



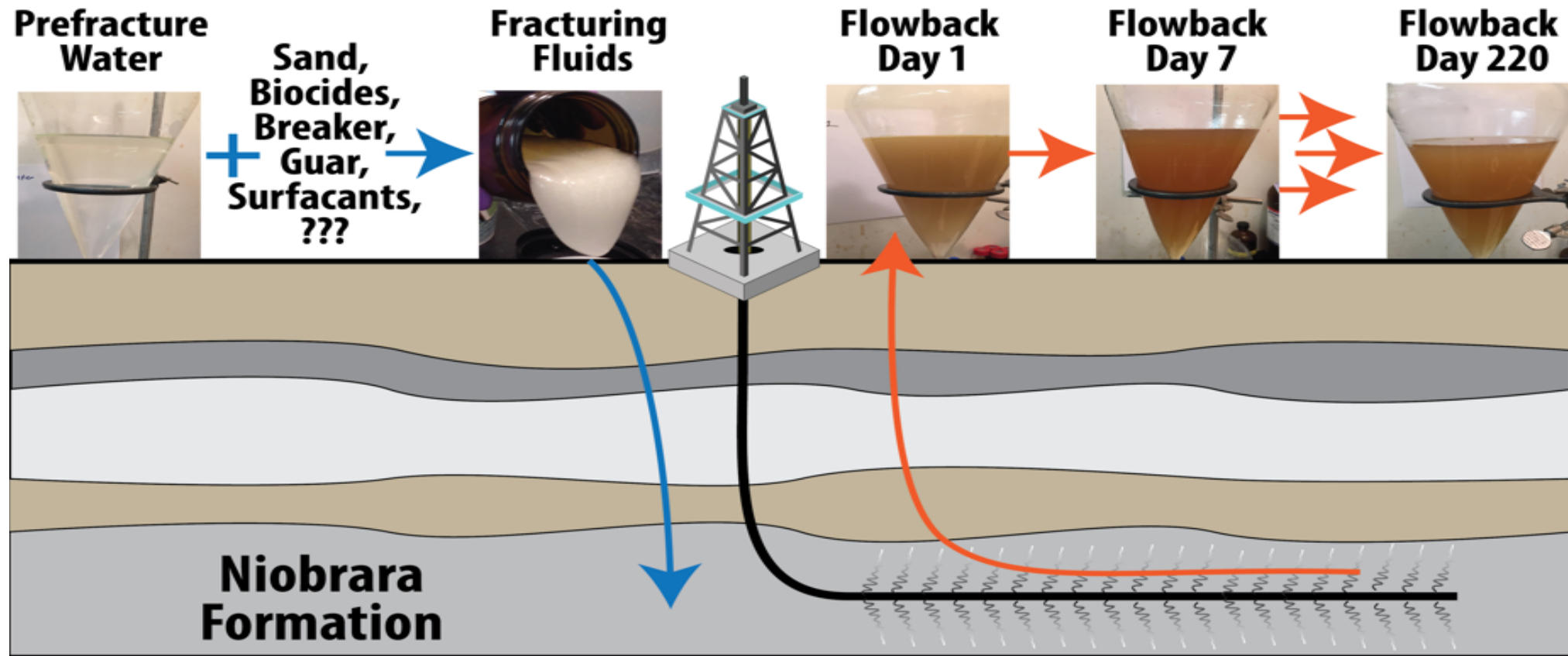
# Produced Water *Research* 2020 Update

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**Dept. of Civil and Environmental Engineering**



**COLORADO SCHOOL OF MINES**  
EARTH • ENERGY • ENVIRONMENT

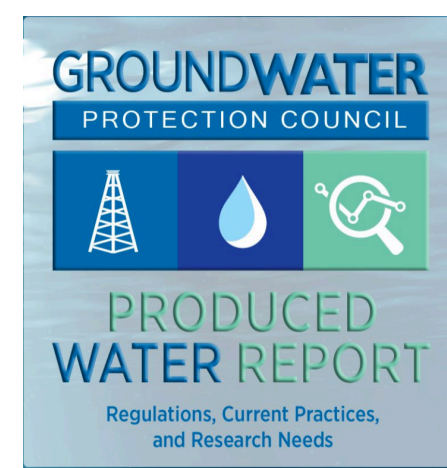
# Produced Water



**Rosenblum J., et al.,** . Chemical and Physical Characterization of Flowback and Produced Water Over Time from a Hydraulically Fractured Well. *Science of the Total Environment*, 2017(596),369-377

**Rosenblum J., et al.,** Organic Chemical Characterization of a Hydraulically Fractured Wells Fracturing Fluid, Flowback, and Produced Water Over Time. *Environmental Science & Technology*. 2017

# GWPC Produced Water Report (2019)



- Describe the current state of science and policies around produced water and potential beneficial reuses of produced water
- **Module 1:** Current legal, regulatory, and operational frameworks of produced water management
- **Module 2:** Produced water reuse in unconventional oil and gas operations
- **Module 3:** Produced water reuse and research needs outside oil and gas operations

# New Mexico Produced Water Consortia

- Produced water research consortium
- Framework to fill knowledge gaps
- Establish regulations and policies for the treatment of produced water

*For Immediate Release*

**Sept. 12, 2019**

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**Consortium formed by New Mexico State University, Environment Department to lead nation in filling scientific gaps in produced water treatment**



# DOEs Low Cost, Efficient Treatment Technologies for Produced Water (FOA-2004)

- “Fit-for-purpose” water or “beneficial reuse” water
- **\$4.6 million budget**
- **Winners**
  1. Electrocoagulation
  2. Membranes for resource recovery
  3. Membrane-based treatment for organics removal
  4. Fouling-resistant Zwitterionic Membrane



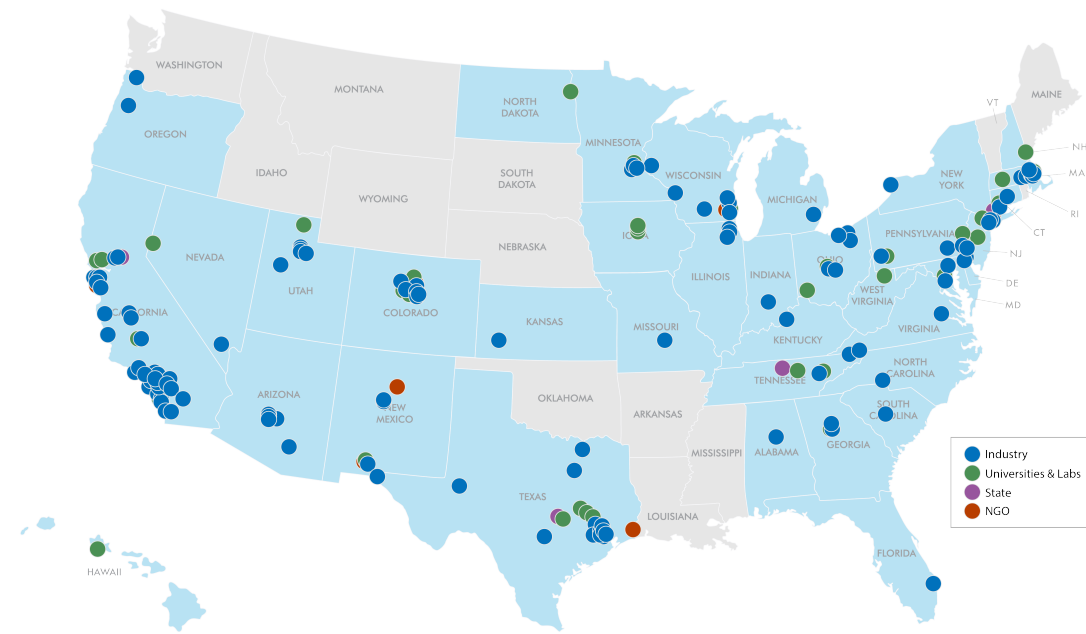
Department of Energy (DOE)  
Office of Fossil Energy (FE)

LOW COST, EFFICIENT TREATMENT TECHNOLOGIES FOR PRODUCED WATER  
Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) Number: DE-FOA-0002004  
FOA Type: Initial  
CFDA Number: 81.089

