**Ephemeral Arsenic:** Two Years, Three Cycles at **Kissimmee River ASR Pilot Site** Show "Natural Attenuation" of Arsenic

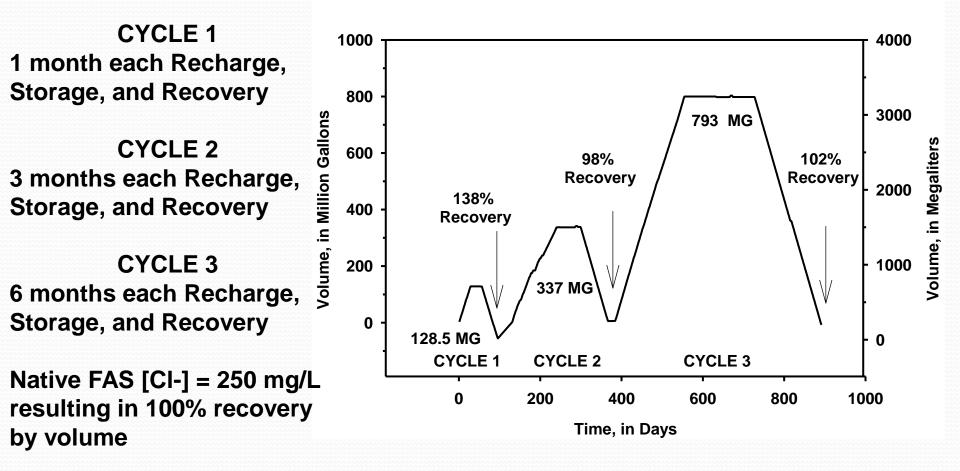
> June Mirecki, PhD, PG American Ground Water Trust ASR11 12-13 September 2011

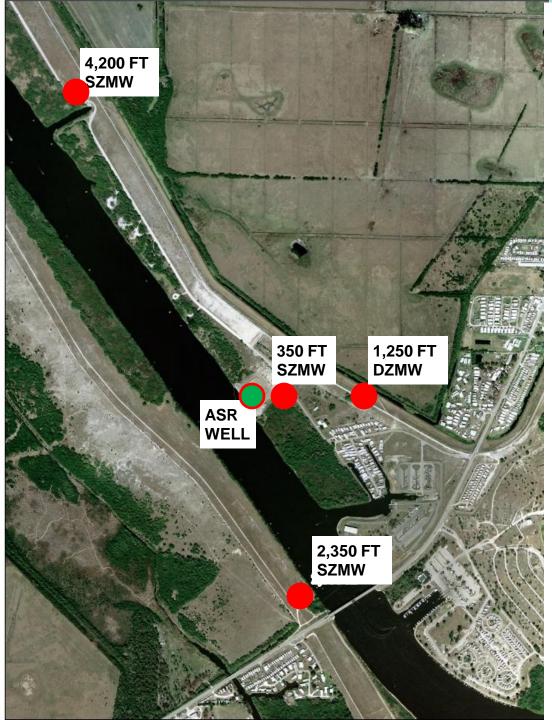
# Kissimmee River ASR Pilot System, Okeechobee, FL

#### • 5 MGD pumping rate

- Kissimmee River source water filtered, UV disinfected
- Storage in upper Floridan Aquifer, 550 880 ft bls
- Three cycle tests completed; 4th underway

