



**Deltas**  
Enabling Delta Life

Kennis voor Klimaat

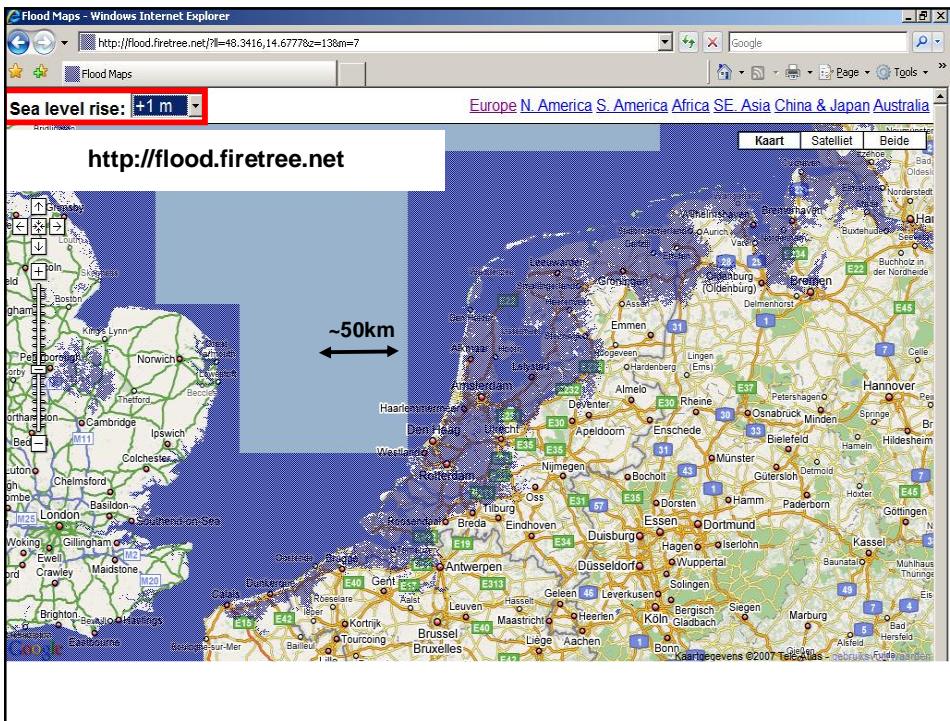
## Impacts of climate change on a coastal groundwater system in The Netherlands

*Anthropogenic processes and climate change*

and some sheets for WP2

Gualbert Oude Essink  
Esther van Baaren, Perry de Louw  
Subsurface and Groundwater Systems  
Deltas

- 1. Introduction
- 2. Input 3D saline-fresh model
- 3. Zone of influence SLR
- 4. Salinisation and freshening
- 5. Some measures



## Coastal groundwater vulnerable to sea level rise

A world map illustrating areas vulnerable to sea level rise, particularly focusing on coastal groundwater. The map uses a color-coded legend where green represents low vulnerability, yellow represents moderate vulnerability, and orange/red represents high vulnerability. Major river delta systems are marked with black dots and red triangles, indicating their location along coastlines.

Areas in the world vulnerable to a rise in sea level  
▲ Major river deltas of the world (J.M. Coleman, 1981)

# The 'low-lying' lands: Netherlands



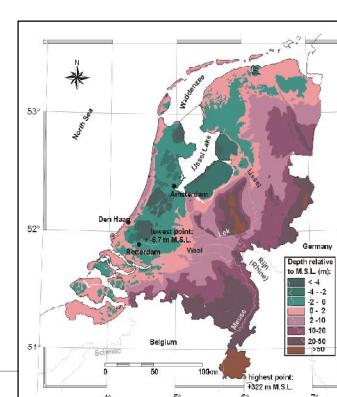

River flooding 1953

The facts:

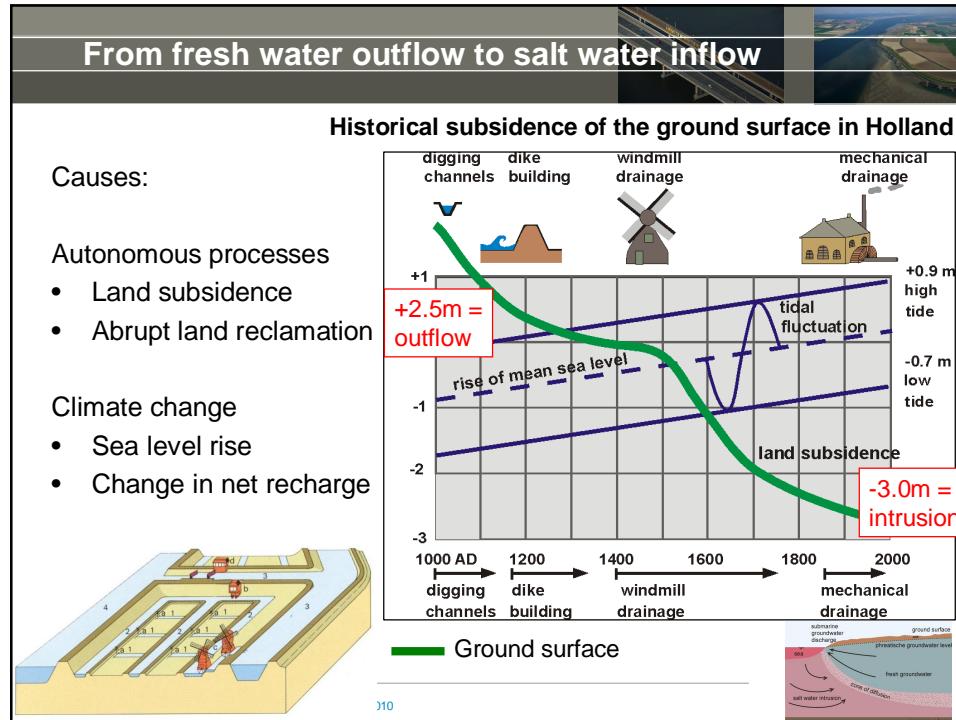
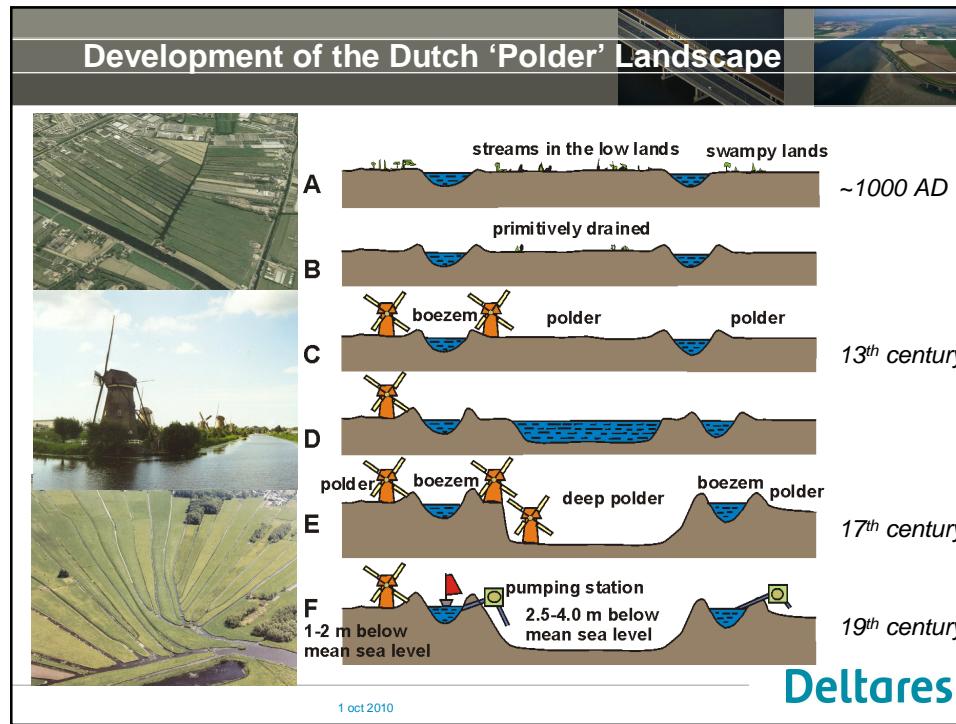
- a deltaic area with 3 rivers: Meuse, Scheldt & Rhine
- ~25% of land surface is lying below mean sea level
- ~65 % would be flooded regularly if there were no dunes and dikes
- ~8 million people would be endangered

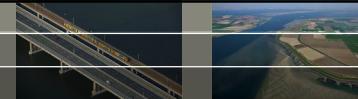


The Flooding of 1953

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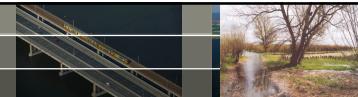
To get an idea about the possible future effects of  
SLR and climate change in your delta ...

*evaluate of the past water management in the Dutch delta*

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## Groundwater in the future



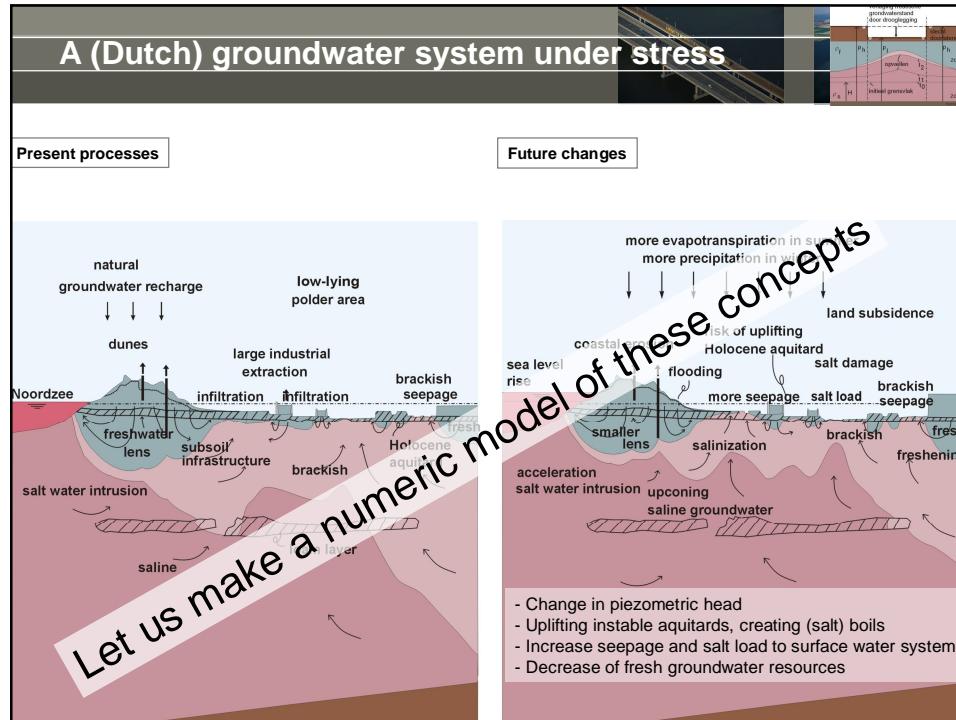
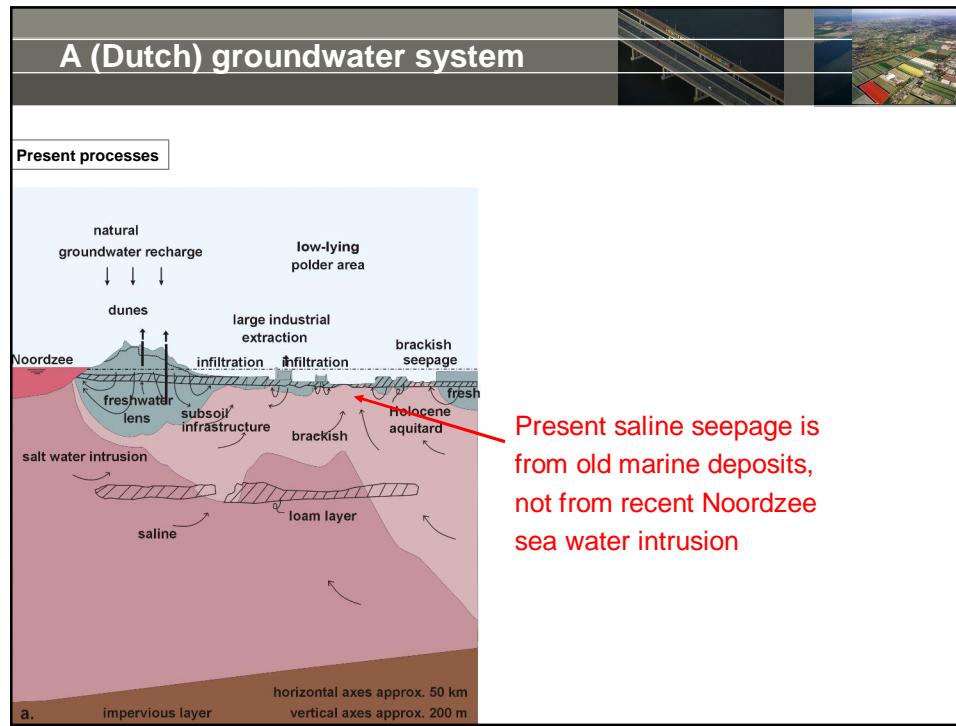
We have to cope with...:

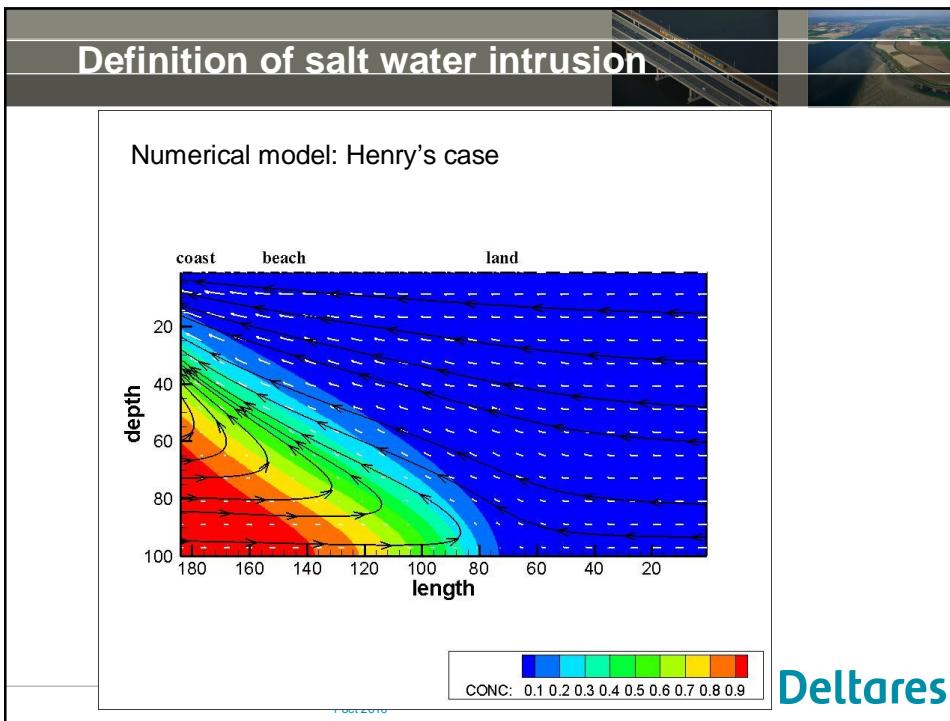
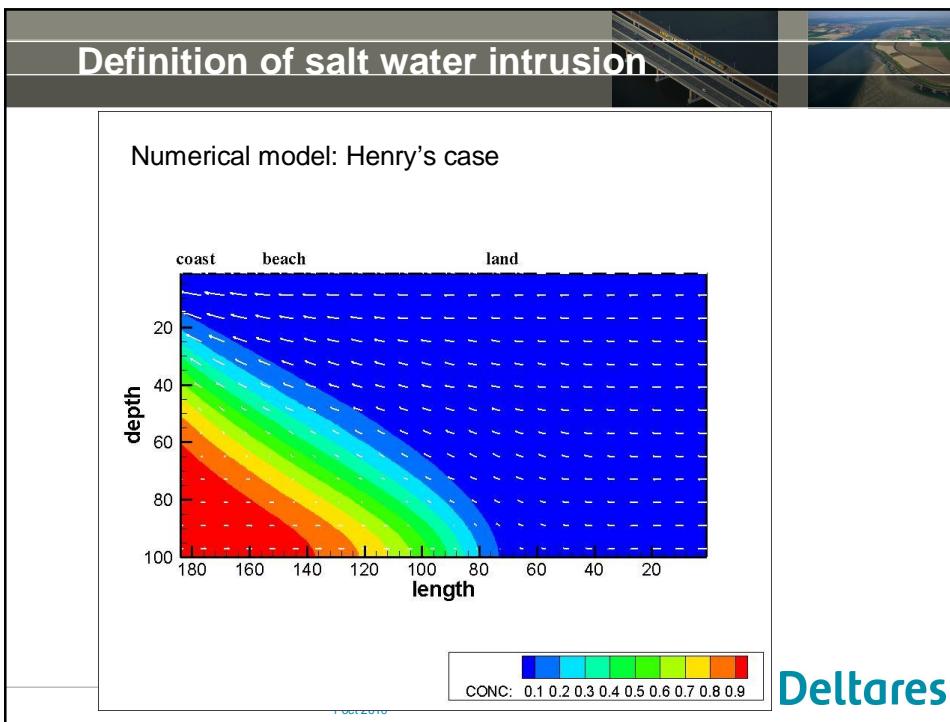
- Climate change
- Groundwater extractions
- Development energy use/production (heat-cold)
- Land subsidence
- Development spatial land use
- Politics, Policy & Watermanagement

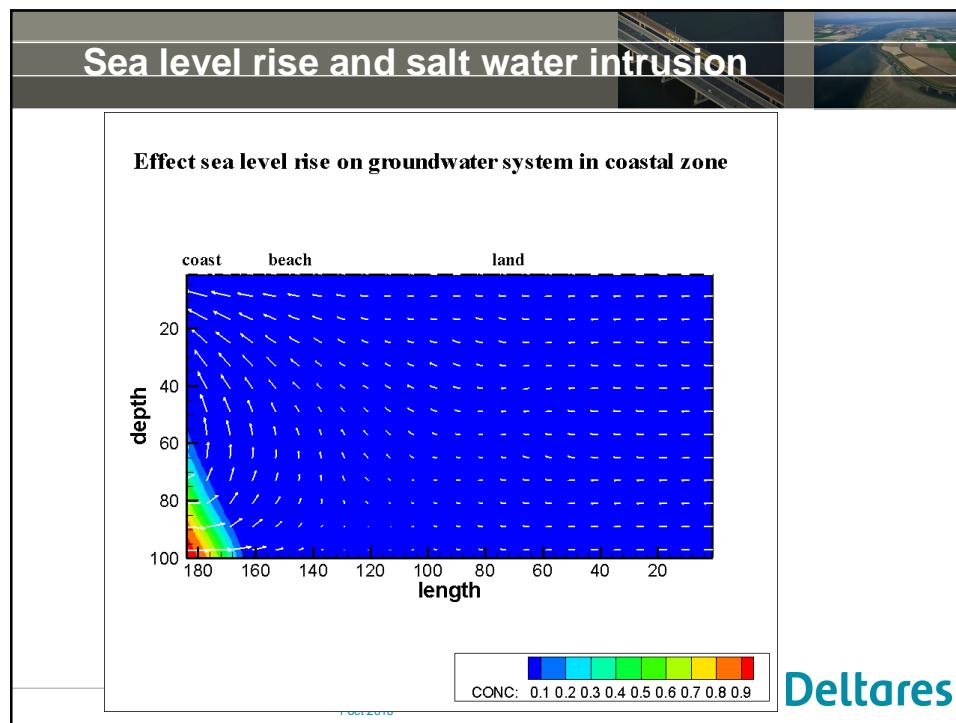
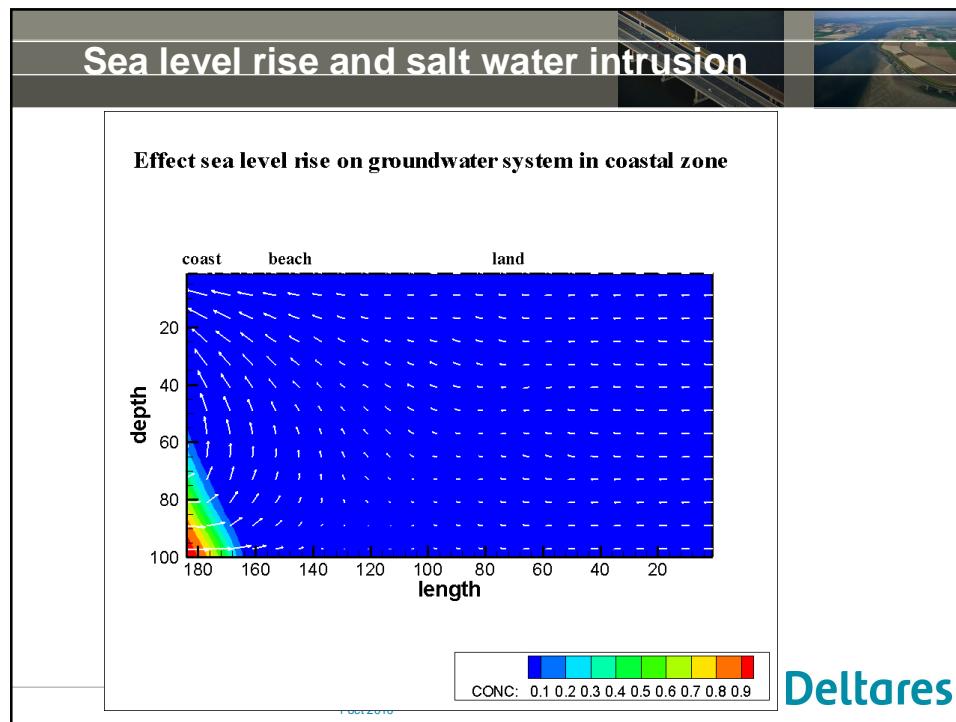
*Direct anthropogenic influence on groundwater is more important than climate effect*

