

# Anthropogenic Impacts to the Sediment Budget of the São Francisco River Navigation Channel using SWAT

## 2014 International SWAT Conference

Presented By:

Calvin Creech, PE, CFM, LEED® AP

31 July 2014



US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**®



# CODEVASF-USACE Program Overview

- **CODEVASF** - Companhia de Desenvolvimento dos Vales do São Francisco e do Parnaíba
- **USACE** – United States Army Corps of Engineers
- 3 Year Partnership to address navigation obstacles in the São Francisco River Basin
- Initial Needs:
  - ▶ Understand Sediment Dynamics of the System – **SEDIMENT BUDGET**
  - ▶ Build a sediment yield and sediment transport model
  - ▶ Develop feasibility studies for future navigation planning



# São Francisco River Basin

- Basin Characteristics:
  - ▶ Eastern Brazil
  - ▶ Largest basin located entirely in Brazil
  - ▶ 640,000 sq. km (size of Texas)
  - ▶ 3000 km long (1/2 the Mississippi River)
  - ▶ Focus on navigation improvements in 400 km of the Middle São Francisco



# Navigation Obstacles in the São Francisco

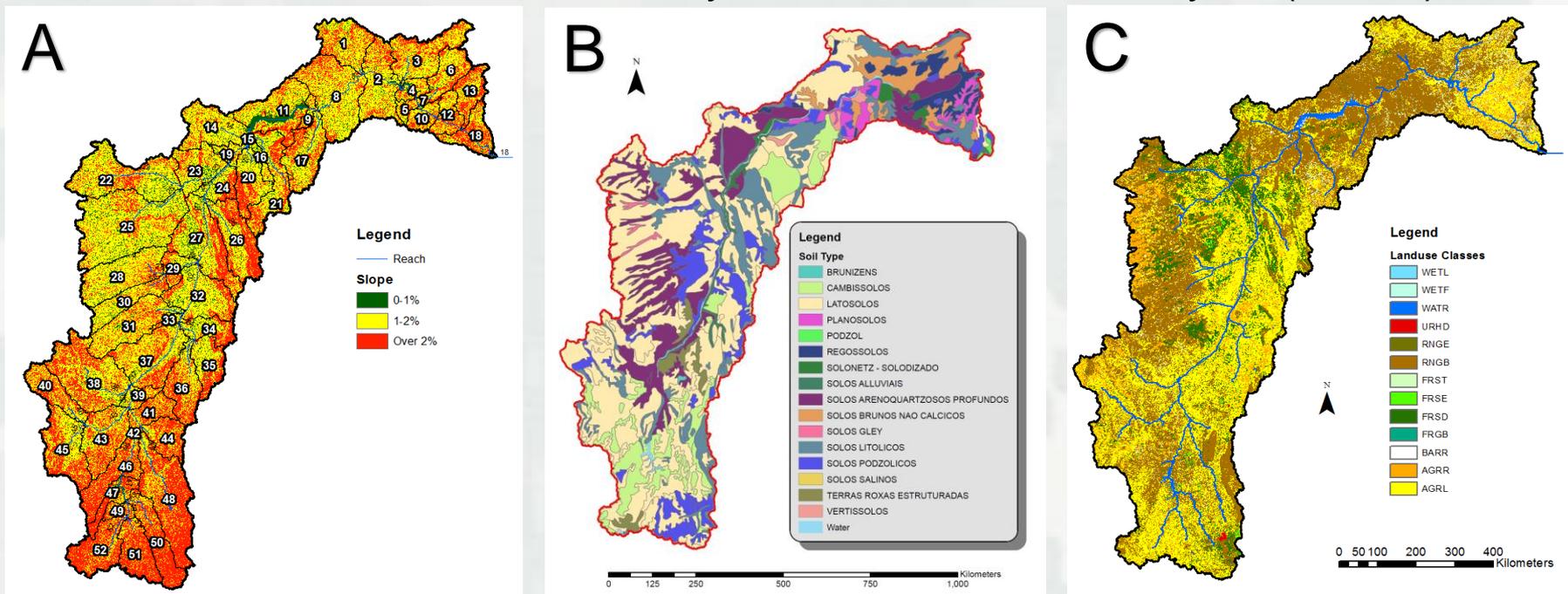
- Wide and shallow river
- Numerous shoals in navigation channel
- Very high sediment transport
- Numerous Islands



**BUILDING STRONG®**

# Sediment Yield Model Development: Hydrologic Response Units (HRUs)

- HRUs built from:
  - ▶ Slope (A) – ASTER 2013 30m DEM data
  - ▶ Soils (B) – Emprapa 1981 Soil Delineation
  - ▶ Landuse (C) – European Space Agency Landuse Delineation (GlobCover 2005)
- Basin has a total of 3844 HRUs within 76 basins
- Climate data from the Climate System Forecast Reanalysis (CSFR)



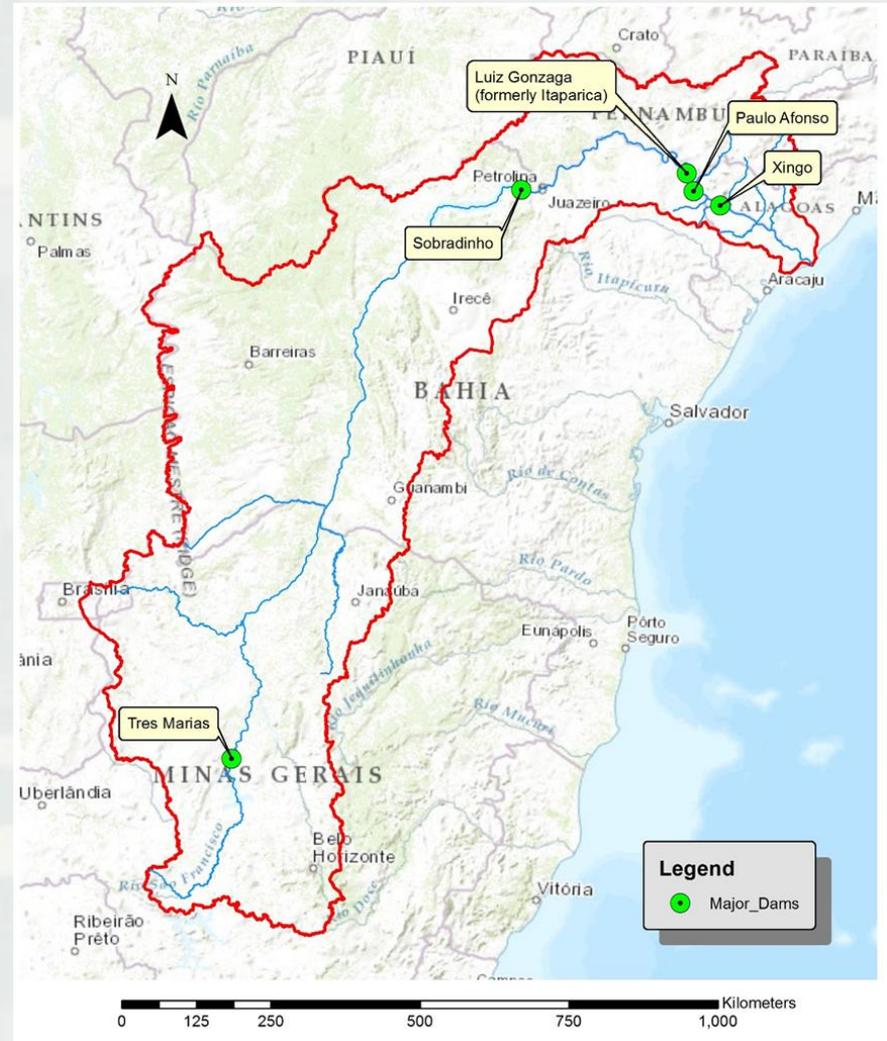
# Sediment Yield Model Development: Reservoirs

