

Perspectives on Green Infrastructure: Where We Have Been and Where We Are Going

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12th Annual North Country Stormwater Trade Show and
Conference

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Lake George, NY

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE
STORMWATER CENTER



Overview

- General overview of the UNHSC
- Overview of stormwater management practice performance
 - Hydraulic
 - Hydrologic
 - Water Quality
- Economics and costs of LID
- GI practice maintenance
- Subsurface gravel wetlands
- Modern trends in bioretention practices
- Performance of undersized systems

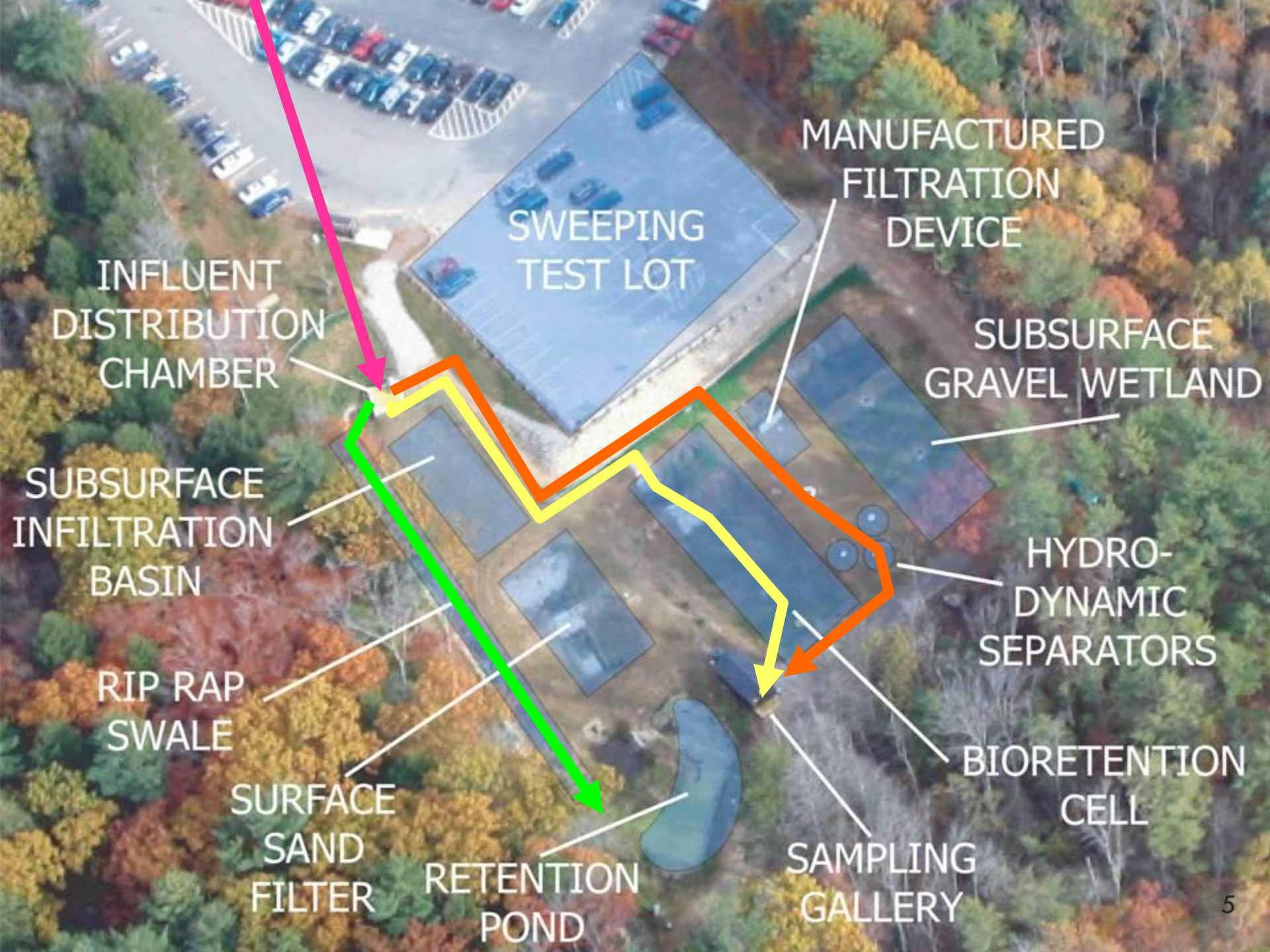
General overview of the UNHSC

BMP Performance Monitoring

Research Field Facility at UNH

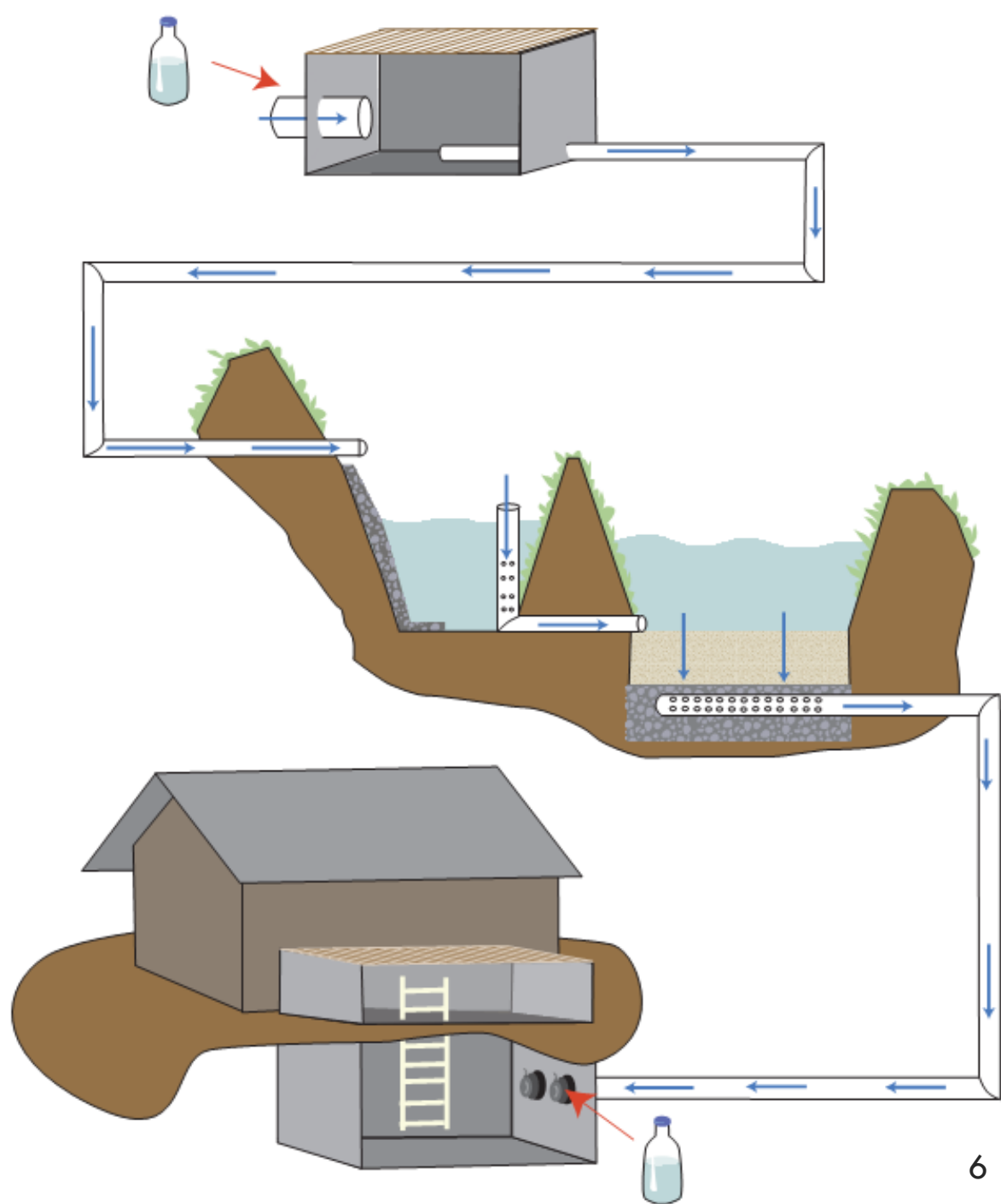
$T_c \sim 19$ minutes





Parallel Performance Evaluation

- Each system uniformly sized to treat 1" runoff for 1 acre of impervious area
- $WQV = 3300 \text{ cf}$
- $Q_{wqv} = 1 \text{ cfs}$
- Uniform contaminant loading
- Uniform storm event characteristics
- Systems lined for mass balance
- Long term record of hydrology and contaminants





Hydrodynamic Separator



Isolator Row



Subsurface Infiltration



Filter Unit



Porous Asphalt



Pervious Concrete



Retention Pond



Stone Swale



Veg Swale



Gravel Wetland



Sand Filter

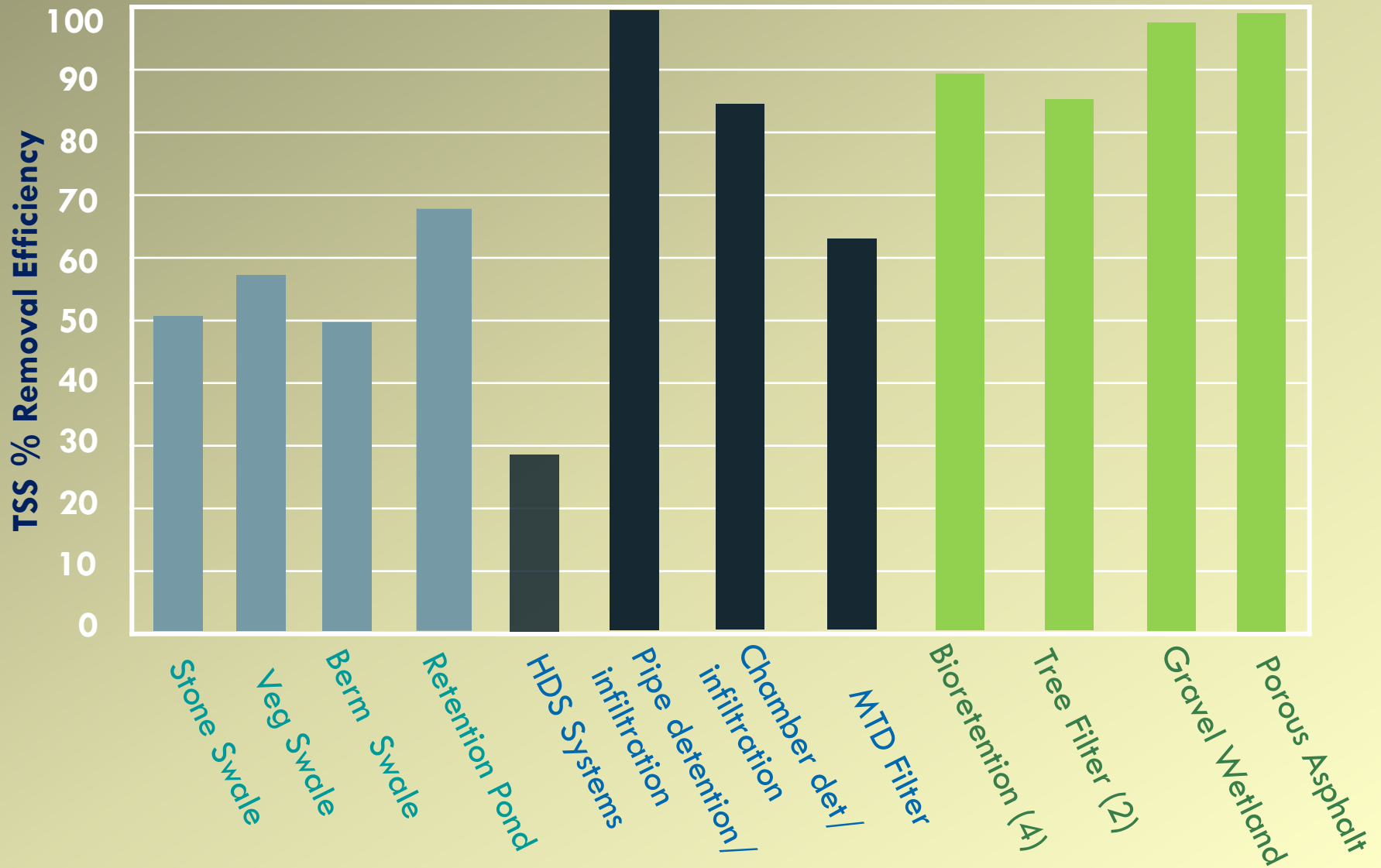


Bioretention Unit

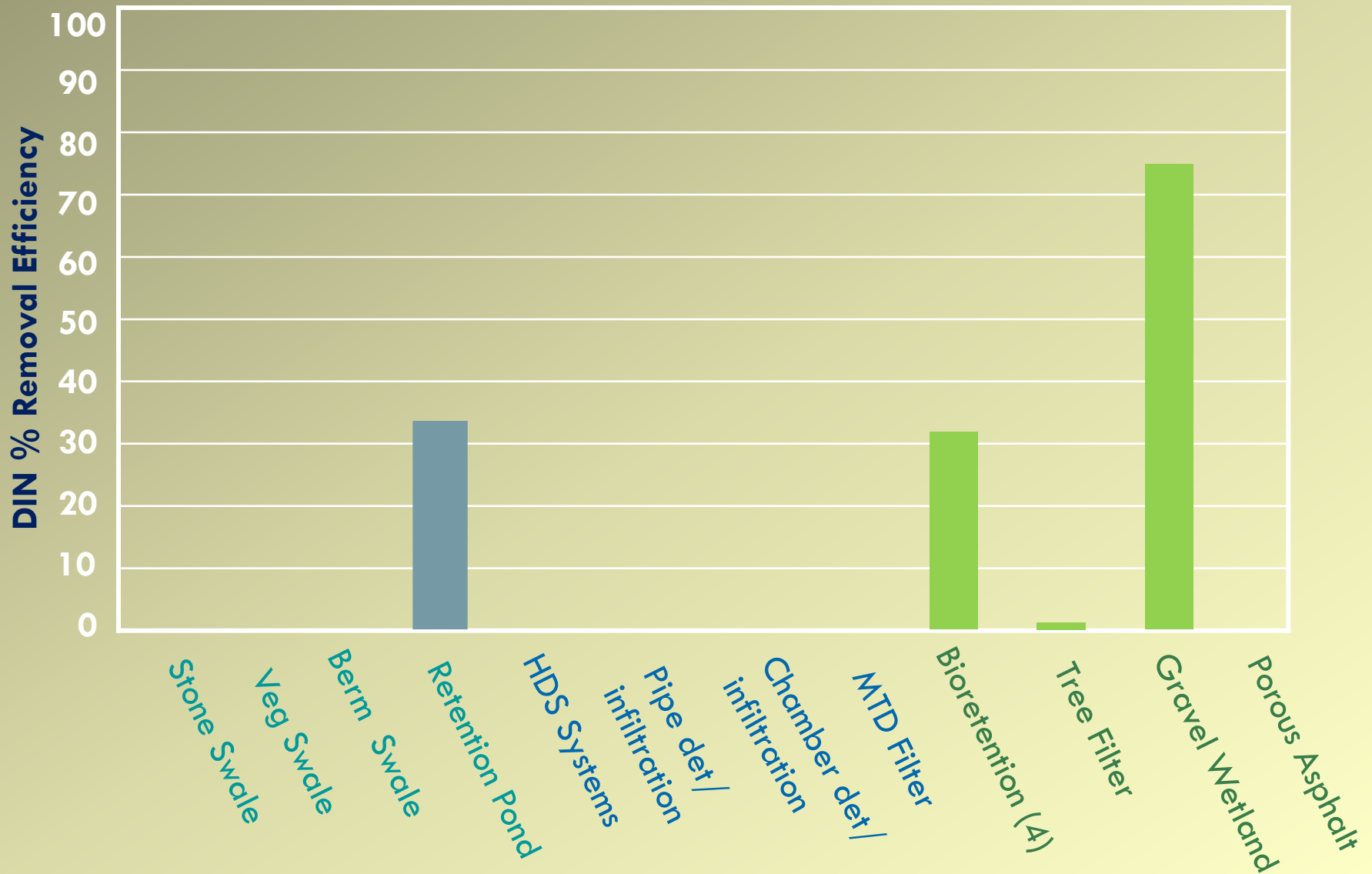


Tree Filter

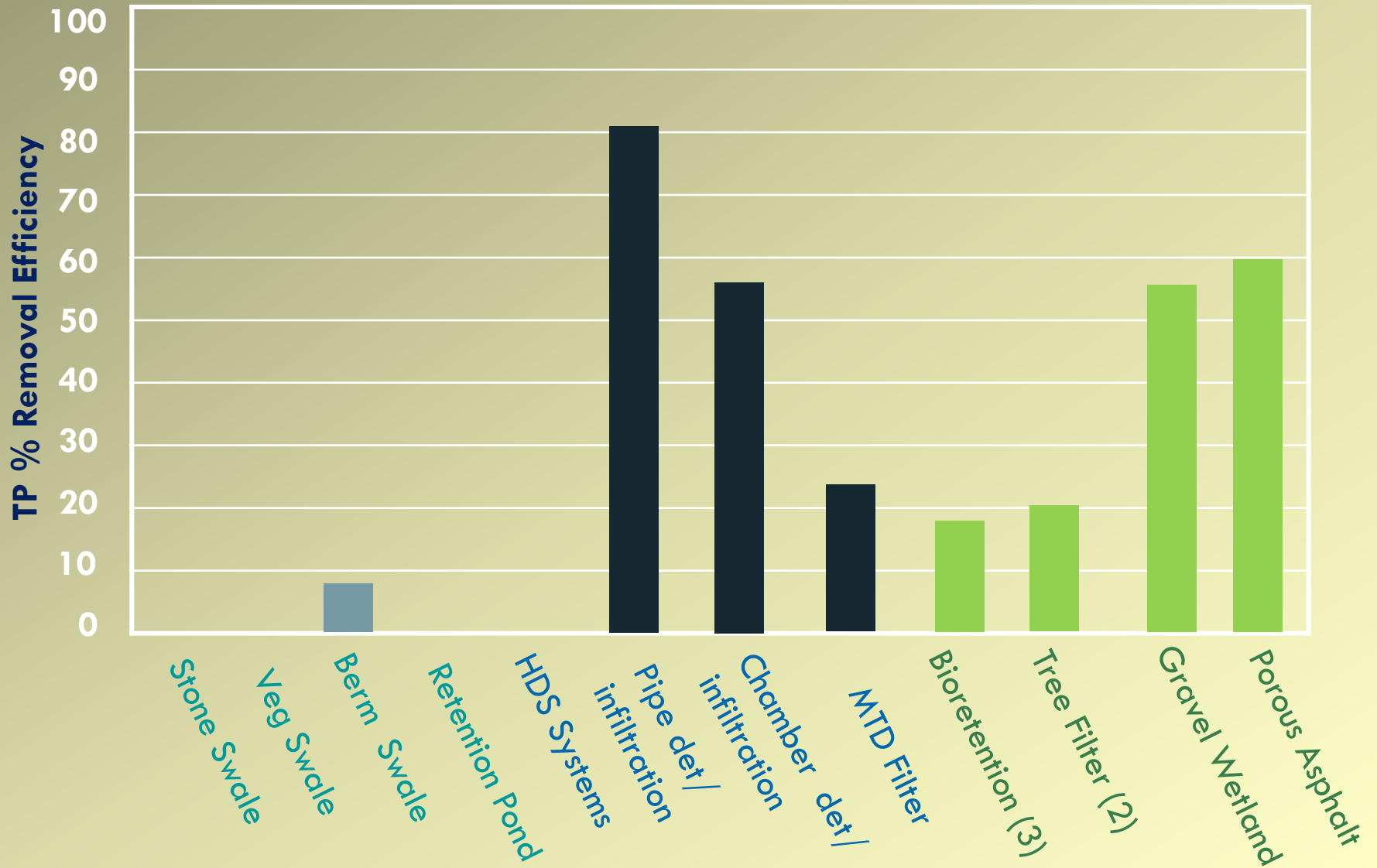
TSS Removal Efficiencies



DIN Removal Efficiencies

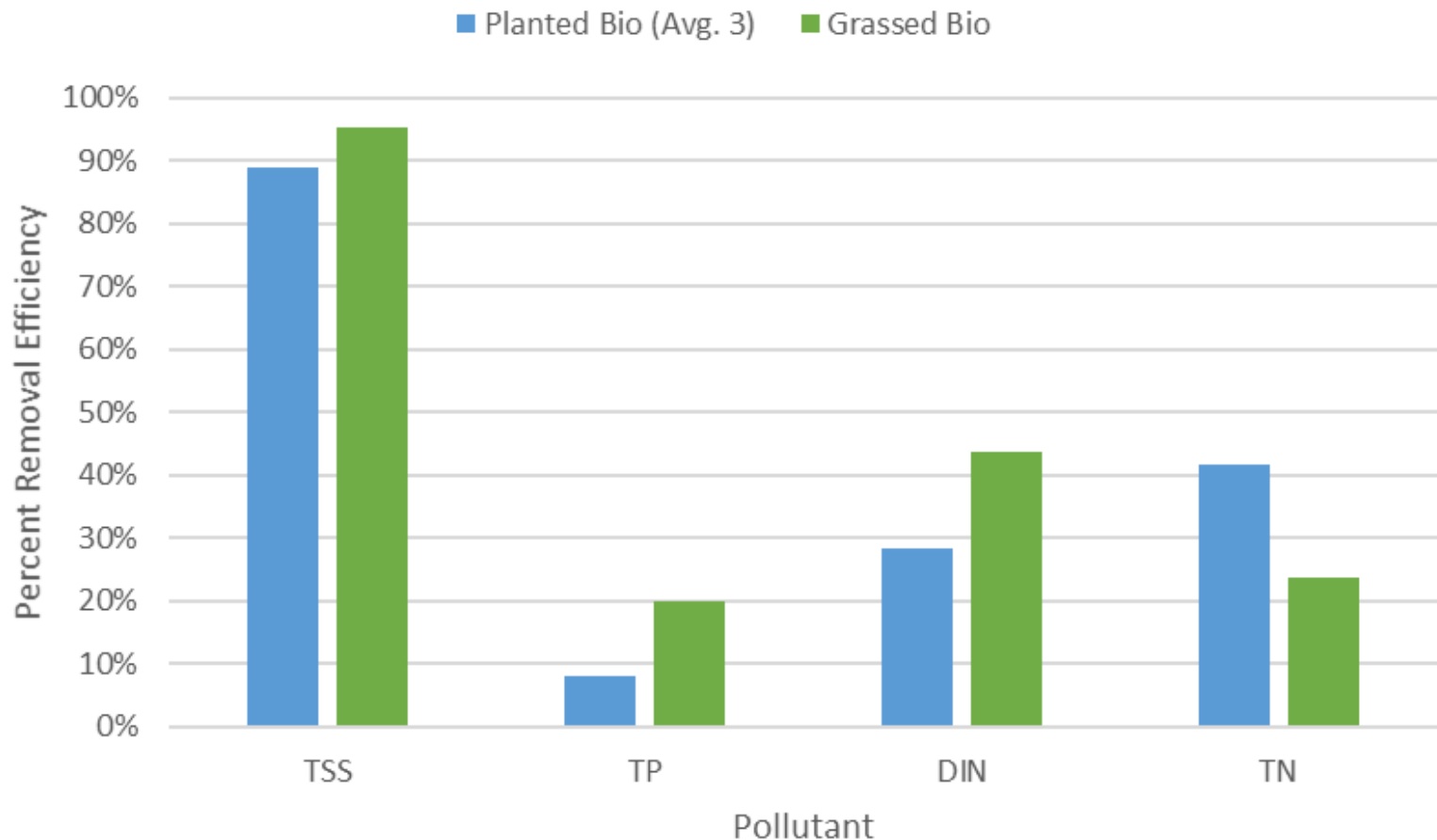


TP Removal Efficiencies



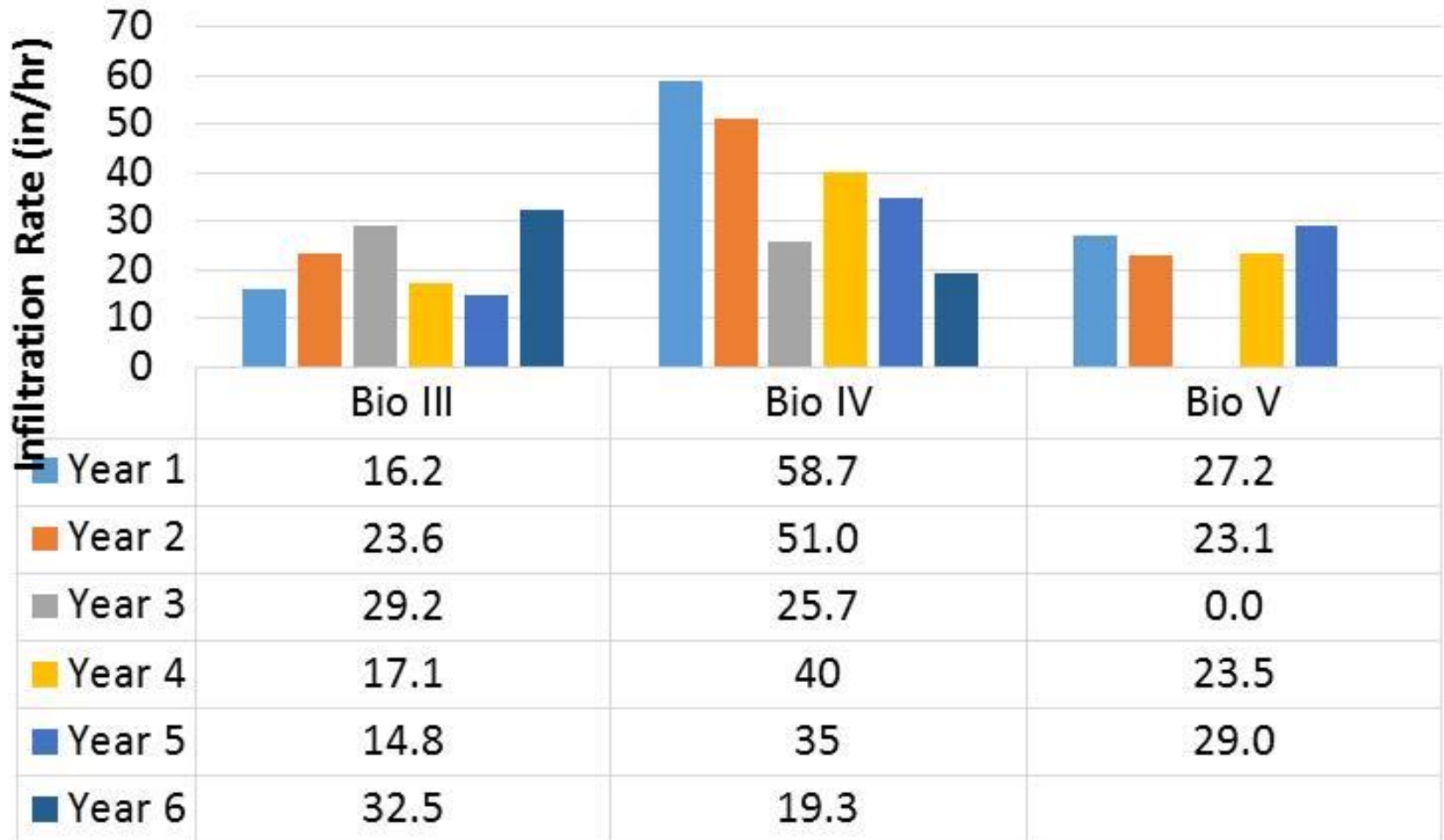
The Role of vegetation

Comparison of Pollutant Removal Efficiency
Planted vs Grassed Bioretention



Long-term Infiltration Testing

Infiltration Rates over Time



Economics and Costs



Boulder Hills, Pelham, NH



- 2009 Installation of 900 ft of first PA private residential road in Northeast
- Site is nearly Zero discharge (HSG A soils)
- LID subdivision 55+ Active Adult Community
- PA Cost 25% greater per ton installed than DMA

Conventional Site Design



LID Design



Boulder Hills Specs

- Built on 9% grade
- Avoided use of 1616 ft of curbing, 785 ft pipe, 8 catch-basins, 2 detention basins, 2 outlet control structures
- 1.3 acres less of land clearing
- Conventional SWM = \$789,500

LID SWM = \$740,300

\$49,000 savings (6.2%)

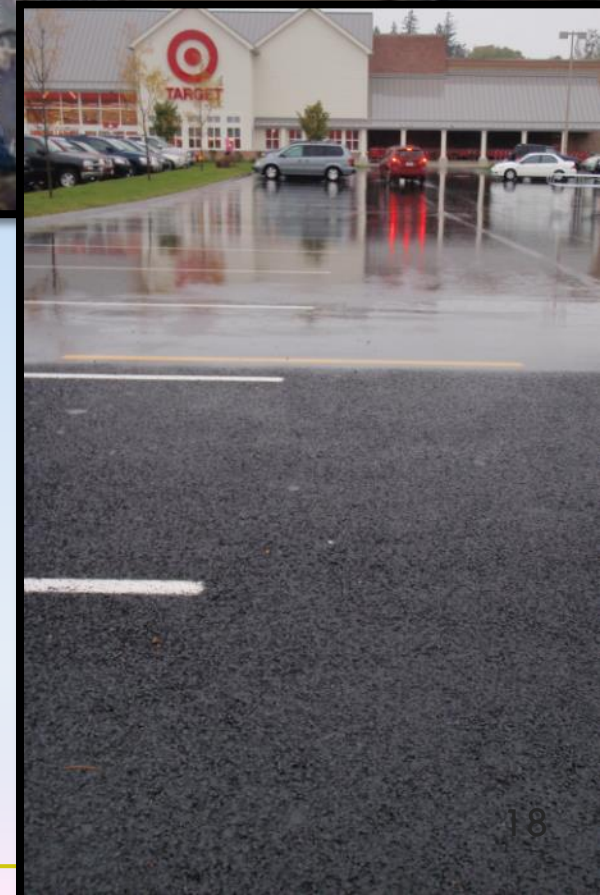
Comparison of Unit Costs

Item	Conventional	LID	Difference
SITE PREPARATION	\$23,200.00	\$18,000.00	-\$5,200.00
TEMP. EROSION CONTROL	\$5,800.00	\$3,800.00	-\$2,000.00
DRAINAGE	\$92,400.00	\$20,100.00	-\$72,300.00
ROADWAY	\$82,000.00	\$128,000.00	\$46,000.00
DRIVEWAYS	\$19,700.00	\$30,100.00	\$10,400.00
CURBING	\$6,500.00	\$0.00	-\$6,500.00
PERM. EROSION CONTROL	\$70,000.00	\$50,600.00	-\$19,400.00
ADDITIONAL ITEMS	\$489,700.00	\$489,700.00	\$0.00
BUILDINGS	\$3,600,000.00	\$3,600,000.00	\$0.00
PROJECT TOTAL	\$4,389,300.00	\$4,340,300.00	-\$49,000.00

