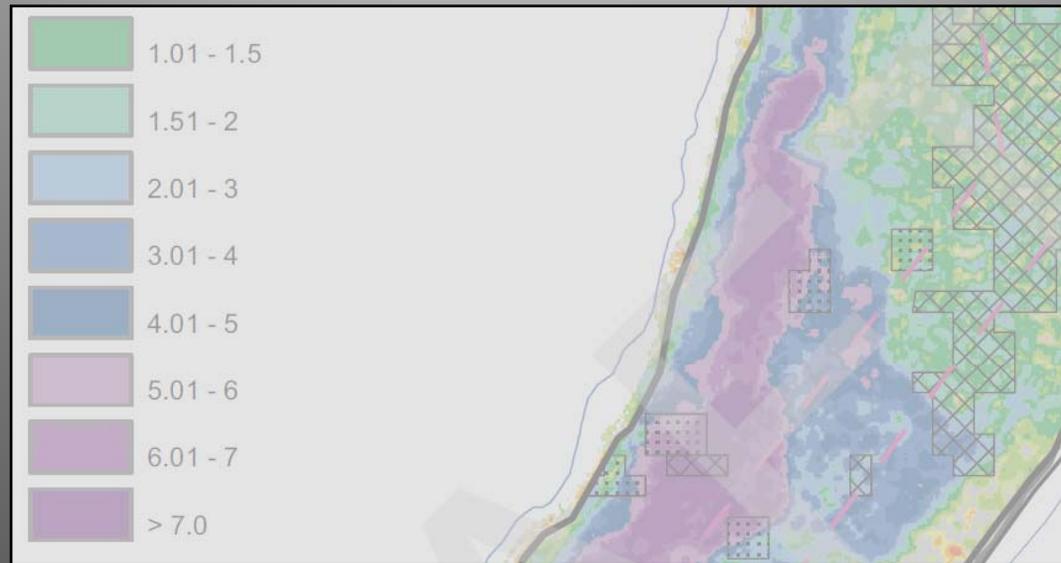


# EPA's Phase 1 Evaluation



## Discussion of Residuals Standard Application

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February 17, 2010



# Residuals Standard Summary

- Requirements and targets
- Assumes that the design DoC ( $<1$  ppm) was accurate:

*Residuals Standard, Section 2.3, Page 21: "Appropriate selection of the cut lines will be an important factor in minimizing the number of re-dredging attempts."*

- Implementation
  - Four passes: 2 inventory plus 2 residuals
  - Post dredging sampling after reaching final cut line
  - Residuals passes after inventory removal
  - CU closure: re-dredging, backfill or capping based on statistically-derived thresholds



# Some Project-Specific Terms

- Dredging Pass – The dredging that occurred to achieve a specific depth (regardless of how many bucket cuts were made at any location).
- Inventory Pass – Any dredging pass that removed inventory
- Residuals Pass – Any dredging pass designed only to remove residuals
- Fine Grading – the process of shallow dredging cuts to achieve a design depth tolerance
- \* Note that one inventory dredging pass may include inventory dredging + fine grading



# Residuals Standard is not the Problem

- EPS are related but not in conflict
- Basic problems arise from the uncertainty in the design DoC
  - Core collection problems associated with refusal and recovery
- EPS are working but modifications are needed in the approaches for dredging and post-dredging sampling
- EPA is recommending simplifications to the Standard but not changes to the basic approach



# First Dredging Pass

- Dredge attempted to reach design depth
  - May have included multiple inventory cuts
- When design depth thought to be reached
  - area surveyed by dredge contractor
  - areas out of tolerance ‘fine graded’ to achieve a 3-inch design tolerance
- Once dredged surface within tolerance
  - third-party ‘final’ bathymetric survey verification
  - post-dredging samples collected\*
- Map presented to EPA describing the next step (either additional dredging, backfilling or capping).

\* Later in the Phase 1 season, samples were collected at upstream subareas prior to surveying

