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Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference

2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference  
(Seattle, Wash.)

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Apr 4th, 1:30 PM - 1:45 PM

## 3D hydrodynamic modeling of Lower Fraser River

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Masoom, Shaheli and Gu, Li, "3D hydrodynamic modeling of Lower Fraser River" (2018). *Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference*. 2.

<https://cedar.wwu.edu/ssec/2018ssec/allsessions/2>

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# 3D Hydrodynamic Modeling of Lower Fraser River

Shaheli Masoom

SENIOR PROJECT ENGINEER

Li Gu

SENIOR ENGINEER

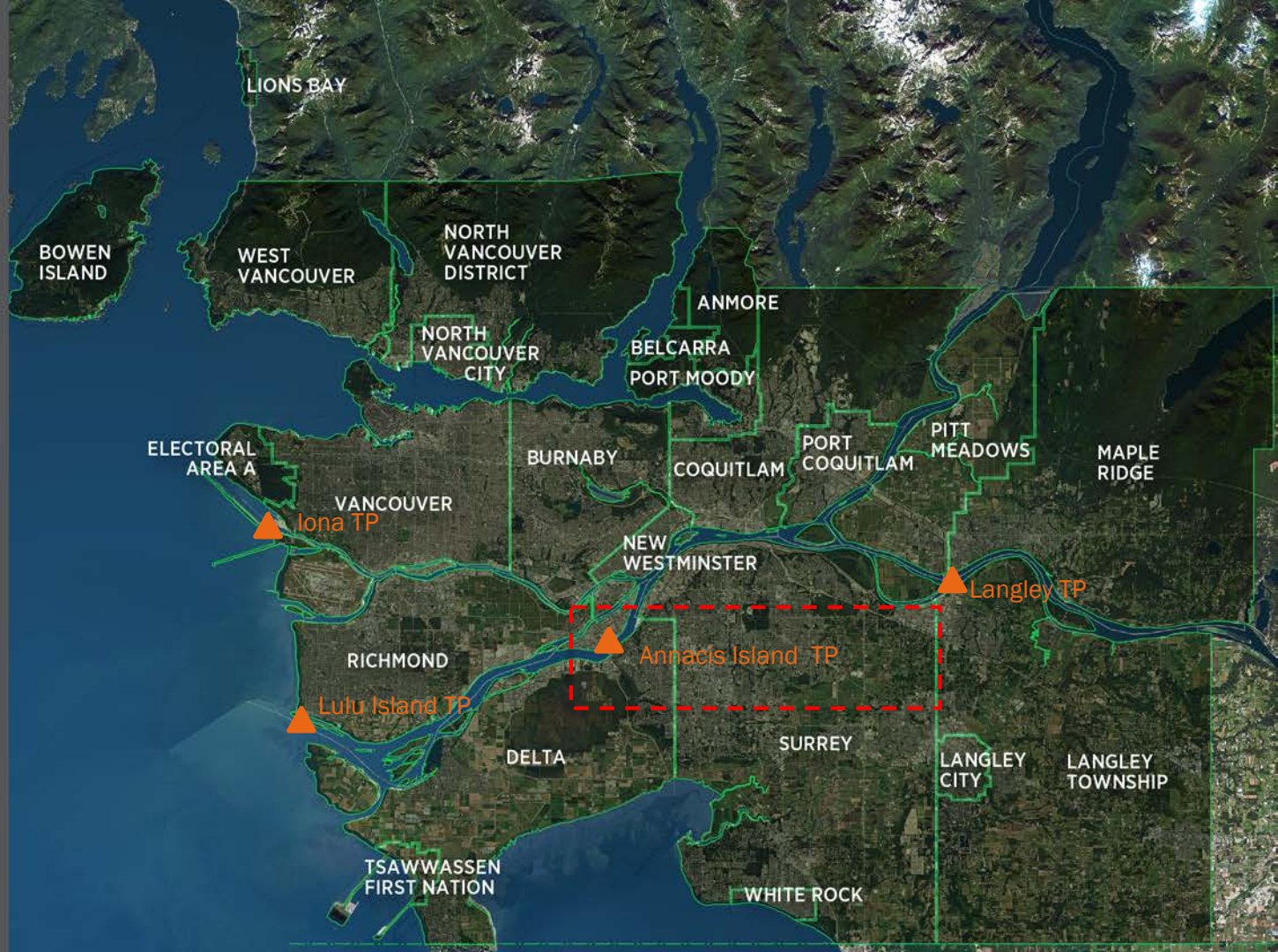
2018 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference (SSEC) April 4-6, 2018



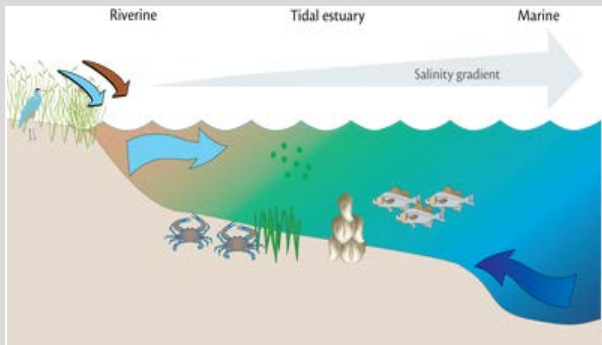
**metrovancover**  
SERVICES AND SOLUTIONS FOR A LIVABLE REGION

# Metro Vancouver

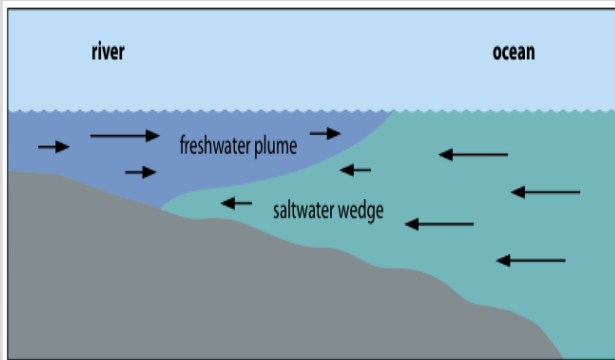
21 municipalities  
one Electoral Area  
and one Treaty First  
Nation working  
together for  
a livable region



