

# Earthquake Impacts in the Christchurch CBD

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Dept. Of Geological Sciences

Thanks to Dr Matthew Hughes (UC), Professor Misko Cubrinovski (UC),  
Ian McCahon (Geotech Consultants) for additional material

# Overview of the Presentation

Jarg:

- The seismic context & liquefaction

Tom:

- Potable Water Supply
- Waste Water Network

# Canterbury Earthquake Sequence

## Local Magnitude

★ > 5.0

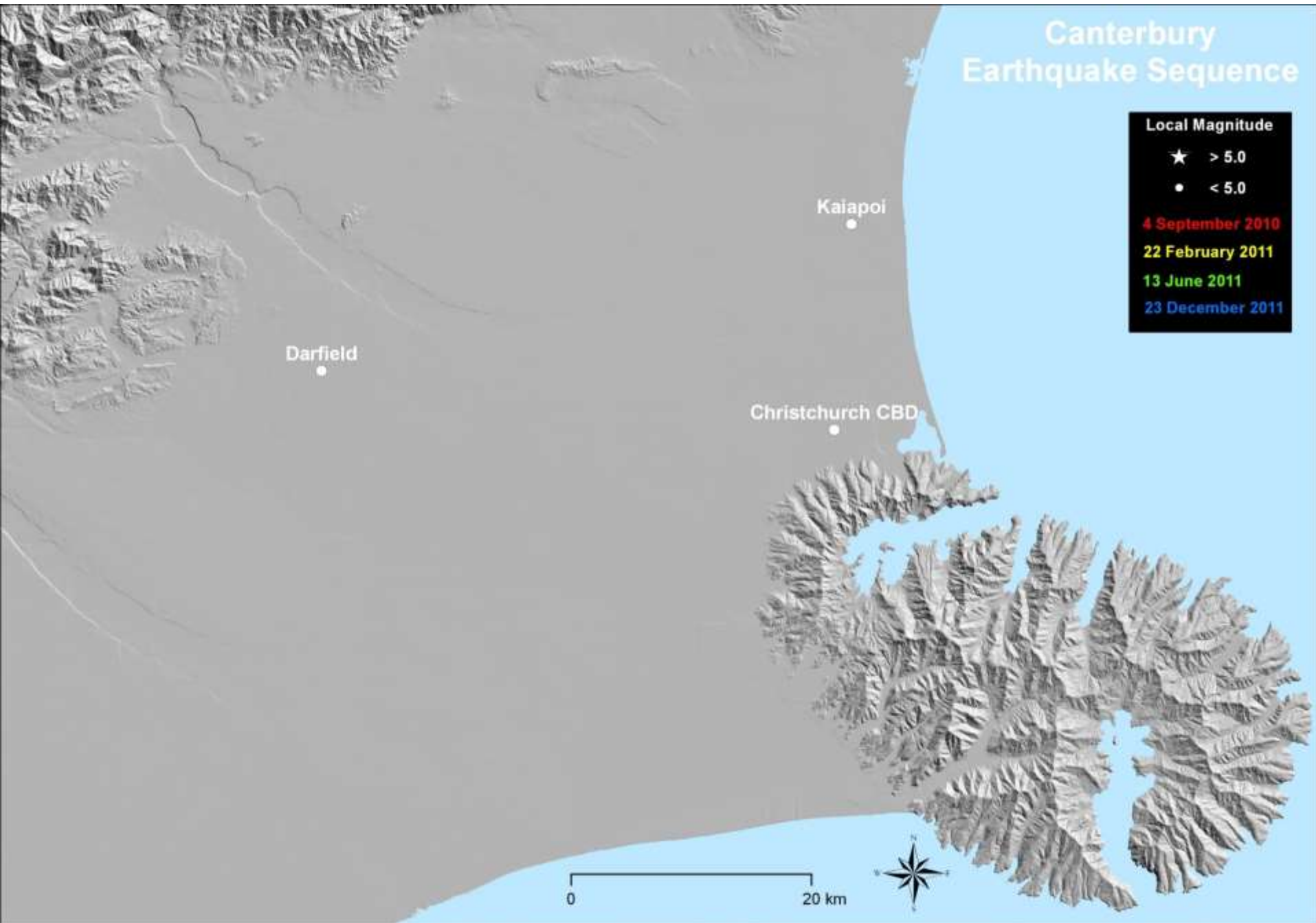
• < 5.0

4 September 2010

22 February 2011

13 June 2011

23 December 2011



# Canterbury Earthquake Sequence

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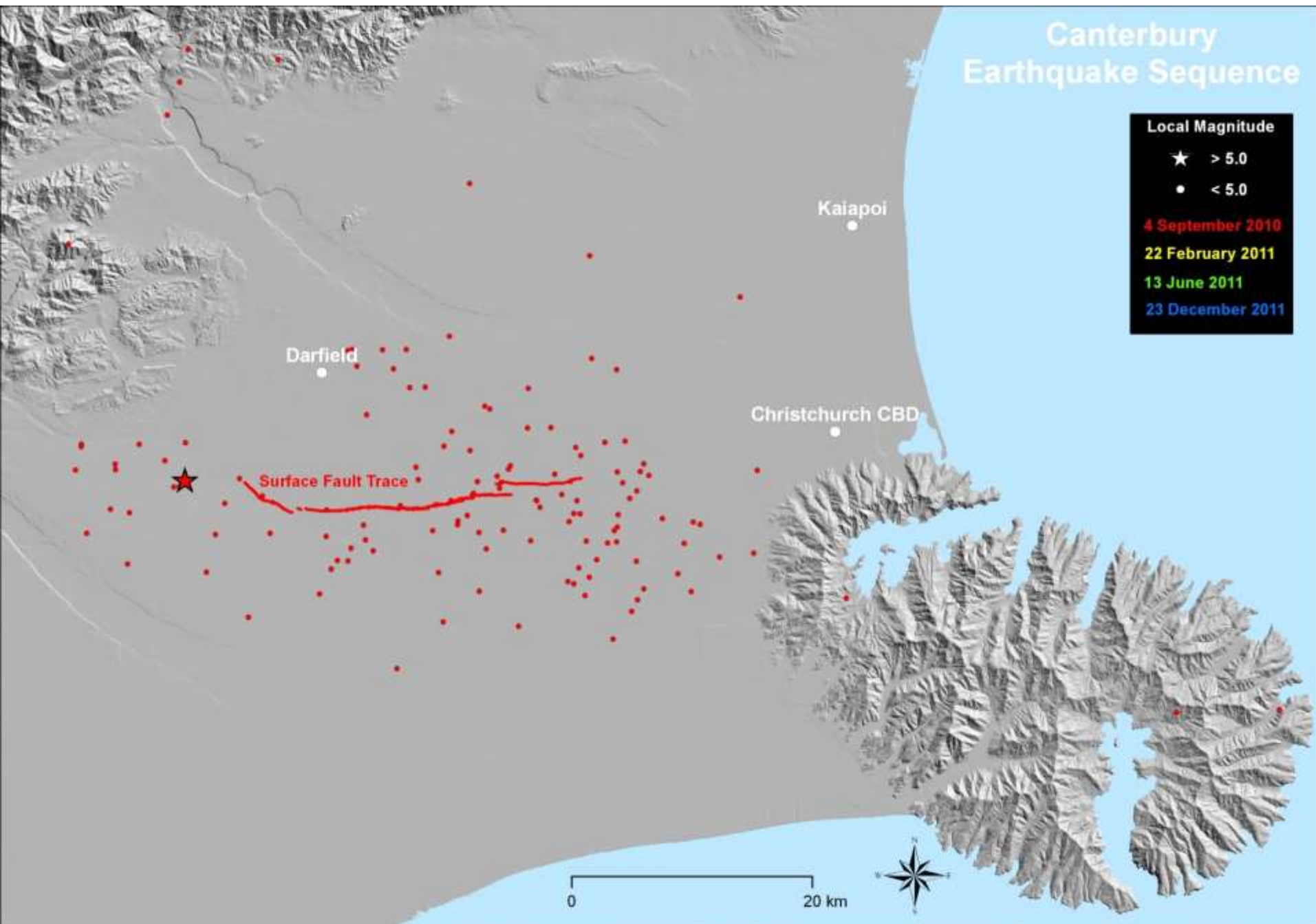
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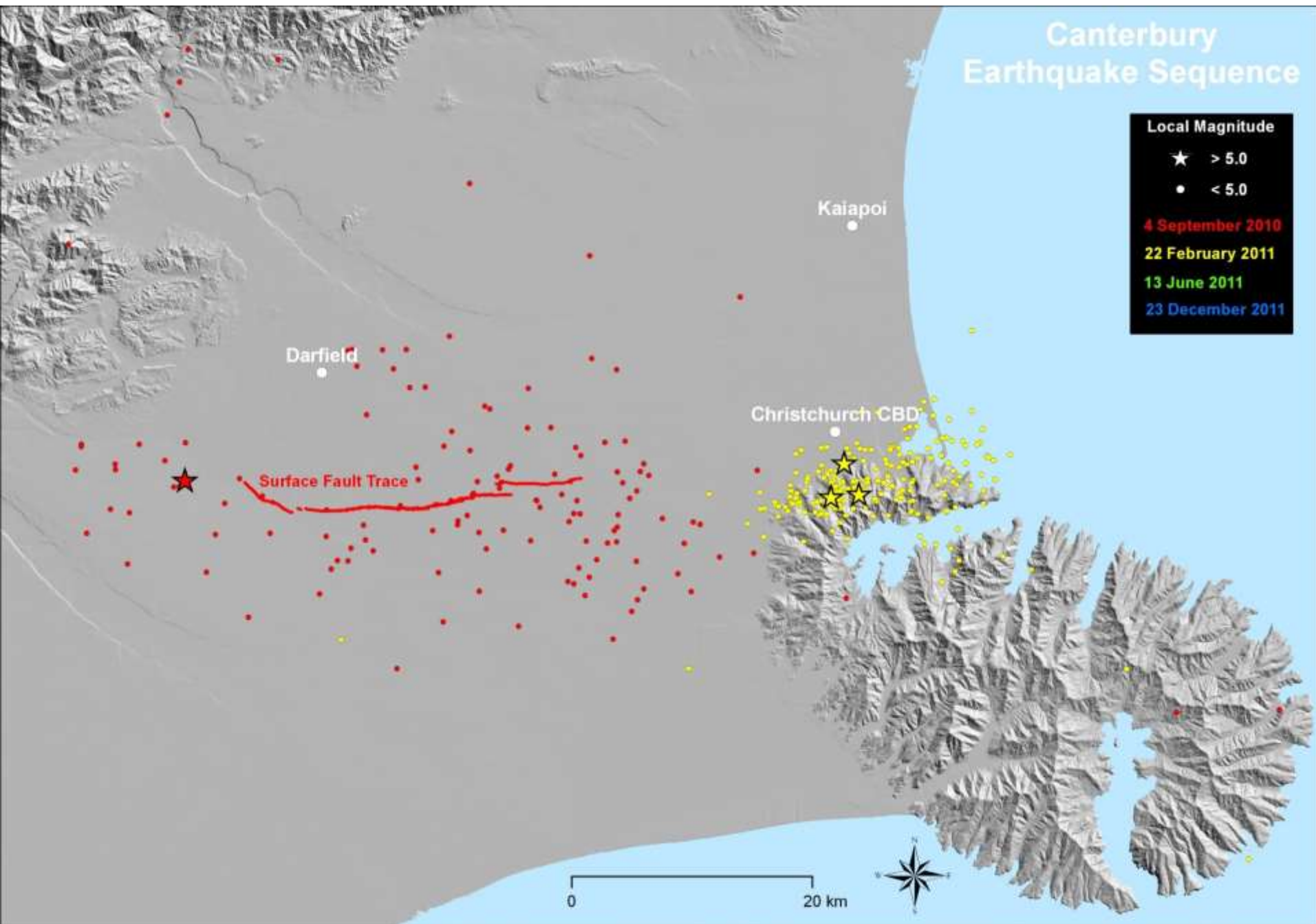
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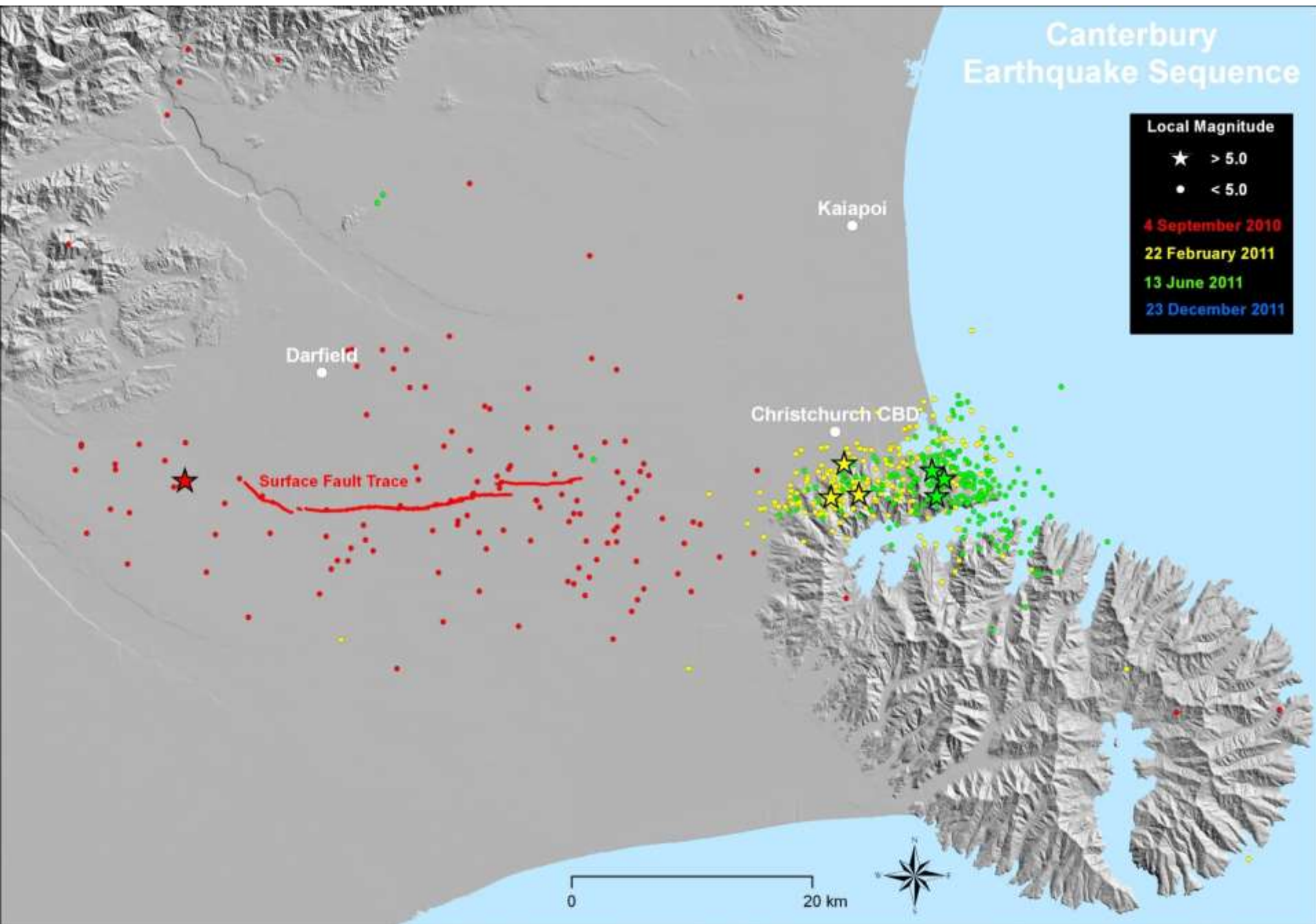
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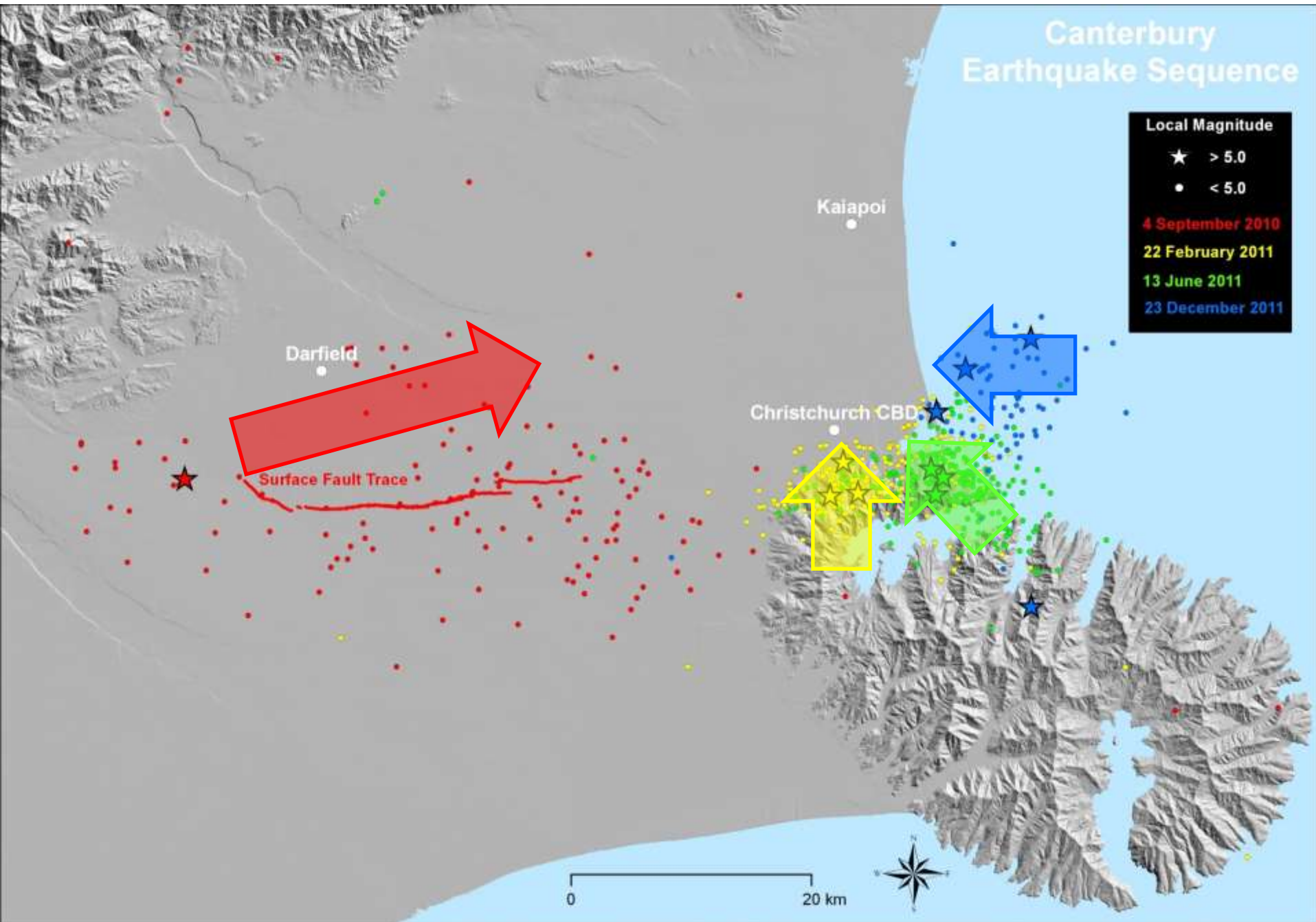
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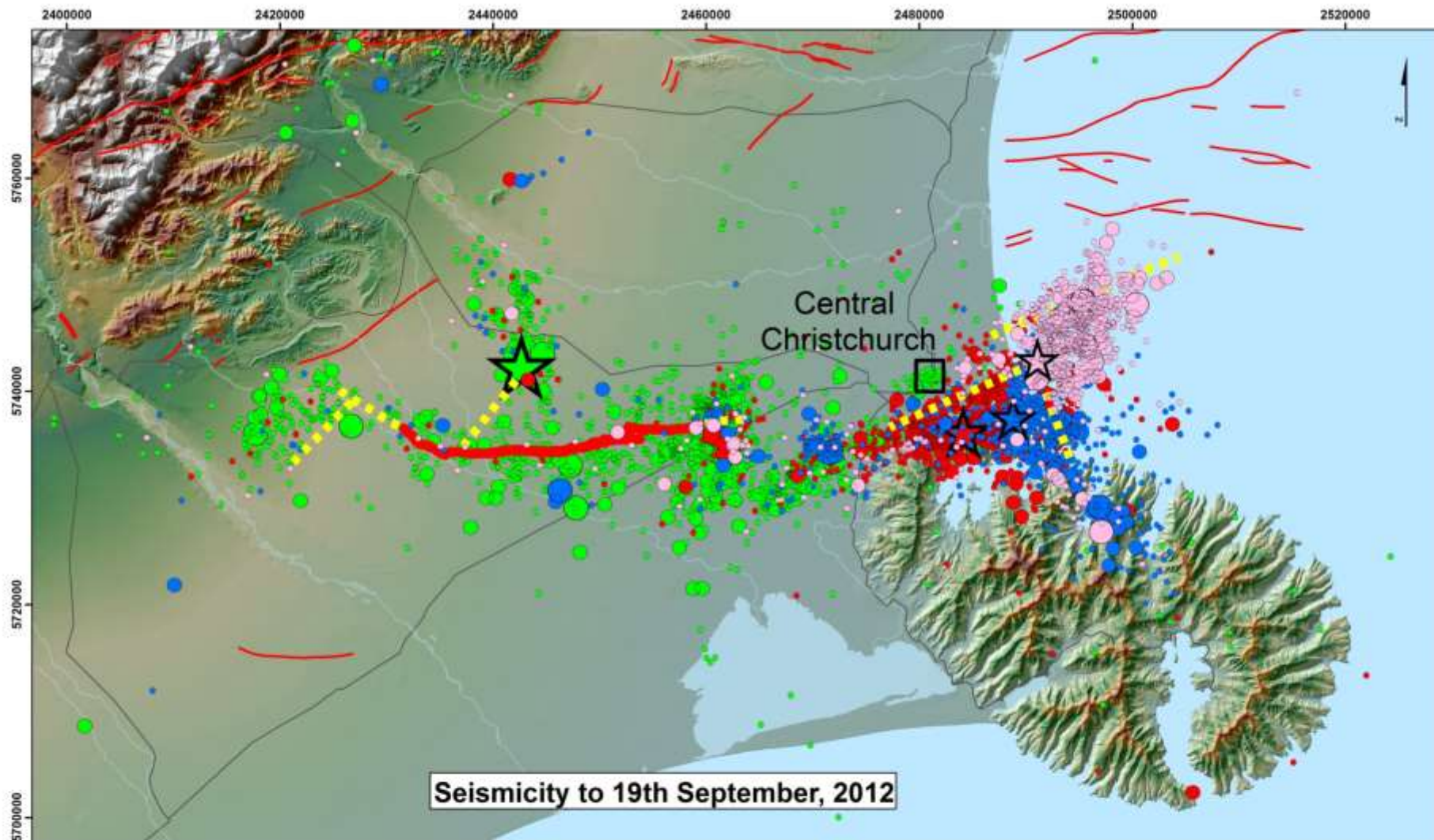
22 February 2011

