



WaterReuse California
ANNUAL CONFERENCE
2022

DEVELOPMENT AND TRACER STUDY VALIDATION OF A 3D MODEL OF MIRAMAR RESERVOIR FOR INDIRECT POTABLE REUSE

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ADDITIONAL COLLABORATORS



Public
Utilities

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Pure Water San Diego

Tracer Study

Model Setup and Calibration

Model Validation

Results and Lessons Learned

Pure Water San Diego

Tracer Study

Model Setup and Calibration

Model Validation

Results and Lessons Learned

Pure Water
will produce

1/2

of San Diego's water
locally

**Phase 2
Central Area Project**

- 2035 Completion
- 53 mgd
- Central Area PWF to San Vicente or Lake Murray



North City (Phase 1) Project Components

Sewer pumps station and conveyance pipeline

Water Reclamation Plant expansion

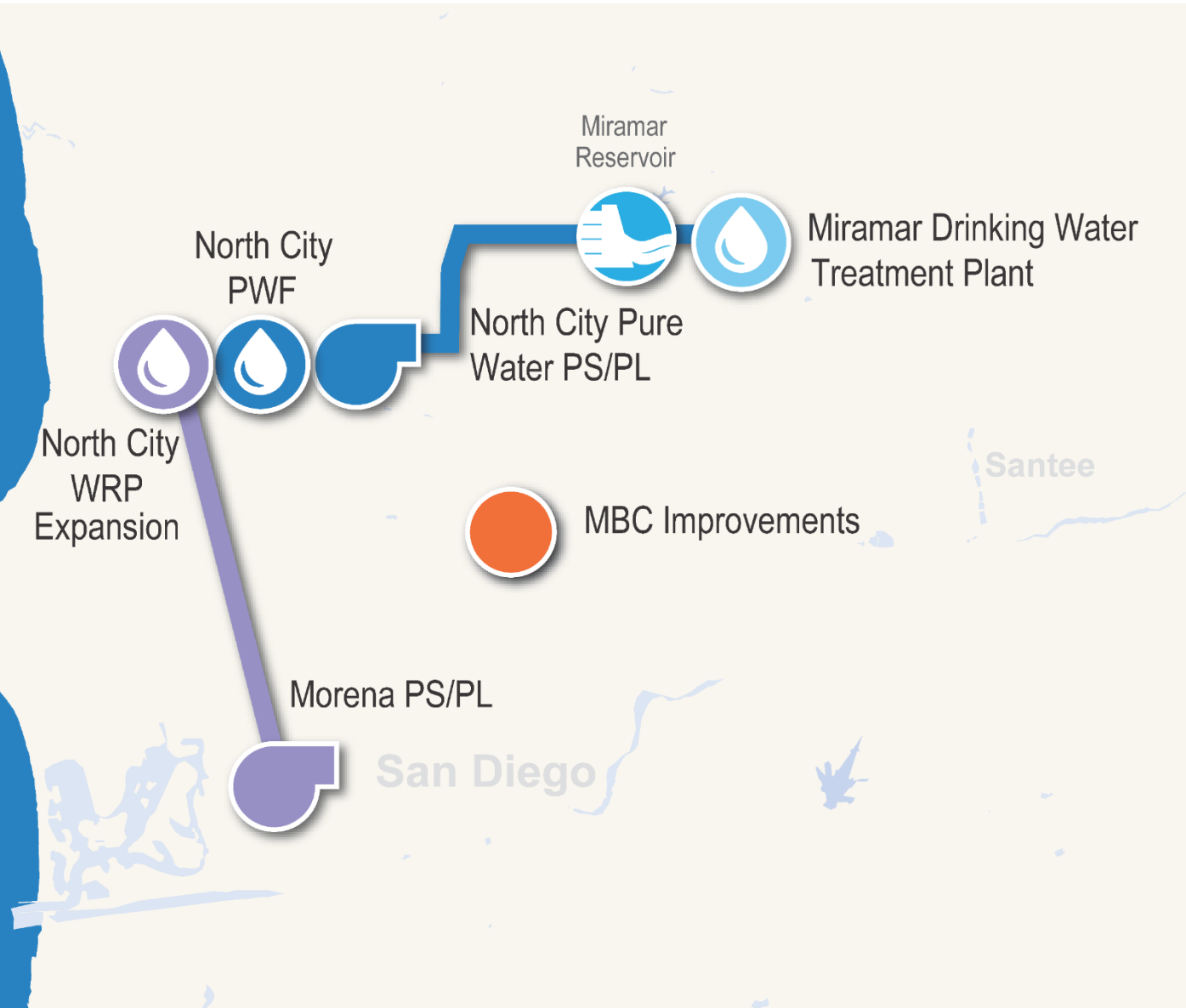


North City Pure Water Facility

Purified water pump station and pipeline

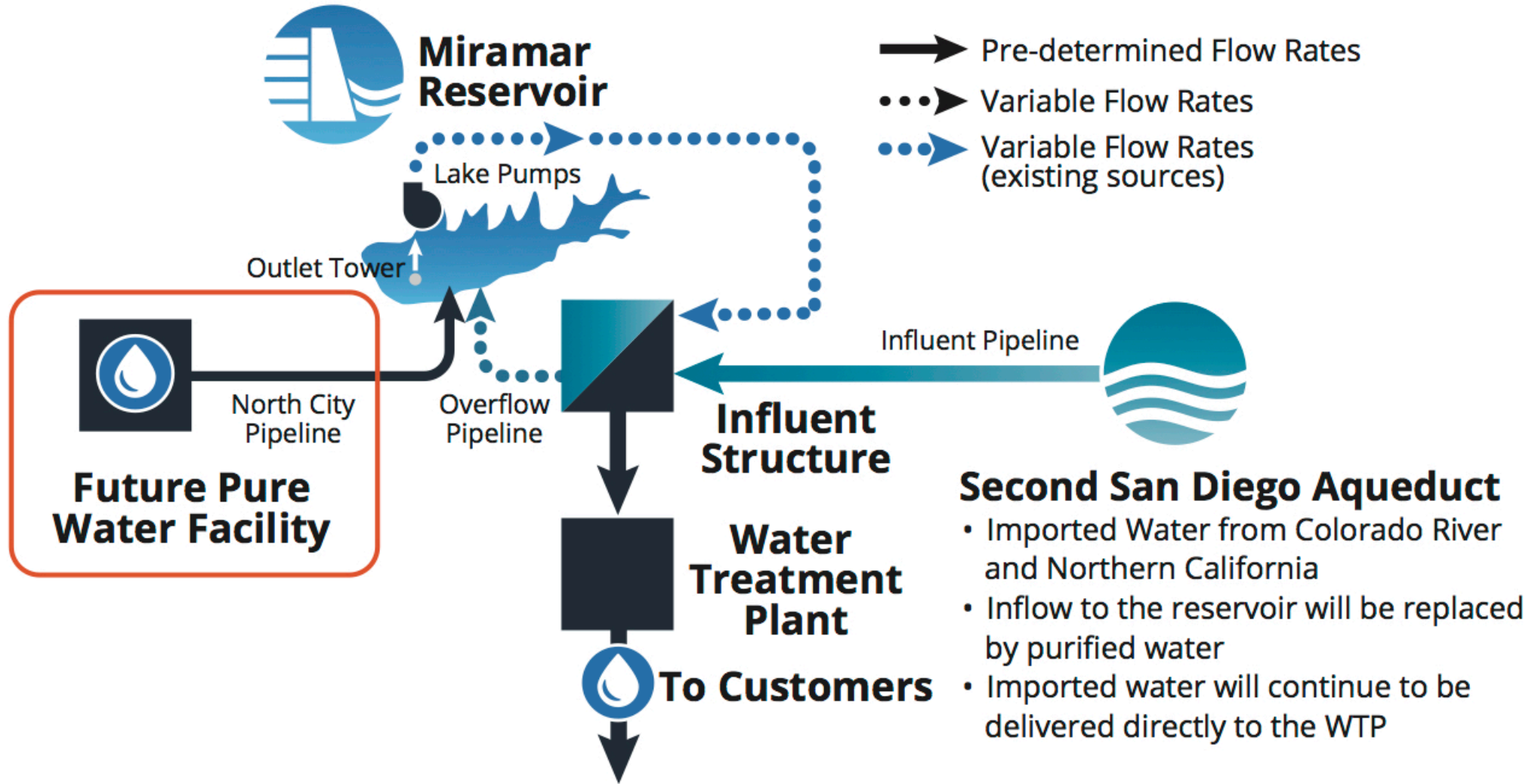
Miramar Reservoir and Drinking Water Treatment Plant

Metro Biosolids Center improvements





Pure Water North City Project

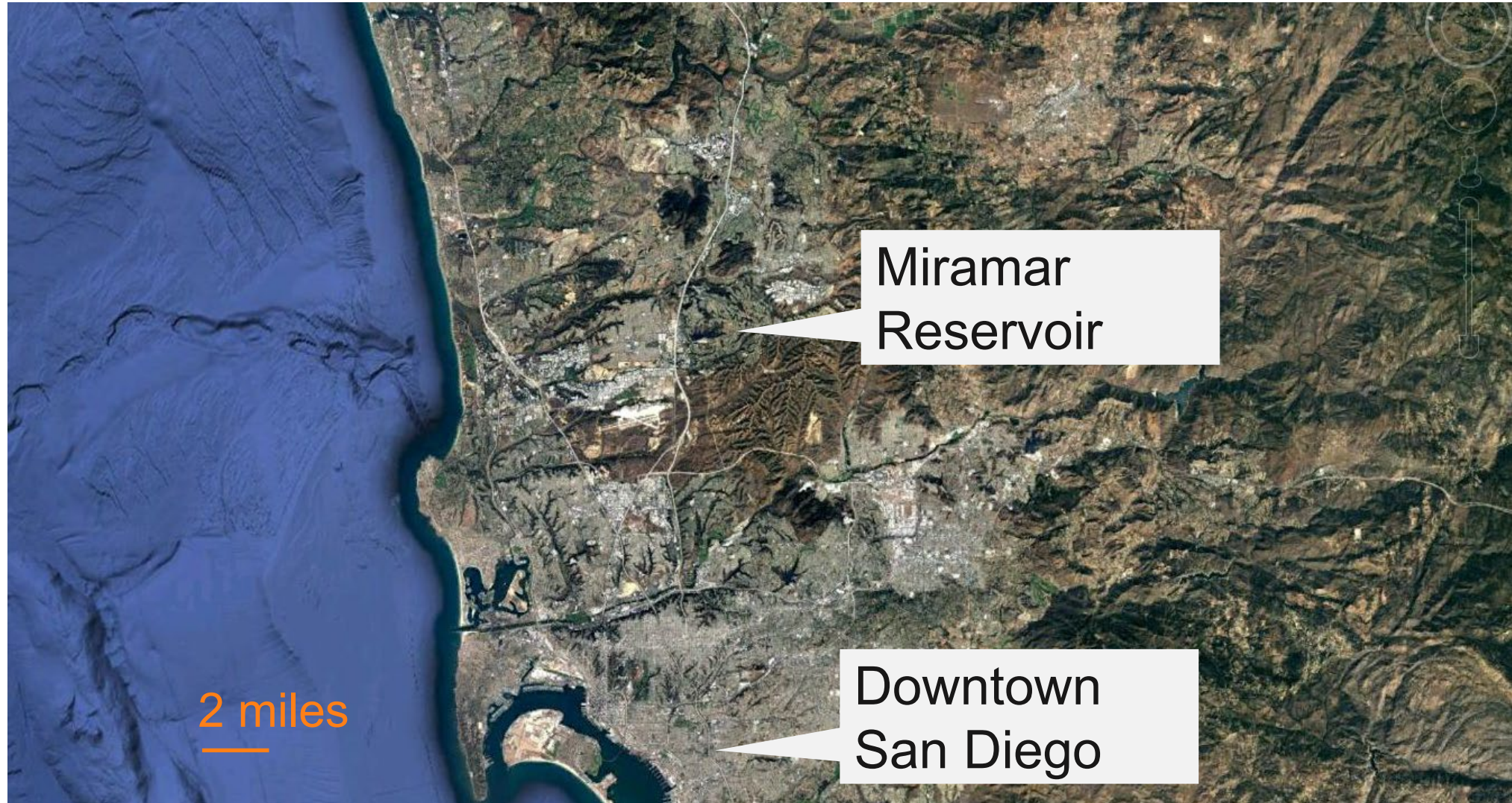


- 6,700 acre-feet max storage (2200 MG)
- 650 acre catchment area





Miramar Reservoir



- >100:1 dilution of all 24-hour purified water inflows
 - **>10:1 dilution with additional treatment**
 - *Tracer study and modeling to demonstrate compliance*

Prior to augmentation,...the [Surface Water Source Augmentation Project Public Water System (SWSAP PWS)] shall demonstrate to the State Board, utilizing **tracer studies and hydrodynamic modeling**, that at all times under all operating conditions, the volume of water withdrawn from the augmented reservoir ...contains no more than...**ten percent**, by volume, of recycled municipal wastewater that **was delivered to the surface water reservoir during any 24-hour period...**

Panel Advises on Validity

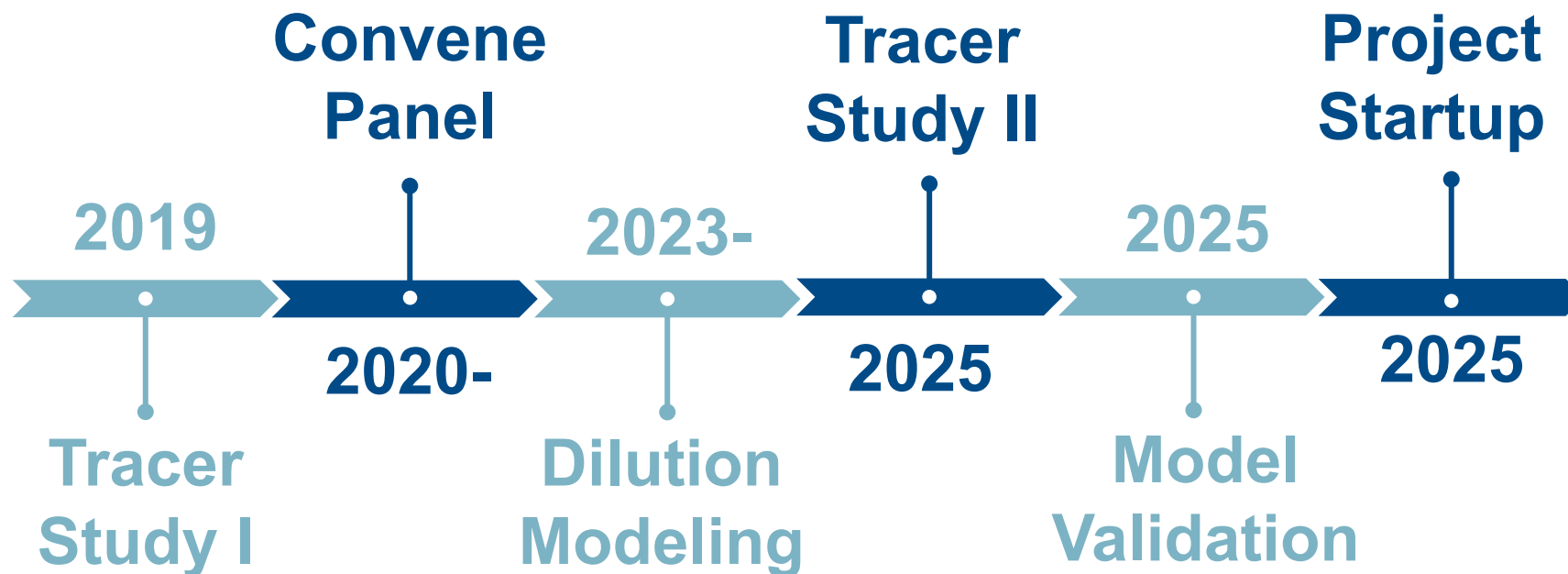
- No criteria given by regulators for model validity
- Independent Advisory Panel advises regulators on validity of model

...the SWSAP PWS shall initiate a tracer study utilizing an added tracer. The results of the tracer study shall be used to validate the hydrodynamic modeling required in subsection (c).

a SWSAP PWS shall utilize an independent scientific advisory panel to meet the requirements of this section pertaining to the hydraulic characterization of the reservoir, including tracer study verifications and hydraulic modeling used to demonstrate compliance with subsection (c)

SD Project Goals

- Complete tracer study and modeling
- Develop criteria on model validity with Panel
- Distill “Lessons Learned” for Tracer Study II



Pure Water San Diego

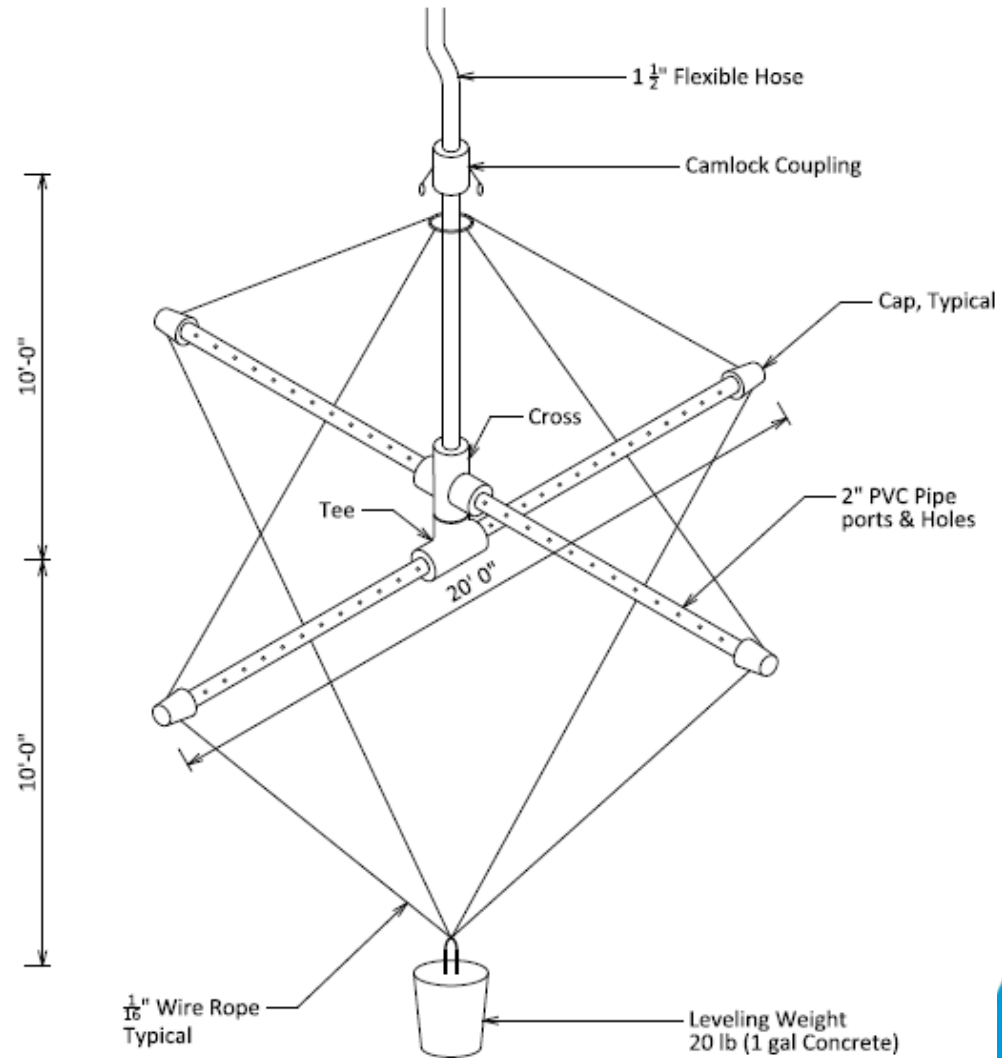
Tracer Study

Model Setup and Calibration

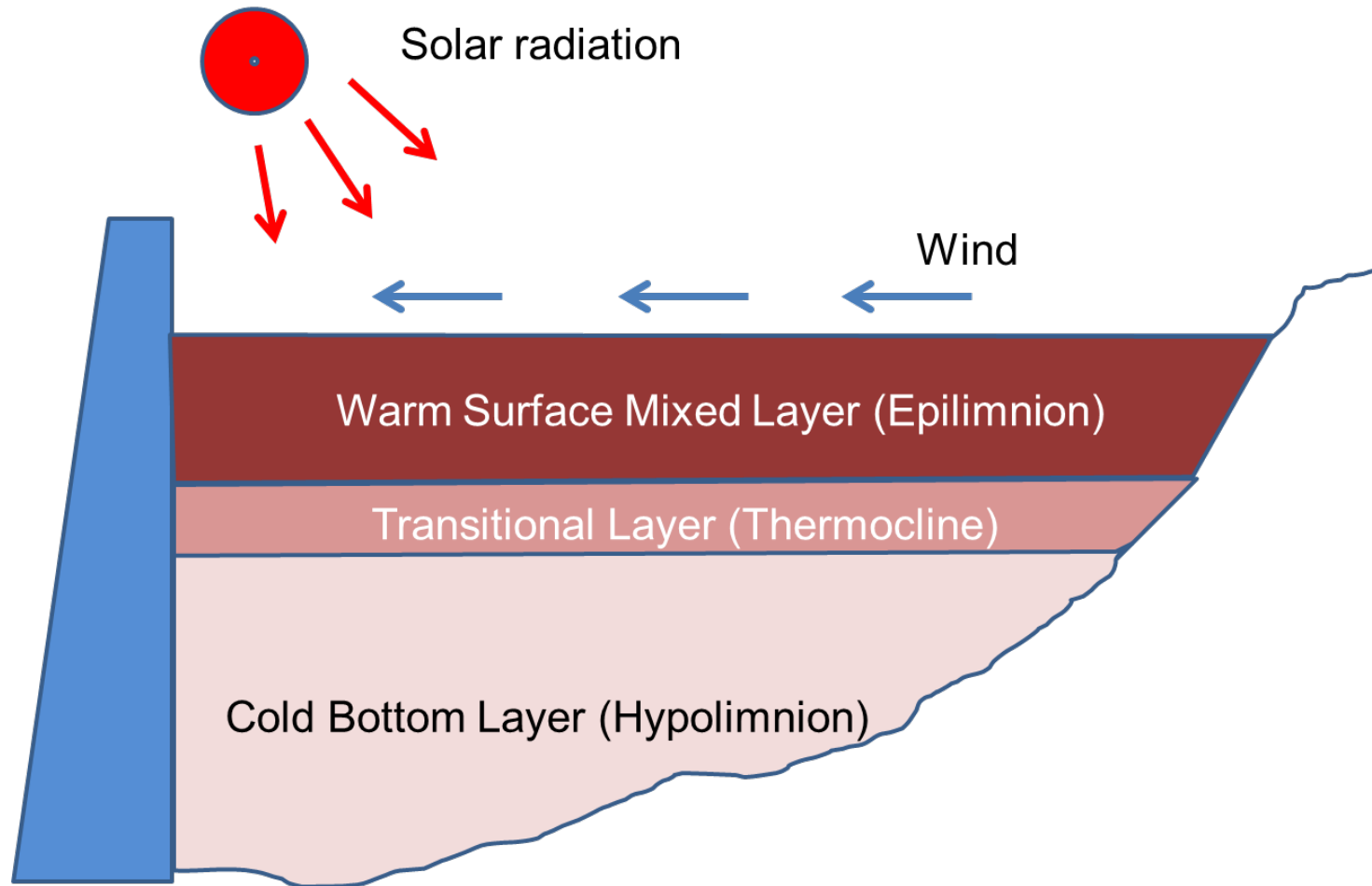
Model Validation

Results and Lessons Learned

- Tracer Study in July-Oct 2019
- Rhodamine WT tracer
 - *Injected through small diffuser*



