

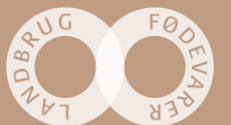
# Drainage filters targeting nutrient removal in agricultural drainage discharge: A new cost-effective mitigation strategy in Denmark

Charlotte Kjærgaard, Chief Scientist  
SEGES, Danish Agriculture & Food Council

STØTTET AF  
**Promille**afgiftsfonden for landbrug

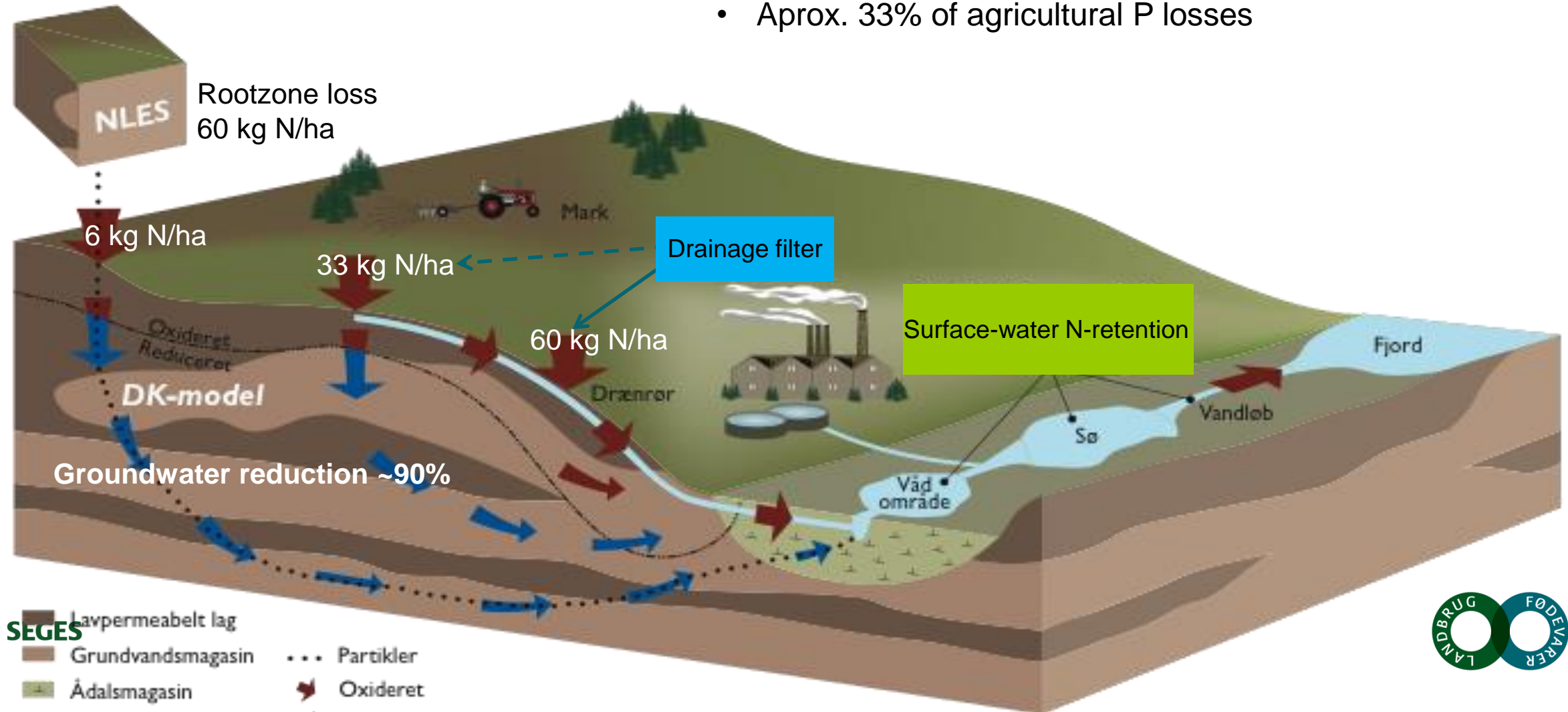
**SEGES**

Workshop – Input and output based N regulation  
SEGES, June 7th, Aarhus, Denmark

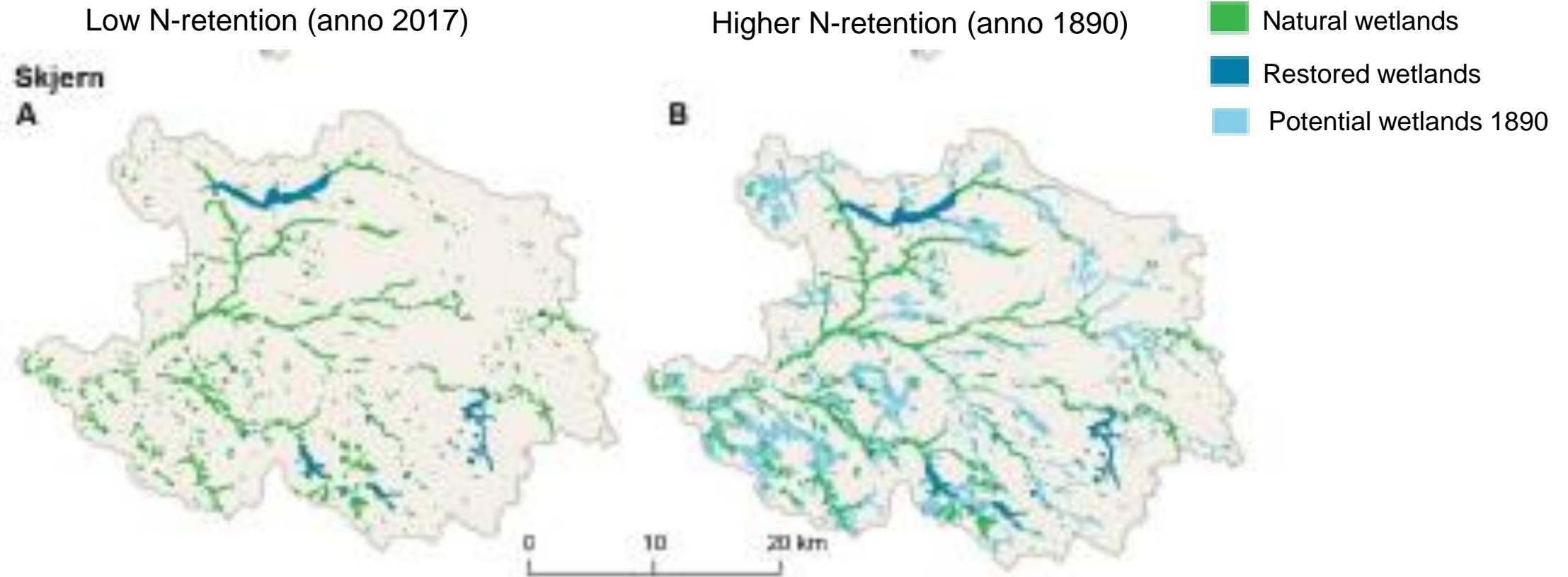


# Drainage filters a new targeted mitigation strategy

- Drainage losses of nutrients accounts nationally for:
- 50-60% of agricultural N losses -> locally up to 90%
  - Aprox. 33% of agricultural P losses

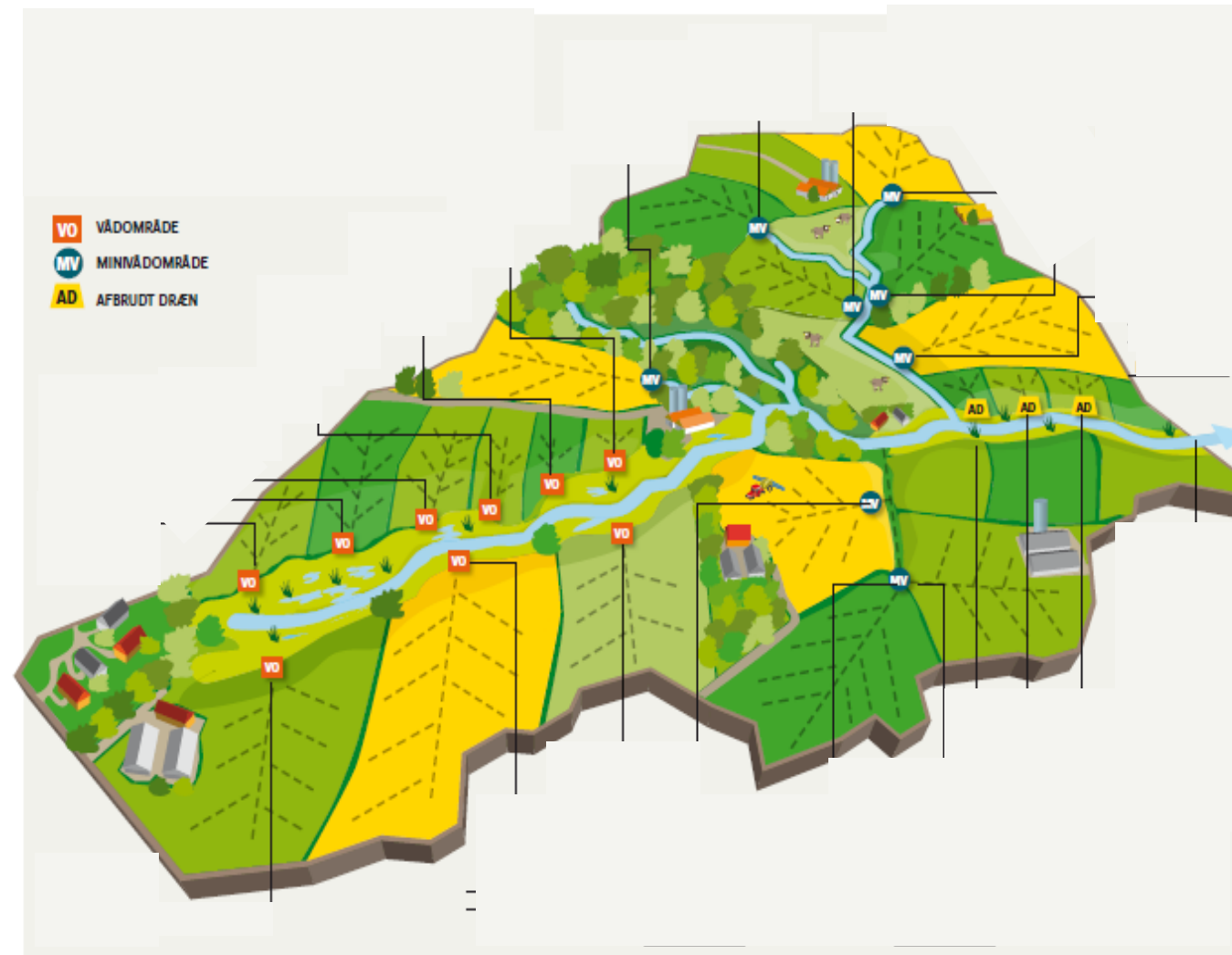


# Wetlands as natural landscape filters – before and now



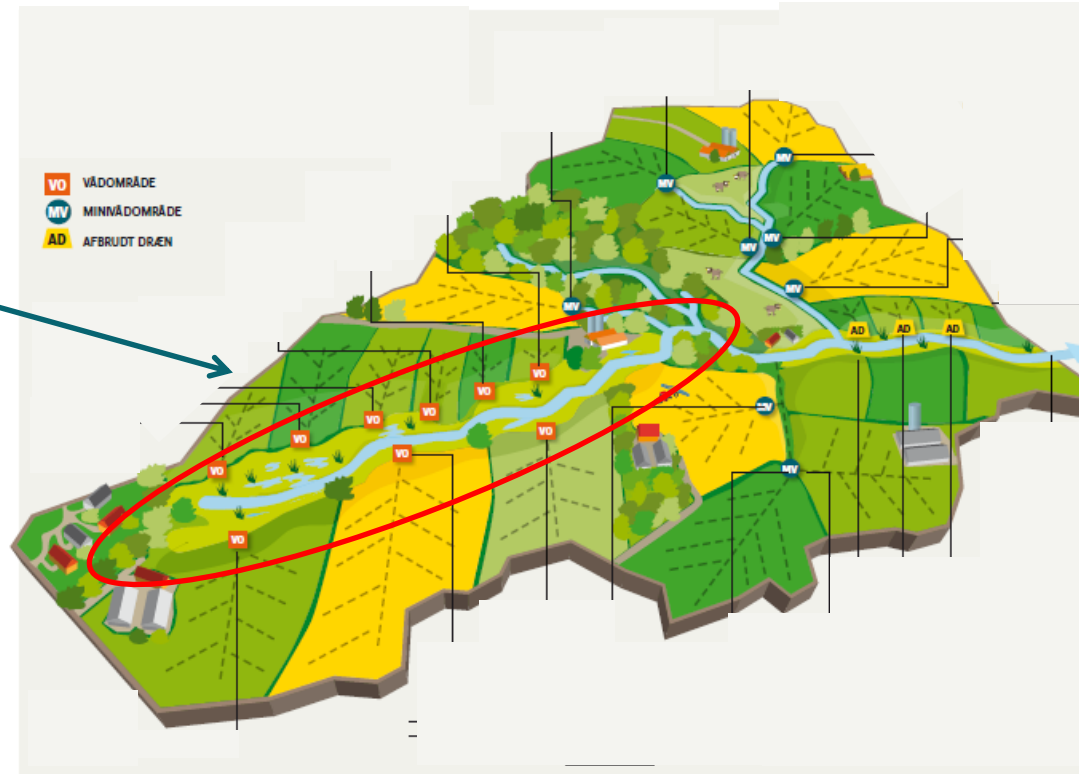
Jensen, P.N. (Ed.) 2017. Estimation of Nitrogen Concentrations from root zone to marine areas around year 1900. Aarhus University, DCE-Danish Centre for Environment and Energy, 126 pp. Scientific Report No. 241. <http://dce2.au.dk/pub/SR241.pdf>

