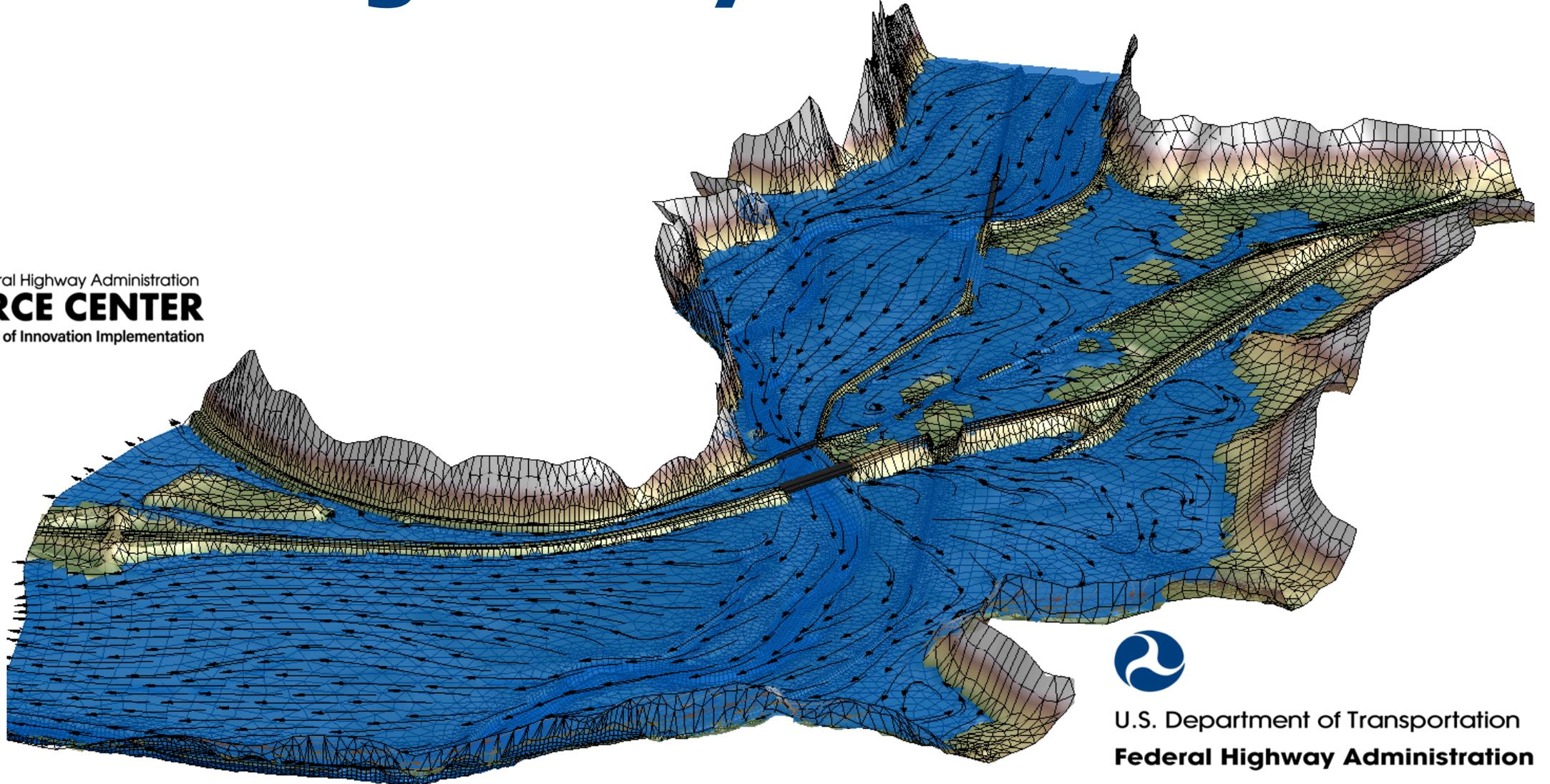


# Getting Your Feet Wet with Reviewing 2D Hydraulic Models



Federal Highway Administration  
**RESOURCE CENTER**  
Office of Innovation Implementation



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**

# Instructor

## Scott Hogan

### Senior Hydraulic Engineer

FHWA Resource Center

Fort Collins, CO

- **Background & Experience:** 11 years FHWA Resource Center, 7 years Central Federal Lands Hydraulics Team Lead, 14 years consulting engineering
- **Current Duties:** **T**rainning, **T**echnical Support, **T**echnology Development and Deployment
- **Hydraulic Modeling Background:** HEC-2, HEC-RAS 1D, FESWMS, RMA-2D, TUFLOW Classic and FV, SRH-2D, HEC-RAS 2D
- **Education:** B.S Civil Engineering 1991 (Colorado State University) M.S. Hydraulics 1993 (Colorado State University)

# FHWA Disclaimers

- *Except for any statutes or regulations cited, the contents of this document do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide information regarding existing requirements under the law or agency policies.*
- *Unless otherwise noted, FHWA is the source of all images in this presentation.*
- *The U.S. Government does not endorse products, manufacturers, or outside entities. Trademarks, names, or logos appear in this presentation only because they are considered essential to the objective of the document. They are included for informational purposes only and are not intended to reflect a preference, approval, or endorsement of any one product or entity.*

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review Training

## Learning Objectives

- Identify key aspects of a 2D hydraulic model review
- Request the relevant information required for conducting a review
- Conduct cursory or detailed reviews of hydraulic models
- Recognize acceptable or reasonable ranges for the key parameters of a 2D model.
- Spot common modeling errors and other issues that warrant further investigation.
- Understand the hydraulic modeling variables needed for bridge scour analyses and how they can be extracted from a 2D model

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Information to Be Reviewed, Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- *Assign Exercises 2 & 3*

## Session 3

- *Review Exercises 2 & 3*
- Reviewing Model Results
- Hydraulic Variables for Bridge Scour Analyses
- Wrap-up



# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- **Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources**
- Information to Be Reviewed, Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*



# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?

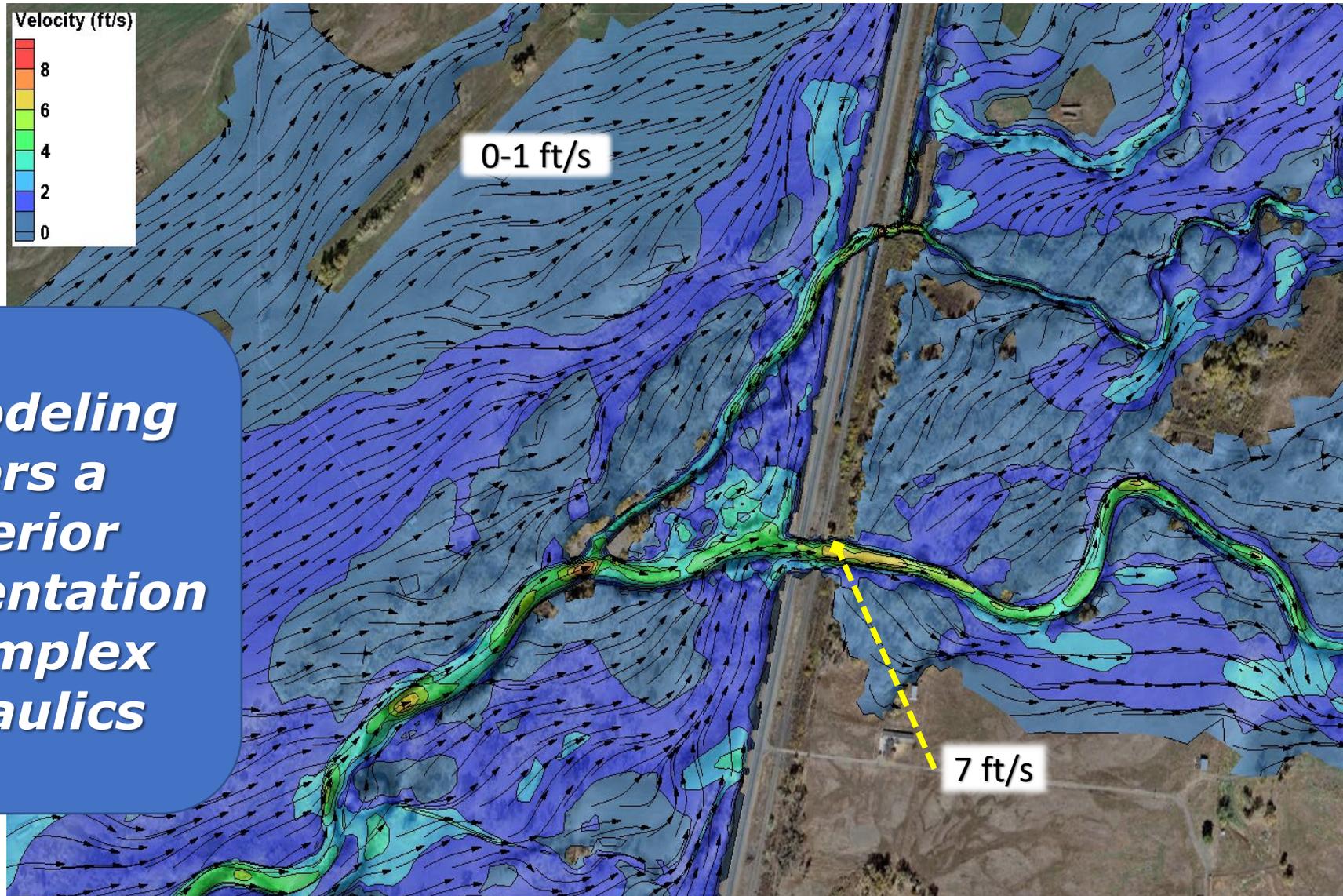
### 1D vs. 2D Hydraulic Modeling Assumptions / Limitations

Hydraulic Variables	One-dimensional (1D) Modeling	Two-dimensional (2D) Modeling
Flow direction	Assumed by user	Computed
Flow paths	Assumed by user	Computed
Channel roughness	Assumed constant between cross sections	Represented at each element
Ineffective (blocked) flow areas	Assumed by user	Computed
Flow contraction and expansion through bridges	Assumed by user	Computed
Flow velocity	Averaged at each cross section Assumed in one direction	Magnitude and direction Computed at each element
Flow distribution	Computed based on conveyance	Computed based on continuity
Water surface elevation	Assumed constant across cross sections	Computed at each element

# Introduction

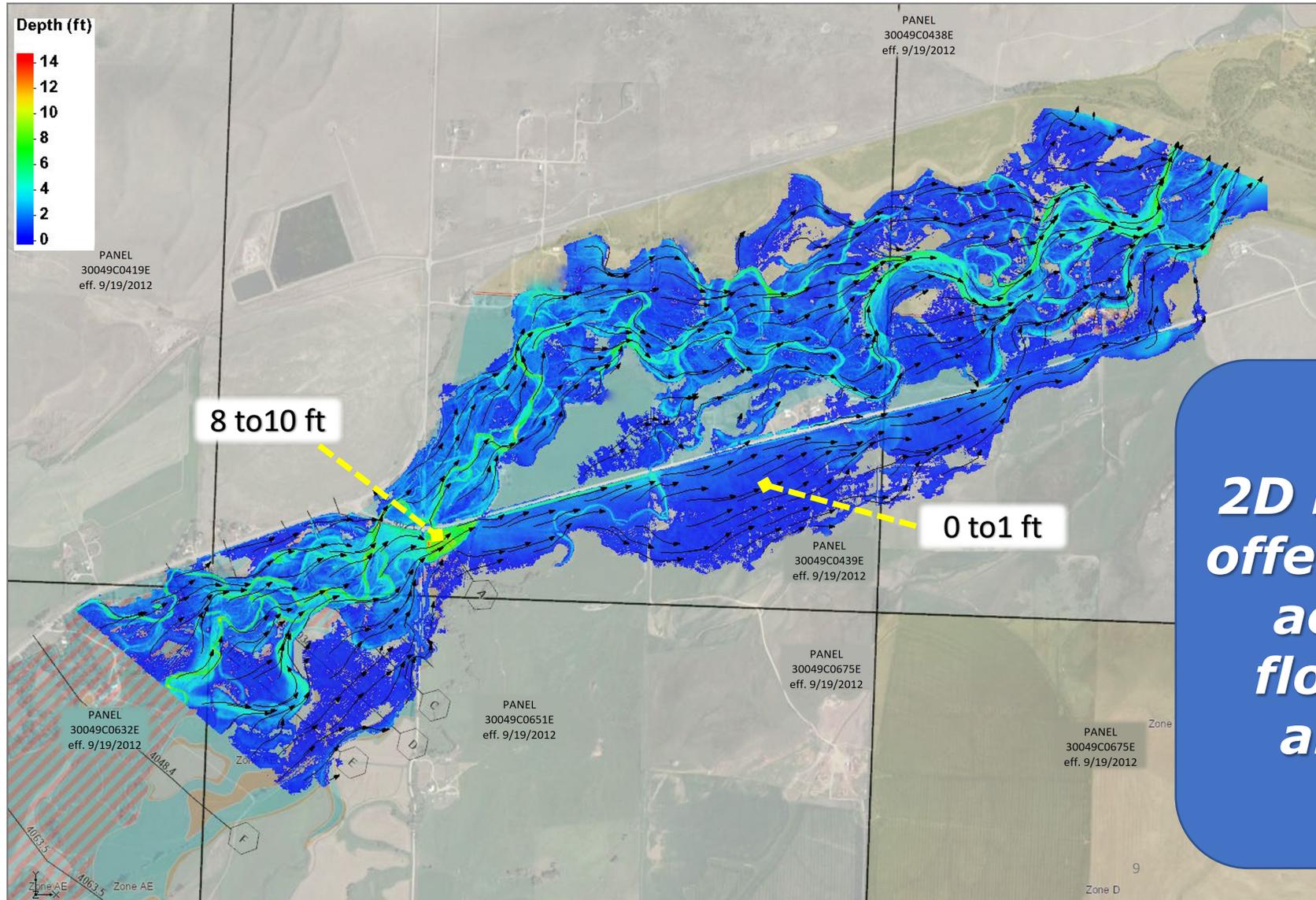
## Why 2D Modeling?

*2D modeling offers a superior representation of complex hydraulics*



# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?

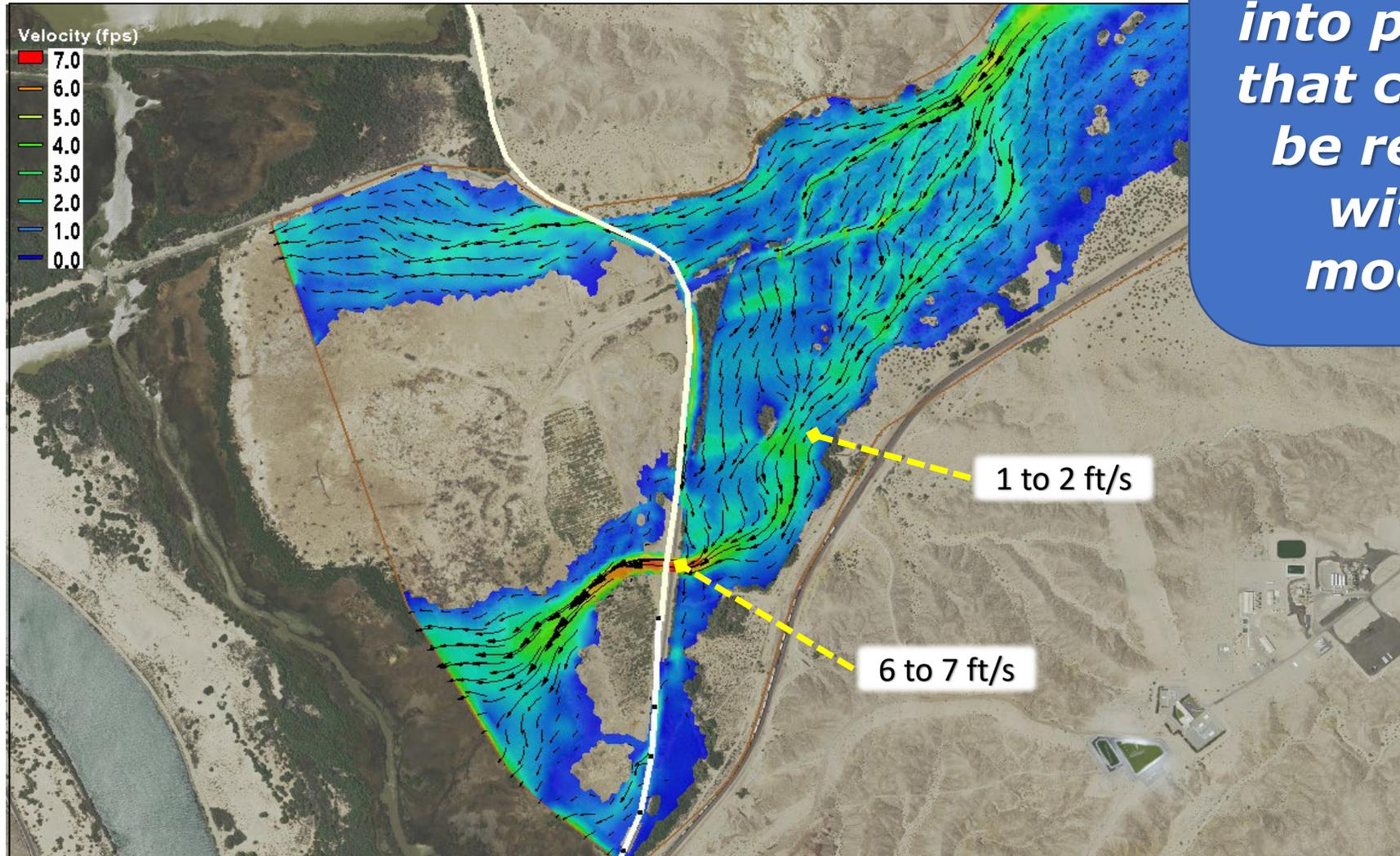


***2D modeling offers a more accurate floodplain analysis***

# Introduction

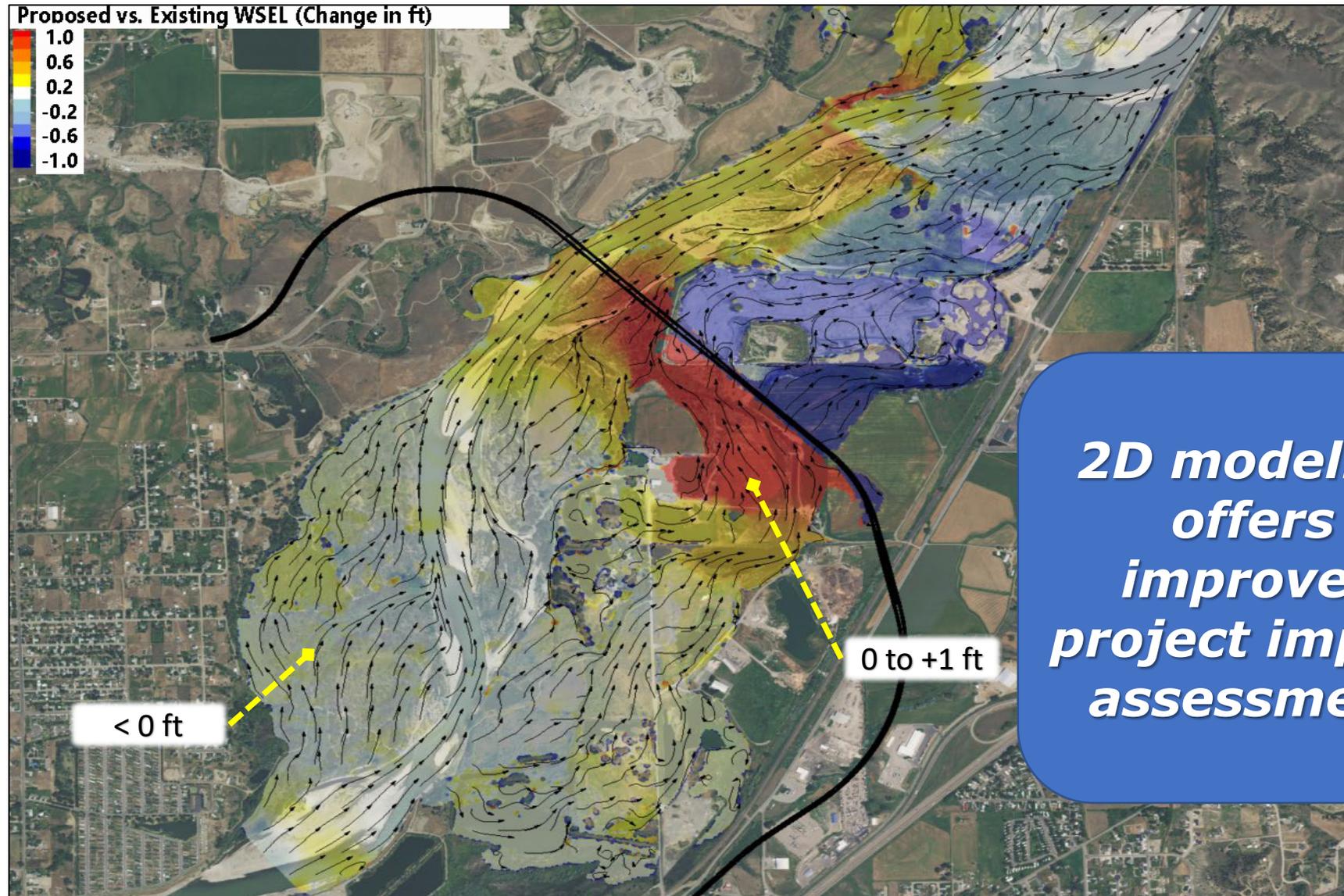
## Why 2D Modeling?

*2D modeling offers insight into problems that could not be resolved with 1D modeling*



# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?



# Introduction

Why 2D Modeling?

*2D modeling more accurately depicts flow distribution and variability in WSEL*

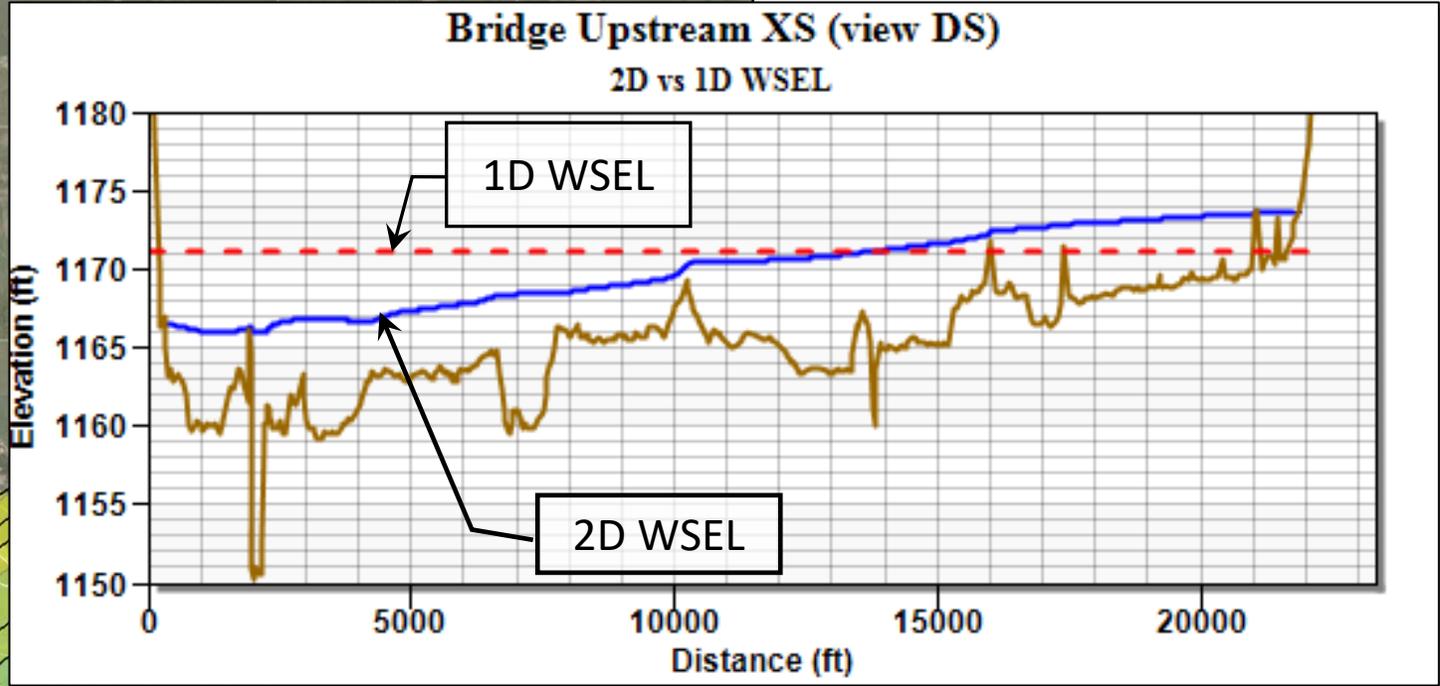
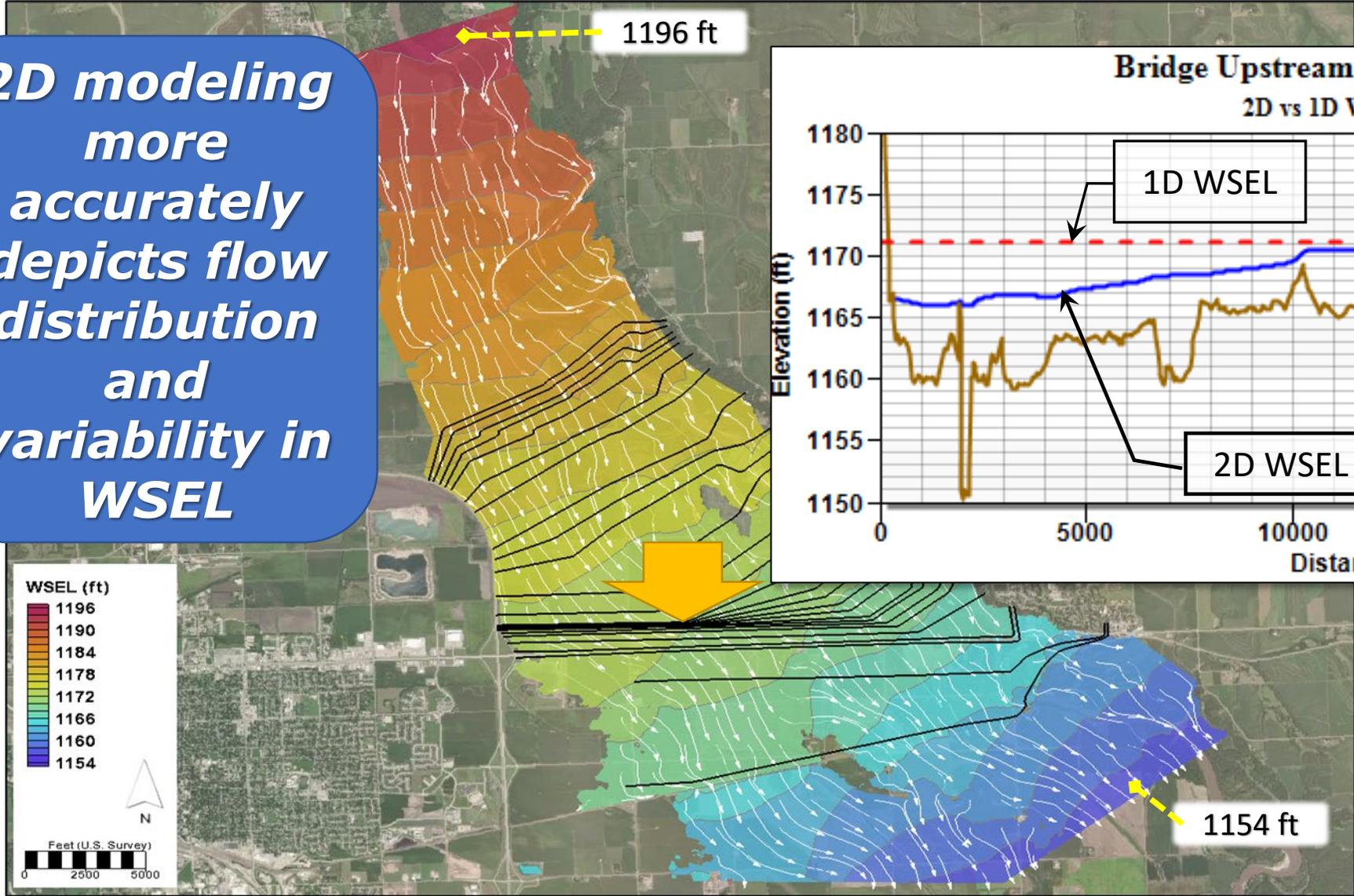
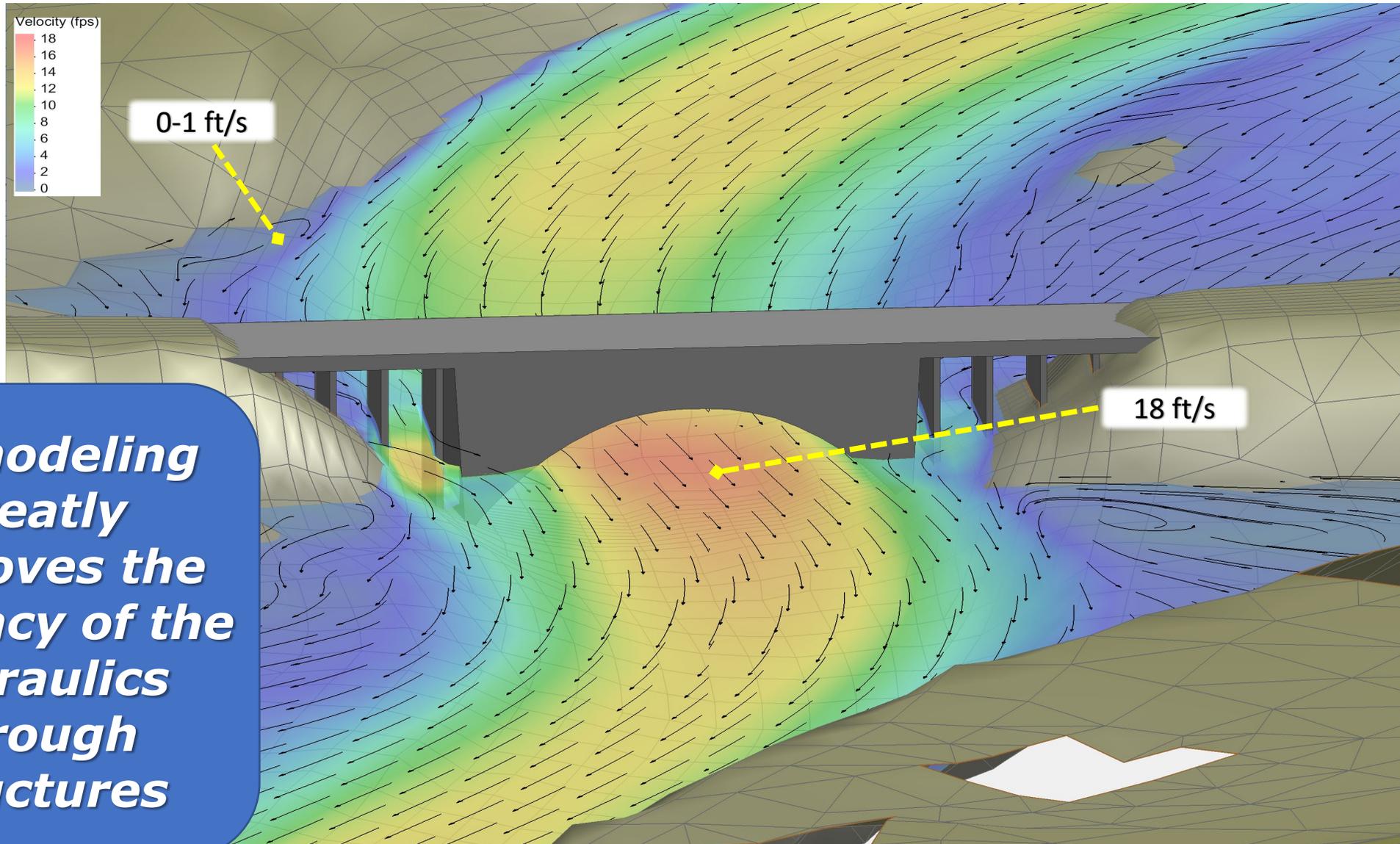


Image Sources: Alaska DOT/ WFL / Earthstar Graphics (Aerial Image)

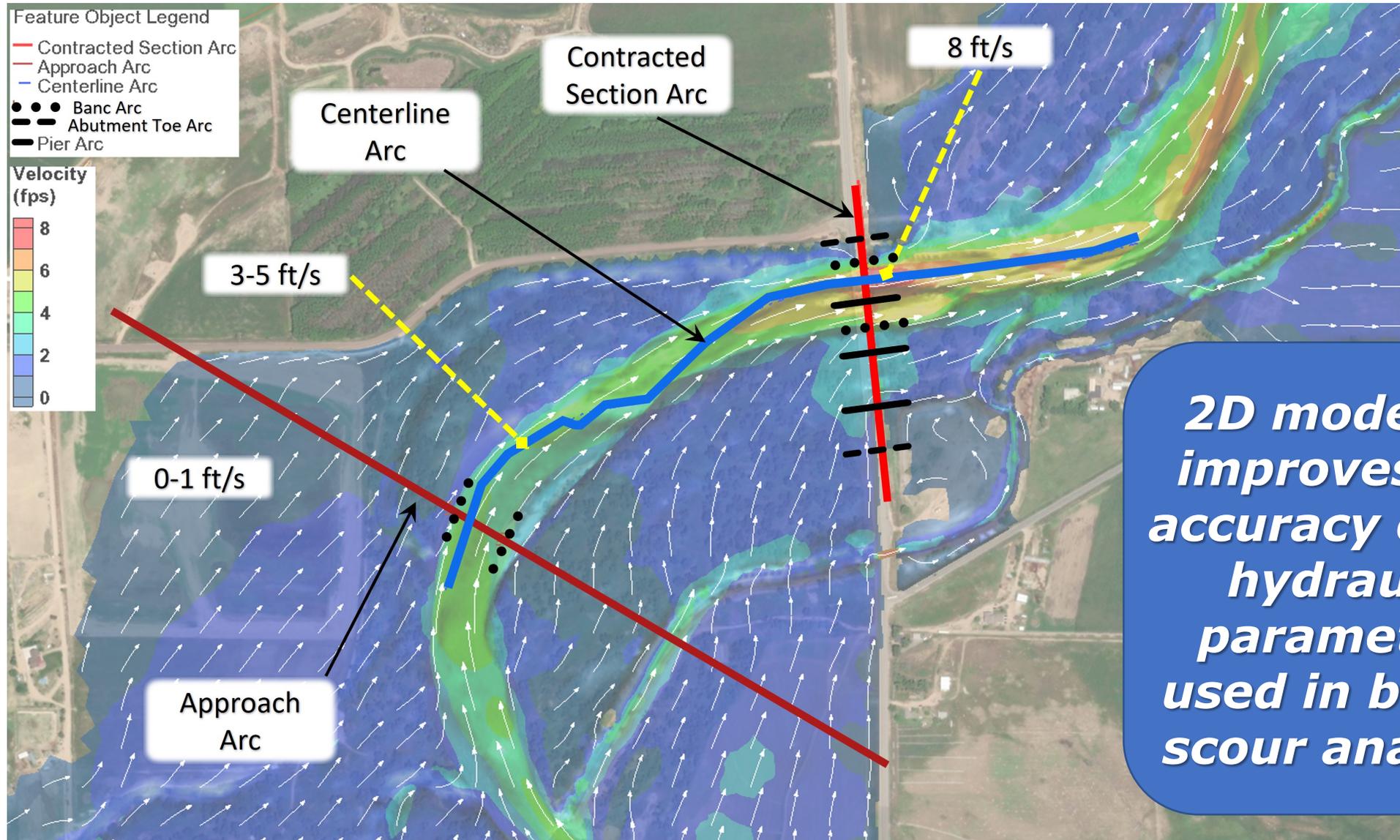
# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?



# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?



# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?

*2D modeling allows more realistic delineation of a FEMA floodway*

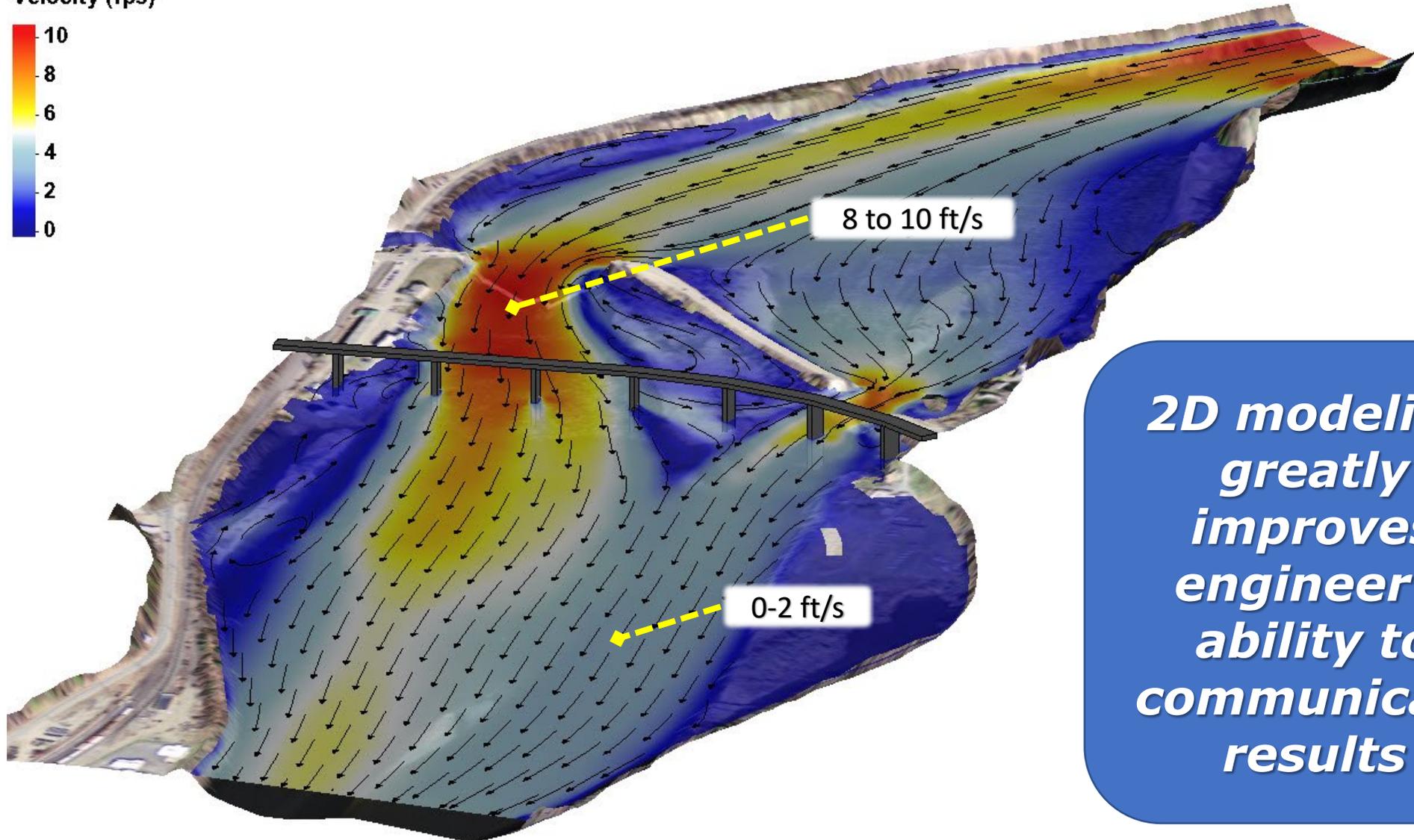


Image Sources: Larimer County / FHWA / Earthstar Graphics (Aerial Image)

# Introduction

## Why 2D Modeling?

Velocity (fps)



***2D modeling  
greatly  
improves  
engineer's  
ability to  
communicate  
results***

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

### Software Download and Licensing

- Review [website](#) for current release and notes
- Community license (**free to all**)
  - No license code needed
  - Includes all features needed to perform SRH-2D simulations
- Pro-version
  - Request/Renew from SMS Menu: *Help* → *Register* → *Request License*
  - Includes technical support
  - DOT/FHWA staff contact [scott.hogan@dot.gov](mailto:scott.hogan@dot.gov) or [laura.Girard@dot.gov](mailto:laura.Girard@dot.gov)
  - All others contact [support@Aquaveo.com](mailto:support@Aquaveo.com)
- **Reviewers License – Pro-Version**
  - Complete [form](#) and Contact Aquaveo

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

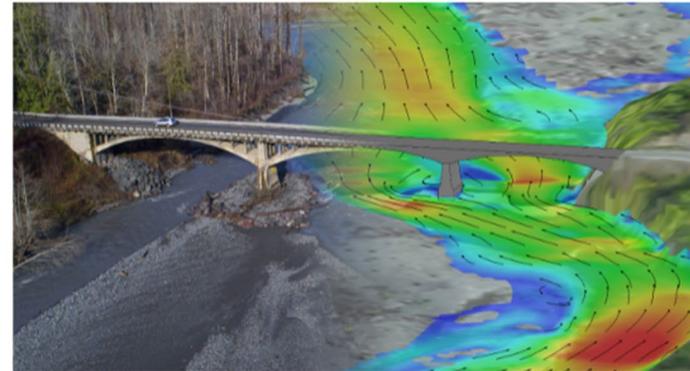
- [2D Hydraulic Modeling for Highways in the River Environment](#)
- Modeling fundamentals
- Data requirements
- Model development
- Model review and calibration
- SMS/SRH-2D User Interface
- Sample report outline
- Survey request form

Publication No. FHWA-HIF-19-061  
October 2019

---

### Two-Dimensional Hydraulic Modeling for Highways in the River Environment

Reference Document



U.S. Department of Transportation  
**Federal Highway Administration**

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

### NHI Training Courses

- In-person training (NHI [Course 135095](#))
- Virtual training available (NHI [Course 135095V](#))
- Virtual Training (NHI [Course 135095A](#))  
SRH-2D Model Data files, Diagnostics & Verifying 2D Model Results
- Virtual Training (NHI [Course 135095B](#))  
Model Terrain Development with Various Data Sources

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

### 2D Modeling Tutorials

- [Tutorial Link](#)
- Over 75 SMS/SRH-2D Tutorials, including:
  - Data importing, processing, and conversions
  - Raster data features and tools
  - Display and Visualizations
  - Mesh development tools
  - Culverts and other 1D hydraulic structures
  - Bridge and culvert pressure flow
  - Floodway tools
  - Sediment transport
  - Calibration and advanced simulations

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

### Online SMS Wiki Page and Other Resources

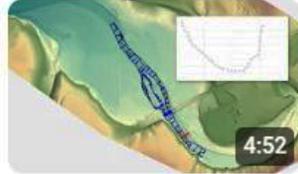
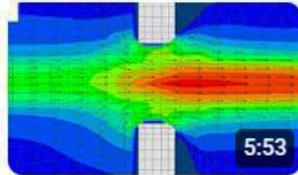
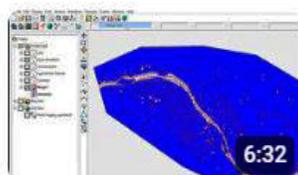
- [SMS Workflows Overview](#)
- [Table of SRH-2D Errors and Solutions](#)
- [SMS Blog](#)

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

# Short YouTube Training Videos – 2D Hydraulic Modeling

- 2017 [Videos](#) (11)
- 2020/2023 [Videos](#) (12)
- Other [SMS Learning Videos](#)
- NHI 2D Hydraulic Modeling Course [Demonstration Videos](#) (13)

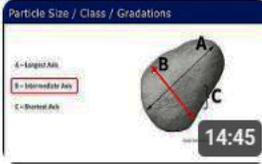
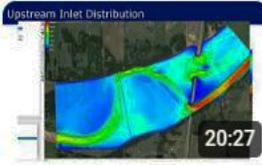
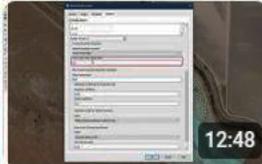
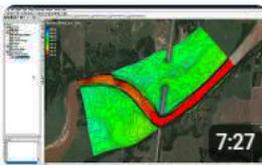
1		<b>Approximate Channel Data</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.6K views • 3 years ago
2		<b>Bridge Features</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.8K views • 3 years ago
3		<b>Domain Limits</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 484 views • 3 years ago
4		<b>Hydraulic Controls</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.1K views • 3 years ago
5		<b>Material Roughness Values</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 559 views • 3 years ago
6		<b>Merging Terrain</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.4K views • 3 years ago

# Introduction

## Resources and Information

# Short YouTube Training Videos – 2D Sediment Transport Modeling

- [SRH-2D User's Manual: Sediment Transport and Mobile-Bed Modeling](#)
- Overview of SMS/SRH-2D Sediment Transport Modeling [YouTube Videos](#) (6)

1		<b>Video 1 – Overview of Sediment Transport Modeling</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.9K views • 2 years ago
2		<b>Video 2 – Converting a Hydraulic Model to a Sediment Model</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 1.2K views • 2 years ago
3		<b>Video 3 – Sediment Parameters</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 526 views • 2 years ago
4		<b>Video 4 – Executing a Sediment Model and Reviewing Results</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 469 views • 2 years ago
5		<b>Video 5 – Sensitivity Analysis and Troubleshooting</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 380 views • 2 years ago
6		<b>Video 6 – Cohesive Sediment Modeling</b> Federal Highway Administration USDOTFHWA • 527 views • 2 years ago

# Introduction

Resources and Information

## FHWA 2D Hydraulic Modeling User's Forum

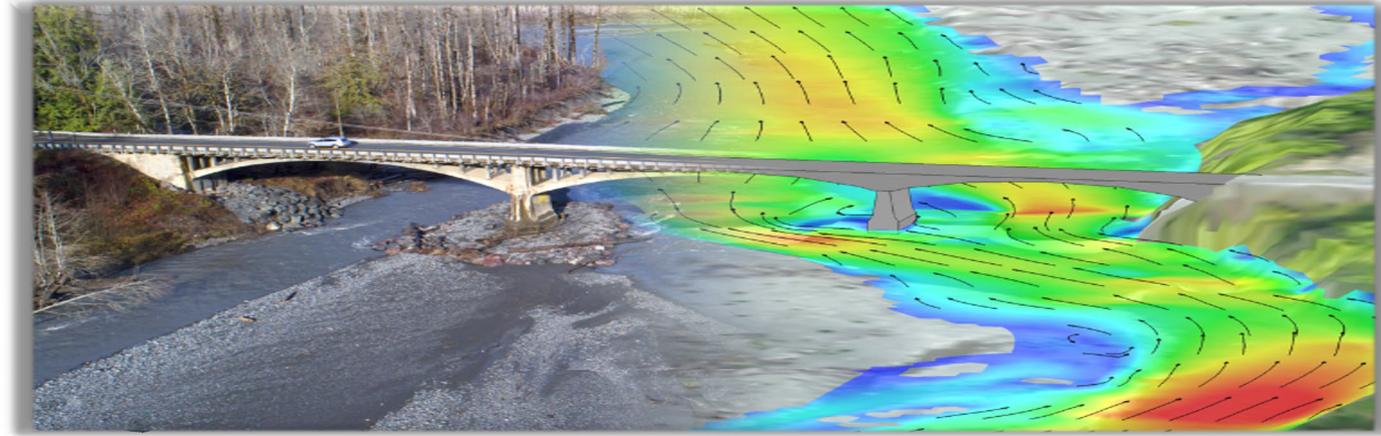


Image by John Gussman

- [Subscribe](#) to receive web meeting invites
- Web meetings held roughly every few months
- Updates on the latest SRH-2D and SMS developments
- 2D modeling best practices
- Tips and tricks in SMS
- Access to past eight years of web meeting recordings
- Contact Scott Hogan for more information

**Scott Hogan**

FHWA Resource Center

[Scott.hogan@dot.gov](mailto:Scott.hogan@dot.gov)

(720) 576-6026

*Questions?*

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- **Information to Be Reviewed, Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices**
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*



# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

## Levels of Model Review and Key Elements of a Review

### Cursory and Detailed Reviews

- Project objectives
- Software used and version
- Data sources and accuracy
- Project datum and units
- Model extents
- Mesh resolution and element size
- Mesh accuracy
- Mesh representation of hydraulic controls (key features)
- Mesh quality
- Boundary condition type, location, and values
- Material roughness values /assignments
- Modeling approach (steady/unsteady)
- Hydraulic structure details
- Simulation parameters
- Stability verification
- Continuity verification
- Adequate simulation length verification
- Results - range of values
- Hydraulic variables used for bridge scour analyses

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

What information should be requested for a review?

- **Project Hydraulic Report**

- Project information and area description
- Project horizontal and vertical datums, local adjustments or scale factors
- Flooding history and background
- Project objective
- Source of hydrologic data
- Source(s) of terrain data
- Source of land use data and roughness values
- Hydraulic structure summary and geometry details
- Summary of modeling approach and assumptions

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

What information should be requested for a review?

- **Hydraulic model summary**

- Hydraulic model and version used to complete the analyses
- Changes to previous models and reasons for change
- Number and type of flow conditions modeled
- Description of scenarios modeled
- Mesh development summary (element resolution, size, and breaklines)
- Modeling approach for hydraulic structures (1D, 2D, overtopping, etc.)
- Summary of simulation parameters
- Calibration and sensitivity analyses performed
- Modeling challenges

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

What information should be requested for a review?

- **Summary of results**
  - Include only required simulations
  - Verification of flows/continuity/stability
  - Summary of the range of depths and velocities
  - Explanation of any highlights or areas of concern
- **Optional (but valuable) information**
  - Modeling notes and info included in model metadata
  - Comparison of mesh surface with original terrain
  - Cross section plots at key locations
  - Profile plots
  - Bridge scour hydraulic variables and location of extracted values

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

## SRH-2D/SMS Summary Report

- Project Summary
- Software version
- Project datums
- Terrain data information
- Mesh summary
- Boundary condition summary
- Monitoring points and lines summary
- Simulation parameters summary
- Solution plots
- Solution dataset summary

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

## Model Review Spreadsheet

**Project Description:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Reviewer:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Stream Name(#) / Reach** \_\_\_\_\_

**Project File Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Additional Information:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FHWA: 2D Hydraulic Modeling Reference Document:** [www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/hydraulics/pubs/hif19061.pdf](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/engineering/hydraulics/pubs/hif19061.pdf)

Item	Reviewed/Completed	Comment	Action Needed (blank=none)	Response to Comment/Resolution	Screen Shot
<b>Pre-Review/Submittal Best Practice Considerations</b>					
Use the Merge Triangles option to reduce the number of mesh elements and CPU time					
Trim the model domain to exclude large areas outside of the floodplain					
For steady flow models use the Simulation End output option to avoid large file sizes					
Clean up and organize map project data to include only what is needed for review					
Name simulations and other coverages with short, easy to understand labels					
Complete the project metadata and notes to provide explanations where needed					
Consider using the Advanced Simulations option to run multiple flows for the same mesh					
Use the Steady Flow option for steady flows, unless the unsteady option is needed to improve stability					
Consider using initial conditions for each simulation to minimize runtime. Starting with a restart file or initial WSEL can significantly reduce runtime.					
Consider using an initial and secondary timestep to optimize runtimes (Model control/advanced settings)					
Optimize simulation timestep and simulation time to minimize CPU time					
Use restart or WSEL initial conditions to minimize CPU times					
Provide a copy of the simulations Summary Report					
Internal Quality Control (QC) review should be performed prior to submittal					

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

## Model Review Checklist

### 2D Hydraulic Model Review Checklist

1. Pre-Submittal Best Practices
2. Project Information
3. 2D Mesh
4. Boundary Conditions
5. Material Roughness
6. Hydraulic Structures
7. Simulation Parameters
8. Model Results
9. Bridge Scour Analysis  
Hydraulic Variables

#### 1. Pre-Review / Submittal Best Practices Considerations

- Use the Elements - Merge Triangles option (Top menu) to reduce the number of mesh elements by 25-30% and save CPU time.
- Trim the model domain to exclude large areas outside of the floodplain.
- For steady flow models use the Simulation End output option to avoid large file sizes
- Clean up and organize map project data to include only what is needed for review.
- Name simulations and other coverages with short, easy to understand labels.
- Complete the project metadata and notes to provide explanations where needed.
- Consider using the Advanced Simulations option to run multiple flows for the same mesh (helps to declutter simulation list).
- Use the Steady Flow option for steady flows, unless the unsteady option is needed to improve stability.
- Consider using initial conditions for each simulation to minimize runtime. Starting with a restart file or initial WSEL can significantly reduce runtime.
- Consider using an initial and secondary timestep to optimize runtimes (Model control/advanced settings)
- Optimize simulation timestep and simulation time to minimize CPU time.
- Use restart or WSEL initial conditions to minimize CPU times.
- Run the simulation Summary Report (rt click on any sim, select Tools – Summary Report) and provide electronic files to reviewer (In SMS all the files are contained in a Reports folder in the project directory)
- Perform internal Quality Control (QC) review prior to submittal.

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review

## Common Pitfalls in 2D Hydraulic Modeling

- Insufficient or inadequate terrain data
- Lack of breakline use with sparse data or mix of data
- Insufficient domain length and/or width
- Inappropriate element size (too large or too small) at key features
- Too little or too much mesh resolution
- Poor representation of or exclusion of hydraulic structures
- Failure to identify hydraulic controls along element edges
- Simulation times not sufficient for specified boundary conditions
- Overlooked results that indicate instability

*Questions?*

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- **Project Information and Model Background Data**
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*



# Reviewing Project Info and Background Data

## Top 3 Things

1. Review the project objective
2. Check the quality and source of terrain data
3. Confirm terrain data coverage for the entire model domain

# Project Information and Background Data

## General Information

- Project name and location
- Project objective
- Model and version used
- Modeler name and title
- Modeler's qualifications (brief)
- List of project files and simulations to be reviewed
- Modeling approach and assumptions



Metadata

Title: Big River Bridge Replacement

Abstract: This project will replace an existing 140 ft 2 span bridge with a larger bridge, on approximately the same alignment and location.

Purpose: Bridge hydraulics and scour for proposed bridge alternatives

Creation Date: 6/ 7/2018

Generic Topics

1-Project Information	Project location / nearest town
2-Developer	Crossing description
3-Source of flow data	River name
4-D/S Tailwater Condition	Number/type of hydraulic structures
5-Source of material rough	Other important information
6-Structure notes	
7-Simulation Summary	
8-Calibration data	
9-Other notes	

New Delete

Profile Spatial

Help... OK Cancel

# Project Information and Background Data

## Sources of Data

- What are the data sources and stated accuracies?
- What are the horizontal and vertical datums?
- Is aerial imagery included? If so, what date was it taken?
- Does the date of the imagery match the date of the terrain data?
- Was channel bathymetric data used?
- What is the source of hydrologic data, and what flows are simulated?
- What is the source of any structure data?
- What units are the data in and are all consistent?

