

Project Headwaters

Determining the Cause of High Conductivity
Yankee Run & Forest Hills Run, Mount Pocono, PA



Winter 2021 to Present

Goal:

- Determine analytes in highest EC/Cl- areas
- Determine if chloride caused high conductivity
- Report trustworthy data to DEP

How:

- Collect data at various flow regimes
- Analyse the data



SITE SELECTION *Yankee Run*, $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ | mg/L

Site 1
595 | 145

Site 2
n/a

Site 3
393 | 86

Site 4
460 | 86

Site 5
660 | 159

Site 6
428 | 76

Site 7
1255 | 259

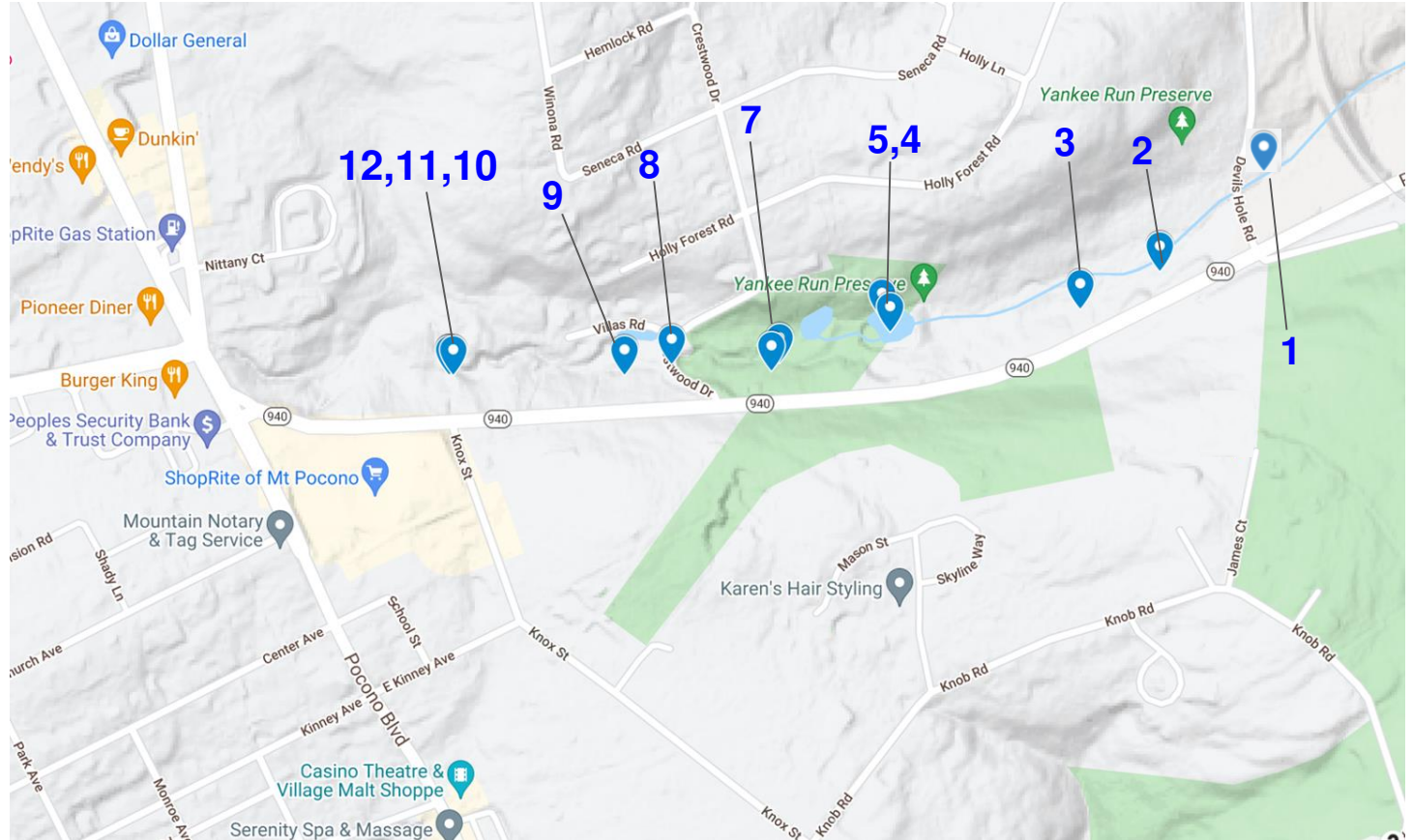
Site 8
1745 | 397

Site 9
1233 | 279

Site 10
1935 | 455

Site 11
1552 | 346

Site 12
n/a



SITE SELECTION *Yankee Run*, $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ | mg/L

