

# Environmental Geochemistry and Health

## An integrated interdisciplinary approach to evaluate potentially toxic elements sources in a mountainous watershed

--Manuscript Draft--

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<b>Abstract:</b>	<p>Potentially toxic elements (PTEs; i.e., Cd, Ni, Cr) and their source apportionment in waters are of major environmental concern. Different approaches can be used to evaluate PTEs sources in environment, but single-way approaches are often limited and can easily fail. PTEs sources apportionment should include the evaluation of geochemical background and spatiotemporal trends analyses.</p> <p>We propose an integrated approach and we apply it to a mountain catchment in the Italian central Alps, where ultramafic terranes crop out.</p> <p>We collected water and glacial sediment samples during the melting season. Then we analyzed major ions and PTEs in waters, and we quantified the total PTEs load in sediments through acid digestion. Data were then processed through spatial and temporal trends analysis, clustering of variables and the evaluation of partition between the different compartments.</p> <p>We found a high geochemical background of part of the PTEs, consistently with results from other areas worldwide on mafic and ultramafic terranes (high concentrations of Ni, Cr and Fe). Thanks to this integrated approach, an additional atmospheric deposition source for Zn, Cd and Ag has been identified. Also, redundant observations on Cu, As and Pb indicated a possible mixed source.</p> <p>This study elucidates the need of an integrated approach to avoid un-necessary or misleading assumptions in the PTE's source appointment. A single-way approach application, in fact, can fail in understanding element source in a complicated and dynamic compartment like surface water.</p>
<b>Response to Reviewers:</b>	<p>Dear editor,</p> <p>We would like to thank you for considering our manuscript for publication after major revision to your journal. Thanks to the reviewer and the coordinating editor for their helpful comments. We here address their comments and briefly list the main changes made to our manuscript. We are also grateful to the reviewer for their appreciation of the scientific quality of our manuscript.</p>

Moving to the specific response to the reviewers:

Coordinating Editor:  
MAJOR COMMENTS

COMMENT: Abstract: Central Alps???Give correct location..Italian????

Some sentences are vague and the meaning of the sentences is hard to follow due to awkward sentences structures. Ex” Also, redundant observations suggest a possible mixed source on Cu, As and Pb, highlighting also the erroneous source apportionment applying a single-way approach.

English should be checked and corrected in entire manuscript.

ANSWER: Abstract was revised, more precise location was inserted and some sentences were revised in order to be clearer.

COMMENT: Conclusion: Not clear. Please revise the sentence “Therefore, also in the single step of the application of the integrated approach part of the elements (i.e., Cu, Ag, Cd) showed controversial trend, which could lead to erroneous source apportionment without considering all the possible influencing factors.

ANSWER: We reviewed the whole conclusion section to make sentences clearer.

COMMENT: Appendix section is too long and need to be arranged by incorporating only most relevant details. For example, no point of including all raw data of samples analyzed. Delete table S1

ANSWER: We decided to make the Appendix section shorter, but sincerely we do not agree with the editor regarding the fact of not include the supplementary table s1. This table, in fact, gives the possibility to check the total number of samples, and to verify the QA/QC protocols used for analytical techniques (i.e., the ionic balance for major ions). Therefore, we decided to keep it as electronic supplementary material.

COMMENT: References should be checked and arranged.

ANSWER: References were checked and modified as also suggested by reviewer #1.

COMMENT: Table 1: What do you mean by “(ordered by concentrations)???Not clear

ANSWER: We decided to explain in caption that elements are ordered from the most to the less abundant in rock samples.

COMMENT: What was the reason for not analyzing those data???/ Fe, Mn and As data for Poland are not present in graph because they were not analyzed by the Authors.

ANSWER: We deleted the sentence in the manuscript because it was misleading. Actually, we inserted in graph only data reported from the authors of the cited studies. We added a sentence in the caption to make this point clearer.

MINOR COMMENTS

COMMENTS: Line 23: correct as “in water”...correct it in all places

Line 216-217: Give instrument model name ICP- MS.

Line 268: include equation numbers

Line292: equation???

Please increase the resolution of figure 1

Capitalize first letter of figure/table captions”

ANSWER: All these revisions were made following the reviewer suggestions.

Reviewer #1

MAJOR COMMENTS

COMMENT: Good description of the study area, including both the geology and mineralogy of the site. However, I would like the figure of the study area map to be updated and improved to better match with these descriptions. Overall, I think including a larger area on figure (as in Binda et al. 2018) would be useful, with things like Northern Italy, Central Alps, Milan, Lake Pirola and Ventina Valley. The Pirola fault, important to interpreting the study data, would be nice to see this fault laid out on the figure.

Line 195 - Fig.2 a descriptive table of mineral abbreviations is required

ANSWER: In order to improve the quality of the figure, we modified it and we added a descriptive table of minerals as suggested by the reviewer.

COMMENT: Line 28 - Jakub Kierczak et al. 2008 review this reference according to

line 689

Lines 118 and 119 - Trommsdorff et al. 2007 and Bedogné et al. 1993 published where?

Bedogné, F., Montrasio, A., & Sciesa, E. (1993). I minerali della provincia di Sondrio, Valmalenco.

Trommsdorff, V., Montrasio, A., Hermann, J., Muntener, O., Spillmann, P., & Giere, R. (2007). The geological map of Valmalenco. (link ??)

Line 134 - J. Kierczak et al. 2007 review this reference according to line 686

Line 291 - (Fdez-Ortiz de Vallejuelo et al., 2014) reference must be consistent with the one that figures in References section

de Vallejuelo, S. F.-O., Gredilla, A., de Diego, A., Arana, G., & Madariaga, J. M. (2014). Methodology to assess the mobility of trace elements between water and contaminated estuarine sediments as a function of the site physico-chemical characteristics. Science of the Total Environment, 473, 359-371

Line 453 - Jakub Kierczak et al. 2016 review this reference according to line 693

ANSWER: As suggested also by the editor, we revised the references through the whole manuscript.

COMMENT: Line 91 - authors refer in the text figure 2 before figure 1, so why not change the figures numbers? the first figure that appears in the manuscript should be figure 1 and not figure 2.

ANSWER: As suggested from the reviewer, we modified figures order.

COMMENT: Line 411 - lower mean values in the whole study area, but concerning concentrations in the all the sampling.....

ANSWER: This sentence was rewritten in order to be clearer.

#### MINOR COMMENTS

COMMENTS: Line 146 - generally caption in figures is placed below the figure and in tables caption is placed above the table. If it's not a journal requirement please review all tables of the manuscript.

Line 211 - Table 2 missing \* in sample V11

Line 413; 418; 430; 449; 452; 465; 473 and 479 - When start a sentence with a chemical element, the element should be written out in full and not the chemical symbol.

Line 301 - an instead am

Line 441 - delete ss

Line 442 - concentrations for human consumption and environmental risk, (comma here) the cause would be ....."

ANSWER: All the highlighted misspellings were corrected, and the other suggested revisions were made to our manuscript.

[Click here to view linked References](#)

1 **An integrated interdisciplinary approach to evaluate potentially toxic elements**  
2 **sources in a mountainous watershed**

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## 22 1. Introduction

23 Source apportionment for trace metals and metalloids in water is an issue of high concern  
24 in environmental research, legislation and decision making. In fact, it is fundamental to  
25 understand the human impact on trace elements load, especially for potentially toxic  
26 elements (PTEs; i.e., Cd, Pb, Ni, Cu, Cr), because their increase in concentration can  
27 compromise water quality and is of major concern for human and ecosystem health (Devic  
28 et al. 2014; Dung et al. 2013; Kierczak et al. 2008).

29 Generally, the first step in source apportionment of PTEs is the geochemical background  
30 evaluation (i.e., the natural load), including possible anomalies (Dung et al. 2013). Then, the  
31 natural background is subtracted from the total PTEs load observed to evaluate anthropic  
32 emissions.

33 In this field, strategies relying on single analytical approaches or statistical analyses usually  
34 tend to overlook spatial or temporal trends or, conversely, assume the stationarity of some  
35 of the variables, potentially introducing some bias. Therefore, we here propose an integrated  
36 approach which integrates chemical analyses in water and glacial sediments samples, with  
37 the evaluation of main spatial and temporal trends and correlations of variables.

38 Several studies focused on sources apportionment in soils and sediments (e.g., Gong et al.,  
39 2010; Hinsby et al., 2008; Jiang et al., 2017; Liang et al., 2017; Pelica et al., 2018; Sollitto  
40 et al., 2010; Zhang et al., 2008); nevertheless only few works tried to identify metal sources  
41 from surface water analysis (Muhammad et al. 2011; Su et al. 2011). The main reason  
42 resides in the fast and variable dynamics of this environmental compartment, with seasonal  
43 changes and complex temporal trends. Therefore, despite different standard European  
44 methodologies are diffuse to evaluate geochemical background in soil and sediments (Ander  
45 et al. 2013; Reimann et al. 2018), for surface water a generally accepted and standardized  
46 methodology to assess geogenic background values for metals does not exist (Schneider  
47 et al. 2017), and some authors (i.e., Galuszka 2007) consider impossible to evaluate the  
48 geochemical background for water.

49 The high dynamicity of surface water limits also the applications of spatial trends analysis  
50 as tool to understand PTEs sources in this compartment: even though geostatistical  
51 methods are often used to recognize spatial trends for assessment in soils and sediments  
52 (Albanese et al. 2007; De Vallejuelo et al. 2014; Zhang et al. 2008), still applying this  
53 approach to water is generally more complicated (e. g., Dalla Libera et al. 2017 in ground  
54 water; Ou et al. 2012 in lakes).

55 Multivariate statistics (i.e., Principal Component Analysis, Analysis of Variance, Factor  
56 Analysis; Borůvka et al. 2005; Busico et al. 2018; Devic et al. 2014) is widely used to  
57 understand sources of metals and infer anthropic emissions. Nonetheless, this approach  
58 requires large datasets, usually requires data transformations to obtain a normal distribution  
59 (i.e., logarithmic) and needs anyway an a-priori assumption of terrigenous or anthropic-  
60 derived elements (Zhou et al. 2008).

61 Also, in remote settings, where point sources of pollutants emissions are not present,  
62 medium and long-range transport of metals can mark anthropic source of metals, which can  
63 be deposited through hydrometeors and dry depositions (Dossi et al. 2007; Gabrielli et al.  
64 2008; Shah et al. 2012). This effect makes more difficult to establish possible sources of  
65 pollutant especially with high geochemical background of PTEs.

66 All these factors require a careful evaluation to successfully identify and measure metals  
67 and metalloids sources. Thus, even in simple-structured and apparently unpolluted basins,  
68 the understanding of the main drivers of elements concentration in water is subordinate to  
69 the characterization of natural background and to the analysis of spatial and temporal trends.  
70 High mountain sites are excellent field laboratories to separate geochemical background  
71 from anthropic emissions: watersheds are relatively simple-structured, climatic factors  
72 directly control the hydrology, the underlying geology mainly influence the hydrochemistry  
73 (e. g., Fortner et al. 2011; Hindshaw et al. 2011; Lecomte et al. 2008), and the limited soil  
74 development, with typically low concentrations of organic matter, reduce possible  
75 disturbance in metals dissolution (Tranter 2003). These areas, typically far from direct  
76 human impact, do not present local spot emissions of trace elements; the only  
77 anthropogenic sources are usually represented by atmospheric long-range transport and  
78 deposition (Gabrielli et al. 2008; Loska and Wiechula 2003).

79 In this study, an integrated approach including the quantification of different potentially toxic  
80 elements in different environmental compartment, the application of multivariate statistical  
81 analysis, and the observation of spatial and temporal trends is proposed, aiming to  
82 understand the geochemical background of PTEs and to assume possible anthropic  
83 contributions in a remote high mountain catchment in the Italian central Alps.

## 84 **2. Study area**

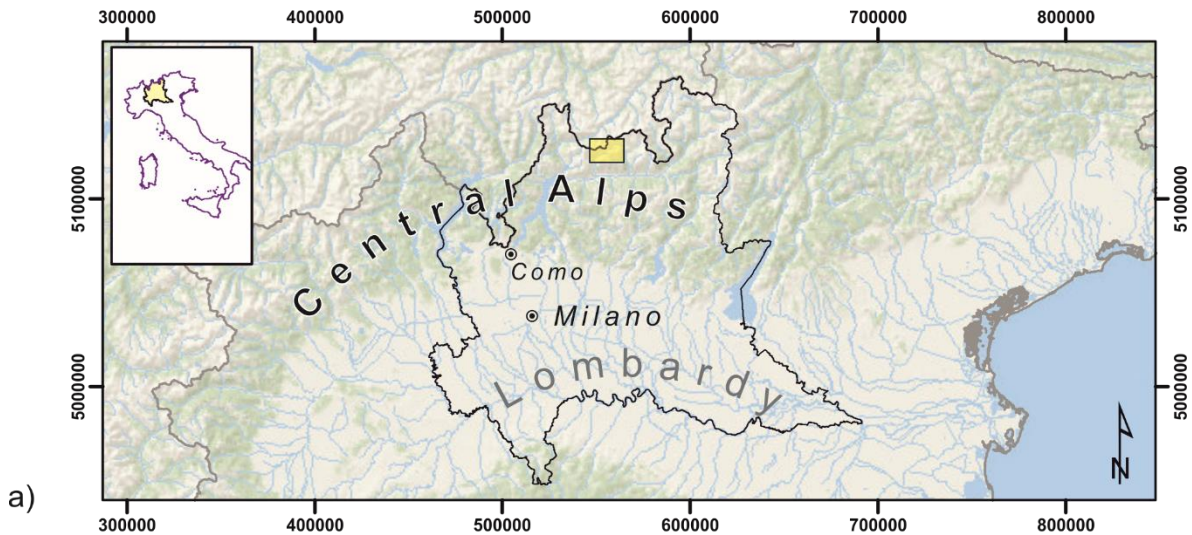
85 The experimental area chosen to set up this approach include a little catchment in the Italian  
86 Alps presenting a high geochemical background of PTEs, caused by the bedrock lithology  
87 (Binda et al. 2018).

88 **2.1 Geographic setting**

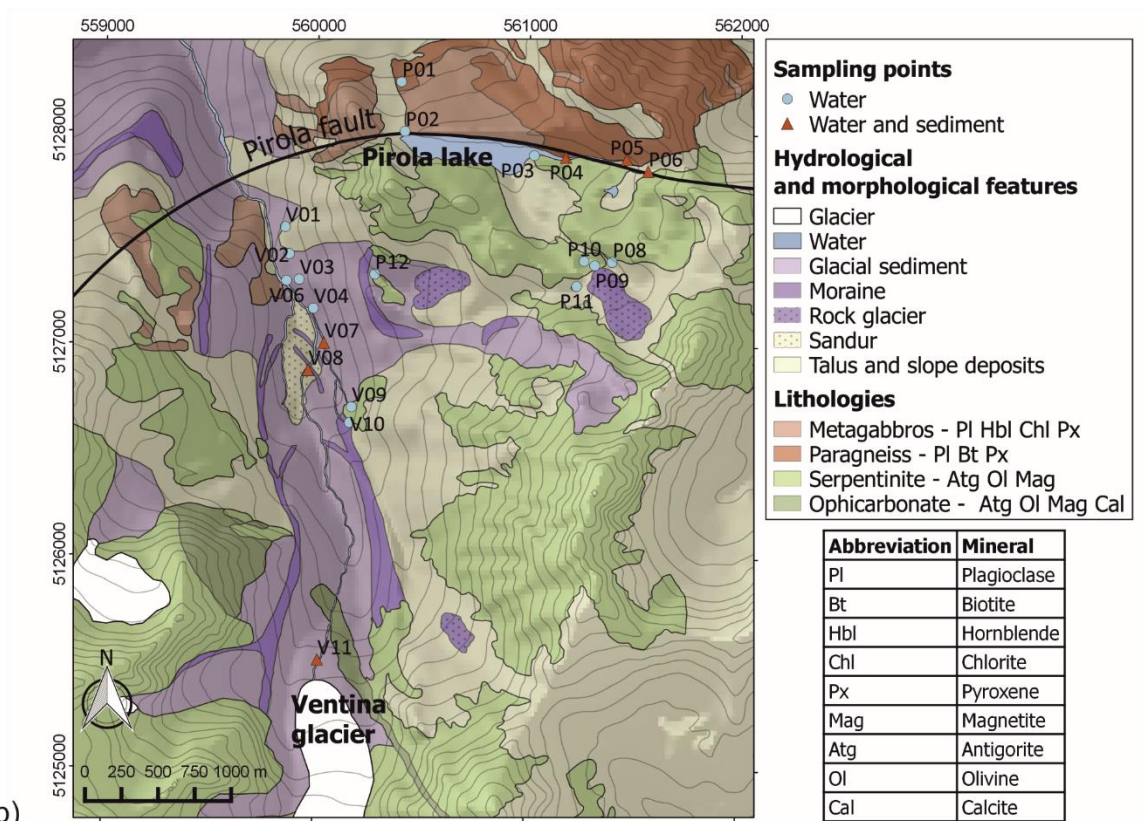
89 Our study area is located in the Ventina valley (Central Alps, Northern Italy) (Fig. 1),  
90 encompassing an area of ca. 4 km<sup>2</sup>, and with an elevation drop from 2450 to 1960 m a.s.l.  
91 A cold and temperate climate characterizes the region, with a mean annual temperature of  
92 2 °C and precipitations of 1123 mm (data from Lombardia Regional Environmental  
93 Protection Agency, weather forecast section,  
94 [www2.arpalombardia.it/siti/arpalombardia/meteo](http://www2.arpalombardia.it/siti/arpalombardia/meteo)).

95 The study area is located about 100 km far north from Milan and the northern fringe of the  
96 Po plain, which represents a highly urbanized area and the main source of different  
97 emissions reaching the site (Finardi et al. 2014); considering the remote setting of the study  
98 area, the precipitation in the area would be the only possible anthropogenic enrichment of  
99 metals due to urban emissions (Dossi et al. 2007). Most of the precipitation come from the  
100 south, accordingly with the mesoscale atmospheric circulation in central Alps (Ambrosetti et  
101 al. 1998), therefore emissions from the relatively close urbanized area could come from this  
102 direction.

