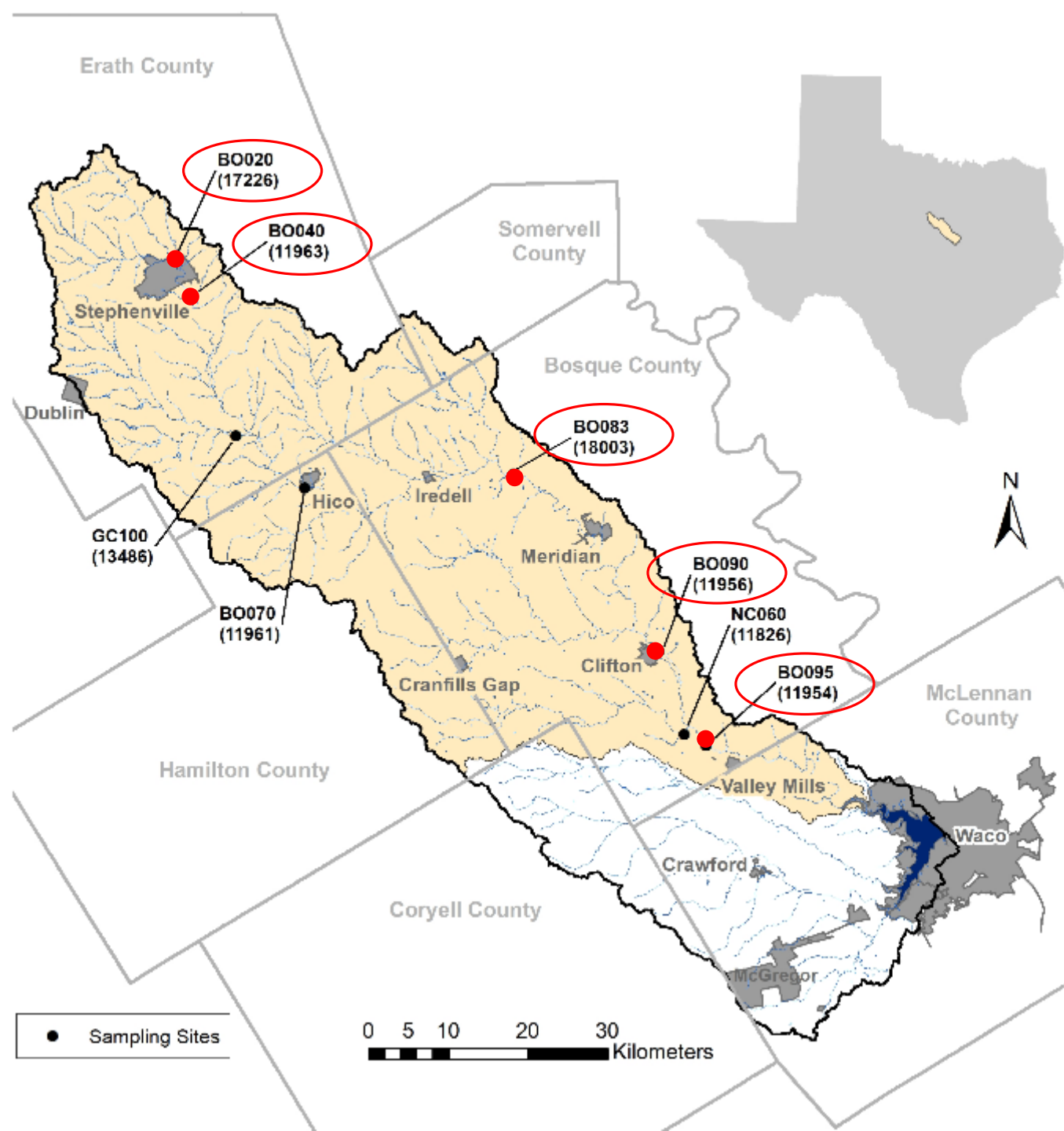


# North Bosque River TMDL

- **Approved by EPA December 2001**
- **Mandates about a 50% reduction in soluble reactive phosphorus (SRP)**
- **Target concentrations of  $\text{PO}_4\text{-P}$  about 0.03 mg/L as the river flows into Lake Waco**  
**(Target concentrations vary with Index Site from 0.448 mg/L below Stephenville to 0.028 mg/L at Valley Mills)**

# North Bosque Monitoring Stations

Index  
Stations  
circled in  
Red





# North Bosque River TMDL Reduction Goals

**Table 6. Average Annual-Average Soluble Phosphorus Concentration**

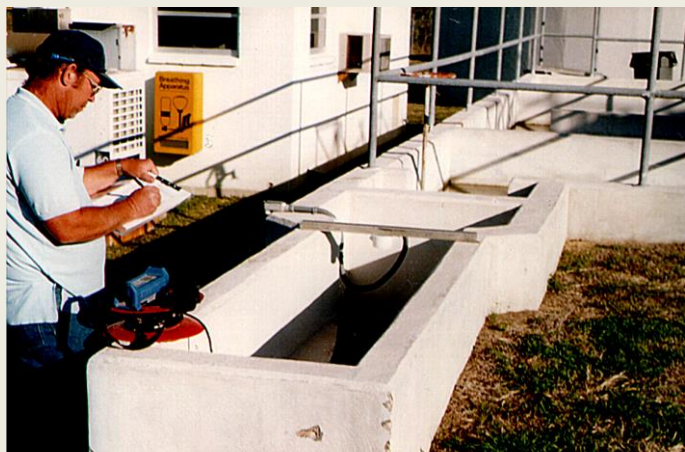
	Above Stephenville	Below Stephenville	Above Meridian	Clifton	Valley Mills
From 'Existing' scenario (ppb)	203.3	1,143.2	117.0	52.2	41.3
From 'TMDL-e' scenario (ppb)	114.2	448.1	54.5	30.3	27.5
% reduction	43.83 %	60.80 %	53.42 %	41.95 %	33.41 %

The decimal places shown in this table are artifacts of the estimation process, and should not be considered significant.