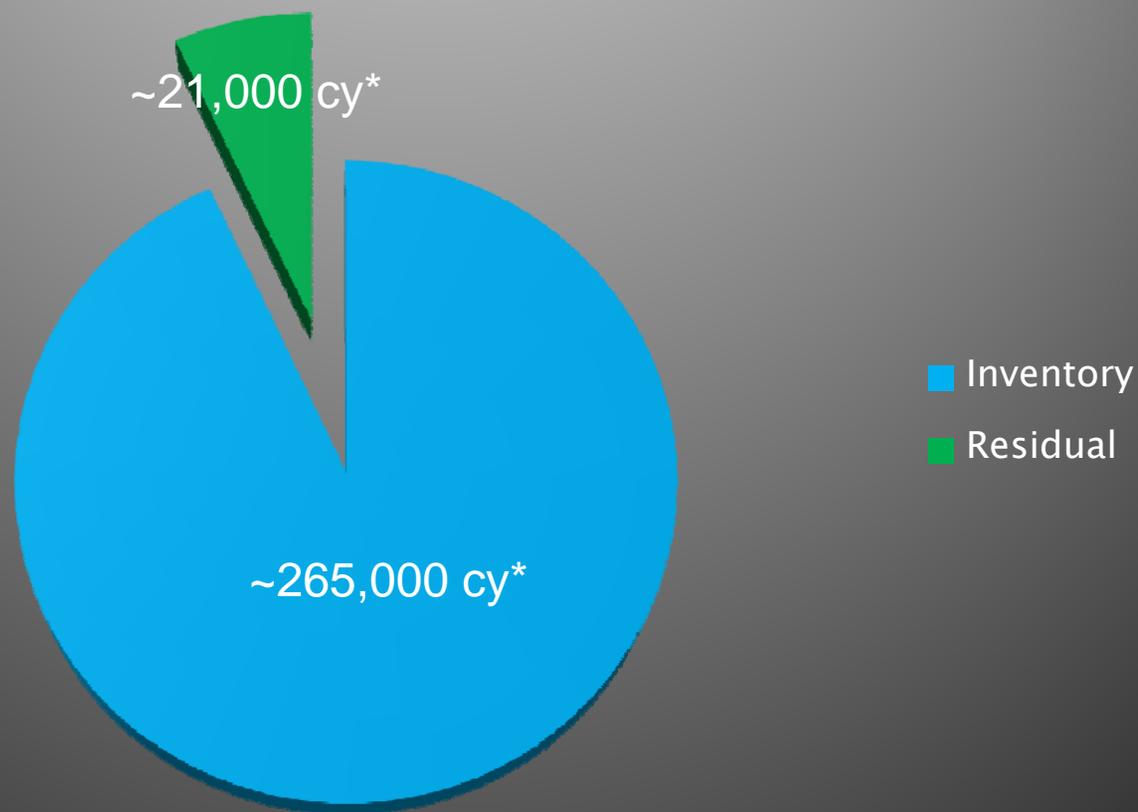


# Residuals vs. Inventory Passes

- Objective is to remove inventory on 1<sup>st</sup> pass
  - Reduce resuspension
  - Increase productivity
- Volume achieved compared to design
  - 40–50 % 1<sup>st</sup> pass
  - 30–40 % 2<sup>nd</sup> pass
  - 20% of total in final pass(es)
- PCB Mass
  - 40–50 % 1<sup>st</sup> pass
  - 30–40 % 2<sup>nd</sup> pass
  - 20% of total final pass(es)
- 4 of 10 CUs required 4 or more passes