13 June 2011

23 December 2011







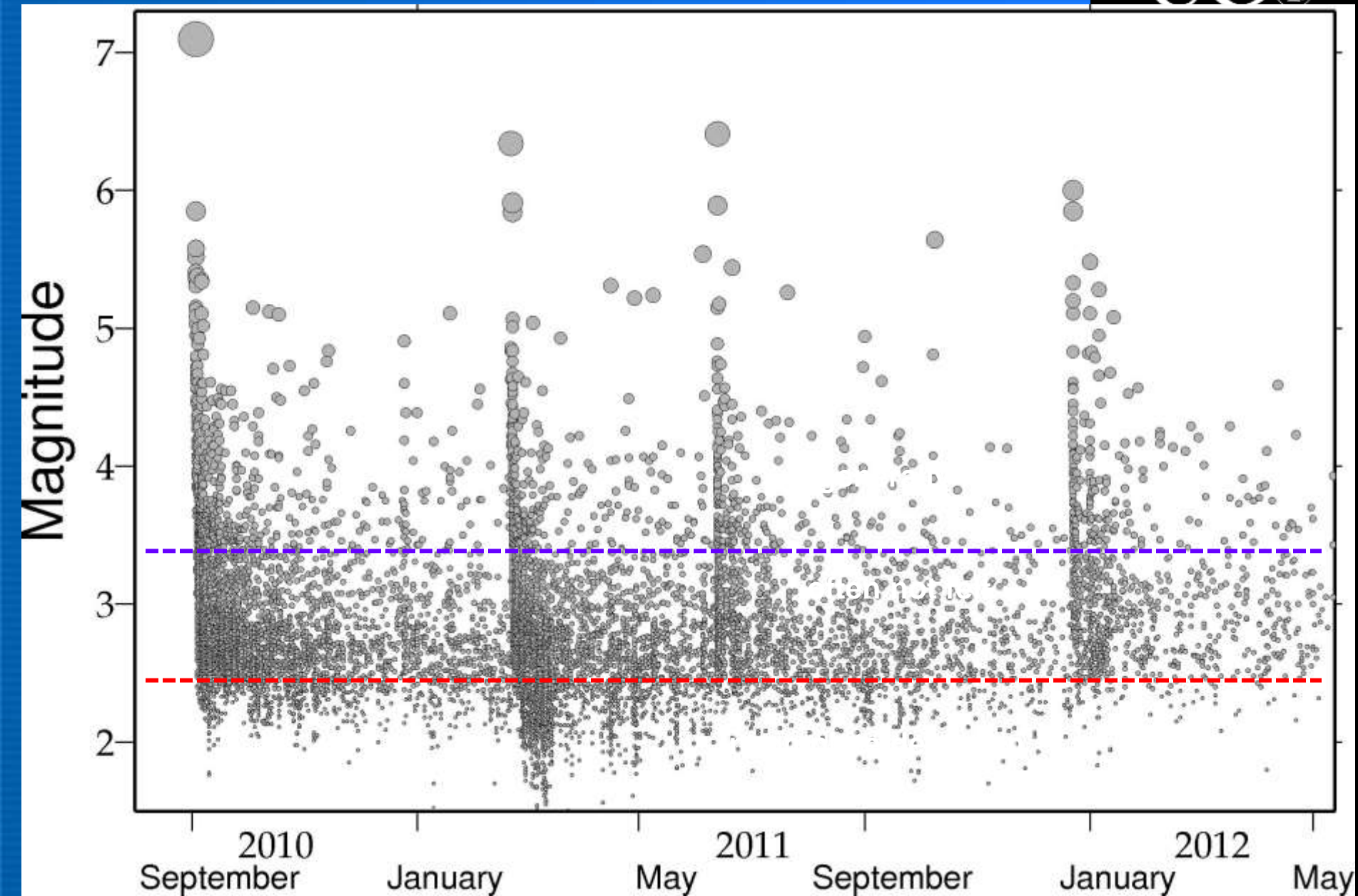
#### Magnitude

- 3.0 - 3.9    ☆ Mw 5.9 23/12/2011    ★ Mw 6.2 22/02/2011    ○ Aftershocks from 23/12/2011    ● Aftershocks 22/02/11 - 13/06/11
  - 4.0 - 4.9    ☆ Mw 6.0 13/06/2011    ★ Mw 7.1 04/09/2010    ● Aftershocks 13/06/11 - 22/12/11    ● Aftershocks 04/09/10 - 22/02/11
  - 5.0 - 5.9    ☆ Mw 6.0 13/06/2011    ★ Mw 7.1 04/09/2010    ● Aftershocks 13/06/11 - 22/12/11    ● Aftershocks 04/09/10 - 22/02/11
- Sub-surface fault rupture    —— Greendale Fault    --- Active faults



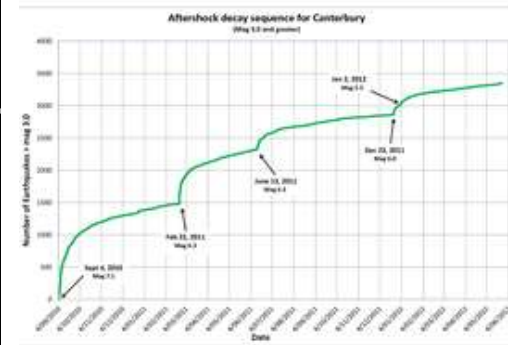
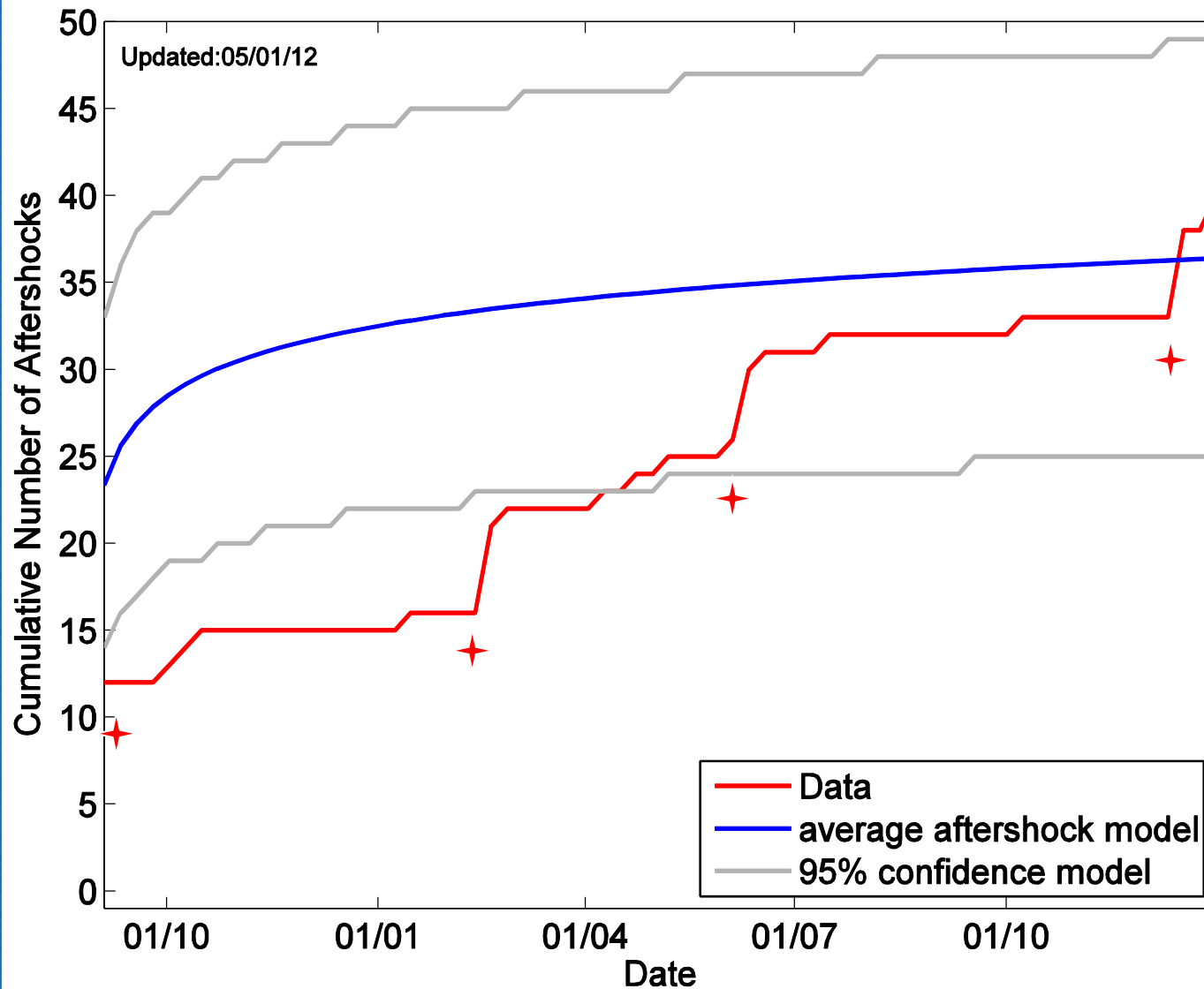


# Magnitude/Time plot of the earthquake sequence



# Aftershock Decay Sequence for Canterbury

- Magnitude 3 and greater



Source: [www.geonet.org.nz](http://www.geonet.org.nz)

Graph depicts the significant effect of the February, June and December 2011 earthquakes re-energising the Darfield aftershock sequence (Source: GNS Science).

# Liquefaction

“Transformation of a saturated granular material from a solid to a liquefied state”

“Saturated”

## Groundwater

- Water table depth

“Granular material”