# Cycle Testing History January 2009 through June 2011





#### MONITORING WELLFIELD

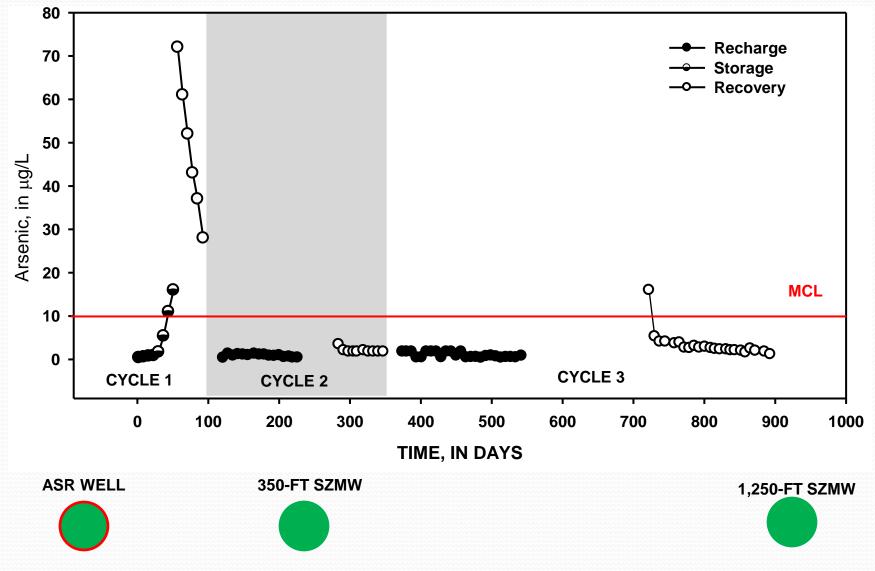
- ASR WELL: EXKR-1, 5 MGD
- 350-FT STORAGE ZONE MONITOR WELL: MW-10
- 1,250-FT DUAL ZONE MONITOR WELL: OKF-100 UPPER FAS and APPZ
- 2,350-FT STORAGE ZONE MONITOR WELL: MW-18
- **4,200-FT** STORAGE ZONE MONITOR WELL: MW-19

Flowpath extends from ASR well

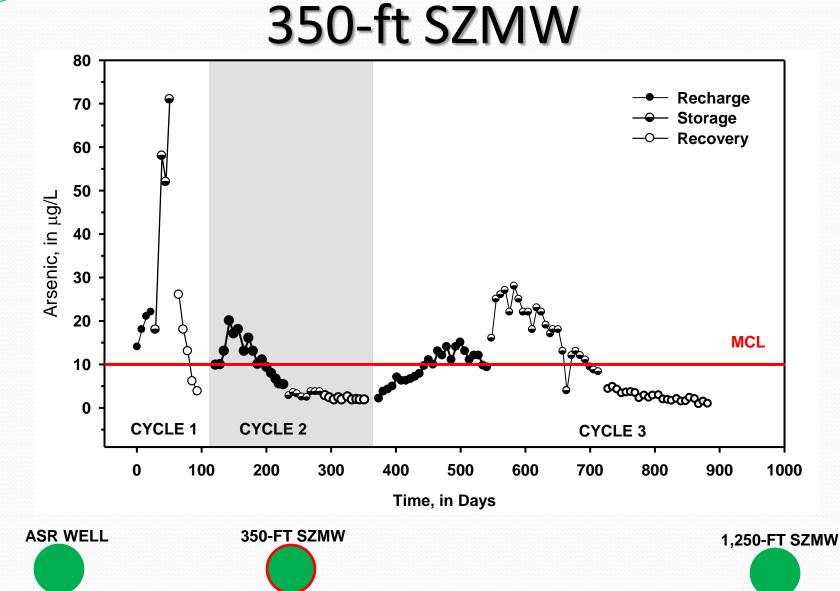
➡ 350-ft SZMW

1250 ft SZMW

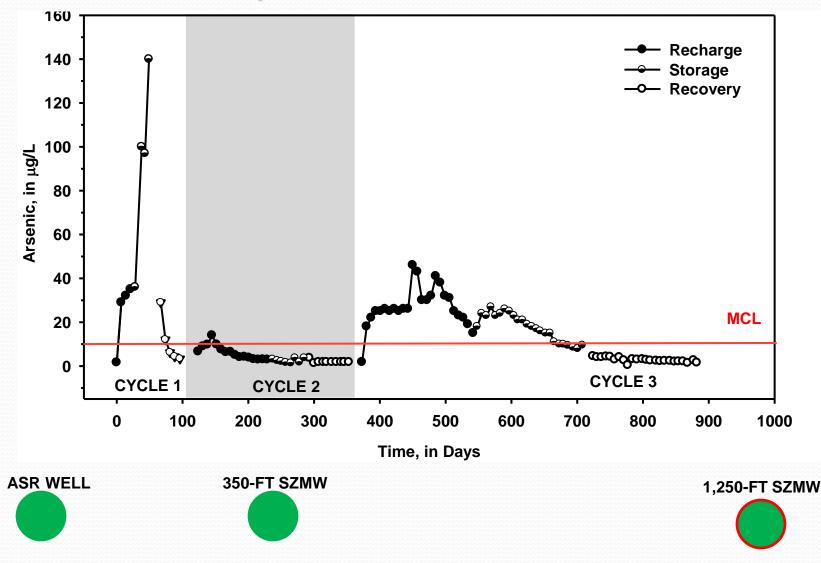
## Arsenic Trends During 3 Cycles ASR Well Data



