

# Soil stabilization



<http://pubs.acs.org/journal/acsodf>

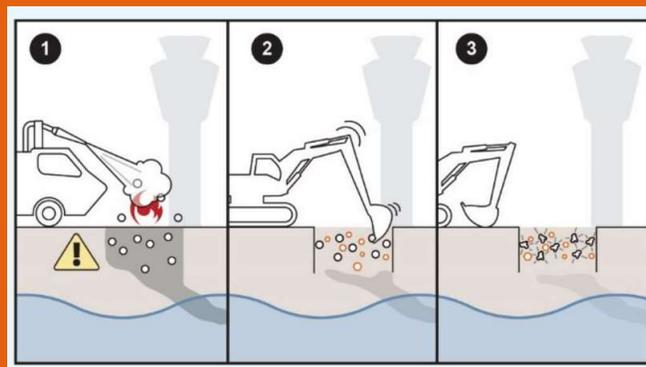
Article

## Field-Scale Demonstration of PFAS Leachability Following In Situ Soil Stabilization

Jeffrey T. McDonough,\* Richard H. Anderson, Johnsie R. Lang, David Liles, Kasey Matteson, and Theresa Olechiw

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Johnsie R. Lang, PhD

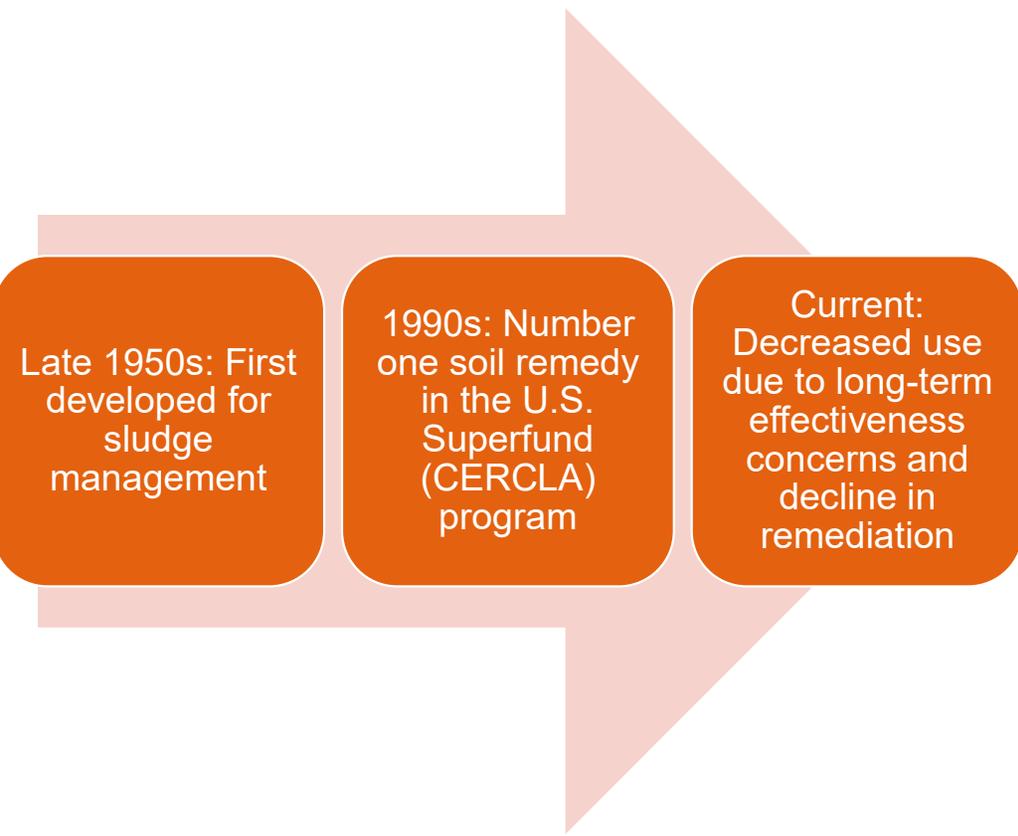
[Johnsie.lang@arcadis.com](mailto:Johnsie.lang@arcadis.com)

# Agenda

- 1 **Introduction to Soil Stabilization**
- 2 **Site Selection and Characterization**
- 3 **Bench Scale Treatability Testing**
- 4 **Field Scale Demonstration**



# History of Soil Stabilization and Solidification



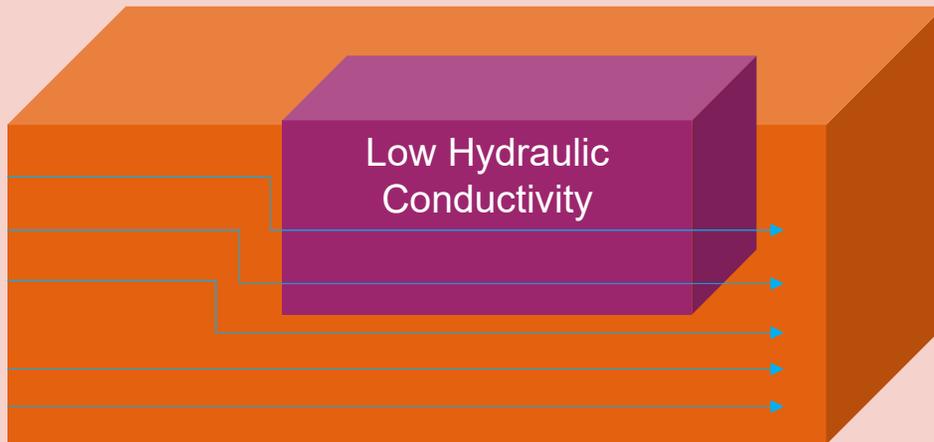
	Organic Contaminants	Inorganic Contaminants	Reactive Compounds
Demonstrated	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halogenated semi-volatiles</li> <li>• Non-halogenated semi- and non-volatiles</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Volatile metals</li> <li>• Non-volatile metals</li> <li>• Radioactive materials</li> <li>• Inorganic corrosives and cyanides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxidizers</li> <li>• Reducers</li> </ul>
Potential	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PCBs</li> <li>• Pesticides</li> <li>• Dioxins/Furans</li> <li>• Organic cyanides</li> <li>• Organic corrosives</li> </ul>		
Ineffective	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Halogenated volatiles</li> <li>• Non-Halogenated volatiles</li> </ul>		