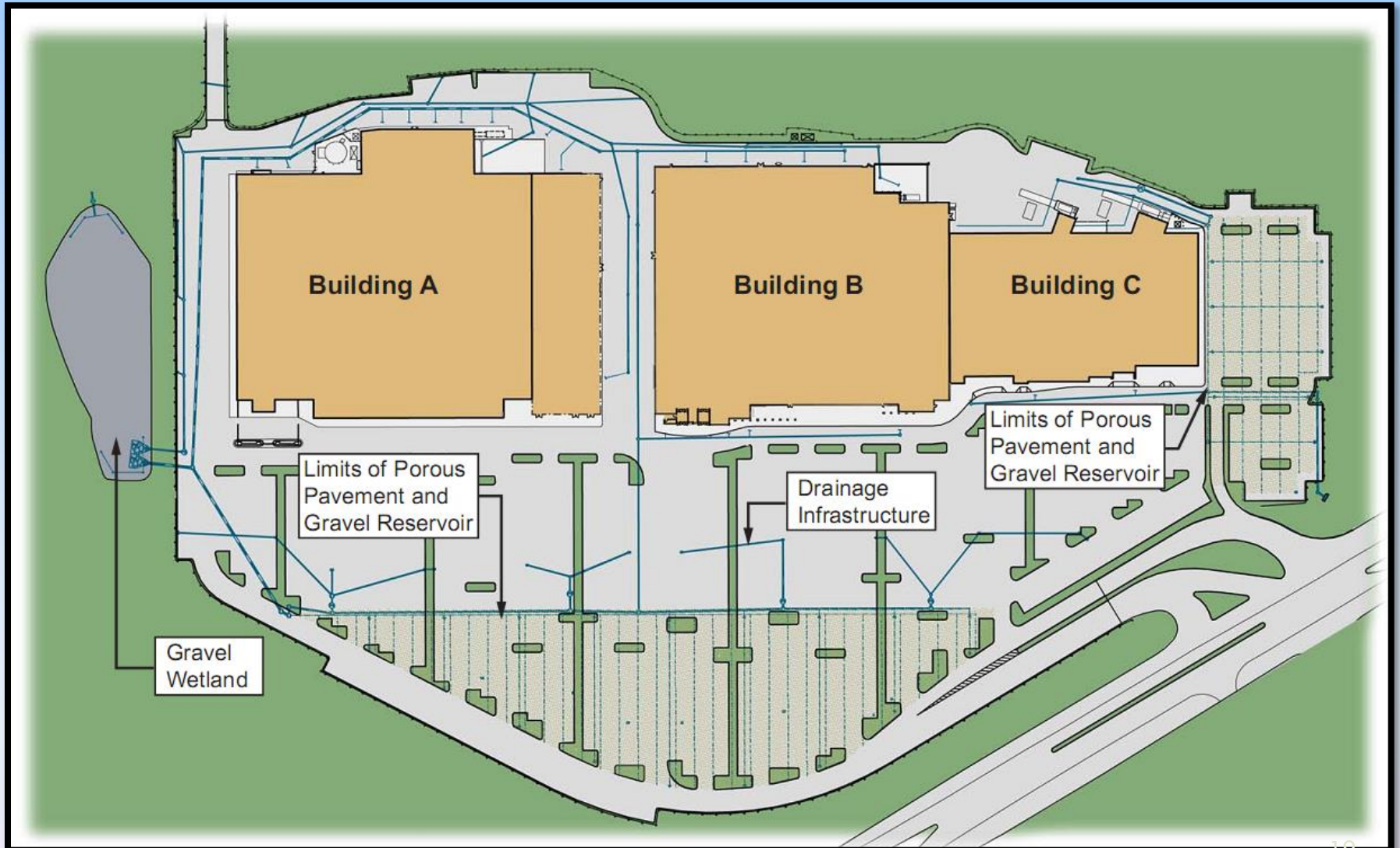
6% savings on total cost of SW infrastructure for a ~zero discharge site

Greenland Meadows Commercial, Greenland, NH

- “Gold-Star” Commercial Development
- Cost of doing business near Impaired Waters/303D
- Brownfields site
- Proposed site >10,000 Average Daily Traffic count on >30 acres



Greenland Meadows





Comparison of Unit Costs

Item	Conventional Option	LID Option	Cost Difference
MOBILIZATION / DEMOLITION	\$555,500	\$555,500	\$0
SITE PREPARATION	\$167,000	\$167,000	\$0
SEDIMENT / EROSION CONTROL	\$378,000	\$378,000	\$0
EARTHWORK	\$2,174,500	\$2,103,500	-\$71,000
PAVING	\$1,843,500	\$2,727,500	\$884,000
STORMWATER MANAGEMENT	\$2,751,800	\$1,008,800	-\$1,743,000
ADDITIONAL WORK-RELATED ACTIVITY (utilities, lighting, water & sanitary sewer service, fencing, landscaping, etc.)	\$2,720,000	\$2,720,000	\$0
PROJECT TOTAL	\$10,590,300	\$9,660,300	-\$930,000

LID Retrofit: UNH Parking Lot Bioretention

- Simple, used existing infrastructure and median
- \$14,000/acre retrofit for everything
- Labor and install was \$8,500/ac (2012)
- Materials and plantings \$5,500/ac



School Street School LID Retrofit

Background:

- School Street School is 0.6 acres of impervious surface with no stormwater management, and 64% IC
- No drainage structures exist resulting in sheet flow runoff from all impervious areas during storms to playground
 - Localized flooding
 - Reduced use of playground facilities
 - Damage to adjacent road and sidewalk
 - Water quality impacts to Willow Brook

Retrofit Accomplishments

- Improved drainage and usability
- Intercept runoff, divert from principle use areas (playground and parking lot)
- Store, treat, infiltrate, convey
- Increased pedestrian safety (reduced ponding, snow and ice).
- Retrofits treated % 80 of IC
- $IC_{\text{initial}} = 64\% \rightarrow EIC 13\%$

Existing Conditions



LID Installations

Pervious concrete sidewalk

Porous asphalt BB Court

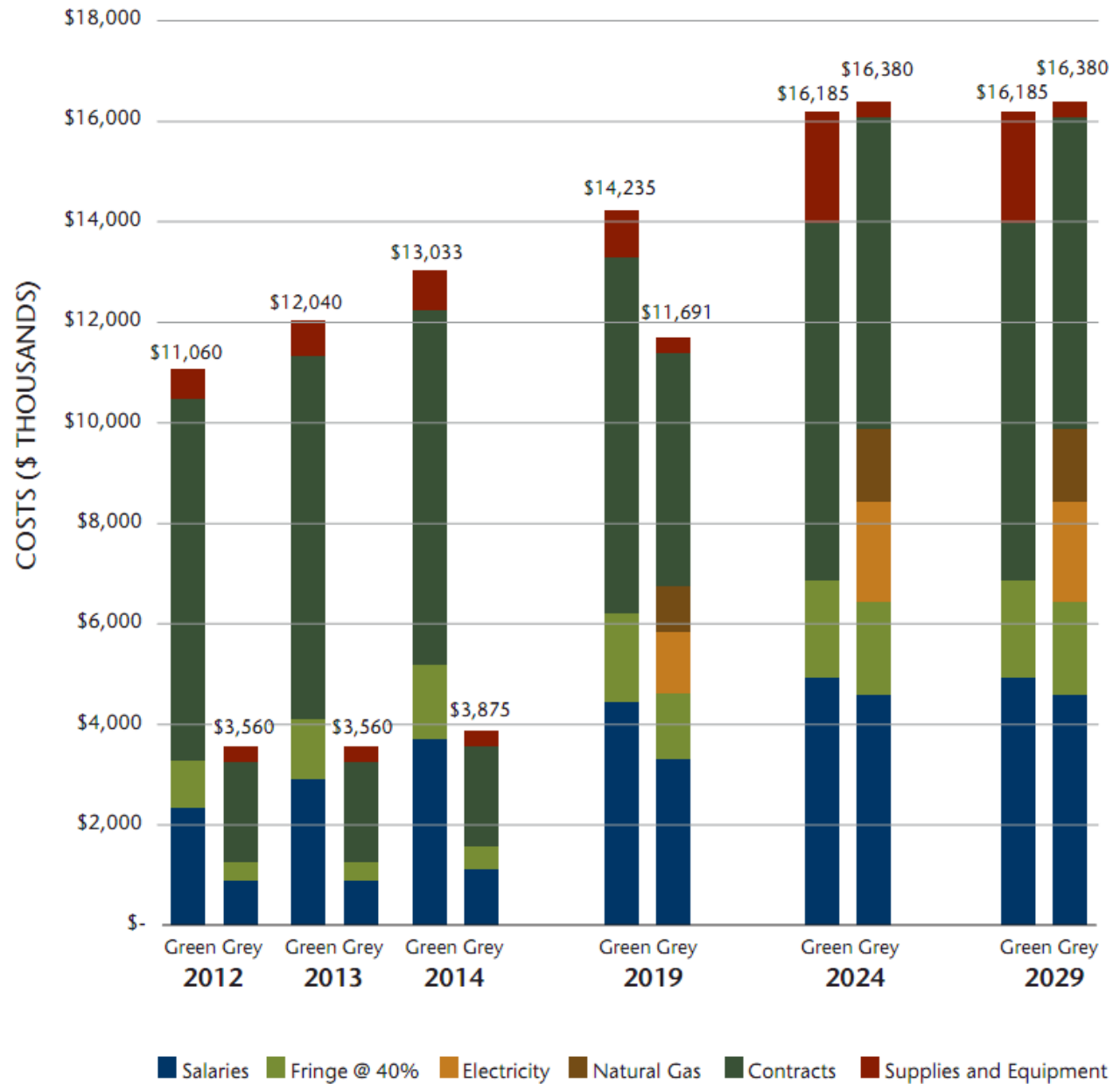
Raingardens

Dry well



NYC O&M Costs CSO Control Scenarios

- Funds for labor, supplies, and equipment
- Replacing energy demands of grey infrastructure



Comparison between LID and Conventional Volume Reduction & Volume Installation Costs

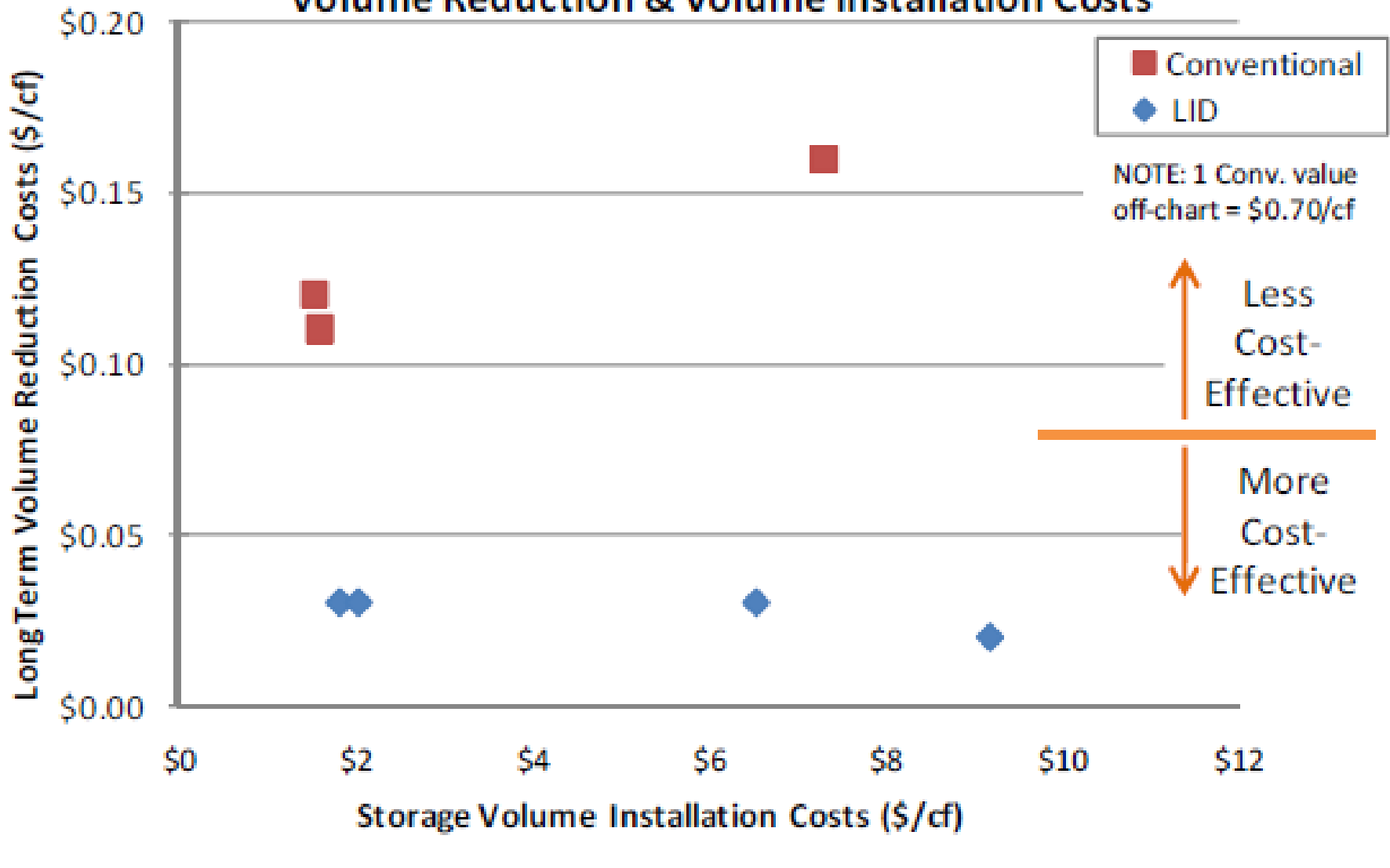


Figure #. BMP Long Term Volume Reduction Cost vs. Storage Volume Installation Cost

GI practice maintenance



Critical components of a best- case scenario:

1. Appropriate Design

2. Installation

.... Then Maintenance

People who pay for the maintenance or maintain the systems should be involved with the design



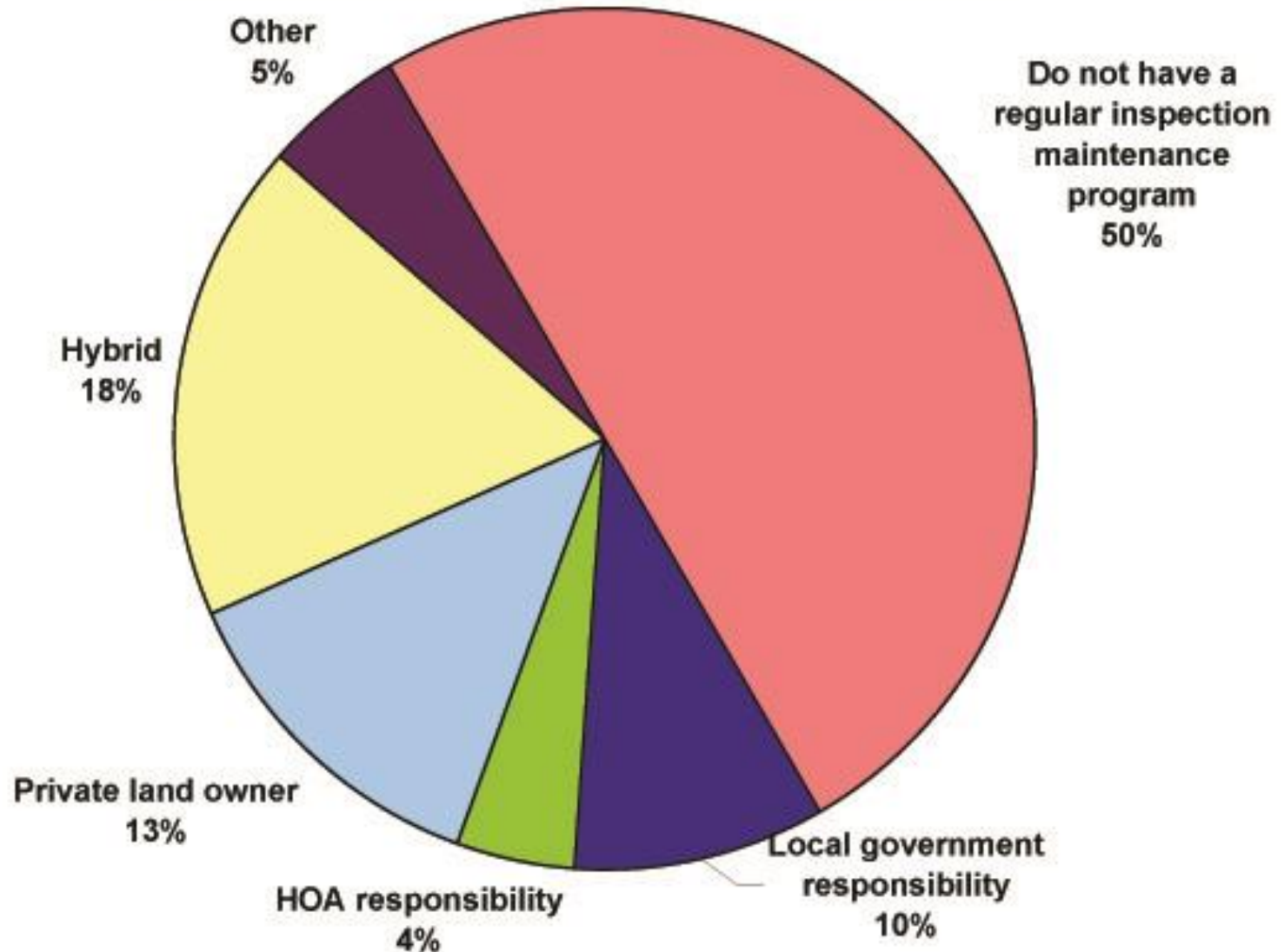
1,000 Pound Gorilla

Who has primary responsibility for maintenance?

- local governments or public agencies?
- States and the Federal Governments?
- Private property owners and associations?



Who is responsible for maintenance of post-construction stormwater facilities? (# of responses = 94)



Uncategorized Maintenance

- + Crack sealing
- + Filling pot holes
- + Resetting curbs
- + Culvert reinforcement/replacement/renewal
- + Pipe lining/repair
- + Median mulching
- + Beautification/sodding
- + Raking
- + Cleaning
- + Sweeping





Factors that impact maintenance costs

- Inspection frequency
- Required routine maintenance (frequency and complexity).
- Specialized equipment and speculative unknowns
- Non-routine and rehabilitative maintenance
- Regulatory climate
- Extreme storms



Stormwater Maintenance

Tools of the trade...



Tools of the trade...



Tools of the trade...



Winter Maintenance

What is it About Winter That is Different?

- Days are shorter
- Colder
- Vegetation dead or in senescence
- Systems may be frozen
- Snow
- Ice



Wintering tree filter



02/28/2015

Wintering infiltration system



What is Winter Maintenance for Conventional Drainage Infrastructure?

- Gutters
- Catch Basins
- Swales
- Ponds
- Storm Sewers



Conventional Systems

Winter Maintenance

- Hope it will function until spring
- Hope it does not freeze up
- Clear ice/snow blockages when they happen
- De-ice as necessary
- Plow
- Snow removal

Basically the same for GI



**Maintenance is in the eyes of the
beholder**



A tale of two raingardens



Maintenance solved?

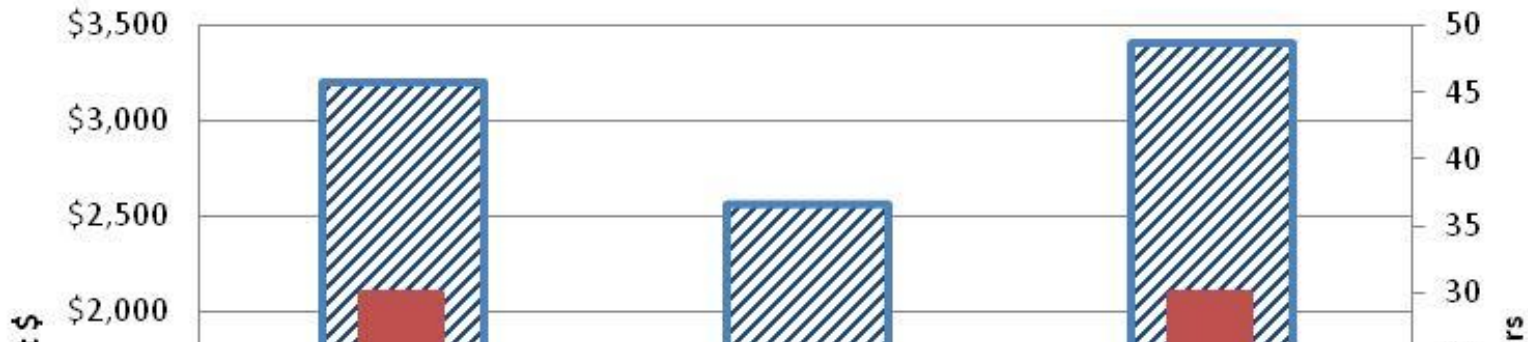


Maintenance Costs - Assumptions

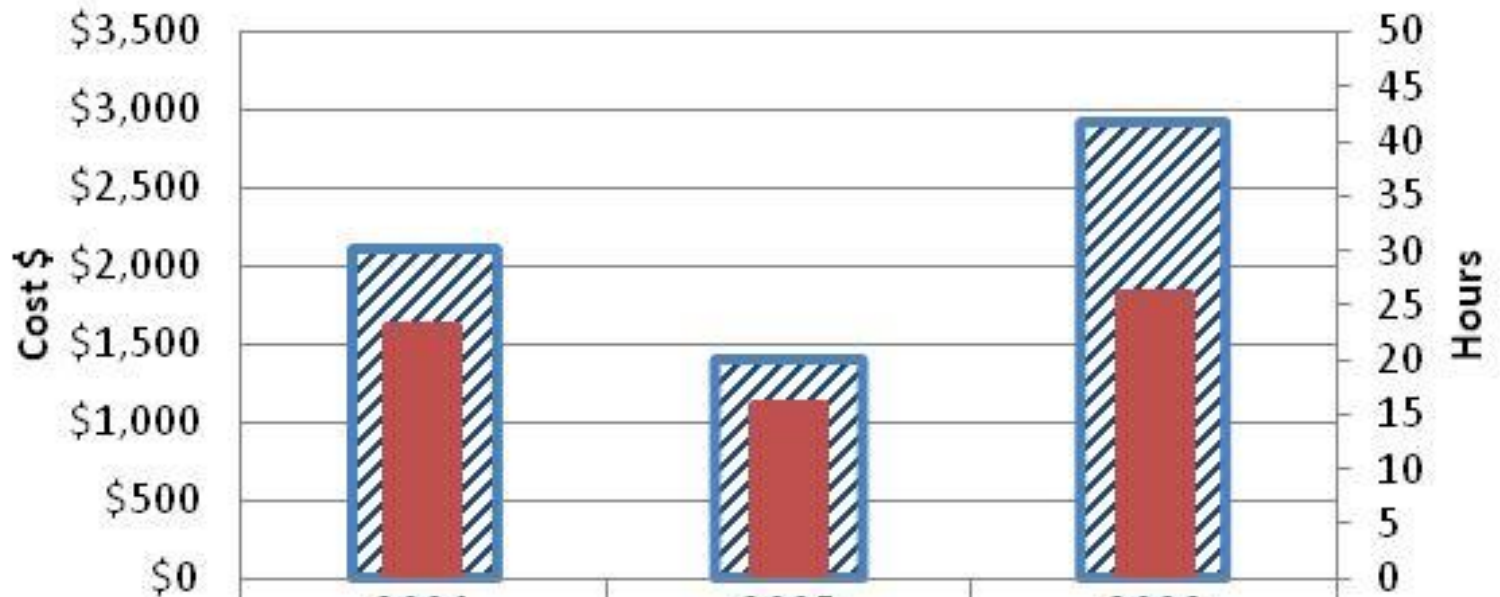
Category of Maintenance	Type of Maintenance	complexity	price (\$)
Reactive maintenance	Structural Repairs	complicated	135
	Partial Rehabilitation	complicated	135
	Rehabilitation	complicated	135
Periodic/Predictive maintenance	Solids and Debris Removal	moderate	115
	Inspection	simple	95
	Mowing	minimal	75
	Vegetation Management	minimal	75
Proactive maintenance	Pavement Vacuuming	moderate	115
	Erosion control & bank stabilization	simple	95



Retention Pond



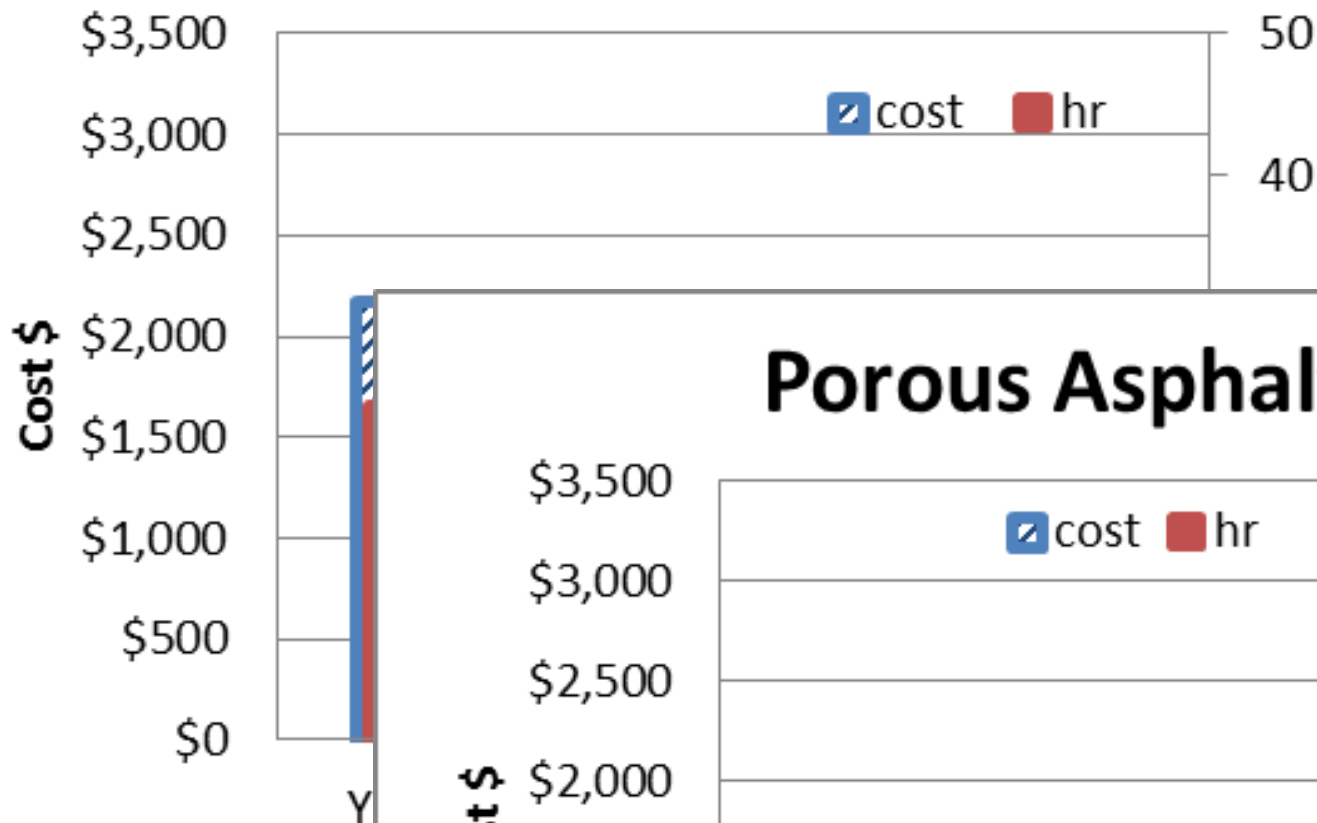
Gravel Wetland



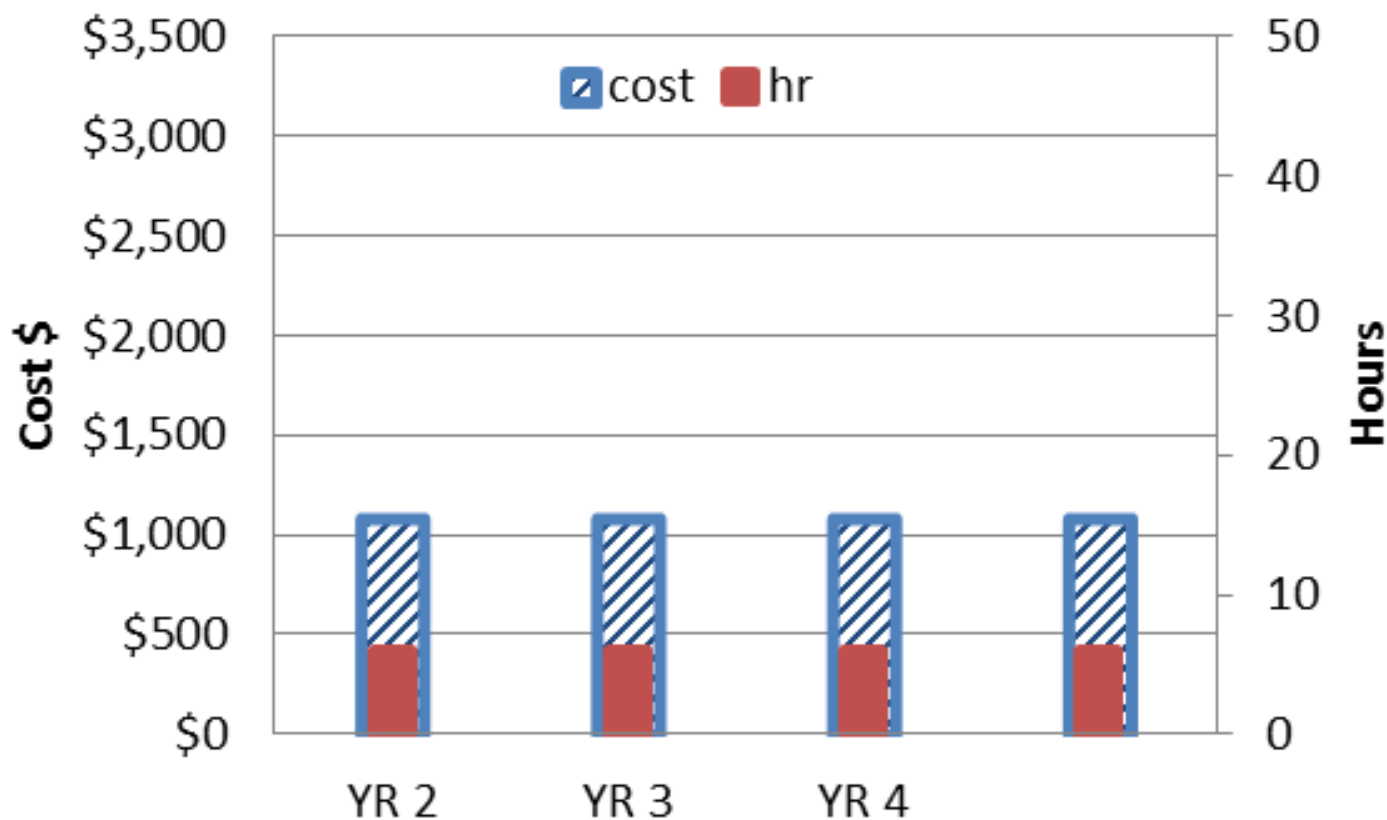
	2004	2005	2006
cost	\$2,105.0	\$1,400.0	\$2,910.0
hr	23.0	16.0	26.0