# Inventory vs. Residuals



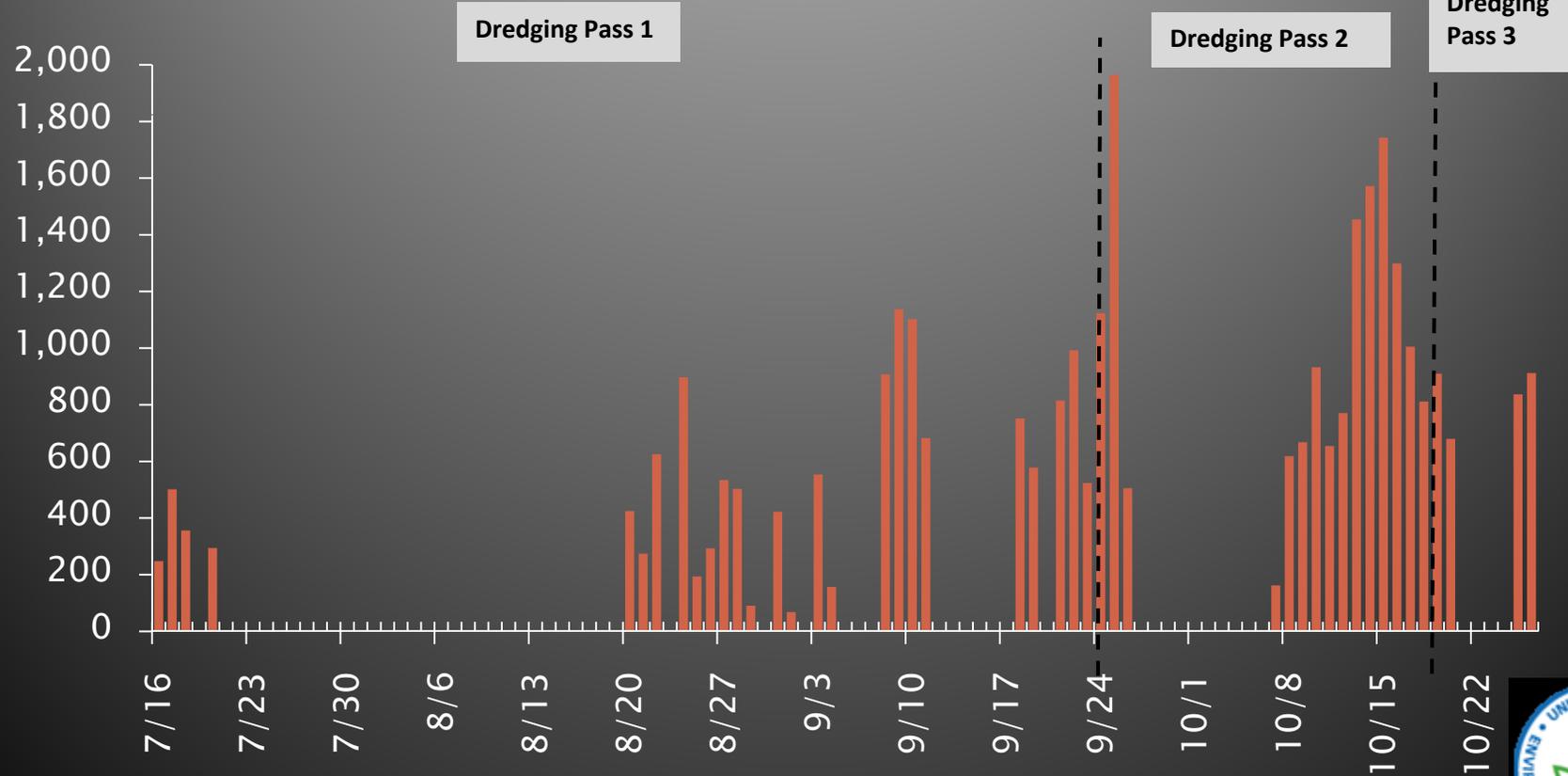
\* Based on GE's estimate



