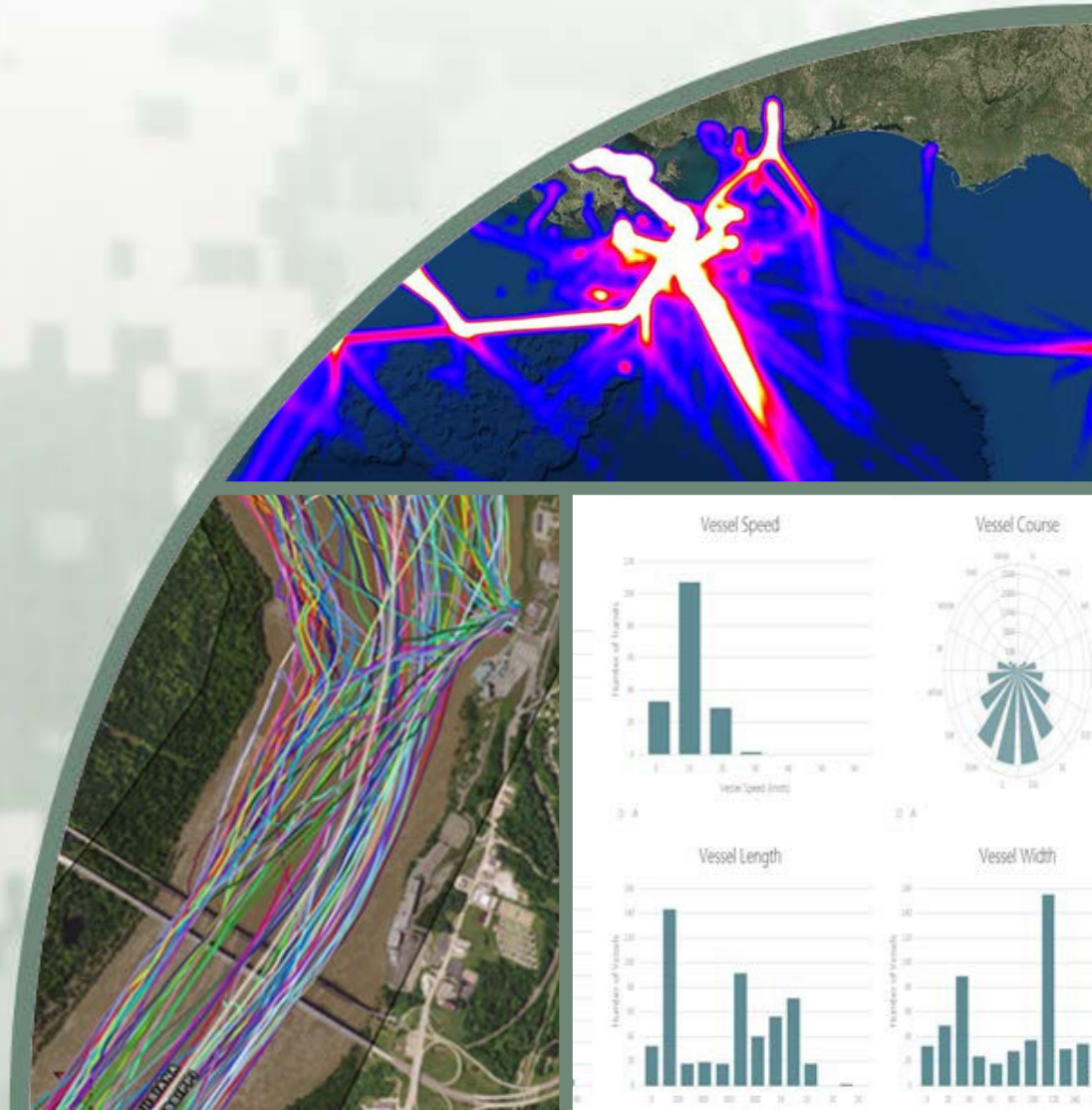


Automatic Identification System

Cory Tabbert

Hydraulic Engineer
USACE – St. Louis District

RRAT 2023

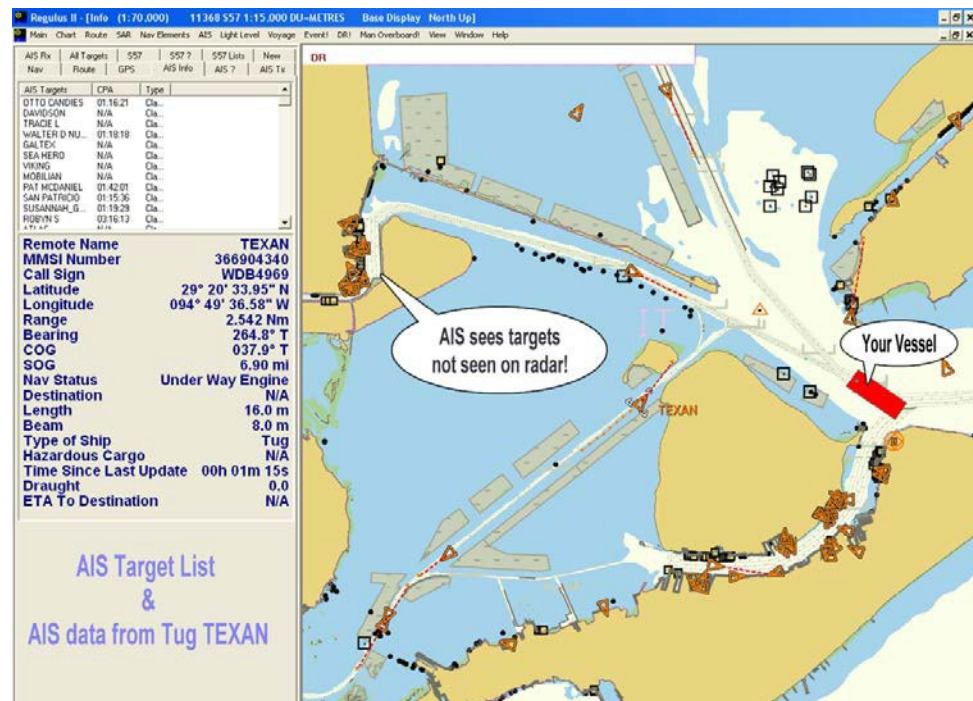


US Army Corps
of Engineers®

First, What is AIS?

- Automatic Identification System (AIS) is a real-time shipboard broadcast system, sending signals to other ships and to shore-based receivers