Bioretention



Porous Asphalt



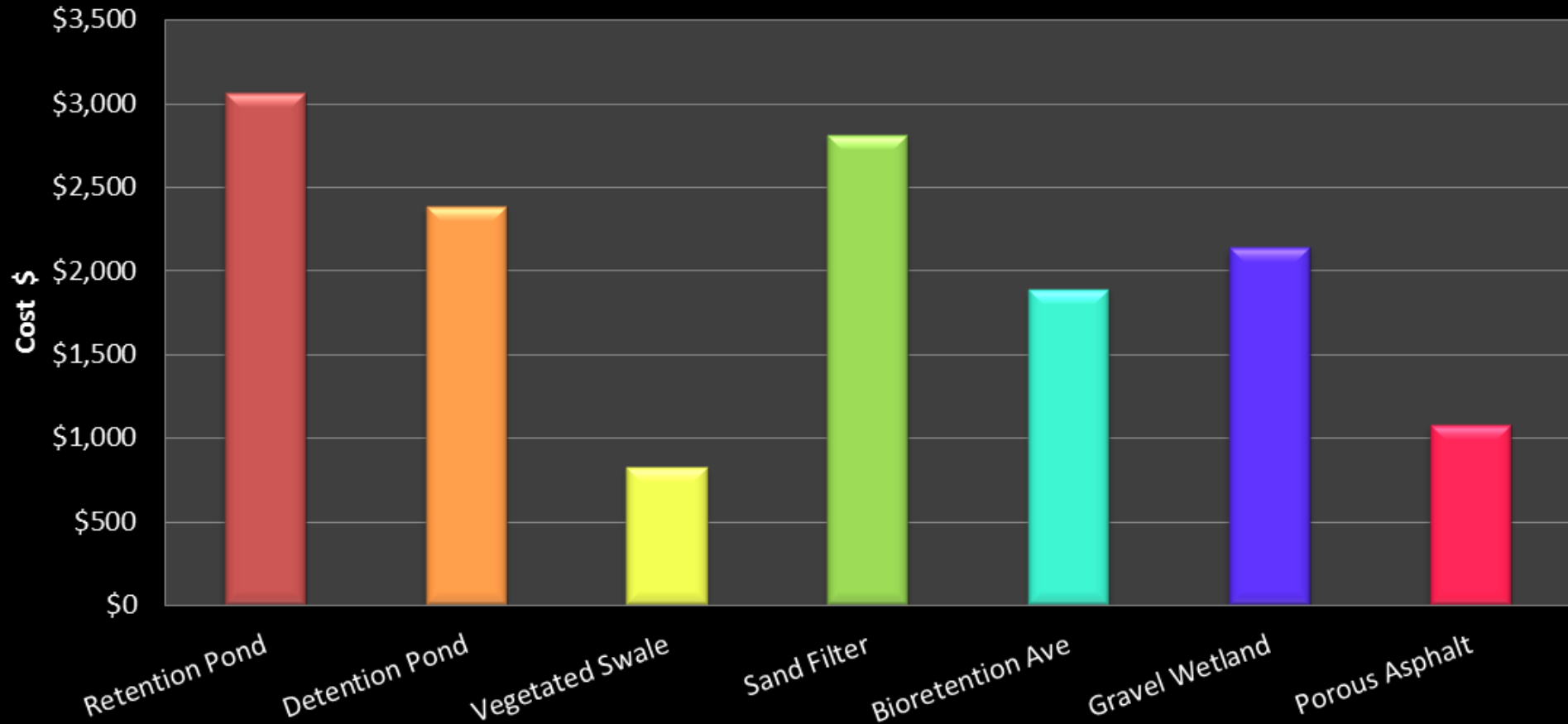
Economics of Installation vs Maintenance

Costs, normalized by area

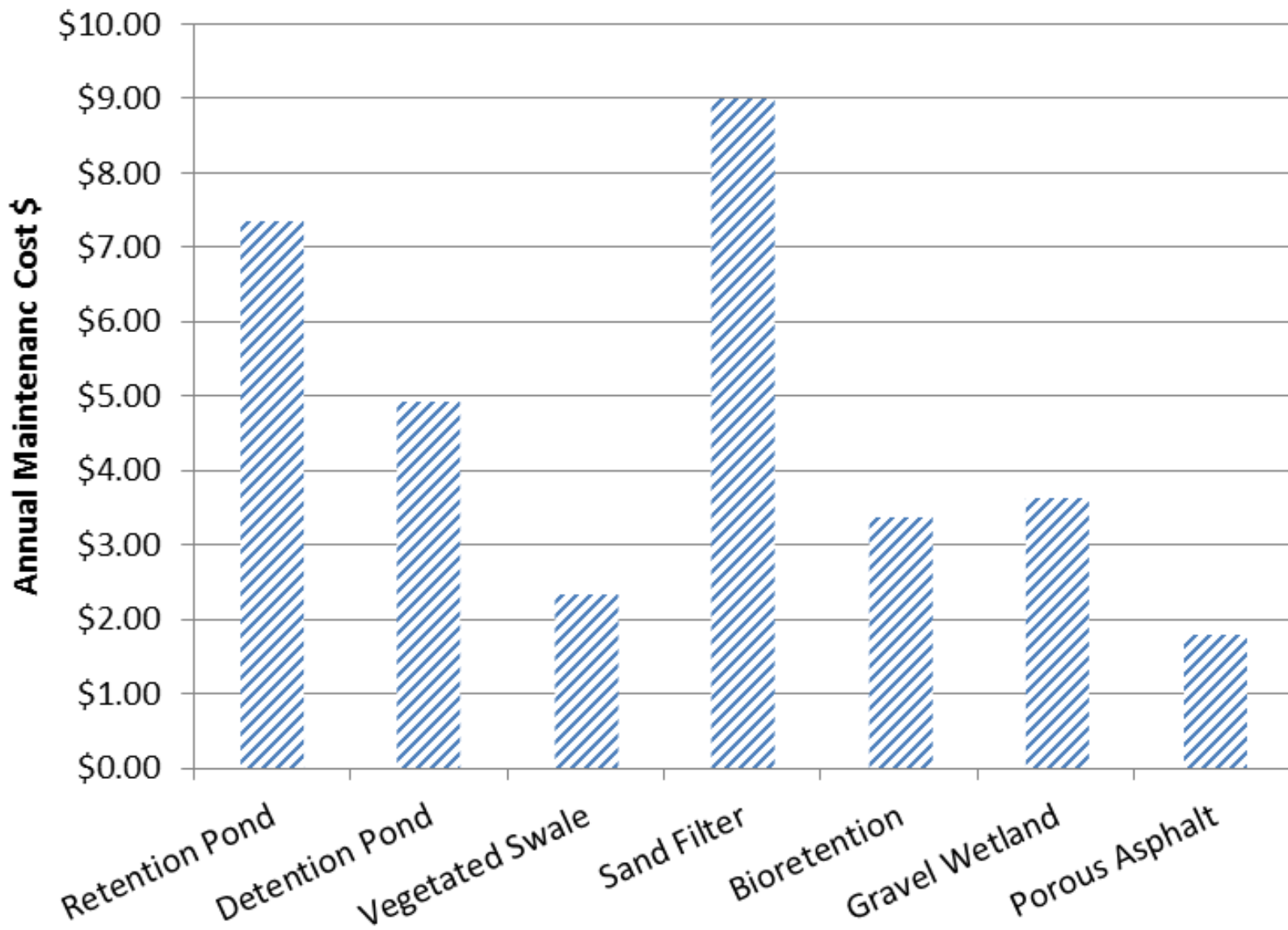
Parameter	Vegetated Swale	Wet Pond	Dry Pond	Sand Filter	Gravel Wetland	Bioretention	Porous Asphalt
Capital Cost (\$)	12,000	13,500	13,500	12,500	22,500	21,550	21,800
Inflated 2012 Capital Cost	14,600	16,500	16,500	15,200	27,400	25,600	26,600
Maintenance and Capital Cost Comparison	17.8	5.4	6.9	5.4	12.8	13.5	24.6
Personnel (hr/yr)	9.5	28.0	24.0	28.5	21.7	20.7	6.0
Personnel (\$/yr)	823	3,060	2,380	2,808	2,138	1,890	380
Subcontractor Cost (\$/yr)	0	0	0	0	0	0	700
Total Operational Cost (\$/yr)	823	3,060	2,380	2,808	2,138	1,890	1,080
Operation/Capital Cost (%)	6%	19%	14%	18%	8%	8%	4%



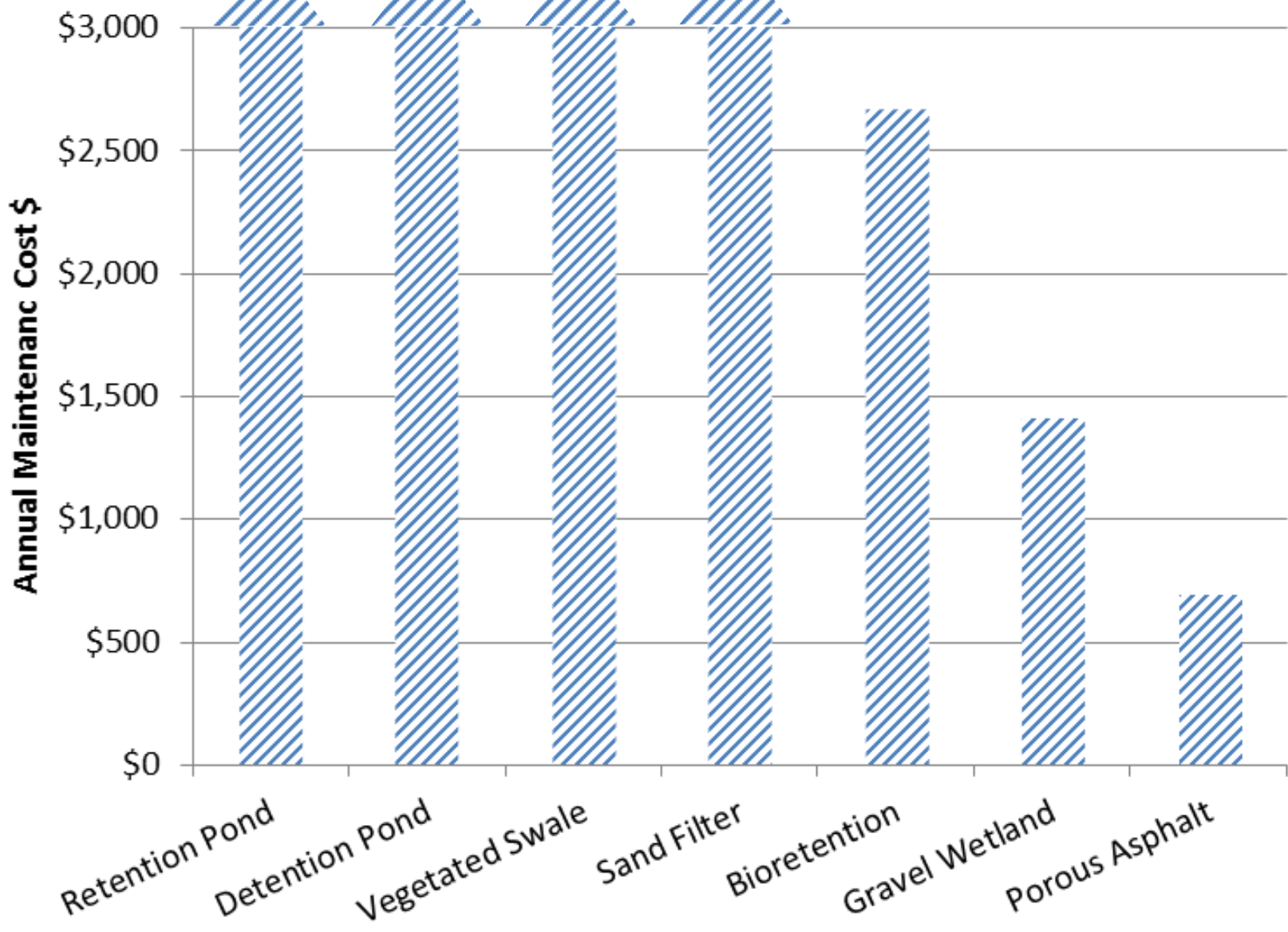
Yearly BMP Maintenance (per acre treated)



▨ Maintenance Cost/yr/acre/lb TSS



▨ Maintenance Cost/yr/acre/lb TP



Periodic/Predictive Maintenance

- + Solids or debris removal
- + Routine inspection
- + Mowing
- + Planned vegetation removal

Proactive Maintenance

- + Street cleaning and vacuuming
- + Snow removal
- + Erosion and sediment control
- + Reseeding



Reactive Maintenance

- + Outlet repair
- + Redesign for erosive blowouts
- + Massive vegetation removal
- + Clogged outlet structures
- + Structural repairs or rehabilitation
- + Animal burrows



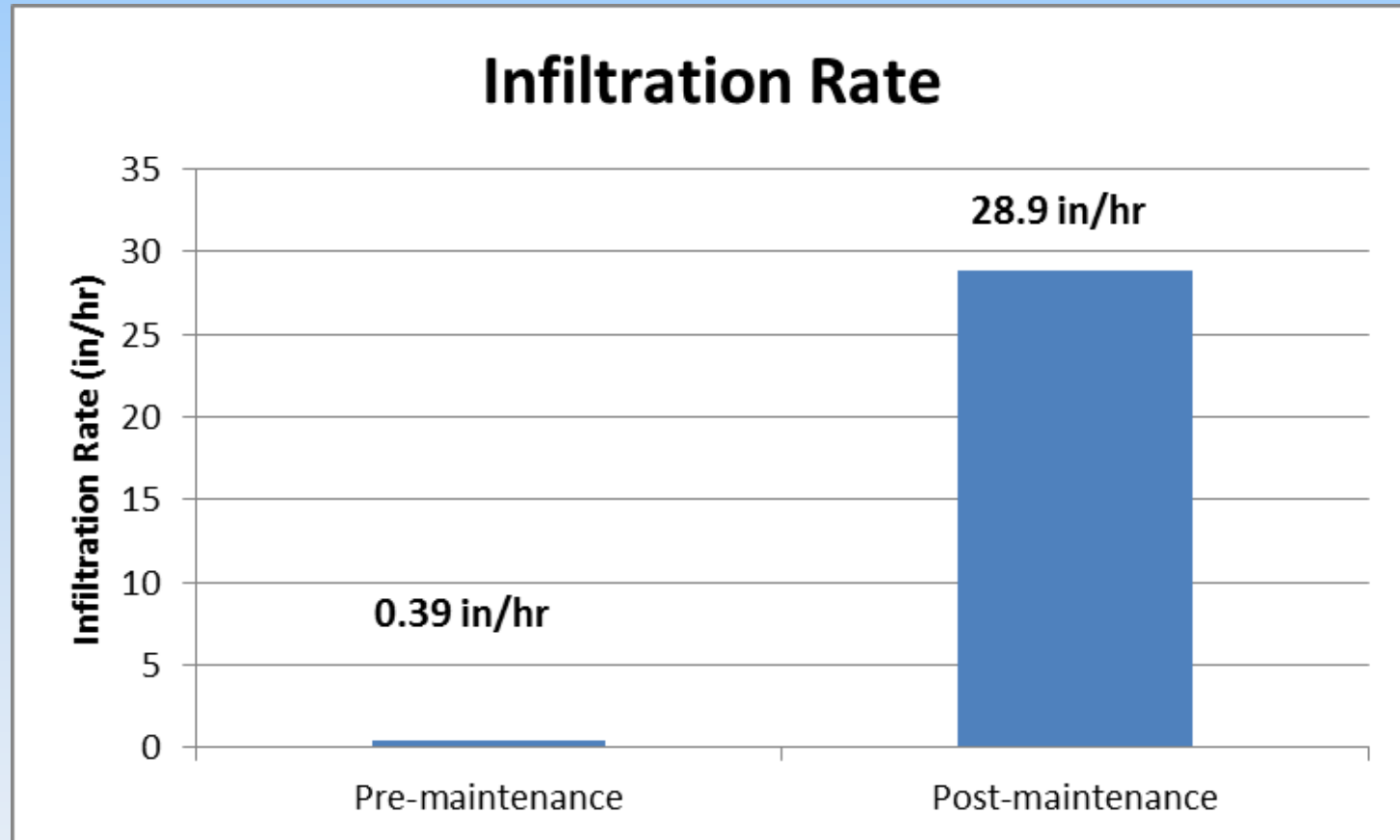
Bioretention/Sand Filter/Tree Filter/Subsurface gravel wetland

- Short term
 - Reseed/replant as necessary
 - Remove excess sediment build-up and trash
 - Invasives control
 - Watering
- Long term
 - Mowing slopes
 - Weeding
 - Sediment and trash removal
 - Clear inlets and outlets
 - Replanting/reseeding

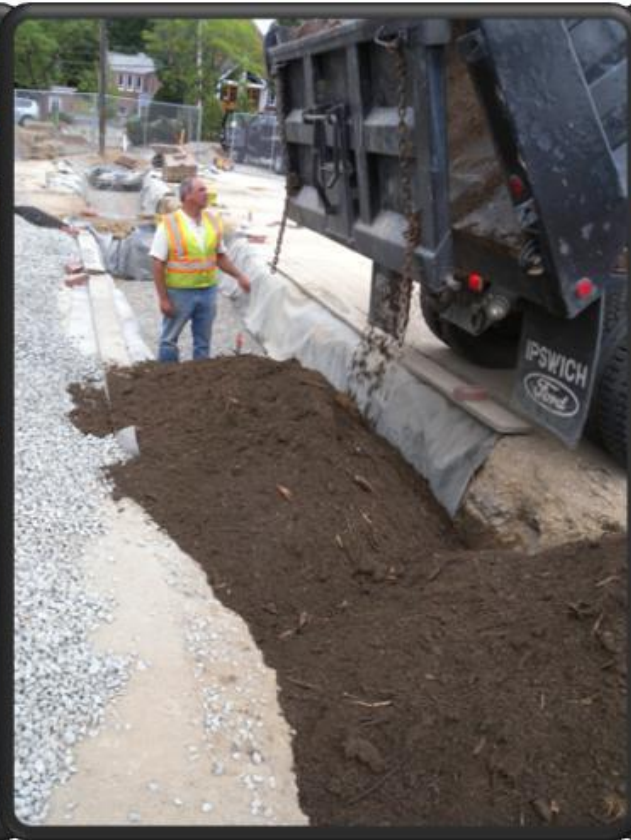




Result of Maintenance



Bioretention Parking Lot Retrofit, Durham, NH



Maintenance Activity	Minimum Frequency	Estimated Time Commitment	Number of Employees
Inspection	2 times per year	30 minutes taking time to fill out checklist	1
Clean Pretreatment Trash Screens and Pick Up Trash in system	1 time per month on average	30-60 minutes per visit	1
Spring Cleaning	1 time per year	4 hours	2

Total personnel hours per year: 16-21 hours

Estimated \$1,500 – \$2,000 (30,000 sf of IC Treated)

**Pollutant
(per year)**

Amount

TSS

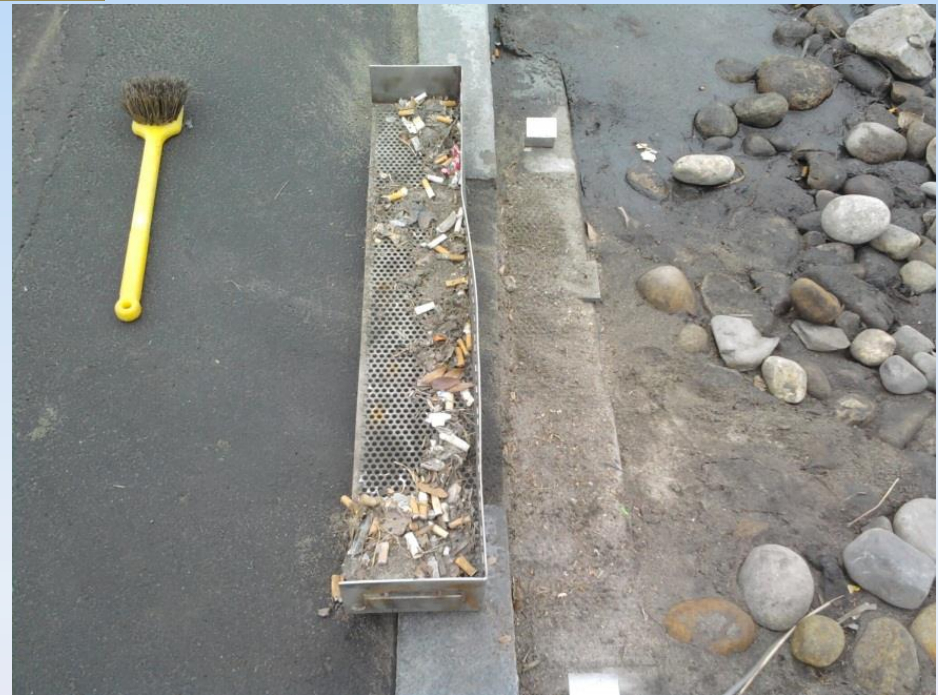
179 lbs.

Cigarette Butts

4,392

Misc. Trash

752

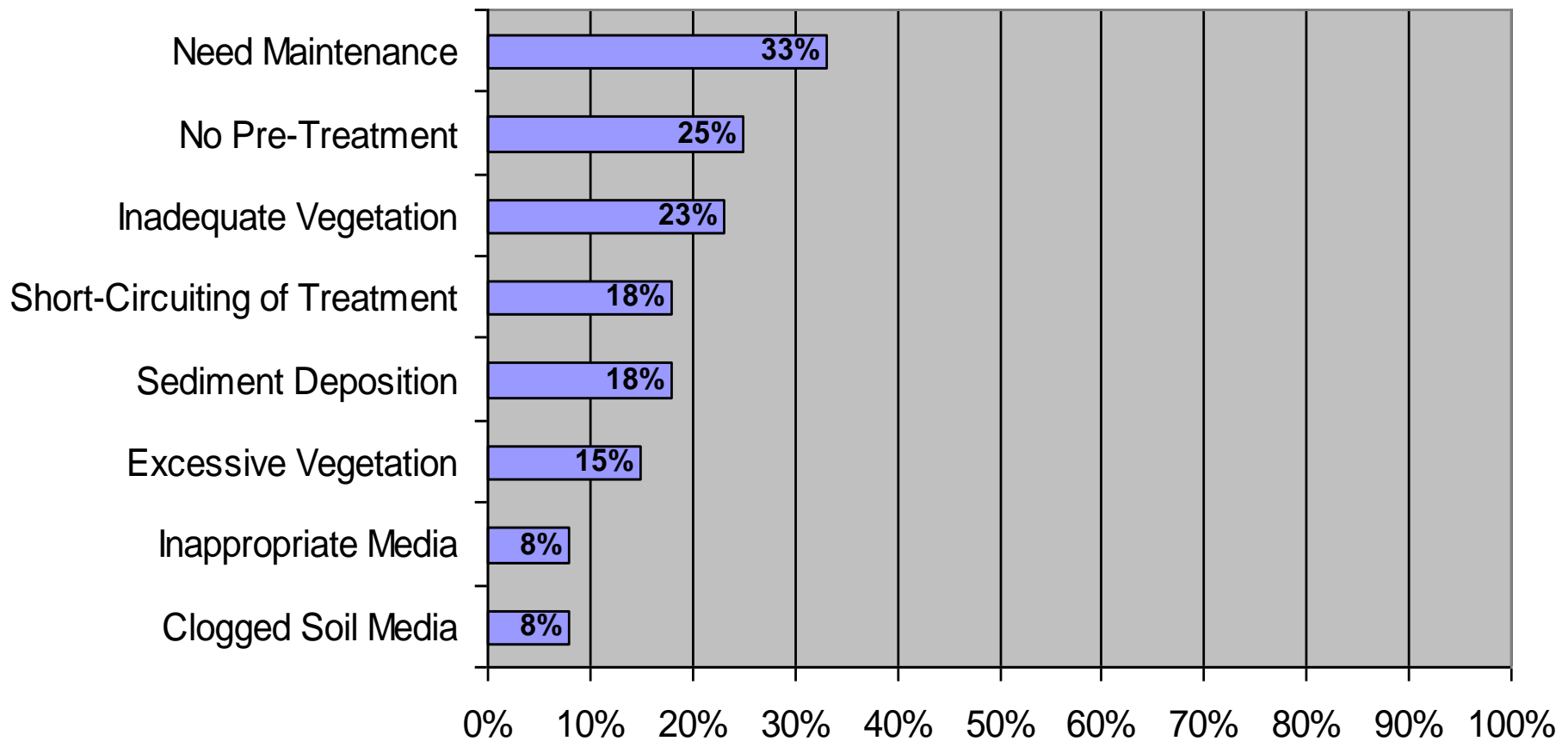


Some Problems are Vexing



Performance Issues Observed in Field

General Performance Problems with Bioretention (n = 40)

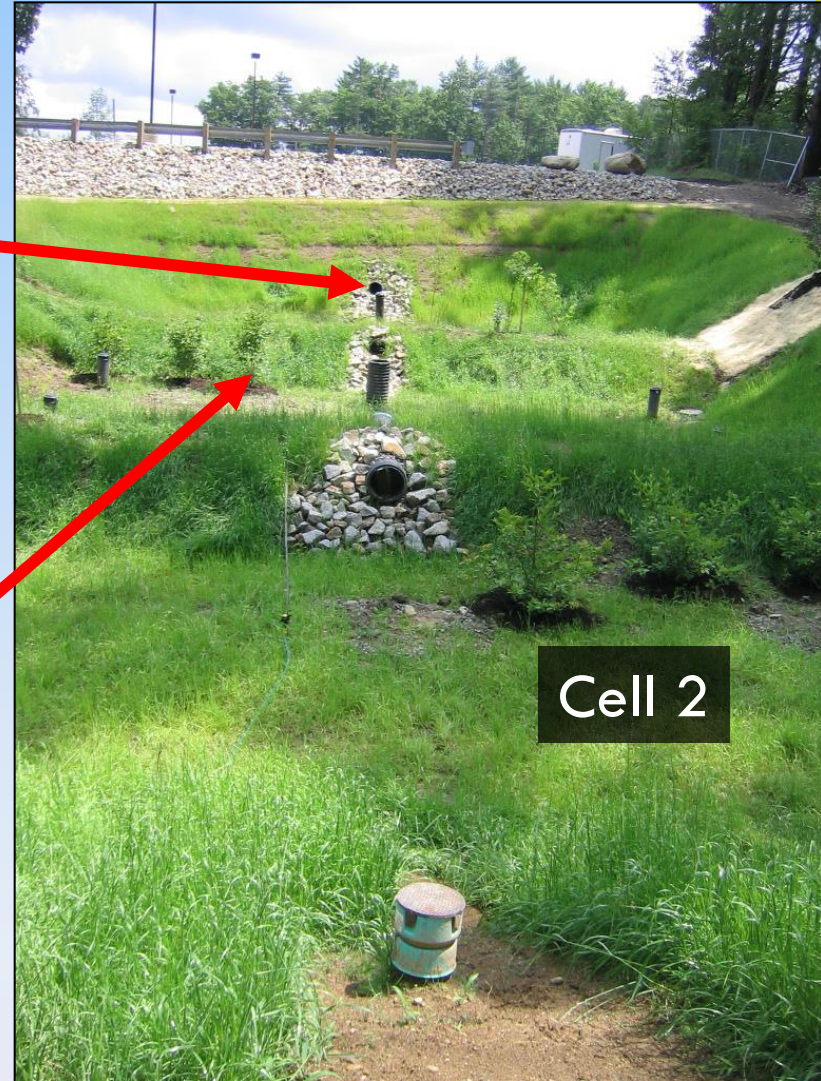
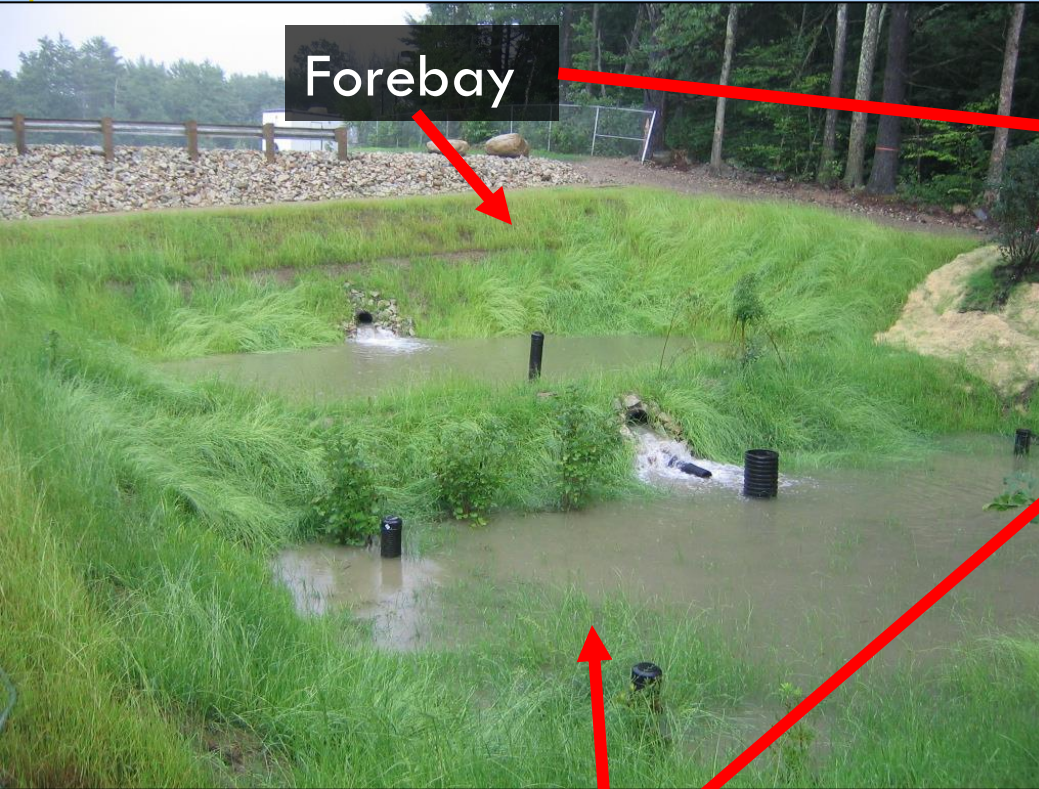


