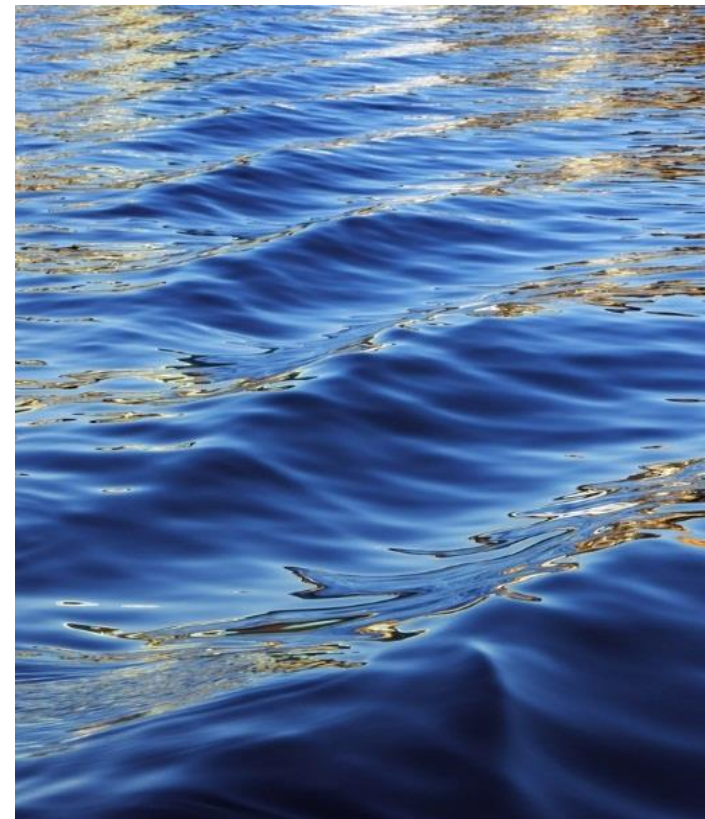




Hinckleys Pond Association

Annual Meeting, Saturday June 28, 2025
Harwich Cultural Arts Municipal Building



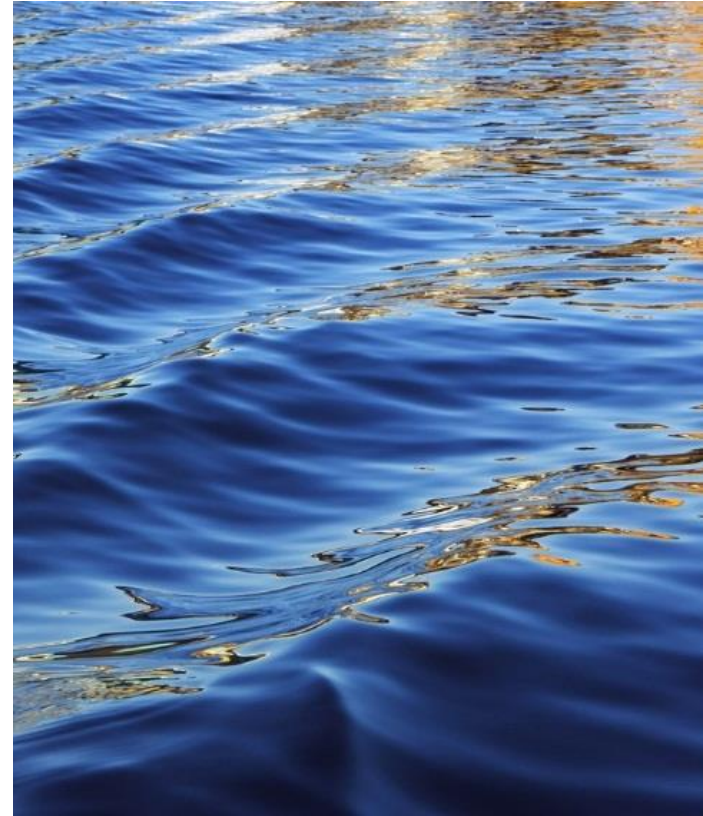
Welcome!

