

# Volunteer Monitoring Program Evaluation a case from Alabama Water Watch

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National Water Quality Monitoring Conference and River Rally Bridge Day

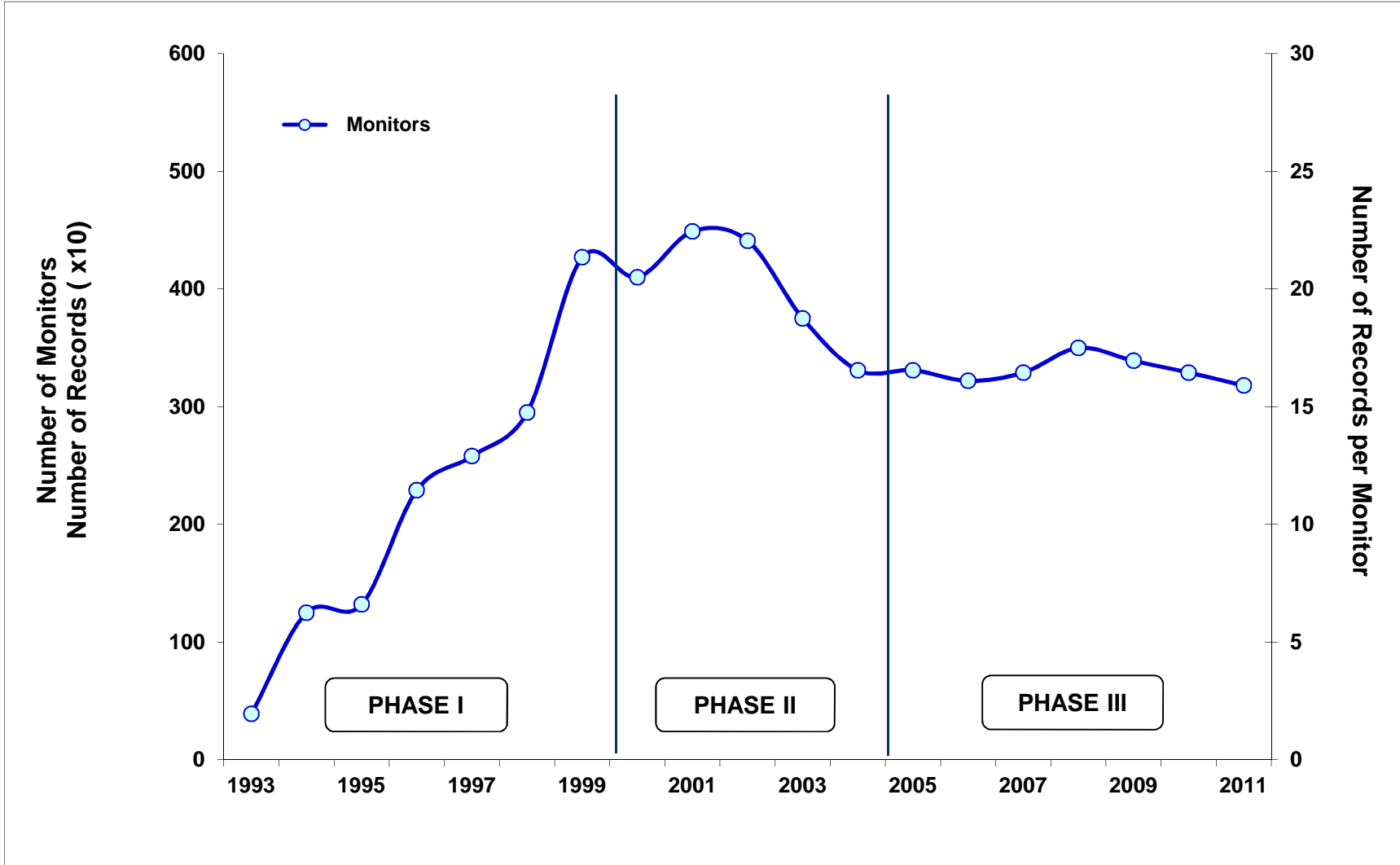
May 2, 2012

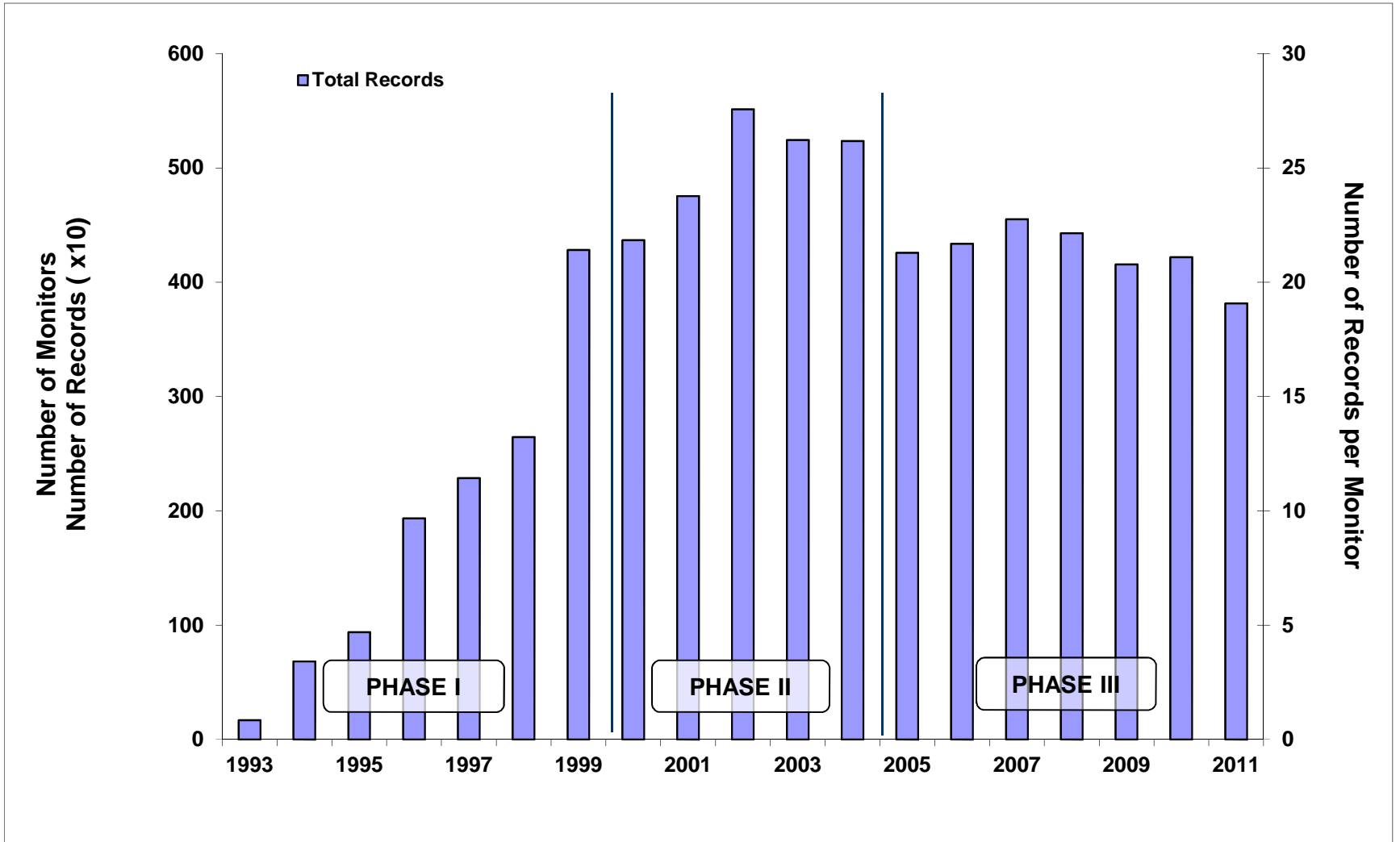
