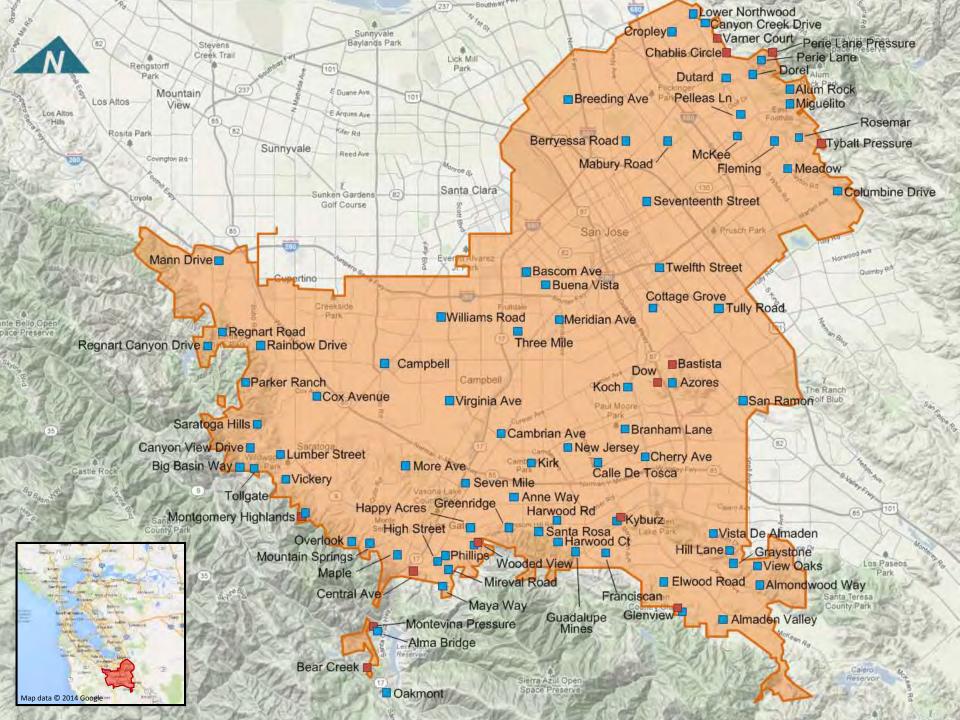
### Water Hammer

Tackling Transient Events at San Jose Water Company

Jake Walsh, P.E. Andy Yang, P.E. October 21, 2014



#### Introduction

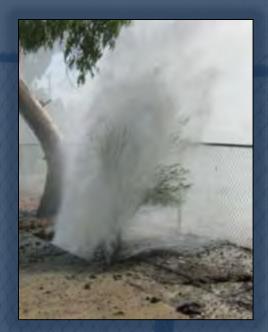
#### What is Water Hammer?

# Water hammer events (transient events) are disturbances in water flow from one steady-state condition to another.

(adapted from AWWA Manual M32; Mays, Water Resources Engineering 2005 Edition)

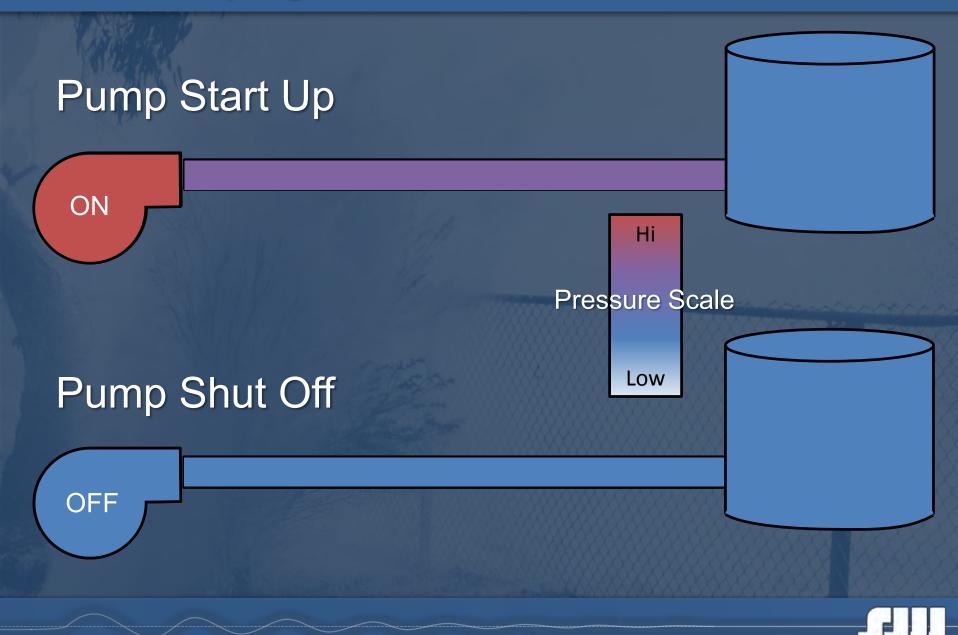
## What are Typical Causes of Water Hammer?