SD Miramar Reservoir Thermal Structure

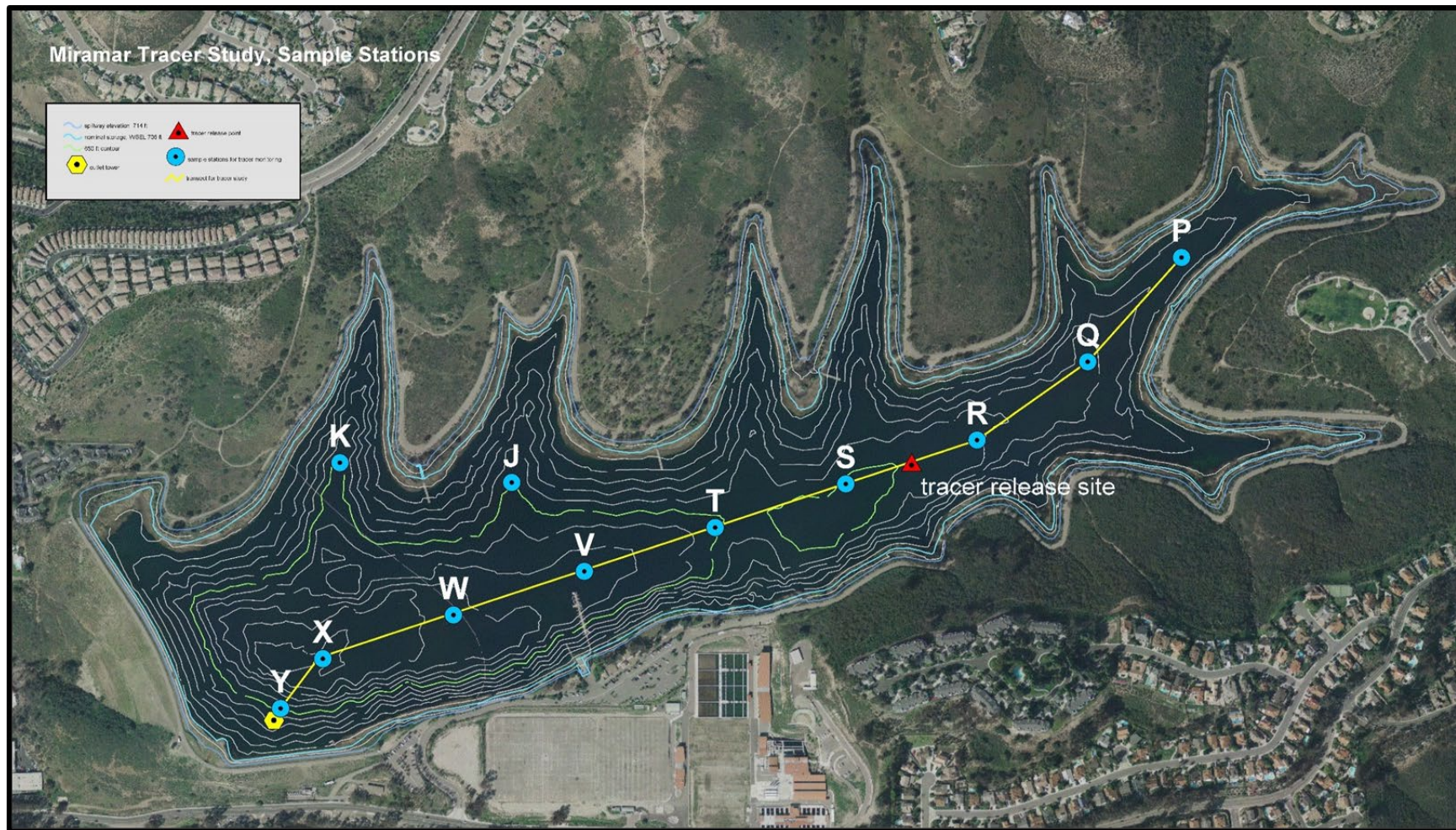




Tracer Study: Sampling Plan

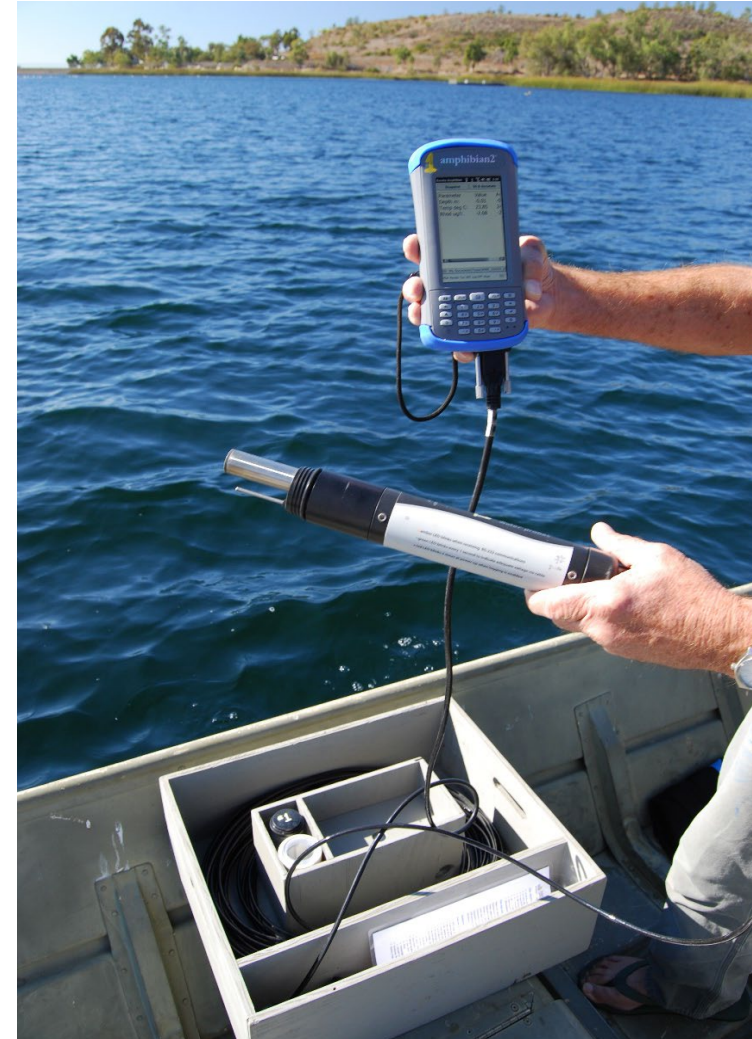
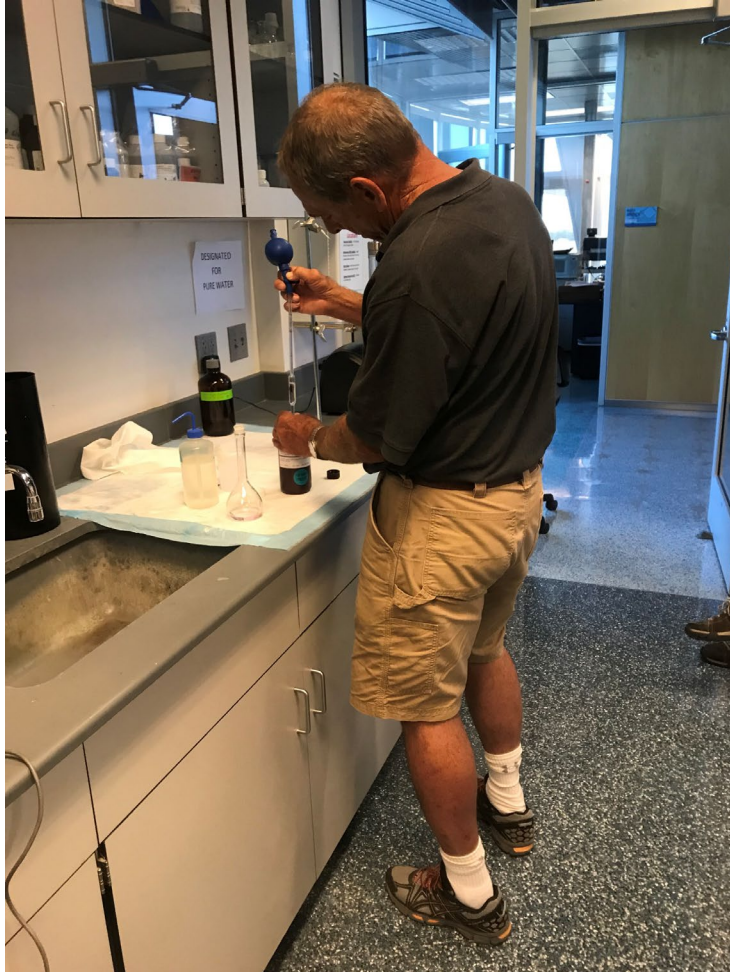
- Sample frequently, then occasionally
- Sample only at predetermined locations
 - *Do not “chase” tracer around reservoir*
 - *Sample stations where tracer may occur*

SD Tracer Study: Sampling Stations

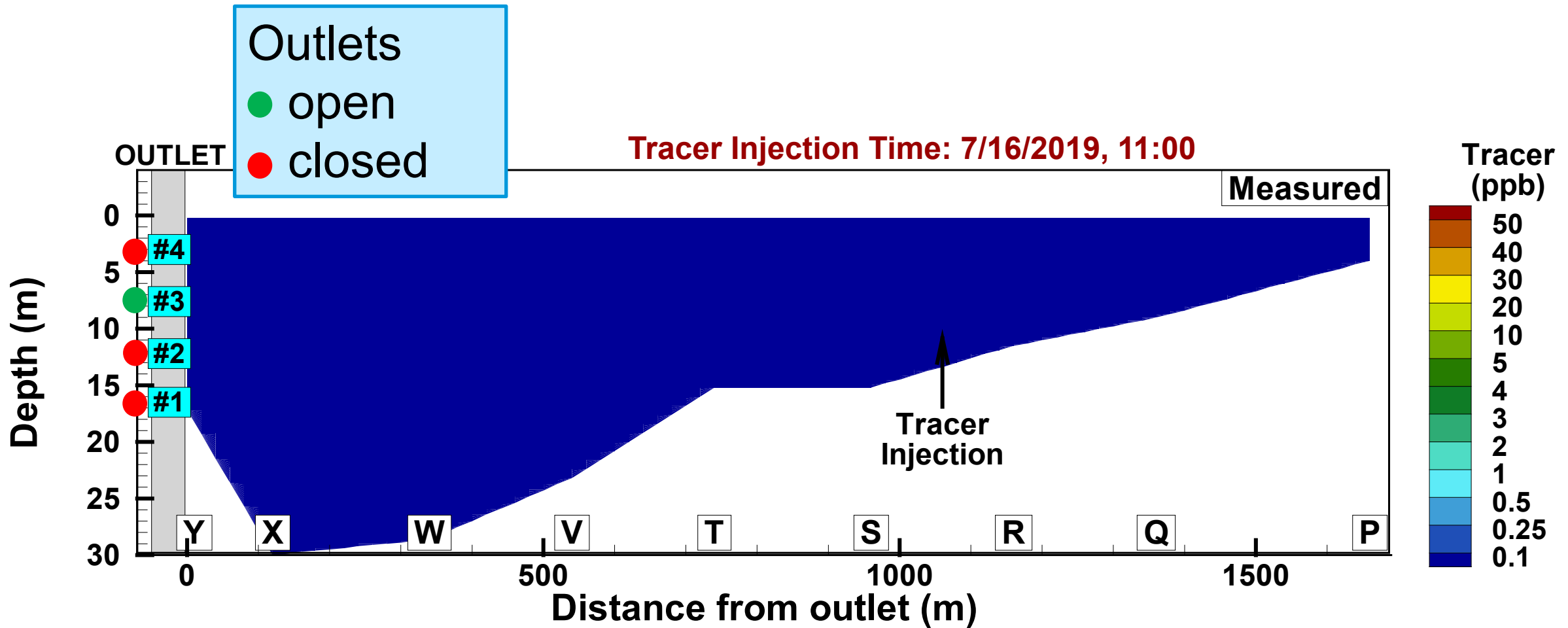




Tracer Study: Calibration and Background

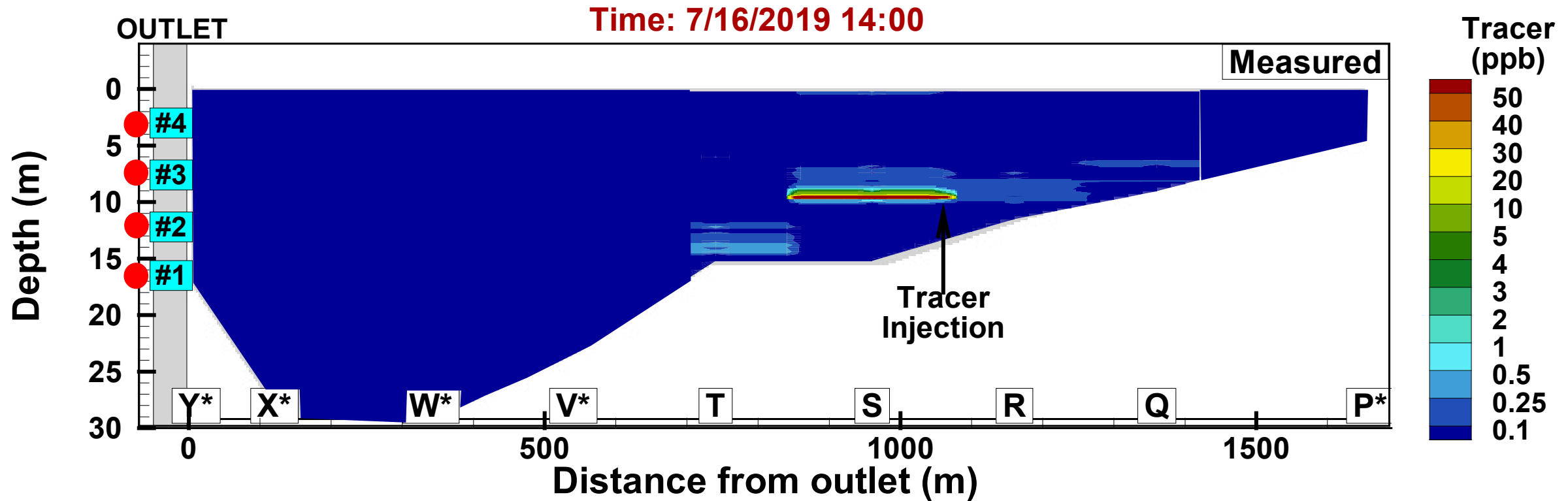


Tracer Study: Measured Tracer



SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/16/2019 14:00 (+3 hours)

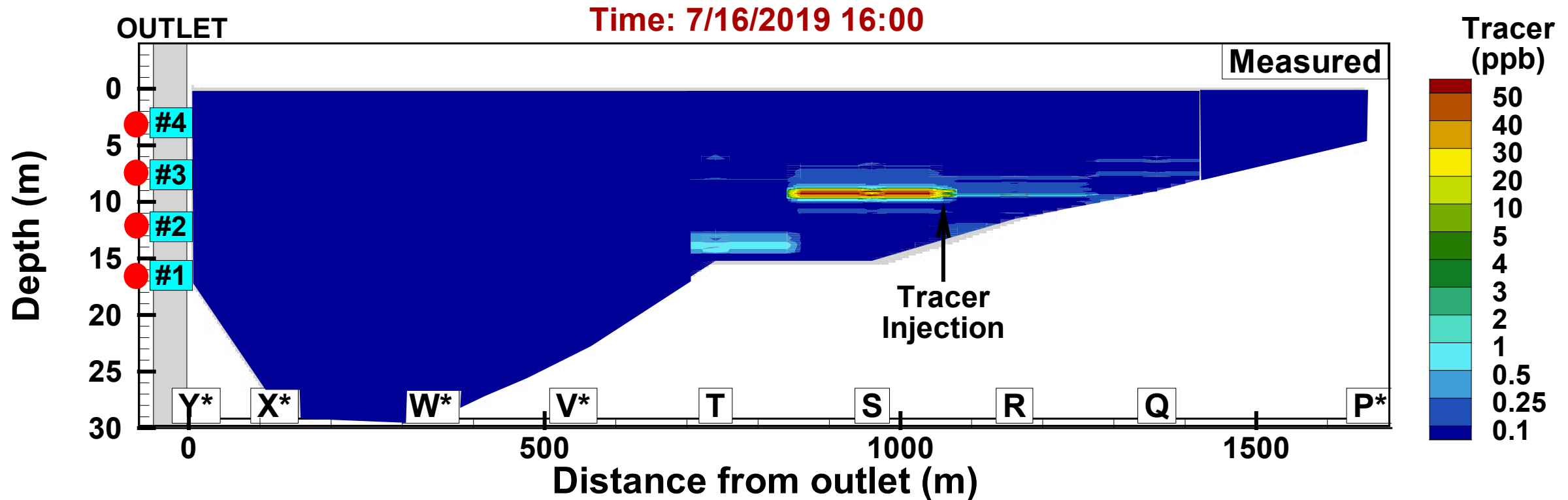


All ports closed

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/16/2019 16:00 (+5 hours)

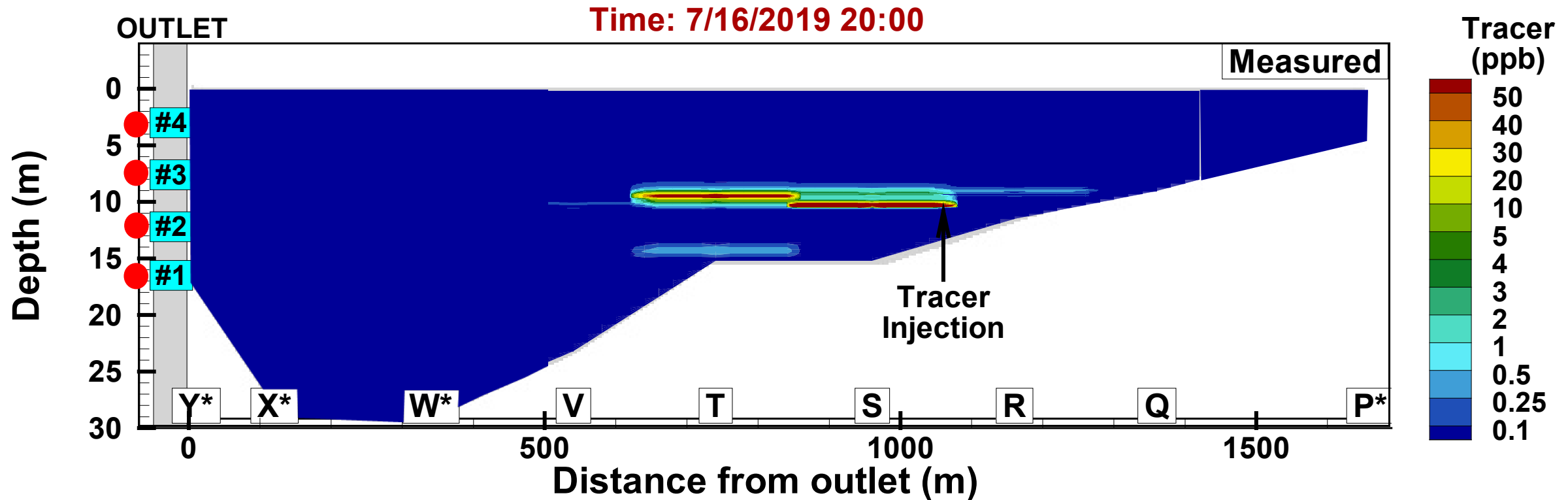


All ports closed

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/16/2019 20:00 (+9 hours)

