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**WATER QUALITY AND BIOLOGICAL MONITORING IN BOBCAT
AND MATTHEWS CAVES, REDSTONE ARSENAL, ALABAMA,
1990-2009**

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CONTENTS

Abstract.....	1
Introduction.....	1
Acknowledgments.....	2
Study area	2
Methods	3
Results and discussion	4
Water quality.....	4
Continual water-quality and water-level monitoring.....	15
Biological monitoring.....	17
Recommendations.....	20
References cited.....	21
Appendix A: Water quality sampling data, 2008-2009	24
Appendix B: Chronological list of recent Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009	29

FIGURES

1. Plots of yearly median specific conductance, bicarbonate, and pH in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009	6
2. Plots of yearly median chloride, sulfate, and nitrate in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009.....	9
3. Selected trace metal concentrations of water in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009	12
4. Yearly detection rates of cadmium, chromium, and lead in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1996-2009	14
5. Daily water-quality monitoring data for Bobcat Cave, 1993-2009	16
6. Shrimp observations and counts in Bobcat Cave, 1990-2009	18

TABLES

1. Water-quality parameters, lower limits of detection, and analytical methods.....	5
2. Summary water-quality data for Bobcat and Matthews Caves, October 2008 through September 2009	8
3. Yearly detection rate of selected trace metals in water collected from Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1996-2009	13
4. Number of cave shrimp observed in Bobcat Cave by month and year, November 1990-September 2009	19

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ABSTRACT

The Geological Survey of Alabama, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command at Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, has conducted biological and water quality monitoring studies of Bobcat Cave located on Redstone Arsenal since 1990. This report includes information on the data collected during the current study period, September 2008 through December 2009, as well as a summary of results based on cave shrimp data collected from Bobcat Cave since 1990. Emphasis of the study has been to monitor the Alabama cave shrimp, which is listed as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act and is found on Redstone Arsenal. In addition to monitoring the cave shrimp population by recording number of individuals, number of gravid individuals, and other noteworthy items relating to the shrimp, water-quality data is also collected in both Bobcat and Matthews Caves to monitor habitat conditions for the shrimp. Bobcat and Matthews Caves were visited monthly during the current study period but only one cave shrimp was observed. It was found in November 2008 and it lacked oocytes or attached ova. No cave shrimp were observed during August of 2009, the second consecutive year for no sightings during the month of August.

INTRODUCTION

The Alabama cave shrimp, *Palaemonias alabamiae* Smalley, 1961, is a rare, troglobitic shrimp protected since 1988 by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) under the Endangered Species Act (USFWS, 1988). It was last observed at the type locality, Shelta Cave in northwest Huntsville, in 1973 and was subsequently reported from Bobcat Cave on the U.S. Army's Redstone Arsenal (RSA) in southwest Madison County and in three hydrologically connected caves in southeast Madison County (Rheams and others, 1994).

The Endangered Species Act and the Recovery Plan (USFWS, 1996) for the Alabama cave shrimp provide for protection and study of the species on federal property, and to that end numerous studies have been conducted to monitor the population and its habitat in Bobcat Cave

and vicinity (Moser and Rheams, 1992; Rheams and others, 1994; Campbell and others, 1996; McGregor and O'Neil, 1996, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004; 2006, 2007, McGregor, O'Neil, and Campbell, 1997, 1999; McGregor, O'Neil, Rheams, and others, 1997; McGregor, O'Neil, and Gillett, 2005; McGregor, O'Neil, and Wynn, 2008). These studies have increased our knowledge of the recharge area of Bobcat Cave, the long-term trends in water quality in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, the seasonal water levels in Bobcat Cave, the quality and relationships of local surface and groundwaters, and the life history and population trends of the Alabama cave shrimp. Results have been summarized in two publications (Burnett and others, 2003; McGregor and others, 2003). Another population of cave shrimp is known from Colbert County, approximately 70 miles to the west of RSA, and a cave shrimp was recently collected in Key Cave, Lauderdale County. Morphological differences between these new populations and the Alabama cave shrimp suggest the need for a systematic revision of the genus.

In 2008, the Geological Survey of Alabama (GSA) was contracted by RSA to continue monitoring the Alabama cave shrimp in Bobcat Cave, to report on its life history and population trends, and to monitor water-quality and water-level trends. This report summarizes the results of these studies.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many individuals assisted with field work, provided valuable technical assistance, and otherwise contributed to the completion of this project. Danny Dunn of the RSA Cultural and Environmental Resources Directorate coordinated access to Bobcat Cave. Eric Diaz of RSA provided rainfall data for the Bobcat Cave vicinity. Dan Augenbaugh of RSA and his staff provided information regarding laser testing in the area near Bobcat Cave. Brett Smith and Cal Johnson of GSA assisted with field work.

STUDY AREA

The study area is located near the western boundary of Redstone Arsenal, a U.S. Army facility in west-central Madison County, Alabama. Land in the immediate vicinity of the cave was formerly used as a cattle pasture. Implementation of a management plan for the cave shrimp within the past few years has resulted in retirement of the pasture as graze, and hardwood saplings have been planted throughout the area around Bobcat Cave. Urbanization is rapidly encroaching along Zeirdt Road from the west. Redstone Arsenal is located within the Tennessee Valley district of the Highland Rim section of the Interior Low Plateaus physiographic province. This district is characterized by a plateau of moderate relief, composed of a chert belt to the north and a limestone plain along the Tennessee River with elevations ranging from

approximately 600 to 800 feet above mean sea level (ft-msl) (Sapp and Emplincourt, 1975). Some isolated hills or mountains up to 1,000 feet in elevation occur in this district in Madison County. Bobcat Cave is located within the limestone plain near the Tennessee River at an elevation of about 590 ft-msl.

The study area is underlain predominantly by thick sequences of carbonate rocks that generally dip to the south at approximately 20 feet per mile. Groundwater movement is generally from north to south throughout the area, although localized and often complex disruptions of this southerly flow pattern may occur. The Tennessee River ultimately controls the direction of groundwater flow in the study area. The Tennessee River, which forms the southern boundary of Madison County, is the dominant surface-water feature. Throughout Madison County, all surface-water systems flow in a general southerly direction and eventually discharge into the Tennessee River.

METHODS

Chemical analyses of water samples were conducted in accordance with U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA 1973, 1983, 1988, 1990, 1991), Fishman and Friedman (1989), Greenberg and others (1992), and Wershaw and others (1987). Water samples were collected in accordance with the Standard Operating Procedures and Quality Assurance Manual of Alabama Department of Environmental Management (December 1986) and the Quality Assurance-Quality Control Plan for GSA (O'Neil and Meintzer, 1995).

The following parameters were measured *in situ* for each sample. Dissolved oxygen was measured in milligrams per liter (mg/L) using a Yellow Springs Instruments (YSI) Model 55 dissolved oxygen meter. Hydrogen ion concentration, specific conductance (measured in micro Siemens per centimeter [$\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$]), and temperature were measured with a Horiba Water Checker Model U-10. Total residual chlorine was measured colorimetrically with a HACH Model CN-70 chlorine test kit. A collected sample was inoculated with a standard reagent powder pillow, allowed to stand for three minutes for the reaction to occur, then compared against a stream blank in the standardized color-comparison wheel. All meters were regularly checked against similar instruments in the GSA geochemical laboratory or against standard calibration solutions.

An integrated grab sample of water was collected monthly at each station, and the following raw and filtered (0.45 μm [micrometer]) individual samples were transported (in Nasco whirl-pak sterilized bags or polyethylene bottles) to the GSA geochemical laboratory for analysis: one 18-oz raw water bag, one 4-oz filtered-untreated bag, one 4-oz filtered-chilled bag (4°C), one 4-oz filtered-acidified (pH <2.0 with sulfuric acid) bag, one filtered-acidified (pH

<2.0 with nitric acid) sample in a white polyethylene bottle, and one filtered-acidified (pH <2.0 with sulfuric acid) sample in a brown polyethylene bottle, and one raw sample in an amber glass bottle.

Biological monitoring consisted of monthly visual observations of the aquatic environment in Bobcat Cave when existing water levels permitted access, and the recording of information regarding cave shrimp, such as number observed on each visit, seasonality of reproduction, and fecundity. Each visit involved walking along the margins of subterranean pools when water levels were low, or wading through pools when necessary, and recording each shrimp observed. Information such as observer, time, date, unit of effort expended, and ambient condition was recorded in addition to life history notes such as relative size (if appreciably different from an average cave shrimp) and presence or absence and number of oocytes or attached ova, if possible. Observations usually took 15 minutes to 1 hour to accomplish per trip, with a mean observation time of 45 minutes. No shrimp were handled due to their diminutive size and to avoid physically damaging or unnecessarily stressing individuals. Similar observations have resulted from many sampling efforts varying in intensity and frequency since November 1990. The current sampling effort is intended to provide a general monitoring tool for the determination of the relative occurrence of the population over time when compared to information gathered during previous studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

WATER QUALITY

Twelve sets of water samples each were collected from Bobcat and Matthews Caves from October 2008 through September 2009 (appendix A) and analyzed for the constituents listed in table 1. Water in Bobcat Cave generally has had slightly higher specific conductance, and hence higher dissolved solids content, over the years of study compared to Matthews Cave (fig. 1). Since 2006, median conductance in Matthews has been slightly higher. Other water-quality constituents and/or indicators of contamination, such as chloride, nitrate, and some trace metals, enter the groundwater in both caves either through surface runoff directly into the cave or from deeper groundwater sources which eventually also supply water to the caves.

The alkalinity of a solution is defined as its capacity to react with and neutralize acid. The principal components of alkalinity are the dissolved carbon dioxide species carbonic acid,

Table 1. Water-quality parameters, lower limits of detection, and analytical methods.

