

Dagmar Balla

**Water quality modelling  
for the Spreewald wetland region  
(Germany)**



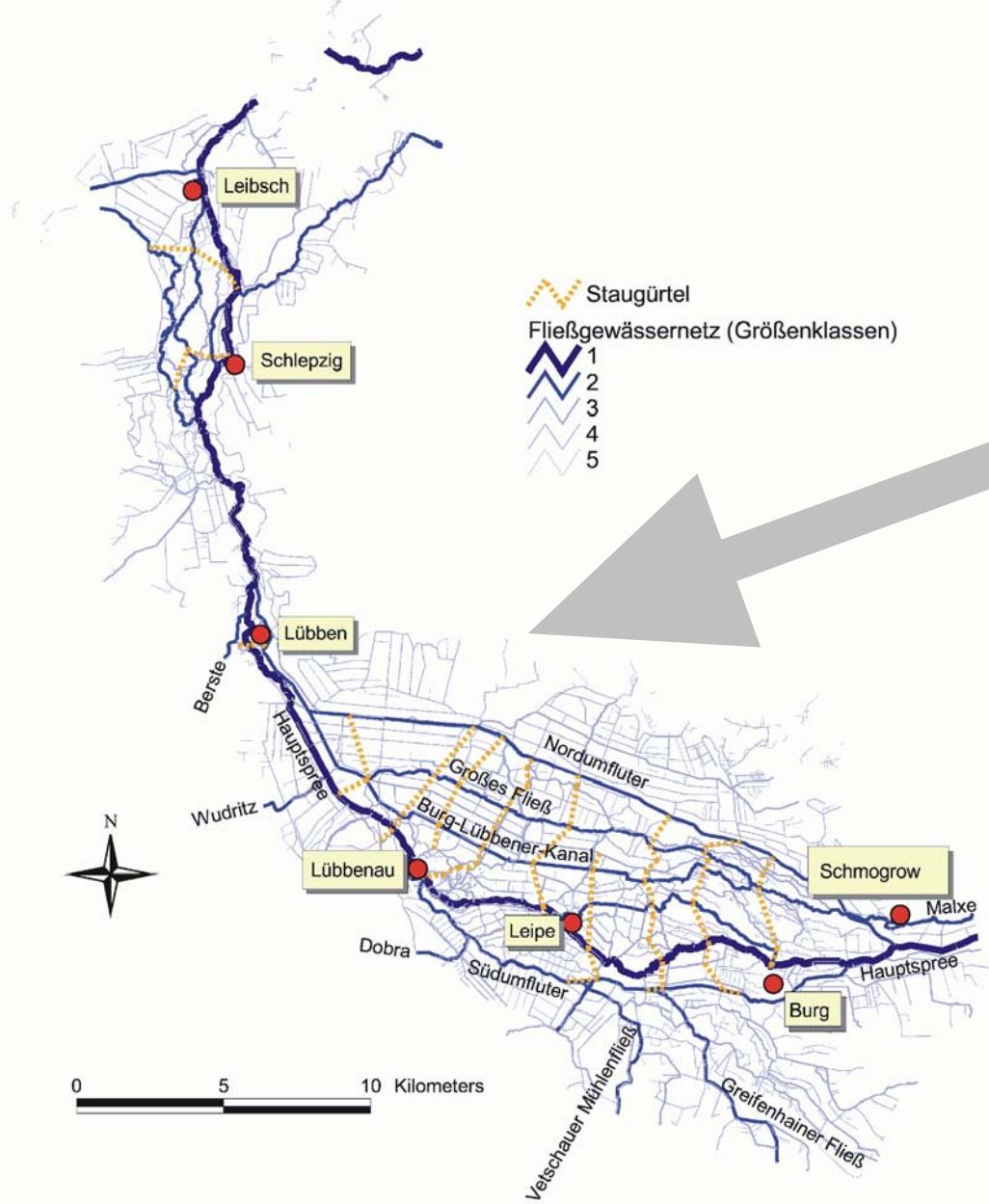
Federal Ministry for Education and Research

