

February 28, 2021

VIA CERTIFIED MAIL

Mr. Richard Elliott Environmental Engineer Clean Water Enforcement Branch US EPA-Region 4 61 Forsyth Street, SW Atlanta, GA 30303

Re: United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-0024
Annual Report No. 8 – January 2020 to December 2020

Dear Mr. Elliott:

On behalf of the City of Chattanooga, Tennessee ("City"), and in accordance with the Consent Decree entered by the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Tennessee (Southern Division), on April 24, 2013, in the case styled the United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-0024 ("Consent Decree"), we are submitting to both the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC") the eighth annual report required pursuant to paragraph 40 of the Consent Decree. This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for reporting under the Consent Decree.

I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering such information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.

Mr. Richard Elliott February 28, 2021 Page Two

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding our submittal.

Sincerely,

Jeff A Rose, P.E. Director, Waste Resources Division

Enclosure

cc: Karl Fingerhood, Esq., US DOJ
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Annual Report No. 8

January 1 - December 31, 2020

Prepared for

Environmental Protection Agency and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

City of Chattanooga Waste Resources Division Consent Decree Program Case No. 1:12-cv-00245

Prepared by

City of Chattanooga Waste Resources Division

Submitted by



Jacobs Engineering Group Inc. Consent Decree Program Manager

> Chattanooga, Tennessee February 28, 2021

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Acronyms and Abbreviations

AOP Additional Operational Plan

BOD Biochemical Oxygen Demand

CAP Capacity Assurance Program

CD Consent Decree

CMOM Capacity, Management, Maintenance and Operations

CSOTF Combined Sewer Overflow Treatment Facility

DO Dissolved Oxygen

EPA Environmental Protection Agency

FOG Fats, Oils, and Grease

FSE Food Service Establishment

IJA Inter-Jurisdictional Agreement

ISS Interceptor Sewer System

KPI Key Performance Indicator

MBWWTP Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant

MG Million Gallons

MH Manhole

N/A Not Applicable

No. Number

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

NPDES National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System

PCCMP Post Construction Compliance Monitoring Program

PM Preventive Maintenance

PS Pump Station

SORP Sewer Overflow Response Protocol

SSO Sanitary Sewer Overflow

TDEC Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

TSS Total Suspended Solids

WQS Water Quality Standards

1.0 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

On April 24, 2013, the City of Chattanooga ("City") entered into a Consent Decree with the United States and the State of Tennessee, in the case styled *United States of America et. al. v. City of Chattanooga, No. 1:12-cv-00245* ("CD"). Pursuant to Section IX of the CD, the City is required to submit annual reports on a yearly basis to the Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation ("TDEC"). Chattanooga has prepared this report to satisfy the reporting requirements found in Paragraph 40 of the CD, which covers the period from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 ("Reporting Period"). This report is also being submitted in accordance with the letter from Denise Diaz, dated September 16, 2013, establishing the dates for the reporting under the CD.

1.2 Requirements

As detailed in Section IX of the CD, the City is required to report a summary of Capacity, Management, Operations and Management ("CMOM") Program as implemented or modified pursuant to the CD, including a comparison of actual performance with any performance measures that have been established. Additionally, the 1st five annual reports included a trends analysis of the number, volume, duration, and cause of Chattanooga's Sanitary Sewer Overflow ("SSO") events for a 24-month rolling period, updated to reflect the SSO events that occurred during the previous 12-month period. Since the 6th annual report, this trends analysis covers SSO events spanning a 5-year rolling period.

2.0 CMOM Programs

The City has completed the development of its CMOM program pursuant to Paragraph 20 of the CD. As of the end of the last Reporting Period, all nine (9) of the nine CMOM programs have been developed by Chattanooga, submitted to TDEC and EPA, and approved. Table 2-1 on the following page summarizes the status of the CMOM Programs, including updates and key performance indicators ("KPIs") related to implementation of those that have received EPA approval.

