1	Direct precipitation of siderite in ferruginous environments
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18	ABSTRACT
19	Siderite (FeCO ₃) is often assumed to precipitate from dissimaltory reduction of Fe-
20	(oxyhydr)oxides, but geochemical and mineralogical analyses from ferruginous (anoxic, Fe-rich)
21	Canyon Lake, USA suggest Fe-carbonate represents a direct early precipitate unrelated to
22	substantial oxide burial. X-ray absorption near edge structure (XANES) spectroscopy of
23	sediment trap materials and an anoxic sediment core indicated a mixture of Fe(II) and Fe(III) in

24 water column particulates and ferruginous surface sediments, while all Mn phases were reduced. About 60 cm below the sediment-water interface, Fe-Mn carbonates were detected by X-ray 25 26 diffraction and XANES, while Fe extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) spectra 27 were best fit with combinations of a biogenic Fe-oxyhydroxide ("Bio Fe"), greigite, and siderite. 28 Sediment Fe speciation indicates a large pool of reduced Fe with a minor component of oxides. 29 Although we found no evidence of significant carbonate phases above or below the 60 cm 30 horizon, equilibrium modelling indicates siderite supersaturation throughout surface sediment 31 porewater, with pH as the primary control on supersaturation. We conclude that delivery of 32 wildfire ash to sediments increased pH, initiating siderite precipitation from ferruginous 33 porewater.

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35 INTRODUCTION

36 Siderite (FeCO₃) occurs in sediments throughout Earth's history (Ohmoto et al., 2004), and is a 37 common component in Precambrian iron formations (Ifs; Konhauser et al., 2017). Despite the diversity of environments in which siderite occurs, two mechanisms are generally considered to 38 39 drive its formation: 1) direct precipitation from an anoxic and iron-enriched (ferruginous) fluid; 40 and 2) as a diagenetic product derived from reduction of primary iron (oxyhydr)oxides coupled 41 to microbial organic carbon remineralization (Heimann et al., 2010;). While dissimilatory 42 reduction of reactive iron (oxyhydr)oxides such as ferrihydrite may explain the negative C-43 isotopic composition and textures of many lacustrine siderite occurrences (Vuillemin et al., 44 2019), the textures and C-isotope signatures of well-preserved Precambrian IFs are also 45 consistent with precipitation from ferruginous seawater (Beukes et al., 1990; Siahi et al., 2020; 46 Riding et al., 2022), perhaps under a strong hydrothermal influence (Jiang and Tosca, 2019).

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48	To constrain the conditions that govern natural siderite precipitation, we examined iron (Fe) and
49	manganese (Mn) phases in water column particulates and recent sediments from ferruginous
50	Canyon Lake (CL) in Michigan, USA. Modern ferruginous lakes serve as analogue systems
51	informing our understanding of biogeochemical dynamics in anoxic Precambrian oceans
52	(Swanner et al., 2020). Canyon Lake is an ideal site to investigate these processes, as its
53	ferruginous bottom waters are poised near siderite supersaturation, and its water column has been
54	chemically stable for at least the last 80 years (Lambrecht et al., 2018). Found in a boreal shield
55	setting, groundwater supplies the small CL basin with dissolved iron, and its water column
56	chemistry and methane cycling embed processes similar to those thought to have dominated
57	Precambrian oceans (Lambrecht et al., 2020).
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59 **METHODS**

Multiparameter sondes were used to determine CL water column properties in 2018 and 2019, and water samples for cation and anion analysis were collected in May 2018 following standard procedures. A sediment freeze core was collected in February 2018, and sediment traps were deployed in 2019. Samples for iron speciation, XANES, and EXAFS were collected processed under an N₂ atmosphere and stored anoxically until analysis. See Supplementary Information (SI) for Site Description, Methods, and full Results.

67 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

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69 Iron and Manganese Phases in Ferruginous Waters

70	Centroid energies for Fe XANES pre-edge peaks from sediment trap material from 7.5, 15 and
71	20 m were ~7114 eV (Fig. 1; Fig. S-3), consistent with a mixture of Fe(II) and Fe(III). Best fits
72	from linear combination fitting of Fe extended X-ray absorption fine structure (EXAFS) spectra
73	for the sediment trap samples included, in order of contribution to fits, a biogenic Fe-
74	oxyhydroxide ("Bio Fe"; Toner et al., 2009), siderite, magnetite (Hansel et al., 2005), green rust
75	and greigite. However, the quality of these fits was low, likely due to the limited amount of
76	sample producing spectra with low signal to noise, or the presence of poorly crystalline phases.
77	The main Mn K-edge peak energy in sediment trap samples (~6552 eV) was consistent with
78	Mn(II) rather than Mn(III) or Mn(IV) (~6558 eV), indicating that Mn-oxides are not present in
79	the water column (Fig. 1).

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Figure 1 Geochemical and mineralogical characteristics of water column solutes and solid
phases. (a) Dissolved solutes in the CL water column. The oxycline (decrease in dissolved
oxygen) occurs between 7-12 m, and the chemocline (increase in dissolved Fe) occurs between
17-19 m. Sediment traps were deployed at 7.5, 15 and 22 m. (b) Sediment trap Fe XANES
analyses. Pre-edge centroid energies are ~7114 eV, consistent with a mixture of Fe(II) and
Fe(III). (c) Sediment trap Mn K-edge XANES analyses. Peaks have lower energy (~6552 eV)
compared to Mn-oxides (~6558 eV), consistent with Mn(II) minerals.

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89 Sediment Geochemistry and Mineralogy

90 The sediments contain a large pool of highly reactive Fe (Fe_{HR}; average 3.59 ± 0.52 wt. %), with

- 91 the Fe_{HR} pool dominated by unsulfidized Fe(II) phases (Fe(II)_{unsulf}), with a generally low
- 92 concentration of poorly crystalline ferric (oxyhydr)oxide phases such as ferrihydrite (Fe_{ox1}). The

93	remaining Fe phases, comprising crystalline Fe (oxyhydr)oxides (Fe _{ox2}), magnetite (Fe _{mag}) and
94	pyrite (Fe _{py}), were less significant throughout the core (Fig. 2; Table S-1).

