

THINK. RESTORE, *SUSTAINABLY*  
*Partnering for Smarter Sustainable Solutions*



# Methods for Verifying LNAPL Stability

John Sohl, President/CEO  
[jsohl@columbiatechnologies.com](mailto:jsohl@columbiatechnologies.com)  
+1-888-344-2704

# Agenda

**1**

**A systematic approach to building the LNAPL CSM**

**2**

**Methods to fully identify residual LNAPL**

**3**

**The important role of soil structure**

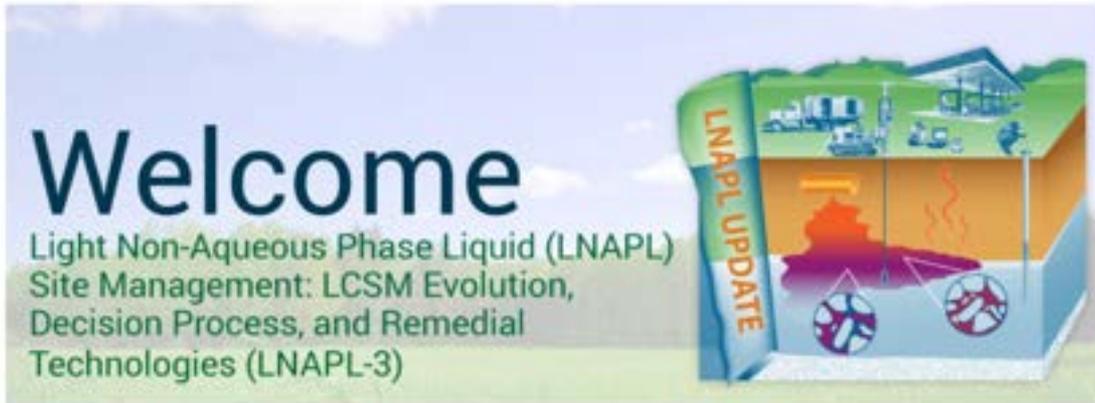
**4**

**Understanding LNAPL transmissivity vs time**

**5**

**The importance of a 3D understanding**

# Guidance Documents



## Are there ways to control the cost of these potentially expensive cleanups?

EPA is committed to helping state and local agencies make cleanups faster, more effective, and less expensive. EPA is working

<https://www.epa.gov/ust/cleaning-underground-storage-tank-ust-releases>

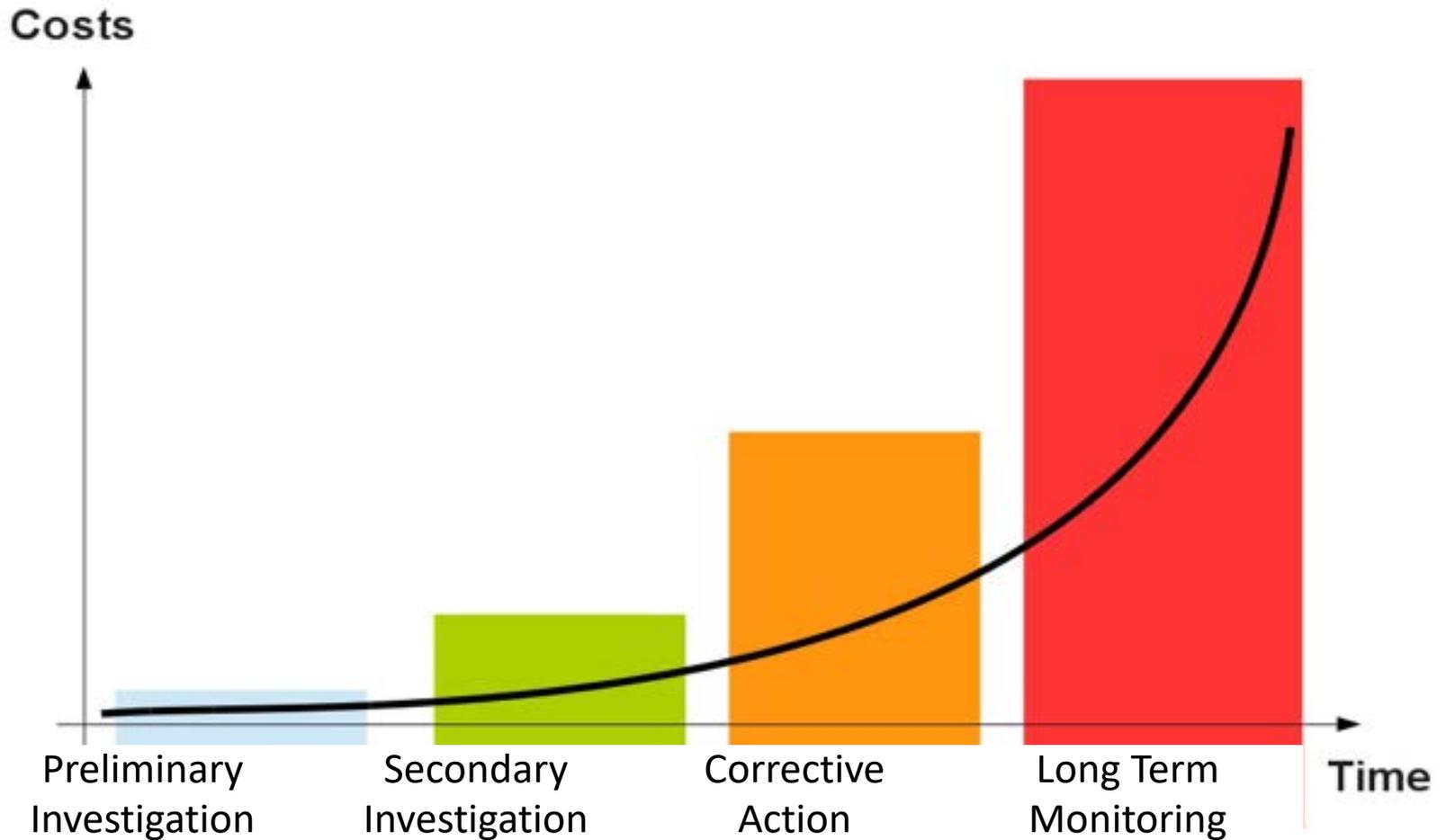
### Pay-for-Performance Cleanups

Pay-for-performance cleanups are an alternative way to contract for environmental cleanups. Pay for performance uses economic incentives and market forces to encourage cleanup contractors to keep cleanup expenditures under control and meet cleanup goals as soon as possible. In pay-for-performance cleanups, contractors are paid a set amount of money for reaching specific contamination reduction goals, which are predetermined by state cleanup experts.

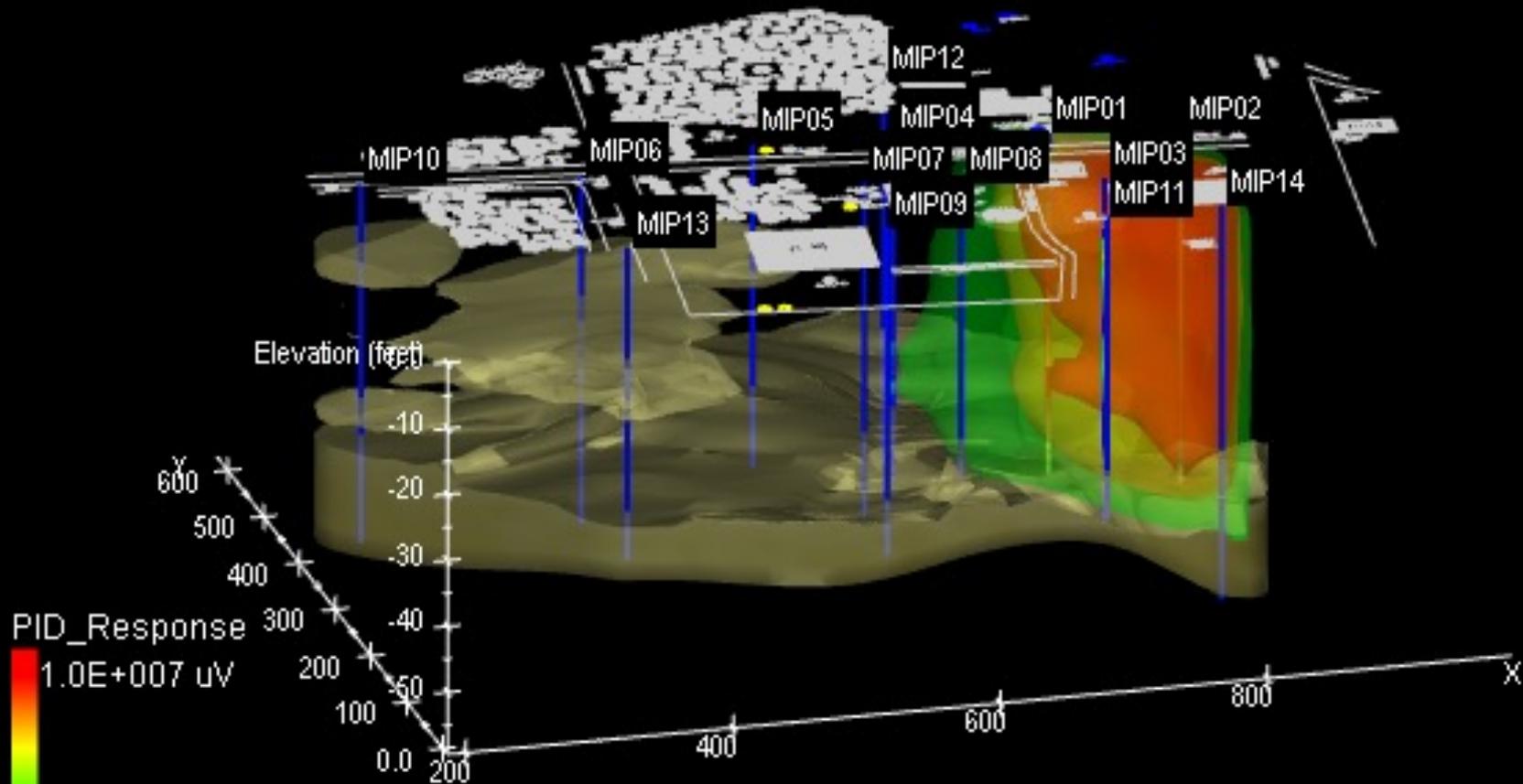


Our industry spends over  
US\$1 BILLION each day assessing,  
remediating, and making decisions on  
information that is incomplete,  
inaccurate, and too late.

# Cost Control



# Former UST Site



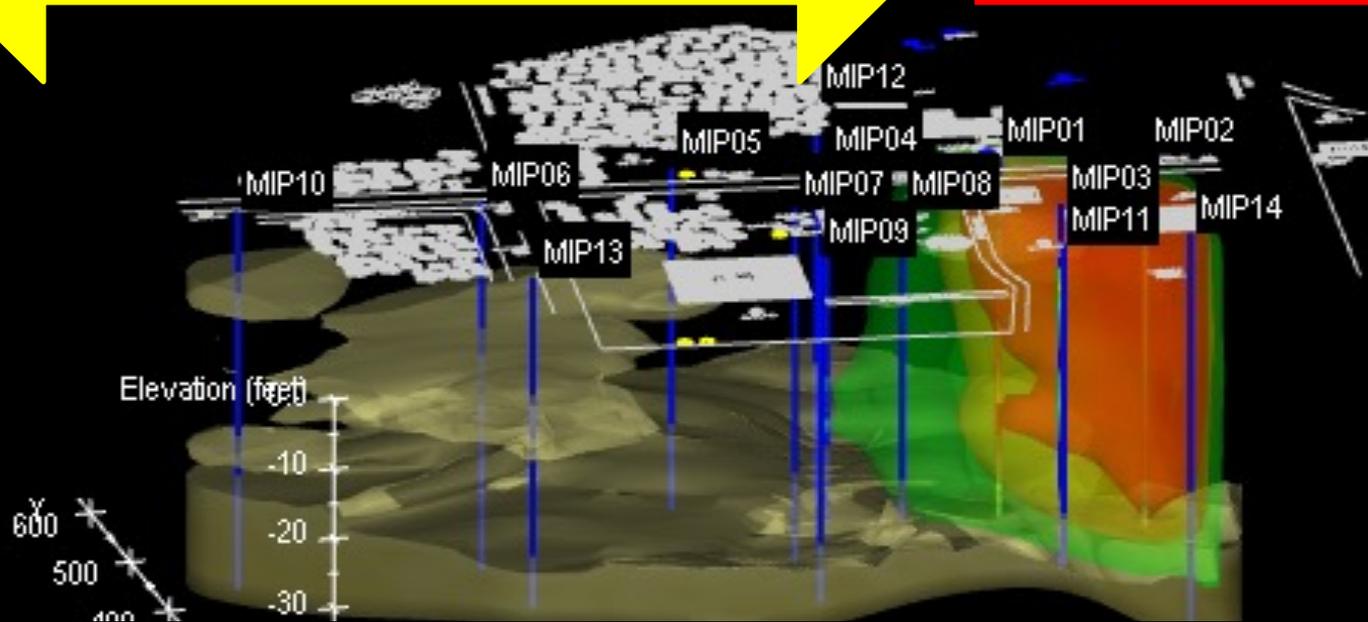
**What's wrong with this picture?**

$1.0\text{E}+006 \mu\text{V}$

U.S. Patent 7,058,509

Work Plan Constraints Expended 80% of the Data and Budget

Yielding 100% of the Uncertainty



## How can we prevent this waste of resources?

- Systematic work planning
- Real time measurements
- Dynamic work scopes

x



# The LNAPL CSM

# What is LNAPL?

## NAPL

***NonAqueous Phase Liquid*** – a separate or “free” phase liquid; not in solution

## LNAPL

A liquid ***that is less dense than water***

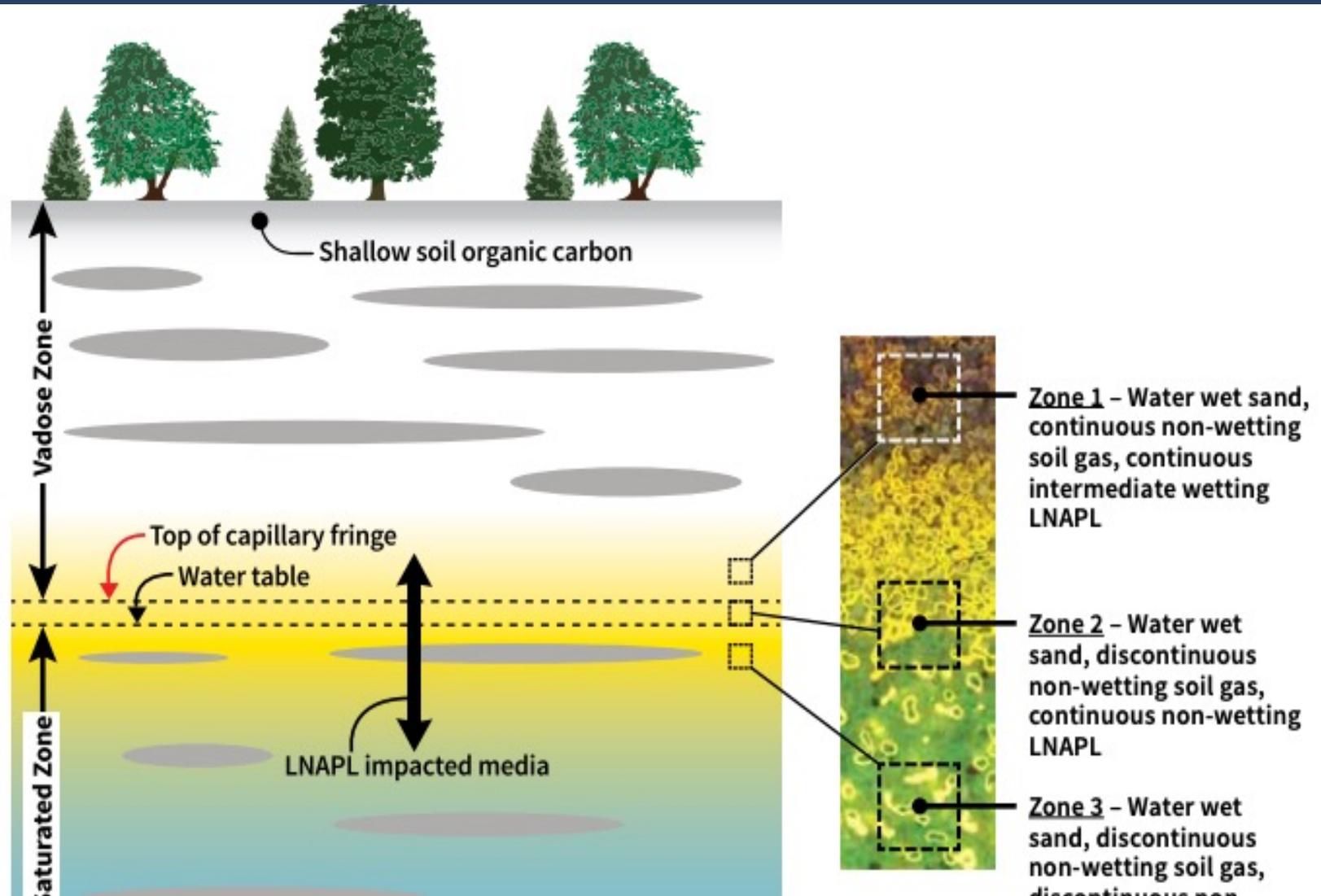
Common examples of LNAPL include gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, and crude oil

Can also include multi-component mixtures

Can be ***unconfined or confined by groundwater***



# The Effects of Time



# Complexity

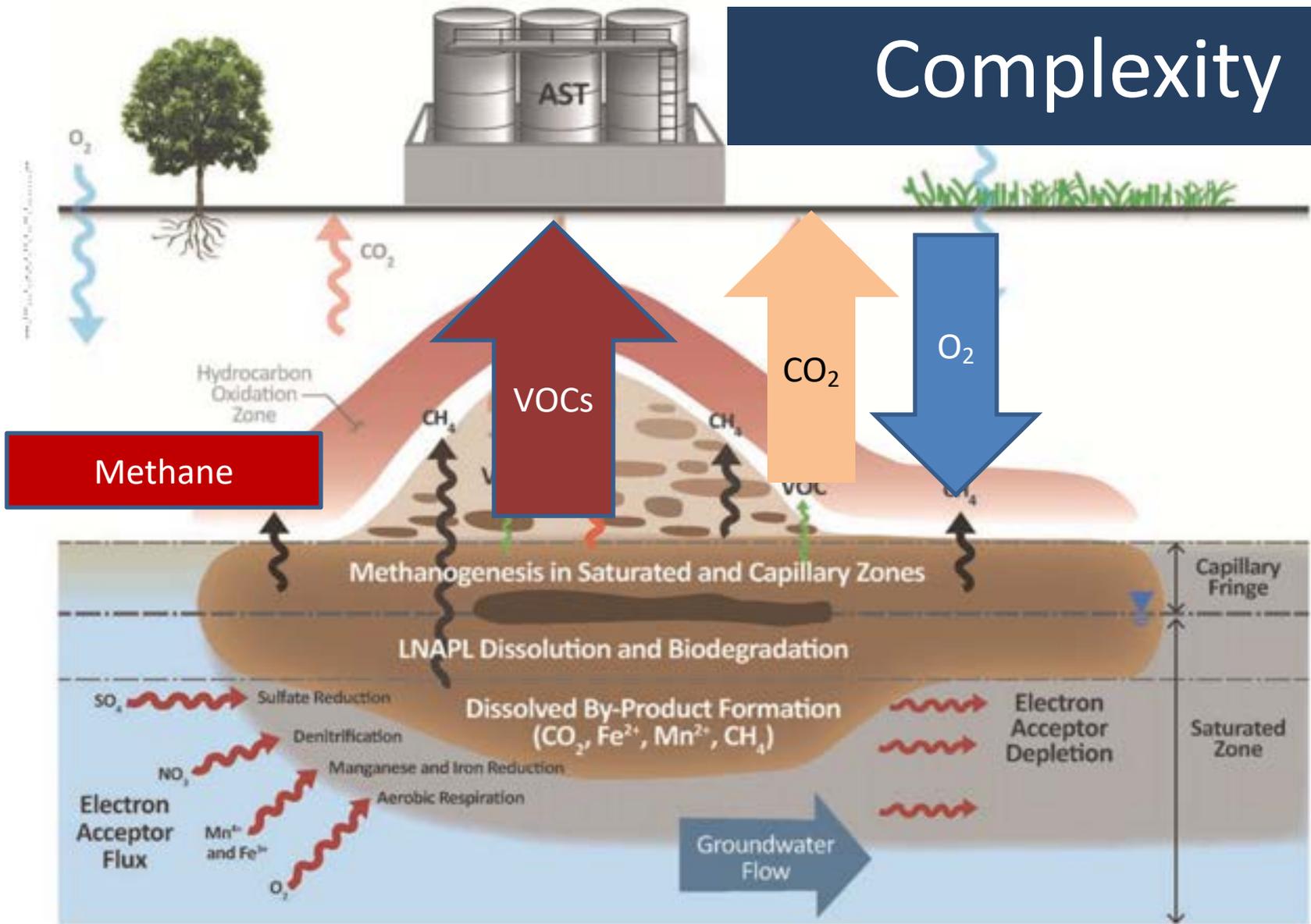
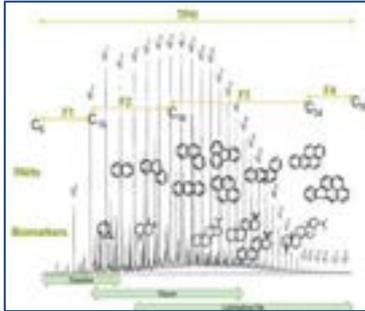
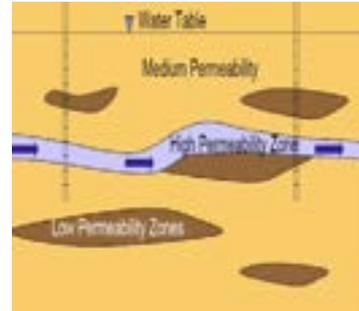


Figure 2-1—Conceptualization of Saturated Zone NSZD Processes

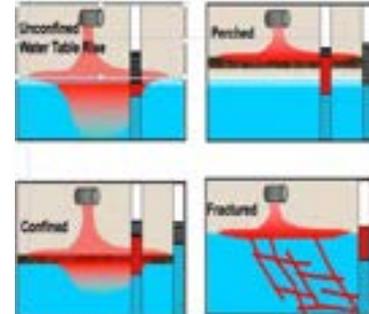
# Building the LCSM?



