

Lesson 3: Data Analysis

Directions. Now that you have developed a plan for data analysis, use the prompts below to record the steps your team actually takes to analyze the data, jot notes about patterns you are noticing among the variables, and identify any changes you make to the variables you are analyzing or to your data analysis plan.

List your data analysis steps (i.e., *What did you do? What Excel operations did you use? How did you organize and look at the data?*):

What patterns are you noticing among the variables you chose? What are these variables, and what happens to them in relationship to changes in precipitation levels?

How can you represent this graphically? (Don't do it yet... just describe how you can):

You may find that you wish to analyze additional variables or select different variables to analyze once you begin your analyses. If so, document these changes below and briefly explain why it was necessary to make these changes in your data analysis plan (*There is space for up to three changes here - continue this list below if needed*):

- Change #1:

Rationale (reason for change):

- Change #2:

Rationale:

- Change #3:

Rationale:

A claim is a statement or a conclusion that answers your research questions. A claim describes the relationship between the variables (dependent and independent) you investigated.

What claim can you make about the relationship between the water quality indicators (variables) you analyzed and the precipitation and discharge data?