



# **A Comparison of Stream Chemistry in Three Restored Illinois Coal Basin Streams: Initial Conditions vs. 10 and 20 years post-restoration**

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# Water Quality: Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), Conductivity, Sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ ), and metals

- TDS, Conductivity,  $\text{SO}_4$ , metals [Manganese (Mn), Iron (Fe), Zinc (Zn)] are often elevated in mined watersheds due to increased weathering
- Specific ions, especially  $\text{SO}_4$  are more strongly negatively correlated with macroinvertebrate biodiversity than TDS or conductivity – elevated chloride (Cl) increases this effect, elevated hardness decreases it
- Metals have negative impacts on aquatic health, these are more pronounced in low pH conditions



# Water Quality: Total Suspended Solids (TSS) and biodiversity

- TSS can affect feeding success, increase the risk for infection, smother habitat and dislodge aquatic life
- TSS concentration is a function of the stream's capacity to transport sediment and the amount of sediment entering from upstream
- It has been suggested that incline pits could reduce the TSS from upstream agricultural watersheds (Nawrot 2011)

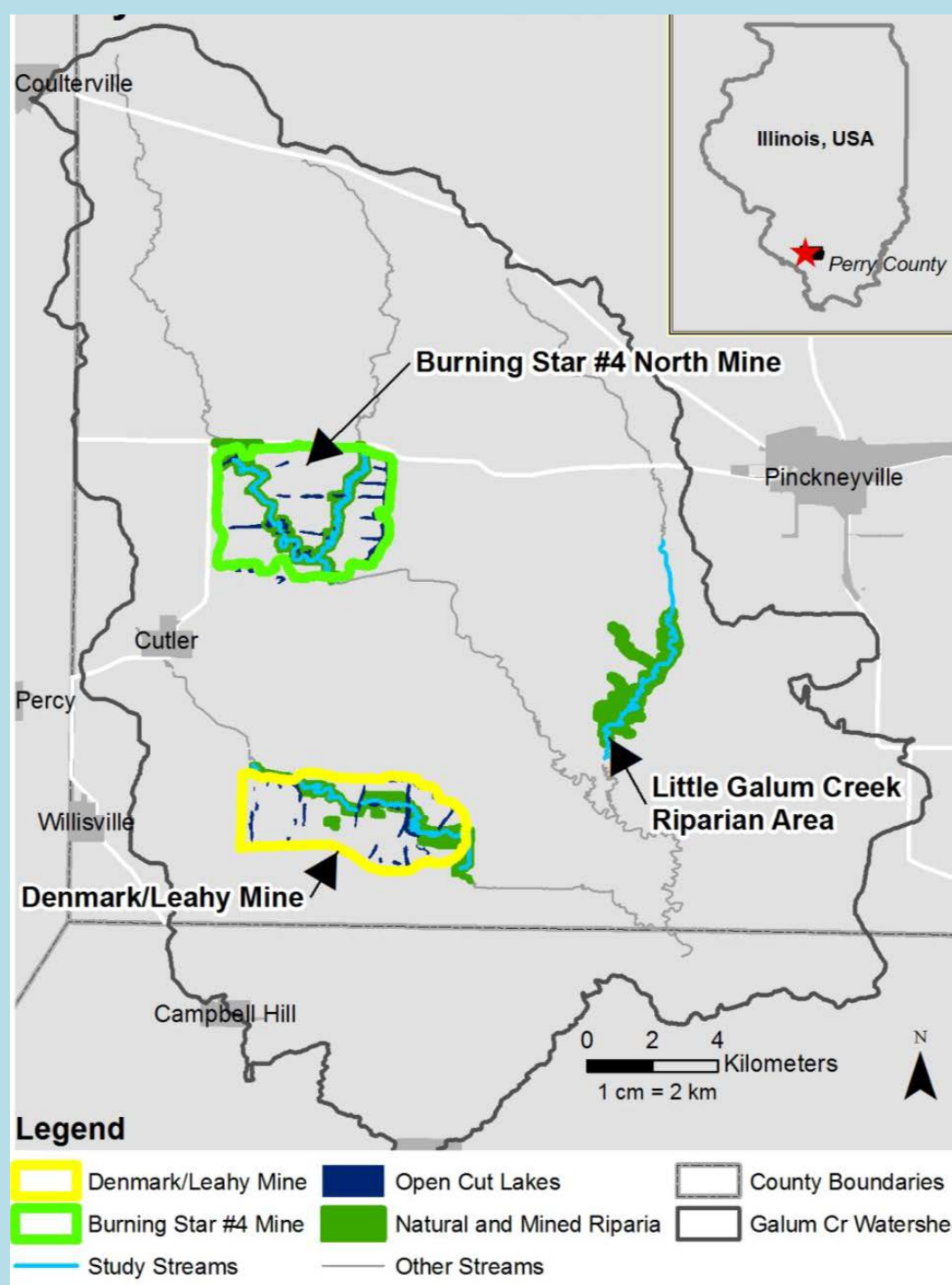
# OBJECTIVE 1: EVALUATE THE CHANGE IN WATER QUALITY IN STREAMS RESTORED ON SURFACE MINES OVER TIME

- Does water quality in streams restored on surface mines change over time?
  - As measured by temperature, pH, specific conductivity, total suspended solids (TSS), total dissolved solids (TDS), manganese (Mn), iron (Fe), or sulfate ( $\text{SO}_4$ )
- Do overall trends in water quality by length of relocated streams change over time
  - As measured by temperature, pH, conductivity, TSS, TDS, Mn, Fe, and  $\text{SO}_4$

## OBJECTIVE 2: EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INCLINE PITS FOR REMOVING SUSPENDED SOLIDS FROM STREAMS RESTORED ON SURFACE MINES

- Does the concentration of TSS change across incline pits left inline of restored streams?
  - As measured by samples taken during storm events

# Study Area

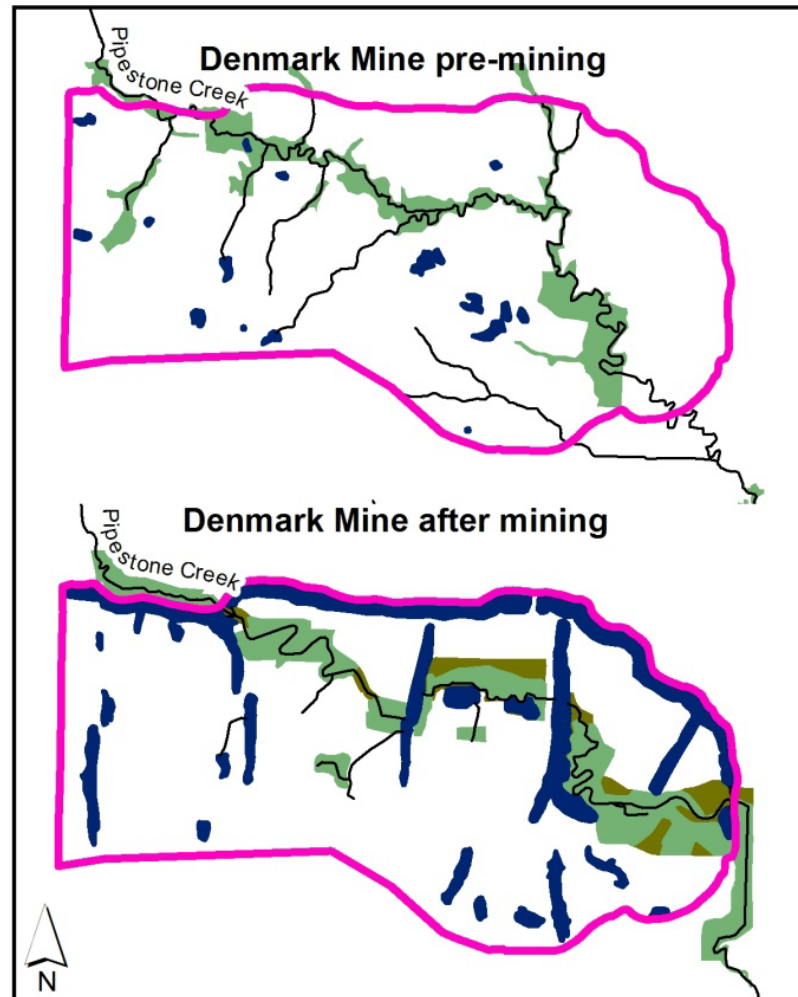




# Study Area: Before and after mining at Denmark/Leahy mine



Pipestone Creek was diverted in the early 1970s. In 1979 a new meandering channel was dug for pipestone creek through reclaimed mine spoils. It was reconnected to the upstream watershed in late 1991



