

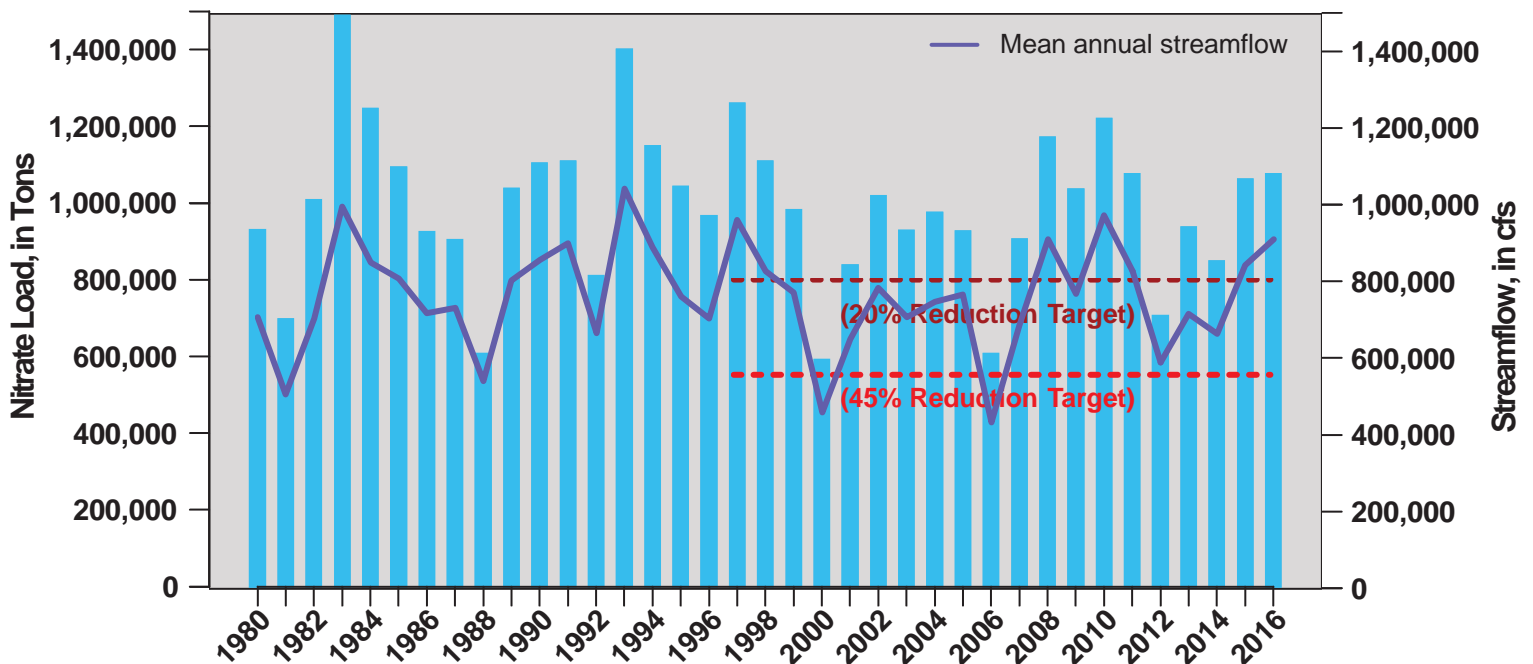
# Potential new tool for assessing progress toward our nutrient reduction goals