- Call to order & declaration of quorum
- Welcome Diana Preston, Harwich Ponds Coalition



Harwich Ponds Coalition

A new advocate for Harwich freshwater resources



Harwich Ponds Coalition: Diana Preston

- Established in summer 2024 - nonprofit
- Representatives from Hinckleys, Great Sand Lakes, Skinequit Pond, Sand Pond, and Long Pond
- Purpose: to protect ponds and freshwater resources
 - Research the science behind water quality and threats
 - Educate residents about what can be done
 - Advocate for water protection with community organizations, including local government

Harwich Ponds Coalition (continued)

- Hinckleys Pond is well-represented:
 - Susan Cyr (President), Hallie Vitolo (Secretary), Scott Norum (Board)
- We had a busy first year:
 - Worked with Board of Health to create Pond Alerts
 - Testing coordination with the Town and APCC
 - Pond Pledge and sign
 - Supported sewerage extension for the Great Sand Lakes
- We welcome members, volunteers, and ideas!
 - Join and get involved with Committees
 - Bookmarks!

Regular Business

- Vote to approve 2024 meeting minutes
- Officer and Committee Reports – big thanks to HPA leaders:
 - Jake Brown, Treasurer
 - Susan Cyr, Clerk
 - Beth Doherty, Water
 - Becky Brack, Social
 - Deb Selkow, Communications
 - Sheera Knecht, Web Master

Treasurer: Jake Brown

<u>Checking Account</u>			
Opening Balance 5/19/24		\$	1,791.59
Dues Deposited			\$1,045.00
Net Expenses Paid			<u>(\$970.98)</u>
Ending Balance 5/15/2025		\$	<u>1,865.61</u>
<u>Membership Dues Paid</u>			
2021			37
2022			33
2023			53
2024			52

Water Quality: Scott for Beth Doherty

- Four types of Water Testing on Cape Cod, first three are performed on Hinckleys:
 - PALS (Pond and Lake Stewards volunteers)
 - E. Coli (Barnstable County)
 - Cyanobacteria (APCC)
 - Freshwater Initiative “50 Ponds” (APCC)

Cape Cod Pond Water Testing

		Organization that Performs the Testing			
		PALS	APCC	APCC	
		Umass/ SMAST	Cyanobacteria	50 Ponds Project (Cornelius, Hawksnest, Walker, Sand Lake)	Barnstable County
Tests Performed		Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Clarity (Secchi Disk), Chlorophyll, Nitrogen, Phosphorous	Cyanobacteria	Temperature, Conductivity, Salinity, Dissolved Oxygen, Water Clarity (Secchi Disk), Alkalinity, Chlorophyll, Nitrogen, Phosphorous	Indicator Organisms E Coli & Enterococci
Field Personnel		Volunteers	Interns & Individual Volunteers; Harwich Conservation Dept	Employees & Volunteers	Employees
Partners		Harwich Department of Natural Resources	Pond Associations and Towns		Harwich Health Dept
Test Frequency		Biweekly	Biweekly / Monthly	Monthly	Weekly
Testing Season		July - September	May - August	April - October	June - September

