MODELING IN-STREAM BACTERIA DYNAMICS

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IMPAIRMENTS

EPA states: '..geometric mean should not exceed 126 E. coli CFU/100 ml during sampling over 1 month period.'

WHO states: '..there is no tolerable lower limit for pathogens for consumption, should thus contain no agents pathogenic for humans.'
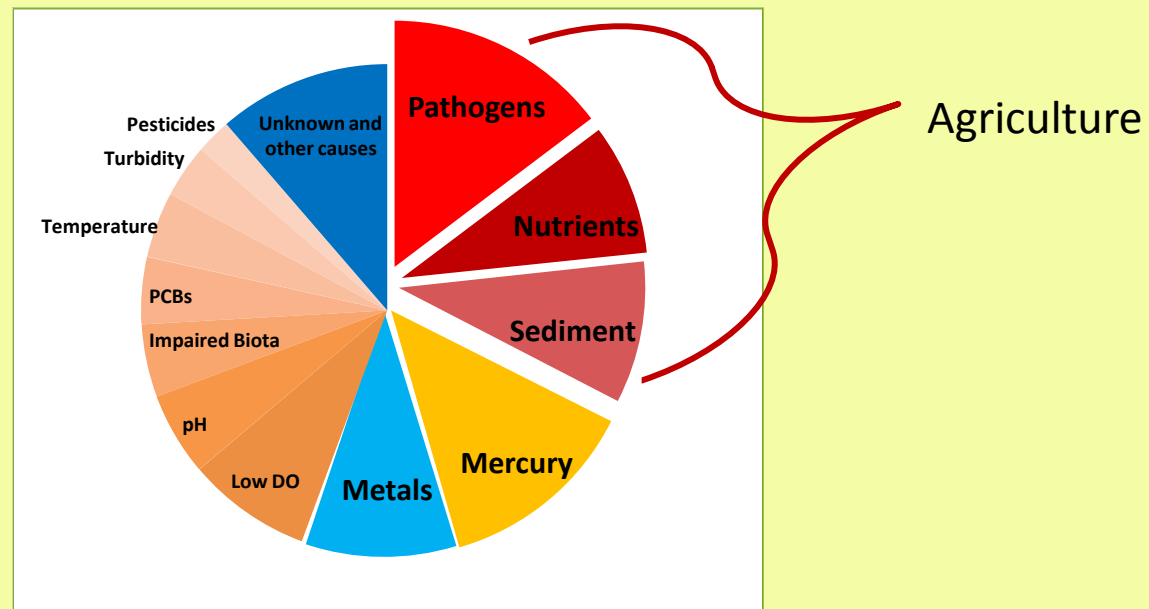
Impairments in Region 7: Pathogenic water impairment 1st in Nebraska, 2nd in Iowa and Missouri

Status of Pathogen Impairments in US

Pathogenic water pollution in U.S. (USEPA, 2002a)

River and stream
- Impairment: 39% of assessed (19%)
- Source: Agriculture

Estuaries
- Impairment: 51% of assessed (36%)
- Source: Agriculture

Lakes, reservoirs, ponds
- Impairment: 45% of assessed (43%)
- Source: Agriculture

Great lakes shorelines
- Impairment: 78% of assessed (92%)
- Source: contaminated sediment

Ocean shorelines
- Impairment: 14% of assessed (6%)
- Source: Urban runoff/storm sewers

900, 000 cases of illness

900 deaths each year

WHERE DO PATHOGENS COME FROM?

More natural

unnatural

# Where do pathogens come from?

HYPOTHESIS & OBJECTIVES

Hypothesis: Bacteria movement in clay-water interactive cohesive environemnt is not clearly understood, which is main obstacles in modeling in-stream pathogen transport. Noting the similarity between cohesive particles and bacteria physical properties : sizes ≈ 2 μm ; Reynolds number ≤ 1; Van der Walls attractive forces, our hypothesis is that the fundamental physics involved in bacteria transport should remain same as in water-borne cohesive particle movements. Threshold conditions for the incipient transport of bacteria in stream should be similar to that for the incipient transport of cohesive particles. Hydrodynamic (lift and drag) and cohesive (lift resistance) forces should be predominant causes for deposition and resuspension of bacteria in stream.