Environmental Agency of the Free State of Saxony

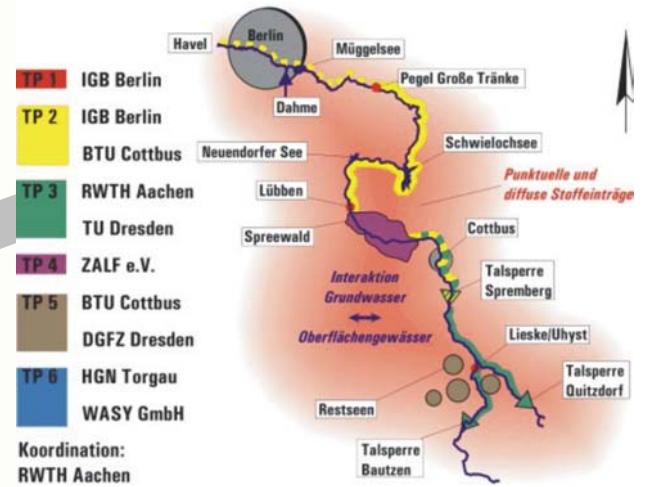
Environmental Agency of the State of Brandenburg

*Joint Project Spree*





## Joint project Spree



Matter transformation in the Spreewald wetland region

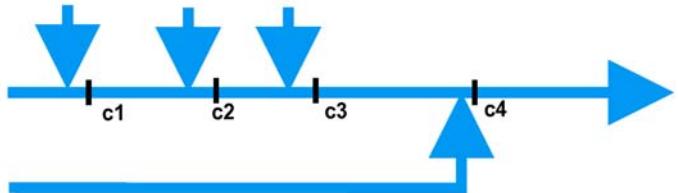
# Study site

- ▶ channel network with high density
- ▶ high groundwater table, 30% fens
- ▶ water consumptive area in summer time
- ▶ groundwater-table control (13 cascades)
- ▶ different flooding regimes during winter and summer seasons with partly flooding
- ▶ low flow velocities in channels
  - $v_m = 0,01 \text{ m/s}$  for MQ in the Upper Spreewald
  - $v_m = 0,1 \text{ m/s}$  for MQ in the Lower Spreewald

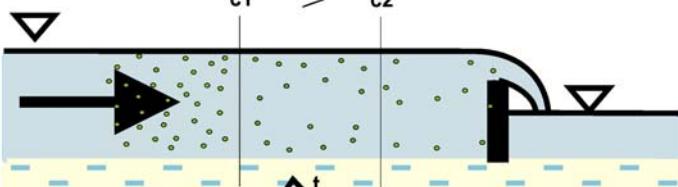


# Water quality processes

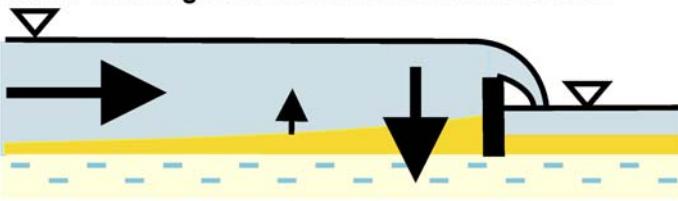
## Mixing



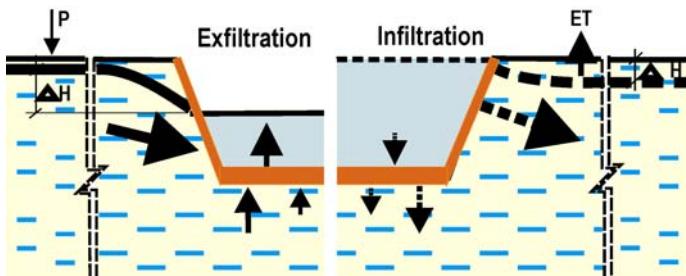
## Matter transformation in the water column



## Matter exchange at the sediment-water interface



## Matter exchange with areas



$Q, c$  input (e.g. Spree, Malxe)

