

Utilizing Fluorescent Dyes to Identify Meaningful Water-Quality Sampling Locations and Enhance Understanding of Groundwater Flow Near a Hog CAFO on Mantled Karst, Buffalo National River, Southern Ozarks

By Van Brahana¹, Carol Bitting², Katerina Kosič-Ficco³, Teresa Turk⁴, John Murdoch⁵, Brian Thompson⁶, and Ray Quick⁷

¹Professor Emeritus, Department of Geosciences, 20 Gearhart Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701

²HC 73, Box 182 A, Marble Falls, AR 72648

³Faculty of Graduate Studies, Post Graduate Program of Karstology, University of Nova Gorica, Slovenia

⁴National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, Research Fisheries Biologist (Retired), Seattle, WA 98115

⁵University of Arkansas, Department of Biologic and Agricultural Engineering (Retired), Fayetteville, AR 72701

⁶Tyson Foods, Inc. (Retired), Fayetteville, AR 72701

⁷Adjunct Professor, Department of Geosciences, 216 Gearhart Hall, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, AR 72701

Abstract

The karst area of the Springfield Plateau in the southern Ozarks of north-central Arkansas is subject to numerous and varied land-use practices that impact water quality. In this region of the U.S., animal production and human activities have concentrated wastes within environmentally sensitive karst hydrogeologic settings. Groundwater flow in this region includes aquifers covered by a thin, rocky soil, and a variable thickness of regolith. The karst groundwater system is underlain by thin chert and limestone layers that have been fractured by slight uplift. The carbonate-rock aquifer intervals have been dissolved to form an open network of enlarged fractures, bedding-plane voids, conduits, sinkholes, swallets, sinking streams, caves, and springs. Flow in these aquifers is typically rapid, flow directions are difficult to predict, and interaction between surface water and groundwater is extensive, with little opportunity for contaminant attenuation. Herein, we show dispersive groundwater flow from multiple injection sites where groundwater basin boundaries can vary with fluctuations in groundwater level. Although the geologic framework appears simple, the results of tracing with fluorescent dyes from April to October 2014 indicates that a meaningful conceptual model is indeed complex, yet essential to use when sampling for water quality and fully understanding the movement of groundwater and its close interaction with surface streams and recharge.

Introduction

The landscape of the Springfield Plateau in the southern Ozarks (fig. 1) is a mantled karst, with few apparent topographic features such as sinkholes on the land surface, yet the region is underlain by a system of well-developed fast-flow pathways and voids that pass water and entrained contaminants downgradient to resurgent springs and streams quickly and with little attenuation of pollutants. Karst scientists have long been aware and are

fully knowledgeable about this and related areas of mantled karst, covered by insoluble debris weathered from the original carbonate bedrock (White, 1988; Quinlan, 1989; Ford and Williams, 2007).

Unfortunately, consultants, some landowners, and water managers unfamiliar with mantled karst have difficulty in recognizing the vulnerability of groundwater in these settings and the close interaction with surface water in such areas (Kosič and others, 2016; Murdoch and others, 2016). This is the case of Big Creek basin, the second largest tributary of the Buffalo National River. Big Creek basin has a total area of about 115 square kilometers (km²) (Center for Advanced Spatial

Technology, 2006), within which permission was recently granted for an industrial hog factory housing 6,500 swine in a concentrated animal feeding operation (CAFO) (U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency and U.S. Small Business Agency, 2015). Waste from this CAFO was permitted to be spread from lagoons onto 2.5 km² of mantled karst in 2012 using documents that did not discuss groundwater or karst (Pesta, 2012).

