

Characteristics of hydro-sedimentary,  
biogeochemical and geomorphological  
dynamics of the Sélune river

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# Objectives

## Characterizing pre-removal state:

- Lakes as source/sink > Upstream/downstream fluxes
- Modified hydraulic power > longitudinal geomorphological dynamics

## Characterizing the response of removal operations

## Studying the restoration process:

- Impact on water quality > catchments exports/river processes without lakes
- Impact on sedimentary dynamics > aquatic habitat & recolonization processes

# Approach

## Concentrations & fluxes monitoring

- Continuous monitoring upstream & downstream of the dams of solutes and fine sediments



How dams affect the transfer of matter?

Do they modify the storm event and seasonal dynamics of water quality?

## Geomorphological diagnosis

- Spatial analysis of geomorphological variables
- Measurement of the mobility of bed load from RFID transponders

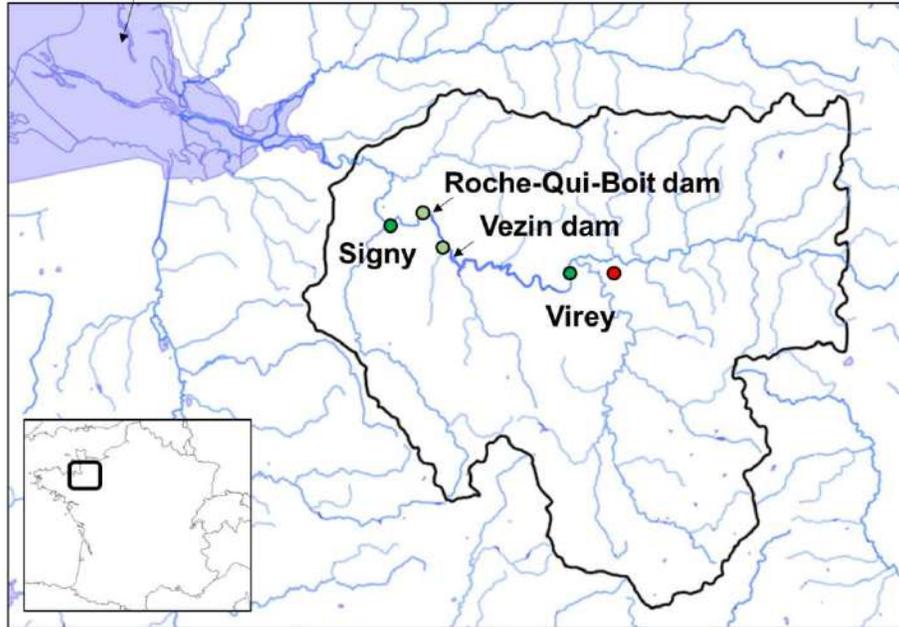


Is there any signal of a sediment deficit of bedload ?

What is the average mobility of coarse sediments ?

# Concentrations and flux monitoring upstream & downstream of the dams

Mont-Saint-Michel Bay



## Monitoring stations

- Weather station
- Hydrological, physico-chemical sensors, and sampling
- Hydrological, physico-chemical sensors
- Hydrographic network
- Catchment delineation



## Water Sampling

- weekly + storm events (10 to 24 points/storm)
- SS, PO<sub>4</sub>, PT, Si, Anions, NH<sub>4</sub>

## Virey (up. station)



Sensors dt=1h : Q, Turbidity, T°, EC, pH, O<sub>2</sub>

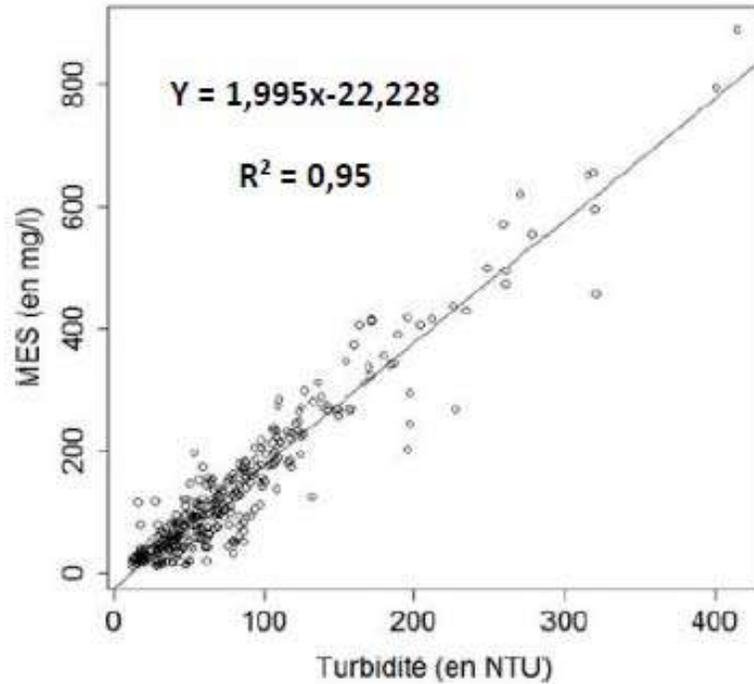
## Signy (dwn. station)



Sensors dt=10 min : Q, Turbidity, T°, EC, Chl a

# Flux estimates

## Suspended sediment – turbidity regressions

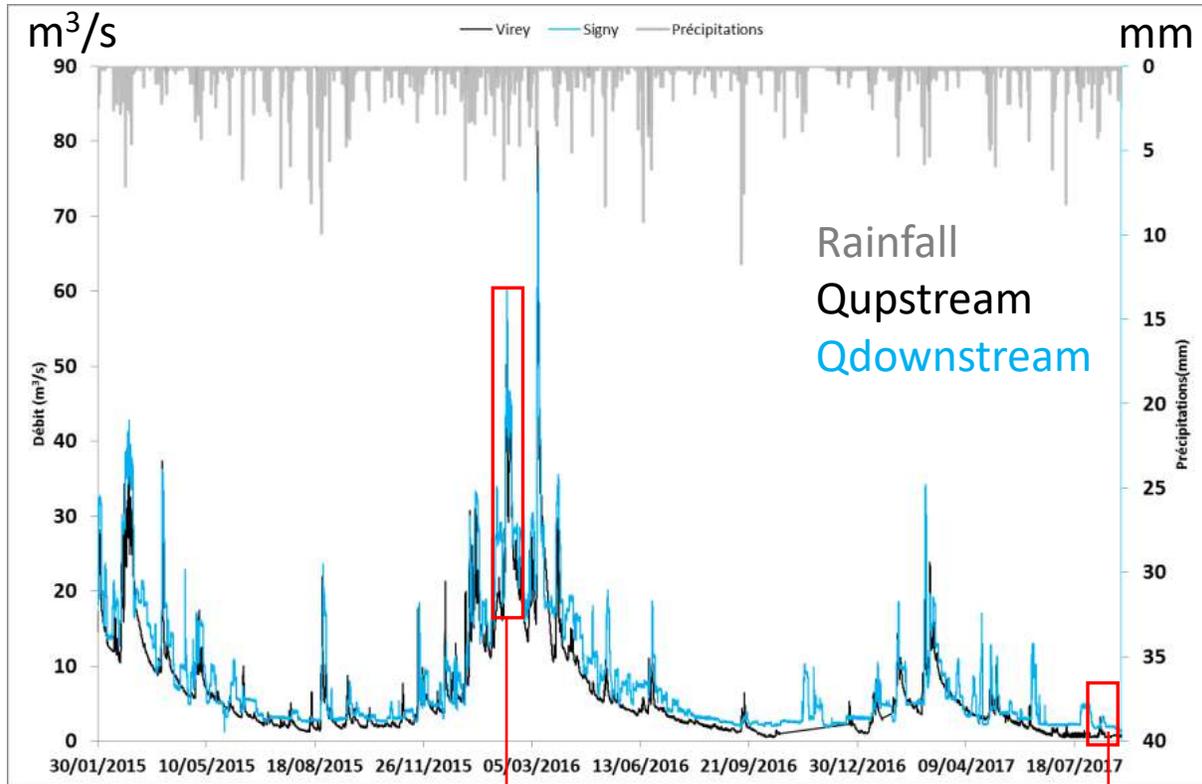


## Discharge-Weighted Concentration method for solutes

$$DWC = K * \left( \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{12} C_i * Q_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{12} Q_i} \right) * \left( \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{365} Q_j}{365} \right) = K * C^* * \bar{Q}$$

[kg/ha/yr]

# Dams effect on water discharge

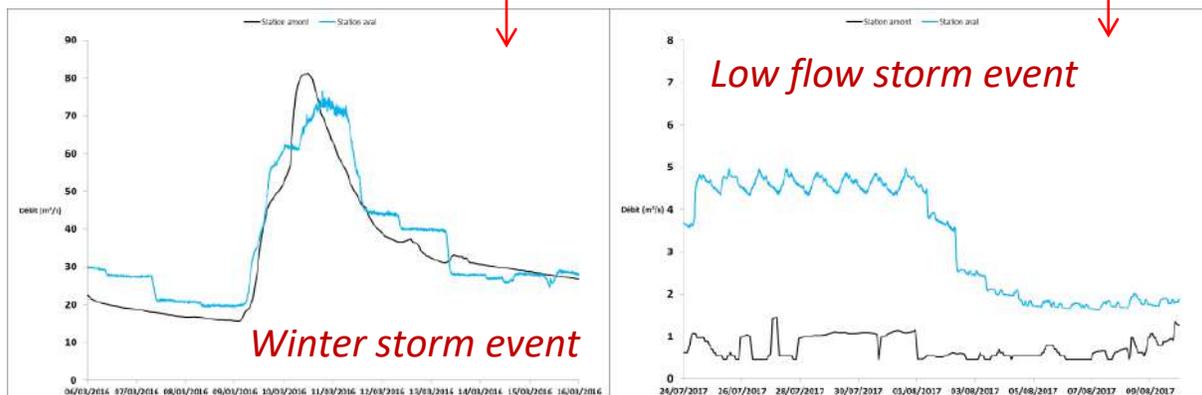


Rule of management:

- $Q_{dwn} < 30 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$  if  $Q_{up} < 30 \text{ m}^3/\text{s}$ ,
- Releasing a discharge similar to the inflow

**Low effet on specific discharge:**

mm/year	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Rainfall	757	587	1064
Q upstream	429	145	651
Q downstream	443	173	652