# North Bosque River TMDL

Identified two major sources of SRP

- Wastewater Treatment Facilities
- Dairy Waste Application Fields



# Phosphorus Sources

**Table 3. Estimated Percent of Total Gross Annual Load by Source Type**

Source	Above Stephenville	Below Stephenville	Above Meridian	Clifton	Valley Mills
urban runoff	2 %	6 %	6 %	6 %	6 %
row crop	0 %	0 %	2 %	4 %	5 %
non-row crop	2 %	2 %	2 %	1 %	1 %
pasture	9 %	5 %	7 %	8 %	9 %
wood/range	7 %	5 %	18 %	22 %	24 %
WWTP	0 %	28 %	10 %	9 %	10 %
WAF	80 %	54 %	55 %	50 %	45 %
Column totals (%)	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %	100 %

# Implementation Practices

## WWTF Discharges

- Phosphorus Discharge Limits focused on two largest municipalities (Stephenville & Clifton)
- Monitoring of Phosphorus at all WWTFs within Watershed

## Dairy Operations (CAFOs)

- Nutrient Management Planning
- Soil Testing for Phosphorus
- Use of Composting as Alternative to direct Land Application



# Municipal WWTFs

## Two Largest Required P Control

- **Stephenville** (1.5 MGD) implemented biological & chemical P control fall 2005
- **Clifton** (0.3 MGD) implemented chemical P control spring 2005

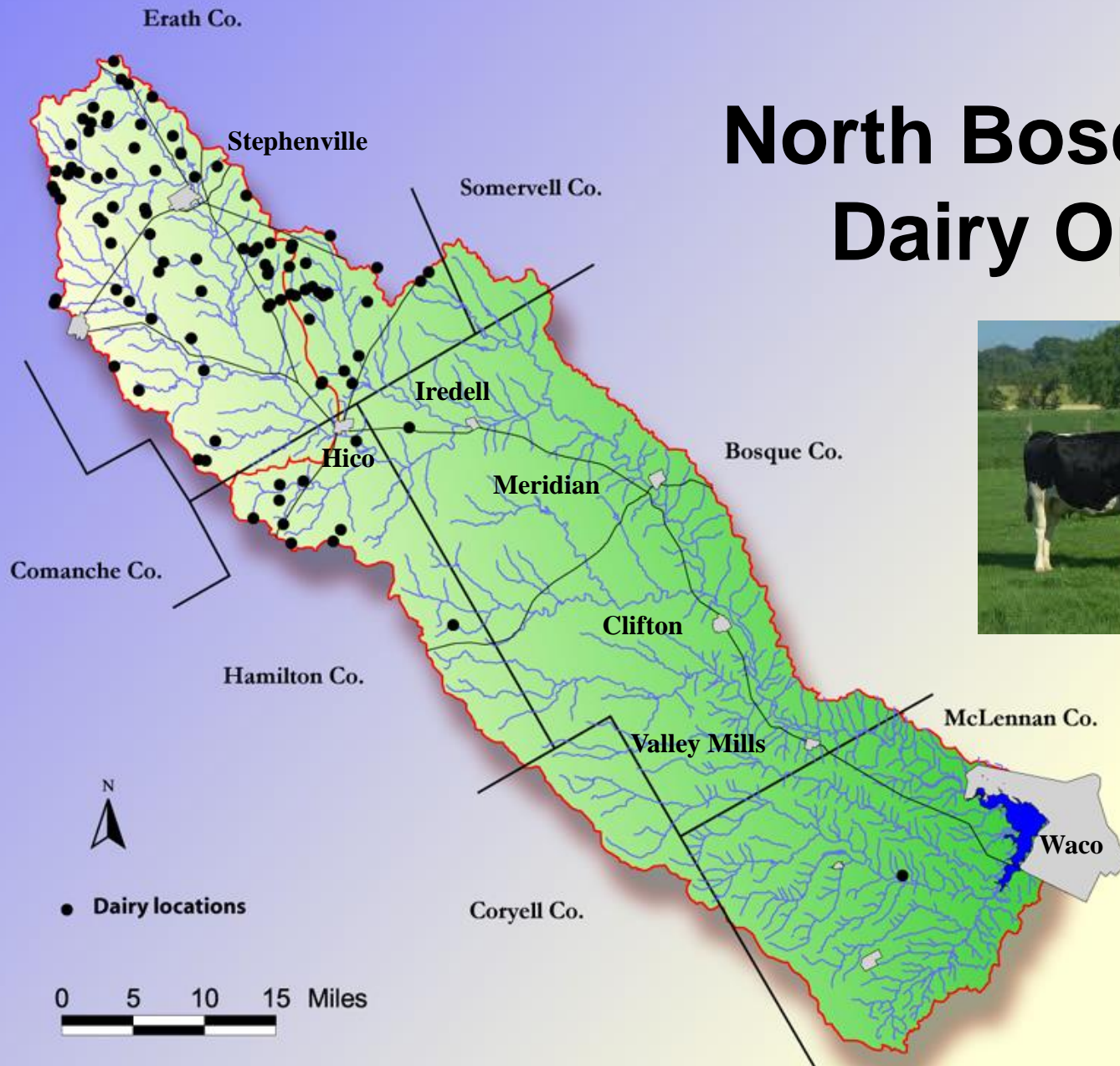
### Decrease in Total-P in Effluent:

Pre-Treatment often  $> 3\text{mg/L}$

Post-Treatment generally  $< 1\text{ mg/L}$



# North Bosque River Dairy Operations



# Dairy Waste Application Fields

## Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs) -

- Required by new Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) regulations – permitted facilities

## Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP) -

- Voluntary for AFOs







## Dairy Manure Export Support Project - TSSWCB

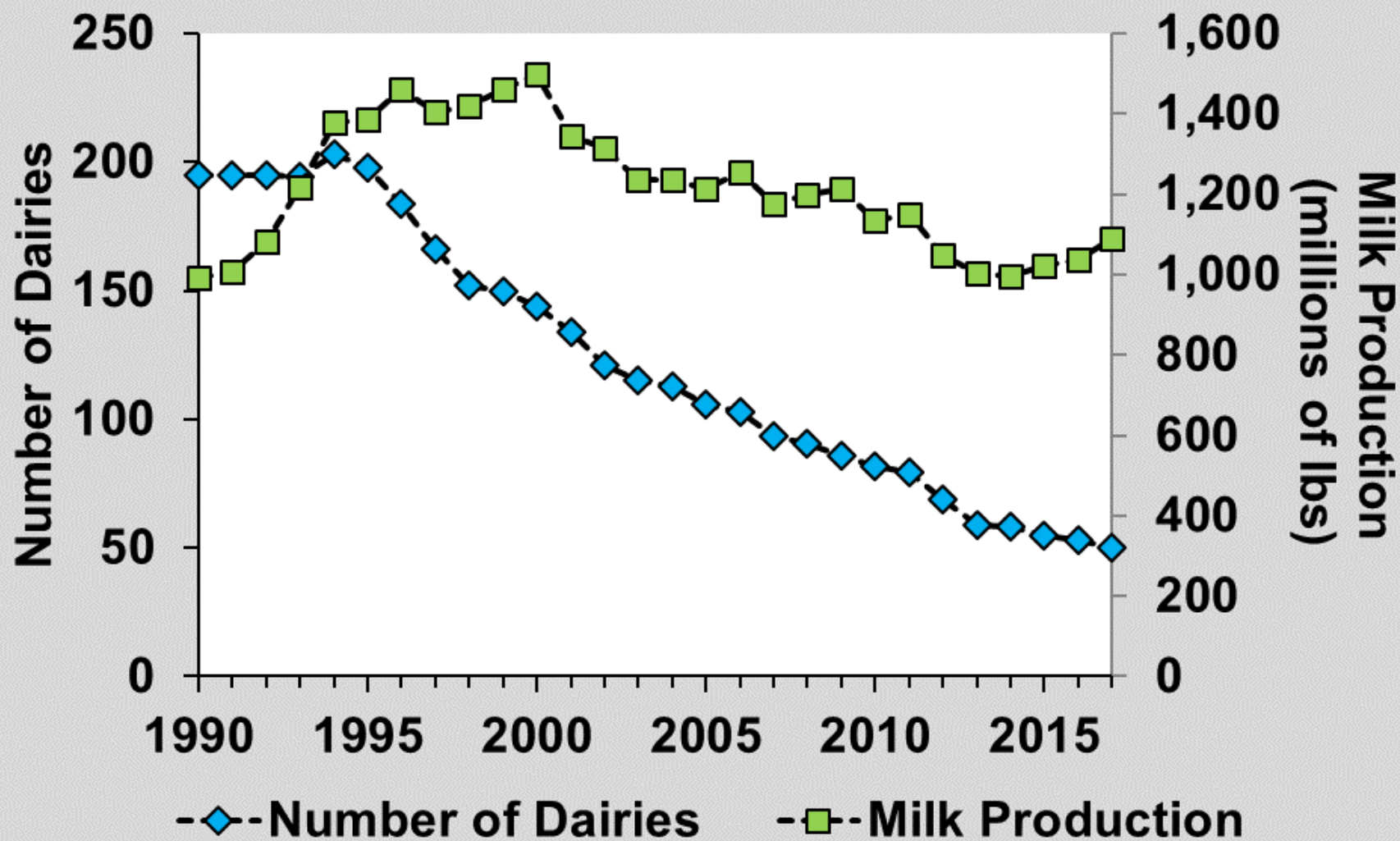
## Composted Manure Incentive Project - TCEQ





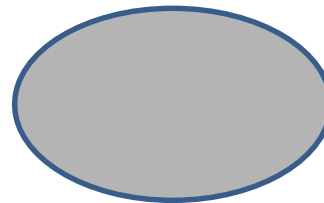
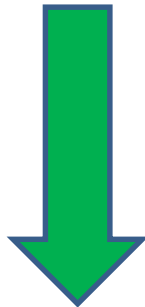


