

Chesapeake Bay Nontidal Network NUTRIENT AND SEDIMENT LOADS AND TRENDS

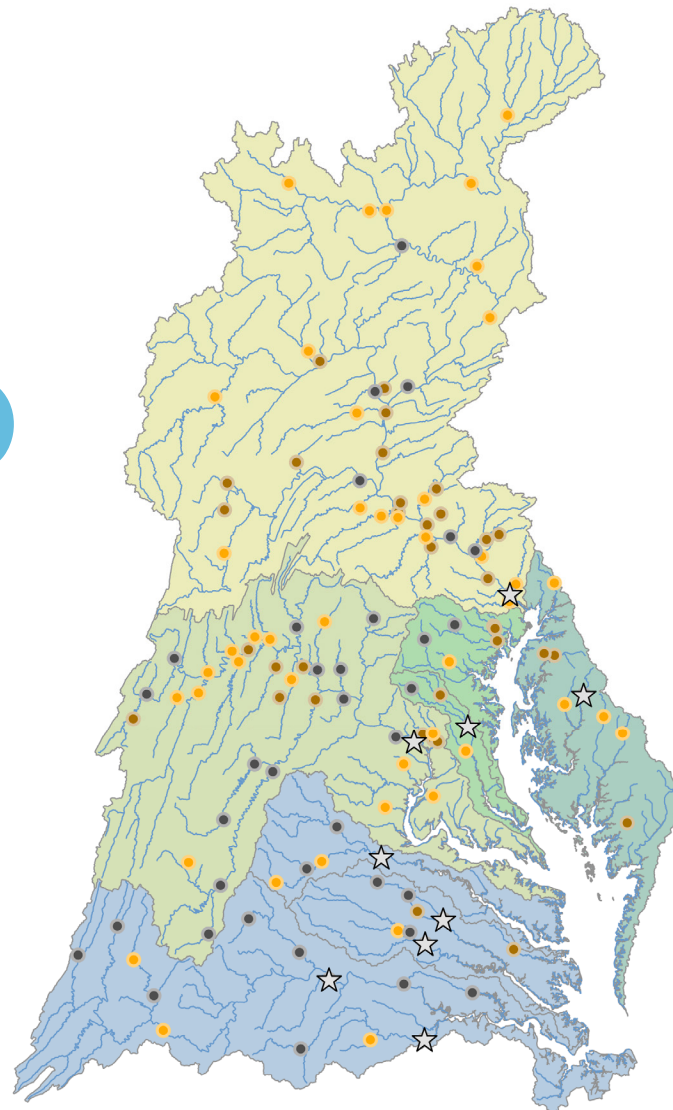
Short-term: 2011 - 2020

ITAT + Factors Retreat: October 25, 2023

Chris Mason | camason@usgs.gov

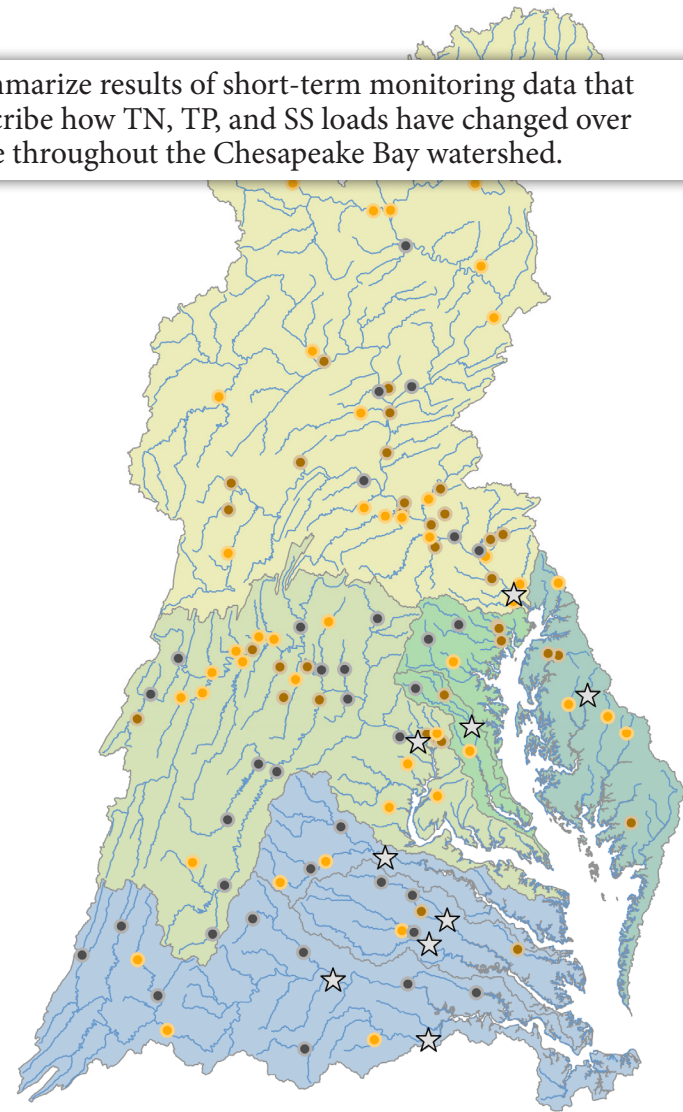
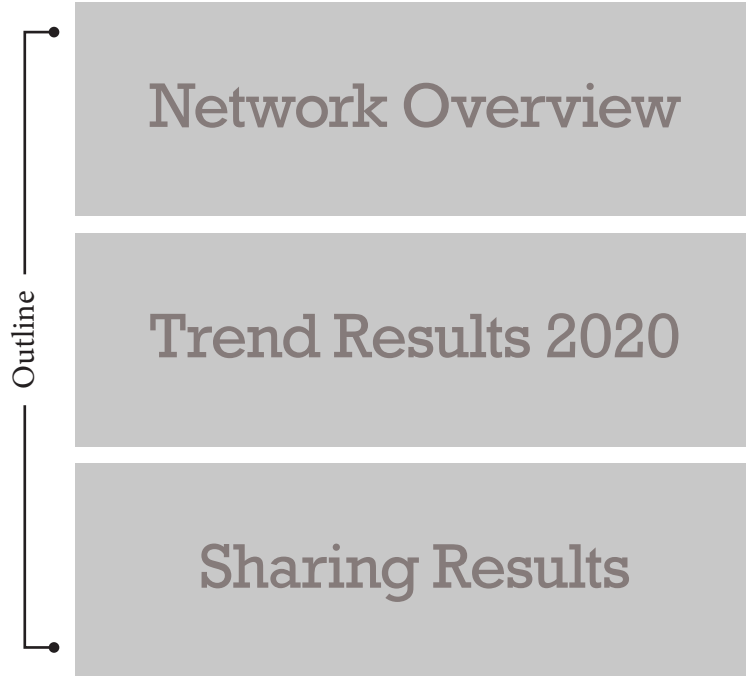
United States Geological Survey

Virginia-West Virginia Water Science Center



OBJECTIVE

Summarize results of short-term monitoring data that describe how TN, TP, and SS loads have changed over time throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed.



