



# Verification Analytics and Delft3D FEWS Integration

---

Gabriel Miller and Nathan Barber

11/7/2018





# What is TVA?

A power company  
and so much more...

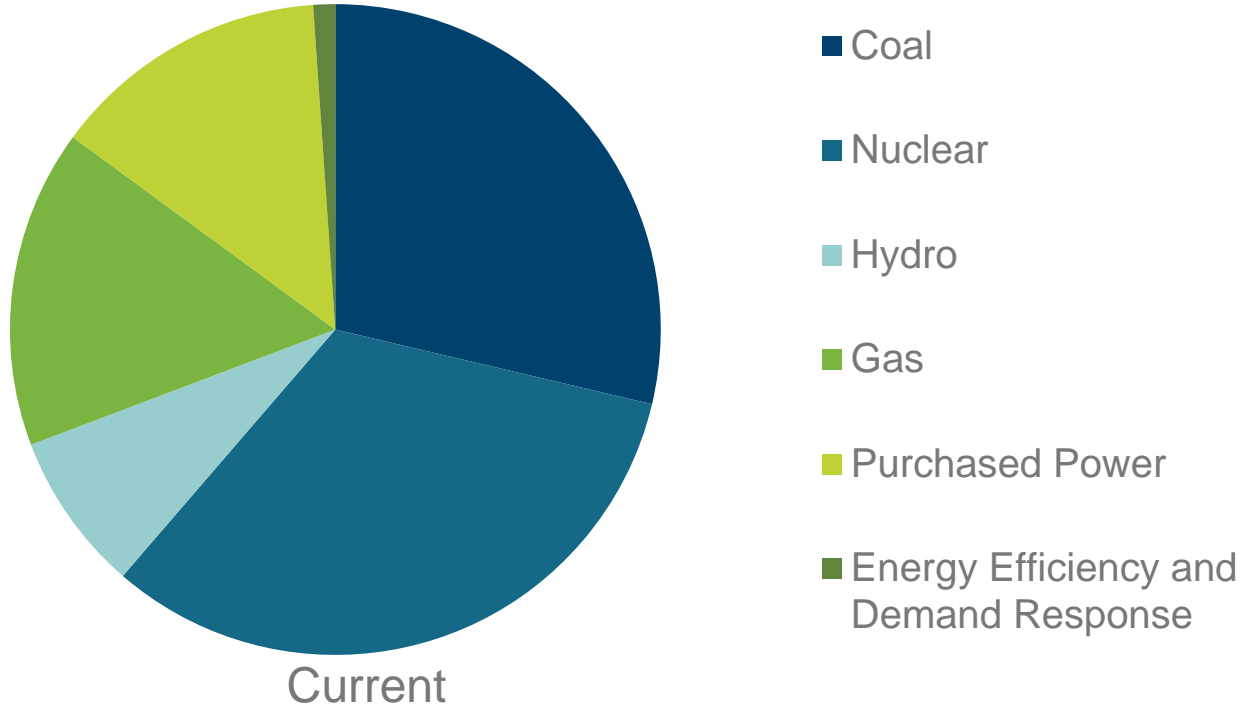


# What We Do

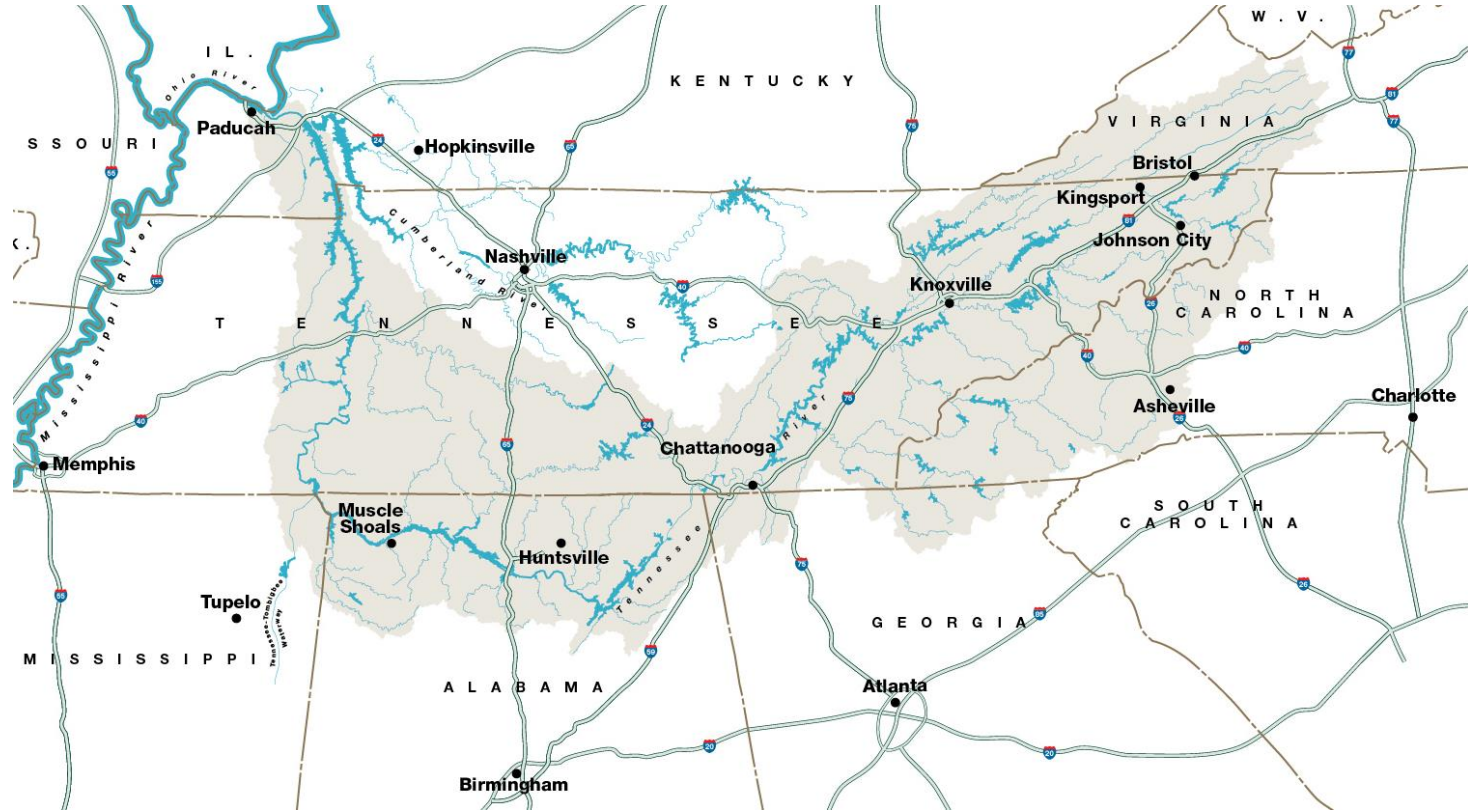
Partner with **154** local power companies,  
to serve **9 million people** and **700,000**  
**businesses** in parts of **seven states**.

