

**If I Had This To Do Over...**

**Observations from RDII (Rainfall  
Dependent Infiltration/Inflow) Reduction  
Projects**

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Chris Skehan  
ADS Environmental Services





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## Agenda

1. Fate of RDII Projects – An Overview
2. Basin Size Affects the Rehabilitate/Replace Decision
3. Getting More Knowledge from Flow Metering.
4. Discussion of Agency Approaches

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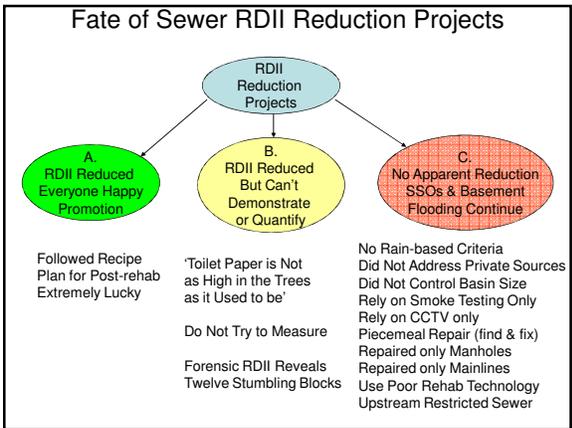
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### National Perspective

- WERF Project (99-WWF-8) studied I/I removal programs around the US.
- Unsuccessful because:
  - Data were not generated or archived suitably
  - Data were incomplete or unreliable
  - Mismatch of methods and procedures for evaluating I/I
  - Lack of uniformity of methods among agencies

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### The Tell-Tale Language of Failed Post-rehab

*Conclusions by Consultant for City of Cedar Lake*

*"Due to the inequality of the conditions in Post-rehab flow monitoring versus Pre-rehab flow monitoring ...the magnitude of improvements made to the collection system **cannot be measured**. Given equal antecedent conditions in Post-rehab versus Pre-rehab, significant improvements will be clearly evident. Therefore, this comparison does not show the totality of the improvements made to the collection system".*

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### 12 Stumbling Blocks to Measurement

1. Rain Gauge Strategy
2. Basin Size
3. QA/QC Touchstones, Scattergraphs & Q vs. i
4. Metering Depth Technology
5. Duration
6. Season
7. Rainfall Data Frequency
8. Tight Subtractions
9. Method of Calculating RDII
10. Dynamics of Sewers (restricted)
11. Control Basin
12. Site Hydraulics at Metering Manhole

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### Stumbling Block #1 Rain Gauge Strategy

- Don't rely on RG at the airport
- 1 -2 Mi<sup>2</sup>/RG in convective storm season or in hilly area.
- 3 -4 Mi<sup>2</sup>/RG in cyclonic/frontal storm season.
- Place RGs in grid not by sewershed.
- Never Less than Two (always assume one will fail)

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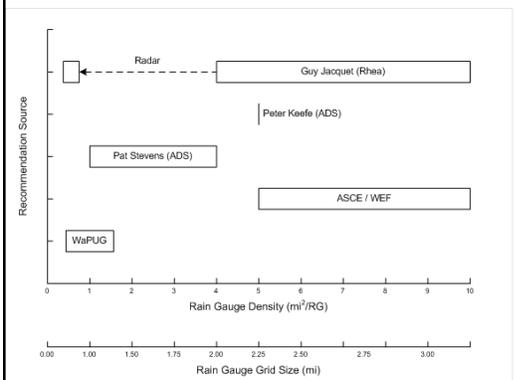
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Recommended Densities



