

STRATIGRAPHIC FLUXTM

Applying Sequence Stratigraphy and High-Resolution Site
Characterization to Find Contaminant Flux

Session C5 – High Resolution Site Characterization

BATTELLE BIOREMEDIATION SYMPOSIUM



Acknowledgments

Contributors

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Air Force Civil Engineer Center

Funding through BAA 967

Guidance manual available Q3 2017

Outline

- *Smart* characterizationTM and
Return on *Investigation*TM
- Stratigraphic FluxTM
- Air Force Plant 4 TCE

***ROI framework streamlines
process, maximizes value of
information***

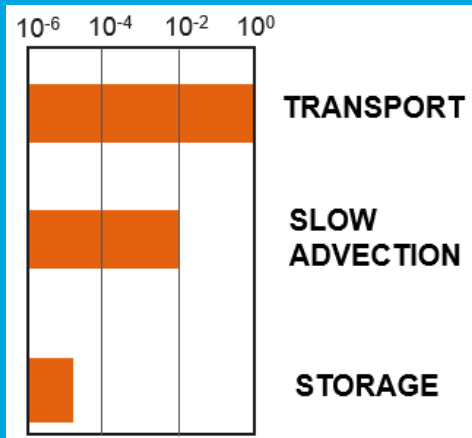
Smart CharacterizationTM: Find the Flux

Flux-Based CSM

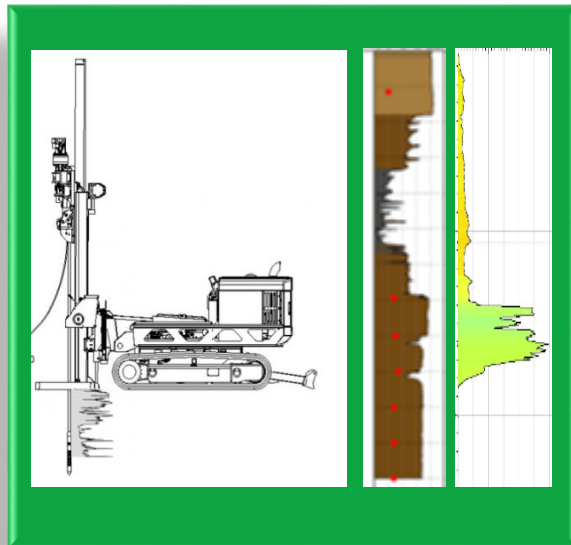
Right tools to map flux

Real-time & adaptive

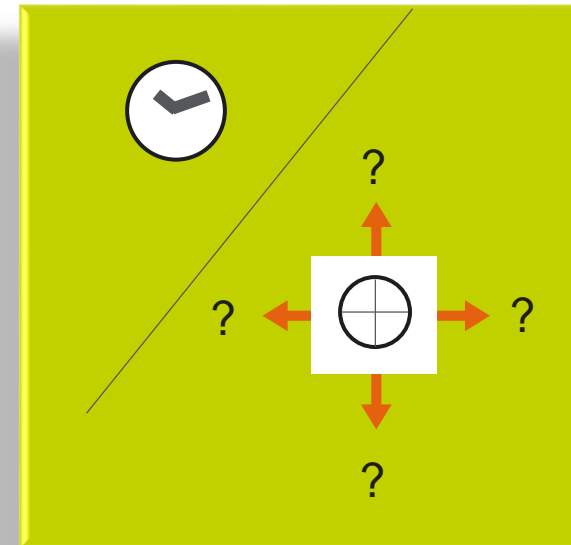
Interpretation



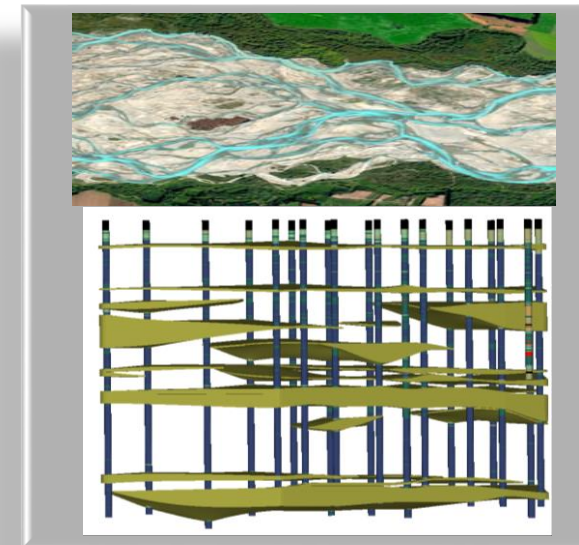
- Majority of flux in permeable zones



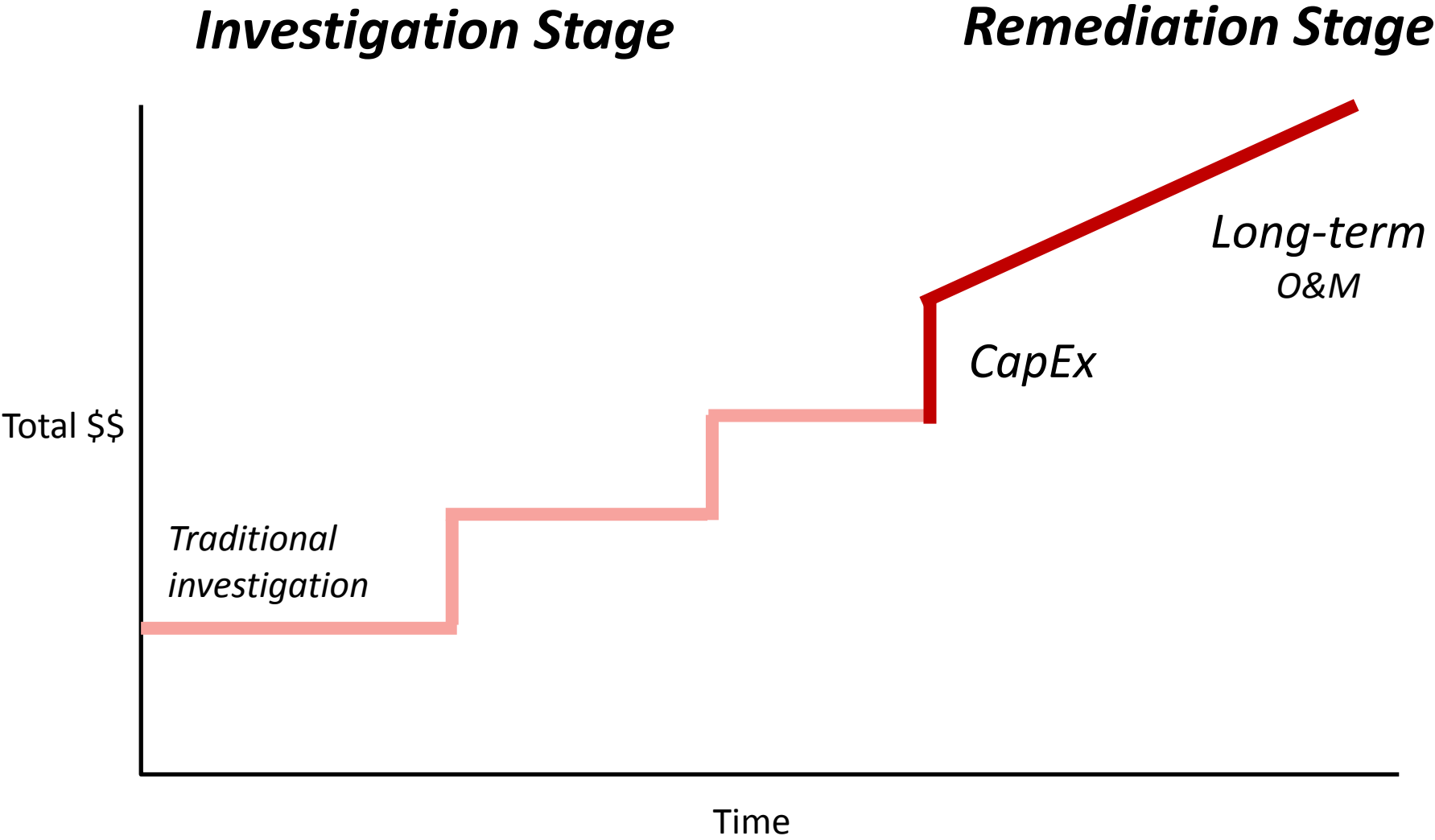
