

ON-SITE WASTEWATER TREATMENT AND WATER RECYCLING AT A MUSIC FESTIVAL VENUE



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Woodfordia Site

- ▶ Festival event site in Queensland, Australia
- ▶ Holds the largest festival event in the Southern Hemisphere
 - ▶ The Woodford Folk Festival
- ▶ Between 1987 and 2008 all wastewater trucked off-site to centralised STP's
- ▶ Trucking became unfeasible
 - ▶ Cost, Insurance, Town-Planning Permits, and Green House Gas Emissions
- ▶ Pipeline to nearest centralized STP quoted at 20 million dollars
- ▶ Multiple quotes for decentralized solutions
 - ▶ Issues with intermittent production of wastewater
 - ▶ All looked at storage and daily treatment of small volumes of effluent
- ▶ Arris proposed a batching treatment facility
 - ▶ Constructed in 2009

Woodfordia Decentralized Water System

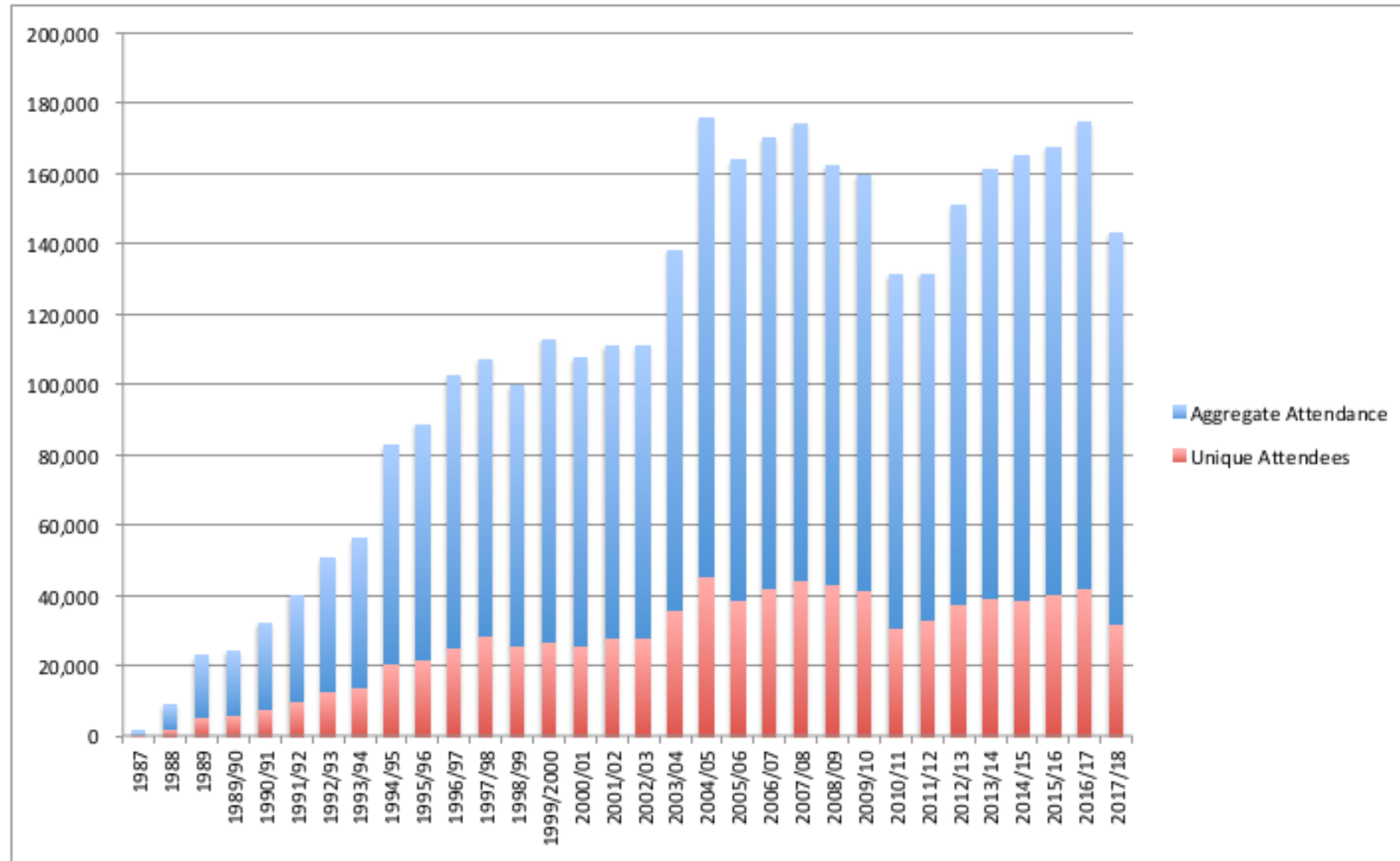
- ▶ Potable Water System
 - ▶ 16 ML storage dam
 - ▶ 1.3 ML a day treatment capacity
 - ▶ 5 ML main storage tank + 1 ML of smaller tanks
- ▶ 50 permanent amenities blocks
 - ▶ Depending on the event additional facilities are hired
- ▶ Gravity and Pressure Sewer Reticulation System
 - ▶ Approximately 30 kilometres
- ▶ Pump stations deliver water to the STP (no gravity fed to STP)
- ▶ STP treatment capacity of 1.5 ML/day
- ▶ All treated water recycled on-site

Types of Festivals

- ▶ Woodford Folk Festival
 - ▶ 26 December to 1st of January
- ▶ The Planting Festival
 - ▶ May Day Long Weekend
- ▶ Splendour in The Grass
 - ▶ Held in 2010 and 2011
 - ▶ Up to 50 000 people a day on-site
- ▶ Dreaming Festival
 - ▶ Indigenous festival
 - ▶ Currently not running
- ▶ Tough Mudder
 - ▶ Obstacle course/Fun Run



Attendance at the Woodford Folk Festival



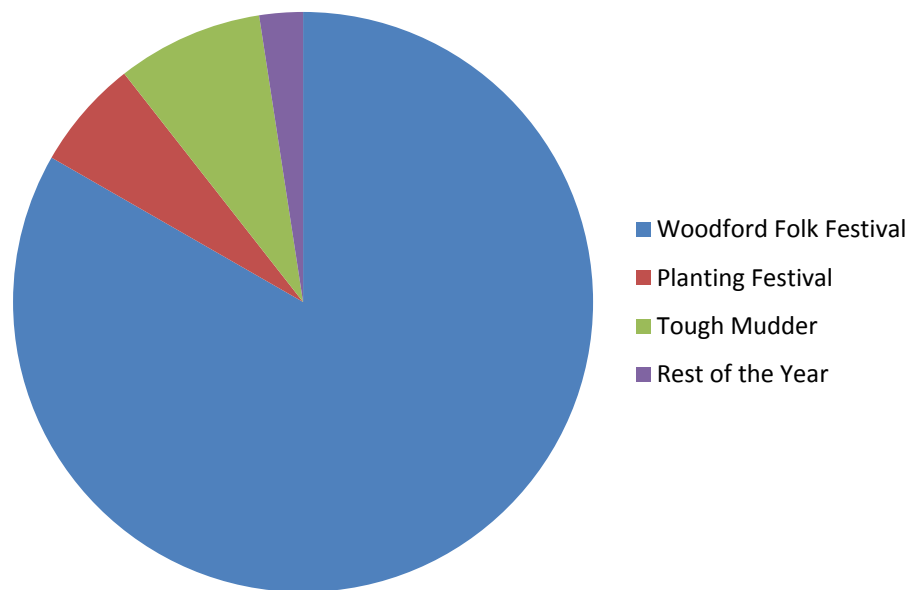
Wastewater Volumes Treated per day

2017/2018 Woodford Folk Festival

▶ 26/12/17	730 kL
▶ 27/12/17	390 kL
▶ 28/12/17	680 kL
▶ 29/12/17	1115 kL
▶ 30/12/17	1110 kL
▶ 31/12/17	1390 kL
▶ 1/01/18	975 kL
▶ 2/01/18	505 kL
▶ 3/01/18	340 kL
▶ 4 th to 19 th Jan/18	1145 kL
▶ Total (treated)	8380 kL (2 213 762 gallons)

