



# Site Characterization for DNAPLs



Presented by: Seth Pitkin, Stone Environmental, Inc.

NEWMOA DNAPL Investigation & Remediation: The Evolving State-of-Practice Workshop February 2015



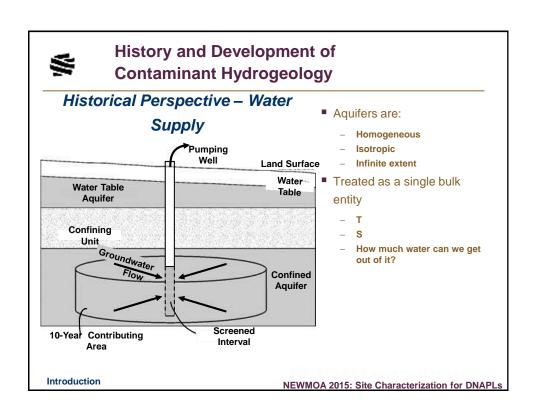
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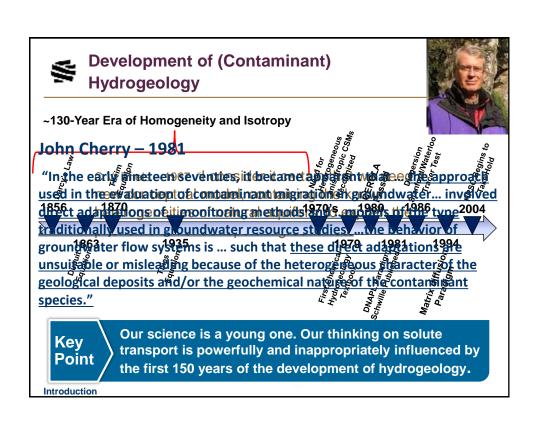


# **Presentation Overview**



- What is High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC)?
- Scientific Basis for HRSC
- Matrix Diffusion
- Implementation of HRSC
- HRSC Tools and Approaches
- Mass Flux and Mass Discharge
- Wrap Up







# Data Needs: What you need to know at a "DNAPL Site"

- What phases are the contaminants in? (DNAPL, aqueous, sorbed, gas)
- What is the source? (DNAPL, sorbed mass, solute mass in low K zones)
- Where is the source located in 3 dimensions
- Where is the source located w.r.t. permeability? (in high K zones or low K zones)
- Where are the primary transport pathways?
- Where are the receptors?
- What attenuation mechanisms are active? (sorption/retardation, biodegradation, abiotic degradation, dispersion, diffusion into low K zones

For most DNAPL sites these questions can only be answered using High Resolution Site Characterization (HRSC)

Introduction

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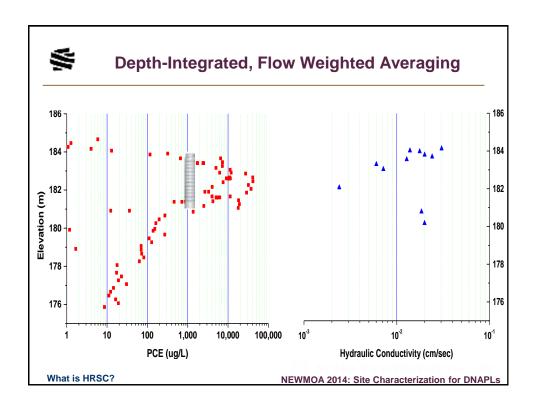


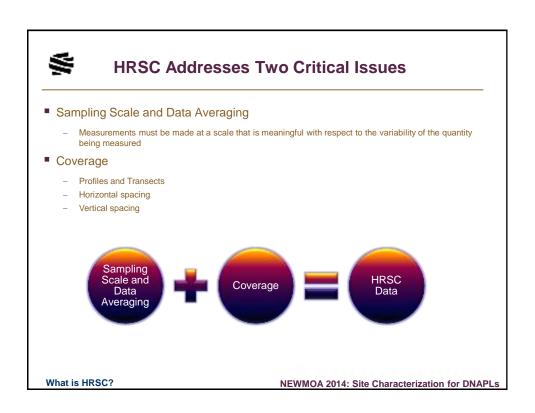
### What is HRSC?

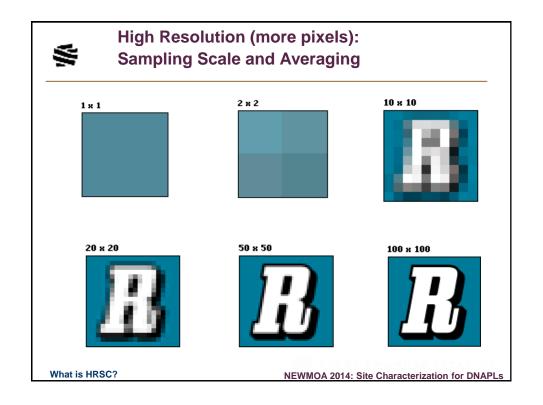
Subsurface investigation appropriate to the scale of <a href="https://example.com/heterogeneities">heterogeneities</a> in the subsurface which control contaminant distribution, transport, and fate, at the required degree of detail

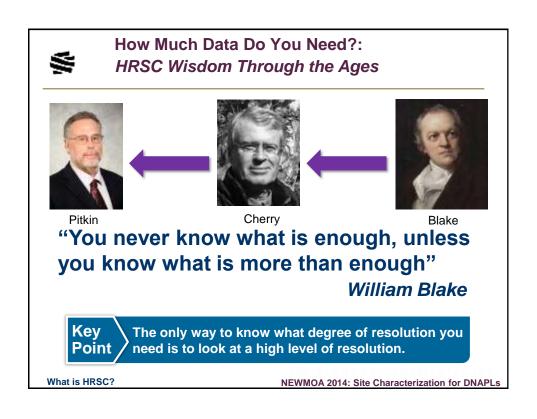
- Spatial structure of hydrogeologic variables controlling contamination distribution, transport, and fate is on the centimeter scale
- Remedies involving injection/extraction of fluids are controlled by the same variables at the same scales

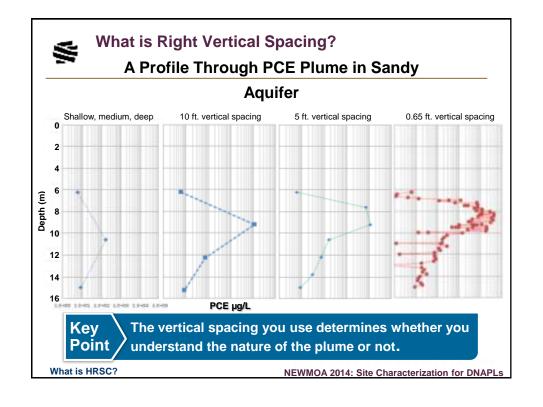
What is HRSC?