# Erath County Milk Production Statistics



**Trends -**

**Is water quality improving?**



# North Bosque Monitoring Stations

Index  
Stations  
circled in  
Red





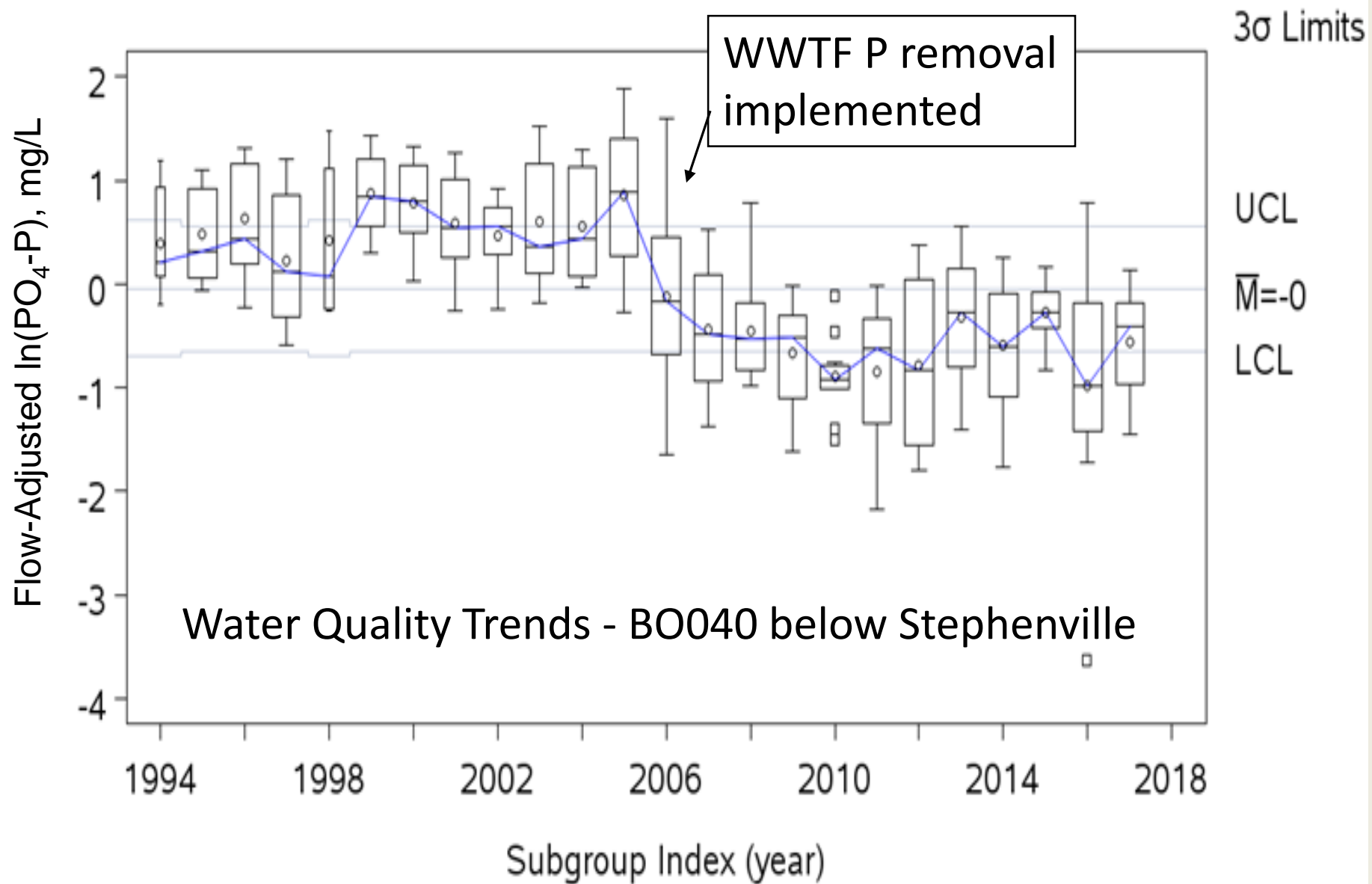
# Phosphorus Trends

## North Bosque River Index Stations (+1)

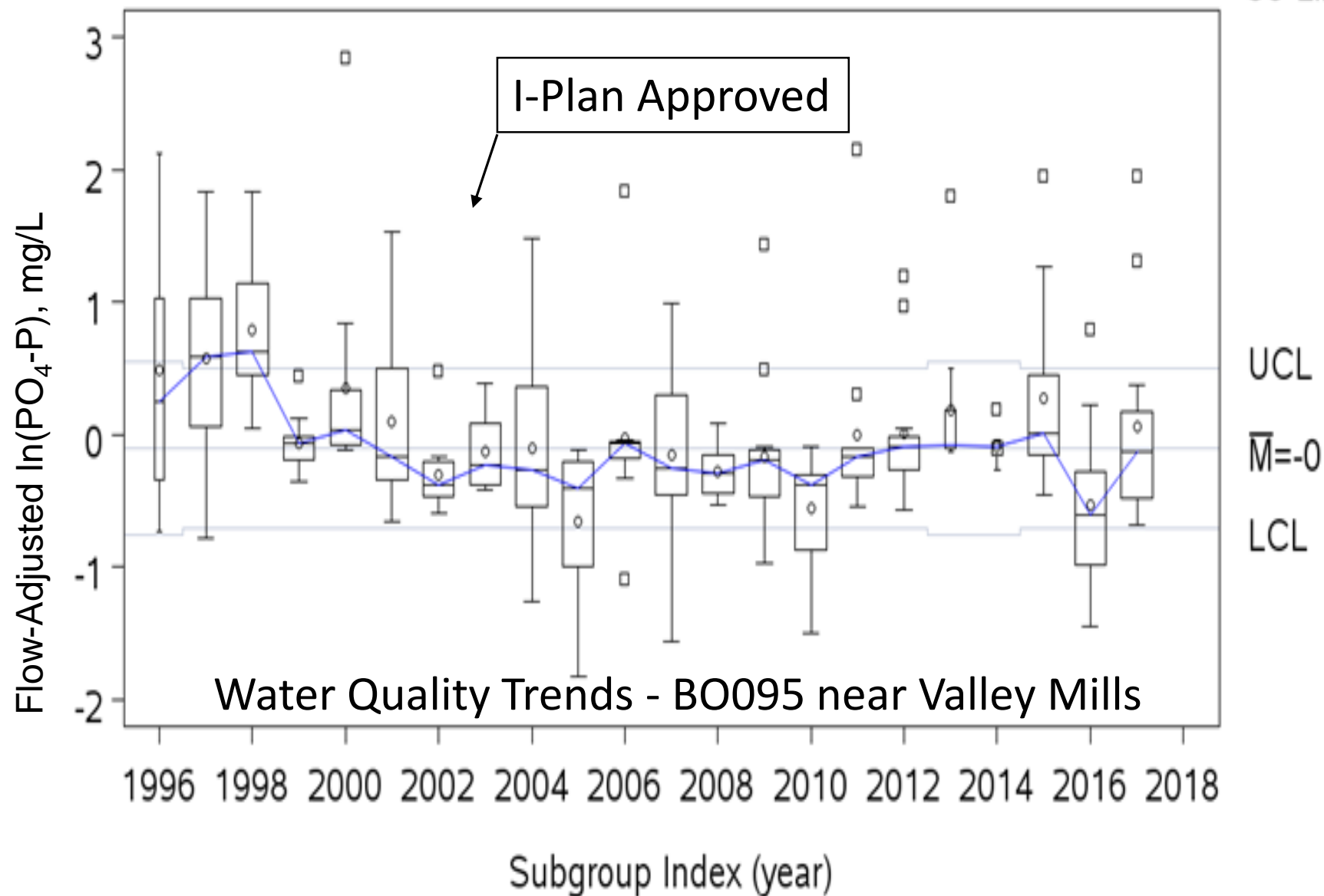
TIAER	TCEQ	Location	Period	SRP	Total P
BO020	17226	Above Stephenville	1997-2017		
BO040	11963	Below Stephenville	1994-2017		
BO070	11963*	Near Hico	1993-2017		
BO083	18003**	Near Iredell	2003-2017		
BO090	11956	Near Clifton	1996-2017		
BO095	11954	Near Valley Mills	1996-2017		