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96 Calculations using porewater DIC and the solute chemistry of the deepest CL waters show
97 siderite to be supersaturated throughout the porewater (Fig. 2). A sensitivity analysis adding
98 additional dissolved Fe or DIC raised the saturation index only slightly; the most significant
99 increase in siderite saturation scenarios came from increasing pH from 6.8 (the assumed
100 porewater value) to 7.5 (Figure 2), consistent with observations from ferruginous porewaters,
101 where alkalinity increases alkalinity due to organic carbon remineralization (Vuillemin et al.,
102 2023).

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104 Figure 2 Bulk sediment and porewater geochemistry for the CL sediment core. (a) Porosity and 105 organic carbon content of the sediments. The high organic carbon content of the sediments 106 contributes to their high porosity. (b) Bulk sediment Fe and Mn content showing peaks at ~ 60 107 cm depth, which correspond to the presence of siderite (Figure 3). (c) Iron speciation analysis 108 demonstrating that much of the sediment Fe is contained in the Fe(II)_{unsulf} pool. (d) Porewater 109 dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) concentration and isotope composition, showing a positive δ 110 ¹³C signature consistent with the mass balance of depleted carbon lost to methanI(e) Siderite 111 saturation index (SI), which assumes the Fe concentration (1.689 mmol/L) and pH (6.8) of 112 deepest ferruginous water and measured porewater DIC values. Sensitivity scenarios were based 113 on doubling DIC and Fe concentrations, and increasing pH to 7.5.

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Siderite was detected by XRD, with primary and secondary peaks observed at 31.62° and 52°
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       2\theta (Fig. 3). A semiquantitative ratio of siderite to quartz (I_{sid}/I_{qtz}) suggests siderite is
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       concentrated mid-core (~60 cm), despite being supersaturated throughout the porewaters. SEM
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       images from this interval detected < 5 µm globular clumps with both dumbbell and spherical
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       egg-shaped siderite morphologies that are consistent with growth in an organic matrix (Dupraz et
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       al., 2009); a few crystals also exhibited rhomb-like shapes. All observed crystal forms were
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       consistent with siderite crystals grown in lab experiments (e.g., Jiang and Tosca, 2019; Lin et al.,
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       2019) or observed in lacustrine settings (Wittkop et al. 2014). Pre-edge peak fitting of sediment
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       Fe XANES indicated predominantly Fe(II) (see SI). Iron EXAFS of sediments were best fit by
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       combinations of Bio Fe and siderite, with siderite having the greatest fit contribution (20.8 \%) at
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       64 cm. Manganese XANES spectra were consistent with rhodochrosite (MnCO<sub>3</sub>, which forms
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       solid solutions with siderite) in samples from 64 and 110 cm.
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128 Figure 3 Sediment Fe phases. (a) Example XRD scans showing the emergence of siderite in 129 mid-core depths (57.5 and 63.5 cm scans; Q = quartz peaks, S = siderite peaks). (b) Relative 130 XRD intensity of the siderite peak normalized to the quartz peak (I_{sid}/I_{otz}), showing an increase in 131 siderite abundance mid-core. (c) Sediment Fe EXAFS spectra fit with linear contribution, 132 showing values for Bio Fe, greigite, and siderite, with the greatest contribution (20%) of siderite 133 to fits in the 64 cm samples (Table S-5a). (d) Sediment Mn XANES dominated by reduced 134 Mn(II), and the emergence of a distinctive double-peak of rhodochrosite in the 64 and 110 cm 135 samples. (e-f) Example SEM images of twinned sphere and dumbbell crystal morphologies from 136 the siderite-enriched interval, consistent with experimental precipitates of the mineral. 137

138 Primary Iron Phases in Canyon Lake

139 Despite the highly reducing nature of the CL water column and sediments, some Fe_{ox1} persists in

140 the sediment core. XANES spectra are consistent with the presence of mixed Fe(II)-Fe(III)

- 141 phases (see SI), perhaps green rust, which has been found in other ferruginous settings (Zegeye
- 142 *et al.*, 2012). While authigenic magnetite has also been shown to be an early precipitate in
- 143 ferruginous settings (Bauer et al., 2020), the concentrations in our extractions were very low

144 (Fig. 2), and magnetite was not conclusively detected by EXAFS or XRD. Our EXAFS results

145 suggest greigite is present in the sediments, but Fe extractions imply that this mixed-valence

146 sulfide is a minor component of the Fe_{HR} pool (*i.e.*, low concentrations of Fe sulfides),

147 suggesting that the EXAFS analysis is highly sensitive to the presence of sulfides, or is perhaps

148 interfered with by an unknown phase. Sulfide abundance is limited by the small sulfate reservoir

149 in the water column available for reduction (Lambrecht et al., 2018), though a contribution from

150 an organic sulfur reservoir cannot be ruled out (e.g. Phillips et al., 2023).

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152 The persistence of reduced Mn phases throughout the CL water column and sediments (Figs. 1 153 and 2) underscores the limited ability of this system to oxidize the large reservoir of Fe and Mn 154 from the ferruginous portion of the water column. The dominance of reduced Mn phases in 155 sediment trap materials perhaps points to an external source of reduced solutes—in this case, 156 groundwater input to the lake (Lambrecht et al., 2018). Thus Fe(III) delivery to CL sediments is 157 limited, likely in the form of a poorly ordered Fe-(oxyhydr)oxide (Bio Fe), potentially 158 supplemented by small quantities of greigite and/or green rust; a small component of Fe(III) may 159 be added through detrital phases.

161 **Controls on Siderite Occurrence**

162 Although equilibrium modelling indicates siderite supersaturation throughout CL porewaters, 163 carbonate minerals were only confirmed in one relatively restricted horizon, suggesting an 164 inhibiting factor in the remaining intervals. The relatively slow kinetics of siderite precipitation, especially in the cold (~5 °C) bottom waters of CL, is a likely constraint; hence, a metastable 165 166 precursor to siderite such as green rust may precipitate first. Carbonate green rust is closely 167 associated with diagenetic siderite precipitation (Vuillemin et al., 2019), and has been previously 168 identified in the sediment traps from ferruginous Lake Matano (Zegeve et al., 2012). Green rust 169 ages to siderite in laboratory experiments (Halevy et al., 2017), but the mechanisms which 170 govern this transformation are not well understood (e.g., Wiesli et al., 2004), though pH is an important control on its behavior (e.g. Guilbaud et al., 2013). Although green rust potentially 171 172 plays a role in the CL system, we were not able to conclusively identify it in this study.