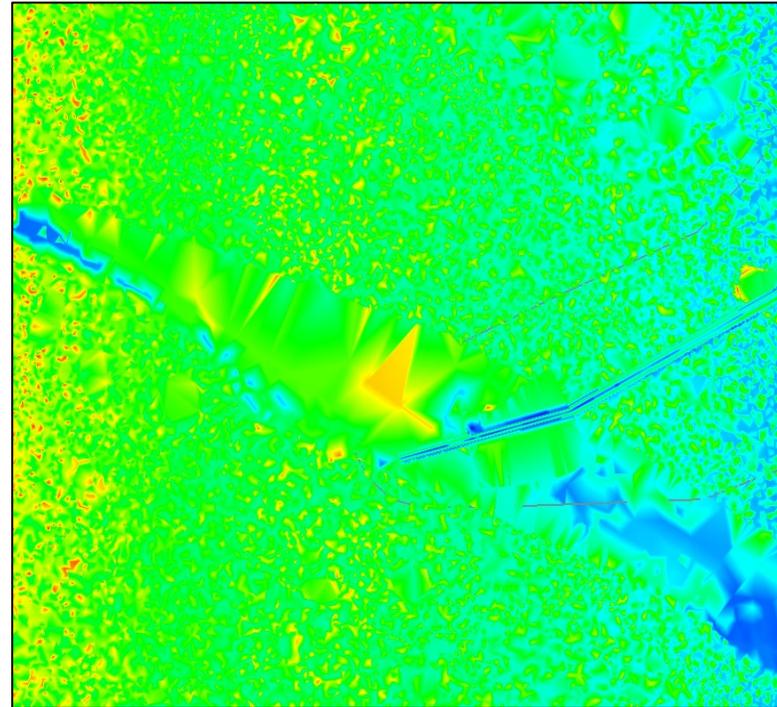
***Key Question:***  
*Are data sources consistent and do they cover all modeled areas?*

# Project Information and Background Data

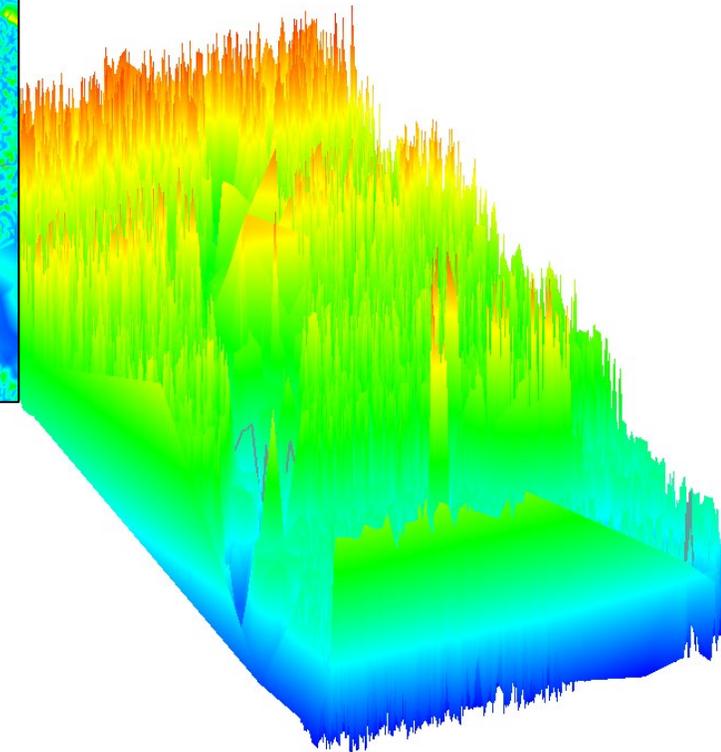
Terrain Data – Lidar Data

## ***Key Question:***

*Has the terrain data been processed to remove unwanted features? (i.e. vegetation, structures, etc.)*



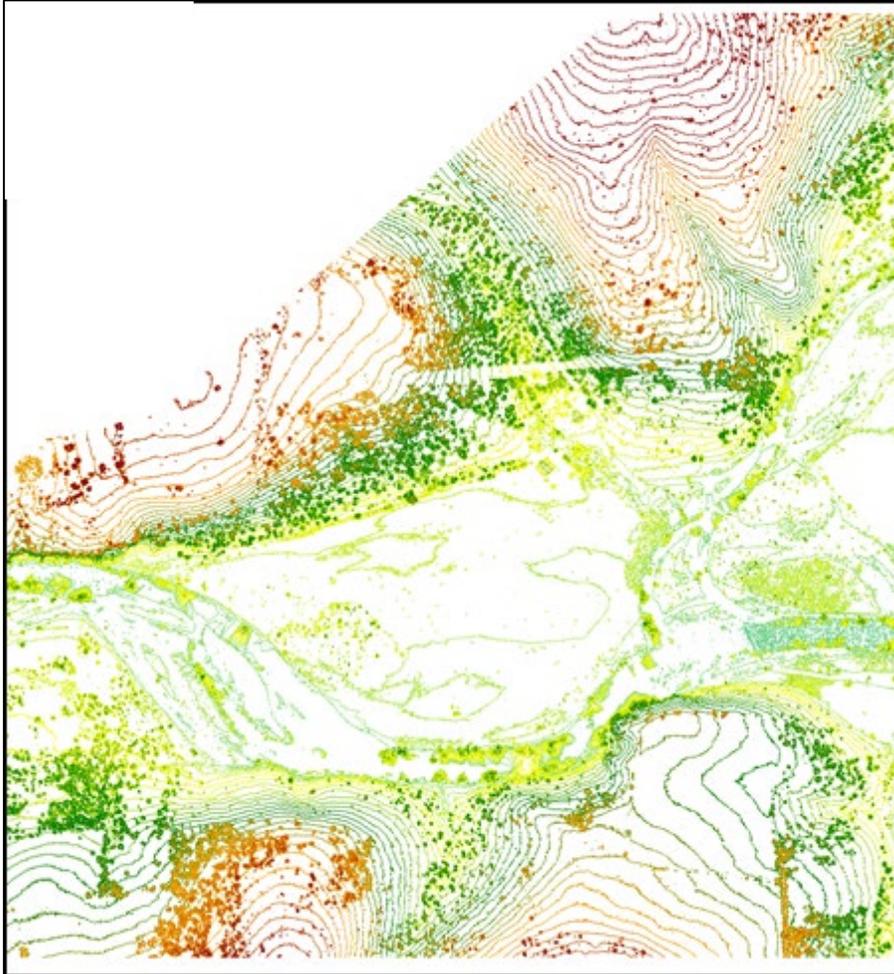
Plan View of elevation contours



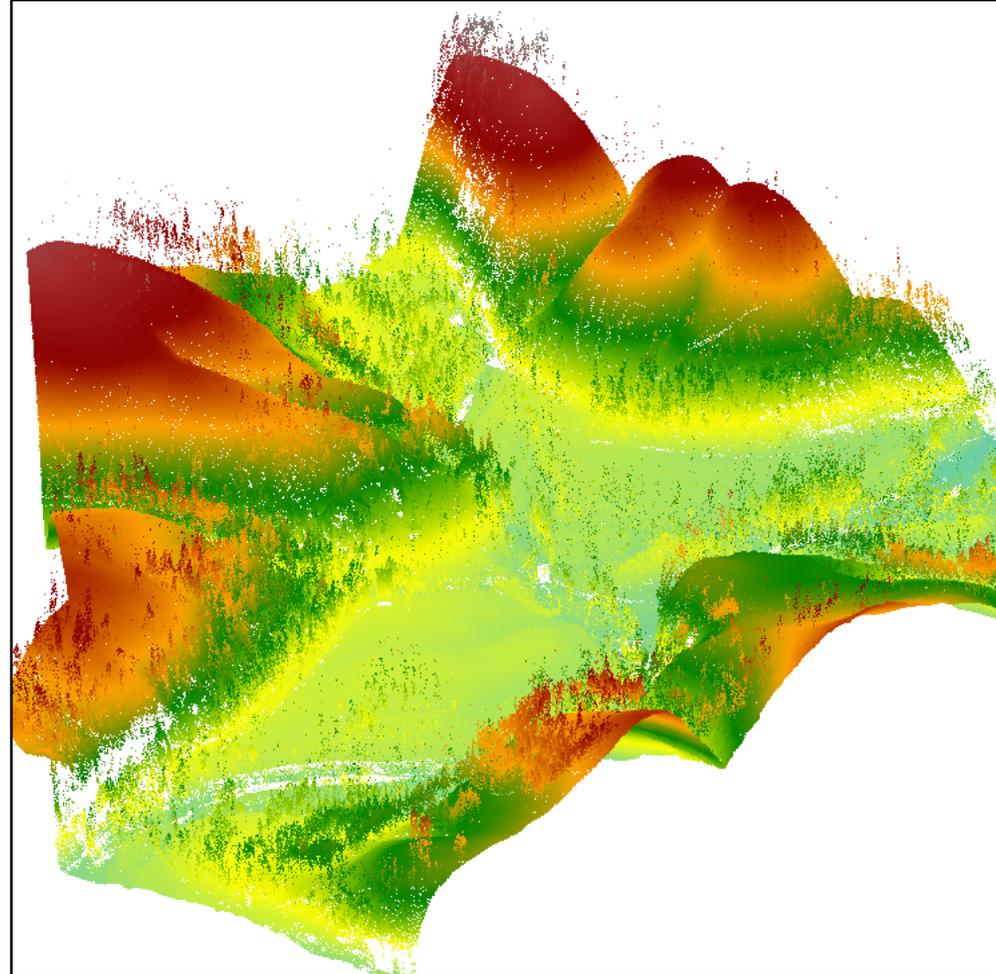
Oblique View (Trees not removed)

# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data – Lidar Data



Plan View of elevation contours



Oblique View (Vegetation not removed)

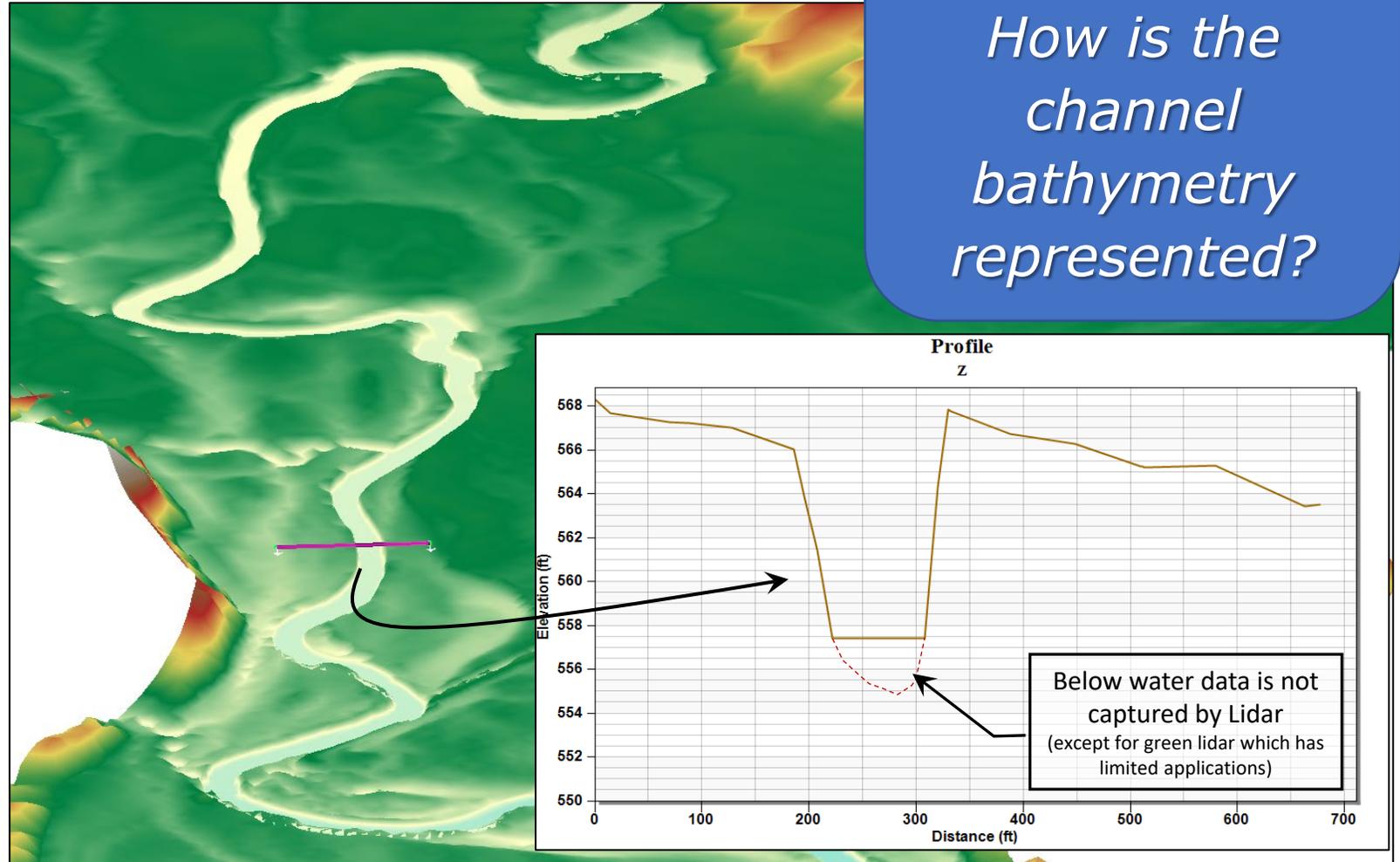
# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data

- Channel bathymetry is often overlooked
- It is best to have surveyed data (cross sections) in the vicinity of the project
- Approximated channel data (stamped channels) are acceptable in other areas
- If multiple data sources were used, verify agreement at seams

### *Key Question:*

*How is the channel bathymetry represented?*

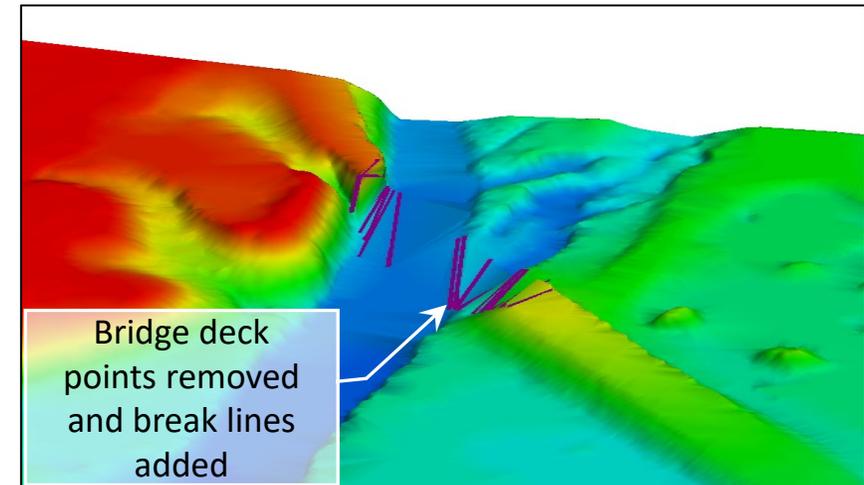
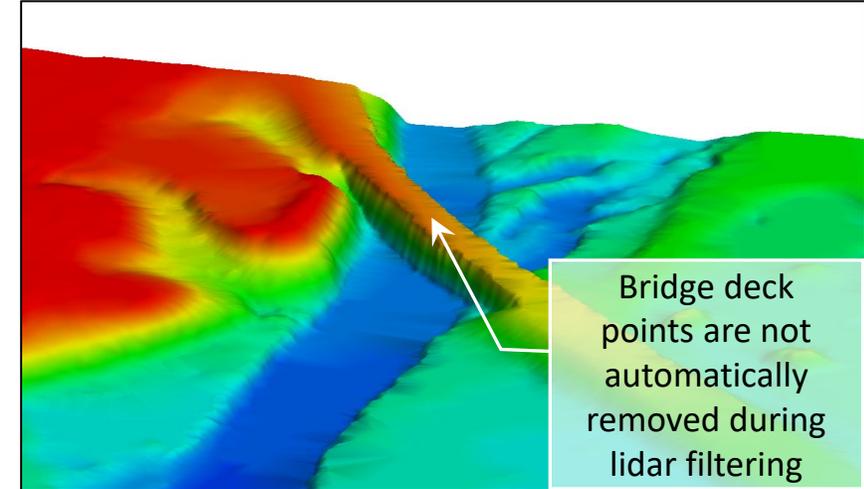
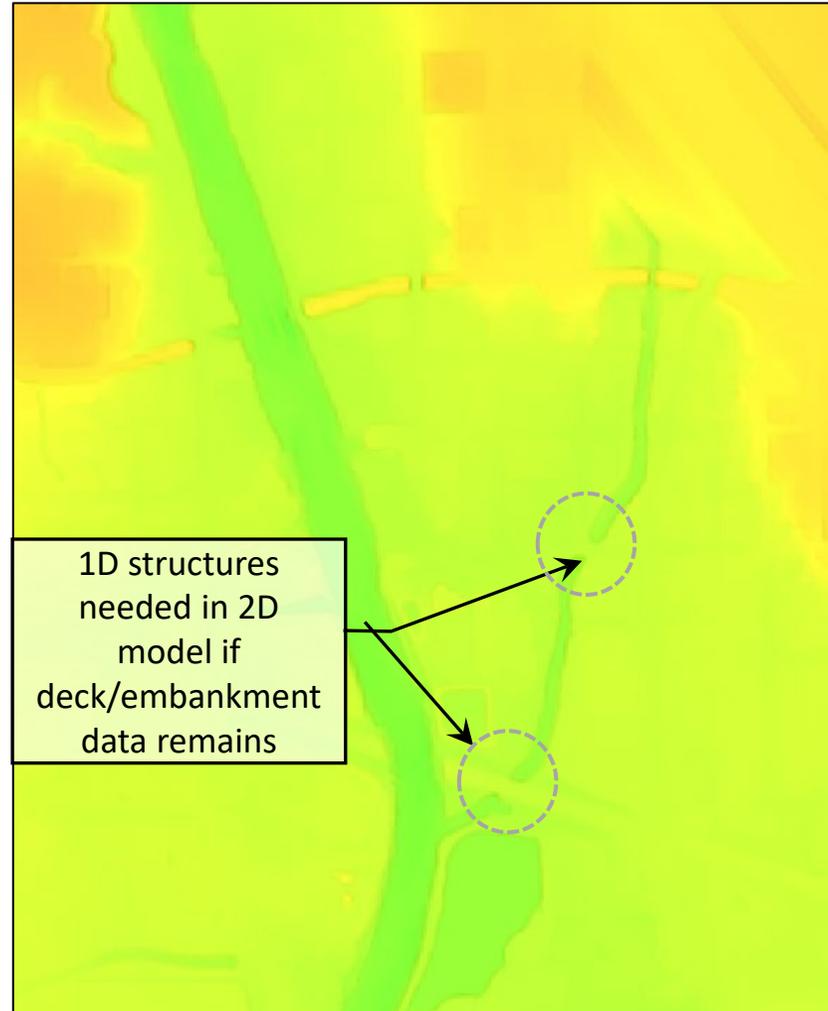


# Project Information and Background Data

Terrain Data – Correct representation of crossings

Have bridge decks been removed?

Embankments crossing channels will act as dams, unless 1D structures are added to the 2D model

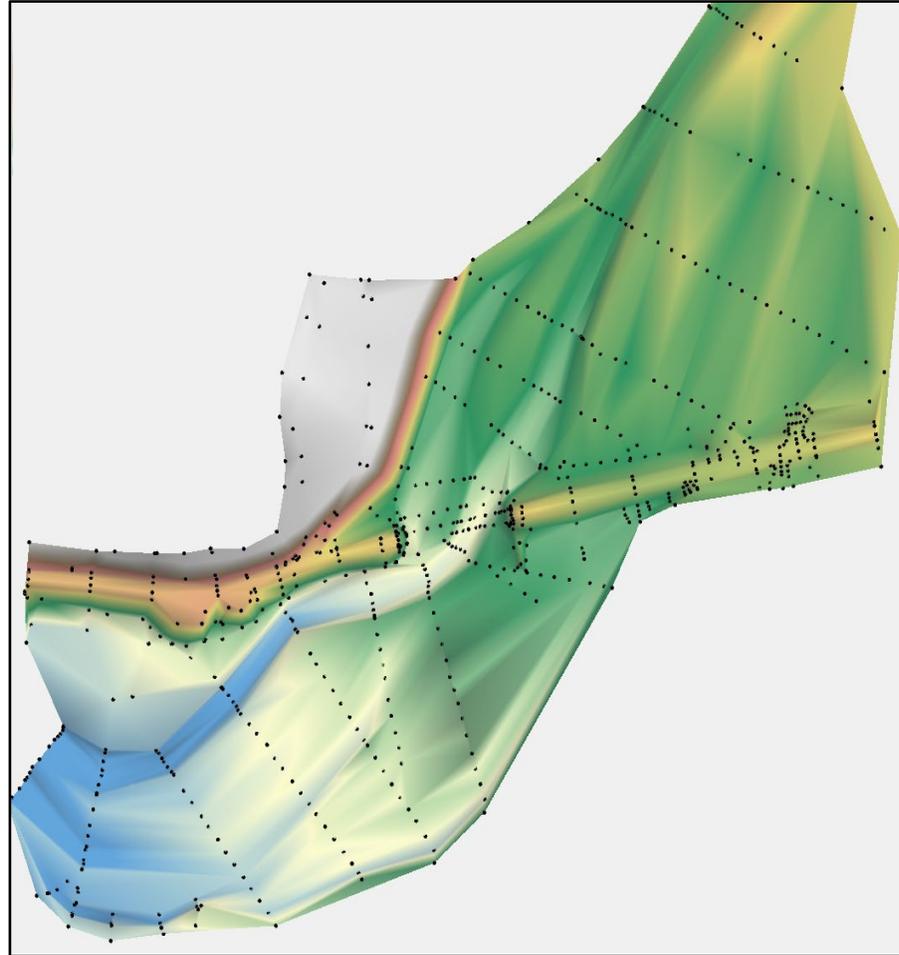


# Project Information and Background Data

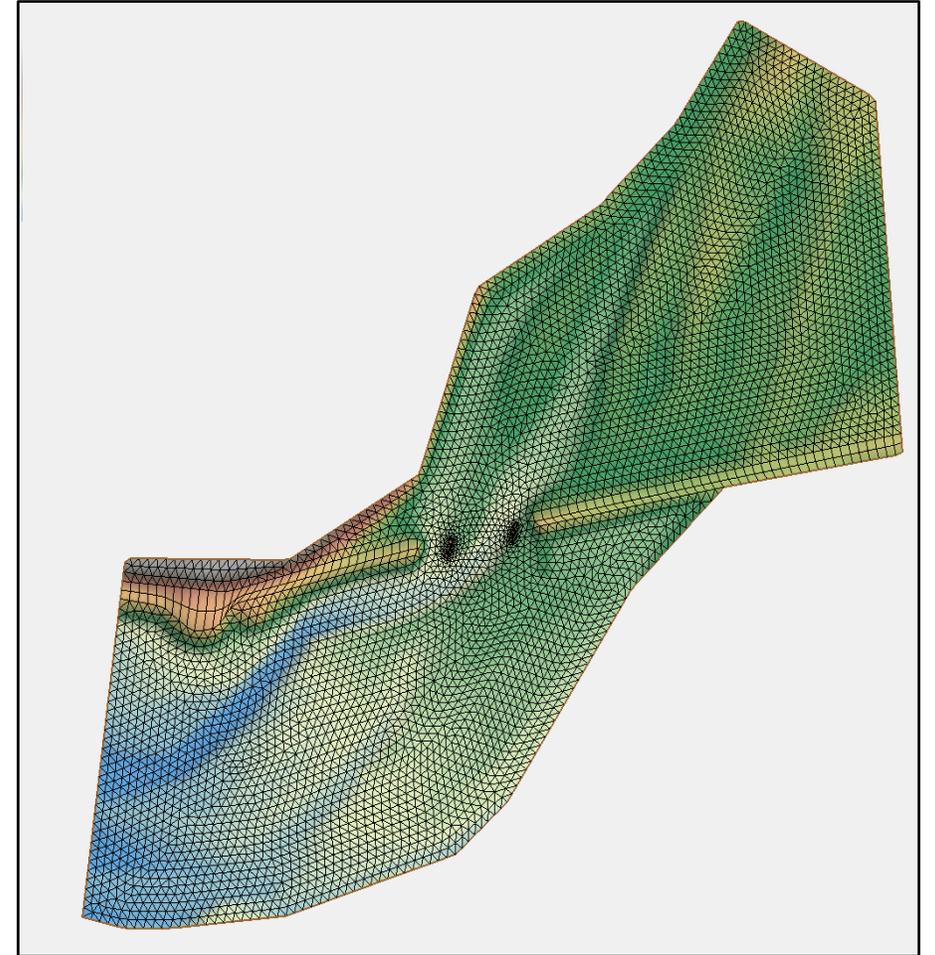
## Terrain Data Resolution

### **Key Question:**

*Is the terrain data resolution sufficient to support the project detail and objectives?*



Terrain Data



Mesh

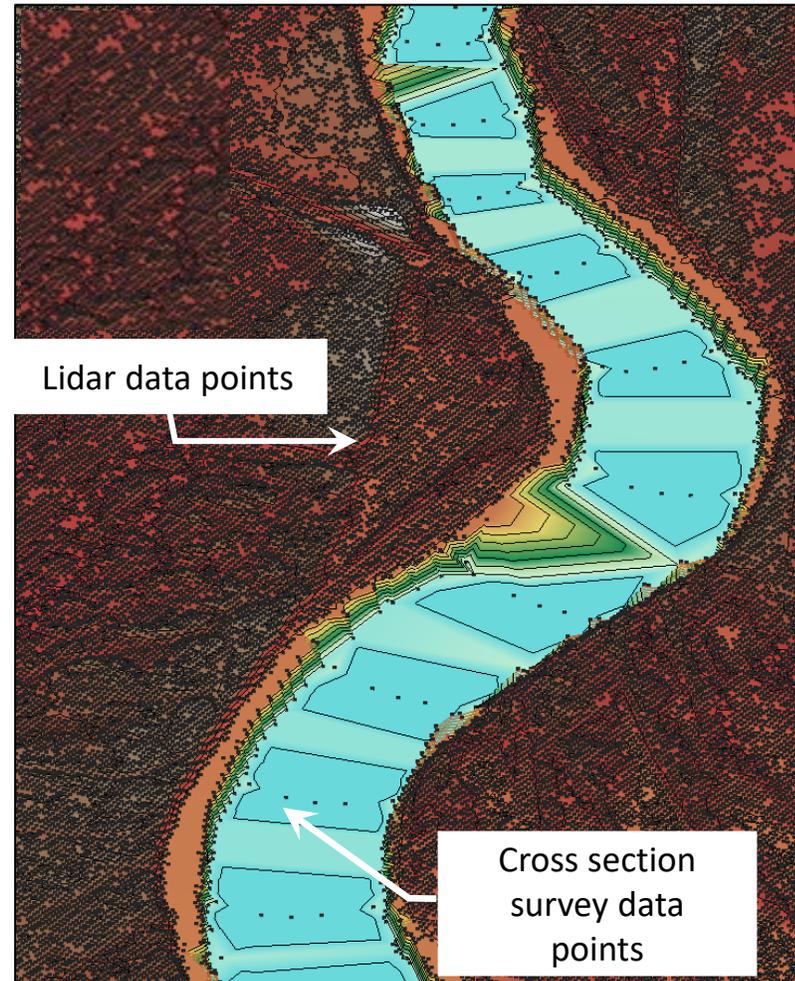
# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data – Use of breaklines

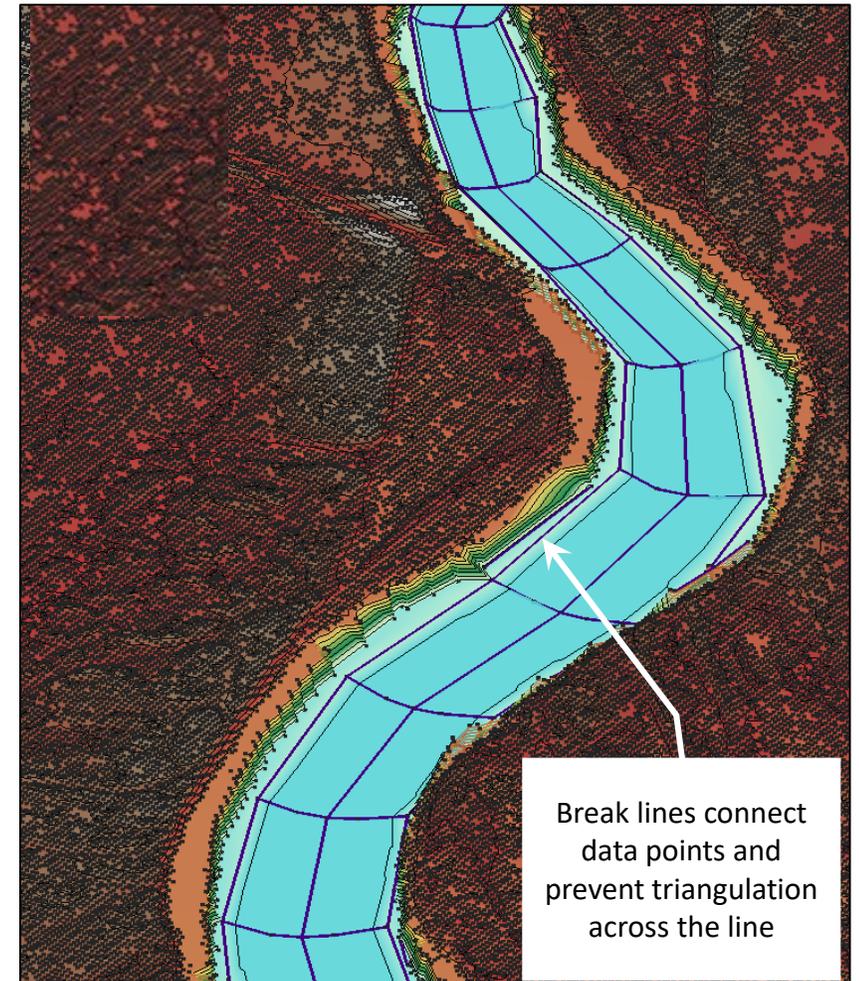
### **Key Question:**

*Have breaklines been used where needed?*

- Breaklines are important to prevent errors in triangulation
- Breaklines are essential when incorporating cross section data



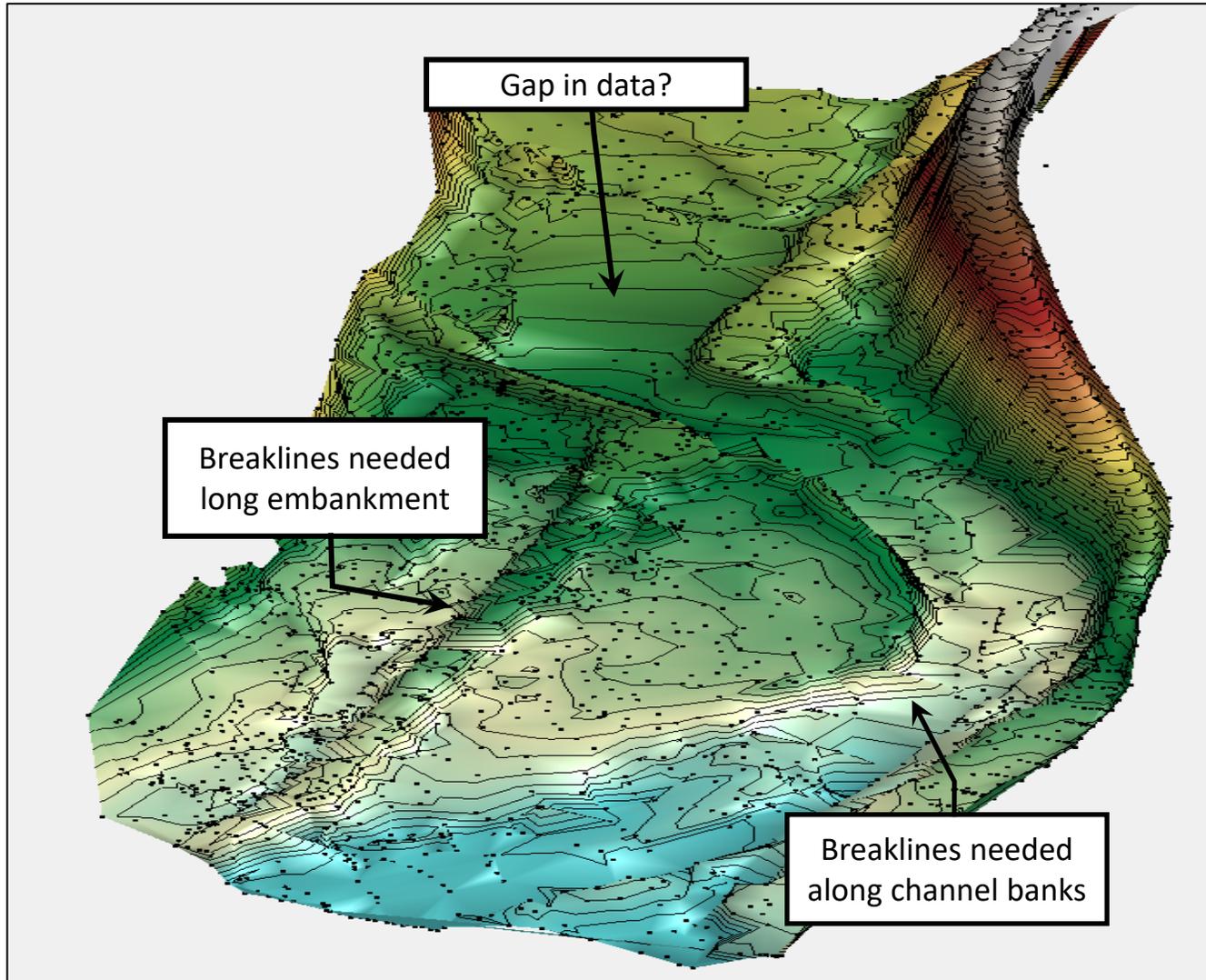
Lidar and cross section data w/o break lines



Break lines added and forced

# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data Consistency



- Review spacing of data points
- Look for good representation of hydraulic controls (embankments, channel banks, other features)
- Look for gaps in the data
- Review transition zones between data sets

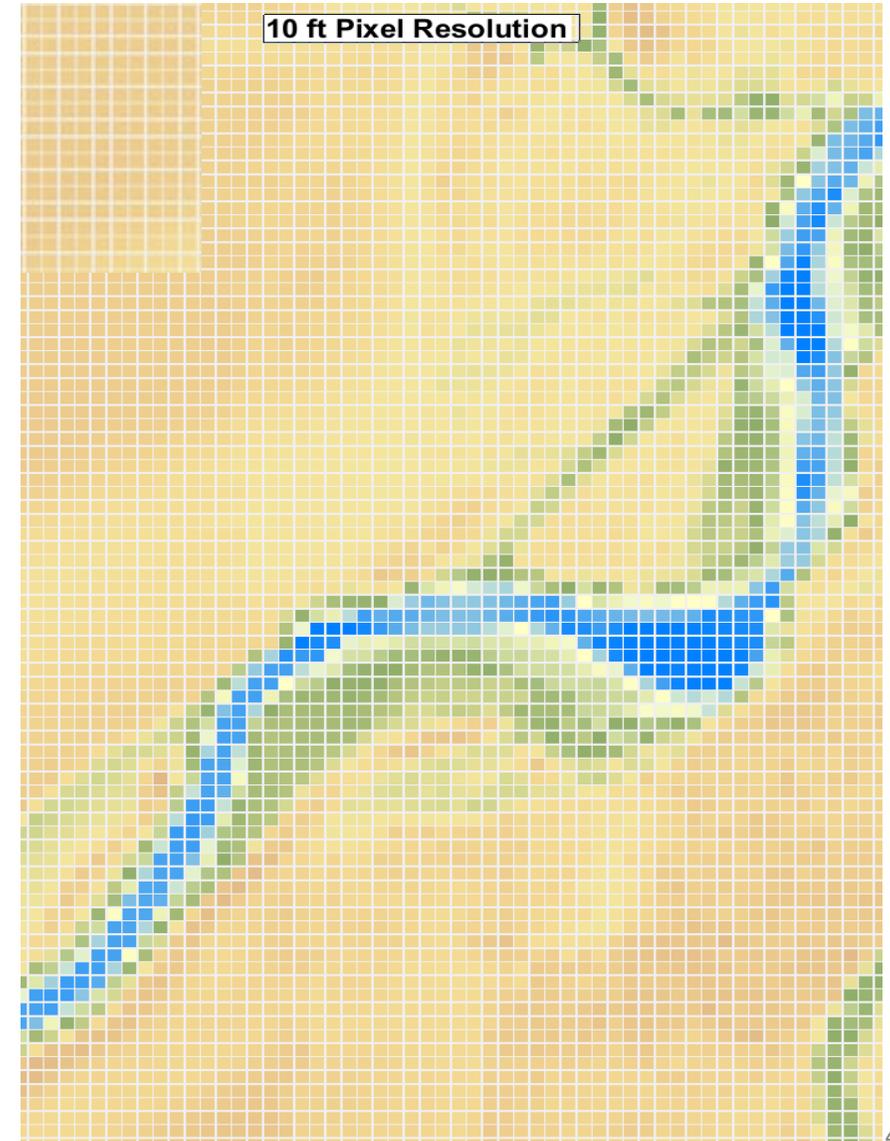
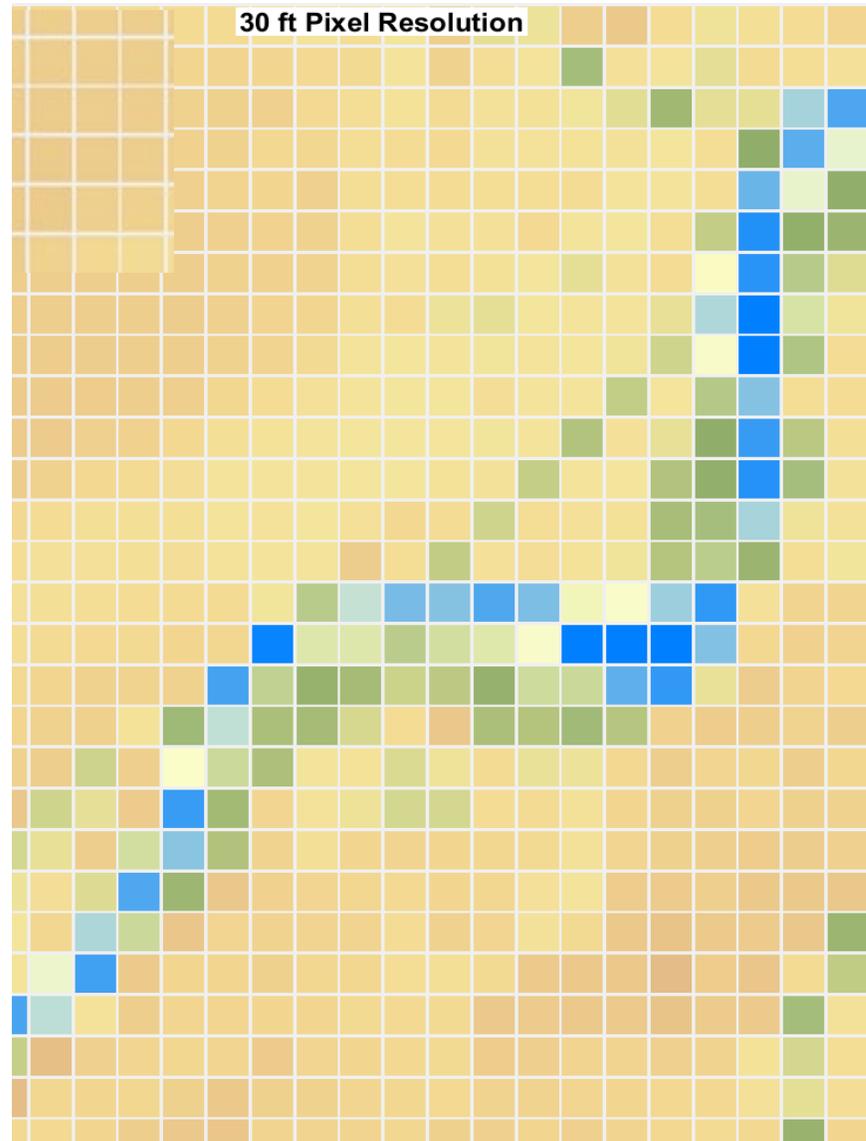
# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data – Raster Data

What is the pixel size in the raster image?

What size is needed to provide sufficient detail?

30 ft? 10 ft?

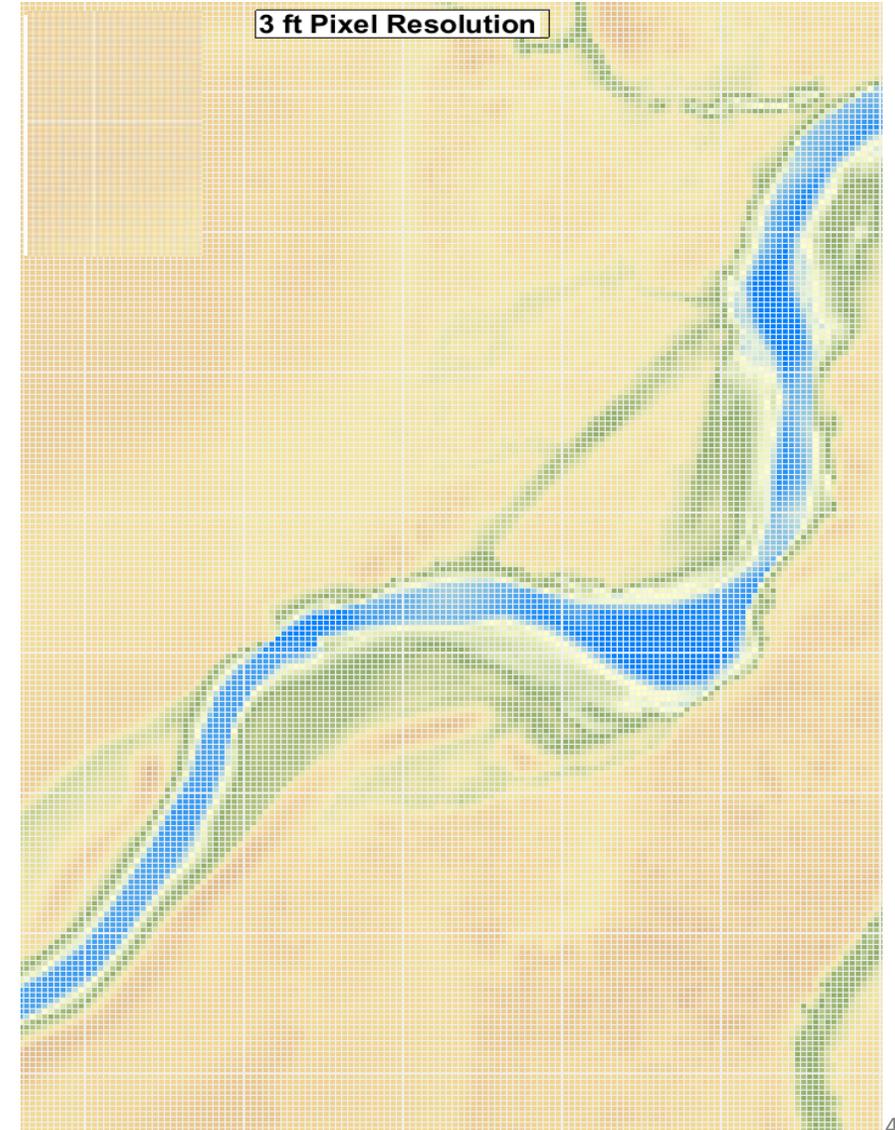
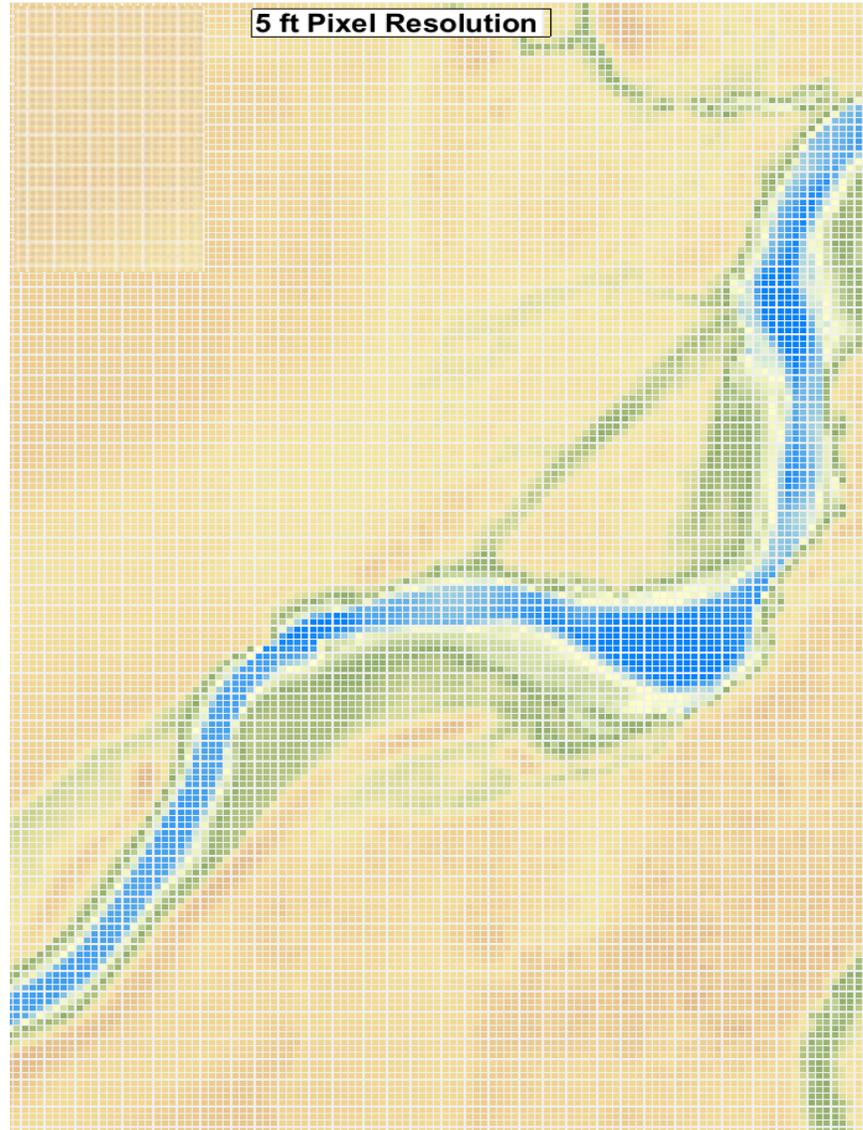


# Project Information and Background Data

## Terrain Data – Raster Data

3-5 ft is optimal.

Larger pixel sizes will not represent linear features well.

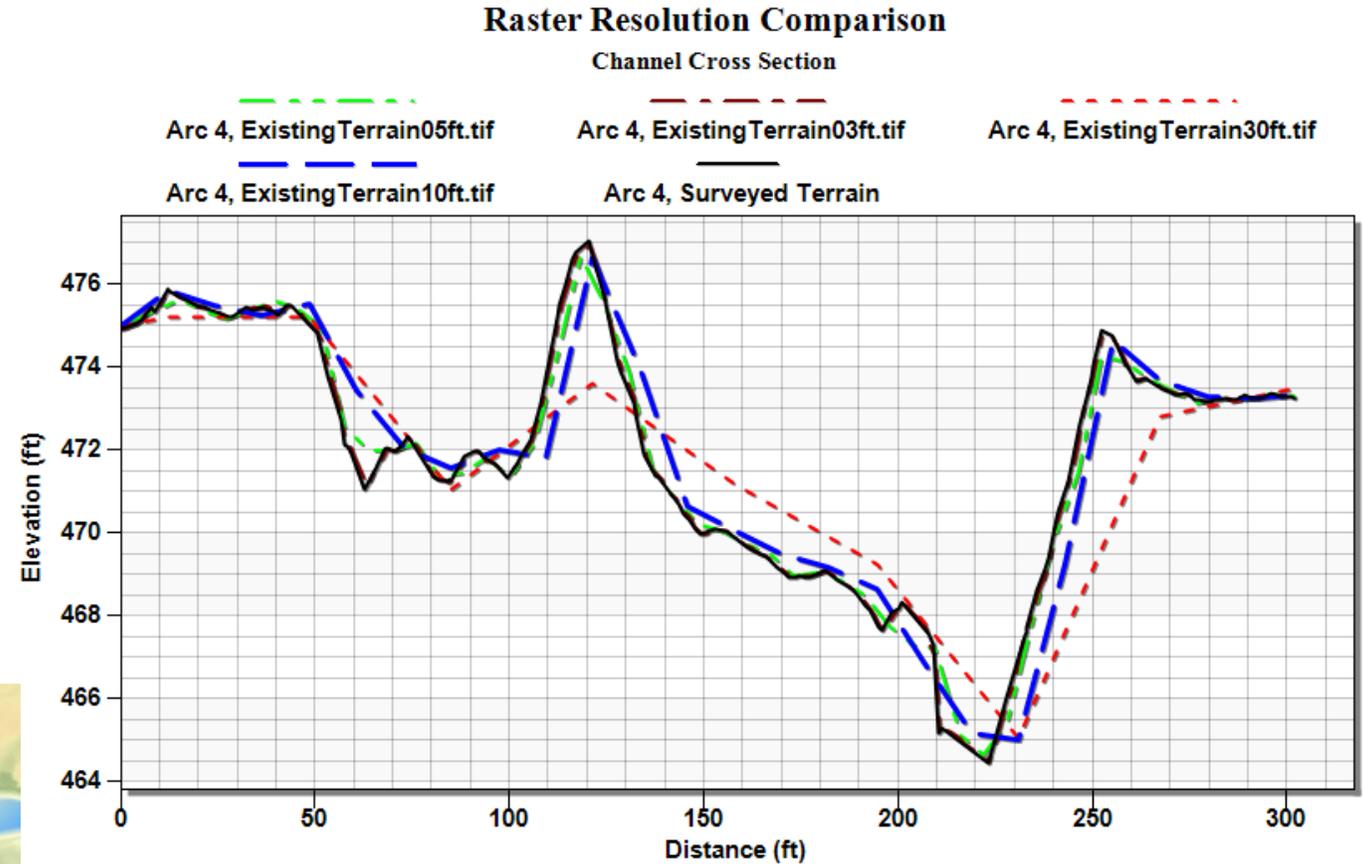
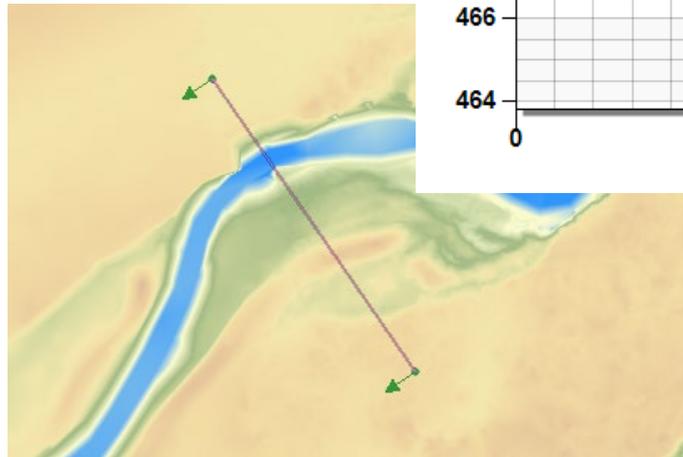


# Project Information and Background Data

Terrain Data – Raster Data

## Key Question:

*How well does the terrain data define features?  
(Using plotted cross sections throughout the domain)*



# ***Key Project Info and Background Data Review Questions***

- Are data sources consistent and do they cover all modeled areas?
- Has the terrain data been processed to remove unwanted features? (i.e. vegetation, structures, etc.)
- How is the channel bathymetry represented?
- Is the terrain data resolution sufficient to support the project detail and objectives?
- Have breaklines been used where needed?
- How well does the terrain data define features?



**5 Minutes**

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- **2D Mesh**
- *Assign Exercise 1*



# Reviewing a 2D Mesh

## Top 3 Things

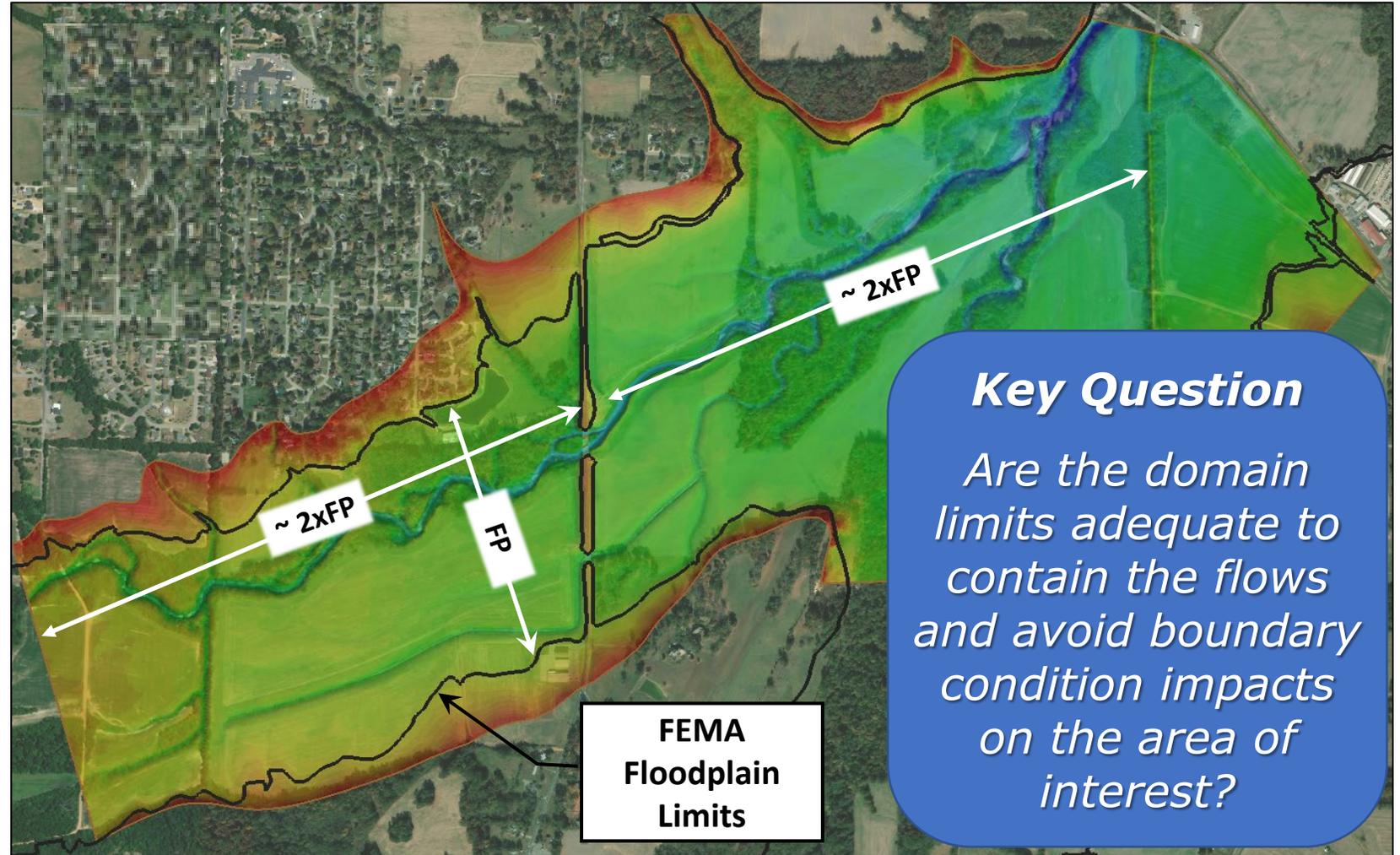
1. Confirm the domain limits are adequate
2. Compare the mesh with the original terrain and key features
3. Assess the number and size of mesh elements

# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Extents (Domain Limits)

### Upstream considerations

- More contracted, simple geometry locations are preferred (best practice)
- Terrain features that affect flow distribution
- Distance needed to establish natural flow distribution
- Sensitivity analyses are needed when boundaries are in close proximity to the area of interest



# 2D Mesh

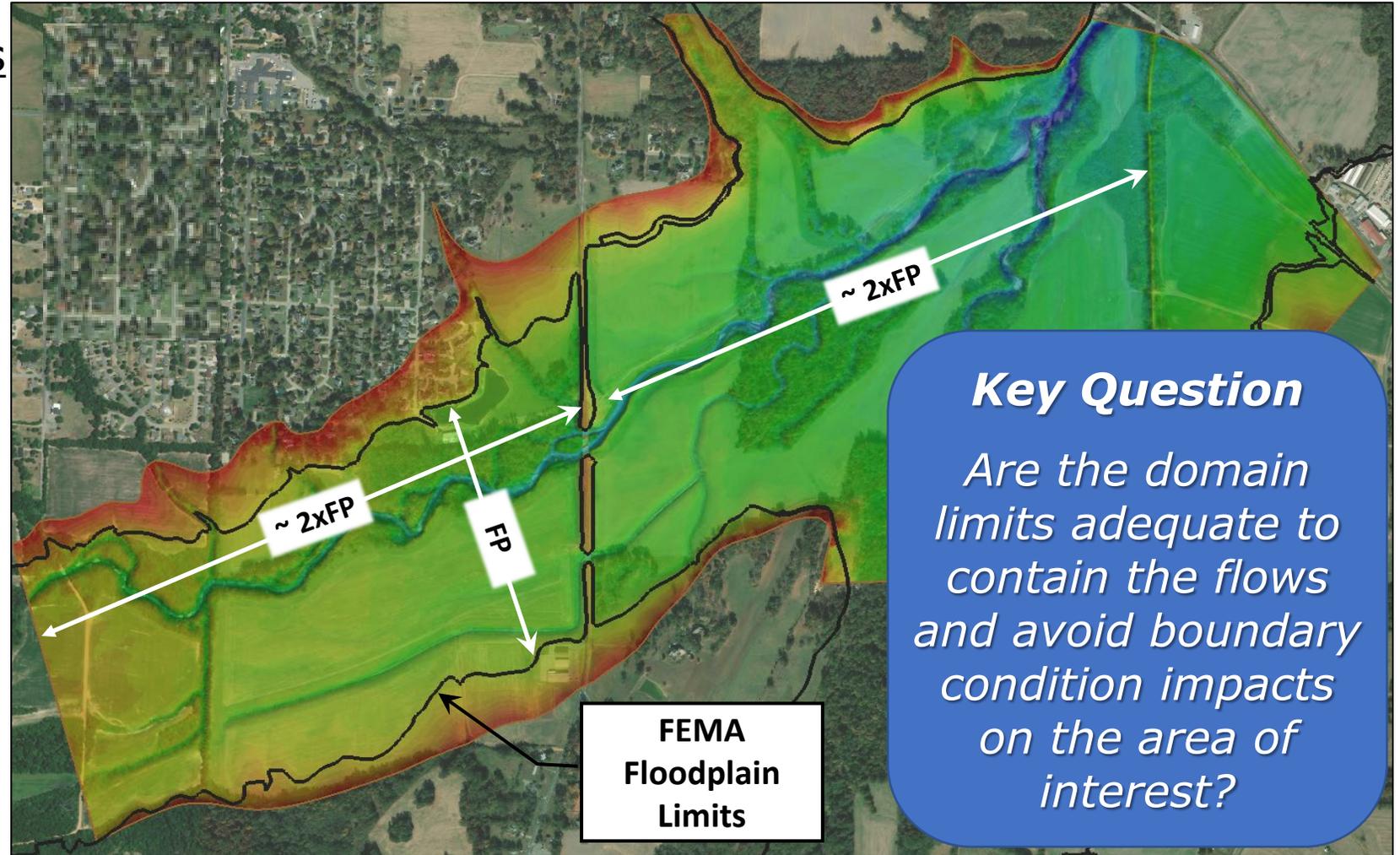
## Mesh Extents (Domain Limits)

### Downstream considerations

- Terrain features that affect flow distribution
- More contracted, simple geometry locations are preferred
- Influence of possible errors in estimating tail water elevation

### Lateral limits

- Should extend beyond floodplain limits
- Vertical wall assumed when flow contacts boundary

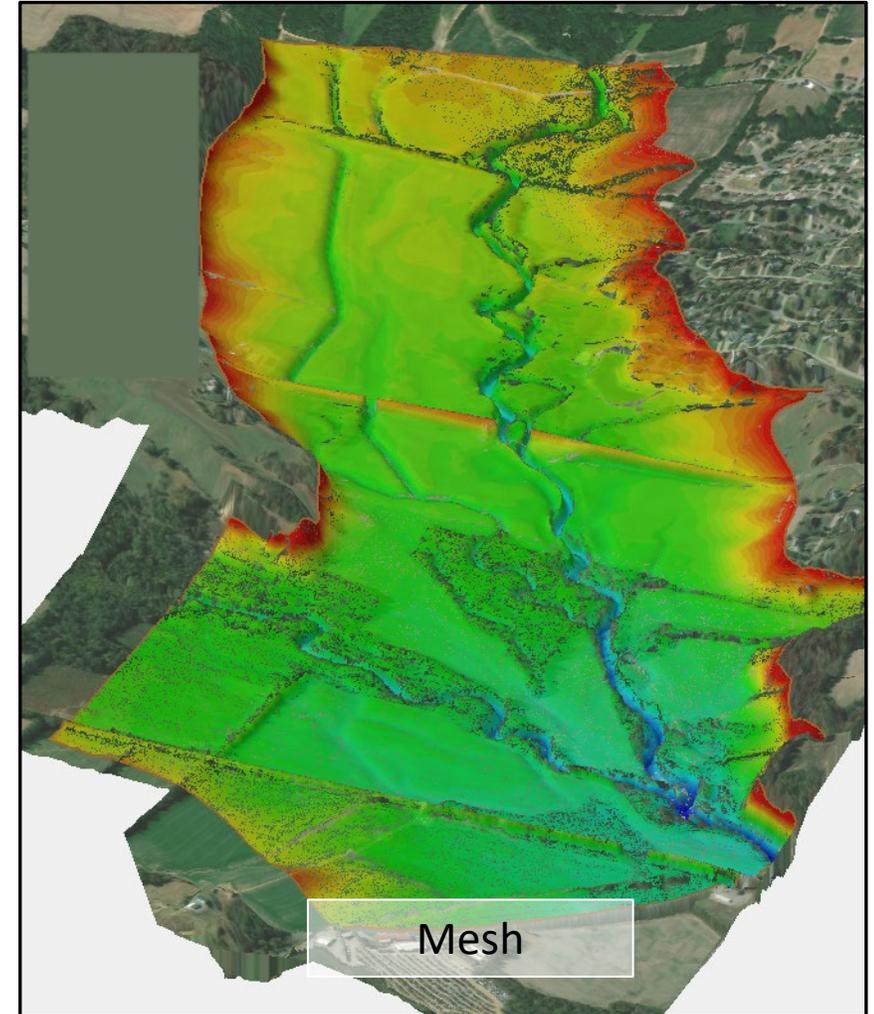
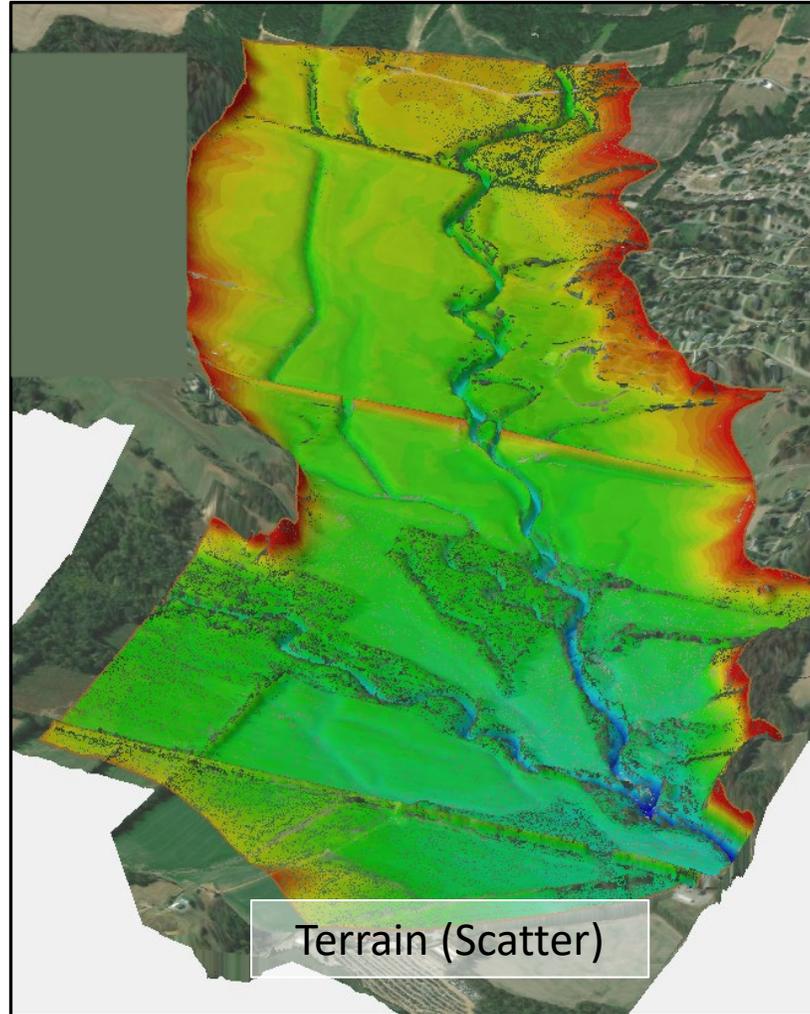


# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls

**Key Question:**  
*Does the mesh provide an accurate representation of the terrain?*

- Compare key features in mesh vs terrain
- Compare along cross sections and profiles