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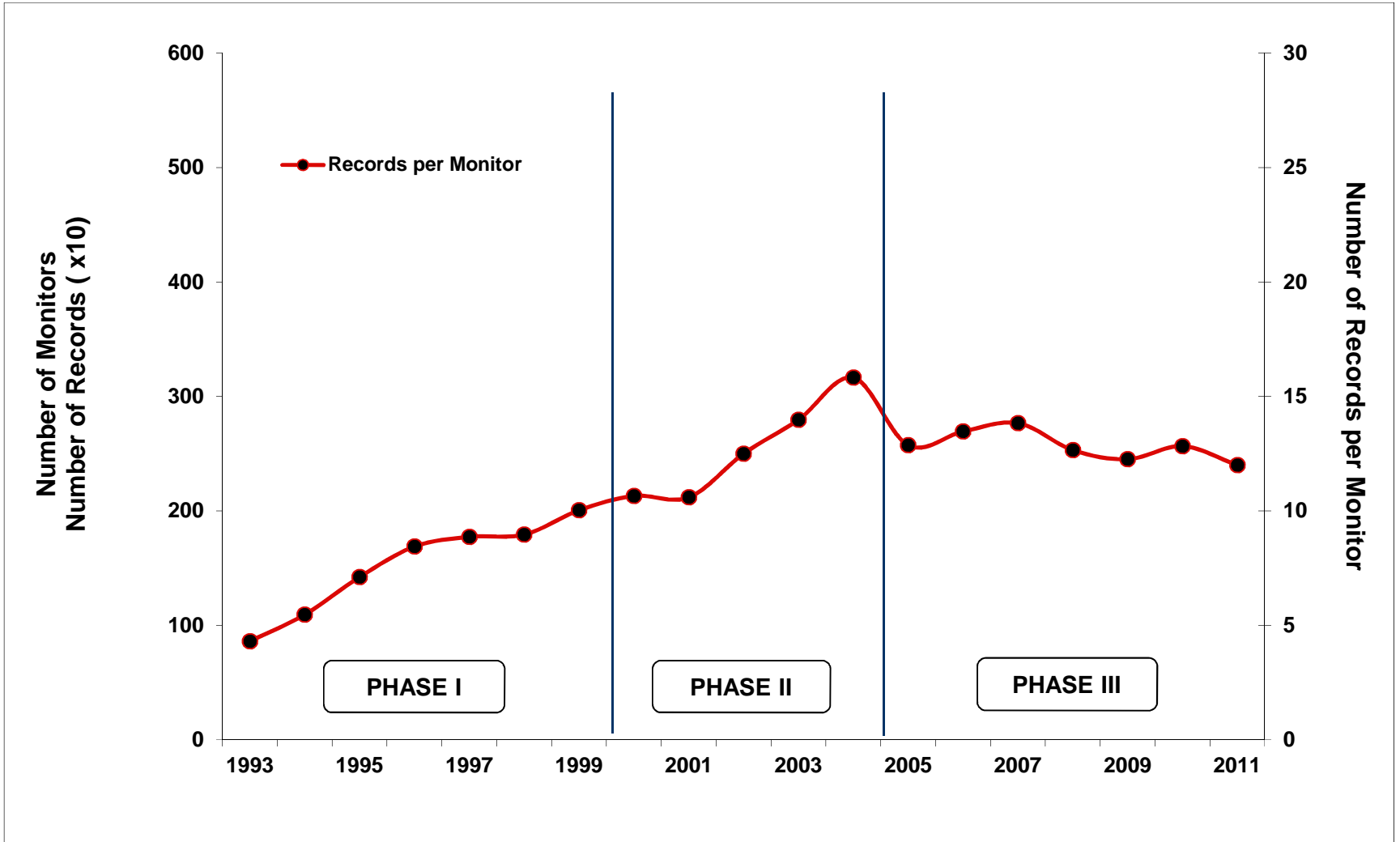


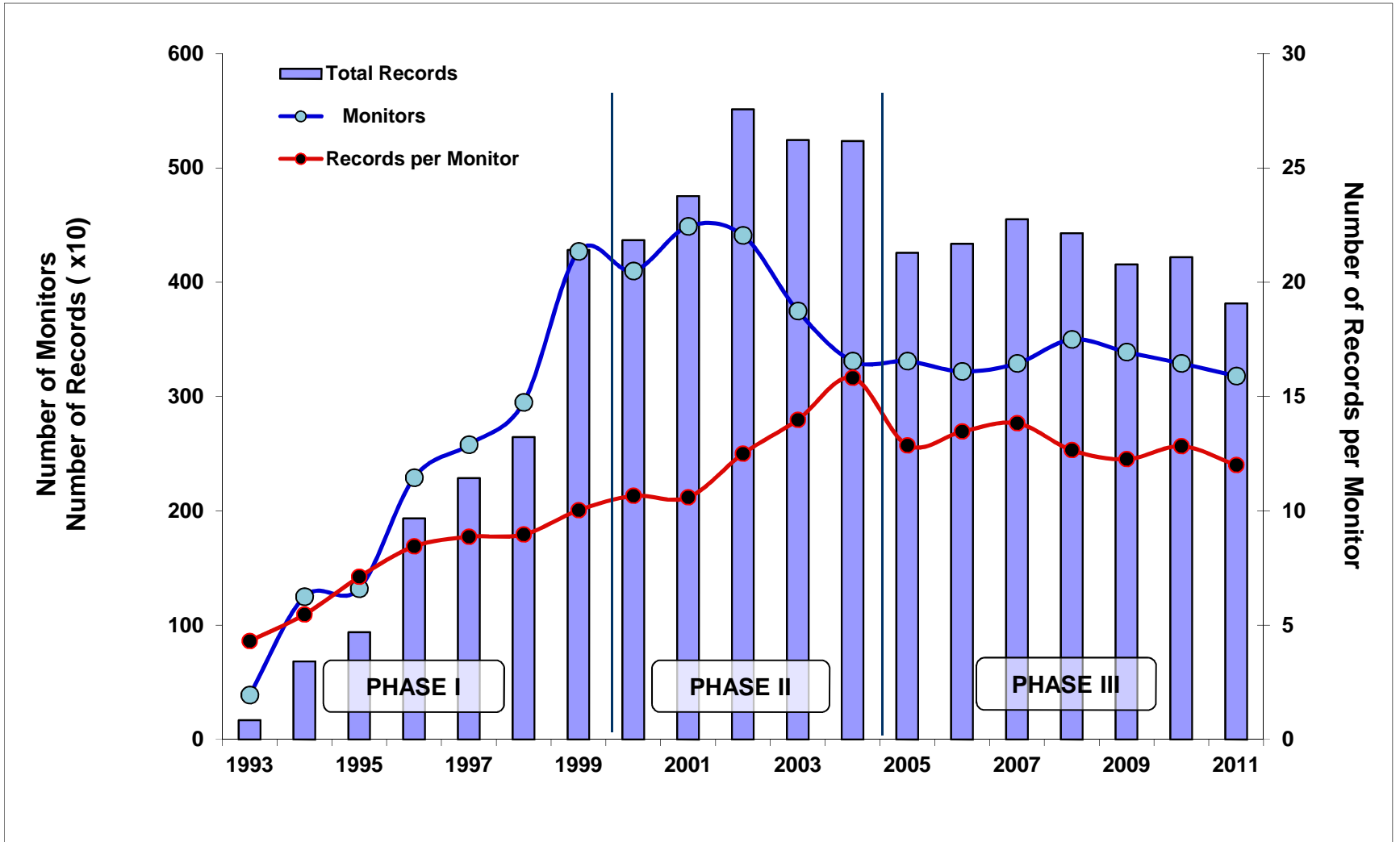
**Table 1. Programmatic categories and strategies of Alabama Water Watch.**

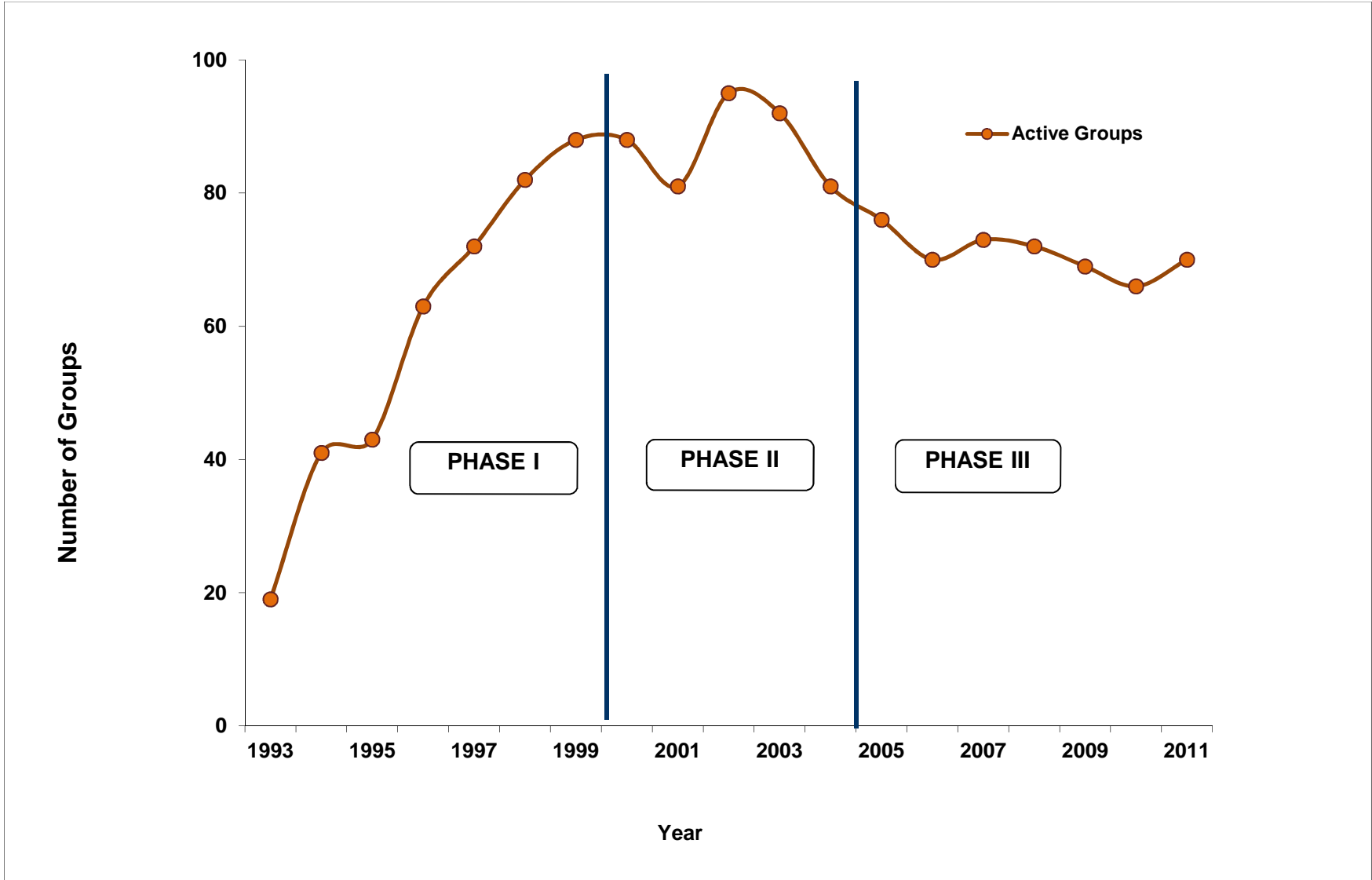