Parameter	Units ¹	Lower limit of detection	Method ²
Temperature	°C	--	Electrometric, field
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	0.1	Electrometric, field
Total residual chlorine	mg/L	0.02	Colorimetric, APHA 4500-Cl G
pH	units	--	Electrometric, field
Alkalinity	mg/L as CaCO ₃	3	Colorimetric, EPA 310.2
Specific conductance	µS/cm ²	1	Electrometric, field
Total dissolved solids	mg/L	10	Gravimetric, USGS I-1750-85
Hardness	mg/L as CaCO ₃	1	Calculated, USGS I-1340-85
Silica	mg/L	0.05	ICP, EPA 200.7
Sulfate	mg/L	0.06	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Bromide	mg/L	0.05	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Chloride	mg/L	0.05	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Fluoride	mg/L	0.02	Ion chromatography, USGS I-2057-85
Bicarbonate	mg/L	1	Calculated, APHA 4500-CO ₂ D
Carbonate	mg/L	1	Calculated, APHA 4500-CO ₂ D
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.02	Colorimetric, USGS I-2522-85
Total Kjeldahl nitrogen	mg/L	0.1	Colorimetric, EPA 351.2
Nitrite as N	mg/L	0.01	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Nitrate as N	mg/L	0.020	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Total nitrate-nitrite as N	mg/L	0.020	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Total phosphorus as P	mg/L	0.020	Colorimetric, EPA 365.1
Orthophosphate as PO ₄	mg/L	0.02	Ion chromatography, EPA 300.0
Arsenic	µg/L	2	Graphite-furnace atomic absorption, EPA 200.9
Barium	µg/L	2.0	ICP, EPA 200.7
Cadmium	µg/L	4.0	ICP, EPA 200.7
Chromium	µg/L	8	ICP, EPA 200.7
Copper	µg/L	8	ICP, EPA 200.7
Iron	µg/L	3	ICP, EPA 200.7
Lead	µg/L	2	Graphite-furnace atomic absorption, EPA 200.9
Lithium	µg/L	5	ICP, EPA 200.7
Manganese	µg/L	2	ICP, EPA 200.7
Mercury	µg/L	1	Cold vapor atomic absorption, USGS I-2462-85
Molybdenum	µg/L	20	ICP, EPA 200.7
Nickel	µg/L	10	ICP, EPA 200.7
Selenium	µg/L	3	Graphite-furnace atomic absorption, EPA 200.9
Silver	µg/L	10	ICP, EPA 200.7 (GF, EPA 200.9)
Strontium	µg/L	1	ICP, EPA 200.7
Zinc	µg/L	4	ICP, EPA 200.7
Total organic carbon	mg/L	0.4	Combustion, EPA 415.1
Chemical oxygen demand	mg/L	30	Colorimetric, EPA 410.4

1 - mg/L-milligrams per liter; µg/L-micrograms per liter; µS/cm-microSiemens per centimeter; °C-degrees Celcius

2-APHA-American Public Health Association; EPA-Environmental Protection Agency; USGS-U.S. Geological Survey;

GF-graphite furnace; ICP-inductively coupled plasma spectrometry

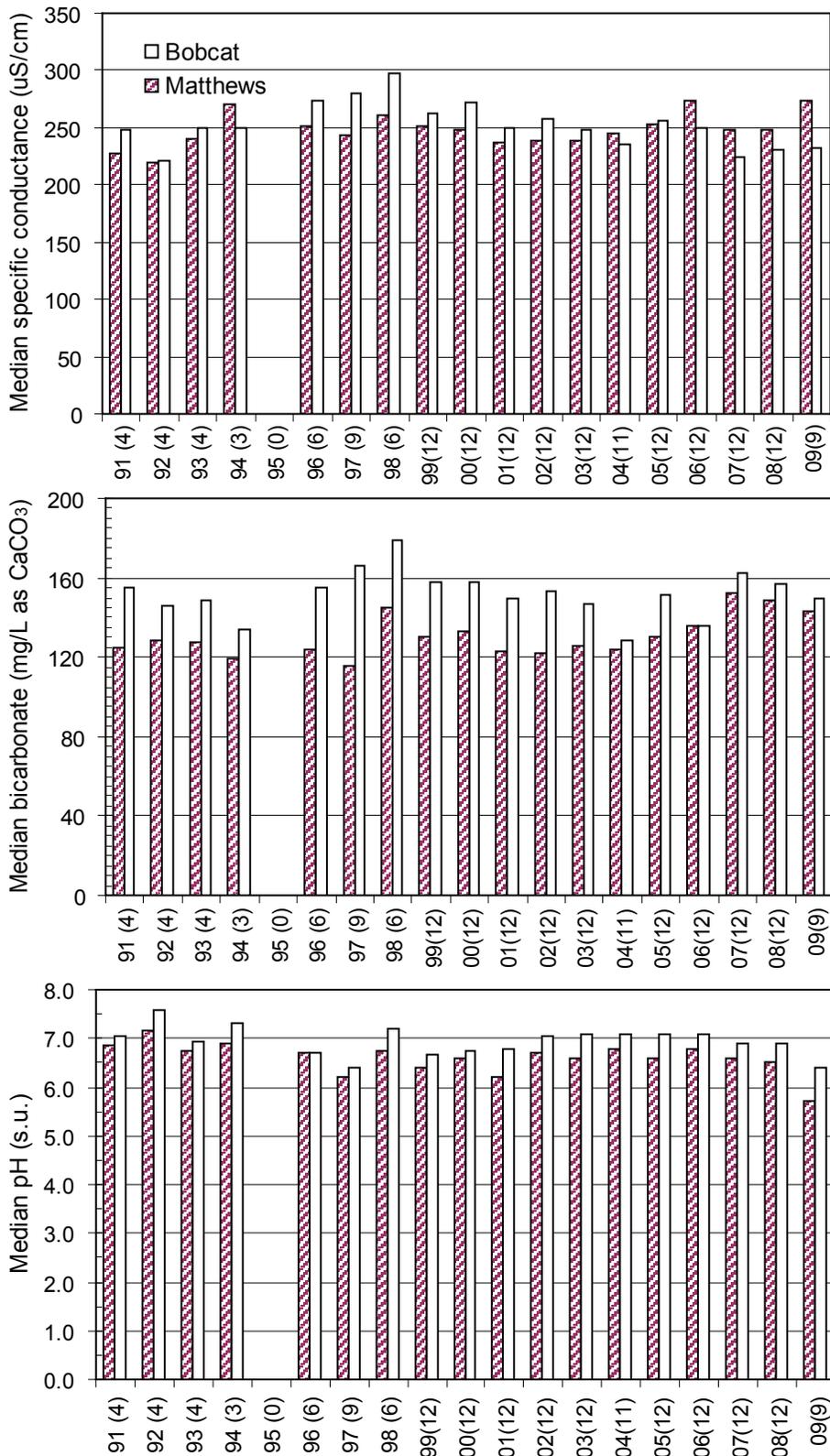


Figure 1. Plots of yearly median specific conductance, bicarbonate, and pH in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009. The number of samples collected each year is shown in parentheses.

bicarbonate, and carbonate. At the pH values encountered in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, bicarbonate is the dominant form contributing to alkalinity. Contact with limestone, as in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, will generally saturate groundwater for both bicarbonate and calcium. Bicarbonate in 2008-09 ranged from 126 to 178 mg/L with a median of 154 mg/L, which was higher than the preceding year in Bobcat Cave, while the median bicarbonate in Matthews at 146 mg/L, and ranging from 128 to 162 mg/L, was slightly higher than the preceding year (table 2, fig. 1). Yearly median bicarbonate in Bobcat has ranged from a low of 128 mg/L in 2004 to a high of 179 mg/L in 1998, while this parameter in Matthews Cave has ranged from a low of 116 mg/L in 1997 to a high of 152 mg/L in 2007 (fig. 1). The pH of Bobcat Cave waters in 2008-09 ranged from 6.2 to 6.8 (median, 6.4), while pH of Matthews Cave ranged from 5.0 to 6.4 (median, 5.9) for the same period (table 2). Long-term trends of pH in both caves indicate that Matthews Cave waters are slightly more acidic than Bobcat Cave waters, with the median pH varying generally between 6.0 and 7.5 in both caves (fig. 1).

Chlorine is the most abundant of the halogens, and its compounds, comprised of chlorine and the common metallic elements, alkali metals, and alkaline earth metals, are readily soluble in water (Hem, 1989). The chloride form of chlorine is the only oxidation state of significance in water exposed to the atmosphere. The other oxidation states of chlorine are not found in significant quantities in natural waters, and their presence would be the result of contamination from a chlorinated water source. Chloride is present in rock types in concentrations lower than the other major constituents of natural water. As such, chloride concentrations are generally very low in natural fresh waters, and their presence in quantity may indicate contamination. Chloride ranged from 1.61 to 7.72 mg/L (median, 2.43 mg/L) in Bobcat Cave and from 4.77 to 7.94 mg/L (median, 5.48 mg/L) in Matthews Cave (table 2) in 2008-09. The median concentrations of chloride in Matthews Cave have consistently varied from about one and a half to two times the median chloride concentrations in Bobcat Cave over the period 1991 through 2009 (fig. 2), indicating that water in Matthews Cave likely has a greater connectivity to polluted surface runoff and groundwater. Yearly median chloride in Matthews Cave shows a long-term increasing trend perhaps related to increasing urbanization in the recharge area.

Table 2. Summary water-quality data for Bobcat and Matthews Caves, October 2008 through September, 2009.

