

Goose Rocks Beach Watershed
Kennebunkport & Biddeford, ME
Preliminary Hotspots & 2006 Enterococci Geomeans

Hotspots + Enterococci

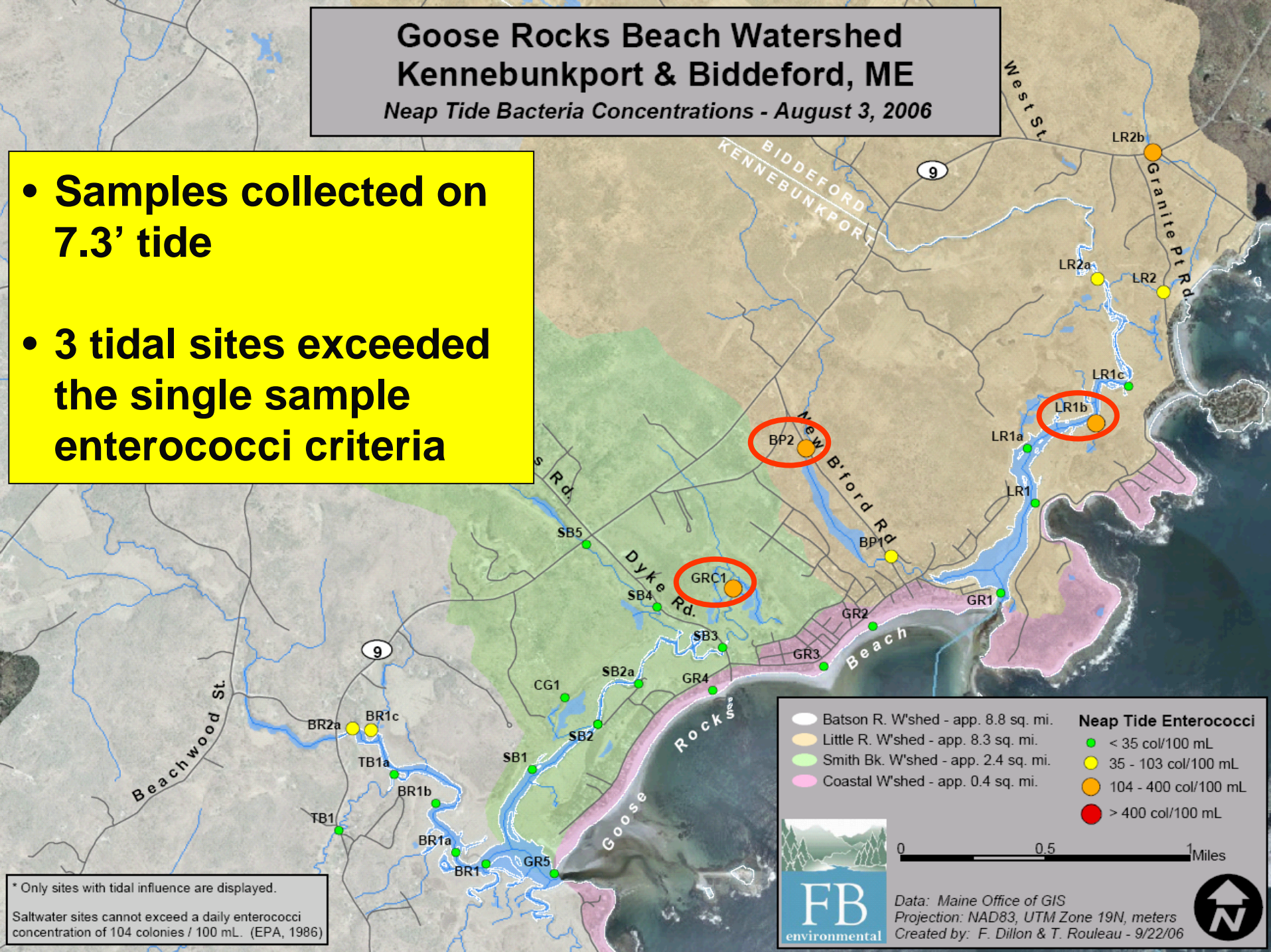
- General correspondence between high risk areas and high bacteria concentrations



Goose Rocks Beach Watershed Kennebunkport & Biddeford, ME

Neap Tide Bacteria Concentrations - August 3, 2006

- Samples collected on 7.3' tide
- 3 tidal sites exceeded the single sample enterococci criteria



