

in the different by-products.

LONG-TERM EFFECTS OF NUTRIENT ADDITION AND PHYTOREMEDIATION ON DIESEL AND CRUDE OIL CONTAMINATED SOILS IN SUBARCTIC ALASKA
Lewis, M.-C., C.M. Reynolds, and M.B. Leigh. Alaska Branch American Society for Microbiology Meeting, May 30-31, 2014, Denali Nat'l Park, Murrie Science Center, 2014

A long-term assessment of phytoremediation in Alaska capitalized on a study established in Fairbanks in 1995. The original study sought to determine how the introduction of plants (*Festuca rubra*, *Lolium multiflorum*), nutrients, or their combination would affect degradation of soil contaminated with crude oil or diesel over time. In the year following initial treatments, the plots subjected to both planting and/or fertilization showed greater overall decreases in TPH concentrations in the diesel and crude oil contaminated soils relative to untreated plots. After 15 years without active site management, re-examination of the field site showed native and non-native vegetation had colonized the site extensively, with more abundant vegetation found on diesel-contaminated soils than on crude oil-contaminated soils, which were more nutrient-poor, coarse, and acidic. TPH concentrations achieved regulatory cleanup levels in all treatment groups, with lower TPH concentrations correlating with higher amounts of woody vegetation (trees and shrubs). Bacterial community structure also varied according to the originally applied treatments. This presentation was based on an **Open Access journal paper** at <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC390970/>.

COUPLED ELECTRO-KINETIC REMEDIATION AND PHYTOREMEDIATION OF METAL(LOID) CONTAMINATED SOILS

Mao, X., F.X. Han, X. Shao, and Y. Su.
Journal of Bioremediation and Biodegradation, Vol 6 No 2, 2015

This paper reviews current developments in coupled electrokinetic phytoremediation (EK-phytoremediation) technology, including the selection of plants, interactions between heavy metal(loid) input and bioavailability in soils, amendment enhancement, and key electronic parameters for the improvement of soil physical-chemical properties and plant remediation effects.
<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/ebd.1163>

THE SYMBIOSIS BETWEEN FRANKIA ALMIAND ALDER SHRUBS RESULTS IN A TOLERANCE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STRESS ASSOCIATED WITH TAILINGS FROM THE CANADIAN OIL SANDS INDUSTRY

Mallet, P.L. and S. Roy.
Petroleum & Environmental Biotechnology, Vol 5 No 3, 180, 2014

Associations between plants and their microbial partners (bacteria and fungi) are a critical factor for their survival in harsh environments (e.g., mine waste areas). The plants of interest are mostly alder, particularly shrubs whose nitrogen requirements are met by the symbiotic, nitrogen-fixing *Frankia* sp. bacteria that associate with them at root level. Alder seedlings inoculated in the nursery with *Frankia* sp. and/or mycorrhizal fungi have increased survival rates and accelerated growth when planted on mine sites compared to noninoculated alder stock. Depending upon the alder species and specific type of mine residue, survival rates were two to four times greater, and aerial biomass development was three to four times greater. Soil quality may be improved at an accelerated pace through leaf fall. Alder leaves are particularly rich in nitrogen, which is often an operational consideration. When properly harnessed, the symbiotic mechanisms can reduce or even eliminate the need for supply and transport of organic amendments during site preparation. Hardy, symbiotic alder shrubs also sequester CO₂, which may help reduce the environmental cost of rehabilitation operations by providing continuous and quantifiable carbon capture. <http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/peb.2157>

IMPACT OF ELECTRODE SEQUENCE ON ELECTROCHEMICAL REMOVAL OF TRICHLOROETHYLENE FROM AQUEOUS SOLUTION

Rajic, L., N. Fallahpour, and A.N. Alshwabkeh.
Applied Catalysis B: Environmental, Vols 174-175, 427-434, 2015

In a study of the effect of placing the anode downstream from the cathode and using multiple electrodes to promote TCE reduction, experiments were conducted with a cathode followed by an anode and an anode followed by a cathode using mixed-metal oxide and iron as electrode materials. Enhanced reaction rates observed in this study suggest that a mixed flow-through electrochemical cell with multiple cathodes upstream of an anode is an effective method to promote the reduction of TCE in groundwater.