The Chesapeake Bay Nontidal Network (NTN) and River Input Monitoring (RIM) Network

Computing loads and trends of total nitrogen (TN), total phosphorus (TP), and suspended sediment (SS) in nontidal rivers of the Chesapeake Bay watershed (CBW).

EXPLANATION

NTN status through water year 2020

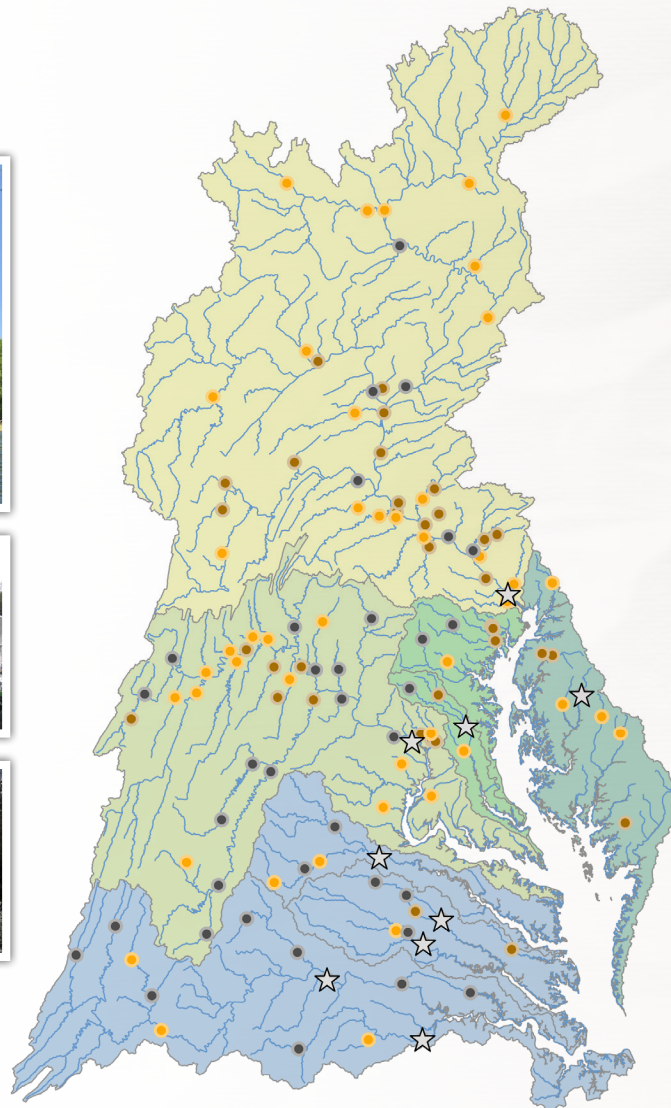
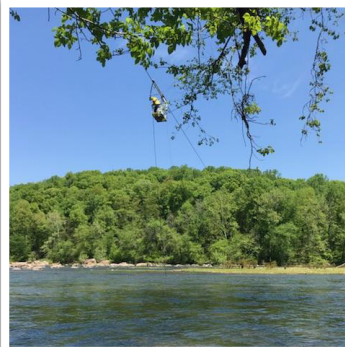
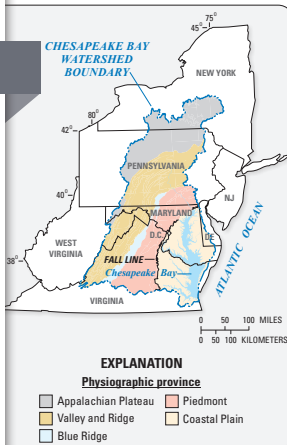
- ★ RIM site
- Long-term site
- Short-term site
- Load-only site

