

Modelling Nutrient Loads and Impact of BMPs on Water Quality

GLAP: Lake Ontario*

*Nearshore (Rouge/Duffins)

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Nov 14, 2016

Objective: integrated modelling to assess water quality and evaluate P loads of Canadian tributaries into selected nearshore zones of the Great Lakes...

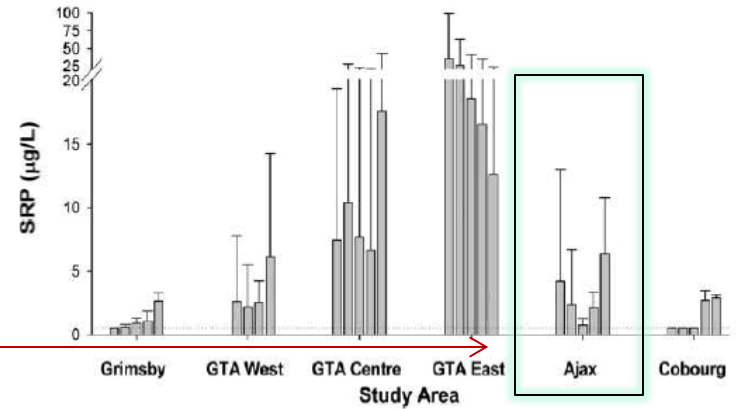
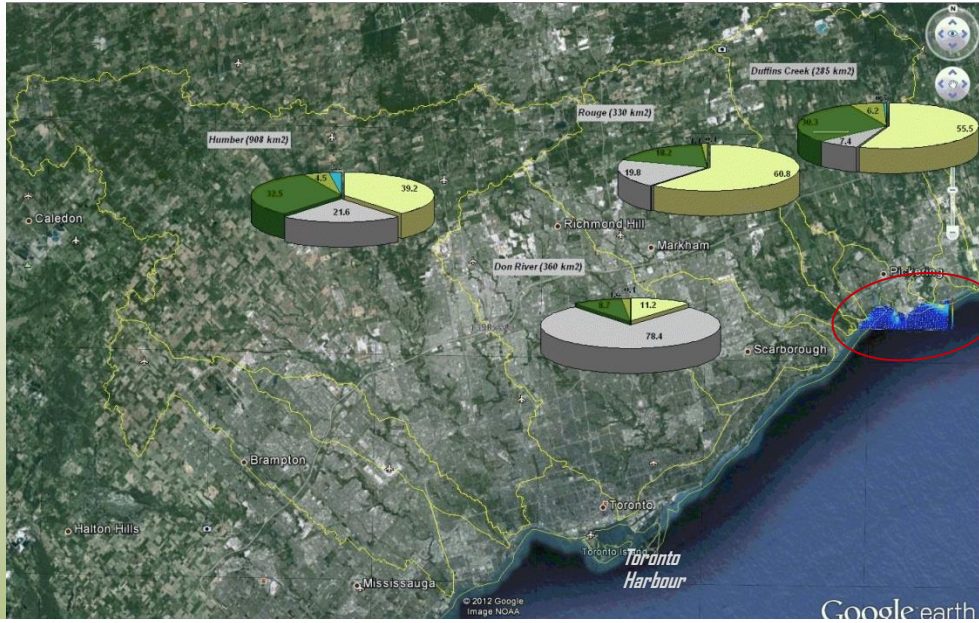


Water Quality of Nearshore Lake Ontario



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Canada

Environnement
Canada



(plots: T. Howell, MOE & TRCA)



Toronto and Region
Conservation
for The Living City

2012 Surface Water Quality Summary

May 2013

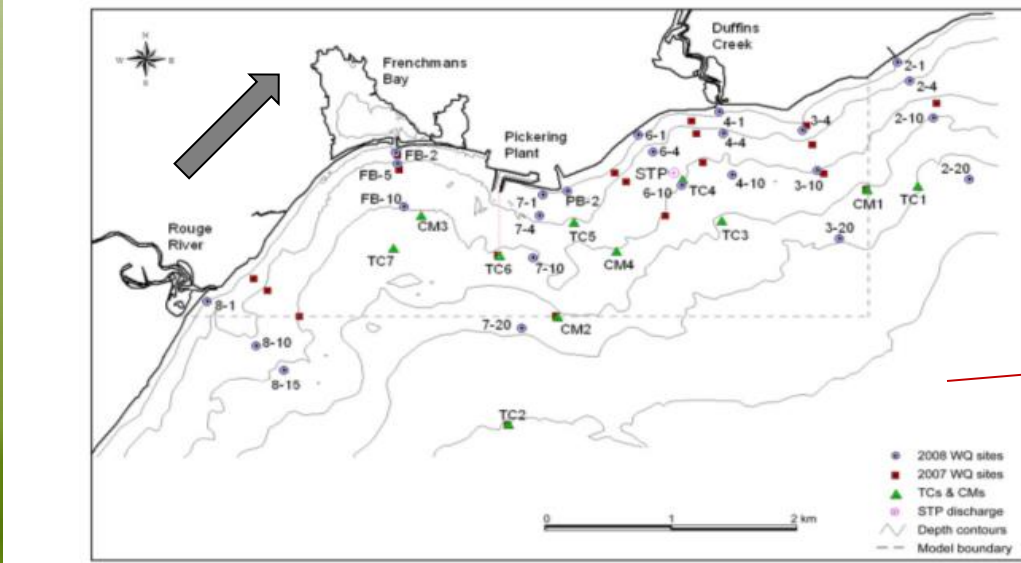
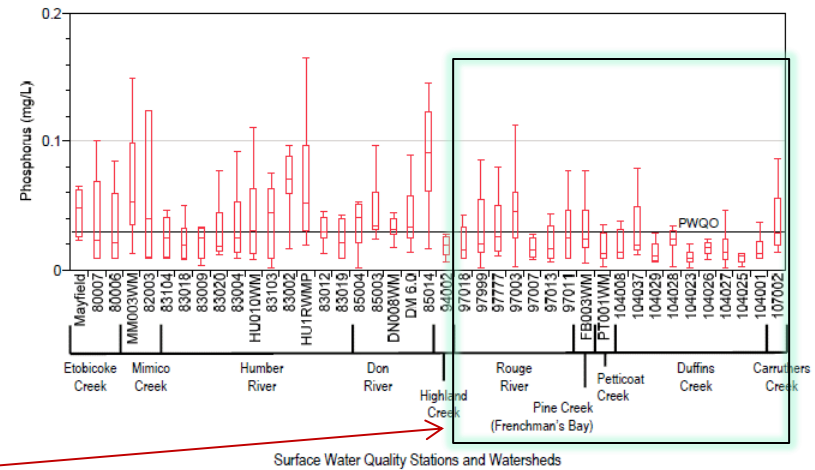


Fig. 1. Lake Ontario study area showing nearshore domain for high resolution model and location of moorings, together with water quality sampling sites in the study area for 2007 (no labels but for UW_2-3) and 2008 (labels).





Environment
Canada

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Canada

Watershed Simulation Results

- Calibrated SWAT model of the Rouge River watershed (daily flows)
- In-stream water quality parameters - model performance nutrient components (MinP, OrgN, NO₃, and NO₂)
- Similar set of calibrated parameter values used in the model for Duffins
- Simulated water quality constituents comparable to observed values (model metrics limited by data availability)
- **Scenarios (BMPs based on TRCA watershed plans)**
- Current work extending to Carruthers (UM) & Humber (GLAP)

Watershed derived nutrients for Lake Ontario inflows: Model calibration considering typical land operations in Southern Ontario

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^b Civil Engineering Department, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, MB, Canada