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program CD CMOM Program CMOM KPI Purpose KPI		Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance					
Sewer Overflow Response Protocol ("SORP")	Approved by EPA and TDEC 5/29/2014	Section VI, Paragraph 20(a)(ii)	Maintain records of all sanitary sewer overflow ("SSO") responses and response times	Reduce response times to respond to SSOs to reduce SSO impacts	Reduce SSO response time to within one hour after notification of event	Average SSO response time for 2020 was ~3 minutes			
Sewer Overflow Response Protocol ("SORP")	Approved by EPA and TDEC 5/29/2014	Section VI, Paragraph 20(a)(ii)	Provide notice to TDEC as required by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination ("NPDES") Permit within 24 hours of being made aware of an SSO event	TDEC as required by National Pollutant Discharge Elimination ("NPDES") Permit within 24 hours of being made aware		All 24-hour reports were made to TDEC within the 24-hour time period			
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Updated and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Annual Chemical Root Control Footage	Reduce the impacts of roots on system performance	Treat 50,000 feet/year	59,048 feet were treated in 2020			
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Footage of Pipeline Hydraulically Cleaned During the Calendar Year	Improve the gravity system performance	1,000,000 feet/year	1,117,949 feet in 2020			

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program Status	CD Reference	CMOM Program KPI	CMOM KPI Purpose	Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance			
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Number of MACP Level 1 Manhole Inspections During the Calendar Year	Complete Level 1 inspections to improve system performance	1,000/year until 2017 and then 2,000/year	1,608 inspections in 2020*			
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Number of MACP Level 2 Manhole Inspections During the Calendar Year	Complete Level 2 inspections to improve system performance	900/year until 2017 and then 500/year	435 inspections in 2020*			
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	The Number of SSOs caused by the build-up of debris, sediment, roots, and grease in the collection system	Measure effectiveness of gravity maintenance program	A reduction in maintenance-related SSOs	There were 23 SSOs associated with blockages in 2020 as compare to 51 in 2019; this is a significant reduction in SSO year over year.			

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program Status	CMOM KPI Purpose		Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance				
Gravity Line Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 12/3/2014 Revised and Revised by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(d)	Footage of pipelines and frequency that preventive maintenance hydraulic cleaning is performed	Complete gravity line maintenance to improve system performance	Preventive Hydraulic Line Cleaning Frequency Maximum ft. 2 months – 25,000 ft. 4 months – 50,000 ft. 6 months – 50,000 ft. 8 months – 50,000 ft. 12 months- 225,000 ft. 18 months- 225,000 ft. 36 months- 350,000 ft.	Preventive Hydraulic Line Cleaning Frequency Actual ft. 2 months- 0 ft. 4 months- 0 ft. 6 months- 64,777 ft. 8 months- 54,506 ft. 12 months- 1,315,969 ft. 18 months- 1,664,029 ft. 36 months- 2,780,717 ft.			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of FOG- related SSOs	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		There were 4 SSOs associated with grease blockages; this is a significant reduction in SSOs year over year			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of annual inspections vs the total number of Food Service Establishments ("FSEs")	Measure FOG Program Workload	100%	88.9%*			

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program Status	CD Reference	CMOM Program KPI CMOM KPI Purpose		Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of annual Noncompliance Notifications vs the total inspections	Evaluate the FOG Program effectiveness	Below 15%	0.96% of total inspections yielded a non-compliance notification			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	FOG Hot Spots	FOG Hot Spots Reduce the number of FOG hot spot areas		0% reduction			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of FSEs Added Annually			29 FSEs were added during the reporting period			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Annual FOG Management Program Update Completed on Time	Management Improve FOG program Program Update effectiveness		100%			
Fats, Oils, and Grease ("FOG") Management Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 7/21/2015	Section VI, Paragraph 20(c)	Number of Pretreatment Program Employees Trained on FOG Management Program	reatment n Employees Improve employee program nd on FOG knowledge through training agement		100%			