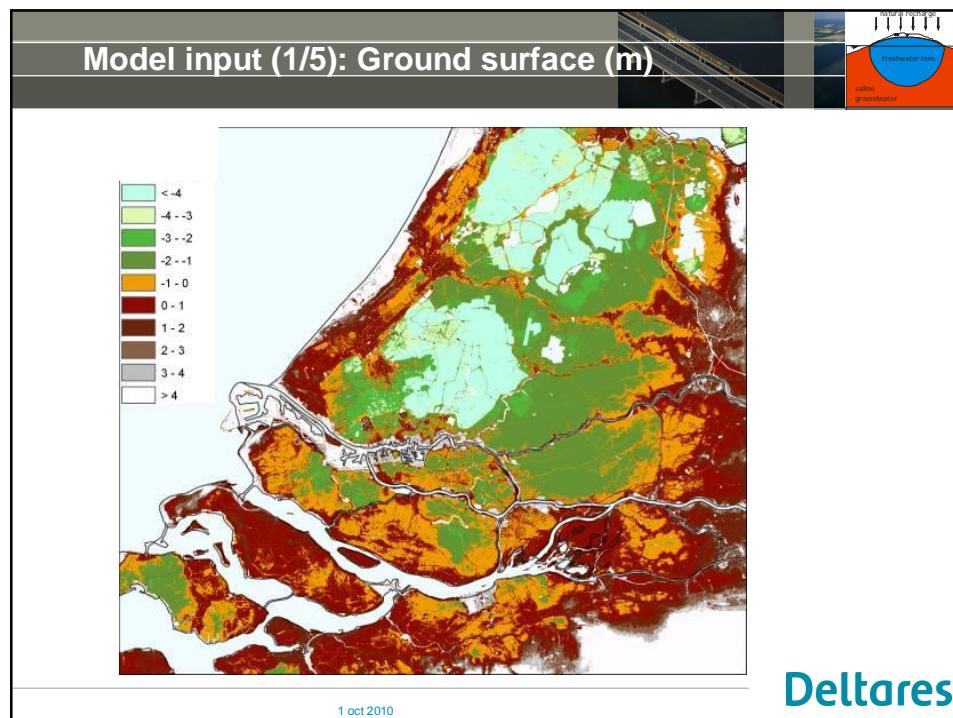
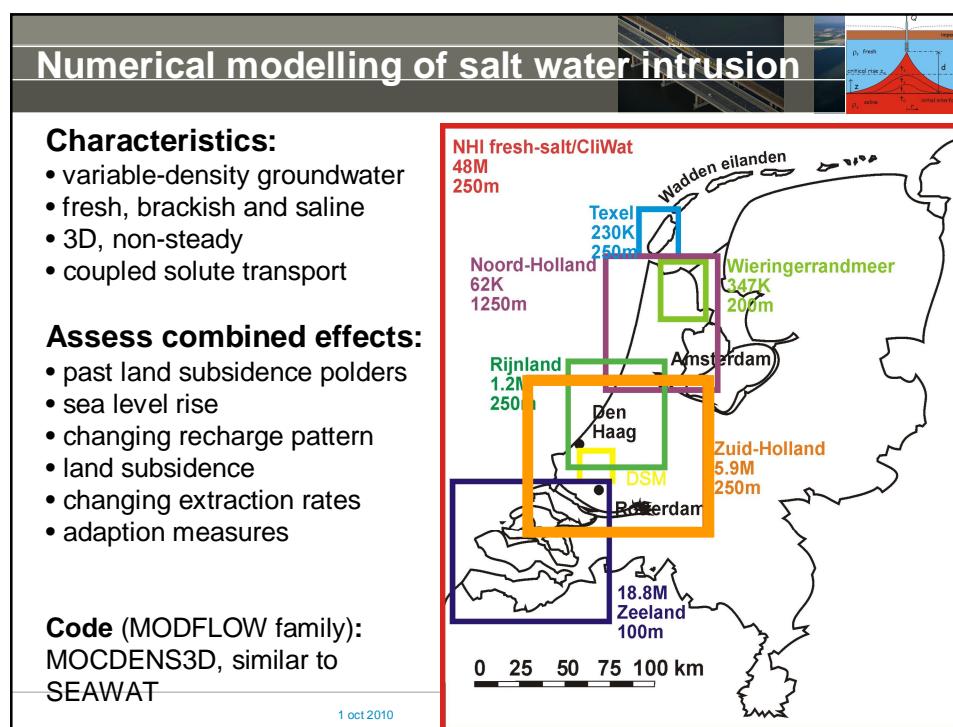
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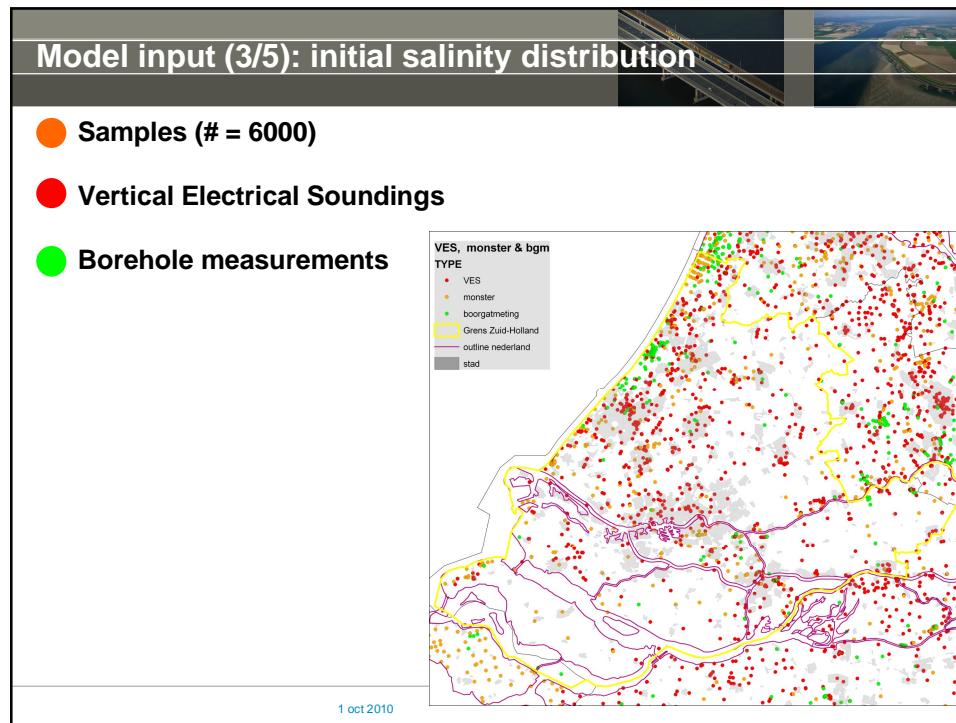
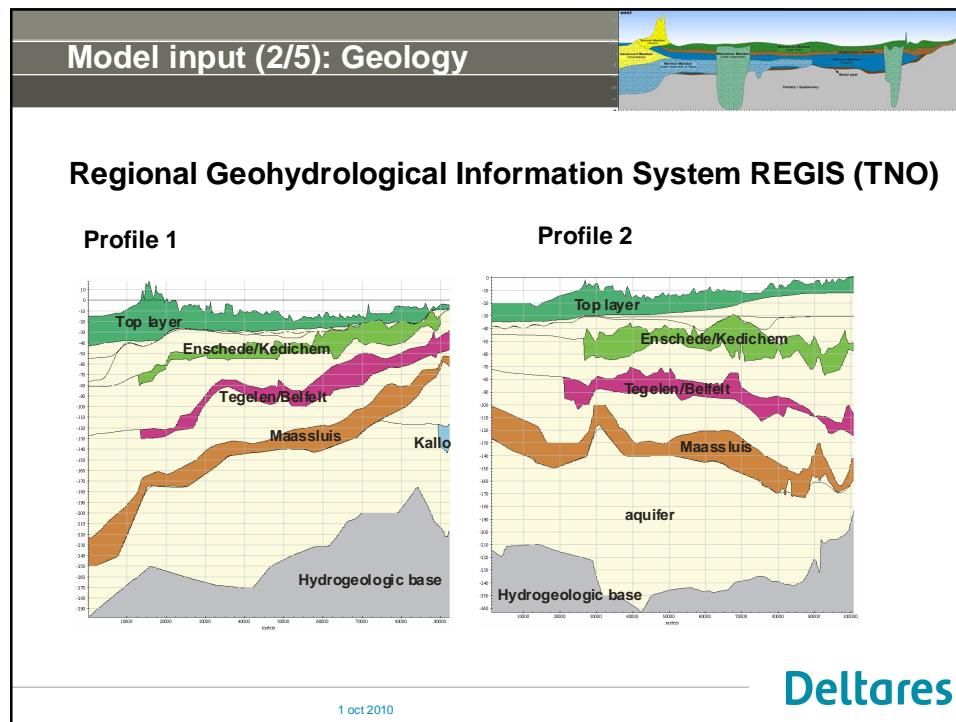
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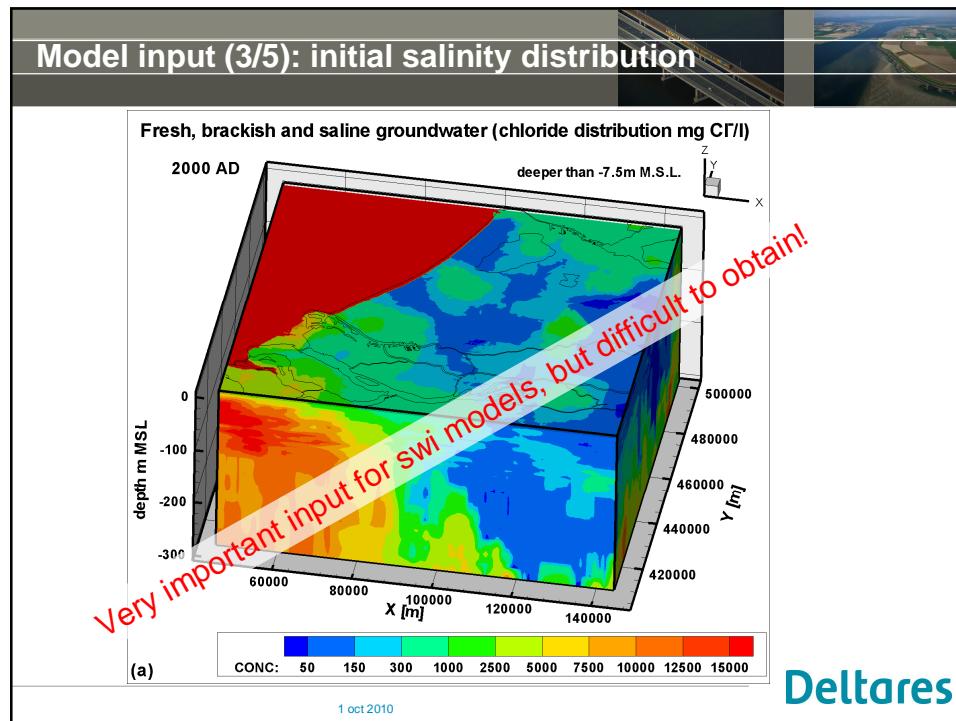
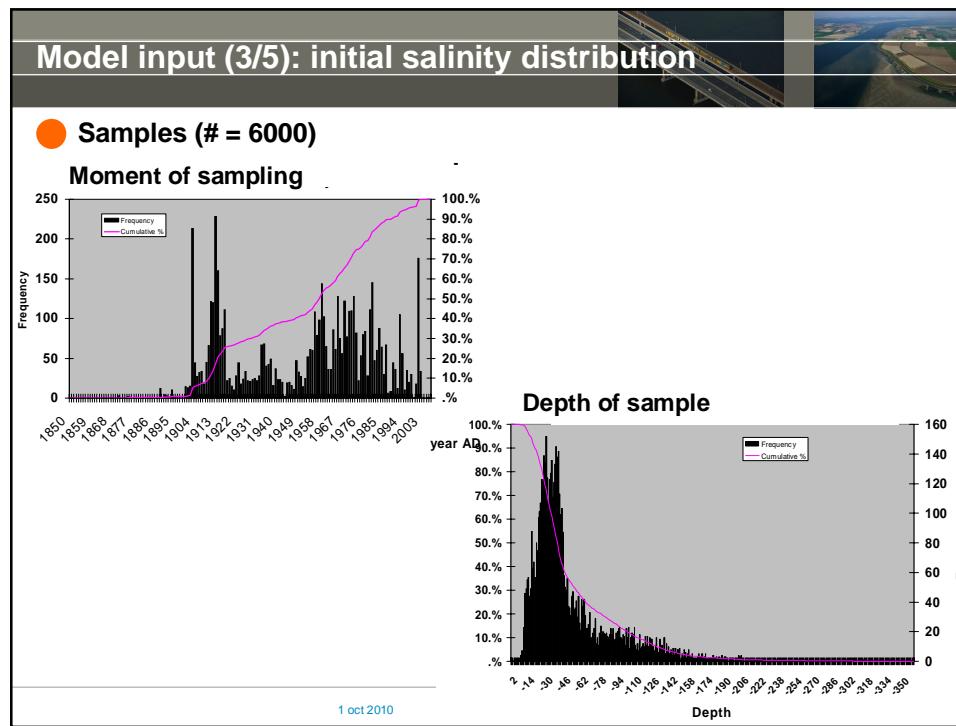