Objectives:
- To develop a model for pathogen deposition, resuspension and death/growth in stream environment
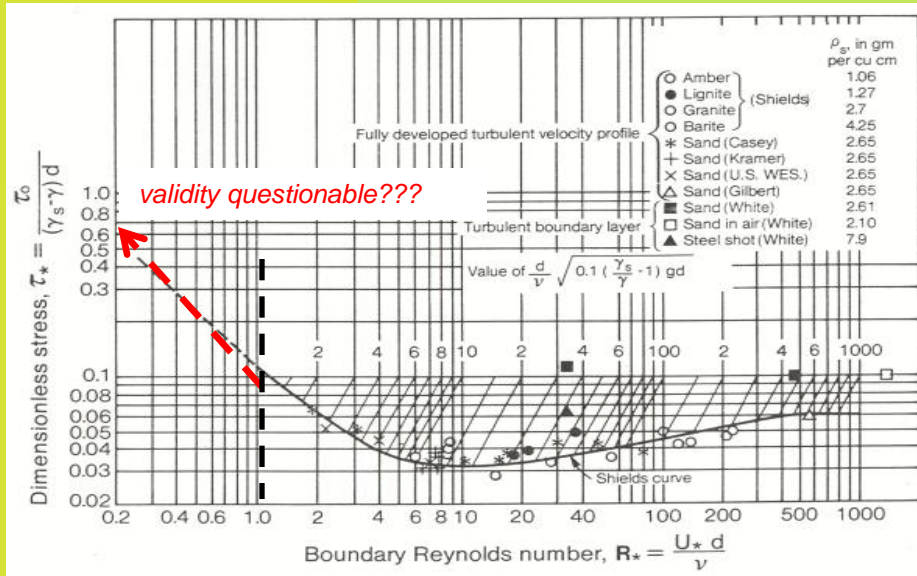- Validate the model for watershed scale

