



Notes from the Field: Chloride Monitoring

Carver County Water Management Organization

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Presentation Overview

- Informational item only
- No committee action required

Chloride



- Chloride compounds (salts) are natural in our environment
- Too much salt in freshwater streams and lakes can:
 - Be toxic to freshwater organisms
 - Prevent lake turnover (permanent stratification)
 - Cause infrastructure damage
- Standards
 - MN Standard: 230 mg/L chronic toxicity (one teaspoon NaCl in 5-gallons of water)
 - Canada Standard: 120 mg/L
- 78% of applied chloride remain in the environment

2022-2023 Versus 2023-2024

Last Winter

- Lots of Snow
- Normal winter temps
- Sufficient ice
 - Sampled in the middle of lake

This Winter

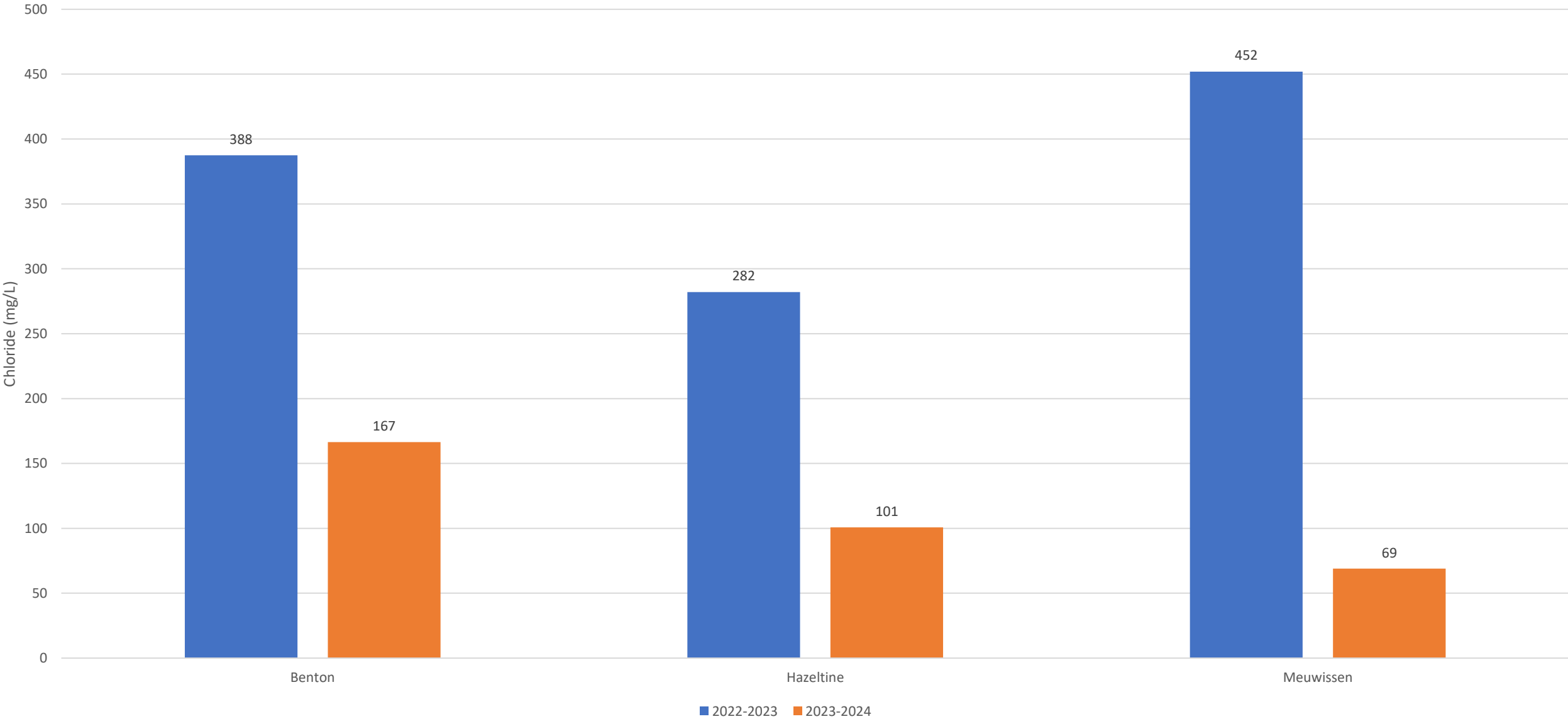
- Lower snow totals
- Higher winter temps
- Unsafe ice
 - Sampled at lake outlets