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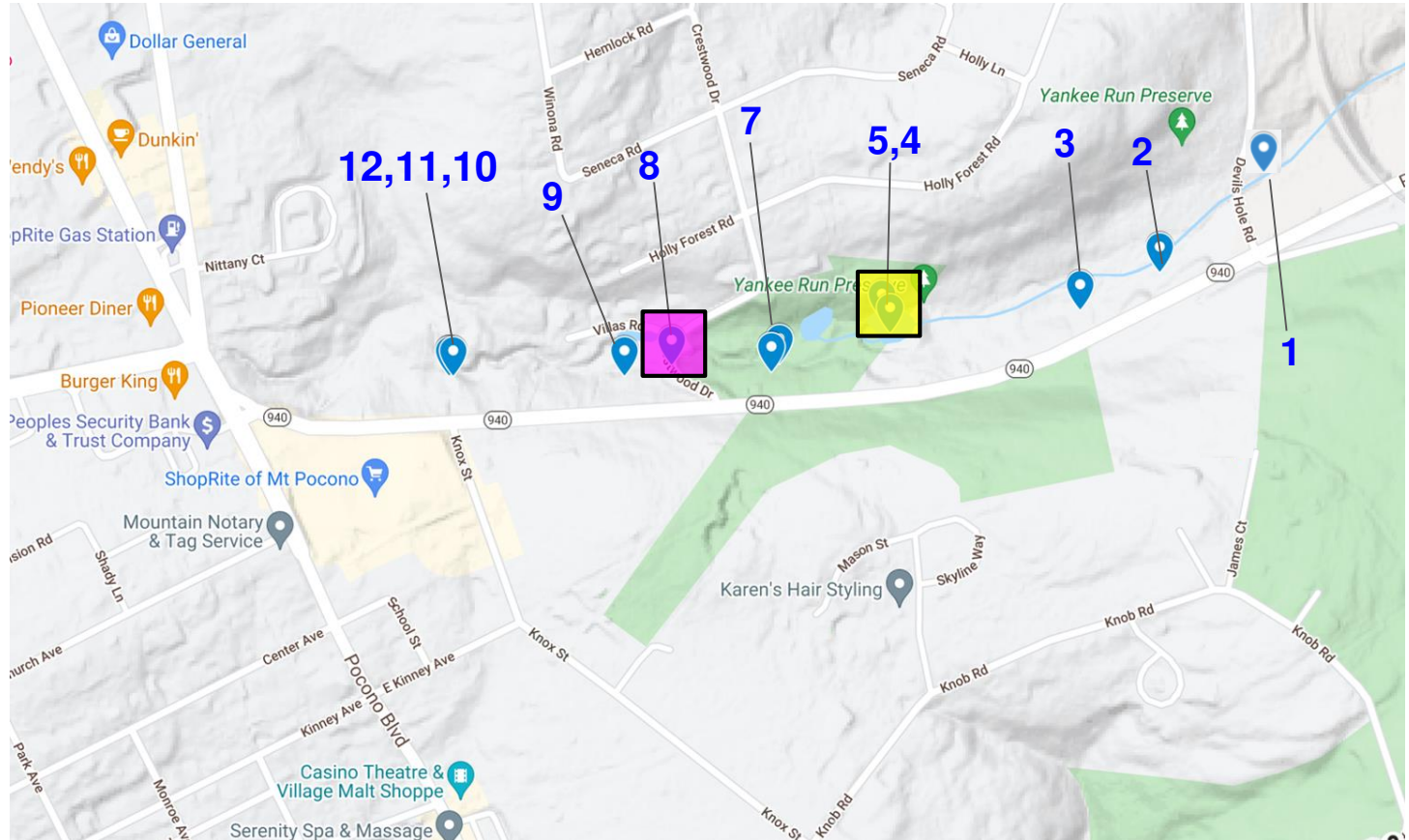
Site 8
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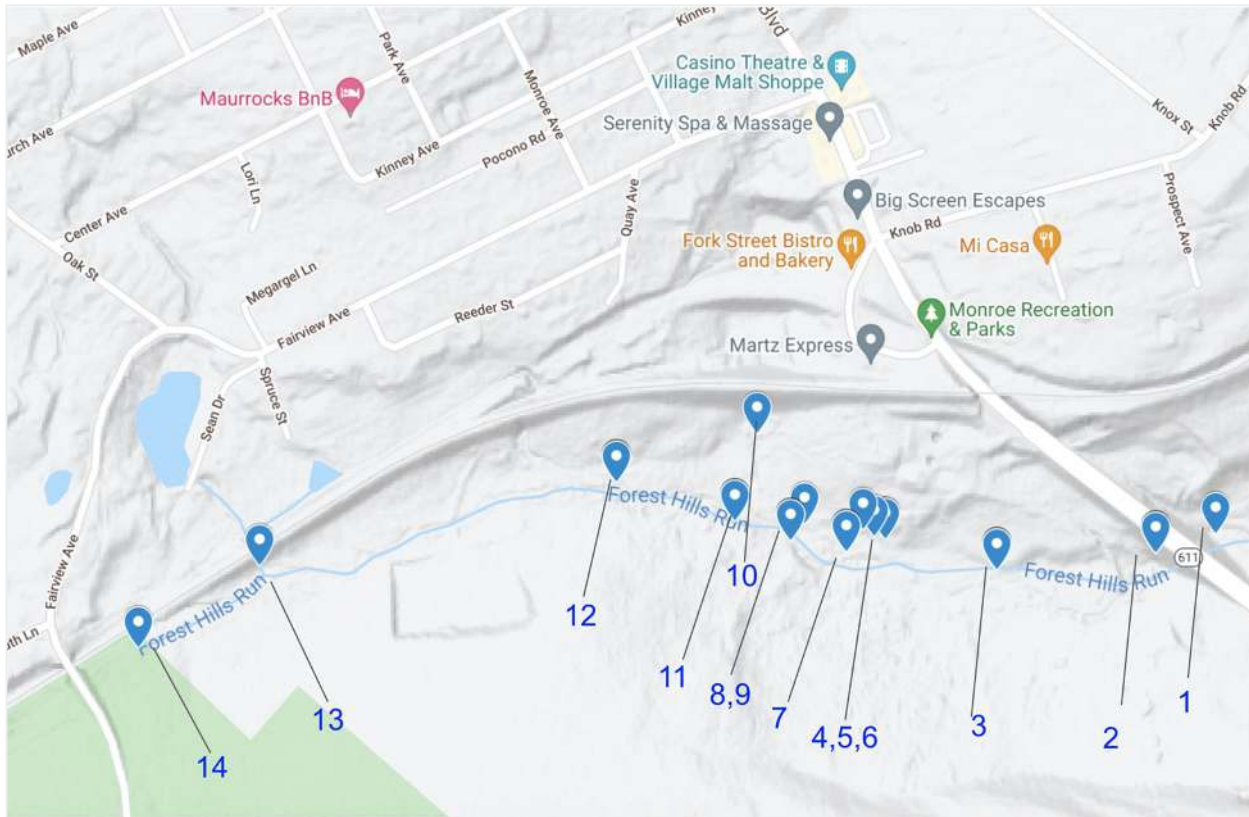
Site 10
1935 | 455

Site 11
1552 | 346

Site 12
n/a



SITE SELECTION *Forest Hills Run* $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ | mg/L