$t, v$  Hydraulic structures

$c$  pore water concentrations

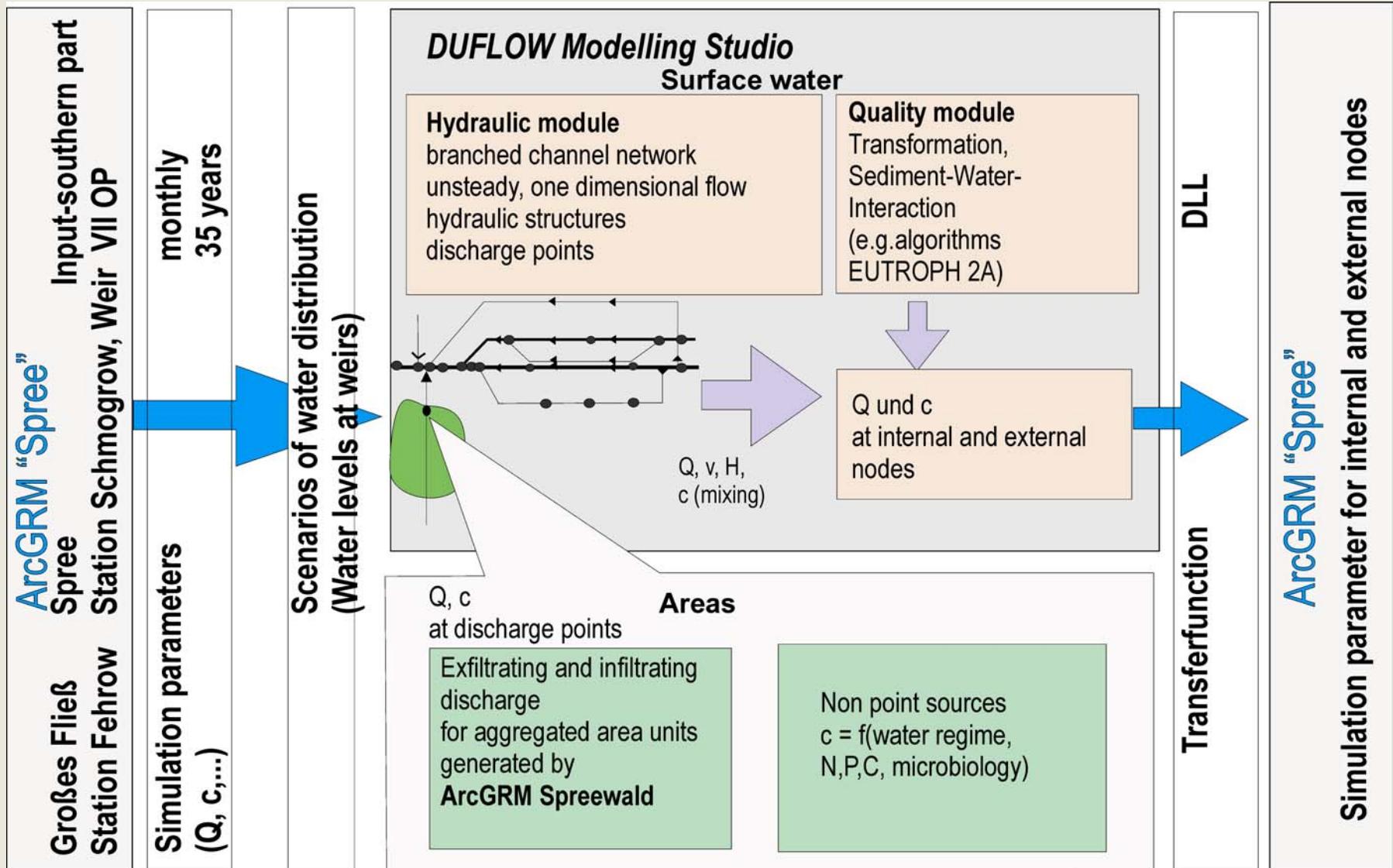
$c$  water column

$\pm Q, c$  area water exchange, loads

$c$  matter concentrations of sediment

?