<https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.est.9b04990>

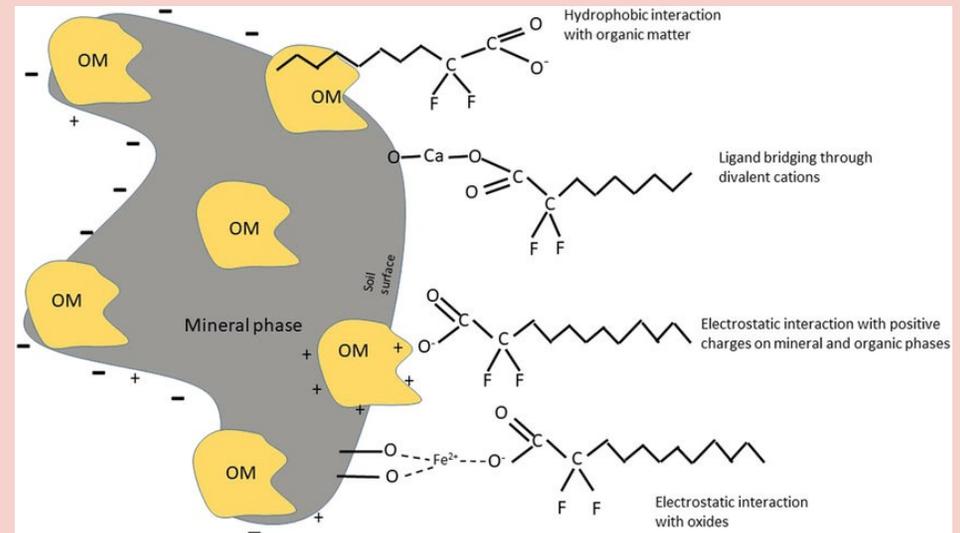
<https://www.geoengineer.org/education/web-class-projects/cee-549-geoenvironmental-engineering-winter-2013/assignments/stabilization-solidification>

# Stabilization vs Solidification

## Solidification: Create a solid



## Stabilization: Stabilize the chemical



<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0304389420318811>

# Project Objectives



**Overall Objective:** Establish an alternative to the typical PFAS source zone management practice of soil excavation/groundwater extraction followed by *ex situ* treatment

## Three Specific Objectives:

1. Evaluate soil stabilization via chemical fixation as a remedy to reduce or eliminate leaching of PFAS to groundwater from source areas
2. Evaluate commercially available reagents (i.e., “fixants”) for stabilization of PFAS in field scale test pits
3. Use of a sequential leaching procedure (Method 1315) to understand how soil stabilized test pit leachate will vary with time in PFAS concentrations

# Site Selection and Characterization

# Baseline Data

Collected in February 2018

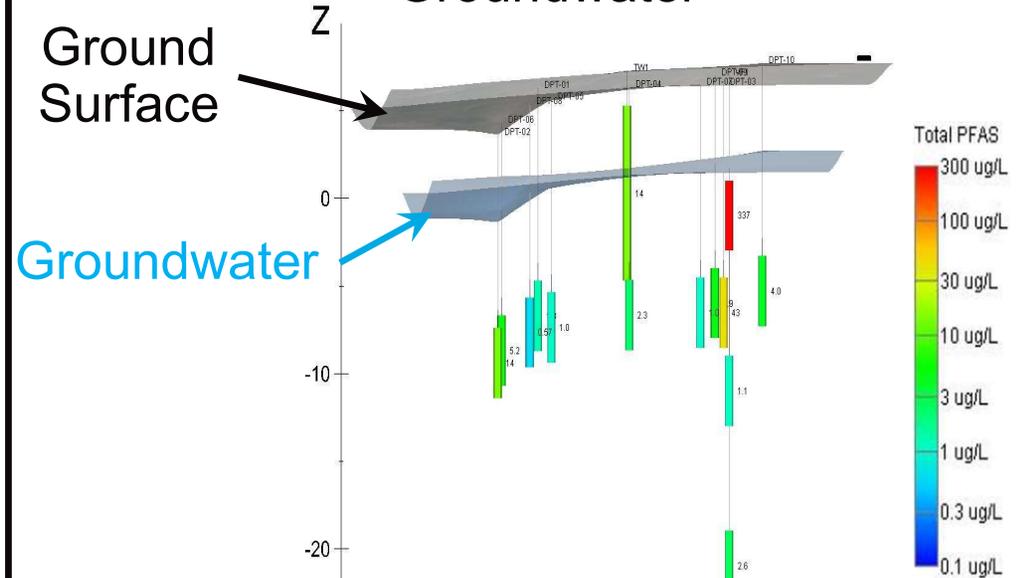
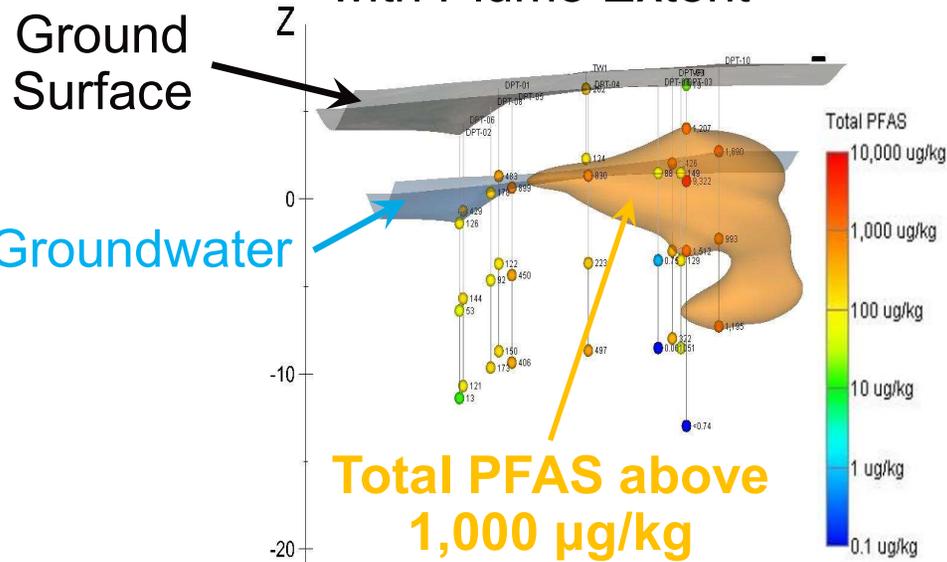
- Soil and groundwater samples collected from 10 locations

