

**SUBJECT**

Building 44 Pre-Design Investigation Work Plan  
RACER Trust, Buick City, Flint, MI

**TO**

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Jeremy Pepin – EGLE  
Shaun Shields – EGLE

**DATE**

Original Submittal: October 15, 2025  
Revised: February 19, 2026

**OUR REF**

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On behalf of Revitalizing Auto Communities Environmental Response (RACER) Trust, Arcadis of Michigan, LLC (Arcadis) has prepared this work plan for pre-design investigation activities at RACER Buick City (Site) in Flint, Michigan. This work plan has been revised to address those comments and recommendations in EGLE's Remediation Assistance Team Materials Management Division Remediation November 18, 2025 Single Entry Report that relate to this plan. The pre-design tasks will be completed to support design, bidding, contractor selection, and installation of a groundwater collection trench and groundwater treatment system to be installed for management of groundwater located within the former Building 44 area.

The following tasks are described in this work plan:

**Task 1:** Vertical Delineation. Investigation to evaluate the potential for deeper sand in the vicinity of the Building 44 source area;

**Task 2:** Geophysical Evaluation. Geophysical investigation to assess the extent of subsurface concrete that may impact trench construction to inform trench alignment and construction planning; and

**Task 3:** Treatability testing: Column tests to assess performance of treatment media options and inform design of the treatment system for collected groundwater prior to discharge to the City of Flint sanitary sewer.

Arcadis Technical Guidance Instruction (TGI) documents will be followed during drilling and sampling activities and are included in **Attachment 1**.

## Task 1: Vertical Delineation

The collection trench will be constructed to capture source area groundwater within the alluvium that is observed to extend from the ground surface to the clay till that has been observed at approximately 22 to 25 feet below ground surface (bgs). Vertical delineation will be performed to assess potential for deeper transmissive zones (sandy soils) below the top of the till in the vicinity of the Building 44 source area. Sufficiently deep borings/wells do not currently exist in this area to help with this assessment.

Two boring locations have been selected for investigation outside of the highest concentration source area to limit potential for drag-down of PFAS mass into potential deeper transmissive zones. The borings are located upgradient and downgradient of the source as shown on **Figure 1**. If an aquifer unit (i.e., transmissive zone) below the basal clay is identified in both borings, then a third boring will be advanced as shown on **Figure 1**. If the transmissive zone is also identified in the third boring, then monitoring wells will be installed and gauged to allow for triangulation of groundwater potentiometric surface elevation contours and estimate flow directions.

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The borings will be advanced using roto-sonic drilling methods to a depth of at least 20 feet below the top of the clay till (approximately 40-50 feet below grade). A six-inch outer casing will be advanced with the 4-inch inner core barrel during drilling to maintain hydraulic separation between the shallow groundwater and deeper units. If a sand unit is encountered 10-feet or more below the glacial till interface, a monitoring well will be considered for installation. The drilling observations will be discussed with EGLE to determine the final monitoring well strategy. If a sand unit is not encountered below the glacial till interface the borehole will be abandoned. The soil borings will be continuously logged and documented in accordance with the *TGI – Soil Description*.

The borehole will be abandoned based on ASTM D 5299-99 as outlined in the attached *TGI – Monitoring Well and Borehole Decommissioning*. A cement-bentonite grout (5% bentonite) will be pumped into the sonic casing via tremie pipe. As the grouting progresses the sonic casing will be slowly raised until the casing is removed from the borehole. If the grout settles over a 24-hour period, additional grout will be placed to the surface. When grouting is complete, the surface will be finished with like surface material (i.e., 1-2 feet of fill).

## Monitoring Well Installation and Development

Monitoring wells, if installed, will be completed and documented in accordance with the *TGI – Monitoring Well Installation*. Monitoring wells will be installed using double cased construction. The borehole will be advanced at least 3 feet into the top of the confining layer (the clay till), and a permanent 6-inch diameter steel casing will be installed into the confining layer. The annular space of the steel outer casing will then be tremie grouted from the bottom of the casing to the ground surface using a neat cement grout. The grout will be allowed to cure for a minimum of 24 hours before attempting to drill through the permanent casing to set a well. Monitoring wells will be constructed with 2-inch diameter, Schedule 40 polyvinyl chloride (PVC) casing with 5-foot long, 0.010-inch stainless steel, wire-wrapped well screens. A sand filter pack will be placed from the base of the screen to 2 feet above the top of the screen, with a minimum of 1-foot of 00 “choker” sand above the filter pack. Cement-bentonite grout will be placed above the choker sand to the ground surface. The wells will be completed with a traffic-rated, flush-mount well vault and concrete apron. Monitoring well development will be performed using pumping and surging techniques not less than 48 hours following well installation in accordance with *TGI – Monitoring Well Development*.