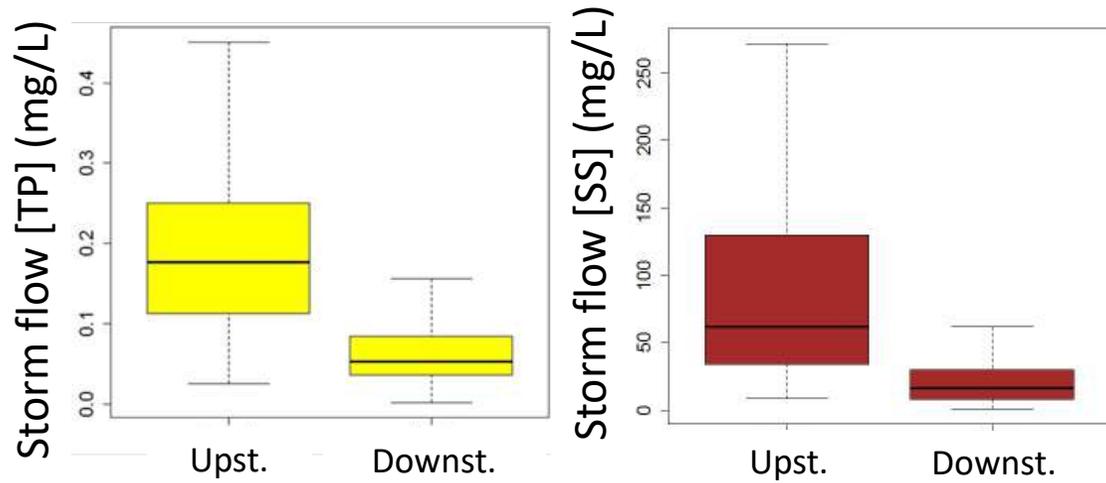


**Regulated storm flow:**

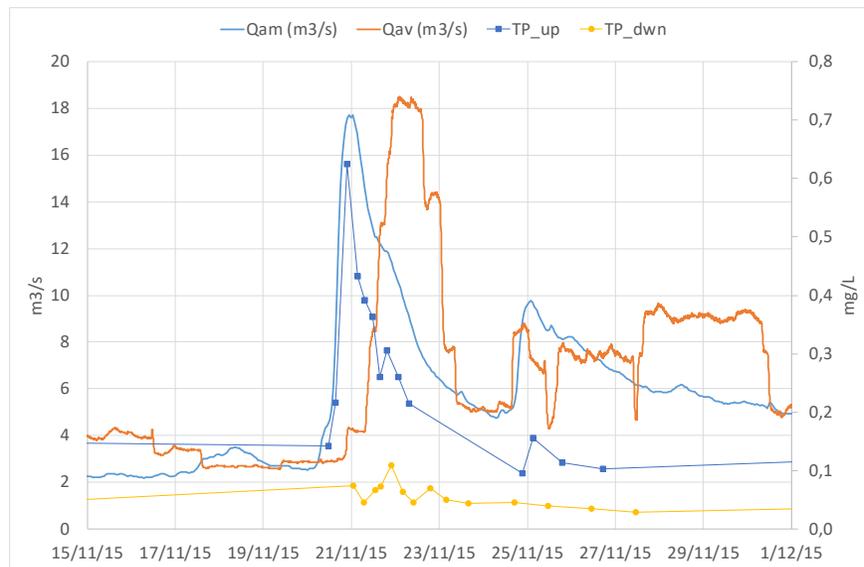
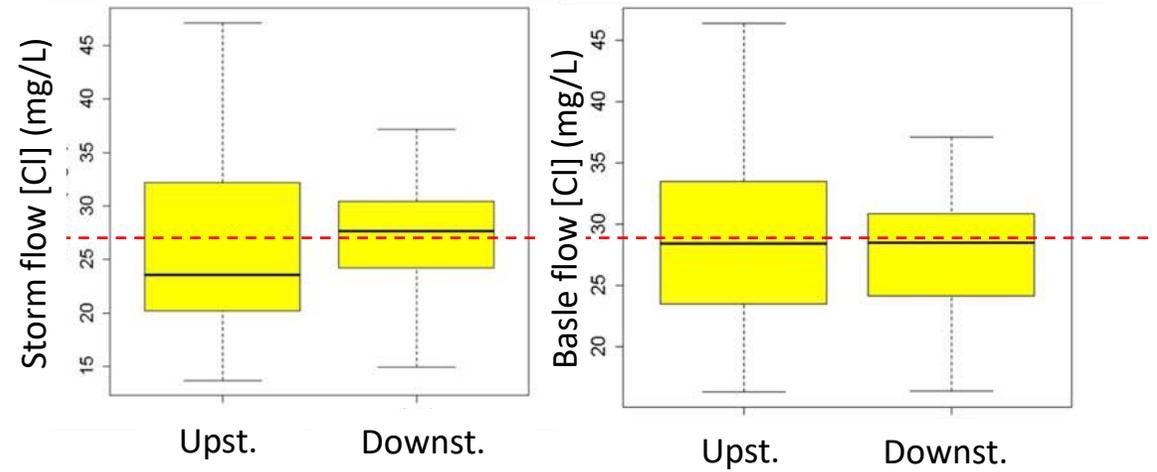
- Light damping of peak discharge
- Delays
- Recession by stages

# Dams effect on storm event concentrations

## Retention of particles

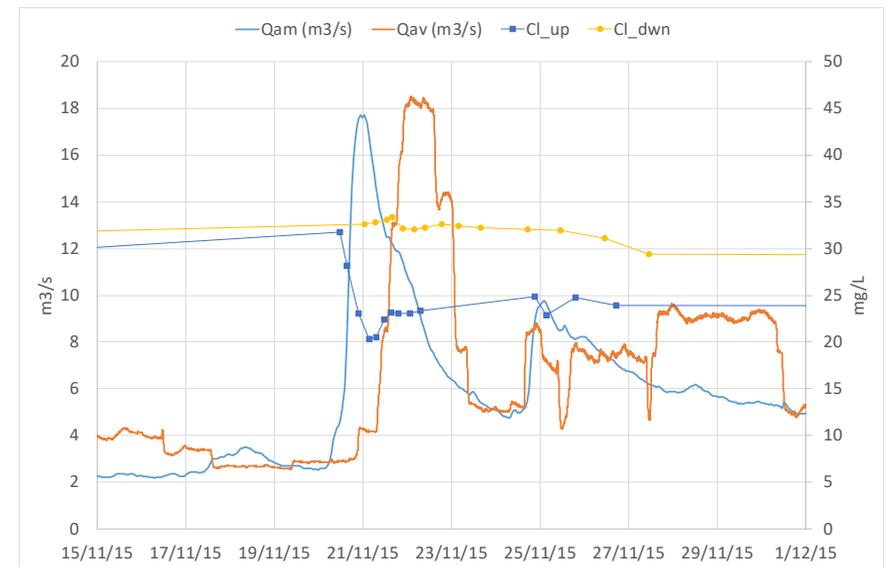


## Mixing of dissolved species



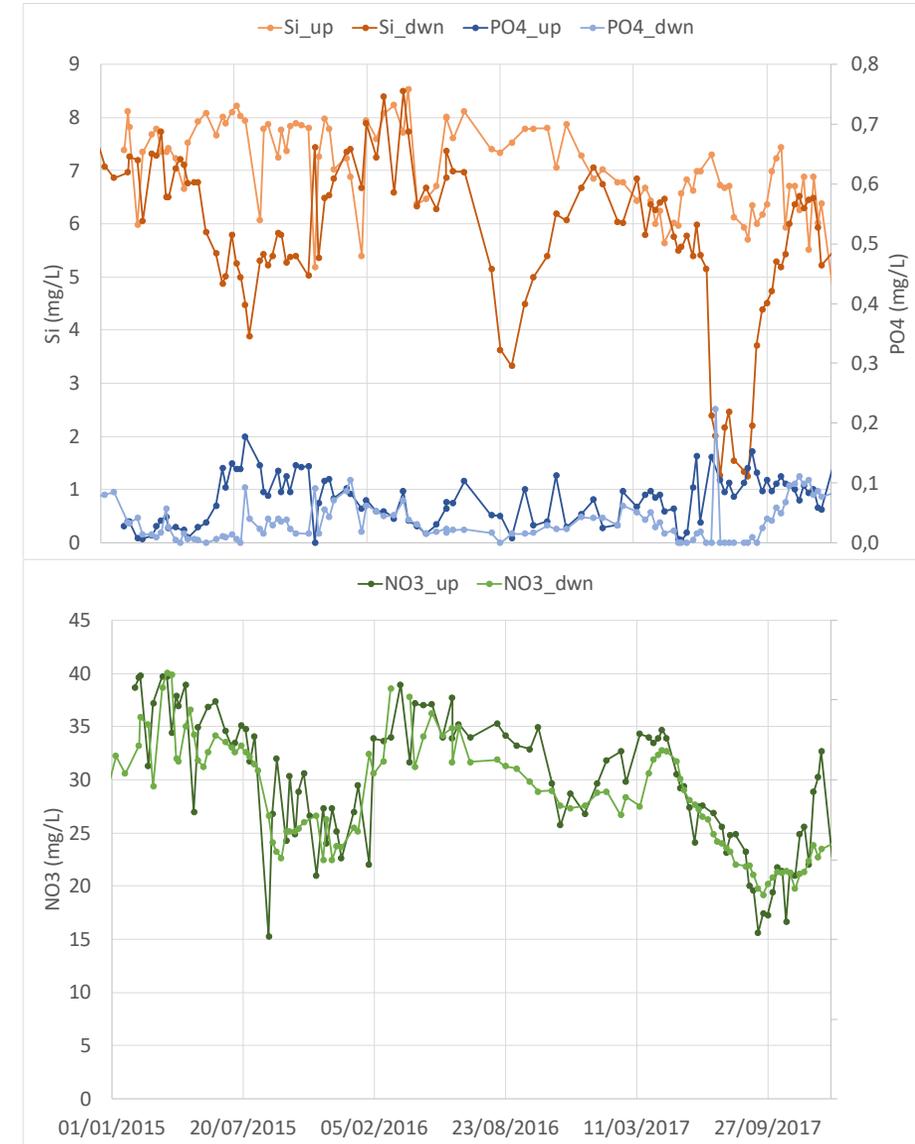
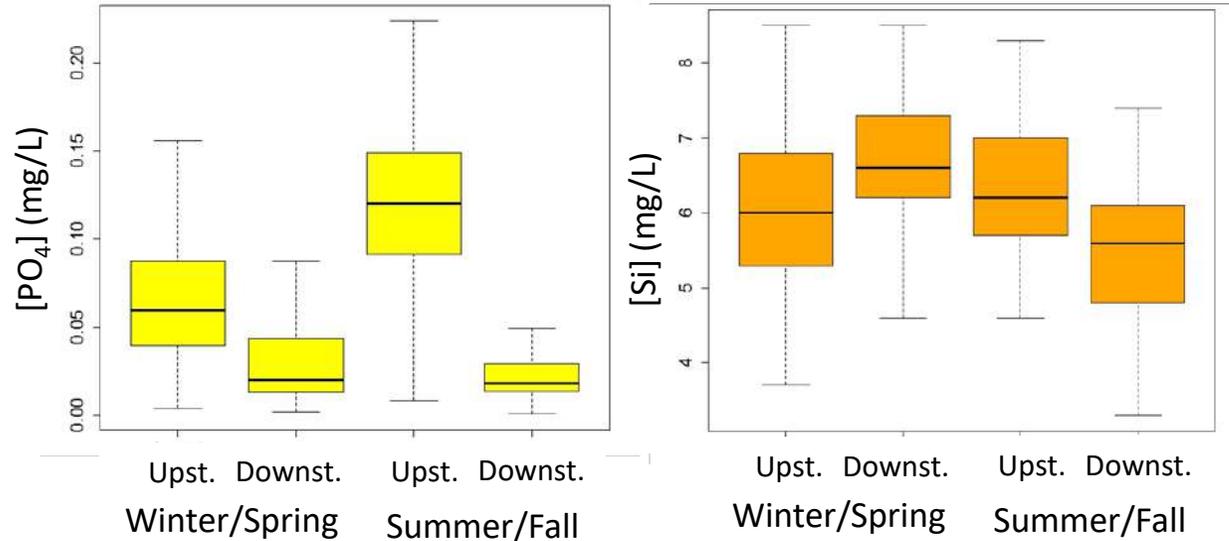
Q<sub>upst.</sub>  
Q<sub>dwnst.</sub>