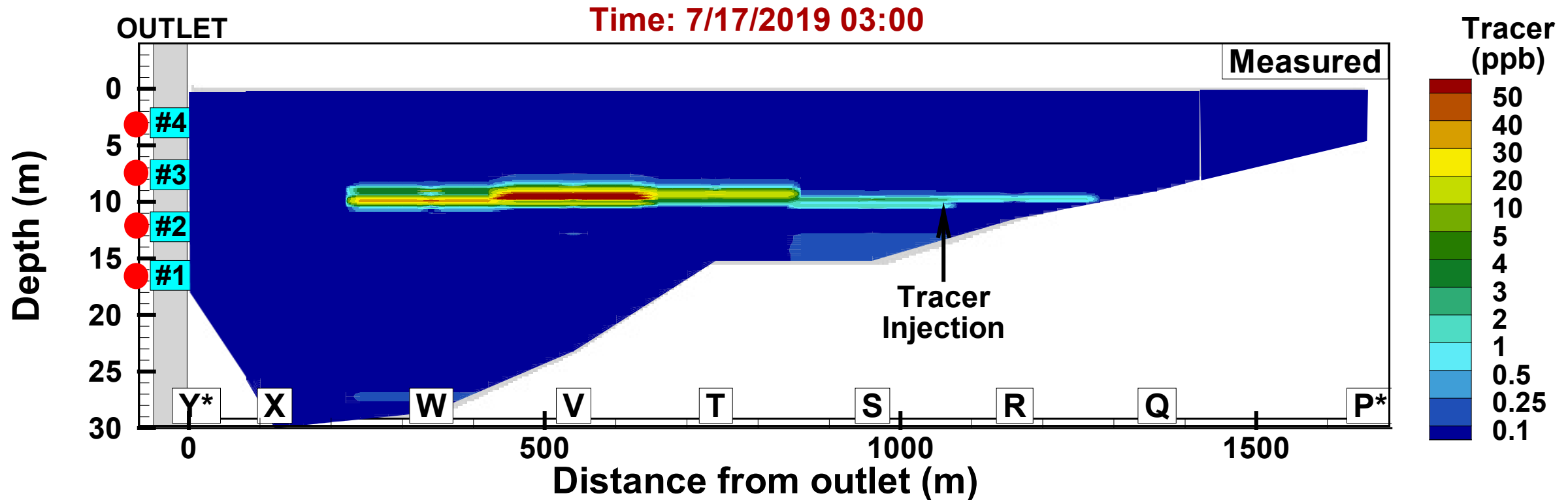


All ports closed

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/17/2019 03:00 (+16 hours)

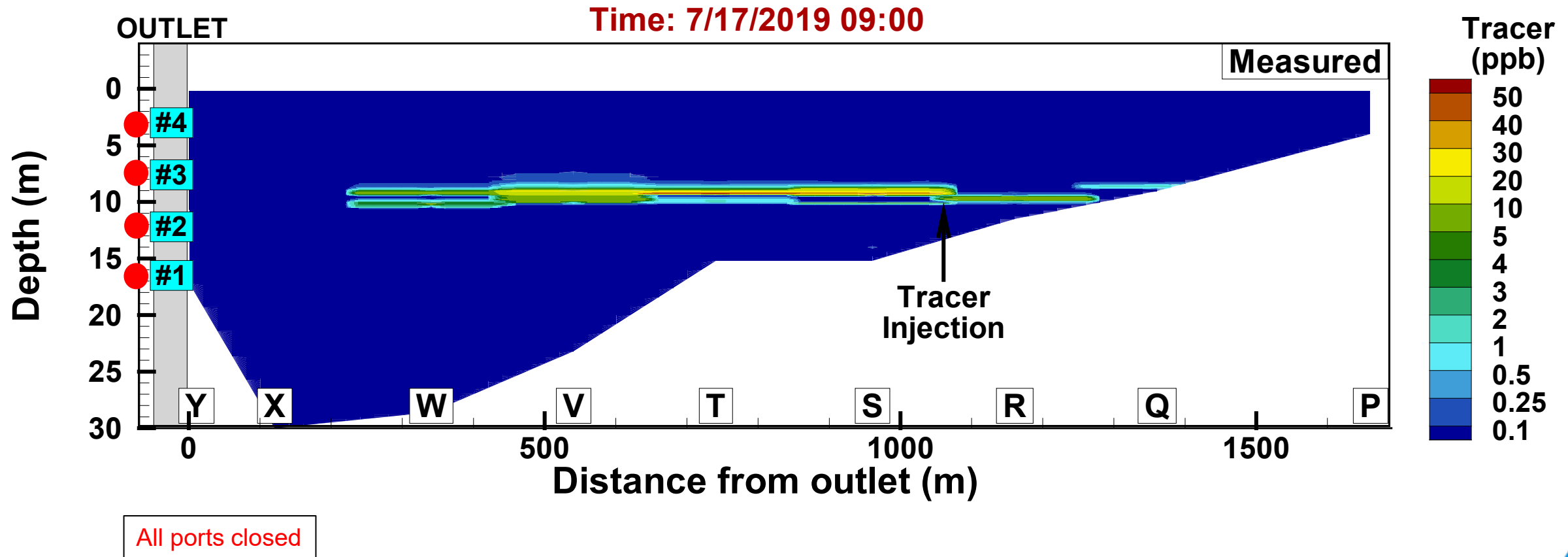


All ports closed

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

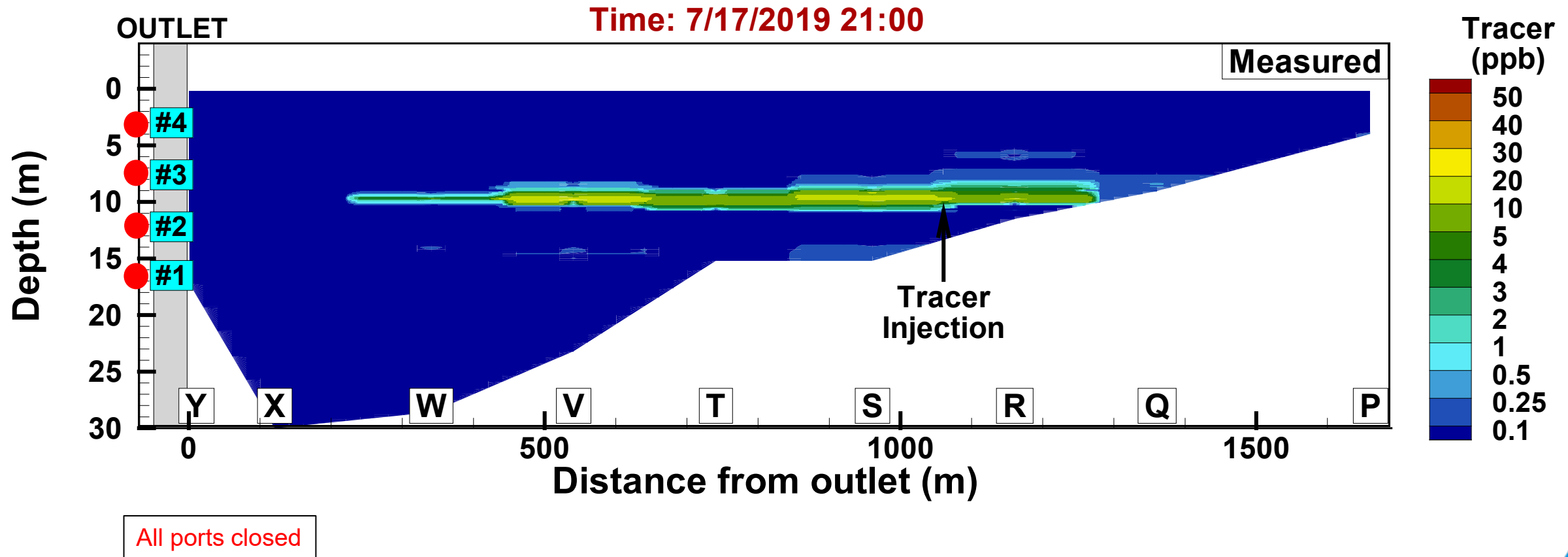
SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/17/2019 09:00 (+22 hours)



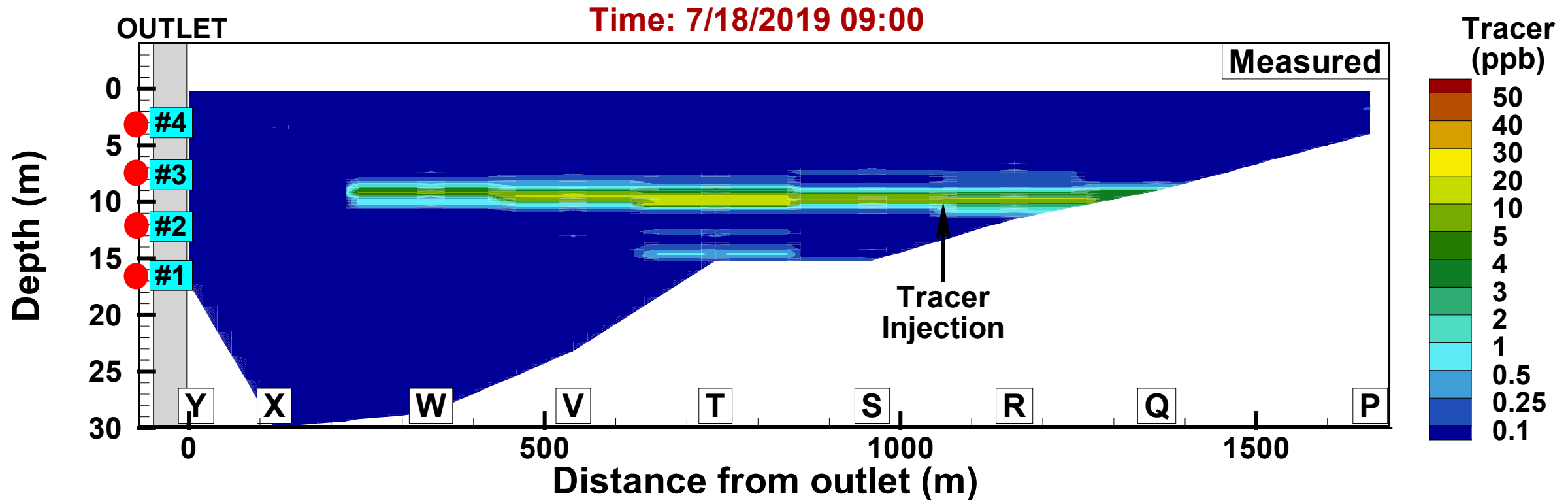
SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/17/2019 21:00 (+34 hours)



SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

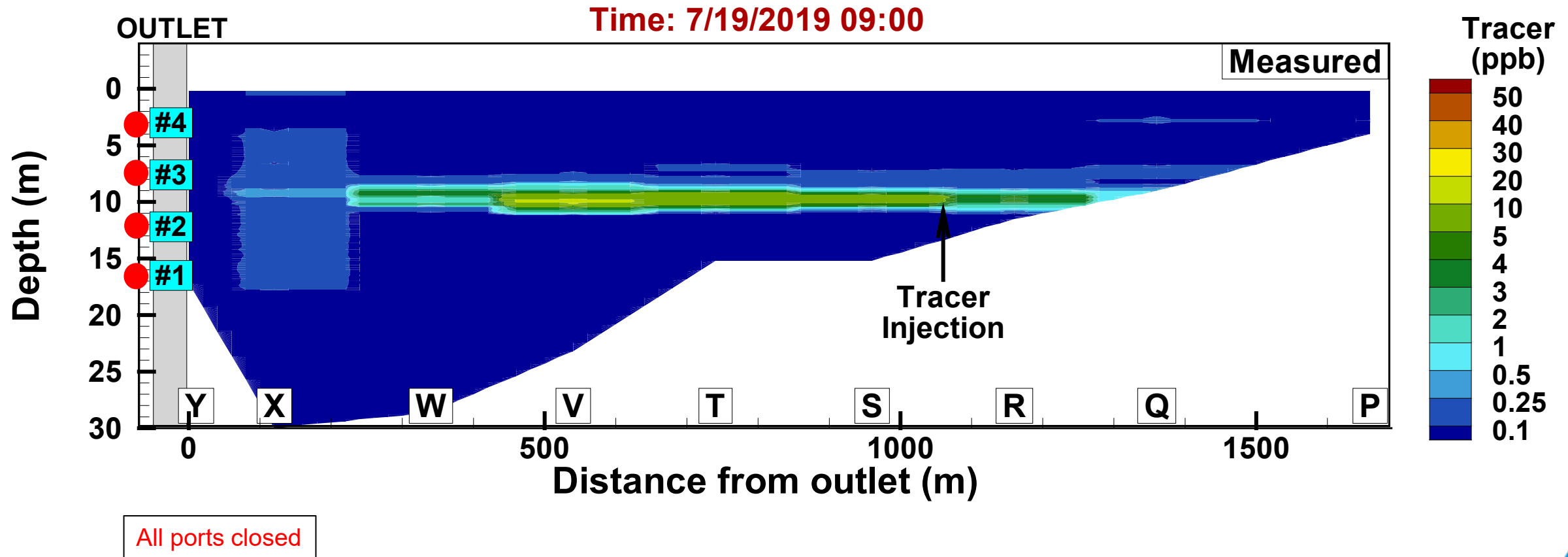
Time: 07/18/2019 09:00 (+46 hours)





Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

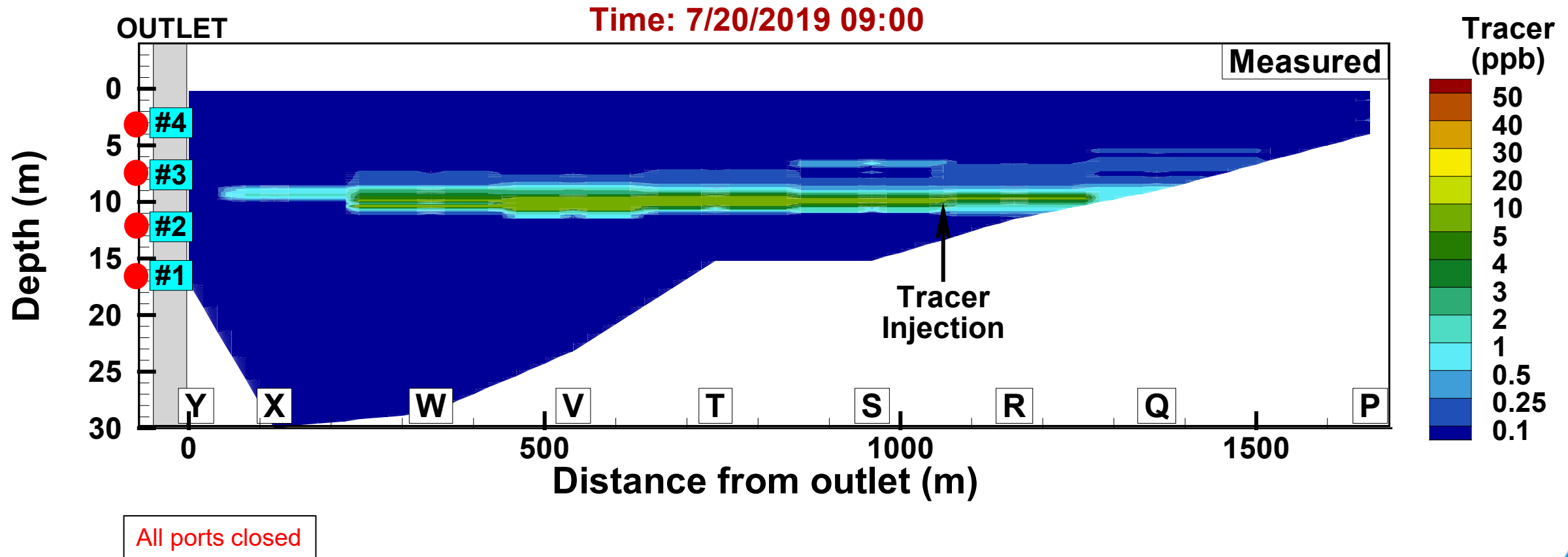
Time: 07/19/2019 09:00 (+3 days)





Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

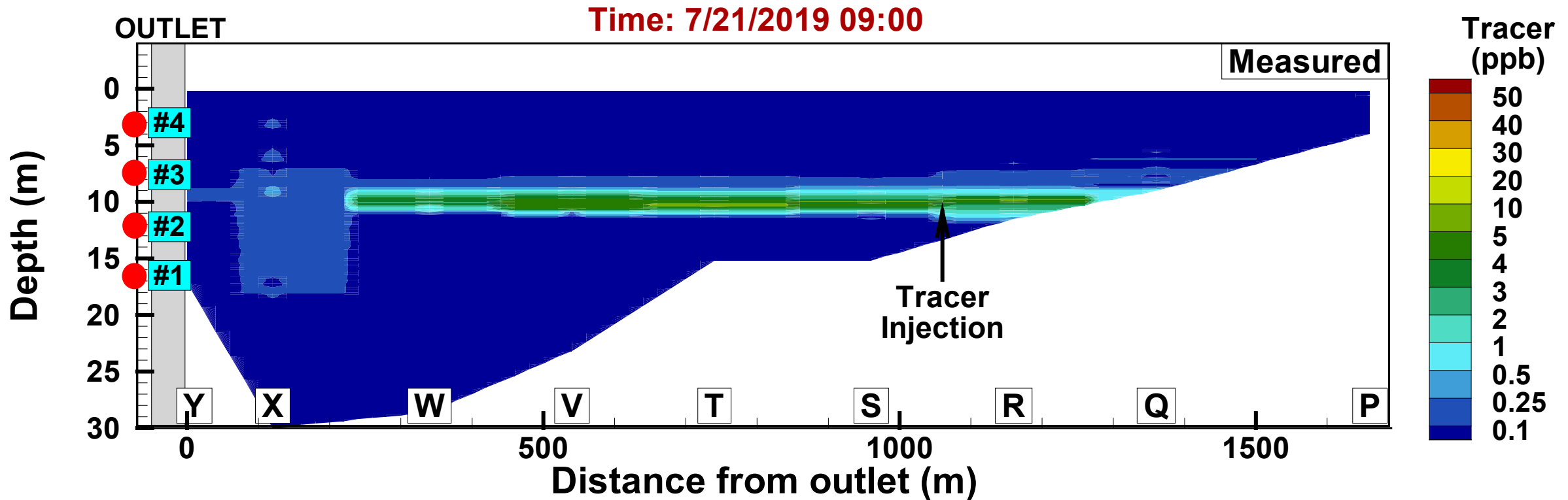
Time: 07/20/2019 09:00 (+4 days)





Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

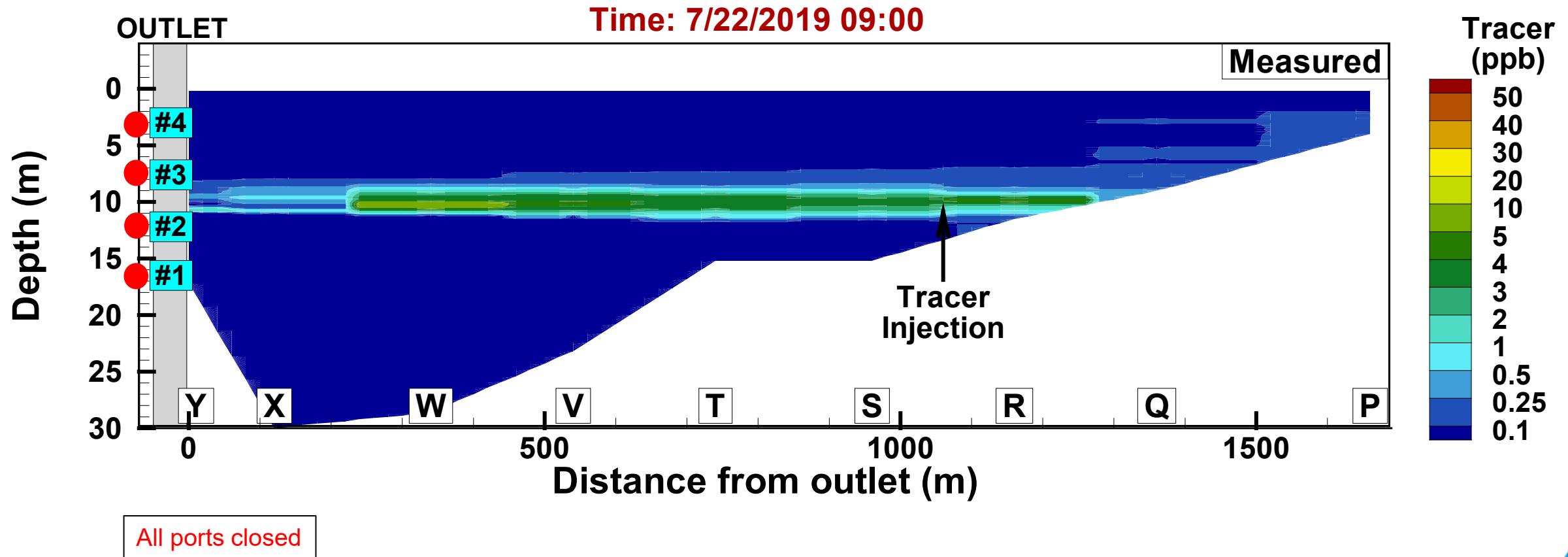
Time: 07/21/2019 09:00 (+5 days)



All ports closed

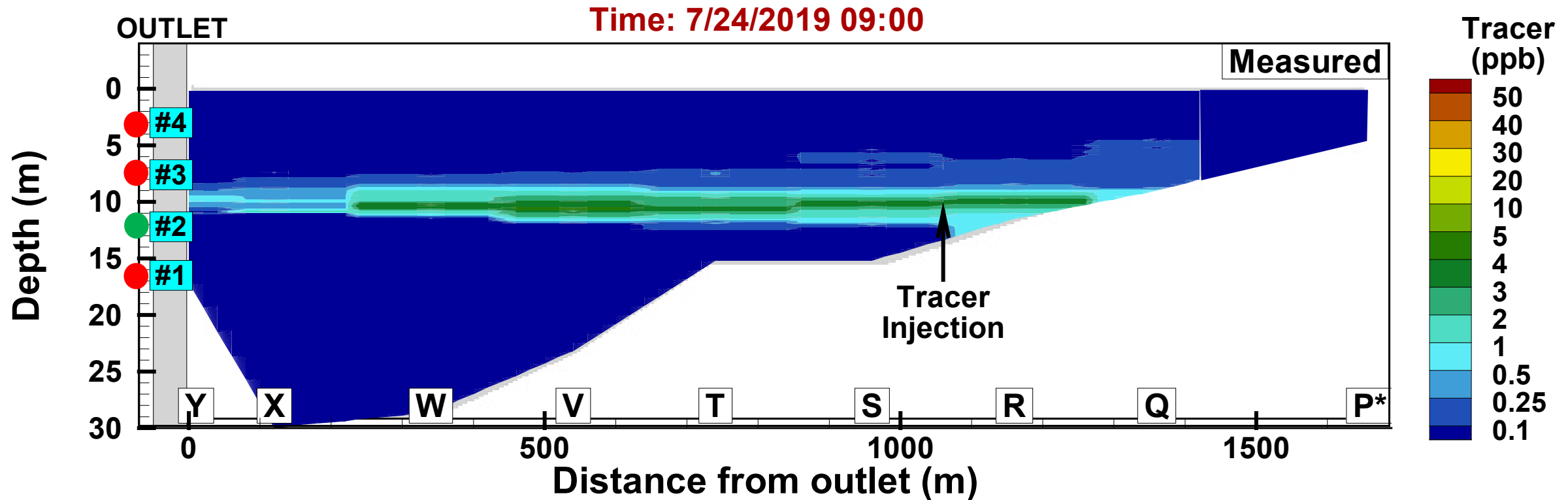
SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/22/2019 09:00 (+6 days)



SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/24/2019 09:00 (+8 days)

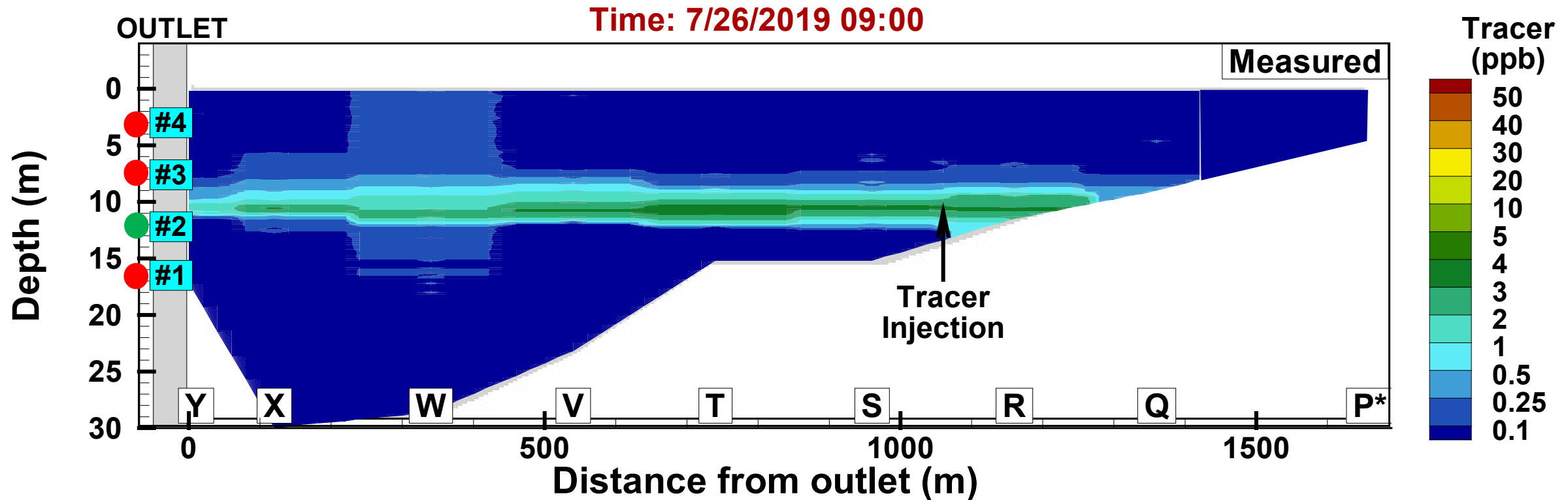


Port #2 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/26/2019 09:00 (+10 days)

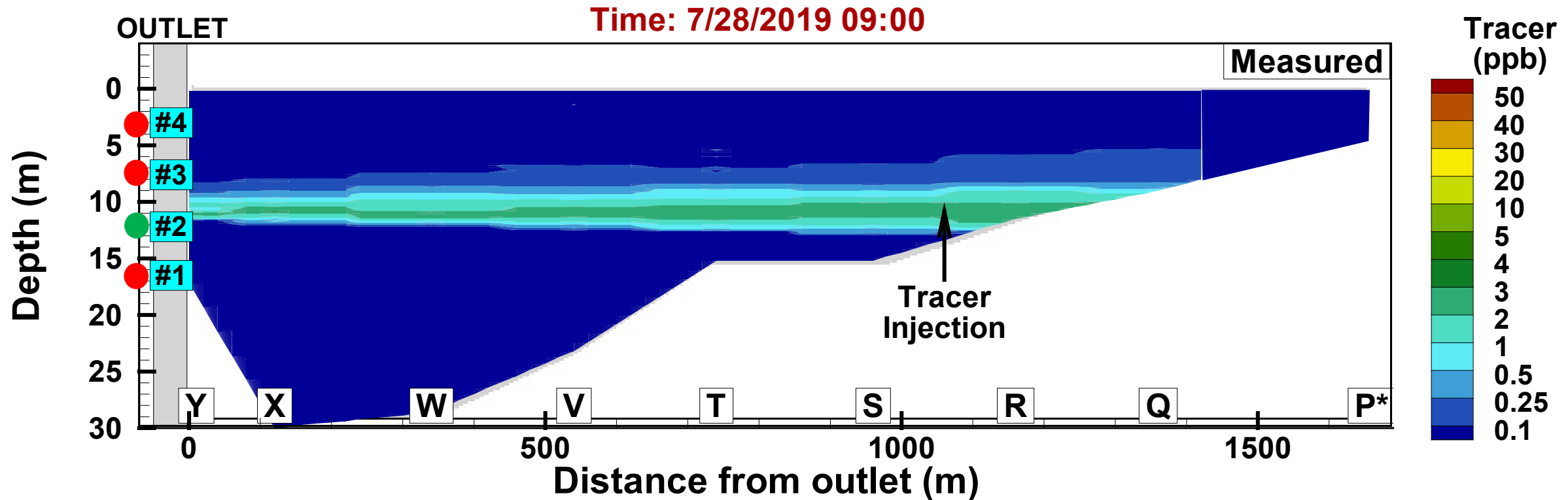


Port #2 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 07/28/2019 09:00 (+12 days)

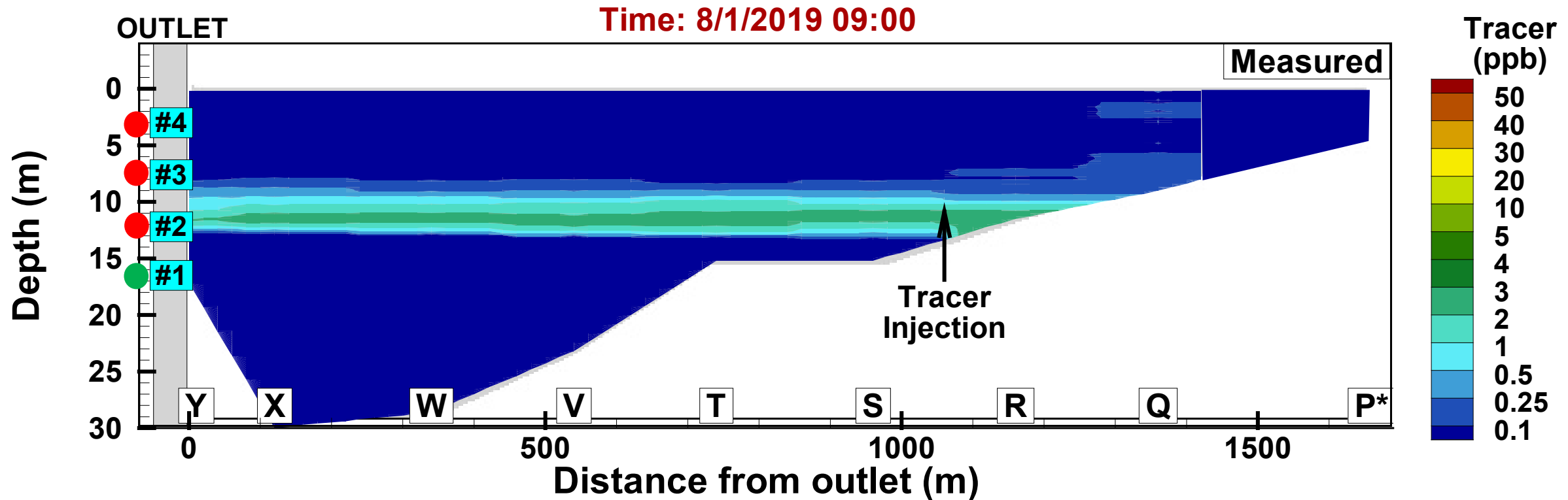


Port #2 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 08/01/2019 09:00 (+16 days)



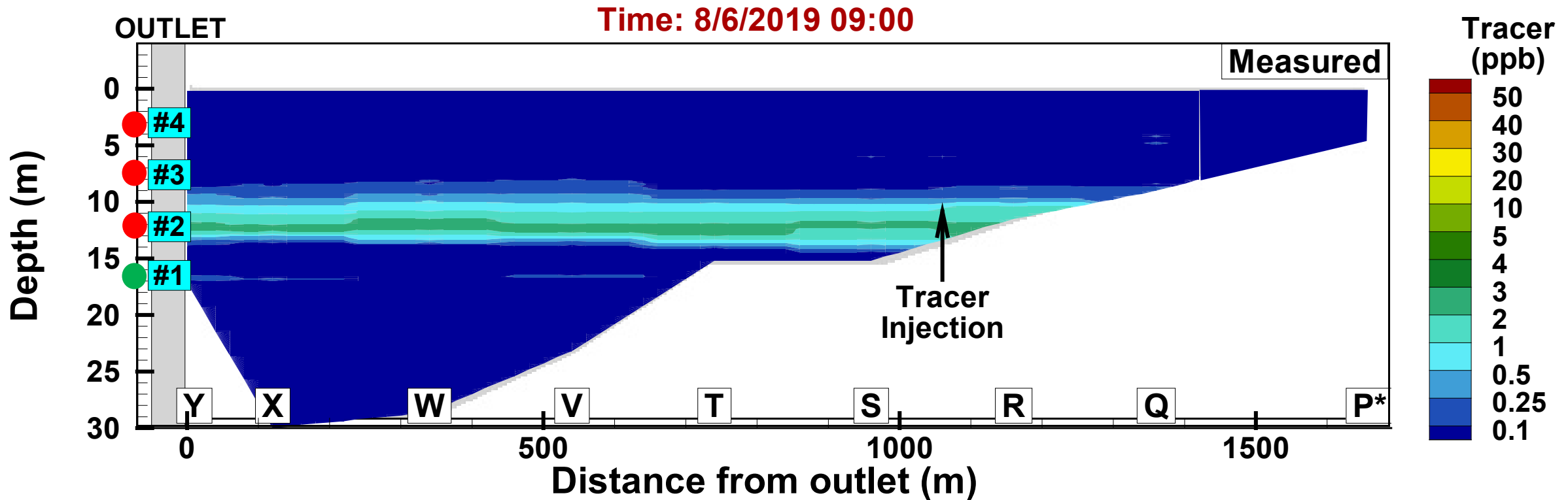
Port #1 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray



Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 08/06/2019 09:00 (+21 days)

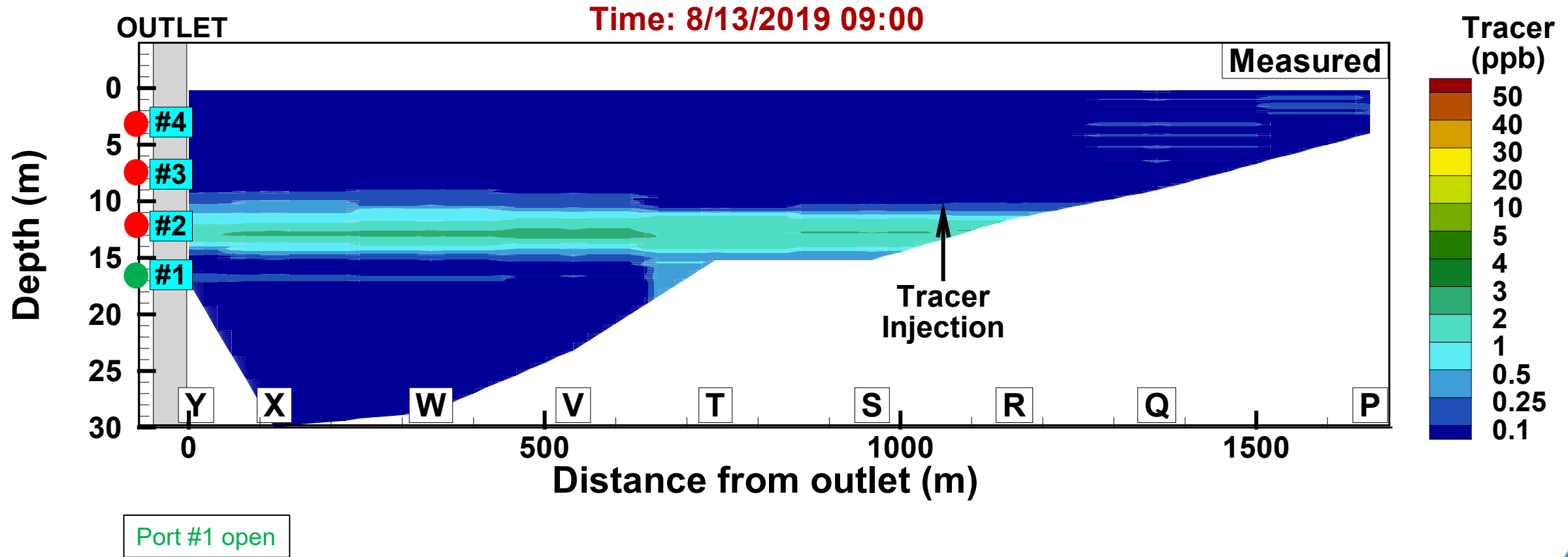


Port #1 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

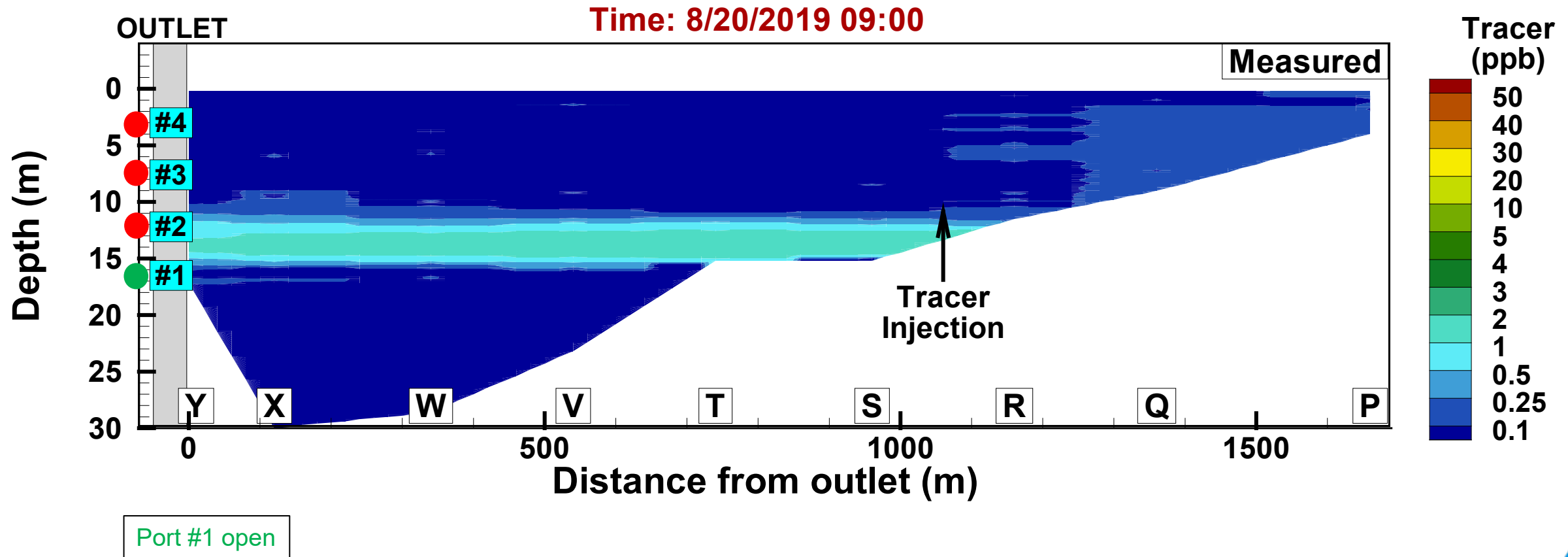
SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 08/13/2019 09:00 (+28 days)



SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

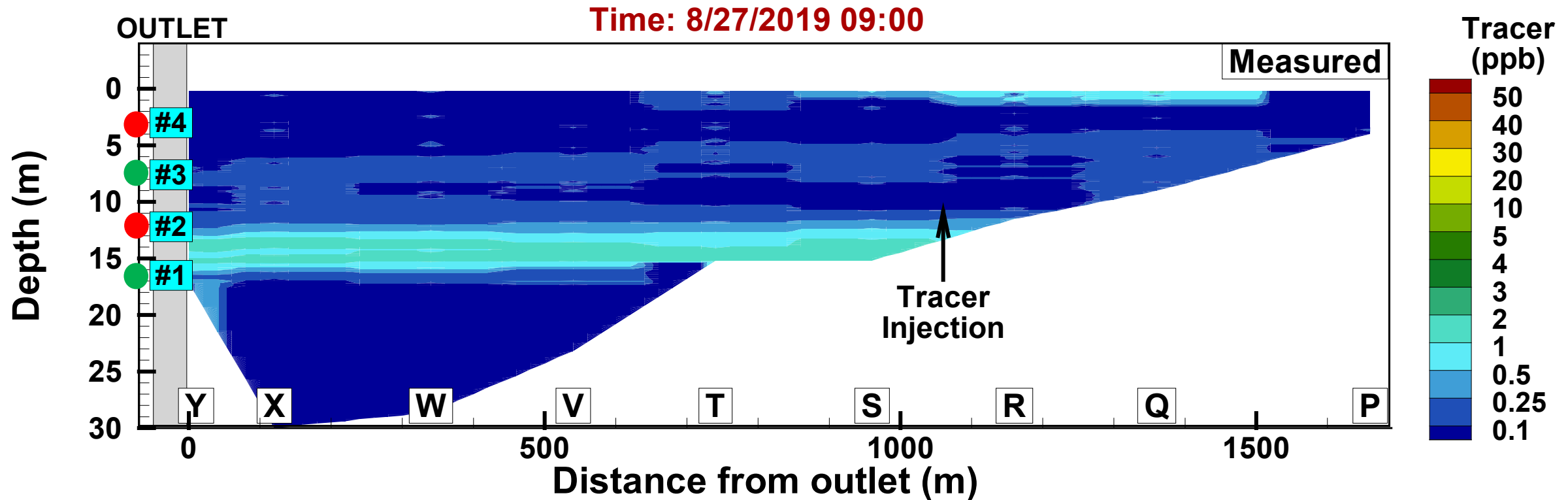
Time: 08/20/2019 09:00 (+35 days)





Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

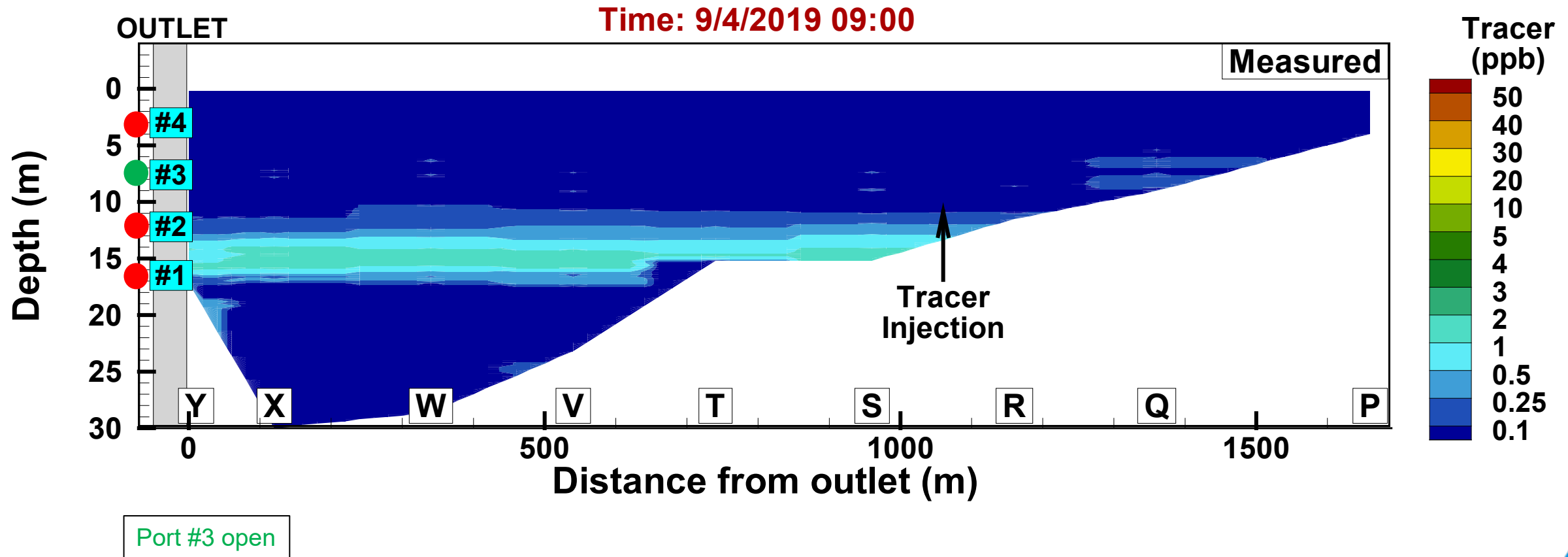
Time: 08/27/2019 09:00 (+42 days)



