

LBWC WAG

February 14, 2013

Benthic Chlorophyll-a Target – Applicable Timeframe



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January 10, 2013

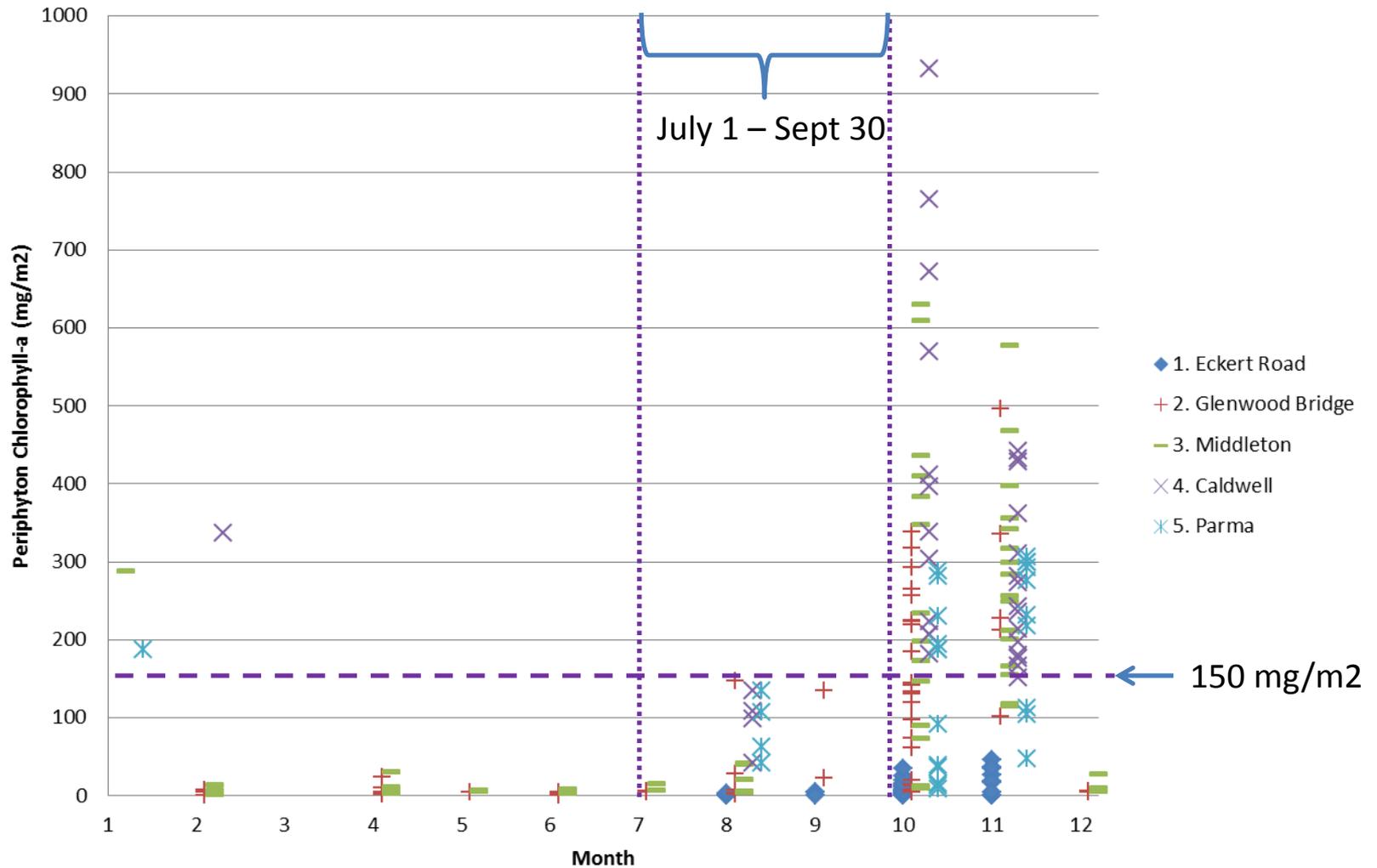
LBWC Voted to Support:

- A mean benthic chlorophyll-a biomass target of $\leq 150 \text{ mg/m}^2$
 - In the impaired Assessment Units (AU) of the Lower Boise River
 - Tributary impairment to be assessed later
 - In “wadeable” portions of the river
 - Areas with flow and depth that can be safely sampled, typically $< 1 \text{ m}$
 - The July 1 – September 30 “growing season”

What is a “good” target period?