# Arsenic Trends During 3 Cycles



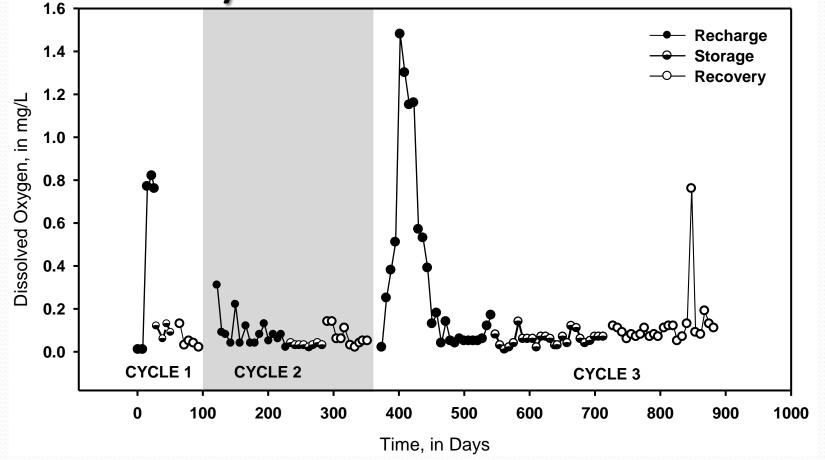
# Arsenic Trends During 3 Cycles 1,250-ft SZMW



## Interpretation of Arsenic Trends

- Arsenic concentrations in recovered water were below 10 ppb during cycles 2 and 3
- At 5 MGD pumping rate, arsenic is transported between 1,250 and 2,350 ft away from the ASR well \*\*TENTATIVE\*\* pending analysis of aquifer anisotropy at this site.
- Arsenic is mobilized during recharge, but concentrations decline in the aquifer as a result of geochemical reactions