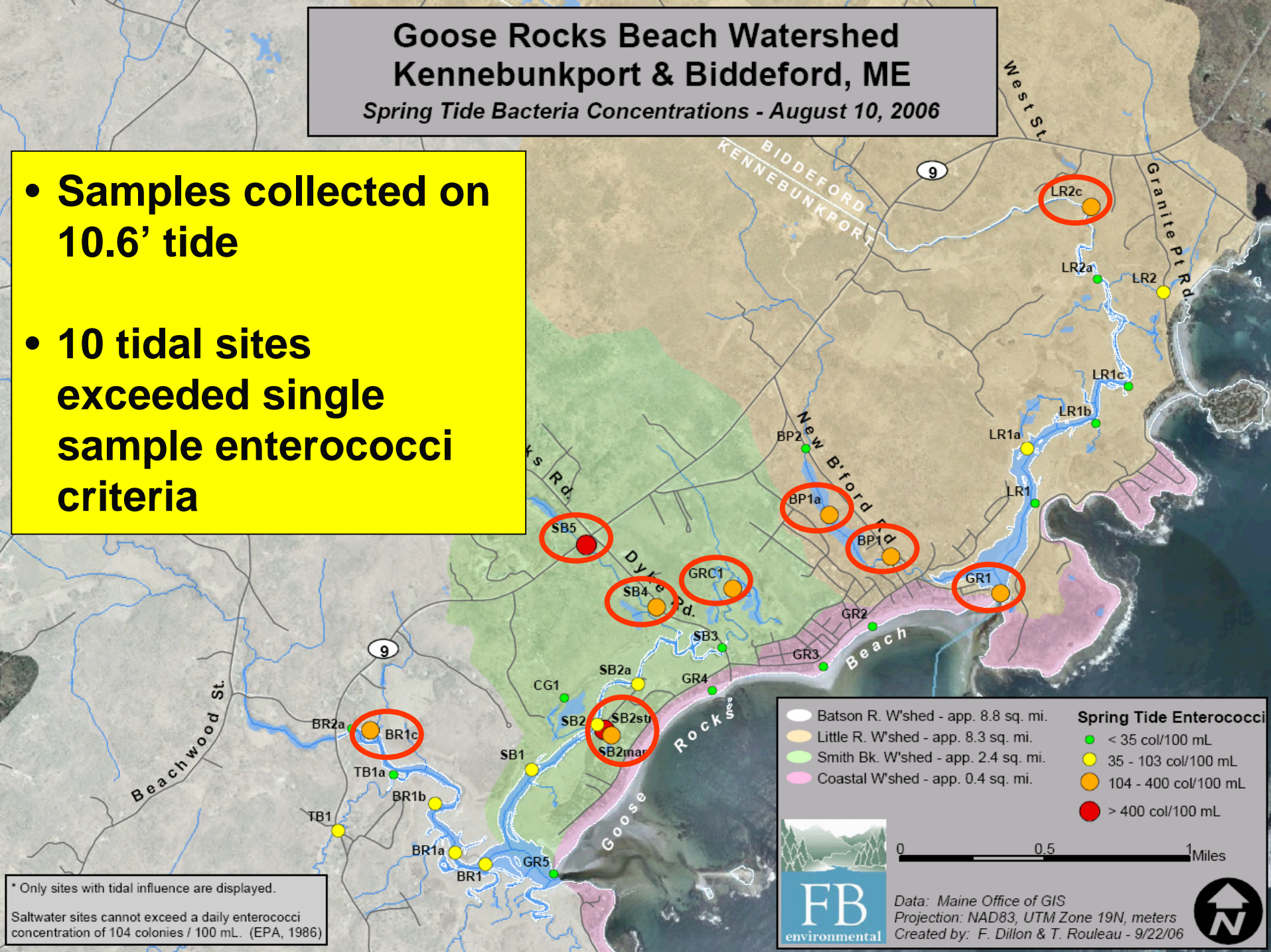
* Only sites with tidal influence are displayed.

Saltwater sites cannot exceed a daily enterococci concentration of 104 colonies / 100 mL. (EPA, 1986)

