


## ITRC DRAFT Document: Optimizing Injection Strategies & *In Situ* Remediation Performance

FRTR: SYNTHESIZING EVOLVING CSMs WITH APPLICABLE REMEDIATION TECHNOLOGIES

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### What is ITRC?

ITRC is a state-led coalition working to advance the use of innovative environmental technologies and approaches to translate good science into better decision-making.

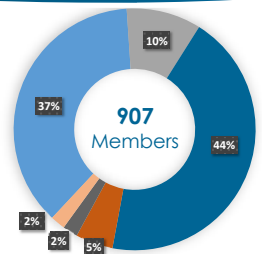





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### Our Unique Network

As of March 7, 2019



- State/City/Local Government
- Federal Government
- Private Sector
- Academia
- Stakeholders
- International Organizations



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### Federal Government Participants






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### Benefits to DOD and DOE



- ▶ Facilitate interactions between federal managers and state regulators
- ▶ Increase consistency of regulatory requirements for similar environmental problems in different states
- ▶ Provide harmonized approaches to using innovative technology across the nation
- ▶ Reduce review and approval times for those innovative approaches



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### ITRC Accomplishments

- Educates** state regulators on the use of innovative technologies
- Promotes** the use of innovative technologies
- Unites** state approaches to complex topics
- Inspires** collaboration over adversarial relationships


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### How Can YOU Benefit from ITRC?

Use ITRC Documents


Take ITRC Training Courses

Join ITRC Teams



### 2020 Teams

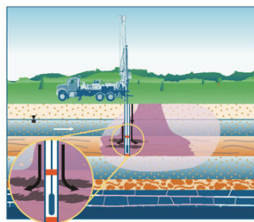

- ▶ Use of Soil Background Concentrations in Risk Assessment (NEW)
- ▶ Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Update & Training
- ▶ 1,4-Dioxane (Continuing until Dec. 2020)
- ▶ Harmful Cyanobacterial Blooms (Continuing until Dec. 2020)
- ▶ Incremental Sampling Methodology Update (Continuing until Dec. 2020)
- ▶ Vapor Intrusion Mitigation Training (Continuing until Dec. 2020)
- ▶ Advanced Site Characterization Tools (ASCT) (Due in Early 2020)
- ▶ Optimizing Injection Strategies & In Situ Remediation Performance (Due in April 2020)



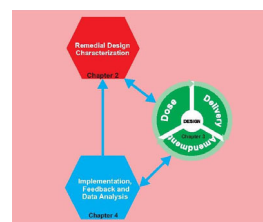
### Optimizing Injection Strategies and *In Situ* Remediation Performance

DRAFT  
INTERNET BASED DOCUMENT  
&  
TRAINING  
  
(GOING PUBLIC IN APRIL 2020)

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Dave Scheer, Minnesota PCA  
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### What is Optimization?




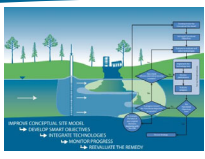


Optimization is the effort (at any clean-up phase) to identify and implement actions that improve effectiveness and cost-efficiency of that phase.

This is the EPA definition cited in ITRC's 2016 Geospatial Analysis Optimization document

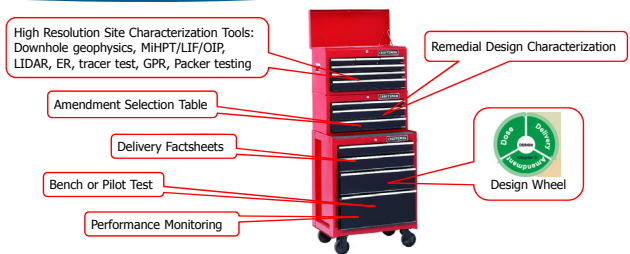


### Foundation of this Document


- ▶ 2011 Integrated DNAPL Site Strategy (IDSS)
- ▶ 2015's IDSS Site Characterization and Tool Selection Document
- ▶ Optimization addressed in other contexts
  - ▶ Remediation Process Optimization (2004) (ITRC-RPO-1, 2004)
  - ▶ Performance-Based Environmental Management (ITRC RPO-2, 2007)
  - ▶ Geospatial Analysis for Optimization (2016) (GRO-1, 2016)

### Purpose of this Document



**OPTIMIZATION TOOL BOX**



### Structure of this In Situ Optimization Document

- ▶ Remedial Design Characterization (Ch 2)
- ▶ Amendment, Delivery, Dose Design (Ch 3)
- ▶ Implementation & Feedback (Monitoring) Optimization (Ch 4)
- ▶ Regulatory Perspectives (Ch 5)
- ▶ Community & Tribal Stakeholder Considerations (Ch 6)

Hot links \* Tables \* Mouse-over Definitions \* Factsheets \* References \* Case Studies

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### Who is this Document written for?