C<sub>upst.</sub>  
C<sub>dwnst.</sub>



# Dams effect on seasonal concentrations

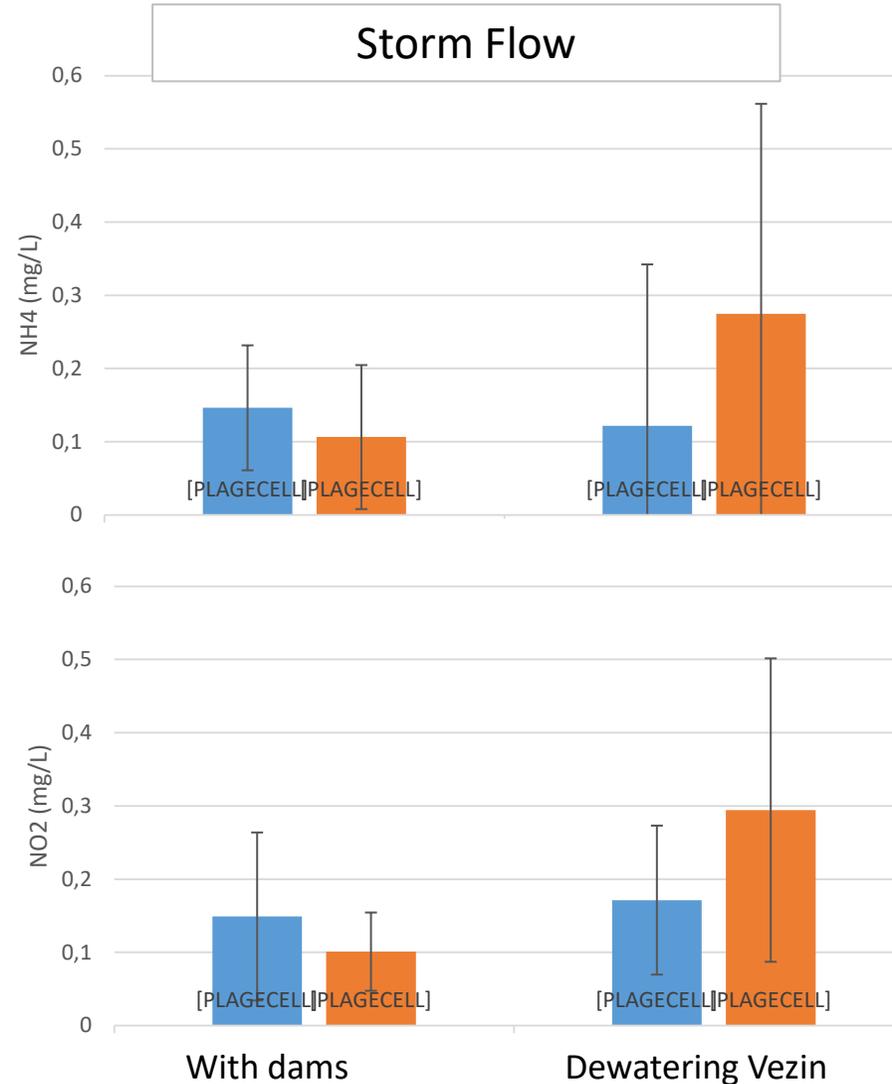
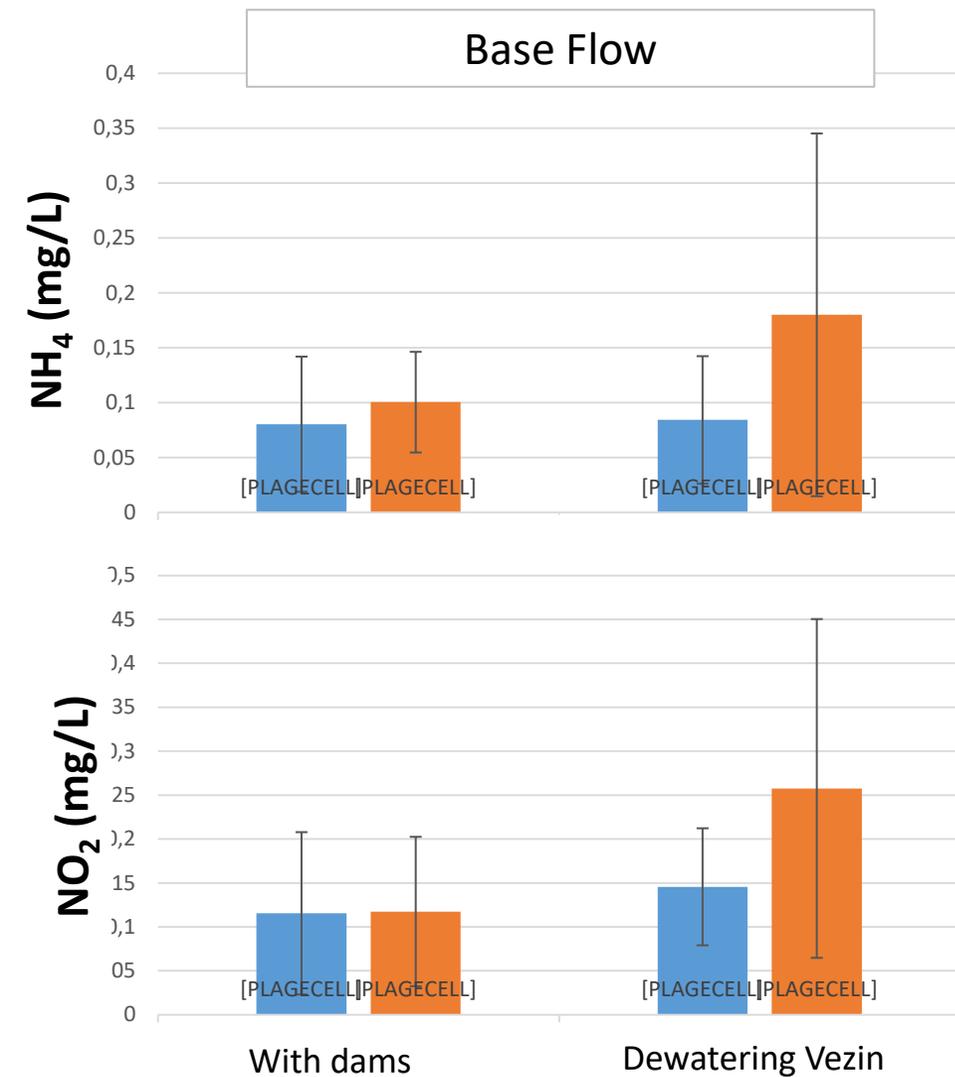
## Consumption of Si (and PO<sub>4</sub>)



## Annual specific loads

	2015-2016	2016-2017	2017-2018
Upstr. / Dwnstr.			
N-NO <sub>3</sub> (kg/ha/year)	31 / 31	10 / 11	43 / 46
Cl (kg/ha/year)	100 / 107	45 / 52	123 / 137
SO <sub>4</sub> (kg/ha/year)	43 / 47	15 / 21	61 / 70
Si (kg/ha/year)	32 / 31	10 / 9	37 / 40
PO <sub>4</sub> (kg /km <sup>2</sup> /year)	0,3 / 0,2	0,1 / 0,1	0,6 / 0,4
TP (kg /km <sup>2</sup> /year)	0,4 /0,2	0,1 / 0,1	1 / 0,6

# First observed water quality response to dewatering Vezin dam



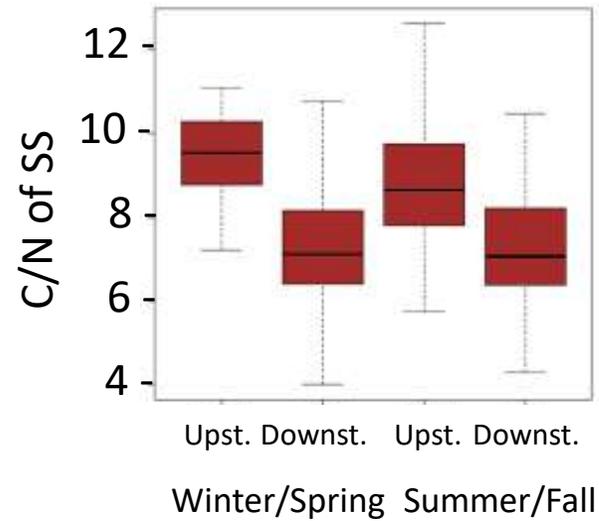
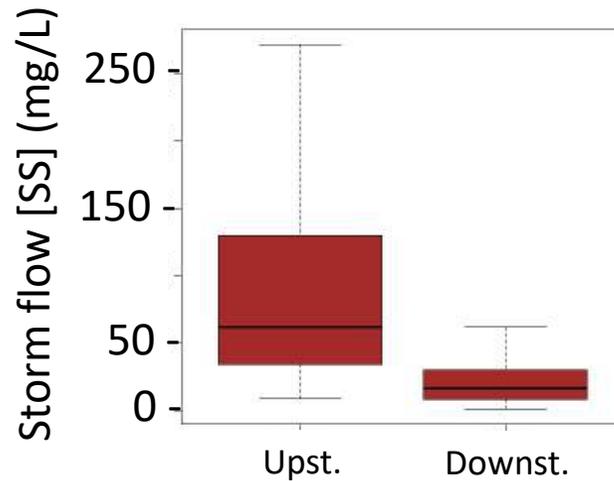
Upstream  
Downstream