# Overview: Why 3-D modeling?

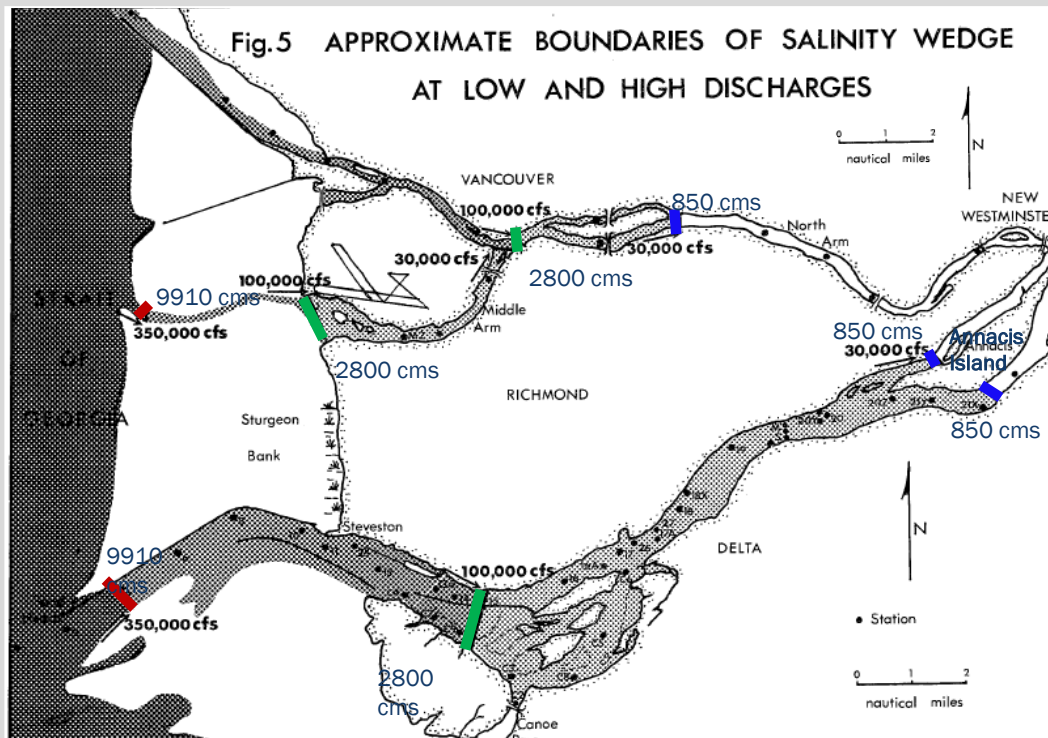


Estuary: density stratified flow, salinity intrusion



Salinity Wedge: Flow stratification reduces channel conveyance

## Salt Wedge boundaries for variable flow



Source: Ages and Woollard 1976

# Overview: Physical Setting

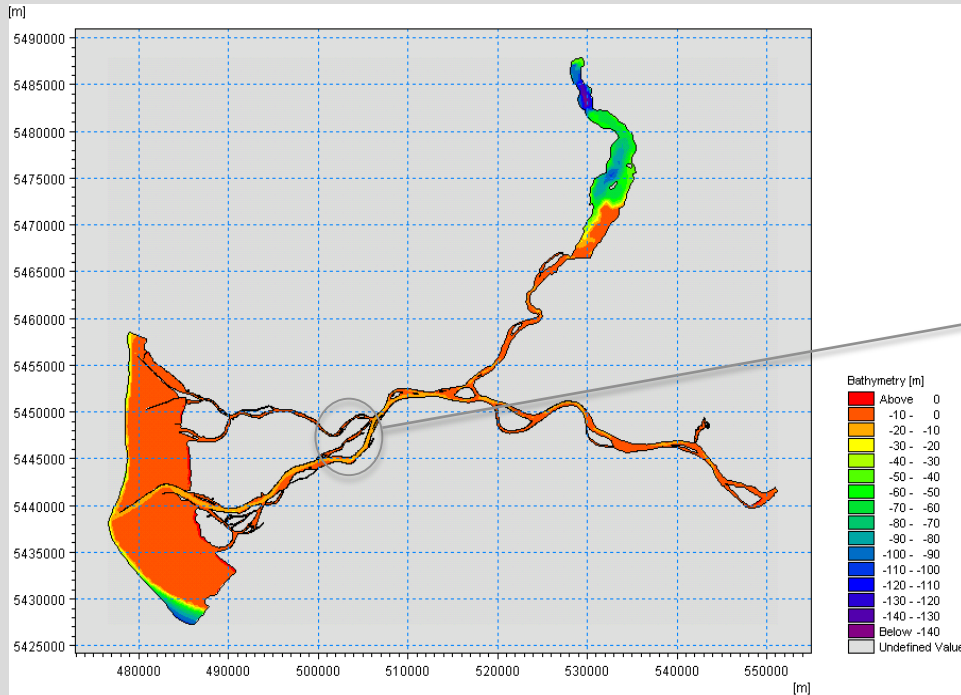


Fraser River : Receiving GVRD's WWTP discharges

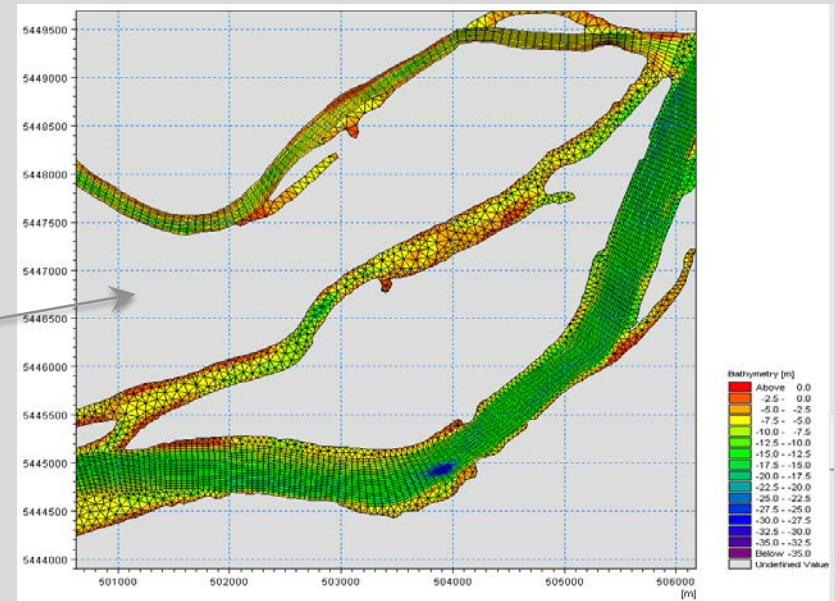