Goose Rocks Beach Watershed Kennebunkport & Biddeford, ME

Spring Tide Bacteria Concentrations - August 10, 2006

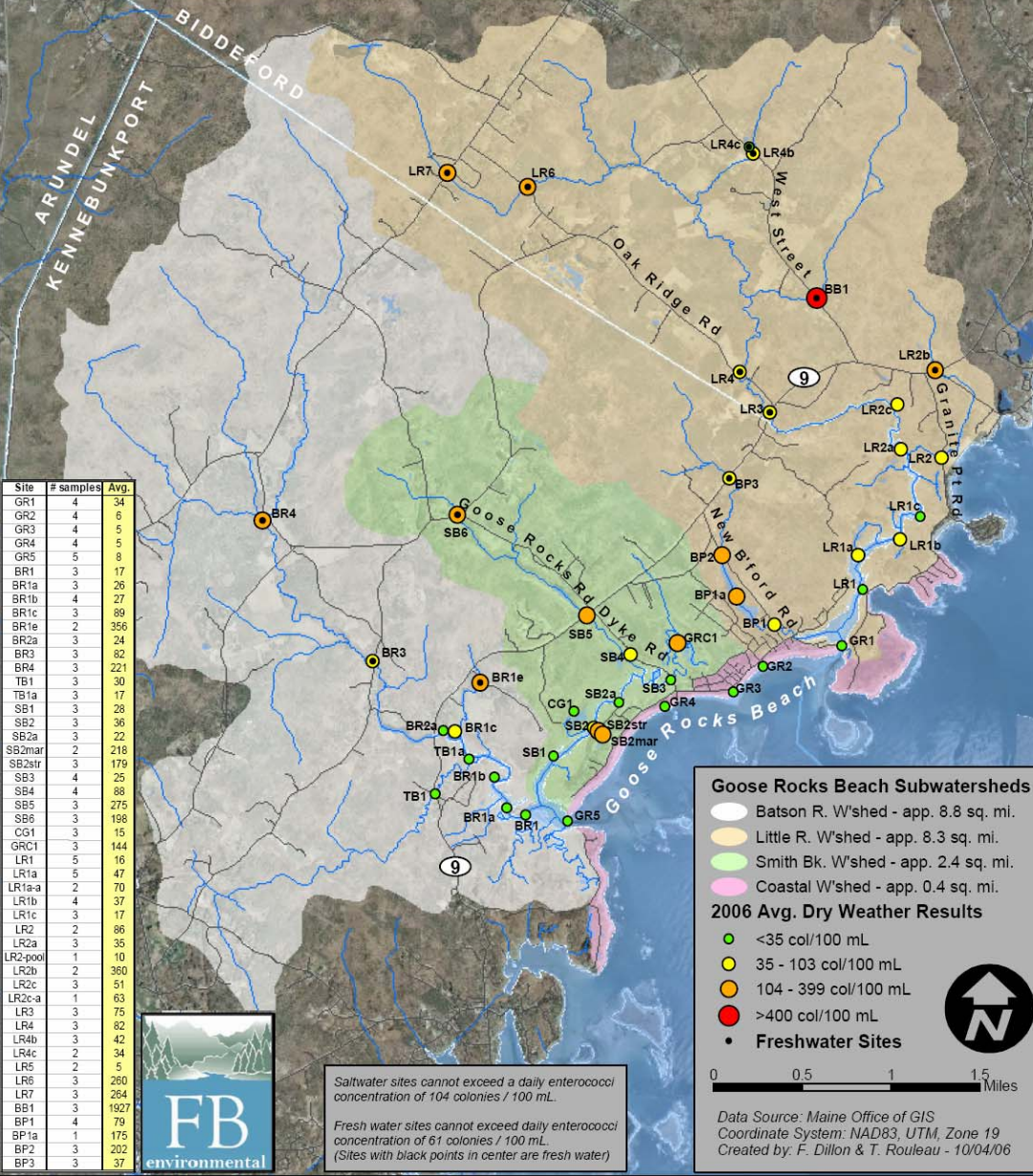
- Samples collected on 10.6' tide
- 10 tidal sites exceeded single sample enterococci criteria



* Only sites with tidal influence are displayed.
Saltwater sites cannot exceed a daily enterococci concentration of 104 colonies / 100 mL. (EPA, 1986)

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Average Dry Weather Bacteria Concentrations - Summer 2006



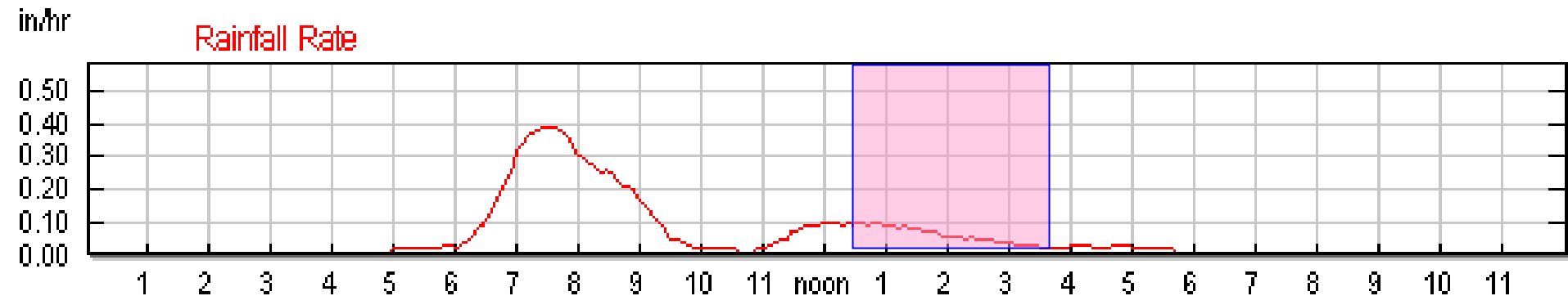
Dry Weather Sampling

- Base sampling 7/26, 8/3, 8/10, 8/17 & 8/24.
- Enterococci averages generally lower at sites closer to GRB
- 23 sites exceeded the single sample enterococci criteria at least once over sampling period
- Of these sites, 11 sites had 2 or more exceedances

