

Comparison of P6 Bay Model and CESR Estimated attainment

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Water quality indicator based on observation

Criteria assessment based on
3-year rolling CFD in space and
time

m=attained DU segments

n=total DU segments

A=area of a DU segment

Indicator y:

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^m A_i : \sum_{j=1}^n A_j$$

Or

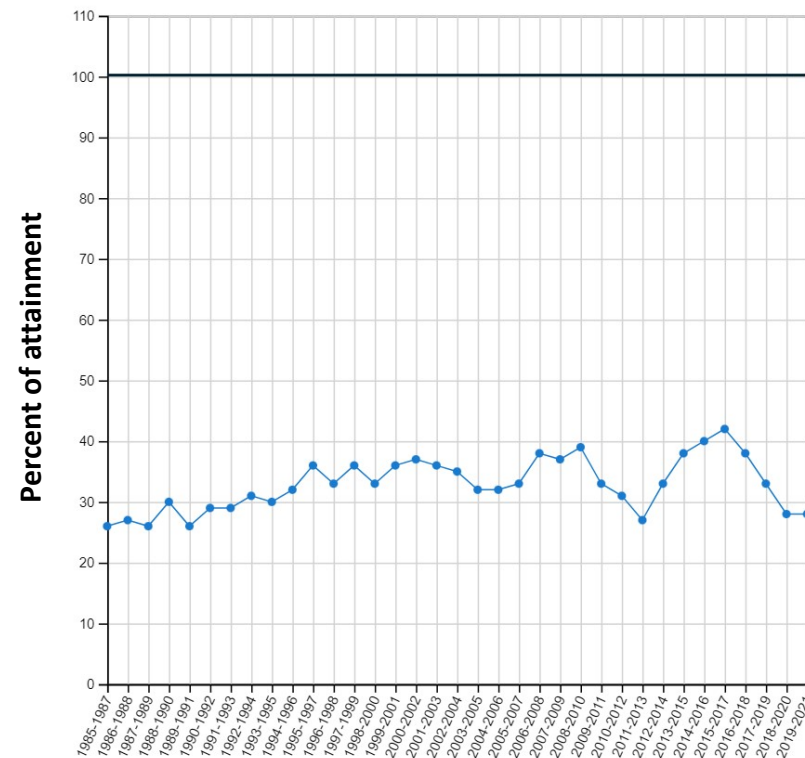
$$y = m:n$$

<https://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/clean-water/water-quality>

Water Quality Standards Attainment (1985-2021)

Water quality is evaluated using three parameters: dissolved oxygen, water clarity or underwater grass abundance, and chlorophyll a (a measure of algae growth).

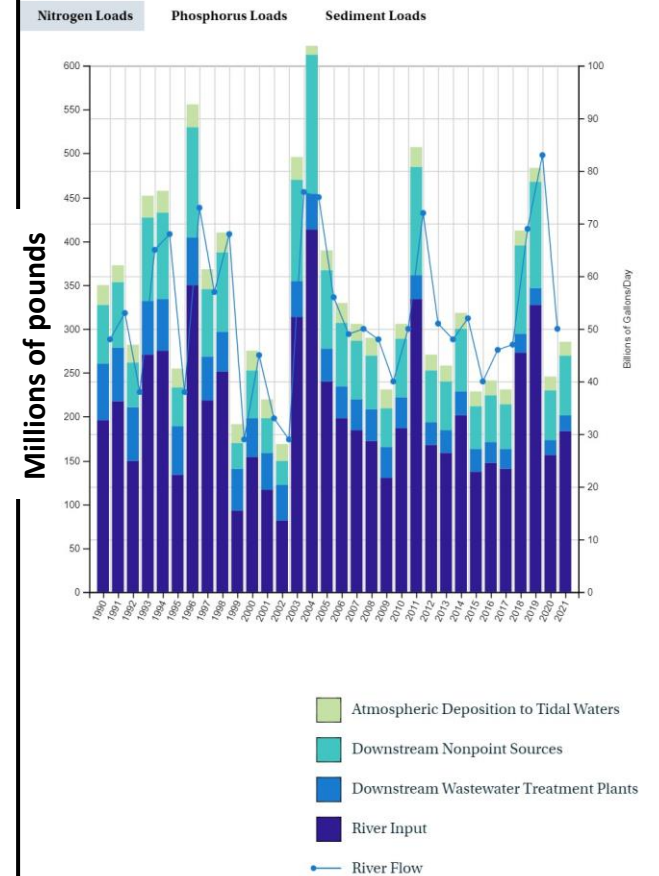
[VIEW CHART](#) [VIEW TABLE](#)



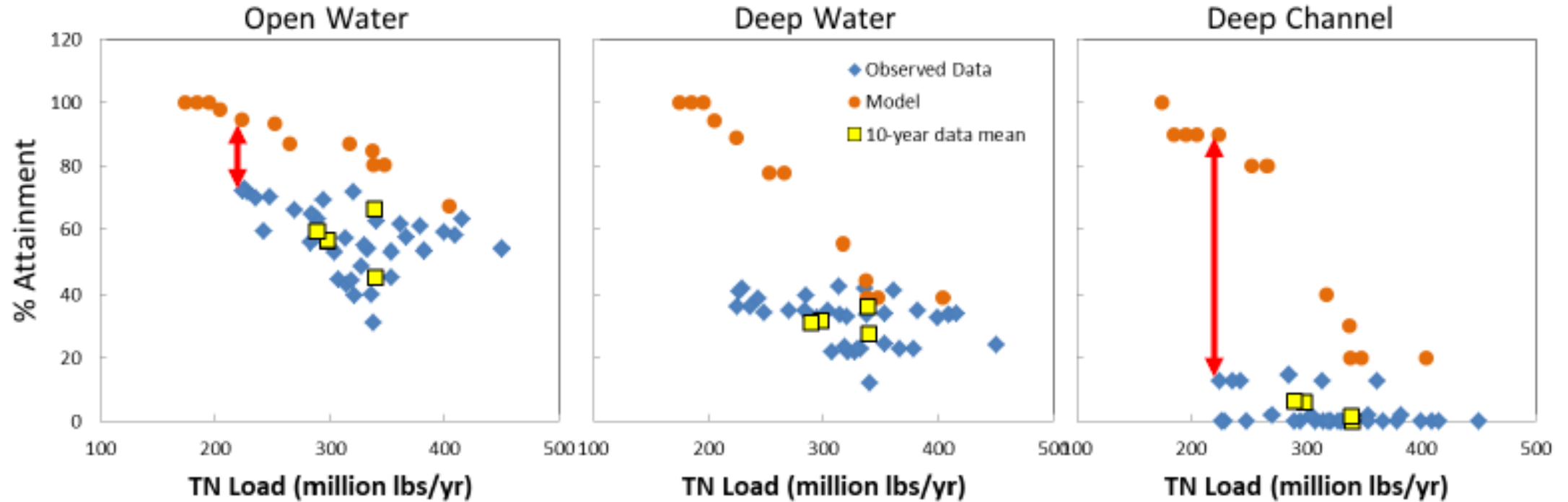
Pollution Loads and River Flow to the Chesapeake Bay (1990-2021)

River and Watershed Input of Pollution Loads. Years denote the water year measured between October 1 and September 30.