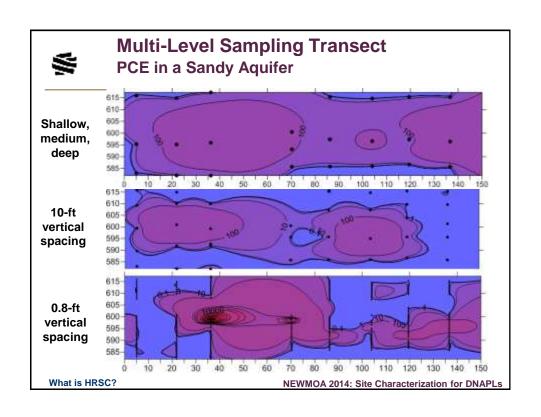


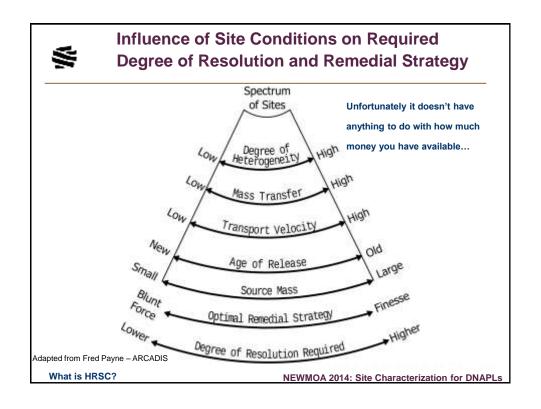






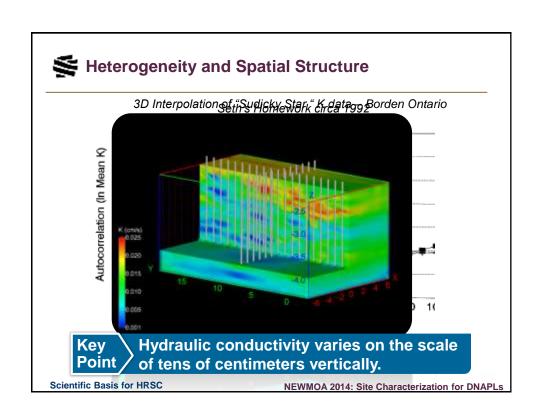


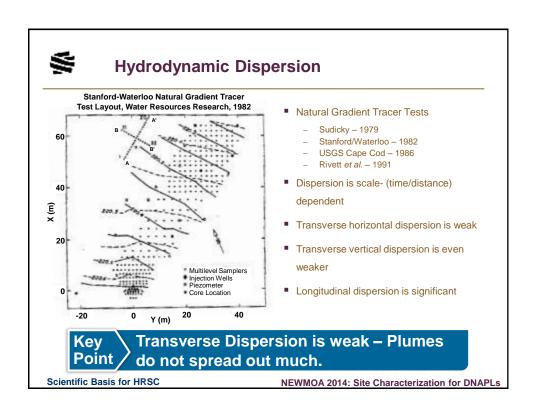


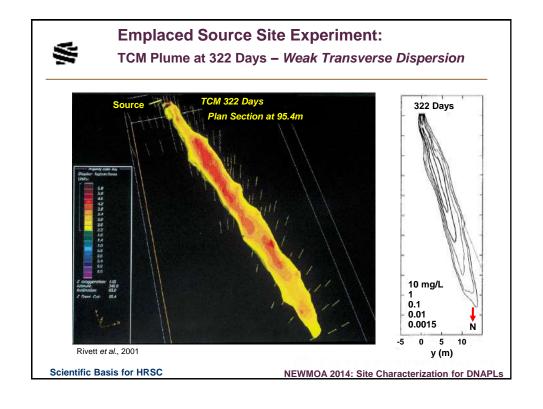


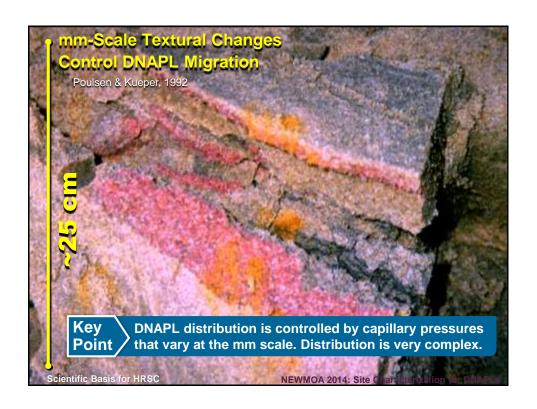


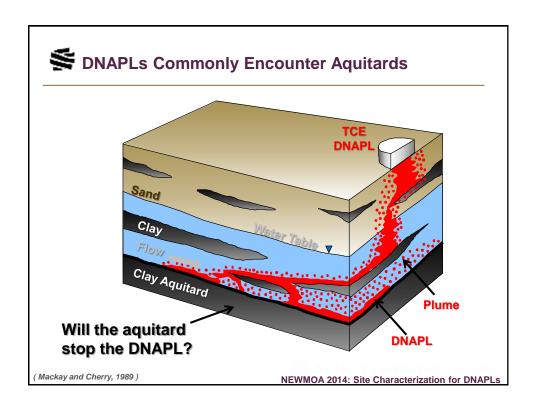
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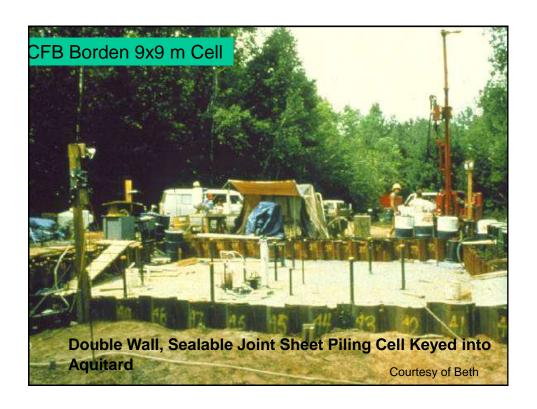


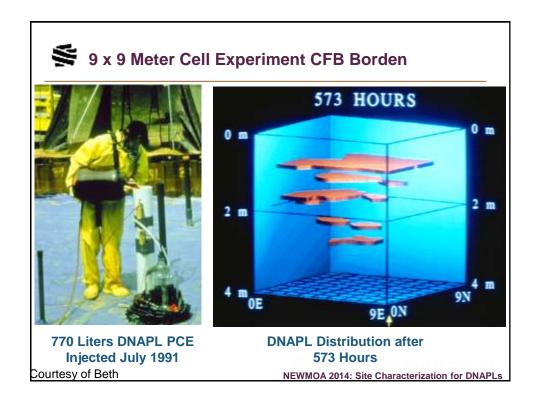


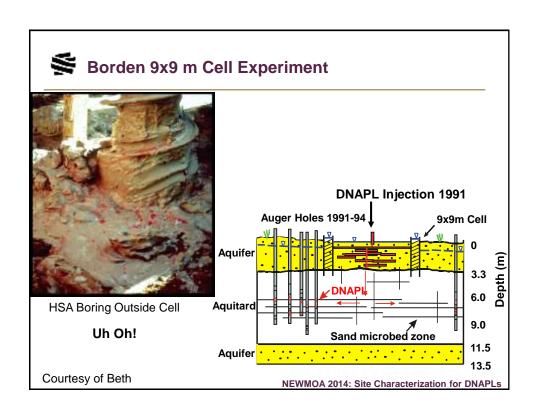


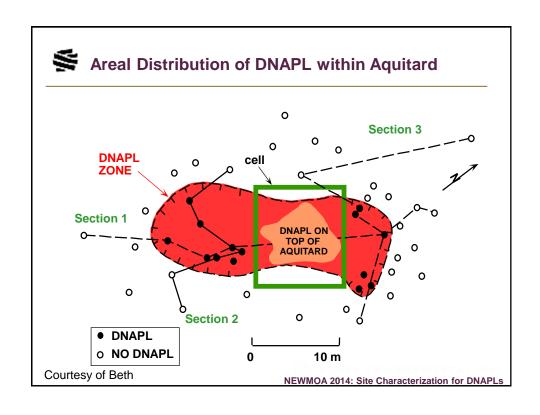














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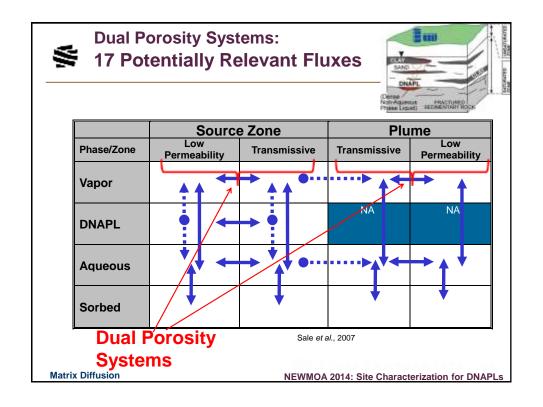