2024 Monitoring Locations

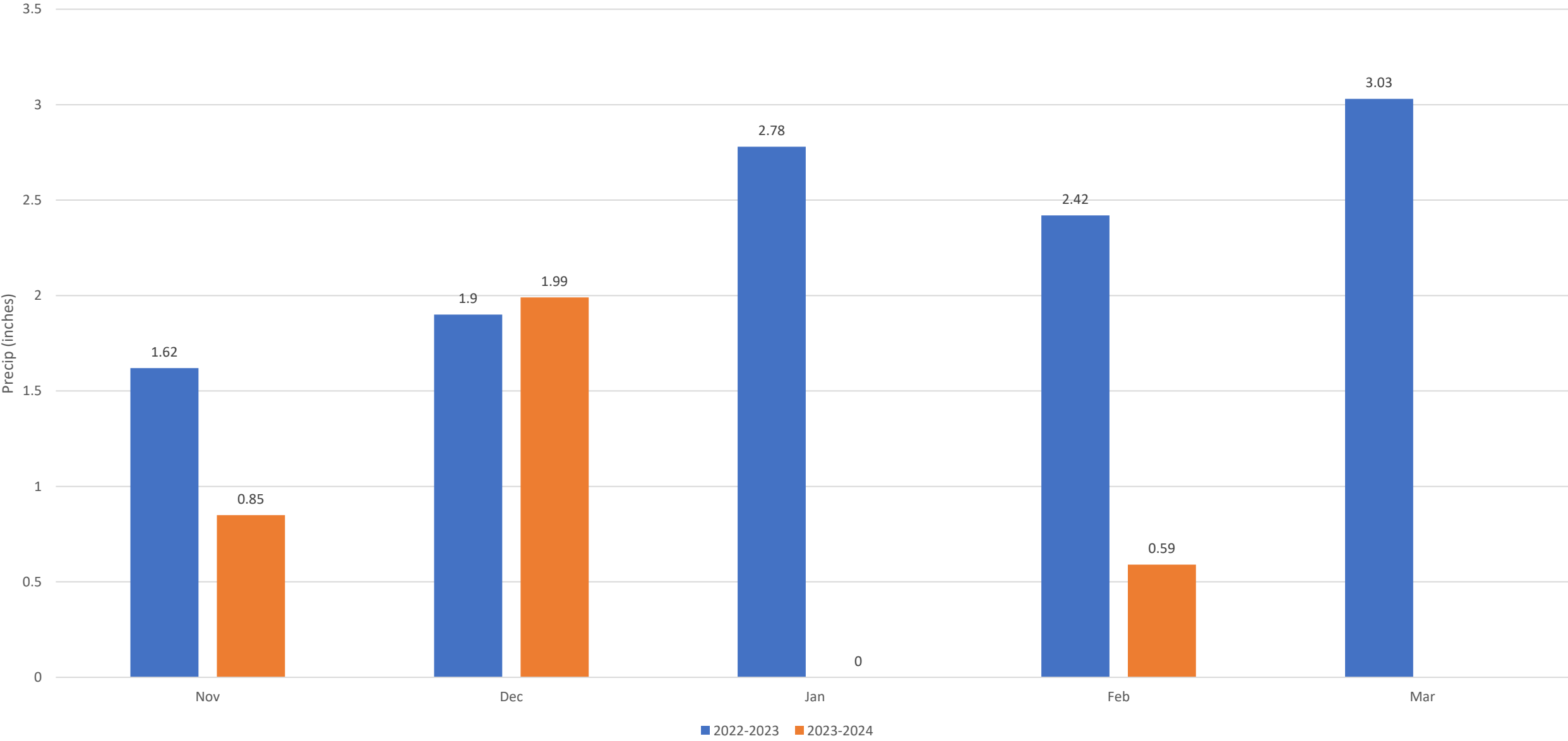
- Benton
- Hazeltine
- Meuwissen
 - All impaired for chloride in 2023
 - First time lakes were impaired for chloride