[VIEW CHART](#) [VIEW TABLE](#)



CESR report (Fig. 4.9)



Two challenges:

- (1) Large discrepancy between model prediction and observation.**
- (2) Lack of sensitivity of attainment to nutrient loads for observed data.**

Not really apple to apple comparison

Model

1. Same hydrology 1993-1995
2. Same current 1993-1995
3. Constant temperature 1993-1995
4. Same stratification 1993-1995
5. Spin up for 13 years with reduced nutrient loads
6. Always 1993-1995 criteria assessment
7. Segment count weighted
8. N and P reduction simultaneously

Data

1. Hydrology timeseries
2. Interannual variations
3. Climate warming and variability
4. Varies with river discharge, warming and wind
5. Instantaneous nutrient load
6. Three-year rolling assessment
7. Segment surface area weighted
8. N and P loads may vary differently

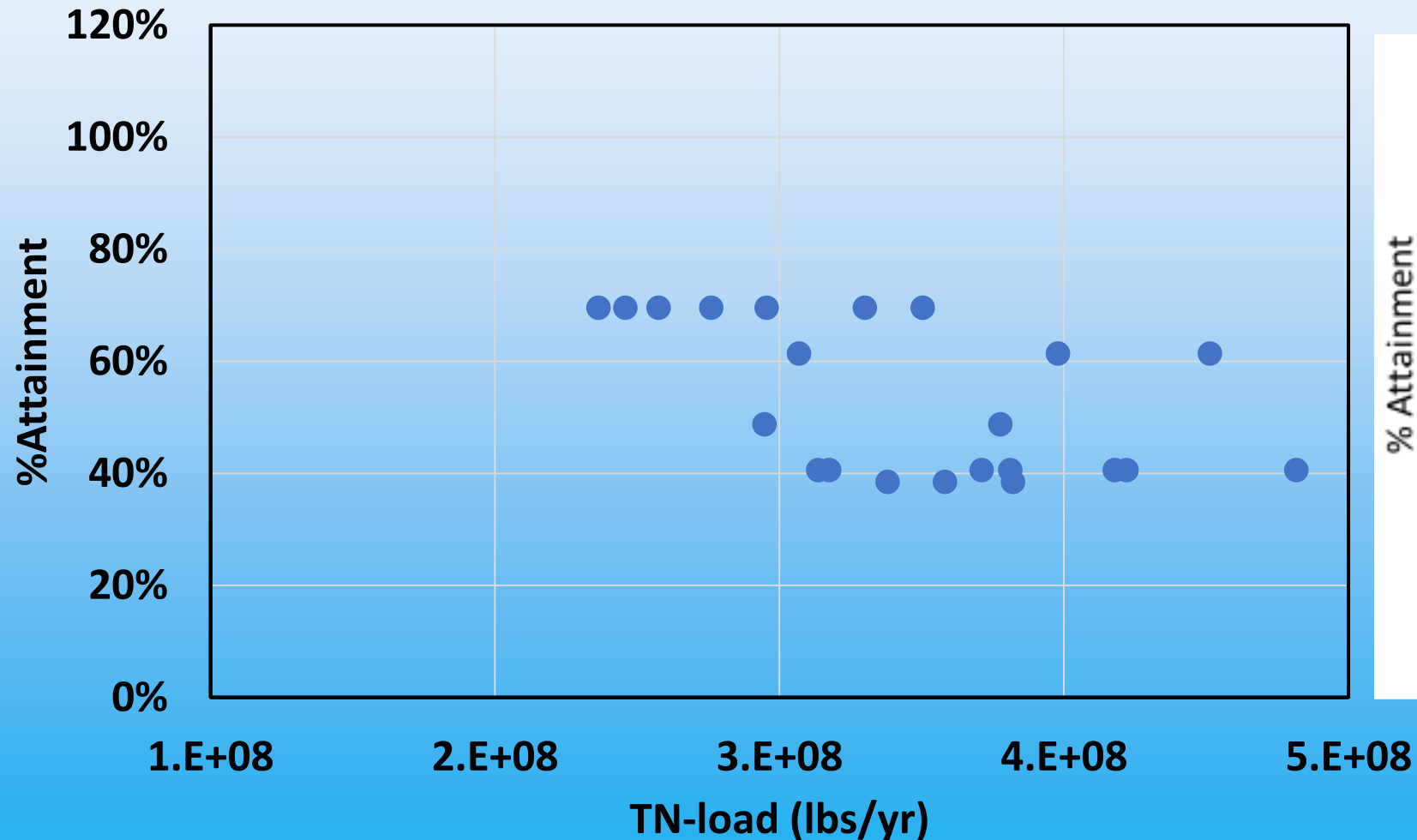
Can we ask the model to produce an apple?

Model simulation and analysis to compare with the data

- **Long-term run for 24 years (1991-2014).**
- **Model results were pulled out at the same time and location of the observations.**
- **The same assessment procedure of observations was applied to the modeled data set.**