# Visions for the targeted nutrient mitigation – restore landscape filters



# Visions for the targeted nutrient mitigation – restore landscape filters

## Riparian lowland



# Riparian lowland



- Wetland restoration
- Disconnected tile drains

# Significance of the N-reduction potential using riparian lowland

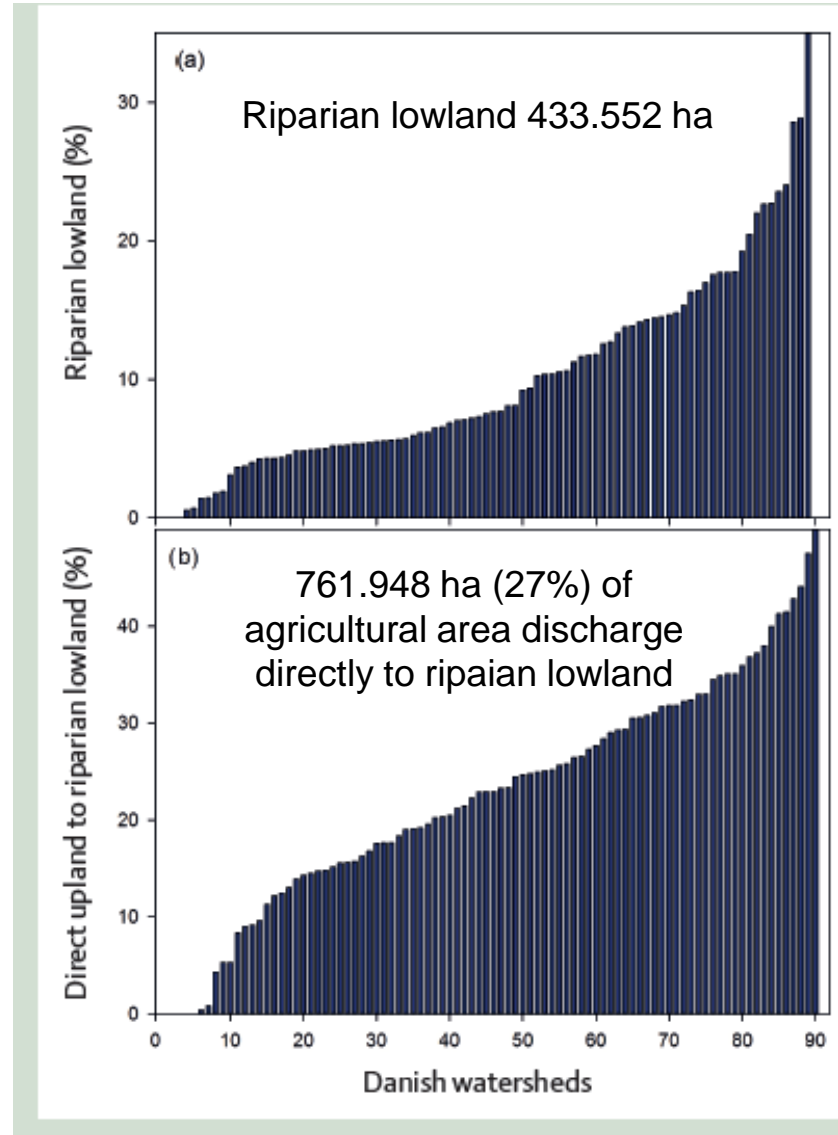
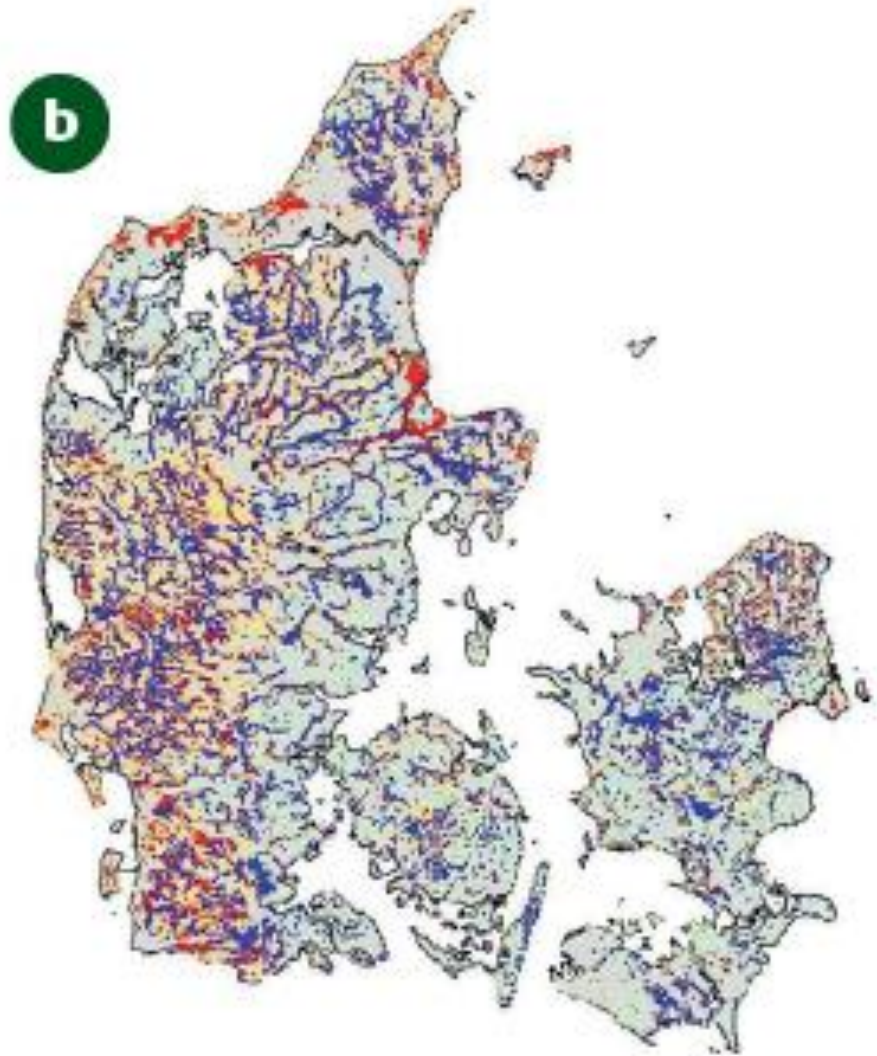
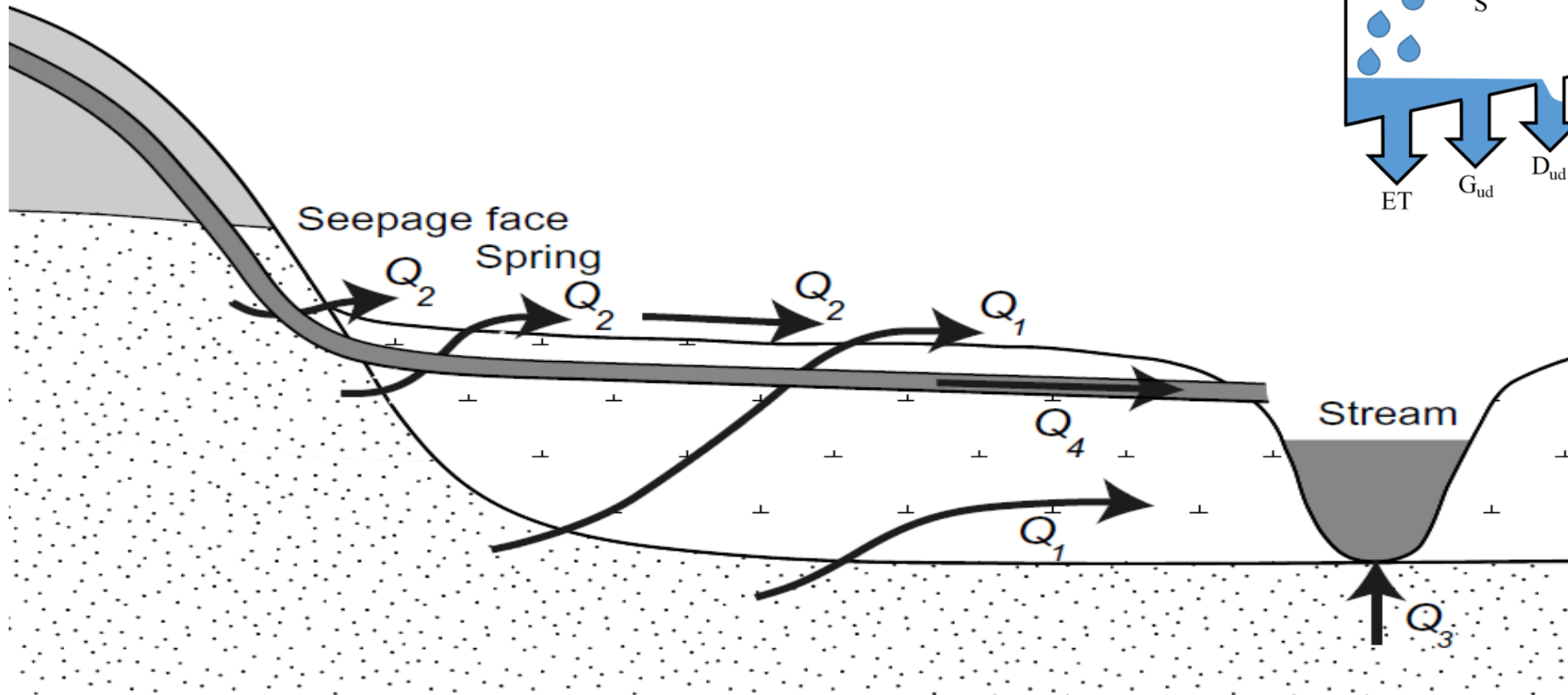
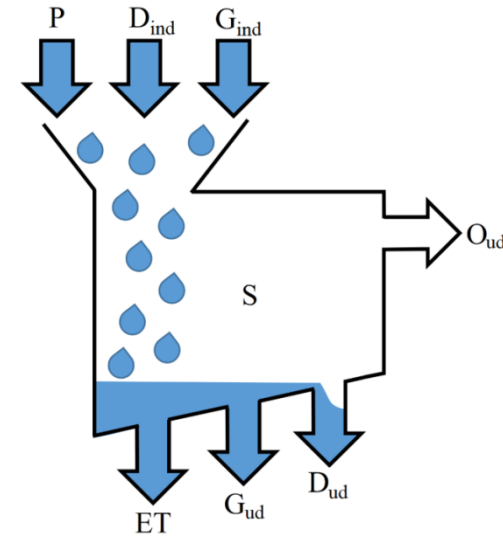


FIGURE 2. (a) Riparian lowland area, and (b) agricultural upland intercepted by riparian lowland in the Danish watersheds.

# Challenges in predicting N-reduction in riparian lowlands

Innovation Fund project TReNDS:  
Water-balance model to distribute flow-pathways  
(Petersen et al., submitted)





# Visions for the targeted nutrient mitigation – restore landscape filters

## Riparian lowland

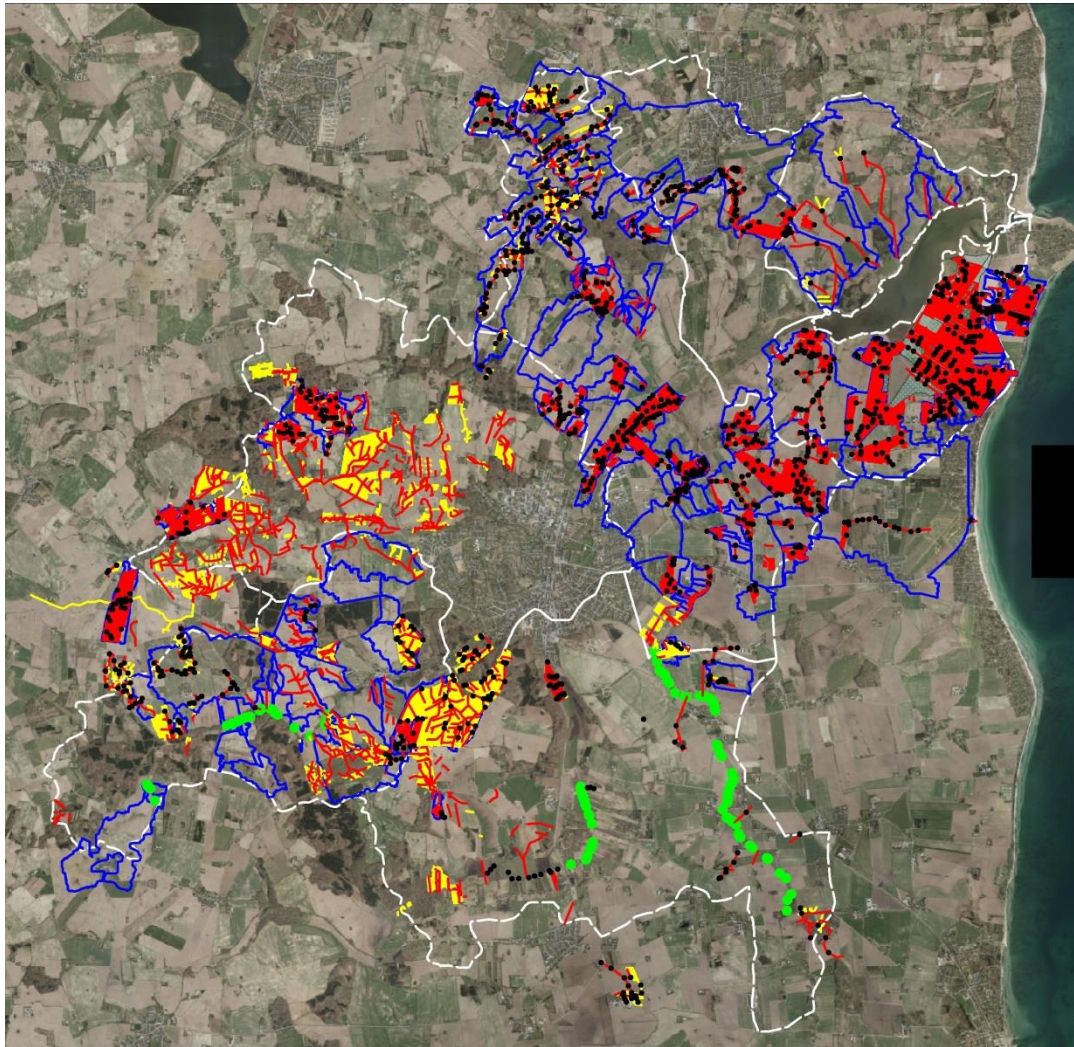


## Constructed wetlands

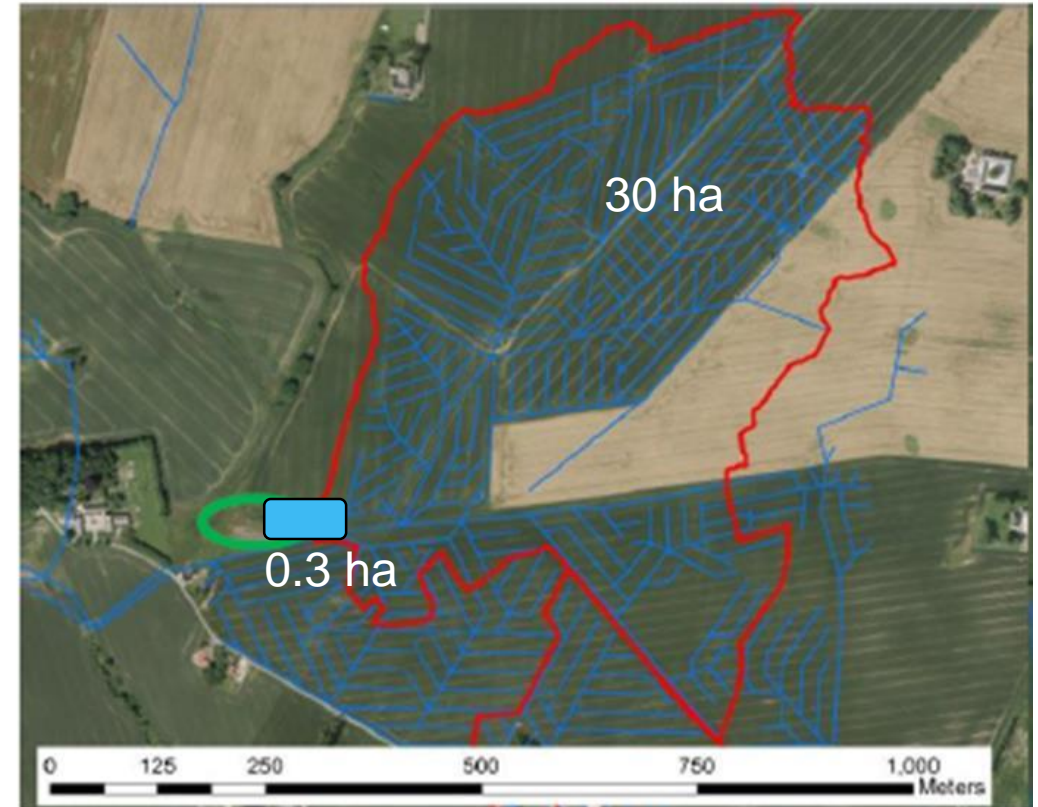


# Drainage filters a new targeted mitigation strategy

Norsminde Fjord catchment (10.100 ha ~7.500 ha agricultural area) - intensively tile-drained (<5 ha to >100 ha)



Deliniated drainage catchment

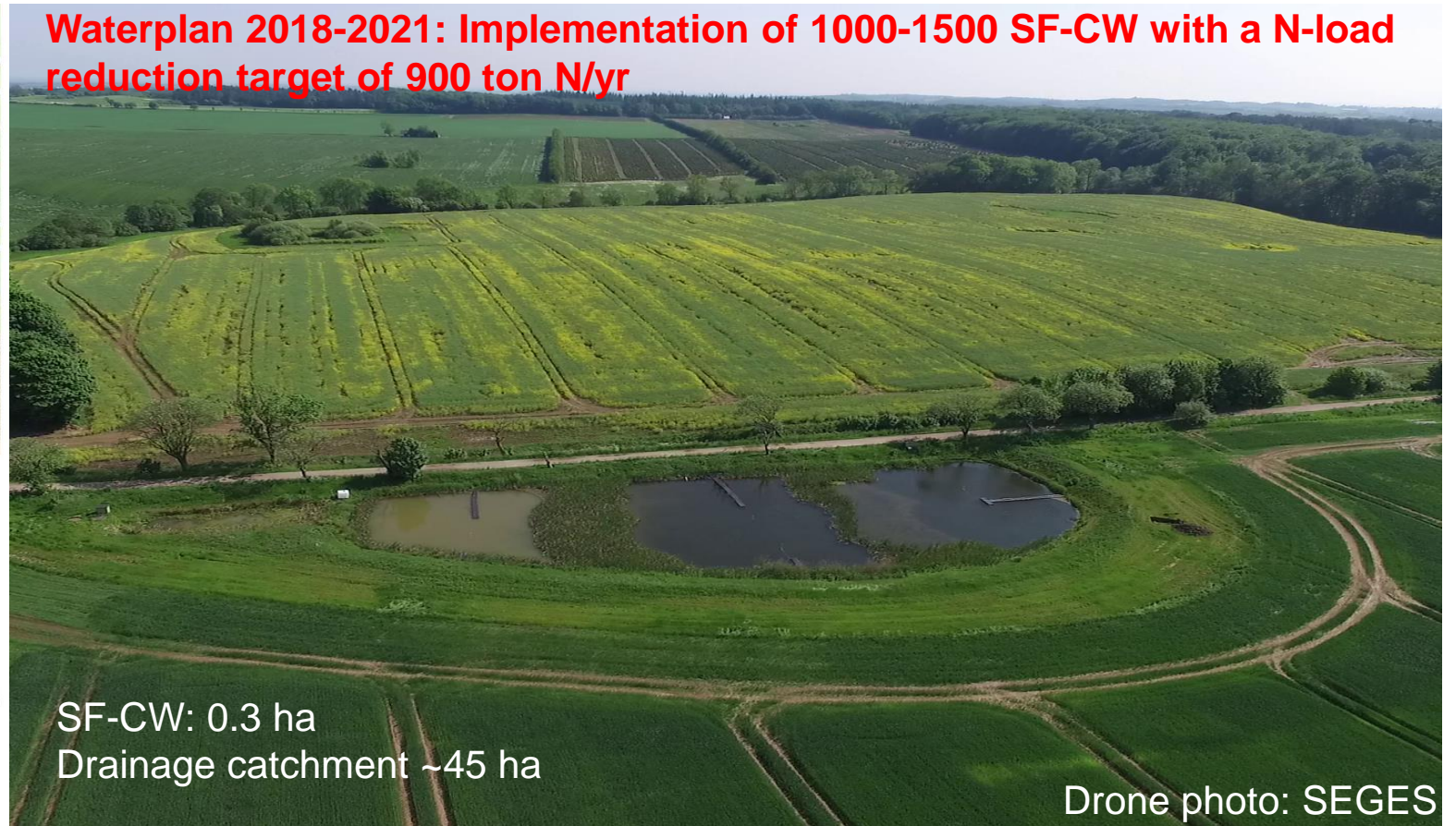
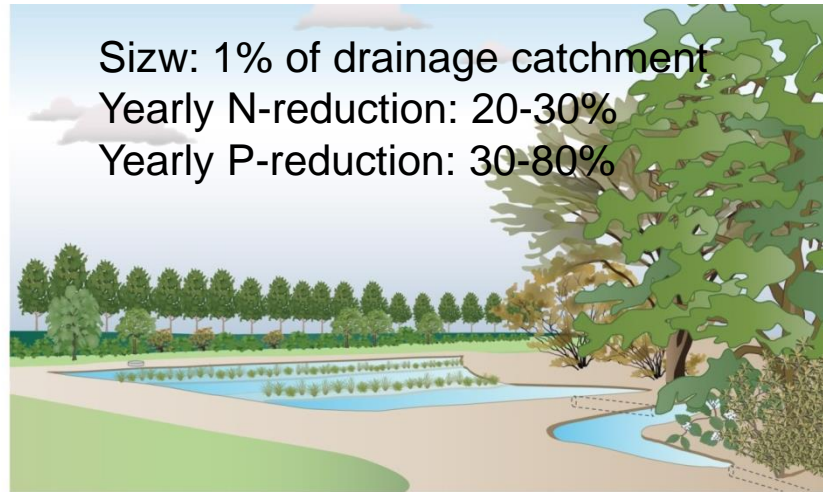