Background information: <http://www.northwestern.edu/pract/research/v5/>
Poster Presentation: http://www.northwestern.edu/pract/abstracts/05_SEDA_Poster.pdf

SORPTION OF POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS (PAHS) TO BIOCHAR AND ESTIMATES OF PAH BIOAVAILABILITY

Holm, T.R., M.L. Machesky, and J.W. Scott.
Illinois Sustainable Technology Center, RR-124, 86 pp, 2015

Biochars were produced by slow pyrolysis of corn stover under a nitrogen atmosphere at 450°, 550°, and 750°C. The chars were subjected to artificial aging by repeated freezing and thawing or incubating moist char at 60° and 110°C. A total of 12 materials was produced and characterized. Pyrene was used as a probe compound. Pyrene sorption was strong for all chars, with the amount sorbed at 1µg/L dissolved pyrene ranging from 10⁶ to over 10⁷ µg/kg. Aging had small but measurable effects on both sorption and HPCD extraction of pyrene. <https://www.ideals.illinois.edu/handle/2147/272653>

A CRITICAL EVALUATION OF MAGNETIC ACTIVATED CARBON'S POTENTIAL FOR THE REMEDIATION OF SEDIMENT IMPACTED BY POLYCYCLIC AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS

Han, Z., B. Sani, J. Akkanen, S. Abel, I. Nyborn, H.K. Karapanagioti, and D. Werner.
Journal of Hazardous Materials, Vol 286, 41-47, 2015

This study explored the use of a coal-based magnetic activated carbon (MAC) for PAH remediation. An 8.1% MAC amendment (w/w, equal to 5% AC content) was found to be as effective as 5% (w/w) pristine AC in reducing aqueous PAHs by 98% within three months. MAC recovery from sediment after three months was 77%. Incomplete MAC recovery had both positive and negative effects. A slight rebound of aqueous PAH concentration was observed following MAC recovery, but concentrations dropped again after six months, likely due to the presence of the 23% unrecovered MAC. The 77% recovery of the 8.1% MAC dose, however, was insufficient to reduce ecotoxic effects of fine-grained AC or MAC amendment on the egestion rate, growth, and reproduction of the AC-sensitive species *Lumbricus variegatus*.

SOIL WASHING OPTIMISATION AND ASSESSMENT OF THE RESIDUES WITH FOCUS ON COPPER: A METHOD TO TREAT METAL CONTAMINATED SITES

Khmlikovska, Nelly, Master's thesis, Chalmers University of Technology, Gothenburg, Sweden, 59 pp, 2014

Soils severely contaminated with Cu and other toxic metals were subjected to a washing method using two leachants successively: acidic wastewater (a by-product from incineration) followed by ordinary water to disassociate toxic metals from the soil matrix. Findings showed that the acidic wastewater removed some toxic metals effectively from the soil matrix, particularly Cu (~90%); however, high leaching of Cu did not yield soil clean enough to be returned to the original site, although the treatment achieved compliance with Swedish guidelines for nonhazardous waste disposal. The importance of pretreating the wastewater prior using it for washing was emphasized when the final residues demonstrated an ability to adsorb mercury from the wastewater. The changes in soil structure did not affect its quality significantly. <http://publications.lib.chalmers.se/records/fulltext/20952/20952.pdf>

A PSEUDOMONAS PUTIDA STRAIN GENETICALLY ENGINEERED FOR 1,2,3-TRICHLOROPROPANE BIOREMEDIATION

Samin, G., M. Pavlova, M.I. Arif, C.P. Postema, J. Damborsky, and D.B. Janssen.
Applied and Environmental Microbiology, Vol 80 No 17, 5467-5476, 2014

1,2,3-Trichloropropane (TCP), a toxic compound, is recalcitrant to biodegradation in the environment. Attempts to isolate TCP-degrading organisms using enrichment cultivation have failed; however, a potential biodegradation pathway starts with hydrolytic dehalogenation to 2-dichloro-1-propanol (D1CP), followed by oxidative metabolism and to obtain a practically applicable TCP-degrading organism, researchers introduced an engineered haloalkane dehalogenase with improved TCP degradation activity into the DCP-degrading bacterium *Pseudomonas putida* MC4. Growth of the resulting engineered bacterium, *P. putida* MC4-5222, on TCP was indeed observed, and all organic chlorine was released as chloride. A packed-bed reactor with immobilized cells of strain MC4-5222 degraded >95% of influent TCP (0.33 mM) under continuous-flow conditions, with stoichiometric release of inorganic chloride, demonstrating the successful use of a laboratory-evolved dehalogenase and genetic engineering to produce an effective, plasmid-free, and stable whole-cell biocatalyst for the aerobic bioremediation of a recalcitrant chlorinated hydrocarbon. <http://pschmidt.chemi.muni.cz/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/aem14.pdf>

General News

TECHNICAL GUIDELINES ON PERFORMING A SEDIMENT EROSION AND DEPOSITION ASSESSMENT (SEDA) AT SUPERFUND SITES

Hayter, E., K. Gustavson, S. Ellis, J. Gailani, J. Wolfe, T. Dekker, and R. Redder.
ERDC TR-14-9, 183 pp, 2014