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

	January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program Status	CMOM KPI PIII NOSE		Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance					
Pump Station Operations Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 10/22/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(e)	Pump Station ("PS") Operational Checks	Improve pump station performance	95% adherence to PS/CSOTF visit schedule	99% completed on time				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Preventive Maintenance ("PM") Completion Schedule	Measure PM program effectiveness	95% adherence to PM schedule	81.8% completed on time*				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Number of Preventable Work Orders	Measure work order program effectiveness	Less than 5 preventable work orders per month	Total of 20 and average of 1.67 preventable work orders per month, as compared to 1.75 per month in 2020				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Track Work Orders Found Via PM Activities	Evaluate effectiveness of the PM program	Track the number of CMs generated as a result of a PM	13.7% for 2020 overall (168 CMs and 1226 PMs)				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Track the Age of Work Orders	Improve work order process	No work orders older than 6 months	Average of 42.6 work orders older than 6 months in 2020 (3% of total work orders)				

Table 2-1
CMOM Program Summary

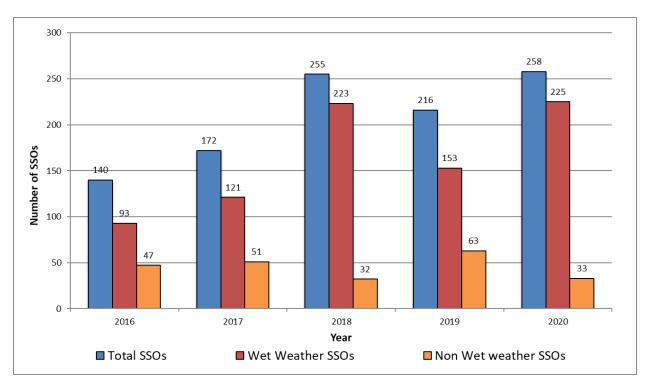
	January 1, 2020 - December 31, 2020									
CMOM Program	CMOM Program Status	CD Reference	CMOM Program KPI CMOM KPI Purpose		Established Performance Measure	Actual Measured Performance				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Percentage of Emergency Work Orders	Track the reliability of the City assets	Less than 10% of the work orders are emergencies	Emergency work orders were 0% of total work orders written				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Work Orders Awaiting Parts	Improve work order program		10 total requests with an average delivery time of 14 days				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Work Backlog	Work Backlog Measure work order program effectiveness		81% of work orders written were closed				
Pump Station Preventive Maintenance Program	Approved by EPA and TDEC 3/17/2015 Revised and reapproved by EPA 9/25/2017	Section VI, Paragraph 20(f)	Overtime as a Percent of Total Hours Worked	Percent of Total by measuring overall overtime		12.5% OT				
Capacity Assurance Program ("CAP")	Approved by EPA and TDEC 10/13/2016	Section VI, Paragraph 20(h)	Applicable CD components to be identified during program implementation	N/A	N/A	N/A				

^{*}Measured performance was not met due to the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

3.0 SSO Trends Analysis

The City conducted a trends analysis of the cause, duration, and volume of SSO events for the 60-month period spanning January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2020. Rainfall data collected during the same time period was included in the analysis to illustrate the effects of heavy, sustained rainfall on the occurrence, duration, and volume of the recorded SSO events. Figure 3-1 below provides a summary of SSO events by year for the reporting period:

Figure 3-1 SSO Events by Year



As illustrated in Figure 3-1, there was an upward trend in SSO events (+74%), including wet weather (+114%), and a downward trend (-13%) of non-wet weather SSOs, over the five year period. However, there was also a corresponding significant upward trend in rainfall (+66%), as described further in this section below. The majority of SSO events during the reporting period were wet weather related (78%). This downward trend of non-wet weather SSOs is attributed to the continued implementation of the CMOM program.

Based on averaged data from the 13 rain gauges installed throughout Chattanooga, the observed rainfall in 2020 was 37% higher than normal and 2020 was officially reported as the wettest year ever recorded in the Tennessee Valley. The first quarter of 2020 itself was the wettest on record. These extreme wet weather conditions produced two back-to-back storm events in 2020 that each had total rainfall significantly larger than the 2-year 24-hour design storm event rainfall depth of

3.67 inches as defined in the CD. The first event began on February 4, latest until February 7, 2020 and had a rainfall total of 4.81 inches. The second event occurred only 3 days later on February 10, latest until February 13, 2020 and had a rainfall total of 4.16 inches. Combined, these two rainfall events account for 12% of the overall 2020 rainfall total. There were 95 SSOs associated with these two back-to-back events. There were also 33 SSOs associated with two other events that occurred on April 12 and September 23, 2020, both of which exceeded the 2-year 24-hour design storm event in rainfall depth. This results in a total of 128 wet weather SSOs caused by extreme wet weather events, or 57% of the total wet weather SSOs in 2020, as shown in Table 3-1. This is significant because Chattanooga is developing its wastewater infrastructure to account for the 2-year 24-hour design storm event, in accordance with the CD, and each of these events exceed that standard.