Directly serve **58** large industries and federal  
installations.

# The TVA Power System

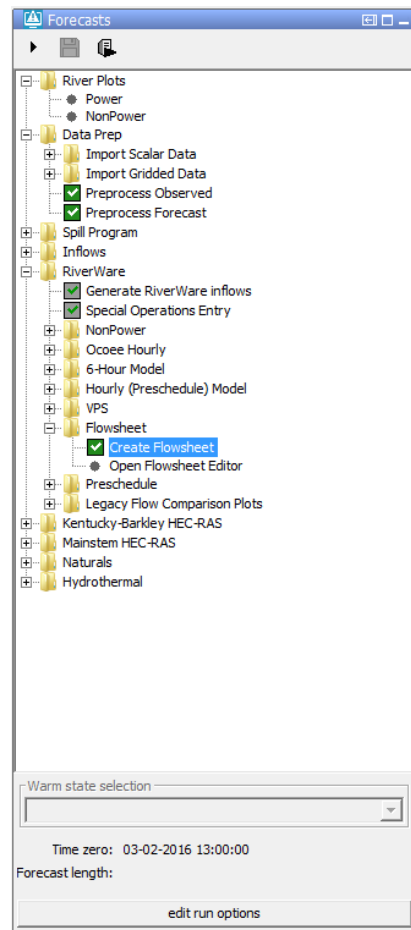


# Tennessee Valley Watershed



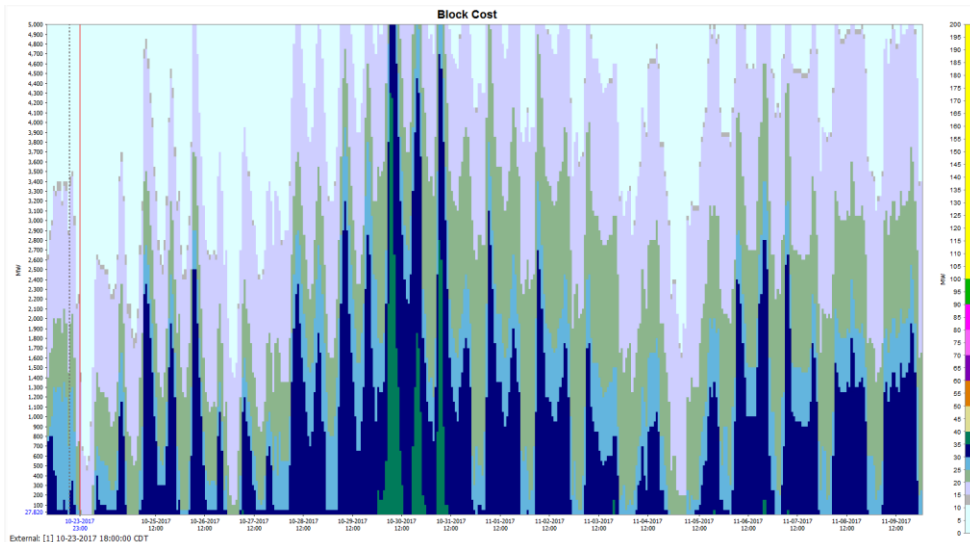
# TVA FEWS System

- Three year project
  - Converted in-house forecast system to standard models and FEWS system
  - Migration from 100+ programs to one unified platform
  - Vastly improved data visualization and reports
- Live on Feb 7<sup>th</sup> 2017



# The Value of Forecasts to TVA

- TVA is a forecast-driven agency due to the expensive and long-term nature of our capital investments
- We forecast
  - Load growth
  - Gas prices
  - Coal prices
  - River flows
  - Budget spends
  - Equipment life....

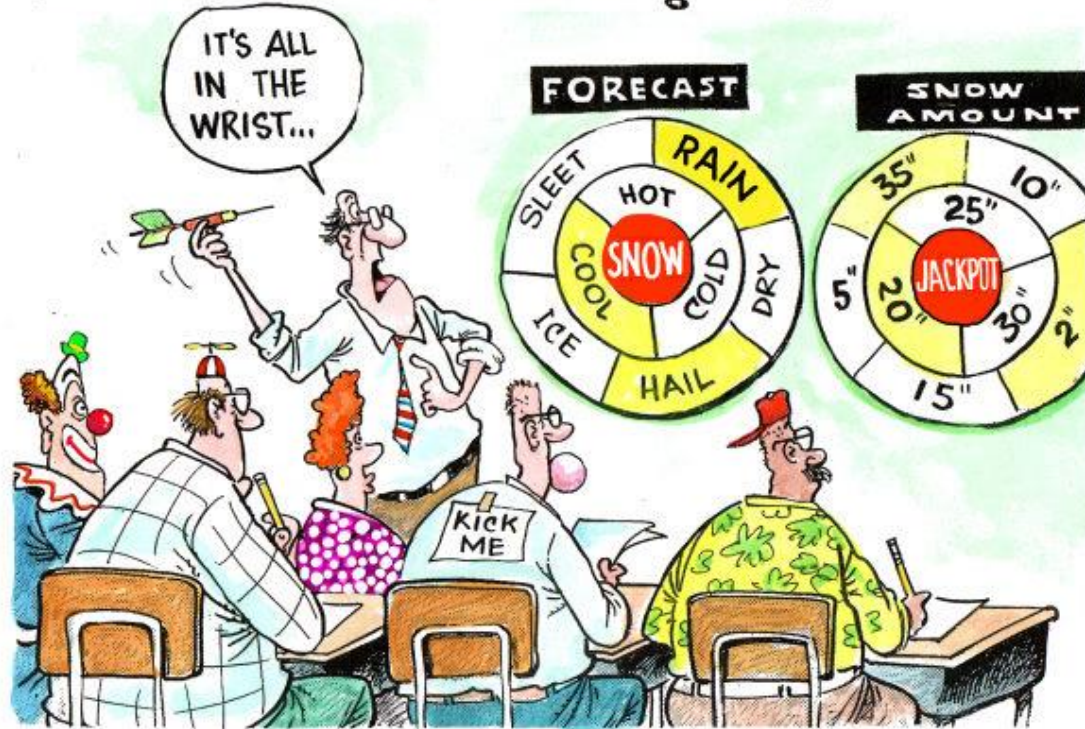


- For TVA, better forecast = lives saved, more \$\$\$, better decisions.