- Quantitative
- High-resolution

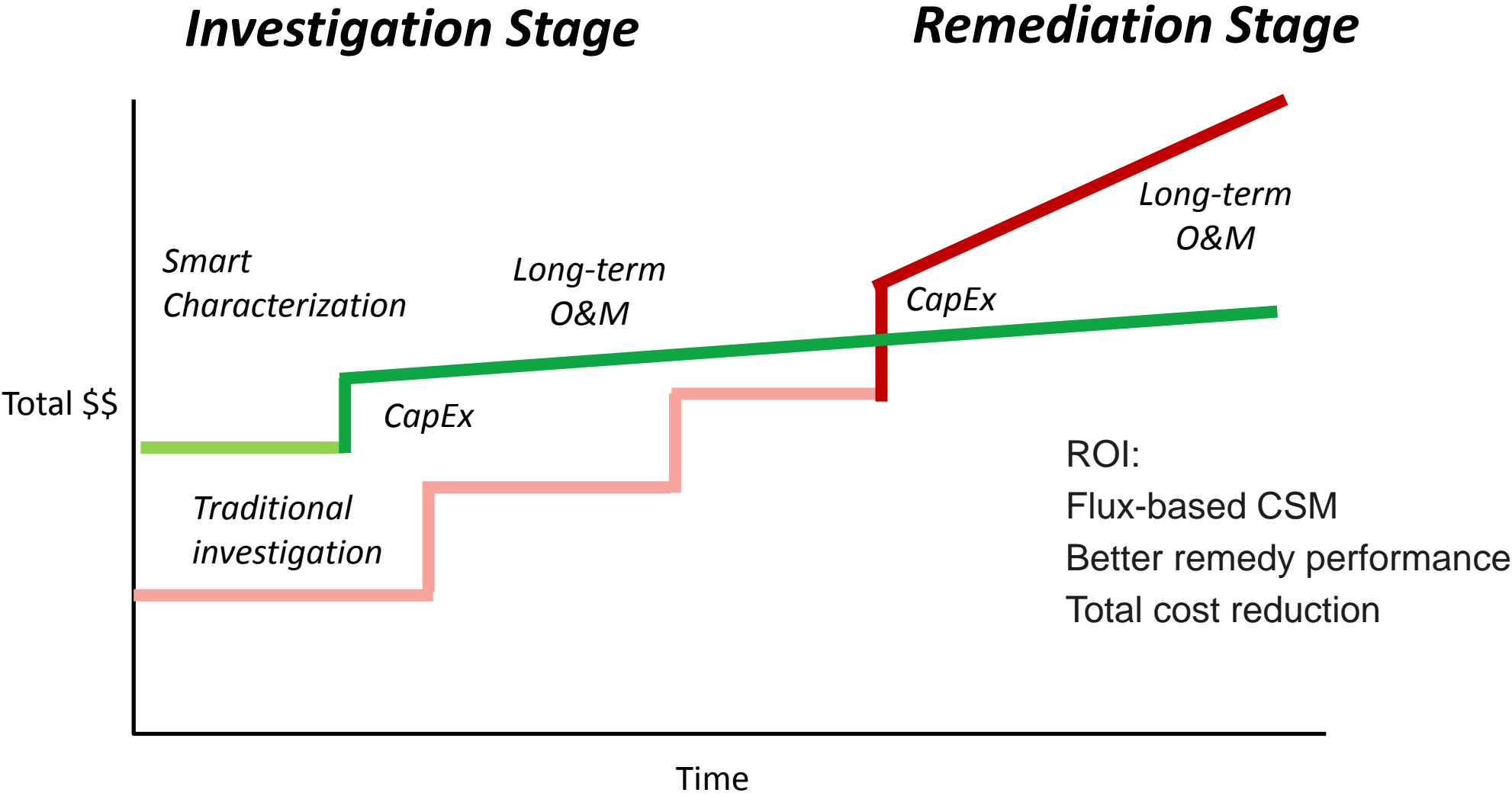


- Lower investigation costs



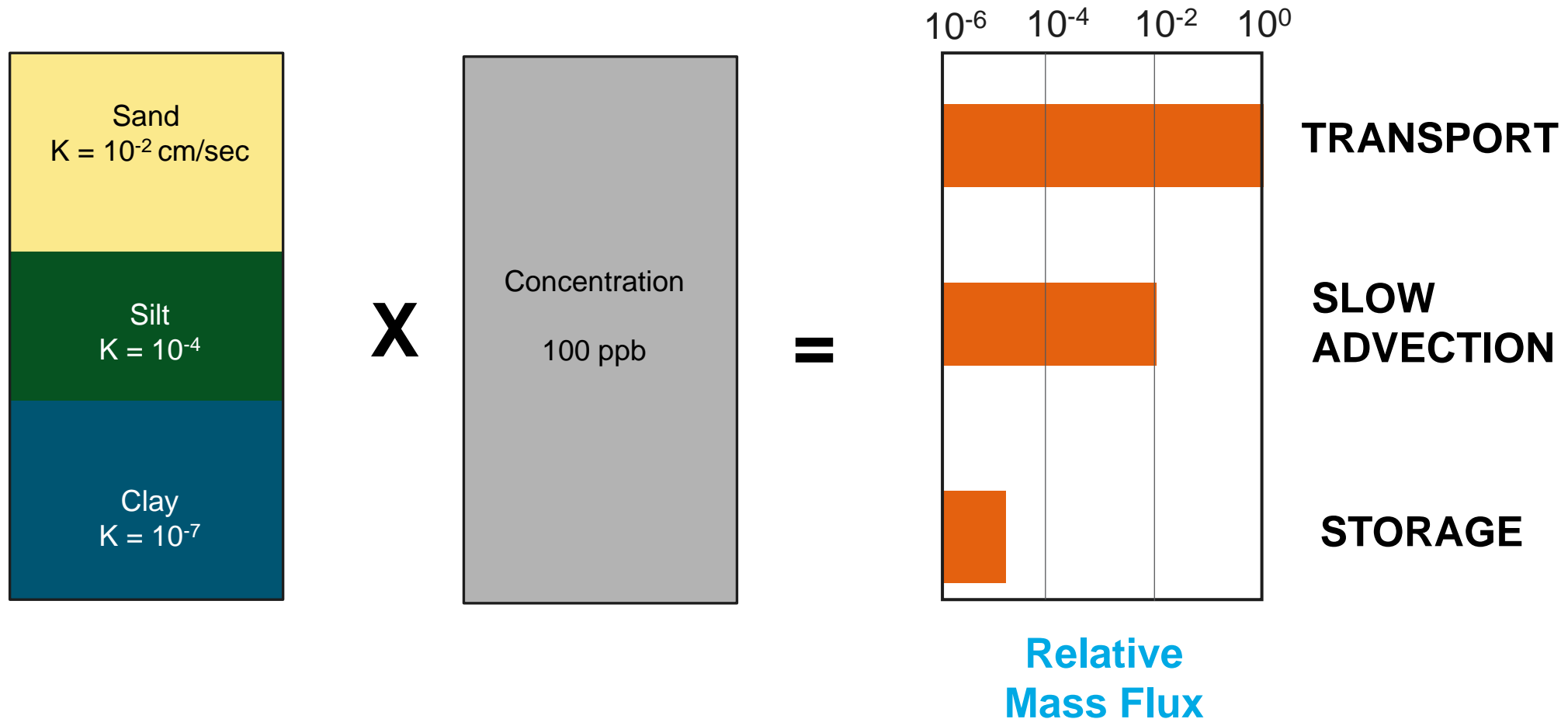
- 3D analysis
- Classical geologic approach





Relative Flux Framework for Transport

Evaluating mass flux based on the soil types and permeability structure of the aquifer



A

BORING NAME - Point bar deposit

Depth (ft)

Lithology log

mud sand gravel

clay silt very fine fine medium coarse very coarse granule pebble cobble boulder

B

BORING NAME - Overbank deposit

Depth (ft)

Lithology log

mud sand gravel

clay silt very fine fine medium coarse very coarse granule pebble cobble boulder

Channel Migration

Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)

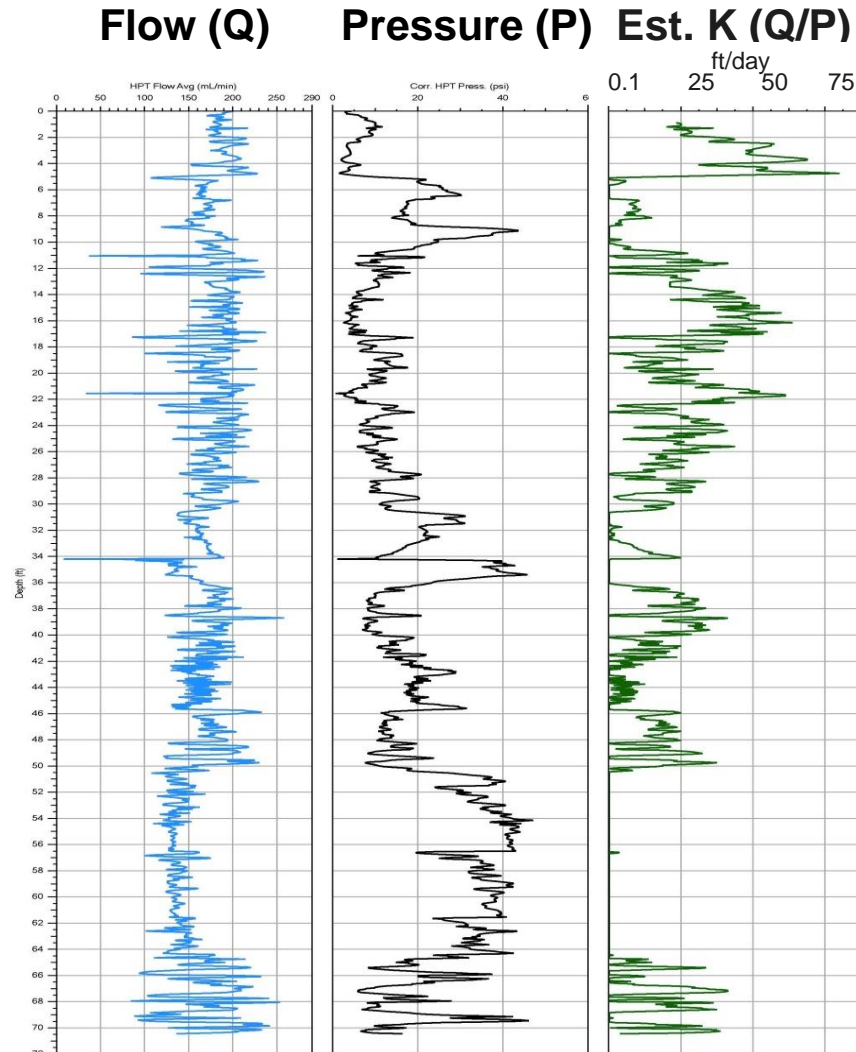
Storage $<10^{-5}$

Slow Advection $\sim 10^{-4}$

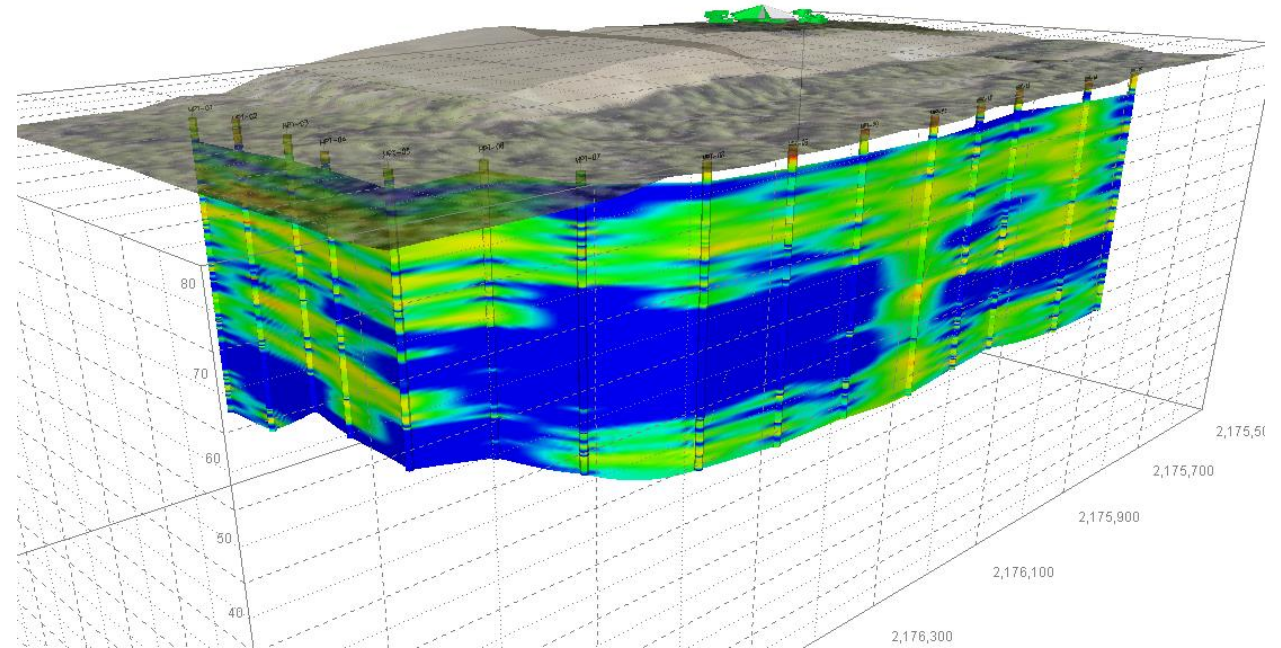
Transport $\sim 10^{-3}$ $\sim 10^{-2}$ $>10^{-1}$