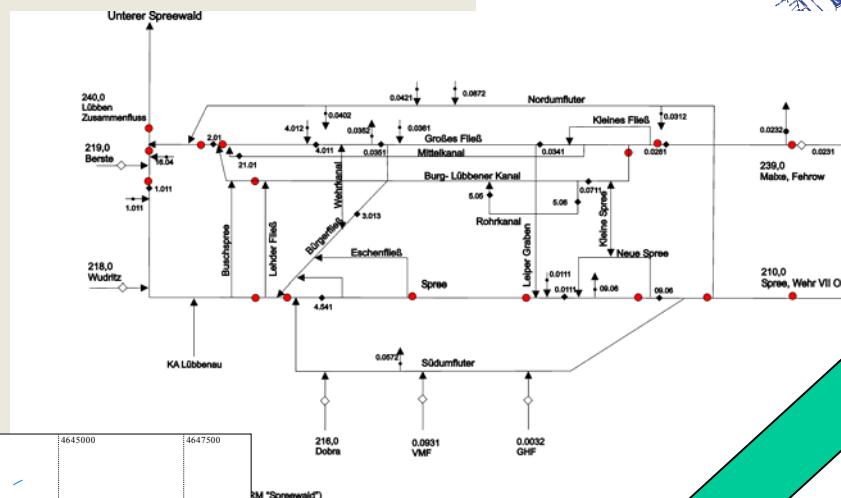
# Conceptual model



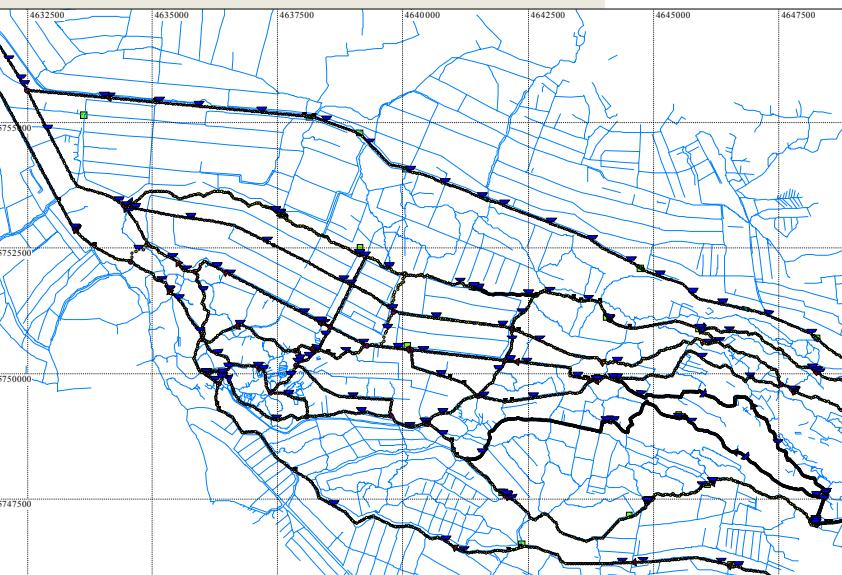


# Modelled structure

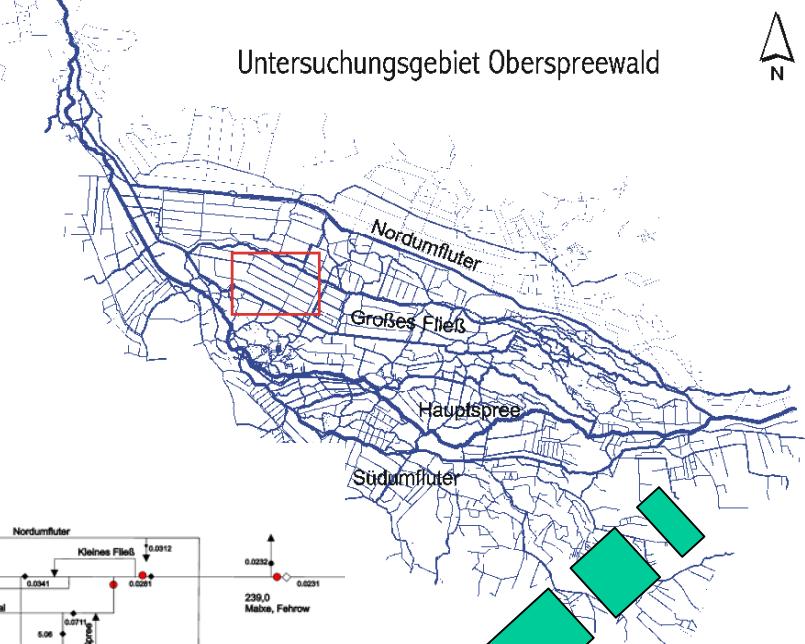
Scheme



Complex model  
DUFLOW



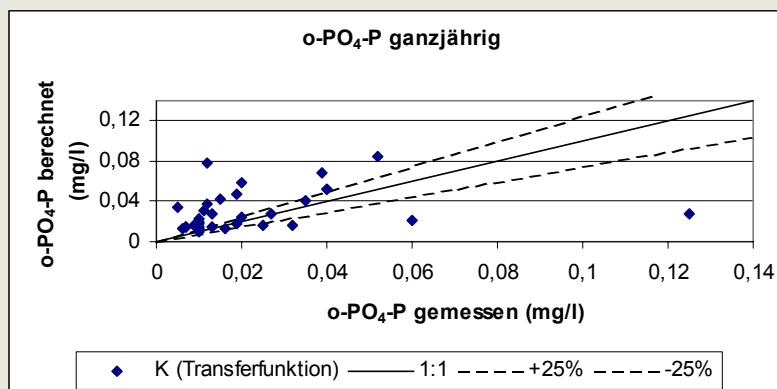