## Alluvial sediments

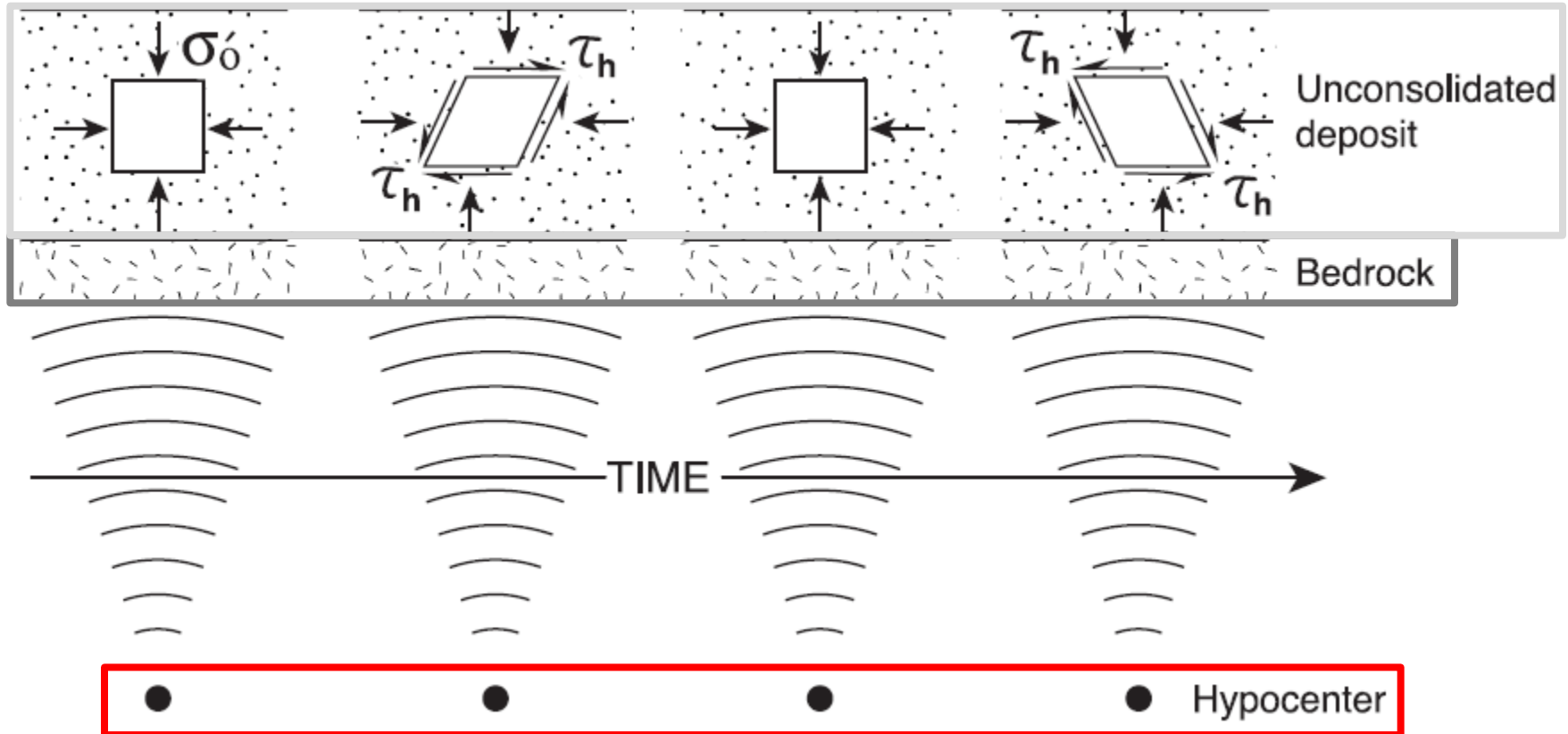
- Silts, sands, gravels

## Earthquakes

- Magnitude
- Duration

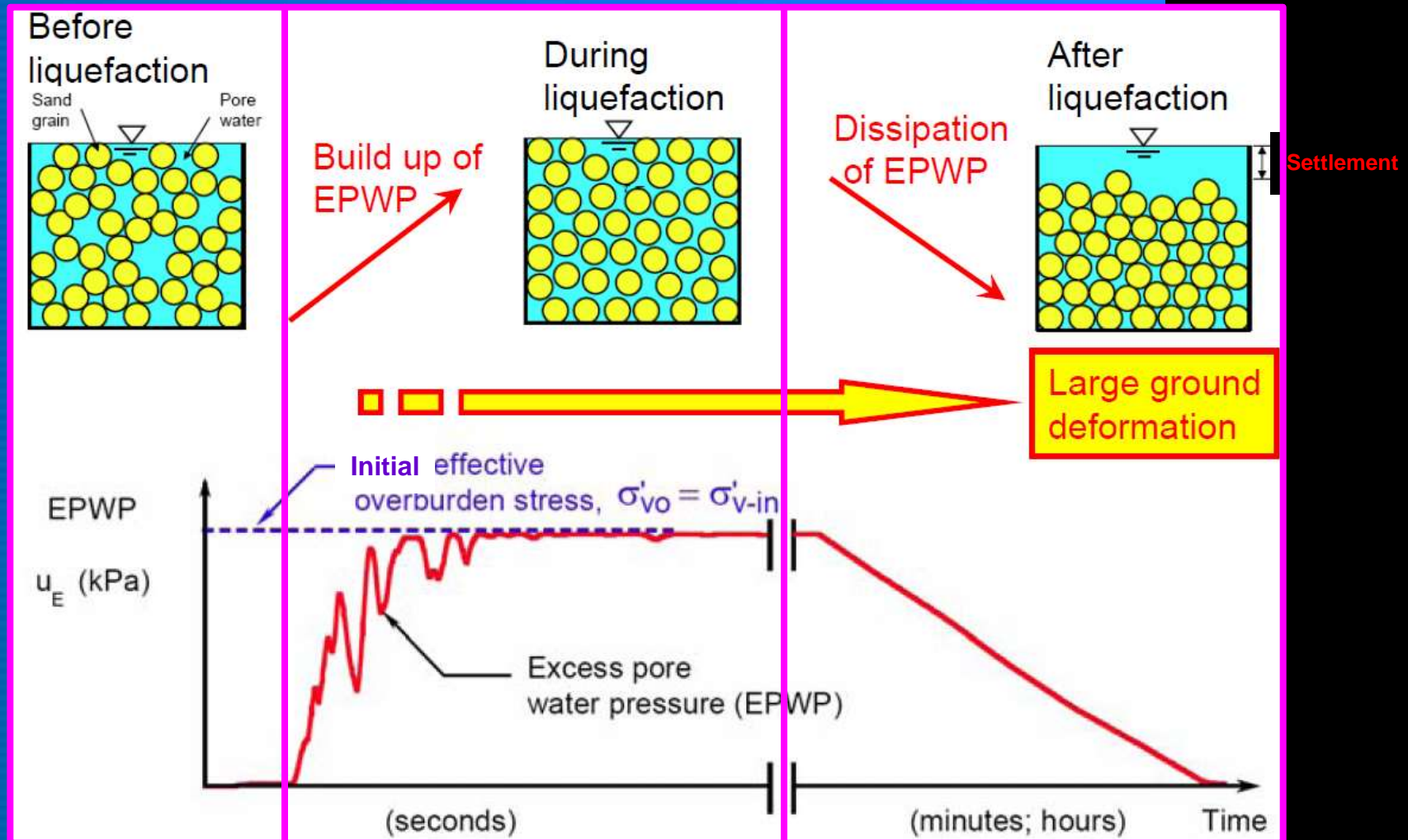


# Liquefaction

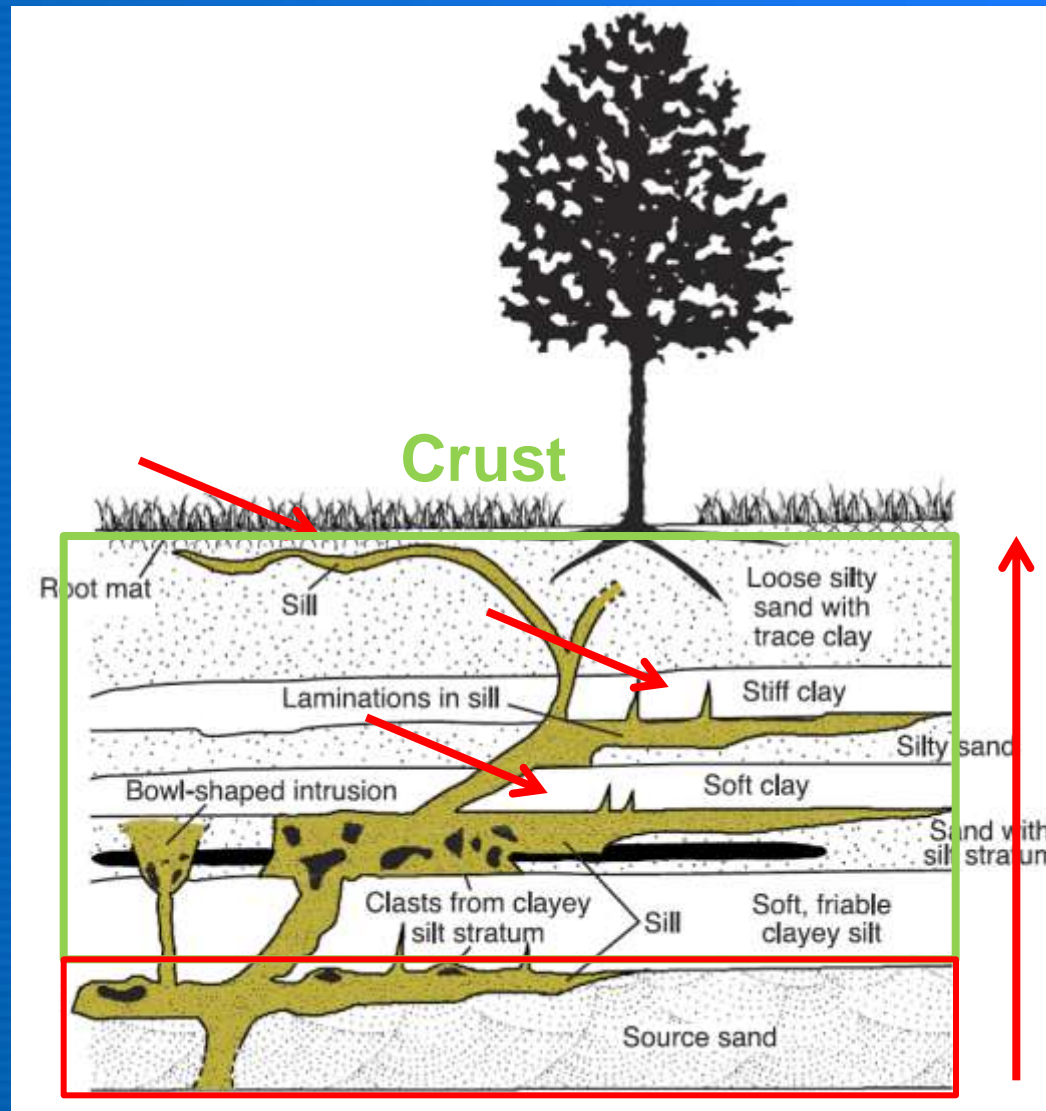


Obermeier et al. (2005). Field occurrences of liquefaction-induced features: a primer for engineering geologic analysis of paleoseismic shaking. *Engineering Geology* 76, 209–234.

# Liquefaction



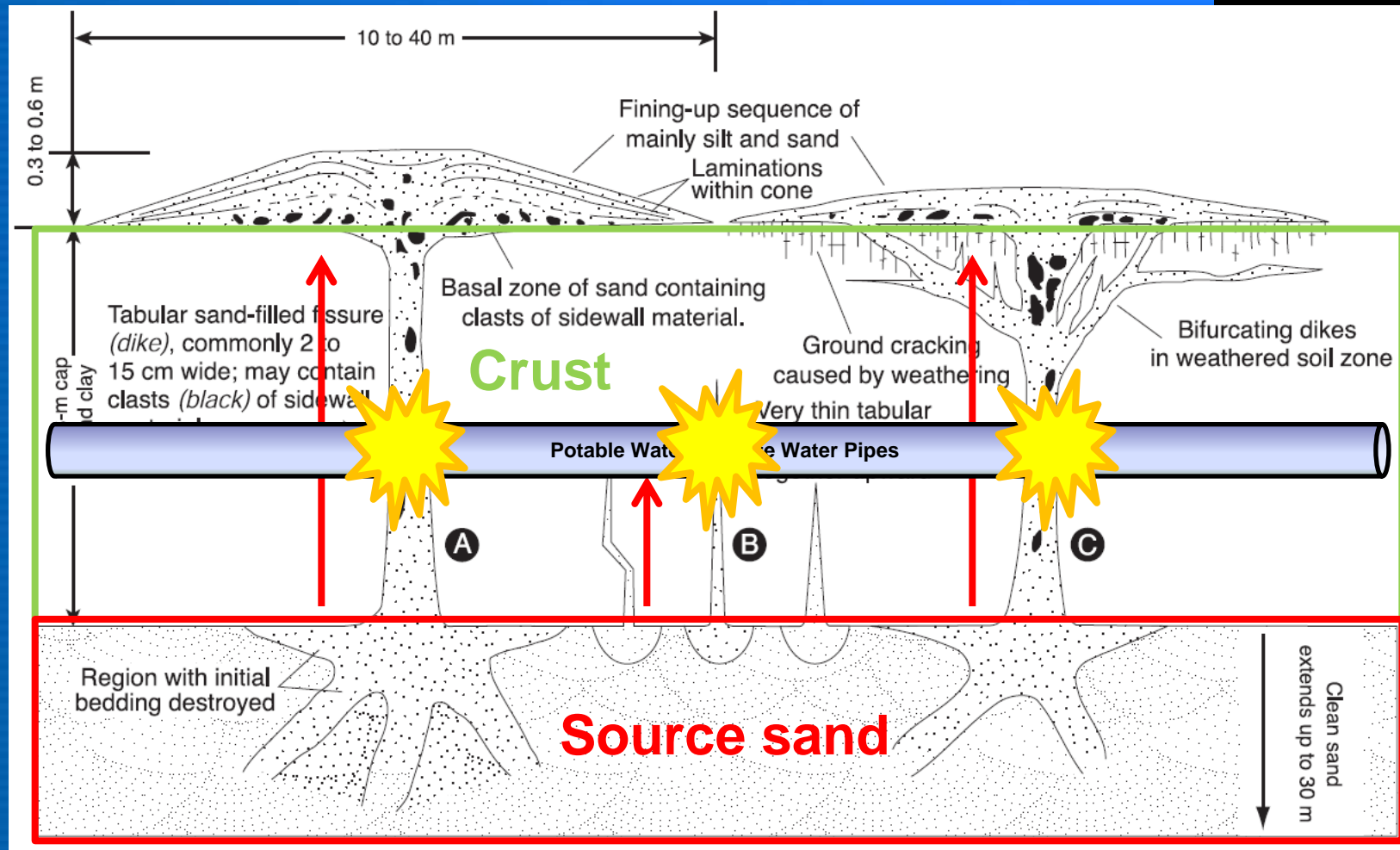
# Liquefaction



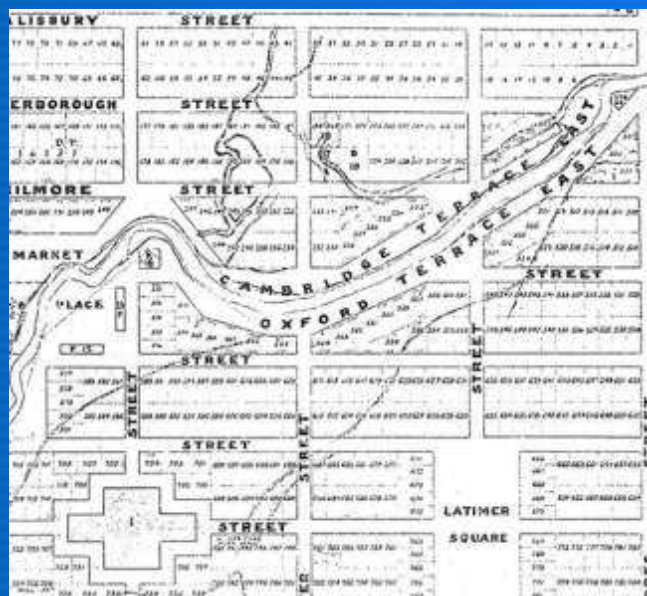
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**Liquefaction – Christchurch East, June 2011**





**Liquefaction – Christchurch East, June 2011**



**Liquefaction – Christchurch East, June 2011**





**Liquefaction – Christchurch East, June 2011 (Courtesy Merrick Taylor)**



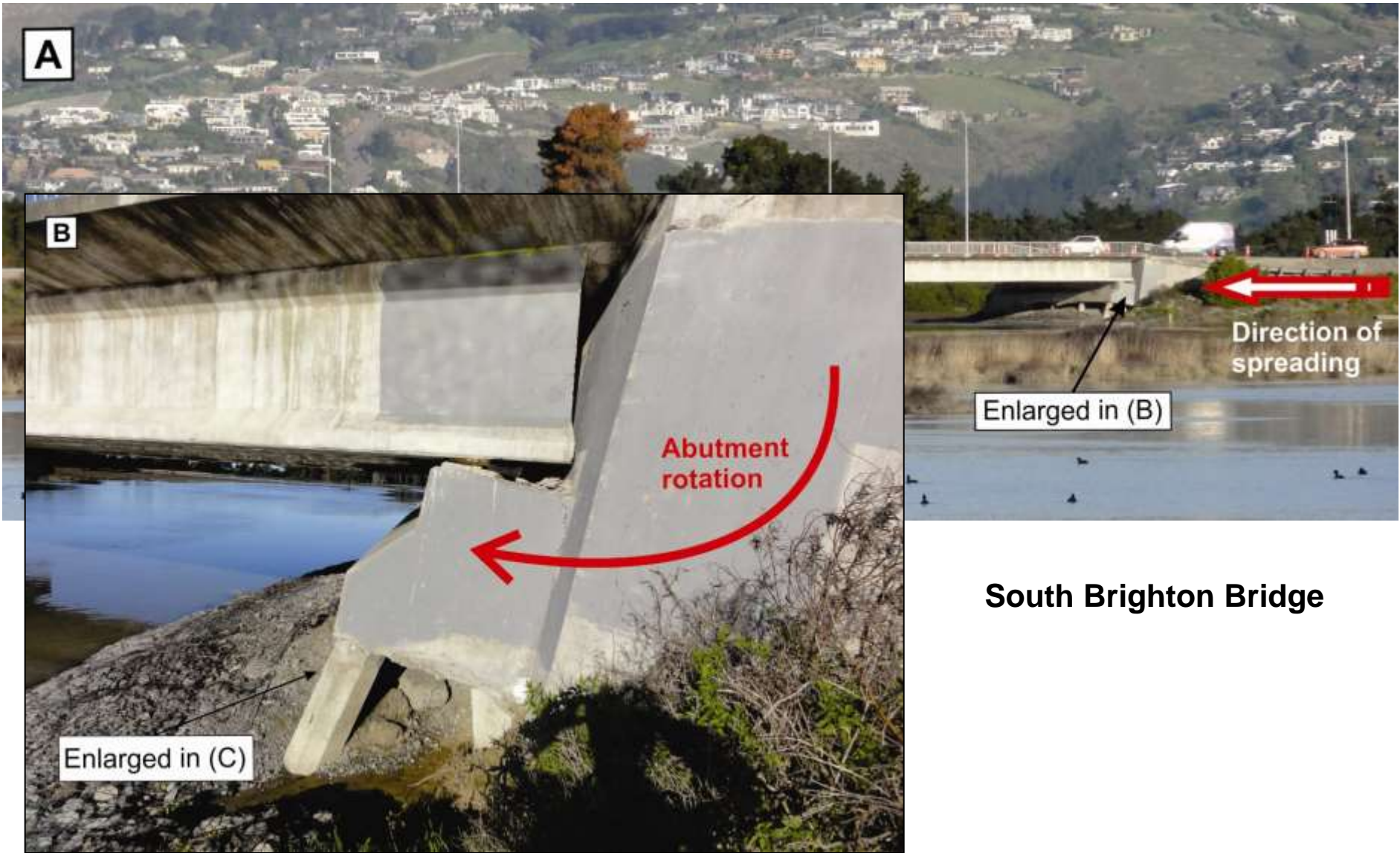


Avon River

**Lateral spreading – liquefaction-induced slumping of banks into rivers**



Cubrinovski et al. (2012). Lateral spreading and its impacts in urban areas in the 2010-2011 Christchurch earthquakes. *New Zealand Journal of Geology and Geophysics*.