Deep channel comparison

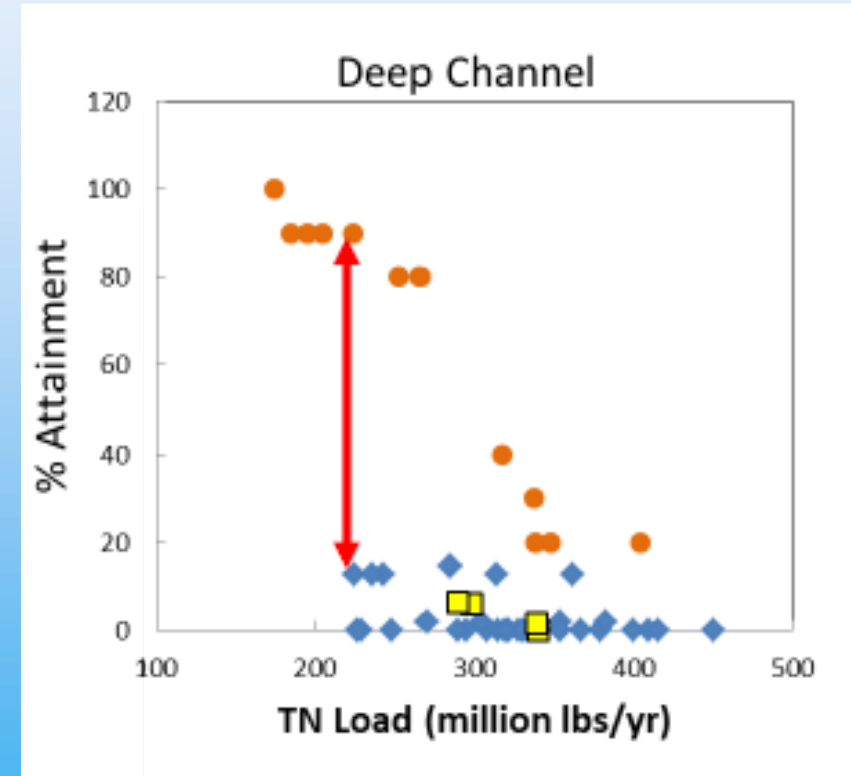
Modeled Deep Channel % Attainment



Plot in **CSER** report

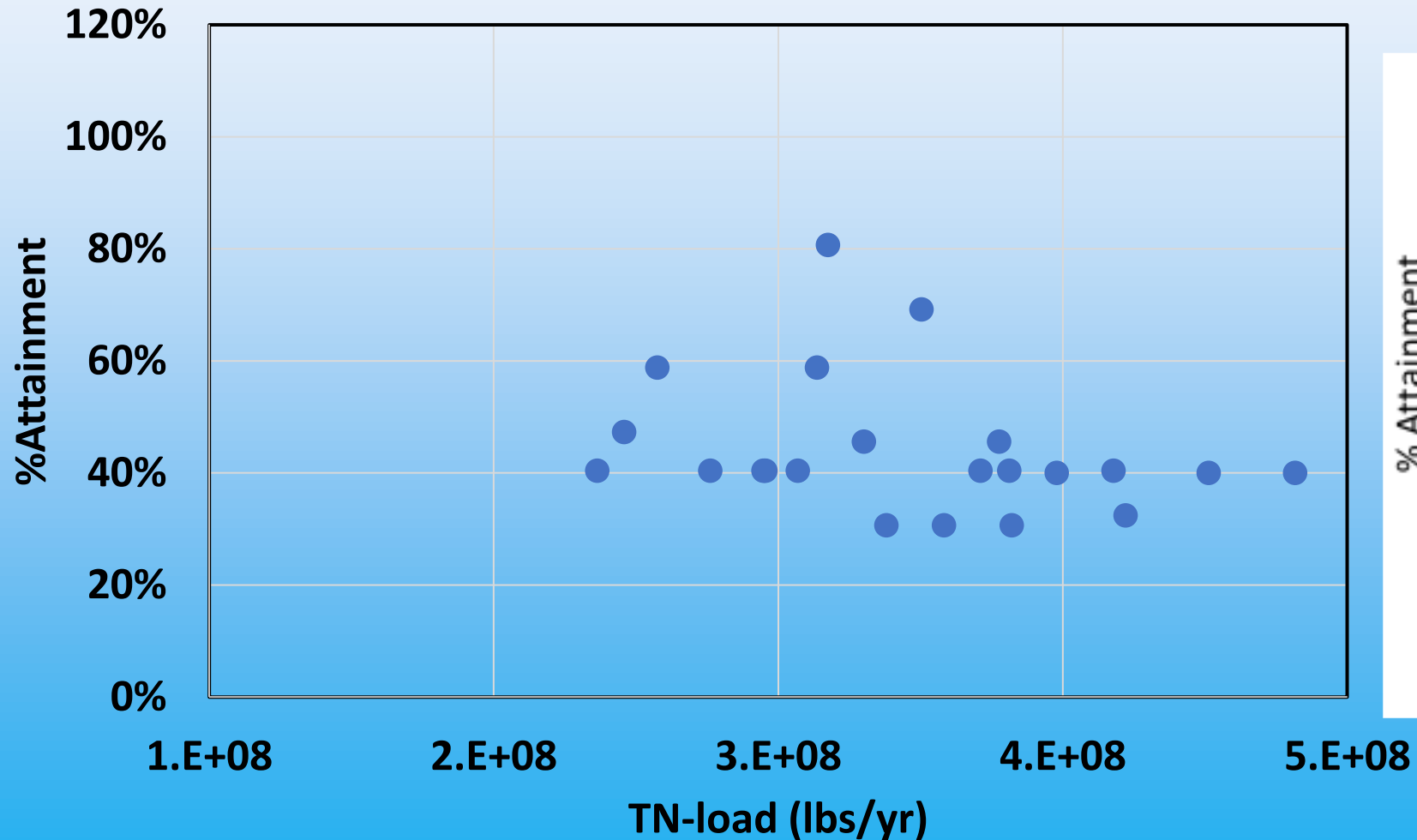
Orange = mode

Blue = observations



Deep water comparison

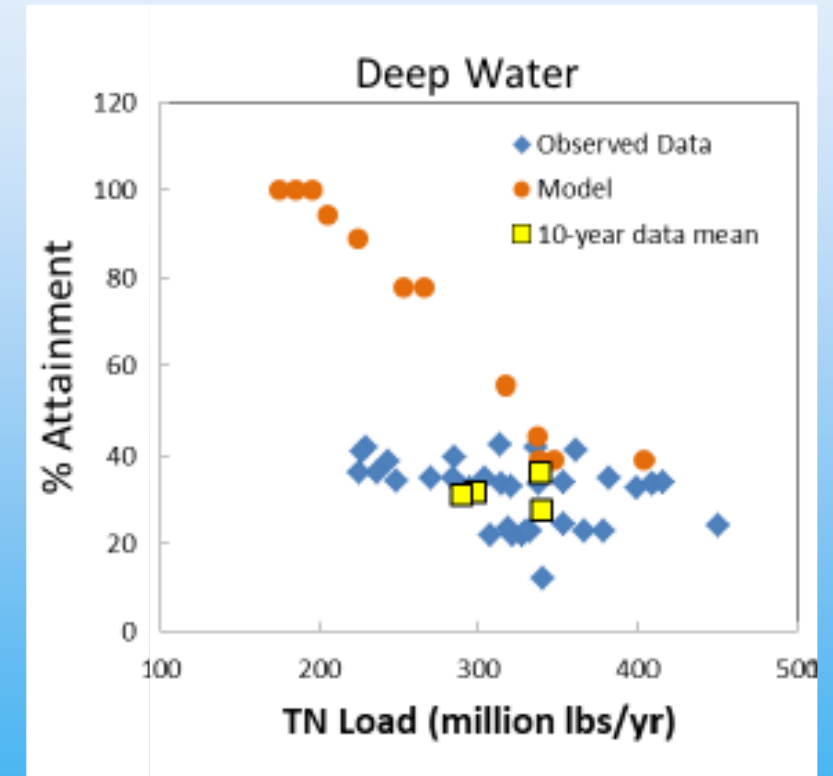