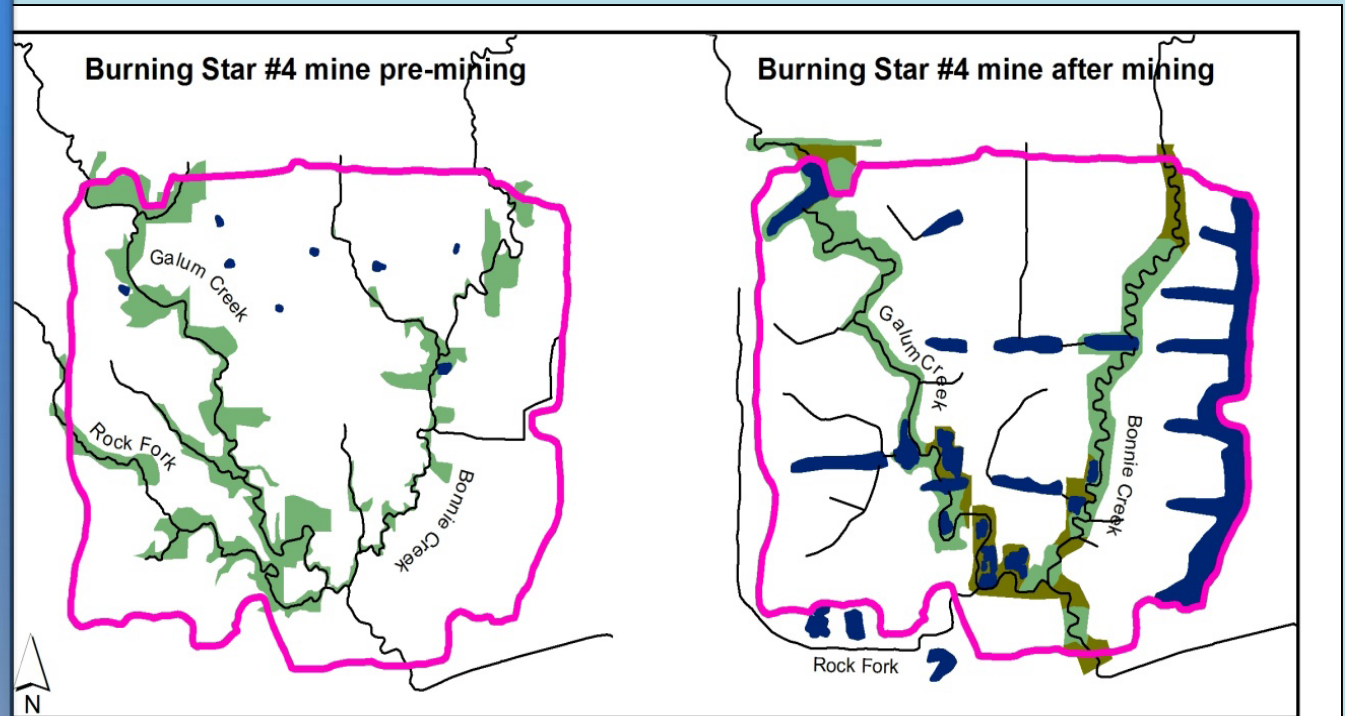
## Legend

-  Mine permit areas
-  Riparian forest
-  Streams
-  Riparian grasses
-  Ponds/open water

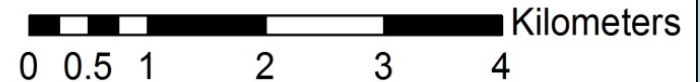
# Study Area: Before and after mining at Burning Star #4 North mine



Bonnie and Galum Creek were diverted in the 1980s. New meandering channels were dug through reclaimed mine spoils 1983-1997. Reconnection occurred in 2001.