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Base Reflectivity



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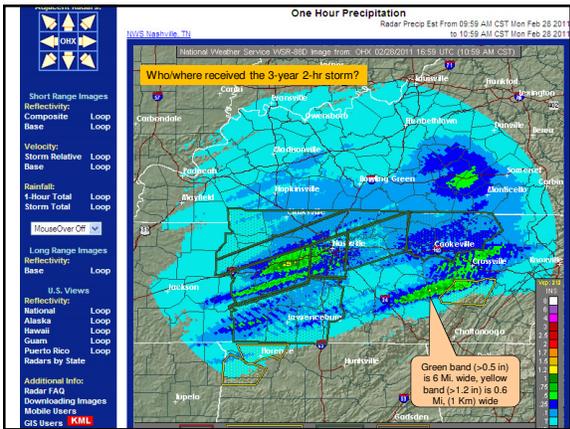
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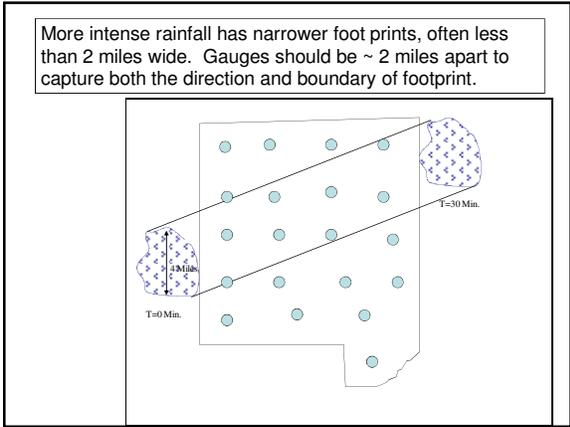
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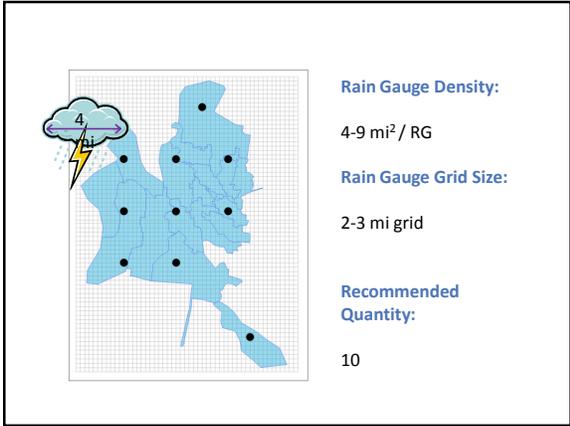
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### Stumbling Block #2 Basin Size is an Important Variable

- Meter Basins Should be Small and Uniform in Size
- Small Basins Isolate RDII (80/20 Rule)
- Small Basins Change the location of apparent problems
- Smallest Amount and Cost of Rehabilitation
- Easier to Demonstrate Improvement