Storm Event Sampling



KMEBIDDE5 Weather Graph for 8/20/2006

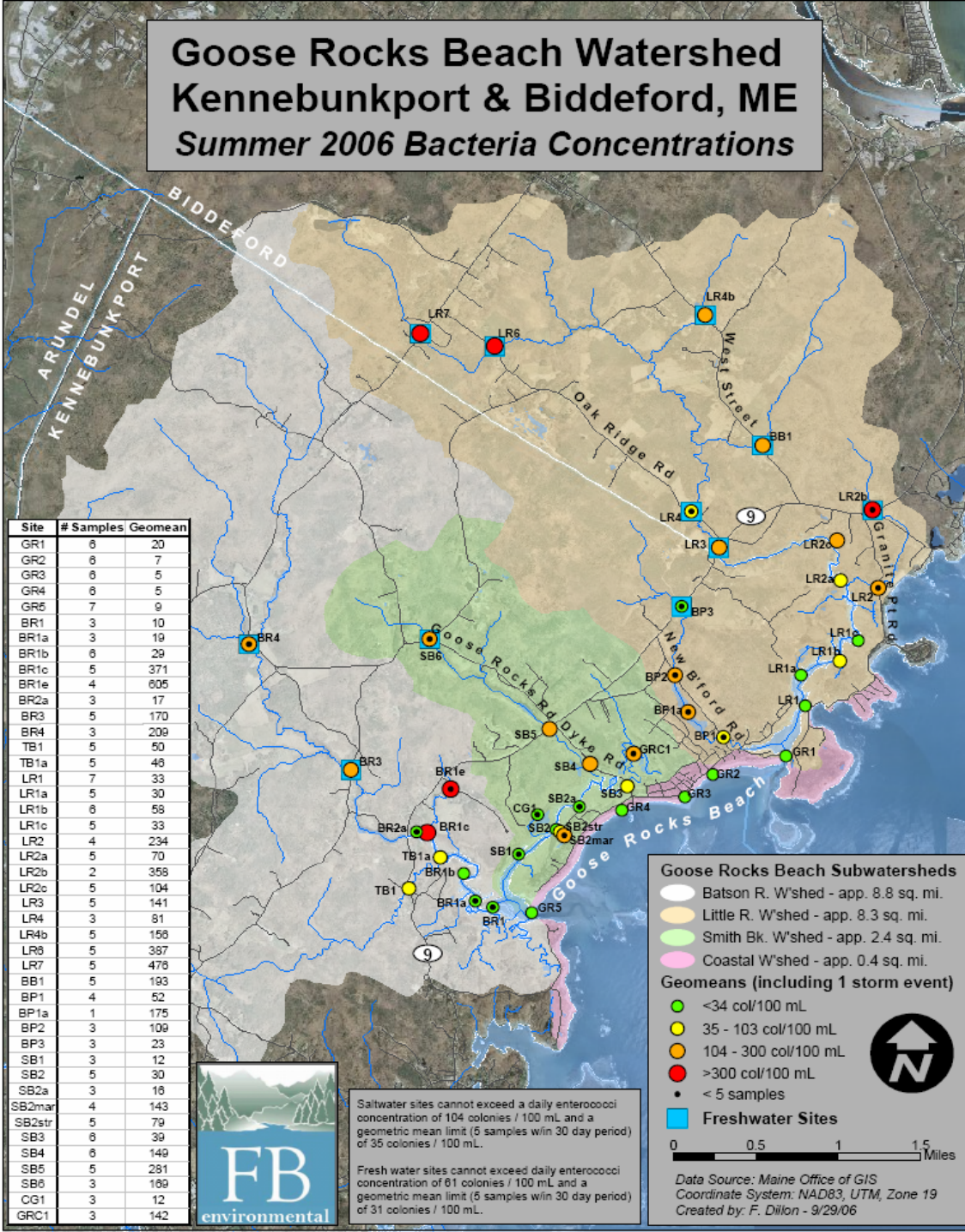


- 13 sites exceeded the EPA criteria twice

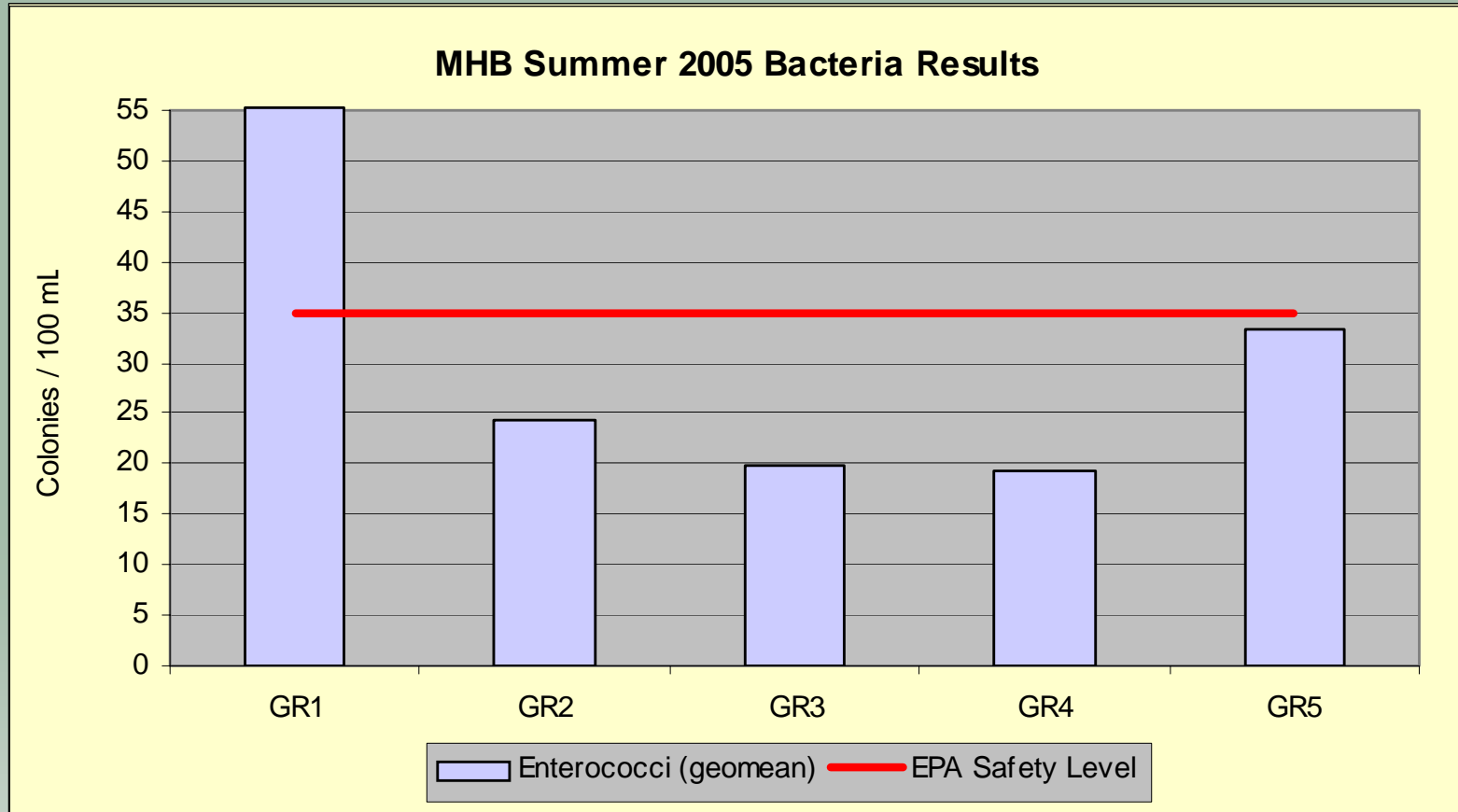
Goose Rocks Beach Watershed Kennebunkport & Biddeford, ME Summer 2006 Bacteria Concentrations

Summarized Data

- 206 entero samples at 49 sites during July and August