Map by B. Borries

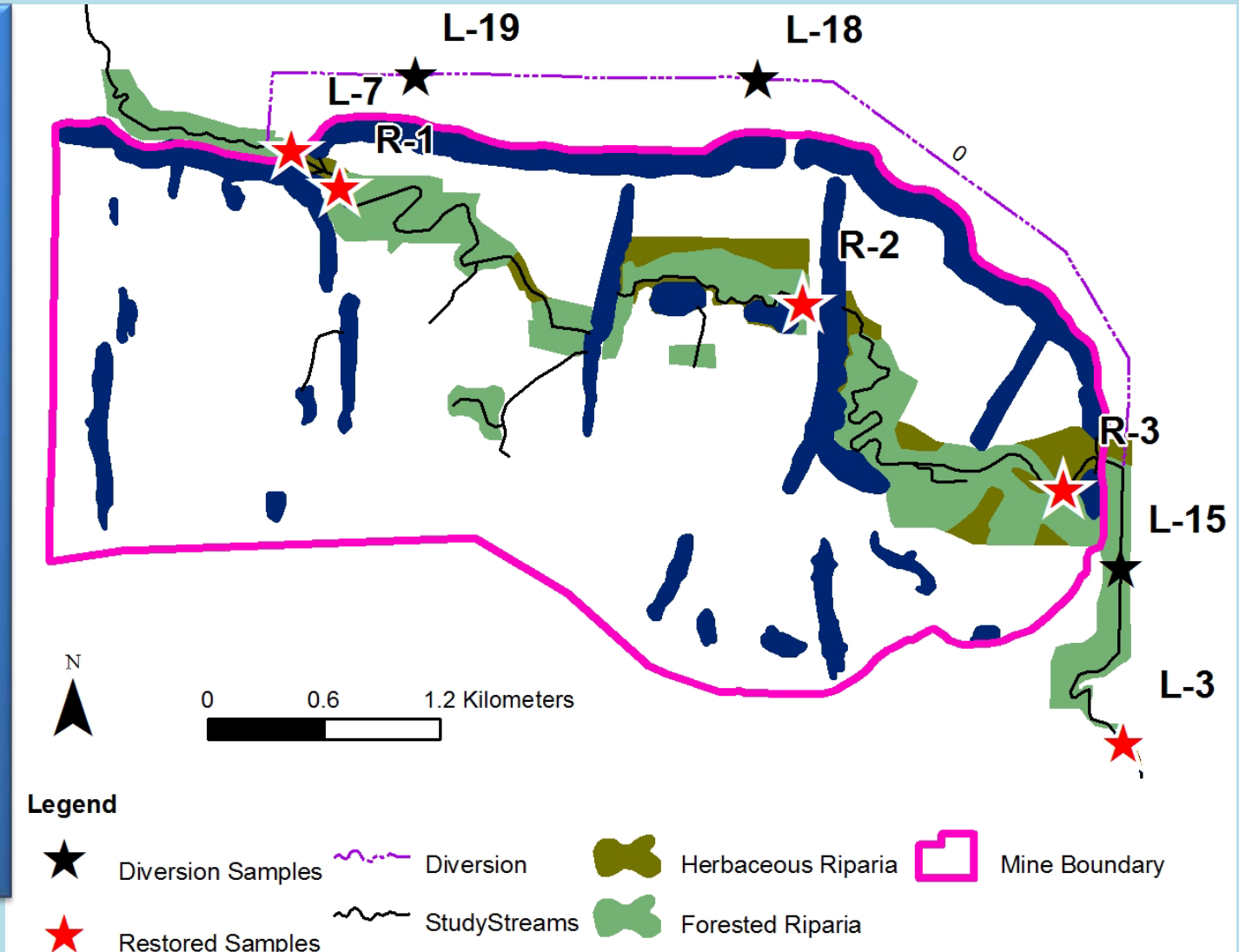




# Study Design: Grab sample locations along Bonnie and Galum Creeks at BS4N mine

Post-restoration monitoring (SIUC-Wildlife): spring & fall 1992-1995

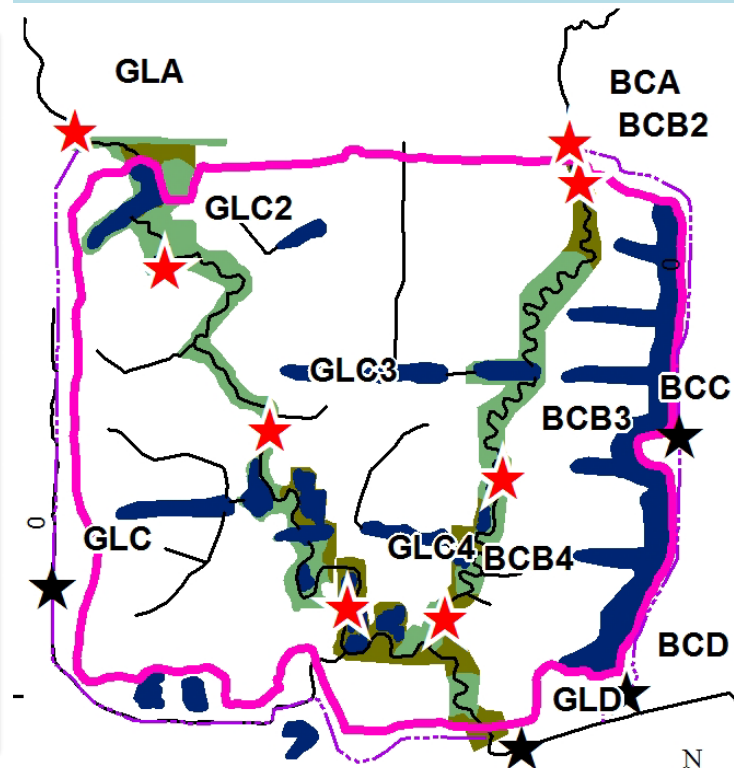
Re-evaluation monitoring (SIUC): Jan-12, May-12, Sep-12, and Apr-13



# Study Design: Grab sample locations along Bonnie and Galum Creeks at BS4N mine

Post-restoration monitoring (Pike Environmental): spring & fall 2002-2006

Re-evaluation monitoring (SIUC): Jan-12, May-12, Sep-12, and Apr-13



## Legend

- Pre-mine Samples
- Diversion Samples
- Restored Samples
- Premine\_Streams
- Diversion
- Herbaceous Riparia
- Forested Riparia
- Mine Boundary

0 1 2 Kilometers

Analyte	Method	Lab
Alkalinity	SM 2320 B – Titration*	Standard Labs
Chloride	EPA 300.1 Ion Chromotography **	SIUC Forestry Lab
Fluoride	EPA 300.1 Ion Chromotography **	SIUC Forestry Lab
Iron, total	EPA 200.7 ICP **	Standard Labs
Manganese, total	EPA 200.7 ICP **	Standard Labs
Zinc	EPA 200.7 ICP **	Standard Labs
Nitrate	EPA 300.1 Ion Chromotography **	SIUC Forestry Lab
Sulfate	EPA 300.1 Ion Chromotography **	SIUC Forestry Lab
Total Dissolved Solids	SM 2540 C*	SIUC Forestry Lab
Total Suspended Solids	SM 2540 D*	SIUC Forestry Lab

\* methods used are from Eaton and Franson (2005)

\*\* methods used are from USEPA (2000)





## Statistics and Calculations: Step trends with time

- To reduce seasonal variability, data from the control along each creek (BCA, GLA, and L-7) was subtracted from each sample point similar to a Before-After Control-Impact (BACI) design:

$$\text{Deviation} = \text{Impact} - \text{Control}$$

- Tested for step-trends rather than monotonic trends due to large gaps – via Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon rank sum test



## Statistics and Calculations: Monotonic trend with length of stream located

- Test for monotonic trends also used a modified (BACI) design:

$$\text{Deviation} = \text{Impact} - \text{Control}$$

- Tested for monotonic trend with the non-parametric regional-Kendall test
  - Deviation is the dependent variable
  - Length of stream relocated as the independent variable
  - Tests for a trend in the deviation along the restored reach individually for each sampling period and then compares all the trends together

Sample Point	Lat (dd)	Long (dd)	Distance Relocated (km <sup>2</sup> )	Watershed (km <sup>2</sup> )
L-7	37.994590	-89.533263	Control	25.79
R-1	37.992830	-89.530442	0.34	26.34
R-2	37.987286	-89.503251	3.99	28.52
R-3	37.978565	-89.488016	6.65	31.23
L-3	37.966740	-89.484576	8.84	33.24
GLA	38.087367	-89.553919	Control	55.46
GLC2	38.078721	-89.546893	1.62	64.04
GLC3	38.068555	-89.538646	3.51	66.29
GLC4	38.057399	-89.532574	5.77	69.47
BCA	38.086496	-89.514718	Control	39.49
BCB2	38.083956	-89.513962	0.39	39.80
BCB3	38.065433	-89.520179	4	44.60
BCB4	38.056632	-89.524896	5.72	49.32



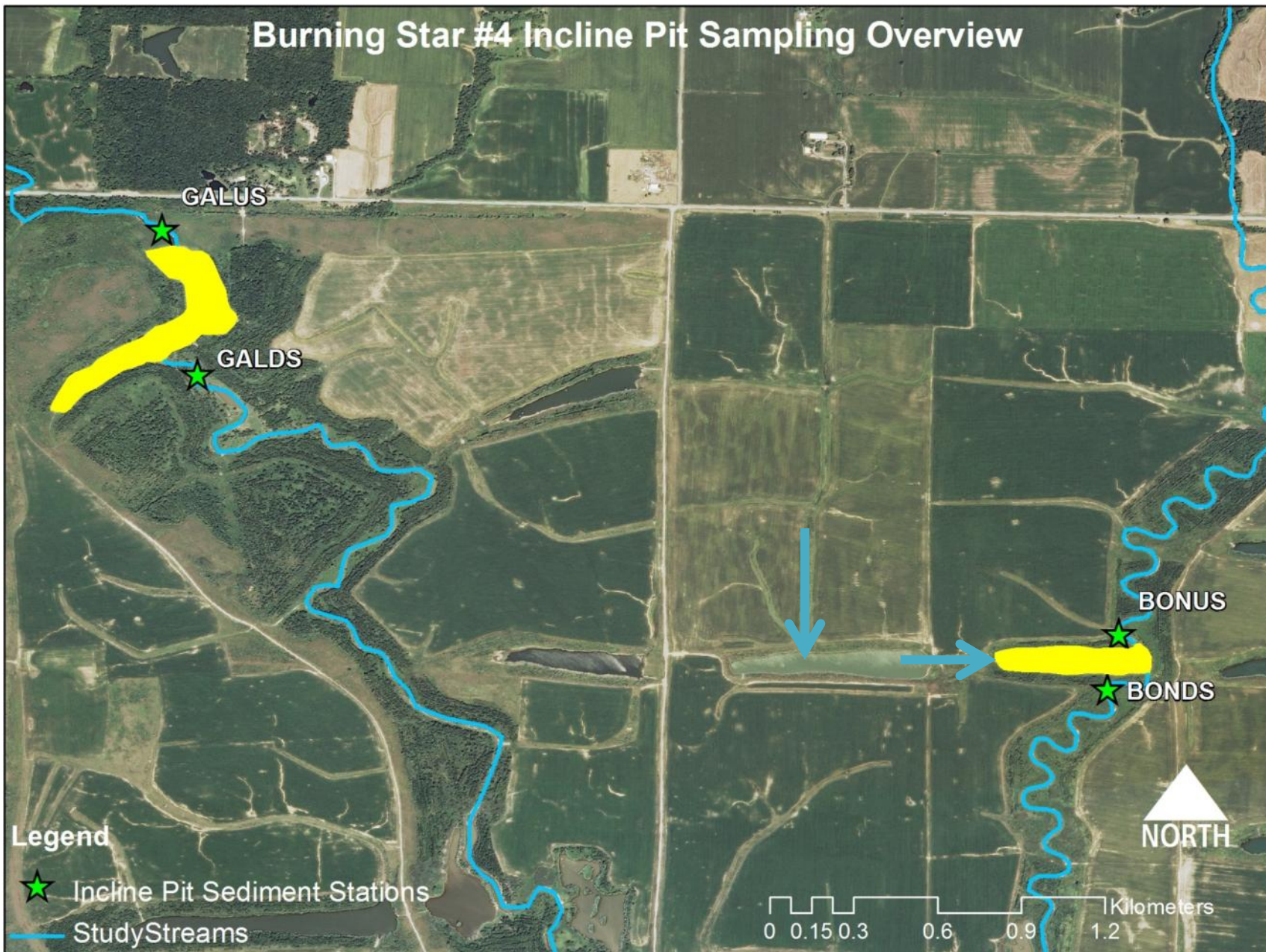
## Methods: Suspended solids concentration above and below incline pits



