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**WSDOT NPDES Municipal Stormwater Permit  
Highway Monitoring Status Report  
Water Year 2023**

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October 2024

Prepared by

Stormwater Monitoring and Research Program  
Environmental Services Office  
Washington State Department of Transportation



**Washington State  
Department of Transportation**

### **Author and Contact Information**

Washington State Department of Transportation  
Stormwater Monitoring and Research Program  
P.O. Box 47332  
Olympia, WA 98504-7332

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# Stormwater Monitoring Report (Highway)

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## Water Year 2023

**Approved by:**

I certify, under penalty of law, that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to ensure qualified personnel properly gathered and evaluated the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system or those persons directly responsible for gathering information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for willful violations.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Tony Bush, Stormwater Branch Manager  
WSDOT Environmental Services Office

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signatures are not available on the Internet version.  
WSDOT = Washington State Department of Transportation

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# 1 Introduction

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## 1.1 Permit Overview

On March 6, 2019, the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) reissued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and State Waste Discharge Municipal Stormwater General Permit (permit) (Ecology 2019) to the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), effective April 5, 2019, to April 5, 2024. Under Special Condition S7.D. of the permit, WSDOT must begin new highway and facilities effectiveness studies that are approximately the same level of monitoring effort and cost as the previous studies that were reported on in October 2019.

Stormwater monitoring provides feedback to WSDOT for inclusion in its Highway Runoff Manual (HRM) (WSDOT, 2019). WSDOT's stormwater management approach utilizes BMPs to help meet the permit requirement to "reduce pollutants in discharges to the maximum extent practicable" (Ecology, 2019). The monitoring program evaluates performance of BMPs using guidance in the Technology Assessment Protocol – Ecology (TAPE) (Ecology, 2018) as required by S7.C of the permit.

Under Special Conditions S7.H and S8.B. of the permit, monitoring reports are required for information collected at the department's stormwater monitoring sites. The following report is meant to satisfy these requirements and provides a summary of monitoring activities completed in Water Year 2023 (WY23) from October 1, 2022, through September 30, 2023.

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## 2 Monitoring Program Implementation

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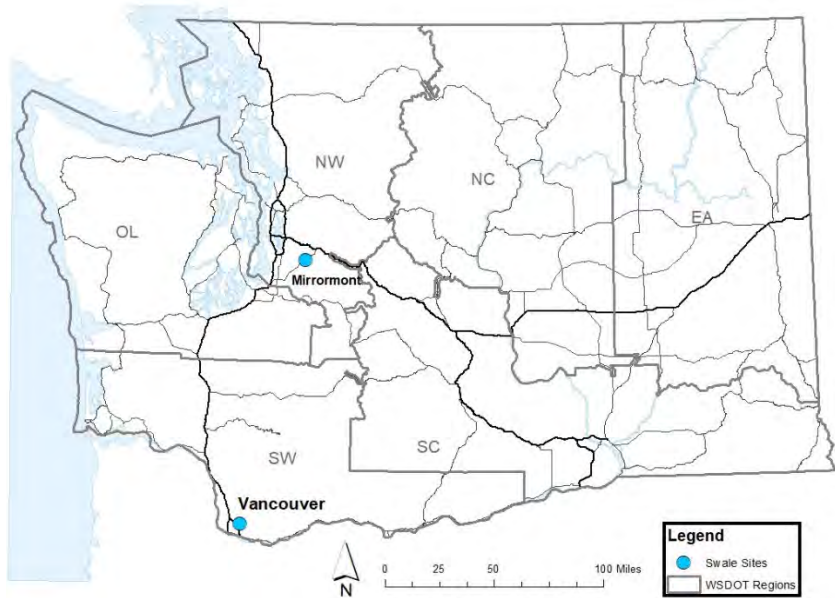
### 2.1 Study Overview

WSDOT, in consultation with Ecology, selected a biofiltration swale longevity study to fulfill the highway BMP effectiveness monitoring study requirements. The goal of the study is to determine if highway biofiltration swales provide treatment beyond their effective life, which is defined in the HRM as 5-20 years age. The results of this study are intended to inform future maintenance and replacement schedules of biofiltration swales. Program implementation during WY23 included hydraulic and chemistry stormwater sample, which are described below.

WSDOT selected two biofiltration swale study sites (Figure 1) based on the design guidelines listed below. An overview of the sites selected is given in Table 1. Additional site selection criteria for this study, accounting for characteristics of both monitoring locations, are:

Highway biofiltration swales:

1. Safely accessible for WSDOT staff and provide access that will not put the traveling public at undue risk.
2. Within the WSDOT right-of-way.
3. Biofiltration swale constructed prior to the year 2000.
4. Site characteristics, including shape, slope, soil composition representative of 1995 specifications for biofiltration swales.
5. At a location that regularly receives enough precipitation and subsequent stormwater runoff to maintain a reasonable monitoring timeline.
6. Inlet and outlet are monitorable for hydrology and chemistry without altering the function of the biofiltration swale and moving it beyond HRM specification.



**Figure 1. Highway Study Site Locations**

**Table 1. Highway BMP monitoring locations and Traffic/Roadway Conditions**

Highway	Site Name	Highway Conditions	
		Annual Average Daily Traffic	Location Condition
SR 500/503 Interchange	Vancouver	503: 41,000 500: 20,000	Intersection with Traffic Light
SR 18	Mirrormont	27,000	Suburban Highway with Off Ramp

## Vancouver

The Vancouver biofiltration swale is located at milepost 7.00 on State Route (SR) 500 and treats stormwater from the intersection of SR 500 and SR 503. The biofiltration swale was built for Clark County in 1999 and came under WSDOT ownership in 2005 when Padden Park Way became SR 500.

The biofiltration swale is located northeast of the intersection and receives runoff from a 1-acre drainage area. The stormwater conveyance system is highlighted in Figure 2. The drainage area was ground-checked through multiple site observations during storm events, including heavy rain events. The biofiltration swale does not receive water from local roads or any non-WSDOT property.



Figure 2. Vancouver biofiltration swale monitoring site and associated drainage features



**Figure 3. Vancouver bioswale effluent**

## Mirrormont

The Mirrormont biofiltration swale is located at milepost 20.48 on SR 18 and treats stormwater from SR 18 mainline lanes. The Mirrormont biofiltration swale was built to 1995 HRM standards in 1999.

The biofiltration swale is located on an offramp north of mainline SR 18 and receives runoff from a 3.5-acre impervious drainage area. The stormwater conveyance system is highlighted in Figure 4. The drainage area was ground-checked through multiple site observations during storm events, including heavy rain events. The biofiltration swale does not receive water from local roads or any non-WSDOT property.



**Figure 4. Mirrormont biofiltration swale monitoring site and associated drainage features**



**Figure 5. Mirrormont influent monitoring equipment**

## 2.2 Highway Study Results

WSDOT initiated hydrological, chemical, and meteorological data collection at the highway sites in 2022. WSDOT mobilized 26 times for attempted storms chemistry and hydrology sampling. WSDOT successfully sampled 9 storms. This data will be used to inform WSDOT Maintenance and WSDOT HRM on the life expectancy of swales and the treatment capacity of bioswales older than 20 years (longest HRM life expectancy).

Tables 2 and 3 contain the list of all storm sampling event attempts and outcomes. Appendices A and B contain the storm reports and chemistry data associated with successful sampling events.