# What Next? How bad are my forecasts?

Refresher course for meteorologists...



DAVE GRANLUND © [www.davegranlund.com](http://www.davegranlund.com)



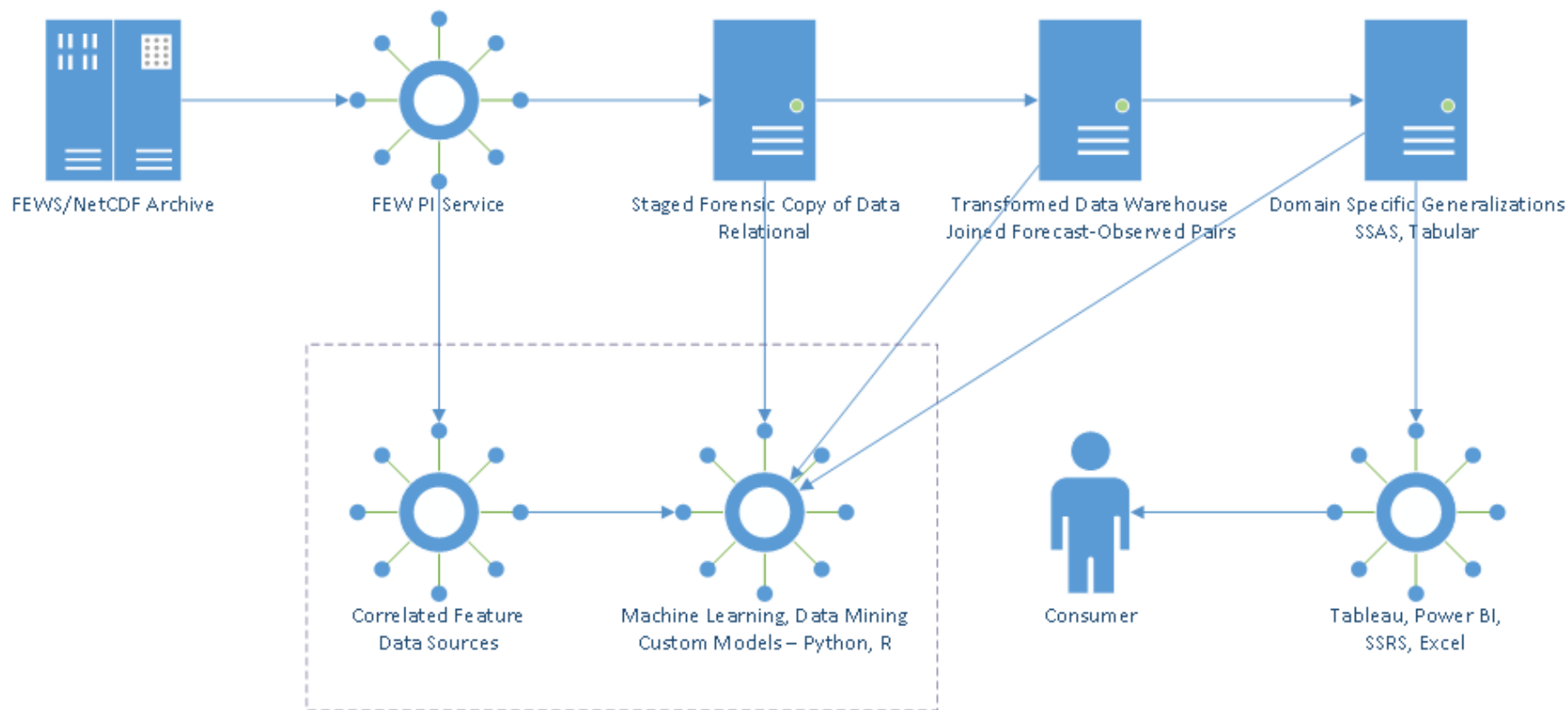
# So, how then should we verify?

- Leveraged FEWS Open Archive and PI Webservice to:
  - Extract data
  - Pair forecasts and observations by parameter and timestep
  - Calculate predefined verification statistics
  - Provide accessible data cubes that can be accessed by Excel, PowerBI, SSRS, Tableau.
- 1,000,000,000 rows of data (and growing).