- Reservoirs added (data from CHESF):

- ▶ Três Marias
- ▶ Sobradinho
- ▶ Itaparica (Luiz Gonzaga)
- ▶ Paulo Afonso
- ▶ Xingó

SWAT ID	Reservoir Name	RES_ESA (ha)	RES_EVOL ( $10^4 m^3$ )	RES_PSA (ha)	RES_PVOL ( $10^4 m^3$ )	RES_VOL ( $10^4 m^3$ )
71	Três Marias	115556	2333333	104000	2100000	2100000
17	Sobradinho	468889	3788889	422000	3410000	3410000
8	Luiz Gonzaga	92222	1188889	83000	1070000	1070000
11	Paulo Afonso	11111	133333	10000	120000	120000
14	Xingó	6667	422222	6000	380000	380000

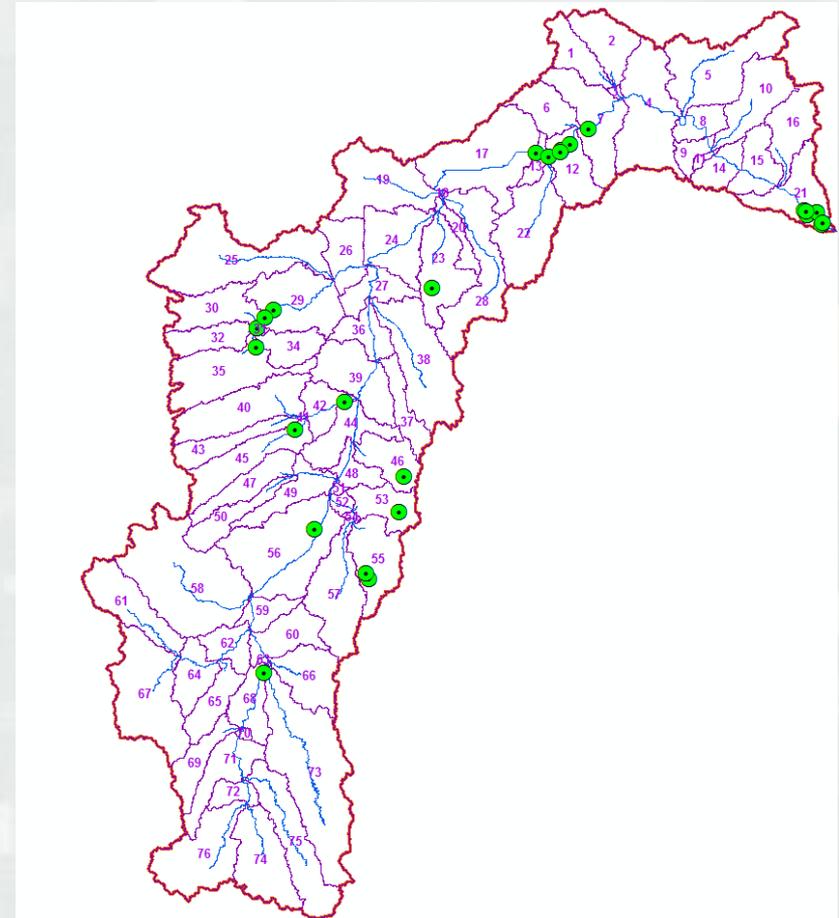
SWAT ID	Reservoir Name	RES_SED (mg/L)	RES_NSED (mg/L)	RES_D50 ( $\mu m$ )	RES_K (mm/hr)	EVRSV
71	Três Marias	100	450	10	0	0.6
17	Sobradinho	100	450	10	0	0.6
8	Luiz Gonzaga	100	450	10	0	0.6
11	Paulo Afonso	100	450	10	0	0.6
14	Xingó	100	450	10	0	0.6



# Sediment Yield Model Development: Irrigation

- Irrigation Canal added:
  - ▶ 26 Total Irrigation Canals
  - ▶ 16 Basins

Name	Coordinates		Name of Source	Source Type	Intake Type	Permitted Flow m <sup>3</sup> /h	SWAT Basin
	Latitude	Longitude					
Gorutuba	15° 49' 55" S	43° 15' 46" W	Gorutuba	Dam	Gravity	8762	55
Jaíba	15° 5' 24.088" S	44° 5' 24.088" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	53529	56
Lagoa Grande	15° 44'55" S	43°18'36"W	Gorutuba	Dam	Pump	8740	55
Pirapora	17° 14' 56" S	44° 51' 14" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	3750	68
Barreiras do Norte	12° 4' 47.509" S	44° 57" 59.326" W	Grande	River	Pump	12642	31
Ceraíma	14° 17' 23" S	42° 44' 8" W	Carnaíba de Dentro	Dam	Gravity	539	46
Estreito	14° 49' 35" S	42° 48' 27" W	Verde Pequeno	Dam	Gravity	4669	53
Fормoso A	13° 11' 7" S	43° 38' 37" W	Corrente	River	Pump	47160	42
Mírosos	11° 27' 34" S	42° 20' 34" W	Verde	Dam	Pump	3110	23
Nupeba	11° 48' 35" S	44° 43' 0" W	Grande	River	Pump	14196	29
Piloto Formoso	13° 36' 16" S	44° 23' 45" W	Formoso	River	Pump	1620	45
Riacho Grande	11° 55' 28" S	44° 50' 48" W	Grande	River	Pump	8042	29
São Desidério	12° 21' 38" S	44° 58' 20" W	São Desidério	Dam	Gravity	4700	35
Bebedouro	9° 22' 44.775" S	40° 26' 38.103" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	13320	12
Nilo Coelho	9° 25' 36.603" S	40° 49' 20.852" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	83520	13
Betume	10° 25' 4" S	36° 33' 34.487" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	7167	21
Cotinguiuba-Pindoba	10° 16' 30" S	36° 46' 55" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	6939	21
Propria	10° 12' 18.605" S	36° 50' 4.445" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	5775	21
Boacica	10° 14' 04" S	36° 38' 25" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	9345	21
Itiúba	10° 13' 13,2" S	36° 47 53,4" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	3373	21
Marituba	10° 23' 38" S	36° 33 8" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	4817	21
Curaçá	9° 3' 44" S	40° 2' 52" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	19675	7
Mandacaru	9° 23' 3" S	40° 26' 32" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	5200	12
Maniçoba	9° 17' 358" S	40° 18' 57" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	23160	12
Salitre I	9° 28' 52.644" S	40° 37' 36.879" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	25200	22
Tourão	9° 24' 26.558" S	40° 27' 31.108" W	São Francisco	River	Pump	47736	12



