

# Trace Elements in Lake Roosevelt Air

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Presented at  
Lake Roosevelt Water Quality Council Meeting

December 4, 2003

***Problem*** - Potential health threat by exposure to airborne contaminants from wind events during reservoir drawdown periods

Lake Roosevelt at French Rocks, 3/13/01

# Objectives

- **Part I** (Majewski and others, 2003, USGS WRIR 03-4170)
  - Determine the concentrations of trace elements in the fine-grained fraction of exposed beach, bed, and bank sediments from Grand Coulee Dam to the Canadian border
- **Part II**
  - Determine concentrations of trace elements in airborne dust during ambient and dust-event conditions
  - Determine if exposed beach and bed sediments are the source of the airborne trace elements

# Part II - Air Sampling

- **To coincide with significant Lake draw-down events**
  - Winter - January through June
  - Fall - ~September
- **PM10 Sampling - EPA Method IO-2.1**
  - Every 6th day during season - Coordinated with SCAPCA air sampling program
  - Sampling began in January 2002
- **Dust events**

# Air Sampling

- **PM10 High Volume Air Samplers**
  - 24 h samples
  - Quartz-fiber Filters
  - Every 6th day
  - High Wind Events
- **Meteorological Station at Each Site**

# Air Sampling

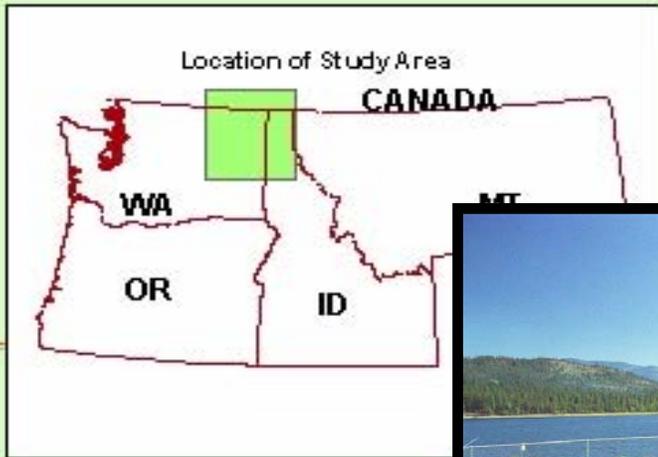
- **Analytical**

- **42 Trace Elements**

- **Same suite as analyzed for in 2001 bed sediment survey, except mercury**

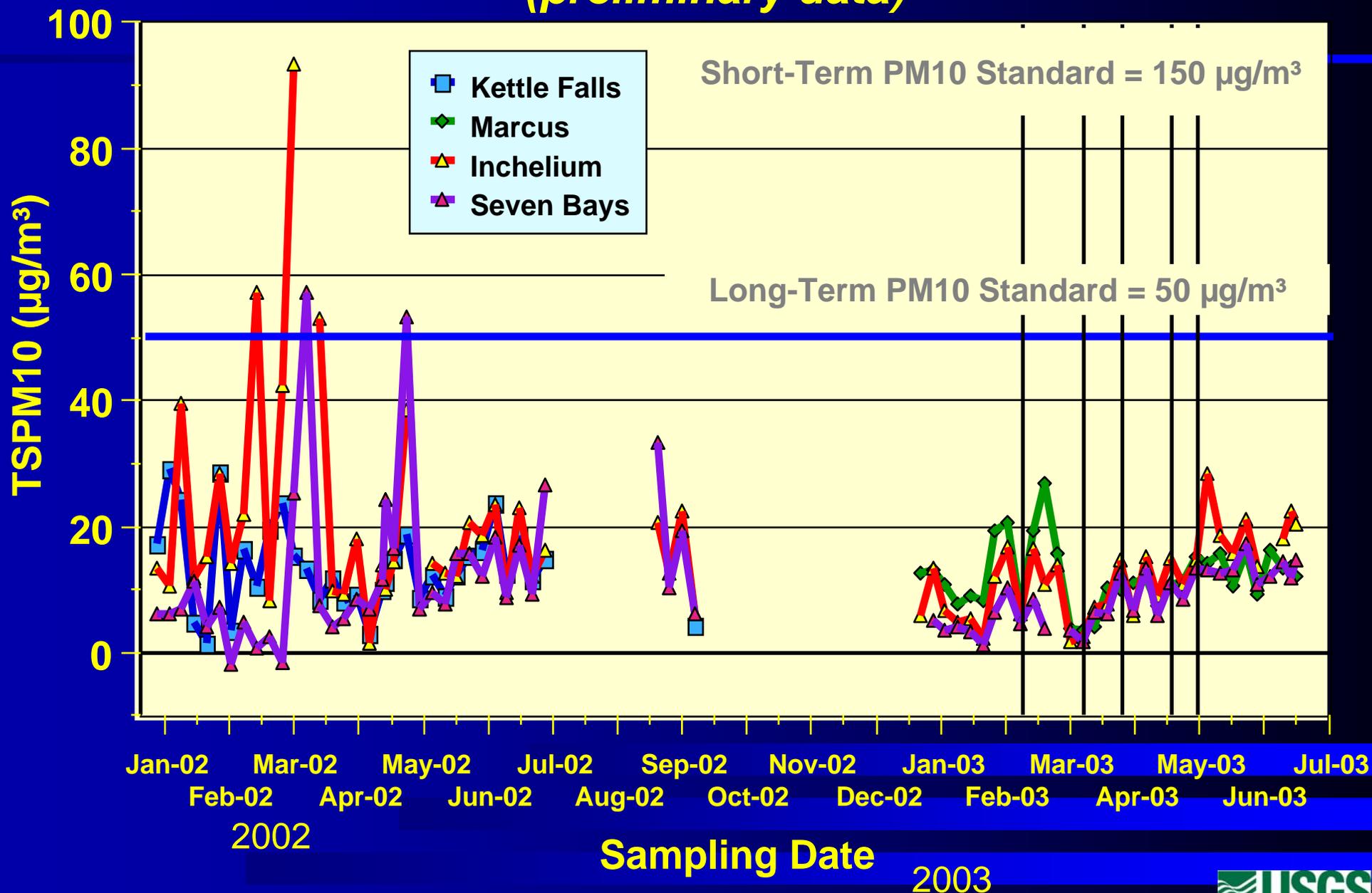
- **Detection Limits**

- ◆ 0.0007 to 5  $\mu\text{g}$  or
      - ◆ 0.0004 to 3  $\text{ng}/\text{m}^3$



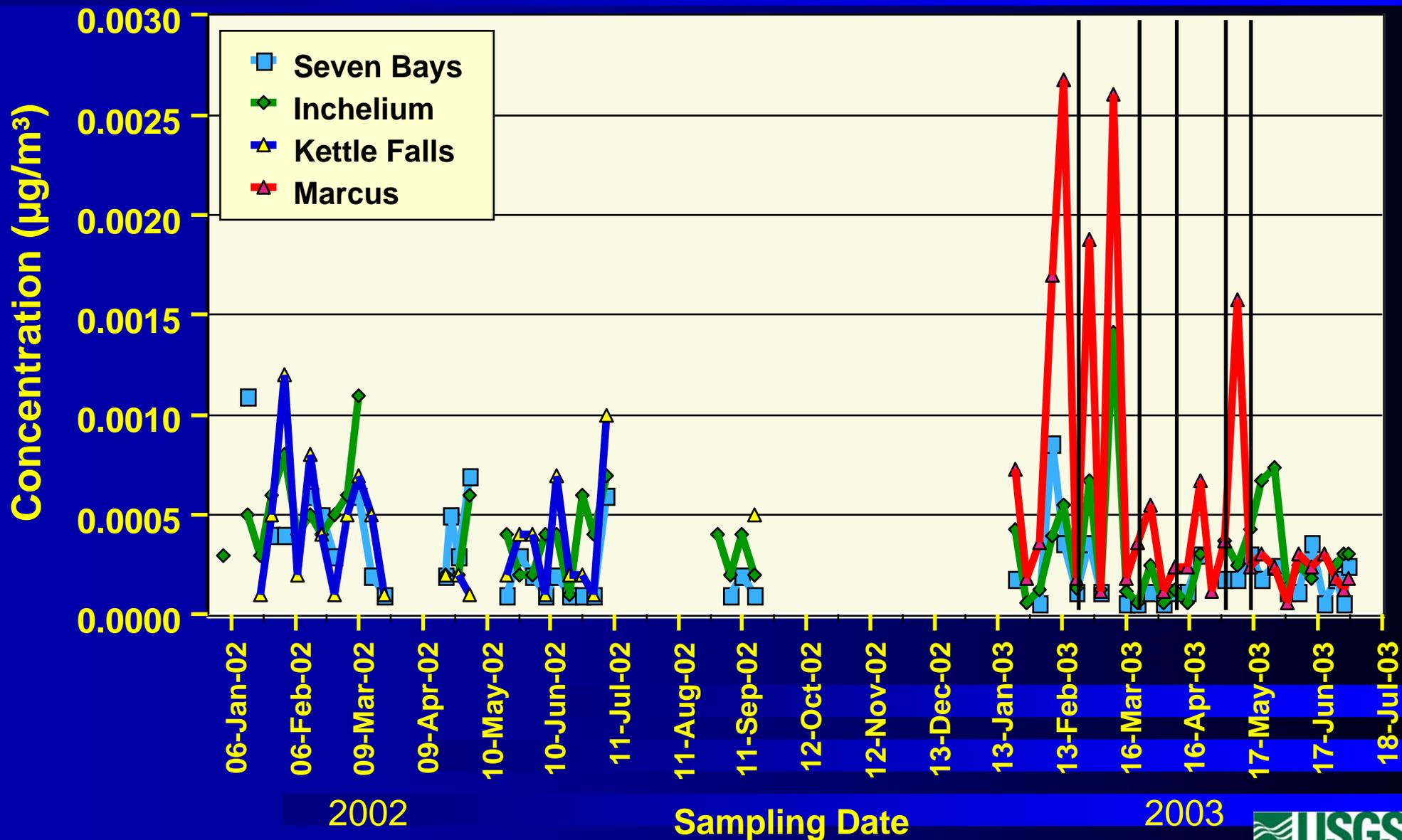
# Total Suspended PM 10

(preliminary data)