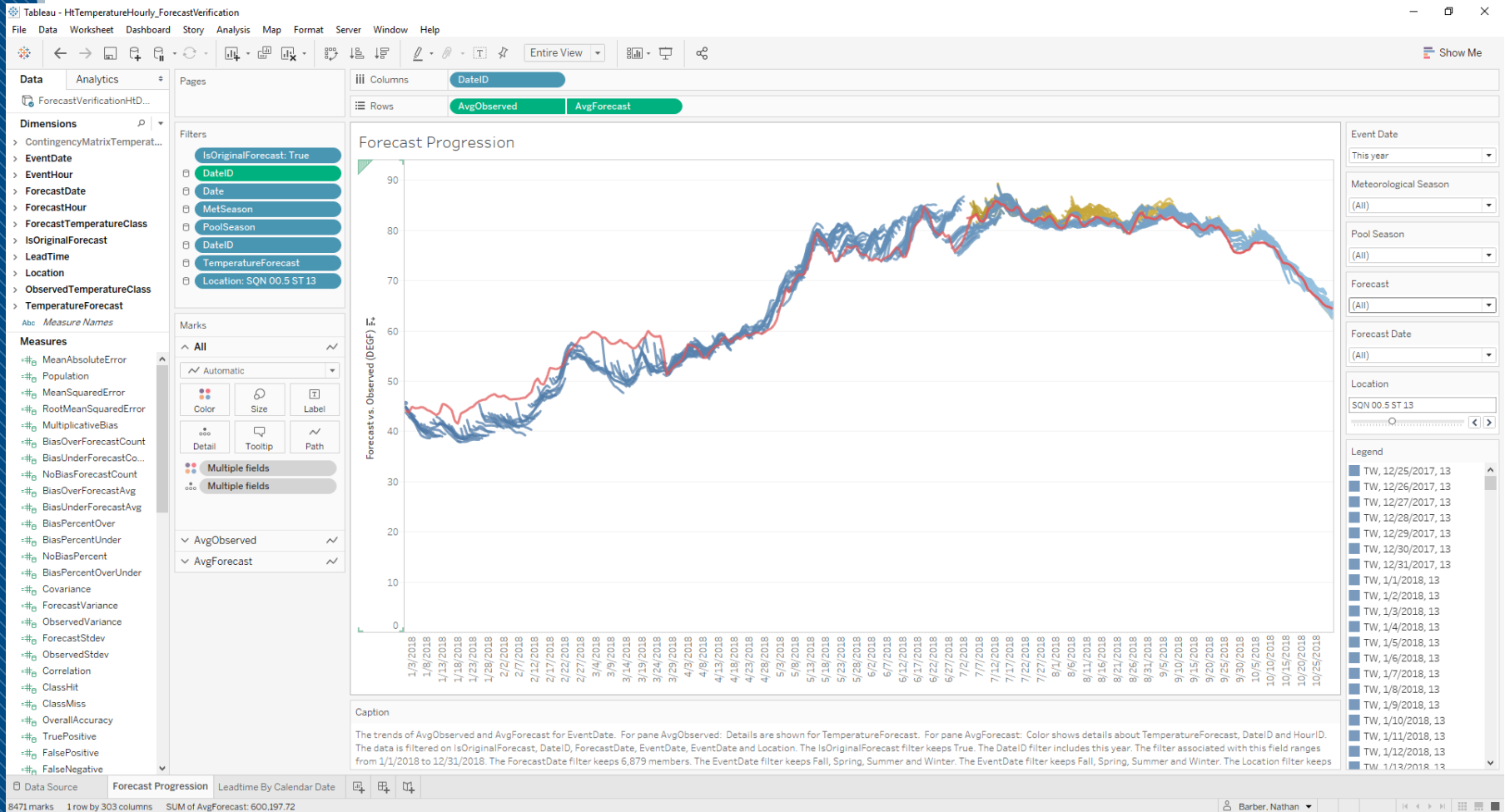
**“If we learn from our mistakes, shouldn’t I try to make as many mistakes as possible?”**

# Software Architecture



# Demo



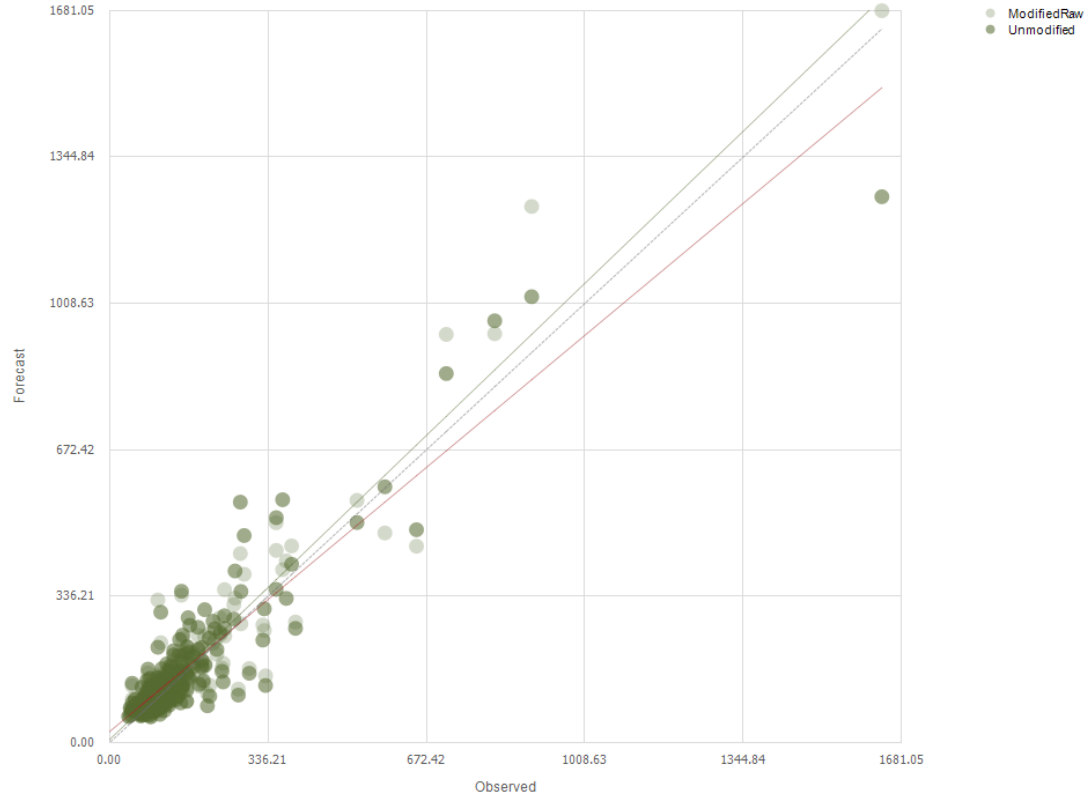




ForecastProvider	Unmodified,ModifiedRaw	LeadTimeDays	006 (0.25 days)	PoolSeason	Winter, Spring, Summer, Fall
EventStart	10/29/2017	LocationGroup	Individual Locations	AverageBy	ForecastProvider, Date
EventEnd	10/29/2018	Location	Bear Creek Dam (BCRA1), Bear Creek nr	CompareBy	ForecastProvider