Site 1
Stream
517 | 105

Site 2
Above: 526 | 125
Tributary: 768 | 190
Below: 527 | 122

Site 3
Above: 526 | 125
Tributary: 698 | 167
Below: 538 | 114

Site 4
Spring
687 | 176

Site 5
Storm Pipe
878 | 219

Site 6
Swamp
784 | 197

Site 7
Above: 530 | 127
Tributary: 629 | 154
Below: 559 | n/a

Site 8
Origin of previous site
677 | n/a

Site 9
Above: 410 | 71
Tributary: 729 | 177
Below: 534 | 97

Site 10
Culvert beneath RR
Origin of previous site
684 | 176

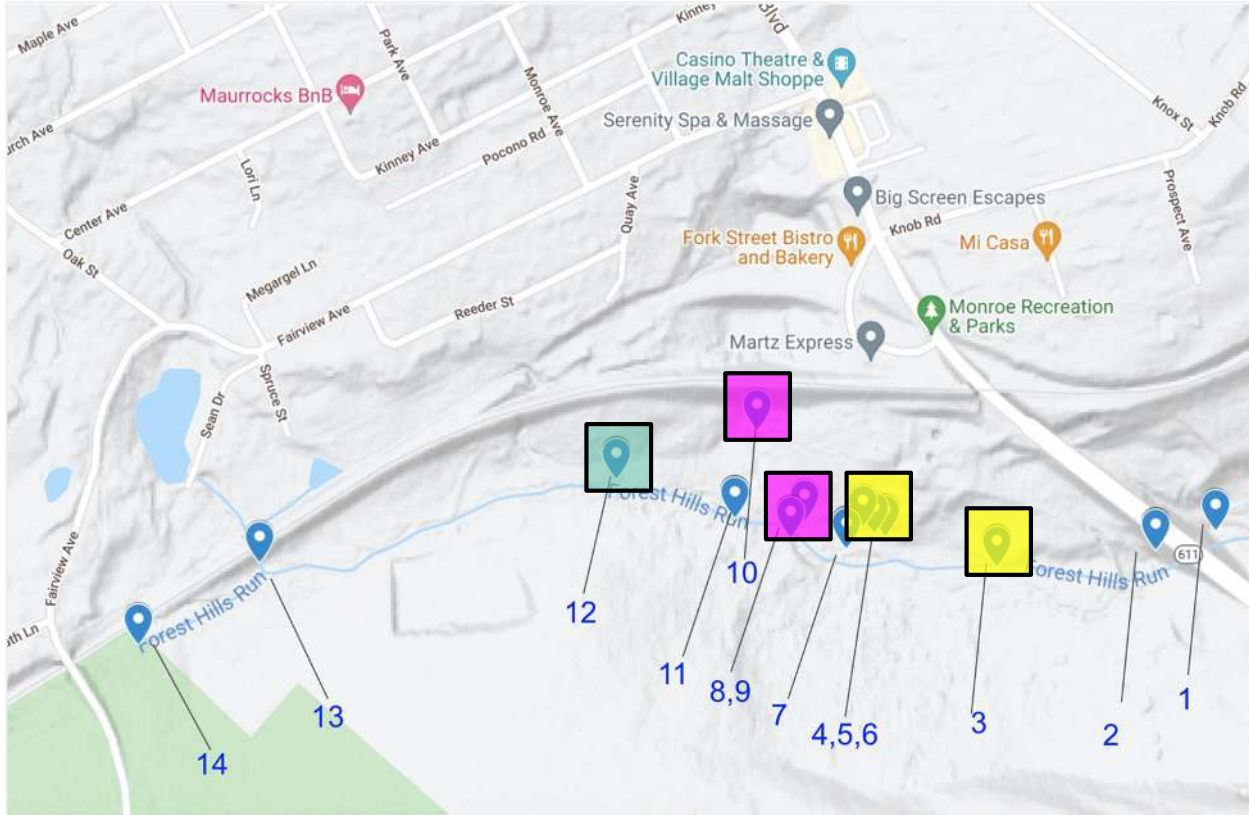
Site 11
Above: 355 | 59
Tributary: 562 | 135
Below: 384 | n/a

Site 12
Above: 303
Tributary: 118
Below: 303

Site 13
Culvert beneath RR
402 | 82

Site 14
Tributary: 417 | n/a

SITE SELECTION *Forest Hills Run* $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ | mg/L



Site 1
Stream
517 | 105

Site 2
Above: 526 | 125
Tributary: 768 | 190
Below: 527 | 122

Site 3
Above: 526 | 125
Tributary: 698 | 167
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Spring
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Culvert beneath RR
402 | 82

Site 14
Tributary: 417 | n/a

Summer 2021

6/30/2021

Full-screening. **Low flow.**

8/2/2021

Chloride and metals. **Low flow.**

8/23/2021

Chloride and metals. Tropical storm Henri.
Very high flow.

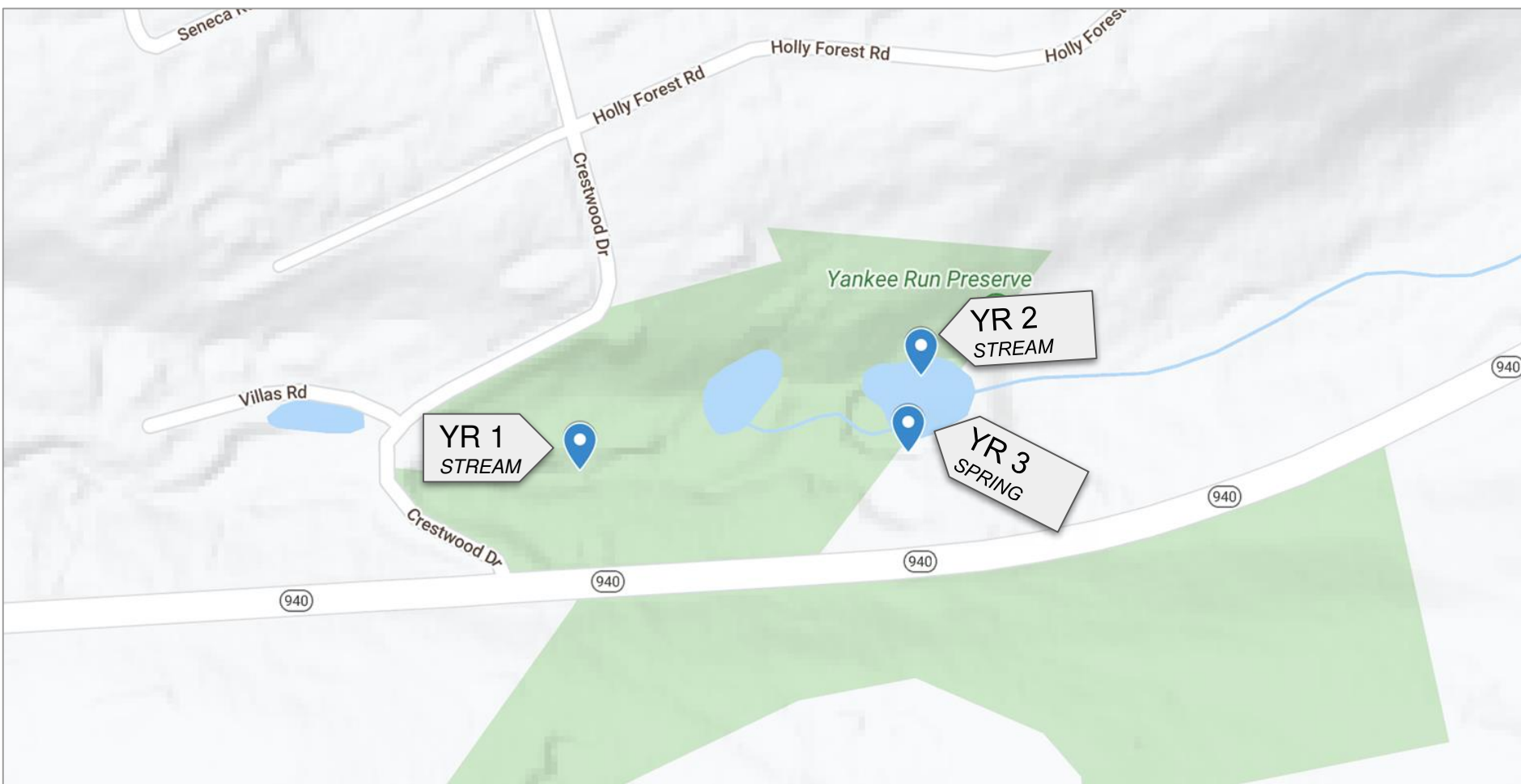
9/7/2021

Full screening. Hurricane Ida.
Medium flow.