**Table 2. Mirrormont Sample Attempts**

Date	Influent	Effluent
10/21/2022	Inadequate Rainfall	Inadequate Rainfall
10/30/2022	Inadequate Volume	No Volume
11/3/2022	Inadequate Volume	No Volume
1/11/2023	Inadequate Volume	No Volume
2/6/2023	Sediment buildup	No Volume
3/1/2023	Inadequate Volume	No Volume
3/12/2023	Accepted	No Volume
3/19/2023	Equipment Failure	Equipment Failure
3/31/2023	Accepted	No Volume
4/16/2023	Inadequate Volume	No Volume
4/20/2023	Inadequate Volume	No Volume

**Table 3. Vancouver Sample Attempts**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Influent</b>	<b>Effluent</b>
10/21/2022	Accepted	Accepted
10/28/2022	Accepted	Accepted
10/30/2022	Accepted	Accepted
11/03/2022	Accepted	Accepted
1/12/2023	No Rainfall	No Rainfall
3/2/2023	Inadequate Rainfall	Inadequate Rainfall
3/3/2023	Accepted	Accepted
3/9/2023	Insufficient Volume	Insufficient Volume
3/12/2023	Accepted	Accepted
3/19/2023	No Effluent Volume	No Volume
3/23/2023	No Effluent Volume	No Volume
3/31/2023	Accepted	Accepted
4/16/2023	Low Volume	Low Volume
8/31/2023	No Rainfall	No Rainfall
9/24/2023	Equipment Failure	Equipment Failure

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## Literature Cited

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Ecology. 2018. *Technical Guidance Manual for Evaluating Emerging Stormwater Treatment Technologies Technology Assessment Protocol – Ecology (TAPE)*. September 2018 Revision. Washington State Department of Ecology, Olympia, WA. Publication no. 18-10-039.

Ecology. 2019. *Washington State Department of Transportation National Pollutant Elimination System and State Waste Discharge Municipal Stormwater General Permit*. Washington State Department of Ecology. Olympia, Washington. Permit No. WAR043000A. Issuance Date April 5, 2019.

WSDOT. 2019. *Highway Runoff Manual*. Washington State Department of Transportation. Olympia, WA. Publication Number M 31-16.05.

## Appendix A Chemistry Data

Location	Date	Sample Point	Parameter	Result
Mirrormont	6/8/2022	Influent	TSS	33 R
Mirrormont	3/12/2023	Influent	TSS	75
Vancouver	4/19/2022	Influent	TSS	72
Vancouver	4/19/2022	Effluent	TSS	26 R
Vancouver	4/30/2022	Influent	TSS	20
Vancouver	4/30/2022	Effluent	TSS	7
Vancouver	5/5/2022	Influent	TSS	35
Vancouver	5/5/2022	Effluent	TSS	11
Vancouver	5/16/2022	Influent	TSS	25
Vancouver	5/16/2022	Effluent	TSS	6
Vancouver	6/13/2022	Influent	TSS	1 R
Vancouver	10/21/2022	Influent	TSS	8
Vancouver	10/21/2022	Effluent	TSS	74
Vancouver	10/28/2022	Influent	TSS	28 R
Vancouver	10/28/2022	Effluent	TSS	7 R
Vancouver	10/31/2022	Influent	TSS	40 R
Vancouver	10/31/2022	Effluent	TSS	8 R
Vancouver	3/4/2023	Influent	TSS	12 R
Vancouver	3/4/2023	Effluent	TSS	45 R
Vancouver	3/31/2023	Influent	TSS	12
Vancouver	3/31/2023	Effluent	TSS	< 1

All data is preliminary needing to go through 3<sup>rd</sup> party validation.

R=Rejected

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## Appendix B WY23 Storm Reports

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## Download 22 Mirrormont In

Lat: 47.436421N Long: -121.974058W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
1.15	03/12/2023 16:25	03/14/2023 01:25	33.00	36.25

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	MIR-In	26	03/12/2023 19:15	03/14/2023 04:00	32.75	250	6,500	5.50	7.20

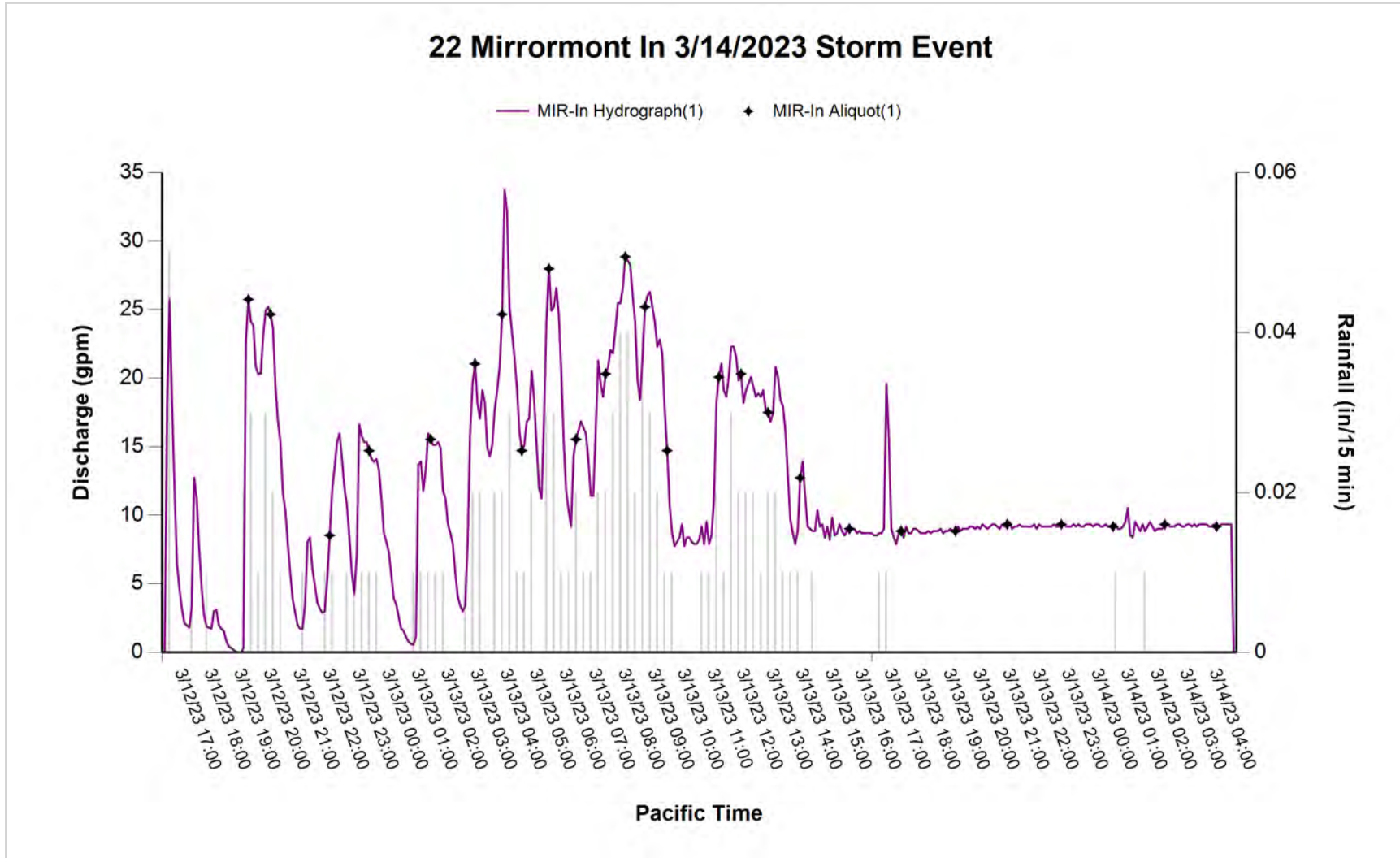
Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	MIR-In	03/12/2023 16:30	03/14/2023 04:30	36.00	25,709.7	714.2	22,895.0	25,430.3	100.00	33.73	0.05	11.88	0.207	