- Designed as collision avoidance system

- Data included in broadcasts:
 - ▶ Time stamp
 - ▶ Latitude & longitude
 - ▶ Speed over ground
 - ▶ Course over ground & heading
 - ▶ Vessel ID
 - ▶ Ship type
 - ▶ Dimensions
 - ▶ Max draft



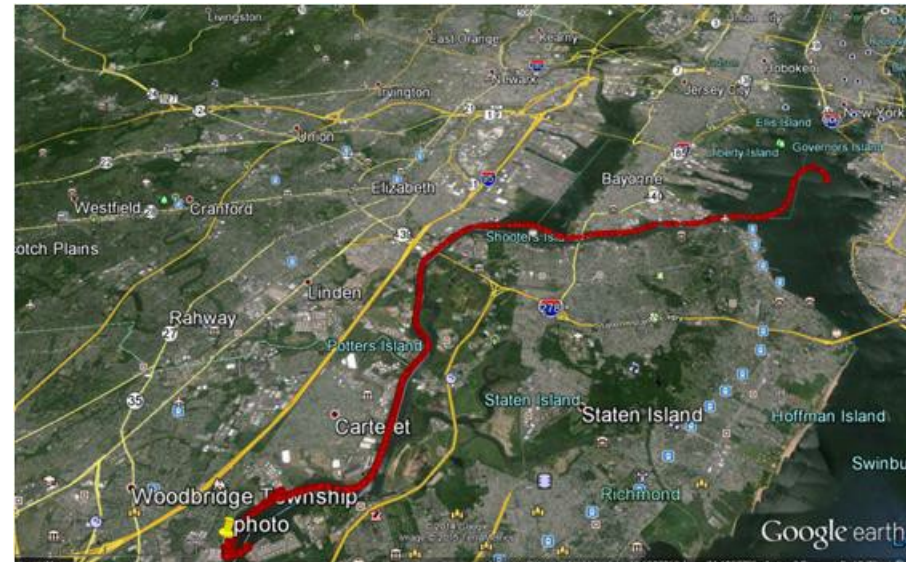
- Mandatory for almost all commercial vessels. Also used by rec. vessels.

