

CONTROLLING CULEX

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Overview

- History of *Culex pipiens/restuans* in the City of Norfolk
- Identifying the problem
- Challenges
- Study Design
- Results
- Discussion



Past Data on *Culex pipiens* in Norfolk 2014-2019

Trapping:

- *Of the 307,018 mosquitoes trapped, 203,909 were *Cx. pip/res*, 66%*
- *Average *Cx. pip/res* per gravid trap: 68*
- *Record high of 1677 collected on May 30, 2018*

West Nile Virus (WNV) Activity

- *6 year average for WNV positive mosquitoes pools: 54*
- *2018 Record setting year for *Cx. pip/res* WNV positives: 198*



Where are they coming from?

- Urban/Suburban Landscape
 - *Artificial Containers*
 - *Trash and Debris*
 - *Polluted Water*
- Ditches
 - *Stormwater*
 - *Tidal*
- Utility Structures
 - *Pump Stations*
 - *Catch Basins*

Target: Catch Basins

- Majority of catch basin in Norfolk were installed in the 1950s.
- Percentage of drains hold water continuously.
- Mosquito breeding observed in catch basins
- Historically drains were treated as needed.
- Wide-scale treatments have been attempted but poorly tracked and timed.
- Use the City's GIS data to identify and locate all of the catch basins in the City of Norfolk.



Challenges



Approximate # of
catch basins:
8,500



Small Staff: 4 plus
Crew Leader



Lifting storm drain
lids can lead to
injury and
accidents.



High Cost

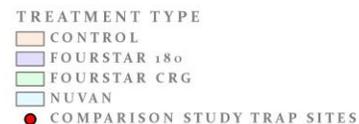
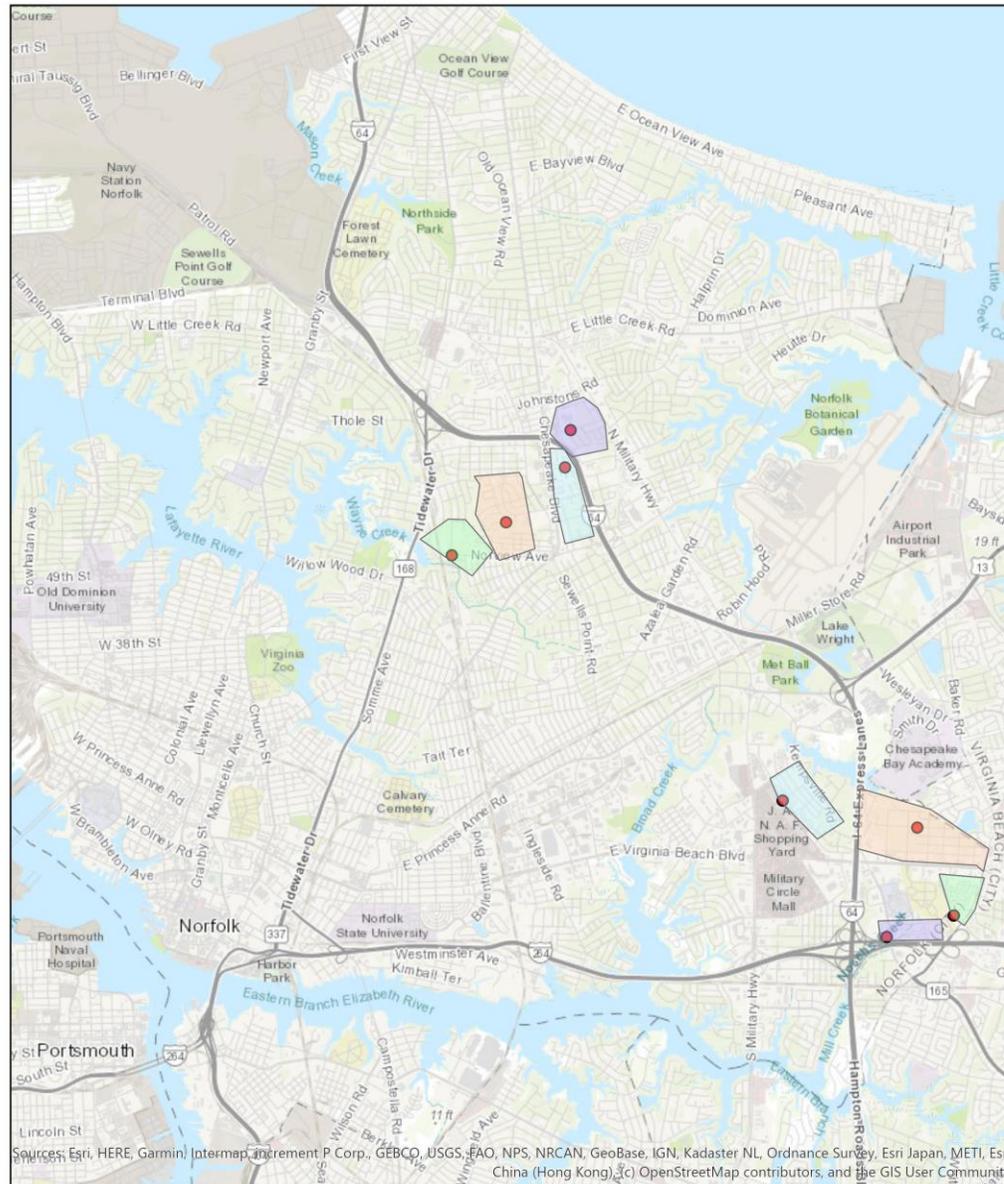