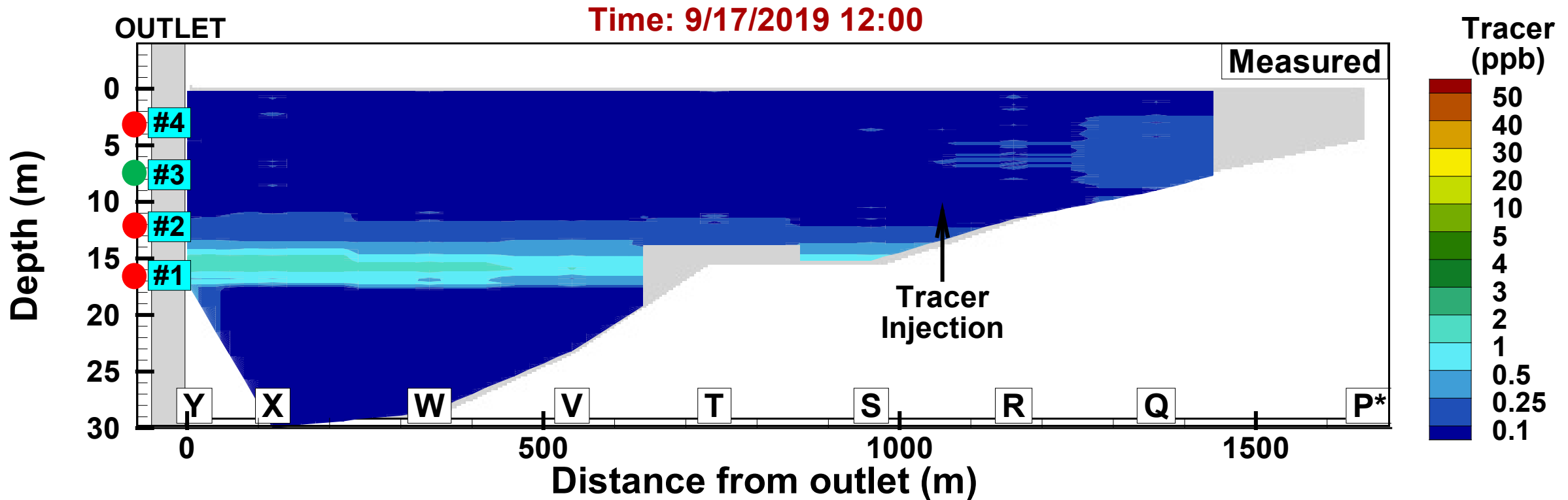
Ports #1 and #3 open

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 09/04/2019 09:00 (+50 days)



Time: 09/17/2019 12:00 (+63 days)

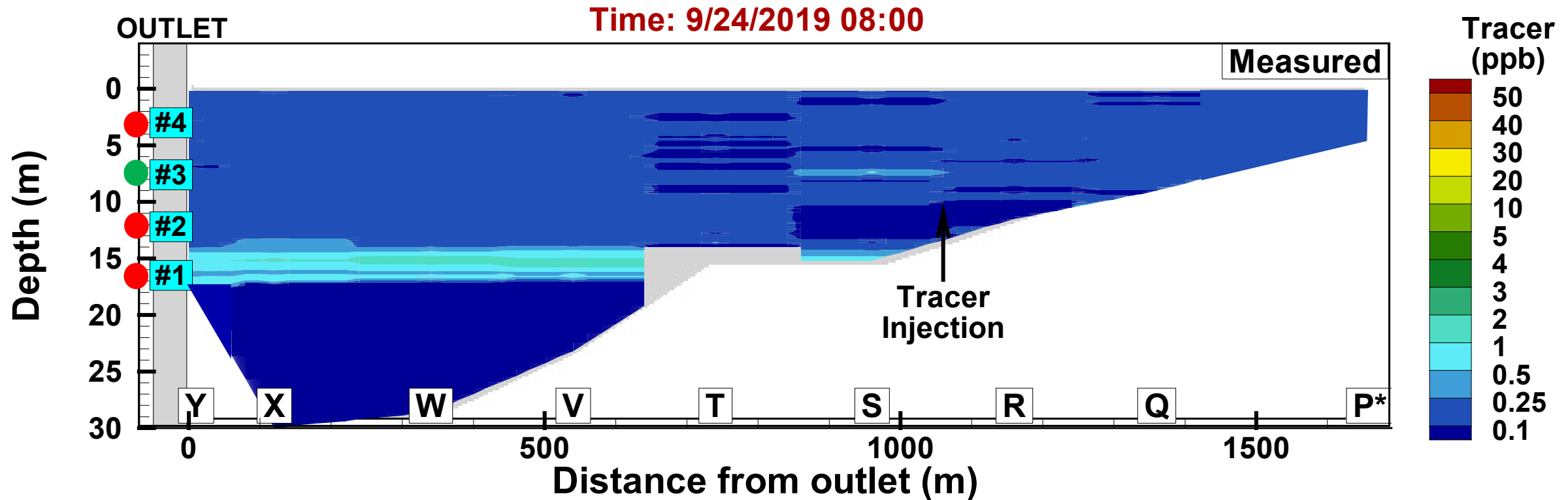


Port #3 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 09/24/2019 08:00 (+70 days)

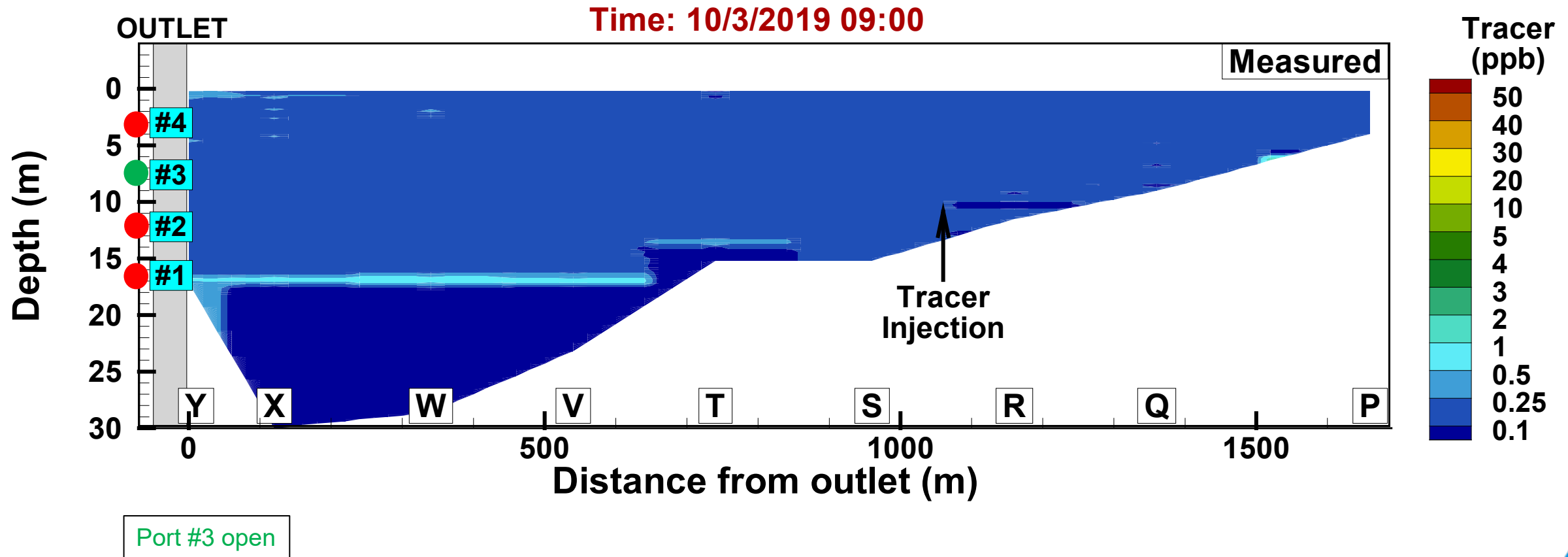


Port #3 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

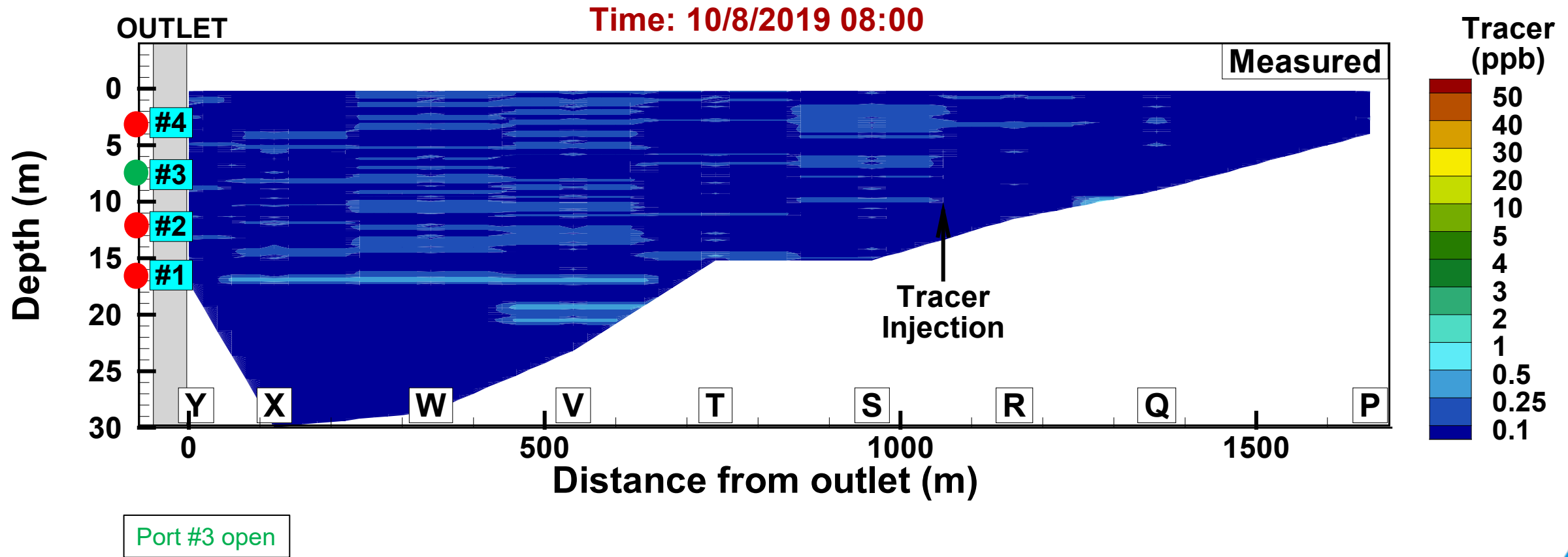
Time: 10/03/2019 09:00 (+79 days)





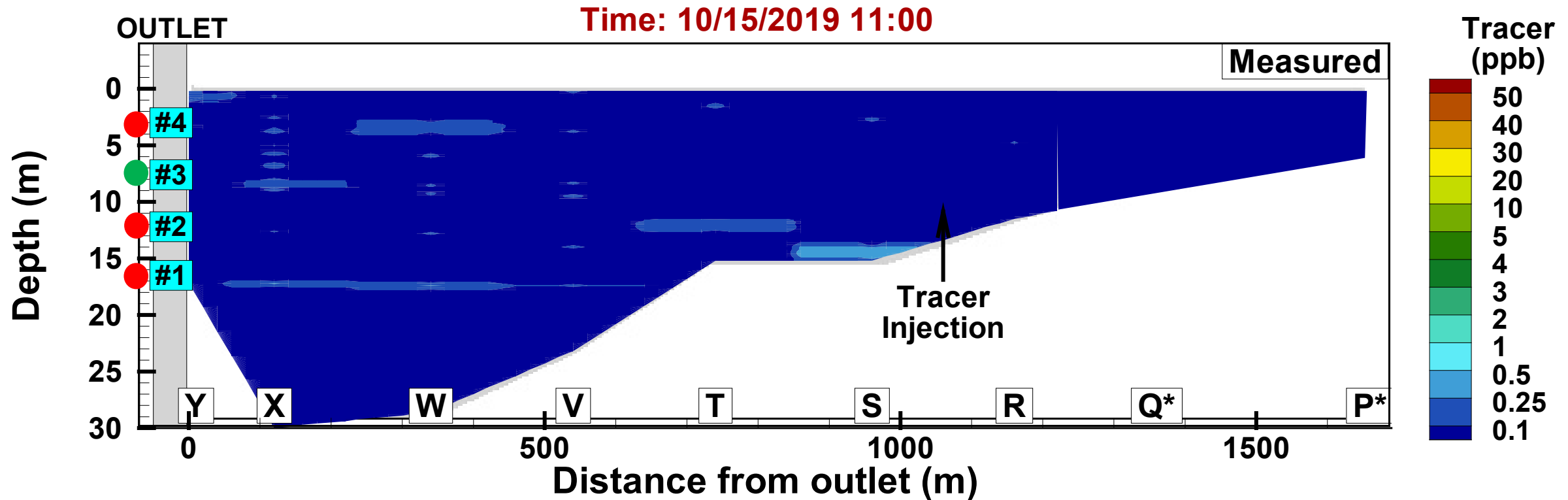
Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 10/08/2019 08:00 (+84 days)



SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 10/15/2019 11:00 (+91 days)

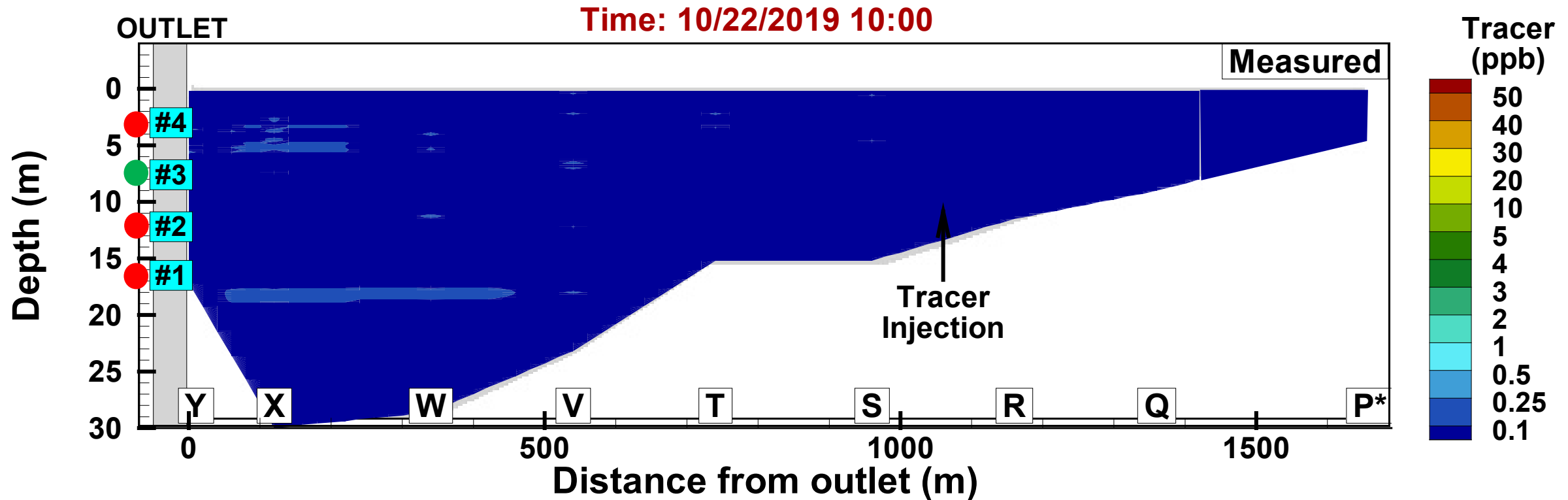


Port #3 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

Time: 10/22/2019 09:00 (+98 days)