AIS Data Example

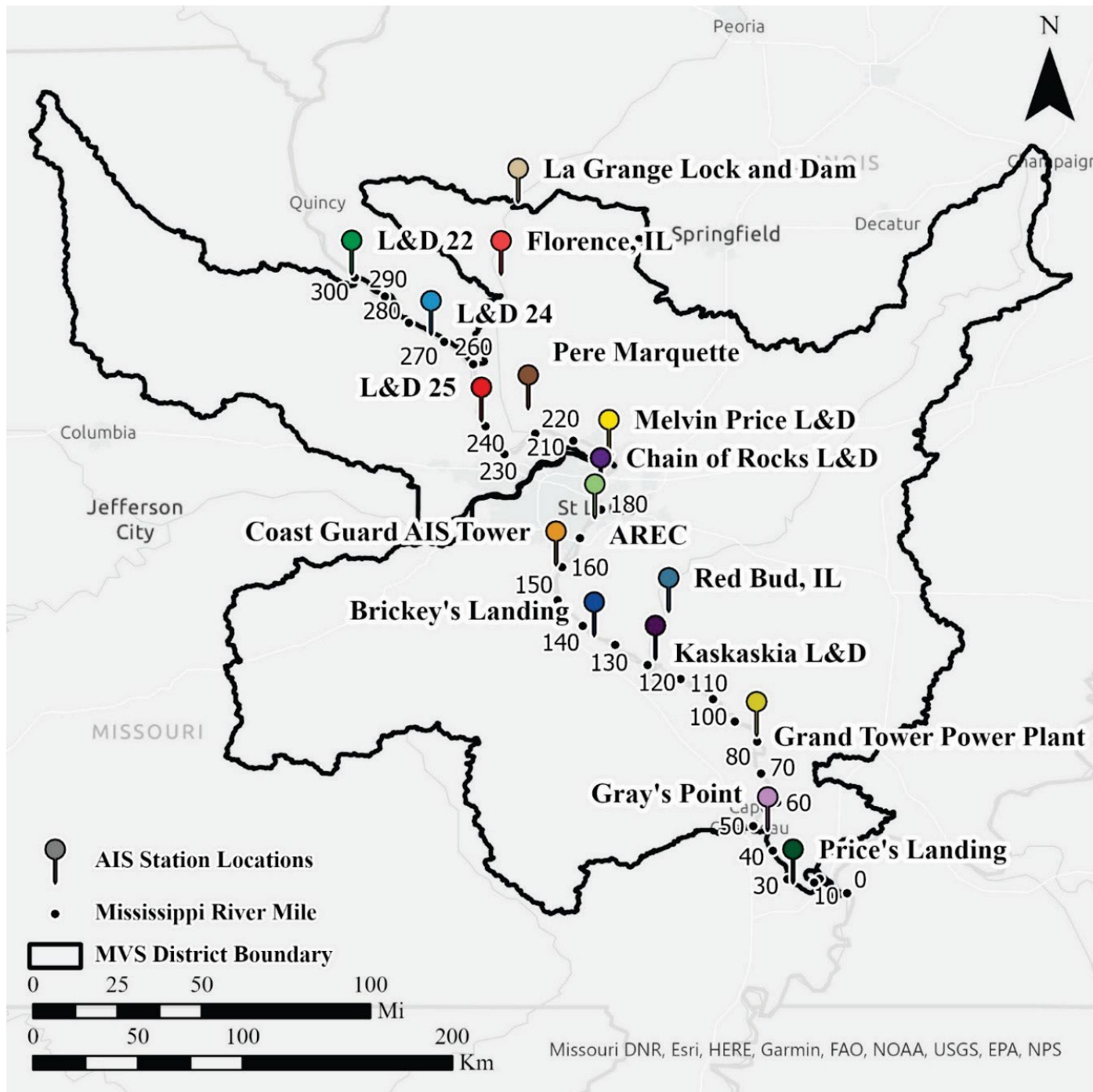
- Example:
 - Vessel name: LR
 - Time: 12/25/14 10:50 am
 - Location: Arthur Kill
 - between New Jersey and Staten Island, New York