Study Design

- Two replicates
- 3 different treatment methods and a control
- Monitor *Culex pipiens/restuans* population in each study block
- Evaluate the effectiveness of each treatment on the adult mosquito population

Site Selection

- Two Test Areas: Norview and Kempsville
 - 4 trapping locations each, all pump stations excluding one site.
 - Use the City's GIS database to identify all catch basins with $\frac{1}{4}$ mile of each trap site.
 - Drains were pre-marked with **green** spray paint to alert Vector Control Staff NOT to treat drains located in the study areas.
- Study sites represented areas of historically moderate mosquito population activity.



Treatment Cost Comparison

Chemical	Duration	Cost Per Drain	No. of Treatments*	Total Cost
Fourstar CRG	60 days	\$0.26	34,000	\$8,840
Fourstar 180 briquet	180 days	\$3.41	17,000	\$57,970
Nuvan Prostrip	120 days	\$3.51	17,000	\$59,670

*Based on treating 8,500 drains from March 1 to November 1 (245 Days).



Methods

Gravid traps placed at trap sites every other week on Thursday and collected on Friday.

Begin trapping on Week 17.

Collect baseline mosquito population data prior to treating storm drains.

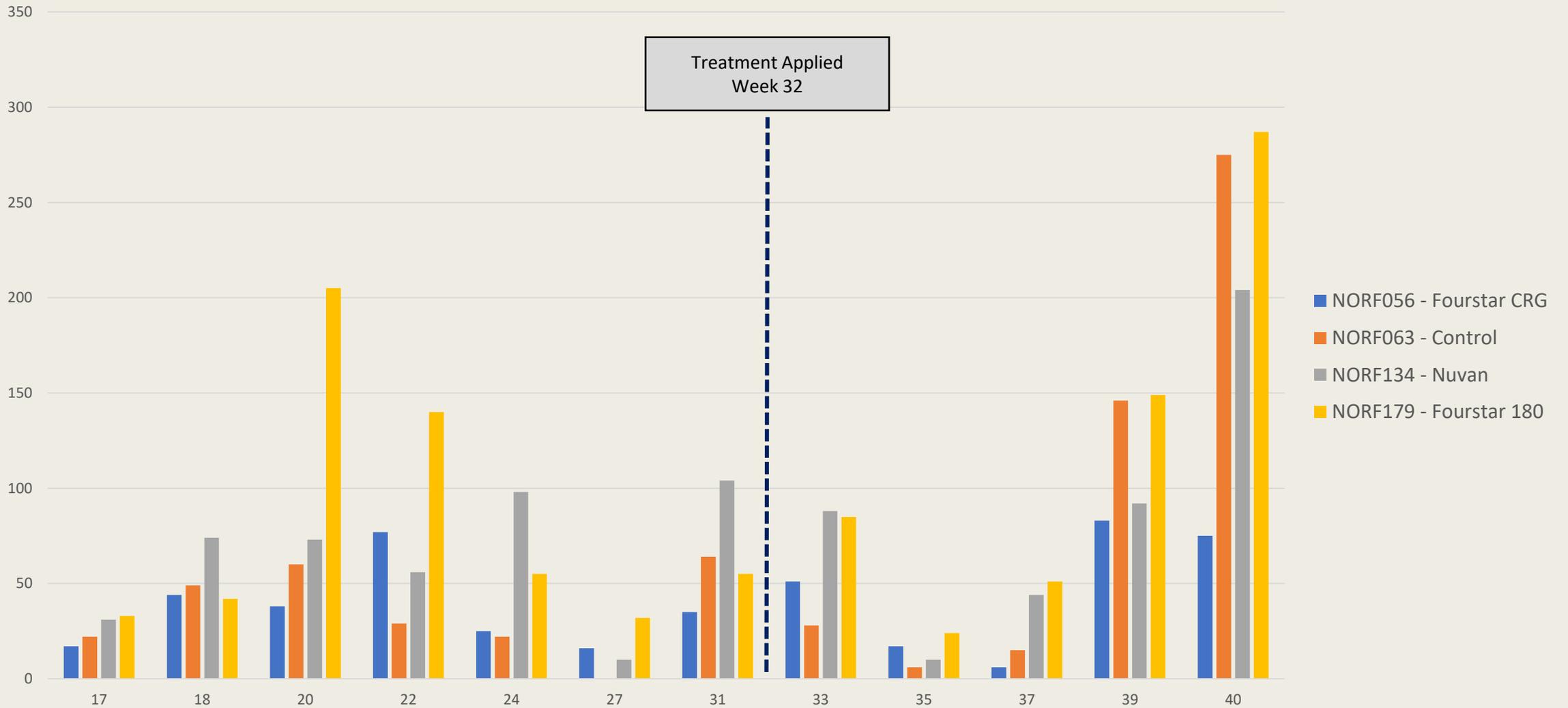
Initially hoped to apply treatments at week 23 but delays pushed it to week 32.

