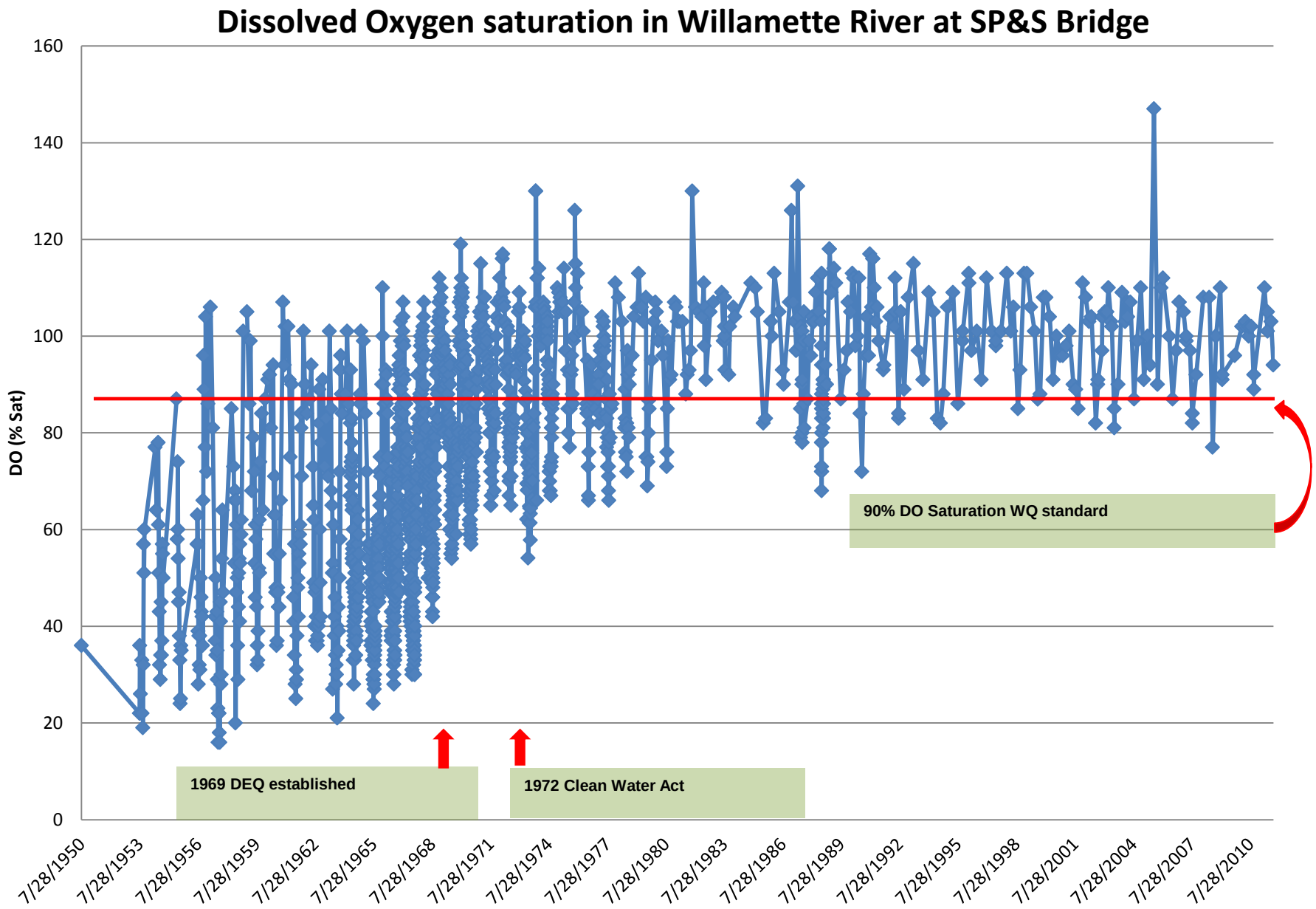