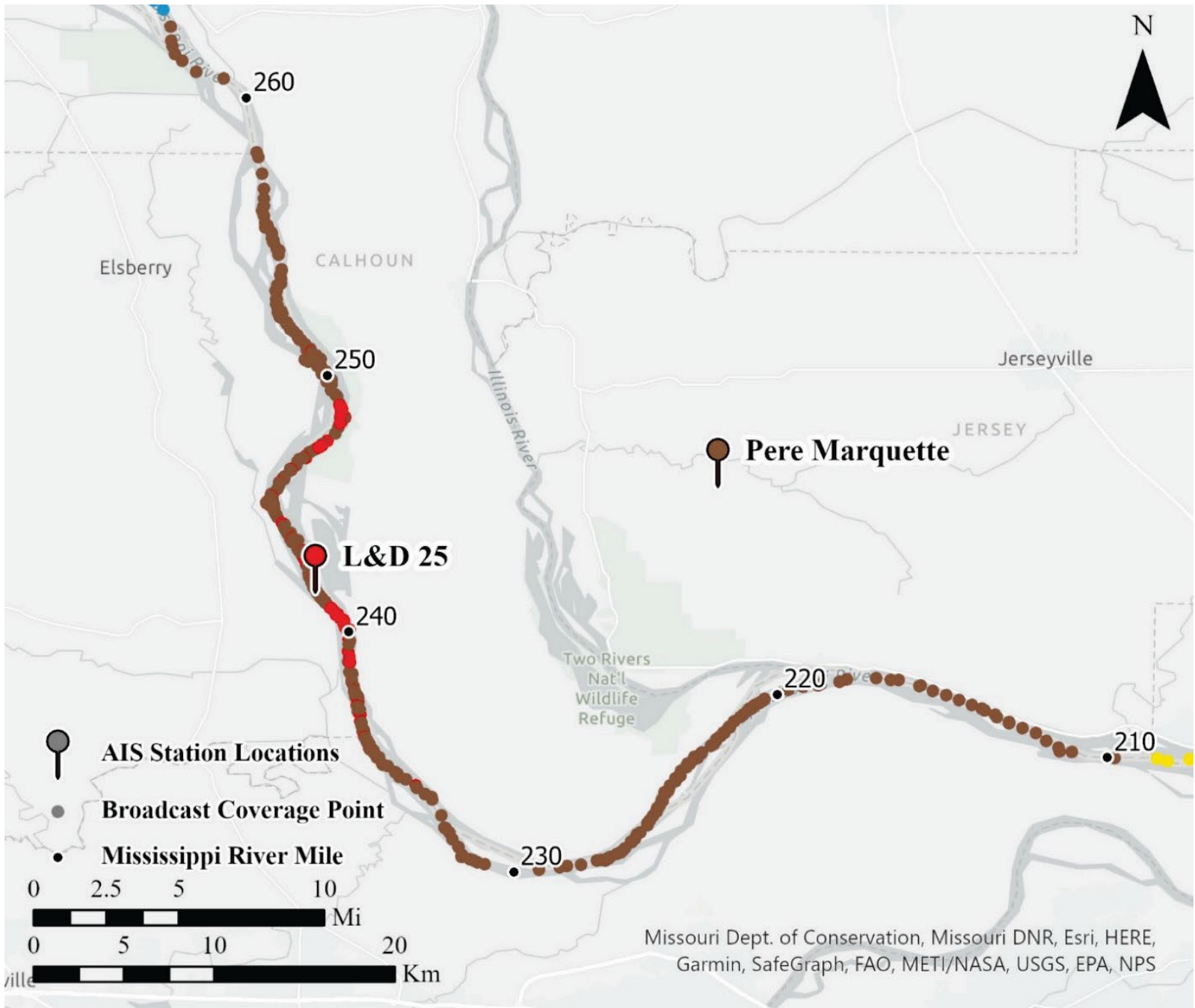


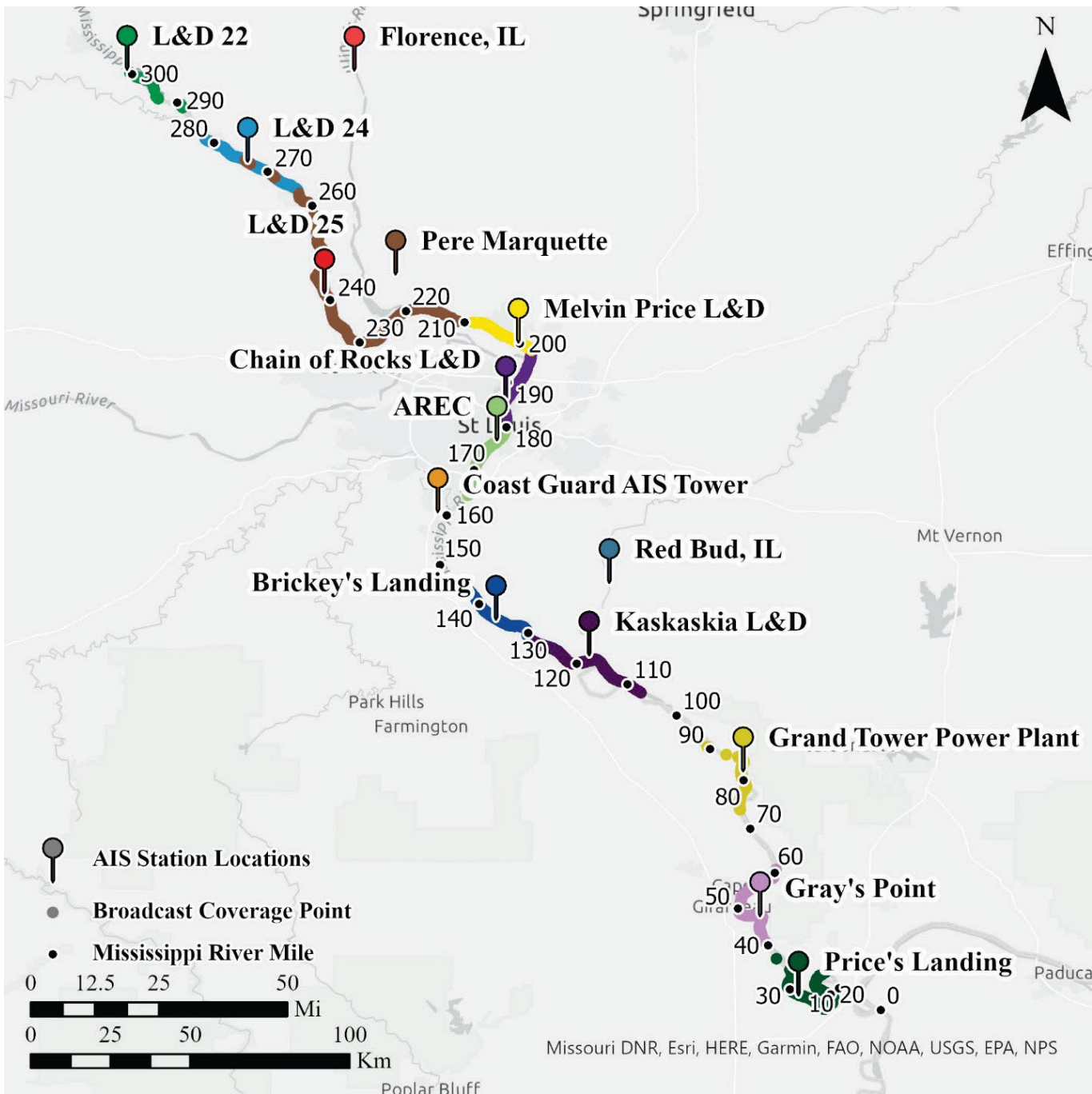
Unique time-stamped AIS vessel position reports (red dots)



Vessel position reports stitched together to make a continuous vessel track line of the LR's voyage through the Arthur Kill channel.