— Streams

Major Basins

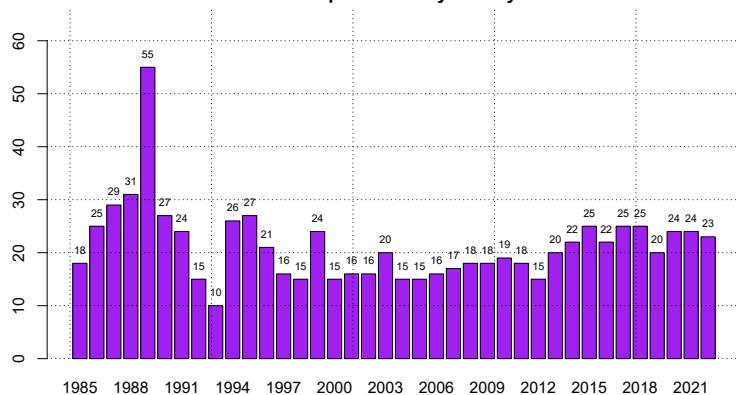
- Eastern Shore
- Potomac
- Susquehanna
- Virginia
- Western Shore

Load is the amount of nutrients or sediment in a river during a period of time (≥ 5 years of data needed). Trend is the change in load over multiple years (≥ 10 years of data needed).

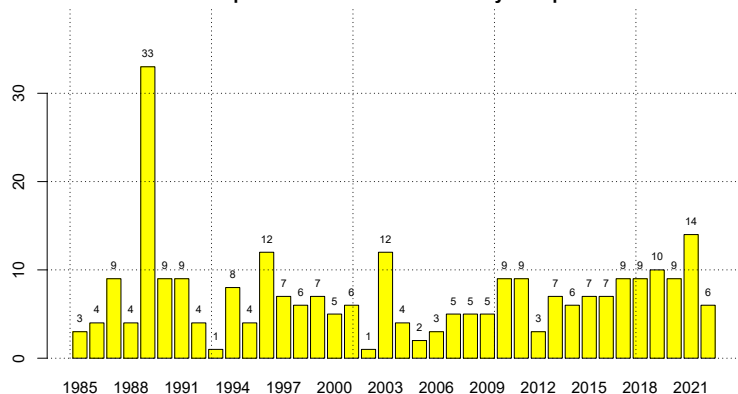


Example of Discrete Sampling Summaries

Total sample counts by water year

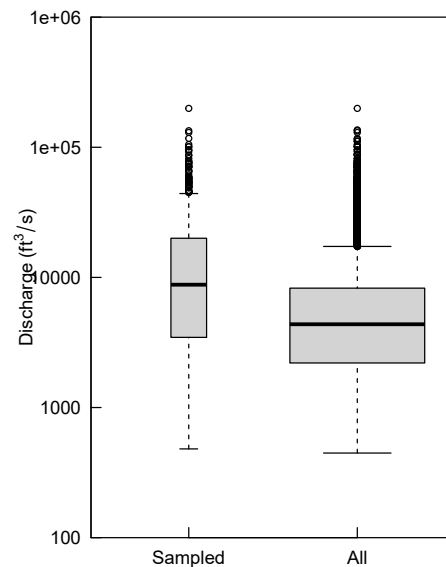
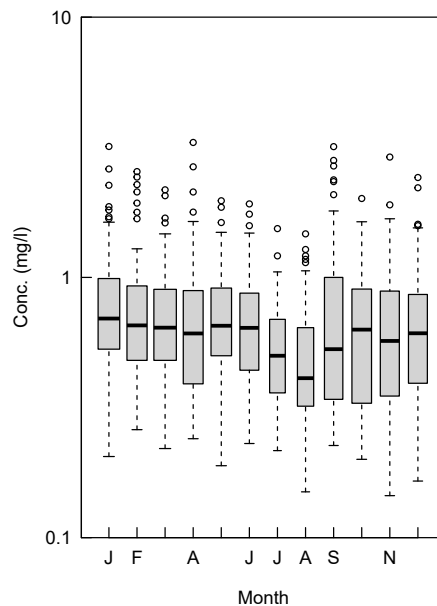


Total samples collected above 85th daily flow percentile



WRTDS uses **observed** data: over 2,400 water quality samples are collected throughout the NTN each year.