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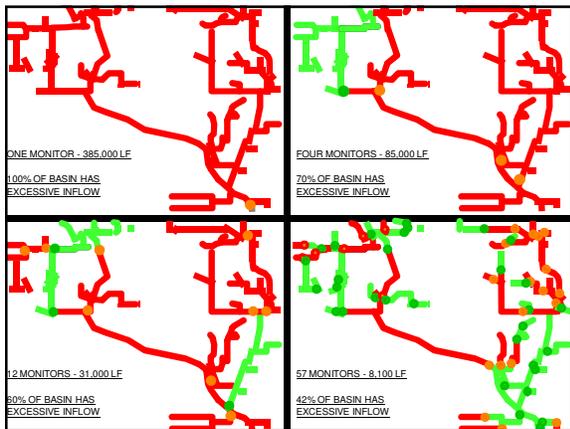
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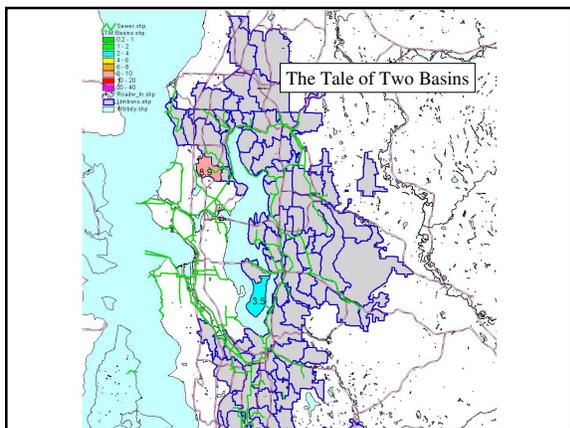
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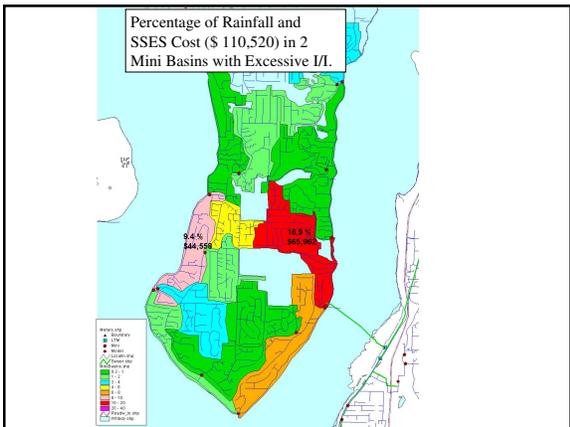
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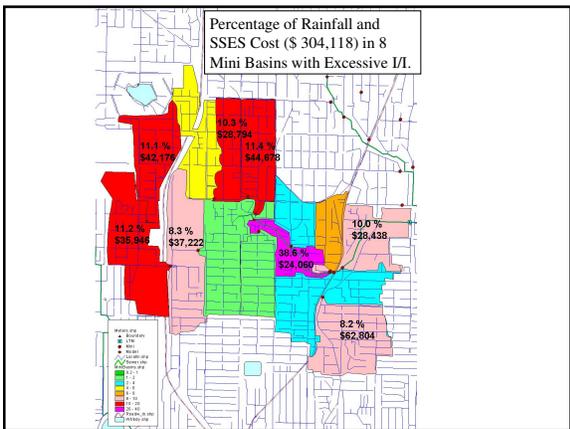
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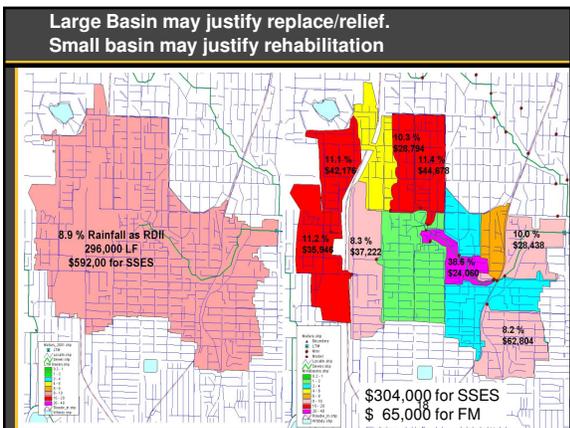
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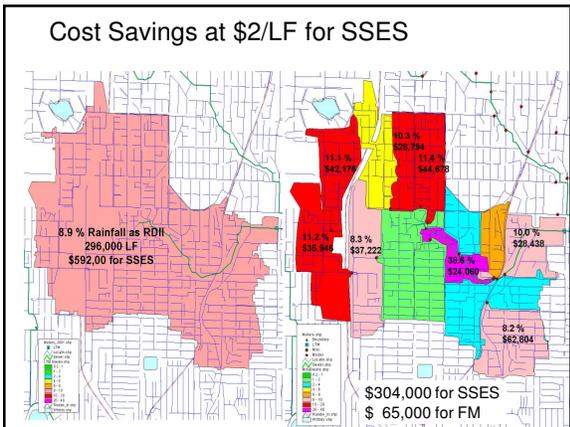