Missouri DNR, Esri, HERE, Garmin, FAO, NOAA, USGS, EPA, NPS

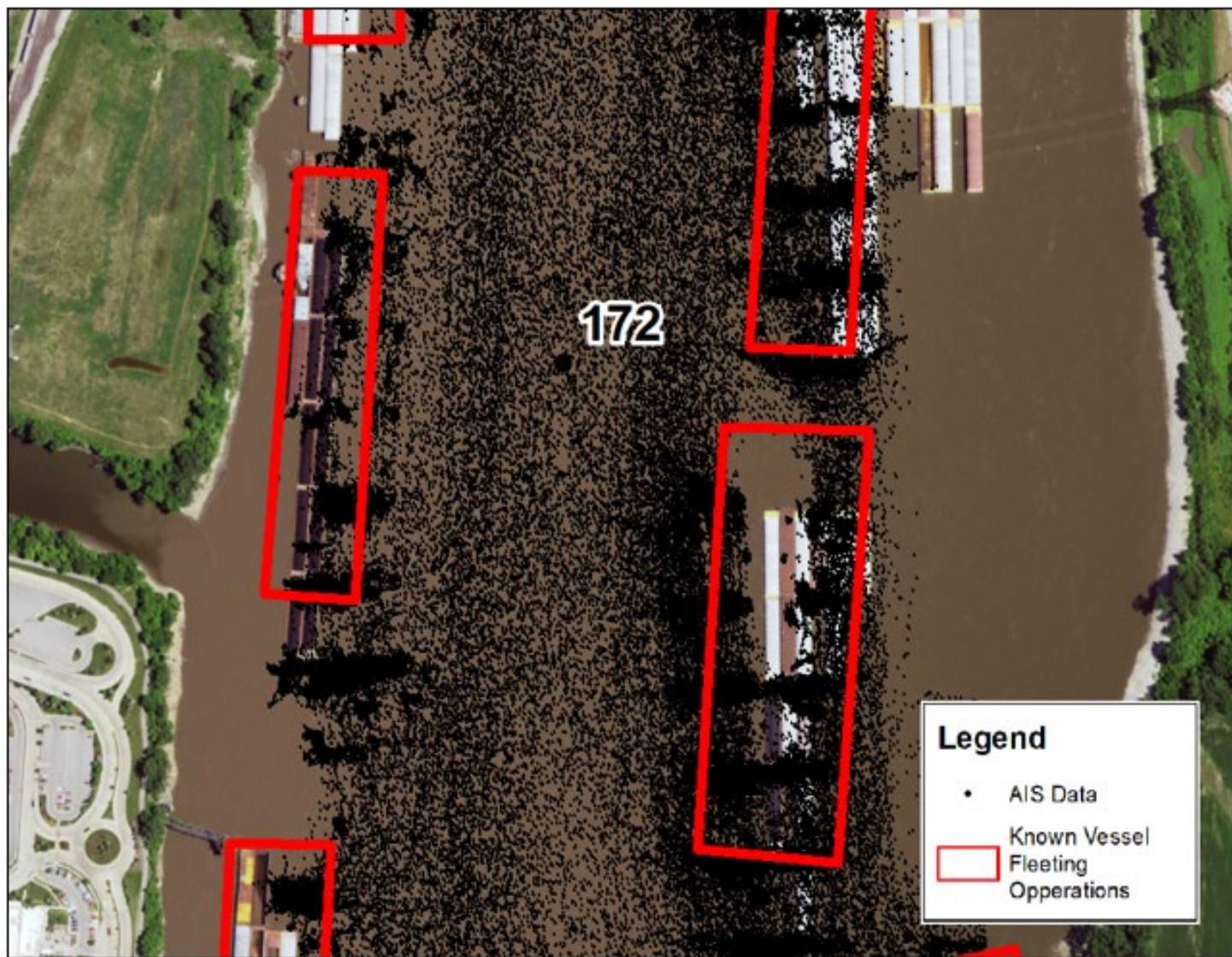


Figure 3: Sample image illustrating vessel position points within the Mississippi River at river mile 172. In this picture alone, there is roughly 215,000 points that are attributed to vessel movements during February 2015.