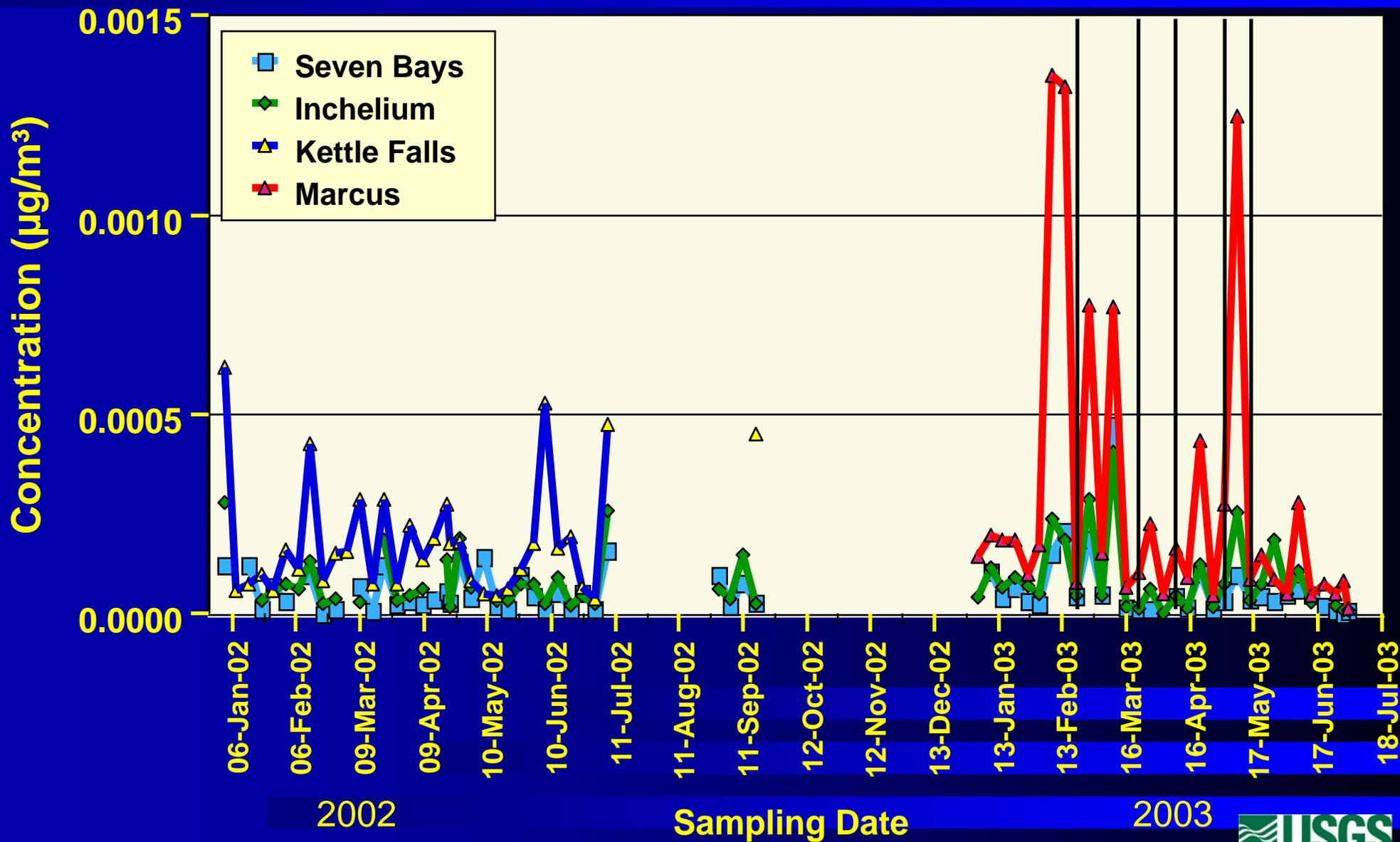
# Arsenic

(preliminary data)