# DOEs - Desalination Hub

- Department of Energy
  - \$100 million over 5yrs

- “Goal is to accelerate transformative research to lower the cost and energy required to produce clean water from non-traditional water sources”
  - seawater, inland brackish, industrial/municipal wastewater, and **produced water from oil and gas**
- Colorado School of Mines
  - Leading the unconventional produced water “road mapping”



# Innovation in Intensified Brine-Management Solutions for High-Salinity Streams

- \$8 million Budget for Research
  - 2-year study duration
- Novel treatment processes for “non-traditional” high saline water sources (e.g., produced water)

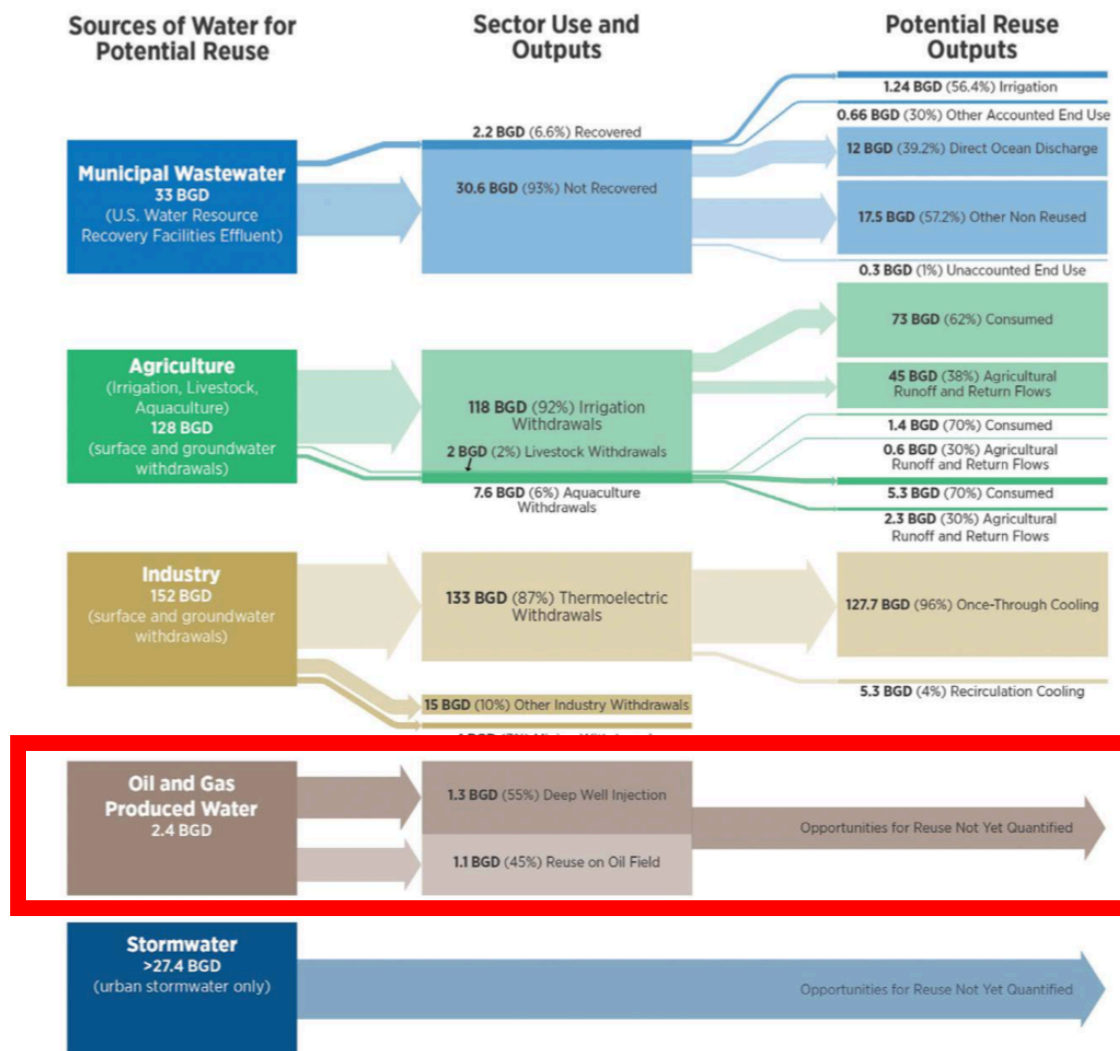


Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA):

FOA #: NAWI-BP12020

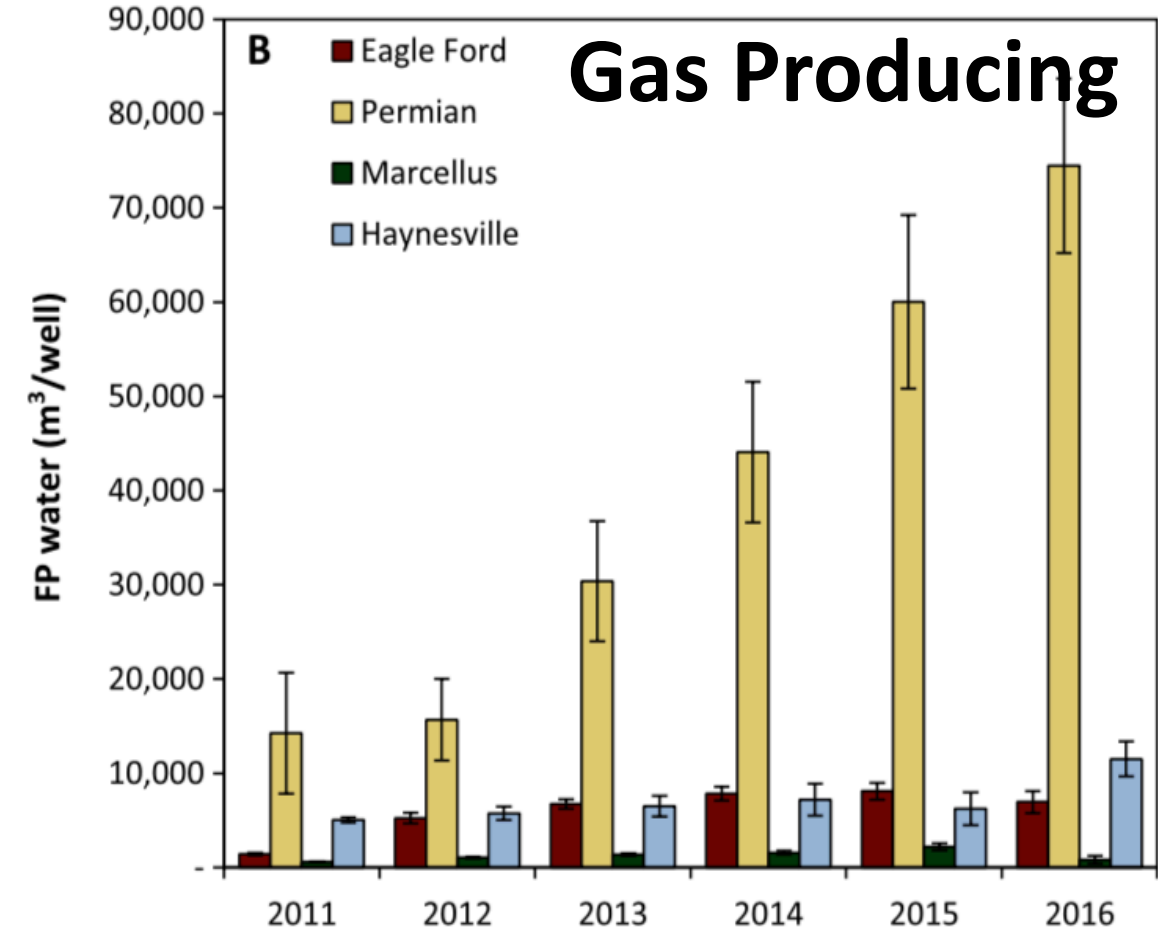
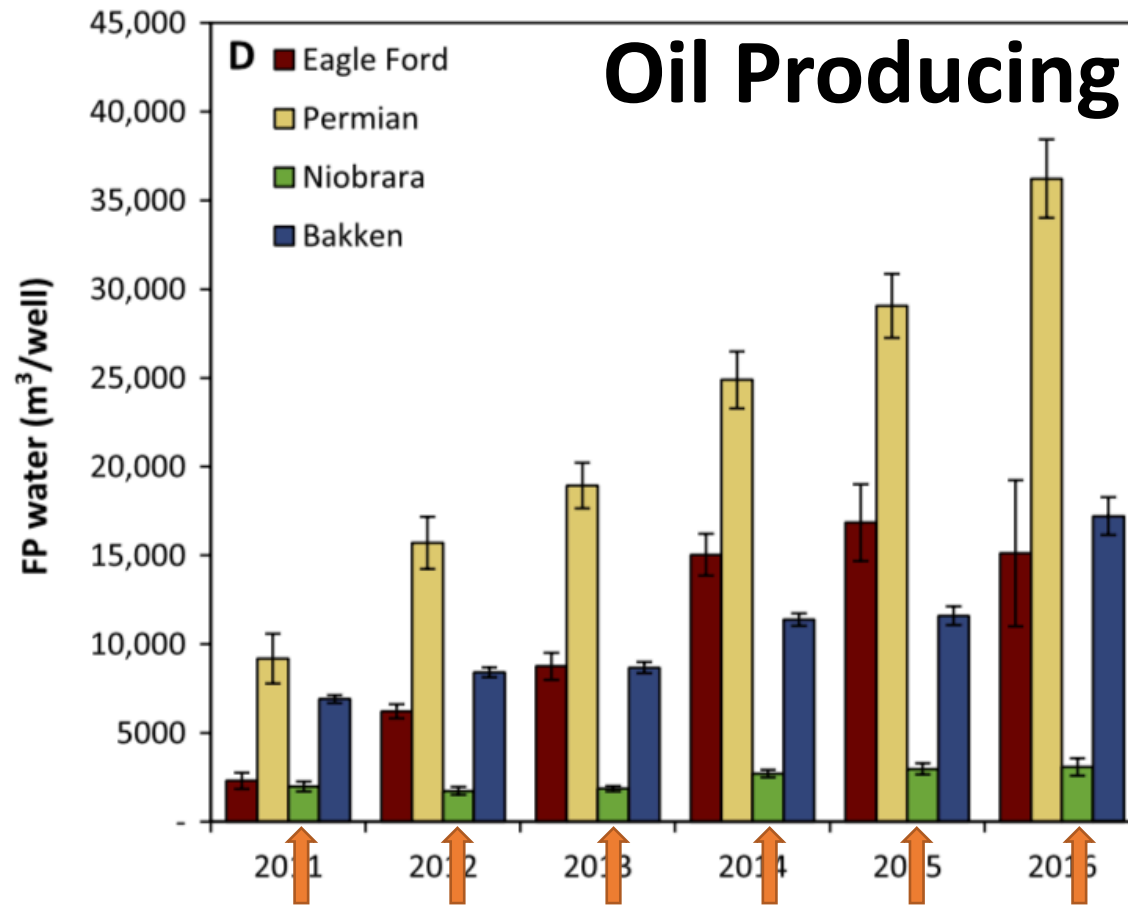
# USEPAs Water Reuse Action Plan

