



2025

Potential Pathogens and Total Phosphorus **ANNUAL REPORT**

Water Quality Monitoring (WQM) Program

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2025 POTENTIAL PATHOGENS AND TOTAL PHOSPHORUS ANNUAL REPORT

This report shows lab data parameters on 11 sites (8 of specific concern and 4 for WI Department of Natural Resources' assessment) in Crawford County, as well as some relevant comments (*i.e. manure spreading, precipitation, surface water levels, etc.*).

The full range of lab parameters can be found on the [Potential Pathogens and Total Phosphorus Report 2009 to 2025](#), which is updated every January, and is available at crawfordstewardship.org or upon request.

Monthly baseline monitoring data is reported in the Surface Water Integrated System (dnrx.wisconsin.gov/swims/login.jsp) and can be seen on the Water Action Volunteers Program Stream Monitoring Data Dashboard (connect.doit.wisc.edu/wav-dashboard).

Lab testing is done by Leuther Lab, AgSource Labs, Helix Biolab, and the Wisconsin State Lab of Hygiene. Lab data is submitted to and validated by the Laboratory Coordinator of the WDNR at the end of each monitoring season.

Data parameters included in this report:

Escherichia coli (E. coli):

- Pollution indicator of fecal pathogens (*i.e. Salmonella and Cryptosporidium*).
- Lives in warm blooded animal feces.
- Certain strains cause serious or even lethal digestive problems in humans.
- Human and hog feces carry over one million *E. coli* per gram.
- The safety standard for rivers is below 126 colony forming units (cfu)/100mL. 750 cfu/100ml requires a swimming advisory to be posted, and 1,000 cfu/100mL mandates closing of public beaches.
- *The highest E. coli result recorded by CSP was in 2019, at 170,000 cfu/100ml, over 1,300 times the standard.*

Total Phosphorus (TP):

- Pollution indicator nutrient.
- Low levels of TP (up to 0.075 mg/L) are naturally found in surface waters, but high amounts cause “eutrophication”:
*Excess algae and plant growth ➡ Death and decomposition ➡ Oxygen levels drop dramatically
➡ Die-off of fish and other aquatic organisms.*
- The most widespread water pollutant in Wisconsin due to soil erosion, manure lagoons and septic systems, detergents and runoff from farmland or lawns.
- *The highest TP result recorded by CSP was in 2019, at 4.22 mg/L, 56 times the standard.*



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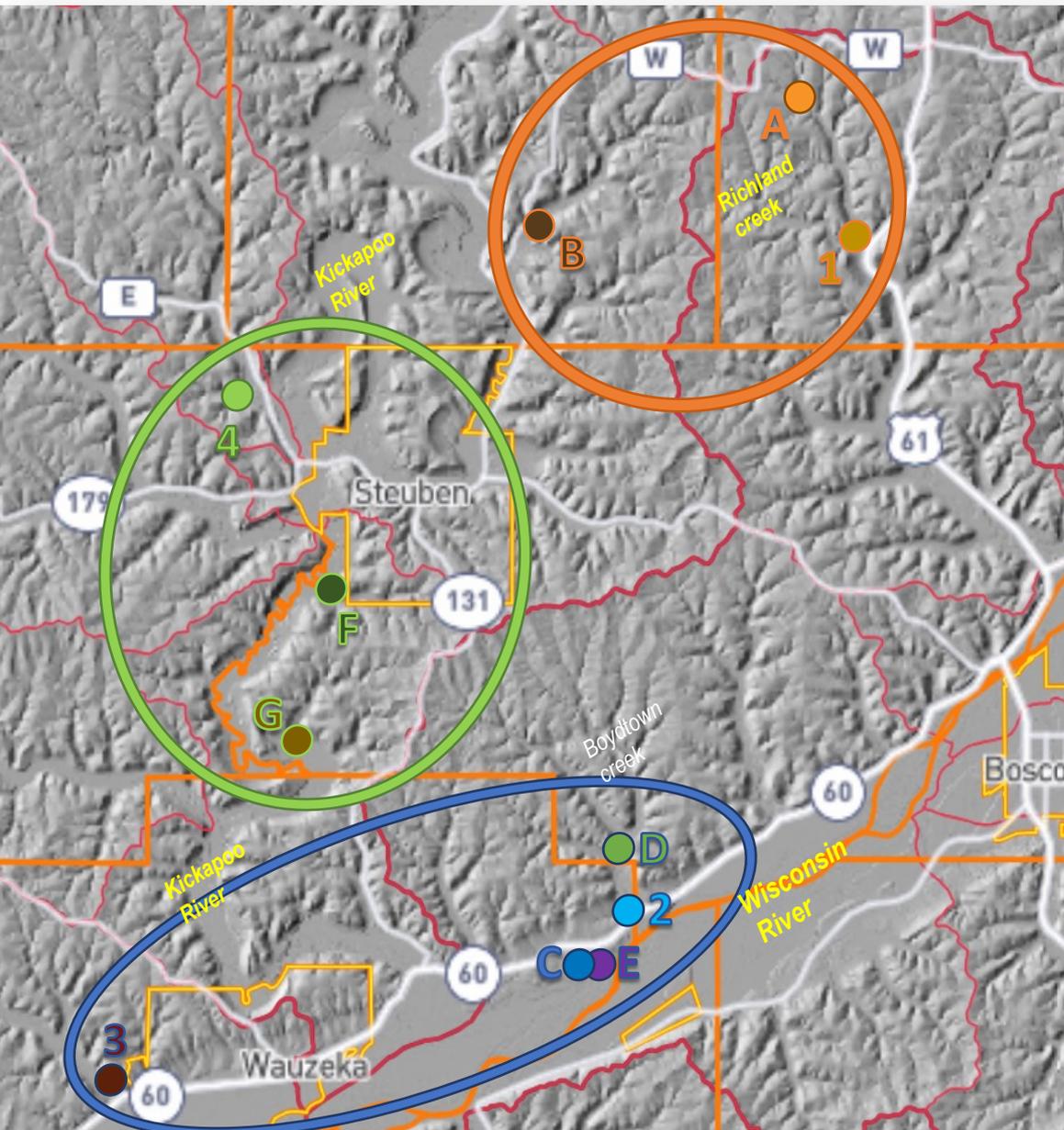
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ALL SITES LOCATION MAP