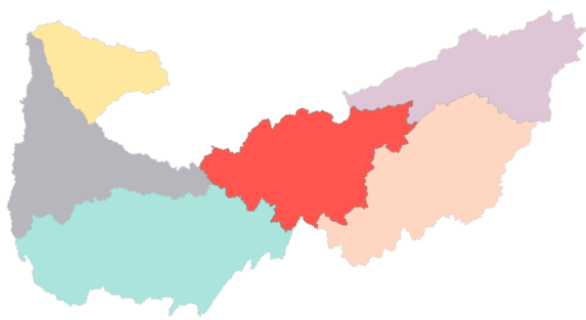
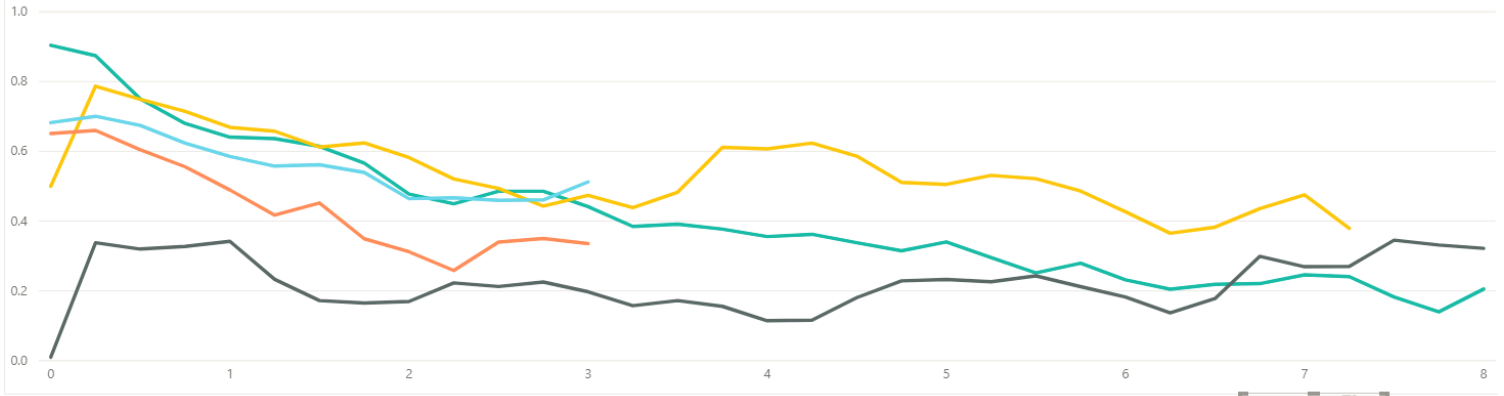
⏪
<
1 of 1
>
⏩
↺
100%
📄
🖨
Find | Next

TVA Local Inflow Hourly Scatter Plot (Forecast vs. Observed) - 490 Instance Averages



Correlation by LeadTimeDays and RainfallForecast

RainfallForecast 95MAX 95MIN ECMWF NAEFS WPC



- RainfallClass...
- ☐ ZERO
  - ☐ LOW
  - ☐ LOW-MID
  - ☐ MID-LOW
  - ☐ MEDIUM
  - ☐ MID-HIGH
  - ☐ HIGH-MID
  - ☐ HIGH
- MetSeason
- ☐ Fall
  - ☐ Spring
  - ☐ Summer
  - ☐ Winter

DateID

9/28/2014 10/31/2018

LeadTimeDays

0.00 8.00

- RainfallForecast
- ☐ 95MAX
  - ☐ 95MIN
  - ☐ Avg95MinMax
  - ☐ ECMWF
  - ☐ Extended,HR...
  - ☐ HRRR
  - ☐ ML
  - ☐ NAEFS
  - ☐ Normal
  - ☐ Selected
  - ☐ WPC



- Main page
- Recent changes
- Email Questions
- Checklists
- Roles
- Lead
- Preschedule
- Kentucky Barkley
- Data Steward
- FEWS Basics
- River Forecast System
- Hydrothermal
- System Documentation
- Wiki Basics
- Tools

# Main Page/Verification

Contents [hide]

- Why Verify?
- What is Verification?
  - Measures
  - Statistics
  - Tools
- Results/Questions/Observations
- General Purpose Reports

## Why Verify?

*"Forecasts are almost always made and used in the belief that having a forecast available is preferable to remaining in complete ignorance about the future event of interest. It is important [however] to test this belief a posteriori by assessing how skillful or valuable a given forecast is."* - Ian T. Jolliffe/David B. Stephenson (Mathematics Research Institute, University of Exeter)

In the context of TVA's River Management, forecasts and decisions are an integral and essential component of the mission. In fact, many of the forecasts and subsequent decisions are based on other forecasts - These come from other federal agencies, private utilities, vendors, and TVA organizations. TVA River Management's River Forecast Center is then tasked with integrating all of these forecasts in a variety of models and then coming up with the best decision on when and where to move water within the Tennessee River Valley. While expert experience naturally lends itself to a qualitative understanding of uncertainty/performance/skill in these forecasts and decisions, much of this can be hidden just below the surface. This verification system will allow forecasters, managers, and hydrologists, the opportunity to look as shallow or deep as necessary with respect to forecasts and the corresponding "truth". This system can be used to

- Track performance in forecasts
- Help forecasters choose which forecast to use in the models (when many exist)
- Identify bias or persistent errors in TVA forecasts
- Identify bias or persistent errors in external forecasts
- Understand data integrity
- Identify process improvements/issues
- Propose new projects and identify funding opportunities based on above results
- Compare common forecasts between TVA and external agencies (NWS) for the purposes of mutually improving
- Train forecasters on how modifications can affect performance

## What is Verification?

Verification allows River Management the ability to quantify how well a given forecast or set of forecasts perform(s) with respect to a corresponding observation. Forecasts that do not have a corresponding observation are not part of this system. Since performance is subjective and depends on the question and measure, the roughly 156 pre-calculated statistics are available to the user to choose from. Many of these are common to all forecasts (such as Mean Error) while some are specific to the measure (such as skill scores - only relevant to MAP). Yet others are specific to the way the measures are sliced (Class-based performance measures). The variety of verification statistics allows the user to ask a specific question and choose the statistic(s) that best answer(s) or inform(s) that question. For instance, if I am interested in the magnitude of error for a given forecast, I would likely choose **mean absolute error** as my statistic. If I am interested in understanding how a given forecast performs over time with respect to an unskilled forecast, I would likely choose **skill score mean absolute error**. If I am interested in identifying how a given forecast represents reality, I would likely choose **correlation**. In some cases, several statistics are necessary to answer the question. In the rare case that none of the 156 pre-calculated statistics are sufficient, many of the access tools provide a means to generate specific calculations. An expert user could even bypass the verification system and manipulate the raw data via the tools, to inform a highly-specialized study.