South Brighton Bridge

Lateral spreading – liquefaction-induced slumping of banks into rivers

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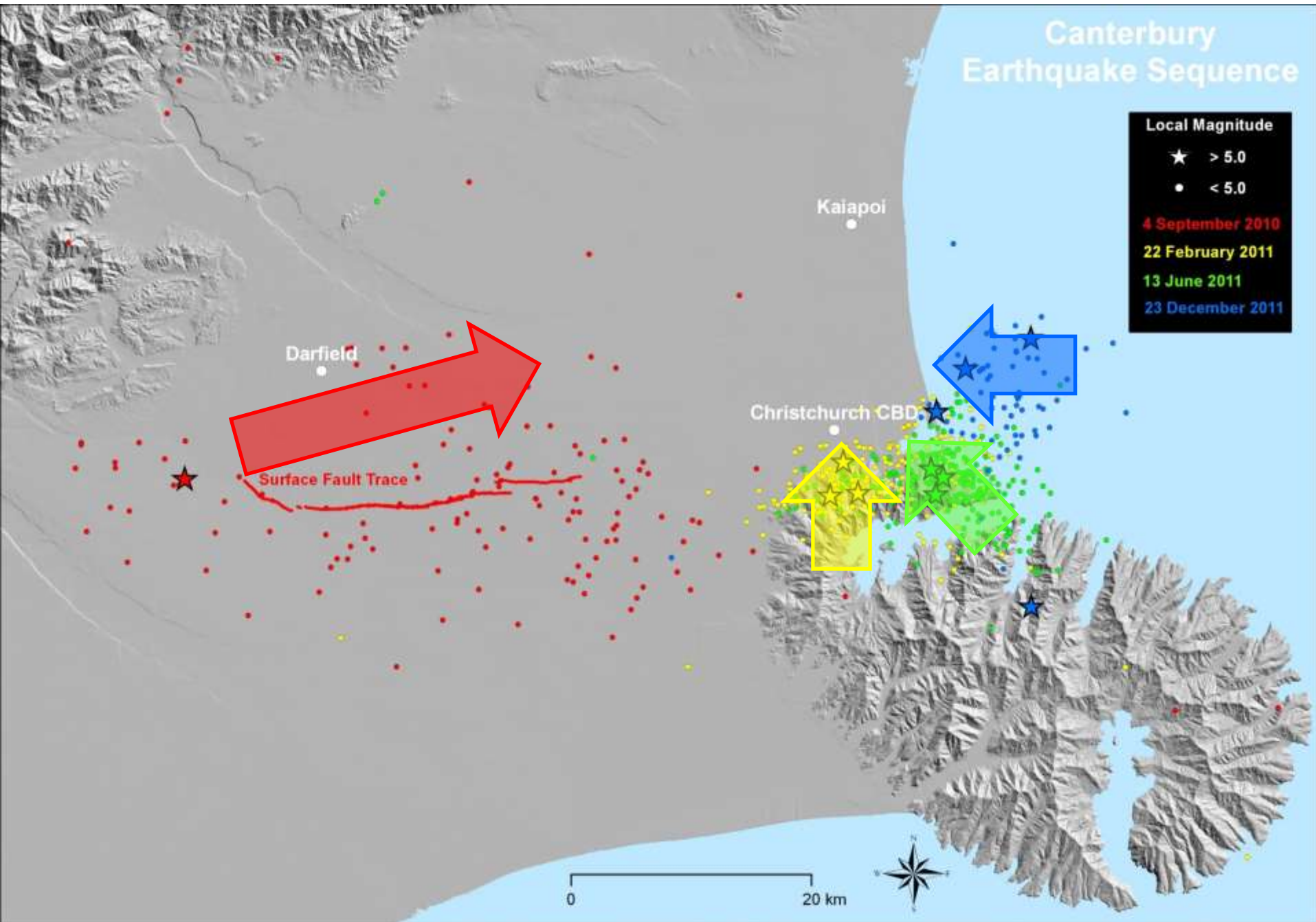
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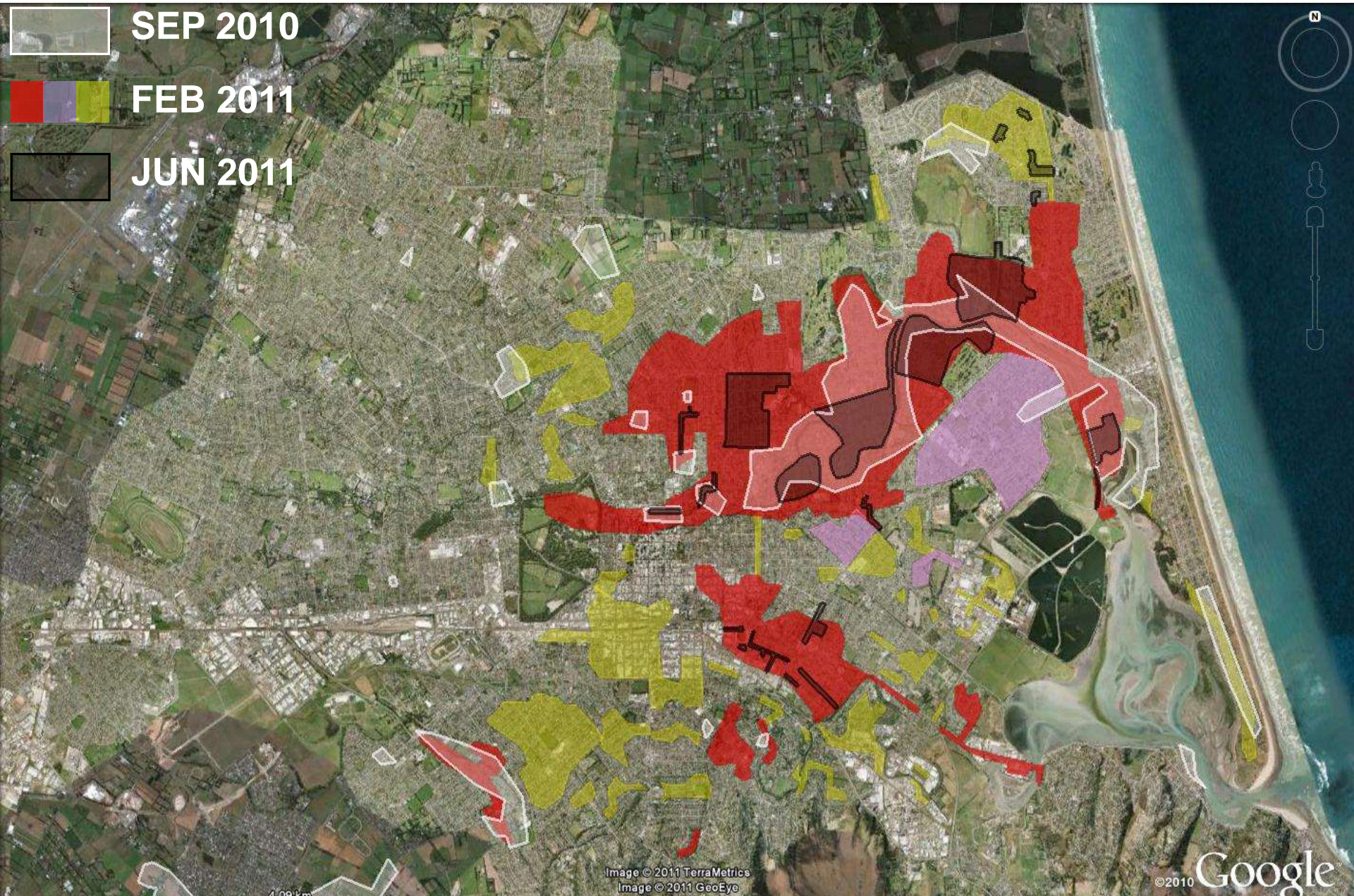
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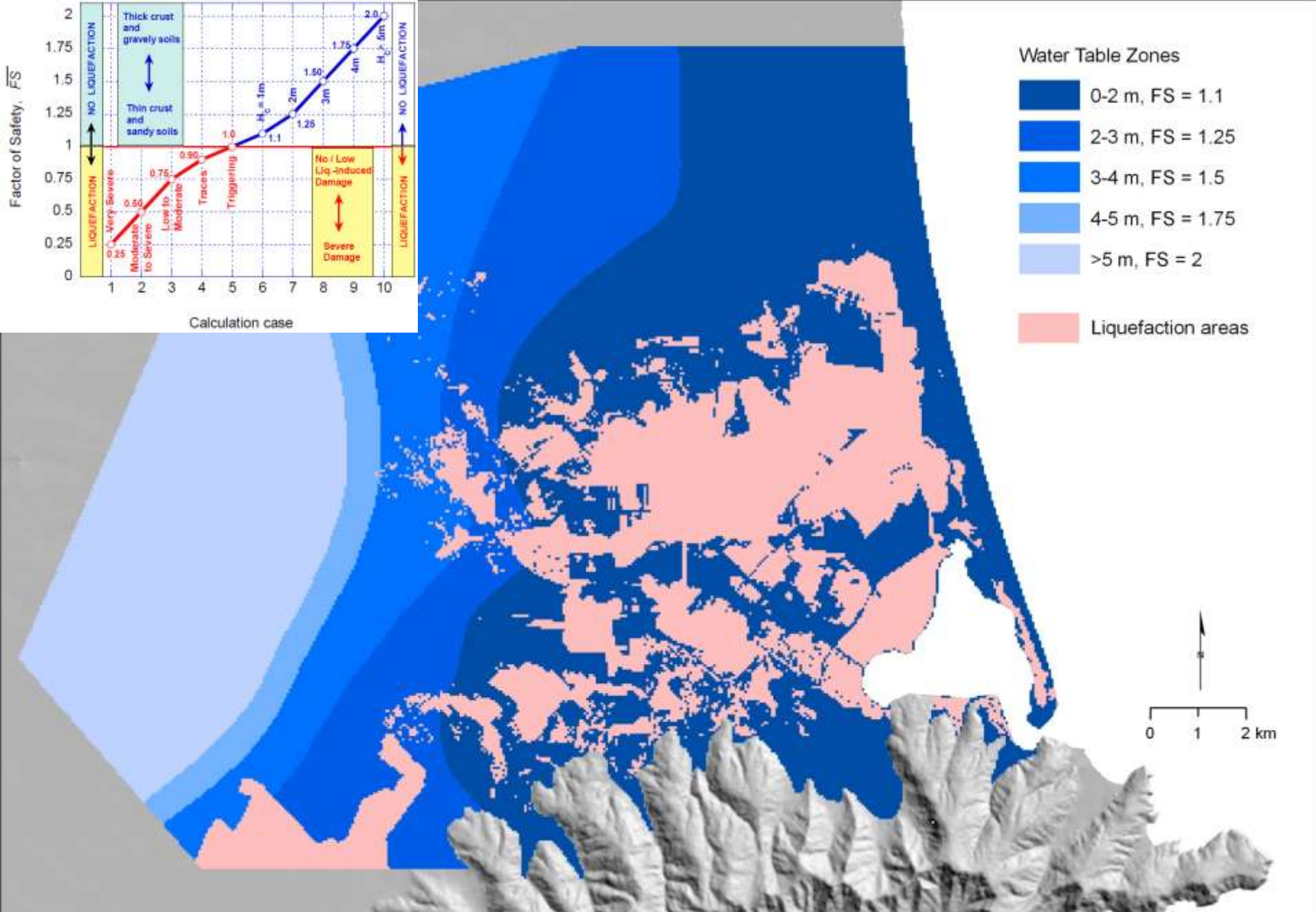






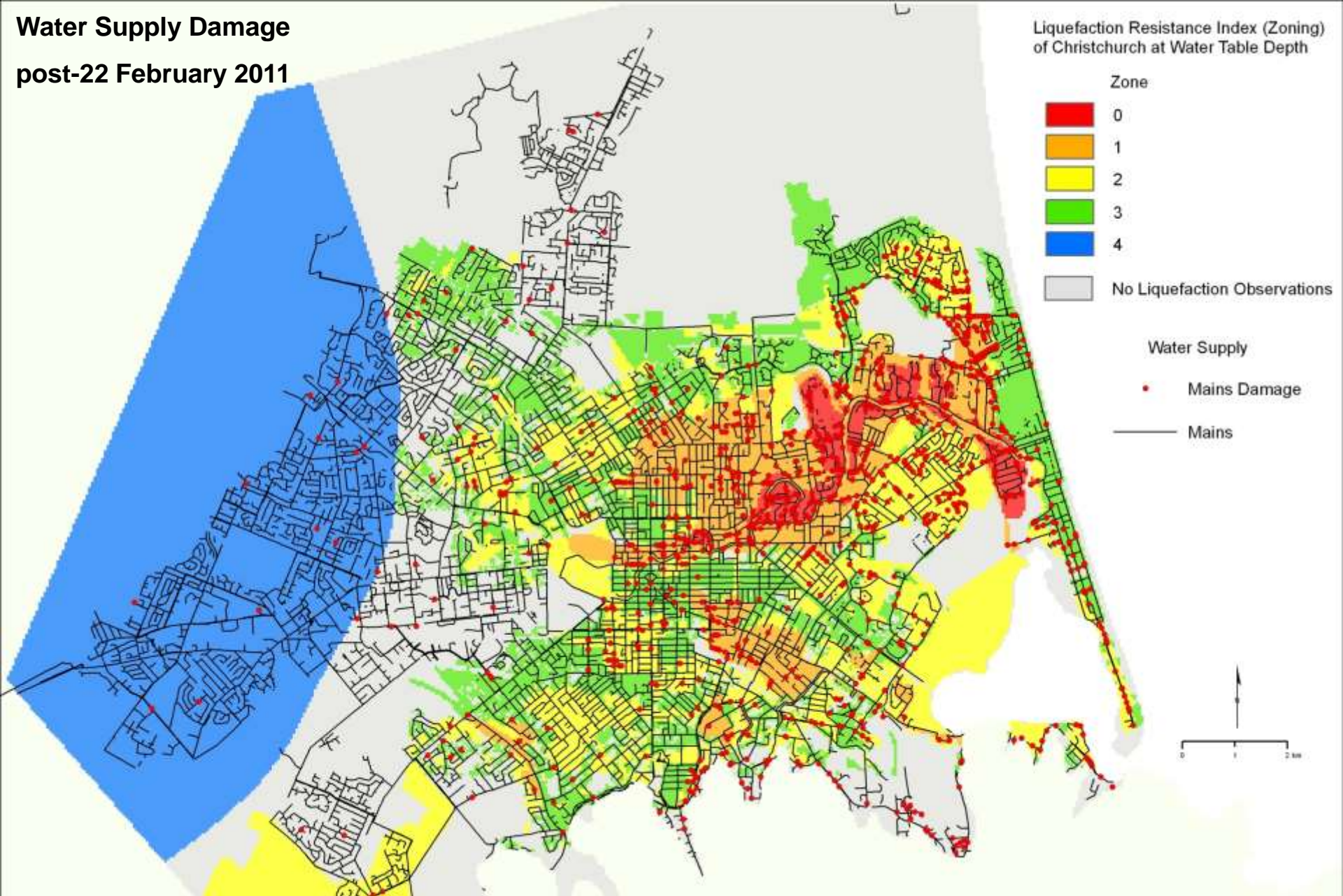
Mapped Liquefaction - University of Canterbury





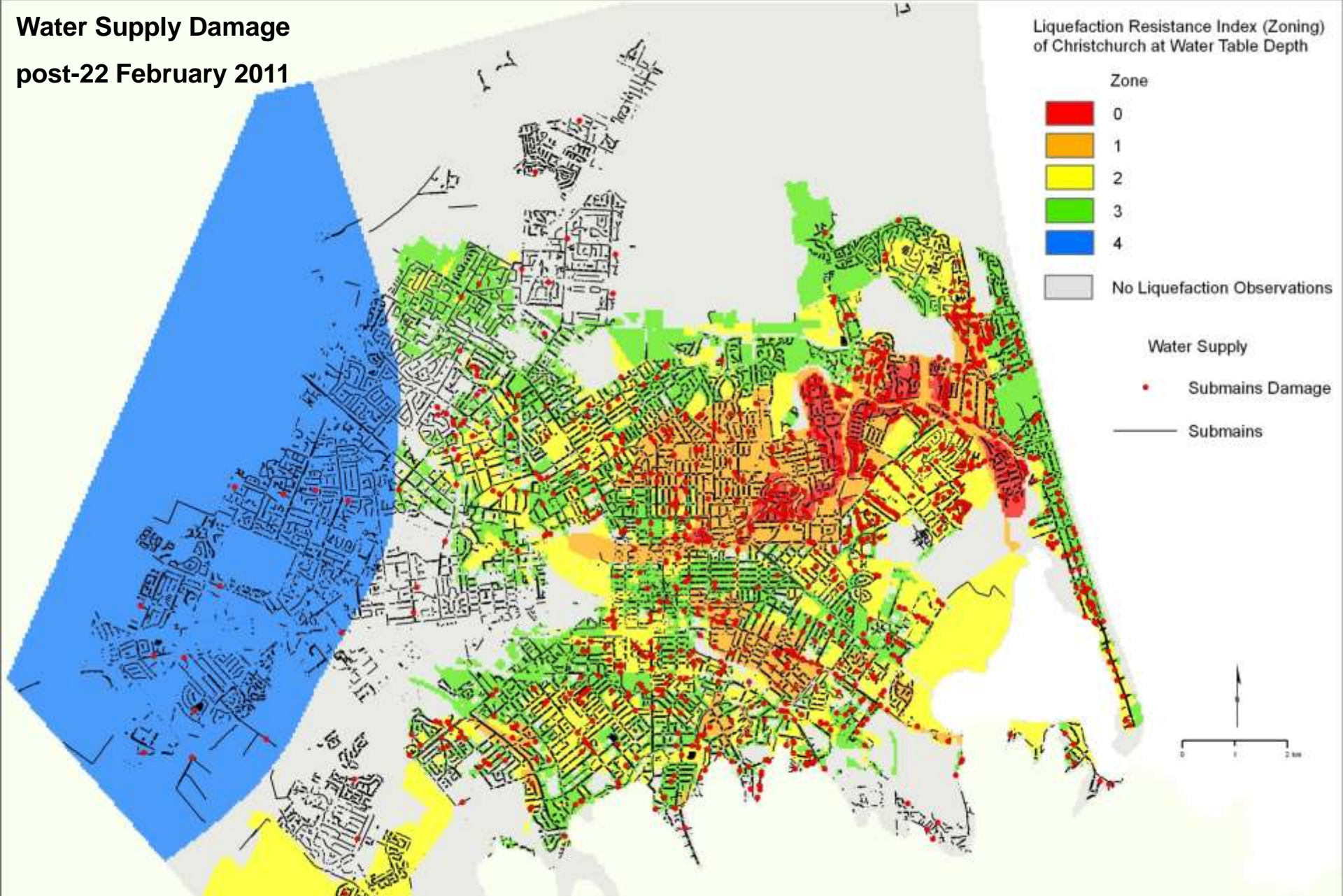
**Water Table – Factor of Safety Against Liquefaction beyond areas of mapped liquefaction**

**Water Supply Damage  
post-22 February 2011**





**Water Supply Damage  
post-22 February 2011**



# Waste Water



# Growth of a city: Subterranean expansion

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



1880s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km

1890s

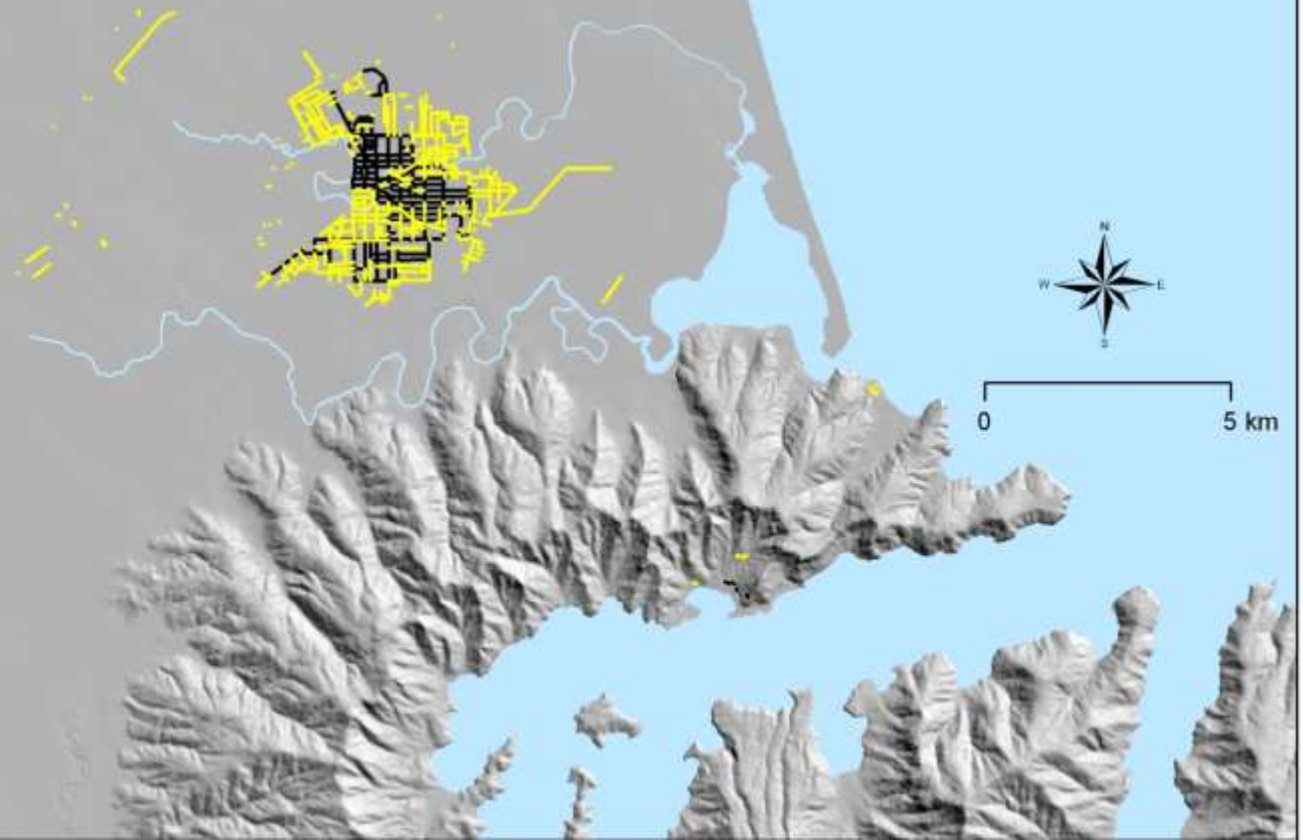
Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km