- Pump operations
- Valve operations
- Main breaks
- Rapid demand changes (hydrant flow)





#### Wave Propagation Animations



#### Hydraulic Transient Concerns at SJWC

Hydraulic transient related concerns at SJWC:

- Infrastructure damage
- Property damage
- Regulatory compliance
- Public safety (pipe ruptures)
- Public health (negative pressures)
- Complaints





#### **Transient Analysis – Goals and Approach**

#### SJWC Goals

- Verify existence and extent of problem
- Determine mitigation measures

# SJWC Approach Obtain necessary knowledge and analysis tools Conduct field tests Analyze data Select surge protection devices



#### Background

- History of problems and mitigation efforts
- New booster pumps installed with pump control valves
- Surge tanks installed





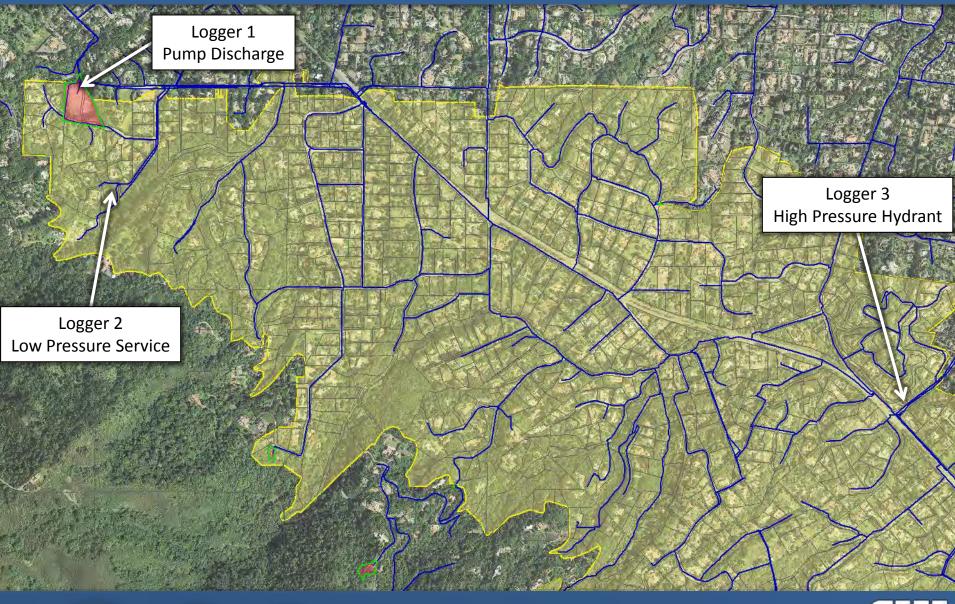


#### **Field Testing**

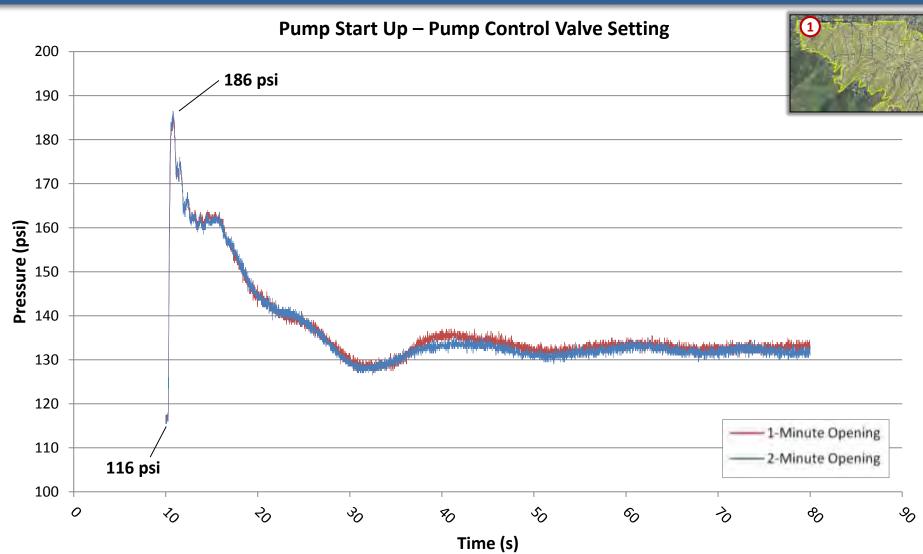
- Select strategic locations to install pressure loggers
  - Pump discharge
  - High pressure regions
  - Low pressure regions
  - Dead end mains
- Coordinate with Operations department
  - Pump operations