# Sediment Yield Model: Hydrology Calibration

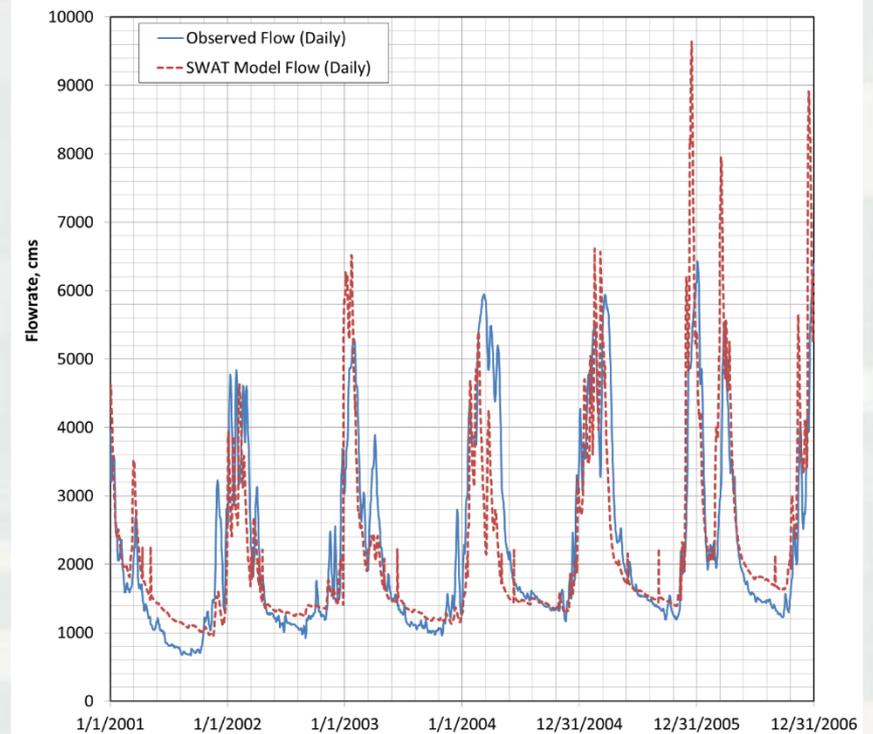
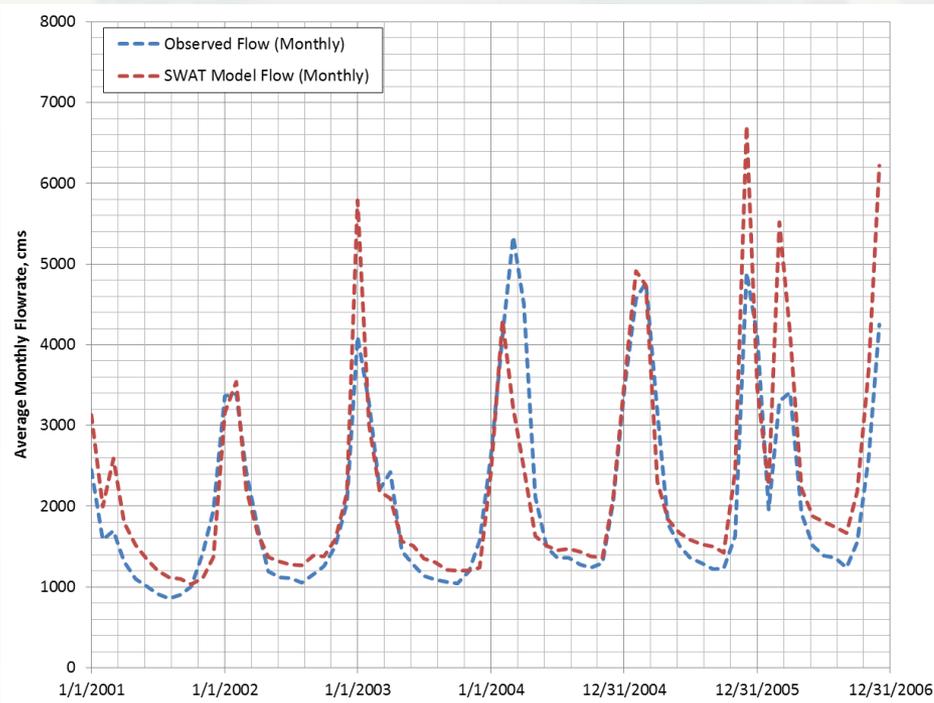
- 18 Parameters adjusted to achieve calibration:

Hydrology Calibration Parameters				
Parameter	Table	Name	Default	Value Used
CH_W 2 (m)	.rte	Main channel width	Varies	Varies
ALPHA_BF (days <sup>-1</sup> )	.gw	Baseflow alpha days	0.048	0.05
CH_W 1 (m)	.sub	Tributary channel width	Varies	10
CH_N2	.rte	Manning's "n" value for main channels	0.014	0.03
CH_D (m)	.rte	Channel depth	Varies	10% of channel width, with maximum of 10 m
CN2	.mgt	Run off curve number	Varies	Default
SOL_K (mm/hr)	.sol	Saturated hydraulic conductivity	Varies	Default / 5
CH_K2 (mm/hr)	.rte	Hydraulic conductivity in main channel	0	5
CH_K1 (mm/hr)	.sub	Hydraulic conductivity in tributaries	0	5
HRU_SLP	.hru	Average slope steepness of HRU	Varies	Default
SLSUBBSN (m)	.hru	Average slope length	50	90
OV_N	.hru	Manning's "n" value of overland flow	0.08	0.08
RCHRG_DP	.gw	Deep aquifer percolation fraction	0.05	0.6
SURLAG	.bsn	Surface runoff lag time	4	0.05
GW_QMN (mm)	.gw	Depth of water in shallow aquifer for return flow	0	0
GW_REVAP	.gw	Groundwater revap coefficient	0.02	0.02
REVAPMN (mm)	.gw	Depth of water in shallow aquifer for revap	1	100
GW_DELAY (days)	.gw	Groundwater Delay	31	0