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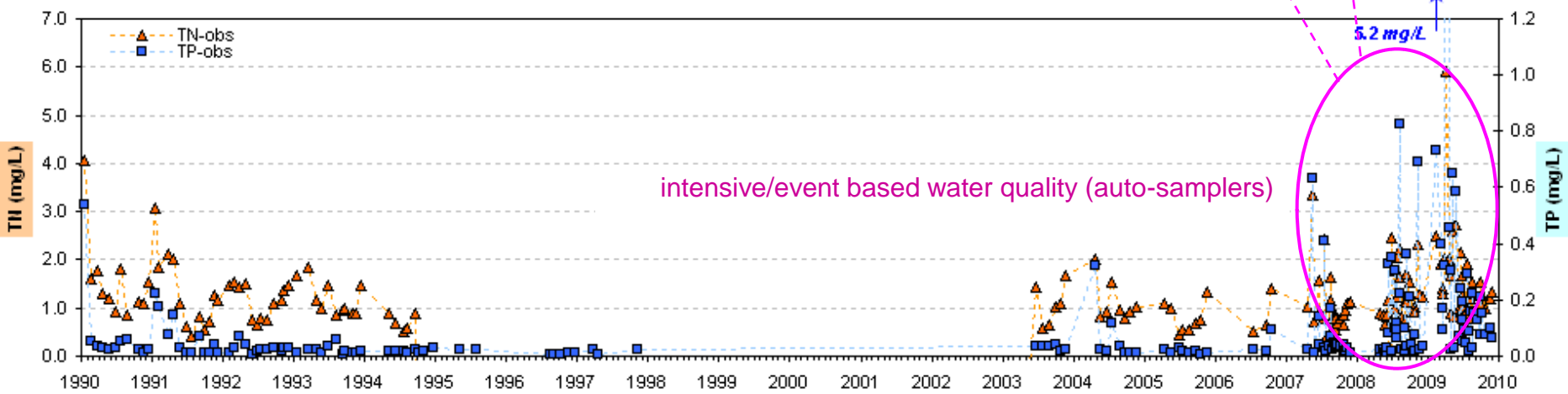
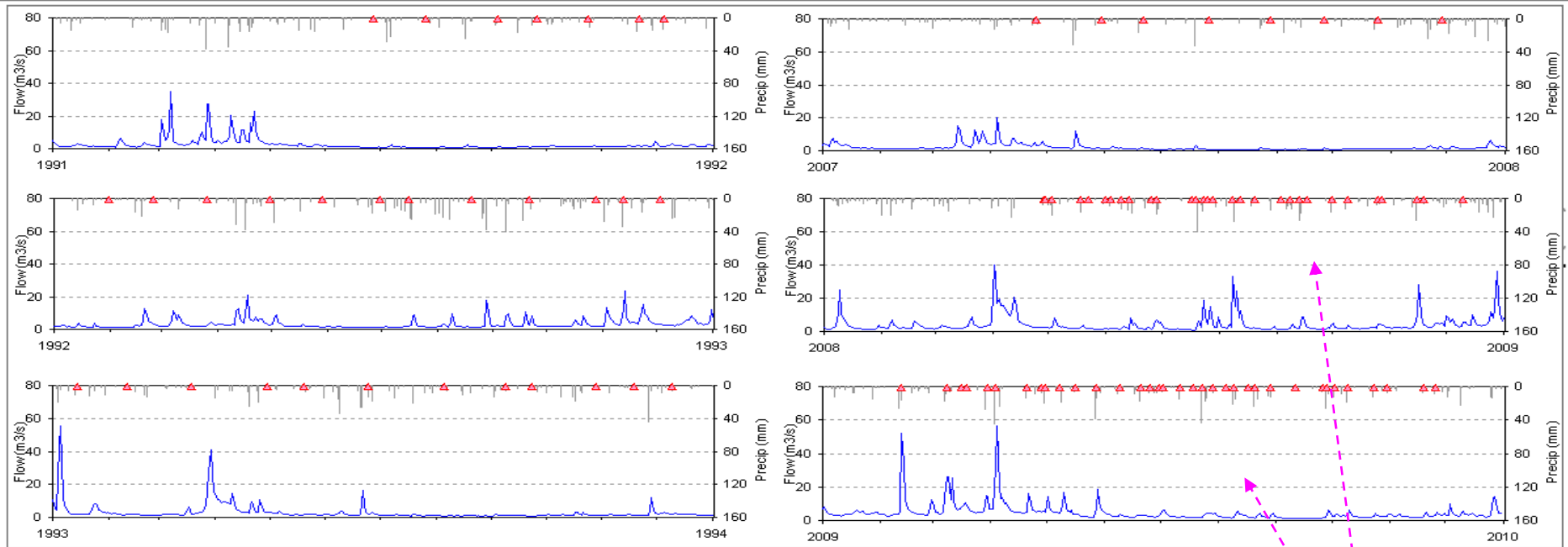
^d Toronto and Region Conservation Authority, Toronto, ON, Canada



Main sources of model uncertainty

- precipitation main NPS driver (spatial distribution)...
- water quality monitoring (load estimates/sparse field data)...

Water quality monitoring



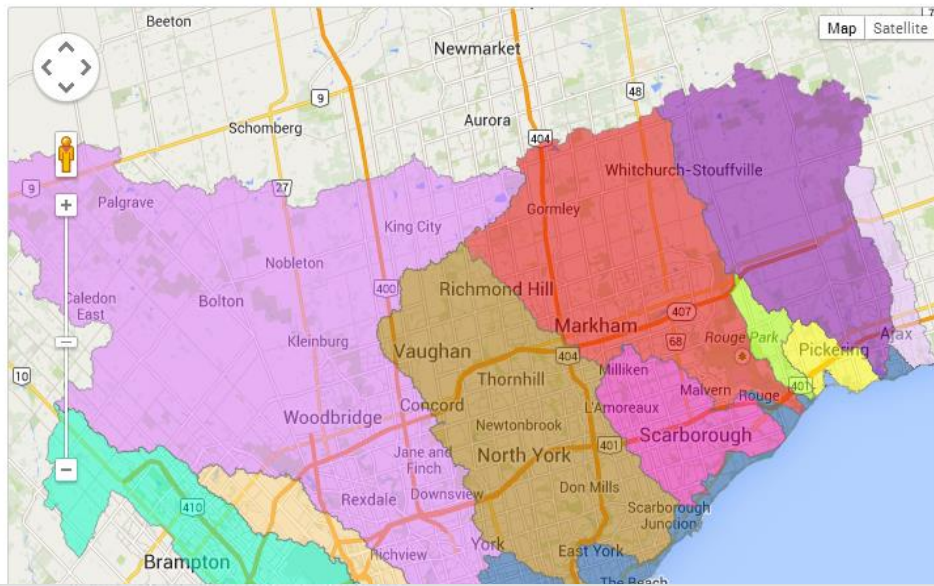


SWAT (Implementation of Crop Rotation and Management Operations*)

| LU Sub-classes | Area | Rotation Year | | | |
|----------------|------|---------------|---------|---------|---------|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| CCBW | 10% | Corn | Corn | Soybean | W-Wheat |
| WCCB | 10% | W-Wheat | Corn | Corn | Soybean |
| BWCC | 10% | Soybean | W-Wheat | Corn | Corn |
| CBWC | 10% | Corn | Soybean | W-Wheat | Corn |
| CBCB | 10% | Corn | Soybean | Corn | Soybean |
| BCBC | 10% | Soybean | Corn | Soybean | Corn |
| HAY | 40% | Hay | | | |

*Included in Duffins Cr. Project improved additions & recalibration/validation

| Year. Crop | Month | Day | Operation(s) | Hydrologic Soil Group | | | |
|------------|-------|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|----|----|----|
| | | | | A | B | C | D |
| 1. Corn | 4 | 30 | Disc Plough GE23ft | 77 | 86 | 91 | 94 |
| | 5 | 1 | Plant/Grow Corn | 67 | 78 | 85 | 89 |
| | 5 | 2 | Fertilizer: N 110 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 5 | 3 | Fertilizer: P 22 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 11 | 1 | Harvest and Kill Corn | 74 | 83 | 88 | 90 |
| 2. Corn | 11 | 15 | Mouldboard Plough (reg 4-6b) | 76 | 85 | 90 | 93 |
| | 4 | 30 | Disc Plough GE23ft | 77 | 86 | 91 | 94 |
| | 5 | 1 | Plant/Grow Corn | 67 | 78 | 85 | 89 |
| | 5 | 2 | Fertilizer: N 110 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 5 | 3 | Fertilizer: P 22 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| 3. Soybean | 11 | 1 | Harvest and Kill Corn | 74 | 83 | 88 | 90 |
| | 11 | 15 | Mouldboard Plough (reg 4-6b) | 76 | 85 | 90 | 93 |
| | 5 | 13 | Plant/Grow Soybean | 67 | 78 | 85 | 89 |
| | 5 | 14 | Fertilizer: P 33 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 10 | 1 | Harvest and Kill Soybean | 74 | 83 | 88 | 90 |
| 4. W-Wheat | 10 | 6 | Plant/Grow Winter Wheat | 67 | 78 | 85 | 89 |
| | 10 | 7 | Fertilizer: N 10 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 10 | 8 | Fertilizer: P 20 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| 4. W-Wheat | 4 | 10 | Fertilizer: N 70 kg/ha | - | - | - | - |
| | 7 | 15 | Harvest and Kill Winter Wheat | 74 | 83 | 88 | 90 |
| | 11 | 15 | Mouldboard Plough (reg 4-6b) | 76 | 85 | 90 | 93 |



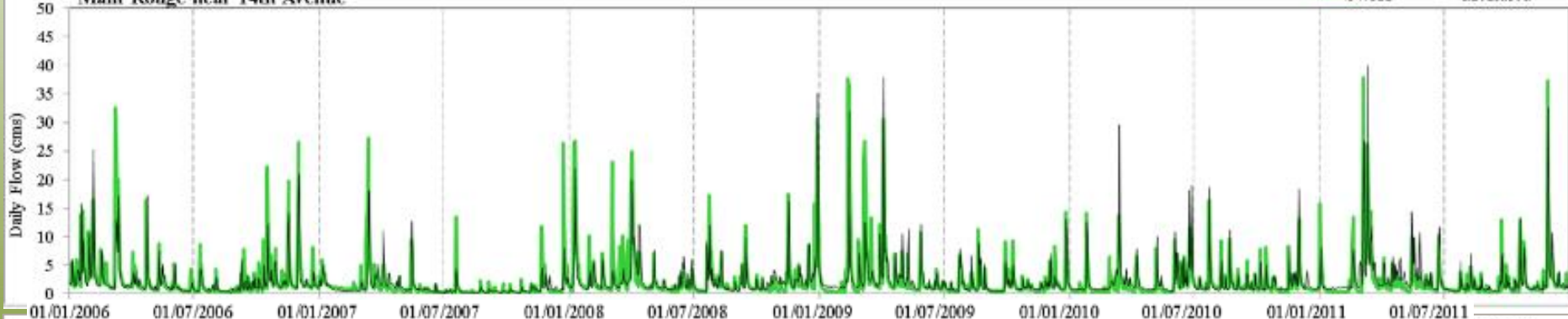
SWAT Results

(Flows: daily)

| Annual Average Water Balance | SWAT for Rouge | SWAT for Duffins |
|------------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| Precipitation (mm) | 837 | 881 |
| Snowfall (mm) | 117 | 138 |
| Evapotranspiration (mm) | 452 | 499 |
| Runoff (mm) | 372 | 355 |
| Surface Flow (mm) | 225 | 152 |