Conclude trapping at week 42.

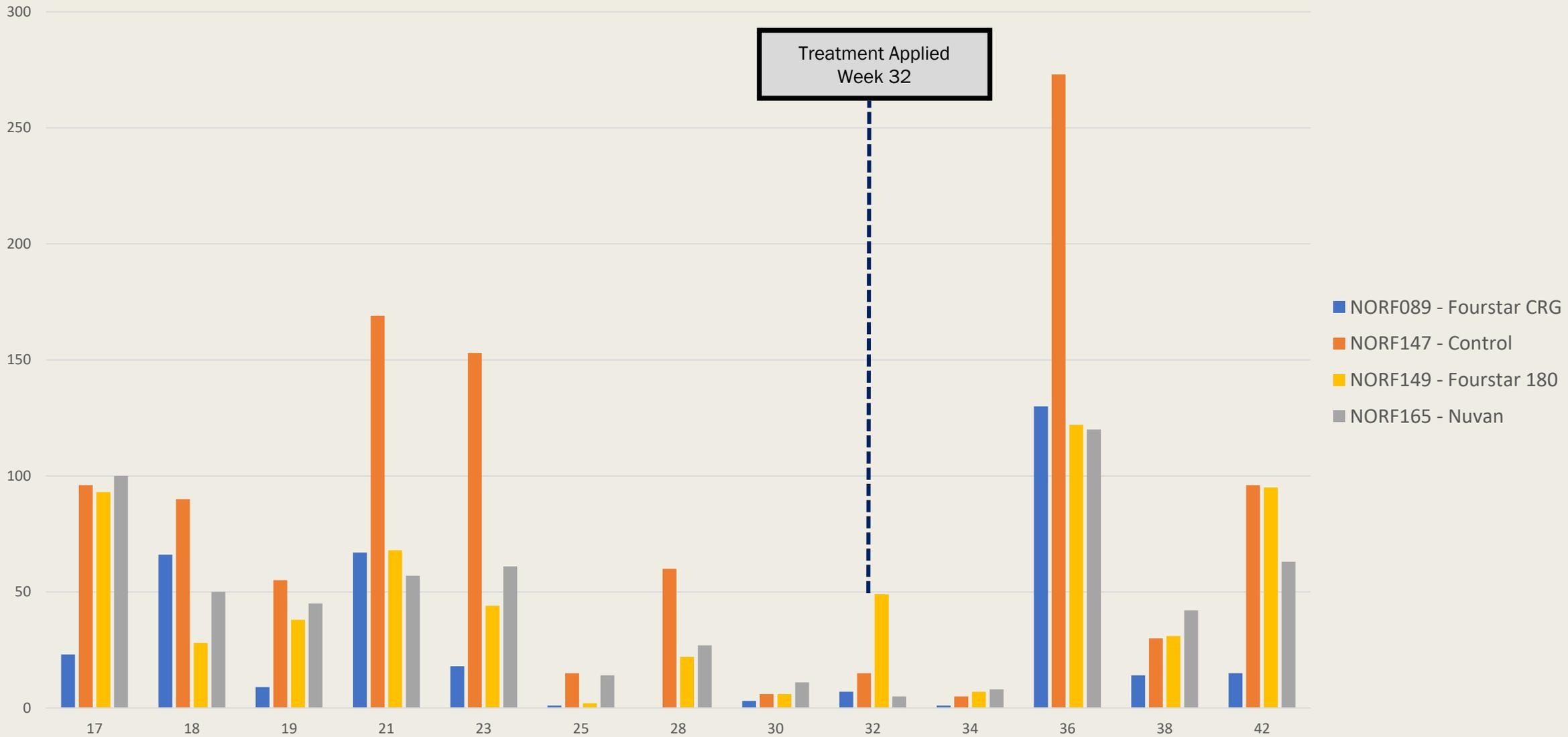
RIGHT MACHINE WORKS II
NORFOLK VA



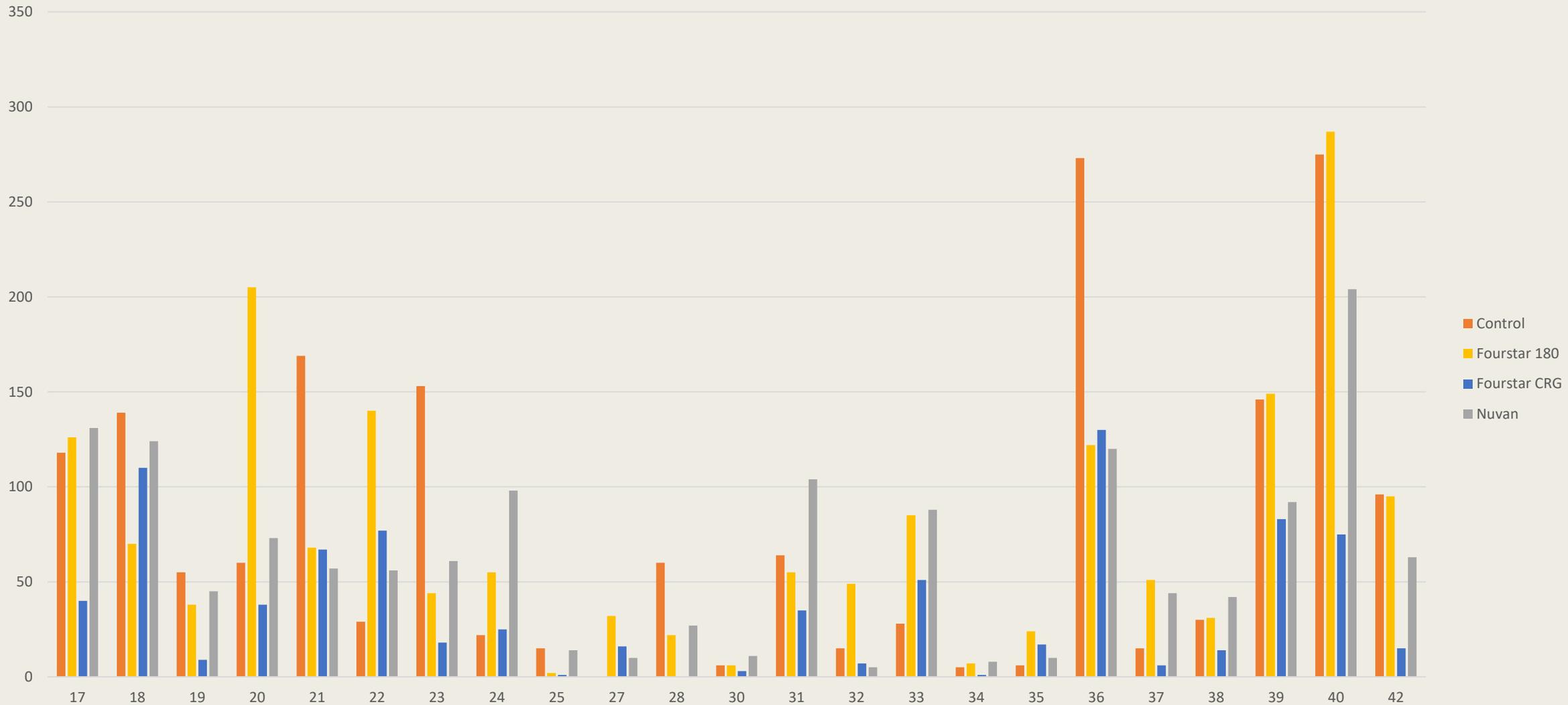
Results - Kempsville