Subsurface Gravel Wetlands



SUBSURFACE GRAVEL WETLAND FUNCTIONALITY AND PERFORMANCE

Subsurface Gravel Wetland

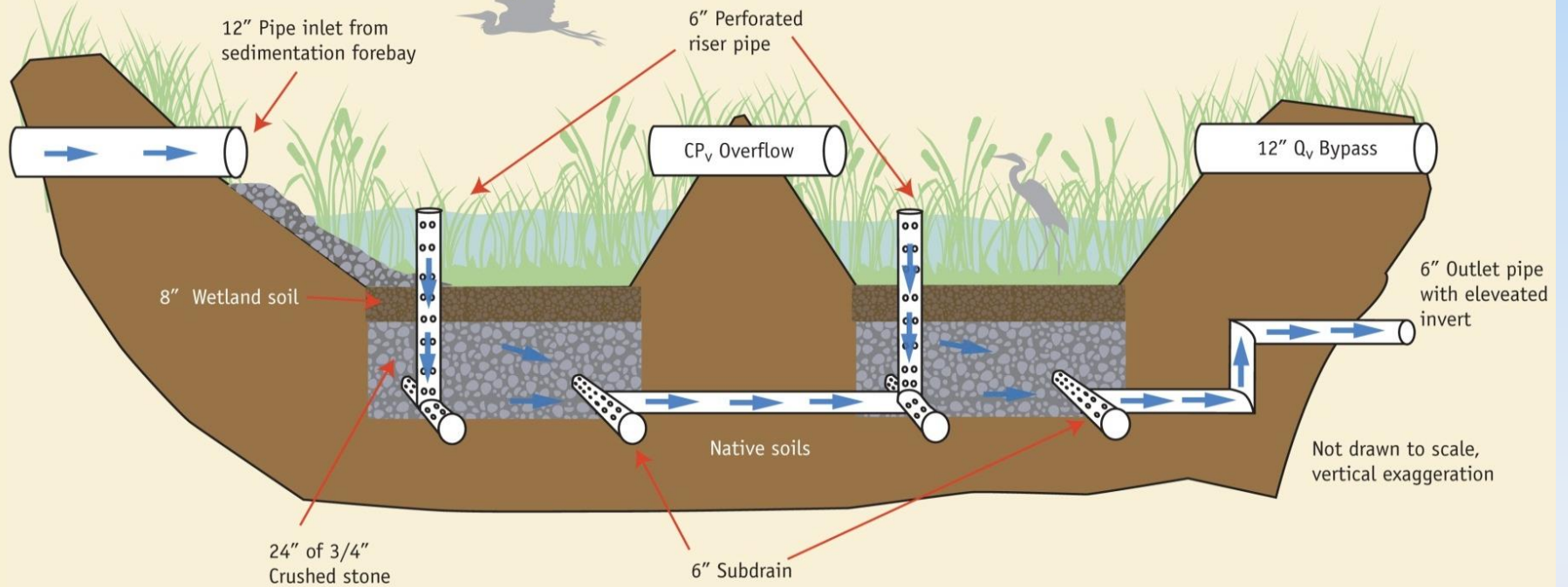


Cell 1

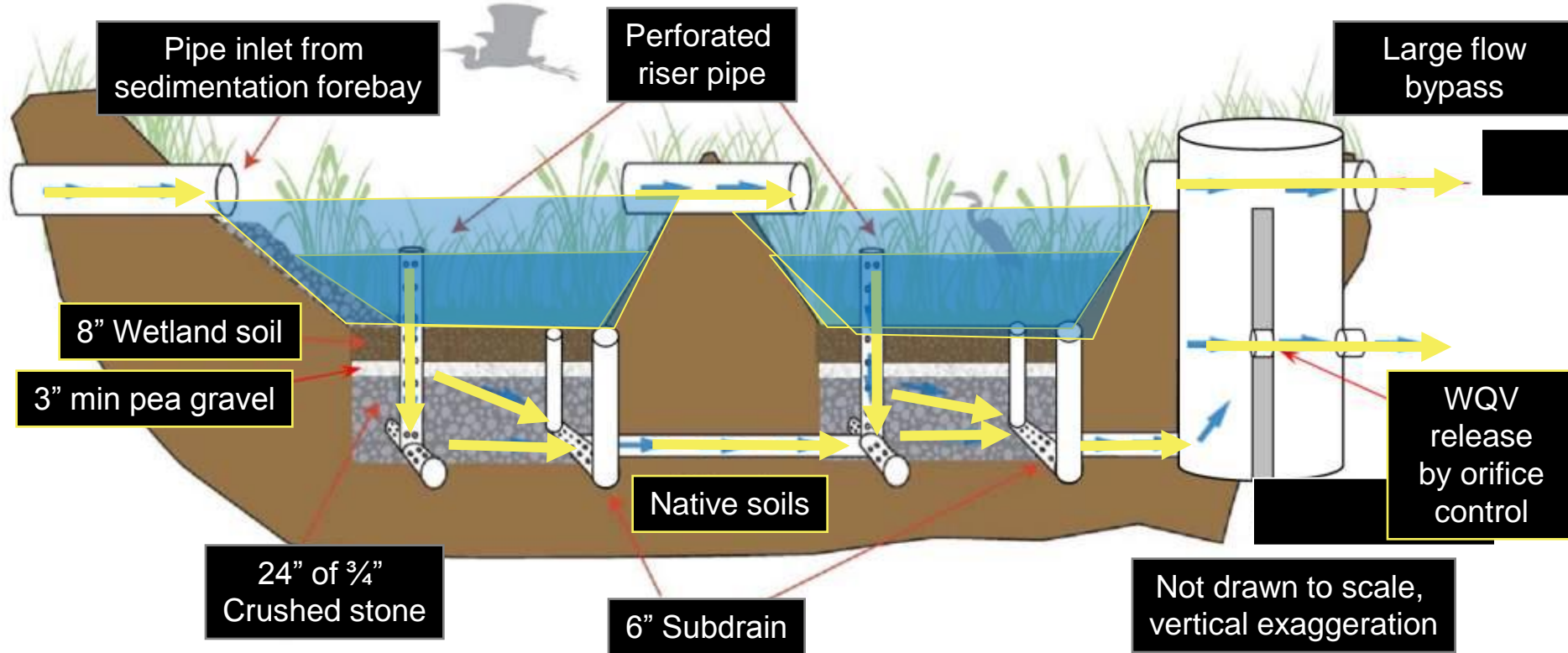
Cell 2

Forebay

Subsurface Gravel Wetland Components



UNHSC Subsurface Gravel Wetland

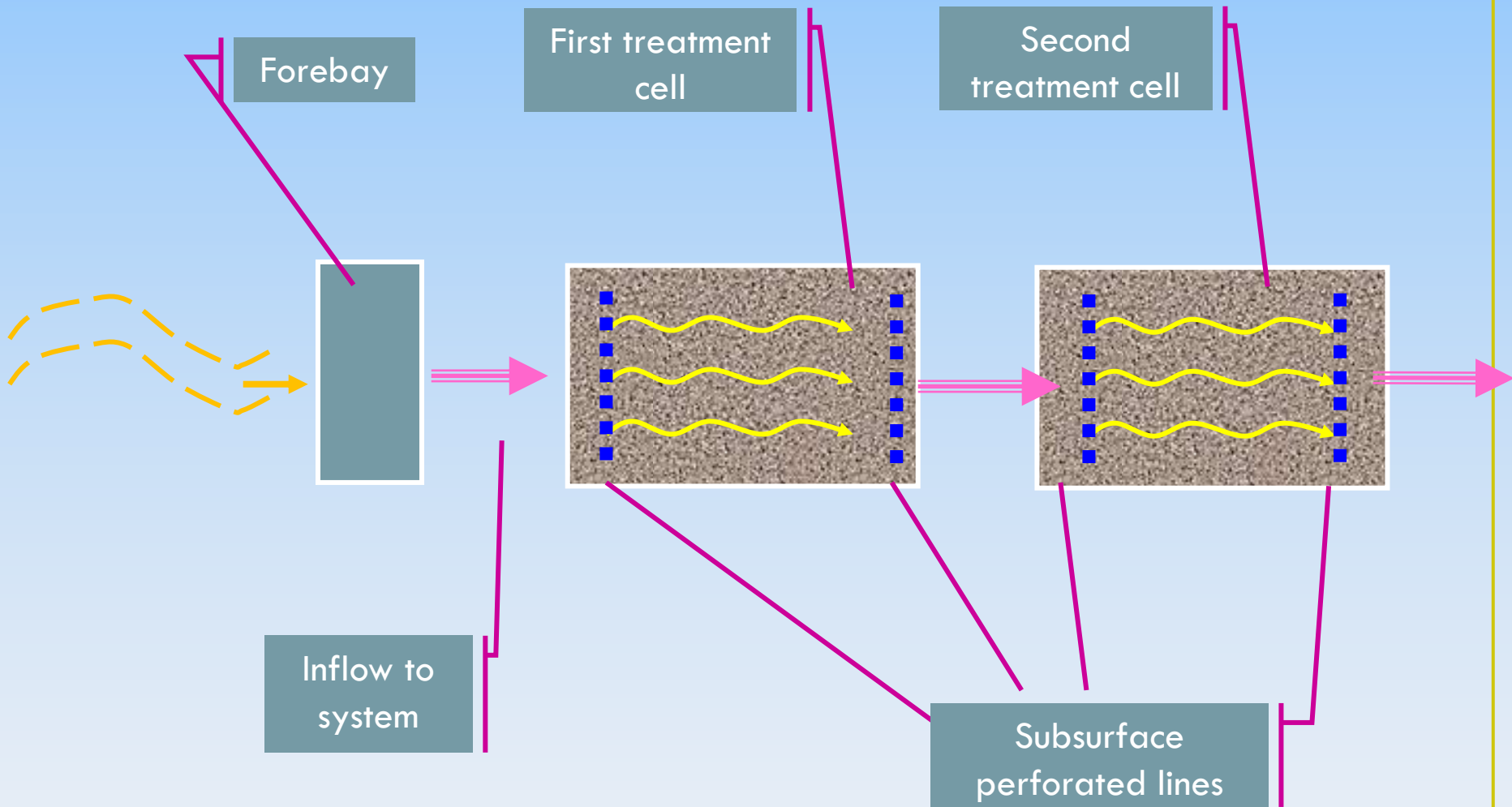


Design Sources:

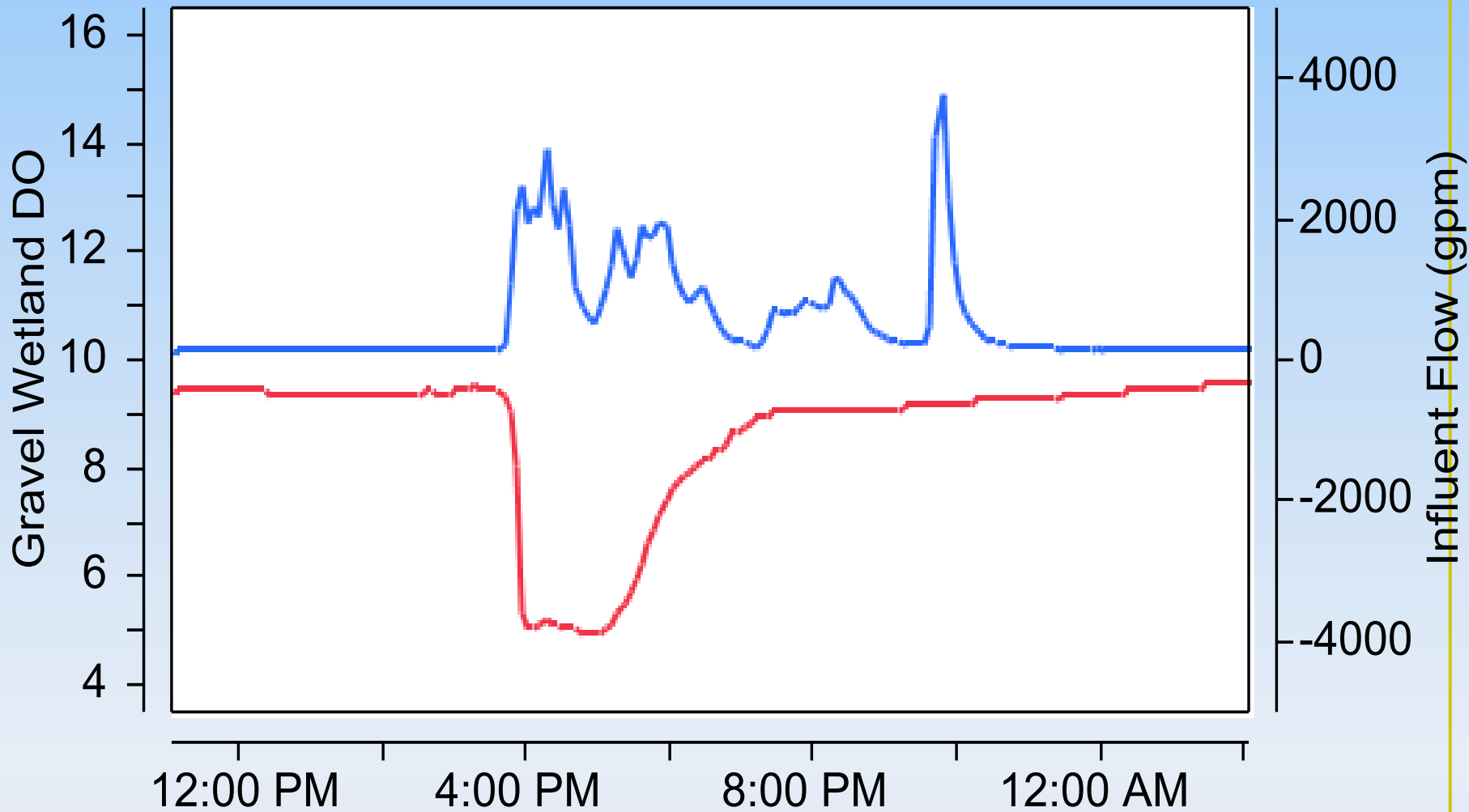
UNHSC, Roseen, R. M., Ballester, T. P., and Houle, J. J. (2008). "UNHSC Subsurface Gravel Wetland Design Specifications." University of New Hampshire Stormwater Center, Durham, NH.

Clayton, R. A., and Schueler, T. R. (1996). Design of Stormwater Filtering Systems, Center for Watershed Protection, Silver Spring, MD.

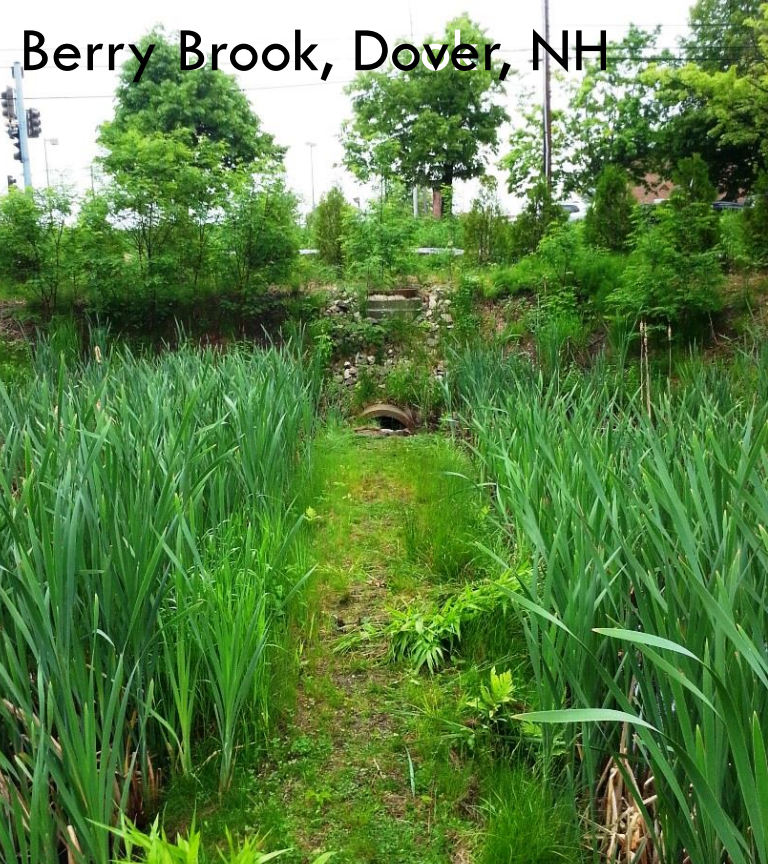
Georgia Stormwater Management Manual, Volume 2: Technical Handbook, August 2001, prepared by AMEC Earth and Environmental, Center for Watershed Protection, Debo and Associates, Jordan Jones and Goulding, Atlanta Regional Commission.



Dissolved Oxygen in Gravel Wetland Effluent



Berry Brook, Dover, NH



The Cottages, Durham, NH



Oyster River Road

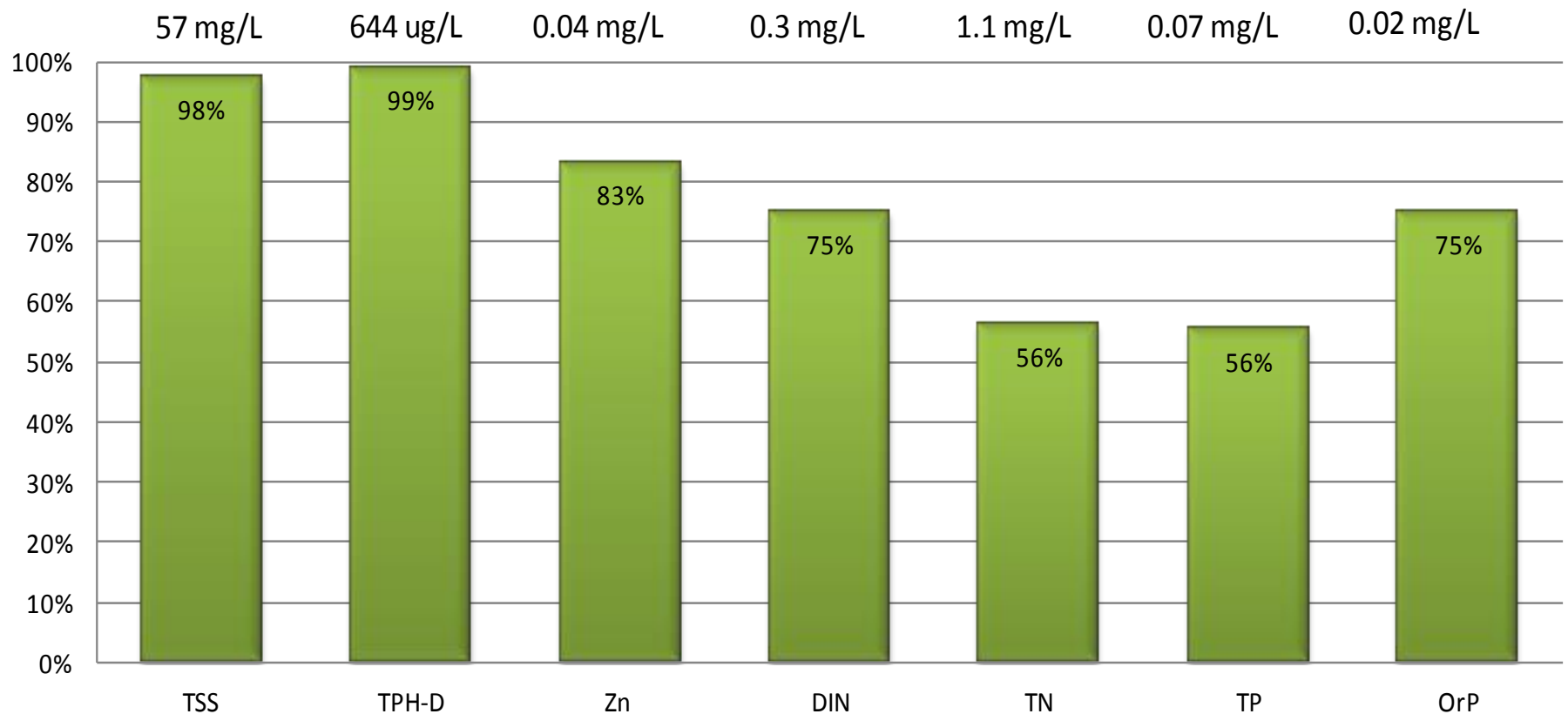


Route 1, Portsmouth, NH

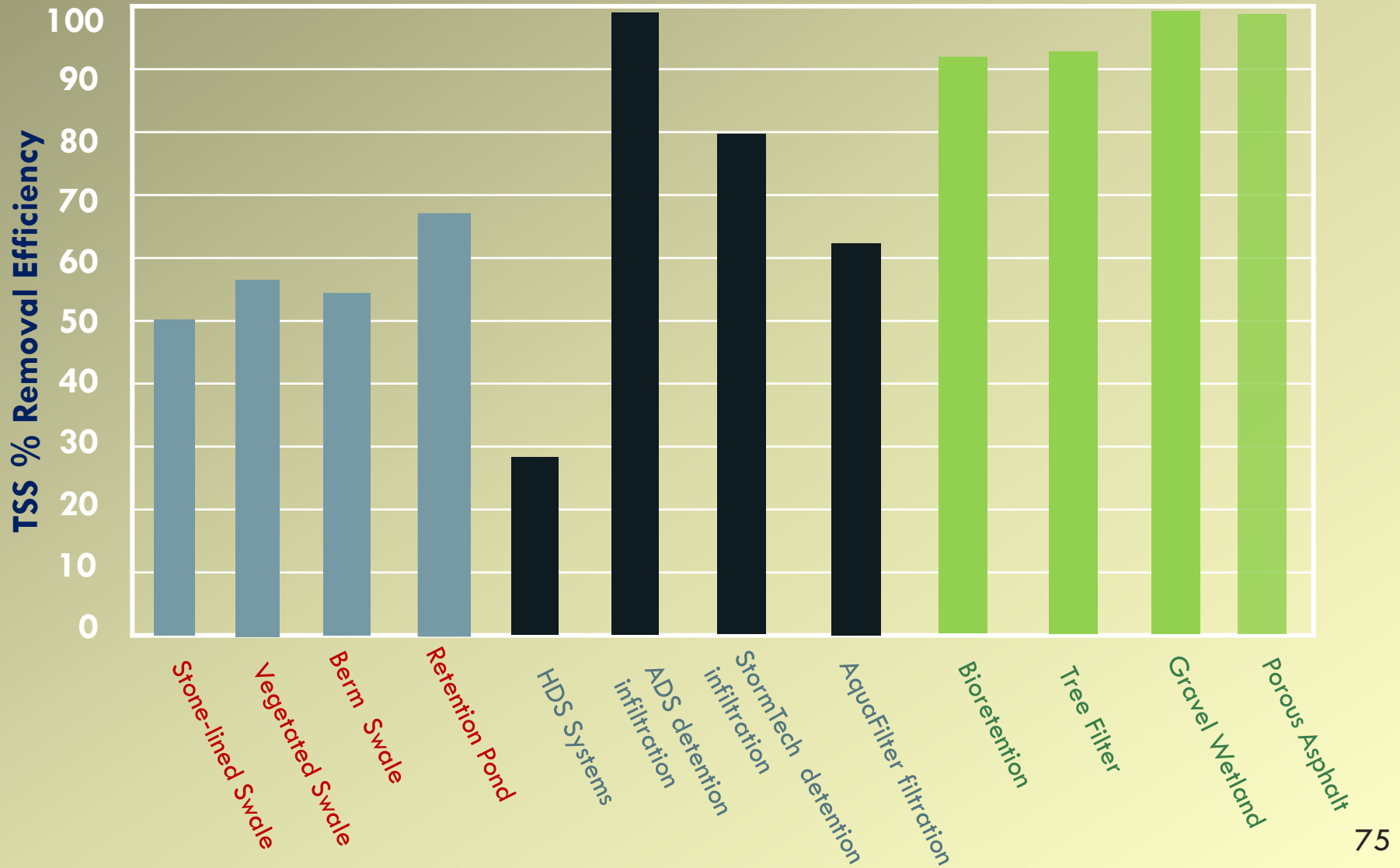


Subsurface Gravel Wetland Median Removal Efficiencies

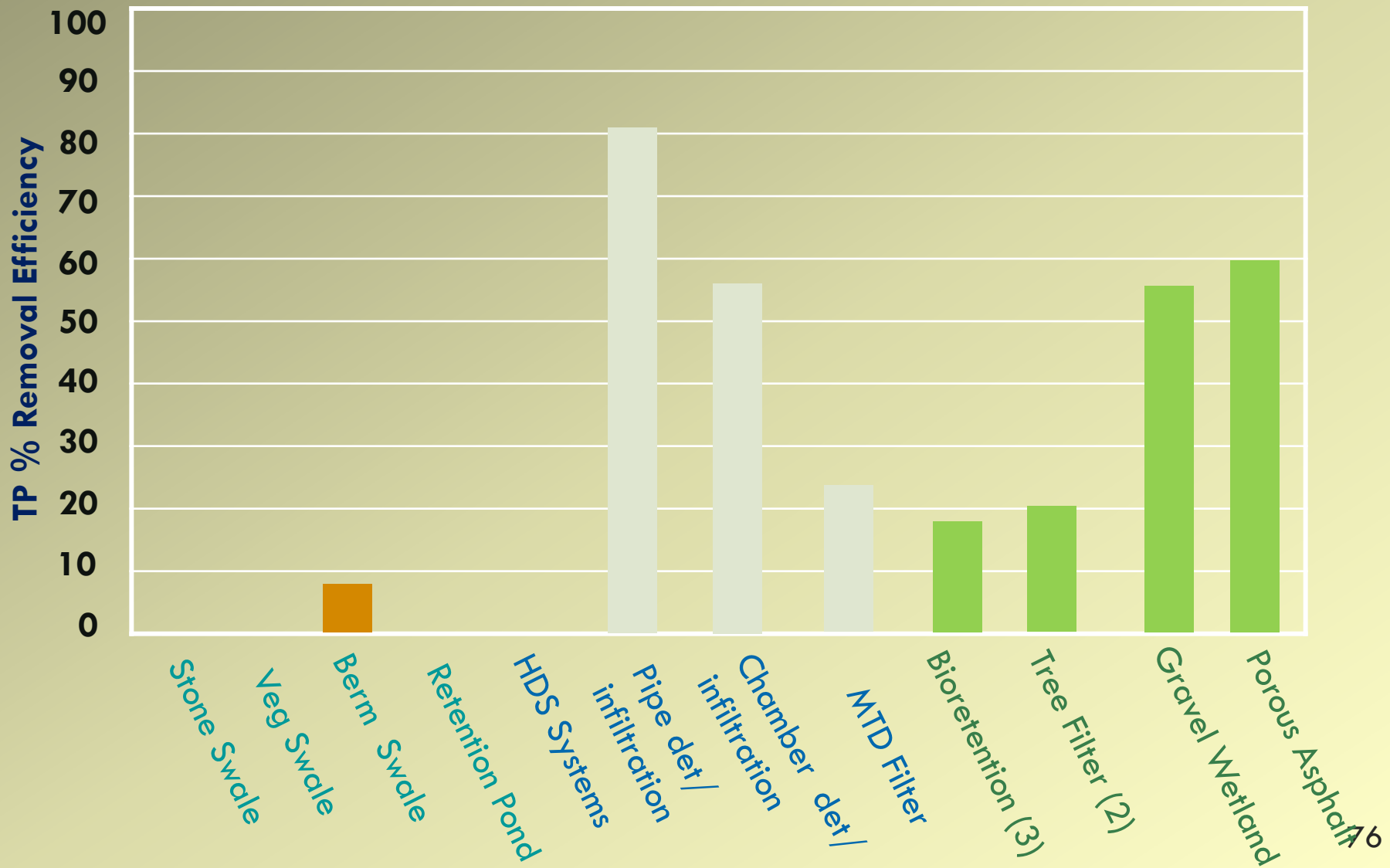
6 years of data with Influent EMC medians