Modeled Deep Water %Attainment



Plot in **CSER** report

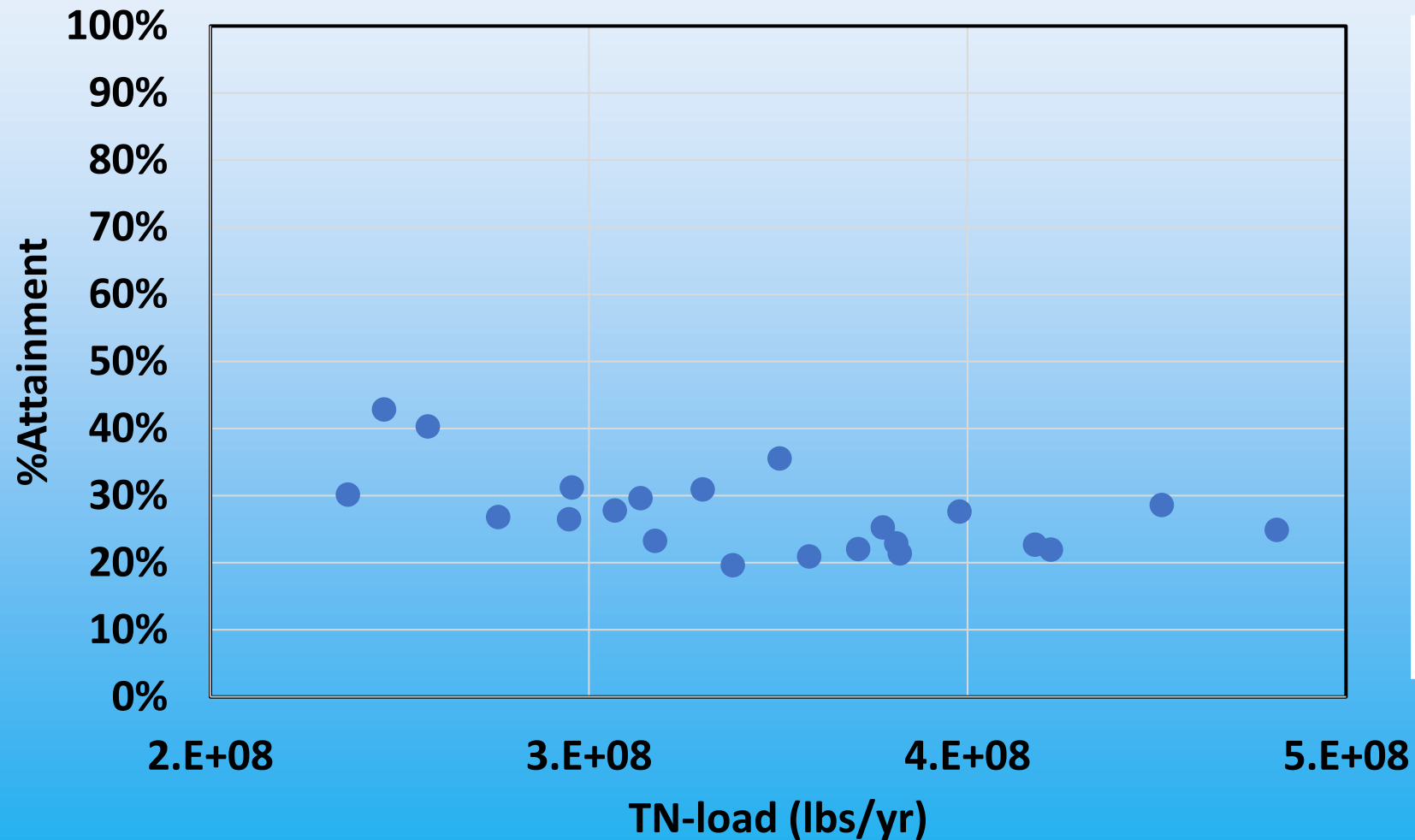
Orange = mode

Blue = observations



Open water comparison

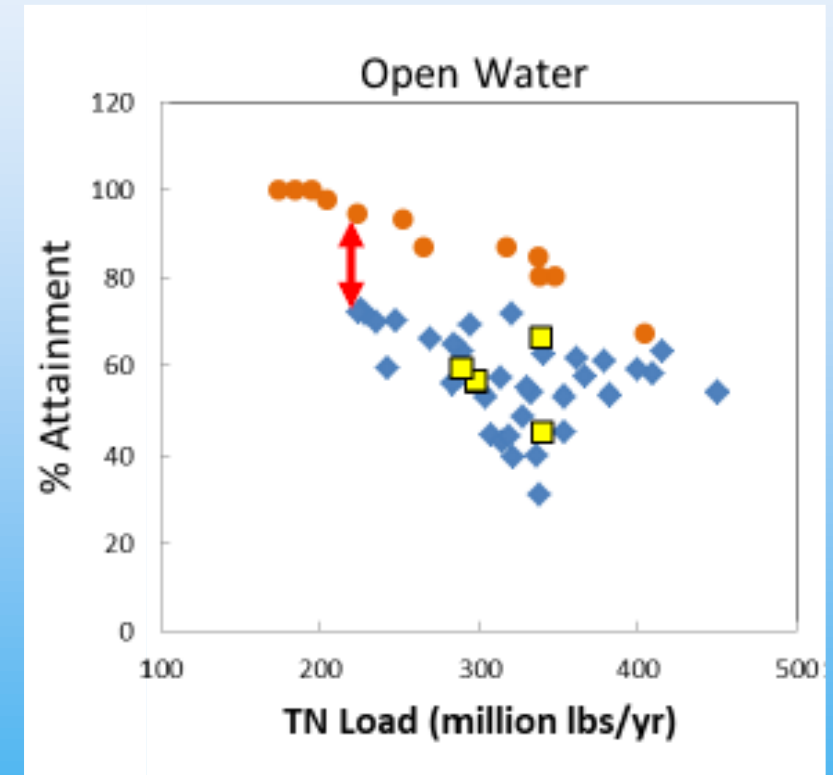
Modeled Open Water %Attainment