# Sediment Yield Model Hydrology Calibration

- Morpara Gage
- Monthly Hydrology
- NSE = 0.66 (good)

- Morpara Gage
- Daily Hydrology
- NSE = 0.56 (good)



# Sediment Yield Model Hydrology Calibration

- 10 gages used for Calibration (Each of the Major Tributaries)
- 7 gages used for Validation (Along the São Francisco River)
  - ▶ 3 Gages – Very Good
  - ▶ 6 Gages – Good
  - ▶ 8 Gages – Satisfactory

ANA Name	Gage	SWAT Basin	Type	NSE	Description
Rio Pará	40330000	74	Calibration	0.66	Good
Rio Paraopeba	40850000	75	Calibration	0.72	Good
Rio das Velhas	41818000	73	Calibration	0.63	Satisfactory
Rio Jequitai	42145498	66	Calibration	0.67	Good
Rio Paracatu	42980000	62	Calibration	0.61	Satisfactory
Rio Urucuia	43980002	58	Calibration	0.57	Satisfactory
Rio Verde Grande	44670000	57	Calibration	0.6	Satisfactory
Rio Carinhonha	45260000	49	Calibration	0.58	Satisfactory
Rio Corrente	45960001	42	Calibration	0.67	Good
Rio Grande	45965000	26	Calibration	0.52	Satisfactory
Rio São Francisco upstream of Pará	40100000	76	Validation	0.51	Satisfactory
Rio São Francisco at Manteiga	42210000	60	Validation	0.73	Good
Rio São Francisco at Manga	44500000	56	Validation	0.75	Very Good
Rio São Francisco at Bom Jesus de Lapa	45480000	44	Validation	0.76	Very Good
Rio São Francisco at Morpara	46360000	27	Validation	0.66	Good
Rio São Francisco at Juazeiro	48015000	12	Validation	0.88	Very Good
Rio São Francisco at Ibó	48590000	4	Validation	0.57	Satisfactory

# Sediment Yield Model

## Sediment Calibration

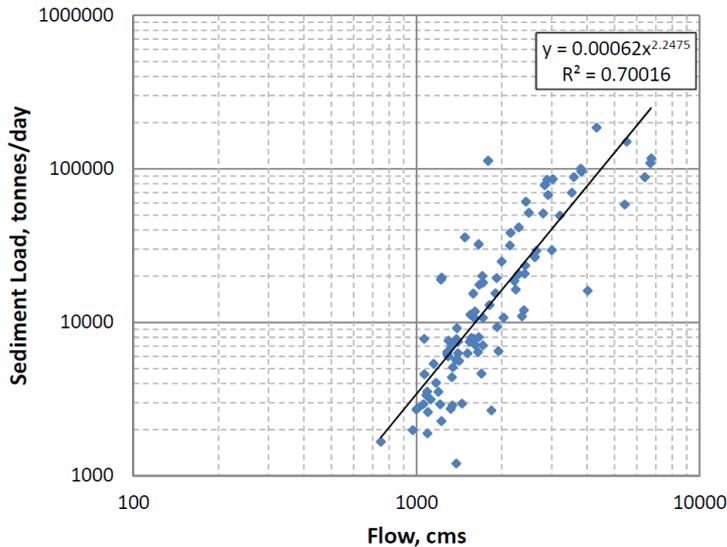
- 12 Parameters adjusted to achieve calibration:

Sediment Calibration Parameters				
Parameter	Table	Name	Default	Value Used
CH_WDR (m/m)	.rte	Channel width/depth ratio	Varies	Initial Width/Depth Ratio - 1
CH_COV1	.rte	Channel erodability factor	0	0.6
USLE_P	.mgt	Universal Soil Loss Equation Support Practice Factor	1	0.15
LAT_SED (mg/l)	.hru	Sediment Concentration in lateral flow	0	0
CH_BNK_KD (cm <sup>3</sup> /N-s)	.rte	Erodibility of Channel Bank Material	0	0.1
CH_BNK_D50 (μm)	.rte	Median particle size of bank material	0	500
CH_BED_D50 (μm)	.rte	Median particle size of bank material	0	500
CH_BNK_TC (N/m <sup>2</sup> )	.rte	Critical Shear Stress of Channel Bank	0	0.2
CH_BED_TC (N/m <sup>2</sup> )	.rte	Critical Shear Stress of Channel Bank	0	0.08
CH_ERODMO1-12	.rte	Erodibility factor by month	0	1
CH_BED_KD	.rte	Erodibility of Channel Bed Material	0	1
CH_EQN	.rte	Sediment Transport Equation	0	1
RES_SED (mg/L)	.res	Initial Sediment Concentration in Reservoir	4000	1
RES_NSED (mg/L)	.res	Normal Sediment Concentration in Reservoir	4000	1

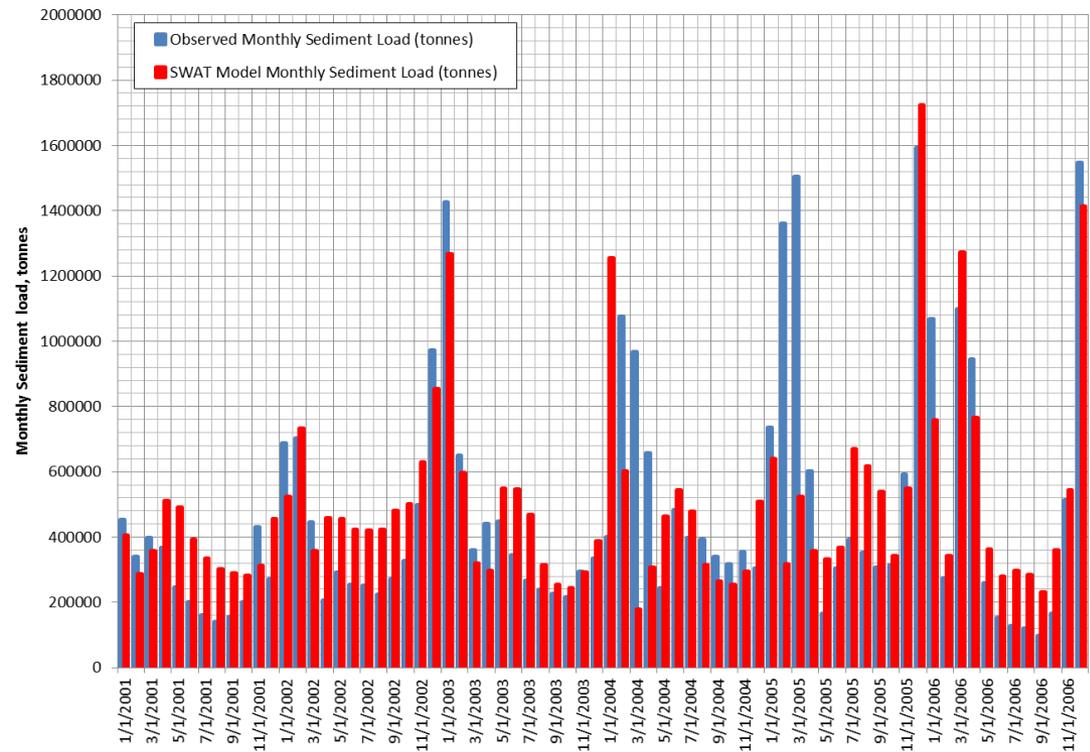


# Sediment Yield Model Sediment Calibration

- Sediment Rating Curve at Morpara Gage converted to daily sediment loads, then aggregated monthly