Benthic Chlorophyll-a Data on the Lower Boise River



USGS Data from 1995 - 2012

Ensuring Target Reflects Periphyton “Growing Season”

- **LBWC Feedback**

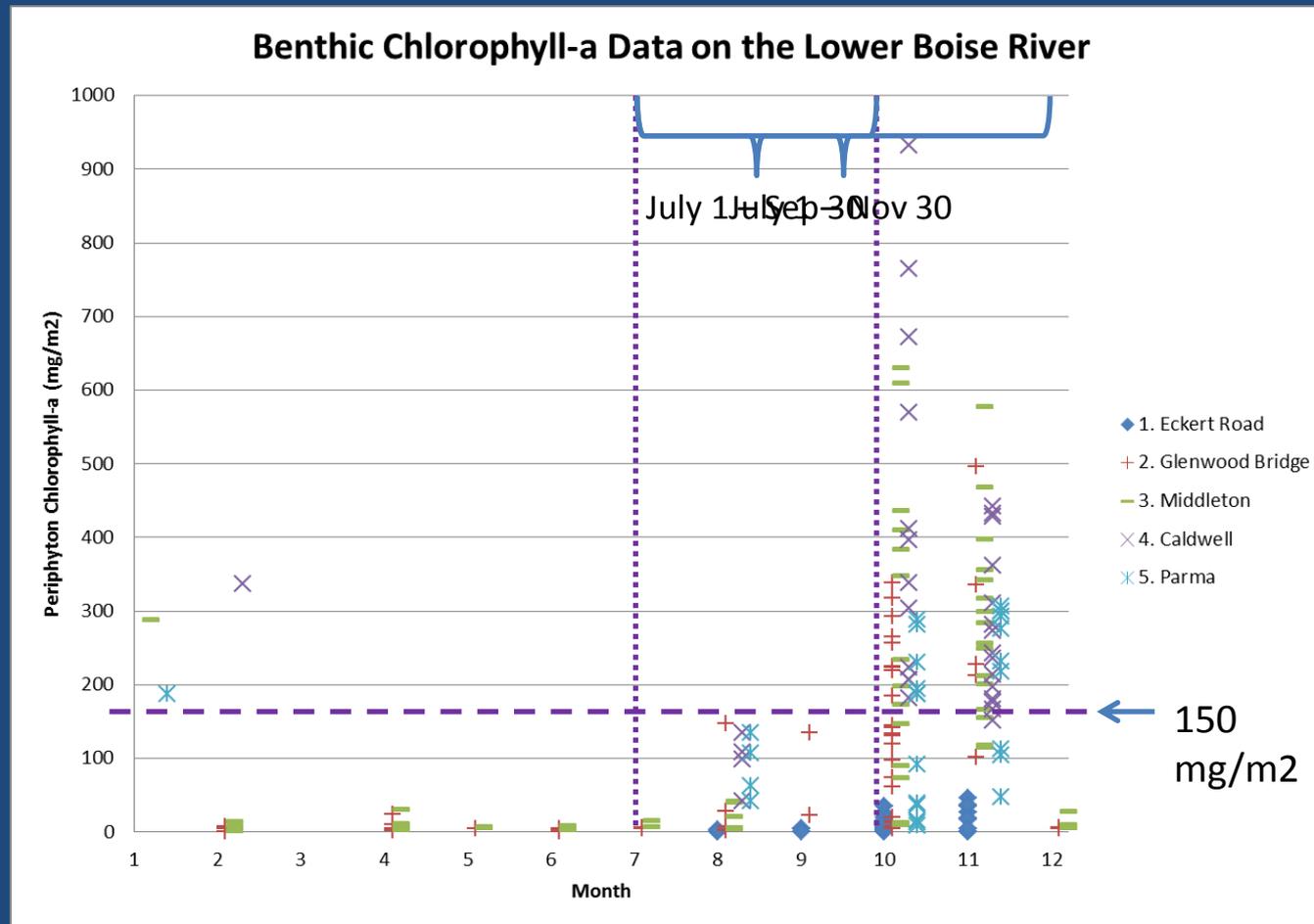
- ✓ Year-round target
- ✓ Provisional irrigation season (~April 15 – Oct. 15)
- ✓ Mechanistic modeling