## Soil

## Groundwater

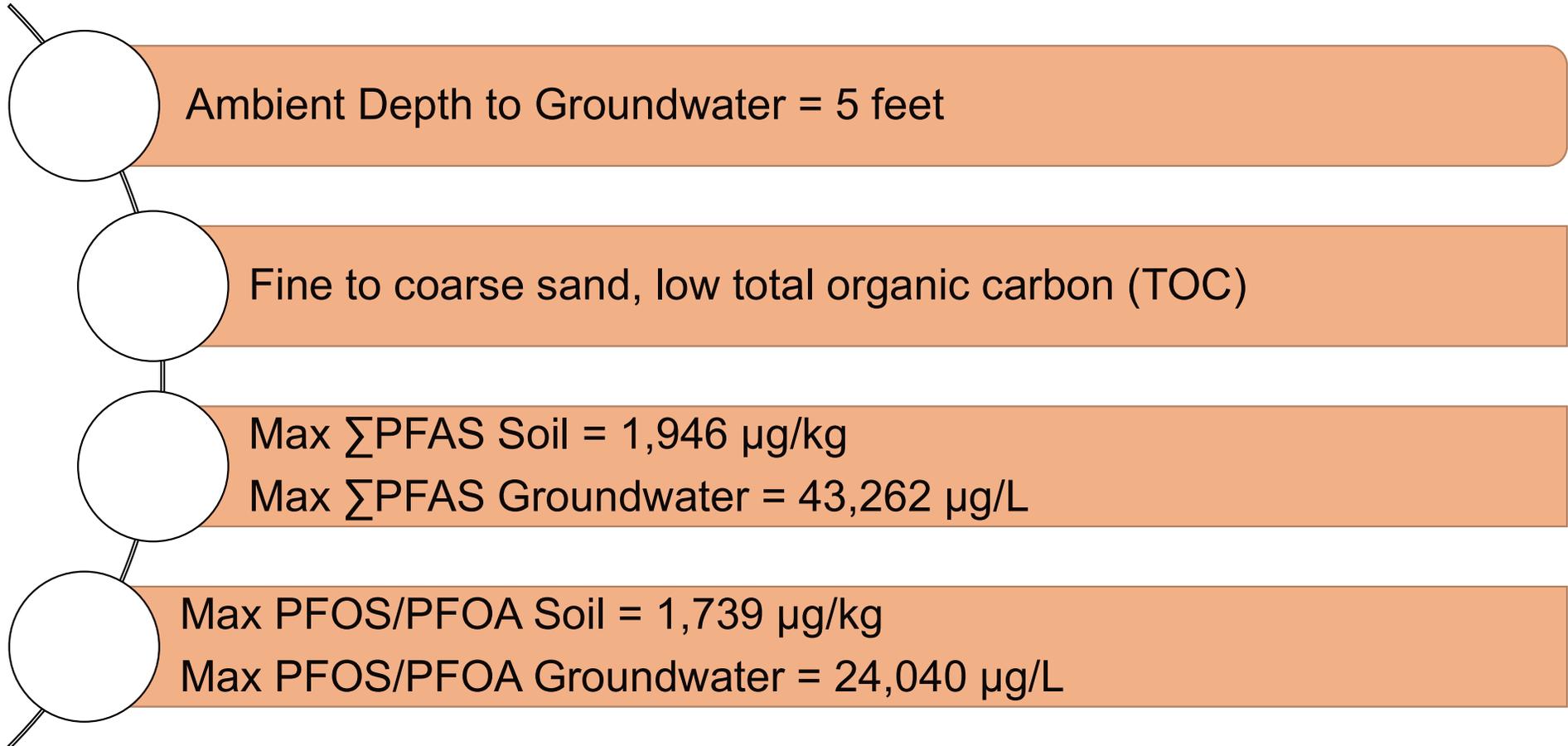
### Total PFAS in Soil with Plume Extent

### Total PFAS in Groundwater



Soil stabilization mixing target depth interval: 5 – 15 ft bgs

# Site Selection and Characterization



# **Bench Scale Treatability Testing**

# Bench-Scale Treatability Test

**Objective:** To optimize fixant mixing rates and geotechnical performance

RemBind®\*  
(aluminum  
hydroxide and  
carbon blend)