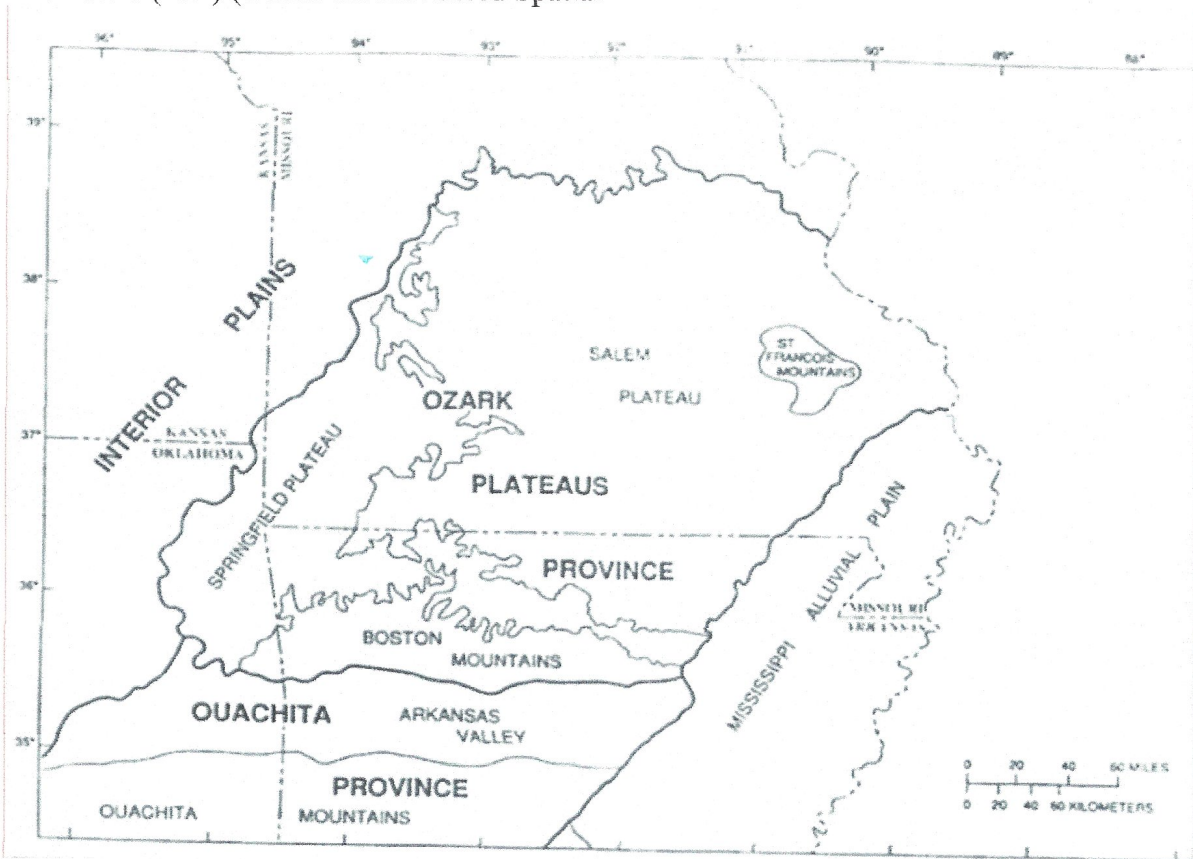


Figure 1. General physiographic regions of the Ozark Plateaus, including the Springfield Plateau, an alternating thinly bedded chert and limestone rock interval in northern Arkansas that develops mantled karst. The approximate study area is shown by the ellipse. From Imes and Emmett (1994).

Purpose and Scope

There are two objectives for conducting this research and writing this paper. The first is to present the results of five tracing events using three separate fluorescent dyes in Big Creek in the vicinity of the CAFO and its waste-spreading fields, focusing on point-to-point groundwater flow connections and time of

travel. The long duration of the traces was intended to show natural variation of the groundwater flow system in the karst for varying recharge, and establish that the rates of flow do indeed characterize the fast-flow conditions of conduit transport. The second objective is to provide an explanation of why the groundwater moves in the manner that it

does, and to do so in terminology that will enlighten and educate lay people and other stakeholders, especially those who have the responsibility of promulgating regulations based on the established karst science. Documenting these karst attributes in peer-reviewed publications represents an important means to further educate all stakeholders.

Study Area

The study area was chosen to include the potential flow boundaries of the groundwater system that are known from previous karst studies in the Ozarks (Aley, 1988; Mott and others, 2000), which include an area of natural groundwater flow larger than the site-specific location of the CAFO and its spreading fields (fig. 2). The spreading fields extend from Dry Creek to Big Creek, and the confluence of these streams south along Big Creek to slightly north of the CAFO.

The reason for extending the study area boundaries in dye-tracing studies is to evaluate if surface-drainage basin boundaries and groundwater-basin boundaries are coincident or not. It is not uncommon for these boundaries to be different in karst (Quinlan, 1989; Imes and Emmett, 1994; Hobza and others, 2005). In addition to placing dye receptors on Big Creek, its unnamed tributaries, Buffalo National River, Little Buffalo River, Left Fork of Big Creek, Dry Creek, Rock Creek, Cave Creek, and the springs that flow into these surface drainages, wells tapping the Boone Formation proximal to the CAFO also were monitored.

Hydrogeologic and Karst Characterization of the Study Area

Big Creek is one of the largest tributaries to the Buffalo National River, encompassing slightly more than 10 percent of the total drainage of the entire Buffalo River

basin (Scott and Hofer, 1995; Mott and Laurans, 2004). Topographically, tributaries head in uplands on terrigenous sediments of Pennsylvanian age on the Boston Mountains Plateau (fig. 1) and flow generally toward the north and east with relatively steep gradients, typically in the range of 3 to 5 meters (m) per kilometer (km).

The stratigraphic unit of greatest concern to this study is the Boone Formation (Braden and Ausbrooks, 2003), an impure limestone interval (fig. 3) that contains as much as 70 percent chert (Liner, 1978). The chert is hypothesized to have formed from atmospheric deposition of volcanic ash that was periodically ejected and carried by prevailing winds. In northern Arkansas, the setting was a shallow carbonate shelf (Brahana, 2014). The carbonate factory operating in this shallow marine setting at that time was hypothesized to have been overwhelmed by massive amounts of silica, which in the study area formed thin but fairly continuous layers of silica gel that typically ranged in thickness from 5 to 30 centimeters (cm). During periods of volcanic quiescence, carbonate sediments were deposited onto the thin layers of silica gel, and with successive sedimentation from these two sources, a sequence of approximately 80 m of these carbonate/silica couplets were laid down, compressed, and diagenetically altered and indurated into limestone and chert of the middle portion of the Boone Formation (Brahana, 2014).

Structural uplift resulting from compressive closure of the Ouachita orogeny created a foreland bulge. This uplift acted concurrently with the volcanism, causing jointing, faulting, and tilting that allowed and facilitated pathways of weathering and karstification (fig. 4) of the carbonate intervals of the middle Boone Formation.