Conceptual model was developed for delineating the domains of bacteria transport in stream with water-borne cohesive sediment
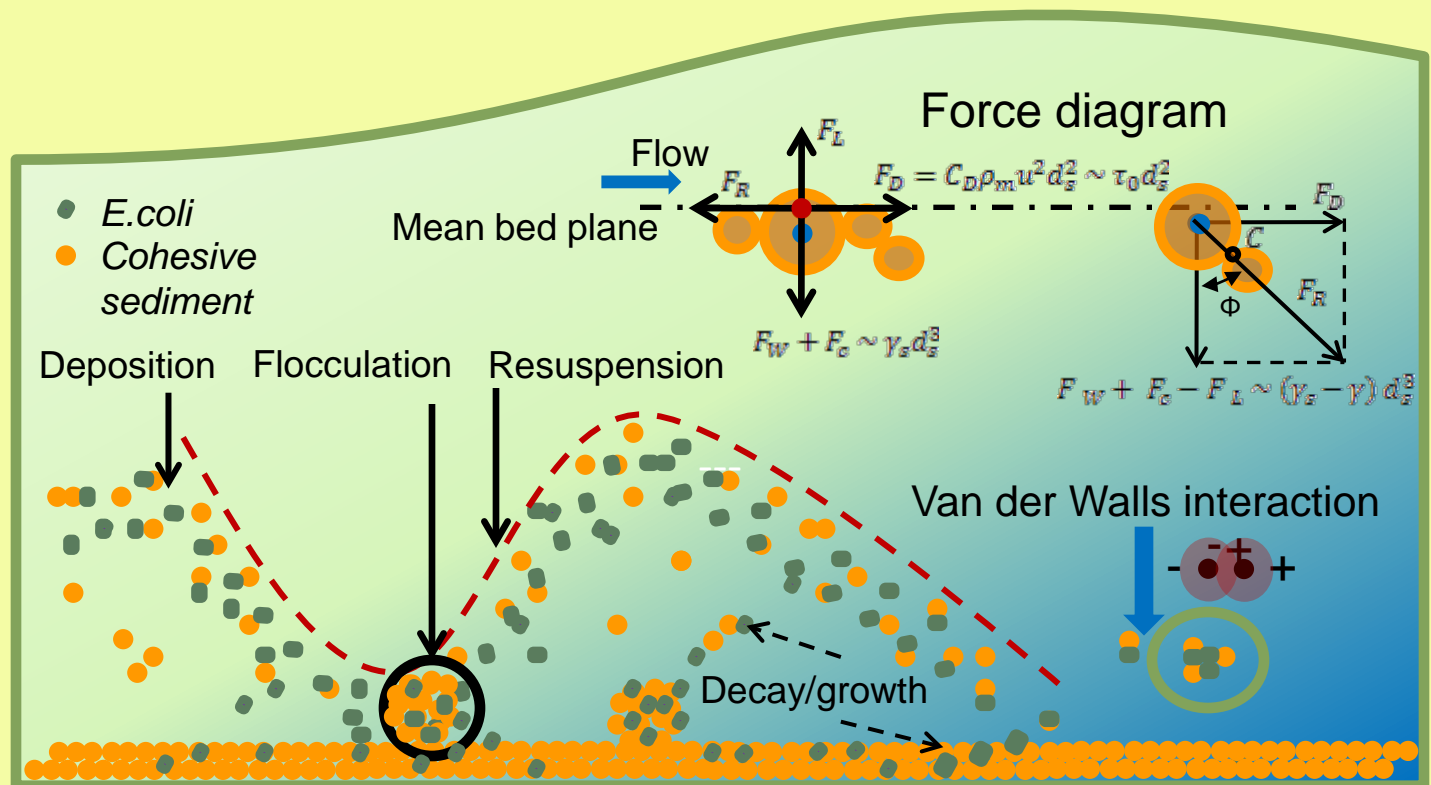
SHIELDS DIAGRAM (1936): SHOWS THE CONDITIONS FOR THE BEGINNING OF SEDIMENT