

Approved TMDL  
December 15, 2000

# PHASE ONE

## FECAL COLIFORM TMDL FOR

## JOURDAN RIVER

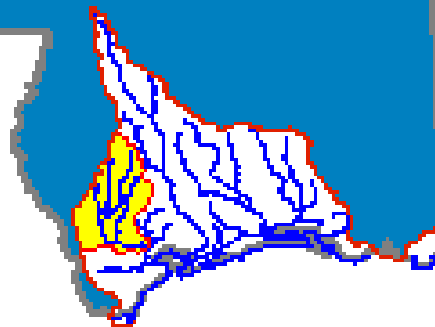
### COASTAL STREAMS BASIN

### HANCOCK, HARRISON, AND PEARL RIVER COUNTIES, MISSISSIPPI

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## FOREWORD

This report has been prepared in accordance with the schedule contained within the federal consent decree dated December 22, 1998. The report contains one or more Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for waterbody segments found on Mississippi's 1996 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies. The implementation of the TMDLs contained herein will be prioritized within Mississippi's rotating basin approach.

The amount and quality of the data on which this report is based are limited. As additional information becomes available, the TMDLs may be updated. Such additional information may include water quality and quantity data, changes in pollutant loadings, or changes in landuse within the watershed. In some cases, additional water quality data may indicate that no impairment exists.

**Prefixes for fractions and multiples of SI units**

<b>Fraction</b>	<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Symbol</b>	<b>Multiple</b>	<b>Prefix</b>	<b>Symbol</b>
10 <sup>-1</sup>	deci	d	10	deka	da
10 <sup>-2</sup>	centi	c	10 <sup>2</sup>	hecto	h
10 <sup>-3</sup>	milli	m	10 <sup>3</sup>	kilo	k
10 <sup>-6</sup>	micro	μ	10 <sup>6</sup>	mega	M
10 <sup>-9</sup>	nano	n	10 <sup>9</sup>	giga	G
10 <sup>-12</sup>	pico	p	10 <sup>12</sup>	tera	T
10 <sup>-15</sup>	femto	f	10 <sup>15</sup>	peta	P
10 <sup>-18</sup>	atto	a	10 <sup>18</sup>	exa	E

**Conversion Factors**

<b>To convert from</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Multiply by</b>	<b>To Convert from</b>	<b>To</b>	<b>Multiply by</b>
Acres	Sq. miles	0.0015625	Days	Seconds	86400
Cubic feet	Cu. Meter	0.028316847	Feet	Meters	0.3048
Cubic feet	Gallons	7.4805195	Gallons	Cu feet	0.133680555
Cubic feet	Liters	28.316847	Hectares	Acres	2.4710538
cfs	Gal/min	448.83117	Miles	Meters	1609.344
cfs	MGD	.6463168	Mg/l	ppm	1
Cubic meters	Gallons	264.17205	μg/l * cfs	Gm/day	2.45

# CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
FOREWORD.....	ii
MONITORED SEGMENT MS112M1 IDENTIFICATION .....	vi
EVALUATED SEGMENT MS115JM1 IDENTIFICATION.....	vii
EVALUATED SEGMENT MS115M1 IDENTIFICATION .....	viii
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY .....	ix
1.0 INTRODUCTION.....	1-1
1.1 Background .....	1-1
1.2 Applicable Waterbody Segment Use.....	1-4
1.3 Applicable Waterbody Segment Standard .....	1-4
2.0 TMDL ENDPOINT AND WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT.....	2-1
2.1 Selection of a TMDL Endpoint and Critical Condition.....	2-1
2.2 Discussion of Instream Water Quality .....	2-1
2.2.1 Inventory of Available Water Quality Monitoring Data .....	2-1
2.2.2 Analysis of Instream Water Quality Monitoring Data.....	2-2
3.0 SOURCE ASSESSMENT.....	3-1
3.1 Assessment of Point Sources .....	3-1
3.2 Assessment of Nonpoint Sources .....	3-2
3.2.1 Wildlife .....	3-4
3.2.2 Land Application of Hog and Cattle Manure.....	3-4
3.2.3 Grazing Beef and Dairy Cattle .....	3-4
3.2.4 Land Application of Poultry Litter.....	3-4
3.2.5 Urban Development .....	3-5
3.2.6 Direct Inputs .....	3-5
4.0 MODELING PROCEDURE: LINKING THE SOURCES TO THE ENDPOINT .....	4-1
4.1 Modeling Framework Selection.....	4-1
4.2 Model Setup.....	4-1
4.3 Hydrologic Calibration.....	4-2
4.3.1 Subwatershed Delineation .....	4-2
4.3.2 Stream Data Assessment .....	4-3
4.3.3 Precipitation Data.....	4-4
4.3.4 Landuse Data for Hydrologic Calibration.....	4-5
4.3.5 Hydrologic Calibration Parameters .....	4-6
4.3.6 Hydrologic Calibration Results.....	4-6
4.4 Selection of a Representative Modeling Period.....	4-7
4.5 Source Representation .....	4-7
4.5.1 Wildlife .....	4-8
4.5.2 Land Application of Hog and Cattle Manure.....	4-8
4.5.3 Grazing Beef and Dairy Cattle .....	4-9

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4.5.4 Land Application of Poultry Litter.....	4-9
4.5.5 Urban Development .....	4-9
4.5.6 Direct Inputs .....	4-9
4.6 Water Quality Calibration Process.....	4-10
4.6.1 Comparison of Expected and Simulated Nonpoint Loading Rates.....	4-10
4.6.2 Instream Water Quality Concentrations.....	4-11
4.7 Existing Loading.....	4-12
5.0 ALLOCATION .....	5-1
5.1 Wasteload Allocations.....	5-1
5.2 Load Allocations .....	5-1
5.3 Incorporation of a Margin of Safety.....	5-2
5.4 Calculation of the TMDL.....	5-3
5.5 Seasonality.....	5-3
6.0 CONCLUSION.....	6-1
6.1 Current Conservation Practices .....	6-1
6.2 Future Monitoring .....	6-1
6.3 Public Participation.....	6-1
DEFINITIONS .....	D-1
ABBREVIATIONS.....	A-1
REFERENCES .....	R-1
APPENDIX A.....	AA-1

## **FIGURES**

	<u>Page</u>
1.1a Jourdan River Impaired Segment .....	1-2
1.1b Jourdan River Subwatersheds.....	1-3
3.2 Landuse Distribution.....	3-3
4.3 Jourdan River Calibration Subwatersheds .....	4-3

## TABLES

	<u>Page</u>
1.1 Landuse Distribution in Acres for the Jourdan River Watershed.....	1-2
2.2a Fecal Coliform Data used in latest 303(d) for the Jourdan River, Station 02481660.....	2-2
2.2b More Recent Fecal Coliform Data for the Jourdan River, Station 02481660.....	2-3
2.2c Fecal Coliform Data for the Jourdan River (02481660) during Intensive Surveys .....	2-3
2.2d Statistical Summary used in latest 303(d) for Station 02481660.....	2-4
2.2e Statistical Summary of available data for Station 02481660.....	2-4
3.2 Landuse Distribution in Number of Acres.....	3-3
4.3a River Characteristics for Hydrologic Calibration on Jourdan River at Santa Rosa .....	4-3
4.3b St. Louis Bay Watershed Meteorological Data.....	4-5
4.3c Landuse Distribution in each Subwatershed for Hydrologic Calibration at Santa Rosa .....	4-6
4.3d Percent Error Comparison of Observed and Computed Flow and Volume .....	4-7
4.6a Literature Values of Landuse Loading Rates .....	4-11
4.6b Freshwater Decay Rates of Coliform Bacteria.....	4-12

## CHARTS

	<u>Page</u>
A-1 Flow Comparison between Station 02481660 and Reach 03170009027 for 1965 .....	AA-2
A-2 Flow Comparison between Station 02481660 and Reach 03170009027 for 1966.....	AA-3
A-3 Computed and Observed Fecal Coliform Profile at USGS Gage 02481510 .....	AA-4
A-4 Model Output Under Existing Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (Wet Year).....	AA-5
A-5 Model Output Under Existing Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (Dry Year) .....	AA-6
A-6 Model Output Under Existing Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (Full 11 Years).....	AA-7
A-7 Model Output After TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (Wet Year).....	AA-8
A-8 Model Output After TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (Dry Year).....	AA-9
A-9 Model Output After TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (Full 11 Years).....	AA-10

## **MONITORED SEGMENT MS112M1 IDENTIFICATION**

Name: Jourdan River

Waterbody ID: MS112M1

Location: Near Kiln: From confluence of Catahoula Creek and Bayou Bacon to confluence with Rotten Bayou

County: Hancock County, Mississippi

USGS HUC Code: 03170009

NRCS Watershed: 100

Length: 13 miles

Use Impairment: Contact Recreation

Cause Noted: Fecal Coliform, an Indicator for the Presence of Pathogens

Priority Rank: 78

NPDES Permits: There are no NPDES Permits issued for facilities that potentially discharge fecal coliform in the watershed represented in this TMDL

Standards Variance: None

Pollutant Standard: Fecal coliform colony counts shall not exceed a geometric mean of 200 per 100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples examined during any month exceed a colony count of 400 per 100 ml

Waste Load Allocation: Assigning 50 percent of the allocated septic tank failures to this category (all future dischargers must meet water quality standards for disinfection)

Load Allocation: Assigning all of the loads contributing to surface runoff and the direct sources, including the other 50 percent of the failing septic tanks and all of the animals in the stream, to this category

Margin of Safety: Implicit modeling assumptions

Total Maximum Load (TMDL): Summation of the loads from the sources listed above that result in the Daily water quality standard of a geometric mean of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml being met

## **EVALUATED SEGMENT MS115JM1 IDENTIFICATION**

Name: Jourdan River

Waterbody ID: MS115JM1

Location: Near Kiln: From confluence with Rotten Bayou to boundary of 115J near Edwards Bayou

County: Hancock County, Mississippi

USGS HUC Code: 03170009

NRCS Watershed: 130

Use Impairment: Contact Recreation

Cause Noted: Fecal Coliform, an Indicator for the Presence of Pathogens

NPDES Permits: There are no NPDES Permits issued for facilities that potentially discharge fecal coliform in the watershed represented in this TMDL

Standards Variance: None

Pollutant Standard: Fecal coliform colony counts shall not exceed a geometric mean of 200 per 100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples examined during any month exceed a colony count of 400 per 100 ml

Waste Load Allocation: Assigning 50 percent of the allocated septic tank failures to this category (all future dischargers must meet water quality standards for disinfection)

Load Allocation: Assigning all of the loads contributing to surface runoff and the direct sources, including the other 50 percent of the failing septic tanks and all of the animals in the stream, to this category

Margin of Safety: Implicit modeling assumptions

Total Maximum Load (TMDL): Summation of the loads from the sources listed above that result in the Daily water quality standard of a geometric mean of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml being met

## **EVALUATED SEGMENT MS115M1 IDENTIFICATION**

Name: Jourdan River

Waterbody ID: MS115M1

Location: Near Kiln: From 115J boundary near Edwards Bayou to mouth at St. Louis Bay

County: Hancock County, Mississippi

USGS HUC Code: 03170009

NRCS Watershed: 130

Use Impairment: Contact Recreation

Cause Noted: Fecal Coliform, an Indicator for the Presence of Pathogens

NPDES Permits: There are no NPDES Permits issued for facilities that potentially discharge fecal coliform in the watershed represented in this TMDL

Standards Variance: None

Pollutant Standard: Fecal coliform colony counts shall not exceed a geometric mean of 200 per 100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples examined during any month exceed a colony count of 400 per 100 ml

Waste Load Allocation: Assigning 50 percent of the allocated septic tank failures to this category (all future dischargers must meet water quality standards for disinfection)

Load Allocation: Assigning all of the loads contributing to surface runoff and the direct sources, including the other 50 percent of the failing septic tanks and all of the animals in the stream, to this category

Margin of Safety: Implicit modeling assumptions

Total Maximum Load (TMDL): Summation of the loads from the sources listed above that result in the Daily water quality standard of a geometric mean of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml being met



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Several waterbodies and waterbody segments, including St. Louis Bay itself, in the St. Louis Bay watershed are on the Mississippi 1998 Section 303(d) List of Waterbodies as impaired due to pathogens, which are indicated by the presence of fecal coliform bacteria. The TMDLs for these waterbodies were developed through one monitoring and modeling project. However the TMDLs are being presented in two phases due to the diversity of the systems and processes involved. Phase One is comprised of TMDLs for the Wolf River and the Jourdan River, which are the primary fresh water sources for St. Louis Bay. Phase Two will follow with TMDLs for the Bay itself and the near shore watersheds, which drain directly to the saltwater of the Bay. The phased approach is beneficial not only because different model were used to represent the saltwater and the freshwater systems, but also because the different systems have different targets. This TMDL, which is for one monitored segment of the Jourdan River and two evaluated segments of the Jourdan River, is part of Phase One of the St. Louis Bay Watershed Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project. The modeling for this project was conducted by the Civil Engineering Department at Mississippi State University.

The Jourdan River flows in a southeasterly direction from its formation by the confluence of Catahoula Creek and Dead Tiger Creek in Hancock County through Hancock County, where it flows into St. Louis Bay. The BASINS Nonpoint Source Model (NPSM) and the Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code (EFDC) model were selected as the models for performing the TMDL allocations for this study. The weather data used for this model were collected at several locations in the study area. The representative hydrologic period used for this TMDL was a wet year, 1995, and a dry year, 1968, as determined by an analysis of mean annual rainfall distributions at several stations including Poplarville, Gulfport, Picayune, and Bay St. Louis. Bacteria data MDEQ collected at ambient station 02481660, located near Kiln, indicate there is a violation of the water quality standards for contact recreation for fecal coliform bacteria in the waterbody.

Fecal coliform loadings from nonpoint sources in the watershed were calculated based upon wildlife populations, livestock populations, information on livestock and manure management practices, and urban development for the Jourdan River Basin. The estimated fecal coliform production and accumulation rates due to nonpoint sources that would runoff from the watershed were incorporated into the model. Also represented in the model were the nonpoint sources that would be directly deposited in the stream, such as failing septic systems and other animals that have direct access to the main stem and tributaries of the Jourdan River. A 50% failure rate of septic tanks in the drainage area was assumed for input into the model. There are no NPDES Permitted discharges included as point sources in the model. Under existing, or baseline, conditions, output from the model indicates a violation of the geometric mean fecal coliform standard. After applying a TMDL reduction scenario, there were no violations of the standard according to the model.