The RIM network is a collaborative effort between the USGS, EPA, and agencies in Chesapeake Bay states (MDDNR, VADEQ, SRBC, PADEP, and more).



Load and trend results have been computed through 2020 to provide timely information available for decision making

Load is a measure of

the total amount of nutrients or sediment that is mobilized in a given time period (monthly, annually, ...). Important for understanding receiving water response

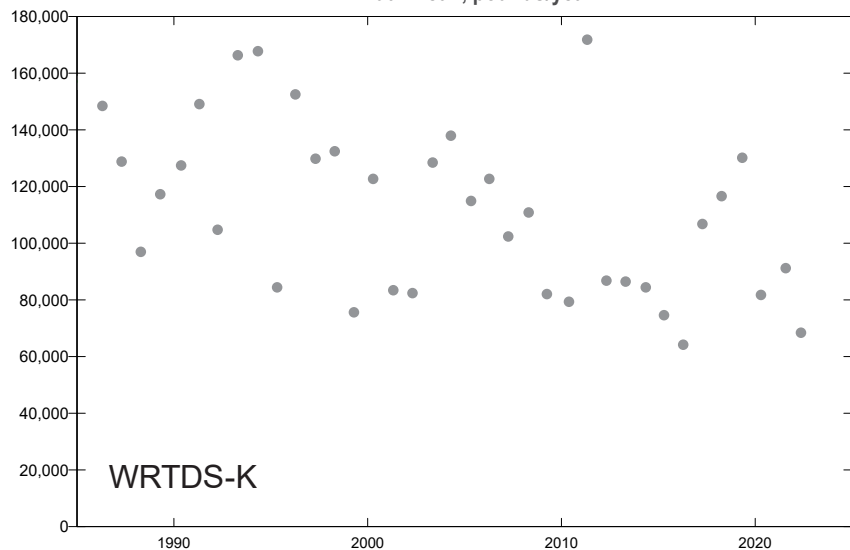
Flow-normalized (FN) loads remove

most of the hydrologic variability associated with loads. Important for understanding water-quality responses to watershed changes

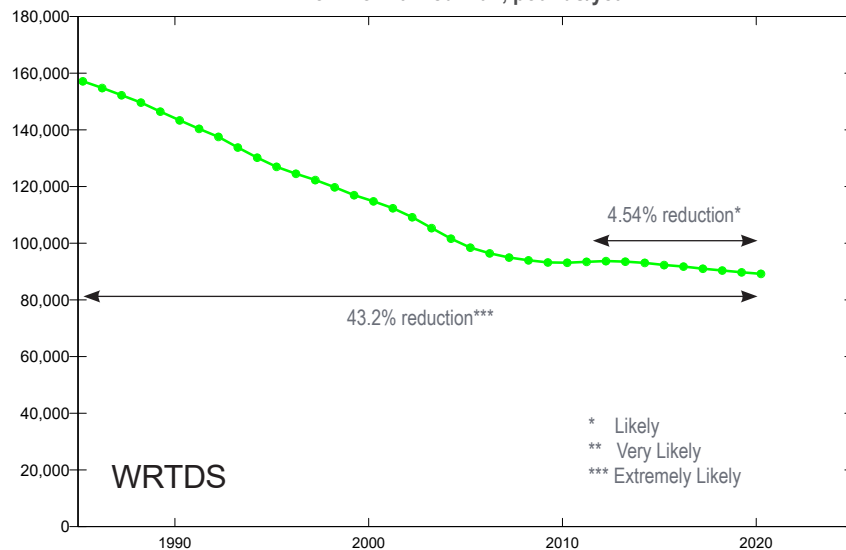
A trend is reported when

the likelihood estimate of a trend existing is greater than 0.67 after at most 100 bootstrap re-samples and a 90% confidence interval