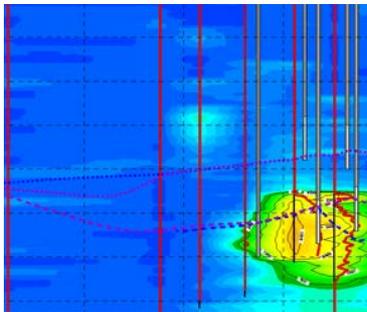
LNAPL  
CHEMISTRY



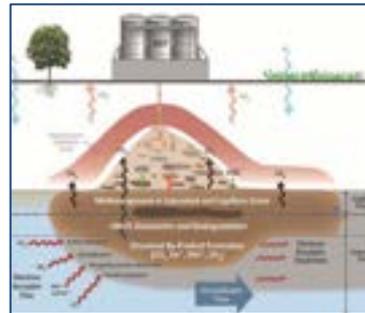
SOIL  
PERMEABILITY



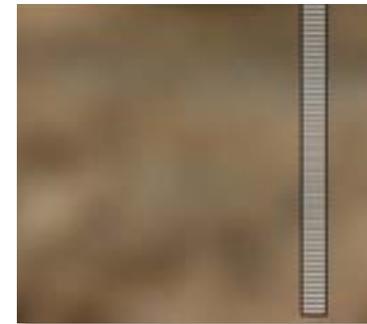
GROUND  
WATER



DISSOLVED  
PHASE



VAPOR PHASE



SPATIAL  
ALIGNMENT

# Measurements of Plume Stability

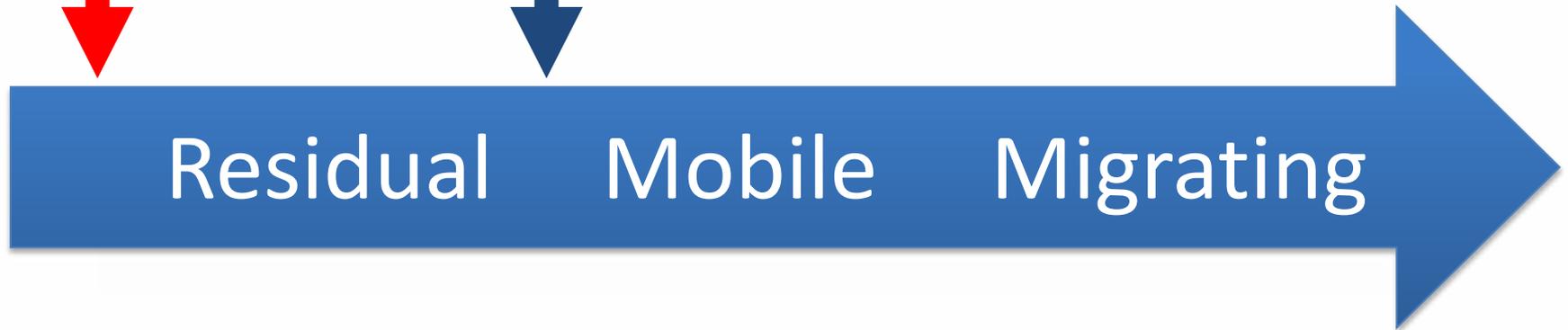
**CSAT**



**CRESIDUAL**



**LNAPL**



Residual

Mobile

Migrating

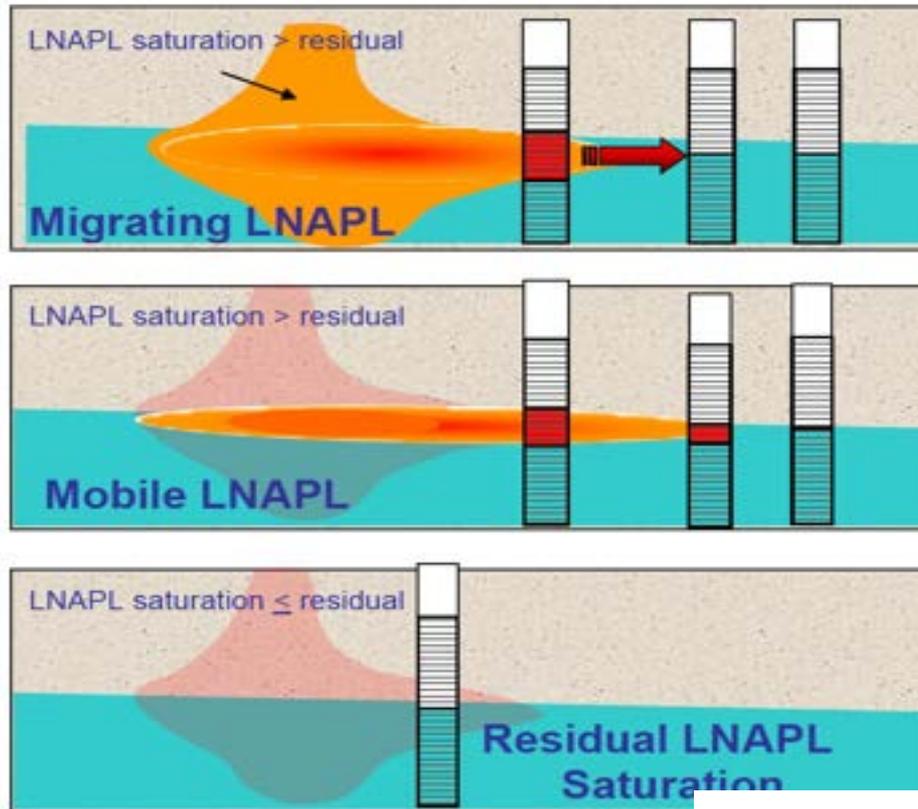
LNAPL present, but cannot flow into wells

LNAPL can flow into wells

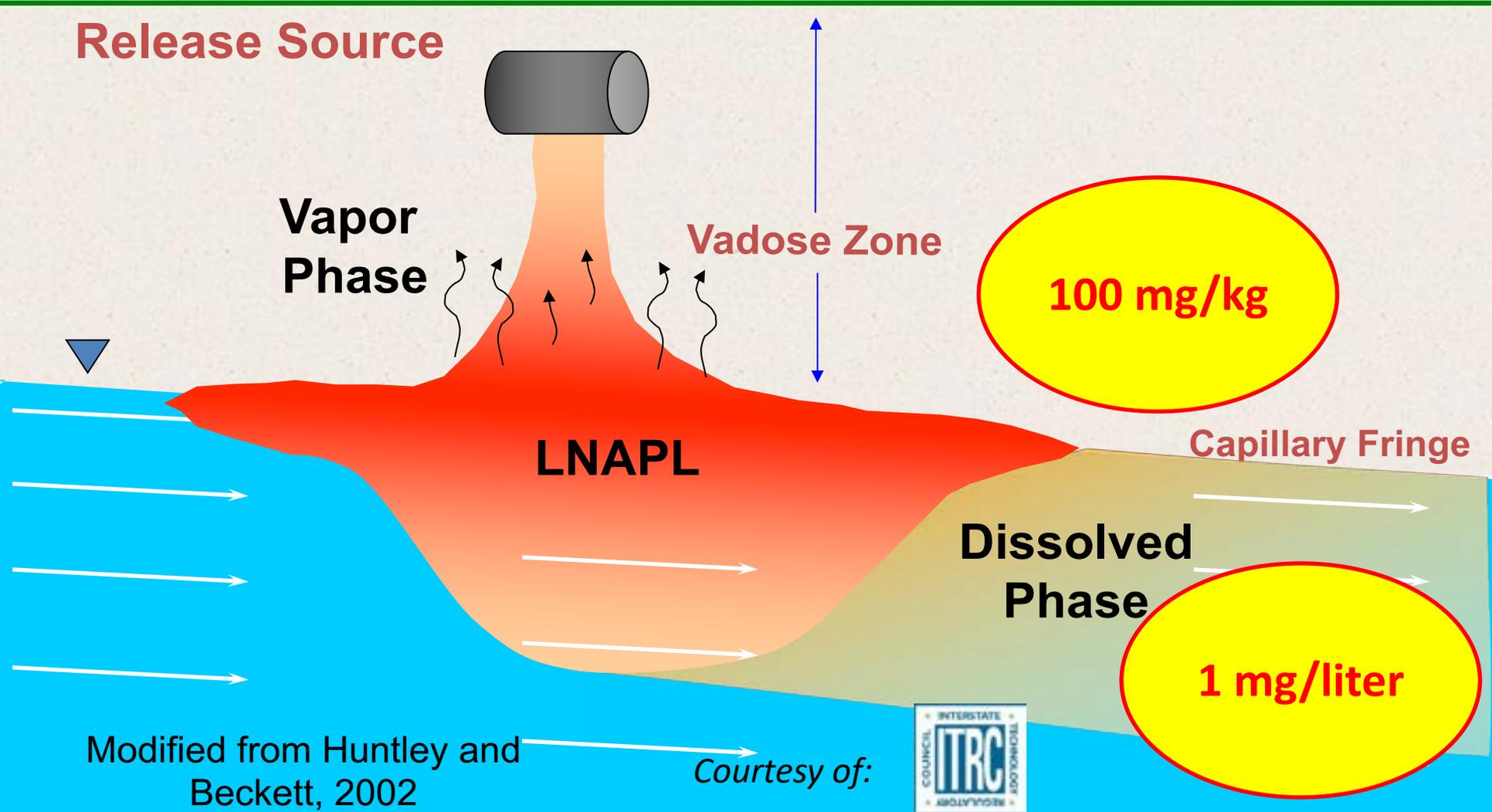
*Courtesy of:*



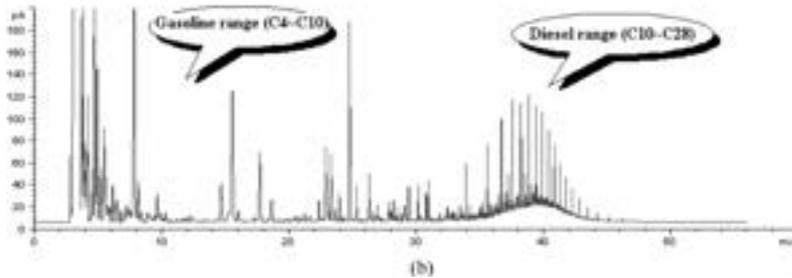
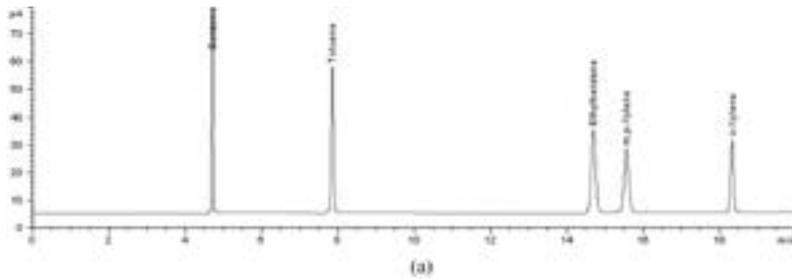
# MW Thickness = Indicator Only



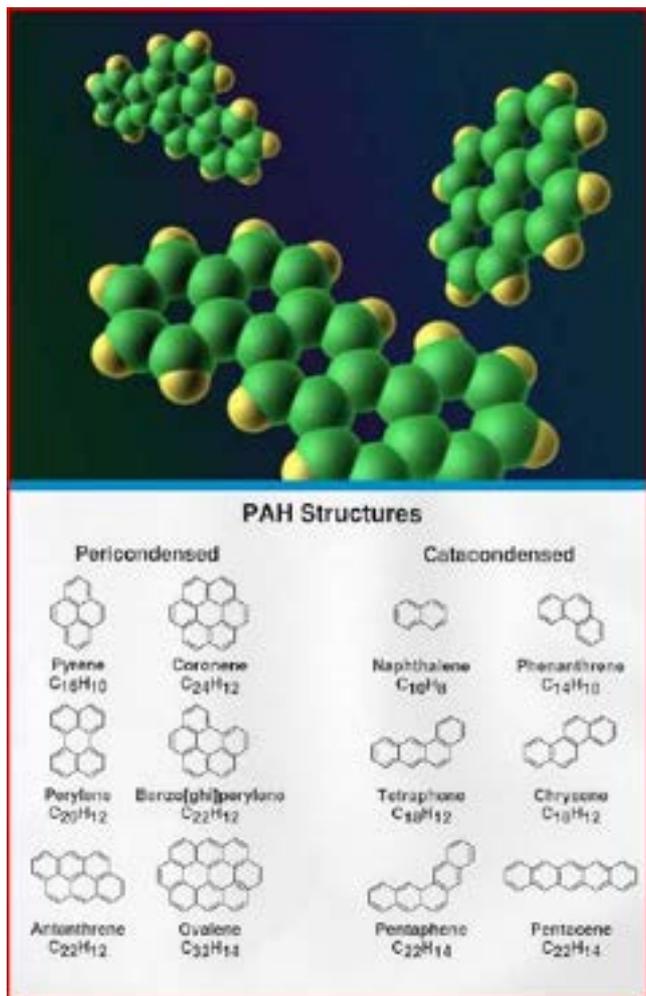
# Lab Results as Indicators of LNAPL



# There is a LOT in LNAPL than BTEX

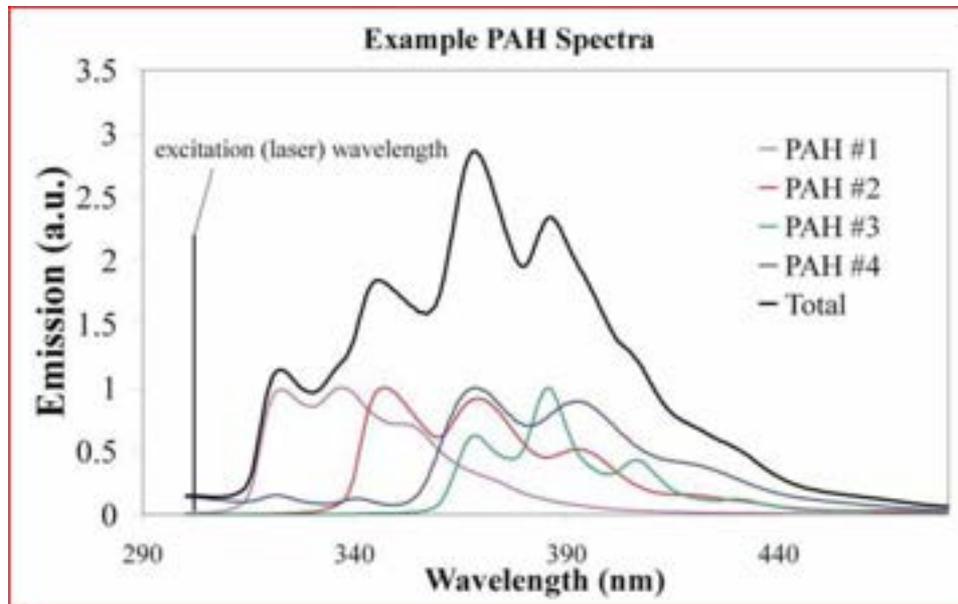


# Petroleum Fluorescence

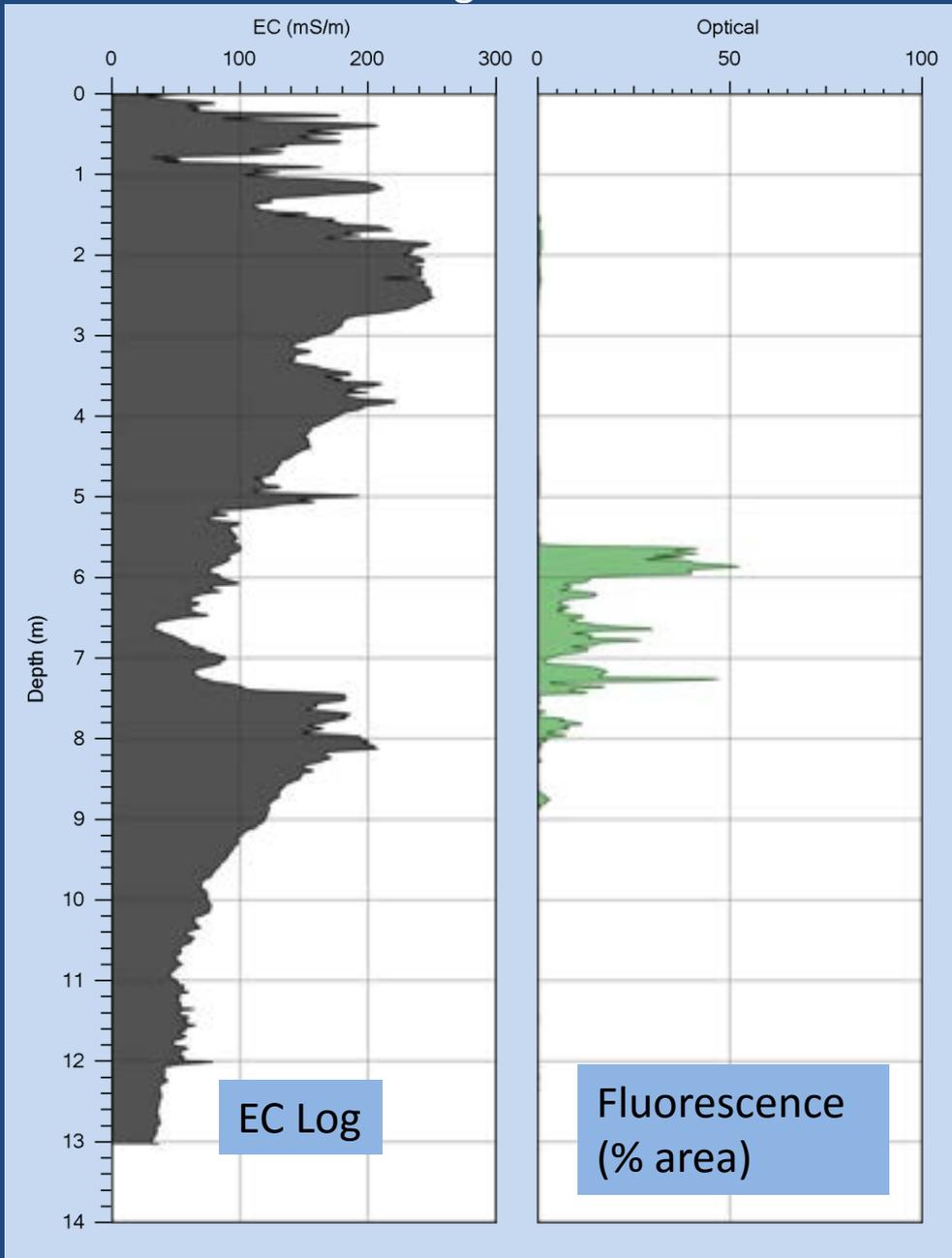


PAHs fluoresce when struck with UV light

Each PAH has a unique fluorescence spectrum



## Log 8-1



# The OIP Log

- Images captured every 15mm (.05 ft.).
- Images are analyzed for fluorescence in real time.
- The percent of the image area representing fuel fluorescence is recorded on the log.