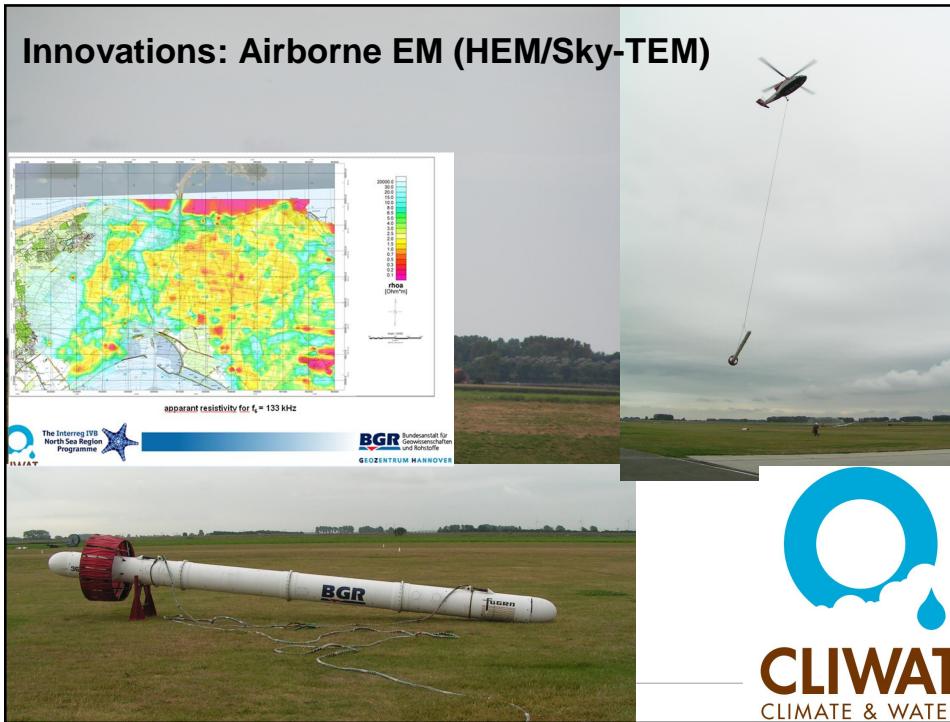


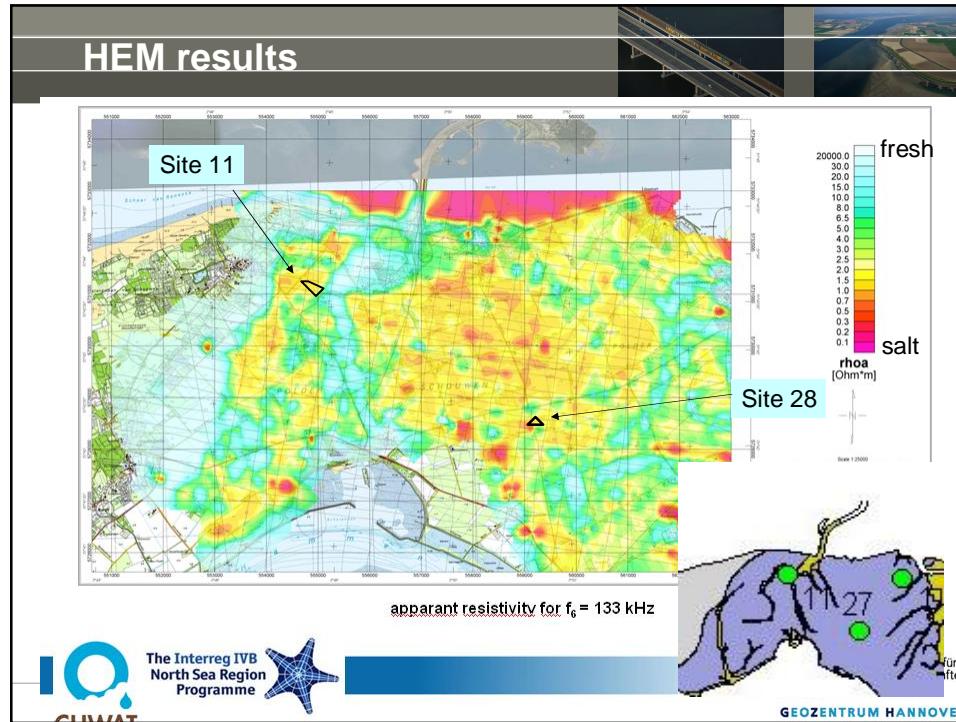
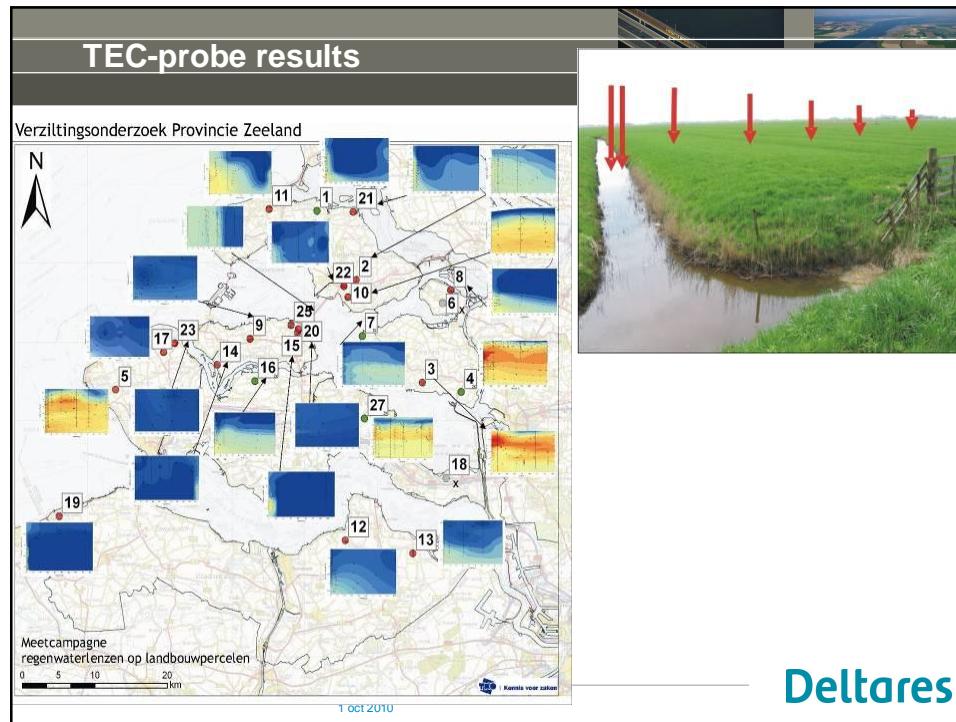


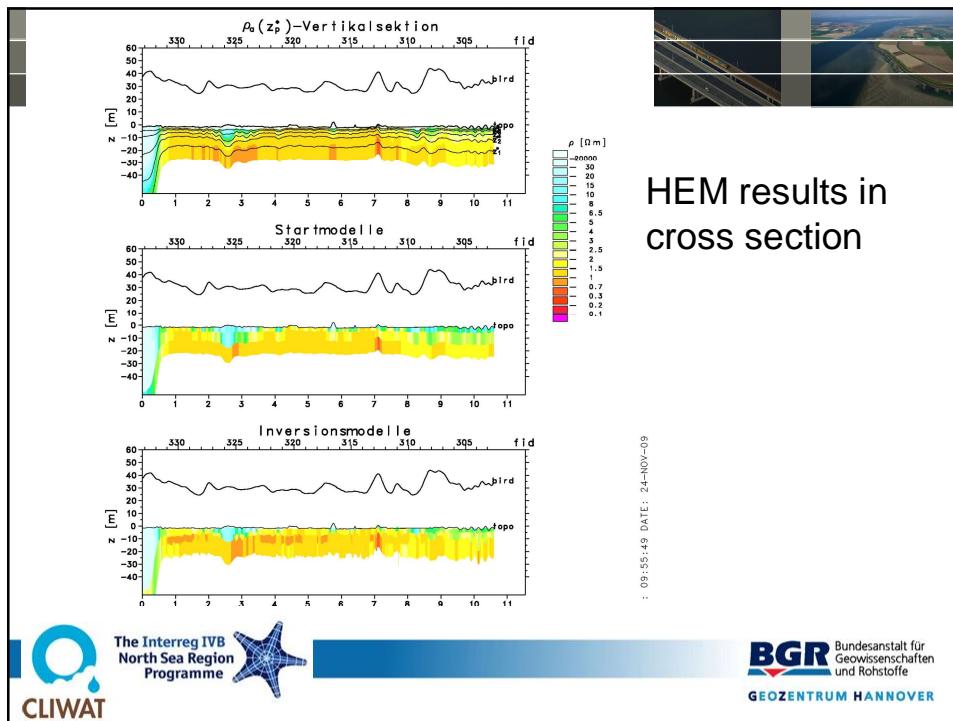
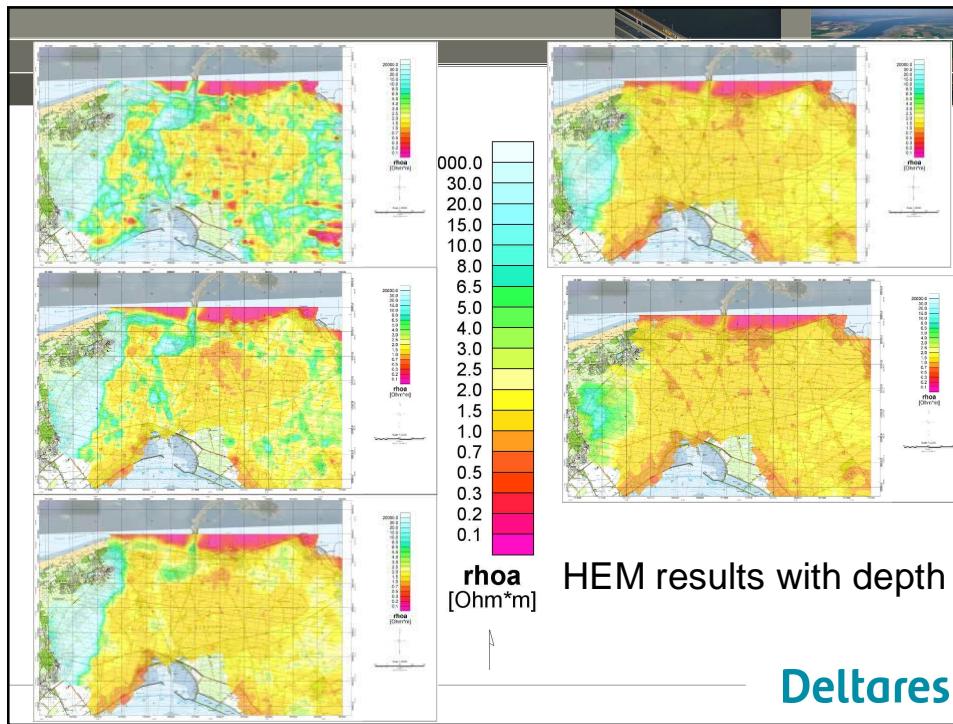


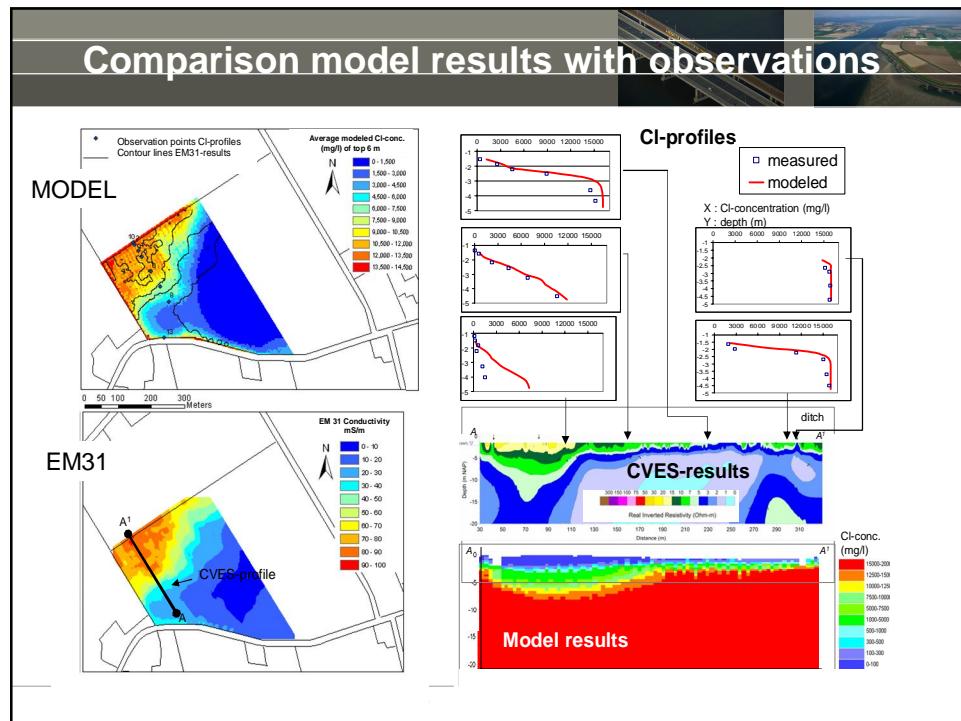
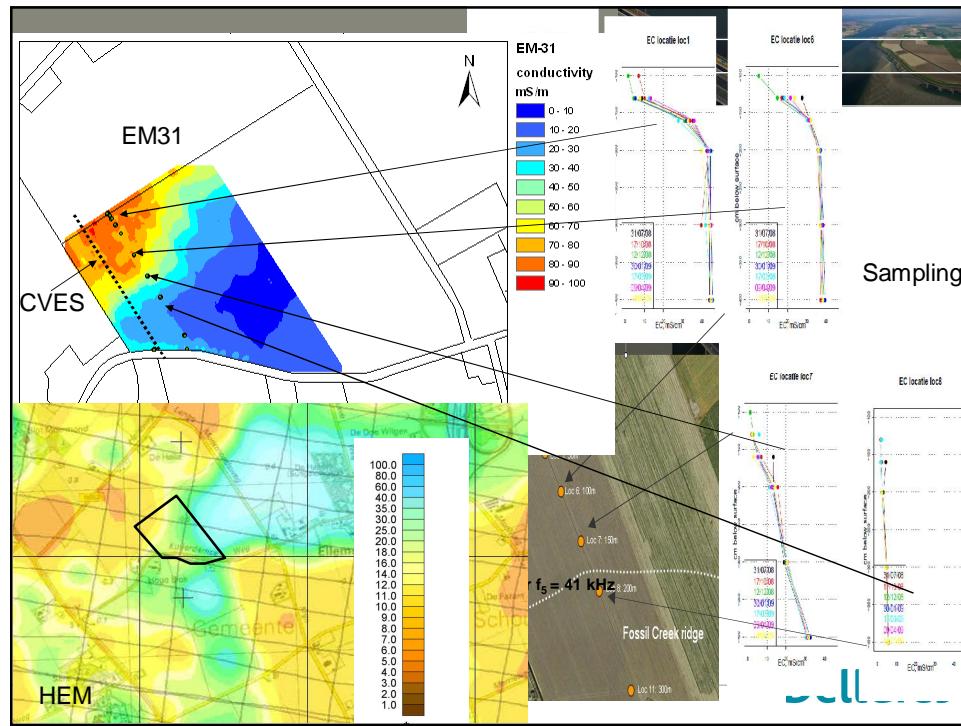


