

A new stormwater treatment technique-regenerative stormwater conveyances

Kevin Nunnery

knunnery@biohabitats.com



Biohabitats
Incorporated

Adrienne Cizek

arcizek@ncsu.edu



Ecological Restoration:

...the process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed.
(Society for Ecological Restoration)

Ecological Engineering:

...integrating ecology and engineering... design and construction of sustainable ecosystems... to integrate society with the natural environment for the benefit of both . (Howard Odum)

Novel Ecosystem:

...ecosystem that has been heavily influenced by humans but is not under human management.

Nature (2009) 460: 450-453

Regenerative Stormwater Conveyances (RSCs)

-----Utilize a series of shallow aquatic pools, riffle/grade controls , native vegetation , and an underlying sand/wood chip substrate (ecological restoration and ecological engineering)

-----intercept stormwater, and filter pollutants from the flow of stormwater in channels that are often degraded by urban runoff (novel ecosystems).





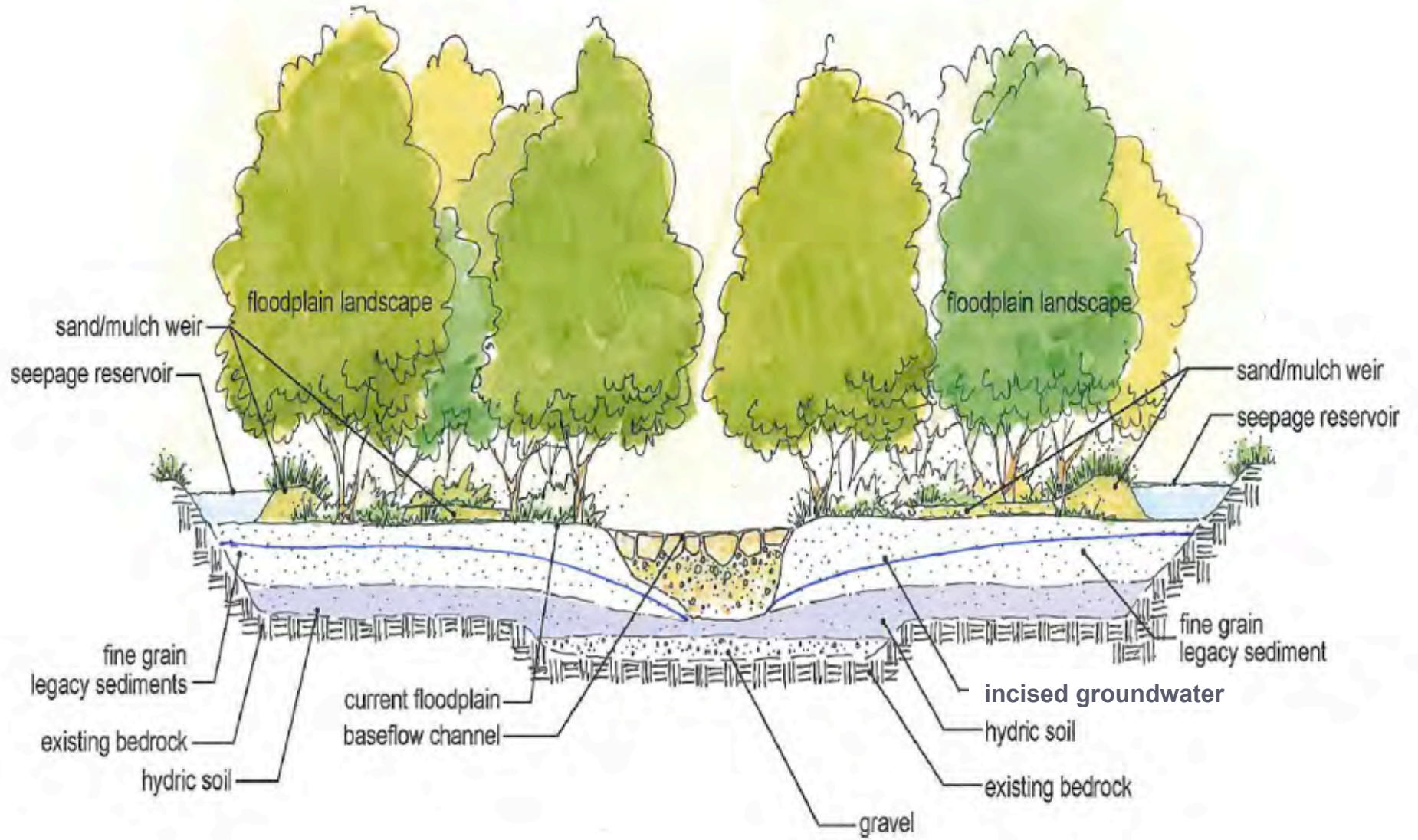


Source of Photos: Underwood & Associates





Groundwater Restoration



Preliminary RSC Monitoring Data – Emerging Trends/Benefits:

- Reduction of peak discharge and extension of the time of concentration of stormwater flows**
- Reduction of nitrogen loads**
- Reduction of phosphorus loads**
- Reduction of TSS loads**
- Reduction in stream temperature**
- Extension of downstream baseflow periods**