Volume and Time Comparison 2017/2018

Wastewater Volume kL



Number of Days



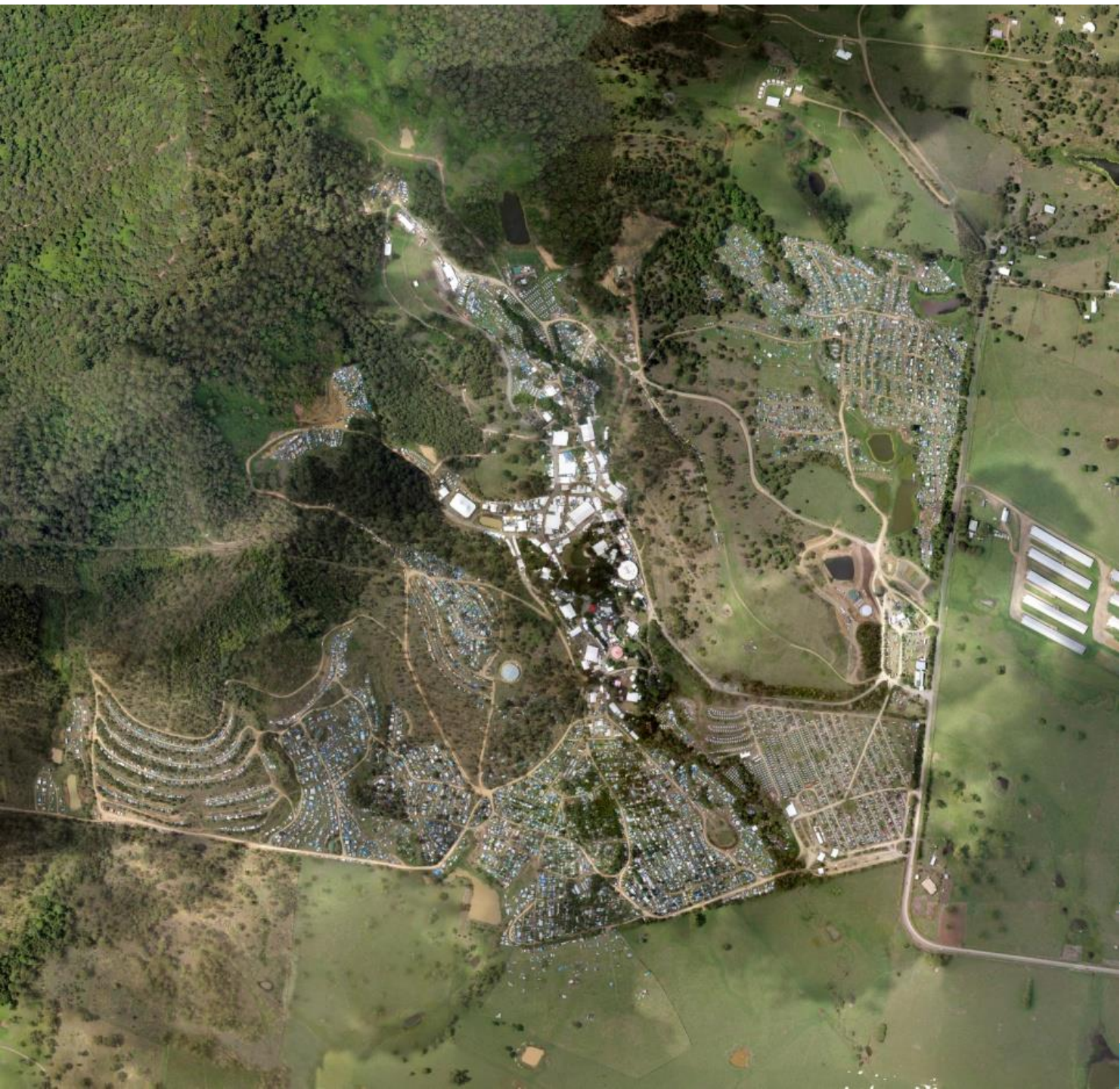


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26°54'28.85" S 152°44'57.80" E elev 308 m

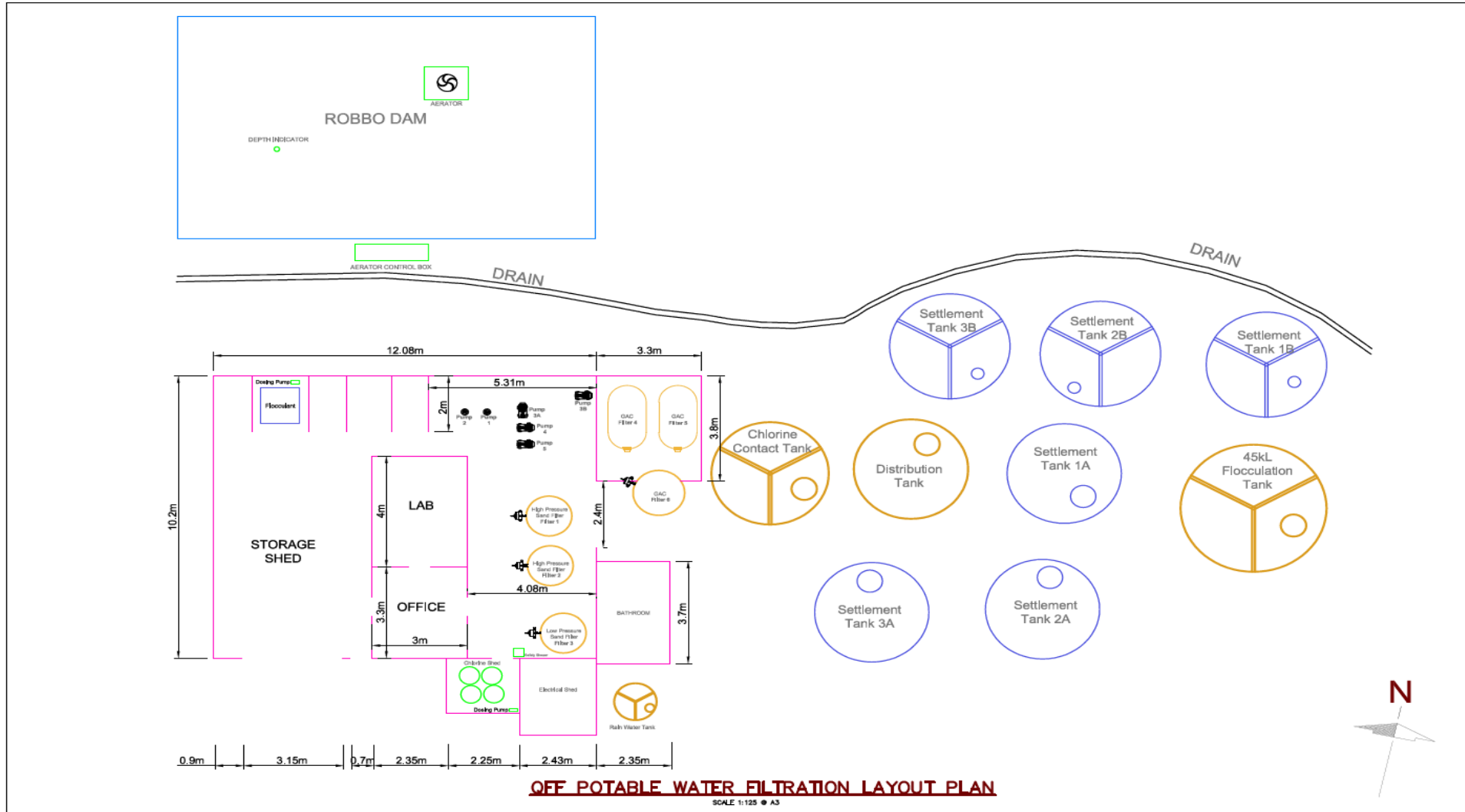
Eye alt 2.62 km



Potable Water

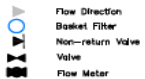


Potable Water Treatment



LEGEND:

- Backwash Line
- Building
- Pond/Dam
- Drain
- Water Line
- Filter
- Water Tank
- Settlement Tank



NOTE:

1. Subject to changes
2. All measurements in metres



REV	DATE	DESCRIPTION	DRAWN	ENG	CHKD
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

OFF Potable Water Filtration
Aris Water - QFF

A3
Drawing No. 00 01 0
Date: 2023/01/01

Batching Treatment Process

- ▶ Beneficial Bacteria of limited use due to the intermittent flow
 - ▶ Negates the use of many traditional technologies
 - ▶ Still may be beneficial, but can't be relied upon
- ▶ Physical separation of solids
- ▶ Chemical oxidation via hydrogen peroxide and ozone
- ▶ Ion exchange media to reduce certain contaminants of concern
- ▶ Adsorption media to adsorb pollutants
- ▶ Multiple barrier approach to disinfection
- ▶ Aeration to prevent anaerobic odors
- ▶ Sufficient Balance Tank Capacity & Treated Water Storage
- ▶ Must meet regulatory limits for treated water
- ▶ 100% water recycling on-site