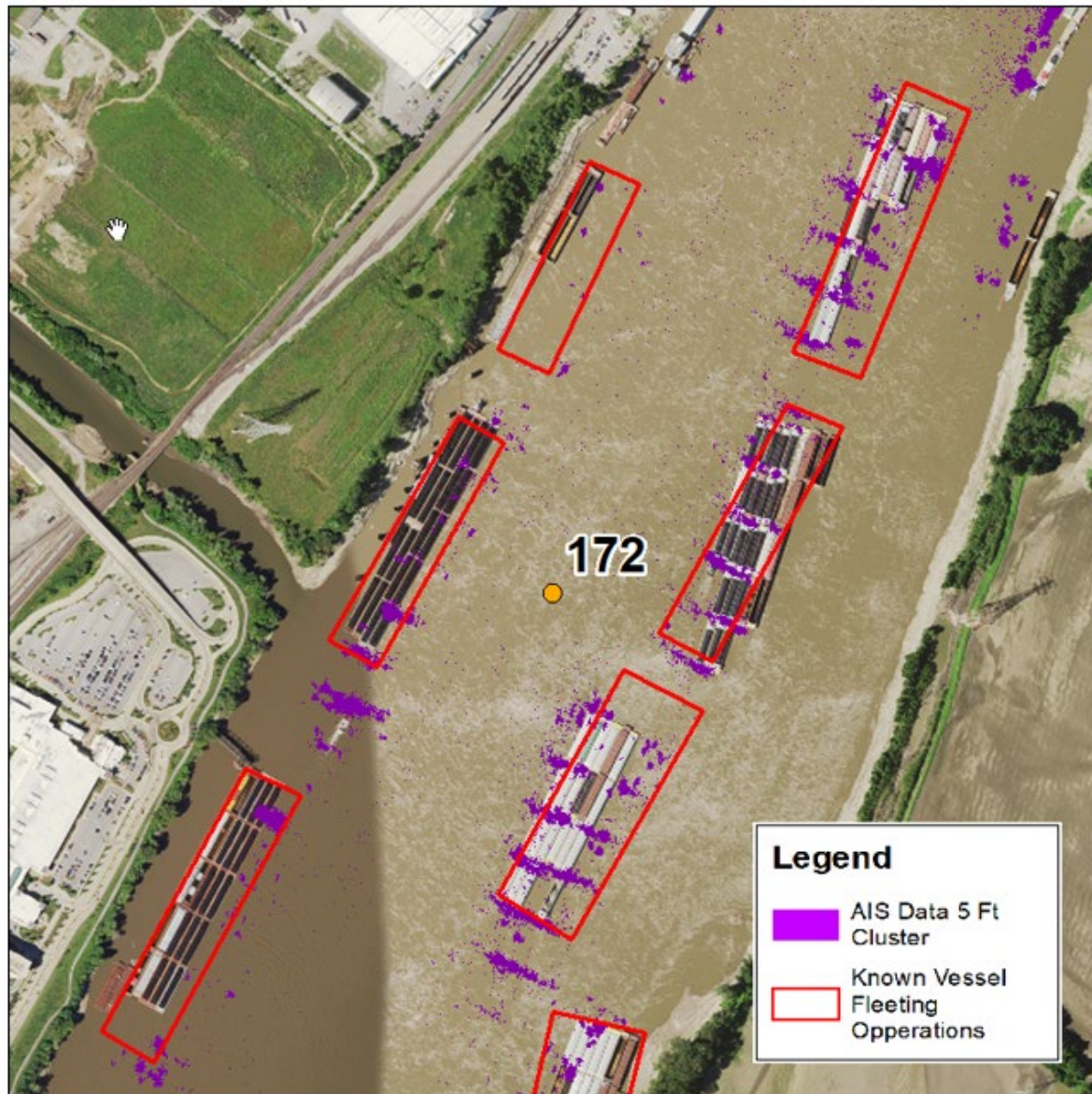


Figure 5: Sample image illustrating 5ft cluster mapping within the Mississippi River to denote highly utilized areas during February 2015. In this picture you can clearly see the various push and pull points associated with fleeting operations.