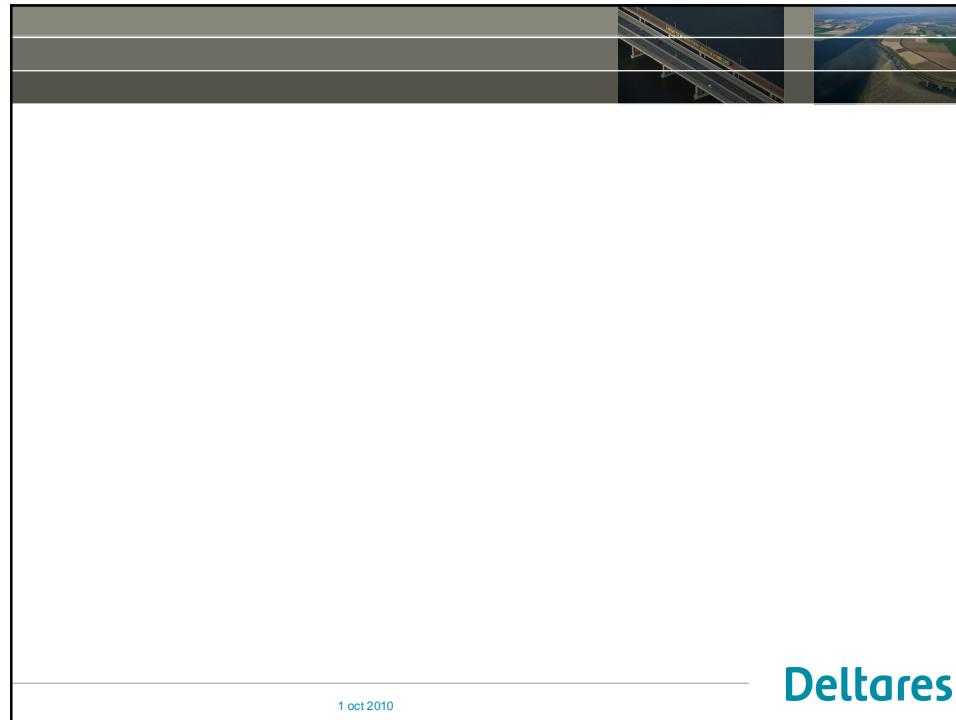
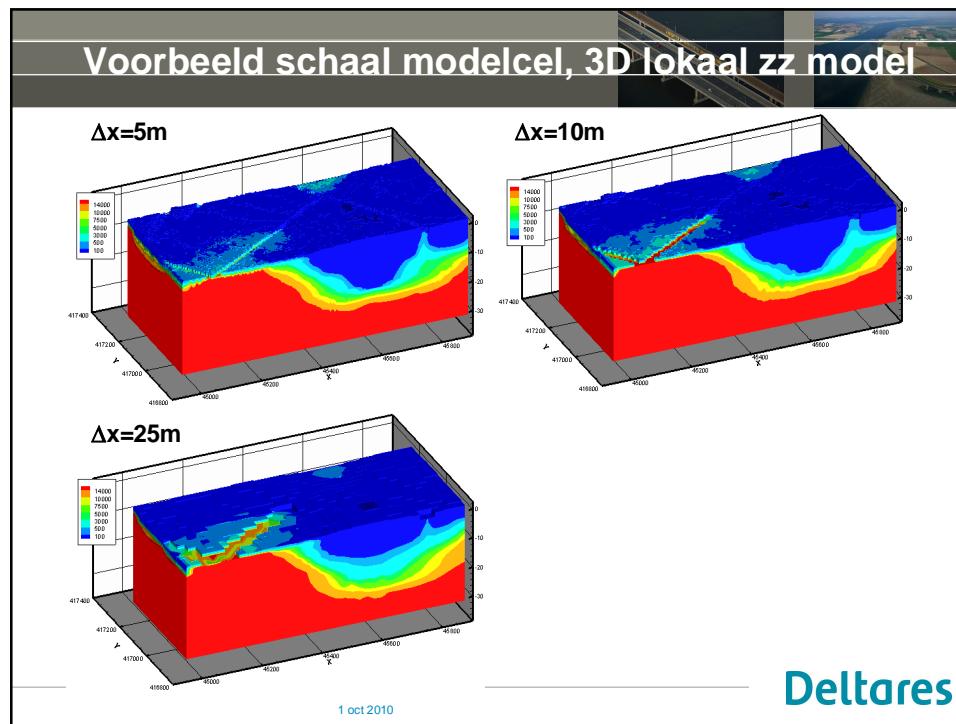


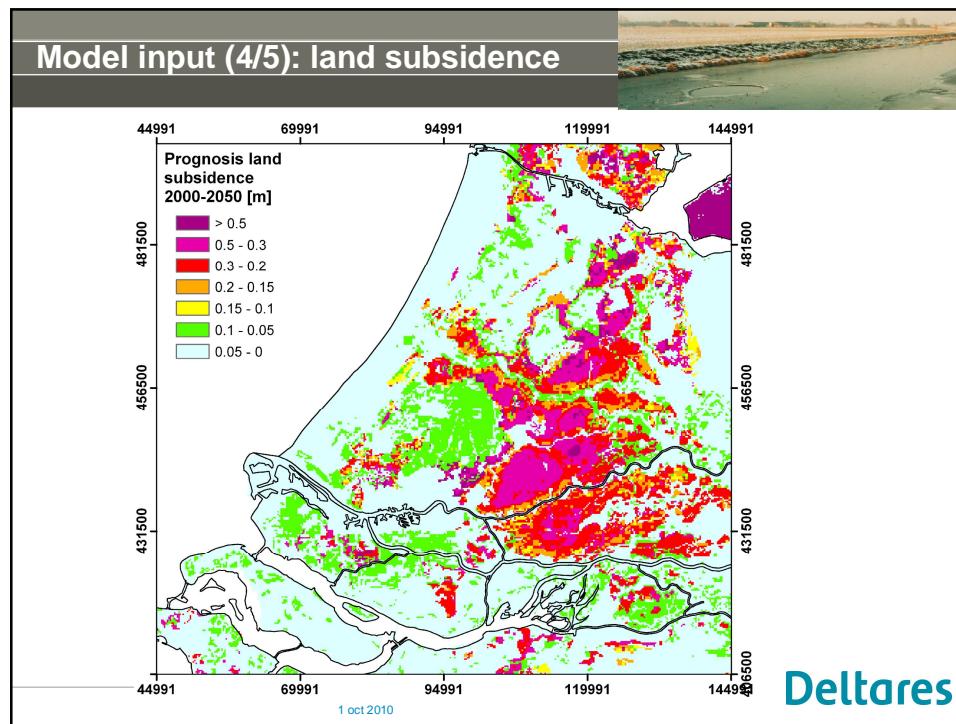










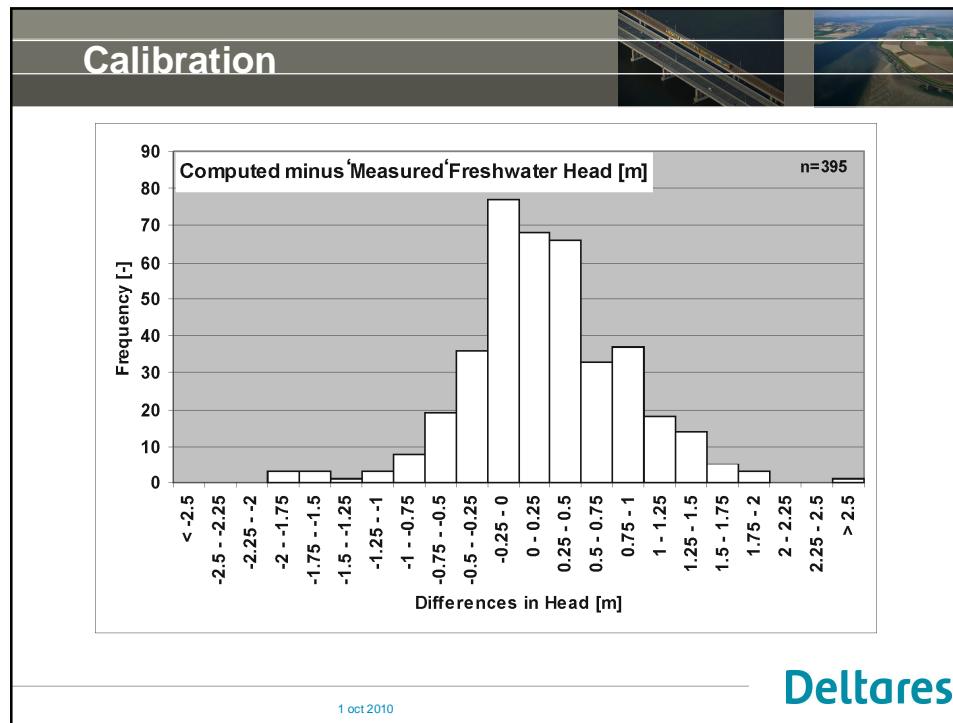
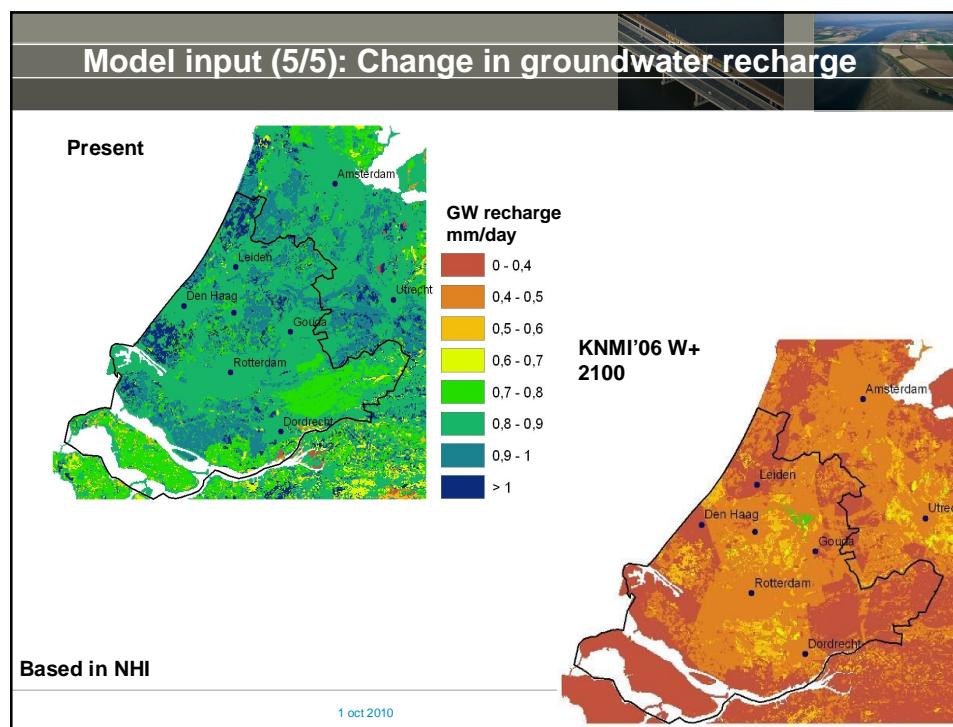