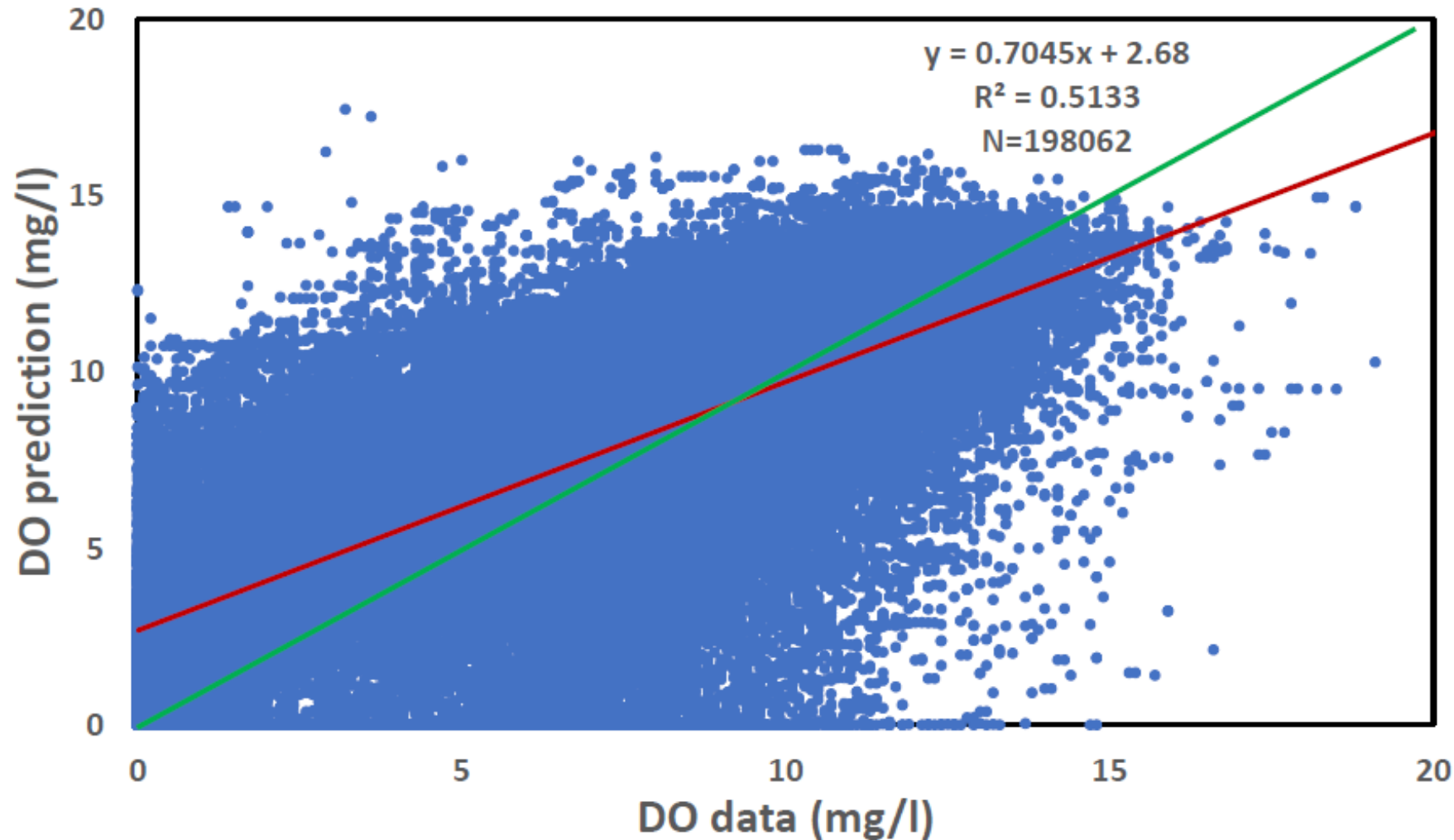
Plot in **CSER** report

Orange = mode

Blue = observations



Model bias: Overestimation at the low-end underestimation at the high-end

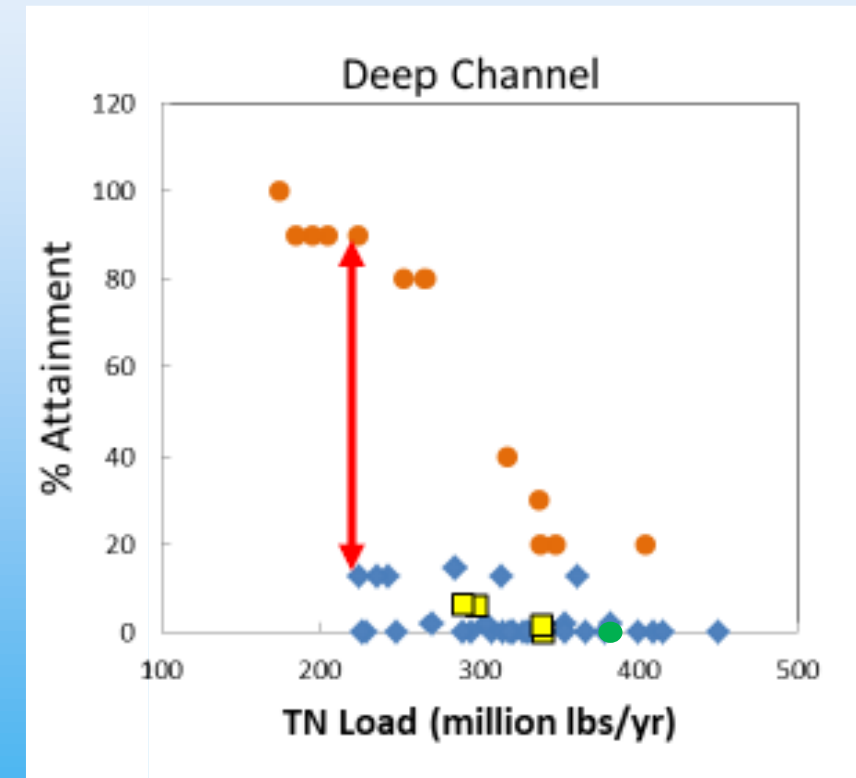
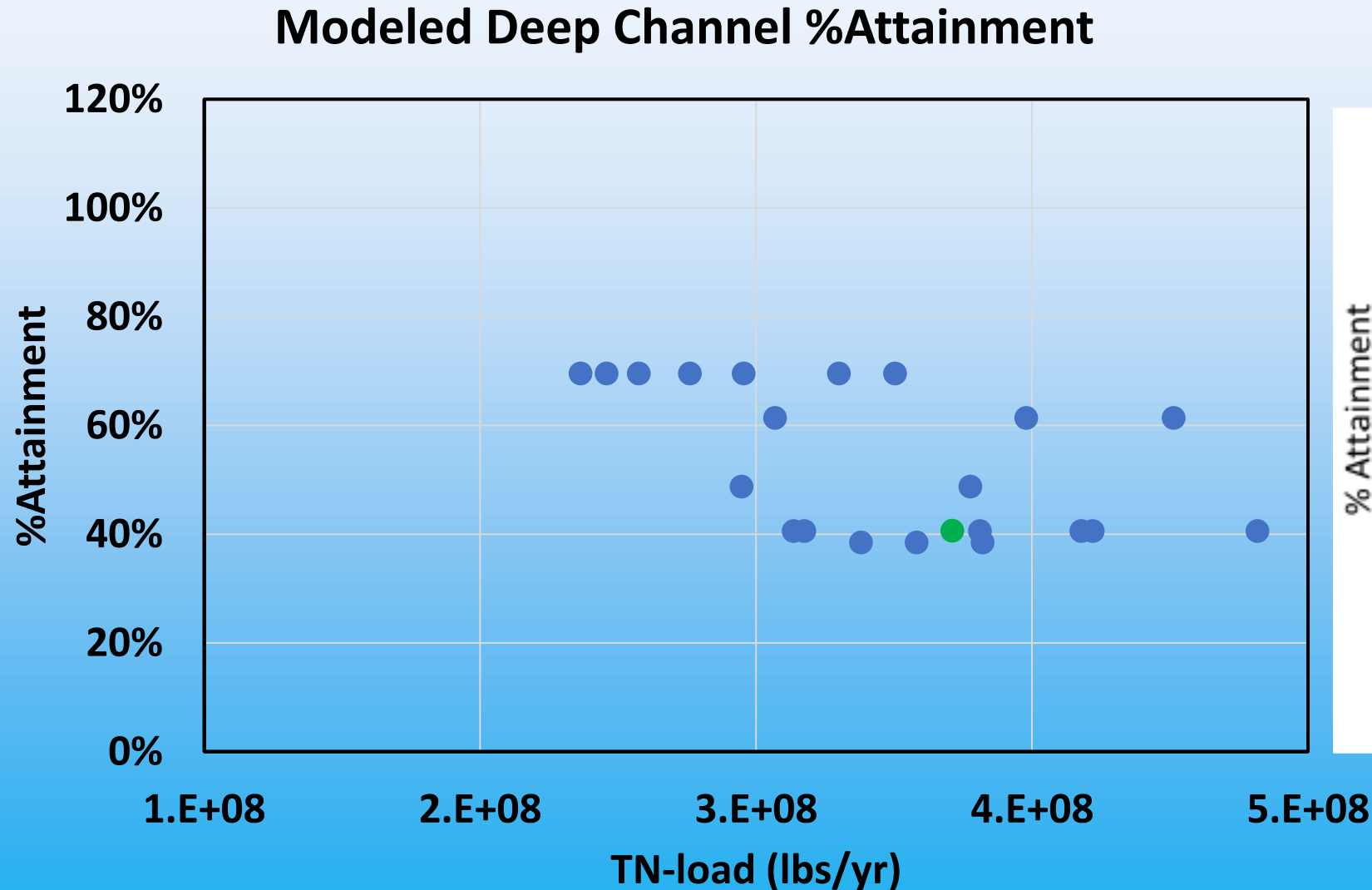