The model accounted for seasonal variations in hydrology, climatic conditions, and watershed activities. The use of the continuous simulation model allowed for consideration of the seasonal aspects of rainfall and temperature patterns within the watershed. Calculation of the fecal coliform accumulation parameters and source contributions on a monthly basis accounted for seasonal variations in watershed activities such as livestock grazing and land application of manure.

The Phase One TMDL scenario for the fecal coliform load from the Jourdan River Watershed involves a reduction in the total fecal coliform load of approximately 78 percent. That reduction could be achieved through many different scenarios, which are not specifically addressed in this TMDL, but will be included in an implementation plan at a later date. The categories of loads that may be reduced include those that contribute to surface runoff and those that reach the stream directly. Additional monitoring and information is necessary to verify the specific sources that need to be controlled. Because the Phase Two results will provide a more comprehensive picture of sources affecting the entire St. Louis Bay System, the individual TMDL components will not be assigned until Phase Two.

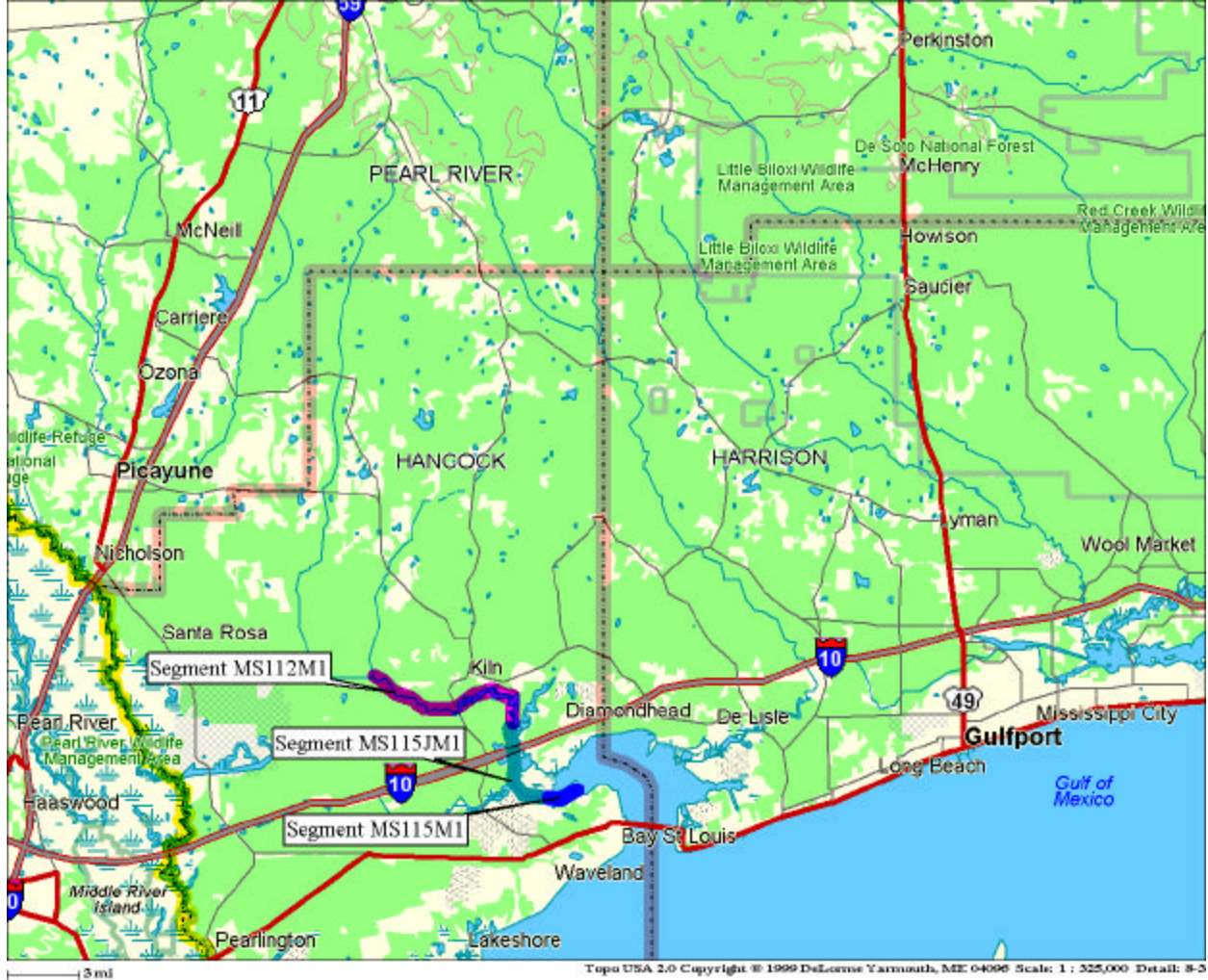
## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

The identification of waterbodies not meeting their designated use and the development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for those waterbodies are required by Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Water Quality Planning and Management Regulations (40 CFR part 130). The TMDL process is designed to restore and maintain the quality of those impaired waterbodies through the establishment of pollutant specific allowable loads. The pollutant of concern for this TMDL is pathogens. Fecal coliform bacteria are used as indicator organisms for pathogens. They are readily identifiable and indicate the possible presence of other pathogenic organisms in the waterbody. The TMDL process can be used to establish water quality based controls to reduce pollution from both point and nonpoint sources, and restore and maintain the quality of water resources.

The Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ) has identified a monitored segment of the Jourdan River as being impaired by fecal coliform bacteria for a length of 13 miles as reported in the Mississippi 1996 and 1998 Section 303(d) List of Waterbodies. This segment is listed as impaired because historical monitoring data was available to show that there was a violation of the water quality standard for pathogens in this segment. The listed segment is near Kiln, from the confluence of Catahoula Creek and Bayou Bacon to the confluence with Rotten Bayou. The monitored section of the Jourdan River is shown in Figure 1.1a in magenta. Two other segments of the Jourdan River were listed in the Mississippi 1996 Section 303(d) List of Waterbodies as monitored, but were corrected to be listed as evaluated in the Mississippi 1998 Section 303(d) List of Waterbodies. They are included in this TMDL as evaluated segments and are also shown in Figure 1.1a in green and blue.

Figure 1.1a Jourdan River Monitored and Evaluated Segments

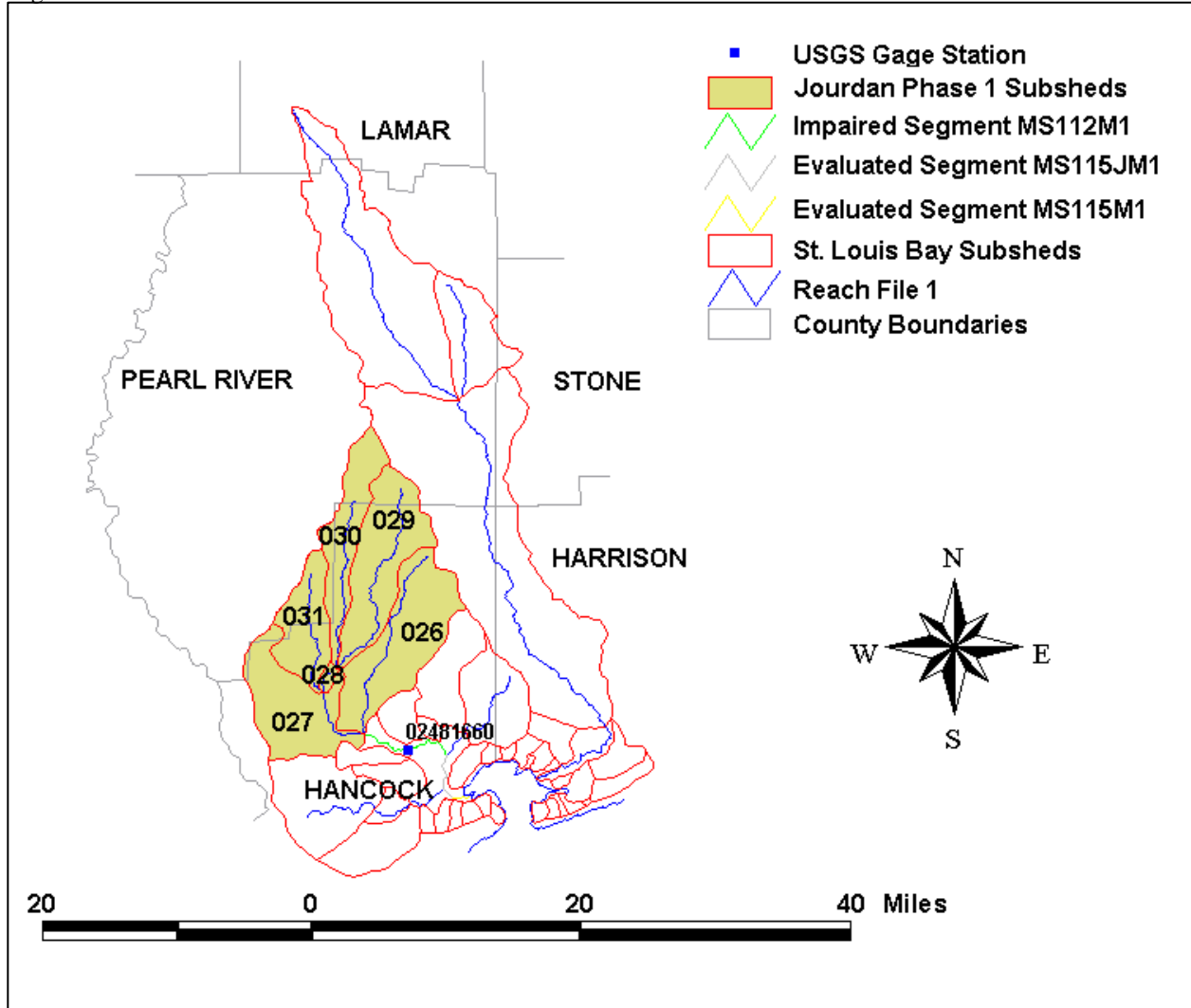


The monitored segment of the Jourdan River is in the Coastal Streams Basin Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 03170009 in southwest Mississippi. The drainage area of the monitored segment represented in this TMDL is approximately 217 square miles. As shown in yellow in Figure 1.1b, the drainage area lies within portions of Pearl River and Hancock Counties. The monitored and evaluated segments are also shown in Figure 1.1b in green, gray and yellow. The watershed is predominately forested and rural with the urban area shown being shown below predominately composed of transportation acres. Forest is the dominant landuse within the watershed. The land distribution is shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1 Landuse Distribution in Acres for the Jourdan River Watershed

	Urban	Forest	Cropland	Pasture	Barren	Wetland	Total
Area (Acres)	765	115,727	5,554	15,533	371	607	138,557
% Area	1	84	4	11	0	0	100

Figure 1.1b Jourdan River Subwatersheds



The drainage area represented in this phase of the TMDL has been divided into six subwatersheds based on the major tributaries and topography. Figure 1.1b shows the subwatersheds of the Jourdan River represented in this TMDL in yellow and identifies them with a three-digit identification number. Three subwatersheds in the Wolf River Watershed are represented in another Phase One TMDL, while the remaining subwatersheds delineated in Figure 1.1b will be addressed in Phase Two of the St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project.

The monitored segment of the Jourdan River, MS112M1, is shown in green, while the evaluated segments MS115JM1 and MS115M1 are shown in gray and yellow respectively. Even though these segments are not within the subwatersheds represented in this TMDL, they are directly downstream and are impacted by the activities in the subwatersheds modeled in this TMDL. The Jourdan River is formed by the confluence of Dead Tiger Creek and Catahoula Creek. Bayou Bacon merges with these two creeks approximately four miles further downstream. Near this junction, the stream becomes tidally influenced. The Jourdan River is completely tidal, i.e., the entire system is influenced by tidal action. This Phase One TMDL is addressing the portion of the watershed that can be modeled with a freshwater water quality model.

## **1.2 Applicable Waterbody Segment Use**

The water use classification for the Jourdan River, as established by the State of Mississippi in the *Water Quality Criteria for Intrastate, Interstate and Coastal Waters* regulation, is Recreation. The designated beneficial use for the Jourdan River is Contact Recreation.

## **1.3 Applicable Waterbody Segment Standard**

The water quality standard applicable to the use of the waterbody and the pollutant of concern is defined in the *State of Mississippi Water Quality Criteria for Intrastate, Interstate, and Coastal Waters*. The standard states that for the use of contact recreation the fecal coliform colony counts shall not exceed a geometric mean of 200 per 100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of the samples examined during any month exceed a colony count of 400 per 100 ml. This water quality standard will be used as targeted endpoints to evaluate impairments and to establish this TMDL. The TMDLs which will be addressed in Phase Two will be for the designated use of Shellfish Harvesting.

## **2.0 TMDL ENDPOINT AND WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

### **2.1 Selection of a TMDL Endpoint and Critical Condition**

One of the major components of a TMDL is the establishment of instream numeric endpoints, which are used to evaluate the attainment of acceptable water quality. Instream numeric endpoints, therefore, represent the water quality goals that are to be achieved by implementing the load and waste load allocations specified in the TMDL. The endpoints allow for a comparison between observed instream conditions and conditions that are expected to restore designated uses. The instream fecal coliform target for this TMDL is a 30-day geometric mean of 200 colony counts per 100 ml.

Because fecal coliform may be attributed to both sources that are runoff dependent and sources that are constantly discharging to the stream, the critical condition must account for both high and low flow conditions. Critical conditions for waters impaired by nonpoint sources that are runoff related generally occur during periods of wet-weather and high surface runoff. But, critical conditions for nonpoint and point sources that continually discharge generally occur during low-flow, low-dilution conditions. While the watershed model was run for a full eleven year period to capture various high and low flow situations, most of the modeling was done using a wet year and a dry year that were determined to be representative through the evaluation of precipitation records for the period of record of several stations in the area.

### **2.2 Discussion of Instream Water Quality**

According to the State's 1998 Section 305(b) Water Quality Assessment Report, the monitored 13 mile long segment of the Jourdan River is partially supporting the use of Contact Recreation. This conclusion is based on instantaneous data collected approximately bimonthly at station 02481660, which is the Jourdan River near Kiln.

#### **2.2.1 Inventory of Available Water Quality Monitoring Data**

Monitoring for flow and fecal coliform was performed on a bimonthly basis (six per year) at station 02481660 through MDEQ's Ambient Monitoring Program. Then in 1997 the monitoring frequency at that station was increased to a monthly basis. The data resulting in the latest 303(d) listing, from October of 1991 through September of 1996, is shown in Table 2.2a. More recent data is shown in Table 2.2b, and data from the 1997 and 1998 intensive surveys are shown in Table 2.2c. There are no flows shown in the table because to the influence of tidal action at the station prevents measurement by typical methods.