Figure 2. Estimated daily volumes (e.g., discharges, needs, withdrawals, consumptive uses) and current uses of sources of water in the United States.



Note that not all flows and associated percentages in Figure 2 add up to 100 percent.

# Water volumes increasing over time



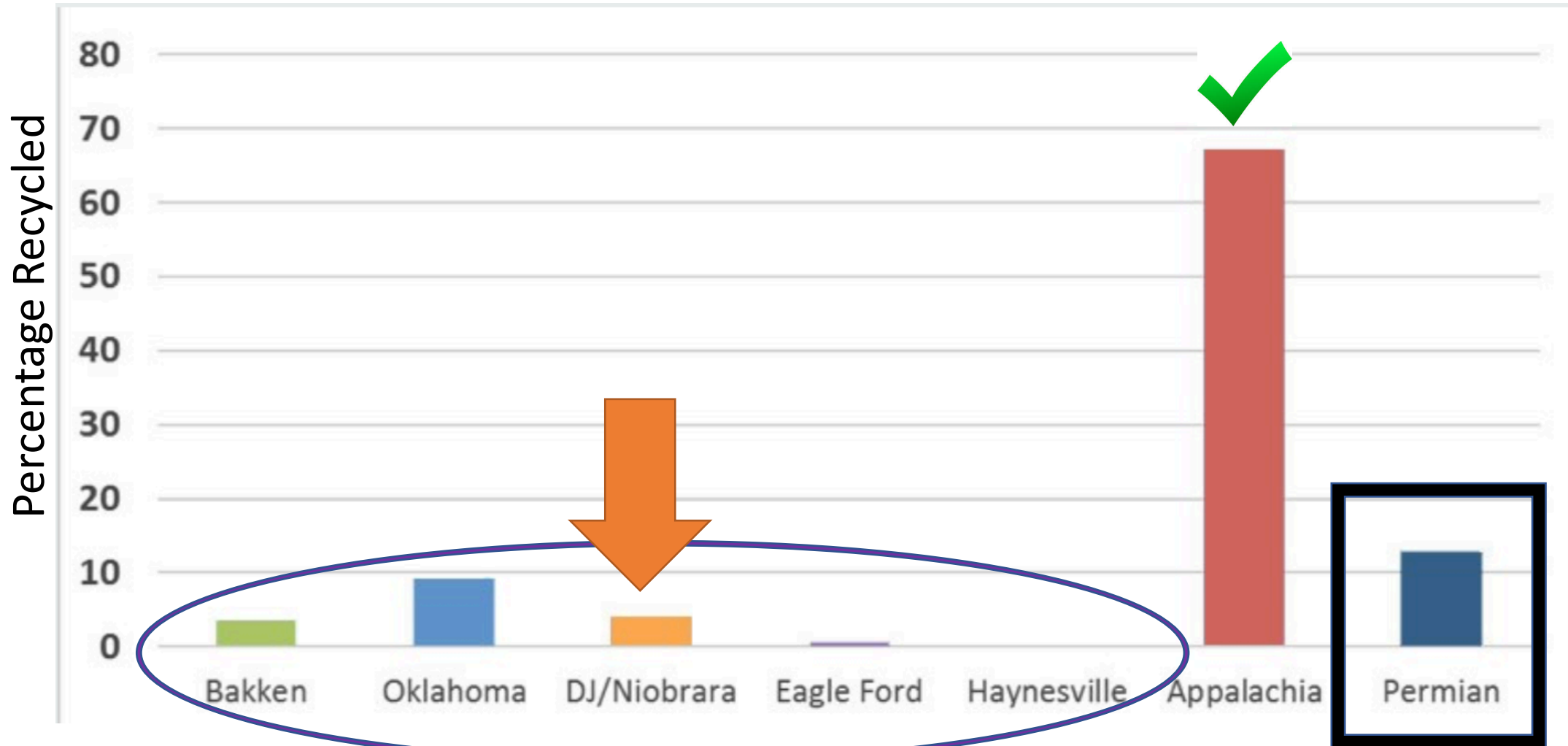
1) Veil, J. (2015). [U.S. produced water volumes and management practices in 2012](http://www.gwpc.org/sites/default/files/Produced%20Water%20Report%202014-GWPC_0.pdf). Prepared for the Ground Water Protection Council.

[http://www.gwpc.org/sites/default/files/Produced%20Water%20Report%202014-GWPC\\_0.pdf](http://www.gwpc.org/sites/default/files/Produced%20Water%20Report%202014-GWPC_0.pdf).