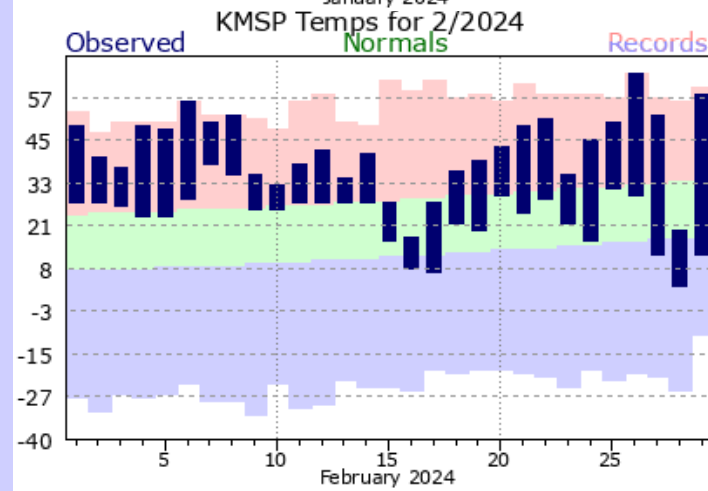
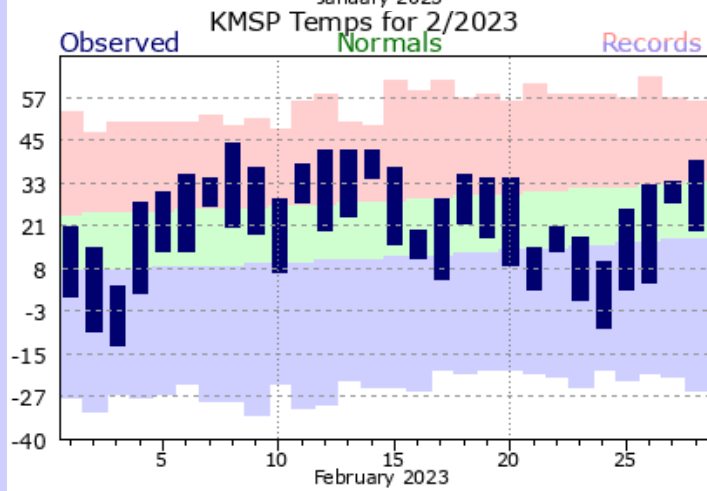
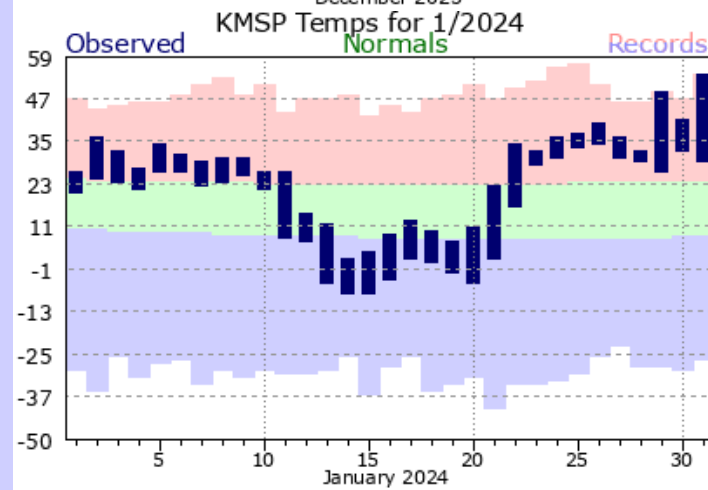