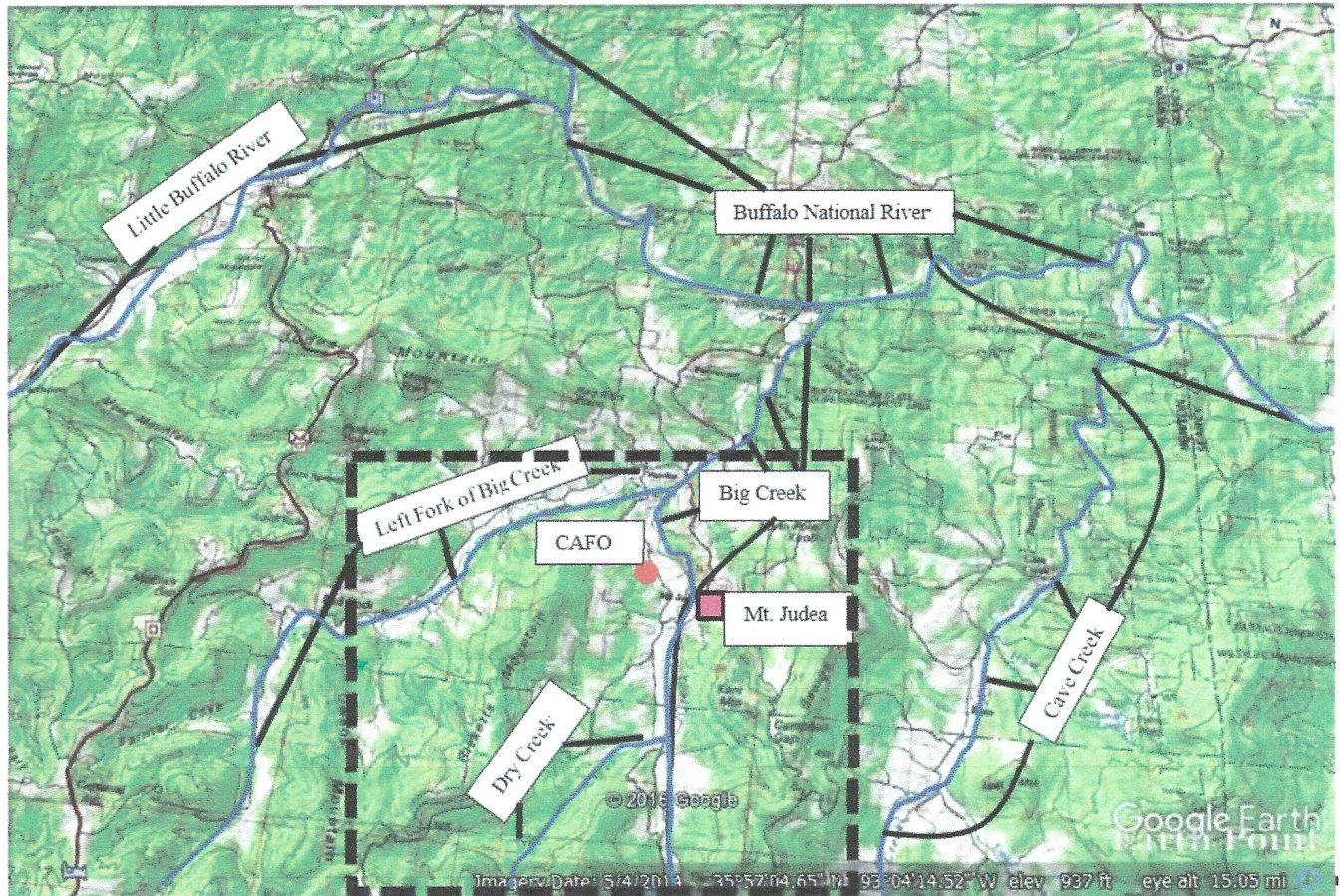


Figure 2. Expanded study area, showing location of the CAFO, the town of Mt. Judea, and the major surface-water bodies that receive groundwater from springs. The streams are approximately located by the blue lines, which are connected to the stream names. The dashed rectangle shows the approximate boundary of the focused study area, which has been enlarged on figures 7 to 9 to show specific details of the results of dye tracing.

Big Creek and its major tributary, Left Fork of Big Creek, flow in alluviated valleys on bedrock. Alluvium consists of nonindurated sediments, primarily chert and terrigenous rock fragments from younger, topographically higher formations. The alluvium in these valleys varies in thickness from a feather-edge to about 8 m. Outcrops of the Boone Formation are common in the streambed and bluffs along Big Creek and the Buffalo River. Springs are common along the entire reach of Big Creek, ranging from relatively small discharges in the tens of liters per minute range to large discharges in tens of liters per second. These larger flows discharge from relatively pure carbonate lithologies, with caves more commonly found in the lower

Boone or in Ordovician-aged limestones and dolomites (Mott and others, 2000).

Methodology

Qualitative dye tracing was conducted from April 2014 through October 2014 in Big Creek and contiguous basins using three nontoxic, fluorescent dyes: fluorescein, rhodamine WT, and eosine. All dye injections were accomplished using liquid dyes, inasmuch as the powdered dyes (fluorescein and eosine) are easily caught up by air currents, and may cause severe cross-contamination if they are not in liquid form during injection. The liquid dyes were kept in impermeable containers, and dye receptors and personnel were isolated from incidental contact which would give false

positive results (Quinlan, 1989; Aley, 2003). For each test, a single dye was injected into flowing groundwater in the middle part of the Boone, characterized by chert/limestone couplets (fig. 5). Injection sites included hand-dug wells, a sinking stream in alluvium, and a swallet (table 1). The latter feature was a sinkhole that captured all of the flow of Dry Creek, a tributary upgradient from Big Creek and nearby spreading fields in limestone of the upper Boone. Fluorescein dye was introduced to a dug well about 500 m downgradient from the CAFO. At this location, groundwater is flowing on the epikarst, which is developed on the lower-middle Boone and overlain by Big Creek alluvium. Eosine was injected into a dug well that was surrounded by waste-spreading fields.

Passive dye receptors similar in appearance to a tea bag were constructed by placing approximately 10 grams of coconut charcoal in a permeable packet that allowed flowing groundwater to contact the charcoal. In most cases, the permeable external layer of the packet was a "milk sock", whose manufactured purpose is to filter milk from automatic milking machines used by dairy barns. This fabric has enjoyed recent popularity within the dye-tracing community, especially for flow velocities of about 2 km/day or less. For greater flow velocities, such as surface streams, an additional packet was made with larger fabric openings approximately one-fourth the size of window screen. In high-velocity streams, the milk sock receptor was often too fine a mesh to allow full contact of the flowing water with the charcoal, and thus did not yield meaningful positive dye detections.

Passive dye receptors were placed in flowing groundwater and surface water throughout the study area, based on a previous karst inventory and discussions with local landowners. Receptors were placed in all available springs, wells, streams, and flowing water where we had been granted permission. Inasmuch as groundwater flow directions were not known at the start of the study, such a conservative approach is required (Quinlan, 1989).