Storage $<10^{-5}$

Stratigraphic Flux™ Case Study



Permeability fence diagram



Objective:

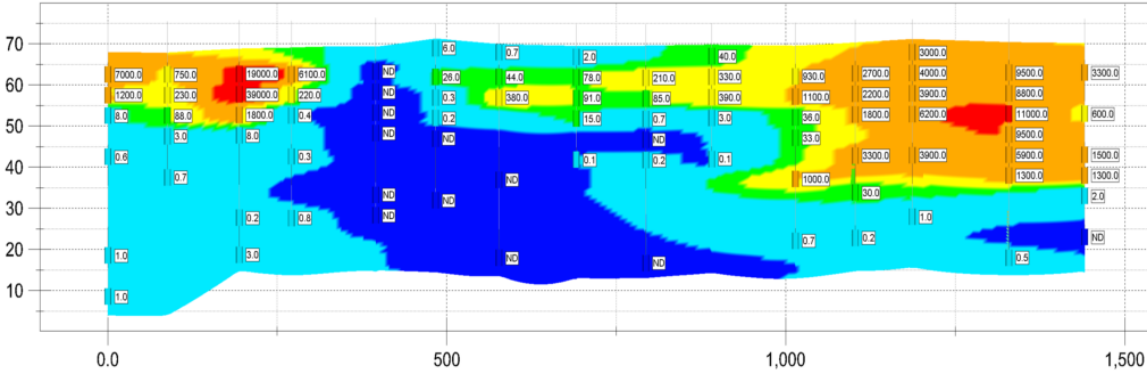
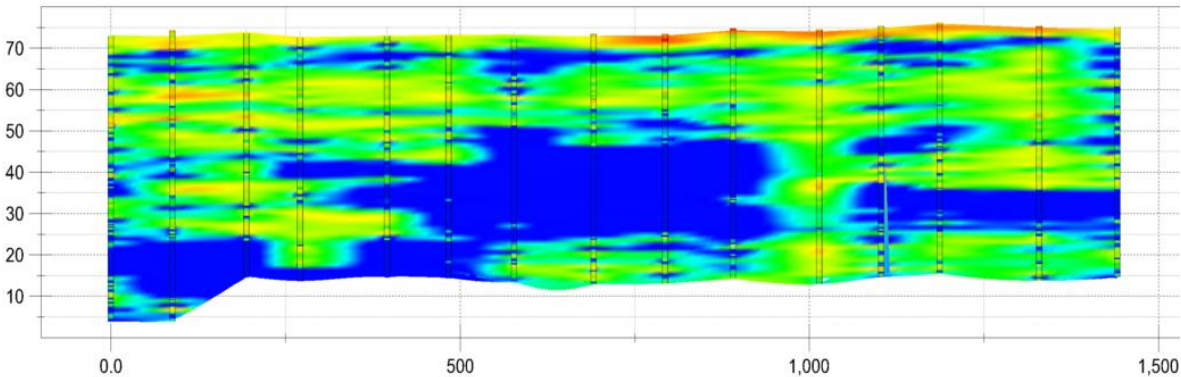
- Optimize capture of existing P&T system
- HPT for relative K; vertical aquifer profiling for concentration

Stratigraphic Flux™

Hydraulic Conductivity
(K)

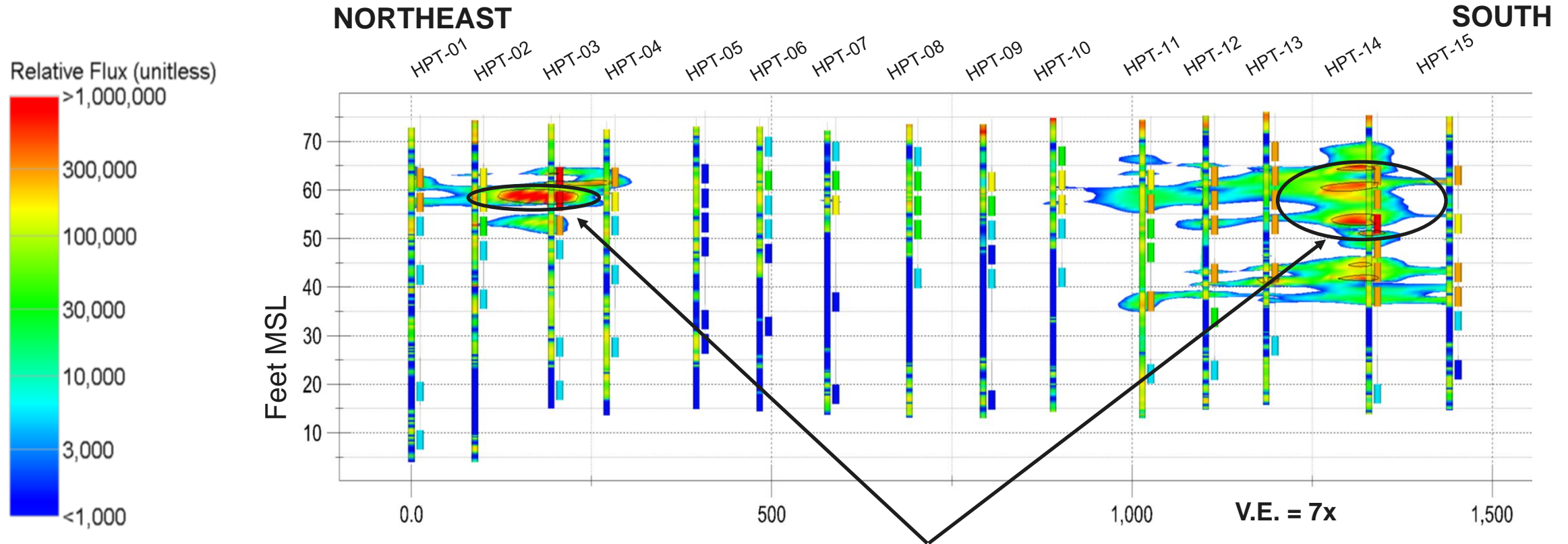
X

Concentration
(C)



=

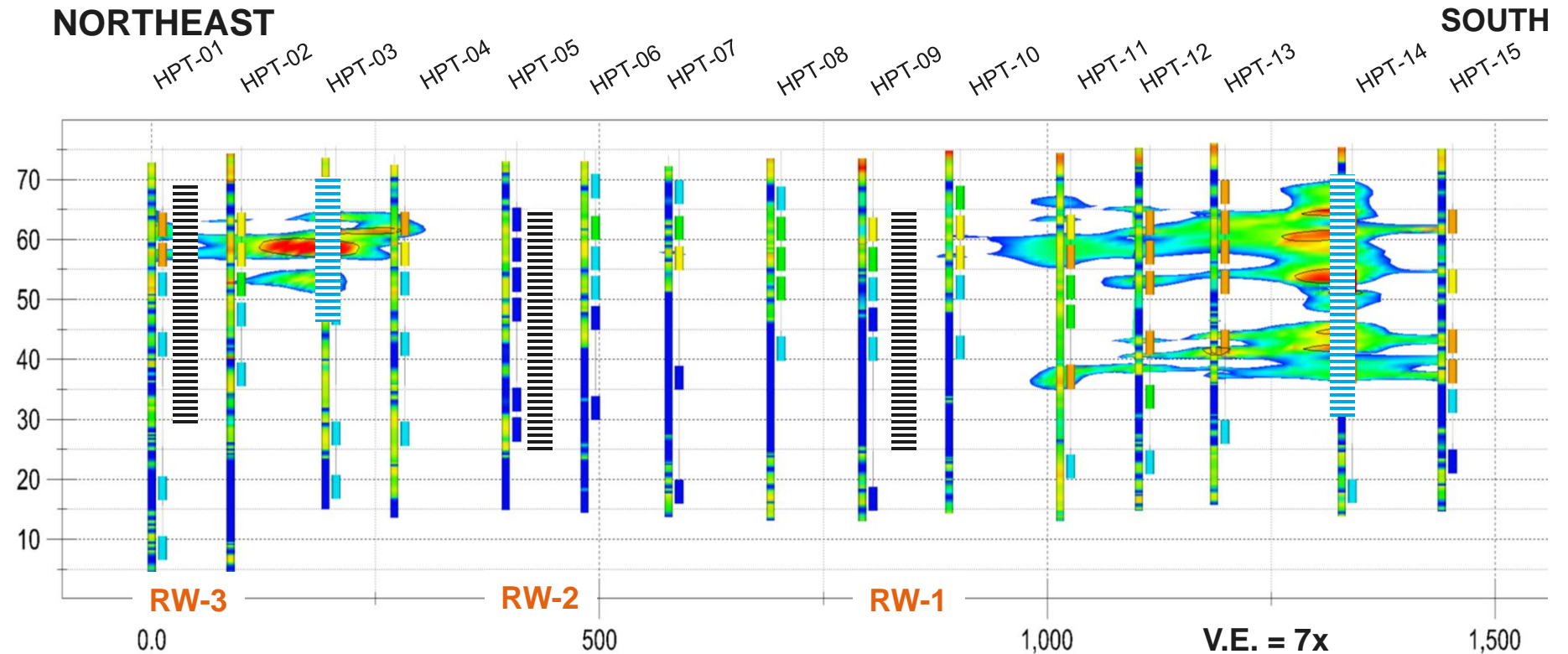
Stratigraphic FluxTM



**>90% of flux occurs in
<10% of cross-section**

Stratigraphic FluxTM - ROI

- Existing recovery wells not co-located with flux
- Focused flux enables simple, cost-effective optimization – move recovery wells