Fraser Model : Model extent From Mission to Sand Head

# Model Development: Software, Mesh



Fraser Model : MIKE 3 FM software

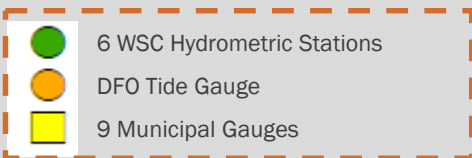


Fraser Model mesh:

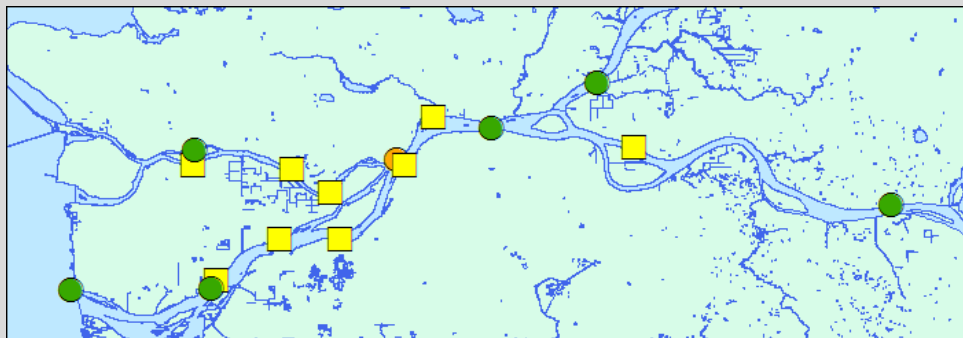
- 30,000 element mesh.
- A combination of triangular and quadrilateral elements
- 30 equidistant vertical layers for depth < 20m and 15 additional layer for depth > 20m.