Weighted Regressions on Time, Discharge, and Season (WRTDS) model

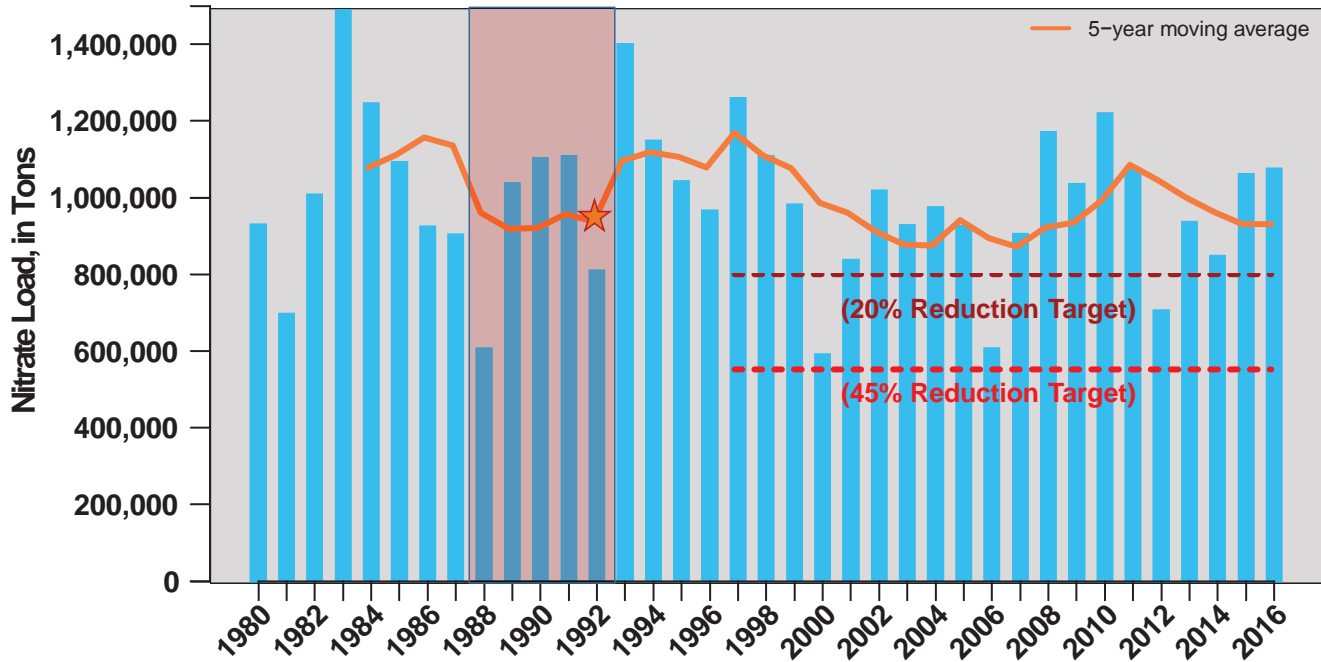
Lori Sprague  
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## Annual Nitrate Loading to the Gulf of Mexico