2) Kondash et al., 2018



# Reuse in the Oil Field



Adopted from GWPC Produced Water Report, 2019; Source: Jacobs Engineering (18 companies reporting)

Colorado Center for a Sustainable

**WE<sup>2</sup>ST**

Water-Energy Education, Science, and Technology



**MINES**<sup>TM</sup>

# The Motivation

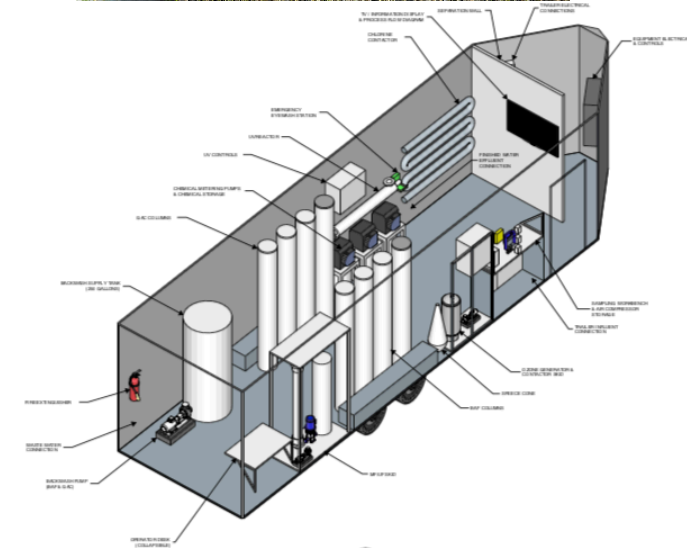
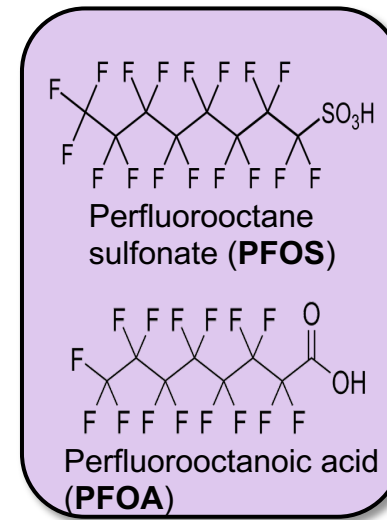
- Establish a center for the development of innovative industrial water/wastewater treatment technologies and solutions
- Collaborate with industry, government, and academia
- Cross-Scale Water treatment technologies development
- Located in NE Denver



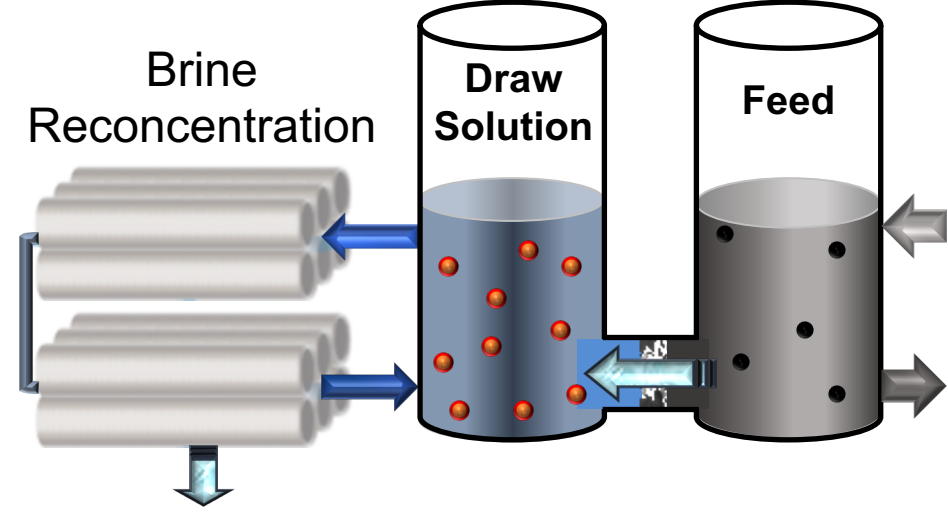
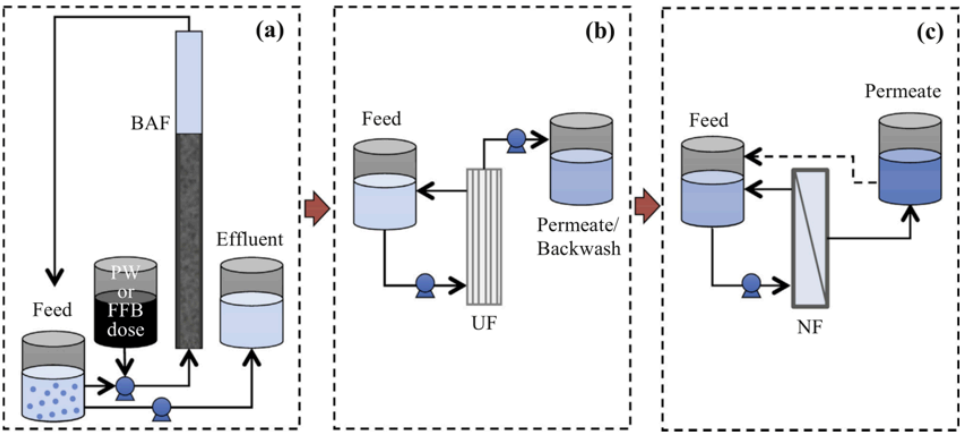


# Research at WE<sup>2</sup>ST

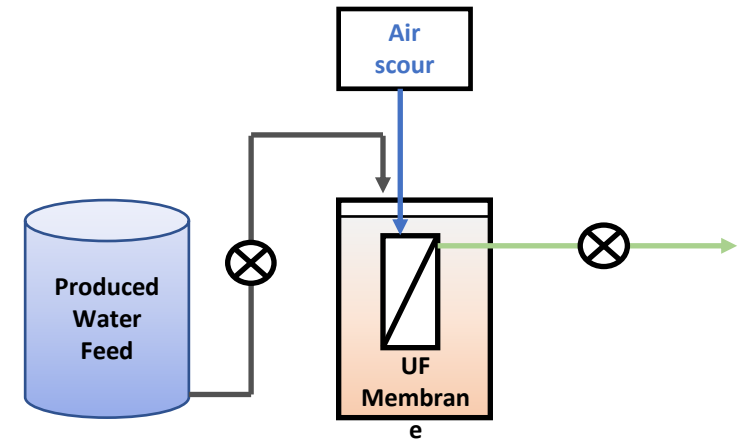
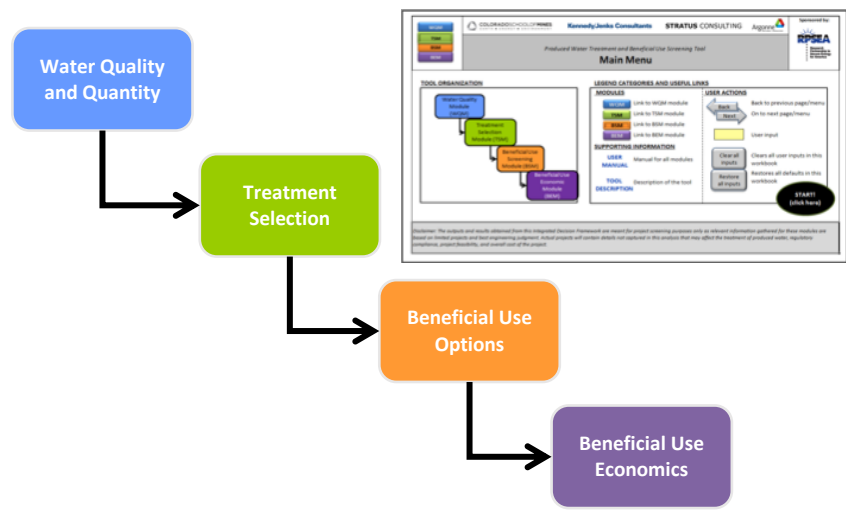
- Emerging Contaminants
  - PFAS
- Direct Potable Reuse
  - Mobile Pilot
- Water Energy
  - Solar- and Wave-Reverse Osmosis pilots
- Produced Water