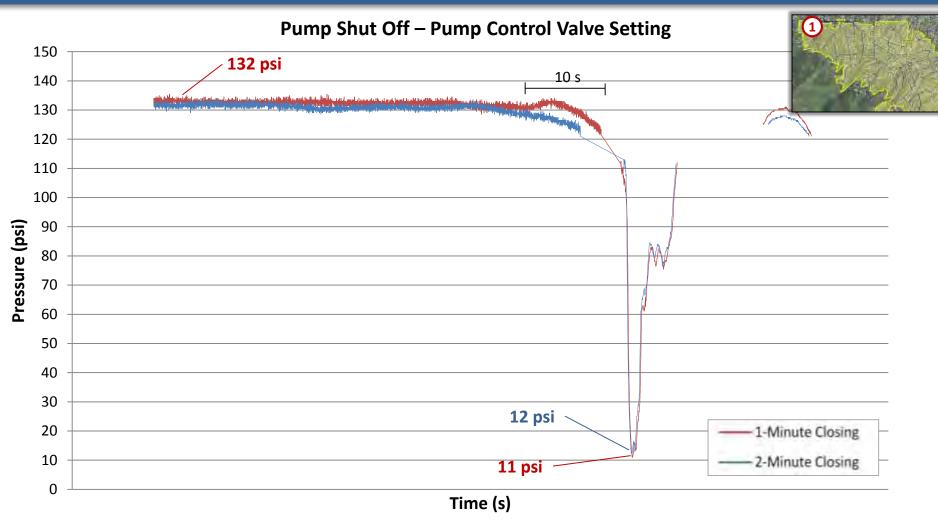






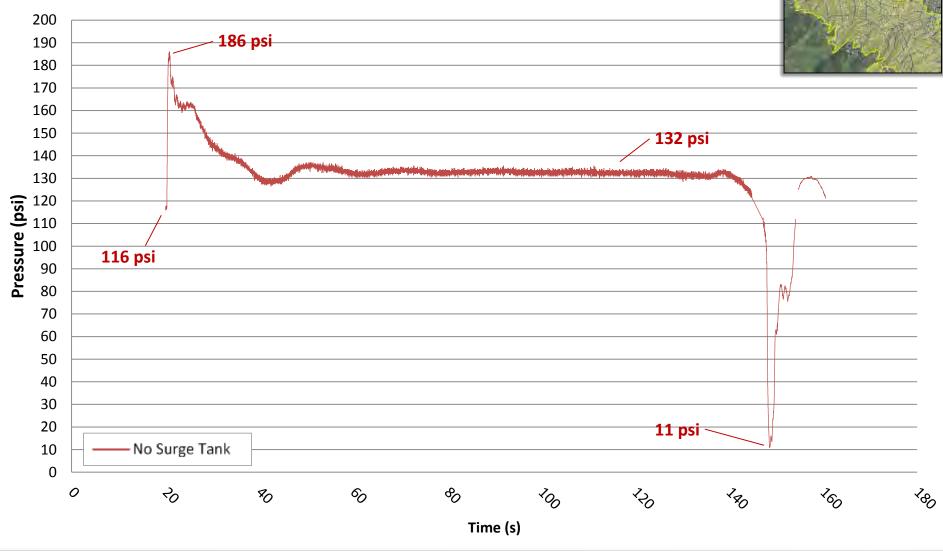




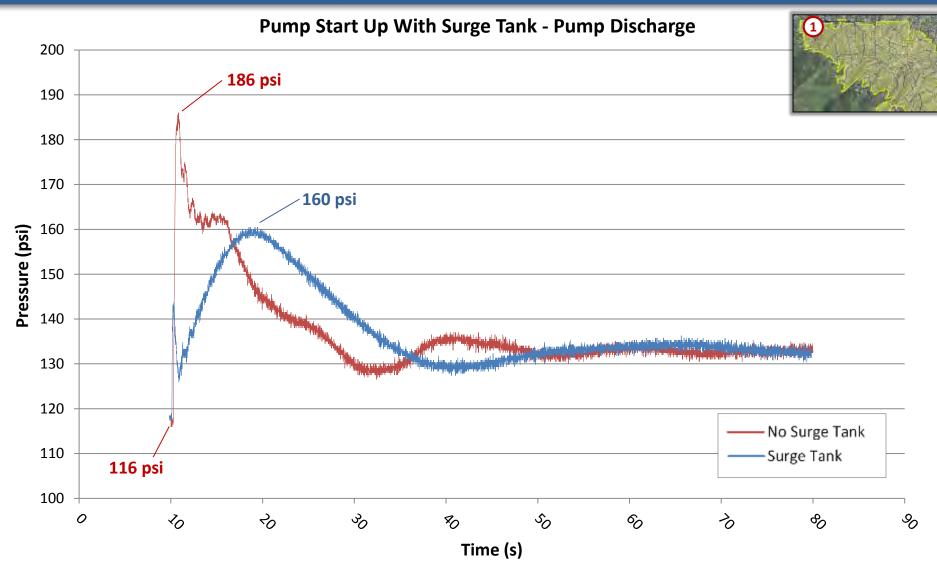




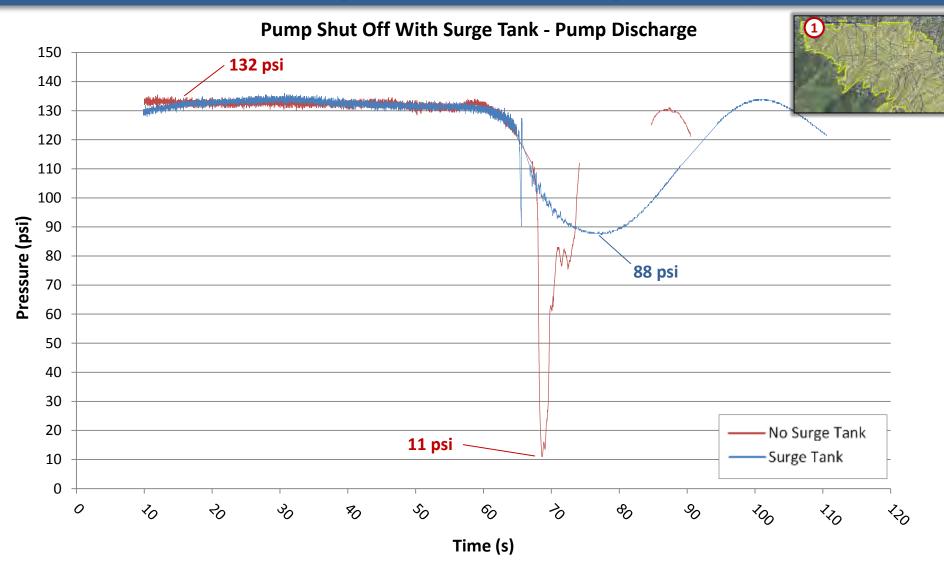






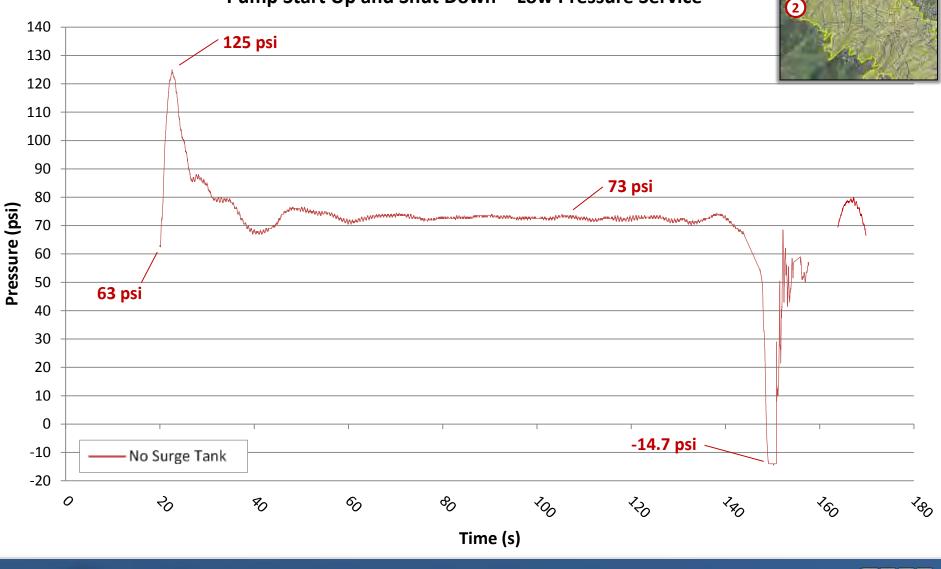