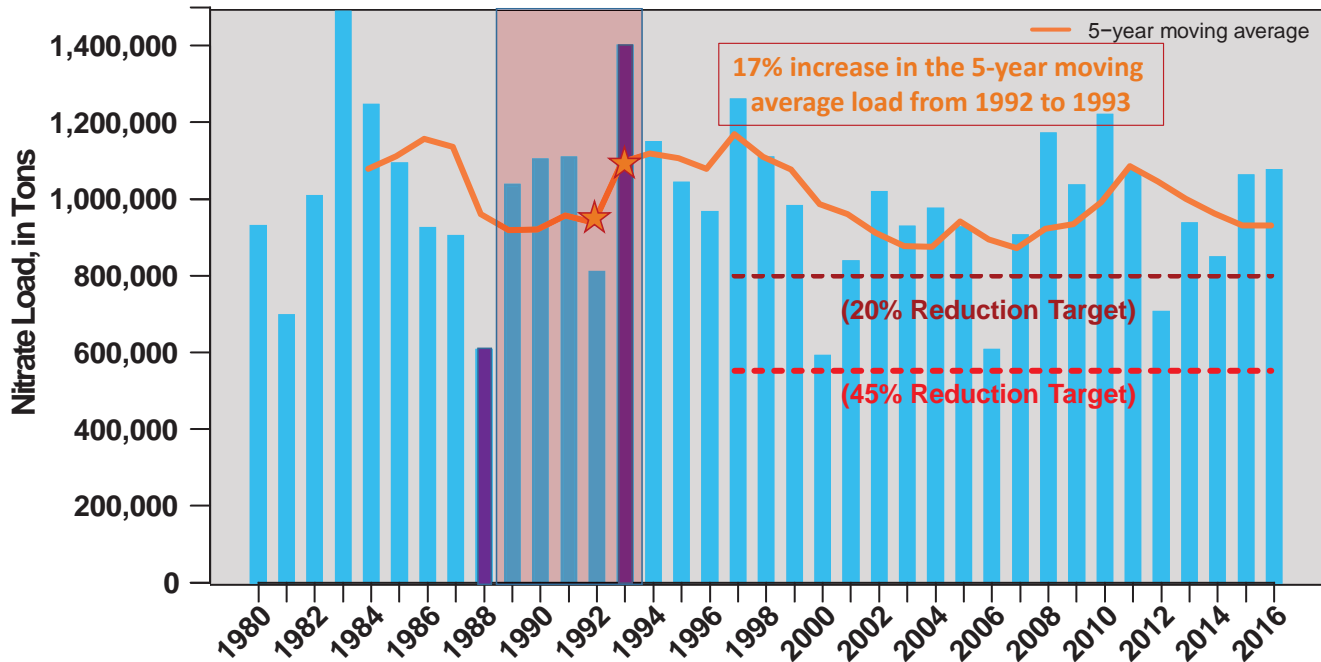


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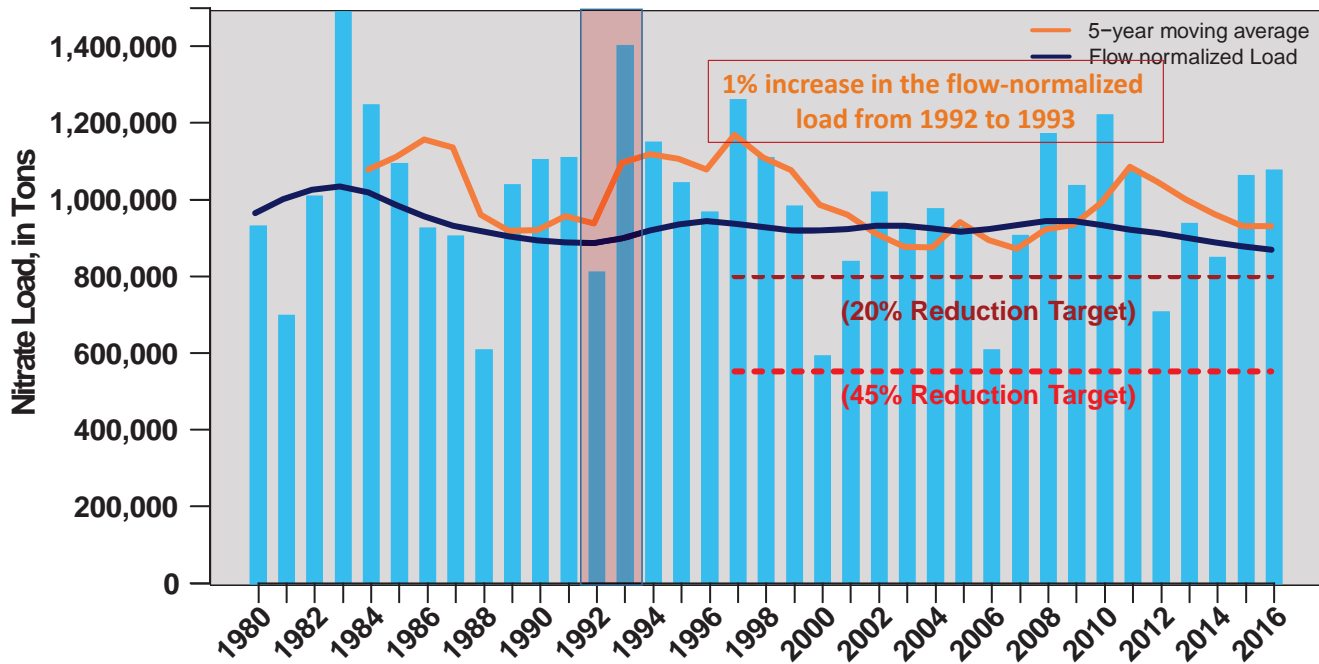
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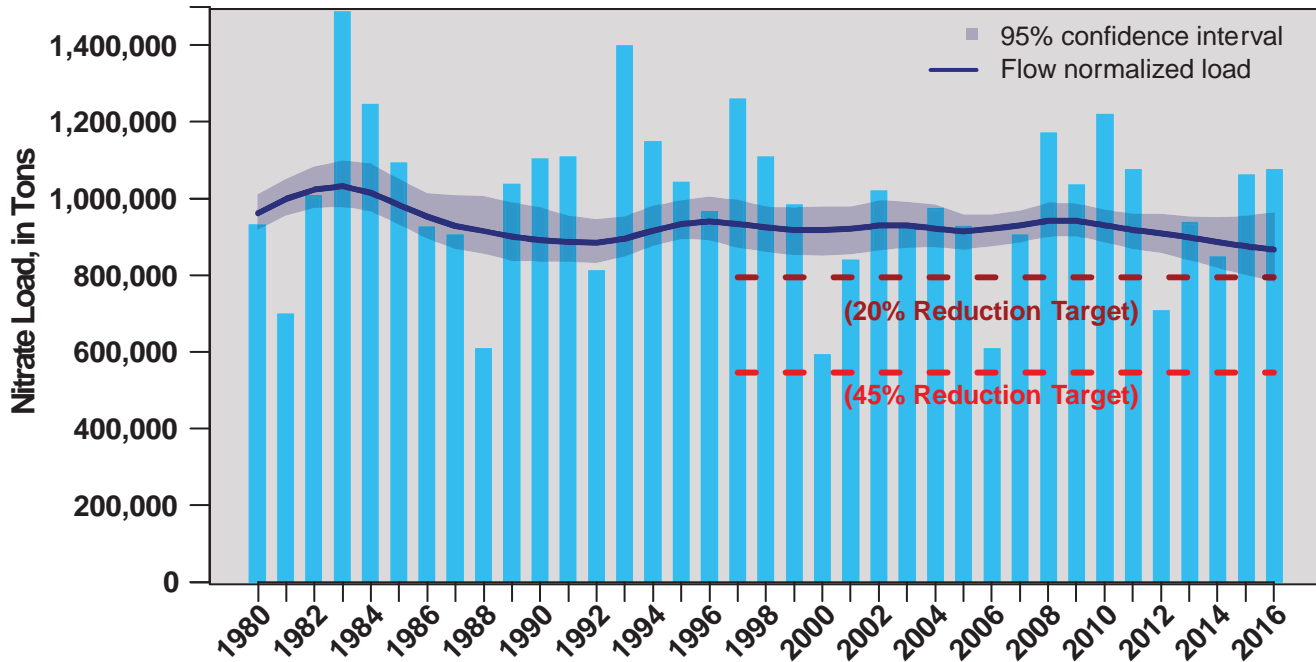
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## Pros