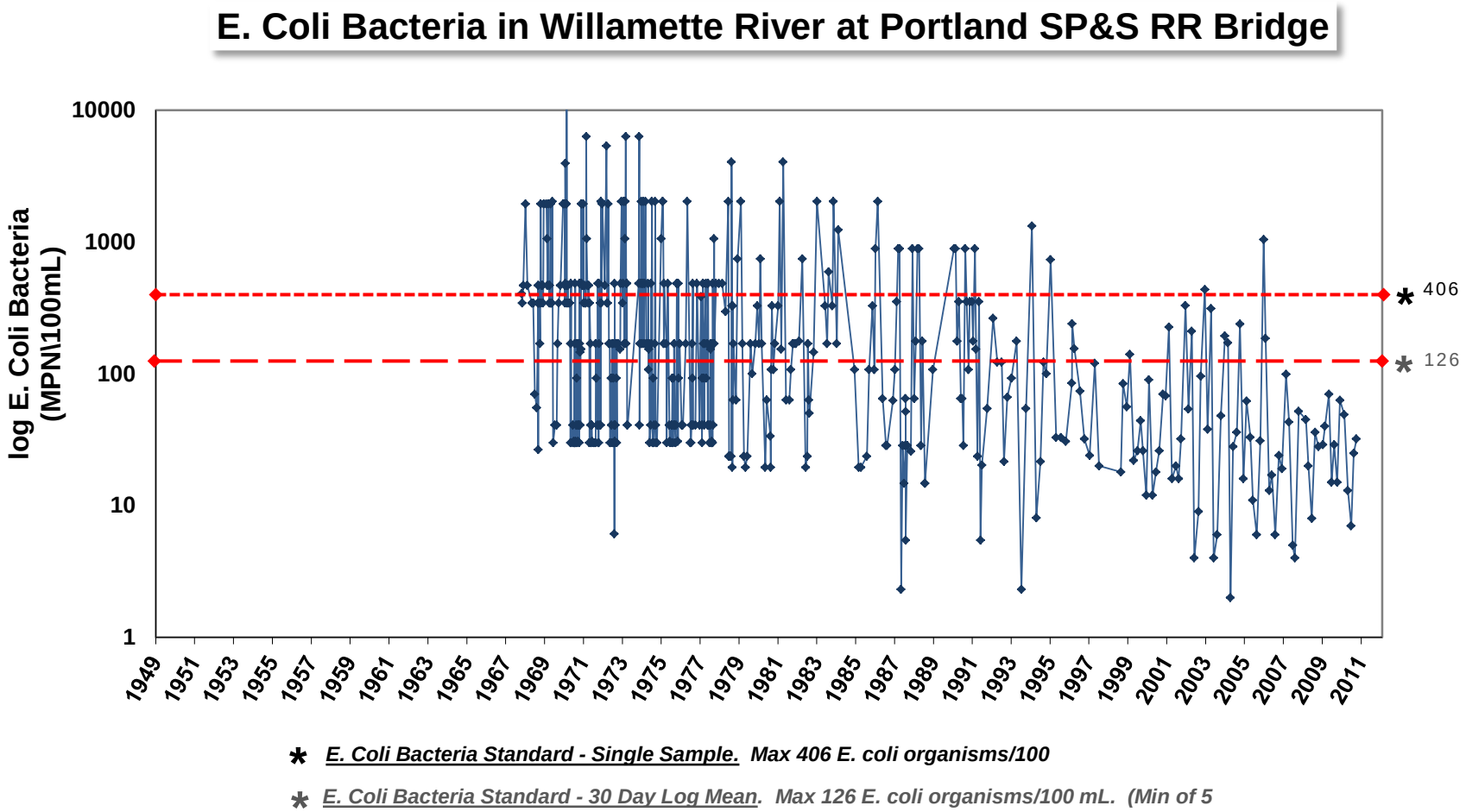
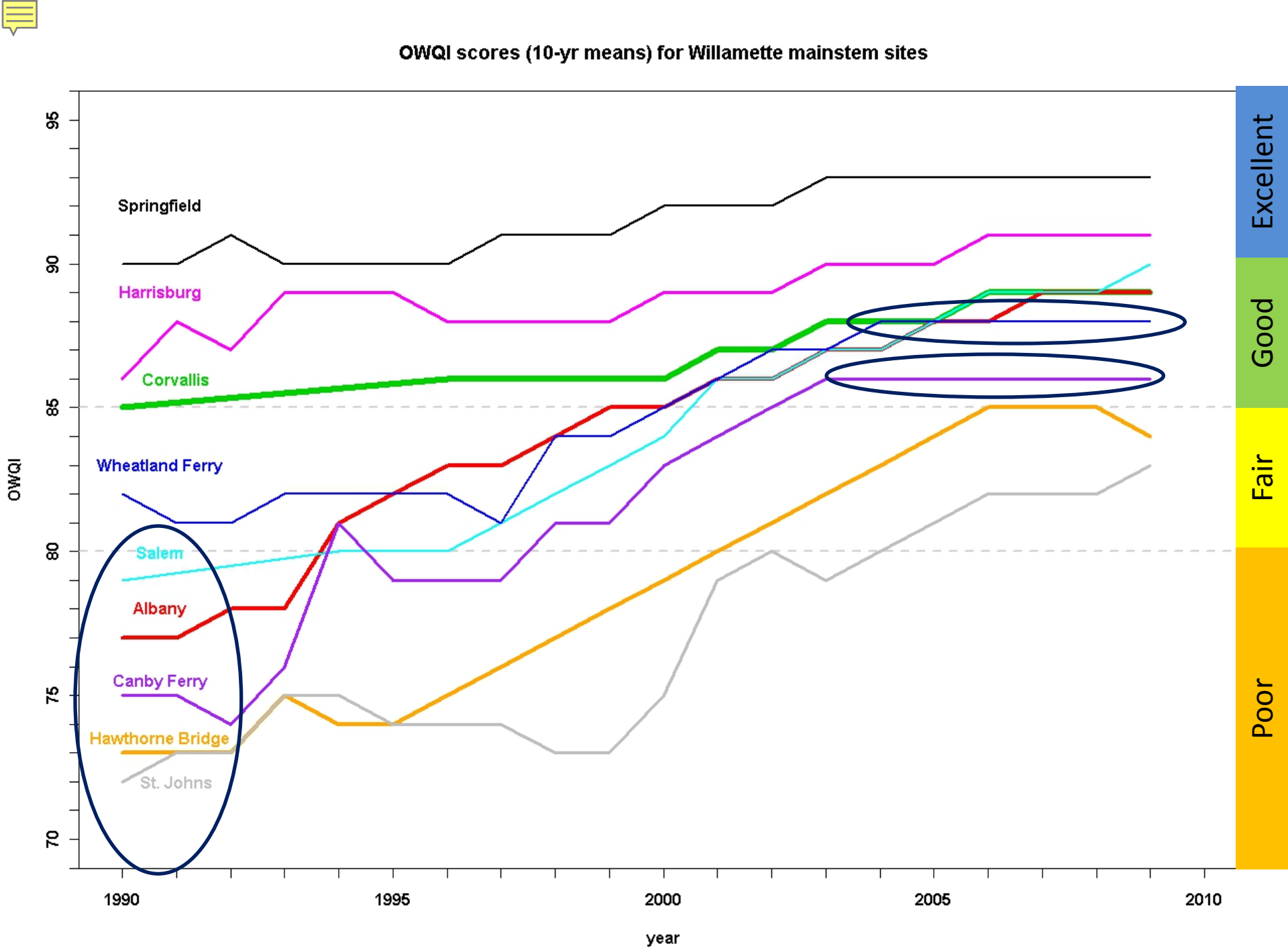
Oregon’s Improving Water Quality