Port #3 open

*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

Pure Water San Diego

Tracer Study

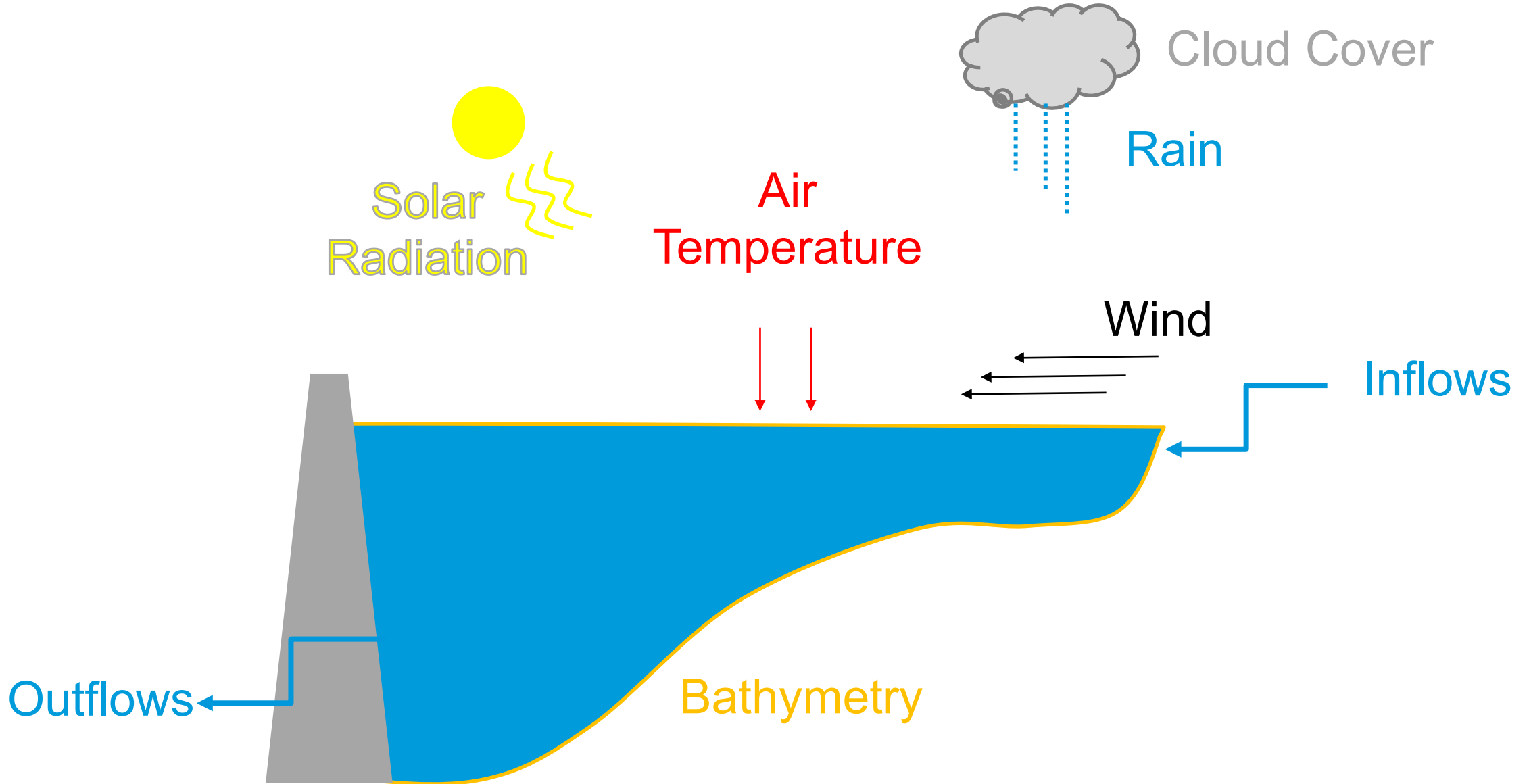
Model Setup and Calibration

Model Validation

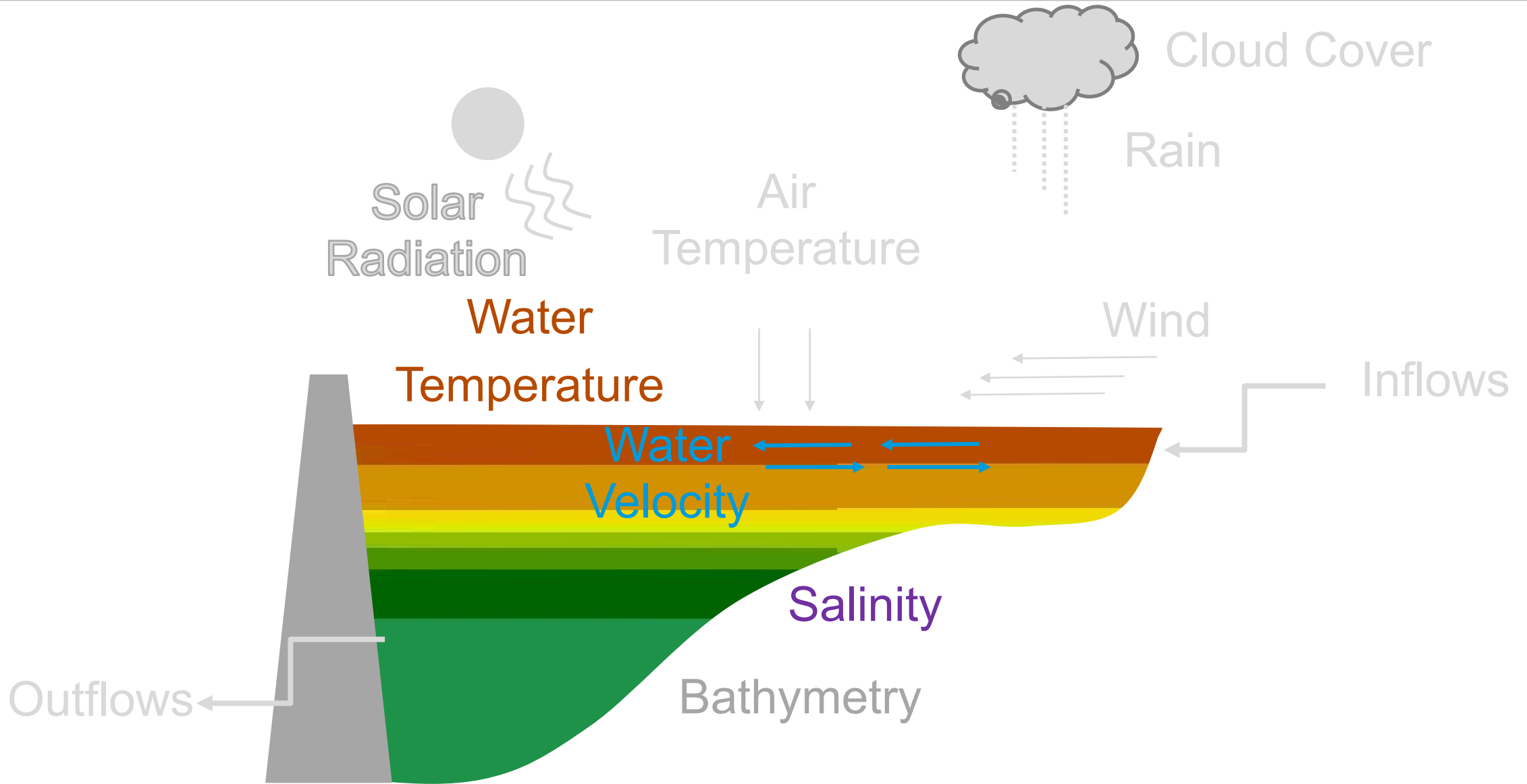
Results and Lessons Learned



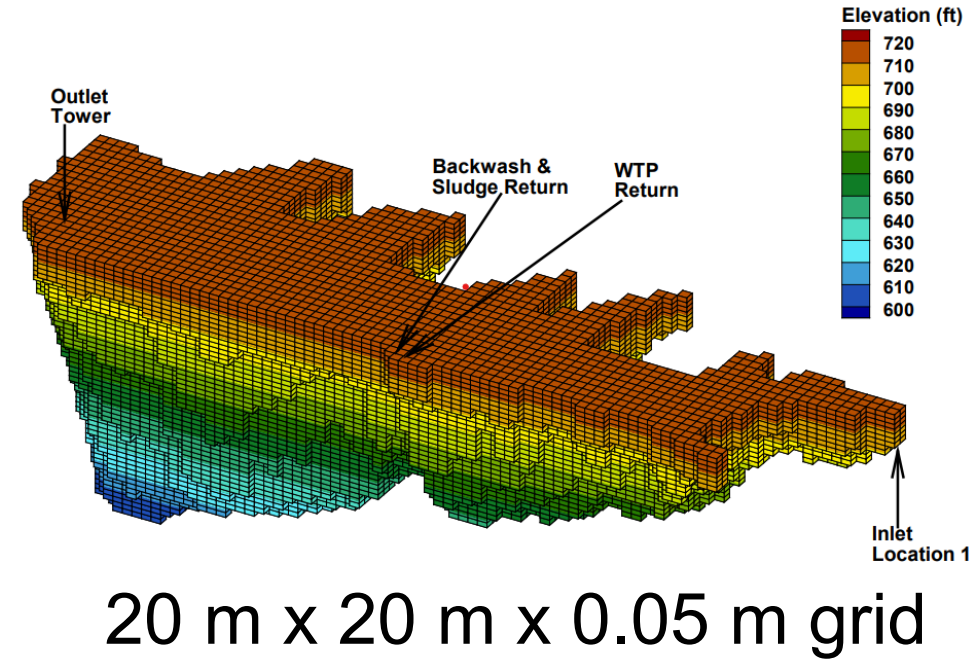
AEM3D Hydrodynamics: Inputs



SD AEM3D Hydrodynamics: Outputs

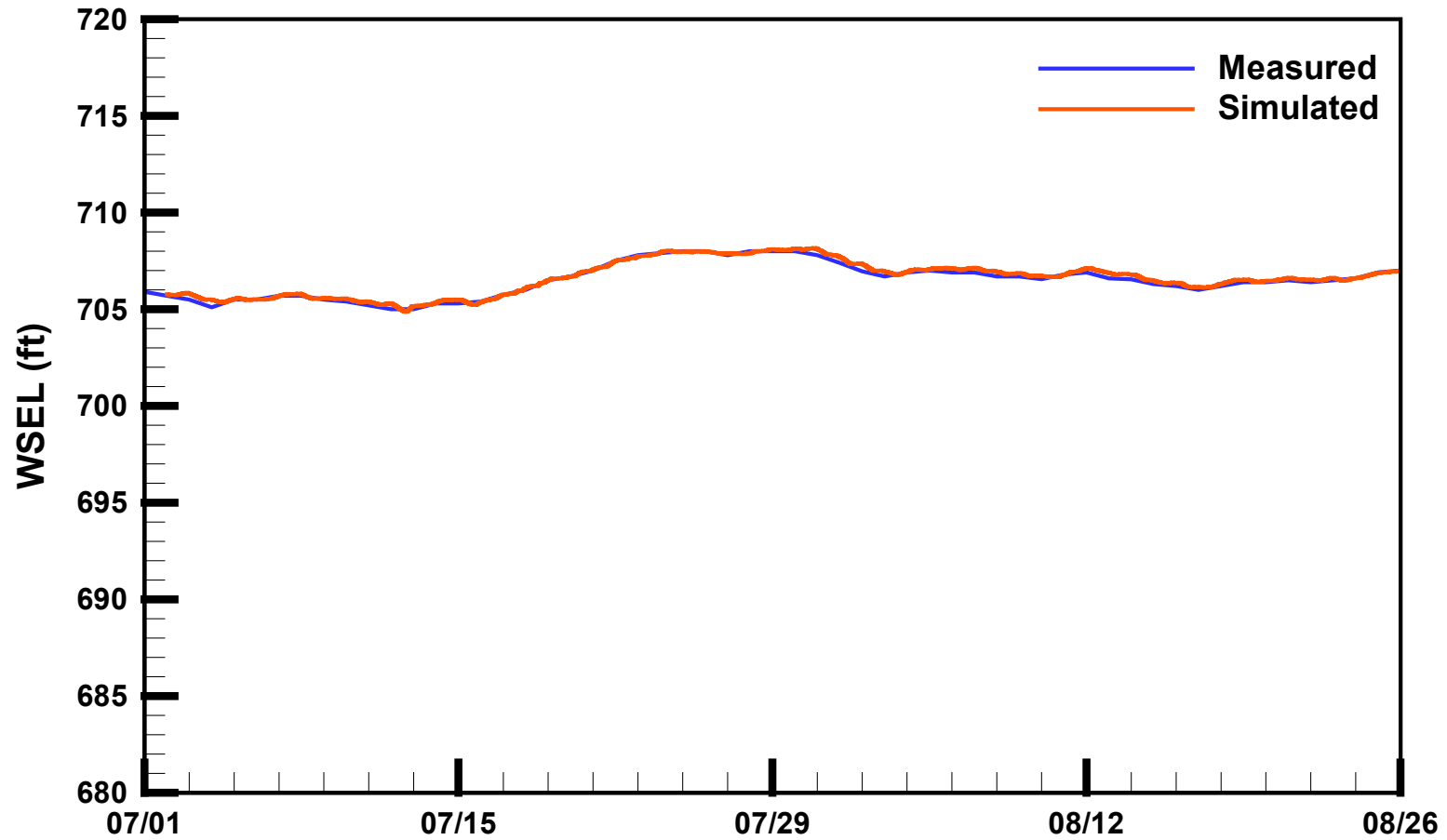


- AEM3D simulates reservoir hydrodynamics
 - *Grid generated*
 - *Flows obtained from City*
 - *Meteorological data obtained nearby*
 - Wind measured at dam

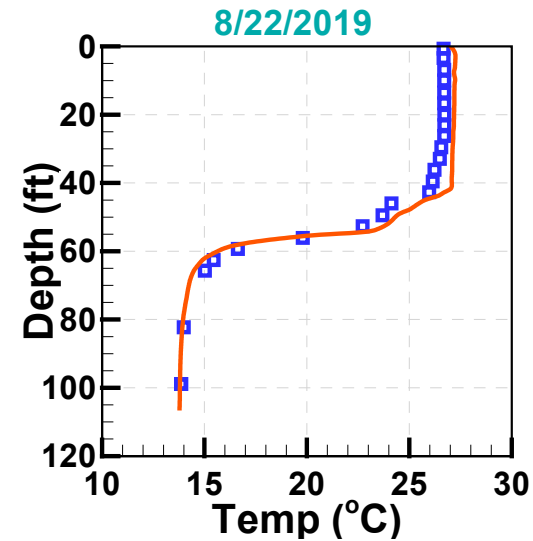
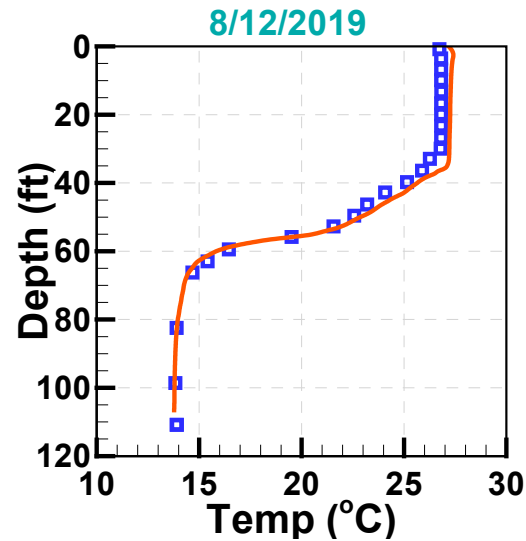
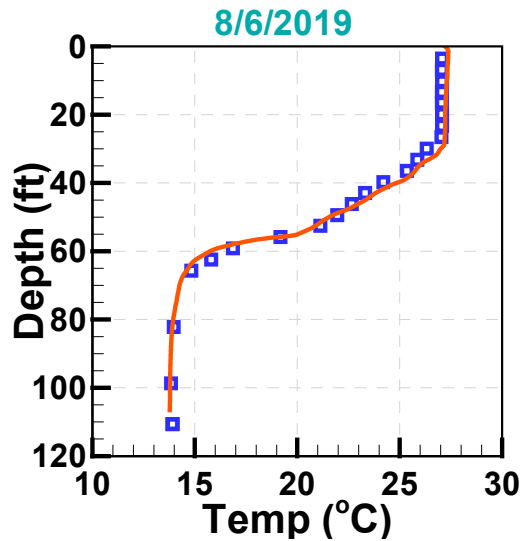
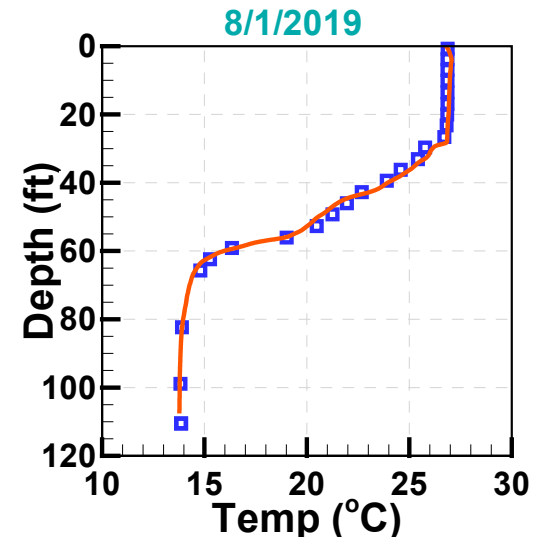
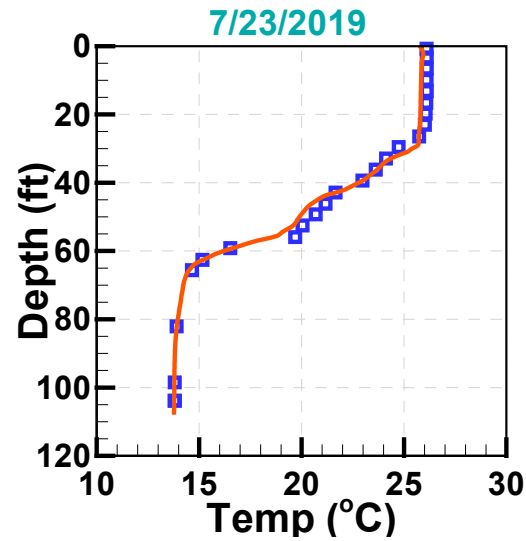
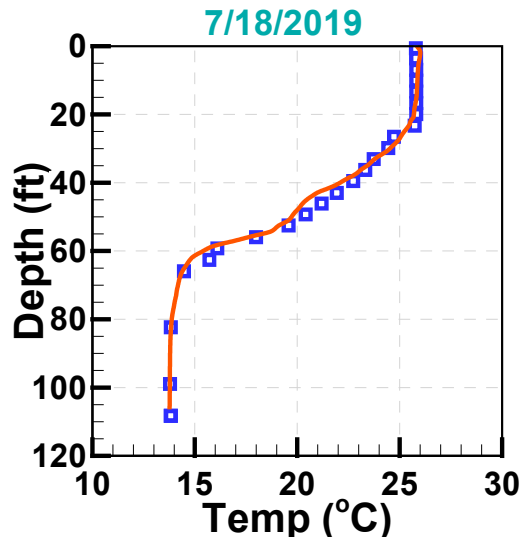




