



WOODS-RUN CHIPS AS A ALTERNATIVE MATRIX FOR FILTER SOCKS USED AS A E&S BMP



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Obstacles to siting unconventional wells in WV



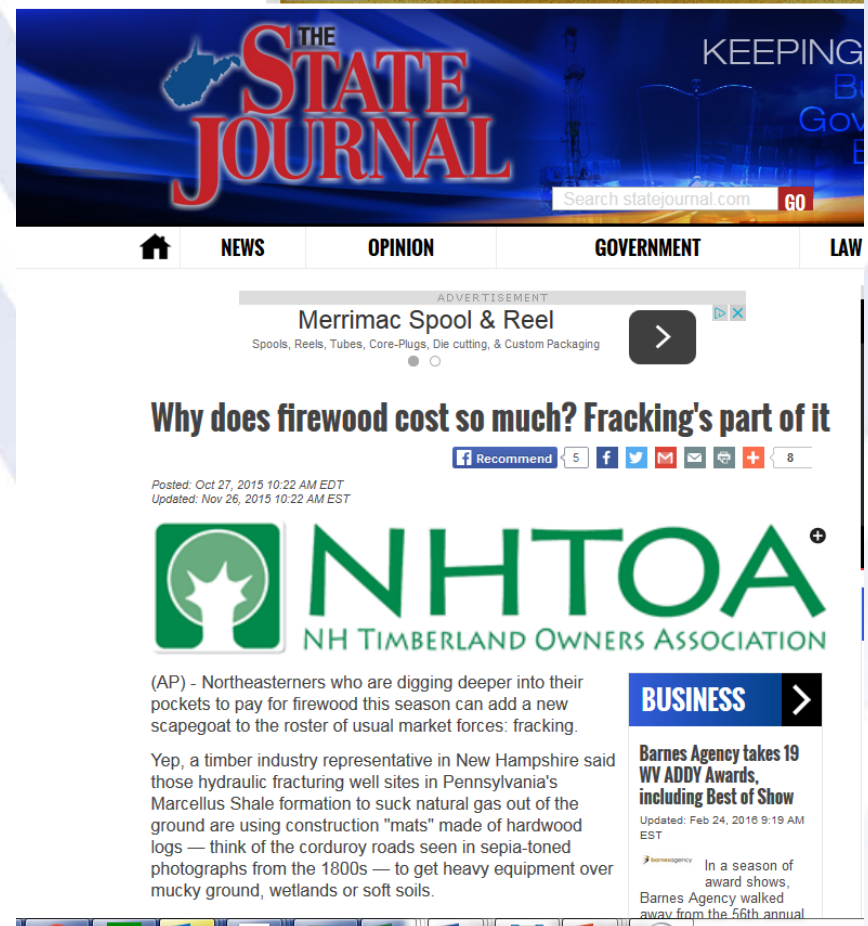
Obstacles to siting unconventional wells in WV

1. Public opinion – nontechnical risk
2. Terrain/Environment
 - Regulatory
 - Wetlands
 - Streams
 - Endangered Species
3. Ownership



Nontechnical risk

- Greater than risk associated with drilling and completion
- Must be cognizant of risk before siting
- Best companies understand concerns and work with local communities



The screenshot shows the homepage of The State Journal. The masthead features the newspaper's name in large red letters, a search bar, and navigation links for Home, News, Opinion, Government, and Law. Below the masthead is an advertisement for Merrimac Spool & Reel. The main article is titled "Why does firewood cost so much? Fracking's part of it" and is dated October 27, 2015. The article is by NHTOA (NH Timberland Owners Association) and discusses how hydraulic fracturing in Pennsylvania's Marcellus Shale formation is leading to the use of hardwood logs for firewood. A sidebar on the right highlights a "BUSINESS" section with the headline "Barnes Agency takes 19 WV ADDY Awards, including Best of Show" dated February 24, 2016.



Terrain

- Narrow ridges
- Steep slopes
- Soil prone to slipping
- Surface water
- Coal development



Planning...

- WV – 2011 HWA
- Can not impound streams, discharge into streams, fill or discharge into wetlands
- WV DEP and Federal EPA
- ***Must also follow erosion and sediment control regulations***
- Historical and Cultural Sites
- Floodplain
- Warm and Coldwater streams
- USFWS
- Others...



WV E&S Manual – May 2012

- <http://www.dep.wv.gov/oil-and-gas/Documents/Erosion%20Manual%2004.pdf>
- purpose is to present the best management practices (BMPs) for controlling erosion and sedimentation from soil-disturbing operations conducted during oil and gas industry activities in the state of West Virginia.
- As outlined in West Virginia State Code 22-6-6(d) 22-6A-7(c), an E & S control plan shall accompany each application for a well work permit



WV E&S

- Five Sections
 - Planning
 - Construction
 - Reclamation
 - Revegetation
 - Maintenance



WEST VIRGINIA EROSION AND SEDIMENT CONTROL FIELD MANUAL

Office of Oil and Gas
Charleston, WV

May 2012



west virginia department of environmental protection



WV – Sediment Control Barriers

- Vegetative Filter Strip
- Silt Fences
- Brush Barrier
- Temporary Earth or Rock Barrier
- Sediment Trap or Basin
- *Compost filter socks*
- Straw Bales



PA E&S BMPS

- Earth moving activities related to siting, drilling, completing, producing, servicing and plugging wells
- Must follow BMPs for oil and gas well operations



pennsylvania

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

**EROSION AND SEDIMENT POLLUTION
CONTROL PROGRAM MANUAL**

FINAL

**Technical Guidance Number
363-2134-008**

March 2012

**BUREAU OF WATERWAYS ENGINEERING AND WETLANDS
DIVISION OF WETLANDS, ENCROACHMENT AND TRAINING**



PA BMPS - COMPOST

- “should be a well decomposed, weed free organic matter derived from agriculture, food, stump grindings, and yard or wood/bark organic matter sources”
- Compost should be aerobically composted, possess no objectionable odors and should be reasonably free (<1% by dry weight) of man made matter.
- Compost should not resemble the raw material from which it was derived. Wood and bark chips, ground construction debris or reprocessed wood products are not acceptable as the organic component of the mix.