# The first Danish surface-flow constructed wetland – Fillerup

Constructed in 2010 in the Norsminde Fjord Catchment, Odder, Denmark by DLMO, SEGES, AU

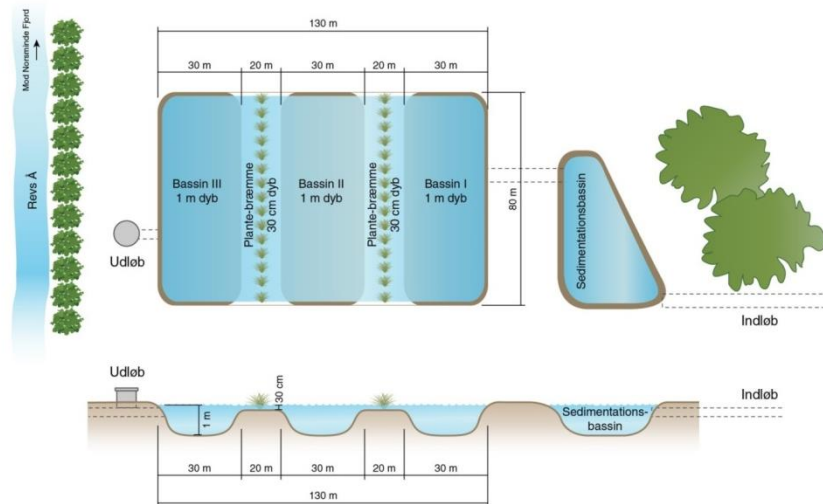
Size: 1% of drainage catchment  
Yearly N-reduction: 20-30%  
Yearly P-reduction: 30-80%

**Waterplan 2018-2021: Implementation of 1000-1500 SF-CW with a N-load reduction target of 900 ton N/yr**



SF-CW: 0.3 ha  
Drainage catchment ~45 ha

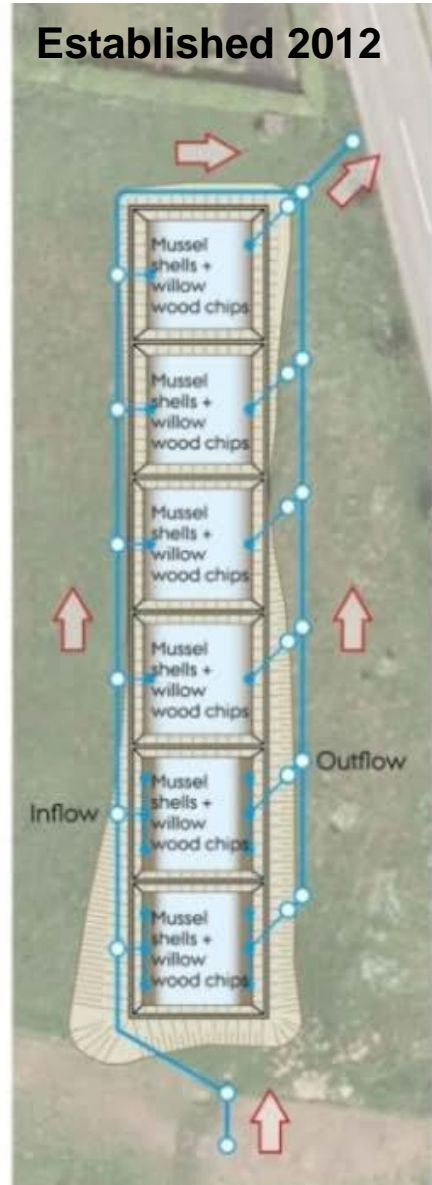
Drone photo: SEGES



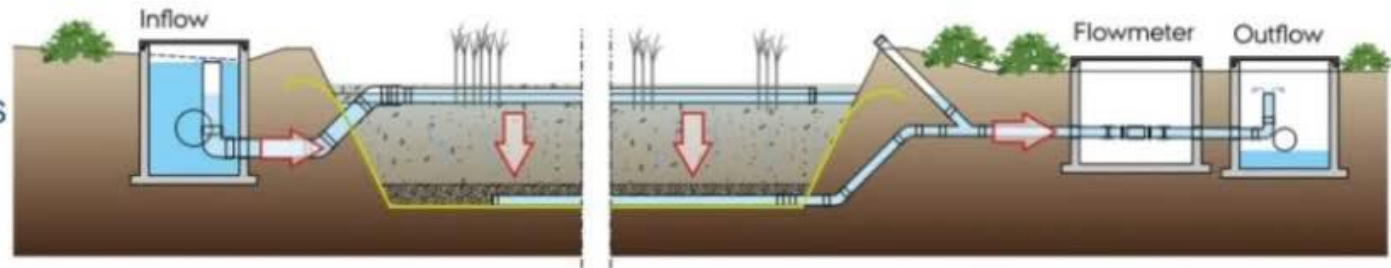
25 SF-CW constructed in DK in 2010-2015  
Kjaergaard et al., (2014; 2017; 2019)



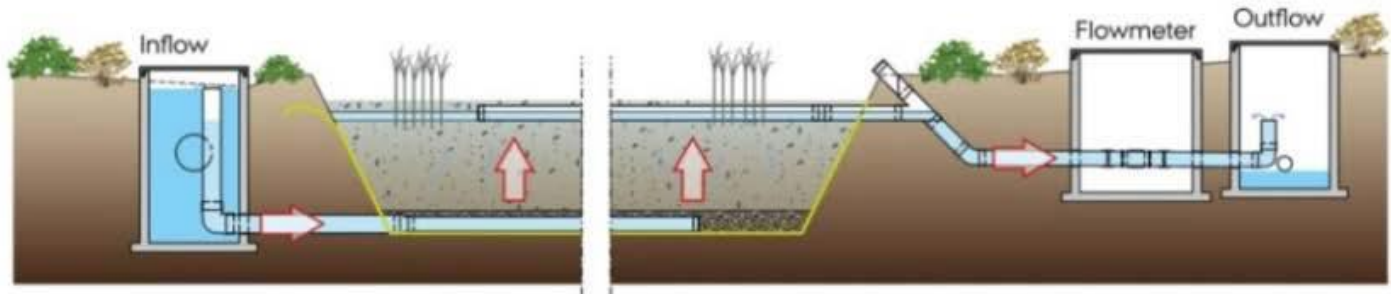
# Subsurface-flow constructed wetlands (woodchips based bioreactors)



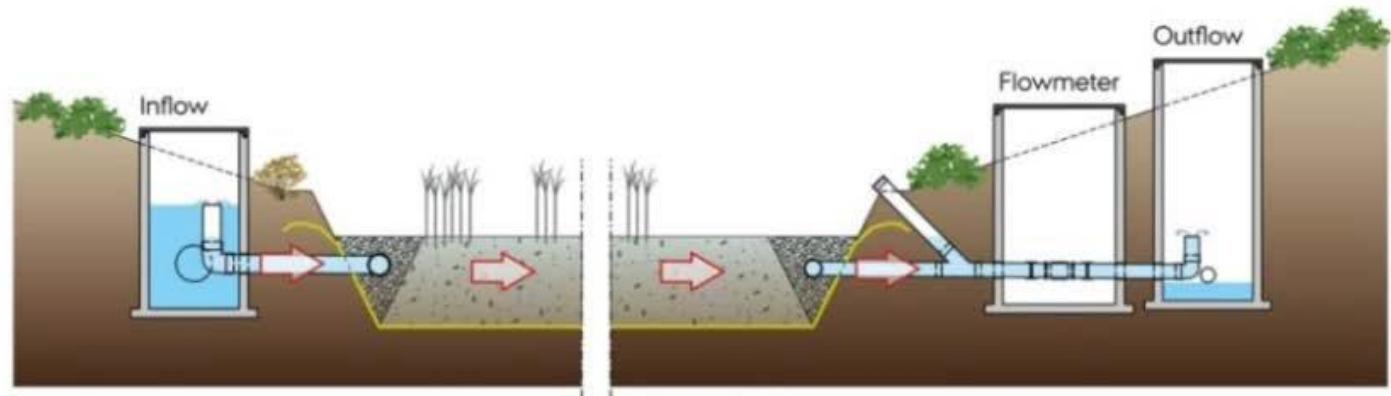
Vertical downwards flow



Vertical upwards flow



Horizontal flow



Cost-effective filter technologies targeting P-retention and N-removal in agricultural drainage discharge

[www.supremetech.dk](http://www.supremetech.dk)

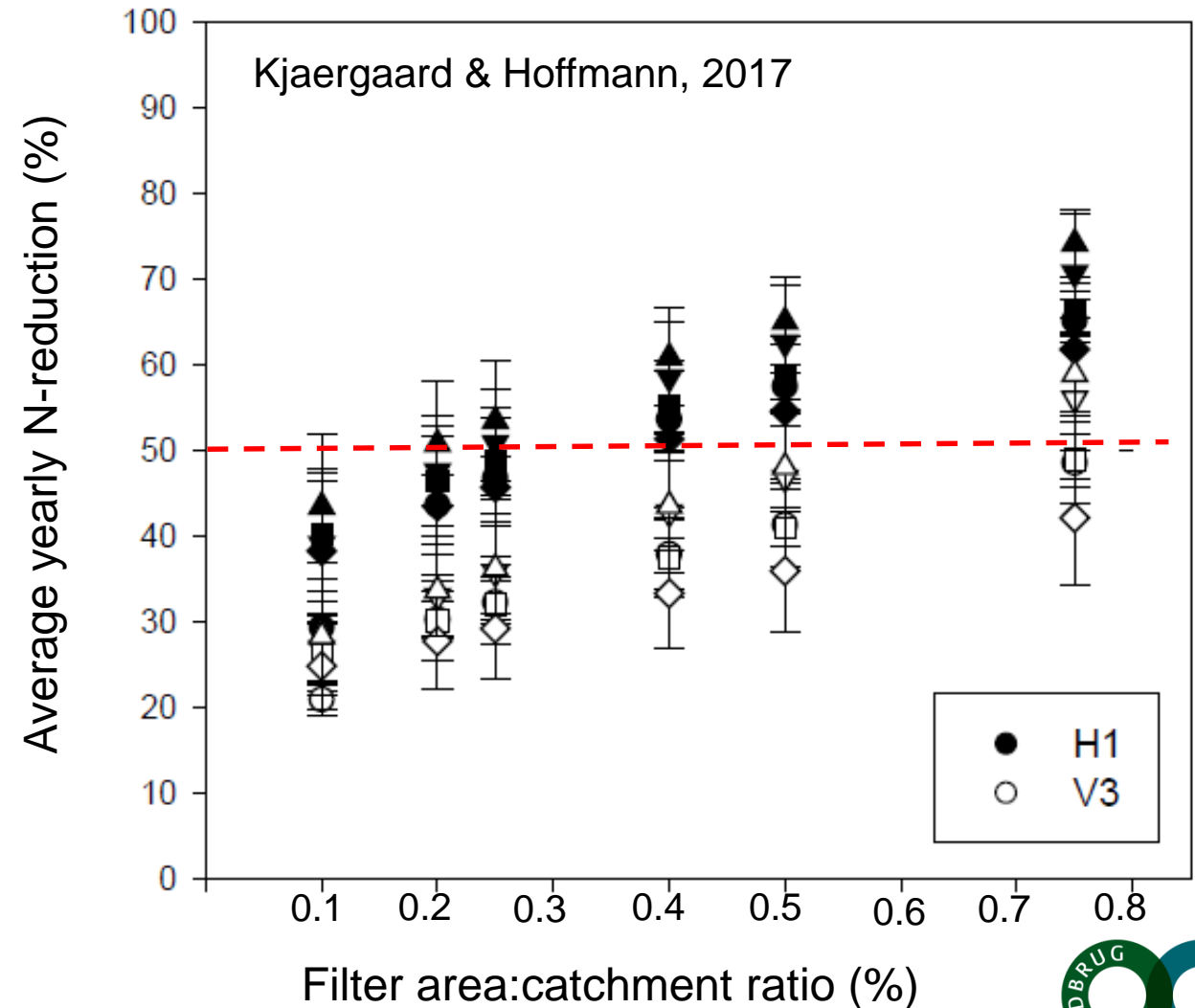
Hoffmann & Kjaergaard, 2019

# Operational model for estimating bioreactor efficiency

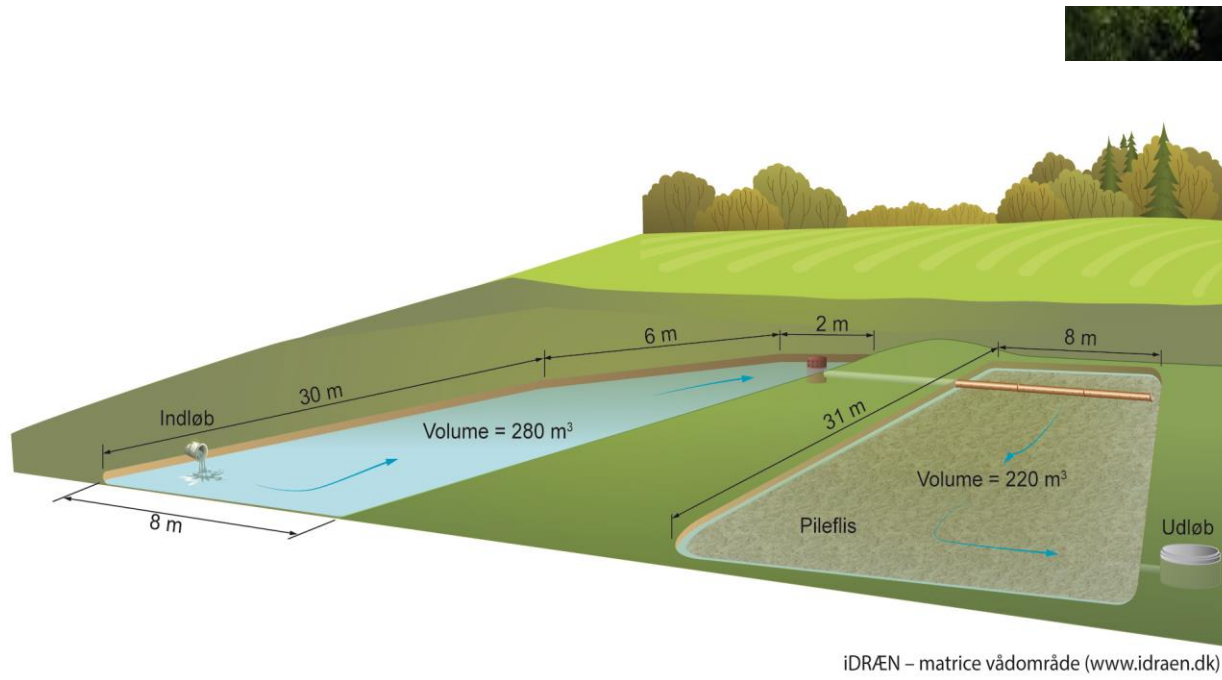
$$\text{NO}_3\text{-N}_{\text{eff}} (\%) = a \times \text{WT} + b \times \text{HRT}$$
$$R^2 = >0.85$$

Carl Christian Hoffmann\*, Charlotte Kjaergaard\*\*  
and Søren Erik Larsen. Accepted may 2019