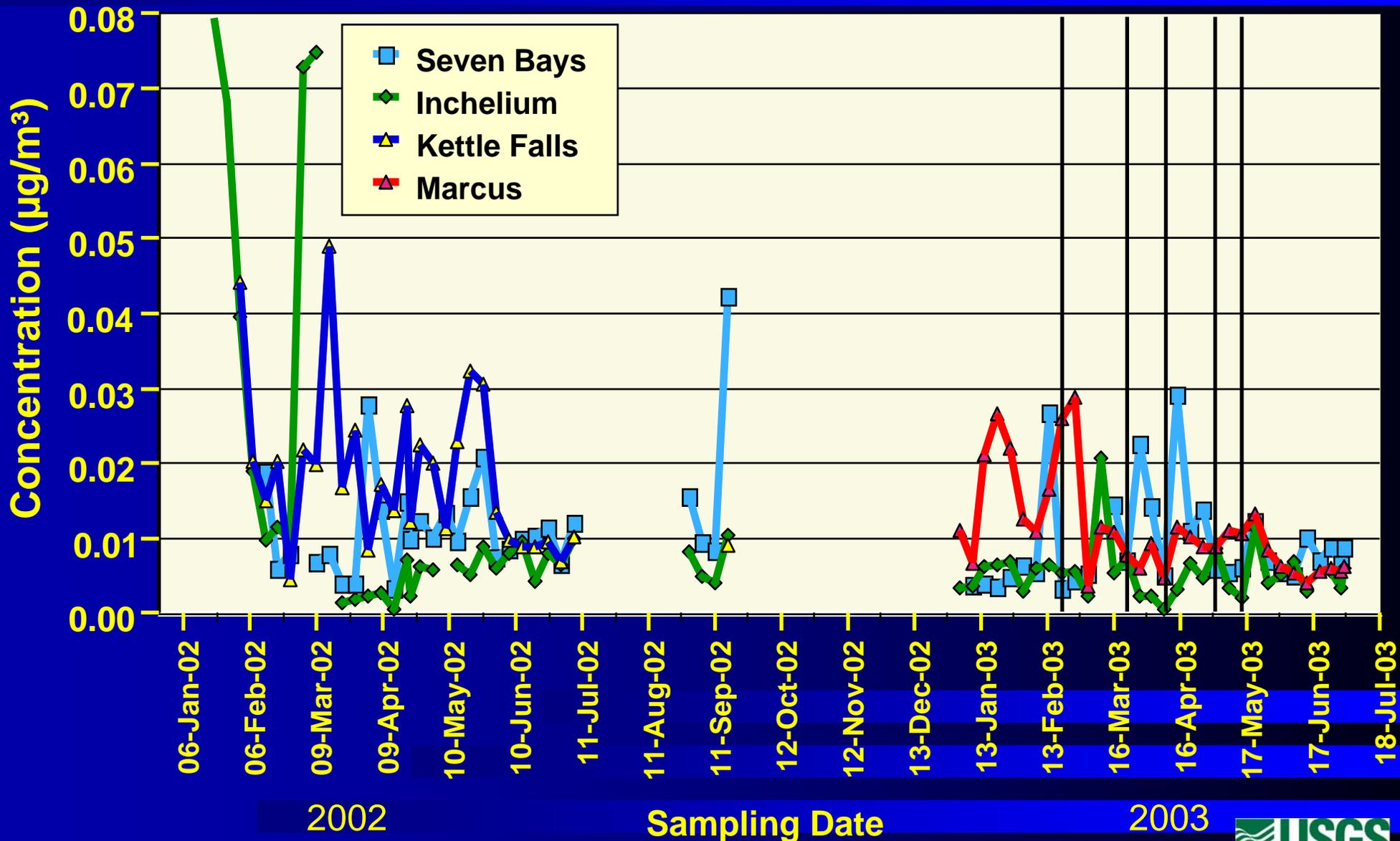
# Cadmium

(preliminary data)



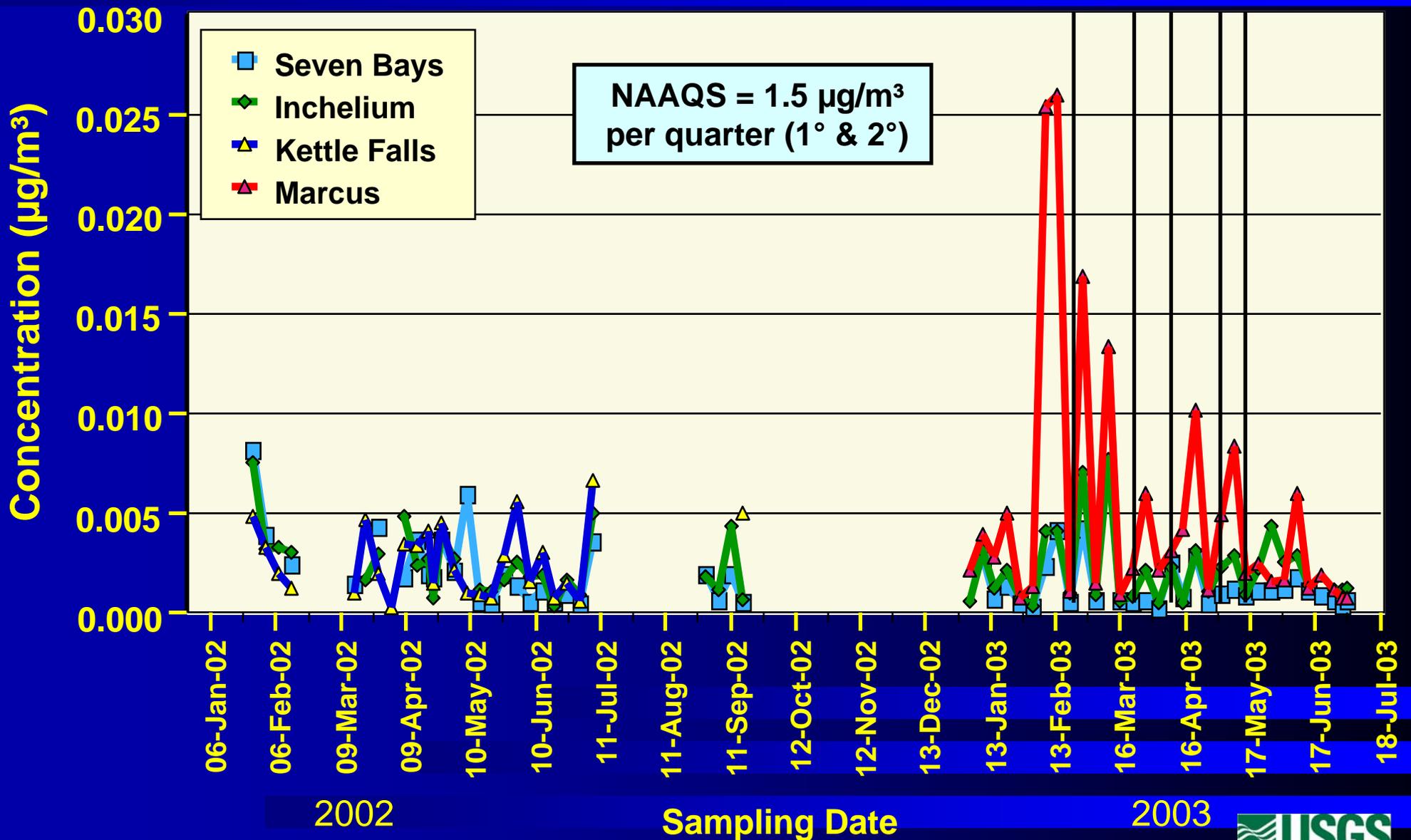
# Copper

(preliminary data)