<b>Program Category</b>	<b>Strategy</b>
Approach	<p><i>Awareness vs. Credible Data</i> Community-based, Science-based collection of credible data</p> <p><i>Role of Volunteers</i> Citizens collect, record, and own the data</p>
Organizational Structure	<p><i>Institutional Program</i> Managed by a Land Grant University</p> <p><i>Non Profit Associations</i> Registered 501.3c organization with board and officers</p> <p><i>Specialized Staff</i> Director and Coordinators for Data, Volunteers, Publications</p> <p><i>Volunteer Trainers</i> Conduct most water monitoring workshops statewide</p>
Information Management	<p><i>Quality Assurance</i> Emphasis on credible data; EPA-Approved QA-QC Plans</p> <p><i>Database Management</i> Complex relational database with web-based tools for storage, analyses and retrieval of statewide data</p>
Public Relations	<p><i>Program Monitor Interaction</i> Maximize personal contact through meetings, phone; workshops conducted statewide at community-level</p> <p><i>Information Dissemination</i> Online data accessibility, data interpretation sessions, user-friendly reports, blogs, etc.</p>
Partnerships and Collaboration	<p><i>Diversified Funding</i> Primary funding from EPA/AIDGM 319 grants; other funding from university, non profit association, grants, etc.</p> <p><i>Data to Action Strategies</i> Emphasis on use of data for education, waterbody restoration/protection, and improved water policy</p>