*No comments added for this event*

## Download 22 Mirrmont In

Lat: 47.436421N Long: -121.974058W

Drainage Area (acres):



## Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
0.46	10/21/2022 12:50	10/22/2022 01:05	12.25	529.7

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	VAN-In	23	10/21/2022 14:45	10/21/2022 22:20	7.58	250	5,750	11.10	15.10
2	VAN-Out	4	10/21/2022 21:50	10/21/2022 22:10	0.33	250	1,000	11.10	11.30

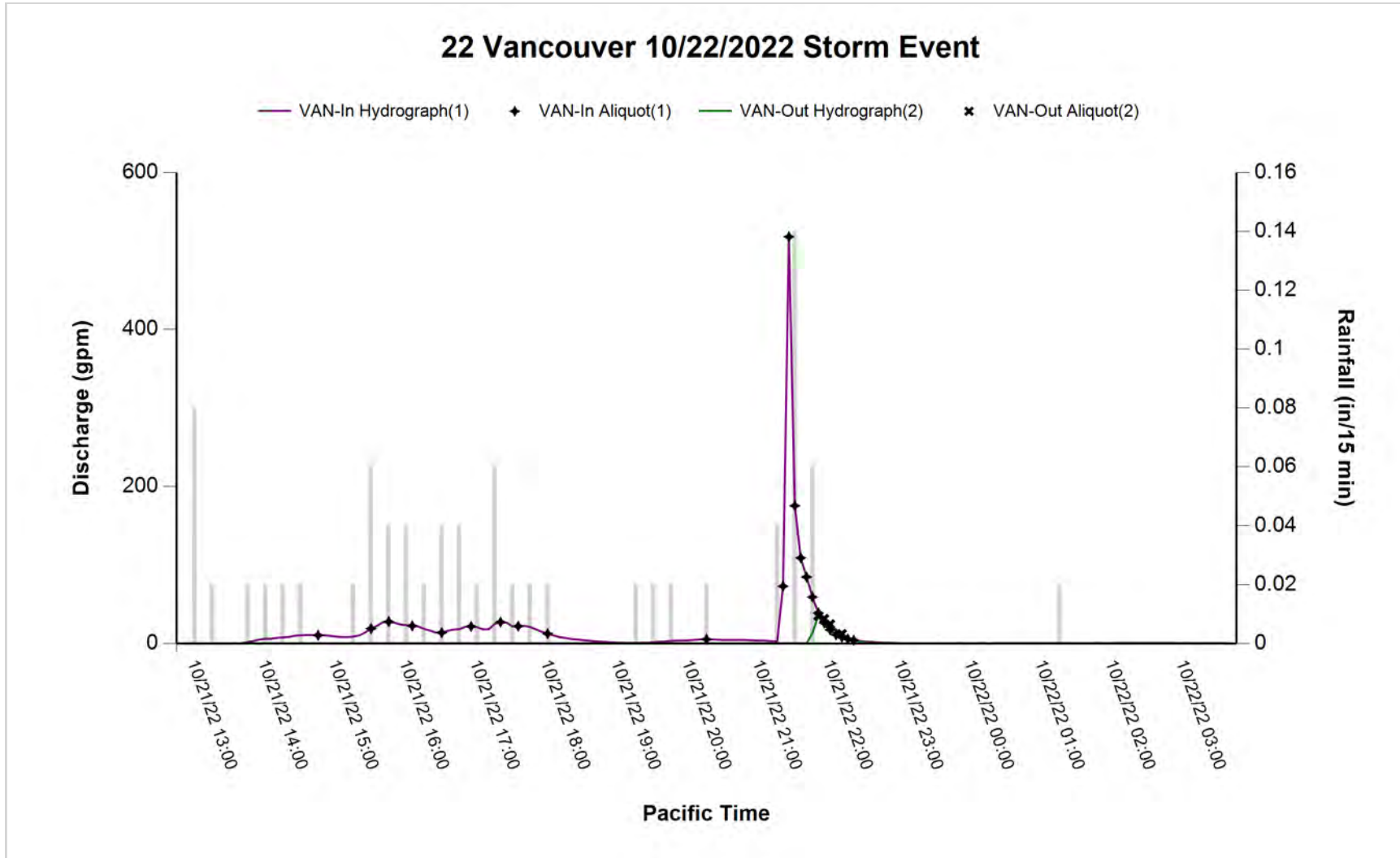
Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	VAN-In	10/21/2022 12:55	10/22/2022 03:35	14.67	10,555.1	719.5	10,555.1	10,396.1	98.50	518.12	0.06	11.93	0.500	
2	VAN-Out	10/21/2022 12:55	10/22/2022 03:35	14.67	874.2	59.6	874.2	755.2	86.40	35.01	0.13	1.07	0.190	

*No comments added for this event*

## Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

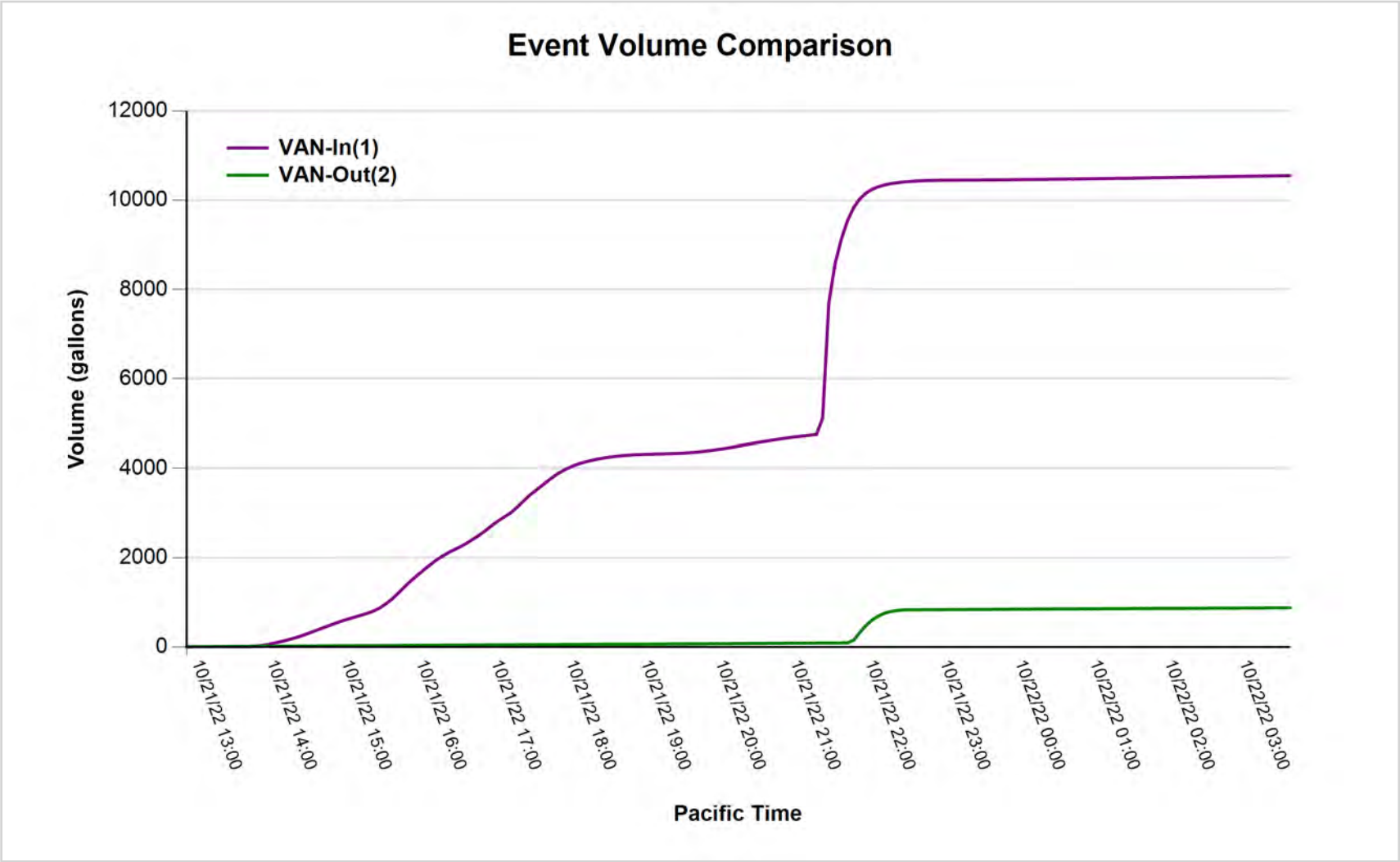
Drainage Area (acres):