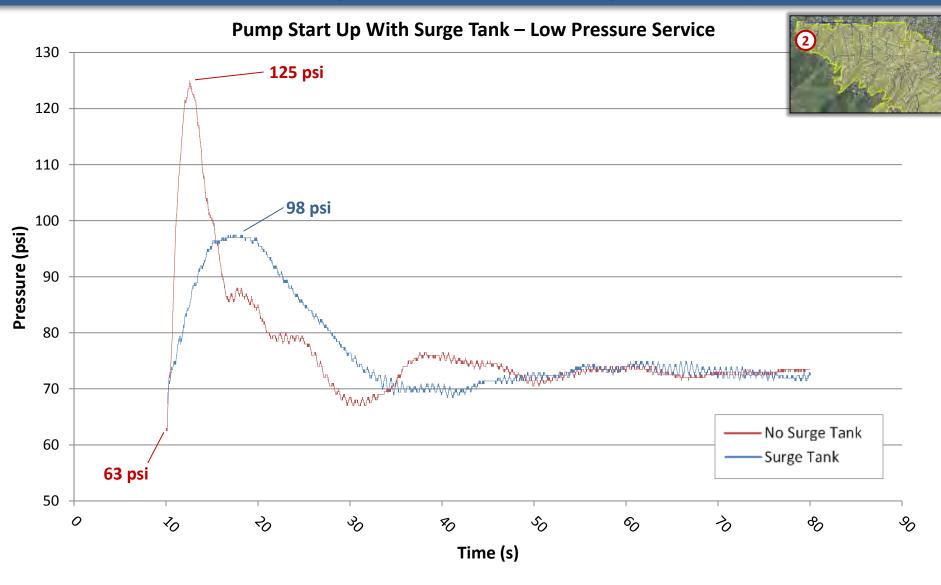




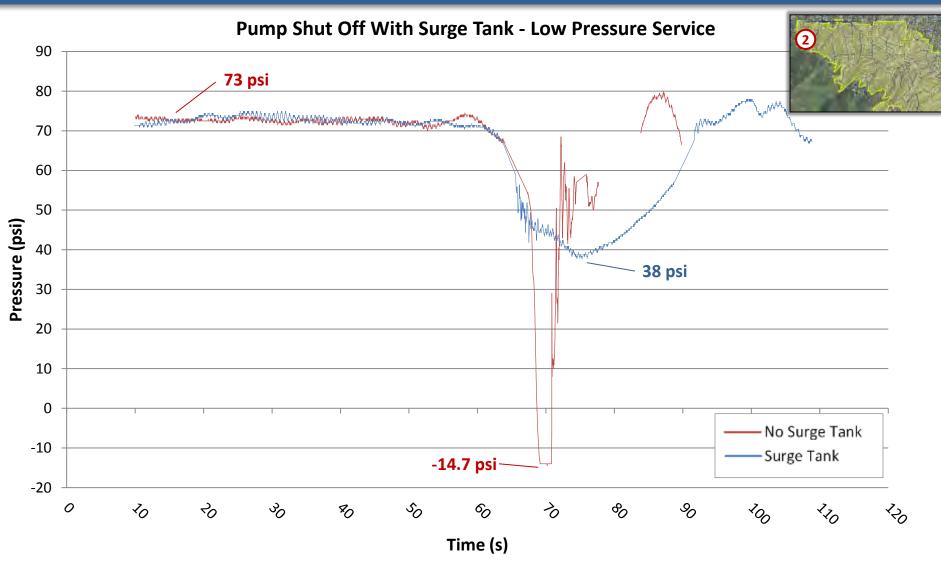


#### Pump Start Up and Shut Down – Low Pressure Service



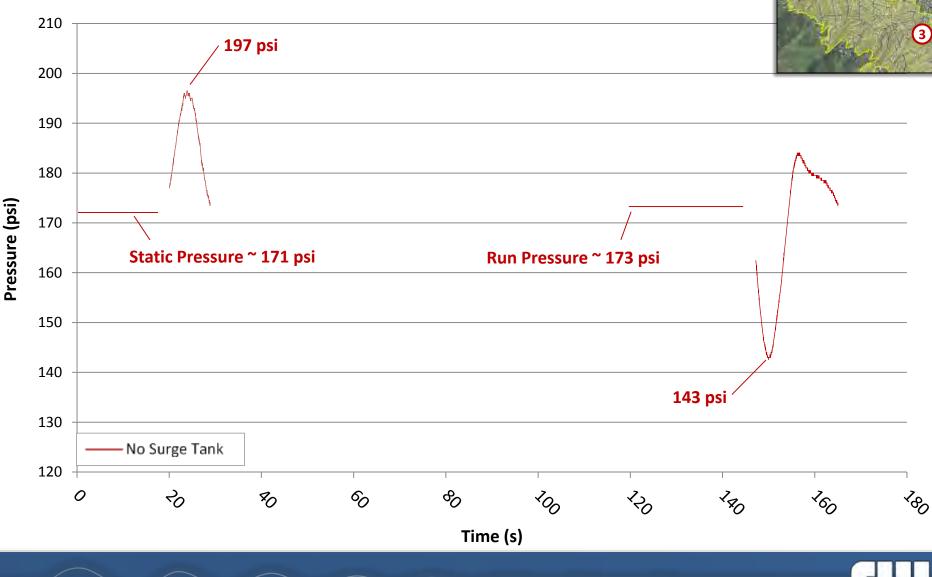


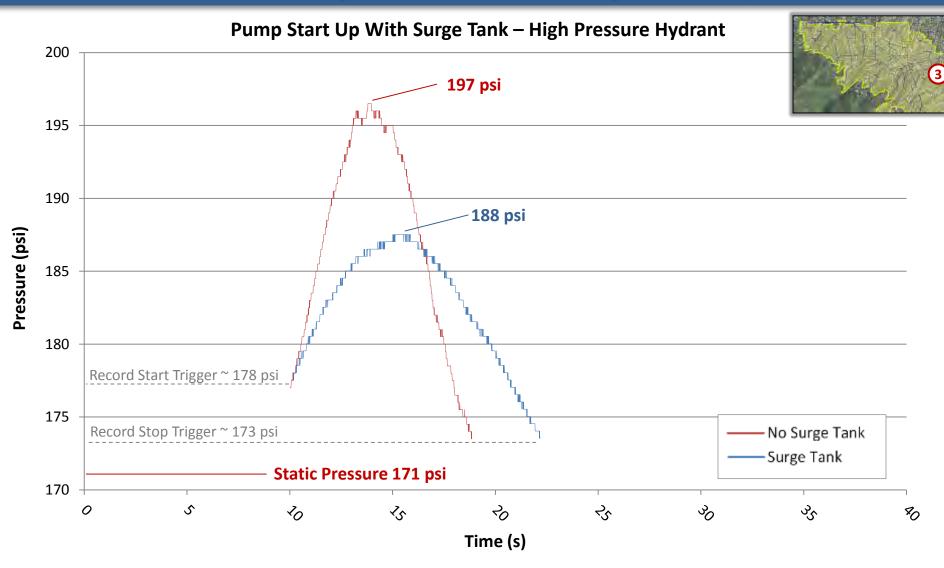