Model Calibration: WSEL



SD Model Calibration: Temperature Profiles



Pure Water San Diego

Tracer Study

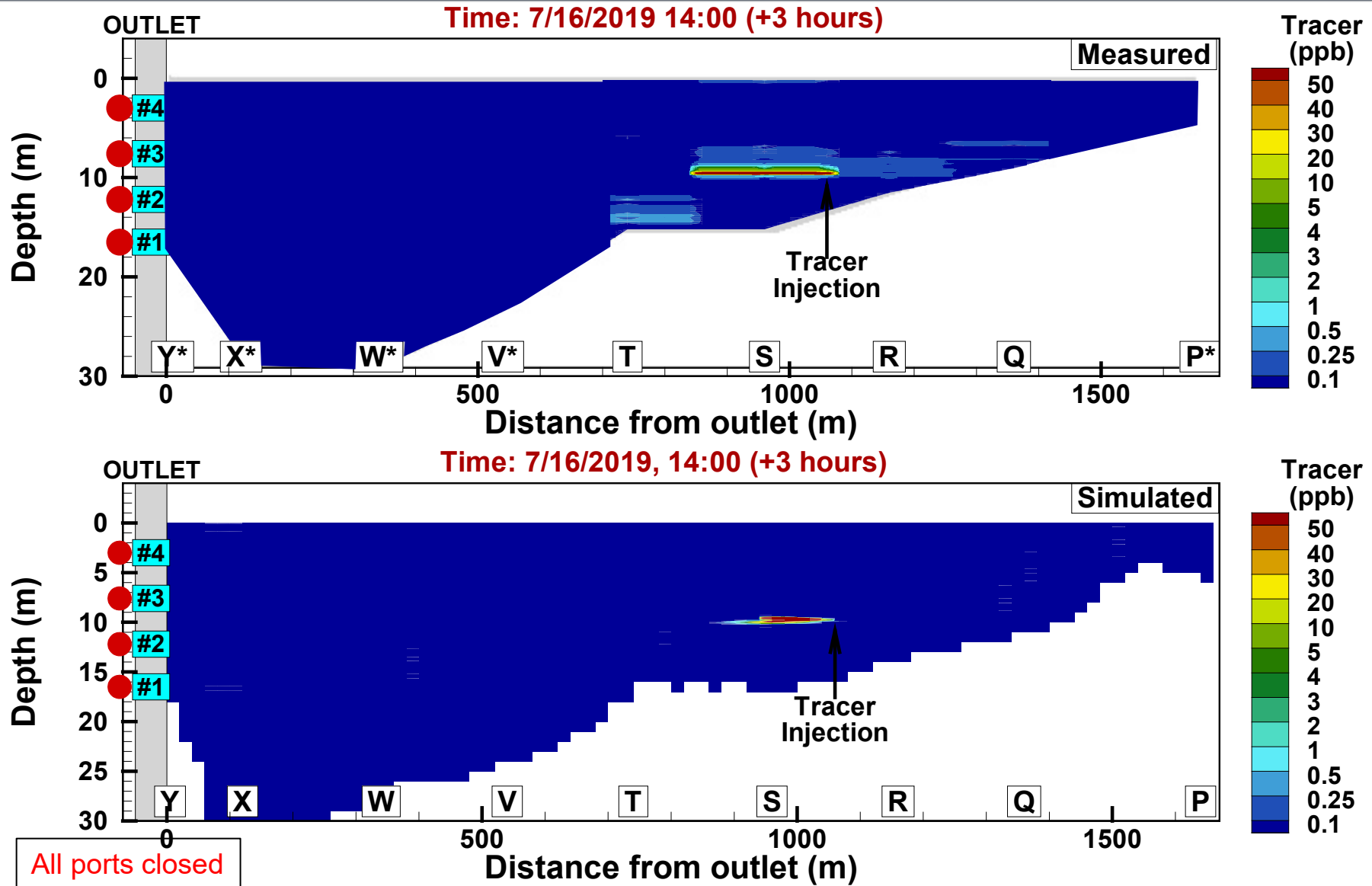
Model Setup and Calibration

Model Validation

Results and Lessons Learned



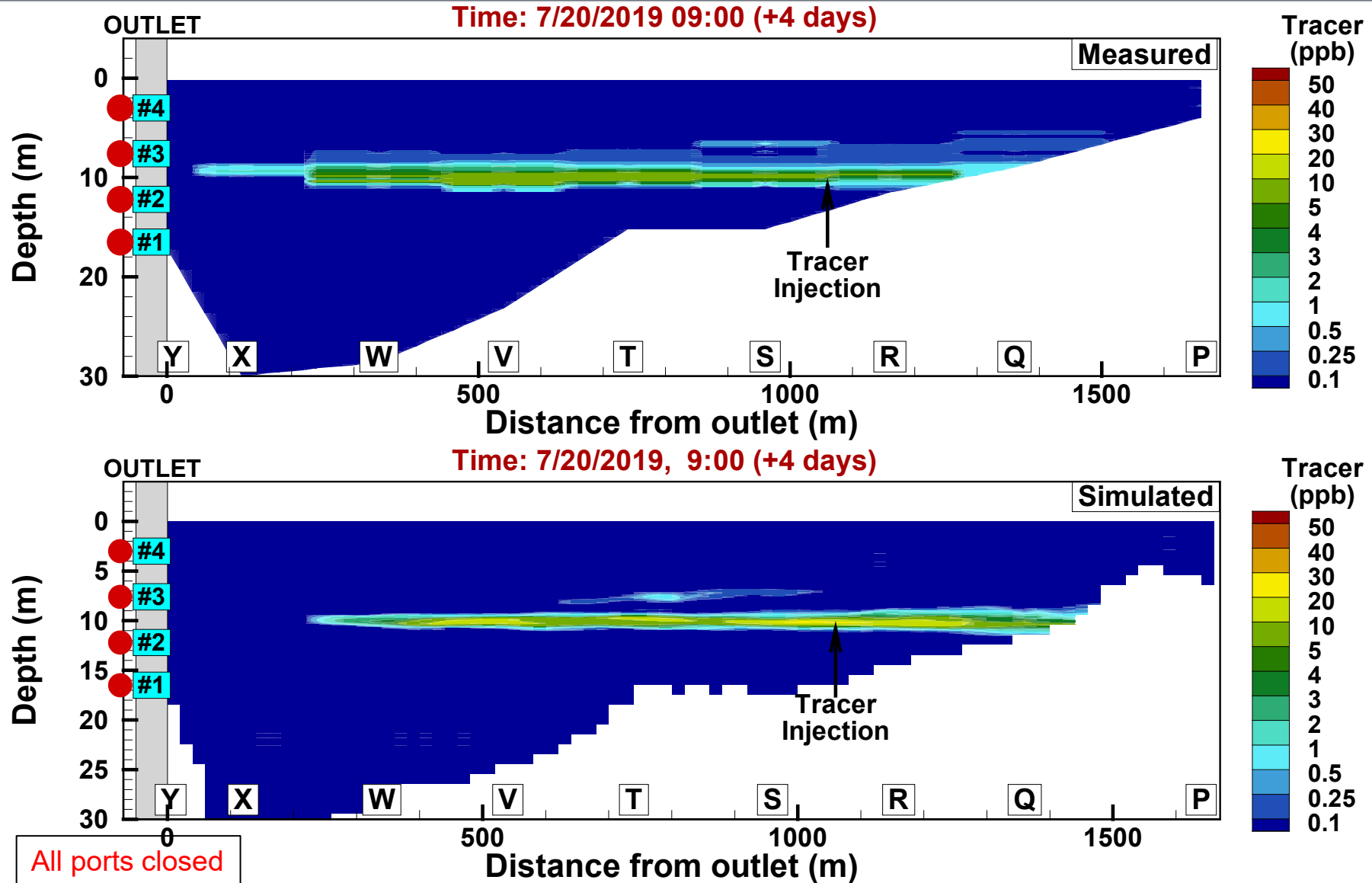
Comparison of Tracer Contours



*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

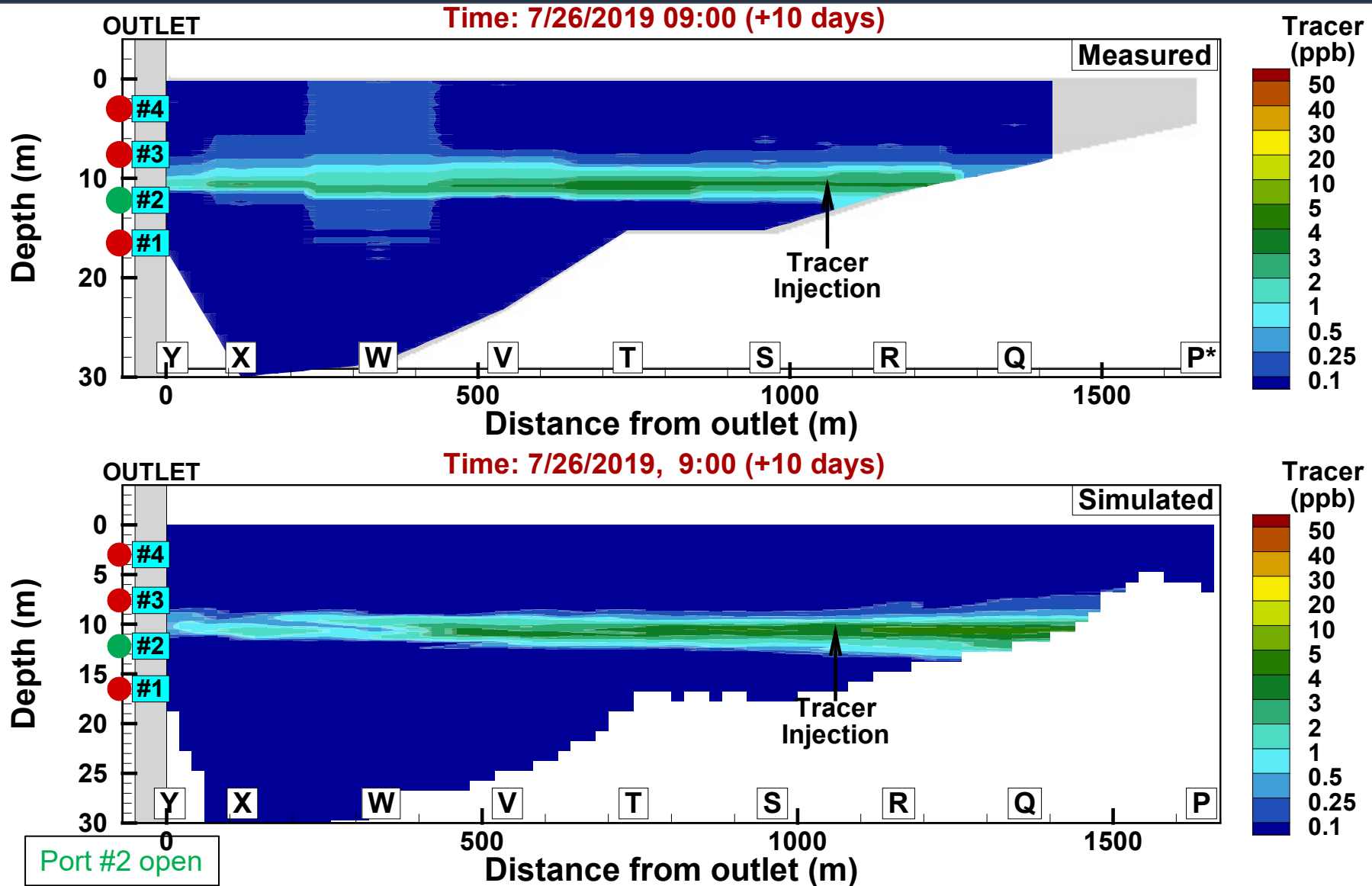


Comparison of Tracer Contours





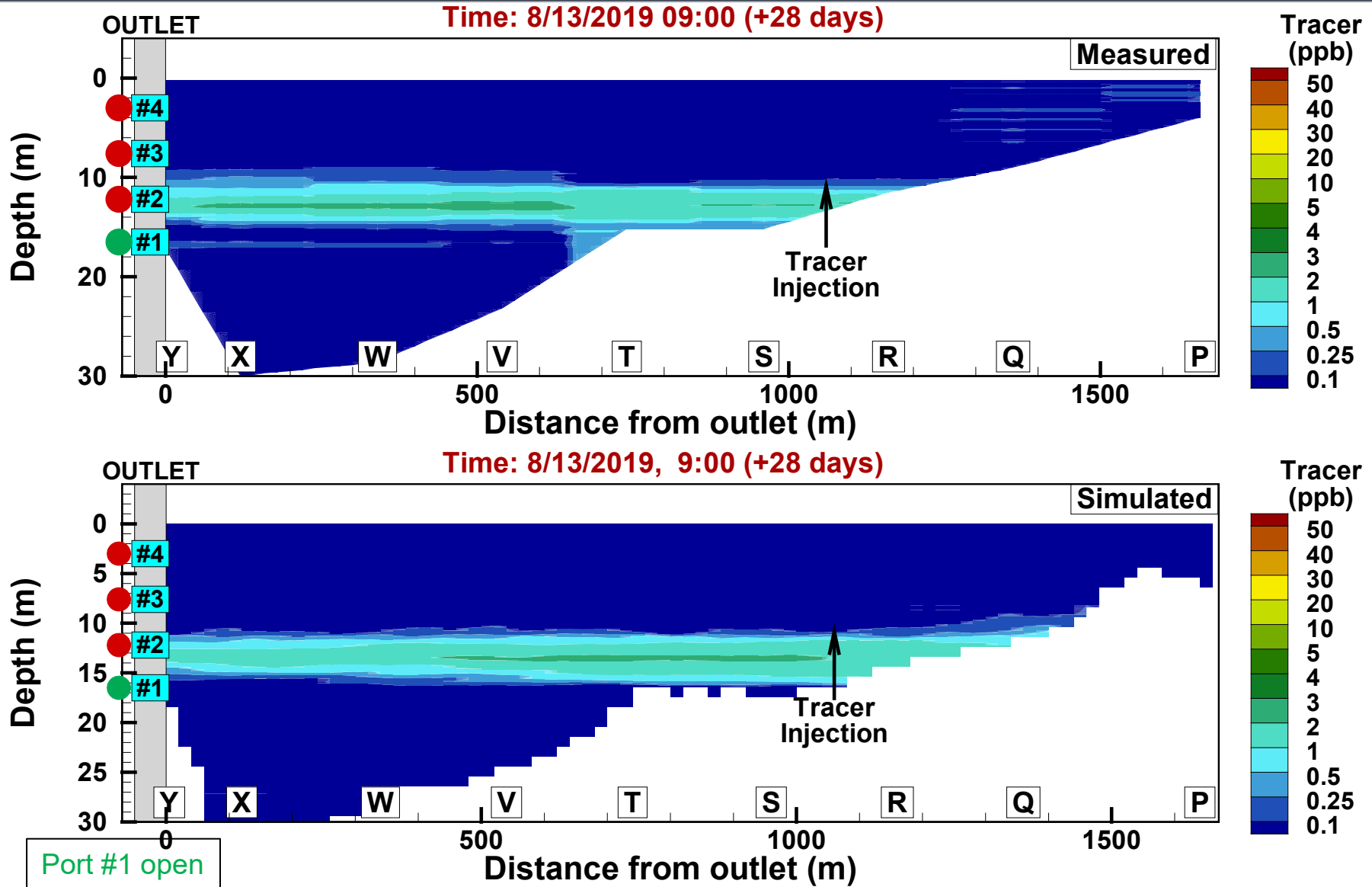
Comparison of Tracer Contours



*Stations not sampled, shown as gray

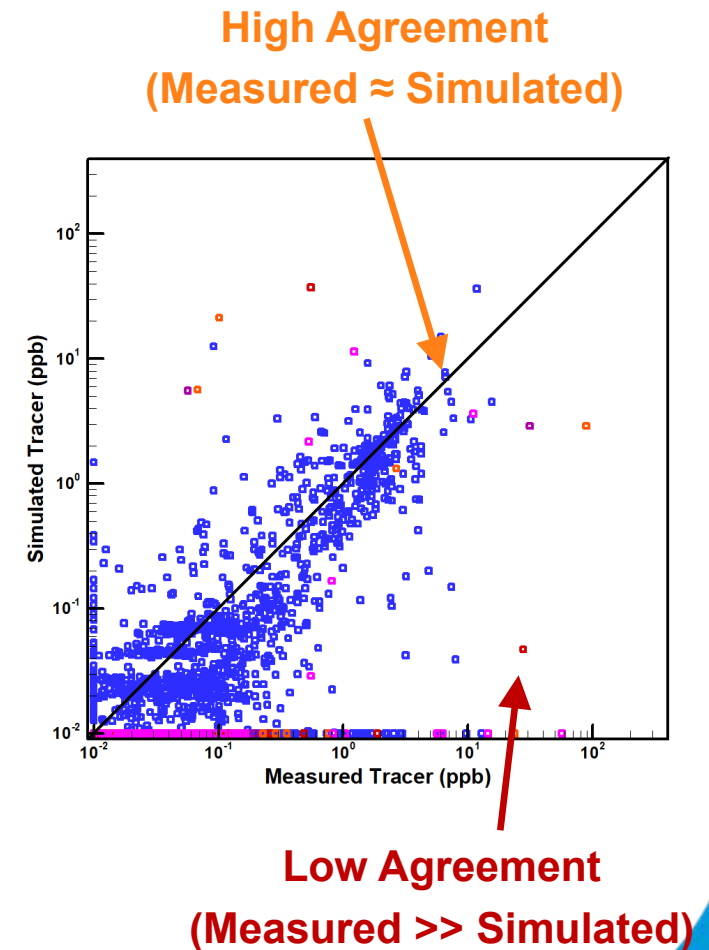


Comparison of Tracer Contours



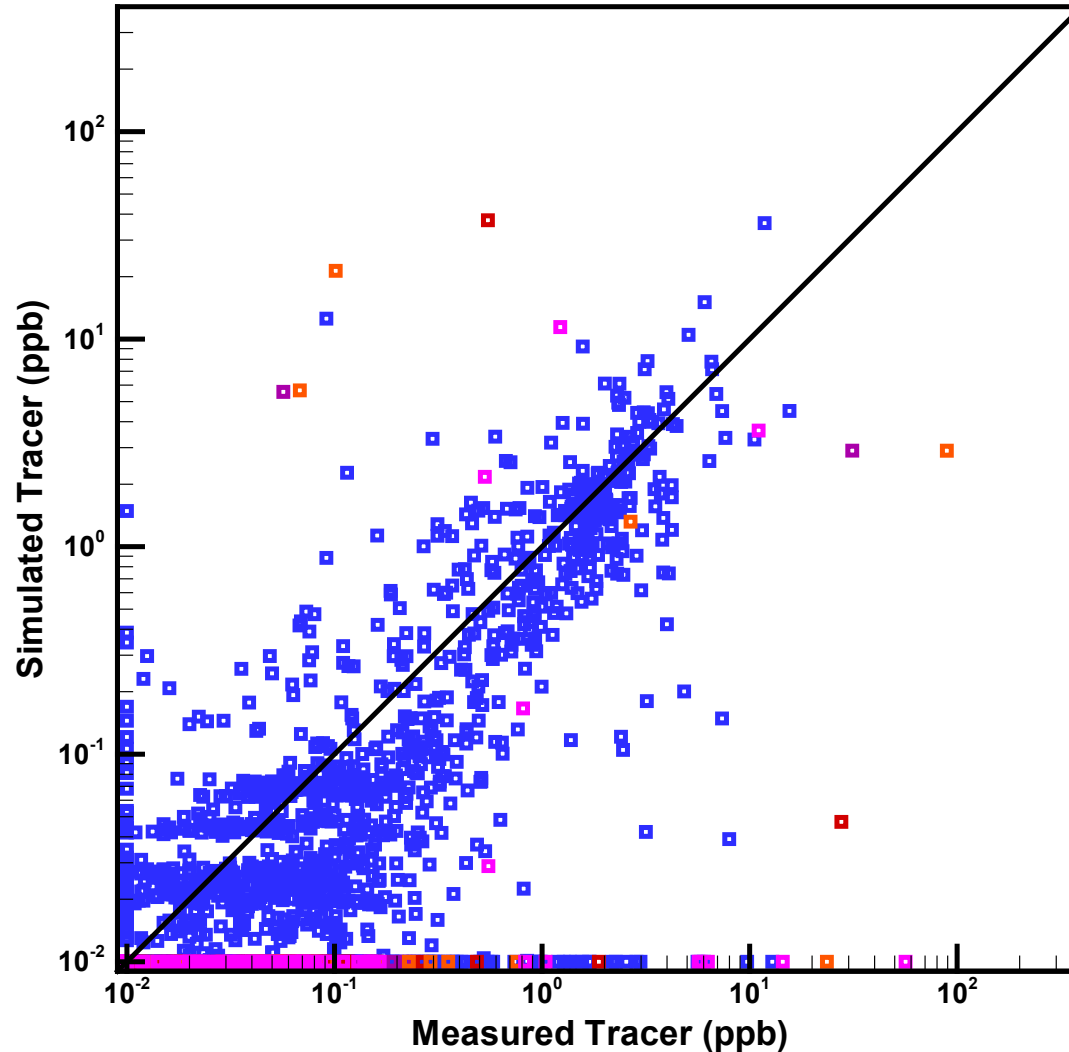
SD Tracer Study Vs Model

- For each sampling event, the measured RWT data were compared to the simulated tracer concentration
- Data spans four orders of magnitude
- Data not randomly distributed
- Thin tracer layer emphasizes differences





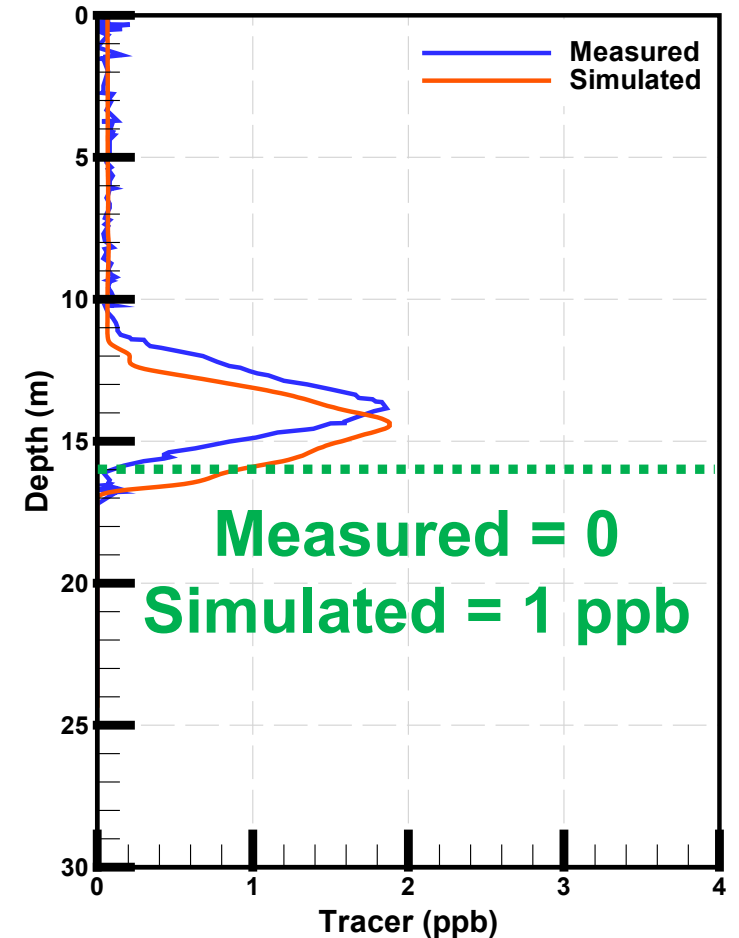
Tracer Study Vs Model



- 14:00, 7/16 (+3 hours)
- 16:00, 7/16 (+5 hours)
- 20:00, 7/16 (+9 hours)
- 03:00, 7/17 (+16 hours)
- All Later Sampling Events

SD Small Offset Gives Low Agreement

- Even when model performance is excellent visually, statistical results may be low



SD Tracer Study Statistics

	Total Number of Data Points	r	R ²	Relative RMSE
All sampling events	3241	-0.27	-0.07	2.6%

**RRMSE low (high agreement),
but R² also low (low agreement)**

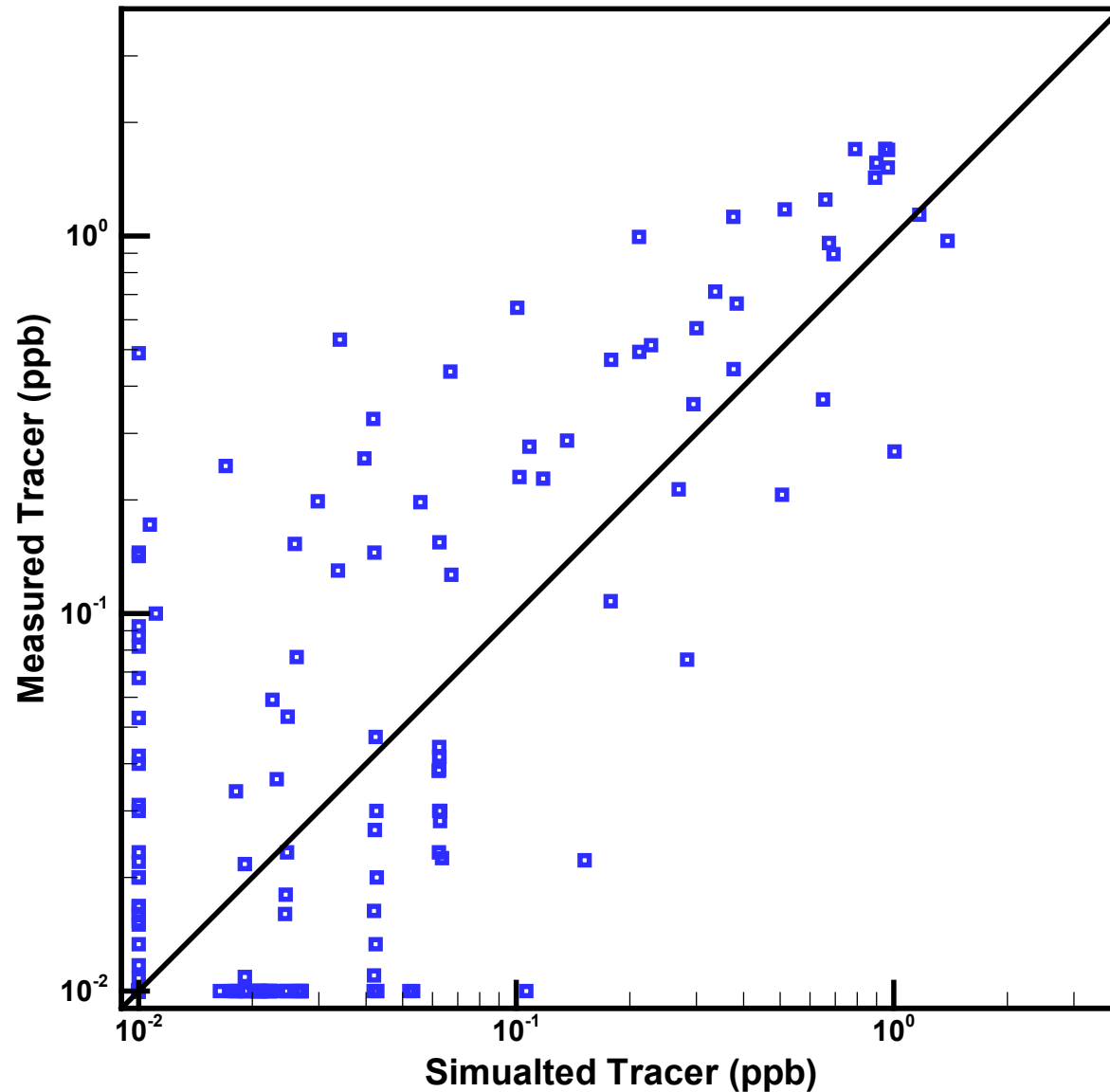
Data range makes statistics difficult



Tracer Study Statistics

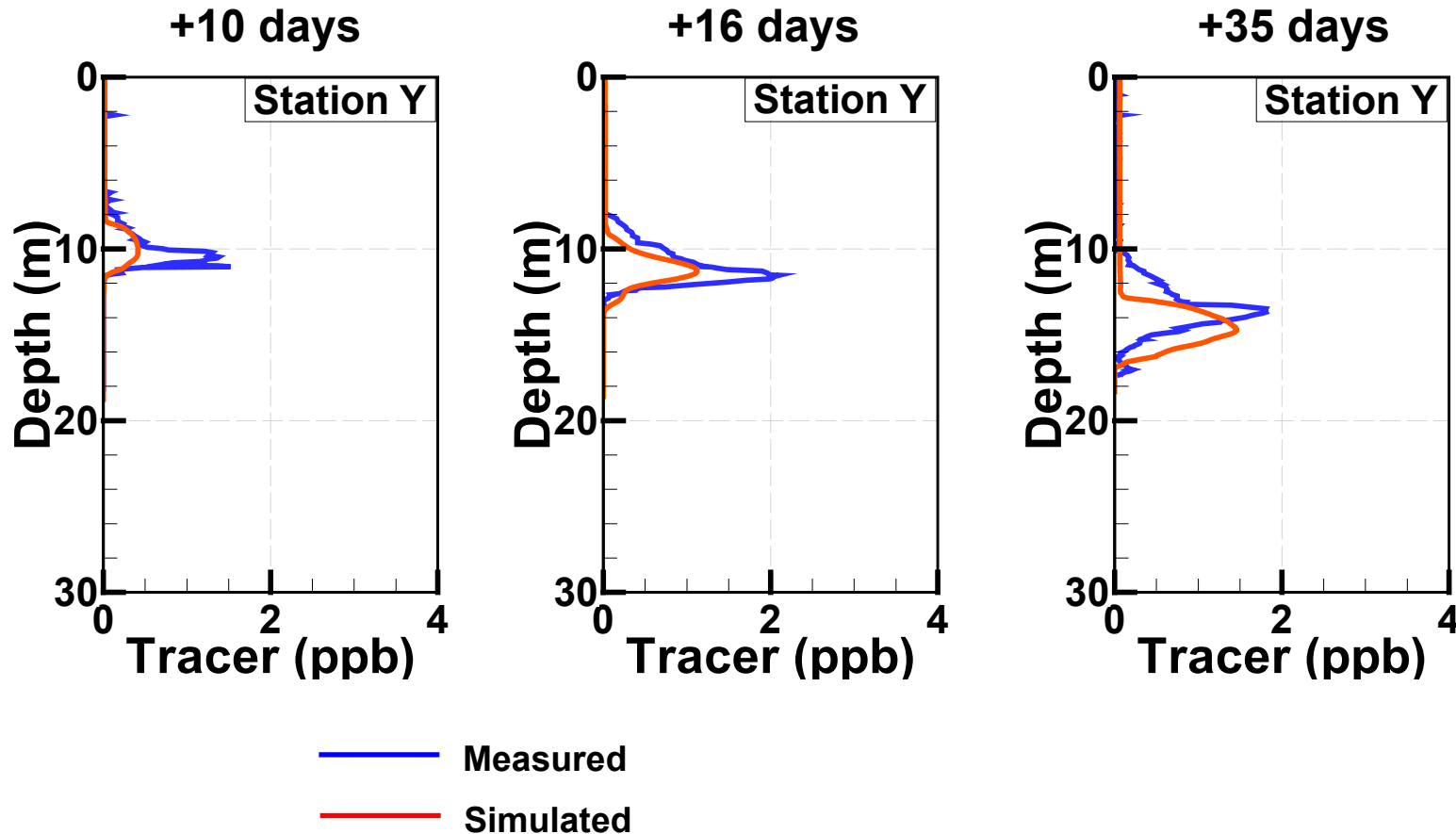
	Total Number of Data Points	r	R^2	Relative RMSE
All sampling events	3241	-0.27	-0.07	2.6%
Excluding initial 4 sampling events	2885	0.32	0.10	5.4%

Statistics improve after 1 day



Tracer measured at outlet matches well with simulated concentrations

Prior to augmentation,...the SWSAP PWS shall demonstrate to the State Board, utilizing tracer studies and hydrodynamic modeling, that at all times under all operating conditions, **the volume of water withdrawn from the augmented reservoir** ...contains no more than...ten percent, by volume, of recycled municipal wastewater that was delivered to the surface water reservoir during any 24-hour period...