- ISCO auto-sampling units positioned above and below the first incline pits inline of Bonnie and Galum Creeks – a stilling well was installed to record gage
- 24 samples were taken during events – samples were consolidated – 11-17 samples per storm event
- Repeated measures ANOVA used to test for differences between TSS concentrations above and below two ( $n=2$ ) incline pits



# Burning Star #4 Incline Pit Sampling Overview







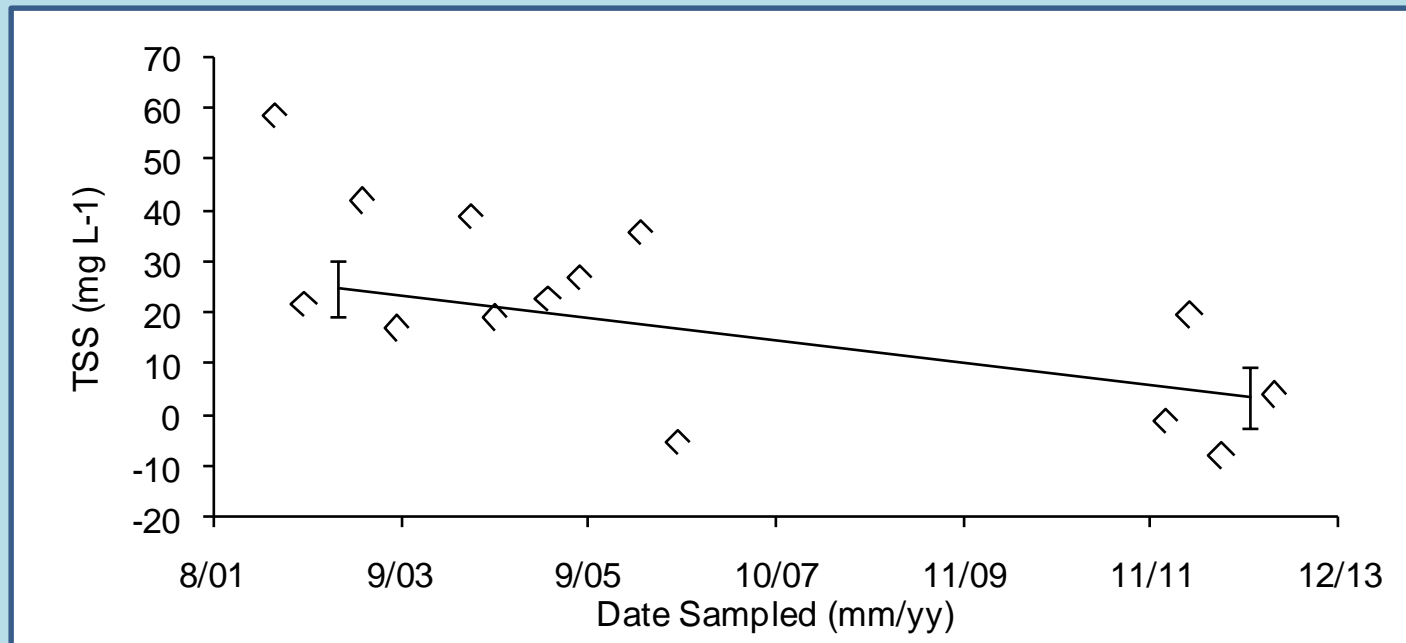
# RESULTS/DISCUSSION

Photo: Jack Nawrot

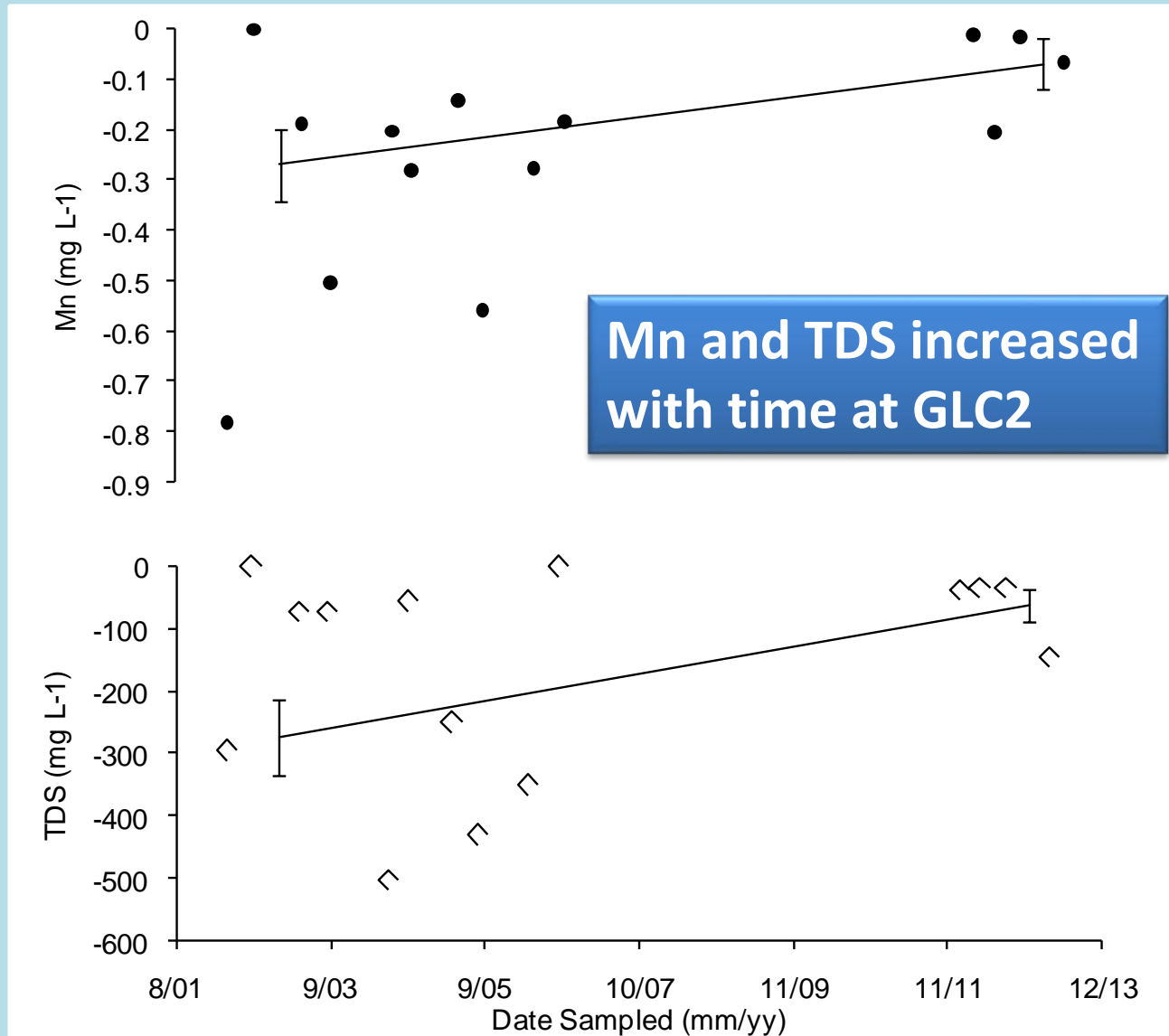


# Bonnie Creek - BCB3 TSS(Deviation from control): Significant step trends with time

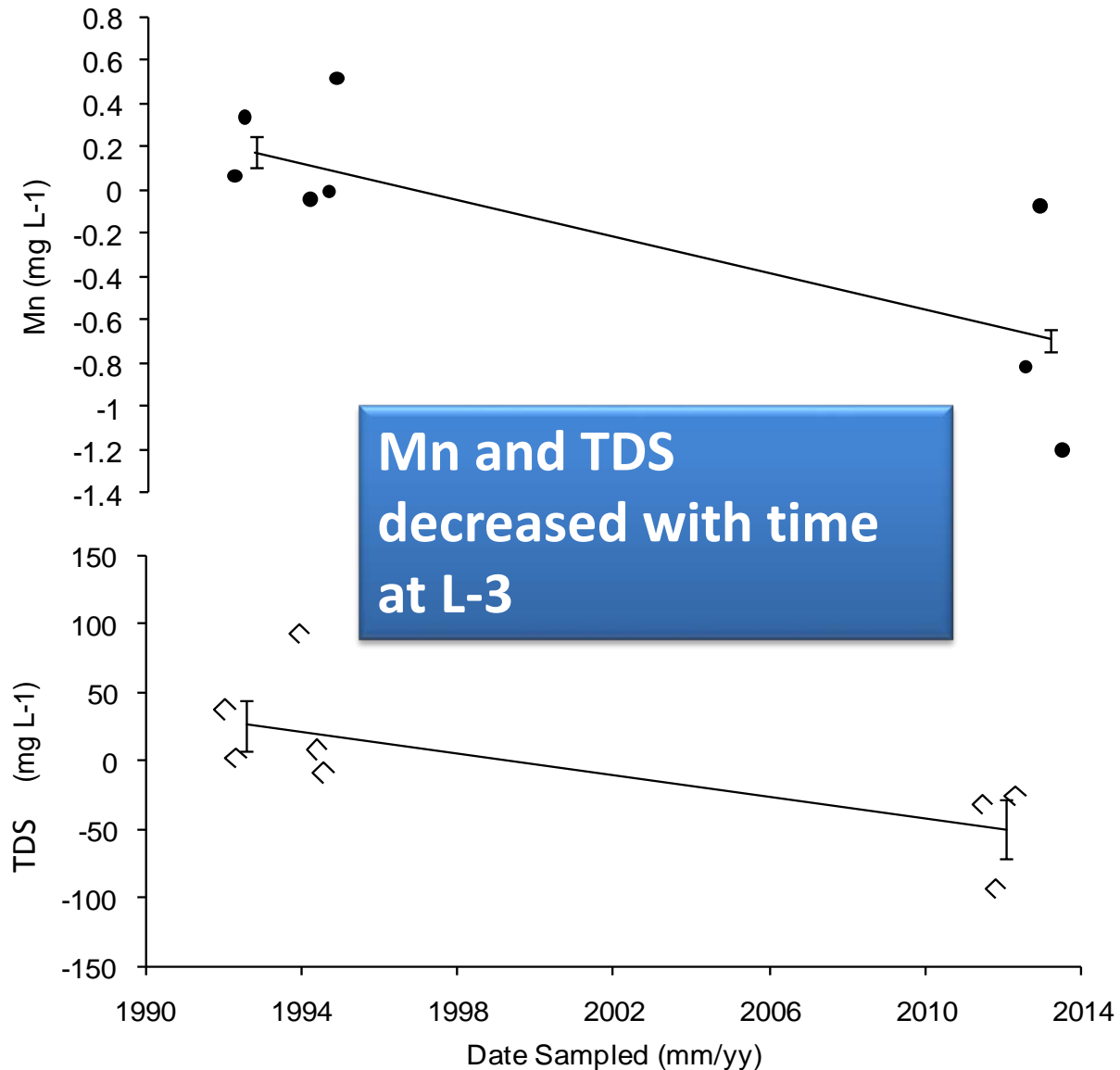
TSS decreased with time at BCB3



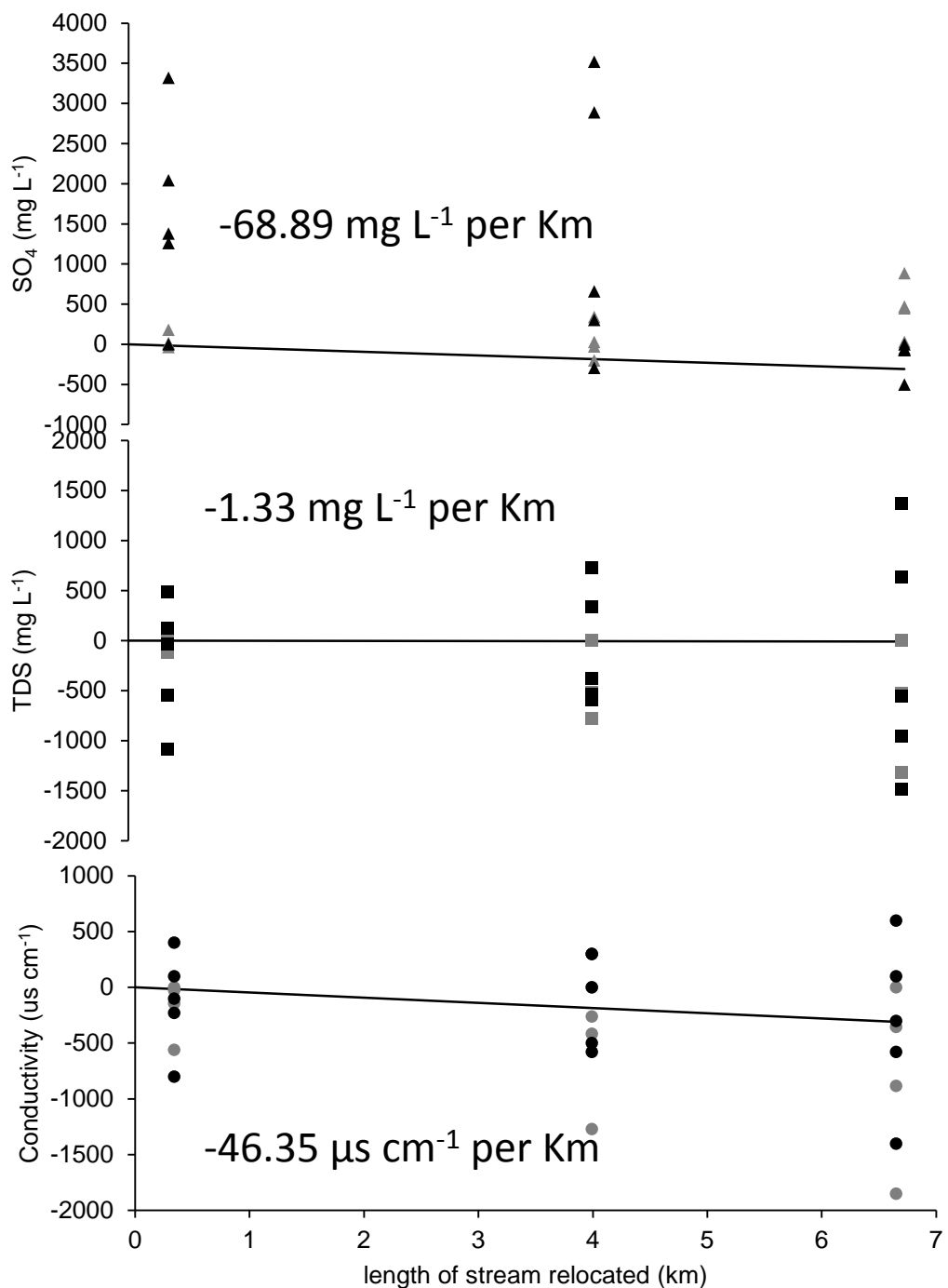
# Galum Creek - GLC2 Mn and TDS(Deviation from control): Significant step trends with time