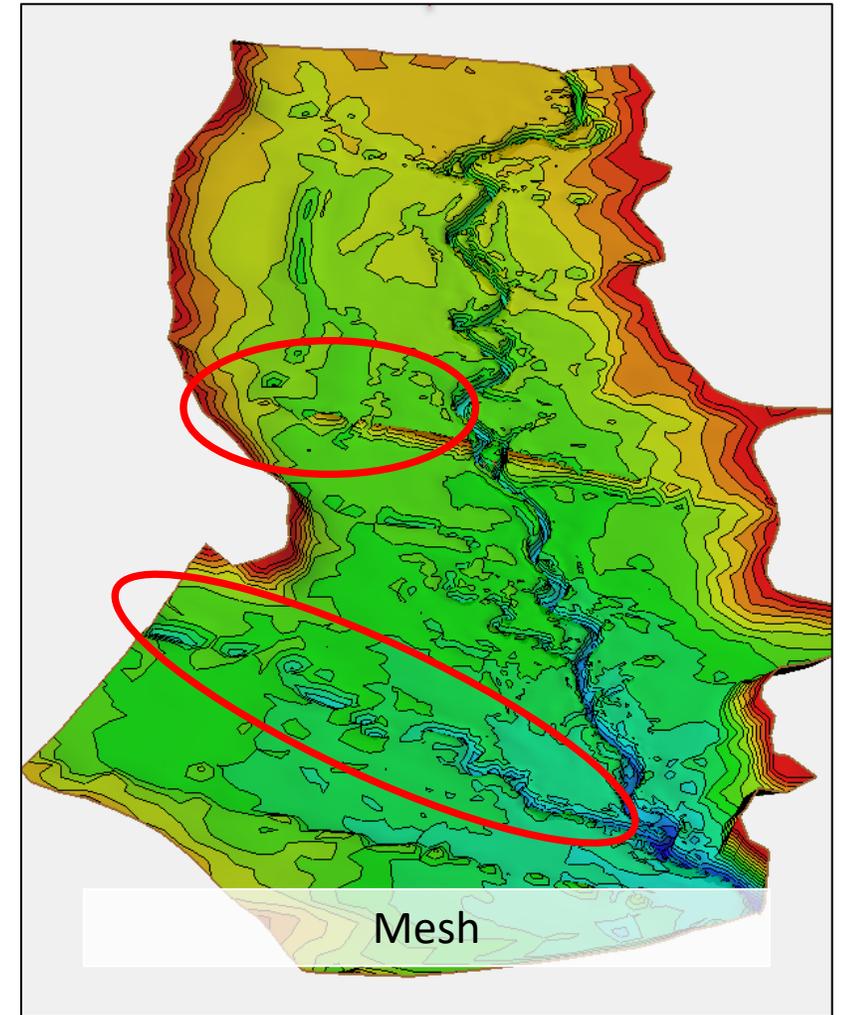
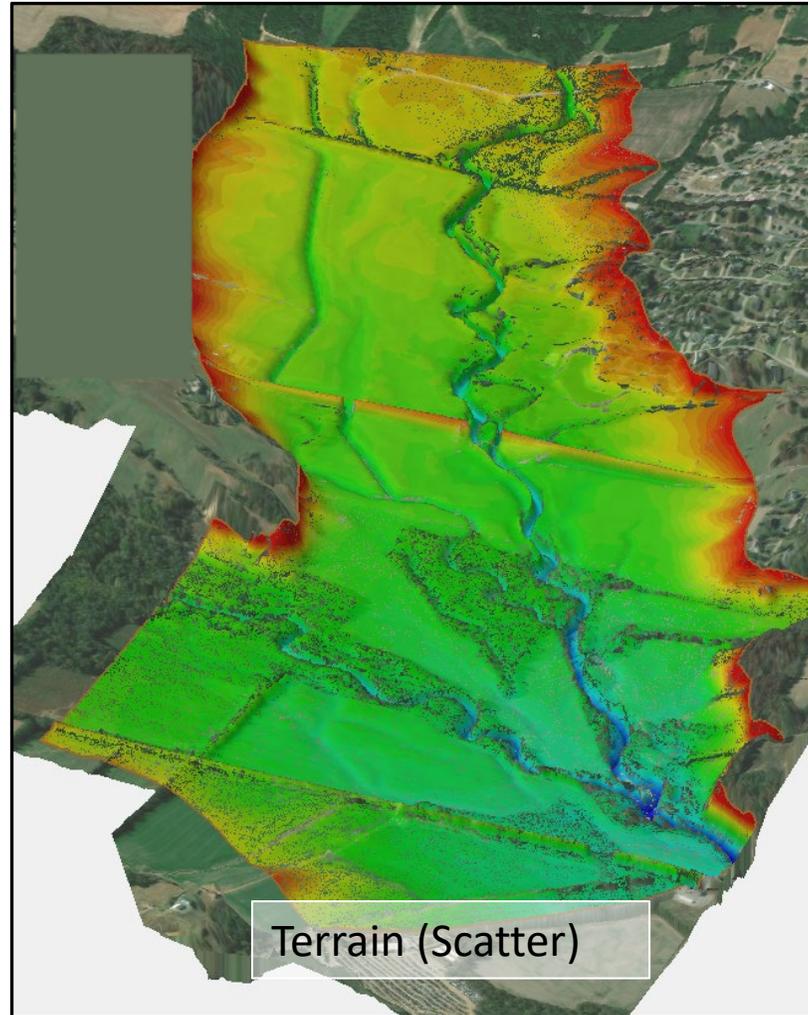


# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls

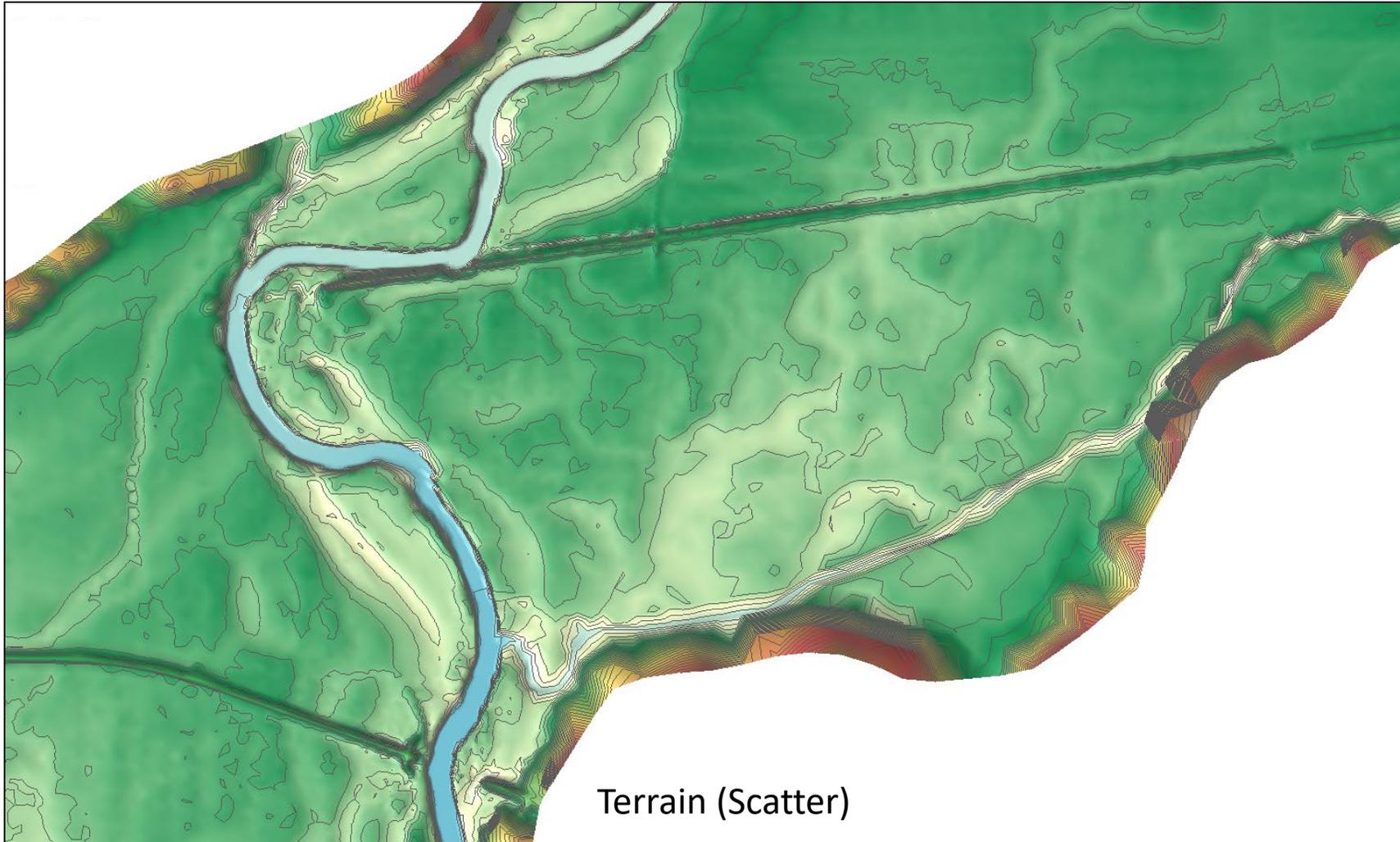
**Key Question:**

*Are key features accurately represented (embankments, channels, etc.)?*



# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls

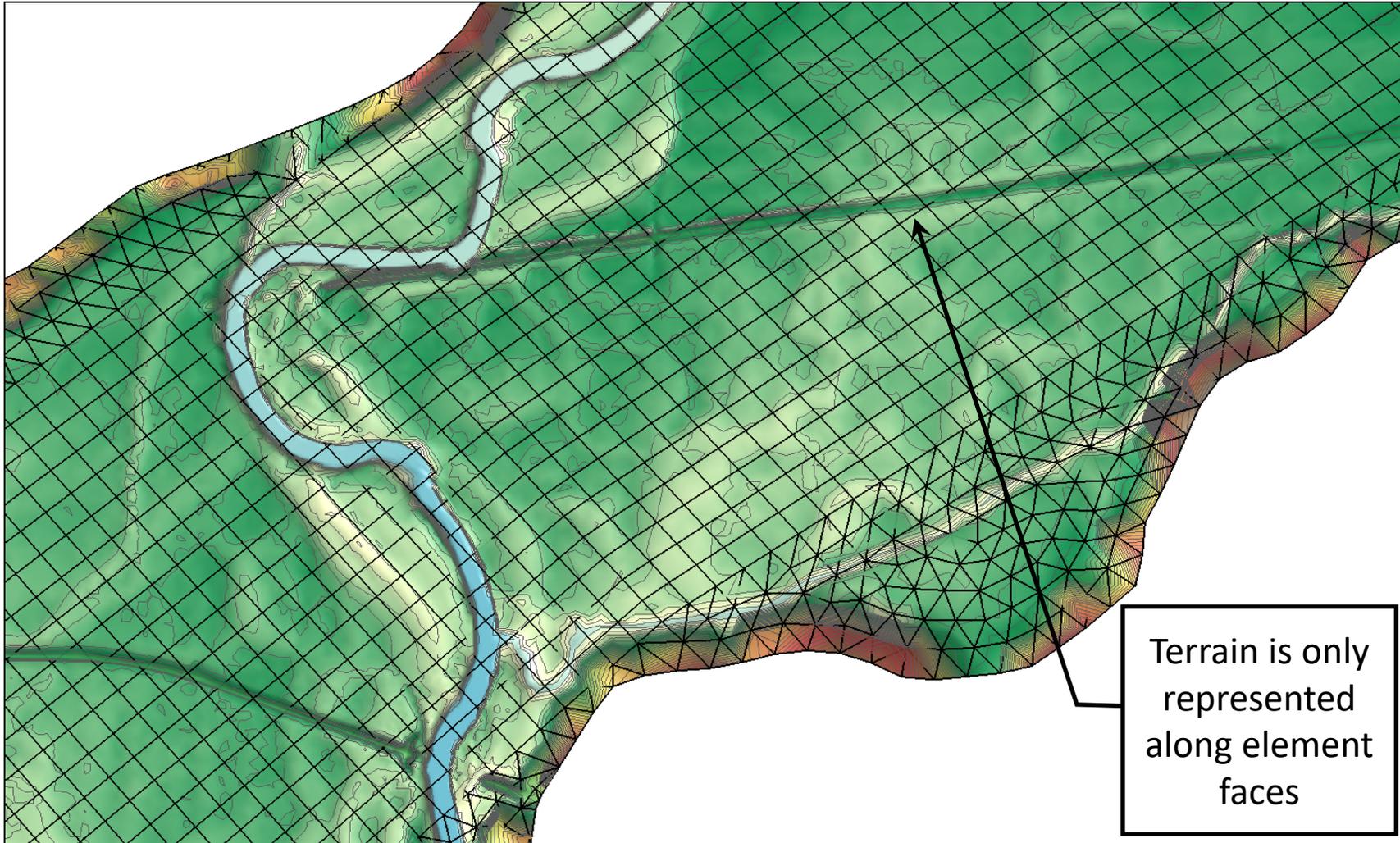


### ***Key Question:***

*Do element faces align with key features (hydraulic controls)?*

# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls



### ***Key Question:***

*Do element faces align with key features (hydraulic controls)?*

- This mesh would not correctly represent the embankment or channel banks.

# 2D Mesh

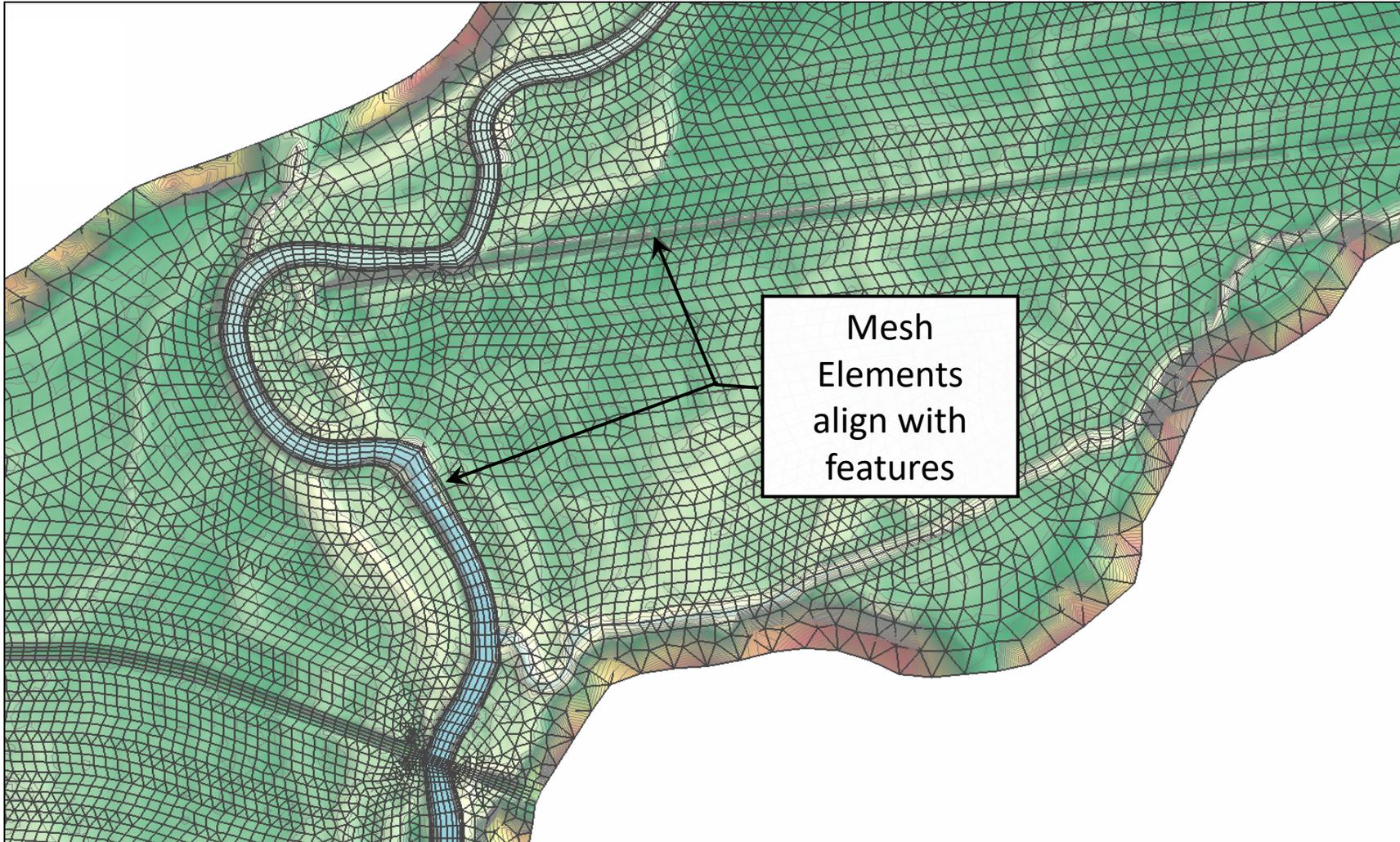
## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls



- Breaklines must be used when generating the mesh to force element edges to align with key features and controls
- Channel bank breaklines are recommended when there is notable flow between the main channel and overbanks

# 2D Mesh

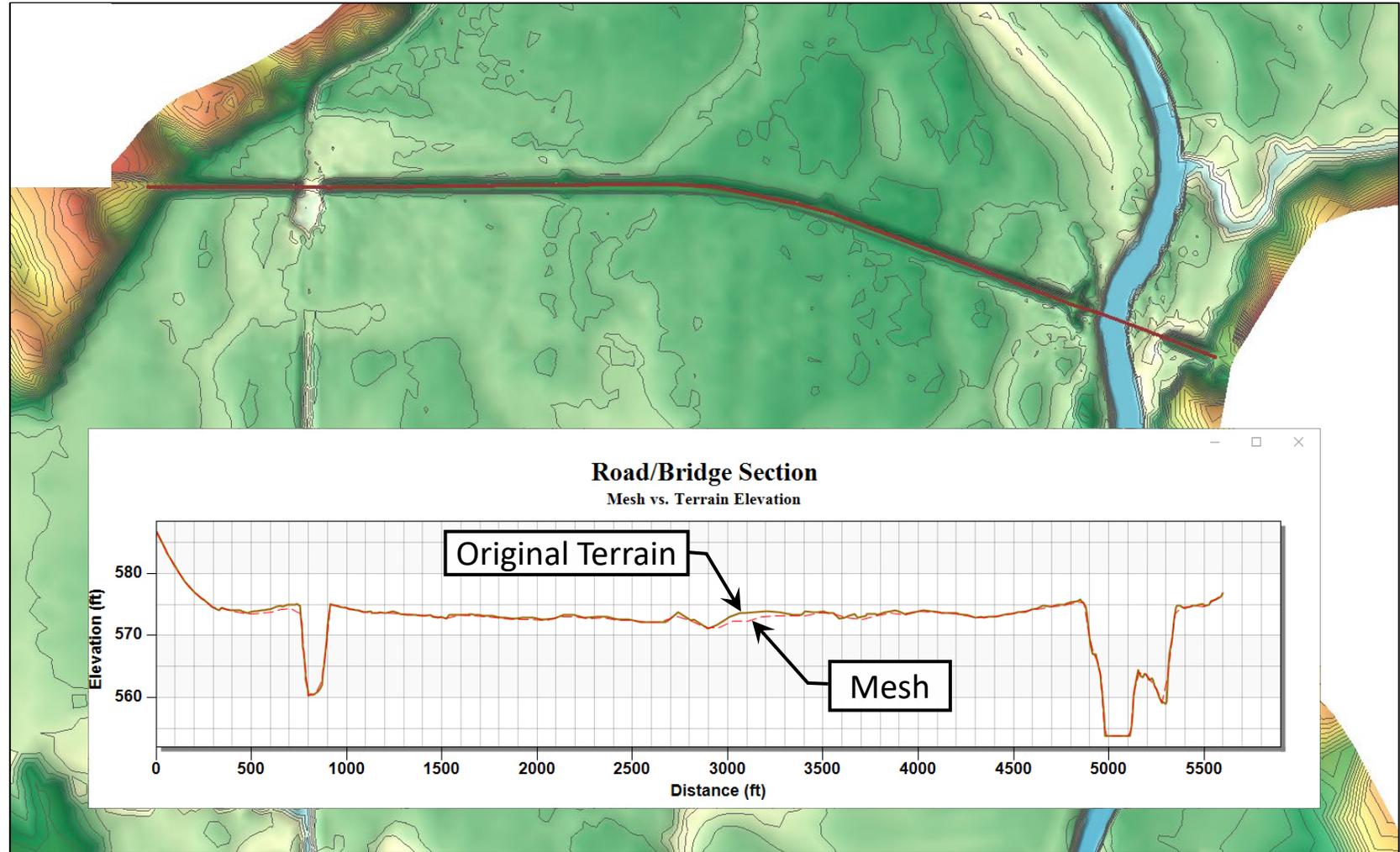
## Terrain Representation and Hydraulic Controls



# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation of Hydraulic Controls and Key Features

Plotted profiles along key features comparing original terrain to the mesh terrain are helpful in model review



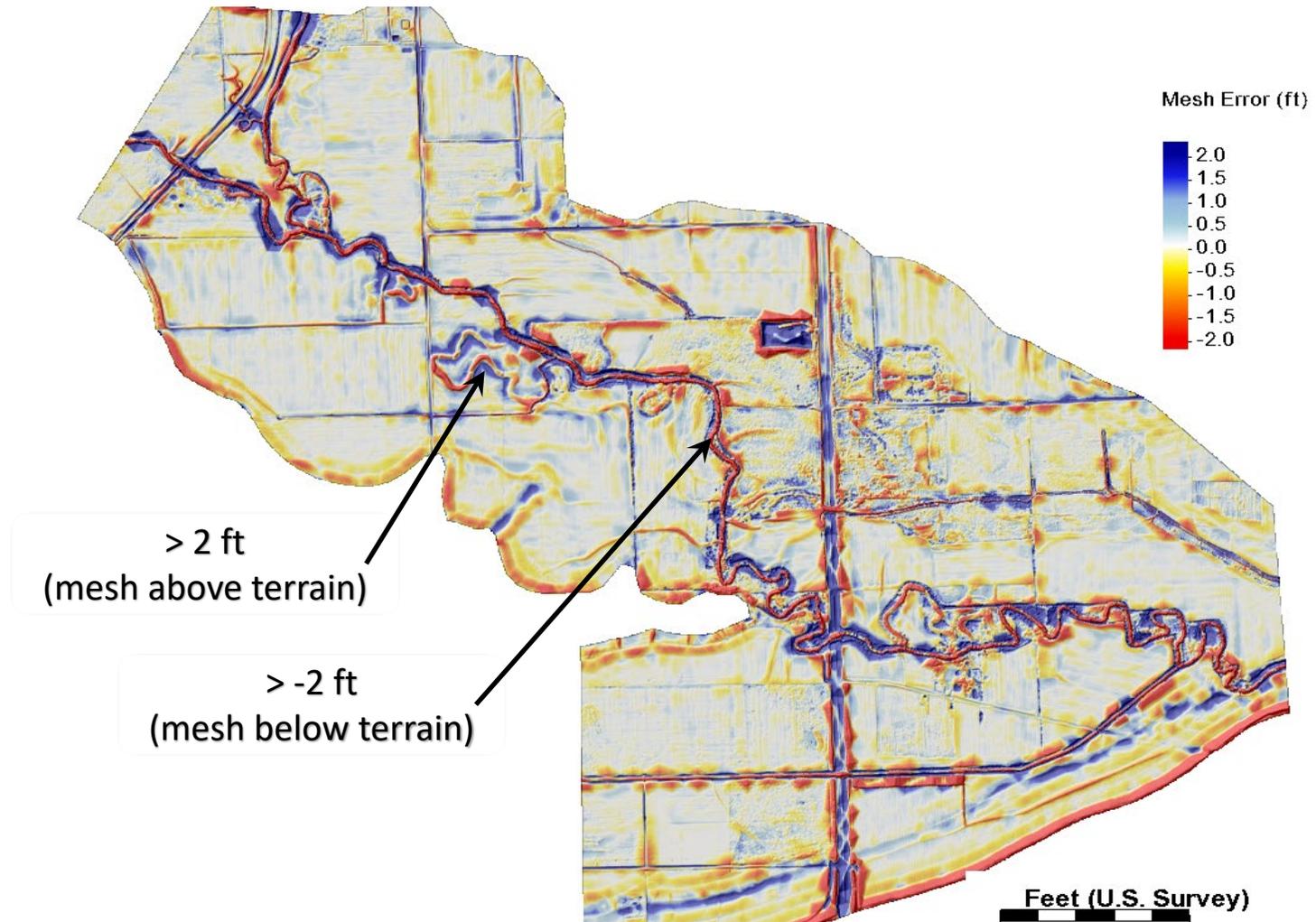
# 2D Mesh

## Terrain Representation of Hydraulic Controls and Key Features

A differential surface plot can be very helpful in assessing how well a mesh represents the terrain.

The plot is generated by subtracting the mesh surface elevations from the terrain surface.

Significant differences may highlight areas that are not represented well



# 2D Mesh

Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

## ***Key Question:***

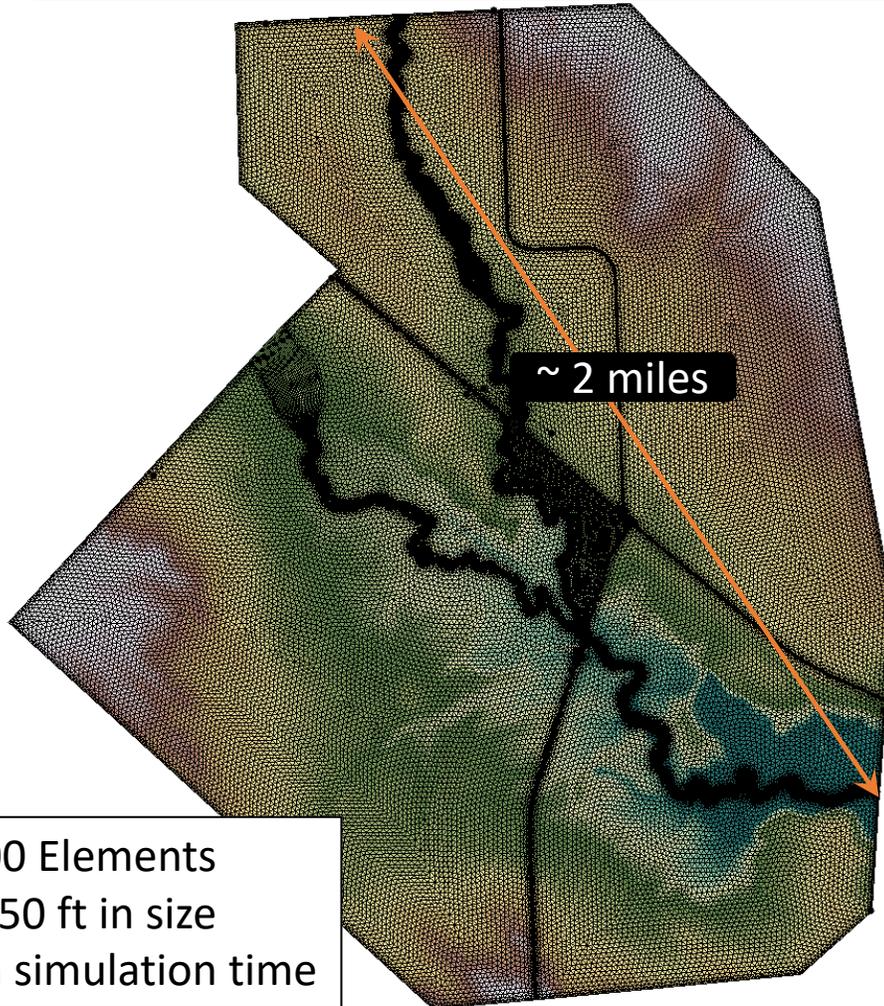
*Is the number of mesh elements appropriate?*

- In general, most detailed study projects can be accomplished with fewer than 100,000 elements, depending on complexity
- The level of detail should be consistent with modeling objectives
- More elements are not always better
- Model efficiency is generally important

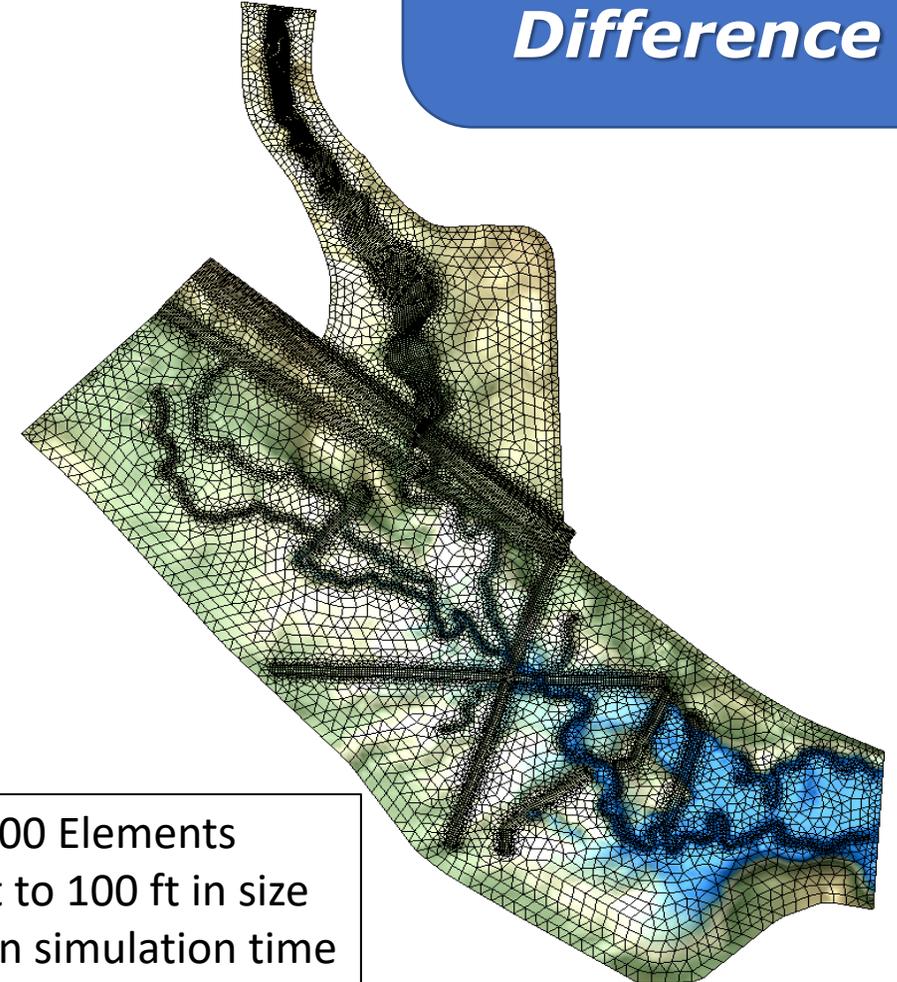
# 2D Mesh

## Impacts of Mesh Resolution

***Best Practices  
Make a  
Significant  
Difference***



140,000 Elements  
1 ft to 50 ft in size  
36 min simulation time



26,000 Elements  
10 ft to 100 ft in size  
1 min simulation time

# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

- Is the element size reasonable relative to the terrain data resolution?
- Is the mesh resolution sufficient to represent areas with complex hydraulics? (Changes in flow direction, flow splits, rapid drops in WSEL, etc.)
- To avoid stability issues, element **length** should generally be equal to or greater than the flow depth, except in limited areas (i.e. piers)

### ***Key Question:***

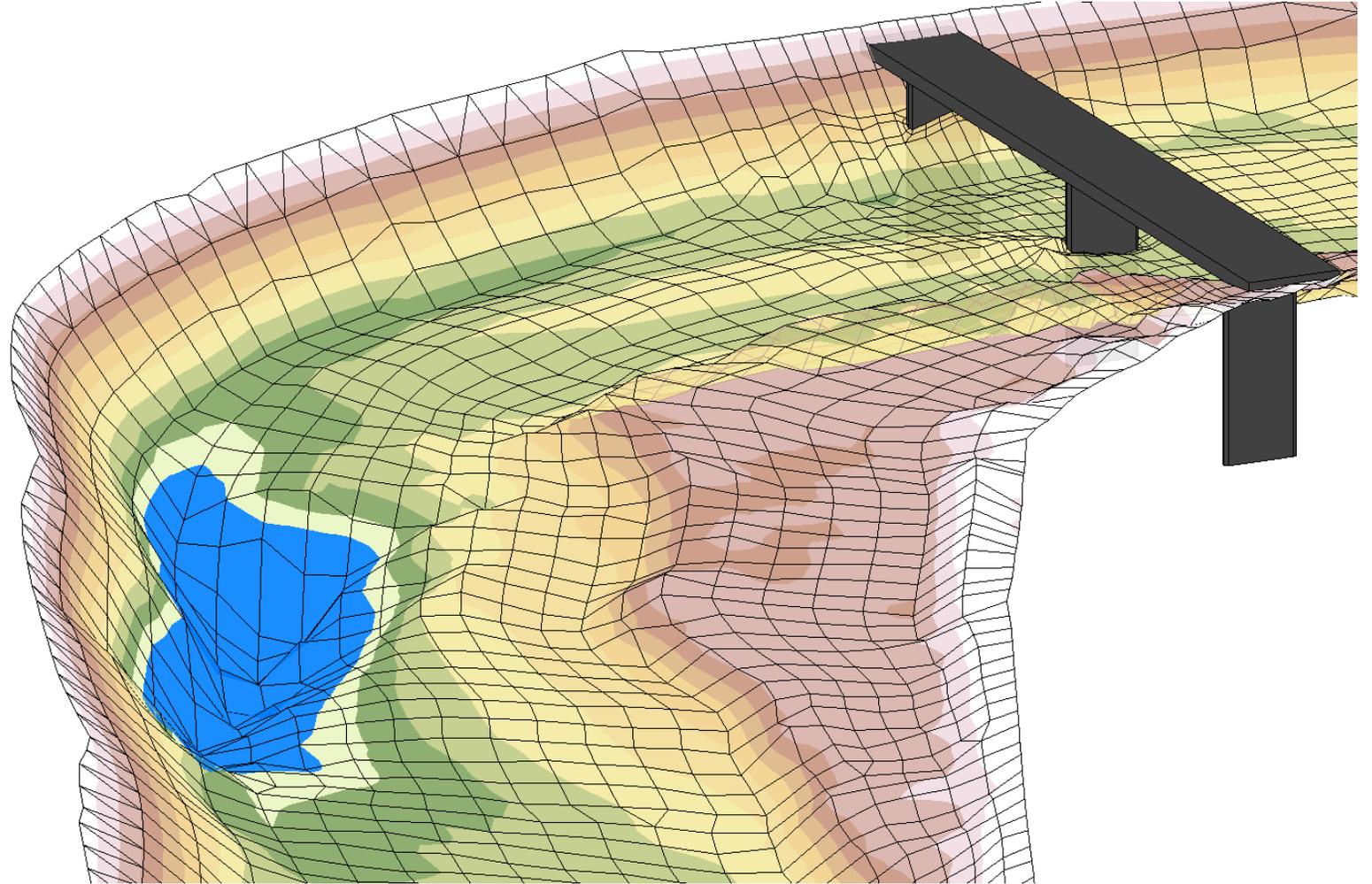
*Is the size of mesh elements appropriate?*

# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

Multiple elements should be used to represent channel bed and banks, and embankment slopes where detailed flow distribution, velocity distribution results are needed.

Only one WSEL and velocity solution is computed for each element (centroid). All other values in a solution are interpolated.

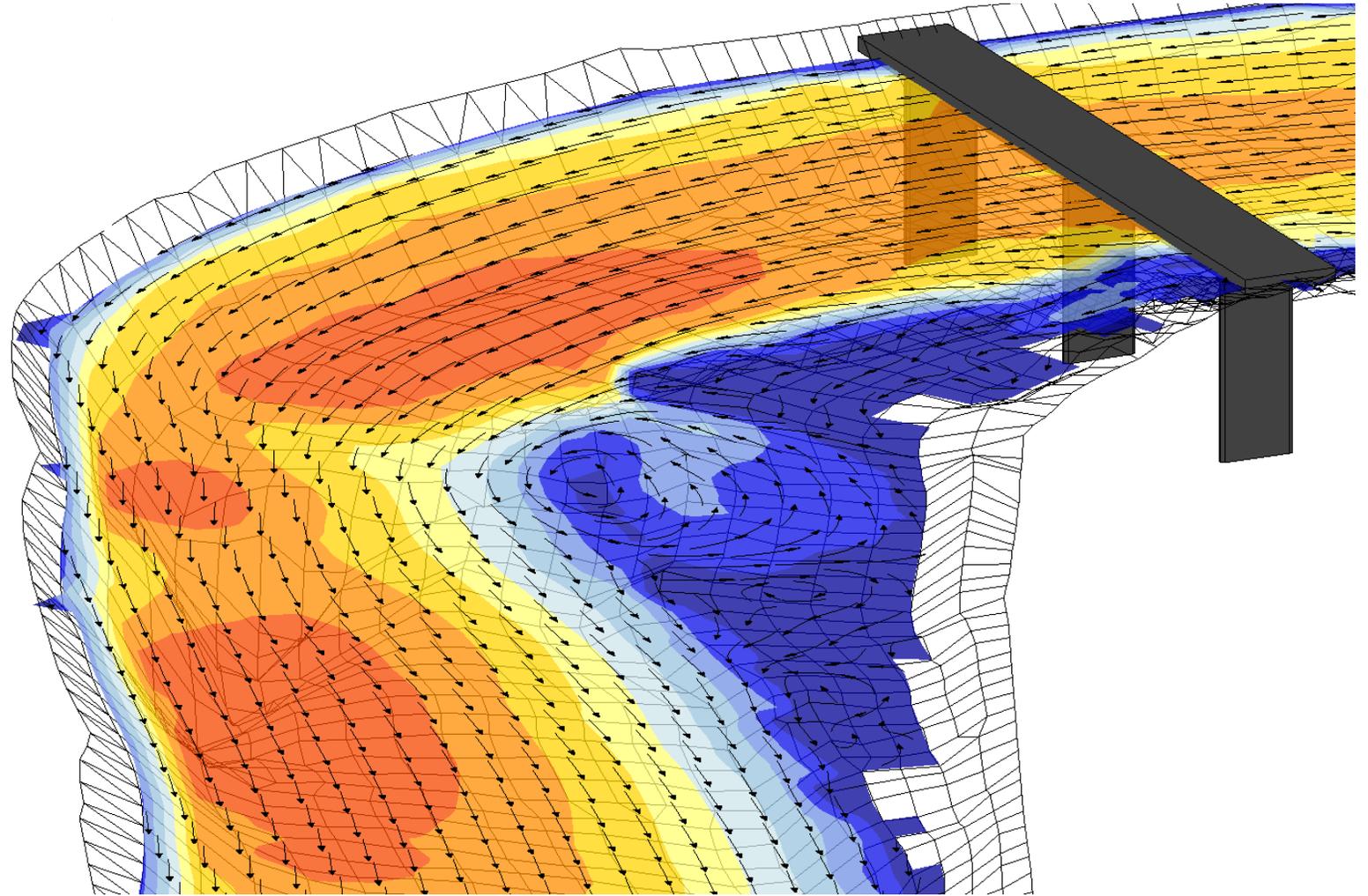


# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

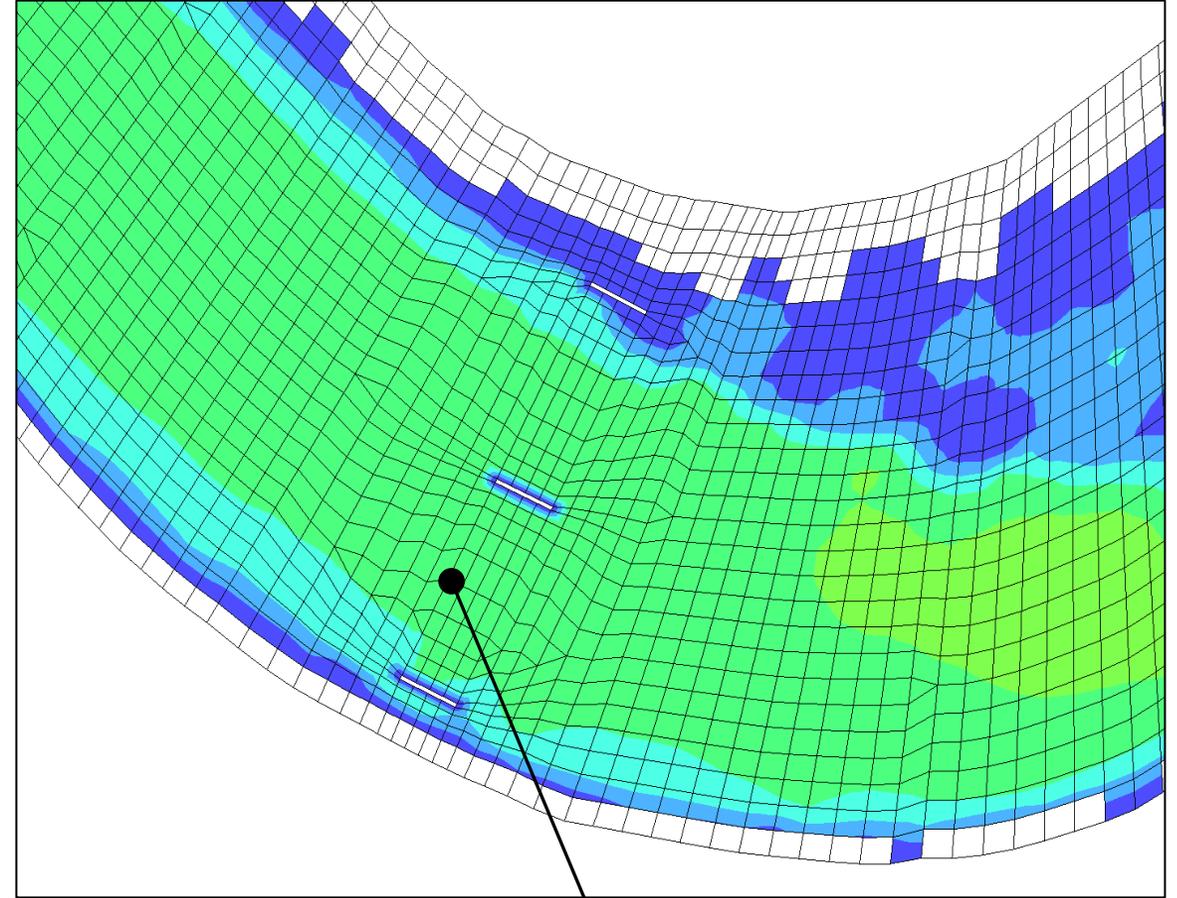
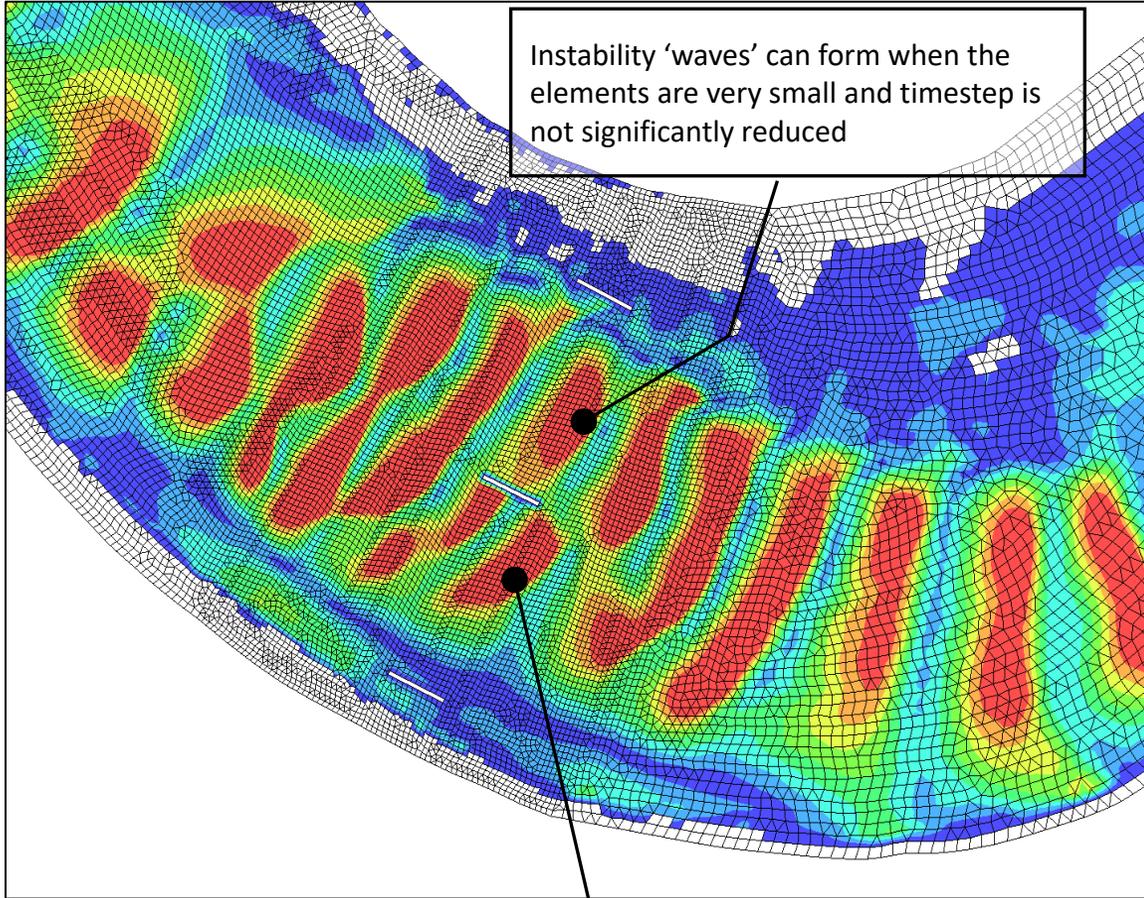
Without adequate mesh resolution, detailed velocity and flow distributions cannot be computed accurately.

This is especially important when representing flow splits and rapidly varied flow, as well as using results for design purposes (counter-measure design, bridge scour analyses, etc.)



# 2D Mesh

## Impacts of Mesh Resolution



Velocity Contours

# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

**Key Question:**  
Does the mesh have any critical quality issues?

**Mesh Quality Legend**

- Minimum Interior Angle
- Concave Quadrilaterals
- Element Area Change
- Maximum Interior Angle

Very small interior angles (critical) can cause stability problems and should be avoided

Other quality highlights should be minimized where practical, but generally do not cause issues.

**Element Quality Checks**

- Minimum interior angle: 10.0
- Maximum interior angle: 130.0
- Concave quadrilaterals
- Maximum slope: 0.1
- Element area change: 0.5
- Connecting elements: 8
- Ambiguous gradient

Display Legend    Options...    Help...    OK    Cancel

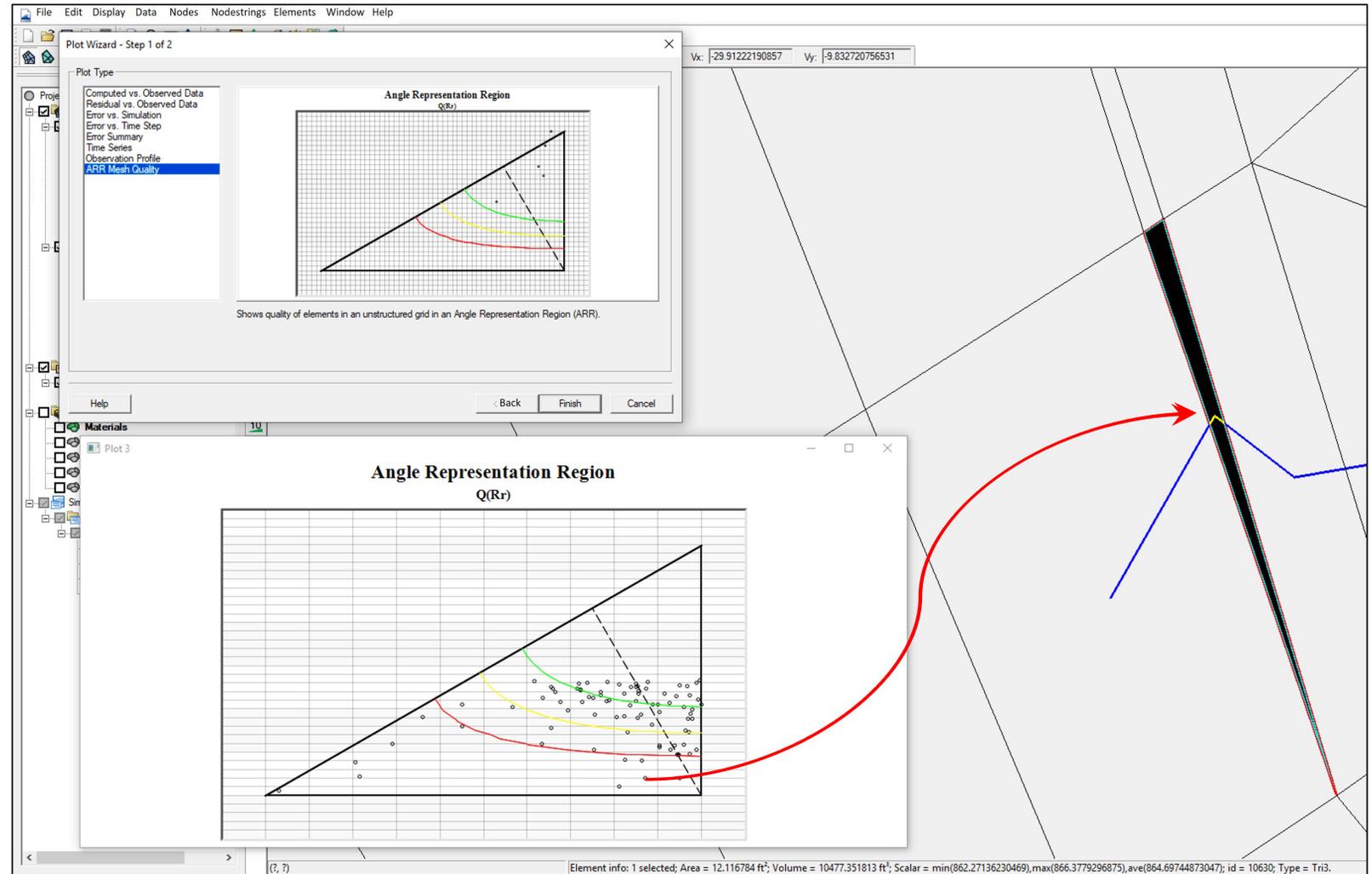
# 2D Mesh

## Mesh Resolution, Element Size, and Quality

The ARR plot in SMS is helpful in assessing the quality of a mesh.

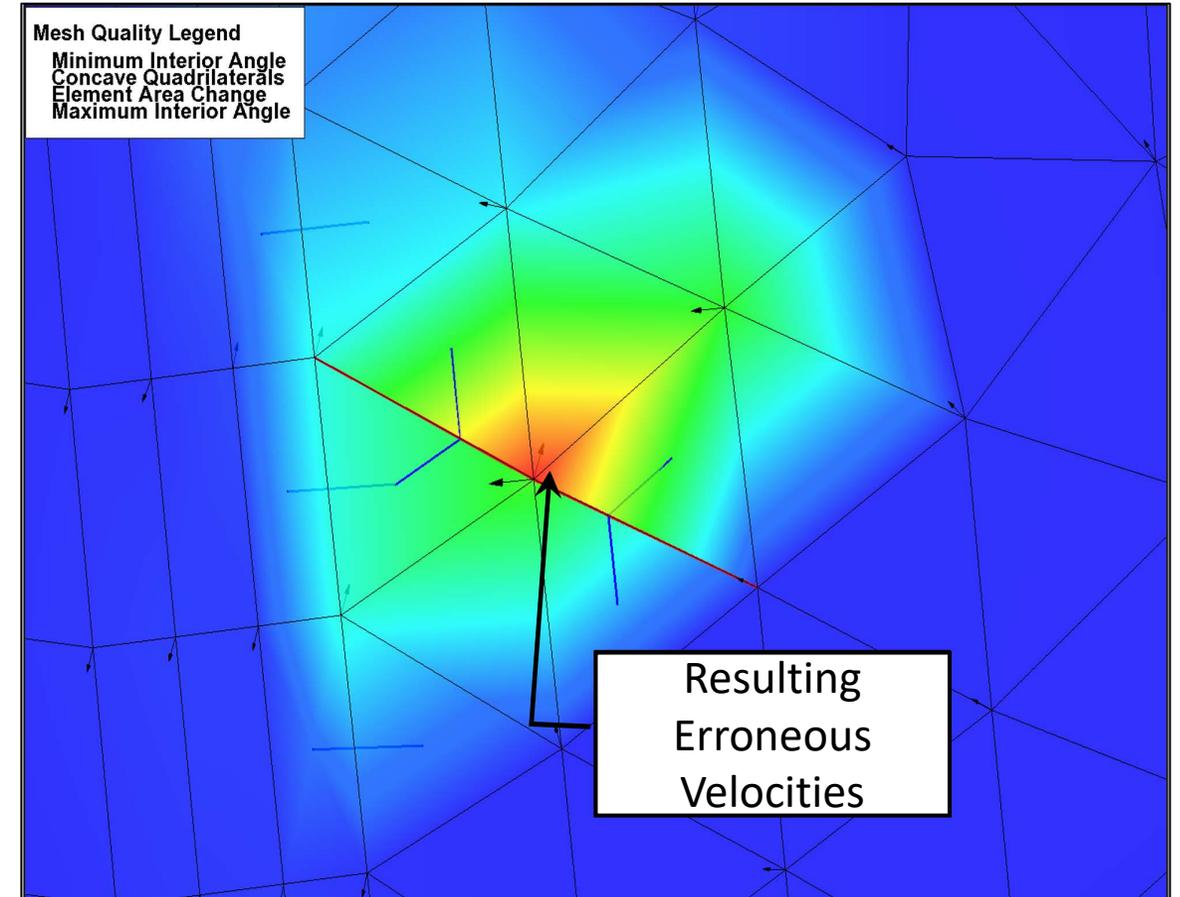
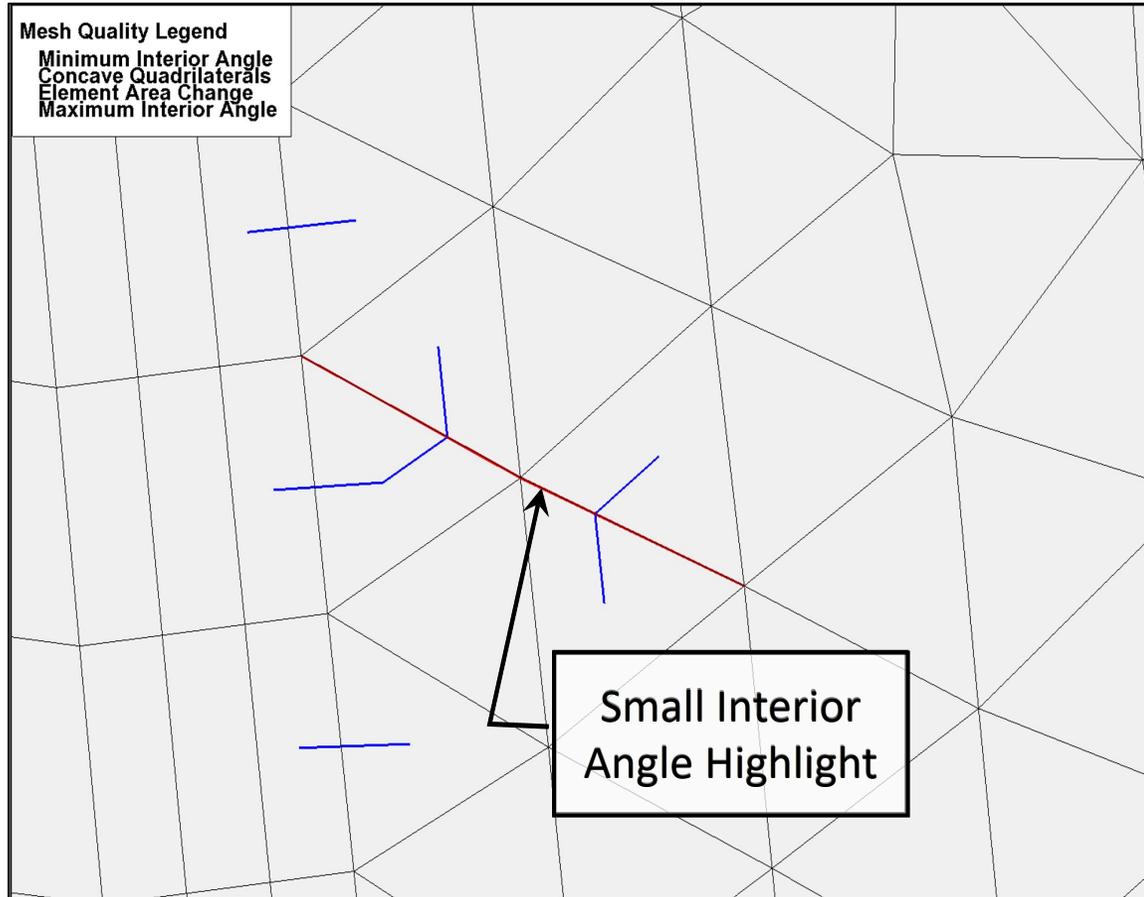
Elements with potentially poor quality fall below the red line and should be reviewed

The ARR plot is also included in the SMS Simulation Summary Report



# 2D Mesh

## Impacts of Poor Mesh Quality



# ***Key 2D Mesh Review Questions***

- Are the domain limits adequate to contain the flows and avoid boundary condition impacts on the area of interest?
- Does the mesh provide an accurate representation of the terrain?
- Are key features accurately represented (embankments, channels, etc.)?
- Do element faces align with key features (hydraulic controls)?
- Is the number of mesh elements appropriate?
- Is the size of mesh elements appropriate?
- Does the mesh have any critical quality issues?