Crawford County



ZONE 1 (Scott & Haney Townships):

- A. Station #10044917 (Richland Creek at Byers Road), *impaired**
- B. Station #10056913 (Unnamed Trib 1183600 at Drake Rd.), was #10044132
- 1. Station #10044131 (Richland Creek – Childs Hollow Rd Bridge)

ZONE 2 (Wauzeka Township):

- C. Station #10032119 (WI River Tributary, 0.5 mi SE of STH 60 and Knob Ln Intersection), *impaired**
- D. Station #10032123 (Boydtown Creek 400 ft west of Hilldale Rd)
- E. Station #10052569 (Unnamed 5035112 at Spring), *impaired**
- 2. Station #10013610 (Boydtown Creek Station 1- From STH 60 Upstream)
- 3. Station #10029558 (Little Kickapoo Creek, Hwy 60 St 1)

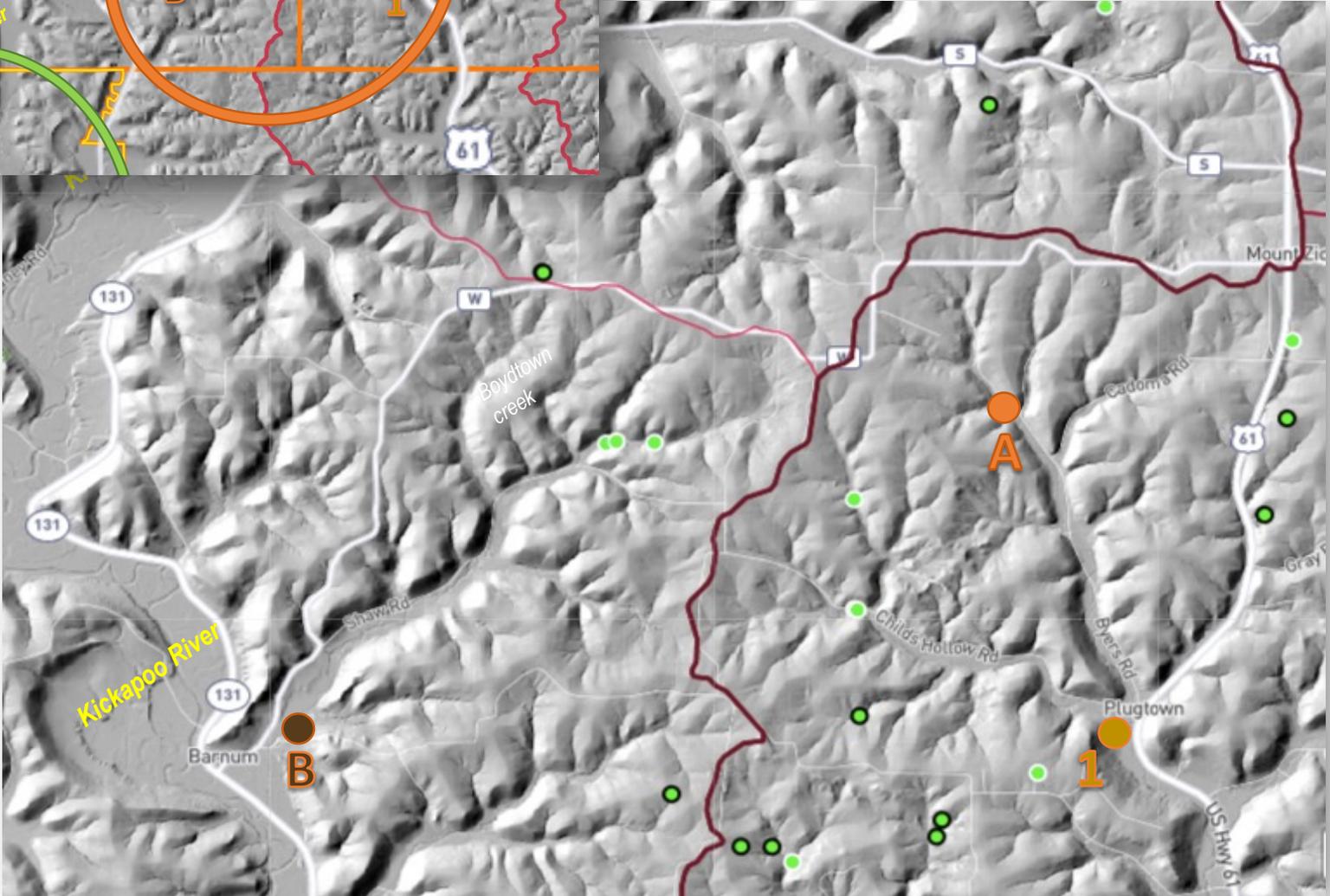
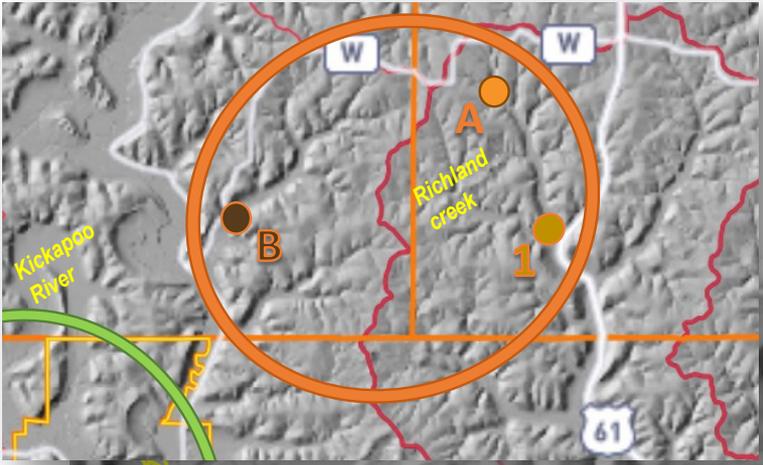
ZONE 3 (Marietta Township):