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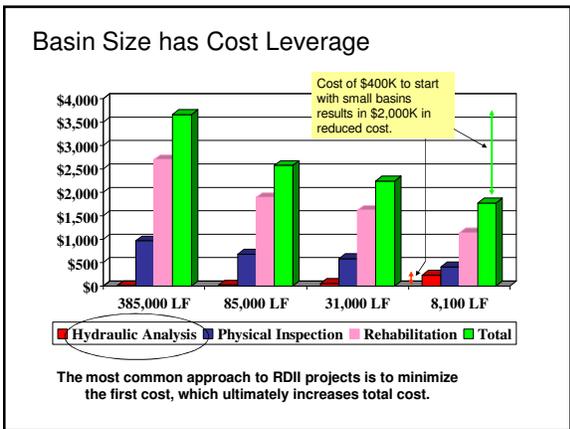
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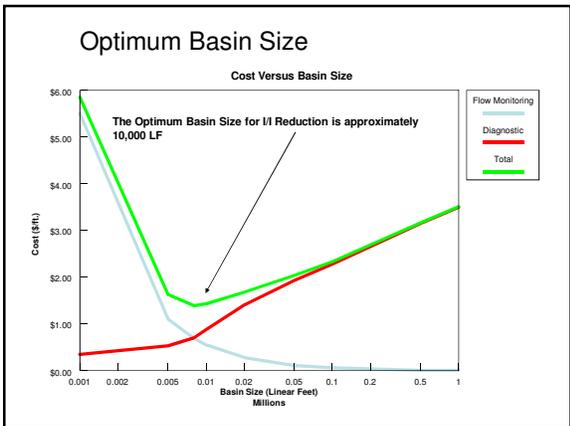
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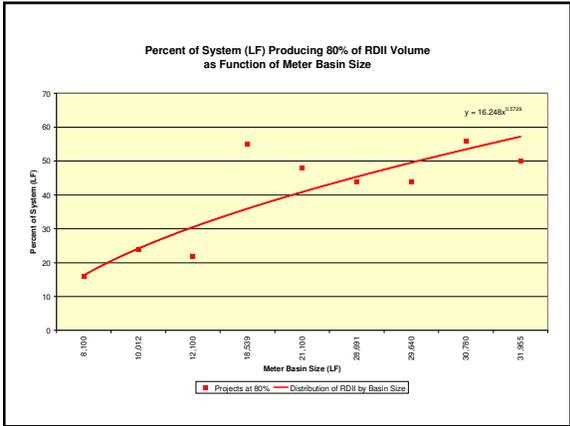
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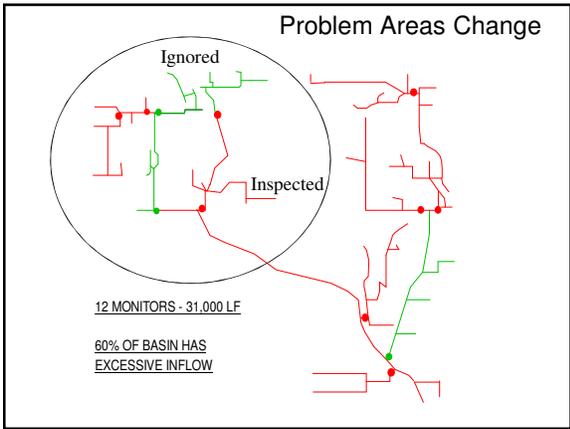
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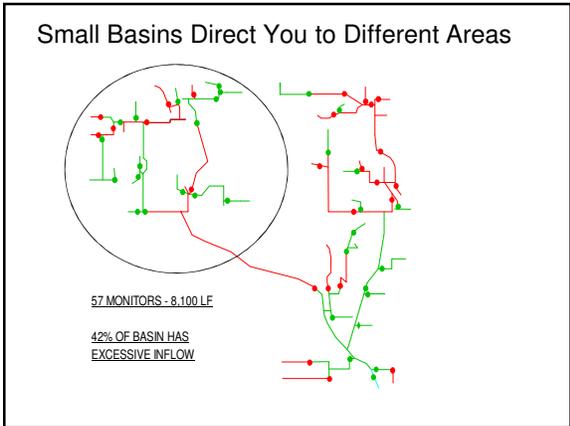
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The 10/20 Rule