MOTION. RELATES THE DIMENSIONLESS SHEAR STRESS WITH THE PARTICLE REYNOLDS NUMBER
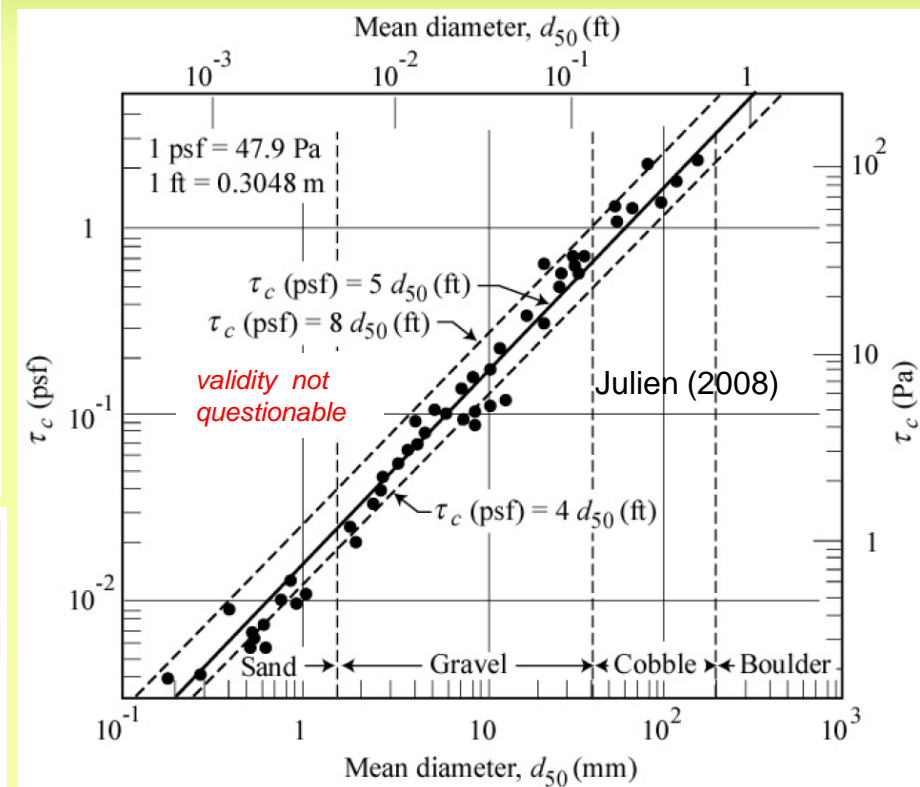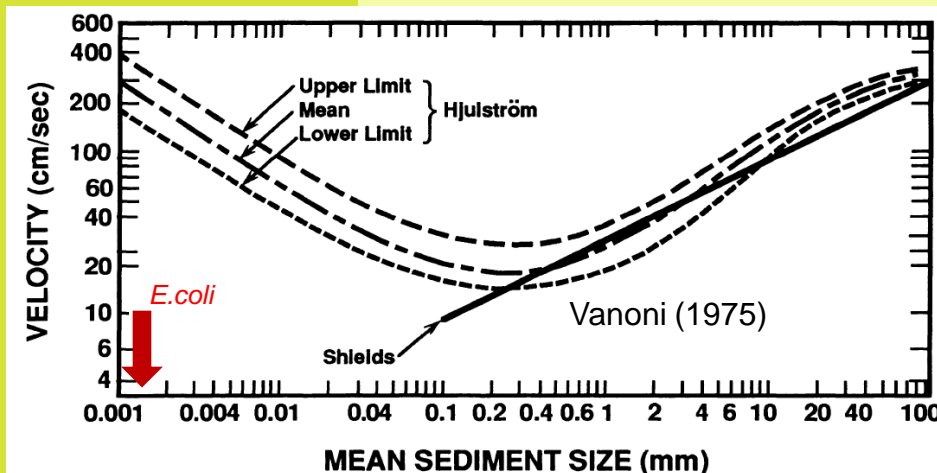
Problems: performance for smaller particles
Solutions: empirical approach