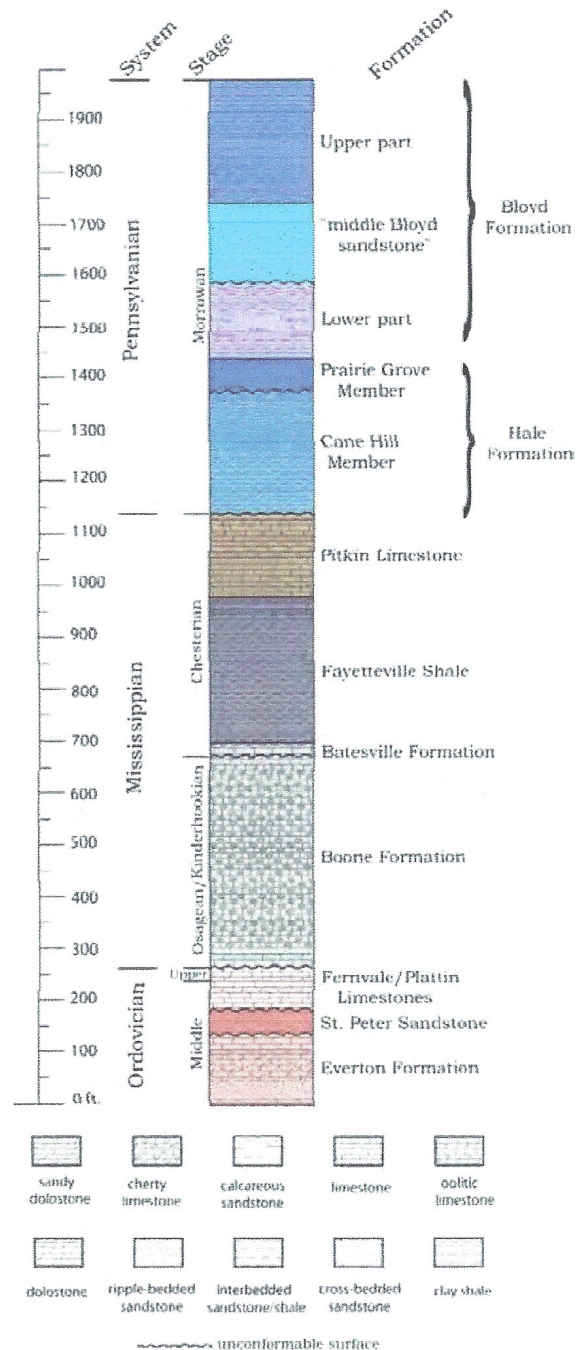


Figure 3. Stratigraphic column of the Big Creek study area, showing the stratigraphic extent of karst where the Boone Formation (light grey color) occurs at land surface. Arrows on the column bracket approximately 80 m of the chert-rich interval of the chert/limestone couplets of the Boone. Total thickness of the Boone Formation is about 110 m. Figure modified from Braden and Ausbrooks (2003).

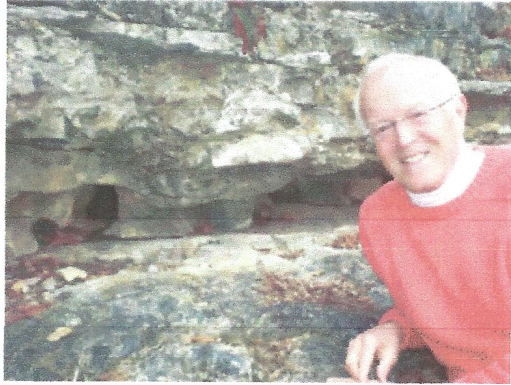


Figure 4. Karst dissolution features in limestone interbedded with chert from the middle Boone Formation. The chert acts as an insoluble confining unit for the upper and lower dissolution zone. The size of these voids typically ranges from 2 to more than 5 cm.

If fluorescent dye were in the water, it was sorbed onto the charcoal in the receptor. These were left in place for periods of time varying from 1 day to 1 month, and were replaced by new receptors when the original receptors were retrieved. Receptors were identified by plastic tags with station number, date placed, and date retrieved noted in black permanent marker and placed into ziplock bags with additional information as appropriate recorded on the bag. Chain-of-custody forms were prepared and updated for the receptors through each transfer responsible for all remaining actions.

Upon receipt from the field, the receptors were rinsed with distilled water in the Hydrogeology Laboratory at the University of Arkansas to remove sediment and related debris. They were allowed to air dry for at least 24 hours, and were then analyzed on a calibrated Shimadzu scanning spectrofluorometer (model RF 5000). One half of the dried charcoal was placed into plastic containers and an eluent of isopropyl alcohol and potassium hydroxide was added to mobilize any dye present on the charcoal into the residual solution (elutant). The elutant was then transferred by a disposable polyethylene pipette into a single-use cuvette, and analyzed for the

wavelength of fluorescence specific to the three dyes that were used. Wavelength maxima for fluorescein were centered at 515 nanometers (nm), for eosine at 540 nm, and for rhodamine WT at 572 nm.

Data Verification

Verification of the accuracy of dye tracing is essential, and is documented by a process called quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC). QA/QC is a major component of all dye-tracing studies, and it provides unquestioned verification that the information gained from the passive detectors is valid. QA/QC also verifies that the study is accurate and represents only dye that was injected into the flowing groundwater. For this study, it involved verifying that (1) the hydraulic head of the groundwater is higher at the point of injection than at the point the dye receptor was placed, (2) that the injection point is part of a dynamic groundwater flow system, (3) that positive attributes of the dye at specific locations are duplicated by other dye analysts through a series of blind testing, (4) that the concept of clean hands/dirty hands (Shelton, 1994) is honored strictly and that receptor retrieval is done by different personnel than those that injected the dye, (5) that cross-contamination of receptors is avoided by means of gloves and ziplock bags, and (6) that duplicate receptors reflect the same results.

Tracing Results

Five dye traces were undertaken in the study area in 2014, and a detailed summary of each is provided in table 1. Dye-injection sites are shown on figure 7, overlain on a shaded relief map, and a summary of point-to-point dye connections is shown on figure 8. Important details of each trace are also described in the following section.