# Model Calibration And Validation: Data availability

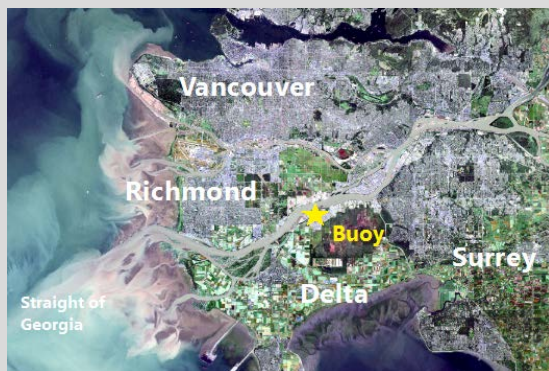
## Legend



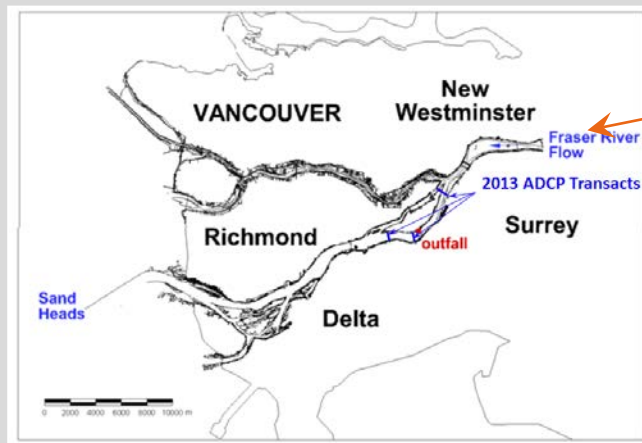
## Water Level Data



## Salinity and Current Data

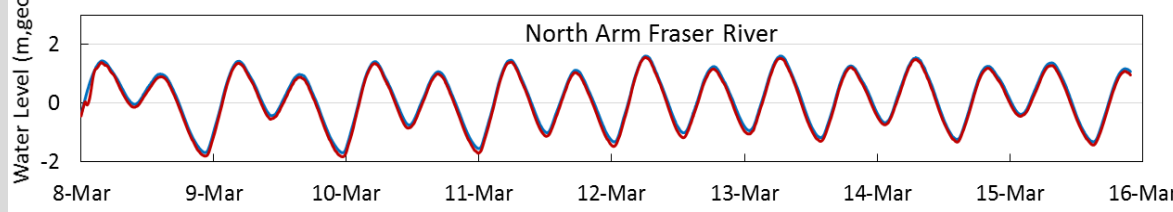
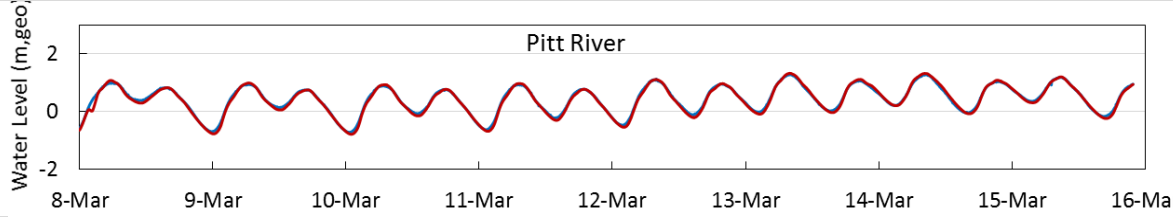
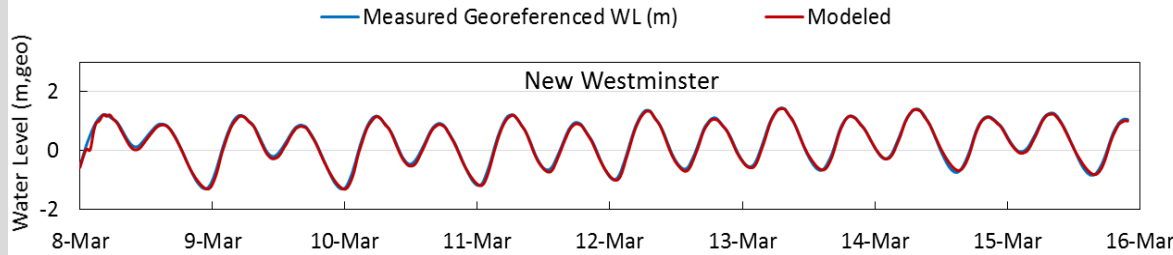
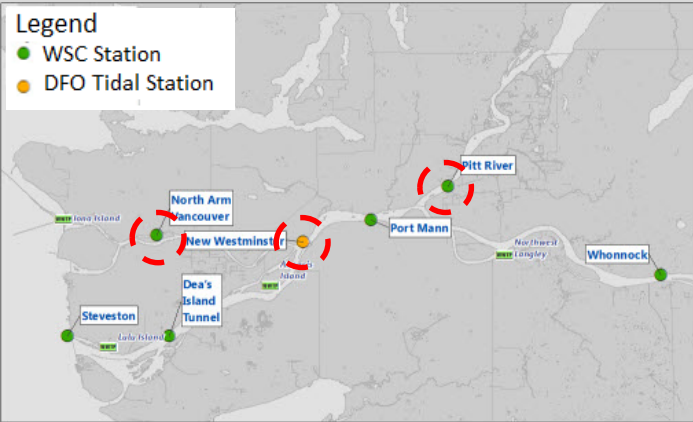


## Discharge Data



Mission's estimated Q for  $H > 3m$

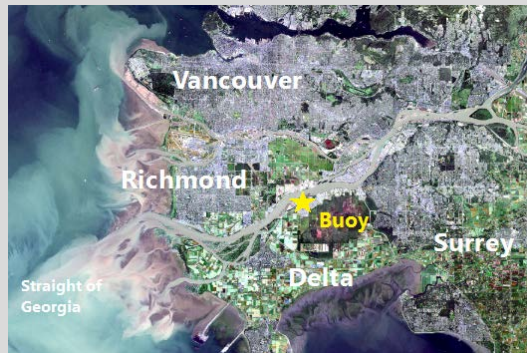
# Model Validation: Water Level (March 2013)



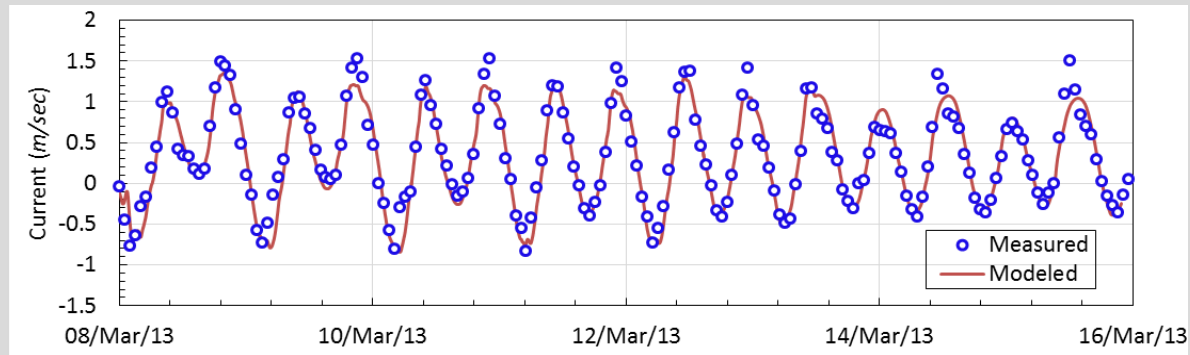
| Gauge Name                     | Gauge Type    | Standard Deviation or Root Mean Square Error in WL (m) |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|
| Steveston                      | WSC (08MH028) | 0.05   |
| Dea's Island Tunnel            | WSC (08MH053) | 0.06   |
| Port Mann                      | WSC (08MH054) | 0.10   |
| Pitt River near Port Coquitlam | WSC (08MH035) | 0.05   |
| Whonnock                       | WSC (08MH044) | 0.04   |
| North Arm Vancouver            | WSC (08MH032) | 0.11   |
| New Westminster                | DFO           | 0.07   |