Empirical approach

$$\tau_c = \frac{C_2(F_c + F_g)}{C_1 d^2}$$

$$\tau_c = \left(1 + \frac{ae^{bp}}{d^2}\right)\tau_{cn}$$

$C_1 = \pi\rho_w C_d/8C$ $C_2 = constant$ $F_g = gravitational\ force$ $F_c = cohesive\ force$

$\tau_c = critical\ shear\ stress\ at\ cohesive\ and\ gravitational\ forces$

For all size ranges

$$E = 10^{-4}\left(\frac{\tau - \tau_{cn}}{\tau_c - \tau_{cn}}\right)^n$$

Semi - empirical approach

$\emptyset = Repose\ angle$

Shields parameter   Cohesive parameter

$$\frac{\tau_{cs}}{g(\rho_{sf} - \rho)d} = \frac{\alpha_3 \tan\phi}{(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \tan\phi)}$$

$$+ \frac{F_c \tan\phi/(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 \tan\phi)}{g(\rho_{sf} - \rho)d^3}$$

Problems: in constants and cohesive force estimation
Solutions: strong sensitivity analysis

Strokes law: settling velocity

$$\omega = \frac{g(G-1)d_s^2}{18\,\vartheta}$$

Validity for silt & clay

$$\omega = \sqrt{\frac{4\,g(G-1)d_s}{3\,C_D}}$$

Validity for gravels & cobbles

Settling
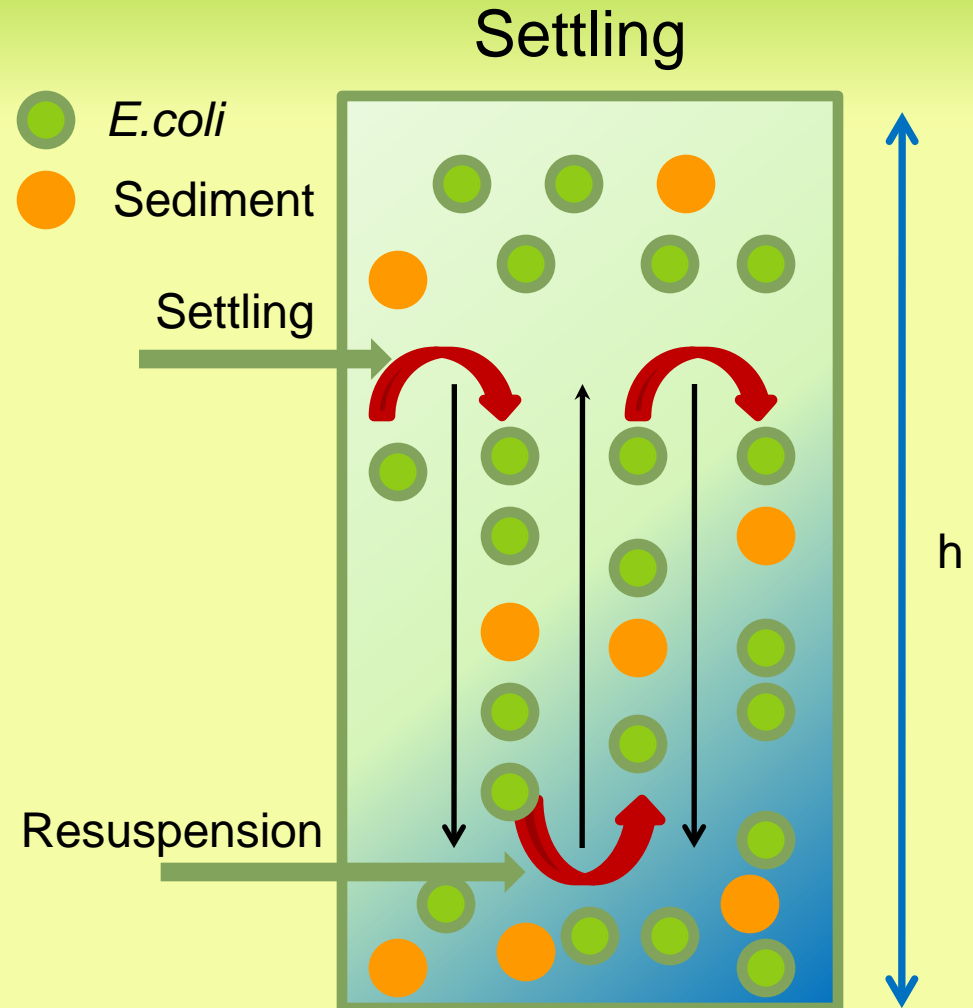
In developing stage in excel using the macro functionality

