Water qual survey of Lake Akrot Mike Bowes Pete Scarlett Emily Trill

Emily Trill Linda Armstrong David Nicholls





Water chemistry surveys

Water quality surveys to identify potential pollution sources and lake biogeochemical processes

Pre-Covid plan

- Regular surveys through seasons
- Chlorophyll and algal characterisation to link with remote sensing
- One full survey of lake and inputs (8 sites) – July 2019





Water chemistry surveys

- Water quality surveys to identify potential pollution sources and lake biogeochemical processes
- One full survey of lake and inputs (8 sites) July 2019
- 6 additional surveys by JSHU at sites 1, 5 and 7 (inputs to lake) between Sept 2019 to Nov 2020.





Water chemistry surveys

Water quality parameters

- Phosphorus species (total P, total dissolved P and soluble reactive P)
- Nitrogen species (Nitrate, nitrite, ammonium)
- Dissolved silicon
- Suspended solids
- Conductivity
- Chlorophyll

Plus hand-held meters

Phosphorus speciation

- All sites dominated by organic phosphorus.
- P concentrations higher in lake than in input channels
- Suggests high productivity in lake

July 2019 survey

Phosphorus speciation

- Not much seasonal pattern in channel P concentrations
- Diffuse inputs, rather than point source?

Nitrogen speciation

Channel inputs high in nitrate

• Seawater intrusion?

Lake nitrogen in form of ammonium

- pH?
- Low oxygen?
- Assimilation of nitrate by lake biota, and converted to ammonium due to decomposition?

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Nitrogen speciation

CYP 1 and 5 inputs always high in nitrate Very consistent pattern

• Seawater intrusion in eastern side of lake catchment?

Chlorophyll

High chlorophyll concentration in East of lake

High concentrations in channels CYP7 and CYP5.

- Low flows?
- Dead-zones and ponding?

Thank you