1. Treat sewer system like a tree with leaves, branches and a trunk.
2. Layout meter basins in the 'leaves' with 10,000 LF basins (approximate size of subdivisions)
3. Layout meters to avoid subtractions
4. Make sure downstream meters are far enough apart to create a 'Net' flow of at least 20% of the 'Gross' flow
5. Place meters upstream of modeling 'nodes' or logical restrictions (e.g. siphons) to determine Operation Capacity

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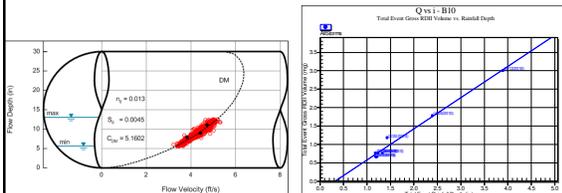
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Stumbling Block #3  
Scattergraphs & Q vs. i Diagrams  
KPI's for Flow and Rain Data




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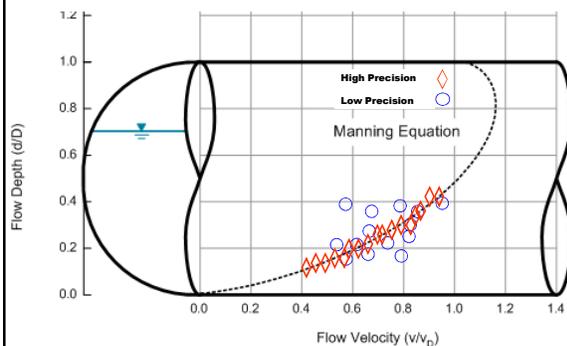
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The target performance for a meter is a line.  
Low precision meters produce wide scatter.