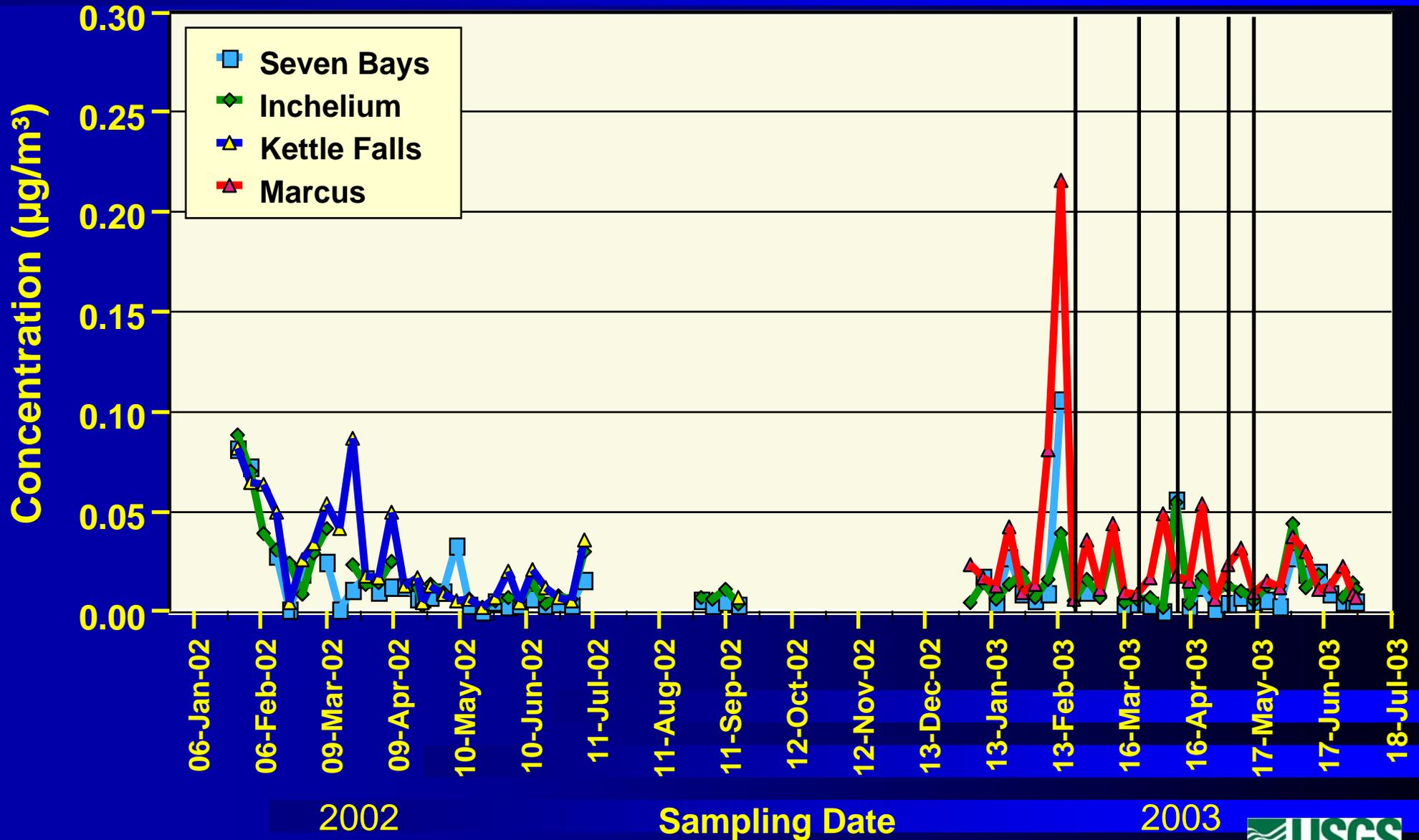
# Lead

(preliminary data)



# Zinc

*(preliminary data)*



# Urban Air Toxics - Metals

- **Arsenic Compounds**
- **Beryllium and Compounds**
- **Cadium Compounds**
- **Chromium Compounds**
- **Lead Compounds**
- **Manganese Compounds**
- **Mercury Compounds**
- **Nickel Compounds**

# Chronic Inhalation Risks

•Arsenic	0.03 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	CalEPA
•Beryllium	0.02 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	RfC
•Cadmium	0.01 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	CalEPA
•Chromium (VI)	0.1 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	RfC
➤ $8 \times 10^{-5} \mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	EPA 1:million cancer risk	
•Lead	Oral doses only	
•Manganese	0.05 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	RfC
•Mercury	Species specific	
•Nickel	0.05 $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$	CalEPA