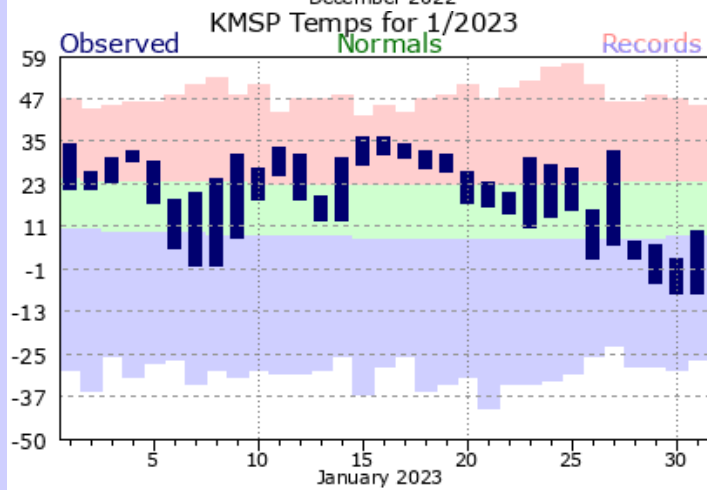
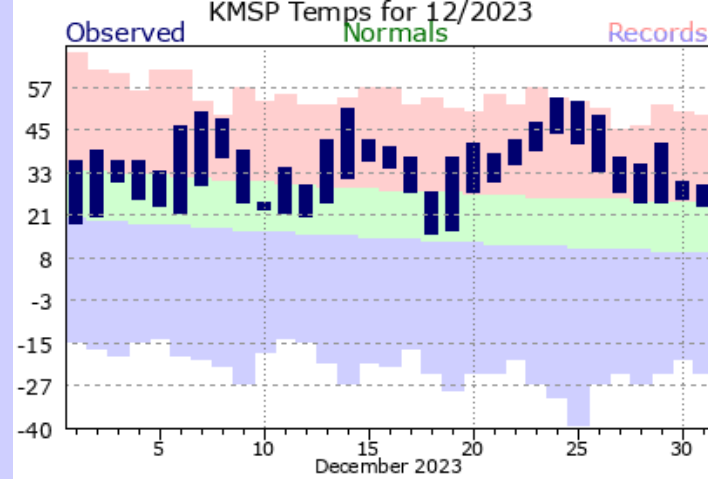
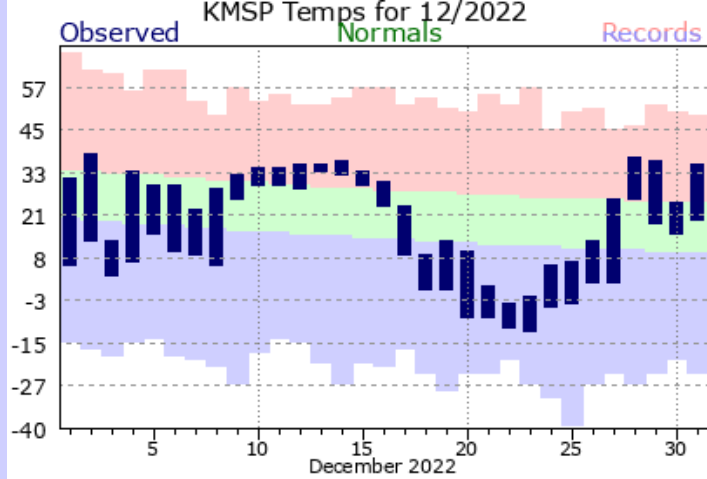