# Colorado School of Mines Produced Water Research



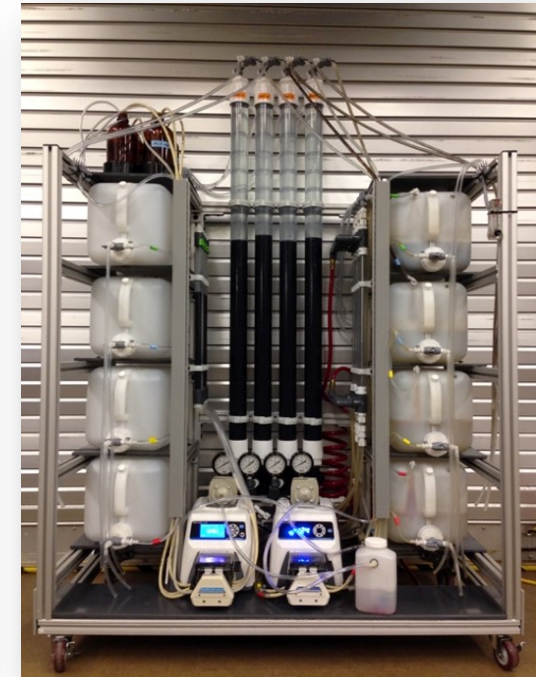
# Combining Treatment Processes

- The Goal
  - Remove multiple contaminants in a single process

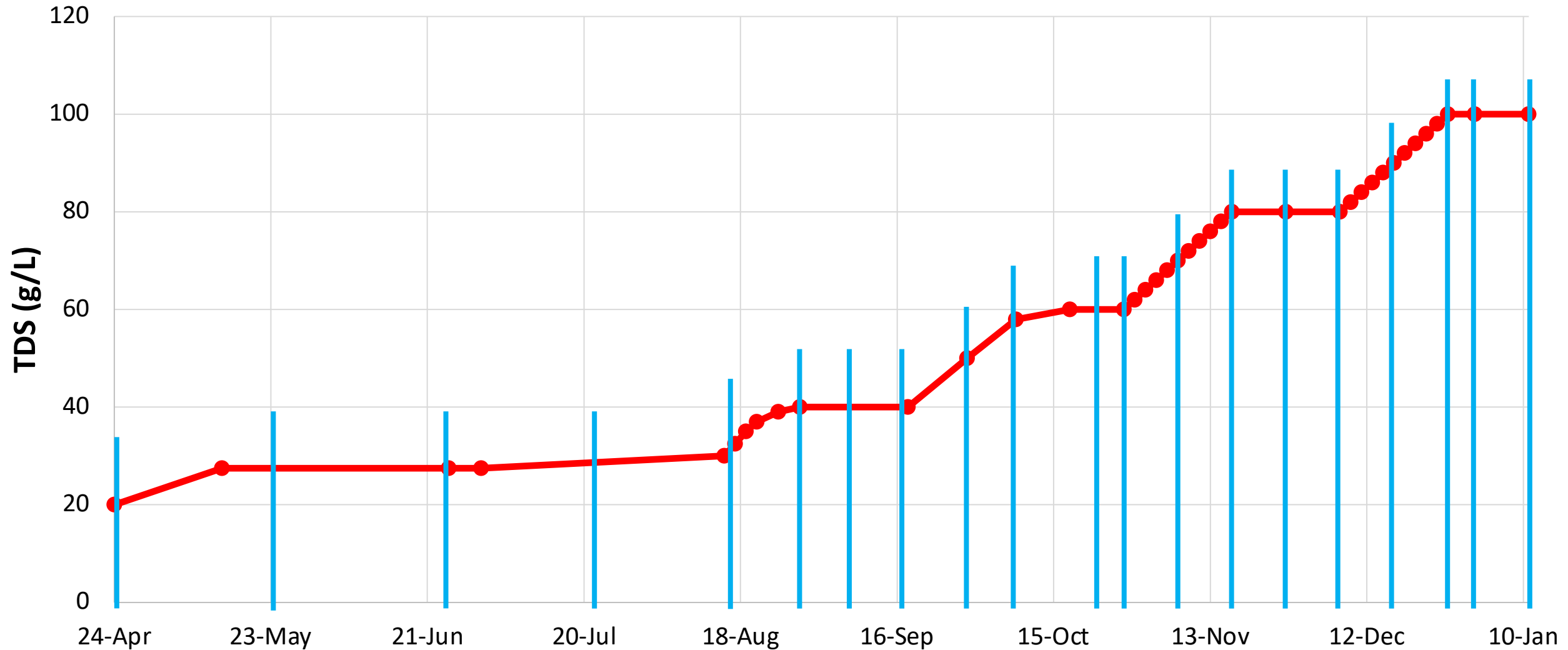
- The Systems

- Membrane bioreactor (MBR)
    - Suspended growth / Continuous flow

- Fear in O&G around biological processes

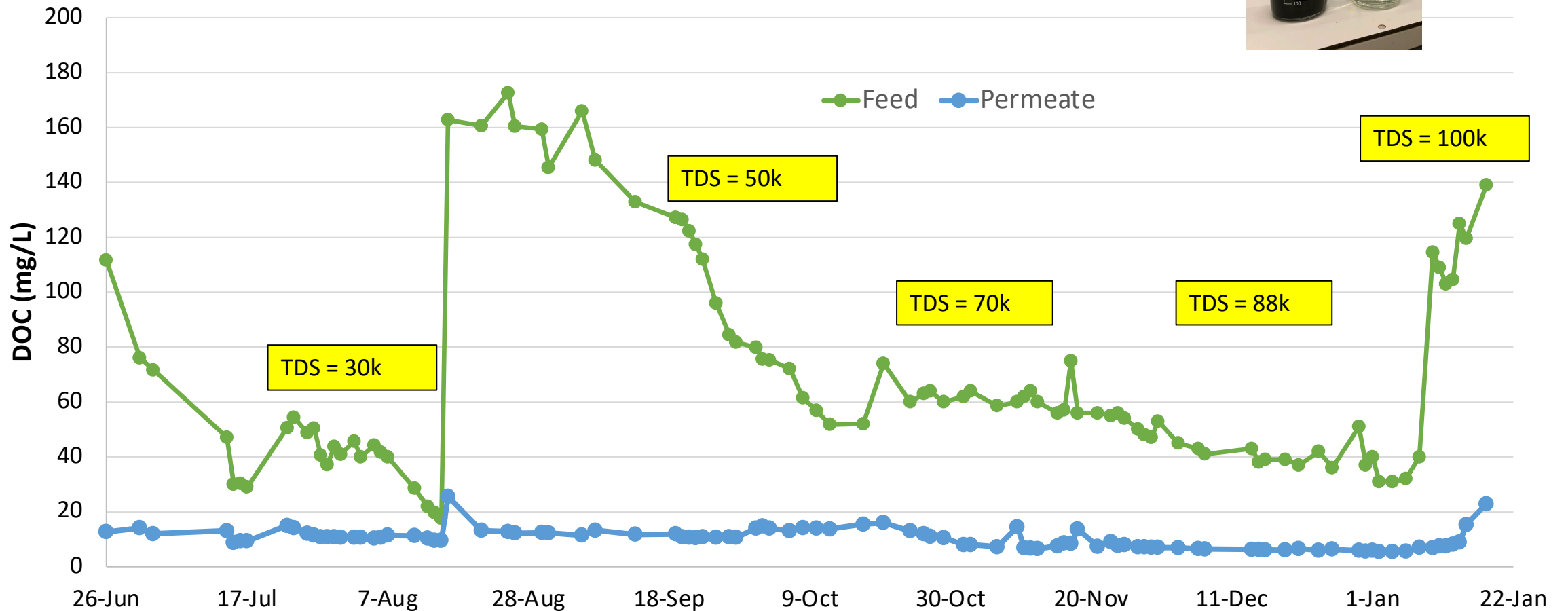
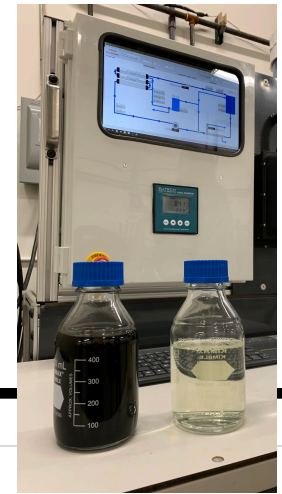