RIM River Example, Total Nitrogen
Annual mean, pounds/year

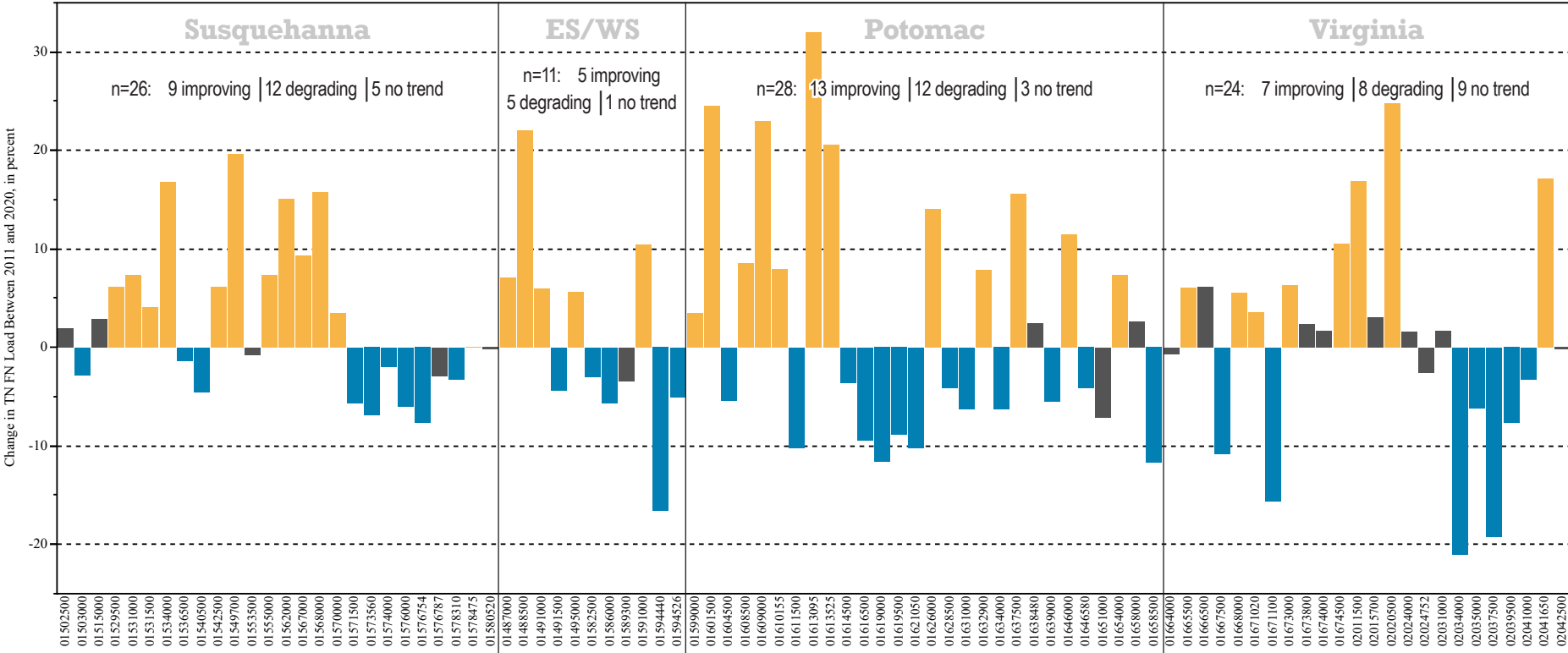


RIM River Example, Total Nitrogen
Flow-normalized Flux, pounds/year



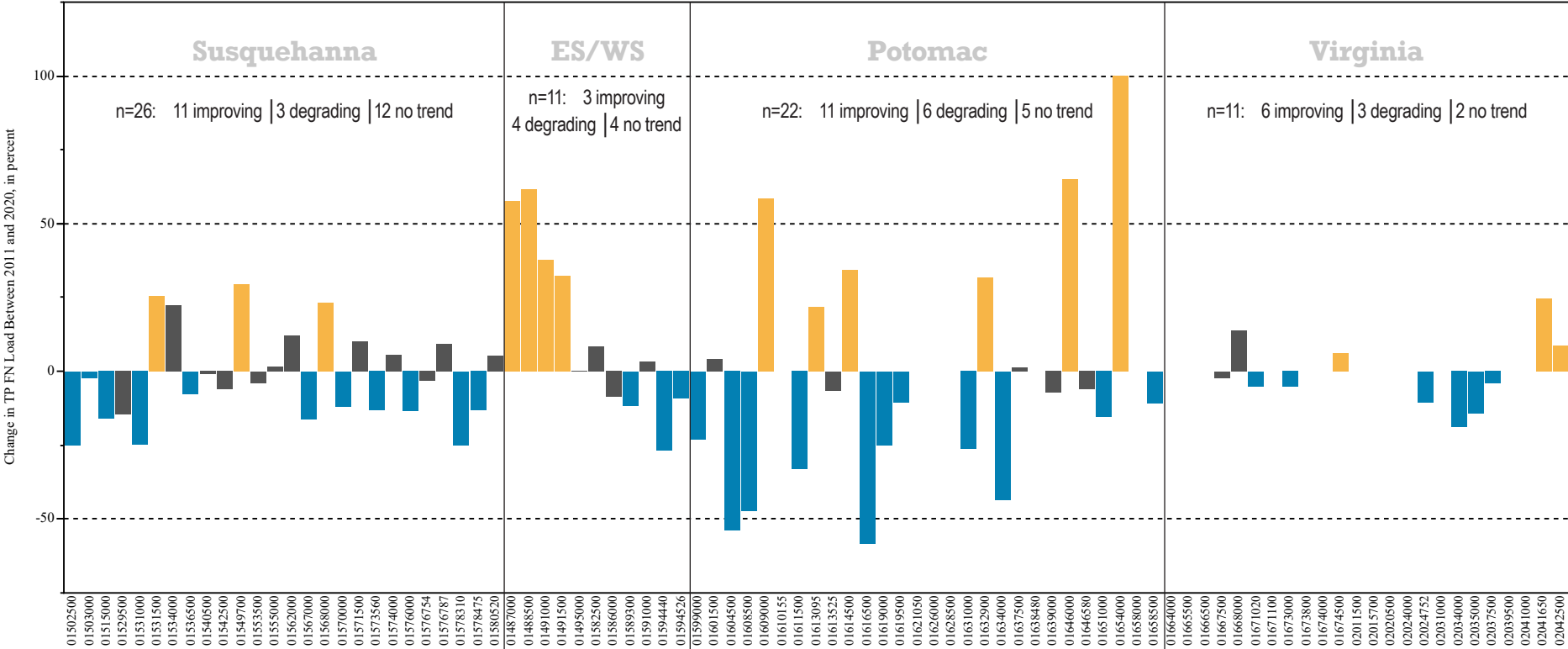
Total Nitrogen (TN) Trends in FN Loads 2011-2020