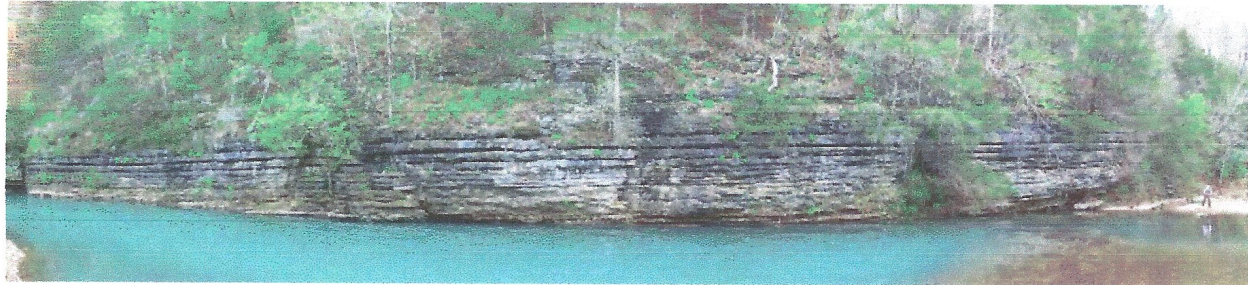


Figure 5. This spliced multi-image photo shows karstified zones in a sequence of limestone/chert couplets in an outcrop of the Boone Formation in a bluff along Big Creek. The dark, near-horizontal features are incompletely dissolved zones in the limestone, which figure 3 represents in a close-up view. Vertical fractures allow water from above to enter the karst and exit along Big Creek. The gentle dip of the layers reflects slight tilting, which is typically less than several degrees. Photo by John F. Murdoch.

Table 1. Selected dye injections in the study area during 2014. Locations of injection sites are shown on figure 7, overlying topography, and figure 8, overlying geology.

[FL, fluorescein; RWT, rhodamine WT; EO, eosine; m/d, meters per day; outside agencies providing verification of positive traces included Tom Aley, Ozark Underground Lab, Protom, Missouri, and Geary Schindel, Edwards Aquifer Authority, San Antonio, Texas. Instrumental confirmation was conducted using scanning spectrofluorophotometers; visual confirmation was assessed by observation of fluorescent color in the resurgence]

<i>Injection Date</i>	<i>Site Number</i>	<i>Hydrologic Setting</i>	<i>Geology</i>	<i>Tracer</i>	<i>Groundwater Flow</i>	<i>Comments</i>
4/22/14	BS-39	dug well perched	lower cherty Boone epikarst	FL	moderate; velocity about 660 m/d	multiple visual and instrument confirmations
4/27/14	BS-78	sinking stream	alluvial gravel over middle Boone	RWT	low; velocity not calculated	no observable confirmation; likely perched
5/12/14	BS-36	dug well perched on chert	middle cherty Boone	EO	very high; velocity about 800 m/d	widespread instrument and outside tracer confirmations; cross-basin and cross-formation flow; radial flow
7/10/14	BS-71	swallet perched	upper Boone limestone	RWT	moderate; velocity about 7,000 m/d	visible and instrument confirmation; surface flow part of the way
8/5/14	BS-36	dug well	middle cherty Boone	FL	very low; no velocity	no observable confirmation; dye density caused it to sink to lower reservoir; stagnant with no flow



Figure 6. Swallet in Dry Creek in Ozark National Forest capturing all streamflow upgradient from CAFO spreading fields. In karst, surface water and groundwater interact as a single resource, with streams typically being pirated into the groundwater system as shown here, later resurging from downgradient springs back to the surface. Photo by Carol Bitting.

On April 22, 5 kilograms (kg) of fluorescein dye were injected into BS-39, a hand-dug well 13.17 m deep that had flowing groundwater on the epikarst perched on chert of the lower Boone Formation. BS-39 lies on an alluvial surface between the CAFO and Big Creek, about equidistant from both (fig. 6).

On April 27, 2 kg of rhodamine WT were injected at BS-78, a sinking stream at the intersection where a low-water county road crosses Sycamore Hollow (fig. 7). The dye was placed into alluvial gravel that overlaid limestone of the upper part of the middle Boone Formation. No positive instrument detections of the dye were confirmed from this trace. Insofar as passive dye receptors were only placed along Dry Creek and Big Creek for this test, results indicate there was no discernable eastern groundwater flow for the low-flow conditions at the time of this test. Positive traces were visually and instrumentally confirmed in an alluvial well downgradient and in multiple springs that resurge from below a chert layer in the bottom of Big Creek, upwelling about 660 m from the injection site 24 hours after injection. As with many of the other positive

dye traces in the study area, the springs in the middle part of the Boone have multiple orifices and flow from a discrete karstified layer of a single limestone/chert couplet. This trace established that groundwater flowed from BS-39 to springs in Big Creek at a velocity of at least 660 meters per day (m/d). Springs associated with this resurgence would be an excellent place to sample for potential contamination from the CAFO, including feeding, waste-handling, and pond leakage.

On May 12, 8 kg of eosine dye were injected into BS-36, a hand-dug well 12.23 m deep in the middle Boone Formation with visible groundwater flow along several zones near the water table that had been studied intensively (Murdoch and others, 2016). Well BS-36 is located within the generalized area of waste spreading, with fields on three sides and within several hundred meters of the well. One day following dye injection, more than 15 cm of rainfall caused a water-level rise in the well of more than 1 m, mobilizing much of the dye into permeable zones above the pre-injection water level. The dye was dispersed in a radial pattern (fig. 8), with 36 confirmed positive eosine detections (fig. 9) at springs and surface streams *in Big Creek and in different basins other than Big Creek*, as well as downstream in the Buffalo River. One positive trace to Mitch Hill Spring, on the opposite side of the Buffalo River from the injection point, reflected how complex the karst flow system is and how far from the study area flow could be detected. This positive Mitch Hill Spring trace was reconfirmed by both of the dye analysts in an external review using split receptor samples provided in a blind test. Obviously, some of the groundwater flow resurfaced and moved downgradient in Big Creek and other surface channels, but this test documented that groundwater flow from the area of the spreading fields surrounding BS-36 is mobilized during intense rainfall events, and sampling sites at springs along Left Fork of Big Creek, the Buffalo River, and surface streams in contiguous basins would be excellent sites for

water-quality sampling at high-flow conditions. The radial pattern of flow resulting from this storm (fig. 8) is a common feature observed in other dye traces in the middle Boone Formation (Aley, 1988; Mott and others, 2000).