# Summary

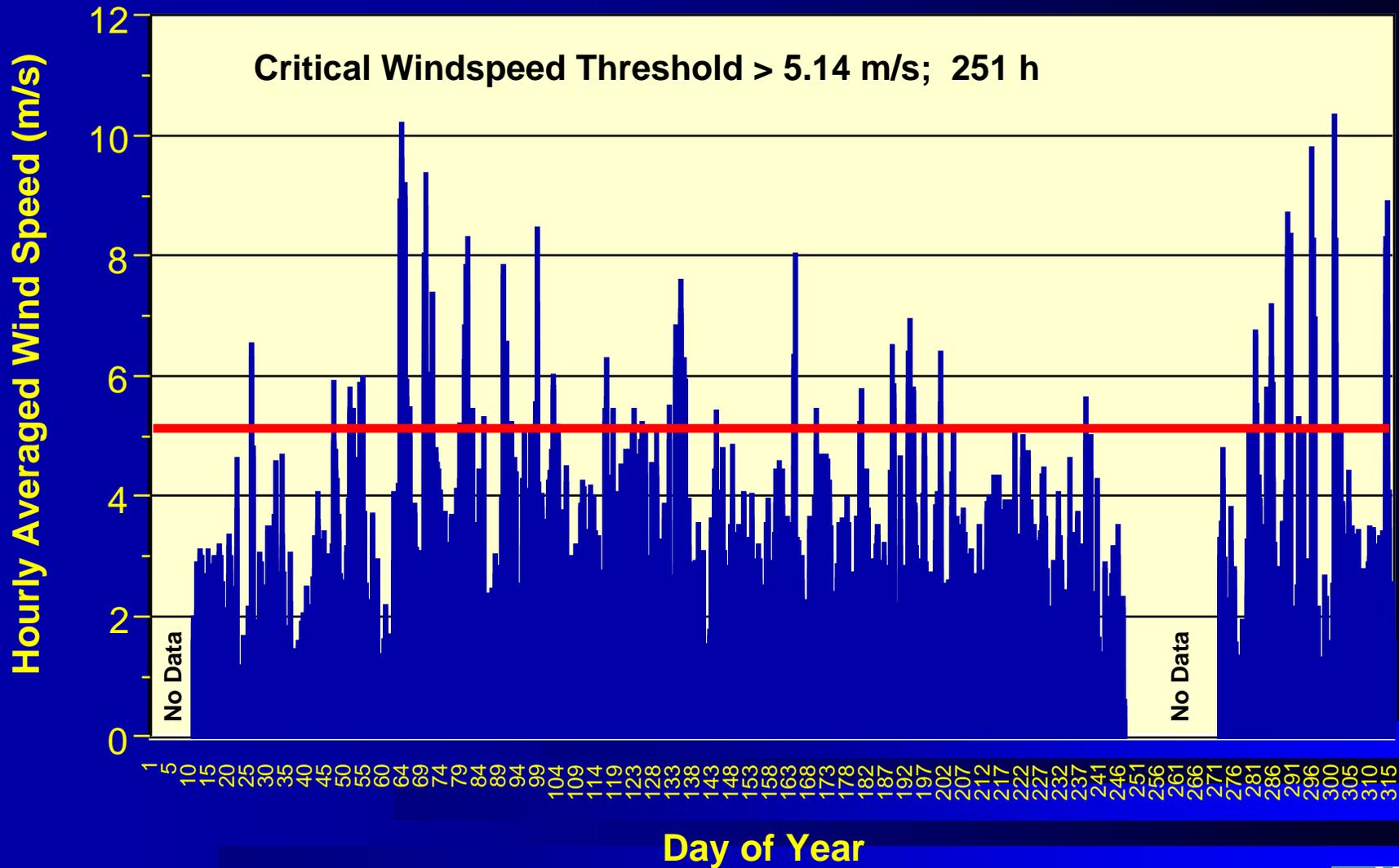
## - Air Monitoring

- **Air Monitoring program began in 2002**
  - Operating from January through June, and September
- **TSPM10 concentrations did not exceed the Short-Term Standard of 150  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$** 
  - The Long-Term Standard of 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$  was not exceeded
- **Air concentrations of slag related trace elements were low**
  - Lake levels in '02 and '03 were not as low as in 2001
  - Number of significant dust events was also low

# 2004 Sampling

- **One objective of study is to sample high wind-dust events**
  - **Currently not being satisfactorily met**
- **What can we do in 2004 to sample more high wind-dust events?**
  - **Increase the sampling frequency from every 6th day to every 3rd day?**
    - **Will also double sampling and analytical costs**
    - **Will still miss some, potentially significant events**

# Seven-Bays Sampling Site



# Seven-Bays Sampling Site

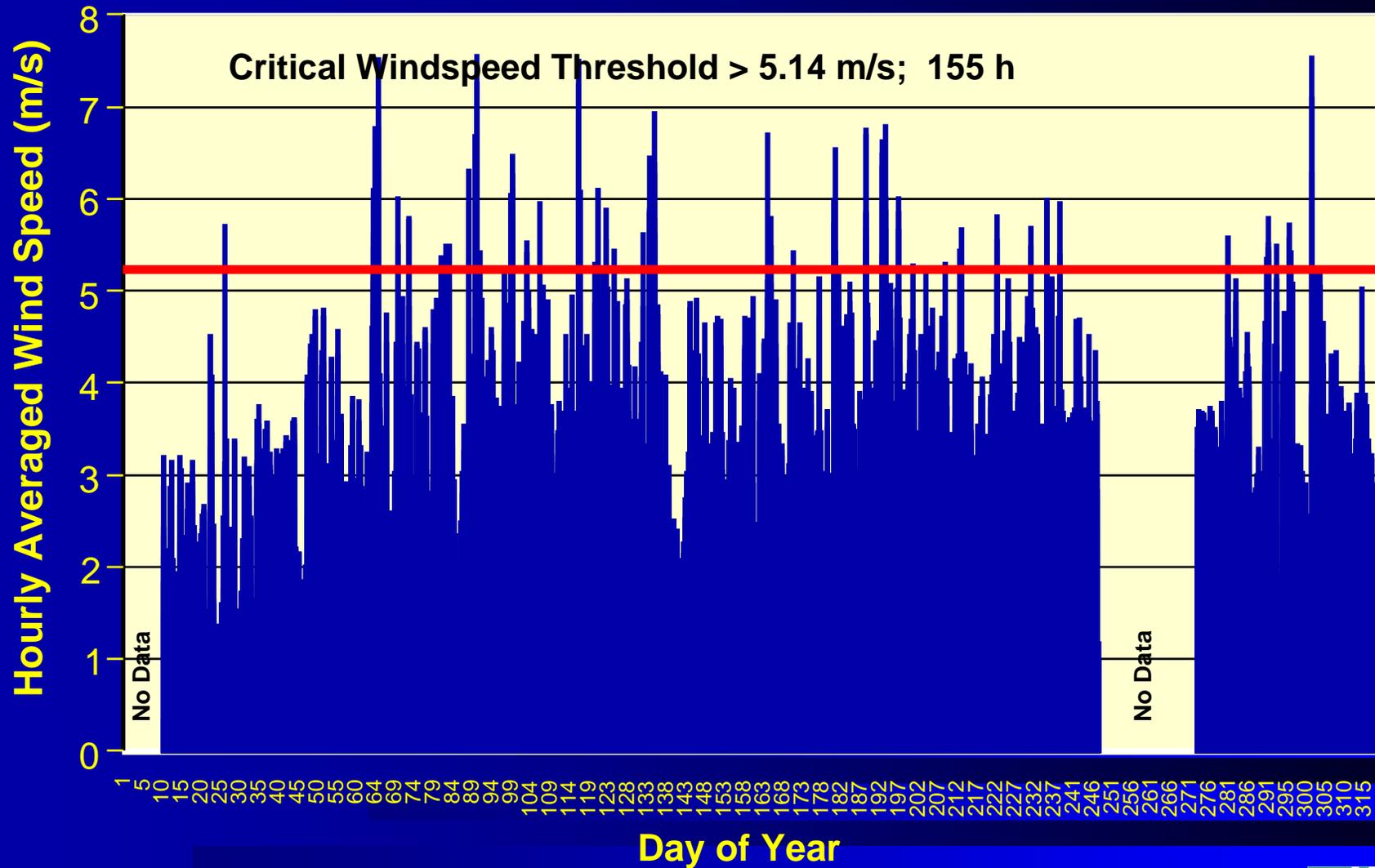
- **Number of hours  $> 5.14$  m/s:**
  - 251
- **Number of days with 4 or more hours of wind above 5.14 m/s:**
  - 13 (Jan - June) / 10 (July- Nov)
- **Number of High Wind Events Coinciding with a 6<sup>th</sup> day sampling:**
  - 3 (Jan - Jun) / 2 (July - Nov)
- **Number of High Wind Events Coinciding with a 3<sup>rd</sup> day sampling:**
  - 2 (Jan - June) / 0 (July - Nov)