103 The study area includes two hydrological basins: i) the Ventina glacier basin, where an ice  
104 tongue actively supplies the Ventina river and ii) the adjacent Pirola lake basin, collecting  
105 contributions by atmospheric precipitations and periglacial landforms (i.e., melting of rock  
106 glaciers and snowfields).



a)



b)

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## 112 2.2 Geological and geomorphological setting

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**Fig. 1** a) Geographic setting of the study area (highlighted in yellow). b) Study area detailed map, indicating: sampling points, morphological features and outcropping lithologies (main and accessories minerals are indicated in legend and minerals abbreviations are reported in table). Coordinates are indicated in UTM32N format.

Two different metamorphic terranes, whose emplacement is the result of a complex tectonic history during alpine collision, crop out in the study area: the Margna nappe, to the north, and the Suretta nappe, to the south (Coward and Dietrich 1989; Schmid et al. 2004), separated by an E-W trending sub-vertical fault (Pirola fault, in Fig. 1).



117 Margna nappe lithologies are represented by metagabbros and paragneiss. The  
 118 metagabbros present foliated or lenticular texture, and the most abundant minerals are  
 119 plagioclase, (i.e., albite;  $\text{NaAlSi}_3\text{O}_8$  and anortite;  $\text{CaAl}_2\text{Si}_2\text{O}_8$ ) and pyroxenes (i.e., diopside;  
 120  $\text{CaMgSi}_2\text{O}_6$ ); small lenses of hornblende ( $\text{Ca}_2(\text{Mg,Fe,Al})_5(\text{Al,Si})_8\text{O}_{22}(\text{OH})_2$ ), are included  
 121 (Trommsdorff et al. 2005). Accessory minerals are prehnite ( $\text{Ca}_2\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH})_2$ ), natrolite  
 122 ( $\text{Na}_2[\text{Al}_2\text{Si}_3\text{O}_{10}] \cdot 2(\text{H}_2\text{O})$ ) and sfalerite (ZnS) (Bedogné et al. 1993). To the NE, albitic and  
 123 chloritic paragneiss crops out, (Bonsignore et al. 1971). Main minerals included are  
 124 plagioclase ( $(\text{Na,Ca})(\text{Si,Al})_4\text{O}_8$ ), biotite ( $\text{K}(\text{Mg,Fe})_3[\text{AlSi}_3\text{O}_{10}(\text{OH,F})_2]$ ) and quartz ( $\text{SiO}_2$ )  
 125 (Bedogné et al. 1993). Also, As bearing minerals as realgar ( $\text{As}_4\text{S}_4$ ) are present especially  
 126 in the fault area (Bedogné et al. 1993). Geochemical studies made on Margna nappe rocks  
 127 samples report possibly concerning concentrations of: Fe, Zn, Mn, Co, As (Burkhard 1989;  
 128 Muntener et al. 2000).

129 The Suretta nappe lithologies outcropping south of the Pirola fault, along the Ventina valley,  
 130 include ultramafic rocks (i.e. serpentinites). These are hydrothermally altered metamorphic  
 131 rocks derived from igneous Mg- Fe rich protolith (i.e. peridotite).

132 The major minerals are antigorite ( $(\text{Mg,Fe})_3\text{Si}_2\text{O}_5(\text{OH})_4$ ) both as aggregate and in big sheets,  
 133 chlorites, pyroxenes and olivine ( $(\text{Mg,Fe})_2\text{SiO}_4$ ). Magnetite ( $\text{FeO} \times \text{Fe}_2\text{O}_3$ ) is often present  
 134 in serpentinites as lenses or grains (Bonsignore et al. 1971), this mineral can contain also  
 135  $\text{Cr}_2\text{O}_3$  , up to ca. 10,8% in wt. Serpentinites present accessory minerals containing  
 136 significant amount of heavy metals, such as Ni and Cr and Cu: Taenite (Ni, Fe), pentlandite  
 137 ( $(\text{Fe,Ni})_9\text{S}_8$ ), calcocite ( $\text{Cu}_2\text{S}$ ) digenite ( $\text{Cu}_9\text{S}_5$ ) and galena (PbS) (Bedogné et al. 1993;  
 138 Kierczak et al. 2007; Morrison et al. 2015). Therefore Fe, Ni, Cr, Cu Co and Mn are PTEs  
 139 presenting high load in these rocks, as also was observed in other studies collecting rock  
 140 samples in proximity of the study area (Bloise et al. 2016; Cavallo 2018).

141 In proximity of the glacier terminus, lenses of ophicarbonates are present (Bedogné et al.  
 142 1993). This zone consists of a 10 to 400 m wide tabular volume that strikes ca. NW-SE and  
 143 is exposed approximately 6 km within the Malenco ultramafic body (Bonsignore et al. 1971;  
 144 Trommsdorff and Evans 1977). These rocks exhibit a prevalently brecciated texture  
 145 containing fragments of serpentinite, embedded in a fine- to medium-grained white matrix  
 146 of predominantly calcitic ( $\text{CaCO}_3$ ) composition (Pozzorini and FruhGreen 1996).

147 Following this brief description of study-area geological framework, it's possible to estimate  
 148 expected principal metals both in water and sediment samples (Table 1).

149 **Table 1** Expected metals in the analyzed samples from the different geological units in the study area. *Metals are ordered*  
 150 *from the most to the less abundant in concentration in rock.*

Geological unit	Expected PTEs
-----------------	---------------

Margna nappe	Fe, As, Zn, Co, Mn
Suretta nappe	Fe, Ni, Cr, Cu, Co, Mn

151

152 Considering the typical sediment present in the glacial and periglacial forms typical on high  
 153 mountain sites (i.e. glacial *diamicton* or *till*) helps to correctly interpret the source of metals  
 154 and metalloids in water from water-rock interaction. These sediments present low  
 155 permeability due to its dominant silty-to-clayey grain size, and are often subject to interaction  
 156 with glaciofluvial activity, which can promote metals mobility (Evans 2013; Tranter 2003).  
 157 Different moraines (i.e., frontal and lateral glacial deposits) are present in the study area:  
 158 more recent moraines (i.e., ascribable to the Little Ice Age; XIV -mid IXX Cent. AD; Matthews  
 159 and Briffa 2005) in the Ventina glacier forefield (Trommsdorff et al. 2005), and older lateral  
 160 moraines (from the Last Glacial Maximum; 26.5 – 20 ka BP; Clark et al. 2009) at higher  
 161 elevation (Trommsdorff et al. 2005). The Ventina river flows from south to north into a glacio-  
 162 fluvial plain (i.e., *sandur*), ca. 700 m long and 200 m wide (Fig. 1); further down-valley in the  
 163 NW part of the study area the water is collected into a single stream channel (Carrivick and  
 164 Russell 2007).

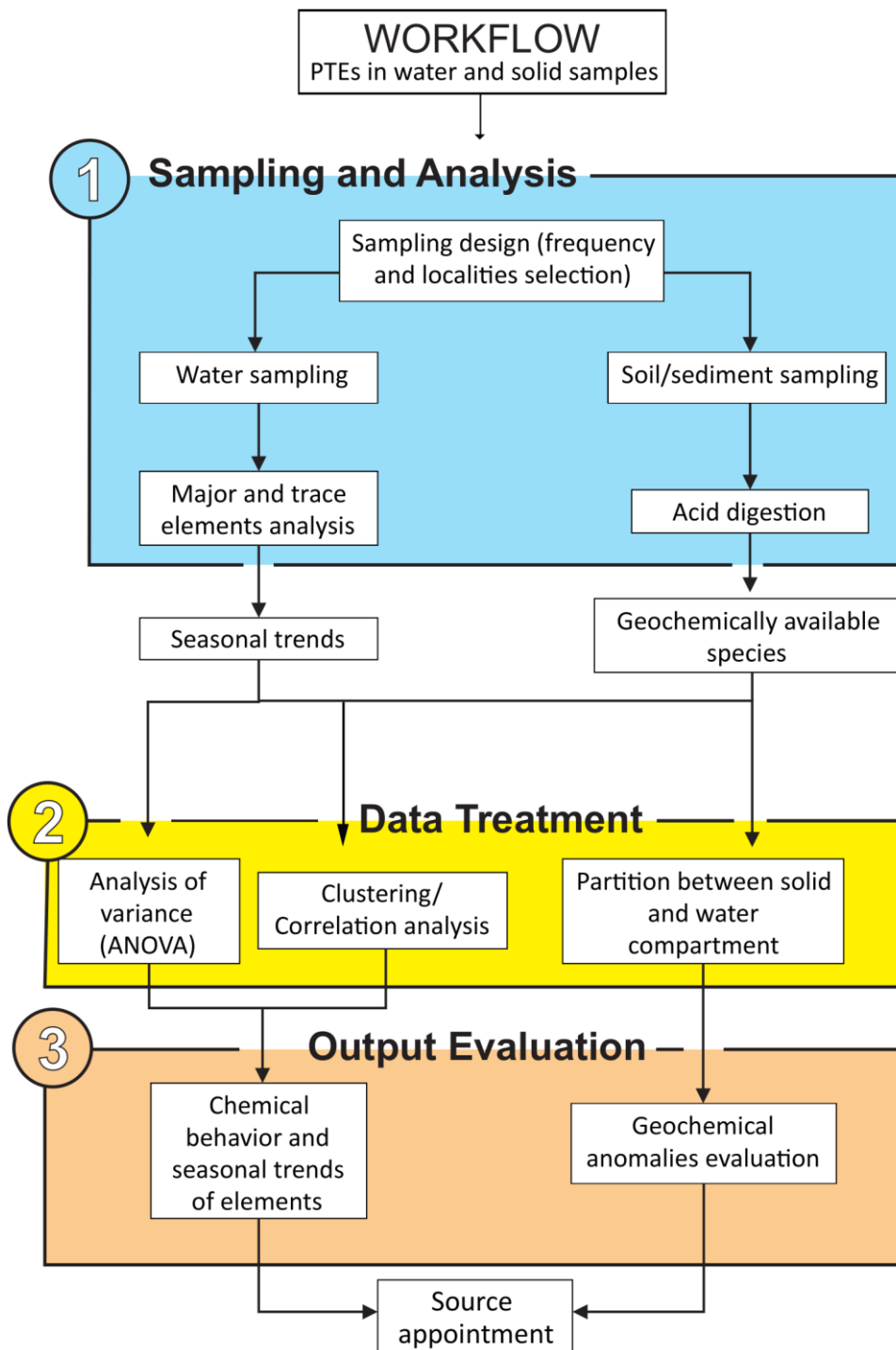
165

### 166 3. Materials and methods

167 We present an integrated approach, particularly suitable to understand sources of metals in  
 168 water catchments, including a three-steps investigation strategy, combining water and  
 169 sediment samples analyses, which output should be finally combined to critically interpret  
 170 the different sources of PTEs (Fig. 2):

- 171 • Sampling and Analysis: a prepared sampling design, collection, and chemical  
 172 analysis of samples;
- 173 • Data Treatment: data treatment with careful observation of seasonal trends and  
 174 clustering of variables;
- 175 • Output evaluation: data output interpretation and source apportionment in water.

176 In the following, we will describe assumptions and procedures for each step of the  
 177 investigation.



178  
179 **Fig. 2** Workflow of the integrated approach to understand metal sources and decouple geochemical background, with  
180 emphasis on the three main steps  
181

182 **3.1 Step 1: Sampling and Analysis**

183 First step includes: sampling design, collection, and analysis for water and solid (soils and  
184 sediment) samples. We assume that the bedrock geochemistry (at least regarding main  
185 mineral components) and water flow and source are already known. Thus, the sampling of  
186 water samples should be made collecting water outflowing from different sources, covering

187 the main spatiotemporal heterogeneities. The analysis of solid samples is fundamental to  
 188 evaluate the geochemical load available for dissolution: sampling design for this kind of  
 189 samples should be made mainly in function of lithologies distribution (Filgueiras et al. 2002;  
 190 Pueyo et al. 2008):

### 191 3.1.1 Water samples

192 Water samples were obtained monthly, during four sampling campaign in 2014, three  
 193 samplings in 2015 and three in 2016. A total of 150 water samples were collected in all  
 194 sampling campaigns. Samples were collected only during the melting season (early summer  
 195 to early fall), because of the thick snow cover during winter and spring, with scarce water  
 196 from snow melting in springs and a high avalanche risk.

197 Water samples were collected at 21 localities (Fig. 1) and included water from different  
 198 surface and underground sources (Table 2).

199 Five of the sampled springs outflow from fractures in bedrock, flowing through a low-  
 200 permeability rock volume, possibly leading to an enrichment in metals, if passing through  
 201 mineralized bodies and veins (MacQuarrie and Mayer 2005).

202 We also collected water from small lakes and ponds, where the presence of biota is typically  
 203 scarce and with water bodies sensitive to atmospheric deposition and to temperature  
 204 changes, usually freezing during winter (Santolaria et al. 2017; Sommaruga-Wögrath et al.  
 205 1997).

206 Two sampling points were obtained at the outlet of an ice glacier (V11) and of a rock glacier  
 207 (P08). Even if both the water come from ice thawing, ice glaciers show a faster response in  
 208 melting during the summer season and are more sensitive to atmospheric deposition than  
 209 rock glacier sources (Brown 2002).

210 Other samples were obtained from stream water, resulting from a concurrent contribution  
 211 from the sources described above (Table 2).

212 **Table 2** *Typologies of water collected during the sampling campaigns*

<b>SAMPLING POINT</b>	<b>SOLID SAMPLE</b>	<b>BEDROCK</b>	<b>TYPE OF WATER SOURCE</b>
<b>P01</b>		Margna nappe	Stream outlet from Pirola lake
<b>P02</b>		Pirola fault	Pirola Lake at the outlet
<b>P03</b>		zone	Pirola Lake at the inlet
<b>P04</b>	*		Stream inlet into Pirola lake
<b>P05</b>	*	Margna nappe	Spring from fracture
<b>P06</b>	*	Suretta	Spring from fracture
<b>P08</b>		nappe	Rock glacier melting outflow
<b>P09</b>			Lake

P10		Lake
P11		Lake
P12		Spring from phreatic aquifer into slope deposit close to a moraine ridge
V01		Spring from fracture
V02		Spring line from phreatic aquifer in slope deposits
V03		Stream
V04		Spring line from phreatic aquifer in slope deposits
V06		Stream
V07	*	Stream
V08	*	Stream in the <i>sandur</i>
V09		Spring from fracture
V10		Spring from fracture
V11	*	Ventina glacier melting outflow

213

214 Samples collected were analyzed for:

- 215 • Physico-chemical parameters (electrical conductivity, pH and temperature) with  
216 specific field probes;
- 217 • Major ions and cations through titrations and ionic chromatography ([Eco IC, Metrohm,](#)  
218 [Swiss confederation](#));
- 219 • 11 PTEs (Zn, Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Cd, As, Ag and Pb) were analyzed through ICP-  
220 MS ([Icap Q ICP-MS, Thermo Fisher Scientific, USA](#)).

221 Physico-chemical parameters and major ions should be collected to have a preliminary idea  
222 of main dissolutions conditions, and PTEs to evaluate the final dissolved load. More details  
223 about water analysis and QA/QC protocols can be found in appendix.

### 224 3.1.2 Solid samples

225 Six outcropping glacial sediments and soils were sampled at the same location of some of  
226 the water samples (water and sediment samples collected in the same point have the same  
227 name) using plastic bags. Selection of sampling sites was conducted in function to cover  
228 the heterogeneities between different bedrock and different morphologies outcropping in the  
229 study area. We collected the samples both in the glacier forefield and in the nearby of the  
230 glacier front (V11). We also collected sediments in the glacialfluvial plain (V08) and from a  
231 lateral moraine deposited during the Little Ice Age (V07). Moreover, we collected a sediment  
232 sample (P04) at the contact between the two terranes (i.e., along the Pirola fault) in order to  
233 observe the background values due to the different surrounding lithologies.

234 **Table 3** Classification and bedrock lithology of solid samples

Sample	Source rock	Type of deposit	Grain size distribution
--------	-------------	-----------------	-------------------------

V08	Serpentinite	Sandur	gravelly sand
V11	Serpentinite	Subglacial lodgement till	diamicton (clay/silt and pebbles)
V07	Serpentinite	Little Ice Age moraine ridge	clayey silt
P04	Metagabbros	Poorly developed soil, with sparse vegetation cover	clayey silt
P06	Serpentinite	Poorly developed soil, without vegetation	clayey silt
P05	Metagabbros	Poorly developed soil, with sparse vegetation cover	clayey silt

235

236 A pseudo total acid digestion using *aqua regia* was applied. This digestion is defined as  
 237 “pseudo-total” because this acid mixture cannot dissolve most recalcitrant silicate phase of  
 238 minerals (Kanellopoulos et al. 2015). More details about methods used for solid samples  
 239 analysis are included in appendix.

### 240 **3.2 Step 2: Data treatment**

241 Second step includes data statistical processing, and we propose to: analyze temporal  
 242 trends in water, focusing on seasonal analysis and clustering of variables, and then to  
 243 evaluate concentrations ratios between the water samples and the solid ones to clarify if the  
 244 PTEs derived mainly from geochemical source in the bedrock or from other sources. We  
 245 assume that the main natural source for PTEs in water would be rock weathering, that  
 246 sediments generally maintain a good marker of rock geochemistry, and that temporal  
 247 changes in sediments could be negligible.

248 Also, all the concentration data resulting under the limit of detection (which are called  
 249 censored data) were substituted with LOD/10 values (Alier et al. 2009; Giussani et al. 2016).

250

#### 251 **3.2.1 Seasonal variations and trends**

252 In more detail, temporal trends should be analyzed in water, to monitor how main climatic  
 253 seasonal conditions (i.e., dry or wet season, tidal changes, snow/ice melting; de Vallejuelo  
 254 et al. 2014; Hindshaw et al. 2011; Jung 2001) act on dissolution and/or transport of PTEs.