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The organic-carbon rich CL sediments also create an environment that inhibits carbonate precipitation. Over longer timescales, porewater alkalinity and pH are known to increase due to continued OM fermentation (Vuillemin *et al.*, 2023), but organic substrates may both inhibit and promote carbonate precipitation, dependent on the composition of functional groups, and the pH of the environment (Dupraz *et al.*, 2009). In CL sediments, intense fermentation (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2020) likely contributes to the inhibition of siderite precipitation by adding CO₂ to the pore fluids, buffering against significant increases in pH.

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182 The appearance of crystalline siderite (XRD-detectable) ~60 cm below the ferruginous sediment-

183 water interface suggests a precipitation barrier was overcome in this horizon, likely by an

184 environmental change. While porewater diffusion smoothes the concentration profiles of solutes, 185 diagenetic siderite precipitation may occur episodically due to environmental changes, such as 186 lake level fluctuations (e.g., Vuillemin et al., 2023). However, CL has been stably stratified at 187 least since the late 1930s (Lambrecht et al., 2018), implying that climate-driven changes in lake 188 mixing (e.g., drought) were an unlikely influence in the interval where siderite occurs (see SI). 189 Wildfires are a more likely influence, as both historical accounts and tree-ring records indicate 190 that significant fires occurred in the forests surrounding CL as recently as the early 1900s 191 (Muzika et al., 2015). Calcium carbonate is a known product of wood combustion, and wildfire 192 mineral ash is known to increase environmental pH in a variety of contexts (e.g., Brito et al.,

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2021).

195 Mineral ash deposition would stimulate an increase in porewater pH and deliver CaCO₃ to 196 sediments. These changes would catalyse siderite precipitation by enhancing sorbtion of Fe and 197 Mn ions to ash particles (Brito *et al.*, 2021), increasing the activity of CO_3^{2-} (Fig. 4), and 198 providing nucleation sites for crystal growth, overcoming kinetic barriers to siderite precipitation 199 (Jiang and Tosca, 2019; Lin et al., 2019). The increase in abundance of bulk Fe and Mn in the 200 siderite layer (Figure 2) is consistent with a sorbtive process, and an ash layer may have resulted 201 in reduced sediment porosity in the same interval, impeding porewater flow, leading to a 202 localized increase in solute concentrations, further enhancing mineral precipitation potential. 203 These observations suggest that the siderite layer in Canyon Lake sediments derives from a 204 combination of depositional (ashfall, sorbtion) and diagenetic (post-depositional crystal growth) 205 processes.

207 We cannot eliminate the possibility that another process such as an overturn of lake stratification 208 drove enhanced Fe(III) delivery to CL sediments in the past, but it seems unlikely. Lake overturn 209 would presumably be accompanied by oxidation of the CL's large isotopically light methane 210 reservoir, which is inconsistent with our carbon isotope data. The association between mineral 211 ash fall and sidertite precipitation we suggest is testable with high-resolution sediment 212 chronology, advanced microscopy (e.g. TEM), and/or charcoal analysis. 213 214 The pronounced influence of pH on siderite precipitation is linked to the dependence of siderite 215 saturation on the concentration of the CO_3^{2-} ion (Fig. 4). Carbonate equilibrium dictates that 216 $[CO_3^{2-}]$ scales linearly with total DIC but nonlinearly with $[H^+]$, due to the presence of a 217 quadratic term (SI). Hence, changing the pH by 1 unit has a stronger effect than a more 218 substantial change in DIC. In CL porewaters where organic carbon remineralization buffers H⁺ 219 fluctuations by increasing alkalinity (and consumption of H⁺ by acetogens and methanogens), an 220 external agent (i.e. mineral ash) is required to drive more substantial pH changes. 221 222 Figure 4 Relative influence of changes in porewater Fe concentration, pH and DIC on the 223 saturation index of siderite. Inputs are based on water chemistry at 20 m, which is assumed to represent a minimum threshold for porewater concentrations. In general, iron concentrations 224 225 above $\sim 100 \ \mu M$ seem to be required for siderite precipitation, unless the pH is high. 226 227 The detection of rhodochrosite by XANES in the same horizon where XRD indicates siderite 228 illustrates the heterogeneous nature of carbonate precipitation in CL. Lacustrine siderites are 229 commonly Mn-substituted (Swanner et al., 2020), possibly linked to the more readily reducible

230	nature of Mn-oxides relative to Fe-(oxyhydr)oxides (Vuillemin et al., 2019). However, the lack
231	of an Mn-oxide flux in CL suggests a fundamental control on precipitation explains this
232	occurrence of Mn-siderite, with competition from nucleation inhibitors (e.g., Mg(II); Vuillemin
233	et al., 2019) or the differential solubilities of Ca-Mn-Fe carbonates (e.g., Wittkop et al., 2020)
234	offering potential explanations. Thus, the occurrence of Mn-rich siderite in the geologic record
235	(e.g., Siahi et al, 2020; Swanner et al., 2020) may be interpreted to reflect passive incorporation
236	of dissolved Mn into the crystal structure, rather than reduction of Mn-oxides.
237	
238	Biogeochemical Implications
239	Although siderite occurs in sediments throughout the geologic record, direct precipitation from
240	Fe-enriched anoxic fluids is thought to be rare due to the slow kinetics of siderite precipitation
241	(Jiang and Tosca, 2019). Modern process studies in oxygenated surface environments tend to
242	encounter siderite only in early diagenetic settings (e.g., Lin et al., 2020). Hence it is often
243	assumed that siderite precipitates following the deposition of an Fe-(oxyhydr)oxide precursor
244	such as ferrihydrite, which is subsequently reduced in the sediments through microbial
245	respiration, providing both dissolved Fe and the alkalinity needed to precipitate carbonate phases
246	(Heimann et al., 2010). However, our observations are not consistent with this traditional model,
247	as the sediment Fe reservoir in CL is dominated by Fe(II) phases occurring below a persistently
248	ferruginous water column.
249	
250	While Fe-(oxyhydr)oxides are often invoked as precursors for Precambrian iron formation (IF)

251 deposition (e.g., Konhauser et al., 2017), recent work has focused on the role of Fe-silicates in IF

252 genesis (e.g., Hinz et al., 2021). In CL, direct precipitation of siderite below a ferruginous water

column represents a significant Fe burial pathway that does not require precursor Fe-(oxyhydr)oxides or silicates. Hence, our work demonstrates that the presence of siderite in sediments should be carefully considered when interpreting past redox conditions, as direct precipitation pathways imply much lower oxygen levels at the sediment-water interface than diagenetic pathways involving Fe-(oxyhydr)oxide reduction.