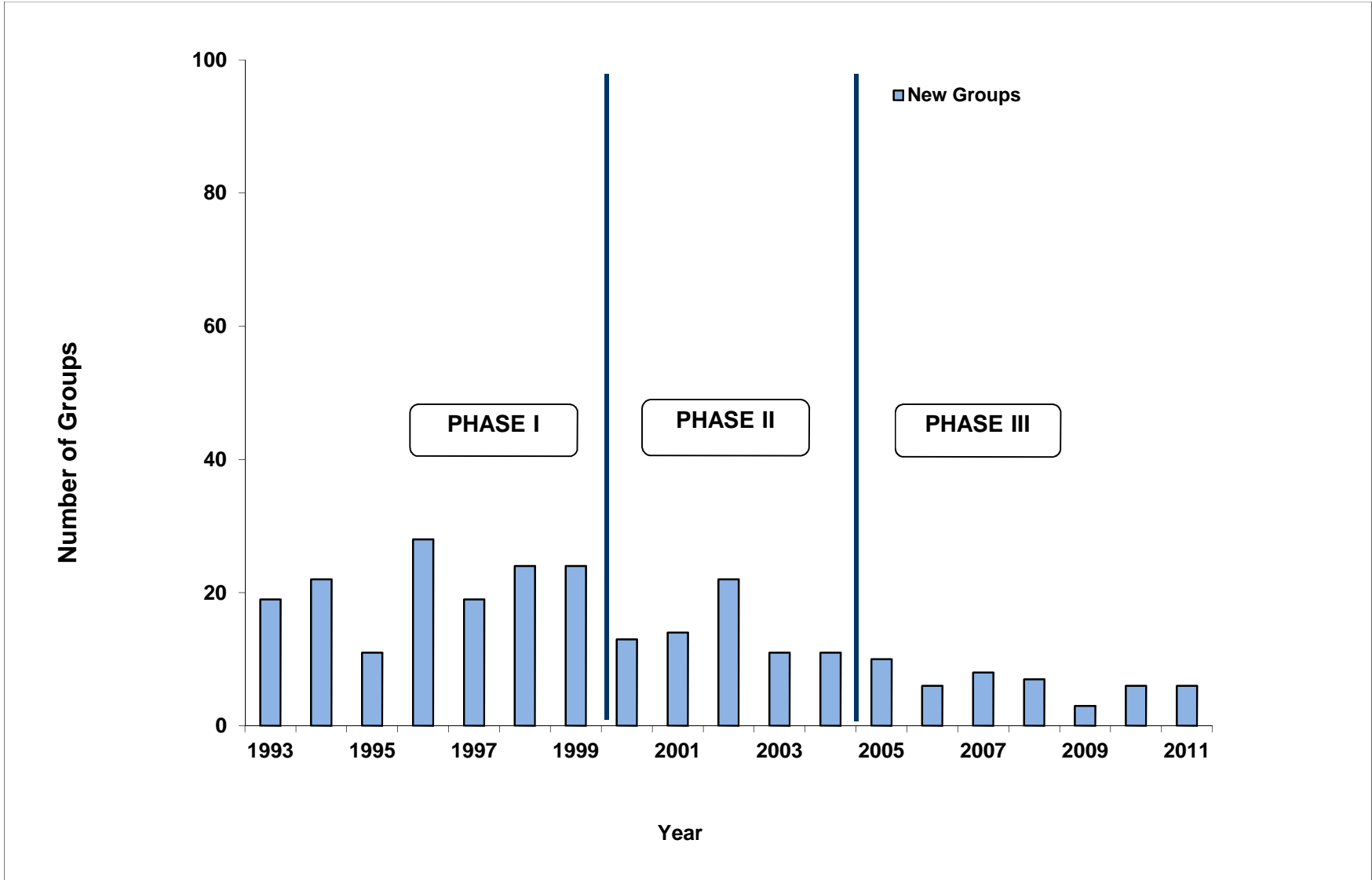




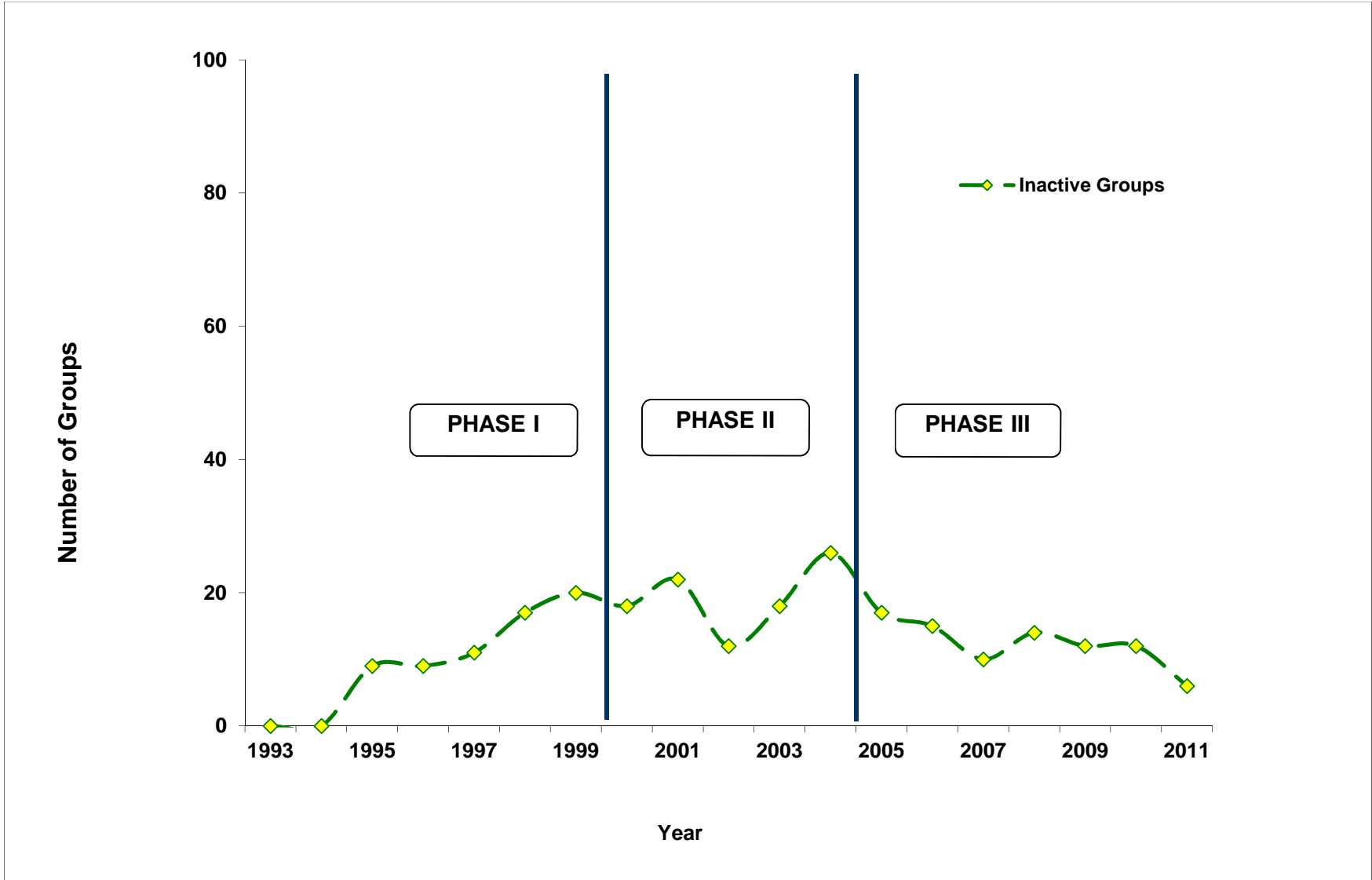


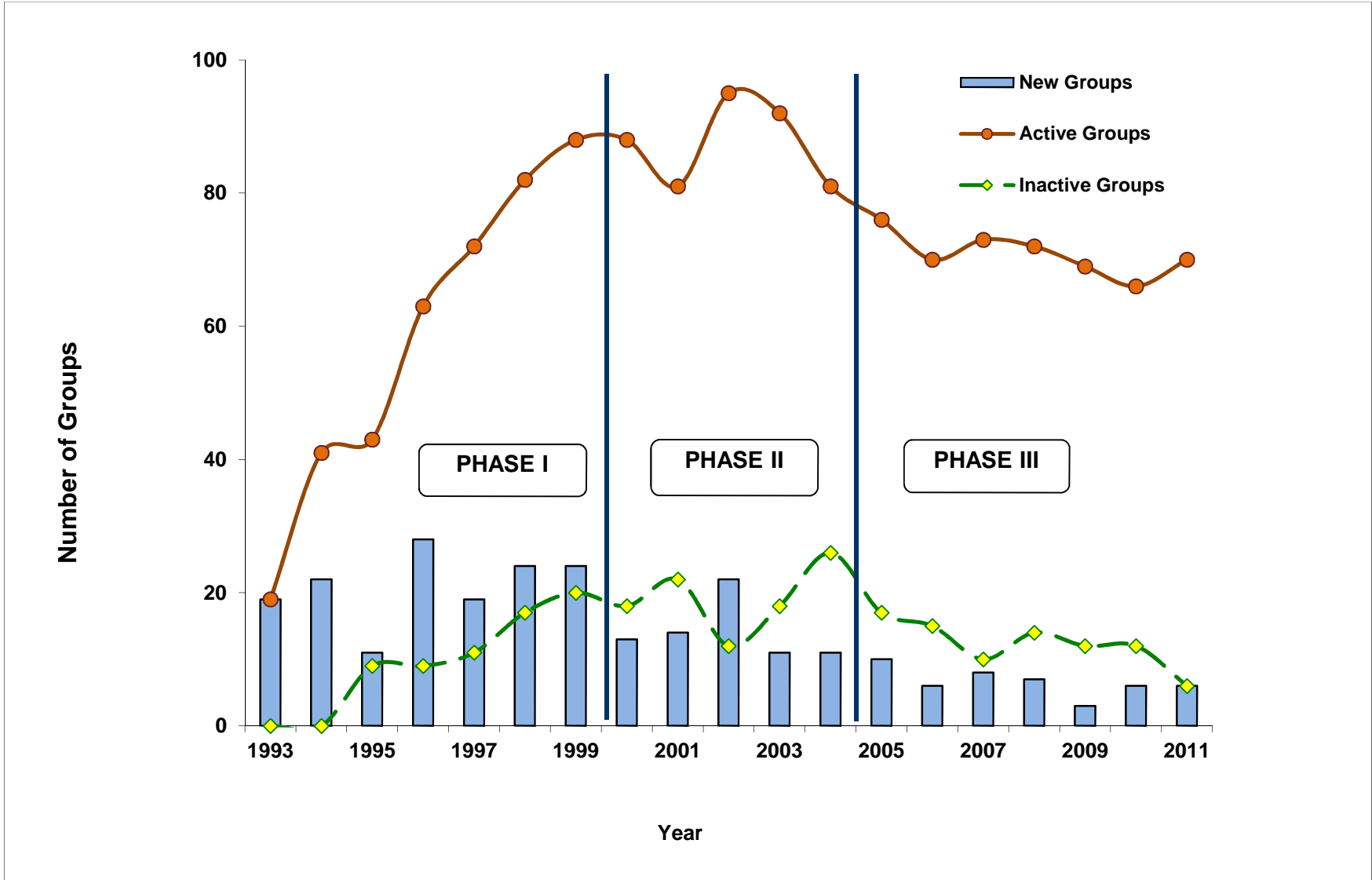














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[alabamawaterwatch.org](http://alabamawaterwatch.org)