Through the development of a Data Compendium for St. Louis Bay some additional historical water quality data sources on the Wolf River were identified and evaluated. Two intensive surveys were also conducted for the St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Project that included the stations on the Jourdan River. The results from those intensive surveys were used in model calibration.

Table 2.2a Fecal Coliform Data used in the latest 303(d) from the Jourdan River near Kiln, Station 02481660

Date	Fecal Coliform (counts/100ml)
11/4/1991	300
1/6/1992	110-MF
3/4/1992	110
5/4/1992	130
7/13/1992	1300
9/14/1992	170
11/2/1992	700
1/12/1993	5000
3/8/1993	40
5/3/1993	5000
7/12/1993	60
9/13/1993	230
11/2/1993	3000
1/10/1994	40
3/7/1994	170
5/4/1994	170
6/21/1994	300
8/22/1994	170
11/8/1994	1300
1/10/1995	300
3/7/1995	500
4/18/1995	40
7/11/1995	200
9/12/1995	40
11/6/1995	1300
1/10/1996	40
3/6/1996	170
5/7/1996	80
7/10/1996	300
9/9/1996	80

**\*All data in MPN (Most Probable Number), unless noted by MF (Membrane Filtration)**



Table 2.2b Available More Recent Fecal Coliform Data from the Jourdan River near Kiln, Station 02481660

Date	Fecal Coliform (counts/100ml)
12/11/1996	240
1/8/1997	1600-MF
2/5/1997	8100-MF
4/3/1997	170
5/6/1997	350
7/7/1997	540
8/11/1997	1600
9/4/1997	170
10/1/1997	31
11/17/1997	240
1/6/1998	1600
2/3/1998	240
3/3/1998	21
4/14/1998	33
6/15/1998	9000
7/13/1998	170

**\*All data in MPN (Most Probable Number), unless noted by MF (Membrane Filtration)**

Table 2.2c Fecal Coliform Data from the Jourdan River (02481660) during two Intensive Surveys

July 1998 Water Quality Study					
Station #	Date	Time	Sample Depth (ft)	FC - MPN (#/100 ml)	FC - MF (#/100 ml)
JR3 (02481660)	07/14/1998	17:25	0.5	350	610
JR3 (02481660)	07/15/1998	11:55	1	240	400
JR3 (02481660)	07/16/1998	10:50	1	33	300
April 1999 Water Quality Study					
Station #	Date	Time	Sample Depth (ft)	FC - MPN (#/100 ml)	FC - MF (#/100 ml)
JR3 (02481660)	04/19/1999	13:00	7	23	46
JR3 (02481660)	04/21/1999	11:50	7	7.8	
JR3 (02481660)	04/22/1999	11:12	8	46	25

## 2.2.2 Analysis of Instream Water Quality Monitoring Data

A statistical summary of the water quality data that resulted in the 303(d) Listing is presented in Table 2.2d. Samples are compared to the instantaneous maximum standard of 400 counts per 100 ml. The percent exceedance was calculated by dividing the number of exceedances by the total number of samples and does not represent the amount of time that the water quality is in violation.

Table 2.2d Statistical Summary for Station 02481660 (Oct. 1991 – Sept. 1996) corresponding to 303(d) Listing

<b>Season</b>	<b>Number of Samples</b>	<b>Minimum Value (counts/100ml)</b>	<b>Maximum Value (counts/100ml)</b>	<b>Number of Exceedances</b>	<b>Percent Instantaneous Exceedance</b>
Annual	29	40	5000	8	28%

A statistical summary of all of the data shown in Table 2.2a, 2.2b, and 2.2c is provided in Table 2.2e.

Table 2.2e Statistical Summary for Station 02481660 (Oct. 1991 – April 1999) corresponding to all available data

<b>Season</b>	<b>Number of Samples</b>	<b>Minimum Value (counts/100ml)</b>	<b>Maximum Value (counts/100ml)</b>	<b>Number of Exceedances</b>	<b>Percent Instantaneous Exceedance</b>
Annual	53	7.8	9000	15	28%

## **3.0 SOURCE ASSESSMENT**

The TMDL evaluation summarized in this report examined all known potential fecal coliform sources in the portion of Jourdan River Watershed represented in this TMDL. The source assessment was used as the basis of development for the model and ultimate analysis of the TMDL allocation options. In evaluation of the sources, loads were characterized by the best available information, monitoring data, literature values, and local management activities. This section documents the available information and interpretation for the analysis. The representation of the following sources in the model is discussed in Section 4.0, Modeling Procedure: Linking the Sources to the Endpoint.

### **3.1 Assessment of Point Sources**

Typically, point sources of fecal coliform bacteria have their greatest potential impact on water quality during periods of low flow. There are no point sources permitted for fecal coliform bacteria in the portion of the Jourdan River Watershed represented in this TMDL. Point sources discharging in the tidally influenced area were considered to be a direct discharge to the Bay and were not included as part of the watershed model input data.

### **3.2 Assessment of Nonpoint Sources**

There are many potential nonpoint sources of fecal coliform bacteria for the Jourdan River, including:

- ◆ Wildlife
- ◆ Land application of hog and cattle manure
- ◆ Grazing animals
- ◆ Land application of poultry litter
- ◆ Urban development
- ◆ Direct Inputs

The 139,000 acre drainage area of the Jourdan River represented in this TMDL contains many different landuse types, including urban, forest, cropland, pasture, barren, and wetlands. The modeled landuse information for the watershed is based on two different data sets which are representative of different time periods. Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System (GIRAS) land use data from the 1970s, which is available on the EPA BASINS web site, was used for this project. The BASINS default land use data, originally obtained from USGS, uses the Anderson Level I and Level II classifications. This data was applied to simulations for the period 1965 through 1985. Updated land use data from 1992-1993 were obtained from the Mississippi Automated Resources Information System (MARIS) data set and merged with the BASINS 2.0 data by using the EPA Watershed Characterization System (WCS) utility program. This landuse information is based on data collected by the State of Mississippi's Automated Resource Information System. This dataset is based on Landsat Thematic Mapper digital images taken between 1992 and 1993. The MARIS data are classified on a modified Anderson level I and II system. The MARIS landuse dataset was used for the hydrologic calibration period of 1987 through 1999. For modeling purposes the landuse categories were grouped into the landuse categories of urban, forest, cropland, pasture, barren, and wetlands. The contributions of each of these land types to the fecal coliform loading of

the Jourdan River was considered on a subwatershed basis. Figure 3.2 and Table 3.2 show the landuse distribution for the watershed.

The nonpoint fecal coliform contribution from each landuse was estimated using the latest information available. The MARIS landuse data for Mississippi was utilized by the WCS to extract landuse sizes, populations, and agriculture census data. Several agencies were contacted and the watershed was visited to refine the assumptions made in determining the fecal coliform loading. The GAP Study provided information on wildlife density in the Jourdan River Watershed. The Mississippi State Department of Health was contacted regarding the failure rate of septic tank systems in this portion of the state. Mississippi State University researchers provided information on manure application practices and loading rates for hog farms and cattle operations. The Natural Resources Conservation Service also provided information on manure treatment practices and land application of manure.

Figure 3.2 Landuse Distribution

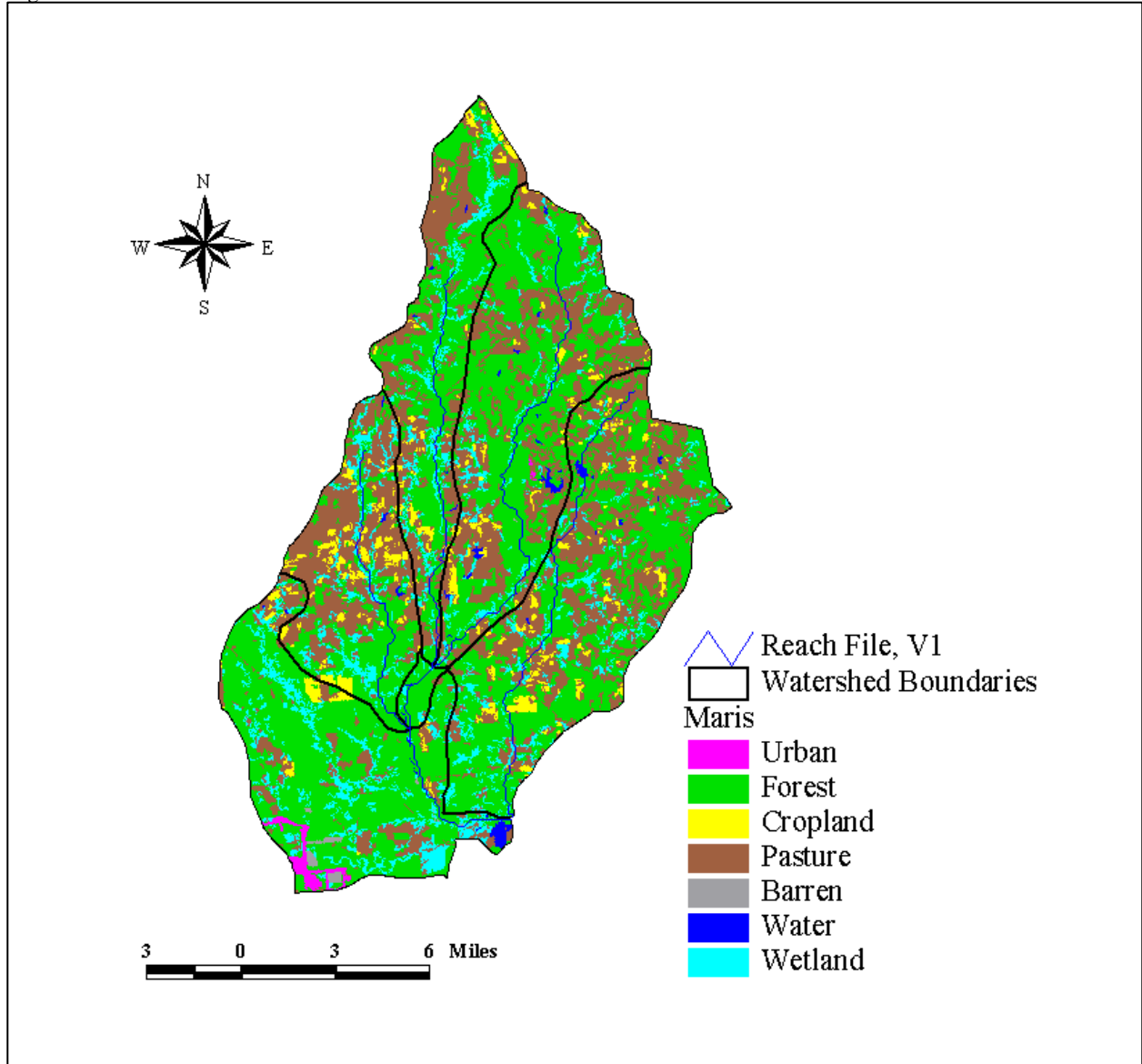


Table 3.2 Landuse Distribution for the Entire Jourdan River Watershed Represented in Phase One in Number of Acres

Subwatershed	Urban	Forest	Cropland	Pasture	Barren	Wetland	Total
03170009026	0	31,712	1,617	3,464	27	0	<b>36,820</b>
03170009027	738	25,608	584	614	319	526	<b>28,389</b>
03170009028	0	1,174	18	1	0	39	<b>1,232</b>
03170009029	27	27,699	957	3,897	13	30	<b>32,623</b>
03170009030	0	17,379	872	3,052	12	3	<b>21,318</b>
03170009031	0	12,155	1,506	4,505	0	9	<b>18,175</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>765</b>	<b>115,727</b>	<b>5,554</b>	<b>15,533</b>	<b>371</b>	<b>607</b>	<b>138,557</b>

### **3.2.1 Wildlife**

Wildlife present in the Jourdan River Watershed contributes to fecal coliform bacteria on the land surface and as a direct input to the stream. In the Jourdan River model, all wildlife was represented by considering contributions from deer. Estimates of deer population were designed to account for the deer combined with all of the other wildlife, such as ducks and geese, contributing to the area. An upper limit of 30 deer per square mile was used as the estimate. The wildlife population was modeled as a constant variable throughout the year.

### **3.2.2 Land Application of Hog and Cattle Manure**

In the Jourdan River Watershed processed manure from confined hog and dairy cattle operations is assumed to be collected in lagoons and routinely applied to pastureland during April through October. This manure is a potential contributor of bacteria to receiving waterbodies due to runoff produced during a rain event. Hog farms in the Jourdan River Watershed operate by either keeping the animals confined or by allowing hogs to graze in a small pasture or pen. For this model, it was assumed that all of the hog manure produced by either farming method was applied evenly to the available pastureland. Application rates of hog manure to pastureland from confined operations varied monthly according to management practices currently used in this area.

The dairy farms that are currently operating in the Jourdan River Watershed only confine the animals for a limited time during the day. The model assumed a confinement time of four hours per day, during which time the cattle are milked and fed. The manure collected during confinement is applied to the available pastureland in the watershed. Like the hog farms, application rates of dairy cow manure to pastureland vary monthly according to management practices currently used in this area.

### **3.2.3 Grazing Beef and Dairy Cattle**

Grazing cattle deposit manure on pastureland where it is available for wash-off and delivery to receiving waterbodies. The dairy farms that are currently operating in the Jourdan River Watershed only confine the animals for a limited time during the day. The model assumed a confinement time of four hours per day. During all other times, dairy cattle are assumed to graze on pasturelands. Beef cattle have access to pastureland for grazing all of the time. The manure produced by grazing cattle was modeled as a fecal coliform load to available pastureland in the watershed.

### **3.2.4 Land Application of Poultry Litter**

Like hog and cattle manure, poultry litter is modeled by applying only to pastureland and not to cropland. Poultry litter is a potential contributor of pathogens to streams in the watershed when a rain event washes a portion of it to a receiving waterbody. It is assumed that all of the poultry litter from chicken houses is applied evenly to the available pastureland. While there are some alternative uses of poultry litter, such as utilization as cattle feed, almost all of the litter in the state is used as fertilizer.

Predominantly two kinds of chickens are raised on farms in the Jourdan River Watershed, broilers and layers. The growth time of the broiler chickens from when the chicken is born to when it is sold off the farm

is approximately 48 days, which is about 1/7 of a year. Conversely, layer chickens remain on farms for ten months or longer. To estimate the number of chickens in the watershed on any given day, the number of broiler chickens sold is divided by seven and added to the number of layers.

### **3.2.5 Urban Development**

Urban areas include land classified as urban and barren. Only a small percentage of the Jourdan River Watershed is classified as urban. It is primarily concentrated around the Bay and will be addressed in the Phase Two TMDL report for the tidally influenced area. However, the contribution of the urban areas in the other parts of the watershed to fecal coliform loading in the Jourdan River was considered.