- F. Station #10052670 (Unnamed 5034616 at Kickapoo Valley Road)
- G. Station #10052671 (Unnamed 5034666 at Kickapoo Valley Road)
- 4. Station #10009025 (Citron Creek #1 Bridge on Cty E)

——— Watershed boundary
——— Sub-watershed boundary

***Impaired (for high Total Phosphorus):** Waters that do not meet WQS (Water Quality Standards) are placed on Wisconsin's Impaired Waters List -also known as the 303(d) list-, under Section 303(d) of the CWA (Federal Clean Water Act).

ZONE 1: Site location map



- Watershed boundary
- Sub-watershed boundary
- Possible sinkhole*
- Probable sinkhole*

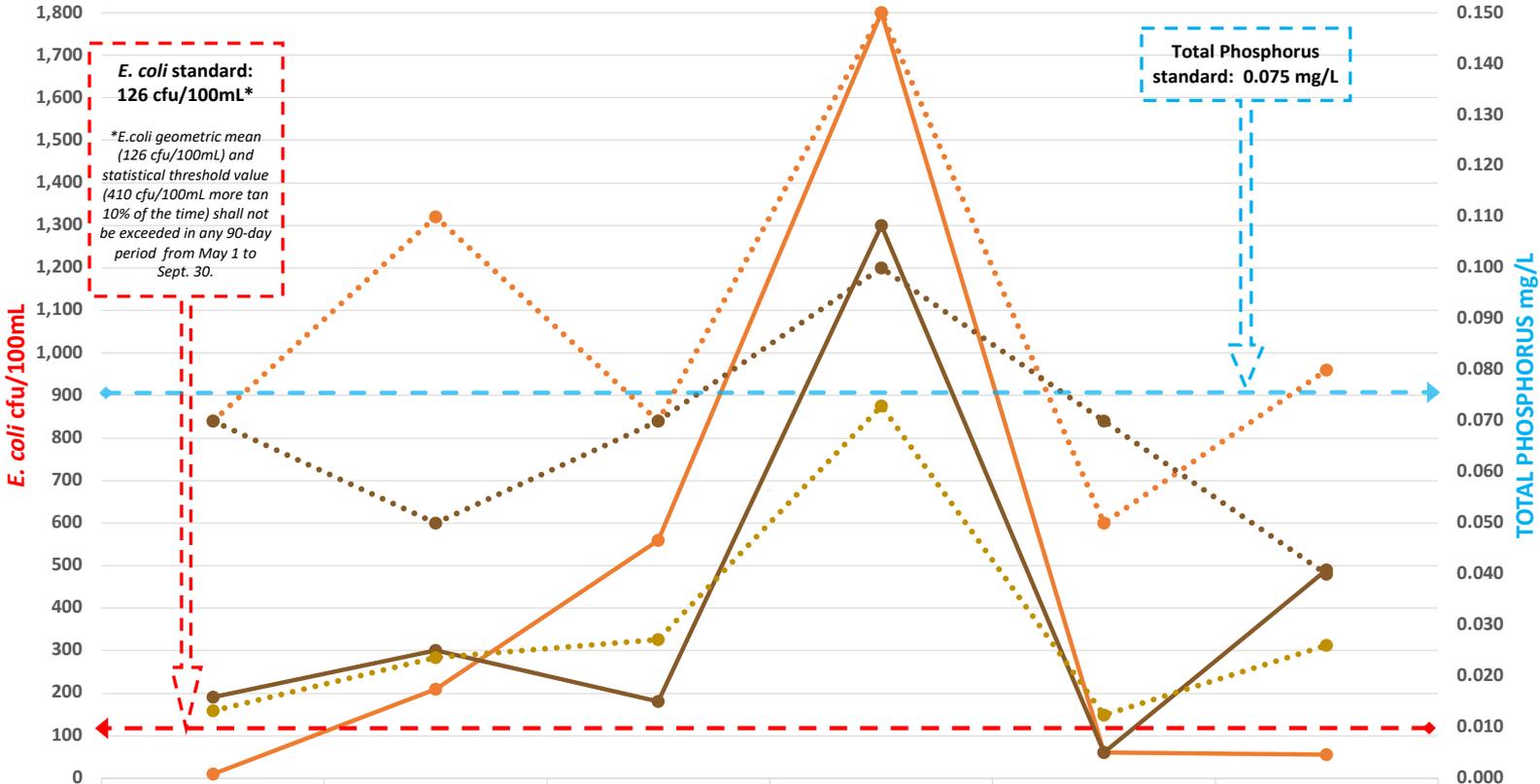
* As identified by CSP's Karst Landscapes and Groundwater Susceptibility Survey of Crawford Co.