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Drainage Area (acres):



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Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
0.54	10/28/2022 08:15	10/28/2022 21:30	13.25	46.5

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	VAN-In	21	10/28/2022 08:40	10/28/2022 21:05	12.42	250	5,250	11.80	13.90
2	VAN-Out	6	10/28/2022 10:45	10/28/2022 16:05	5.33	250	1,500	12.10	13.80

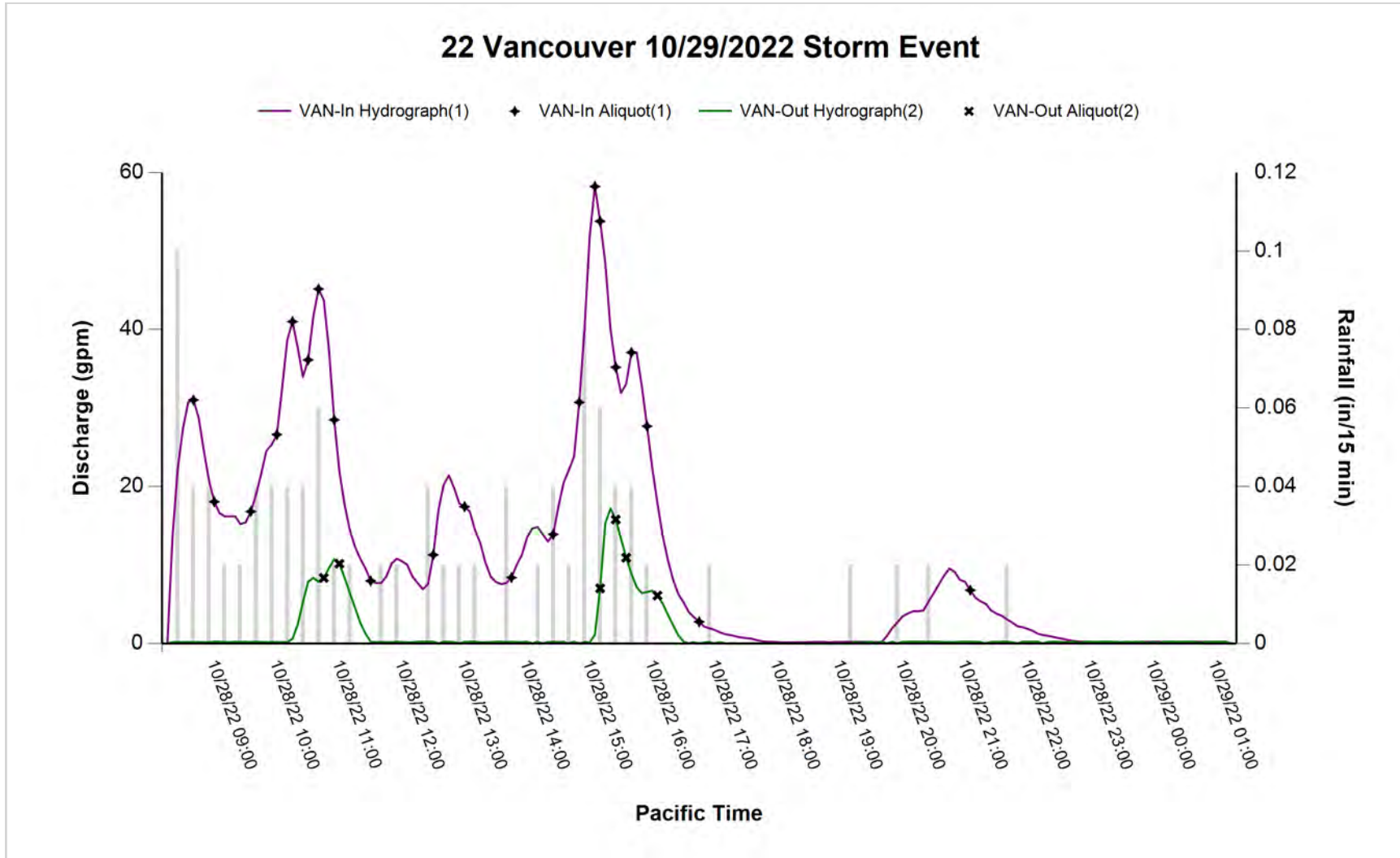
Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	VAN-In	10/28/2022 08:20	10/29/2022 01:10	16.83	11,388.6	676.7	11,388.6	11,126.7	97.70	58.22	0.12	11.22	0.298	
2	VAN-Out	10/28/2022 08:20	10/29/2022 01:10	16.83	1,264.5	75.1	1,264.5	1,137.7	90.00	17.18	0.13	1.60	0.128	