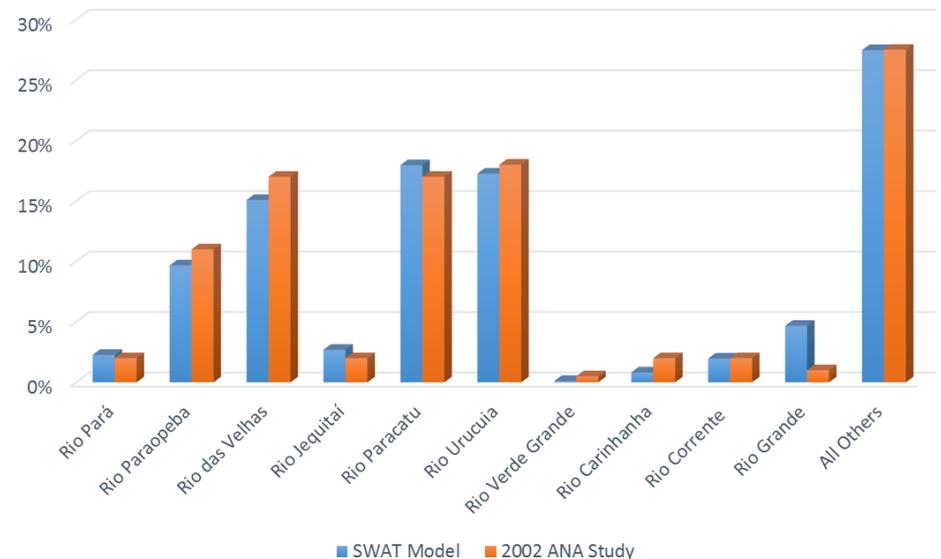
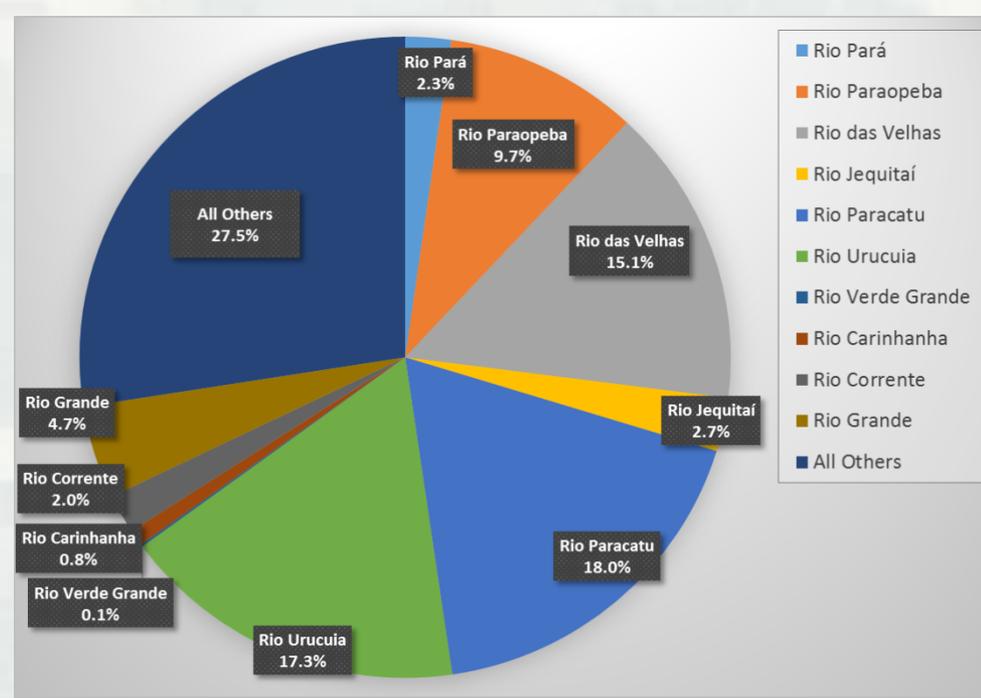
- Morpara Gage - Monthly Sediment Loads
- PBIAS = -12.6 (Very Good)



# Sediment Yield Model Sediment Calibration

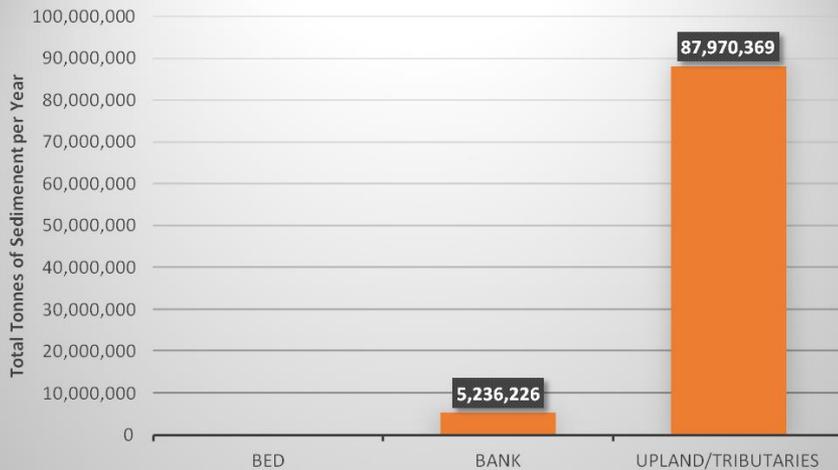
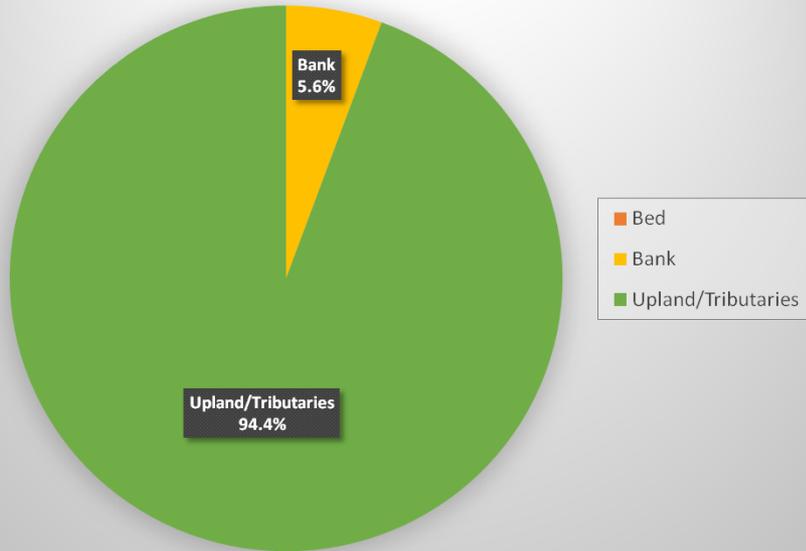
- Tributary Sediment Loads
  - ▶ Compared with ANA & CODEVASF, 2002 Study
  - ▶ (Análise Multitemporal da Dinâmica de Alteração da Conformação do Leito do Rio São Francisco – Trecho Médio)