34 of 89 stations (38 percent) have improving trends | 37 of 89 stations (42 percent) have degrading trends | 18 of 89 stations (20 percent) show no statistical change



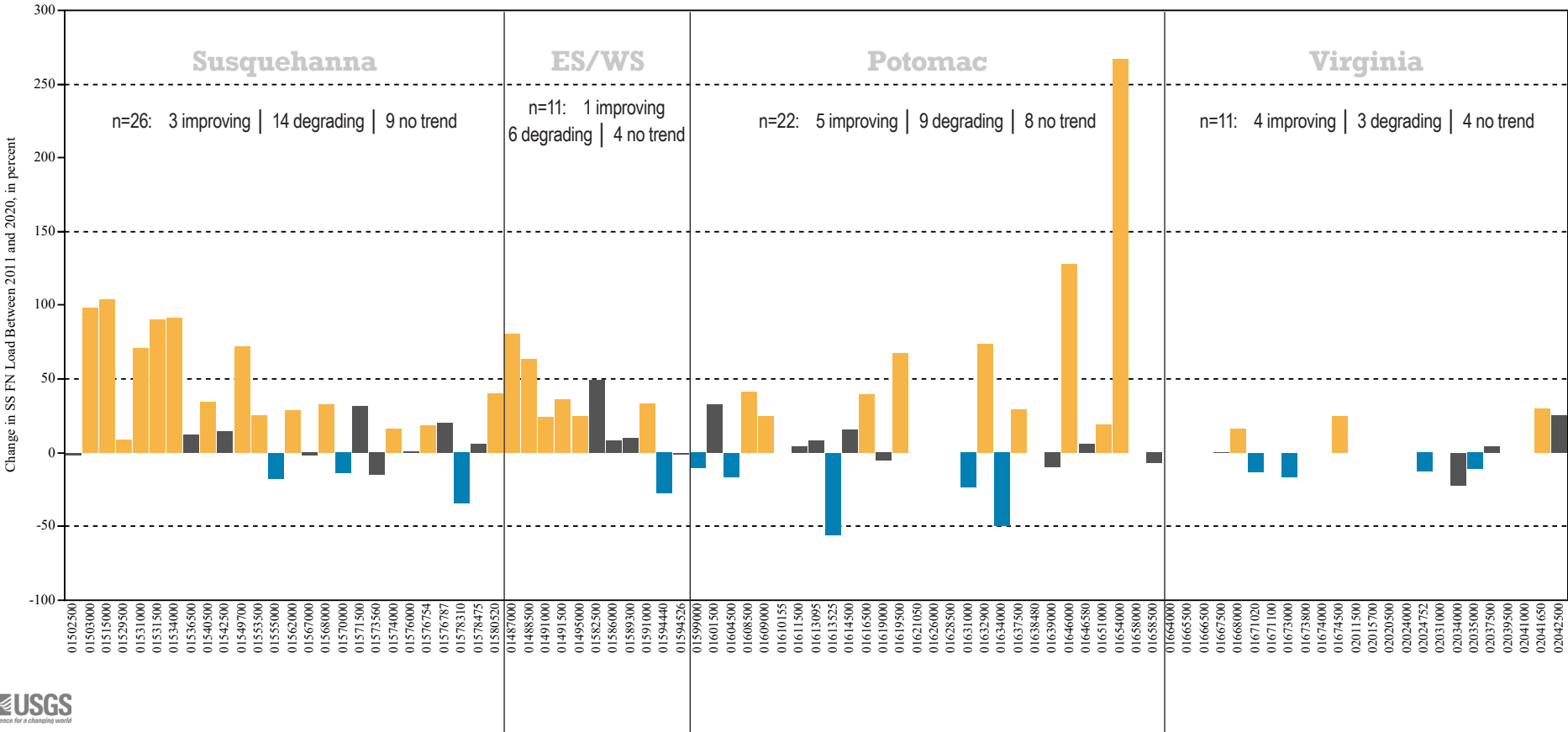
Total Phosphorus (TP) Trends in FN Loads 2011-2020