255 We divided water dataset in two subsets, in function of the sampling period: an early summer  
 256 dataset (for samplings in June and July, including 74 samples) and a late one (for samplings  
 257 in September and October, including 76 samples). This operation was made in function of  
 258 the main seasonal trend observed in our dataset, showing differences in these period (as

259 will be confirmed by ANOVA analysis, section 4.2) and presumably caused by ice and snow  
260 melting in the beginning of summer period.

261 Also, as observed by other authors in glaciated environment (Hindshaw et al. 2011),  
262 elements due to atmospheric deposition concentrate mostly in the first part of summer, with  
263 high snow and ice melting, while elements dissolved by water-rock and water-sediment  
264 interaction reach their baseline natural concentrations in the late summer. The snow layer  
265 thickness data for long term monitoring in the Alps with similar altitude of the study areas  
266 confirm this choice (Marty and Meister 2012). Therefore, even in a short time span,  
267 dissolution dynamics vary in mountainous catchments.

268 Thus, a difference between the means was measured to understand if the trend indicates  
269 an increasing or a decreasing in concentration from early to late summer, and then  
270 normalized on the total mean as in [equation 1](#):

$$271 \quad \frac{\mu_{LS} - \mu_{ES}}{\mu_{TOT}} \quad \text{Eq.1}$$

272 Where  $\mu_{LS}$  is the late summer period mean, where  $\mu_{ES}$  is the early summer period mean,  
273 and  $\mu_{TOT}$  is the total mean of the whole sampling campaign. This process was applied for  
274 all measured chemical variables.

275 Then, observed trends should be confirmed: analysis of variance (ANOVA) is a useful tool  
276 to compare seasonal changes with inter-annual variability, and so to understand the  
277 significance of these changes (Ross and Willson 2017).

### 278 3.2.2 Seasonal clustering

279 A clustering analysis of variables (through multivariate statistics; i.e., Cluster Analysis)  
280 should be performed to observe how clustering of variables changes in the different seasons  
281 (or observed periods). Therefore, Cluster Analysis is a useful method to classify similarities  
282 between variables, showing distances among them. In this way, variables can be classified  
283 in groups, but the interpretation of the anthropic or naturally-derived elements is not  
284 preliminary assumed and is only evaluated afterward through the entire approach

285 Therefore, we applied hierarchical cluster analysis to the 2 seasonal datasets for major ions  
286 and trace elements variables, using Ward's method (Ward 1963).

### 287 3.2.3 Partition between water and sediment

288 Water data should be then compared with the bedrock-derived samples ones (sediments,  
289 soils), to quantify if the geochemically available species could be dissolved after water/rock  
290 interactions. Then, observing the ratio between dissolved and geochemically available  
291 elements will have clearer idea about the geochemical background of the elements.

292 In order to compare water with sediment samples data, a partition coefficient between  
293 dissolved and liquid phase of metals was calculated through a  $K_r$  coefficient (De Vallejuelo  
294 et al., 2014) expressed as in equation 2:

$$295 \quad K_r = \frac{C_{metal\ sed}}{C_{metal\ wat}} \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

296 Where  $C_{metal\ sed}$  indicates the total metal concentration in the sediment sample in mg/kg and  
297  $C_{metal\ wat}$  indicates the metal concentration in the water in  $\mu\text{g/L}$ . We obtained  $K_r$  coefficient  
298 of the analyzed PTEs using the mean concentration in water along the entire time series,  
299 and concentration in solid samples from pseudo total acid digestion. The data obtained were  
300 then expressed after a logarithmic transformation. This approach permits to quantify how  
301 likely the concentration of a trace element in water reflects the bedrock concentration  
302

### 303 **3.3 Step 3: Output evaluation**

304 Third step aims to finally understand the sources of trace elements in water through an  
305 integrated interpretation of the output from the previous steps. We clearly assume that PTEs  
306 grouping in the same way in the different approaches highlight similar sources, and that a  
307 high presence in water compare to the solid sample highlight an anthropic enrichment.  
308 Therefore, observing specific seasonal trends and clustering of variables, we could group  
309 PTEs presenting the same source, and then combining the geochemically available metals  
310 we could quantify if the available chemical species could dissolve from bedrock, or if we  
311 have an enrichment coming from anthropic emissions.

## 312 **4. Results**

### 313 **4.1 Major and trace elements in water**

314 Regarding physico-chemical parameters, water analyzed in this study presents low  
315 mineralization (max EC values is  $98 \mu\text{S/cm}$ ), and changes in EC mainly remark seasonal  
316 trend increasing in the end of summer. Also, analyzing major ions, water present principally  
317 dissolved  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  and  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ , which correlate with  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ . All samples present ionic balance  
318 beneath 10%.

319 Data for trace elements are synthetized in table 4: observing the threshold limits for drinking  
320 water defined by WHO, most of the samples show concentration which are not concerning  
321 for human risk, but the maximum values for Ni slightly goes over, and As show an high  
322 maximum value, which is double of the threshold value. Therefore, these elements result  
323 the more concerning among the analyzed in the study area watershed.



324 More details about physico-chemical parameters, major ions and trace elements are listed  
 325 in supplementary material, table S1, including all variables measurements for all sampling  
 326 sites.

327 **Table 4** Descriptive statistics of PTEs concentrations in water samples, and comparison with WHO limits for human  
 328 consumption of water

Element	Measure unit	25 <sup>th</sup>		75 <sup>th</sup>		WHO limit	
		percentile	Mean	Median	percentile		Maximum
<b>Ag</b>	µg/L	<LOD	0.052	0.010	0.061	0.838	-
<b>As</b>	µg/L	0.019	1.228	0.107	0.327	28.596	10
<b>Cd</b>	µg/L	<LOD	0.020	0.003	0.020	0.109	3
<b>Co</b>	µg/L	<LOD	0.056	0.035	0.084	0.670	50
<b>Cr</b>	µg/L	0.478	1.027	0.911	1.400	2.861	50
<b>Cu</b>	µg/L	0.0001	0.231	0.117	0.314	1.982	2000
<b>Fe</b>	µg/L	1.695	8.874	5.884	12.107	41.174	-
<b>Mn</b>	µg/L	0.071	0.481	0.193	0.494	6.242	500
<b>Ni</b>	µg/L	3.885	6.544	6.568	8.439	20.438	20
<b>Pb</b>	µg/L	0.015	0.091	0.061	0.106	1.106	10
<b>Zn</b>	µg/L	1.470	6.839	4.326	9.494	39.604	3000

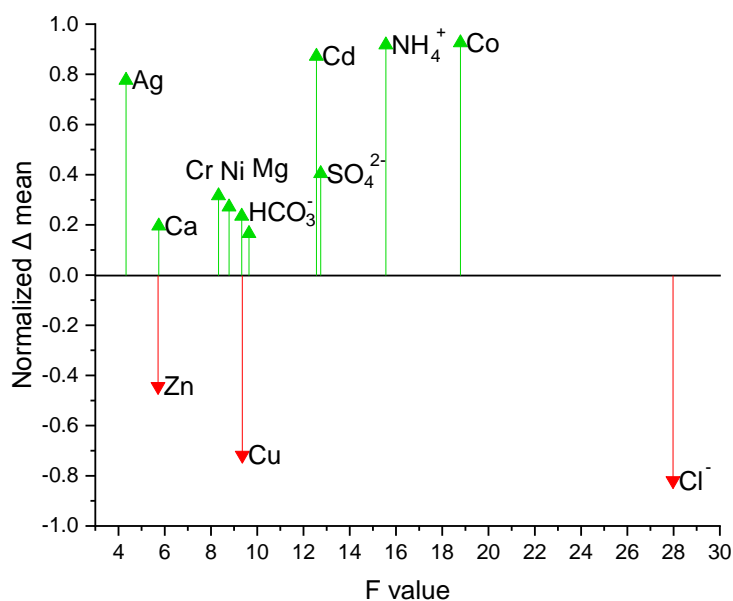
329

#### 330 4.2 Seasonal trends analysis (ANOVA)

331 Significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) F value outcoming from ANOVA is plotted against the normalized  $\Delta$   
 332 mean in Fig. 3. **Sodium**,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ,  $\text{Pb}$ ,  $\text{Mn}$ ,  $\text{As}$ ,  $\text{Fe}$  were not plotted because these variables  
 333 show a seasonal difference between early summer and late summer which is not  
 334 significantly higher than the variance among the different years of sampling.

335 Elements decreasing from early summer to late summer are:  $\text{Cu}$ ,  $\text{Zn}$  and  $\text{Cl}^-$ ; the latter  
 336 presenting a high F value, as an index of its high significance according to the ANOVA test.  
 337 Conversely, variables showing an increment in the late summer are:  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Cr}$ ,  $\text{Ni}$ ,  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ ,  
 338  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$  and  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$  concentrations.

339 Also,  $\text{Ag}$ ,  $\text{Cd}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$  and  $\text{Co}$  show a high increment from early to late summer if normalized  
 340 to the mean, but for these elements a major warning comes from the fact that several  
 341 measured concentrations are close to the instrumental LODs, resulting in possible  
 342 inaccuracies.



343

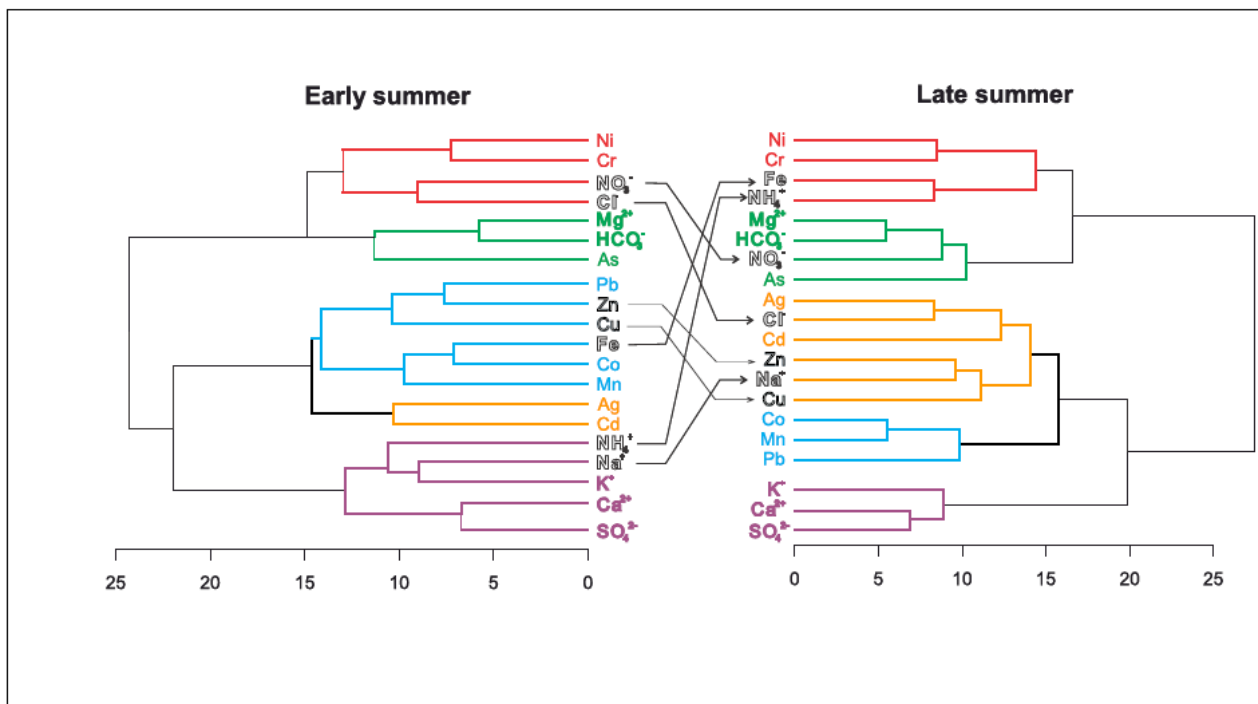
344 **Fig. 3** Plot of F value (x axis) and different of the early and late summer mean normalized for total mean (y axis) for all  
 345 variables showing a significant difference ( $p < 0.05$ )

346

### 347 4.3 Seasonal clustering

348 Fig. 4 shows the hierarchic clusters for early and late summer including major ions and trace  
 349 elements. The clustering of elements in the beginning and the end of the melting season  
 350 can highlight similarity in sources, or same chemical behavior in dissolution from bedrock.  
 351 In early summer four main clusters are present: one containing Cl<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>, Ni and Cr; one  
 352 containing Mg<sup>2+</sup>, HCO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup> and As; one containing Na, K<sup>+</sup>, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> and SO<sub>4</sub><sup>2-</sup>; and one containing  
 353 the other analyzed trace elements.

354



355

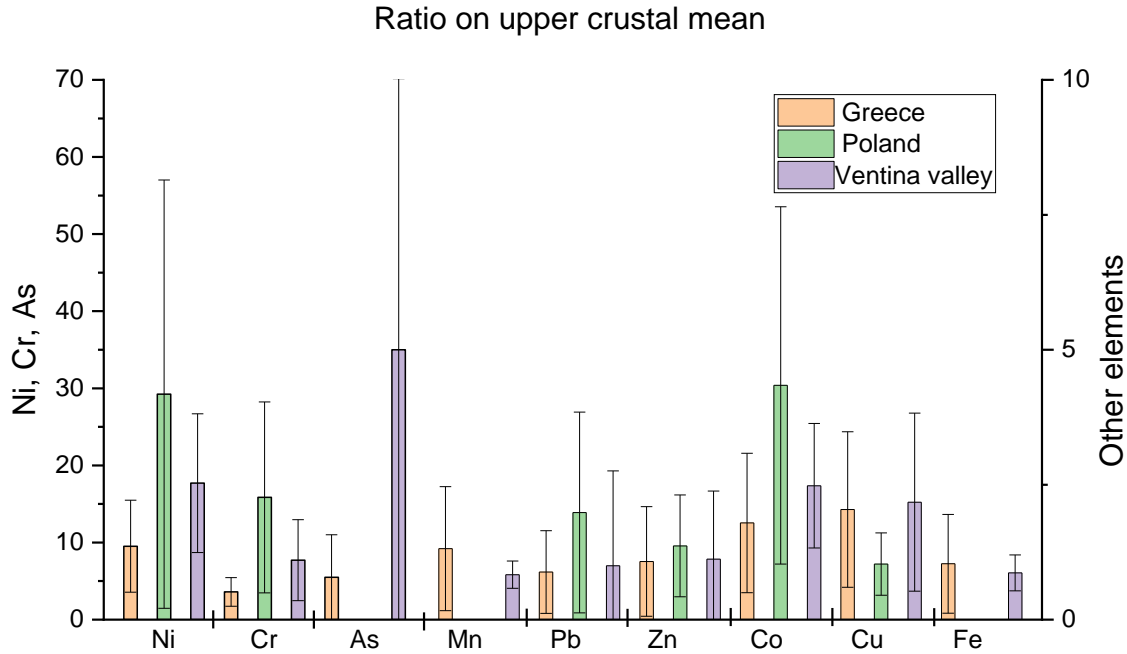
356 **Fig. 4** Cluster diagrams for early and late summer and their clustering changes in the different periods

357 Late summer clustering partly remarks the early summer one, but the setting for trace  
 358 elements partly changes. Zinc and Cu, for example, plot with Co, Mn and Pb in the early  
 359 summer, while plot together with Ag, Cd, Na<sup>+</sup> and Cl<sup>-</sup> in late summer.

360

#### 361 4.4 Acid digestion for solid samples

362 In Fig. 5, acid digestion results in our samples are normalized on the mean upper crust  
 363 values (Wedepohl 1995), and are compared with other studies presenting similar bedrock  
 364 type (i.e., serpentine-derived soils in Greece; (Kanellopoulos et al. 2015) and two soil  
 365 profiles in Poland; (Kierczak et al. 2008)). In this way, possible geochemical anomalies could  
 366 be highlighted.



367

368

369

370

**Fig. 5** Ratio of some PTEs on the upper earth crust average abundance (from Wedepohl 1995) for some case studies in Poland (Kierczak et al. 2008), Greece (Kanellopoulos et al. 2015) and this study. Values are shown when reported by the authors

371

Metals as Co, Ni and Cr already present higher load than the mean crustal one, but this is correlated to the lithology of the site, presenting a high geochemical background (Binda et al. 2018). Thus, sediment samples show mainly a natural load of analyzed metals, and present similar concentration with other areas presenting same bedrock lithology. The only element showing a higher load compared to other studies is As. This element presents a relatively high concentration in sediment of the study area, but with big variance in the different sites (high value was observed in sampling site P06, proximal to the Pirola fault; all data for acid digestion are reported in supplementary material, table S2).

379

Cd and Ag present concentration lower than the detection limits of acid digestions in all our samples, and they are not shown in Fig. 5.