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

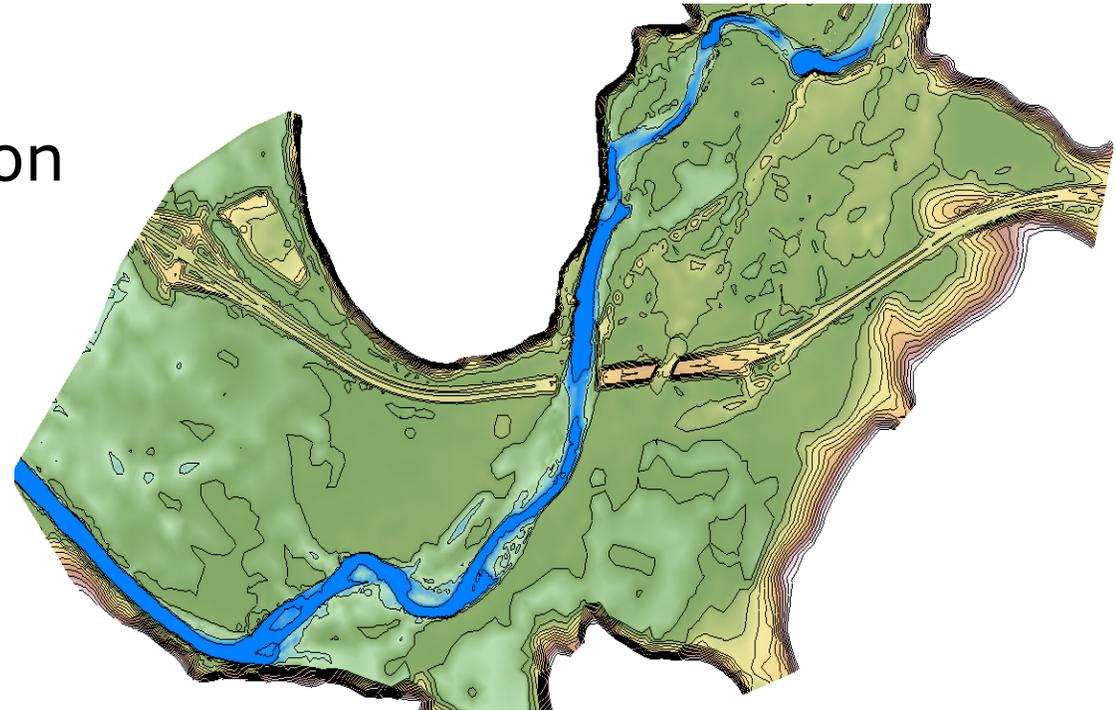
## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- ***Assign Exercise 1***



# ***Model Review Exercise 1***

- Focus on the **Terrain Data** and the **2D Mesh**
  - Note the key features (controls) contours in the terrain data set
  - Compare with the mesh elevation contours
  - Review mesh quality
  - Review terrain difference plot (tif image)
  - Review mesh resolution and element size
- Note observations for group discussion in Session 2



# ***End of Session 1***

## **Session 2**

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Information to Be Reviewed, Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- *Assign Exercises 2 & 3*

## Session 3

- *Review Exercises 2 & 3*
- Reviewing Model Results
- *Bridge Scour Analysis Review*
- Wrap-up



# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3

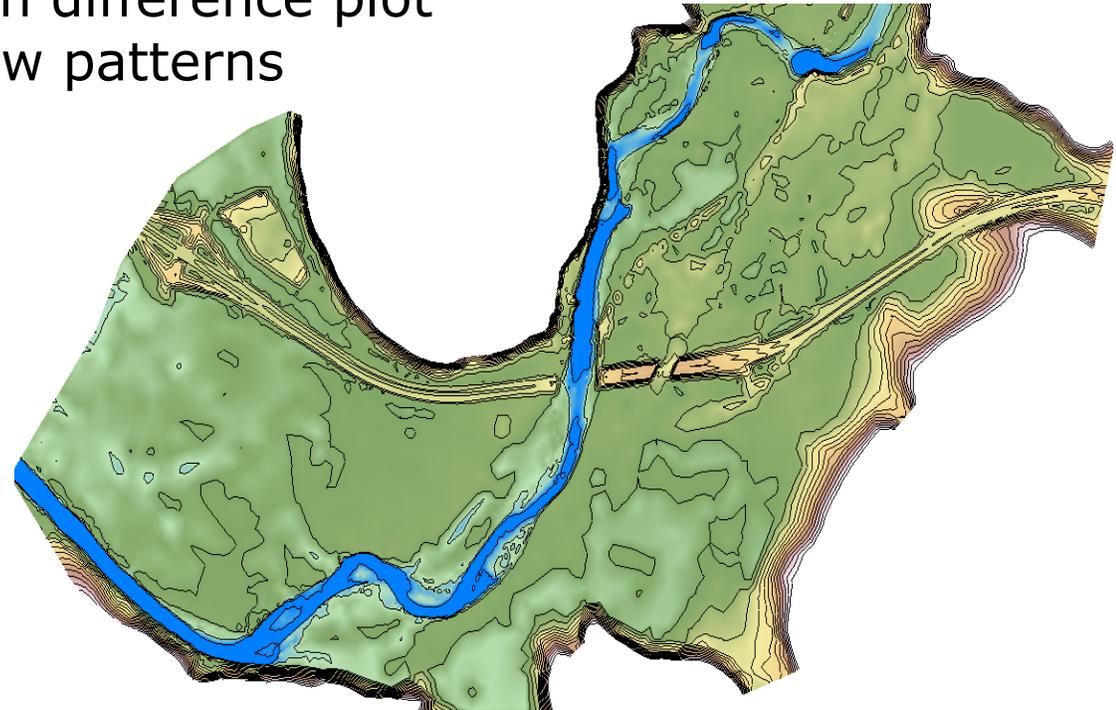


# ***Model Review Exercise 1***

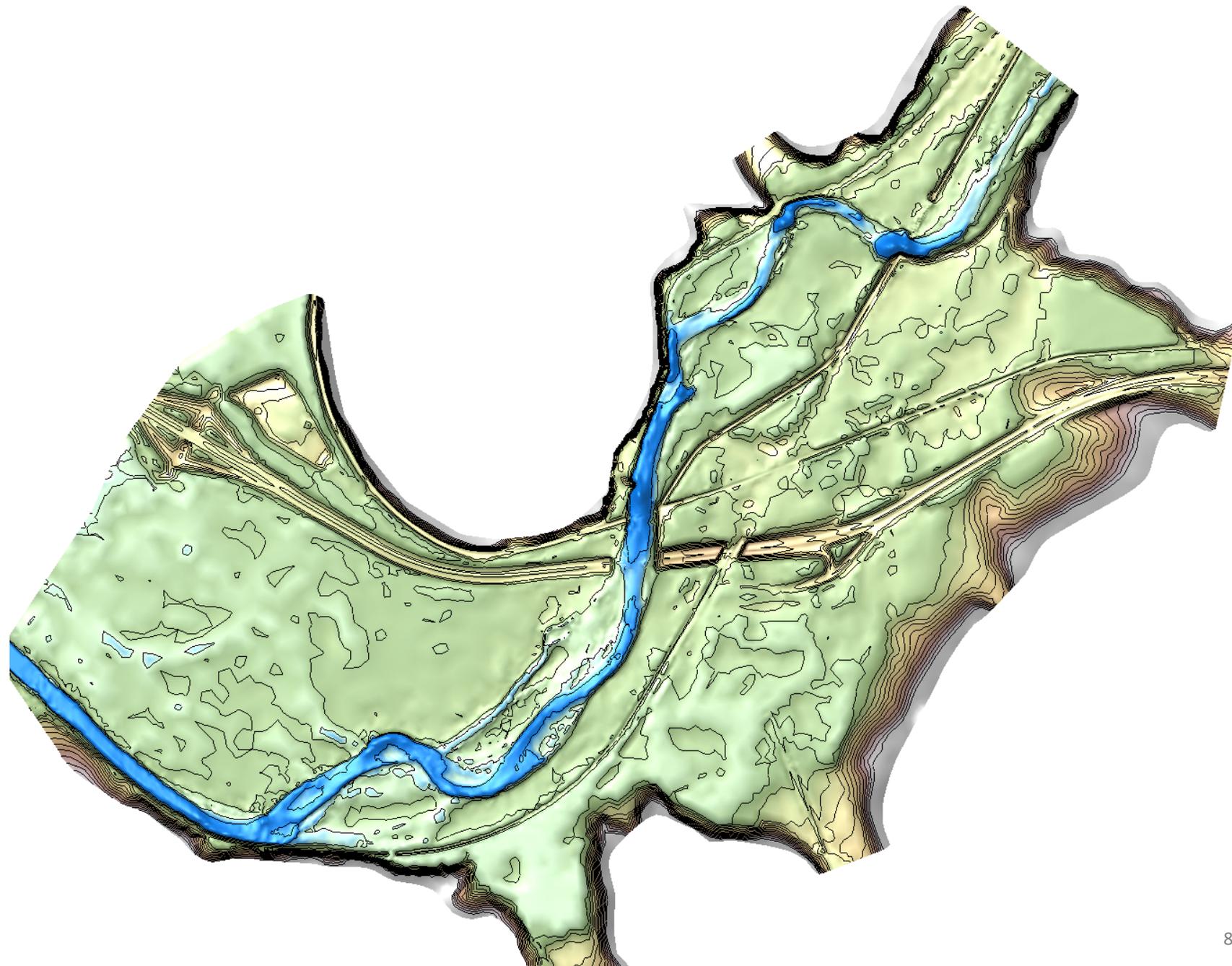
## ***Discussion***

# ***Model Review Exercise 1***

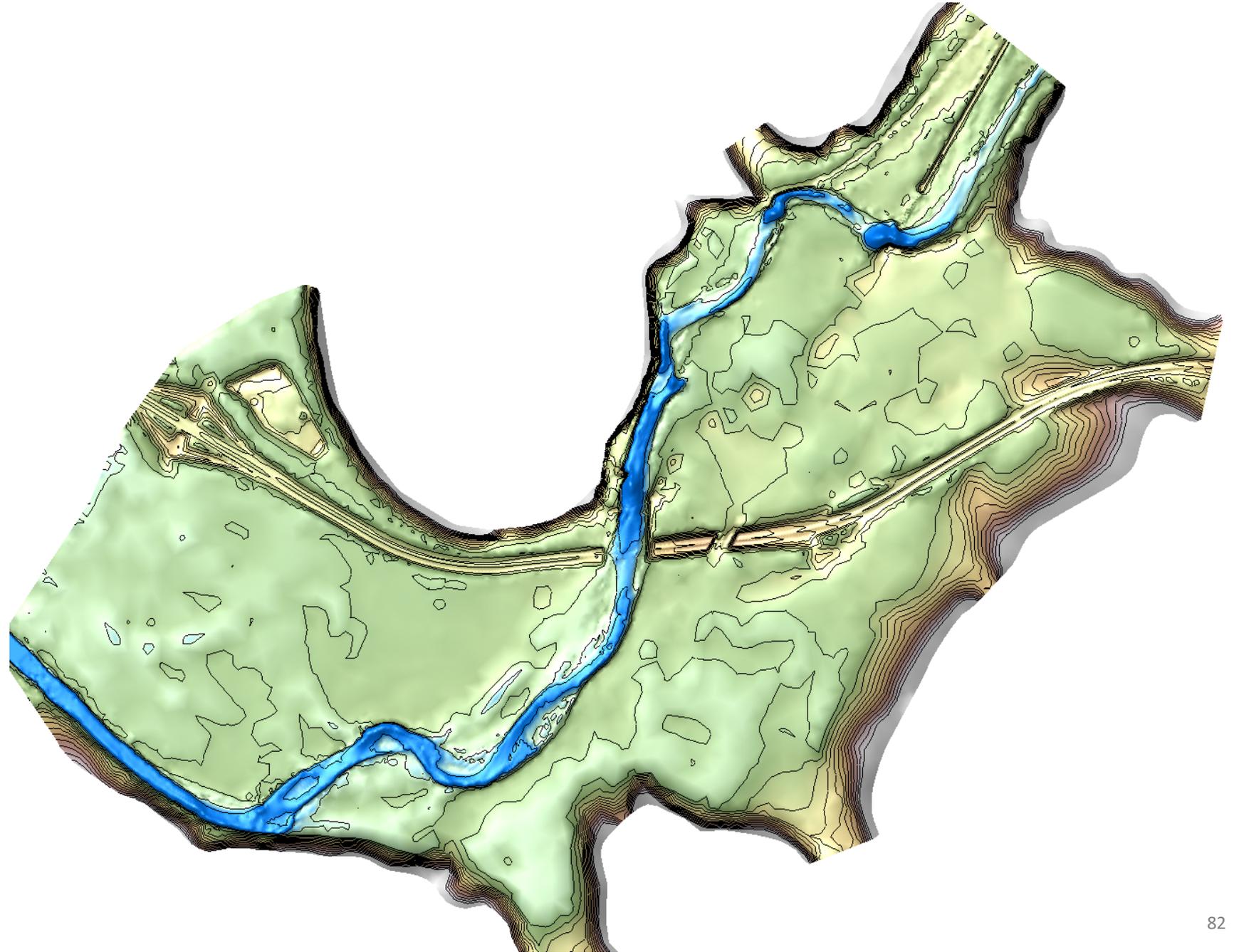
- Focus on the **Terrain Data** and the **2D Mesh**
  - Key linear features (controls) are not represented along element faces
  - Mesh quality could be improved
  - Significant differences shown in the terrain difference plot
  - Review of mesh element resolution for flow patterns



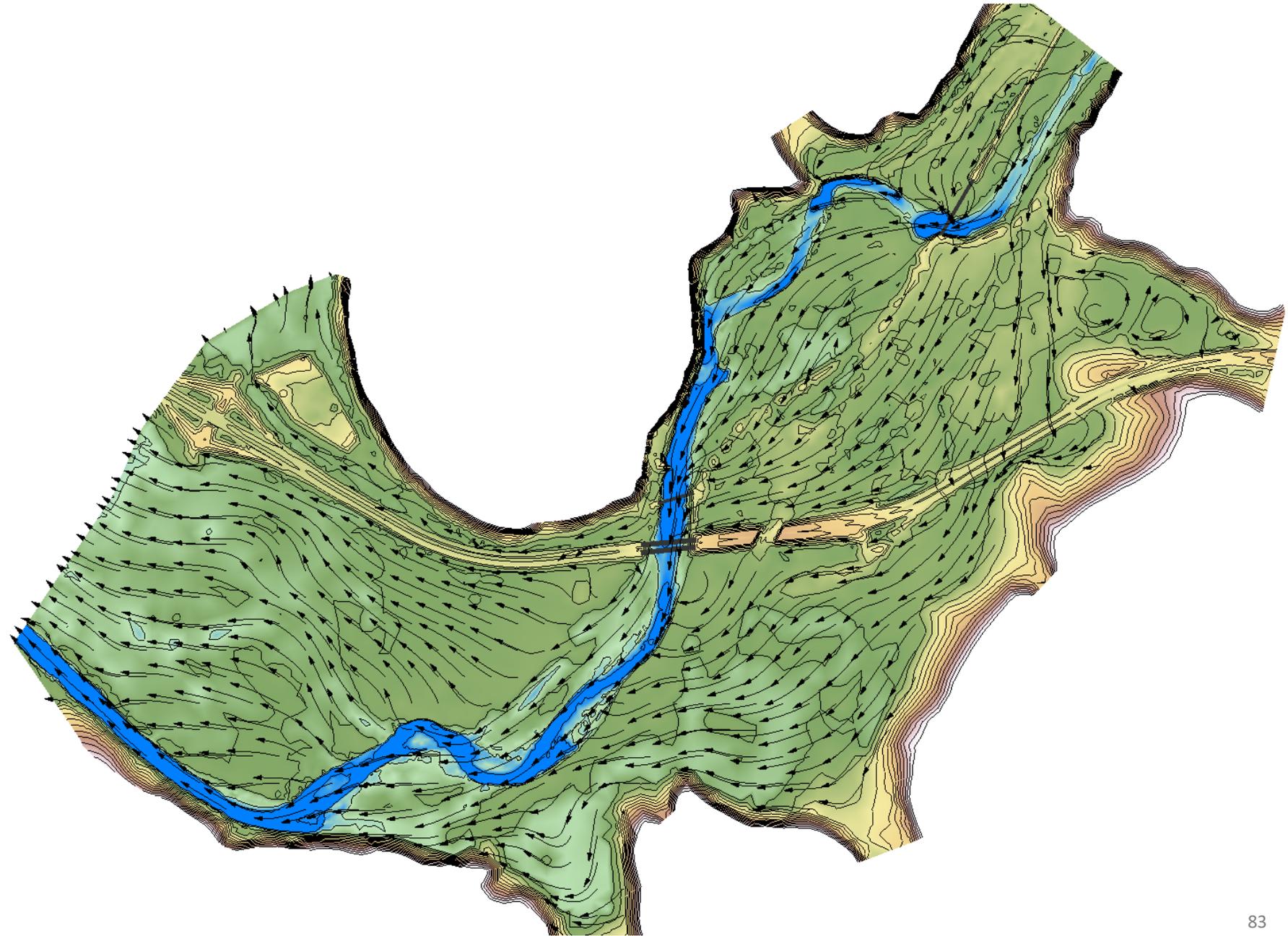
**Original  
Terrain  
Contours**



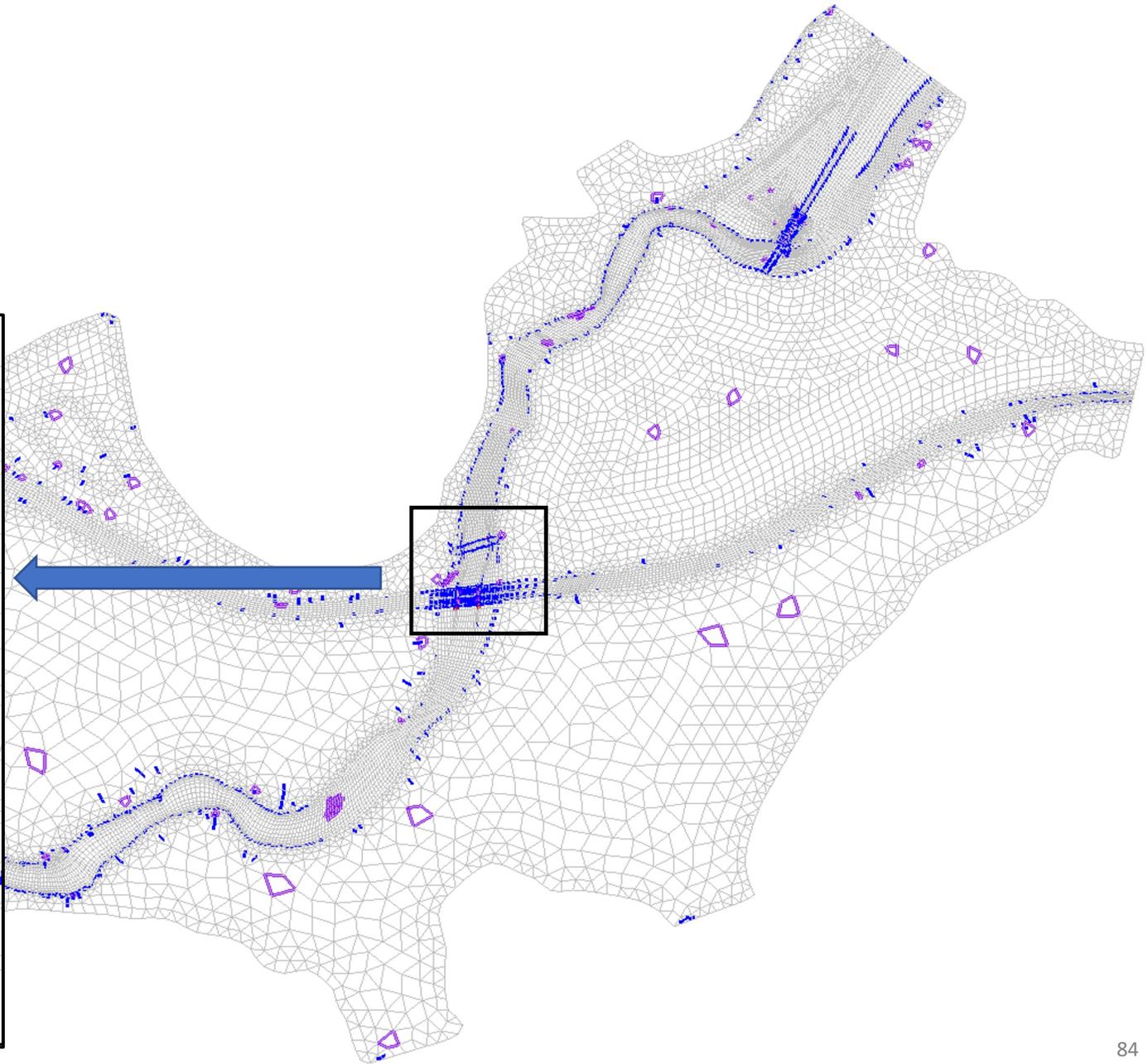
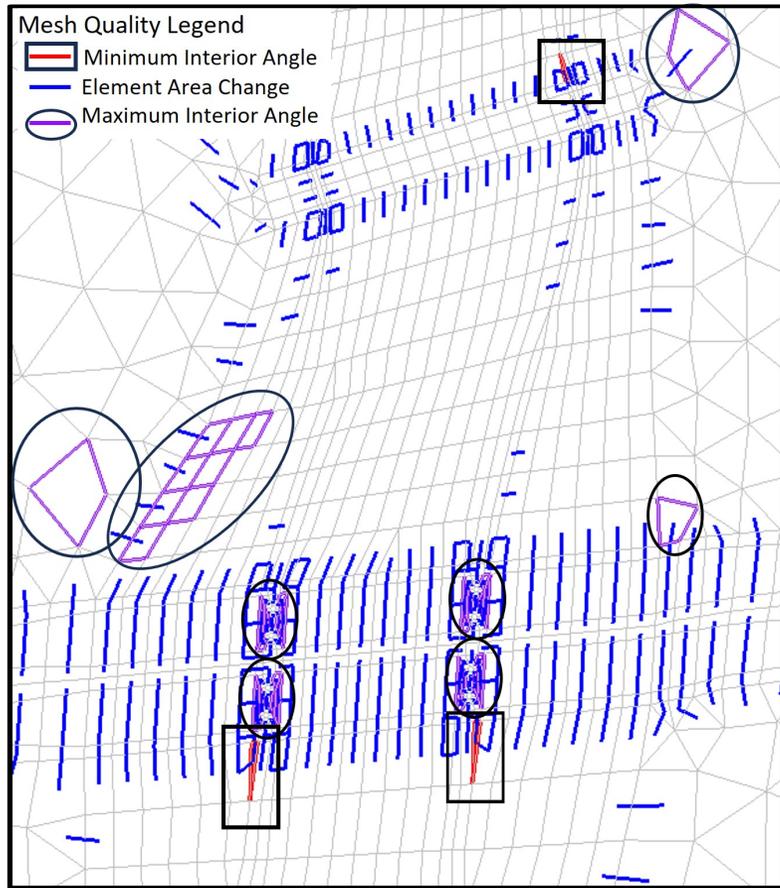
**Mesh  
Elevation  
Contours**



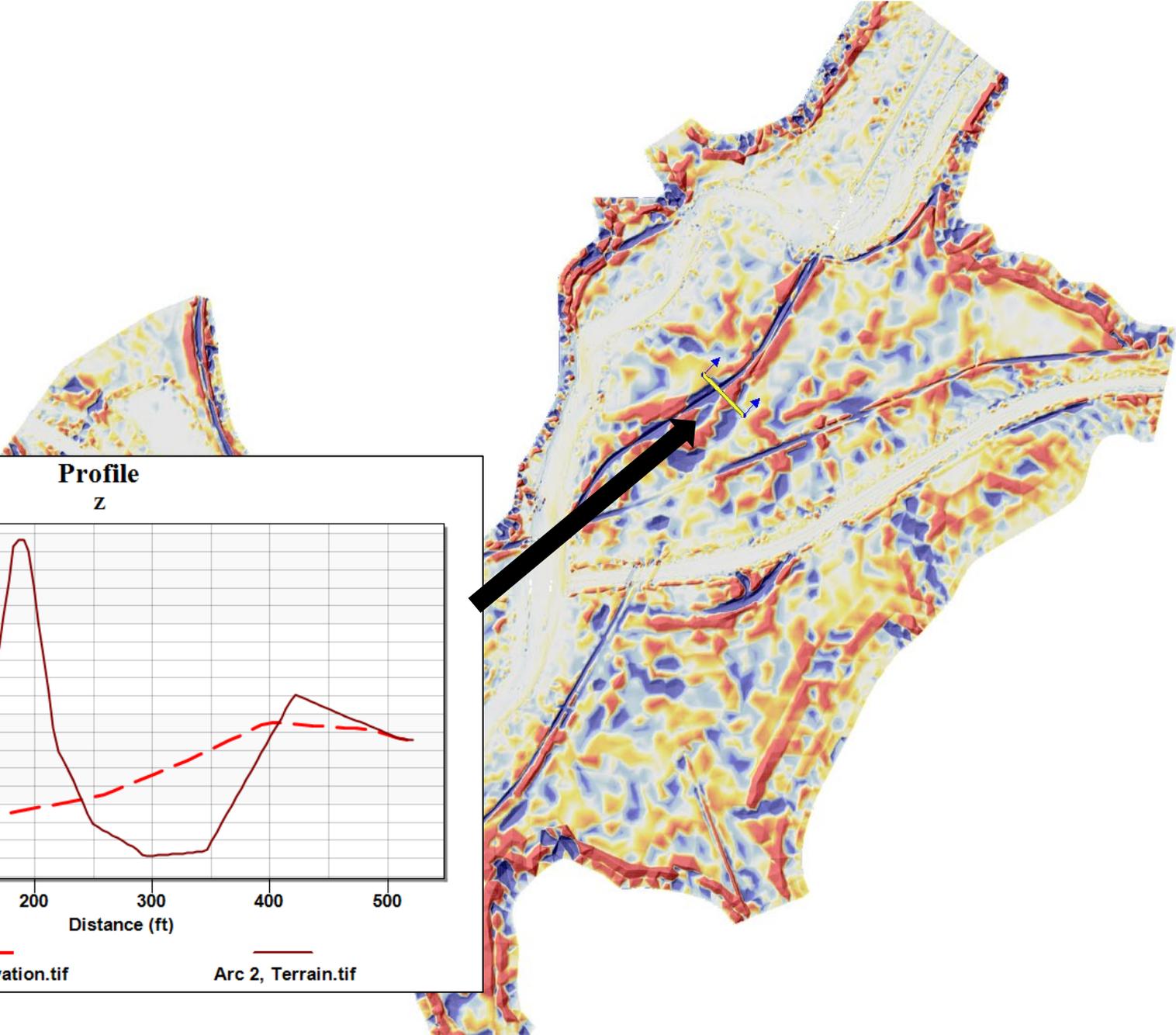
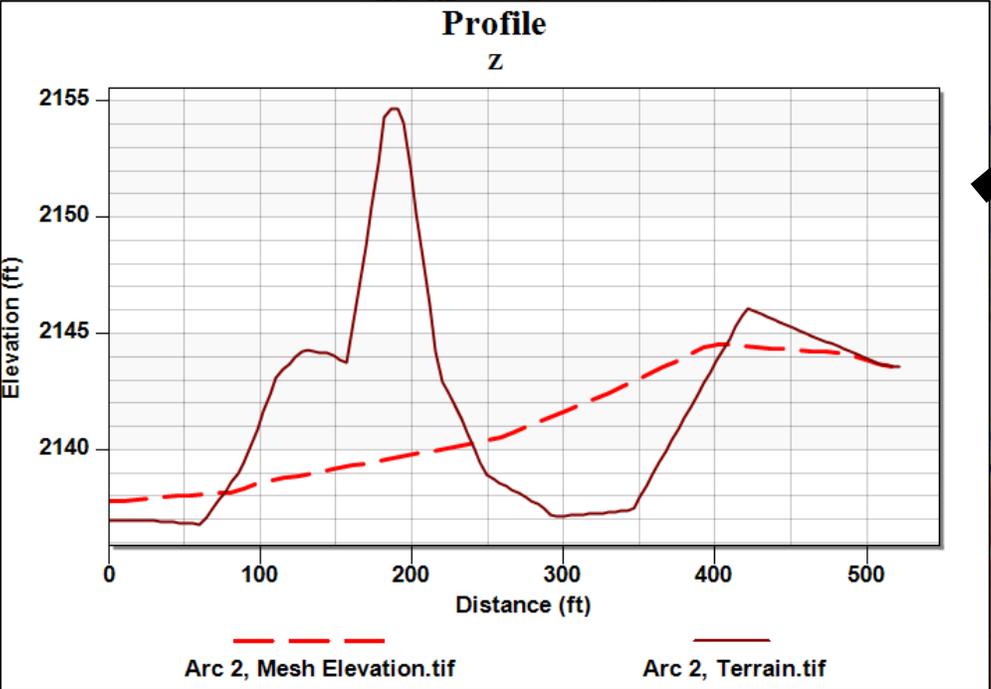
# Mesh Elevation Contours



# Mesh Quality Review



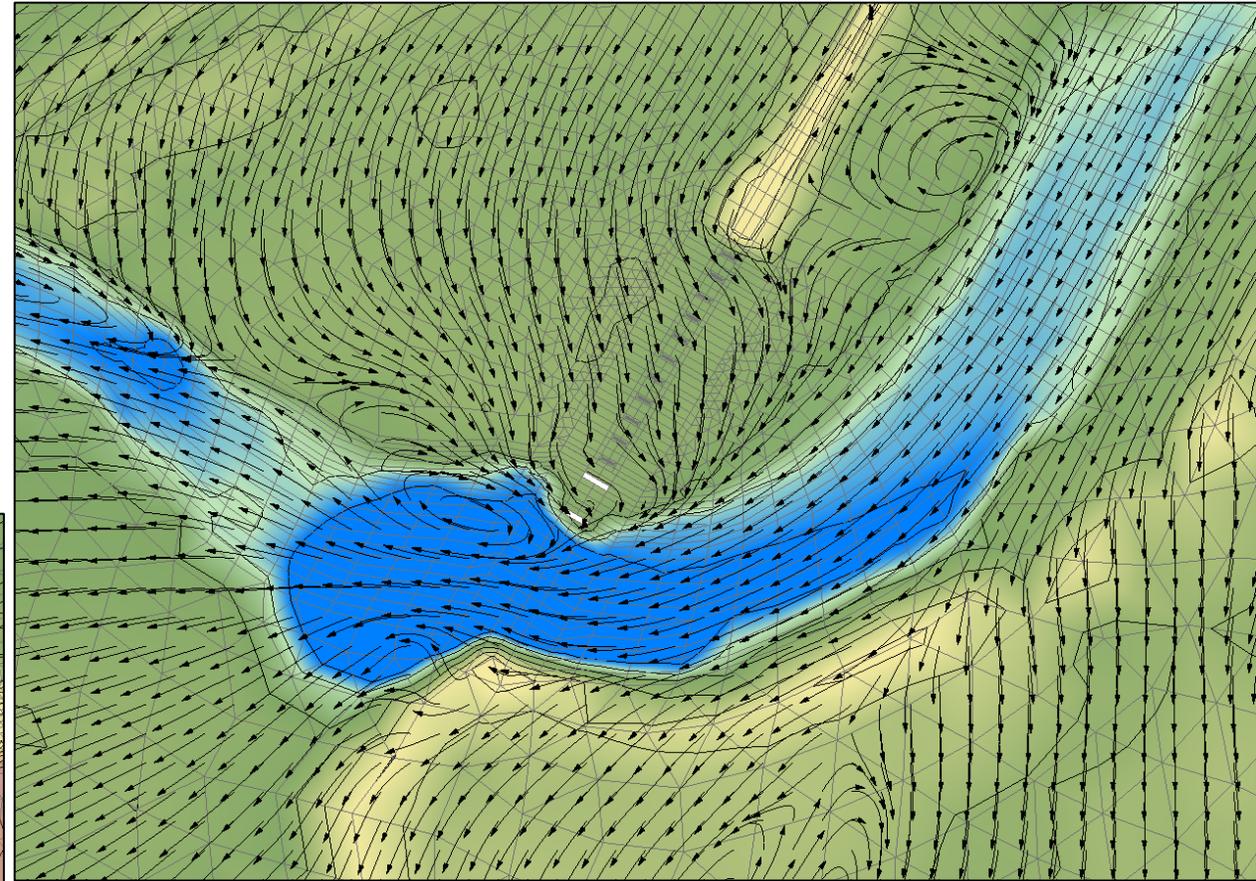
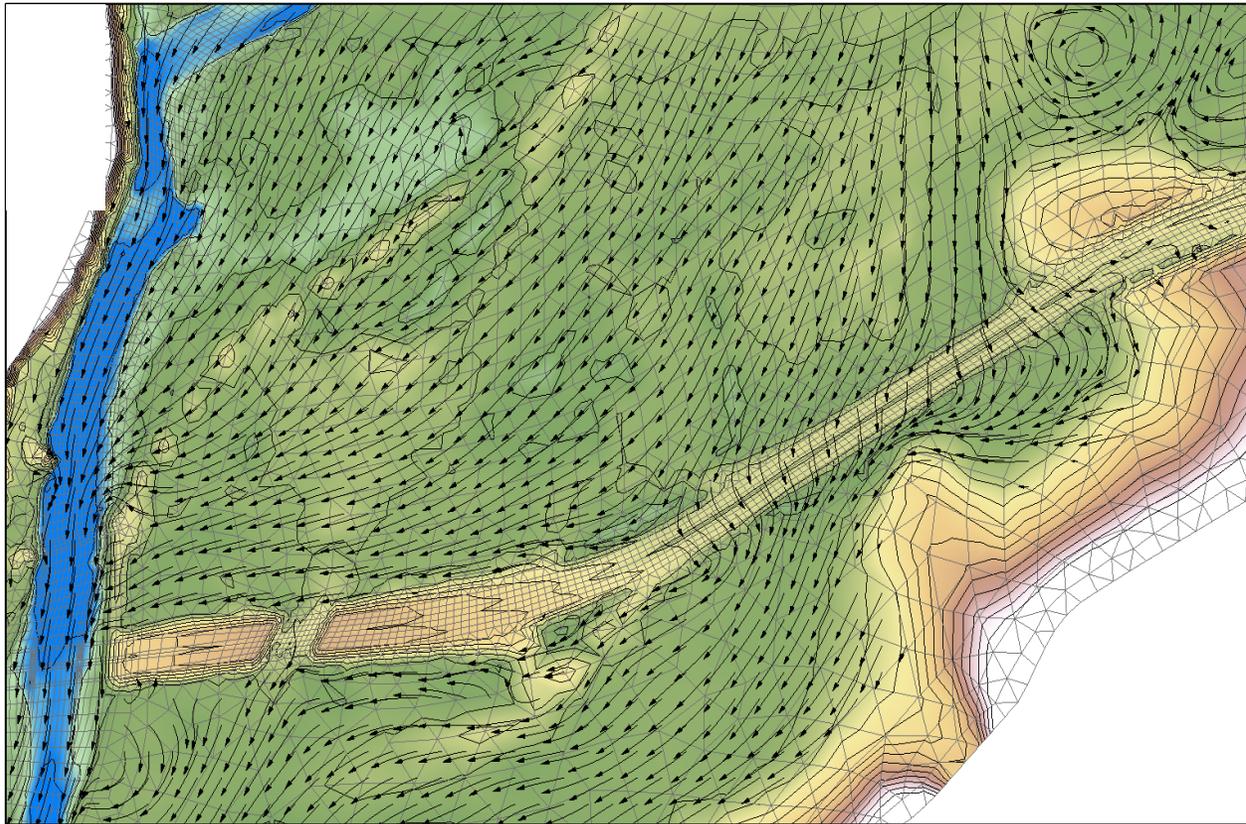
**Raster  
Elevation  
Difference  
in SMS**



**Mesh  
Element  
Resolution**



# Mesh Element Resolution



# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- **Boundary Conditions**
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3



# ***Reviewing Boundary Conditions Top 3 Things***

1. Verify inflow values and locations
2. Check downstream controls
3. Review other boundary conditions (inc. 1D structures)

# Boundary Conditions

Source of Flow Information

## ***Key Question:***

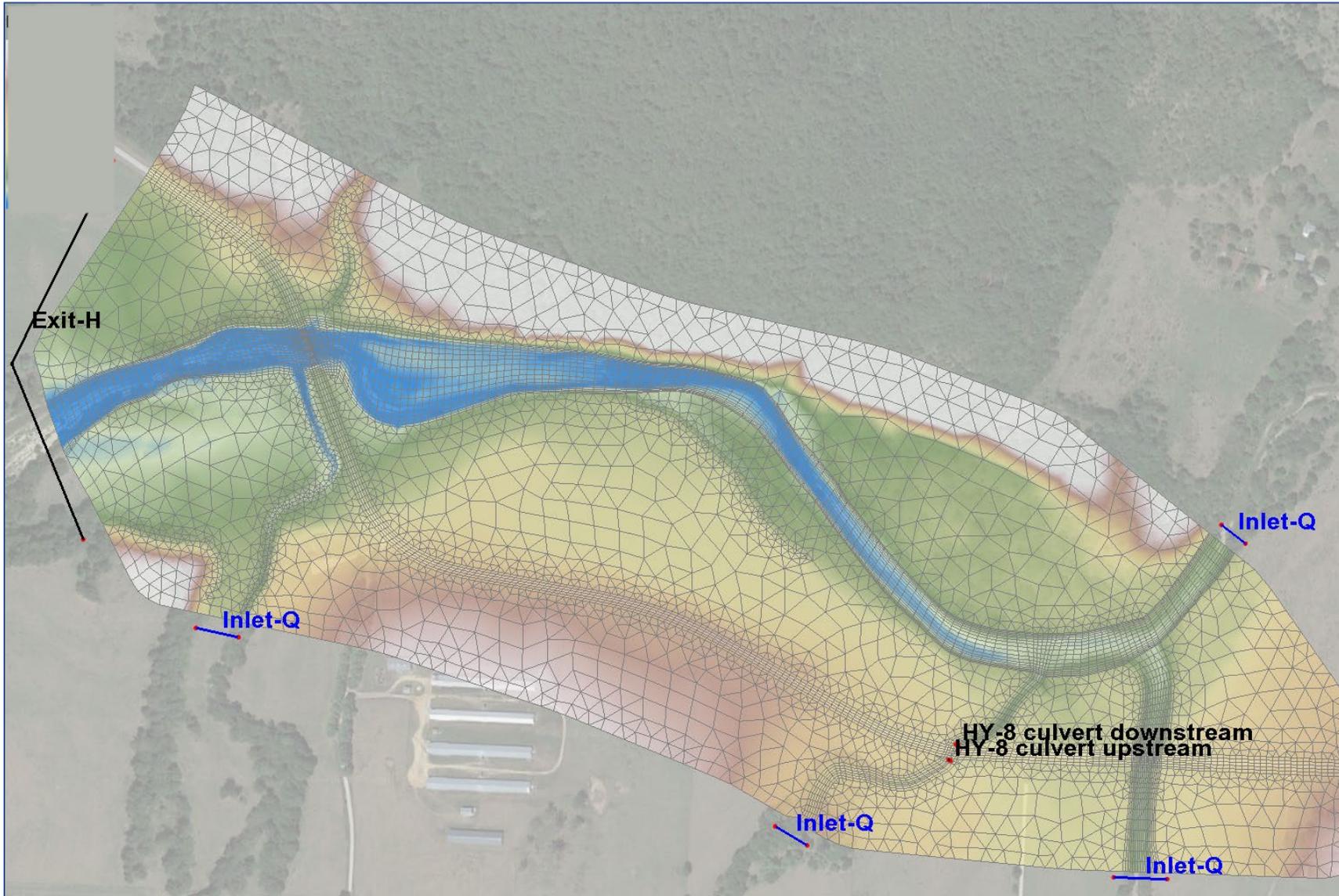
*What flow events and scenarios were modeled and what is the source of info?*

Q10  
Q50  
Q100  
Q500  
Qovertopping

Natural Condition  
Existing Condition  
Proposed Condition

# Boundary Conditions

## Types of Boundary Conditions



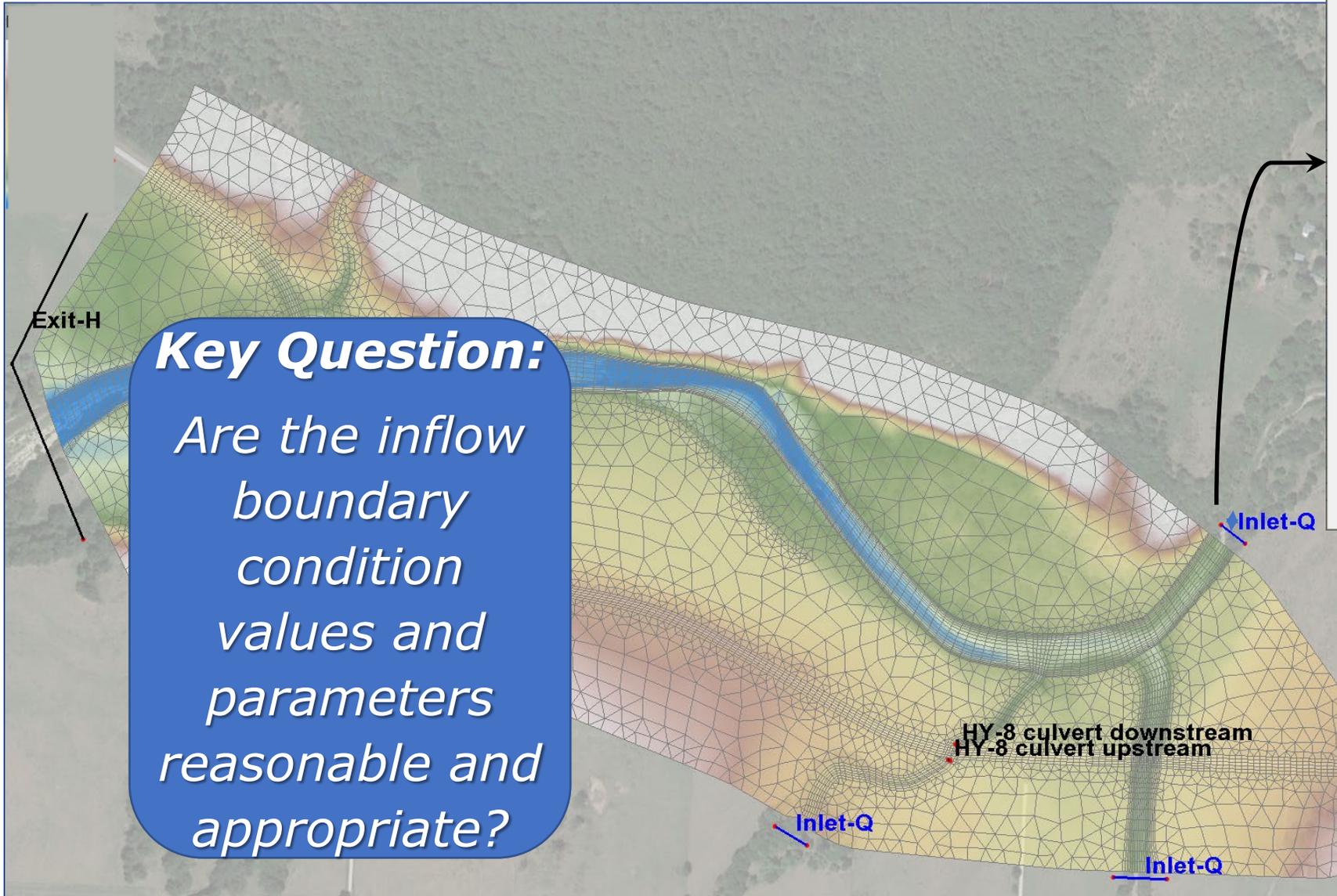
### ***Key Question:***

*How many boundary conditions and what type?*

Boundary arcs should be placed across the maximum floodplain width to be modeled

# Boundary Conditions

## Inflow Boundary Conditions



SRH2D Assign BC

BC Type:  
 Inlet-Q (subcritical inflow)

Discharge options  
 Discharge option:  
 Constant

Constant Q:  
 12996.0

Distribution at inlet:  
 Conveyance

Sediment inflow (Ignore if not simulating sediment transport)  
 Sediment discharge type:  
 Capacity

OK Cancel Help

- Constant (steady) or time-series (hydrograph)
- Conveyance distribution is the most common

# Boundary Conditions

## Downstream Boundary Conditions

**Key Question:**

*How were the downstream boundary conditions determined?*

SRH2D Model Control

BC Type:  
Exit-H (subcritical outflow)

Exit water surface options  
Water surface (WSE) option:  
Constant

Constant wse:  
1019.7148616726689 Feet

Populate using Channel Calculator...

Channel Calculator

Input

Type: Normal depth

Ground elevation dataset (ft): elevation

Composite Manning's n: .06

Slope: 0.001 ft/ft

Flow: 12996 cfs

WSE offset (optional): 0.0 ft

Results

	Flow (cfs)	WSE (ft)
1	12996.000	1019.715

Messages and Warnings  
Computations completed with no warnings

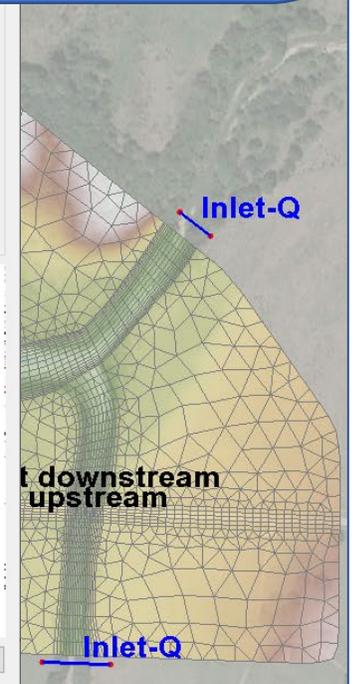
Cross Section with flow of 12996.0 cfs

Exit-H

### Options:

- Constant (steady), time-series (hydrograph), or rating curve
- Normal depth
- Critical depth
- Known WSEL

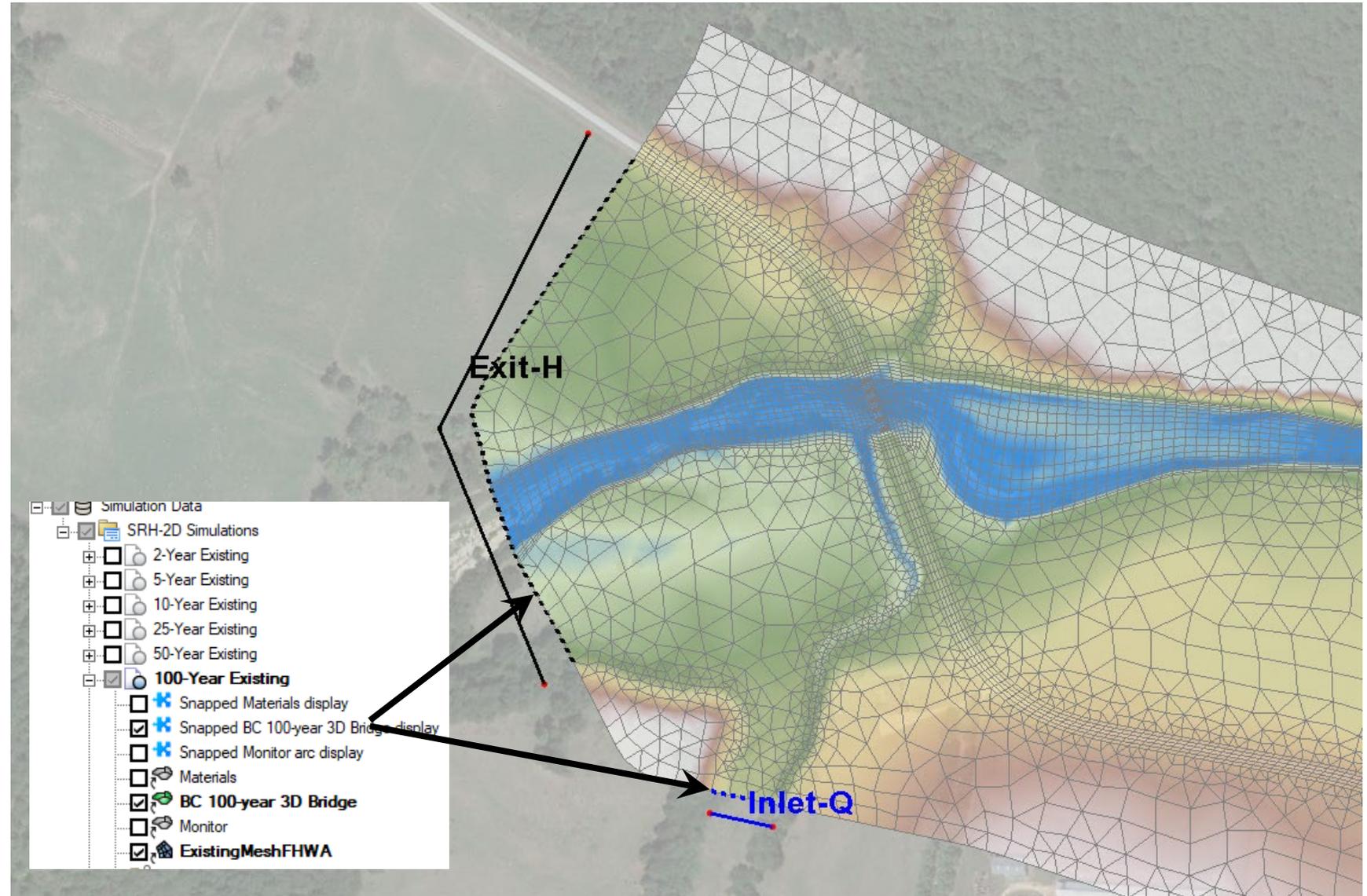
When using a rating curve, confirm that the curve covers the range of modeled flows



# Boundary Conditions

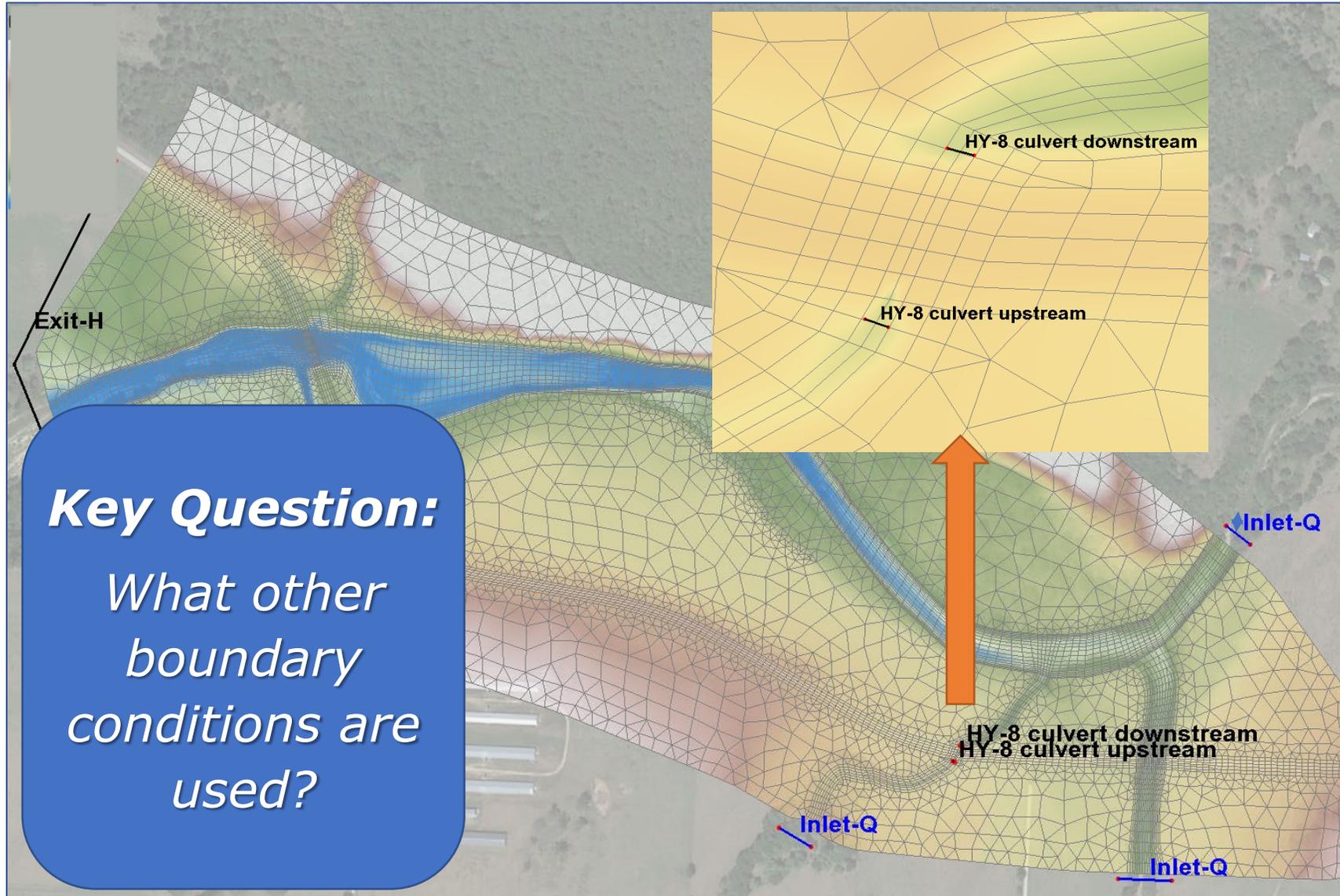
## SMS Snap Preview

The SMS Snap Preview feature may be used to review how boundary arcs are mapped to a mesh



# Boundary Conditions

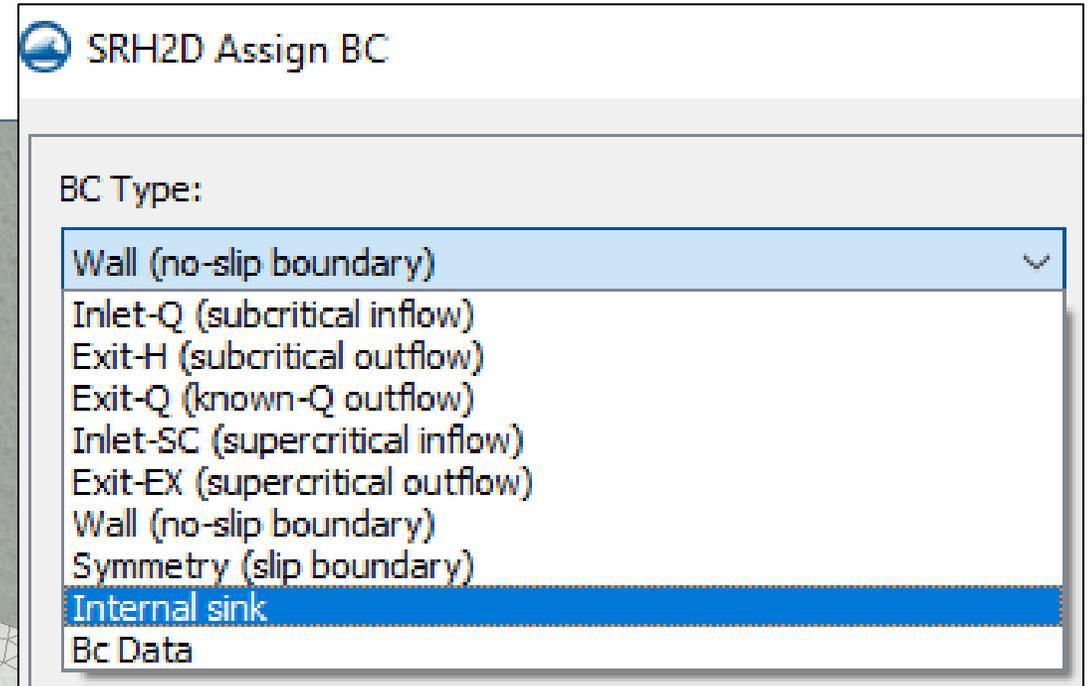
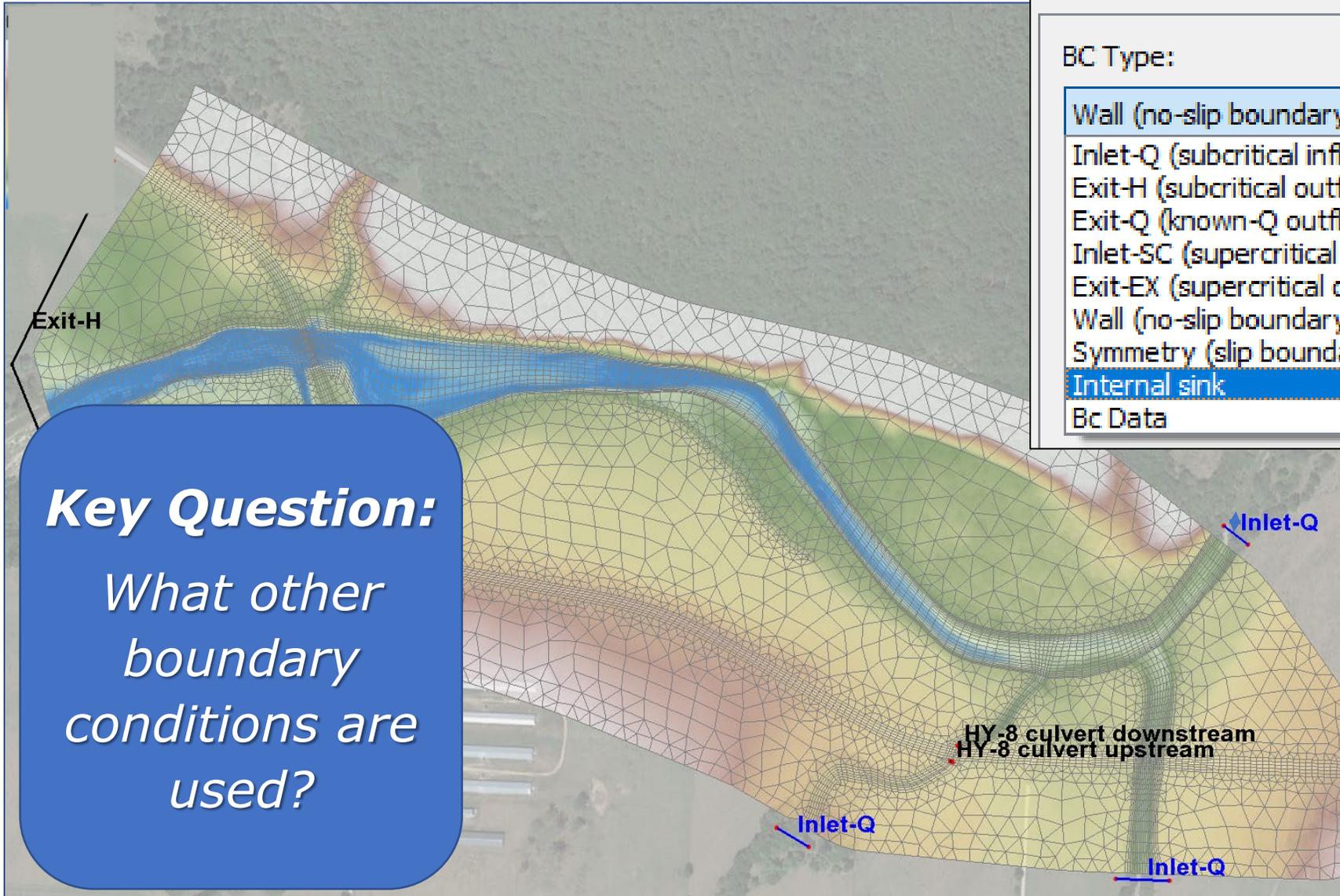
## 1D Boundary Conditions



- All 1D structure BCs are represented with two arcs (upstream/downstream)
- Confirm correct up- and downstream BC arc assignments.
- Quadrilateral elements aligned with the structure between the arcs are recommended (link BCs and culverts with 2D overtopping excluded)
- Two or more elements across the width of a 1D structure are recommended

# Boundary Conditions

## Other Boundary Condition Types



All model domain boundaries are treated as Wall types unless another type is specified

# ***Key Boundary Condition Review Questions***

- What flow events were modeled and what is the source of info?
- How many boundary conditions and what type?
- Are the inflow boundary condition values and parameters reasonable and appropriate?
- How were the downstream boundary conditions determined?
- What other boundary conditions are used?

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- **Material Roughness**
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3



# ***Reviewing Material Roughness Top 3 Things***

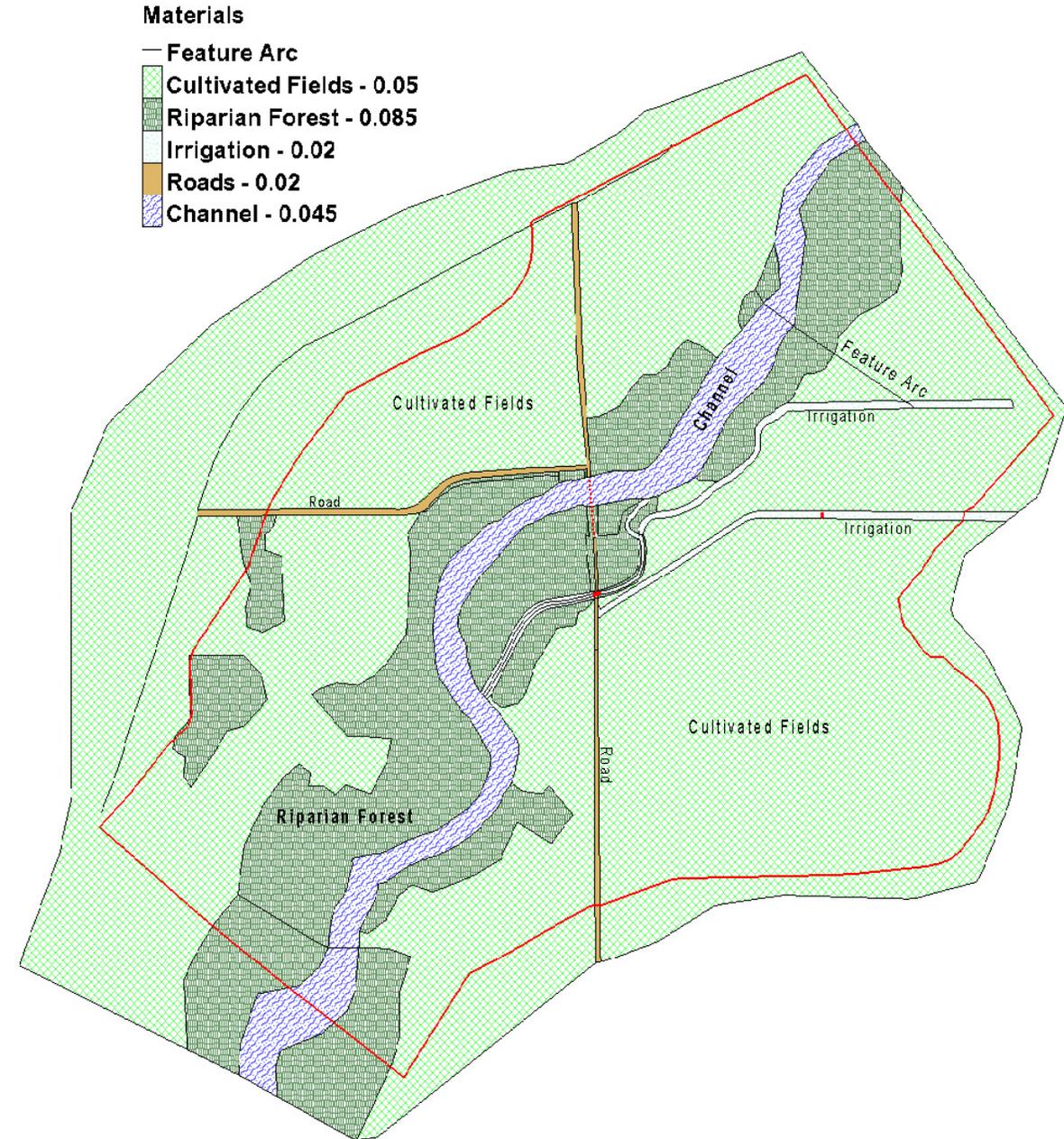
1. Review the number and type of materials
2. Confirm a reasonable range of values were used
3. Look for calibration or sensitivity testing

# Material Roughness

Number and Types of Materials Used

## ***Key Question:***

*Are an appropriate number and type of material types used?*



# Material Roughness

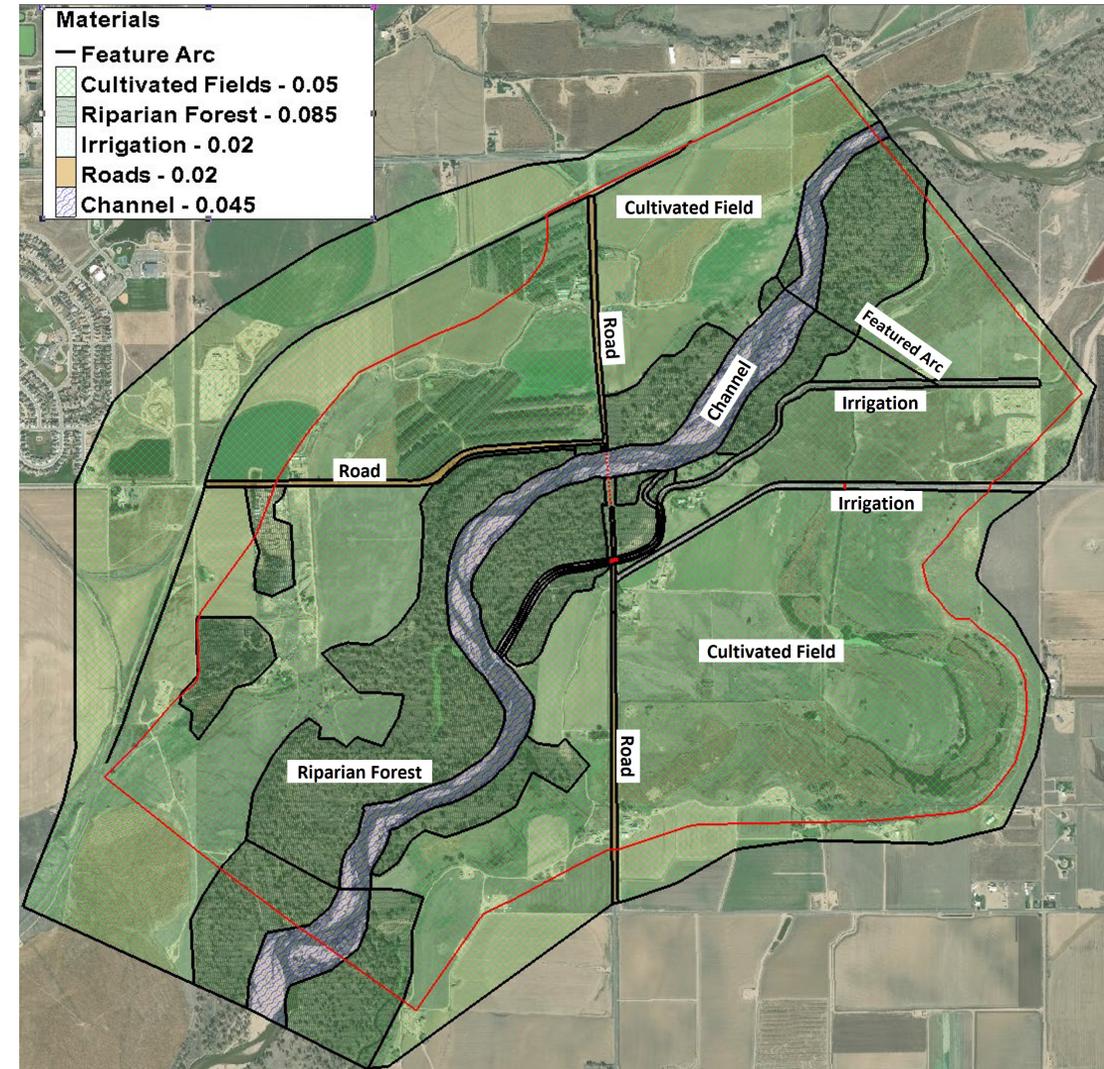
Source of Manning's n values

## Key Question:

*What was the source of material roughness zones and values?*

The most common sources of material roughness delineation are 1) digitized from an aerial image, or 2) extracted from a GIS land use file.