Study Area
Squaw Creek Watershed
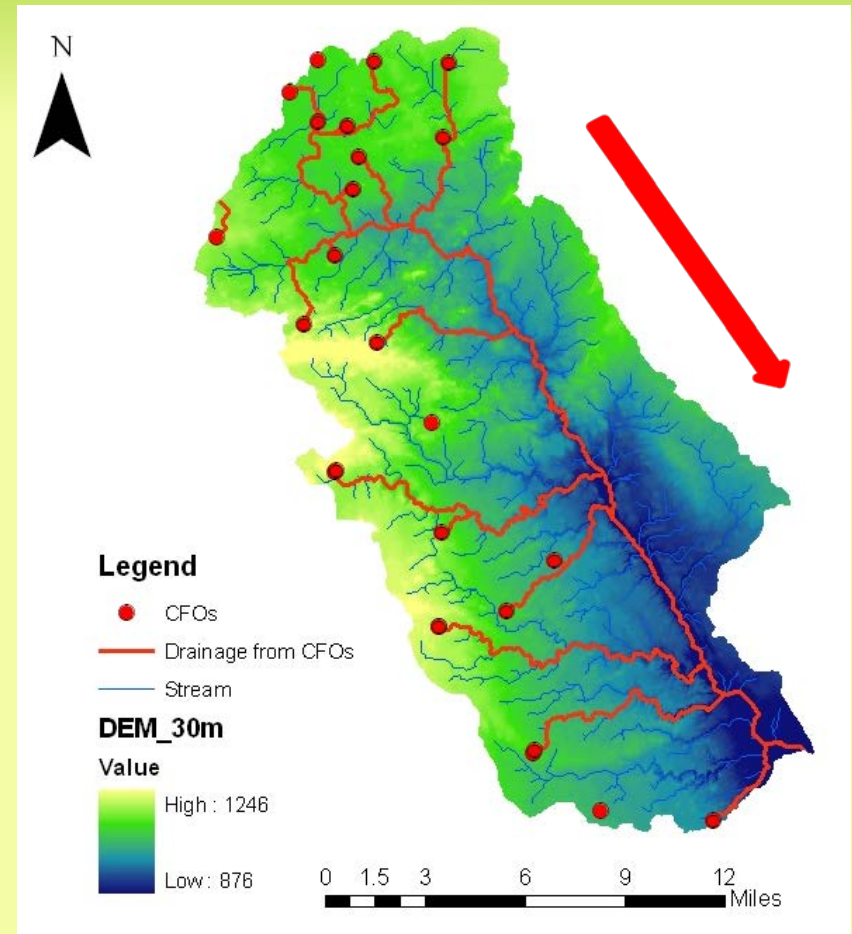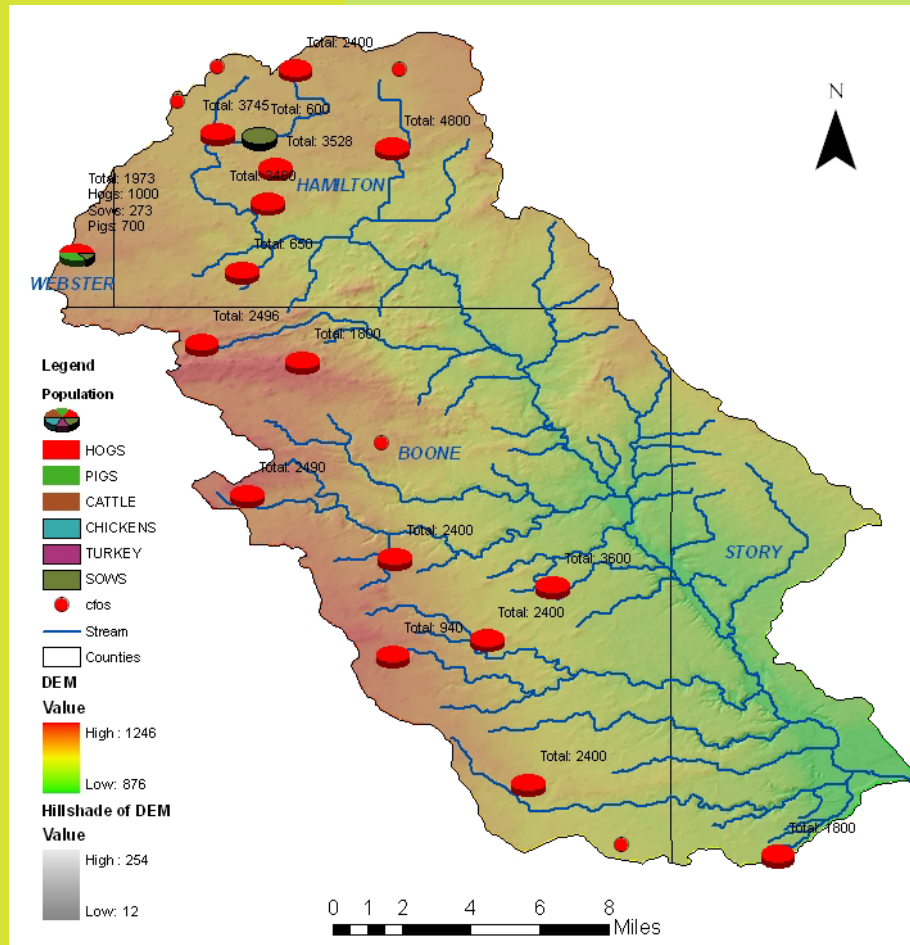
Sampling
16 locations