So is compost an issue?



How much sock?

- On average:
 - 587 cubic yards needed per site
 - 5.87 truckloads

Based on sample of 35 as constructed well sites in WV/PA



Do we have wood fiber available?



Objectives

- determine if differences exist in physical size class, pH, moisture content of particles contained in composted versus woods-run materials.
- evaluate differences in water filtration, solids removal, and effluent characteristics of composted versus woods-run materials



Methods

- Procured filter sock material from vendors
 - 3 ‘certified’ composted sock
 - 4 ‘certified’ woods run sock
- 4 socks made from each vendor – 28 total
- Socks all built using same auger filler mounted on skid steer loader



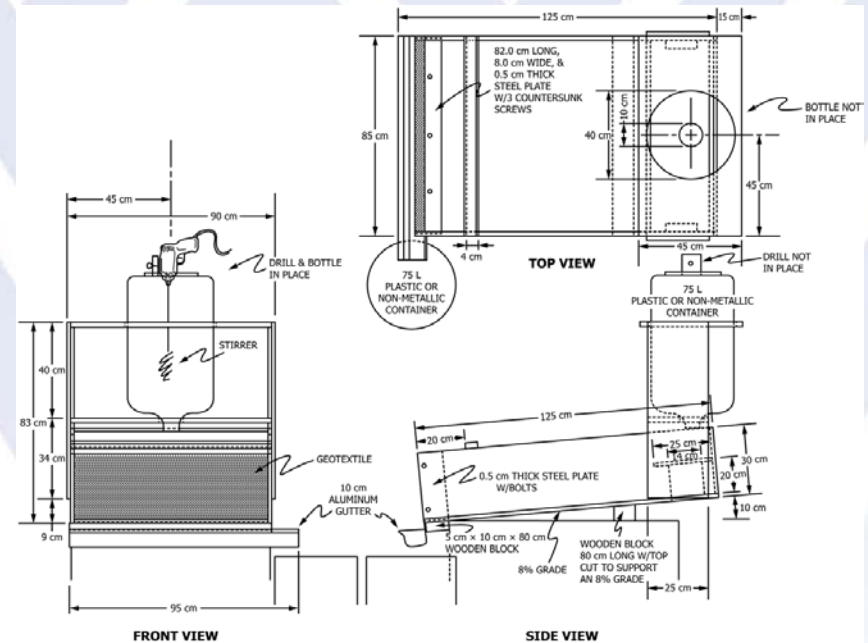
Size Characteristics

- 1 sock/material was sacrificed for size class/MC/pH testing
- Representative samples taken from each sacrificed sock



Filtration capacity

- **ASTM D5141-11**
Standard Test Method for Determining Filtering Efficiency and Flow Rate of the Filtration Component of a Sediment Retention Device



First Steps



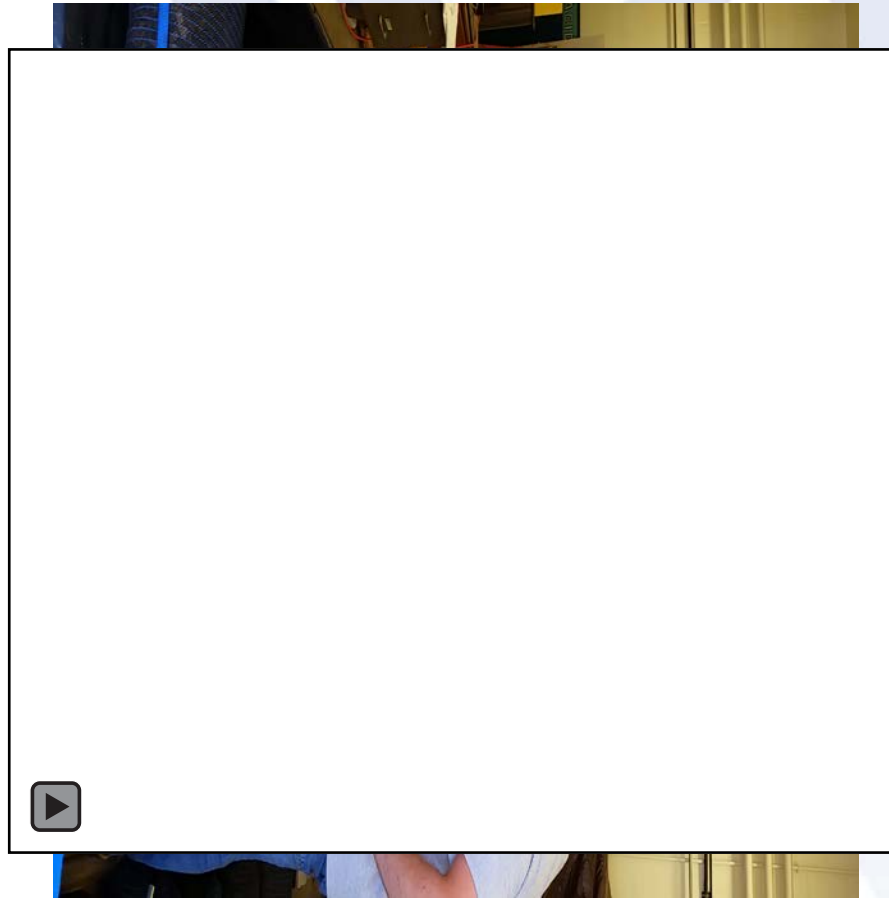
Adding sediment (0.15 kg)



Release and catch filtered water



Trial



Final Wash – 2 L



Sampling filtered water



Filtering Sediment



Water Chemistry

- Filtered – Whatman 42 paper
- Ph and EC with electrodes
- N as nitrate with colorimetry
- P and K by ICP



Compost Standards

**TABLE 4.2
Compost Standards**

Organic Matter Content	80% - 100% (dry weight basis)
Organic Portion	Fibrous and elongated
pH	5.5 - 8.0
Moisture Content	35% - 55%
Particle Size	98% pass through 1" screen
Soluble Salt Concentration	5.0 dS/m (mmhos/cm) Maximum