Model bias was handled by using the delta approach

Plot in **CSER** report

Orange = mode

Blue = observations



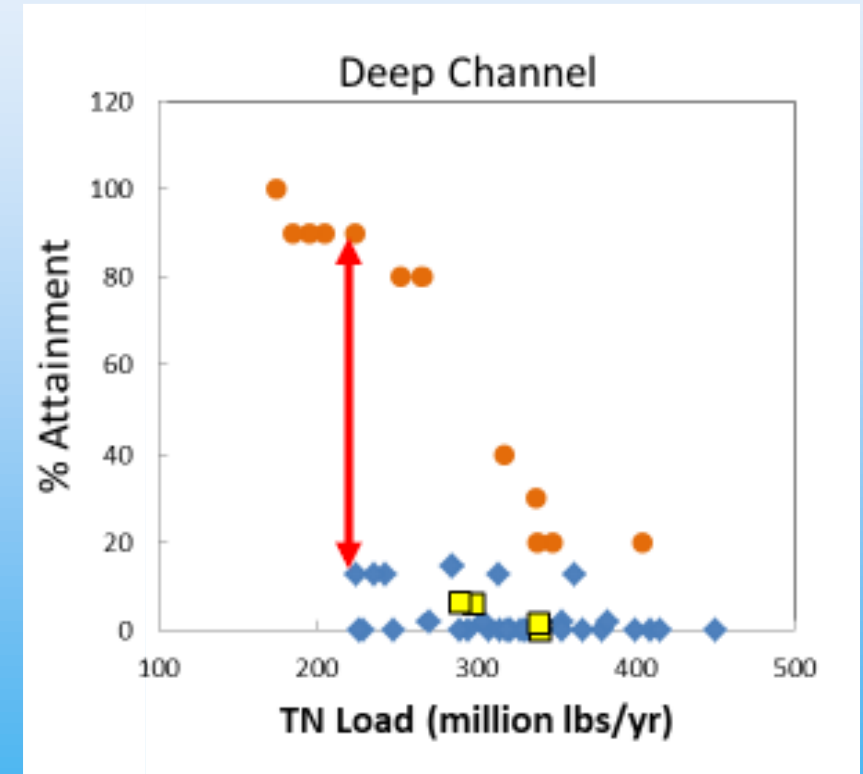
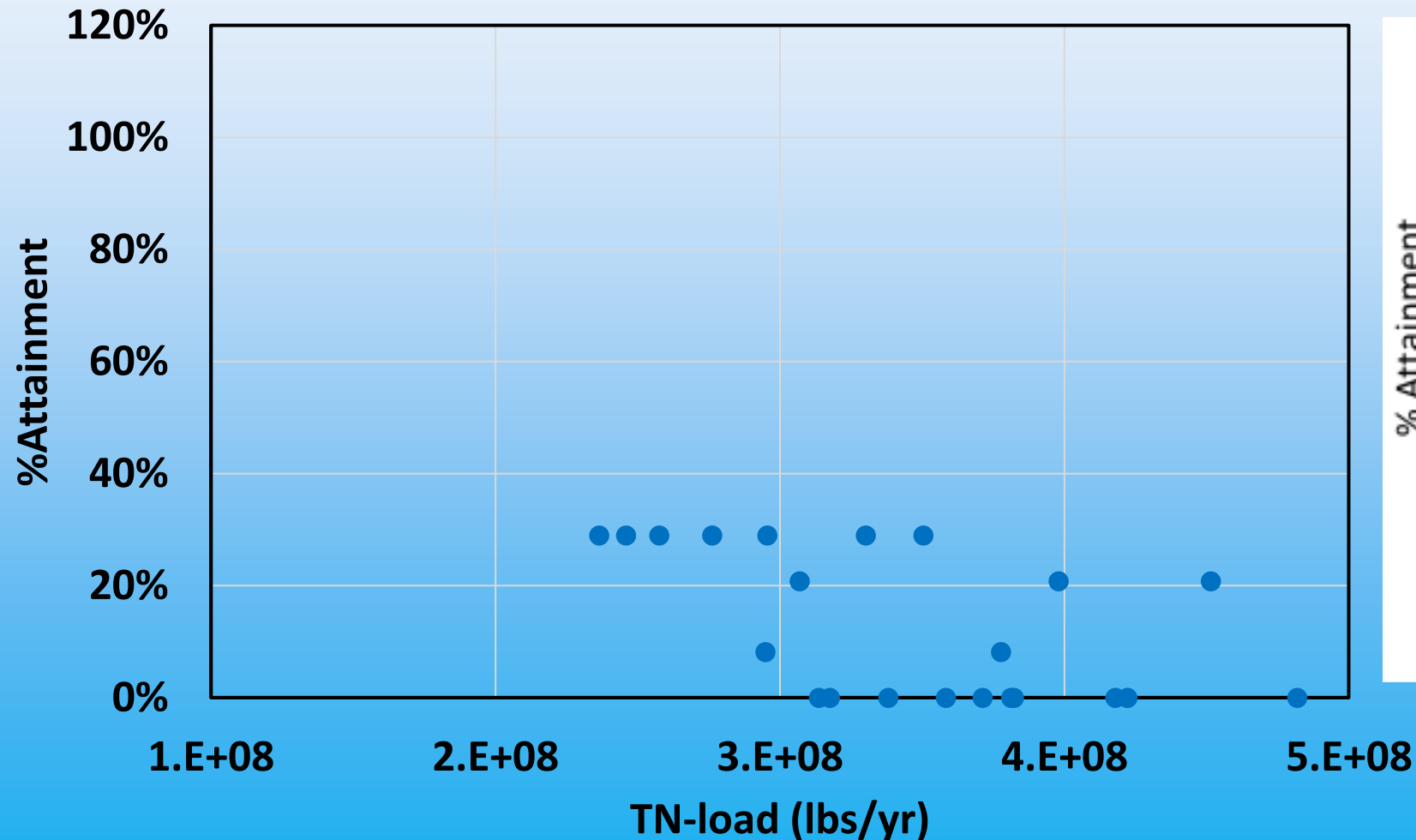
Model bias was handled by using the delta approach

Plot in **CSER** report

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Modeled Deep Channel %Attainment