- 16 sites sampled 5 or more times w/in 30-day period AND exceeded EPA geomean criteria
- Geomean exceedances by watershed:
 - **Batson River watershed:** BR3, TB1, TB1a, BR1c
 - **Little River watershed:** LR2a, LR2c, LR3, LR4b, LR4c, LR6, LR7, BB1
 - **Smith Brook watershed:** SB2str, SB3, SB4, SB5



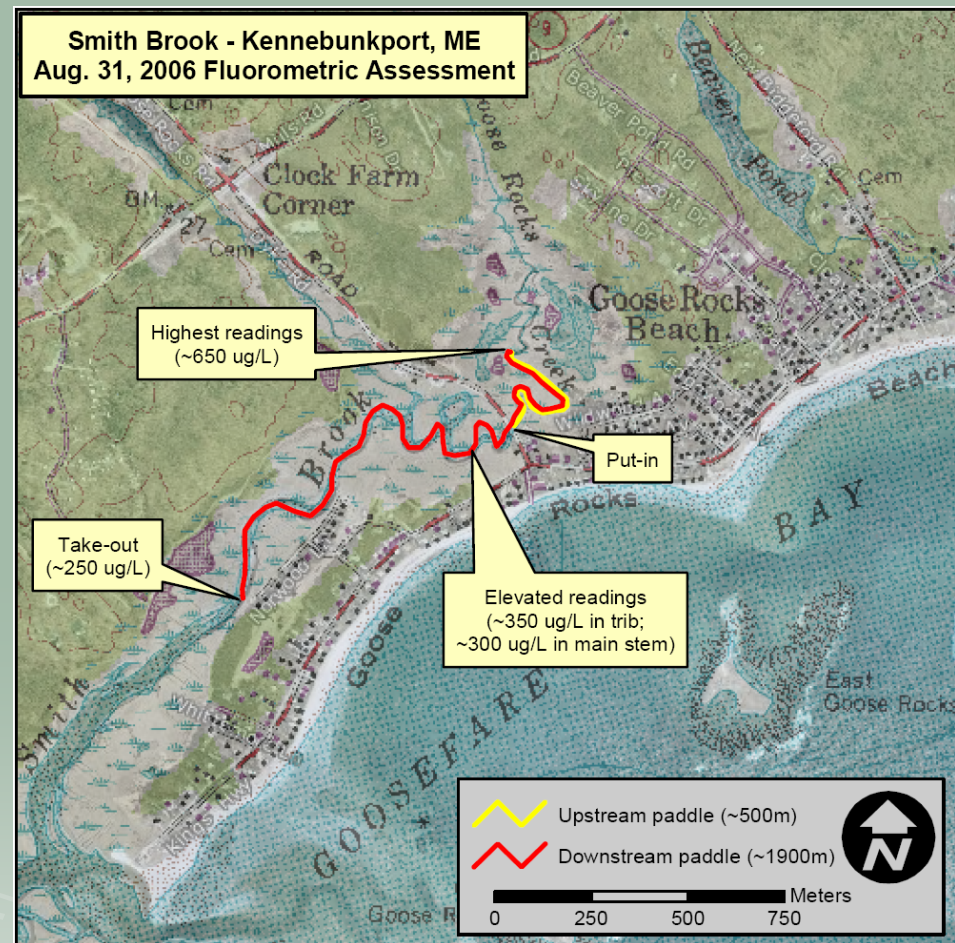
Summer 2005- 2006 MHB (and some FBE) Goose Rocks Beach