Parameter	Units ¹	LLD ²	Bobcat			Matthews		
			min	max	med	min	max	med
Temperature	°C	--	12	23	17	15	26	18
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	--	6.0	11.5	7.9	7.3	13.3	8.3
TRC	mg/L	0.02	<.02	0.45	0.03	<.02	0.17	0.04
pH	units	s.u.	6.2	6.8	6.4	5.0	6.4	5.9
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	3	103	146	126	105	133	120
Conductance	µS/cm	1	206	263	233	218	320	267
TDS	mg/L	10	134	171	152	142	208	174
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	1	101	139	114	99	136	122
Sulfate	mg/L	0.08	1.17	25.8	3.10	2.35	5.57	2.68
Chloride	mg/L	0.03	1.61	7.72	2.43	4.77	7.94	5.48
Bromide	mg/L	0.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Fluoride	mg/L	0.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	0.032	<.02
Silica	mg/L	0.06	5.18	8.47	7.38	4.67	8.69	7.71
Bicarbonate	mg/L	3	126	178	154	128	162	146
Carbonate	mg/L	1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.02	<.02	0.07	0.05	0.02	0.06	0.04
Nitrite as N	mg/L	0.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006
TKN	mg/L	0.07	<.07	0.55	0.26	0.07	0.41	0.25
Nitrate as N	mg/L	0.006	0.14	0.76	0.38	1.93	3.25	2.59
Total NOx as N	mg/L	0.006	0.14	0.76	0.38	1.93	3.25	2.59
Total phosphorus	mg/L	0.01	<.01	0.19	0.02	<.01	0.19	0.01
Orthophosphate as P	mg/L	0.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Arsenic	µg/L	2	<2	2.4	<2	<2	2.8	<2
Barium	µg/L	1	26	98	34	19	80	32
Cadmium	µg/L	0.09	<.09	0.25	0.19	<.09	0.95	0.18
Chromium	µg/L	0.8	<.8	3.0	<.8	<.8	1.1	<.8
Copper	µg/L	5	<5	<5	<5	<5	24.9	<5
Iron	µg/L	4	<4	11.1	<4	<4	17.8	<4
Lead	µg/L	0.9	<.9	9.6	5.8	<.9	65.2	9.7
Lithium	µg/L	8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8
Manganese	µg/L	0.8	<.8	1.4	<.8	<.8	2.1	<.8
Mercury	µg/L	1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Molybdenum	µg/L	20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Nickel	µg/L	20	20	20	20	20	20	20
Selenium	µg/L	3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3
Silver	µg/L	10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
Strontium	µg/L	0.5	44	60	48	46	59	54
Zinc	µg/L	4	<4	70	16	8	44	22
Total organic carbon	mg/L	0.4	<.4	6.59	<.4	<.4	0.79	<.4
COD	mg/L	30	<30	365	88	34	158	69

¹ - mg/L-milligrams per liter; µg/L-micrograms per liter; µS/cm-microSiemens per centimeter; °C-degrees Celcius

² - LLD lower limit of detection

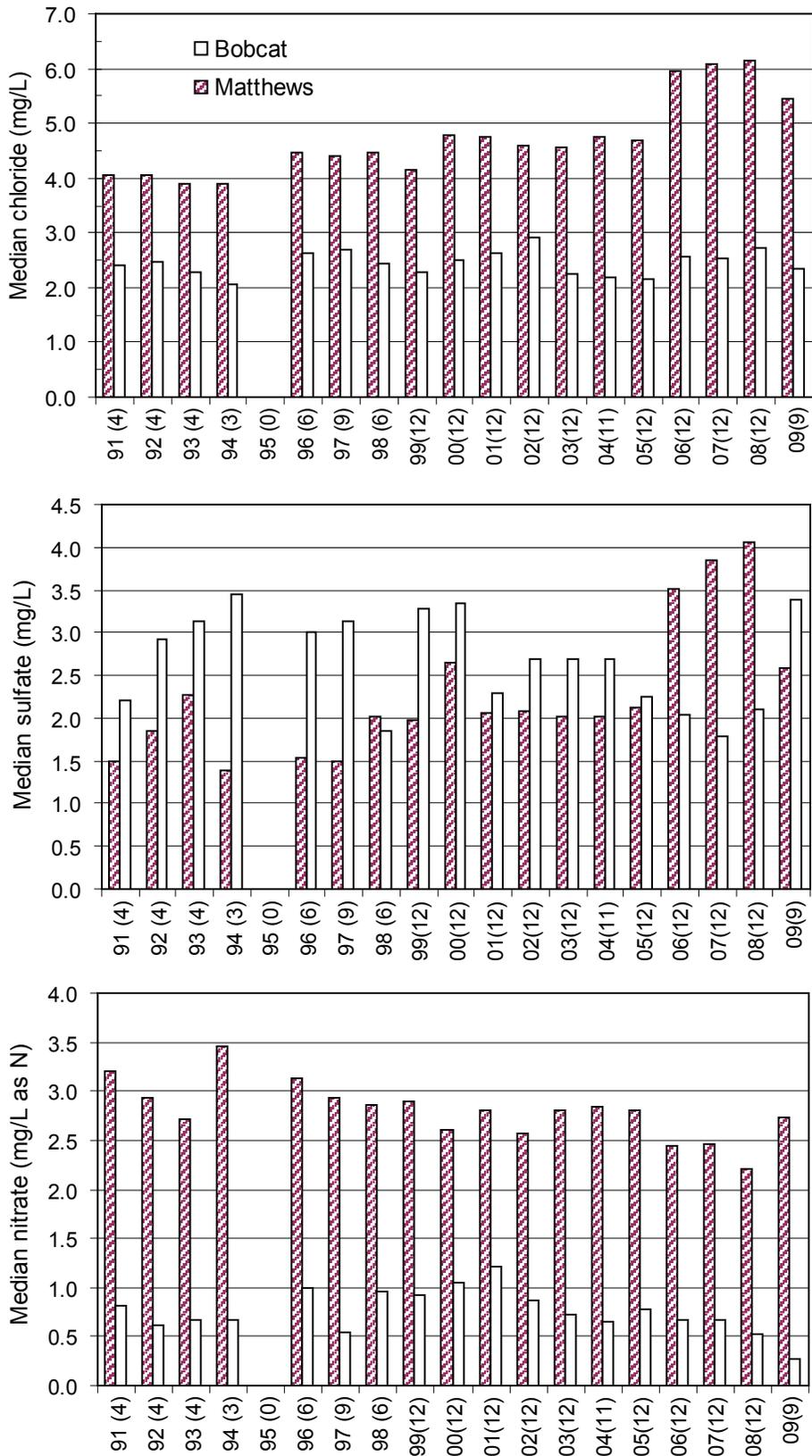


Figure 2. Plots of yearly median chloride, sulfate, and nitrate in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009. The number of samples collected is shown in parentheses.

Sulfate concentrations ranged from 1.17 to 25.8 mg/L (median, 3.10 mg/L) in Bobcat and from 2.35 to 5.57 mg/L (median, 2.68 mg/L) in Matthews (table 2) in 2008-09. Over the period 1991 through 2009, median sulfate concentrations in Bobcat were greater than median sulfate in Matthews Cave (fig. 2), except 1998 when median sulfate was slightly greater in Matthews Cave and in 2006-08 when median sulfate was substantially greater in Matthews. Like chloride, the long-term trend for median sulfate is increasing in Matthews Cave.

The cycling of nitrogen through the atmosphere, hydrosphere, and lithosphere involves complex biological and chemical processes. Nitrogen in water occurs as nitrite (NO_2^-) and nitrate (NO_3^-) anions, as ammonium (NH_4^+) cations, and as organic solutes. Nitrate is stable in water over a variety of conditions, particularly in groundwater, and is readily transported over long distances. Excessive nitrate concentrations (>10 mg/L NO_3 as N) may cause a condition known as methemoglobinemia in small children. Upon contact with sunlight, excess nitrate can contribute to nuisance algal blooms in surface waters. Nitrate ranged from 0.14 to 0.76 mg/L (median, 0.38 mg/L) in Bobcat and from 1.93 to 3.25 mg/L (median, 2.59 mg/L) in Matthews from 2008-09 (table 2). From 1991-2009, the median nitrate concentrations in Bobcat Cave have ranged from near 0.5 to just over 1.0 mg/L, whereas the median concentrations in Matthews Cave have ranged from near 2.5 to near 3.5 mg/L (fig. 2). Ammonia was detected in 11 samples from Bobcat Cave and in 12 samples from Matthews Cave in 2008-09 (appendix A). Phosphorus concentrations during 2008-09 were slightly elevated in each cave over previous years with total dissolved phosphorus ranging from < 0.01 to 0.19 mg/L in Bobcat Cave and from < 0.01 to 0.19 mg/L in Matthews Cave. Median total phosphorus was 0.02 mg/L in Bobcat Cave and 0.01 mg/L in Matthews Caves (table 2).

Most of the time in natural waters unaffected by pollution, trace metals occur in low concentrations, generally <1.0 $\mu\text{g/L}$. Elevated trace metal concentrations may indicate the presence of a pollution source or a nearby ore deposit. Cadmium was detected in 7 of 12 samples taken from both Bobcat and Matthews Caves 2008-09 (appendix). Cadmium concentrations in samples from Bobcat ranged from <0.09 to 0.25 $\mu\text{g/L}$ with a median of 0.19 $\mu\text{g/L}$, while samples from Matthews Cave ranged from <0.09 to 0.95 $\mu\text{g/L}$ with a median of 0.18 $\mu\text{g/L}$ (table 2) in 2008-09. The drinking water maximum contaminant level (MCL) for cadmium is 5.0 $\mu\text{g/L}$, the MCL for leachate from sanitary landfills is 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$, whereas the chronic and acute criteria for protection of aquatic life are 1.13 $\mu\text{g/L}$ and 3.92 $\mu\text{g/L}$, respectively, calculated using a hardness

of 100 mg/L. Data from 1996-2009 indicate the continued presence of cadmium in both Bobcat and Matthews Caves (fig. 3) with cadmium detections averaging 62.8 percent for Bobcat Cave and 61.8 percent for Matthews Cave over this period (table 3, fig. 4).

Chromium was detected in 4 of 12 samples from Bobcat Cave in 2008-09 (appendix A) and ranged from <0.8 to 3.0 µg/L with a median of <0.8 µg/L (table 2). Chromium was detected in 2 of 12 samples from Matthews Cave ranging from <0.8 to 1.1 µg/L. The drinking water MCL for chromium (III) is 100 µg/L, the landfill leachate MCL is 50 µg/L, while the chronic and acute aquatic-life criteria are 207 µg/L and 1,736 µg/L, respectively, for a hardness of 100 mg/L. The number of chromium detections decreased in Bobcat Cave from 1998-2000, rose to 75 percent in 2001, declined steadily to 25 percent in 2005, increased again to 58 percent in 2006, and declined to 44 percent in 2009 (table 2, fig. 4). Chromium detections in Matthews Cave declined from a high of 67 percent in 1998 to lows of 8 percent in 2002, 2003, and 2005 and 0 percent in 2006. Chromium detections have increased in Matthews to 22 percent in 2009. Chromium detections averaged 57.4 percent for Bobcat Cave and 23.1 percent for Matthews Cave during the period 1996-2009 (table 3).