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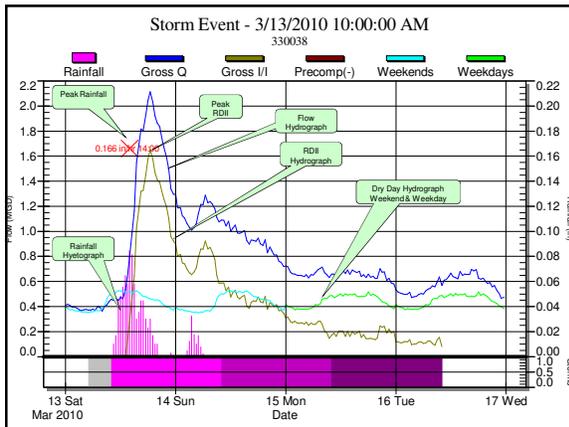
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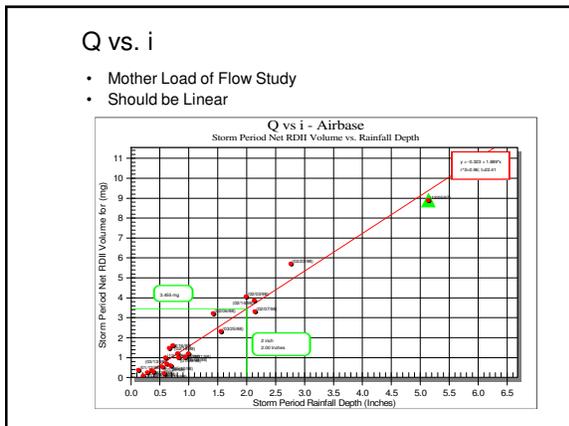
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**Stumbling Block #4**  
Depth Technology Makes a Difference  
Ultrasonic Depth Always Superior

• <b>Depth</b>	• <b>Velocity</b>
• Pressure Sensor	• Average Doppler
• (Pressure Bubbler)	• Peak Doppler
• Ultrasonic Down-looker	• Gated Doppler
• Ultrasonic Up-looker	• Time of Travel
	• Faraday
	• Surface Radar

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Rat's Eye View of a Meter Installation

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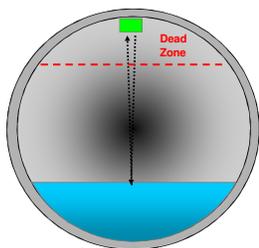
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Ultrasonic Down Looking Depth Sensor



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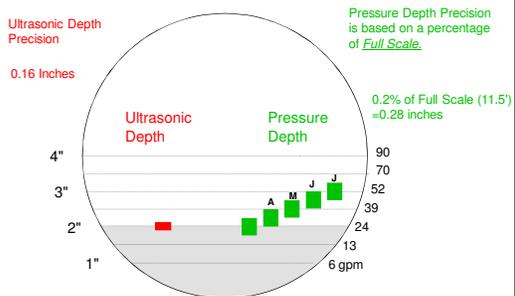
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Stumbling Block #4 Depth Sensor Technology - "Window of Precision"



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Better Knowledge from Flow Meter Data



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Basic Questions of Collection System Management

1. How much water is coming from upstream (dry and wet) and where is it entering system?
2. What is capacity of downstream pipe?
3. Rehabilitate or replace problem sewer?

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Observations

- Without Flow Metering, symptom = problem.
- With Strategic Flow Metering, the problem(s) can be separated from the symptom.
- Knowledge of pipe's Operational Capacity may change the decision replace or rehabilitate a sewer.
- Longer Term metering provides Key Performance Indicator (KPI).