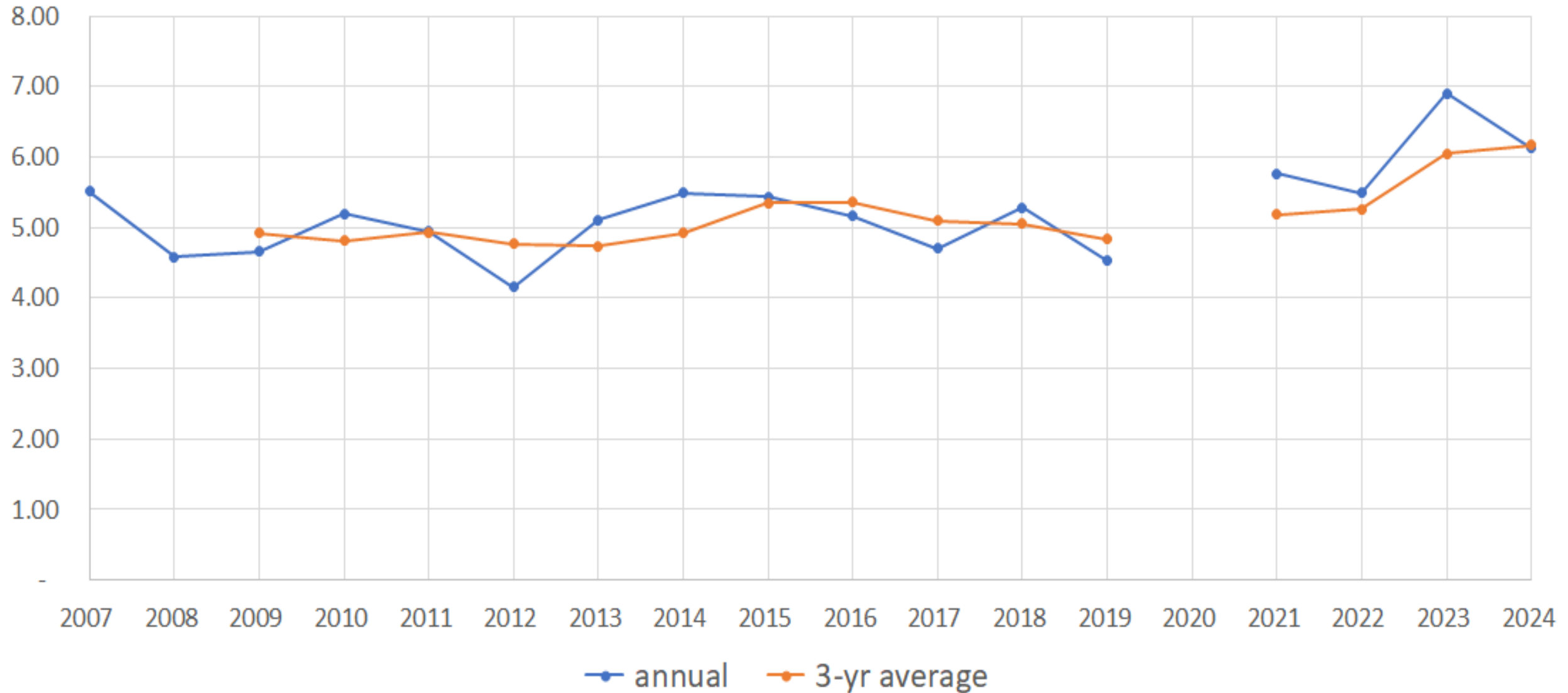
Water Quality

- PALS Testing:
 - Continuous annual testing since 2003, except for 2020 (COVID)
 - Phosphorous & Chlorophyll remain under control since 2019 Alum treatment
 - Water clarity (Secchi Disk) steady
 - 2025 testing dates: July 23, August 27
 - 2026 testing: April, July & August