# Dissolved Oxygen Trends During 3 Cycles: 350-ft SZMW

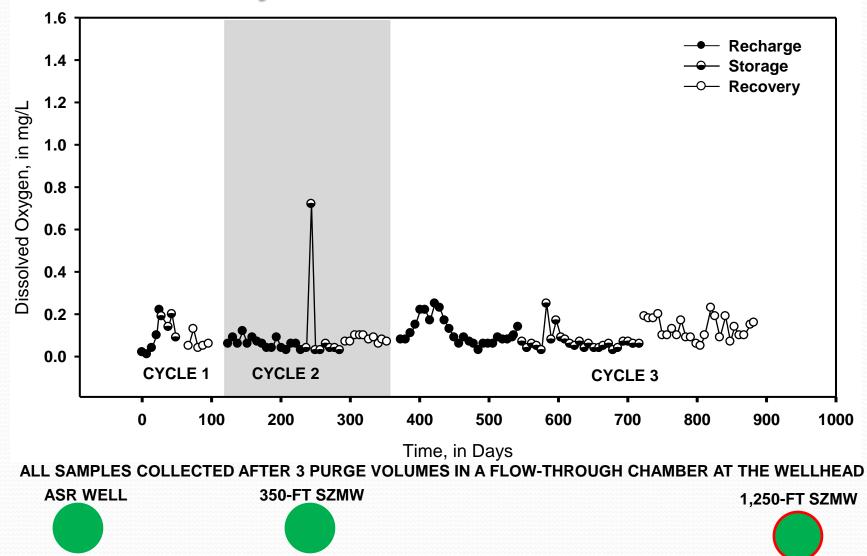


ALL SAMPLES COLLECTED AFTER 3 PURGE VOLUMES IN A FLOW-THROUGH CHAMBER AT THE WELLHEAD





## Dissolved Oxygen Trends During 3 Cycles: 1,250-ft SZMW



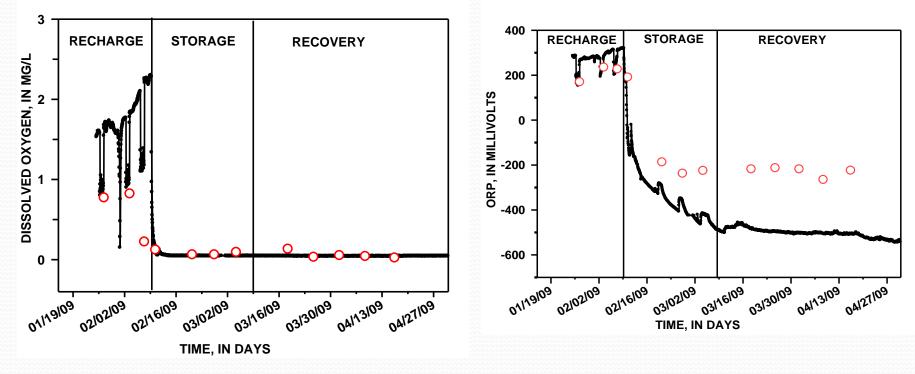
#### SeaBird Probe in 350-ft SZMW (MW-10)



Parameters: Temperature Pressure Dissolved Oxygen

Specific Conductance pH ORP

#### How Long Do Oxic Conditions Persist During ASR Cycle Testing?



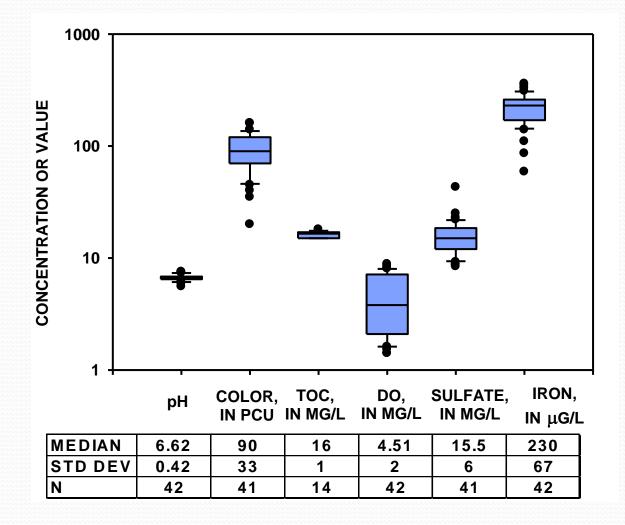
CYCLE 1, SeaBird Probe data in 350-ft SZMW

Half-life of dissolved oxygen after recharge ends: Approximately 25 hours

#### Interpretation of Dissolved Oxygen Trends

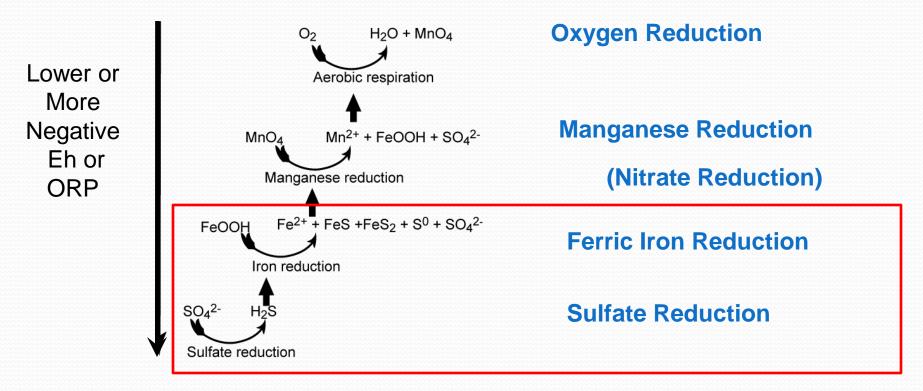
- Dissolved Oxygen concentrations diminish during transport, and deplete rapidly when pumping ceases, with a 25-hour half-life.
- At 5 MGD pumping rate, dissolved oxygen is transported between 350 ft and 1,250 ft away from the ASR well
- In-situ measurements of dissolved oxygen in the storage zone are slightly greater than wellhead measurements
- Aquifer redox condition evolves to a reducing condition as dissolved oxygen is depleted

