

U.S. DEPARTMENT of ENERGY

Office of Environmental Management

Hanford Field Office





200 West Remedial Process Optimization Success through Effective Toolset Application

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Presented to: Remplex Summit 2025

November 4th, 2025







Agenda

- Objective: Describe technical challenges and associated responses for evaluation of the 200 West P&T performance and longterm planning:
 - Simulation results vs. the real world
 - Communication of Results
 - P&T system constraints
 - Importance of water levels/hydraulic capacity

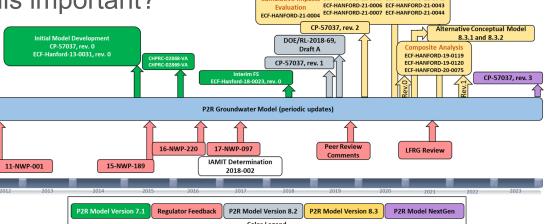


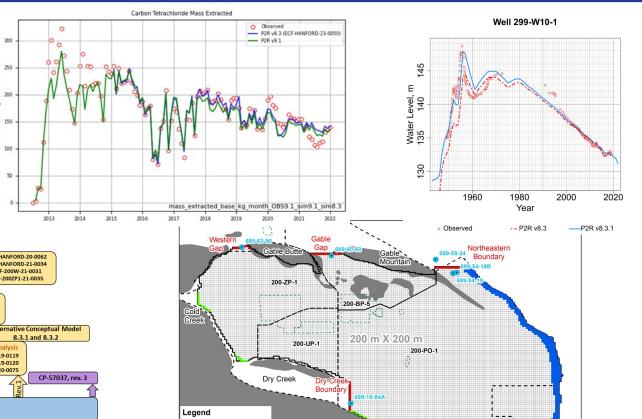


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Simulation Results vs. Real World

- The Plateau-to-River (P2R) Model is the primary simulation platform for the Central Plateau RPO
- Development has a long period of record for history matching (1943-2022)
- Documented in CP-57037, Plateau-to-River
 Model Package Report: Version 9.1
- Why is this important?





Area Boundary Specified Flux

Specified Head

Model Exten Groundwate

River Cell



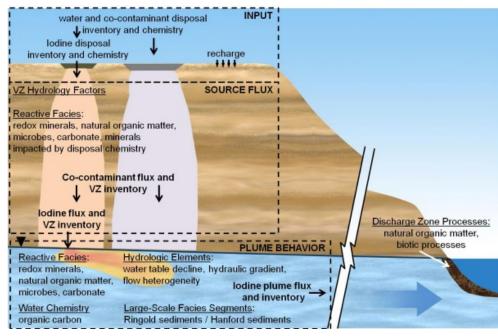




ECF-200W-20-0052

Conceptual Site Model

- "A performance-based optimization approach relies on frequent updates to the CSM based on the data and information collected during operations to inform further adjustments to the system" (EPA 542-F-11-011)
- A CSM is a representation of the physical, chemical, and biological processes that determine how contaminants move and behave at the site
- The Hanford Site CSM is quantitatively expressed in analytical and numerical models used for decision making



From PNNL-24709, Conceptual Model of Iodine Behavior in the Subsurface at the Hanford Site





Communication Between Modelers and Decision-Makers

- Communication of simulation results is key to the RPO process
- Decision-makers must be able to efficiently access and compare results to make informed decisions
- Processes are used at the Hanford Site to facilitate this communication
 - Regular Meeting Schedule
 - Tracking Action Items
 - "Interactive" Maps







Meeting Schedule

- Short-term meetings
 - Typically held monthly
 - Review operations and well adjustments
- Action Tracker Meetings
 - Typically held monthly
 - Provide status on current evaluations
 - Introduce and assign potential focus topics of RPO evaluations
- Long-term meetings
 - Typically meet on a bi-monthly basis
 - Present modeling evaluations for the predictive time frame to look at longer term impacts







RPO Evaluation Action Summary

- Efficient use of the process helped to facilitate completion of many evaluations to the Central Plateau RPO Team
- Continuing developing, assigning, and communicating results will expedite the RPO process