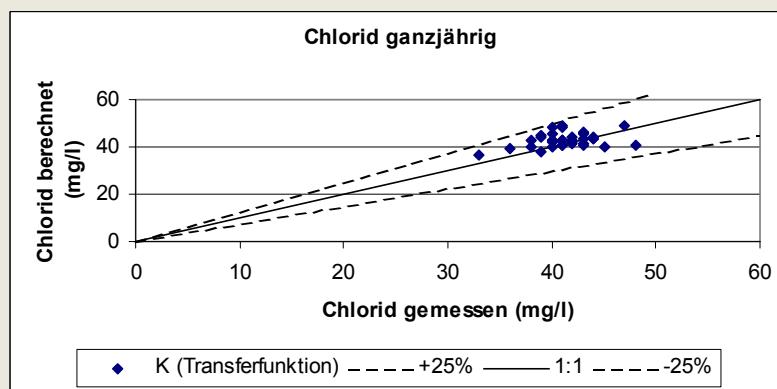
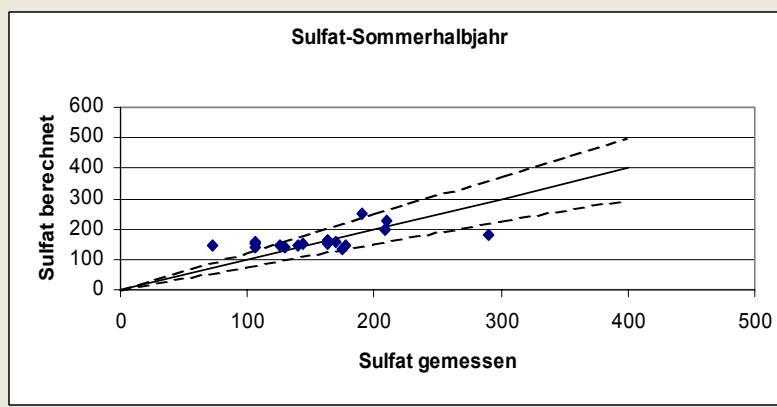
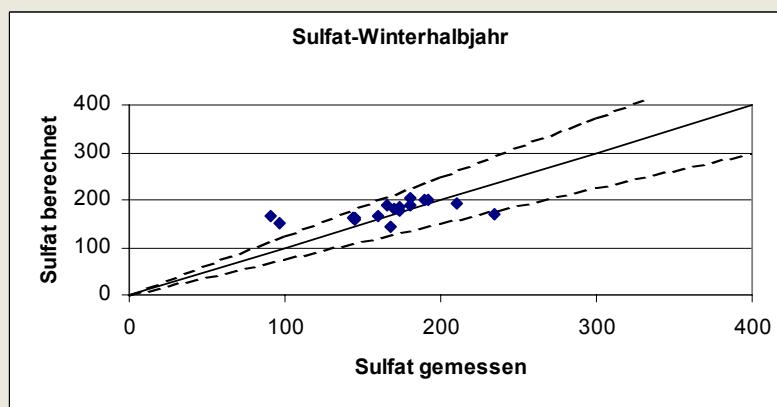
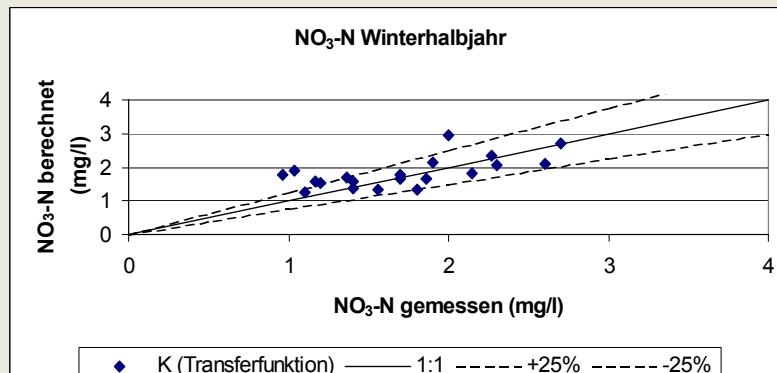
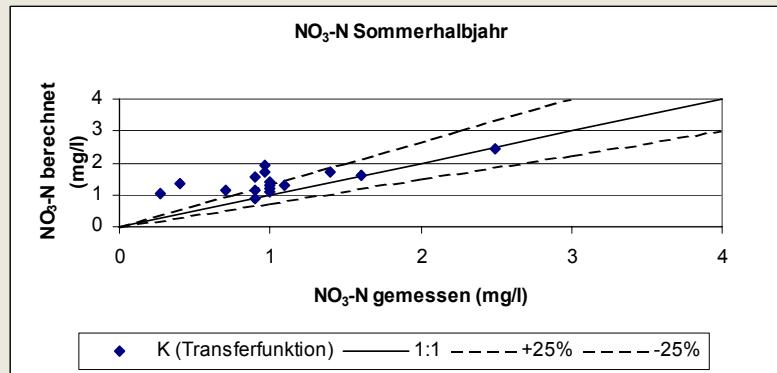
Reduction of the network