ZONE 1: E. coli and Total Phosphorus results, 2025



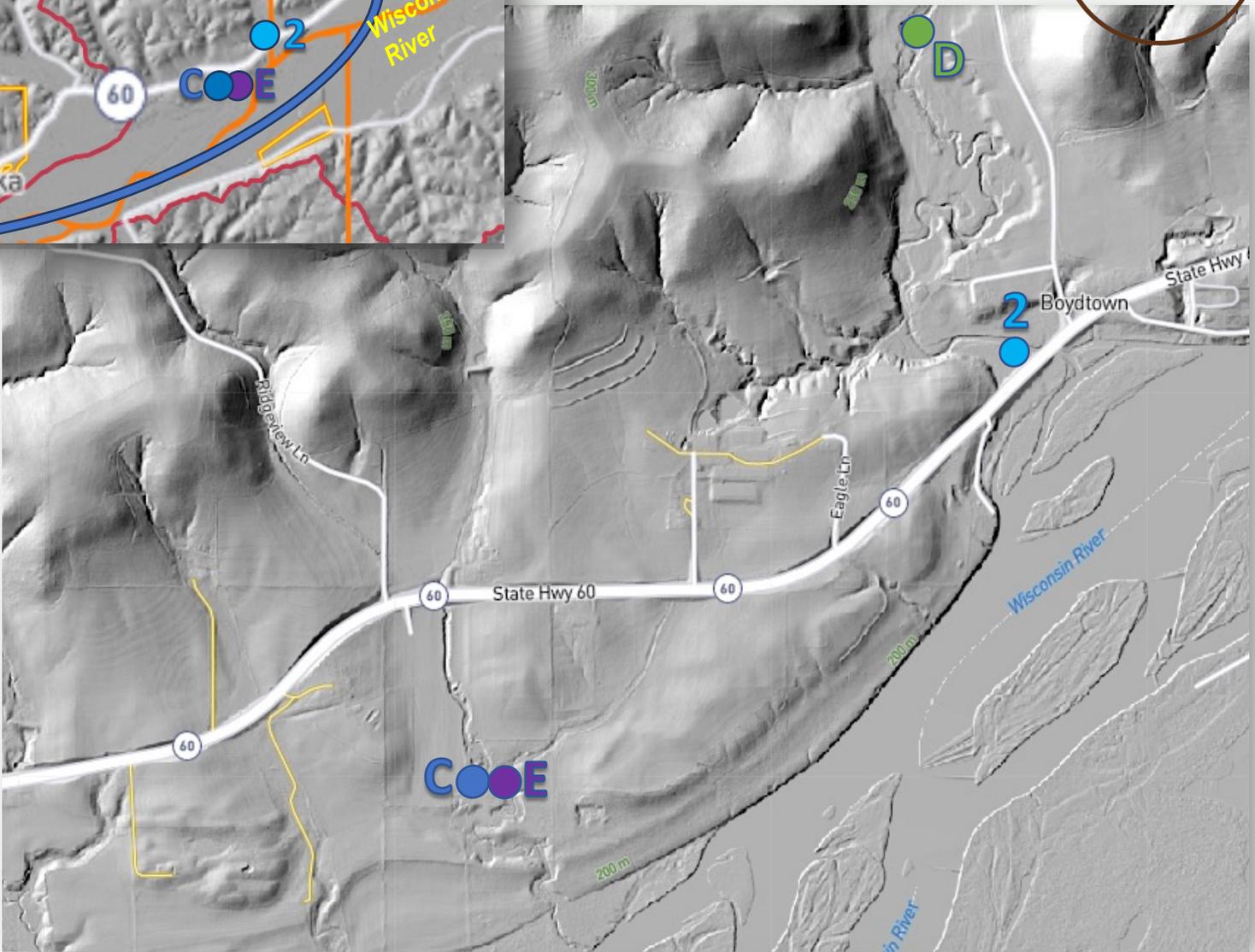
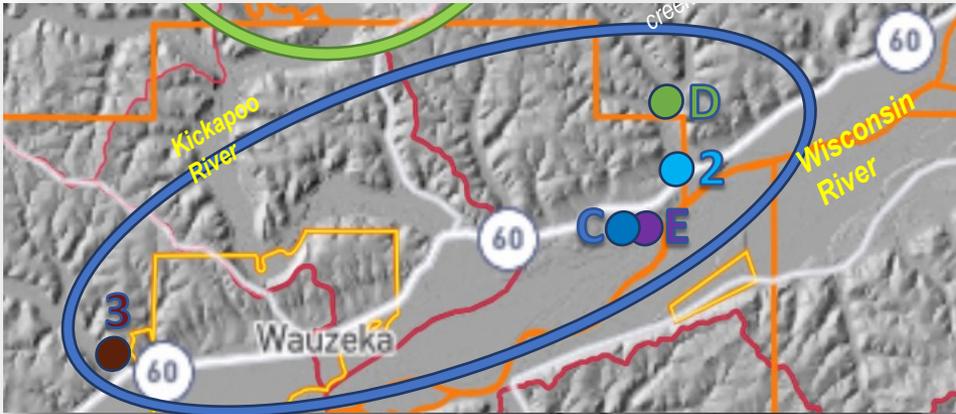
- Comments:
- Highest precipitation levels in the month of August since 2019
 - Constant and very high levels of E. coli, Total Phosphorus, Staphylococcus specie and/or background bacteria found on all stations