### **3.2.6 Direct Inputs**

Failing septic systems, illicit dischargers, and animals with access to the stream are nonpoint sources that have the potential to directly deposit in the stream with no time or mechanism for die off of the organisms. Therefore, these sources account for a large percentage of the actual load in the stream.

Septic systems have a potential to deliver fecal coliform bacteria loads to surface waters due to malfunctions, failures, and direct pipe discharges. Properly operating septic systems treat wastewater and dispose of the water through a series of underground field lines. The water is applied through these lines into a rock substrate, thence into underground absorption. The systems can fail when the field lines are broken, or when the underground substrate is clogged or flooded. A failing septic system's discharge can reach the surface, where it becomes available for wash off into the stream. Also, a potential problem is an illicit direct pipe bypassing the septic system or the field lines and discharging directly to a stream in an effort to keep the waste off the land.

Another consideration is the use of individual onsite wastewater treatment plants. These treatment systems are in wide use in Mississippi. They can adequately treat wastewater when properly maintained. However, these systems may not receive the maintenance needed for proper, long-term operation. These systems require disinfection to properly operate. When this expense is ignored, the water is discharged with higher pathogenic concentrations than intended.

Cattle and other animals often have direct access to flowing and intermittent streams that run through pastureland. These small pasture streams are tributaries of larger streams. Fecal coliform bacteria deposited in the streams are modeled as a direct input of bacteria to the Jourdan River. In order to estimate the amount of bacteria introduced into streams from animals, it was assumed that four percent of the manure load produced by cattle represents the available load. This four percent represents manure loading by all animals in the watershed.

## **4.0 MODELING PROCEDURE: LINKING THE SOURCES TO THE ENDPOINT**

Establishing the relationship between the instream water quality target and the source loading is a critical component of TMDL development. It allows for the evaluation of management options that will achieve the desired source load allocations. Ideally, the linkage will be supported by monitoring data that allow the TMDL developer to associate certain waterbody responses to flow and loading conditions. In this section, the selection of the modeling tools, setup, and model application are discussed.

### **4.1 Modeling Framework Selection**

As described earlier, the monitored and evaluated segments of the Jourdan River and the Jourdan River Watershed are included within the St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project. However, this Phase One Jourdan River TMDL is addressing only the freshwater portion of the system. The St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project utilizes two computer simulation models. The NPSM model, described below, was used to model the watershed hydrology and load washoff of the entire St. Louis Bay Watershed. It was also used to model the hydraulic response and water quality of the freshwater rivers and streams in the watershed including the Jourdan. The watershed model was linked with the Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code (EFDC) model to simulate hydrodynamics, salinity, temperature, and water quality in the Bay and tidally influenced portions of the freshwater systems. The Bay model will be described in more detail in the MSU report and Phase Two of the St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project.

Several stormwater models were considered for use in the freshwater portion of this project. The Non-Point Source Model (NPSM) within the Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources (BASINS) platform was chosen due to its superior water quality routines as applied to large, complex basins. The BASINS model platform and the NPSM model were used to predict the significance of fecal coliform sources to fecal coliform levels in the Jourdan River Watershed. BASINS is a multipurpose environmental analysis system for use in performing watershed and water quality-based studies. A geographic information system (GIS) provides the integrating framework for BASINS and allows for the display and analysis of a wide variety of landscape information such as landuses, monitoring stations, point source discharges, and stream descriptions. The NPSM model simulates nonpoint source runoff from selected watersheds, as well as the transport and flow of the pollutants through stream reaches. A key reason for using BASINS as the modeling framework is its ability to integrate both point and nonpoint sources in the simulation, as well as its ability to assess instream water quality response.

### **4.2 Model Setup**

The freshwater headwaters of the Jourdan River, located in HUC 03170009, were modeled within the watershed modeling system. The results for the freshwater portion of the Jourdan River Watershed are presented separately in this Phase One TMDL. The freshwater portion of the Jourdan River Watershed was divided into six subwatersheds in order to isolate the major stream reaches and to allow for the relative contribution of nonpoint sources to be addressed within each subwatershed.

At least the first 12 months of the model results were considered a stabilization period and disregarded.



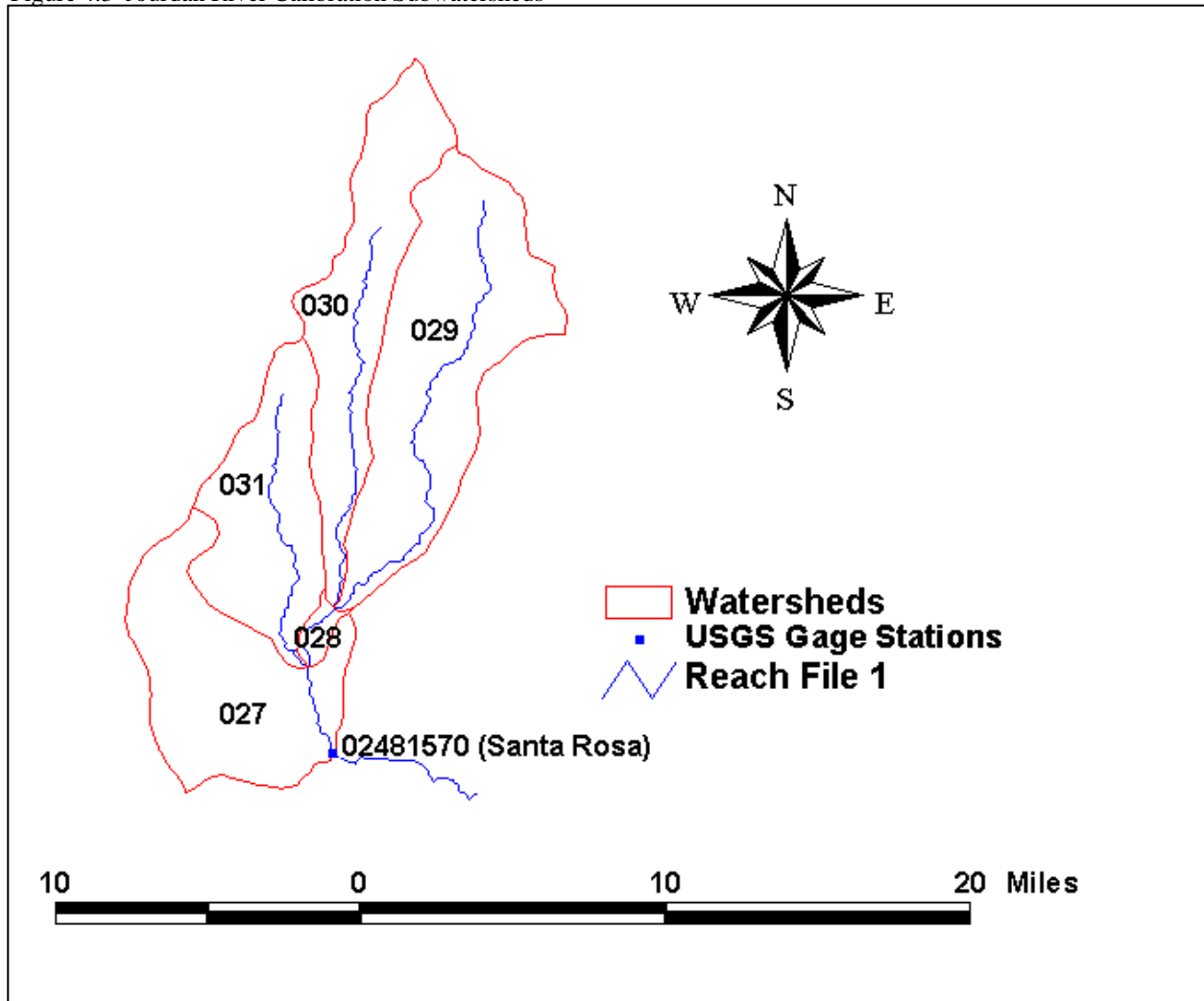
### **4.3 Hydrologic Calibration**

Hydrologic calibration has been achieved by comparing predicted flow to historical flow data at a USGS Station, 02481570, near Santa Rosa which is shown in Figure 4.3. The most significant factors to develop a well calibrated computational NPSM model include: (1) accurate sub-watershed delineation, (2) stream data assessment, (3) representative precipitation data, (4) land use data, and (5) proper selection of modeling parameters. Some of the factors found to be most influential in this calibration were storage, infiltration and interception of the lower and upper soil zones, and the friction and hydrograph parameters for stream reaches.

#### **4.3.1 Subwatershed Delineation**

The watershed delineation for the Jourdan River calibration at Santa Rosa is depicted in Figure 4.3. The Santa Rosa gaging station reflects a drainage area of 155 square miles. This drainage area was subdivided into five sub-watersheds for development of the NPSM calibration simulation. Delineation was based upon Reach File 1 resolution river data and watershed topography. Reach characteristics for each river segment are summarized in Table 4.3a.

Figure 4.3 Jourdan River Calibration Subwatersheds



### 4.3.2 Stream Data Assessment

Daily discharge measurements are available for the Jourdan River from a USGS gage station that was maintained near Santa Rosa from July 1, 1962 to September 30, 1966. These data were obtained from the USGS web site and converted into a format required for input into the NPSM model. The river characteristics for the Jourdan River subwatersheds are shown in Table 4.3a.

Table 4.3a River Characteristics for Hydrologic Calibration on Jourdan River at Santa Rosa

Subwatershed	Stream Name	River Length (mile)	Delta h (ft)	River Elevation (ft)
03170009027	Jourdan River	3.00	13.00	30.00
03170009028	Jourdan River	2.40	7.00	42.50
03170009029	Hickory Creek	17.70	104.67	98.34
03170009030	Catahoula Creek	14.30	104.95	98.48
03170009031	Mill Creek	10.60	109.14	93.57

### **4.3.3 Precipitation Data**

Precipitation and other meteorological data are available from several climatological stations in the area. Although the data would be considered extensive for many purposes, it is very limited within the context of developing a computational watershed model. The most relevant data were obtained from the Wiggins Ranger Station, Poplarville Experimental Station, Saucier Experiment Forest, Picayune, Bay St Louis NASA, White Sand, Standard, and Slidell weather stations.

A reasonable computational model requires that hourly boundary data (primarily precipitation) be supplied to the model. However, Saucier Experiment Forest, White Sand, Wiggins, and Slidell are the only regional weather stations for which hourly data were recorded. Daily data were obtained from the remaining stations.

The daily data were disaggregated into hourly data by using the METCMP and WDMutil programs obtained from the USGS and USEPA, respectively. Disaggregation was based upon the hourly precipitation patterns data at Saucier Experiment Forest, Wiggins Ranger Station, or White Sand as appropriate. Table 4.3b summarizes the location, frequency, duration, and disaggregation station for the available meteorological data.

As with other hydrologic models, NPSM applies spatially uniform precipitation at the sub-watershed level. Unfortunately, none of the weather stations are located within the Santa Rosa subwatershed. Consequently, precipitation data of primary importance must be extrapolated from nearest available weather stations. The applied weather stations for hydrologic calibration on the Jourdan River watershed are listed in Table 4.3c along with the landuse information.

Table 4.3b St. Louis Bay Watershed Meteorological Data

Station Name	COOPID	Location (Lat, Long)	Frequency	Available Data	Station for Dissaggregation
Saucier Experiment Forest	MS227840	30° 38' N 89° 03' W	Hourly	5/1/1954-Present	-
Wiggins/ Wiggins Ranger Station	MS229639	30° 51' N 89° 09' W	Hourly	1/1/1948-1982	-
	MS229648		Hourly	10/1/1973-Pres	
White Sand	MS229617	30° 48' N 89° 41' W	Hourly	1/1/1940-Present	-
Poplarville Exp Station	MS227128	30° 51' N 89° 33' W	Daily	1/1/1948-Present	White Sand
Standard	MS228352	30° 32' N 89° 22' W	Daily	1/1/1948-1988	Saucier Exp Forest
Picayune	MS226921	30° 31' N 89° 42' W	Daily	7/1/1962-Present	White Sand
Bay St Louis/ Bay St Louis NASA	MS220519	30° 18' N 89° 20' W	Daily	4/1/1931-1979	White Sand
	MS220521	30° 22' N 89° 35' W	Daily	8/1/1969-Pres	
Gulfport Naval Center	MS223671	30° 23' N 89° 08' W	Daily	6/1/1956-Present	Saucier Exp Forest
Slidell WSFO	LA168539	30° 20' N 89° 49' W	Hourly	4/1/1974-Present	-

#### 4.3.4 Land Use Data for Hydrologic Calibration

GIRAS land use data from 1970s is made available by EPA through BASINS 2.0 and was obtained from the BASINS web site for this project. The BASINS default land use data were originally obtained from USGS Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System (GIRAS) and use the Anderson Level I and Level II classifications. This data was applied to simulations for the period 1965 through 1985.

Updated land use data from 1992-1993 were obtained from the MARIS data set and merged with the BASINS 2.0 data by using the USEPA Watershed Characterization System (WCS) utility program. This landuse information is based on data collected by the State of Mississippi's Automated Resource Information System. This dataset is based on Landsat Thematic Mapper digital images taken between 1992 and 1993. The MARIS data are classified on a modified Anderson level I and II system. The MARIS landuse dataset was used for hydrologic calibration period 1987 through 1999.

Table 4.3c Landuse Distribution in Acres for the Portion of the Jourdan River Watershed used for Hydrologic Calibration at Santa Rosa

Landuse Type	Sub-Watershed	Stream Name	Urban, Built-up	Agriculture	Forest	Wetland	Barren	Total Area	Applied Weather Station
GIRAS	03170009027	Jourdan River	0	1,771	21,940	0	0	23,711	Bay St Louis NASA
	03170009028	Jourdan River	0	31	1,216	0	0	1,247	Picayune
	03170009029	Hickory Creek	21	9,845	22,946	0	17	32,829	Standard
	03170009030	Catahoula Creek	0	7,569	13,774	0	6	21,343	Picayune
	03170009031	Mill Creek	196	8,586	9,386	0	0	18,168	Picayune
	All							97,298	
MARIS	03170009027	Jourdan River	291	1,115	22,117	0	208	23,731	Bay St Louis NASA
	03170009028	Jourdan River	0	18	1,174	0	39	1,231	Picayune
	03170009029	Hickory Creek	27	4,854	27,699	30	13	32,623	Picayune
	03170009030	Catahoula Creek	0	3,924	17,379	3	12	21,318	Picayune
	03170009031	Mill Creek	0	6,011	12,155	8.9	0	18,166	Picayune
	All							97,069	

### 4.3.5 Hydrologic Calibration Parameters

Initial hydrologic calibration on Jourdan River near Santa Rosa was accomplished utilizing historical data for the period from 1962 to 1966. Hydrologic parameters found in the initial hydrologic calibration on the Wolf River at Lyman and Landon were used in the hydrologic calibration at Santa Rosa.