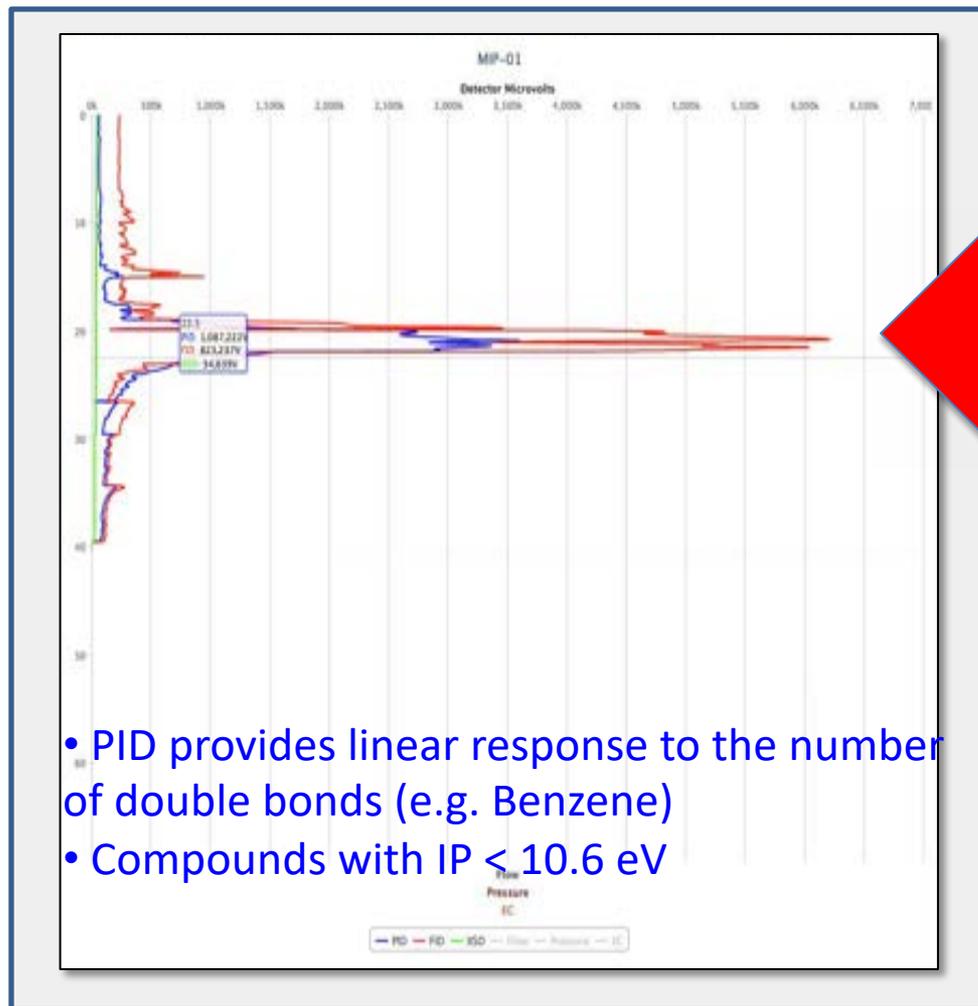


3.0m  
0% detected



5.7m  
50.2% detected

# Membrane Interface Probe



FID confirms PID

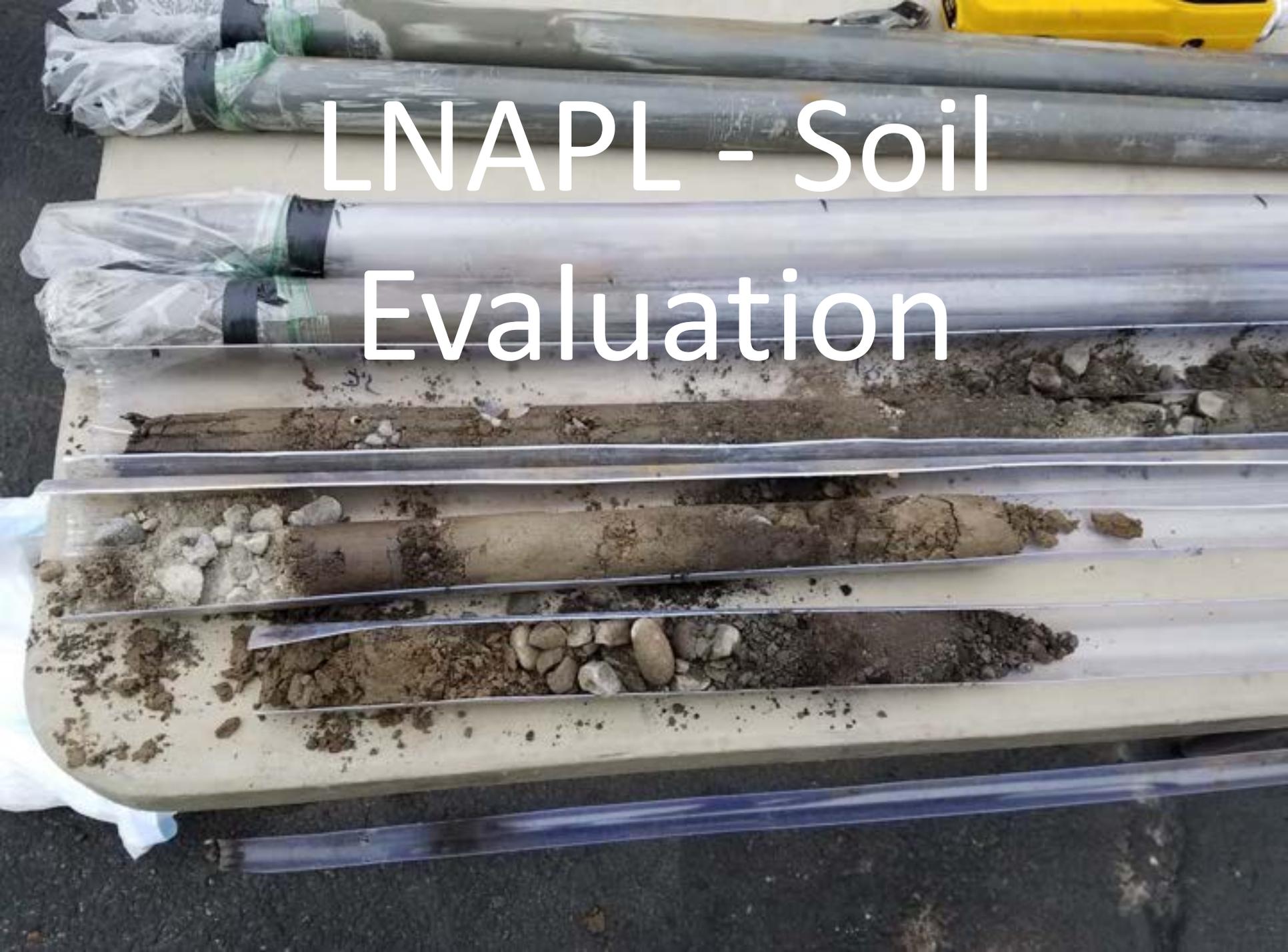
FID

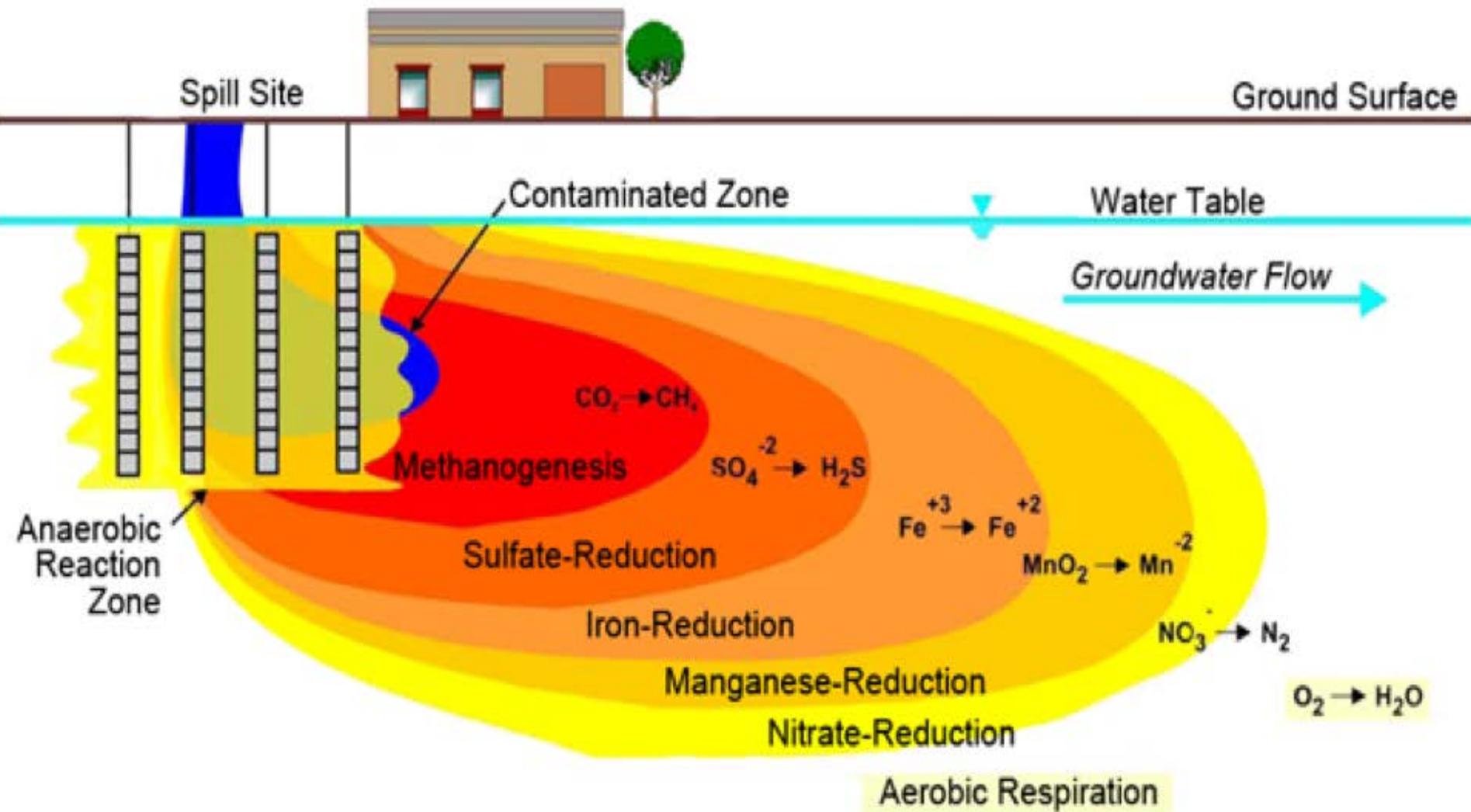
PID

XSD

- PID provides linear response to the number of double bonds (e.g. Benzene)
- Compounds with IP < 10.6 eV

# LNAPL - Soil Evaluation





Source: API Bulletin 18 Managing Risk at LNAPL Sites 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, May 2018

trap 4



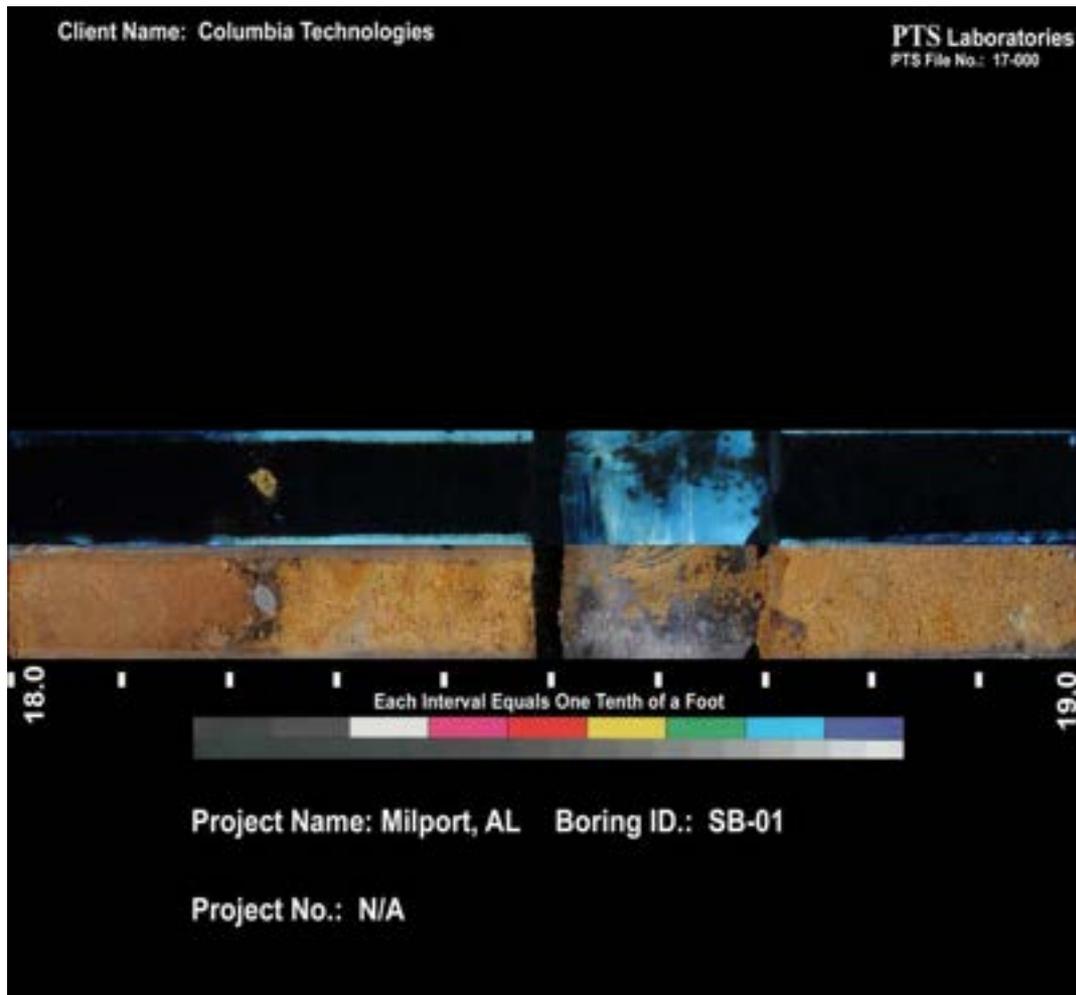
Nested  
Vapor Wells

Vapor Evaluation



# Matrix Effects

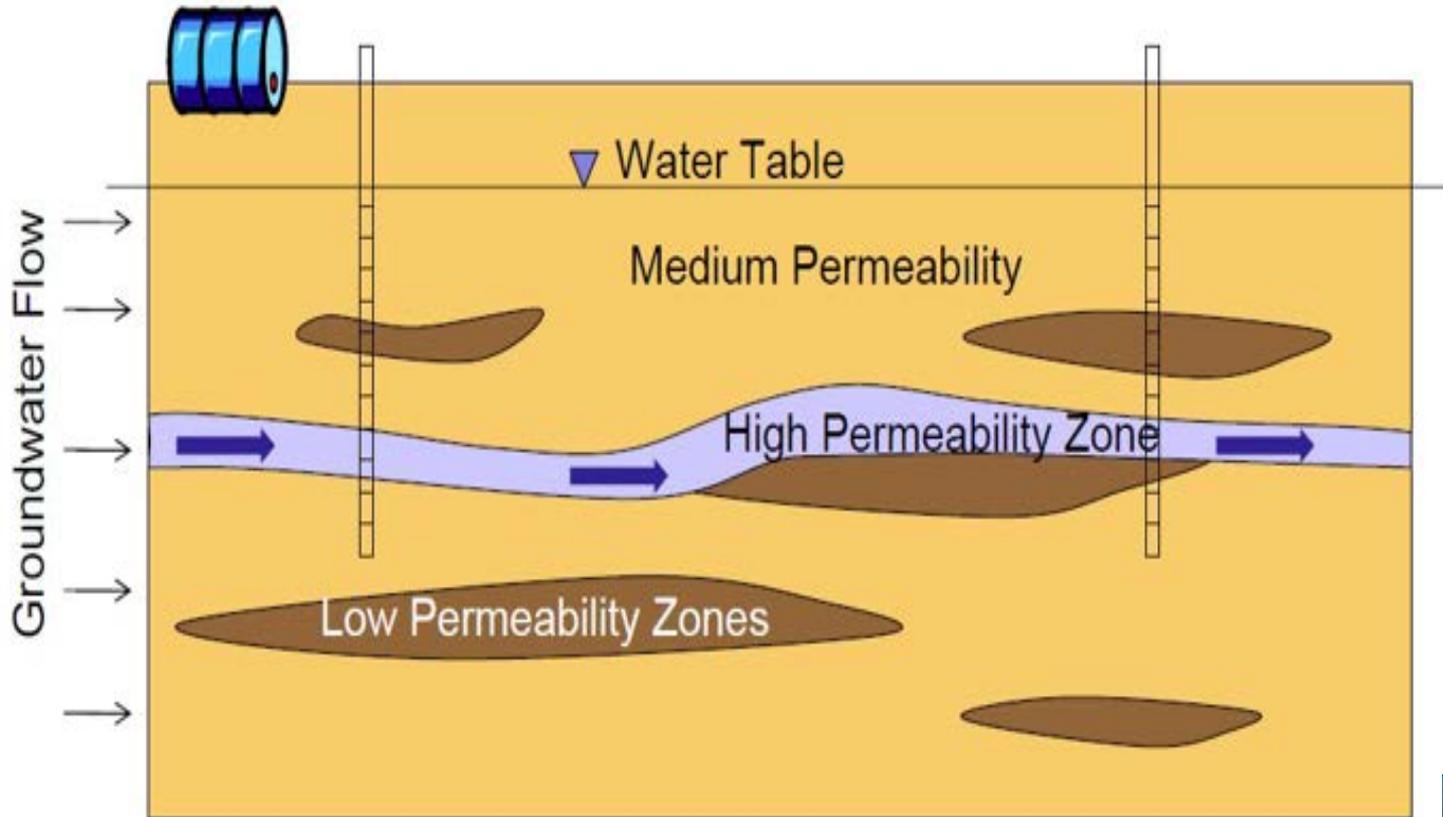
# Petroleum Response to UV in Lab



Ask what wavelength of excitation & detection?



# Dealing with Heterogeneity



Courtesy of:



# Impact on Conceptual Site Models

1 ft/day

1 ft/day

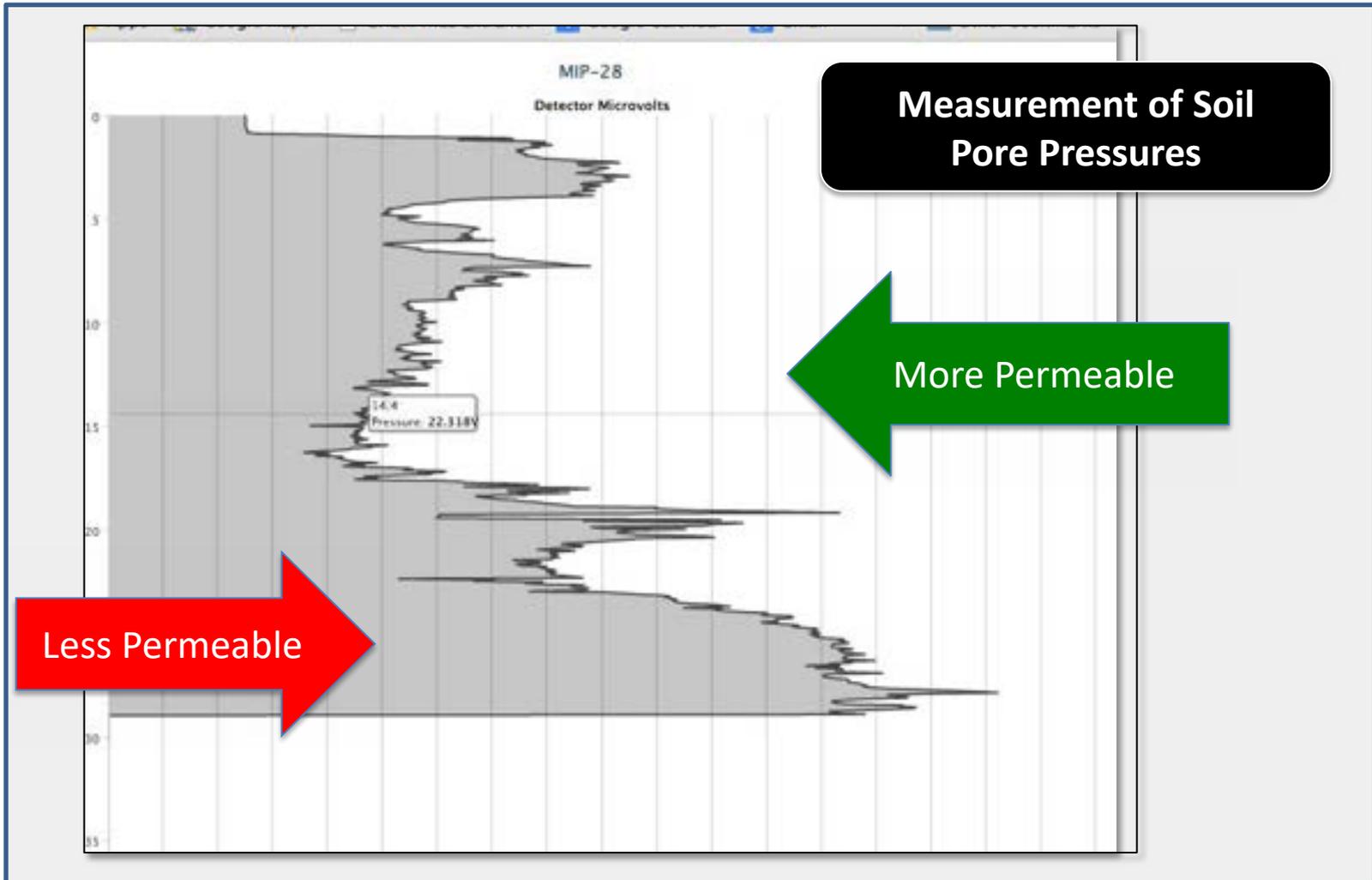
100 ft/day

0.1 ft/day

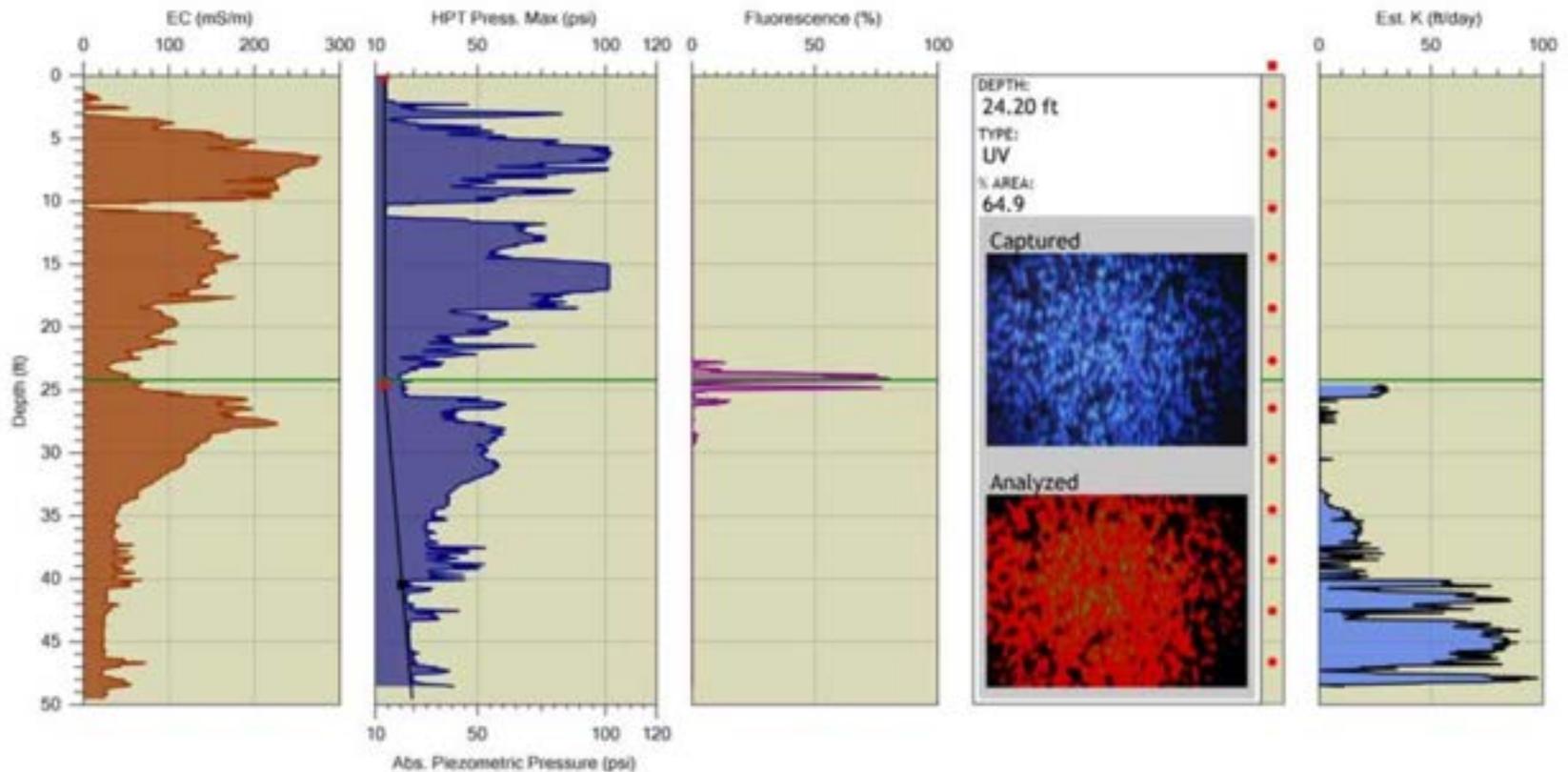
0.01 ft/day

Example: Distribution  
of Transport Velocities

# Hydraulic Profiling Tool (HPT)

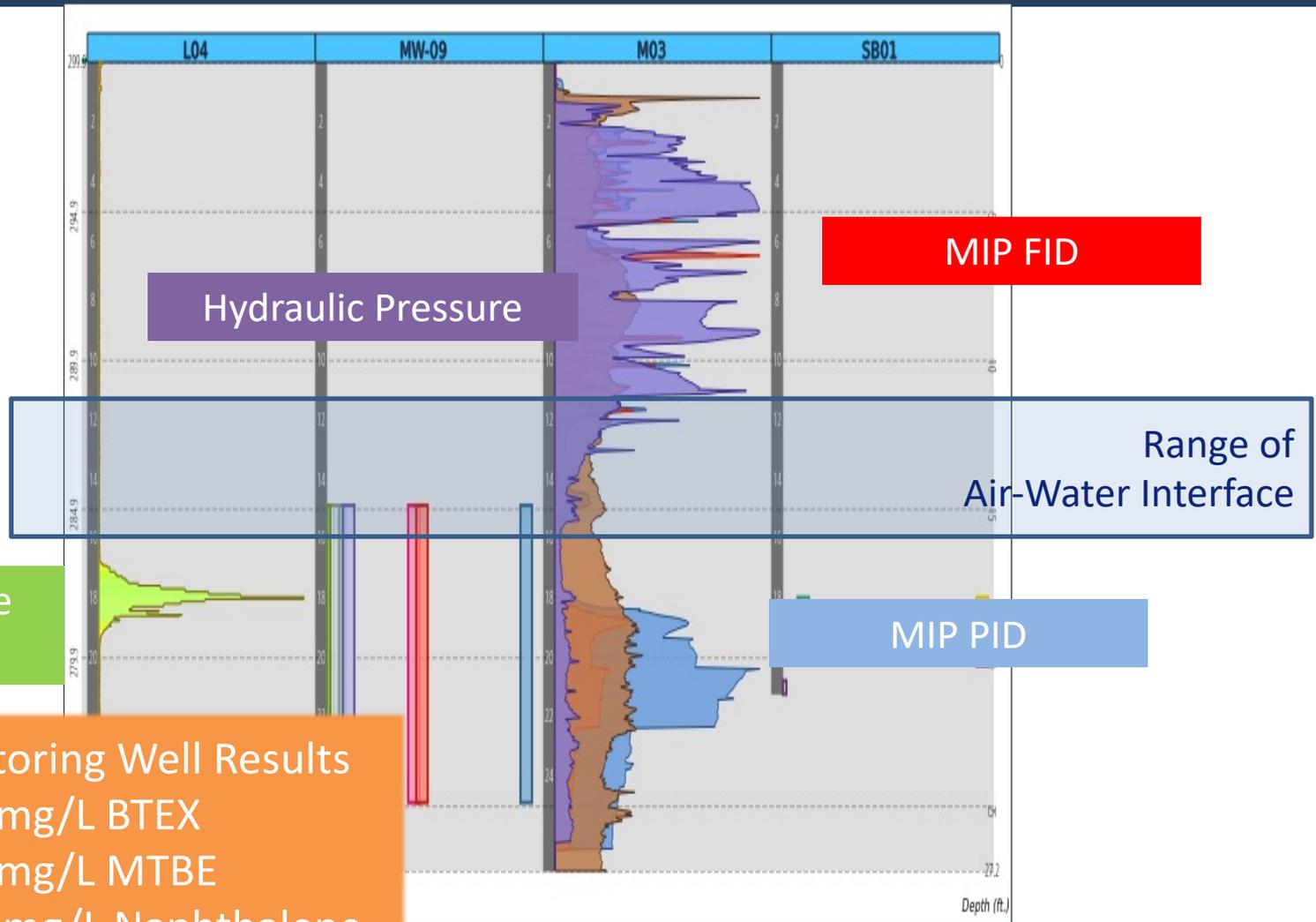


# Optical Imaging Profiler (OIP)



**Figure 6:** Graphs left to right: Soil EC, HPT pressure (formation permeability) along with absolute piezometric pressure (secondary axis), UV percent area Fluorescence, saved UV image from 24.20ft, and estimate hydraulic conductivity (estimated K).

# LNAPL + Matrix Relationship



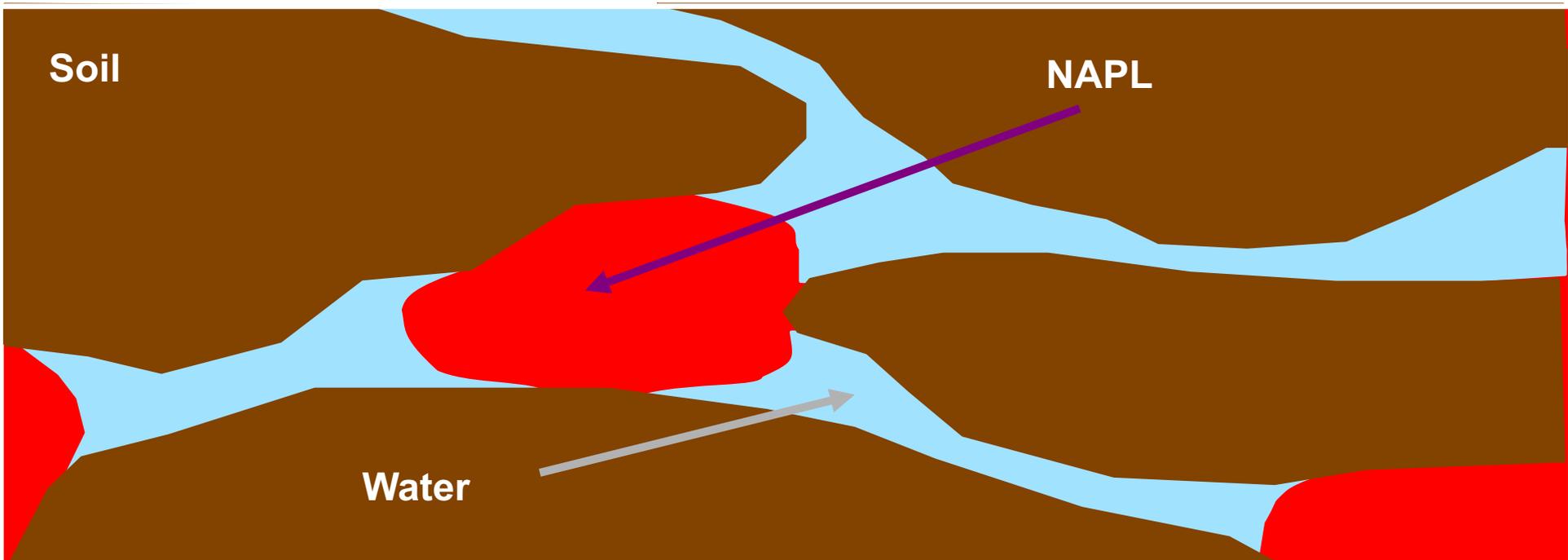
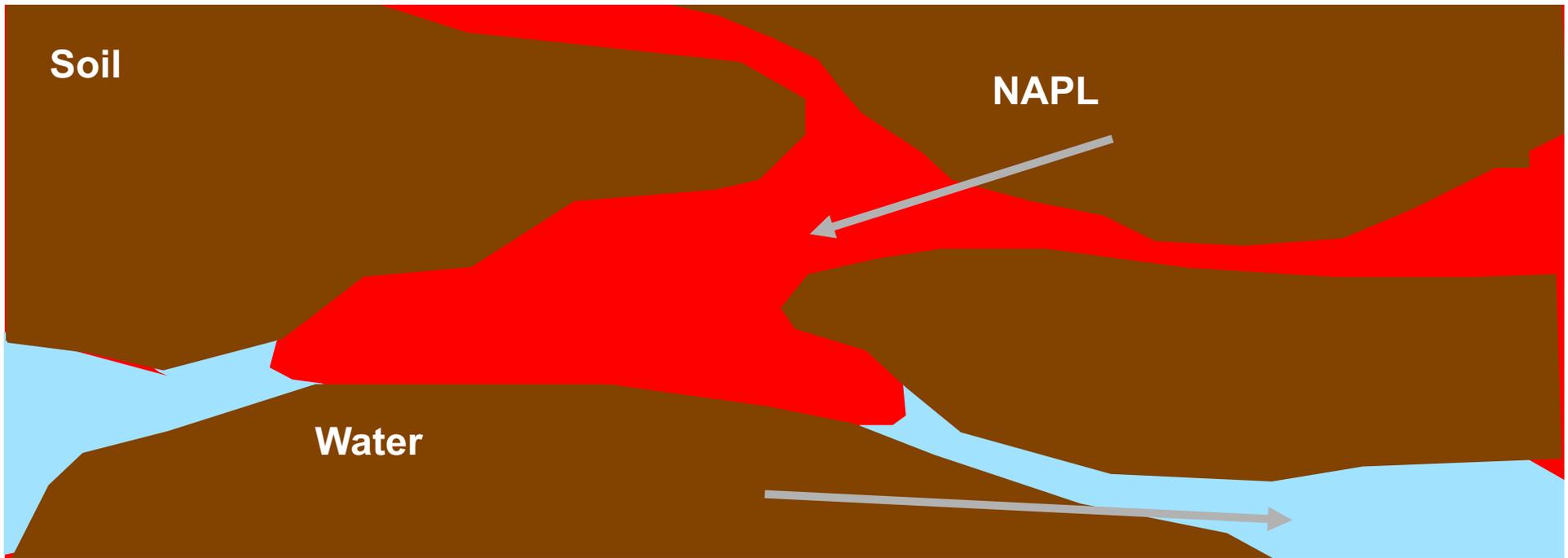


# LNAPL Transmissivity

# Lines of Evidence to Assess Mobility

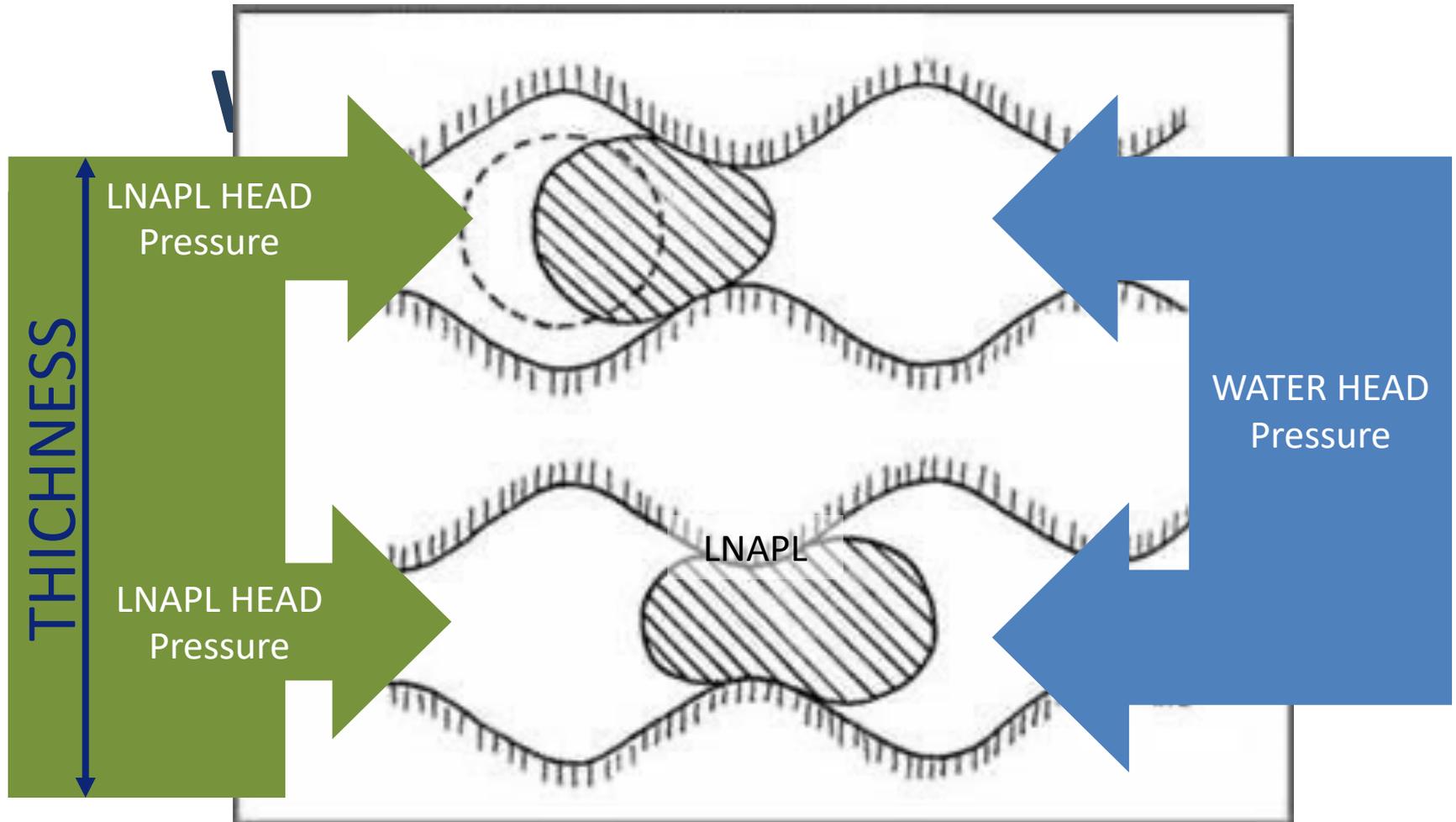
- LNAPL type
- LNAPL release date
- LNAPL release volume
- Soil type
- Plume stability





# LNAPL Mobility vs Equilibrium

For water wet media

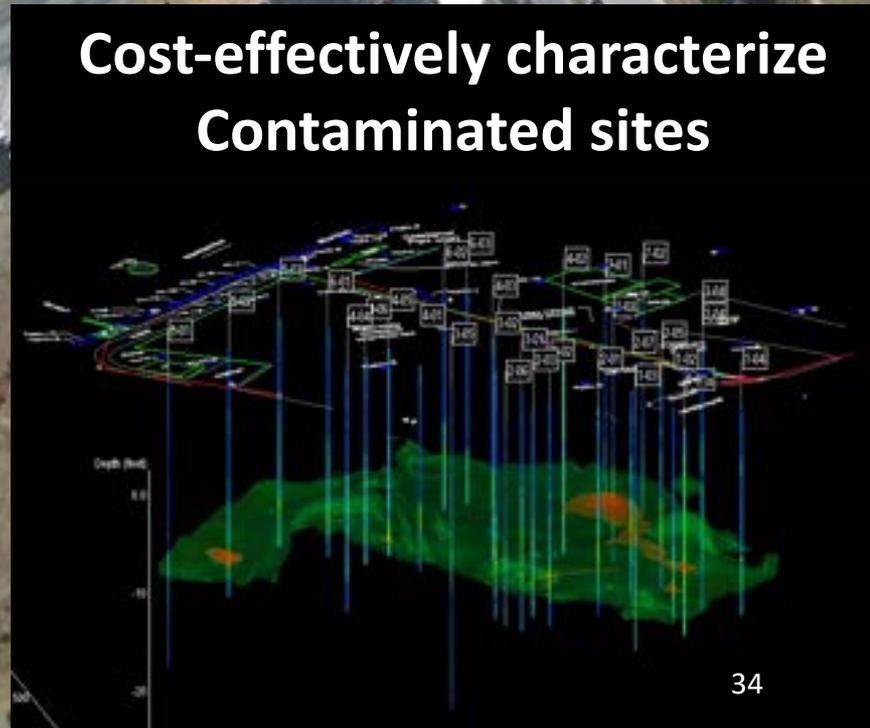


# LNAPL vs Groundwater

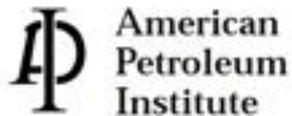


\$\$ of  
Monitoring  
Wells

"Direction" of GW  
Flow



# API Bulletin No. 9



---

## SOIL & GROUNDWATER RESEARCH BULLETIN

---

*A summary of research  
results from the American  
Petroleum Institute & GRI.*

June 2000

No. 9

### NON-AQUEOUS PHASE LIQUID (NAPL) MOBILITY LIMITS IN SOIL

EDWARD J. BROST • GEORGE E. DeVALL • EQUILON ENTERPRISES LLC • WESTHOLLOW TECHNOLOGY CENTER • HOUSTON, TEXAS

# $C_{res}$ for Petroleum Product by Matrix

1

**Table 1.** Residual NAPL Concentration in Soil Compared to Soil Saturation Limit.

Name	Ref	$S_r$ residual NAPL in the void fraction ( $\text{cm}^3/\text{cm}^3$ )	$C_{res,soil}$ residual NAPL concentration in soil (mg/kg)	$C_{sat,soil}$ soil saturation limit (mg/kg)	$\rho_o$ liquid chemical density ( $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ )	MW molecular weight (g/g-mol)	S aqueous solubility (mg/L)	$P_{vap}$ vapor pressure (mm Hg)
trichloroethylene (TCE)	a	0.2	70,000	1,045	1.46	131	1,100	75
benzene	b	0.24	53,000	444	0.88	78	1,750	95
o-xylene	c	0.01	2,000	143	0.88	106	178	6.6
gasoline	d,e	0.02 to 0.6	3,400 to 80,000	106	0.78	99	164	102
diesel	d,f	0.04 to 0.2	7,700 to 34,000	18	0.94	207	3.9	0.79
fuel oil	d,f	0.08 to 0.2	17,000 to 50,000	18	0.94	207	3.9	0.79
mineral oil	g	0.1 to 0.5	20,000 to 150,000	3	0.81	244	0.36	0.035

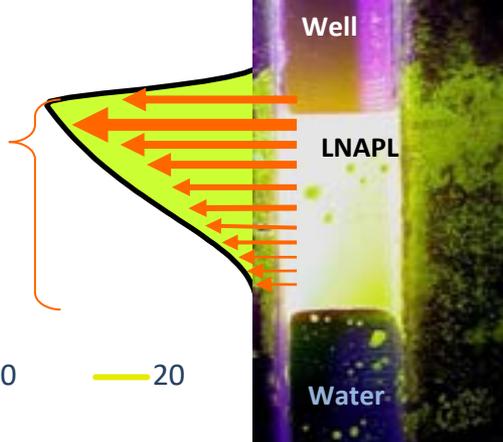
Notes: Unsaturated zone fine to medium sand. Nominal values  $\theta_w = 0.12 \text{ cm}^3/\text{cm}^3$ ,  $f_{oc} = 0.005 \text{ g/g}$  in  $C_{sat,soil}$  calculation.

a = Lin et al. (1982); b = Lenham and Parker (1987); c = Boley and Overcamp (1998); d = Fussell et al. (1981); e = Hoag and Marley (1986); f = API (1980); g = Pfannkuch (1984).