\*Not a designated Index Station

\*\* Limited flow data at station 18003



Subgroup Sizes:    Min n = 11    Max n = 12    Box width varies with n



Subgroup Sizes:    Min n = 11    Max n = 12    Box width varies with n

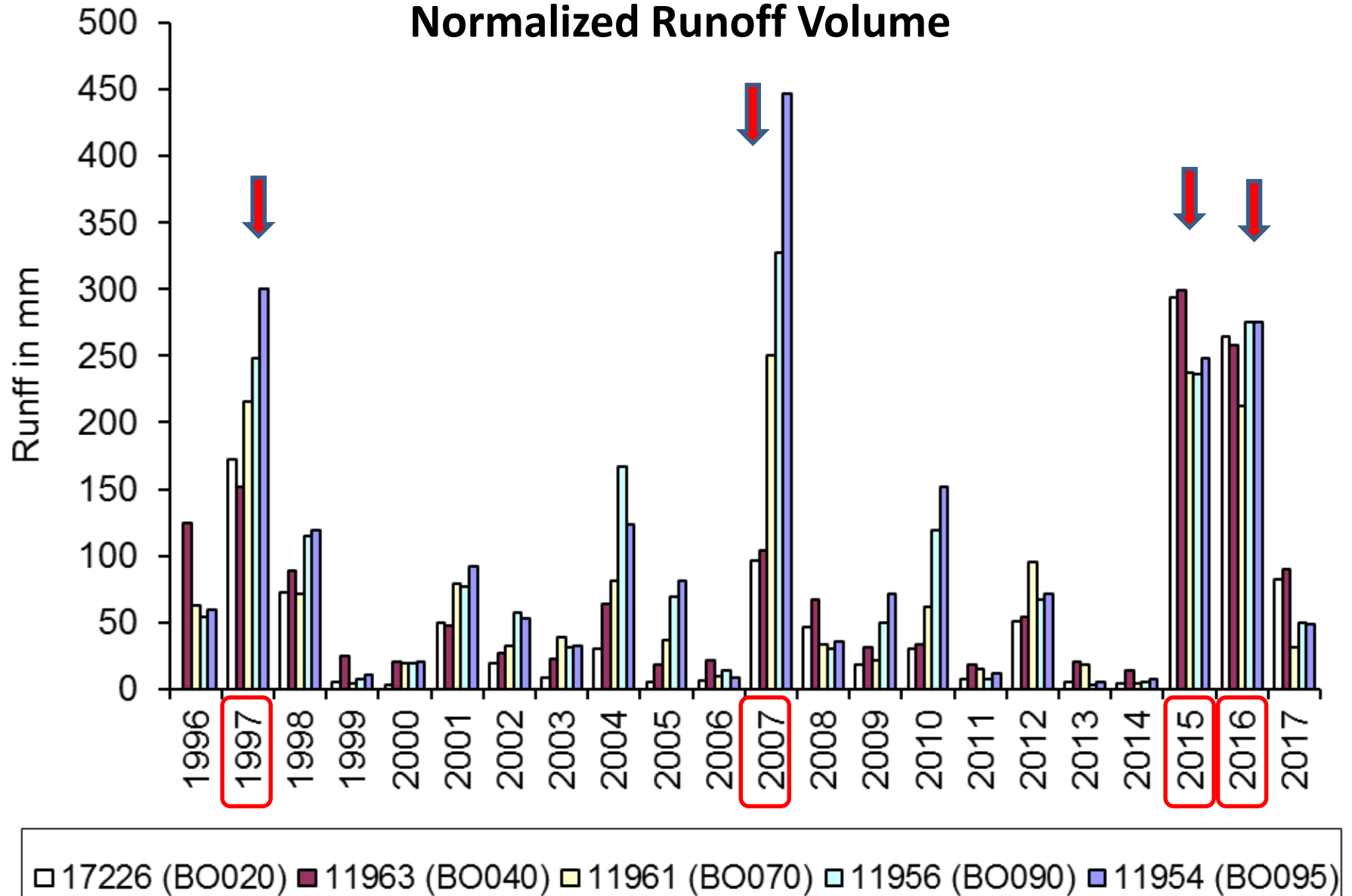
# Have we met target goals?