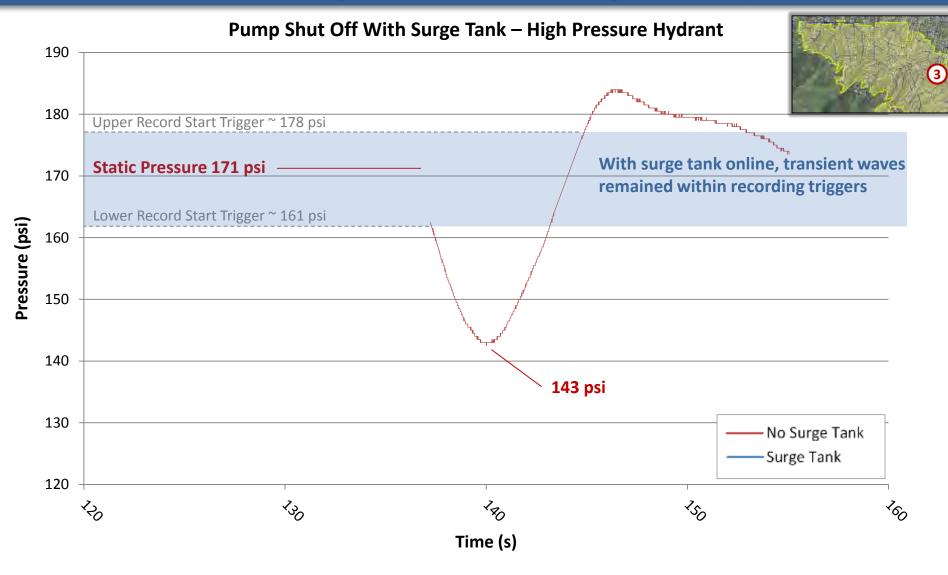


#### Pump Start Up and Shut Down – High Pressure Hydrant











#### Background — History of problems — Mitigation efforts







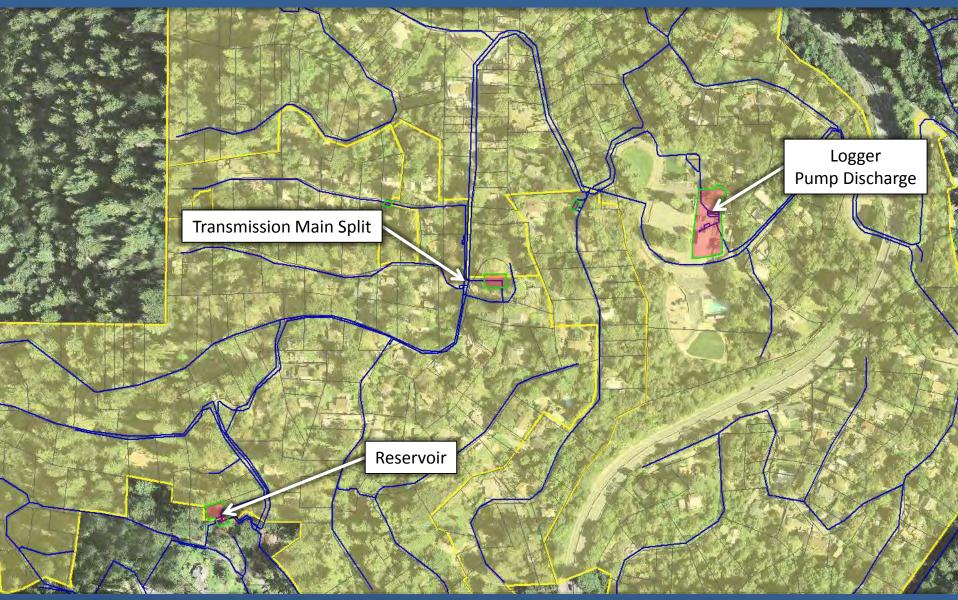