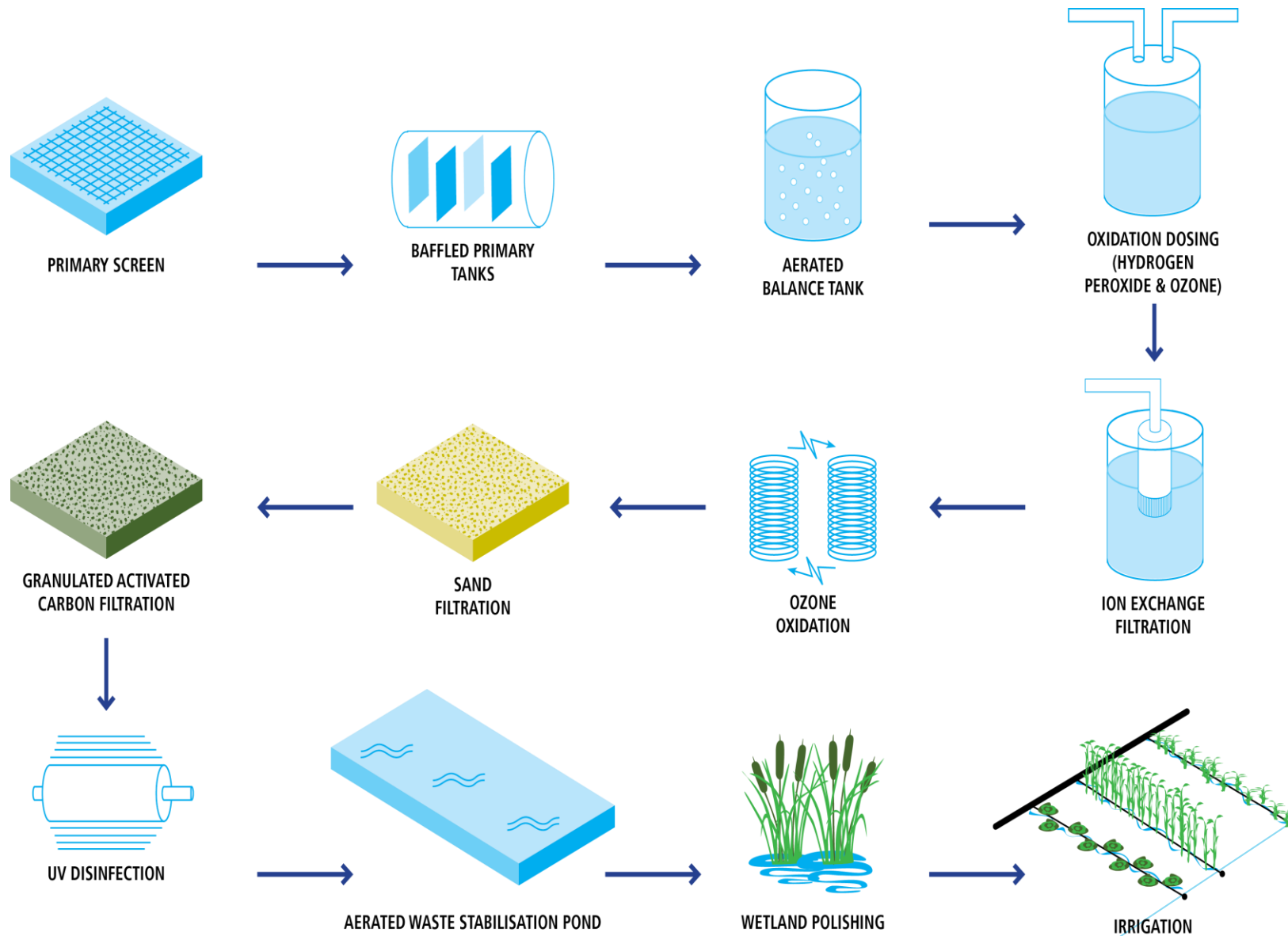
Regulatory Process

- ▶ Bespoke treatment plant design approved by the State Government
- ▶ Design incorporated into a Site Based Management Plan
 - ▶ Water volumes, Treated Water Quality, Maintenance Plan, & Irrigation Design
 - ▶ Risk Assessment
- ▶ Licence granted by the State Government
 - ▶ Annual licence fee
 - ▶ \$24 000 per annum
 - ▶ Based on the daily treatment capacity of the STP
 - ▶ Testing of the treated water quality for each event
 - ▶ Groundwater testing under the aquifers
 - ▶ Testing of the soils in the irrigation area (sodicity impacts)
 - ▶ Annual report
 - ▶ Water volumes
 - ▶ Water quality tests
 - ▶ Audit visits approximately once every 5 years

Woodfordia STP



Treatment Chain



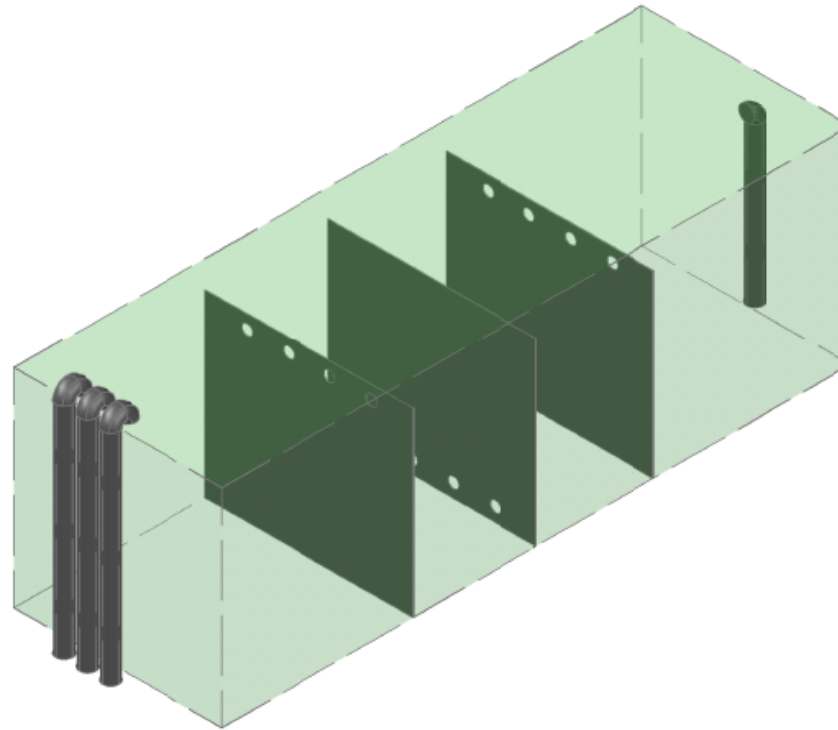
Primary Screen

- ▶ Retro-fit to the treatment chain
- ▶ Minimise the impact of wet wipes
- ▶ Reduce the hydraulic surge from pump-out trucks delivering to the STP
 - ▶ Approximately 1.3 Megalitres
 - ▶ High Sludge Content
- ▶ Modified 40 foot shipping container
- ▶ 2 sets of screens
- ▶ Elevated outlet
- ▶ Controlled dispersal



Primary Treatment Tanks

- ▶ Pump stations deliver directly to these tanks
- ▶ 4 tanks with a combined capacity of 600 kL
 - ▶ Additional capacity would be beneficial
 - ▶ Minimal beneficial bacteria treatment
- ▶ Tanks are baffled to aid sludge deposition
- ▶ Tanks were originally the holding tanks at the site
- ▶ Must be deslugged yearly
- ▶ Steel tanks so corrosion control is important



Odor Control



- ▶ Prevailing wind blows across the STP into the Festival Precinct
- ▶ All tanks must have odor control vents
- ▶ No uncovered tanks
- ▶ Hydrogen Peroxide & Ozone also assist with odor control

Aerated Balance Tank

- ▶ 1.5 MegaLitre Capacity
 - ▶ 1.3 ML Active Volume
- ▶ Panel tank with liner
- ▶ Gravity-fed from Primary Tanks
- ▶ Aeration
 - ▶ Compressed Air & Diffusion Discs
- ▶ Odor Control units on vents
- ▶ Corrosion Control Important
- ▶ Requires desludging every 2 years

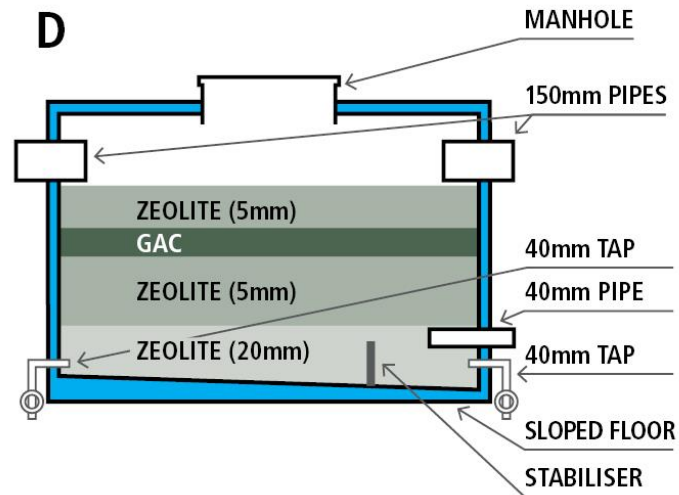
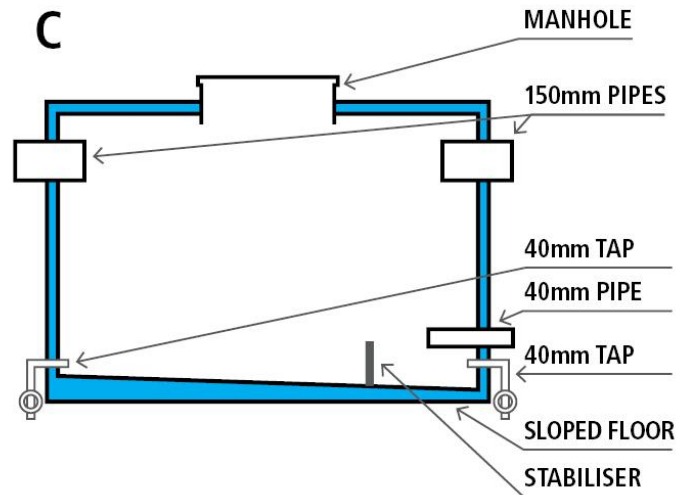
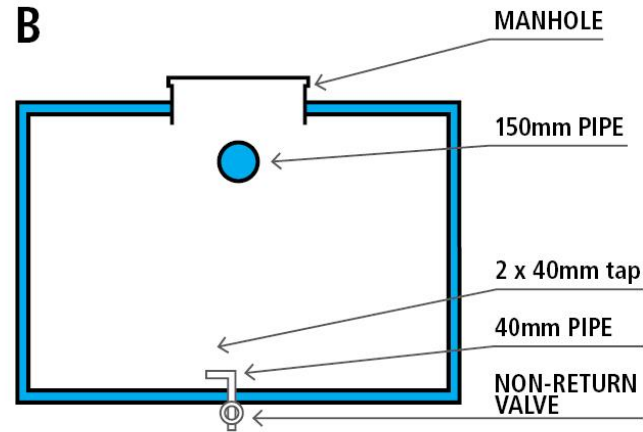
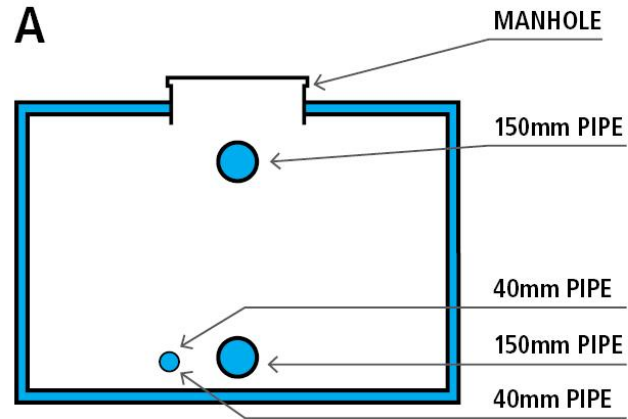