Tributary	SWAT Model	2002 ANA Study
Rio Pará	2.27%	2.00%
Rio Paraopeba	9.67%	11.00%
Rio das Velhas	15.08%	17.00%
Rio Jequitai	2.70%	2.00%
Rio Paracatu	17.96%	17.00%
Rio Urucuia	17.26%	18.00%
Rio Verde Grande	0.11%	0.50%
Rio Carinhanha	0.82%	2.00%
Rio Corrente	1.97%	2.00%
Rio Grande	4.68%	1.00%
All Others	27.47%	27.50%
TOTAL	100.00%	100.00%

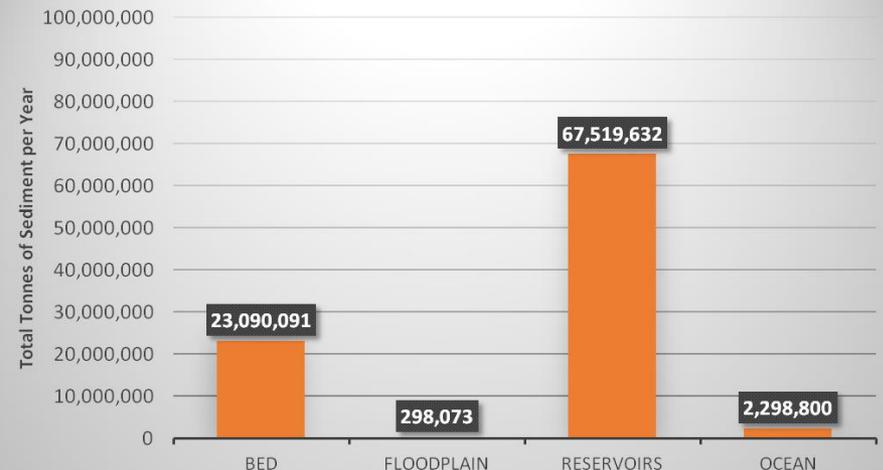
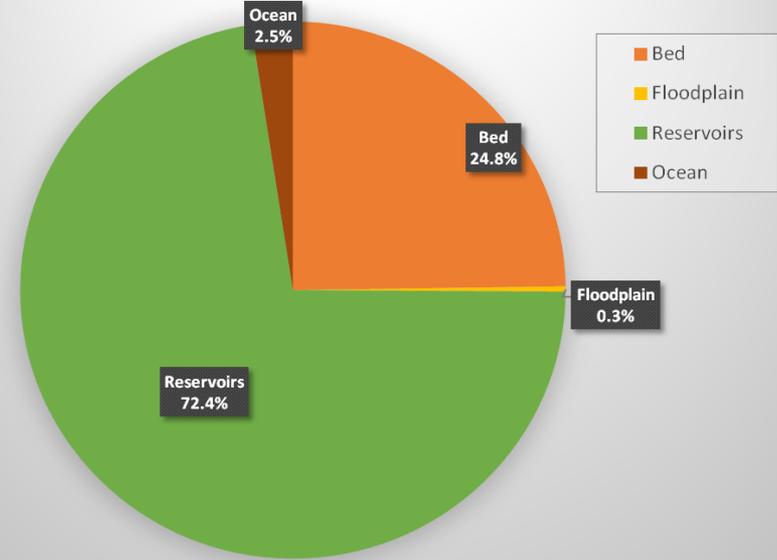