Fluorosorb®\*  
(modified  
organoclay)

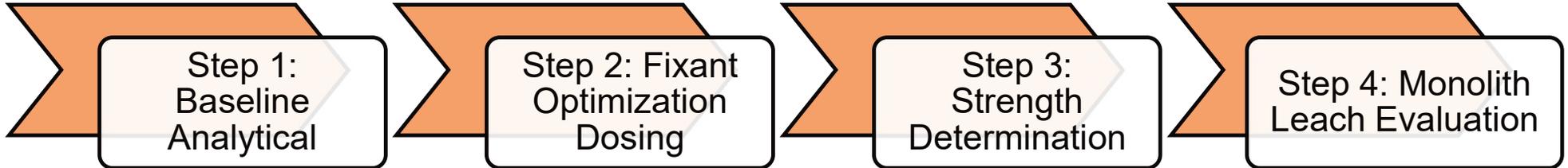
Layered double  
hydroxide  
(NoName #1)

Proprietary  
concrete sealant  
(NoName #2)



\*Mention of RemBind® and FluoroSorb® is not an endorsement

# Bench-Scale Treatability Test



# Bench-Scale Treatability Test

## Step 1: Baseline Analytical

### Theoretical PFAS Maximums



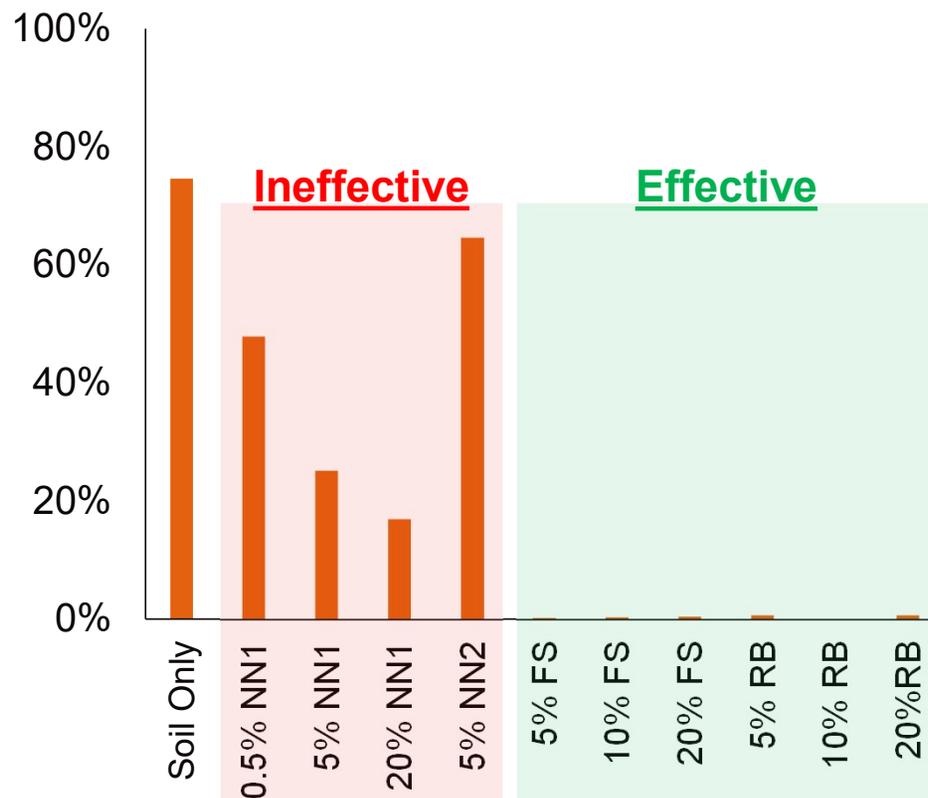
48-hour bottle tests:  
 Soil Mass = 88.4 grams  
 Groundwater Volume = 200 mL

### Final PFAS Mass (Control)

PFAA	GW (ng)	Soil (ng)
PFBA	15.7	
PFPeA	9.2	47.2
PFHxA	63.5	92.4
PFHpS	2.9	
PFOA	8.8	114.5
PFPeS	1.4	
PFHxS	46.8	789.4
PFHpS		
PFOS	90.9	2965.8
<b>Total PFAA</b>	<b>239.2</b>	<b>4,009.3</b>
	<b>4,248.5</b>	