Hydrogen Peroxide Dosing & Ion Exchange

- ▶ Hydrogen Peroxide
 - ▶ Chemical oxidation
 - ▶ BOD/COD reduction
 - ▶ Disinfection
 - ▶ Odor & Color Control
- ▶ Ion Exchange & Adsorption
 - ▶ Sodium Adsorption Ratio reduction via IEX
 - ▶ Nitrogen reduction via IEX
 - ▶ Metal reduction via IEX
 - ▶ Phosphorus reduction via adsorption
 - ▶ Physical filtration
 - ▶ Minimum 20 minutes contact time
 - ▶ Requires regeneration
 - ▶ Starvation cycle



Ion Exchange and Adsorption



Ion Exchange: SAR reduction

Sample/Analysis	Na mg/L	K mg/L	Mg mg/L	Ca mg/L	SAR	EC μS/cm	pH
Untreated Average	74.3	17.4	2.1	4.5	7.3	993	7.5
Pump-well 1	72.5	14.3	1.8	3.2	8	1001	7.7
Zeolite filter 1	33.6	2.3	6.5	20.5	1.7	465	7.4
Zeolite filter 2	29.6	1.9	5.9	17.6	1.6	510	7.3
Zeolite filter 3	36.0	2.3	8.2	21.1	1.7	515	7.4
Zeolite filter 4	24.9	4.6	7.2	19.7	1.2	423	7.4
Zeolite filter 5	38.1	1.2	7.1	20	1.9	403	7.2
Zeolite filter 6	31.2	1.5	7.1	21.5	1.5	469	7.3
Average Zeolite Filter	32.2	2.3	7.0	20.1	1.6	464	7.33
Zeolite Standard Deviation	4.7	1.2	0.8	1.9	0.2	45	0.1
Pump-well 2	32	1.9	7.5	20	1.5	487	7.4

Ozonation



Ozonation

- ▶ Retro-fit to System
- ▶ Aim is to reduce consumption of hydrogen peroxide
- ▶ Modern Ozone systems produce ozone from the atmosphere
- ▶ Reduces the delivery of dangerous goods to site
- ▶ Able to increase/decrease ozonation rate in real time in relation to the water quality
- ▶ Additional disinfection barrier
- ▶ Reduces color and odors
- ▶ Reduces backwashes of sand and carbon filters



Sand & Granulated Activated Carbon Filtration

- ▶ Sand is physical filtration
- ▶ Pre-treatment for UV disinfection
- ▶ Backwash returns to Balance Tank
- ▶ Granulated Activated Carbon (GAC)
 - ▶ Adsorption media
 - ▶ Pharmaceuticals and personal care products
 - ▶ Colors & odor reductions
- ▶ Minimum of 15 minutes contact time
- ▶ Requires replacement every 5 years
 - ▶ Starvation cycle



Ultraviolet Disinfection

- ▶ Final Disinfection Technology
 - ▶ Water has lowest turbidity at this point
- ▶ Effective against bacteria, viruses, and protozoa
- ▶ Maintenance more frequent as equipment is dry for the majority of the year



Waste Stabilisation Pond

- ▶ 14 MegaLitre Capacity
- ▶ Compacted Clay Liner
- ▶ Beneficial Microorganisms
- ▶ Bunded against stormwater intrusion
- ▶ Aerated:
 - ▶ Compressed Air & Diffusers
 - ▶ Floating Aerator
- ▶ Water can be sent to:
 - ▶ Wetlands
 - ▶ Irrigation
- ▶ Good Biodiversity



Aeration: Waste Stabilisation Pond



Constructed Wetland



- ▶ 2 constructed wetlands installed
- ▶ One deep and one variable depth
- ▶ Typically receives 'new' water 4 times a year
- ▶ No release
- ▶ Combined capacity of 3 Megalitres
 - ▶ Additional storage
- ▶ Biodiversity changing overtime
- ▶ Enables water polishing
- ▶ Maintenance part of training program

Treated Water Quality Requirement

Parameter	Units	Limit/Guideline	Monitoring Freq.
Fecal Coliforms	cfu/500 ml	<1000	Monthly
Virus and/or Protozoa	log reduction	5 log reduction	Yearly
Biological Oxygen Demand	mg/L	<10	Monthly
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	<10	Monthly
Ammonia	mg/L	<1	Monthly
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	<10	Monthly
Total Suspended Solids	mg/L	<30	Monthly
Electrical conductivity	μS/cm	<1000	Monthly
Sodium Absorption Ratio		<6	Monthly
pH		6-8.5	Continuous
Turbidity	NTU	<5	Continuous

pH Results

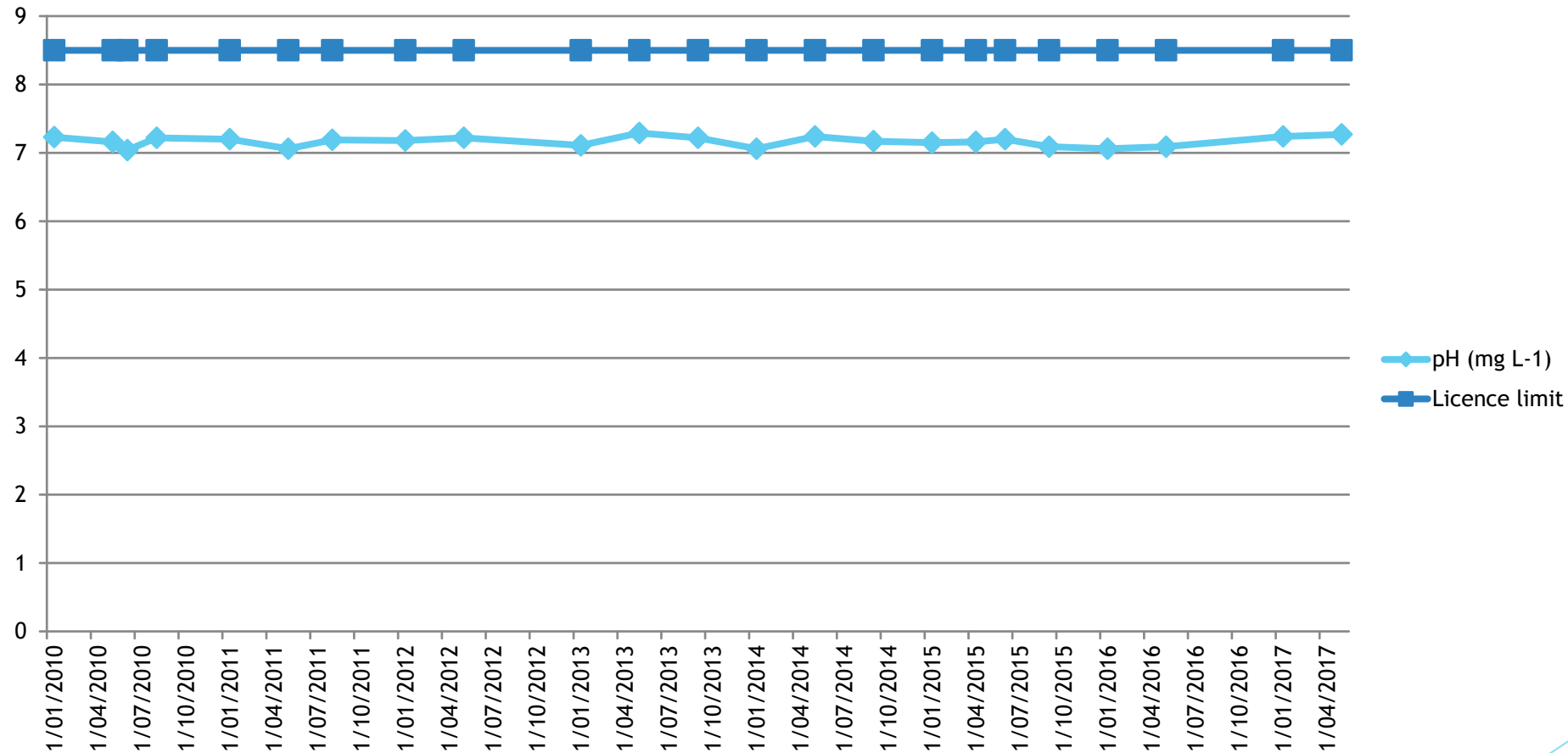


Figure: pH results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Fecal Coliforms