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259 Multiple studies highlight the importance of pH in governing both Fe-carbonate and Fe-silicate 260 systems (Halevy et al., 2017; Jiang and Tosca, 2019; Hinz et al., 2021), as well as the evolution 261 of stable phases from green rust precursors (Zegeve et al., 2012). Could subtle variations in 262 seawater silica concentration and pH have generated the silicate-carbonate banding observed in 263 many Precambrian IFs (e.g., James et al., 1968; Beukes et al., 1990)? A growing body of 264 evidence supports this possibility, but additional experiments are needed to evaluate the role of 265 pH changes and the presence of nucleation substrates in the direct precipitation of siderite (and 266 associated Mn-carbonate).

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In ancient seas, the role of wildfire ash in CL may have been played by processes that introduce
calcium carbonate to more acidic ferruginous waters, including transgression over previously
deposited carbonates, turbidites, or crystals settling from whiting events (*e.g.*, Morse *et al.*,
2003). The novel link between wildfire ash and enhanced siderite precipitation identified here
may also imply a new pathway for enhancing carbon sequestration in methane-rich, ferruginous
environments that appear to be widespread in boreal shield settings and postglacial lakes (Schiff *et al.*, 2016).

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Graphic abstract



















Letter



Direct precipitation of siderite in ferruginous environments

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Supplementary Information

The Supplementary Information includes:

- Study Site
- > Methods
- ➢ Results
- Discussion
- X-ray Absorption Spectra Supplementary Results and Discussion
- \blacktriangleright Tables S-1 to S-5
- ➢ Figures S-1 to S-7
- Raw Data including Sample Depths, XRF, XRD, Elementar CS
- Supplementary Information References

Study Site

Canyon Lake is located at N46°49'58.069", W87°55'14.858", within the temperate upper peninsula of Michigan, USA. The lake is located on private property owned by the Huron Mountain Club, in an area consisting of coniferous forest on a substrate of Archean gneiss and relatively thin Pleistocene glacial deposits. Canyon Lake and its immediate catchment are undeveloped and managed as a wilderness area. The lake has a surface area of 1 hectare and maximum depth of 23 m (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2018). There is no surface inflow to the lake; groundwater supplies solutes, and a small stream flows out. The lake experiences limited wind mixing due to shelter from gneiss outcrops that are up to 20 m in height.

Water Column Properties

The iron chemocline is ~17 m deep. Above the chemocline, the water column is typically split into an oxic surface layer (~0-8 m), and an anoxic middle layer (~8-17 m), which mix seasonally. Below the chemocline, dissolved iron concentrations increase rapidly to a relatively constant concentration of ~1600 μ M in its deepest waters (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2020; Swanner *et al.*, 2021). There is no evidence of mixing of the water mass below the chemocline since at least the late 1930's (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2018).

Methods

Water Column Geochemistry

Canyon Lake water column geochemistry methods and data from 2015-2019 were previously reported in Swanner *et al.* (2021). Standard techniques were utilized, including *in situ* sensor monitoring of dissolved oxygen, and inline filtration (to $0.45 \mu m$) for cation (acid preserved) and anion samples.

Sediment Sample Collection and Preparation

Sediment Traps. Canyon sediment traps were deployed May through September 2019 (114 days). Canyon traps utilized funnels with a 346.36 cm² diameter due to the low sedimentation rate in the system. Three traps were deployed in Canyon Lake at the 7.5, 15 and 20 m water depths to capture phases from the oxic, chemocline and anoxic layers, respectively. Due to the wilderness nature of the environment, biological poisons were not used in the traps. Recovered trap solids were immediately subsampled under a nitrogen (N₂) atmosphere, and samples for XANES and EXAFS analysis were stored anoxically in an N₂-filled airtight container.

Sediment Freeze Core. In February 2018, a 103.5 cm-length sediment core was obtained from Canyon Lake's deepest point using an aluminium frozen wedge freeze corer chilled with a mixture of dry ice and ethanol (e.g., Wright, 1980). The core was lowered into the sediments and held in position using drive rods for ten minutes. The recovered core was transported on dry ice and subsequently stored at -80 °C. The recovered freeze core was subsequently sectioned and subsampled at the LacCore Facility at the University of Minnesota, and at Iowa State University. The core was maintained at -80 °C with dry ice during handling but was thawed once it was brought into a 100% N_2 glovebox (Ledesma et al., 2023). Some variations in sample intervals and features observed by core depth occurred due to variations in the sediment, and breakages that occurred in the frozen blocks during recovery and transport.

Porewaters were extracted from sediments inside an anoxic glovebox using Rhizon samplers (Islam, 2022), and $\delta 13C$ and dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC) were determined by measuring gas evolved from 1 mL of sample water injected into Exetainers pre-loaded with concentrated phosphoric acid, as previously detailed (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2020). Porosity (n) was calculated from freeze core samples by recording the subsample's initial mass, then melting the frozen sediment chunks in a 50 mL centrifuge tube to obtain a sample volume. Samples were then freeze dried and a dry sample weight was reached. From this data we were able to obtain the bulk density (ρ_b) and assumed that the particle density (ρ_d) was 2.6 g/mL. The equation used was n = (1 - (ρ_b/ρ_d)) * 100 % (Eq. S-1).

Constraints on Sediment Age

Our study did not collect sediment age data, but radiocarbon dates on a long sediment core collected in 1970 from Canyon Lake are available in the Neotoma Database (https://data.neotomadb.org/15682, https://doi.org/10.21233/zpe5-s053). A simple linear age model based on the calibrated ages (IntCal13) of the two uppermost dates (150 and 295 cm below lake floor) yields an average sedimentation rate of 0.1 cm/yr. Based on these constraints, the siderite zone at approximately 60 cm depth would have been deposited within the past 600 years. While this places a maximum age constraint on our sediments, it is likely a significant underestimate of the actual sedimentation rate, which would be higher in unconsolidated surface sediments.