381

#### 4.5 Partition between solid and water compartments

382

Log  $K_r$  for all analyzed PTEs is shown in Fig. 6. Lower values of  $K_r$  indicate a greater presence in dissolved phase compared to the concentration in the solid phase. We can distinguish 3 main groups of PTEs according to the graph: a first group (including Fe, Cr, Mn, Co, Cu) with high values, indicating the typical elements included in serpentinites, which present low dissolution rates; another group indicating Ni and As (with mean log  $K_r$  values

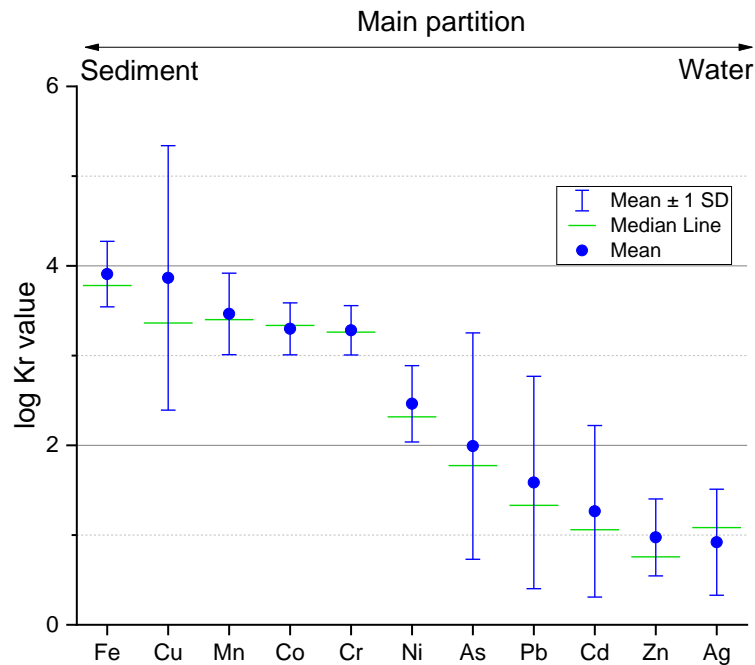
383

384

385

386

387 between 2 and 3) presenting medium values; a third group with values less than 1.5  
 388 (including Zn, Cd, and Ag) presenting a possible enrichment due to other sources, **different**  
 389 **from water/rock interaction (i.e., from atmospheric deposition)**.  
 390



391  
 392 **Fig. 6** Values of Kr index exposed in logarithmic scale for the five water and glacial sediment sampling points, bars indicate  
 393 the mean values, whiskers indicate the standard deviation

394 **5. Discussion**

395 Results obtained in this study elucidate specific trends during the summer season for trace  
 396 elements and relevant differences of concentrations between solid and water samples.  
 397 Combining the outputs of the proposed integrated approach and analyzing the bedrock main  
 398 minerals and geochemistry, we can finally infer PTEs sources in the analyzed watershed.  
 399 Following the **seasonal** clustering of variables and **their temporal trend**, we recognized  
 400 groups of PTEs which can possibly have similar sources. Then, analyzing the partition of  
 401 elements between water and sediment samples, we evaluated if the geochemically available  
 402 species justify a presence of PTE in water, or whether an enrichment due to atmospheric  
 403 depositions is present. Table 5 summarizes the different approaches **outputs (whose results**  
 404 **are discussed below) and the evaluated PTE source**. The discussion will firstly focus on the  
 405 PTEs showing possibly concerning concentrations in water samples, and then will move to  
 406 other analyzed PTEs.

407

## 408 **5.1 Source apportionment for concerning PTEs: Ni and As**

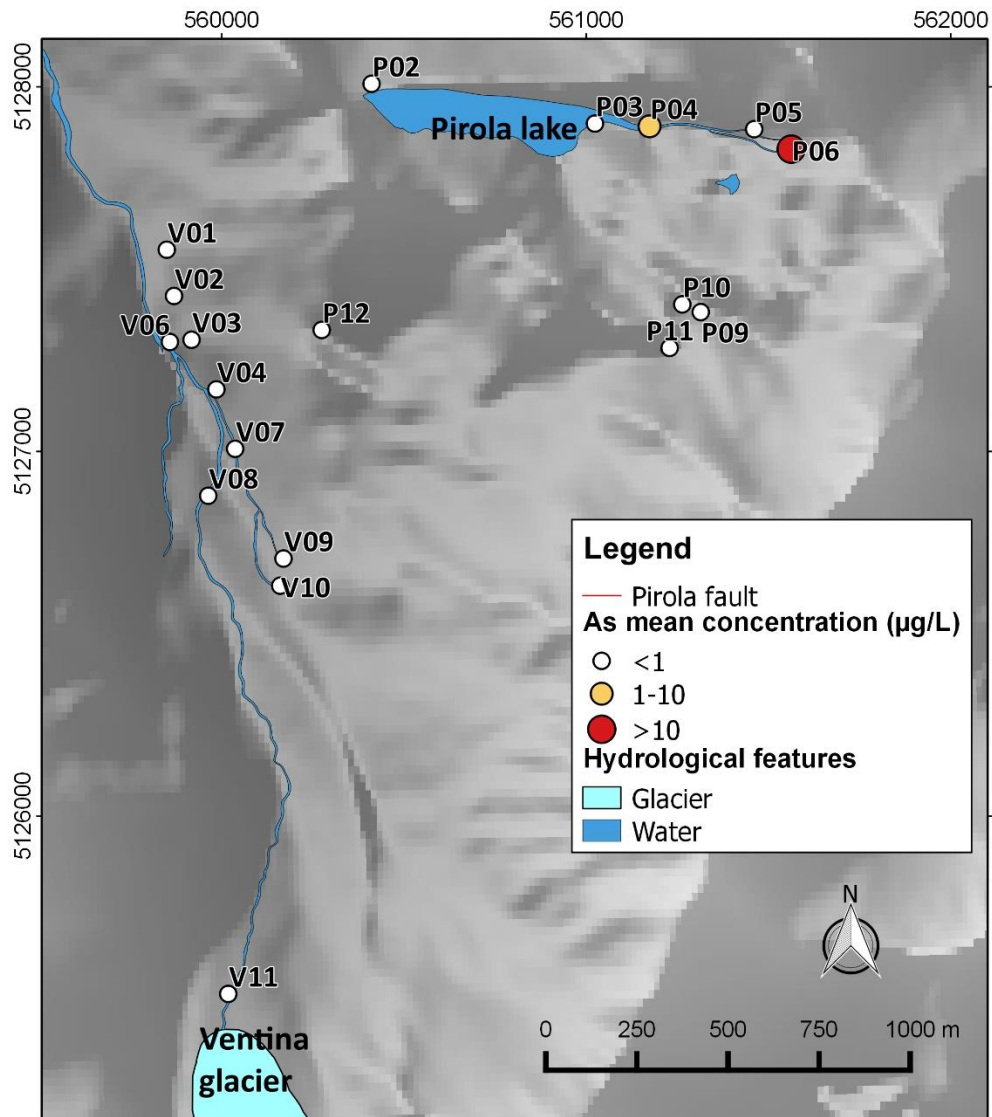
409 Among the analyzed elements, the only ones showing possible concerning concentrations  
410 are Ni and As. **Nickel** presents a relatively high concentration in water from all the sampling  
411 sites, with higher concentrations close to WHO limits for drinking water. **Arsenic, instead,**  
412 **presents generally a low concentration considering the whole study area average, but a**  
413 **single spring presents concerning concentrations in the all the sampling campaigns,**  
414 **reaching values which are double than the WHO drinking water standard (Fig. 7).**

415 **Nickel** is an element which could be present in high concentration on mafic and ultramafic  
416 terrains and show clustering with other elements defined as natural (i.e., Cr). Also, observing  
417 the results in the other approaches this element shows an increase from the melting season  
418 through the end of summer (typical of elements outcoming from water-rock interaction,  
419 Hindshaw et al., 2011), and a partition of solid/water concentration of an intermediate value.  
420 **Nickel** shows a relatively high mobility and high concentration in water samples, but this  
421 behavior comes from a high dissolution of sulphides in the study area, which was deeply  
422 analyzed in another study (Binda et al. 2018).

423 Moving to As, this PTE does not show a significant seasonal trend, and present a medium-  
424 low  $K_r$  value, with a high variance in the study area (Fig. 6), suggesting an anthropic  
425 enrichment. Nevertheless, its correlation with Mg and  $\text{HCO}_3$ , species typically dissolving  
426 from rocks, is an indicator for rock dissolution sourcing.

427 The high As concentration in part of the analyzed sediment samples can support a  
428 dissolution from water of this elements (Fig. 5). The breccias in the fault area present in fact  
429 As bearing minerals (Bedogné et al. 1993; Burkhard 1989) and other authors highlighted  
430 the high concentration background of As in freshwater in other areas of the central Alps  
431 (Peña Reyes et al. 2015).

432 **Arsenic**, also, presents a high concentration along all the sampling sequence in only one  
433 spring (P06, with a mean value above WHO limits, supplementary material, Table 1), while  
434 the concentration results lower in all the other springs of the study area. At least for this  
435 spring, were high As concentration were observed in sediment sample too, a geochemical  
436 anomaly can be the cause of this PTE presence. In fact, as observable in Fig. 7, the only  
437 one spring present values at least closer to P06 is P04, which was collected in the same  
438 stream just few meters **downstream** and presenting dilution of P06 initial concentration  
439 caused by mixing with other water.



440  
441 *Fig. 7 Distribution map of mean As values (in µg/L) in water for all sampling campaigns*

442 Consequently, while considering the whole study area As concentrations could be inferred  
443 as coming from a mixed source, surely in the single spring presenting alarming  
444 concentrations for human consumption and environmental risk, the cause would be a  
445 geochemical anomaly.

446  
447 **5.2 Source apportionment for other PTEs**

448 **5.2.1 Other PTEs from natural sources: Cr, Co and Mn.**

449 Elements such as Ni and Cr maintain a clustering throughout the sampling season and plot  
450 together to major ions in the ANOVA test, with a slight increase from early to late summer.  
451 Cobalt and Mn plot together in Fig. 4, maintaining their clustering, and present similar Kr  
452 value. But differently from Co, Mn does not show a statistically significant increase during  
453 the melting season.

454 Manganese and Co are elements which can easily dissolve from mafic rocks, and their  
455 presence in water can be justified as mainly from water/rock interaction (Kierczak et al.  
456 2016). Also, these elements present quite low concentrations in water of the study area,  
457 especially if compared with solid samples (they present in fact a  $K_r$  value which is more than  
458 3, Fig. 6). Iron does not show a significant change from early summer to late summer (Fig.  
459 3), and plot with Co and Mn in early summer, and then group with  $\text{NH}_4$ , Ni and Cr in late  
460 summer (Fig. 4). Also, it presents high  $K_r$  value similar to the other elements discussed so  
461 far.

462 These elements show relatively high concentrations in water samples too, consistently with  
463 their high concentrations in the bedrock and, in turn, in glacial sediments. Other case studies  
464 with serpentinite bedrock reported similar values (Bonifacio et al. 2010; Kierczak et al. 2016;  
465 Morrison et al. 2015; Voutsis et al. 2015).

466 Consequently, these PTEs can be considered as sourced by natural water-rock interaction.

#### 467 5.2.2 PTEs with anthropic enrichment: Ag, Cd, and Zn.

468 Silver, Cd and Zn present a low value in  $K_r$  values and separate from the others PTEs in the  
469 late summer cluster plot, as indexes of effects of atmospheric depositions (Fig. 4). Zn shows  
470 a decreasing trend from early to late summer too as an index of higher load at the beginning  
471 of summer due to snow and ice melting (Hindshaw et al. 2011).

472 Differently, the trend of Ag and Cd shows an increment along summer period (Fig. 3): this  
473 effect could be due to the high number of samples which presents values below detection  
474 limits. Ag and Cd, anyway, show too low concentrations in the sediment samples to be  
475 considered naturally sourced in the study area.

476 Cadmium, Ag, Zn were also reported as anthropic elements in other studies in the Alps  
477 (Gabrielli et al. 2008), supporting the possible anthropic enrichment of these elements in our  
478 study area too.

#### 479 5.2.3 Other problematic PTEs: Cu and Pb.

480 Not all the analyzed elements can be easily attributed to a single source by the approaches  
481 applied in this study. Some problems arise, in fact, to interpret result from Cu and Pb.

482 Lead shows a lower  $K_r$  value than metals derived from a natural source (even if this element  
483 shows high spatial variability, with large range in the different points values) the difference  
484 between early summer and late summer are not statistically significant compared to the  
485 inter-annual ones, and the cluster analysis shows that Pb groups with Zn and Cu  
486 (considered anthropic) in early summer, but groups with Mn and Co (considered natural) in  
487 late summer.



488 Finally, Cu shows a significant decrease in the mean concentration from the beginning to  
489 the end of the melting season as Zn (Fig. 3), presents a clustering with other PTEs  
490 considered anthropically enriched. Nonetheless, it shows a high value of  $K_r$  ratio which  
491 indicates a high availability for dissolution.

492 Considering the differences in behavior functionally to the applied approach, these metals  
493 can be sourced naturally and then anthropically enriched. Therefore, the application of a  
494 single-way approach would probably give misleading source apportionment of these  
495 elements, and the different trends observed highlight the need of an integrated approach,  
496 with a careful evaluation of statistical outputs.

**Table 5** Interpretation of the integrated approach output and source evaluation, PTEs are indicated in bold in the clustering columns.

Element	Presence in minerals of the bedrock	Clustering with (early summer)	Clustering with (late summer)	Trend from early to late summer	Kr	Anthropic influence?
Fe	Major element in serpentinites and metagabbros	<b>Co, Mn</b>	NH <sub>4</sub> , <b>Ni, Cr</b>	Not significant	High	No
Cr	Minor element in serpentinite rocks	<b>Ni, Cl<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b>	<b>Ni, Fe, NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup></b>	Increasing	High	No
Mn	Minor element in serpentinite rocks	<b>Co, Fe</b>	<b>Co, Pb</b>	Not significant	High	No
Co	Minor element in serpentinite rocks	<b>Mn, Fe</b>	<b>Mn, Pb</b>	Increasing	High	No
Ni	Minor element in serpentinite rocks	<b>Cr, Cl<sup>-</sup>, NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup></b>	<b>Cr</b>	Increasing	Medium-high	No
Ag	Not present	<b>Cd</b>	<b>Cd, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Cu, Zn</b>	Increasing	Low	Yes
Cd	Not present	<b>Ag</b>	<b>Ag, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Na<sup>+</sup>, Cu, Zn</b>	Increasing	Low	Yes
Zn	Minor element in metagabbros	<b>Cu, Pb</b>	<b>Cu, Na<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Ag, Cd</b>	Decreasing	Low	Yes
Pb	Trace element in serpentinites	<b>Cu, Zn</b>	<b>Co, Mn</b>	Not significant	Medium-low	Unclear
Cu	Minor element in serpentinite rocks	<b>Pb, Zn</b>	<b>Zn, Na<sup>+</sup>, Cl<sup>-</sup>, Ag, Cd</b>	Decreasing	Medium-high	Unclear
As	Trace element in some breccias of the Margna nappe	Mg <sup>2+</sup> , HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup> , HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> , NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Not significant	Medium low	Unclear

### 499 **5.3 Geochemical anomalies as source of harmful PTEs concentrations**

500 It is important to highlight, that among all elements analyzed to understand their source in  
501 the study area, the ones showing higher and possibly dangerous concentration for human  
502 and ecosystem health are characterized as probably from natural source or of a mixed one,  
503 and are Ni (with different values close to the WHO limit for concentration in water), and As,  
504 which present a concentration higher of WHO limit value in one spring along all the sampling  
505 sequence (Table 4).

506 This maximum value outcome from only one spring in the study area (point P06, in every  
507 sampling campaign) indicating a geochemical anomaly in the fault zone, possibly related to  
508 the presence of veins of As-bearing minerals (e.g., realgar). Similar results are also obtained  
509 for solid samples collected in this point, presenting an enrichment in As too (Fig. 5 and  
510 [supplementary material, Table S2](#)). Similar mineral anomalies are observed in a location  
511 about 10 km far from the study area (Burkhard 1989).

512

### 513 **5.4 Integrated approach applicability**

514 The proposed approach helps to understand trace element sources in water, especially in  
515 areas with a high geochemical load of PTEs where is hard to separate the natural and the  
516 anthropic ones. Nonetheless, such an approach requires a big amount of analyses and a  
517 good knowledge of the bedrock geochemistry of the study area to have guidance in data  
518 interpretation for the search of the natural background. We here applied the approach to a  
519 relatively simple-structured catchment, but it could be considered as a preliminary case  
520 study for future investigations on a more regional scale. This approach could also work  
521 better in areas with remote settings, where direct sources of pollution are not immediate to  
522 observe.

523 Through these observations, we remark the need to applicate of an integrated approach to  
524 understand possible sources of elements in catchments, because the application of only  
525 one of the methods used would probably fail to clearly understand sources of elements (i.e.,  
526 seasonal trends and clustering of Cd and Ag).

527 Through this study, we also remark the importance of high mountain catchments monitoring:  
528 these settings, in fact, need high attention in water quality checks for ecological and human  
529 risk assessment, because they present an important water source for human populations  
530 (Viviroli et al. 2007), and usually these catchments have ecological communities that are  
531 highly sensitive to slightly changes in water chemistry, and potentially toxic elements could  
532 increase through the food web (Ilyashuk et al. 2014).

533

## 534 **6. Conclusions**

535 We here propose a method to evaluate the source of natural and anthropic PTEs in  
536 freshwater through a multidisciplinary integrated approach including:

- 537 • the analyses of water and sediments in relation to spatiotemporal trends;
- 538 • a multiple statistical data treatment aiming to understand seasonal clustering of  
539 variables and the partition of elements between solid and water phases;
- 540 • a combined output evaluation to obtain metals sources in water.

541 We applied this approach in a mountainous watershed to evaluate the sources of 11 PTEs  
542 (Cr, Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Cu, Zn, As, Ag, Cd and Pb).

543 We observed a high natural background in water for Ni (with maximum concentrations  
544 observed closer to the WHO drinking water limits) and the natural sources of Fe, Co, Mn,  
545 Cr without severe risk for human beings and the biota. Metals observed as coming from  
546 anthropic sources are Ag, Cd and Zn. Elements showing controversial trends are instead  
547 Cu, As, and Pb, which possibly present a mixed source. Arsenic also presents a  
548 geochemical anomaly in a spring, which show a concentration which is twice as much of the  
549 WHO limit for water consuming.

550 This study highlights the need of a multidisciplinary integrated approach for the source  
551 apportionment of PTEs. The proposed approach, in fact, helped in the understanding of  
552 PTEs sources and, while still requiring high number of samples and analyses, elucidate the  
553 failure of single way approaches when dealing with geochemical anomalies.

554 The observation of controversial trends for part of the analyzed elements (i.e., Cu, Ag, Cd)  
555 through the integrated approach highlights that a single-way procedure could potentially lead  
556 to erroneous source apportionment, without considering all the possible influencing factors.  
557 This study elucidates also that the only alarming concentrations observed in water are  
558 outcoming from a natural source, suggesting that geochemical anomalies can be harmful in  
559 some cases also for water human consumption.

## 560 **Acknowledgements**

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564 not receive any specific grant from funding agencies in the public, commercial, or not-for-  
565 profit sectors.

566

567 **Electronic supplementary material**

568 Electronic supplementary material includes two tables, indexed as follow: Table s1, including  
569 the chemical data for all collected water samples, and Table s2, indicating the chemical  
570 results for acid digestion of glacial sediment samples.