# Membrane Bioreactor Acclimation Timeline



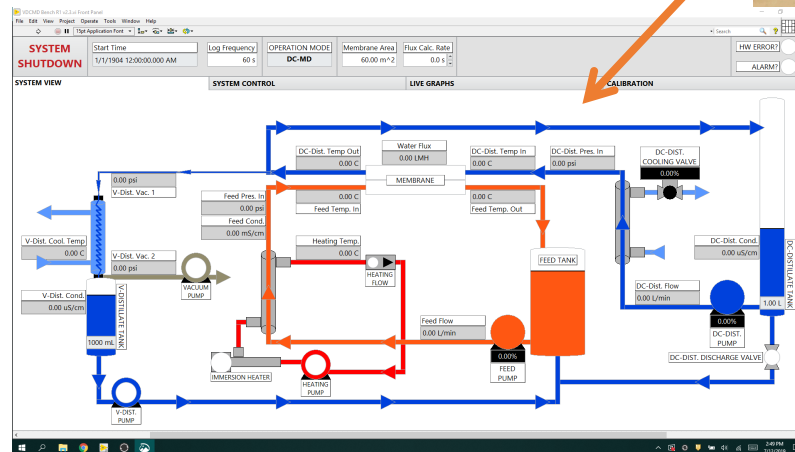
# Dissolved Organic Carbon Removal

7 months of continuous operation



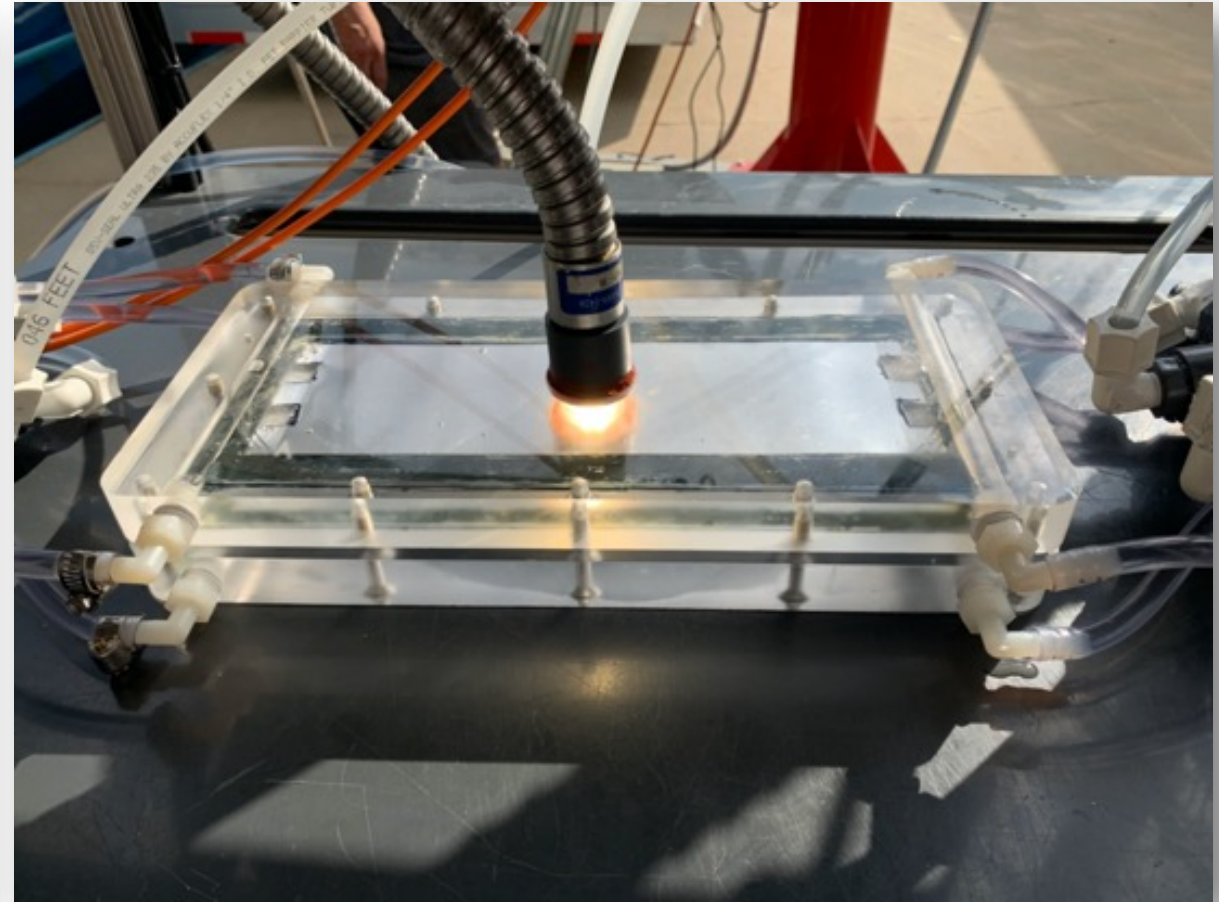
# High-Salinity Desalination Research: Membrane Distillation

- Currently collecting MBR effluent for MD experiments
- Optimizing MD system
- Collaboration with UCLA, CU Boulder
  - Apply heat directly to membrane with solar concentrators (CU)
  - Additional energy savings
  - Produced clean distillate