#### Recharge Water Quality: Kissimmee River Source Water

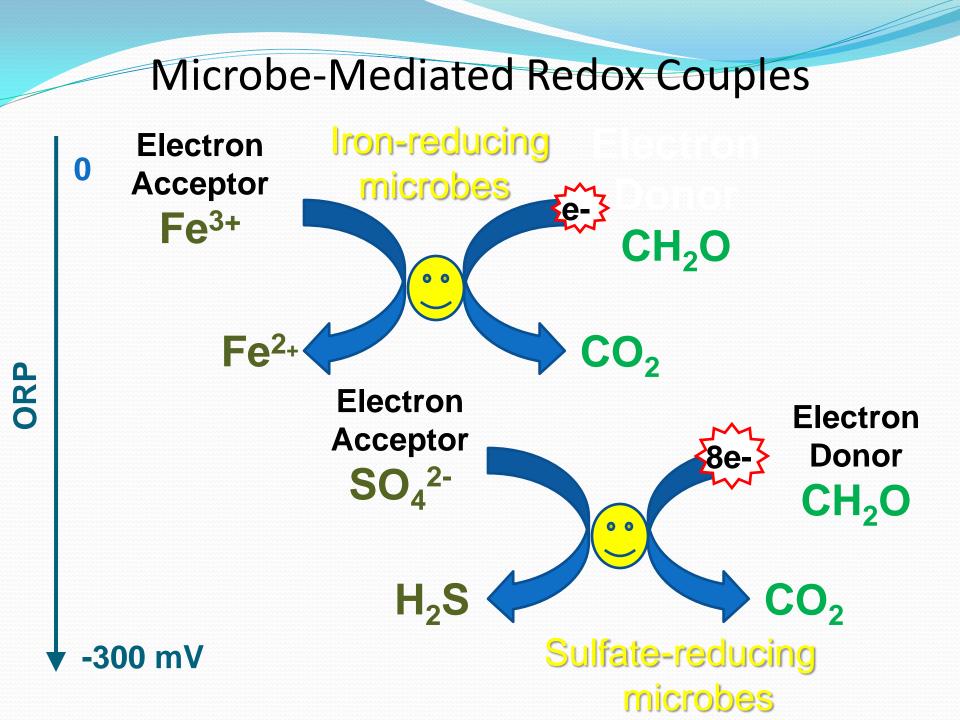


## Redox Control of Arsenic Mobility During ASR Cycle Testing

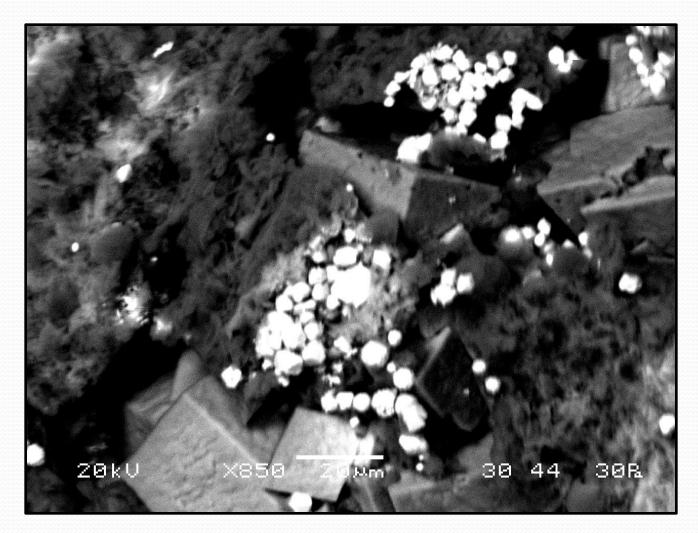
- Pyrite (Iron Sulfide) in FAS aquifer matrix is the source of arsenic
- Pyrite is a stable solid mineral in native FAS