Samples
Water, sediment, bank soils

In-situ measurements
Temp, DO, TDS, pH

Lab measurements
E.coli, TSS, Turbidity, grain size,
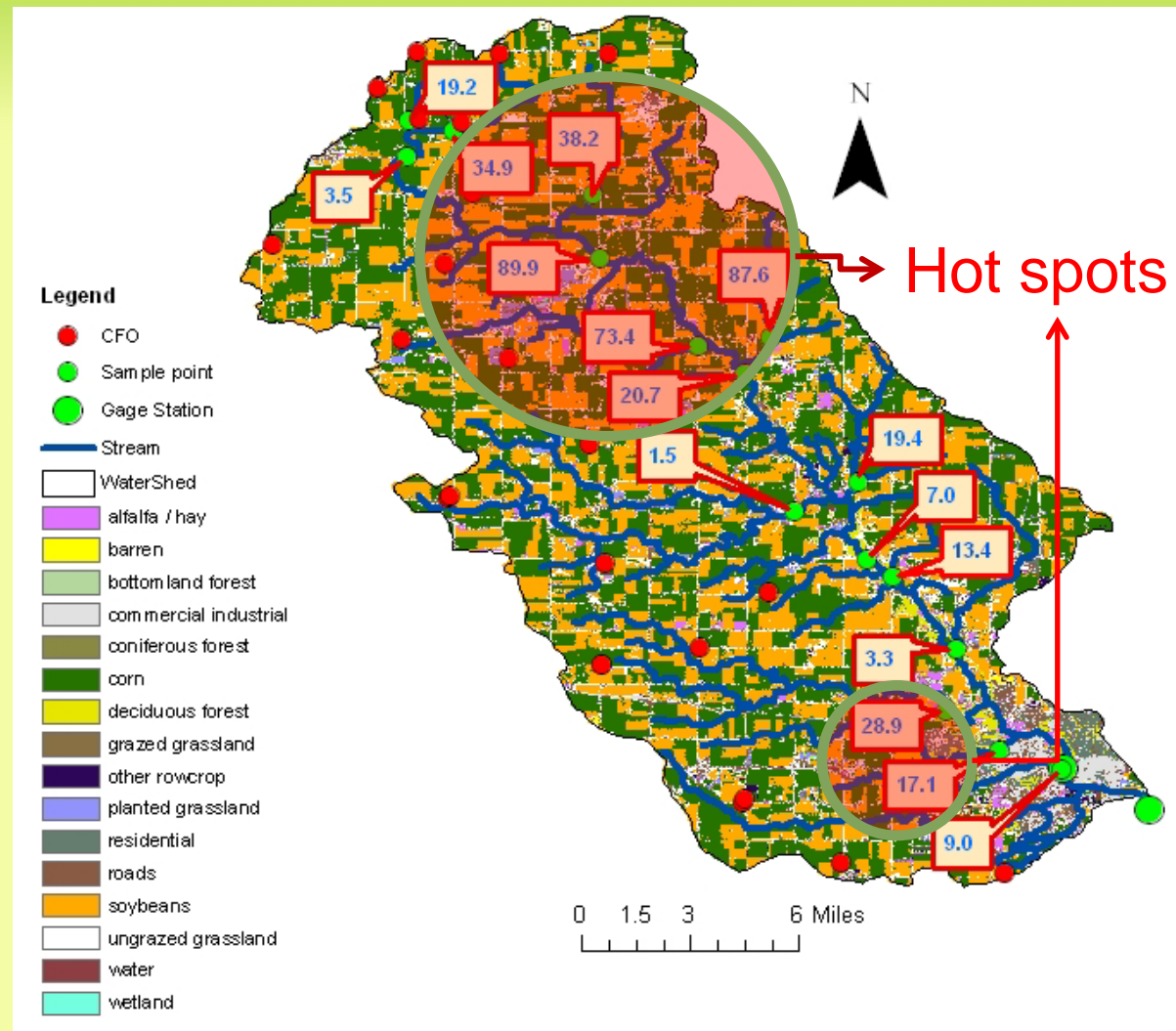chemical characteristics of samples