64

Filtrexx

**TABLE 4.2
Compost Standards**

Organic Matter Content	25% - 100% (dry weight basis)
Organic Portion	Fibrous and elongated
pH	5.5 - 8.5
Moisture Content	30% - 60%
Particle Size	30% - 50% pass through 3/8" sieve
Soluble Salt Concentration	5.0 dS/m (mmhos/cm) Maximum

77



Compost - USDA

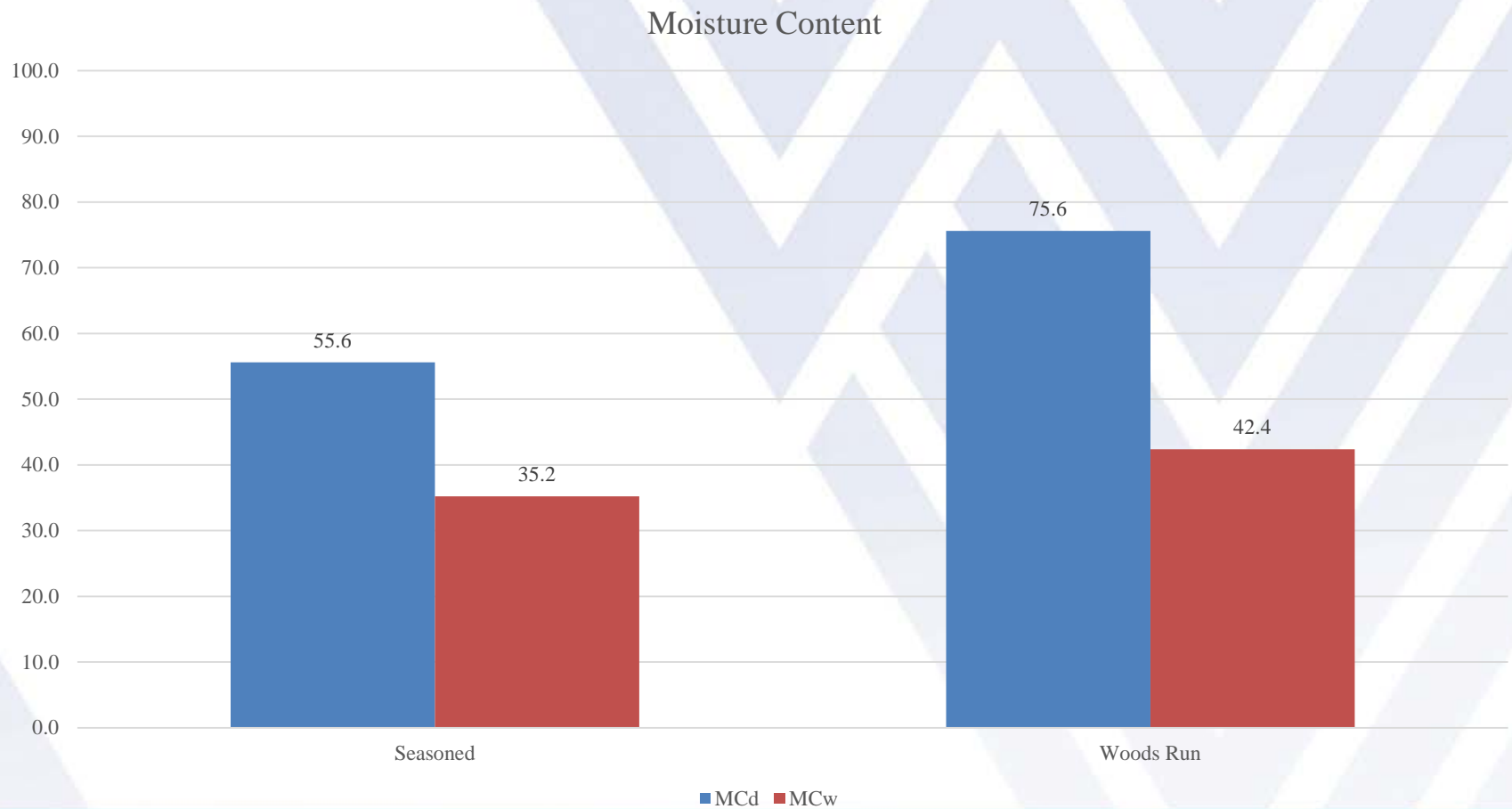
Table 1 Compost quality guidelines

Parameters	Units of measure	Compost
pH	pH units	6.0–8.0
Soluble salt concentration (electrical conductivity)	dS/m (mmhos/cm)	Maximum 5
Moisture content	percent, wet weight basis	30–60
Organic matter content	percent, dry weight basis	25–65
Particle size	percent passing a selected mesh size, dry weight basis	2 in (51 mm), 100% passing –0.375 in (10 mm), 10%–30% passing
Biological stability Carbon dioxide evolution rate	mg CO ₂ -C per gram of organic matter per day	<8
Physical contaminants (human-made inerts)	percent, dry weight basis	<1