1900s

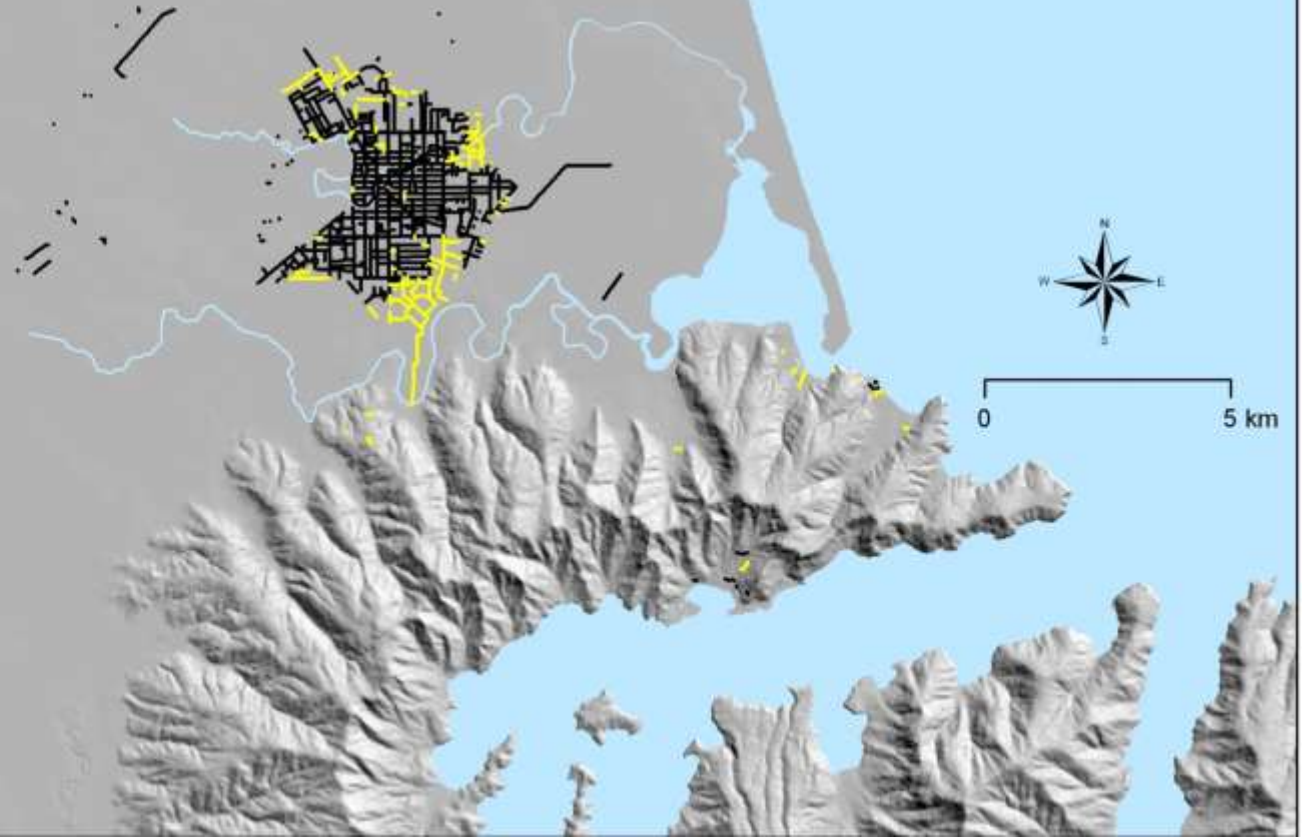
Christchurch  
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1880s - 2010s





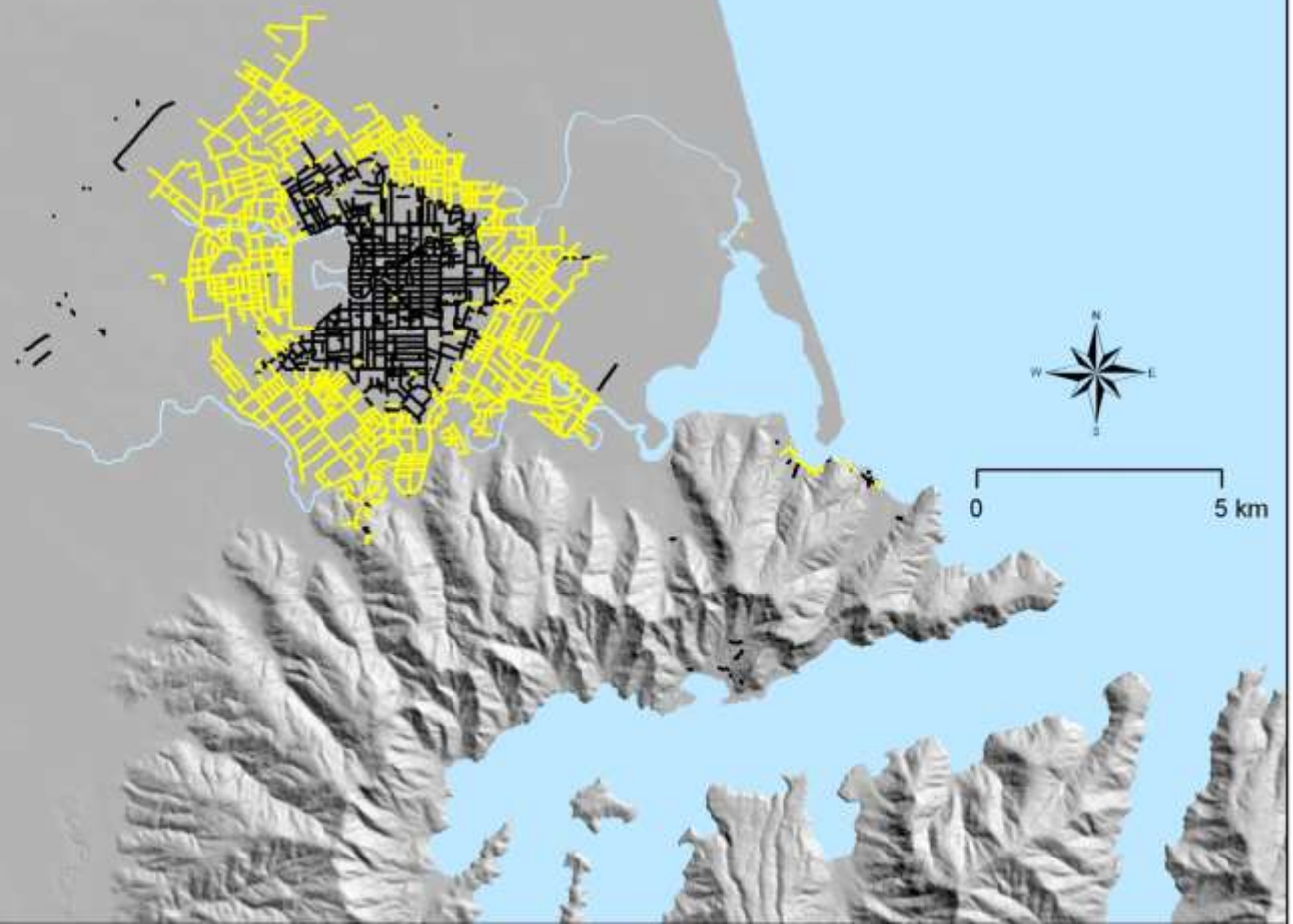
1910s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



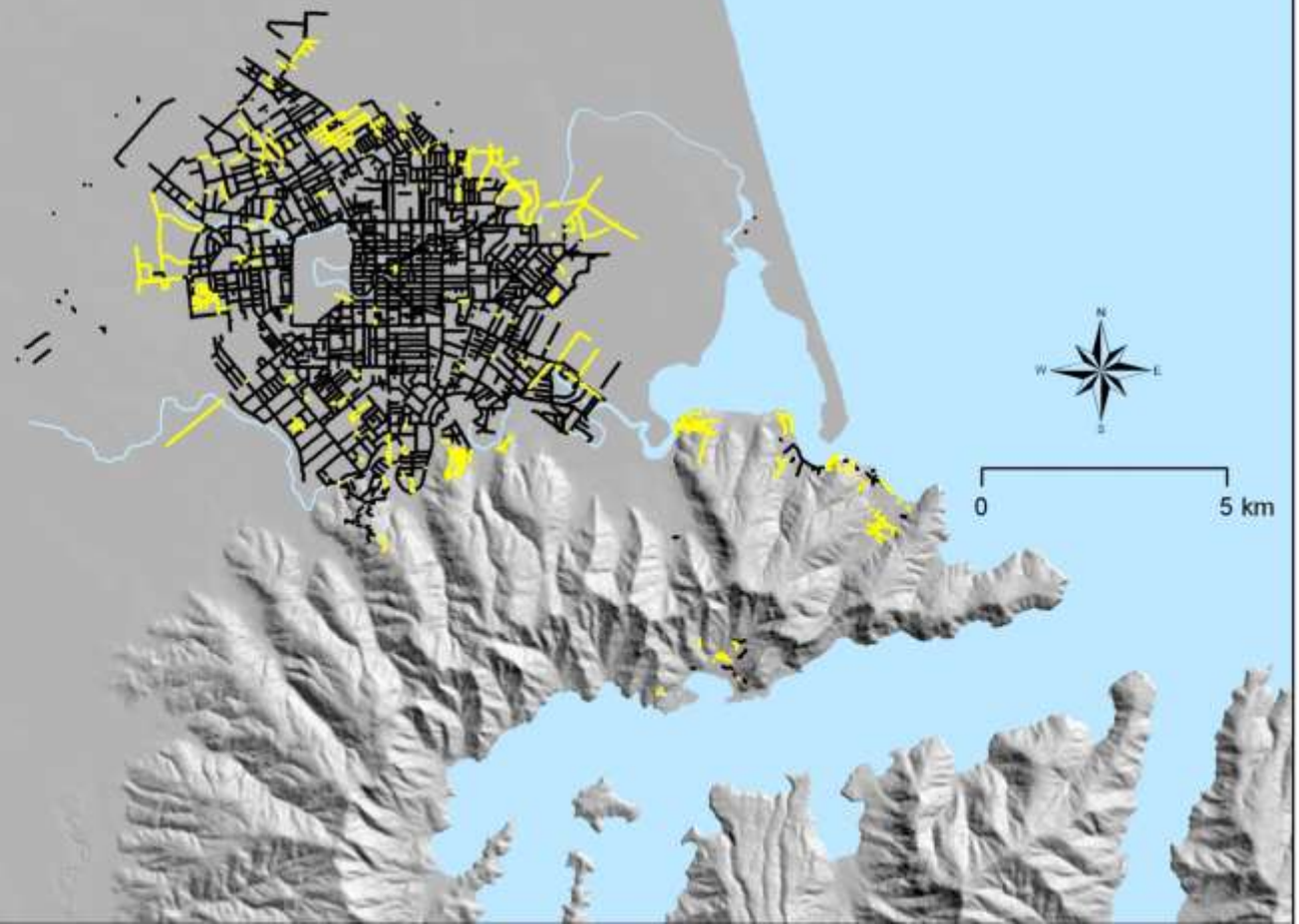
1920s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



1930s

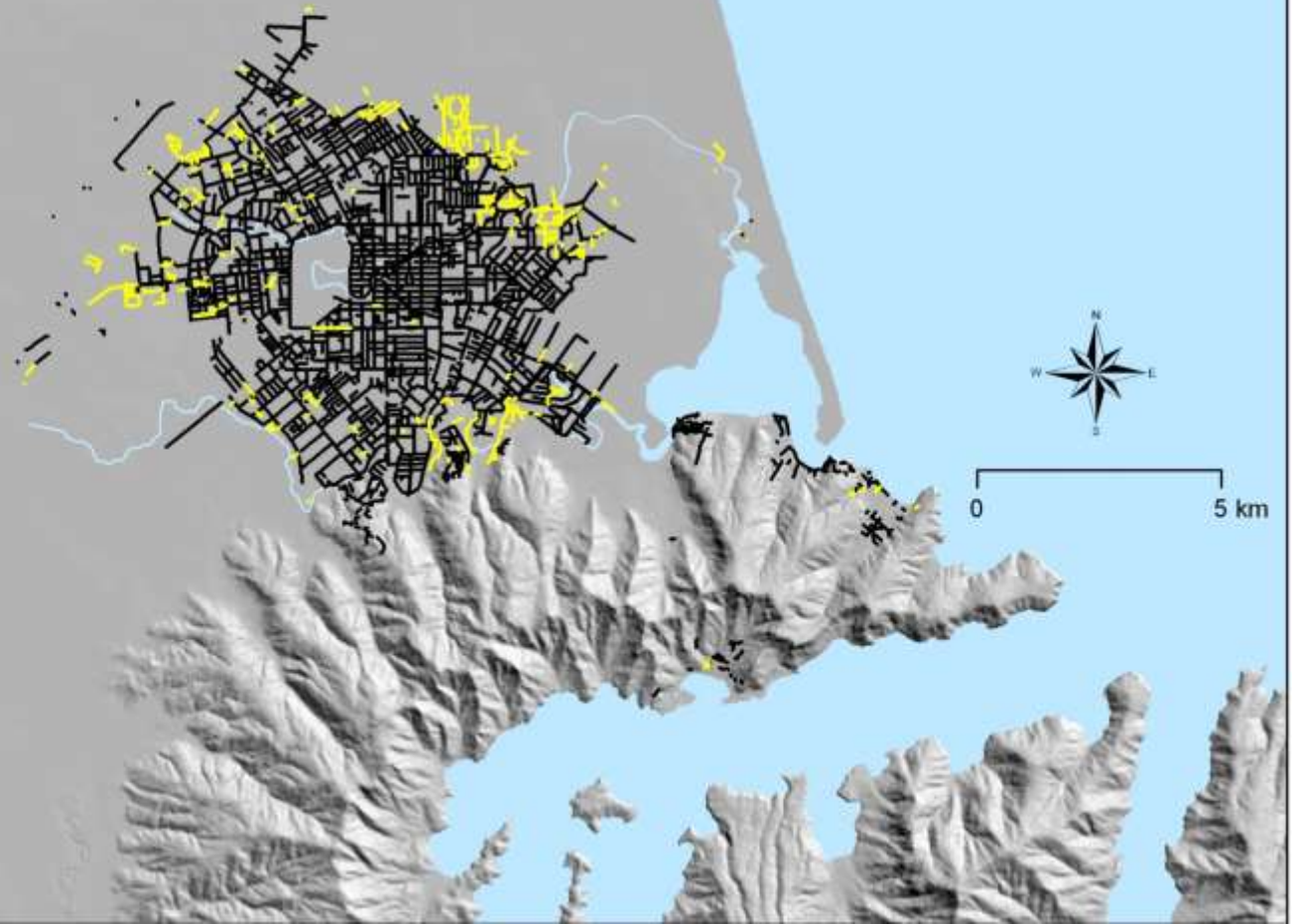
Christchurch  
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1880s - 2010s





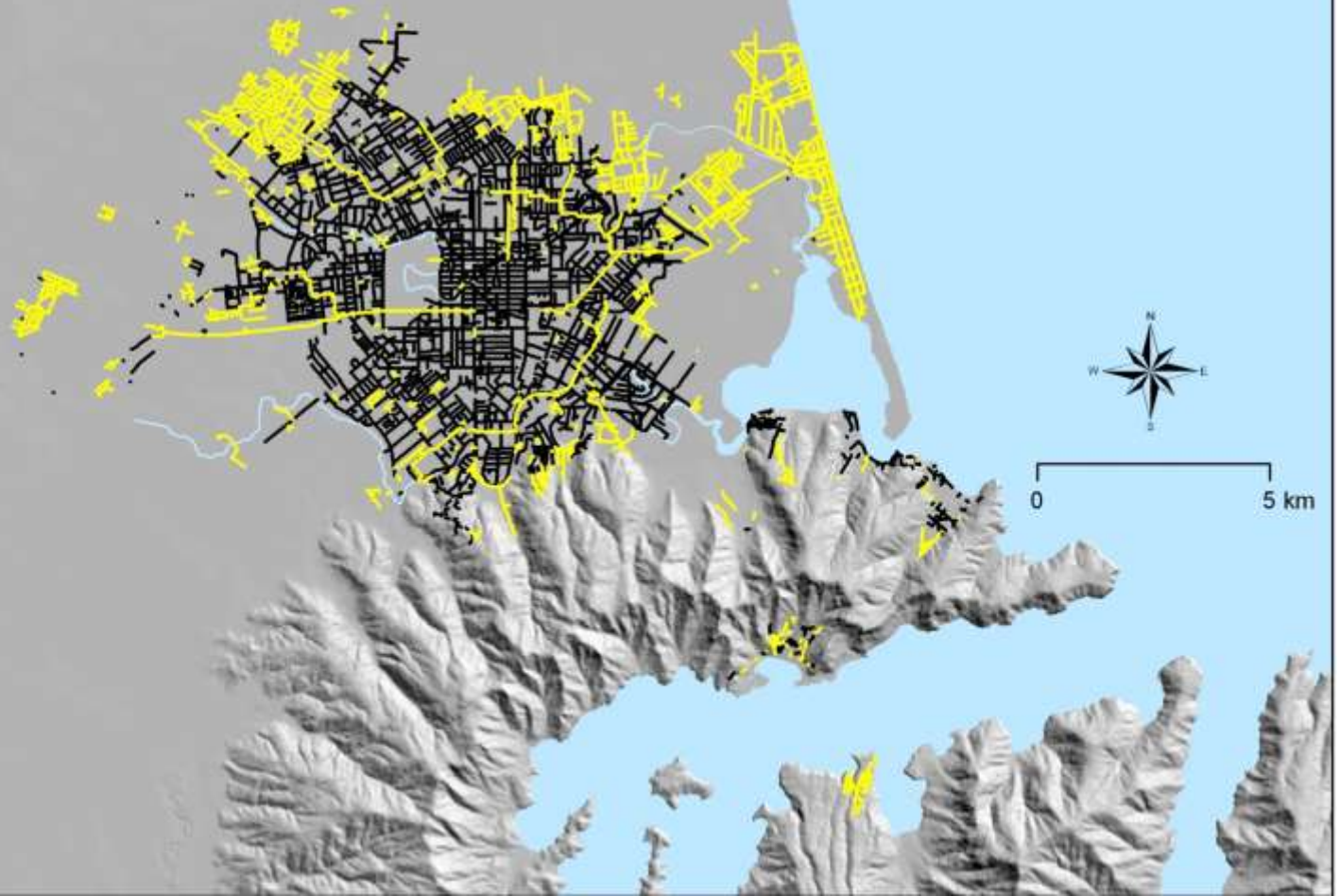
1940s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