Oregon's Environmental Heritage – Leading the Way

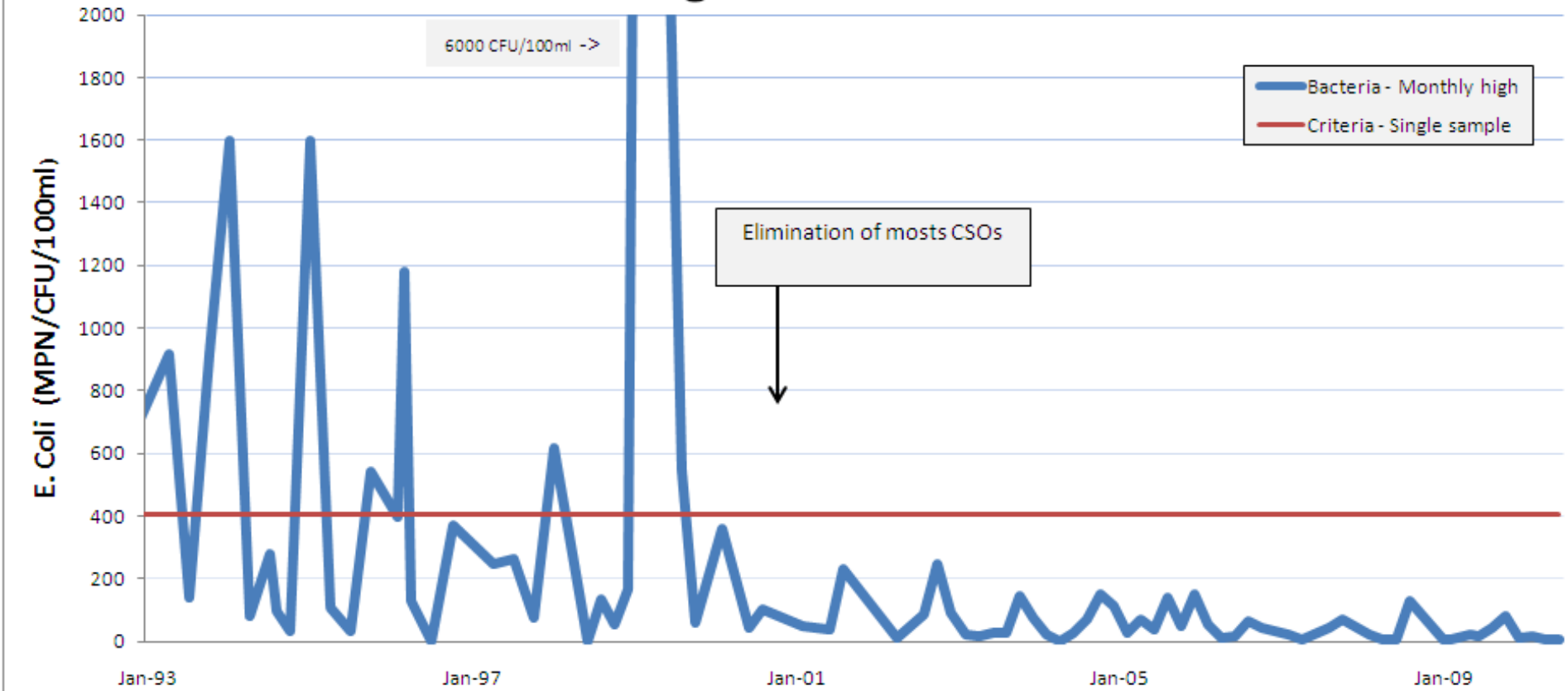

Dissolved Oxygen saturation in Willamette River at SP&S Bridge
DO (% Sat)
160
140
120
100
80
60
40
20
0
7/28/1950
7/28/1953
7/28/1956
7/28/1959
7/28/1962
7/28/1965
7/28/1968
7/28/1971
7/28/1974
7/28/1977
7/28/1980
7/28/1983
7/28/1986
7/28/1989
7/28/1992
7/28/1995
7/28/1998
7/28/2001
7/28/2004
7/28/2007
7/28/2010
90% DO Saturation WQ standard
1969 DEQ established
1972 Clean Water Act