ZONE 1: E. coli AND TOTAL PHOSPHORUS RESULTS, 2025
STATION A: #10044917 (Richland Creek at Byers Road)
STATION B: #10056913 (Unnamed Trib (1183600) at Drake Rd)
STATION 1 - DNR: #10044131 (Richland Creek – Childs Hollow Rd Bridge)



	May-25	June-25	July-25	August-25	September-25	October-25
—●— E. coli, Station A: #10044917	10	210	560	1,800	60	55
—●— E. coli, Station B: #10056913	190	300	180	1,300	60	490
—●— TP, Station A: #10044917	0.070	0.110	0.070	0.150	0.050	0.080
—●— TP, Station B: #10056913	0.070	0.050	0.070	0.100	0.070	0.040
—●— TP, Station 1: #10044131	0.0132	0.0236	0.0272	0.0730	0.0124	0.0260

ZONE 2: Site location maps

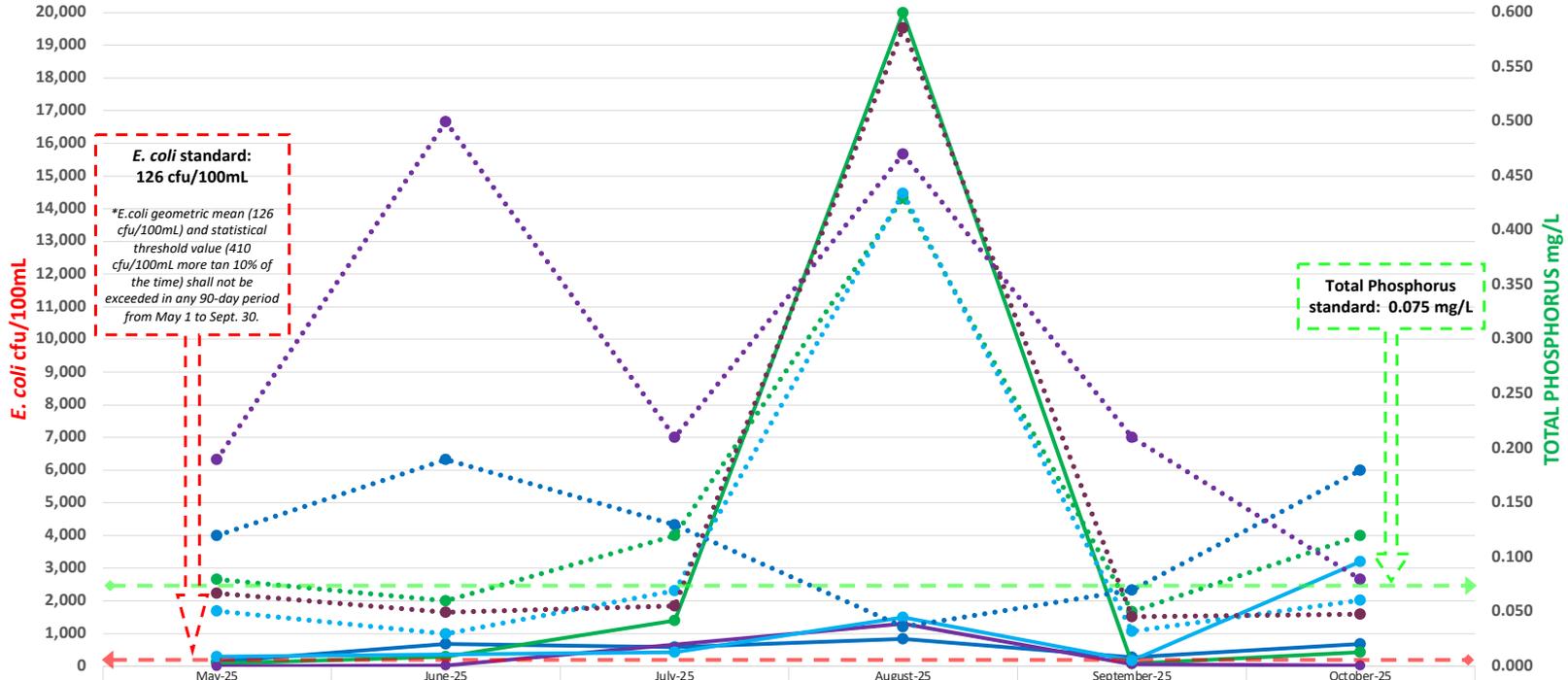


ZONE 2: E. coli and Total Phosphorus results, 2025



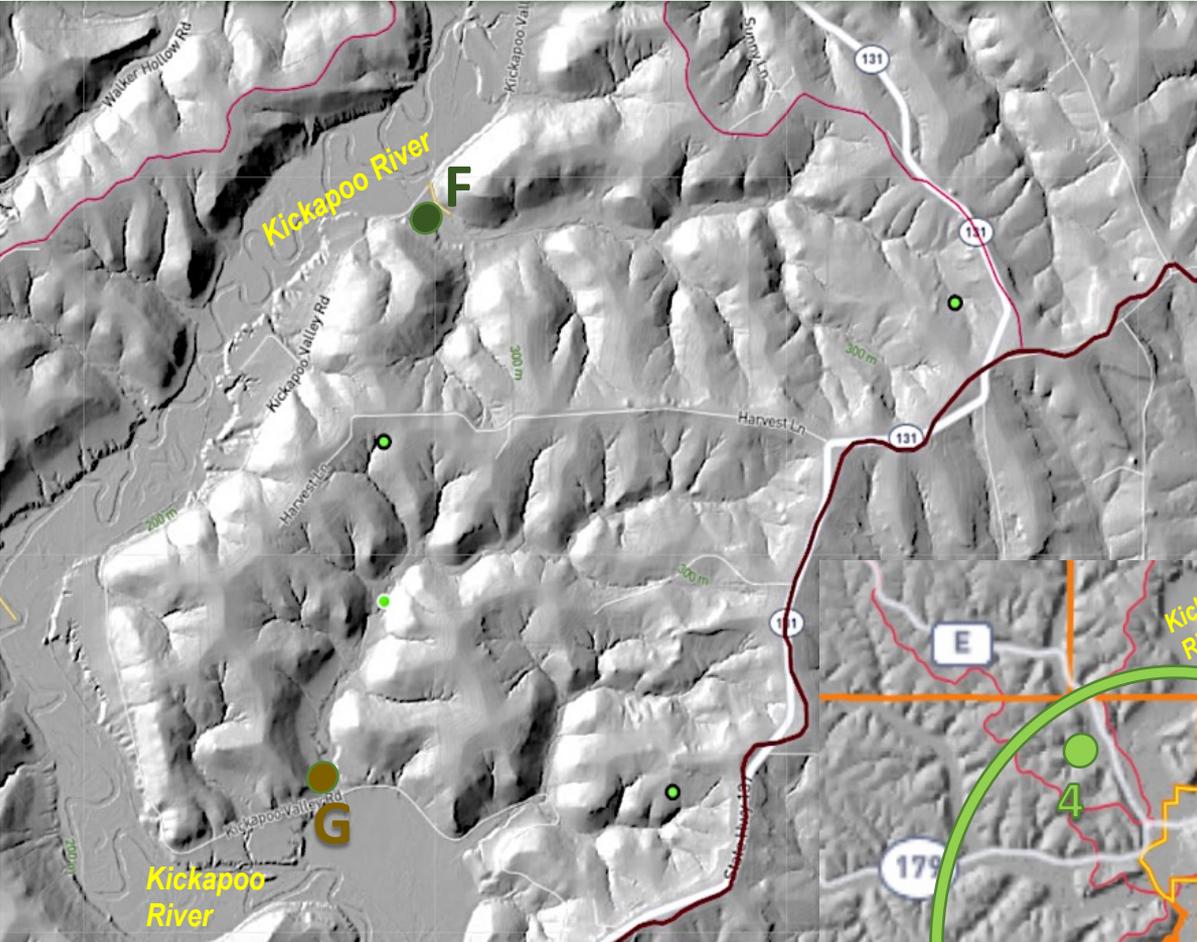
- Comments:
- Highest precipitation levels in the month of August since 2019
 - Constant and very high levels of E. coli, Total Phosphorus, Staphylococcus specie and/or background bacteria found on all stations
 - Alarming levels of Staphylococcus aureus (6,000/100 mL) found on STATION E (spring #10052569) in September

ZONE 2: E. coli AND TOTAL PHOSPHORUS RESULTS, 2025