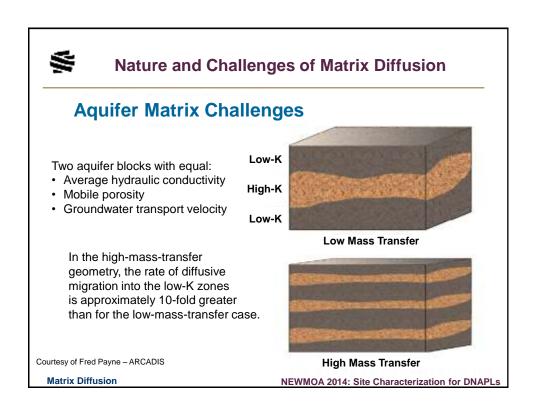
# **Dual Porosity Systems and Diffusion**

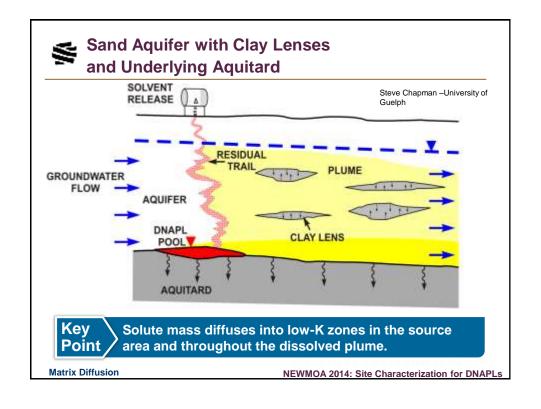
- Systems in which there are (relatively) high and low permeability units
- Nearly all advective flow takes place through the pores in the high permeability materials (mobile porosity)
- Water in the saturated pore spaces in the low permeability materials (immobile porosity) is dominated by diffusive, rather than advective flux
- Pore water in the low permeability materials essentially serves as storage for solutes

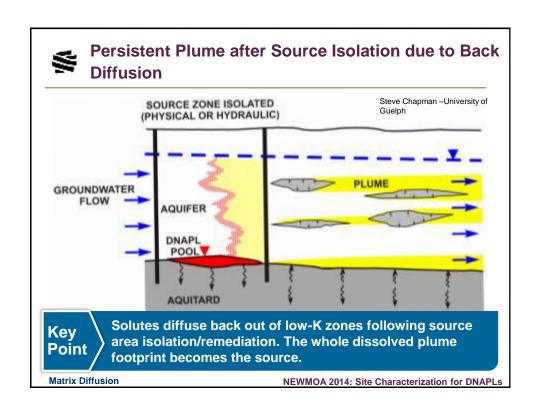
Matrix Diffusion

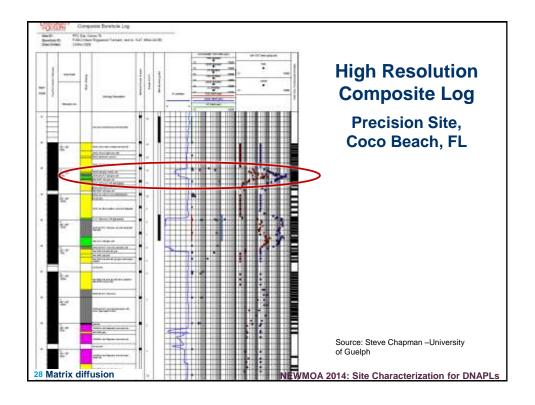
# Matrix Diffusion Effects on Contaminant Migration from an Injection Well in Fractured Sandstone by Euro Fiscation, J. A. Cherry, E. A. Socioty, and Zo. Mag. Vol. 22, No. 3—GROUND WATER May-June 1984 \*\*Contage from one question into facilitation in activation of promise information of promise information in activation of promise information in the process of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise information respective for the day of the standard of promise in discontinuous respective for the day of the standard of the standard

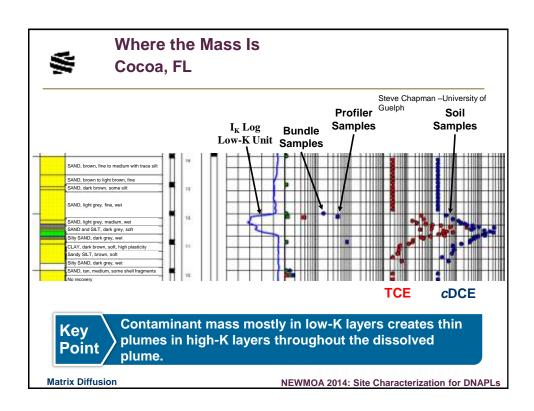














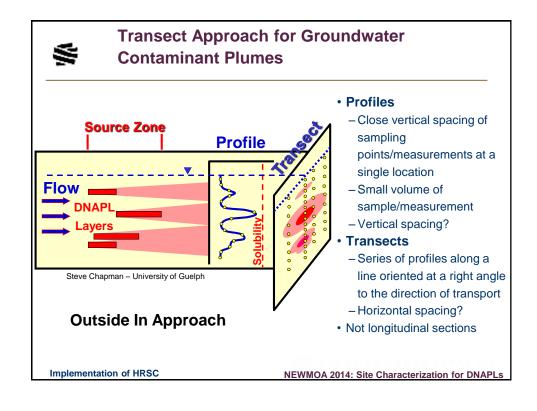
# The Matrix Diffusion Challenge

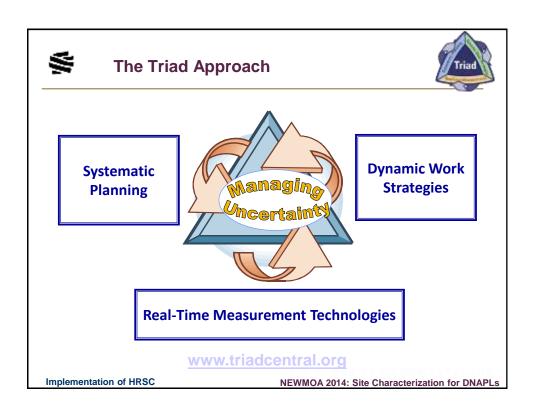
- Low-K zones serve as ongoing sources of contamination separate from the initial source and throughout the plume footprint
- This source persists for long time periods
- Concentrations in permeable zones rebound following remediation of those zones
- Introduction of remedial agents into the low-K zones is controlled by the rate of diffusion and takes a very long time