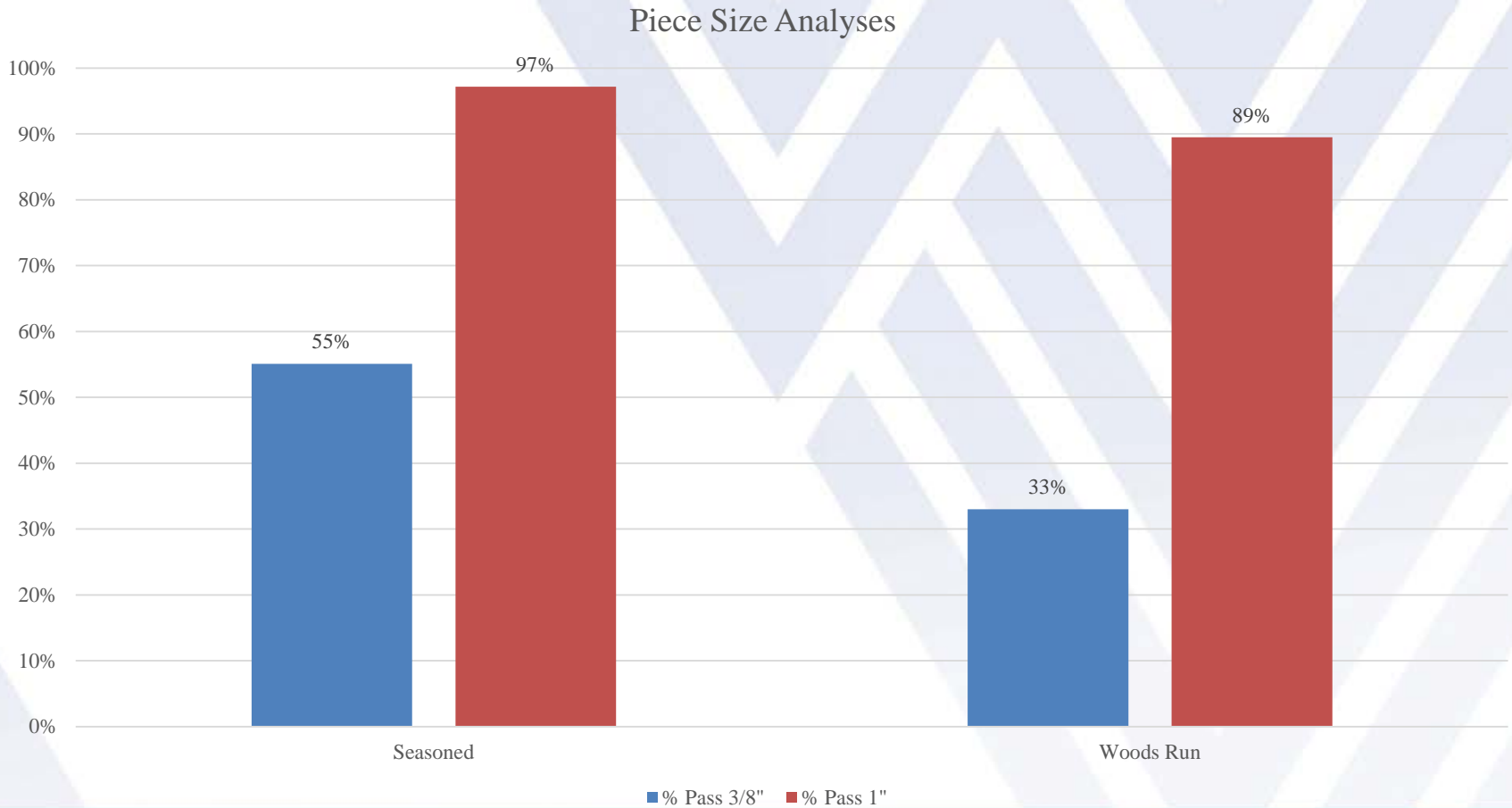
Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (2006)