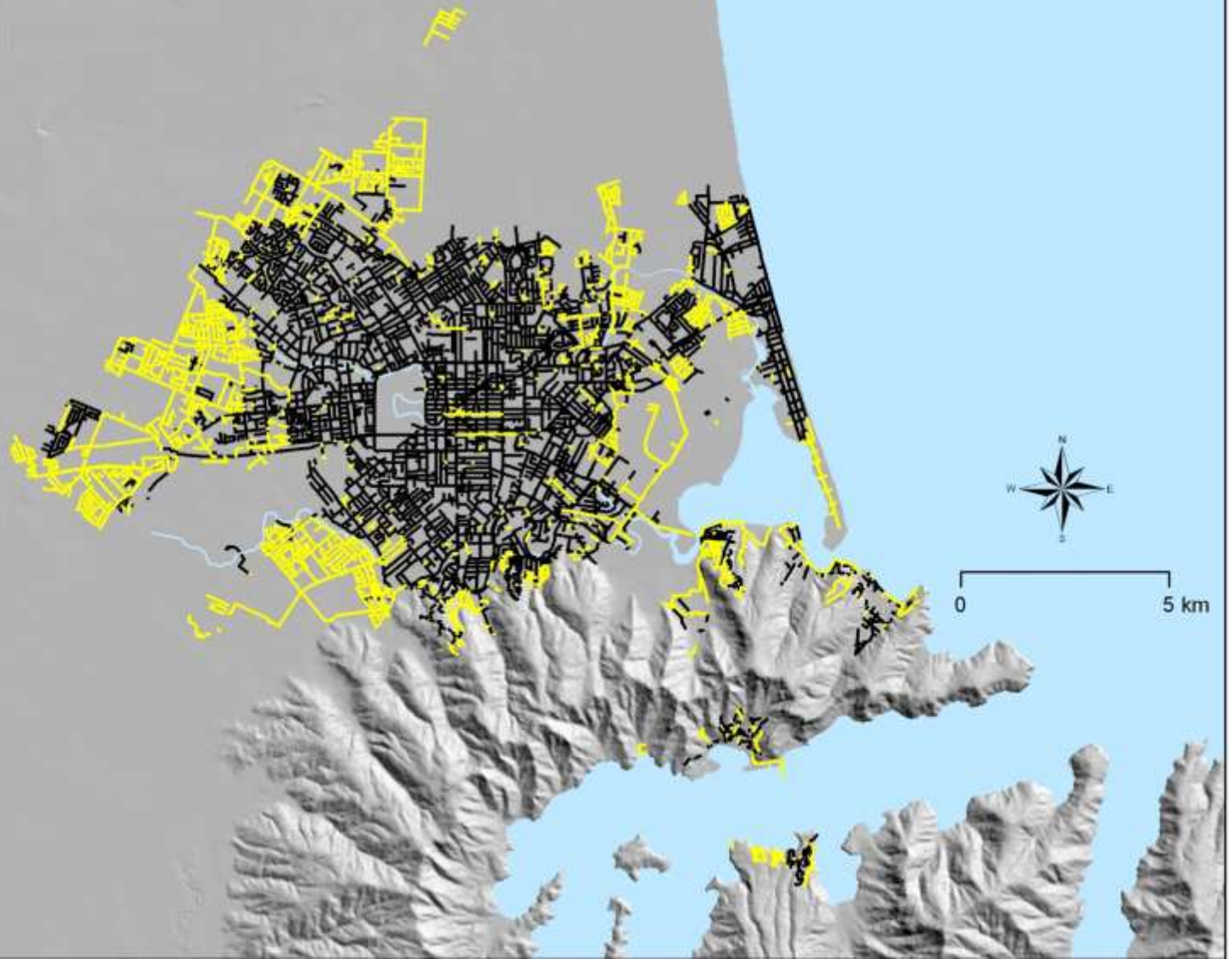
1950s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