Lead was detected in 9 of 12 samples from Bobcat Cave in 2008-09, ranging from <0.9 to 9.6 µg/L with a median of 5.8 µg/L. Lead was detected in 8 of 12 samples from Matthews Cave, ranging from <0.9 to 65.2 µg/L with a median of 9.7 µg/L (table 2). The drinking water MCL for lead is 15 µg/L, the landfill leachate criterion is 15 µg/L, and the chronic and acute aquatic-life criteria are 3.18 µg/L and 81.6 µg/L, respectively, for a hardness of 100 mg/L. The percentage of lead detections in Bobcat Cave steadily declined from a high of 89 percent in 1997 to 8 percent in 2000 before increasing to 25 percent in 2001, 75 percent in 2002, and 83 percent in 2003 (table 3). Lead detections declined progressively in each succeeding year to 17 percent in 2006 but have increased to 83 percent in 2008 and 78 percent of samples in 2009. The maximum lead values for the past 12 years in Bobcat Cave are above the detection limit: 2.5 µg/L-1998, 9.4 µg/L-1999, 10.5 µg/L-2000, 5.8 µg/L-2001, 13.0 µg/L-2002, 8.6 µg/L-2003, 20.9 µg/L in 2004, 11.4 µg/L in 2005, 1.6 µg/L in 2006, 8.4 µg/L in 2007, 95.8 µg/L in 2008, and 9.6 µg/L through September in 2009. Similarly, the maximum lead values for Matthews Cave the past 12 years have also been above detection limits: 6.7 µg/L-1998, 6.6 µg/L-1999, 5.4 µg/L-2000, 4.3 µg/L-2001, 11.1 µg/L-

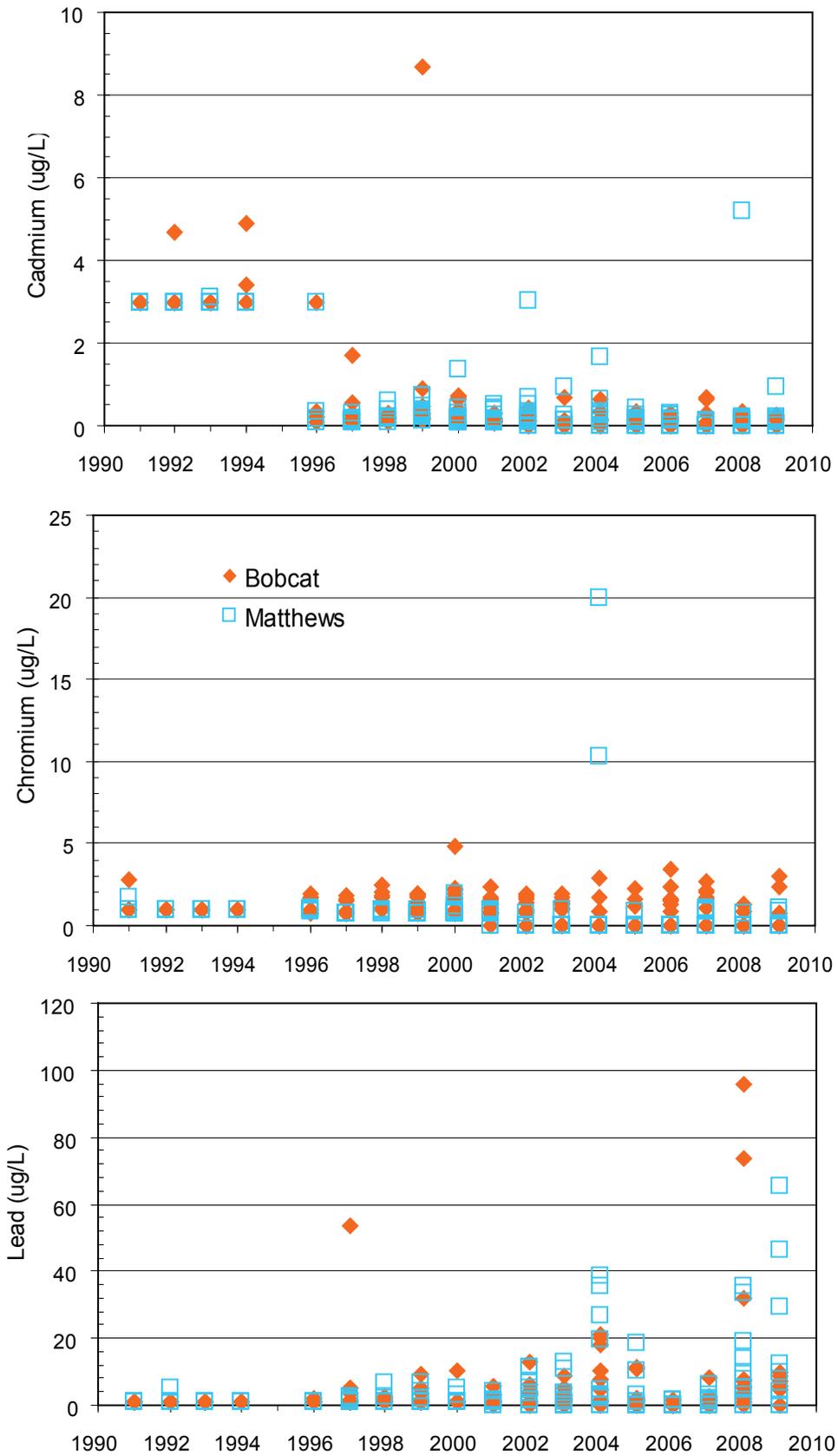


Figure 3. Selected trace metal concentrations in water from Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1991-2009.

Table 3. Yearly detection rate (percent of samples collected) of selected trace metals in water collected from Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1996-2009

Year	Number of samples	Cadmium		Chromium		Lead	
		Bobcat	Matthews	Bobcat	Matthews	Bobcat	Matthews
1996	6	80	60	60	60	20	0
1997	9	67	67	56	0	89	44
1998	6	100	100	100	67	67	67
1999	12	100	100	75	25	50	42
2000	12	58	58	67	42	8	42
2001	12	75	67	75	25	25	25
2002	12	75	83	67	8	75	75
2003	12	42	42	58	8	83	58
2004	11	64	73	36	18	73	82
2005	12	58	58	25	8	58	42
2006	12	42	50	58	0	17	25
2007	9	25	17	50	33	17	25
Average		65.5	64.6	60.6	24.5	48.5	43.9

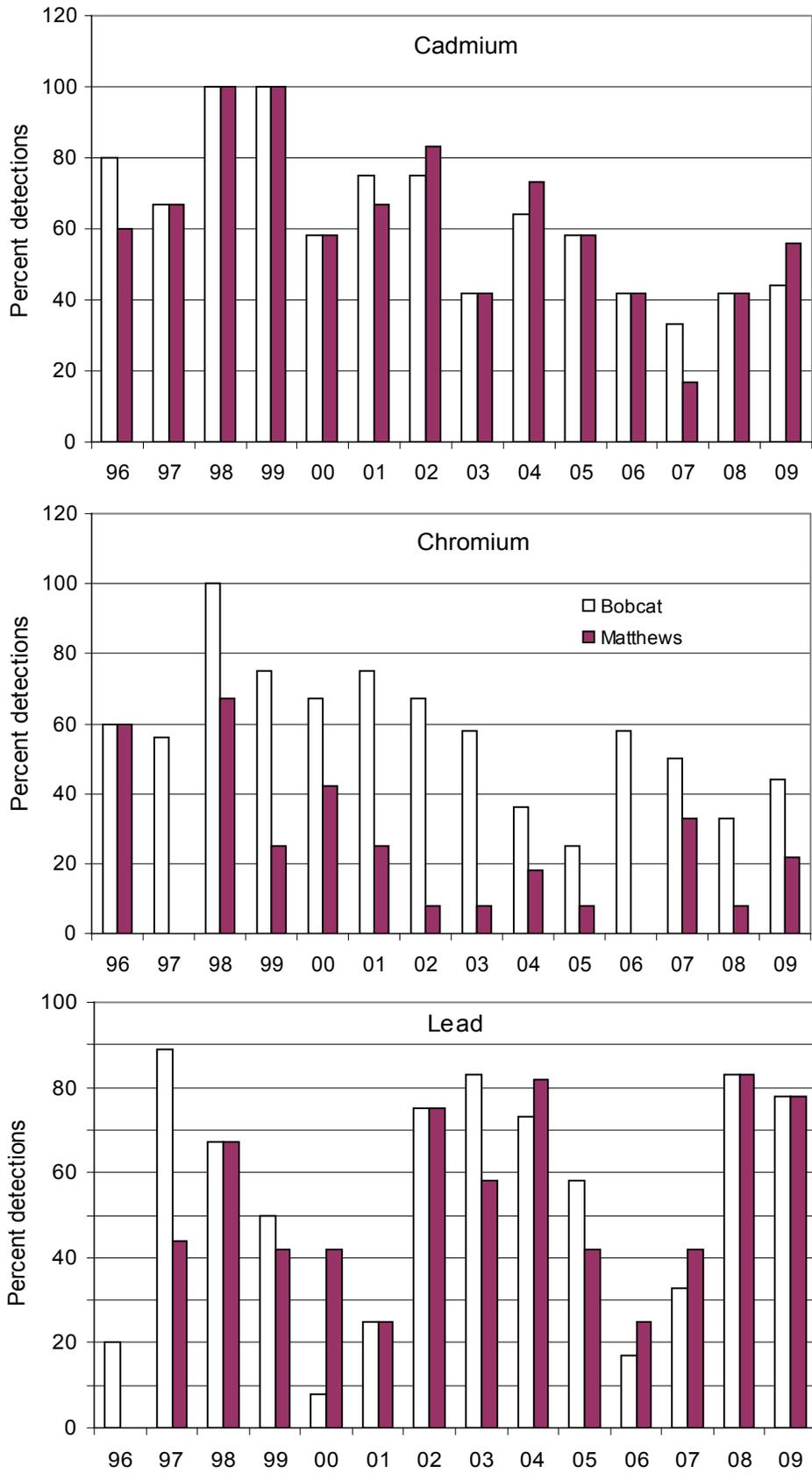


Figure 4. Yearly detection rates of cadmium, chromium, and lead in Bobcat and Matthews Caves, 1996-2009.