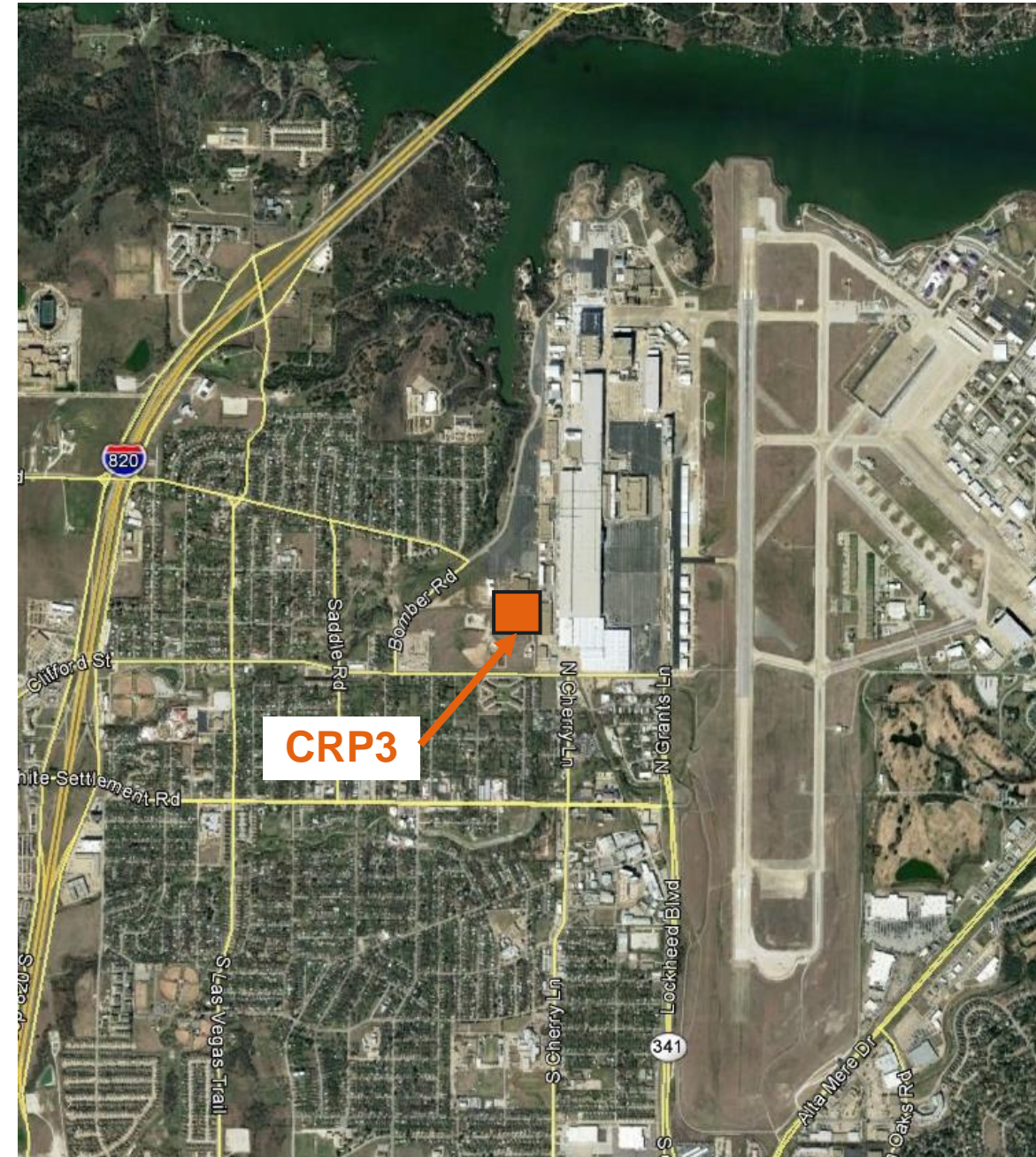
Return on Investigation: avoided perimeter slurry wall & optimized pumping wells

Stratigraphic Flux

Air Force Plant 4, Chrome Pit 3

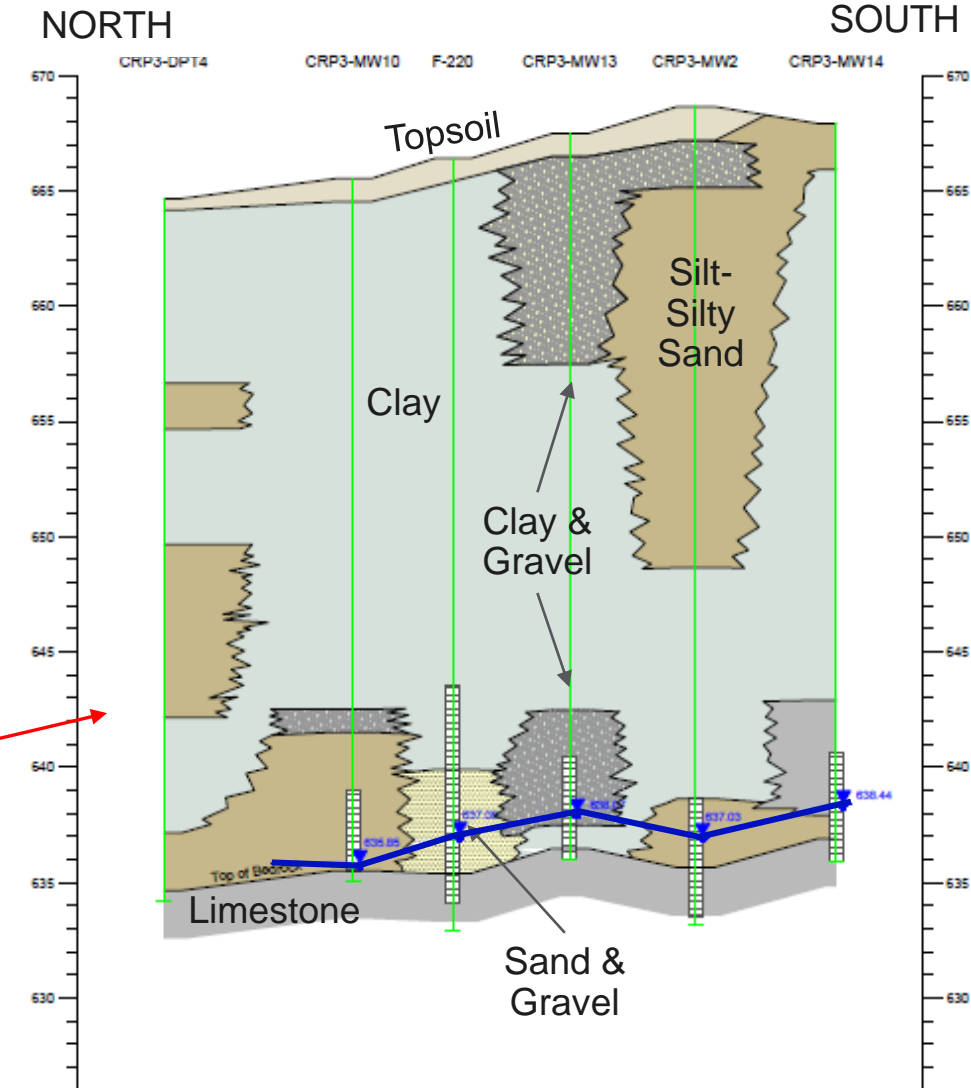
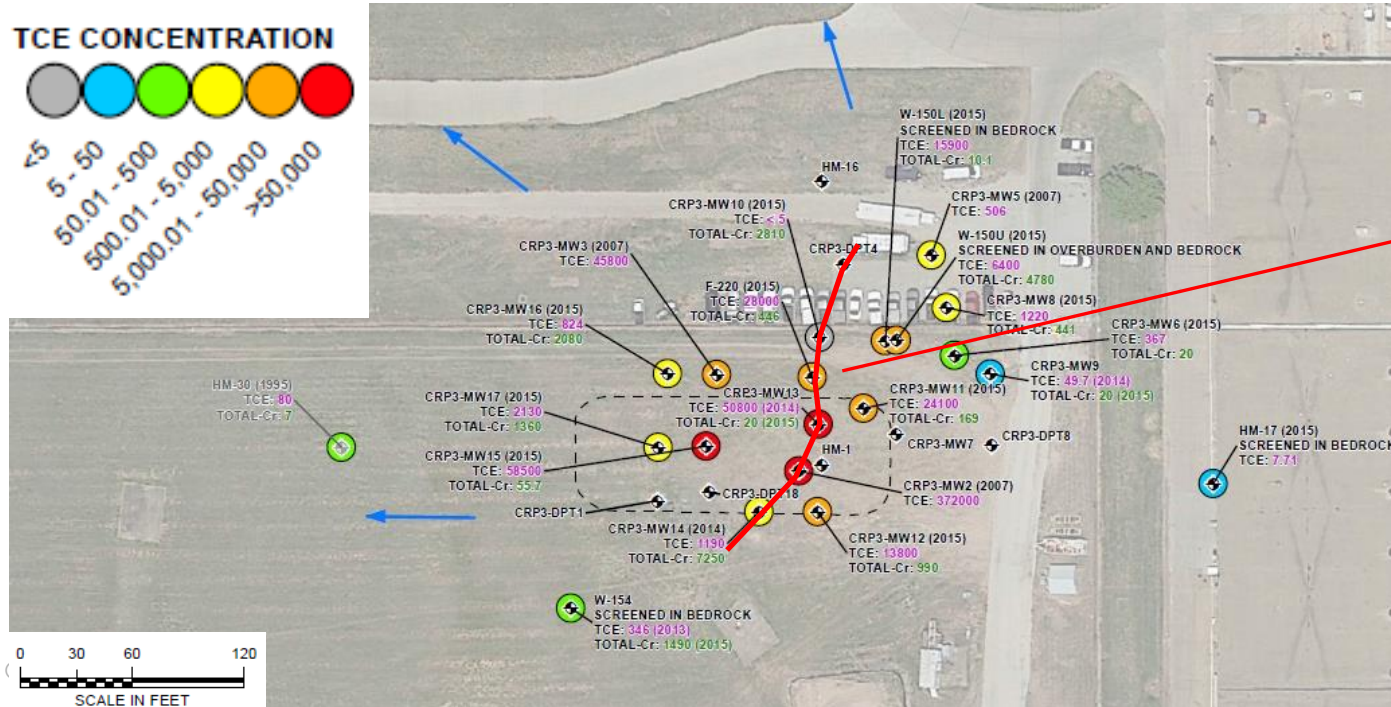
Fort Worth, Texas

- Barium chromate sludge disposal
- High concentrations of TCE and chromium
- Previous source remediation
 - Excavation - mass removed from vadose zone
 - ISCO and in-situ bio applied for saturated zone treatment