Set riffle elevations to retain water on landscape



There is a somewhat analogous / reference system --
beaver dams

**Tributary to Rock
Creek
Washington, DC**

February 2011

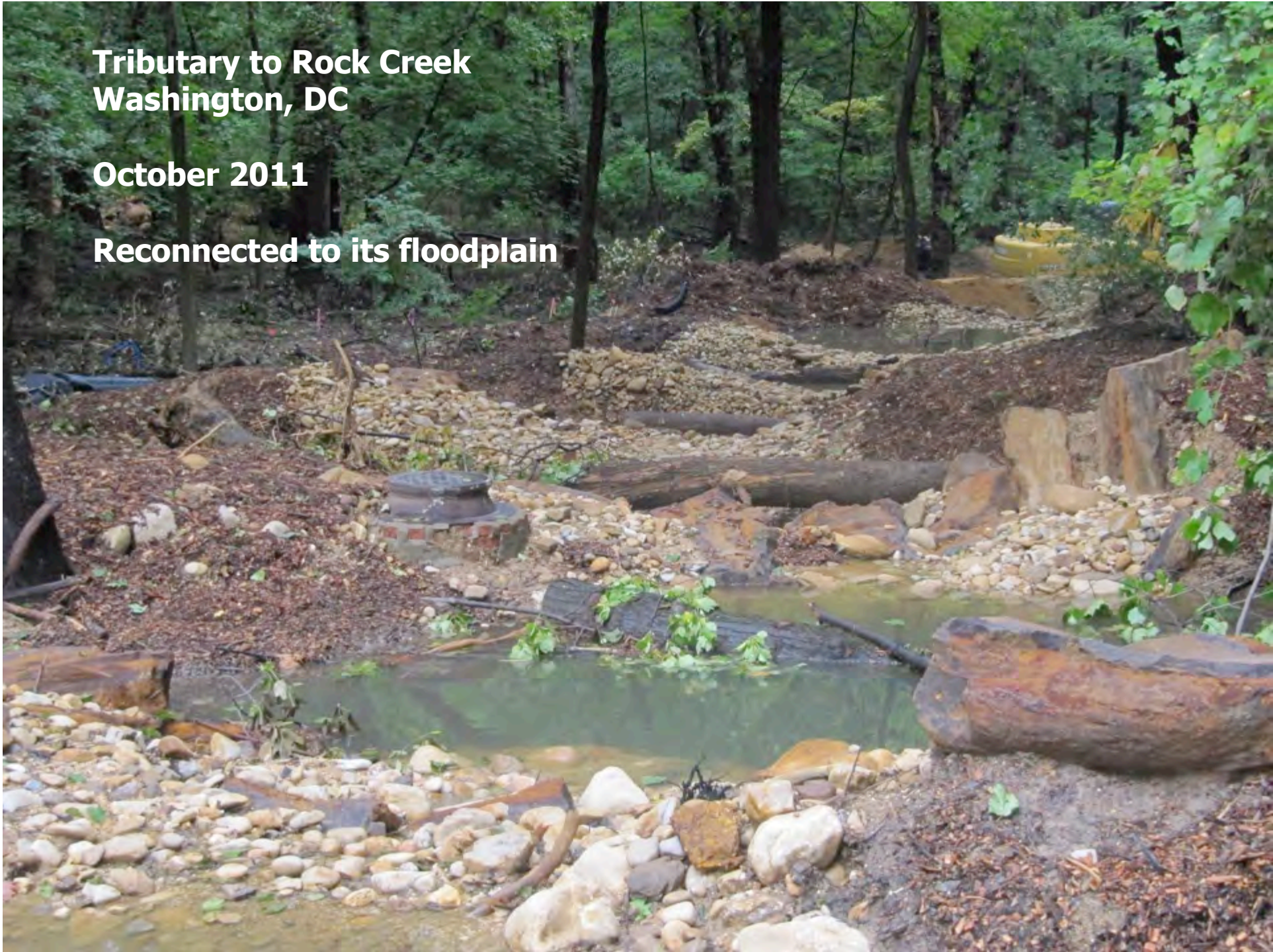
~10 ft Incised



**Tributary to Rock Creek
Washington, DC**

October 2011