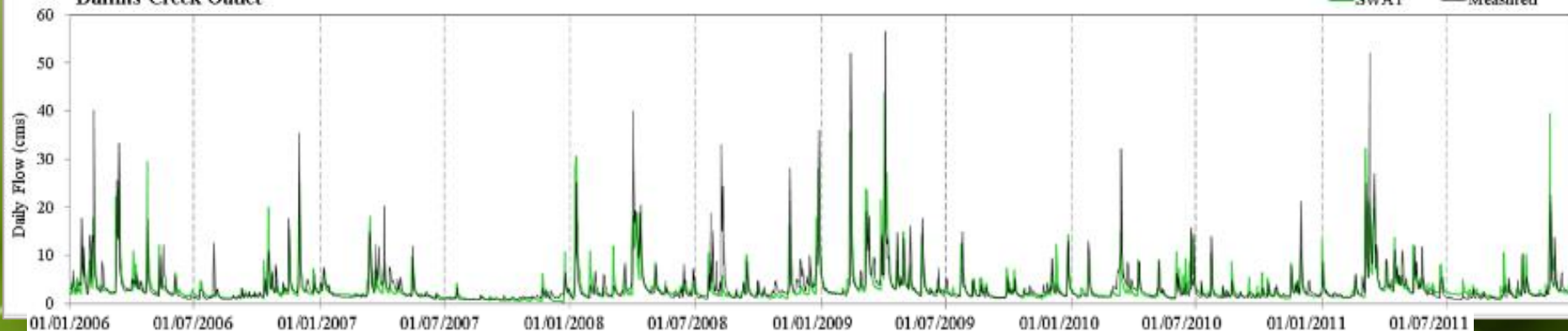
Main Rouge near 14th Avenue

— SWAT — Measured



Duffins Creek Outlet

— SWAT — Measured





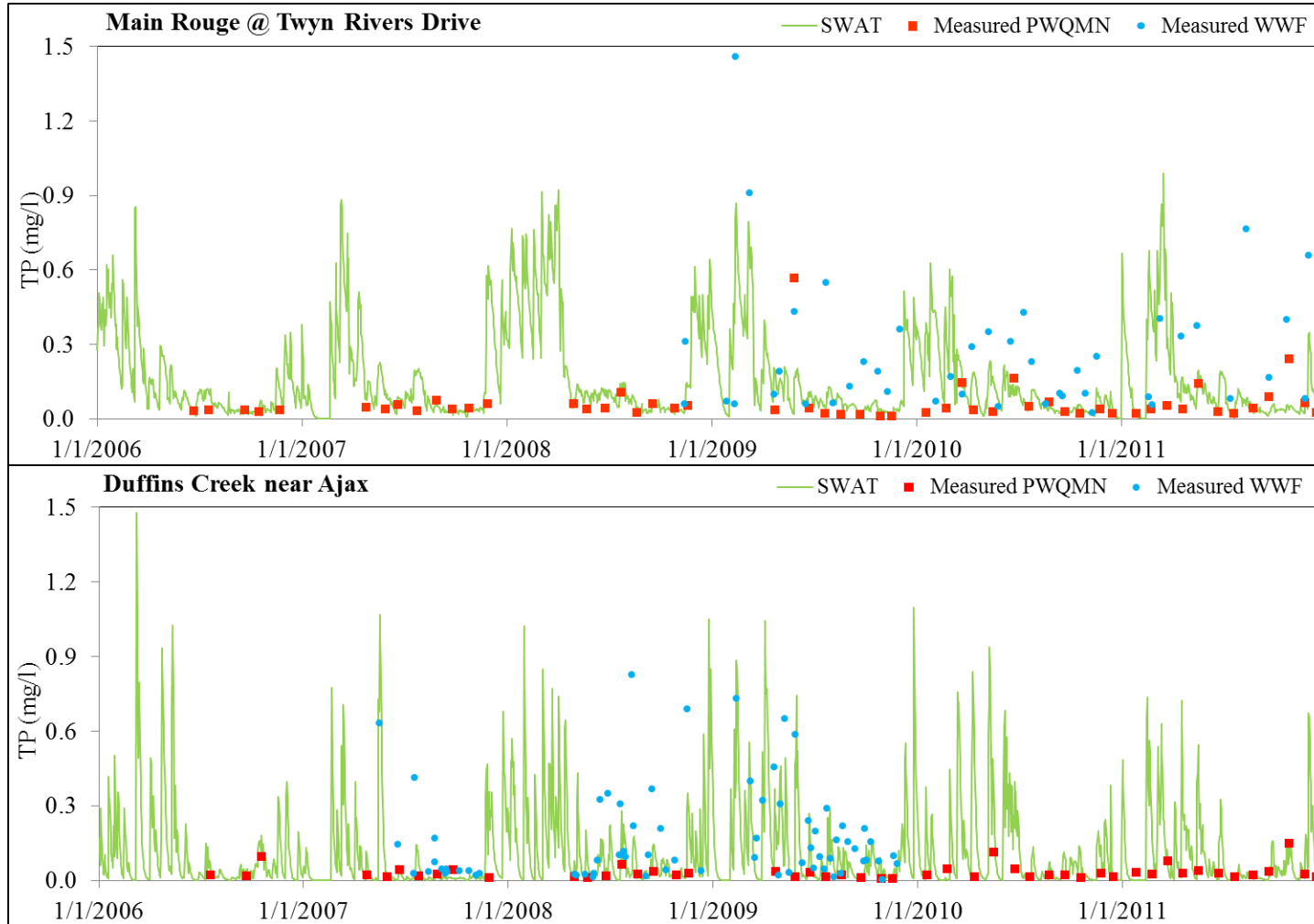
Environment
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Canada

WQ Results

(TP: daily)

Canada





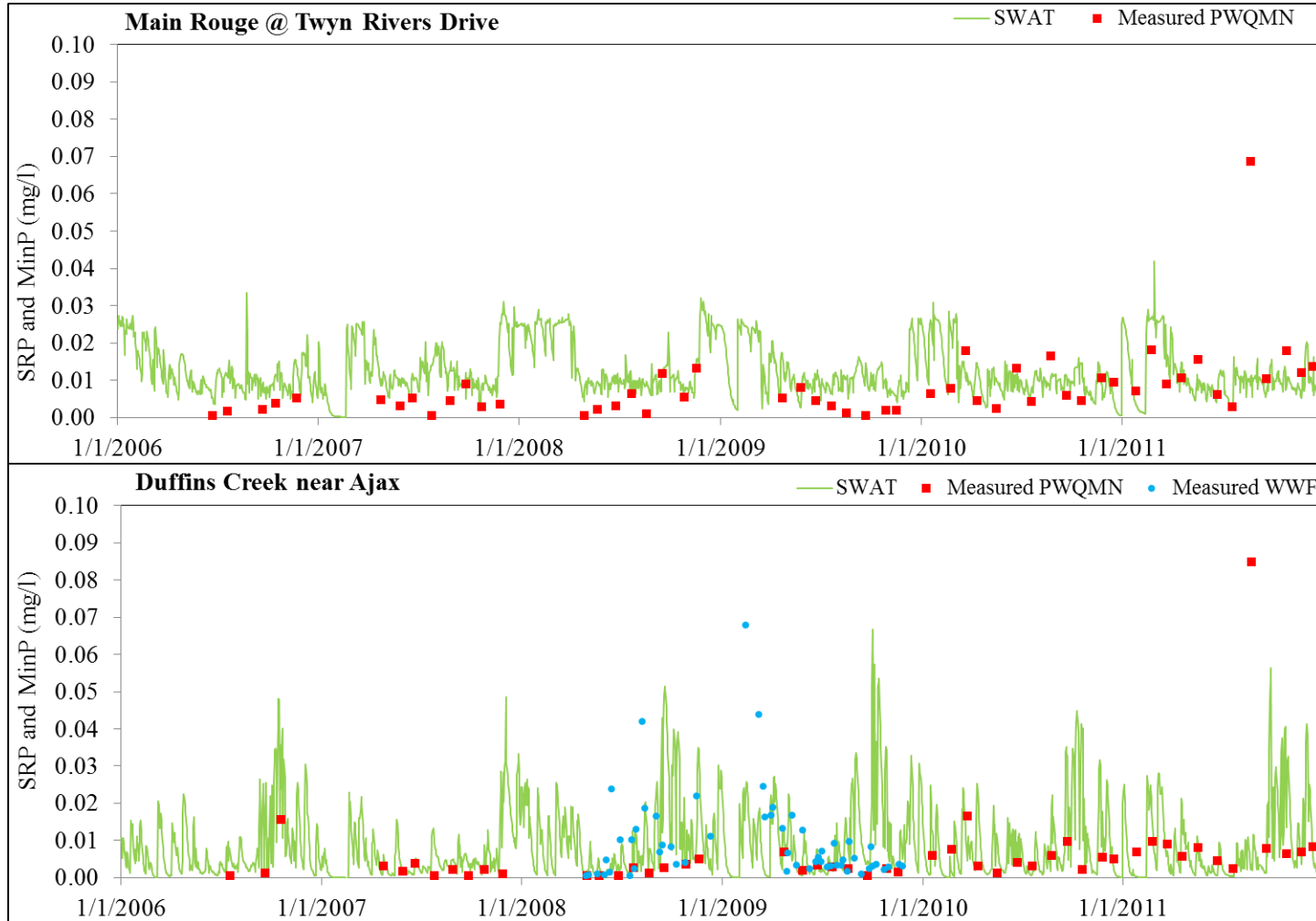
Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

WQ Results

(SRP: daily)