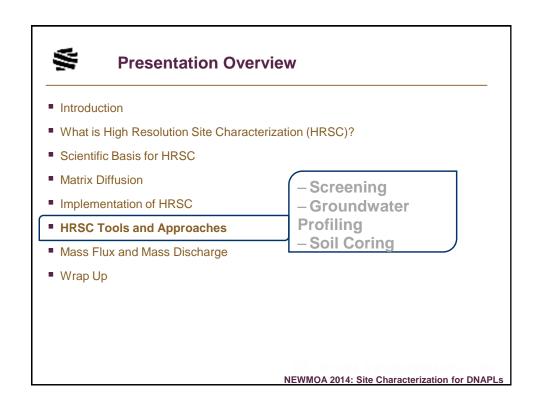
**Matrix Diffusion** 



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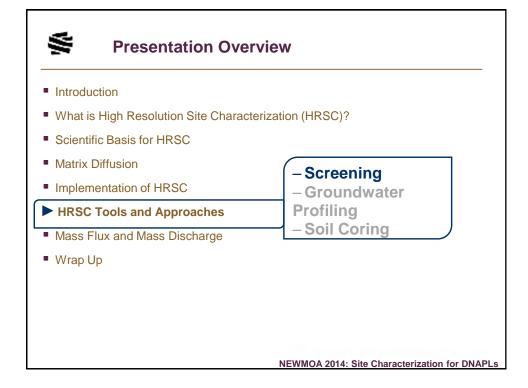


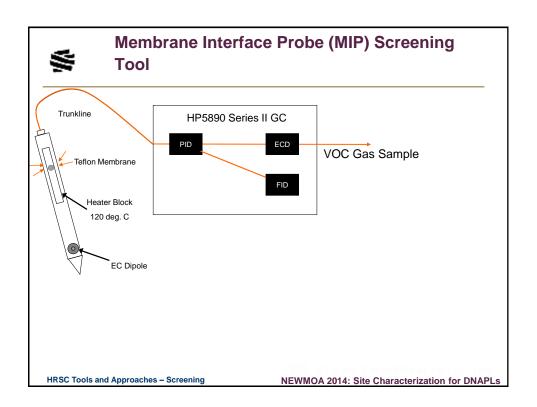


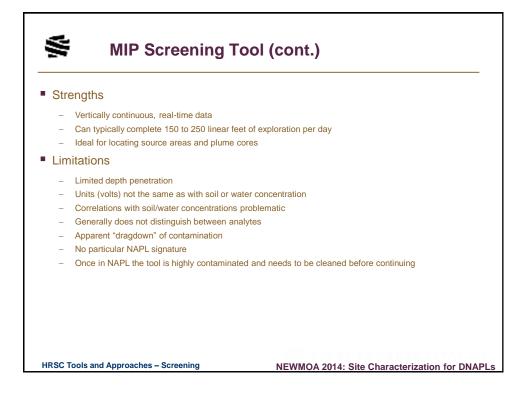
# **Deployment of HRSC Tools**

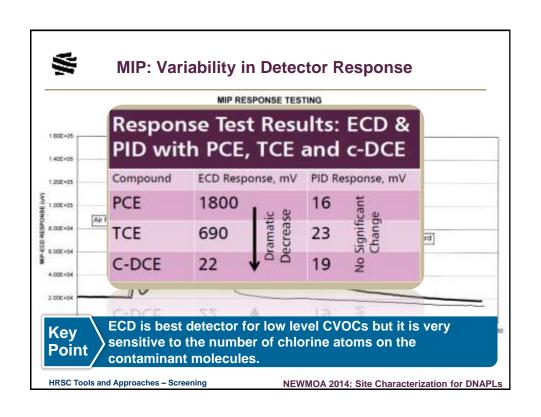
- Vadose zone
  - Soil gas sampling (passive, active, profile, temporal)
  - Screening tools (e.g., MIP)
  - Soil coring and profile sampling
- Saturated zone
  - Screening tools for rapid reconnaissance of source zones, plume cores, hot spots (e.g., MIP, DyeLIF)
  - Groundwater sample profiling of permeable zones (mobile porosity)
  - Soil coring and profile sampling for low-K zones (immobile porosity