**No significant changes on other solutes**

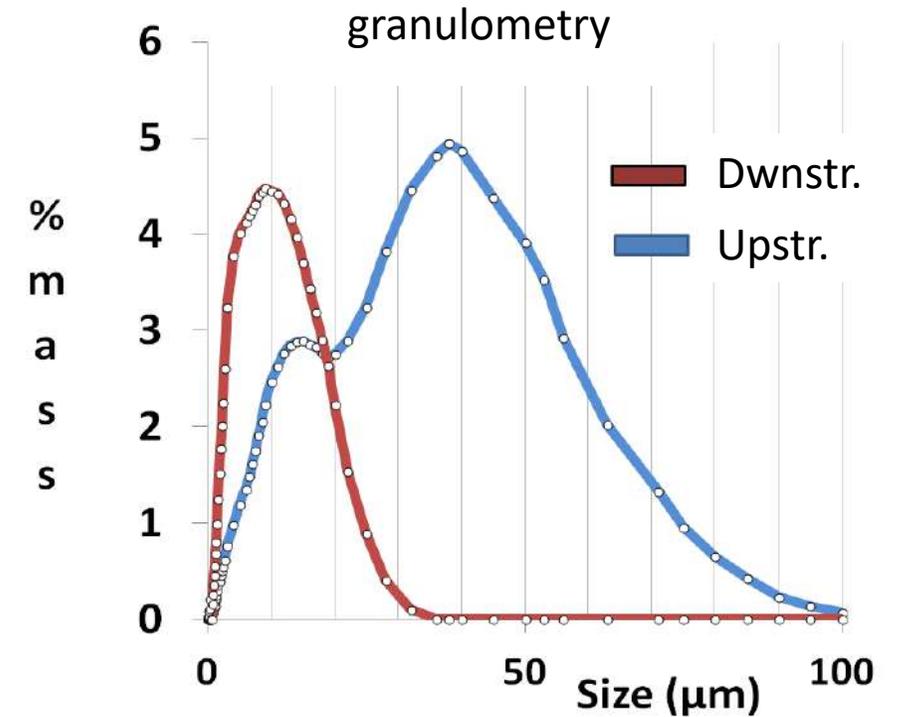
# Dams effect on fine sediments

Retention of sediments from upstream

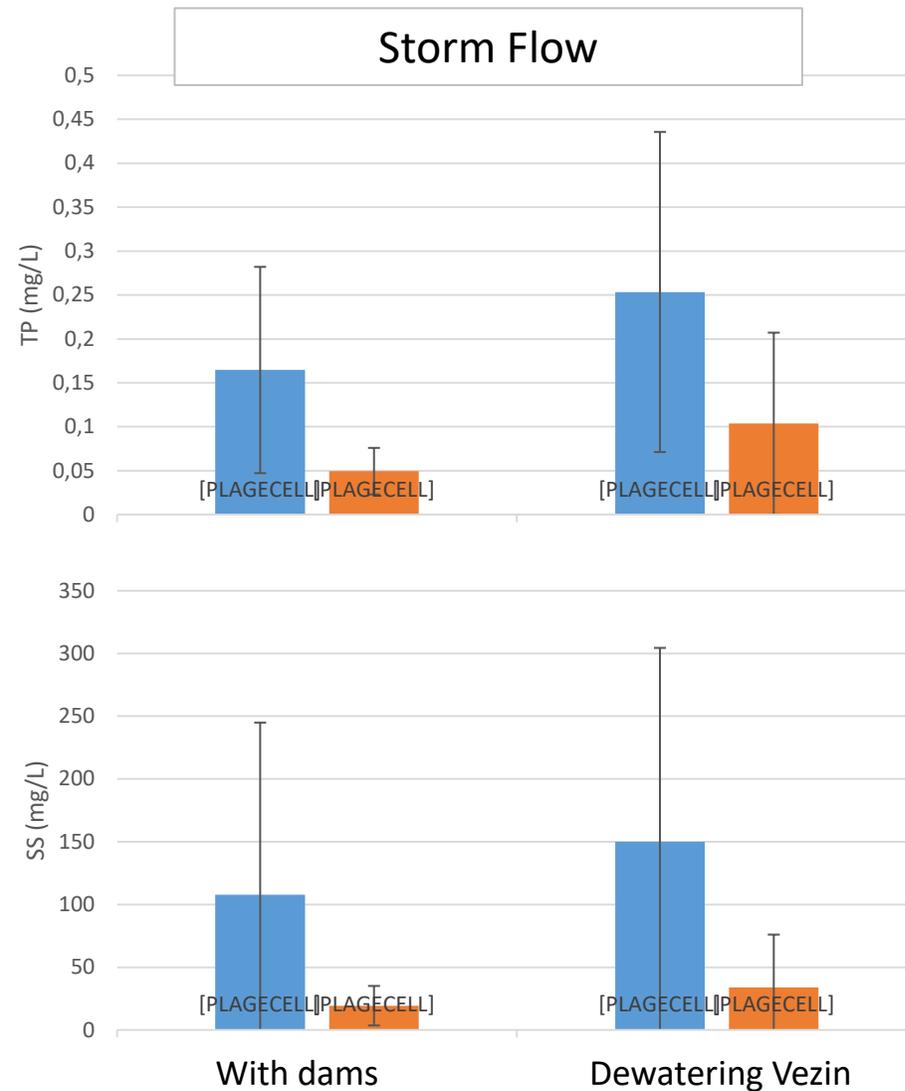
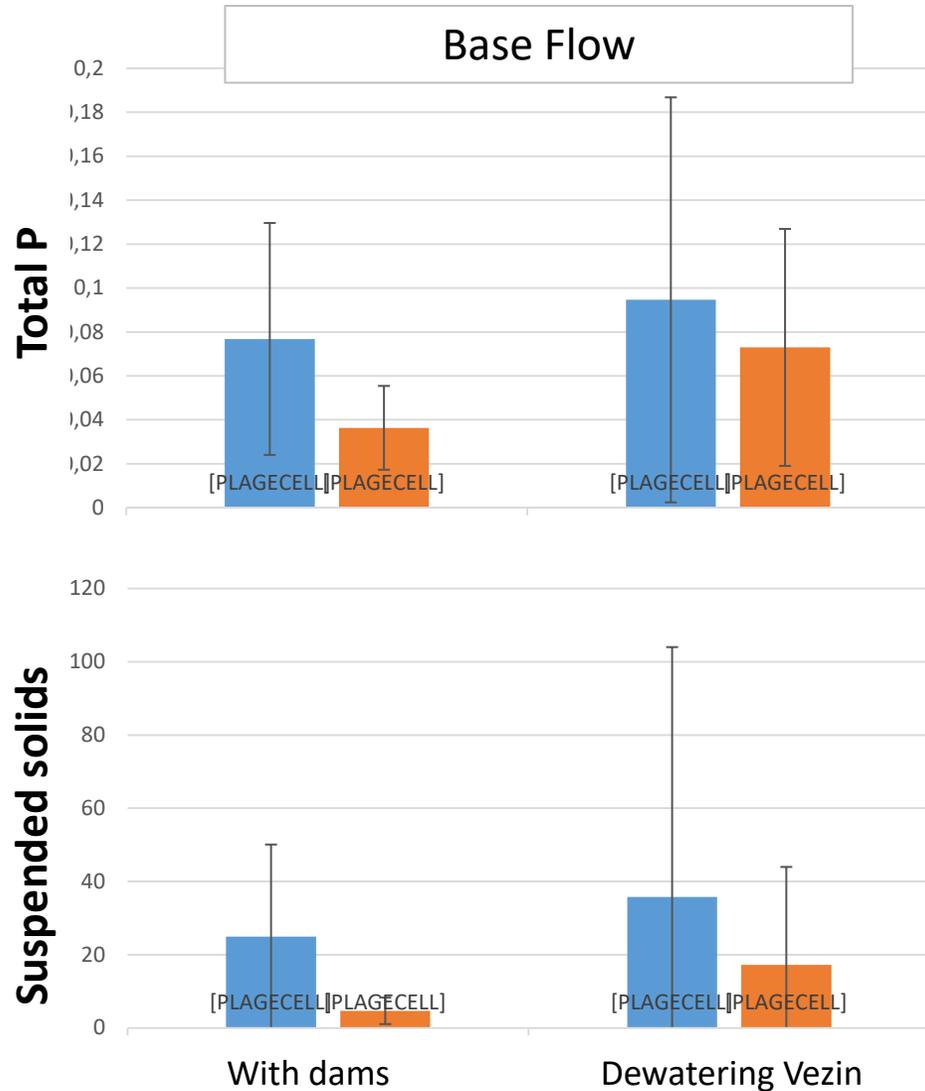
Production of organic material



Only the finest sediment pass through (10  $\mu\text{m}$ ).



# First observed response to dewatering Veizin dam

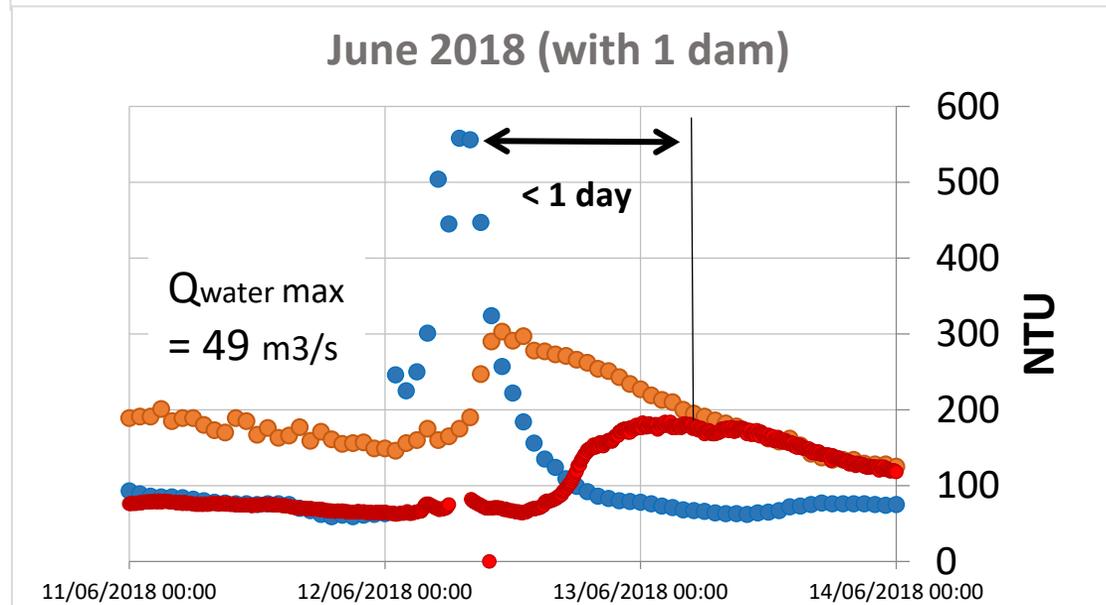
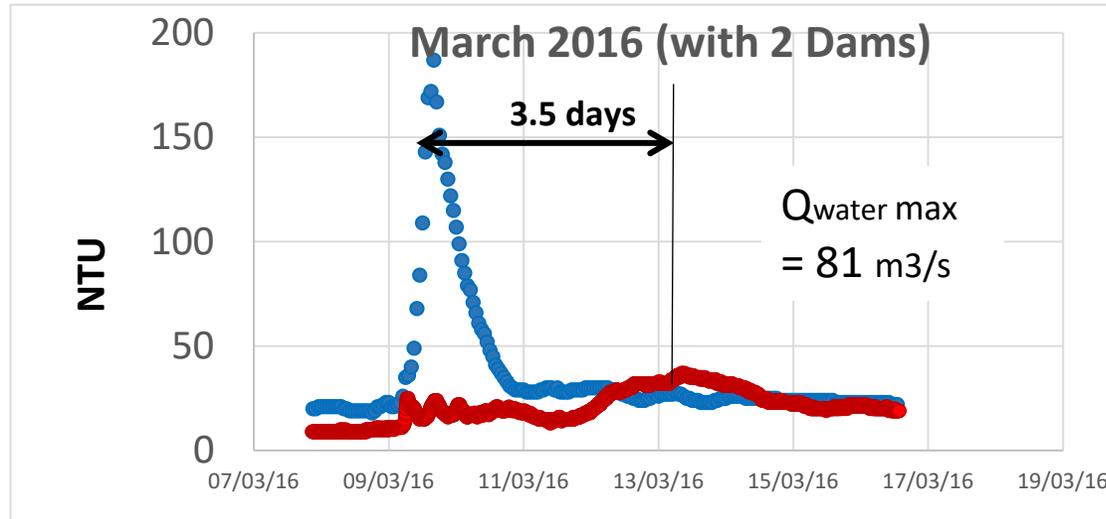
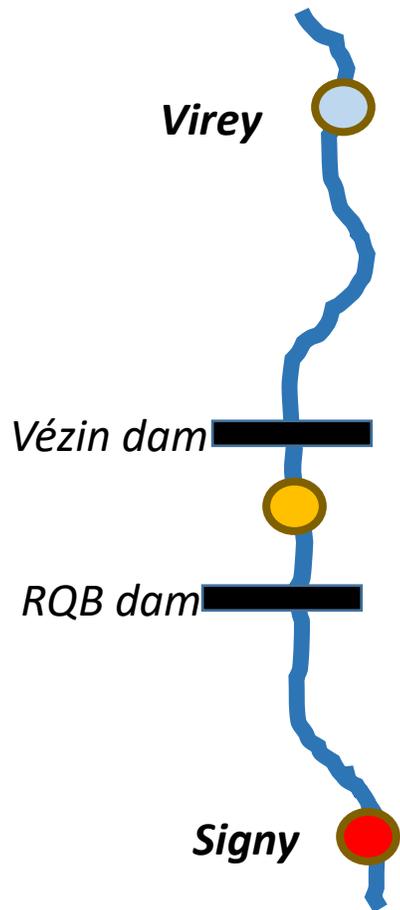