31 of 70 stations (44 percent) have improving trends | 16 of 70 stations (23 percent) have degrading trends | 23 of 70 stations (33 percent) show no statistical change

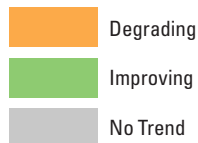


Suspended Sediment (SS) Trends in FN Loads 2011-2020

13 of 70 stations (18 percent) have improving trends | 32 of 70 stations (46 percent) have degrading trends | 25 of 70 stations (36 percent) show no statistical change



Trend Direction, 2011-2020



Percent change in flow-normalized load at the nontidal network

	TN	N+N	TP	DIP	SS
01502500	1.97	15.7	-25	-45.3	-1.55
01503000	-2.81	1.31	-2.19	-54.5	98.2
01515000	2.88	5.13	-16	-41.8	104
01529500	6.16	21	-14.6	-57.2	8.94
01531000	7.38	13.2	-24.8	-60.1	70.8
01531500	4.05	5.49	25.6	-53.3	90.4
01534000	16.8	21.4	22.3	25.7	91.7
01536500	-1.36	5.07	-7.64	-41.7	12.2
01540500	-4.54	0.516	-0.901	-54	34.6
01542500	6.1	17.3	-6.02		14.3
01549700	19.6	43	29.5		72.2
01553500	-0.754	5.03	-3.97	-34	25.3
01555000	7.33	11	1.47	12.1	-17.5
01562000	15.1	18	12.1	2.08	28.7
01567000	9.36	15.6	-16.2	-19.7	-1.89
01568000	15.8	15.5	23.1	22.8	32.8
01570000	3.45	2.96	-11.8	-12	-13.9
01571500	-5.65	-8.92	10.1	16	31.6
01573560	-6.9	-9.61	-13.2	-18.6	-15
01574000	-1.97	-7.3	5.67	9.52	16.1
01576000	-6.01	-1.64	-13.4	-13.2	0.774
01576754	-7.65	-9.25	-3.17	-13.3	18.7
01576787	-2.9	-5.45	9.15	-10.4	20
01578310	-3.24	7.64	-25	-14.1	-34.4
01578475	0.0561	0.929	-13.2	-23	5.87
01580520	-0.173	0.773	5.19	-29	40.2

	TN	N+N	TP	DIP	SS
01487000	7.05	8.96	57.6	-11.8	80.8
01488500	22	24	61.7	62.6	63.6
01491000	5.98	1.7	37.8	51	24
01491500	-4.33	-7.64	32.3	38.9	36.2
01495000	5.6	3.98	0.112	-16.8	24.7

	TN	N+N	TP	DIP	SS
01582500	-2.97	-2.46	8.36	-26.1	49.5
01586000	-5.62	-4.17	-8.61	-12.8	8.42
01589300	-3.4	9.24	-11.6	-27.9	9.72
01591000	10.4	9.83	3.26	17.2	33.1
01594440	-16.6	-18.8	-26.8	-20.4	-27.4
01594526	-5.03	9.34	-9.17	-6.51	-0.887