Reconnected to its floodplain

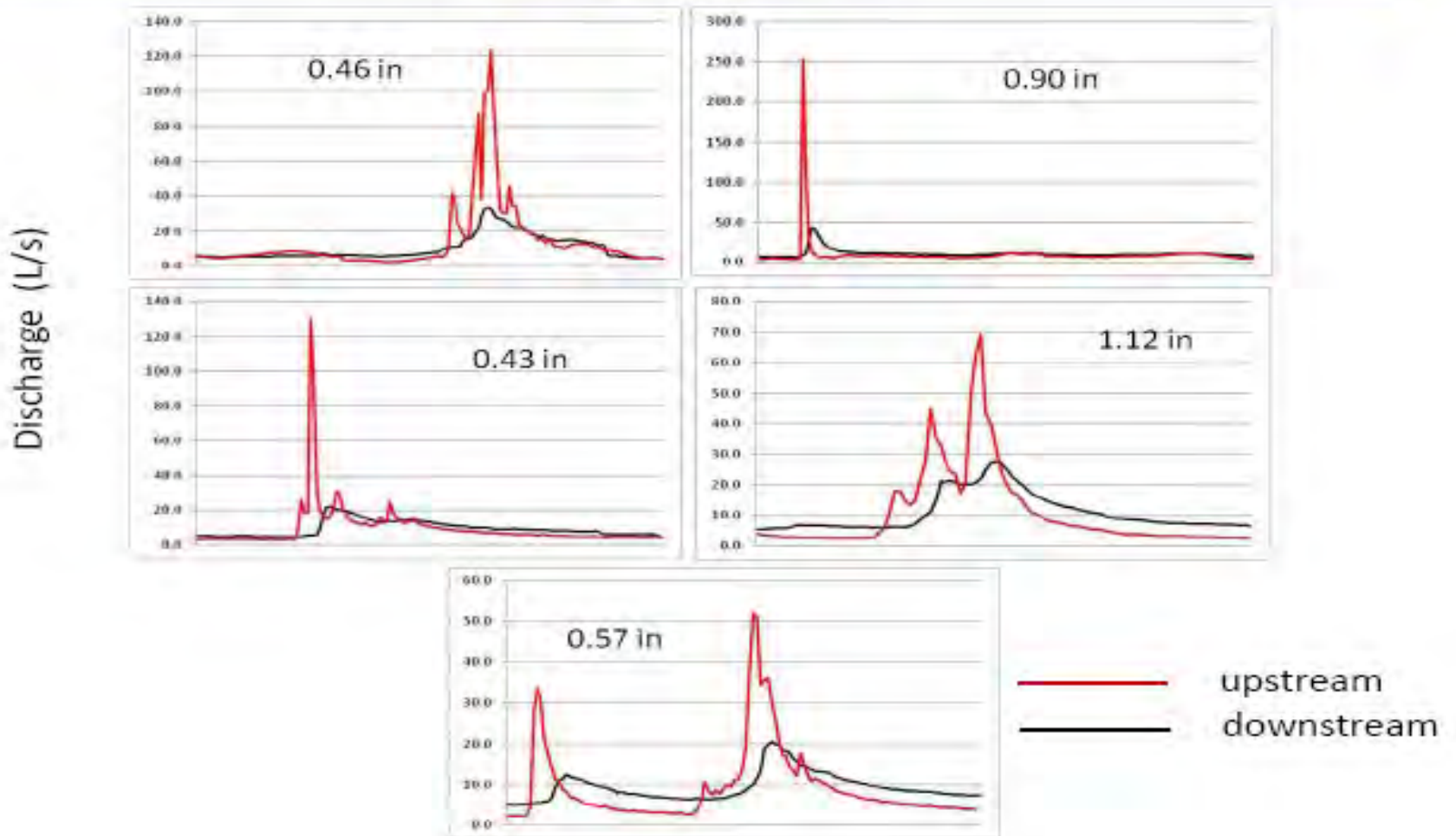




Wilelinor



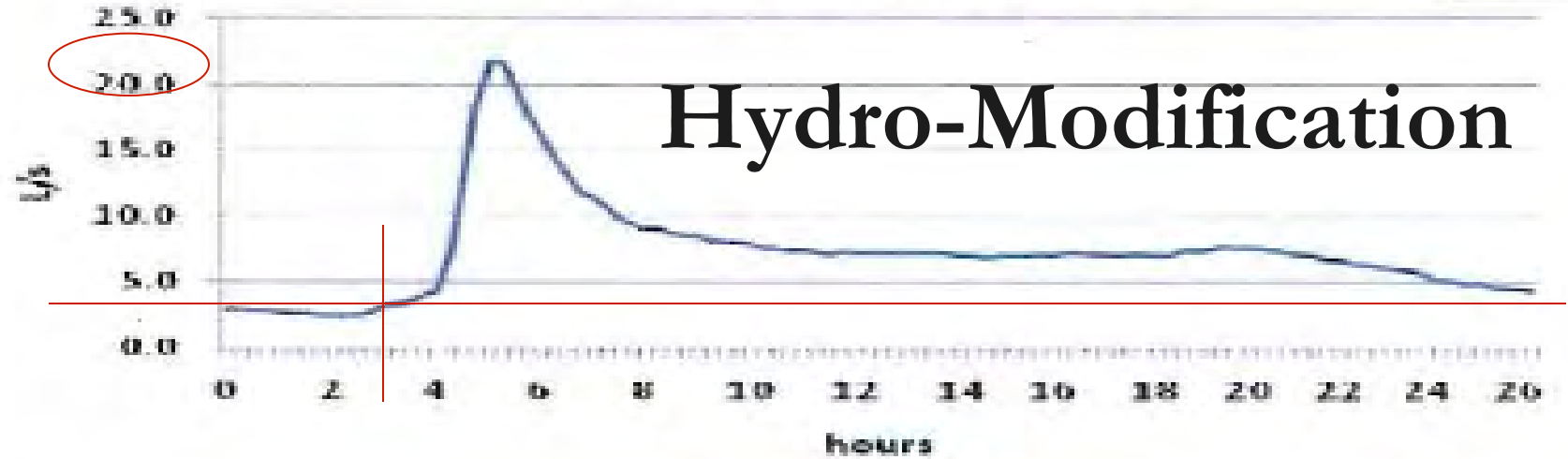
Hydrographs during individual storms WILELINOR



Source: Solange Filoso, University of Maryland

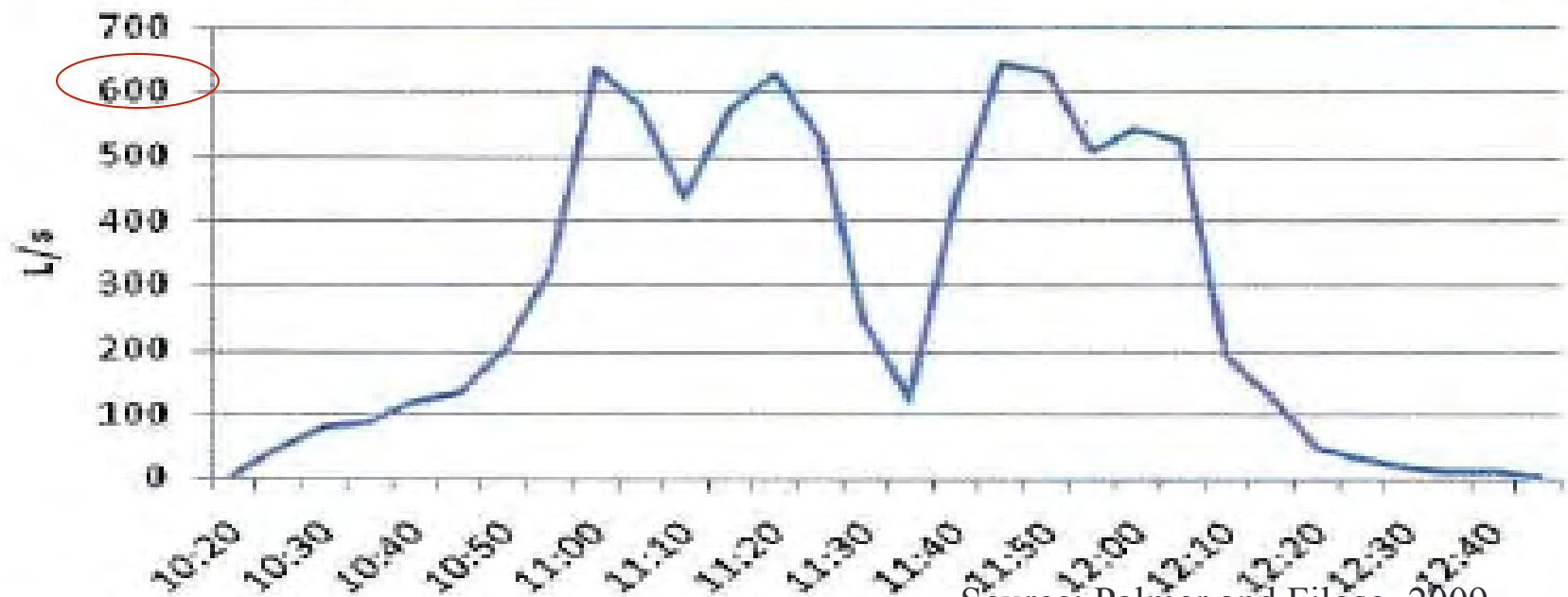
Wilelinor Stream (WIL)