**Nitrogen removal in woodchip-based biofilters  
of variable designs treating agricultural  
drainage discharges**



# Full-scale bioreactor prototype including storage pond



Woodchips filter-bed with storage pond  
Size: 0,2-0,25% of drained catchment

Hoffmann & Kjaergaard, 2017

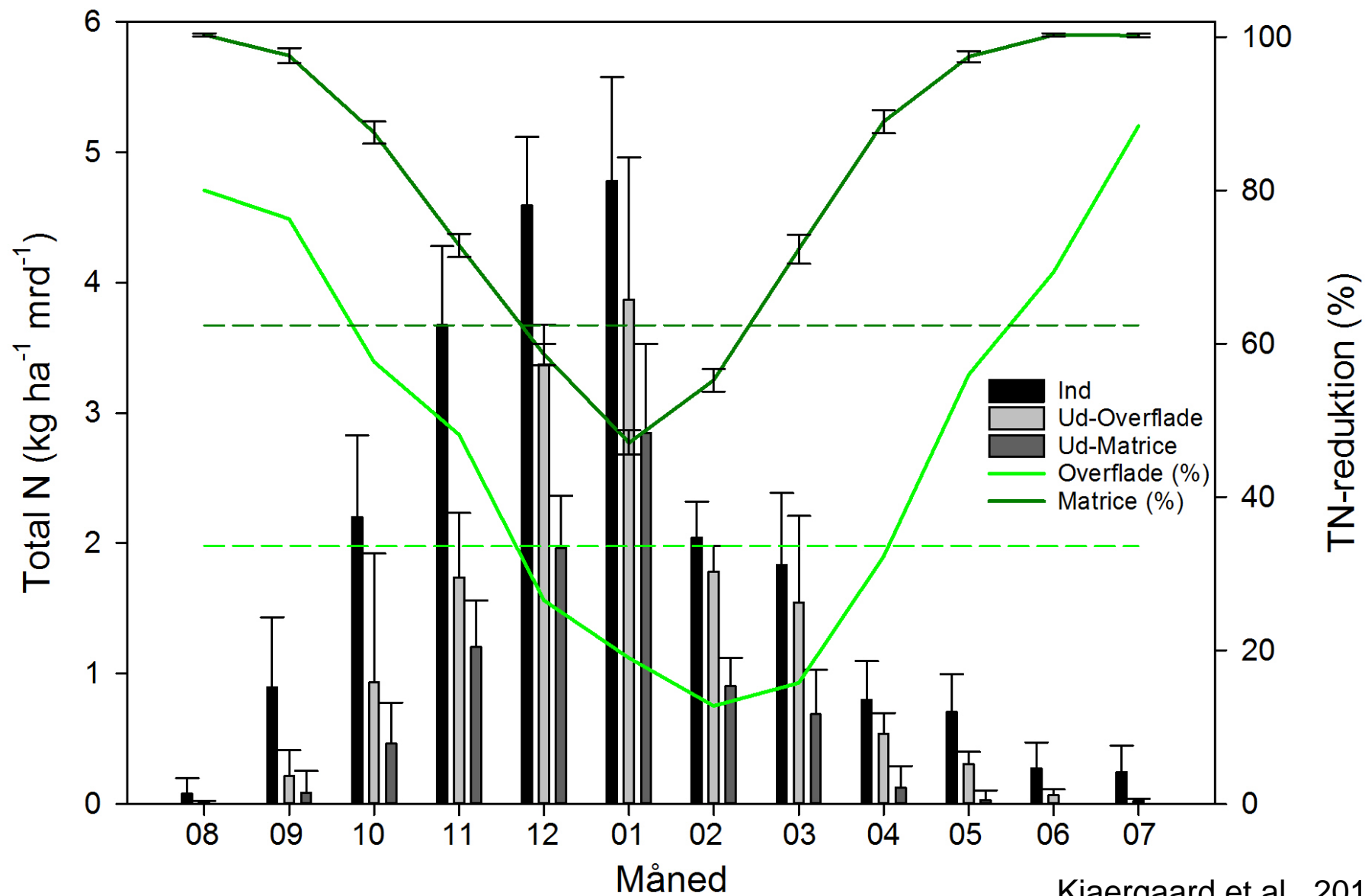


Drainage catchment ~25 ha  
Bioreactor 220 m<sup>2</sup>/m<sup>3</sup>

Photo: SEGES

- Guidelines for the Danish Ministry (Hoffmann & Kjærgaard, 2018)
- Guidelines for advisers and constructors (Kjærgaad, 2019)

# Surface-flow versus bioreactor



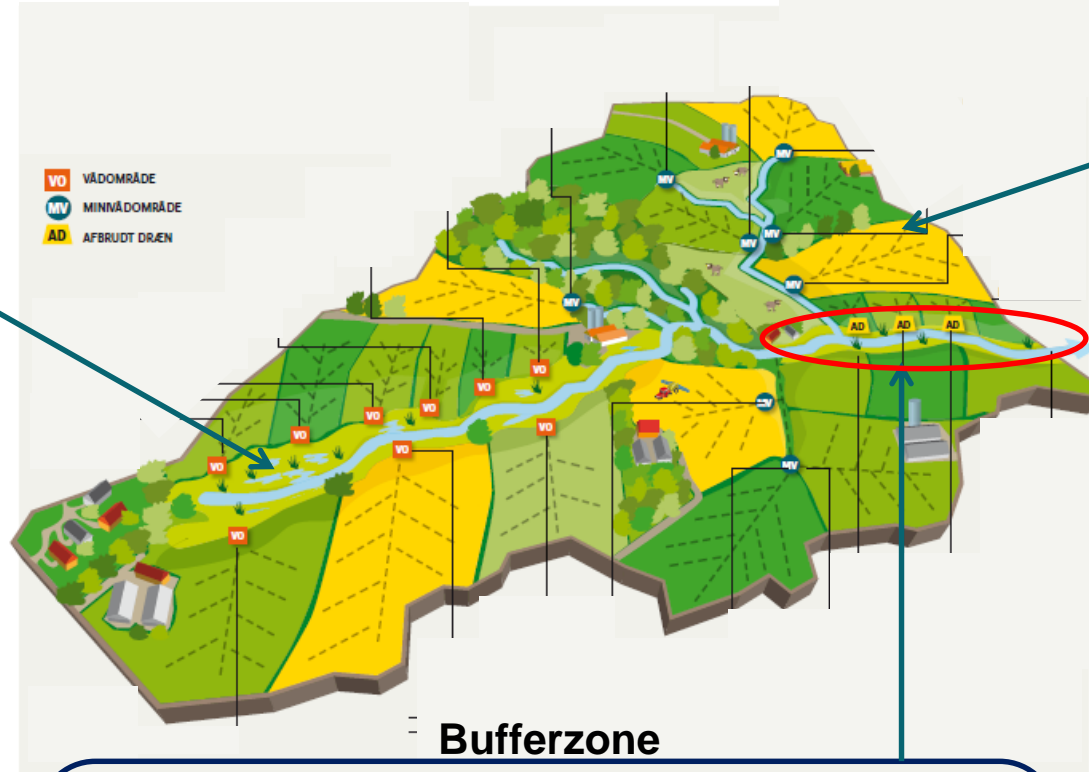
## Small local wet-areas within field – potential not investigated





# Visions for the targeted nutrient mitigation – restore landscape filters

## Riparian lowland

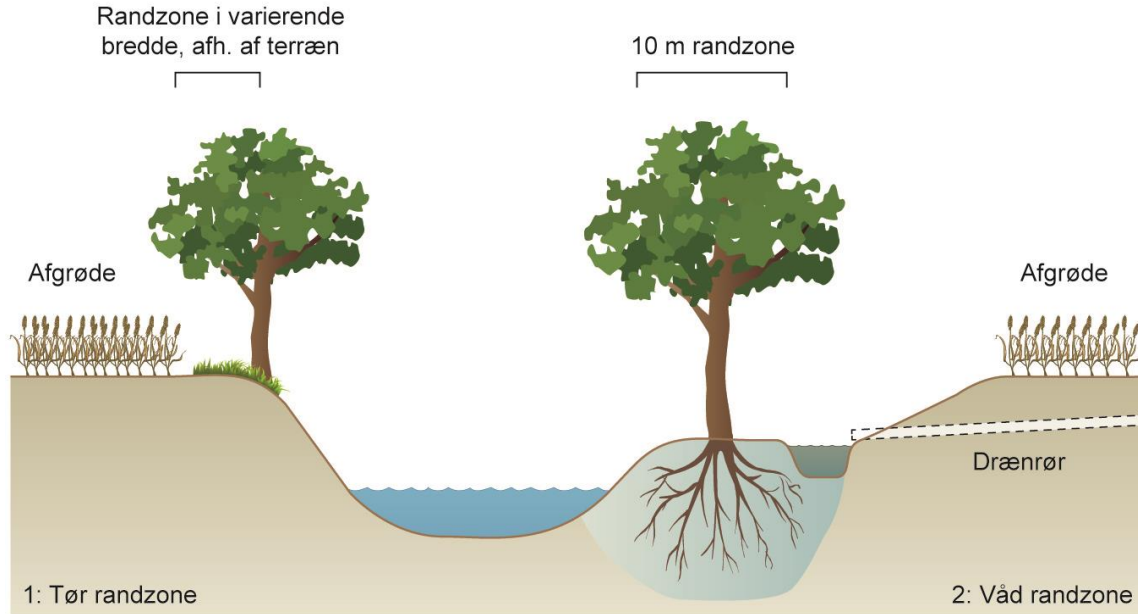


## Constructed wetlands



# Intelligent bufferzone (IBZ)

## Intelligent udnyttelse af randzoner



Kronvang et al., (2017)

Size: x% of drainage catchment (infiltration of soil)

Yearly N-reduction: 20-30%

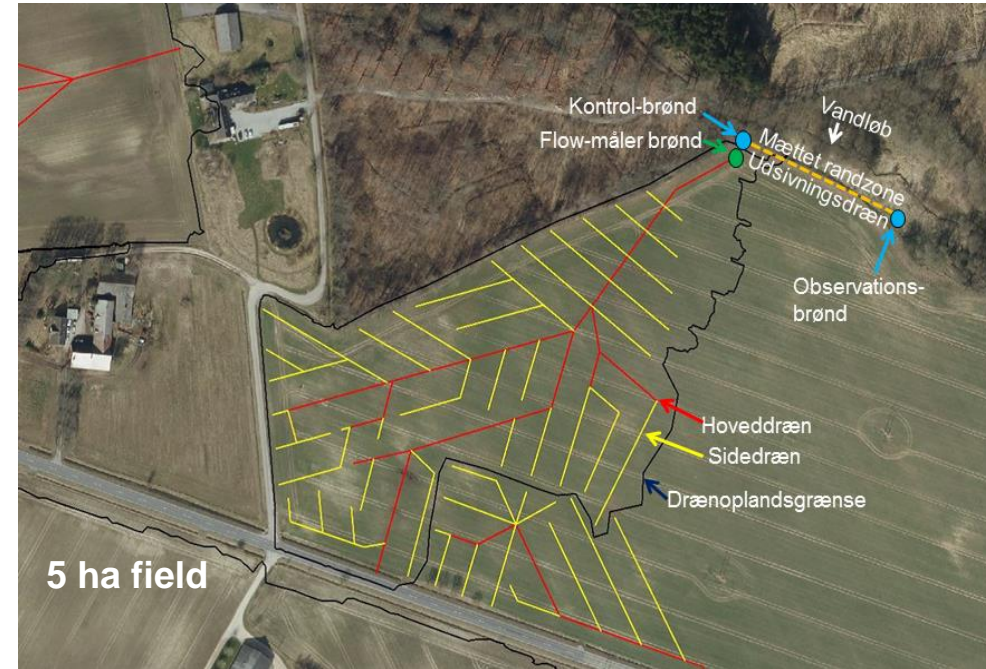
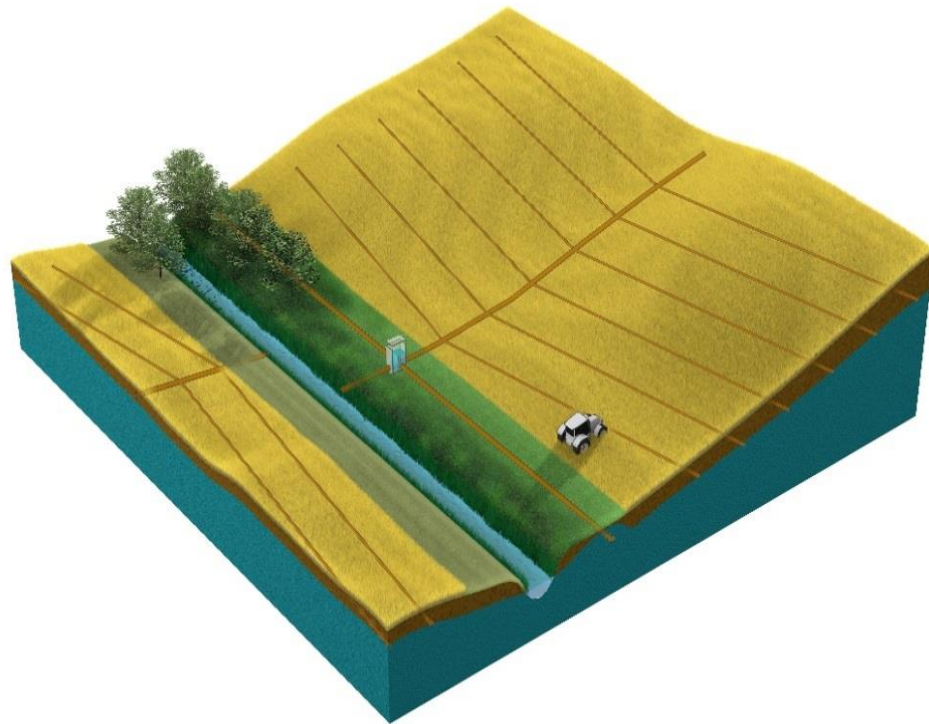
Yearly P-reduction: 40-50%



# Saturated buffer zones

First Danish projects started in 2018 (SEGES)

- Denitification in the bufferzone (soil type, geochemistry)
- Retention of particulate-P (risk of *in situ* P-mobilization)
- Hydraulic capacity -> buffer zone: drainage catchment ratio



# Implementation strategy

Where should we implement targeted drainage measures to ensure a cost-efficient mitigation strategy?

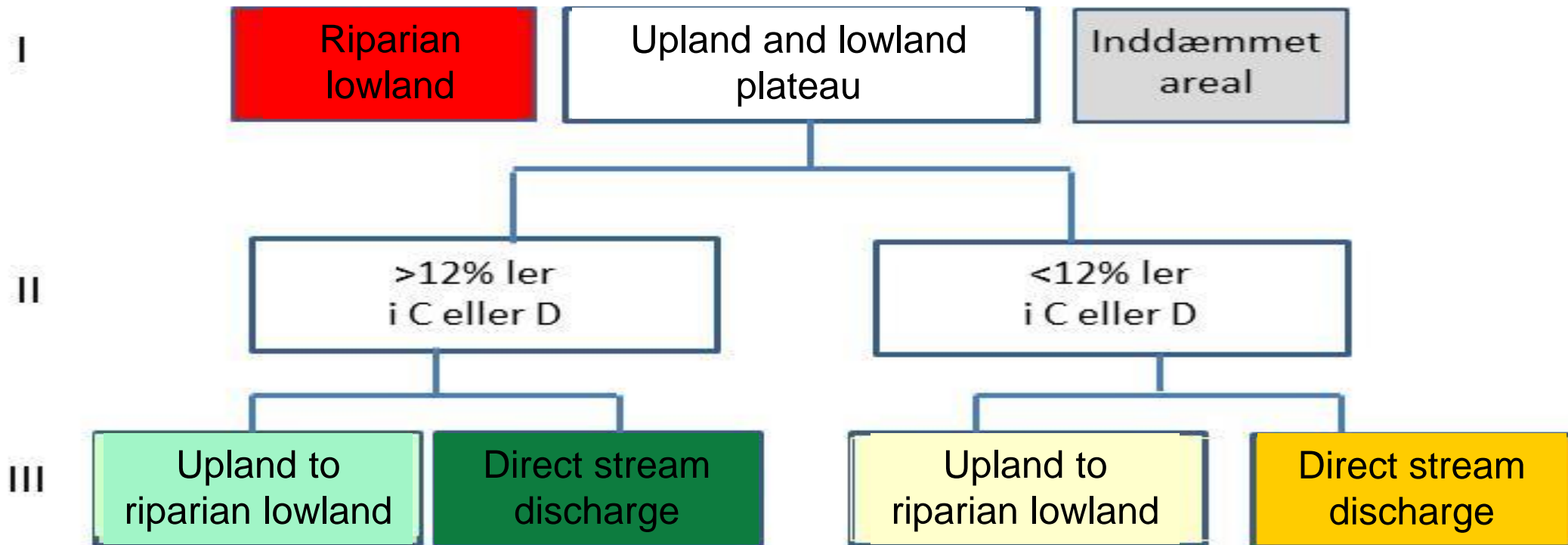


# Strategy for implementing targeted measures

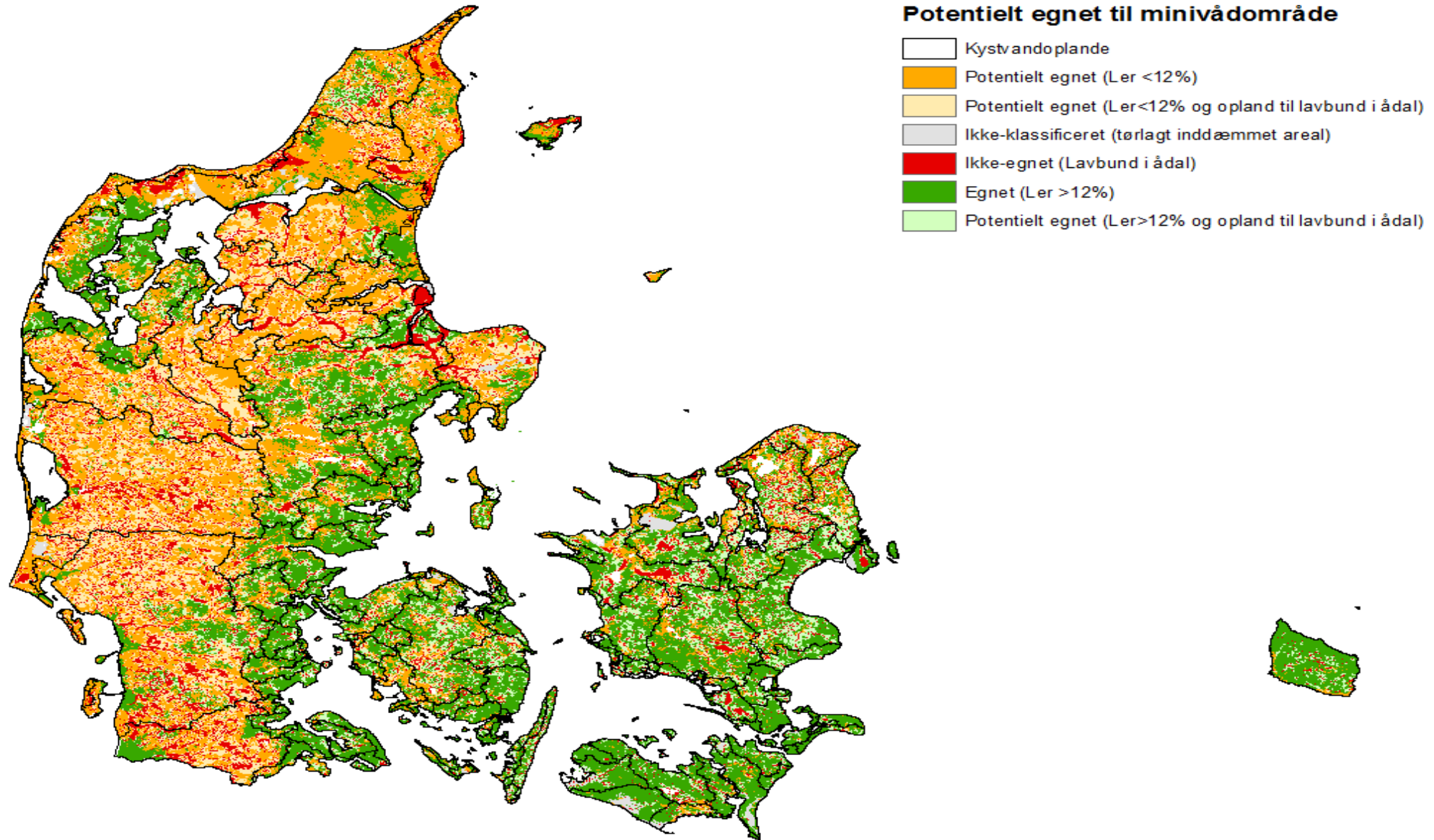
## Criteria

1. Reduction requirement (coastal targets)
2. **Suitability of agricultural areas (drainage discharge dominated areas)**
3. Nutrient losses by drainage - quantitative significant
4. Quantitative environmental impact on coastal water (N)