The traces shown by northwest-trending solid arrows from BS-36 to Left Fork of Big Creek (fig. 8) represent dye that was detected at receptors in 7 days, yielding a conservative straight-line velocity of about 800 m/d. These values, along with those from the BS-39 injection site, are comparable to the results of

the fluorescein trace from BS-36 in the same geologic interval. As a comparison of velocity, later recovery of dye from receptors from BS-36 showed a static zone of very little groundwater movement that served as a storage reservoir in the lower part of the well. The remaining dye, which was denser than water, was not flushed from the deeper part of the well for more than 3 months, and thus, during that time indicated there was no movement of water out of the well.

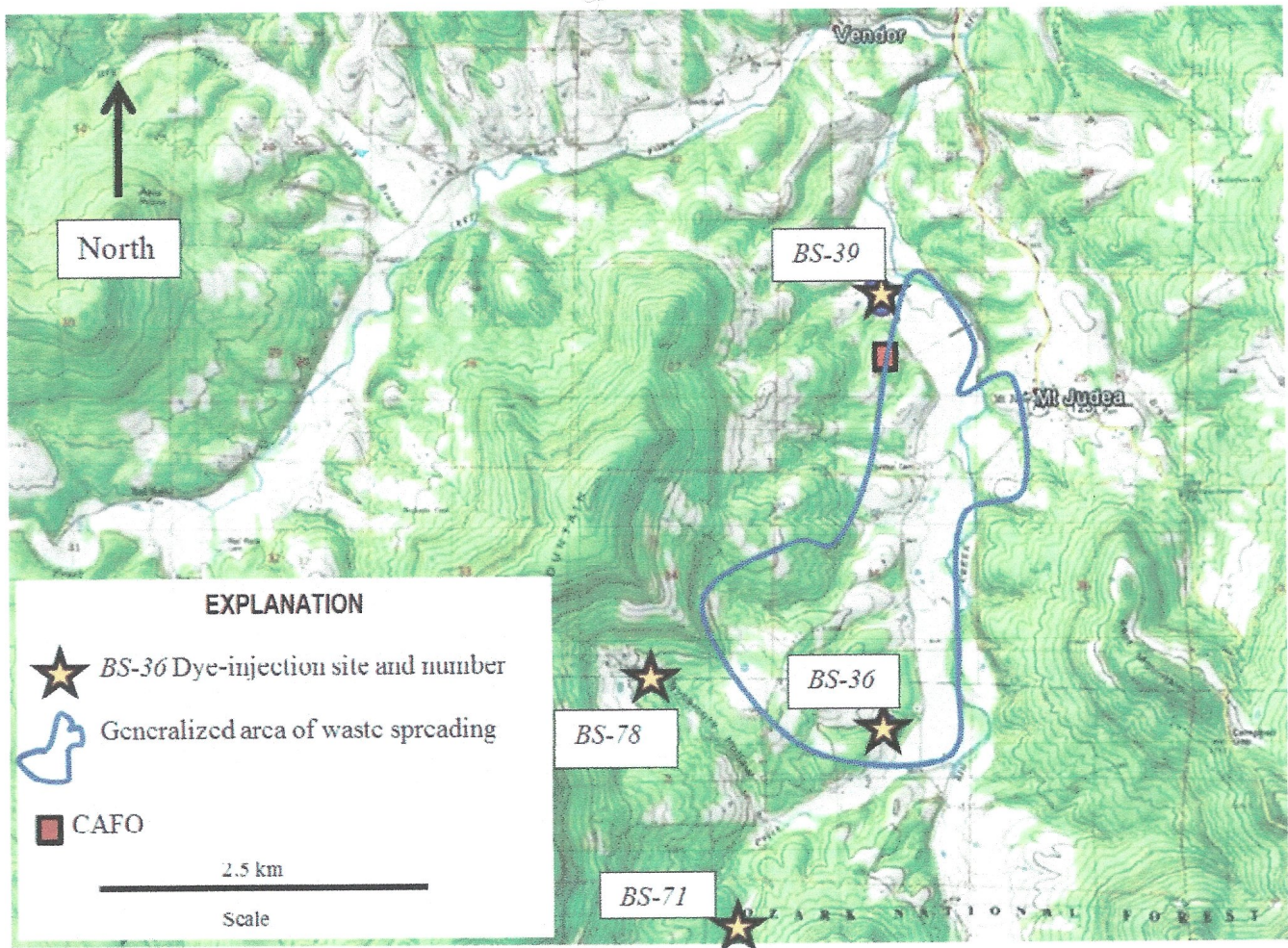
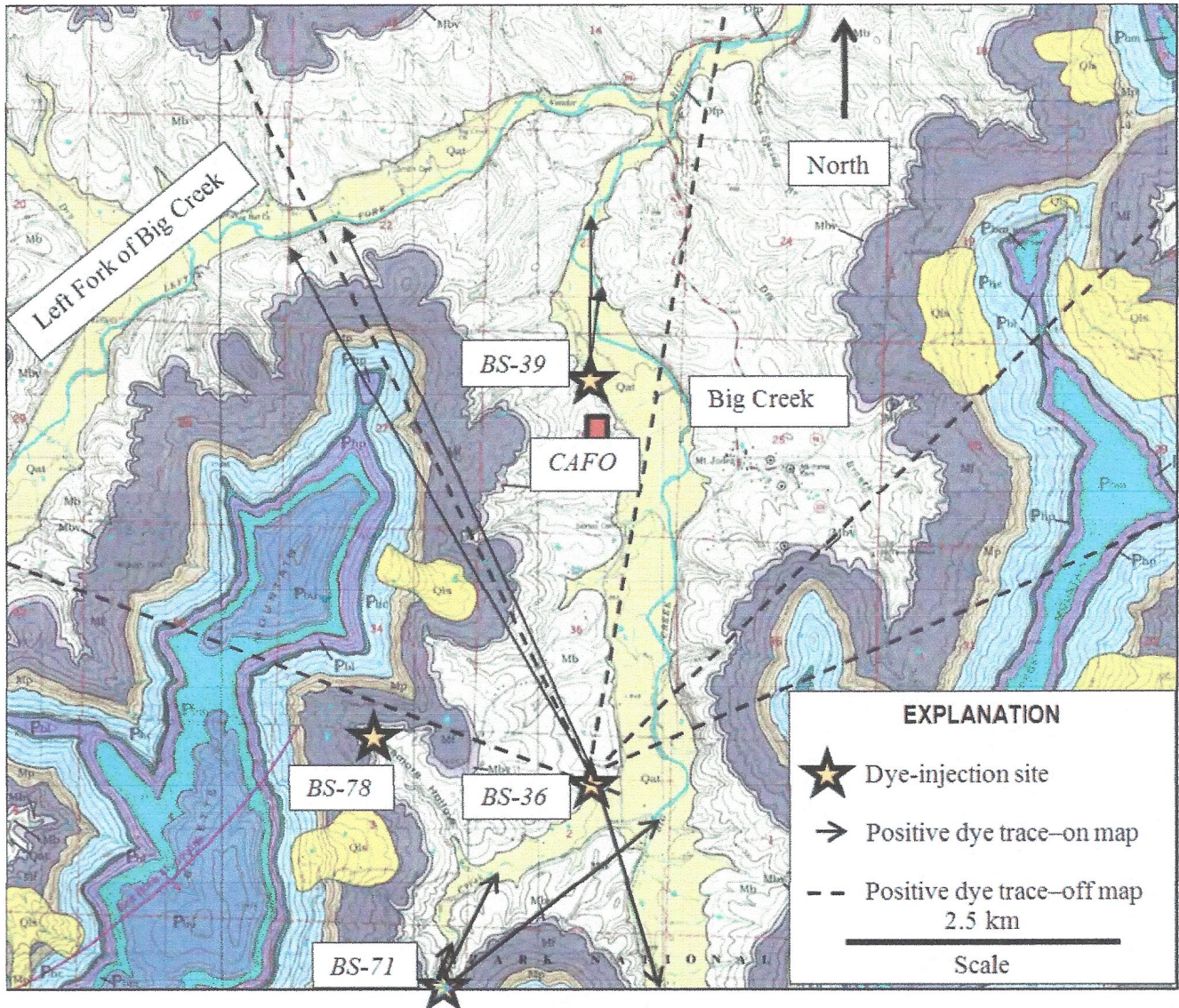