Water Quality: Updated PALS Trends

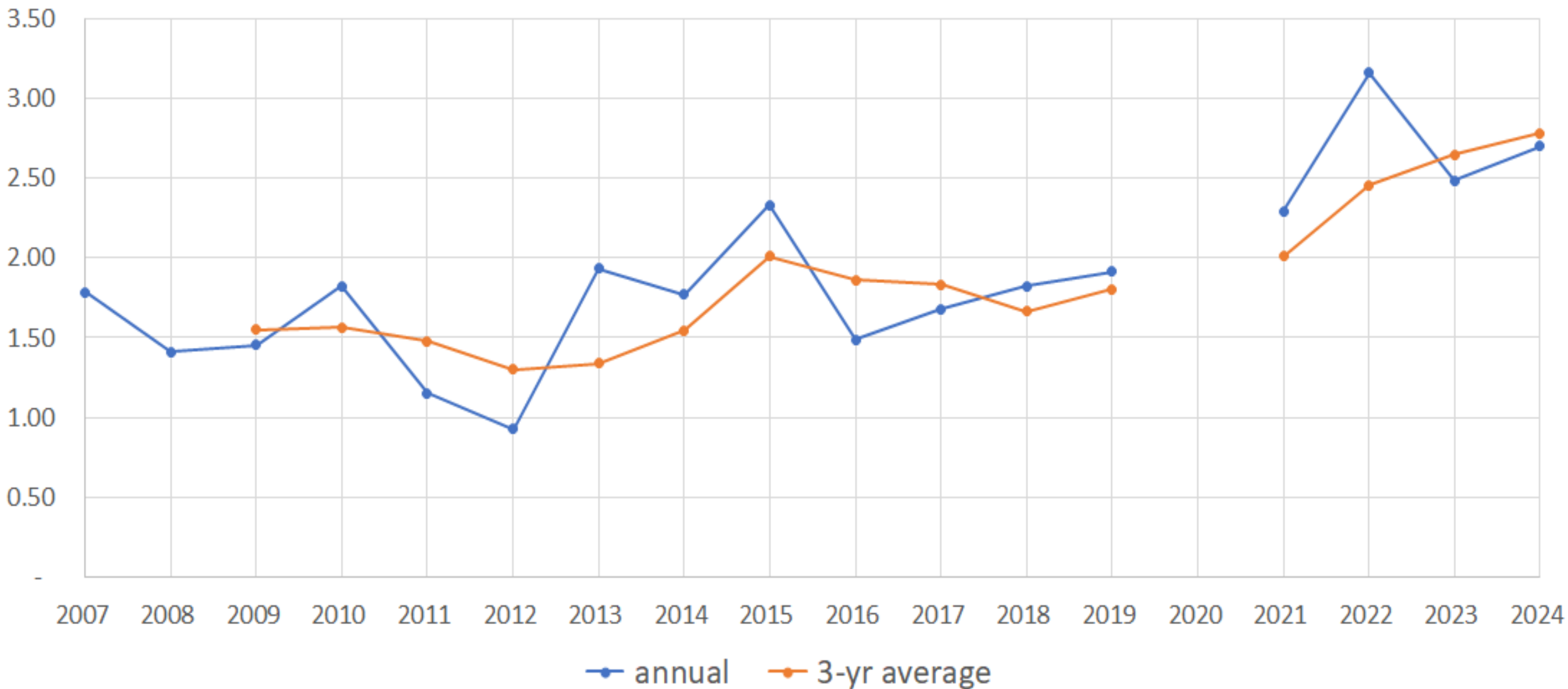
Hinckleys Pond **Dissolved Oxygen**

Milligrams per Liter, July & August Samples Only, 2024 DRAFT Data



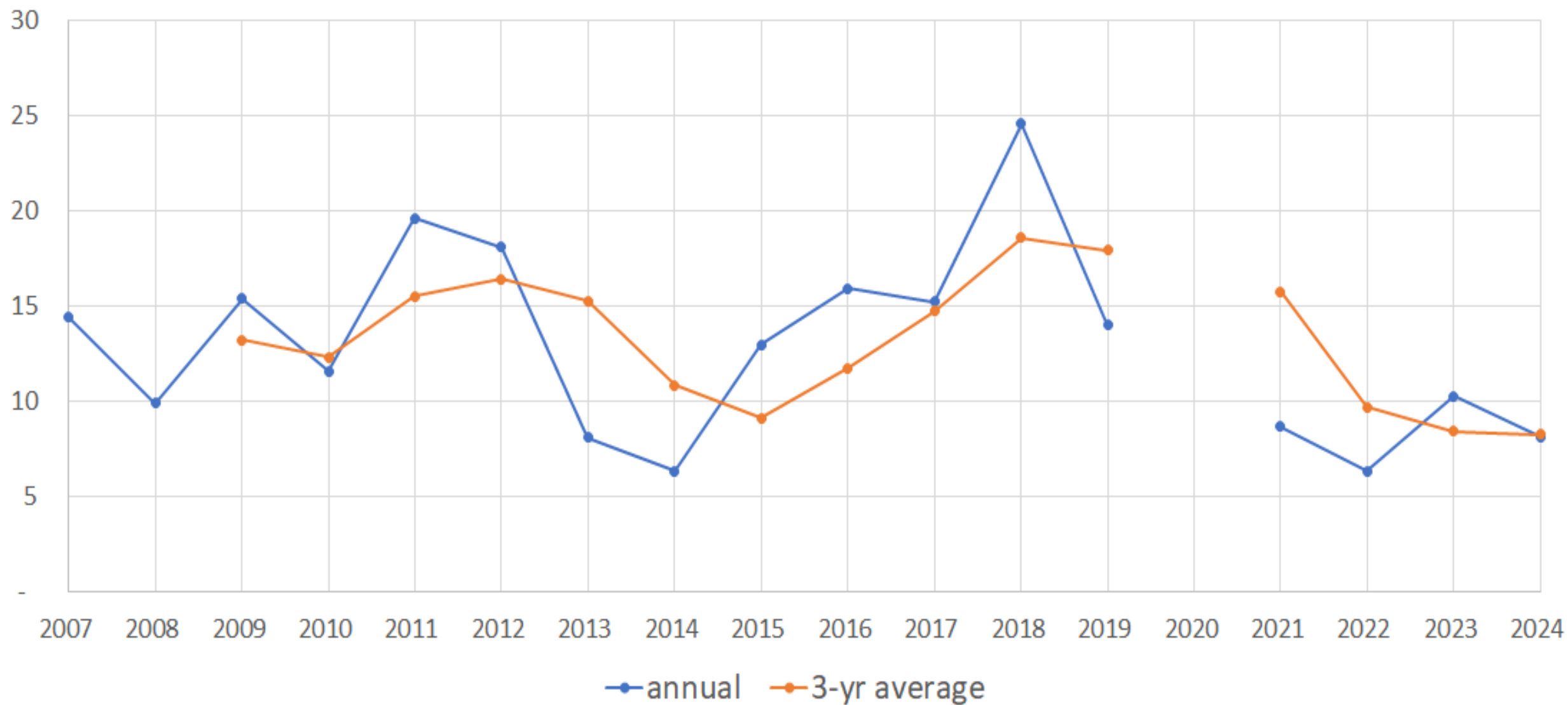
Hinckleys Pond **Secchi Disk Depth**

Meters, July & August Samples Only, 2024 DRAFT Data



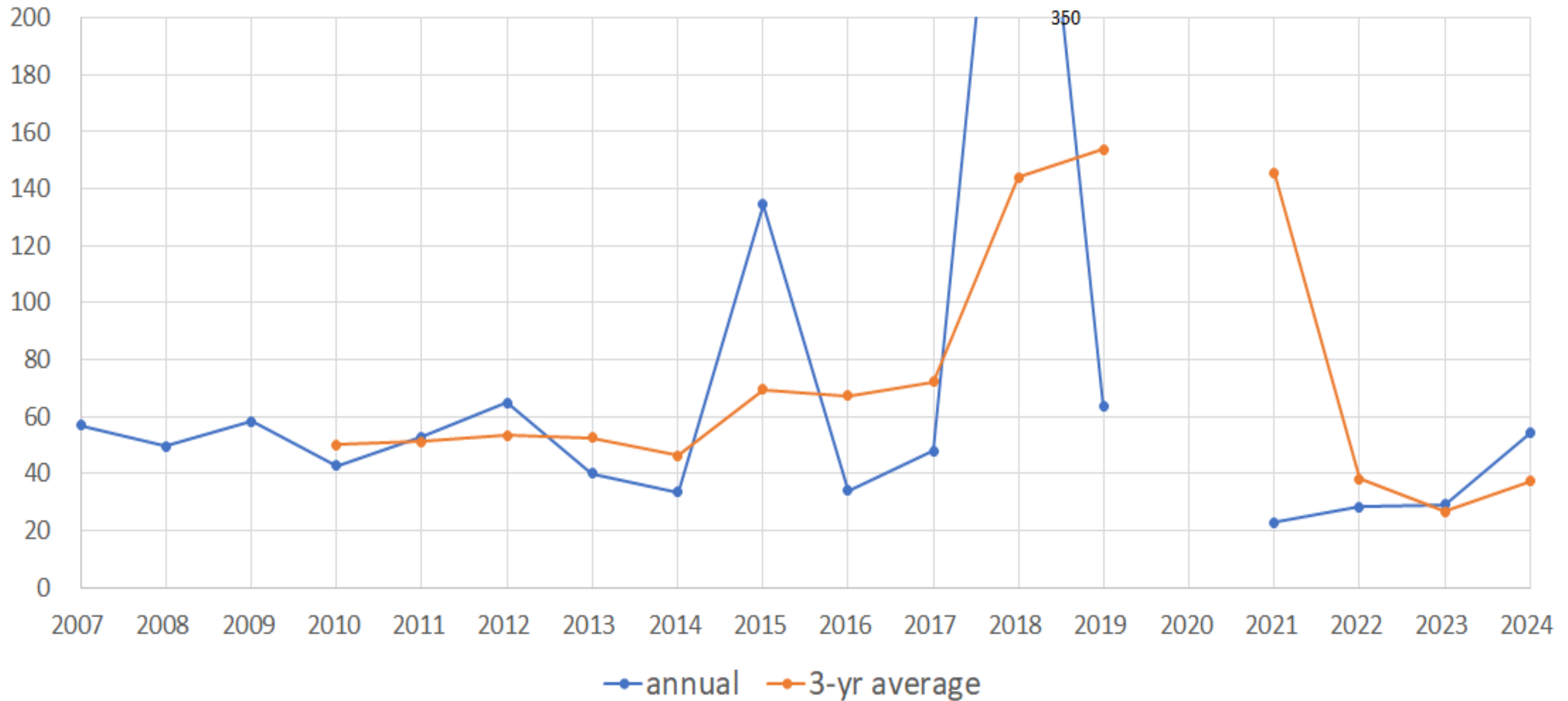
Hinckleys Pond Chlorophyll-a

Micrograms per Liter, July & August Samples Only, 2024 DRAFT Data



Hinckleys Pond Phosphorus

Micrograms per Liter, July & August Samples Only, 2024 DRAFT Data



Summary Before and After Fall 2019 Alum Treatment												
Micrograms per Liter, Four -Year Average												
						2016-		2021-		%		
						2019		2024		Chg.		
		Chlorophyl-a				17		8		-52%		
		Phosphorous				124		34		-73%		

Water Quality – Other Testing

- e. Coli & Enterococci testing
 - Performed by Barnstable County every week, June – September
 - If levels exceed safety standards, Town Conservation Agent is notified and signage is posted