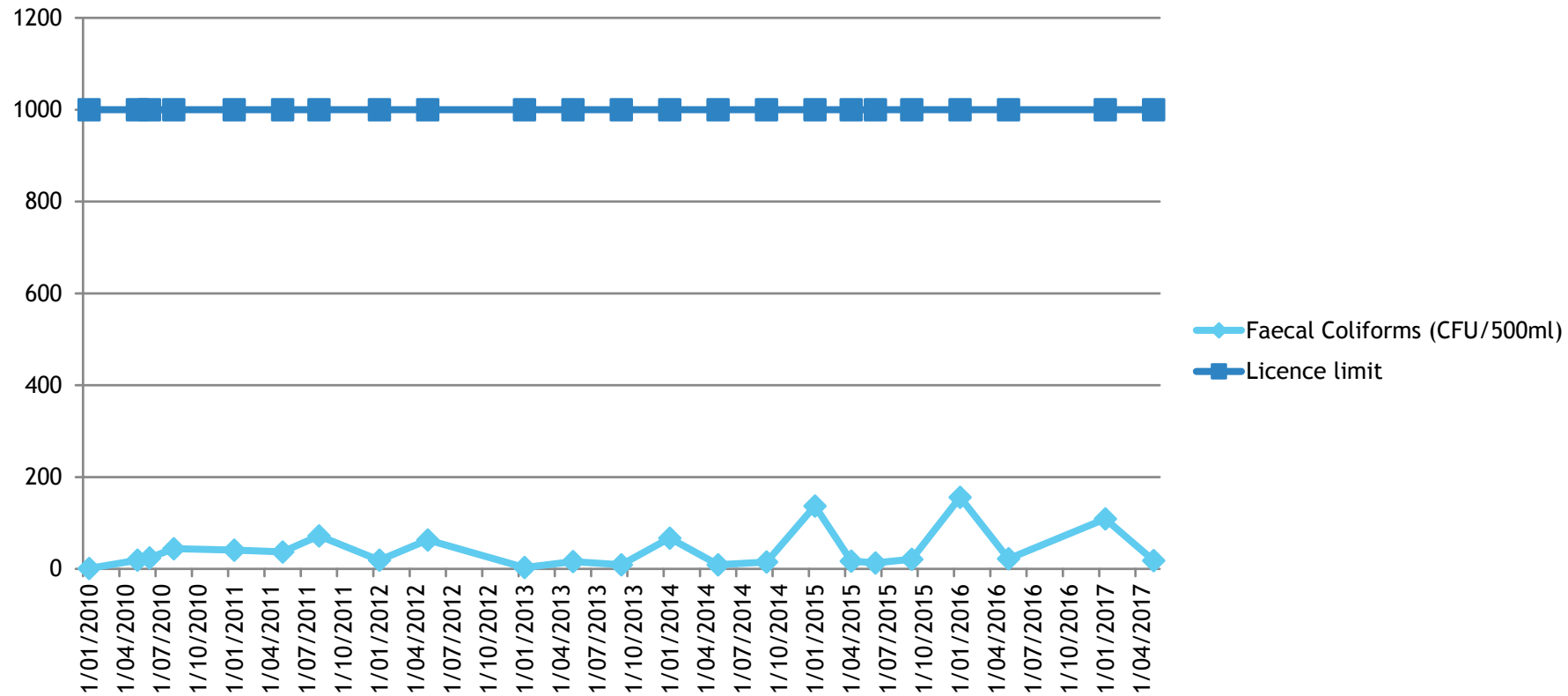


Figure: Fecal Coliform results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Total Nitrogen

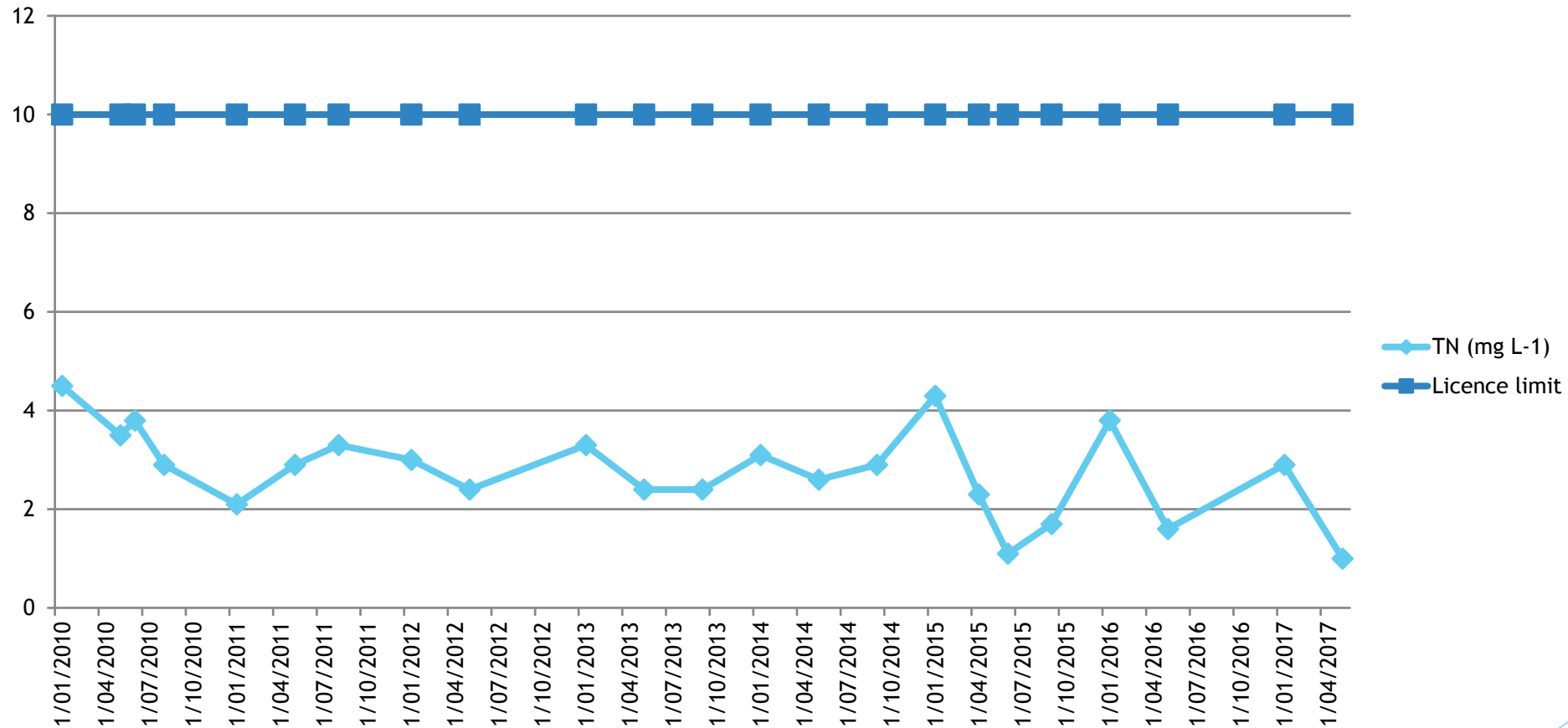


Figure: Total Nitrogen results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Total Phosphorus