# Nationalt suitability map for implementing drainage measures



# Nationalt suitability map for implementing drainage measures

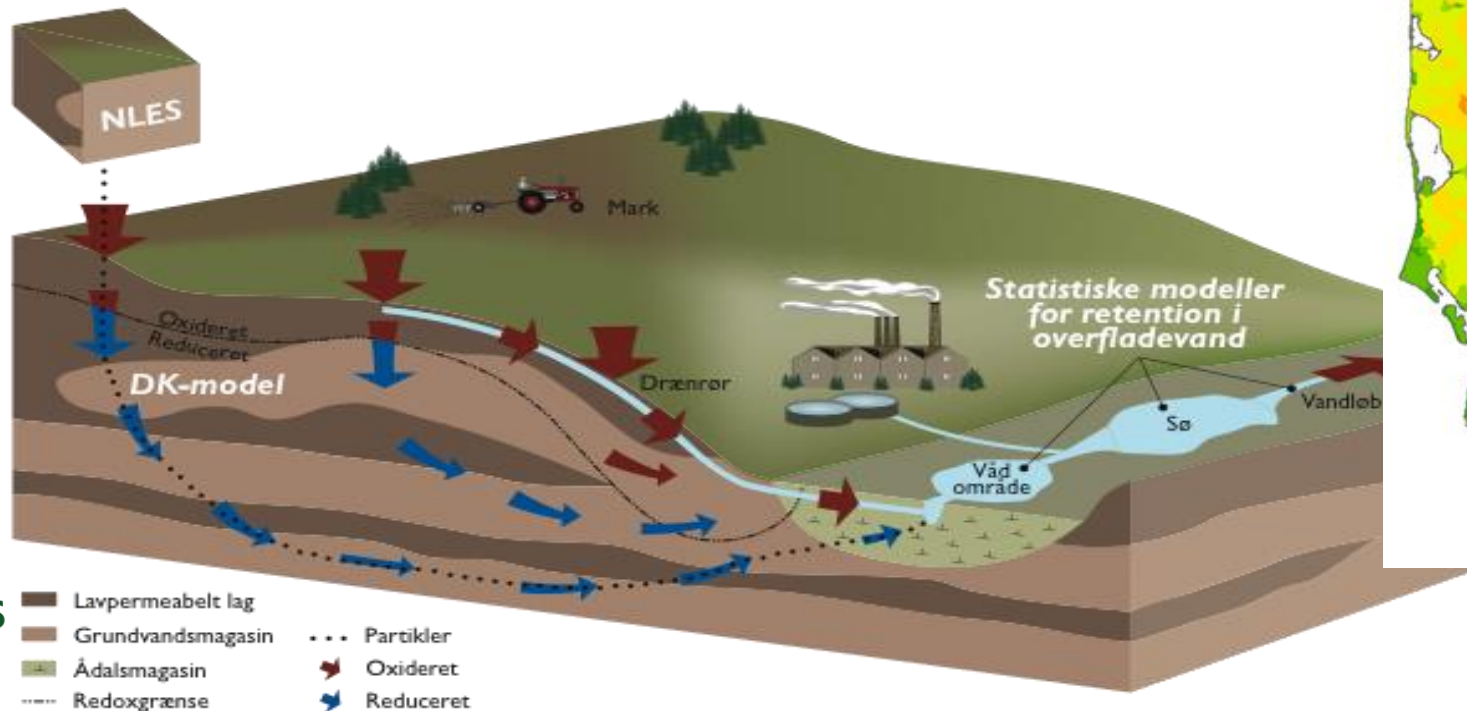
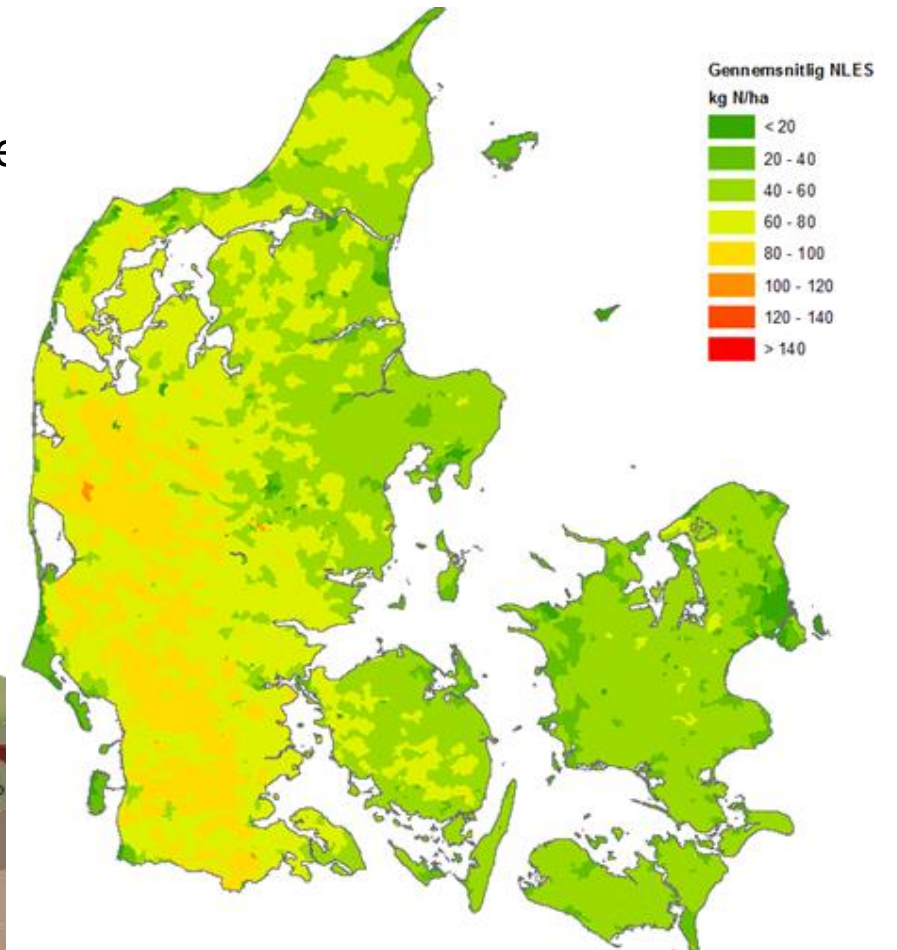


# Strategy for implementing targeted measures

Criteria  
N-losses from rootzone

1. Reduction requirement (coastal targets)
2. Suitability of agricultural areas (drainage discharge dominant)
3. **N-losses by drainage - quantitative significant**
4. Quantitative environmental impact on coastal water (N)

N-loss from the rootzone corrected for the drainage fraction

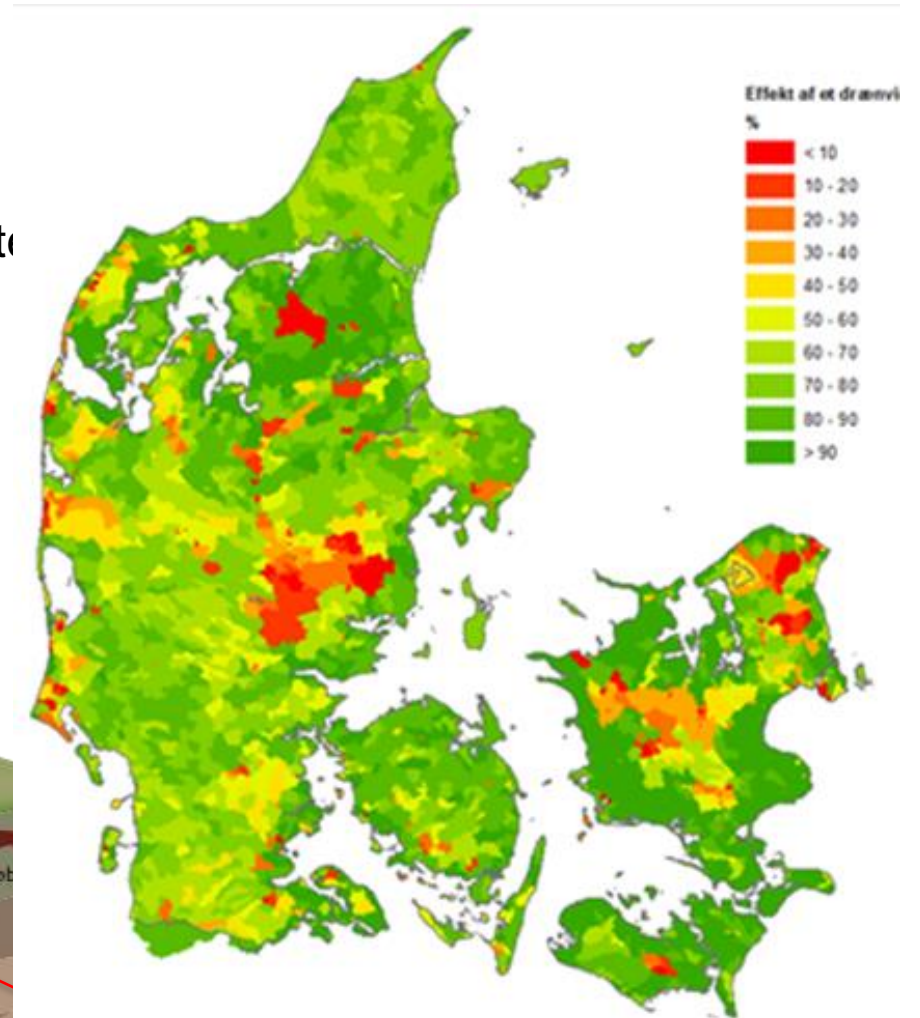
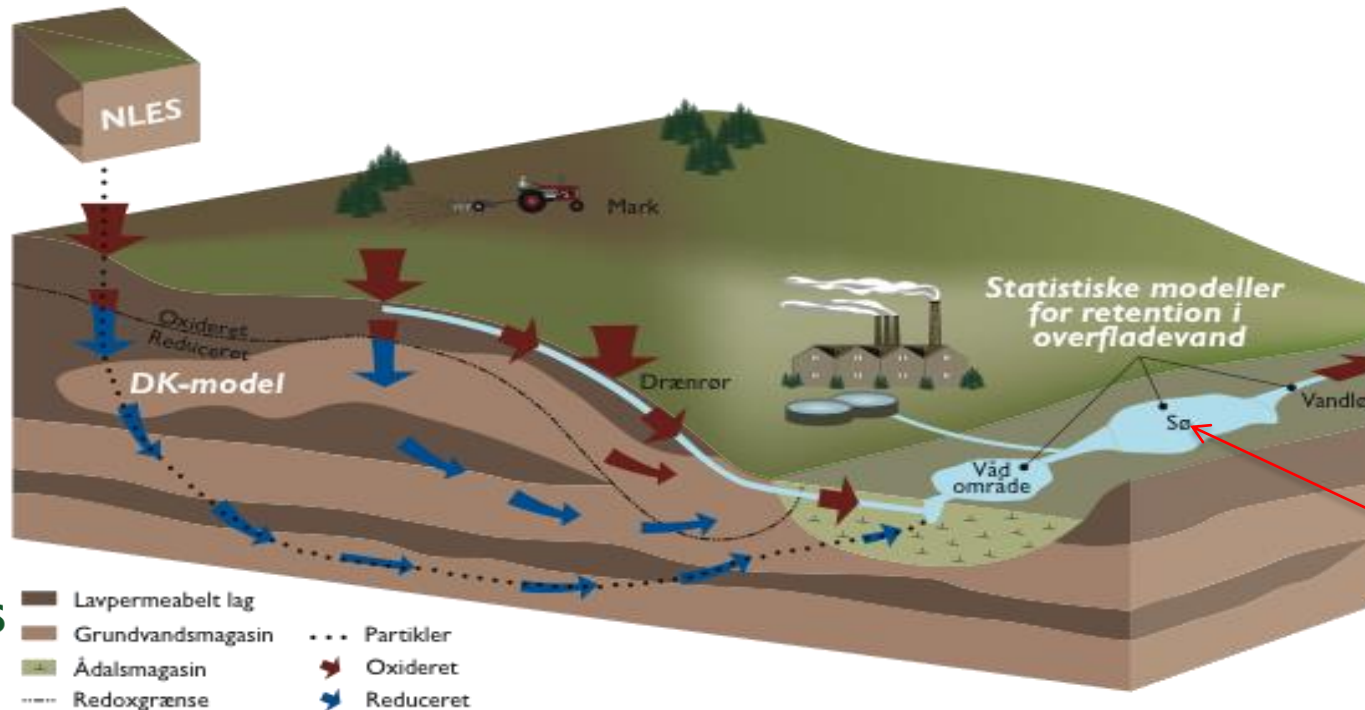




# Strategy for implementing targeted measures

## Criteria

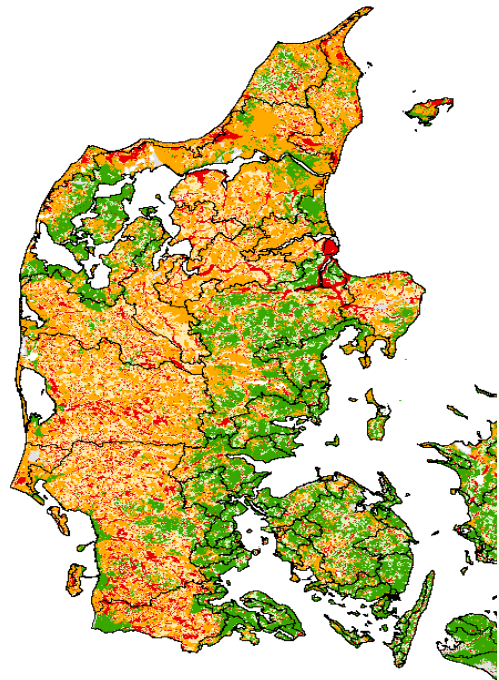
1. Reduction requirement (coastal targets)
2. Suitability of agricultural areas (drainage discharge dominant)
3. Nutrient losses by drainage - quantitative significant
4. **Quantitative environmental impact on coastal water (N)**



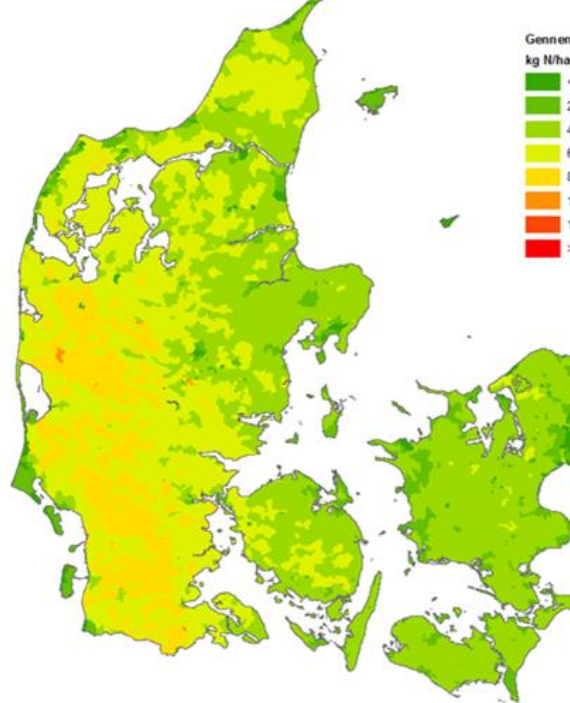
N-reduction in surface water from 0-100%