- ▶ The remediation manager who has had a failure of some type:
  - ▶ Has pushed or moved the plume where they didn't want it go
  - ▶ Amendment is reacting with the geochemistry
  - ▶ Delivery method not compatible with hydrogeology
  - ▶ Have successfully cleaned up 50% of the mass and but stalled out for the rest
- ▶ The practitioner who is just about to start an in situ remediation project and wants to make sure they have chosen the correct remedy
- ▶ **This document is NOT a 101 class for remediation!** It assumes a basic CSM has been established and the hydrogeology is known

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### The Problem & Need for Optimization

Out of all the proposals received by state regulators for remediation projects, about 40% of regulators deemed the first submittal as incomplete.

Why?

- ✓ proposed remedy was not fully supported by the CSM
- ✓ CSM was inadequate
- ✓ inadequate amendment placement according to the CSM

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### Regulatory Linear Paradigm

- ▶ Main goal: **clean up sites.**
- ▶ Traditional approach to the remedial process was linear.

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### Interactive/Iterative Approach

- ▶ Evolution of environmental work has led to the realization that an iterative approach is required to efficiently clean up sites.
- ▶ ITERATIVE : To state repeatedly, repetitious, repetitive
- ▶ INTERACTIVE: Acting one upon (or with) the other

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### ITRC Documents Support Interactive/Iterative Approach

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### ITRC Documents Support Interactive/Iterative Approach

- Common goal: **clean up sites**
- The interactive/iterative approach will support the conceptual site models that change with new information
- In Situ remediation is particularly suited to the adaptive approach as unknowns are refined with bench tests, and pilot tests.

The flowchart illustrates an iterative process. It starts with a 'CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK' leading to 'GENERAL OBJECTIVES' and 'REMEDIAL TECHNOLOGY'. This leads to 'MONITORING', which then leads to 'ADAPTIVE REMEDIATION'. The process is iterative, with feedback loops from 'MONITORING' back to 'REMEDIAL TECHNOLOGY' and 'GENERAL OBJECTIVES'. A central box labeled 'Remediation Performance' is connected to 'ADAPTIVE REMEDIATION' and 'MONITORING'. A circular diagram shows 'Remediation Performance' leading to 'Adaptive Remediation', which leads to 'Monitoring', which leads to 'Remediation Performance'.

### I have a failed remedy. Where do I start?

Media	Challenge	Guidance
All	Reference of MW data vs a full understanding of contaminant mass distribution vs biology vs permeability (K) available through higher resolution site characterization (HRSC) technology	Continuous profiling tools such as MHPF, MHPF-CPT, ILE, ILE-CPT, ILE-CPT-MHPF, MHP-CPT, MHPF-CPT, or continuous rock coring coupled with high density soil or rock sampling and physical and chemical analyses. ITRC Doc-1 2015 <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-1-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-1-2015.html</a>
Bedrock	Unrealistic expectations without a full understanding of site specific challenges - e.g. matrix block diffusion, which can lead to contaminant concentration rebound after initial improvement in concentrations post-injection	Link to ITRC-FractureC1 2017. <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-FractureC1-2017.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-FractureC1-2017.html</a>
Soil	Lack of understanding of contaminant mass sorbed into fine grained soils.	Application of MHPF, MHPF-CPT coupled with high density soil sampling to determine extent and distribution of contaminant mass. ITRC Doc-3 2015 <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
Ground Water	Variability of K, and calculated seepage velocity vs contaminated materials is needed to estimate ROI (radius of influence) delivery approaches and residence time within ROI.	Higher resolution log testing, tracer testing, or pilot testing both necessary to determine amendment distribution in effective pore space

### Tool: Common Issues Spreadsheet

Commonly Encountered Issues Associated With Amendment Delivery and Dose Design Chapter 3