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802

## 803 **A1. Appendix: detailed methods**

### 804 **A1.1. Detailed water analyses**

805 Physico-chemical parameters (pH, temperature and EC) were evaluated *in situ* using  
806 specific field probes: a HANNA instruments HI 9025 pH-meter equipped with a thermometer  
807 for pH and temperature and a HANNA Instruments HI 9033 conductivity meter for electrical  
808 conductivity. Nitrile gloves were used in all the field practices. Water samples for laboratory  
809 analysis were collected in LPDE bottles, preventively washed.

810 Carbonates, as  $\text{HCO}_3^-$ , were estimated by colorimetric titration using 0,01 M HCl and  
811 Bromocresol Green as indicator. Major anions ( $\text{Cl}^-$ ,  $\text{NO}_3^-$ ,  $\text{SO}_4^{2-}$ ) and cations ( $\text{Ca}^{2+}$ ,  $\text{Mg}^{2+}$ ,  
812  $\text{Na}^+$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $\text{K}^+$ ) were estimated using an ionic chromatography Metrohm Eco IC (Swiss  
813 Confederation).

814 Samples for trace element analysis were collected in LPDE bottles, washed in **NALGENE**  
815 **(USA)** solution, and then washed twice in a 2%  $\text{HNO}_3$  solution. Afterward, water samples  
816 were filtered through 0.45  $\mu\text{m}$  filters and acidified adding 2% volume ultrapure  $\text{HNO}_3$ , and  
817 analyzed using an iCAP-Q ICP-MS instrument from Thermo Fisher Scientific (USA). These  
818 elements were selected functionally to the geochemistry of the site, and for their  
819 environmental interest as PTEs. All samples were spiked with In as internal standard and  
820 instrumental drift was beneath the 10% for all samples.

821 LOD for major ions, as referenced from the instrument, is 0.05 ppm. We calculated LOD for  
822 trace elements as 3 times standard deviation of blank samples (Long and Winefordner  
823 1983).

### 824 **A1.2. Detailed solid samples analysis**

825 Once in laboratory, the samples were air dried in oven at 105 °C for 2-3 hours (Quevauviller  
826 1998) and then < 2 mm fraction was sieved and selected for analysis (Chabukdhara and  
827 Nema 2012). Then, 500 mg of sample were inserted in Teflon vessels, and 3 ml of solution  
828 (pure hydrochloric and nitric acid solution in proportion 1: 2) were added. The digestion was  
829 made in a MLS-1200 Mega, Milestone (USA) microwave. After cooling, the solution was  
830 diluted with ultrapure water. The solutions obtained from acid digestion were analyzed using  
831 a Thermo Fisher Scientific (USA) Icap Q ICP-MS instrument. Samples were run in triplicate  
832 and present less than 5% of relative standard deviation.

### 833 **A1.3. Analysis solutions**

834 All the solutions used in laboratory for this study were made using ultrapure water from a  
835 Millipore MilliQ system (18.8 M $\Omega$ cm resistivity).

836 Acid solutions for digestions were obtained from a Carlo Erba® reagents (Italy) 65% volume  
837 solution. Ultrapure acids were obtained through sub-boiling distillation using a Milestone  
838 (USA) DuoPUR system.

839 Standard solutions for major ions and trace-element analysis was obtained from dilution of  
840 MERCK (Germany) multi-elemental standard.

841

#### 842 **A1.4. Detailed statistical methods**

##### 843 A1.4.1. ANOVA

844 This statistical test compares the mean and the variances of two different dataset in function  
845 of a categorical variable (in this case the sampling period). The null hypothesis is that these  
846 datasets are the same, and the variance among samples is basically the same as the  
847 difference between the datasets, and an F value is calculated as the ratio of variance inside  
848 groups and among the groups, and also a p value is calculated as well (Ross and Willson  
849 2017).

##### 850 A1.4.2. Cluster analysis

851 Ward's method starts from a singleton (single-point clusters) and aims to create clusters  
852 with the lowest possible increment of sum of squares. We decided to use this method  
853 because it creates small clusters (Ward 1963).

854 To avoid interferences due to different measure units in the application of cluster analysis,  
855 all the measured variables in the data matrix were scaled and centered on mean, using the  
856 following equation A1:

$$857 \quad x'_i = \frac{x_i - \mu}{s} \quad \text{Eq. A1}$$

858 Where  $\mu$  is the mean,  $s$  is the standard deviation,  $x_i$  is the original value and  $x'_i$ , is the  
859 standardize value (Sahariah et al. 2015).

860 Statistical analysis was performed using R version 3 (R Core Team 2014), and the package  
861 “dendextend” to perform cluster analyses (Galili 2015).

862

#### 863 **A1.5. Appendix References**

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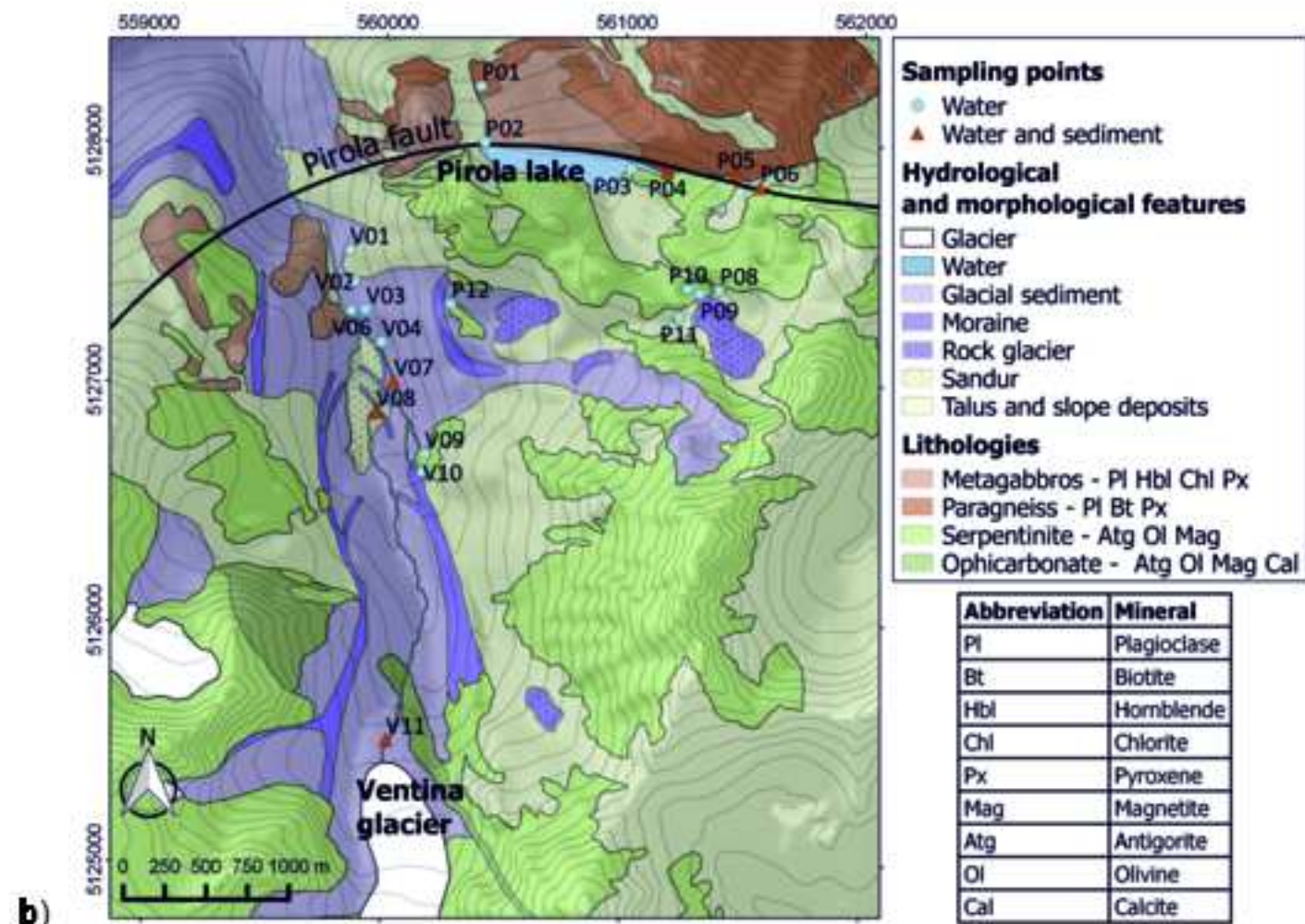
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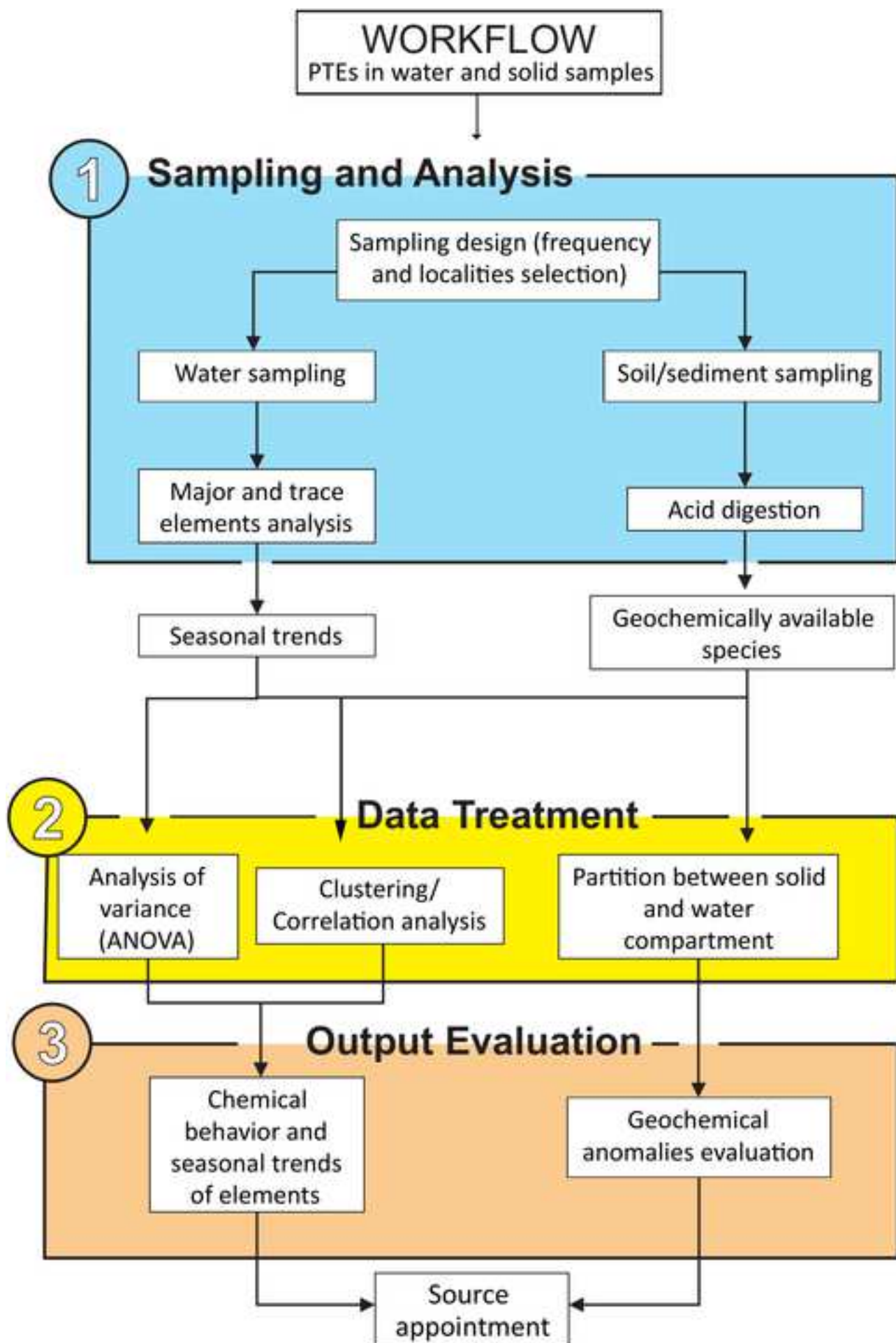
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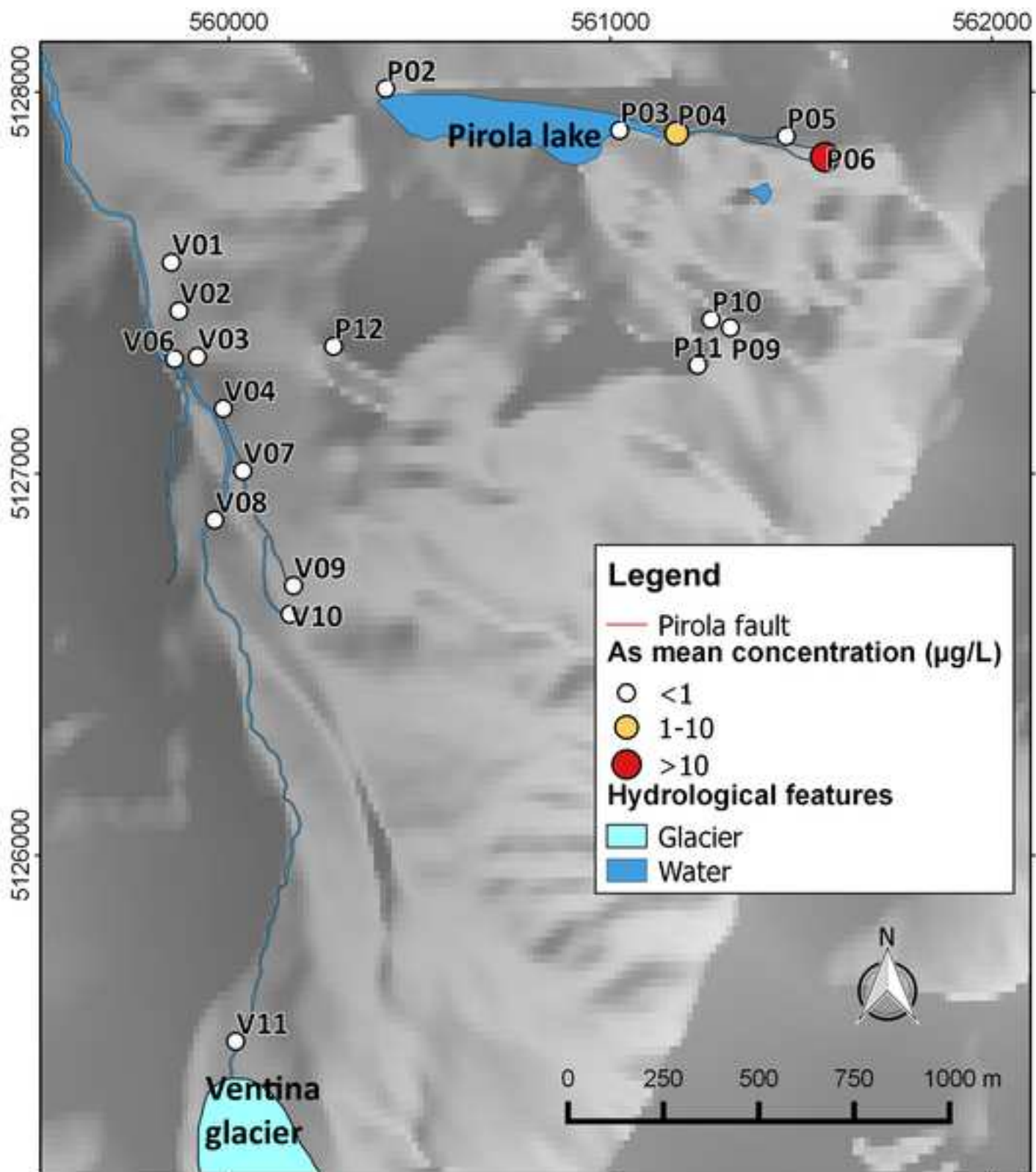
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Table S1: All water samples values and limits of detection for physicochemical parameters, major ion

		physico-chemical parameters				
Measure unit		°C	-	µS/cm	mg/L	mg/L
Sample	Date	Temperature	pH	Electrical conductivity	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>
P01	7/30/2014	6.6	7.1	26	18.04	0.27
P02	7/30/2014	12.5	7.35	27	17.31	0.29
V10	7/30/2014	3.1	7.68	45.3	28.04	0.05
V09	7/30/2014	3.1	7.64	46.5	31.52	0.06
V08	7/30/2014	5.5	7.31	21.4	11.08	0.24
V06	7/30/2014	6.1	7.33	31.6	14.79	0.04
P09	7/30/2014	6.3	7.5	30	25.27	0.57
P10	7/30/2014	10.5	7.55	26	18.17	0.28
P03	7/30/2014	14.9	7.35	28	17.12	0.30
P12	7/31/2014	6.5	8.8	39	24.19	0.47
P08	7/31/2014	0.7	7.1	29	22.12	0.24
V11	7/31/2014	1.8	7.38	14.7	9.88	0.23
P04	7/31/2014	0.8	7.23	40	28.68	0.20
P05	7/31/2014	5.6	7.53	52	25.07	0.24
P06	7/31/2014	2.3	8.1	49	26.03	0.28
V01	7/31/2014	4.3	7.4	43.7	30.84	0.01
V02	7/31/2014	5.6	7.62	34.5	22.72	0.05
V03	7/31/2014	6.4	7.32	34	23.86	0.03
V04	7/31/2014	3.3	7.36	39.5	31.71	0.01
V07	6/25/2014	3.66	7.73	48.3	24.77	0.25
V08	6/25/2014	4.31	8.01	30.9	14.60	0.26
V06	6/25/2014	3.66	7.73	42.5	21.67	0.22
P09	6/25/2014	1	8.25	17.1	16.91	0.86
P10	6/25/2014	4.45	7.79	5.2	3.14	0.25
P03	6/25/2014	4.36	7.97	26.9	19.13	0.43
P08	6/25/2014	0.12	8.44	27.7	16.35	0.30
V11	6/26/2014	0.76	8.27	20.8	12.69	0.34
P04	6/26/2014	0.8	8.01	35.8	20.84	0.27
V01	6/26/2014	3.28	7.61	41	24.28	0.14
V02	6/26/2014	4.73	7.54	32.4	20.40	0.11
V03	6/26/2014	4.59	7.91	30.7	21.03	0.13
V04	6/26/2014	2.29	7.61	41.8	31.72	0.18
P01	10/1/2014	9.1	7.37	27.6	17.08	0.32
P02	10/1/2014	11.7	7.79	27.3	17.73	0.27
P03	10/1/2014	12	7.75	26.8	16.75	0.28
P04	10/1/2014	8.3	7.23	54.4	29.93	0.16
P05	10/1/2014	5.2	7.8	57.2	25.07	0.25
P06	10/1/2014	9.8	7.99	85	52.05	0.04
P08	10/1/2014	2.3	7.6	41.4	27.32	0.28
P09	10/1/2014	7.8	7.94	39.2	25.21	0.59
P10	10/1/2014	11.4	8.42	37.9	21.21	0.26
P12	10/1/2014	8.4	7.73	40	25.37	1.29
V01	10/2/2014	4.9	7.43	49.1	32.12	0.07
V02	10/2/2014	7	7.42	41.9	24.02	0.04
V03	10/2/2014	6.7	6.58	35	27.16	0.02
V04	10/2/2014	3.4	6.6	53.9	35.54	0.01