# Seven-Bays Sampling Site

- **High Wind Event Days by Month (days with 4 or more hours at > 5.14 m/s) by Month:**

➤ January	- 1	February	- 2
➤ March	- 6	April	- 1
➤ May	- 2	June	- 1
➤ July	- 3	August	- 0
➤ September	- 0	October	- 6
➤ November	- 1 (as of 7 Nov)		
➤ December	-		

# Inchelium Sampling Site



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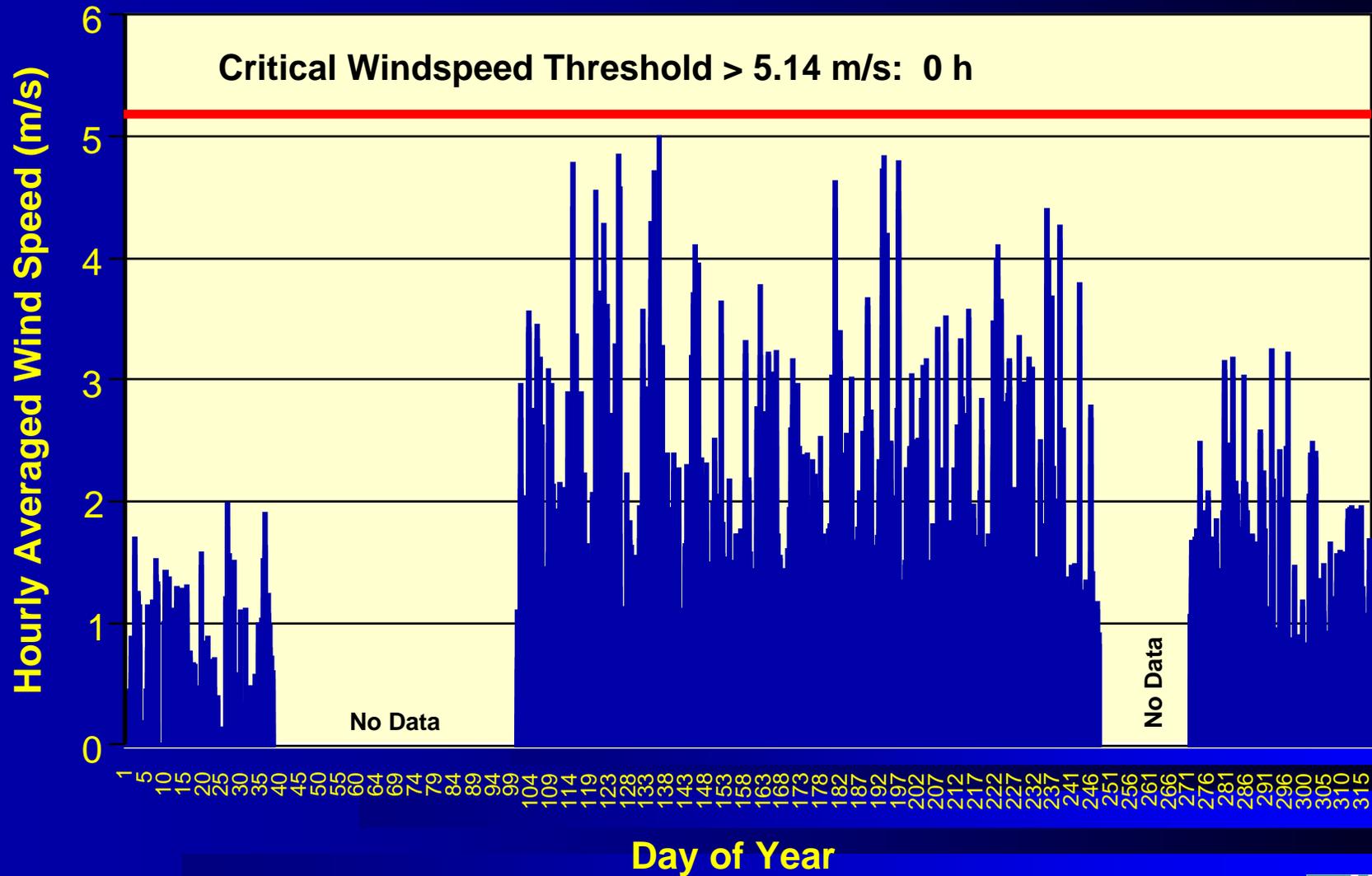
- **Number of hours  $> 5.14$  m/s:**
  - 155
- **Number of days with 4 or more hours of wind above 5.14 m/s:**
  - 9 (Jan - June)/ 9 (July - Nov)
- **Number of High Wind Events Coinciding with a 6<sup>th</sup> day sampling:**
  - 3 (Jan - June)/ 4 (July - Nov)
- **Number of High Wind Events Coinciding with a 3<sup>rd</sup> day sampling:**
  - 1 (Jan - June)/ 1 (July - Nov)