Figure 7. Topography of Big Creek basin near Mt. Judea in the area of the CAFO, including the locations of dye injections, and locations of CAFO structures housing 6,500 hogs and waste lagoons. BS-36 also was used to inject fluorescein dye 3 months later (table 1). Table 1 summarizes the important aspects of each dye-tracing test.



Base map from Braden and Ausbrooks, 2003

Figure 8. Geologic map showing point-to-point dye-tracing results in the area of the CAFO and its spreading fields. Solid arrows that emanate from the injection points show the locations of groundwater recovery sites on the map. Dashed lines from injection well BS-36 extend beyond the area shown on this map, with the full observed extent shown on figure 9. Actual flow paths in the subsurface are substantially more complex than the straight lines show. Tracing results shown here are groundwater-level dependent.

On July 10, 5 kg of rhodamine WT were injected in to a swallet that captured the entire discharge of Dry Creek upstream from BS-71 (fig. 7). This trace was initiated in the larger, more open voids of the upper Boone limestone (Stanton, 1994), which is chert free. This trace was visually confirmed at the confluence of Dry Creek and Big Creek, as well as instrumentally confirmed from dye receptors in springs along

Dry Creek. This trace yielded the fastest groundwater velocity at nearly 7,000 m/d. Flow velocity based on this test was much greater than determinations made from tests in the karst in the middle Boone, and can be explained by less frictional flow from conduits in the pure-phase limestone of the upper Boone and a significant portion of the flow path occurring on the surface in Dry Creek.