STATION C: #10032119 (WI River Tributary, 0.5 mi SE of STH 60 and Knob Ln Intersection)
STATION D: #10032123 (Boydton Creek 400 ft west of Hilldale Rd)
STATION E: #10052569 (Unnamed (5035112) at Spring)
STATION 2 - DNR: #10013610 (Boydton Creek Station 1-From STH 60 Upstream)
STATION 3 - DNR: #10029558 (Little Kickapoo Creek at Hwy 60 St 1)



	May-25	June-25	July-25	August-25	September-25	October-25
● E. coli, Station C: #10032119	140	690	580	830	270	690
● E. coli, Station D: #10032123	80	300	1,400	20,000	80	420
● E. coli, Station E: #10052569	10	30		1,300	60	32
● E. coli, Station 2: #10013610	300		420	1,500	170	3,200
● TP, Station C: #10032119	0.120	0.190	0.130	0.036	0.070	0.180
● TP, Station D: #10032123	0.080	0.060	0.120	0.430	0.050	0.120
● TP, Station E: #10052569	0.190	0.500	0.210	0.470	0.210	0.080
● TP, Station 2: #10013610	0.0506	0.0295	0.0696	0.4340	0.0319	0.0605
● TP, Station 3: #10029558	0.0669	0.0497	0.0555	0.5860	0.0453	0.0477

ZONE 3: Site location maps



- Watershed boundary
- Sub-watershed boundary
- Possible sinkhole*
- Probable sinkhole*

* As identified by CSP's Karst Landscapes and Groundwater Susceptibility Survey of Crawford Co.