2002, 12.7 µg/L-2003, 38.6 µg/L in 2004, 18.7 µg/L in 2005, 1.8 µg/L in 2006, 6.3 µg/L in 2007, 35.7 µg/L in 2008, and 65.2 µg/L through September in 2006. Lead detections since 1996 have averaged about 50 percent of all samples collected in each cave (table 3). There is an interesting cyclical pattern of yearly lead detection rates that repeats every five to six years (fig. 4).

Analyses for several metals have not been completed for the last three months of samples because of a broken analytical instrument. This report will be updated when these analyses are complete. Median chemical oxygen demand (COD) was similar between caves at 69 mg/L in Matthews compared to 88 mg/L in Bobcat Cave. Median total organic carbon in both caves was less than detection limits (<0.4 mg/L) (table 2).

CONTINUAL WATER-QUALITY AND WATER-LEVEL MONITORING

An automated water surface elevation, temperature, and specific conductance monitor has operated in Bobcat Cave from November 1992 through September 2009. Results of previous water-level investigations in and around Bobcat Cave (McGregor, O'Neil, and Campbell, 1997) indicate that the hydrology of Bobcat Cave is likely controlled by two distinct factors: (1) groundwater originating in the soils and karst terrane around the cave, and (2) the degree to which Bobcat Cave is connected to the land surface by direct conduits through which surface runoff enters the cave during storm events.

Plots of daily parameter measurements for specific conductance, temperature, and surface water elevation are depicted in figure 5, along with daily rainfall records provided by RSA. The rainfall station is located about 5 miles to the southeast of Bobcat Cave and therefore some of the rainfall events, particularly isolated summer storms, cannot be directly correlated with rising water level in Bobcat Cave. However, widespread rains, as occur from fall through spring months, do correlate with rising water levels in the cave.

Average water level in Bobcat Cave is highest from January through April and lowest from August through October (fig. 5). Rising groundwater during winter months increases the base level of Bobcat Cave by approximately 7 feet, from 575 ft-msl to around 582 ft-msl. Runoff associated with storm fronts can temporarily raise the surface elevation another 5 feet to a level of 586 feet (fig. 5). The maximum water surface elevation measured since 1993 was recorded on May 2, 2009, at 590.2 ft-msl, 15 feet above the minimum measurable level in Bobcat Cave. Approximately 5.9 inches of rain had fallen over the previous 3.5 days. Water exits through

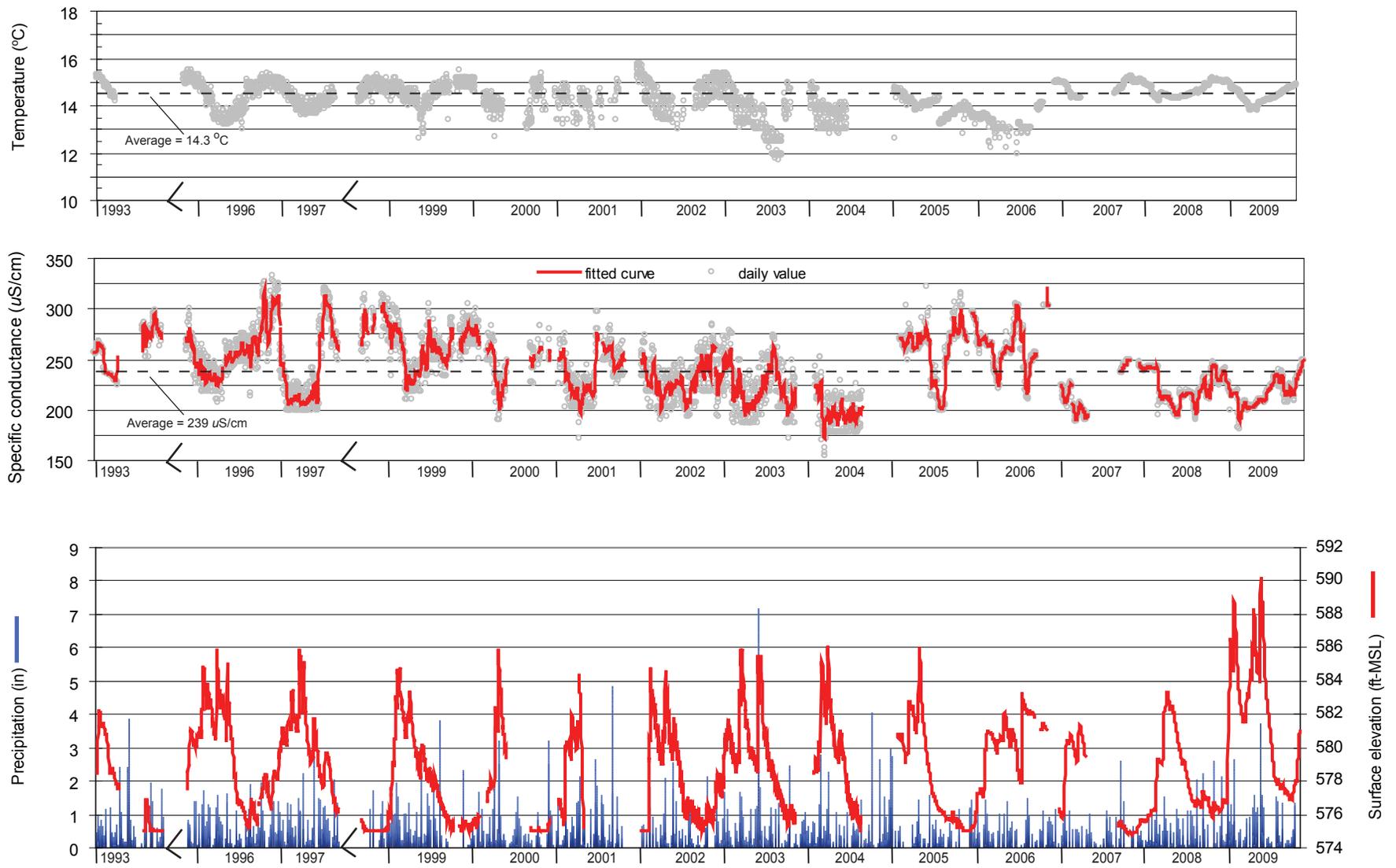


Figure 5. Daily water-quality monitoring data for Bobcat Cave, 1993-2009.

fissures and cracks generally to the east of Bobcat Cave at 585 to 586 feet. Monthly variation of water level is generally highest from November through April, when Bobcat receives greater quantities of surface runoff. Water is present only in isolated pools and windows at 575 feet. Water level in Bobcat Cave has averaged 578.9 ft-msl over the period 1993 through 2009.

Bobcat Cave has a very stable water temperature regime throughout the year, averaging 14.3°C from 1993-2009. Temperature generally varies 2°C throughout the year, ranging from around 13°C to slightly over 15°C (fig. 5). The highest average monthly water temperature occurs in November and December, while the lowest occurs in May. The water temperature regime in Bobcat Cave appeared to be vulnerable to flooding effects of surface-water runoff. Several storm events (July 1996, May 1999, April 2000 and 2001, May 2002, and September 2003) briefly lowered temperature by 0.5 to 1.0°C below the average for that time of year with rapid recovery to ambient water temperature.

The quality of groundwater in Bobcat Cave is controlled by several mechanisms including surface runoff into the cave, solubility conditions between the surrounding limestone and water, and quality of groundwater from deep aquifers that contribute to the cave's water supply. Average specific conductance from 1993 through 2009 was 239 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$, ranging from 211 to 590 $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ (fig. 5). Specific conductance spikes occurred when cave waters were low and rapidly received surface runoff from summer and fall storms. A significant jump in average specific conductance from May to June may indicate a transitional period during the annual hydrologic cycle when deeper groundwater with a higher mineral content begins to dominate Bobcat Cave's water supply.