Upstream  
Downstream

- Higher base line
- Increased level in storm flow but retention in the 2<sup>nd</sup> dam

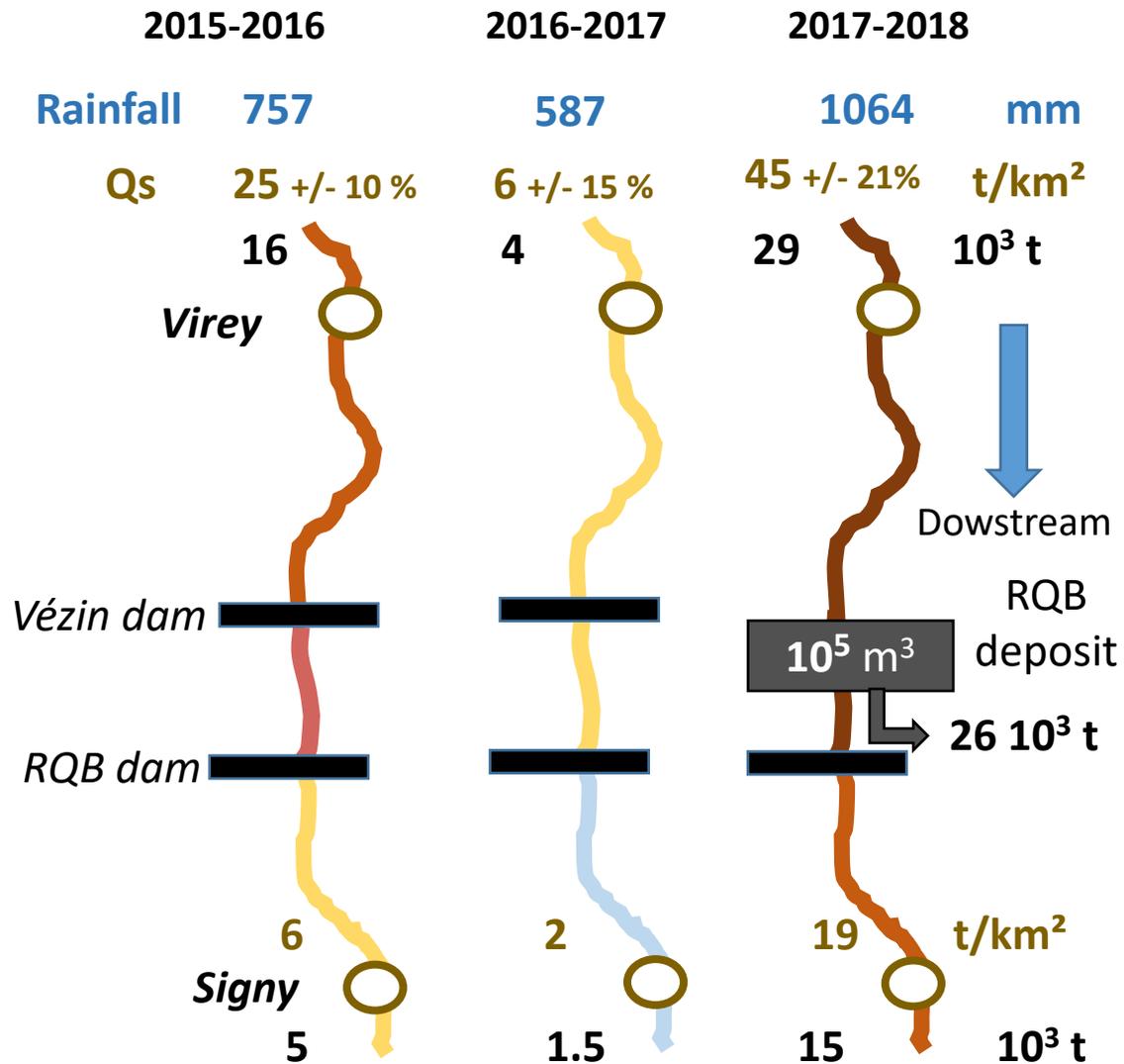
# First observed response to dewatering Vezin dam

Turbidity stations



**Dewatering Vézin dam has divided by 4 the transit time between upstream and downstream stations**

# Fine sediments mass balance



## Before 2017:

both dams retained ~ 70-75 % of fine sediment

## During 2017 - 2018:

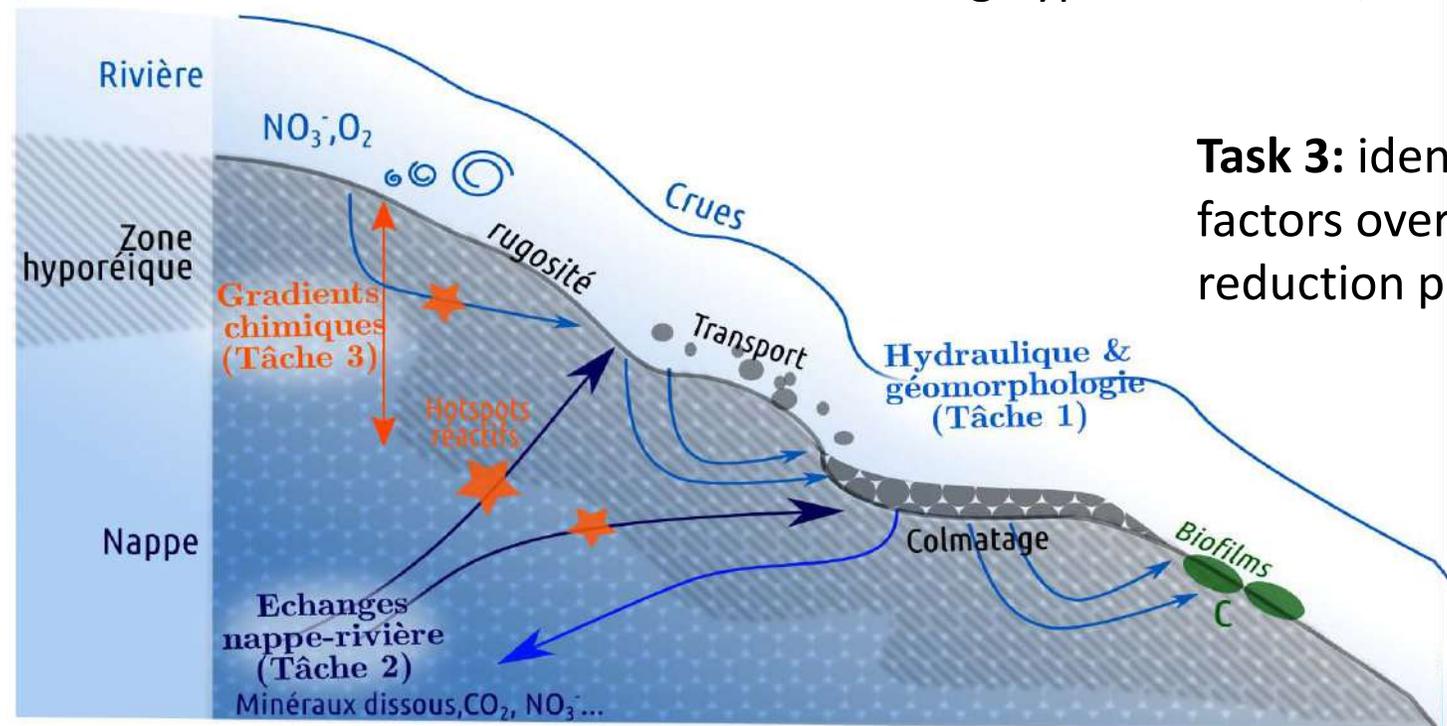
- upstream fine sediment flux increases with rainfall
- % Vézin dam Stock → % La Roche Qui boit dam stock

# Perspectives (1): Impact of dewatering dams on hyporheic transfer

## LEARN project

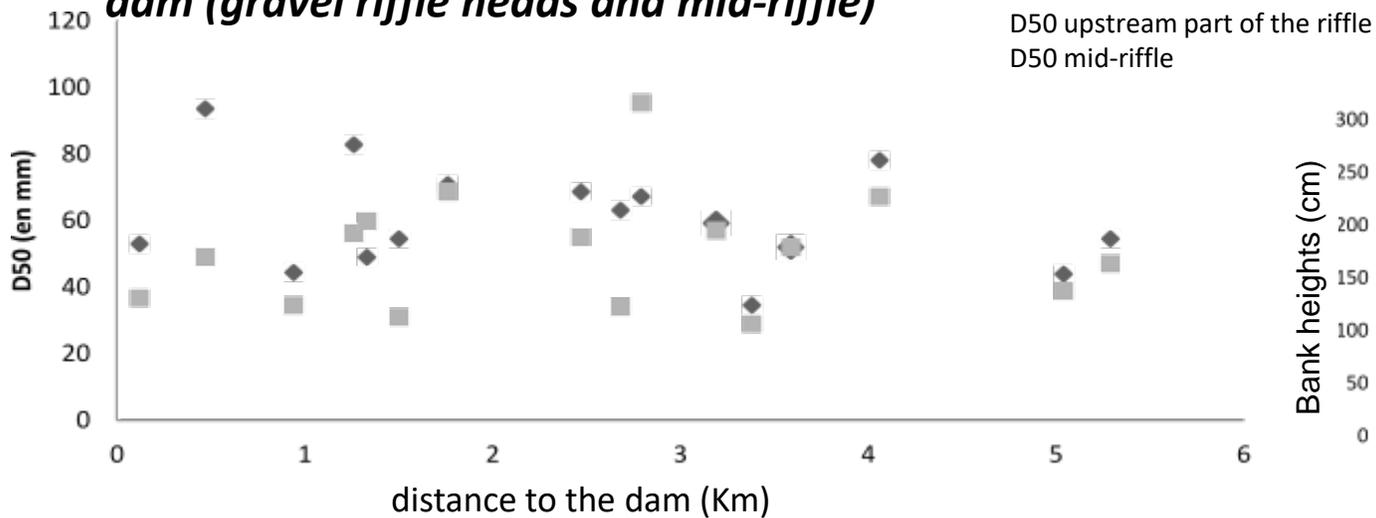
**Task 1:** hydraulic properties into 50 cm of the bed river: roughness, porosity, granulometry, hydraulic conductivity, biofilm.