# Inventory vs. Residuals Passes

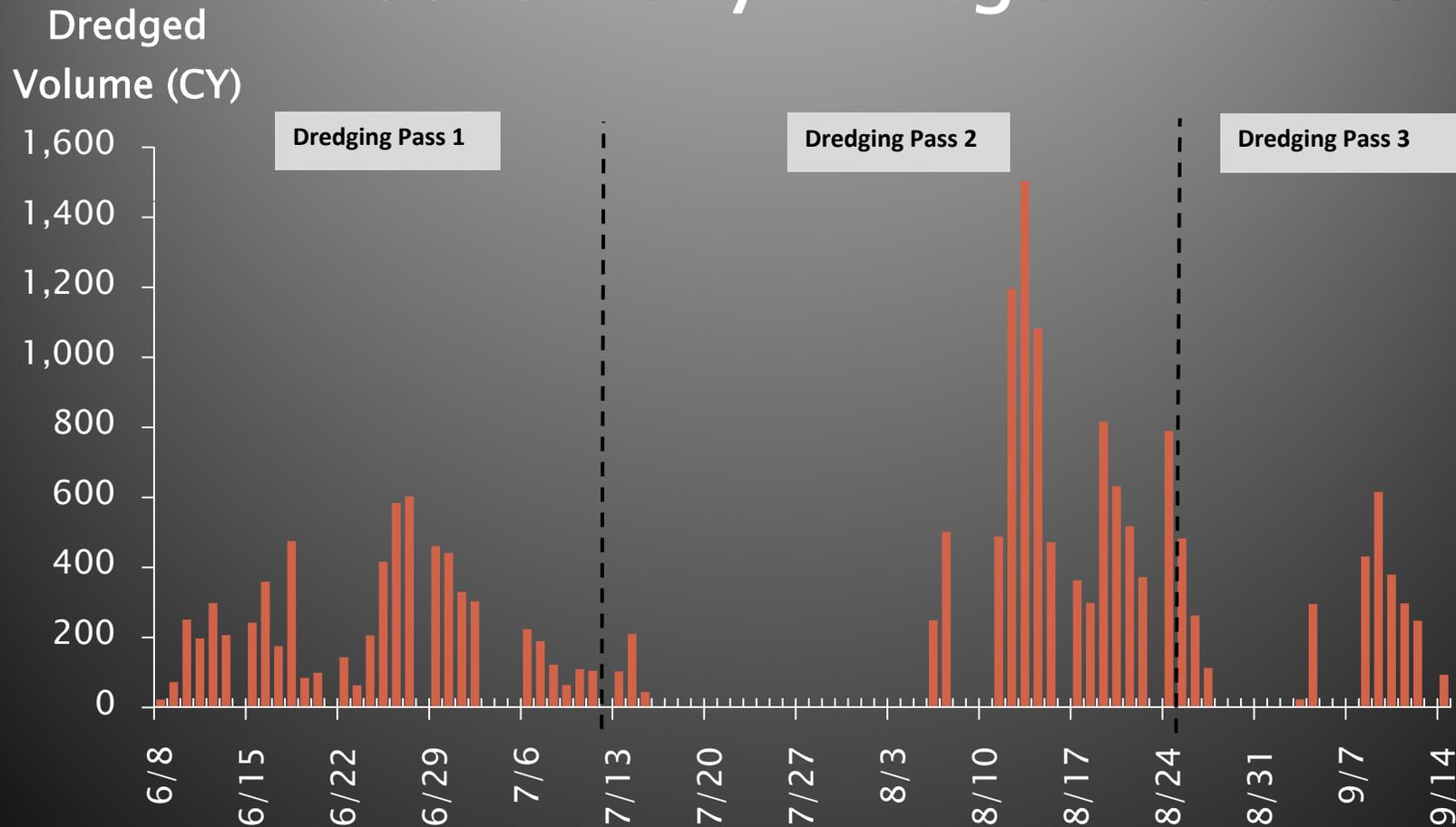
## CU-4 Daily Dredged Volume

Dredged  
Volume (CY)