Was a field visit conducted?



# Material Roughness

## Number and Types of Materials Used

### *Key Question:*

*Are the roughness values within reasonable ranges?*

### Manning's n for Channels (Chow, 1959).

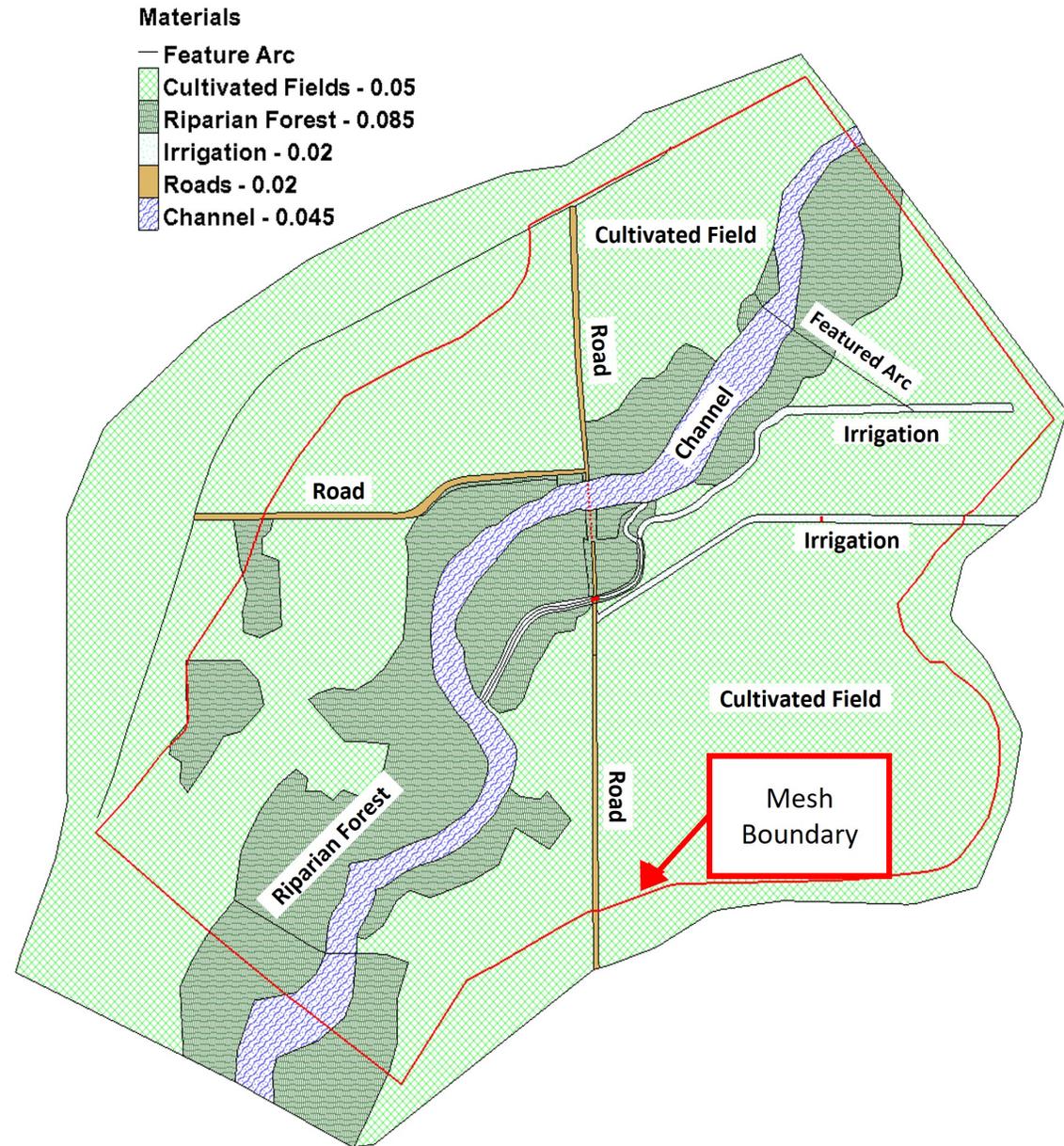
Type of Channel and Description	Minimum	Normal	Maximum
Natural streams - minor streams (top width at floodstage < 100 ft)			
<b>1. Main Channels</b>			
a. clean, straight, full stage, no rifts or deep pools	0.025	0.030	0.033
b. same as above, but more stones and weeds	0.030	0.035	0.040
c. clean, winding, some pools and shoals	0.033	0.040	0.045
d. same as above, but some weeds and stones	0.035	0.045	0.050
e. same as above, lower stages, more ineffective slopes and sections	0.040	0.048	0.055
f. same as "d" with more stones	0.045	0.050	0.060
g. sluggish reaches, weedy, deep pools	0.050	0.070	0.080
h. very weedy reaches, deep pools, or floodways with heavy stand of timber and underbrush	0.075	0.100	0.150
<b>2. Mountain streams, no vegetation in channel, banks usually steep, trees and brush along banks submerged at high stages</b>			
a. bottom: gravels, cobbles, and few boulders	0.030	0.040	0.050
b. bottom: cobbles with large boulders	0.040	0.050	0.070
<b>3. Floodplains</b>			
a. Pasture, no brush			
1. short grass	0.025	0.030	0.035
2. high grass	0.030	0.035	0.050
b. Cultivated areas			
1. no crop	0.020	0.030	0.040
2. mature row crops	0.025	0.035	0.045
3. mature field crops	0.030	0.040	0.050
c. Brush			
1. scattered brush, heavy weeds	0.035	0.050	0.070
2. light brush and trees, in winter	0.035	0.050	0.060
3. light brush and trees, in summer	0.040	0.060	0.080
4. medium to dense brush, in winter	0.045	0.070	0.110
5. medium to dense brush, in summer	0.070	0.100	0.160
d. Trees			
1. dense willows, summer, straight	0.110	0.150	0.200
2. cleared land with tree stumps, no sprouts	0.030	0.040	0.050
3. same as above, but with heavy growth of sprouts	0.050	0.060	0.080
4. heavy stand of timber, a few down trees, little undergrowth, flood stage below branches	0.080	0.100	0.120
5. same as 4. with flood stage reaching branches	0.100	0.120	0.160

# Material Roughness

Manning's Roughness Values

## Key Question:

*Do the material limits cover the extents of the mesh?*

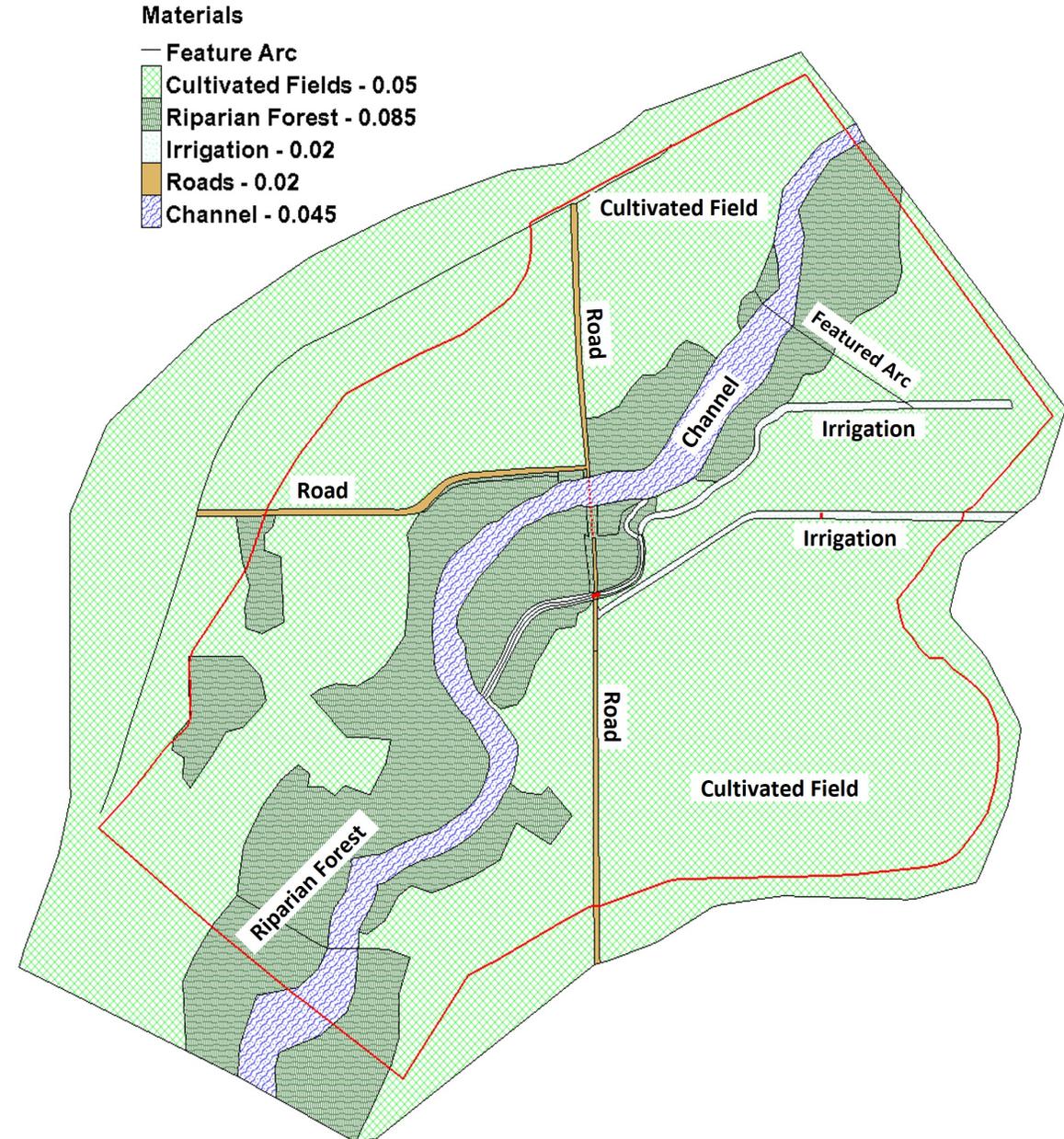


# Material Roughness

Manning's Roughness Values

## Key Question:

*Are the roughness values assigned correctly?*

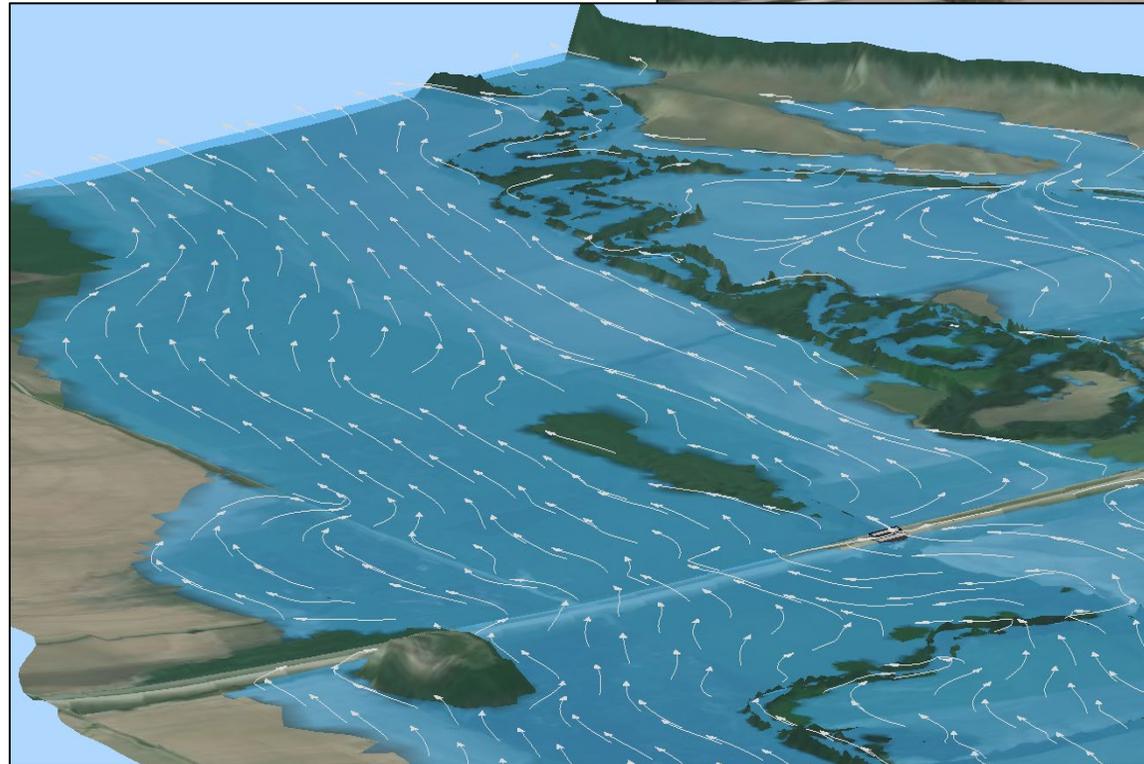


# Material Roughness

## Calibration and Sensitivity Analyses

### **Key Question:**

*Were the Manning's  $n$  values calibrated or verified with a measured event?*



- Gage data
- High water marks
- Aerial imagery of flood
- Anecdotal reports of flooding / overtopping

# Material Roughness

## Calibration Tools

SMS/SRH-2D Calibration  
Tool can calibrate  
multiple Manning's n  
values for measured  
WSELs and discharge

Advanced Simulation

Use parameters

Run type: Calibration

Max number of calibration iterations: 5

Max iterations with no improvement: 3

Show type: All

Note: The "Calibration" option uses PEST to run SRH-2D multiple times and determine optimal values for Manning's N and Inlet Q values from observed water surface elevation points in an SRH-2D monitor coverage. Note that the PEST simulation only calibrates to the monitor point water surface elevations at the final timestep.

Available parameters:

Use	Type	Description	Value	Optimized Value	Min	Max
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Riparian Forest	0.085	0.0	0.085	0.085
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Channel	0.045	0.0	0.045	0.045
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Asphalt	0.015	0.0	0.015	0.015
<input type="checkbox"/>	Inlet Q	Arc 1	34700.0	0.0	34700.0	34700.0

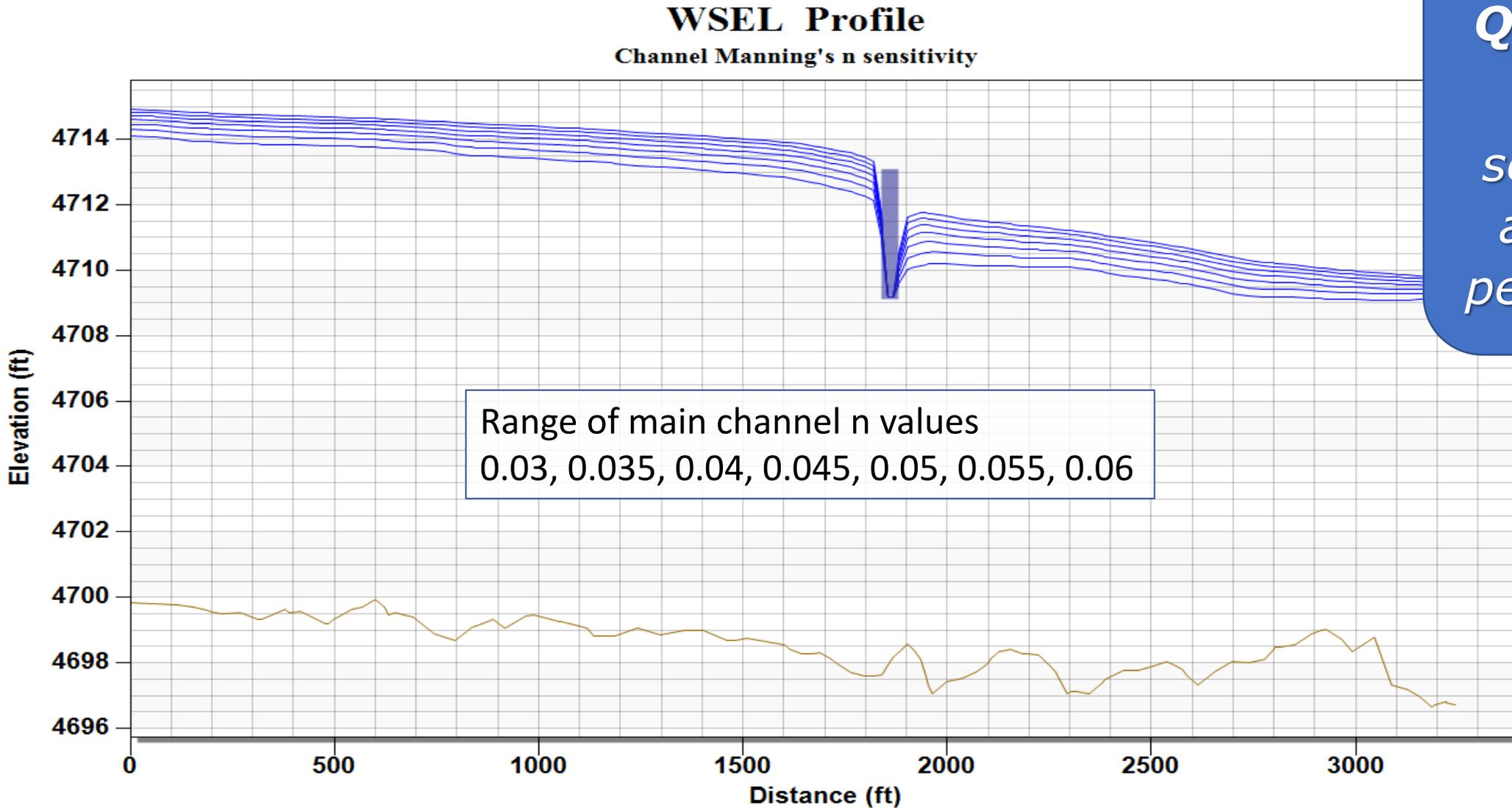
Monitor points:

Monitor Point ID	Measured Value	Computed Value	Difference

OK Cancel Help

# Material Roughness

## Sensitivity Analyses



**Key Question:**  
*Was sensitivity analyses performed?*

# Material Roughness

## Sensitivity Analyses

SMS/SRH-2D Advanced Simulation Tool can run several concurrent simulations with a range of values to assess sensitivity

Advanced Simulation

Use parameters

Run type: Scenarios

Show type: All

Available parameters:

Use	Type	Description
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Cultivated Fields
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Irrigation
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Riparian Forest
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Manning's N	Channel

Monitor points:

Monitor Point ID	Measured Value	Computed Value	Difference

Number of runs: 7 XY Series...

Model runs and values:

Run	Manning's N Channel
1 Run 1	0.03
2 Run 2	0.035
3 Run 3	0.04
4 Run 4	0.045
5 Run 5	0.05
6 Run 6	0.055
7 Run 7	0.06

OK Cancel Help

# ***Key Material Roughness Review Questions***

- Are an appropriate number and type of material types used?
- How were the roughness values determined?
- Are the roughness values within reasonable ranges?
- Do the material limits cover the extents of the mesh?
- Are the roughness values assigned correctly?
- Were any calibration or sensitivity analyses performed?



**10 Minutes**

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- **Hydraulic Structures**
- Simulation Parameters
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3



# ***Reviewing Hydraulic Structures***

## ***Top 3 Things***

1. Verify elevations and extents
2. Assess mesh resolution at each structure
3. Check pressure flow and overtopping parameters

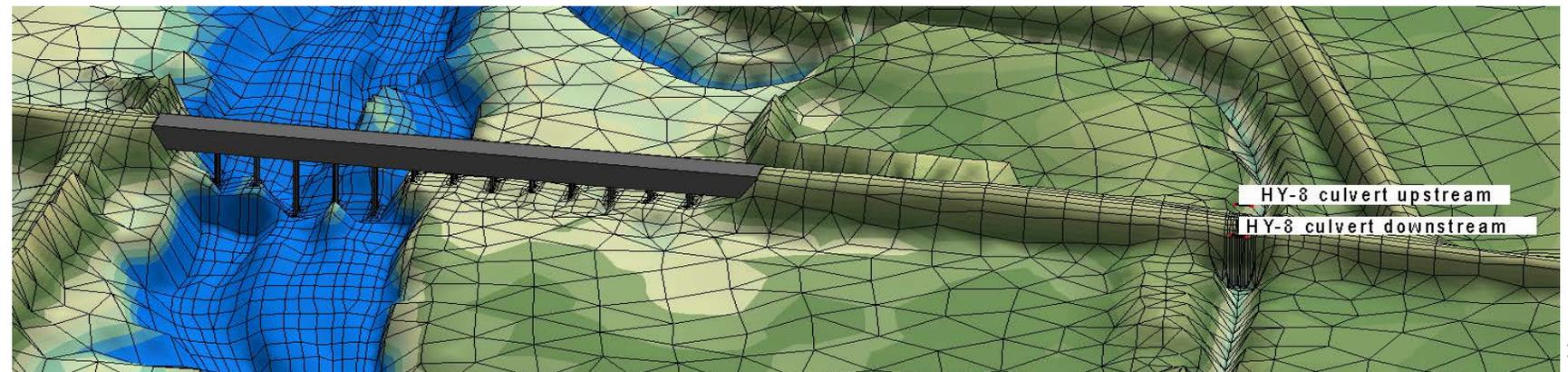
# Hydraulic Structures

## Structure Summary

### **Key Question:**

*How many and what type of structures are represented?*

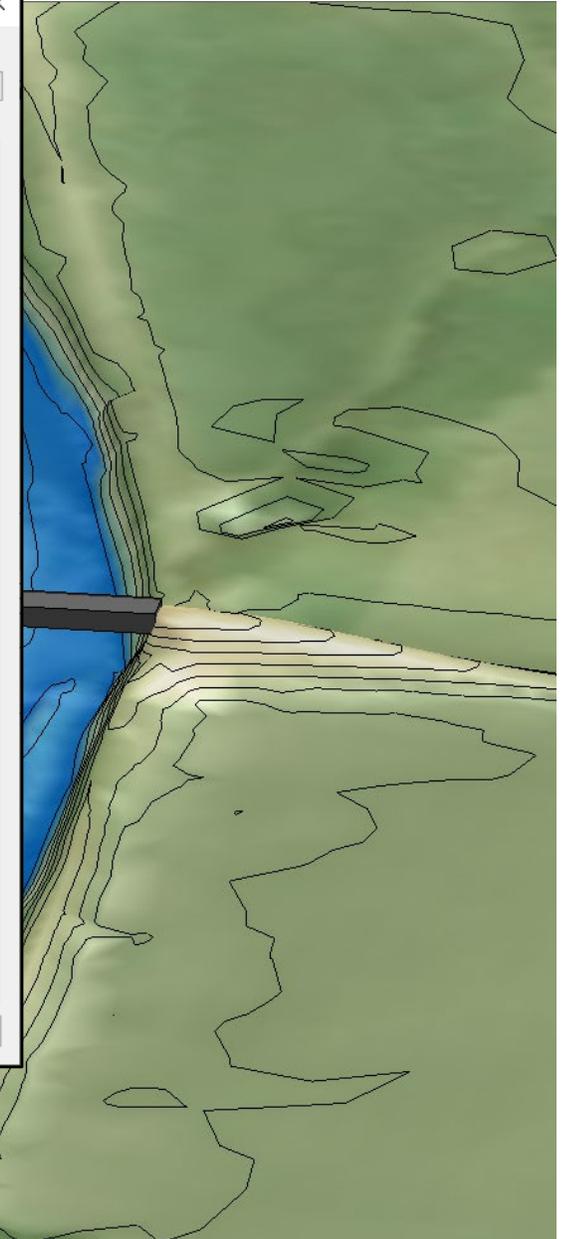
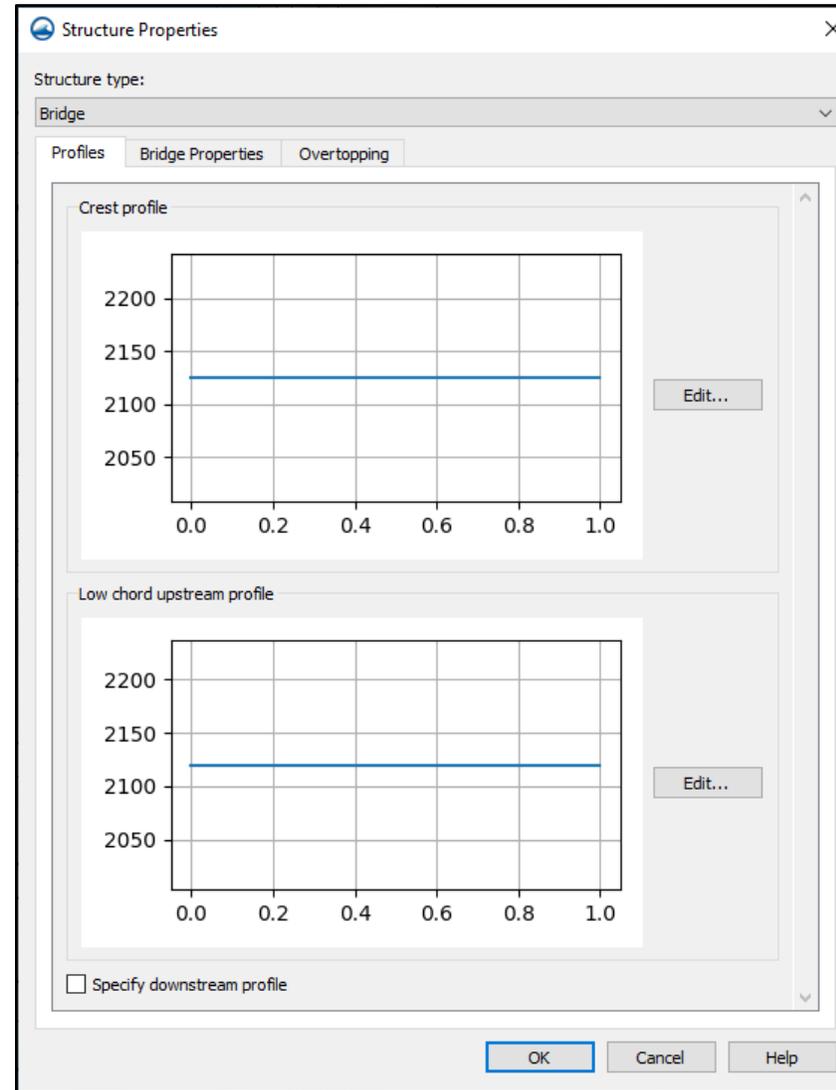
Structure ID / Name	1D or 2D	Type	Dimensions	# of Piers or # of barrels	Elevations
Main Bridge	2D	14-Span	45'W x 775'L	13 piers 2.5' x 20'	Crest 4713.1' Low Chord 4709.1'
Box Culvert	1D	3 RCBC	8'x8'x80'	3 barrels	US 4704.0' DS 4703.5' Crest 4713.0'
Circular Culvert	2D	CMP	7'	1 barrel	US 4701.5' DS 4700.0' Crest 4709.0'



# Hydraulic Structures

## 3D Structures (Bridges and Culverts)

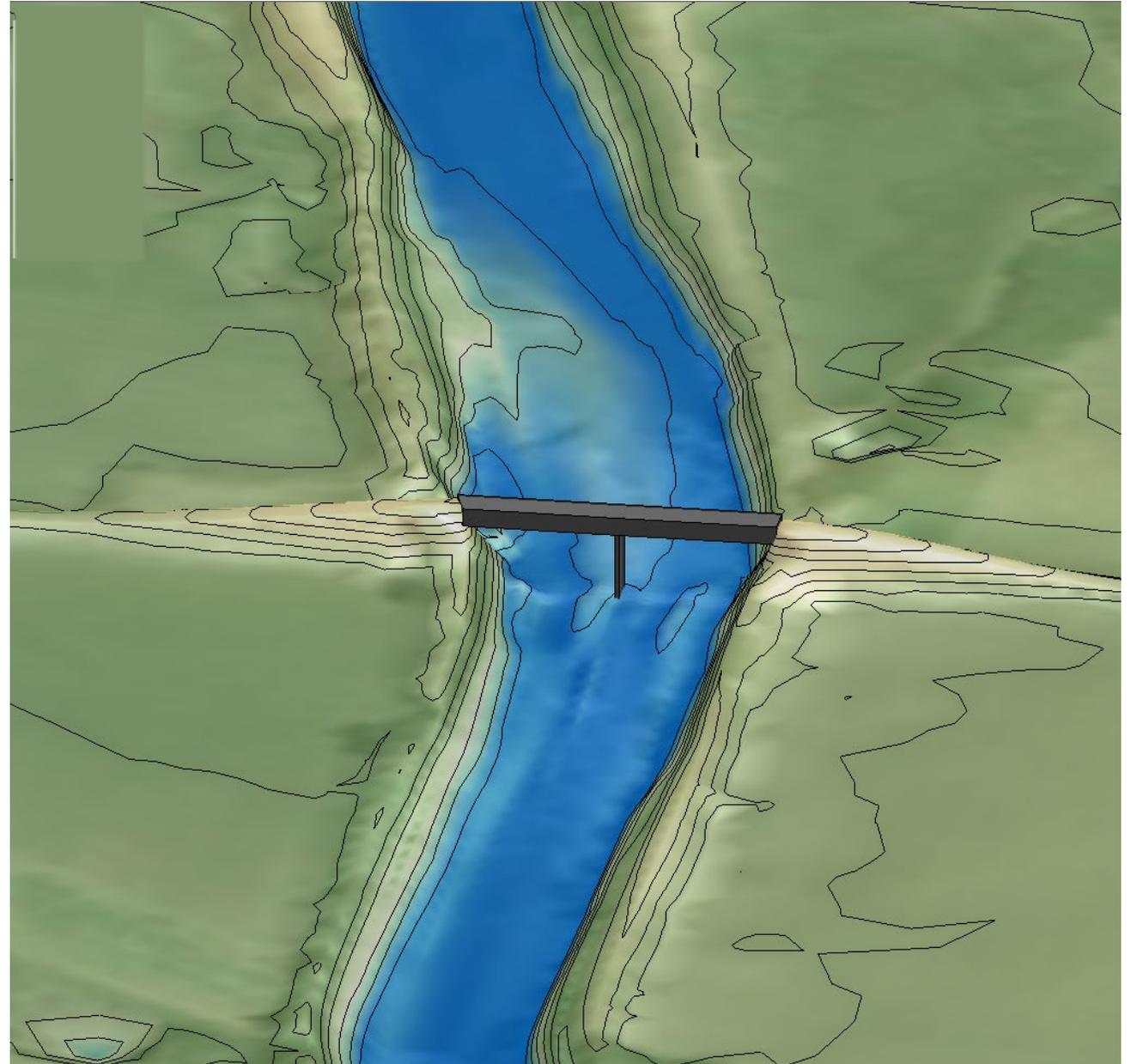
- Crest profile (bridge deck crown or parapet) defines deck overtopping elevation
- Low chord profile defines the pressure flow ceiling
- Overtopping should only be selected if flow is likely to overtop the bridge deck (affects computation time)
- Overtopping of the approach embankments is evaluated in the 2D computations



# Hydraulic Structures

## 3D Structures (Bridges and Culverts)

- Crest profile (bridge deck crown or parapet) defines deck overtopping elevation
- Low chord profile defines the pressure flow ceiling
- Overtopping should only be selected if flow is likely to overtop the bridge deck (affects computation time)
- Overtopping of the approach embankments is evaluated in the 2D computations



# Hydraulic Structures

## Structure Extents and Elevations

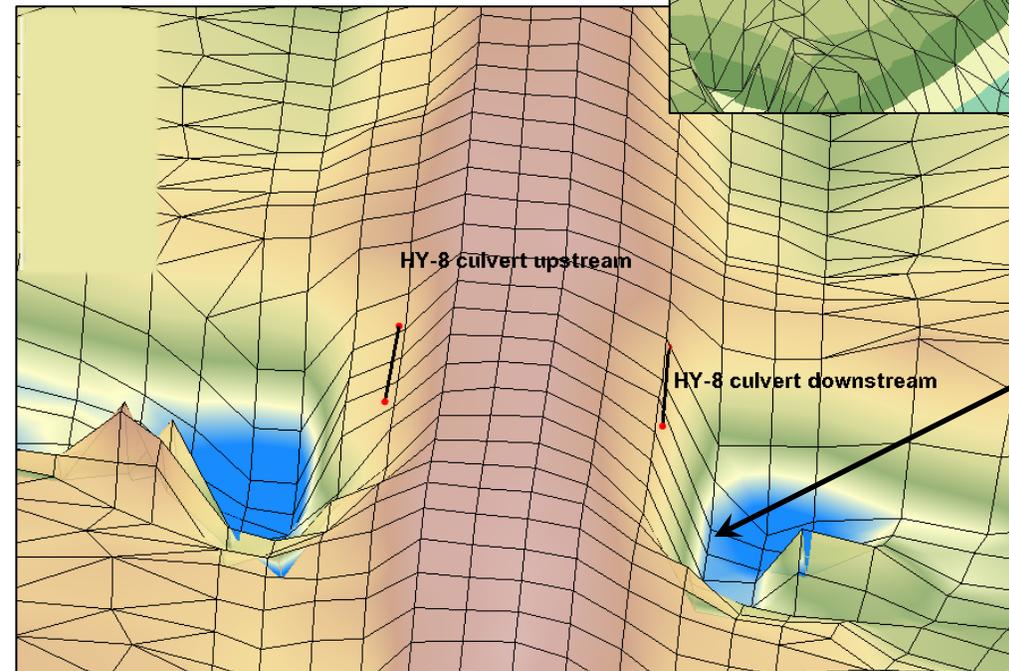
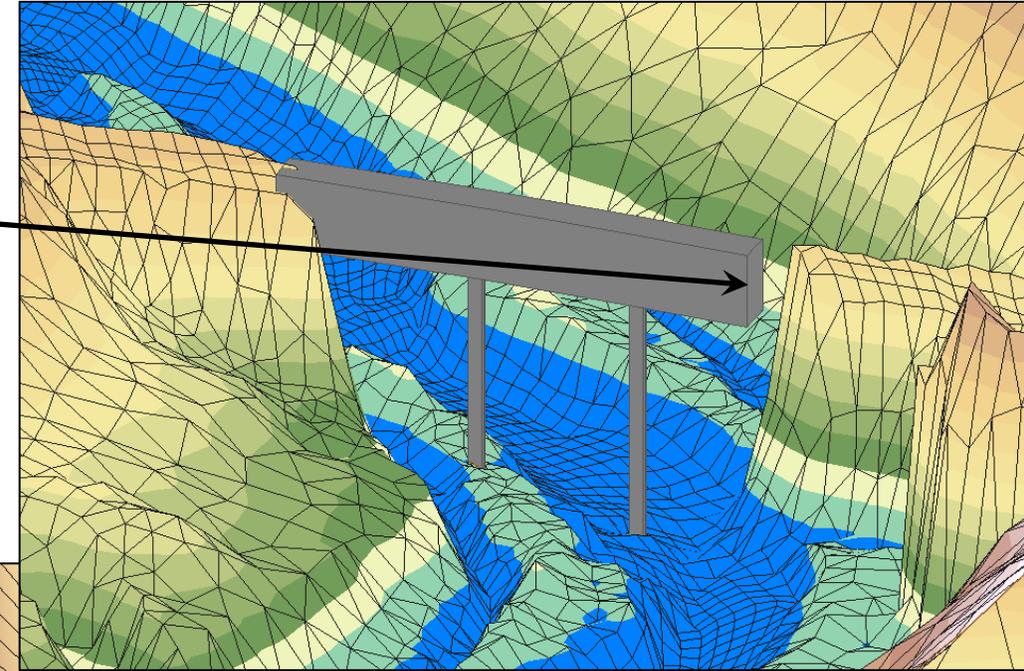
### **Key Question:**

*Do the structures align vertically and horizontally with the mesh?*

Review 3D structure geometry and surrounding mesh

Review 1D structure elevations and mesh around BC arcs

3D Structures should extend into the terrain



BC arcs should be at culvert invert locations

# Hydraulic Structures

## HY-8 Culverts

SRH2D Assign BC

BC Type:  
Culvert HY-8

Structure boundaries  
Arc id - 3:  
Upstream  
Arc id - 4:  
Downstream

HY-8 culvert options  
Units for HY-8 display:  
English

Use total head (velocity and water surface)

Checked uses 2d terrain for overtopping.  
Unchecked disables 2d domain in culvert region and uses hy8 for overtopping.

HY-8 crossing:  
Crossing 1

Launch HY-8...

General structure options

- Specify upstream BCDATA line
- Specify downstream BCDATA line
- Specify downstream flow direction

OK Cancel Help

The crest length should equal the BC arc length, unless the 2D overtopping option is selected. With 2D overtopping, the crest length should be set to a negligible value (i.e. 0.1 ft)

Crossing Data - Crossing 1

Crossing Properties  
Name: Crossing 1

Parameter	Value	Units
<b>DISCHARGE DATA</b>	Optional--Model will determine va...	Optional In...
Discharge Method	Minimum, Design, and Maximum	
Minimum Flow	0.000	cfs
Design Flow	495.240	cfs
Maximum Flow	500.000	cfs
<b>TAILWATER DATA</b>	Optional--Model will determine va...	Optional In...
Channel Type	Enter Constant Tailwater Ele...	
Channel Invert Elevation	6784.000	ft
Constant Tailwater Ele...	6788.400	ft
Rating Curve	View...	
<b>ROADWAY DATA</b>		
Roadway Profile Shape	Constant Roadway Elevation	
First Roadway Station	0.000	ft
Crest Length	54.000	ft
Crest Elevation	6793.000	ft
Roadway Surface	Paved	
Top Width	60.000	ft

Culvert Properties

Culvert 1

Add Culvert  
Duplicate Culvert  
Delete Culvert

Parameter	Value	Units
<b>CULVERT DATA</b>		
Name	Culvert 1	
Shape	Concrete Box	
Material	Concrete	
Span	8.000	ft
Rise	6.000	ft
Embedment Depth	0.000	in
Manning's n	0.015	
Culvert Type	Straight	
Inlet Configuration	1.5:1 Bevel (90°) Headwall (Ke=0.2)	
Inlet Depression?	No	
<b>SITE DATA</b>		
Site Data Input Option	Culvert Invert Data	
Inlet Station	0.000	ft
Inlet Elevation	6785.130	ft
Outlet Station	82.000	ft
Outlet Elevation	6784.000	ft
Number of Barrels	4	

Help Click on any ? icon for help on a specific topic Low Flow AOP Energy Dissipation Analyze Crossing OK Cancel

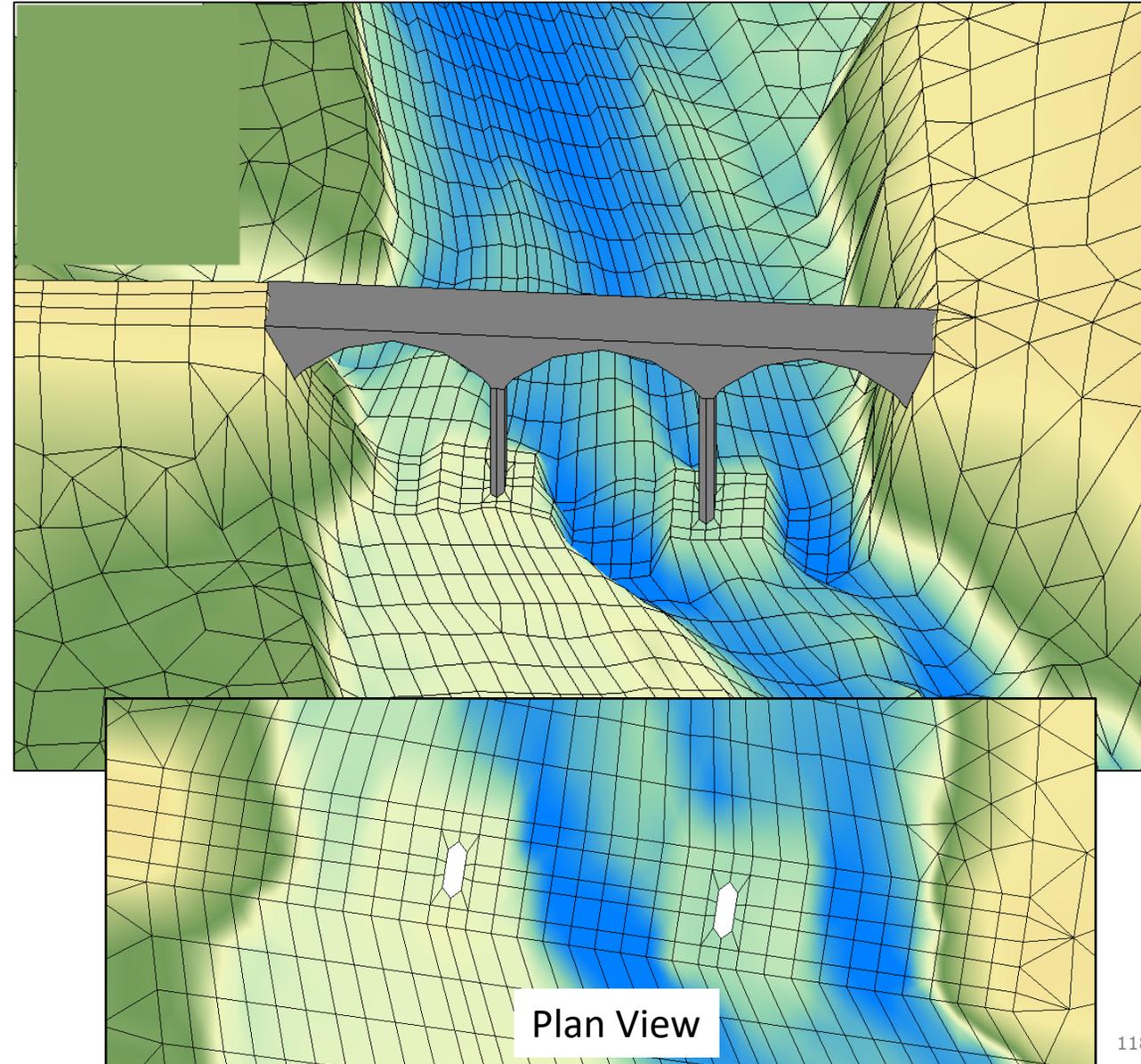
To review 1D structures, select both BC arcs in the BC coverage, rt click and select *Assign BC*.

# Hydraulic Structures

## 2D Mesh through structures

Mesh geometry recommendations for detailed bridge hydraulic analysis:

- 5-7 elements per bridge span
- Piers as holes in the mesh
- Element width around piers between 0.5 to 1 times the pier width
- 2-3 elements along each side slope
- Vertical abutments are best represented as holes in the mesh
- Element length up and downstream should be of similar length as the depth



# Hydraulic Structures

## Types of Structures

### 1D

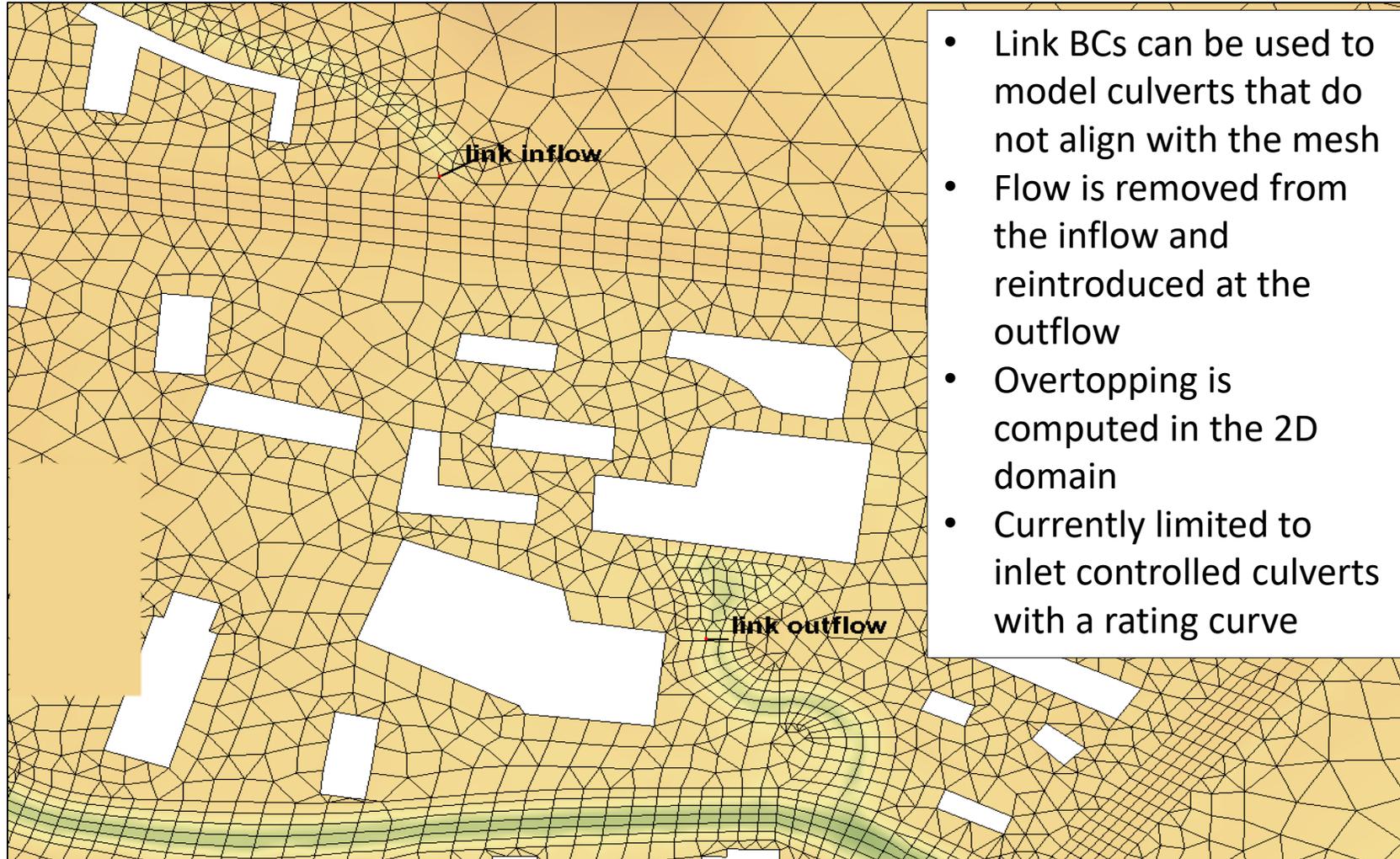
- HY-8 Culverts
- Weirs
- Gates
- Sources / Sinks

### 2D

- Bridge (Pressure Flow)
- Box culverts
- Cylindrical culverts
- Embankments

# Hydraulic Structures

## Other Structures



# ***Key Hydraulic Structure Review Questions***

- How many and what type of structures are represented?
- Do the structures align vertically and horizontally with the mesh?
- Is structure overtopping modeled correctly?
- Is the mesh resolution and configuration through the structure appropriate for the application?
- Are the 1D structure parameters correct?

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- **Simulation Parameters**
- Assign Exercises 2 & 3



# ***Reviewing Simulation Parameters Top 3 Things***

1. Check timestep
2. Verify adequate simulation time
3. Review initial conditions

# Simulation Parameters

## Labels and Components

### **Key Question:**

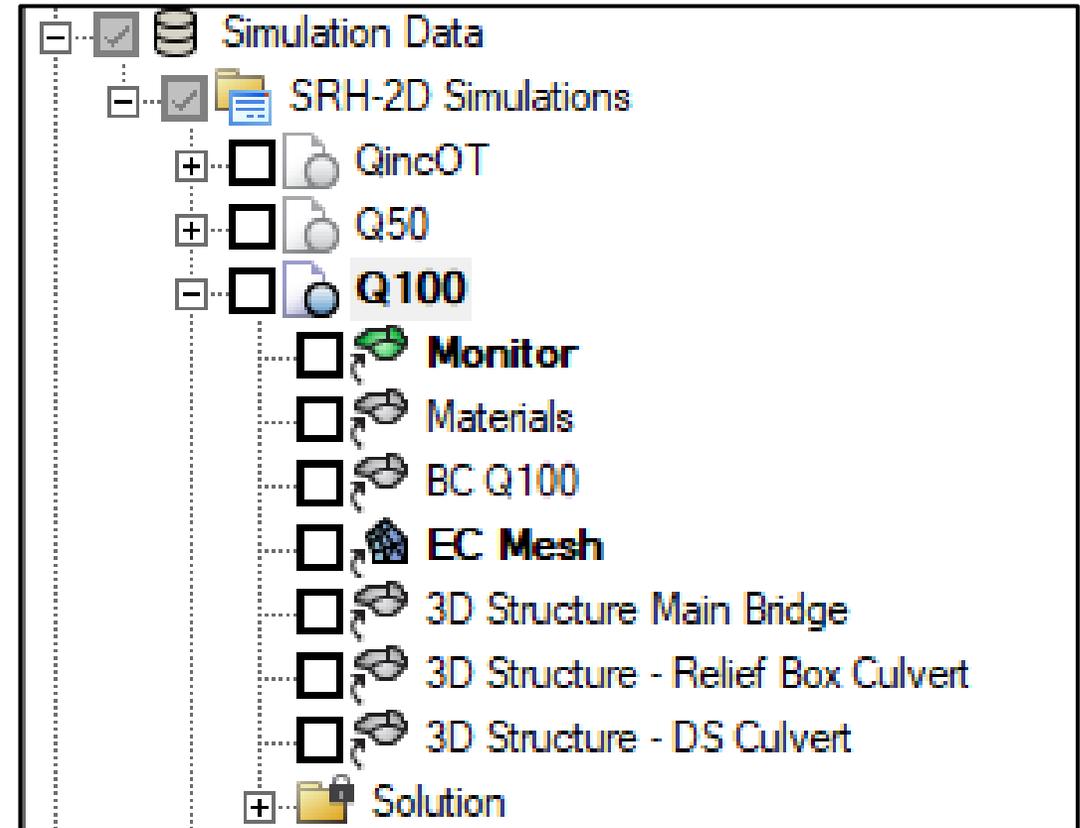
*Are simulations labeled clearly and contain all the correct components?*

Each SRH-2D simulation must include:

- Boundary Conditions
- Materials
- Mesh
- Monitor Lines and Points

But may also include:

- Obstructions
- Individual 3D structures



# Simulation Parameters

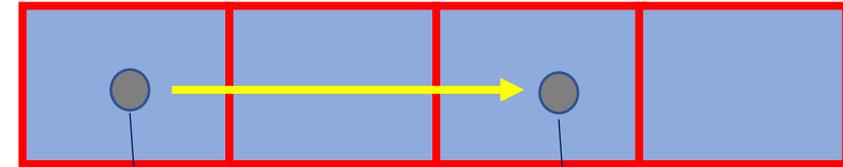
## Time Step

**Key Question:**  
*Is the timestep reasonable?*

SRH-2D uses a fully implicit numerical solver and the timestep is not limited by the Courant Condition.

The recommended timestep is between 1 and 10 seconds.

When the timestep needs to be  $<1s$  to achieve a stable solution, this is usually an indicator of other problems (very small elements or poor mesh quality)



Particle of water at  $t_1$

Particle of water at  $t_2$

*The Courant criterion essentially states that a particle of water should not pass more than one element in a given time step.*

*Some models (explicit schemes) require that the criteria be strictly adhered to.*

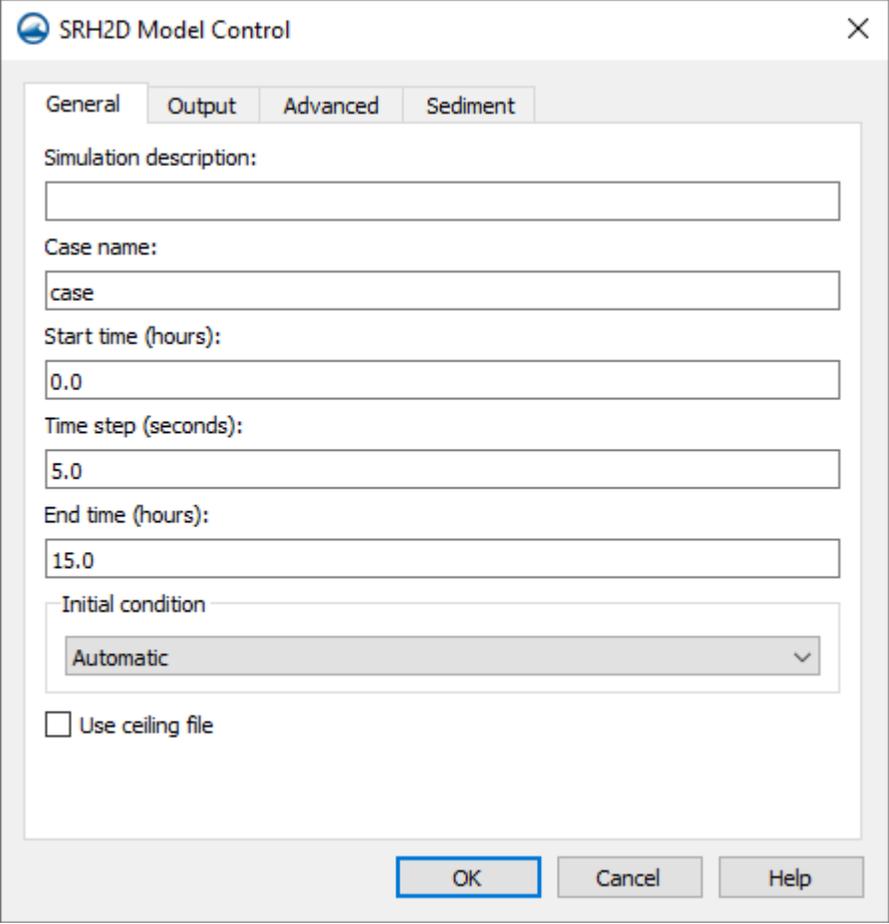
# Simulation Parameters

## Simulation Time

**Key Question:**  
*Is the simulation  
time long enough?*

For a steady simulation, the simulation time must be sufficient for flow to fill the domain and reach a steady condition.

For unsteady simulations, the simulation time should be long enough for the peak flow to reach the downstream end of the domain.



The screenshot shows the 'SRH2D Model Control' dialog box with the 'General' tab selected. The dialog has four tabs: 'General', 'Output', 'Advanced', and 'Sediment'. The 'General' tab contains the following fields and options:

- Simulation description:** An empty text input field.
- Case name:** A text input field containing the value 'case'.
- Start time (hours):** A text input field containing the value '0.0'.
- Time step (seconds):** A text input field containing the value '5.0'.
- End time (hours):** A text input field containing the value '15.0'.
- Initial condition:** A dropdown menu with 'Automatic' selected.
- Use ceiling file:** An unchecked checkbox.

At the bottom of the dialog are three buttons: 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help'.

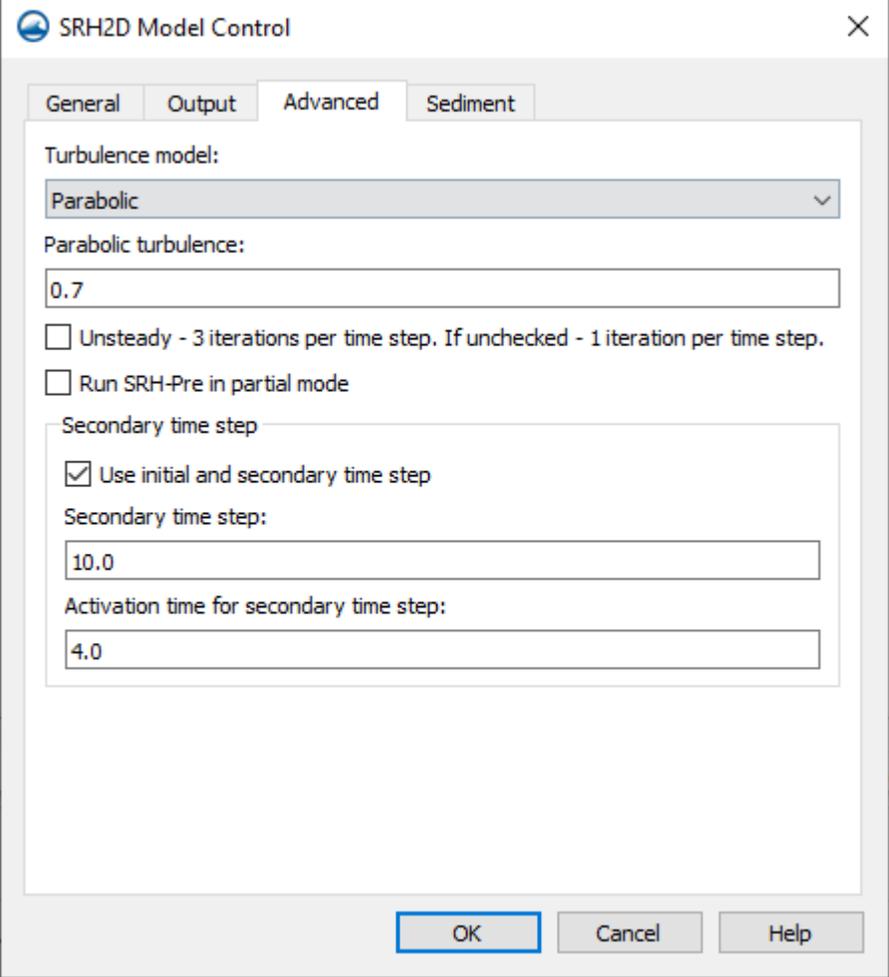
# Simulation Parameters

## Other parameter options

The default Parabolic Turbulence coefficient of 0.7 should be used for all natural channels.

### Unsteady vs. Steady option

To improve run-time, a larger timestep can often be used following the initial filling of the domain.



The screenshot shows the 'SRH2D Model Control' dialog box with the 'Advanced' tab selected. The 'Turbulence model' is set to 'Parabolic'. The 'Parabolic turbulence' coefficient is set to 0.7. There are two unchecked checkboxes: 'Unsteady - 3 iterations per time step. If unchecked - 1 iteration per time step.' and 'Run SRH-Pre in partial mode'. The 'Secondary time step' section is expanded, showing 'Use initial and secondary time step' checked, with a secondary time step of 10.0 and an activation time for secondary time step of 4.0. The 'OK', 'Cancel', and 'Help' buttons are visible at the bottom.

SRH2D Model Control

General Output **Advanced** Sediment

Turbulence model:  
Parabolic

Parabolic turbulence:  
0.7

Unsteady - 3 iterations per time step. If unchecked - 1 iteration per time step.

Run SRH-Pre in partial mode

Secondary time step

Use initial and secondary time step

Secondary time step:  
10.0

Activation time for secondary time step:  
4.0

OK Cancel Help

# ***Key Simulation Parameter Review Questions***

- Are simulations labeled clearly and contain all the correct components?
- Is the timestep reasonable?
- Is the simulation time long enough?
- Have the turbulence model or coefficient been changed?