# Pipestone Creek - L-3 Mn and TDS (Deviation from control): Significant step trends with time



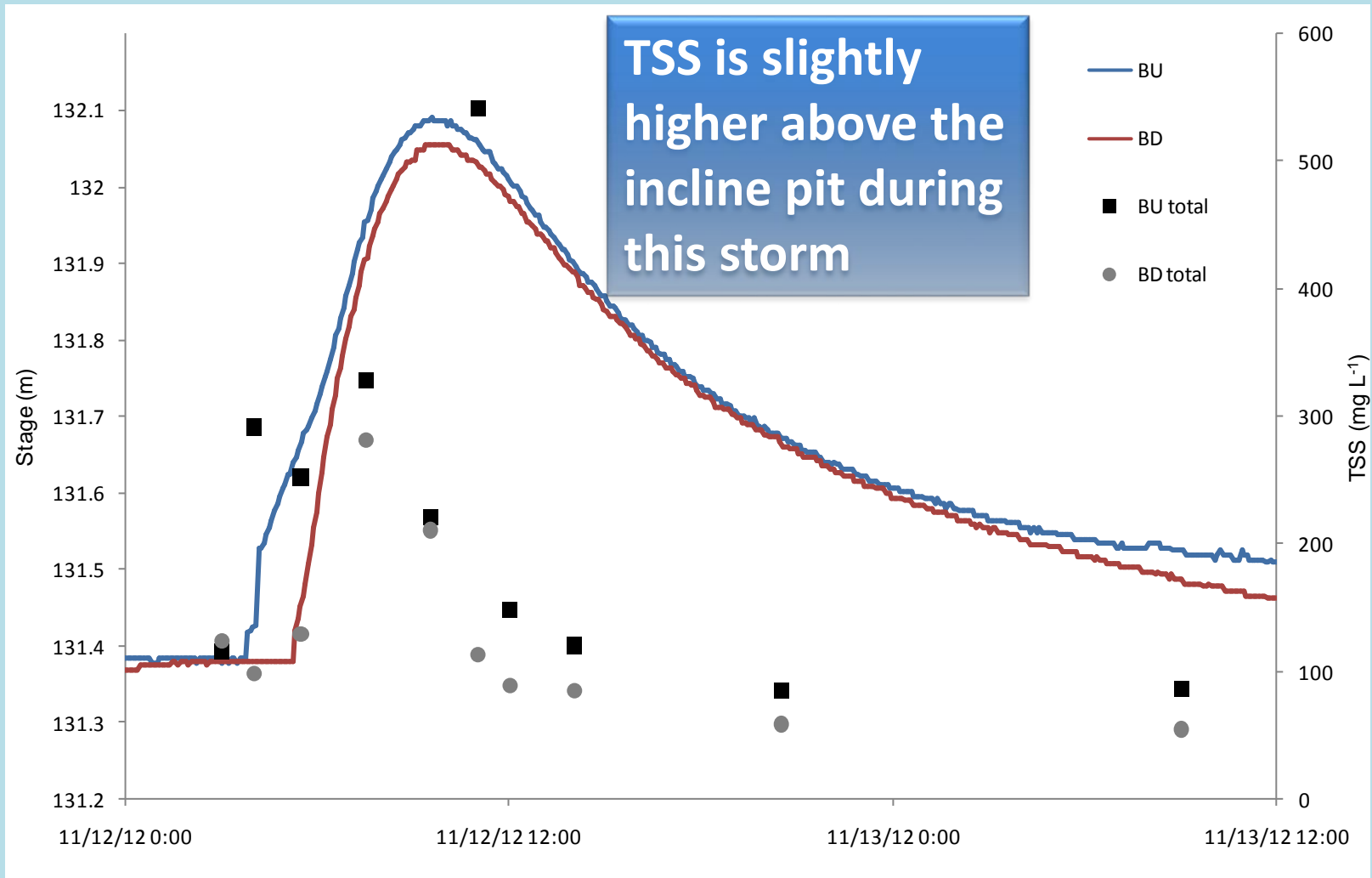




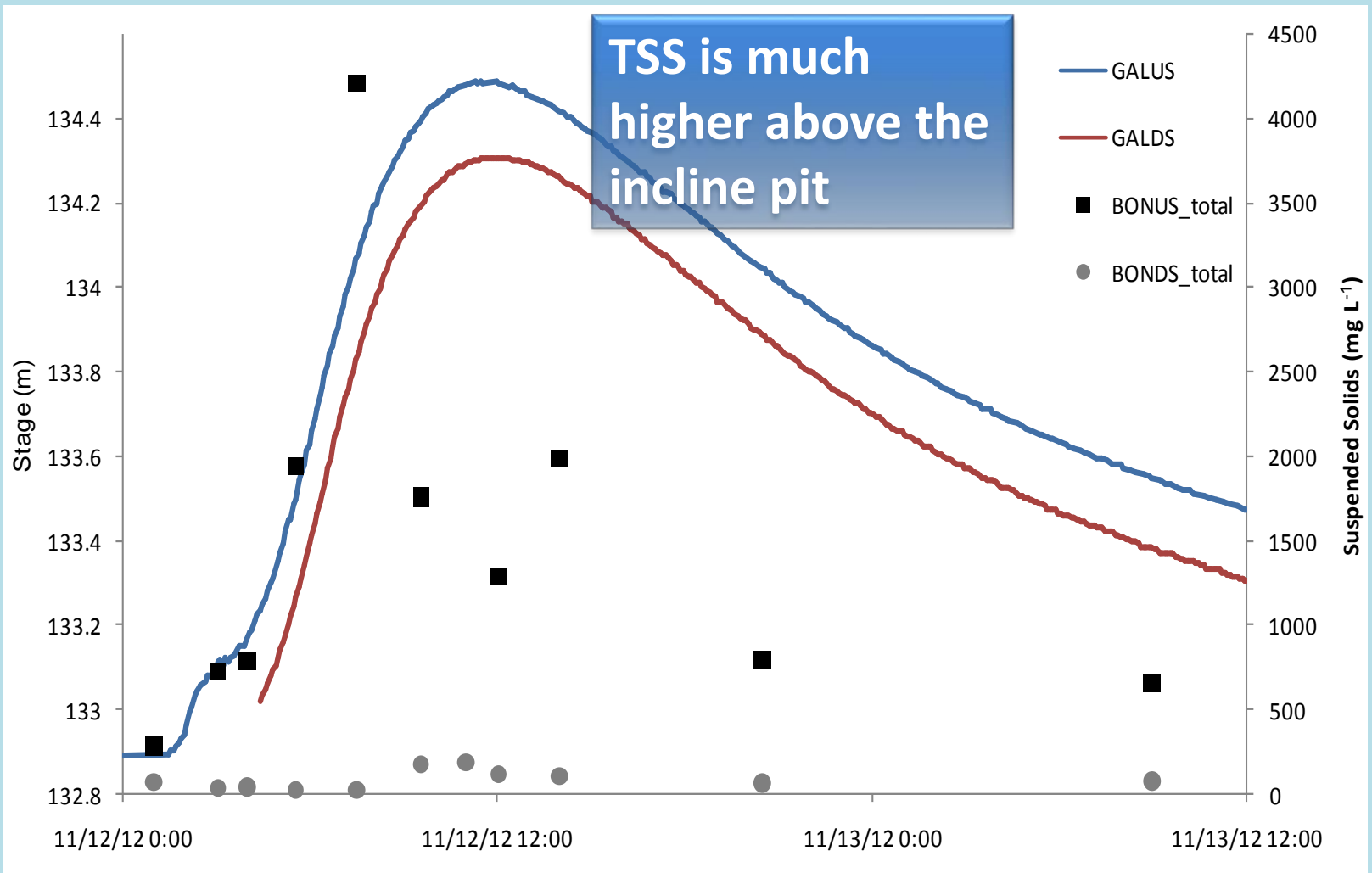
**SO<sub>4</sub>, TDS, and Conductivity along Pipestone Creek (deviation from control): Significant monotonic trends along the length of the relocated stream**

**SO<sub>4</sub>, TDS, and Conductivity concentration are high at the control due to “pre-SMCRA” mines upstream. significant negative trends were found during the 2012-2013 sampling period, but not 1992-1995**

# Storm 1 (11/12/2012) hydrograph and TSS at incline pit 1 on Bonnie Creek: Hydrographs above (blue) and below (red) are shown with TSS above (black) and below (grey) incline pit 1