	TN	N+N	TP	DIP	SS
01599000	3.46	16.3	-23	-42.6	-10.3
01601500	24.5	33	4.03	-33.1	33
01604500	-5.39	-0.852	-53.8	-34.5	-16.4
01608500	8.52	3.26	-47.2	-83.5	41.5
01609000	23	34.1	58.5		24.8
01610155	7.94	36.2			
01611500	-10.2	-14.2	-33.1		4.36
01613095	32	41.1	21.7		8.43
01613525	20.6	18.4	-6.51	-38.8	-55.7
01614500	-3.56	-8.07	34.4	-1.34	15.6
01616500	-9.42	-7.05	-58.2	-78.5	39.5
01619000	-11.6	-14.8	-24.9	-43.7	-5.16
01619500	-8.86	-14.1	-10.5	-41.6	67.4
01621050	-10.2	-10.5			
01626000	14	29.7			
01628500	-4.09	1.67			
01631000	-6.26	9.86	-26.2	-23.9	-23.6
01632900	7.83	8.11	31.7	-22.4	73.9
01634000	-6.27	10.4	-43.5	-38.4	-49.7
01637500	15.6	21.6	1.33	-13.3	29.6
01638480	2.49	13.7			
01639000	-5.49	5.45	-7.23	2.34	-9.79
01646000	11.5	21.2	65	43.6	128
01646580	-4.14	3.64	-6.06	-30.6	6
01651000	-7.09	12.9	-15.4	-1.26	19.1
01654000	7.32	-7.64	99.9	37.9	267
01658000	2.66	-8.19			
01658500	-11.7	-6.14	-10.7	27.5	-6.94

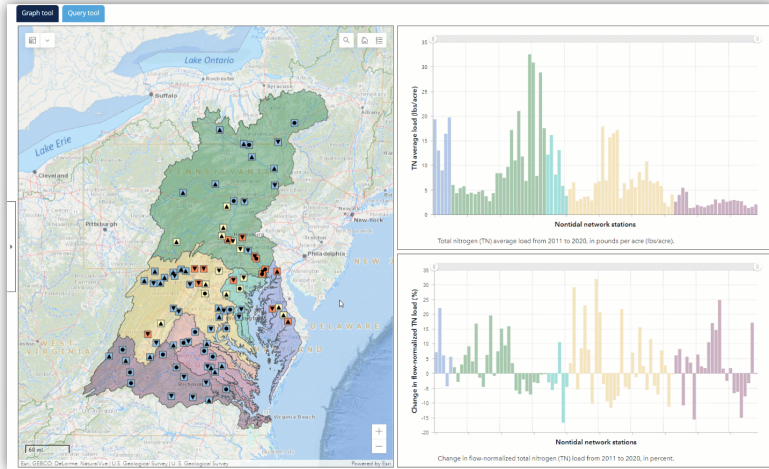
	TN	N+N	TP	DIP	SS
01664000	-0.681	7.25			
01665500	6.08	21.7			
01666500	6.13	21.8			
01667500	-10.8	5.15	-2.21	14.2	0.557
01668000	5.5	14.8	13.7	6.77	16.1
01671020	3.57	48.2	-5.08		-13.1
01671100	-15.6	5.19			
01673000	6.29	22.7	-5.22	-10.3	-16.4
01673800	2.36	16.7			
01674000	1.68	28.3			
01674500	10.5	45.7	6.24	-0.538	25
02011500	16.9	28.1			
02015700	3.06	17.7			
02020500	24.8	39.8			
02024000	1.55	18.5			
02024752	-2.53	19.4	-10.5	-12.2	-12.6
02031000	1.7	22.4			
02034000	-21	-14.7	-18.8	-19.2	-22.1
02035000	-6.17	3.86	-14.2	-11.1	-11
02037500	-19.2	6.41	-4.01		4.49
02039500	-7.66	23.2			
02041000	-3.22	12.8			
02041650	17.1	28.4	24.5	48.3	29.7
02042500	-0.175	144	8.75		25.5

Constituents from left-to-right: TN (total nitrogen), N+N (nitrate plus nitrite), TP (total phosphorus), DIP (orthophosphate), SS (suspended sediment).

White space denotes less than ten years of data.

Bold colored stations represent the nine River Input Monitoring stations. Each region is ordered from top-to-bottom in a downstream direction.

USGS data release doi.org/10.5066/P96H2BDO



USGS interactive geonarrative va.water.usgs.gov/geonarratives/ntn

USGS monitoring website usgs.gov/CB-wq-loads-trends

This screenshot shows the USGS ScienceBase Catalog page for the data release 'Nitrogen, phosphorus, and suspended-sediment loads and trends measured at the Chesapeake Bay Nontidal Network stations: Water years 1985-2020 (ver. 2.0, January 2023)'. The page includes a 'Dates' section with start, end, and publication dates. A 'Map' section shows a map of the Chesapeake Bay area. The 'Summary' section provides a detailed description of the data, including the methods used for data collection and analysis. The 'Child Items' section lists related data releases. The 'Provenance' section indicates the data was revised by Christopher A. Mason on January 6, 2023.

This screenshot shows the USGS Chesapeake Bay Water-Quality Loads and Trends website. The page features a header with the USGS logo and navigation links. The main content area includes a large image of a river scene with a bird in flight. Below the image is a section titled 'Explore Results, Maps, and Data'. The page also includes a 'Latest Earthquakes' section and a 'Chesapeake Bay Activities' section.