Canada





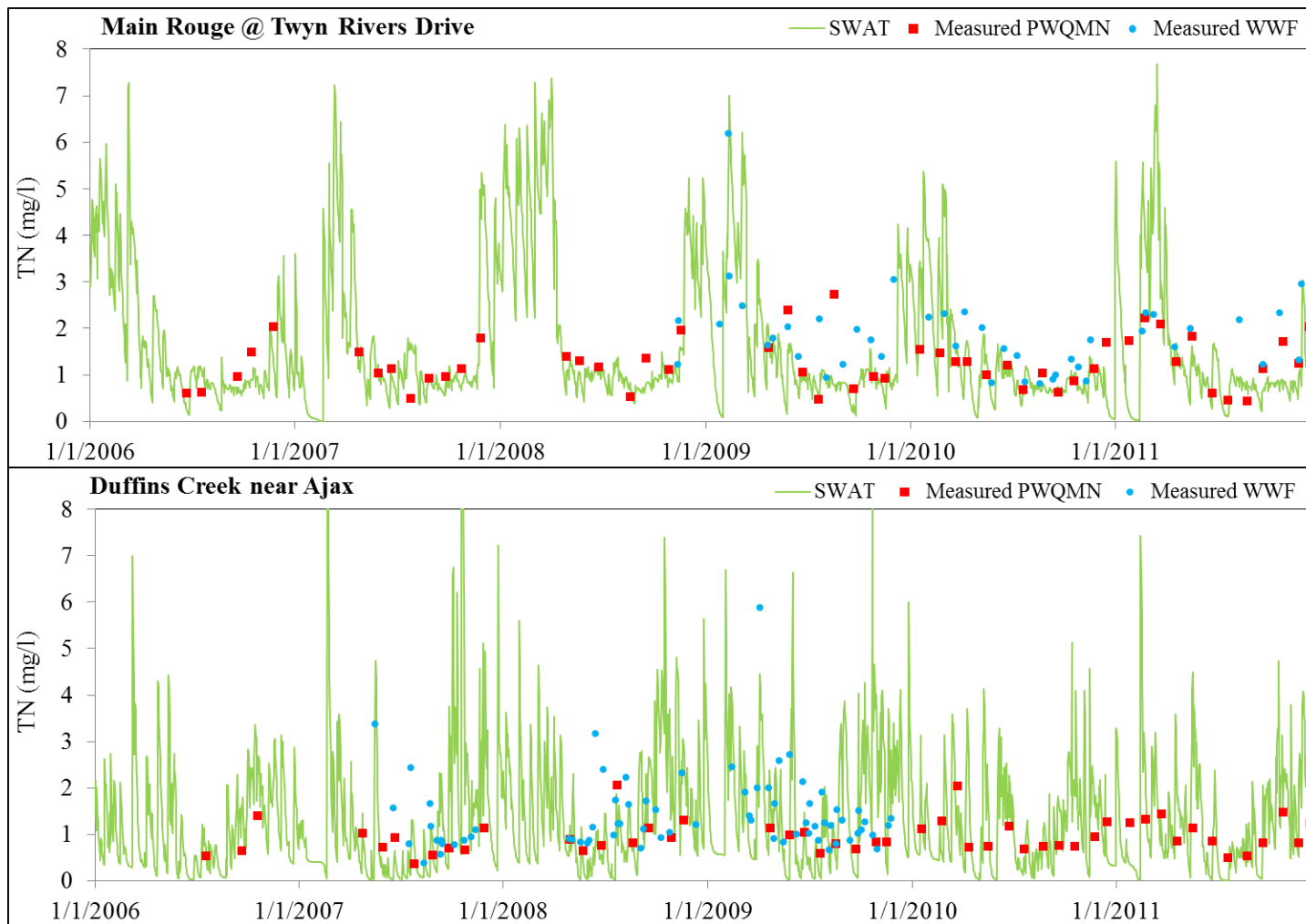
Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

WQ Results

(TN: daily)

Canada





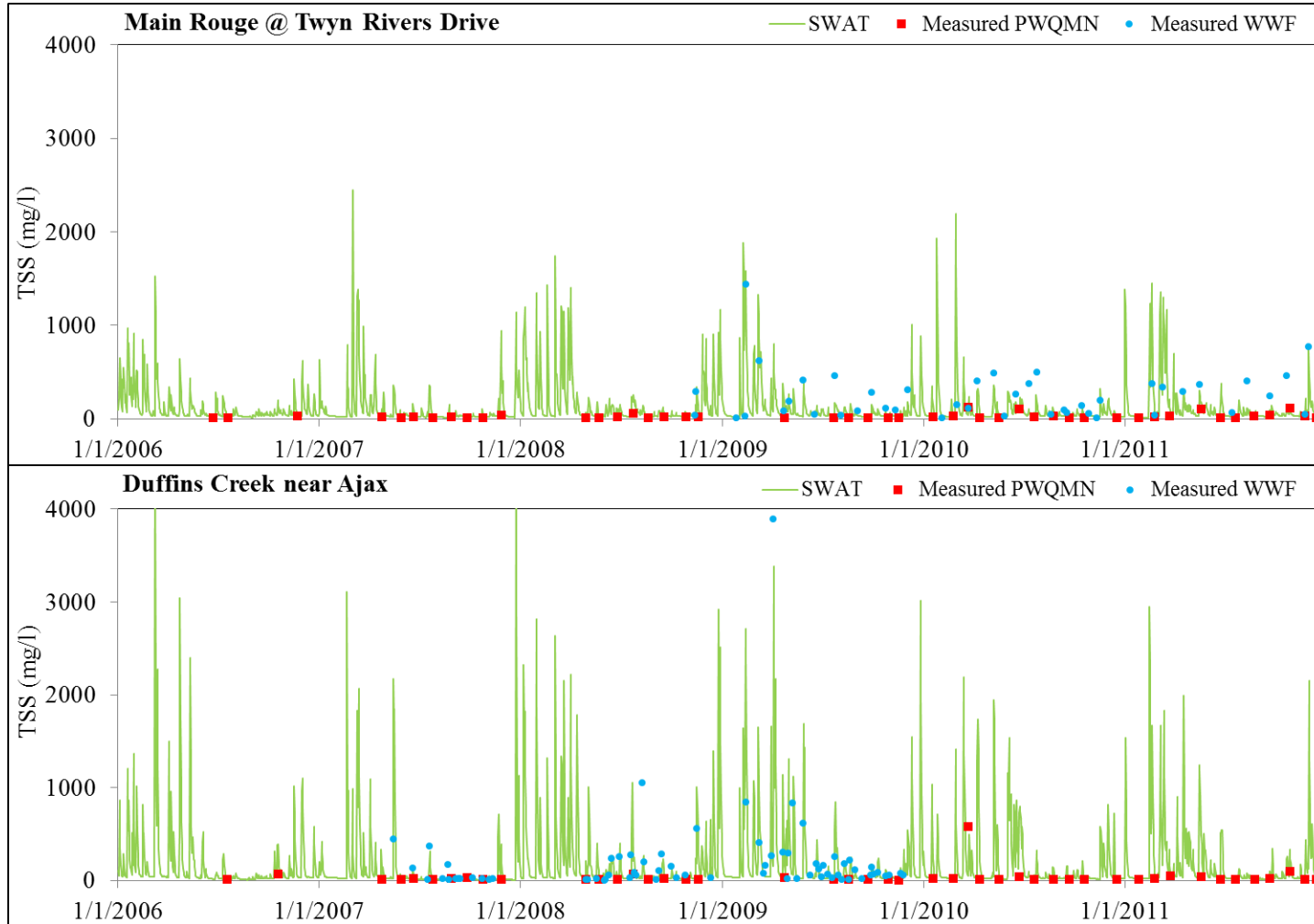
Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

WQ Results

(TSS: daily)

Canada





Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

WQ Results

(Loadings)



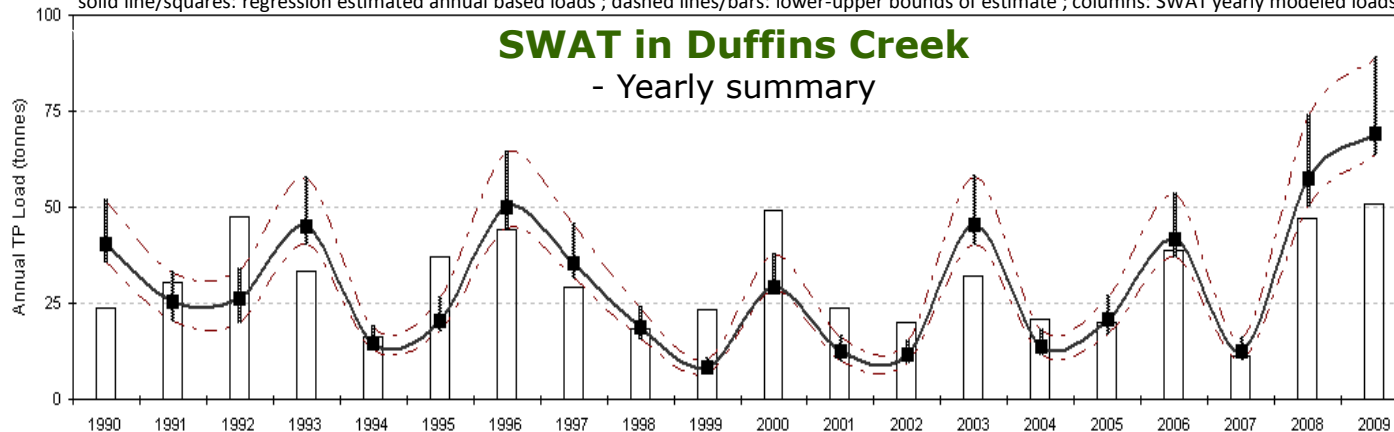
Table 10: 2005 to 2011 annual TP, TN and TSS loading estimates for Duffins Creek at Ajax.