Results - Norview



Results – All Traps



Results

Treatments applied at Week 32

Decrease for 2 weeks post treatment

Sharp Increase at Week 36

Treated areas follow same trends as control areas

No significant suppression observed

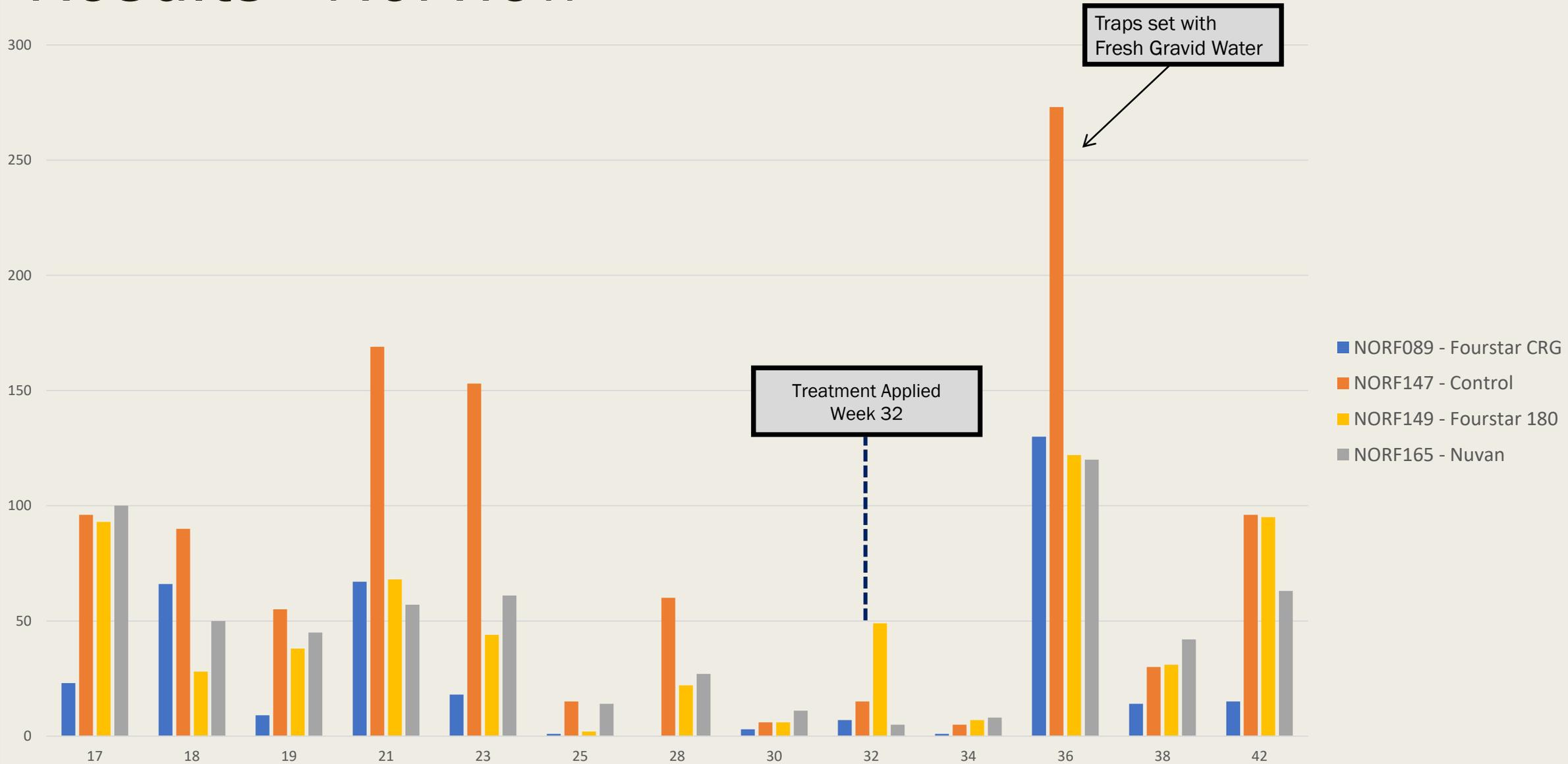
Trapping numbers impacted by other influences