A



Upstream of restoration - WIL

B

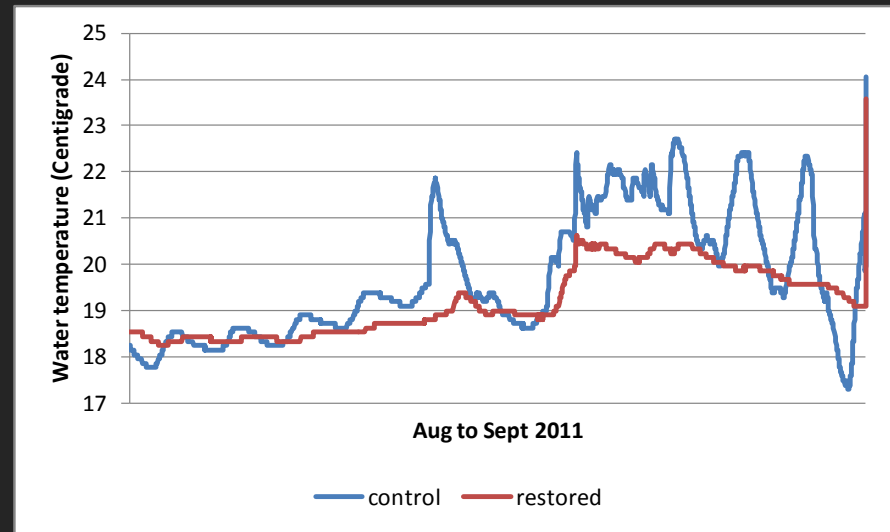
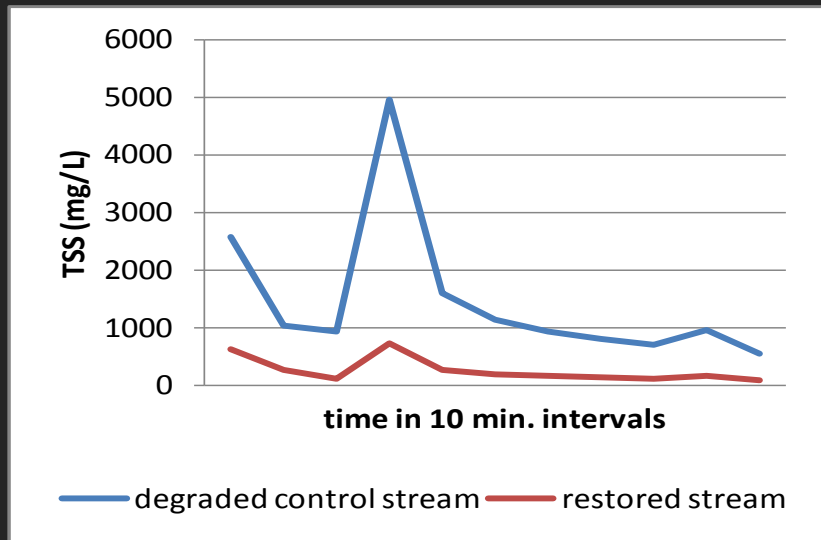
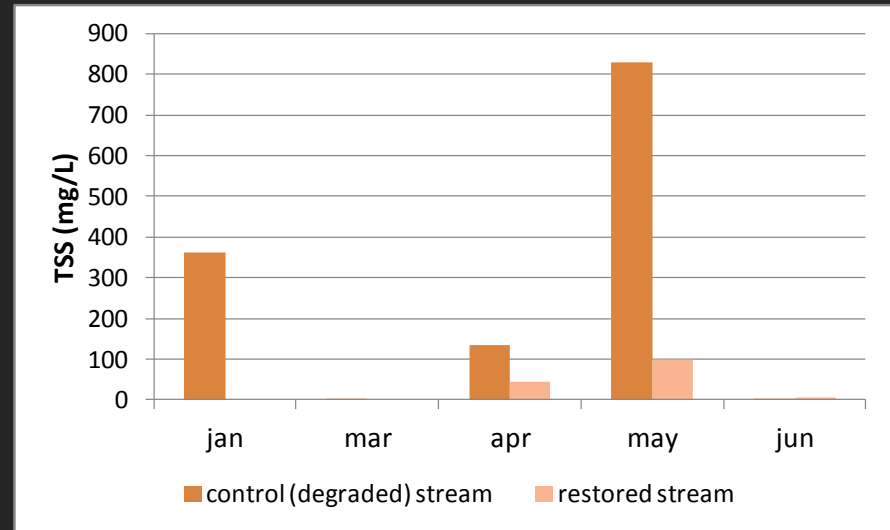
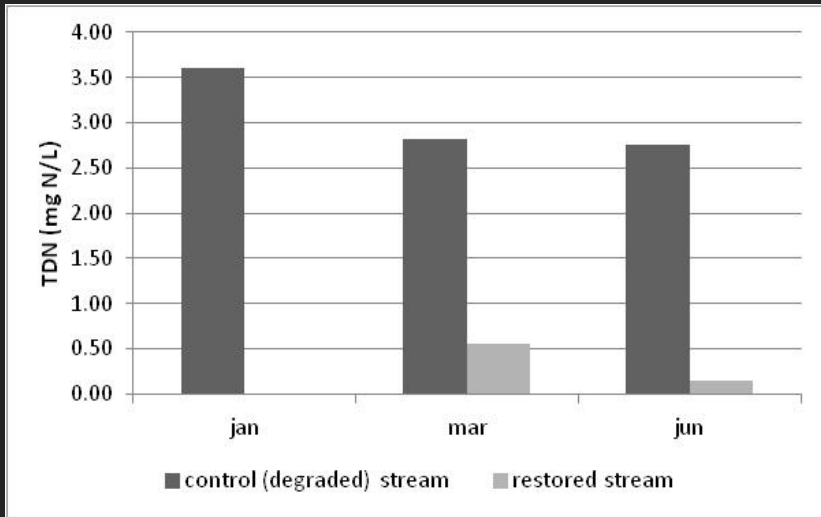