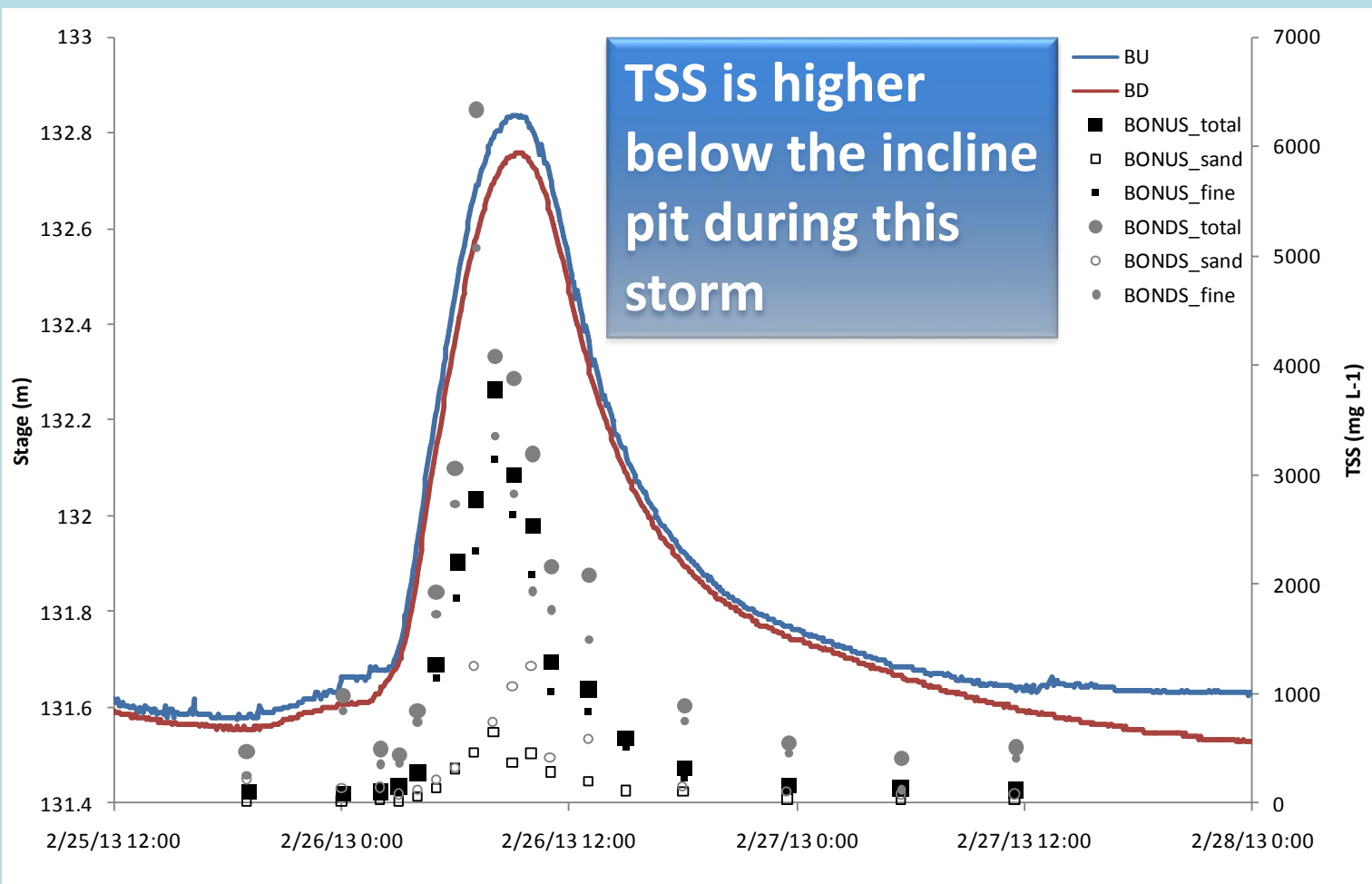


# Storm 1 (11/12/2012) hydrograph and TSS at incline pit 1 on Galum Creek: Hydrographs above (blue) and below (red) are shown with TSS above (black) and below (grey) incline pit 1