### 4.3.6 Hydrologic Calibration Results

Using the boundary data and watershed delineation described, the Jourdan River watershed was modeled from 1965 to 1966. As expected simulation results were most sensitive to the applied precipitation data. Comparisons with stream gage data have been made graphically and by calculation of integral stream volumetric flux on both seasonal and individual storm variations. The integral stream quantities were calculated following the procedure outlined by EPA for TMDL studies.

Measured versus calculated stream flow, using the optimal NPSM parameters and the preferred precipitation scenario is depicted in Graphs A-1 through A-2 in Appendix A and Table 4.3d for selected times and events within the modeled period. The percent error in simulated and observed flow rates and volumes for the year 1965 are provided in Table 4.3d. The overall trend of the comparisons is quite good with many of the major storm events being captured.

Table 4.3d Percent Error and Comparison of Observed and Computed Flow and Volume

	<b>Simulated</b>	<b>Observed</b>
<b>Year</b>	<b>1965</b>	<b>1965</b>
<b>Total in-stream Flow</b>	17.73	15.62
Total of highest 10% flow	7.60	8.72
Total of lowest 50% flow	2.89	1.58
Summer flow volume (months 7-9)	3.15	2.04
Fall flow volume (months 10-12)	5.32	2.87
Winter flow volume (months 1-3)	7.11	9.56
Spring flow volume (months 4-6)	2.15	1.15
Total storm volume	15.88	14.01
Summer storm volume (7-9)	2.68	1.63
<b>Errors (Simulated - Observed)</b>	<b>1965</b>	
Error in total volume	11.88	
Error in 50% lowest volume	45.42	
Error in 10% highest flows	-14.83	
Seasonal volume error -Summer	35.27	
Seasonal volume error - Fall	45.97	
Seasonal volume error - Winter	-34.45	
Seasonal volume error - Spring	46.54	
Error in storm volumes	11.76	
Error in summer storm volumes	39.14	

As expected, there are isolated storm events for which data correlation is less than desired. For such events, it is instructive to examine the temporal and spatial storm variation in the watershed to determine whether discrepancies are most likely attributable to model deficiencies or data deficiencies.

#### 4.4 Selection of Representative Modeling Period

The model was run from 1965-1966 for calibration at Santa Rosa. However, representative wet and dry years were also used for predictive modeling work, as well as an 11 year span from 1987 through 1999. Because these large time spans are used, a margin of safety is implicitly applied. Seasonality and critical conditions are accounted for during the extended time frame of the simulation.

The critical condition for fecal coliform impairment from nonpoint source contributors occurs after a heavy rainfall that is preceded by several days of dry weather. The dry weather allows a build up of fecal coliform bacteria, which is then washed off the ground by a heavy rainfall. By using the 11-year time period, many such occurrences are captured in the model results. Critical conditions for point sources, which occur during low-flow and low-dilution conditions, are simulated as well.

#### 4.5 Source Representation

Both point and nonpoint sources can be represented in the model. Since there are no permitted point sources in the freshwater portion of the Jourdan River Watershed, only nonpoint sources are identified in this Phase One TMDL. However, the contribution from failing septic tanks is divided equally between the waste load allocation and the load allocation to represent the potential for that portion of the failing septic tank load to become a permitted point source in the future. A fecal coliform spreadsheet was utilized for quantifying the nonpoint sources of bacteria in each of the subwatersheds. This spreadsheet calculates the

model inputs for fecal coliform loading due to nonpoint sources using local and literature values, along with some assumptions, about land management, septic systems, farming practices, and permitted point source contributions. Each of the potential bacteria sources is covered in the fecal coliform spreadsheet.

Nonpoint sources of fecal coliform bacteria can be grouped into two components: urban and non-urban areas. The Phase One TMDLs on the Wolf River and the Jourdan River primarily address non-urban nonpoint sources, while the Phase Two TMDLs primarily address urban nonpoint sources.

Fecal coliform loadings from non-urban nonpoint sources in the watershed were calculated based upon wildlife populations, livestock populations, information on livestock and manure management practices, and failing septic tanks and illicit dischargers for the Jourdan River Watershed. The phasing of the TMDLs is not only a benefit in differentiating between the areas contributing to freshwater and saltwater, but the phasing also provides a benefit in being able to concentrate on the different types of nonpoint sources.

The nonpoint sources are represented in the model with two different methods. The first of these methods is a direct fecal coliform loading to the waterbodies in the Jourdan River Watershed. Other nonpoint sources are represented as an application rate to the land in the Jourdan River Watershed, which enter the waterbody as a distributed source. For these sources, fecal coliform accumulation rates in counts per acre per day were calculated for each subwatershed on a monthly basis and input to the model for each landuse. Fecal coliform contributions from forests and wetlands were considered to be equal. Urban and barren areas were also considered to produce equal loads. The fecal coliform accumulation rate for pastureland is the sum of accumulation rates due to litter application, wildlife, processed manure, and grazing animals. For cropland, the accumulation rate is only due to wildlife. Accumulation rates for pastureland are calculated on a monthly basis to account for seasonal variations in manure and litter application.

#### **4.5.1 Wildlife**

Based on information provided by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries at Mississippi State University the deer population throughout the Jourdan River Watershed was estimated to be 20 to 30 animals per square mile. For the model, the upper limit of 30 deer per square mile was used to account for the deer and all other wildlife contributing to fecal coliform accumulation in the area. The wildlife contribution in counts per acre per day is calculated by multiplying a loading rate by the number of animals. The loading rate used in the model was estimated to be  $5.00E+08$  counts per day per animal. The per acre loading rate applied to the landuses is  $2.34E+07$  counts per acre per day.

#### **4.5.2 Land Application of Hog and Cattle Manure**

The fecal coliform spreadsheet was used to estimate the fecal coliform loadings contributed by hog and cattle from each subwatershed. Fecal coliform production rates of  $1.08E+08$  count per day per hog and  $5.40E+09$  counts per day per cow were used to quantify the fecal coliform loadings (ASAE, 1998 and Metcalf and Eddy, 1991). Manure application rates to pastureland vary on a monthly basis. Data from Pascagoula River Basin study were used to estimate the manure application rates.

### **4.5.3 Grazing Beef and Dairy Cattle**

Manure produced by grazing beef and dairy cattle is assumed to be evenly spread on pastureland throughout the year. The number of grazing cattle is computed by subtracting the number of confined cattle from the total number of cattle on each sub-watershed. The cattle population was determined from the 1997 Census of Agriculture Data. The fecal coliform content of manure produced by grazing cattle is estimated by multiplying the number of grazing cattle by a fecal coliform production rate of  $5.40\text{E}+09$  counts per day per animal (Metcalf and Eddy, 1991). No manure was applied to cropland area in the model.

### **4.5.4 Land Application of Poultry Litter**

The fecal coliform spreadsheet was used to estimate the concentration of bacteria, which accumulates in the dry litter where poultry waste is collected. The fecal coliform production rate of  $6.75\text{E}+07$  MPN per day per chicken (ASAE, 1998) was used to calculate the concentration of fecal coliform. The chicken population was determined from the 1997 Census of Agriculture Data for the number of chickens sold for each county per year. The chicken population was assumed to be normalized by watershed area. Variable monthly loading rates of litter were applied to pastureland. No litter was applied to cropland area in the model.

### **4.5.5 Urban Development**

The urban and barren areas in the Jourdan River Watershed were combined and classified as high density, low density, or transportation. Fecal coliform buildup rates for each classification were determined from the following literature rates of  $1.54\text{E}+07$  counts per acre per day for high density areas,  $1.03\text{E}+07$  counts per acre per day for low density areas, and  $2.00\text{E}+05$  counts per acre per day for transportation areas (Horner, 1992).

### **4.5.6 Direct Inputs**

The number of failing septic systems used in the model was derived from the watershed area normalized county populations. The percentage of the population on septic systems was determined from 1990 United States Census Data. A failure rate of 50 percent was estimated based on the coastal environmental conditions of a high ground water table and saturated geologic material. This information was used to calculate the estimated number of failing septic tanks per watershed. The number of failing septic tanks also incorporates an estimate for the failing individual onsite wastewater treatment systems and illicit dischargers in the area. Discharges from failing septic systems were quantified based on several factors including the estimated population served by the septic systems, an average daily discharge of 70 gallons per person per day, and a septic system effluent fecal coliform concentration of  $10^4$  counts per 100 ml. The septic system contribution in the model is based on the assumption that all fecal coliform bacteria discharged from failing septic systems directly reaches the stream. Additionally, these failing septic system discharges were assumed to be constant throughout the whole simulation.

The direct contribution of fecal coliform from animals to a stream is also represented as a direct source to the stream in the model. The fecal coliform loading is estimated by using a representative



number of cattle and a bacteria production rate of  $5.40\text{E}+09$  counts per animal per day (Metcalf and Eddy, 1991).

## **4.6 Water Quality Calibration Process**

Water quality calibration was begun after completion of the hydrology calibration described in Section 4.3. Whereas, flow modeling deals with a single constituent, water quantity, and a single primary source, precipitation, water quality must consider numerous constituents, various forms or species, and multiple sources. Fecal coliform contributions from all sources are estimated or measured, hydrologic transport processes are superimposed, and then water quality modeling is performed to allow adjustments in parameters and sources as part of the calibration process.

Water quality calibration is an iterative process; the model predictions are the integrated results of all the assumptions used in developing the model input and in representing the modeled process. Difference in model predictions and the observations require the model user to re-evaluate these assumptions, in terms of both the estimated model input and model parameters, and consider the accuracy and uncertainty in the observations.

To develop a representative linkage between the sources and the instream water quality response in all the reaches in the St. Louis Bay Watershed, model parameters were adjusted until reasonable nonpoint and point source loading rates were found. Parameters related to fecal coliform surface loading as well as background concentrations in the reaches were adjusted by comparing the modeled in-stream concentrations to available observed data. This process was limited by the absence of continuous data for high flow and storm flow conditions. The loading parameters for urban and non-urban areas were compared with those from previous modeling studies.

### **4.6.1 Comparison of Expected and Simulated Nonpoint Loading Rates**

How nonpoint source loading rate changes as a function of land use, climate, soil characteristics, topography, management practices, and other human activities has been a major topic of environmental concern and investigation for more than twenty years. However, in spite of this concern, exact quantitative predictions of expected loading rates for site specific conditions are difficult to derive from available field monitoring due to the wide variations observed even within a specific land use under similar soils, topographic, and climatic (Donigian et al, 1994).

The goal of this section is to define the expected range of loading rates from available literature, as a basis for evaluating and calibrating the model predicted loading rates, and determine if any changes or adjustments to the original nonpoint parameters could be justified. Unfortunately, there is no available loading rate data for the St. Louis Bay Watershed. The values of loading rates recommended for nonpoint source modeling in Georgia and other studies are shown in Table 4.6a. The table provides a brief summary of results from previous studies with ranges of loading rates for fecal coliform for the major land use categories in the NPSM watershed model.

Table 4.6a Literature Values of Landuse Loading Rates

Symbol	Definition	Units	Landuse Type	Tallahala Creek, MS	Red Creek, MS	South Fork South Branch Potomac River, West Virginia
A C Q O P	Rate of accumulation of FC	Cfu/ac.day	Urban	1.01E+08 – 8.09E+10	1.94E+08 – 1.06E+10	5.01E+08
			Agriculture	1.76E+09 – 1.13E+11	2.11E+09 – 5.99E+10	1.89E+09 – 9.46E+09
			Pastureland	2.61E+12 – 2.86E+13	1.69E+12 – 1.68E+13	1.89E+09 – 9.46E+09
			Forest	2.12E+11 – 2.10E+12	1.99E+12 – 1.86E+13	3.26E+07 – 6.87E+07
			Barren	1.01E+08 – 8.09E+10	1.94E+08 – 1.06E+10	5.01E+08
S Q O L I M	Maximum Storage	Cfu/ac	Urban	-	-	4.51E+09
			Agriculture	-	-	1.70E+10 – 8.51E+10
			Pastureland	-	-	1.70E+10 – 8.51E+10
			Forest	-	-	2.93E+08 – 6.18E+08
			Barren	-	-	4.51E+09

The total accumulation for each landuse type was determined by combining the contributions from each subwatershed. The loading rates are constant throughout the year for forest, cropland, and urban land. However, the loading rates for pastureland vary monthly. Generally, the simulated loading rates for the St. Louis Bay Watershed are within the range of available literature values shown.

#### 4.6.2 Instream Water Quality Concentrations

Once nonpoint and point source loading rates were deemed to be reasonable, the instream water quality calibration focused on adjustments to selected instream parameters to improve agreement with observed concentrations. The primary parameter of concern was the decay rate for fecal coliform.

Ideally, fecal coliform decay rate should be determined in-situ. This, however, would require an extensive monitoring effort under controlled environmental and bading conditions. For purposes of this modeling project, an extensive search of the literature was conducted to determine the magnitude and the range of fecal coliform decay rates in fresh water and marine environments. Mancini (1978) recommended a fresh water mortality rate of 0.80/day at 20° C. Mitchell and Chamberlin (1978) provided a listing of in-situ measured decay rates, provided in Table 4.6b.

For modeling of the St. Louis Bay, decay rates of 0.3/day - 0.8/day were investigated. Based on the available field data for calibration, a decay rate of 0.6/day at 20°C, in combination with a temperature correction factor of 1.07, were selected for fresh water. Graph A-3 shows the water quality simulation results for one major station in the St. Louis Bay Watershed. In this figure, daily

simulated and observed values of fecal coliform were compared. The simulation results for fecal coliform are generally quite good and within the range of observed values.