This report outlines the processes that influence sediment transport and describes methods to use in developing a sediment erosion and deposition assessment (SEDA) at a designated Superfund site. A SEDA is a complex procedure that overlaps multiple processes, properties, and disciplines and includes consideration of sediment characteristics, groundwater movement, surface water stresses, sediment loadings, anthropogenic activity, and weather and oceanographic influences. Historical data also can provide a long-term record of system evolution, which not only is critical in assessing sediment erodibility but also supports conceptual site model development. The most successful SEDA studies have been guided by a technical review panel working with an RPM in SEDA development. Understanding of processes at a specific site, coupled with experience from other sites, is also critical to success. <http://el.erdc.dmr.mil/files/pdf/tr-14-9.pdf>

INTEGRATED DNAPL SITE CHARACTERIZATION AND TOOLS SELECTION

Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council (ITRC), Integrated DNAPL Site Characterization Team. ISC-1, 381 pp, 2015

Current knowledge about DNAPL site characterization and remediation has been integrated into this Web-based document to develop a resource that can inform regulators, consultants, and other interested parties of the critical concepts related to characterization approaches and tools for collecting subsurface data at DNAPL sites. Coverage includes identifying site conditions to consider when developing an informative DNAPL conceptual site model; defining an objectives-based DNAPL characterization strategy; understanding the tools and resources that are available to improve the identification, collection, and evaluation of site characterization data; and selecting appropriate technologies to fill site-specific data gaps. Case studies are provided to illustrate the concepts. http://www.itrcweb.org/DNAPL-ISC_Tools-selection/

BEST PRACTICE GUIDANCE FOR PRACTICAL APPLICATION OF GENTLE REMEDIATION OPTIONS (GRO)

Puschenreiter, M. et al.
THE GREENLAND PROJECT, 18 pp + 61 pp appendices, 2014

Gentle remediation options (GRO) are risk management strategies or techniques for contaminated sites that result in a net gain (or at least no gross reduction) in soil functionality. The following phytotechnologies have been implemented as GROs: phytoextraction, phytodegradation, phytotransformation, rhizodegradation, rhizofiltration, phytostabilization, phytovolatilization, in situ immobilization, and phytocclusion. These plant-based strategies and techniques have been applied successfully at sites affected by a range of organic, inorganic, and radioactive contaminants. This document focuses on GRO application at sites contaminated with trace elements (metal and metalloids). The guide and its appendices are accompanied by a decision support tool for selecting the most suitable GRO for site-specific conditions. <http://www.greenland-project.eu/>

PHYTO: PRINCIPLES AND RESOURCES FOR SITE REMEDIATION AND LANDSCAPE DESIGN

Kirkwood, N. and K. Kennen.
Routledge, New York, ISBN: 978-0-415-81415-7, 346 pp, 2015

This text presents the concepts of phytoremediation and phytotechnology in one comprehensive guide, illustrating the consideration of plants for the uptake, removal, or mitigation of on-site pollutants. Current scientific case studies highlight the advantages and limitations of plant-based cleanup. Typical contaminant groups found in the built environment are explained, and plant lists for mitigation of specific contaminants are included where applicable. This book addresses the benefits of phytotechnologies from a design point of view, taking complex scientific terms and translating the research into an easy-to-understand reference for those involved in creating planting solutions. This text presents the concept of "phytobuffering," which is the creation of protective planting designs with preventive phytotechnology abilities where future pollution might be expected. The authors guide the reader through the process of selecting plants for their aesthetic and environmental qualities, combined with their contaminant-removal benefits. Some of the ideas in the book are illustrated by the authors in a "Phyto Practicum" course handout at http://sites.harvard.edu/files/docs/ich_topic1376493_files/Class%201-%20Part%201-%20Phyto%20Introduction%20and%20Eindammetals.pdf

ENHANCED REDUCTIVE DECHLORINATION (ERD) DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Durant, N., L. Smith, and W. Condit.
TM-NAVFAC-EXWC-EV-1501, 49 pp, 2015

ERD is a type of enhanced in situ bioremediation used to promote anaerobic biological dechlorination of chlorinated solvents in the subsurface by both direct and cometabolic degradation processes. ERD involves delivery into the subsurface of amendments (biostimulation) and in some cases specialized bacteria (bioaugmentation) to stimulate specific dechlorinating biodegradation reactions. This document was developed for the U.S. Navy to lay out a framework for ERD design submittals, including a summary of best practices for bioremediation design, tips for appropriate QA/QC measures, and a listing of standards and references. To be posted at <http://clu.in.org/EXWC-EV-1501>

IN SITU CHEMICAL OXIDATION DESIGN CONSIDERATIONS

Rosansky, S., D. Neir, and W. Condit.
TM-NAVFAC-EXWC-EV-1502, 42 pp, 2015

This document was developed for the U.S. Navy to provide a framework for in situ chemical oxidation (ISCO) design submittals. It offers a summary of best practices for ISCO design, appropriate QA/QC measures, and available standards and references. To be posted at <http://clu.in.org/EXWC-EV-1502>

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