Geochemical Analyses

XRF. Freeze dried samples were prepared for XRF by first homogenizing them with a mortar and pestle into finer particles. Then samples were individually weighed with masses ranging from 0.4745 to 1.4448 g, depending on sediment textures and compositions. These loose powder samples were placed into a polyethylene cup (SPEX 3527 40 mm X-Cell) and covered with 3.0 μ m Etnom film. Samples were analysed on a Rigaku Supermini 200 XRF Spectrometer

under a helium atmosphere with Pd-anode X-rays at 50 kV and 4.0 mA. Samples were rotated, with a total scan time of \sim 45 minutes per sample.

XRD. Following XRF, samples were prepared for powder XRD. The samples were loaded into aluminium holders and loosely packed with a smoother. Samples were analysed on a Rigaku Ultima IV with a Cu-K α radiation source, and an X-ray energy of 40 Ma and 44 kV. Samples were scanned from 5 to 75 ° 20 with 0.02 ° intervals.

We examined the ratio of siderite peak area between 31.1 ° to 32.1 ° 2 θ in comparison to quartz peak area between 26.1 ° to 26.9 ° 2 θ to provide a semiquantitative siderite to quartz ratio (I_{sid}/I_{qtz}). Quartz was chosen as a basis for this ratio on the assumption of a relatively constant amount of quartz in the samples. Thus, when the I_{sid}/I_{qtz} is greater than one, it is interpreted to contain siderite.

Elementar CS. Freeze-dried and homogenized samples were analysed for total carbon and sulphur content using an Elementar CS cube elemental analyser. To remove carbonate phases, the samples were weighed into silver capsules, wetted with a small amount of MQ water and put in a fumigation chamber with a beaker containing 12 M HCl for 6 hours. After removal from the fumigation chamber, samples were dried on a hotplate for 48 hours and wrapped in a tin capsule before being analysed (Harris *et al.*, 2001).

Iron Phase Partitioning. The phase partitioning of Fe was determined via the sequential extraction techniques of Canfield *et al.* (1986) and Poulton and Canfield (2005), with the latter modified for application to modern sediments (Zegeye *et al.*, 2012; Poulton, 2021). Iron present as acid volatile sulfide (Fe_{AVS}) was extracted by a concentrated HCl extraction and was below detection (<0.001), followed by a chromous chloride extraction to dissolve pyrite (Fe_{py}), with the sulfide liberated from each extraction being fixed as Ag_2S (Canfield *et al.*, 1986). Iron concentrations were then determined gravimetrically. Operationally-defined non-sulfidic Fe phases were initially extracted with 0.5 N HCl for 1 hour. This extraction dissolves phases such as Fe_{AVS}, surface-reduced Fe(II), poorly crystalline Fe carbonates, green rust and poorly crystalline hydrous ferric oxides such as ferrihydrite (Poulton, 2021). The reduced Fe phases (Fe(II)_{unsulf}) in this extract were immediately determined by spectrophotometer using the ferrozine assay (Stookey, 1970), and Fe(III) (*i.e.* ferrihydrite; Fe_{ox1}) was determined via atomic adsorption spectroscopy (AAS) after subtraction of the Fe(II) phases (Zegeye *et al.*, 2012; Poulton, 2021). A sodium dithionite extraction was then used to dissolve crystalline Fe (oxyhydr)oxides (*e.g.*, goethite, hematite; Fe_{ox2}), which was followed by a sodium acetate extraction to dissolve magnetite (Fe_{mag}), with Fe in both extracts determined by AAS (Poulton and Canfield, 2005). Replicate extractions gave a relative standard deviation of < 5% for all phases.

Iron phase partitioning data are reported in Table S-1, and the highly reactive Fe fraction (Fe_{HR}) was determine as the sum of $Fe(II)_{unsulf} + Fe_{ox1} + Fe_{ox2} + Fe_{mag} + Fe_{py}$ (Xiong *et al.*, 2019). The ratios Fe_{HR}/Fe_T and Fe_{py}/Fe_{HR} were calculated and compared to calibrated thresholds for determining different water column redox states (Poulton and Canfield, 2011; Poulton, 2021). As expected, all data plot in the anoxic ferruginous field (Fig. S-1).

Microscopy. Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) and Energy Dispersive Analysis (EDS) were used to identify and characterize Fe- and Mn-bearing particulate phases. For this research, the EDS was used to identify particles containing Fe, Mn, S, P, Si, O, C, Ca and Mg. Samples for SEM-EDS analysis were selected from cores and traps. Homogenized samples were sprinkled onto a 10 mm aluminium mount with black carbon tape. The filtered samples were directly placed onto the carbon tape. Initial EDS analysis was performed on uncoated samples, with follow-up imaging work on carbon-coated samples. All samples were analysed on MNSU's JEOLJSM-6510LV/LGS SEM. The conditions were set to an accelerating voltage of 15.0 kV, working distance of 15 mm, and spot size of 60.

Mineral Saturation Analysis. Mineral saturation calculations were performed in Geochemists Workbench (GWB; Student Edition, Release 14) for purposes of evaluating the saturation state of siderite relative to a range of Fe and DIC concentrations and pH levels. The saturation state was modelled using the B-dot equation from the Debye-Huckel equation within GWB. A majority of water column data imported was from May 2018, including cation, anion, dissolved oxygen and temperature measurements; pH values were averaged from June 2015 and June 2017. Sediment freeze core DIC concentrations were used in GWB for modelling siderite saturation instead of the water column DIC concentrations (though water and sediment DIC concentrations were similar).

To assess siderite saturation states, the anoxic water depth of 20 m was selected to run different scenarios in GWB. Three scenarios were considered to evaluate single variable changes within the porewater, which included 1) multiplying Fe concentrations by 1.5, 2 and 2.5 times its original concentration, 2) doubling DIC concentrations, and 3) changing pH from 6 to 8 in half level increments.