WATERSHED CHARACTERISTICS

Confined feeding operation units (CFOs) locations (left) and flow path from CFOs (right)
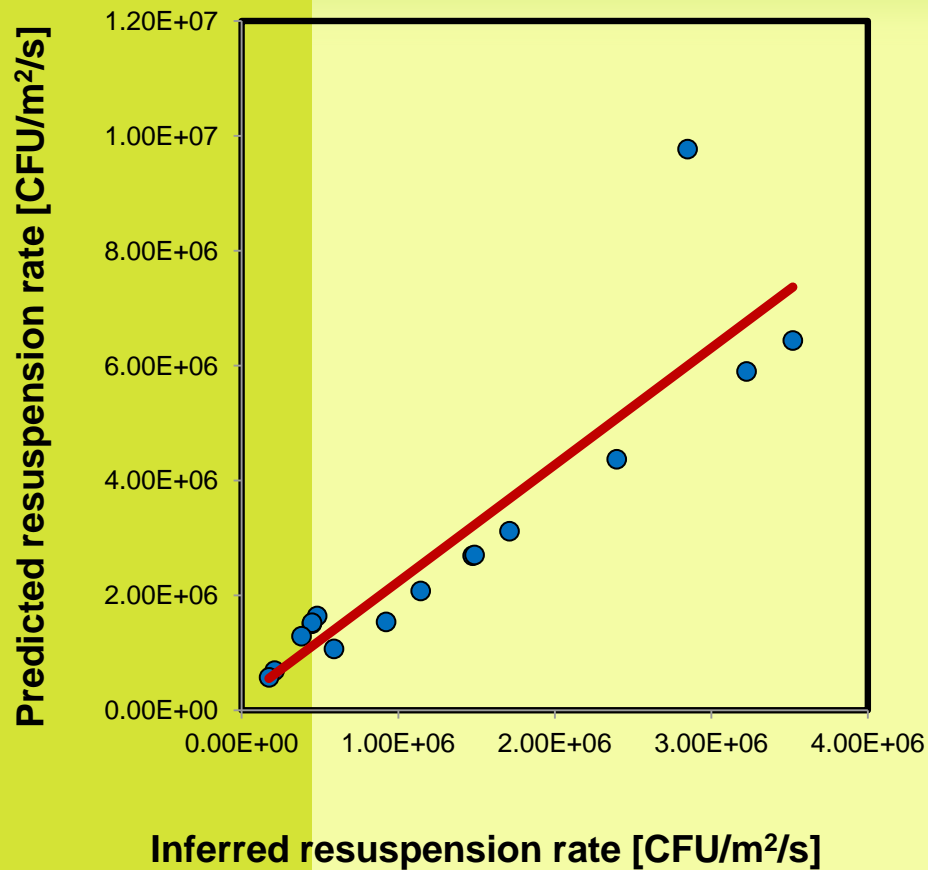
E.coli ratio between sediment and water

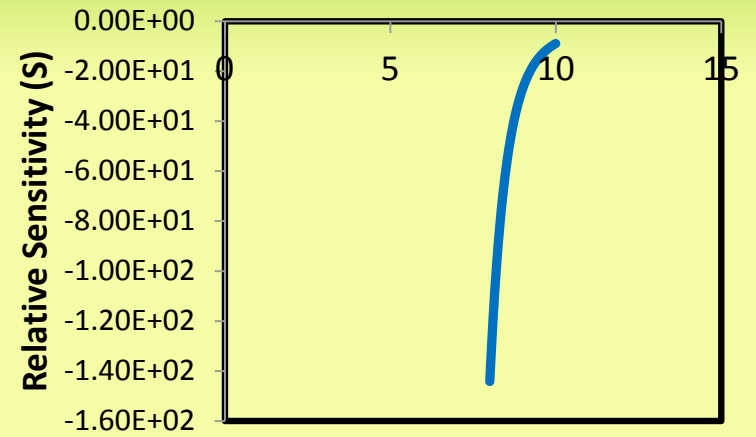Resuspension

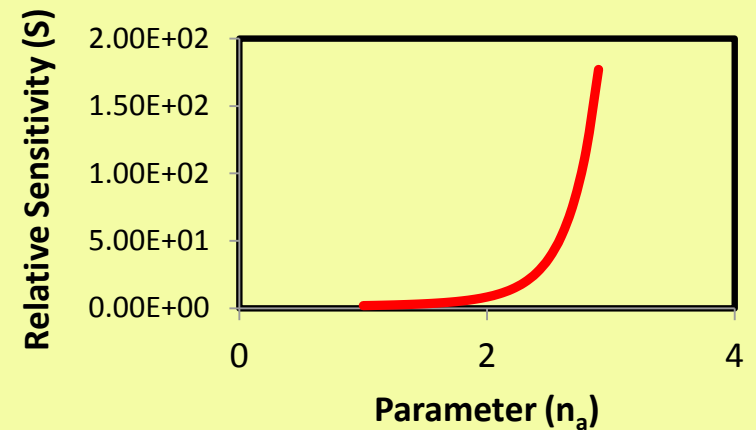Sensitivity

Parameter b

Parameter (n_a)

- Use about 2 years data to validate the model for current study area

- Compare the results with reported study

- Finally develop a module to include in Soil Water Assessment Tools (SWAT) model

QUESTIONS?

Image by S. Ranganath