1960s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



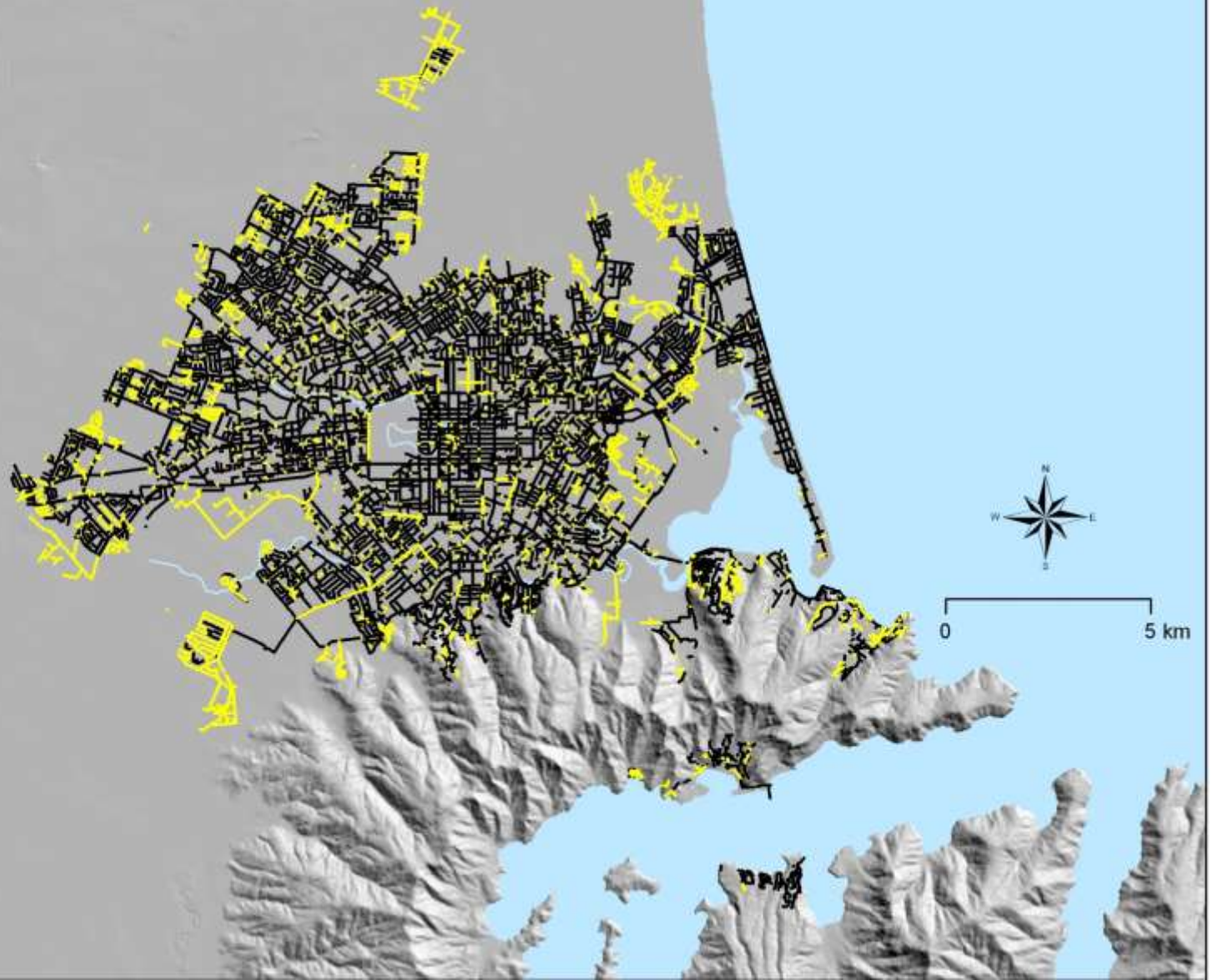


1970s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km

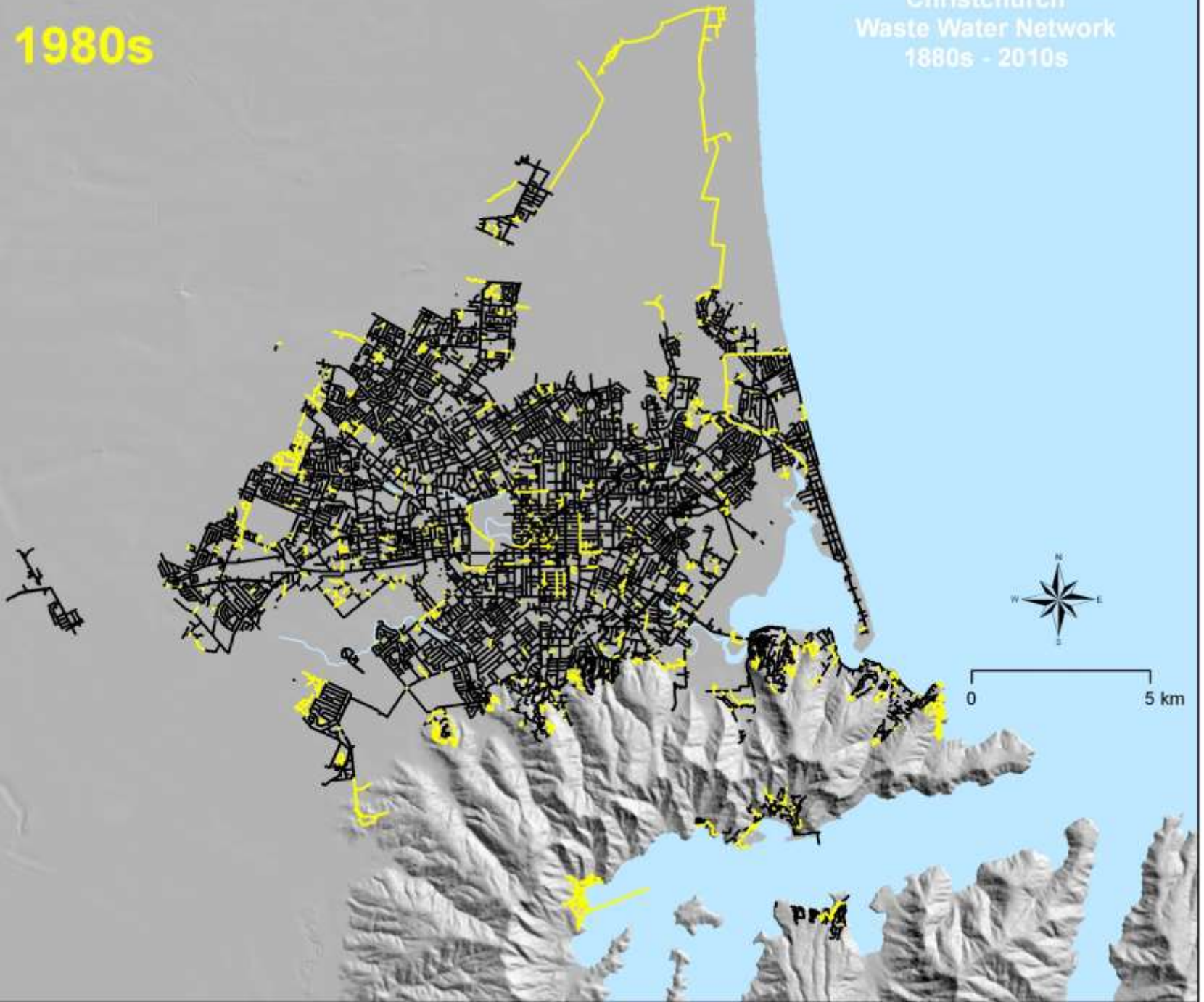


1980s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km



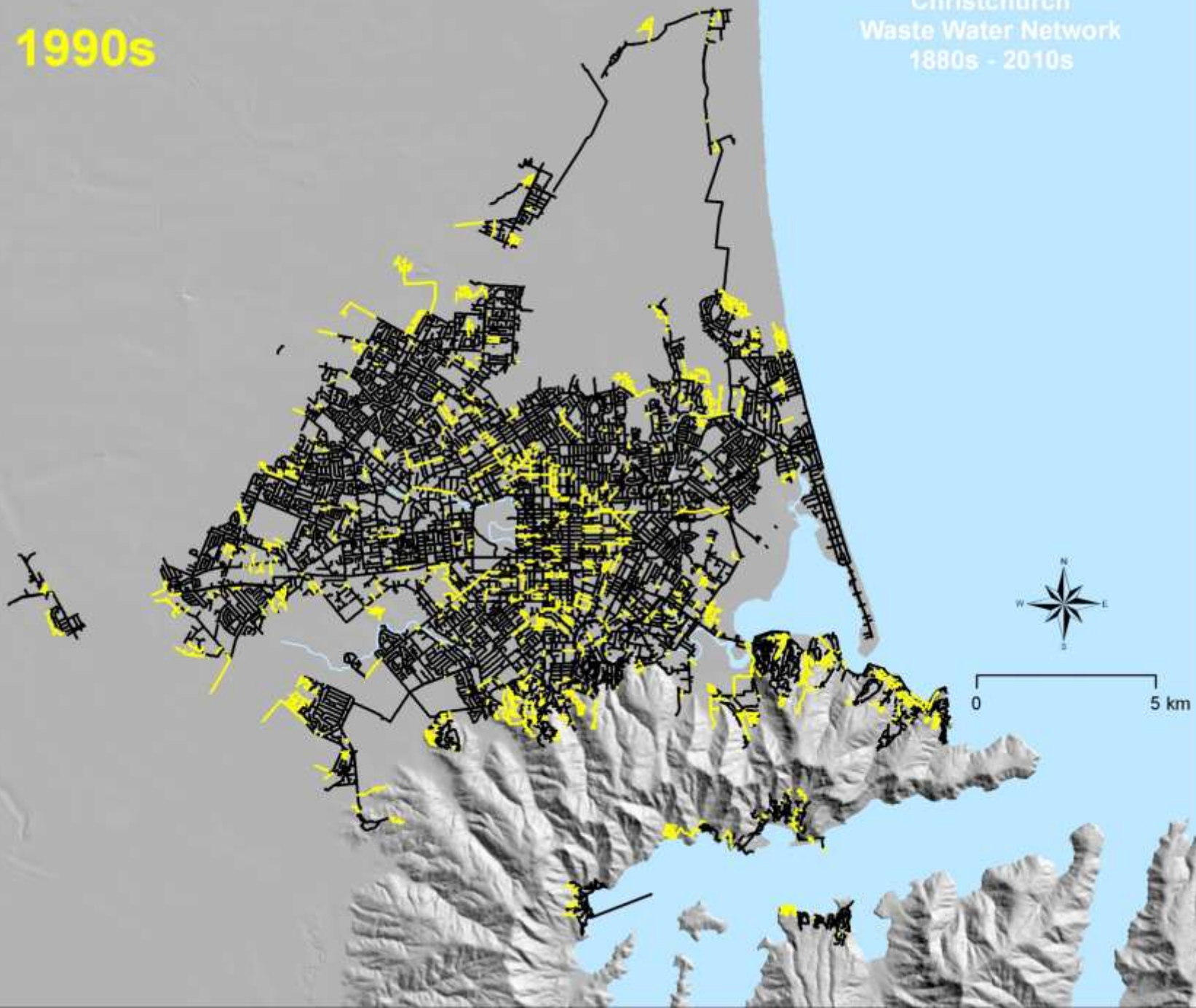


1990s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km



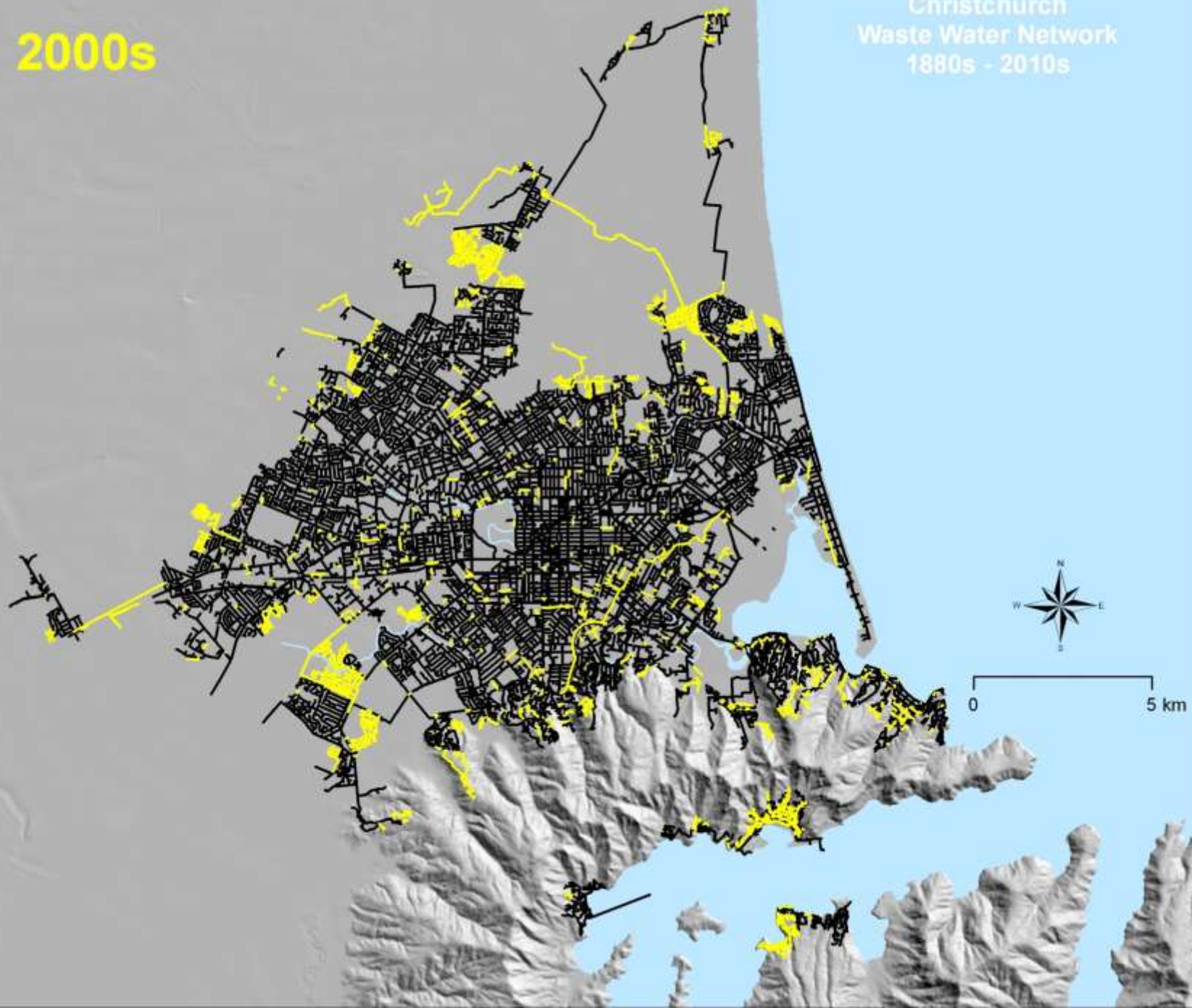


2000s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km

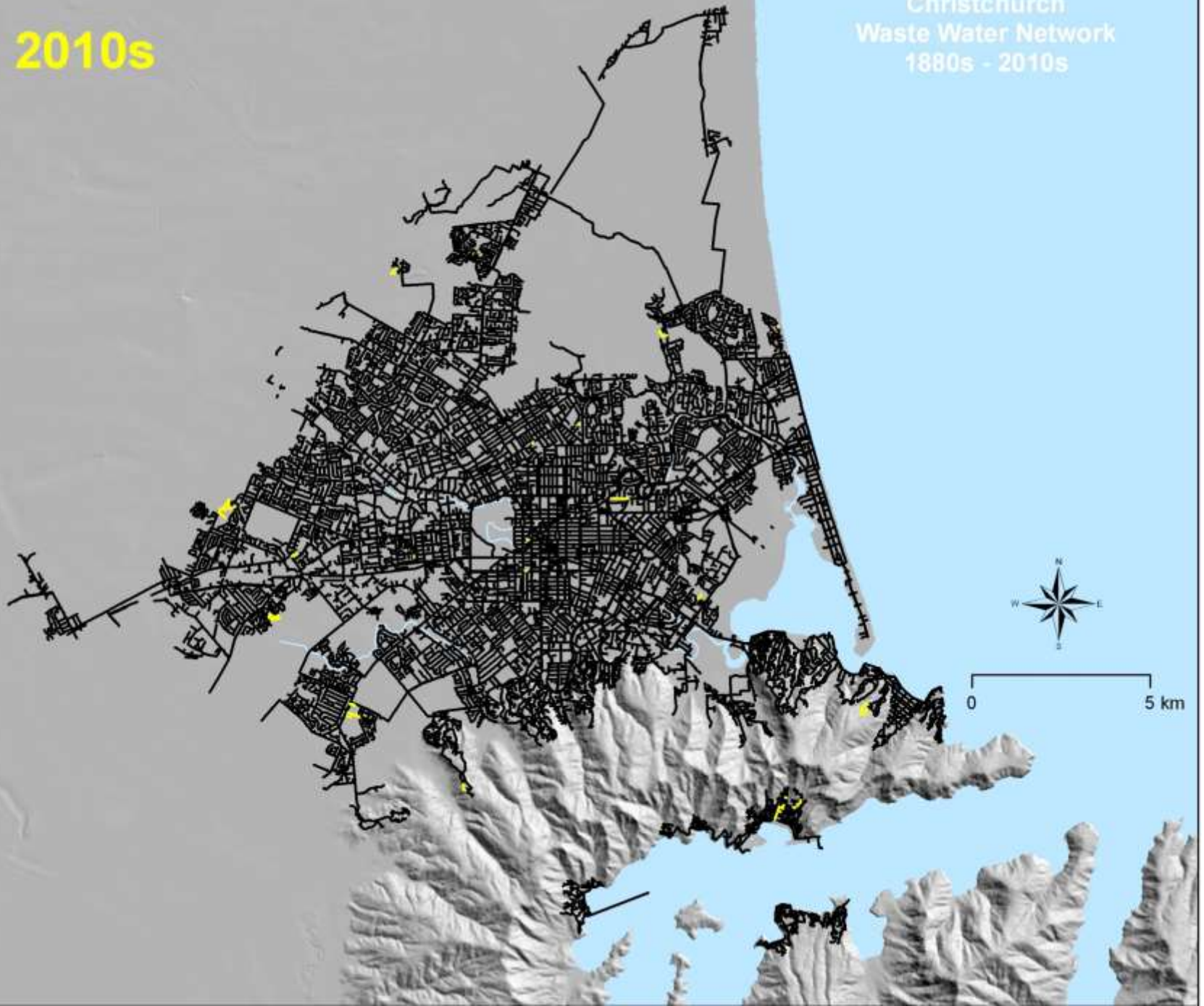


2010s

Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s

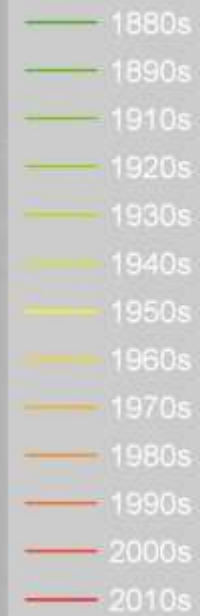


0 5 km

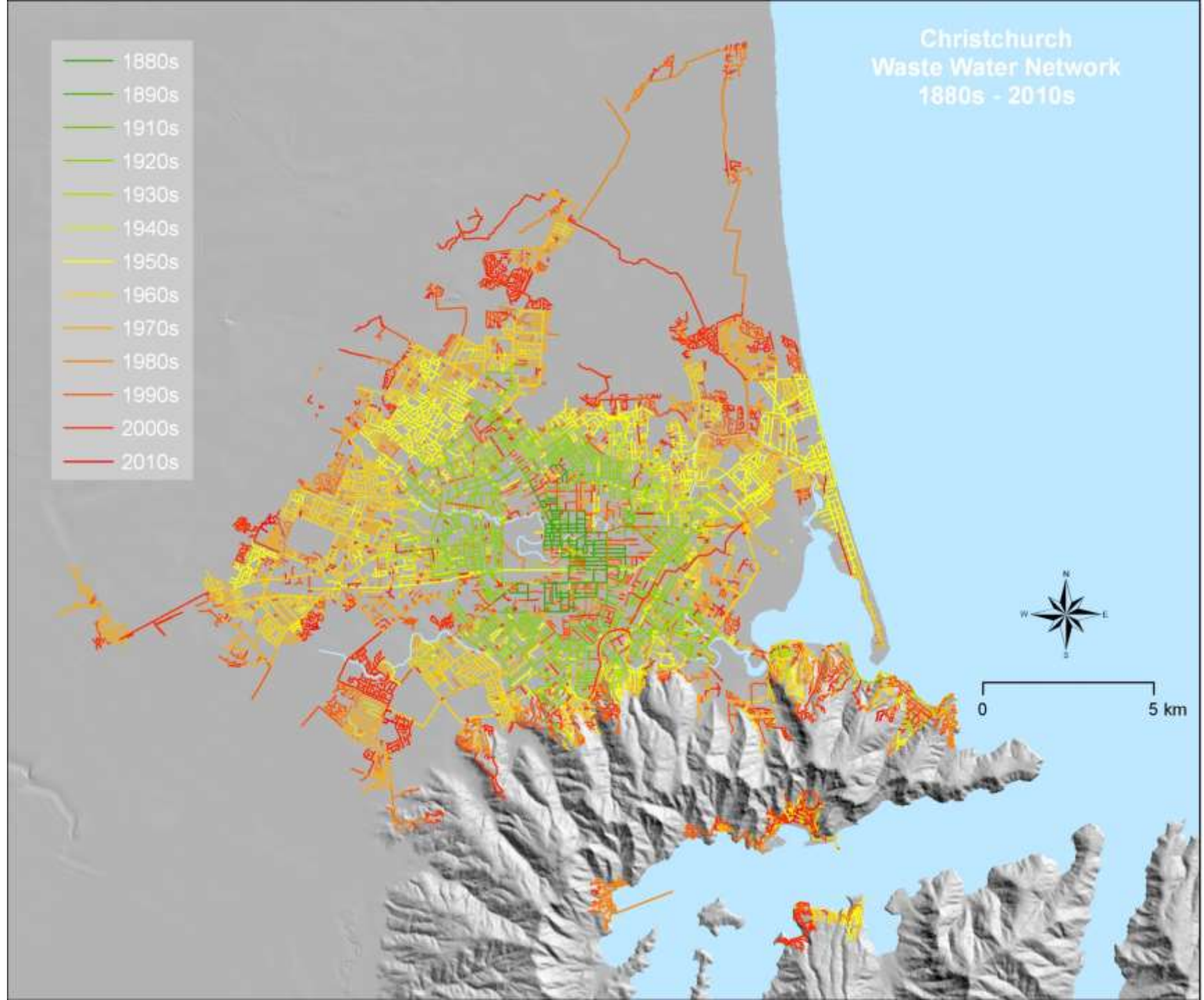




Christchurch  
Waste Water Network  
1880s - 2010s



0 5 km





# Christchurch Waste Water Network Pipe Materials

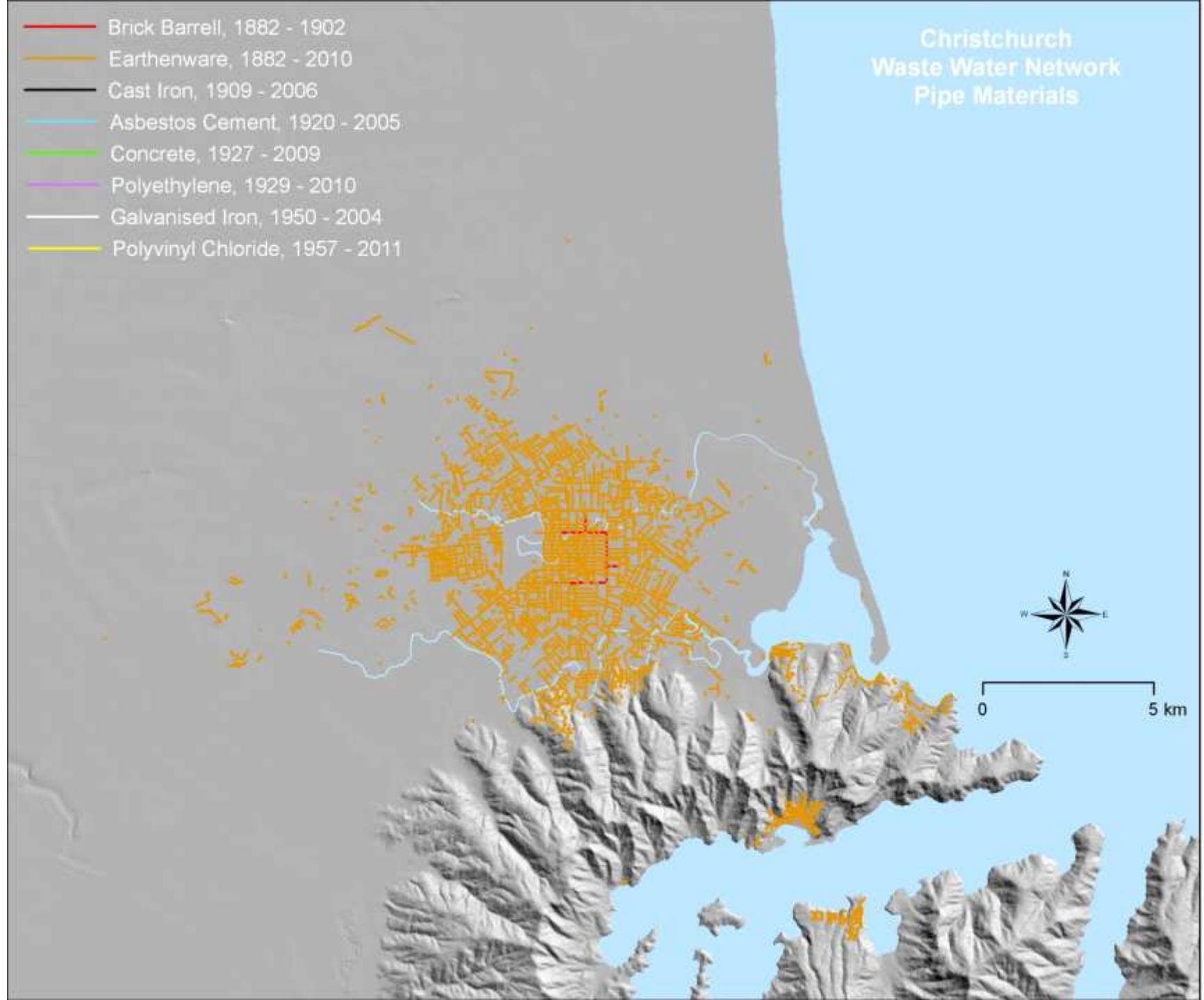
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- Polyvinyl Chloride, 1957 - 2011



0 5 km

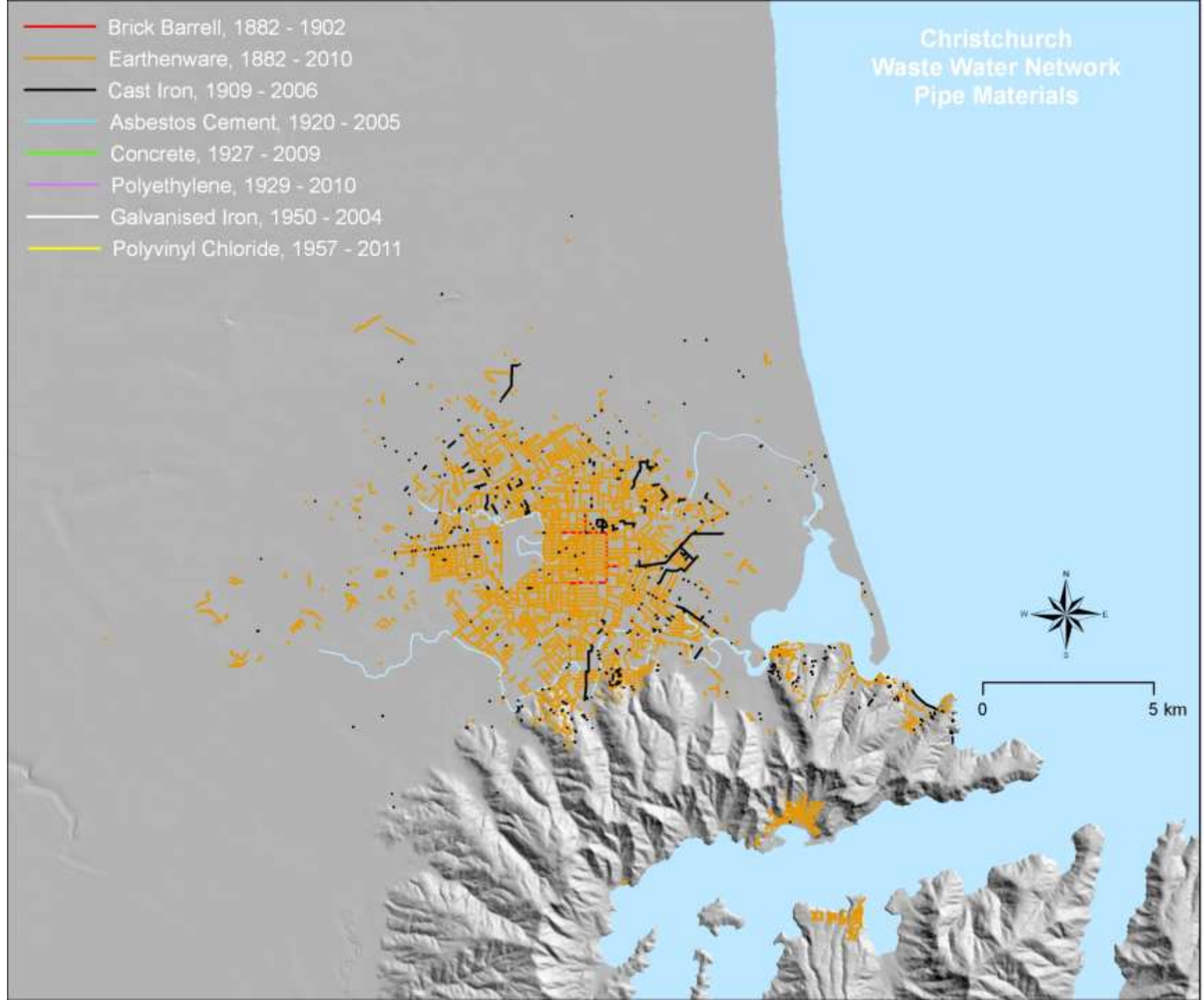
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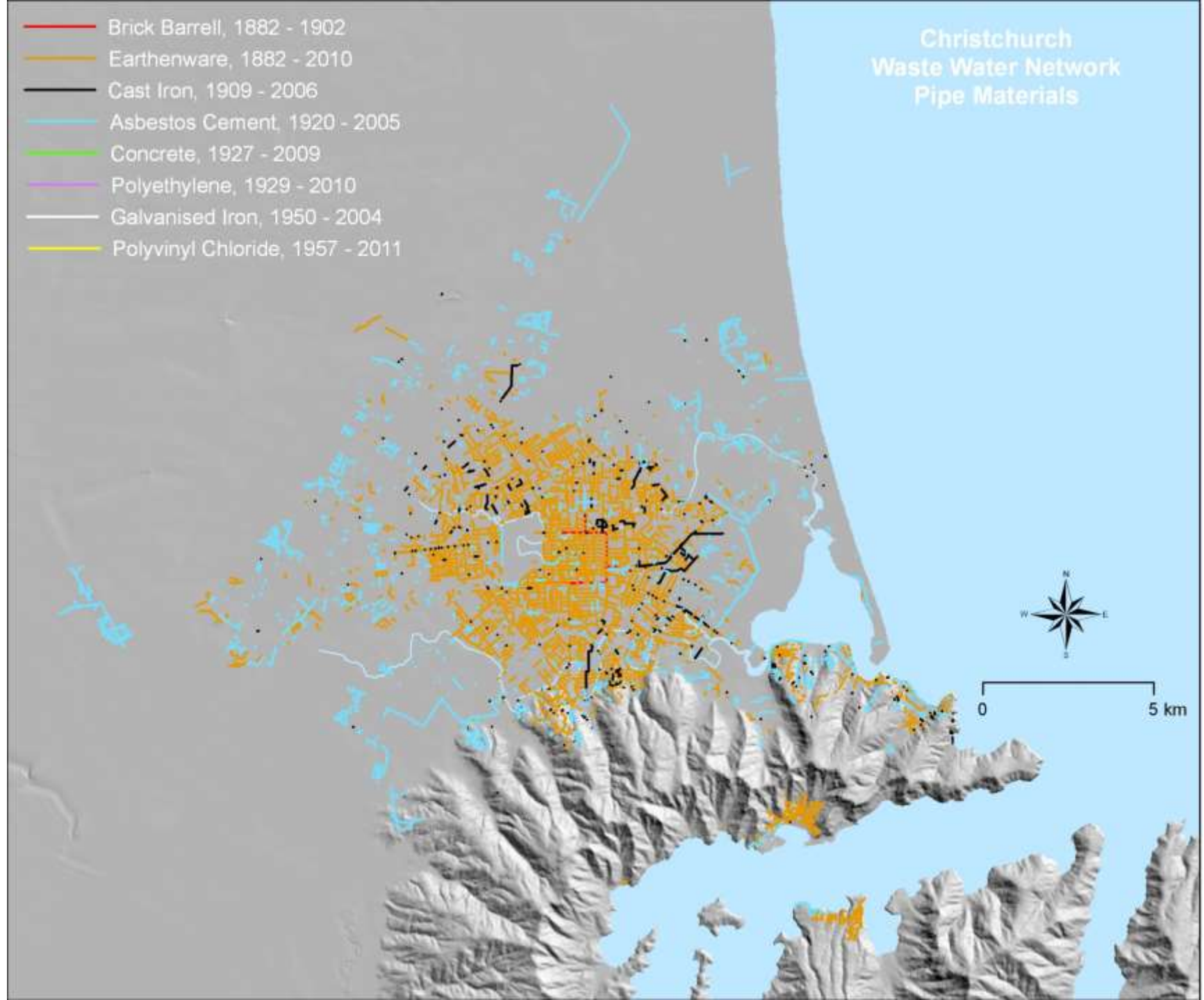
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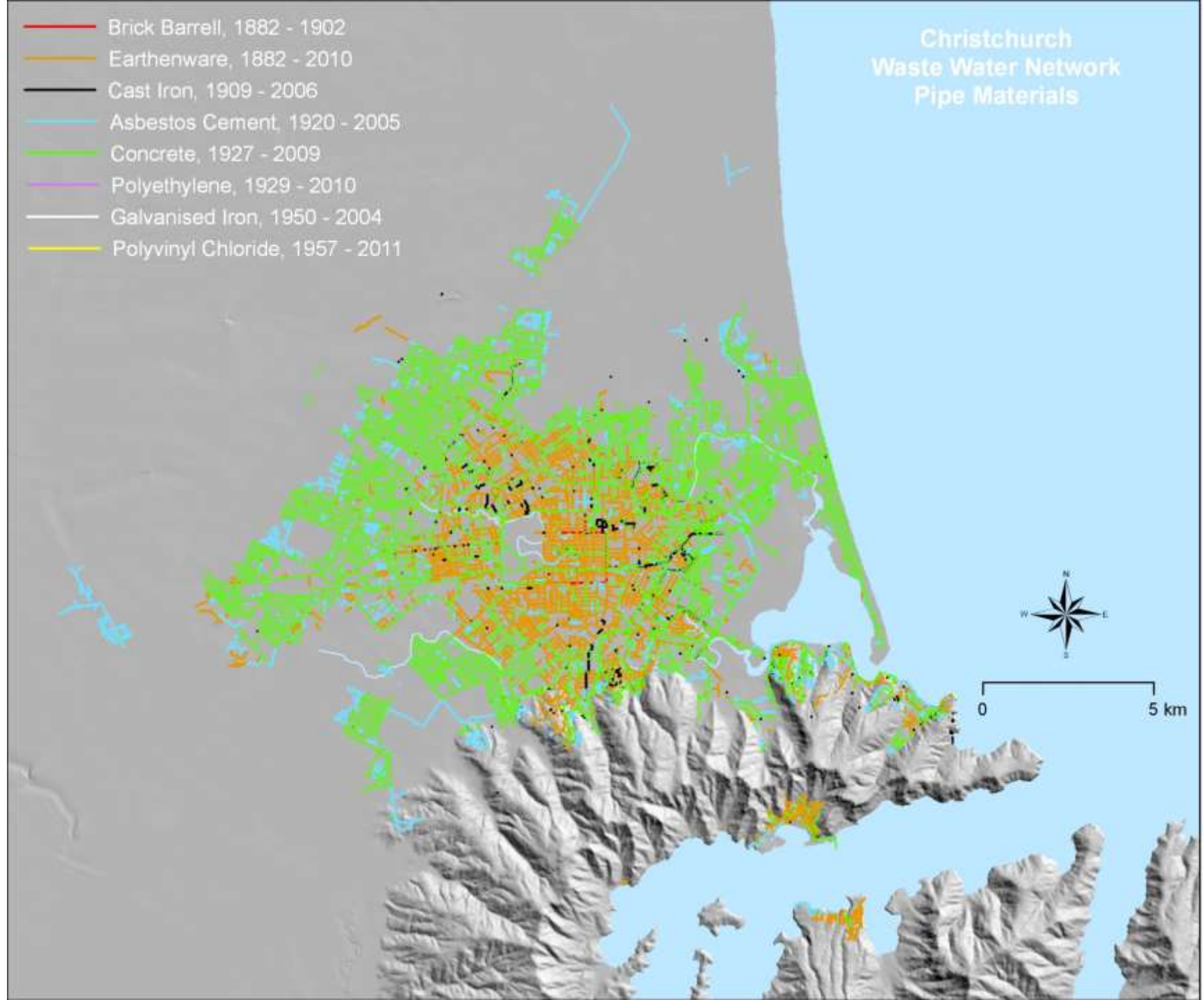