The saturation index was calculated as log Q/K, where the solubility constant is $K = 10^{-10.45}$ and the activity product is $Q = [Fe^{2+}] [CO_3^{2-}]$. The influence of pH on carbonate mineral saturation is demonstrated from carbonate equilibria,

$$[CO_3^{2-}] = DIC \left(\frac{[H^+]}{K_2} + \frac{[H^+]^2}{K_1 K_2} + 1\right)^{-1}$$

where $K_1=10^{-6.35}$, $K_2=10^{-10.33}$, and $[H^+]=10^{(-pH)}$ (Eq. 1).

Under relevant environmental conditions, the concentration of H^+ is likely to vary across a wider range than the concentration of DIC and Fe. As a result, pH will be the strongest effect within a hypothetical system where Fe²⁺ and DIC concentrations are unlikely to vary significantly, though varying Fe²⁺ by orders of magnitude (*e.g.*, across different systems) can produce a similar effect on supersaturation.

The original inputs are presented in Tables S-2 and S-3. These tables contain values measured from 20 m water depth. To evaluate the saturation states of siderite, individual variables including Fe, $HCO_3^{-}(DIC)$ and pH were changed as highlighted below. In the main text Figure 4, concentrations were used in place of activities to simplify the calculations, which may introduce an error at higher concentrations.

X-ray Absorption Spectra. Samples were finely powdered using a mortar and pestle inside a N₂ gas-filled glovebox. The powders were pressed into 7 mm pellets and loaded into custom sample holders using carbon tape to secure the pellets to the holder. These holders were transported to the beamline inside a heat-sealed mylar bag with oxygen-removing sachets. The Fe and Mn K-edge XANES analyses were performed at beamline 9-BM at the Advanced Photon Source of Argonne National Laboratory in fluorescence mode using a Vortex four element silicon drift detector with a Si(111) and Si(220) monochromator. Energy was calibrated with an Fe foil and the E0 set to 7112 eV, and a Mn foil with E0 set to 6539 eV. For sediments, three scans were collected per sample for Fe and six for Mn. For sediment traps, 10 scans were collected per sample for Fe and 15-20 for Mn. Channels were summed and deadtime corrected at the beamline. Scans were averaged and normalized in SixPack (Webb, 2005). Pre-edge peak fitting was done in XAS Viewer (Version Larch 0.9.58, https://xraypy.github.io/xraylarch/). Linear combination fitting (LCF) of Fe EXAFS was done in Athena (Version 0.9.26). Fits were performed from k 2-8 Å.

Results

Lake Properties

Consistent with previous observations (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2018; 2020), the Canyon Lake oxycline is positioned at ~12 m water depth, and an interval of low dissolved oxygen concentrations (typically between 1-10 μ M) transitions to permanently ferruginous waters at a chemocline between 17-18 m. Strongly ferruginous waters (aqueous Fe concentrations up to ~1,600 μ M) extend to the bottom, at ~23 m maximum depth. The pH of ferruginous waters near the sediment-water interface ranges from 6.2 to 7.1 (average = 6.5; Fig. S-2). The pH of the middle portion of the water column, where oxygen concentrations are low but dissolved Fe does not accumulate (6-14 m), are slightly lower (ranging from 5.6 to 6.9 at 12 m). The surface waters have consistently higher pH, ranging from 6.6 to 7.1.

Sediment Geochemistry and Mineralogy

The ferruginous sediments of Canyon Lake are exceptionally porous and rich in organic carbon (12.2 to 30.7 wt. %), with the two components linked: the high porosity is enabled both by water-rich sediments and easily displaced organic matter (and likely further displacement by subsequent freezing). Visual description indicates that the organic carbon fraction is largely allochthonous, consisting mainly of detritus from the landscape (pine needles, wood fragments), and the average C/N ratio of the sediment organic carbon is elevated (15.5), further suggesting a dominance of terrestrial sources (Meyers and Ishiwatari, 1993).

The average bulk concentration of Fe is 6.6 wt. %, but spikes to 9.9 wt. % Fe at ~60 cm depth. The concentration of Mn averages 0.44 wt. % but also spikes to 0.97 wt. % Mn at ~60 cm depth. The ratio of Fe/Ti increases and Fe/Mn decreases in the siderite zone (~60 cm depth), due to more efficient Fe and Mn sequestration in the carbonate phase, and not enhanced delivery of Fe or Mn to the system. Ratios are more variable in the upper core, particularly that of Si/Al, precluding clear interpretation of trends (Figure S-1).

In the lower portion of the core (60-90 cm), there are intervals where the Fe_{ox1} pool is increased at the expense of the $Fe(II)_{unsulf}$ pool, potentially indicating a degree of sample oxidation, most likely during collection or storage, which dominantly impacted the most sensitive $Fe(II)_{unsulf}$ phases; these samples are shown in Table S-1, but were removed from the plot shown in the main text.

The concentration of DIC in porewaters was generally at or slightly above the level observed in the deepest ferruginous water mass, with a positive C-isotopic composition consistent with residual DIC reflecting the loss of isotopically light carbon to methane production (Lambrecht *et al.*, 2020).

X-ray Absorption Spectra Supplementary Results and Discussion

Pre-edge Peak Fitting

A baseline was fit to the pre-edge and initial edge jump region of the Fe XANES using a linear and Lorentzian model. Gaussian peaks were fit to the pre-edge peak. Two gaussians produced the best fit for the sediment trap samples. Three gaussians produced the best fit for sediments, although one of the peaks for the 64 and 110 cm samples had a very small area with large relative standard deviation. The centroid energy systematically decreased with depth through the water column and sediments, although the 110 cm sample had a slightly higher energy centroid than the 64 cm sample. Standards with known Fe³⁺/ Σ Fe were not analysed with the samples, so a quantitative calibration of Fe³⁺/ Σ Fe was not possible. However, the centroid energies are consistent with the sediment trap samples being a mixture of Fe²⁺ and Fe³⁺, and sediment samples being predominantly Fe²⁺ (Wilke, 2001; Ellison et al., 2020). Pre-edge fit results are reported in Table S-4 and are reported in the Figure S-3.