Field Fluorometry



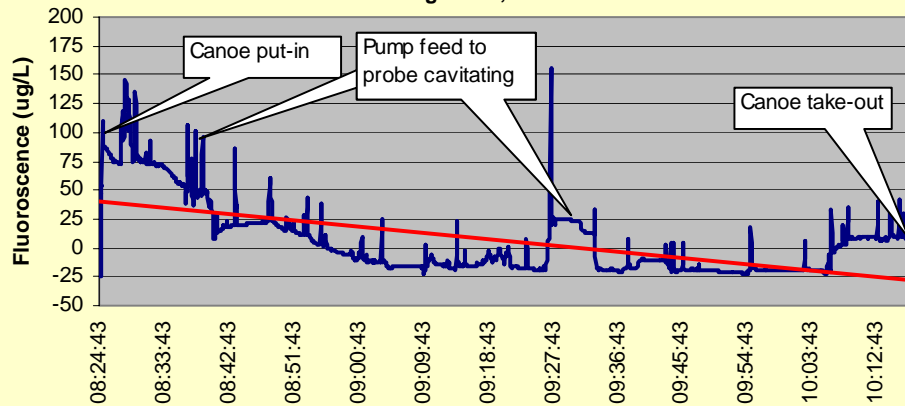
Field Fluorometry Sites



Field Fluorometry Results

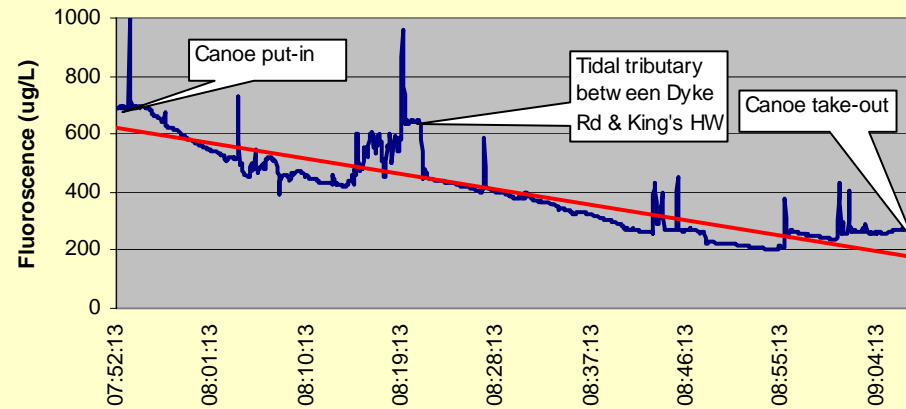
Little River Fluorometric Assessment

August 17, 2006



Smith Brook Fluorometric Assessment

August 31, 2006



Fluorescence Analysis & Conclusions (S Jones)



Optical Brighteners & Fluorescence

Fluorescent White Dyes used in detergents

Generally Found in Domestic Waste Waters

Causes of contamination based on bacteria & optical brighteners

	High bacteria	Low bacteria
High optical brightener	Human fecal contamination (failing septic/leaky sewer)	Gray water
Low optical brightener	Human or non-human contamination	No fecal contamination