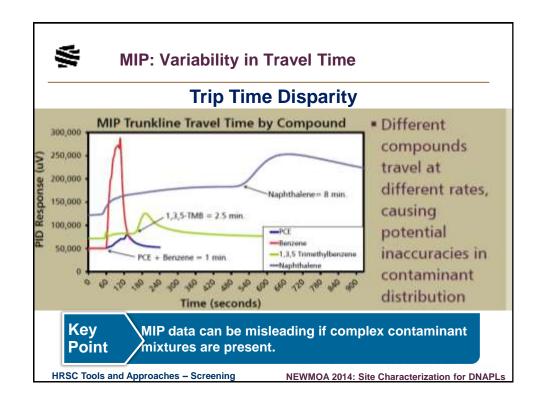
**HRSC Tools and Approaches** 

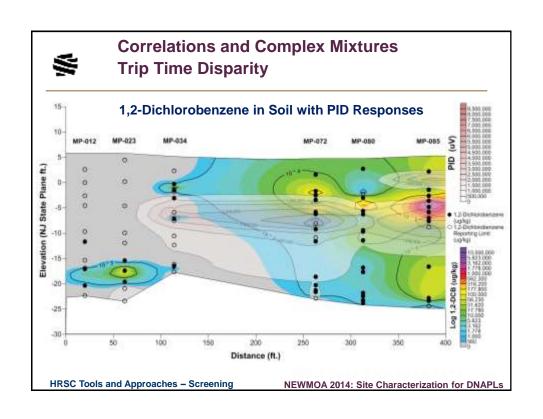


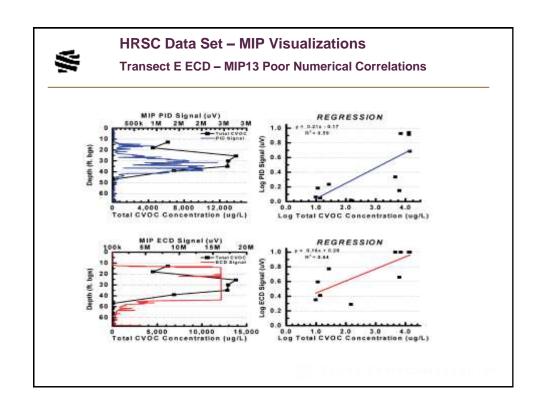




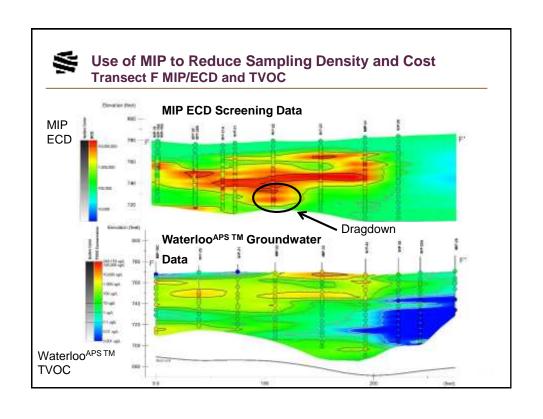


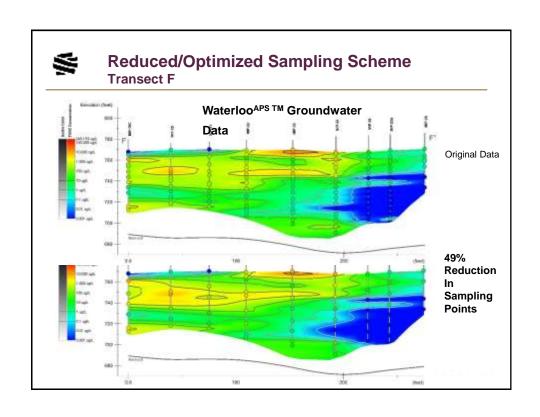


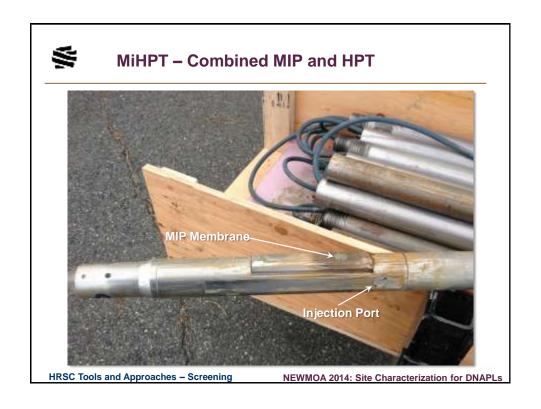




	MIP Co	пра	1130	113/0	OIIC	iatic	7113		
			F	Range	of R <sup>2</sup>	on in	dividu	ual ho	les = 0.06 to 0.92
<u>Transect D</u>				_					
lole ID	1	2	3	4	5	6	7		Average R <sup>2</sup> for Transect B =
isual Correlation	1	1	1	2	1	1	_		
CD R <sup>2</sup>	0.32	0.38	0.07	0.4	0.64	0.06	0.22		0.37
VOC Range, ppm	0-3	0-12	0-40	0-16	0-20	0-15	0005		
Transect E									
lole ID	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Average R <sup>2</sup> for
isual Correlation	3	1	1	1	1	1	1	3	Transect E =
CD R <sup>2</sup>	0.09	0.62	0.72	0.64	0.92	0.53	0.66	0.01	0.72
VOC Range, ppm	0-3	0-8	0-50	0-15	0-12	0-20	0-6	0005	
Transect F									
lole ID	19	20	21	22	23	24	25		Average R <sup>2</sup> for
isual Correlation	1	2	1	2	1	2	1		Transect F =
CD R <sup>2</sup>	0.13	0.58	0.58	0.01	0.38	0.77	0.92		0.37
VOC Range, ppm	0-6	0-10	04	0-4	0-16	0-16	01		
								-	verage R <sup>2</sup> for All
isual correlatio	n Rankings:	1 = aoo	d. 2 = fa	air. 3 = p	oor.				ransects = 0.49









# **FLUTe NAPL Ribbon Sampler**

**Direct Detection of DNAPL** 



NAPL FLUTe Deployed in Direct Push Casing HRSC Tools and Approaches – Screening



Stains Caused by Reactive Dye Indicate Presence of DNAPL

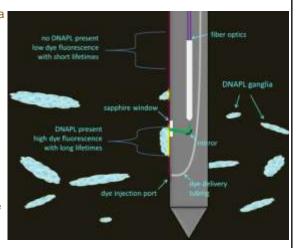
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# **Dye LIF from Dakota Technologies**

**Direct Detection of CI Solvent DNAPLs** 

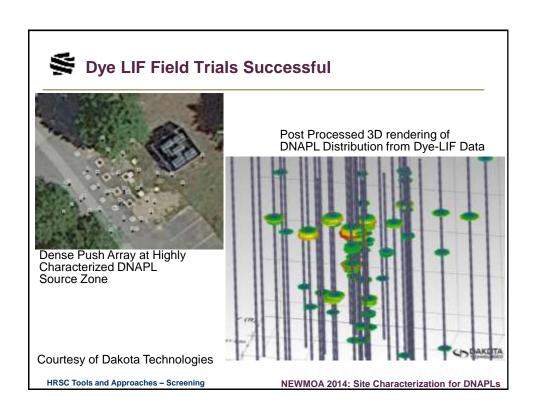
- Laser Induced Fluorescence is a powerful, high resolution, direct sensing tool for locating NAPLs consisting of aromatic compounds (e.g., fuels, coal tar etc)
- However, chlorinated solvents do not fluoresce – so LIF does not work for chlorinated solvent DNAPLS
- Dye LIF developed to overcome this limitation

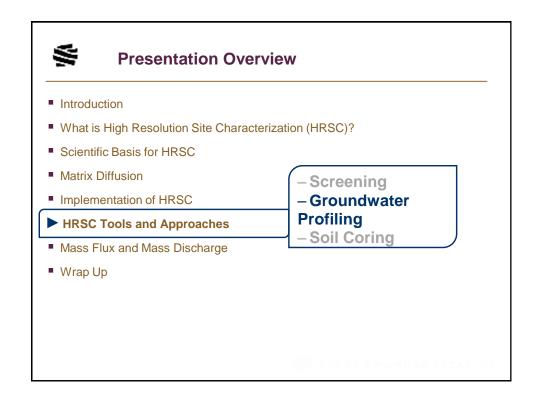


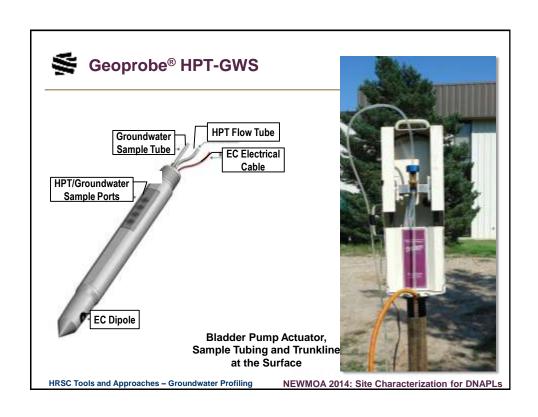
Courtesy of Dakota Technologies

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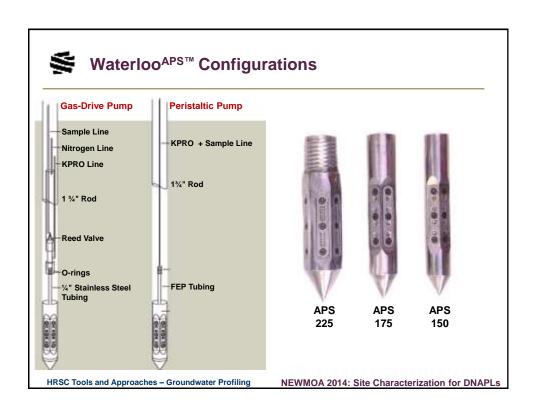
HRSC Tools and Approaches - Screening