This is editable and now on a log scale


OWQI scores (10-yr means) for Willamette mainstem sites
Springfield
Harrisburg
Corvallis
Wheatland Ferry
Salem
Albany
Canby Ferry
Hawthorne Bridge
St. Johns
OWQI
95
90
85
80
75
70
1990
1995
2000
2005
2010
year
Excellent
Good
Fair
Poor

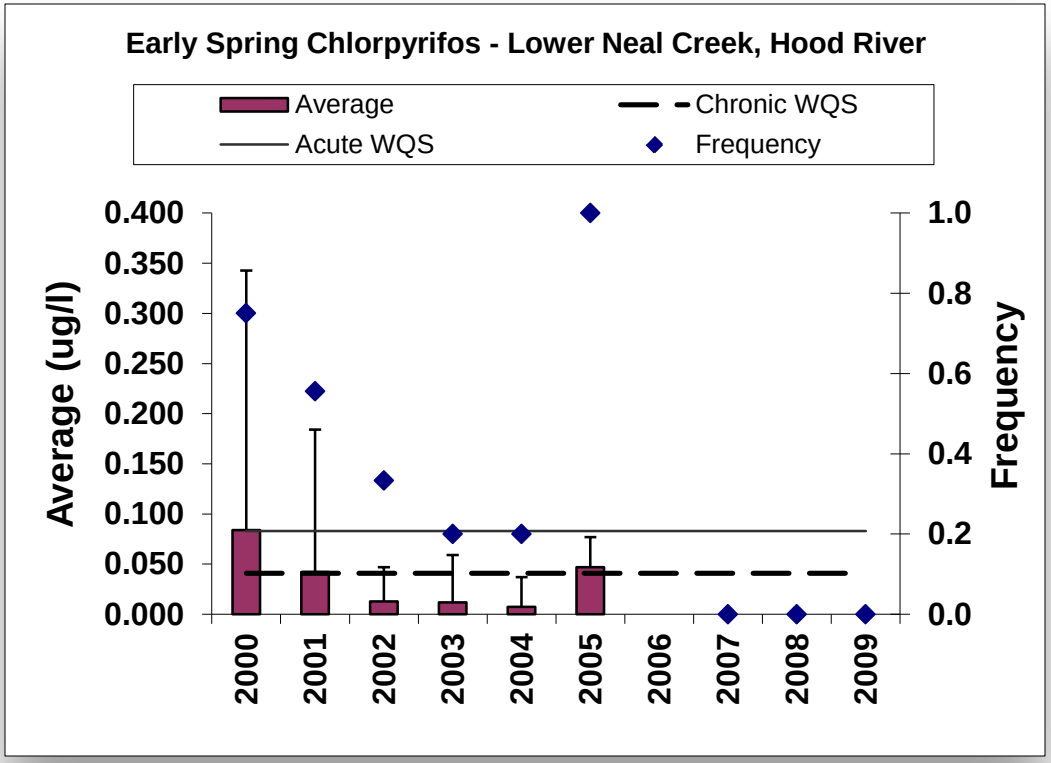
Columbia Slough Bacteria - 1993 -2010



Pesticide Stewardship Partnership Findings

Hood River Basin PSP was implemented in 2001

- **PSP Collaboration**
  - **Sample Collection**:
    - Watershed Councils
    - Soil and Water Conservation Districts
    - Natural Resource Conservation Service
    - Tribal Governments
    - (DEQ)
  - **Sample Analysis**: DEQ Lab
  - **Ag Practices Changes & Education**:
    - OSU Extension
    - Growers Groups
    - Ag Chem Distributors
  - **Program support and data analysis**: State natural resource agencies (DEQ, ODA, ODF)



Past and Future

Past Focus/Successes:

- Point Sources
- Conventional Pollutants (Dissolved Oxygen, pH, Fecal Bacteria)
- Rivers

Currrent Issues/Challenges:

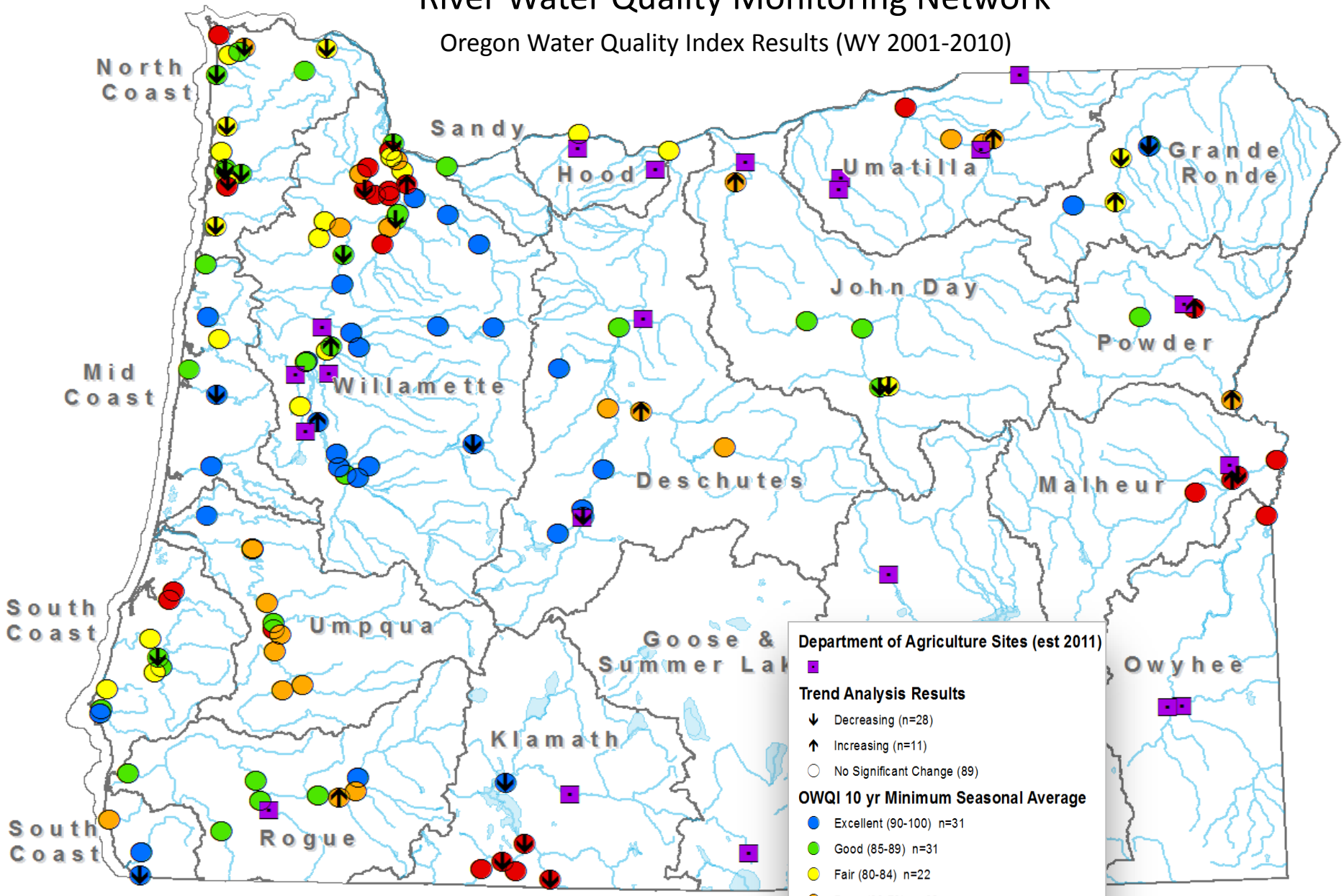
- Non-Point Sources
- Toxics (legacy and emerging)
- Groundwater, Lakes, Coastal Waters, Wetlands
- Growth/ Land Use Changes

The importance of data

- Future efforts to improve water quality need to be based on an accurate understanding of water quality conditions and impairments

River Water Quality Monitoring Network

Oregon Water Quality Index Results (WY 2001-2010)



1990 – 27% Good

2010 – 47% Good