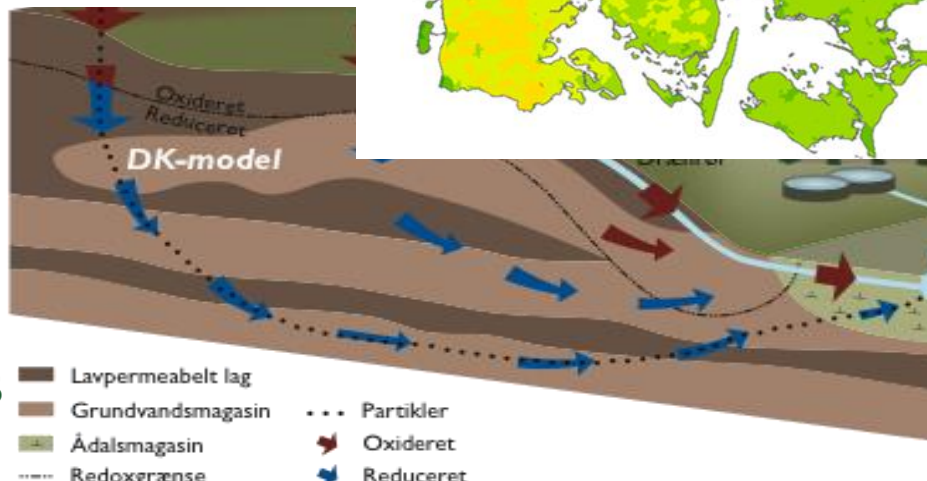
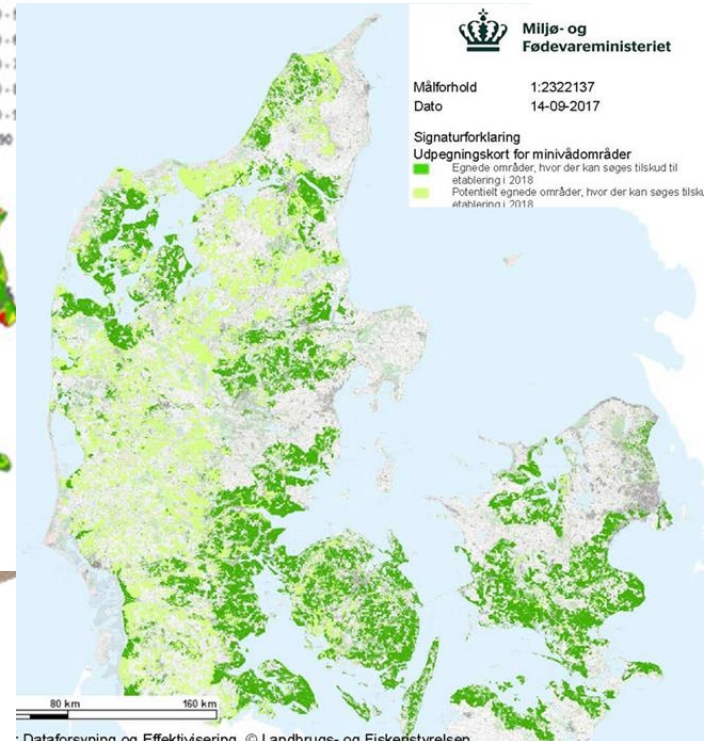
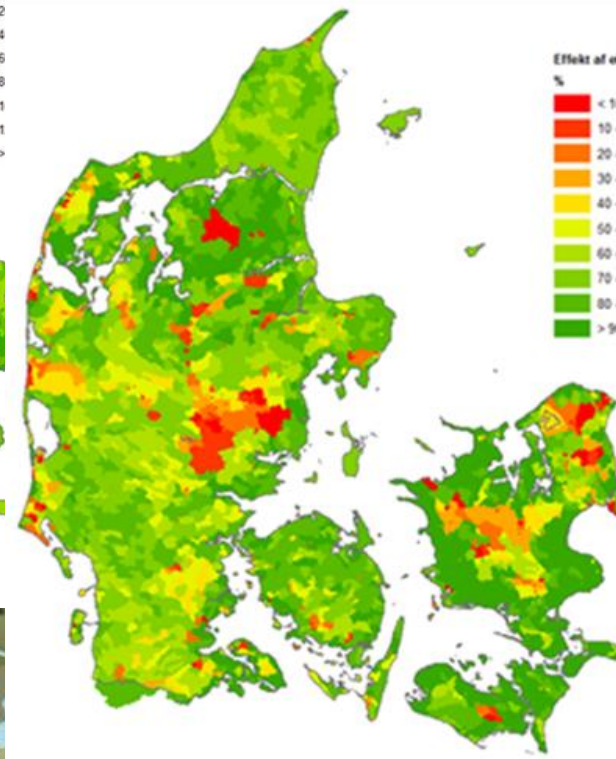
# National designation maps for implementing drainage filters



nt (coastal targets)

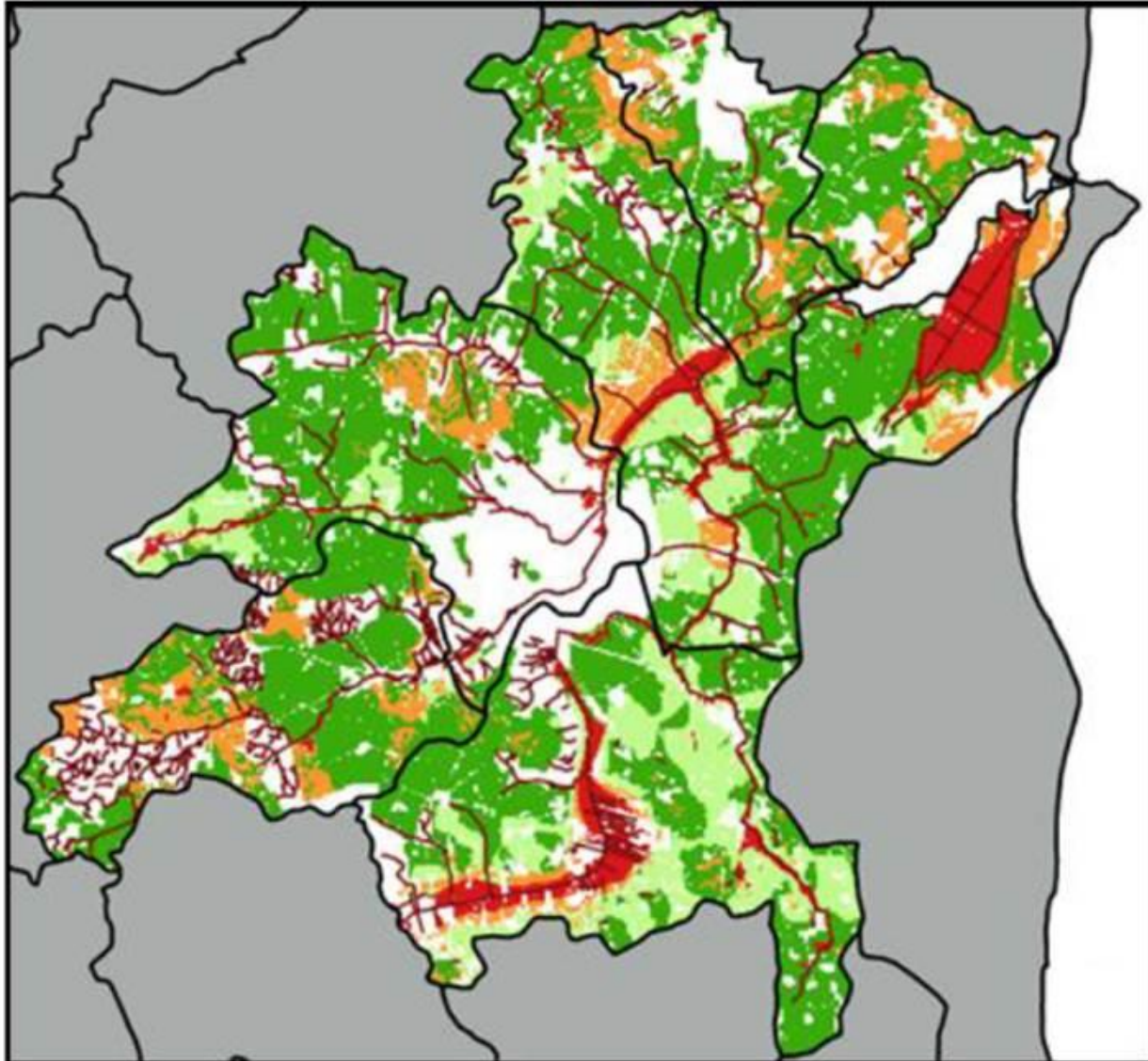


discharge dominated areas)



- SEGES**
- Lavpermeabelt lag
  - Grundvandsmagasin
  - Ådalsmagasin
  - Redoxgrænse
  - Partikler
  - Oxideret
  - Reduceret

## Case: Mitigation strategy – Norsminde Fjord catchment

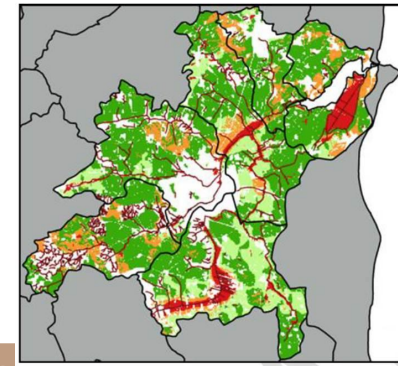


Catchment (10.100 ha) including six ID15 subcatchments (1500 ha units)

ID15 subcatchment	Suitable for CWS (%)	Upland drained to riparian lowland (%)	Riparian lowland (%)
43600028	61	4,4	16
43600041	50	33	11
43600042	75	11	2,5
43600043	61	22	6,2
43600051	73	1,1	0,9
43602599	72	5,4	1,1
<b>Total</b>	<b>4.815 (63)</b>	<b>1.224 (16)</b>	<b>541 (7)</b>

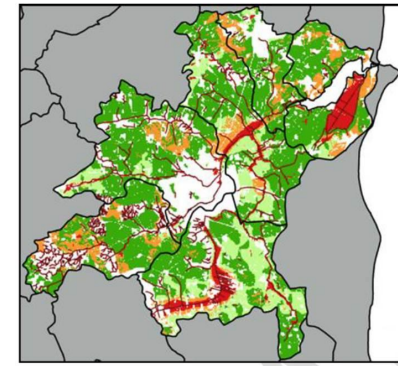
Kjærgaard, C., Hoffmann, C.C., Iversen, B.V. 2017. Filtre i landskabet øger retentionen. I: Filtre i landskabet, Vand & Jord, nr. 3, s. 106-110

# Case: Mitigation strategy – Norsminde Fjord catchment



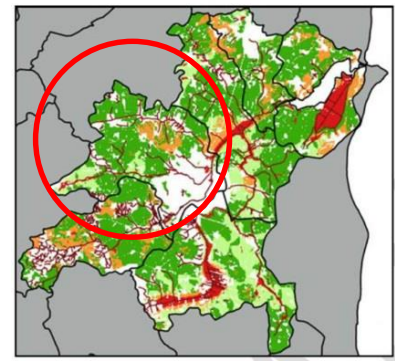
Mitigation measure	Position in landscape	Area required (% of drainage catchment)	N-red. eff (%)	P-ret. eff (%)
Riparian wetlands	Riparian lowland	10*	20-100	Risk evaluation
Surface-flow constructed wetlands	Upland	1	20-30	30-80
Subsurface-flow constructed wetlands	Upland	0,2-0,25**	50-70**	N.A.

# Case: Mitigation strategy – Norsminde Fjord catchment



Measure	Catchment	Area	Yearly N-effect		Mitigation potential scenarios	
			ha	ha	Ton N/yr	Kg N/ha
Baseline	7.500	7.500	-	-	173	4,7
Riparian wetlands	1.224	122	18-35	148-287	18-35 (N-red. 10-20%)	Risk eval.
Surface-flow CW	4.815	48	51	1.063	69-86 (N-red. 40-50%)	1.9-2.4 (43-54%)
Subsurface-flow CW	4.815	12	95	7.917	113-130 (N-red. 67-75%)	N.D.

# Mitigation strategy – Norsminde Fjord catchment



**Subcatchment (ID15) N-reduction target in 2021 = 2.594 kg N/yr**

- Calculations conducted for a ID15 subcatchment (1500 ha) with 70% agricultural area (1050 ha)
- Average N-leaching from rootzone ~60 kg N/ha and average N-retention is 62%

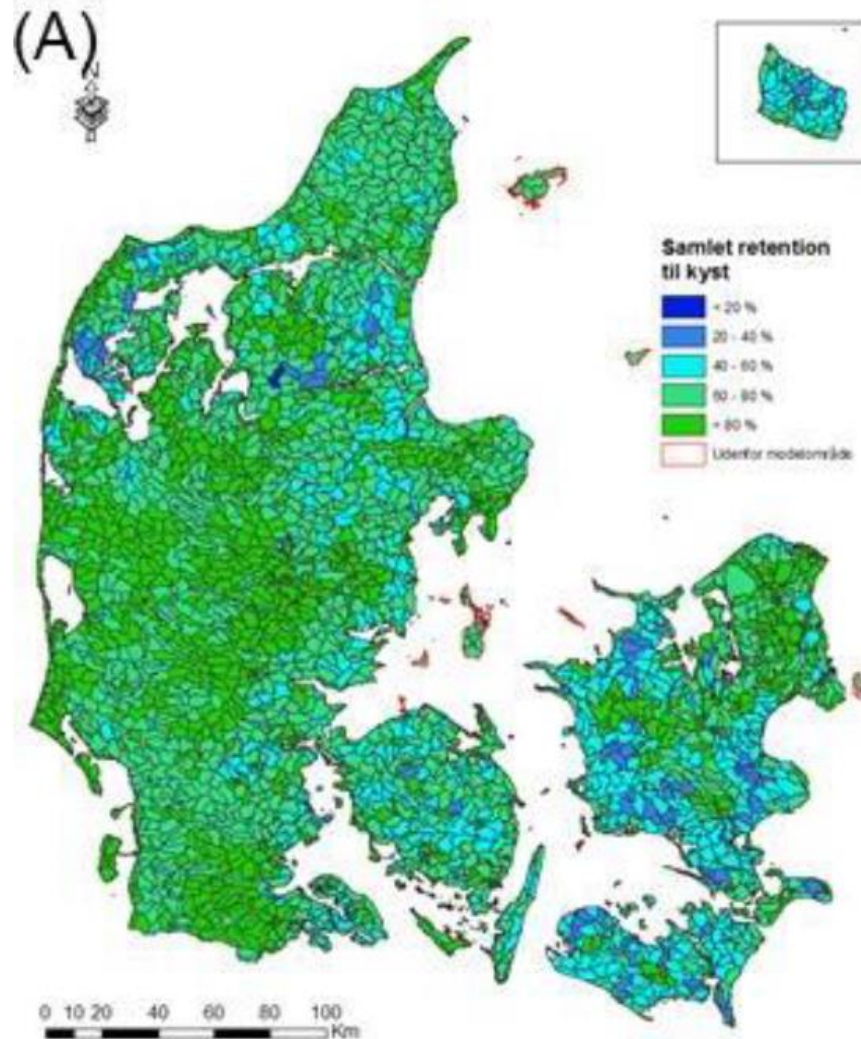
Mitigation measure	N-reduction target (kg N/yr)	N-effect rootzone (kg N/ha/yr)	N-effect on coastal load (kg N/ha/yr)	Required area of measure (ha)	Cost of measure (€/ha/yr)	Cost of mitigation strategy (ID15) €/yr
Catch crops	2.594	30	11.4	<b>228</b>	94	21.319
Set-aside	2.594	50	19.0	<b>137</b>	535	73.092
SF-CW	2.594	14	6.75	<b>3.84</b>	87*	33.433
Bioreactor	2.594	27	13.5	<b>0.38</b>	51**	9.773

\*Construction cost depreciation in 10 years

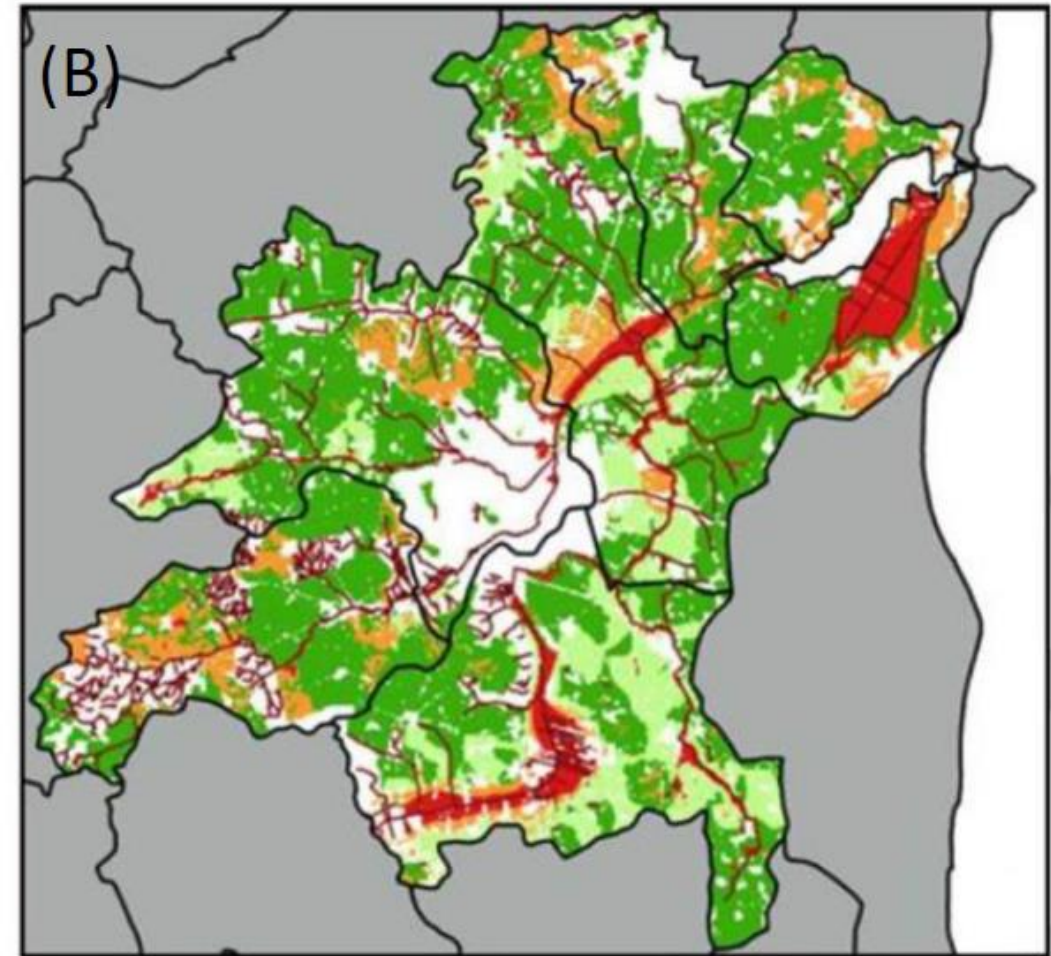
\*\* Constuction cost depreciation in 5 years (not including new supply of woodchips every 5 years)