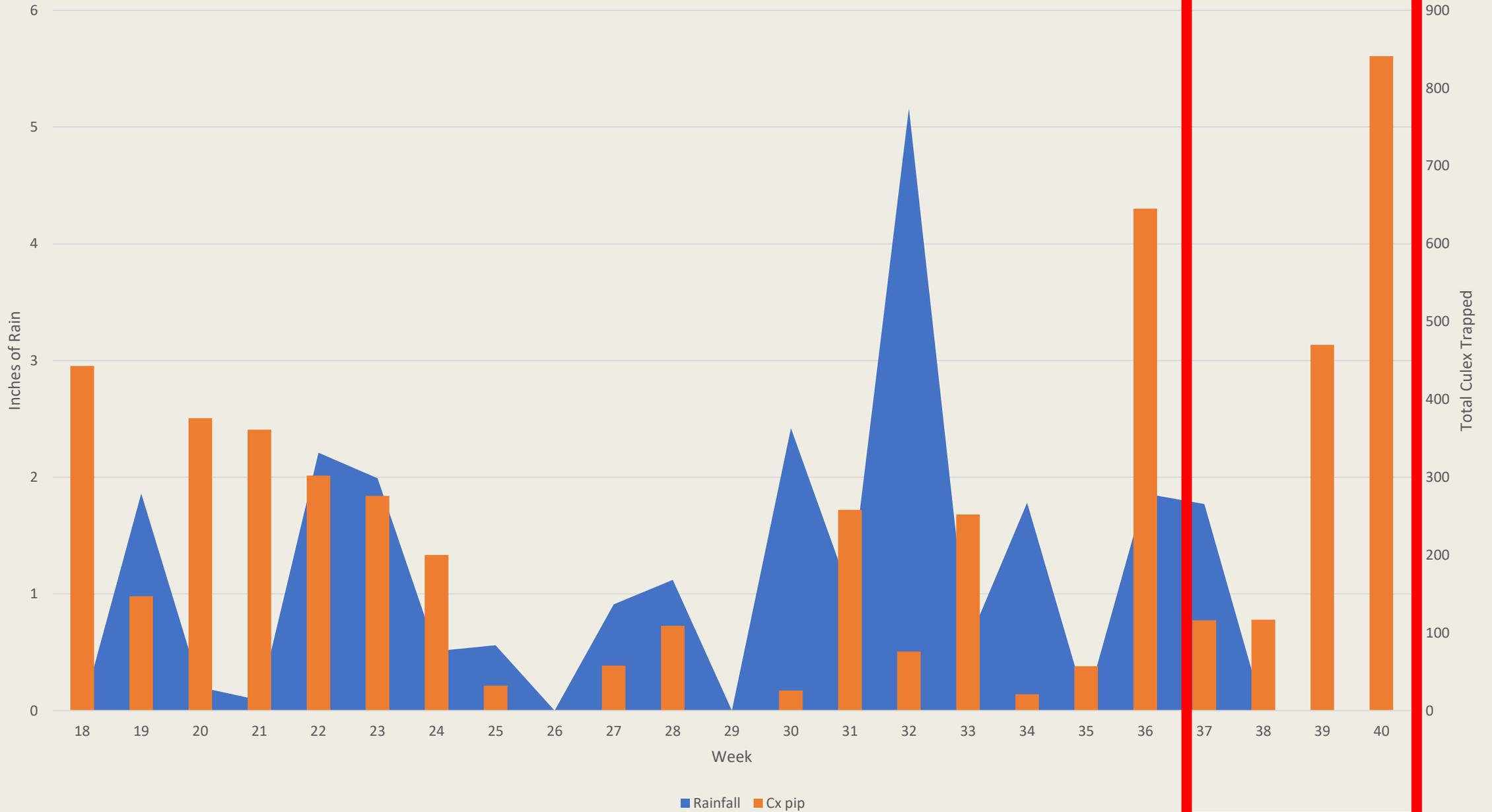
Gravid Water

- Two barrels in rotation when on full scale trapping schedule
 - *Approximately 36 gravid traps set per week*
 - *Gravid water also used by Naval Station for gravid trapping*
- 2019, Reduced trapping schedule due to loss of Environmental Health Assistant
 - *Right barrel regularly updated, left barrel not refreshed.*
 - *Left barrel used for study sites*