# Bench-Scale Treatability Test – Step 2: Fixant Optimization Dosing

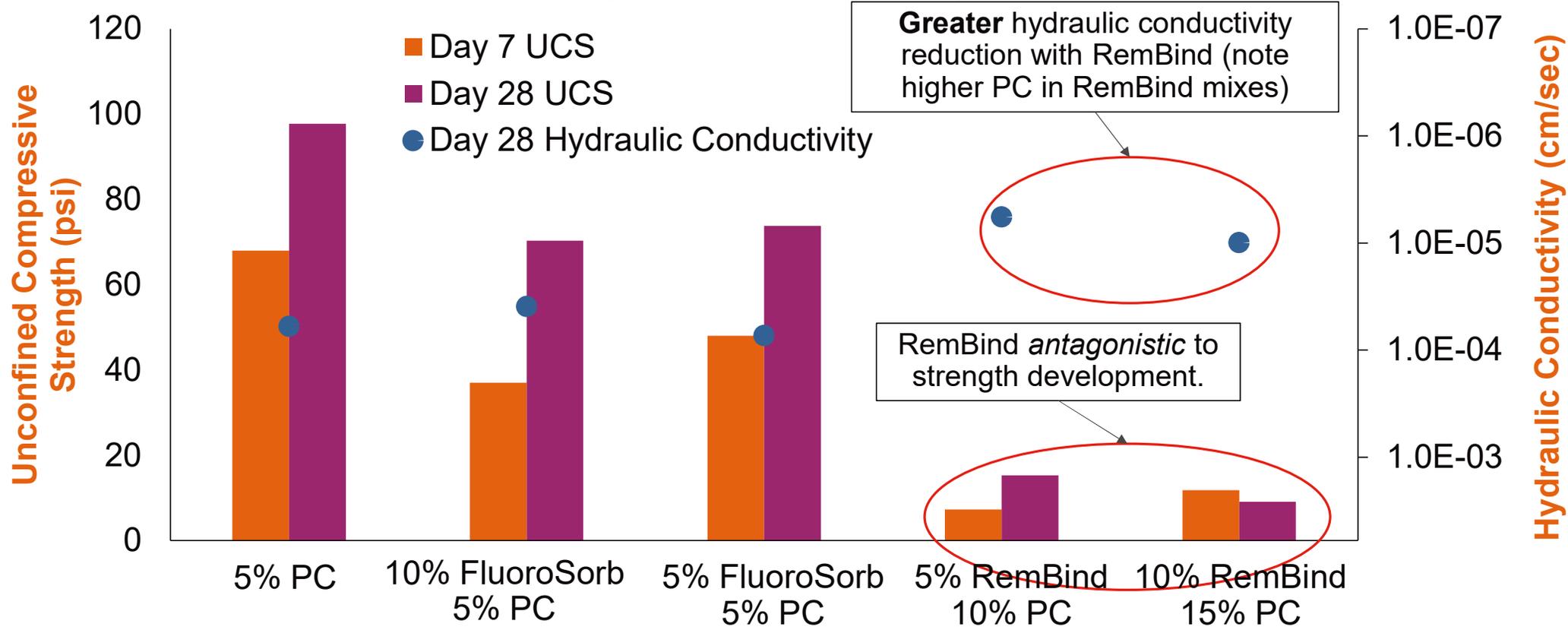
Mass Percentages of Total Theoretical PFAS Leachability for Various Fixants at Associated Concentrations



- Layered double hydroxide (NN1 - NoName #1)
- Proprietary concrete sealant (NN2 -NoName #2)
- Fluorosorb<sup>®</sup>\* (FS - modified organoclay)
- RemBind<sup>®</sup>\* (RB - aluminum hydroxide and carbon blend)

# Bench-Scale Treatability Test Step 3: Strength Determination

## UCS & Hydraulic Conductivity Results



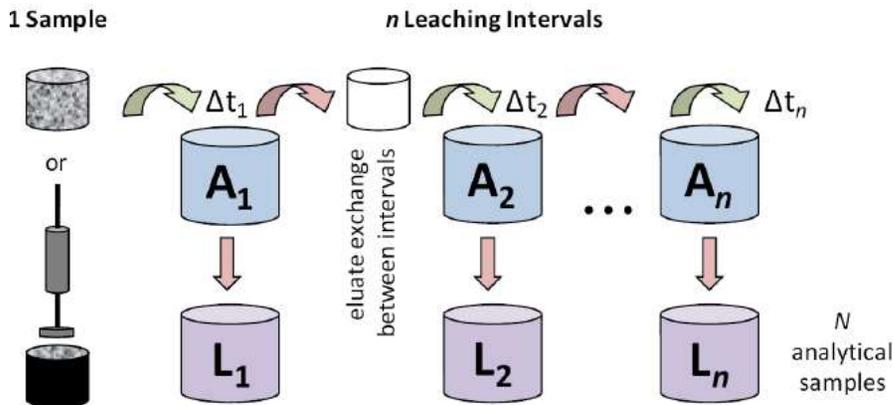
# Bench-Scale Treatability Test

## Step 4: Monolith Leach Evaluation

- Leaching Environmental Assessment Framework (LEAF) Method 1315 at Test America Pittsburgh
- Monoliths immersed in fresh deionized water as leaching solution for each time intervals
- Leachate generated from intervals T03 and T09 submitted to SGS Axys for PFAS analysis by total oxidizable precursor (TOP) Assay.
- Both pre-TOP (MLA-110) and post-TOP (MLA-111) samples were analyzed.