ZONE 3: E. coli and Total Phosphorus results, 2025

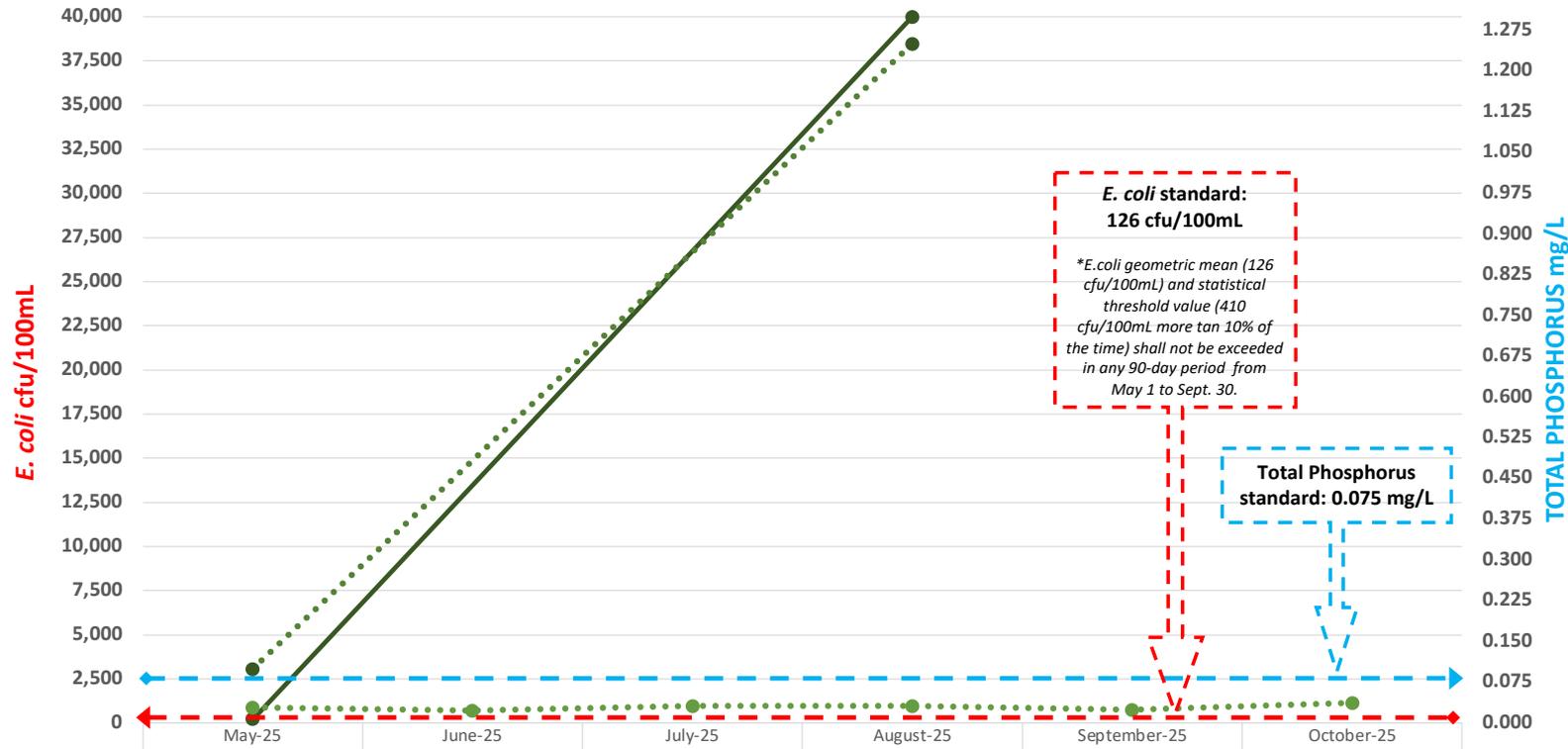


Comments:

- Highest precipitation levels in the month of August since 2019
- STATION F (#10052670) was only active in May and August.; STATION G (#10052671) was dry the whole season
- Alarming levels of E. coli (40,000 cfu/100mL) and/or Total Phosphorus (1.25 mg/L) found on STATION F (#10052670)