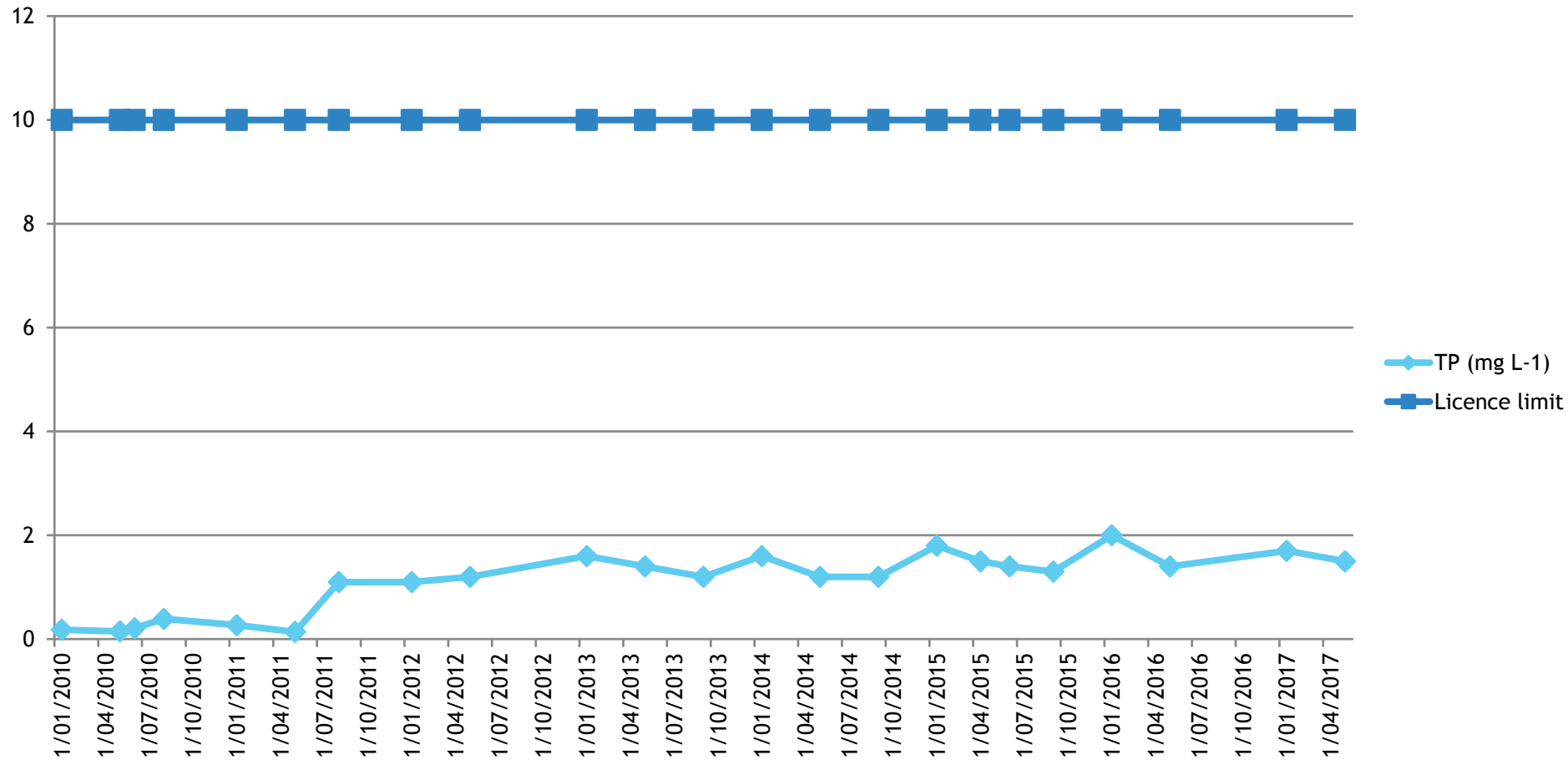


Figure: Total Phosphorus results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

BOD⁵ Results

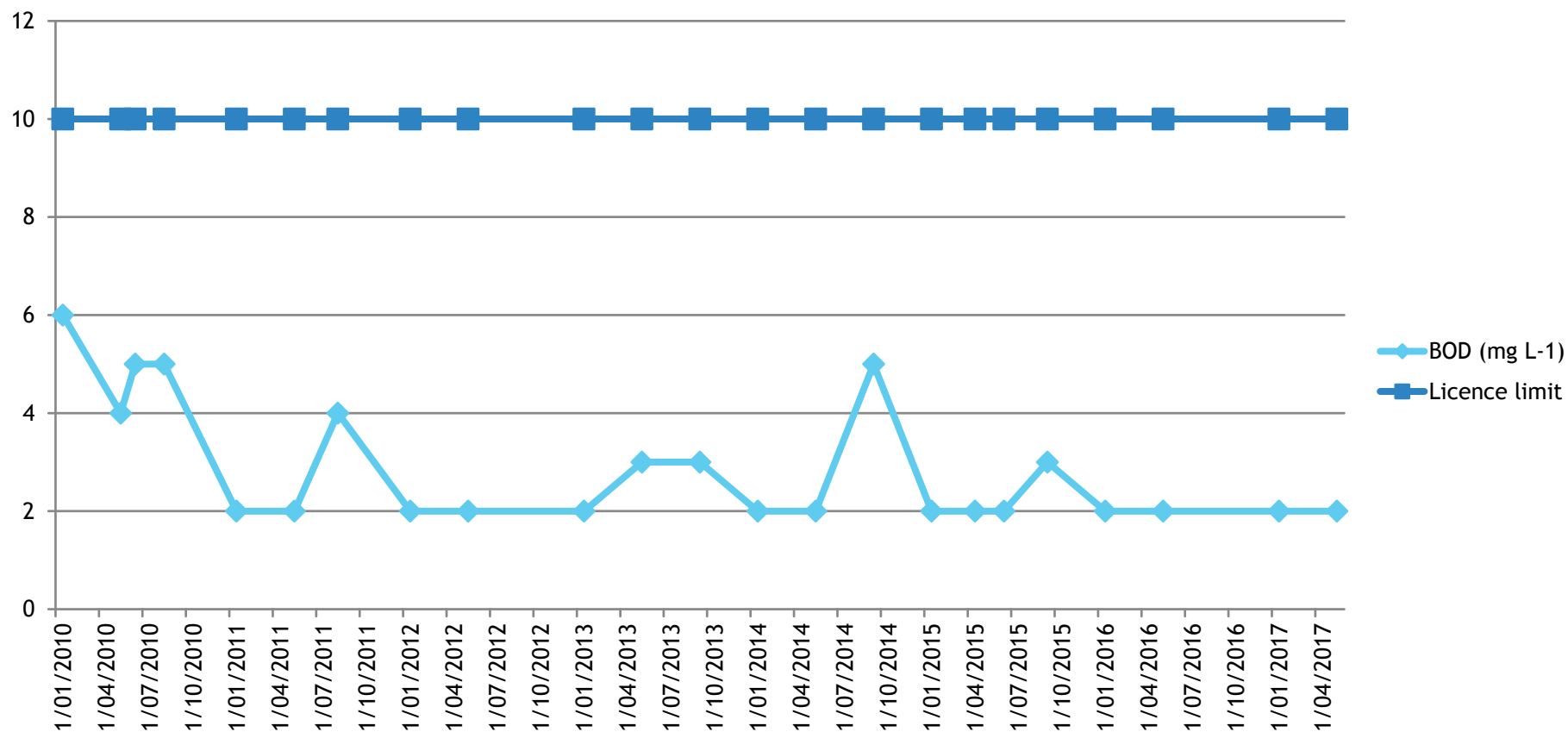


Figure: BOD⁵ results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Turbidity

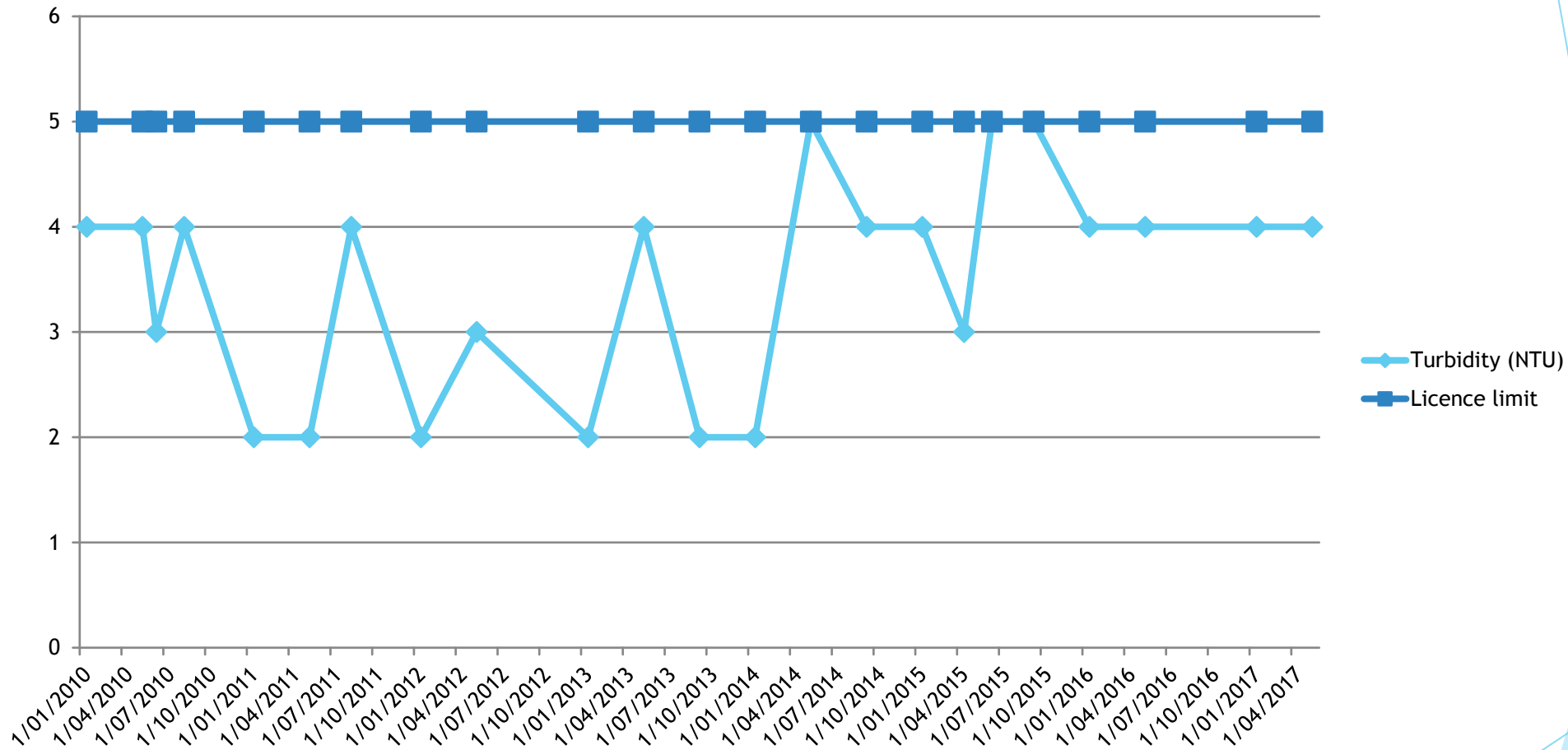


Figure: Turbidity results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Electrical Conductivity