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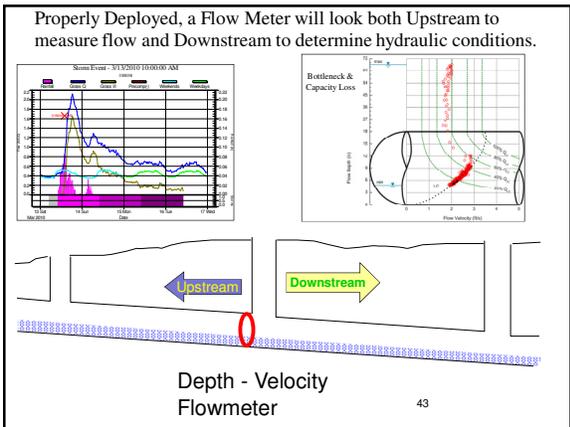
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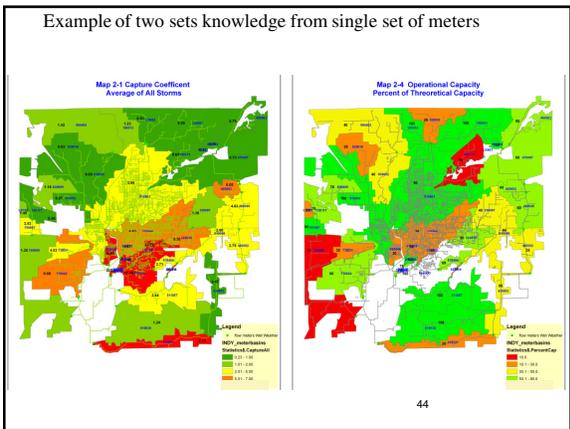
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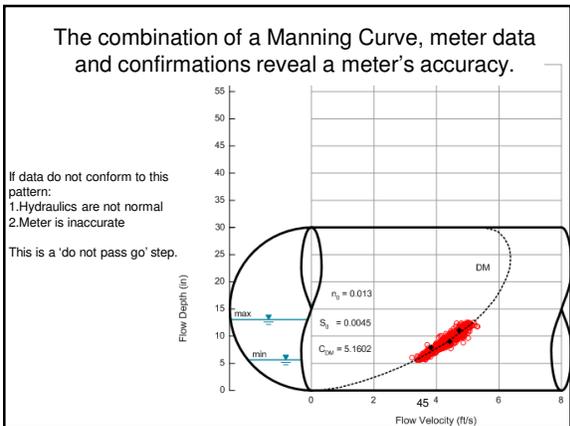
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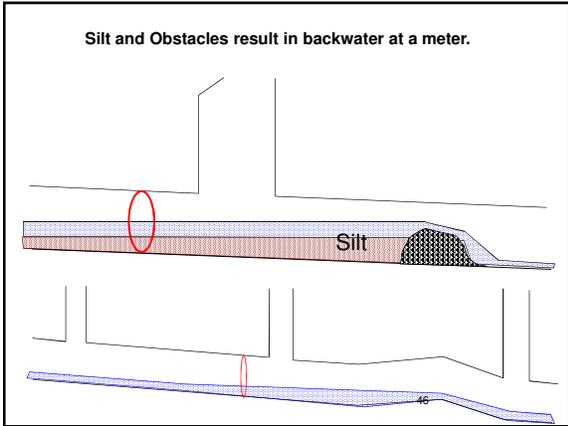
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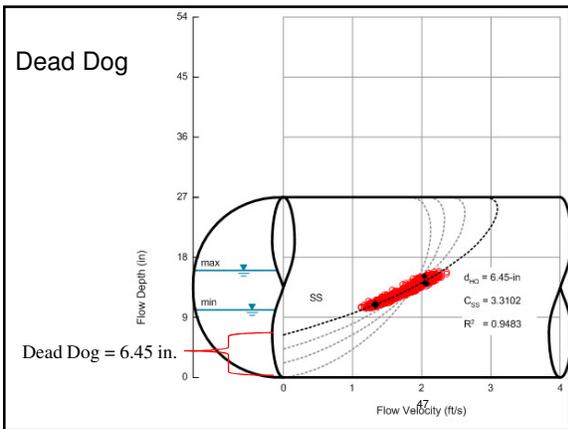
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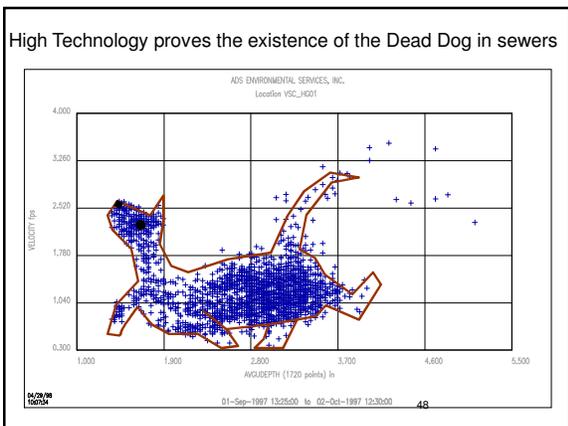
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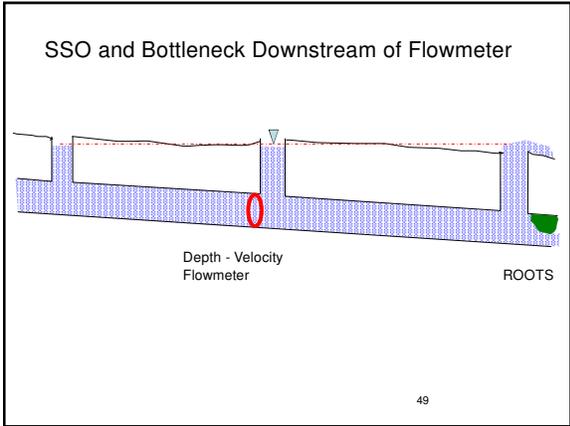
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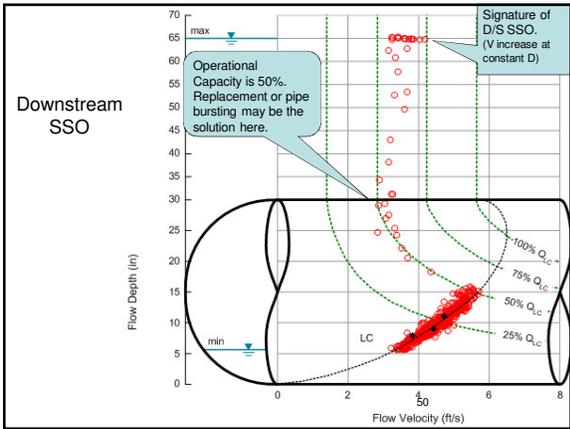
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### Scattergraph Poster