Winter Chloride Average

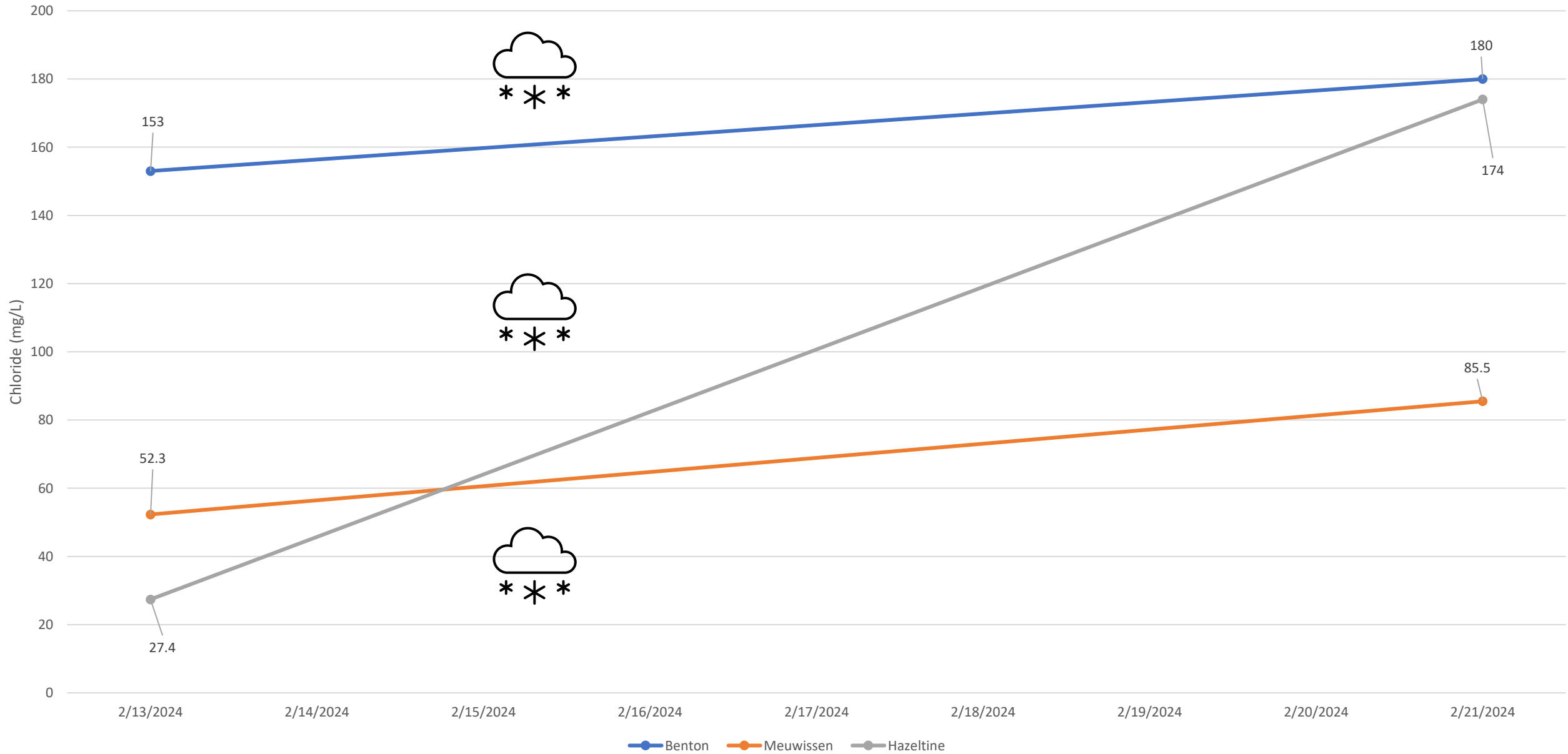


Winter Precipitation





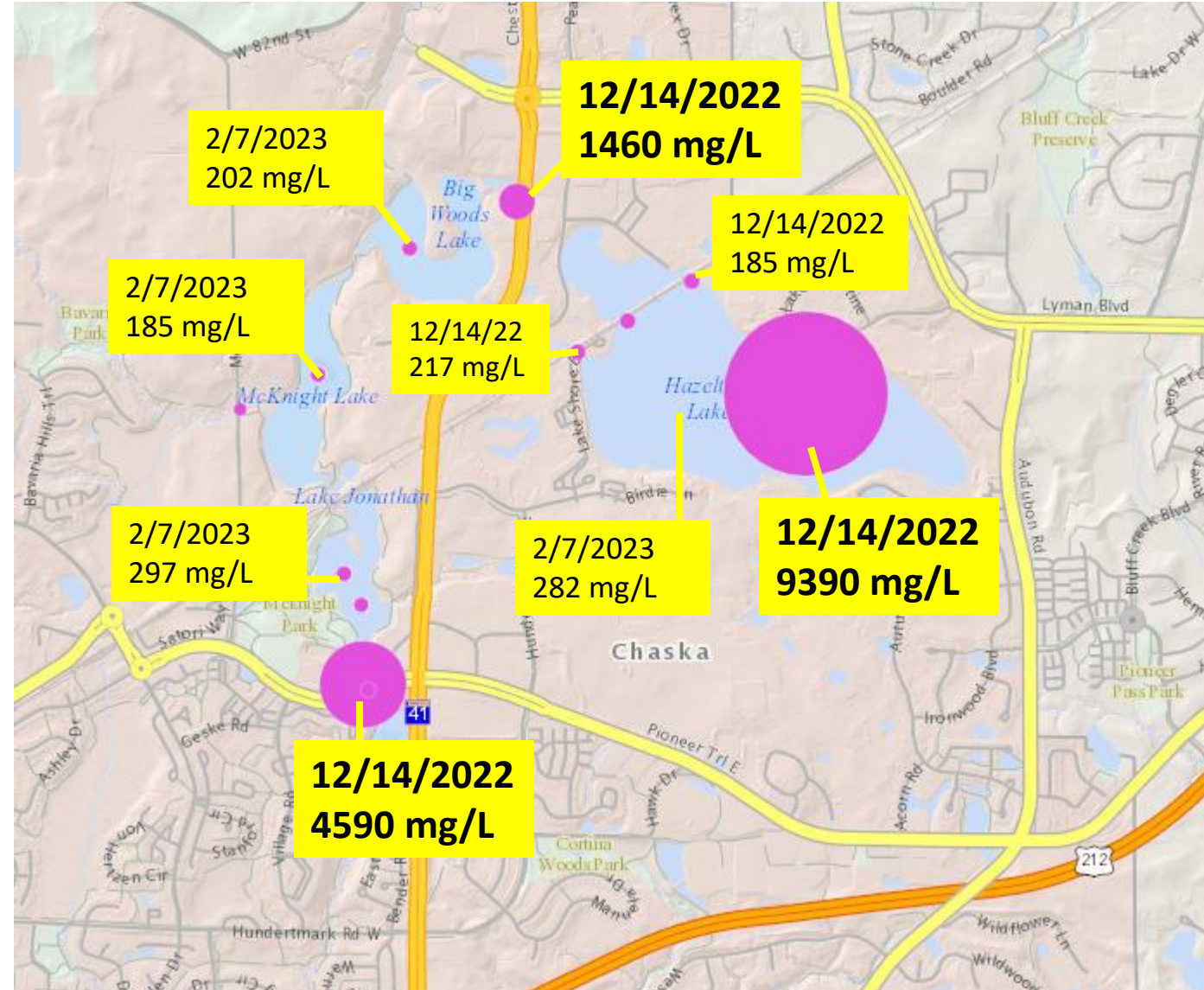
2024 Chloride



A photograph of a snowy parking lot. In the foreground, there is a large, dark, irregularly shaped area of wet pavement, possibly from a spill or melting snow. To the right, a large puddle of water reflects the sky and the truck. In the background, a dark-colored pickup truck is parked. To the left, there are green recycling bins and a concrete wall. The ground is covered in snow, and the overall scene suggests a winter or early spring setting.

Questions

Expanded monitoring to identify source areas



Next Steps

- Cologne Water Softener Rebate Program (pilot)
- Business Education Packet
- IWLA Salt Watch Program
- Targeted outreach for identified source areas
- Host MPCA Smart Salt trainings
- City comparison of Waconia and Chaska
- More events and public outreach!!