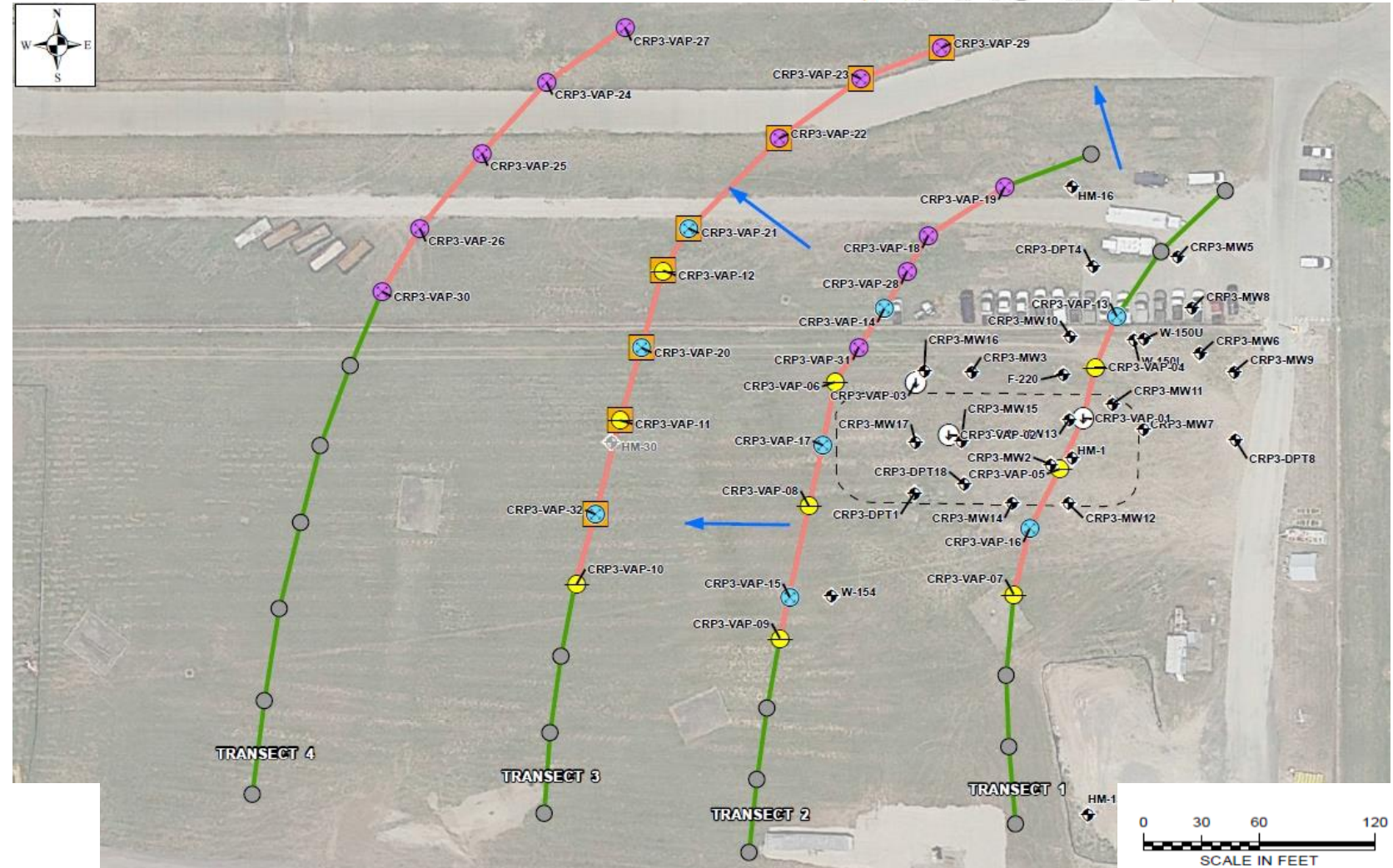
Challenging Conditions....

- High concentrations of TCE in dense low permeability clays/silts
- Limited saturated thickness
- Shallow, weathered bedrock with saturated rubble zone



Approach

- Adaptive transects in overburden - real-time analysis
- Detailed soil descriptions with sieve analysis
- Whole Core Soil Sampling:
 - Soil results for vadose zone
 - Equivalent groundwater results for saturated zone



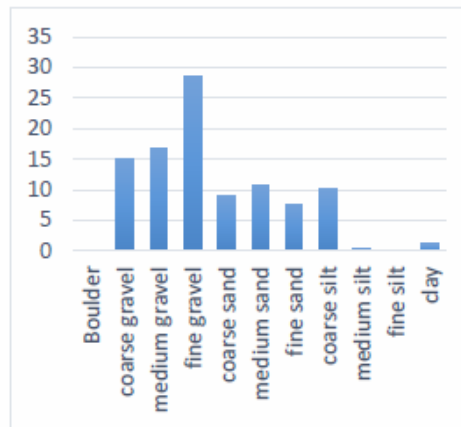
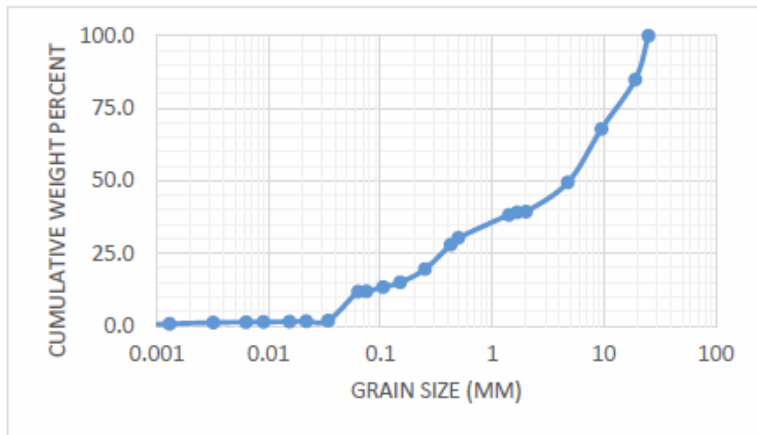
Hydrostratigraphic Analysis

Geologic soil descriptions and sieve analysis to characterize hydrofacies in terms of permeability

1. **Storage** – low permeability, diffusion dominates
2. **Slow advection** – moderate permeability, 10% of flow
3. **Transport** – highest permeability, 90% of flow

Sieve results used to estimate average K to each hydrofacies unit:

Poorly sorted sandy gravel low in fines

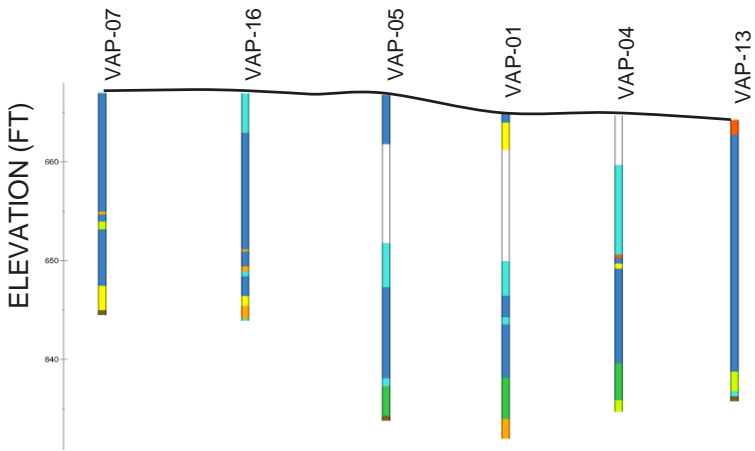


CRP3-VAP-07

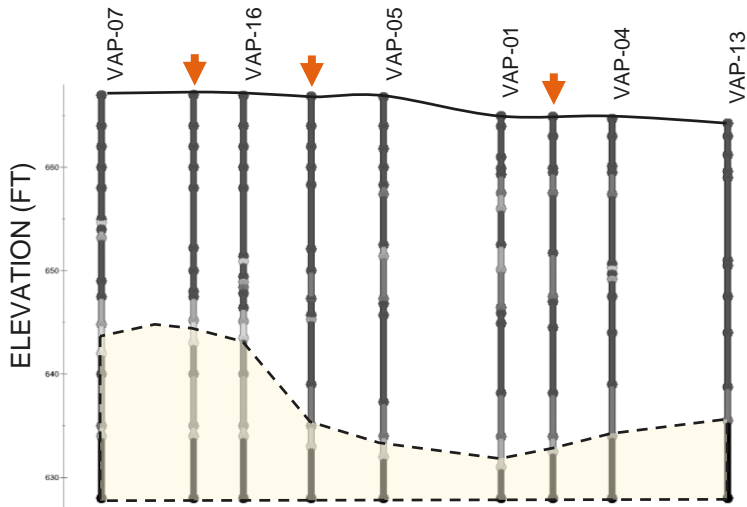
Depth (feet)	Recovery (in.)	MUD	SAND	GRAVEL	Udden-Wentworth Description: Principal Components (angularity, plasticity, dilatancy); Minor Components (angularity, plasticity, dilatancy); Sorting: Moisture Content; Consistency/Density; Color: Additional Comments	Sample ID	PID (ppm)
1					(0.0-5.0') CLAY, low plasticity; little fine to medium sand; trace coarse sand to granules, subangular; dry; stiff; light brown. NOTE: Trace concrete debris. FILL.		
2							
3							
4							
5							
6	36				(5.0-7.3') CLAY, low plasticity; little granules to small pebbles, subround; trace fine sand; moist; stiff; light reddish brown.		0.0
7							0.0
8					(7.3-10.5') CLAY, little silt; trace coarse sand, subangular; moist; stiff; reddish brown. NOTE: Some silt at 8.0' bgs.		0.0
9							0.0
10							0.0
11	56				(10.5-11.5') CLAY, medium plasticity; trace fine to medium sand; moist; stiff; reddish brown.		0.0
12					(11.5-12.0') CLAY, low plasticity; trace fine sand; moist; stiff; light brown.		0.0
13					(12.0-12.3') SAND, fine to coarse; some granules to small pebbles, subround; poorly sorted; moist; loose; light brown.		0.0
14					(12.3-13.0') CLAY, low plasticity; trace fine sand; moist; stiff; light brown.		0.0
15					(13.0-13.8') SAND, fine; and SILT; moist; dense; light brown.		0.0
16					(12.3-19.5') CLAY, low plasticity; trace fine sand; moist; stiff; light brown.		0.0
17							0.0
18							0.0
19							0.0
20							0.0
21					(19.5-21.0') SAND, fine to medium; little granules to small pebbles, angular to subangular; little large pebbles to cobbles, angular; poorly sorted; moist; light brown.		0.0
22					(21.0-22.0') SAND, fine to medium; little silt; well sorted; moist; orange brown.		0.0
23					(22.0-22.5') Limestone; weathered; fractured; moist; hard; gray.		0.0
					End of boring at 22.5' bgs.		0.0

Hydrostratigraphic Model Development

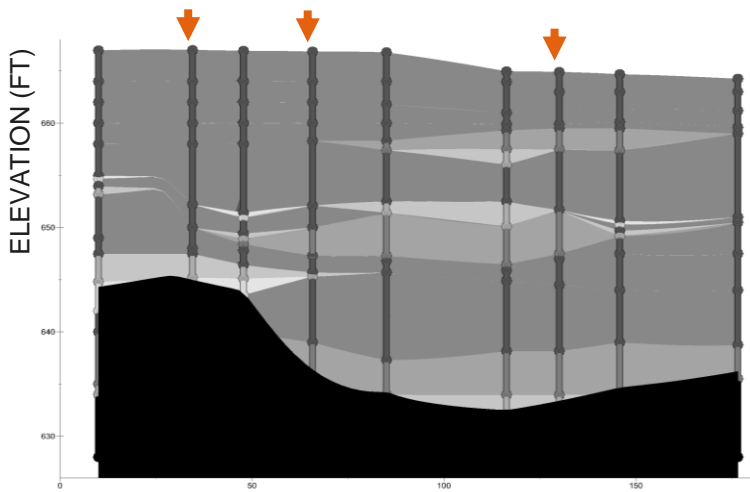
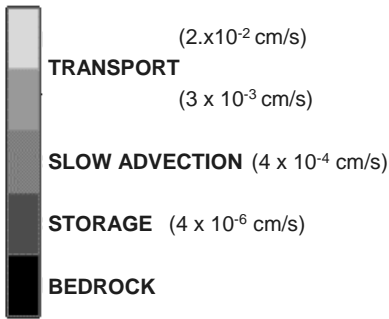
Recorded Boring Lithology