- Flow normalized trend line is less influenced by short-term streamflow variations than the 5-year moving average
  - May provide a clearer representation of the effects of human changes in the watershed
- Uncertainty estimates are available

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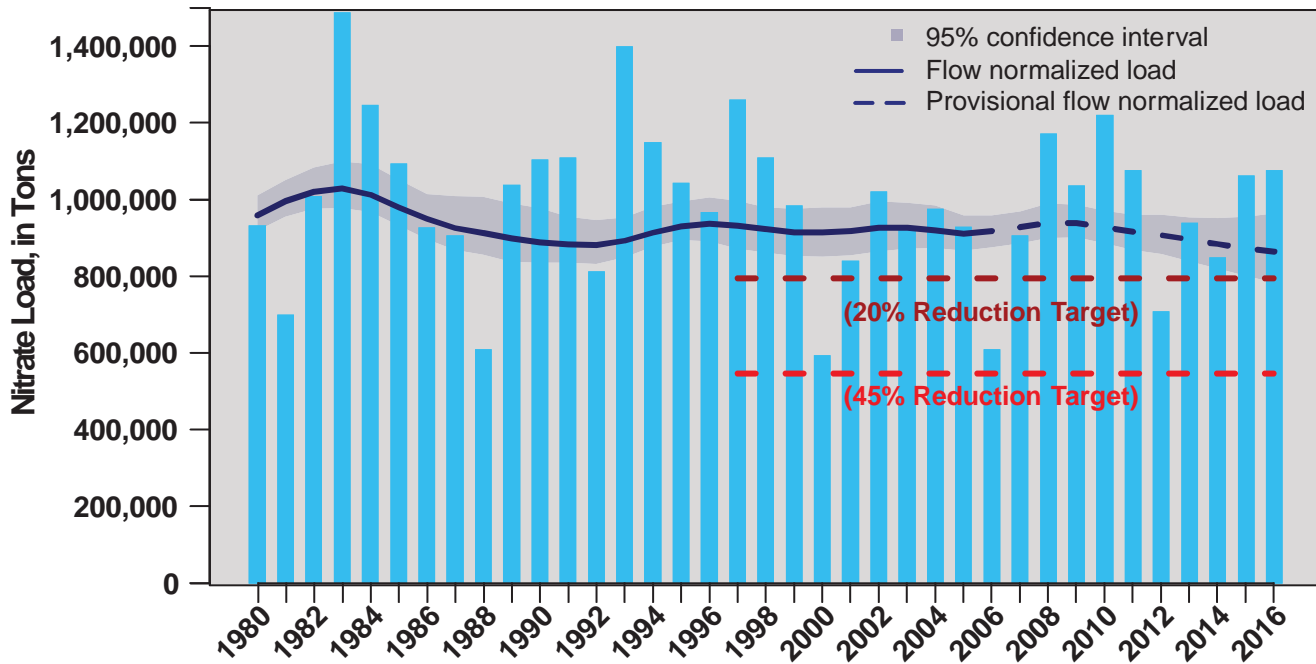
USGS

## Cons

- Method is not as straightforward as the 5-year moving average
- Method uses a windowed regression
  - Estimates for a given year are not final until several years have passed
  - Sometimes provisional estimates will change; sometimes they won't

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## Annual Nitrate Loading to the Gulf of Mexico



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## Status of working group

### Discussion points

- Technical details of WRTDS
- Location of progress assessment
- Use of WRTDS together with the 5-year moving average

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