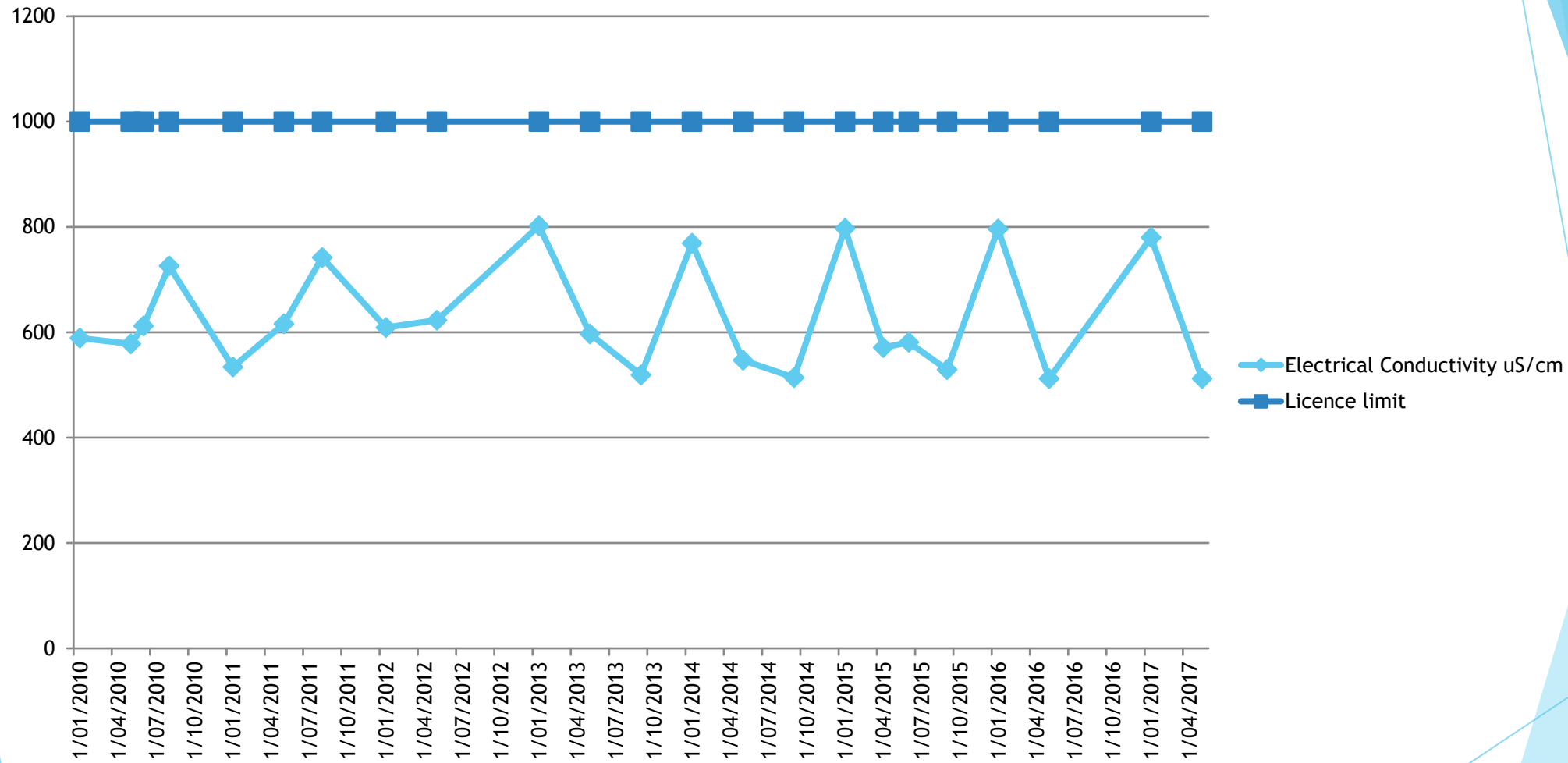


Figure: Electrical Conductivity Results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR)

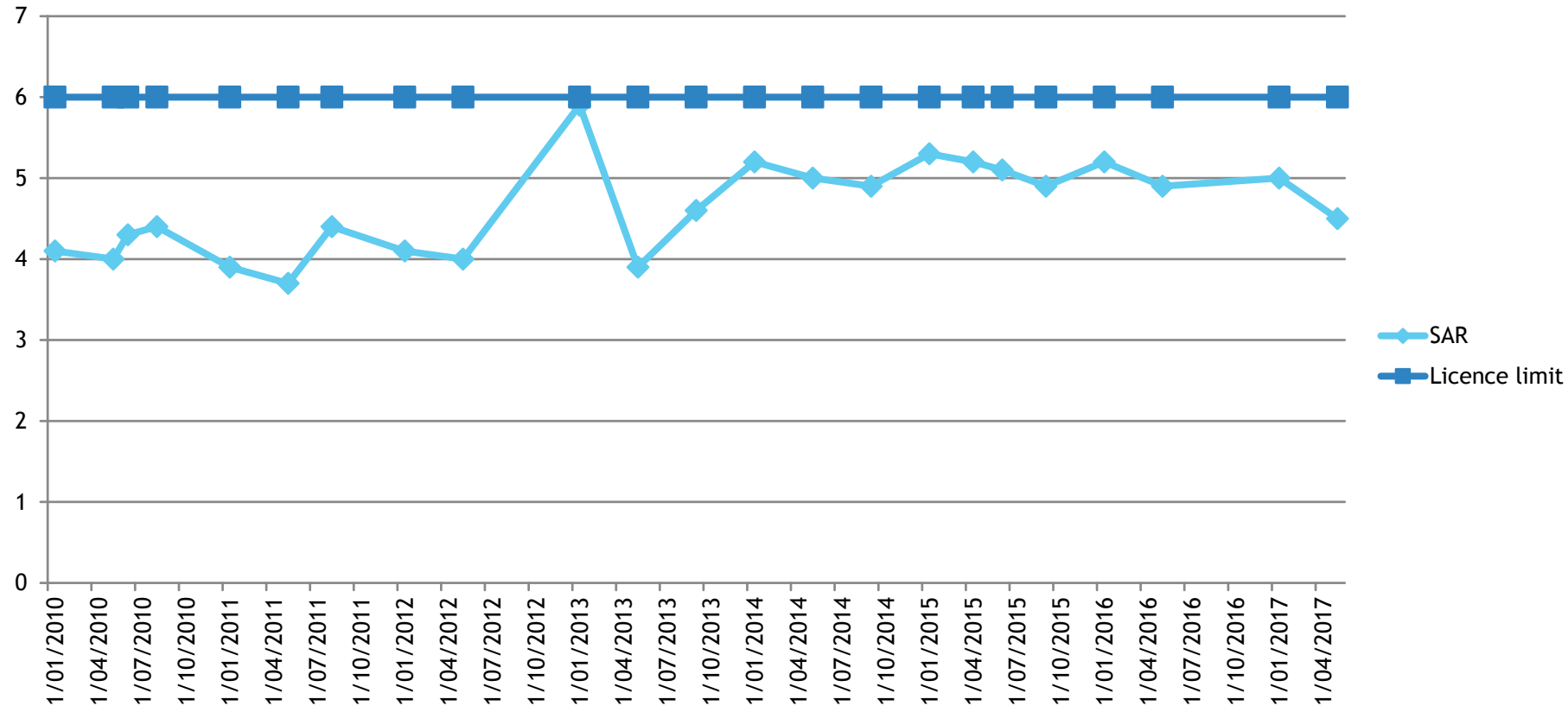
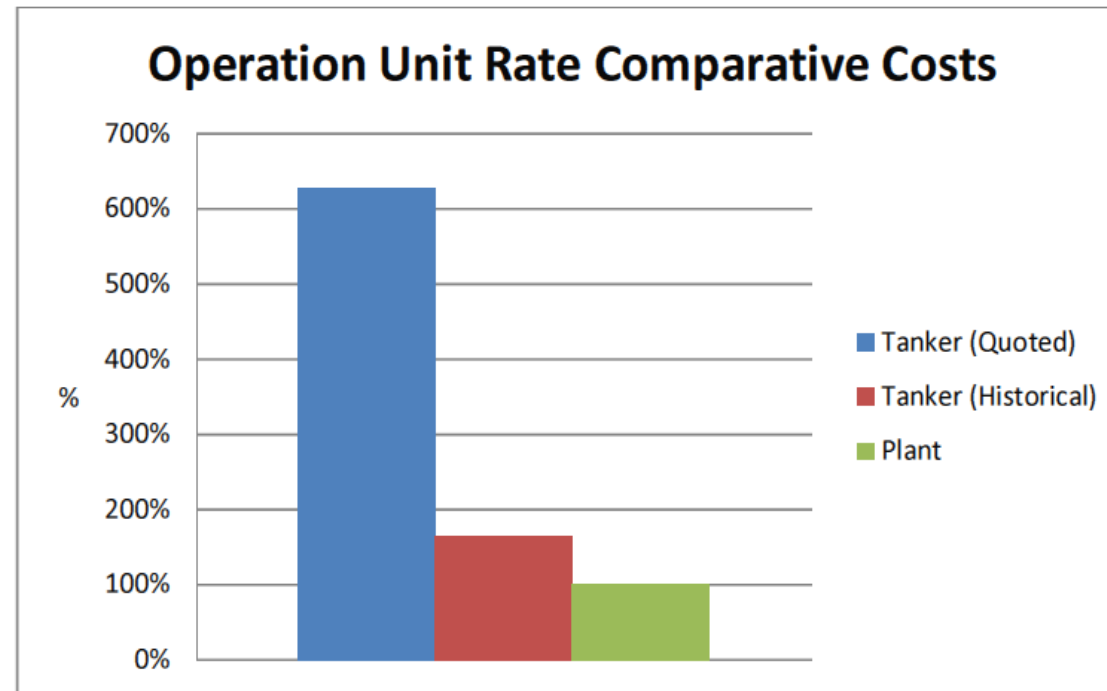