V06	10/2/2014	5	6.62	43.3	25.21	0.06
V07	10/2/2014	4.1	7.48	38.4	20.45	0.25
V08	10/2/2014	8.3	7.36	26.1	14.48	0.23
V10	10/2/2014	4	6.95	38.1	22.26	0.06
V11	10/2/2014	2	6.6	19.3	12.04	0.25
P01	9/2/2014	9.5	7.74	26.6	15.26	0.27
P02	9/2/2014	11.6	7.61	26.1	14.30	0.26
P03	9/2/2014	12.1	7.13	47.3	14.66	0.25
P04	9/2/2014	8.1	7.05	45.6	27.07	<LOD
P05	9/2/2014	5.9	7.24	49.1	24.14	0.24
P06	9/2/2014	5	8.25	76.6	36.85	0.02
P08	9/2/2014	1.9	7.79	39.2	25.87	0.25
P09	9/2/2014	9.3	8.39	30.5	26.94	0.23
P10	9/2/2014	10.6	8.41	28.4	16.95	0.21
P12	9/2/2014	7.1	7.4	39.7	24.20	0.26
V01	9/3/2014	5.1	7.54	44.6	28.49	0.04
V02	9/3/2014	7.5	7.66	38.5	22.30	0.02
V03	9/3/2014	7.4	7.8	36.6	21.10	0.01
V04	9/3/2014	3.8	7.63	50	30.00	0.04
V06	9/3/2014	6.4	7.54	37.9	18.75	0.06
V07	9/3/2014	4	6.82	37.2	22.17	0.28
V08	9/3/2014	6.7	6.85	27.8	15.36	0.23
V09	9/3/2014	3.7	7.9	38.5	20.36	0.06
V10	9/3/2014	5.2	7.2	39.8	22.06	0.08
V11	9/3/2014	2.4	7.72	18.8	10.85	0.23
P01	6/23/2015	4.87	7.6	27	16.47	0.35
P02	6/23/2015	6.72	7.95	30	15.86	0.39
P03	6/23/2015	8.41	8.6	29	16.35	0.34
P04	6/23/2015	6.93	7.56	41	23.18	0.33
P05	6/23/2015	3.8	7.76	40	25.01	0.32
P06	6/23/2015	0.59	9.11	31	20.01	0.33
P08	6/23/2015	0.35	8.41	19	12.20	0.33
P09	6/23/2015	9.52	8.02	23	12.20	0.36
P10	6/23/2015	11.51	8.02	17	4.25	0.35
P11	6/23/2015	6.94	8.16	44	26.11	0.40
P12	6/23/2015	6.26	7.96	33	20.01	0.32
V01	6/24/2015	3.38	7.95	42.5	26.84	0.38
V02	6/24/2015	5.55	7.86	34.1	22.20	0.39
V03	6/24/2015	4.51	8.32	33.1	20.74	0.36
V04	6/24/2015	2.49	8.07	45.9	29.28	0.37
V06	6/24/2015	5.71	8.23	39.7	21.96	0.35
V07	6/24/2015	2.5	8.08	47.1	26.27	0.37
V08	6/24/2015	4.18	8.39	32	16.59	0.36
V09	6/24/2015	2.09	8.17	46.2	28.30	0.35
V10	6/24/2015	2.12	7.95	47.5	27.98	0.36
V11	6/24/2015	0.75	7.8	25	11.96	0.39
P05	10/12/2015	6.7	8.12	63.5	32.04	<LOD
P06	10/12/2015	3.4	8.67	84.3	42.70	<LOD
P08	10/12/2015	2.7	8.1	98	42.78	<LOD
P09	10/12/2015	4.6	8.22	63	35.48	<LOD
P11	10/12/2015	2.6	8.2	75.1	35.99	<LOD
V01	10/13/2015	5.1	7.38	46.9	28.30	<LOD
V02	10/13/2015	6.2	7.71	35.7	23.98	<LOD

V03	10/13/2015	7.64	5.9	35.4	22.29	<LOD
V04	10/13/2015	3.5	7.53	54.2	34.65	<LOD
V07	10/13/2015	4	7.87	55.7	32.05	<LOD
V11	10/13/2015	2.5	7.29	35.3	18.71	<LOD
P03	9/28/2015	10.7	8.37	33.7	21.32	<LOD
P05	9/28/2015	5.3	7.98	60	30.26	<LOD
P06	9/28/2015	2.1	8.51	75.1	43.43	<LOD
P08	9/28/2015	1.6	7.7	83.8	42.70	<LOD
P09	9/28/2015	5	8.34	56.8	33.72	<LOD
P10	9/28/2015	6.2	8.64	40.1	28.23	<LOD
P11	9/28/2015	5.4	8.21	66.5	39.65	<LOD
P12	9/28/2015	6.1	6.78	28.5	26.30	<LOD
V01	9/29/2015	6.6	6.7	60.4	29.70	<LOD
V02	9/29/2015	7.6	6.75	40.1	22.31	<LOD
V03	9/29/2015	7.6	6.72	40.1	22.50	<LOD
V04	9/29/2015	3.6	7.54	43.1	31.07	<LOD
V06	9/29/2015	5.4	7.67	59.7	32.47	<LOD
V07	9/29/2015	3.3	8.04	60	29.03	<LOD
V08	9/29/2015	7.2	7.9	58.8	28.47	<LOD
V10	9/29/2015	3.1	7.74	58	28.95	<LOD
V11	9/29/2015	1.6	7.2	37.3	18.43	<LOD
P05	7/25/2016	5	6.95	57.9	27.15	0.64
P06	7/25/2016	3.4	7	79.3	45.14	0.68
P08	7/25/2016	1.3	6.93	52.9	26.54	0.68
P11	7/25/2016	1.6	7.09	61.1	30.81	0.87
P12	7/25/2016	7.9	7.14	39.5	24.71	0.64
V01	7/26/2016	4.8	6.76	49.7	27.76	0.66
V02	7/26/2016	5.81	5.81	36.9	22.88	0.74
V03	7/26/2016	6.5	6.71	34.1	22.88	0.66
V04	7/26/2016	4	6.85	52.5	28.37	0.65
V07	7/26/2016	3.2	6.4	46.6	24.40	0.65
V10	7/26/2016	3.1	6.4	45.5	23.49	0.73
V11	7/26/2016	1.8	6.15	15	9.15	0.65
P05	6/23/2016	4.3	5.93	49.2	28.49	0.01
P06	6/23/2016	0.8	6.07	27	17.17	<LOD
P08	6/23/2016	0.6	6.28	25.6	16.17	<LOD
P11	6/23/2016	1.1	6.1	38.5	23.49	<LOD
P12	6/23/2016	5.7	7.12	31.1	20.96	<LOD
V07	6/24/2016	3.11	7.1	48.7	29.59	<LOD
V09	6/24/2016	2.8	6.73	51.9	29.59	<LOD
V10	6/24/2016	2.9	6.47	48.4	28.37	<LOD
V11	6/24/2016	0.75	7.8	22	10.98	<LOD
P03	10/10/2016	2.6	8.28	37	10.60	0.44
P08	10/10/2016	2.6	8.28	95.2	31.65	0.24
P11	10/10/2016	1.6	8.9	87	26.57	0.19
V01	10/11/2016	3.7	6.89	57.8	20.47	0.43
V02	10/11/2016	4.1	6.09	46.2	20.40	0.18
V03	10/11/2016	5.3	6.19	48.2	20.42	0.26
V04	10/11/2016	3.6	5.23	57.3	30.50	0.32
V07	10/11/2016	3.5	5.98	57.1	24.52	0.16
V11	10/11/2016	1.5	6.55	36.1	8.50	0.16
LOD	-	-	-	-	0.05	0.05

s and trace elements

major ions (milligrams per liter)								
mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	meq/L	meq/L
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	HCO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	Cl <sup>-</sup>
1.13	3.36	0.11	3.15	1.71	0.69	0.13	0.296	0.008
1.07	2.76	0.12	2.50	2.10	0.66	0.05	0.284	0.008
1.18	5.74	0.12	3.66	3.80	0.12	<LOD	0.460	0.002
1.21	5.94	<LOD	4.19	4.69	0.10	<LOD	0.517	0.002
0.97	4.44	<LOD	4.02	0.59	0.05	<LOD	0.182	0.007
0.89	3.92	0.28	2.45	2.13	0.04	<LOD	0.243	0.001
1.08	1.71	0.01	3.46	4.72	0.28	<LOD	0.414	0.016
0.85	1.45	0.12	2.01	3.60	0.03	<LOD	0.298	0.008
0.90	2.79	0.09	2.31	1.80	0.66	0.06	0.281	0.008
0.73	1.88	<LOD	2.69	3.19	0.04	<LOD	0.397	0.013
1.08	3.08	0.06	2.58	3.25	0.14	<LOD	0.363	0.007
0.89	2.38	0.04	2.25	1.05	<LOD	<LOD	0.162	0.007
0.38	6.95	1.11	8.29	1.62	0.72	0.23	0.470	0.006
0.52	10.44	<LOD	8.49	0.91	0.78	0.55	0.411	0.007
1.06	4.63	<LOD	2.26	4.64	0.07	<LOD	0.427	0.008
1.40	3.19	0.02	3.33	4.00	0.10	<LOD	0.506	0.000
0.75	1.76	0.04	2.02	2.99	0.12	<LOD	0.373	0.001
0.84	1.23	0.46	2.02	2.92	0.09	<LOD	0.391	0.001
1.13	3.13	0.06	3.55	4.47	0.17	0.01	0.520	0.000
1.21	5.66	0.04	3.29	4.02	0.12	0.01	0.406	0.007
1.47	5.25	0.02	4.05	1.77	0.03	<LOD	0.239	0.007
1.38	4.83	0.16	3.14	2.92	0.09	0.11	0.355	0.006
0.89	1.42	0.24	2.01	2.80	0.55	0.13	0.277	0.025
0.46	0.73	0.04	0.63	0.50	0.03	<LOD	0.051	0.007
1.30	3.06	0.26	2.57	2.06	0.71	0.13	0.314	0.012
1.27	2.88	0.06	1.94	2.43	0.18	<LOD	0.268	0.009
1.61	5.05	0.01	3.19	1.69	0.02	<LOD	0.208	0.010
0.70	5.31	0.21	7.53	1.48	0.73	0.21	0.342	0.008
1.41	3.15	0.12	2.69	3.19	0.20	<LOD	0.398	0.004
0.86	1.86	0.03	1.93	2.68	0.15	0.03	0.334	0.003
0.97	1.62	0.24	1.82	2.65	0.21	<LOD	0.345	0.004
1.39	2.15	0.50	3.30	3.78	0.40	0.10	0.520	0.005
0.92	3.34	0.12	3.29	1.62	0.75	0.18	0.280	0.009
0.80	2.82	0.11	2.55	2.07	0.66	0.06	0.291	0.008
0.79	2.90	0.10	2.57	2.06	0.69	0.08	0.275	0.008
0.40	9.96	0.11	9.80	1.92	0.80	0.32	0.491	0.004
0.63	13.74	0.10	9.62	0.83	0.85	0.64	0.411	0.007
1.64	10.18	0.03	4.07	8.36	0.17	<LOD	0.853	0.001
1.95	6.90	<LOD	3.16	4.11	0.55	<LOD	0.448	0.008
1.18	3.23	<LOD	2.61	4.44	0.11	<LOD	0.413	0.017
1.06	2.88	<LOD	2.08	3.55	0.06	<LOD	0.348	0.007
1.02	2.48	0.01	2.62	3.23	0.59	0.54	0.416	0.037
1.64	3.70	<LOD	4.18	4.69	0.16	<LOD	0.527	0.002
1.22	2.94	<LOD	2.43	3.34	0.19	<LOD	0.394	0.001
1.13	3.03	0.06	2.69	3.70	0.18	0.03	0.445	0.001
1.67	5.22	0.00	4.34	4.60	0.43	0.12	0.583	0.000



1.01	5.99	<LOD	4.58	3.85	0.05	<LOD	0.413	0.002
1.11	6.52	<LOD	3.96	2.86	0.07	<LOD	0.335	0.007
0.87	4.44	0.03	3.17	1.70	0.03	<LOD	0.237	0.007
1.08	5.74	0.01	3.30	3.18	0.09	0.00	0.365	0.002
1.04	4.19	<LOD	3.40	1.56	0.05	<LOD	0.197	0.007
0.83	3.23	<LOD	3.26	1.65	0.69	0.17	0.250	0.008
0.82	2.80	<LOD	2.52	2.09	0.66	0.04	0.235	0.007
0.84	2.75	0.10	2.48	1.98	0.67	0.09	0.240	0.007
0.20	8.09	<LOD	8.16	1.70	0.74	0.28	0.444	<LOD
0.41	12.12	<LOD	8.60	0.84	0.82	0.55	0.396	0.007
1.41	8.72	<LOD	3.12	6.53	0.12	<LOD	0.604	0.001
1.50	5.22	<LOD	3.23	4.06	0.35	<LOD	0.424	0.007
0.73	1.91	<LOD	3.52	4.69	0.11	<LOD	0.442	0.007
0.47	1.65	<LOD	1.43	3.26	0.06	<LOD	0.278	0.006
1.06	2.26	0.02	2.59	3.24	0.17	<LOD	0.397	0.007
1.44	3.11	<LOD	3.48	3.91	0.14	<LOD	0.467	0.001
0.76	1.66	<LOD	2.12	3.05	0.16	0.11	0.366	0.001
1.02	2.34	<LOD	2.48	3.35	0.17	0.08	0.346	0.000
1.40	4.50	<LOD	3.37	3.98	0.31	0.07	0.492	0.001
0.99	4.07	<LOD	2.69	2.59	0.01	0.07	0.307	0.002
1.40	6.33	1.77	4.29	3.43	0.10	<LOD	0.364	0.008
1.04	4.95	0.05	4.75	1.21	0.05	<LOD	0.252	0.007
1.07	5.73	<LOD	3.25	2.85	0.08	0.01	0.334	0.002
1.12	5.47	0.04	3.59	3.12	0.17	0.01	0.362	0.002
0.91	3.63	<LOD	2.80	1.32	<LOD	<LOD	0.178	0.007
1.80	1.88	<LOD	3.00	1.43	0.30	0.40	0.270	0.010
1.32	1.39	0.53	2.55	2.06	0.17	0.22	0.260	0.011
1.33	1.38	0.54	2.59	2.06	0.16	0.23	0.268	0.010
0.51	2.53	0.42	4.97	1.84	0.29	0.46	0.380	0.009
0.72	4.18	0.48	8.72	0.79	0.46	0.82	0.410	0.009
1.10	1.19	0.66	1.71	3.41	0.42	<LOD	0.328	0.009
0.95	0.70	0.31	1.30	1.68	<LOD	<LOD	0.200	0.009
0.83	0.60	0.37	1.10	2.00	<LOD	<LOD	0.200	0.010
0.80	0.53	0.30	0.34	0.66	<LOD	<LOD	0.070	0.010
1.57	2.08	0.47	3.31	3.87	0.23	<LOD	0.428	0.011
1.12	0.80	0.28	2.35	2.90	<LOD	<LOD	0.328	0.009
1.39	1.35	0.37	3.32	4.00	0.12	0.19	0.440	0.011
1.08	0.91	0.51	2.23	3.27	0.17	<LOD	0.364	0.011
1.07	0.88	0.35	2.19	3.10	0.11	<LOD	0.340	0.010
1.42	1.64	0.61	3.96	4.09	0.25	0.25	0.480	0.011
1.44	2.17	0.80	3.41	3.00	<LOD	<LOD	0.360	0.010
1.41	2.52	0.35	3.88	4.03	0.15	<LOD	0.431	0.011
1.86	1.95	0.14	3.14	1.91	<LOD	<LOD	0.272	0.010
1.70	2.54	0.33	3.91	4.12	0.14	<LOD	0.464	0.010
2.02	2.39	0.64	3.72	4.59	0.15	0.26	0.459	0.010
1.63	1.66	0.28	2.44	1.35	<LOD	<LOD	0.196	0.011
0.59	4.76	3.96	8.61	0.87	0.39	0.70	0.525	<LOD
2.30	3.83	1.95	3.78	7.39	0.00	0.03	0.700	<LOD
2.69	9.93	1.62	5.42	6.77	1.89	0.11	0.701	<LOD
1.69	2.17	3.64	3.06	5.17	0.12	<LOD	0.582	<LOD
1.95	4.84	2.07	5.12	5.33	0.18	0.09	0.590	<LOD
1.63	0.91	2.06	3.40	3.87	0.05	<LOD	0.464	<LOD
0.79	0.43	2.62	2.15	3.03	0.03	<LOD	0.393	<LOD