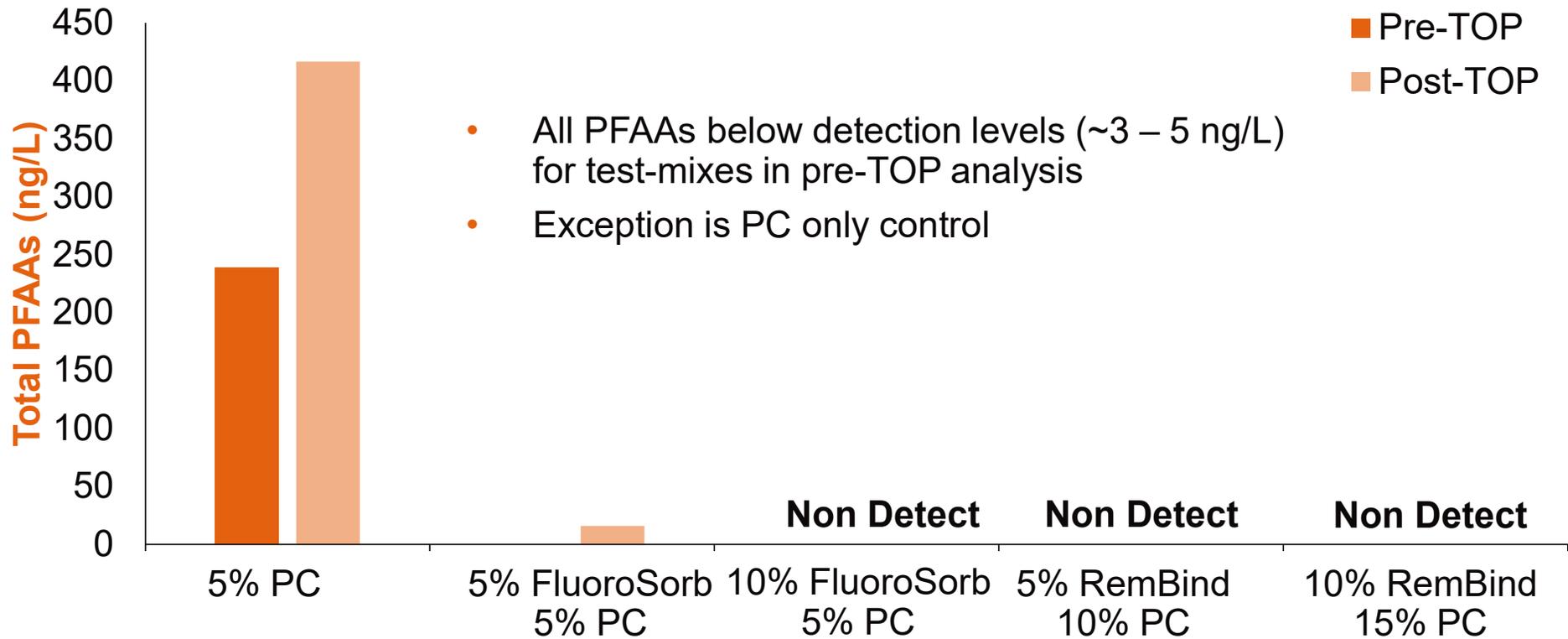
SCHEDULE OF ELUATE RENEWALS

Interval Label	Interval Duration (h)	Interval Duration (d)	Cumulative Leaching Time (d)
T01	2.0 ± 0.25	–	0.08
T02	23.0 ± 0.5	–	1.0
T03	23.0 ± 0.5	–	2.0
T04	–	5.0 ± 0.1	7.0
T05	–	7.0 ± 0.1	14.0
T06	–	14.0 ± 0.1	28.0
T07	–	14.0 ± 0.1	42.0
T08	–	7.0 ± 0.1	49.0
T09	–	14.0 ± 0.1	63.0