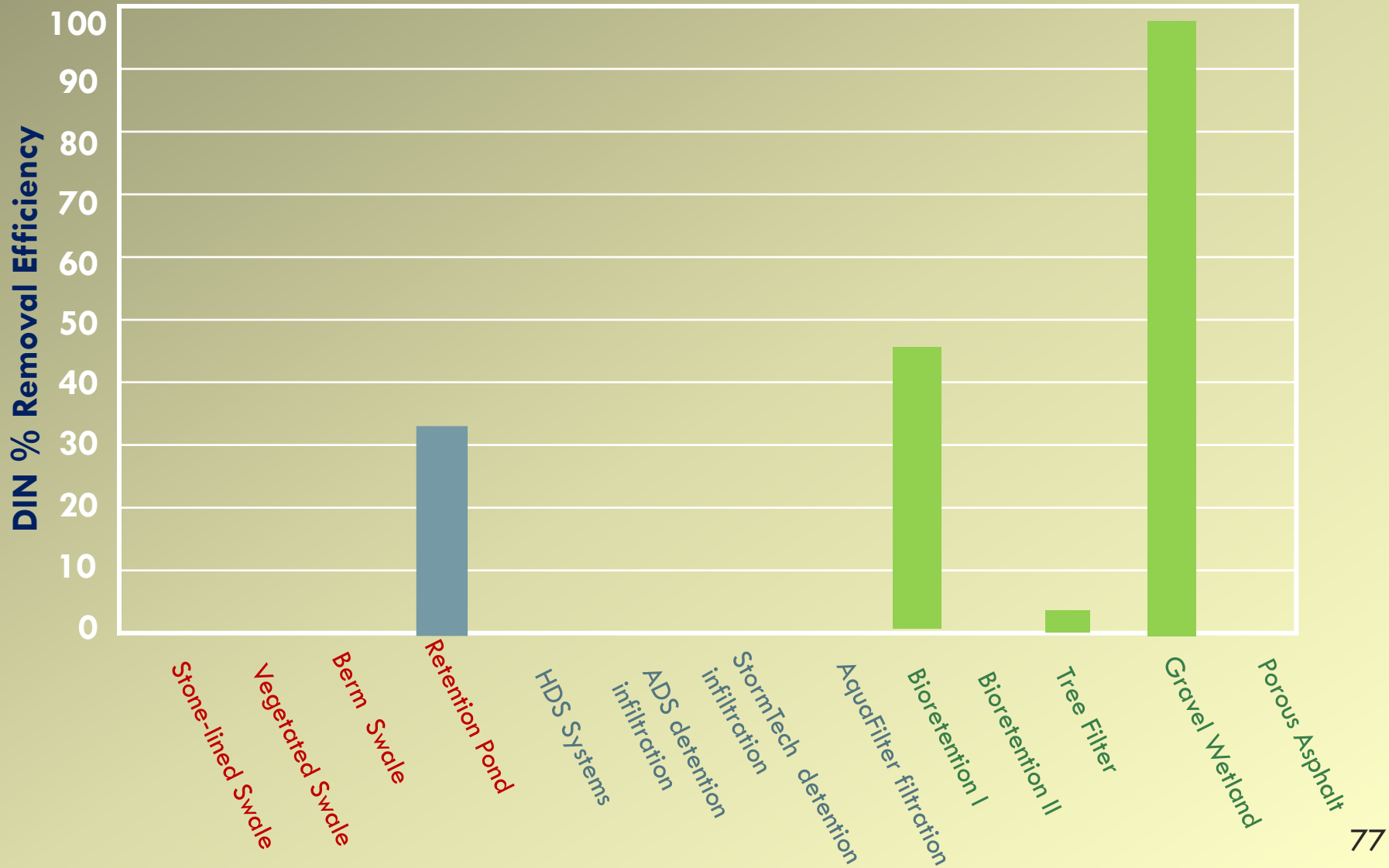
TSS Removal Efficiencies



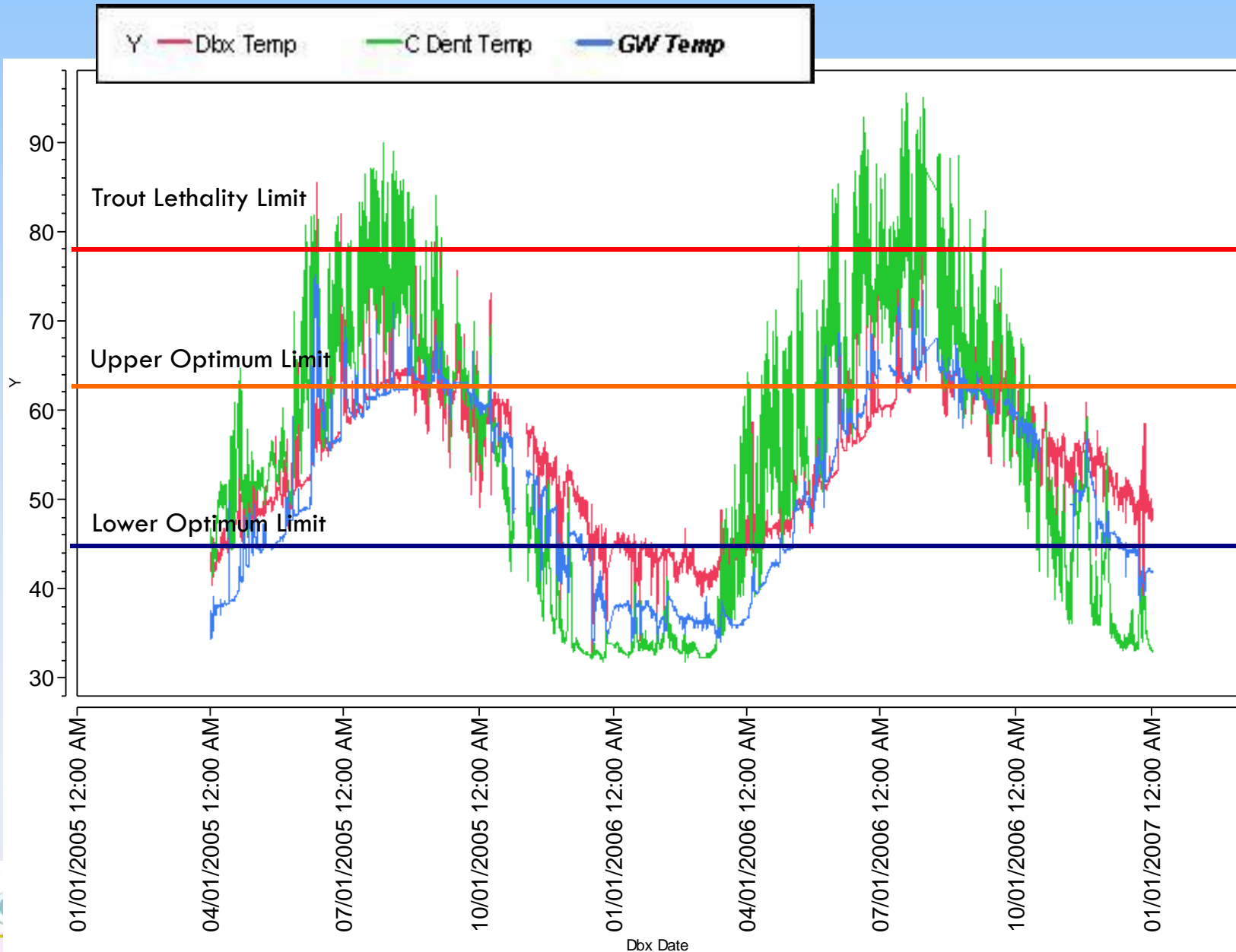
TP Removal Efficiencies



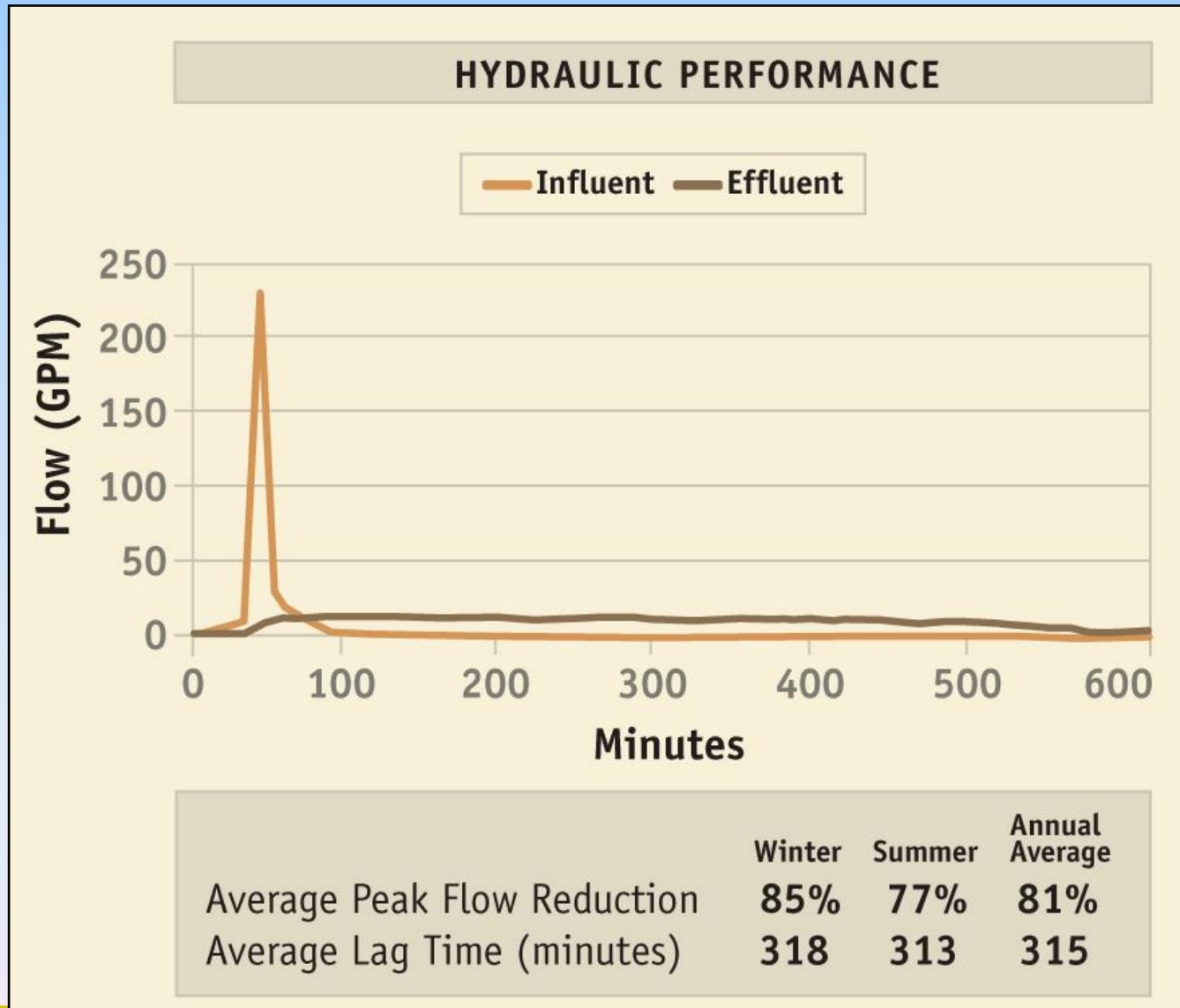
DIN Removal Efficiencies



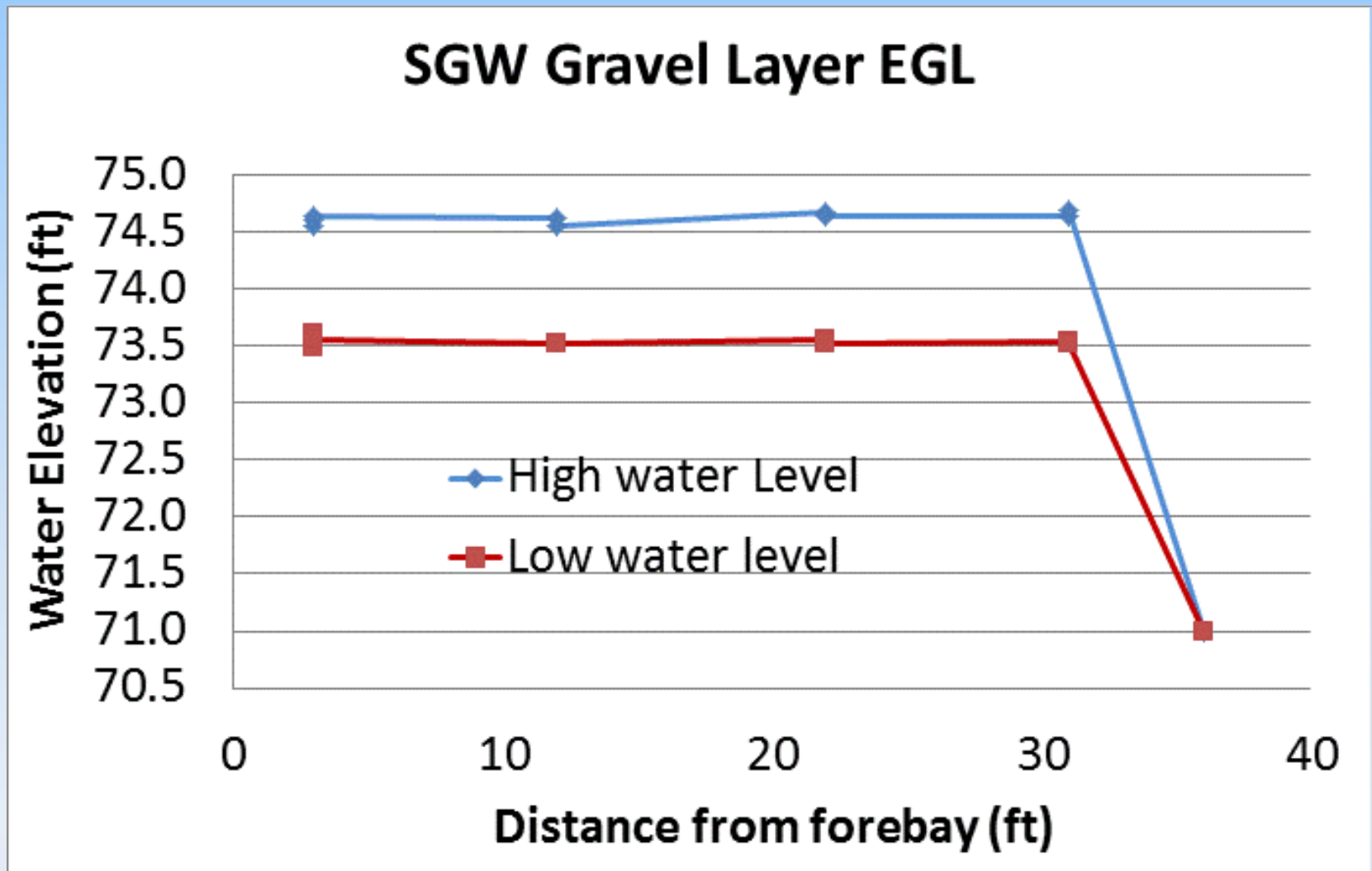
Thermal Impacts

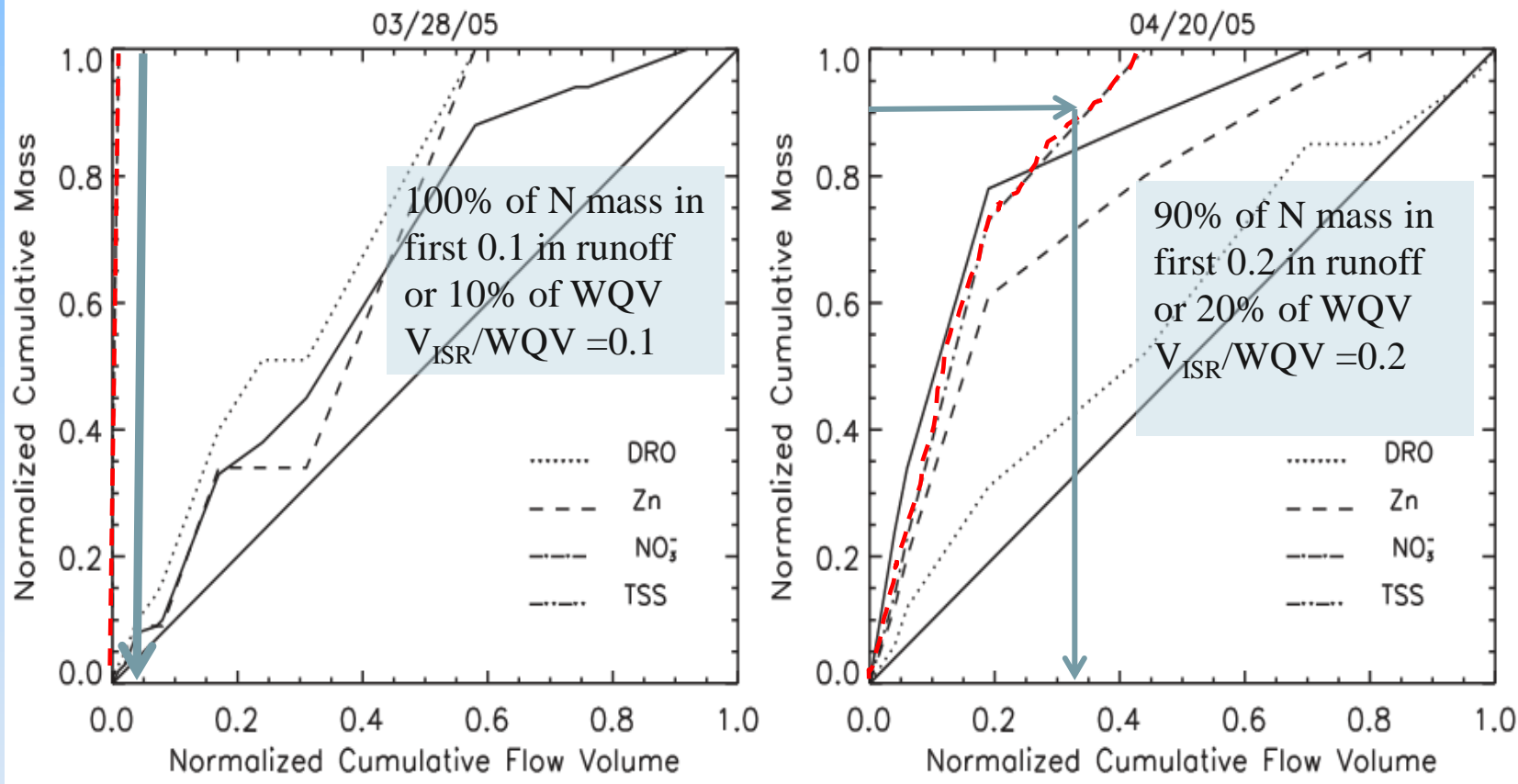


Subsurface Gravel Wetland Hydraulic Performance



Hydraulic Profile





Mass loading for DRO, Zn, NO₃, TSS as a function of normalized storm volume for two storms: (a) a large 2.3 in rainfall over 1685 minutes; (b) a smaller 0.6 in storm depth over 490 minute. DRO=diesel range organics, Zn= zinc, NO₃= nitrate, TSS= total suspended solids

Column Study of Nutrient Removal

- Amendments for Phosphorus
 - Alum sludge
 - Zero valent iron
 - Limestone sand
 - Electric blast furnace slag
- Internal storage volume for nitrogen
- Effect of compost

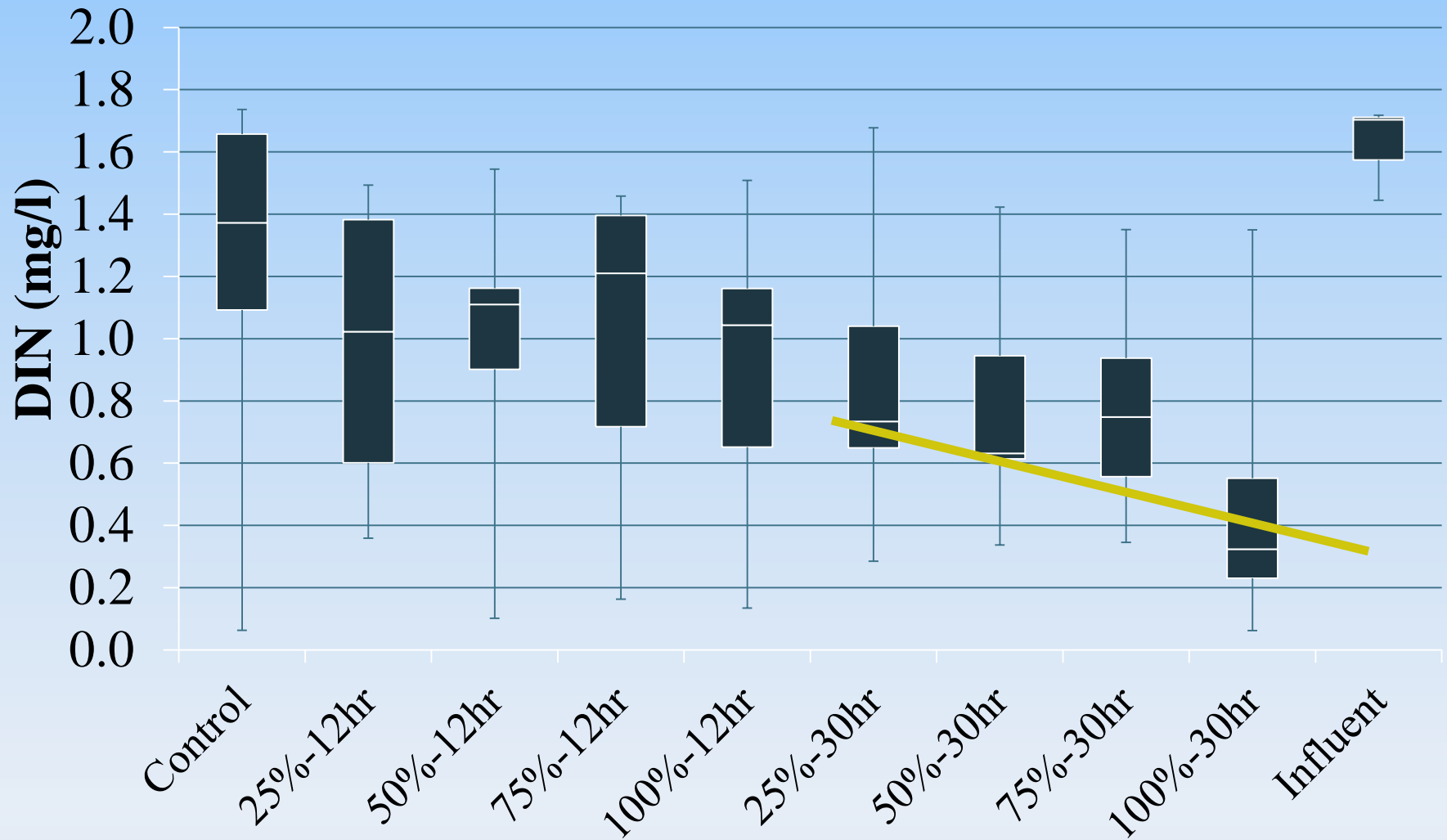
Phase 1: Nitrogen

Column #	Soil Mix and saturation zone size	Notes
T1-N0	UNHSC BSM with no saturation zone (control)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage to filter ratio 80:1 • Soil depth in columns: 24" • 12 hour drain time • Soil tested: UNHSC mix
T1-N1	UNHSC BSM with 25% WQV	
T1-N2	UNHSC BSM with 50% WQV	
T1-N3	UNHSC BSM with 75% WQV	
T1-N4	UNHSC BSM with 100% WQV	
T1-N5	UNHSC BSM with 25% WQV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage to filter ratio 80:1 • Soil depth in columns: 24" • 30 hour drain time • Soil tested: UNHSC mix
T1-N6	UNHSC BSM with 50% WQV	
T1-N7	UNHSC BSM with 75% WQV	
T1-N8	UNHSC BSM with 100% WQV	

- Size ISR
- Retention Time

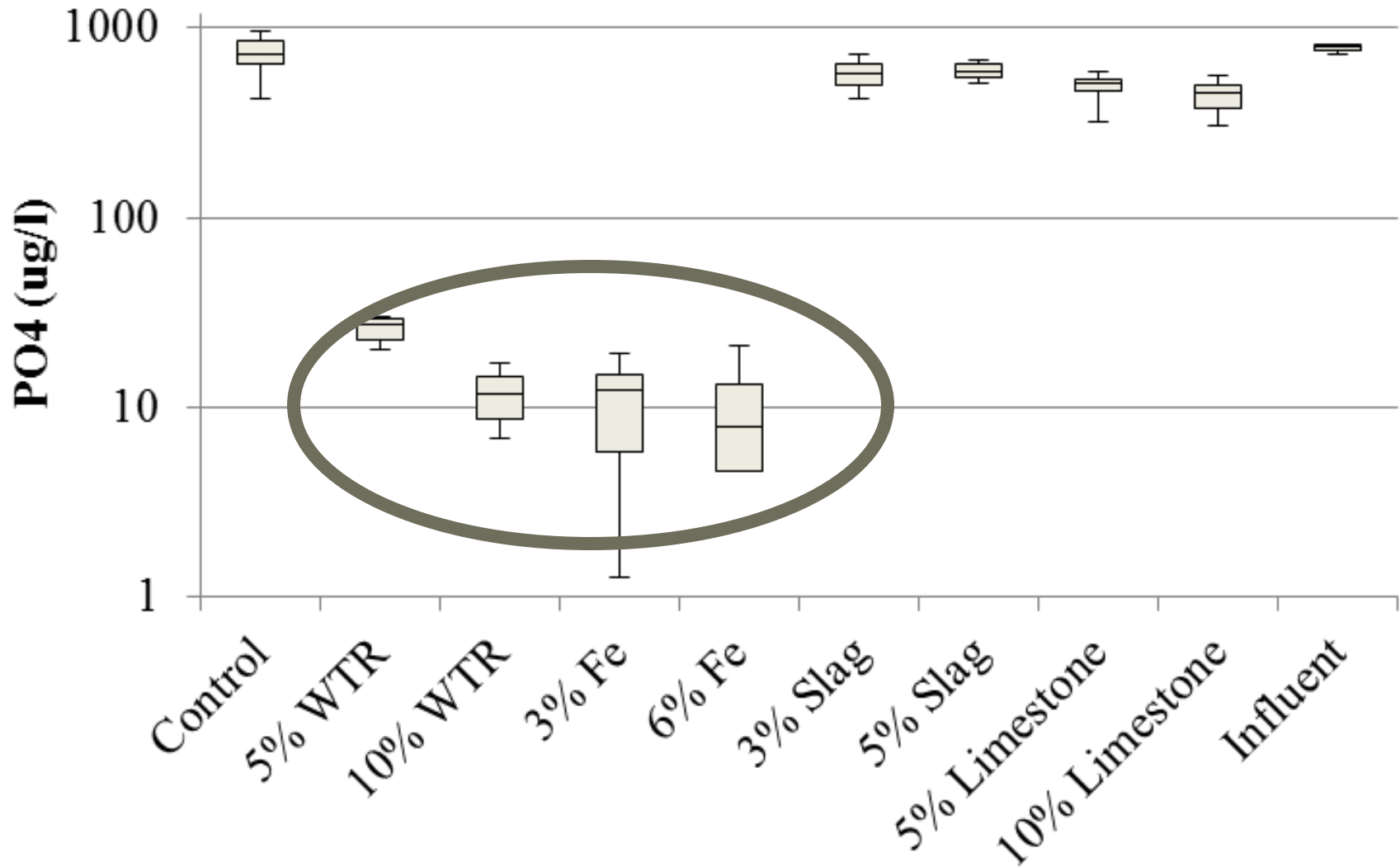


Nitrogen Results



Phosphorus Results

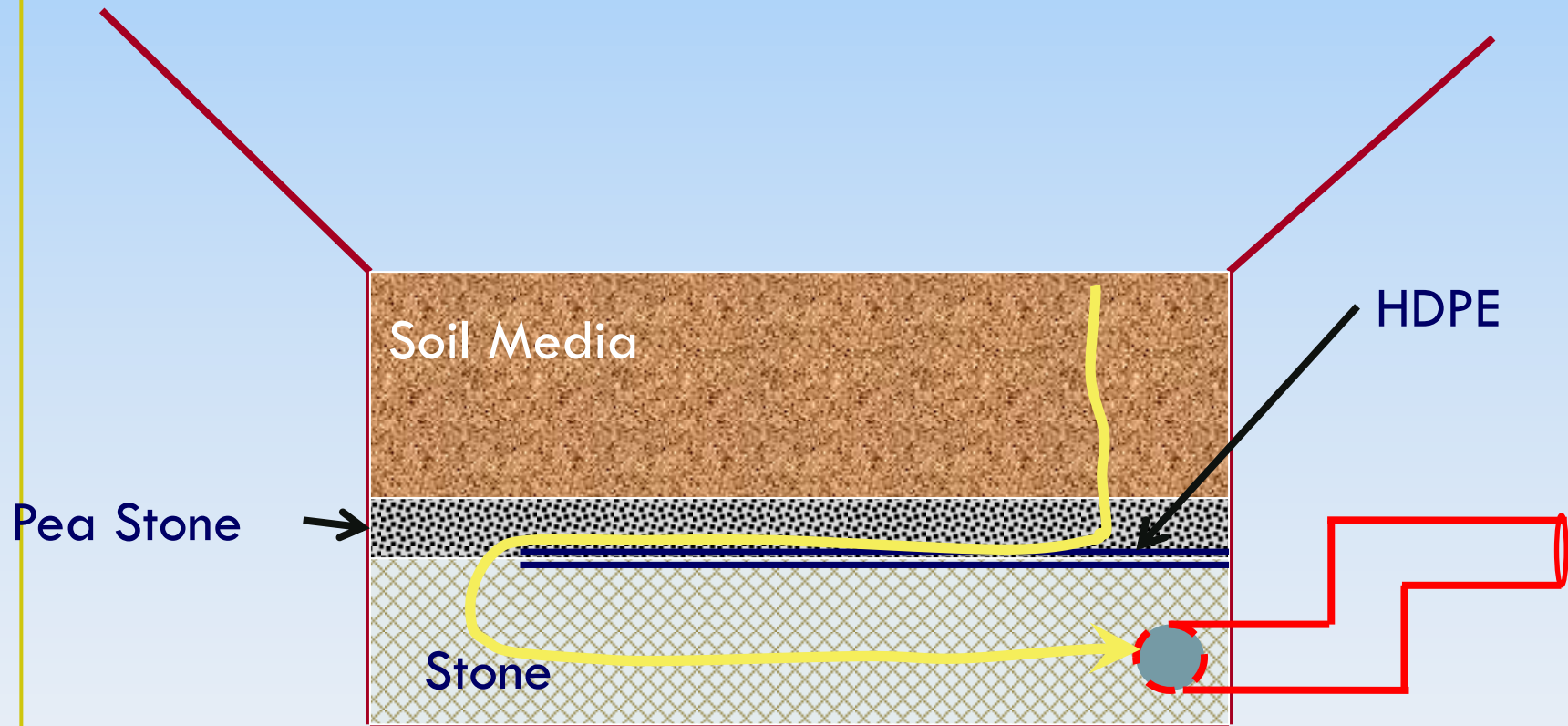
Phase 2 - Phosphorus as PO₄-P



Bioretention Hybrid Systems

- Bioretention with Internal Storage Volume

ISV Plumbing



Inspection and Maintenance



4 - yr Forebay Maintenance - June 2008



Maintenance

- The forebay to the gravel wetland, and probably all stormwater systems may become a source of contamination as the system ages—maintenance is essential
- Improved forebay designs would include a deeper pool of water in excess of one meter, or a deep sump catch basin or proprietary treatment device for removal of solids.

Maintenance

- Sediments and plant debris stored in the forebay may be re-suspended and released in subsequent storms. Routine maintenance is an important component in maintaining performance—2-3 year interval.
- Nutrients that collect in plants are released when the plant dies and decomposes in the system, therefore above ground plant litter should be removed every 2-3 years or more frequently.