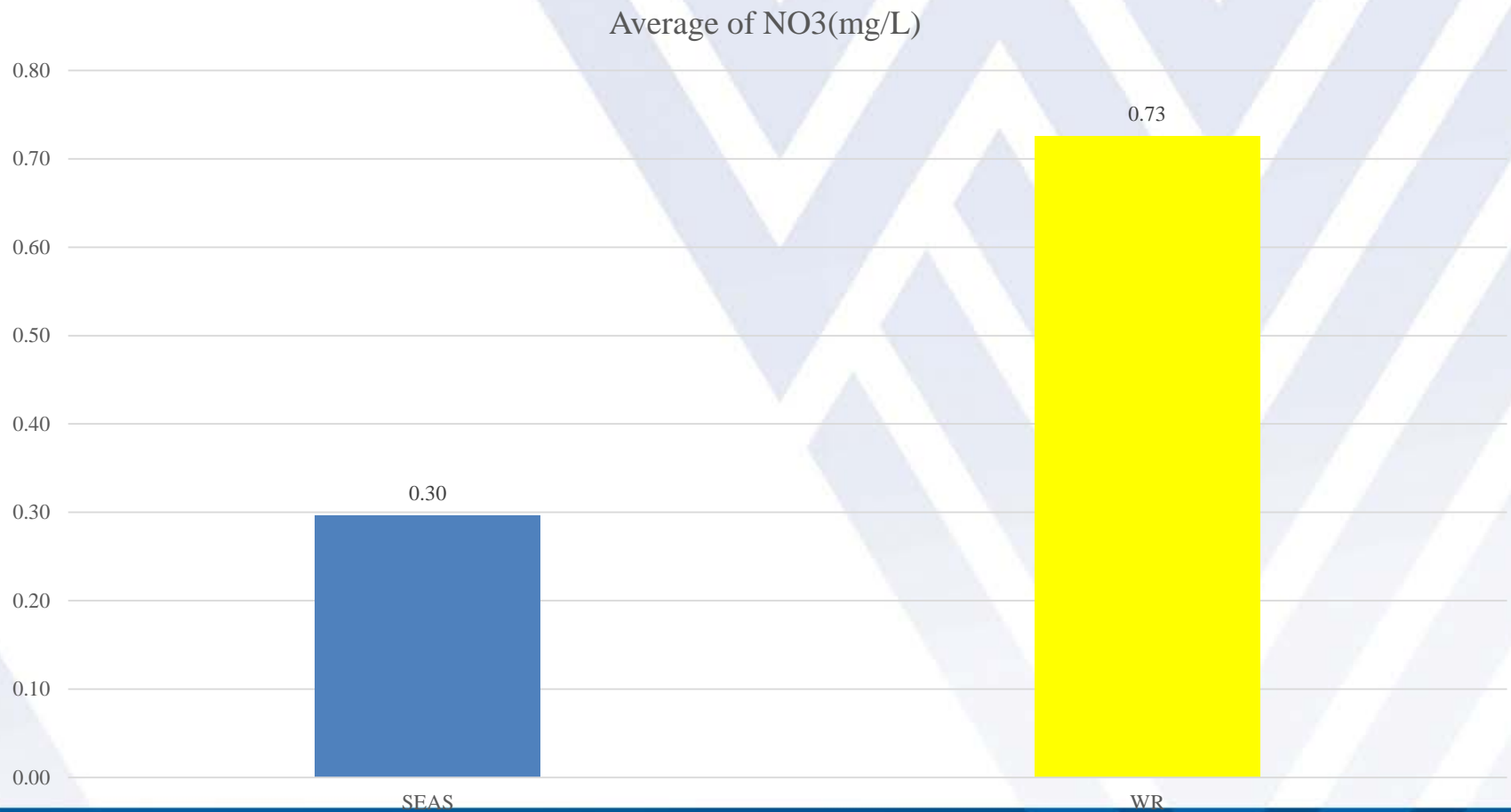
Results - MC



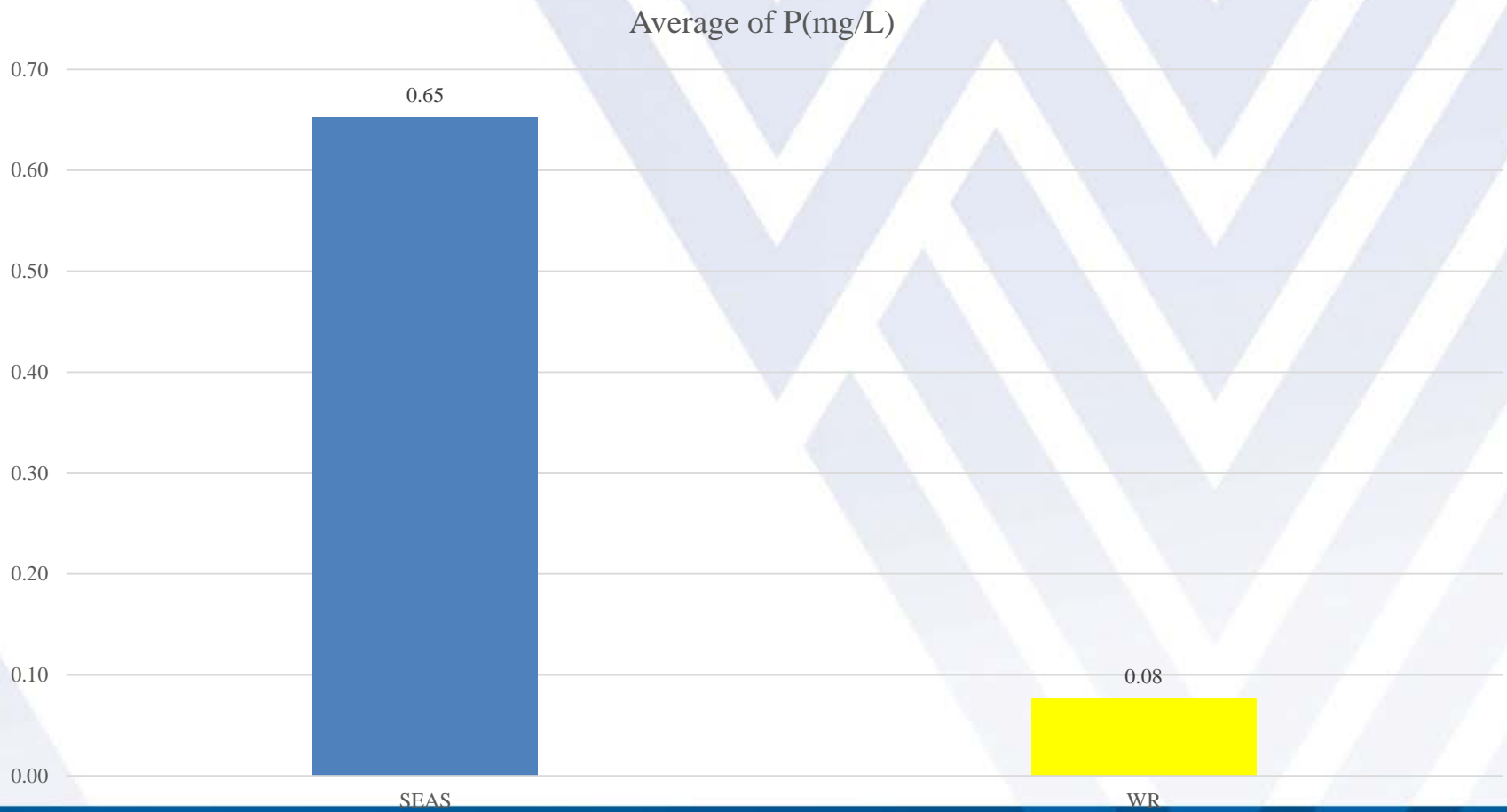
Results – Piece Size



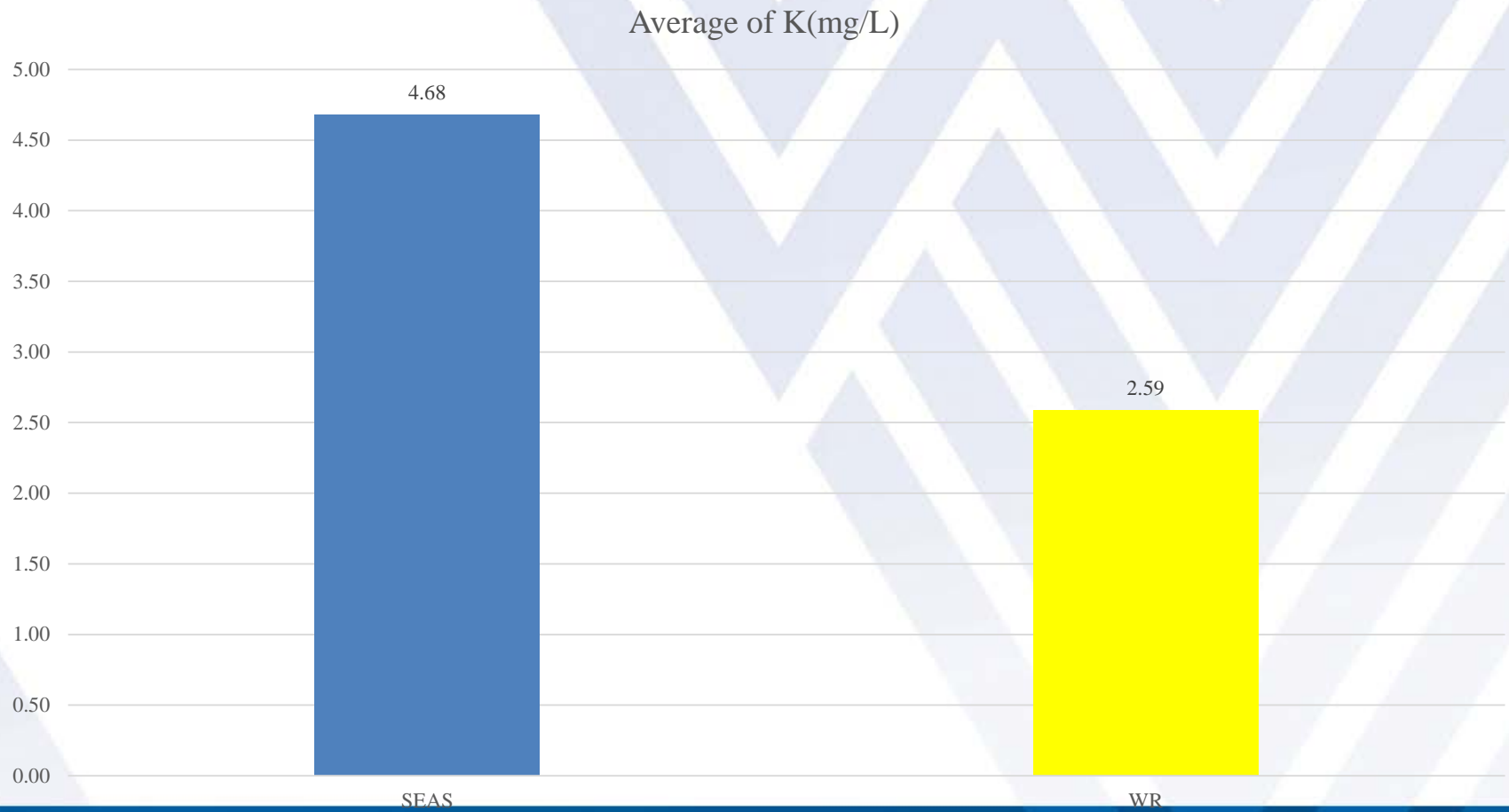
Results – NO₃



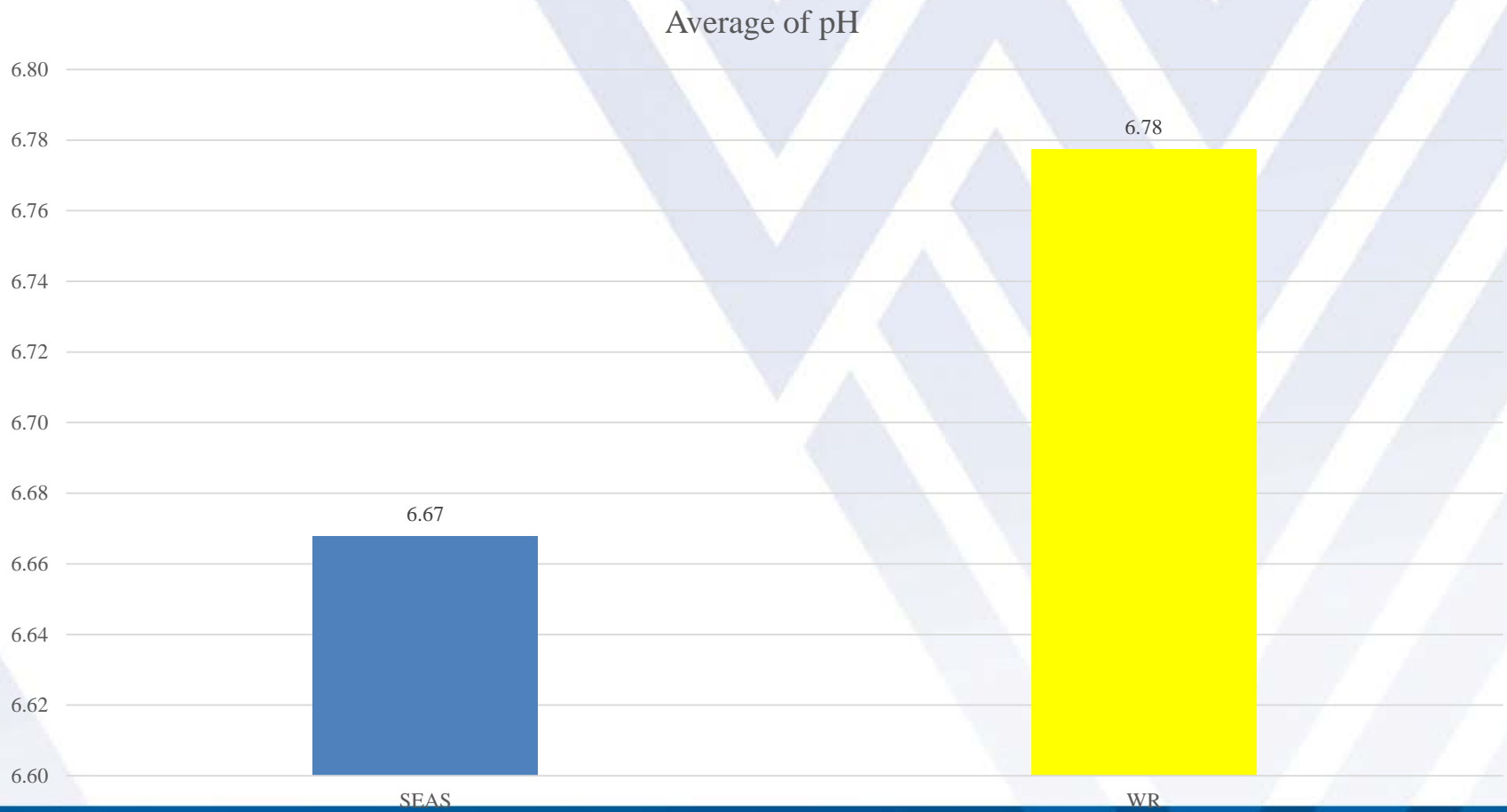
Results - P



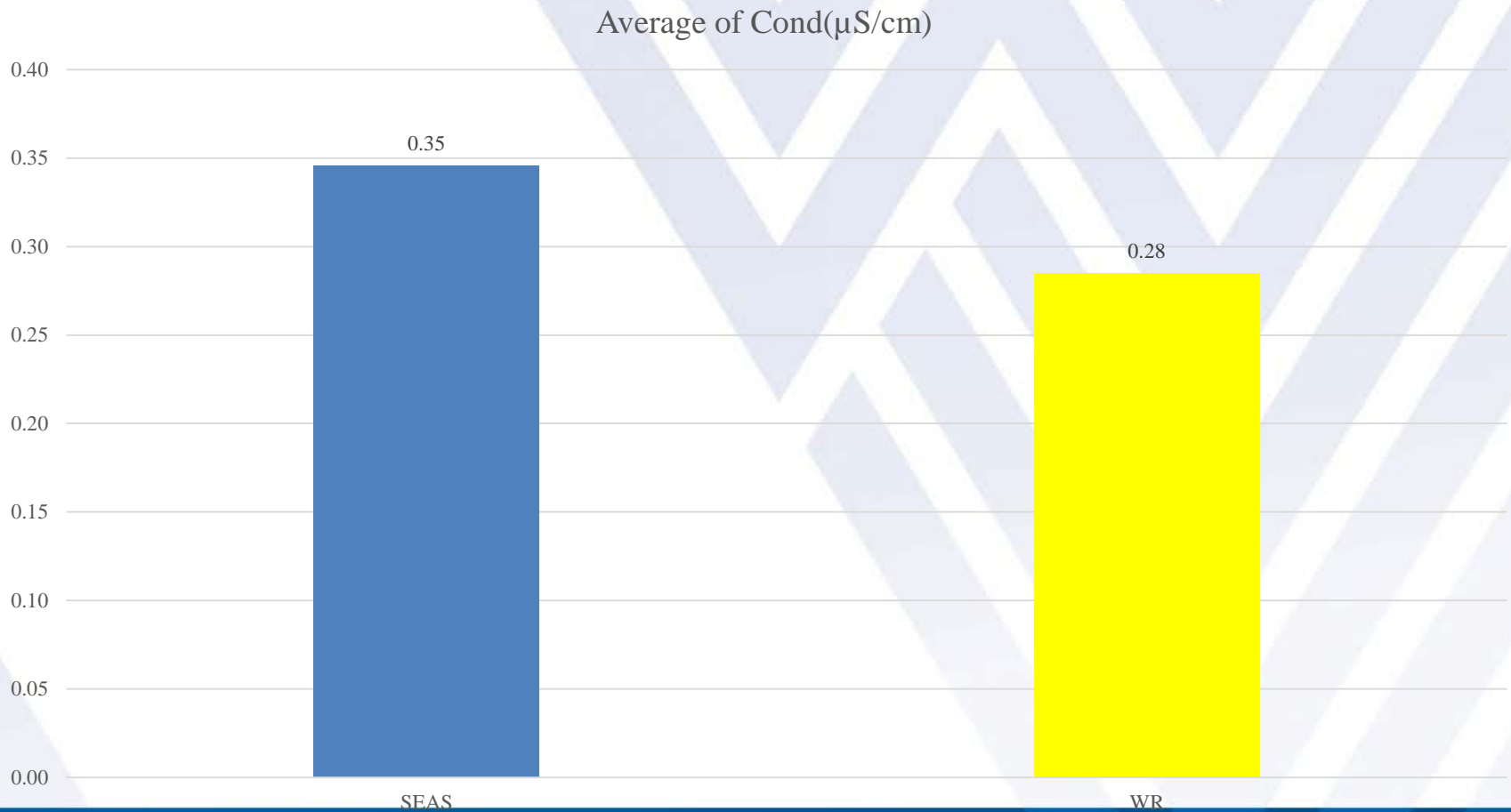