Table 4.6b Freshwater Decay Rates of Coliform Bacteria

System	Temperature Indication	T <sub>90</sub> [h]	k [d <sup>-1</sup> ]
Cumberland River	Summer	10	5.52
Glatt River	-	2.1	26.4
Groundwater stream	10°C	110	0.504
Leaf River (Mississippi)	-	135	0.408
Lower Illinois River	June - September	27	2.04
	October and May	63	0.888
	December - March	90	0.624
	April - November	80	0.696
Missouri River	Winter	115	0.48
Ohio River	Summer (20°C)	47	1.176
	Winter (5°C)	51	1.08
Sacramento River	Summer	32	1.728
"Shallow turbulent stream"	-	3.6	15.12
Tennessee River (Chattanooga)	Summer	42	1.32
Tennessee River (Knoxville)	Summer	53	1.032
Upper Illinois River	June - September	27	2.04
	October and May	22	2.52
	December - March	95	0.596
	April and November	53	1.032
Maturation ponds	-	28	1.992
	19°C	33	1.68
Oxidation ponds	20°C	21.3	2.592
Wastewater lagoon	7.9 - 25.5°C	79-276	0.696 - 0.1992

## 4.7 Existing Loading

Appendix A includes graphs of the model results showing the instream fecal coliform concentrations for the most downstream reach of freshwater in the Jourdan River Watershed. Graph A-4 shows the fecal coliform levels during the wet year. Graph A-5 shows the fecal coliform levels during the dry year. Graph A-6 shows the fecal coliform levels during the 11-year modeling period. The graphs show a 30-day geometric mean of the data. The straight line at 200 counts per 100 ml indicates the water quality standard for the stream.

Graphs A-7 through A-9 show the 30-day geometric mean of the fecal coliform levels after the TMDL scenario has been modeled. The scale matches the previous graph for comparison purposes. The graph indicates that there are no violations of the water quality standard for the monitored segment after the TMDL scenario is applied.

## **5.0 ALLOCATION**

The allocation for this TMDL includes a waste load allocation (WLA) for point sources, a load allocation (LA) for nonpoint sources, and an implicit margin of safety (MOS) which will result in a total load reduction of approximately 70 percent. That 70 percent reduction can be achieved through the application of various scenarios. Those scenarios will be described in more detail in an implementation plan to be developed at a later date when more information is available. While this TMDL does not specify the specific scenario which may be applied, it does describe the potential sources in detail.

### **5.1 Wasteload Allocations**

There are no NPDES dischargers in the modeled watersheds, therefore no point sources were included in the model. However, a wasteload allocation for each subwatershed should be based on the load from 50 percent of the allocated failing septic tanks. Septic tank failures in reality are both point and nonpoint contributions and have been calculated as equal contributors to the wasteload allocation component and load allocation component of the TMDL calculation. Future facility permits will require end-of-pipe criteria equivalent to the water quality standard of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml.

### **5.2 Load Allocations**

The load allocation for this TMDL could involve the two different types of nonpoint sources described earlier: those modeled as direct sources to the stream and those modeled as diffuse runoff to the stream. While some nonpoint sources, such as animals in the stream and failing septic tanks were modeled as direct inputs to the stream, other nonpoint source contributions were applied to land area on a counts per day per acre basis and available for transport to the stream in runoff from a rain event. Contributions from direct sources are input into the model in a manner similar to point source input, with a flow and fecal coliform concentration in counts per hour. The fecal coliform bacteria deposited on the land, either through land application or grazing, are subject to a die-off rate and an absorption rate before entering the stream. Therefore, the sources that runoff into the stream are not as predominant of a source as the direct sources. The load allocation is the load resultant from all of the aforementioned sources, direct sources and distributed, which result in meeting the geometric mean water quality standard of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml.

### **5.3 Incorporation of a Margin of Safety (MOS)**

The two types of MOS development are to implicitly incorporate the MOS using conservative model assumptions or to explicitly specify a portion of the total TMDL as the MOS. The MOS selected for this model is implicit. Running the model for 11 years with no violations of the water quality standard provides the primary component of the MOS. Ensuring compliance with the standard throughout all of the critical condition periods represented during the 11 years is a conservative practice. Another component of the MOS is the conservative assumption that in the model all of the fecal coliform bacteria discharged from failing septic tanks reaches the stream, while it is likely that only a portion of the bacteria will reach the stream due to filtration and die off during transport. The use of a die-off rate lower than that suggested by EPA is another conservative assumption.

## **5.4 Calculation of the TMDL**

The St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project is based on a complex three dimensional model that represents fecal coliform levels in St. Louis Bay. The complexity of the modeling project would be over-simplified and compromised by an attempt to represent a number of bacteria in Phase One. A more meaningful calculation method is determining the percent reduction needed to achieve the water quality standard of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml. The total percent reduction needed for the Jourdan River Watershed was determined based on a 30 day critical period according to the model results.

As shown below, the waste load allocation is based only on 50 percent of the failing septic load since there are no NPDES permitted sources in this watershed. The load allocation includes the fecal coliform contributions from surface runoff and direct sources, such as animals in the stream and the other 50 percent of the contribution from failing septic tanks. The margin of safety for this TMDL is implicit and derived from the conservative loading assumptions used in setting up the model. Values will be assigned to the waste load allocation and the load allocation in Phase Two of the St. Louis Bay Modeling Project after all sources are considered. This will allow MDEQ to establish meaningful reduction targets for the overall concentration of fecal coliform in the Jourdan River Watershed which are commensurate with MDEQ's fecal coliform standard.

**WLA** = 50 percent of the Septic Tank Failures

**LA** = Surface Runoff + Direct Sources (50 percent of the Septic Tank Failures  
+ Animals in Stream)

**MOS** = Implicit

**TMDL**= Geometric Mean of 200 fecal coliform colony counts per 100 ml

## **5.5 Seasonality**

For many streams in the state, fecal coliform limits vary according to the seasons. This stream is designated for the use of contact recreation. For this use, the pollutant standard is not seasonal.

The model was run for a representative wet and dry year to save on computer run time, then it was also established for an 11-year time span. It took into account all of the seasons within the calendar years from 1987 to 1998. The extended time period allowed the simulation of many different atmospheric conditions such as rainy and dry periods and high and low temperatures. It also allowed seasonal critical conditions to be simulated.

## **6.0 CONCLUSION**

The St. Louis Bay Fecal Coliform TMDL Modeling Project is a very comprehensive. This Jourdan River TMDL is only a part of the first phase. The TMDLs are being presented in two phases due to the diversity of the systems, processes, and targets involved. Phase One is comprised of TMDLs for the Wolf River and the Jourdan River, which are the primary fresh water sources for St. Louis Bay and have a designated use of contact recreation for which the fecal coliform standard is a geometric mean of 200 counts per 100 ml. Phase Two will follow with TMDLs for the Bay itself and the near shore watersheds, which drain directly to the saltwater of the Bay that has a designated use of shellfish harvesting for which the fecal coliform standard is a median of 14 counts per 100 ml. The phased approach is beneficial not only because different models were used to represent the saltwater and the freshwater systems, but also because the different systems have different targets. The conclusions of this TMDL are applicable to the subwatersheds and processes discussed herein, but more comprehensive conclusions will be provided with the final phase of the project.

### **6.1 Current Conservation Activities**

Several agencies, including the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Consolidated Farm Services Agency (CFSA), the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ), the Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission (MSWCC), the Hancock County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), the Pearl River County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) and the Harrison County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD), are cooperating in an effort to promote the implementation of nonpoint source pollution control best management practices (BMPs).

MDEQ produced guidance for future Section 319 project funding will encourage NPS restoration projects that attempt to address TMDL related issues within Section 303(d)/TMDL watersheds in Mississippi.

### **6.2 Future Monitoring**

Some monitoring programs are already in place in the Jourdan River Watershed including a Wet-Weather Monitoring Program. MDEQ has adopted the Basin Approach to Water Quality Management, a plan that divides Mississippi's major drainage basins into five groups. During each year long cycle, MDEQ resources for water quality monitoring will be focused on one of the basin groups. During the next monitoring phase in the Coastal Streams Basin, Jourdan River will receive additional monitoring to identify any improvements in water quality.

### **6.3 Public Participation**

The public has been very involved and aware of the TMDL work ongoing in the St. Louis Bay Watershed, which includes the Jourdan River Watershed. Several public and agency meetings have been held. This TMDL was also published for a 30-day public notice. The public was given an opportunity to review the TMDL and submit comments.

## DEFINITIONS

**Ambient stations:** a network of fixed monitoring stations established for systematic water quality sampling at regular intervals, and for uniform parametric coverage over a long-term period.

**Assimilative capacity:** the capacity of a body of water or soil-plant system to receive wastewater effluents or sludge without violating the provisions of the State of Mississippi Water Quality Criteria for Intrastate, Interstate, and Coastal Waters and Water Quality regulations.

**Background:** the condition of waters in the absence of man-induced alterations based on the best scientific information available to MDEQ. The establishment of natural background for an altered waterbody may be based upon a similar, unaltered or least impaired, waterbody or on historical pre-alteration data.

**Calibrated model:** a model in which reaction rates and inputs are significantly based on actual measurements using data from surveys on the receiving waterbody.

**Critical Condition:** hydrologic and atmospheric conditions in which the pollutants causing impairment of a waterbody have their greatest potential for adverse effects.

**Daily discharge:** the "discharge of a pollutant" measured during a calendar day or any 24-hour period that reasonably represents the calendar day for purposes of sampling. For pollutants with limitations expressed in units of mass, the "daily discharge" is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with limitations expressed in other units of measurement, the "daily average" is calculated as the average.

**Designated Use:** use specified in water quality standards for each waterbody or segment regardless of actual attainment.

**Disaggregate:** statistically break down into smaller time steps

**Discharge monitoring report:** report of effluent characteristics submitted by a NPDES Permitted facility.

**Effluent standards and limitations:** all State or Federal effluent standards and limitations on quantities, rates, and concentrations of chemical, physical, biological, and other constituents to which a waste or wastewater discharge may be subject under the Federal Act or the State law. This includes, but is not limited to, effluent limitations, standards of performance, toxic effluent standards and prohibitions, pretreatment standards, and schedules of compliance.

**Effluent:** treated wastewater flowing out of the treatment facilities.

**Fecal coliform bacteria:** a group of bacteria that normally live within the intestines of mammals, including humans. Fecal coliform bacteria are used as an indicator of the presence of pathogenic organisms in natural water.

**Geometric mean:** the  $n$ th root of the product of  $n$  numbers. A 30-day geometric mean is the 30<sup>th</sup> root of the product of 30 numbers.

**Impaired Waterbody:** any waterbody that does not attain water quality standards due to an individual pollutant, multiple pollutants, pollution, or an unknown cause of impairment.

**Land Surface Runoff:** water that flows into the receiving stream after application by rainfall or irrigation. It is a transport method for nonpoint source pollution from the land surface to the receiving stream.

**Load allocation (LA):** the portion of a receiving water's loading capacity attributed to or assigned to nonpoint sources (NPS) or background sources of a pollutant. The load allocation is the value assigned to the summation of all direct sources and land applied fecal coliform that enter a receiving waterbody. It also contains a portion of the contribution from septic tanks.

**Loading:** the total amount of pollutants entering a stream from one or multiple sources.

**Nonpoint Source:** pollution that is in runoff from the land. Rainfall, snowmelt, and other water that does not evaporate become surface runoff and either drains into surface waters or soaks into the soil and finds its way into groundwater. This surface water may contain pollutants that come from land use activities such as agriculture; construction; silviculture; surface mining; disposal of wastewater; hydrologic modifications; and urban development.

**NPDES permit:** an individual or general permit issued by the Mississippi Environmental Quality Permit Board pursuant to regulations adopted by the Mississippi Commission on Environmental Quality under Mississippi Code Annotated (as amended) §§ 49-17-17 and 49-17-29 for discharges into State waters.

**Point Source:** pollution loads discharged at a specific location from pipes, outfalls, and conveyance channels from either wastewater treatment plants or industrial waste treatment facilities. Point sources can also include pollutant loads contributed by tributaries to the main receiving stream.

**Pollution:** contamination, or other alteration of the physical, chemical, or biological properties, of any waters of the State, including change in temperature, taste, color, turbidity, or odor of the waters, or such discharge of any liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substance, or leak into any waters of the State, unless in compliance with a valid permit issued by the Permit Board.

**Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW):** a waste treatment facility owned and/or operated by a public body or a privately owned treatment works which accepts discharges which would otherwise be subject to Federal Pretreatment Requirements.

**Regression Coefficient:** an expression of the functional relationship between two correlated variables that is often empirically determined from data, and is used to predict values of one variable when given values of the other variable.

**Scientific Notation (Exponential Notation):** mathematical method in which very large numbers or very small numbers are expressed in a more concise form. The notation is based on powers of ten. Numbers in scientific notation are expressed as the following:  $4.16 \times 10^{(+b)}$  and  $4.16 \times 10^{(-b)}$  [same as  $4.16E4$  or  $4.16E-4$ ]. In this case,  $b$  is always a positive, real number. The  $10^{(+b)}$  tells us that the decimal point is  $b$  places to the right of where it is shown. The  $10^{(-b)}$  tells us that the decimal point is  $b$  places to the left of where it is shown.

For example:  $2.7 \times 10^4 = 2.7E+4 = 27000$  and  $2.7 \times 10^{-4} = 2.7E-4 = 0.00027$ .

**Sigma (S):** shorthand way to express taking the sum of a series of numbers. For example, the sum or total of three amounts 24, 123, 16, ( $d_1, d_2, d_3$ ) respectively could be shown as:

$$\sum_{i=1}^3 d_i = d_1 + d_2 + d_3 = 24 + 123 + 16 = 163$$

**Total Maximum Daily Load or TMDL:** the calculated maximum permissible pollutant loading to a waterbody at which water quality standards can be maintained.

**Waste:** sewage, industrial wastes, oil field wastes, and all other liquid, gaseous, solid, radioactive, or other substances which may pollute or tend to pollute any waters of the State.

**Wasteload allocation (WLA):** the portion of a receiving water's loading capacity attributed to or assigned to point sources of a pollutant. It also contains a portion of the contribution from septic tanks.

**Water Quality Standards:** the criteria and requirements set forth in *State of Mississippi Water Quality Criteria for Intrastate, Interstate, and Coastal Waters*. Water quality standards are standards composed of designated present and future most beneficial uses (classification of waters), the numerical and narrative criteria applied to the specific water uses or classification, and the Mississippi antidegradation policy.

**Water quality criteria:** elements of State water quality standards, expressed as constituent concentrations, levels, or narrative statements, representing a quality of water that supports the present and future most beneficial uses.



**Waters of the State:** all waters within the jurisdiction of this State, including all streams, lakes, ponds, wetlands, impounding reservoirs, marshes, watercourses, waterways, wells, springs, irrigation systems, drainage systems, and all other bodies or accumulations of water, surface and underground, natural or artificial, situated wholly or partly within or bordering upon the State, and such coastal waters as are within the jurisdiction of the State, except lakes, ponds, or other surface waters which are wholly landlocked and privately owned, and which are not regulated under the Federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C.1251 et seq.).