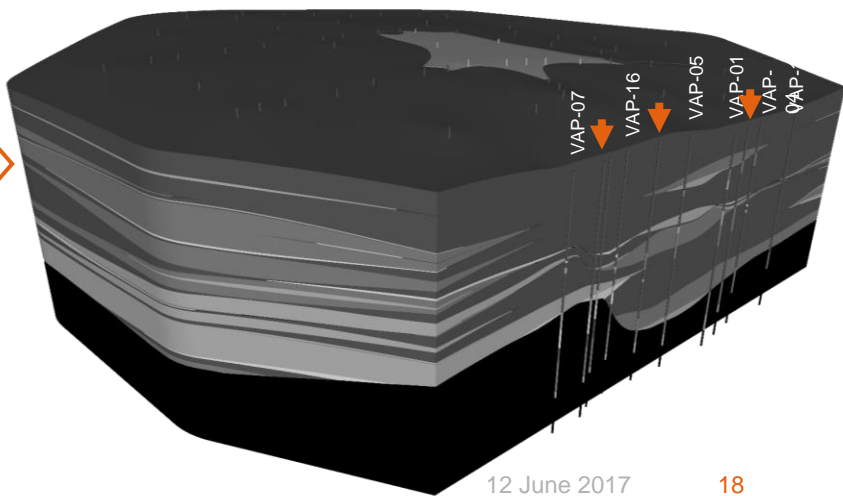
Categorize stratigraphy into hydrofacies
Add calibration (▼) points as necessary



3D Interpolation of Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)

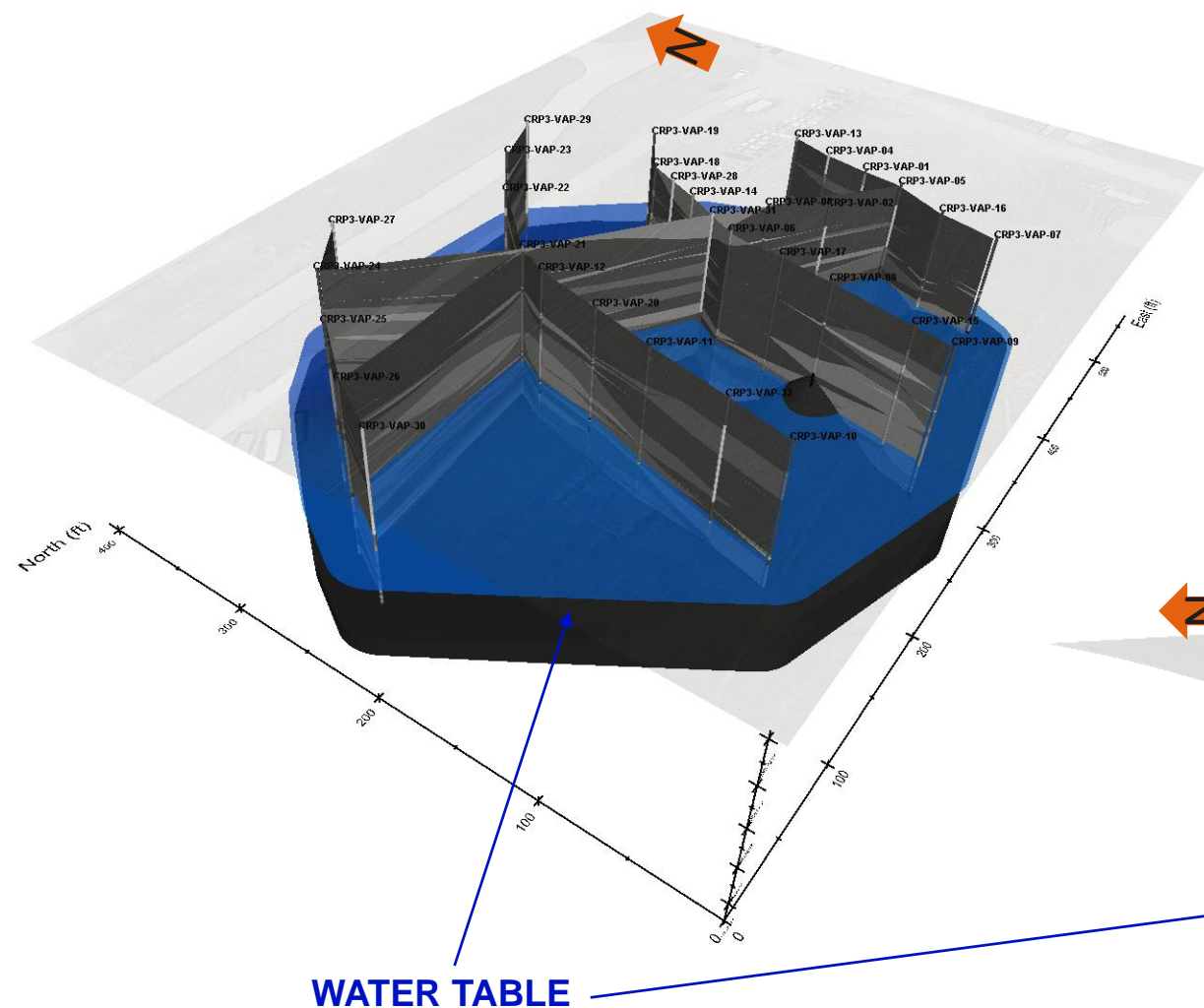


Develop hydrofacies correlation through iteration,
Expand to 3D model of entire site

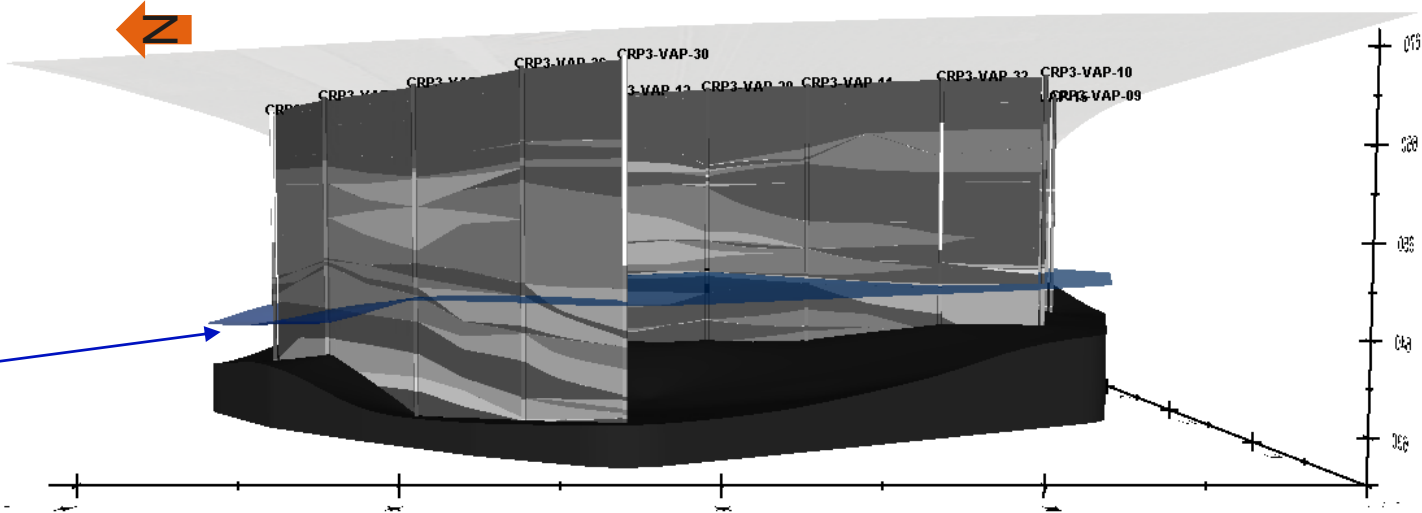
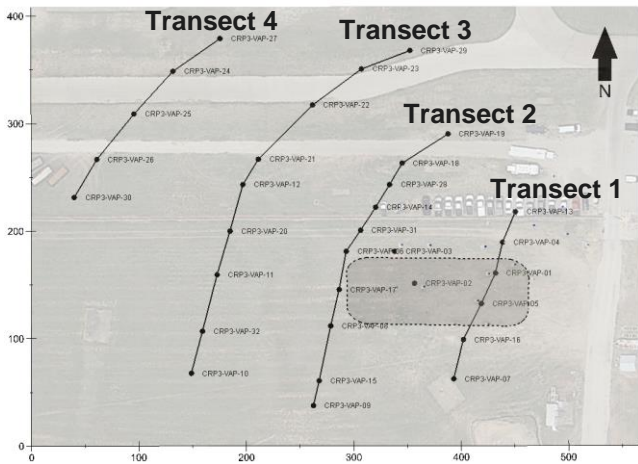
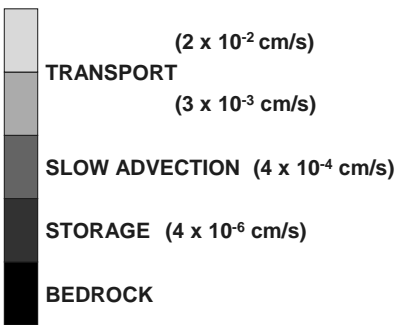


Hydrostratigraphic Model

Transport Potential



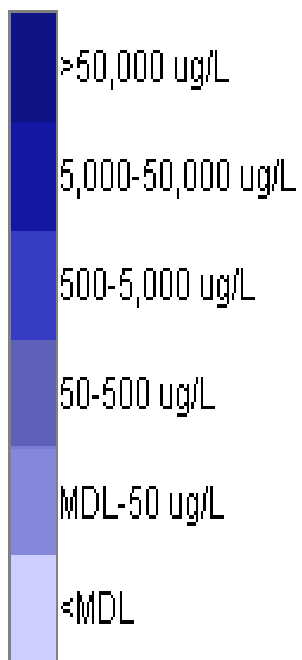
3D Interpolation of Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)



Whole Core Soil Sampling

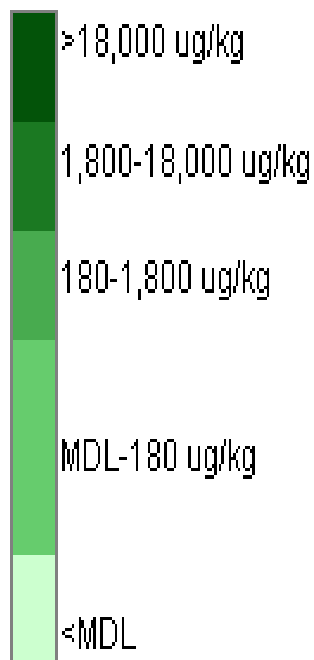
High-resolution soil sampling in lieu of groundwater sampling to map concentration in vadose and saturated zones.