Source: Palmer and Filoso, 2009

Carriage Hills







Carriage Hills,
Source: Solange Filoso, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science,
Chesapeake Biological Laboratory

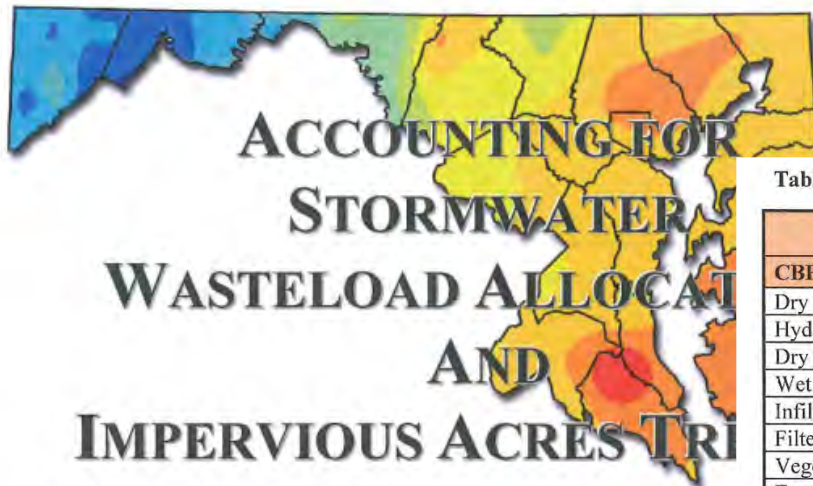
Reconnect Stream – PB-1



Raising groundwater elevation to near
top of bank would store
8.5 ac-ft of water

Estimated to extend baseflow by **19 days**

Significant benefits to
**Stream hydrograph, shear s, instream-
habitat, adjacent wetland hydrology,
etc.**



ACCOUNTING FOR STORMWATER WASTELOAD ALLOCATION AND IMPERVIOUS ACRES TR

GUIDANCE FOR
NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION
ACT
STORMWATER PERMITS

JUNE (DRAFT) 2011



1800 Washington Boulevard | Baltimore, MD 21230-1718 | www.mde
410-537-3000 | 800-633-6101 | TTY Users: 800-735-2258
MARTIN O'MALLEY, GOVERNOR | ANTHONY G. BROWN, LT. GOVERNOR | ROBERT M.

Table 4. Structural BMP Retrofit Matrix

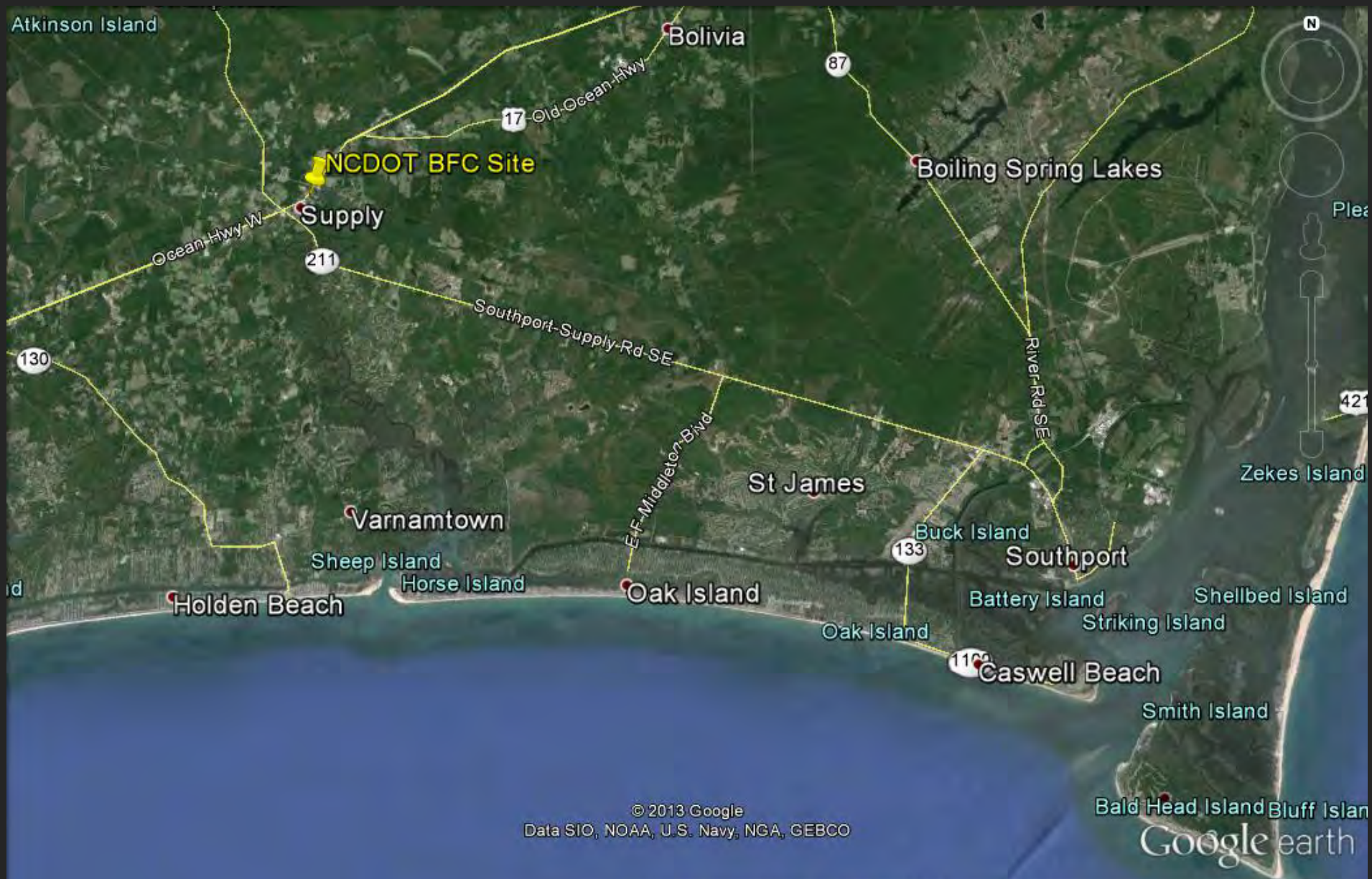
BMP Practice	TN	TP	TSS
CBP Structural BMPs			
Dry Detention Ponds	5%	10%	10%
Hydrodynamic Structures	5%	10%	10%
Dry Extended Detention Ponds	20%	20%	60%
Wet Ponds and Wetlands	20%	45%	60%
Infiltration Practices	80%	85%	95%
Filtering Practices	40%	60%	80%
Vegetated Open Channels	45%	45%	70%
Erosion and Sediment Control	25%	40%	40%
Stormwater Management by Era			
Development Between 1985 - 2002	17%	30%	40%
Urban BMP Retrofit	25%	35%	65%
Development Between 2002 and 2010	30%	40%	80%
Development After 2010	50%	60%	90%
ESD to the MEP from the Manual			
Green Roofs	50%	60%	90%
Permeable Pavements	50%	60%	90%
Reinforced Turf	50%	60%	90%
Disconnection of Rooftop Runoff	50%	60%	90%
Disconnection of Non-Rooftop Runoff	50%	60%	90%
Sheetflow to Conservation Areas	50%	60%	90%
Rainwater Harvesting	50%	60%	90%
Submerged Gravel Wetlands	50%	60%	90%
Landscape Infiltration	50%	60%	90%
Infiltration Berms	50%	60%	90%
Dry Wells	50%	60%	90%
Micro-Bioretentation	50%	60%	90%
Rain Gardens	50%	60%	90%
Grass, Wet, or Bio-Swale	50%	60%	90%
Enhanced Filters	50%	60%	90%
Additional Structural BMP Guidance			
Redevelopment (MDE)	50%	60%	90%
Existing Roadway Disconnect (MDE)	50%	60%	90%
Step Pool Storm Conveyance (MDE)	50%	60%	90%