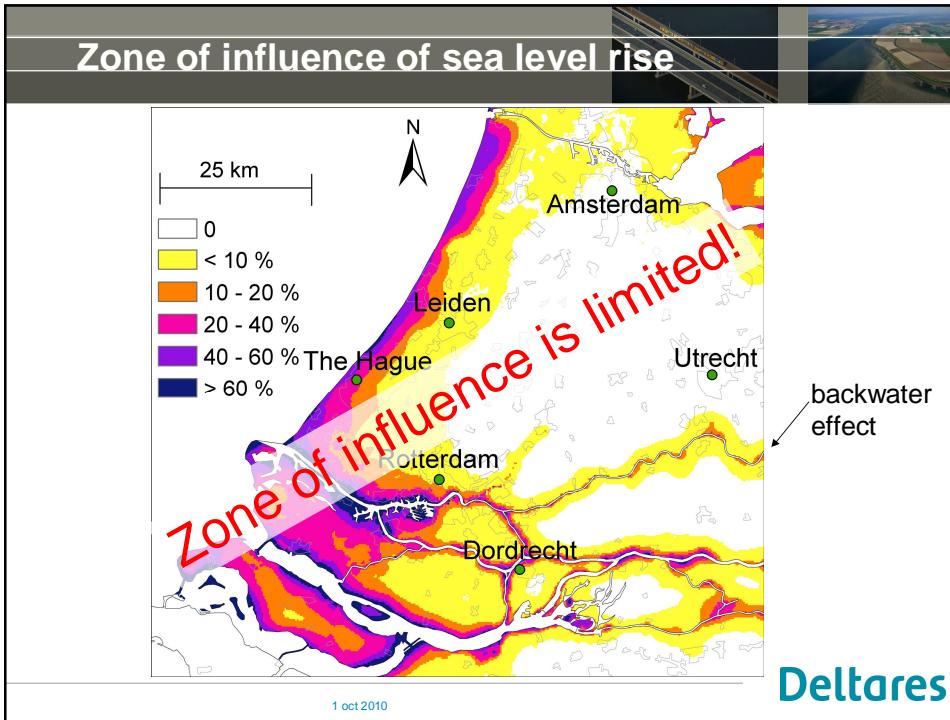
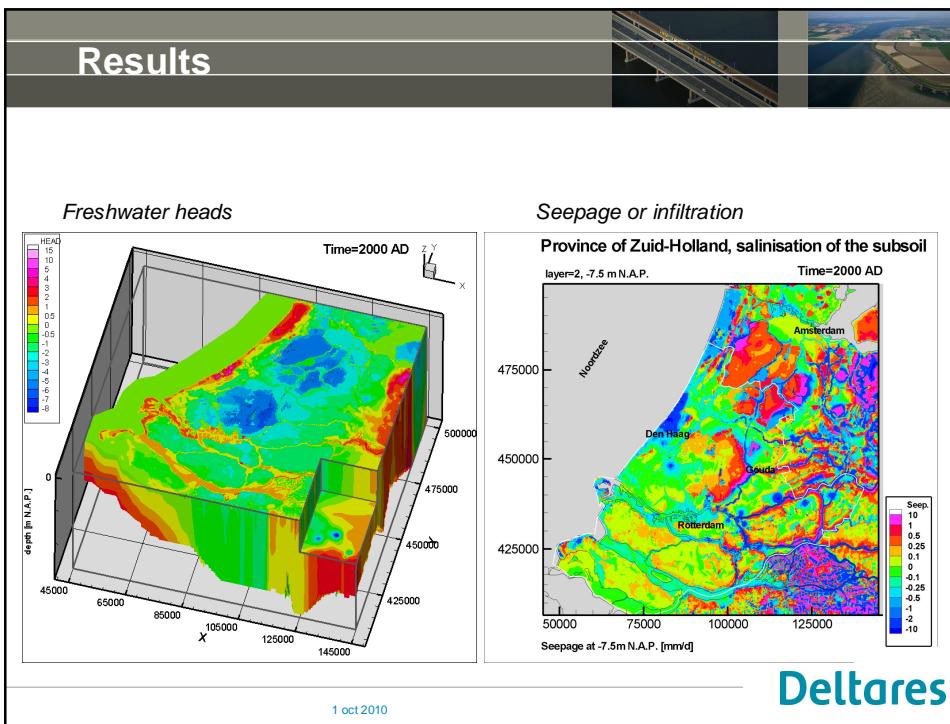
**Model input (5/5): climate scenarios (KNMI06)**

2100		G	G+	W	W+	C	C+
Worldwide temperature rise in 2050		+1°C	+1°C	+2°C	+2°C	+3°C	+3°C
Worldwide temperature rise in 2100		+2°C	+2°C	+4°C	+4°C	+6°C	+6°C
Change airstream pattern Western Europa	no	yes	no	yes	no	yes	
Winter	Average temperature	+1,8°C	+2,3°C	+3,6°C	+4,6°C	+5,4°C	+6,9°C
	Coldest winter day each year	+2,1°C	+2,9°C	+4,2°C	+5,8°C	+6,3°C	+7,8°C
	Average precipitation	7%	14%	14%	28%	21%	42%
Summer	Average temperature	+1,7°C	+2,8°C	+3,4°C	+5,6°C	+5,1°C	+8,4°C
	Hottest summer day each year	+2,1°C	+3,8°C	+4,2°C	+7,6°C	+6,3°C	+11,4°C
	Average precipitation	6%	-19%	12%	-38%	18%	-57%
Sea level rise	Absolute rise (cm)	35-60	35-60	40-85	40-85	45-110	45-110

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Deltres





**Explanation limited zone of influence sea level rise**  
**Simple analytical approach for zone of influence in deltaic areas**

Sea level rise  $\Delta\phi_0$

Deltaic zone

hydraulic resistance

$D$  thickness aquifer

$k$  hydraulic conductivity

$\lambda = \sqrt{kDc}$

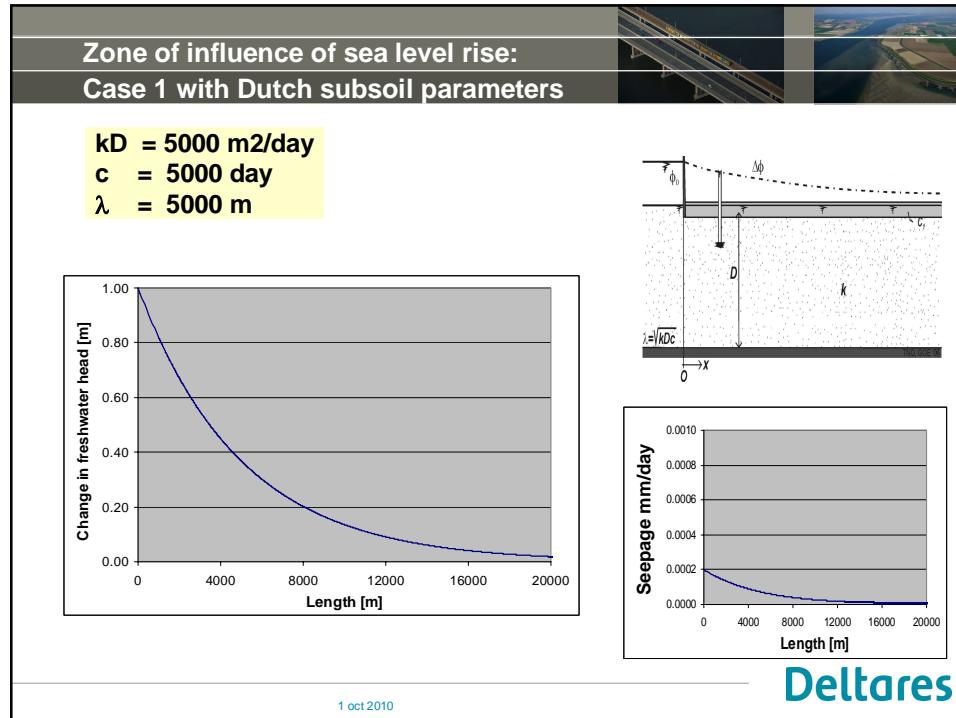
$\Delta\phi(x) = \phi_0 e^{-x/\lambda}$

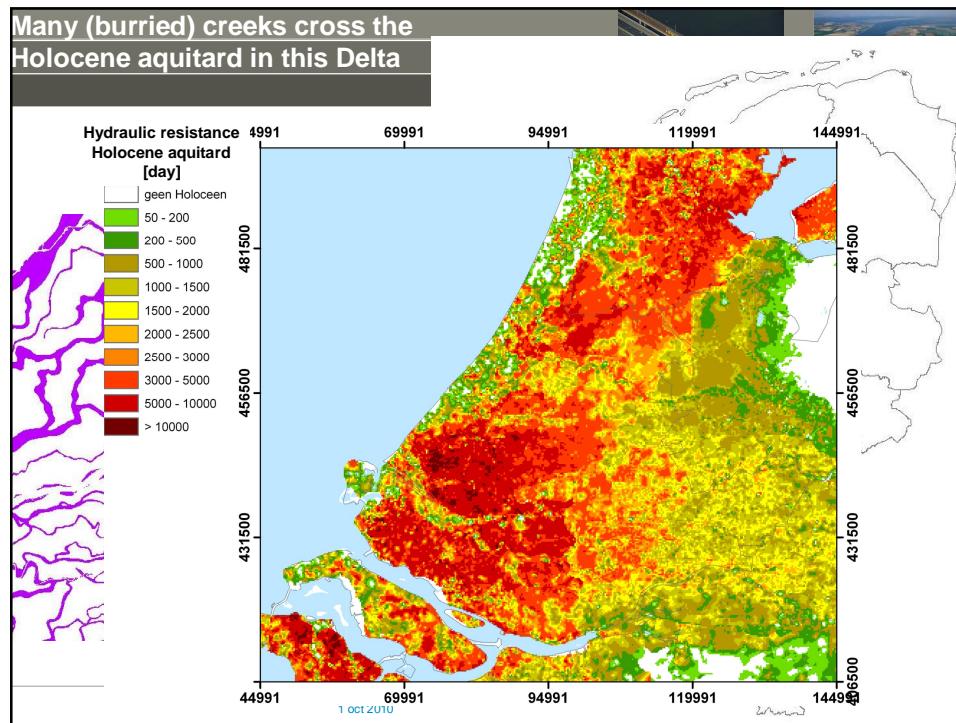
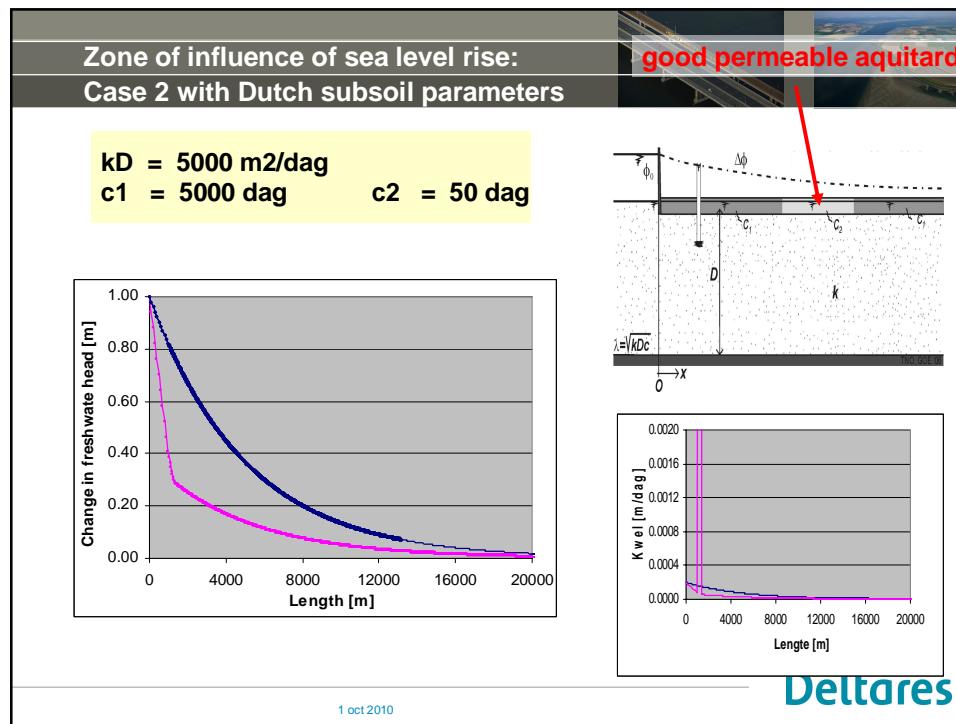
$\lambda = \sqrt{kDc}$