**Task 2:** monitoring hyporheic fluxes, river/groundwater fluxes (PhD N. Simon)

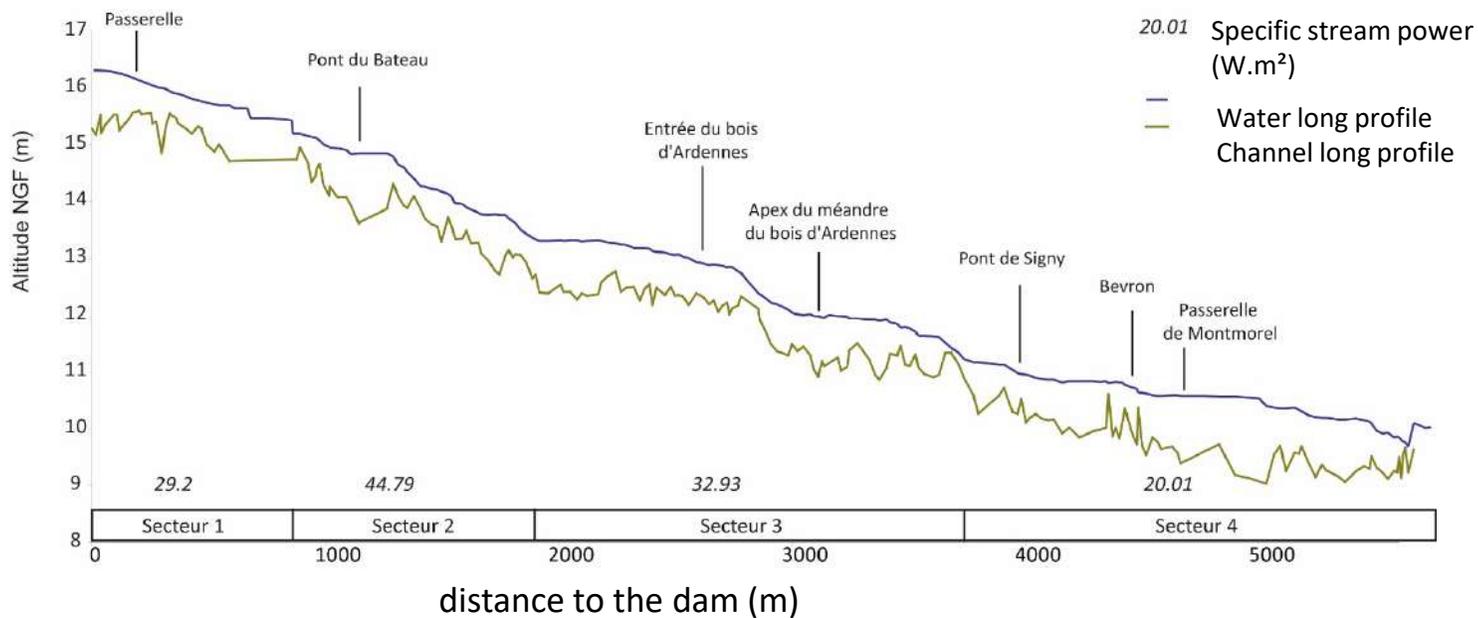
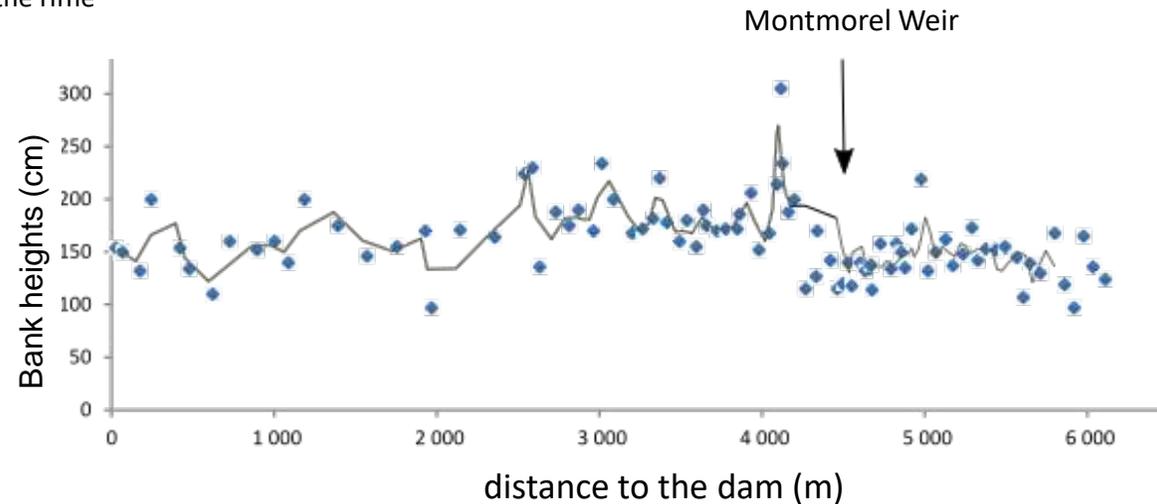


**Task 3:** identification of physical and chemical control factors over 50 cm of depth → modelling oxydo-reduction processes. Dissolve gaz monitoring.

**Longitudinal grain size variation downstream of the RQB dam (gravel riffle heads and mid-riffle)**

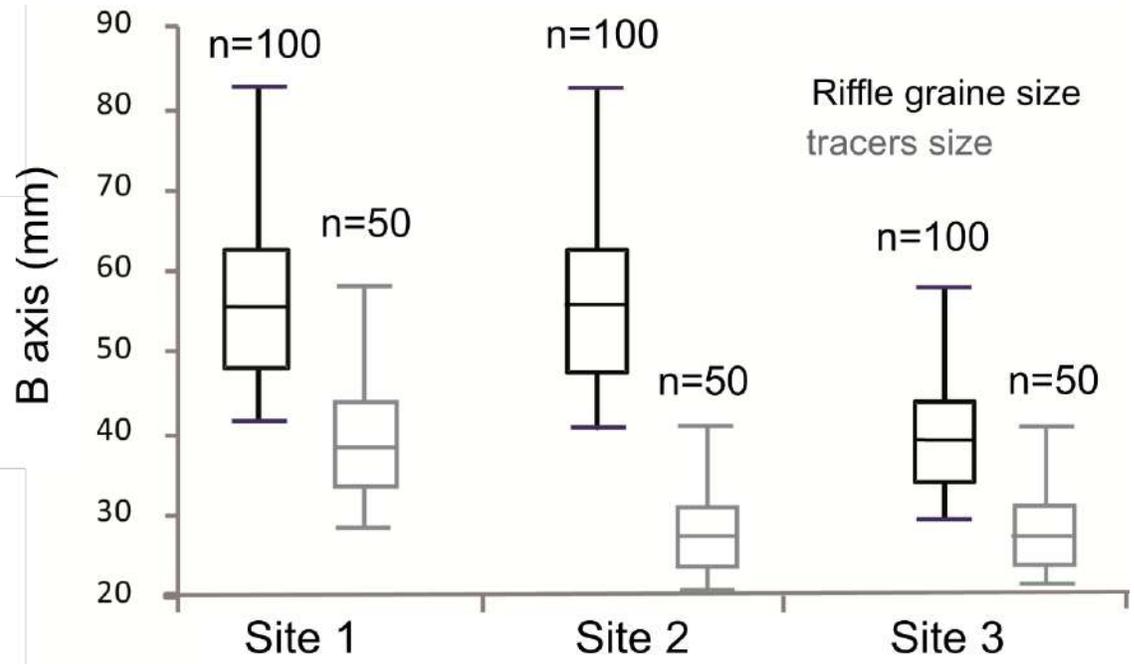


**Longitudinal variation in bank heights (right bank) between the La Roche Qui Boit dam and Ducey**



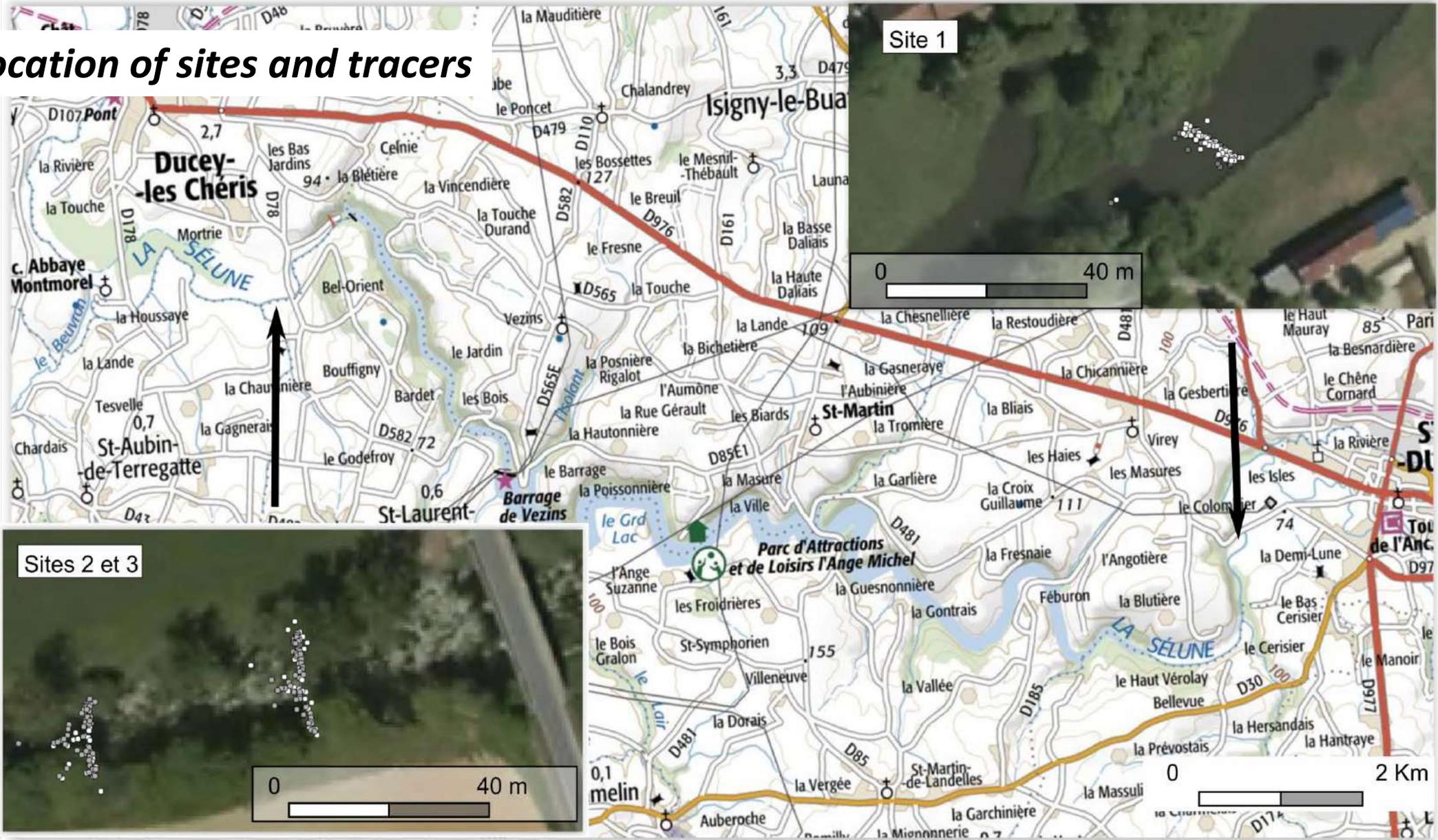
**Long profiles of the channel and the water line of the Selune between the dam of La Roche qui Boit and Ducey**