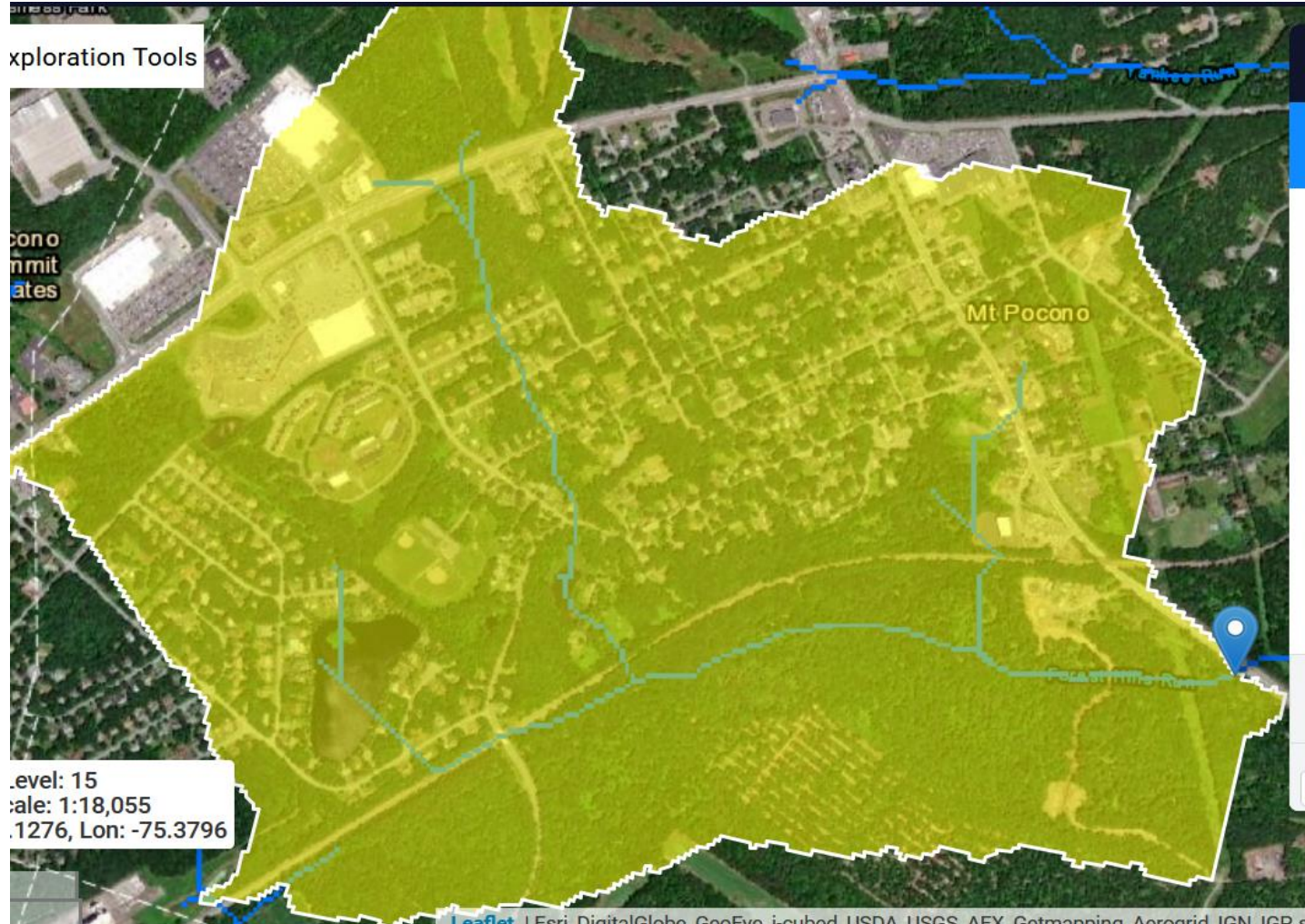


Yankee Run Watershed – Study Area
Study Area



YANKEE RUN - Study Sites

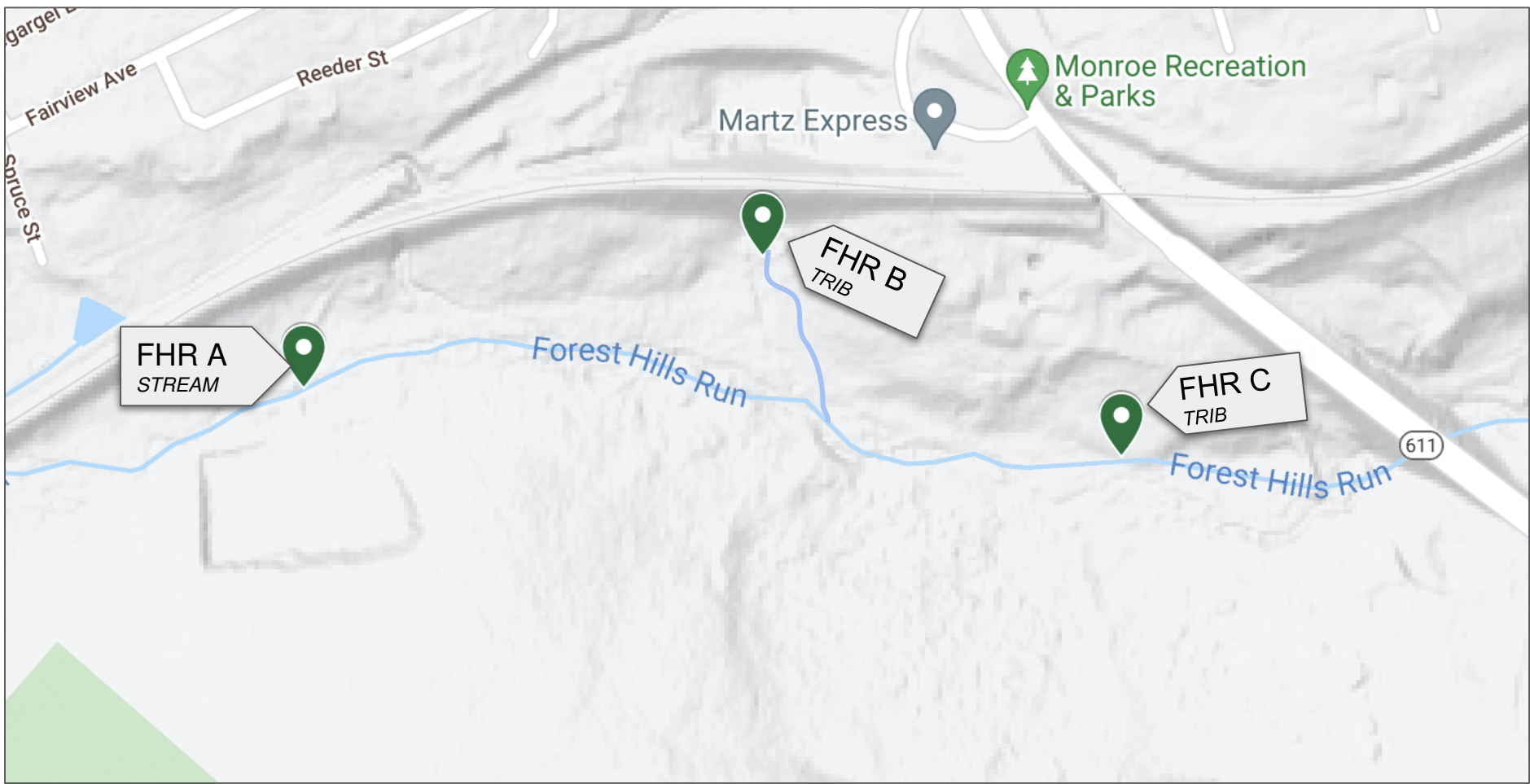
Exploration Tools



Forest
Hills Run
watershed

Study
Area

Level: 15
Scale: 1:18,055
Lat: 41.1276, Lon: -75.3796



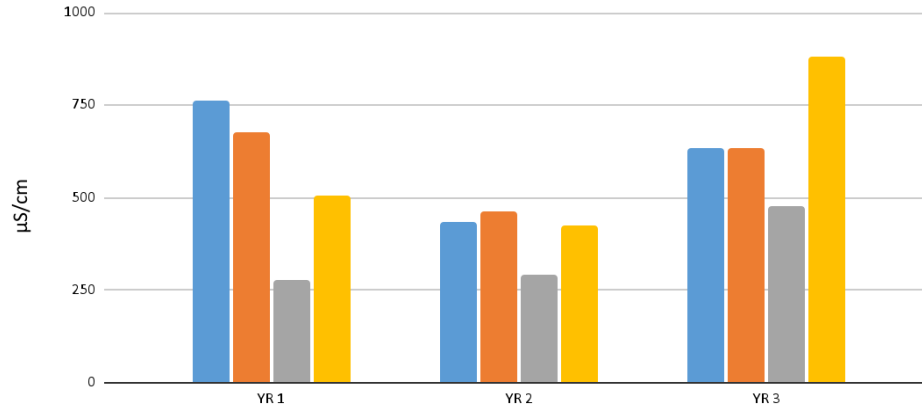
FOREST HILLS RUN – Study Sites

A scenic view of a forest stream with a small waterfall, surrounded by lush green trees and rocks. The water is white and foamy as it cascades over dark, wet rocks. The surrounding forest is dense with tall, thin trees and vibrant green foliage. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