Infiltration and Volume Reduction

When to Design for Infiltration

- Volume reduction (hydrologic transparency)
- Load reduction (CSO)

Constraints

- Nearby infrastructure receptors
- Existing soil/groundwater contamination
- Contamination hot spots
- Vertical setbacks
 - Groundwater
 - Bedrock

Need for Underdains

- Low infiltration rate
 - < 0.25 in/hr (Philadelphia)
 - < 0.5 in/hr (EPA, NJ, NY, NH, ME, VT)
 - < 0.52 in/hr (MD, Center for Watershed Protection)
 - < 0.17 in/hr (MA)

Texture Class	Effective Water Capacity (C_w) (inch per inch)	Minimum Infiltration Rate (f) (inches per hour)	Hydrologic Soil Grouping
Sand	0.35	8.27	A
Loamy Sand	0.31	2.41	A
Sandy Loam	0.25	1.02	A
Loam	0.19	0.52	B
Silt Loam	0.17	0.27	B
Sandy Clay Loam	0.14	0.17	C
Clay Loam	0.14	0.09	D
Silty Clay Loam	0.11	0.06	D
Sandy Clay	0.09	0.05	D
Silty Clay	0.09	0.04	D
Clay	0.08	0.02	D

* Source: Rawls, Brakensiek and Saxton, 1982



Systems Presented Today

- Tree Filter
 - Design by water quality flow
- Tree Trench
 - Water quality volume design
 - Static sizing

Tree Box Filter

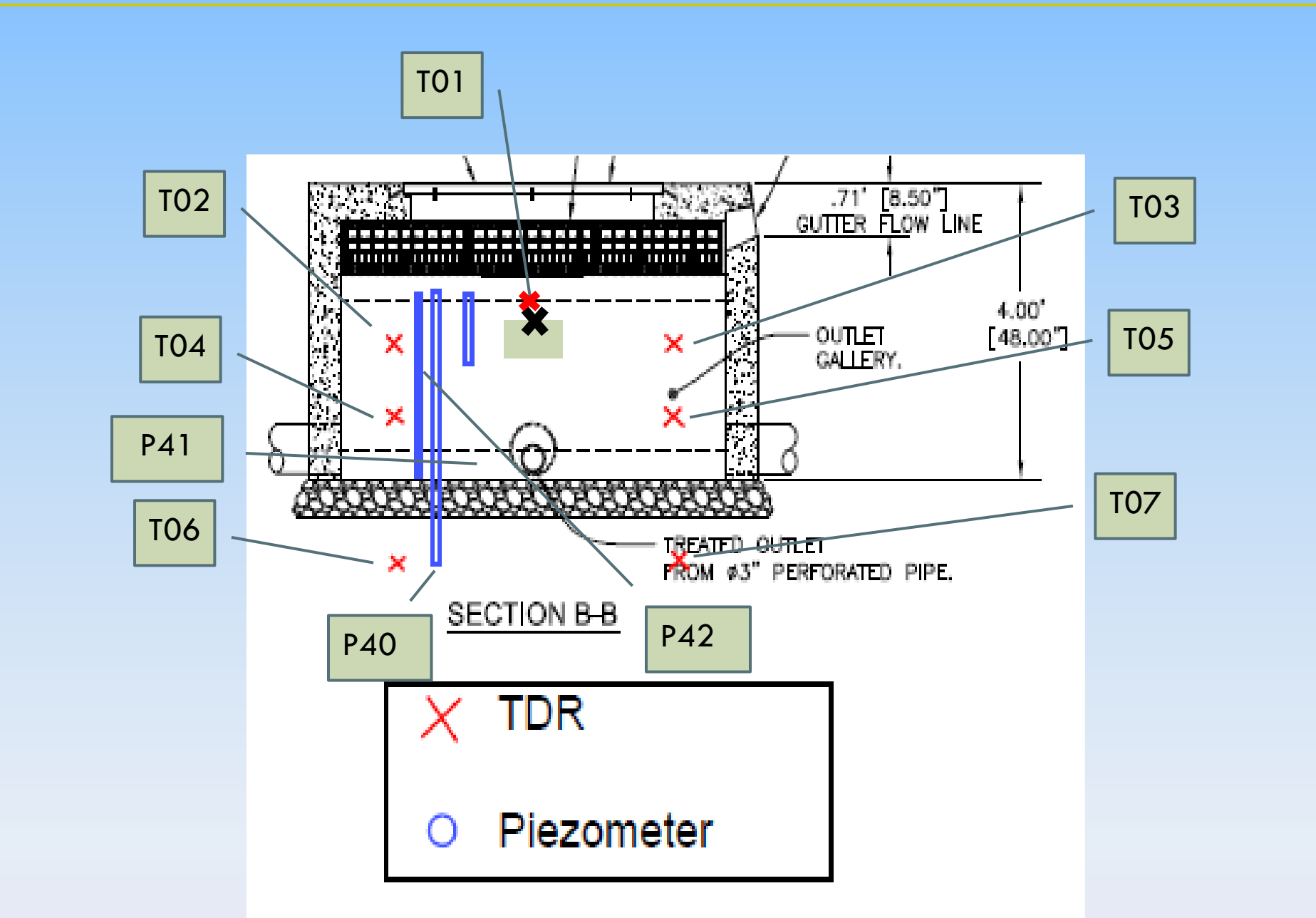


Tree Box Watershed



Tree box filter design

- Manufacturer sizing: 36 gpm (1 gpm/ft²)
- NH water quality flow sizing – 198 gpm
- For media IC of 100 in/hr, capacity is 36 gpm
- Media: 80% Sand : 20% UNH Compost
- Native soil infiltration capacity ~ 0.3 in/hr



Site Characteristics

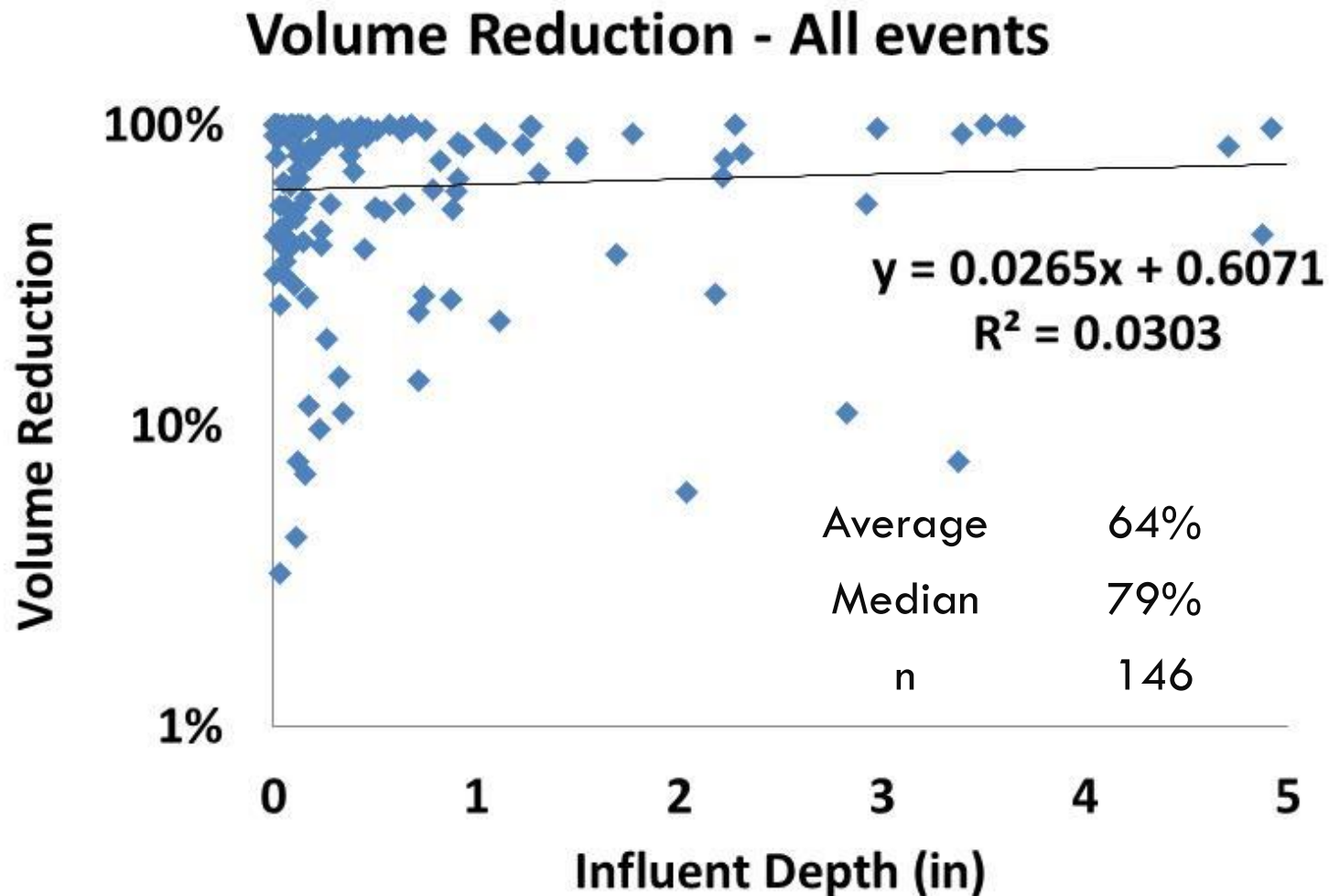
System	Watershed area (acres)	System filter area (sq. feet)	Watershed area to filter area ratio
Tree box filter	0.48	36	577
Tree trench	0.58	2,550	9.9

Overall Hydraulic Performance – tree box filter monitoring

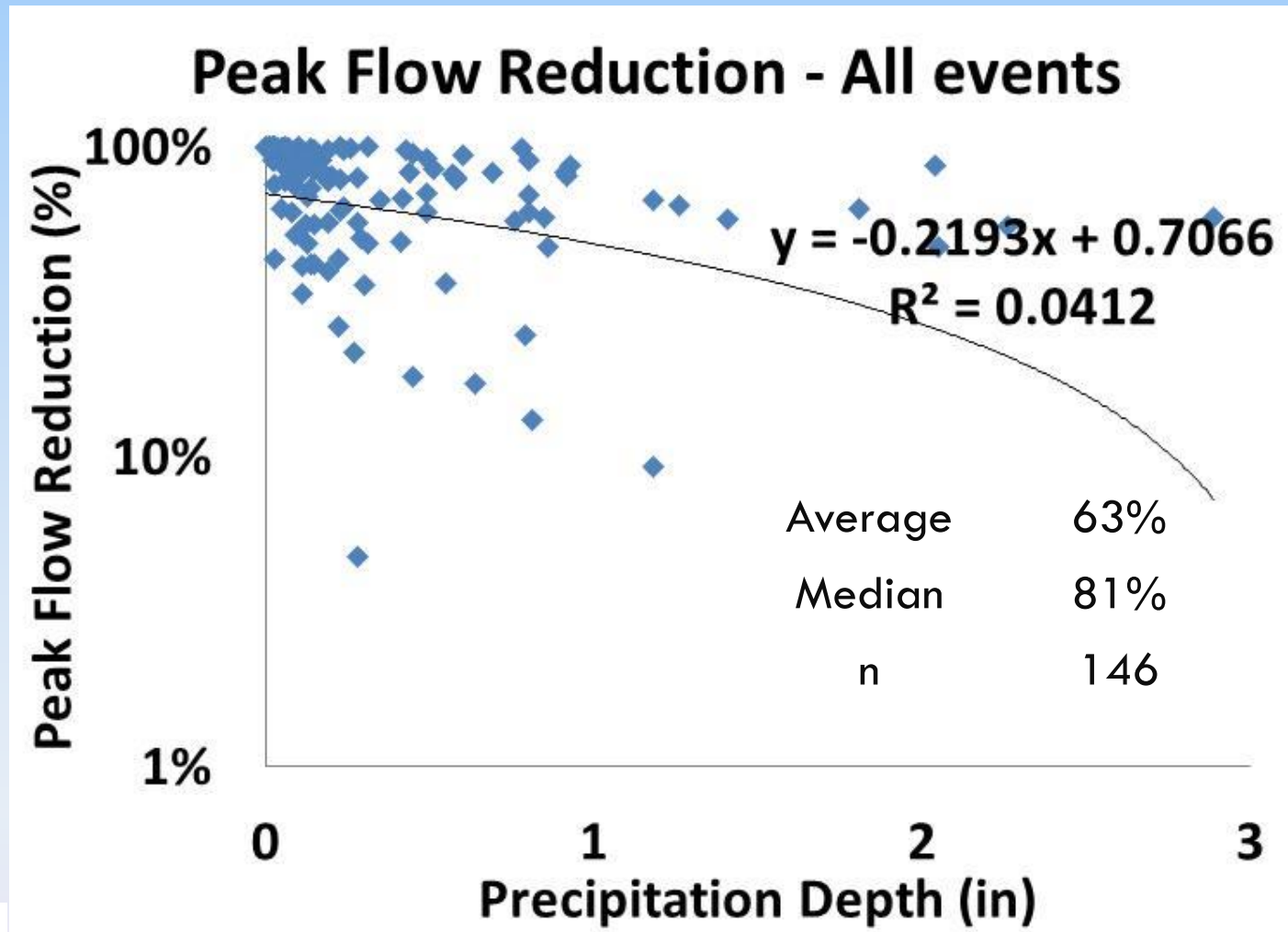
- Inflow (calibrated weir/orifice)
- Outflow (calibrated weir/orifice)
- Inflow Estimate: precipitation times watershed area times runoff coefficient
- In system well

Monitoring period – 12 Jun 2012 – 5 June 2014

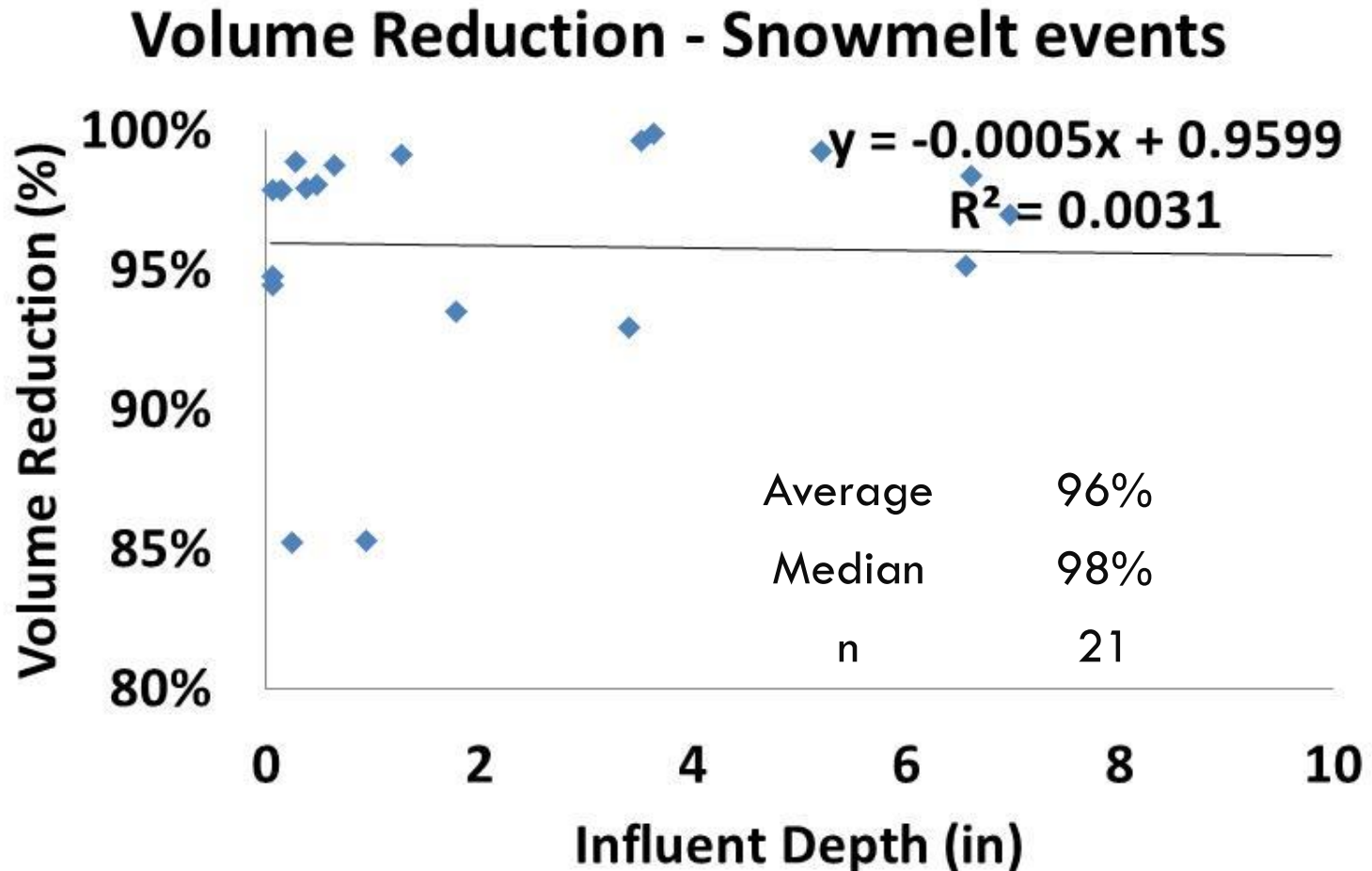
Overall Hydraulic Performance – tree box filter all data



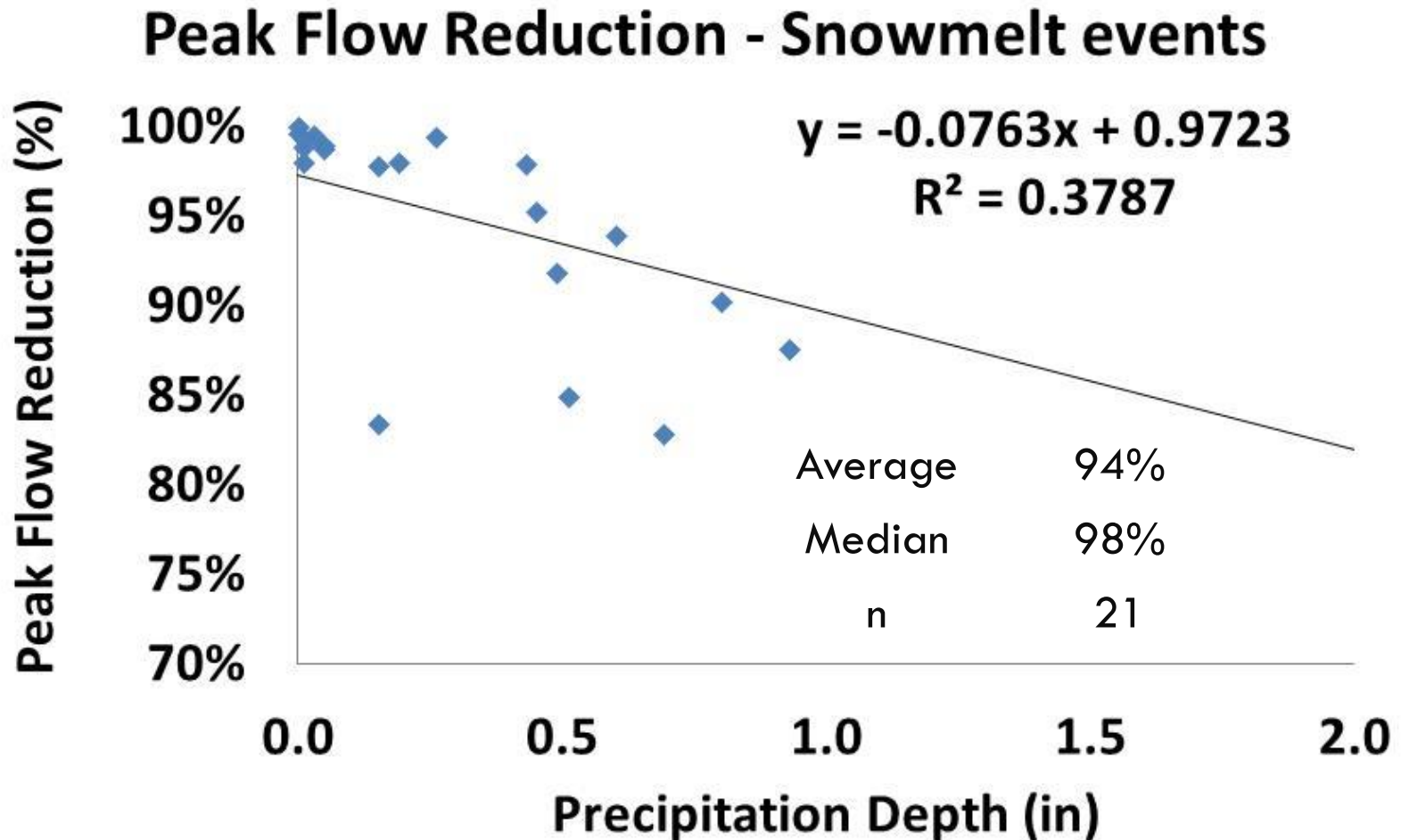
Overall Hydraulic Performance – tree box all data



Overall Hydraulic Performance – tree box filter snowmelt



Overall Hydraulic Performance – tree box filter snowmelt



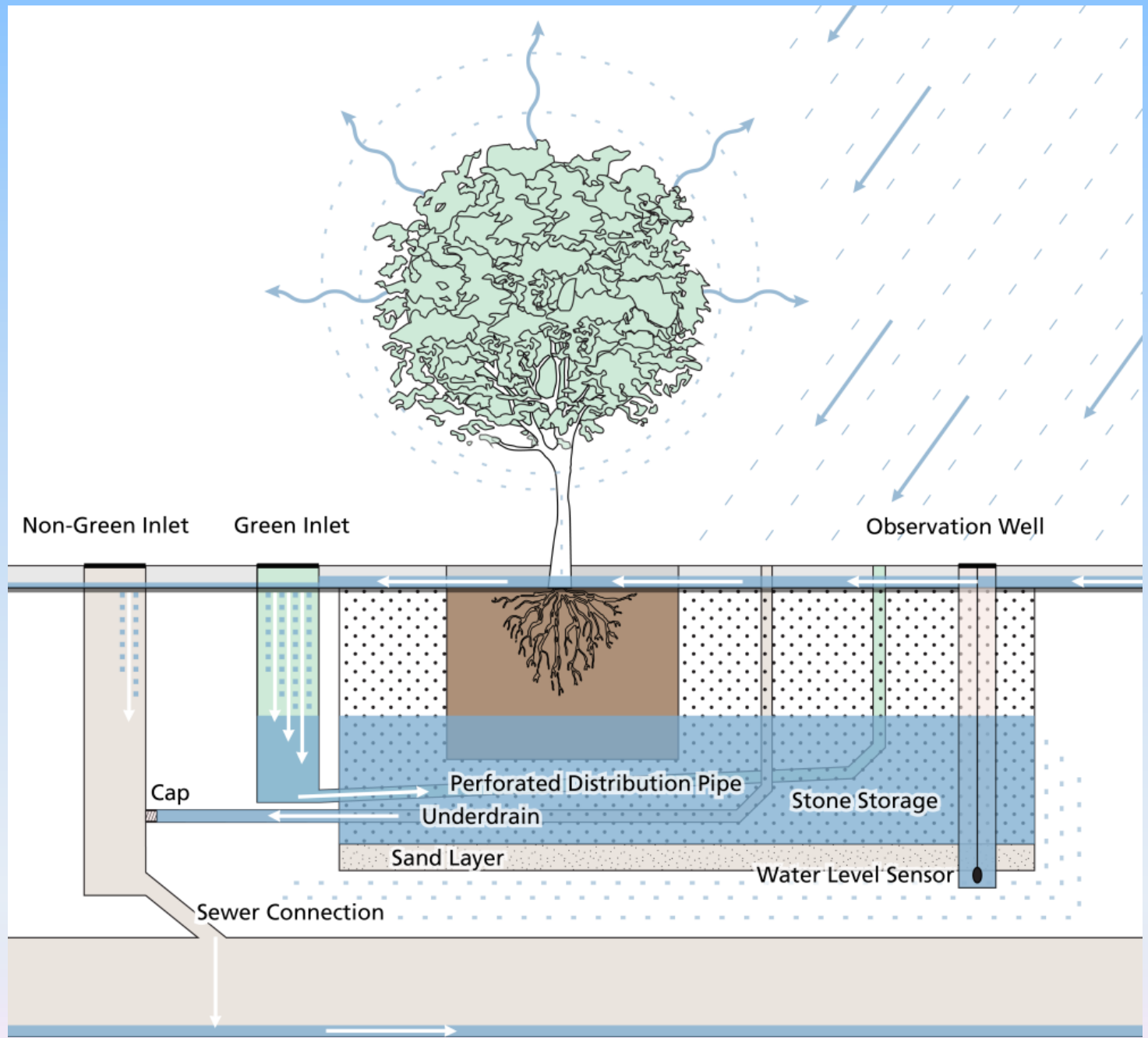


TREES TAKE UP AND TRANSPIRE WATER FROM TRENCH PROVIDING SHADE AND ENHANCING THE STREETScape

STORMWATER FROM ROADWAY FLOWS INTO THE STORMWATER TREE TRENCH

PERFORATED PIPE DISTRIBUTES WATER INTO STONE OR OTHER STORAGE MEDIA WITHIN THE STORMWATER TREE TRENCH

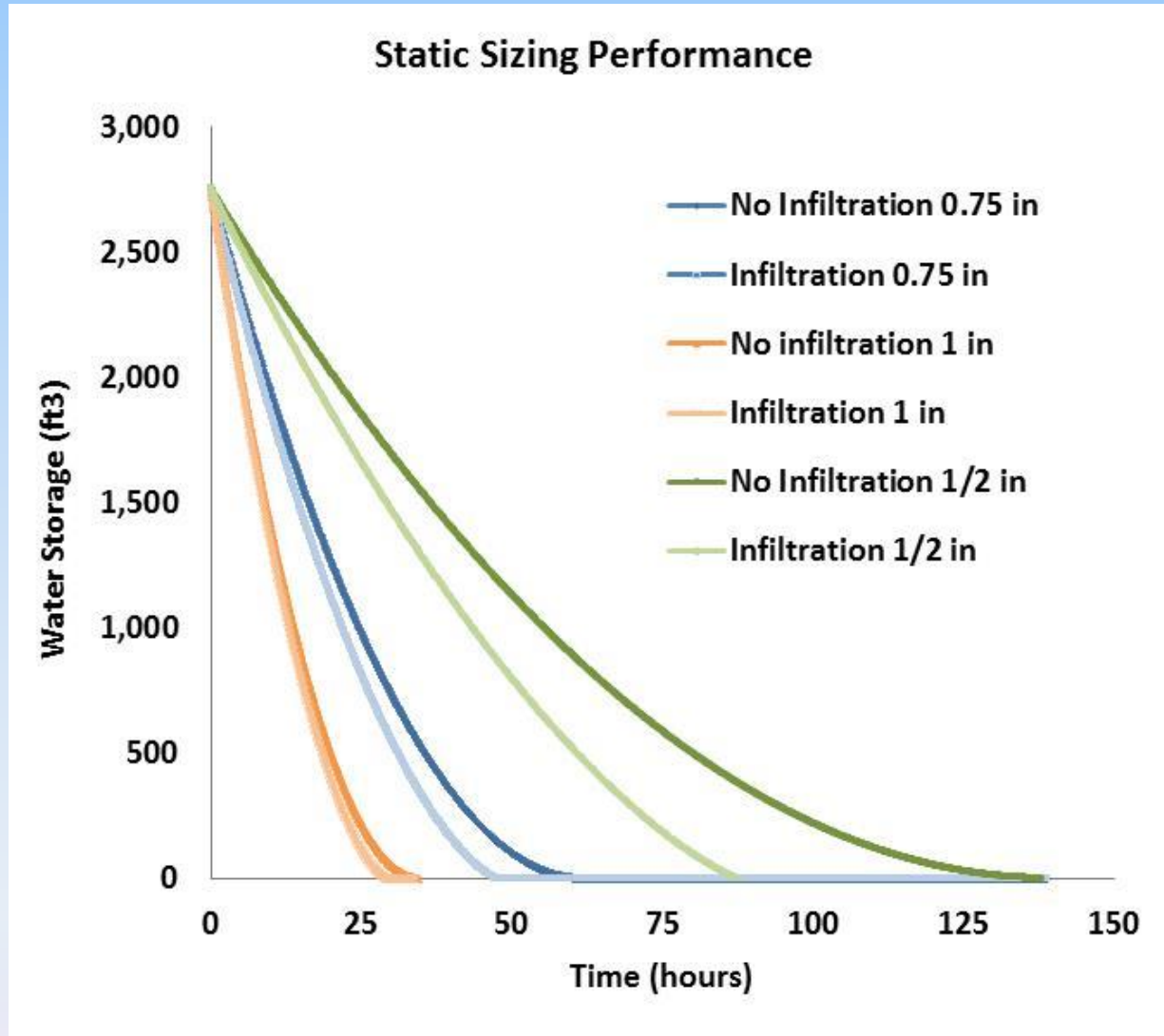
Philadelphia Tree Trench



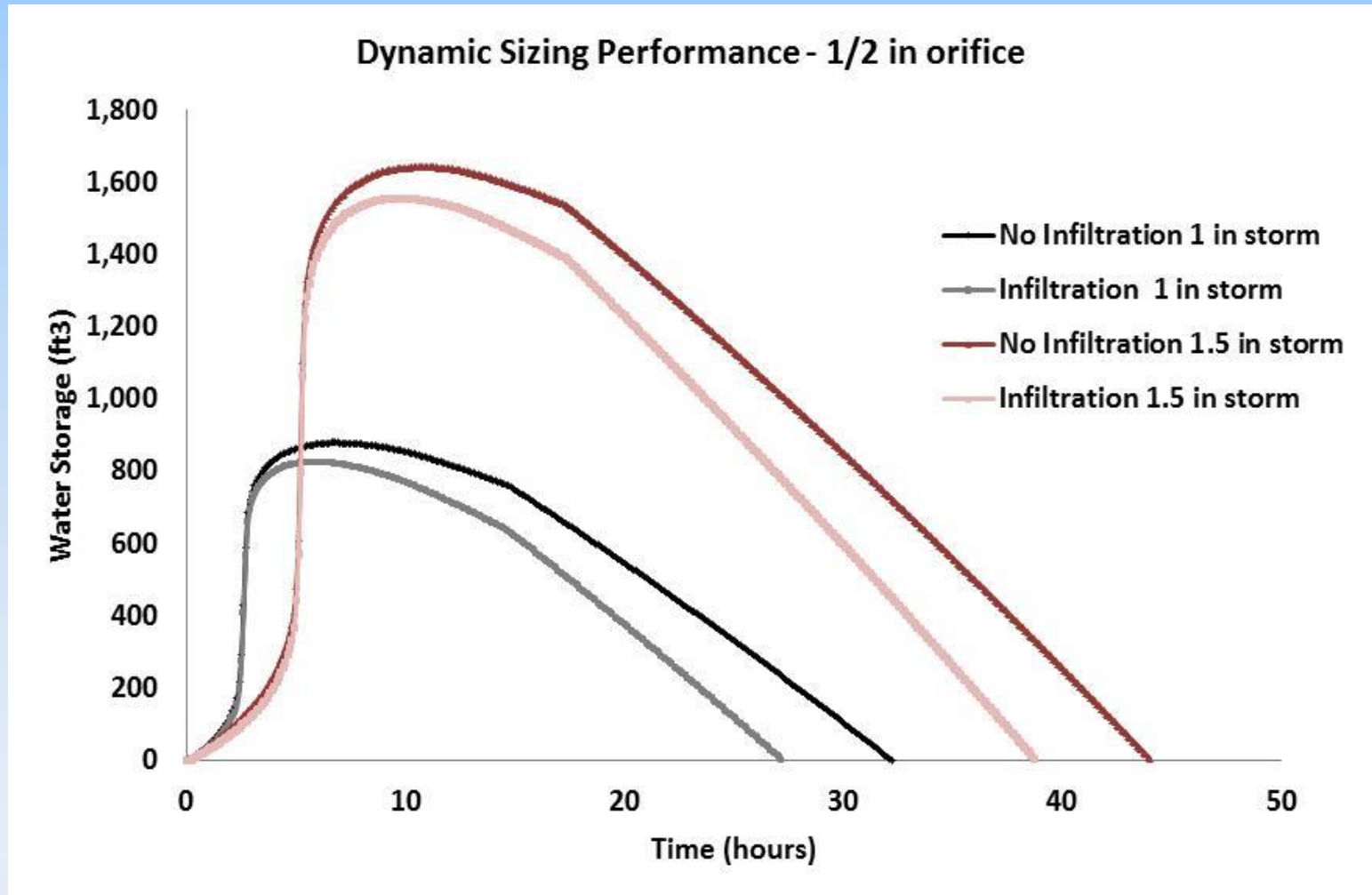
Tree Trench Design Components

- One inch water quality volume
- If design infiltration rates are found to be less than **0.25 inches** per hour, or if system is not able to completely drain in 72 hours, the system should be designed for detention/slow-release.
- Detention/slow-release systems should be designed to release at a maximum rate of 0.05 cfs per acre of contributing impervious drainage area.
- Orifice diameters must not be less than 0.5”.