*No comments added for this event*

# Download 22 Vancouver

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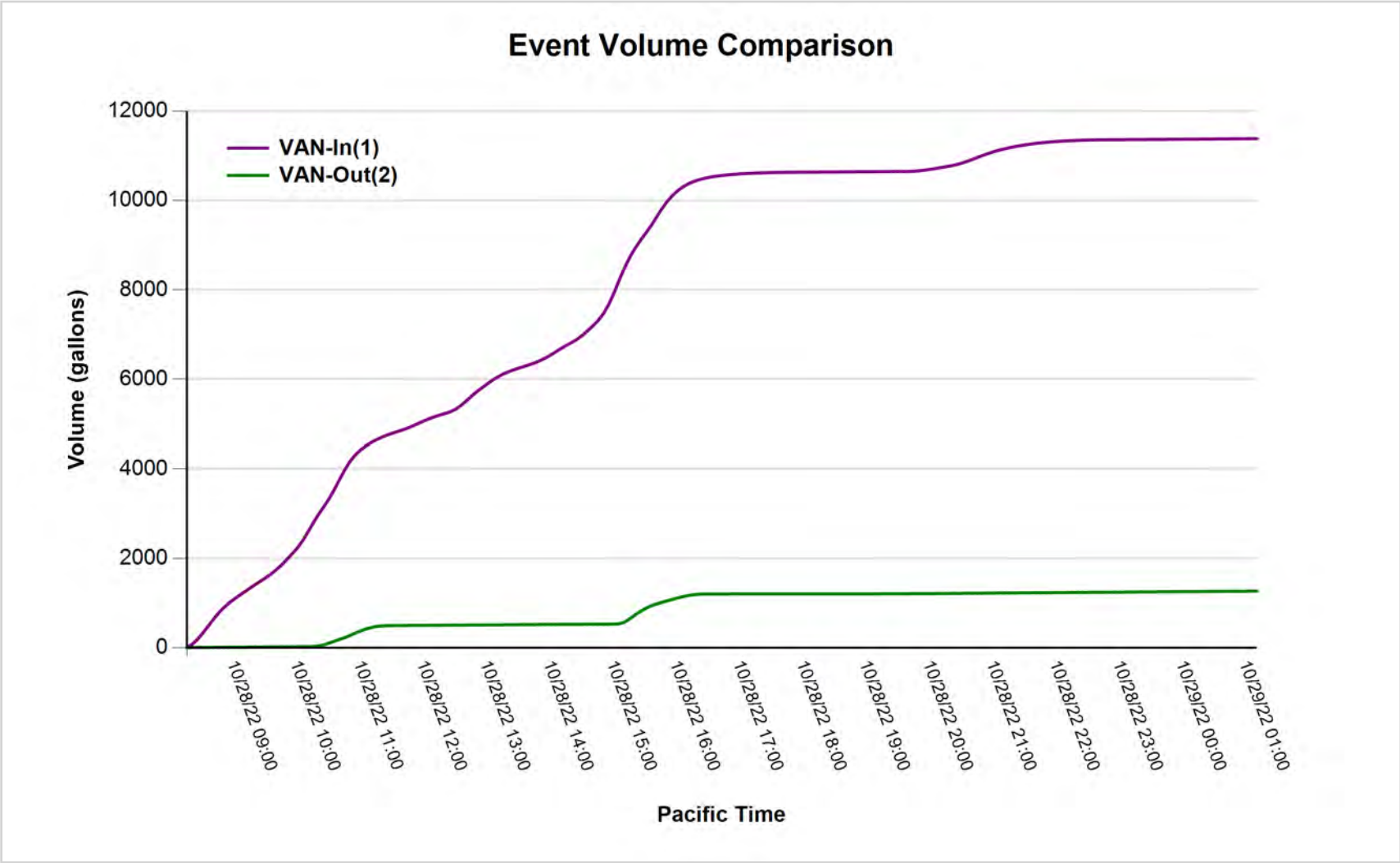
Drainage Area (acres):



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Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):



## Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
0.72	10/31/2022 06:45	11/01/2022 08:30	25.75	48.58

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	VAN-In	31	10/31/2022 07:05	11/01/2022 03:55	20.83	250	7,750	10.30	14.30
2	VAN-Out	20	10/31/2022 08:50	11/01/2022 03:35	18.75	250	5,000	10.30	14.30

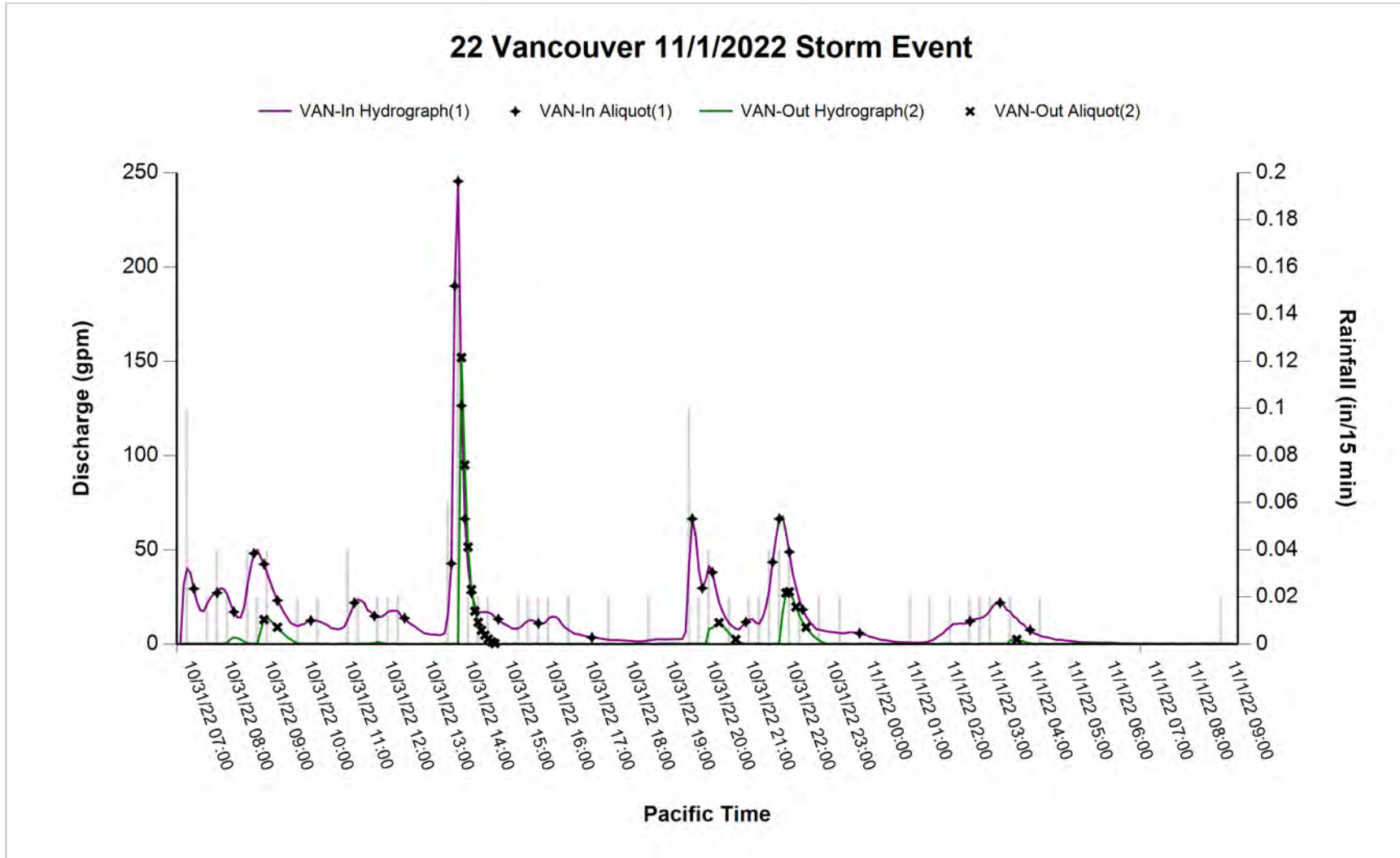
Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	VAN-In	10/31/2022 06:50	11/01/2022 08:55	26.08	21,594.7	828.0	21,594.7	21,312.4	98.70	245.38	0.14	13.75	0.500	
2	VAN-Out	10/31/2022 06:50	11/01/2022 08:50	26.00	3,763.7	144.8	3,763.7	3,700.9	98.30	151.93	0.13	3.36	0.410	