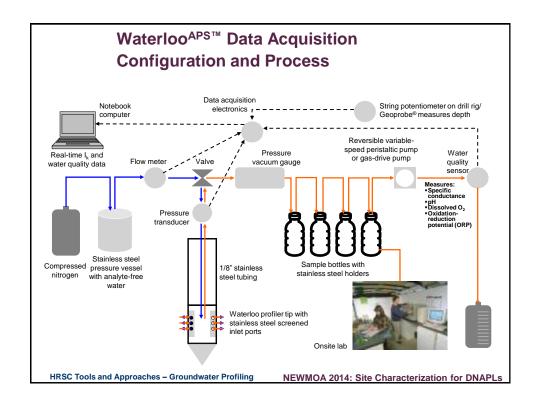


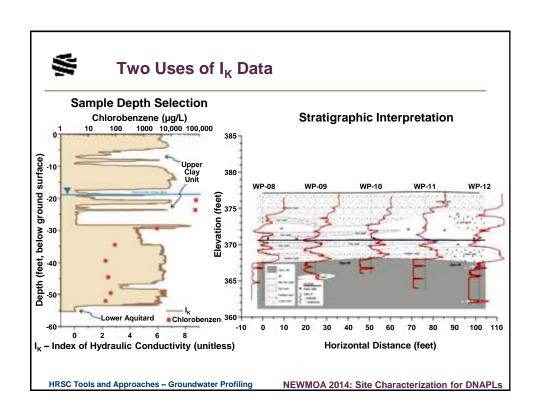


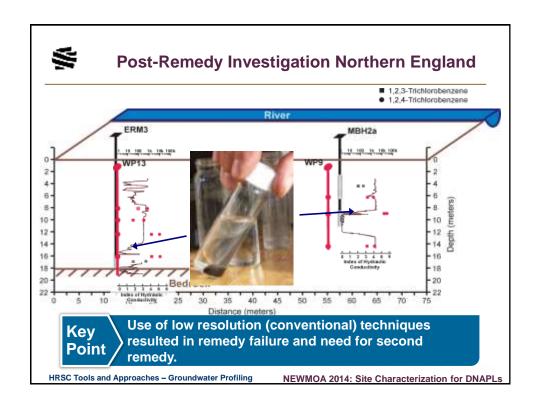














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- Screening
- Groundwater
- **Profiling**
- -Soil Coring

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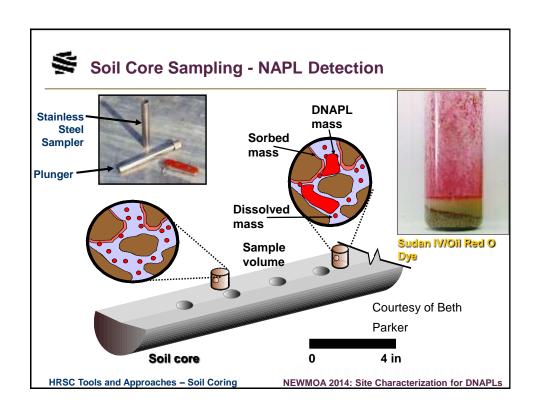


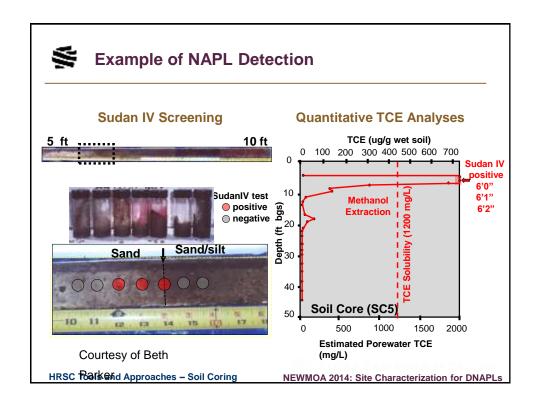
# **Essential Information from Cores**

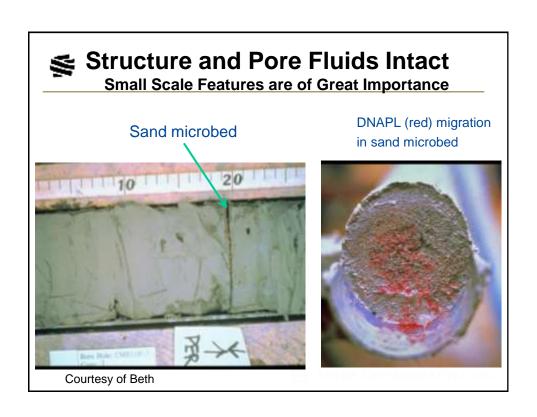
- Geologic/hydrogeologic features
- Physical, chemical & microbial properties
- Contaminant mass distributions (high- & low-K zones)
- Contaminant phase distributions (detection of DNAPL)
- Concentration gradients/diffusive fluxes
- Effectiveness of remedial technologies

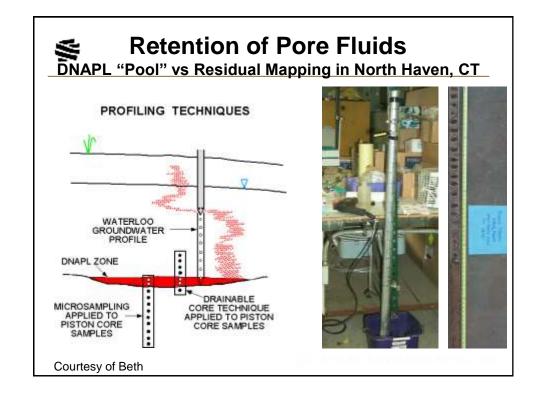


HRSC Tools and Approaches - Soil Coring









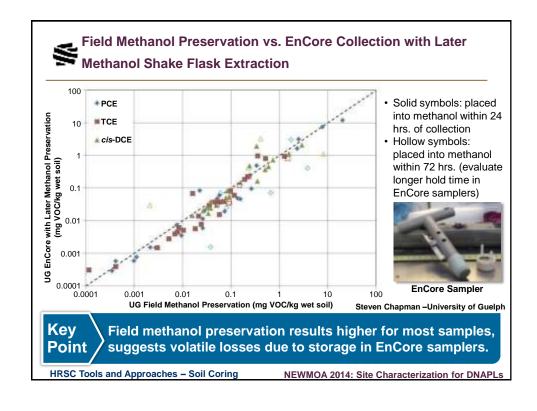


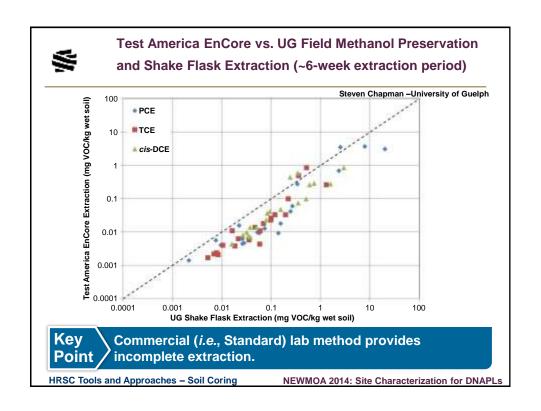
# Soil Coring, Extraction, and Analysis: It Matters How You Do It

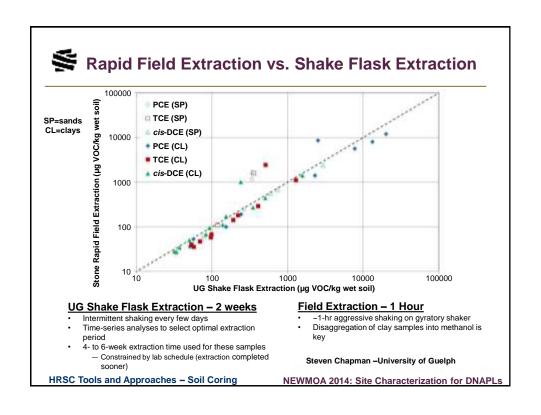
- Soil Core Profiling close vertical spacing
- Soil samples collected into:
  - MeOH in vials
  - EnCore samplers 24-hr and 72-hr hold time in EnCore
- Extractions
  - UG Shake Flask (2-week process)
  - Standard EPA 5035 Purge & Trap at Test America (2 week turnaround)
  - Onsite Lab Rapid Disaggregation and Suspension (1 hour)