# Vision for a more targeted implementation of measures

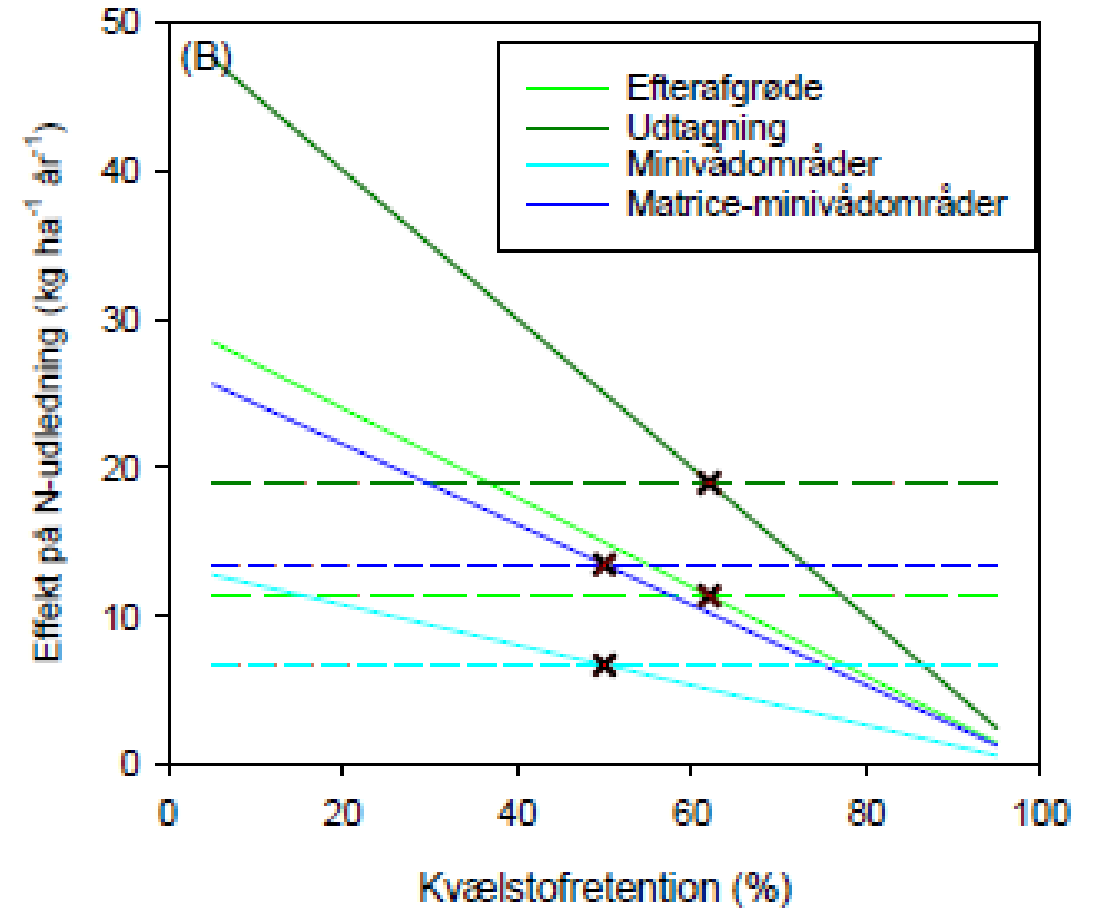
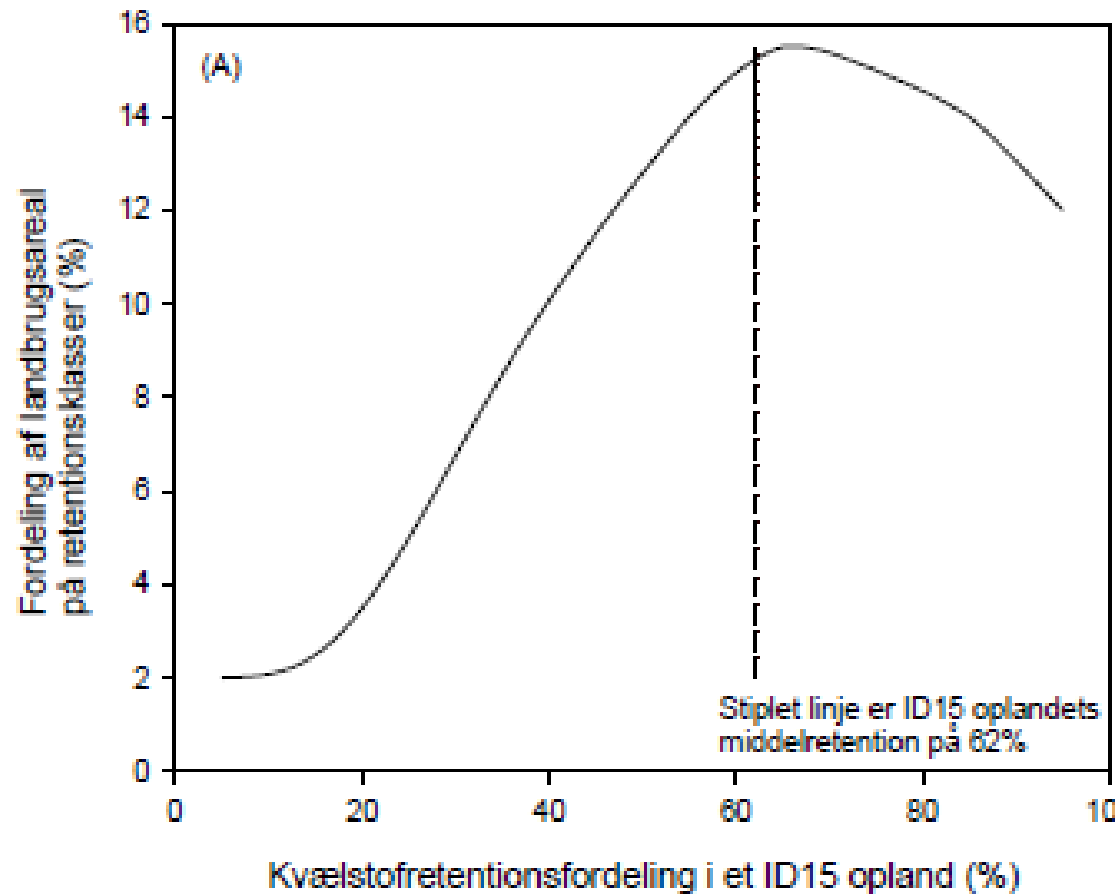
Targeted regulation ID15-scale (Højberg et al., 2015)



Targeted implementation within ID15-catchments



# Targeted implementation within ID15 catchments





## Targeted implementation within ID15 catchments

	Virkemiddelpotentiale uden ID15-målretning			Virkemiddelpotentiale med ID15-målretning	
	Målrår	Nuværende N-effekt på udledningen kg N ha <sup>-1</sup> år <sup>-1</sup>	Arealkrav ved nuværende regulering ha	Målrettet effekt på udledningen kg N ha <sup>-1</sup> år <sup>-1</sup>	Arealkrav ved målrettet indsats ha
Efterafgrøder	2021	11,4	228	20,8	125
	2027		333	19,2	197
Udtagning	2021	19,0	137	43,0	60
	2027		200	41,2	92
Minivådområder	2021	6,75	384 (3,84)*	10,9	238 (2,4)*
	2027		562 (5,62)*	10,6	356 (3,6)*
Matrice- minivådområder	2021	13,5	192 (0,38)*	23,6	110 (0,22)*
	2027		281 (0,56)*	23,5	161 (0,32)*

Thanks

Photo surface-flow constructed wetland: Carsten Søbog



# Differentiering af den målrettede indsats indenfor ID15 opland

## Økonomisk potentiale

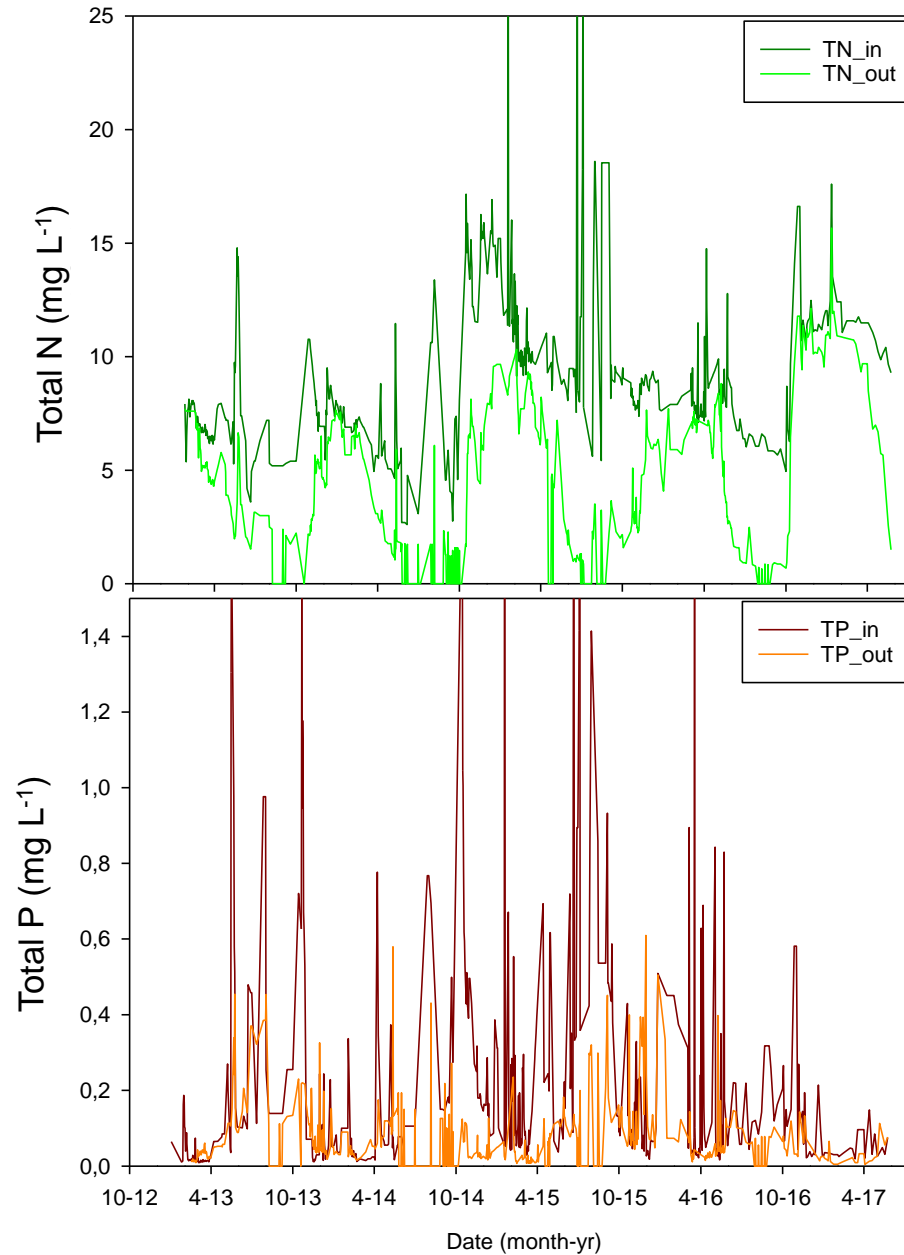
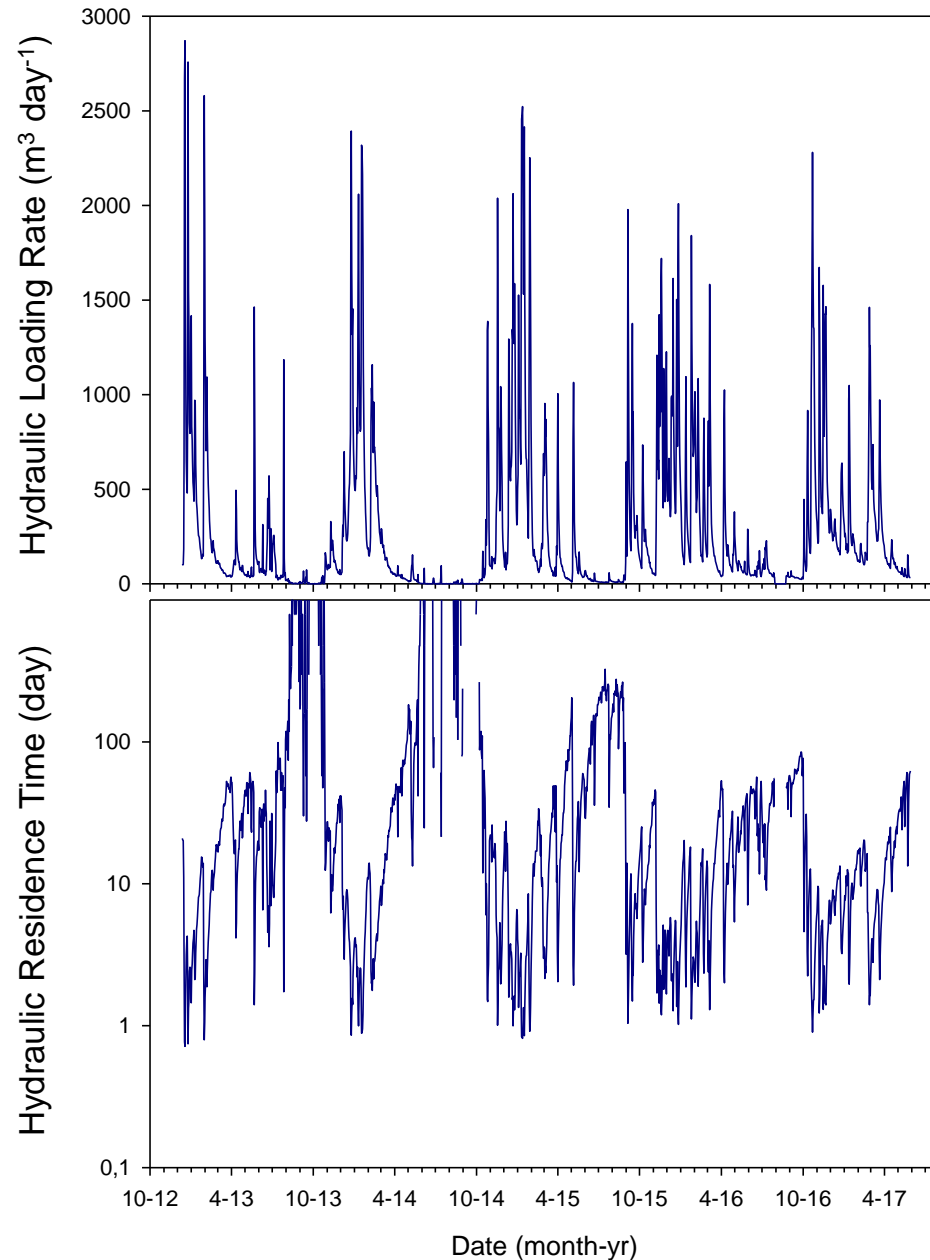
Omkostninger ved målopfyldelse med 2019-reguleringen og en differentieret målrettet indsats for fire virkemidler hhv. efterafgrøder, udtagning, minivådområder og matriceminivådområder for 2021 og 2027

	Indsatsår	Omkostning virkemiddel kr ha <sup>-1</sup> år <sup>-1</sup>	ID15 arealkrav ha	Omkostning ID15 opland kr år <sup>-1</sup>	ID15 arealkrav ha	Pris ID15 opland kr år <sup>-1</sup>
Efterafgrøder	2021	700	228	159.250	125	87.309
	2027	700	333	232.750	197	138.091
Udtagning	2021	4000	137	546.000	60	240.240
	2027	4000	200	798.000	92	367.920
Minivådområder	2021	650*	384 (3,84)*	249.744	238 (2,4)*	154.666
	2027	650*	562 (5,62)*	365.011	356 (3,6)*	231.511
Matrice- minivådområder	2021	380**	192 (0,38)*	73.002	110 (0,22)*	33.102
	2027	380**	281 (0,56)*	106.696	161 (0,32)*	61.354