BIOLOGICAL MONITORING

Bobcat Cave was visited monthly from October 2008 to September 2009 (appendix B). Only one shrimp was observed in the shrimp window on July 24, 2008, when the water level was near the lowest level during this field season and the cave was most accessible. That shrimp did not appear to have oocytes or attached ova (appendix B, fig. 6, table 4). August generally produces the most sightings of cave shrimp in Bobcat Cave (maximum 112 on August 17, 1999), but this year, for the second time when the cave was accessible during August, none were observed during that month. None were observed in August 2003 due to high water level, or

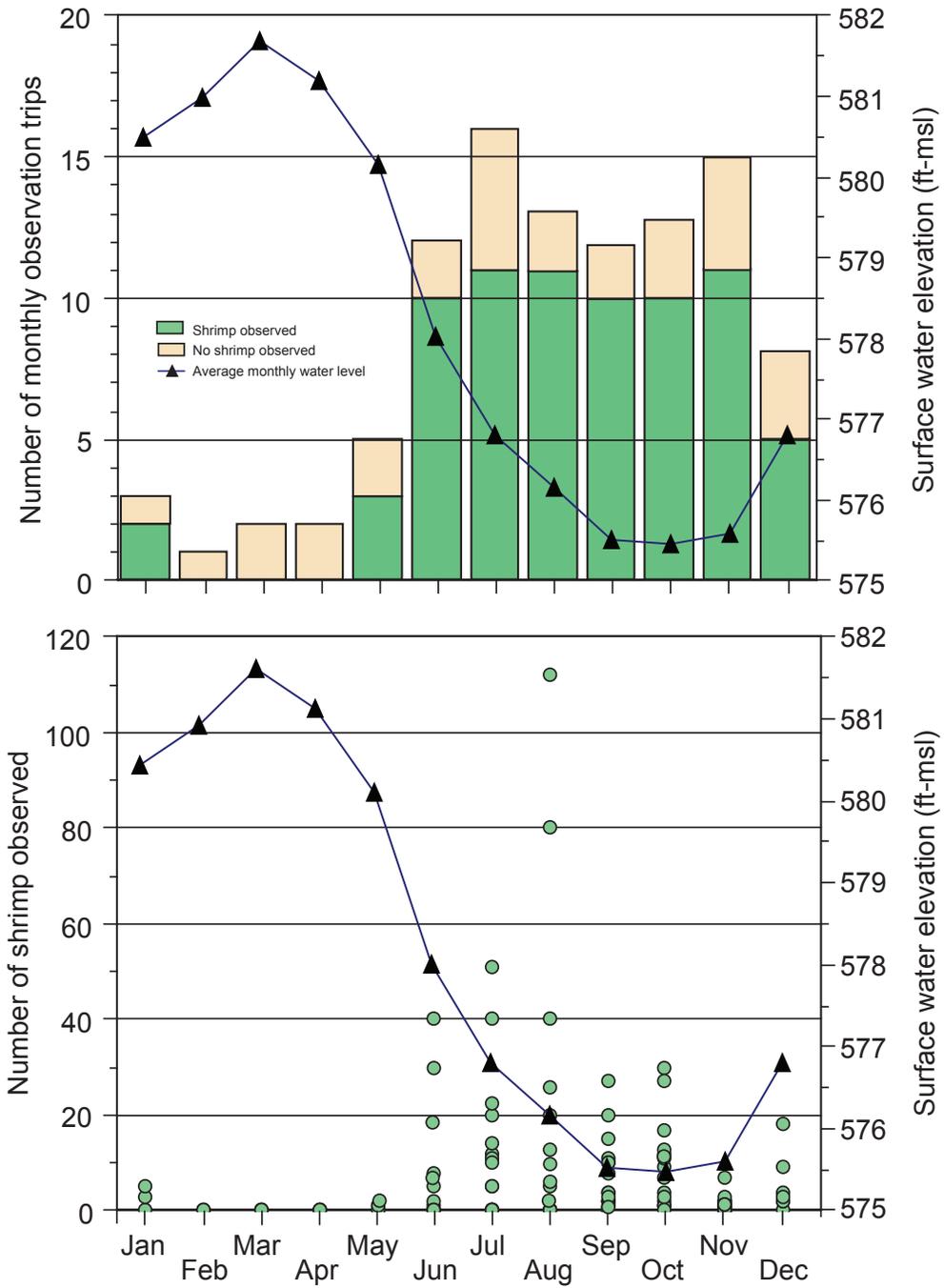


Figure 6. Shrimp observations and counts in Bobcat Cave, 1990-2009.

Table 4. Number of cave shrimp observed in Bobcat Cave by month and year, November 1990-September 2009.

Year	Month											
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
1990	-- ¹	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	0	21
1991	ND ²	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	51	56	9	30	3	0
1992	ND	ND	0	ND	2	0	0	ND	ND	41	7	ND
1993	ND	ND	0	0	ND	10	16	5	43	7	6	4
1994	ND	0	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1995	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND
1996	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	5	19	ND	ND	ND	1	ND
1997	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	1	12	20	ND	ND	ND	ND
1998	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	ND	0	80	ND	17	0	9
1999	0	0	0	0	0	0	20	112	14	4	3	4
2000	3	0	0	0	0	40	40	26	2	27	9	0
2001	5	0	0	0	1	0	10	13	27	0	1	0
2002	0	0	0	0	0	6	7	5	5	11	0	0
2003	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	1	0	0
2004	0	0	0	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	0	0
2005	0	0	0	0	0	30	0	10	15	12	1	0
2006	0	0	0	0	0	19	22	5	1	1	1	2
2007	0	0	0	0	2	7	0	2	0	0	1	0
2008	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	1	0
2009	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	--	--	--

¹--Months not included in period of study.

²ND—No data. No observations attempted during this month.

during August 2004, when no observation was attempted. August 2007 yielded only two shrimp. This area has seen several years of severe drought, and it may be possible that extremely low water levels restrict shrimp to the deep groundwater or, perhaps, affect their reproduction. However, with the return to a more normal rainfall pattern the numbers may return to previous levels in the near future.

Information concerning long-term trends in the shrimp population in Bobcat Cave (1990 to present) is found in figure 6. June, July, and August are generally the months when shrimp observations are most prevalent, each month having yielded 40 or more shrimp in one or more visits during this study. The upper graph provides a comparison of monthly shrimp observations and the total number of observation trips into the cave, as well as the average monthly surface water elevation. The reason that relatively large numbers of shrimp are observed during June through August is likely related to low water levels during those months. However, the lowest average monthly water elevation occurs in September, when counts have never risen above 27 individuals observed in one visit. We suspect a behavioral trait such as migration to deeper groundwater with receding water level to prevent individuals from becoming stranded in isolated pools. As shown in the upper graph of figure 6, shrimp have been observed in almost every visit in September, probably a result of some shrimp that didn't escape to the lower level and became stranded. As stated before, shrimp have never been observed in Bobcat Cave during the months of February through April, due to the fact that the cave is inaccessible during that period. Shrimp have only been observed on four occasions during May probably due to restricted access. The inverse may be true for the fall and winter months, when the water level begins rising with seasonal rainfall. Conditions for observations are generally good at this time, but the shrimp are still inaccessible and therefore relatively few are observed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the results of this study and previous studies of Bobcat and Matthews Caves, we make the following recommendations:

- Monitoring of the shrimp population within the cave should be continued, and information should be gathered and compiled into the existing database to further refine and monitor population trends.

- Monitoring of the physical and chemical properties of cave waters should continue with special attention placed on the levels and trends of potential toxins, such as lead and cadmium, and parameters associated with urban runoff. Increasing urbanization around RSA will likely affect groundwater, which may have consequences for Bobcat Cave and the Alabama cave shrimp.

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APPENDIX A

Water-quality sampling data
2008-2009

Site Date	Units	Bobcat 15-Oct-08	Bobcat 12-Nov-08	Bobcat 10-Dec-08	Bobcat 28-Jan-09	Bobcat 25-Feb-09	Bobcat 21-Mar-09
Time	24-hr	10:00	12:30	11:30	12:30	13:45	14:45
Temperature	°C	17	16	15	12	14	14
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	7.6	8.0	8.9	11.5	8.0	8.3
TRC	mg/L	0.18	0.03	<.02	0.04	0.45	<.02
pH	units	6.3	6.7	6.2	6.7	6.3	6.4
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	138	146	113	119	103	131
Conductance	µS/cm	239	263	258	232	253	220
TDS	mg/L	156	165	131	132	148	136
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	139	138	116	113	112	108
Sulfate	mg/L	1.86	1.17	3.28	3.93	25.80	4.11
Chloride	mg/L	3.17	7.72	2.53	2.34	6.21	1.73
Bromide	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Fluoride	mg/L	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02
Silica	mg/L	8.28	8.47	7.88	7.79	7.32	7.34
Bicarbonate	mg/L	168	178	138	145	126	160
Carbonate	mg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.06	0.06	0.05	0.03	0.07	0.06
Nitrite as N	mg/L	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006
TKN	mg/L	0.20	0.19	0.22	0.30	0.38	0.29
Nitrate as N	mg/L	0.67	0.76	0.46	0.17	0.36	0.14
Total NOx as N	mg/L	0.67	0.76	0.46	0.17	0.36	0.14
Total phosphorus	mg/L	0.06	0.19	0.05	<.01	0.04	<.01
Orthophosphate as P	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Arsenic	µg/L	2.2	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2
Barium	µg/L	80.2	26.8	70.8	37.5	97.7	27.4
Cadmium	µg/L	0.14	0.24	0.09	0.25	0.19	0.22
Chromium	µg/L	<.8	<.8	<.8	<.8	0.8	<.8
Copper	µg/L	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Iron	µg/L	<4	<4	<4	5.5	9.2	<4
Lead	µg/L	7.3	1.1	<.9	<.9	<.9	5.8
Lithium	µg/L	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8
Manganese	µg/L	<.8	<.8	1.4	<.8	<.8	<.8
Mercury	µg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Molybdenum	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Nickel	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Selenium	µg/L	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3
Silver	µg/L	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
Strontium	µg/L	54.9	60.3	46.6	48.8	46.3	44.1
Zinc	µg/L	19.9	11.6	17.2	16.1	70.3	12.6
Total organic carbon	mg/L	<.4	<.4	<.4	<.4	<.4	<.4
COD	mg/L	125	88	88	66	67	365