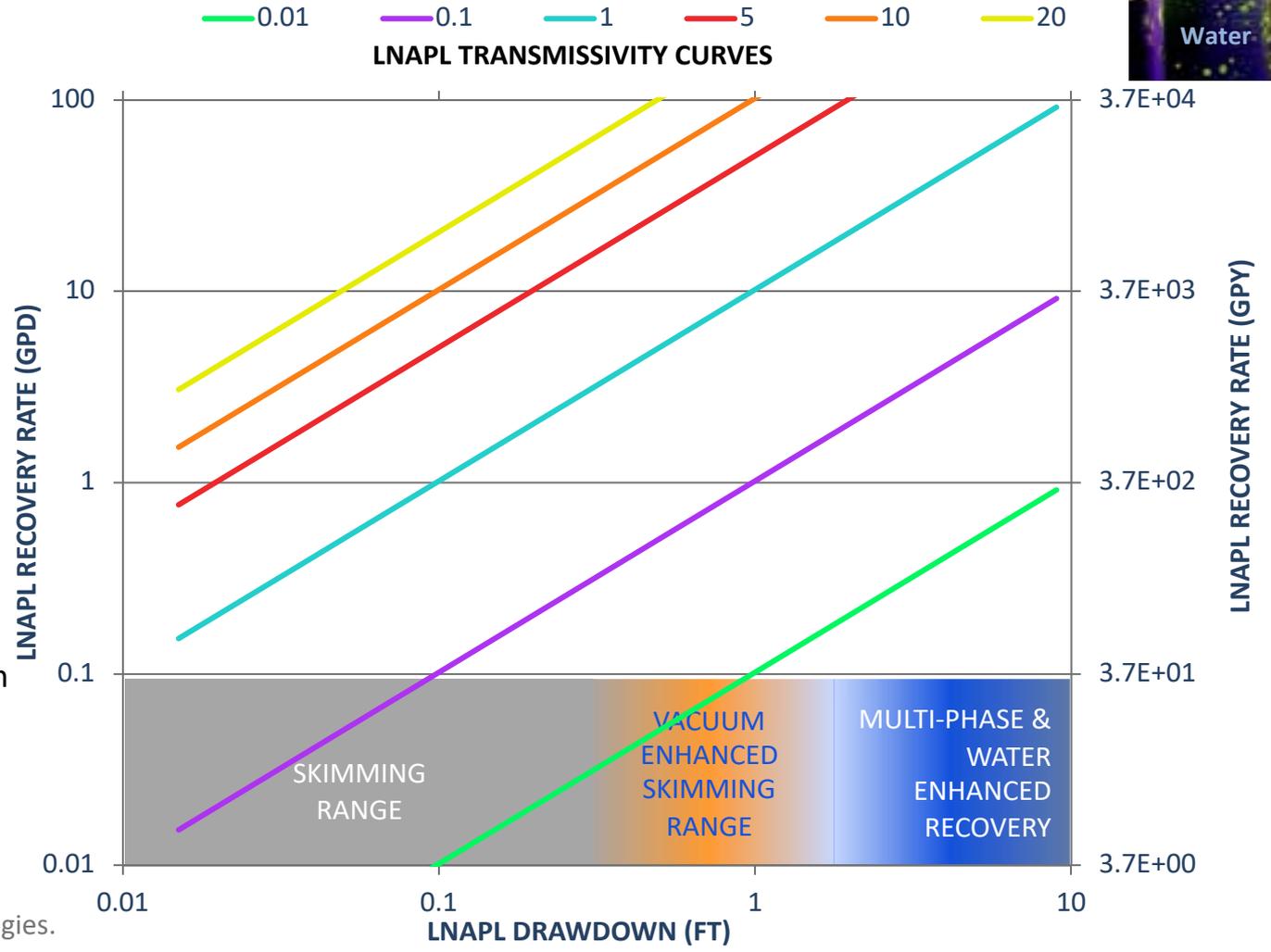
# LNAPL Transmissivity Rate Reference

$$T_o = \sum K_o \Delta b_o$$



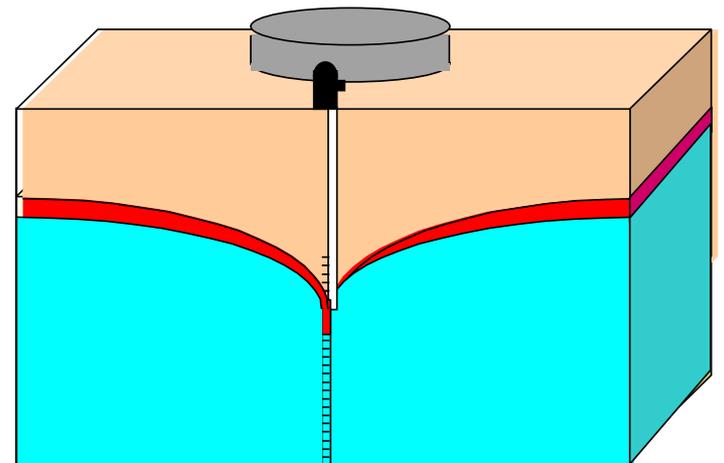
- LNAPL Transmissivity accounts for
  - Thickness of mobile LNAPL
  - Fraction of pores occupied by LNAPL
  - Permeability of the soil
  - LNAPL density
  - LNAPL viscosity

- Skimming LNAPL at 0.1 ft<sup>2</sup>/day results in less than 200 GPY recovered
- Skimming LNAPL at 5 ft<sup>2</sup>/day results in 7300 GPY



# Methods of Estimating Potential Recovery

- Weight of evidence
- Field methods
  - Baildown tests
  - Pilot test technologies
- Desktop methods
  - Extrapolate existing system performance
  - Predictive models

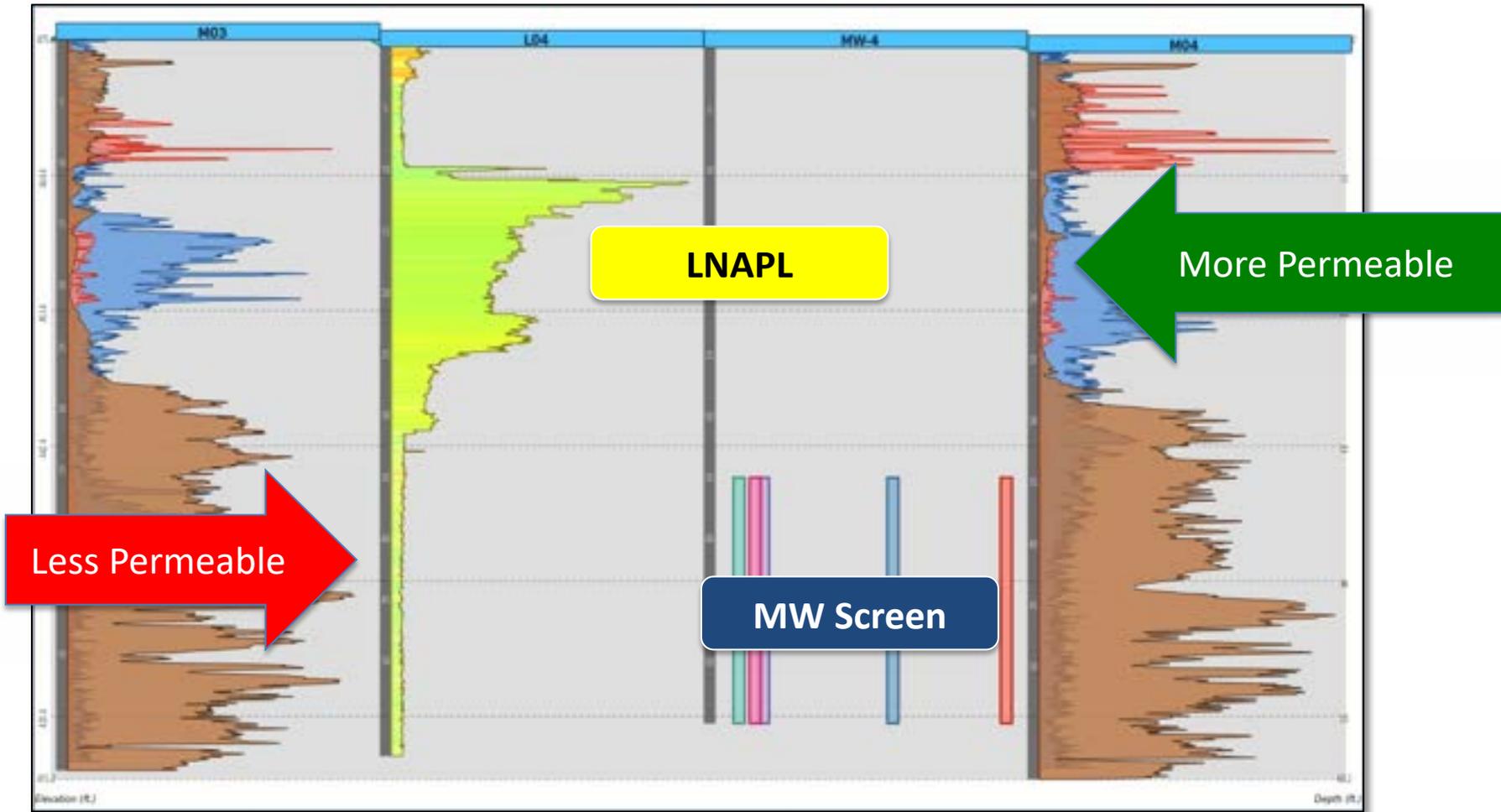


*Courtesy of:*

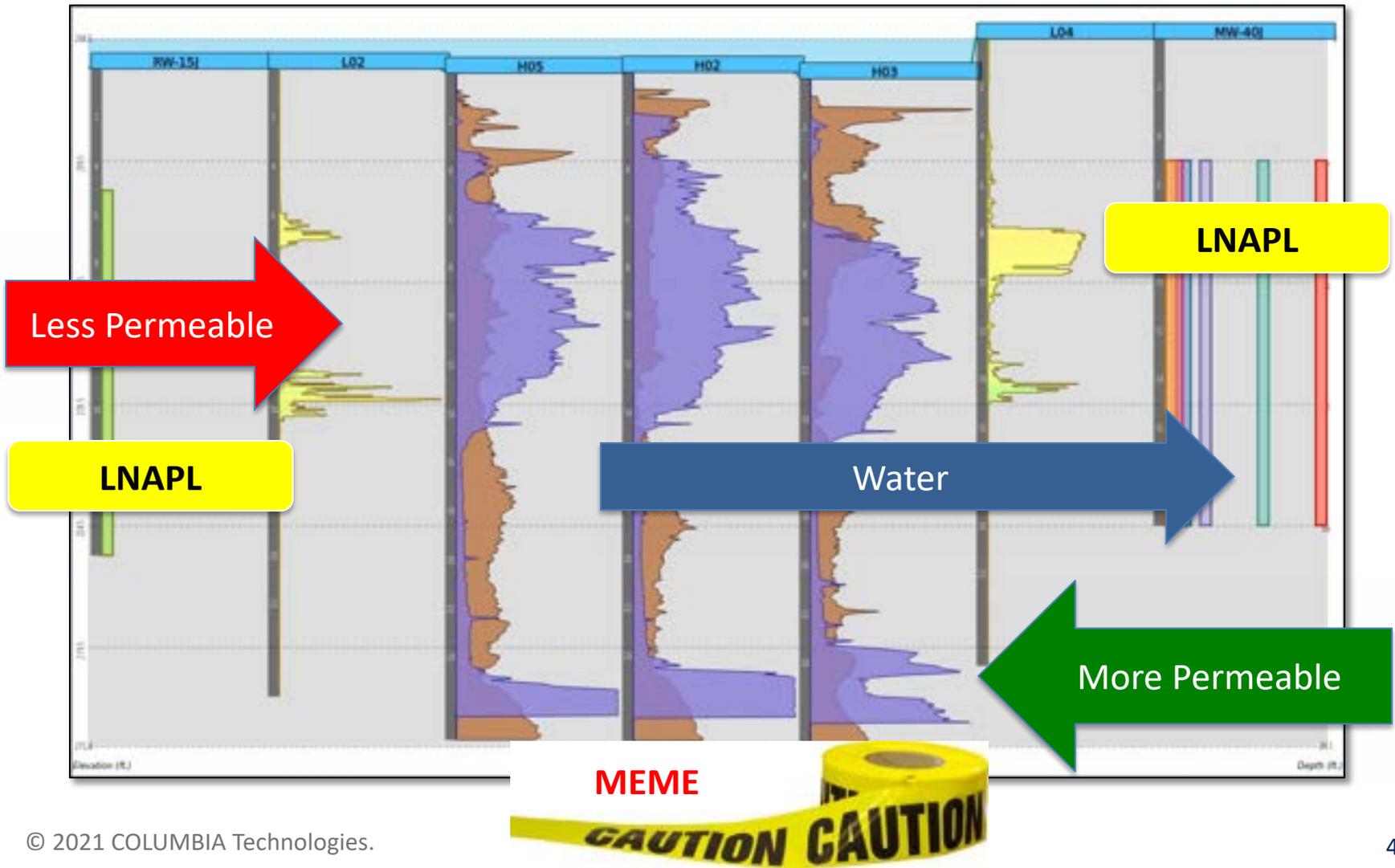


# Spatial Alignment

# LNAPL Above MW



# MW Breach of Permeability Zones





# Case Example – Tiger Oil

# 1980 Release

- Tank Removal
- Preliminary Investigation
- Secondary Investigation
- Excavation & backfill
- SVE & GW Extraction
- ISOC treatment
- Long term monitoring