Month	May	July	August
Total Items	25	27	36
Under Consideration	2	3	6
Planned	11	10	5
In-Progress	8	8	18
Presented Results	1	5	8
Cancelled	0	1	1
Completed	0	0	4





Baseline Simulation

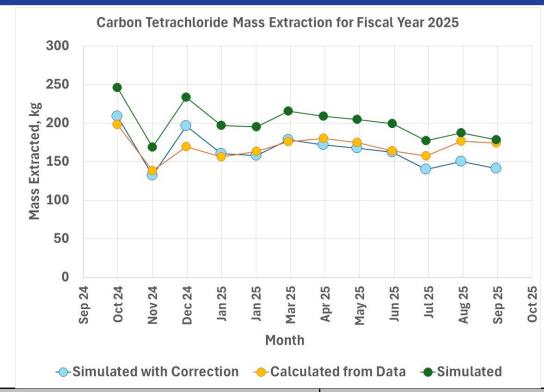
 Purpose: Track and report baseline simulation agreement with observed conditions

Activity:

- Update extraction/injection rates for each month to actual values to track mismatch
- Track system total, well-by-well concentration and mass extraction, hydraulic head

Takeaway:

 Observed data and model prediction with correction factor are close



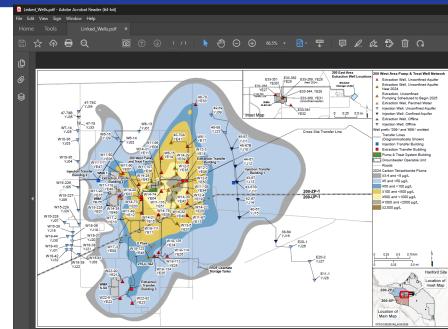
Projections	Mass Extracted, kg	
Fiojections	2025	
Simulated without Correction	2,411	
Simulated with Correction	1,966	
Estimated by P&T Operations	~2,027	

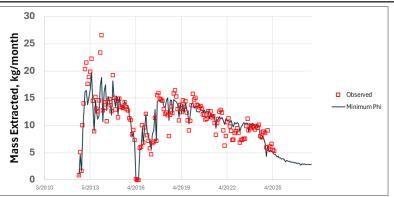




"Interactive" Map

- The DOE network environment provides unique challenges for communication of results
- Tools available to subject matter experts and modeling staff may not be available to others due to licensing
- Providing access can take creative means of using available software
- An "interactive" map in an Adobe PDF file was developed to allow a common platform for comparing simulated and observed results
- Embedded hyperlinks to image files provides a means to evaluate spatial relationships in the dataset











Remedy Component Integration

- Adjustments identified through RPO have the potential to impact other OUs
- Examples of potential conflicts:
 - Drawdown to increase mass removal for 200-ZP-1 could impact plume migration directions in 200-UP-1
 - Increased extraction capacity in 200-BP-5 could impact available capacity for other OUs at the treatment facility
- An integration step is required to reduce the risk of potential conflicts for identified adjustments or upgrades through communication of essential components for each OU to other OUs



Remedial Strategy **Integration Analysis**





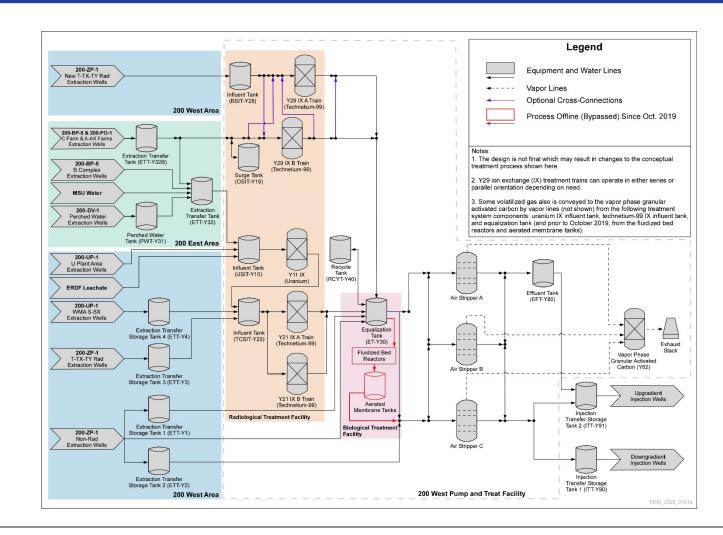




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System Components

- **Extraction Wells**
- Injection Wells
- **Transfer Buildings**
- Treatment train systems
 - Ion exchange systems
 - Air stripper towers
- Simulates overall flow of water from extraction wells, through tanks in treatment plant, to injection wells



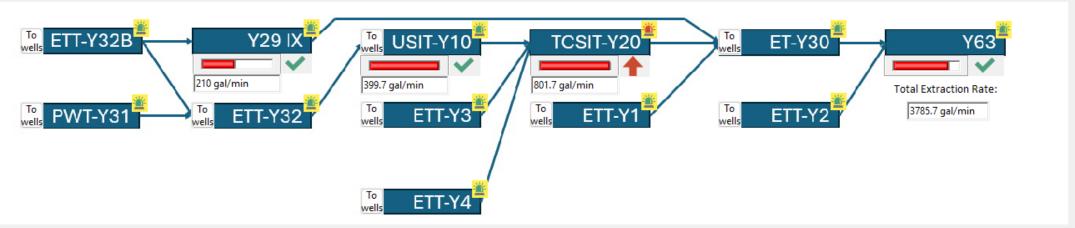




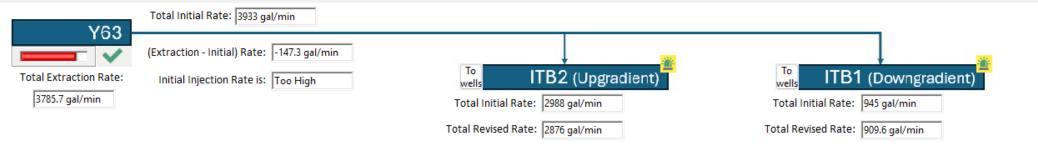
System Model

Home Dashboard

Extraction Pipeline



Injection Pipeline







Back Home

Reset To Default

Save Well Rates

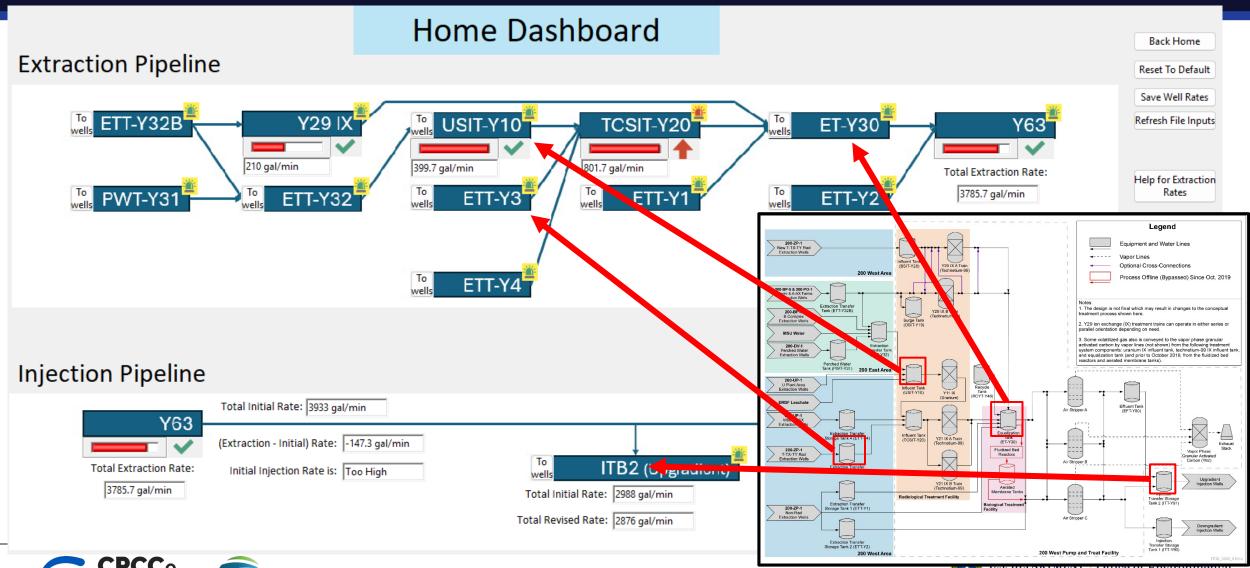
Refresh File Inputs

Help for Extraction

Rates

Help for Injection

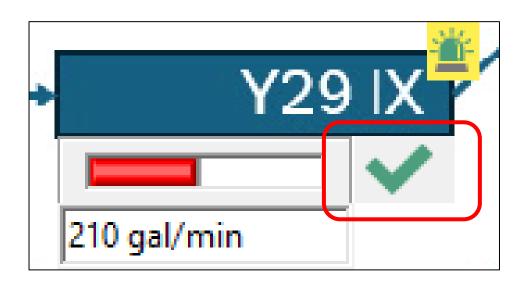
System Model



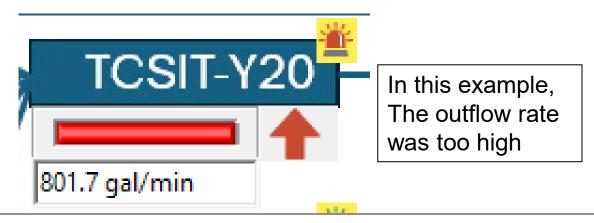




Minimums and Maximum Values



- Indicates the current outflow for the tank
- The bounds for the meter are the min and max outflow rate
- The Checkmark indicator alerts you if the tank exceeded its limit



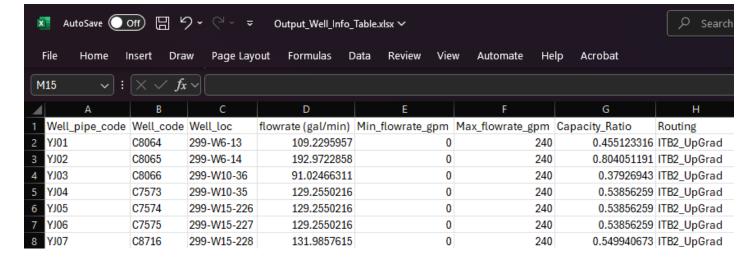






System Model Output

- System model can output a summary of rates and limits
- Output includes
 - Rates for Extract wells
 - Initial/Revised for Inj. wells
 - Outflows for tanks
 - Min and max flowrates
 - Capacity Ratio
 - Indicate a flow relative to
 - If CR<0 or CR>1, then limits are exceeded

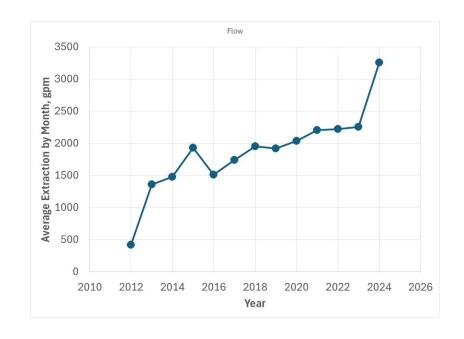






Water Levels and Hydraulic Capacity

- Mass targets have prioritized the capture of contaminant
- The increased number of wells and capacity of the P&T system is causing decline in hydraulic head in the aquifer
- Long-term simulations show reduction in concentration
- Simulation results indicate the possibility of rebound based on dewatered portions of the aquifer
- Simulations to capture mass while maintaining water levels have been undertaken to identify methods to maintain water levels and not impact mass capture (pareto-front)



