Conference on Accelerating Site Closeout, Improving Performance, and Reducing Costs Through Optimization

Accelerated VOC Source Investigation
Pairing SCAPS/MIP with EPA Triad, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, California

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Site 1114 Background

- Site 1114 identified in 2003 because PCE concentrations in well at adjacent site increased from 4 ug/L to 97 ug/L between 1993 when LTM ROD was signed and 2002
- MW 9W-07A is a cross-gradient perimeter well for Site 9, the former Waste Stabilization Pond

Figure 2-1. Water Quality Hydrograph, PCE in 9W-07A Groundwater
IR Site 9 MCB Camp Pendleton, California
Site Description

- Located on base in undeveloped canyon
- Approximately 0.5 mile upgradient from non-beneficial use boundary
- Site used for Marine Corps training
- Endangered species habitat precludes future development
Working Conceptual Site Model
Planned Site 1114 Investigation

- Four phases of investigation planned within one Dynamic Work Plan / reporting cycle:
  - Phase I – File and Records Review, Interviews
  - Phase II – Lithologic and Groundwater Investigation
  - Phase III – Focused Source Area Investigation
  - Phase IV – Installation of Permanent Monitoring Wells
Triad at Site 1114

• Systematic Planning – Project end goals are the identification of the VOC source area and plume extent

• Dynamic Work Plan – Flexibility to determine sample locations and numbers in the field to meet project end goals and optimize CSM, as necessary.

• On-Site Analytical Tools – SCAPS, CPT, mobile laboratory, MIP, EPA 8265.
Project Objectives

• Identify potential VOC source areas
  – Target VOCs include PCE and related degradation products TCE, DCE and VC

• Delineate area where VOCs exceed MCLs in groundwater

• Investigation conducted following U.S. EPA’s Triad approach with goal of streamlining sampling, analysis, and decision making
Mobilization Tasks

- Obtained permits
- Utility clearance
- Conducted GPS survey of planned sample locations
- Constructed access roads to sample locations
- Set up FTP site for data communication
- Established field technical team (FTT)
Project Personnel

CORE FFA TEAM

Beatrice Griffey
RWQCB RPM
Agency Point of Contact

Martin Hausladen
U.S. EPA RPM

Bill Mabey

Tayseer Mahmoud
DTSC RPM

Mark Bonsavage
MDBCP IR Branch Manager

Michael Bilodeau
SWDIV RPM

Patricia Underwood, PhD
SWDIV RTM

Ed Miranda
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FIELD TECHNICAL TEAM

Geoff Buckner
Registered Geologist

Karen Collins
Project Manager

Timothy Shields
SCAPS Manager

Adrianne Saboya
PWC QA Manager

Bill Davis, PhD
DSITMS Chemist

Fred Essig
SCAPS Geologist

Bill Hagen
SCAPS Operator

Craig Haverstick
PWC Health and Safety

Phase I – File and Records Review, Interviews

• Compiled and reviewed available historical information on upgradient operations.
  – Archives of Base Historian
  – Historical air photos
  – Utility maps
  – Site visits
  – Interviews with key facility personnel
Phase I – Preliminary Assessment

1932

1953

• No history of industrial operations southwest of Stuart Mesa Road.
Phase I – Preliminary Assessment

1958

1993

- Development NE of road consists of barracks, NEX, fire station, medical/dental clinic, mess hall, training facilities, equipment storage areas.
Phase I – PA Investigation Results

- Two areas of interest identified.
  - Tank maintenance facility in 41 Area
  - Equipment disassembly north of IR Site 9
Phase I – PA Investigation Results

Tank Maintenance Facility

- West of Bldg. 41312
- Military tanks serviced from mid-1950s through 1990s.
- Cleaning chemicals reportedly used, type undetermined
- No VOCs reported in groundwater samples from UST wells at B41312
Phase I – PA Investigation Results