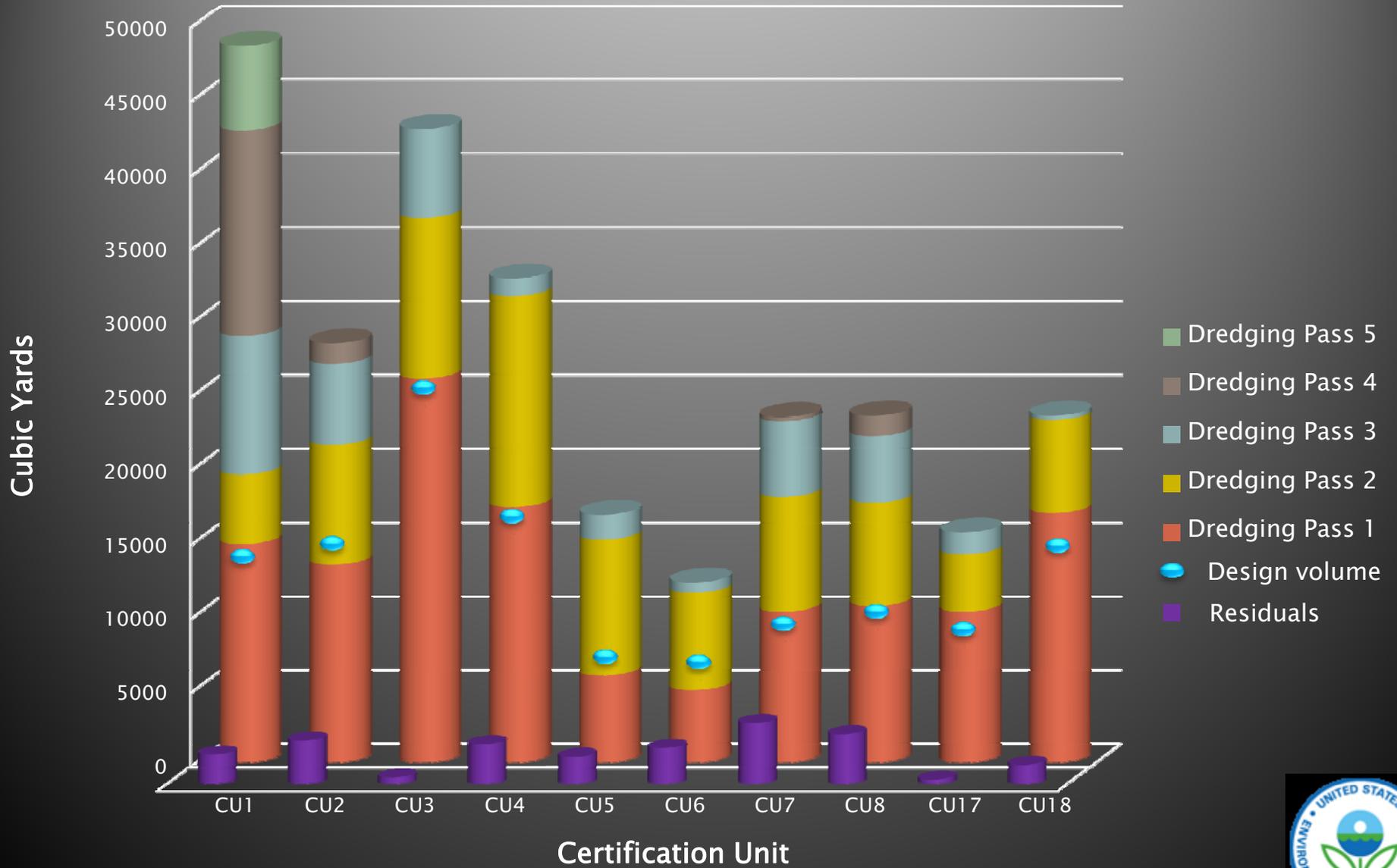


# Inventory vs. Residual Passes

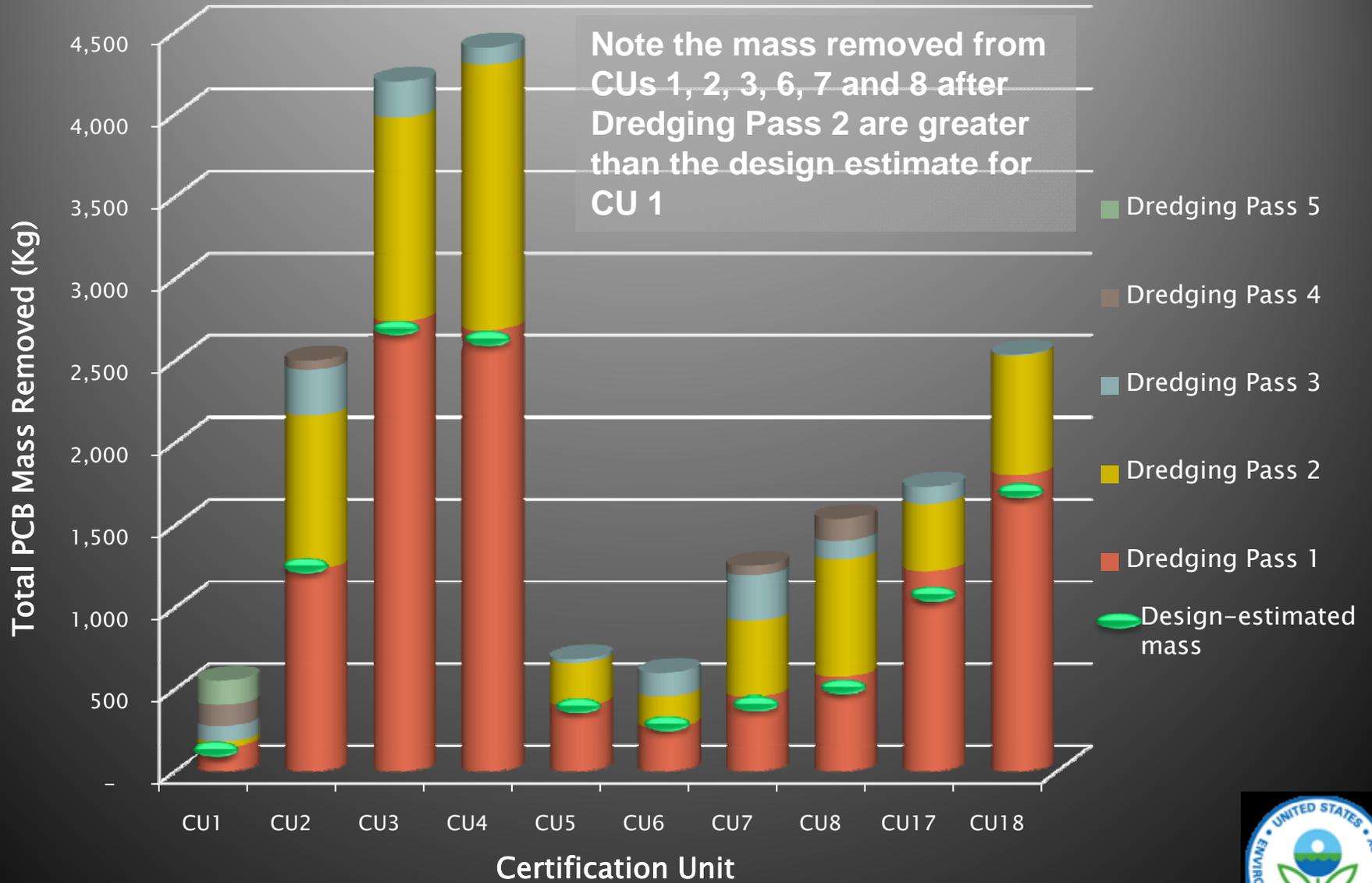
## CU-5 Daily Dredged Volume



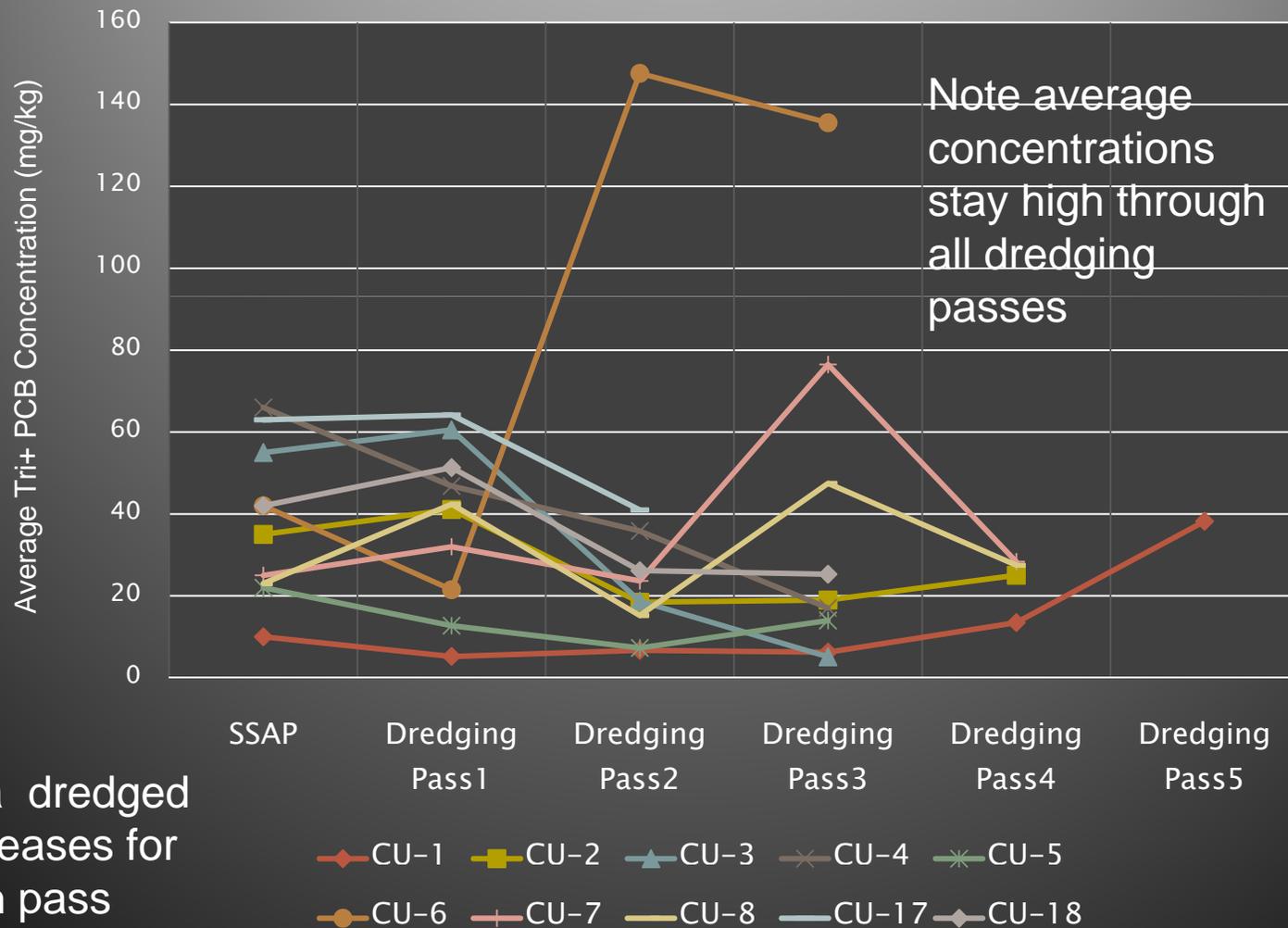
## Sediment Volume Removed By CU



## Mass of Total PCB Removed (Kg)

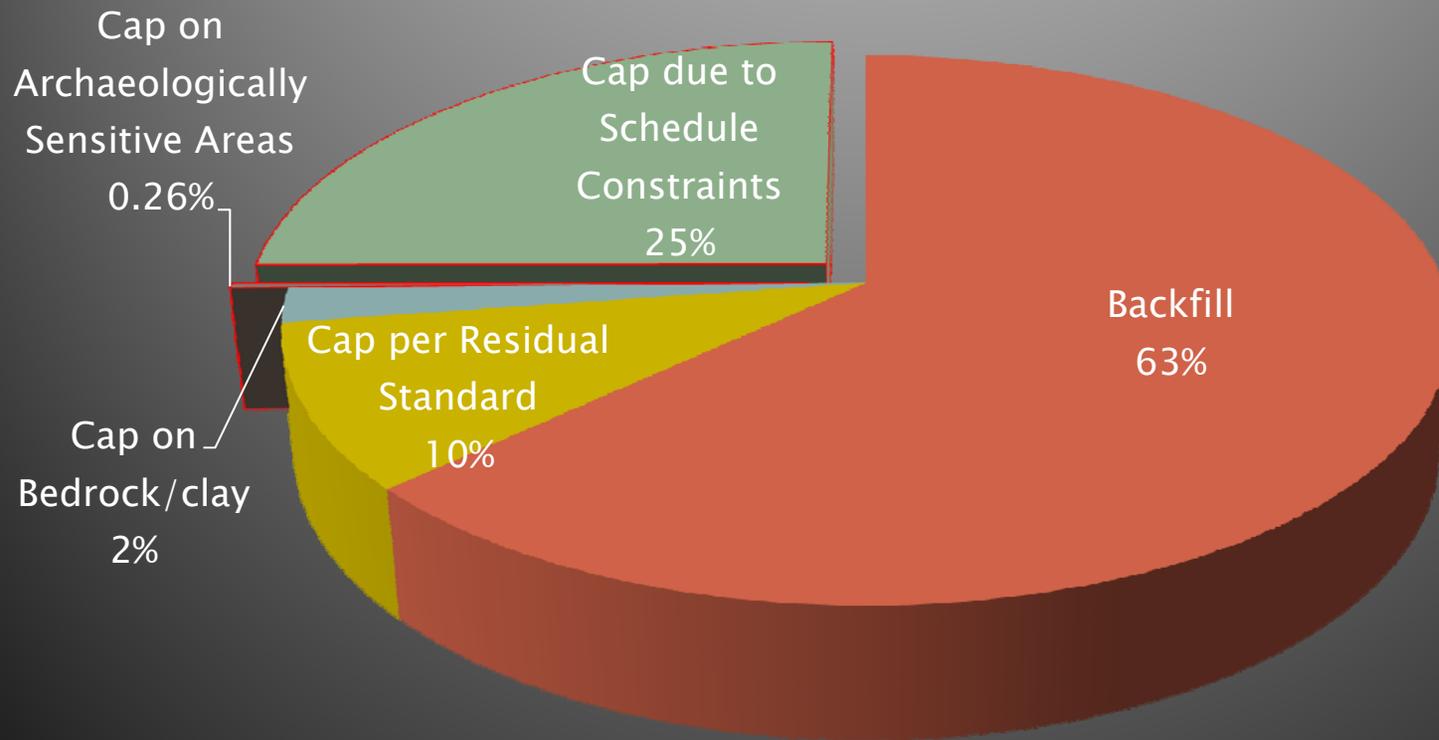


## Average Tri+ PCB in Samples Collected In Areas to be Re-dredged and the SSAP Cores



# Closure Summary

Percent of Phase 1 Area Closure

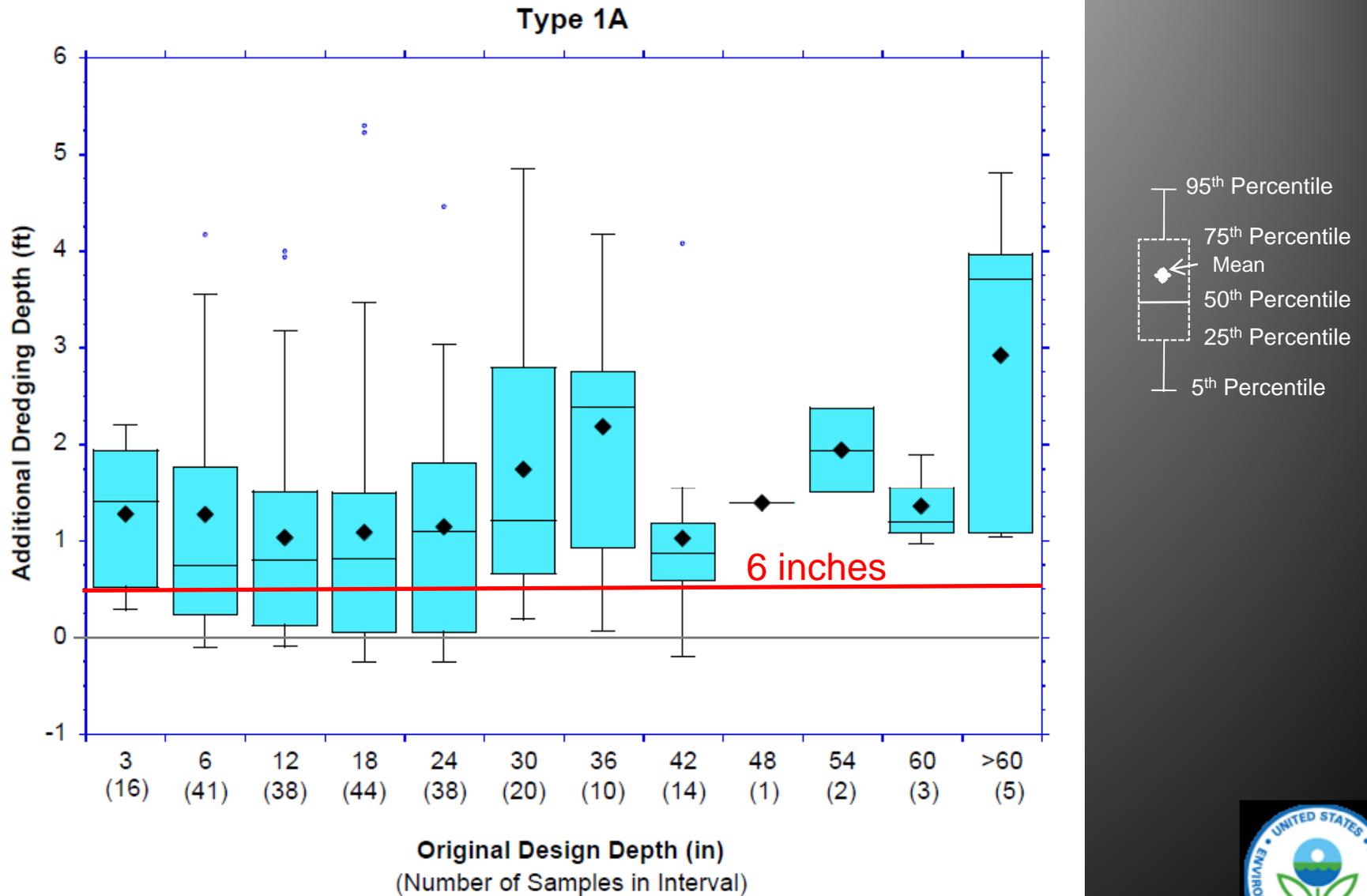


# Addressing Uncertain DoC

- Need to penetrate full contaminated thickness during post-dredging sampling
- Need to identify the core DoC and its uncertainty
- 3rd - 4th “re-dredging passes” actually removed inventory rather than residuals