NA - not available

Site Date	Units	Bobcat 22-Apr-09	Bobcat 11-May-09	Bobcat 23-Jun-09	Bobcat 29-Jul-09	Bobcat 24-Aug-09	Bobcat 21-Sep-09
Time	24-hr	14:00	14:00	12:45	13:00	14:30	14:20
Temperature	°C	17	17	22	23	20	19
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	7.8	6.0	7.7	9.0	7.7	6.2
TRC	mg/L	0.05	<.02	0.02	<.02	<.02	0.2
pH	units	6.2	6.4	6.4	6.6	6.8	6.2
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	133	112	129	117	123	138
Conductance	µS/cm	234	220	242	206	227	232
TDS	mg/L	135	123	141	126	136	150
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	103	101	120	105	116	131
Sulfate	mg/L	3.91	3.38	2.91	1.21	1.89	2.23
Chloride	mg/L	1.70	1.61	2.12	2.49	2.48	2.37
Bromide	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Fluoride	mg/L	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02
Silica	mg/L	7.42	7.08	8.01	7.18	8.21	7.78
Bicarbonate	mg/L	162	137	157	143	150	168
Carbonate	mg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.03	0.04	0.04	<.02	0.06	0.05
Nitrite as N	mg/L	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006
TKN	mg/L	0.46	0.55	0.19	<.07	0.31	0.23
Nitrate as N	mg/L	0.15	0.28	0.18	0.59	0.57	0.39
Total NOx as N	mg/L	0.15	0.28	0.18	0.59	0.57	0.39
Total phosphorus	mg/L	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.04	0.02	<.01
Orthophosphate as P	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Arsenic	µg/L	<2	2.4	<2	<2	<2	<2
Barium	µg/L	25.8	50.3	31.4	25.7	31.4	42.4
Cadmium	µg/L	0.12	<.09	<.09	<.09	<.09	<.09
Chromium	µg/L	<.8	<.8	<.8	0.8	3	2.4
Copper	µg/L	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Iron	µg/L	<4	11.1	9.1	<4	<4	8
Lead	µg/L	4.8	5.8	8.7	7.3	9.6	4.4
Lithium	µg/L	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8
Manganese	µg/L	<.8	<.8	1.0	<.8	<.8	1.0
Mercury	µg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Molybdenum	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Nickel	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Selenium	µg/L	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3
Silver	µg/L	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
Strontium	µg/L	46.6	43.5	53.6	49.5	45.6	53.8
Zinc	µg/L	<4	42.7	13.3	4.2	11.4	22.8
Total organic carbon	mg/L	<.4	6.59	<.4	<.4	0.55	<.4
COD	mg/L	74	98	146	<30	70	88

NA - not available

Site Date	Units	Matthews 15-Oct-08	Matthews 12-Nov-08	Matthews 10-Dec-08	Matthews 28-Jan-09	Matthews 25-Feb-09	Matthews 31-Mar-09
Time	24-hr	8:30	10:30	10:00	9:30	12:20	12:30
Temperature	°C	18	16	16	15	15	16
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	8.2	9.5	8.6	13.3	8.3	8.0
TRC	mg/L	<.02	0.07	0.05	0.09	0.05	0.03
pH	units	5.7	6.4	6.4	5.4	5.4	5.0
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	122	133	105	111	132	111
Conductance	µS/cm	312	237	260	290	245	220
TDS	mg/L	153	162	142	144	162	136
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	129	136	120	115	124	104
Sulfate	mg/L	4.15	4.10	5.57	2.48	2.73	2.84
Chloride	mg/L	6.13	6.29	5.47	5.67	7.94	4.92
Bromide	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Fluoride	mg/L	<.02	<.02	0.03	<.02	<.02	<.02
Silica	mg/L	7.54	7.50	7.73	8.69	7.87	8.11
Bicarbonate	mg/L	149	162	128	135	161	135
Carbonate	mg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.04	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.06	0.06
Nitrite as N	mg/L	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006
TKN	mg/L	0.11	0.23	0.41	0.26	0.30	0.39
Nitrate as N	mg/L	2.01	1.93	2.27	3.14	3.18	2.63
Total NOx as N	mg/L	2.01	1.93	2.27	3.14	3.18	2.63
Total phosphorus	mg/L	0.06	0.19	0.05	0.01	0.04	<.01
Orthophosphate as P	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Arsenic	µg/L	2.1	<2	<2	<2	<2	<2
Barium	µg/L	54.8	55.9	79.6	28.7	34.2	33.0
Cadmium	µg/L	0.19	0.13	<.09	0.95	0.12	0.18
Chromium	µg/L	<.8	<.8	<.8	<.8	<.8	<.8
Copper	µg/L	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5	<5
Iron	µg/L	<4	<4	<4	<4	<4	<4
Lead	µg/L	5	1.5	<.9	<.9	<.9	29.1
Lithium	µg/L	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8
Manganese	µg/L	<.8	2.1	1.2	<.8	<.8	<.8
Mercury	µg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Molybdenum	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Nickel	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Selenium	µg/L	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3
Silver	µg/L	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
Strontium	µg/L	58.8	58.7	55.7	49.9	52.2	46.1
Zinc	µg/L	31.7	28.4	39.8	37.3	23.3	8.9
Total organic carbon	mg/L	<.4	<.4	0.77	<.4	<.4	<.4
COD	mg/L	58	158	94	66	72	123

NA - not available

Site Date	Units	Matthews 22-Apr-09	Matthews 11-May-09	Matthews 23-Jun-09	Matthews 29-Jul-09	Matthews 24-Aug-09	Matthews 21-Sep-09
Time	24-hr	12:45	14:45	13:55	15:45	12:20	12:40
Temperature	°C	19	18	22	25	26	20
Dissolved oxygen	mg/L	7.3	7.3	8.3	8.4	8.4	8.3
TRC	mg/L	0.03	<.02	<.02	0.02	0.06	0.17
pH	units	5.7	6.4	6.4	6.2	6.1	5.7
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	mg/L	110	111	117	124	123	126
Conductance	µS/cm	274	218	247	320	313	298
TDS	mg/L	132	138	147	151	154	156
Hardness as CaCO ₃	mg/L	99	103	120	123	129	131
Sulfate	mg/L	2.58	2.39	2.35	2.45	2.62	3.19
Chloride	mg/L	4.77	5.17	4.80	5.49	5.46	5.72
Bromide	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Fluoride	mg/L	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02	<.02
Silica	mg/L	7.60	7.84	8.30	7.68	8.52	8.14
Bicarbonate	mg/L	134	135	143	151	150	154
Carbonate	mg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Ammonia as N	mg/L	0.02	0.05	0.05	0.03	0.04	0.04
Nitrite as N	mg/L	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006	<.006
TKN	mg/L	0.33	0.23	0.17	0.35	0.23	0.07
Nitrate as N	mg/L	2.55	3.25	2.93	2.73	2.48	2.36
Total NOx as N	mg/L	2.55	3.25	2.93	2.73	2.48	2.36
Total phosphorus	mg/L	0.01	<.01	0.02	<.01	<.01	<.01
Orthophosphate as P	mg/L	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05	<.05
Arsenic	µg/L	<2	<2	2.8	<2	<2	<2
Barium	µg/L	25.1	18.7	28.1	29.8	30.2	33.8
Cadmium	µg/L	0.1	0.23	<.09	<.09	<.09	<.09
Chromium	µg/L	<.8	<.8	<.8	<.8	1.1	0.9
Copper	µg/L	<5	<5	<5	<5	8.7	24.9
Iron	µg/L	<4	<4	5.7	4.1	17.8	7.6
Lead	µg/L	1.9	12.6	46.1	3.9	65.2	9.7
Lithium	µg/L	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8	<8
Manganese	µg/L	<.8	1.6	1.5	<.8	<.8	<.8
Mercury	µg/L	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Molybdenum	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Nickel	µg/L	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20	<20
Selenium	µg/L	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3	<3
Silver	µg/L	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10	<10
Strontium	µg/L	45.7	45.7	54.3	53.7	57.8	54.3
Zinc	µg/L	8.2	14.8	44.3	7.8	20.2	17.4
Total organic carbon	mg/L	<.4	0.79	<.4	<.4	0.68	0.53
COD	mg/L	38	105	119	34	46	46

NA - not available

APPENDIX B

Chronological list of recent Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave,
November 1990-September 2009

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
November 10, 1990	0	
November 11, 1990	0	
December 12, 1990	3	
December 16, 1990	18	
July 22, 1991	51	Unknown number females with oocytes or attached ova
July 24, 1991	0	
August 16, 1991	40	At least 15 females with oocytes or attached ova
August 17, 1991	0	
August 21, 1991	16	Three females with oocytes or attached ova
September 11, 1991	2	
September 16, 1991	2	
September 18, 1991	4	
September 20, 1991	1	
October 4, 1991	0	
October 28, 1991	30	Four females with oocytes or attached ova
November 14, 1991	1	
November 29, 1991	2	
December 9, 1991	0	
March 11, 1992	0	
May 6, 1992	0	
May 7, 1992	0	
May 15, 1992	1	Reportedly 44 mm long with "black spot" on back
May 25, 1992	1	Female with large oocytes or attached ova, 44-48 mm long
June 8, 1992	0	
June 12, 1992	0	
July 21, 1992	0	
October 8, 1992	12	One female with about 15 oocytes or attached ova
October 14, 1992	7	Lengths range from 22-29 mm
October 21, 1992	13	Lengths range from 22.7-29.4 mm
October 26, 1992	9	One female with oocytes or attached ova; one juvenile?