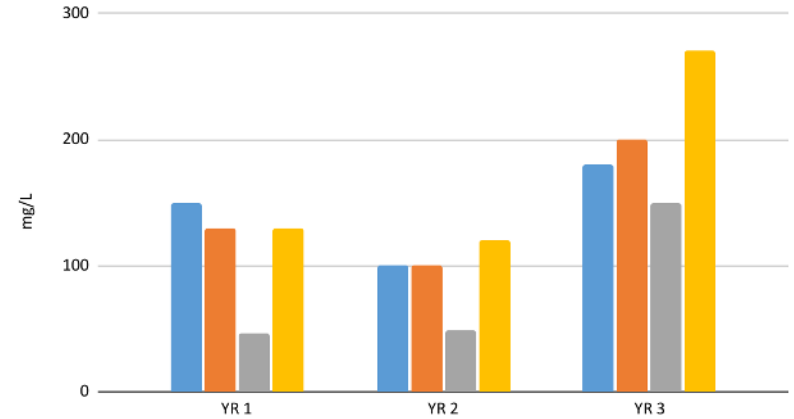
Results Summer 2021

YANKEE RUN

Field-Measured Conductivity



Laboratory Chloride



Monroe County Water Quality EC

Max: **280 uS/cm**

Average: **114 uS/cm**

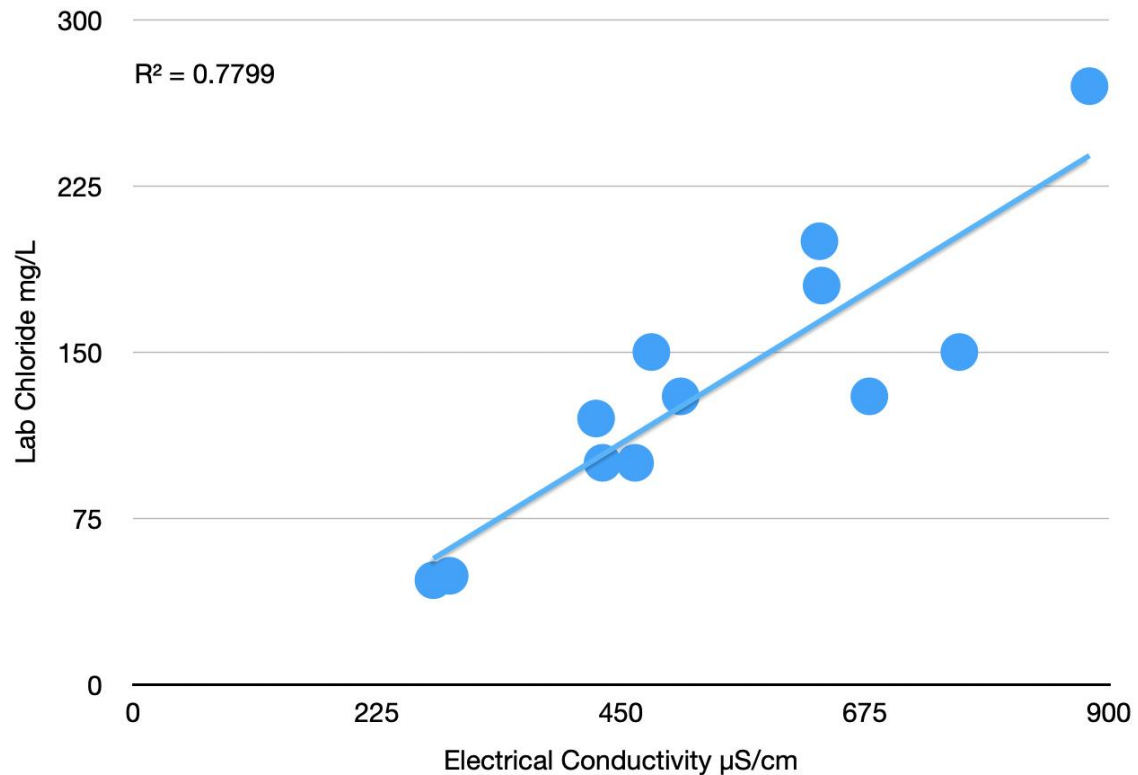
Yankee Run EC

Max: **882 uS/cm**

Average: **539 uS/cm**

- 6/30/2021 L
- 8/2/2021 L
- 8/23/2021 VH
- 9/7/2021 M

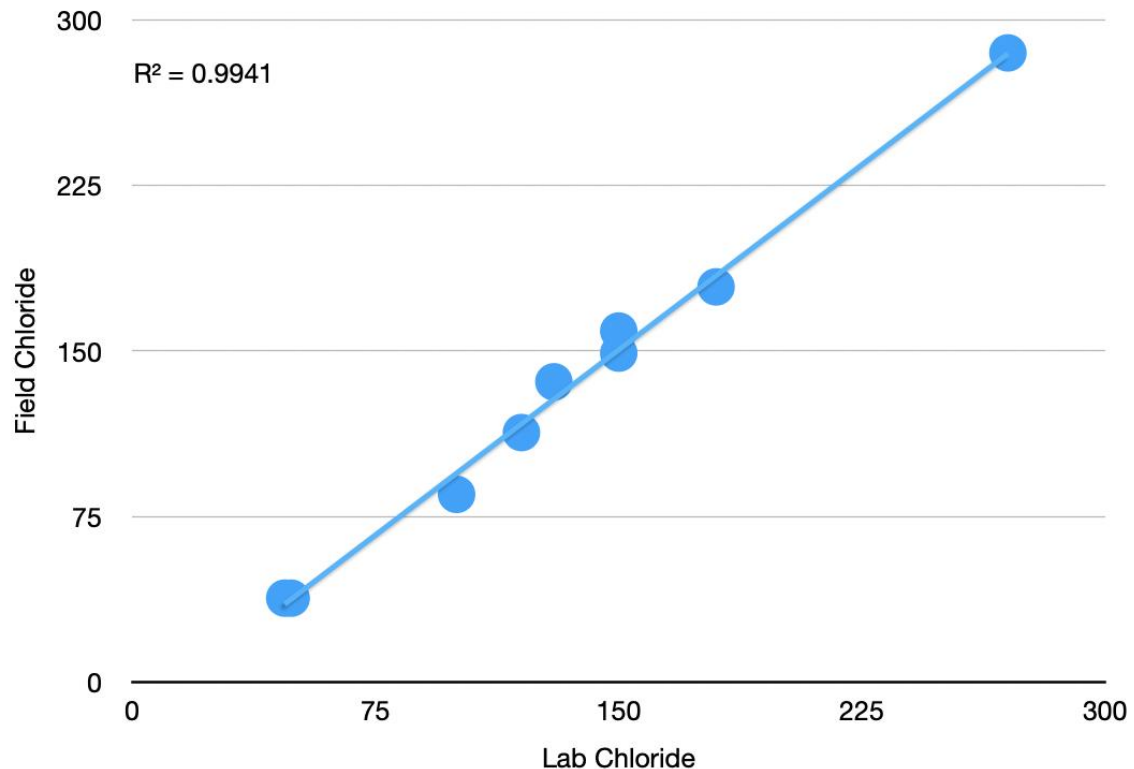
YANKEE RUN Lab Chloride v. EC