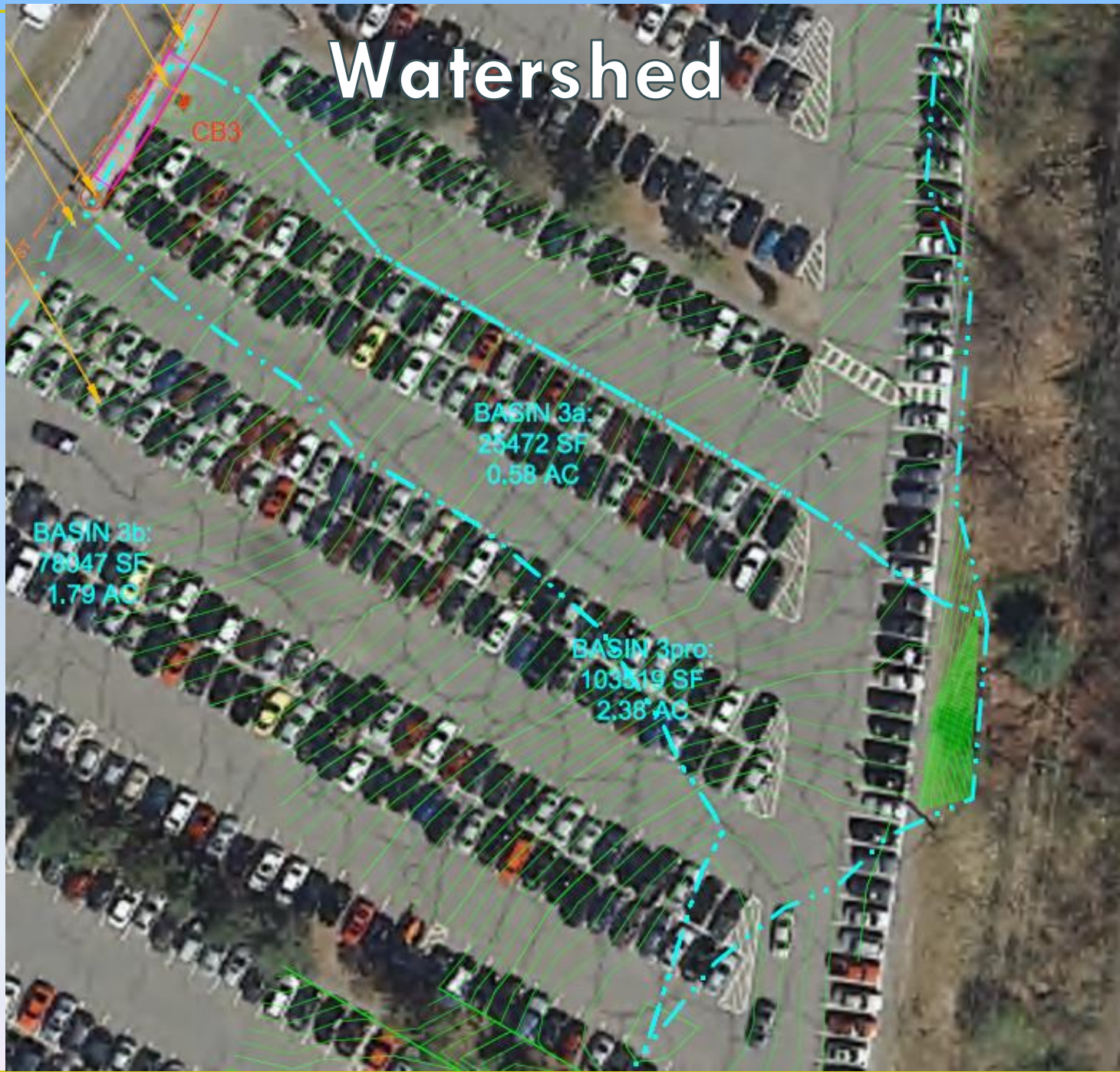
Static Sizing

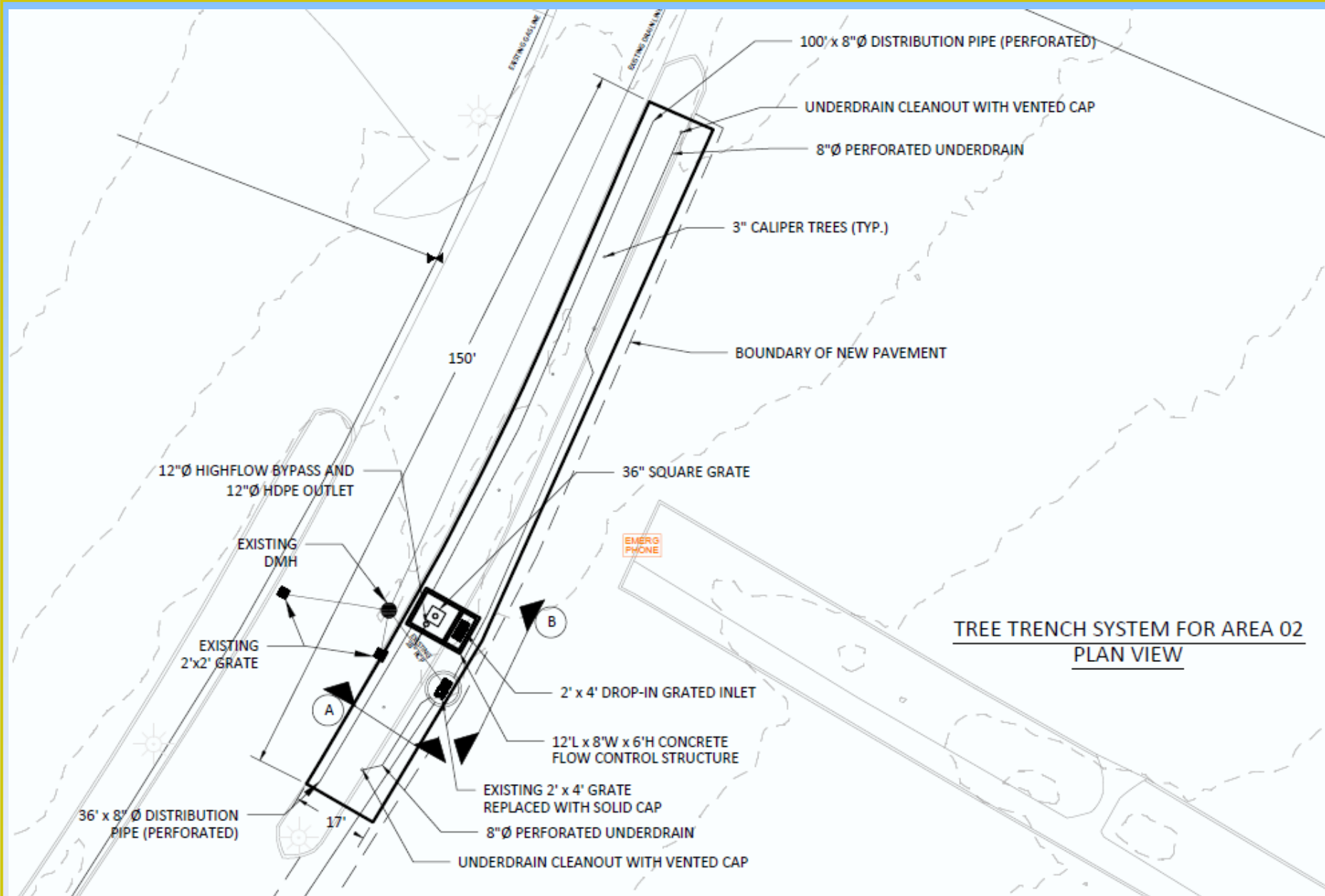


Dynamic Sizing



Watershed





Pre-Existing Site



Soil at the Site

- **ScA—Scantic silt loam, 0 to 3 percent slopes**
- Capacity of the most limiting layer to transmit water (Ksat):
Very low to moderately high (0.00 to 0.20 in/hr)





Location	Turf Tec (in/hr)	Double Ring (in/hr)
1	0.13	0.03
2	1.27	-
3	0.36	-
4	1.98	-

Turf Tec Median = 0.8 in/hr (~0.2 in/hr calibrated to DRI)



Site Today





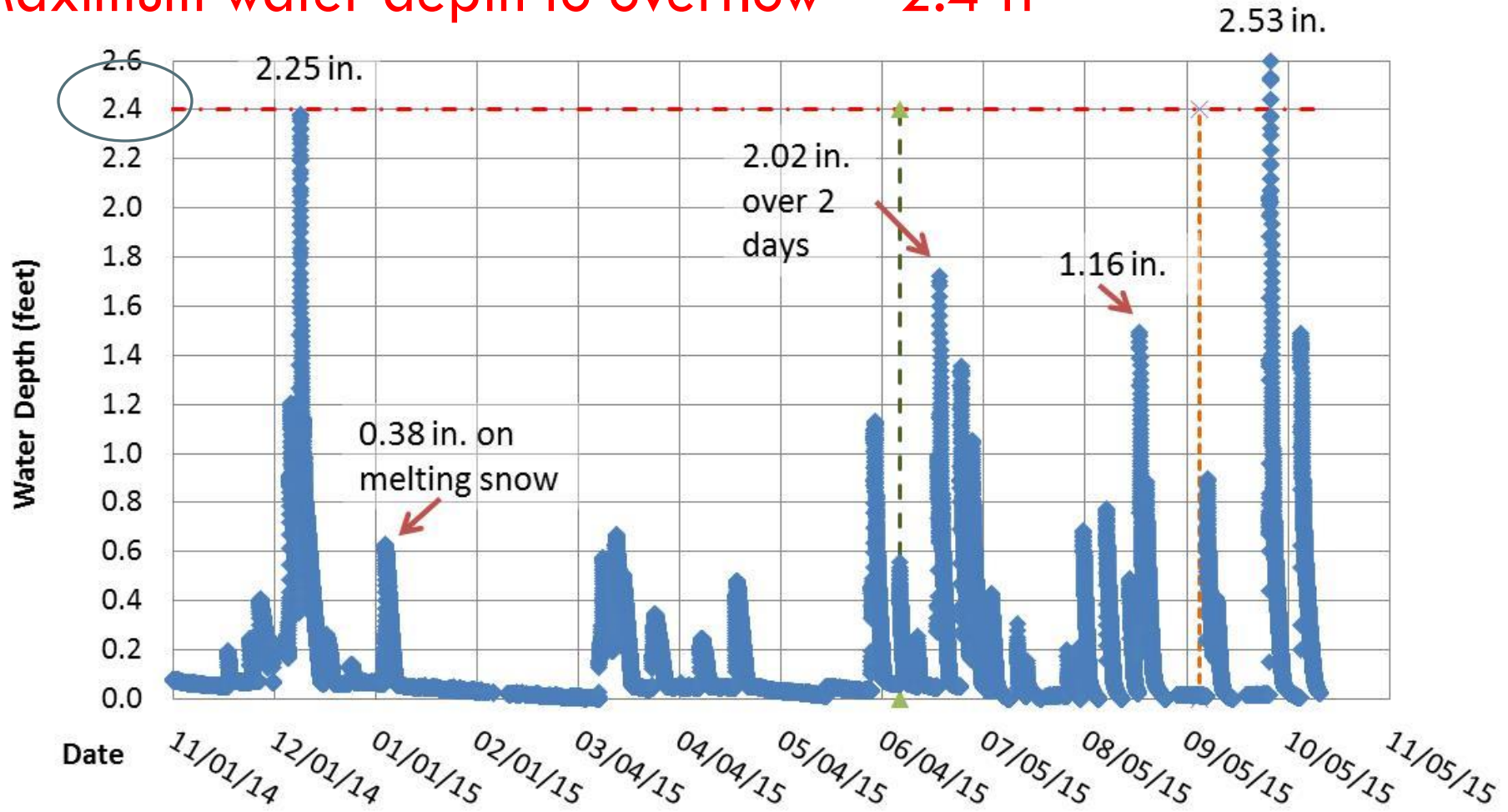
2014/09/03

Tree Trench Monitoring

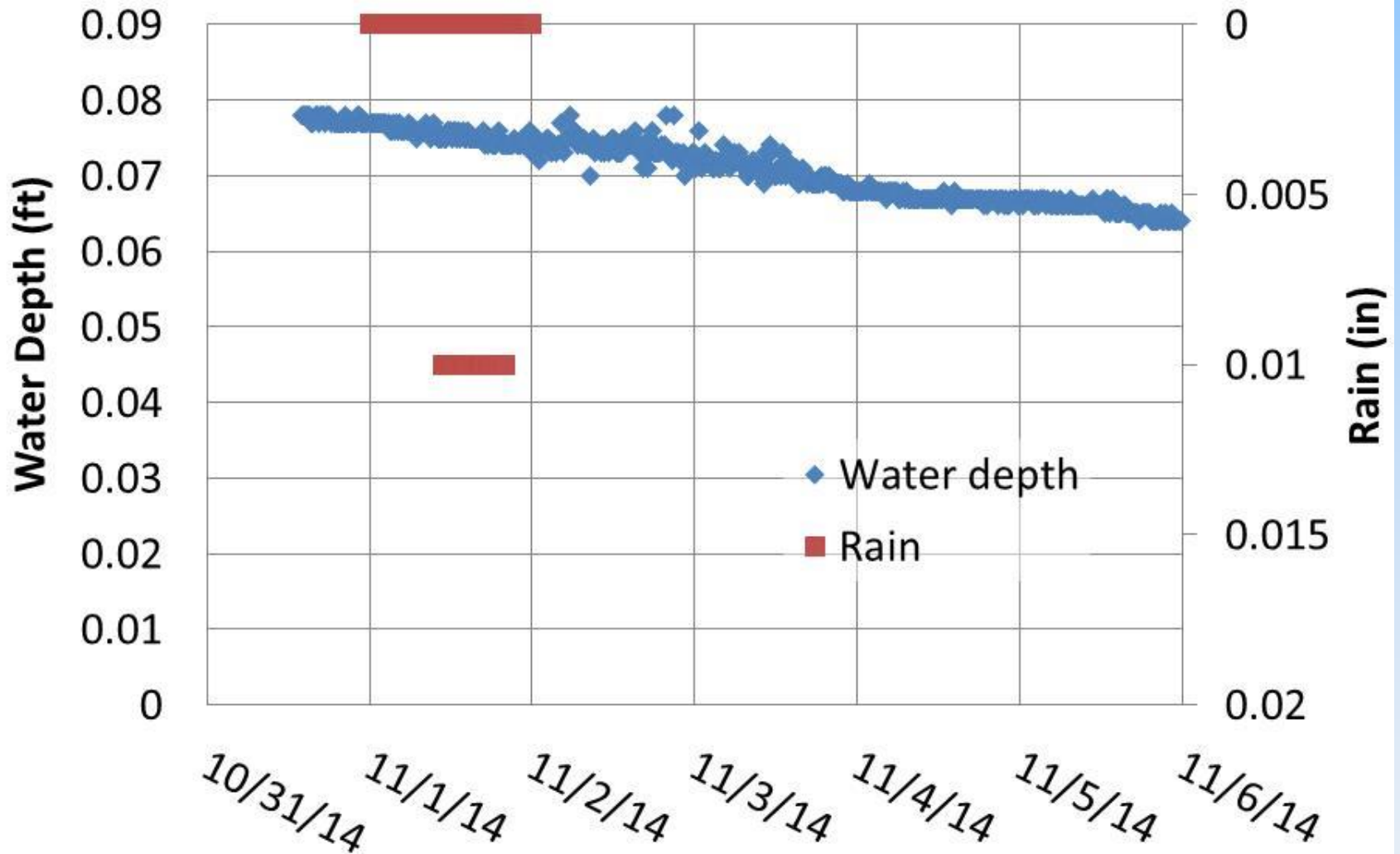
- Inflow volume – precipitation times watershed area times runoff coefficient
- Outflow – estimated from system well water level

Monitoring period – 31 October 2014 – 2 November 2015

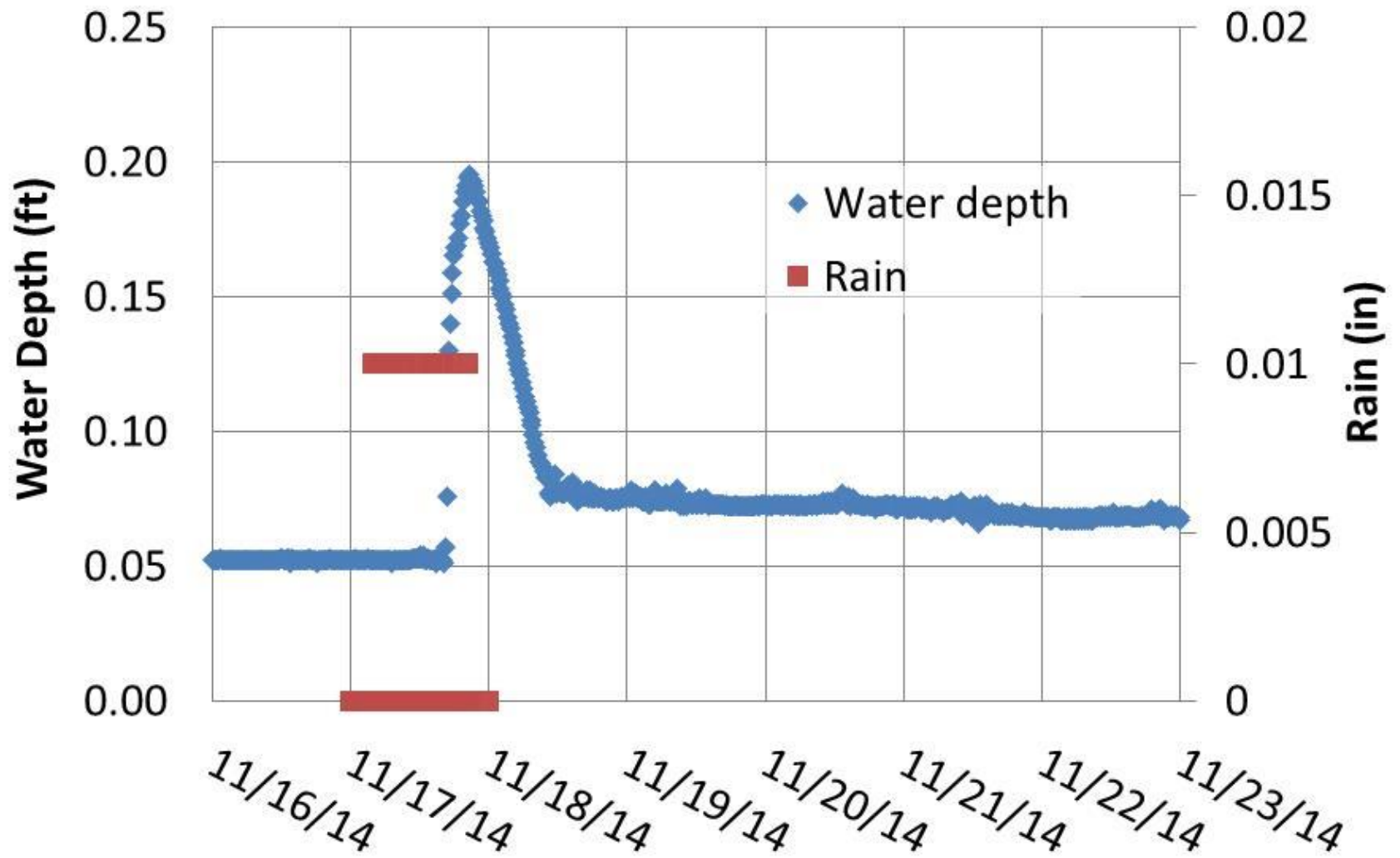
Maximum water depth to overflow = 2.4 ft