Water Quality – Other Testing

- Cyanobacteria:
 - December 2024 bloom & potential causes
 - New Town push alert system -- you need to sign up!
 - What to do if you suspect a bloom: email Beth and Scott (dohertyb@comcast.net, norumscott3@gmail.com)

Water Quality: Invasive Phragmites

- Rationale: chokes off native species
- Approach: cutting below water, soil. Thanks to Bob Knecht & Rick Gross for continuing labors!
- Timeline: Fall 2023 – Spring 2025
- 40 bags removed in 2024, 4 bags so far in 2025
- Results: 90+% reduction

Phragmites November 2023 'before'



Phragmites June 2024 'Round 1'



Phragmites June 2025 'Round 2'



2025 Social Calendar: Becky Brack


- Jazz Party: July 23, Hallie & John Vitolo hosts
- Block Party #1: June 28, Edith Grove
- Block Party #2: August 23, Catherine Rose
- Red River Beach pop-up gatherings
- Full Moon Paddles
- Pickleball at Brooks Park
- New ideas: Mah Jong, Game Night, Potluck dinner groups

Social Contacts

- Pickleball: Ruth Zabre raz.raz@comcast.net
- Mah Jong: Anne Gaudet anne.gaudet@comcast.net
- Game Night: Martha Crane mbcrane@comcast.net
- Group Dinner/General: Becky Brack bbrack@comcast.net

Communications: Deb Selkow

- Thanks to Sheera Knecht for Revamping Website
 - <https://hinckleyspondassociation.com/>
- Invitation to Hinckleys Pond Group Facebook Page--monitored by Linda Underwood
- Ongoing maintenance of HPA database and email list---please send updates
- Reminder that HPA email list is reserved for happenings directly to the pond; Facebook page is the place to post wider Cape information



Hinckleys Bog Eco- Restoration Project

Harwich Conservation Trust















New Business

- Vote to approve changes to HPA bylaws
 - Increase number of directors from 3-4 to 6-7
- Vote to elect 2025-26 officers and directors:
 - Scott Norum, President
 - Jake Brown, Treasurer
 - Susan Cyr, Clerk
 - Beth Doherty, Water
 - Becky Brack, Social
 - Deb Selkow, Communications