- **SR-HC Obligations**

- ✓ 0.07 mg/L TP (May 1 – September 30)
- ✓ Used to calculate TMDL

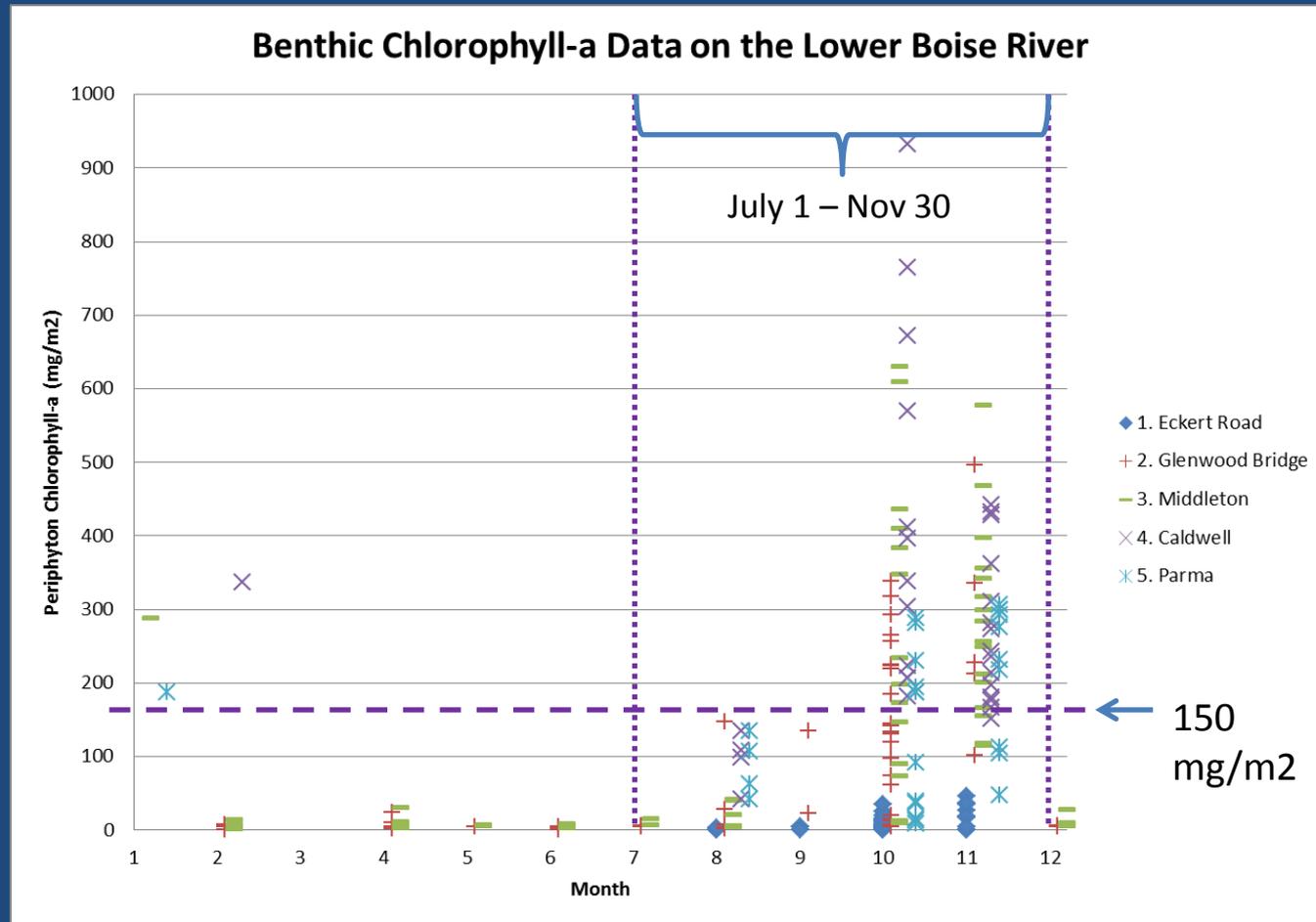
DEQ Benthic Chlorophyll-a Target Period Recommendation

- July 1 through November 30
- Modeling may guide additional target timeframe refinement



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Contact Information

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