Amendment Class	Amendment Specifics	Challenges, Lessons Learned, and/or Best Practices	Discussion, Document Section, Links
All		Injection benches a constraint with time of contact	Link to Appendix A, for specific discussion on injection, limits and advantages of each amendment. Link 3.3.2 & 3.3.3
ISCO	All	Bench testing scheduling vs using default values to determine contact time that is representative of full scale implementation	Link to Appendix A, Section Permeability Change, Document. <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
	Permeate	The background geochemistry including total dissolved solids (TDS) is a critical factor in the design of bench testing. Permeate can be used as direct contact or as an AOP feed with multiple injection points.	Link to Chemical/Oxidation Bench Testing to determine buffering capacity of the soil. <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
	Permeate	Reducing the solubility of potassium permanganate in water resulting in possible plugging injection system, their risk and remediation	Link to Chemical/Oxidation - <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
Anaerobic	All	Anaerobic bioremediation techniques are typically effective when geochemical conditions such as relatively lower redox (e.g., lower than 200mV are achieved). Depending on specific geochemical conditions, low permeability requires multiple injection events to overcome mass transfer	It is essential to collect background and baseline geochemical data including electron acceptor demand and to understand the existing biodegradation pathways before designing the bioremediation. Use a highly soluble permeate to ensure multiple injection events to overcome mass transfer. <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
	Stable	Stable, slaked, or other solids must be replaced by leaching, soil mixing, or floccing	Identify adequate leaching to promote degradation reaction within permeate zone which is dependent upon width of PDR reach and groundwater flow rate
Aerobic	All		Find the appropriate gas diffusion coefficient or conduct a mobility study. <a href="https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html">https://www.itrcweb.org/Guidance/ITRCDocuments/Topic/ITRC-3-2015.html</a>
	Stable	Design a good design team for the project if/when possible, conduct monitoring in permeability and residence time within ROI, and plan for multiple injection events to overcome head systems dependent. Consider different oxygen sources. Link to A1.5	

### Tool: Common Issues Spreadsheet

Commonly Encountered Issues Associated With Field Implementation Chapter 4

Amendment Class	Field Implementation - Technology, Amendment	Challenges, Lessons Learned, and/or Best Practices	Discussion, Document Section, Links
All	Fracture pressure injection	The stability of the injection system, as designed and operated, to maintain injection pressures below fracture pressure, required for distribution	Do not exceed fracture pressures to maintain controlled distribution
	Fracture pressure injection	The stability of the injection system, as designed and operated, to maintain injection pressure and flow rates above fracture pressures required for distribution	Review pump curves of pressure vs. flow
	Fracture pressure solids emplacement	The stability of the emplacement system, as designed and operated, to maintain injection pressure above fracture pressure required for distribution	Review pump curves of pressure versus flow and size of solids of one pump
	HPT Delivery	Do not exceed pressure rate of well and to avoid contamination well for fracture injection	Minimum of one meter hour system to maintain constant pressure
ISCO	All	Do not exceed pressure rate of well and to avoid contamination well for fracture injection	Ensure system design and operating procedures prevent fracturing of the formation. Consider automated systems as best practice
	CHP	Daylighting events do not stop once flow is shut down. Exothermic energy input has been necessary and is during pressure release for a	Maintain injection rates, according to demonstrated specifications to minimize daylighting
	Permanganate	Have adequate neutralization chemicals available for distribution or well events	Monitor injection rates, according to demonstrated specifications to minimize daylighting
Anaerobic	All	New achieving anoxic and pH specifications for ground water	Note pH may drop at least one order of magnitude once pH and other metrics with amendment
	Solids	Daylighting events do not stop once flow is shut down.	Maintain injection rates as those specified and demonstrated to minimize daylighting

### Chapter 2: Remedial Design Characterization

When in situ remedies fail or produce less than optimal outcomes, it is often due to a lack of detailed data or an insufficiently developed CSM.

**The success of in situ remedies is directly related to a thorough understanding of site and subsurface conditions.**

Remedial design characterization (RDC) is the collection of additional data, above and beyond what are typically generated as part of general site characterization studies, necessary to develop a sufficiently detailed CSM, which enables a design basis for an in situ remedy.

The diagram shows 'Remedial Design Characterization' in a red hexagon at the top. Below it, three arrows point to 'Remediation', 'Design', and 'Dose', which are arranged in a circular pattern.

### RDC: Remedial Design Characterization

**Objectives:**

Identify the data required to obtain a focused understanding of the geologic, hydrogeologic, geochemical, and microbial nature of the site conditions in specific support of in situ remedial actions. These parameters inform the remedial approach and technology selection.