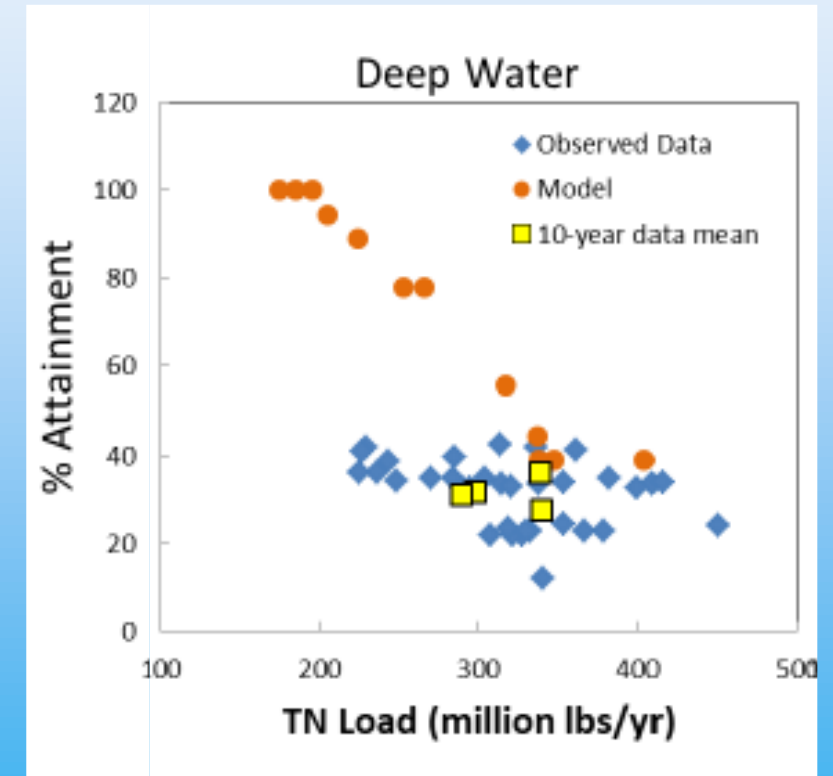
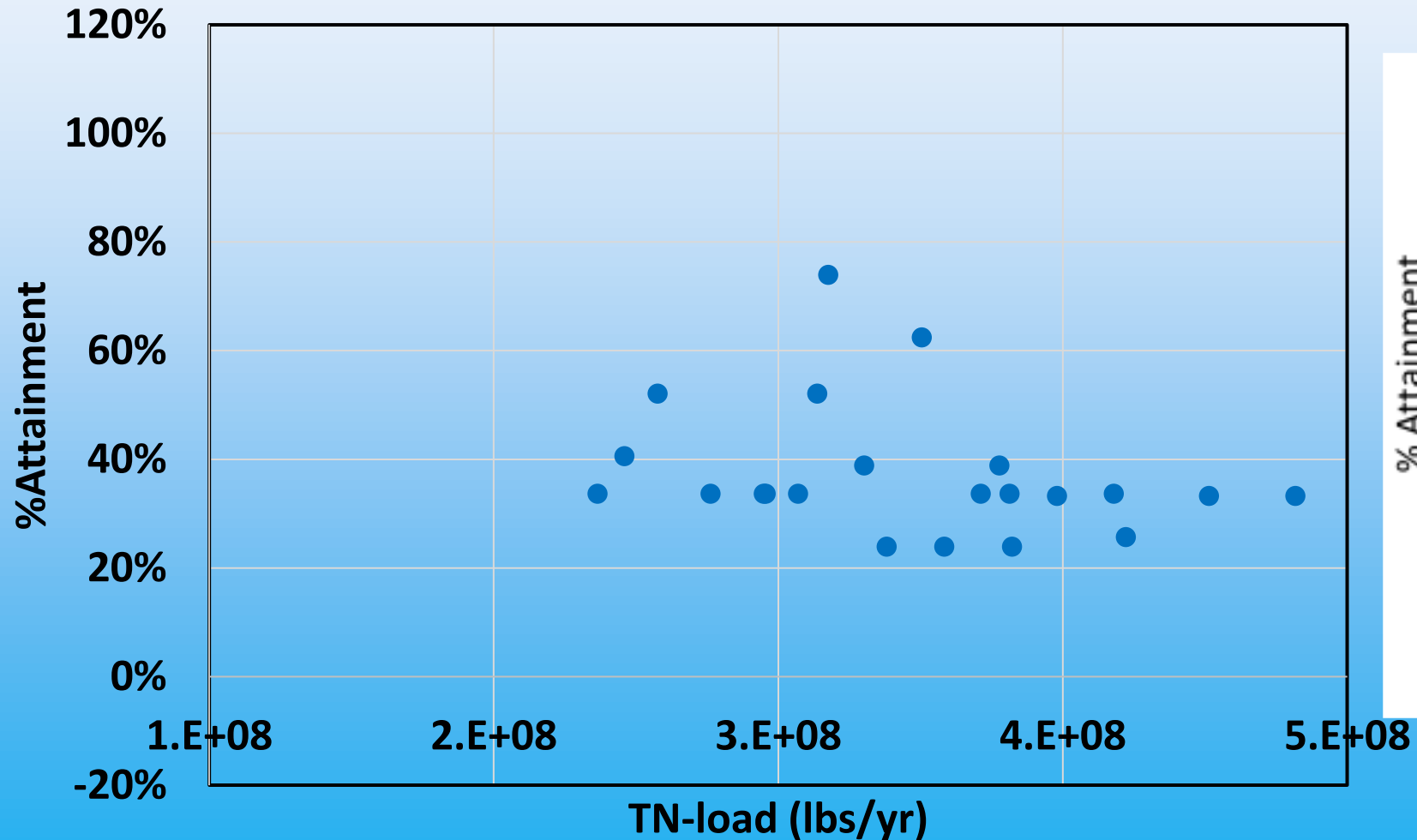
Deep water delta attainment