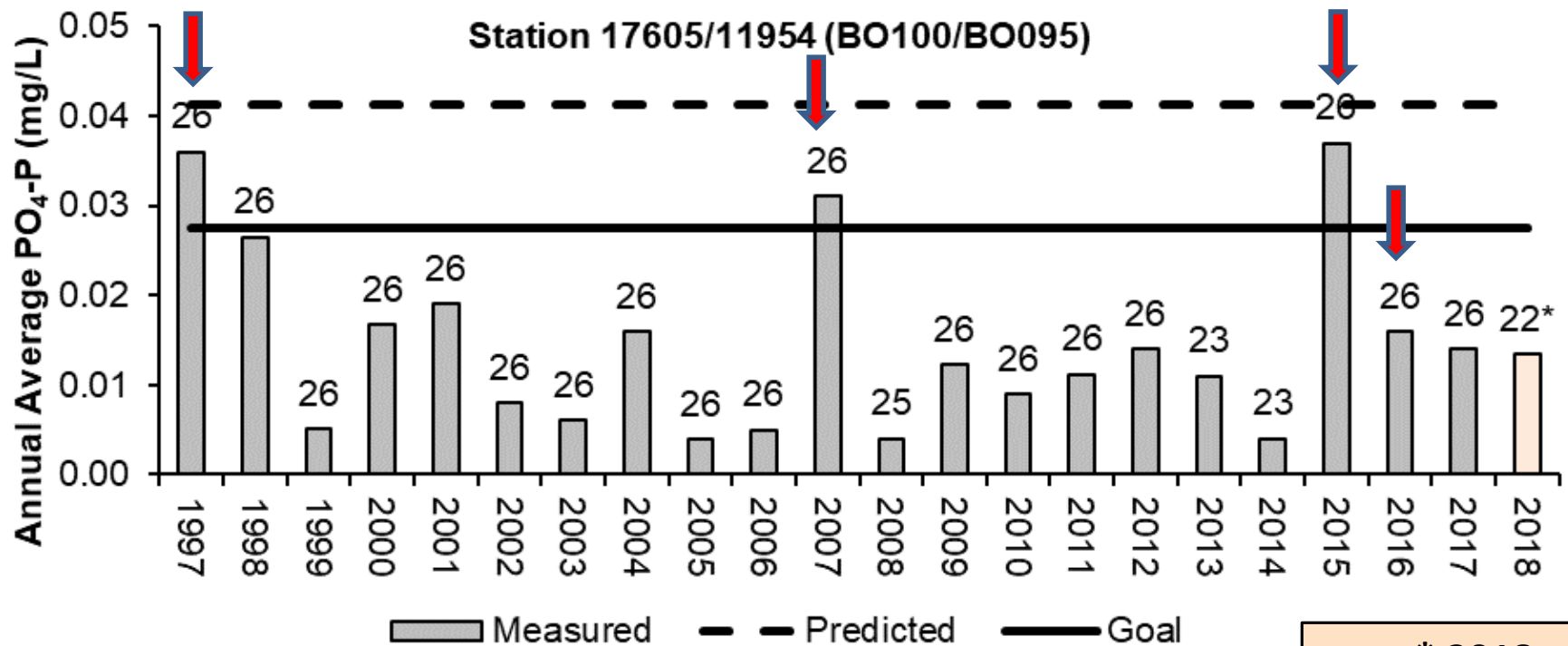
## Not entirely but getting close



## Normalized Runoff Volume







**\* 2018  
Provisional Data**

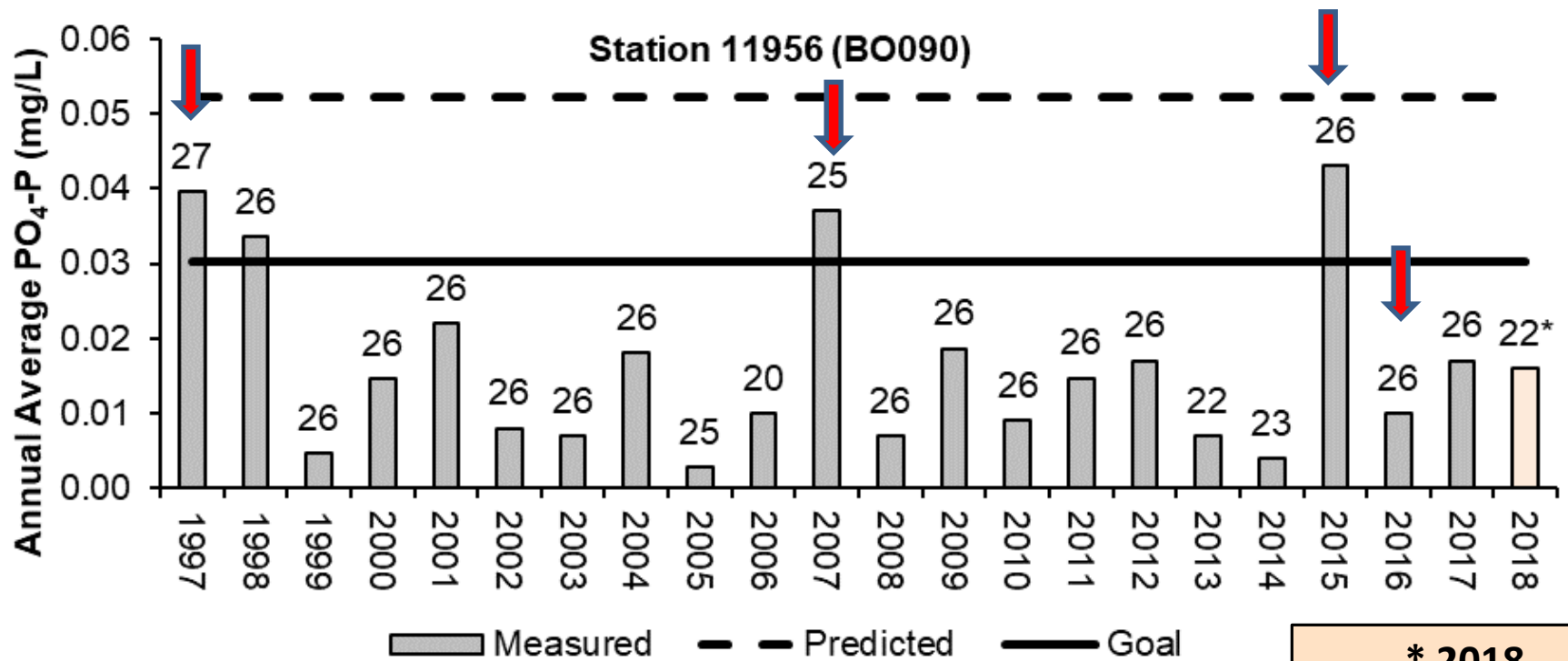
**North Bosque  
May 29, 2015**



**Station  
17605/11954  
located near  
Valley Mills**





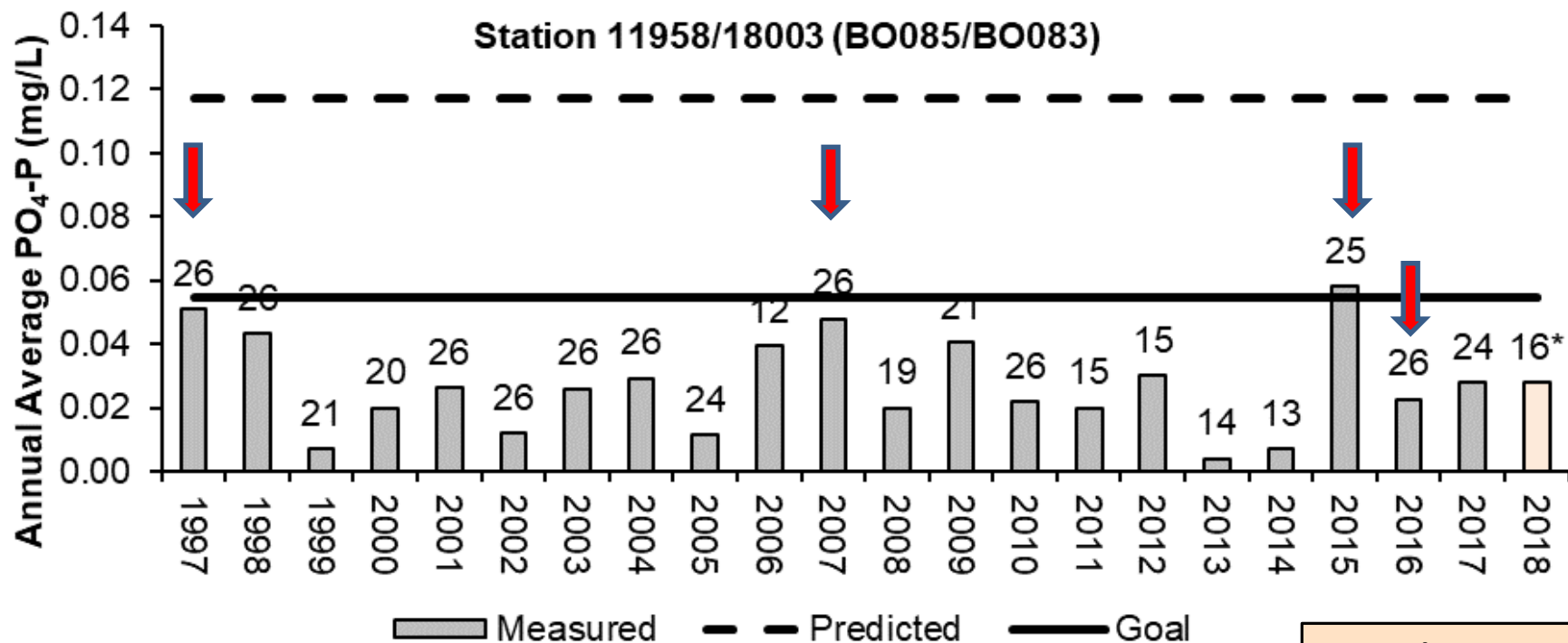


**\* 2018  
Provisional Data**

**Station 11956  
located near  
Clifton**







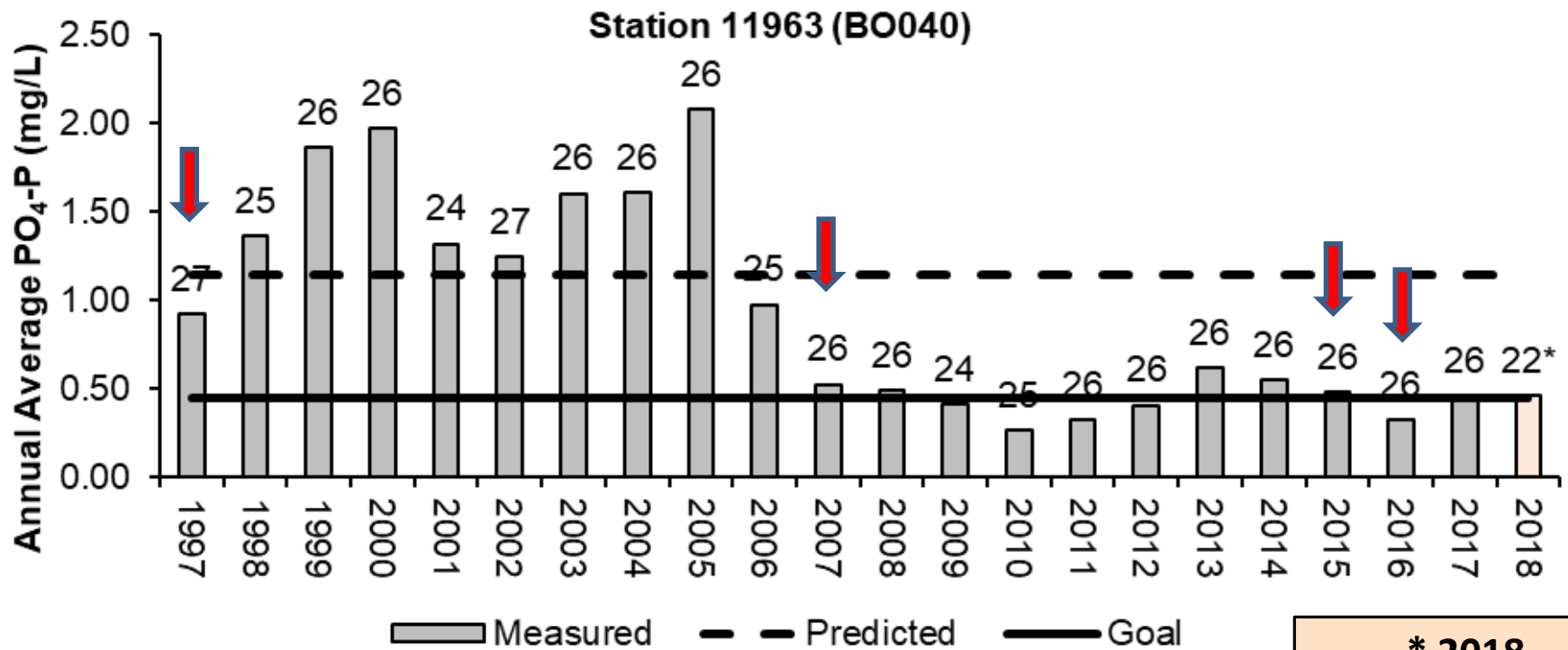
**\* 2018  
Provisional Data**

**Station  
11958/18003  