**Watershed:** the area of land draining into a stream at a given location.

## **ABBREVIATIONS**

7Q10.....	Seven-Day Average Low Stream Flow with a Ten-Year Occurrence Period
BASINS.....	Better Assessment Science Integrating Point and Nonpoint Sources
BMP .....	Best Management Practice
CFSA .....	Consolidated Farm Services Agency
CWA .....	Clean Water Act
DMR.....	Discharge Monitoring Report
EFDC.....	Environmental Fluid Dynamics Code
EPA.....	Environmental Protection Agency
GAP.....	Geographic Approach to Planning
GIRAS .....	Geographic Information Retrieval and Analysis System
GIS .....	Geographic Information System
HUC .....	Hydrologic Unit Code
LA.....	Load Allocation
MARIS .....	State of Mississippi Automated Information System
MDEQ.....	Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality
MOS.....	Margin of Safety
MSWCC.....	Mississippi Soil and Water Conservation Commission
NRCS .....	National Resource Conservation Service
NPDES .....	National Pollution Discharge Elimination System
NPSM.....	Nonpoint Source Model
RF3.....	Reach File 3
SWCD.....	Soil and Water Conservation District

TMDL..... Total Maximum Daily Load

USGS..... United States Geological Survey

WCS..... Watershed Characterization System

WLA..... Waste Load Allocation

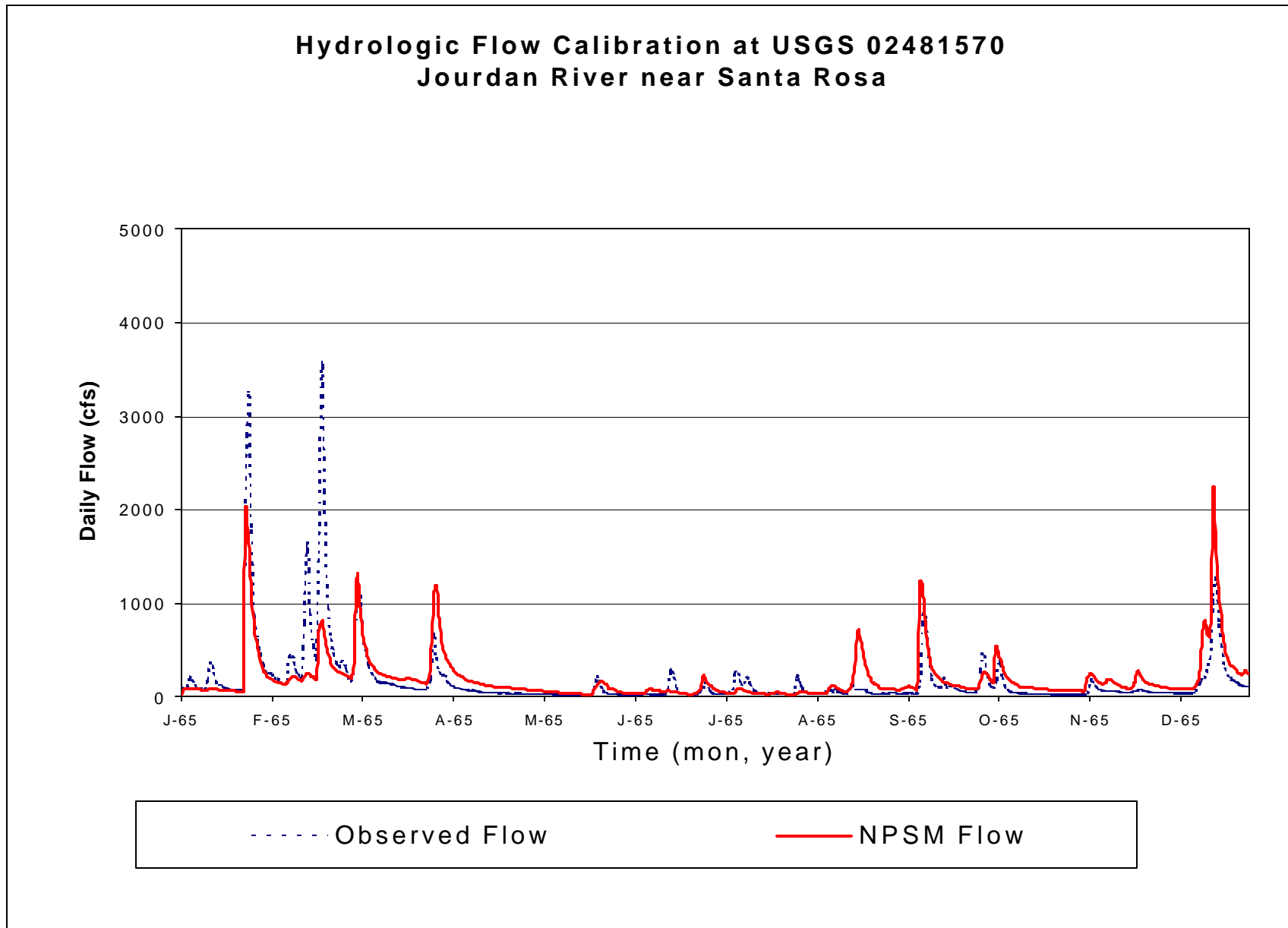
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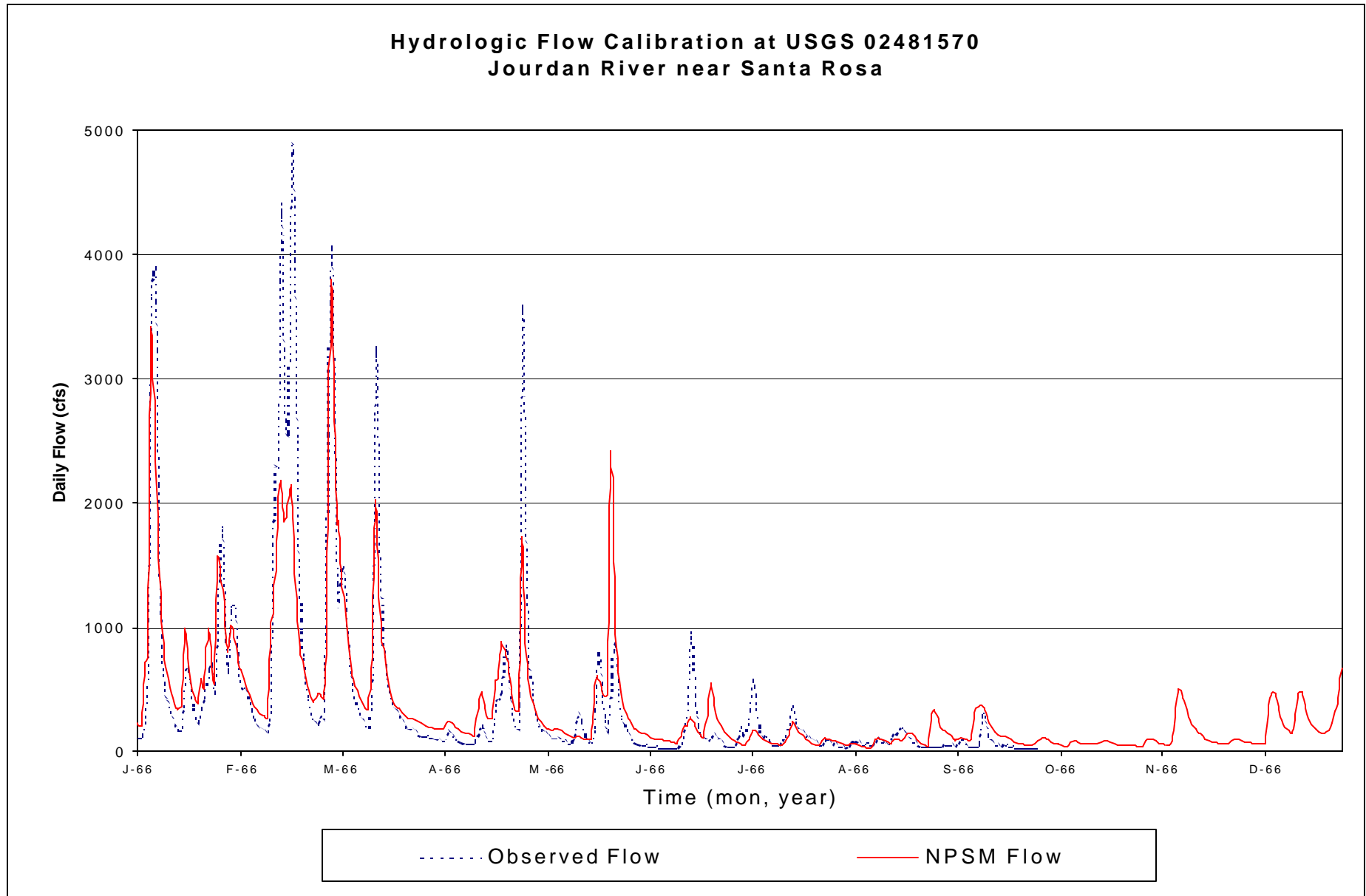
## **APPENDIX A**

This appendix contains printouts of the various model run results. Graphs A-1 through A-2 show the modeled flow, in cubic feet per second, through reach 03170009027 compared to the USGS flow readings from the Jourdan River, station 02481570. Graph A-3 shows a water quality calibration graph. The following graphs, A-4 through A-9, show the 30-day geometric mean for fecal coliform concentrations in counts per 100 ml in the Jourdan River. The graphs contain a reference line at 200 counts per 100 ml. Graphs A-4, A-5, and A-6 show the fecal coliform levels in reach 03170009027 during the wet year, dry year, and 11-year modeling period respectively. Graphs A-7, A-8, and A-9 show the modeled fecal coliform levels in reach 03170009027 during the wet year, dry year, and 11-year modeling period, respectively, after the TMDL scenario has been applied.

Graph A-1 Hydrologic Flow Calibration at USGS 02481570 Jourdan River at Santa Rosa–1965 (GIRAS Landuse)



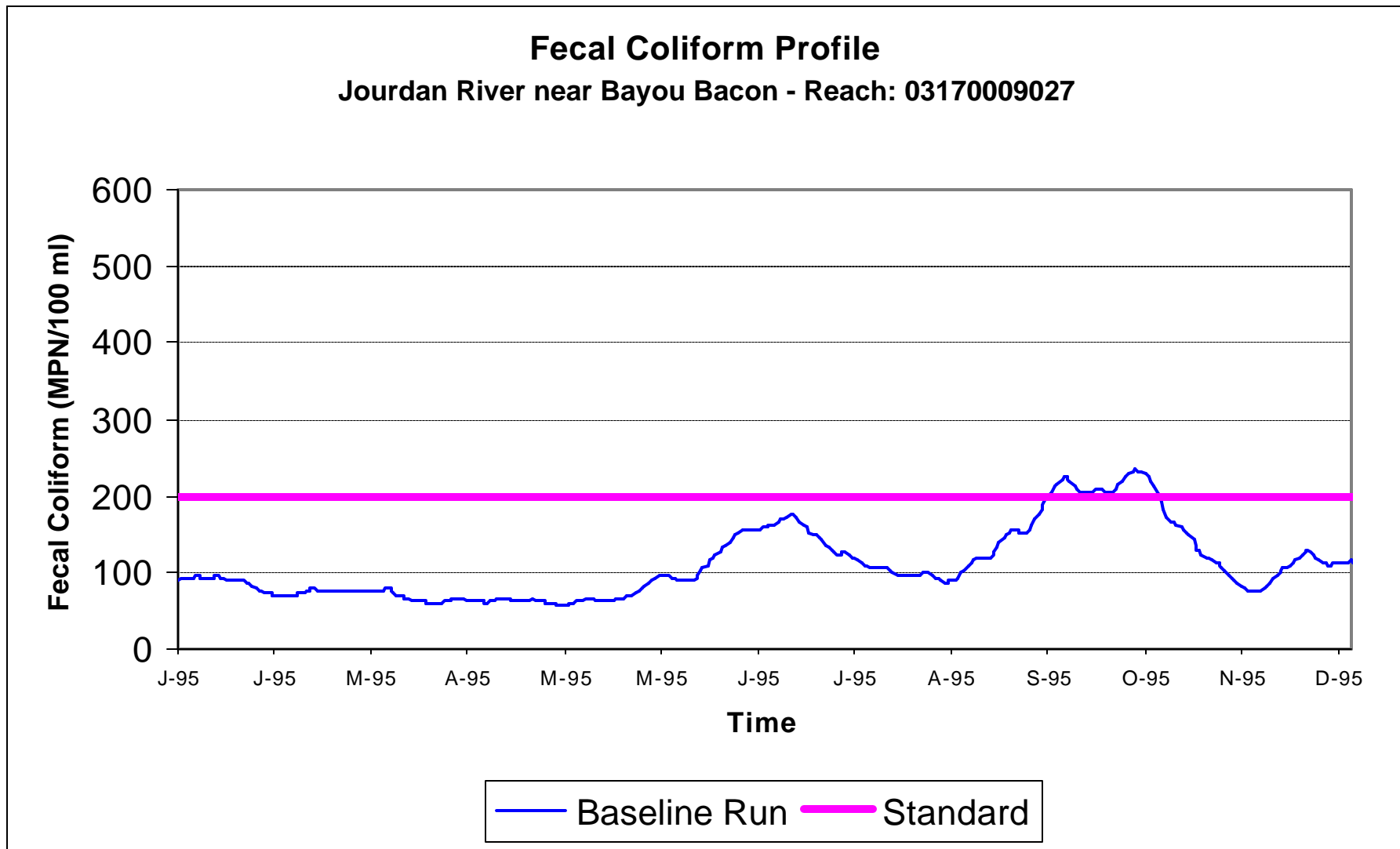
Graph A-2 Hydrologic Flow Calibration at USGS 02481570 Jourdan River at Santa Rosa–1966 (GIRAS Landuse)