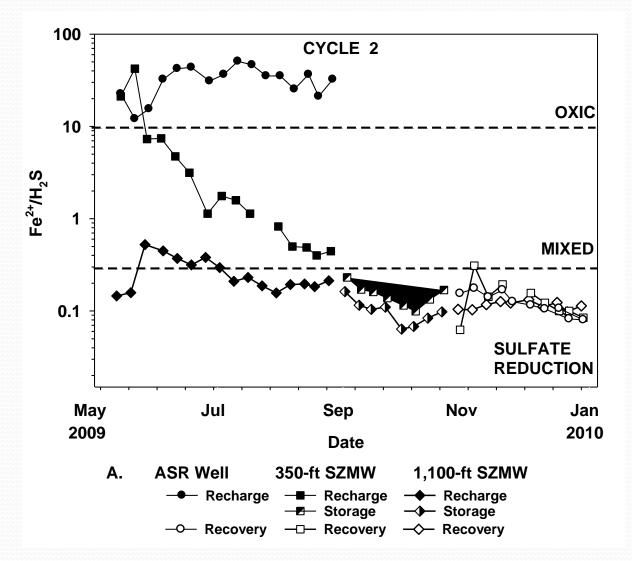
- Arsenic is released by pyrite oxidation during recharge
- Control pyrite oxidation, and you can control arsenic



## Framboidal and Crystalline Pyrite in Suwannee Limestone



#### **Redox Evolution During ASR Cycle Testing**

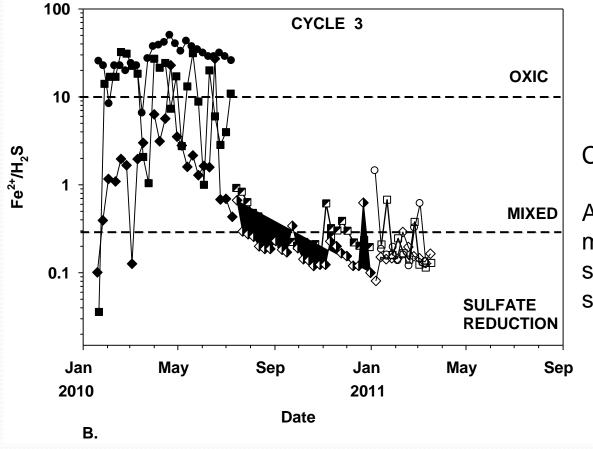


Chapelle et al. (2009) define criteria to separate redox zones using

Fe<sup>2+</sup>/H<sub>2</sub>S ratio

Conclusion: ASR wellfield evolves from oxic to mixed ferric iron/sulfate reducing to sulfate reducing only condition as the cycle proceeds

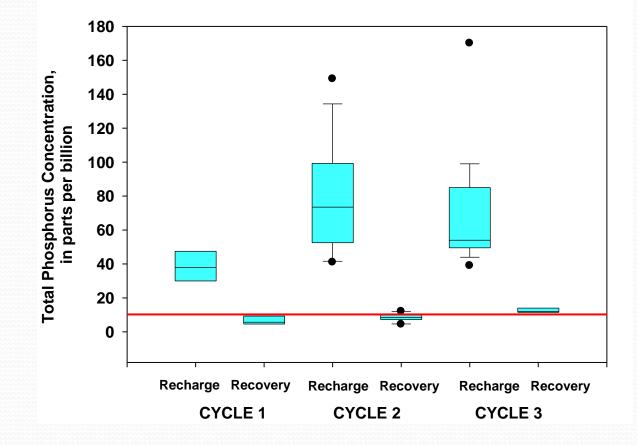
#### **Redox Evolution During ASR Cycle Testing**



Cycle 3 shows same trend

Aquifer evolves toward mixed ferric iron and sulfate redox conditions starting in recharge phase

#### **Phosphorus Attenuation During ASR Cycle Testing**



#### **Kissimmee River ASR Pilot Site Status**

- 3 Cycles completed (793 MG recharged/recovered)
- Cycle 4 recharge began 6 July 2011
  Target 1 BG recharge/recovered, 1 yr storage
- Arsenic mobilization is temporary, and attenuates in the FAS under these conditions
  - high TOC, Fe recharge water
  - sulfate-reducing conditions in native FAS
- Cycles 2 and 3 recovered water all >10 ppb As
- Phosphorus attenuates to below 10 ppb
- Could this site get an operating permit?



#### **ASR PDT in RECOVERY**

Thanks very much to Bob Verrastro, SFWMD R2T, Inc. – Facility Operators Brian Clark and Wendy Leonard, AMEC – water quality Mike Bennett and Paul Petrey, Aquae Sulis