Table 3-12020 Storm Events Exceeding the Design Storm Event Depth and Associated SSOs

Rainfall Event Start Date	Rainfall Event End Date	Rainfall Event Duration (hrs)	Rainfall Depth (in)	No. of SSO	Total Estimated SSO Volume (gal)
4-Feb-20	7-Feb-20	87	4.81	54	36,699,384
10-Feb-20	13-Feb-20	89	4.16	41	4,675,739
12-Apr-20	13-Apr-20	24	3.81	30	13,198,732
23-Sep-20	26-Sep-20	67	3.76	3	153,261
	1	128	54,727,116		

Table 3-2 illustrates how the Eastbank/Westbank SSO events in 2020 were mostly caused by wet-weather conditions exceeding the 2-year 24-hour design storm event standard.

Table 3-2 2020 Eastbank/Westbank Wet-Weather SSO Events

Location	SSO Event Date	Estimated SSO Duration (hrs)	Estimated SSO Volume (gal)	24-hr Rainfall Depth (in) Avg (Min-Max)	Comments
West Bank	2-4-Jan-20	52	24,065,434	2.61 (2.03-3.74)	SSO caused by rainfall locally exceeding the design storm event
West Bank	6-14-Feb-20	209	9,497,513		SSO caused by rainfall
East Bank East Bank	6-17-Feb-20 18-20-Feb-20 18-Feb-20	278 39 51	11,878,506 4,981,027 4,981,027	4.02 (3.29-4.48)	exceeding the design storm event and a total of 10.5 inches between Feb 6 and
			, ,		20
West Bank	23-Mar-20	110	11,119,940	1.95 (1.55-2.33)	SSO caused a total of 4.82 inches between Mar 20 and
East Bank	24-26-Mar-20	43	4,966,864	1.95 (1.55-2.55)	25
West Bank	13-Apr-20	51	9,729,330	3.81 (3.25-4.91)	SSO caused by rainfall exceeding the design storm event

West Bank	25-Sep-20	0.75	114,861		SSO caused by rainfall
				3.55 (3.15- 4.27)	locally exceeding the design
					storm event

In addition to higher than normal rainfall, the Influent Pump Station ("IPS") and Influent Relief Pump Station ("IRPS") at the Moccasin Bend Wastewater Treatment Plant ("MBWWTP") shut down due to power failure for 3 hours on March 12, 2020, during an ongoing wet weather event. Modeling shows that this SSO would not have occurred in the absence of the power failure. This SSO is shown in Table 3-3 along with 3 other overflows which occurred due to power failure.

Table 3-3SSOs Attributed to Power Failure

Start Date	Start Time	Location	Source	Estimated Duration (hrs)	Estimated Volume (gal)	SSO Destination	Cause
12-Mar-20	9:45 AM	122 Rowland Gap Rd (West Bank)	West Bank	3.83	2,409,611	Tennessee River	IPS/IRPS Power Failure
28-Apr-20	9:30 AM	929 Riverside Dr (Citico PS)	Manhole	0.08	250	Tennessee River	Power Failure from Power Source
1-May-20	2:45 PM	929 Riverside Dr (Citico PS)	Manhole	0.5	15,000	Tennessee River	Power Failure from Power Source
5-May-20	7:45 AM	4327 Woodland Dr (Summit #1 PS)	Manhole	7.75	69,750	Storm Drain	Power Failure from Power Source

There was also an electrical failure at the East Brainerd PS, causing an SSO. This SSO is shown in Table 3-4.