## Site and tracers characteristics for coarse sediment monitoring

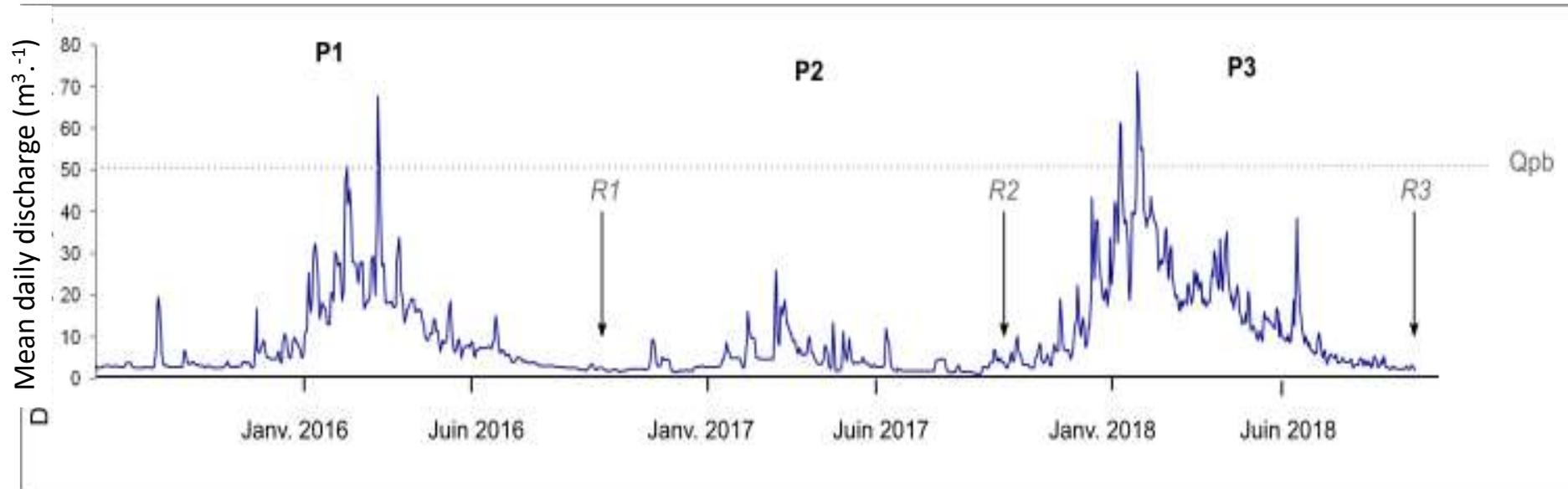


	Watershed (km <sup>2</sup> )	Slope (m/m)	Specific stream power (W.m <sup>2</sup> )
Site 1	627	0,0032	73,19
Site 2	761	0,0023	50,03
Site 3	761	0,0023	60,38

# Location of sites and tracers



**Mean daily discharges from July 2015 to september 2016(P : surveyed period, R : surveys)**



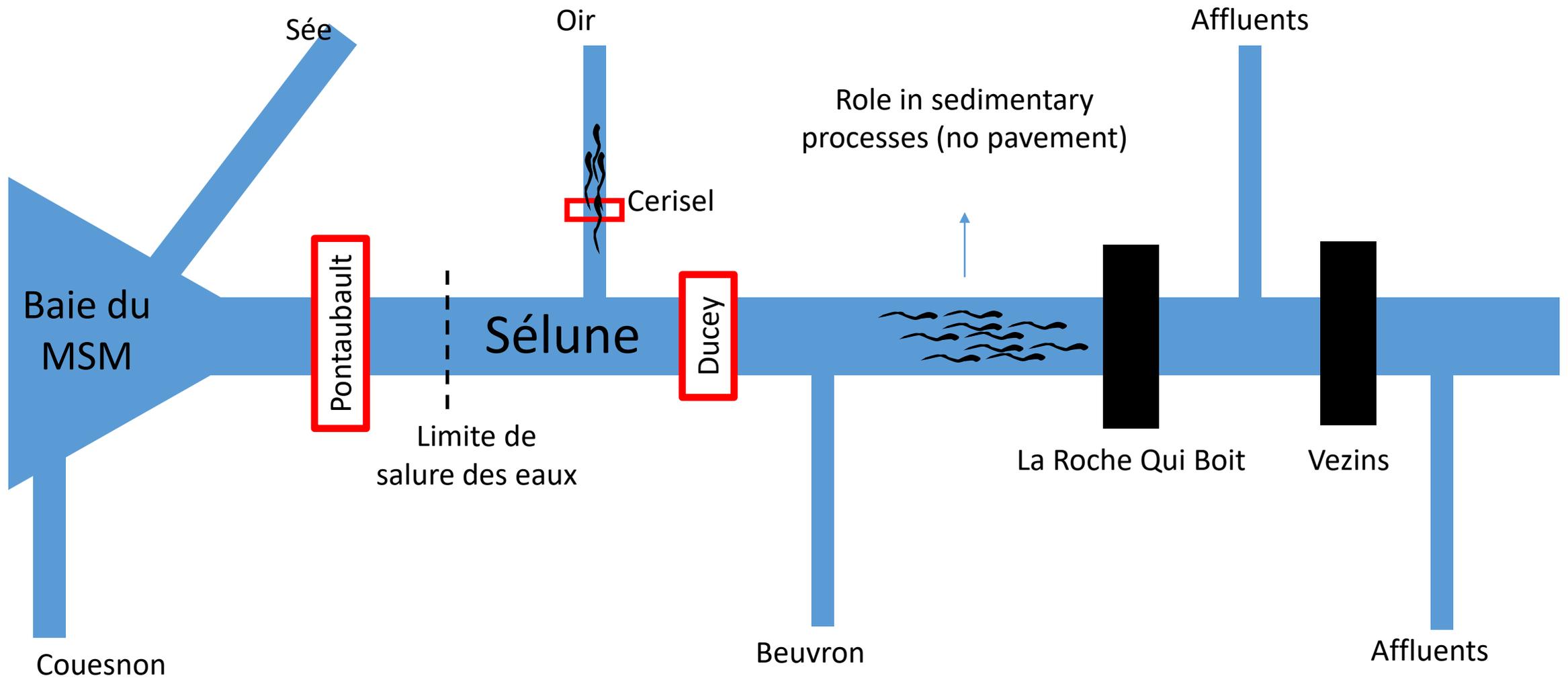
**Main results of the PITtags tracing from July 2015 to September 2018**

	Site 1	Site 2	Site 3
Mean distance(m)	3.7/0.9/0.9	0.6/1.0/1.1	1.2/0.5/1.3
Max distance (m)	9.6/14.1/3.1	9/3/5.8	6.8/3.4/9.3
Min distance (m)	0	0	0
Recovery rate (%)	94/92/78	96/100/96	96/90/96
% mobilized	89/48/51	23/82/56	69/47/38

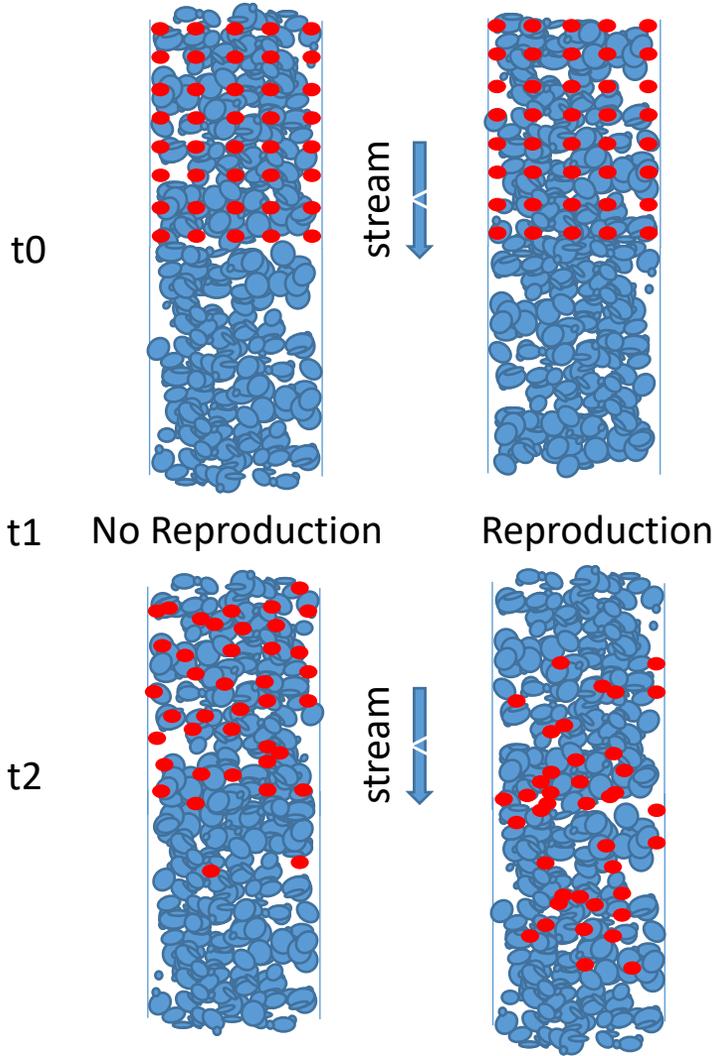
Upcoming project –

# Role of engineering species (Lampreys and salmon) in the restoration of fish habitats and sedimentary processes

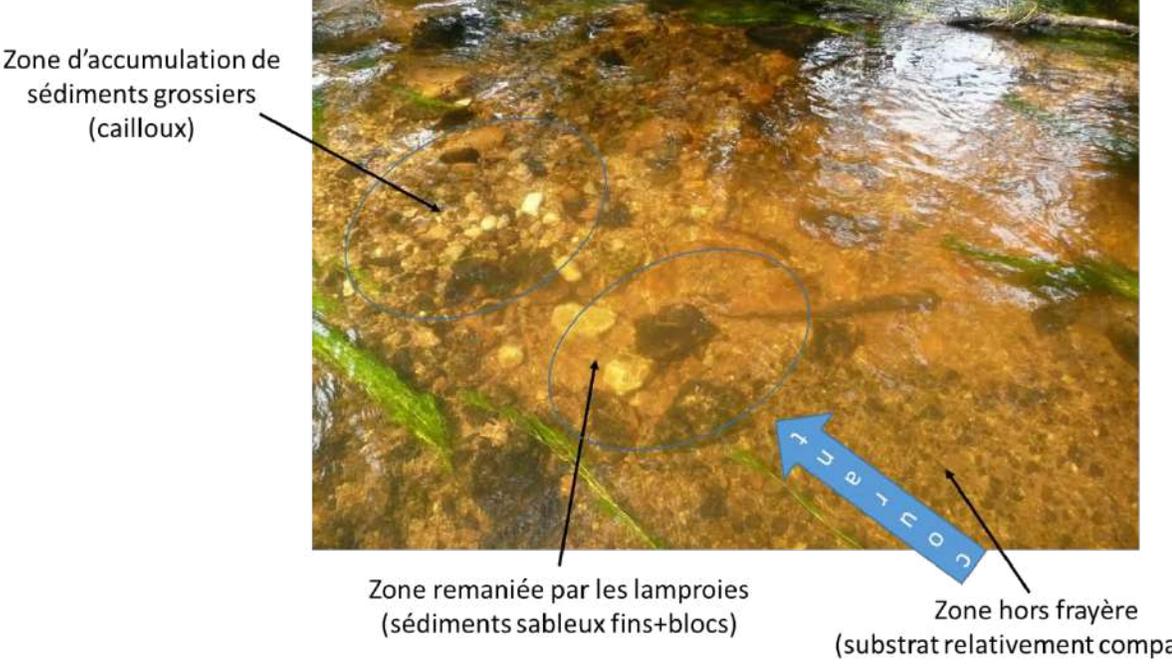
Collaboration Rennes2-UMR6554 / UMR ESE (co porteurs A-J Rollet / E. Lasne)