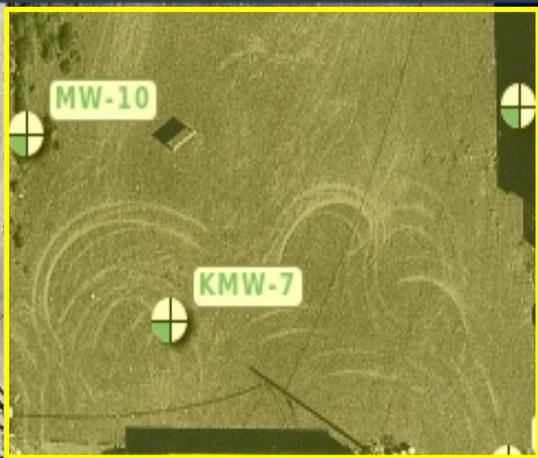


**Free Product Still Present  
30 Years Later**

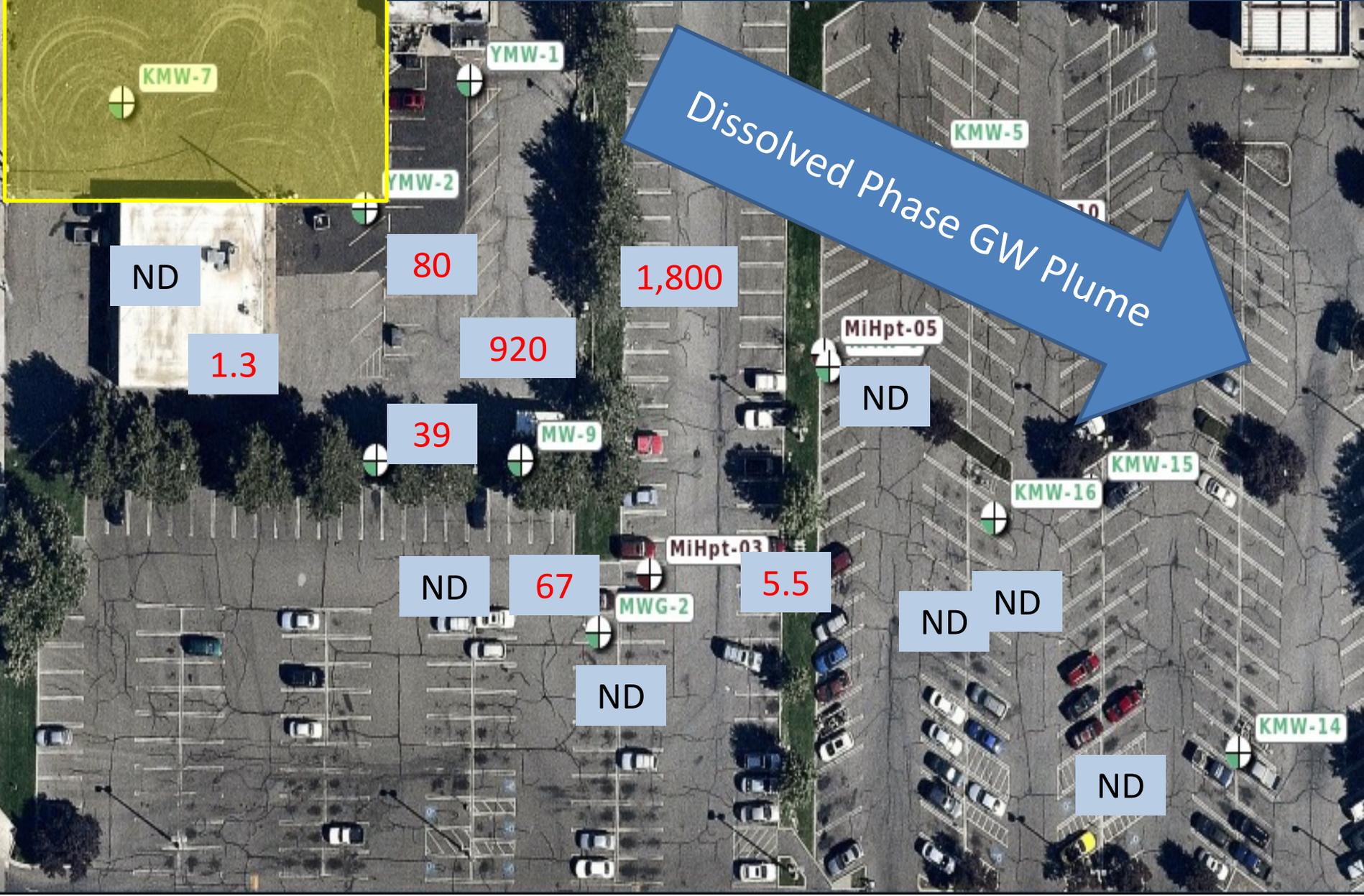


# Outcome of Traditional Approach

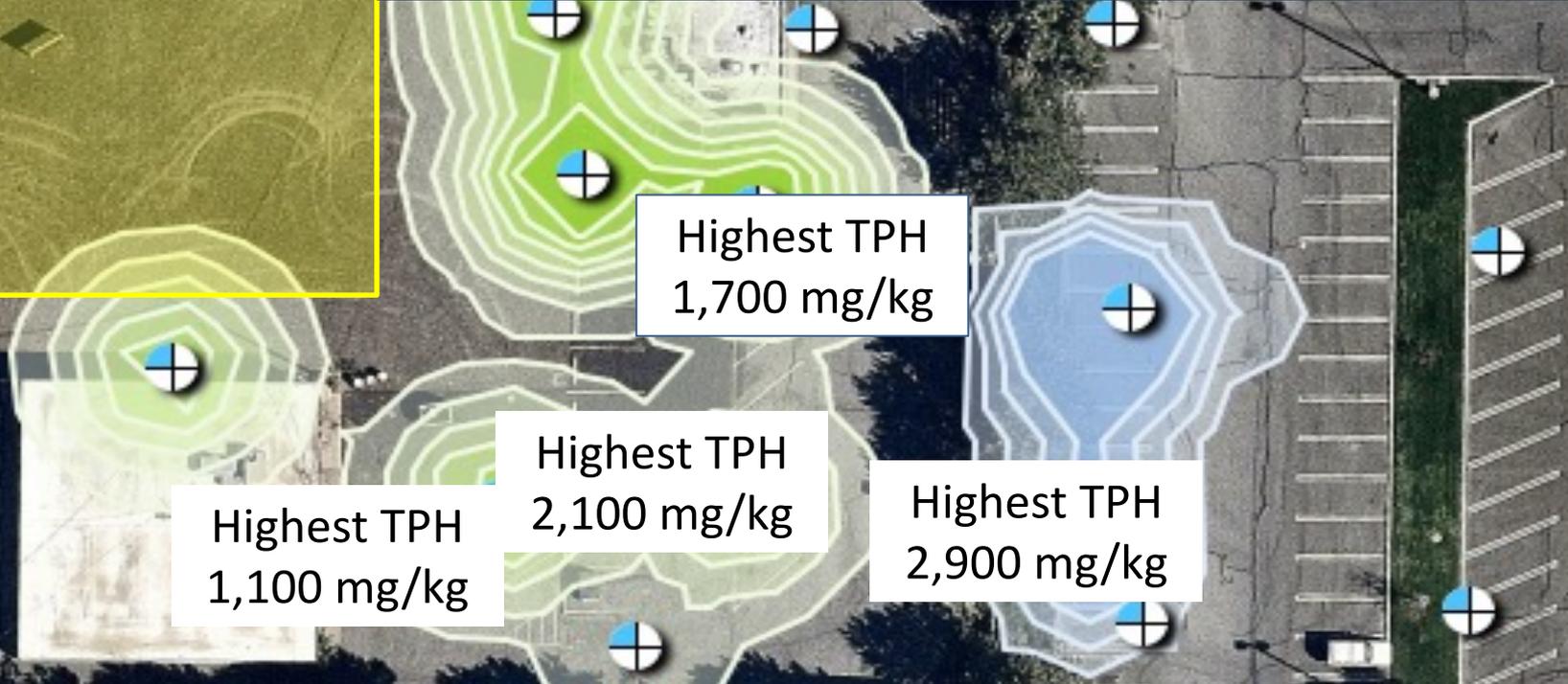
# Benzene in GW



Dissolved Phase GW Plume



# TPH in Soil



Highest TPH  
1,100 mg/kg

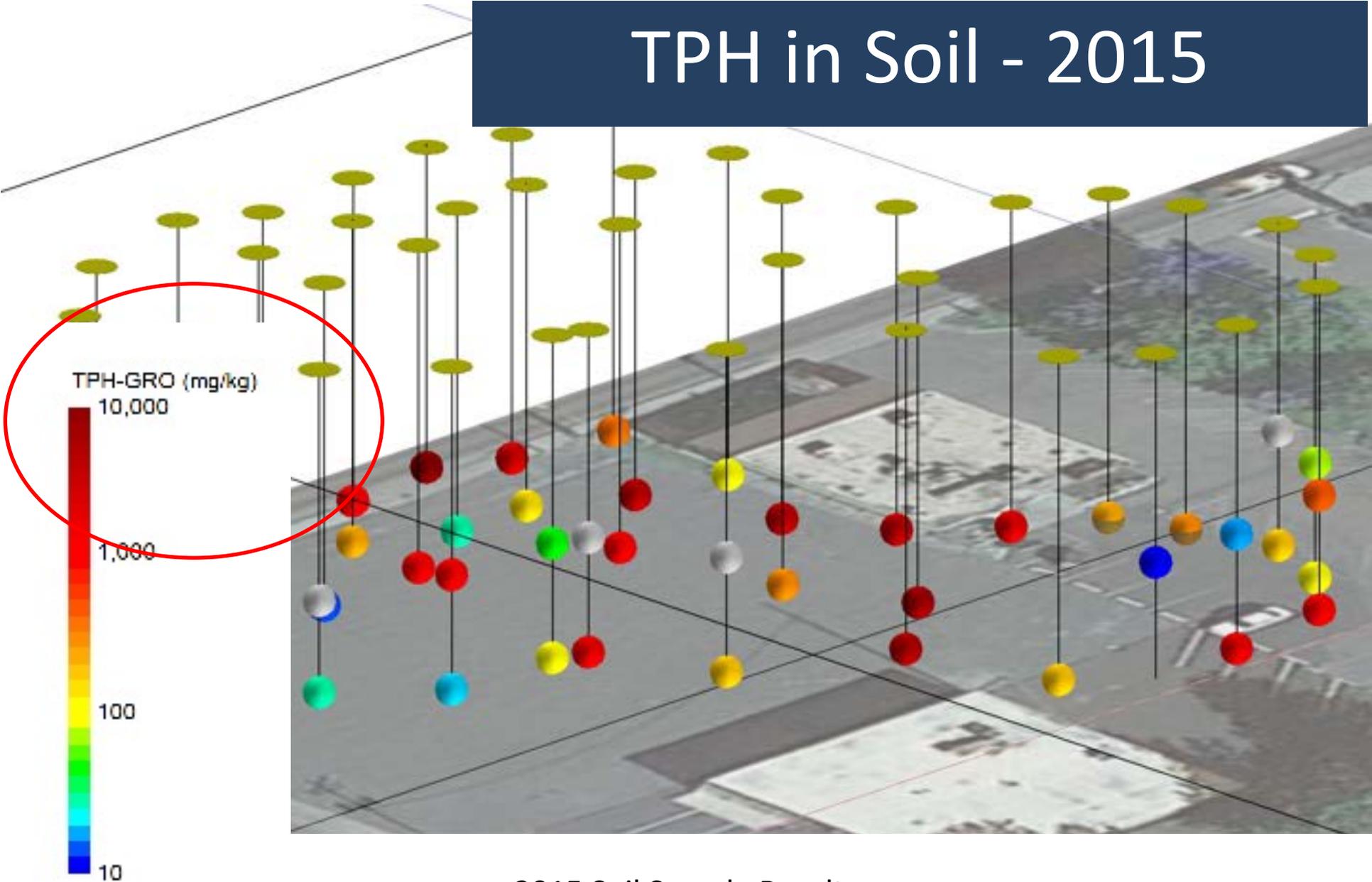
Highest TPH  
2,100 mg/kg

Highest TPH  
2,900 mg/kg

Residual Saturation Screening Values (API Bulletin No. 9, 2000)

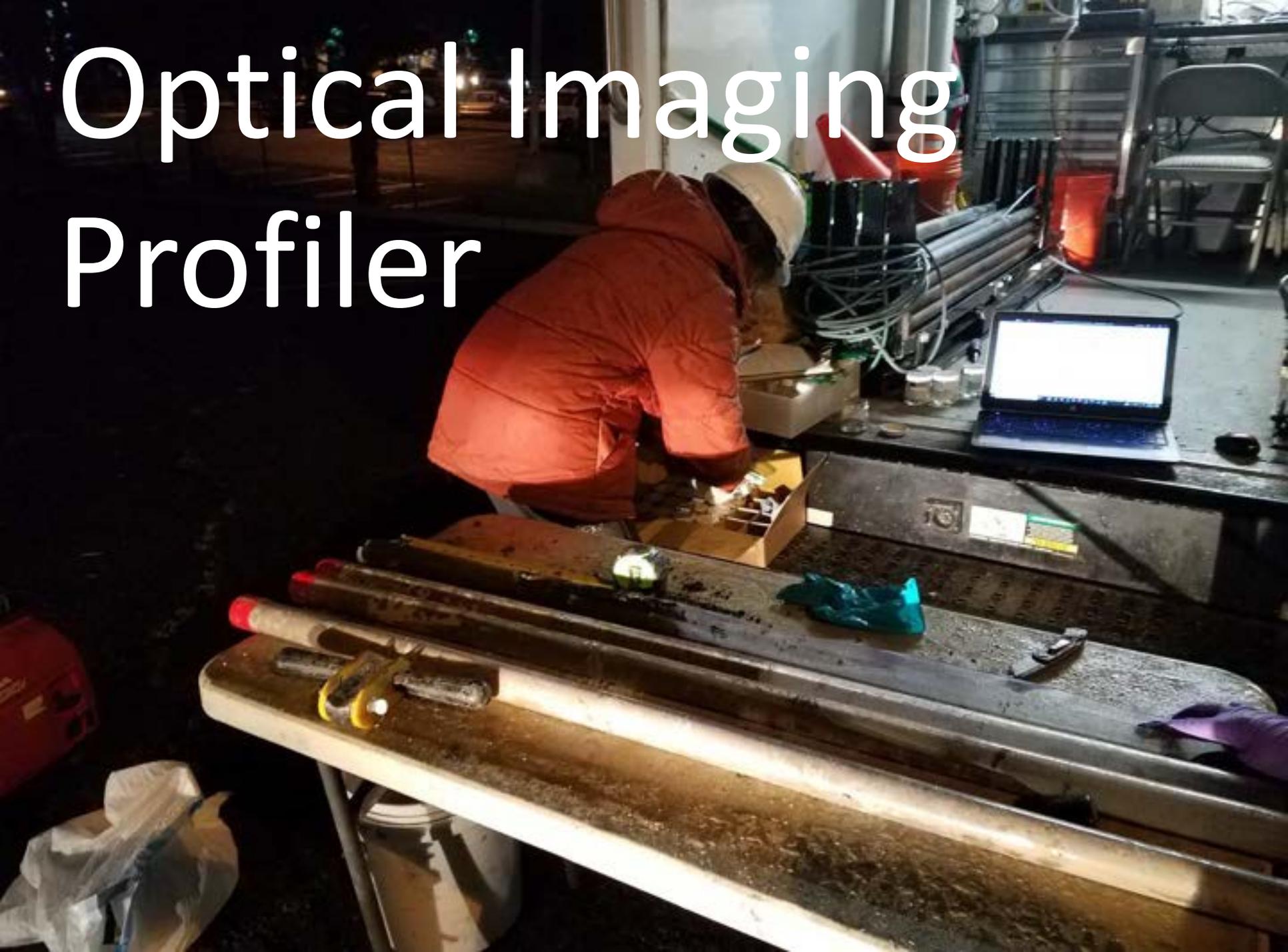
LNAPL	Soil	$C_{Sat}$	$C_{Res}$	$S_r$
Type	Type	mg/kg	mg/kg	cm <sup>3</sup> /cm <sup>3</sup>
<b>Gasoline</b>	M-C Sand	143	<b>3,387</b>	0.02
<b>Gasoline</b>	M-F Sand	215	<b>5,833</b>	0.03
<b>Gasoline</b>	Silt – F Sand	387	<b>10,000</b>	0.05
<b>Middle Distillates</b>	M-C Sand	5	7,742	0.04
<b>Middle Distillates</b>	M-F Sand	9	13,333	0.06
<b>Middle Distillates</b>	Silt – F Sand	18	22,857	0.1