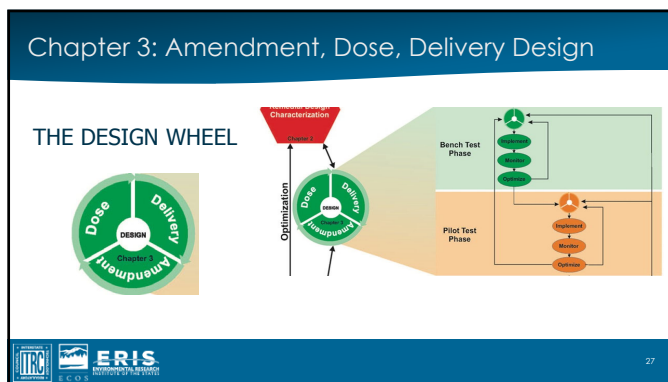
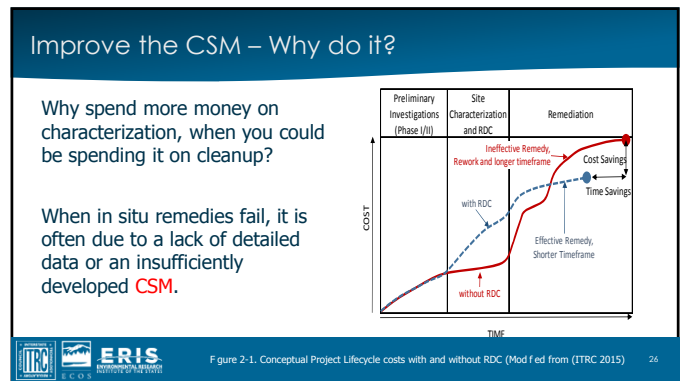
- ✓ Geology - stratigraphy, mineralogy, fractures, soil properties that define flow regimes
- ✓ Hydrogeology – heterogeneities, aquifer properties that influence flow and transport
- ✓ Geochemistry - identify electron acceptors, competitors, and metal mobilization risks
- ✓ Microbiology - assess degradation potential

### Another Comprehensive Tool for RDC

Parameters	In Situ Approach		Remediation Phase/Step		
	Abiotic	Biotic	Alternatives Screening	Remedial Design	Performance Monitoring
<b>Physical Properties</b>					
Provenance and Mineralogy	M	M	HIGH	MEDIUM	LOW
Stratigraphy	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Degree of Weathering of Geologic Formation	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Fracture Representative Aperture and Length	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Fracture Connectivity / Rock Quality Designation	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Fracture Orientation	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Grain Size Distribution	M	M	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Bulk Density	M	M	LOW	HIGH	LOW
Fraction of Organic Carbon	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW
Primary and Secondary Porosity	M	M	MEDIUM	HIGH	LOW

LEGEND  
M, L = Applicability  
H, Med, Low (colors) = Relative importance of data at the remediation phase indicated

Table 2.2 (Appendix C) Geoogy, Hydrogeology, Geochem stry, Microbiologica Considerations Spreadsheet 25



### Amendment Selection Table

Treatment Type	Description/Summary	Target COCs	Typical Injection/Emplacement Technologies
<b>Common Biotic Amendments (A.1)</b>			
<b>Aerobic bioremediation (A1.1)</b>	Aerobic degradation occurs preferentially in near-surface, oxic, saturated media and is most effective for non-chlorinated hydrocarbons (NCH) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and less effective for non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPL) and chlorinated hydrocarbons (CHCs). The process requires oxygen and nutrients. Nutrient amendments are typically required to enhance the process. The process is most effective when the degradation process and can occur in the absence of the amendment. Most remediable processes occur under aerobic conditions and may require oxygen addition to stimulate oxygen degradation.	Perchloroethylenes and other halogenated hydrocarbons (e.g., methyl tertiary butyl ether (MTBE))	Aerobic direct injection Air sparging Bioaugmentation of oxygen via different sources Direct upon-phase injection
<b>Co-metabolic aerobic bioremediation (A1.2)</b>	Co-metabolism involves degradation of contaminants using electrons produced by microorganisms as a result of consumption of a primary substrate such as methane, hydrogen, ethanol, etc. The process is most effective for non-chlorinated hydrocarbons (NCH) and volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and less effective for non-aqueous phase liquids (NAPL) and chlorinated hydrocarbons (CHCs). The process is most effective when the degradation process and can occur in the absence of the amendment. Most remediable processes occur under aerobic conditions and may require oxygen addition to stimulate oxygen degradation.	Chlorinated solvents (PCE, DCE, VC, DCA) Chlorinated ethylenes 1,4-dioxane TCE Explosives Aromatic PAHs Some pesticides	Trailing-Sled Mixing Direct push injection Permanent injection wells Bioreactors with air sparging
<b>Anaerobic bioremediation (A1.3)</b>	Amendments are degraded via reductive processes by certain types of anaerobic bacteria under reducing conditions. Fermentable organic substrates are injected or placed into the subsurface to enhance the production of hydrogen, which is in turn used by the microorganisms in the reductive reactions.	Chlorinated solvents Many pesticides and herbicides Certain inorganic compounds Perchloroethylene (PCE) and other chlorinated hydrocarbons (CHCs) and other solvents	Direct push injection Permanent injection wells PILs