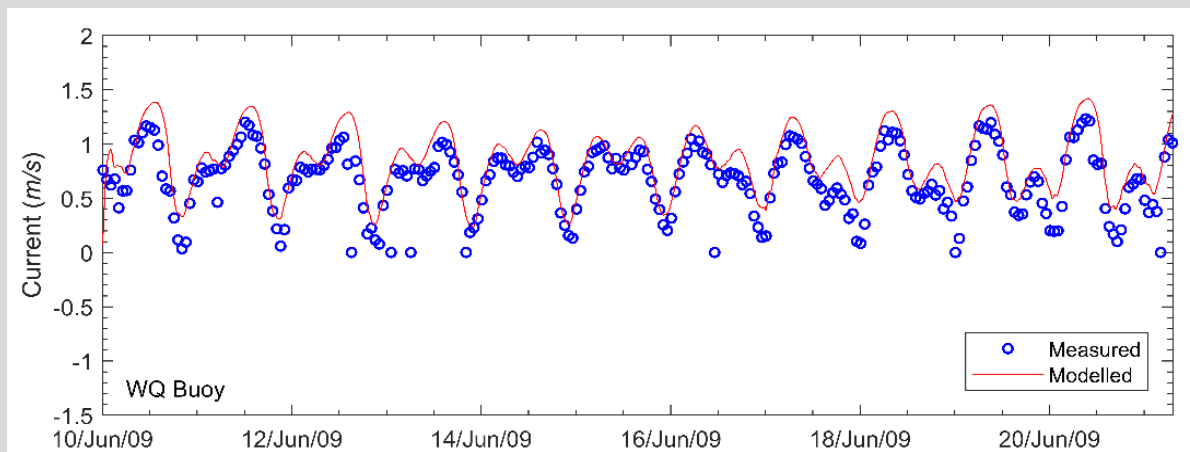
# Model Validation: Current



## Model Validation: March 2013-Low Flow

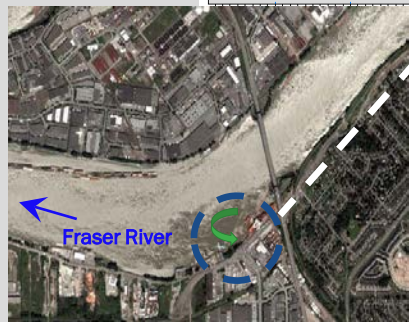
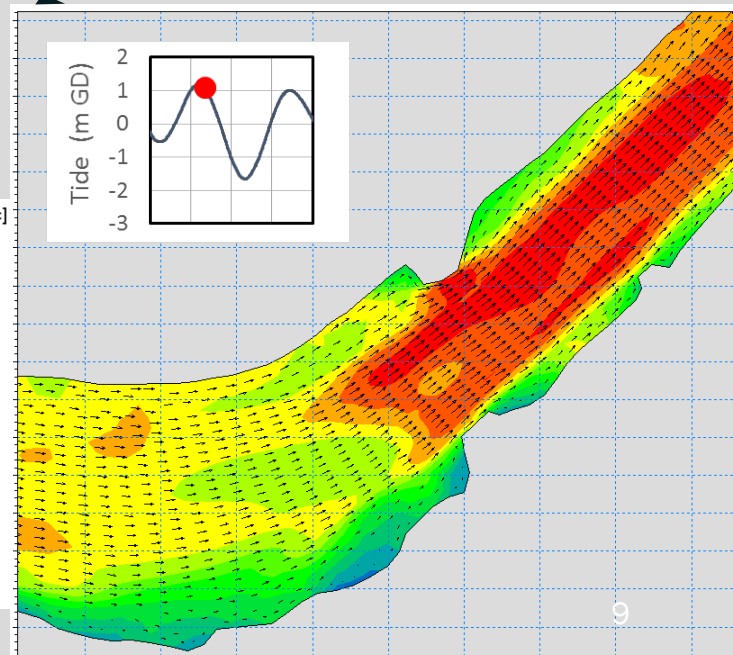
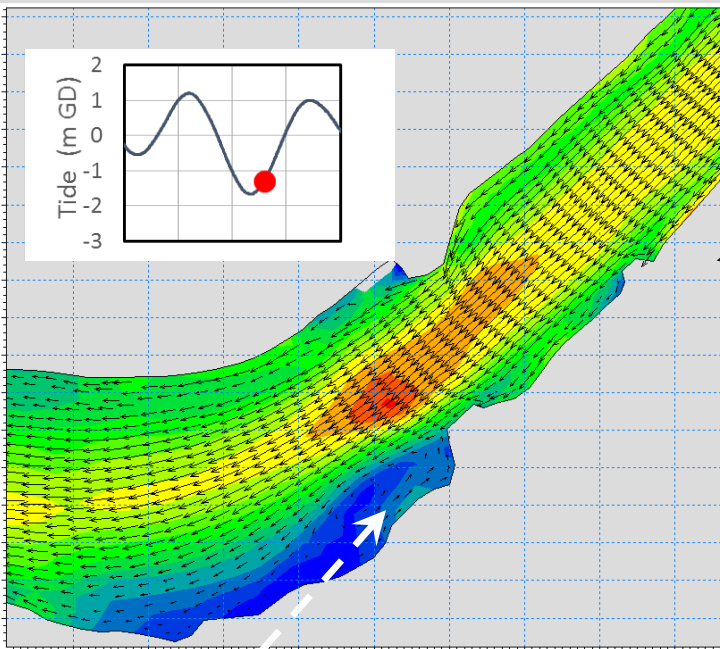
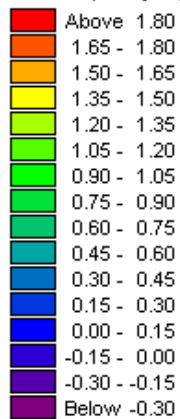


## Model Validation: June 2009-Freshet



# Low Flow Model Validation: Current

Current speed [m/s]

