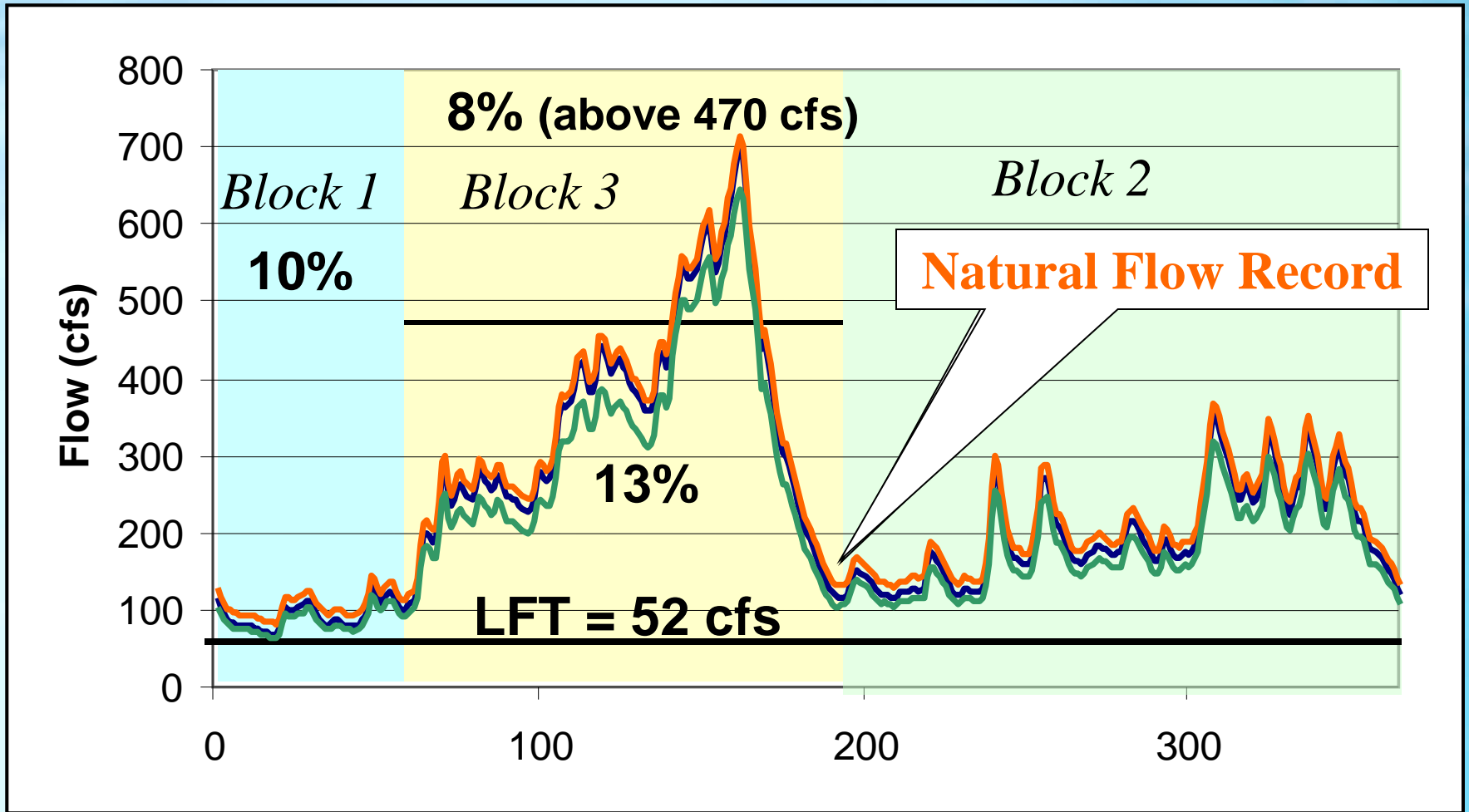


**Response to the Peer
Review of the Proposed
MFLs for the Hillsborough
and Braden Rivers**

Adam Munson, Ph.D.


Flow Prescription – Hillsborough River at Morris Bridge



Overall, the Panel endorses the District's approach, finding particular merit in:

1. the use of seasonal periods
2. recognizing multiple benchmark periods
3. the application of multiple analytical tools to identify the most protective minimum flow in each seasonal period
4. the use of a ***percent-of-flow reductions*** that vary by season and flow conditions

Overall the methodologies employed are appropriate and innovative



Peer review comment concerning a 15% spatial or temporal loss of habitat criterion

1. This criterion is rational and pragmatic, but a 15% loss “is subjective and has only modest validation or support from the primary literature...It would be prudent to expand the literature review”

District's Response

- Examine non-primary literature.
- Find implemented flow limitation.
 - Understand the rationale for constraints placed on systems
 - Devise uniform method of comparison and be prepared to convert numerous flow regulations into comparable standards (apples and oranges)
- Speak to individuals making decisions.

District's Response

- As a second measure the District has begun a flow diversion study estimated to take at least ten years but with the intention of identifying ecological responses to chronic (not acute) flow reductions.

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