# TPH in Soil - 2015

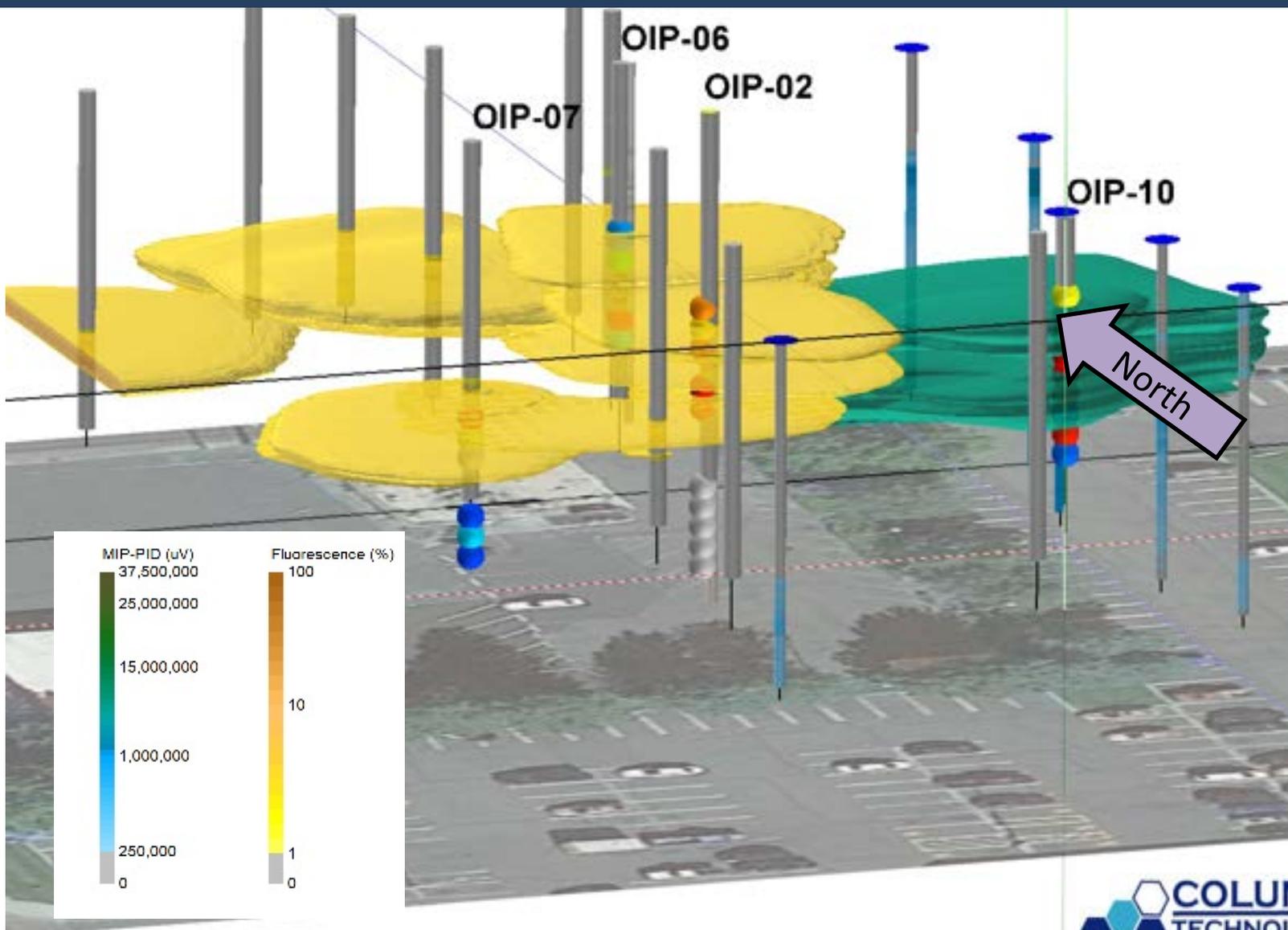


2015 Soil Sample Results

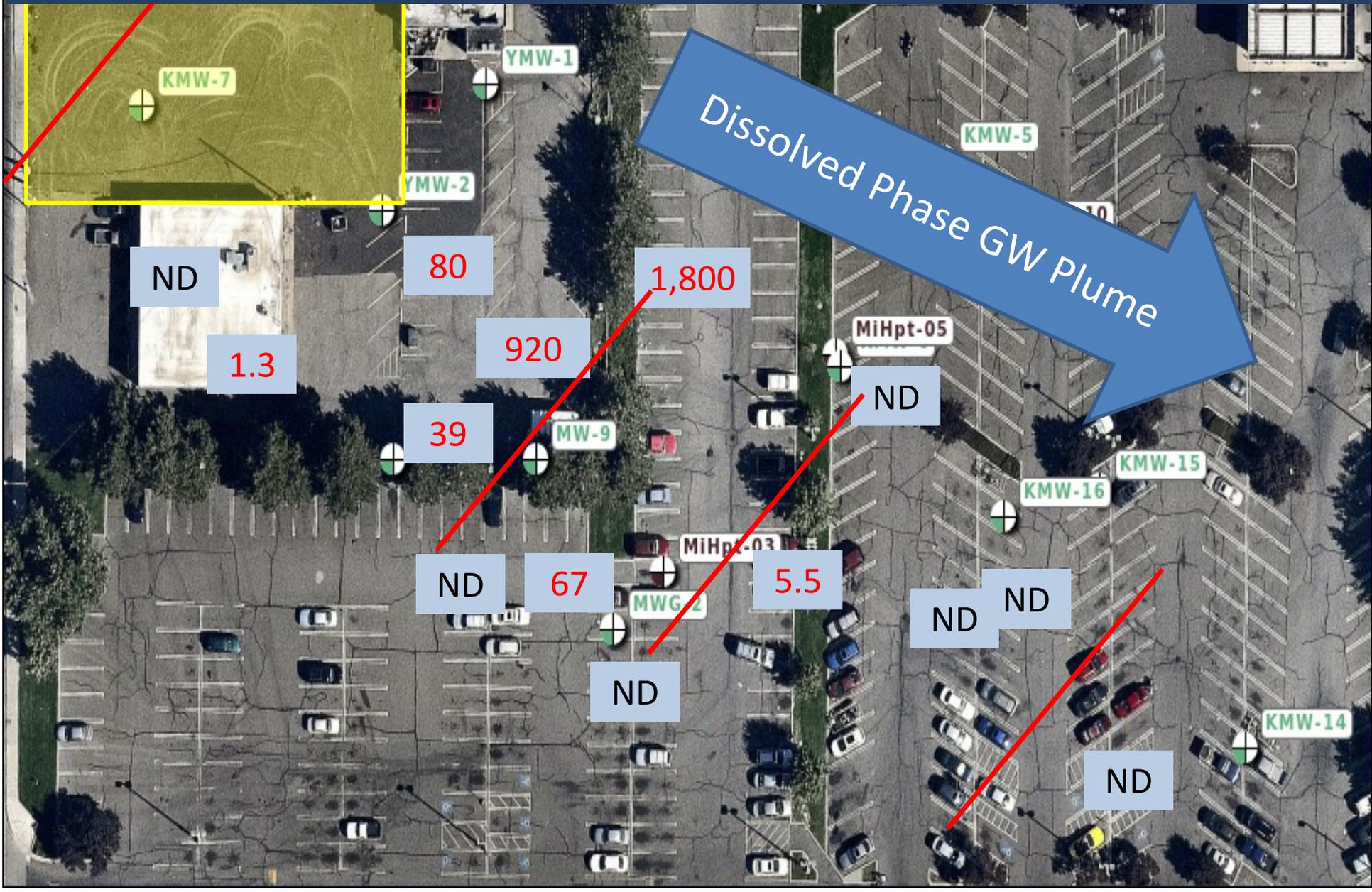
# Optical Imaging Profiler



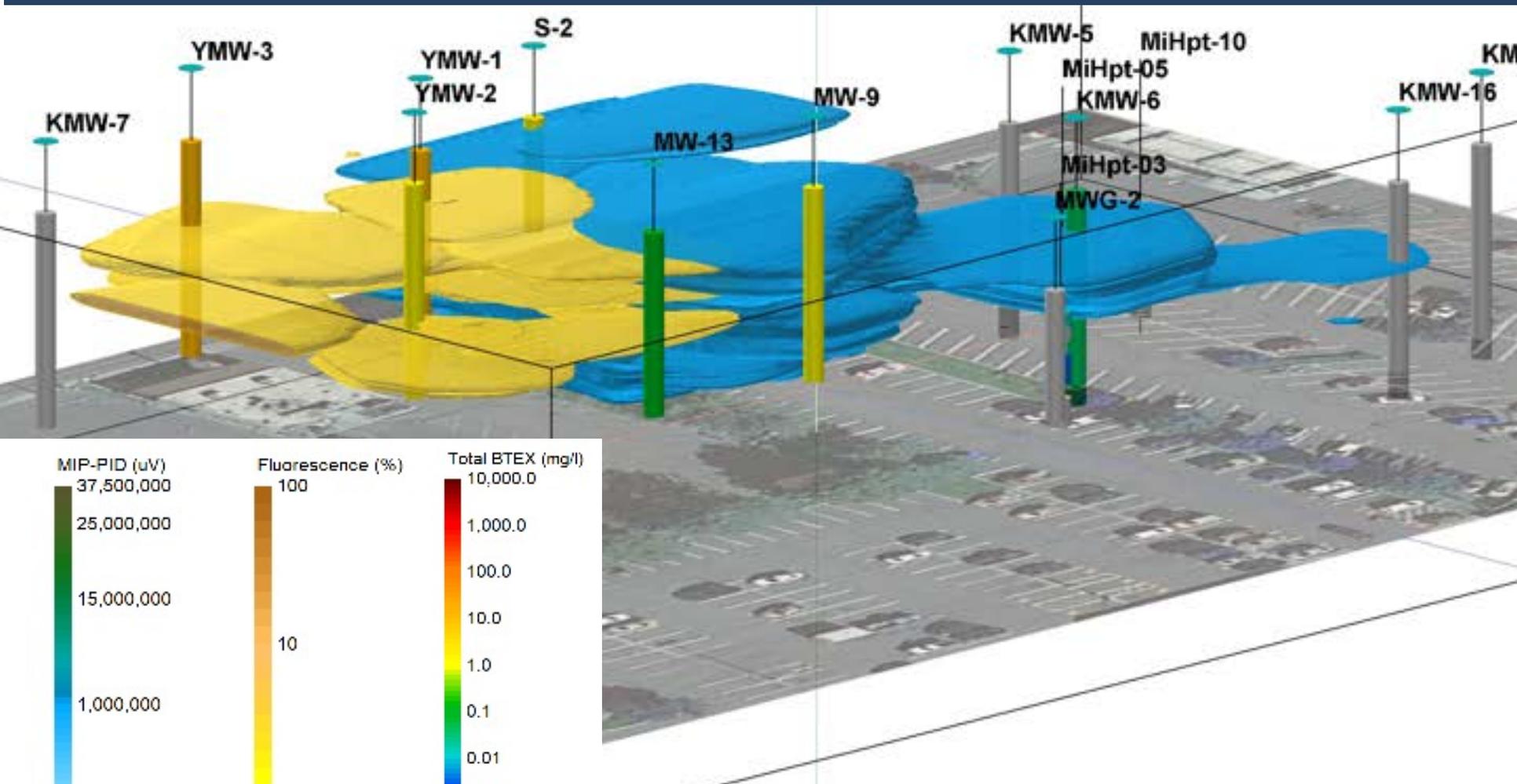
# OIP + MIP-PID



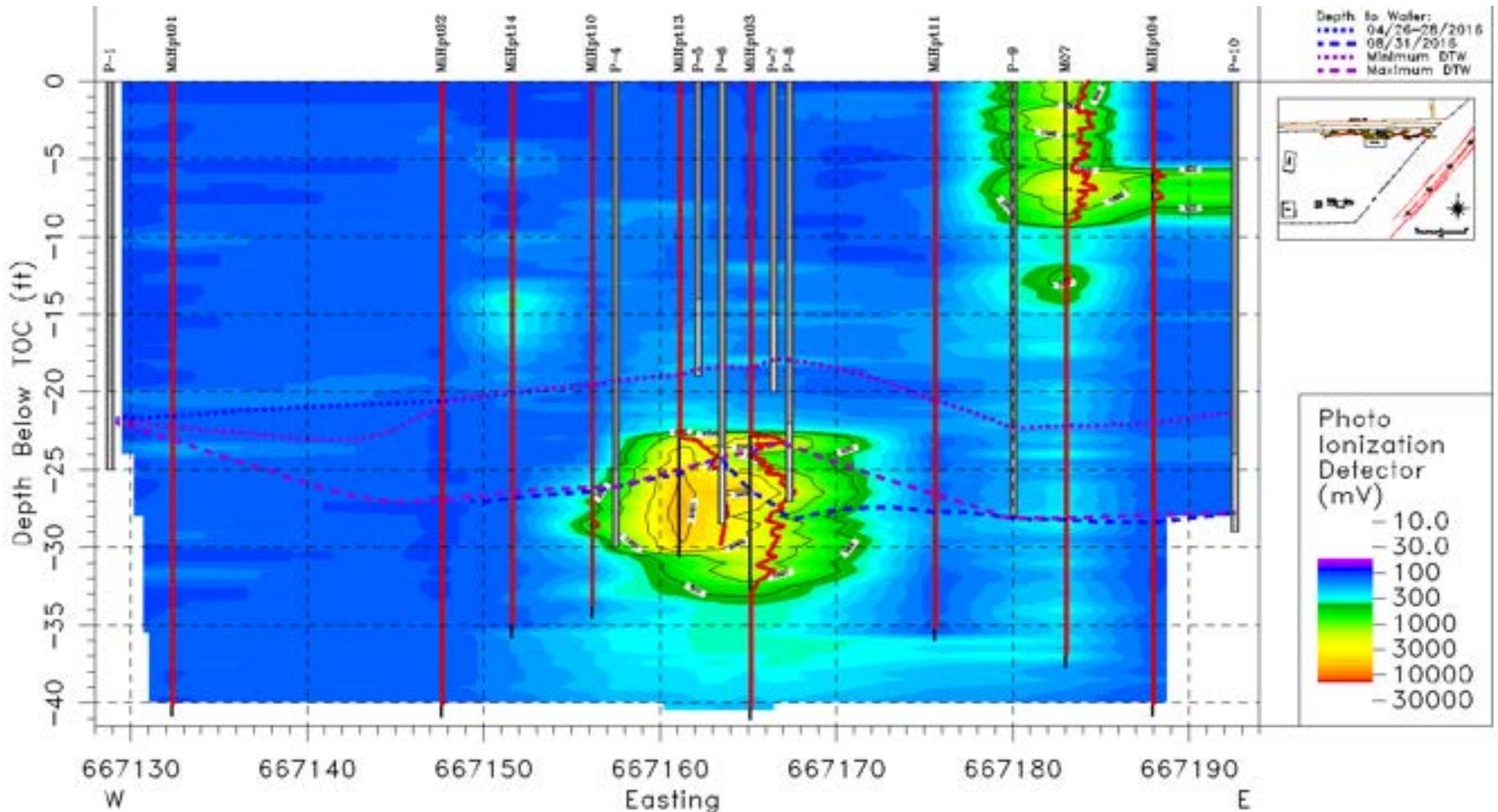
# Benzene in GW



# OIP + MIP-PID vs GW Results



# Mass Transport



# Geochemical Profiles

**DO = 22.98**  
**ORP = 115.7**  
**CH4 = 0.0**  
Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 0  
Mn = 0.02  
Nitrate = 5.7  
Sulfate = 24

**DO = 0.83**  
**ORP = (143)**  
**CH4 = 0.49**  
Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 0  
Mn = 1.5  
Nitrate = 0  
Sulfate = 26

**DO = 0.35**  
**ORP = (142)**  
**CH4 = 0.97**  
**Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 3.0**  
Mn = 1.7  
Nitrate = 0.5  
Sulfate = 7.7

**DO = 0.89**  
**ORP = (119)**  
**CH4 = 0.94**  
**Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 0.75**  
Mn = 6.5  
Nitrate = .12  
Sulfate = 7.6

**DO = 1.48**  
**ORP = (82.3)**  
**CH4 = 1.4**  
Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 3.5  
Mn = 4.4  
Nitrate = .08  
Sulfate = 5U

**DO = 5.49**  
**ORP = 30.1**  
**CH4 = 0.0**  
Fe<sup>+2</sup> = 0  
Mn = 0.29  
Nitrate = 4.3  
Sulfate = 26

KMW-7

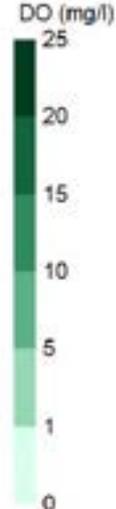
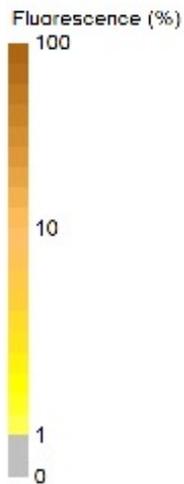
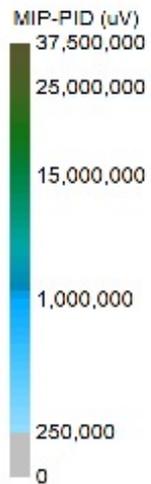
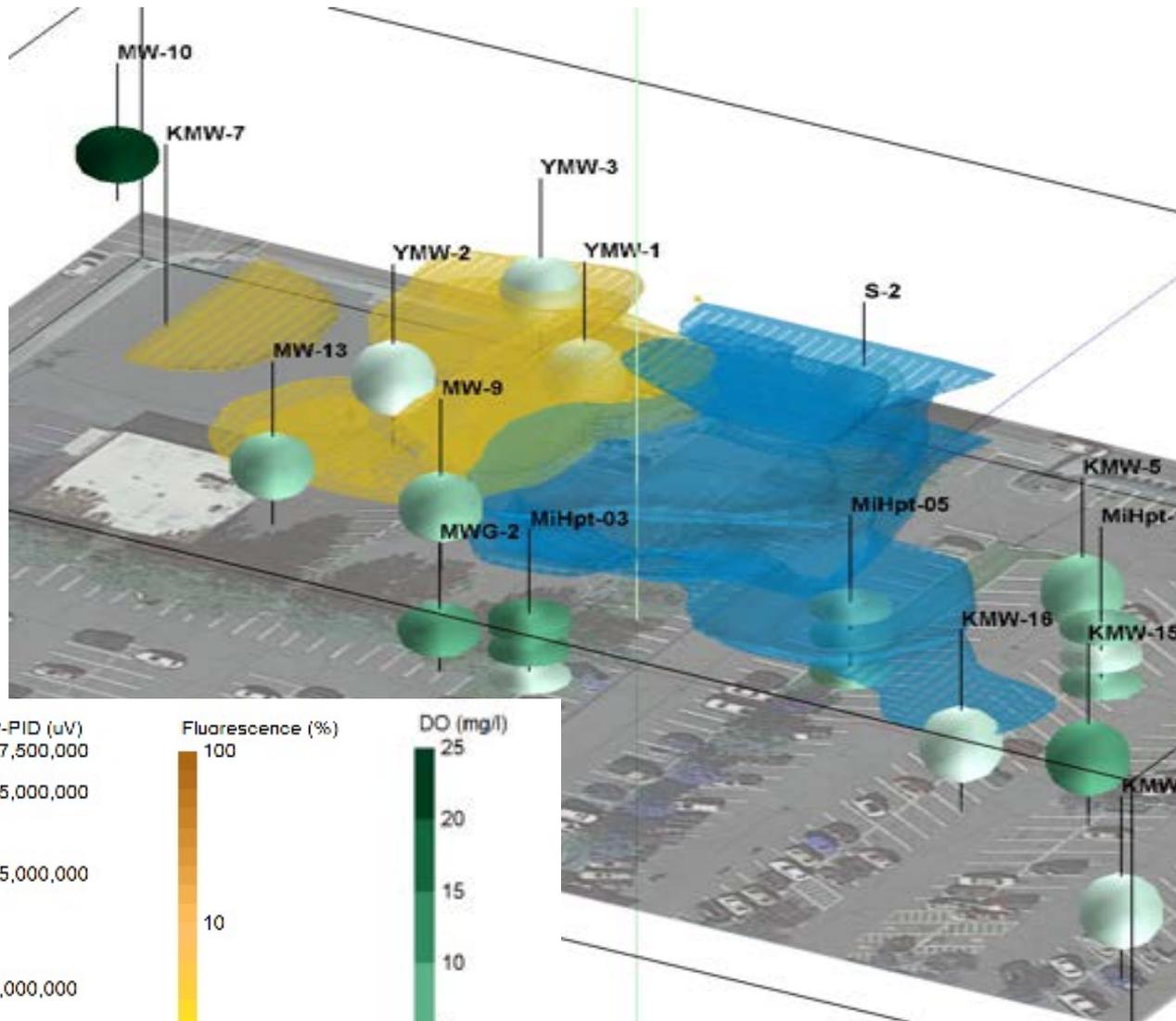
YMW-1