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

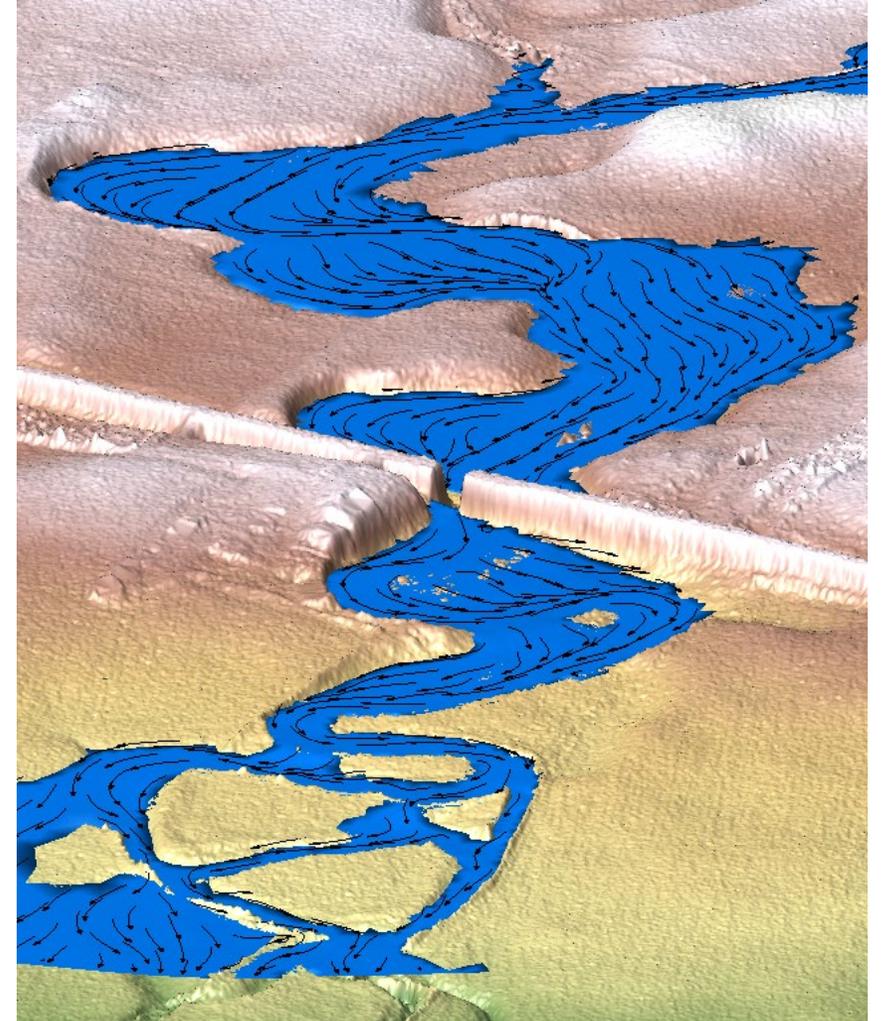
## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- **Assign Exercises 2 & 3**



## ***Model Review Exercise 2***

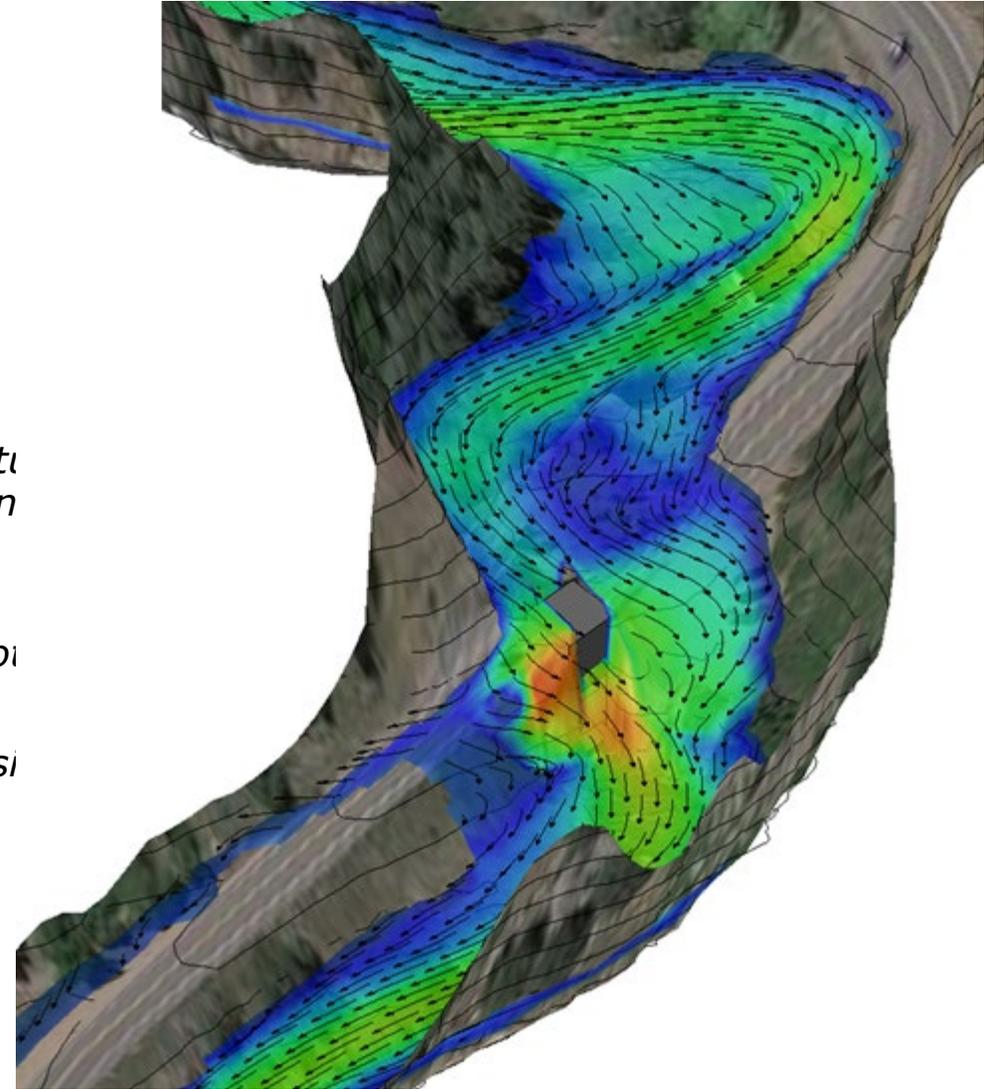
- Focus on **Materials Coverage** and **Boundary Conditions**
- Prepare a list to share with the group in Session 3



# Model Review Exercise 3

- Focus on **Hydraulic Structures and Simulation Results**

- Review simulation plots (*rt click on simulation → Select Tools → View Simulation Plots*) – Confirm continuity and stability
- Review SRH-2D Structure Plots (*rt click on 3D Structure Culvert (under Map Data) → SRH Structure Plots (Discharge current only shows overtopping)*)
- Review Monitoring Line Plots (*Select the Monitor coverage → select a monitoring line, rt click → Monitoring Line Plot*)
- Review HY-8 structure information (*Select the BC Q500 HY-8 Culvert, select one of the HY-8 BC arcs, rt click → Assistant BC → Launch HY-8 to review culvert information*)
- Review ranges of results (*Select a dataset, rt click → Properties*)



# ***End of Session 2***

## **Session 3**

- ***Review Exercises 2 & 3***
- Reviewing Model Results
- *Bridge Scour Analysis Review*
- Q&A
- Wrap-up

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 1

- Overview of 2D Modeling and Available Resources
- Information to Be Reviewed, Model Review Spreadsheet and Best Practices
- Project Information and Model Background Data
- 2D Mesh
- *Assign Exercise 1*

## Session 2

- *Review Exercise 1*
- Boundary Conditions
- Material Roughness
- Hydraulic Structures
- Simulation Parameters
- *Assign Exercises 2 & 3*

## Session 3

- *Review Exercise 2*
- Reviewing Model Results
- *Review Exercise 3*
- Hydraulic Variables for Bridge Scour Analyses
- Wrap-up



# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 3

- *Review Exercise 2*
- Reviewing Model Results
- *Review Exercise 3*
- Hydraulic Variables for Bridge Scour Analyses
- Wrap-up

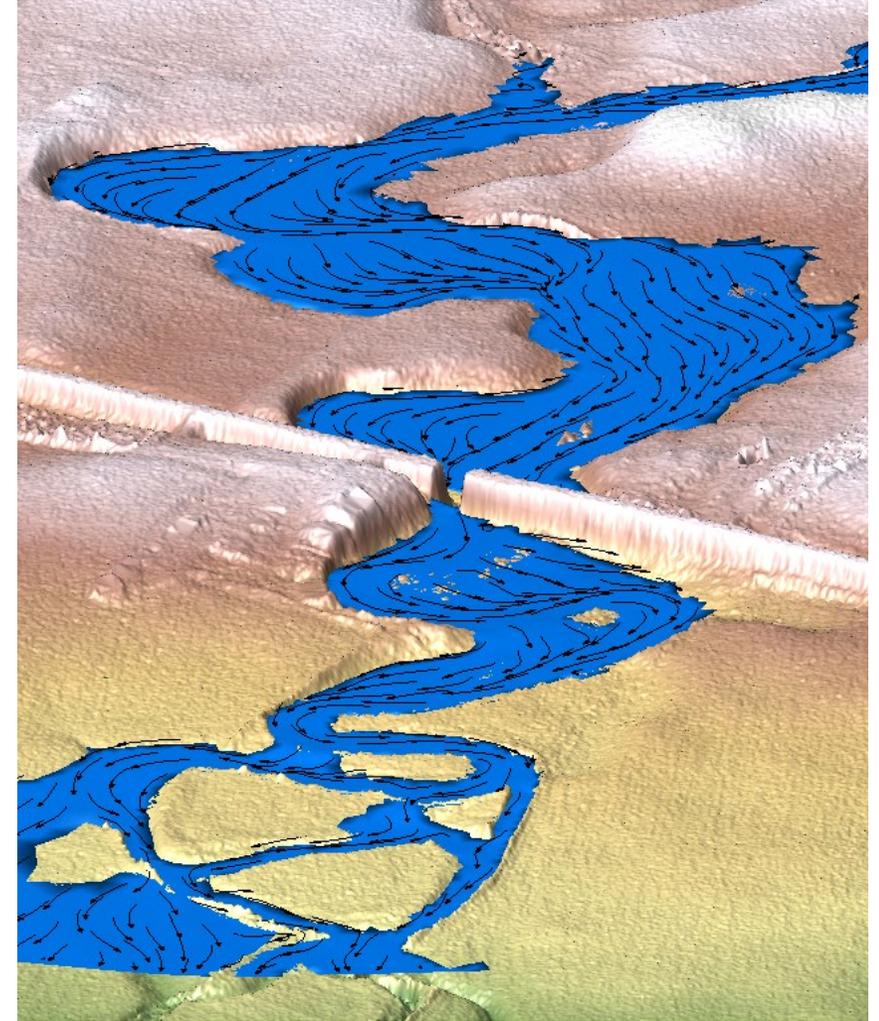


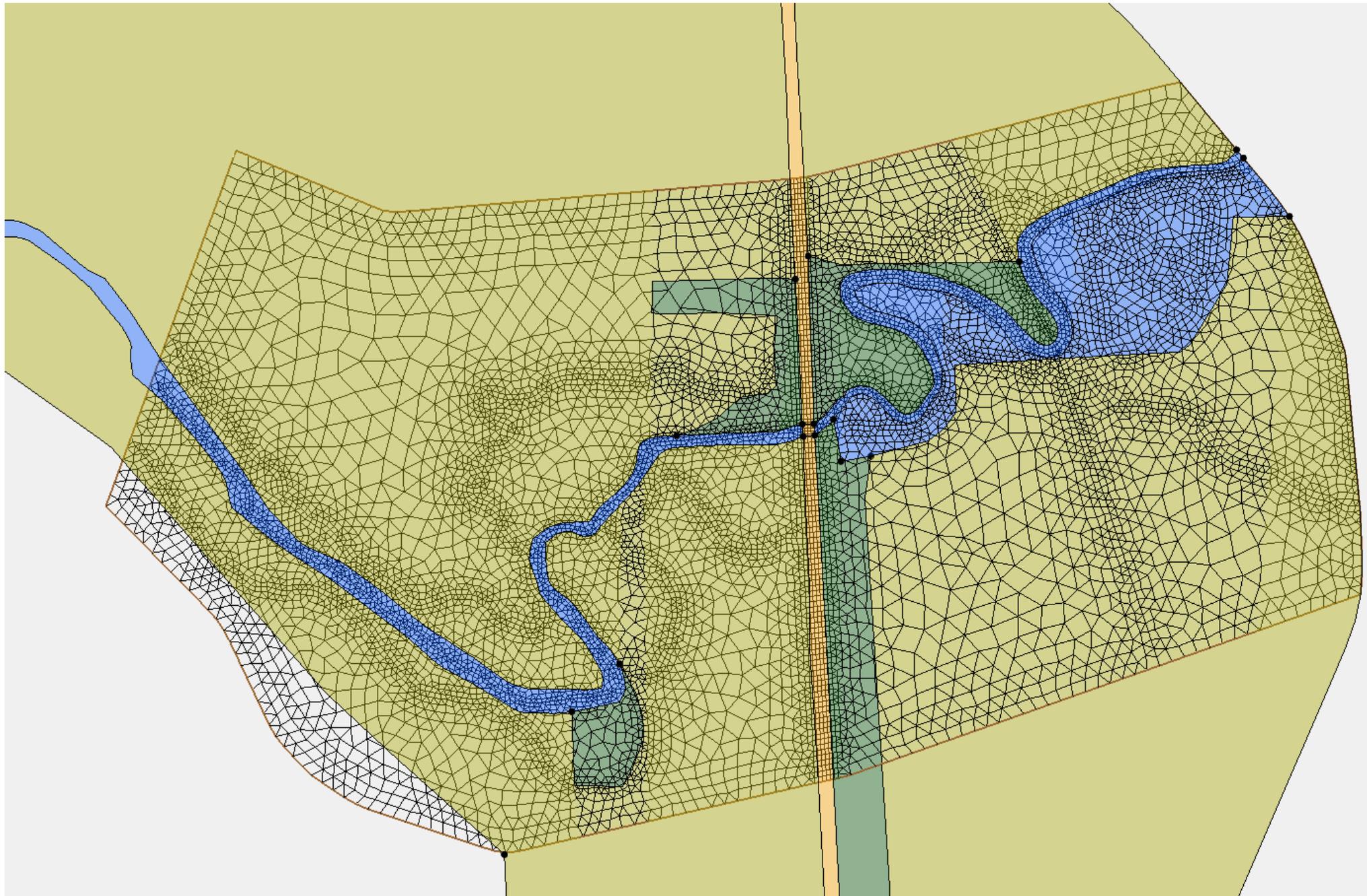
# ***Model Review Exercise 2***

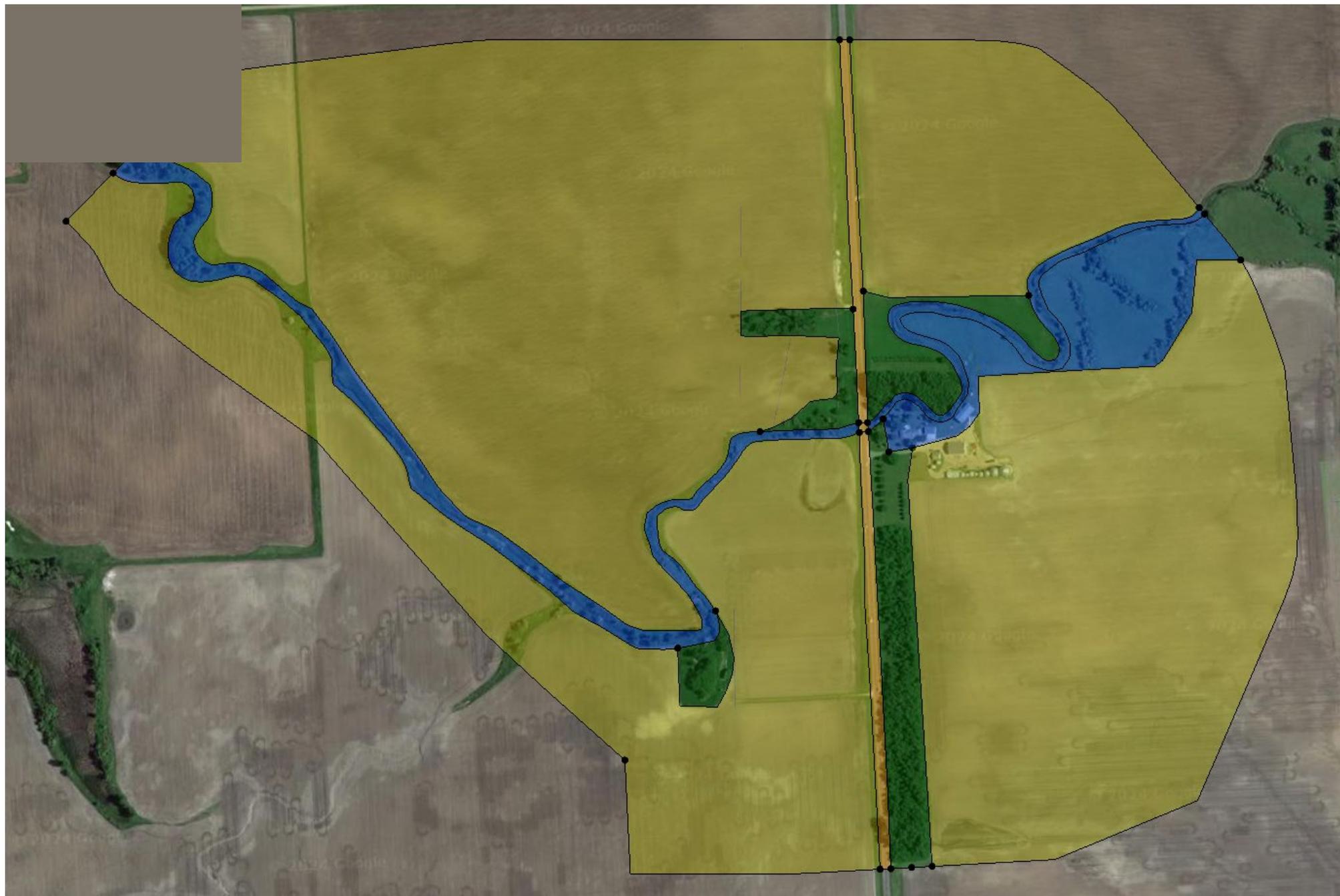
## ***Discussion***

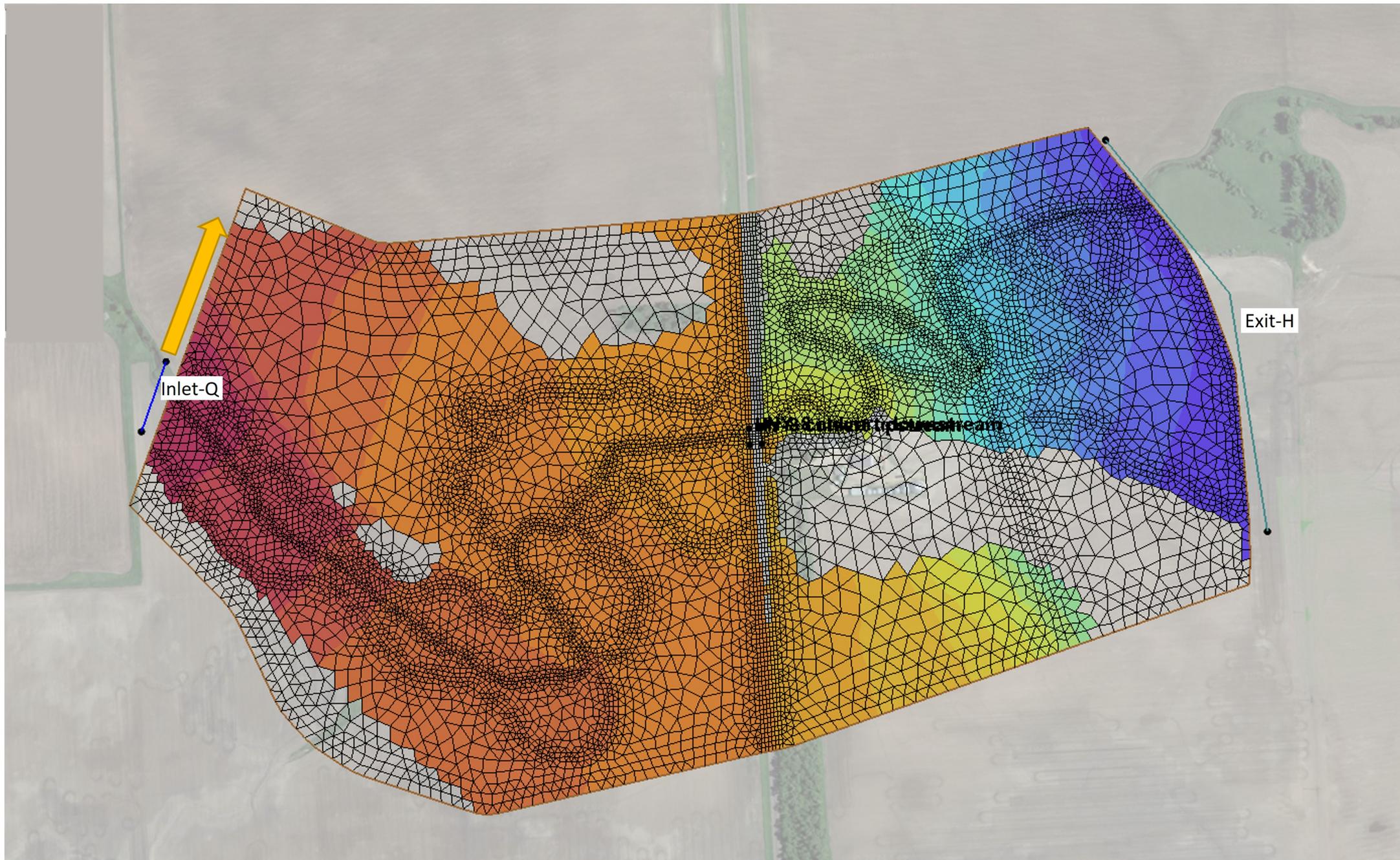
# ***Model Review Exercise 2***

- Focus on **Materials Coverage** and **Boundary Conditions**
  - Materials zones do not extend to mesh
  - Wrong materials type assigned to overbank (channel)
  - Inlet Q – Arc does not extend across FP width
  - Exit-H – Rating curve ends at 2500 cfs
  - HY-8 culvert weir issue -Overtopping length is set too long









The image displays a 2D hydraulic model mesh overlaid on an aerial photograph. The mesh is color-coded, with red/orange on the left and blue on the right. Two boundary points are labeled: 'Inlet-Q' on the left and 'Exit-H' on the right. Two software dialog boxes are open over the model.

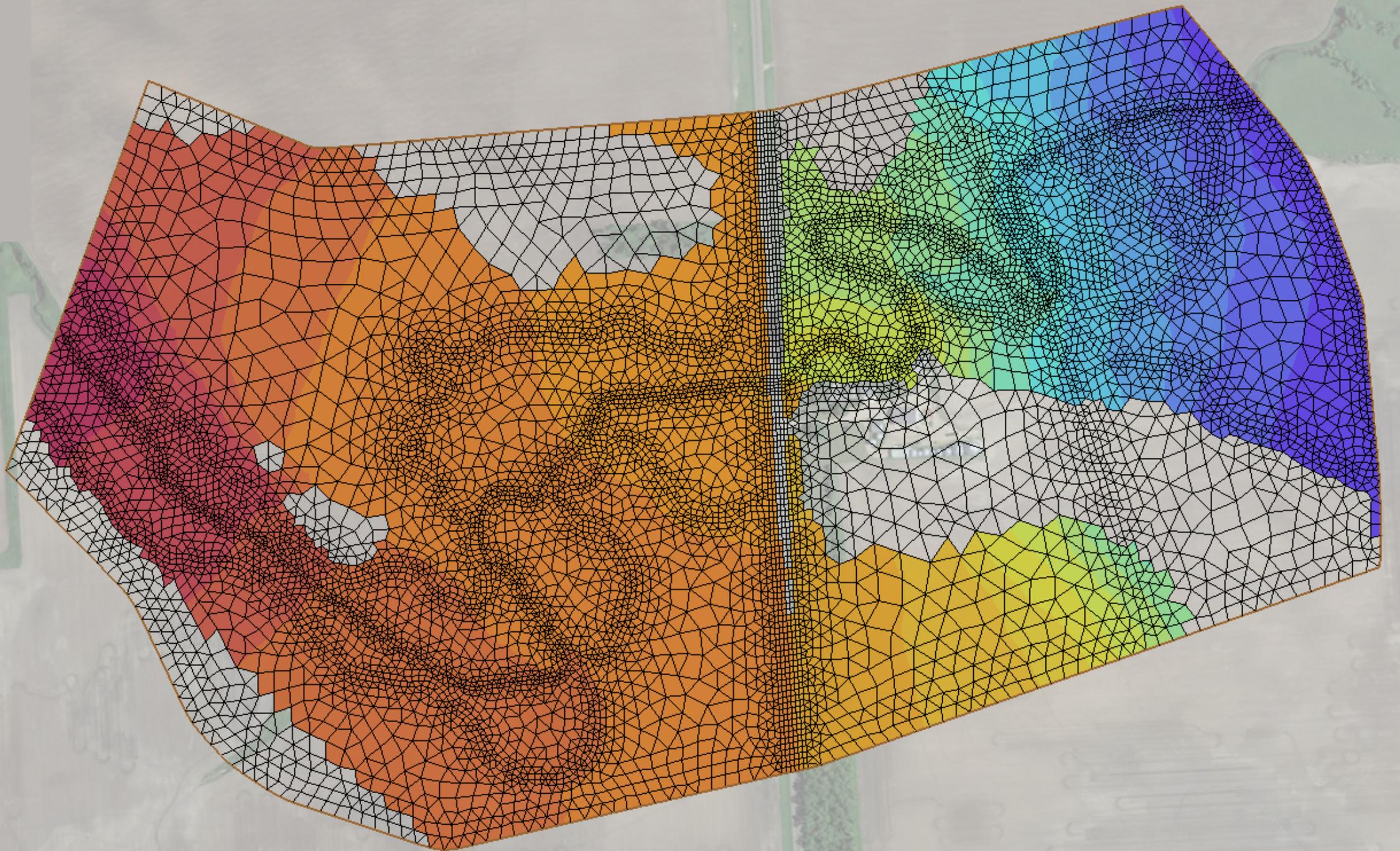
The 'SRH2D Assign BC' dialog box shows the following settings:

- BC Type: Exit-H (subcritical outflow)
- Exit water surface options: (empty)
- Water surface (WSE) option: Rating curve
- Rating curve: (empty)

The 'XY Series Editor' dialog box contains a table with the following data:

	vol/sec	WSE
1	500.0	1182.6189534084
2	1000.0	1182.9494538739
3	1500.0	1183.1842202202
4	2000.0	1183.3819385172
5	2500.0	1183.5595755929

To the right of the table is a line graph titled 'curve' showing the relationship between flow rate (vol/sec) on the x-axis and water surface elevation (WSE) on the y-axis. The x-axis ranges from 500 to 2500, and the y-axis ranges from 1182.6 to 1183.6. The graph shows a smooth, upward-sloping curve connecting the five data points from the table.



**Crossing Data - 4xRCBC**

Crossing Properties

Name:

Parameter	Value	Units
<b>DISCHARGE D...</b>	Optional--Model will determine val...	Optional Inf...
Discharge Method	Minimum, Design, and Maximum	
Minimum Flow	0.000	cfs
Design Flow	2200.000	cfs
Maximum Flow	2200.000	cfs
<b>TAILWATER D...</b>	Optional--Model will determine val...	Optional Inf...
Channel Type	Rectangular Channel	
Bottom Width	0.000	
Channel Slope	0.0000	
Manning's n (channel)	0.000	
Channel Invert Elev...	1183.850	
Rating Curve	<a href="#">View...</a>	
<b>ROADWAY DATA</b>		
Roadway Profile Shape	Constant Roadway Elevation	
First Roadway Station	0.000	ft
Crest Length	2000.000	ft
Crest Elevation	1195.500	ft
Roadway Surface	Paved	
Top Width	25.000	ft

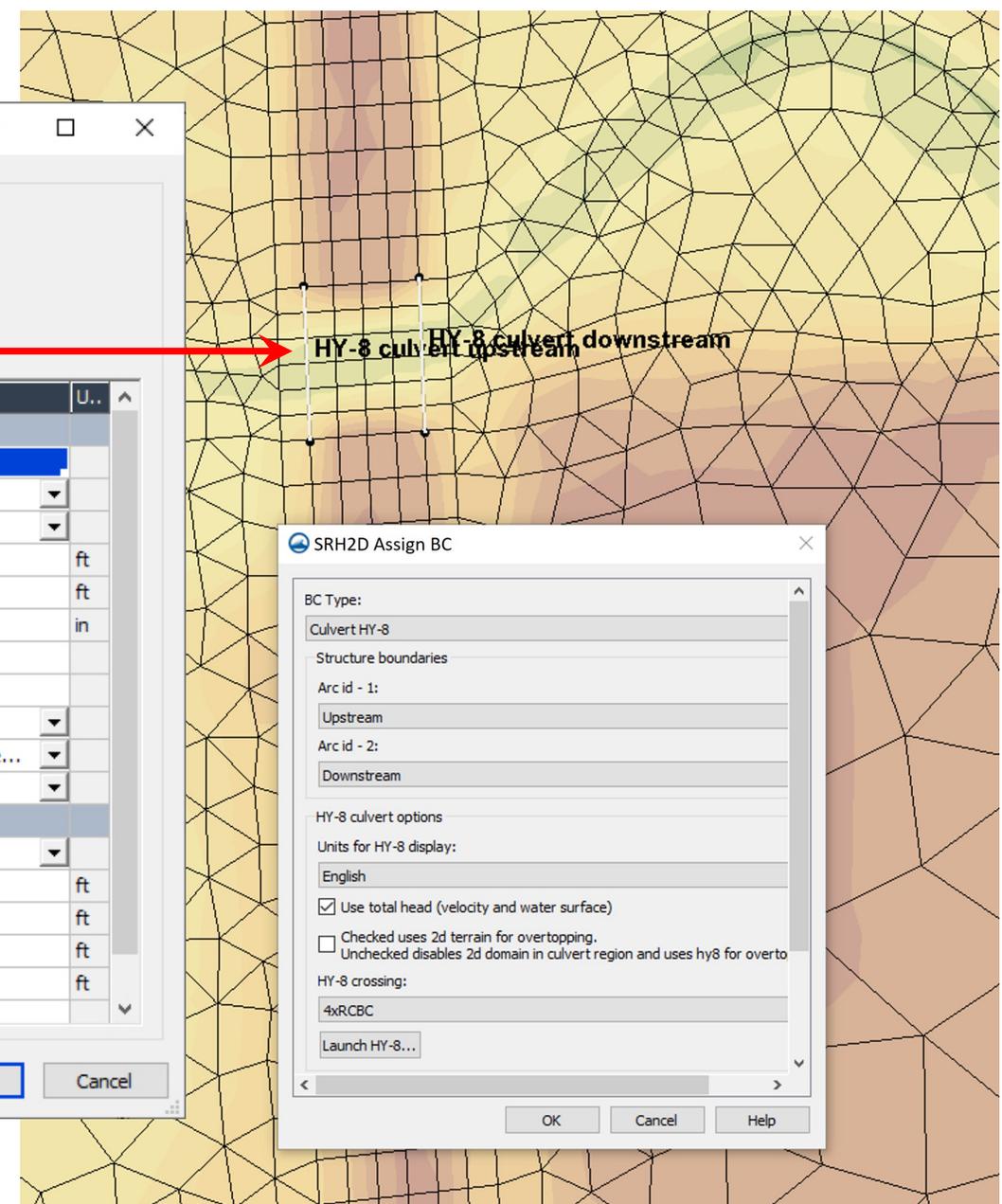
**Culvert Properties**

BoxCulverts

Add Culvert  
Duplicate Culvert  
Delete Culvert

Parameter	Value	U..
<b>CULVERT DATA</b>		
Name	BoxCulverts	
Shape	Concrete Box	
Material	Concrete	
Span	8.000	ft
Rise	8.000	ft
Embedment De...	12.000	in
Manning's n (Top/Si...	0.012	
Manning's n (Bottom)	0.035	
Culvert Type	Straight	
Inlet Configura...	1.5:1 Bevel (18-34° flare) Wingwall (Ke...	
Inlet Depression?	No	
<b>SITE DATA</b>		
Site Data Input Op...	Culvert Invert Data	
Inlet Station	0.000	ft
Inlet Elevation	1184.010	ft
Outlet Station	52.000	ft
Outlet Elevation	1183.850	ft
Number of Barrels	4	

**Overtopping length = 70 ft**



**SRH2D Assign BC**

BC Type:

Culvert HY-8

Structure boundaries

Arc id - 1:  
Upstream

Arc id - 2:  
Downstream

HY-8 culvert options

Units for HY-8 display:  
English

Use total head (velocity and water surface)

Checked uses 2d terrain for overtopping. Unchecked disables 2d domain in culvert region and uses hy8 for overtopping.

HY-8 crossing:  
4xRCBC

[Launch HY-8...](#)

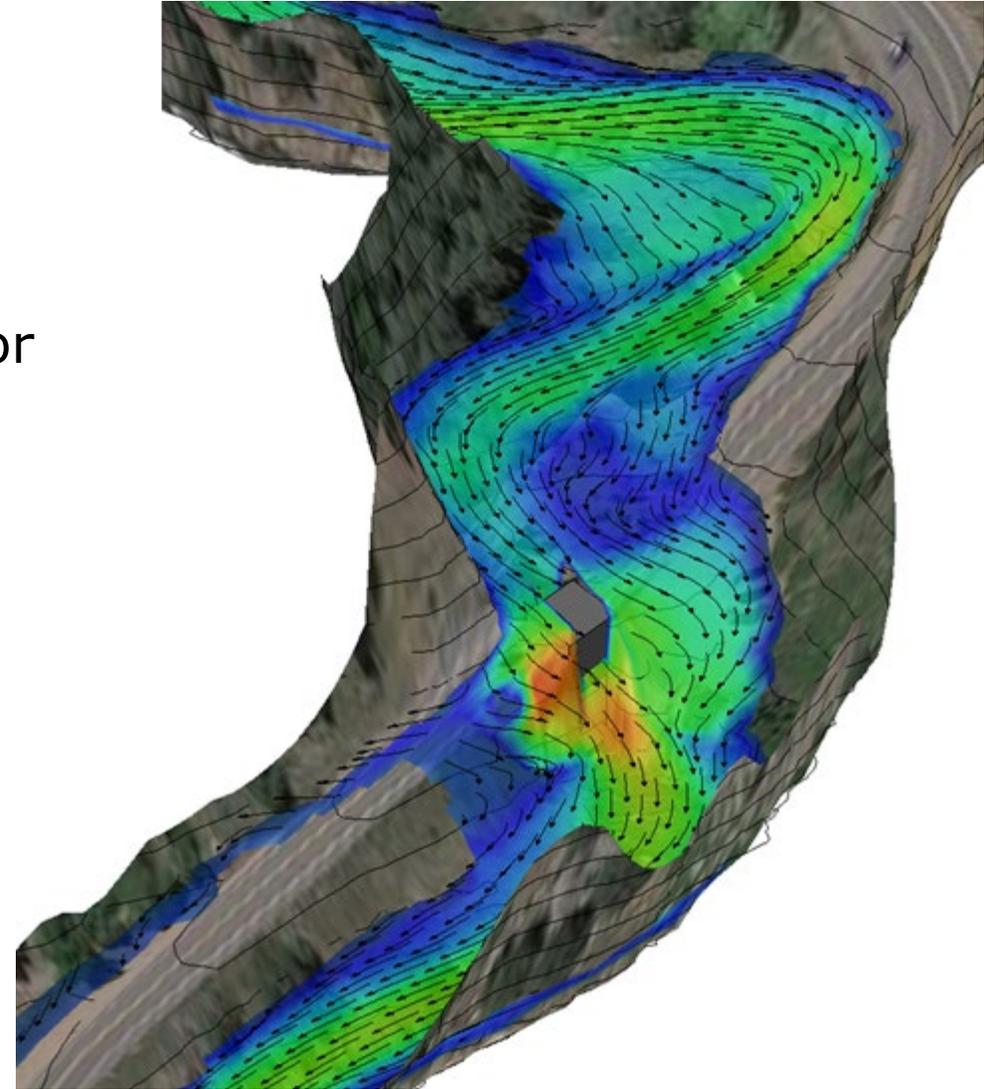
OK Cancel Help

# ***Model Review Exercise 3***

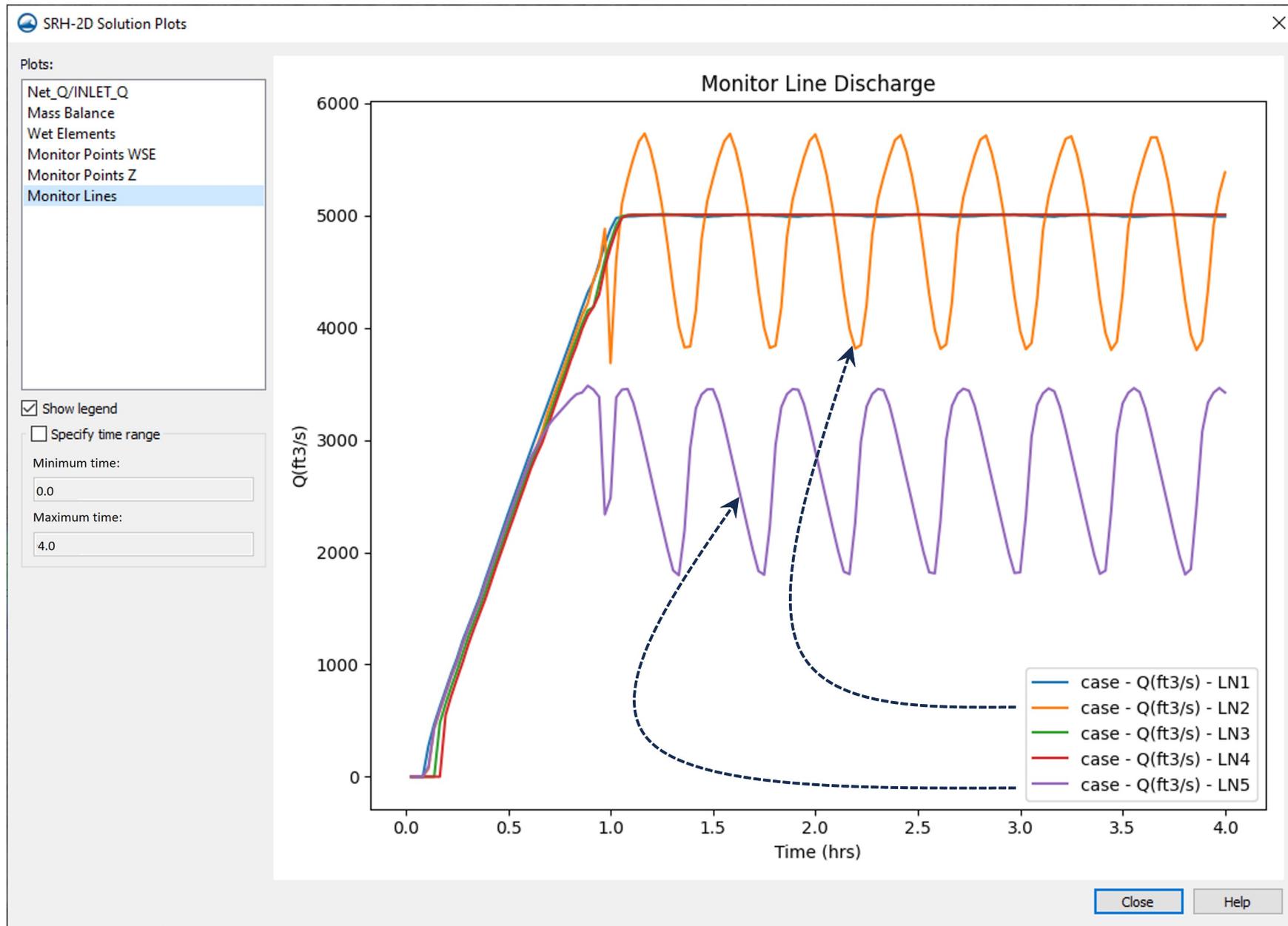
## ***Discussion***

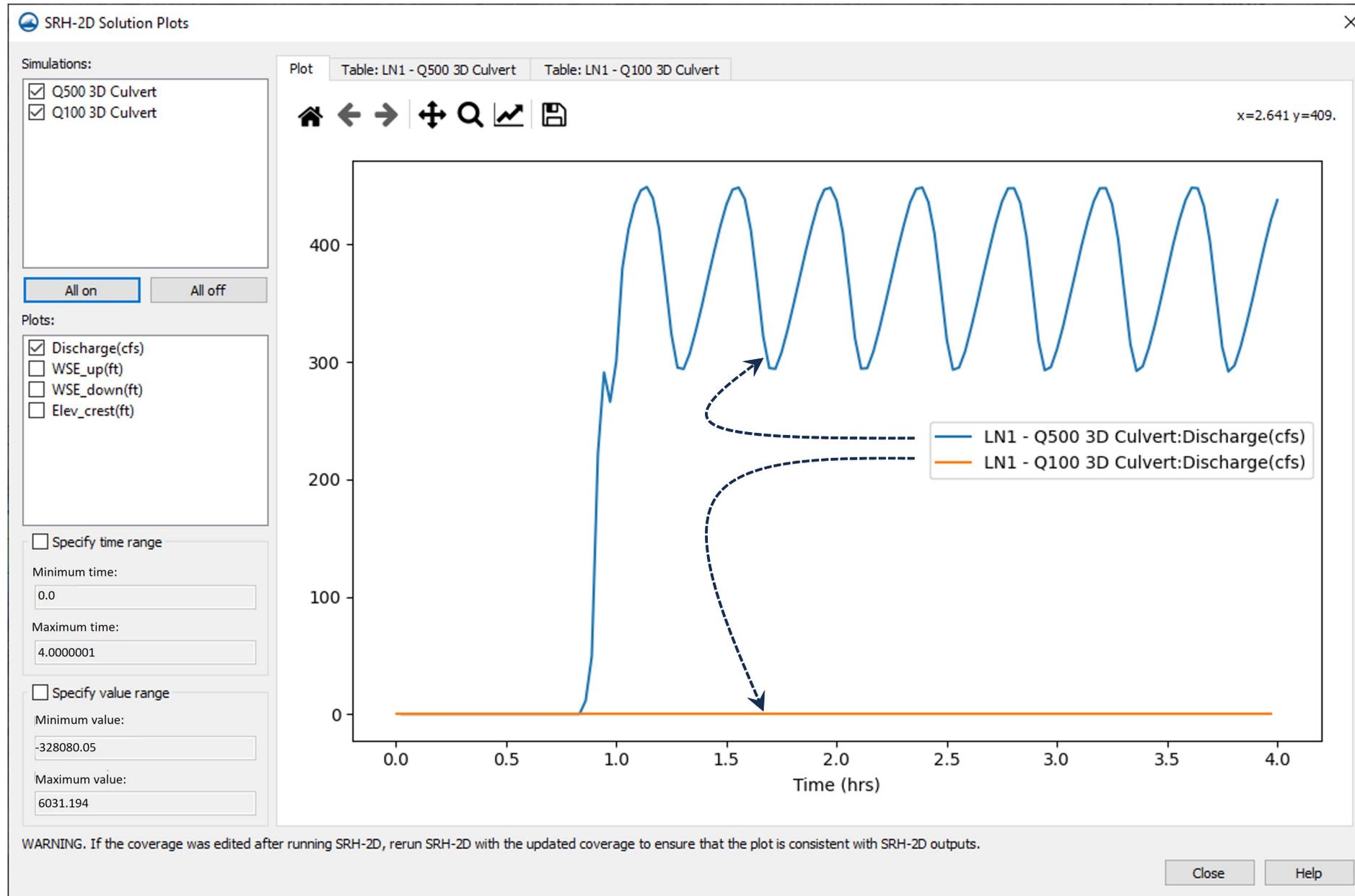
# Model Review Exercise 3

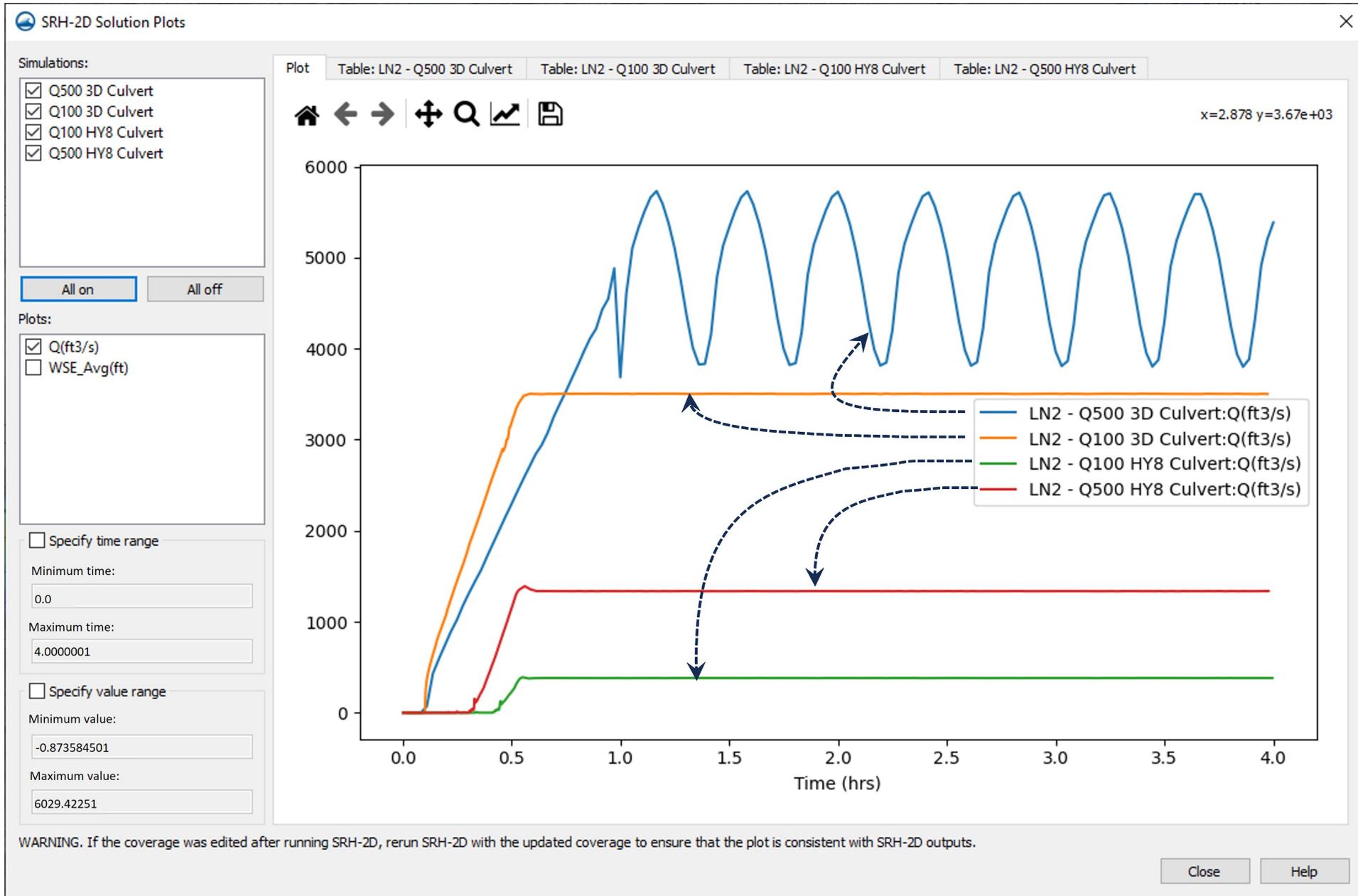
- Focus on **Hydraulic Structures and Simulation Results**
  - Simulation plots show discharge oscillations for the Q500 at the culvert (3D Culvert)
  - SRH-2D Structure Plots show oscillations in Q and WSEL (Q500 3D Culvert)
  - HY-8 weir crest is set too long
  - Review results ranges



# Q500 3D Culvert

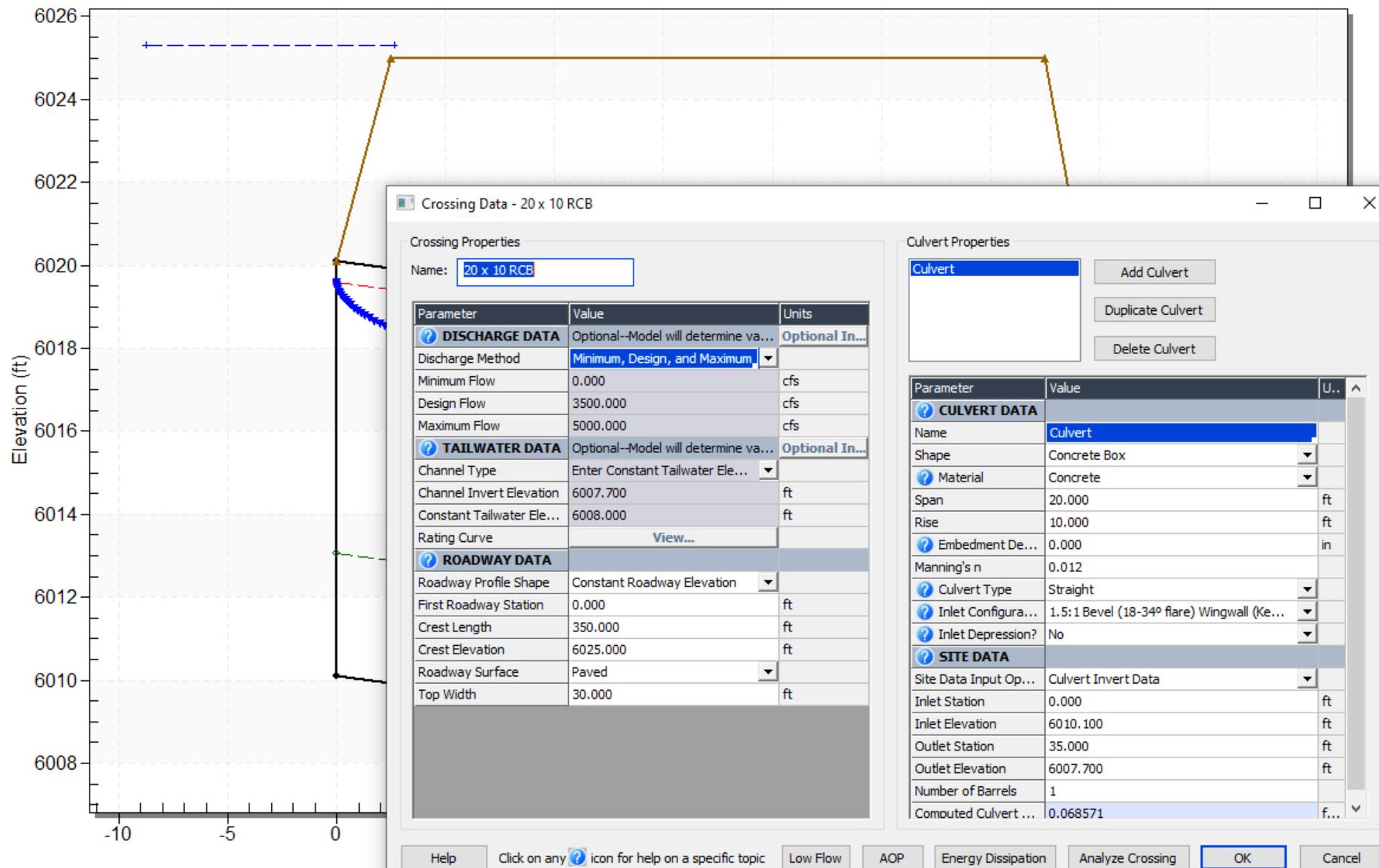






### Crossing - 20 x 10 RCB, Design Discharge - 3500.0 cfs

Culvert - Culvert, Culvert Discharge - 3313.6 cfs



# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 3

- *Review Exercises 2 & 3*
- **Reviewing Model Results**
- Hydraulic Variables for Bridge Scour Analyses
- Wrap-up



# ***Reviewing Model Results Top 3 Things***

1. Verify continuity
2. Check stability through structures and areas of interest
3. Confirm reasonable ranges of values

# Reviewing Results

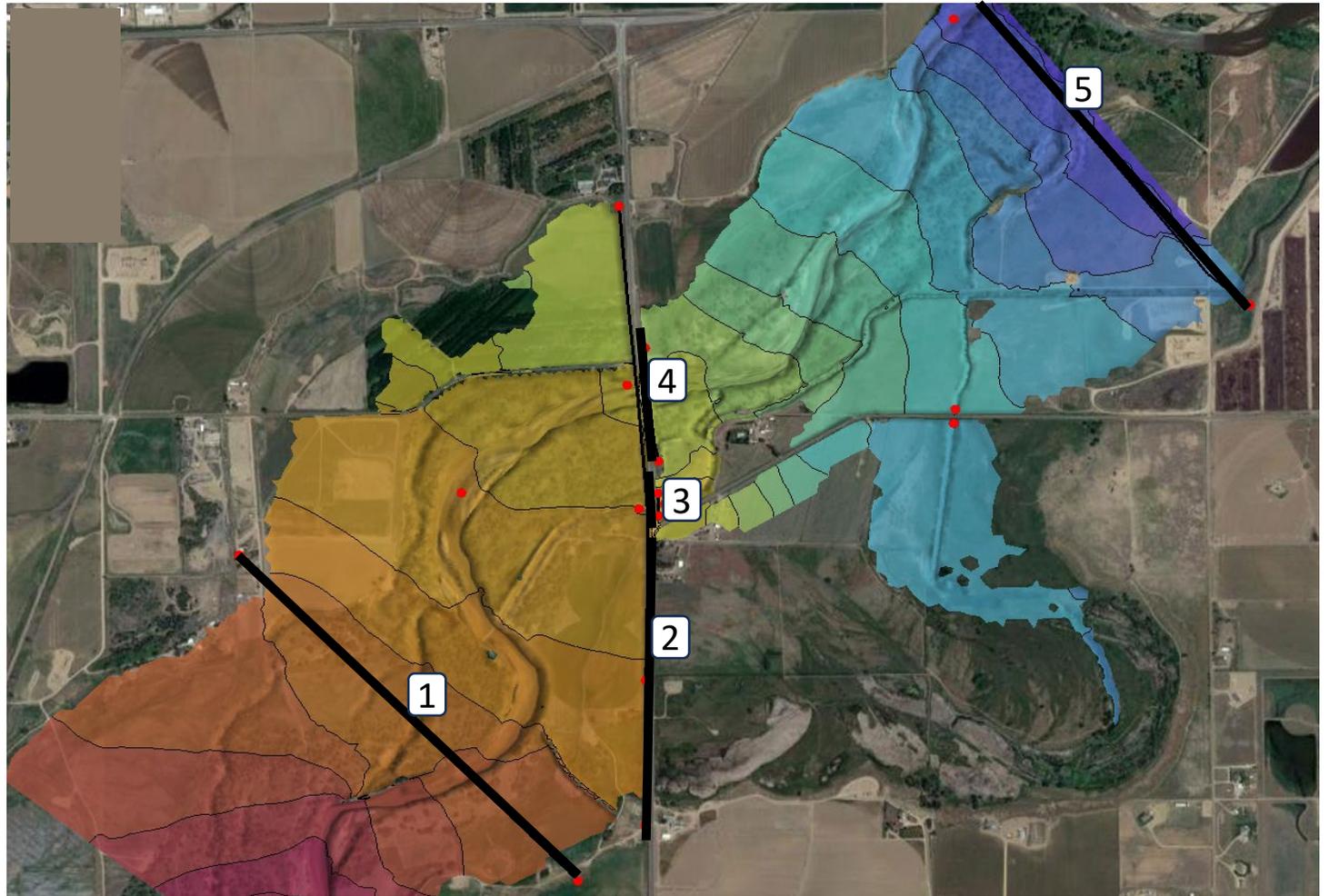
## Continuity and Stability

### **Key Question:**

*Are continuity and stability preserved throughout the model domain?*

Review simulation plots or monitoring line plots to confirm continuity and stability.