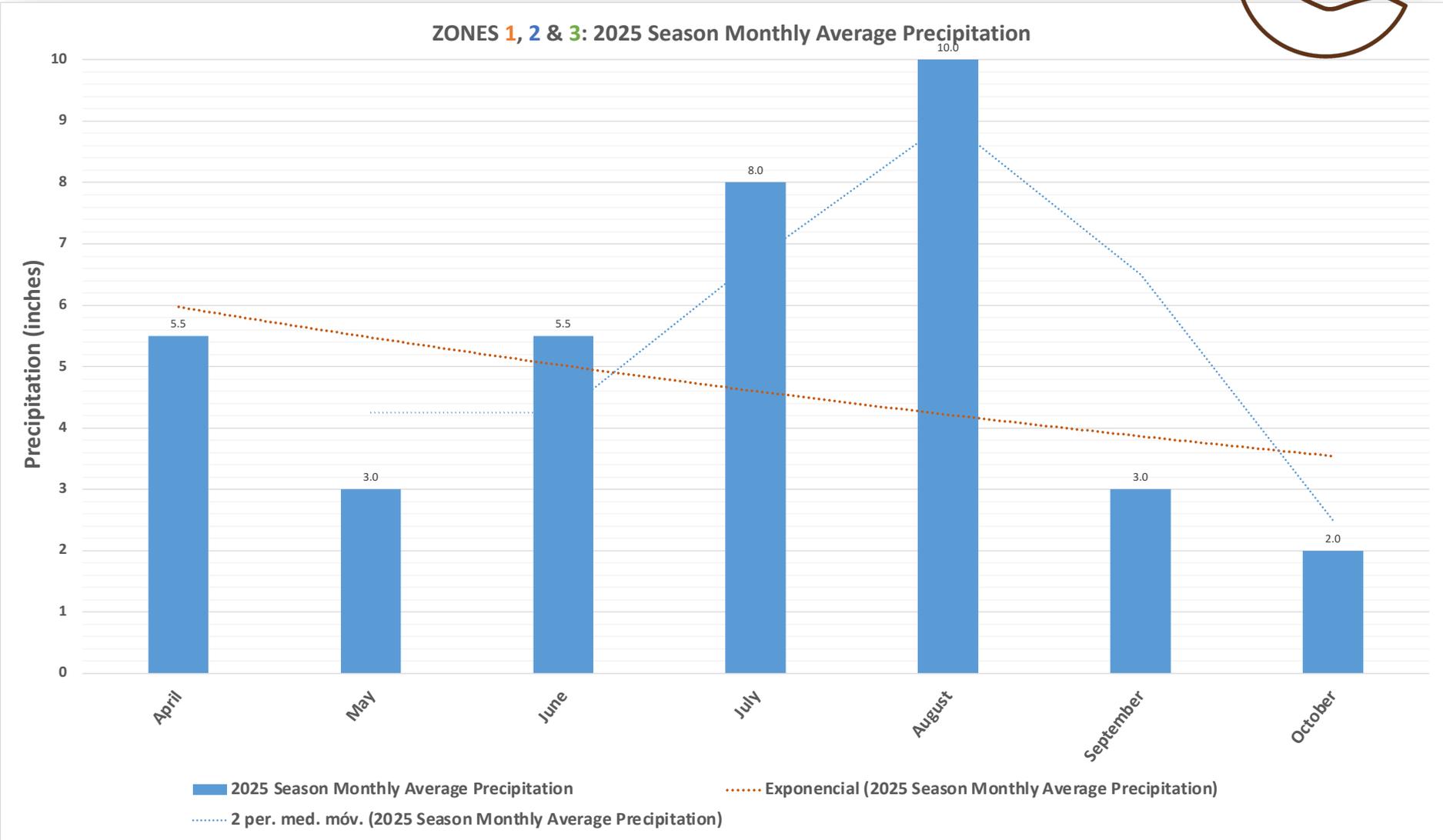
ZONE 3: E. coli AND TOTAL PHOSPHORUS RESULTS, 2025

STATION F: #10052670 (Unnamed (5034616) at Kickapoo Valley Road)
STATION G: #10052671 (Unnamed (5034666) at Kickapoo Valley Road)
STATION 4 - DNR: #10009025 (Citron Creek #1 Bridge on Cty E)



● E. coli, Station F: #10052670	190			40,000		
● E. coli, Station G: #10052671						
● TP, Station F: #10052670	0.100			1.250		
● TP, Station G: #10052671						
● TP, Station 4: #10009025	0.0279	0.0232	0.0313	0.0309	0.0237	0.0372

ZONES 1, 2 & 3: 2025 Season Monthly Average Precipitation



SOME REFERENCES



- [CSP Surface Water Monitoring Program:](https://www.crawfordstewardship.org/surfacewater/)
<https://www.crawfordstewardship.org/surfacewater/>
- [The Phosphorus Rule:](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Wastewater/TP_factsheet4162013.pdf)
https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/sites/default/files/topic/Wastewater/TP_factsheet4162013.pdf
- [Water Condition Lists:](https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/ConditionLists.html)
<https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/SurfaceWater/ConditionLists.html>
- [Water Condition Viewer:](https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=Water_Condition_Viewer)
https://dnrmaps.wi.gov/H5/?viewer=Water_Condition_Viewer
- [Impaired Water Search:](https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/water/impairedSearch.aspx)
<https://apps.dnr.wi.gov/water/impairedSearch.aspx>
- [CSP Regional Karst Geology Viewer:](https://karstology.crawfordstewardship.org/#/0/43.2217/center/-90.9201,43.2222)
<https://karstology.crawfordstewardship.org/#/0/43.2217/center/-90.9201,43.2222>

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