TABLE 3-3 Data s of Amendment Types and Typical n ect on/Emplacement Technologies 28

- ### Amendment Dosage & Delivery
- ▶ Amendment Dose Requirements
    - ▶ Background Demands
    - ▶ Target Demands
    - ▶ Volume Considerations
  - ▶ Amendment Delivery Optimization
    - ▶ Grid patterns, Injection & Drift, Recirculation
    - ▶ Overcoming Delivery Problems
      - ▶ Fouling and well rehabilitation
- 
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### Delivery/Injection Screening Matrix (Table 3.5)

Hydrogeologic Characteristics	Delivery Technique	Direct Push Injection (DPI) [link # D1]	Injection Through Wells & Boreholes [link # D2]	Electro-Kinetics (This is injection through wells) [link # D3]	Solid Emplacement [link # D4]		Permeable Reactive Barriers (PRBs) [link # D7]
					Hydraulic Delivery Through Wells & Boreholes [link # D5]	Pneumatic Delivery Through Open Boreholes [link # D6]	
Gravels		• (Sonic)	•	NA	NA	NA	•
Cobbles		• (Sonic)	•	NA	NA	NA	•
Sandy Soils (Sm, Sc, Sp, Sw)		•	•	NA	•	•	•
Silty Soils (Ml, Mh)		•	•	•	•	•	•
Clayey Soils (Cl, Ch, Oh)		•	•	•	•	•	•
Compacted/Fractured Bedrock		NA	•	NA	•	•	•
K ≤ 10 <sup>-3</sup> To 10 <sup>-4</sup> (Low Perm Soils)		•	•	•	•	•	•
K ≥ 10 <sup>-3</sup> (High Perm Soils)		•	•	•	•	•	•
Depth > Direct Push Capabilities		NA	•	•	•	•	•

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### Chapter 4: Implementation, Monitoring, Data Analysis

## THE OPTIMIZATION STAIRCASE

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### Chapter 4: Optimization Staircase

- ▶ **Implementation & Optimization Staircase**
  - ▶ Results of pilot or bench test may lead to another pilot or bench test before going for full scale site implementation
  - ▶ Optimization not meant to create endless cycle of testing, but a cost effective, efficient remediation strategy
- ▶ **Adaptive Implementation and Feedback Optimization**
  - ▶ Data set for CSM and corresponding design (amendment, dose, delivery) will never be perfect or fully complete
  - ▶ Staircase always allows for feedback to a design step or the CSM

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### Chapter 4: Monitoring

#### ▶ Process and Performance Monitoring

Data Type	Scenario	Potential Implication
Water Level	Water levels at nearby monitoring wells (e.g., 10 ft) show a significant increase with very little fluid injected into the injection well location	This type of result may indicate a connection or preferential pathway. Be aware of the potential for daylighting and for amendment distribution challenges.
Pressure	Injection pressures are higher than expected.	Tight soils or link to section 3.6.1.2 borefilling may be causing blockage. High pressures may result in fracturing or daylighting.
Pressure	Injection pressures suddenly drop and flow rate increases.	A preferential pathway, link to section 3.6.1 fracture, or utility corridor may have been intercepted or an injection pressure fracture may have been created.
Physical Parameters	Conductivity, temperature, turbidity, or other indicator parameter of amendment (e.g., TDC, or color) is observed at a nearby monitoring well (e.g., 10 ft) at a lower than planned injection volume.	This type of result may indicate a connection or preferential pathway between wells. It may also indicate a higher K area of the site, resulting in a larger than anticipated fractured flow.

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### Chapter 5: Regulatory Perspectives

#### Adaptive Regulatory Process

#### Adaptive Management's Application in the Superfund Process

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### A Powerful Remediation Design Tool for 2020

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### Thank You!

#### Stay Updated on ITRC's Activities

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