$$R^2 = .7799$$

YANKEE RUN

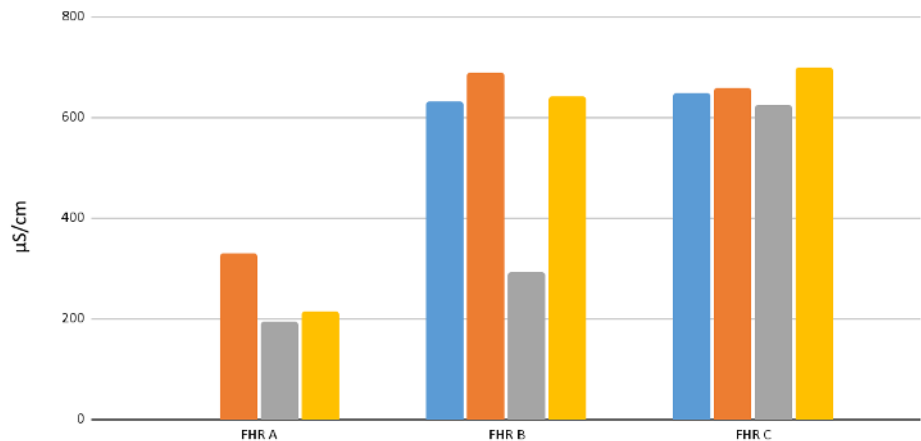
Field Chloride v. Lab Chloride



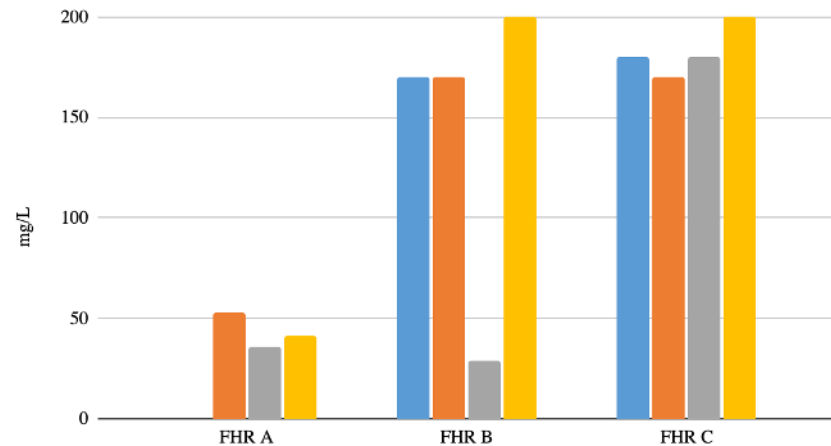
$$R^2 = .9941$$

FOREST HILLS RUN

Field-Measured Conductivity



Laboratory Chloride



Monroe County Water Quality EC

Max: **280 uS/cm**

Average: **114 uS/cm**

Forest Hills Run EC

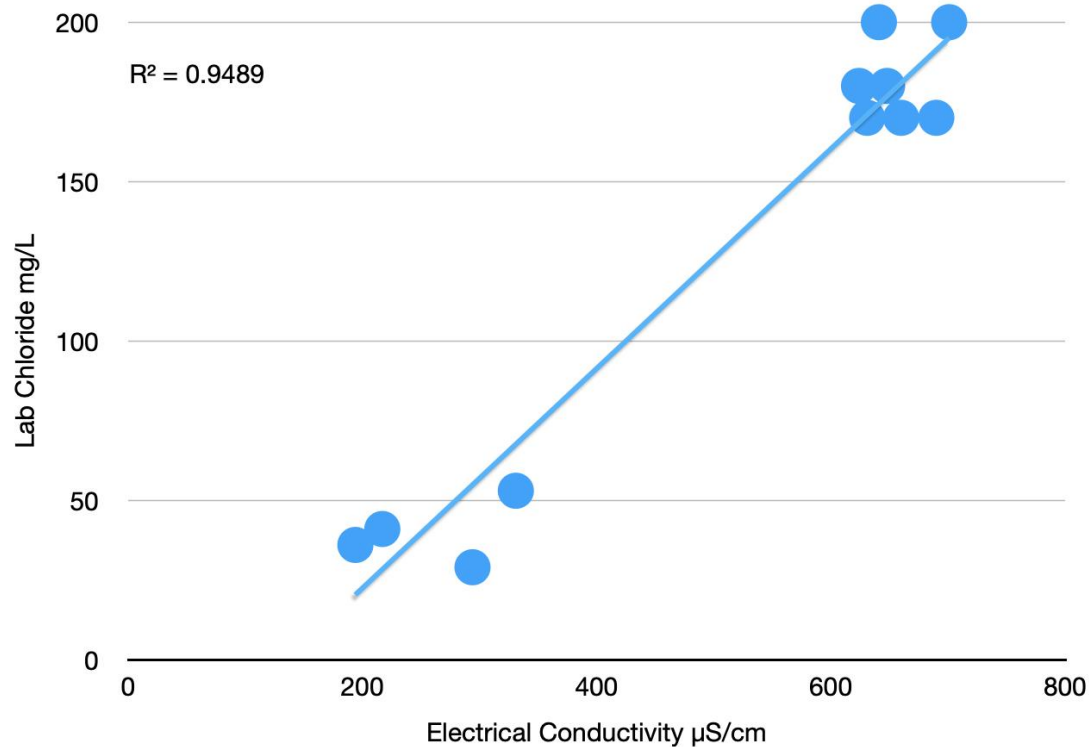
Max: **701 uS/cm**

Average: **512 uS/cm**

- 6/30/2021 L
- 8/2/2021 L