Brunswick County BFC Hydraulic Performance



Adrienne Cizek

December 2013



© 2013 Google
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO

Imagery Date: 1/3/2013 lat 33.949526° lon -78.141927° elev 30 ft eye alt 21.43 mi

Brunswick County, NC

- ▶ Severely eroded “ditch”
- ▶ Entering Lockwood Folly stream/wetland complex
- ▶ **Goal: Hydraulically manage stormwater runoff**

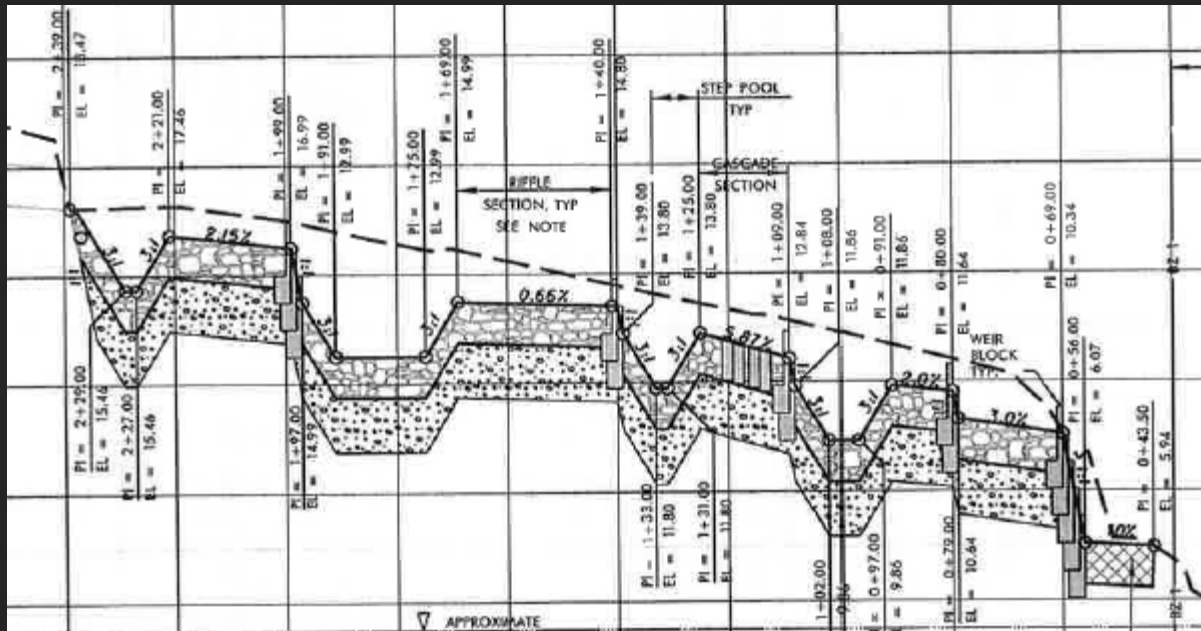


Watershed Characteristics

- ▶ Coastal Plain in Brunswick Co, NC
 - HSG A
- ▶ 12 ac mostly pervious land uses
 - Also treats runoff from Hwy 17
- ▶ Retrofit eroding swale into Lockwood Folly