HRSC Tools and Approaches - Soil Coring



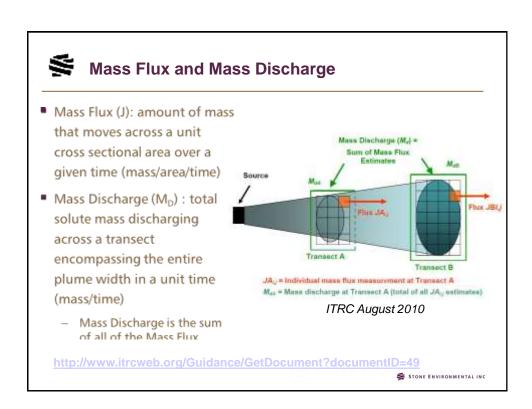


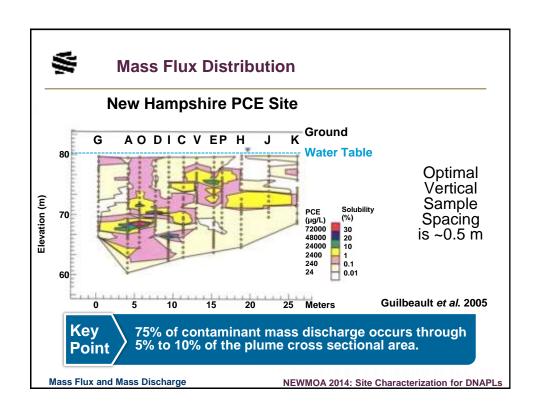


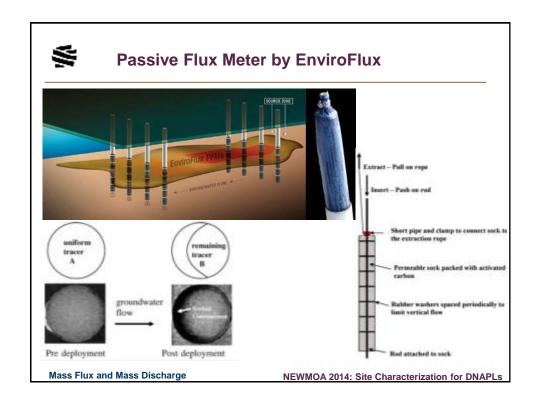


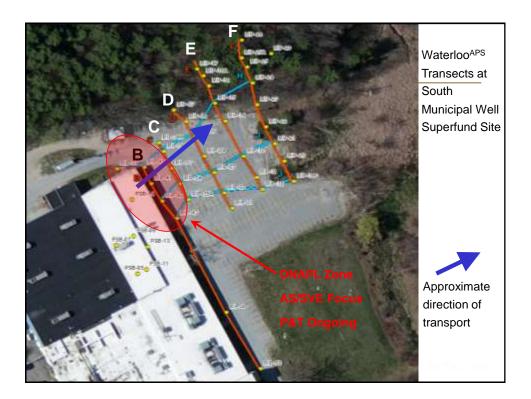
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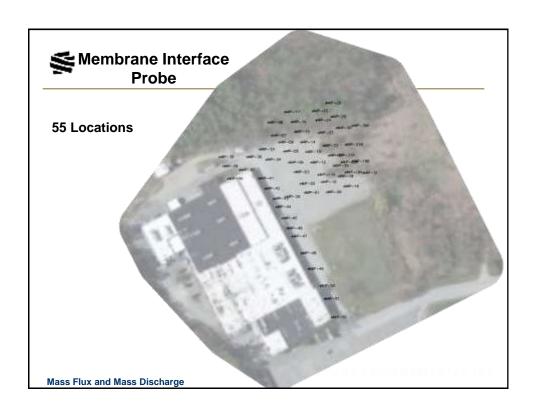


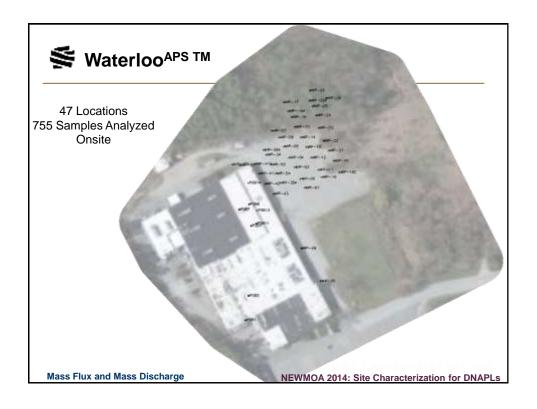


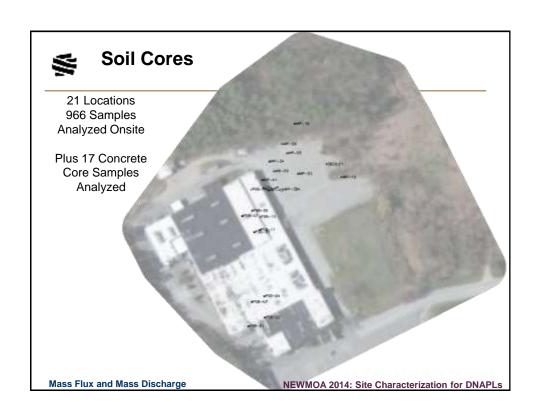
# **2012 Source Area Pre-Design Investigation HRSC Approach**

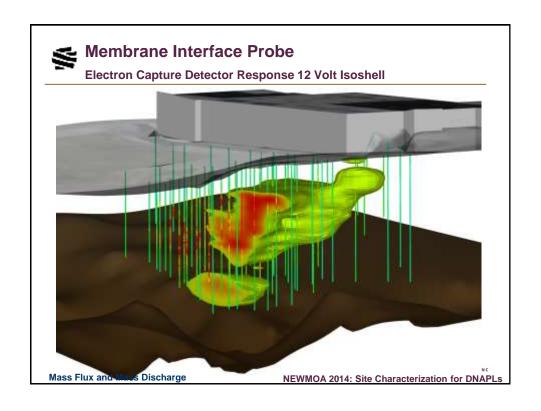
- "Toolbox Approach"
  - Multiple tools provide multiple lines of evidence
- Rapid Screening with Membrane Interface Probe
- Waterloo<sup>APS</sup> Profiling to find edges of high concentration zones, DNAPL indications and hydrostratigraphic data
- Soil coring, dye screening and sampling to confirm presence/absence of DNAPL/high mass zones
- On site groundwater and soil analyses by MobiLab (GC/MS)