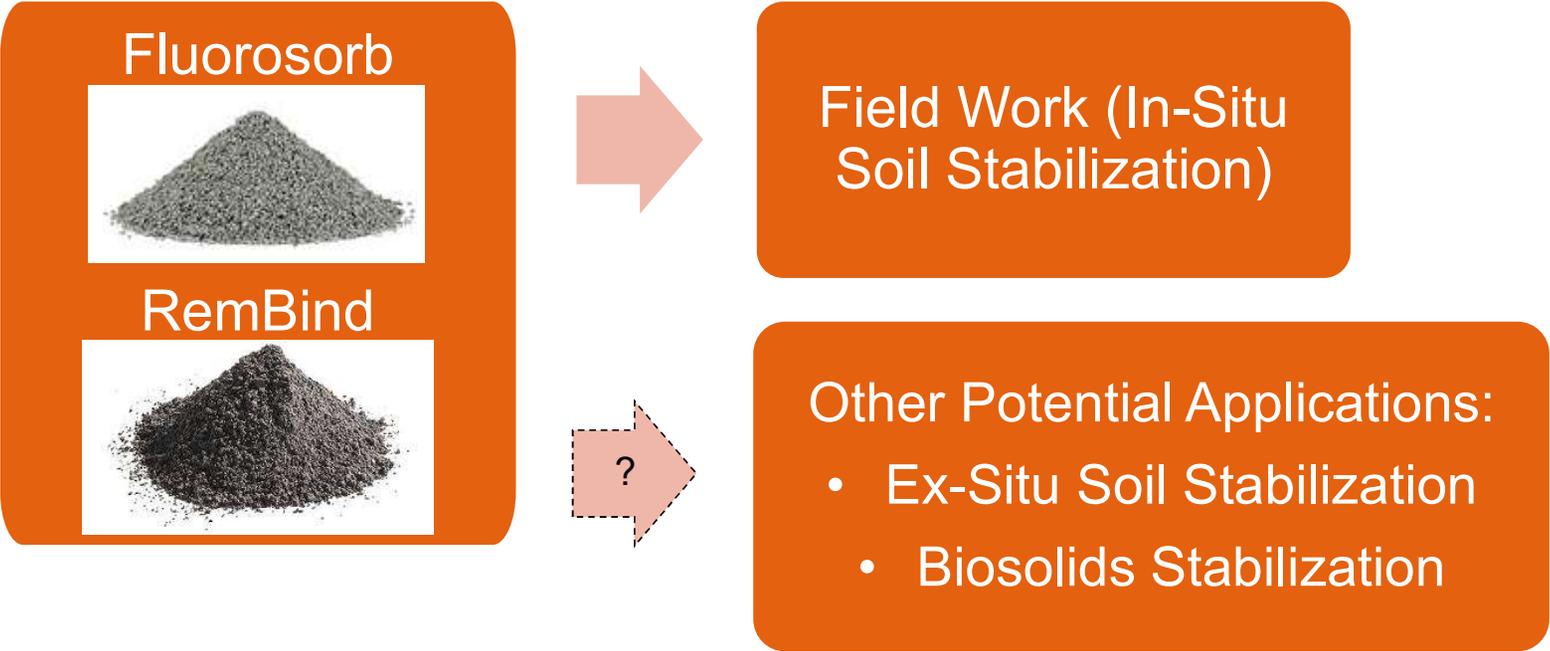


# Bench-Scale Treatability Test Step 4: Monolith Leach Evaluation

## T03 Leaching Interval Results



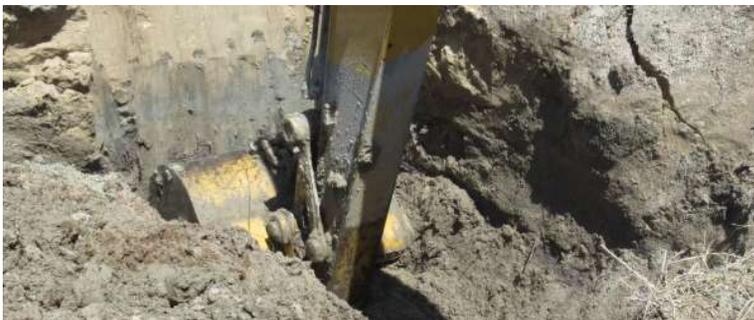
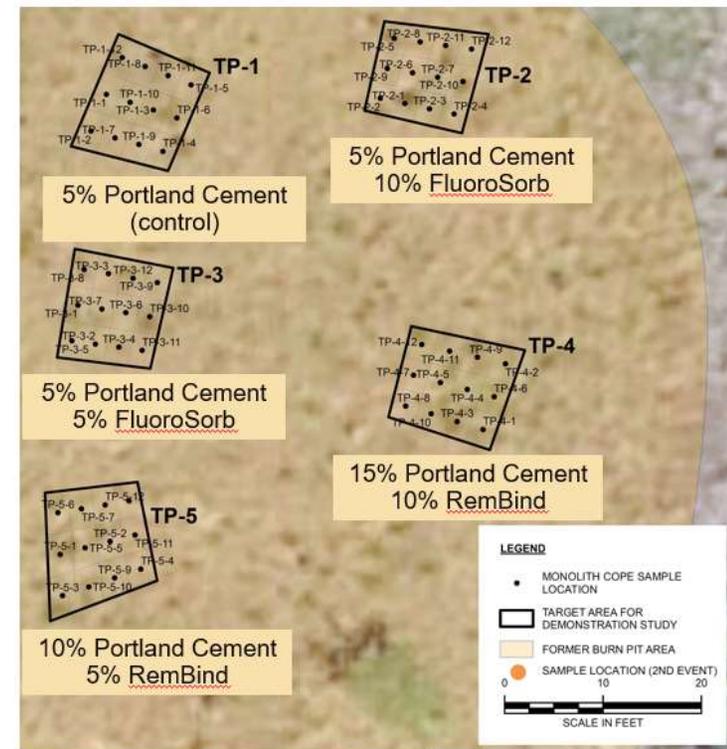
# Bench Scale Conclusions



# Field Scale Demonstration

# Field Implementation of Soil Mixing

- 5 test pits installed in July 2018
- 5 feet of overburden removed from each test pit. Mixing target depth interval was 5 – 15 ft bgs.
- Excavator was used to loosen the material to a depth of 15 ft bgs
- Fixants were measured and mixed with a bucket and rotary mixers while the necessary amount of water was added
- Plastic sheets were placed over the test pits while the fixant mixture dried out and hardened
- Site was graded with excess overburden soil
- 4 days total to stabilize the 5 test pits



# Field Implementation of Soil Mixing

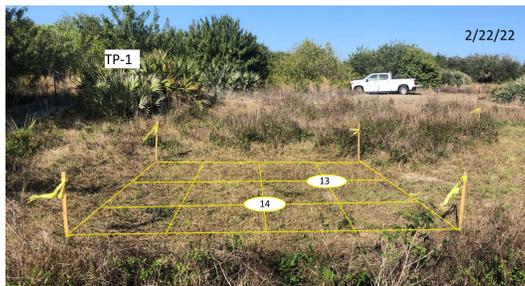
- 1<sup>st</sup> Sampling Event (5-months post stabilization)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sampling Event (12-months)
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Sampling Event (16-months)
- 4<sup>th</sup> Sampling Event (22-months)
- 5<sup>th</sup> Sampling Event (28-months)