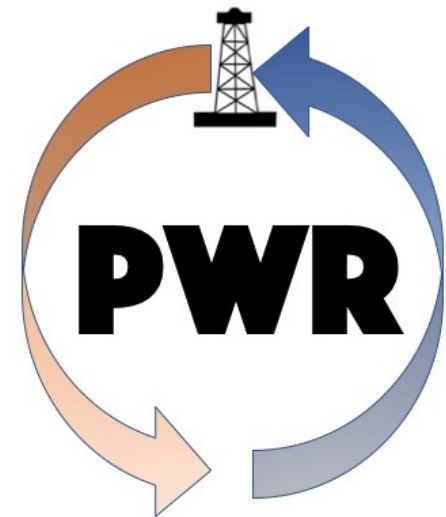




# Preliminary Research

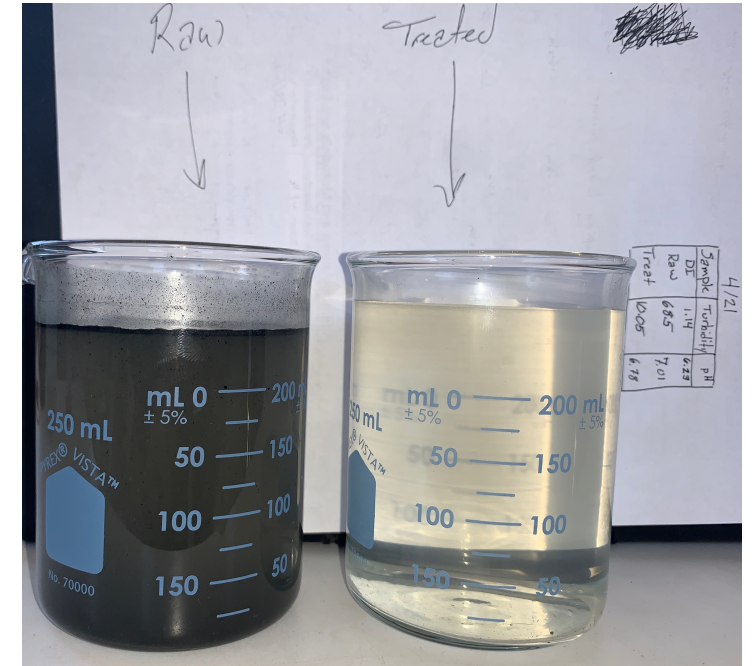
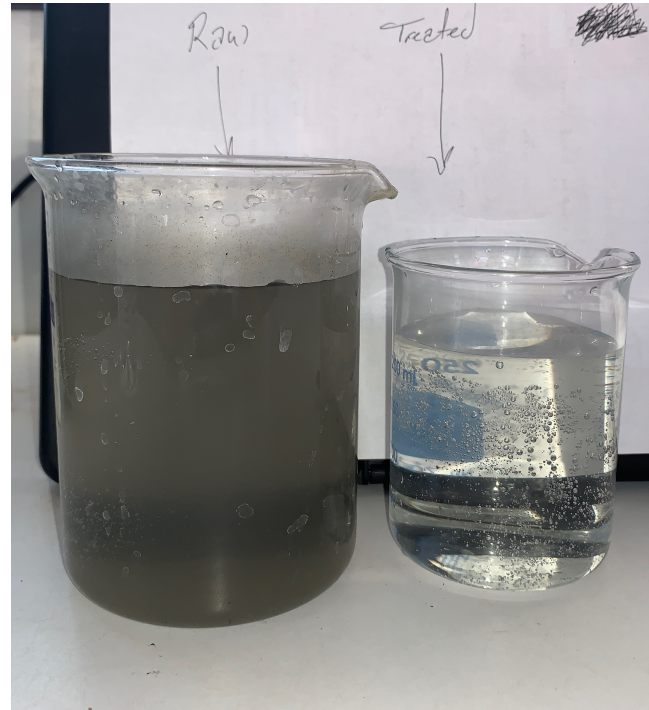
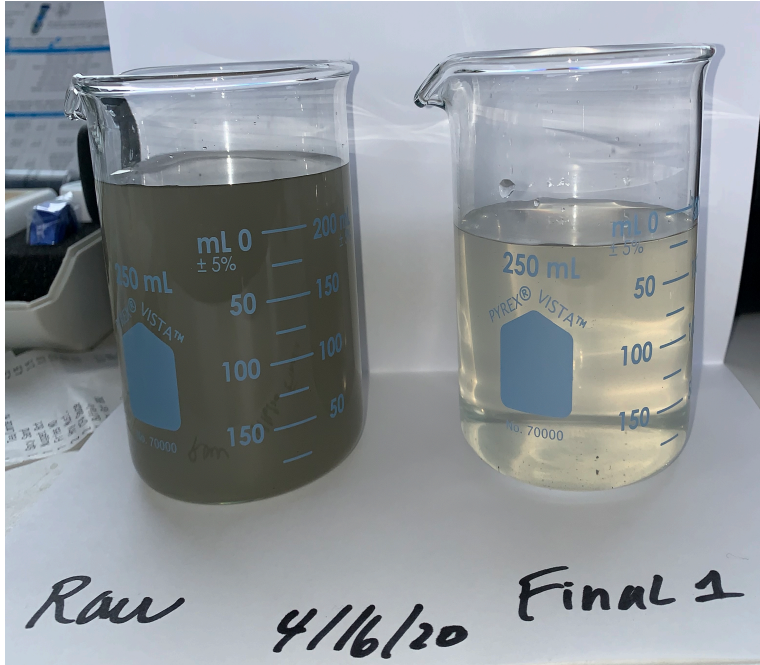


# Case-study of onsite produced water recycling in the DJ-Basin (2/2020 – 4/2020)



# Weaknesses of Current Treatment Methods

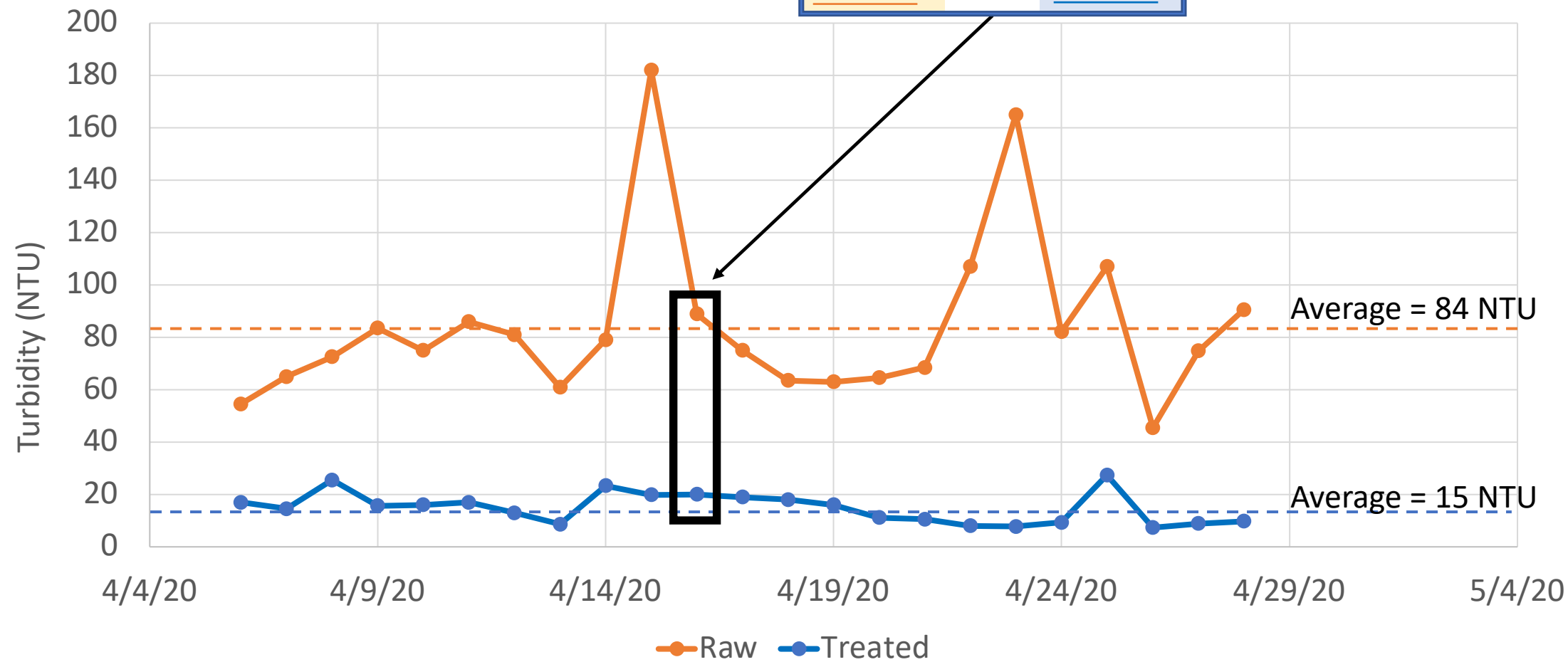
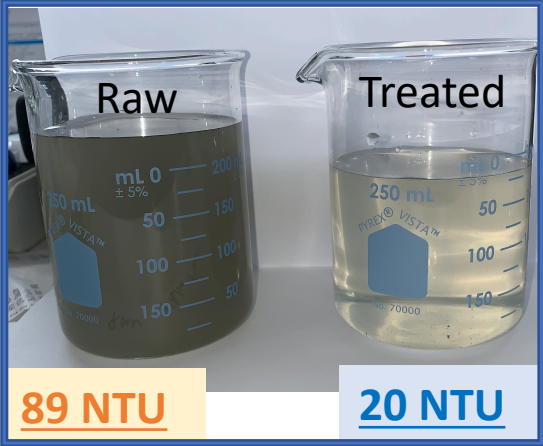
- Filter Pods
  - 100  $\mu\text{m}$  filter socks are commonly used for produced water recycle jobs in the DJ-Basin
- Filter socks do little for removing suspended solids until 5- 8  $\mu\text{m}$  in the DJ