#### **Field Testing**

Strategic locations to install pressure loggers
Coordination with Operations department

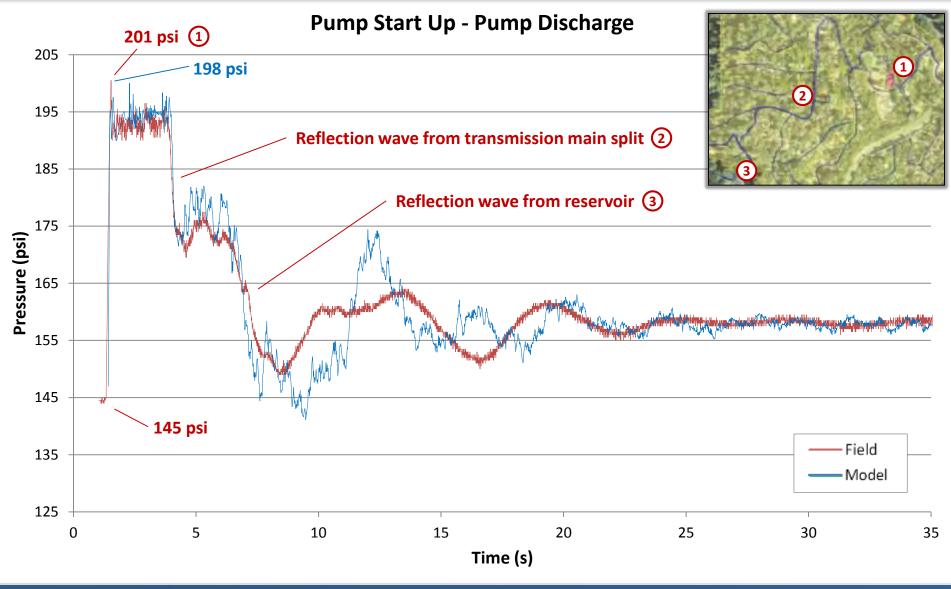
#### Surge Modeling

- Calibration of existing system
- Future system (with surge protection device)