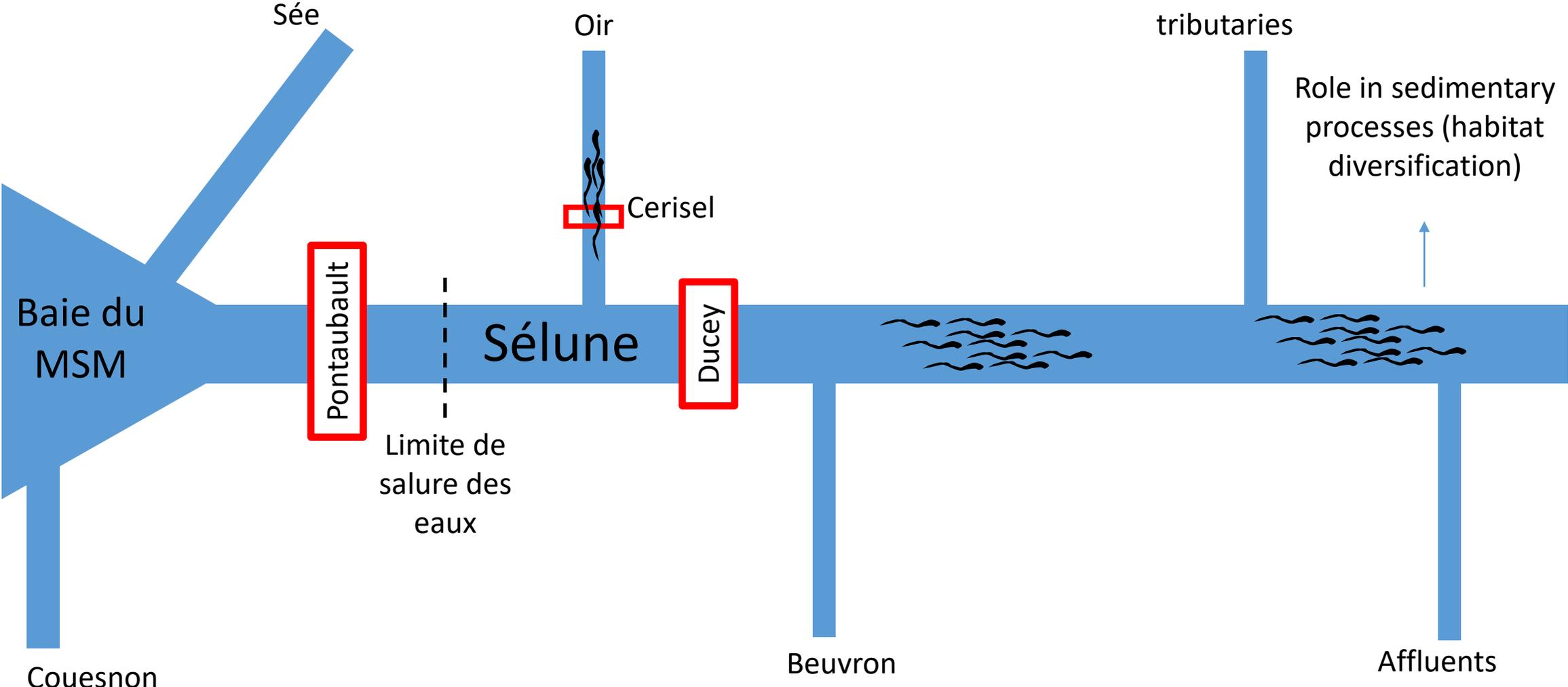
Upcoming project - **Role of engineering species (Lampreys and salmon) in the restoration of fish habitats and sedimentary processes**



Problematic 1 :  
 What is the role of engineering species (Lampreys and salmon) in morphological and sedimentary processes?



Upcoming project - **Role of engineering species (Lampreys and salmon) in the restoration of fish habitats and sedimentary processes**



# Upcoming project - **Role of engineering species (Lampreys and salmon) in the restoration of fish habitats and sedimentary processes**

Problematic 2: What are the modalities of recolonization of the old reservoir (velocity, preferential sites, etc.) taking into account the hydro-geomorpho potential?

Intervention -

Intervention +



# Pushing the boundaries of Topo-Bathymetric Lidar with Full Waveform analysis

D. Lague, B. Feldmann

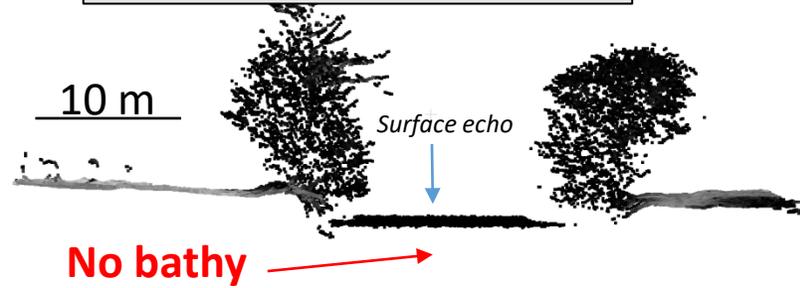


The Selune challenge:

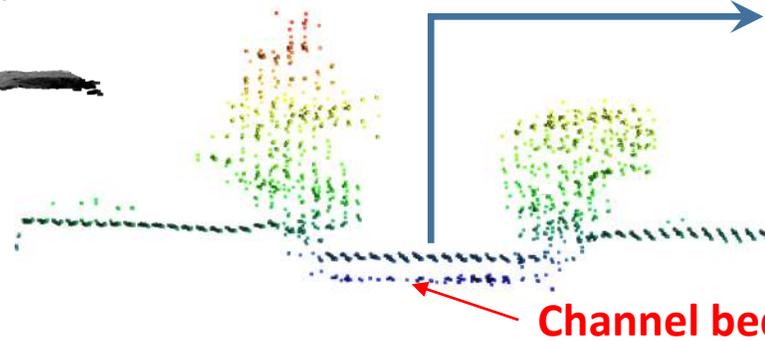
- high canopy interception
- low bed reflectance bed
- turbid water

*very limited bathymetric cover with standard processing*

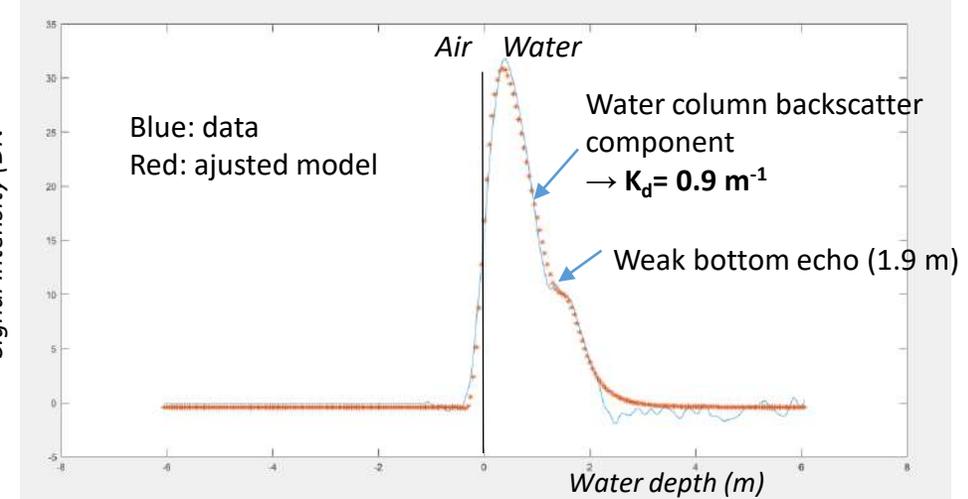
Standard Green laser data



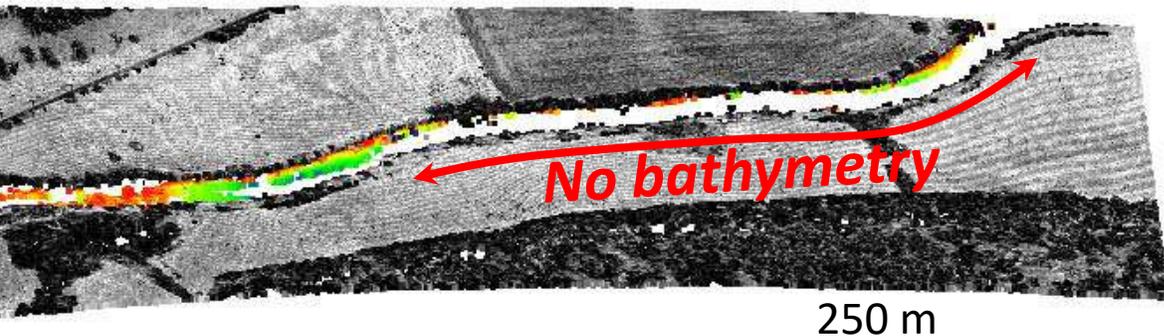
Reprocessed FWF data



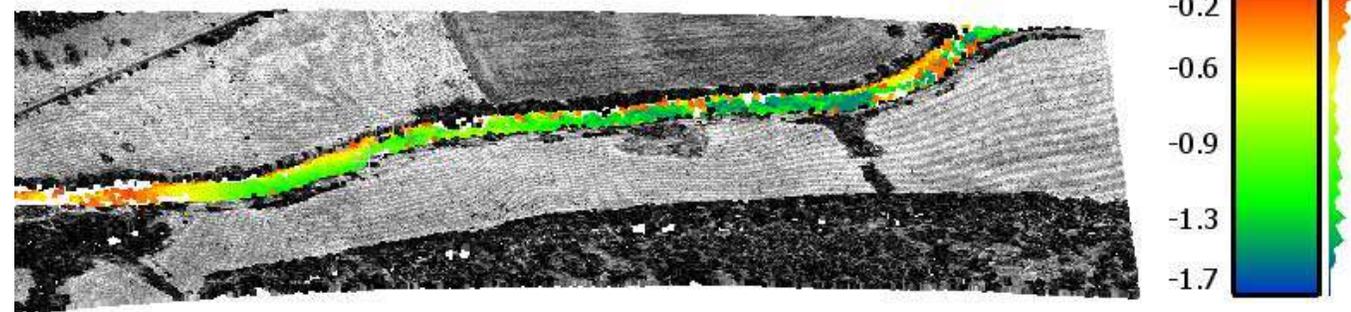
Inversion of FWF data with physical model of laser interaction with turbid water



Standard Processing (30% cover)



Reprocessed FWF (max depth = 1.7 m, 80 % cover)



250 m