0.93	0.37	1.71	2.14	3.13	0.00	<LOD	0.365	<LOD
1.69	1.72	1.94	3.97	4.44	0.23	0.11	0.568	<LOD
1.44	3.64	2.91	4.97	3.95	0.06	<LOD	0.525	<LOD
1.97	3.08	1.91	3.90	2.03	<LOD	<LOD	0.307	<LOD
1.35	1.16	2.35	2.46	2.10	0.13	0.05	0.350	<LOD
0.56	4.63	1.87	9.52	0.88	0.40	0.71	0.496	<LOD
2.00	3.97	1.64	3.74	7.42	<LOD	0.03	0.712	<LOD
2.24	7.68	2.59	5.30	6.63	1.55	0.08	0.700	<LOD
1.70	2.29	3.10	3.04	4.93	0.40	0.21	0.553	<LOD
1.28	1.65	2.37	2.55	4.08	0.09	0.01	0.463	<LOD
1.88	3.81	4.30	4.66	5.24	0.18	0.10	0.650	<LOD
1.09	0.78	2.52	2.45	3.17	0.41	0.23	0.431	<LOD
2.00	0.80	2.99	3.28	3.82	0.05	<LOD	0.487	<LOD
1.34	0.27	1.77	2.14	3.11	0.02	<LOD	0.366	<LOD
1.37	0.15	1.80	2.13	3.08	0.05	<LOD	0.369	<LOD
1.93	1.56	1.33	3.81	4.33	0.22	0.08	0.509	<LOD
2.12	2.44	3.52	4.28	4.04	0.13	0.06	0.532	<LOD
1.61	3.04	2.63	4.57	3.73	0.06	0.01	0.476	<LOD
1.69	2.69	2.42	4.97	2.56	0.34	<LOD	0.467	<LOD
1.53	3.00	2.56	4.42	3.54	0.04	<LOD	0.475	<LOD
2.18	2.28	2.52	3.43	1.79	<LOD	<LOD	0.302	<LOD
0.87	4.13	0.83	7.76	0.88	0.70	0.87	0.445	0.018
2.40	2.77	0.72	3.31	6.38	<LOD	0.31	0.740	0.019
2.24	2.80	0.32	2.90	3.48	0.85	<LOD	0.435	0.019
2.13	2.75	0.29	3.63	4.10	0.50	0.32	0.505	0.025
1.24	1.20	0.28	2.40	2.95	0.46	0.32	0.405	0.018
1.84	1.55	0.30	3.08	3.47	<LOD	0.25	0.455	0.019
1.59	1.19	0.98	2.07	2.95	<LOD	<LOD	0.375	0.021
1.23	1.14	0.66	2.06	2.86	<LOD	0.32	0.375	0.019
1.55	2.33	0.89	3.45	3.44	<LOD	0.30	0.465	0.019
1.92	2.53	0.65	3.50	3.05	<LOD	0.31	0.400	0.019
1.56	2.56	0.28	4.29	3.91	<LOD	<LOD	0.385	0.021
1.83	1.27	0.79	1.61	0.92	<LOD	<LOD	0.150	0.018
0.57	0.73	0.26	5.08	2.16	<LOD	<LOD	0.467	0.000
1.11	4.41	0.64	6.71	0.53	0.66	0.91	0.281	<LOD
1.60	1.45	0.52	1.33	1.88	0.54	<LOD	0.265	<LOD
0.89	1.66	0.71	2.32	3.00	0.45	0.56	0.385	<LOD
0.29	0.57	0.42	1.62	2.22	0.47	<LOD	0.344	<LOD
1.07	2.46	0.78	3.14	3.80	0.48	0.52	0.485	<LOD
1.15	2.55	0.67	2.97	3.69	0.44	<LOD	0.485	<LOD
1.91	2.70	0.78	3.05	3.74	0.49	0.52	0.465	<LOD
1.08	1.32	0.71	1.73	0.88	0.44	<LOD	0.180	<LOD
1.66	2.27	<LOD	2.49	2.12	<LOD	<LOD	0.174	0.013
2.40	6.17	<LOD	5.65	6.37	0.47	<LOD	0.519	0.007
2.33	5.41	<LOD	5.09	5.62	<LOD	<LOD	0.436	0.005
1.56	1.89	<LOD	3.19	3.71	<LOD	0.12	0.336	0.012
1.76	1.45	<LOD	2.10	3.42	<LOD	<LOD	0.334	0.005
1.60	1.65	<LOD	1.68	3.05	<LOD	<LOD	0.335	0.008
1.53	4.06	<LOD	6.32	4.32	<LOD	<LOD	0.500	0.009
1.55	4.36	<LOD	4.79	3.09	<LOD	<LOD	0.402	0.004
1.58	3.31	<LOD	3.65	0.79	<LOD	<LOD	0.139	0.005
0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.0008	0.0014

major ions (milliequivalent per liter)								
meq/L	meq/L	meq/L	meq/L	meq/L	meq/L	meq/L		µg/L
NO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup>	SO <sub>4</sub> <sup>2-</sup>	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	Ca <sup>2+</sup>	Mg <sup>2+</sup>	Na <sup>+</sup>	K <sup>+</sup>	Ionic Balance	Cr
0.018	0.070	0.006	0.157	0.141	0.030	0.003	-7.42%	0.193
0.017	0.058	0.007	0.125	0.173	0.029	0.001	-4.60%	0.216
0.019	0.120	0.007	0.183	0.313	0.005	<LOD	-8.32%	0.704
0.019	0.124	<LOD	0.209	0.386	0.004	<LOD	-4.92%	0.740
0.016	0.092	<LOD	0.201	0.048	0.002	<LOD	-8.19%	0.170
0.014	0.082	0.016	0.122	0.175	0.002	<LOD	-3.74%	0.468
0.017	0.036	0.000	0.173	0.389	0.012	<LOD	8.61%	0.623
0.014	0.030	0.007	0.100	0.296	0.001	<LOD	7.24%	0.483
0.015	0.058	0.005	0.116	0.148	0.029	0.002	-9.39%	0.197
0.012	0.039	<LOD	0.134	0.262	0.002	<LOD	-7.26%	0.918
0.017	0.064	0.003	0.129	0.268	0.006	<LOD	-5.28%	0.165
0.014	0.050	0.002	0.113	0.086	<LOD	<LOD	-7.19%	0.186
0.006	0.145	0.062	0.415	0.134	0.031	0.006	1.59%	0.134
0.008	0.218	<LOD	0.424	0.075	0.034	0.014	-8.10%	0.013
0.017	0.097	<LOD	0.113	0.382	0.003	<LOD	-4.82%	0.510
0.023	0.066	0.001	0.166	0.329	0.004	<LOD	-8.52%	1.228
0.012	0.037	0.002	0.101	0.246	0.005	<LOD	-8.80%	0.933
0.013	0.026	0.026	0.101	0.240	0.004	<LOD	-7.46%	0.980
0.018	0.065	0.003	0.178	0.368	0.007	0.000	-4.09%	0.864
0.019	0.118	0.002	0.165	0.331	0.005	0.000	-4.49%	1.115
0.024	0.109	0.001	0.202	0.146	0.001	<LOD	-3.99%	0.661
0.022	0.101	0.009	0.157	0.240	0.004	0.003	-8.03%	0.801
0.014	0.029	0.013	0.100	0.230	0.024	0.003	3.52%	0.488
0.007	0.015	0.002	0.031	0.041	0.001	<LOD	-3.14%	0.354
0.021	0.064	0.014	0.129	0.169	0.031	0.003	-8.49%	0.302
0.021	0.060	0.003	0.097	0.200	0.008	<LOD	-7.30%	0.226
0.026	0.105	0.000	0.159	0.139	0.001	<LOD	-7.65%	0.952
0.011	0.111	0.012	0.377	0.122	0.032	0.005	7.48%	0.656
0.023	0.066	0.006	0.135	0.262	0.008	<LOD	-8.73%	1.216
0.014	0.039	0.002	0.096	0.221	0.006	0.001	-8.95%	1.134
0.016	0.034	0.014	0.091	0.218	0.009	<LOD	-9.03%	0.886
0.022	0.045	0.028	0.165	0.311	0.017	0.003	-6.17%	0.771
0.015	0.070	0.007	0.165	0.134	0.033	0.005	-4.37%	0.824
0.013	0.059	0.006	0.127	0.171	0.029	0.002	-5.13%	0.684
0.013	0.060	0.005	0.128	0.169	0.030	0.002	-2.98%	0.648
0.007	0.207	0.006	0.490	0.158	0.035	0.008	-0.85%	0.390
0.010	0.286	0.006	0.481	0.068	0.037	0.016	-8.04%	0.065
0.026	0.212	0.002	0.203	0.688	0.007	<LOD	-9.64%	1.288
0.031	0.144	<LOD	0.158	0.338	0.024	<LOD	-9.68%	2.465
0.019	0.067	<LOD	0.130	0.365	0.005	<LOD	-1.58%	1.360
0.017	0.060	<LOD	0.104	0.292	0.003	<LOD	-3.99%	1.303
0.016	0.052	0.001	0.131	0.266	0.026	0.014	-8.77%	2.861
0.027	0.077	<LOD	0.209	0.386	0.007	<LOD	-2.42%	2.823
0.020	0.061	<LOD	0.121	0.275	0.008	<LOD	-8.08%	2.514
0.018	0.063	0.003	0.134	0.305	0.008	0.001	-7.85%	2.234
0.027	0.109	0.000	0.217	0.378	0.019	0.003	-7.58%	2.415

0.016	0.125	<LOD	0.229	0.317	0.002	<LOD	-0.71%	1.186
0.018	0.136	<LOD	0.198	0.236	0.003	<LOD	-6.39%	0.972
0.014	0.092	0.001	0.159	0.140	0.001	<LOD	-7.58%	0.510
0.017	0.120	0.001	0.165	0.262	0.004	0.000	-7.68%	1.134
0.017	0.087	<LOD	0.170	0.129	0.002	<LOD	-1.29%	0.427
0.013	0.067	<LOD	0.163	0.135	0.030	0.004	-0.84%	0.392
0.013	0.058	<LOD	0.126	0.172	0.029	0.001	2.23%	0.397
0.014	0.057	0.006	0.124	0.163	0.029	0.002	0.80%	0.588
0.003	0.169	<LOD	0.408	0.140	0.032	0.007	-2.32%	0.587
0.007	0.252	<LOD	0.430	0.069	0.036	0.014	-9.30%	0.170
0.023	0.182	<LOD	0.156	0.537	0.005	<LOD	-7.32%	1.237
0.024	0.109	<LOD	0.162	0.334	0.015	<LOD	-4.92%	0.781
0.012	0.040	<LOD	0.176	0.386	0.005	<LOD	6.29%	0.940
0.008	0.034	<LOD	0.072	0.268	0.003	<LOD	2.51%	1.236
0.017	0.047	0.001	0.130	0.267	0.007	<LOD	-7.22%	2.184
0.023	0.065	<LOD	0.174	0.322	0.006	<LOD	-5.14%	1.441
0.012	0.035	<LOD	0.106	0.251	0.007	0.003	-5.95%	1.255
0.016	0.049	<LOD	0.124	0.275	0.007	0.002	-0.35%	1.237
0.023	0.094	<LOD	0.169	0.327	0.013	0.002	-8.76%	1.059
0.016	0.085	<LOD	0.134	0.213	0.001	0.002	-7.89%	0.673
0.023	0.132	0.098	0.215	0.282	0.004	<LOD	6.51%	0.760
0.017	0.103	0.003	0.238	0.100	0.002	<LOD	-5.00%	0.390
0.017	0.119	<LOD	0.163	0.234	0.003	0.000	-8.17%	0.799
0.018	0.114	0.002	0.180	0.257	0.008	0.000	-5.20%	0.760
0.015	0.076	<LOD	0.140	0.109	<LOD	<LOD	-4.99%	0.347
0.029	0.039	<LOD	0.150	0.117	0.013	0.010	-9.00%	0.319
0.021	0.029	0.030	0.127	0.169	0.007	0.006	2.71%	0.919
0.021	0.029	0.030	0.130	0.169	0.007	0.006	2.12%	0.860
0.008	0.053	0.024	0.249	0.151	0.012	0.012	-0.32%	0.376
0.012	0.087	0.027	0.436	0.065	0.020	0.021	4.69%	0.152
0.018	0.025	0.037	0.085	0.281	0.018	<LOD	5.10%	0.487
0.015	0.015	0.017	0.065	0.139	<LOD	<LOD	-4.02%	0.360
0.013	0.012	0.020	0.055	0.164	<LOD	<LOD	0.74%	0.835
0.013	0.011	0.017	0.017	0.054	<LOD	<LOD	-8.09%	0.925
0.025	0.043	0.026	0.165	0.319	0.010	<LOD	1.16%	1.283
0.018	0.017	0.015	0.117	0.238	<LOD	<LOD	-0.12%	1.801
0.022	0.028	0.021	0.166	0.329	0.005	0.005	2.36%	1.899
0.017	0.019	0.029	0.111	0.269	0.007	<LOD	0.57%	1.741
0.017	0.018	0.020	0.110	0.255	0.005	<LOD	0.35%	1.627
0.023	0.034	0.034	0.198	0.337	0.011	0.006	3.36%	1.367
0.023	0.045	0.045	0.171	0.247	<LOD	<LOD	2.59%	0.782
0.023	0.053	0.020	0.194	0.332	0.006	<LOD	3.32%	1.301
0.030	0.041	0.008	0.157	0.157	<LOD	<LOD	-4.68%	0.568
0.027	0.053	0.018	0.196	0.339	0.006	<LOD	0.40%	1.387
0.033	0.050	0.036	0.186	0.378	0.006	0.007	5.26%	1.501
0.026	0.034	0.016	0.122	0.111	<LOD	<LOD	-3.73%	0.660
0.009	0.099	0.220	0.431	0.071	0.017	0.018	8.83%	0.013
0.037	0.080	0.108	0.189	0.608	0.000	0.001	5.19%	1.264
0.043	0.207	0.090	0.271	0.557	0.082	0.003	2.61%	0.903
0.027	0.045	0.202	0.153	0.426	0.005	<LOD	9.19%	1.320
0.031	0.101	0.115	0.256	0.439	0.008	0.002	6.34%	1.979
0.026	0.019	0.115	0.170	0.319	0.002	<LOD	8.61%	2.572
0.013	0.009	0.146	0.108	0.249	0.001	<LOD	9.63%	2.213

0.015	0.008	0.095	0.107	0.257	0.000	<LOD	8.40%	2.278
0.027	0.036	0.108	0.199	0.365	0.010	0.003	4.02%	2.187
0.023	0.076	0.161	0.248	0.325	0.002	<LOD	8.28%	1.891
0.032	0.064	0.106	0.195	0.167	<LOD	<LOD	7.50%	0.837
0.022	0.024	0.130	0.123	0.173	0.006	0.001	4.55%	0.920
0.009	0.096	0.104	0.476	0.072	0.018	0.018	6.72%	0.048
0.032	0.083	0.091	0.187	0.611	<LOD	0.001	3.63%	0.944
0.036	0.160	0.144	0.265	0.545	0.067	0.002	6.62%	0.702
0.027	0.048	0.172	0.152	0.406	0.017	0.005	9.06%	1.311
0.021	0.034	0.131	0.128	0.336	0.004	0.000	7.31%	1.216
0.030	0.079	0.239	0.233	0.431	0.008	0.003	9.22%	2.432
0.018	0.016	0.140	0.122	0.261	0.018	0.006	8.07%	1.947
0.032	0.017	0.166	0.164	0.314	0.002	<LOD	9.35%	2.357
0.022	0.006	0.098	0.107	0.256	0.001	<LOD	8.08%	1.911
0.022	0.003	0.100	0.106	0.253	0.002	<LOD	7.93%	1.994
0.031	0.033	0.074	0.190	0.357	0.009	0.002	4.95%	1.753
0.034	0.051	0.196	0.214	0.332	0.005	0.001	9.64%	1.458
0.026	0.063	0.146	0.229	0.307	0.002	0.000	9.55%	1.564
0.027	0.056	0.134	0.249	0.211	0.015	<LOD	5.06%	0.863
0.025	0.062	0.142	0.221	0.291	0.002	<LOD	7.73%	1.837
0.035	0.047	0.140	0.171	0.147	<LOD	<LOD	8.80%	0.544
0.014	0.086	0.046	0.388	0.072	0.030	0.022	-0.40%	0.871
0.039	0.058	0.040	0.166	0.525	<LOD	0.008	-7.36%	1.240
0.036	0.058	0.018	0.145	0.286	0.037	<LOD	-6.05%	0.478
0.034	0.057	0.016	0.182	0.337	0.022	0.008	-4.78%	1.381
0.020	0.025	0.015	0.120	0.243	0.020	0.008	-7.07%	2.129
0.030	0.032	0.017	0.154	0.286	<LOD	0.006	-7.30%	2.202
0.026	0.025	0.055	0.104	0.243	<LOD	<LOD	-5.33%	1.439
0.020	0.024	0.037	0.103	0.236	<LOD	0.008	-6.60%	2.152
0.025	0.049	0.050	0.172	0.283	<LOD	0.008	-4.16%	1.272
0.031	0.053	0.036	0.175	0.251	<LOD	0.008	-3.37%	<LOD
0.025	0.053	0.015	0.215	0.322	<LOD	<LOD	6.49%	0.655
0.030	0.026	0.044	0.080	0.076	<LOD	<LOD	-5.69%	<LOD
0.009	0.015	0.015	0.254	0.177	<LOD	<LOD	-4.87%	<LOD
0.018	0.092	0.036	0.336	0.044	0.029	0.023	8.83%	0.111
0.026	0.030	0.029	0.066	0.155	0.023	<LOD	-8.02%	0.217
0.014	0.035	0.039	0.116	0.247	0.020	0.014	0.27%	0.932
0.005	0.012	0.023	0.081	0.183	0.021	<LOD	-7.91%	2.050
0.017	0.051	0.043	0.157	0.313	0.021	0.013	-0.59%	1.813
0.019	0.053	0.037	0.149	0.304	0.019	<LOD	-4.48%	2.096
0.031	0.056	0.043	0.153	0.308	0.021	0.013	-1.24%	2.053
0.017	0.027	0.039	0.087	0.072	0.019	<LOD	-1.73%	0.295
0.027	0.047	<LOD	0.125	0.174	<LOD	<LOD	6.90%	<LOD
0.039	0.129	<LOD	0.282	0.525	0.021	<LOD	8.84%	0.182
0.038	0.113	<LOD	0.254	0.463	<LOD	<LOD	9.61%	0.424
0.025	0.039	<LOD	0.160	0.305	<LOD	0.003	6.30%	1.746
0.028	0.030	<LOD	0.105	0.282	<LOD	<LOD	-1.46%	1.115
0.026	0.034	<LOD	0.084	0.251	<LOD	<LOD	-9.20%	1.193
0.025	0.085	<LOD	0.316	0.356	<LOD	<LOD	4.14%	0.540
0.025	0.091	<LOD	0.240	0.255	<LOD	<LOD	-2.77%	0.394
0.025	0.069	<LOD	0.183	0.065	<LOD	<LOD	1.89%	0.049
0.001	0.0005	0.0028	0.0013	0.0021	0.0022	0.0013	-	0.0031