# Inchelium Sampling

- **High Wind Event Days by Month (days with 4 or more hours at > 5.14 m/s) by Month:**

➤ January	- 0	February	- 0
➤ March	- 4	April	- 2
➤ May	- 3	June	- 0
➤ July	- 4	August	- 3
➤ September	- 0	October	- 2
➤ November	- 0 (as of 7 Nov)		
➤ December	-		

# Marcus Sampling Site



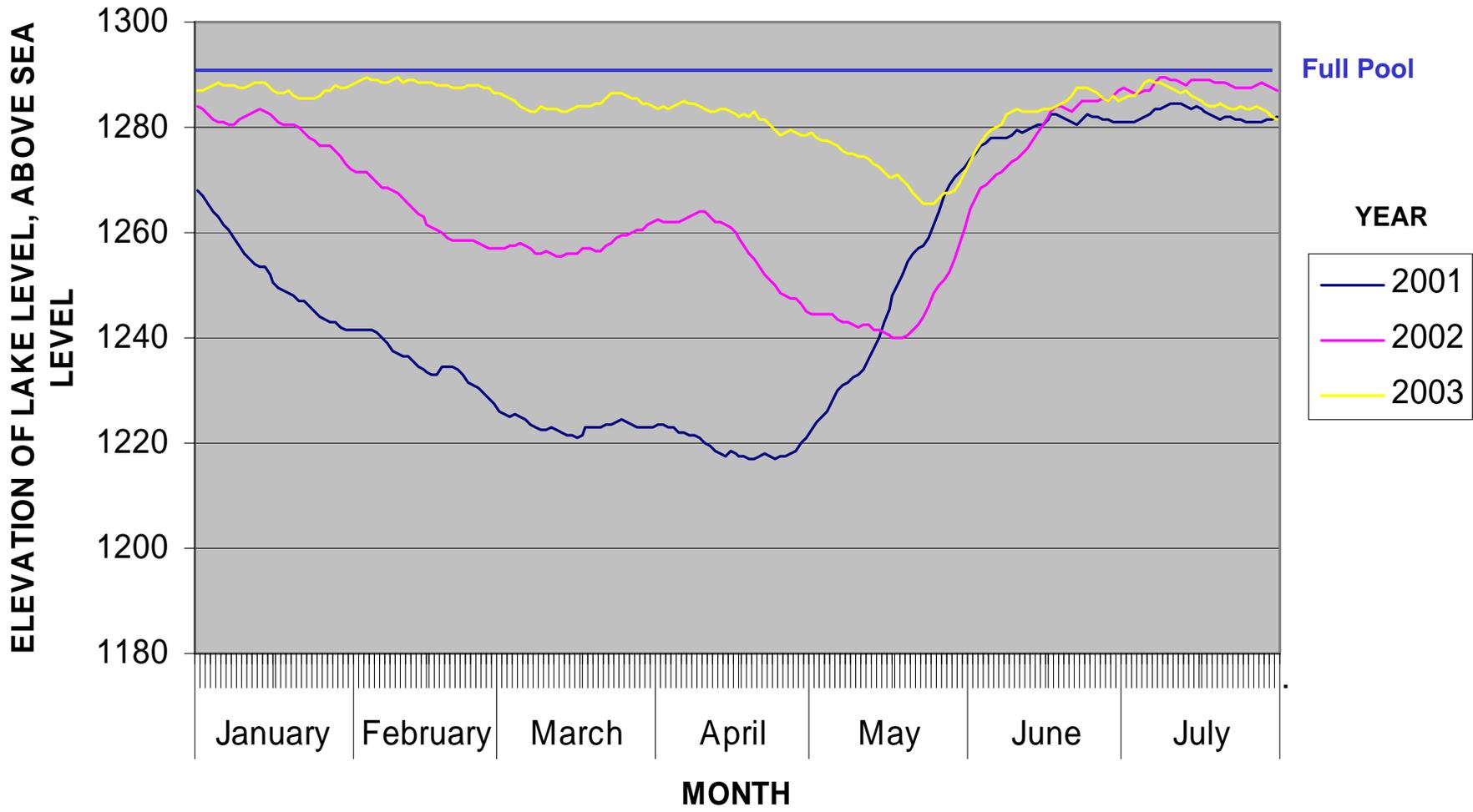
# Marcus Sampling Site

- **Reasons for No High Wind Events at This Site?**
  - **Farthest upstream site**
    - **Predominant wind direction is from the south**
  - **Located at lake level**
    - **Other sites are elevated**
  - **Other?**

# 2004 Sampling

- **What can we do in 2004 to sample more high wind-dust events?**
  - Focus sampling to periods when bed sediments are exposed
  - Not sample as frequently early in the season when the bed sediments are still covered with water, and increase sampling frequency later in the season, i.e.,
    - Sample every 12th day in January and February
    - Sample every 6th day from March to mid-April
    - sample every 3rd day from mid-April to early June

# Water-surface elevation of FDR Lake at Grand Coulee Dam (USGS gage 12436000)



# 2004 Sampling

- **What can we do in 2004 to sample more high wind-dust events?**
  - **Spend more effort on predictions**
  - **Enlist the help of other agencies to aid us in predictions**
    - **U.S. Weather Service**
    - **NOAA**
    - **Universities**
    - **Others?**

# Discussion

- What to do?