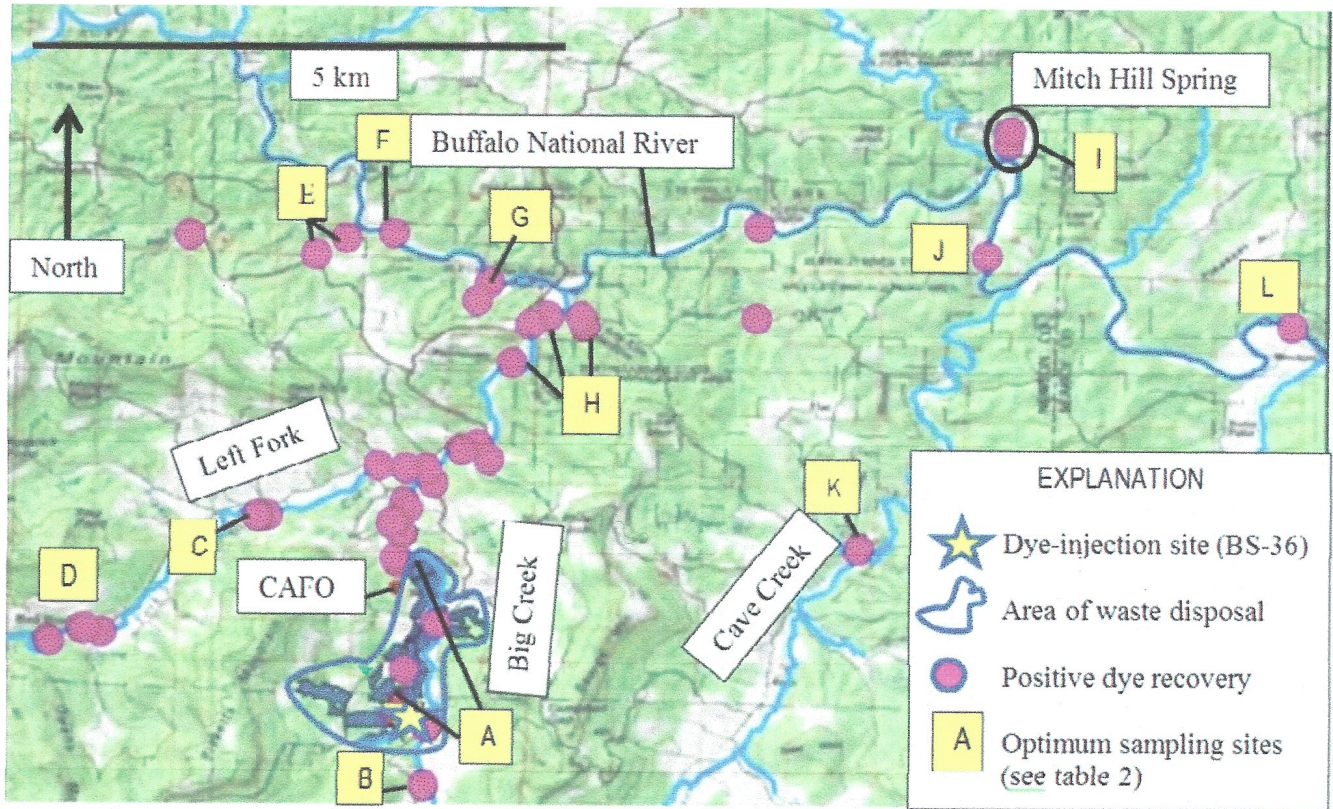


Figure 9. Flow from BS-36 during high flow after eosine injection on May 12, 2014. Dye was positively traced to 36 sites (springs and streams). Letters (yellow squares) show recommendations for sites to sample for evaluating contamination in the future. The dye-trace results show the full dispersive extent of karst flow in the subsurface into other surface-water basins, the Buffalo National River, and even beneath the Buffalo River to Mitch Hill Spring, identified by the black circle. Dark green rectangular patterns within area outlined around dye-injection site (yellow star) represent waste spreading fields. Five positive dye traces were recovered from the Buffalo National River during this test.

On August 5, 2 kg of fluorescein were injected into BS-36, this time under extremely low-flow conditions. As with the trace at BS-78, no positive confirmation at any dye receptor except within the injection well was observed. The variation in stage in BS-36 at the time of this test was substantially lower than during the eosine injection on May 12, and the conditions of groundwater flow were also substantially different from that test.

The May 12 test had 36 confirmed positive eosine traces (fig. 9); the August 5 fluorescein test had no confirmed traces. This result provides good insight for the water-level control on groundwater flow in the middle Boone, and helps explain our observations.

Discussion and Conclusions

Information from these dye traces can be used for designing a more reliable and relevant water-quality sampling network to assess the impact of the CAFO on the karst groundwater and for gaining further understanding of the flow in this karst area (table 2). On the basis of the results of the dye tracing described herein, the key observations made on groundwater flow in the Boone Formation in the Big Creek study area are as follows:

1. Although the study area is mantled karst, subsurface flow is very important, and forms a significant part of the hydrologic budget. Groundwater velocities in the

chert/limestone portion of the middle Boone Formation were conservatively measured to be in the range of 600 to 800 m/d.

2. Conduits in pure-phase limestones of the upper and lower Boone Formation have flow velocities that can exceed 5,000 m/d.
3. Groundwater flow in the Boone Formation is not limited to the same surface drainage basin, which means that anomalously large springs should be part of the sampling network (Brahana, 1997).
4. Because the Buffalo National River is the main drain from the study area, and is used intensively for activities such as canoeing, fishing, and swimming, large springs and high-yield wells close to the river should be included in the sampling network.
5. Potential transport velocities of CAFO wastes from the land surface appear to be most rapid during and shortly after intense rainfall. Minimum groundwater flow occurs during periods of low flow or during droughts. Sampling should accommodate these considerations.

The chert obviously plays a role as confining layers in the Boone Formation, and adds to the complexity of the flow systems in the karst. Interbasin transport of the dye is consistent with groundwater following faults, which are common in the study area, with many not mapped. Insoluble material can be washed into the fault plane and divert groundwater flow along the fault. The appearance of linear patterns truncating topography (fig. 7) and geology (fig. 8) are consistent with this interpretation, and can be further tested with additional dye traces.

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Table 2. Recommended sites for collecting water-quality samples based on the results of dye tracing near the CAFO and its spreading fields near Big Creek, Newton County, Arkansas.

[Cl⁻, chloride; nutrients, P and NO₃⁻; pathogens, *E. coli* and fecal coliform; trace metals, isotopes of ³¹P, ⁶³Cu, ⁶⁵Cu, and ⁶⁶Zn; DO, dissolved oxygen; major constituents, Na⁺, K⁺, Ca⁺², Mg⁺², Cl⁻, HCO₃⁻, SO₄⁻²; field parameters, temperature, pH, and specific conductance]

Site ID (see fig.9)	Hydrologic Setting	Parameters to Sample	Justification for Recommendation
A	springs, wells, surface streams that drain into Big Creek from waste-spreading fields	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, proximity to source
B	perched bedding plane springs upstream on Big Creek	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, upstream from CAFO source and waste spreading fields, anomalously large spring discharge
C	perched bedding plane springs upstream on Left Fork of Big Creek	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, larger spring indicates subsurface capture outside drainage basin, major algal blooms downstream from springs
D	upstream springs and surface streams on Left Fork of Big Creek	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, major algal blooms downstream from springs
E	Rock Creek upstream from Buffalo National River	nutrients, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing
F	farthest upstream on Buffalo National River	nutrients, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing
G	springs and cave streams less than 100 meters upstream from Buffalo National River	nutrients, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing
H	Big Creek and springs downstream from confluence with Left Fork. Major gaining reach	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, downstream from CAFO source and waste spreading fields
I	Mitch Hill Spring and its spring run, on the north side of the Buffalo National River	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, trace metals, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, largest spring in the expanded study area, numerous dye traces recovered here from multiple injection sites
J	intermediate reach on Buffalo National River	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing
K	below ponded resurgence of major spring on Cave Creek	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing, anomalously large spring discharge
L	farthest downstream location on Buffalo National River	Cl ⁻ , nutrients, pathogens, DO, algae, major constituents, field parameters	dye tracing

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