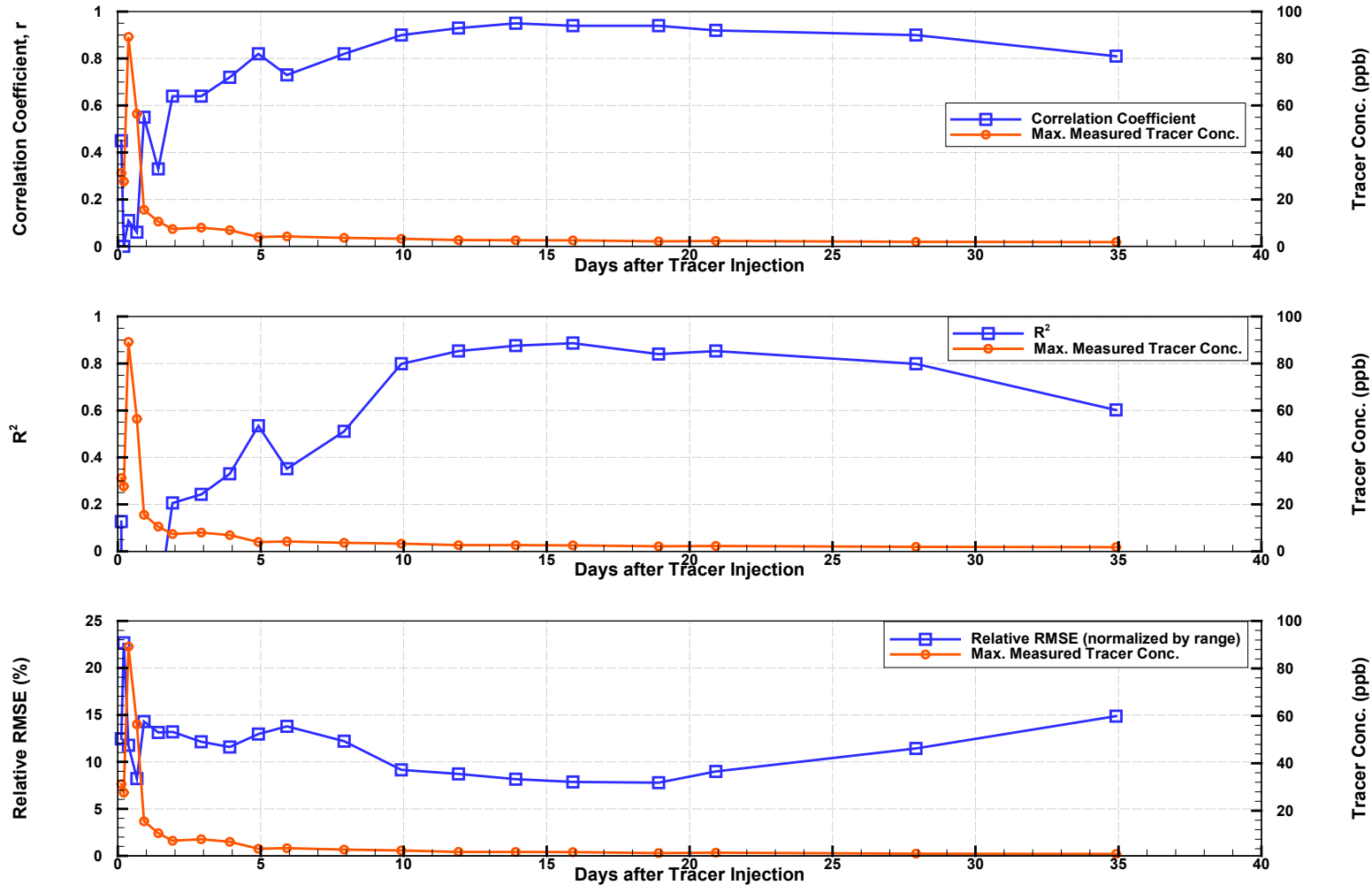
Profiles show visual match of measured and simulated tracer concentrations

Results at outlet most relevant to dilution

	Total Number of Data Points	r	R^2	Relative RMSE
Sampling at outlet	284	0.86	0.69	9.8%

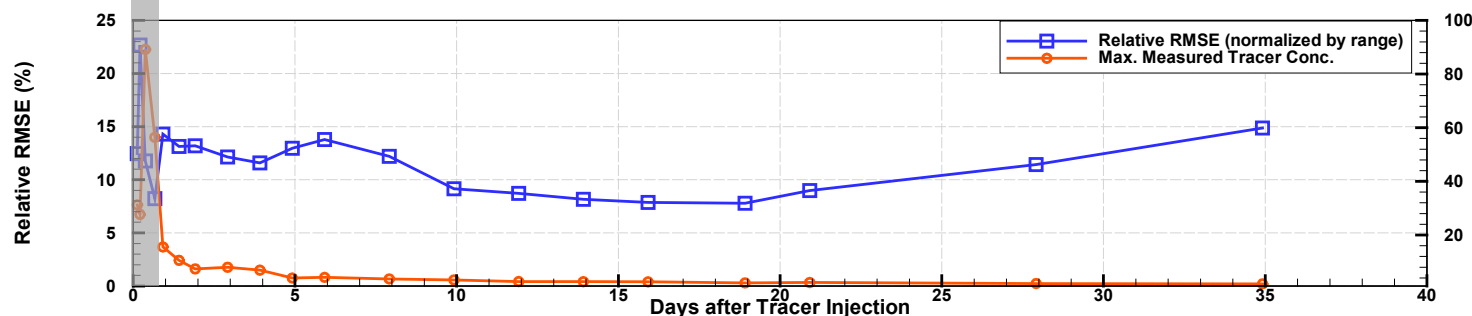
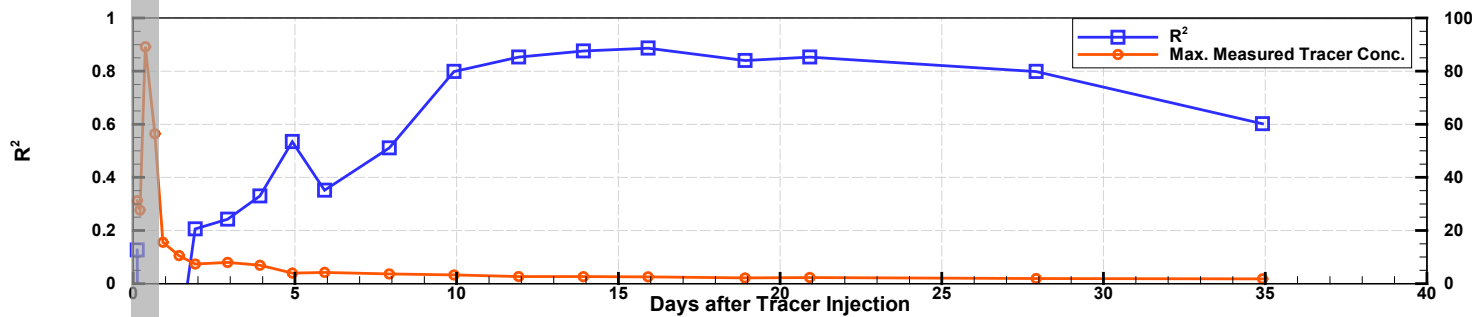
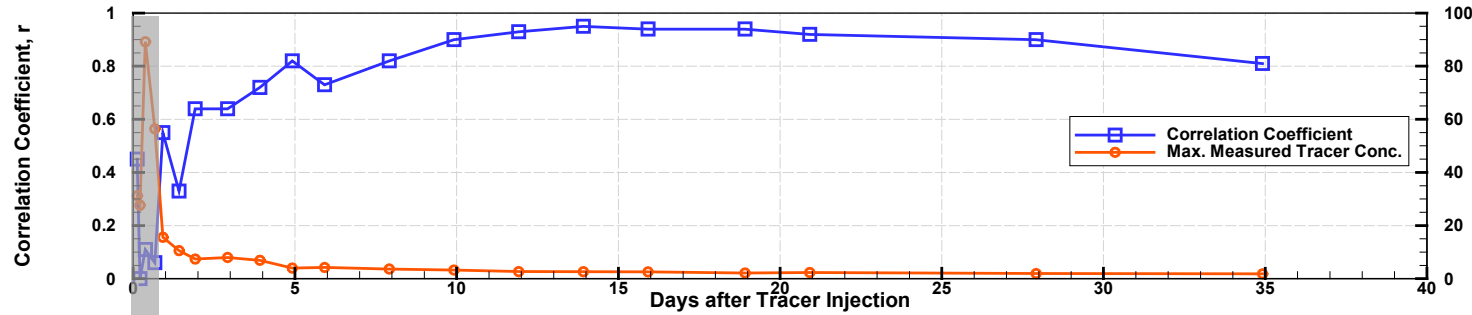
Panel suggests that metrics compare well to other modeling studies

SD Tracer Study Statistics Over Time



Statistics improve over first week

SD Tracer Study Statistics Over Time



	r	R ²	Relative RMSE
Excluding initial 4 sampling events	0.33-0.95	0.21-0.88	7-15%

Statistics improve over first week

- Statistics after initial samplings and at outlet better characterize model performance
- Combination of visual approach, statistics (r , R^2 , RMSE) on entire dataset, and statistics at outlet
 - *Approach characterizes agreement more clearly*
- Provides framework for panel discussions on model validation

Pure Water San Diego

Tracer Study

Model Setup and Calibration

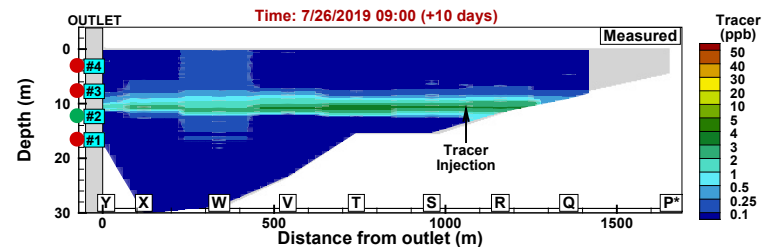
Model Validation

Results and Lessons Learned

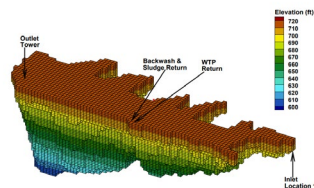
- Tracer study completed
- 3D model calibrated, applied to tracer study
- Model simulation compared to measured data



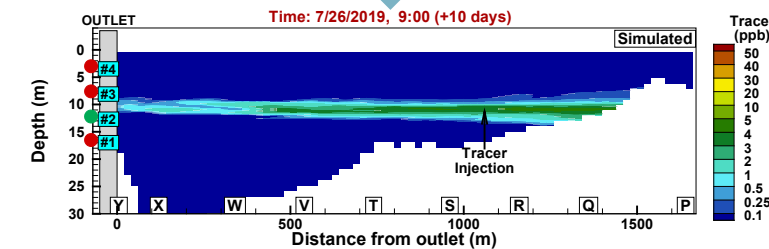
Tracer Study



Model Validation



3D Model



- Sampling plan effective
 - *Not intended to resolve early timepoints*
- AEM3D model effective for simulating tracer movement
 - *Well-calibrated model essential*
 - *Multi-faceted validation approach beneficial*

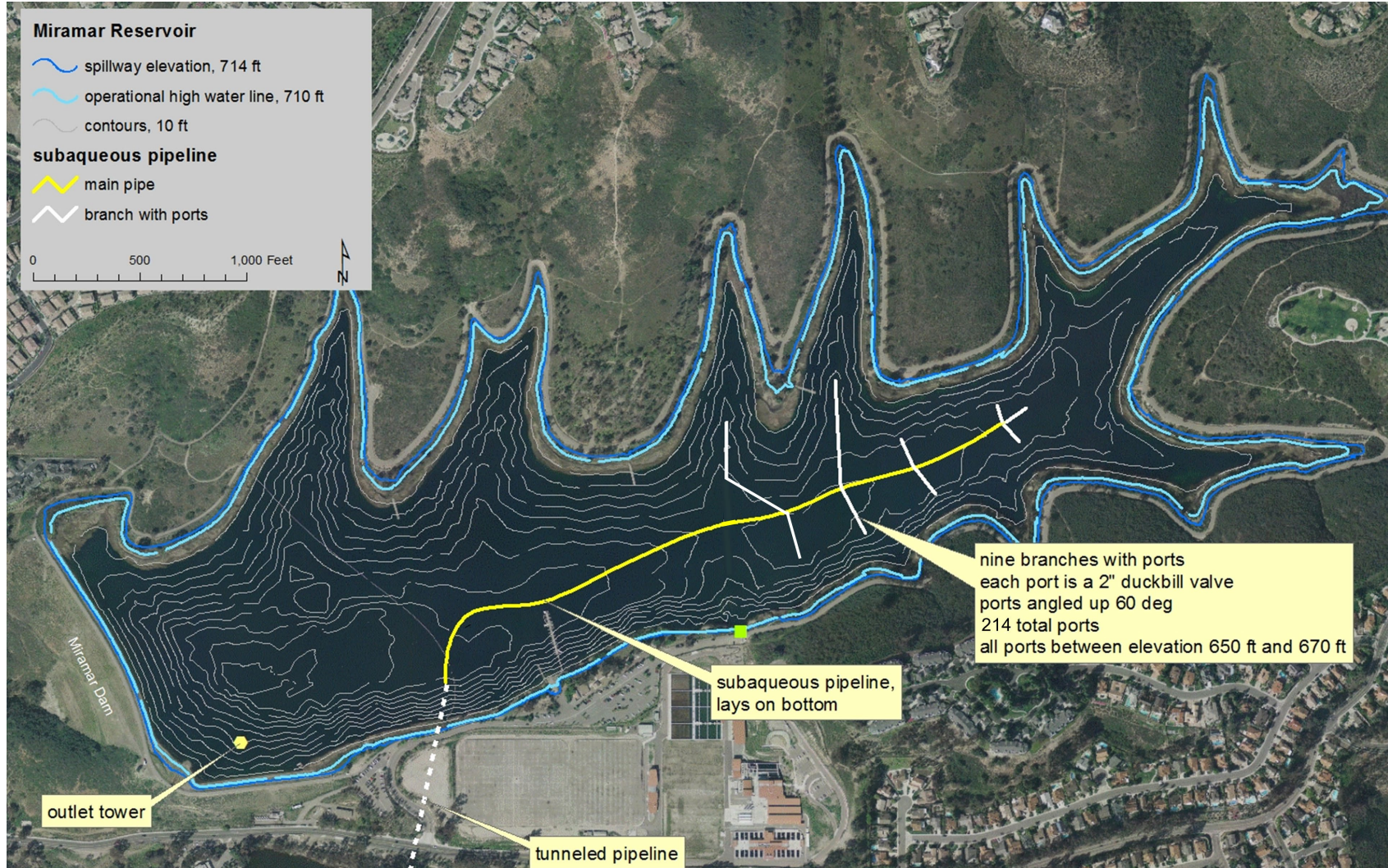


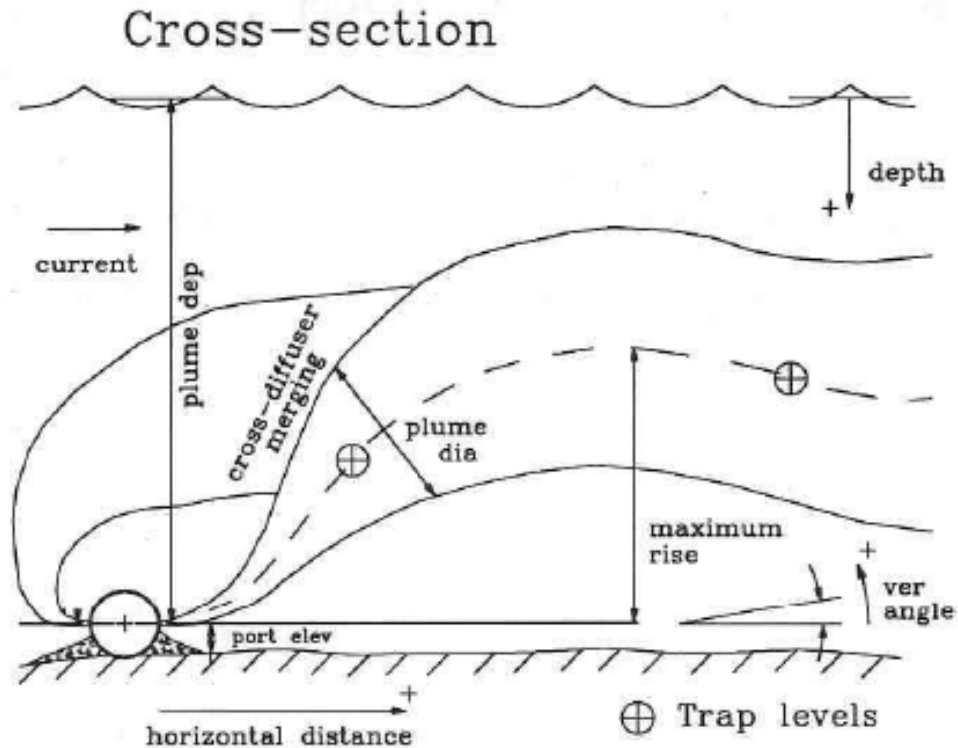


Preparation for Tracer Study Upon Startup

- Conduct tracer study similarly to 2019 tracer study
 - *Inject tracer through purified water inlet (2025)*
- Continue upgrading model and inputs
 - *New submodel for initial dilution of purified water*
 - *Meteorology, bathymetry and flow enhancements*
- Confirm approach to define validity

Purified Water Diffuser





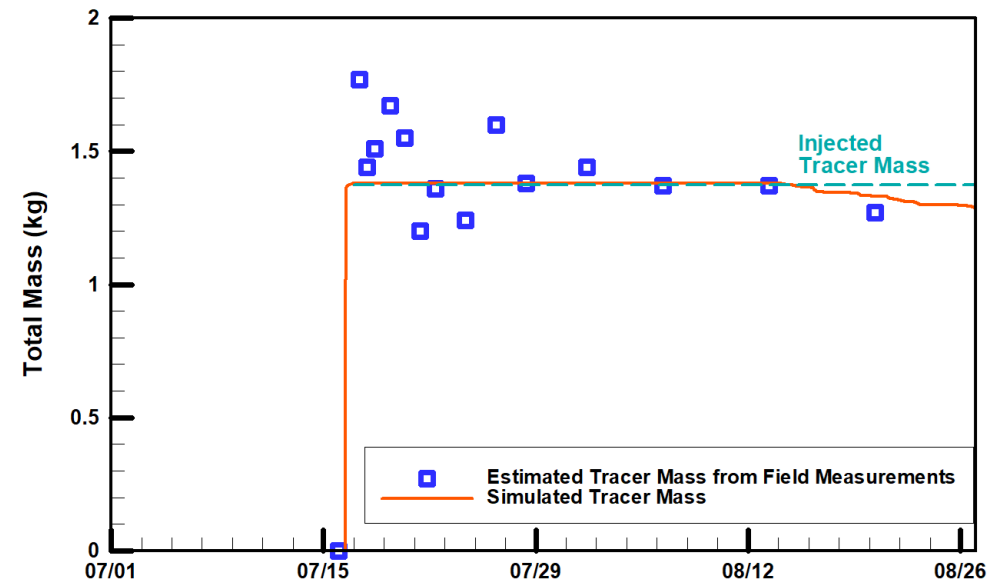
UM3 model (three-dimensional Updated Merge model) of the EPA PLUMES is embedded in the diffuser code;

UM3 model, originally coded in Delphi Pascal, simulates single and multi-port submerged discharges;

Dilution (and entrainment) at different depths and the final insertion level are calculated by the UM3 model, then returned to the AEM3D program.

SD Tracer Study: Measured Tracer

- **Simulation Period:** 7/2/2019 – 8/26/2019
- **Total Tracer Mass:** Simulation matched with the field measurements



*Note that this plot includes only those dates when at least 10 of 11 stations were sampled. Dates when fewer than ten stations were sampled are not included because it is not possible to calculate the mass of tracer in the reservoir when some data is absent. The sampling dates not included are 7/16 (14:00, 16:00, 20:00), 7/17 (3:00), 7/30, and 8/4.

Metrics	Definition	
Mean Error	$\text{Mean Error} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (C_{\text{simulated}} - C_{\text{measured}})}{N}$	
Root Mean Squared Error (RMSE)	$\text{RMSE} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^N (C_{\text{simulated}} - C_{\text{measured}})^2}{N}}$	
Relative RMSE	(1) Based on the range of measured data	$\text{Relative RMSE} = \frac{\text{RMSE}}{ C_{\text{measured,max}} - C_{\text{measured,min}} }$
	(2) Based on the range of (C ₉₅ - C ₅)	$\text{Relative RMSE} = \frac{\text{RMSE}}{ C_{\text{measured,95\%}} - C_{\text{measured,5\%}} }$
Relative Absolute Error (RAE)	$\text{RAE} = \frac{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N (C_{\text{simulated}} - C_{\text{measured}})^2}}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^N C_{\text{measured}}^2}}$	

C = Concentration

N = the number of paired predictions-observations.

*RAE and the two types of relative RMSE only differ in the denominator in the definitions.

$$r = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum \left(\frac{x - \bar{x}}{s_x} \right) \left(\frac{y - \bar{y}}{s_y} \right)$$

$$R^2 = 1 - \frac{SS_{RES}}{SS_{TOT}} = 1 - \frac{\sum_i (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2}{\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}$$