Plot in **CSER** report

Orange = mode

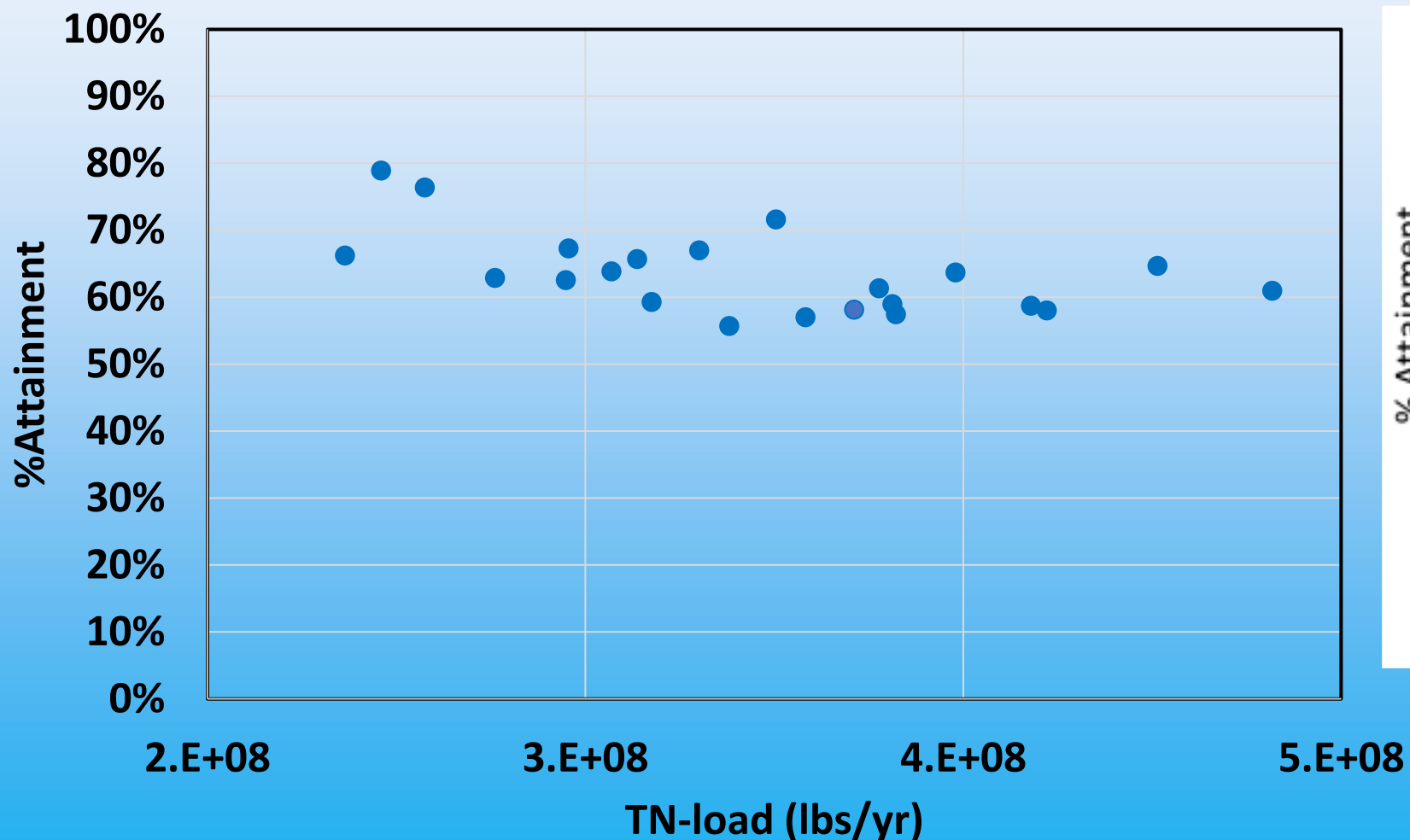
Blue = observations

Modeled Deep Water %Attainment



Open water delta attainment

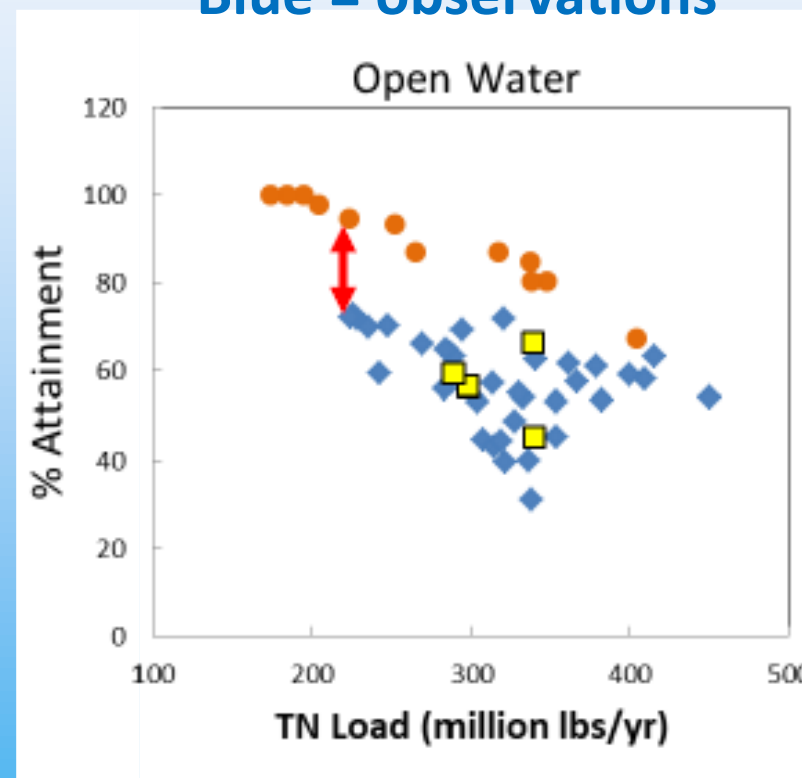
Modeled Open Water %Attainment



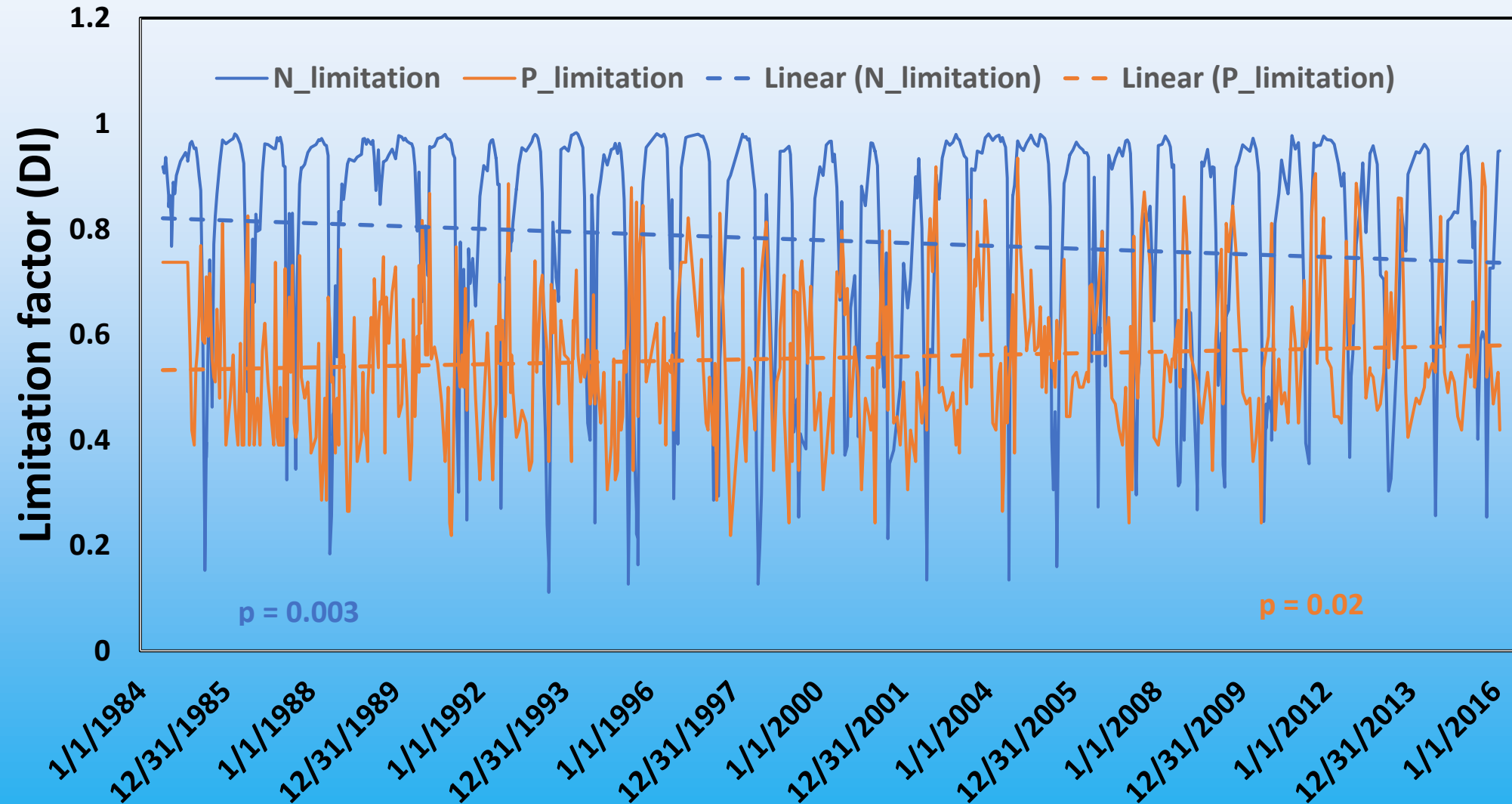
Plot in **CSER** report

Orange = mode

Blue = observations



Nutrient limitation based on observation at CB4.2C



We are pretty far away from needed nutrient load reduction for attainment

	Realized reductions from 1995	Reductions needed to meet WQS
Nitrogen	84.1	145.1
Phosphorus	1.9	9.3

Slide from Gary Shenk

Message

- The model tends to overestimate DO in the deep channel and underestimate DO in the open water, but the bias was corrected to certain extent by using the delta approach.
- The model predicted water quality attainment is less contrast to observation than we thought.
- Continue the effort to manage nutrient loads and better days are ahead.