| | TP Load (metric tonnes) | TN Load (metric tonnes) | TSS Load (metric tonnes) |
|----------------------|---|---|---|
| Calendar Year | NWRI Regression [95% CI] $r^2 = 0.37$ | NWRI Regression [95% CI] $r^2 = 0.55$ | NWRI Regression [95% CI] $r^2 = 0.42$ |
| 2005* | 16.9 [12.2, 23.6] | 113.6 [105.7, 122.1] | 18138 [11539, 28508] |
| 2006* | 33.5 [22.2, 50.5] | 182.8 [167.4, 199.6] | 41242 [23402, 72680] |
| 2007 | 10.2 [8.0, 13.0] | 83.9 [79.5, 88.5] | 9491 [6709, 13426] |
| 2008 | 44.1 [29.8, 65.3] | 225.5 [206.7, 246.0] | 54878 [32156, 93656] |
| 2009 | 51.9 [39.8, 67.8] | 215.5 [200.9, 231.2] | 57889 [37528, 89298] |
| 2010* | 17.5 [13.1, 23.4] | 115.5 [108.3, 123.2] | 17374 [11091, 27214] |
| 2011* | 31.3 [20.6, 47.7] | 170.8 [156.6, 186.2] | 39461 [21906, 71086] |

| | 1990-2009 regression TP (tonnes) [95% C.I.] | Malkin paper Figure 9b TP (tonnes) |
|------|--|---|
| 1990 | 22 [16, 31] | 20 |
| 1991 | 14 [11, 19] | 14 |
| 1992 | 14 [12, 18] | 20 |
| 1993 | 25 [17, 36] | 21 |
| 1994 | 8 [6, 11] | 7 |
| 1995 | 12 [9, 15] | 12 |
| 1996 | 27 [20, 36] | 32 |
| 1997 | 20 [14, 27] | 18 |
| 1998 | 11 [8, 14] | 11 |
| 1999 | 5 [4, 6] | 6 |
| 2000 | 16 [12, 21] | 14 |
| 2001 | 7 [6, 9] | 9 |
| 2002 | 7 [6, 8] | 8 |
| 2003 | 25 [17, 36] | 21 |
| 2004 | 8 [7, 10] | 9 |
| 2005 | 12 [10, 16] | 12 |
| 2006 | 23 [17, 31] | 26 |
| 2007 | 8 [6, 9] | 8 |
| 2008 | 33 [25, 44] | 34 |
| 2009 | 46 [40, 52] | |

solid line/squares: regression estimated annual based loads ; dashed lines/bars: lower-upper bounds of estimate ; columns: SWAT yearly modeled loads

SWAT in Duffins Creek - Yearly summary



*loading estimates based on PWQMN data only

Malkin, S., Dove, A., Depew, D., Smith, R., Guildford, S., Hecky, R., 2010. Spatiotemporal patterns of water quality in Lake Ontario & their implications for nuisance growth of Cladophora, J. Great Lakes Research 36: 477-489

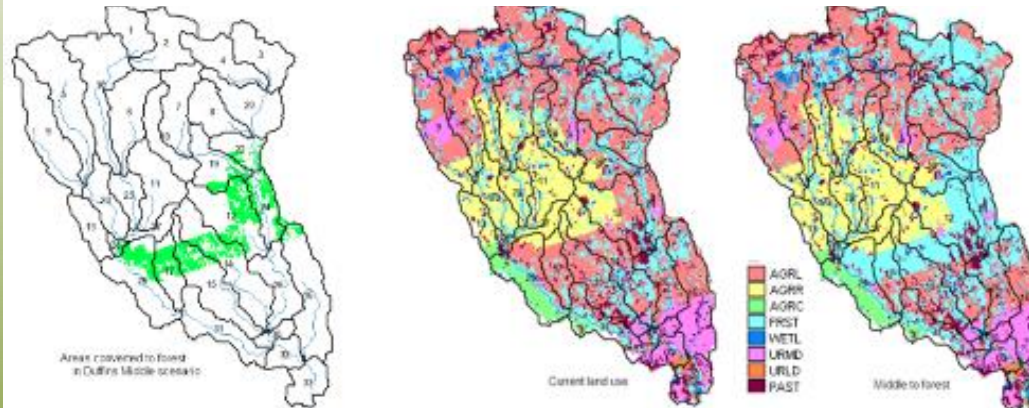
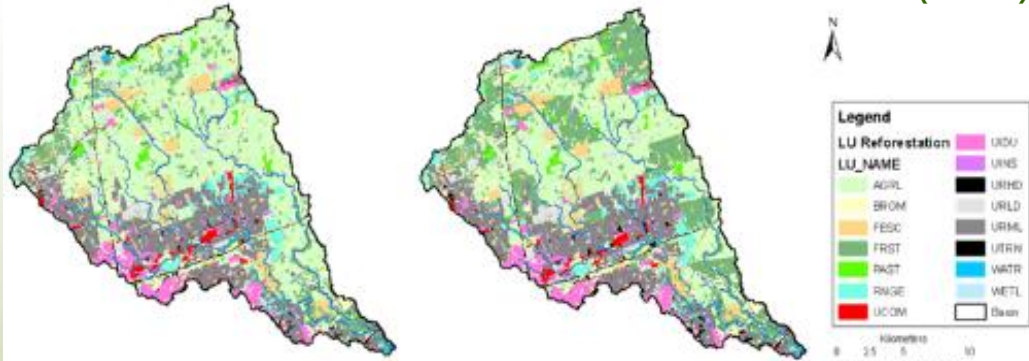


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Scenario Generation (verifying performance)

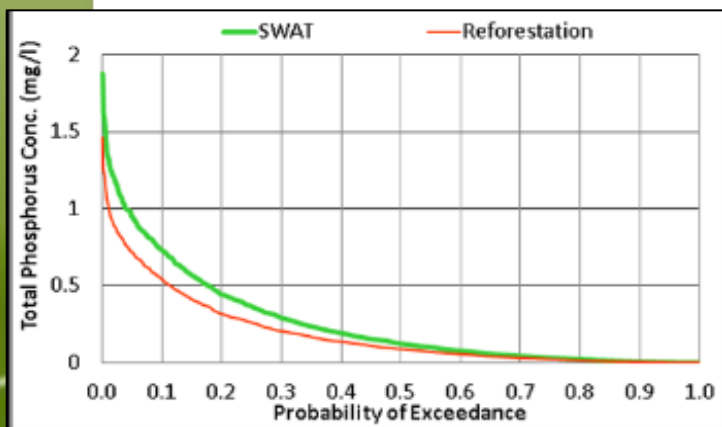
Canada



| | Base Case | Reforestation | % diff. |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|---------|
| AGRL (% area) | 46 | 31 | 15 ↓ |
| FRST (% area) | 11 | 30 | 19 ↑ |
| TSS (mg/l) | 166 | 145 | 13 ↓ |
| TP (mg/l) | 0.32 | 0.25 | 22 ↓ |
| TN (mg/l) | 2.02 | 1.67 | 17 ↓ |

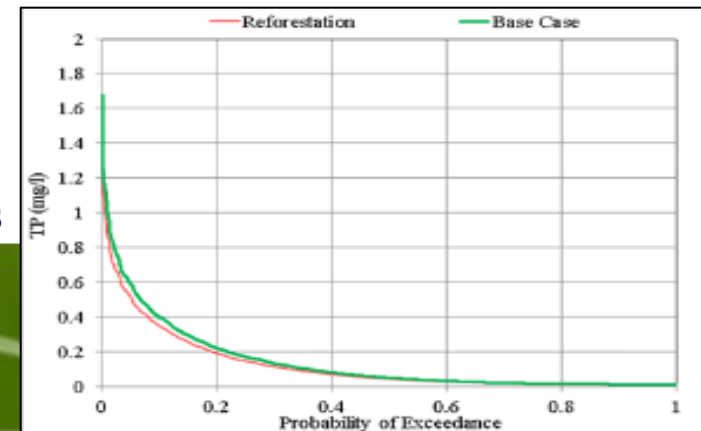
| | Base Case | Reforestation | % diff. |
|---------------|-----------|---------------|---------|
| AGRL (% area) | 63 | 57 | 7 ↓ |
| FRST (% area) | 25 | 32 | 7 ↑ |
| TSS (mg/l) | 95 | 77 | 19 ↓ |
| TP (mg/l) | 0.139 | 0.121 | 13 ↓ |
| TN (mg/l) | 1.04 | 0.95 | 9 ↓ |

Reforestation BMP: "Middle" Scenario (TRCA)
 - 1924 ha of cropland (in middle of watershed) converted to forest
 - 12% reduction in average annual TP (2006-2012)



Rouge

Duffins



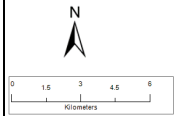
Scenarios: *(Watershed Plans)*

Duffins

Future Land Use

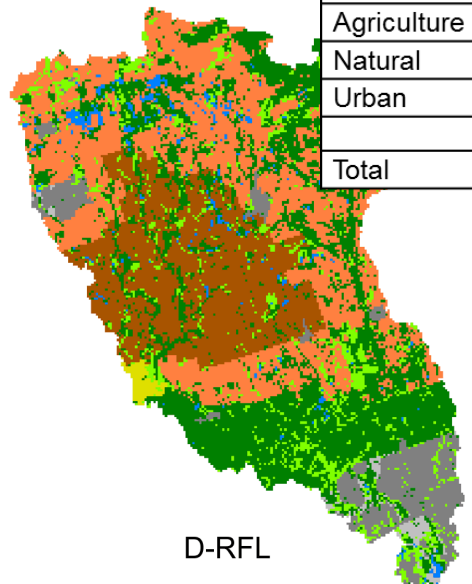
Reforestation

Agricultural Rural
FAL Crops



D-RFU

| | Baseline (D-BL) | Full Build Out (D-FBO) | % change (relative to baseline) | Enhanced Natural Heritage (D-ENH) | % change (relative to baseline) |
|-------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Area (ha) (%) | Area (ha) (%) | | Area (ha) (%) | |
| Agriculture | 17745 (62.7%) | 14957 (52.8%) | -15.7% | 10744 (37.9%) | -39.5% |
| Natural | 8620 (30.4%) | 8797 (31.1%) | 2.1% | 12092 (42.7%) | 40.3% |
| Urban | 1950 (6.9%) | 4561 (16.1%) | 133.9% | 5479 (19.4%) | 181.0% |
| Total | 28315 (100%) | 28315 (100%) | | 28315 (100%) | |



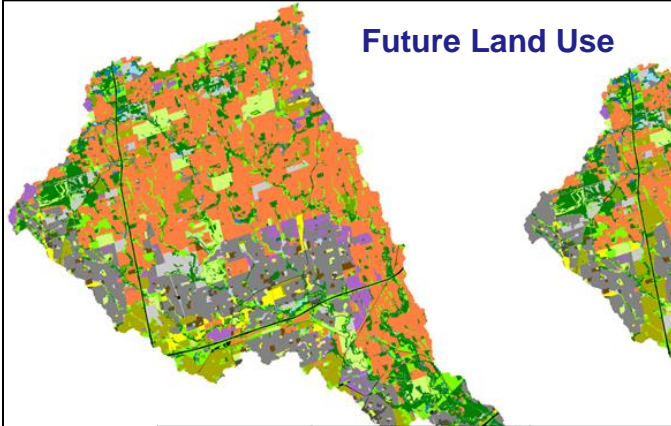
D-RFL

| | Baseline % Area | Reforestation Scenarios (D-RFU, D-RFM, D-RFL, D-RFST) % Area |
|---------------|--------------------|---|
| Agriculture | 62.7% | 54.7% |
| Forest | 25.3% | 33.3% |
| Other Natural | 5.1% | 5.1% |
| Urban | 6.9% | 6.9% |
| Total | 100.00% | 100.00% |

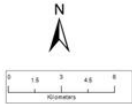
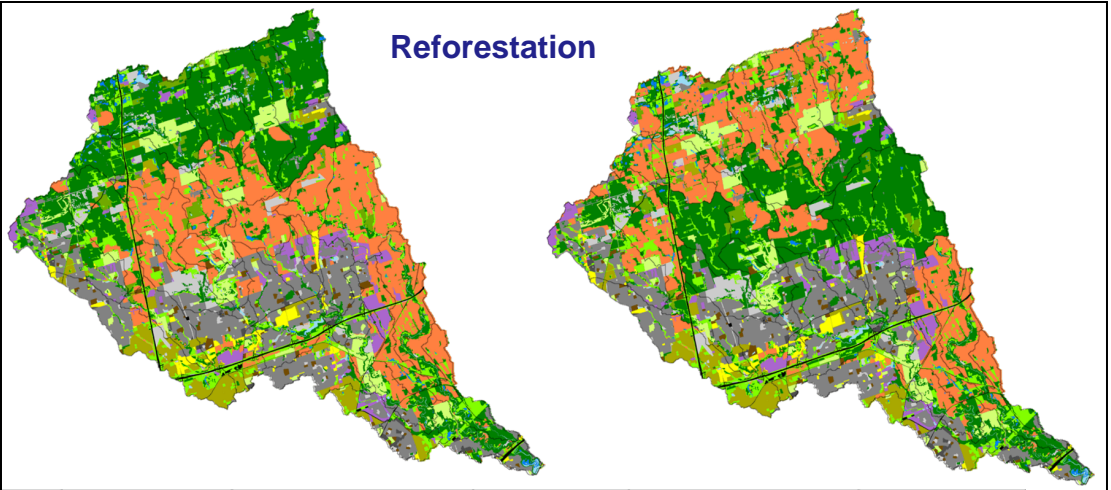
Scenarios: *(Watershed Plans)*

Rouge

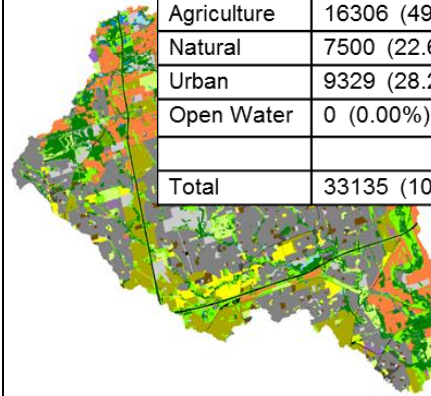
Future Land Use



Reforestation

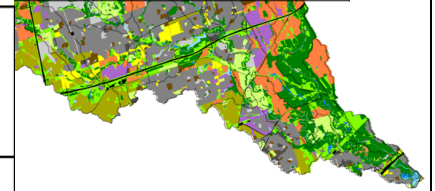


| | Baseline (R-BL) | Official Plan Build-Out (R-OBO) | % change (relative to baseline) | Enhanced Natural Heritage (R-ENH) | % change (relative to baseline) | Full Build Out (R-FBO) | % change (relative to baseline) |
|--------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| | Area (ha) (%) | Area (ha) (%) | | Area (ha) (%) | | Area (ha) (%) | |
| Agriculture | 16306 (49.2%) | 10249 (30.9%) | -37.2% | 6710 (20.3%) | -58.9% | 7773 (23.5%) | -52.3% |
| Natural | 7500 (22.6%) | 7283 (22.0%) | -2.9% | 11302 (34.1%) | 50.7% | 7005 (21.1%) | -6.6% |
| Urban | 9329 (28.2%) | 15388 (46.4%) | 65.0% | 15090 (45.5%) | 61.8% | 18145 (54.8%) | 94.5% |
| Open Water | 0 (0.00%) | 215 (0.7%) | | 33 (0.1%) | | 212 (0.6%) | |
| Total | 33135 (100%) | 33135 (100%) | | 33135 (100%) | | 33135 (100%) | |



R-FBO

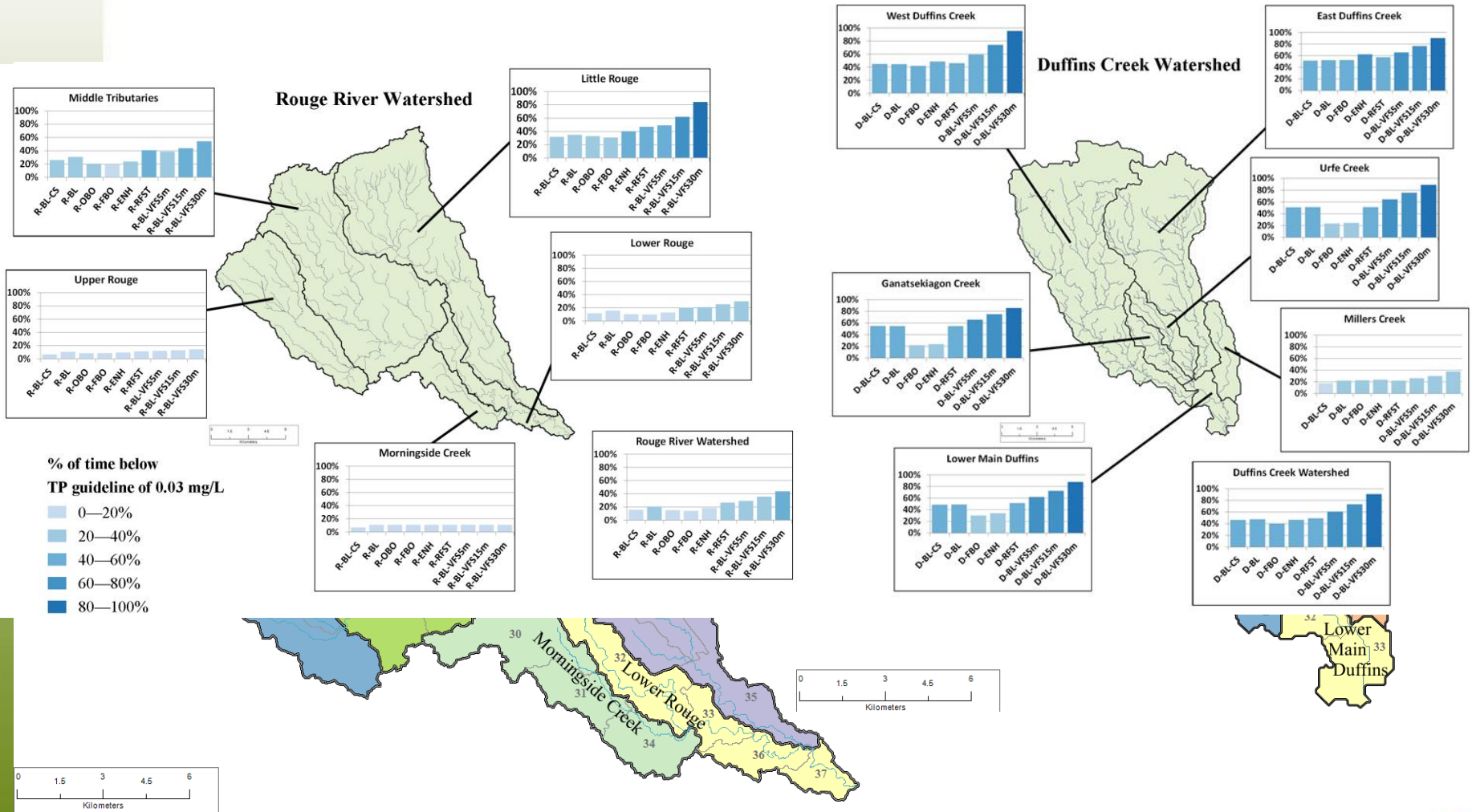
| | Baseline | Reforestation Scenarios (R-RFU, R-RFM, R-RFL, R-RFST) |
|---------------|----------------|---|
| | % Area | % Area |
| Agriculture | 49.2% | 27.3% |
| Forest | 11.4% | 33.3% |
| Other Natural | 11.2% | 11.2% |
| Urban | 28.2% | 28.2% |
| Total | 100.00% | 100.00% |