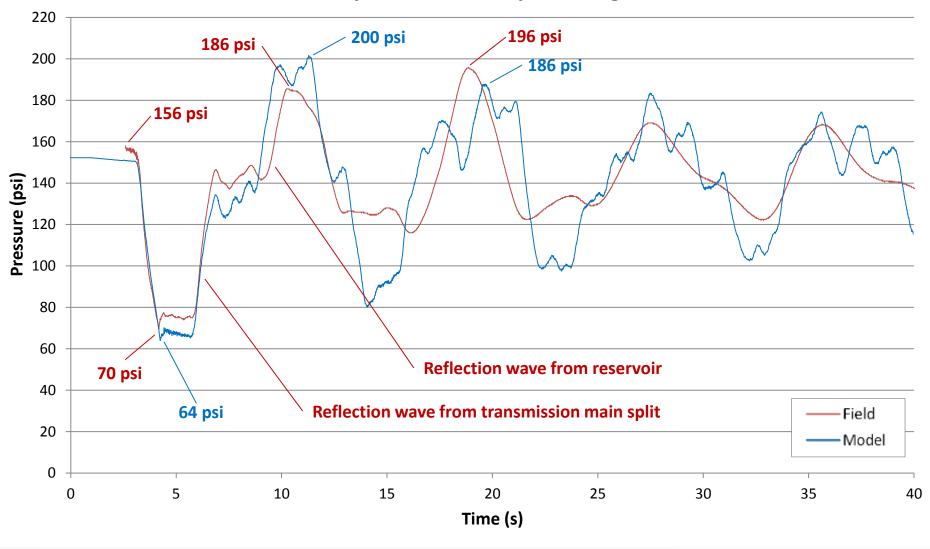








**Pump Shut Off - Pump Discharge** 





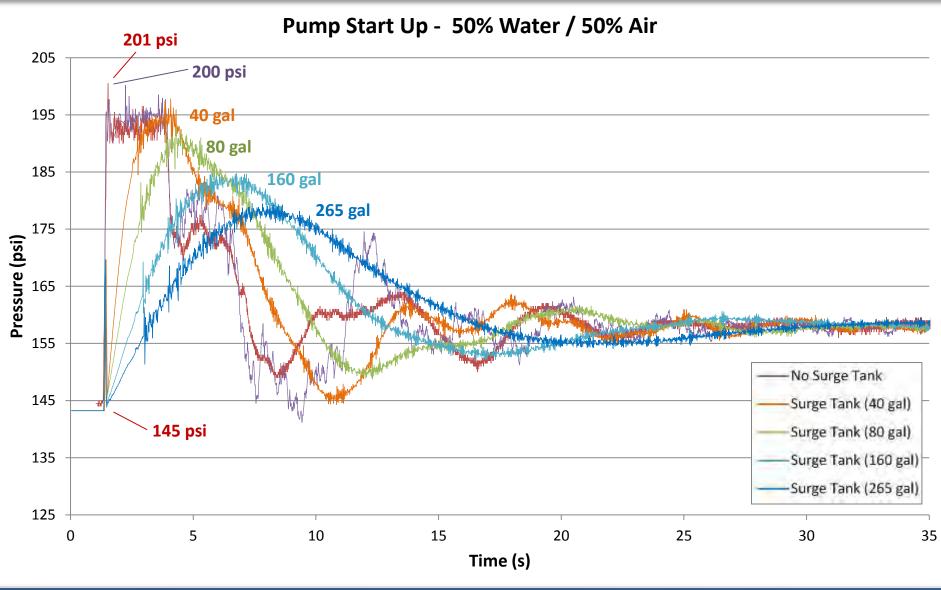
Initial Surge Tank Sizing:

$$T_{c} = \frac{2L}{a}$$
$$T_{c} = \frac{2 \times 4,080 ft}{1,800 ft/s} = 4.5 s$$