# Influent vs. Effluent

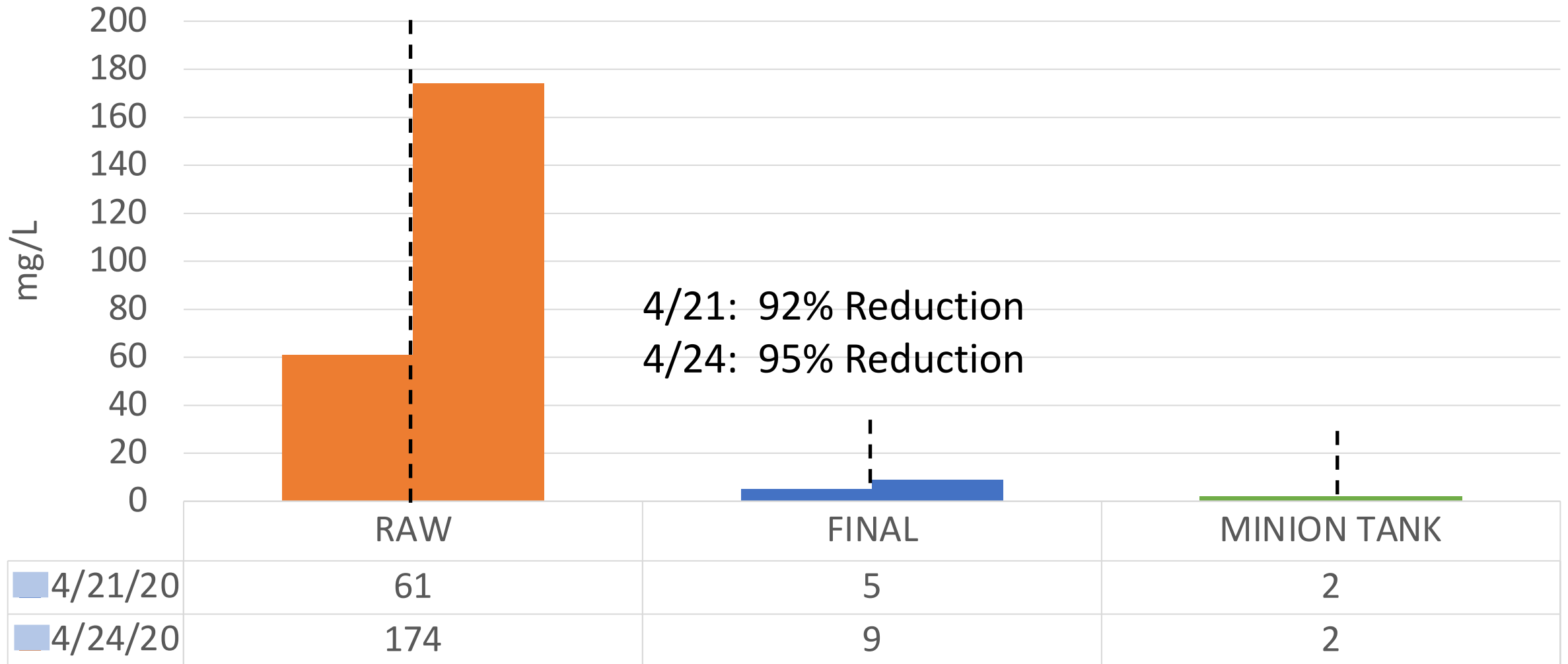


# 83% Average Reduction in Turbidity

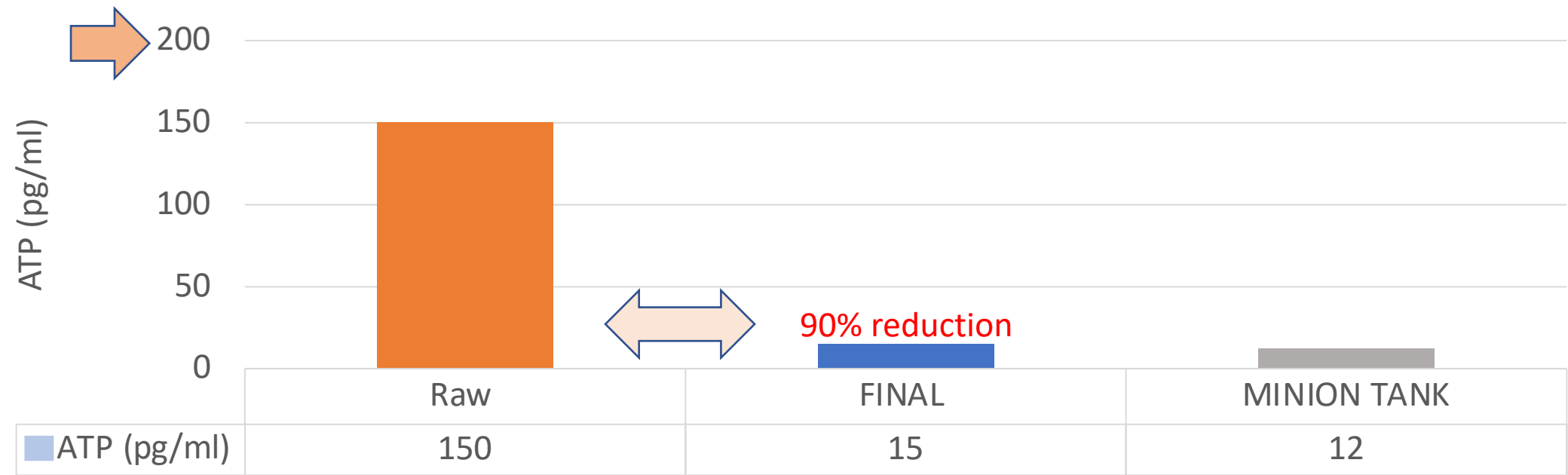
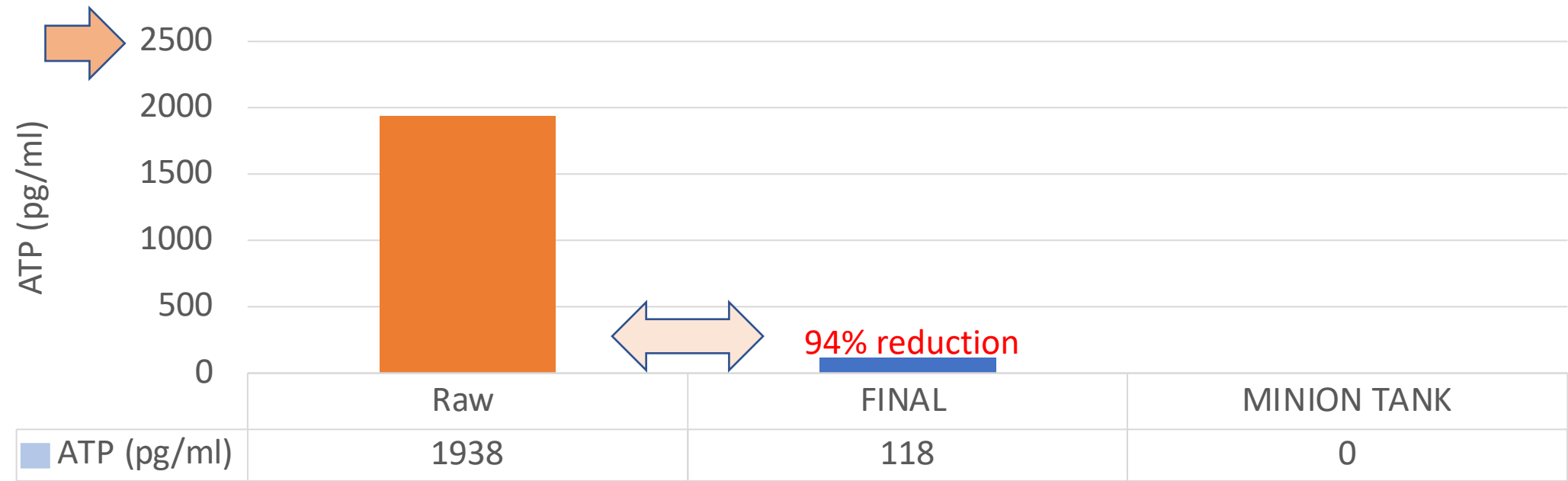




# 90% Reduction in Total Petroleum Hydrocarbons



# 90% Reduction in ATP



# Cost Savings

# Monthly Savings by Recycling Produced Water in the DJ-Basin

<u>5,500 bbls/day</u>	
<i>Monthly Savings</i>	<i>\$ 108,956<sup>#</sup></i>

<sup>#</sup>This value includes all associated costs: Trucking, Containment, Pumps, Fuel, Labor, etc.

<u>7,500 bbls/day</u>	
<i>Monthly Savings</i>	<i>\$ 197,543</i>

# Acknowledgments

- Tzahi Cath
  - WE<sup>2</sup>ST Director and Mentor
- Mike Veres
  - WE<sup>2</sup>ST Master Technician
- Brett Van Houghton
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- Mason Manross
  - PWR Operations Manager
  - WE<sup>2</sup>ST Technician
- Zoma Foundation
- NGL Energy Partners
- Department of Energy
- Laurence Berkley National Lab



# Questions

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