## Measures





# River Temperature Modeling

---



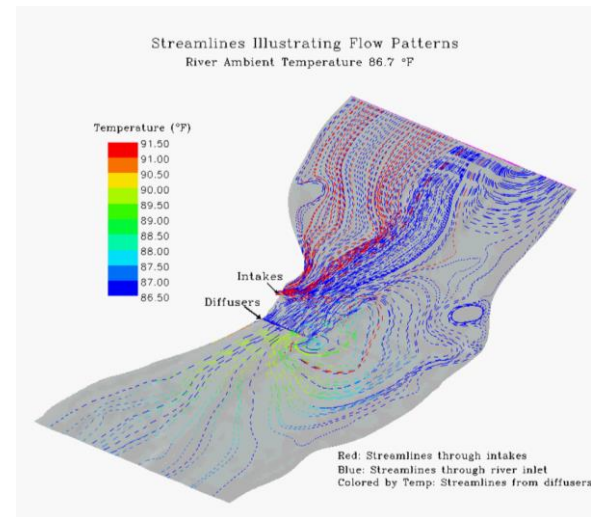
# Hydrothermal Modeling

- The hydrothermal team supports TVA power plants in maintaining environmental compliance (river temperature)
  - Assist the power plants in maintaining environmental compliance for river temperature
  - Generate river temperature forecasts
  - Coordinate use of cooling towers
  - Coordinate river operations and hydroelectric generation



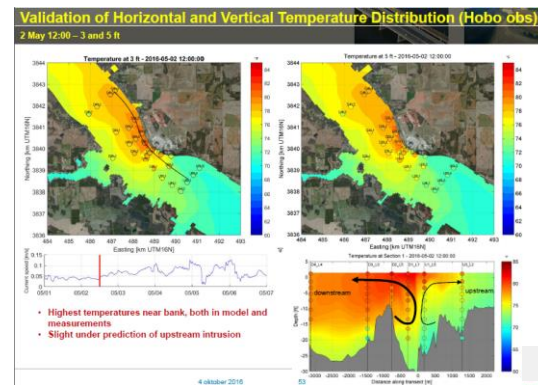
# Project Overview

- Complex flow patterns occur in the vicinity of the power plants due to the withdrawal of cooling water
  - 1D hydraulics in TVA models cannot accurately represent localized 3D flow (recirculation)
- To ensure environmental compliance, TVA operates the river and cooling tower equipment conservatively during summer months
  - Steady flows (forego income from hydro peaking)
  - Forecast uncertainty can result in extended operation of cooling towers
- **Goal:** generate a 48-hour river temperature forecast in 30-minutes with an accuracy of 1°F using a 3D model



# Modeling Framework

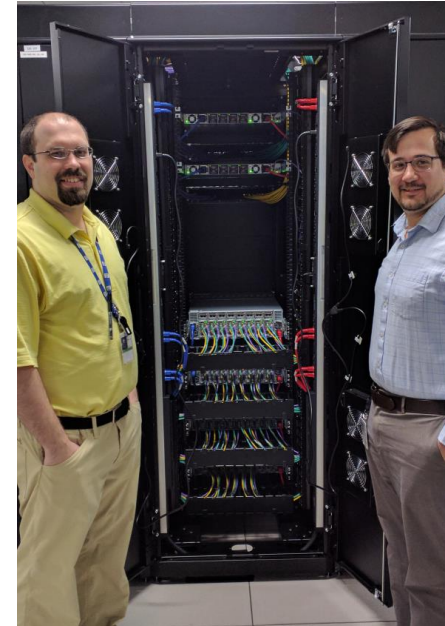
- Coupled model framework required to simulate plant induced recirculation while meeting project run-time constraint
  - Plant equipment (TVA)
  - Plume (TVA, Deltares)
  - Reservoir (Deltares Delft3D)
- Model interaction coordinated by COSUMO
- Deltares developed Delft3D models in conjunctions with a large field campaign.
- Delft3D changes were required to meet operational constraints





# Hardware

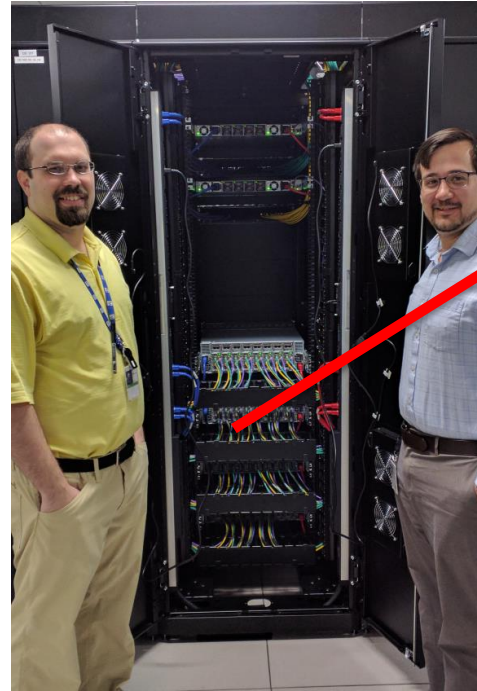
- Ability to run 8 river temperature forecasts concurrently
  - Analyze multiple hydro generation schedules during daily scheduling of river
  - Support 3 power plants during critical periods
- Specs
  - 8 FEWS forecasting shells (Virtual machines)
  - Supermicro Servers (Physical servers)
    - > 54 blades / nodes total
    - > 6 per model scenario
  - Intel Xeon Processor E3-1285 v6 @ 4.1 Ghz
    - > 4 core / partitions
    - > 216 cores / partitions total
    - > 18 per model scenario (3 nodes for Delft3D, 1 for OS)
  - Cisco Nexus 93108TC-EX
    - > 2 switches
    - > 10 Gigabit (necessary because of MPI)