# Sediment Yield Model Output – Sediment Budget

NET EROSION SOURCES

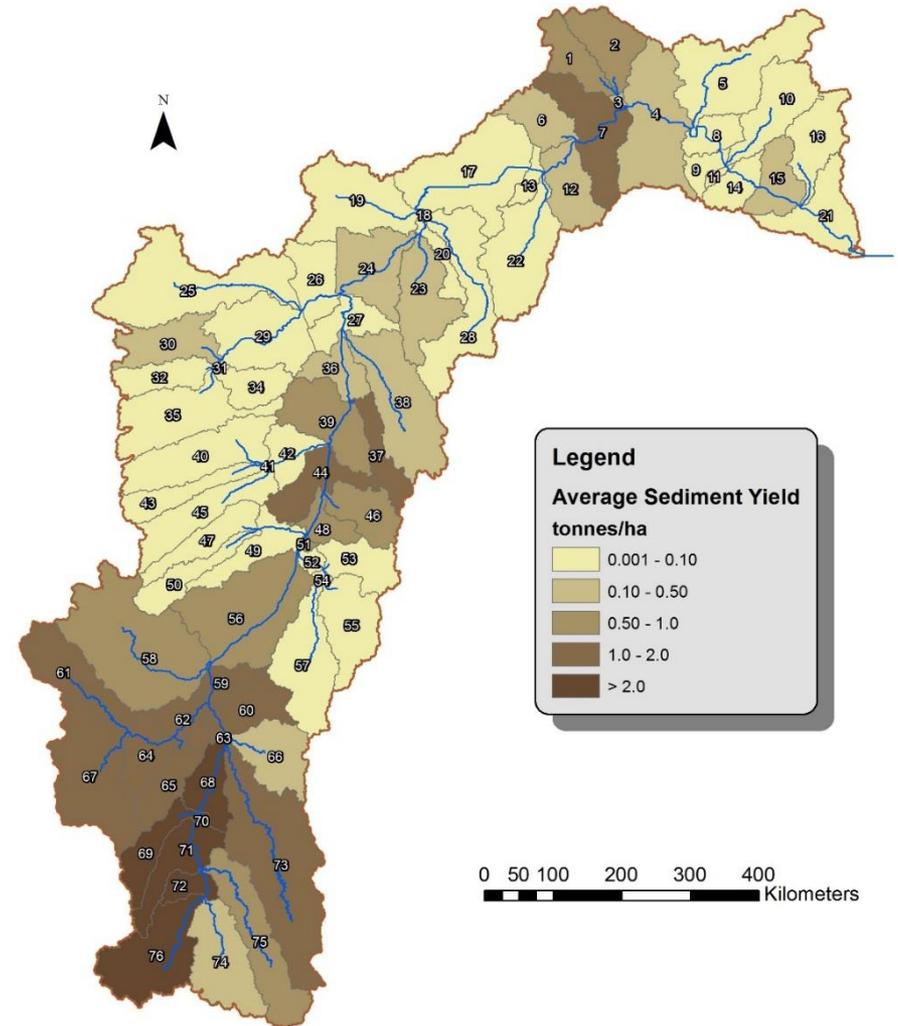


NET DEPOSITION SINKS



# Sediment Yield Model Output - Sediment

- Distribution of Sediment Yield
  - ▶ Significant Yield ( $> 2.0$  tonnes/hectare per year) in the Upper
  - ▶ Very low ( $< 0.1$  tonnes/hectare per year) in Western Bahia, and other portions of the Middle, Lower Middle, and Lower São Francisco





# Comparison of Historic Conditions

<b>Erosion (Sources)</b>	<b>Pre-European Settlement Loads (tonnes/year)</b>	<b>Current Condition Sediment Loads (tonnes/year)</b>	<b>Change, %</b>
Bed	27,895,898	50,700,317	82%
Bank	755,943	5,236,226	593%
Upland / Tributaries	31,172,709	87,970,369	182%

<b>Deposition (Sinks)</b>	<b>Pre-European Settlement Loads (tonnes/year)</b>	<b>Current Condition Sediment Loads (tonnes/year)</b>	<b>Change, %</b>
Bed	29,134,816	73,790,408	153%
Floodplains	38,045	298,073	683%
Reservoirs	0	67,519,632	∞
Oceans	3,911,667	2,298,800	-41%

- **Pre-European Settlement Waterway:** 1.25 million tonnes per year deposition
- **Current Conditions Waterway:** 23 million tonnes per year deposition



# Comparison of Historic Conditions



2004 Aerial



2011 Aerial

- ▶ 3.9 million tonnes delivered to ocean (historic) compared to 2.3 million (current)
- ▶ Coastal Erosion: 175 meters of erosion from 2004 to 2011 at the lighthouse
- ▶ Numerous Structures and coconut farming lost at Cabeça Village



# Future Watershed Planning Conditions

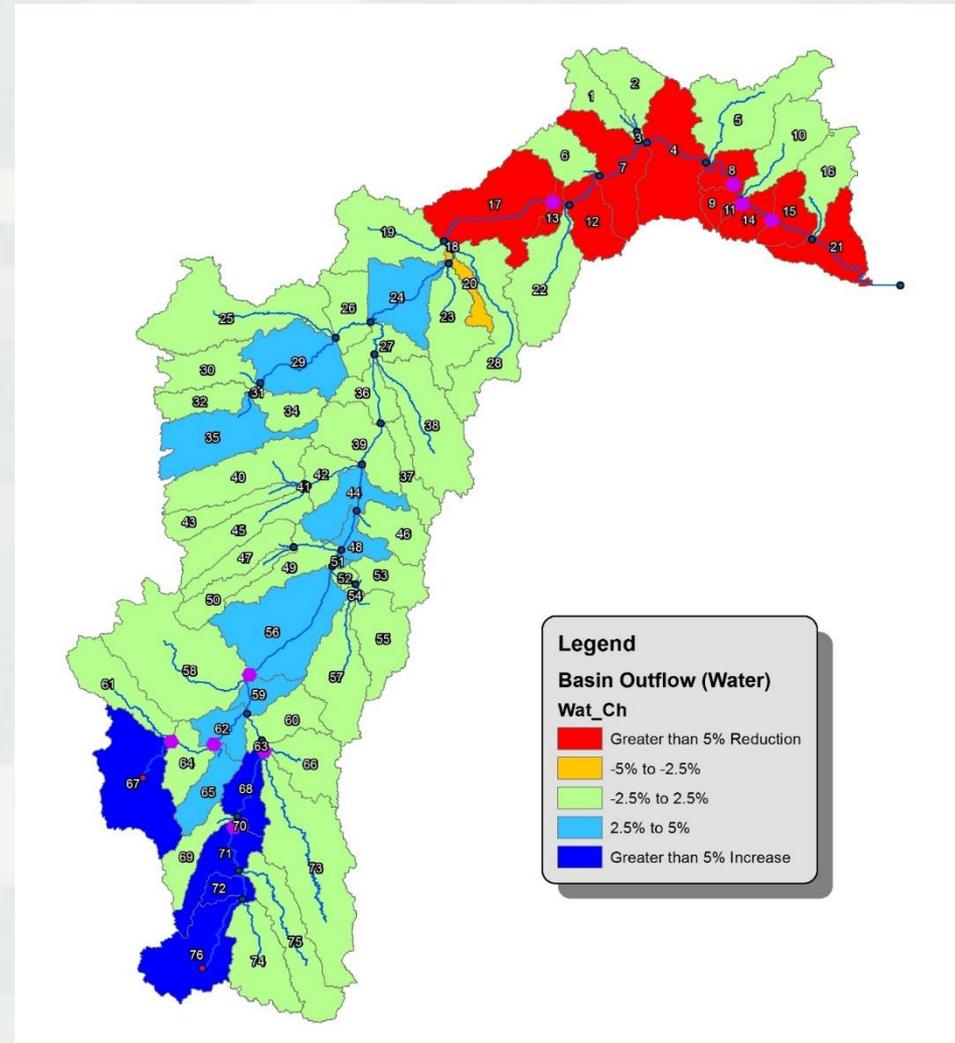
- Inflows to the Basin at Headwaters:
  - ▶ Bacia do Rio Grande
  - ▶ Bacia do Rio Paranaíba
  - ▶ Bacia do Rio São Marcos
- Proposed Dams
  - ▶ Velhas (1 dam)
  - ▶ Paracatu (3 dams)
  - ▶ Uruçuia (1 dam)
- Irrigation in the Lower
  - ▶ 12 proposed systems
- Potential landuse changes (more agriculture)