*No comments added for this event*

## Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

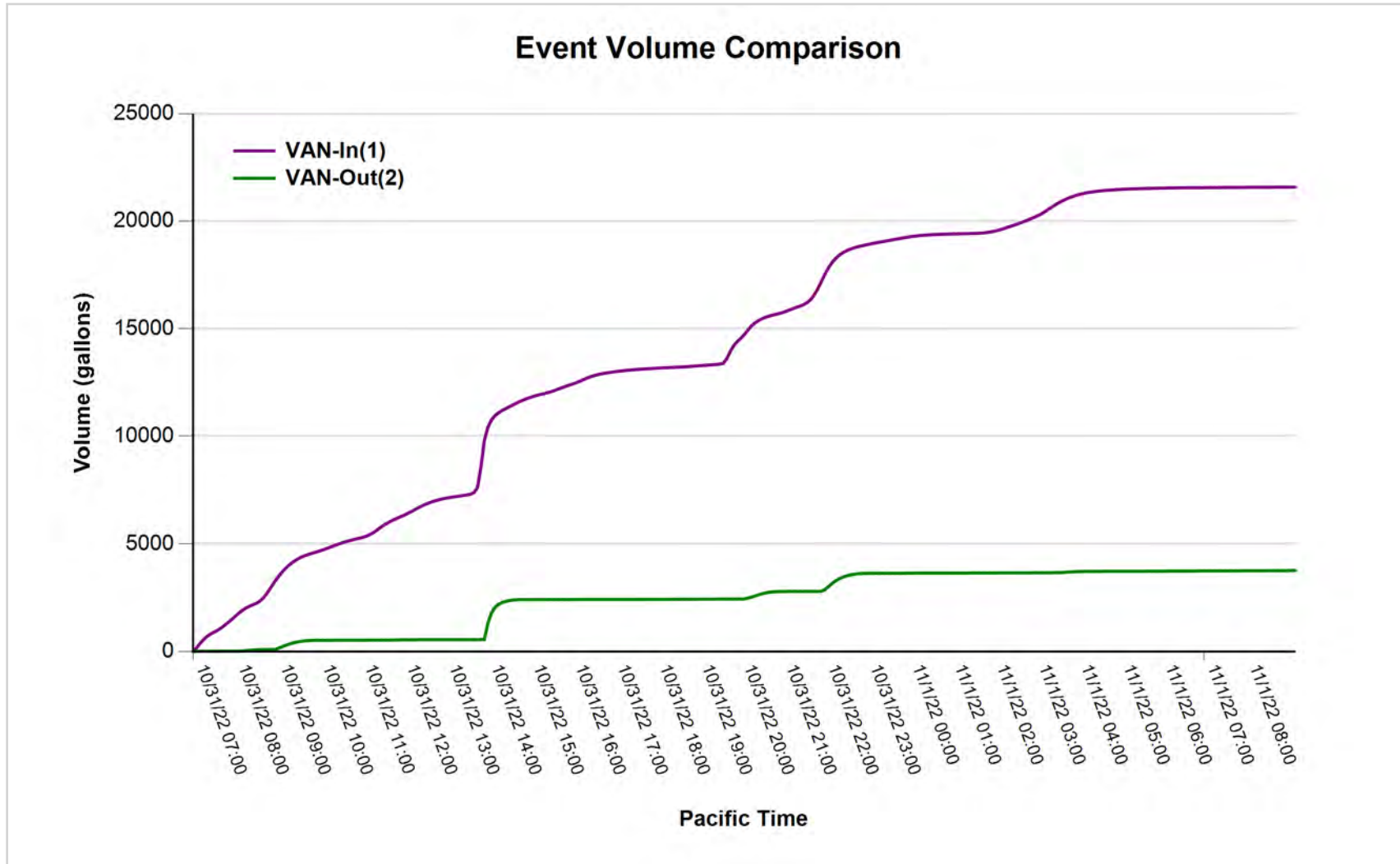
Drainage Area (acres):



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Drainage Area (acres):



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Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
0.29	03/04/2023 00:35	03/04/2023 11:30	10.92	32.83

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	VAN-In	7	03/04/2023 03:15	03/04/2023 11:25	8.17	250	1,750	4.00	5.10
2	VAN-Out	5	03/04/2023 06:55	03/04/2023 08:15	1.33	250	1,250	4.00	4.40

Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	VAN-In	03/04/2023 00:40	03/04/2023 14:50	14.17	4,770.2	336.6	4,770.2	4,639.0	97.20	31.30	0.01	5.89	0.221	
2	VAN-Out	03/04/2023 02:50	03/04/2023 11:55	9.08	1,235.8	136.1	1,235.8	1,064.6	86.10	16.25	0.13	3.69	0.124	