# Hardware



Network Switch

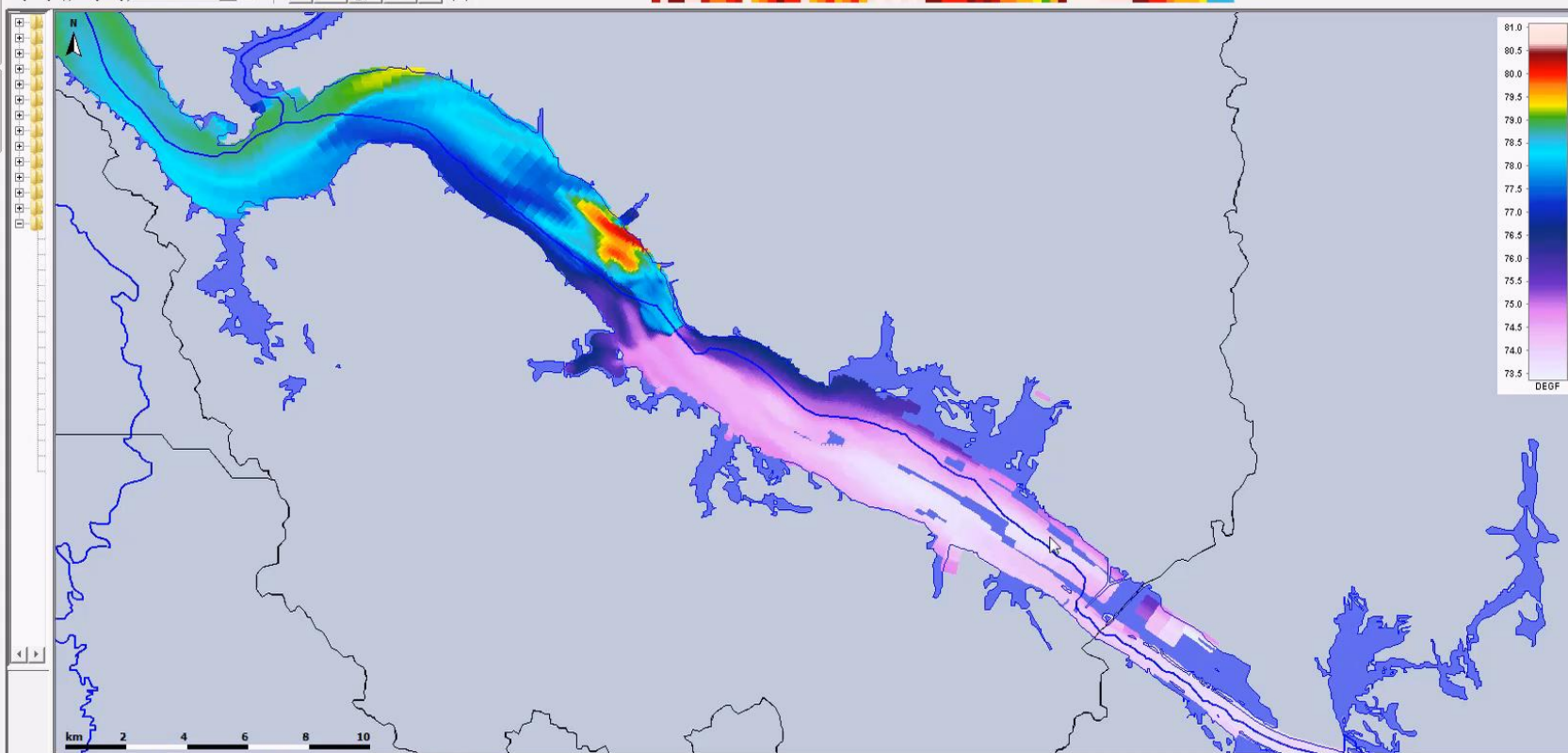


Server / Node



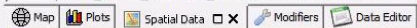
5: Forecasts

6: Data Viewer



3: Plot Overview

Delft3D\_Wheeler\_PostProcess\_Grids: Delft3D Wheeler Post... 10-10-2017 23:00:00 CDT Current



Logs

10-11-2017 08:59:28 INFO - TimeSeriesIndex.CompactFinished: 9 seconds, removed rows 366060/2719043, removed time series 30373/163745, removed groups 2345/35237, removed ids 84/3437, removed qualifier set ids 24/840, removed id sequences 968/10454, released memory 5.8

8: Run Info

Miller, Gabriel Alexander

Current system time: 10-11-2017 09:00 CDT

10:01:35 EDT

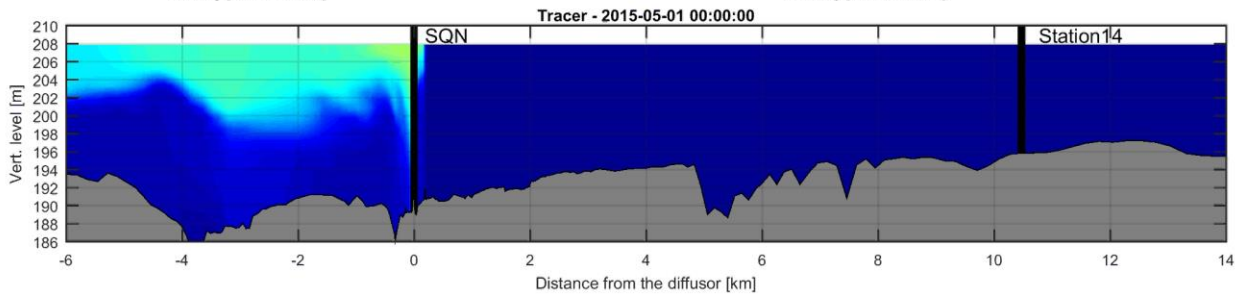
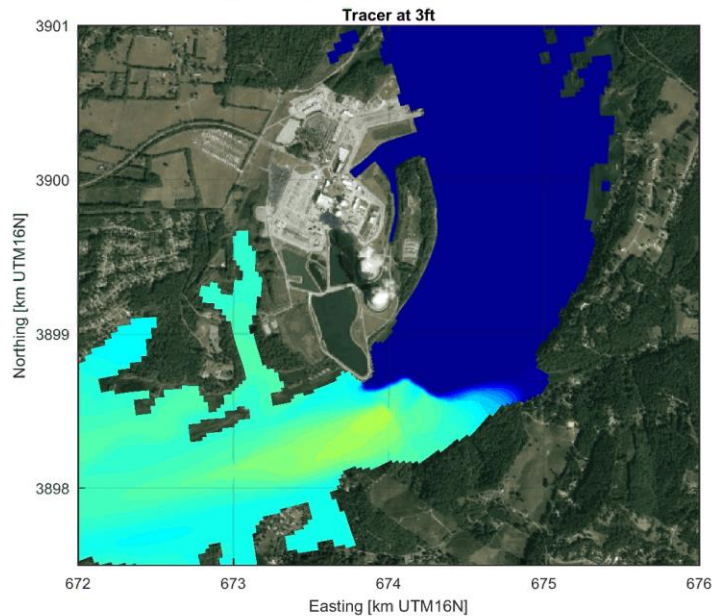
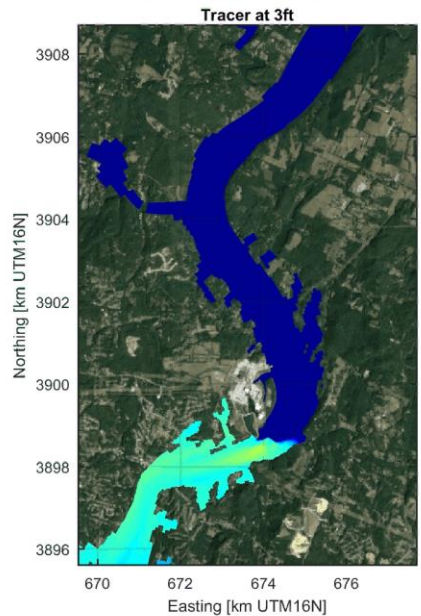
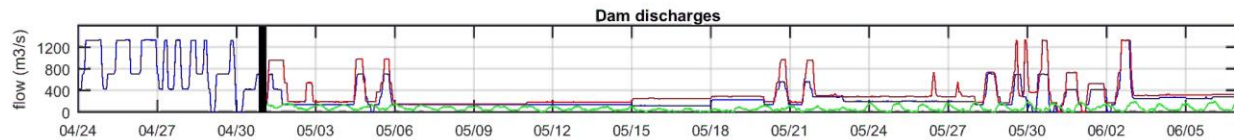
jstetvdmC0