- 8/23/2021 VH
- 9/7/2021 M

FOREST HILLS RUN

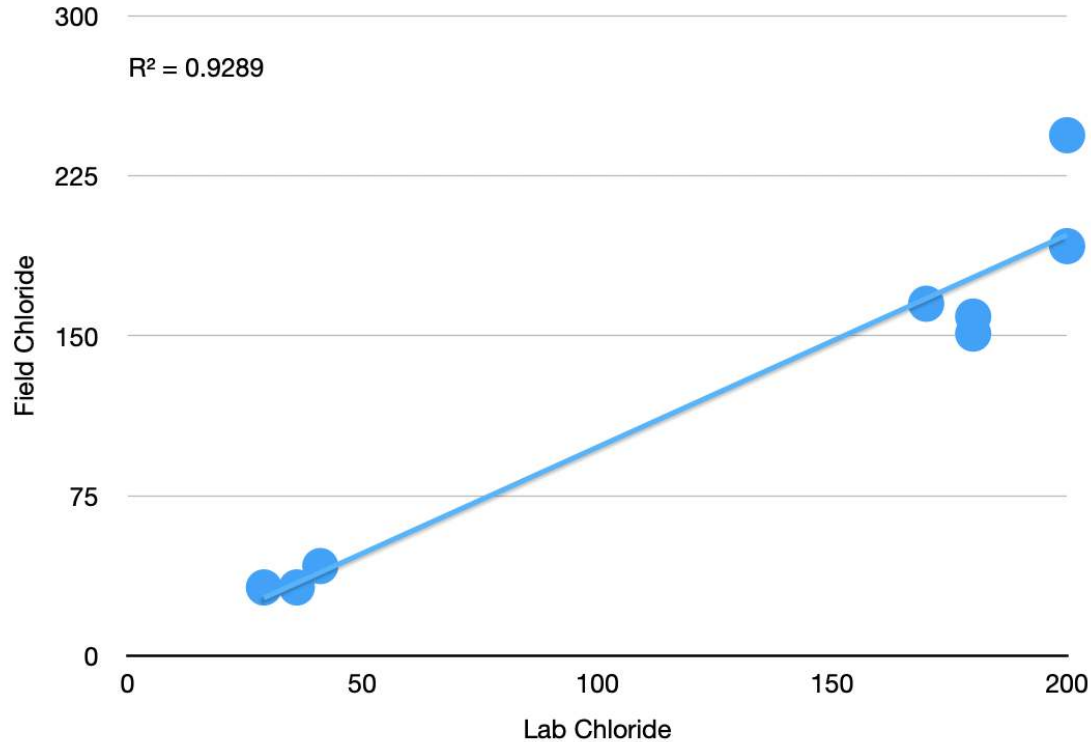
Lab Chloride v. EC



$$R^2 = .9489$$

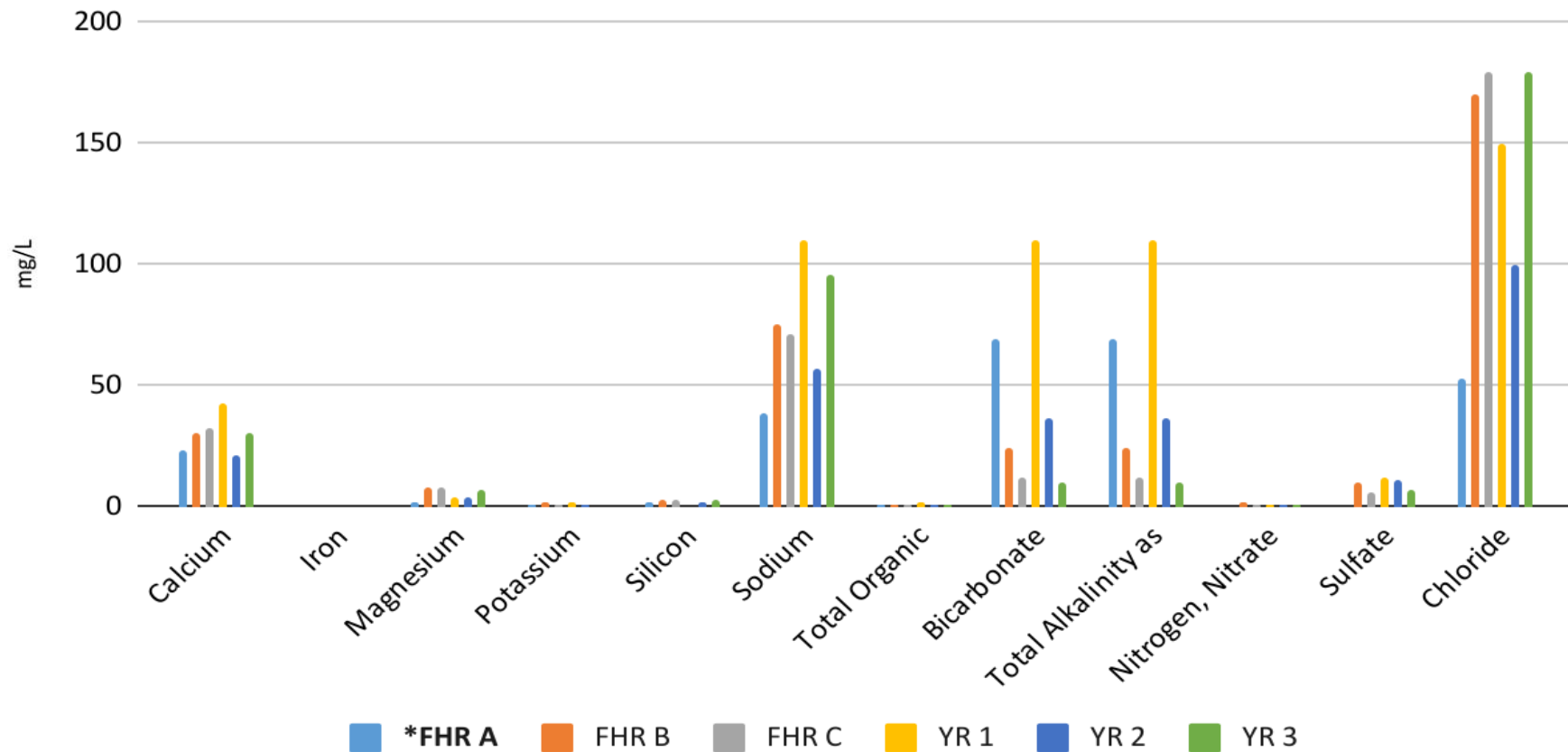
FOREST HILLS RUN

Field v. Lab Chloride



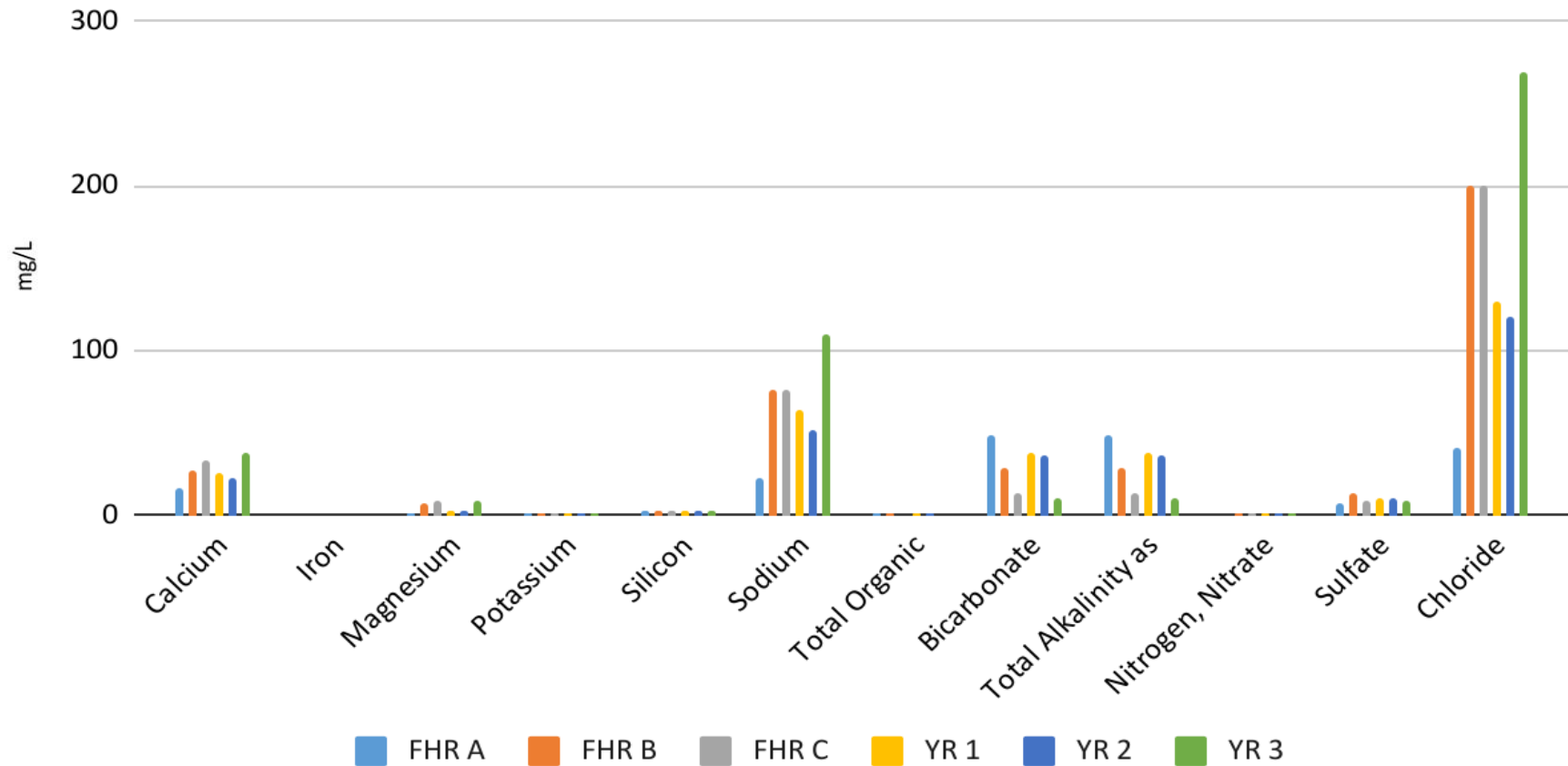
$$R^2 = .9289$$

June 30th 2021 - low flow, full testing



*FHR A collected on 08/02/2021 under similar flow conditions

Sept. 7, 2021 - medium-high flow, full testing



SUMMARY OF PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

- Lab reports show elevated Chloride, Calcium and Sodium.
- Study suggests strong correlation between field conductivity and laboratory chloride
- Study suggests strong correlation between field and lab chloride
- EC and Cl⁻ much higher than 2020 Monroe County Water Quality (MCWQ) average for 40 sites.
 - Highest is Cherry Valley, a high-alkalinity source
 - 2nd highest is Forest Hills Run