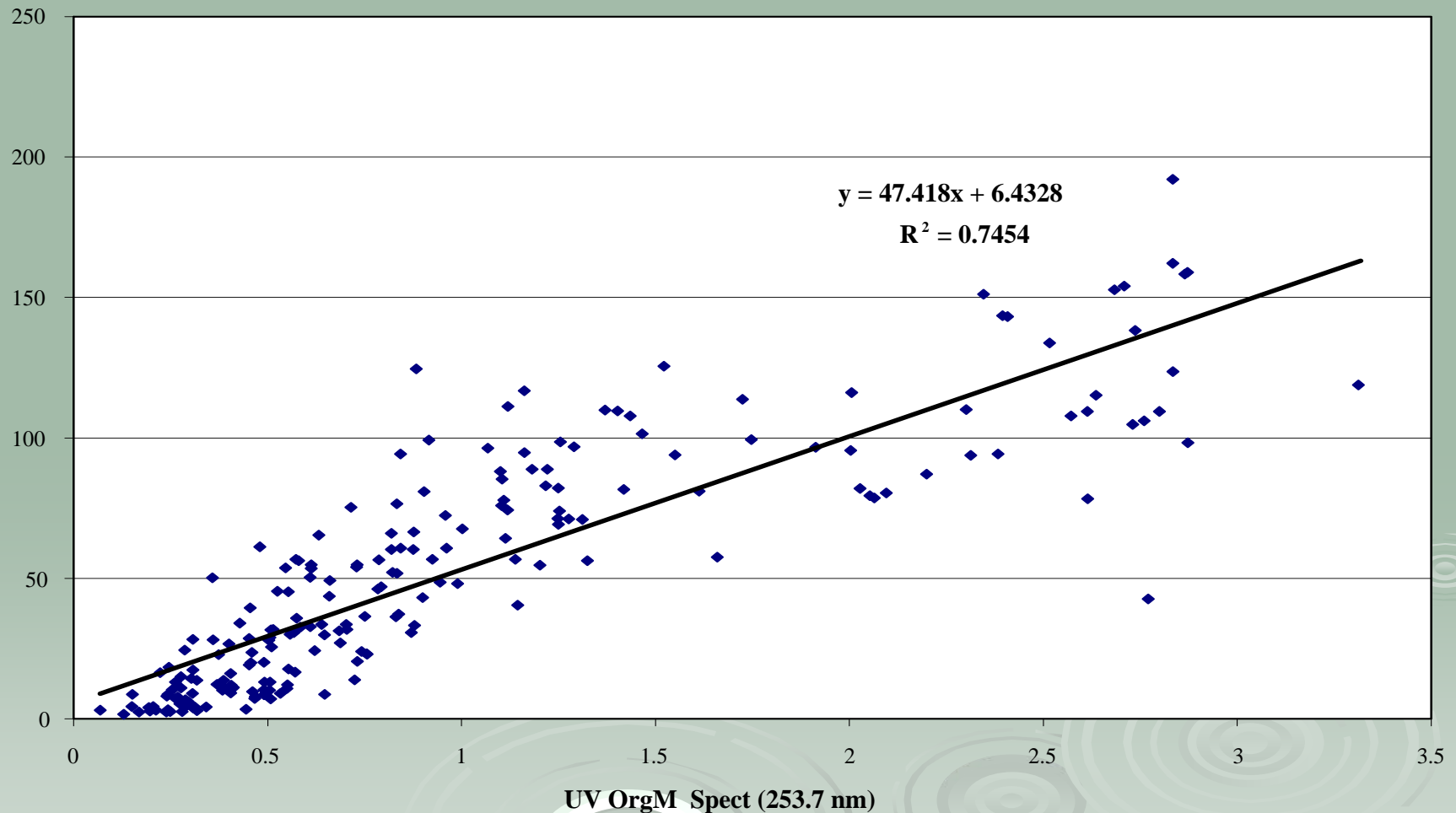
Fluorescence Measurements

- Fluorescence at 410-610 nm in water samples was used to as an indicator of the possible presence of optical brighteners to help identify human sewage sources;
- Background interference from natural dissolved organic matter was widespread and complicated data interpretation.

Fluorescence Measurements: Overall Findings

- **No (0) water sample fluorescence reading provided unequivocal evidence of the presence of optical brighteners;**
- **Further analysis of fluorescence data using additional analyses suggested several areas of possible concern for human sewage contamination.**

Fluorescence Measurements: Organic matter interference



Fluorescence Measurements: Dissolved Organics (Color)

COLOR	Fluorescence HIGH	reading LOW	Organic (UV) HIGH	constituents LOW
Brown n = 18	83%	0%	89%	0%
Light Brown n = 83	18	17	17	7
Clear n = 107	0	90	0	56