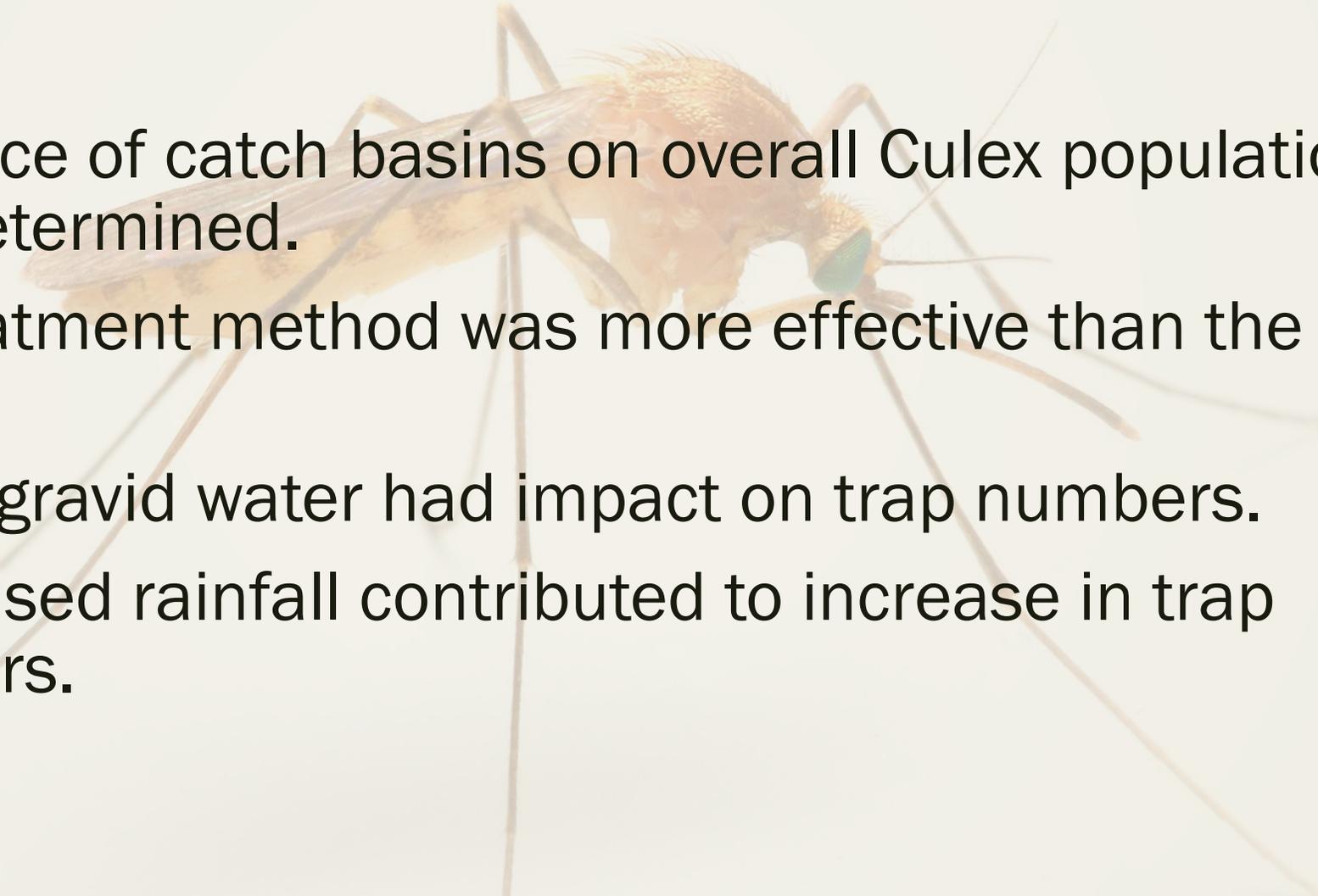
Results - Norview



Precipitation and Culex Totals by Week



Conclusions

- Influence of catch basins on overall Culex population is undetermined.
 - No treatment method was more effective than the others.
 - Age of gravid water had impact on trap numbers.
 - Decreased rainfall contributed to increase in trap numbers.
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Any Questions?