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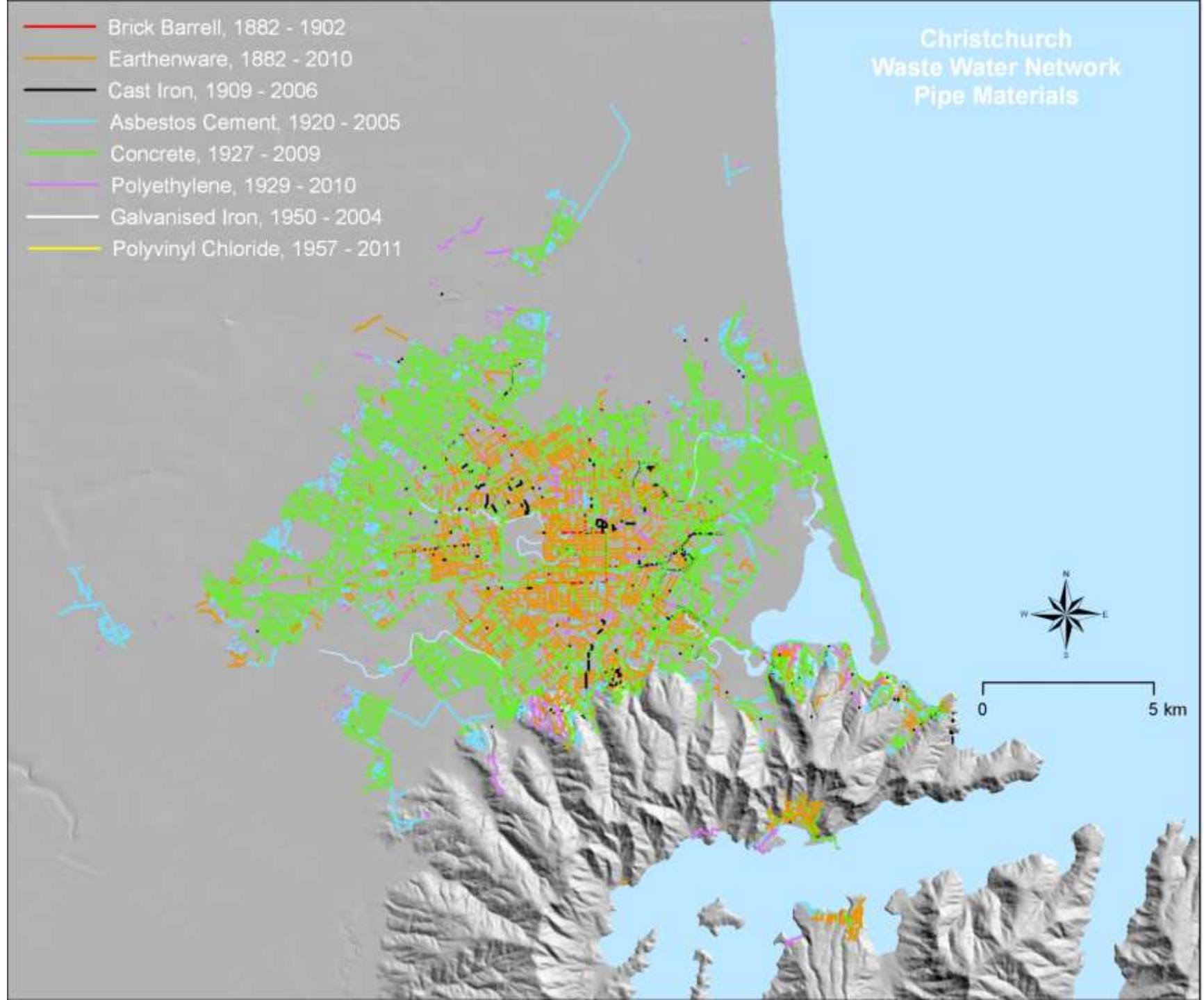


0 5 km



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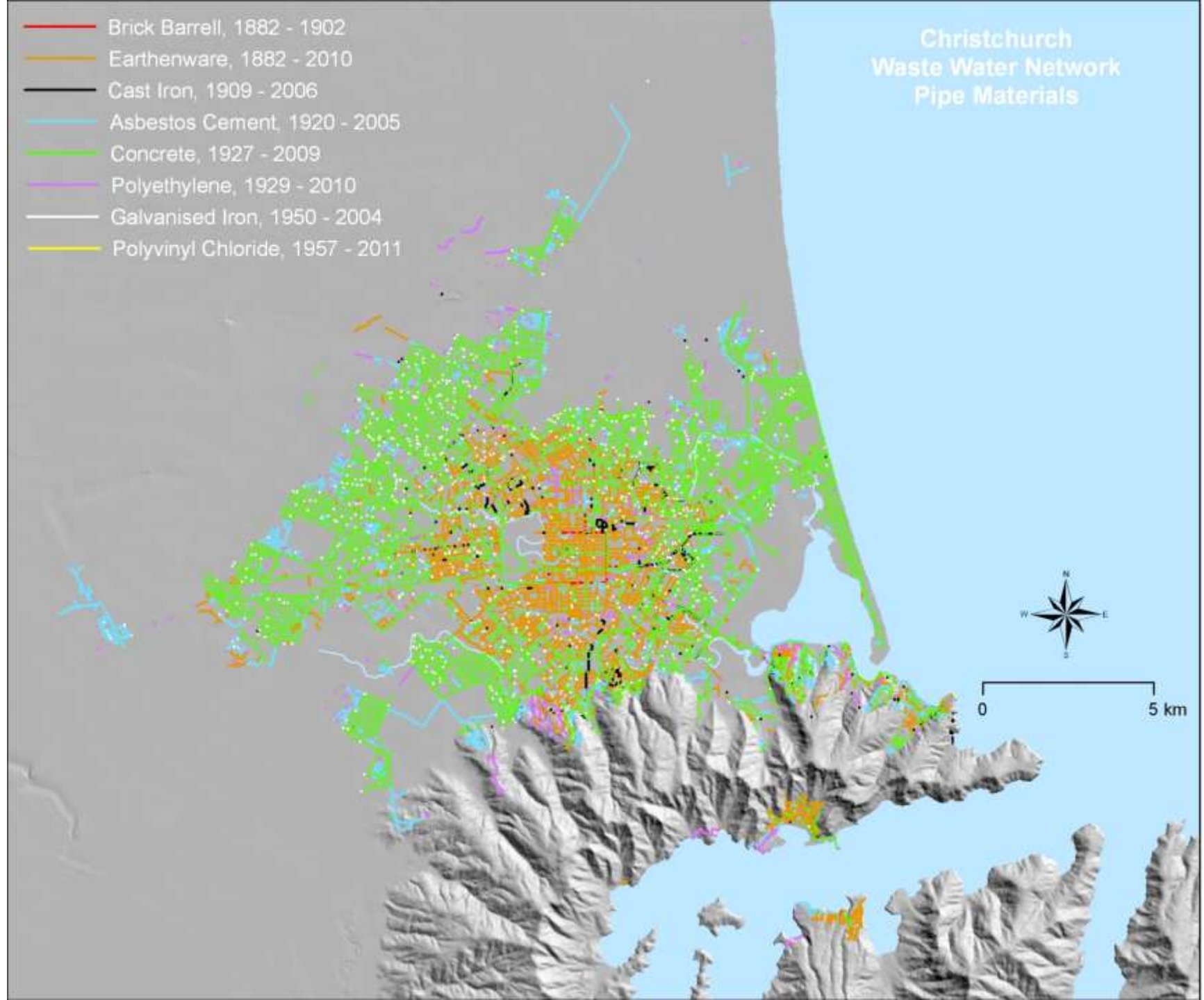
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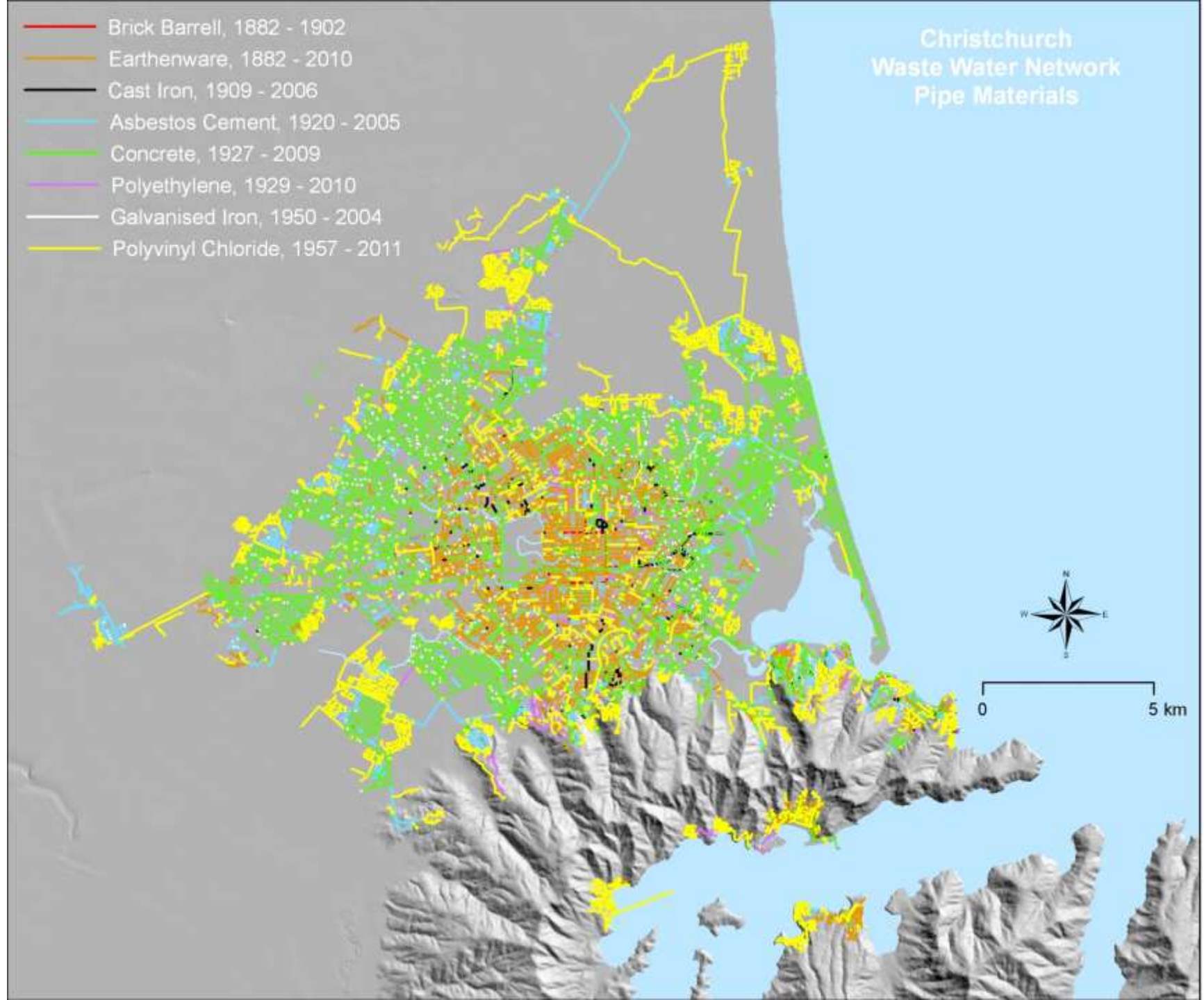


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0 5 km





# Waste Water Pipe Collapse and Ground Failure

Photos and comments courtesy of Ben Pritchard, SCIRT



## Edgeware Road - Wastewater Northern Relief Trunk Main

- Large and fast flow (~1 cumec), large amount of sediment transported through broken pipe.
- This section of the Northern Relief caused ~3 months delay during construction due to poor ground conditions and groundwater issues.



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**Vienna St, Waltham, shortly after 22 February 2011**

- Service to the large upstream catchment (most of Beckenham) was still able to be provided by pumping the downstream manhole – natural conduit formed due to high flows?



## Waste Water Pipe Collapse and Ground Failure

Photos and comments courtesy of Ben Pritchard, SCIRT



**Alexandra St, Lower Richmond during winter snowfall, 2011**

Rain and snow events caused new holes/cavities to open up overnight.



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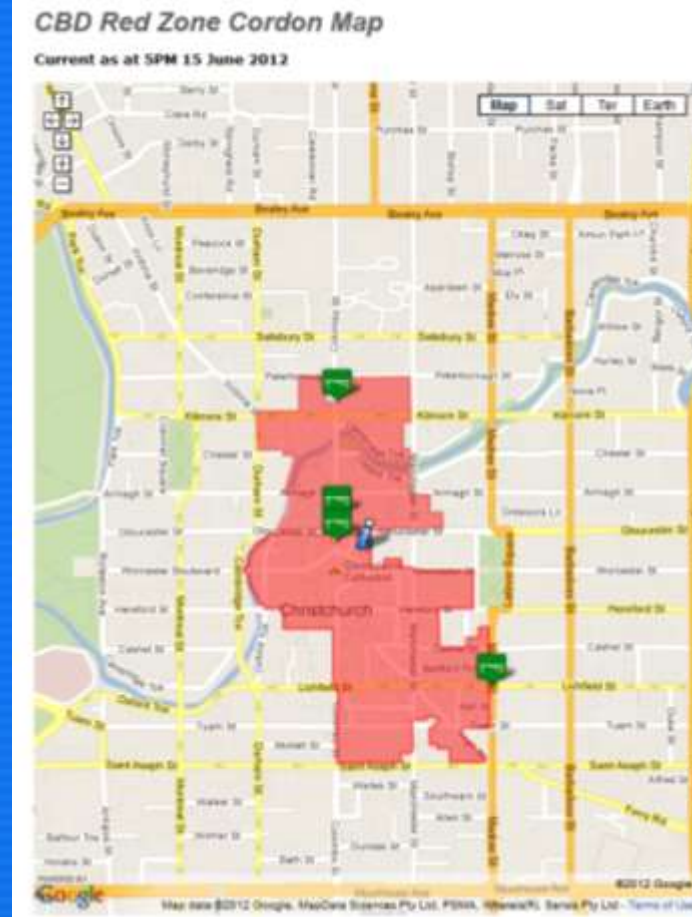
# 2: Consequences – the numbers

- A large (for NZ) natural hazard event in a small economy
  - 10% of NZ's 4.5 million people directly impacted
  - Total loss estimates c. \$30B NZD – about 10-12% GDP
- 10,000's homes damaged and >1,100 buildings demolished
  - Reduced habitability and strained city's ability to accommodate it's residents
  - 7,500 residential properties retired: ~5% of total housing stock
  - Central Business District closed for months: 800 buildings demolished over 40 Ha (85%)
- New Zealand's largest short-term migration
  - 70,000 people evacuated: 19% of population
  - 7,000-9,000 net long term migration: <3% of population
- 8 millions tonnes of disaster waste: 40 years of Chch waste
- One of the greatest geotechnical disasters of the modern age
  - Liquefaction ground damage - flats
  - Slope stability – (Port) Hills



# The CBD problem

- 6000 businesses and over 51,000 workers.
  - Social and economic hub
- The closure of the CBD caused 100% stoppage of economic activity within the cordon.
  - Building types, neighbourhood effect, organisational vulnerabilities
- Approximately 1300 buildings (over 60% of commercial buildings in Chch CBD) have been marked for demolition
  - Not because a significant danger, but deemed uneconomic to repair
- Major relocation to hubs/clusters
  - Access to services, Confidence in buildings





*All DOOM and GLOOM...???*

*Well, not really...*

Regional economy continued to be strong (based on agriculture)

- Port, airport, road and rail networks had very little downtime
- 95% of businesses are still operating albeit with downturn in tourism, education, and hospitality
- Some migration away from Canterbury especially immediately after event
  - Net migration about 9,000 persons,
  - 30,000 new workers needed for rebuild
- Communities remained largely intact
  - There was no need for widespread evacuation from Christchurch
- Early government support for local business continuity and workforce

# Insurance Perspectives - Recent Major Earthquake Events

USD billion (at 2011 prices)

Event Date	Country	Economic Losses US\$B	Economic losses as %GDP	Insured Losses	Insurance Industry Contribution
11 March 11 17%	Japan	up to 300	up to 5.4%	35	up to
27 Feb 10	Chile	30	18.6%	8	27%
22 Feb 11	NZ	15	10%	12	80%
12 Jan 10	Haiti	8	121%	0.1	1%
04 Sept 10	NZ	6	5.3%	5	81%
06 April 09 14%	Italy	4	0.2%	0.5	
23 Oct 11 4%	Turkey	0.75	0.1%	0.03	
04 April 10	Mexico	0.95	0.09%	0.2	21%

Source: Swiss Re *sigma* catastrophe database

# Lessons from the Canterbury Earthquake Sequence

- Success and limitations of geoscience...
- What can we unpack from this?
- Very difficult situation
  - Sustained earthquake sequence in a previously seismically 'quiet' region
  - Unmapped faults
  - Sequence has migrated across an major urban area
  - Most damaging EQ since the 1931 Napier earthquake