- Need to modify post-dredging sample evaluation



# Design vs. Final Dredging Depth (High Confidence Cores only)



## Proposed Process Changes for Phase 2

- Inventory dredging passes should reach the bottom of the 1<sup>st</sup> core segment with concentration  $< 1$  ppm plus 3”
  - Fewer bucket cuts and minimize fine grading
- When design depth is reached, collect post dredging cores
  - Analyze full length of 24” core to identify depth of contamination
  - Achieve at least two successive 6-in segments below 1 mg/kg at the bottom



# Interaction with the Resuspension Standard in Phase 1

- Key to efficiency and reducing resuspension is to remove most inventory on 1<sup>st</sup> pass and reduce multiple cuts at the same place
- Dredged surfaces were left open for excessive time awaiting closure, increasing resuspension



# Interaction with the Productivity Standard in Phase 1

- Underestimation of designed dredging depths
  - Final depth of dredging below sediment core-based design dredging depths
  - Increased volume of material dredged per CU
  - Decreased productivity
- Additional inventory had greatest impact on CU closure process, not the Residuals Standard
- Time spent in precision dredging to a specific designed depth where DoC was underestimated



# Recap of Residuals Standard Implementation during Phase 1

- DoC was underestimated
- Mass was underestimated
- Dredged inventory was nearly twice the design inventory
- 75% of the dredged area was closed in accordance with the Residuals Standard



# Simultaneously Meeting Standards

- Efficient dredging of inventory with fewer cuts (**productivity**) leads to fewer bottom disturbances and smaller dredging releases (**resuspension**) and quicker certification of post-dredging concentrations (**residuals**) reducing duration of exposed bottom surface (**resuspension**).
- Per Residuals Standard, appropriate selection of cut lines is important in minimizing re-dredging...and therefore in meeting the standards simultaneously.