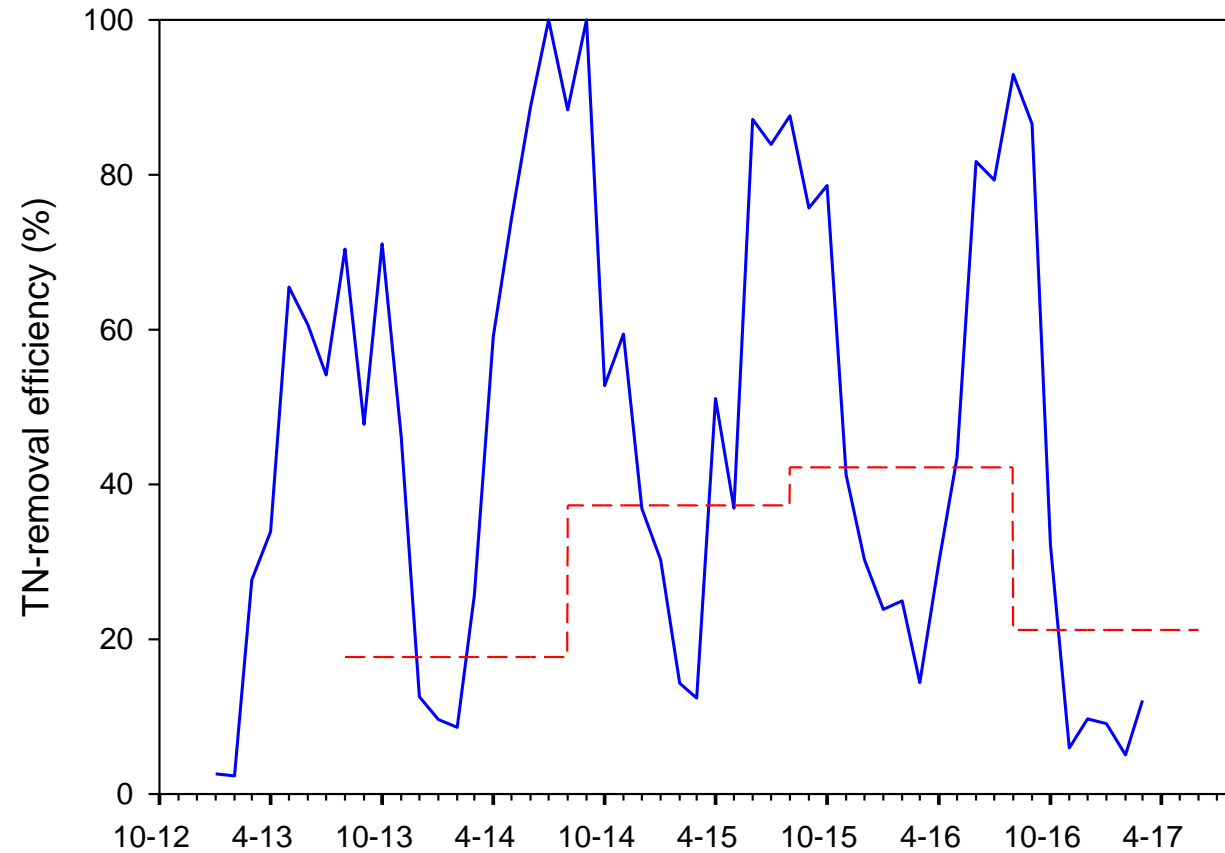
\*Omkostning ved minivådområder er opgjort som etableringsomkostninger afskrevet over 10 år

\*\* Omkostningen ved matriceminivådområder er opgjort som etableringsomkostninger afskrevet over 5 år

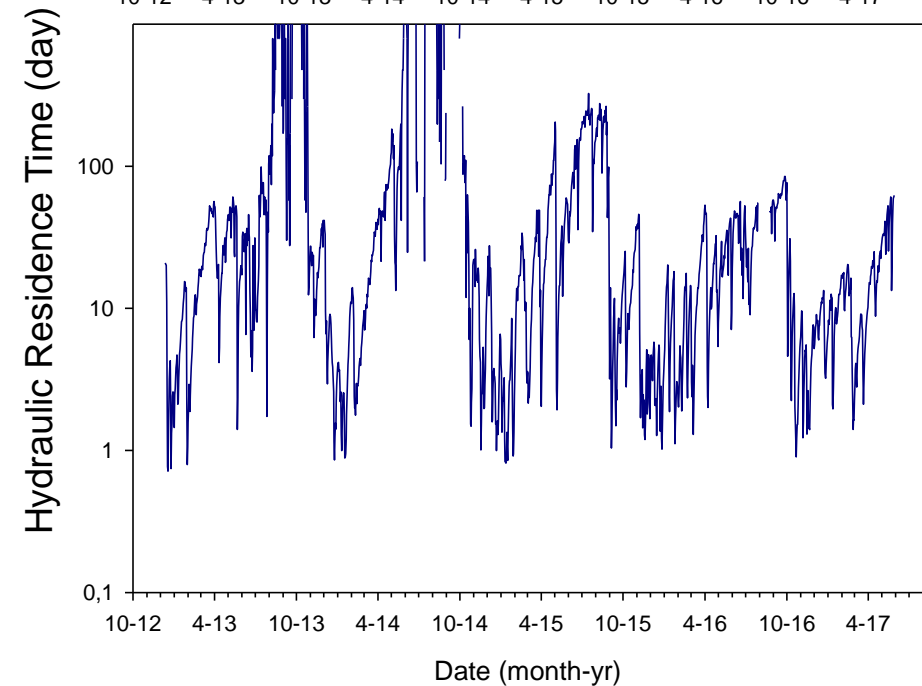
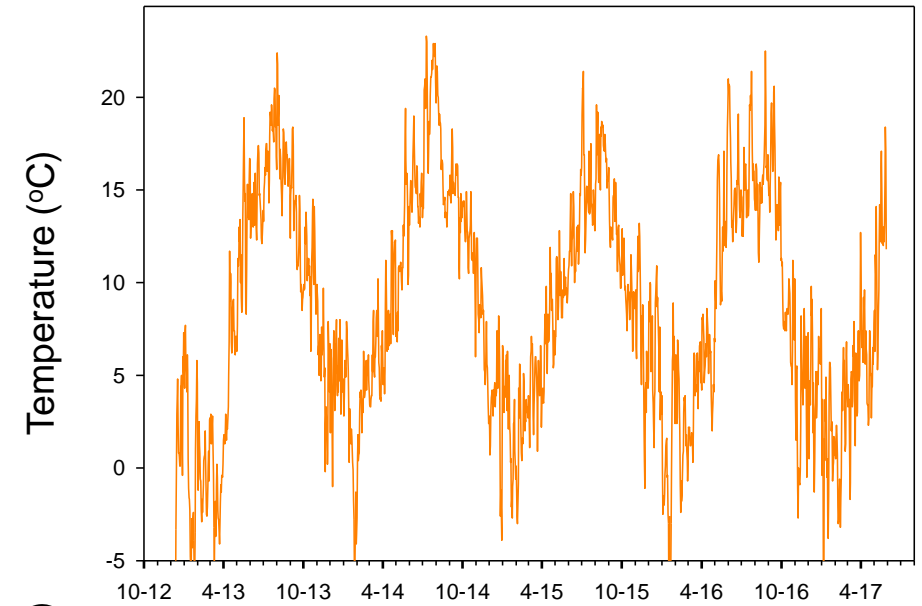
# Nutrient retention in surface-flow constructed wetlands



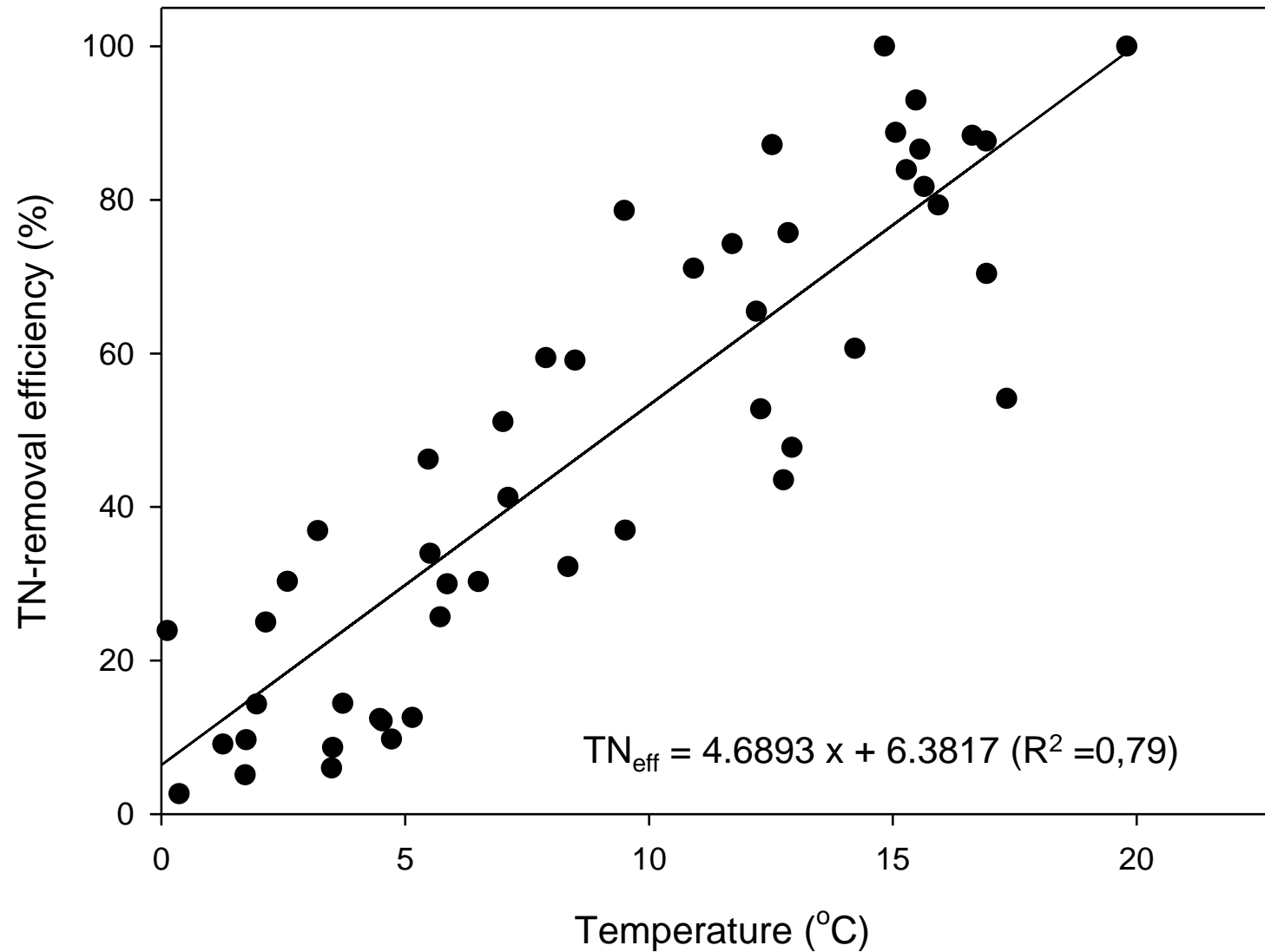
# Seasonal and annual variation in N-removal efficiency



Red dotted line is the yearly average in the four years

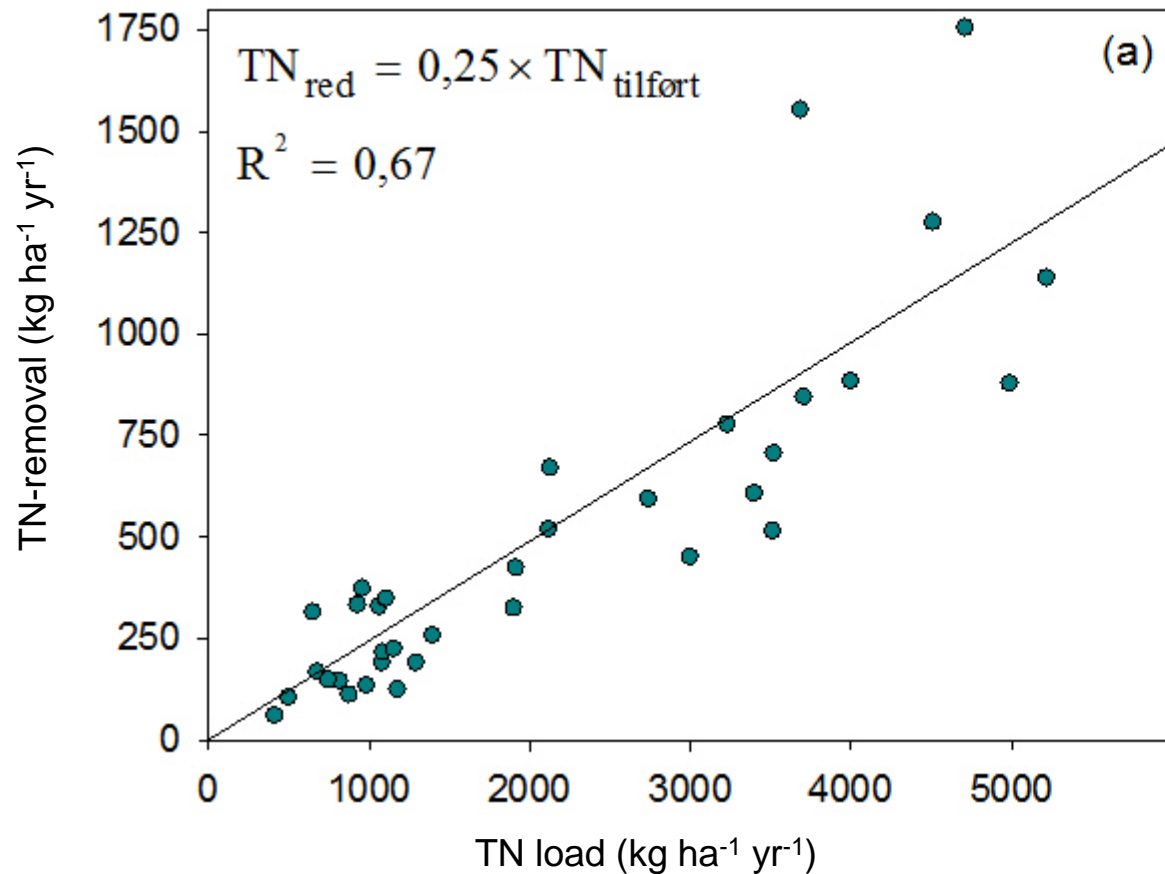


# Temperature is the major controlling parameter for $TN_{eff}$

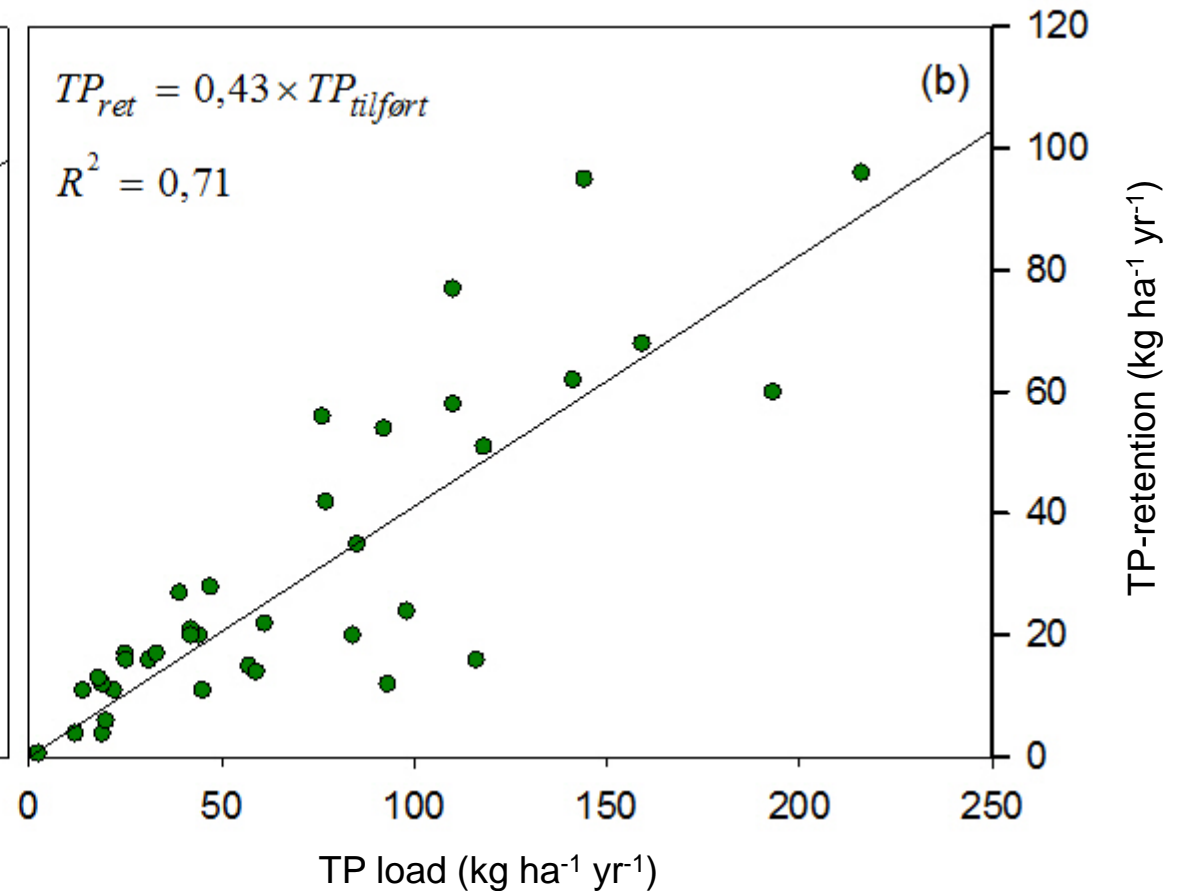


# Overall results of Danish constructed wetlands (2013-2017)

TN-reduction average 25%



TP-retention average 43%



## Controlling parameters (N):

- Temperature, (HRT) (*Kjaergaard et al., In prep*)
- Nitrate-N reduction in the anaerobic sediment

## Controlling parameters (P):

- PLR, HLR, P-form, Fe:P-ratio (*Mendes et al, 2018*)
- P-stability (*Mendes et al., 2018*)