Trace elements (micrograms per liter)							
µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L	µg/L
Mn	Co	Ni	Cu	Zn	Cd	Pb	Fe
0.039	0.025	2.268	<LOD	1.338	0.012	0.067	<LOD
0.212	0.023	3.010	<LOD	0.837	0.012	0.069	<LOD
0.021	<LOD	2.190	0.018	1.294	<LOD	0.051	2.084
0.037	<LOD	1.418	0.016	<LOD	<LOD	0.051	2.406
1.893	<LOD	1.104	0.027	1.639	<LOD	0.053	1.698
0.176	0.038	4.595	<LOD	6.750	0.012	0.077	3.021
0.316	0.054	3.838	0.199	3.713	0.012	0.094	24.218
0.423	0.048	3.373	0.138	5.832	0.013	0.088	21.125
0.240	0.019	2.798	<LOD	0.420	0.012	0.067	<LOD
0.047	0.030	7.007	<LOD	0.650	0.012	0.069	0.048
0.083	0.027	3.103	<LOD	0.150	0.012	0.069	2.373
0.260	0.041	4.388	<LOD	0.566	0.011	0.070	<LOD
0.027	0.020	1.177	<LOD	1.293	0.012	0.068	<LOD
0.035	0.022	0.120	<LOD	1.218	0.012	0.067	<LOD
0.151	0.120	2.116	<LOD	3.682	0.103	0.152	7.016
0.055	0.028	4.302	<LOD	<LOD	0.011	0.068	1.810
0.046	0.029	5.198	0.042	2.732	0.012	0.070	1.696
0.071	0.033	5.763	0.074	1.403	0.012	0.073	4.695
0.064	0.026	2.824	0.006	1.715	0.011	0.068	4.293
2.189	0.031	3.048	0.293	7.542	<LOD	0.106	8.715
0.644	0.084	5.486	0.164	10.135	<LOD	0.082	15.930
0.274	0.035	4.358	0.528	10.448	<LOD	0.193	7.930
0.609	0.043	3.353	0.287	3.221	<LOD	0.118	19.381
0.541	0.011	2.277	0.642	8.141	<LOD	0.190	8.919
0.272	0.007	3.438	0.177	12.774	<LOD	0.112	8.598
0.203	0.011	3.371	0.193	4.431	<LOD	0.093	7.479
1.492	0.264	8.467	0.474	9.065	<LOD	0.177	41.174
0.158	<LOD	2.429	1.846	10.320	<LOD	0.211	3.490
1.060	<LOD	3.885	0.716	8.859	<LOD	0.120	3.769
0.184	0.005	4.833	0.477	4.393	<LOD	0.105	9.819
0.181	0.035	5.219	0.226	37.140	0.012	1.106	4.194
1.247	<LOD	2.348	0.141	5.554	<LOD	0.104	9.148
0.241	0.114	6.878	0.483	39.604	0.054	0.146	<LOD
0.544	0.084	8.582	<LOD	7.481	0.051	0.043	2.177
0.760	0.083	7.566	0.004	2.173	0.051	0.048	<LOD
0.253	0.087	3.112	<LOD	5.109	0.051	0.044	<LOD
0.094	0.077	0.064	0.132	12.051	0.051	0.036	8.629
0.173	0.087	6.604	<LOD	23.071	0.051	0.059	<LOD
6.242	0.670	15.836	0.775	37.206	<LOD	0.645	5.598
0.635	0.160	9.284	0.165	0.247	0.050	0.080	<LOD
0.671	0.132	7.058	0.161	<LOD	0.052	0.051	<LOD
1.568	0.212	20.438	0.102	23.307	0.051	0.111	<LOD
0.053	0.044	7.658	<LOD	1.167	0.018	0.003	19.817
0.169	0.062	10.811	<LOD	5.629	0.018	0.025	<LOD
0.374	0.069	13.874	0.121	1.606	0.020	0.056	<LOD
2.001	0.247	7.641	0.150	<LOD	0.018	0.036	<LOD

0.120	0.065	8.435	<LOD	<LOD	0.018	0.004	8.415
0.093	0.053	6.439	<LOD	4.881	0.018	0.010	28.562
0.231	0.097	11.660	<LOD	<LOD	0.019	0.025	<LOD
0.109	0.055	4.893	<LOD	5.334	0.018	0.015	12.440
0.152	0.060	7.197	<LOD	<LOD	0.018	0.004	13.320
0.153	0.126	3.115	1.147	14.511	0.104	0.199	<LOD
0.409	0.126	3.675	0.074	9.579	0.104	0.162	1.999
0.585	0.049	6.732	0.028	9.914	0.023	0.026	<LOD
0.076	0.038	3.530	<LOD	12.770	0.021	0.019	25.534
0.103	0.037	0.327	<LOD	19.216	0.020	0.063	<LOD
0.189	0.060	5.097	<LOD	12.843	0.020	0.061	<LOD
0.249	0.069	7.538	0.110	10.183	0.019	0.051	<LOD
0.725	0.180	4.435	0.222	2.389	0.104	0.176	29.356
1.236	0.101	7.283	0.284	11.682	0.023	0.051	<LOD
0.107	0.052	16.167	0.268	20.189	0.019	0.039	<LOD
0.146	0.122	4.551	<LOD	1.862	0.103	0.152	0.167
0.171	0.129	6.082	0.120	1.261	0.104	0.169	7.172
0.216	0.132	7.201	0.097	1.941	0.104	0.158	9.557
0.156	0.120	2.439	<LOD	<LOD	0.103	0.145	1.770
0.219	0.136	5.177	<LOD	2.340	0.103	0.149	5.603
0.440	0.162	3.661	<LOD	3.632	0.103	0.158	14.464
3.953	0.137	5.571	<LOD	0.224	0.109	0.147	1.252
0.306	0.145	2.838	<LOD	1.802	0.105	0.152	9.773
0.192	0.128	2.773	<LOD	2.584	0.104	0.155	2.094
0.381	0.149	5.995	<LOD	0.368	0.103	0.160	2.977
0.189	0.017	4.737	0.911	14.629	<LOD	0.233	4.232
0.822	0.139	7.871	0.545	19.876	0.033	0.100	34.833
0.618	0.072	8.451	1.015	15.324	<LOD	0.083	34.883
0.173	<LOD	2.127	0.518	26.806	<LOD	0.137	3.960
0.061	<LOD	0.254	0.398	15.154	<LOD	0.039	2.184
0.129	0.004	3.954	0.156	8.250	<LOD	0.042	8.452
0.415	0.035	5.987	0.340	11.561	<LOD	0.027	11.089
1.401	0.097	7.203	1.982	13.663	<LOD	0.180	34.601
1.228	0.082	6.619	1.435	31.463	<LOD	0.345	29.374
2.185	0.200	6.890	0.827	22.627	<LOD	0.098	33.850
0.390	0.064	13.937	0.848	32.804	0.035	0.308	12.274
0.055	<LOD	6.760	0.060	11.154	<LOD	0.001	5.209
0.102	0.001	9.071	0.319	17.541	<LOD	0.104	7.566
0.322	0.009	9.609	0.291	8.454	<LOD	0.041	13.903
0.120	<LOD	4.235	0.098	8.115	<LOD	<LOD	6.556
0.206	0.018	6.943	0.027	9.761	<LOD	0.096	5.726
0.305	0.036	6.572	0.104	9.466	<LOD	<LOD	9.649
0.305	0.035	8.224	0.040	7.952	<LOD	0.000	5.620
0.421	0.067	6.888	0.061	5.501	<LOD	<LOD	11.987
0.128	0.007	4.595	0.087	10.162	<LOD	0.004	6.471
1.568	0.206	9.506	0.161	25.647	<LOD	0.085	22.622
<LOD	<LOD	0.781	0.034	2.467	<LOD	<LOD	0.964
0.098	<LOD	5.214	<LOD	4.895	<LOD	0.036	7.230
0.383	0.010	10.613	0.205	8.809	<LOD	0.021	7.727
1.806	0.079	9.712	0.371	3.867	<LOD	<LOD	32.839
1.163	0.096	9.901	0.341	2.594	<LOD	0.234	20.607
0.004	<LOD	8.366	0.059	0.861	<LOD	0.168	4.040
0.244	0.007	10.679	0.402	2.245	<LOD	0.019	13.000

0.080	<LOD	11.371	0.213	1.470	<LOD	0.020	9.660
0.078	<LOD	4.933	0.060	1.214	<LOD	0.591	5.188
1.220	0.212	12.691	0.194	3.247	<LOD	0.844	21.636
0.231	0.010	6.564	0.012	1.776	<LOD	0.381	4.380
0.478	0.064	6.988	0.337	3.197	0.005	0.058	22.100
0.023	0.021	0.114	0.089	0.975	0.007	0.016	3.281
0.195	0.042	4.299	0.117	2.110	0.006	0.036	7.816
0.284	0.045	8.131	0.169	0.919	0.006	0.020	9.621
1.355	0.115	8.806	0.684	4.825	0.008	0.069	31.958
2.192	0.108	7.473	0.401	4.953	0.009	0.060	29.519
0.917	0.130	5.916	0.357	4.072	0.006	0.055	28.887
0.156	0.039	12.787	0.236	5.773	0.007	0.105	7.042
0.137	0.041	6.647	0.158	1.101	0.002	0.015	7.395
0.318	0.043	9.106	0.258	0.880	0.002	0.015	15.262
0.236	0.040	9.708	0.294	11.929	0.004	0.034	12.604
0.097	0.020	3.560	0.112	0.558	0.002	0.010	7.576
0.424	0.075	8.454	0.124	1.181	0.003	0.020	14.180
0.407	0.110	6.833	0.116	0.622	0.002	0.026	17.579
0.138	0.050	12.680	0.068	2.188	0.003	0.013	4.503
0.782	0.161	7.391	0.201	3.374	0.003	0.037	30.743
0.359	0.039	6.856	0.051	0.862	0.003	0.022	5.966
0.416	<LOD	6.984	1.398	6.791	<LOD	<LOD	5.844
<LOD	<LOD	9.349	<LOD	3.688	<LOD	<LOD	10.977
<LOD	<LOD	10.064	<LOD	4.955	<LOD	<LOD	19.770
<LOD	<LOD	5.223	0.431	4.258	<LOD	<LOD	11.662
5.742	<LOD	16.669	0.359	13.196	<LOD	<LOD	32.840
<LOD	<LOD	8.717	<LOD	3.345	<LOD	<LOD	5.019
<LOD	<LOD	8.416	0.681	2.620	<LOD	<LOD	4.551
<LOD	<LOD	14.199	0.709	5.724	<LOD	<LOD	7.799
<LOD	<LOD	8.930	<LOD	5.060	<LOD	<LOD	6.207
<LOD	<LOD	0.028	<LOD	6.908	<LOD	<LOD	4.882
<LOD	<LOD	4.476	<LOD	5.423	<LOD	<LOD	4.005
1.064	<LOD	10.846	<LOD	4.539	<LOD	<LOD	3.913
<LOD	<LOD	0.073	0.189	6.637	0.054	0.067	0.489
<LOD	<LOD	4.935	0.166	2.851	0.052	0.092	3.019
0.908	<LOD	7.979	0.340	5.874	0.052	0.088	20.119
0.088	<LOD	4.980	0.408	5.244	0.053	0.097	11.572
<LOD	<LOD	13.024	0.312	7.041	0.052	0.064	6.321
<LOD	<LOD	8.215	0.269	16.971	0.052	0.079	9.447
0.134	<LOD	6.321	0.407	4.950	0.052	0.106	13.900
0.567	<LOD	6.972	0.303	8.103	0.052	0.089	12.051
0.562	<LOD	7.732	0.456	2.621	0.056	0.130	5.923
<LOD	<LOD	5.423	<LOD	1.158	<LOD	<LOD	0.137
<LOD	<LOD	5.334	<LOD	2.795	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD	16.402	1.003	2.033	<LOD	<LOD	0.121
<LOD	<LOD	5.686	0.235	1.687	<LOD	<LOD	0.341
<LOD	<LOD	7.957	<LOD	1.430	<LOD	<LOD	0.197
<LOD	<LOD	15.807	<LOD	2.572	<LOD	<LOD	4.611
<LOD	<LOD	8.377	<LOD	1.622	<LOD	<LOD	1.192
<LOD	<LOD	8.708	<LOD	0.886	<LOD	<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD	5.387	<LOD	0.595	<LOD	<LOD	0.040
0.0021	0.0002	0.0047	0.0010	0.0096	0.0004	0.0002	0.0188



$\mu\text{g/L}$	$\mu\text{g/L}$
<b>Ag</b>	<b>As</b>
0.013	0.225
0.006	0.286
<LOD	0.287
<LOD	0.270
<LOD	0.058
0.010	0.152
0.035	0.020
0.014	0.025
0.004	0.271
0.004	0.046
0.002	0.028
0.002	0.042
0.009	1.222
0.005	0.010
0.113	10.286
0.003	0.117
0.003	0.046
0.008	0.049
0.006	0.196
0.012	0.241
0.007	0.120
0.069	0.209
0.019	0.016
0.012	0.016
0.103	0.315
0.008	0.037
0.004	0.145
0.003	1.612
0.010	0.106
<LOD	0.052
0.037	0.048
<LOD	0.170
0.041	0.398
0.039	0.539
0.023	0.512
0.043	2.039
0.028	0.013
0.093	22.418
0.060	0.030
0.039	0.059
0.027	0.056
2.786	0.094
<LOD	0.176
<LOD	0.047
<LOD	0.036
<LOD	0.346

<LOD	0.394
0.006	0.730
<LOD	0.071
<LOD	0.382
<LOD	0.121
0.118	0.241
0.114	0.291
2.239	0.426
0.002	2.520
0.095	<LOD
0.599	21.523
0.284	0.004
0.176	0.035
0.105	<LOD
0.081	0.023
0.100	0.144
0.144	0.062
0.117	0.054
0.257	0.262
0.091	0.196
0.095	0.340
0.099	0.045
0.103	0.245
0.156	0.228
0.097	0.057
<LOD	0.512
0.053	0.775
<LOD	0.716
0.007	2.472
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	11.218
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	0.002
0.762	0.215
0.044	0.105
<LOD	0.131
<LOD	0.037
<LOD	0.031
<LOD	0.323
<LOD	0.204
<LOD	0.420
<LOD	0.100
<LOD	0.300
0.061	0.420
<LOD	0.100
0.052	<LOD
0.018	28.596
0.024	0.021
<LOD	<LOD
0.046	0.234
<LOD	0.168
0.018	0.019

<LOD	0.020
0.021	0.591
<LOD	0.844
0.030	0.381
0.022	0.563
0.189	0.015
0.015	20.997
0.518	0.076
0.024	0.042
0.013	0.045
0.035	0.257
0.009	0.154
0.010	0.216
0.838	0.084
0.035	0.086
0.015	0.460
0.017	0.512
0.014	0.662
0.004	0.159
0.051	0.444
0.018	0.239
<LOD	0.171
<LOD	28.250
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	0.020
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	0.160
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
0.089	<LOD
0.097	8.522
0.108	<LOD
0.092	<LOD
0.095	<LOD
0.086	0.391
0.115	0.681
0.089	0.109
0.131	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	0.015
<LOD	<LOD
<LOD	<LOD
0.0003	0.0018

Table S2: Mean values  $\pm$  standard deviation for 3 replicates of all single extraction:

<b>Samples</b>	<b>Measure unit</b>	<b>Co</b>	<b>Cr</b>	<b>Cu</b>
<b>P04</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	44.1 $\pm$ 0.8	454 $\pm$ 3	40.6 $\pm$ 1.6
<b>V07</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	75.6 $\pm$ 1.8	2160 $\pm$ 10.3	13 $\pm$ 0.3
<b>V08</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	44.9 $\pm$ 2.2	667 $\pm$	14.1 $\pm$ 0.63
<b>V11</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	52 $\pm$ 1.6	1080 $\pm$ 25.5	79.2 $\pm$ 2
<b>P05</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	32.63 $\pm$ 1.2	345.97 $\pm$ 11	120.18 $\pm$ 4.3
<b>P06</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	107.95 $\pm$ 4.5	1119.21 $\pm$ 21	59.2 $\pm$ 2
<b>LOD</b>	<b>mg/kg</b>	0.3	0.22	0.18

s for every site, and calculated recovery values

<b>Mn</b>	<b>Ni</b>	<b>Fe</b>	<b>Zn</b>	<b>As</b>	<b>Ag</b>
419.5±3	526±6.6	19800±15	43.75±2	154.65±6.7	<LOD
728±15.5	1310±10	40400±25.5	26.09±1.1	5.91±0.3	<LOD
389±10	941±16.7	19000±24	6.47±0.4	3.68±0.2	<LOD
494±19	1090±22.2	27200±25.5	11.72±0.4	10.73±0.5	<LOD
781.29±23.5	359.28±12.8	48730±21.4	143.58±4.3	123.74±2.3	<LOD
762.09±31.1	1726.62±11.4	45743±34	205.14±6.6	121.4±4.7	<LOD
0.12	0.03	0.08	0.41	0.95	0.75

<b>Pb</b>	<b>Cd</b>
1.02±0.1	<LOD
0.04±0.01	<LOD
0.4±0.01	<LOD
1.19±0.05	<LOD
24.17±0.9	<LOD
74.89±1	<LOD
0.03	0.39