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in
Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
November 4, 1992	7	Lengths range from 22-27.2 mm
November 10, 1992	0	
November 17, 1992	0	
March 3, 1993	0	
April 13, 1993	0	
June 8, 1993	0	
June 23, 1993	8	
June 30, 1993	2	
July 9, 1993	5	One female with oocytes or attached ova and one juvenile(?) not measured; others range 20-25 mm
July 14, 1993	11	Three females with oocytes or attached ova not measured; remainder range 16-28 mm
July 23, 1993	0	
August 5, 1993	0	
August 10, 1993	0	
August 20, 1993	0	
August 25, 1993	5	Three measured ranged 12 to 14 mm, two measured were about 25 mm
September 3, 1993	8	
September 12, 1993	10	Eight measured were <13 mm; two measured were about 25 mm
September 13, 1993	10	
September 23, 1993	4	Lengths range 17-24 mm
September 30, 1993	11	No gravid females
October 8, 1993	1	
October 13, 1993	2	Each was <13 mm
October 22, 1993	1	
October 28, 1993	3	One of the three measured 22 mm
November 2, 1993	2	Lengths range 20-22 mm
November 11, 1993	1	
November 24, 1993	1	15 mm

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
November 30, 1993	2	Each measured 23 mm
December 10, 1993	2	One measured 18 mm
December 15, 1993	2	
February 14, 1994	0	
July 21, 1994	0	
June 4, 1996	5	In window where water monitoring probes are located
July 12, 1996	5	Observed from foot of entrance slope to window where water monitoring probes are located
July, 1996	14	One shrimp had "at least three eggs" according to Warren Campbell and students from University of Alabama, Huntsville
November 11, 1996	1	At foot of entrance slope; unknown sex
June 12, 1997	1	Unknown sex
July 14, 1997	0	
July 31, 1997	12	Three females with oocytes or attached ova
August 7, 1997	20	Three females with oocytes or attached ova
July 21, 1998	0	Water very low, restricted to isolated pools
August 14, 1998	0	
August 18, 1998	80	Observed throughout the cave during low water; 18 shrimp had oocytes or attached ova; 85 minutes collecting time
October 15, 1998	17	Observed throughout the cave; three had oocytes or attached ova and one was small enough to be considered a juvenile.
November 10, 1998	0	
December 16, 1998	9	Water level up from November sample but not sumped; no gravid females observed.
January 11, 1999	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
February 17, 1999	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
March 10, 1999	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
April 27, 1999	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
May 7, 1999	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped; 2.5-inch rain caused turbid conditions in cave
May 24, 1999	0	
June 16, 1999	0	

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
July 8, 1999	20	Observed throughout the cave, though effort was hampered by presence of cold water up to 4 feet deep in the shrimp room. No gravid females observed.
August 17, 1999	112	Observed throughout cave; 10 females with oocytes or attached ova.
September 23, 1999	14	Two gravid females observed; water level very low.
October 26, 1999	4	Restricted to shrimp window.
November 15, 1999	3	Very low water.
December 15, 1999	4	All in shrimp window, 1 with unknown number of oocytes or attached ova.
January 18, 2000	3	Water unseasonably low; no gravid females observed.
February 15, 2000	0	
March 21, 2000	0	
April 15, 2000	0	
May 11, 2000	0	
June 12, 2000	40	No shrimp with oocytes or attached ova.
July 19, 2000	40	One shrimp with unknown number of oocytes or attached ova.
August 22, 2000	26	Five shrimp with unknown number of oocytes or attached ova; very low water level; one deceased raccoon (<i>Procyon lotor</i>).
September 26, 2000	2	Water levels still exceedingly low; both shrimp observed had oocytes or attached ova.
October 31, 2000	27	Eight with oocytes or attached ova.
November 14, 2000	9	One with oocytes or attached ova.
December 20, 2000	0	About 2' airspace, cave not searched past entrance slope.
January 18, 2001	5	Five shrimp observed; water level down drastically from December.
February 14, 2001	0	No shrimp; cave sumped
March 20, 2001	0	High water; no shrimp observed
April 12, 2001	0	High water; no shrimp observed
May 17, 2001	1	Cave near sumped; one cave shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
June 11, 2001	0	No counts made due to high water
July 24, 2001	10	10 shrimp observed, though water level relatively high; observed by R. Blackwood, K. Roe, and B. Kuhajda; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova; four collected for DNA study

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
August 23, 2001	13	13 shrimp observed, one with about 10 oocytes or attached ova; water relatively high for the season
September 27, 2001	27	Two shrimp with oocytes or attached ova; 46 crayfish and 42 southern cavefish observed in one-hour sample
October 30, 2001	0	No shrimp observed
November 28, 2001	1	No ova observed, 2/3 of cave observed
December 20, 2001	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
January 17, 2002	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
February 13, 2002	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
March 25, 2002	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
April 15, 2002	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
May 21, 2002	0	Cave sumped; no shrimp observed at foot of entrance slope
June 14, 2002	6	Observed from foot of entrance slope to opening to shrimp room; all with oocytes or attached ova
July 25, 2002	7	Seven shrimp observed, none with oocytes or attached ova; water lower than June visit
August 21, 2002	5	Five shrimp observed
September 18, 2002	5	Five shrimp observed, none with oocytes or attached ova; water low, and generally covered in a fine film of flocculents
October 28, 2002	11	Eleven shrimp observed in about 20 minutes; about half with oocytes or attached ova
November 20, 2002	0	Water level higher than October; observed 15 minutes at foot of entrance slope
December 18, 2002	0	Cave sumped
January 23, 2003	0	Cave sumped
February 26, 2003	0	Cave sumped
March 25, 2003	0	Cave sumped
April 24, 2003	0	Cave sumped
May 28, 2003	0	Cave sumped
June 24, 2003	0	Cave sumped
July 24, 2003	0	Water level near ceiling of cave at entrance to shrimp room
August 8, 2003	0	Water level only slightly lower than July
September 24, 2003	3	Water level low enough to access rear of cave; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova observed

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
October 15, 2003	1	One cave shrimp observed, also 19 crayfish and 10 cave fish; no oocytes or attached ova
November 20, 2003	0	No shrimp observed; isolated pools
December 23, 2003	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage nearly sumped
January 22, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage nearly sumped
February 19, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
March 19, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
April 22, 2004	0	No shrimp observed
May 22, 2004	0	No shrimp observed
June 16, 2004	1	One cave shrimp observed along with three crayfish
July 27, 2004	10	Ten shrimp observed along with 15 southern cavefish and 34 crayfish
August 2004	0	No observation
September 21, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
October 27, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
November 23, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
December 21, 2004	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
January 21, 2005	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
February 24, 2005	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
March 24, 2005	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
April 26, 2005	0	No shrimp observed; cave passage sumped
May 2005	0	Water level much lower, but no shrimp observed
June 21, 2005	30	Six with oocytes or attached ova
July 21, 2005	0	Water low; crayfish observed
August 17, 2005	10	One with oocytes or attached ova; water reduced to isolated pools
September 20, 2005	15	Five with oocytes or attached ova; water reduced to isolated pools; sampled with Bryan Phillips of RSA
October 12, 2005	12	Four with oocytes or attached ova in 30 minutes sampling time; low water level
November 16, 2005	1	Tiny, perhaps newly hatched; 15 minutes sampling time
December 15, 2005	0	Cave sumped

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
January 18, 2006	0	Cave sumped
February 16, 2006	0	Cave sumped
March 2006	0	Cave sumped
April 19, 2006	0	Water level almost to cave roof
May 11, 2006	0	Cave sumped
June 28, 2006	19	Three with oocytes or attached ova; 45 minutes sampling time; sampled with Bryan Phillips of Redstone Arsenal
July 18, 2006	22	None with visible oocytes or attached ova; 45 minutes sampling time; sampled with Sydney DeJarnette
August 23, 2006	5	Possibly one with oocytes or attached ova; 20 minutes sampling time; water extremely low due to drought
September 20, 2006	1	Very low water due to drought; 15 minutes of sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
October 16, 2006	1	Very low water due to drought, 15 minutes of sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
November 14, 2006	1	Very low water due to drought, 30 minutes of sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
December 19, 2006	2	Water level still low but higher than November; 30 minutes sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
January 25, 2007	0	Water level too high for access; no observations of shrimp attempted
February 14, 2007	0	Water level too high for access; no observations of shrimp attempted
March 12, 2007	0	Water level too high for access; no observations of shrimp attempted
April 16, 2007	0	Water level too high for access; no observations of shrimp attempted
May 10, 2007	2	Water level still higher than optimum but accessible; 15 minutes of sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
June 28, 2007	7	Water level low; 15 minutes sampling time; 1 shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
July 26, 2007	0	Water level low; 15 minutes sampling time
August 23, 2007	2	Water level low; 20 minutes sampling time; no shrimp with oocytes or attached ova
September 18, 2007	0	Water level extremely low with only a few extremely isolated pools 1-3 inches in depth; 25 minutes sampling time
October 17, 2007	0	Water level extremely low, with only water available in shrimp window; 10 minutes sampling time
November 14, 2007	1	Water level extremely low, with only water available in shrimp window; 10 minutes sampling time

Appendix B.-- Chronological list of Alabama cave shrimp observations in Bobcat Cave, November 1990-September 2009—continued.

Date	Number observed	Notes ¹
December 11, 2007	0	Water level extremely low, with only water available in shrimp window; 10 minutes sampling time
January 15, 2008	0	25 minutes sampling time
February 21, 2008	0	Cave sumped; no observation attempted beyond foot of entrance slope
March 18, 2008	0	Cave sumped; no observation attempted beyond foot of entrance slope
April 16, 2008	0	Cave sumped; no observation attempted beyond foot of entrance slope
May 15, 2008	0	Cave sumped; no observation attempted beyond foot of entrance slope
June 17, 2008	1	Water 2' deep and still; clouded upon disturbance; no observable oocytes or attached ova; 45 minutes sampling time
July 24, 2008	1	Observed in shrimp window; no observable oocytes or attached ova; 45 minutes sampling time
August 13, 2008	0	May be first August sample with no shrimp observations; likely due to drought; 45 minutes sampling time
September 17, 2008	2	No observable oocytes or attached ova; 30 minutes sampling time
October 15, 2008	0	No shrimp seen; water surface covered by thin film, moderately low level; 15 minutes sampling time
November 12, 2008	1	Only shrimp observed was in shrimp window; low water level
December 10, 2008	0	Heavy rain the night before caused the water level to rise to about 1.5 feet depth and water was clouded by runoff, therefore if shrimp were present they were obscured
January 28, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave high; no access past entrance slope
February 25, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave high; no access past entrance slope
March 31, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave very high, past the hand line used for secure access.
April 22, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave still high; looked for cave shrimp at foot of entrance slope
May 11, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave higher than during April visit; access to cave limited; no cave shrimp seen in cave entrance
June 23, 2009	0	Water in Bobcat Cave still high and cave still mostly inaccessible; no shrimp observed due to water level
July 29, 2009	0	Water level in Bobcat lower but still basically waist deep throughout the cave and with film of sediment on surface; searched cave anyway
August 25, 2009	0	Water level in cave higher than normal for this time of year; 45 minutes spent searching pools for shrimp
September 21, 2009	0	Two person hours spent searching entire cave; water level low, but higher than normal for September; thin film of sediment on surface hampered viewing

¹ - measurements=total length including rostrum

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