Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Worksheet

You are a water quality engineer at the South Florida Water Management District. You are in charge of Storm Treatment Area 2 (STA-2), and you want to make sure it is operating as expected. You have received an Excel file with data readings from the station from Cell 3 – one of the largest cells in STA-2. Graph the data in the table to answer the questions below.

Tp In = Total Phosphorus reading into Cell 3 in parts per billion (ppb)
Tp Out = Total Phosphorus reading out of the cell, in parts per billion (ppb)
Flow = amount of water that flows through the cell in cfs (cubic feet per second)

Questions:

1. What months have the highest level of water flow into Cell 3?

2. What months have the highest Tp In readings?

3. Look at the precipitation data for 2012 in the Excel spreadsheet. What two months have the highest precipitation rate?

4. Do you see a connection between precipitation, water flowing into the cell and phosphorus? Explain your answer.

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5. What is the range (low to high) of phosphorus at the outflow of Cell 3? What is the average? (Hint: you can calculate this in Excel.)

6. The South Florida Water Management District's goal is to achieve <10ppb of Total Phosphorus for water before it enters the Everglades. How close are your results to the target?