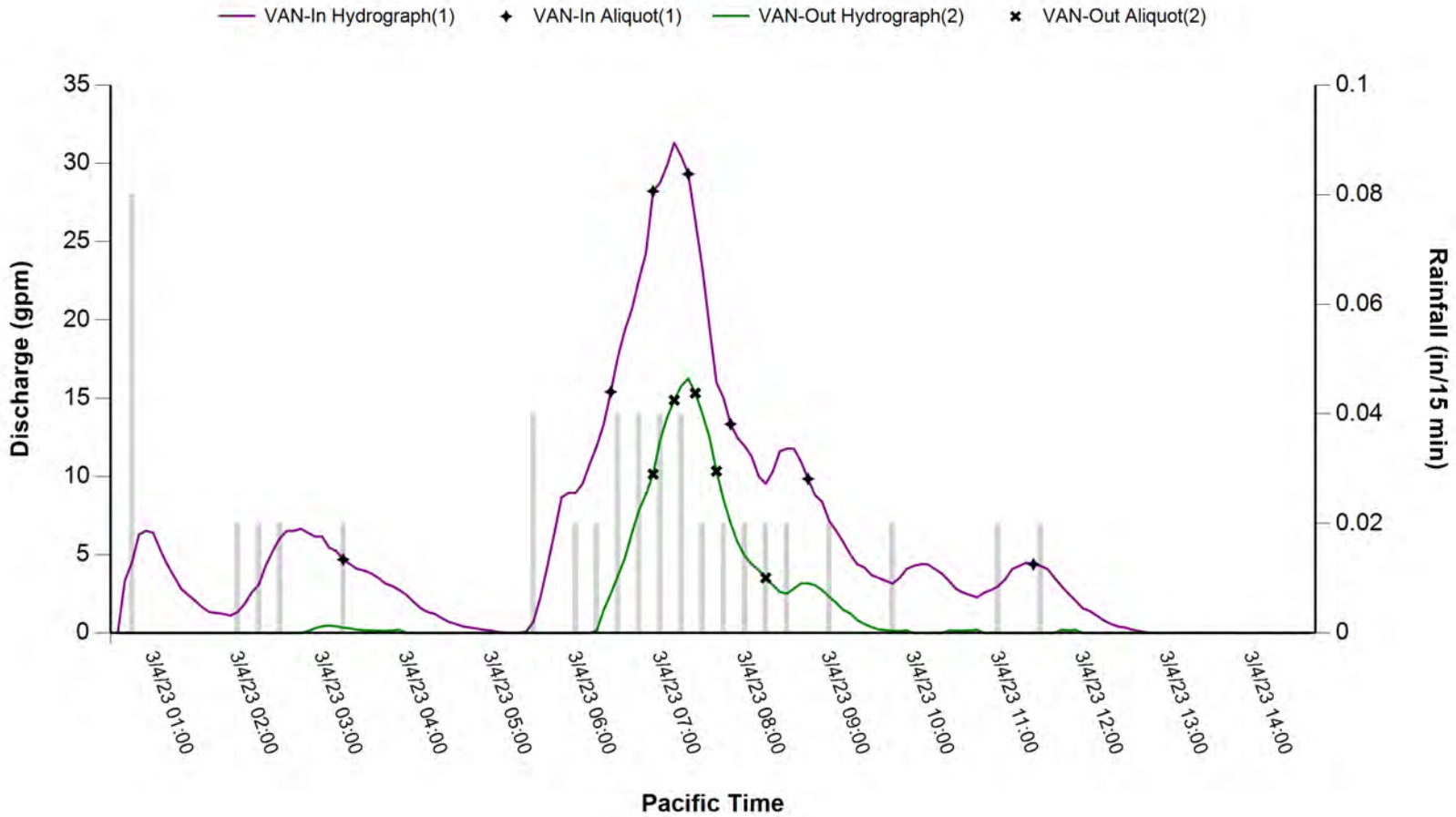
*No comments added for this event*

## Download 22 Vancouver

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Drainage Area (acres):

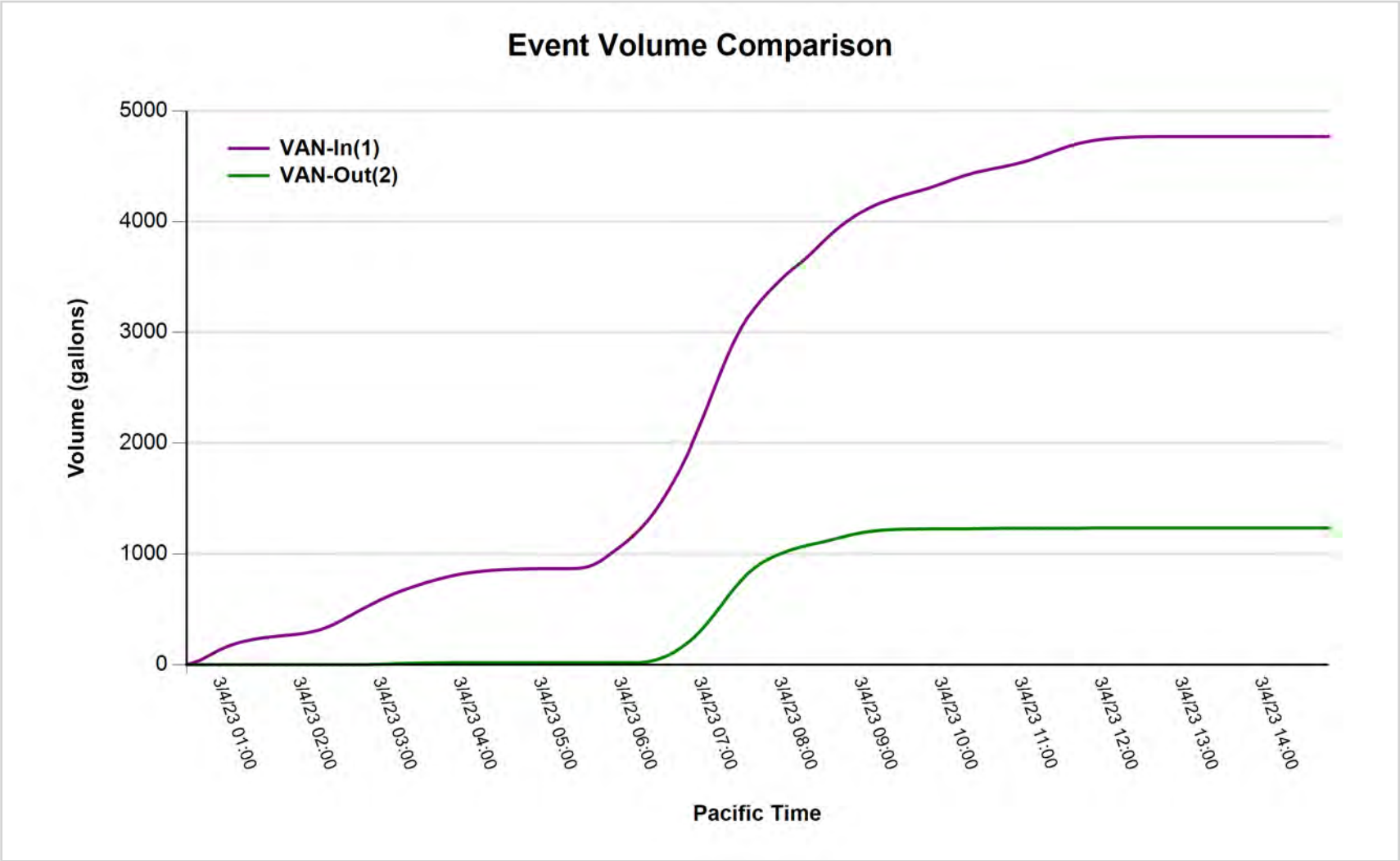
### 22 Vancouver 3/4/2023 Storm Event



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Drainage Area (acres):



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Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

Precipitation				
Total (in)	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Antecedent Dry (hrs)
0.32	03/31/2023 18:55	04/01/2023 02:15	7.33	81.08

Aliquots								Water Temp	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Aliquots Collected	First Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Last Aliquot Time (Pacific)	Sampling Duration (hrs)	Volume (mL)	Total Sample Volume (mL)	Min (°C)	Max (°C)
1	VAN-In	13	03/31/2023 19:20	04/01/2023 00:25	5.08	250	3,250	7.70	9.00
2	VAN-Out	17	03/31/2023 19:45	04/01/2023 01:05	5.33	250	4,250	7.60	8.70

Runoff / Discharge														
		Runoff Time			Volume			Sampled		Flow			Stage	
Sample Point (m)	Sample Point Name	Start Time (Pacific)	End Time (Pacific)	Duration (hrs)	Total (gal)	Intensity (gal/hr)	First 24Hrs (gal)	Discharge Total Volume Sampled (gal)	% Hydrograph Sampled	Peak (gpm)	Min (gpm)	Mean (gpm)	Max (ft)	Hydrology Validation Code
1	VAN-In	03/31/2023 19:00	04/01/2023 05:15	10.25	7,697.2	750.9	7,697.2	7,560.8	98.20	60.74	0.01	12.94	0.304	
2	VAN-Out	03/31/2023 19:30	04/01/2023 01:25	5.92	4,497.7	759.7	4,497.7	4,493.3	99.90	42.45	0.13	12.67	0.211	