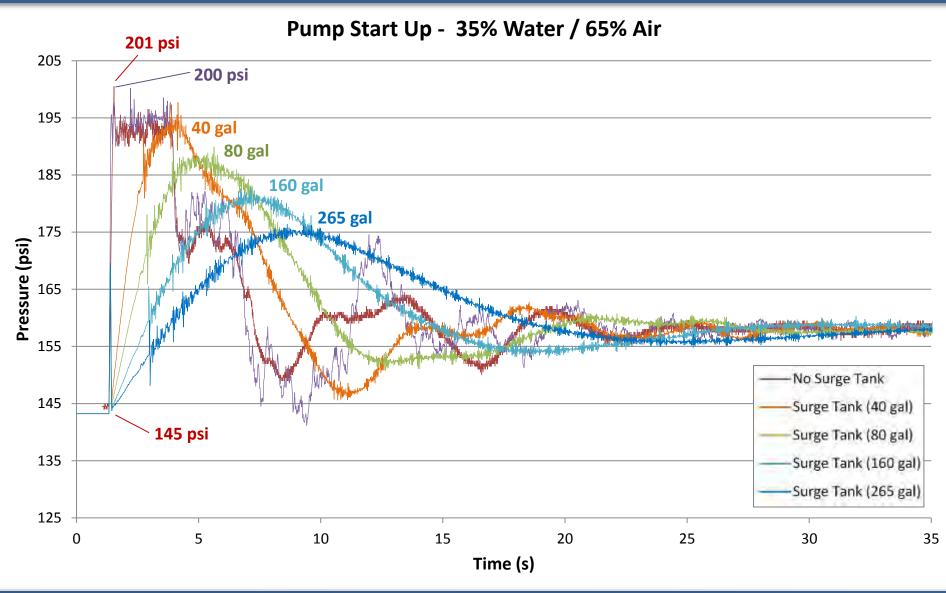
Surge Tank Volume =  $T_c \times Q$ 

Surge Tank Volume =  $4.5 s \times 8.7 gal/s = 40 gal$ 



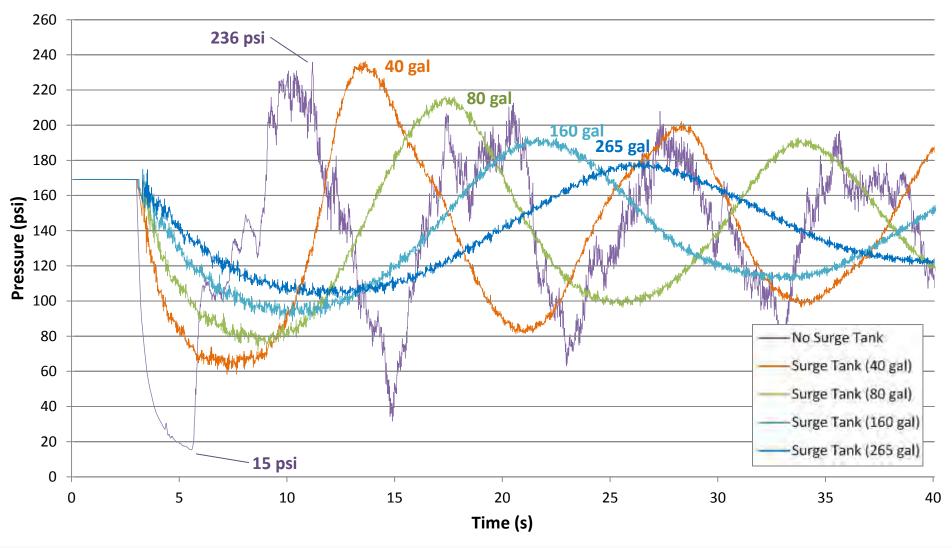


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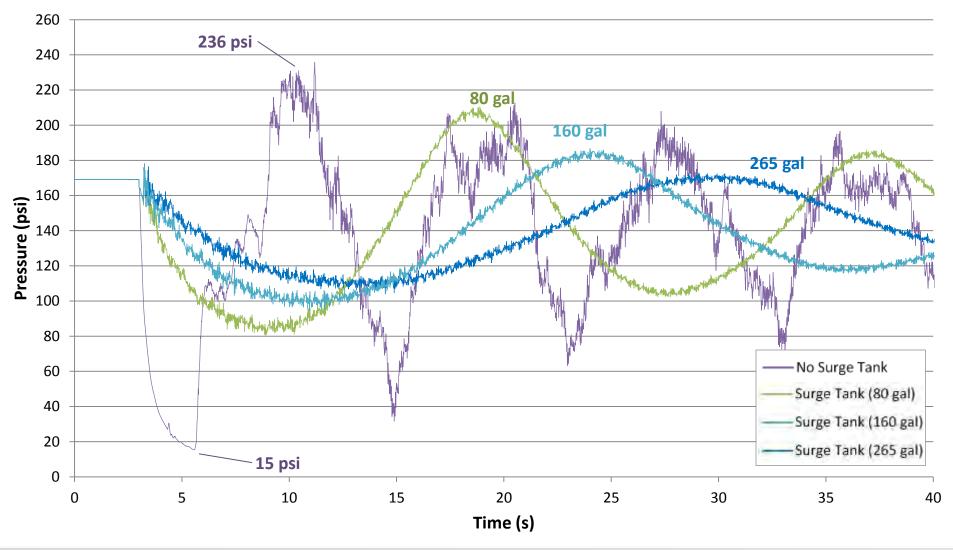
*f*JJJ

Pump Trip - 2 Pumps 50% Water / 50% Air





Pump Trip - 2 Pumps 35% Water / 65% Air





#### Conclusion

- Hydraulic transients are regularly occurring in water distribution systems
- Transient waves can be far more extreme than anticipated
- Transient waves propagate further than expected
- Certain surge protection devices can be very effective, others not as effective
- Surge protection devices can help mitigate potential public safety and public health concerns
- Surge modeling is highly recommended for sizing surge protection devices
- More transient analysis needs to be performed



#### **Contact Information**

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