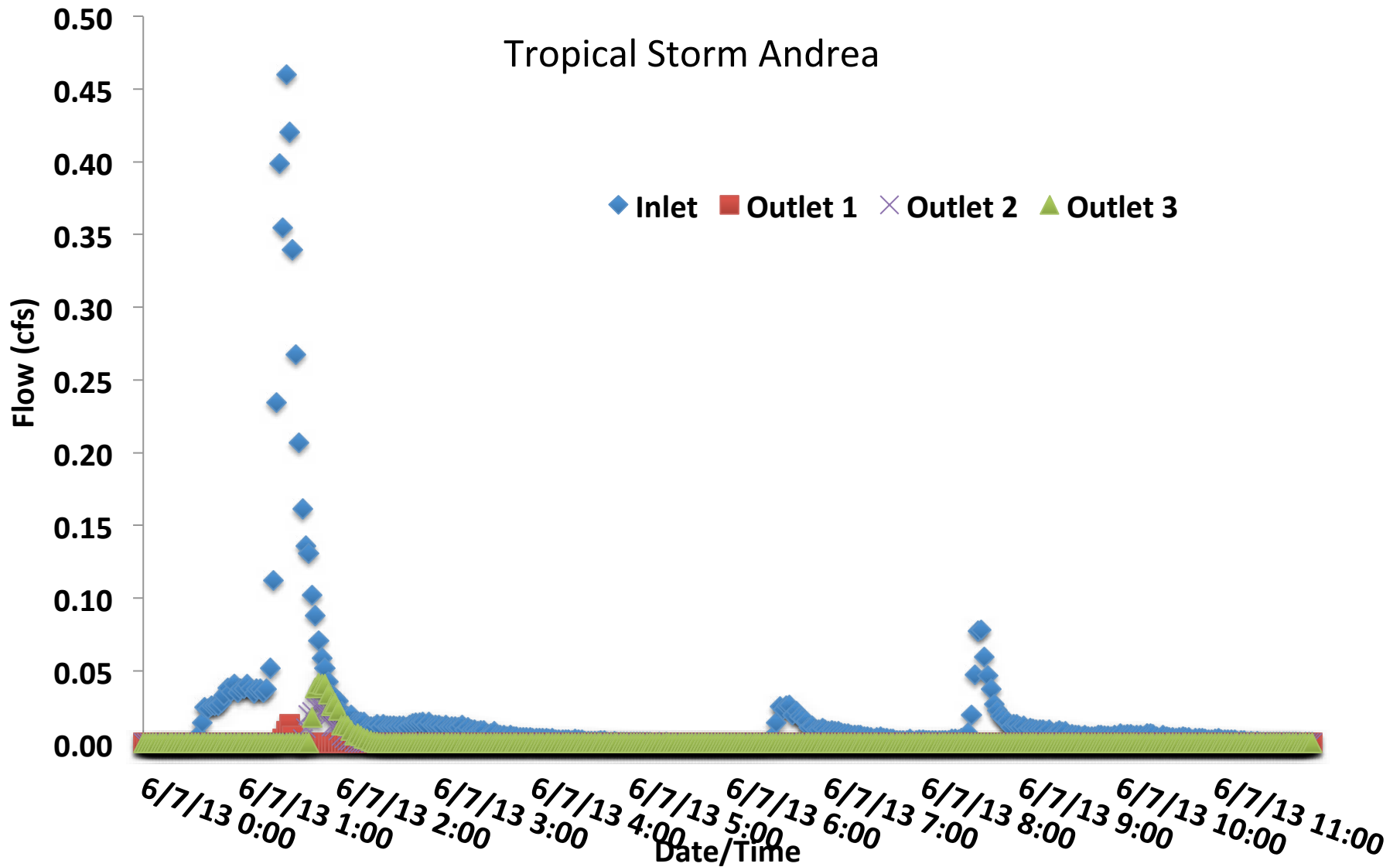
Biofiltration Conveyance Retrofit (BFC)