located near  
Iredell**





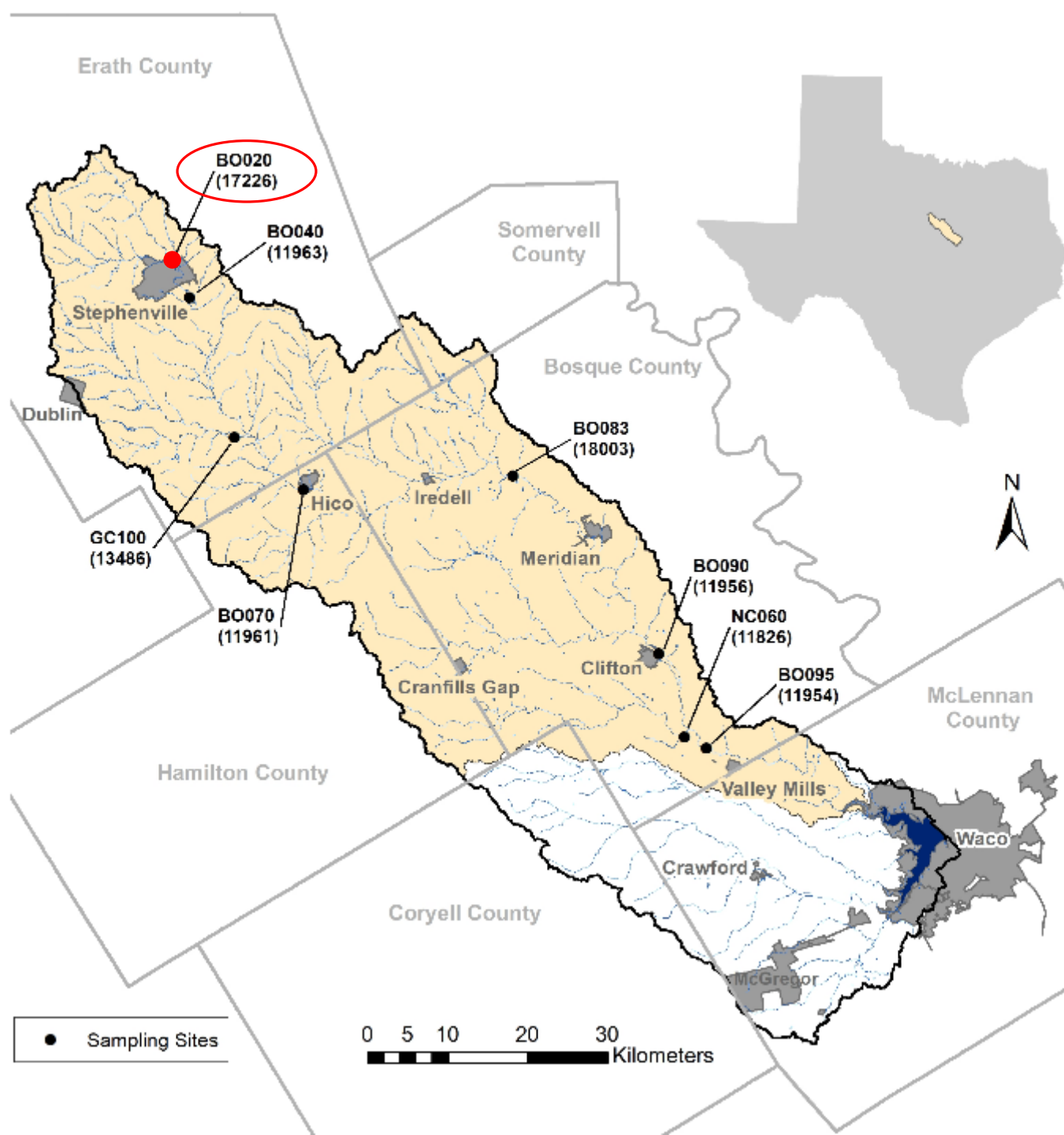


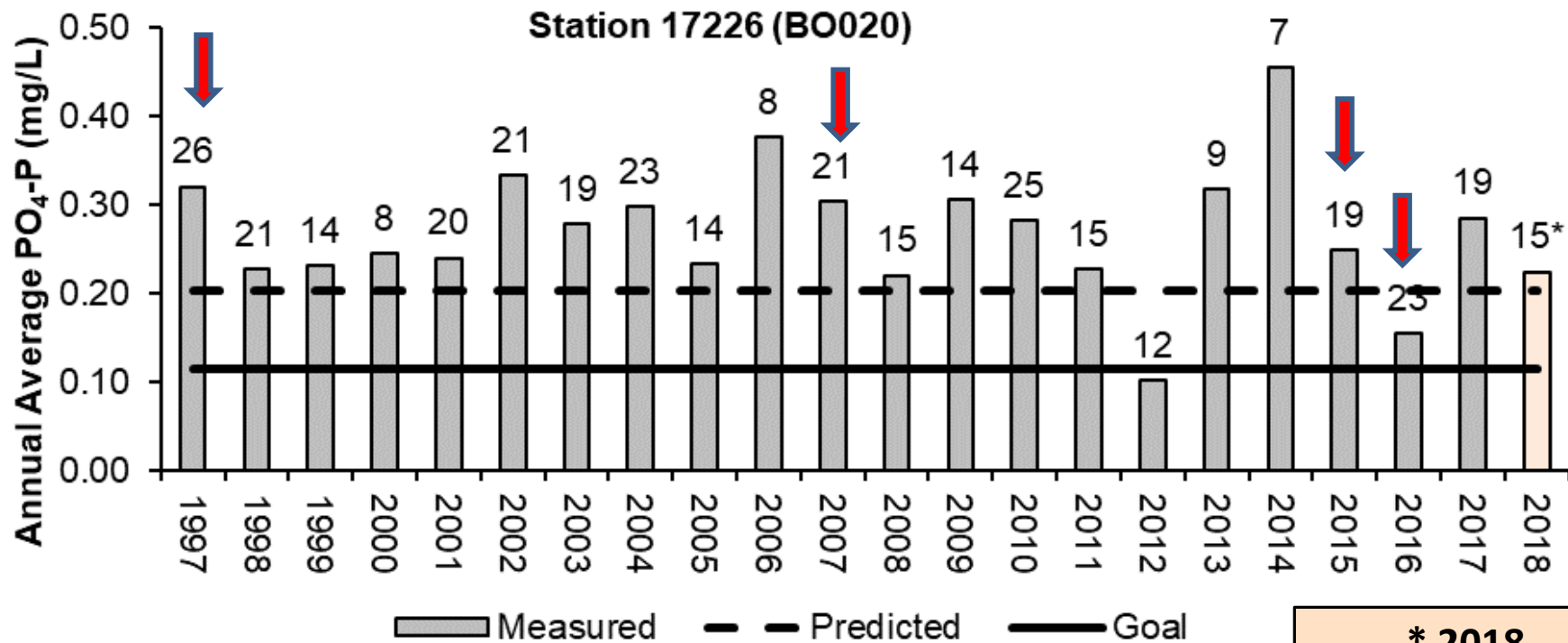


**\* 2018  
Provisional Data**

**Station 11963  
located  
below  
Stephenville**







**\* 2018  
Provisional Data**

**Station 17226  
located  
above  
Stephenville**





# Is Water Quality Improving?

**Yes!**

Changes in  
treatment by  
WWTFs & land  
management are  
having an impact





# Why is it taking so long?

## Changes in land management impacted by variations in

- Timing and location of practices
- Residual impacts (soil & sediments)
- Long-term weather patterns





# Acknowledgements

## Funding for Monitoring -

- **TCEQ** - Texas Commission on  
Environmental Quality
- **TSSWCB** - Texas State Soil & Water  
Conservation Board
- **USDA-NRCS** - Natural Resources  
Conservation Service
- **EPA** - Environmental Protection Agency
- **BRA** - Brazos River Authority
- **TIAER** – Texas Institute for Applied  
Environmental Research