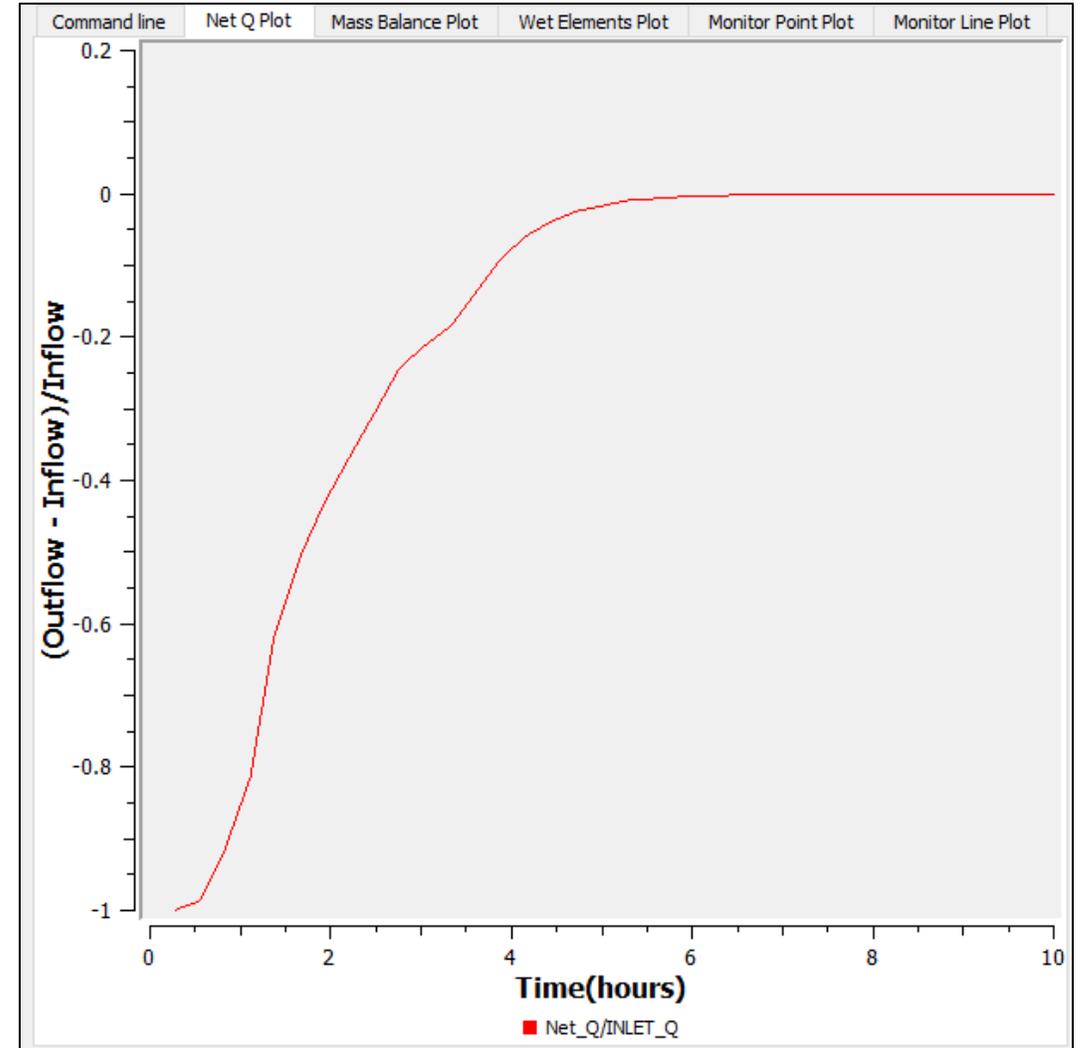
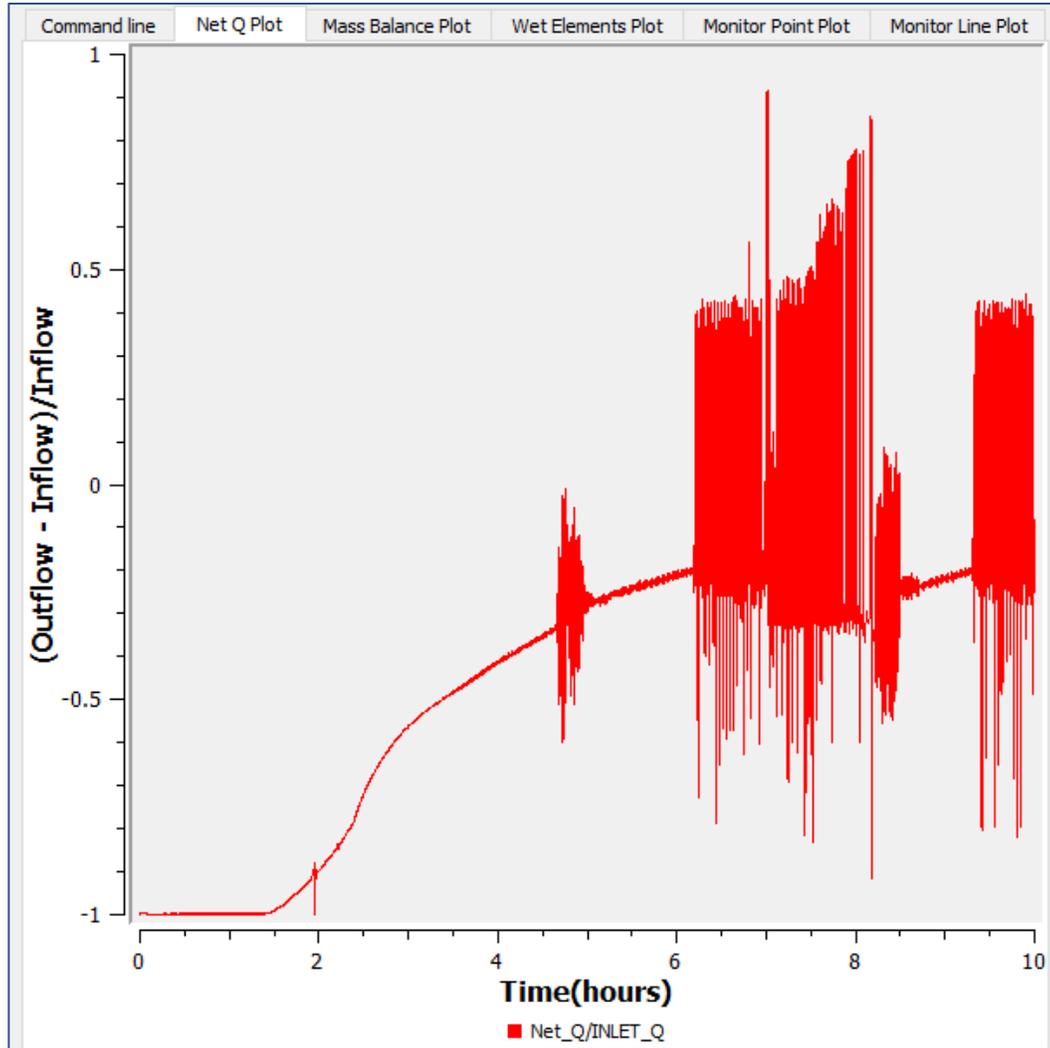
\*Check continuity for a steady state/constant discharge



Monitor Line	1	2	3	4	5
Discharge (cfs)	22000	21920	1208	20634	21835
Difference (cfs)	0	-80 (0.3%)	-158 (.7%)	-165 (0.8%)	

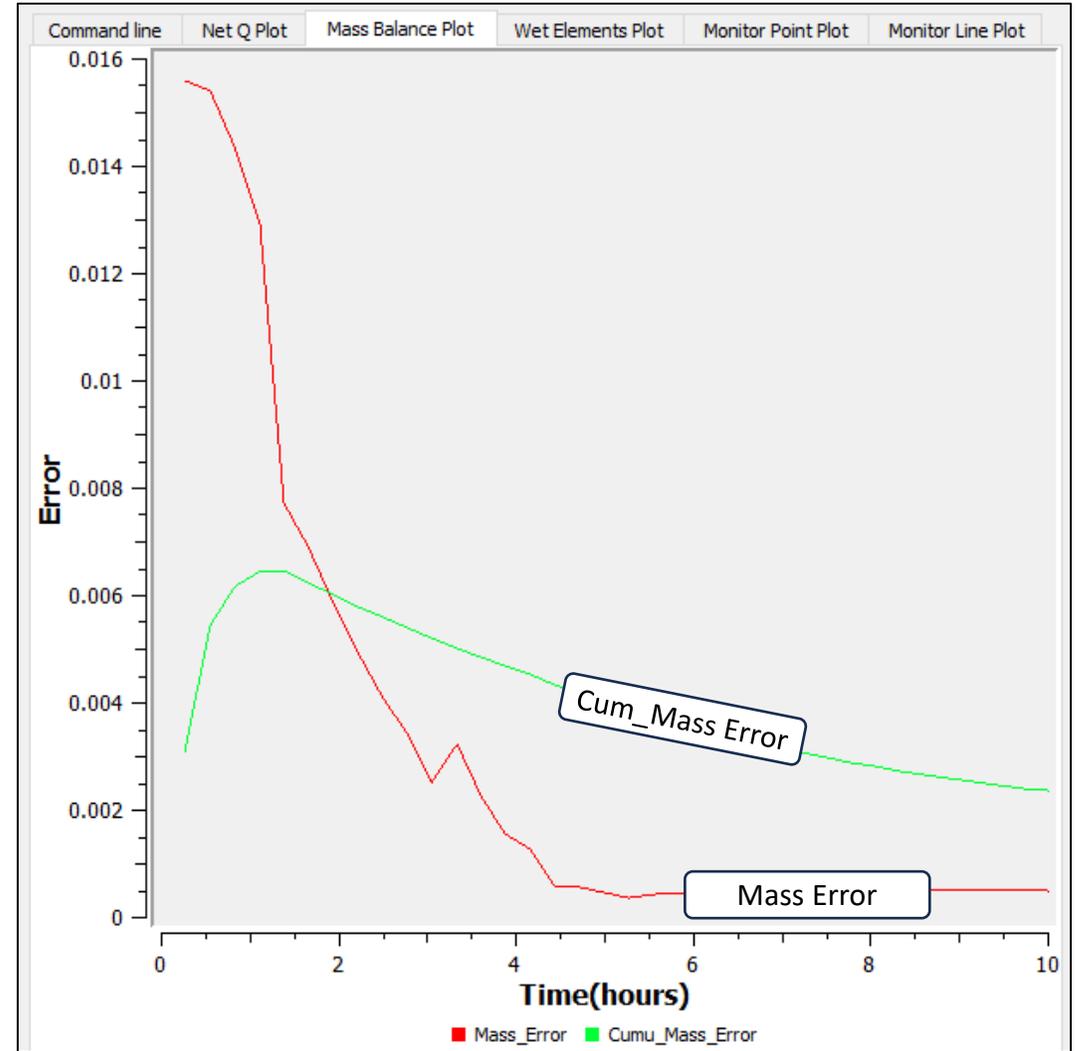
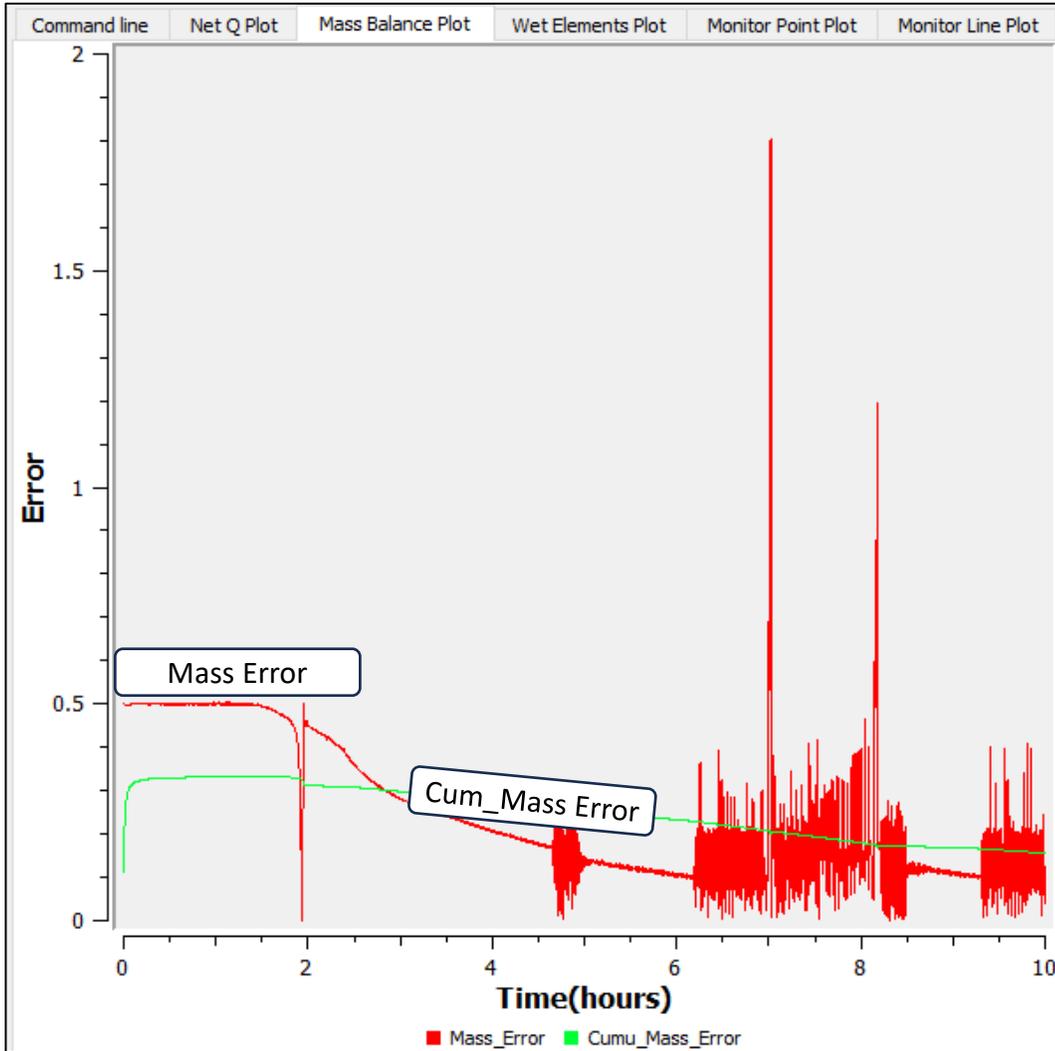
# Reviewing Results

## Continuity and Stability



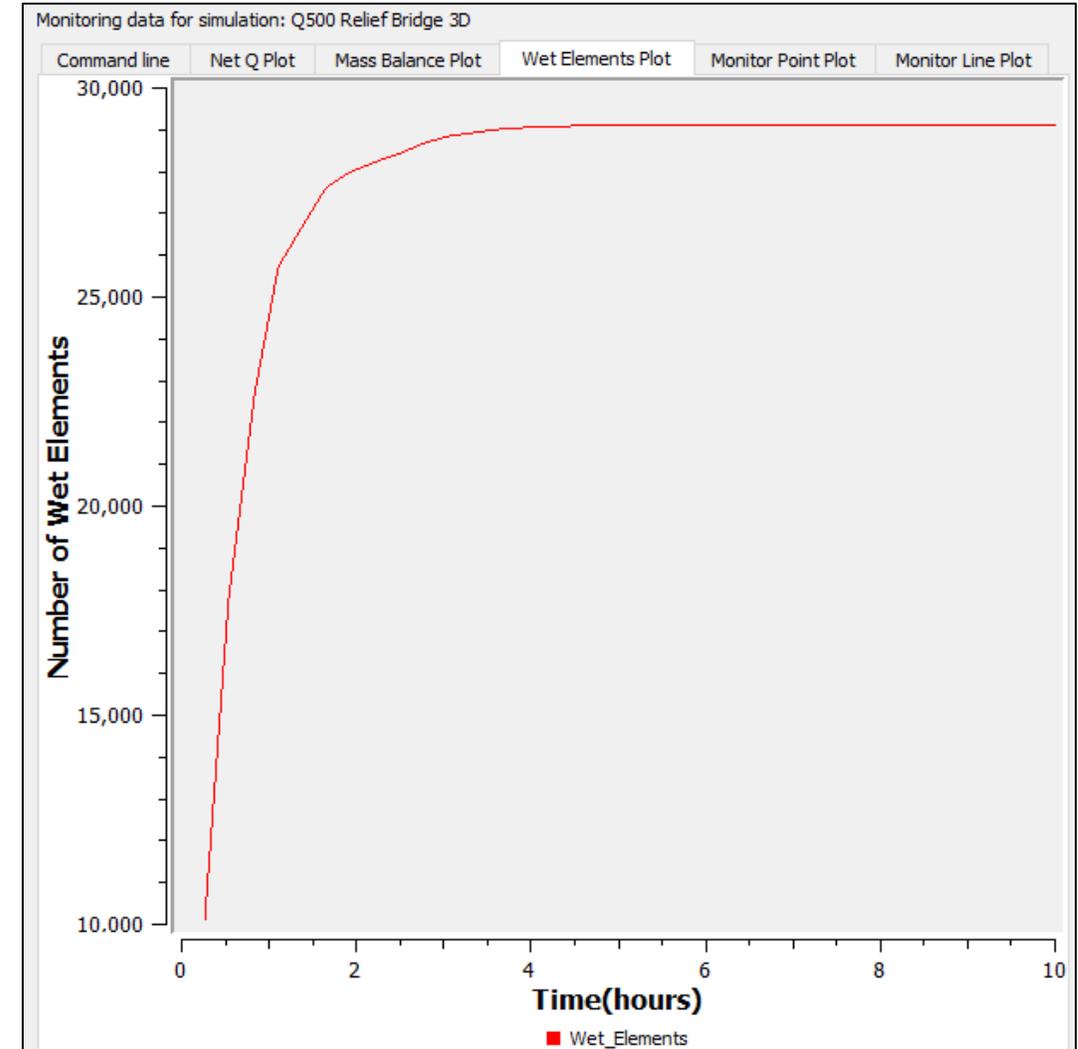
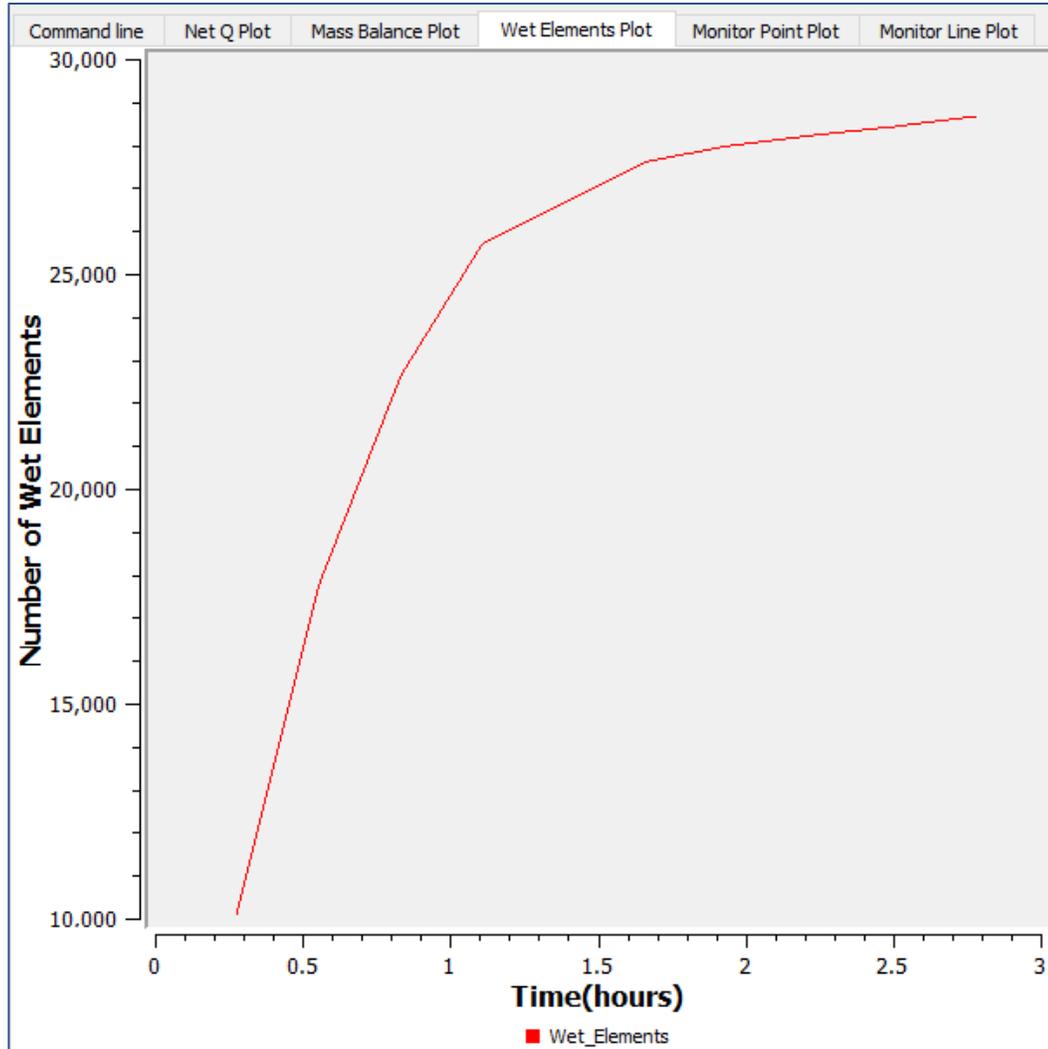
# Reviewing Results

## Continuity and Stability



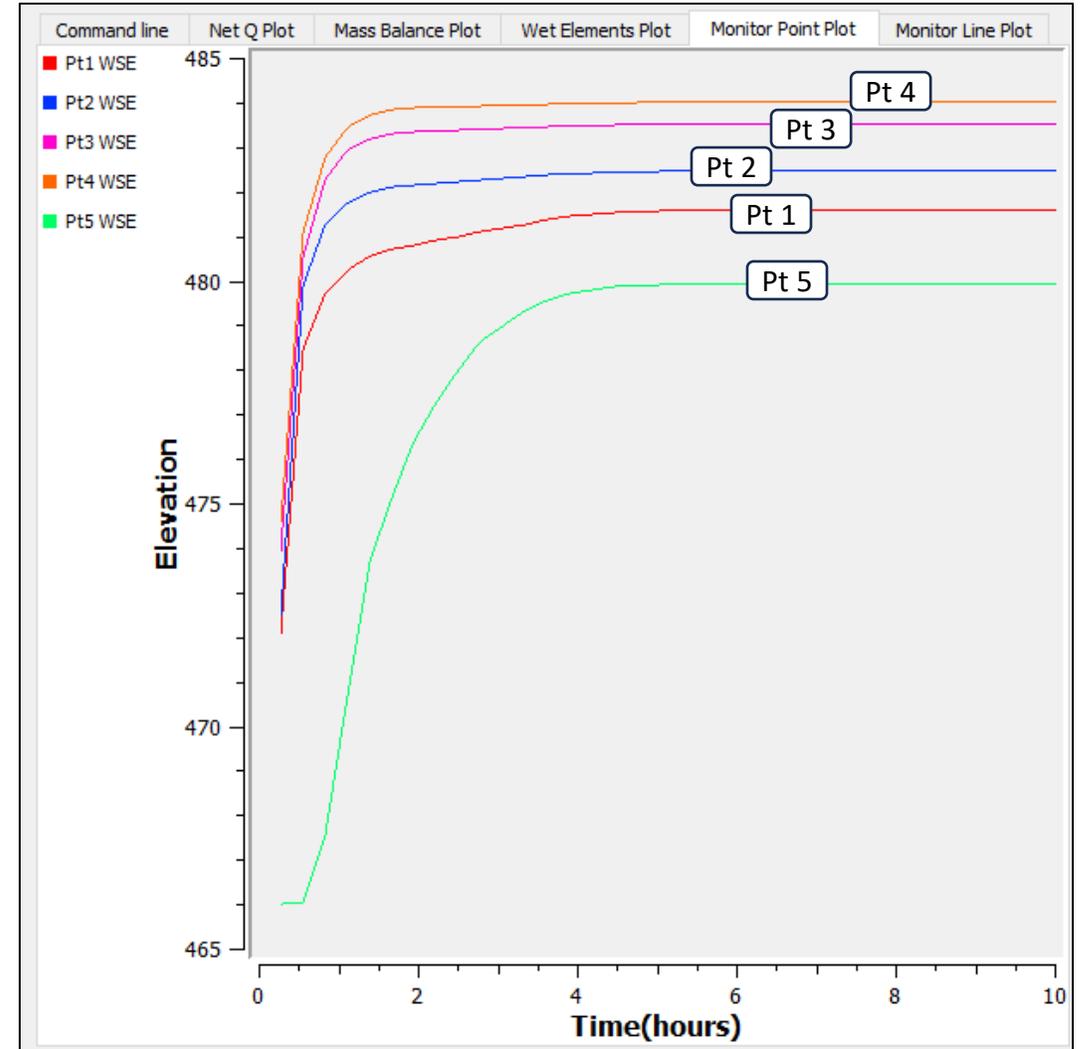
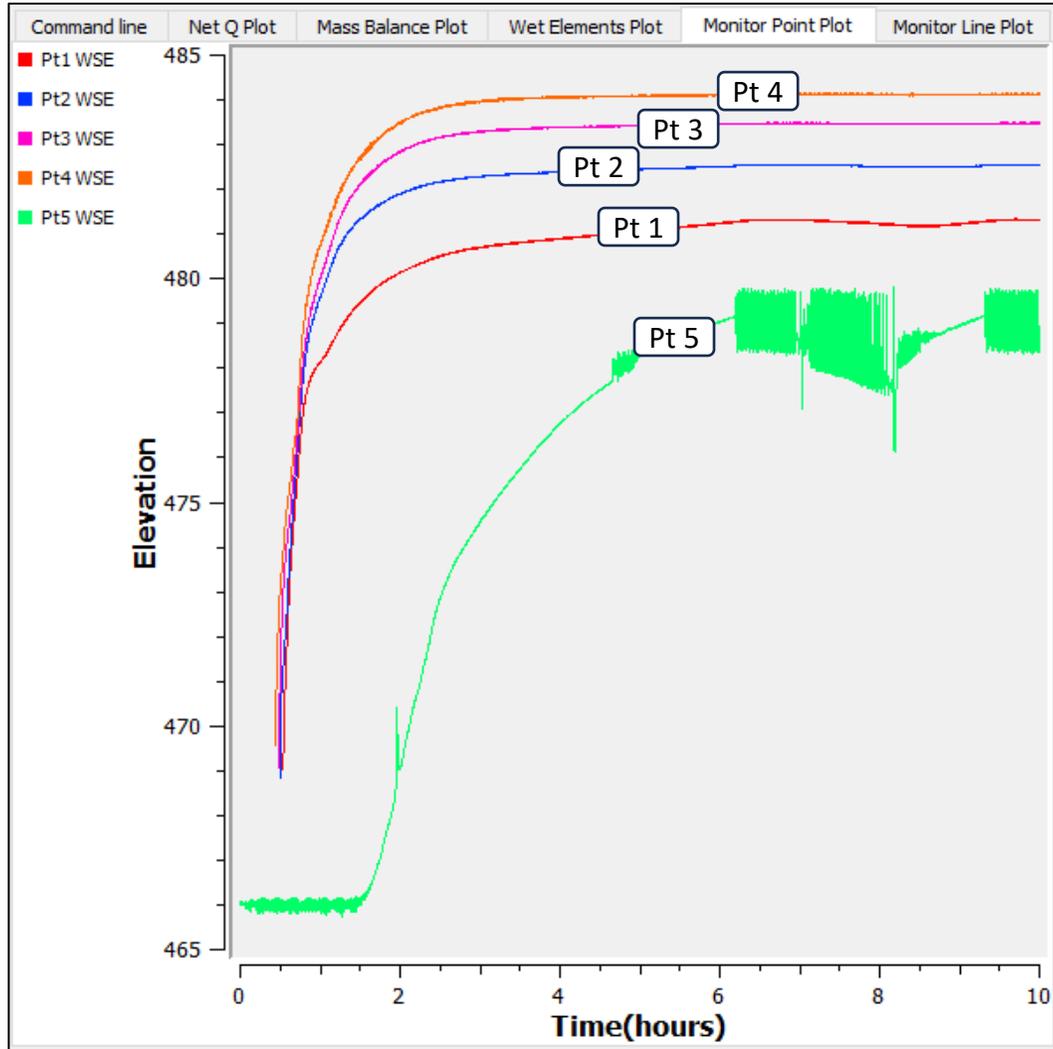
# Reviewing Results

## Continuity and Stability



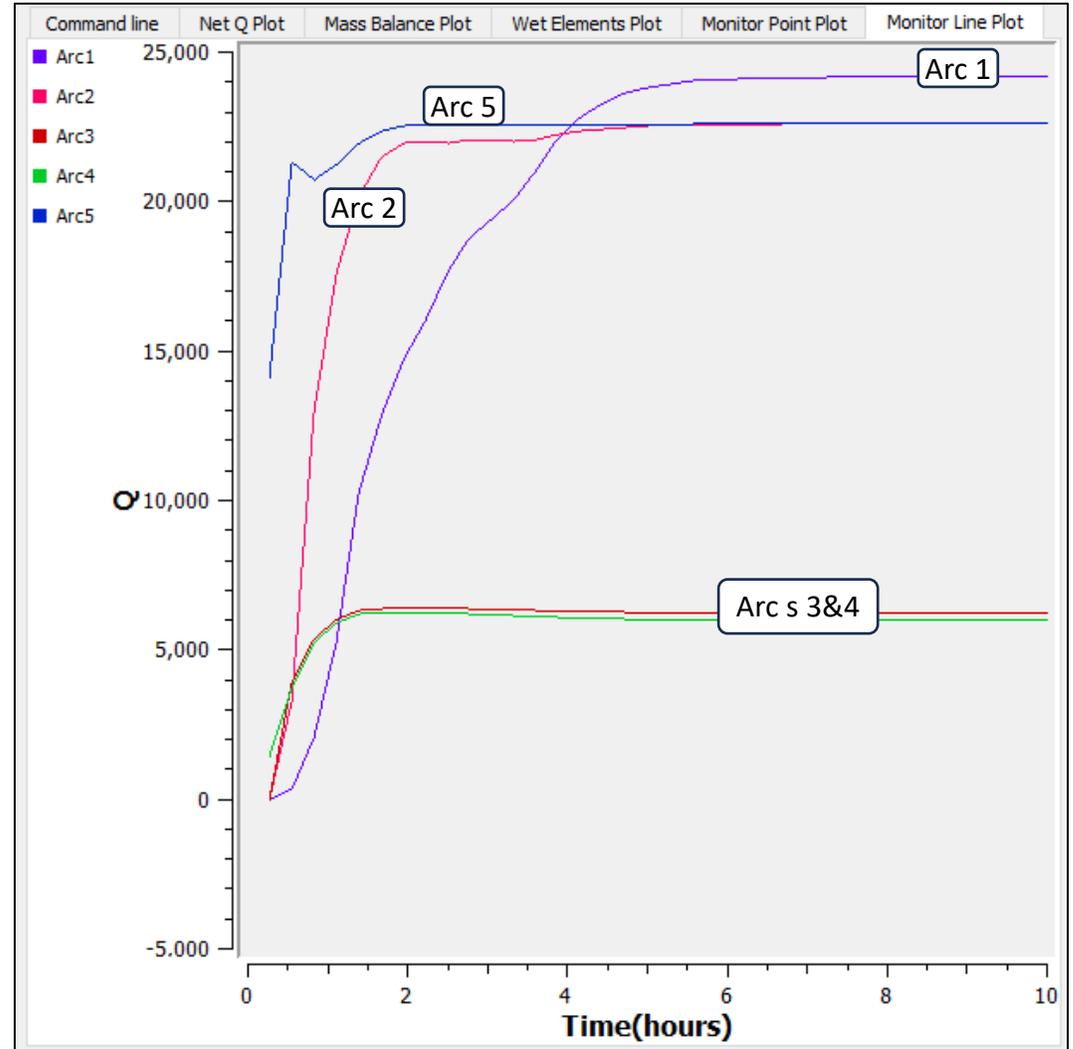
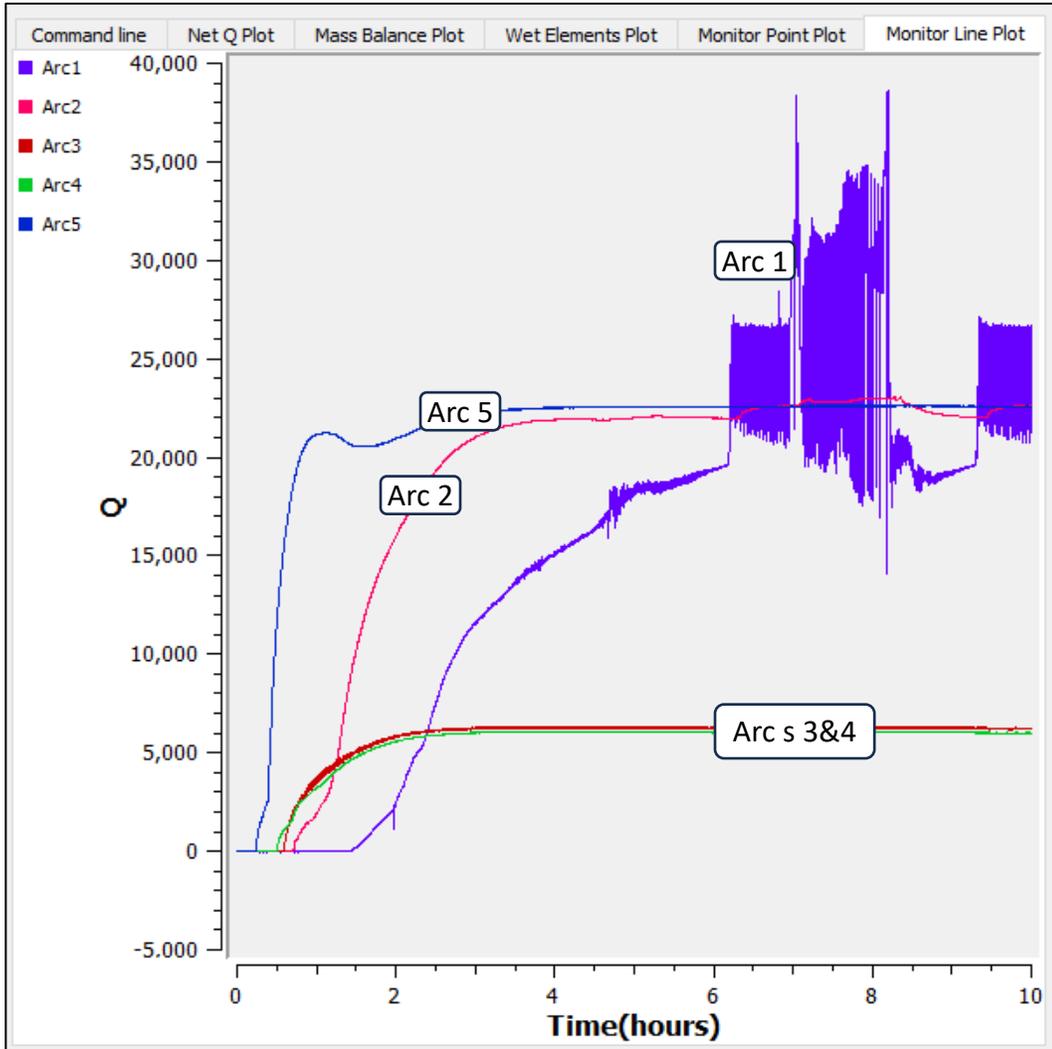
# Reviewing Results

## Continuity and Stability



# Reviewing Results

## Continuity and Stability



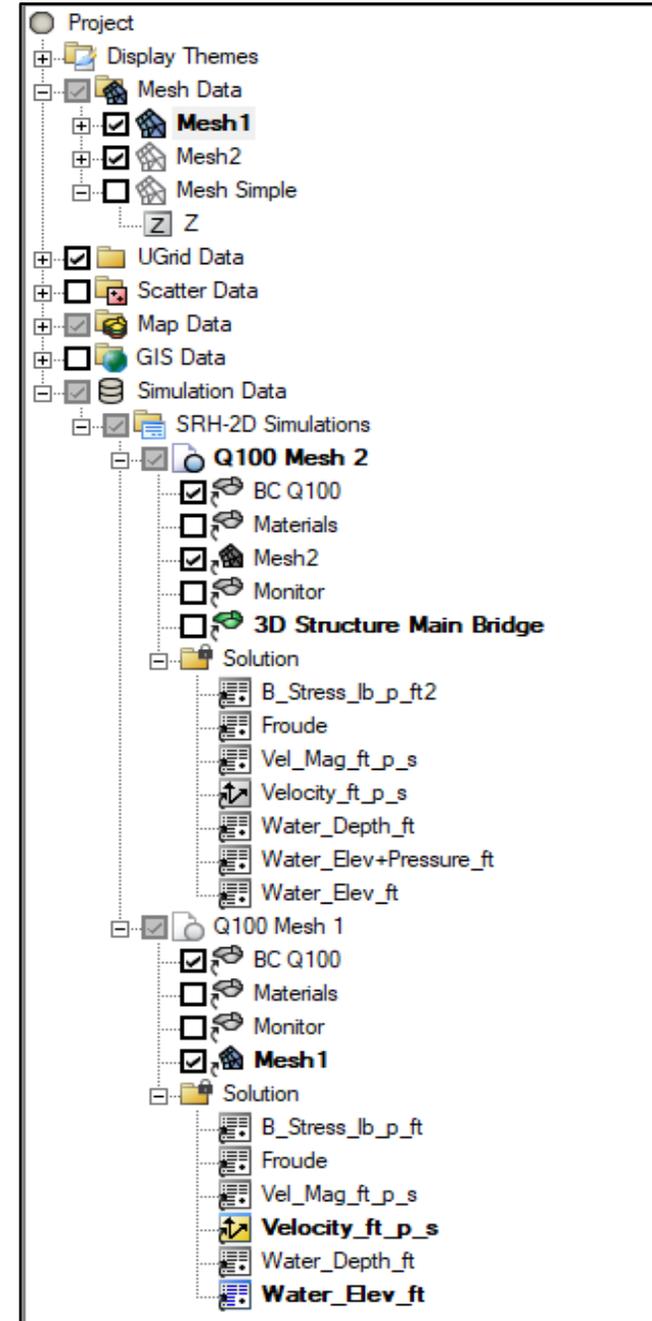
# Reviewing Results

Continuity and Stability

## Key Question:

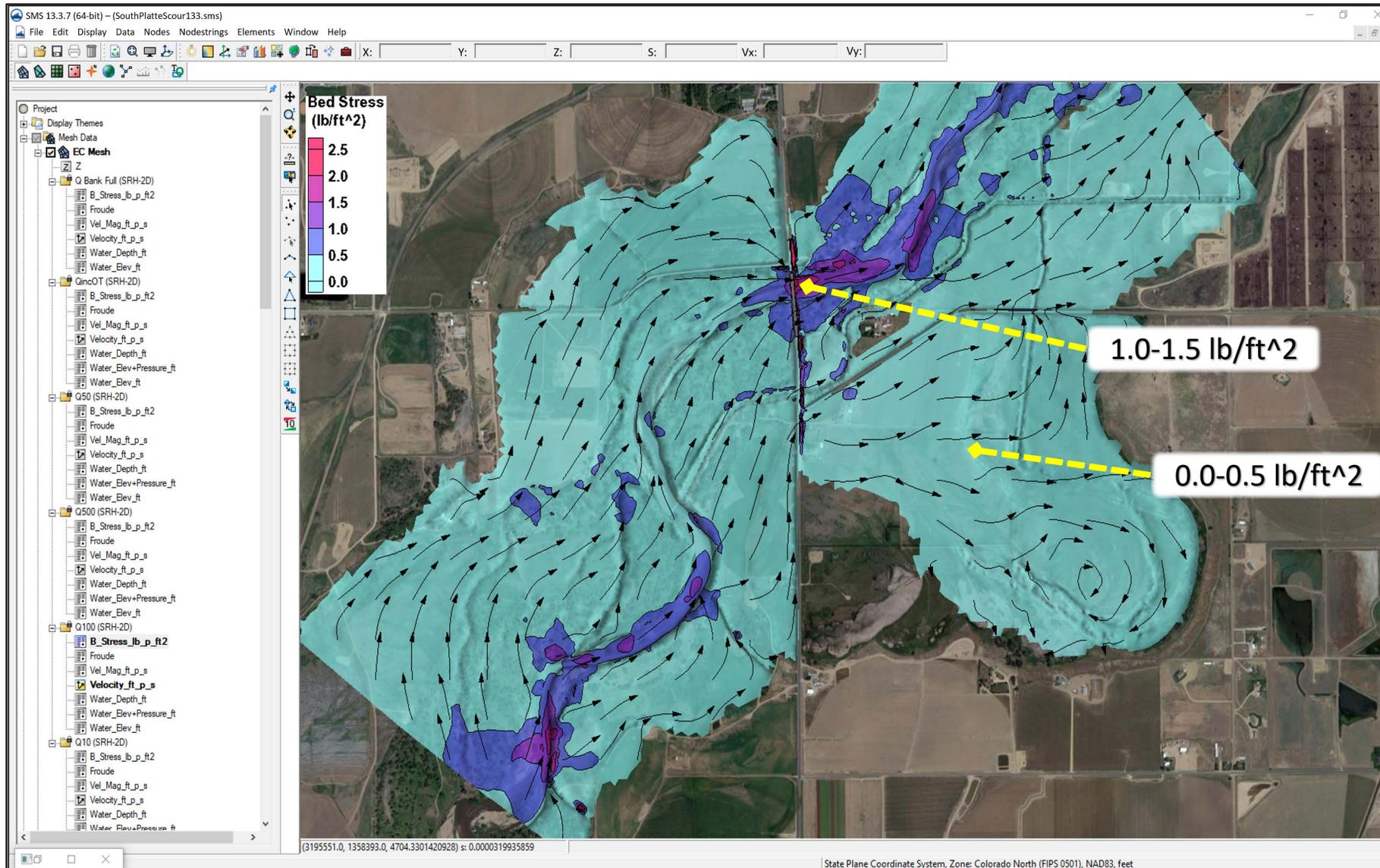
*Are the data set results within expected ranges, with no anomalies?*

Review the standard SRH-2D simulation output (shear stress, Froude #, velocity, depth, and WSEL)



# Reviewing Results

## Shear Stress

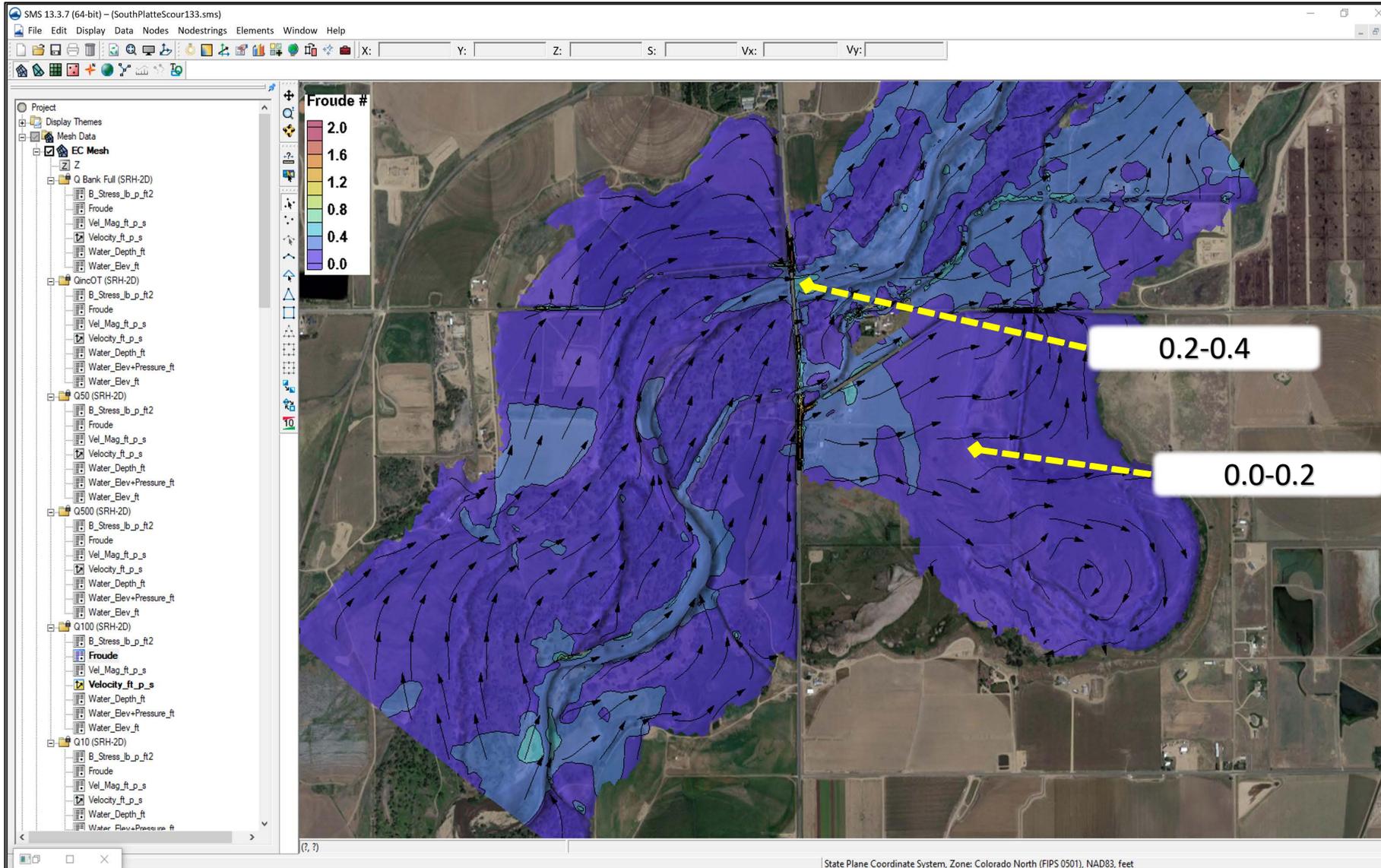


Review min/max values shown in the Simulation Summary Report

Reasonable Ranges of Shear Stress = <5 psf for mild slopes

# Reviewing Results

## Froude #

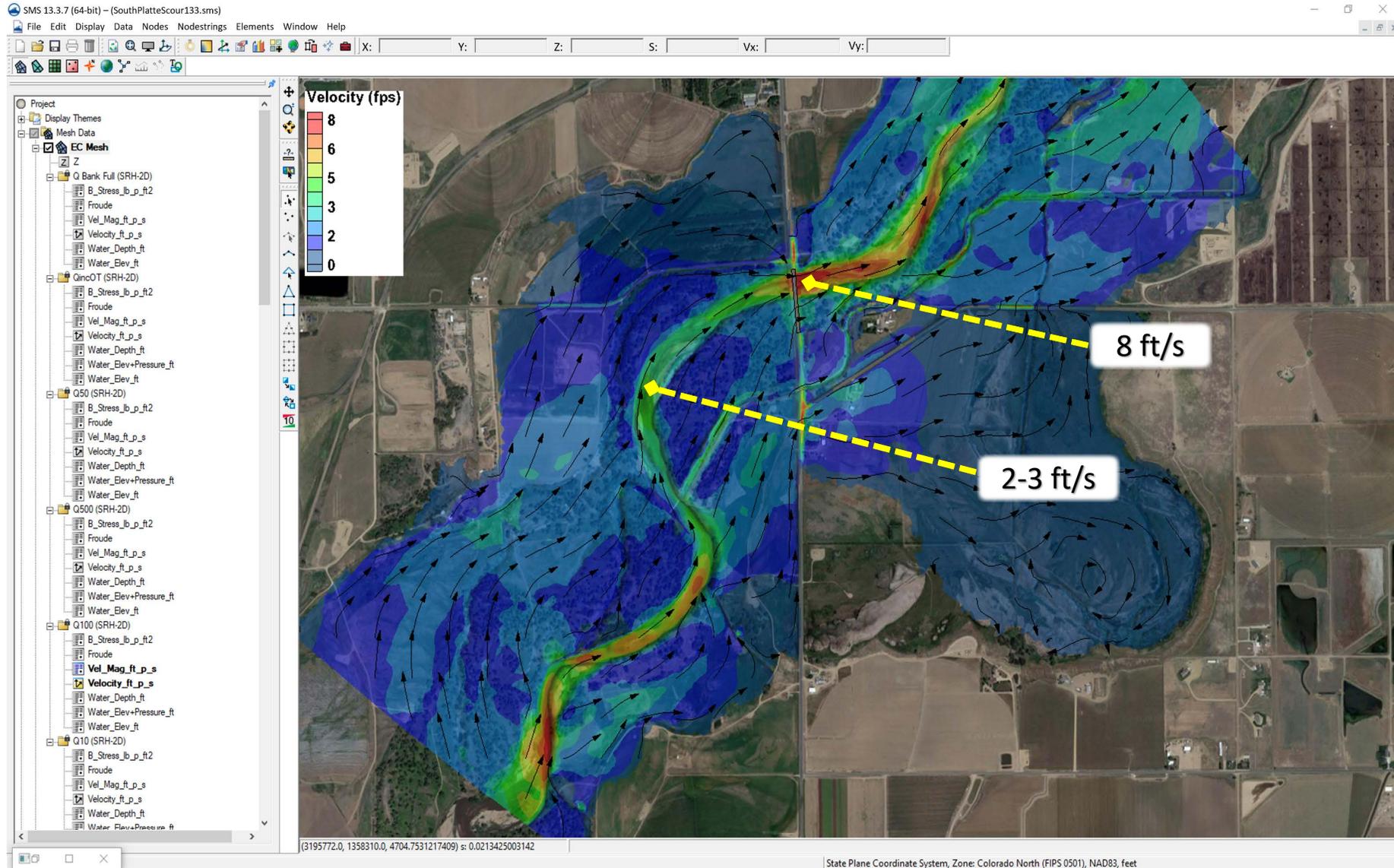


In natural channel Froude #s are generally  $<1.0$  (subcritical), with short sections  $>1.0$  supercritical.

Longer reaches with Froude  $>1.0$  likely indicate a need to use greater the Manning's n values.

# Reviewing Results

## Velocity



Review min/max values shown in the Simulation Summary Report

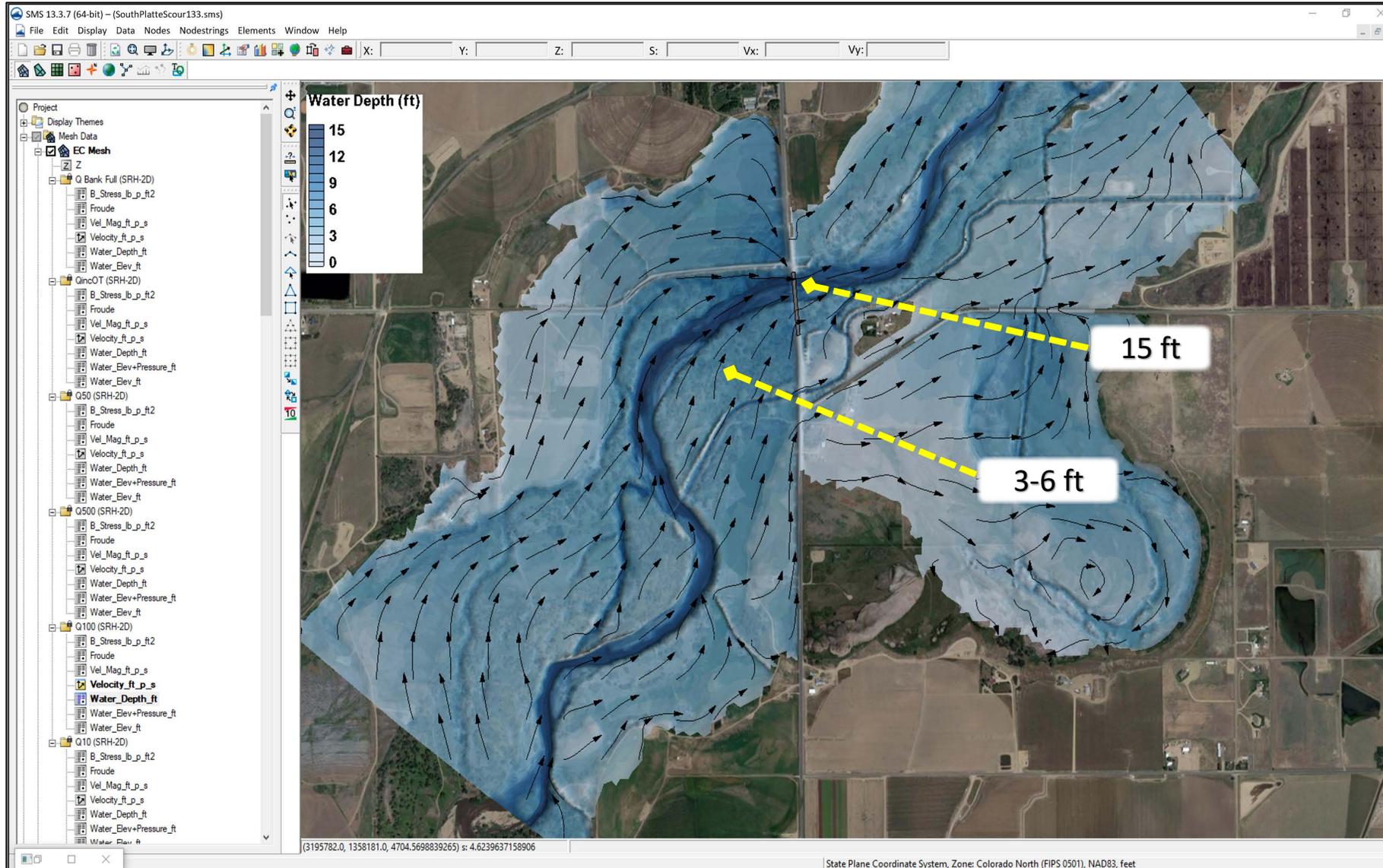
Reasonable velocity range:

0-20 ft/s

Do velocity vectors follow expected flow patterns?

# Reviewing Results

## Depth



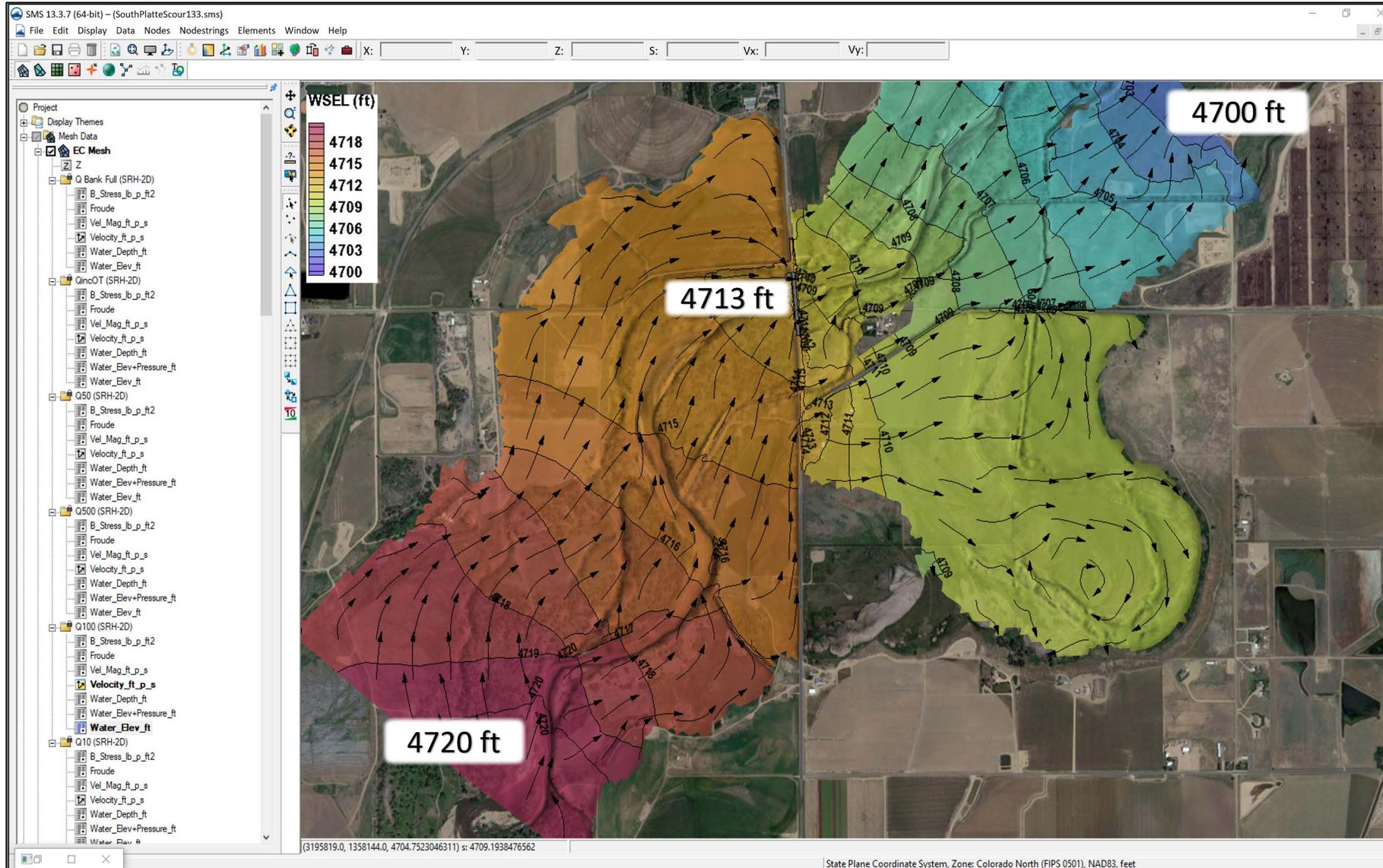
Review min/max values shown in the Simulation Summary Report

Reasonable depth ranges?

Are there any abrupt depth changes in unexpected areas?  
Indicates possible issue in merging terrain data.

# Reviewing Results

## Water Surface Elevations



Review min/max values shown in the Simulation Summary Report

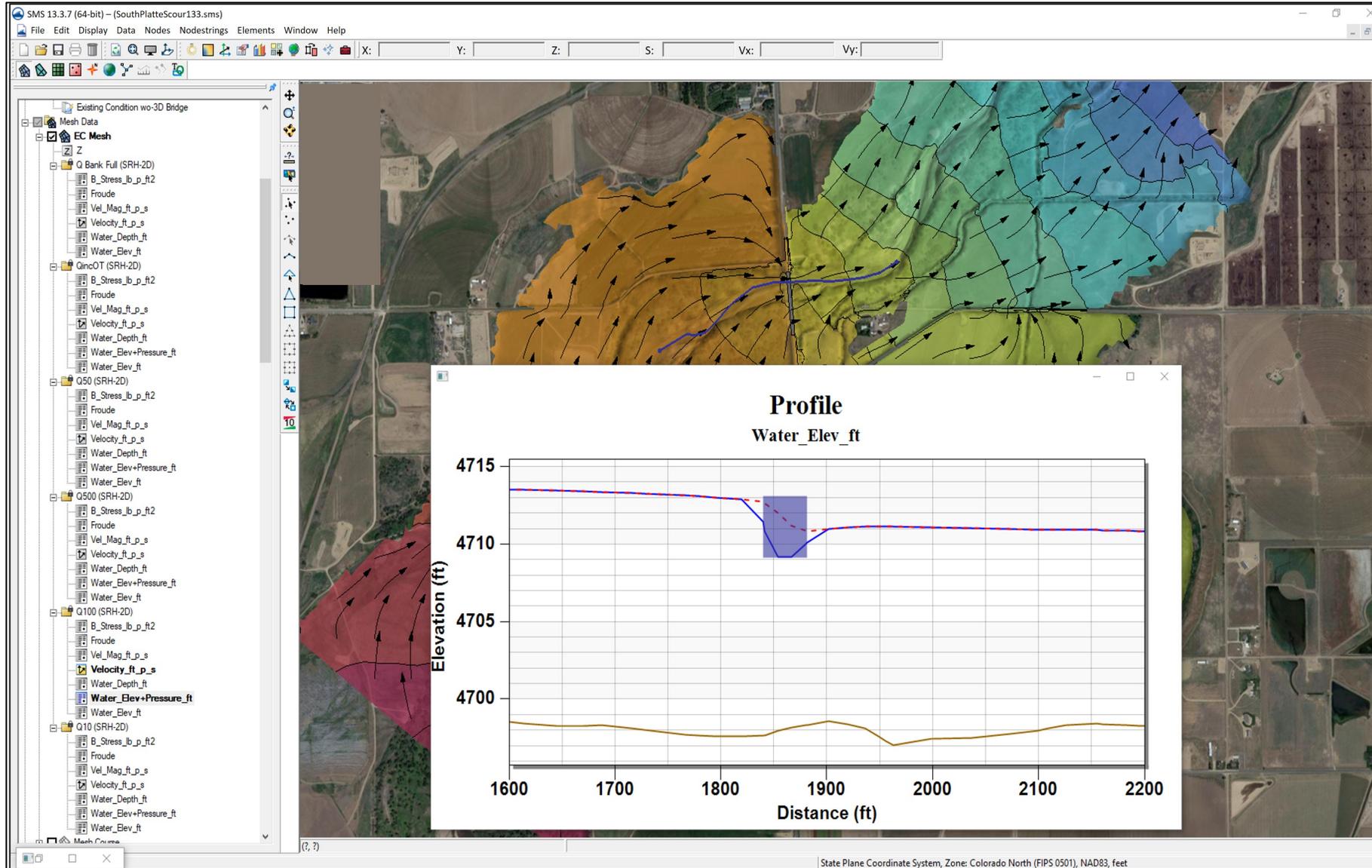
Reasonable WSEL ranges?

Project specific

Look for odd undulations.

# Reviewing Results

## Water Surface Elevations + Pressure



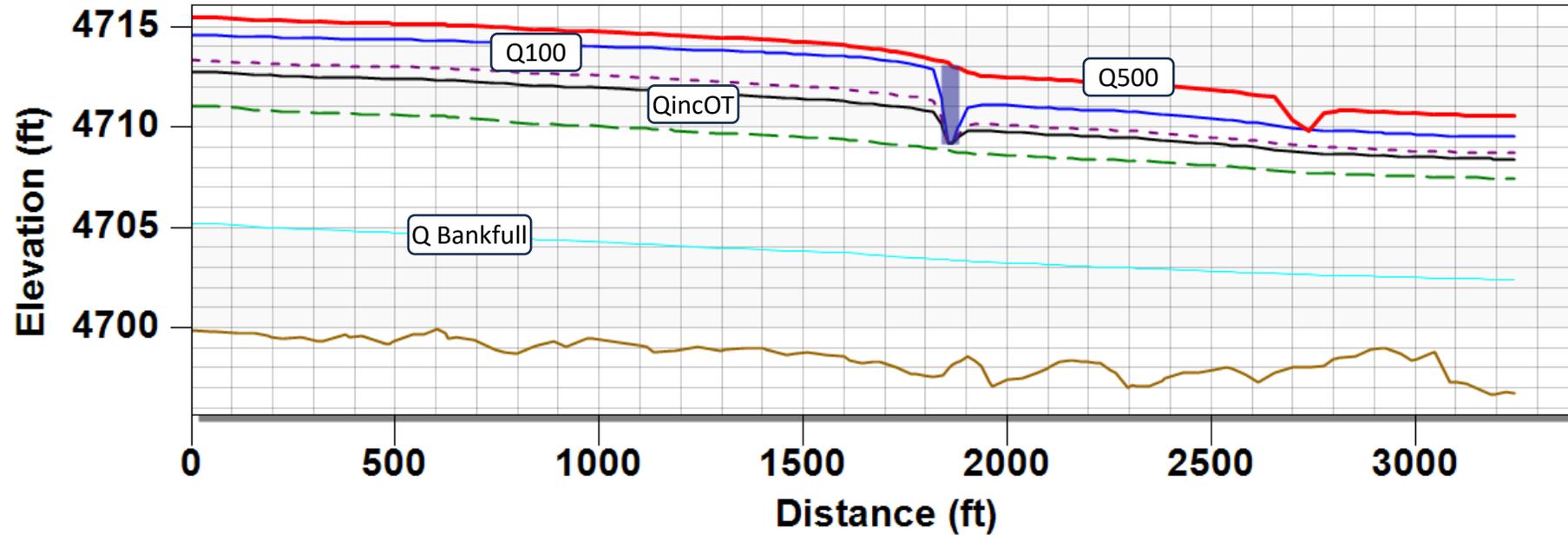
When pressure flow exists, an additional dataset is added to represent the pressure head.