Area North of IR Site 9

• Rumored to have been used for equipment disassembly
• Specifically, hovercraft fuel tanks reportedly dismantled in this area
• Equipment parts not identified in site walks
• No supporting facility, tools, or equipment located in area
Phase II – Lithologic and Groundwater Investigation

• Lithologic and groundwater quality data collected adjacent to and upgradient of 9W-07A

• CPT data collected at 12 locations provided continuous lithologic characterization

• Discrete groundwater samples collected from 12 temporary microwells at 10 locations.
Phase II – Lithologic and Groundwater Investigation

- Three sampling transects initiated, radiating out- and up-gradient from 9W-07A
- Five locations problematic: roads to 4, 14, and 15 were impassable, and shallow refusal at 1 and 3 prohibited well construction.
SCAPS CPT POINTS
CPT Log CP1114-13

- Temp well CP1114-13A screened from 25' to 30' feet ben.
- CP1114-13B screened from 31' to 36' feet ben.

Detail of CPT log showing well screen.

Tip to 36'.

Tip to 35'.
Designing Well Screen
Phase II – Groundwater Investigation

SCAPS Microwells

• 12 temporary microwells constructed and sampled at 10 locations
• Each well constructed with a 5 foot screen
• Groundwater samples analyzed by HP Labs with MDL of 1.0 ug/L
• Target VOCs not detected in microwells 2, 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11A, 11B, and 12.
• PCE and TCE reported in 13A and 13B.
Temporary Microwell Data
Phase III – Focused Source Area Investigation

Geoprobe® Systems
Membrane Interface Probe (MIP)

- An inert ultrapure helium carrier gas is sent down to the probe, sweeps behind the membrane, and returns to the surface to be analyzed.
- A temperature controller allows the membrane to be heated, which may optimize membrane performance.
- When the membrane is heated, VOCs advect away from the membrane. However, some of the VOCs pass through the membrane and are brought to the surface with the carrier gas to be analyzed.
- SCAPS analyzes the gas stream with a Direct Sample Ion Trap Mass Spectrometer (DSITMS)
MIP Probe
Calibrating the system.

- Samples of water containing a known concentration of contaminant are added to sand in a calibration jig and measured with the MIP/DSITMS.
- The results are used to prepare a calibration curve.
Typical DSITMS Response
Phase III – Source Area Investigation

SCAPS MIP

• Thirteen SCAPS/MIP borings advanced
• 12 sample locations positioned along three transects upgradient from 9W-07A, southwest of Stuart Mesa Road
• 1 location northeast of Stuart Mesa Road near former tank maintenance facility by Bldg. 41312
MIP Results
Phase III – Source Area Investigation

SCAPS MIP

- Over 690 linear feet of site area assessed for VOCs
- MIP-11 was the single location where target VOCs were detected
Conclusions

• Detailed conceptual site model produced identifying:
  – Site 1114 lithologic conditions
  – Well-delimited VOC presence

• Greatest PCE concentration was 1,000 ppb at MIP-11 between 42.5 and 44.4’ bgs

• PCE concentration at MIP-11 declines sharply with depth, dropping order of magnitude within 2 feet
Conclusions

• VOC source area is well bounded
  – Laterally within ~200 feet
  – Vertically within 10 feet
  – Groundwater samples from microwells confirm vertical boundary

• DNAPL conditions and product-level concentrations were not encountered

• Data suggests small volume of initial release.
Conclusions

- No complete pathways linking PCE at Site 1114 with receptors
- Site 1114 is overlain by protected habitat, therefore not subject to development
- Site is located ~1/2 mile upgradient from non-beneficial use boundary
- FFA team concurred with No Further Action; ROD planned
Project Milestone Schedule

• Project Initiated July 2003
• FFA Triad Planning Meeting Oct. 2003
• Final Work Plan Issued Feb. 2004
• Fieldwork Conducted Mar. 2004
• FFA Meeting -NFA Apr. 2004
• Issue Site Closure Report July 2004

Total Time – 12 Months
Average Federal Facility – 15 Years