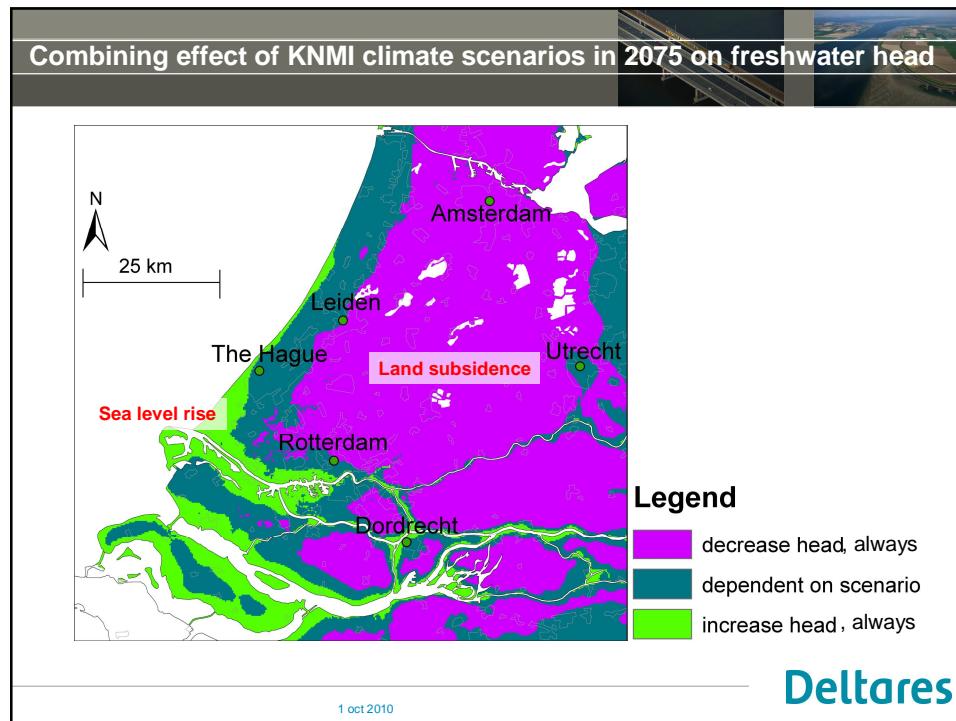
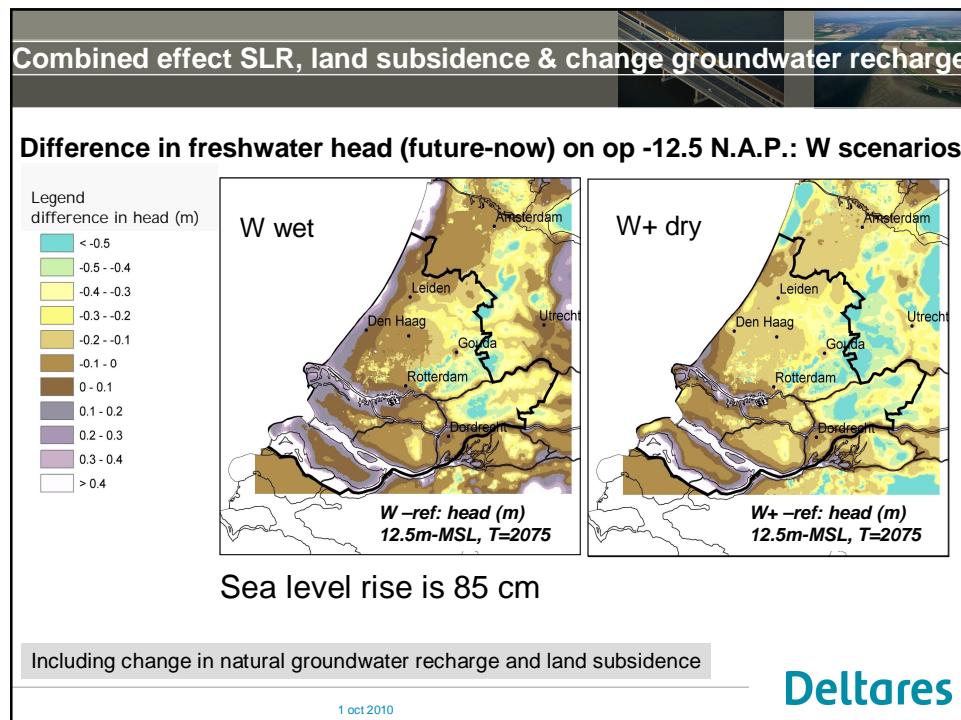
Zone of influence  $\lambda$  is equal to  $\sqrt{(kDc)}$   
At  $x=3\lambda$ , only 5% of sea level rise is detectable

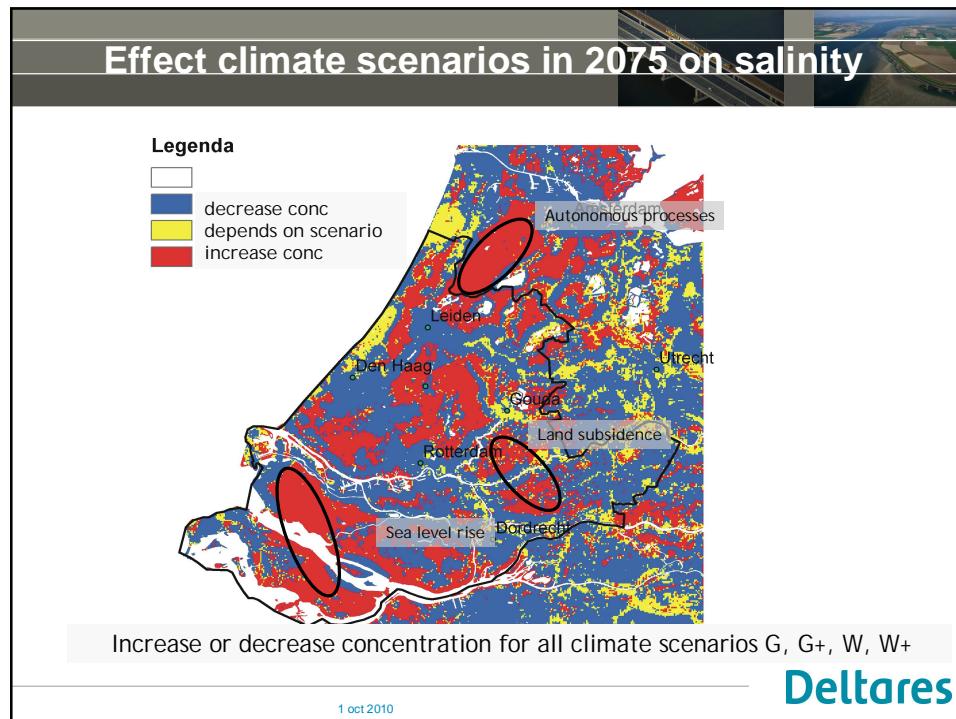
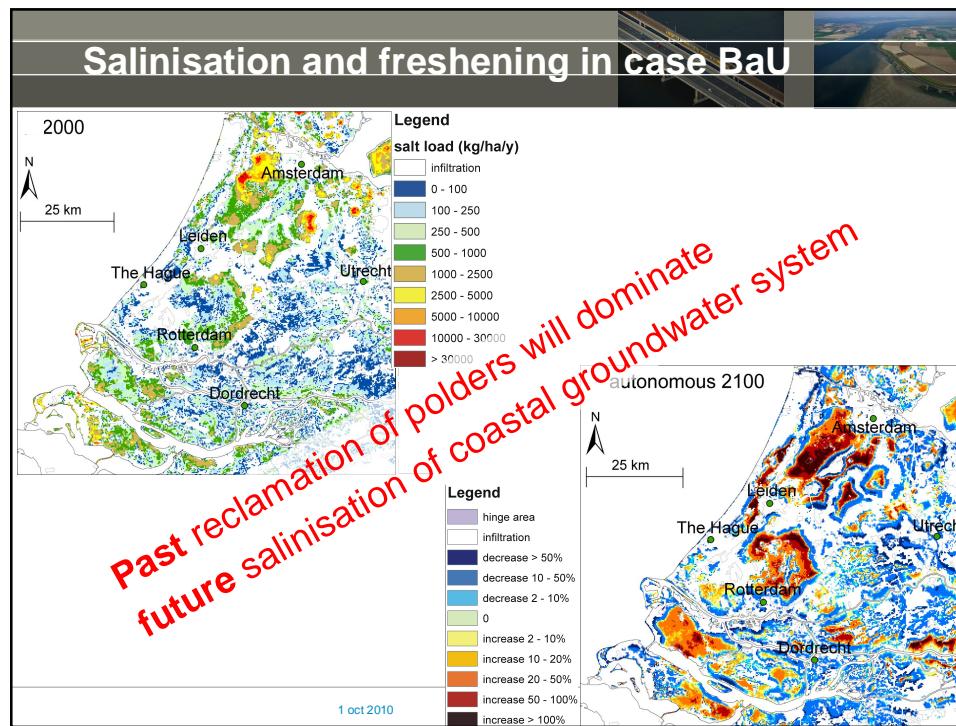
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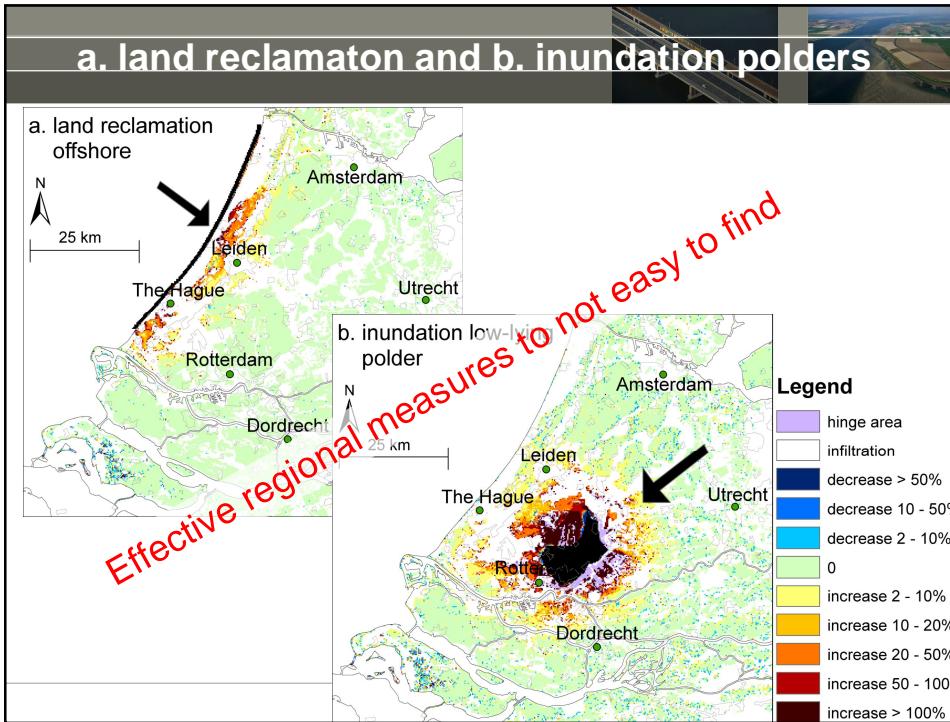


**Are regional measures effective to stop salinisation?**

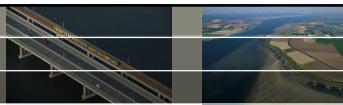
1. Land reclamation in front of the coast
2. Inundation of low-lying polders
3. Injection of fresh surface water
4. Extraction of saline/brackish groundwater
5. Creating physical barriers

Ad a.