YMW

KMW-5

MW

KMW-14

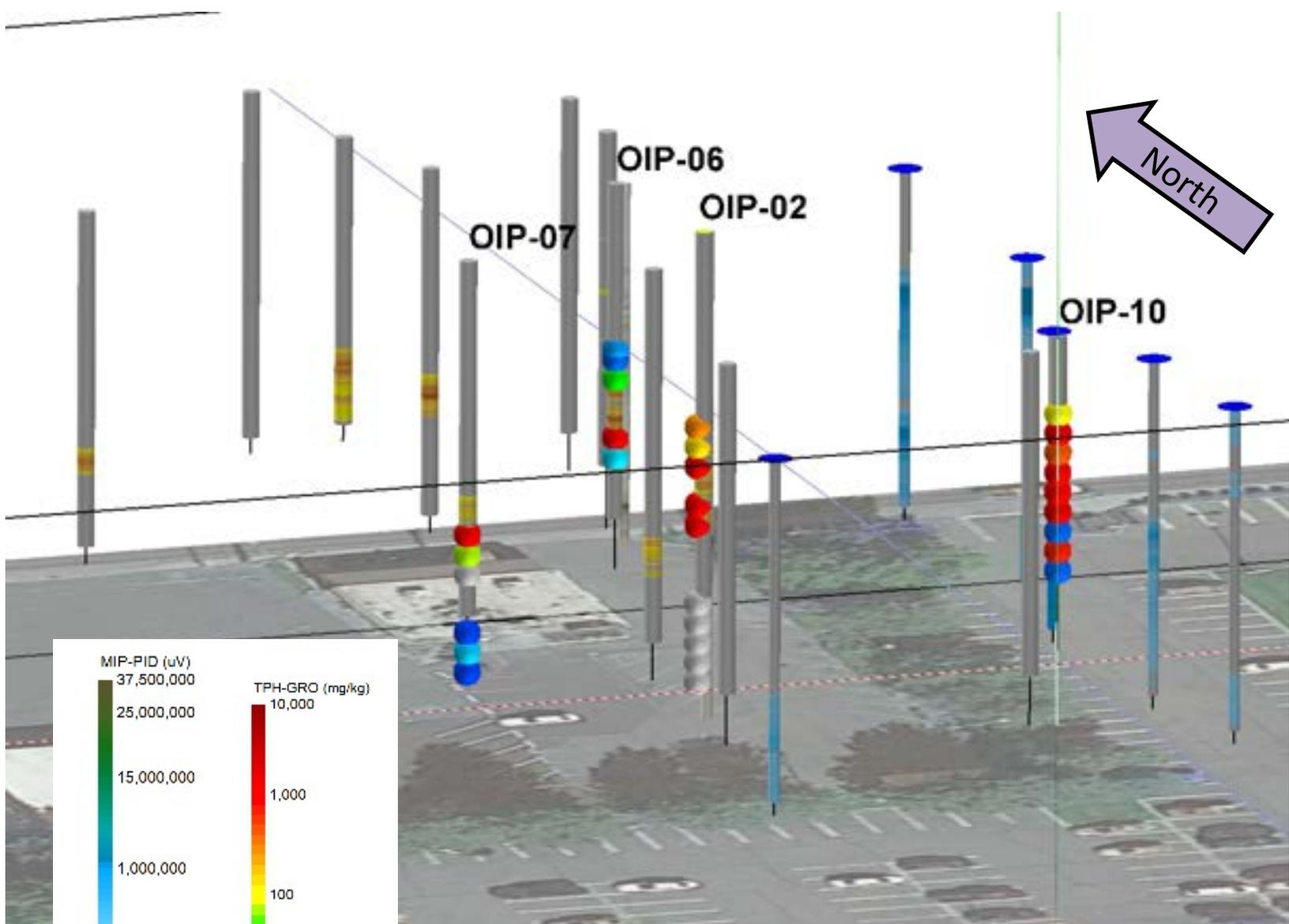


# Dissolved Oxygen vs LNAPL



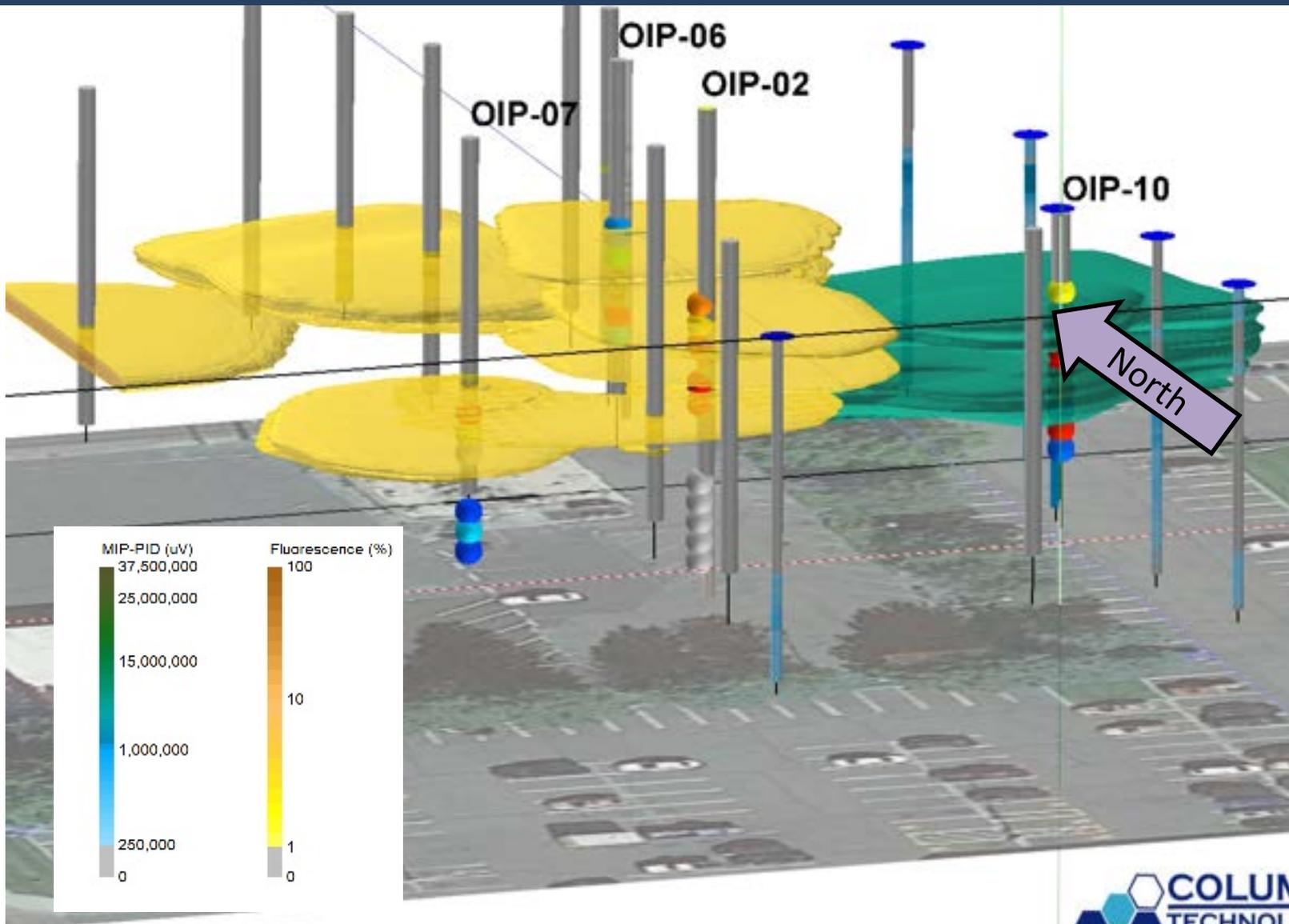
# Soil Evaluation

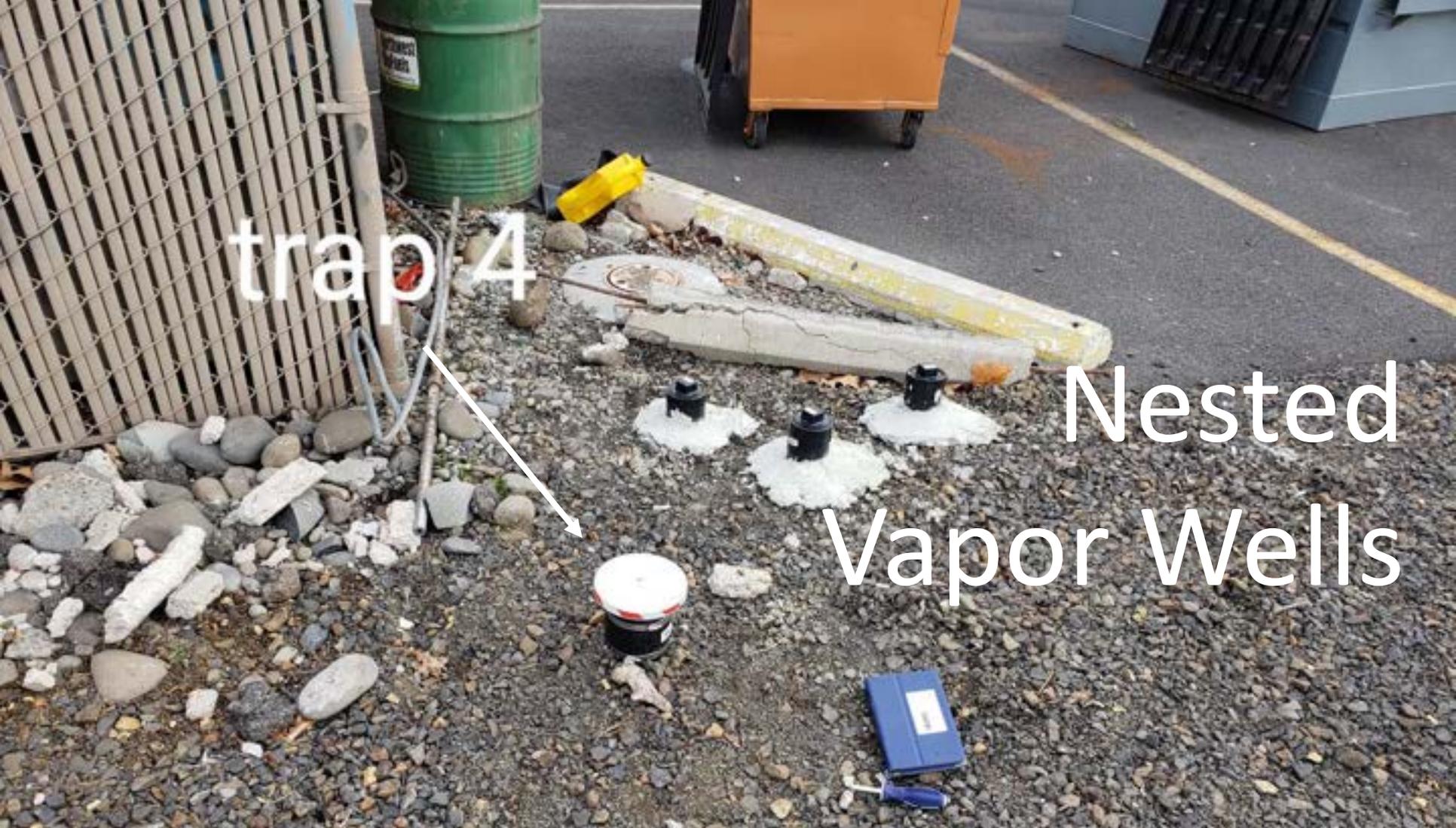




## Soil Sample Results

# OIP + MIP-PID vs Soil Results

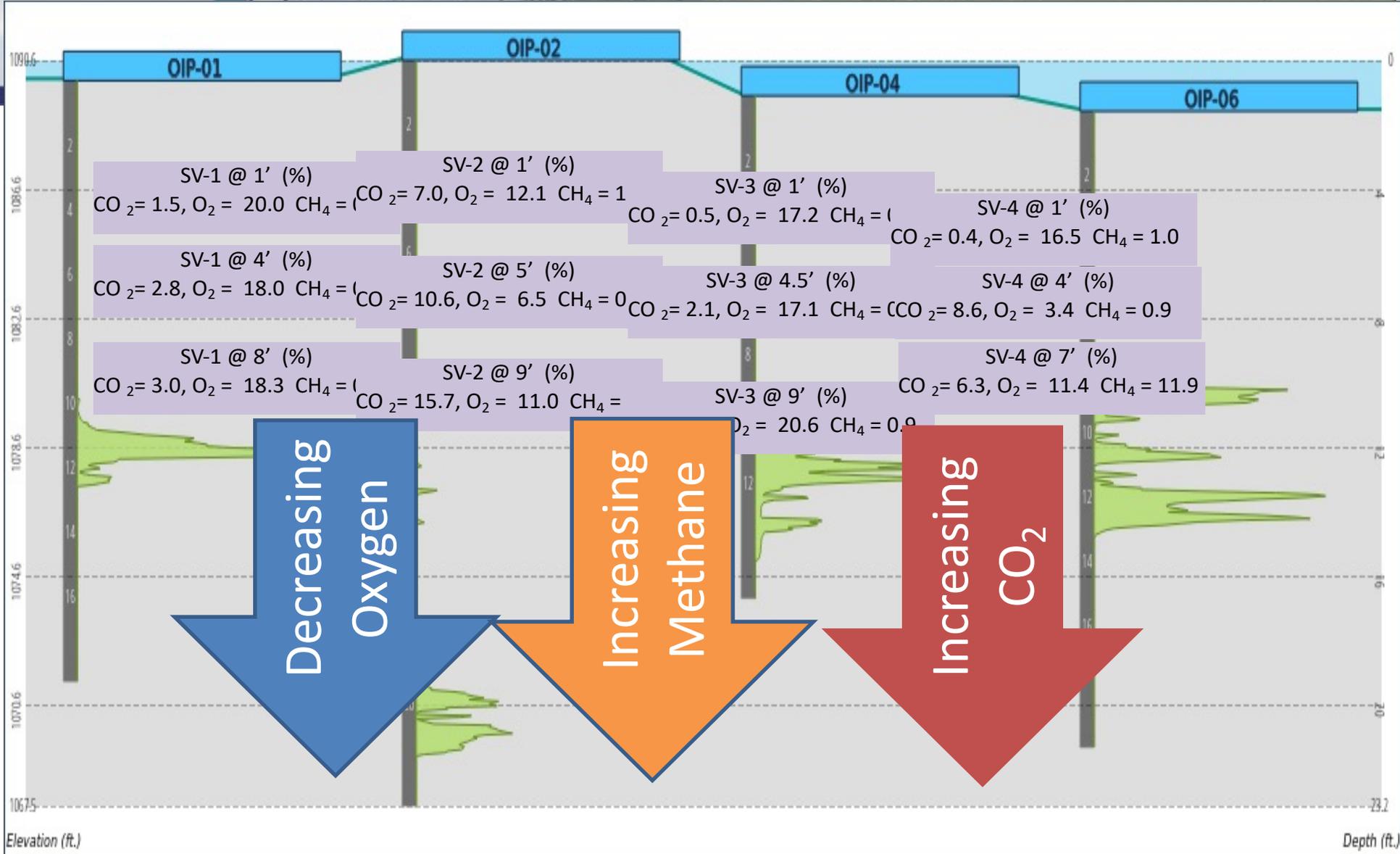




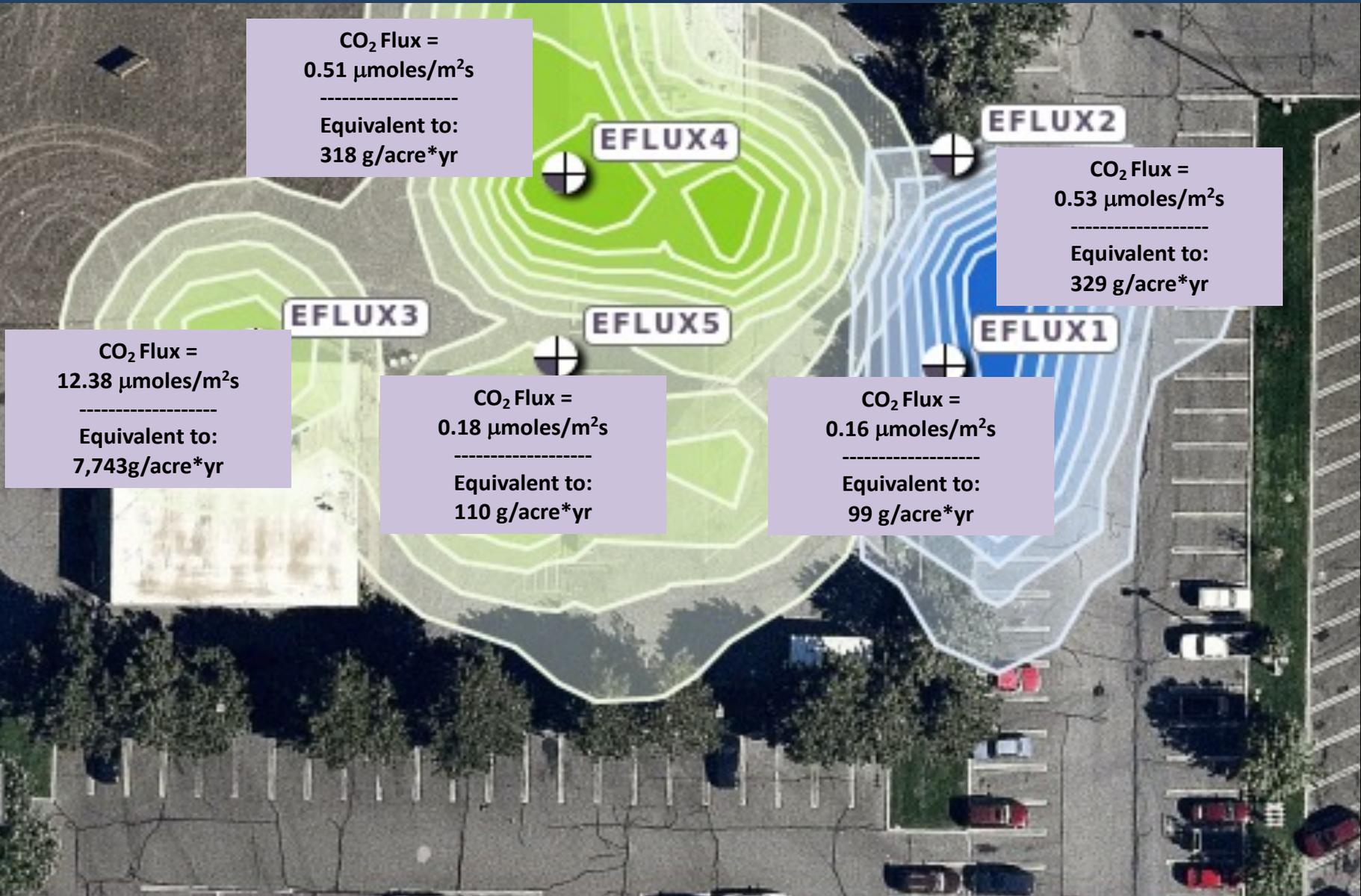
trap 4

Nested  
Vapor Wells

Vapor Phase Evaluation



# Measuring NSZD



CO<sub>2</sub> Flux =  
0.51  $\mu\text{moles}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$

-----  
Equivalent to:  
318  $\text{g}/\text{acre}\cdot\text{yr}$

EFLUX2

CO<sub>2</sub> Flux =  
0.53  $\mu\text{moles}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$

-----  
Equivalent to:  
329  $\text{g}/\text{acre}\cdot\text{yr}$

EFLUX3

CO<sub>2</sub> Flux =  
12.38  $\mu\text{moles}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$

-----  
Equivalent to:  
7,743  $\text{g}/\text{acre}\cdot\text{yr}$

EFLUX5

CO<sub>2</sub> Flux =  
0.18  $\mu\text{moles}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$

-----  
Equivalent to:  
110  $\text{g}/\text{acre}\cdot\text{yr}$

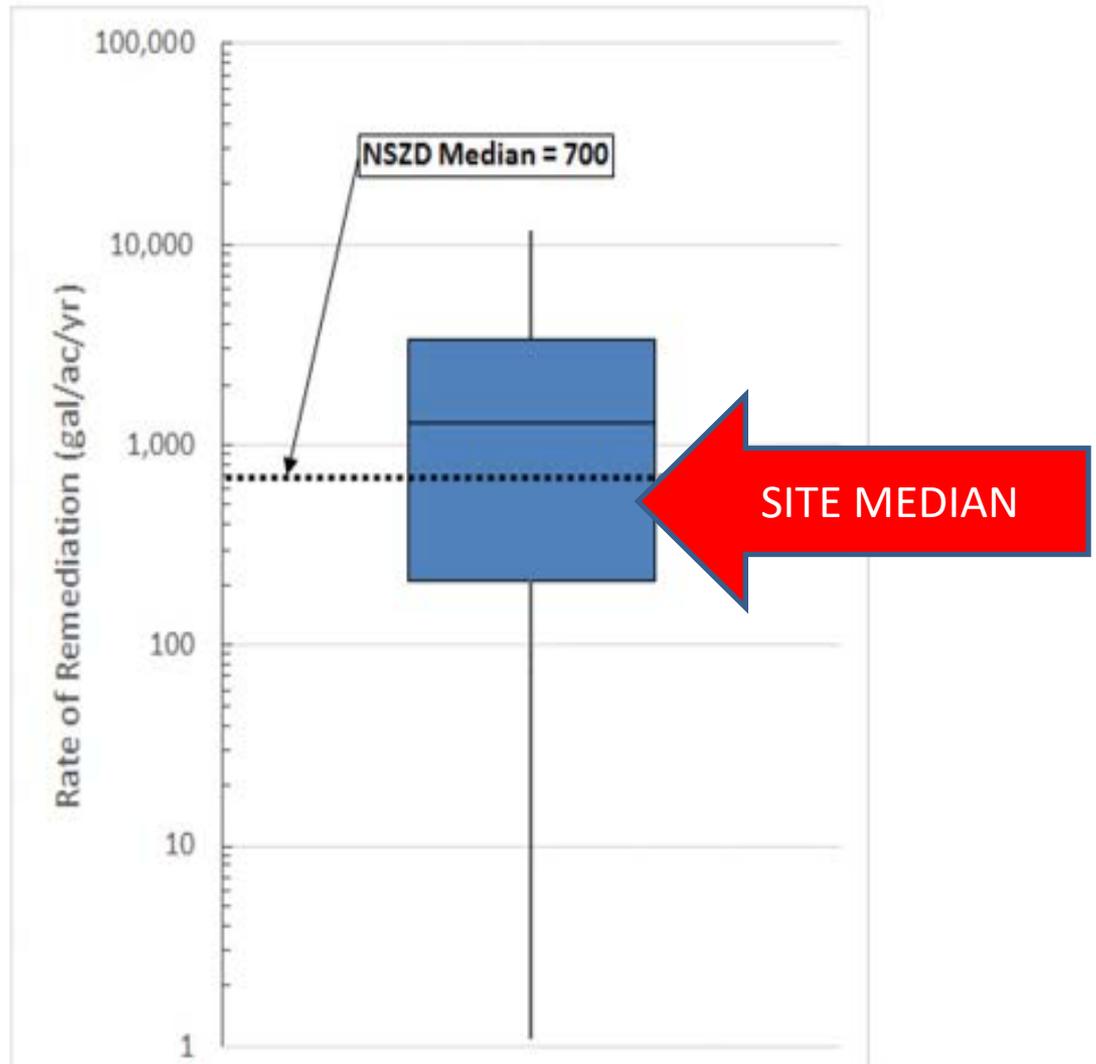
EFLUX1

CO<sub>2</sub> Flux =  
0.16  $\mu\text{moles}/\text{m}^2\text{s}$

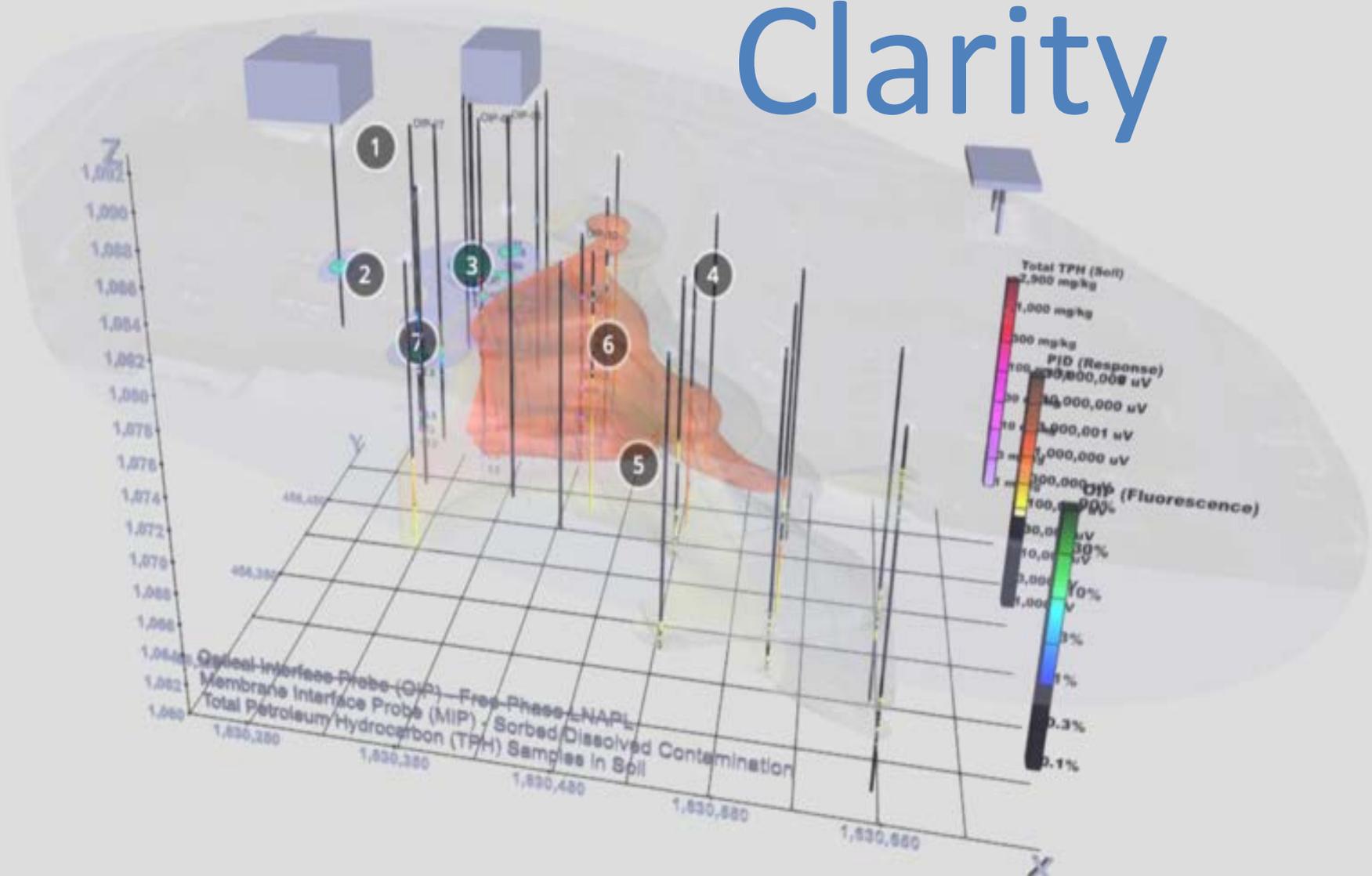
-----  
Equivalent to:  
99  $\text{g}/\text{acre}\cdot\text{yr}$

# Cleaning Power of NSZD

## Cleanup Costs



# Clarity



# Key Takeaway Points

- **Scale appropriate** information is critical to minimizing the uncertainty in the Site Conceptual Model
- Understanding the **soil matrix** is critical
- **Remediation parameters** are not the same as risk parameters (i.e. BTEX in water does not represent TPH mass in soil)
- **Multiple lines of evidence** are required – much more than monitoring well data

**THINK.**  
**RESTORE,**  
*Sustainably*



John Sohl, President/CEO  
COLUMBIA Technologies  
[www.columbiatechnologies.com](http://www.columbiatechnologies.com)  
[jsohl@columbiatechnologies.com](mailto:jsohl@columbiatechnologies.com)  
+1-301-455-7644

# Next Steps

# ITRC 17 LNAPL Remedial Technologies

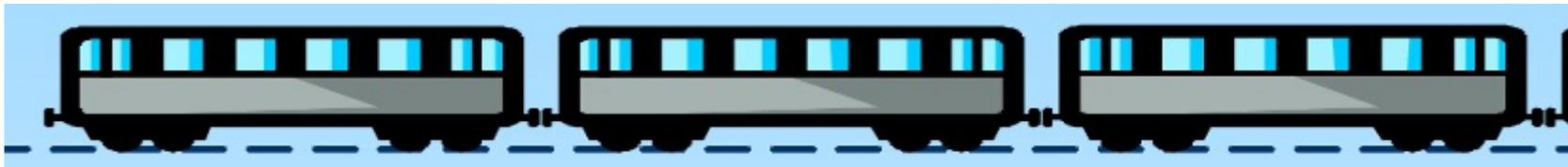
- Excavation
- Physical containment
- In-situ soil mixing
- Natural source zone depletion (NSZD)
- Air sparging/soil vapor extraction (AS/SVE)
- LNAPL skimming
- Bioslurping/EFR
- Dual pump liquid extraction
- Multi-phase extraction, dual pump
- Multi-phase extraction, single pump
- Water/hot water flooding
- In situ chemical oxidation
- Surfactant- enhanced subsurface remediation
- Cosolvent flushing
- Steam/hot-air injection
- Radio frequency heating
- Three and six-phase electrical resistance heating

*Courtesy of:*



# Treatment “Trains”

1. LNAPL mass recovery
2. LNAPL phase change remediation
3. LNAPL mass control
4. LNAPL phase change remediation and mass recovery



**Dual pump  
liquid extraction**

**Air sparging/soil vapor  
extraction (AS/SVE)**

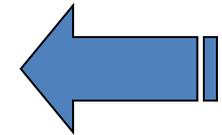
**Natural source zone  
depletion (NSZD)**

*Courtesy of:*



# What additional information do we need?

- **Risk-Based Drivers**
  - Reduce risk-level or hazard
  - Exposure pathway/LNAPL specific
- **Non-Risk Factors (examples)**
  - Reduce LNAPL volatilization or dissolution
  - Reduce source longevity
  - Reduce LNAPL mass or well thickness
  - Reduce LNAPL transmissivity
  - Abate LNAPL mobility
  - Corporate policy – liability/risk tolerance
- **Regulatory driver:** “recover to maximum extent practicable” – State’s interpretation?



**Set Goals  
for each  
applicable  
Objective**

***A good LCSM supports  
identification of  
appropriate Objectives  
and setting relevant Goals***

Courtesy of:

