



# Development of Modeling System Based On the SWAT Model as a Tool for Water Management Institution

*Svajunas Plunge*

*Chief specialist, River basin management division,  
Lithuanian Environmental Protection Agency*

# Our dream

Modeling system, which would provide information needed for EU and national water reporting and provide capacity to analyze different pollution abatement strategies.

# Short history

- Before 2004
  - National requirements
  - Preparation projects
  - Helsinki convention
- Since 2004 implementation of EU directives

# Water modeling needs

- Water Framework Directive (2000/60/EC)
- Nitrate Directive (91/676/EEC)
- Helsinki Convention (implementation of BSAP)
- Environmental Impact Assessment Directive (2011/92/EU)
- Rural Development Programme
- Climate Convention (greenhouse gas reporting)
- Flood Directive (2007/60/EC)
- Marine Strategy Directive (2008/56/EC)
- Others

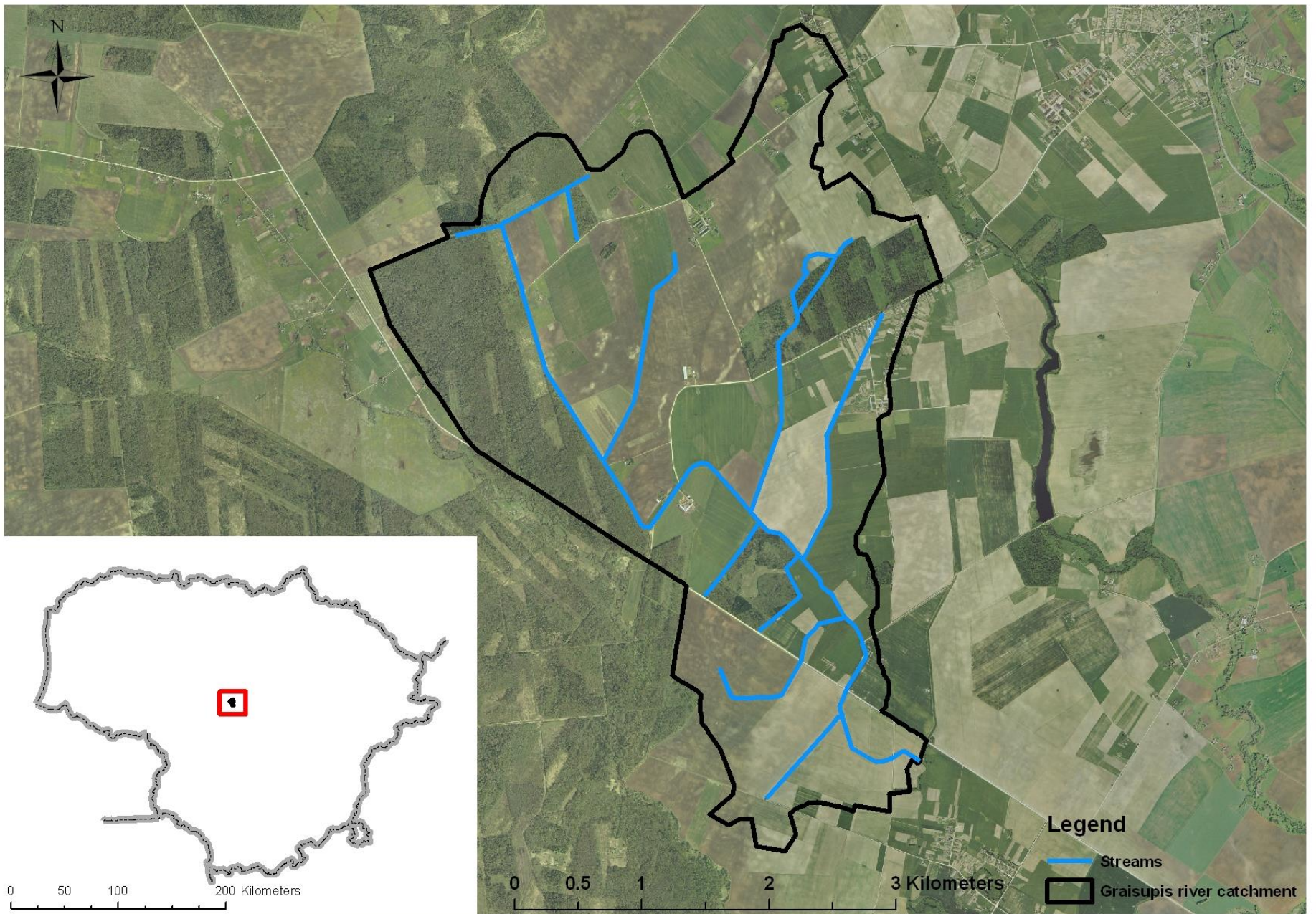
# Past

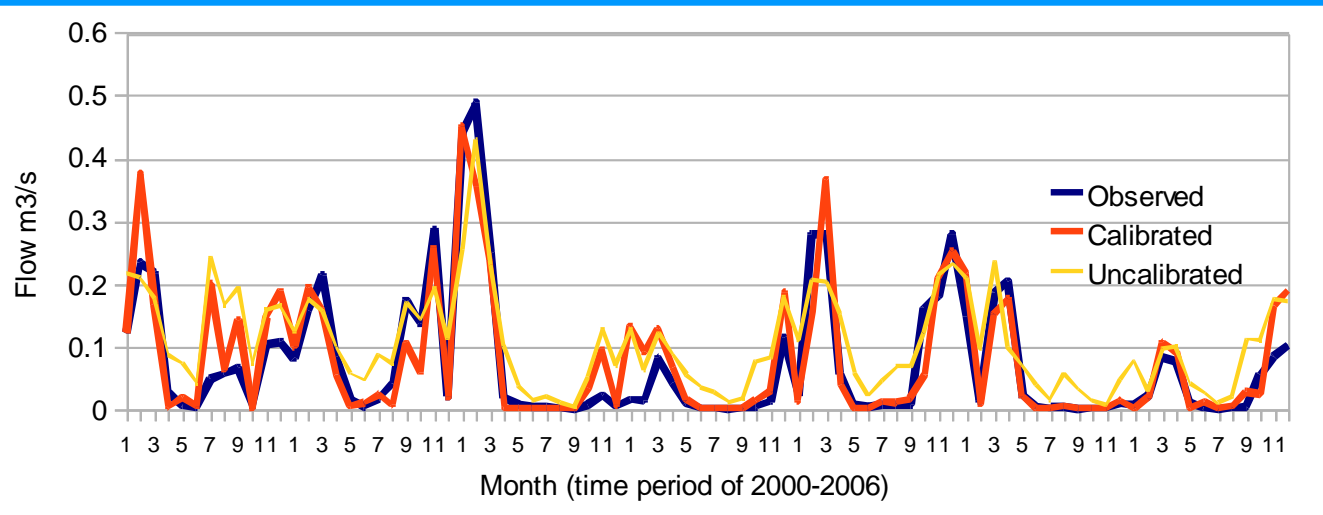
- Before 2003 consideration of freely available models (SWAT, HSPF)
- In 2003 DHI company study
- MIKE BASIN model for 1<sup>st</sup> iteration of RBPMs
- Evaluation of results

# Rethinking

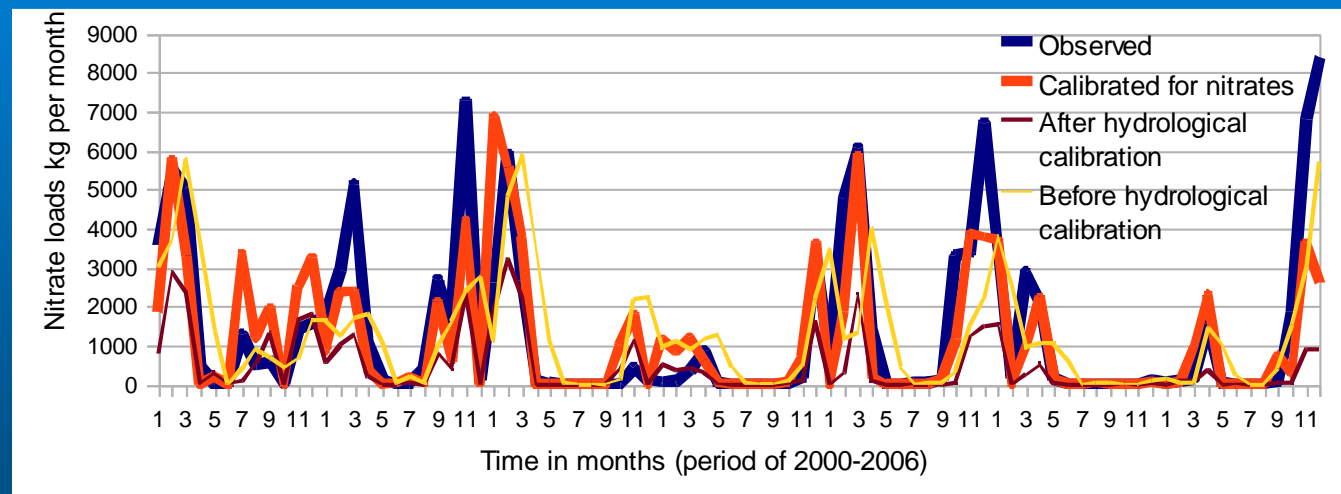
- Developing criteria
- Analysis of scientific literature
- Selected SWAT model
- Collection of data and testing on a pilot basin





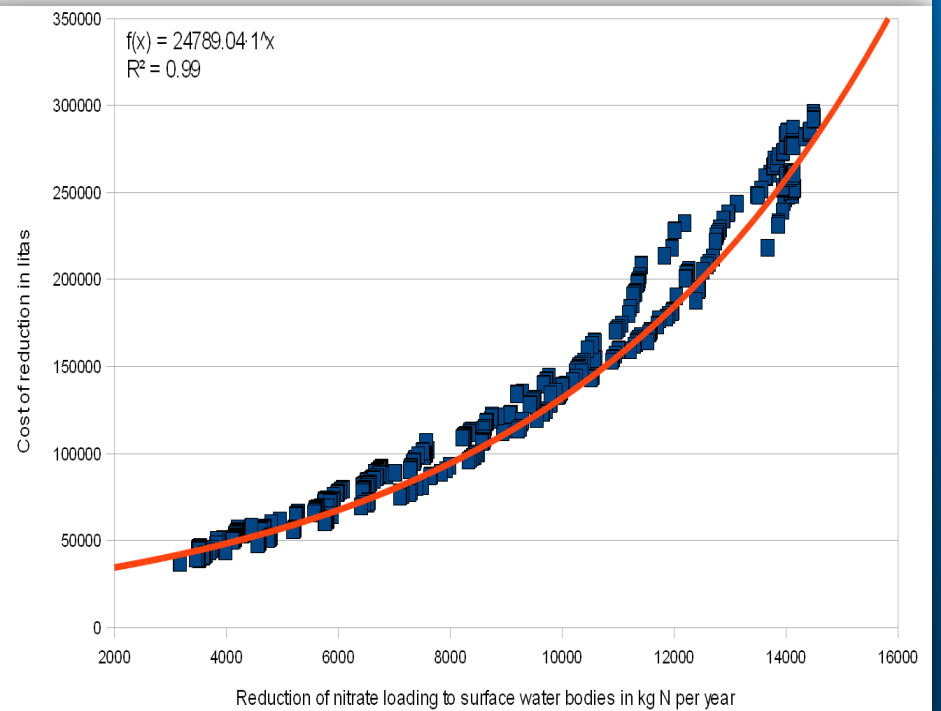
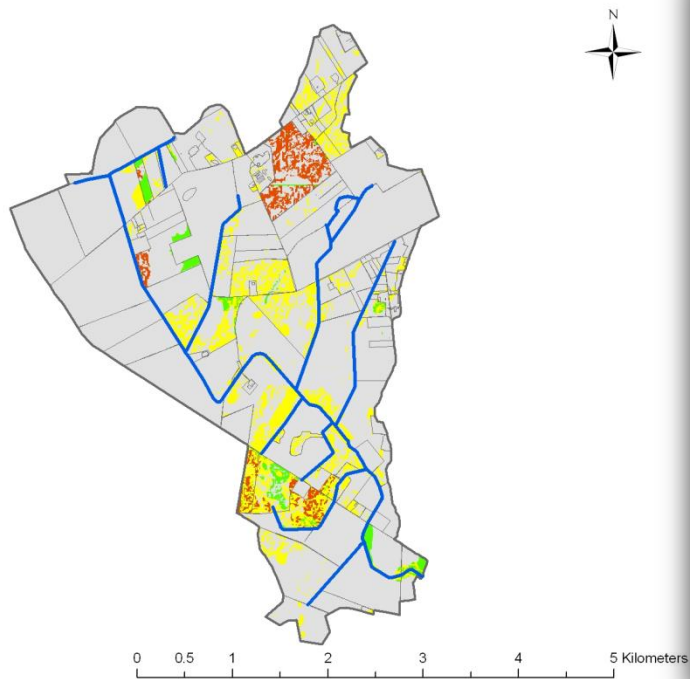
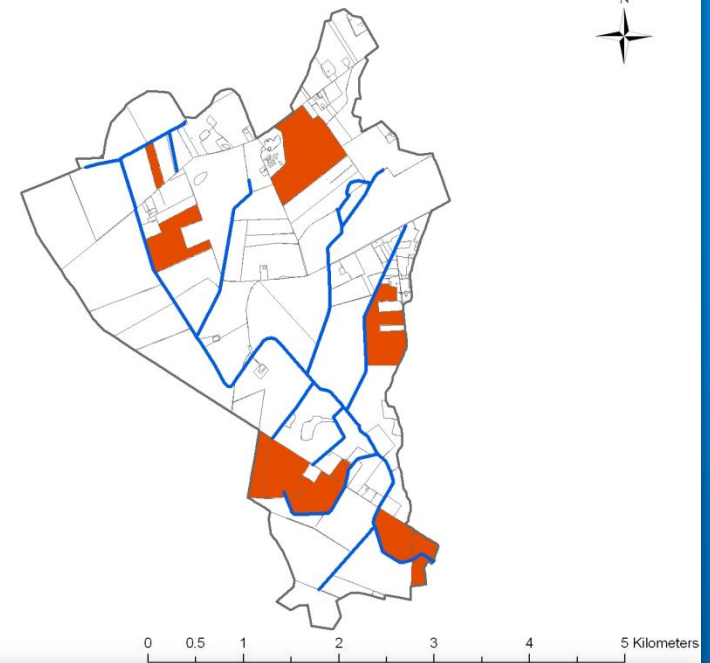
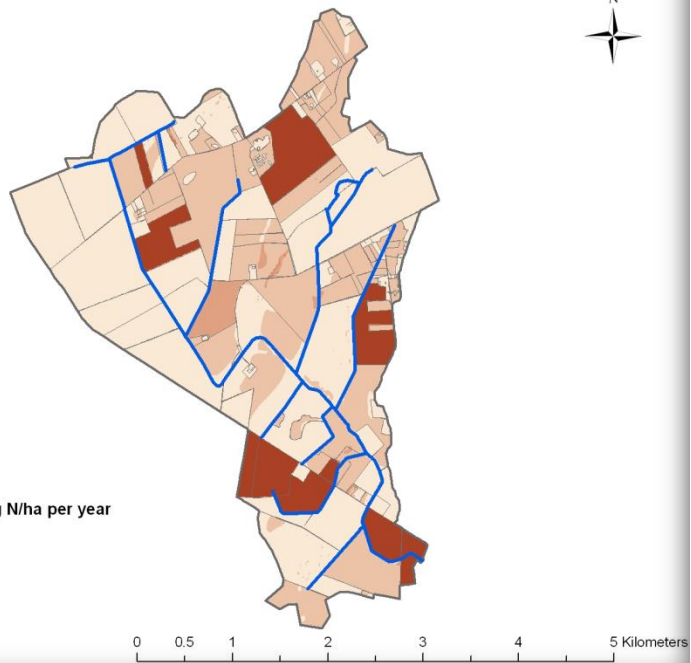


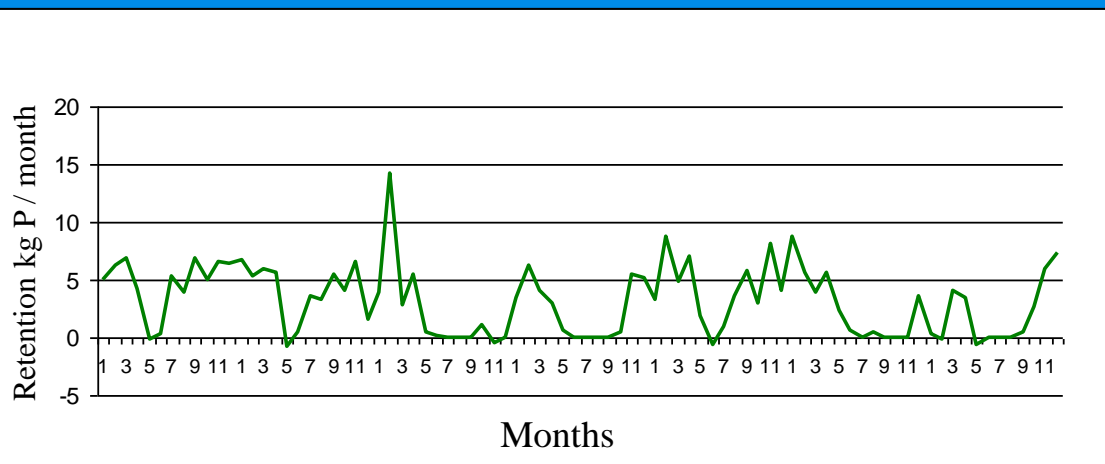
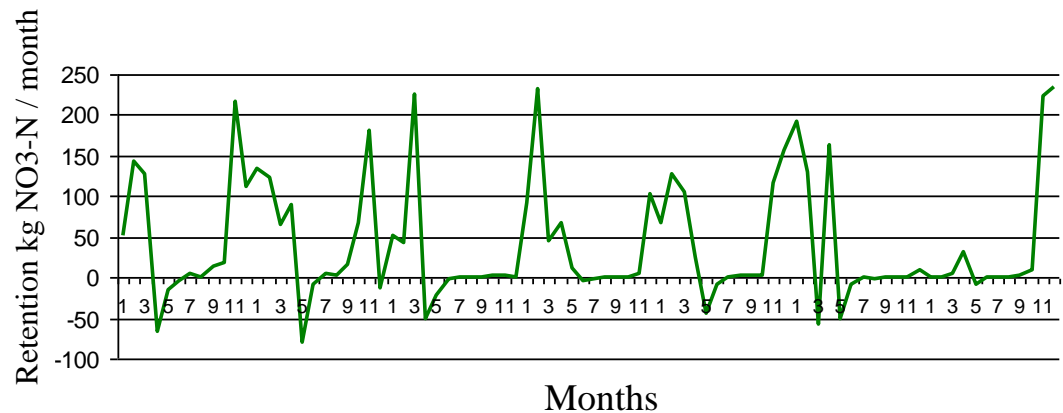
Flow Cal  $R^2 = 0.81$ , RSR = 0.45, NSE = 0.78, PBIAS = -9.21  
 Flow Val  $R^2 = 0.69$ , RSR = 0.42, NSE = 0.69, PBIAS = -3.15



Nitrate loads Cal  $R^2 = 0.63$ , NSE = 0.62, PBIAS = 13.73  
 Nitrate loads Val  $R^2 = 0.53$ , NSE = 0.53, PBIAS = -0.92







| Subbasin for wetland | Area draining to wetland km <sup>2</sup> | Sediment reduction (t/a) | Nitrate reduction (kg/a) | Phosphorus reduction (kg/a) |
|----------------------|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1                    | 3.47                                     | -19.05                   | -64.61                   | -46.97                      |
| 2                    | 0.98                                     | -31.55                   | -27.94                   | -5.92                       |
| 3                    | 3.51                                     | -58.93                   | -936.21                  | -30.55                      |
| 4                    | 5.78                                     | -51.57                   | -751.17                  | -52.69                      |
| 5                    | 10.02                                    | -106.74                  | -1014.67                 | -58.75                      |
| 6                    | 1.41                                     | -16.77                   | -367.55                  | -10.83                      |
| 7                    | 11.64                                    | -122.31                  | -1022.46                 | -54.59                      |
| 8                    | 0.98                                     | -11.22                   | -28.25                   | -3.38                       |
| 9                    | 14.15                                    | -159.47                  | -903.21                  | -41.65                      |

# Project in 2011

“Development of methodics and modeling system of nitrogen and phosphorus load calculation for surface waters of Lithuania”

SIA „Procesu analīzes un izpētes centrs” &  
UAB „Estonian, Latvian & Lithuanian Environment” and

16 months

# Finished in 2012

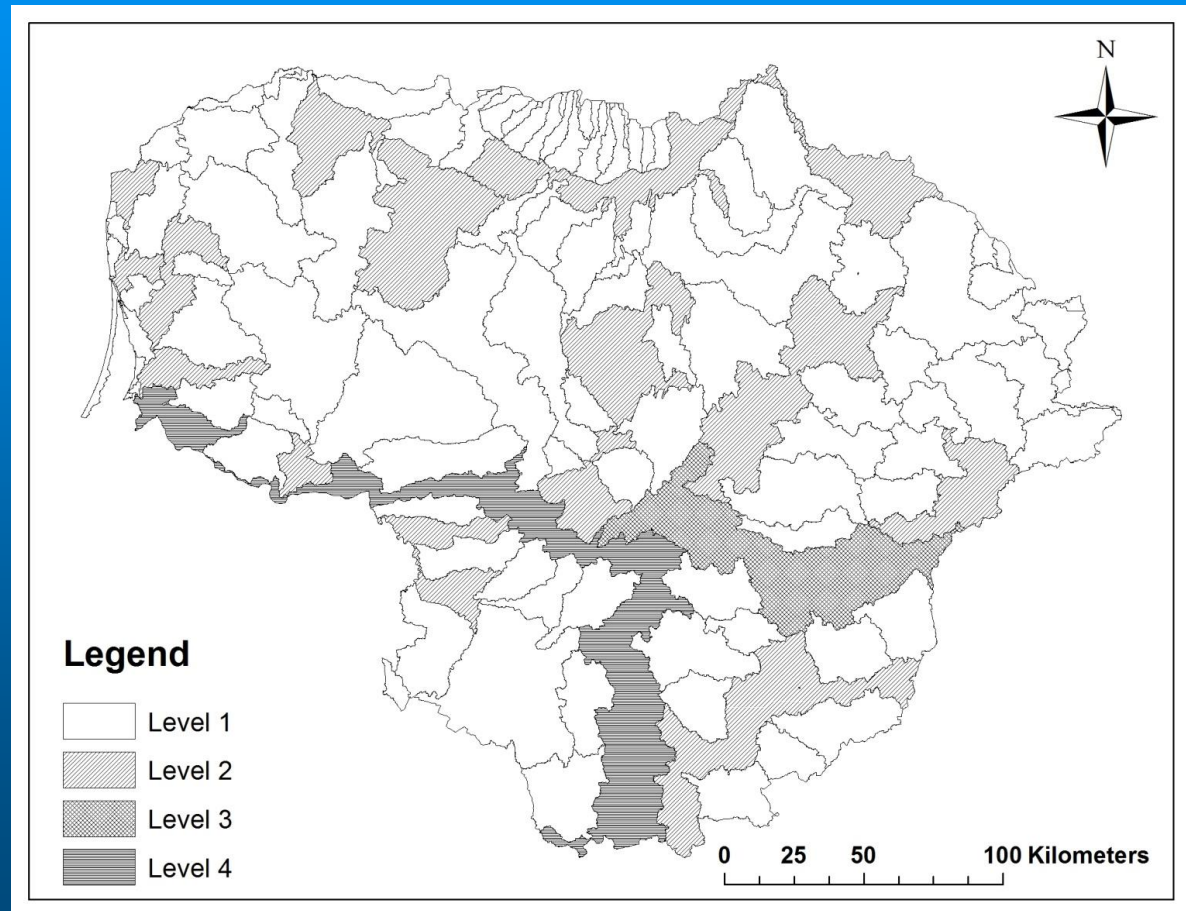
## Main results:

- Input data collected and prepared
- Model setups for all Lithuania
- Python scripts to manage input databases and updating setups
- Setup integration tools (batch and exe files)
- Output analysis software - PAIC-SWAT (integrated with monitoring data)



# Division and integration

- 4 levels
- 129 setups
- >1000 subbasins
- 19 major rivers for calibration





# Overall model performance

- Median Flow Daily NSE 0.5, Monthly NSE 0.6
- Median Flow PBIAS 9%
- Median Nitrate loads Daily NSE 0.27, Monthly NSE 0.17
- Median Nitrate loads with >5 years monitoring Daily NSE 0.37, Monthly 0.26
- Median Nitrate loads PBIAS 41%
- Median Phosphorus loads PBIAS 39%

# Output analysis

The screenshot displays the GRUPAS software interface for output analysis. The main window shows a map of the Nevezis river basin with various subbasins and reaches labeled, such as 'WQ Obelia - bendras Radviliskio', 'WQ Kralante - Zemas Kalmes', and 'WQ Dabosa - ties Kaulakiai, ties kelpu Nr.225'. The map includes a coordinate grid with Y-axis values from 6120000 to 6200000 and X-axis values from 430000 to 510000.

On the right side, there are several control panels:
 

- Statistics:** Includes checkboxes for 'Subbasins', 'Reaches', 'Q observations', and 'WQ observations'. It also has options for 'SHP file' (All, None) and 'Server'.
- Load settings:** Includes checkboxes for 'HRU', 'SUB', 'SOL', and 'RSV', along with 'HRU aggregation' options (Subbasin, LandUse, Soil).
- Visualisation settings:** Includes checkboxes for 'Concentrations', 'Monthly value', and 'Normalize by area'. It also has 'Settings' (All, None) and 'Q' options.
- Calibration:** Includes a 'Variable' list (None, Q, N-NO3, N-NH4, N-Orq, P-PO4, P-Orq, SS, BOD7, DOX, QWQ) and 'Q\_Station' options (None, Šušvė-Josvainiai, Šušvė-Šaulena, Šušvė - Botysė).

Below the map, there are two line graphs:
 

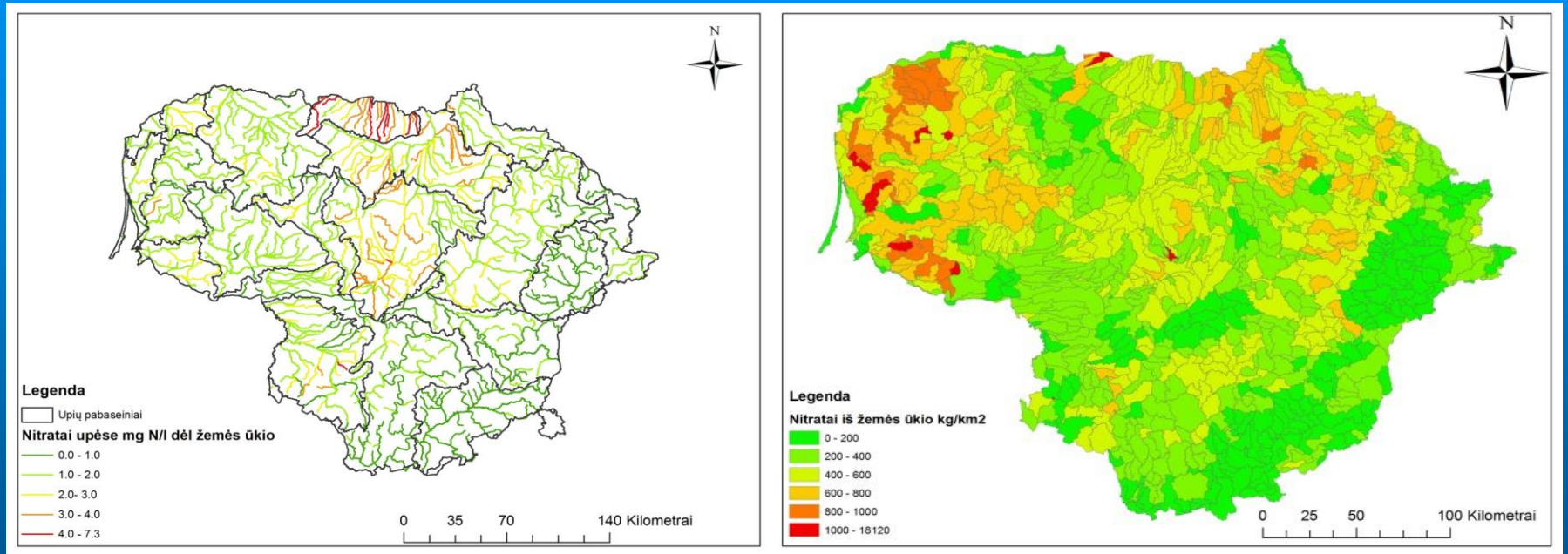
- Top graph:** Shows 'FLOW\_OUT\_13' (green line) and 'Q Šušvė-Josvainiai4' (red line) over time from 01/0001 to 11/0001. The Y-axis is 'm3/s, m3/s' ranging from 0.5 to 35.
- Bottom graph:** Shows 'FLOW\_OUT\_13' (green line) and 'Q Šušvė-Josvainiai4' (red line) over time from 10 to 12. The Y-axis is 'm3/s, m3/s' ranging from 4 to 14.

At the bottom, there are two data analysis windows:
 

- Form3:** Displays calibration and validation statistics for 'Case: Nevezis\_Susve'. It includes a table with columns for 'CALIB', 'NSE', 'PBIAS', 'NSE', 'VALID', 'NSE', 'PBIAS' and rows for 'daily' and 'monthly' statistics.
- GW.RCHRG\_Count:** A small dialog box for setting 'Value' (0.09) and 'MaxValue' (0.09).

|         | CALIB | NSE    | PBIAS  | NSE    | VALID  | NSE | PBIAS |
|---------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|-----|-------|
| daily   | 0.74  | -10.2% | 0.75   | 0.87   | 10.4%  |     |       |
| monthly | 0.30  | -51.8% | 0.50   | 0.48   | -24.9% |     |       |
| daily   | -7.67 | 488.5% | -42.14 | -33.68 | 508.5% |     |       |
| monthly | 0.07  | -43.2% | -0.42  | -0.98  | -37.2% |     |       |
| daily   | 0.05  | -24.9% | -3.61  | -1.25  | 31.1%  |     |       |
| monthly | 0.12  | -19.1% | -0.25  | -2.78  | 24.4%  |     |       |
| daily   | -0.76 | 35.7%  | -8.26  | -5.98  | 42.3%  |     |       |
| monthly | -1.21 | -5.9%  | -24.92 | -4.81  | -11.0% |     |       |
| daily   | 0.41  | -4.6%  | 0.35   | 0.21   | 28.7%  |     |       |
| monthly | 0.43  | -9.9%  | 0.51   | 0.39   | -2.5%  |     |       |

# Output analysis



# Next

- Updating of input data, adding new
- Detailed calibration
- Attention to processes, activation of important
- Develop methodic and tools multi-objective spatial optimization, CSA and other
- Structural agriculture change scenarios
- More info into RBMPs

# Major challenges

- Data (soil, fertilization, etc)
- Lack of experience and similar examples
- Lack of understanding on higher level
- Lack of possibilities to attract and keep specialists

# Conclusion

No conclusion 😊...