Scattergraph Principles and Practice

Parsons Brinckerhoff

ADS ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

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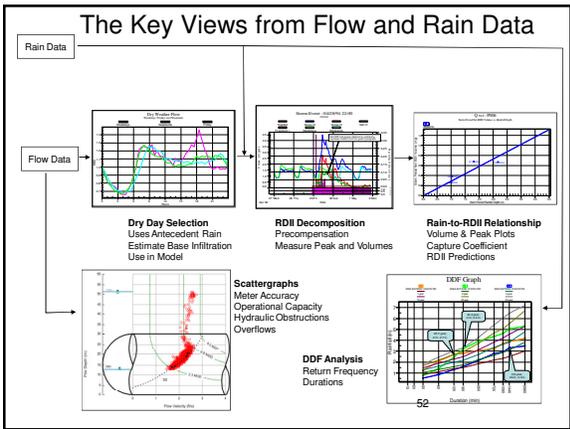
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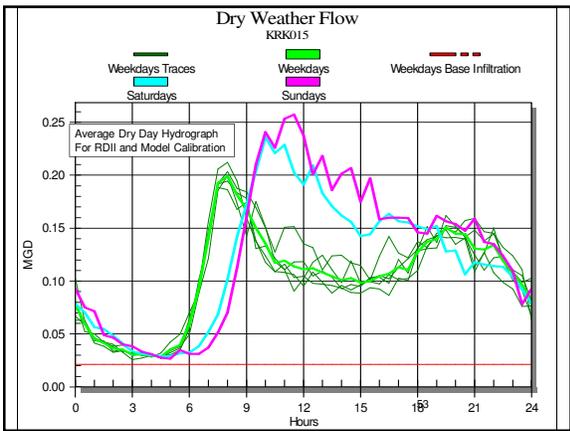
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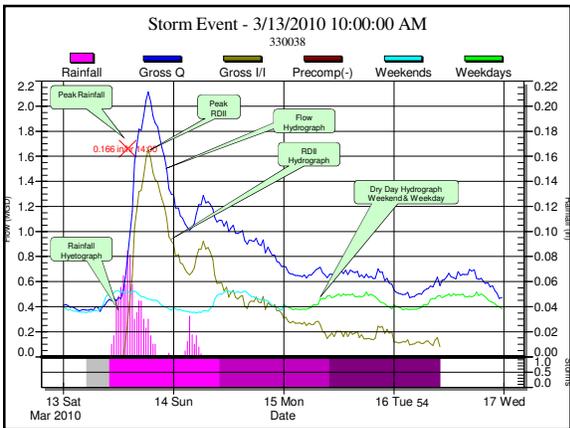
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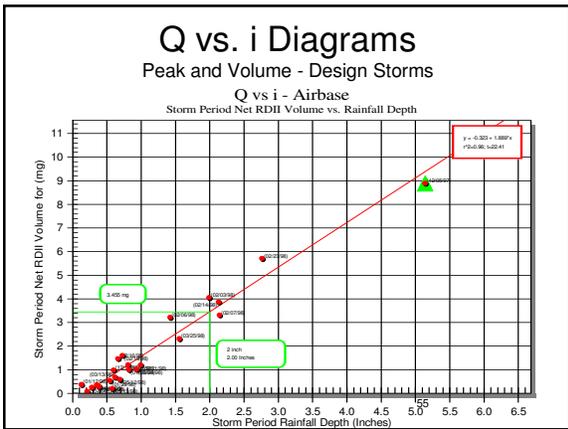
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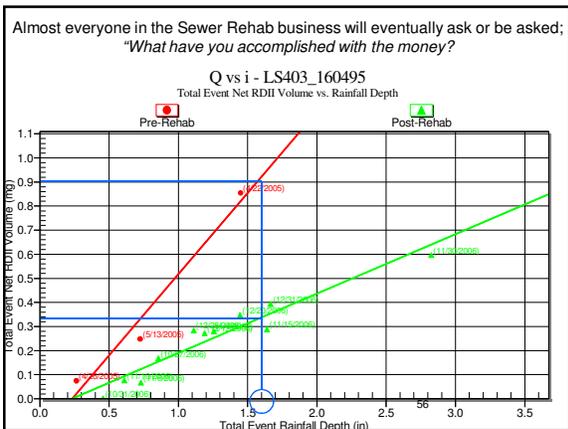
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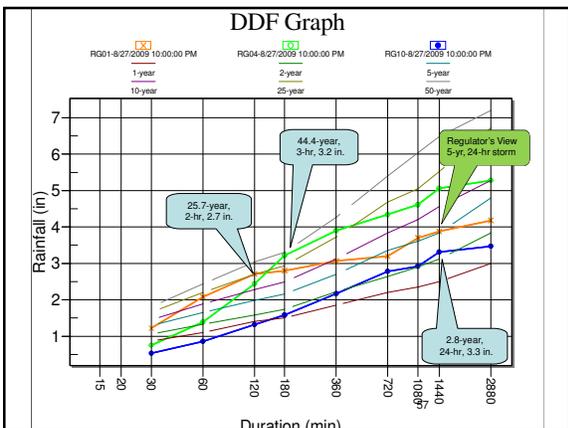
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**Agency Approaches**

Agency	Drivers	Satellite Approach
King County, WA	Capital Cost for new WWTP	Funded all metering to avoid disputes and disparities in conditions. Basin size control
WSSC	Routine RDII Modeling	LTM for baseline and performance tracking, temp metering for RDII reduction and model calibration. Basin size control
Baltimore County	RDII reduction City, CD	Flow to City, RDII reduction, control basin size
Baltimore City	RDII, SSO reduction, CD	Control basin size
PSA	CSO Modeling	
ALCOSAN	RDII, CD	Originally let satellite conduct flow metering – 15% was useful. Controlled data in 2 <sup>nd</sup> pass.
Oakland County, MI	Routine modeling, billing, RDII	Satellites 'own' capacity in trunks, manage peaks.
San Diego	Billing, modeling, alarming	Billing for 5 satellites and alarming in canyons
Orange County, CA	Modeling, RDII, Ocean Outfall capacity	Grant Program to fund I/I reduction. Control basin size in second pass.
Los Angeles	Modeling, RDII	Repeated study after metering technology gave poor results.
EBMUD	Modeling, CD	Repeal or scaling of Property Building or Remodeling in Excess of \$100,000 Changing Water Meter Size

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**References**

For more scattergraph information and to request a poster visit:

<http://www.adsenv.com/scattergraphs>

For Sliicer.com information visit:

<http://www.Sliicer.com>

[pstevens2@idexcorp.com](mailto:pstevens2@idexcorp.com)

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