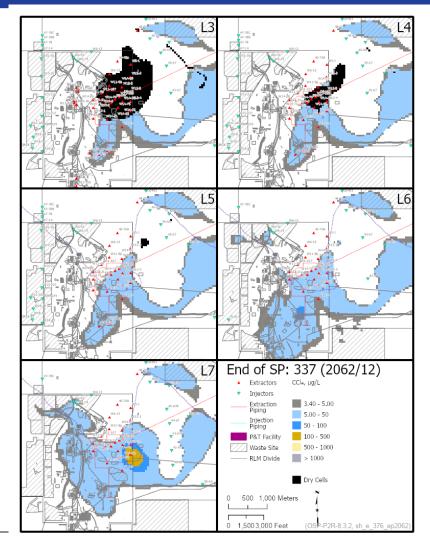


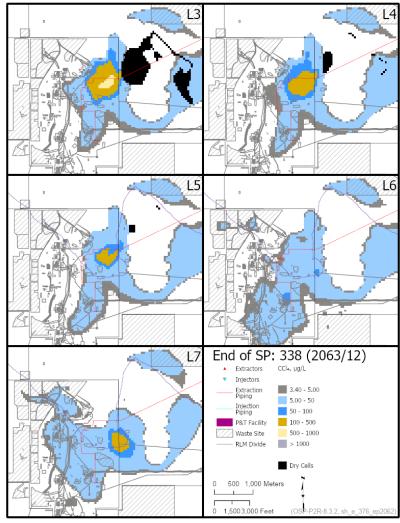




Hypothetical Long-term Drawdown

Drawdown of the aquifer strands mass in the soil above the saturated zone may cause rebound of concentrations after cessation of active remediation



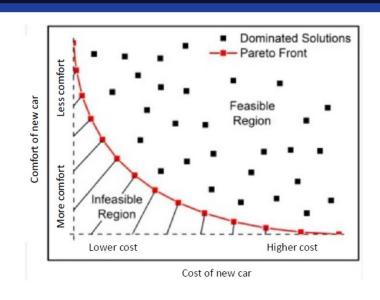






Reduce Drawdown/Maintain Mass

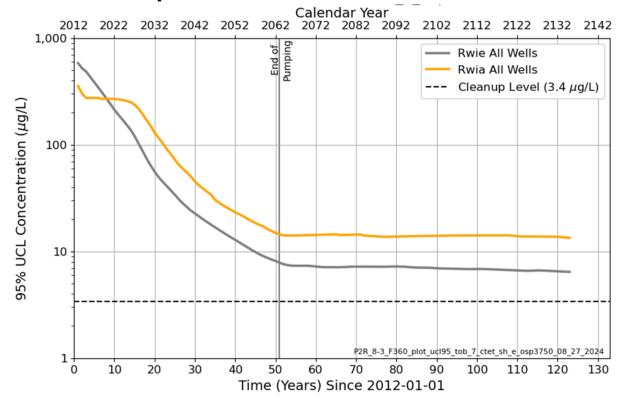
- Purpose: Evaluate the possibility of reducing flow rates in the core of the plume to minimize potential for concentrations rebound in the future
- Activity: Compared three optimization scenarios
 - Baseline Simulations with optimized
 - Two wells switched to inject
 - Pulsing of extraction rates in the core of the plume



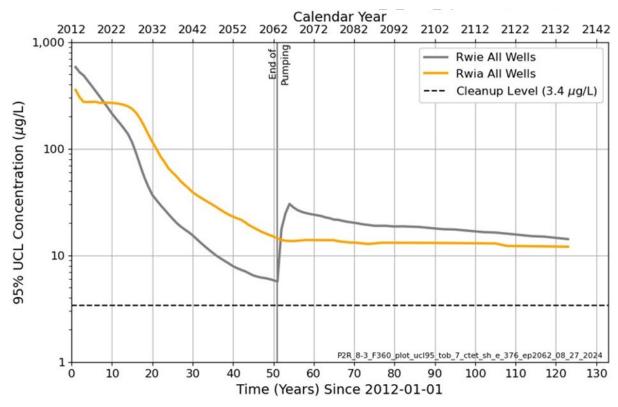


Potential Impact of Hypothetical Long-term Drawdown

UCL95 Results using P2R Model Version 9.1 **Optimized for Reduced Drawdown**



UCL95 Results using P2R Model Version 9.1 **Baseline Simulation Results**







Comments & Questions