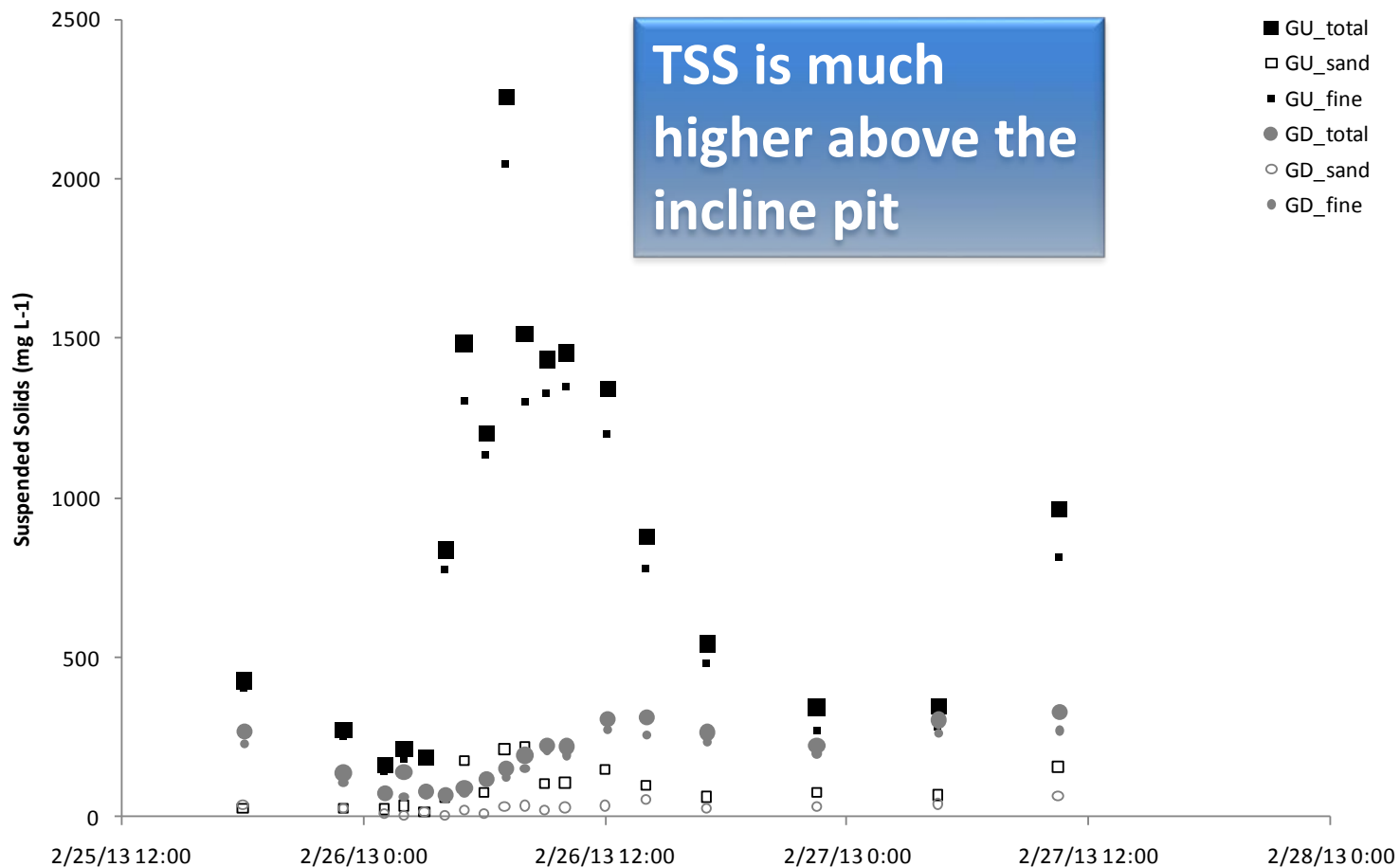




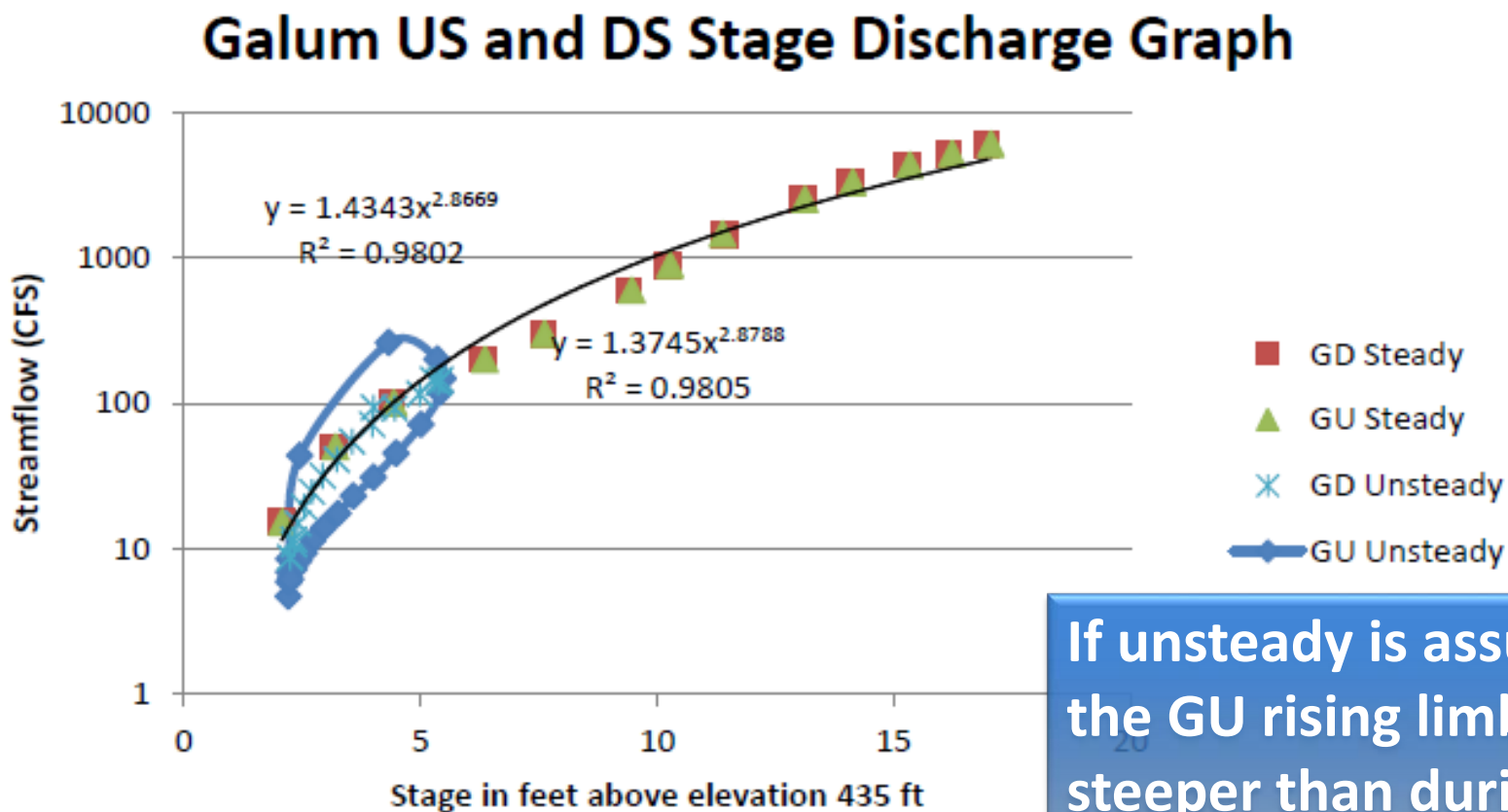
# Storm 2 (2/21/13) hydrograph and SS at incline pit 1 on Bonnie Creek: Hydrographs above (blue) and below (red) are shown with TSS (black square), fine split (small black square), and sand split (open box) above and TSS (grey circle), fine split (grey dot), sand split (open grey box) below incline pit 1



**Storm 2 (2/21/2013) suspended solids at incline pit 1 on Galum Creek: TSS (black square), fine split (small square), and sand split (open box) above and TSS (grey circle), fine split (grey dot), sand split (open grey box) below incline pit 1 are shown**



**Storage in Galum Incline Pit 1: Stage discharge curves created from a HEC-RAS model calibrated with stage data. GD (red square) and GU (green triangle) curves from a steady-state model are compared to GD (blue asterisk) and GU (blue diamond) curves from an unsteady model**



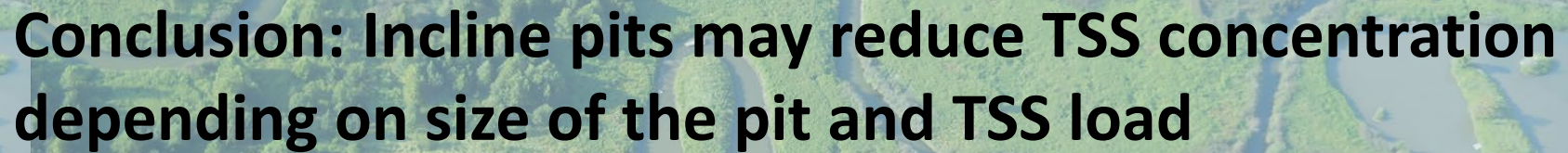
If unsteady is assumed, the GU rising limb curve is steeper than during the falling limb





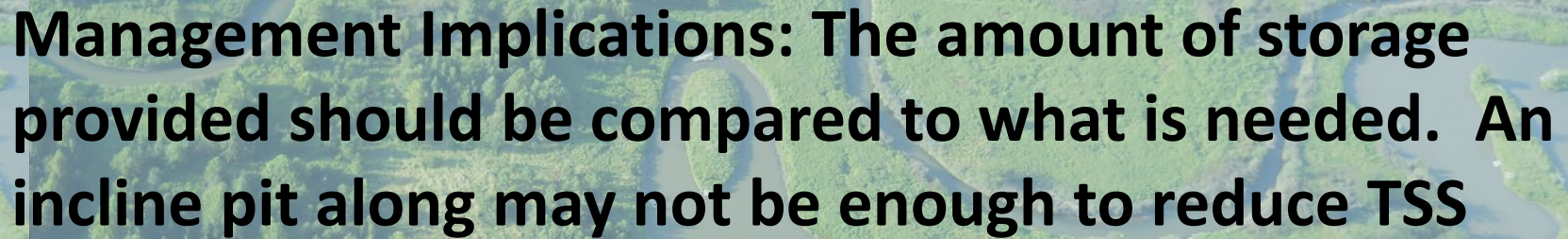
## Conclusion: Changes in Pipestone Creek water quality with time and length of relocated stream

- Most downstream sample point (L-3) TDS and Mn decreased with time
- Contaminated water from historic mining was present at the control point (L-7) – in-stream processes reduced conductivity, TDS, and  $\text{SO}_4$  during 2012-2013
- Aquatic plants *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Stuckenia pectinata*, and *Potamogeton* sp. abundant in Pipestone Cr., useful for phytoremediation, esp. metal attenuation
- $\text{SO}_4$  can be reduced to  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  in organic rich bed sediments present at Pipestone Creek.



## Conclusion: Incline pits may reduce TSS concentration depending on size of the pit and TSS load

- The Galum pit significantly reduced TSS concentration during both storm events
  - TSS concentrations peaked earlier upstream, later downstream
  - 1<sup>st</sup> wave of water was stored low TSS water
- Bonnie pit: TSS higher downstream during “wet” condition storm event.
  - Additional inflow overcame the storage
  - Incline pits may not be sufficient to reduce TSS concentration from “ag ditches” with no riparian area



**Management Implications: The amount of storage provided should be compared to what is needed. An incline pit along may not be enough to reduce TSS**

- Incline pits won't reduce loads unless it is providing storage – upstream riparian restoration and erosion control efforts are recommended
- HEC-RAS can be used to predict the amount of storage that can be provided by an incline pit during preliminary design





# Acknowledgements

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## Questions?