TCE concentration (ug/L)



TCE in Groundwater
Plume >30 ug/L

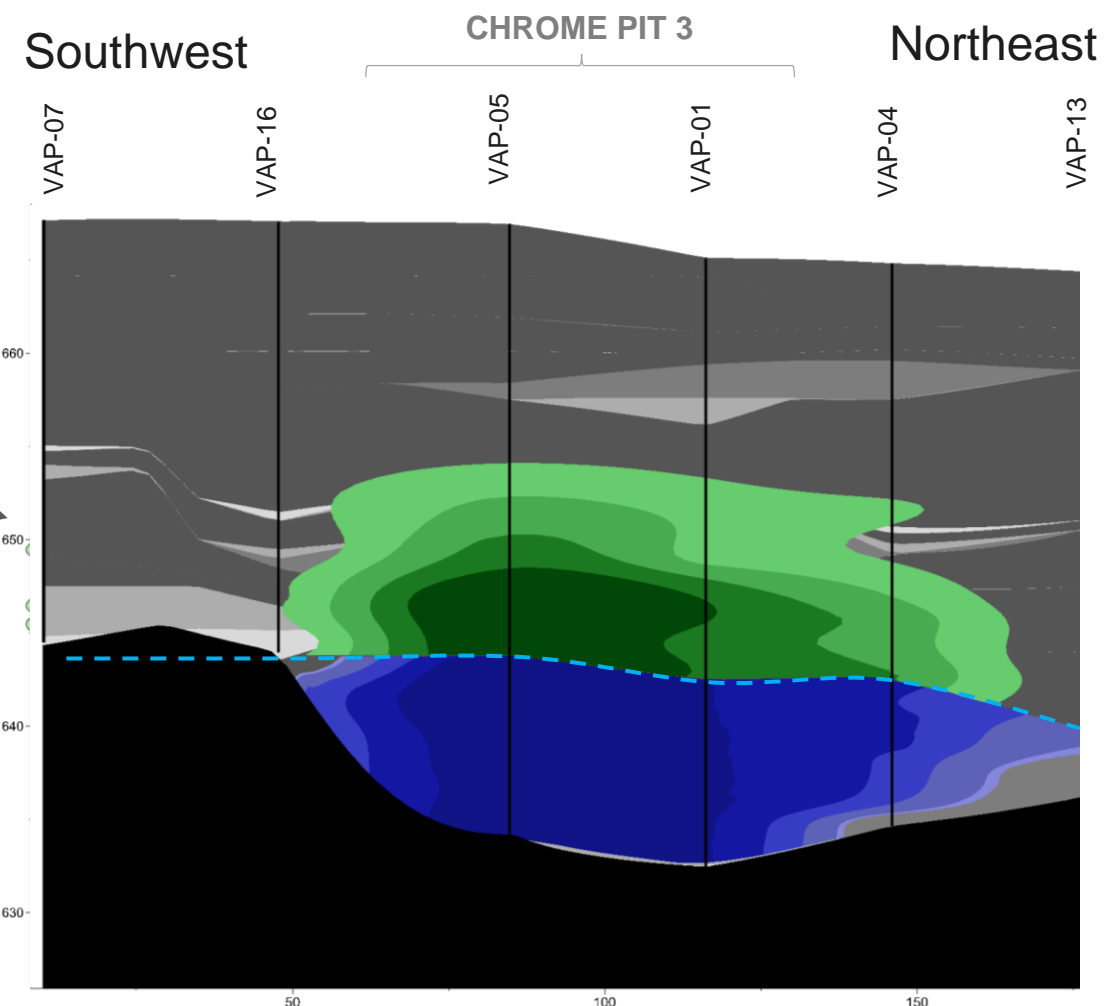
TCE concentration (ug/kg)



TCE in Soil
Plume >18 ug/kg

Vadose soil
concentrations
(ug/kg)

Equivalent
groundwater
concentrations
(ug/L)



- **Comparison of equivalent groundwater to monitoring well concentrations**

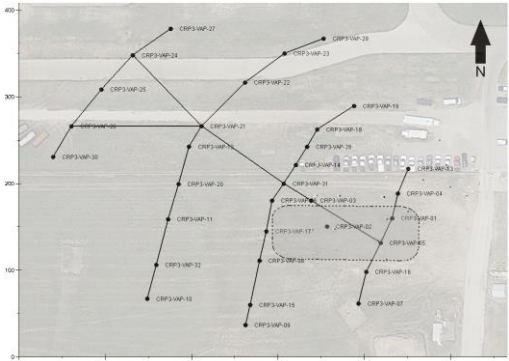
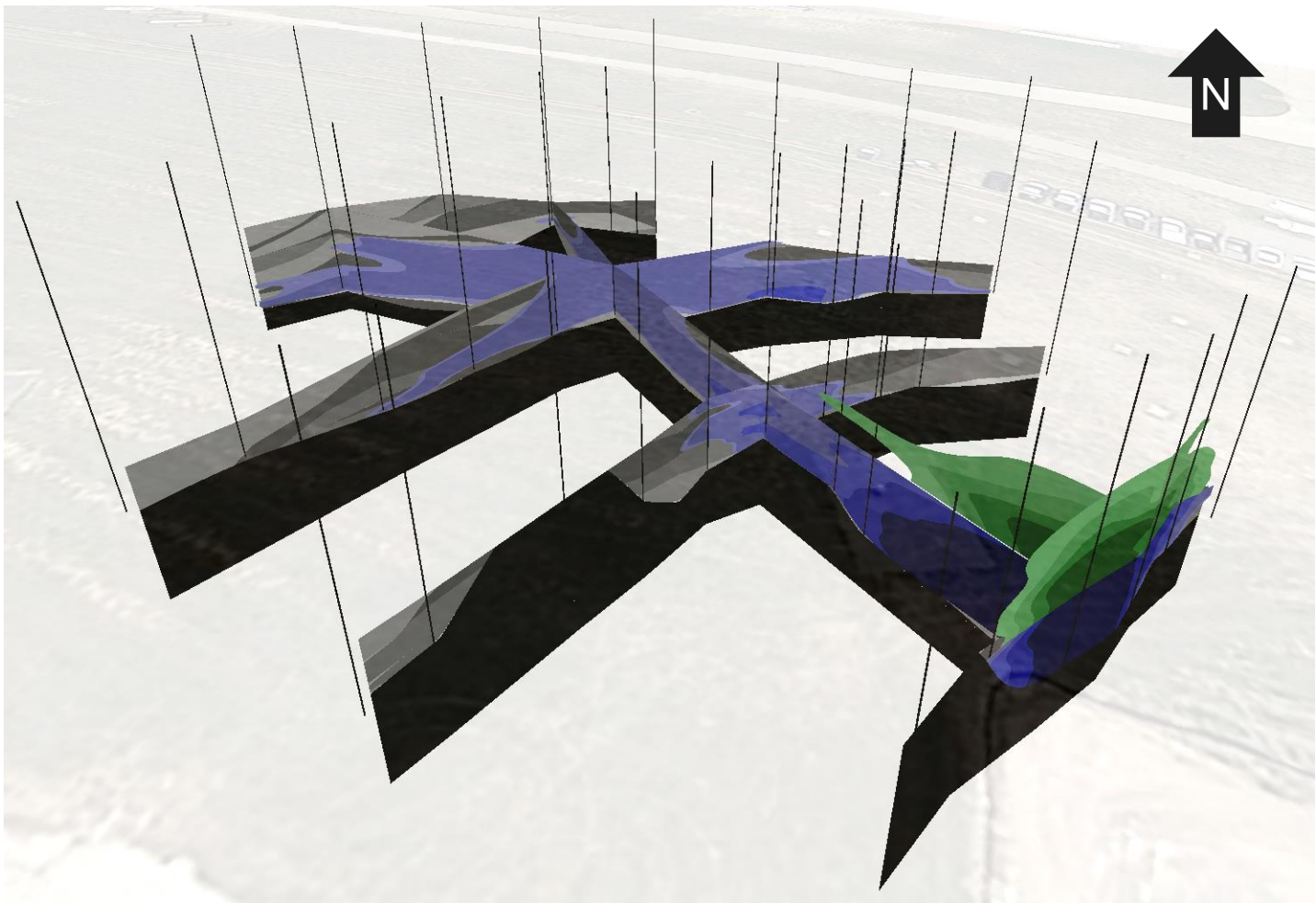
- **Reliable agreement**

- **Distinguish source from low concentrations**

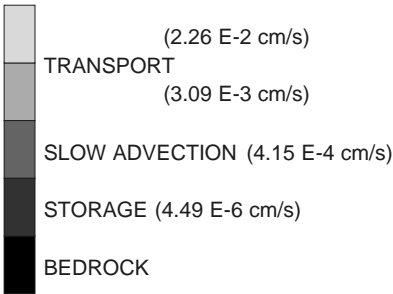
Comparison Type		Hydrofacies	Location of Comparison GW / Soil	Average TCE in Soil* (µg/kg)	Calculated Saturated Soil to GW Conversion Ratio**	Calculated Equivalent Groundwater Concentration (µg/L)	TCE in Co-located Groundwater (µg/L)	Relative Percent Difference Eq GW : GW
1	Monitoring Well	Slow advection and transport	CRP3-MW13 / CRP3-VAP-01 27-31 ft bgs	10,800	6.1	66,000	50,800	23%
2	Monitoring Well	Slow advection and storage	CRP3-MW15 / CRP3-VAP-02 30-35 ft bgs	8,600	5.1	44,000	58,500	25%
3	Monitoring Well	Slow advection	CRP3-MW16 / CRP3-VAP-03 27-32 ft bgs	114.8	6.1	700	824	15%
4	VAP	Slow advection	CRP3-VAP-23 / CRP3-VAP-23 29-33 ft bgs	30.1 J	5.8	180 J	167	7%
5	VAP	Transport	CRP3-VAP-25 (35-37) / CRP3-VAP-25 35-37 ft bgs	<5.2	6.8	<35	14	NA
6	VAP	Slow advection and storage	CRP3-VAP-27 (0-30) / CRP3-VAP-27 25-30 ft bgs	<5.4	4.7	<25	13	NA
7	VAP	Transport	CRP3-VAP-30 / CRP3-VAP-30 40-40.5 ft bgs	16.2 J	6.1	98 J	93.3	6%

TCE Concentration

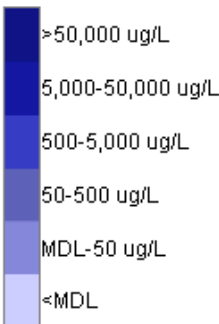
Hydrostratigraphic model below water table for clarity:



3D Interpolation of Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)

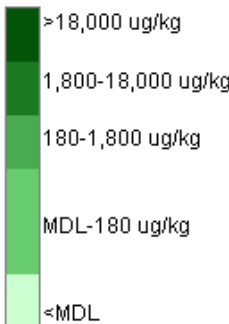


TCE concentration (ug/L)



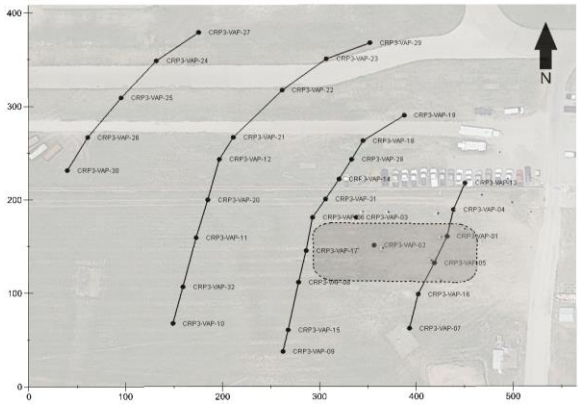
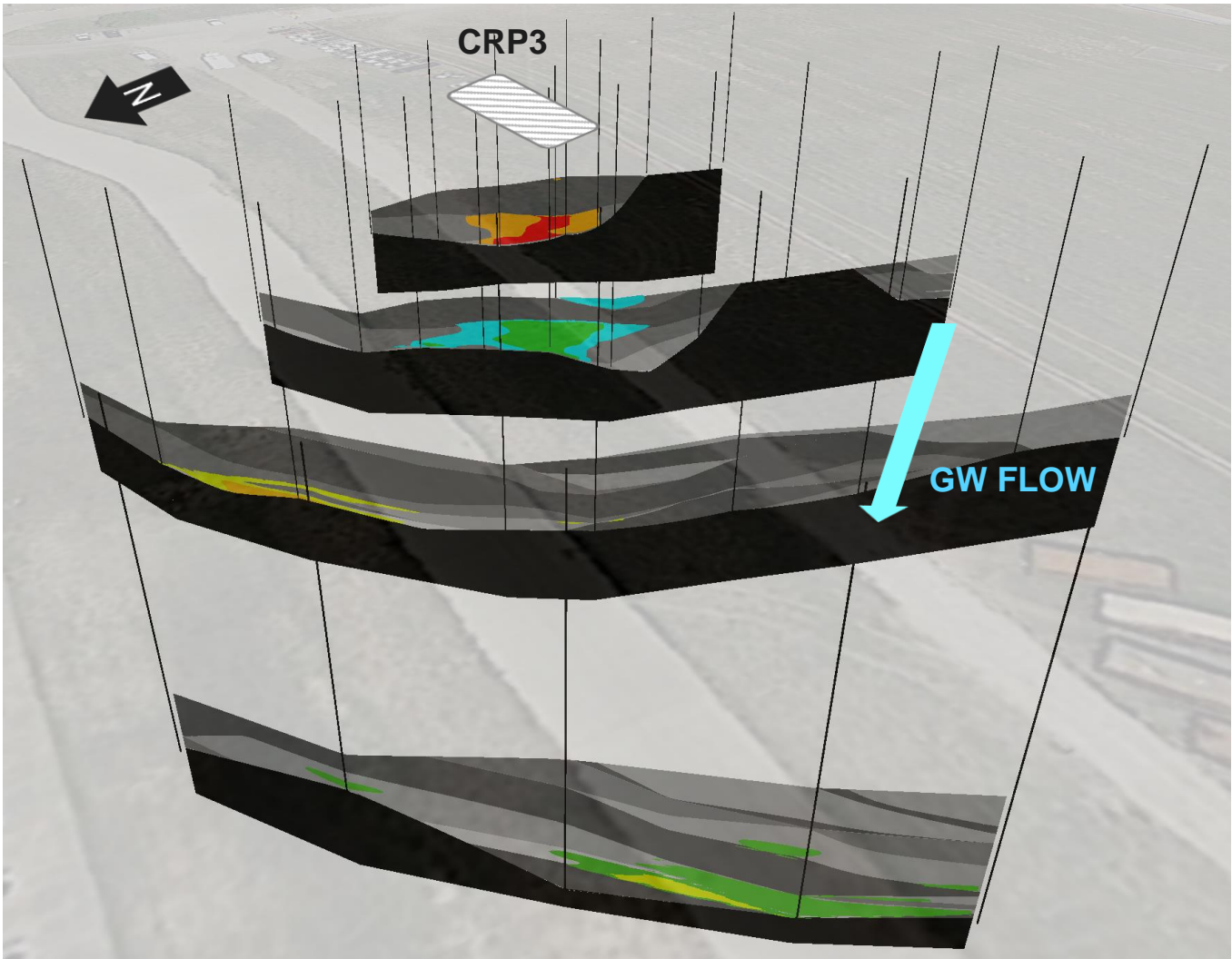
TCE in Groundwater
Plume >30 ug/L

TCE concentration (ug/kg)

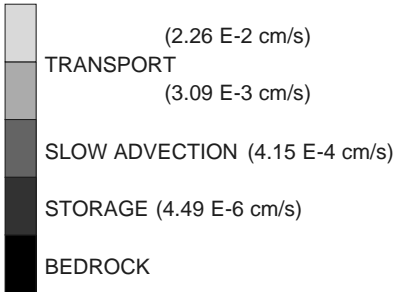


TCE in Soil
Plume >18 ug/kg

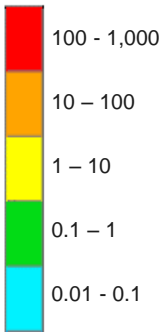
3D Stratigraphic Flux



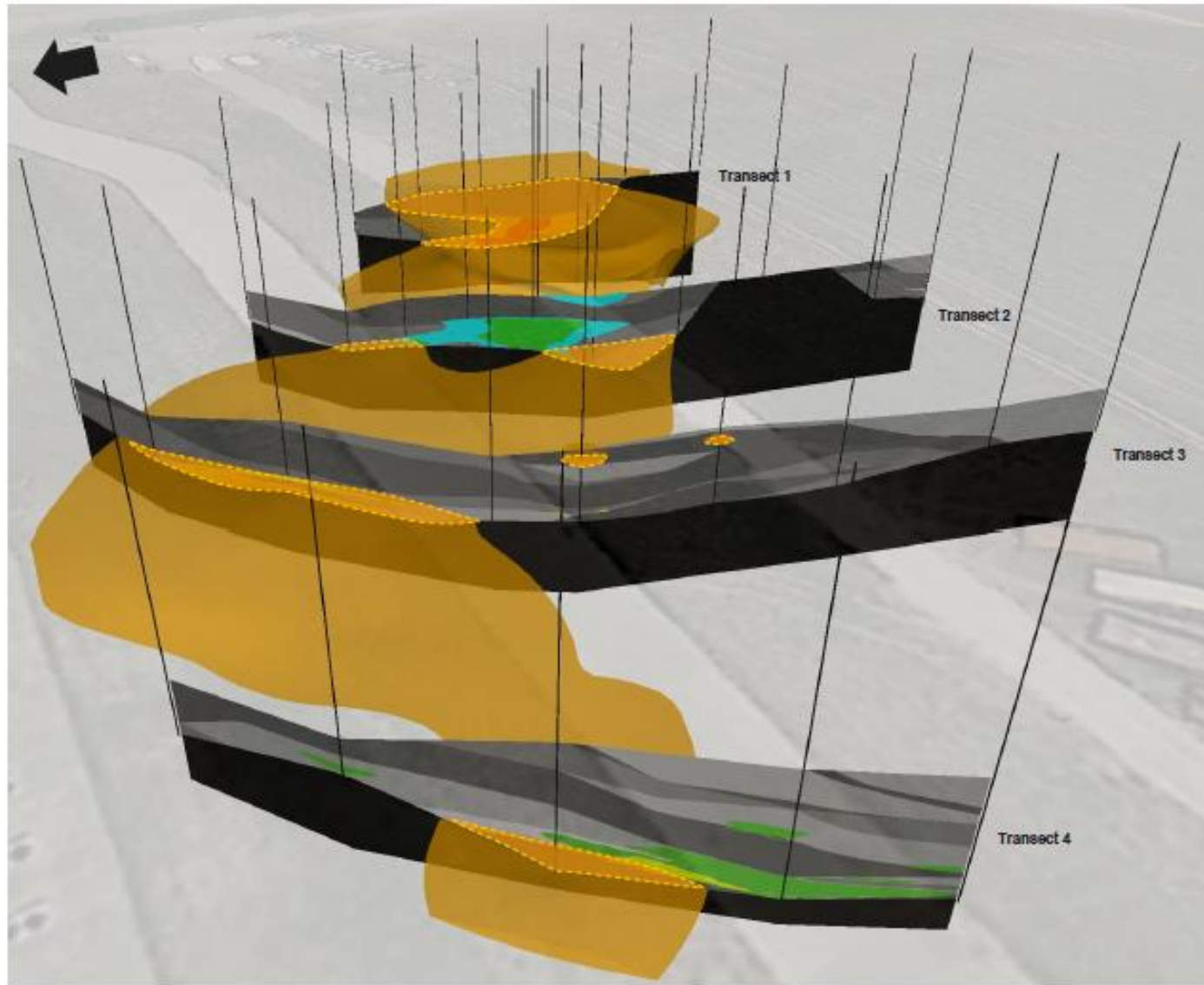
3D Interpolation of Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)



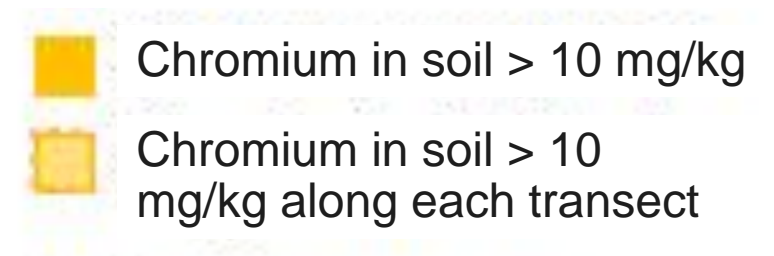
Relative Flux (unitless)



Chrome Results



Chrome distribution provides another line of evidence for transport pathway



Results

- Results being used to refine strategy
 - Bound plume with wells
 - MNA assessment
 - Determine TI waiver potential

What's next?

- Stratigraphic Flux™ Guide and training for Air Force Civil Engineer Center (AFCEC)
 - Publicly available June 2017
 - AFCEC Training August 2017
 - Technology transfer and publication 2018
 - For more info:

<http://www.afcec.af.mil/Home/Environment/Technical-Support-Division/Environmental-Restoration-Technical-Support-Branch/BAA/>

Questions?



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