Figure: SAR results of Woodfordia STP Treated Water

Operational Cost

- ▶ STP paid its capital construction cost back within 2 years
- ▶ Pump-out costs dramatically increased:
 - ▶ Higher cost for trucking
 - ▶ Receiving facilities significantly increased their charges
- ▶ Operational costs have been kept low
- ▶ Happy Client 😊



General Maintenance

- ▶ No such things as maintenance 'free'
- ▶ Sludge management
- ▶ Pump servicing
- ▶ Corrosion Control
- ▶ Media regeneration and replacement
- ▶ Compressor Servicing
- ▶ Wetland weeding
- ▶ Plumbing repairs
- ▶ Woodford Folk Festival occurs between Christmas and New Years
 - ▶ Most suppliers are shut
 - ▶ Spares and fabrication equipment needs to be kept on-site



Sludge Management

- ▶ All tanks and pump stations are regularly desludged
- ▶ Sludge is dewatered on-site via tube
- ▶ Wastewater on-site has a high percentage of blackwater
 - ▶ No laundry wastewater
 - ▶ Water efficient amenities
- ▶ Time between festival events also the sludge bags to dry
- ▶ Bags last approximately 3 years
- ▶ Sludge is composted and used as a soil amendment

Sludge Management



Research & Education

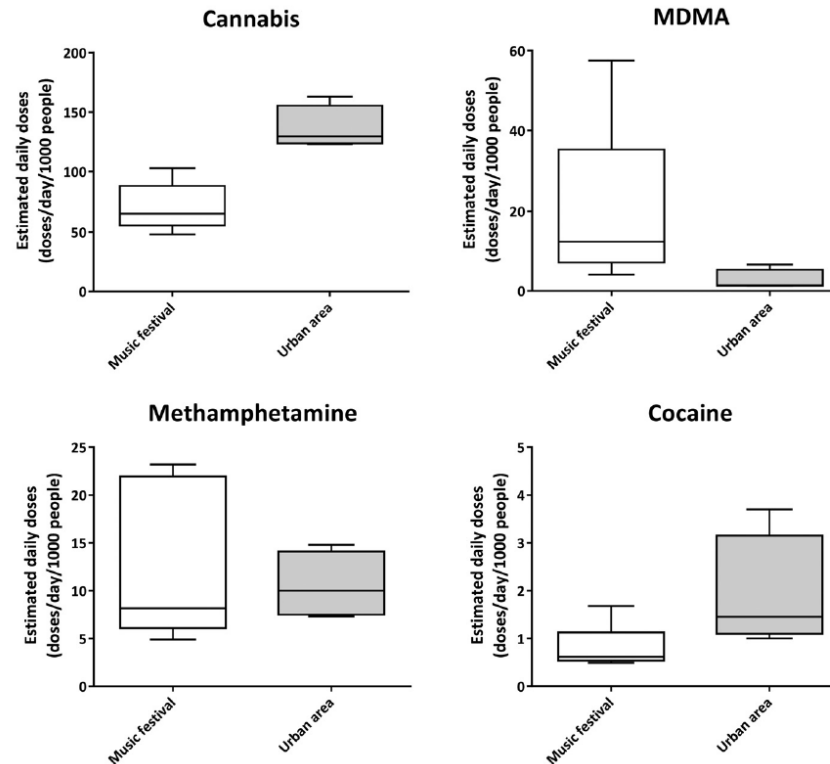
- ▶ Frequently run tours for interested Festival patrons
- ▶ Run training programs such as Wetland Maintenance
- ▶ Post-Graduate Student Research Programs
 - ▶ Zeolite and Scoria Ion Exchange Central Queensland University
 - ▶ Oxidation of Recycled Irrigation Water Central Queensland University
 - ▶ Engineering Festival Events University of the Sunshine Coast
 - ▶ Pharmaceuticals in Wastewater University of Queensland
- ▶ Research programs conducted by Arris
 - ▶ Ozone applications
 - ▶ Energy efficiency
- ▶ Woodfordia Inc encourages research at the site

STP Tours: Education



Pharmaceutical Research

- ▶ Conducted by Dr Jake O'Brien as part of his PhD research program
- ▶ 1st approved site for his research
- ▶ Chemical analysis of inflow water to the STP
 - ▶ Controlled site with no hospital/medical clinic/veterinary input
 - ▶ Demographics of patrons available from ticket sales data
- ▶ Looked at legal and illicit drugs
- ▶ Legal
 - ▶ Blood pressure medication, Prozac and Viagra
- ▶ Illicit
 - ▶ Lower than comparison centralised wastewater treatment facilities except for slightly elevated ecstasy consumption
- ▶ Very important research in Australia
- ▶ Census of centralized wastewater treatment plants now conducted



Comparison between the estimated doses (doses/day/1000 people) of the conventional illicit drugs consumed at the Woodford Folk Festival in 2010 and 2011 compared to a nearby urban area using wastewater analysis. The research was published by Lai et al 2013 in Drug and Alcohol Review

Bamboo Research

- ▶ Bamboo plantation being grown with recycled water treated by the Woodfordia STP
- ▶ Plantation aims to use 100% of the treated water
 - ▶ Excluding the water required to keep the constructed wetland alive
- ▶ Regulatory authorities approve as it minimizes the risk of off-site impacts
- ▶ Around 60 tonnes of bamboo poles are used on the site each years
 - ▶ Sculptures
 - ▶ Fencing
- ▶ Waste bamboo material used to produce biochar
- ▶ Research being conducted on the oxidation of the recycled water
 - ▶ Using Hydrogen Peroxide and Ozone
 - ▶ Prevention of biofouling in the dripper lines
 - ▶ Improved oxygen concentration in recycled water
- ▶ Aim of the project is to encourage irrigation water recycling from other larger decentralized STP's

Bamboo Irrigation Research



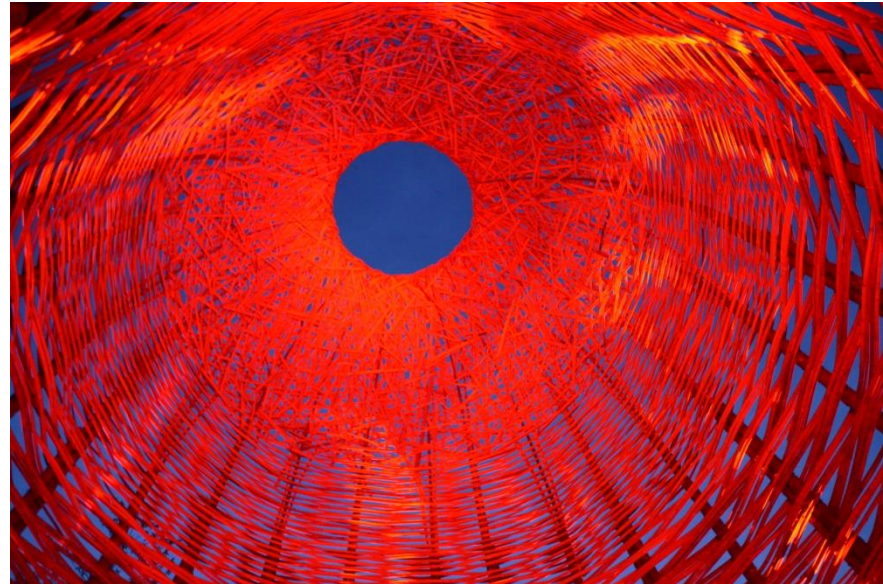
Bamboo Irrigation Research



Bamboo Plantation



Bamboo Sculptures



Woodfordia is a Great Site



Woodfordia is a Great Site



Woodfordia is a Great Site



Conclusion

- Woodfordia Batching Treatment Plant has been sustainable for a decade
- The required water quality has been achieved
- The STP has economic sustainability in regards to capital and operational costs
- Maintenance of the system is practical and achievable
- 100% of the Treated Water is recycled
- Research from the site has had extensive community benefit
- Decentralised Water Systems can be Successful at Festival Sites