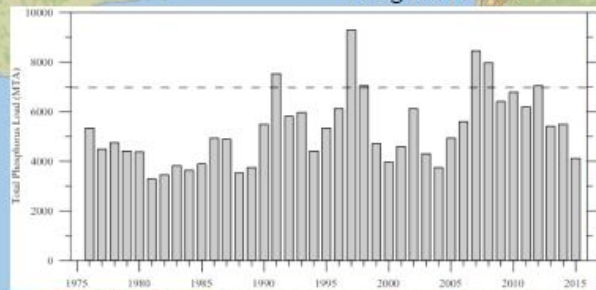
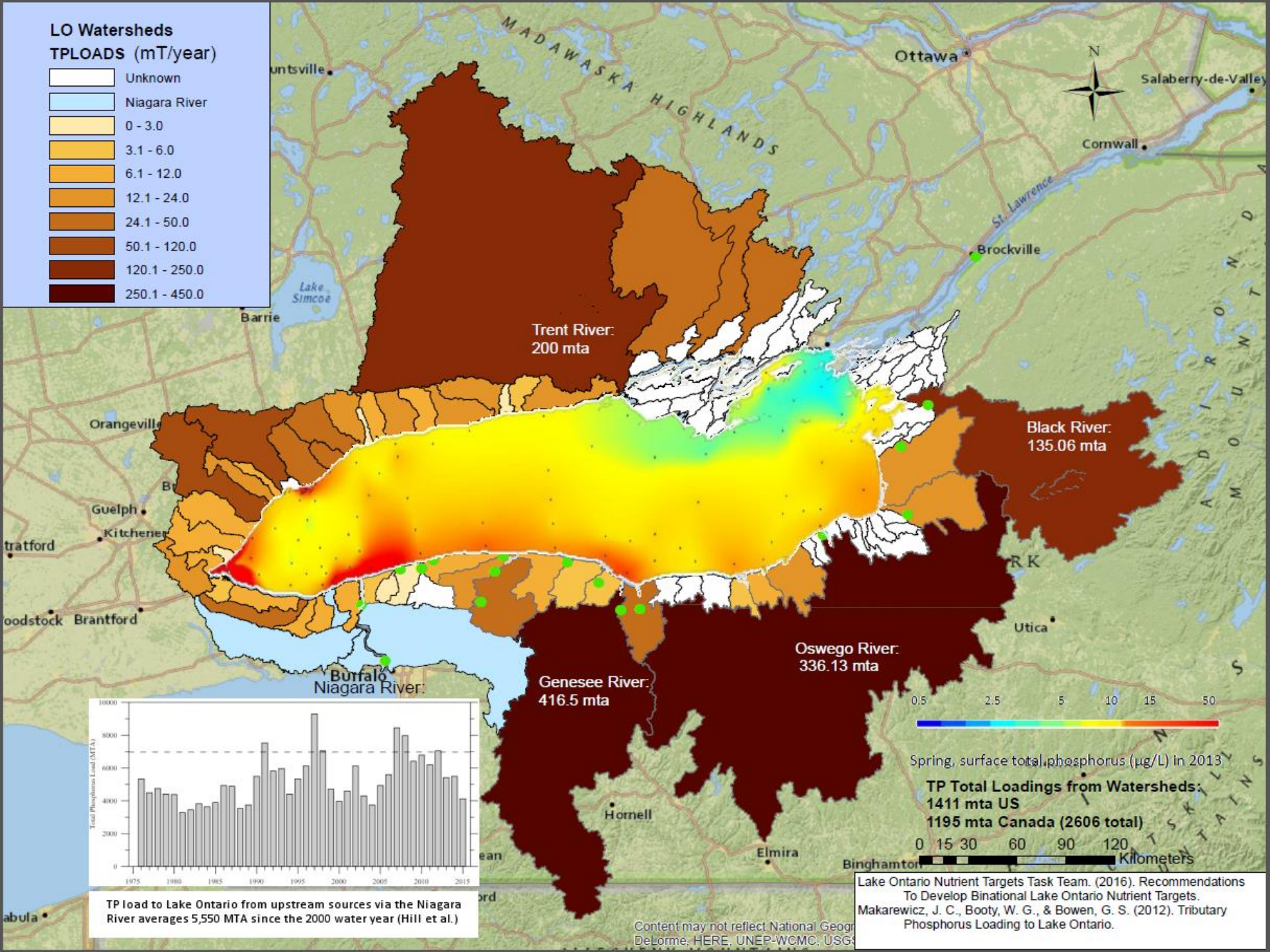
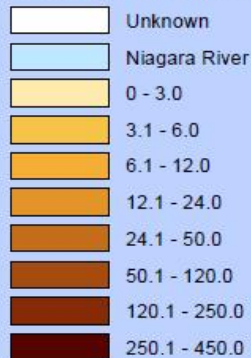
R-RFST

Duffins and Rouge (Sub-watershed aggregation analysis → SWAT Sub-basins)

TP Compliance Percentage



**LO Watersheds
TPLOADS (mT/year)**



TP load to Lake Ontario from upstream sources via the Niagara River averages 5,550 MTA since the 2000 water year (Hill et al.)

0.5 2.5 5 10 15 50

Spring, surface total phosphorus ($\mu\text{g/L}$) in 2013

TP Total Loadings from Watersheds:
1411 mta US
1195 mta Canada (2606 total)



Lake Ontario Nutrient Targets Task Team. (2016). Recommendations To Develop Binational Lake Ontario Nutrient Targets. Makarewicz, J. C., Booty, W. G., & Bowen, G. S. (2012). Tributary Phosphorus Loading to Lake Ontario.

References (Scenarios, DSS, Lake Modelling)

Watershed Plans: TRCA

A Watershed Plan for Duffins and Carruthers Creek, 2003

Rouge River Watershed Scenario Modelling and Analysis Report, 2007

Reforestation Scenarios: TRCA (personal communication)

Water Quality Objectives

PWQO OMEE 1994 Water management policies, guidelines, provincial water quality objectives

Source Tracing

Wong, I., Leon, L.F., Vanrobaeys, J., McCrimmon, C., Fong, P., 2014. A decision support system approach for identifying pollutant source for optimization of beneficial management practices scenario modelling in Lake Winnipeg watersheds. In: Ames, D.P., Quinn, N.W.T., Rizzoli, A.E. (Eds.), Proceedings of the 7th International Congress on Environmental Modelling and Software, June 15-19, San Diego, California, USA. ISBN: 978-88-9035-744-2

Lake Modelling

Leon, L.F., Smith, R.E.H., Malkin, S.Y., Depew, D., Hipsey, M.R., Antenucci, J.P., Higgins, S.N., Hecky, R.E., Rao, R.Y., 2012. Nested 3D modelling of the spatial dynamics of nutrients and phytoplankton in a Lake Ontario nearshore zone. *J. Great Lakes Res.*



Scenarios SWAT : Duffins & Rouge

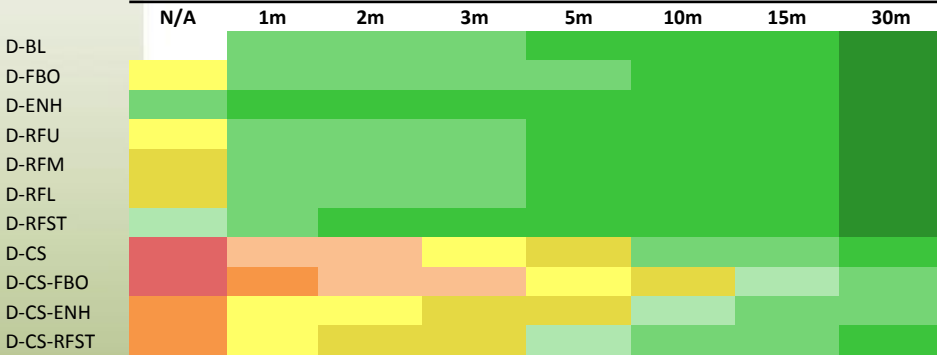
| Summary of Duffins Scenarios (91) | | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|-------|----------------------------------|--------------|--|--|
| D-BL | | | | | |
| D-FBO | | | | | |
| D-ENH | D-FBO | Summary of Rouge Scenarios (107) | | | |
| D-RFU | D-ENH | R-BL | | | |
| D-RFM | D-RFU | R-OBO | | | |
| D-RFL | D-RFU | R-FBO | R-RFST-VFS1m | Hotspot Source Tracing Reforestation with Future Climate and 1 m VFS | R-FB0-CS-VFS1m |
| D-RFS | D-RFM | R-ENH | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS1m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 1 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-RFU | R-RFU | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS2m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 2 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-RFU | R-RFM | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS2m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 2 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-RFS | R-RFL | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS3m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 3 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-RFS | R-RFST | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS3m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 3 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-RFU | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS5m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 5 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-BL | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS5m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 5 m VFS |
| D-BL | D-BL | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS10m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 10 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS10m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 10 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS15m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 15 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-BL-VF | R-RFS | R-ENH-CS-VFS15m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 15 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-BL-CS | R-OBO | R-ENH-CS-VFS30m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 30 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-OBO | R-FBO | R-ENH-CS-VFS30m | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate and 30 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-OBO | R-ENH-CS | Enhanced Natural Heritage with Future Climate | R-FBO-CS-VFS3m |
| D-FBO | D-BL | R-OBO | R-RFU-CS | Upper Reforestation with Future Climate | R-FBO-CS-VFS5m |
| D-ENH | D-BL | R-OBO | R-RFM-CS | Middle Reforestation with Future Climate | R-FBO-CS-VFS10m |
| D-ENH | D-BL | R-OBO | R-RFL-CS | Lower Reforestation with Future Climate | R-FBO-CS-VFS15m |
| D-ENH | D-BL | R-OBO | R-RFST-CS | Hotspot Source Tracing Reforestation with Future Climate | R-FBO-CS-VFS30m |
| D-ENH | D-FBO | R-OBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS1m | Baseline with Future Climate and 1 m VFS |
| D-ENH | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS2m | Baseline with Future Climate and 2 m VFS |
| D-ENH | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS3m | Baseline with Future Climate and 3 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS5m | Baseline with Future Climate and 5 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS10m | Baseline with Future Climate and 10 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS15m | Baseline with Future Climate and 15 m VFS |
| D-FBO | D-FBO | R-FBO | R-FBO | R-BL-CS-VFS30m | Baseline with Future Climate and 30 m VFS |