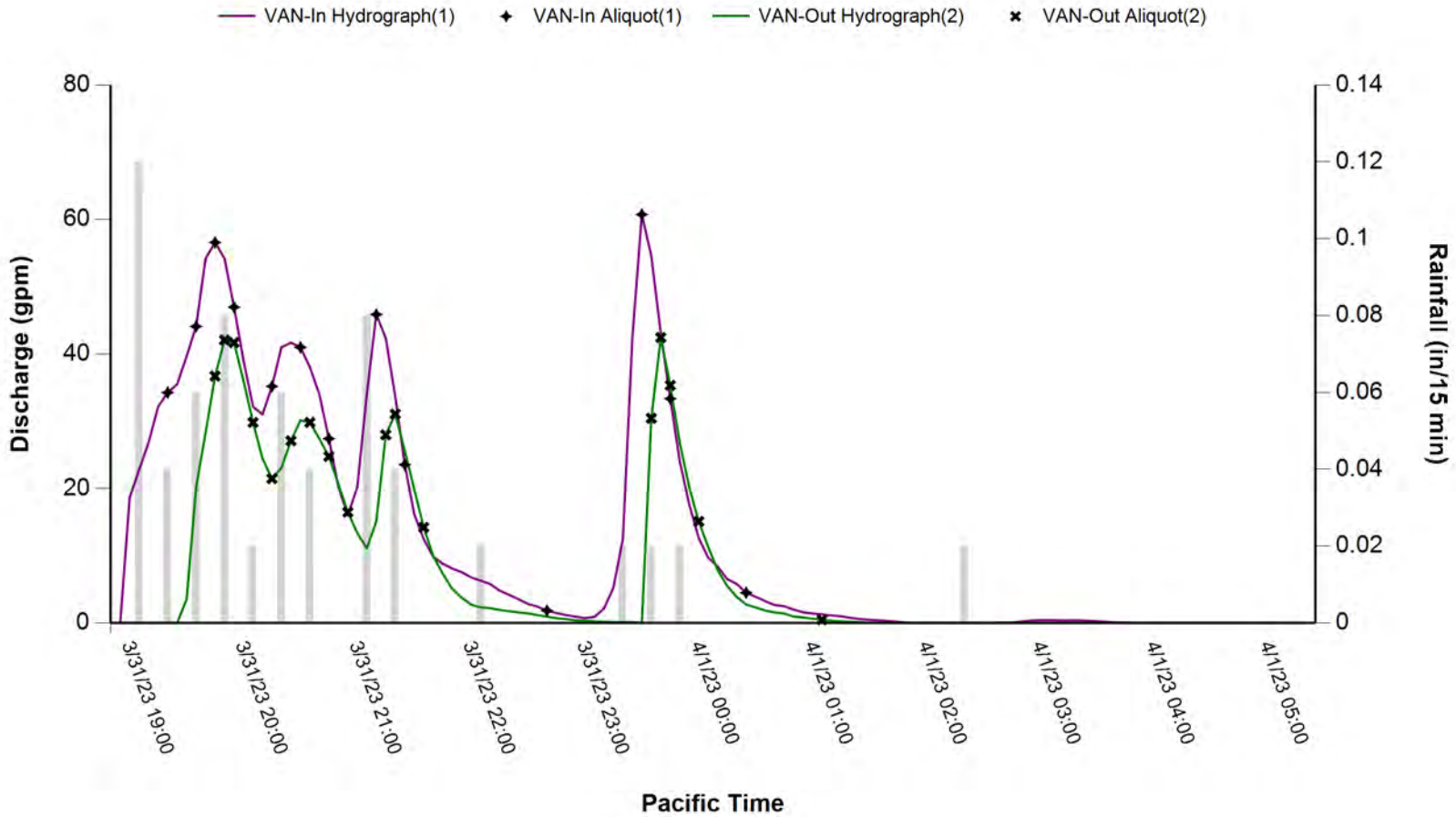
*No comments added for this event*

## Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):

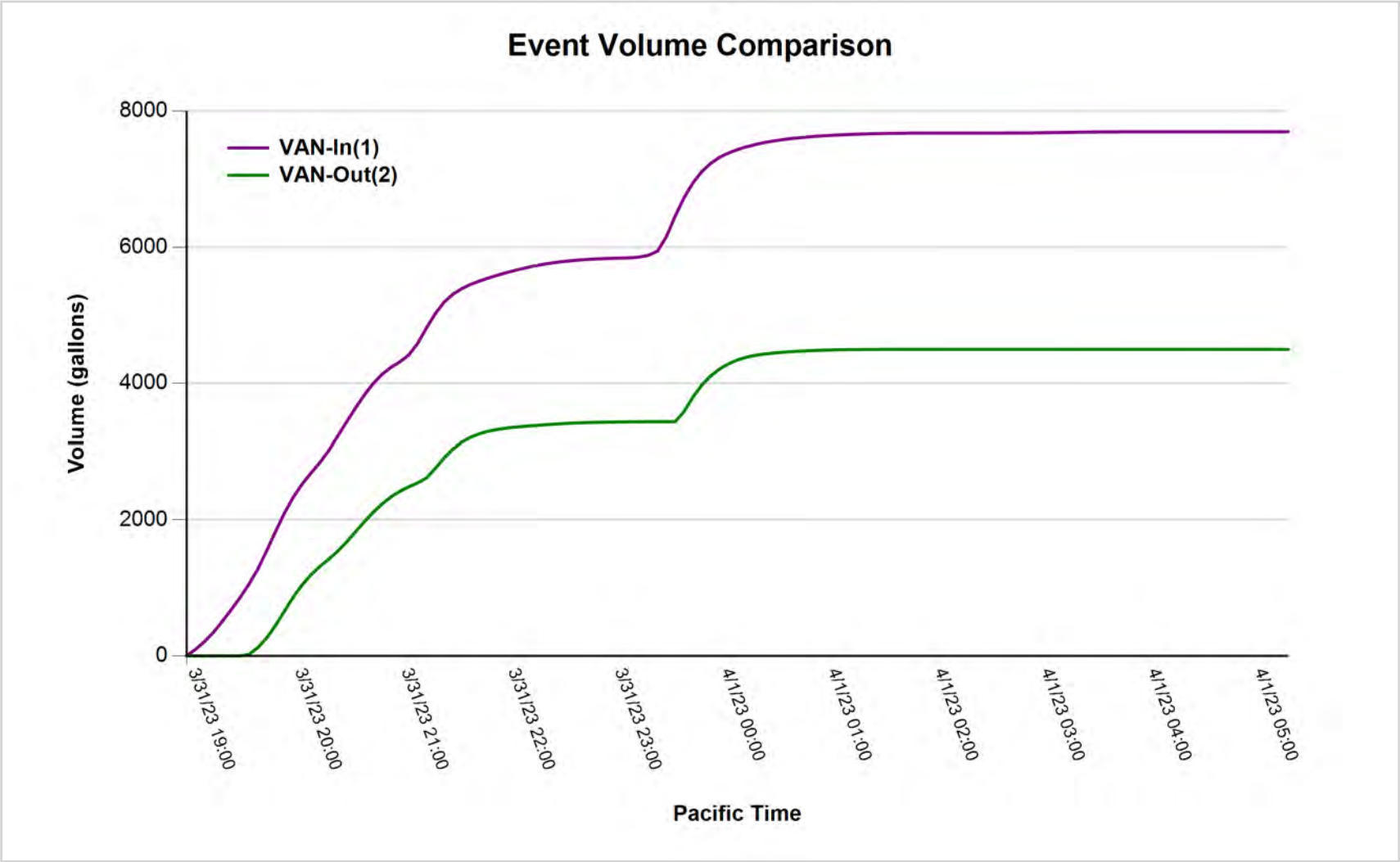
### 22 Vancouver 4/1/2023 Storm Event



# Download 22 Vancouver

Lat: 45.682453N Long: -122.551595W

Drainage Area (acres):



\*11/3/2022 and 3/12/2023 Storm data available on request.