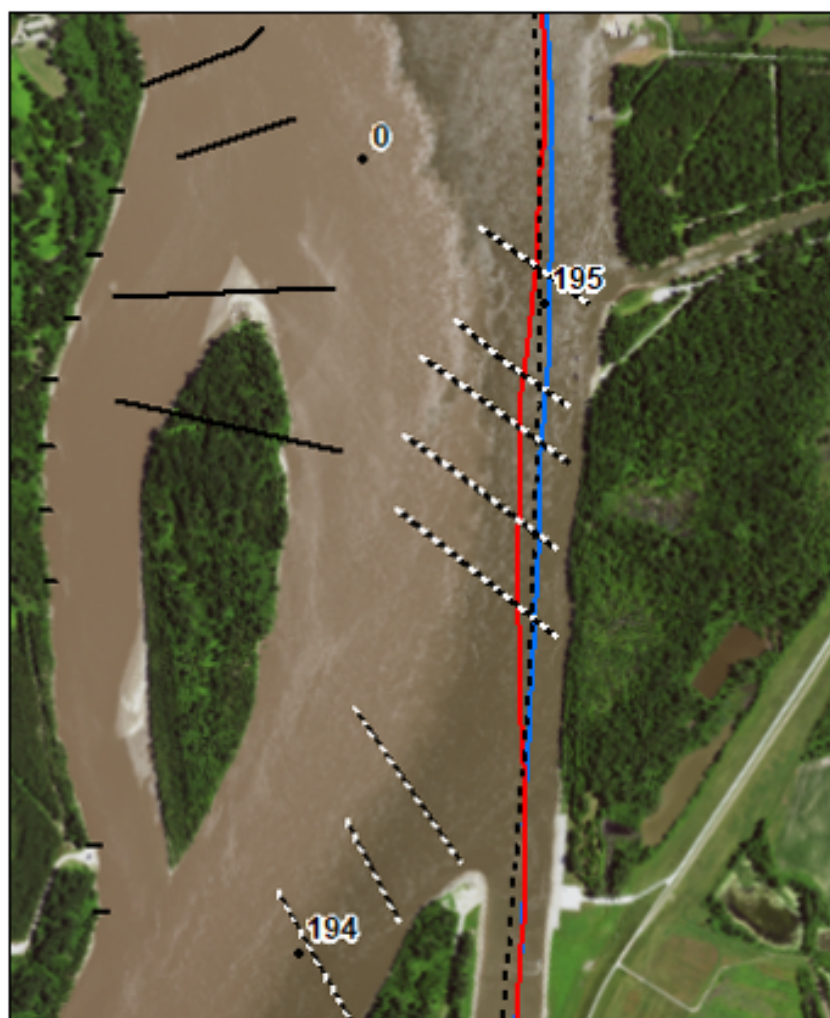


Figure 6: Sample image illustrating up-bound vs. down-bound tow movements at the entrance to the chain of rocks canal. In this image, down-bound tow paths are depicted by the blue line while the up-bound paths are depicted by the red line. This is a simple illustration showing that regardless of direction of travel, vessels don't always use the same path of transit.



Figure 7: Sample image illustrating up bound vs. down bound tow movements at Melvin Price L&D. In this image, down bound tow paths are depicted by the blue line while the up bound paths are depicted by the red line. This is a sample illustration showing that regardless of direction of travel, vessels don't always use the same path of transit.



A single beacon transmits many Virtual AtoN's

Any vessel in the vicinity of these Virtual AtoN's will be able to identify them on ECDIS, chart plotters or other AIS enabled displays

**Onshore or offshore station houses
Virtual AIS Beacon managed by administration software. Multiple beacons can be used to extend network coverage.**

Symbols