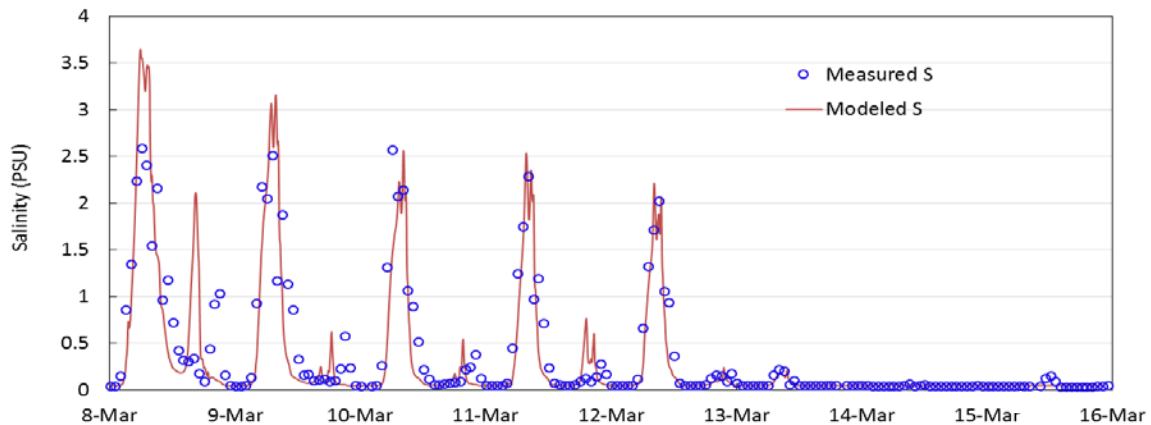


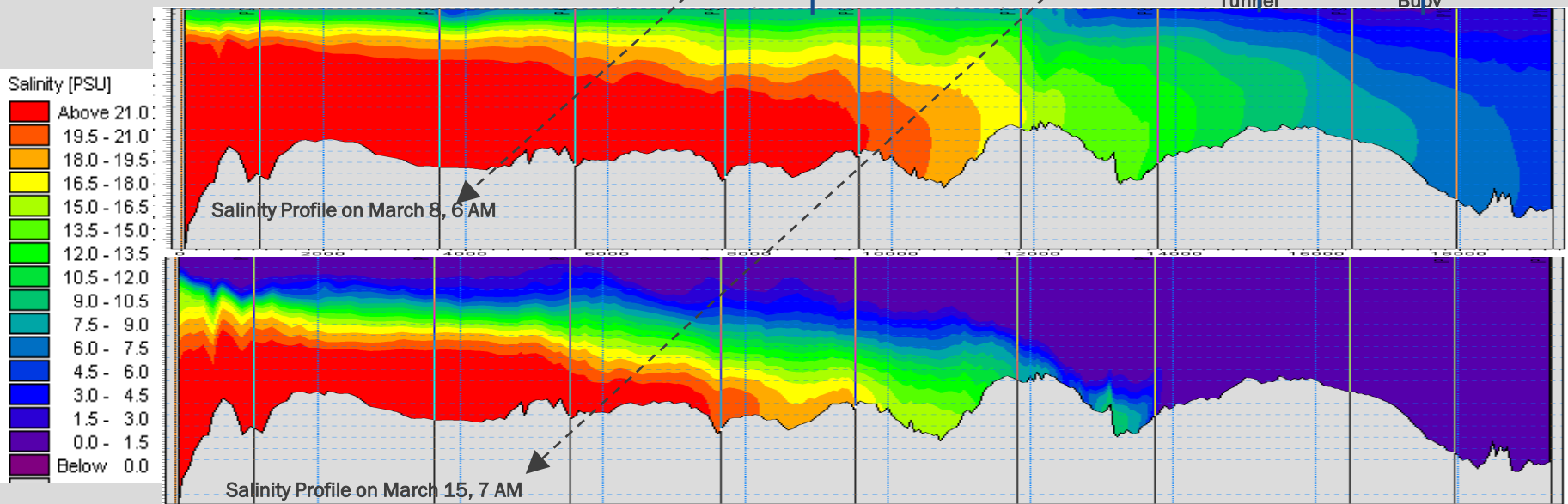
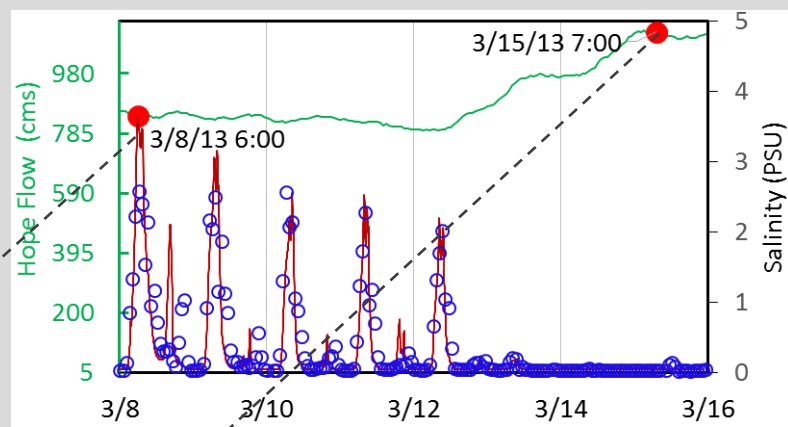
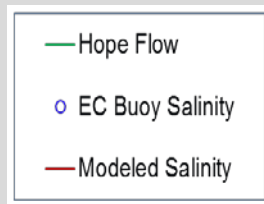
Black and Veatch (2013) ADCP measurement

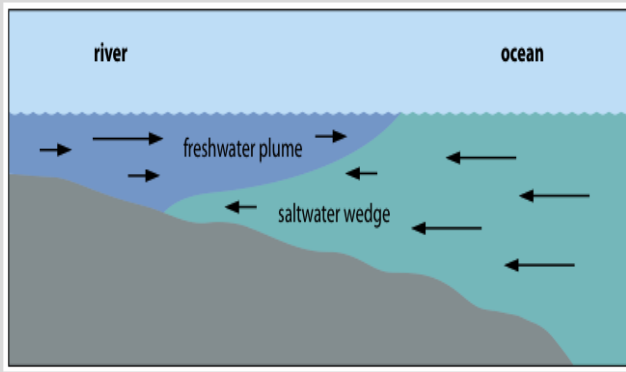
# Model Validation: Salinity (March 2013)