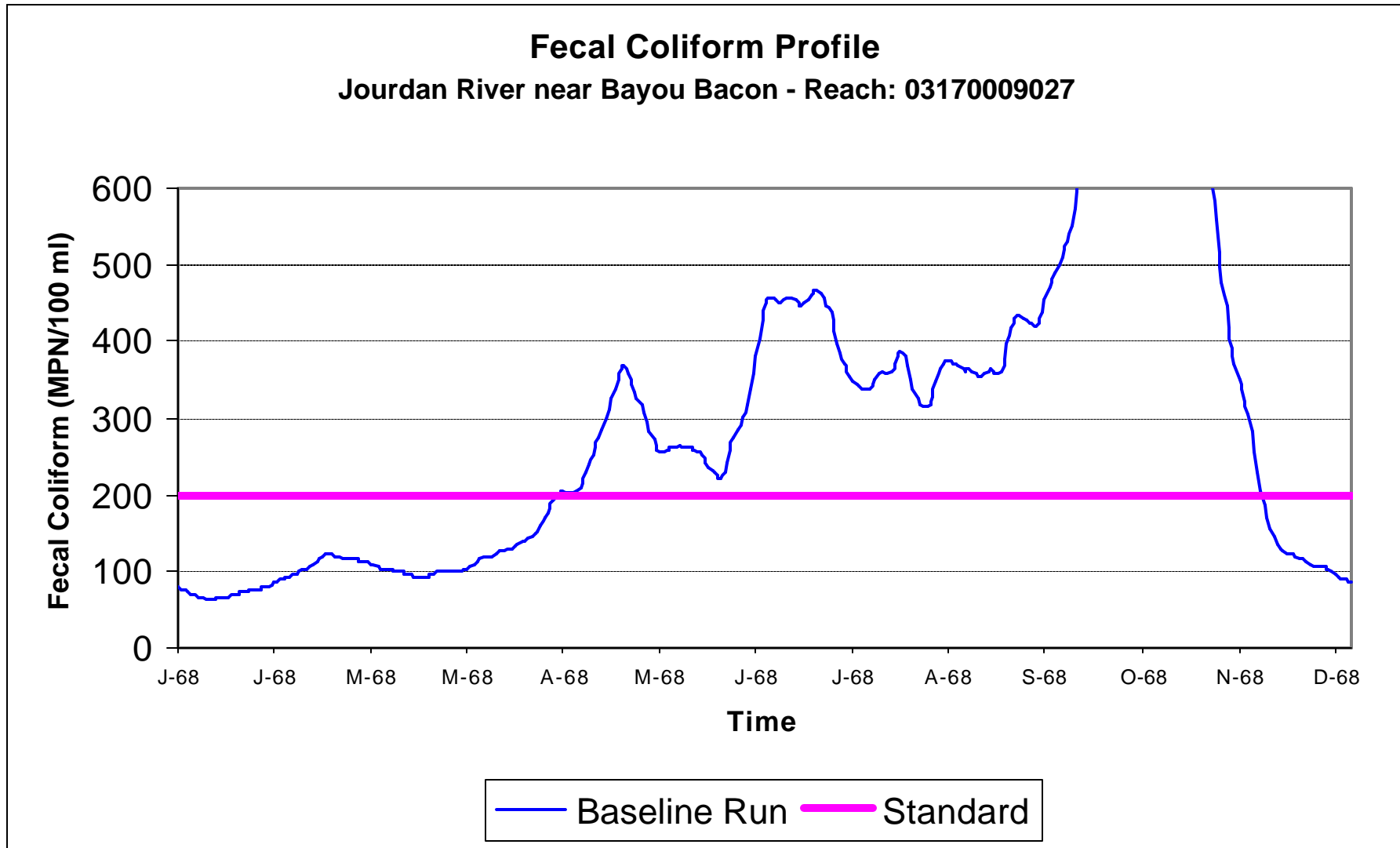




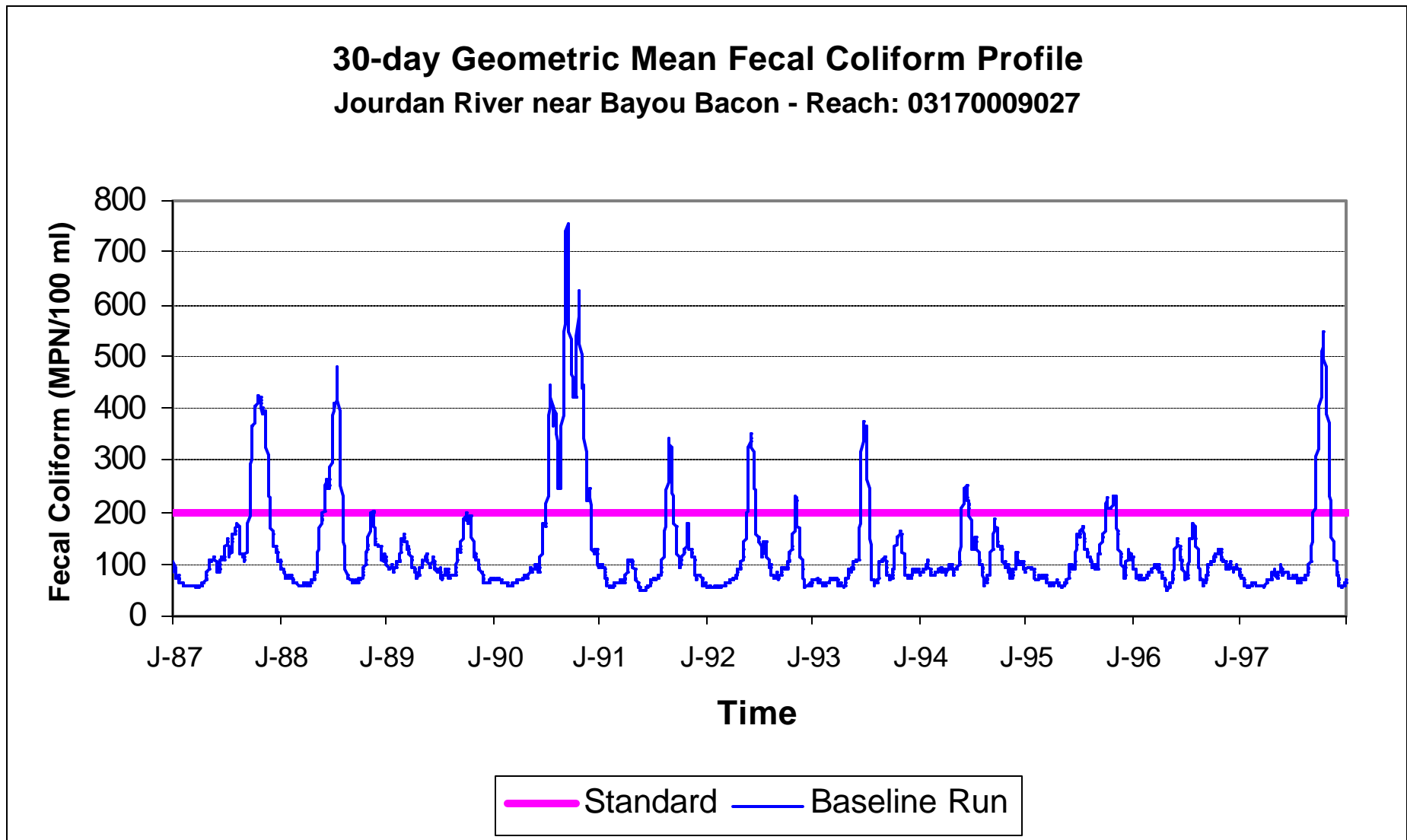
Graph A-4 Model Output under Baseline Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (Wet Year)



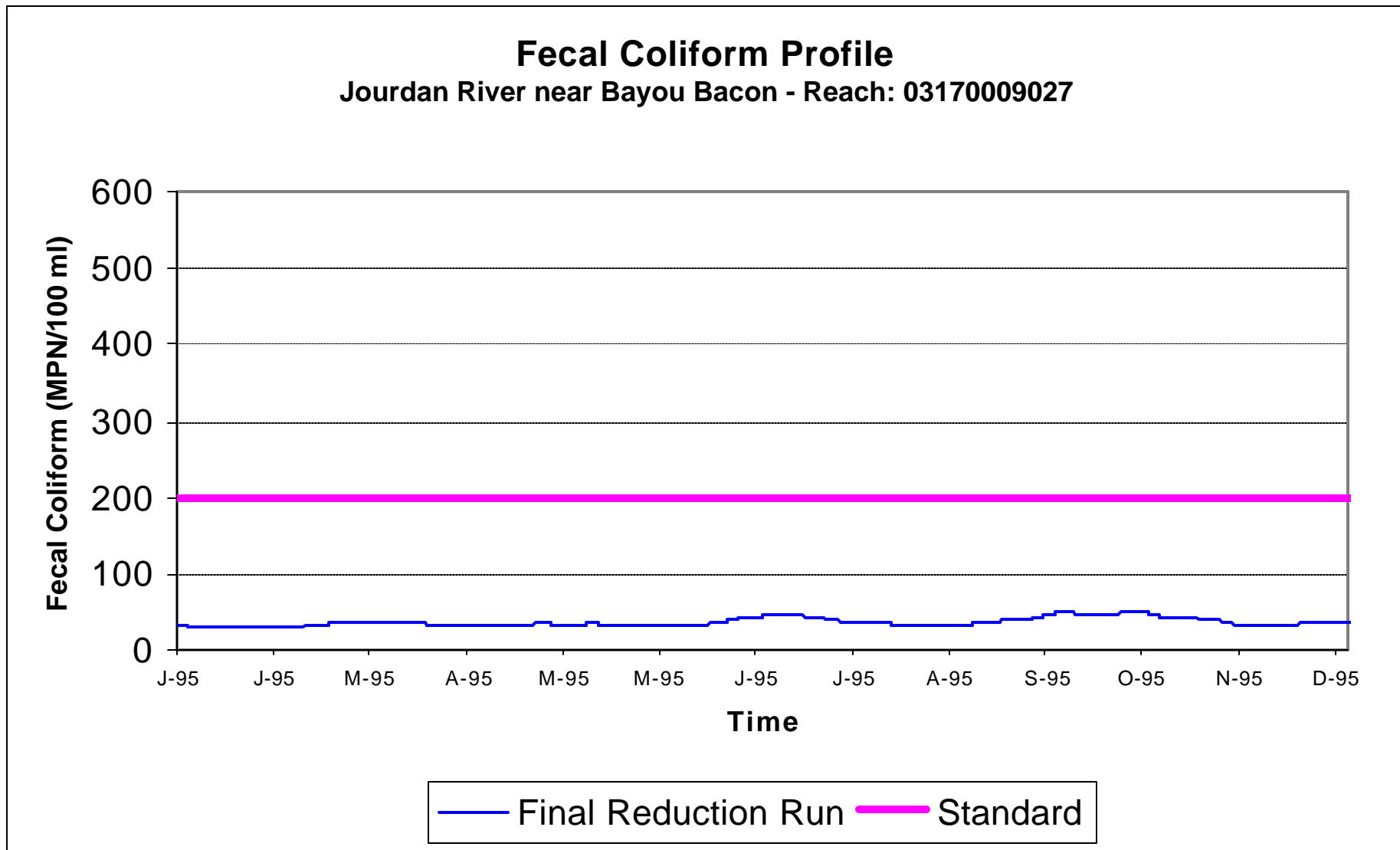
Graph A-5 Model Output under Baseline Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (Dry Year)



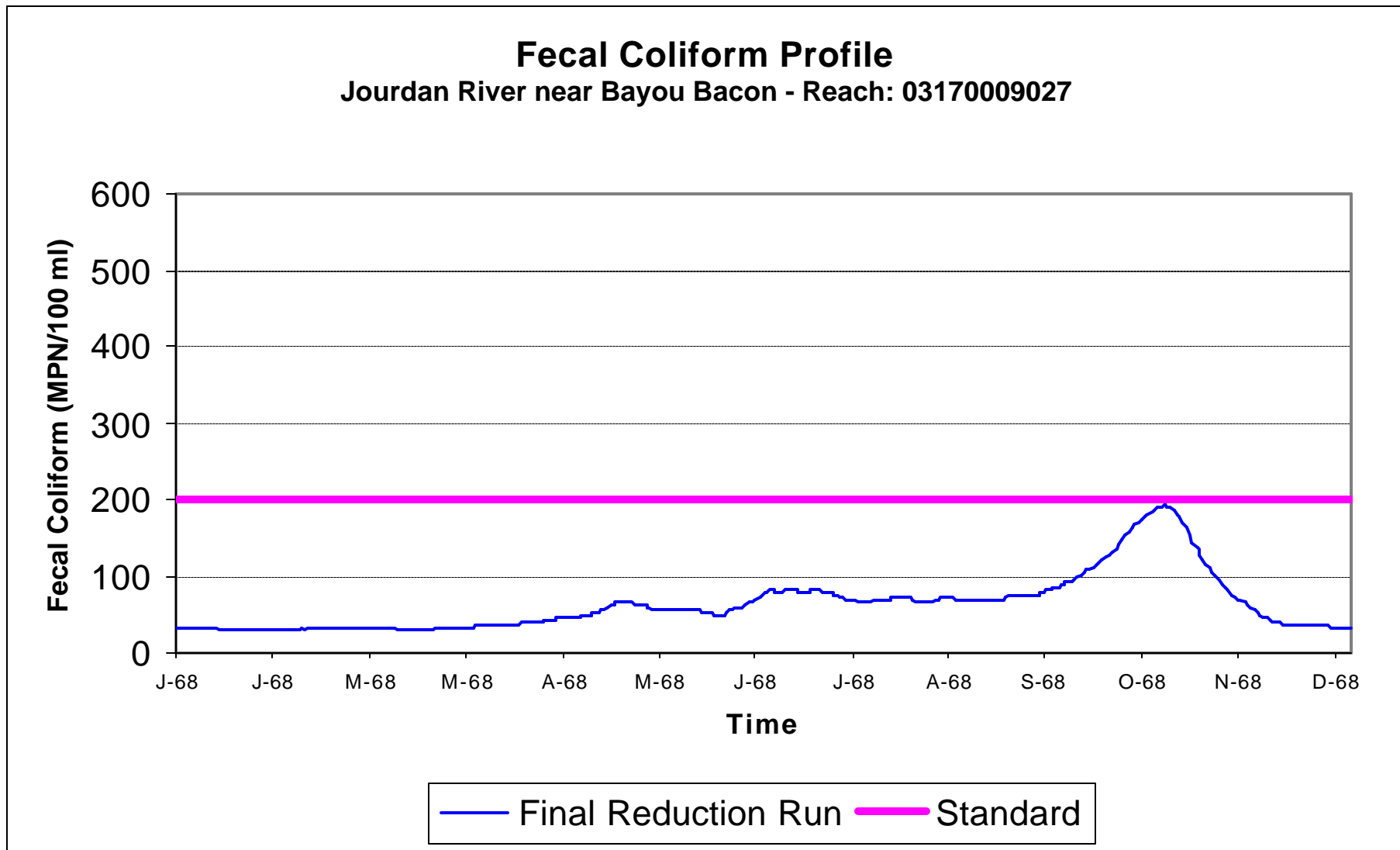
Graph A-6 Model Output under Baseline Conditions for Reach 03170009027 (11 Year Span)



Graph A-7 Model Output after TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (Wet Year)



Graph A-8 Model Output after TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (Dry Year)



Graph A-9 Model Output after TMDL Scenario for Reach 03170009027 (11 Year Span)