-86.992, 34.641

0.0 MB/s

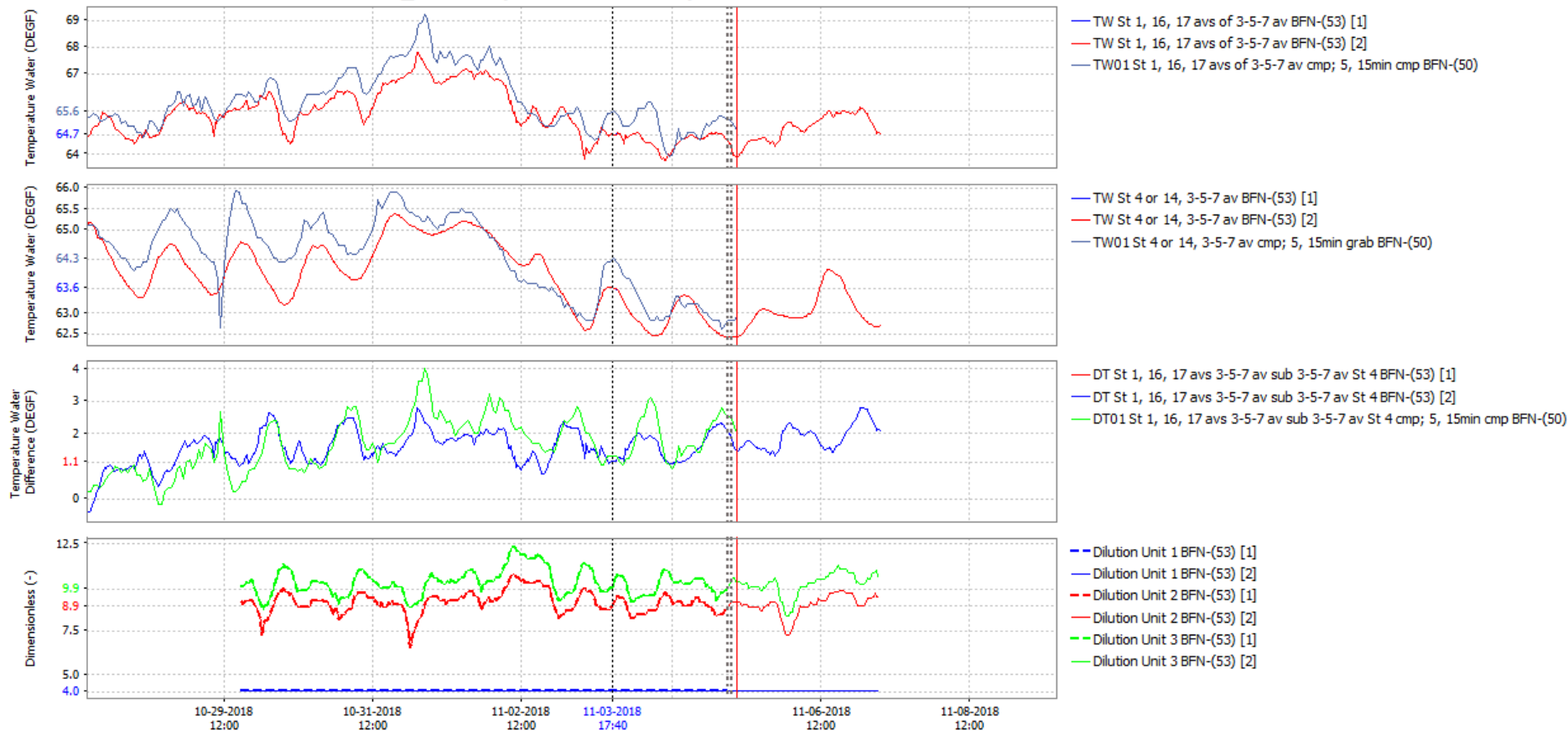
459 MB/23







# Wheeler\_TW sampled at 3'-5'-7' depths



Delft3D\_Wheeler\_UpdateStates: [1] Delft3D\_Wheeler\_UpdateStates 11-05-2018 06:00:00 CST Current

Delft3D\_Wheeler\_Forecast\_0: [2] Delft3D\_Wheeler\_Forecast\_0 11-05-2018 07:00:00 CST Current