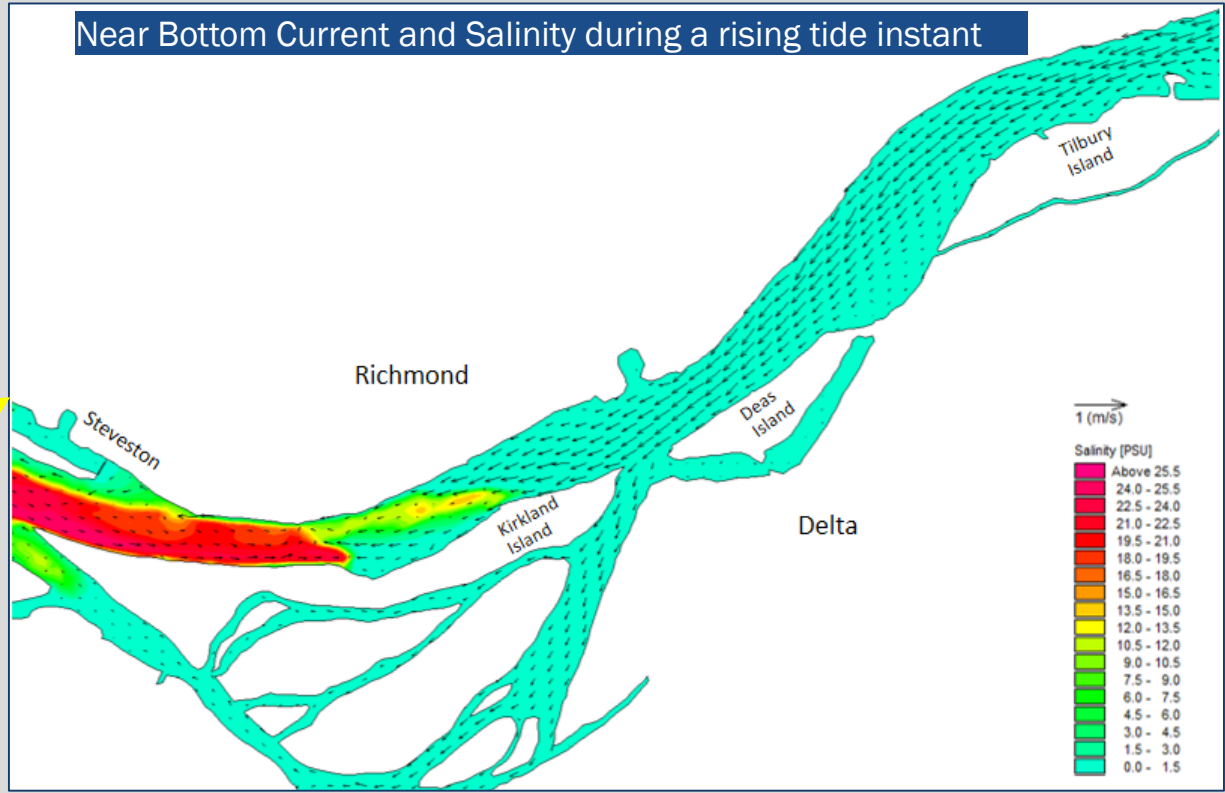
Salinity At Tilbury 8-16 March, 2013





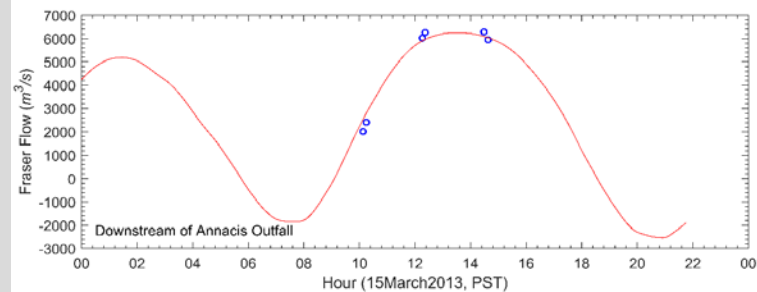
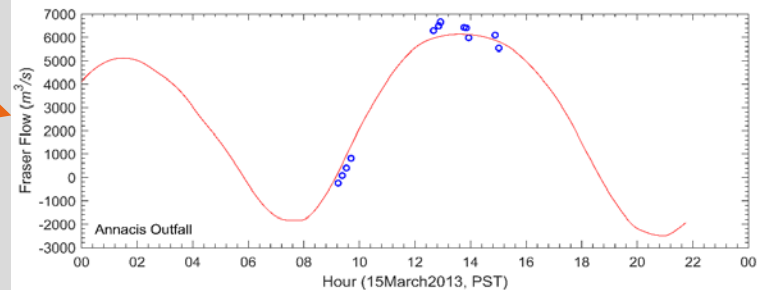
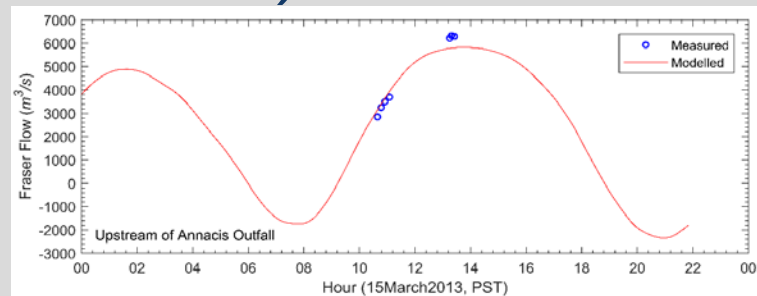
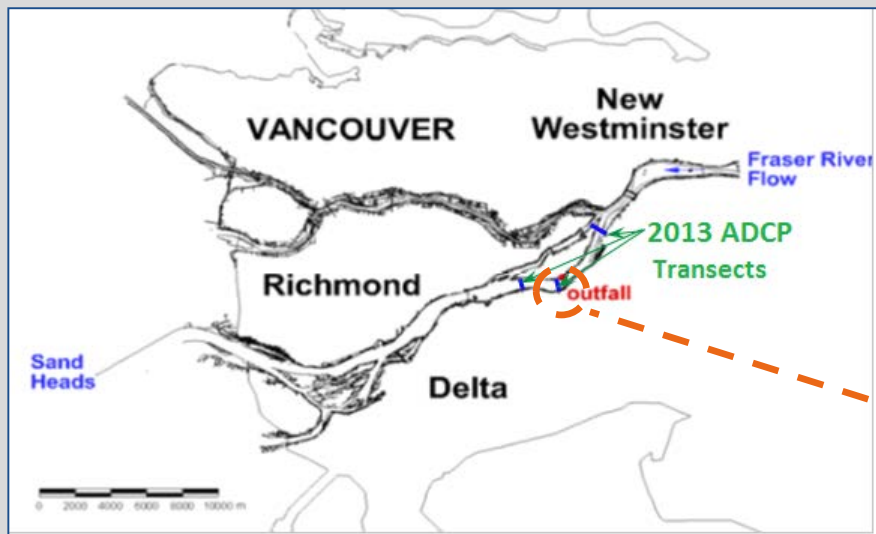