Linear Combination Fitting

To investigate the composition of the water particulates and sediments in Canyon Lake, linear combination fittings (LCF) of the Fe X-ray adsorption near edge structures (XANES) across 7100 to 7180 eV and extended X-ray adsorption fine structures (EXAFS) across k^3 -weighted chi (k)-space 2-8 were performed on the samples using 5 standards (Green Rust Iron, Magnetite, a biogenic Fe (oxyhydr)oxide ["Bio Fe"], Greigite, and Siderite) for the Fe sediment data and 9 standards (Green Rust Iron, Magnetite, Hematite, Lepidocrocite, Bio Fe, Greigite, Siderite, Goethite, and 2-line Ferrihydrite) for the Fe water column particulates. Weighted components were normalized to the total sum, which was not forced to sum to 1, following recommendation by Calvin (2013). However, non-normalized sums were within \pm 0.25 from 1. The 'goodness of fit' was determined by R-factors values and the Hamilton Test was utilized as a statistical assessment to indicate the significance between subsequent fits produced from the LCF following parameters outlined by Calvin (2013).

Linear combination fits for the sediment trap material from water column data at 15 m and 20 m had >10 fits that could not be distinguished statistically in normalized energy or in k^3 -weighted chi (k)-space. Therefore, this data is excluded from consideration. Sediment trap material from 7.5 m water depth had 2 fits which could not be distinguished in k^3 weighted chi (k)-space and are given in Figure S-4 and Table S-6. Because both fits are equally good, caution should be given to conclusions relying on one fit over the other.

Linear combination fits for the sediment data at 110 cm resulted in one fit that was statistically better than all subsequent fits in normalized energy. For k^3 -weighted chi (k)-space, LCF also found one fit that was statistically better than all other fits for sediment data at 22 and 64 cm. The LCF data in normalized energy for 22 and 64 cm and the k^3 -weighted chi (k)-space for 110 cm all had between 1-2 additional fits that could not be statistically distinguished and can be seen in Figures S-5 and S-6. A fit that contained Bio Fe, Siderite and Greigite was common across all the samples for the sediment data in both normalized energy and in k^3 -weighted chi (k)-space and is shown in Figure S-7. All statistics and values for the LCF results for XANES and EXAFS are given in Table S-5.

Letter

Supplementary Tables

Table S-1Iron phase partitioning data for Canyon Lake Samples. Samples in *italics* displayed indications of
oxidation subsequent to core recovery and were not plotted in the main text.

#	Name	Depth (cm)	Fe(II) _{unsulf} (wt.%)	Fe _{ox1} (III) (wt.%)	Fe _{ox2} (wt.%)	Fe _{mag} (wt.%)	Fe _{py} (wt.%)	Fe _{avs} (wt.%)	Fe _{HR} (wt.%)	Fe _{HR} / Fe _T	Fe _{py} / Fe _{HR}	Fe (wt.%) ICP
25	Core C 14 cm	14	2.16	0.30	0.38	0.05	0.23	0	3.12	0.83	0.07	3.75
26	Core C 22 cm	22	2.00	0.33	0.39	0.06	0.18	0	2.96	0.79	0.06	3.74
27	Core C 30 cm	30	2.47	0.19	0.40	0.05	0.24	0	3.34	0.84	0.07	4.00
28	Core C 39 cm	39	2.50	0.19	0.43	0.05	0.22	0	3.39	0.84	0.06	4.06
29	Core C 44 cm	44	2.22	0.17	0.46	0.07	0.16	0	3.09	0.76	0.05	4.06
30	Core C 49 cm	49	2.37	0.25	0.43	0.06	0.19	0	3.30	0.81	0.06	4.06
31	Core C 54 cm	54	2.18	0.42	0.41	0.06	0.18	0	3.24	0.84	0.06	3.86
32	Core C 59 cm	59	1.81	0.58	0.45	0.07	0.16	0	3.07	0.79	0.05	3.90
33	Core C 64 cm	64	2.82	0.82	0.52	0.08	0.18	0	4.42	0.82	0.04	5.41
34	Core C 71 cm	71	2.97	1.22	0.53	0.07	0.15	0	4.95	0.90	0.03	5.47
35	Core C 78 cm	78	0.82	2.01	0.56	0.09	0.15	0	3.63	0.79	0.04	4.61
36	Core C 81 cm	81	2.25	0.74	0.51	0.07	0.16	0	3.74	0.83	0.04	4.50
37	Core C 84 cm	84	0.97	2.69	0.59	0.08	0.15	0	4.47	0.92	0.03	4.84
38	Core C 88 cm	88	2.34	0.72	0.48	0.06	0.20	0	3.79	0.83	0.05	4.58
39	Core C 94 cm	94	0.72	2.05	0.51	0.07	0.19	0	3.53	0.83	0.05	4.24
40	Core C 100 cm	100	2.39	0.52	0.48	0.07	0.19	0	3.66	0.90	0.05	4.06
41	Core C 105 cm	105	0.69	2.16	0.49	0.07	0.09	0	3.51	0.85	0.03	4.12
42	Core C 110 cm	110	2.37	0.32	0.38	0.06	0.20	0	3.33	0.87	0.06	3.82
43	Core C 117 cm	117	2.27	0.65	0.46	0.06	0.22	0	3.66	0.85	0.06	4.29

Species	Concentration (mg/)	рН	Siderite (log Q/K)
Fe ²⁺	94.330	6	0.185
Fe ²⁺	94.330	6.5	0.9594
Fe ²⁺	94.330	6.8	1.356
Fe ²⁺	94.330	7	1.596
Fe ²⁺	94.330	7.5	2.134
Fe ²⁺	94.330	8	2.598

Table S-2Siderite saturation calculations (as log Q/K) based on Canyon Lake waters.

 Table S-3
 Initial conditions for siderite saturation calculations based on Canyon Lake bottom water.