# Data acquisition, monitoring networks

Hydrology, Hydraulics	Water quality
Discharges (1991-2000, monthly mean)	Surface water quality (1991-2000, monthly, appointed date)
Channel network, profiles	Ground water quality (near to surface)
Water levels at weirs (1991-2000, monthly mean)	Rate data (reaction kinetics)
Ground water levels	Sediment chemistry
	Distribution of substrates
	Pore water profiles
	Chemical composition of substrates

# Simulation accuracy of transfer functions



# Sink and source function for sulphate

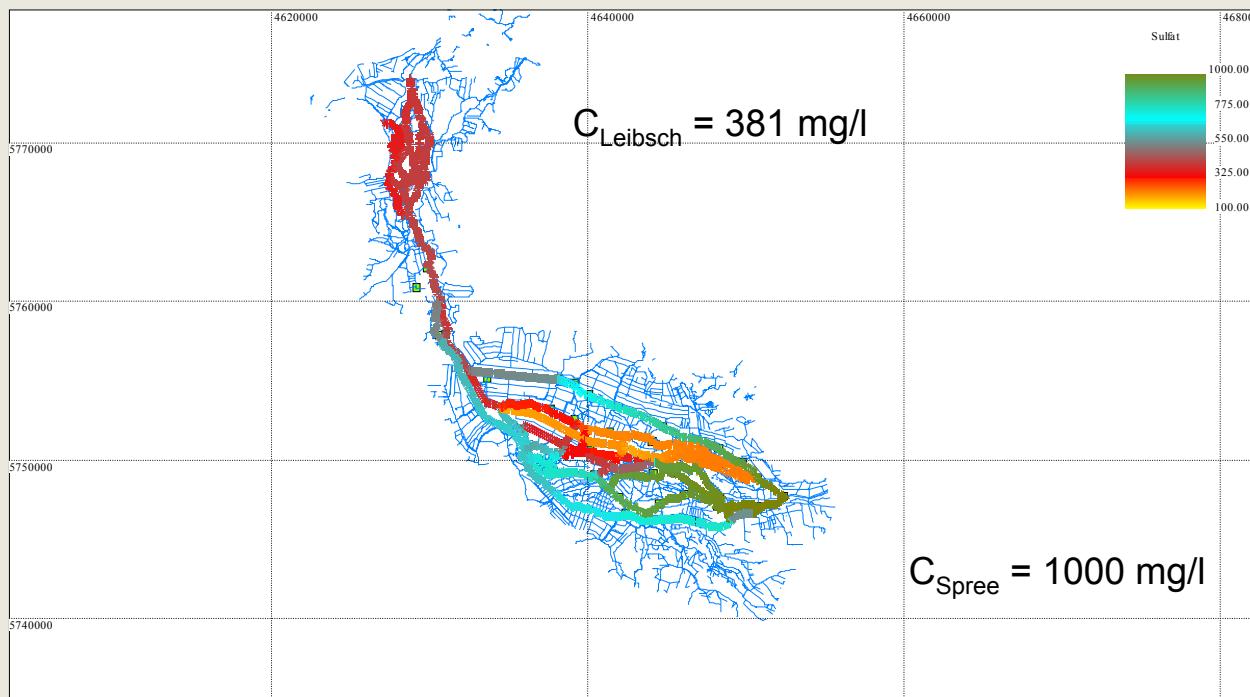
**Hydraulic calculations for different discharge scenarios:**