Results - K



Results - pH

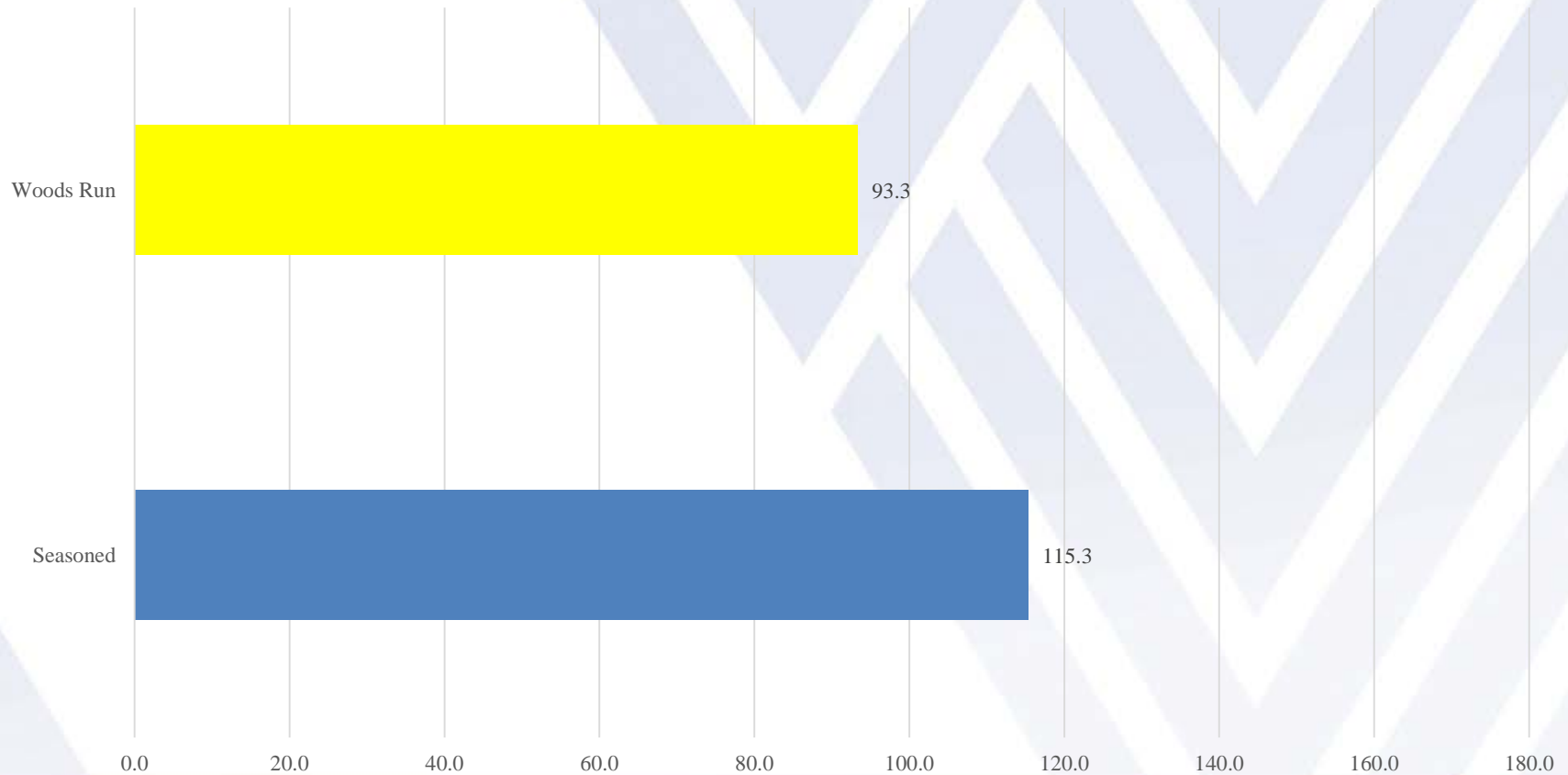


Results - conductivity



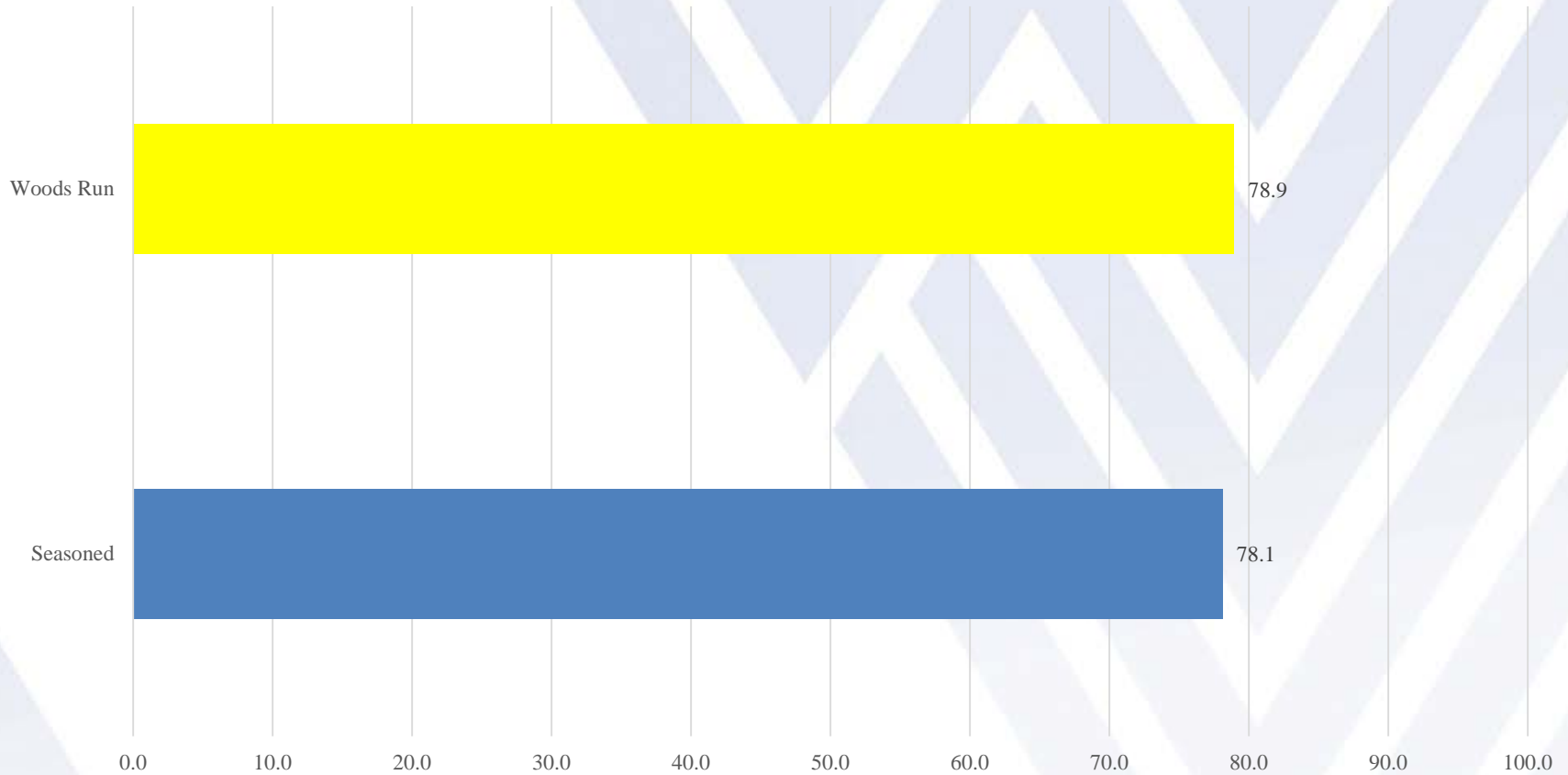
Results – Filtering Time

Average Filtration Time (sec)



Results – Filtration efficiency

Average Filtration Efficiency (%)



Overall Results

Parameter	Woods Run	Seasoned/Compost
pH	Passed	Passed
Moisture Content	Failed Dry Basis (75% vs 60 %)	Passed
Particle Size	Passed	Passed
Conductivity	Passed	Passed
No ₃	Sig Higher – in Standard	
P		Sig Higher – Outside standard
K		Sig Higher
Filtering Time		Sig Higher
Filtering Efficiency	Sig Higher	



Conclusions

- MC only parameter that woods run sock failed
- No indication that WR sock installation would be detrimental to environment
- In most cases, WR sock performed better than seasoned sock