Species	Concentration	Units
Al ³⁺	0.363	mg/l
B(OH) ₃	0.050	mg/l
Ca ²⁺	29.000	mg/l
Cr ²⁺	0.003	mg/l
Fe ²⁺	94.330	mg/l
K ⁺	1.787	mg/l
Mn ²⁺	3.039	mg/l
Mg ²⁺	7.825	mg/l
Na ⁺	7.318	mg/l
HPO4 ²⁻	0.232	mg/l
F-	< 0.1	mg/l
Cl	11.300	mg/l
NO ₂ ⁻	< 0.1	mg/l
Br⁻	0.500	mg/l
SO4 ²⁻	< 0.1	mg/l
NO ₃ -	< 0.1	mg/l
HCO ₃ -	5.640	mmol/l
O ₂	0.041	mg/l
pН	6.8	H^{+}
Temperature	5.6	С
Siderite	1.225	log
		Q/K

Sample	Height	Position (eV)	FWHM (eV)	Area	Total Area	Centroid (eV)	χ^2	
7.5 m trap	0.024±0.006	7113.03±0.23	2.35±0.21	0.061±0.020				
	0.032±0.005	7114.83±0.20	2.51±0.25	0.086±0.021	0.147±0.029	7114.08±0.04	2.88x10 ⁻⁵	
15 m trap	0.025±0.003	7113.76±0.25	3.06±0.28	$0.080{\pm}0.017$				
	0.013±0.005	7115.09±0.04	1.79±0.25	0.024±0.013	0.104±0.021	7114.06±0.02	1.47x10 ⁻⁵	
20 m trap	0.032±0.002	7113.42±0.13	2.67±0.17	0.091±0.011				
	0.018±0.004	7115.03±0.09	1.87±0.13	0.036±0.010	0.127±0.015	7113.88±0.02	2.19x10 ⁻⁵	
22 cm core	0.024±0.007	7111.84±0.44	2.56±0.41	0.065±0.029				
	0.008±0.011	7112.54±0.14	1.36±0.45	0.012±0.020	0.148±0.040	7112.72±0.02	1.02x10 ⁻⁵	
	$0.034{\pm}0.007$	7113.55±0.15	1.98±0.17	0.071±0.018				
64 cm core	0.002±0.001	7110.78±0.09	0.89±0.36	0.002±0.002				
	0.028±0.020	7112.13±1.25	3.02±1.00	0.090±0.094	0.154±0.131	7112.64±0.01	1.09x10 ⁻⁵	
	0.026±0.033	7113.44±0.21	2.19±0.46	0.062±0.091				
110 cm core	0.027±0.003	7111.79±0.21	2.50±0.23	0.072±0.015				
	0.005±0.003	7112.54±0.07	1.01±0.24	0.006±0.004	0.160±0.020	7112.68±0.01	1.04x10 ⁻⁵	
	0.038±0.005	7113.47±0.08	2.03±0.09	0.082±0.013				

Table S-4 Fe XANES Pre-Edge Characteristics for Canyon Lake Samples

Table S-5 Results of linear combination fitting for (a) EXAFS at the Fe K-edge for Canyon Lake sediments and sediment trap material at 7.5 m depth and (b) XANES at the Fe K-edge for Canyon Lake sediments. The lowest R factor for multiple fits is the best fit. The *p*-value indicates the significance.

	Green Rust	Bio Fe	Greigite	Siderite	Hematite	R-Factor	<i>p</i> -value vs best fit
22cm	-	57.8 ± 4	33.2 ± 5	9.0 ± 1	-	0.0513	-
64 cm	-	49.6 ± 3	30.6 ± 4	19.8 ± 1	-	0.0526	-
	-	58.8 ± 4	32.5 ± 5	8.7 ± 1	-	0.0630	-
110 cm	9.3 ± 3	57.7 ± 6	33.0 ± 7	-	-	0.0842	0.068
	-	91.9 ± 3	-	8.1 ± 2	-	0.0877	0.051
75 m		95.4 ± 4	-	15.5 ± 2	15.6 ± 2	0.06636	-
/.5 m		72.3 ± 6	67.2 ± 8	22.1 ± 2	-	0.07432	-

(a) EXAFS

(b) XANES

	Green Rust	Magnetite	Bio Fe	Greigite	Siderite	R factor	<i>p</i> -value vs best fit
22 cm	36.3 ± 1	-	53.1 ± 0.5	-	10.6 ± 0.7	0.000456	-
		-	54.6 ± 0.6	25.2 ± 0.8	20.2 ± 0.5	0.000602	0.087
64 cm	-	-	24.2 ± 0.8	43.7 ± 1	32.1 ± 0.7	0.00117	-
	-	46.4 ± 2	-	24.3 ± 2	29.2 ± 0.7	0.00120	0.59
	27.6 ± 3	49.2 ± 2	-	-	23.2 ± 1	0.00158	0.19
110 cm	-	-	24.2 ± 0.8	43.7 ± 1	32.1 ± 0.7	0.00117	-

Supplementary Figures



Figure S-1 Iron speciation data and selected XRF element ratios for the Canyon Lake core. All speciation samples plot in the anoxic ferruginous field (Poulton and Canfield, 2011). The element ratio of Si/Al implies a consistently low flux of siliciclastic materials to the lake, with perhaps intervals of slight increases (or declines in diatom productivity) in the upper most 40 cm of sediments. The ratio of Fe/Ti implies that the increase in Fe concentration observed in the middle of the core (~60 cm) is not derived from an increased flux of siliciclastic or terrigenous Fe. The decline in the Fe/Mn ratio in the same horizon suggests that the siderite present in that interval preferentially incorporates Fe relative to Mn.



Figure S-2 Canyon Lake pH profiles, 2015-2018. Data from Swanner *et al.* (2021).



Figure S-3 Baseline subtracted pre-edge fits of sediment trap samples (a-c) and sediment samples (d-f) from Canyon Lake. The centroid position was 7114.01 ± 0.02 eV for the sediment traps and 7112.68 ± 0.01 eV for sediments.



Figure S-4 Linear combination fitting results of the Fe-K edge EXAFS spectra for sediment trap material at 7.5 m water depth. Data for these results are given in Table S-5.



Figure S-5 Linear combination fit results of the normalized XANES Fe K-edge spectra which could not be readily distinguished at sediment depths (a) 22 cm and (b & c) 64 cm.



Figure S-6 Linear combination fit results of the Fe K-edge EXAFS spectra which could not be readily distinguished at sediment depth 110 cm.



Figure S-7 Linear combination fitting results of the (a) Fe K-edge normalized XANES spectra and (b) Fe K-edge EXAFS spectra for sediment at 22 cm, 64 cm, and 110 cm depths.

Raw Data including Sample Depths, XRF, XRD, Elementar CS

Attached is our raw data of sample depths, XRF, XRD, and Elementar CS measurements. An Excel version housing all the raw data is available for download from the online version of this article at LINK.

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