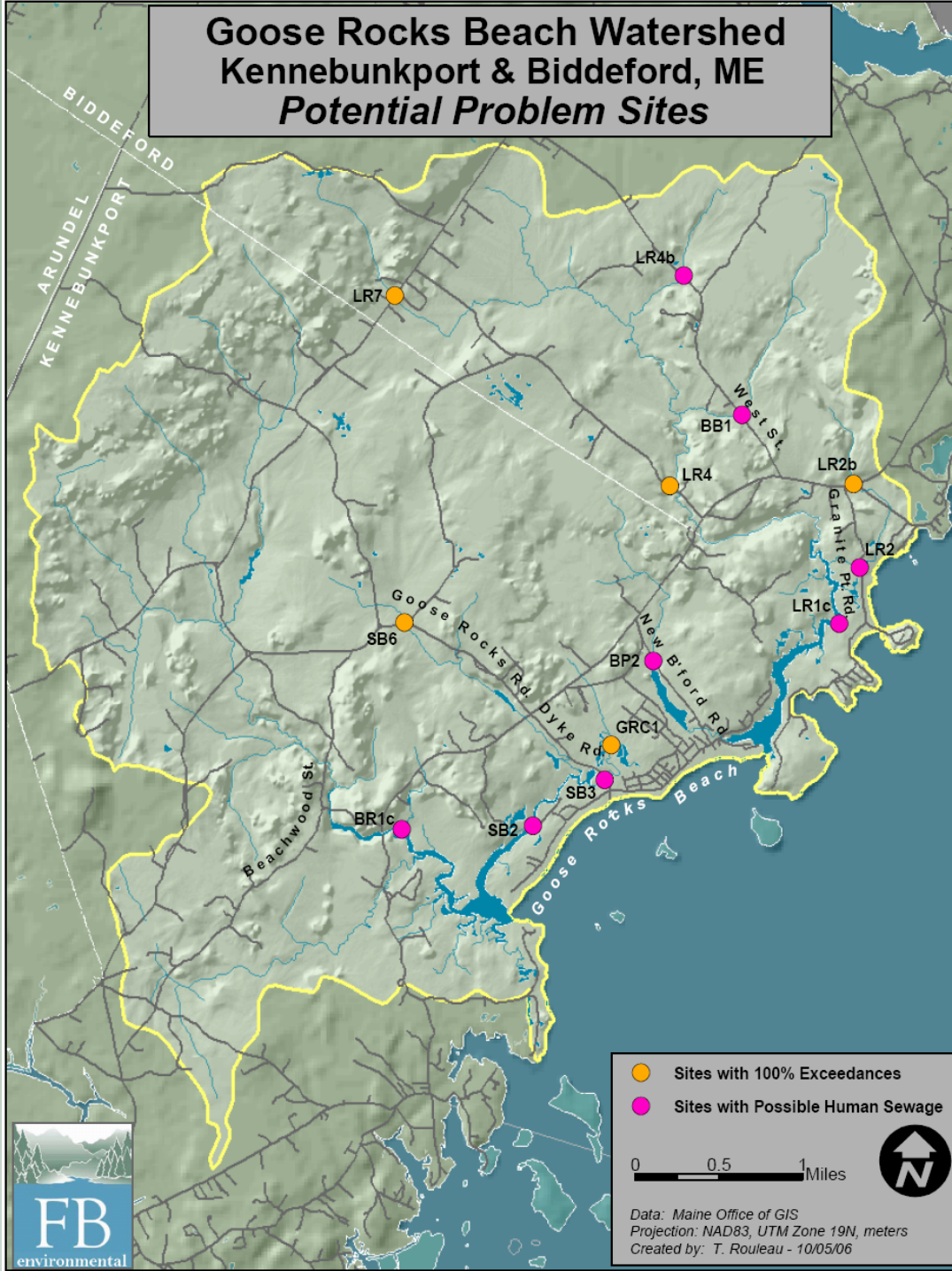
Fluorescence Measurements: Sites with Possible Human Sewage

➤ **Several sites had elevated (>100/100 ml) enterococci concentrations, and elevated fluorescence readings, with diminished organic matter interference:**

- **Little River watershed (5 sites)**
 - LR1c, LR2, LR4b, BB1, BP2
- **Smith Brook watershed (2 sites)**
 - SB2, SB3
- **Batson River watershed (1 site)**
 - BR1c

Goose Rocks Beach Watershed Kennebunkport & Biddeford, ME *Potential Problem Sites*


Potential Problem Sites




Human & Non-Human Sources of Sewage Pollution

- **Optical brightener detection is a low-cost indicator of human-borne sewage;**
- **Other methods are currently available for use that more accurately differentiate between human and non-human sources of fecal pollution;**
- **Non-human fecal pollution is also a public health concern;**
- **Successful management of beach water quality would benefit from identification of non-human sources.**

Additional Investigative & Research Recommendations

- 1. Expanded Sampling Program – length, timing, coverage**
 - 2. Multi day analysis of storm event and impact on beach front**
 - 3. Continued Analysis of Potential Sources – septic system data**
 - 4. Microbial Source Tracking (Human vs. Animal)**
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Treatment Recommendations (F Bell)

1. **Target Human Sources of Pathogens First**
 2. **Attack Dry Weather Problems**
 3. **Adapt Strategies for Unique Watershed Conditions**
 4. **Progress from watershed to subwatershed to source**
 5. **Correct existing sources**
 6. **Prevent or treat future bacteria sources**
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Management Recommendations

“ The success of a low density (watershed) strategy stands or falls on the ability to prevent septic system failure”

“Key prevention strategies in low density watersheds is to prevent residential septic systems from failing (maintain failure rate close to 0)”

Tom Schueler, Center for Watershed Protection from Microbes in Urban Watershed: Tools for Watershed Managers



Treatment Recommendations

- **Rehabilitate failing septic systems**
- **Connect failing systems to sewer**
- **Increase septic system clean outs**
- **Conservation Plans at hobby farms**
- **Pet Waste Management Program**

Our Next Steps

- **FBE & HAI Attendance at October 11 National Beaches Conference in NY. S Jones at International Conference in Malta (presentations of new research & investigate funding sources)**
- **Meet with Maine DEP in field on Oct 27 to discuss site specific issues and groundwater inputs**
- **Assist Town with 2 Grant outlines/applications for further research and assessment and/or implementation of management options**

Special Thanks to:

- **Project Consultants (donated time and resources)**
 - **Town of Kennebunk – proactive approach – support of Judy Barrett**
 - **Maine Healthy Beaches (sampling assistance, field fluorometer)**
 - **US EPA (technical assistance)**
 - **Academic Colleagues of Steve Jones (guidance)**
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