FluoroSorb® Core



FluoroSorb® Core

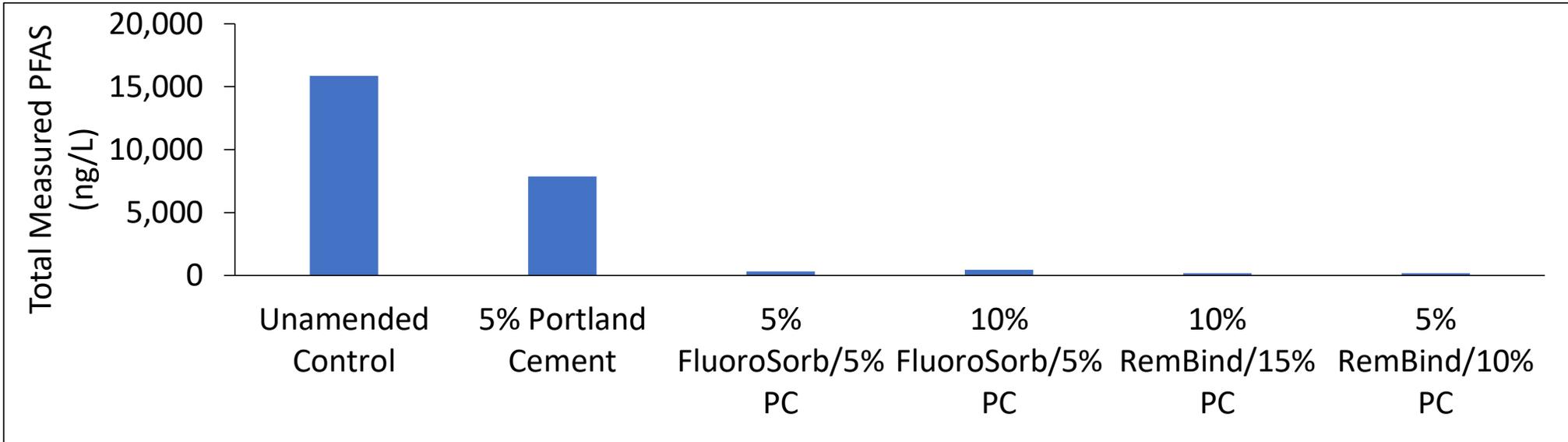


RemBind® Core



RemBind® Core

# Field Performance Monitoring (Method 1315 – T03 Leaching Interval) 28 months Post Stabilization



Long-term field-scale test pits - multiple orders of magnitude reduced leachability versus portland cement or unamended control

Negligible differences between FluoroSorb® and RemBind® at the 5% and 10% concentrations

USEPA Method 1315 successfully used to evaluate time series leachability from test pits

## BAA 120

**July 2018** - Soil Stabilization Implemented

**December 2018** – 1<sup>st</sup> Sampling Event (5-months post stabilization)

**July 2019** – 2<sup>nd</sup> Sampling Event (12-months)

**October 2019** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Sampling Event (16-months)

**April 2020** – 4<sup>th</sup> Sampling Event (22-months)

**October 2020** – 5<sup>th</sup> Sampling Event (28-months)

**August 2021** – BAA 120 Final Report

## BAA 2105

**February 2022** – Conducted Sampling Event (42-months)

**January 2023** – Planned Sampling Event (54-months)

**January 2024** – Planned Sampling Event (66 months)

**Novel imaging methods** - Establish location of PFAS in soil column relative to the fixants

# In-Situ Stabilization Costing Tool



User Name				Date																																																																																						
Input for general information	*If In Situ Soil Treatment & Stabilization (ISS)/restored area is able to be capped with no offsite soil disposal set Bulking volume to 0%																																																																																									
Input for formulas	Cost for post excavation/ISS sampling are not included in this model																																																																																									
Calculation																																																																																										
Drop Down	Drop down that does not match based on inputs (should be updated)																																																																																									
<b>Project Information</b>																																																																																										
Project Number				Operator	Type	Max Concentration																																																																																				
Project Name				Heritage Envi	Incineration	None	Distance																																																																																			
Project Location							100 miles																																																																																			
PFAS Soil Waste Disposal Location*	New Liverpool, Ohio (Drop down)																																																																																									
<b>Site Specifics</b>																																																																																										
Perimeter	200 linear feet			Soil Type	Sand (Drop down)																																																																																					
Area	1000 sq feet			Soil Density	1.3 (Handled for removal and replacement)																																																																																					
Depth	40 feet			Scenario (Order of Magnitude Volume)	1,000 to 10,000 cubic yards (Drop down)																																																																																					
Volume (CY)	1481.48			Shoring	Steel Sheet Pile -70 (Drop down)																																																																																					
Soil Weight (ton)	1925.93			*Use picklist to modify if scenario is known and adjust site specifics to be within parameters.																																																																																						
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2">Schedule</th> <th rowspan="2">Production Rate</th> <th rowspan="2">Days</th> <th rowspan="2">Weeks</th> <th colspan="3">Weather Days (1 day per 3 weeks)</th> <th colspan="3">Total Duration</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Days</th> <th>Weeks</th> <th>Months</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Mobilization / Site Preparation</td> <td></td> <td>1</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Excavation + Backfill</td> <td>400 cy/day</td> <td>7</td> <td>2</td> <td>2</td> <td>14</td> <td>3</td> <td>0.80</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISS (Amendment+PC)</td> <td>250 cy/day</td> <td>10</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>17</td> <td>4</td> <td>0.90</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISS (Amendment)</td> <td>250 cy/day</td> <td>10</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>17</td> <td>4</td> <td>0.90</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>ISS (Portland Cement)</td> <td>250 cy/day</td> <td>10</td> <td>3</td> <td>2</td> <td>17</td> <td>4</td> <td>0.90</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Loadout/ Demobilization</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Site Restoration</td> <td></td> <td>2</td> <td>1</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>								Schedule	Production Rate	Days	Weeks	Weather Days (1 day per 3 weeks)			Total Duration			Days	Weeks	Months	Mobilization / Site Preparation		1	1							Excavation + Backfill	400 cy/day	7	2	2	14	3	0.80			ISS (Amendment+PC)	250 cy/day	10	3	2	17	4	0.90			ISS (Amendment)	250 cy/day	10	3	2	17	4	0.90			ISS (Portland Cement)	250 cy/day	10	3	2	17	4	0.90			Loadout/ Demobilization		2	1							Site Restoration		2	1						
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RemBind	5%	by weight		Performance Monitoring	600 CY																																																																																					
FluoroSorb	5%	by weight		Other																																																																																						
Portland Cement (with oth	5%	by weight		Utility Survey and Markout	3.00 days																																																																																					
Portland Cement (only)	8%	by weight		Site Survey and Asbuilts	15.00 days																																																																																					

Note: Dewatering is not included in the model. Standard dewatering unit costs are included on the cost variable tab. User should determine applicability and \* Additional facilities may accept PFAS containing waste. Facilities locations are provided as an aid to determine distance to disposal facilities.

- Important Input Parameters:**
- Total volume/weight of soil to be stabilized
  - Production rates (i.e. how much soil can be stabilized per day)
  - Costs for stabilization agents

## Contact Information



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