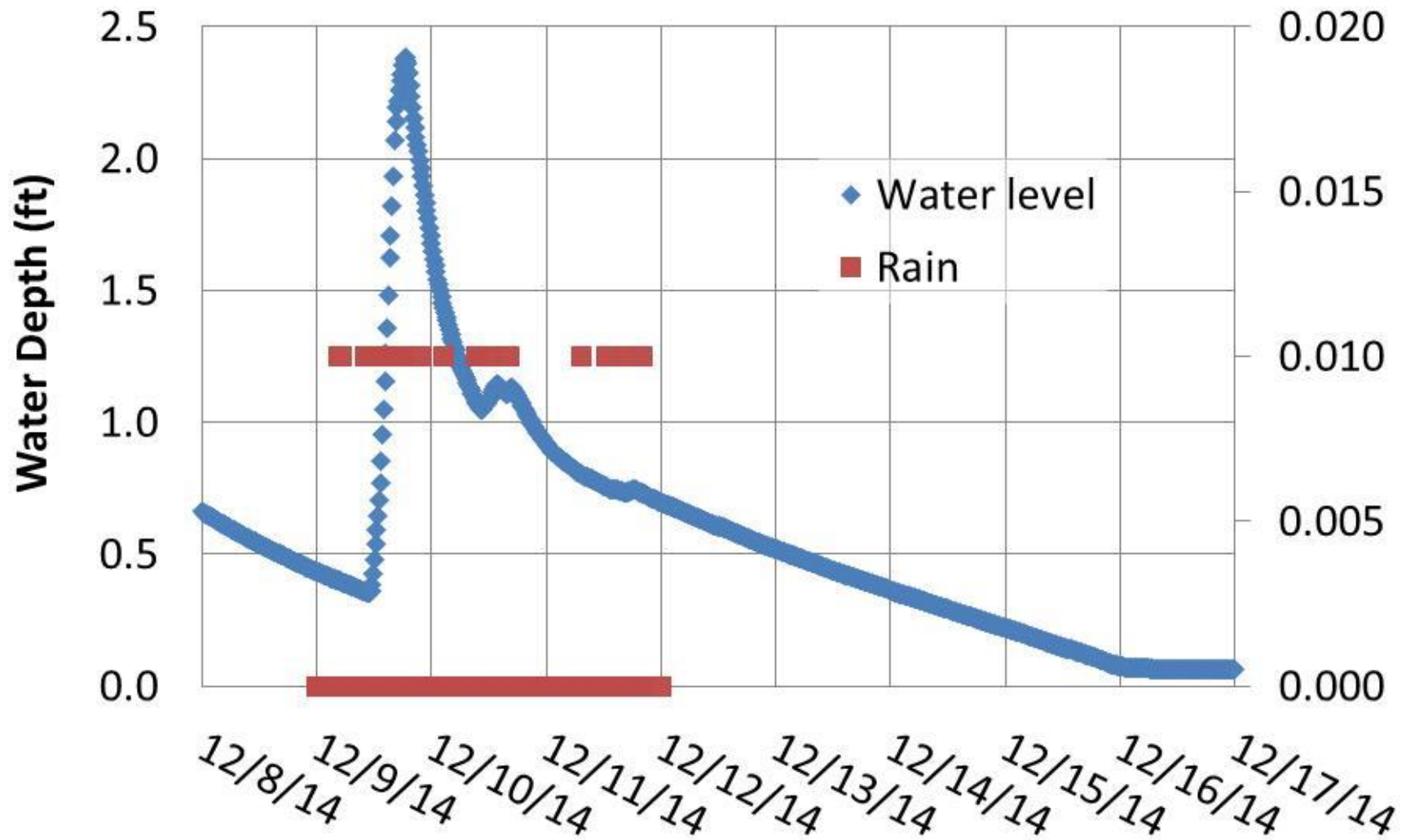
1 November 2014 - 0.48 in



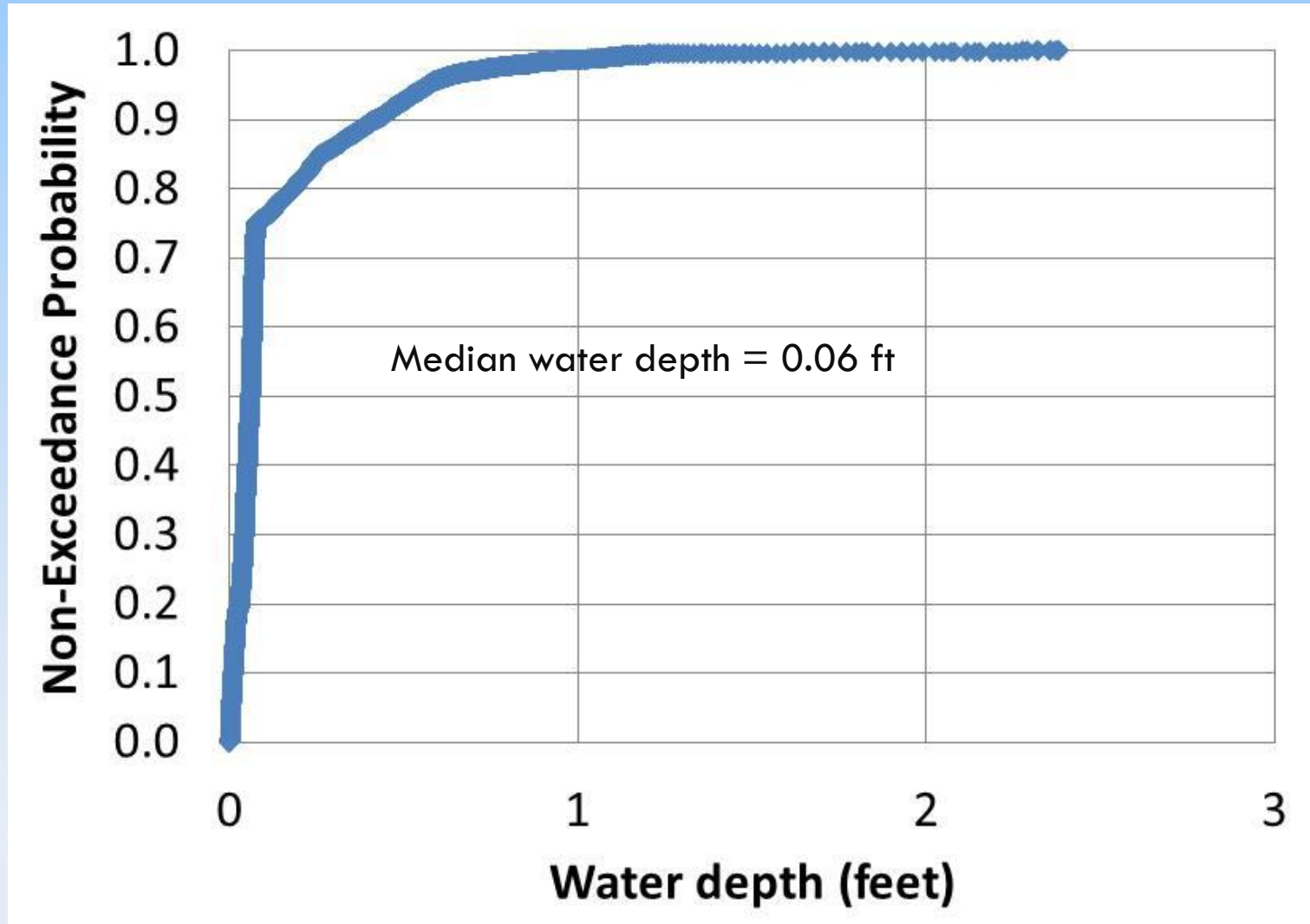
17 November 2014 - 0.94 in



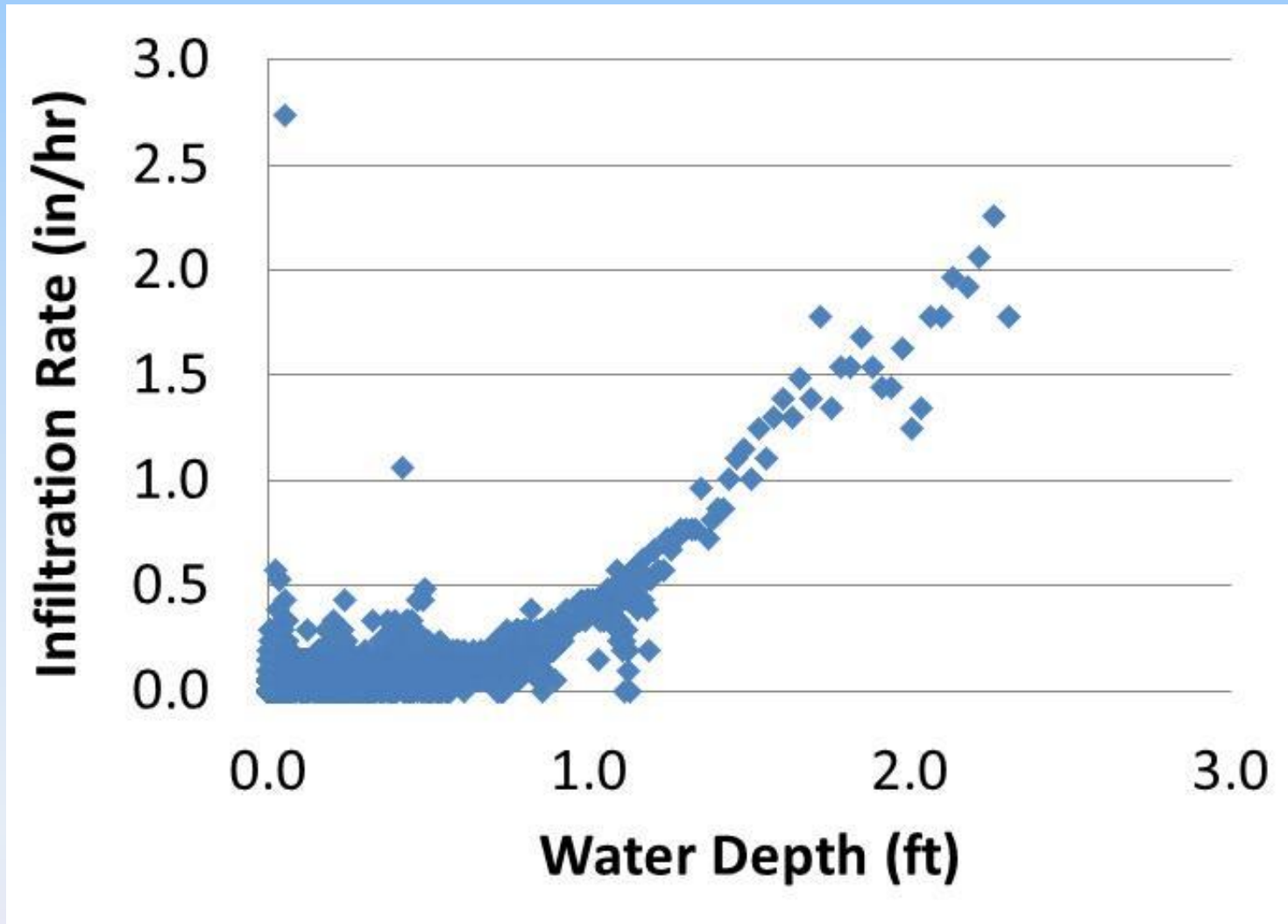
9 December 2014 - 2.23 in



Water Depth Probability



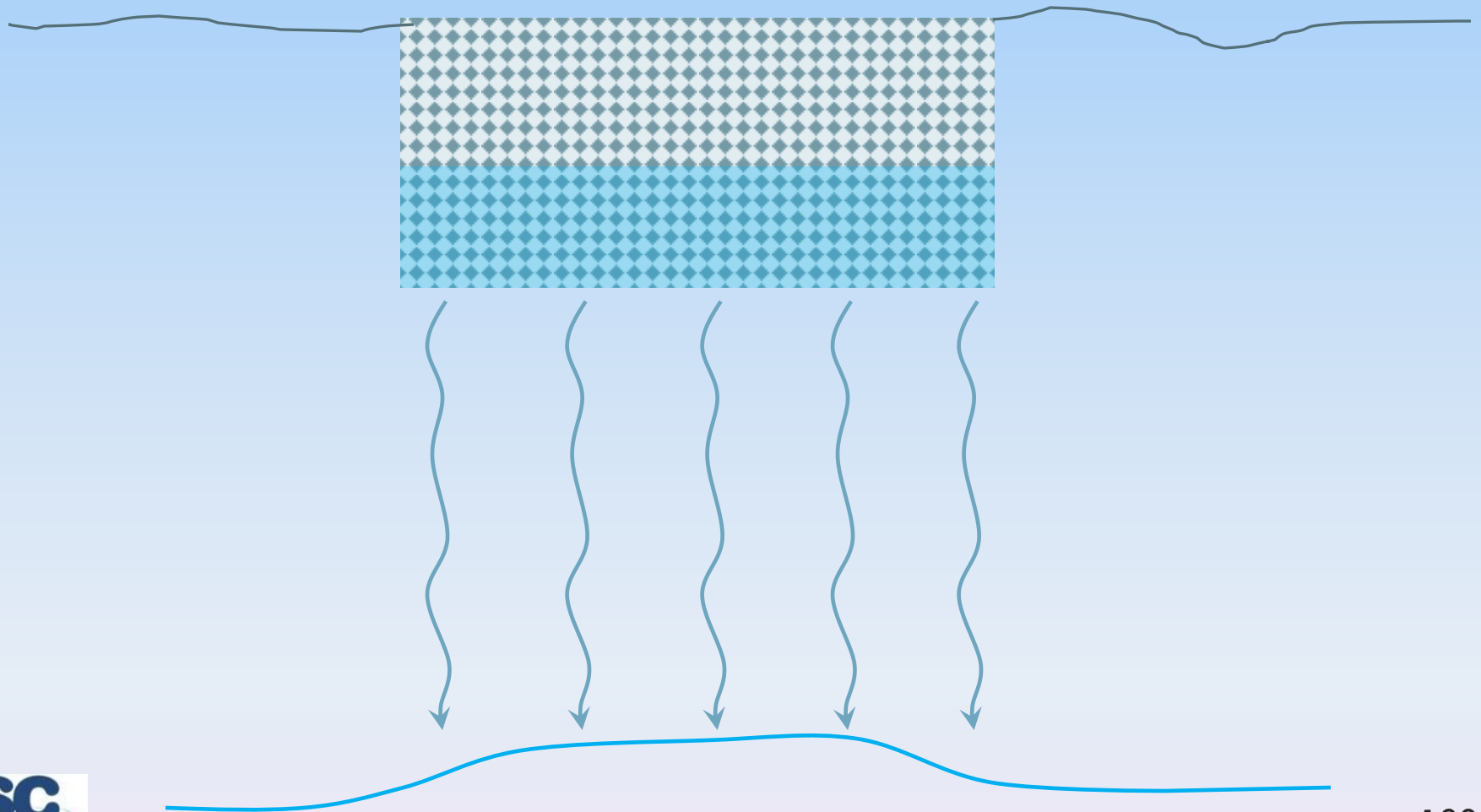
Changing Infiltration Rate



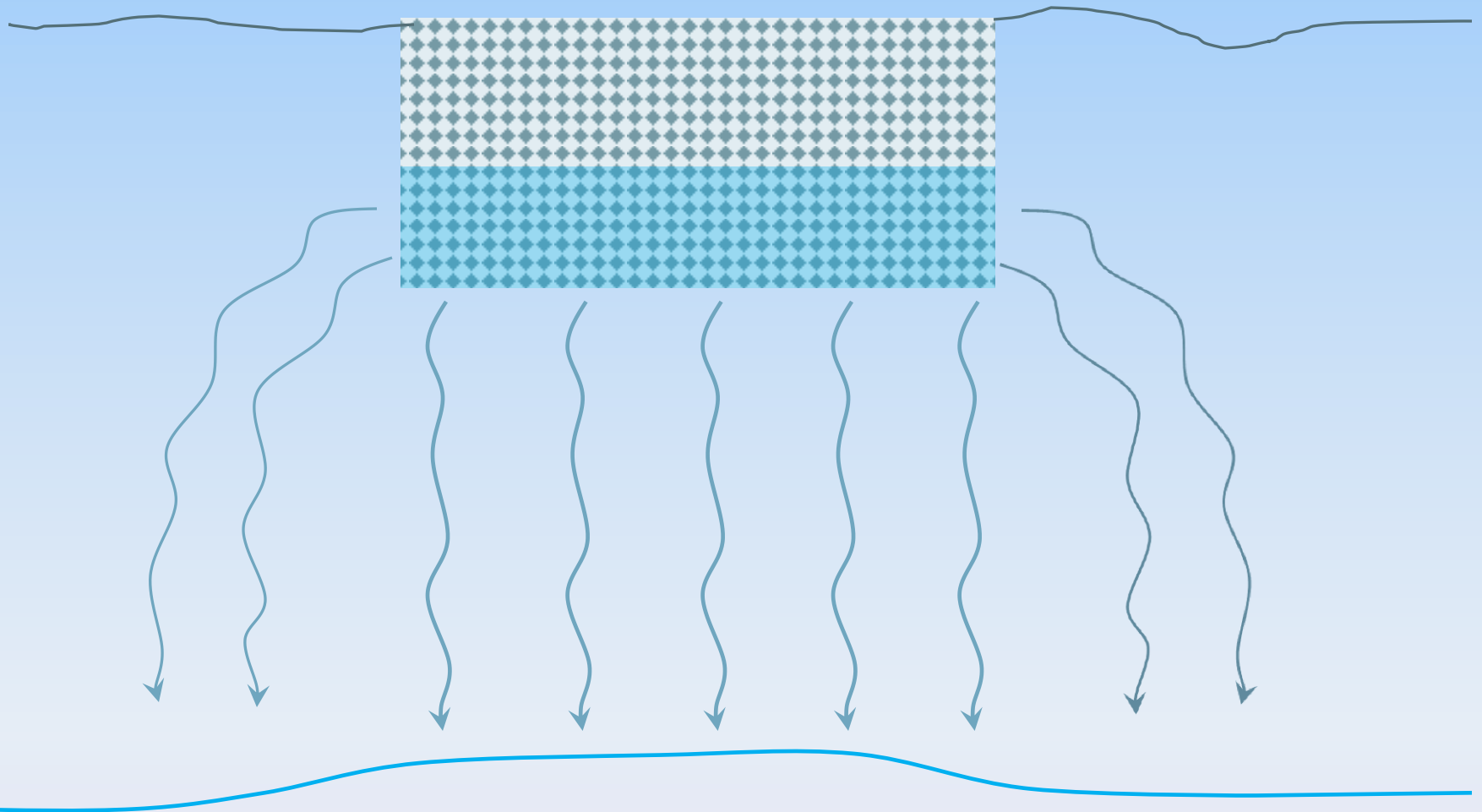
Infiltrated Volume

- For the 366 day period
 - 41.47 in. precip.
 - Precip. Volume = 87,300 ft³
 - Runoff volume (C = 0.92) = 80,330 ft³
 - Infiltrated volume = 64,583 ft³
(estimated from water depth)
 - Total Volume reduction = 80%

Design/Regulatory Model



More Realistic Model



GI: Subsurface Gravel Filter



To
Existing
Swale



{ Excavation



{ Excavation 90% complete



October 7, 2015

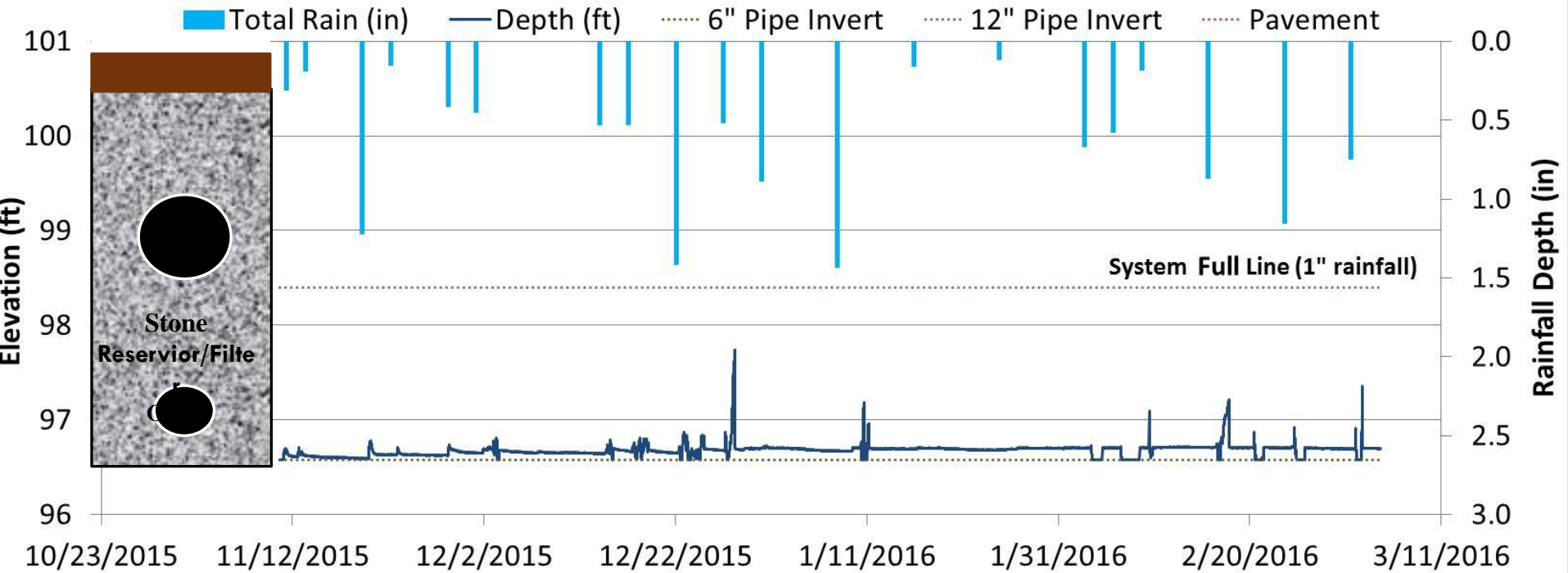
{ Pipe installation

{ Pipe installation between
CB#1 & CB#2



October 8, 2015

Grove St : Subsurface Gravel Filter - Water Elevation



Conclusions

- Infiltration systems yield higher infiltration rates than design rate presumably because most design methods
 - Use only bottom area
 - Use a fraction ($1/2$ to $1/3$) of field measured rates.
- This is leading to unnecessarily oversized systems and larger capital and maintenance costs

Performance analysis of two relatively small capacity urban retrofit stormwater controls












Sizing Details

System	WQV ft ³ (m ³)	Actual WQV ft ³ (m ³)	% of normal design	Rain Event in (mm)	Sizing Method
SGWSC	7,577 (214.6)	720 (20.4)	10%	0.10 (2.5)	Static
IBSCS	1,336 (37.8)	310 (8.8)	23%	0.23 (5.8)	Dynamic

$$WQV = \left(\frac{P}{12}\right) \times IA$$

Dynamic Bioretention Sizing

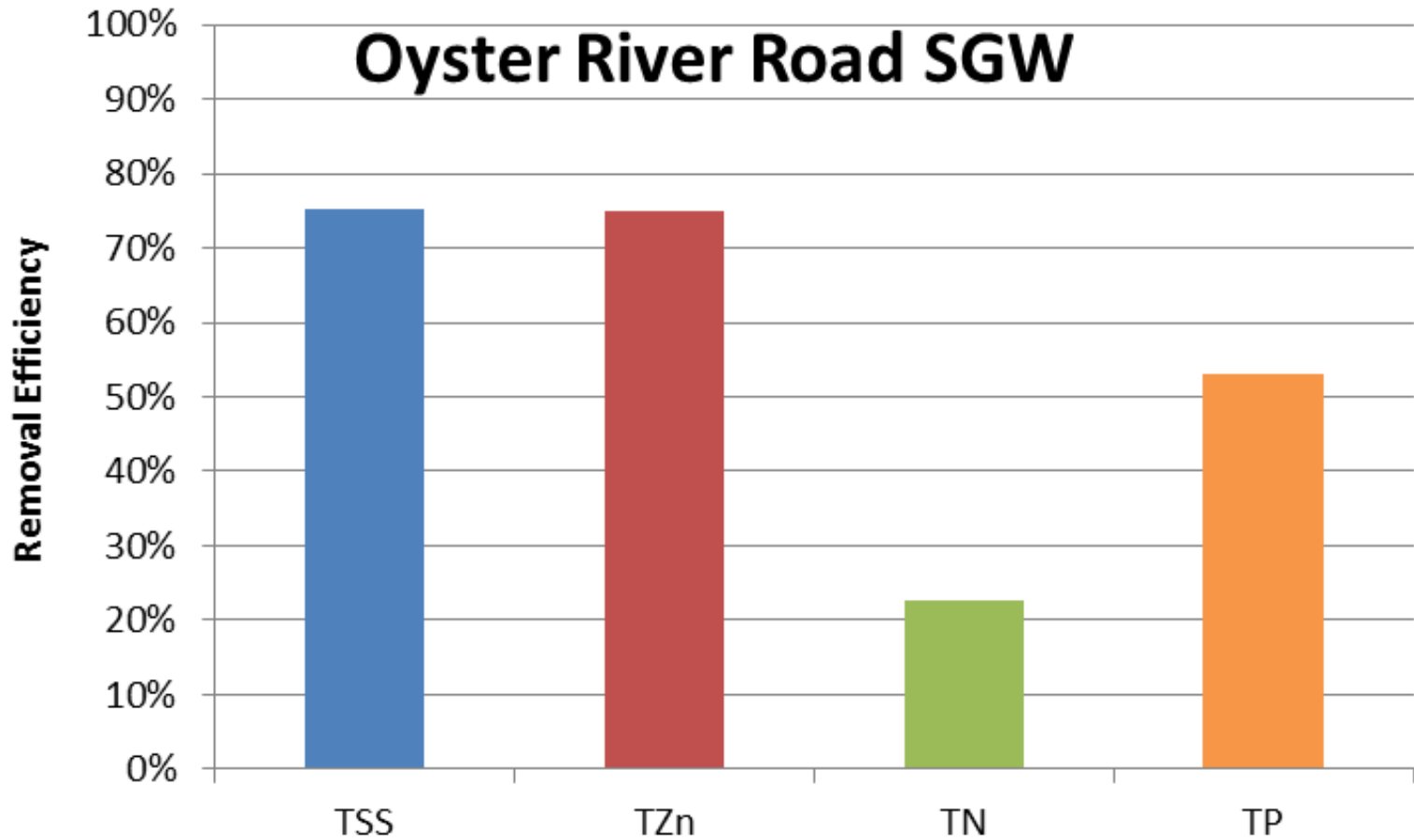


$$df = Vwq * \frac{df}{(i(hf + df)tf)}$$

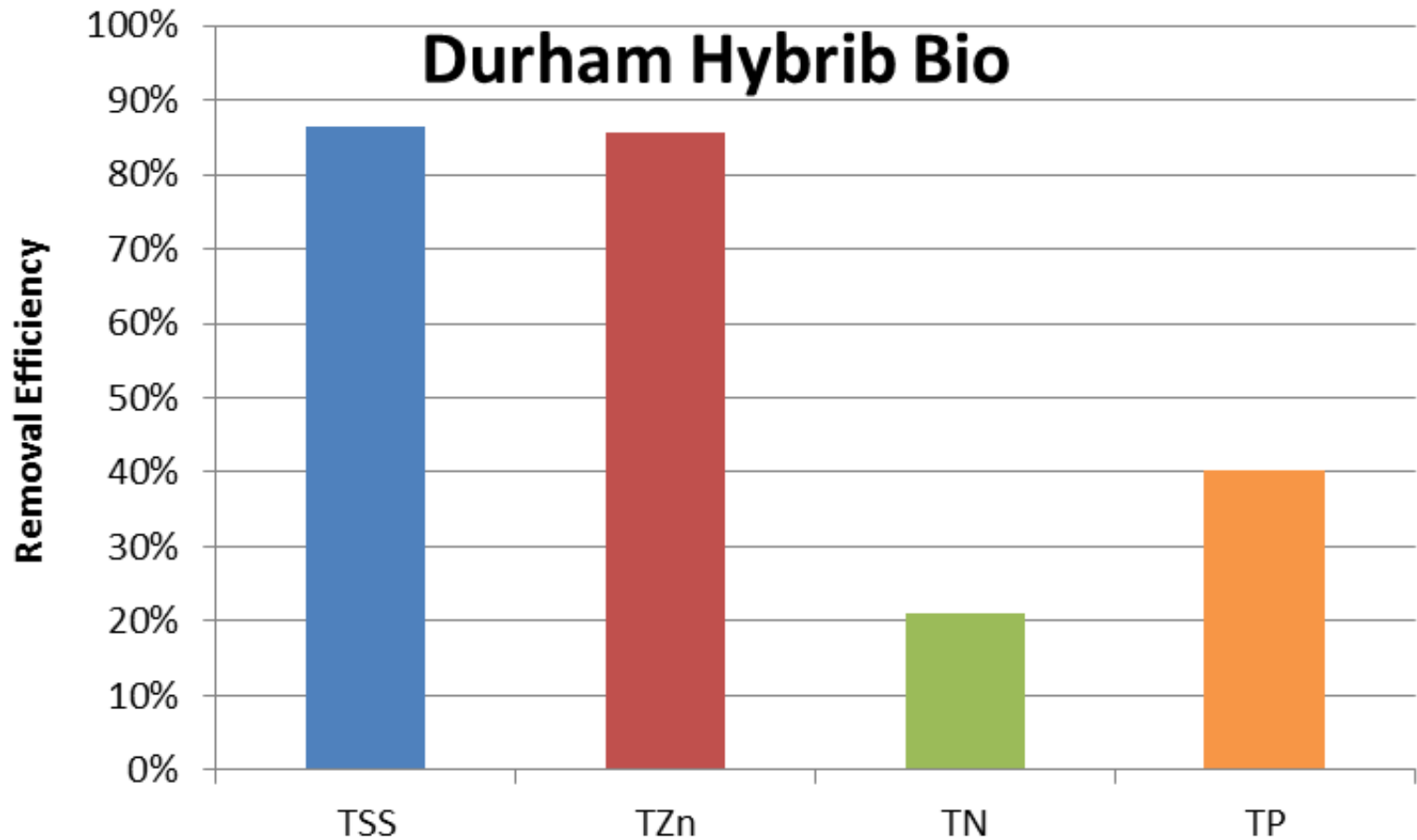
Static SGW System Sizing

$$Q = CdA\sqrt{2gh}$$

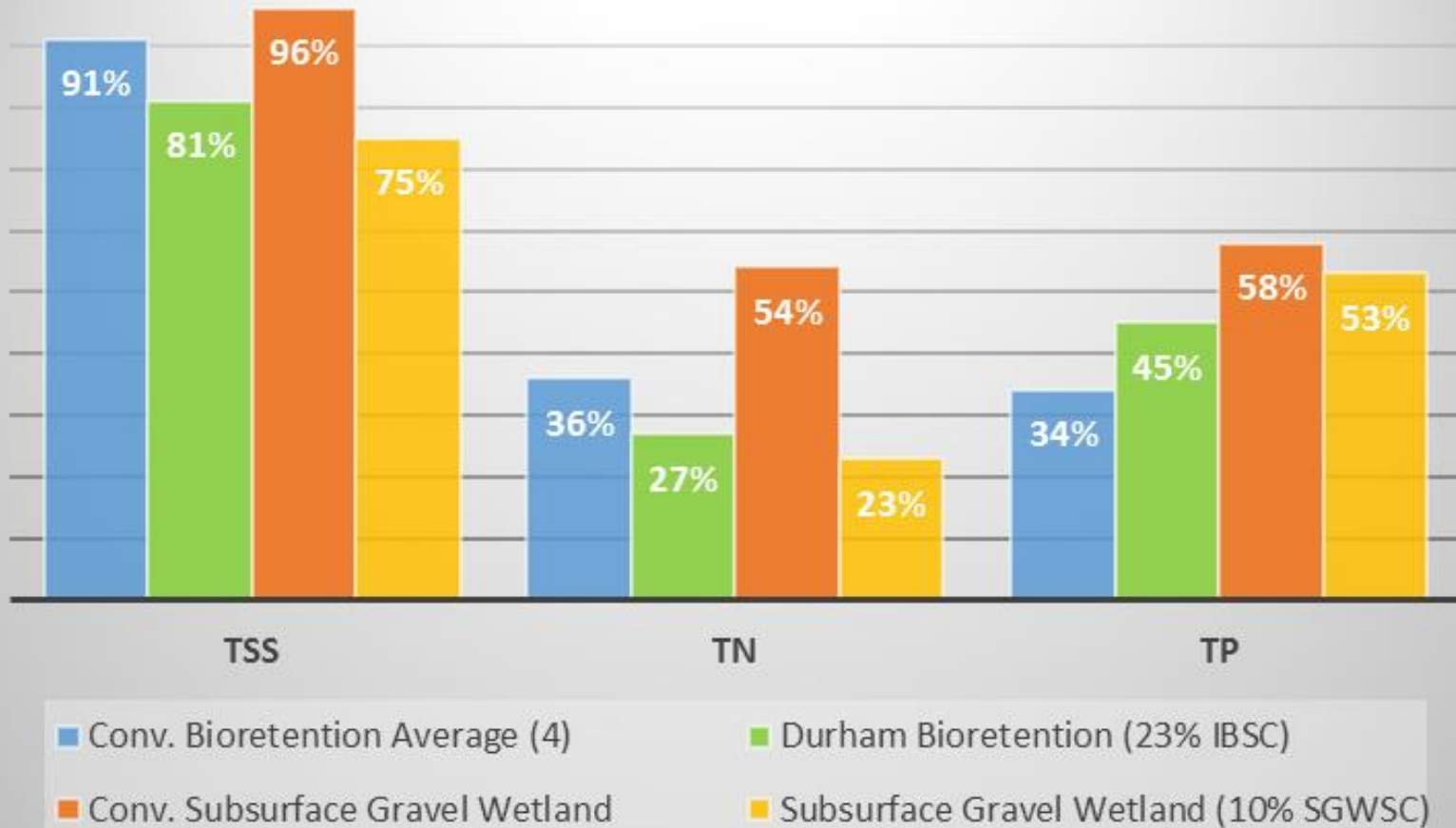
Oyster River Road SGW



TSS EMC (mg/l)		TZn EMC (mg/l)		TN EMC (mg/l)		TP EMC (mg/l)	
Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent
107	17	0.3	0.1	2.1	1.5	0.3	0.1
n= 15		n= 9		n= 15		n= 15	

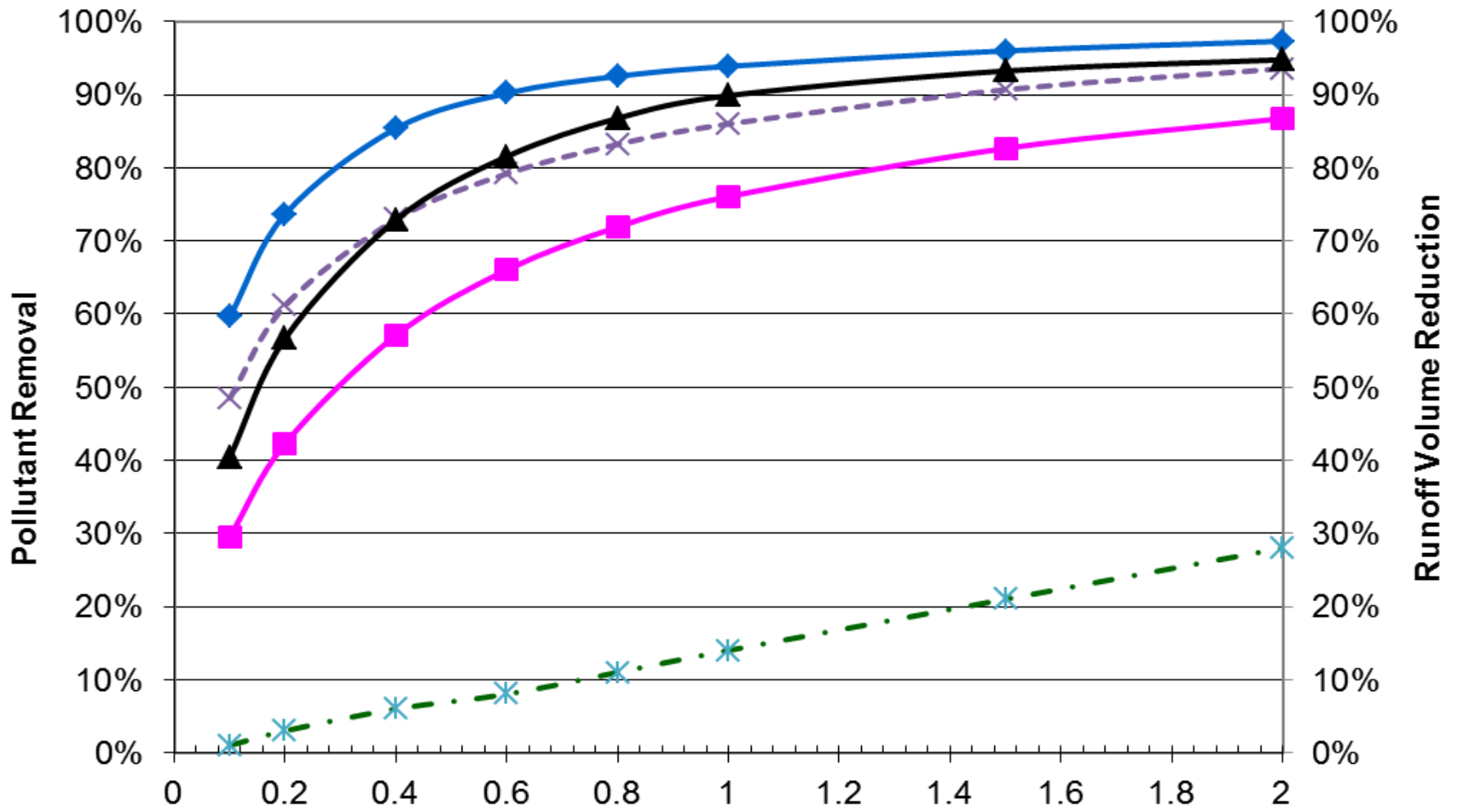


TSS EMC (mg/l)		TZn EMC (mg/l)		TN EMC (mg/l)		TP EMC (mg/l)	
n= 19		n= 19		n= 19		n= 18	
Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent	Influent	Effluent
106	21	0.11	0.02	1.9	1.4	0.14	0.07



System	TSS	TN	TP
Conv. Bioretention Average (4)	91%	36%	34%
Durham Bioretention (23% IBSC)	81%	27%	45%
Conv. Subsurface Gravel Wetland	96%	54%	58%
Subsurface Gravel Wetland (10% SGWSC)	75%	23%	53%

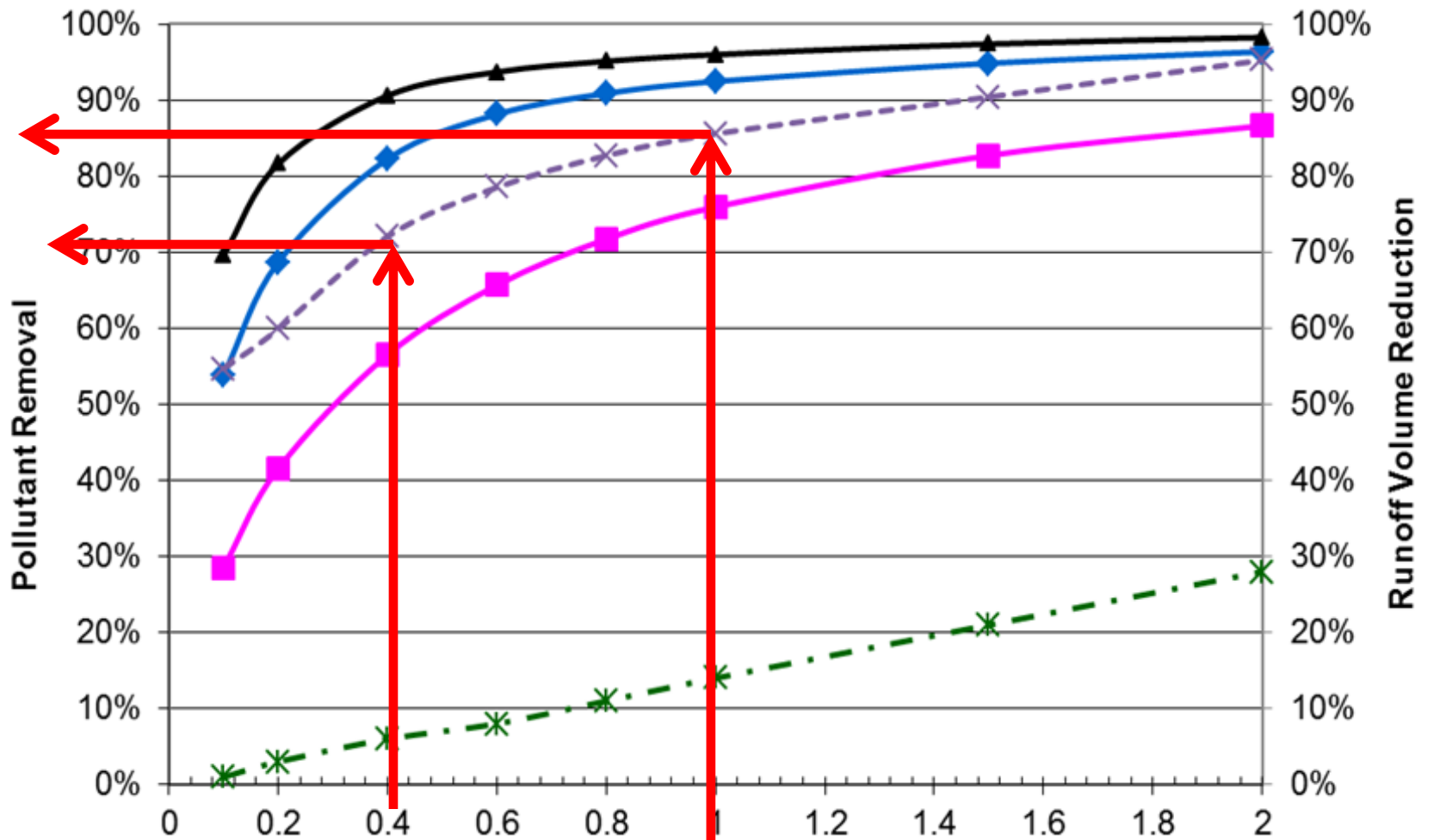
BMP Performance Curve: Enhanced Bioretention Land Use: Medium Density Residential



physical storage capacity - runoff depth from IA



BMP Performance Curve: Enhanced Bioretention Land Use: Commercial



physical storage capacity - runoff depth from IA



The Big Picture

- WQV design is a great concept
- For retrofits, cannot always fully size to the WQV
- Undersized system performance is still remarkable
- Adding in dynamic sizing means that we could be saving 30% to 60% of the cost estimates floating around to meet TMDL targets....literally billions of dollars

Stormwater Management Design - 70.5 acre Ultra-Urban Drainage Area

Sizing Comparison of Capital Costs and Relative Phosphorus Load Removal Efficiency

Best Management Practice Size	Depth of Runoff Treated from Impervious Area (in)	*Storage Volume Cost (\$/ft ³)	**Total Phosphorus Removal Efficiency (%)
Subsurface Gravel Filter - Minimum Size	0.35	\$1,016,912	62%
Subsurface Gravel Filter - Moderate Size	0.5	\$1,452,732	80%
Subsurface Gravel Filter - Full Size	1.0	\$2,905,463	96%

*Storage Volume Cost estimates provided by EPA-Region 1 for Opti-Tool methodology, 2015-Draft

**Total Phosphorus %RE based on Appendix F Massachusetts MS4 Permit



<http://www.unh.edu/erg/cstev>