# Reviewing Results

## Profile and Cross Section Plots

### CL Profile

WSEL



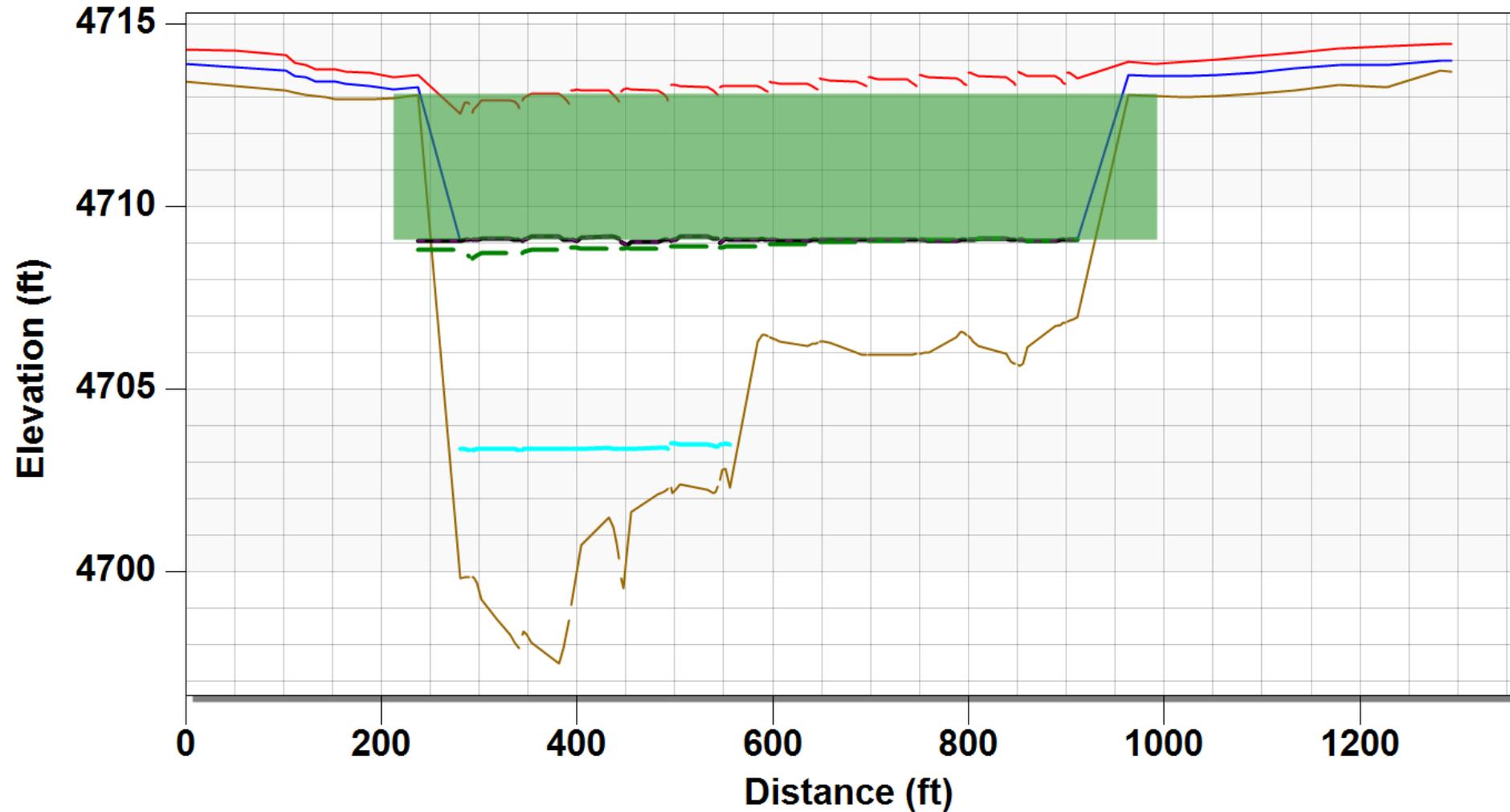
- CL, Z
 CL, Q100 (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft
- CL, Q Bank Full (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft
 CL, QincOT (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft
- CL, Q10 (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft
 CL, Q50 (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft
- CL, Q500 (SRH-2D)\Water\_Elev\_ft

# Reviewing Results

## Profile and Cross Section Plots

### Main Bridge Cross Section

Water\_Elev



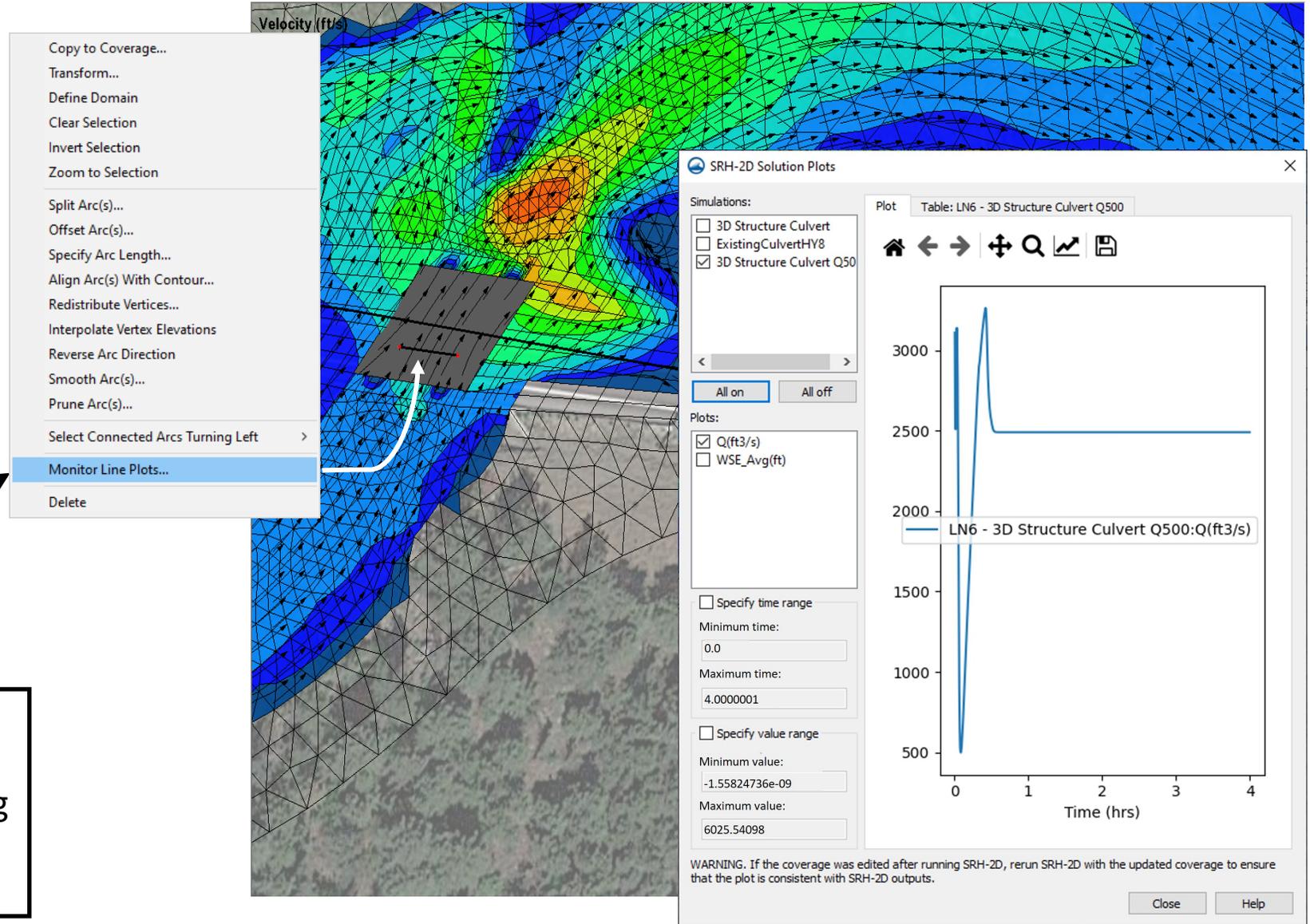
# Reviewing Results

## Hydraulic Structures – 3D Bridges and Culverts

Review velocities,  
depths, and WSELs

Confirm flow continuity:

- Structure opening flow
- Structure overtopping flow
- Embankment overtopping flow



To view the flow through the structure opening  
right click on a monitoring line crossing the structure opening and select Monitor Line Plots

# Reviewing Results

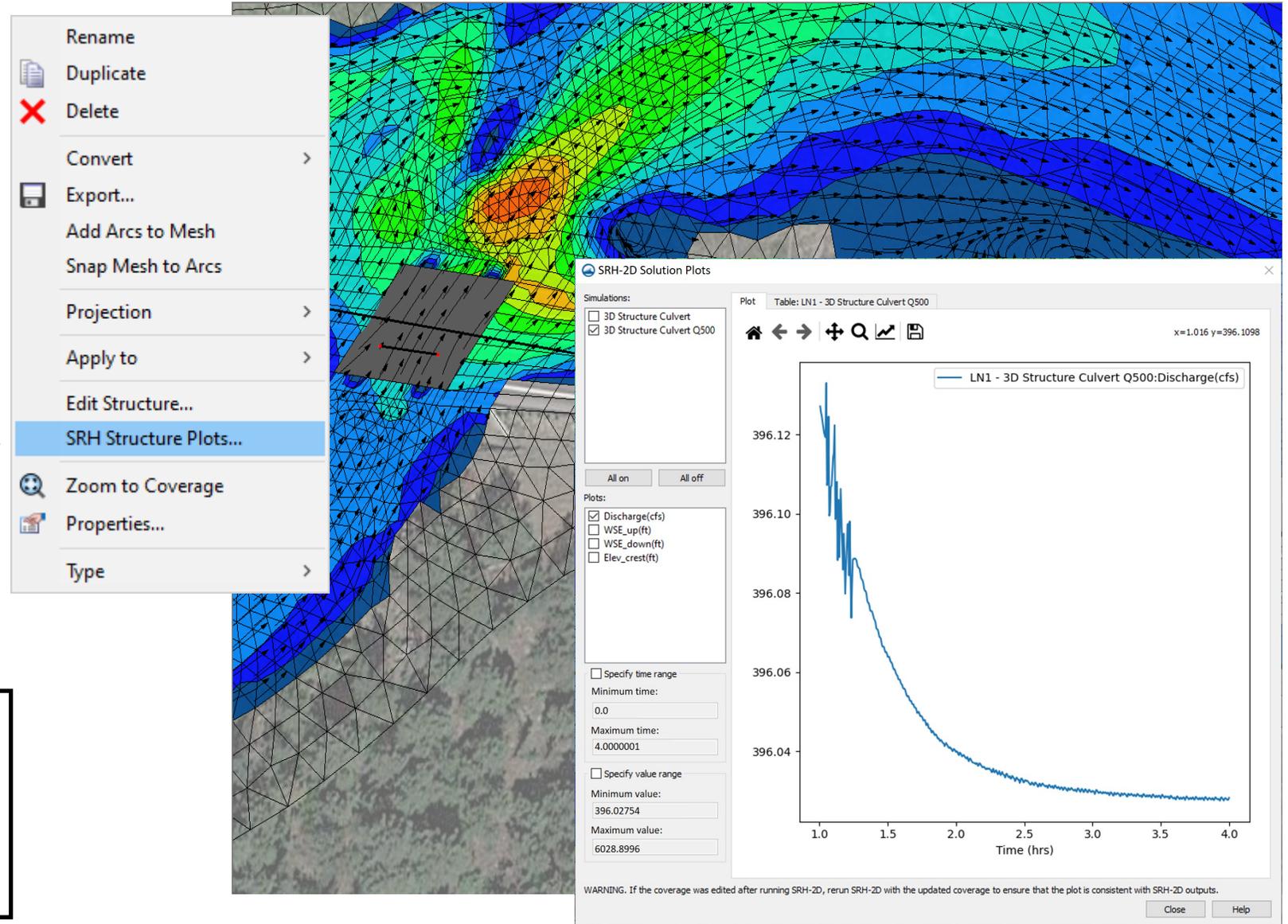
## Hydraulic Structures – 3D Bridges and Culverts

Review velocities,  
depths, and WSEs

Confirm flow continuity:

- Structure opening flow
- Structure overtopping flow
- Embankment overtopping flow

To view the structure  
overtopping flow  
rt click on the 3D structure  
coverage and select SRH  
Structure Plots



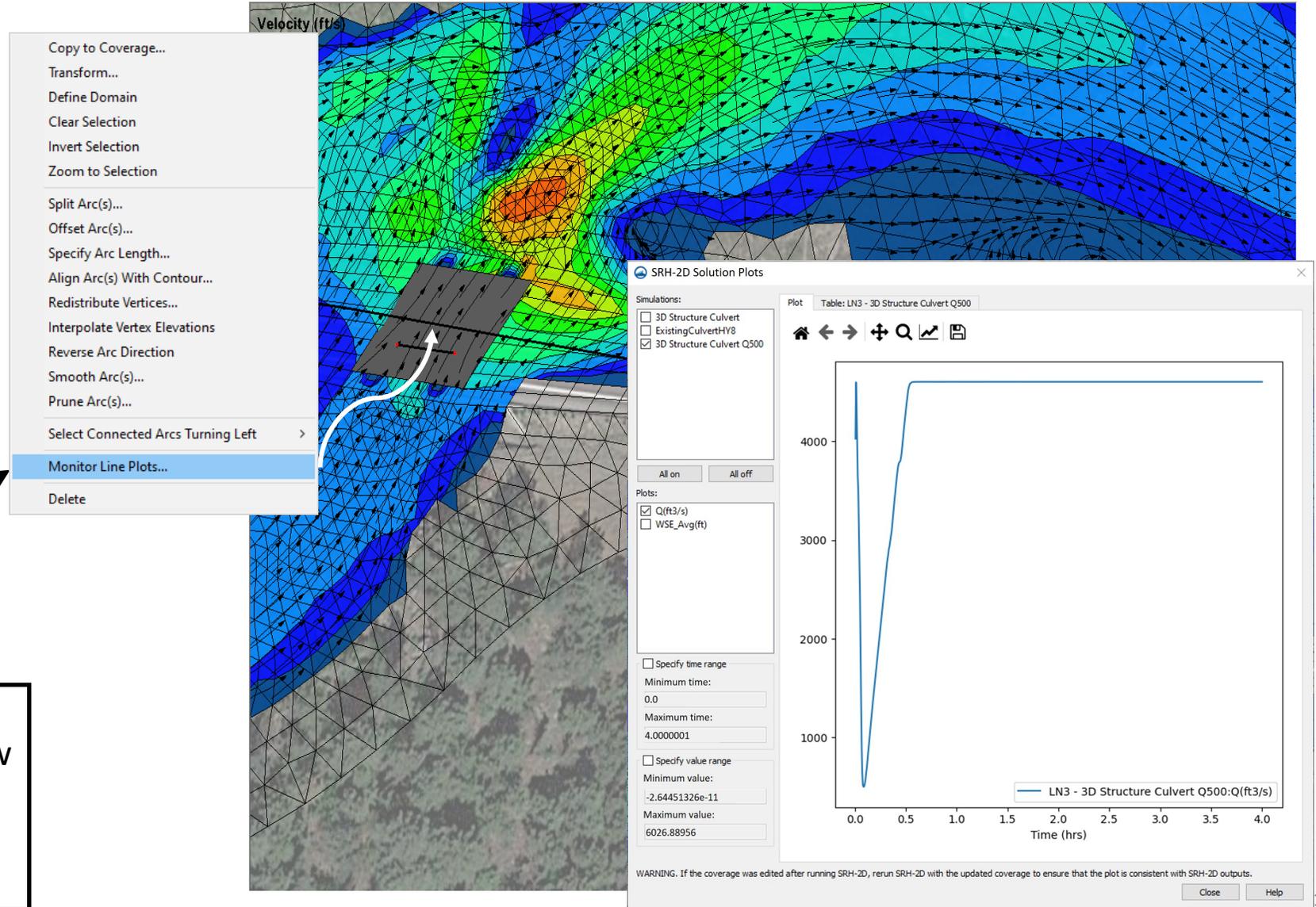
# Reviewing Results

## Hydraulic Structures – 3D Bridges and Culverts

Review velocities,  
depths, and WSELs

Confirm flow continuity:

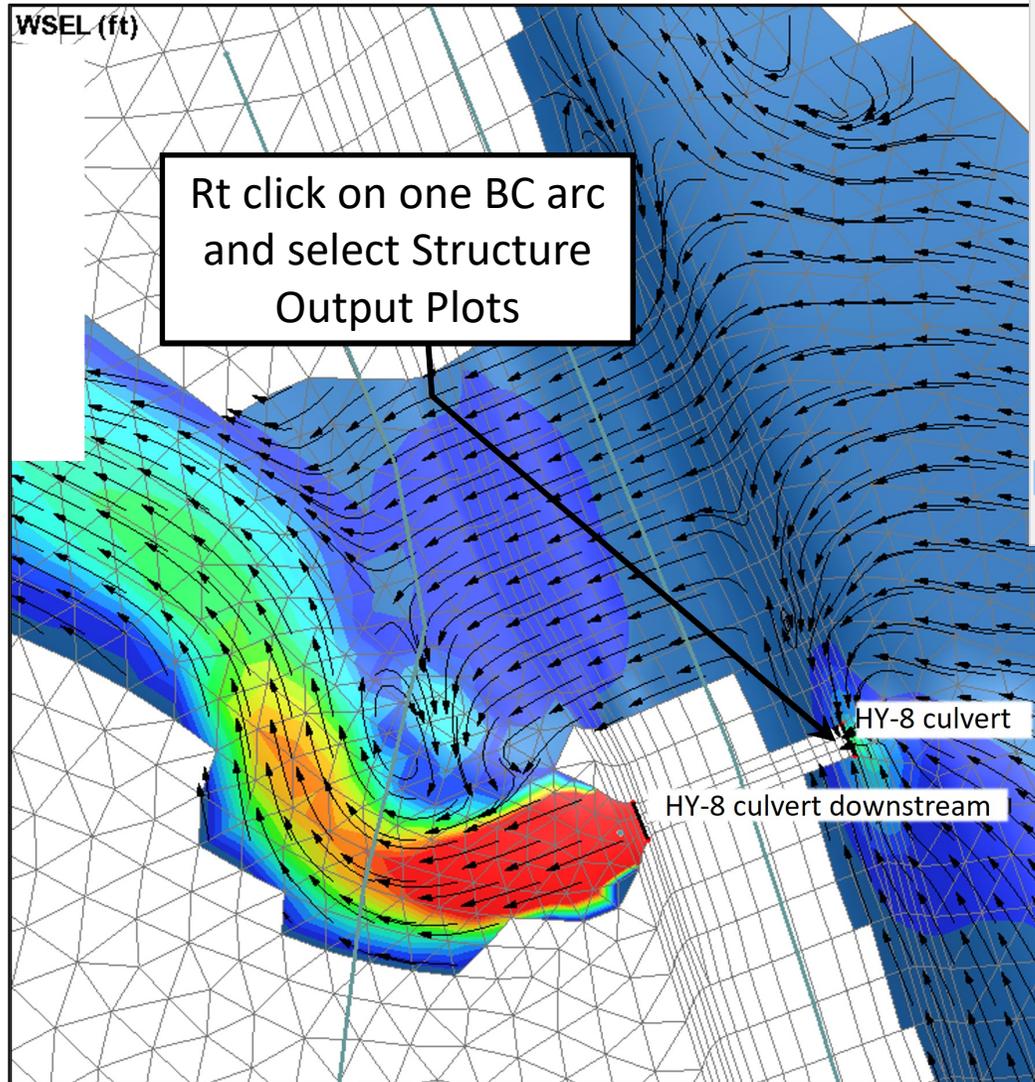
- Structure opening flow
- Structure overtopping flow
- Embankment overtopping flow



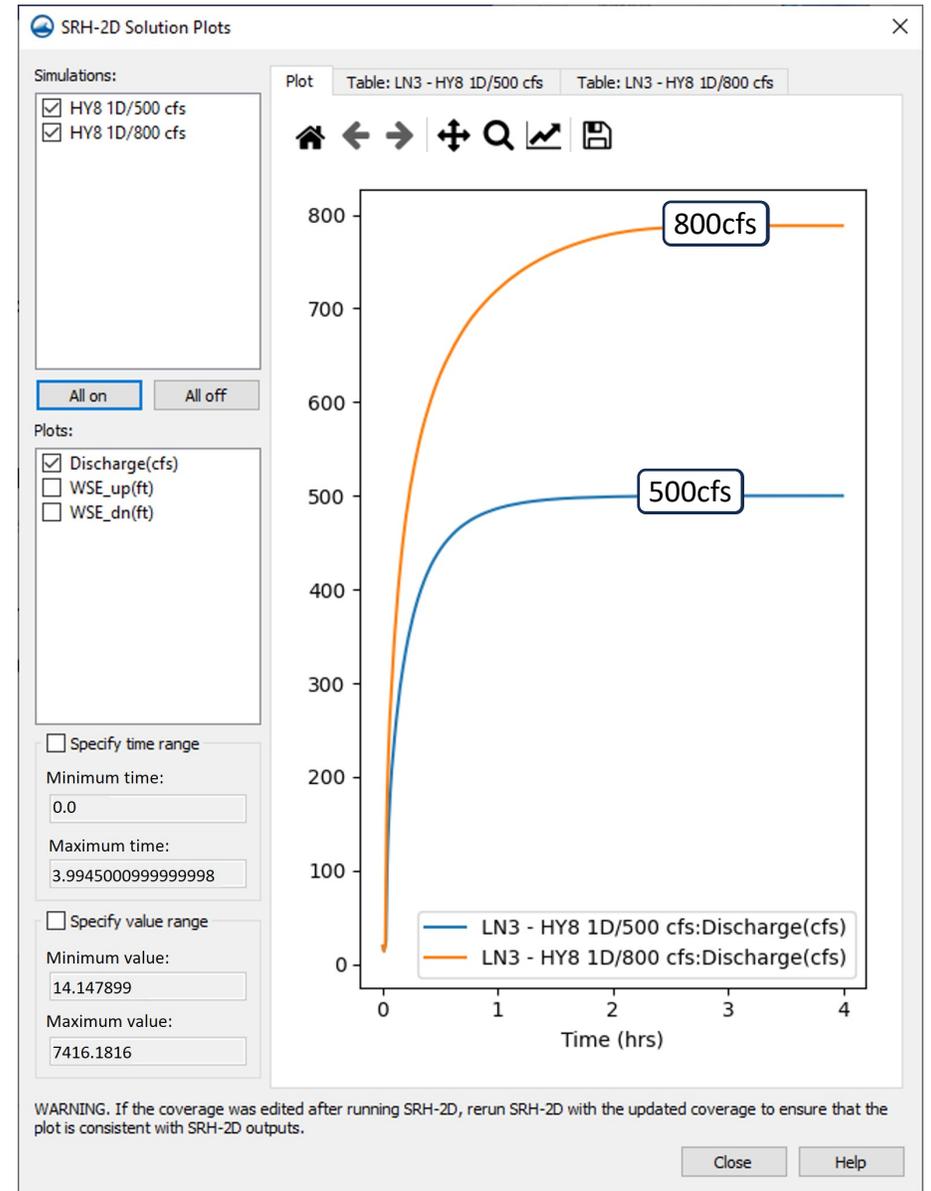
To view the embankment  
overtopping flow + the opening flow  
rt click on a monitoring line along  
the embankment and select  
Monitor Line Plots

# Reviewing Results

## Hydraulic Structures – HY-8 Culverts

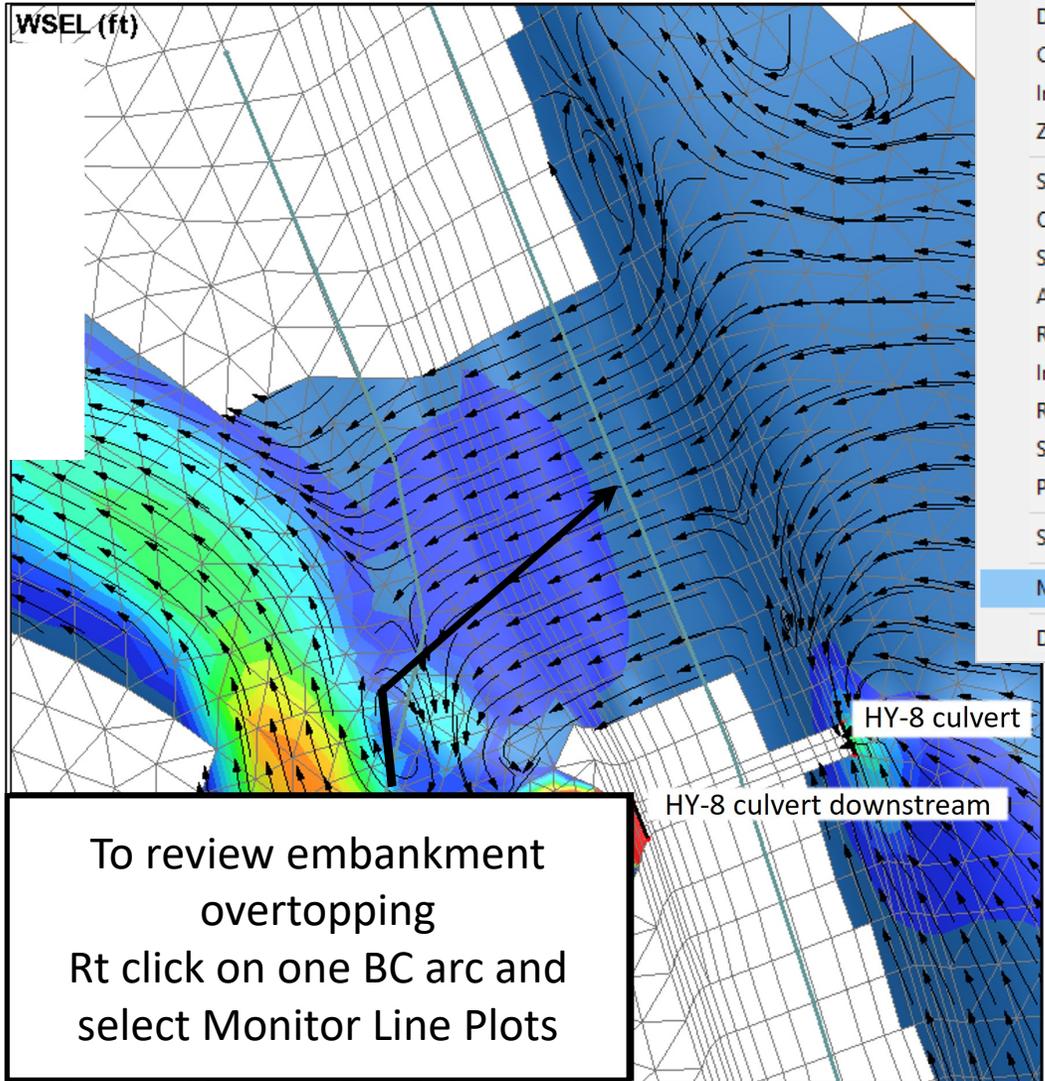


- Copy to Coverage...
- Transform...
- Define Domain
- Clear Selection
- Invert Selection
- Zoom to Selection
- Split Arc(s)...
- Offset Arc(s)...
- Specify Arc Length...
- Align Arc(s) With Contour...
- Redistribute Vertices...
- Interpolate Vertex Elevations
- Reverse Arc Direction
- Smooth Arc(s)...
- Prune Arc(s)...
- Select Connected Arcs Turning Left >
- Assign BC...
- Structure Output Plots...**
- Delete

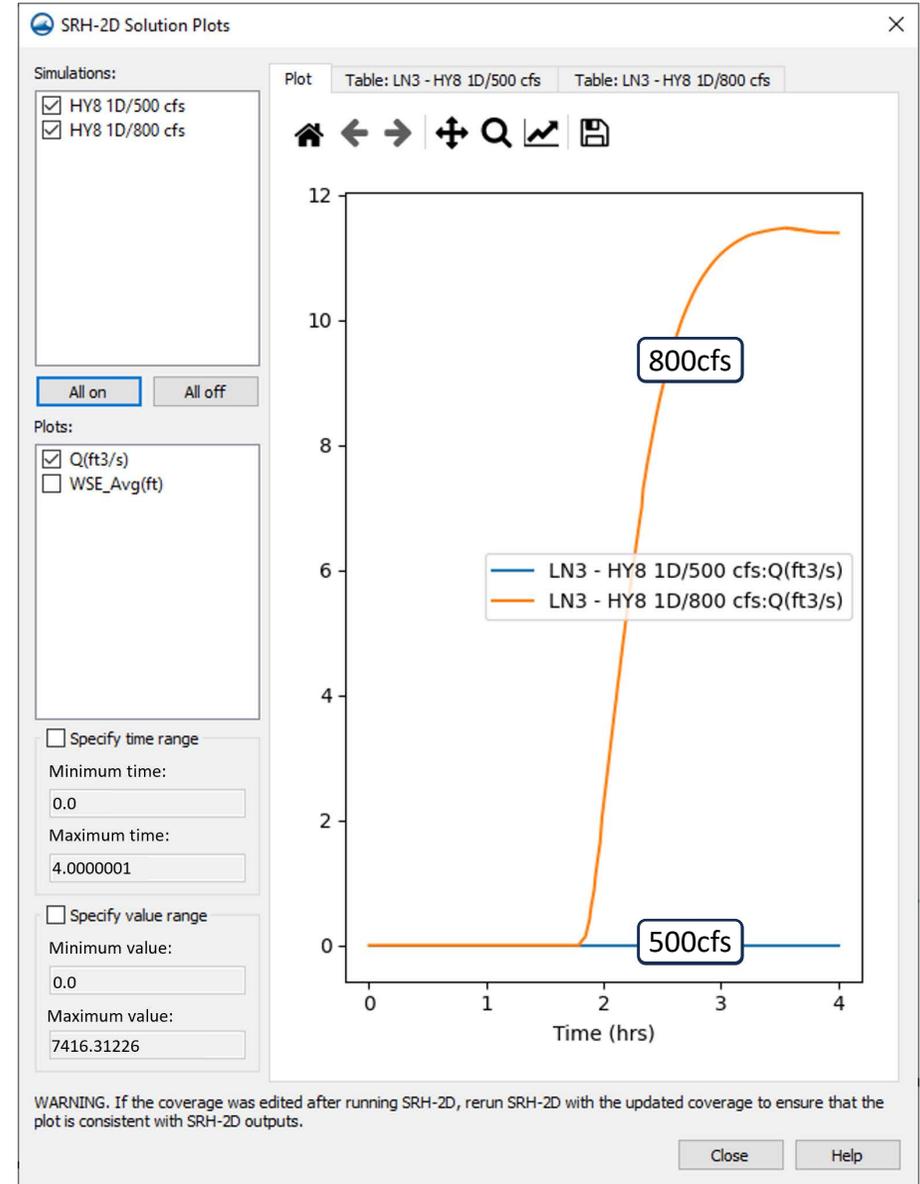


# Reviewing Results

## Hydraulic Structures – HY-8 Culverts



- Copy to Coverage...
- Transform...
- Define Domain
- Clear Selection
- Invert Selection
- Zoom to Selection
- Split Arc(s)...
- Offset Arc(s)...
- Specify Arc Length...
- Align Arc(s) With Contour...
- Redistribute Vertices...
- Interpolate Vertex Elevations
- Reverse Arc Direction
- Smooth Arc(s)...
- Prune Arc(s)...
- Select Connected Arcs Turning Left >
- Monitor Line Plots...**
- Delete



# ***Key Results Review Questions***

- Are continuity and stability preserved throughout the domain?
- Are the data set results within expected ranges, with no anomalies? (velocity, depth, WSEL, Shear Stress, and Froude#)
- Water surface / ground profile and cross section plots
- Data set comparisons (existing vs. proposed, baseflow vs. floodway, etc.)

# 2D Model Review Training Agenda

## Session 3

- *Review Exercises 2 & 3*
- Reviewing Model Results
- **Hydraulic Variables for Bridge Scour Analyses**
- Wrap-up

### Recommended Training:

- [FHWA Bridge Scour Workshop](#) – 8-hour refresher course
- [NHI 135046 Stream Stability and Scour at Highway Bridges](#)



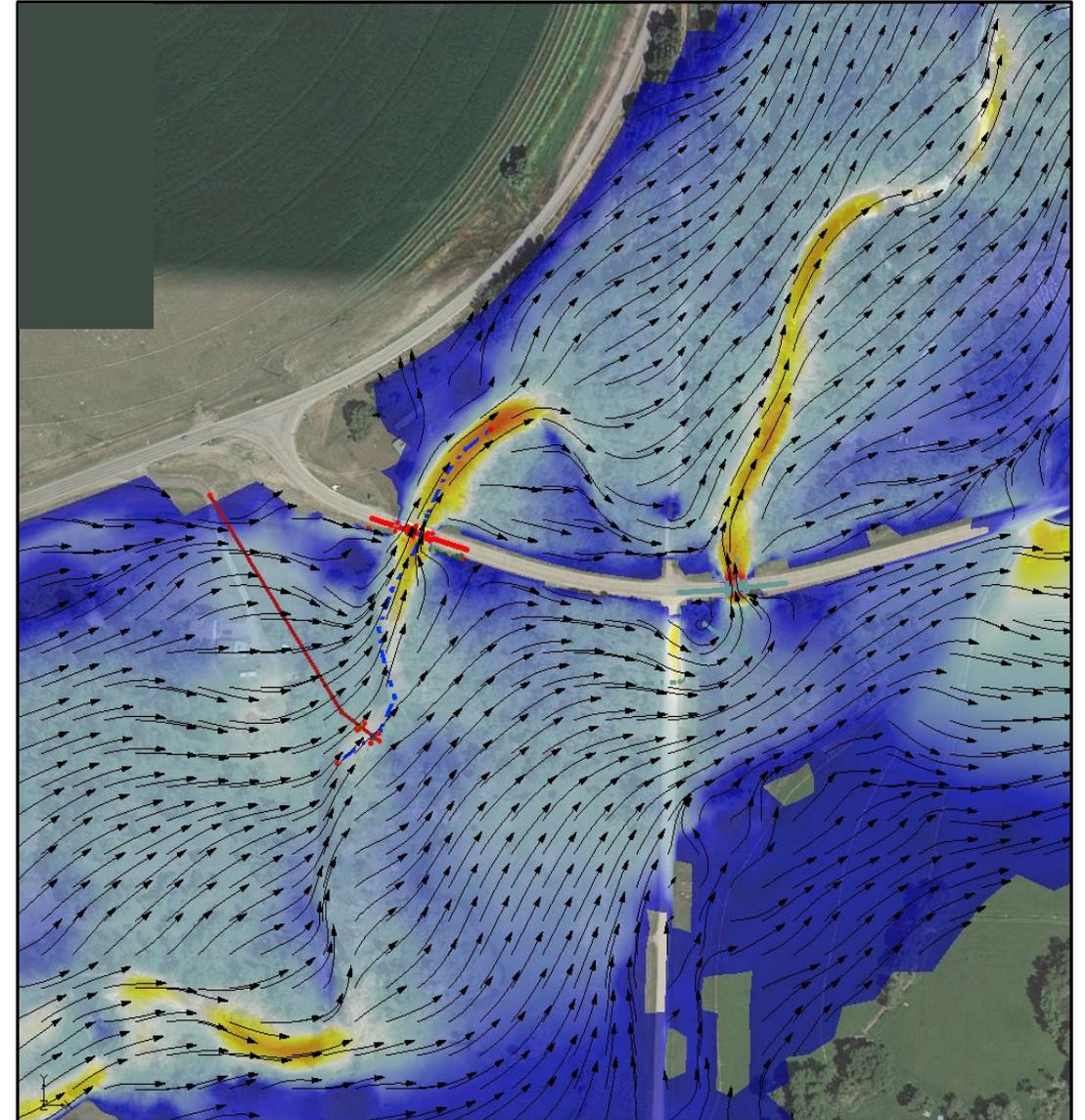
# ***Reviewing Bridge Scour Hydraulics Top 3 Things***

1. Review sources of material gradations
2. Verify approach and contracted section locations
3. Confirm that averaged hydraulic conditions are used (except for pier scour)

# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## Recommended Information

- Multiple events (3-5) are recommended to assess the worst- case scour potential.
- The Q50, Q100 and Q500 should be evaluated for most analyses. Incipient embankment overtopping could also be considered, and others that may result in worst-case conditions.
- Channel bed gradations are needed for the contracted section and the approach section.
- A channel bed sample at the contracted section may be used to represent the approach section if field investigations conclude they are similar.



# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## Overview of Hydraulic Variables

**Critical Velocity**  $V_c = K_u y^{1/6} D^{1/3}$

**Contraction Scour** Live Bed Condition

$$y_s = y_1 \left( \frac{Q_2}{Q_1} \right)^{6/7} \left( \frac{W_1}{W_2} \right)^{k_1} - y_0$$

Clear Water Condition

$$y_s = \left( \frac{K_u Q^2}{D m^{2/3} W^2} \right)^{3/7} - y_0$$

**Abutment Scour**  $y_{max} = \alpha_{A/B} y_1 \left( \frac{q_{2c}}{q_1} \right)^{6/7}$

$$y_{max} = \alpha_{A/B} \left( \frac{q_{2f}}{K_u D_{50}^{1/3}} \right)^{6/7}$$

**Pier Scour**  $y_s = 2.0 K_1 K_2 K_3 \left( \frac{a}{y_p} \right)^{0.65} Fr_1^{0.43}$

$$\left( Fr_1 = \frac{V_p}{(g y_p)^{0.5}} \right)$$

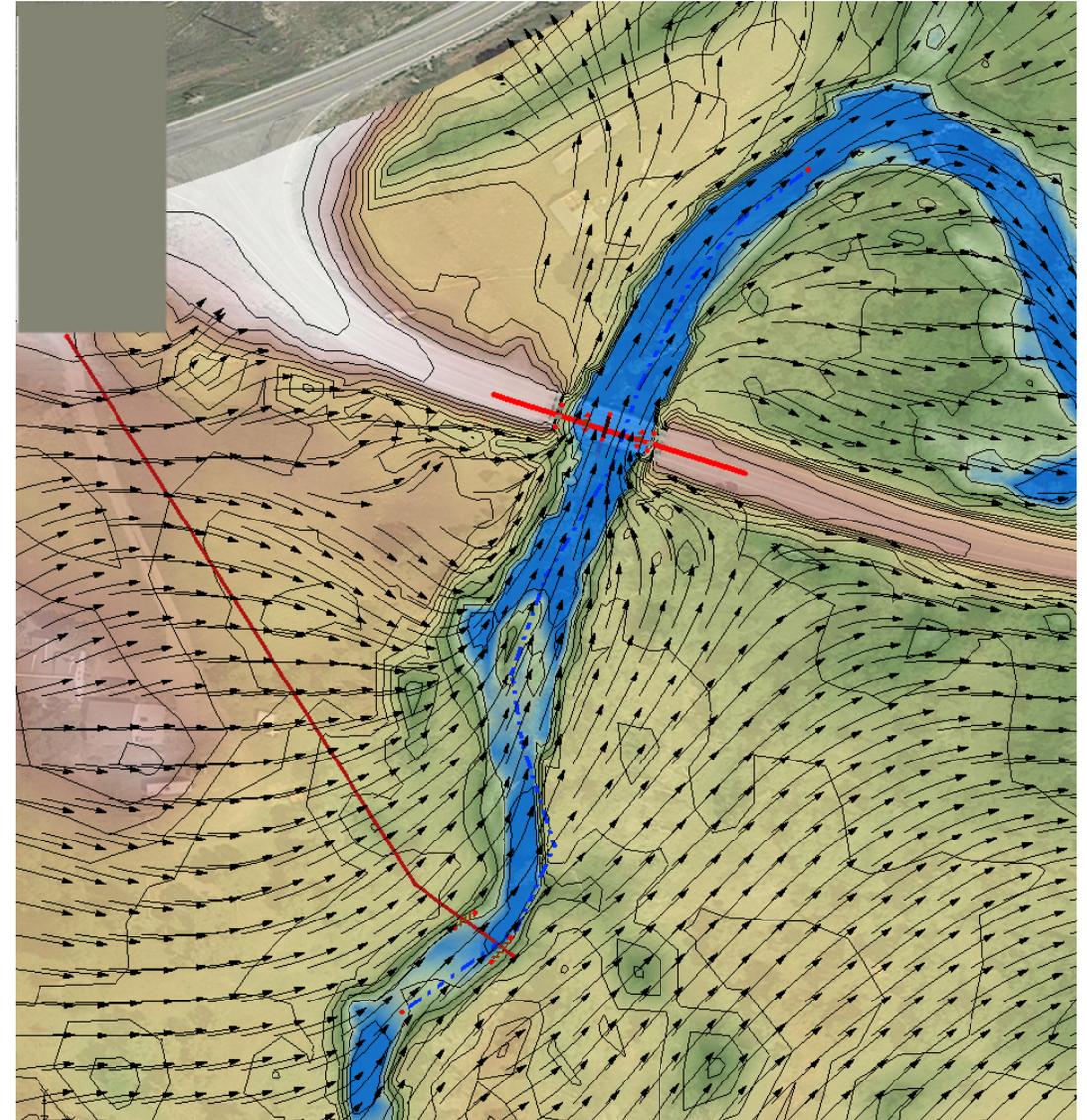
y = average depth  
Q = discharge  
W = width of flow  
q = unit discharge

1 = Approach Section  
2 = Contracted Section

# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

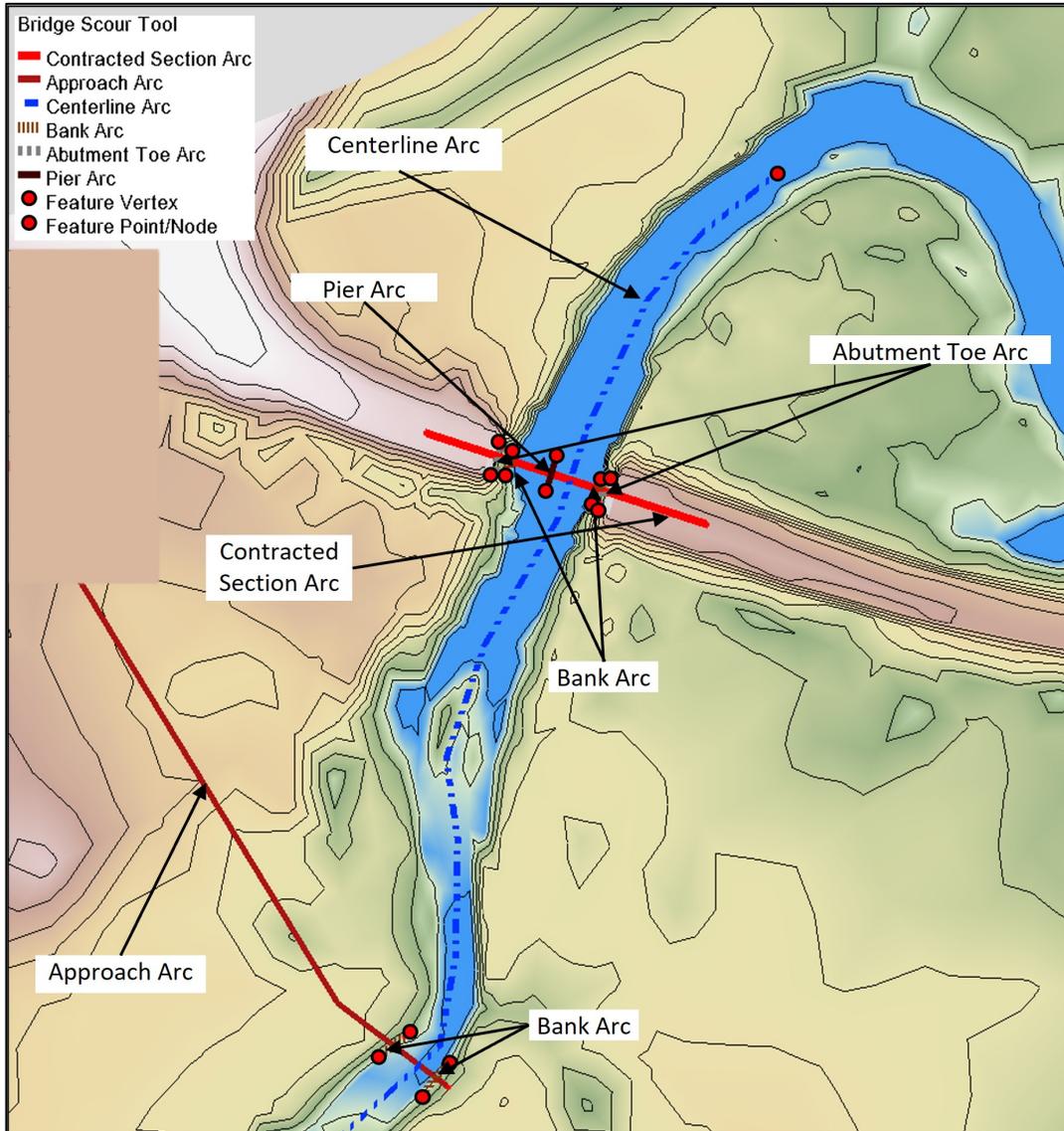
## Contracted and Approach Sections

- **Contracted section** represents the flow characteristics and channel section at the maximum constriction (Bridge location)
- **Approach section** represents the hydraulic conditions and sediment transport approaching the bridge, prior to the overbank being redirected toward the channel
- The approach section should span the width of flow contributing to each bridge
- The hydraulic conditions in the main channel at the approach section determine a live-bed or clear-water scour condition



# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## Defining Main Channel and Overbanks

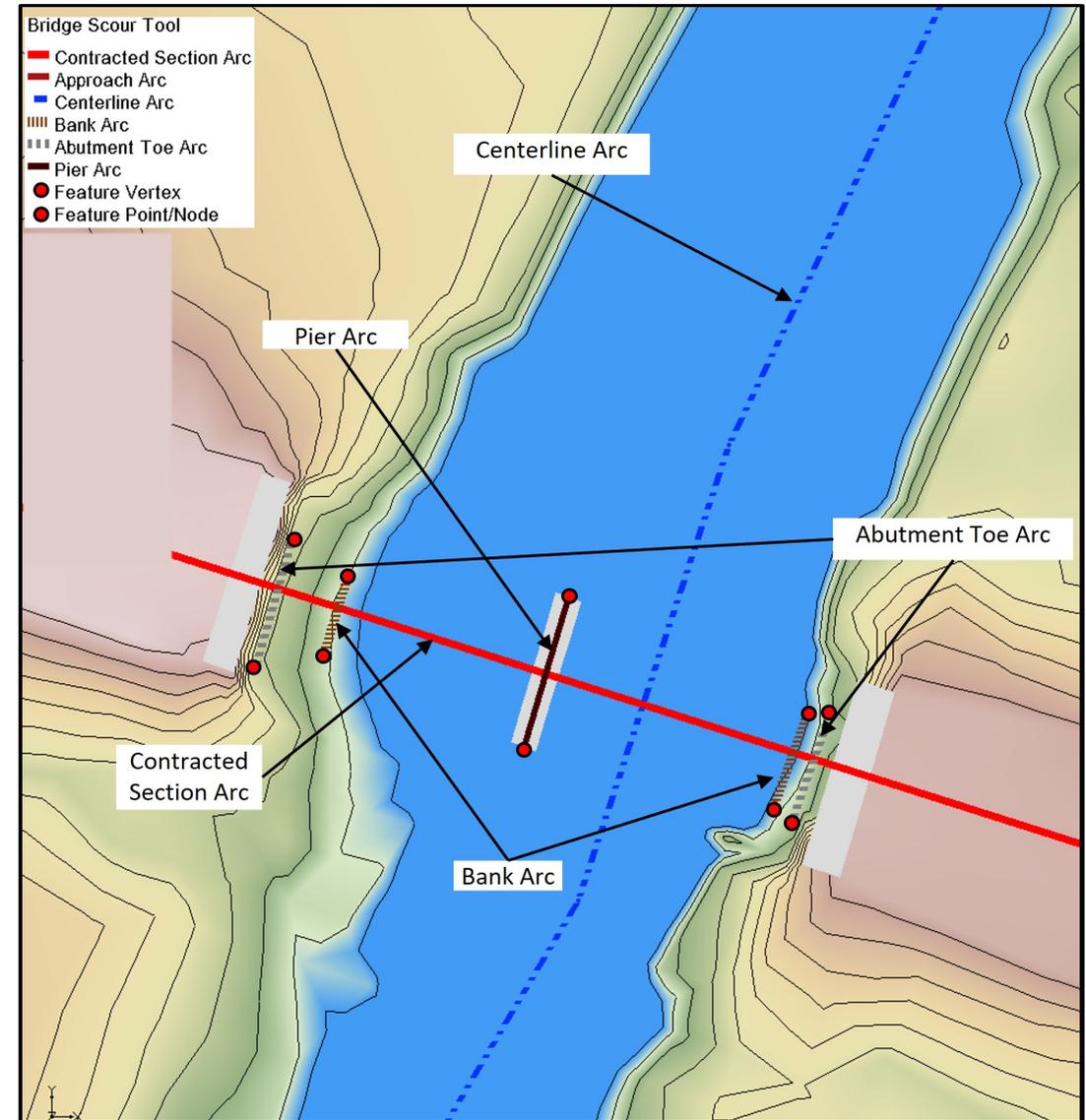


- The main channel is defined by the width of flow that could be transporting sediment (Typically toe to toe or bank to bank)
- The same main channel reference should be used at the approach and contracted sections.
- The average depth and  $d_{50}$  in the main channel at the approach section are used to determine if there is a live-bed condition ( $V > V_c$ ) or clear-water condition ( $V < V_c$ )
- Overbank areas rarely transport significant sediment consistently.
- Averaged hydraulic parameters for the main channel and each overbank area are used for scour computations.

# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

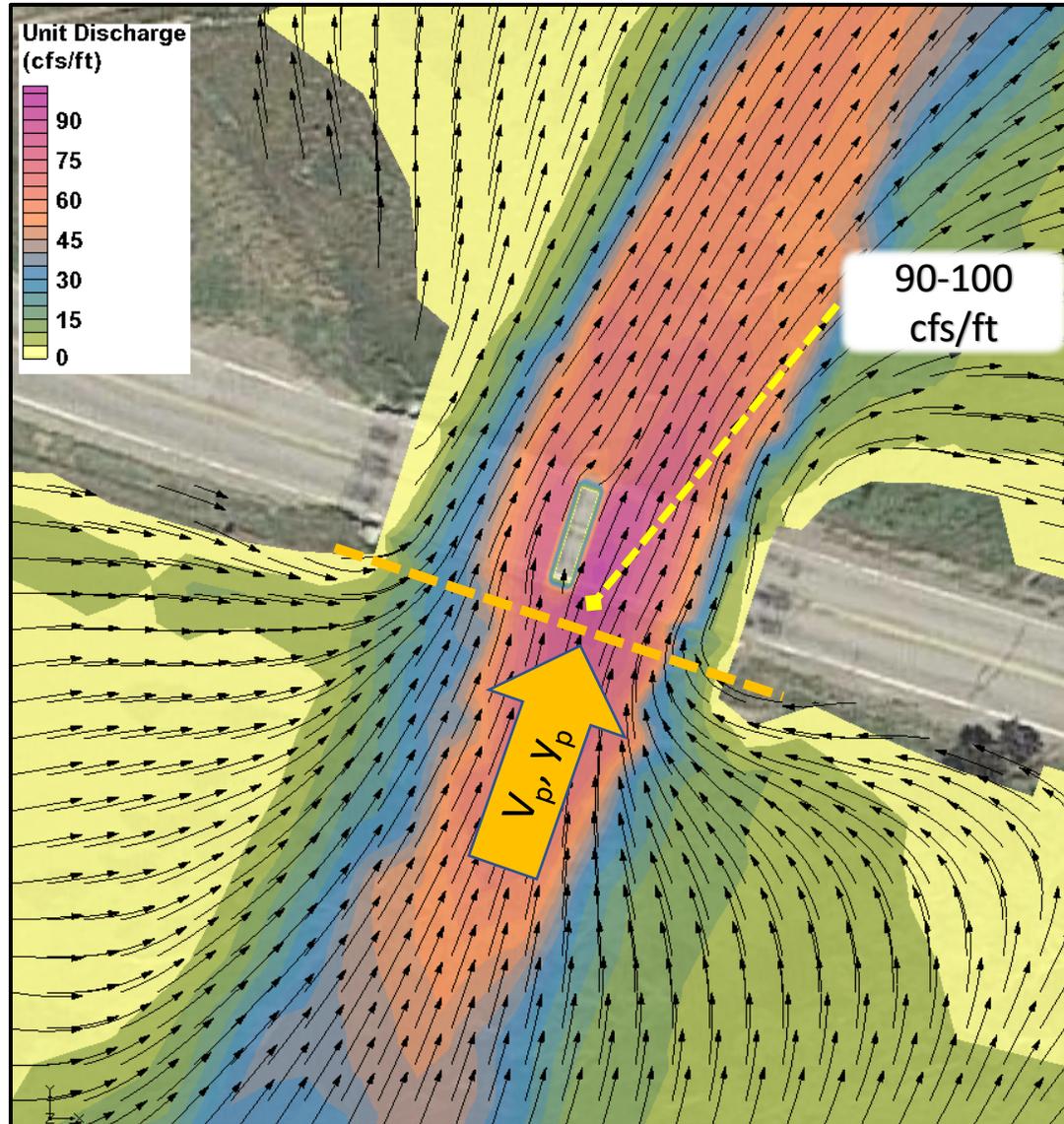
## Contracted Section Adjustments

- The contracted width of flow must be adjusted by the effective width of the piers, including skew.
- The contracted width of flow must be adjusted for the bridge skew relative to the main channel.



# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## Pier Scour Variables

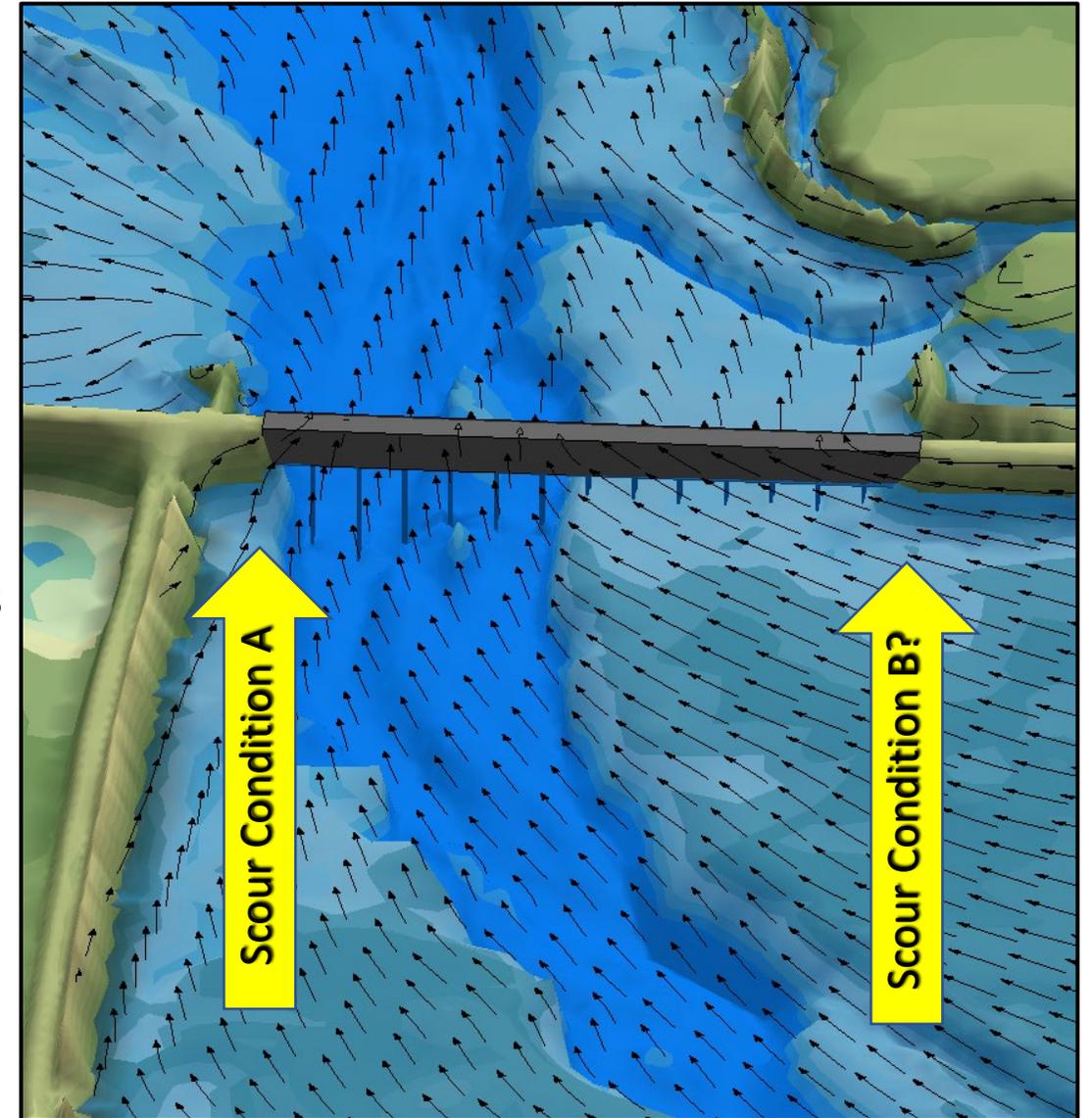


- The velocity, depth, and angle of attack for pier scour represent the flow approaching each pier.
- For design applications, the potential for thalweg and channel migration over the life of a bridge should be considered.
- The velocity and depth at the location of maximum unit discharge represent the worst-case hydraulic conditions that may impact a pier with channel/thalweg migration
- Changes in the angle of attack with potential channel changes should be considered

# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## Abutment Scour Variables

- Abutment location relative to the main channel over the life of the bridge determines the scour estimate approach.
- The HEC-18 NCHRP Abutment Scour method is recommended.
- **Scour Condition A** assumes the abutment may be impacted by main channel hydraulics over the life of the bridge.
- **Scour Condition B** assumes the abutment will not be impacted by the main channel and uses overbank hydraulics for computing scour.



# Bridge Scour Hydraulic Variables Review

## SMS Bridge Scour Tool

- Average hydraulic parameters exported for multiple simulations (for main channel & overbanks)
- Bridge cross section and pier geometry adjusted for skew
- Pier and abutment parameters exported
- Velocity and depth at the maximum unit discharge are exported by default
- Measured angles of attack are exported unless specified by user
- Long Term Degradation needs to be considered (use HEC-20)

Bridge Scour Coverage Properties

Input

Mesh: EC Mesh

Scenarios

Q50 (SRH-2D)  
IncOvertop (SRH-2D)  
Q100 (SRH-2D)  
Q500 (SRH-2D)

Options... Critical Velocity... View Values...

Bridge Deck

Select... (none selected)

Auto compute bridge starting station on export

Specify bridge starting station: 0 Compute...

Manually enter the bridge deck geometry Define...

Upstream offset for pier hydraulics 0 ft  
(From contracted arc. Leave 0.0 for max pier length.)

Model Specifications

Contraction Scour Variable Extraction Approach: Bank Width Ratios

NCHRP Abutment Scour Condition

Left Abutment: Scour Condition a (Main Channel) Right Abutment: Scour Condition a (Main Channel)

Output

Browse... |

Export Hydraulic Toolbox File Launch Hydraulic Toolbox

Utilities

Edit Default Options... Delete Generated Arcs

Help... OK Cancel

*Questions?*

# 2D Hydraulic Model Review Training

## Learning Objectives

- Identify key aspects of a 2D hydraulic model review
- Request the relevant information required for conducting a review
- Conduct cursory or detailed reviews of hydraulic models
- Recognize acceptable or reasonable ranges for the key parameters of a 2D model.
- Spot common modeling errors and other issues that warrant further investigation.
- Understand the hydraulic modeling variables needed for bridge scour analyses and how they can be extracted from a 2D model

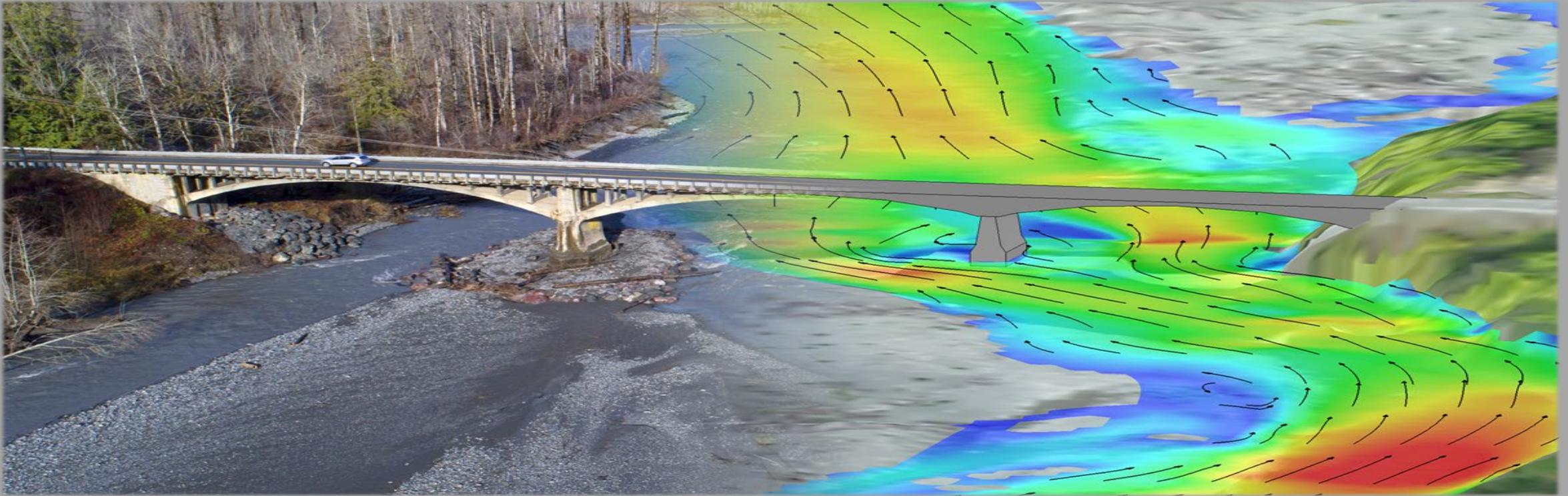


Image by John Gussman

***THANK YOU!***  
***Please contact me with any questions***

**Scott Hogan**  
FHWA Resource Center  
[Scott.hogan@dot.gov](mailto:Scott.hogan@dot.gov)