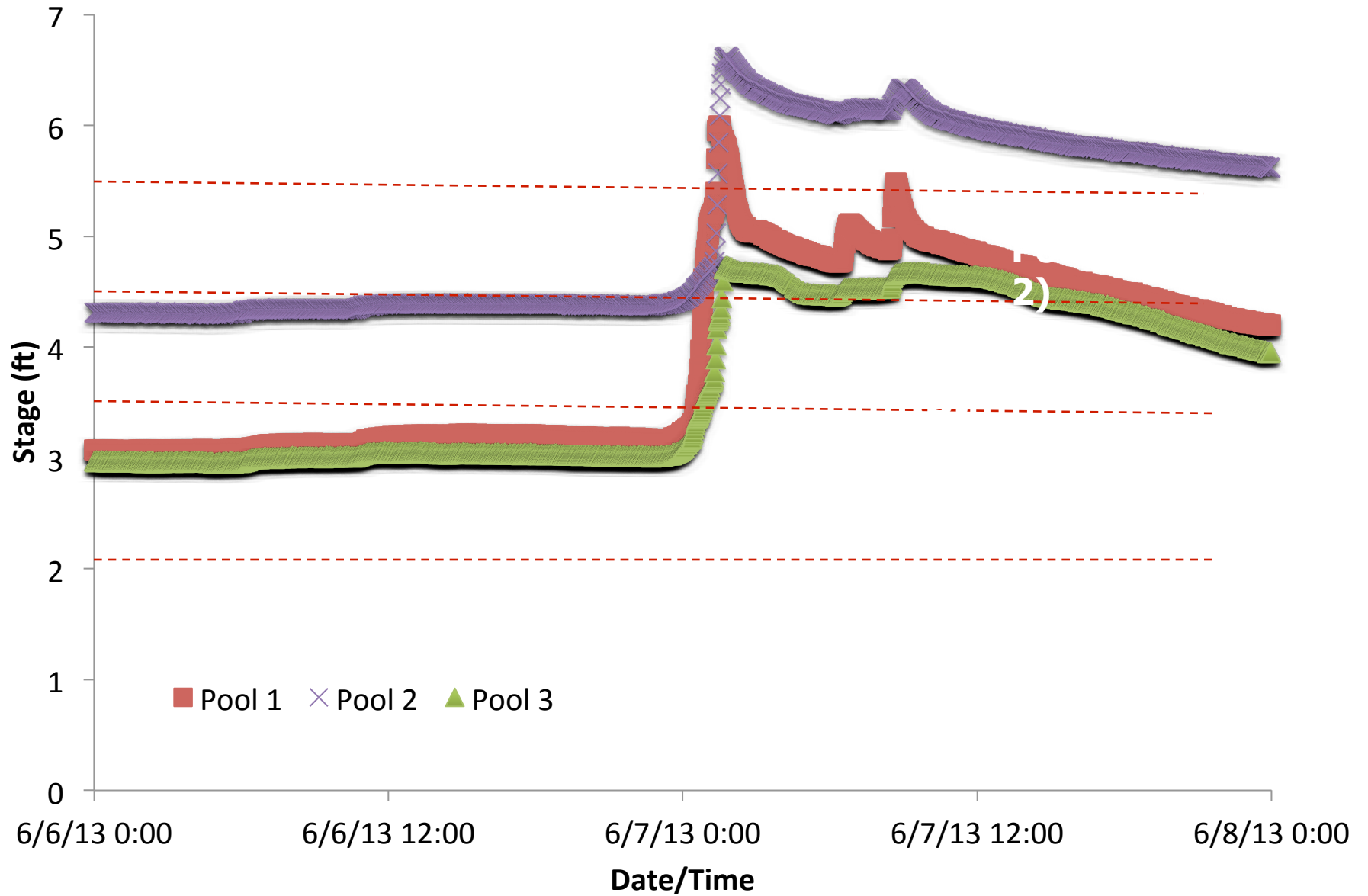
Storm Stats

- ▶ Monitoring Period 1/13 to 8/13
 - 20 inflow producing rainfall events
 - ▶ Max Rainfall Depth = 1.5 in
 - ▶ Max Inflow Volume = 2683 cf
 - ▶ Max Peak Flow = 1.3 cfs
 - 1 produced surface outflow
 - ▶ Max Outflow Volume = 44 cf
 - ▶ Max Outflow Rate = 0.04 cfs

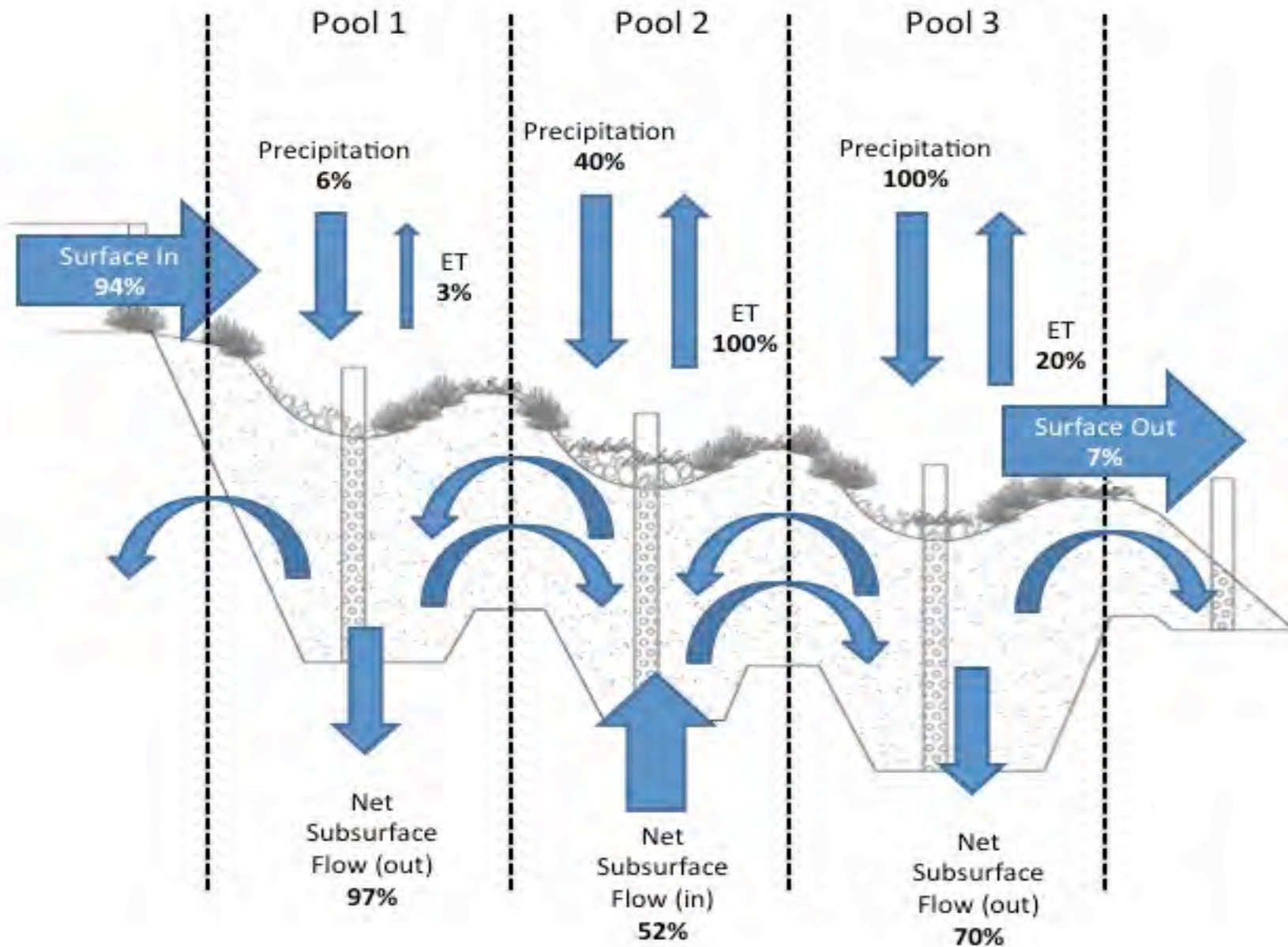
Outflow Producing Event 6-7-13



Stage in Pools: 6-6-13



Overall Water Balance



Next Steps...

- ▶ Discrete subsurface flows
 - Groundwater
 - Seepage from pool to pool
- ▶ Data collection through Spring 2014



Questions?