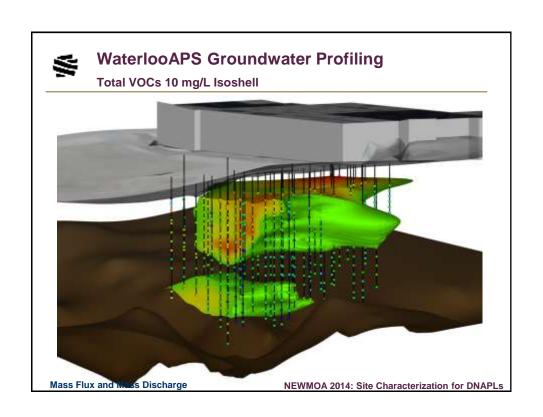
Mass Flux and Mass Discharge

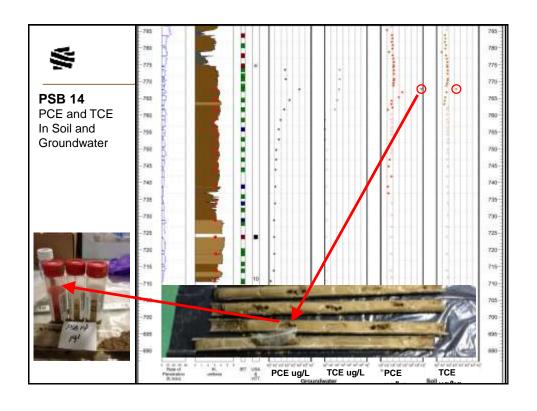


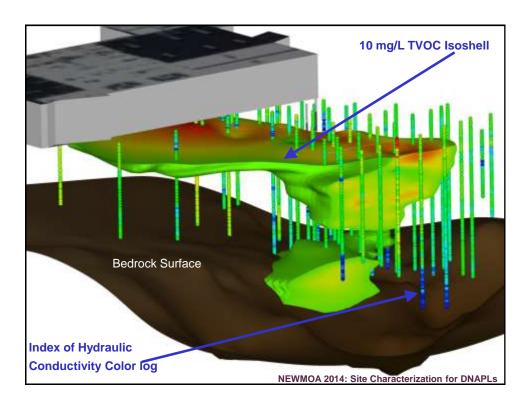










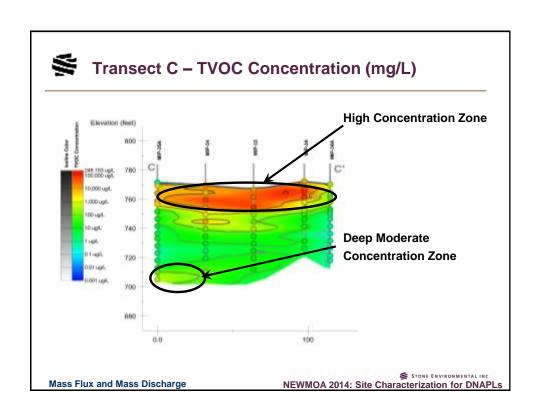


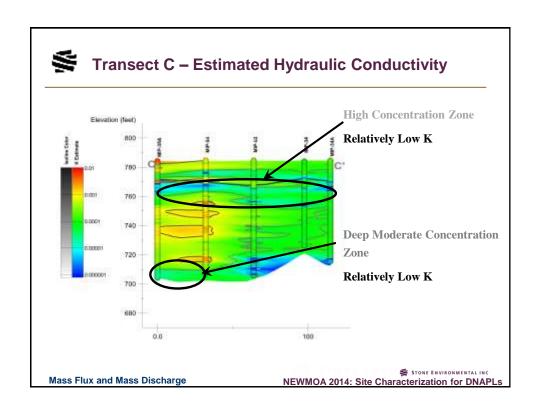


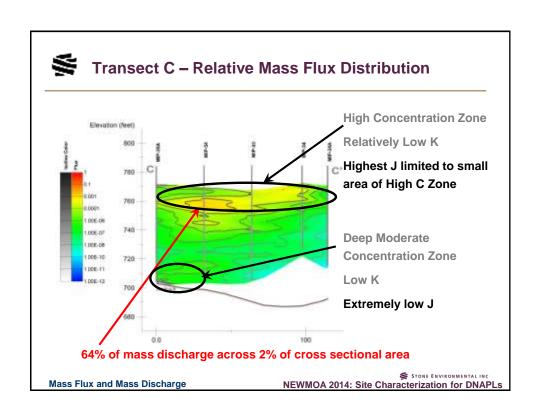
## Estimated Relative Mass Flux Distribution on Waterloo<sup>APS TM</sup> Transects

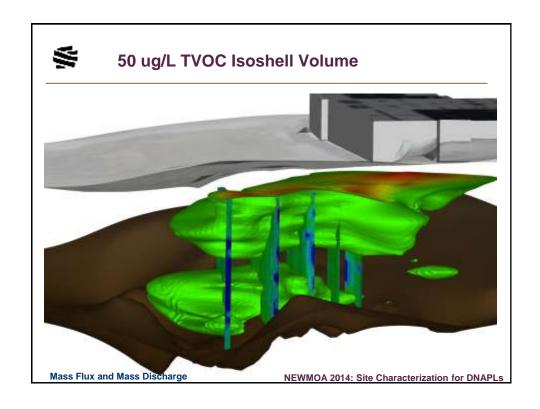
- Simplified relative flux estimate:
  - Convert I<sub>K</sub> to assumed/estimated K<sub>est</sub> values
  - Assume variability of i is negligible and assume unit area of 1 cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Interpolate K<sub>est</sub> in 3D and Concentration in 3D; Then multiply the 3D meshes against each other to get 3D flux field in ug/sec/cm<sup>2</sup>
  - Estimated relative flux values resulting are:
    - Screening Level
    - Relative (as opposed to the absolute values obtained by passive flux meters, integrated pumping tests etc)

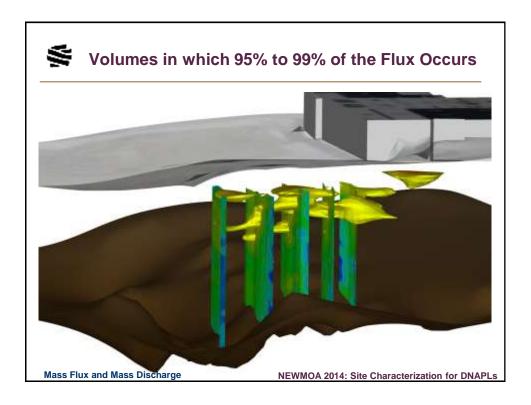
Mass Flux and Mass Discharge













## **Summary**

- High degree of heterogeneity (K)
- Multiple "sources"
  - Original DNAPL source zone depleted by remedies and flux over time (approx 29,000 kg to date)
  - "secondary" back diffusion sources located downgradient of original source
- On average 70% of the mass discharge occurs across approximately
   6% of the cross sectional area of the plume
- Deep contamination in low K till unit does not contribute significant flux
- Focus future remedies on aquifer volumes providing majority of flux

Mass Flux and Mass Discharge

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### **Key Points**

- Successful remedies require site characterization data collected at a scale consistent with the spatial structure of the controlling variables
- Hydraulic conductivity often varies at the cm scale vertically and the meter scale horizontally
- DNAPL distributions are influenced by capillary pressure distributions that can vary at the mm scale
- Transverse hydrodynamic dispersion is weak (i.e., plumes don't "spread out" much)
- 75% of mass flux occurs through only 5 to 10% of the plume's total cross sectional area

Wrap Up



#### **Key Points (cont.)**

- Substantial contaminant mass may be present in low permeability zones due to diffusive flux and cause rebound following remediation
- HRSC is implemented using:
  - Very short sampled intervals/small sample volumes
  - Closely spaced samples/measurments
  - Transects (orthogonal to direction of transport) of profiles
  - The Triad Approach principles (real time measurement and dynamic work strategies)
- Monitoring wells provide depth-integrated, flow-weighted average data and may obscure important information

Wrap Up

NEWMOA 2014: Site Characterization for DNAPLs



## **Key Points (cont.)**

- Multiple tools and methods are required
  - Screening tools can save time and money
  - Groundwater profiling and analysis in the more permeable zones
  - Soil core profiling and analysis in the low permeability zones
- Methods for low-K soil sample collection, preservation and extraction can have a significant effect on analytical results (purge & trap is not optimal)
- MIP provides high resolution screening data quickly and relatively inexpensively
- MIP data indicate where relatively high concentrations are located but MIP data are not strongly correlative with actual soil and groundwater concentrations

Wrap Up