Summer- half year (SH) NW, MW, MHW, Winter- half year (WH) MW, HW

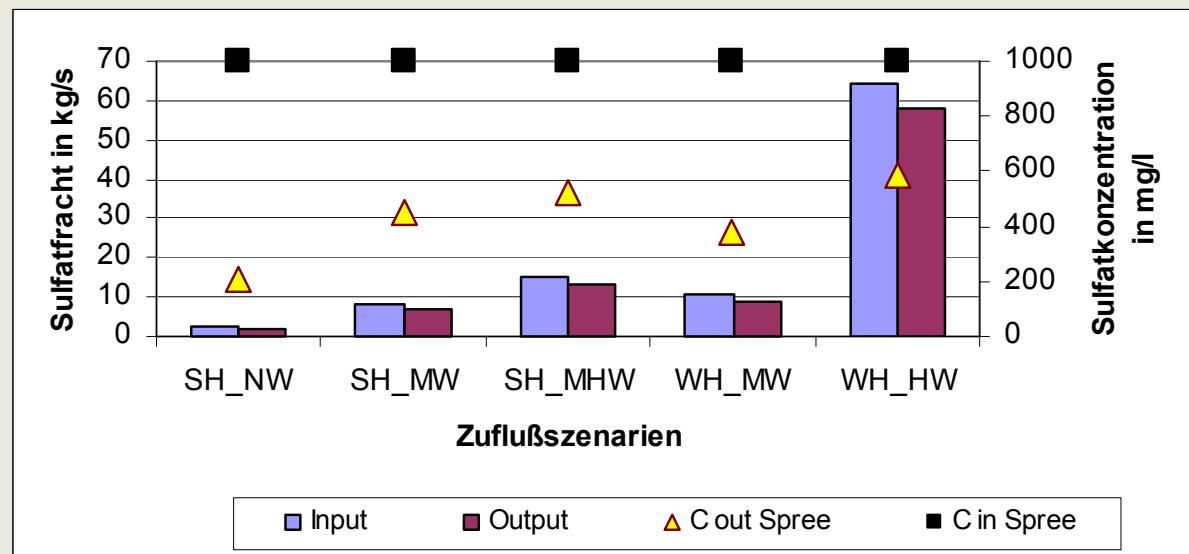
**Area loads:** simulated by „ArcGRM Spreewald“ in dependence on time (month) and input discharge

**Algorithm for sulphate:**

$$u \cdot \frac{\delta C_{SO_4}}{\delta x} = -k_{SO_4} \cdot T_w \cdot C_{SO_4}$$



# Sulphate reduction by the Spreewald wetland region



		SH_NW	SH_MW	SH_MHW	WH_MW	WH_HW
Portion on sulphate load reduction by running water system ( <b>sink</b> )	% of input	<b>21</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>
Load reduction by water consumption and flooding (infiltration, <b>sink</b> )	% of input	<b>15</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
Load addition by ground water (exfiltration, <b>source</b> )	% of output	<b>0</b>	<b>0,1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4,5</b>	<b>0</b>

# **Summary**

- **Water quality modelling of the Spreewald wetland region at catchment scale needs model reductions**
- **Reduced model has to consider the main quality processes**
- **Special effect of wetlands is the load exchange with adjacent areas (in both directions)**
- **Governmental monitoring systems are not sufficient for data supply**



**Thank you**

**Confluence of Große Fließ and Mittelkanal**