# Future Watershed Planning Conditions

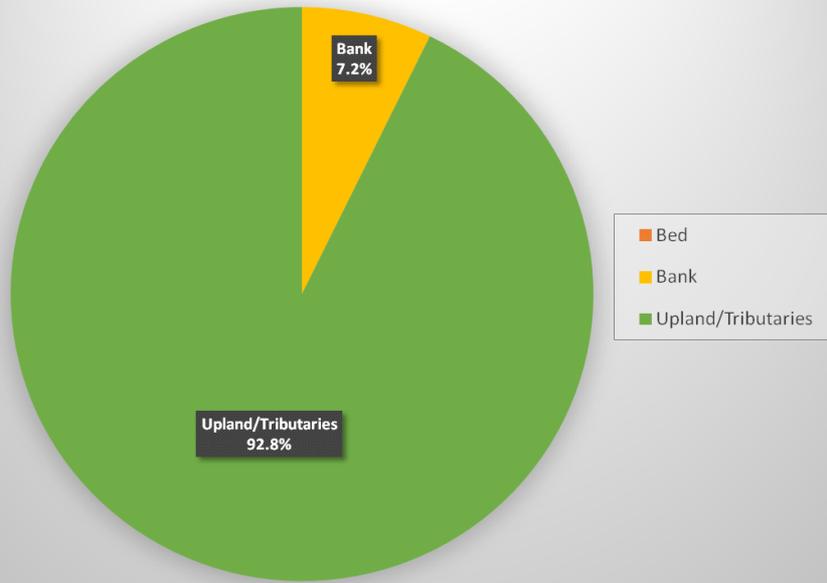
## Hydrology

- Significant Increased Flows in the Headwaters
- Increased flows through the navigation channel
- Significant decreased in flows in the Middle Lower and Lower

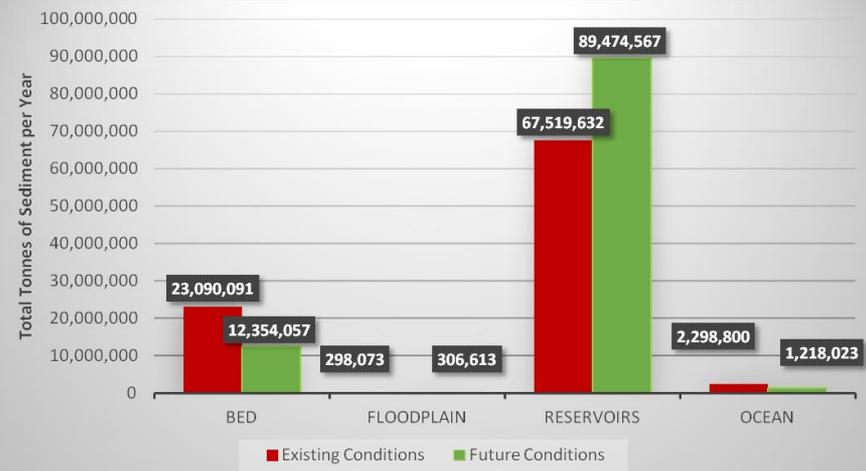
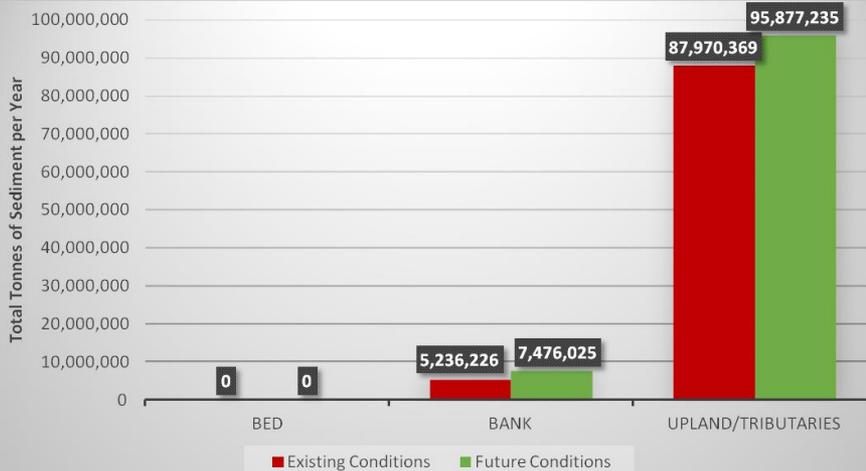
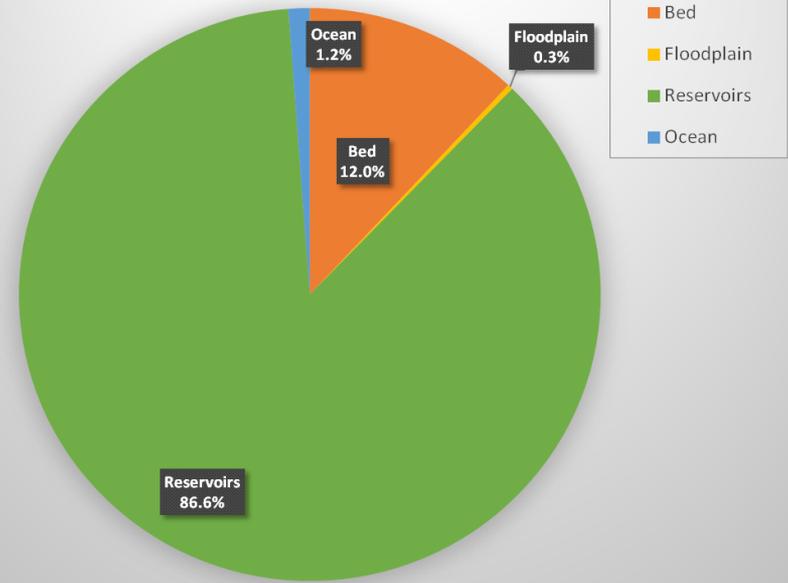


# Comparison of Future Conditions

## NET EROSION SOURCES



## NET DEPOSITION SINKS



# SWAT Model Conclusions / Recommendations

- Small component of existing and future sediment budget is due to Bank Erosion (~6%). 94% of the sediments causing shoals are due to overland flow or small tributary inflows.
- Existing navigation channel is experiencing aggradation of the bed. Historically quase-equilibrium - 1.25 million tonnes of aggradation - compared to current 23 million tonnes of aggradation.
- 41% reduction in sediment delivery to the Atlantic Ocean since historic conditions (3.9 million tonnes per year Pre-European settlement, compared to 2.3 million tonnes per year currently)
- Future landuse scenarios will continue to have an aggrading bed, but a 39% lower rate. Primarily due to the construction of proposed dams.
- Output of the sediment yield model was used as the input into a sediment transport model



# Perguntas? Discussão? Muito Obrigado!

Calvin Creech, PE, CFM, LEED® AP  
email: [Calvin.T.Creech@usace.army.mil](mailto:Calvin.T.Creech@usace.army.mil)

Rafael Siqueira, Engº Civil, Codevasf  
email: [rafael.siqueira@codevasf.gov.br](mailto:rafael.siqueira@codevasf.gov.br)