Table 3-4 SSO Attributed to Electrical Failure

Start Date	Start Time	Location	Source	Estimated Duration (hrs)	Estimated Volume (gal)	SSO Destination	Cause
08-Nov-20	3:45 PM	Frawley Rd	Manhole	0.17	2,000	South Chickamauga Creek	East Brainerd Pump Station - Electrical Failure

Figure 3-2 depicts SSO events by cause per quarter for the reporting period. Wet weather was the leading cause of SSOs, followed by blockages.

Figure 3-3 depicts total SSO events and rainfall accumulation per quarter. Looking at the overall, five-year, and quarterly trends, there has been a 42% increase in the number of SSOs since 2016. This is largely due to wet weather SSOs caused by exceptional rainfall. At the same time, there

has indeed been a 66% increase in rainfall since 2016, which generates the rain derived inflow and infiltration ("I/I") causing these SSOs. The significant number of SSOs for the first quarter of 2020 (172) was caused by heavy rainfall. This quarter recorded the highest quarterly amount of rainfall on record. These two events in February 2020 that each exceeded the CD design storm and occurred back to back had a combined rainfall equal to 12% of the overall 2020 rainfall and were responsible for 42% of the total wet weather SSOs in 2020. In the City's assessment, these kinds of events are outliers and not indicative of true system performance.

Figure 3-4 depicts cumulative SSO duration and rainfall accumulation per quarter or the sum of the durations of each SSO event that was recorded per quarter for the reporting period. There is an increasing trend in cumulative SSO duration in the 5-year span (+182%); however, this trend is significantly inflated by the 2 extreme storm events that occurred in February 2020, as well as another event which occurred in February 2019. In addition, SSO duration has been impacted by the implementation of the SORP under the CD. The response team has shortened their response time. Therefore, longer SSO durations were due to the rain events discussed above.

Figure 3-5 depicts cumulative SSO volume and rainfall accumulation per quarter or the sum of the volumes of each SSO event that was recorded per quarter for the reporting period. Looking at the overall, five-year, and quarterly trends, there has been an increase in rainfall by 66% and a corresponding increase in total SSO volume of 102%; however, this trend is significantly inflated by the 2 extreme storm events that occurred in February 2020, as well as another event which occurred in February 2019. Despite this upward quarterly trend, the efforts taken under the CD, including Early Action Capital Improvement Projects and the implementation of the CMOM programs, are having a positive impact on system performance. Although the month of February 2020 had the same amount of rainfall as February 2019, the overflow volume was significantly less in February 2020 (46 million gallons) compared to February 2019 (181 million gallons). This downward trend in SSO volume is generalized throughout the year 2020 with 127 million gallons of overflow observed in 2020 versus 220 million gallons in 2019. The decrease in volume is mostly due to the reduction in Eastbank/Westbank overflow volume. On average since 2013, Eastbank/Westbank is responsible for approximately 85% of the annual overflow volume. A constant downward trend has been observed since 2018 with the combined Eastbank/Westbank overflow volume dropping from 244 million gallons in 2018 to 175 million gallons in 2019, and 79 million gallons in 2020. The completion of the Wet Weather Storage Phases 1-3 at Hamm Rd at the end of 2021 should significantly reduce, if not eliminate, the Eastbank/Westbank overflow for wet weather events up to the 2-year 24-hour design storm.