Duffins Scenarios + Vegetative Filter Strip

TP (relative to D-BL)

D-VFS

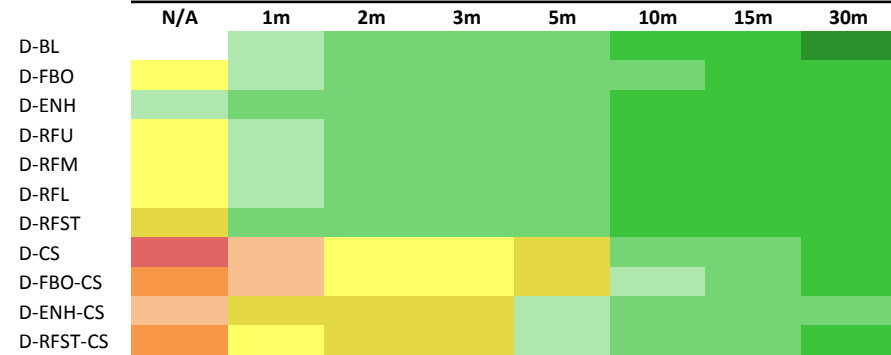
Scenario



TN (relative to D-BL)

D-VFS

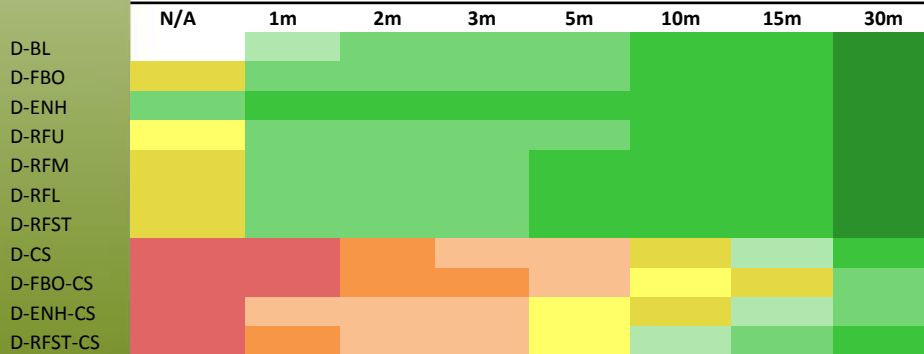
Scenario



TSS (relative to D-BL)

D-VFS

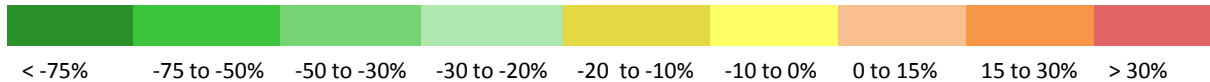
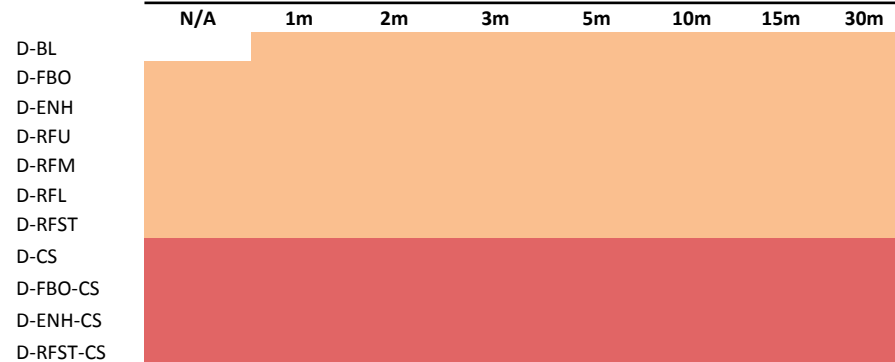
Scenario



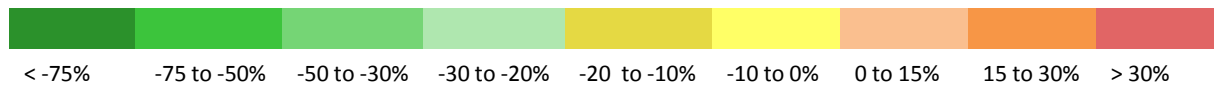
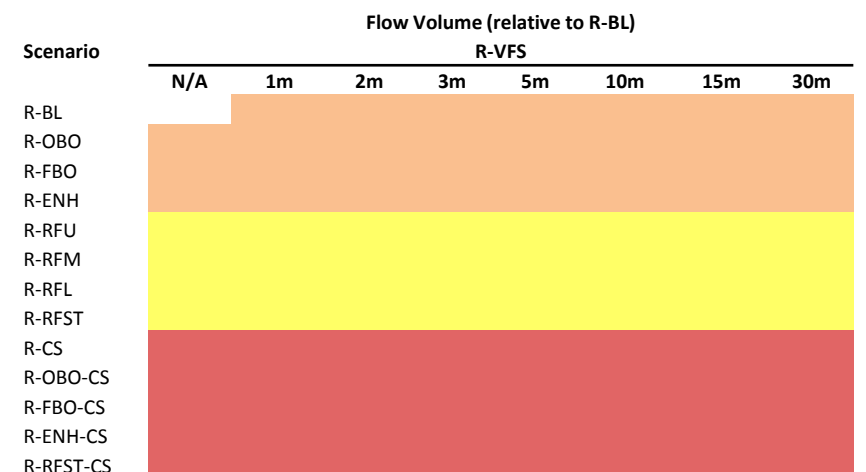
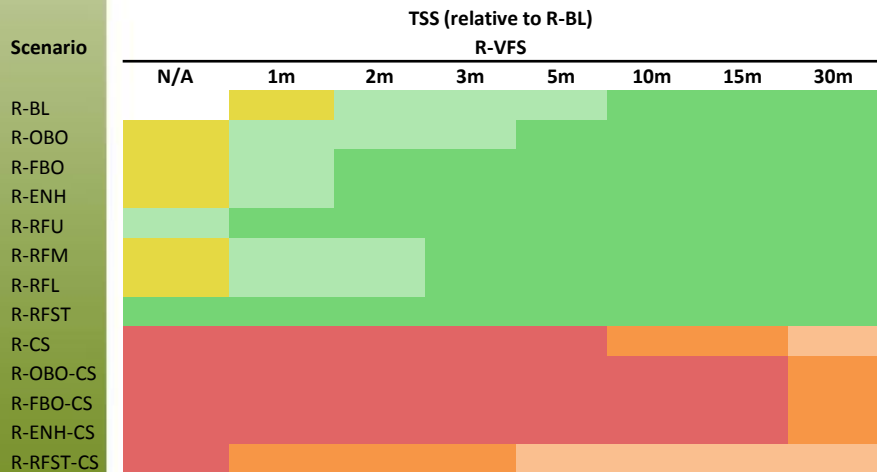
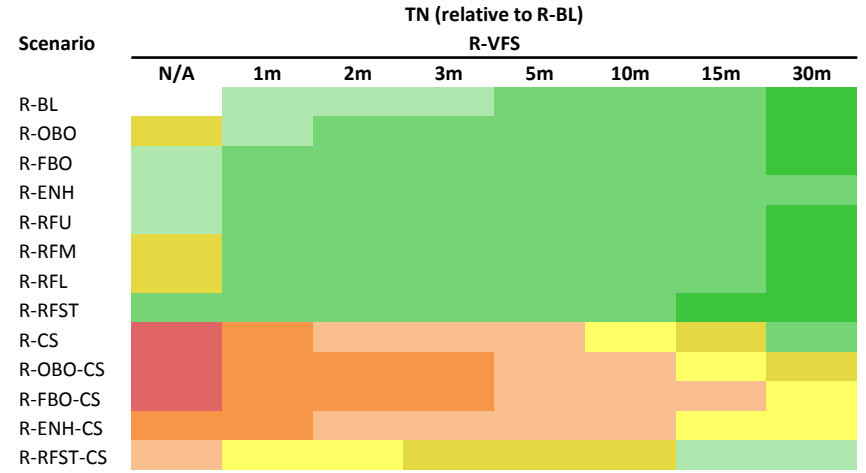
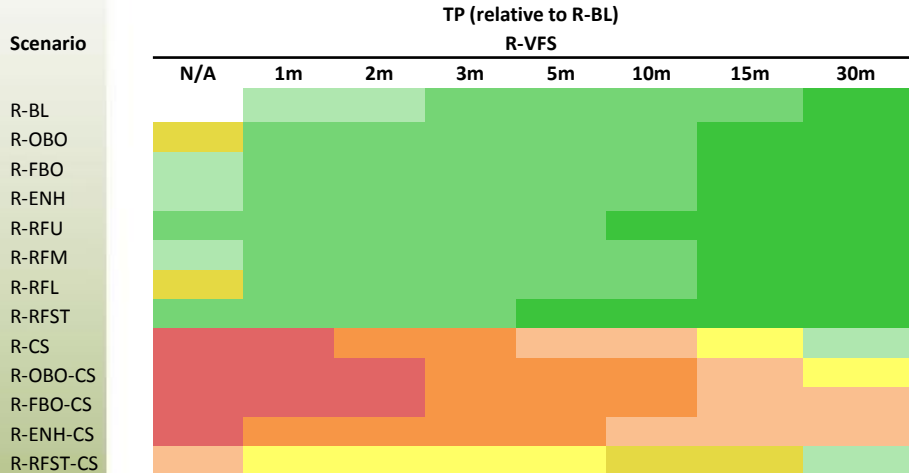
Flow Volume (relative to D-BL)

D-VFS

Scenario



Rouge Scenarios + Vegetative Filter Strip



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