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## Main conclusions



**Zone of influence SLR:**

- Zone of influence of sea level rise is rather limited, due to geological 'shortcuts'

**Salt load to surface water:**

- Past reclamation of polders will dominate future salinisation and freshening of coastal groundwater system

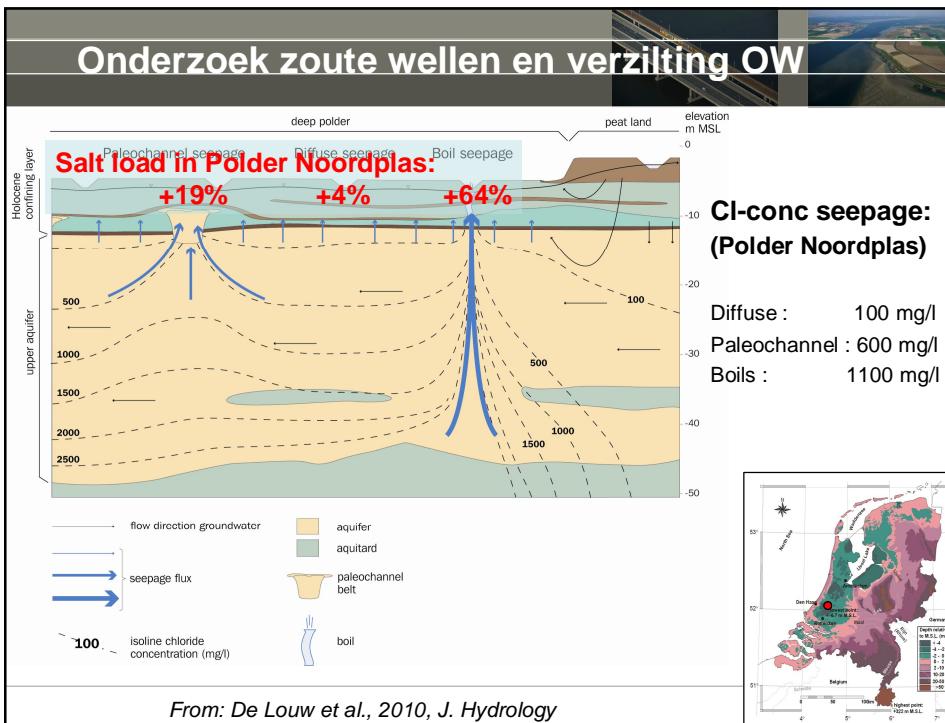
**Future plans:**

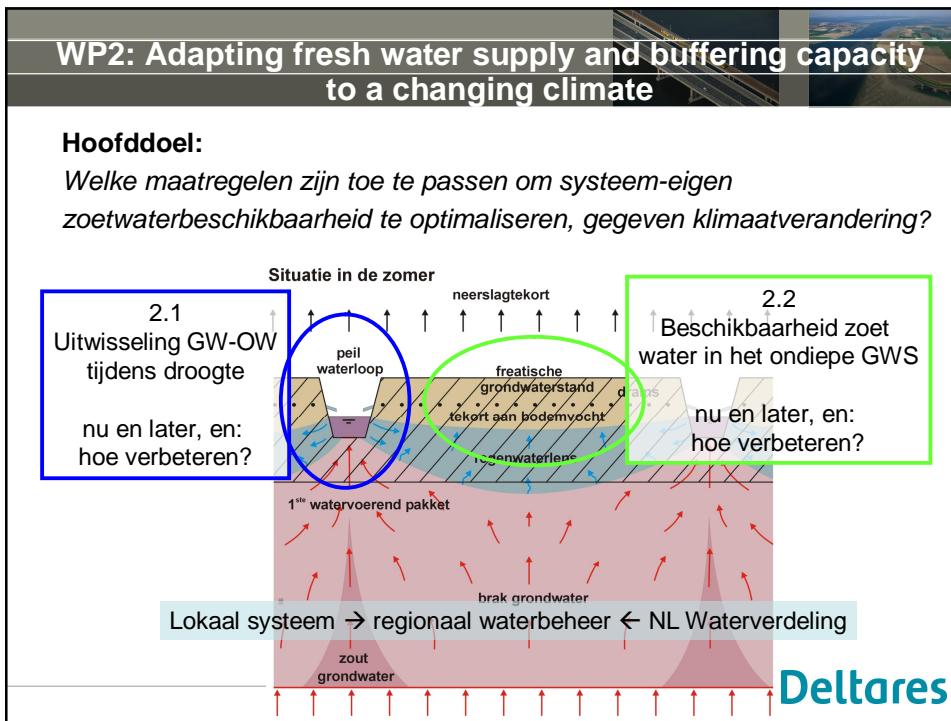
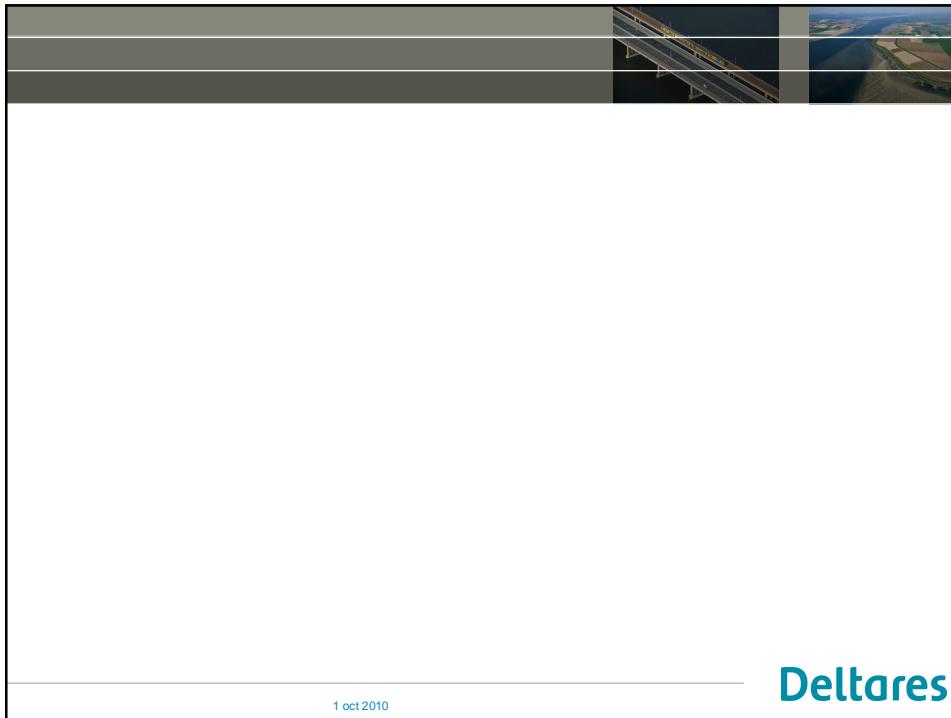
- Assess the (un)feasibility of regional measures to stop salinisation
- Incorporate local processes into regional models, such as preferential saline seepage through boils

Article in Water Resources Research:  
*Oude Essink, G.H.P., Baaren, E.S., van, De Louw, P.G.B., Effects of climate change on coastal groundwater systems: a modeling study in the Netherlands*

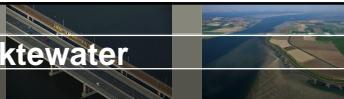
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**Gekoppeld Grondwater – Oppervlaktewater**



- **Oppervlaktewater onder zoute en droge omstandigheden voor het vinden van een klimaatrobuste regionale zoetwatervoorziening**

**Vraagstelling:**

- Polders in laaggelegen deltegebieden: problemen met zoetwaterbeschikbaarheid
- Detailprocessen (als wellen, drains) GW-OW invloed op grotere schaal
- 'Waar blijft het inlaatwater in polders?'
- Voor toekomst- en maatregelscenario's is kwantitatief instrumentarium nodig

**Aanpak onderzoek**

- Opbouw analyseraamwerk regionaal waterbeheer voor droge perioden
- Inzicht uitwisseling OW-GW in combinatie met verzilting (en nutriënten): meten
- Inzicht werking doorspoeling op slootniveau: meten
- Doorrekenen klimaatreeksen op de hydro(geo)logie van het watersysteem
- Onderzoeken maatregelstrategieën: op lokale schaal en op regionale schaal
- Lokaal systeem → regionaal waterbeheer ← NL Waterverdeling

**Cases:**

Case Groene Ruggengraat (Rijnland)  
Case Haaglanden: generieke kennis  
Case Zuidwestelijke Delta

Joost Delsman  
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**Onderzoek interactie GW-OW: droog en zout**



"Hoe werkt het hydrologisch systeem in huidige droge zomers?"

"Wat is de ruimtelijke en temporele variatie?"

"Hoe is het systeem goed kwantitatief te beschrijven?"

"Hoe verandert dit systeem door klimaatverandering?"

"Welke maatregelen zijn het meest optimaal om droogte en verzilting tegen te gaan in de toekomst?"

```

graph TD
    A[Systeemkennis schaal sloot] --> B[Systeemkennis schaal polder]
    B --> C[Modelraamwerk voor analyse klimaatverandering en adaptatiestrategieen]
    D[Modellering op verschillende schalen] --> C
    
```

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**Zoetwatervoorraad in zoetwaterlenzen**



**Zoetwatervoorraad in neerslaglenzen onder druk van klimaatverandering**

laten toenemen van de lokale beschikbaarheid van zoet water door het creëren van een robuust en flexibel buffersysteem om zoet water in de ondergrond in regenwaterlenzen op lokale schaal te bergen.

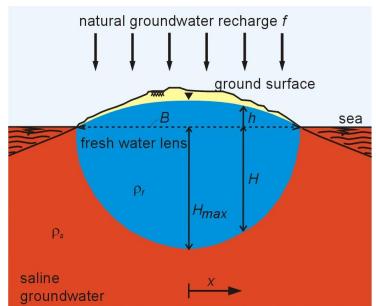
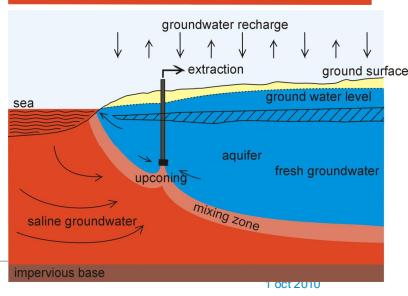
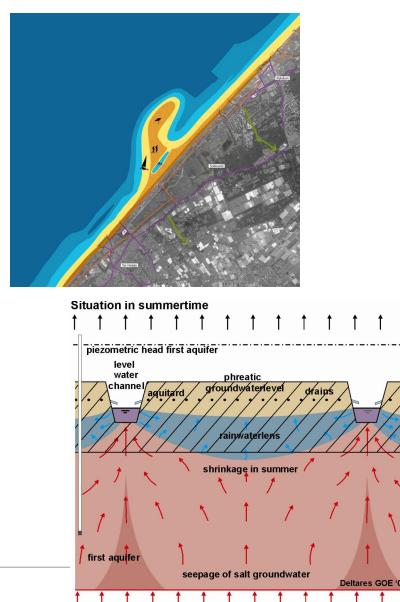
1. **kleine lenzen op landbouwpercelen**
2. **medium lenzen op kreekruggen**
3. **grote lenzen onder duingebieden**

**Cases:**  
Zuidwestelijke Delta: vervolg Zeeland studie Provincie Zeeland Haaglanden

Pieter Pauw  
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**Onderzoek kwetsbaarheid regenwaterlenzen**

**Different model cell sizes to consider several phenomena**

**Sub-local:** fingering, salty sand boils  
Sri Lanka (Tsunami 2004), Zandmotor  
**cell size=1cm-1m**

**Local:** rainwaterlenses, heat-cold  
Tholen, Schouwen-Duiveland  
**cell size=5-25m**

**Regional:**  
Zeeland, Gujarat/India, Philippines  
**cell size=100m**

**National:** salt load  
Zuid-Holland, NHI  
**cell size=250m-1km**

**Goal:**  
To take largest cell size possible to accurately model relevant salinisation processes

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