Figure 3-2 SSO Events by Cause

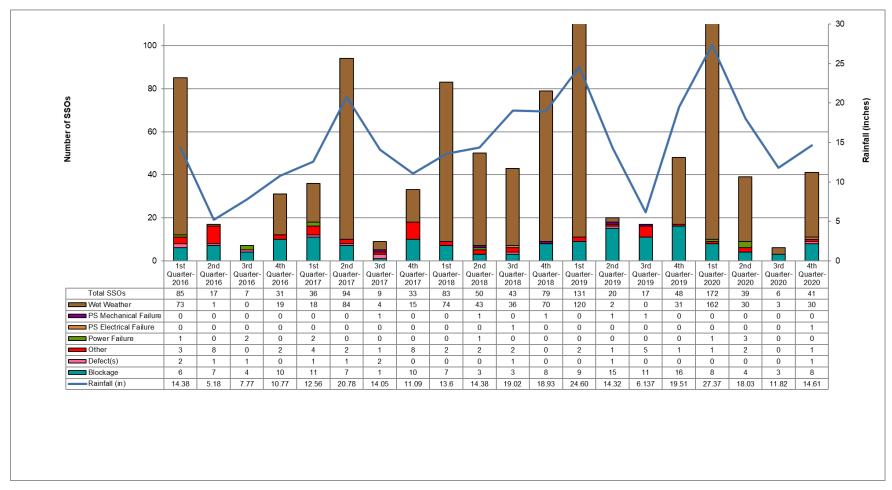


Figure 3-3 Quarterly SSO Quantities

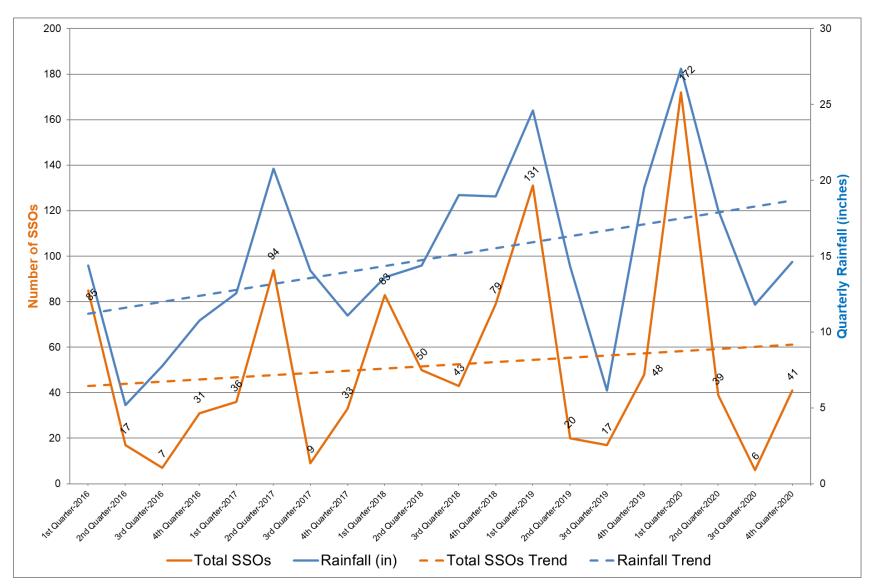


Figure 3-4 Quarterly SSO Durations

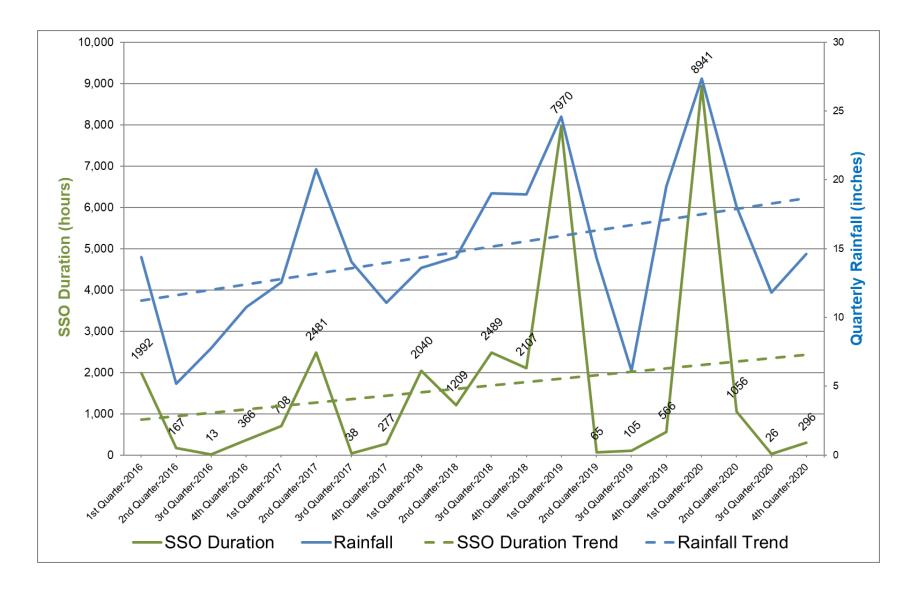


Figure 3-5 Quarterly SSO Volume