Near Bottom Current and Salinity during a rising tide instant

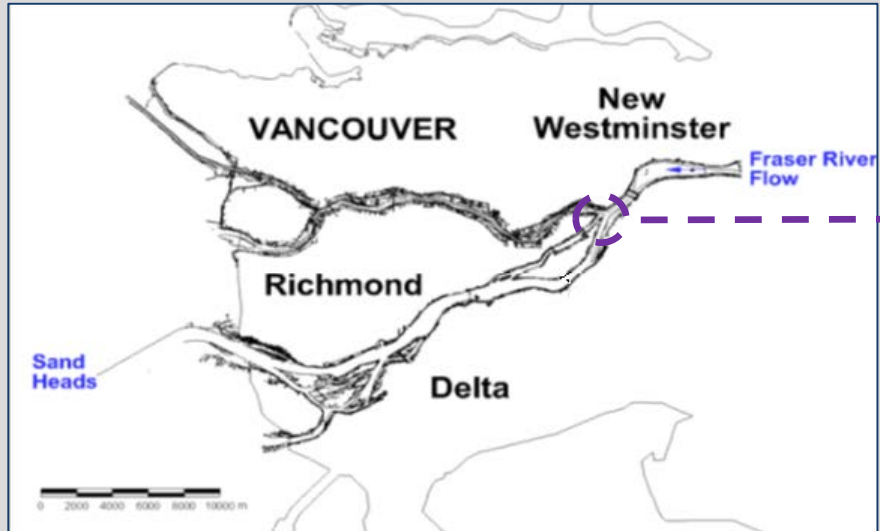


## Bi-directional Current due to Salt Wedge

# Model Validation: Discharge (March 2013)



# Model Validation: Discharge/Flow Split

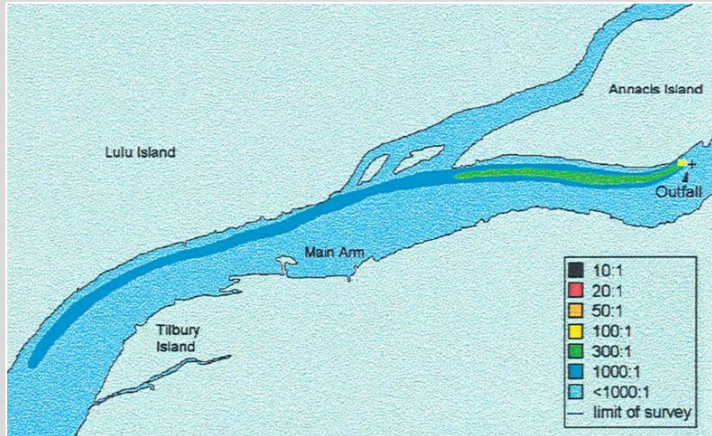


Flow split to North arm:

- 12 to 13.5%.
- Within the range (10-15%) reported for Fraser River North Arm (Thomson 1981 and nhc 2006)

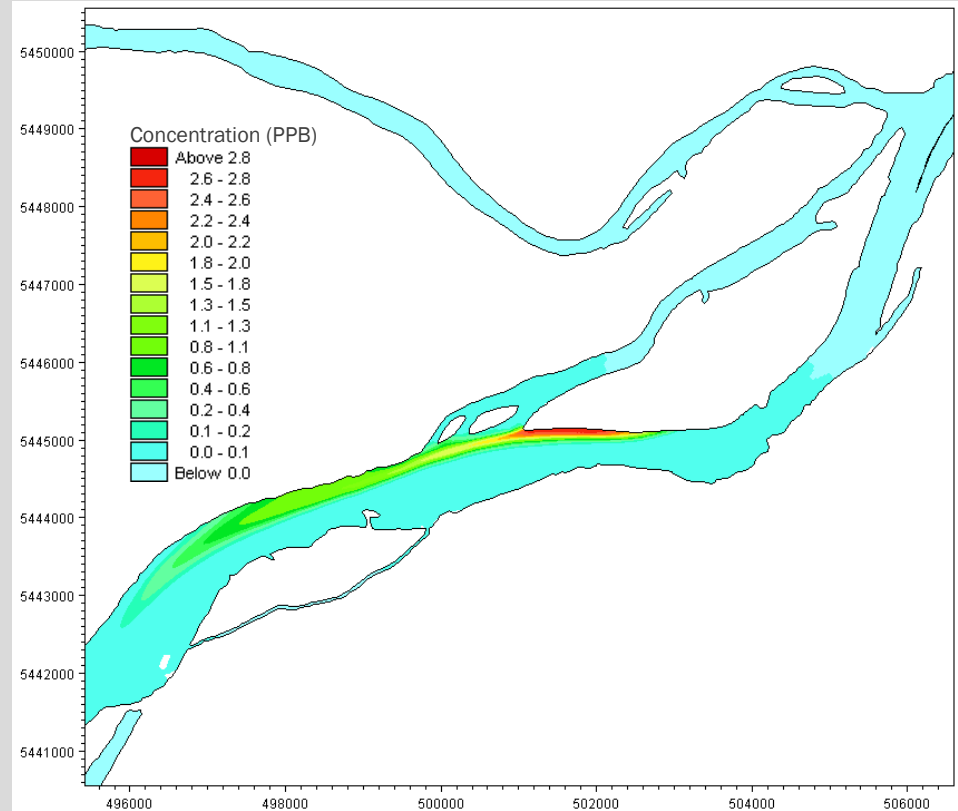
# Application

Transport and diffusion module evaluation using Rhodamine Dye dispersion in Fraser River



Sea consult Dye study (1994)

Rhodamine Concentration 2hrs after discharge from AIWWTP



MIKE3 Fraser model prediction



# Summary

- A numerical 3-D model is developed for Fraser River
- The model is calibrated and validated against measured data
- Future improvement: refined and updated bathymetry data, ADCP measurement of current and discharge, refined salinity and temperature boundary values by Salish Sea Model output (Under development).



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