## Monitoring Well Sampling

Sampling will be conducted in accordance with the *TGI – Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Field Sampling Guide*, and *TGI – Low-Flow Groundwater Purging and Sampling Procedures for Monitoring Wells*. Sampling will be completed using low-flow groundwater purging and sampling procedures in accordance with the TGI guidance. Groundwater samples will be analyzed by modified method ASTM D7979 or EPA Method 537 Modified.

Equipment decontamination will be performed in accordance with *TGI – Groundwater and Soil Sampling Equipment Decontamination*, including a water level meter, multiparameter meter, and submersible pump. An equipment blank will be collected with decontaminated sampling equipment in accordance with *TGI - Equipment and Reagent Blank Sample Collection for PFAS Analysis*. One field duplicate and one matrix spike/matrix spike duplicate sample will be collected.

## Task 2: Geophysics Evaluation

Numerous concrete foundations are known to be present throughout the former Building 44 area, including throughout the area of the proposed trench alignment. To feasibly and cost-effectively construct the collection trench to the target depth of up to 25 feet bgs, one-pass trenching is currently proposed. Pre-trenching will be performed to remove concrete foundations where necessary prior to one-pass trenching. To reduce pre-trenching requirements, the final trench alignment will be developed to avoid areas with significant and deep concrete obstructions. To this end, a preliminary geophysical investigation will be carried out to assess the distribution of concrete obstructions within the proposed trenching area. A combination of Multispectral Analysis of Surface Waves (MASW) and deep ground-penetrating radar (GPR) will be used.

A series of two-dimensional MASW profiles running perpendicular across the anticipated trench alignment will be generated to map obstruction from the ground surface to a depth of approximately 25 and 30 feet bgs. Additionally, GPR transect data will be collected from the ground surface to between 15 and 20 feet bgs. The MASW transects and GPR coverage areas are depicted in **Figure 2**. Following this initial phase of data collection, field activities will break for two to three days while the MASW and GPR data is processed, and a refined ideal trench alignment is developed. Following the field break, a final MASW profile will be advanced along the refined trench alignment.

Following the final MASW profile and data evaluation, an allowance is proposed for up to ten soil borings along the proposed trench alignment. If necessary, the soil borings would be advanced to the glacial till (~25 feet below grade). The soil borings will confirm the depth of the till, the results of the geophysics survey and evaluate anomalies along the trench alignment as needed to assist in the interpretation of the geophysics data. Soil borings will be advanced using roto-sonic drilling methods. Upon completion the boreholes will be abandoned consistent with the above description and the attached *TGI – Monitoring Well and Borehole Decommissioning*.

The findings of the geophysics and confirmation borings (if needed) will be summarized (including geophysics imagery) in a memorandum following the field event. If it is determined that one-pass trenching is viable, then during development of the interim measures work plan a one-pass trenching contractor will be contacted to discuss equipment capabilities given site conditions, including the type and maximum size of obstructions that can be handled.

## Methodology

MASW profiles will be generated along transects running approximately 115 feet in length. Seismic impulses will be created along the line, a series of seismic receivers (geophones) positioned along the transect will be used to record surface wave velocities produced by the impulses, and a seismograph will sample the signal from the geophones. One-dimensional shear wave velocity models will be developed for geophone and compiled into a nearly continuous two-dimensional image of shear wave velocity versus depth. This image is the two-dimensional MASW profile that will be used to identify concrete obstructions. The transects will intersect previous soil borings and observations from those borings (such as concrete depth) will be used to correlate subsurface materials with shear wave velocities. Aerial imagery, historical building maps, and other available desktop information will be used to calibrate the findings in addition to refining the collection trench alignment.

GPR will be used to fill in gaps in MASW coverage, but the GPR resolution is limited to 15-20 feet. Because concrete has been observed up to 20 feet bgs, GPR may be ineffective at identifying the deepest obstructions. For this reason, and due to other potential gaps in MASW coverage as discussed below, GPR and MASW will be used in tandem.

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Seismic imagery will not be available at approximately 25-30 feet of either end of the MASW transects (so the 115-foot MASW transects will produce approximately 60 feet of MASW imagery). This will result in a coverage gap near Hamilton Avenue. GPR will be used to fill this gap. Additionally, MASW may be ineffective in areas of densely reinforced concrete, so GPR will provide coverage in these areas should this present an issue for MASW at the site. The GPR data will be collected using Sensors and Software's Noggin Plus GPR System (or similar) equipped with a 100 megahertz antenna. The system collects data continuously as it is operated and the operator has an immediate view of the subsurface, in addition to digitally storing the data later printing and analysis.

## Task 3: Treatability Evaluation

Bench-scale testing will be performed to evaluate the performance of granular activated carbon (GAC) and ion exchange (IX) media for removal of site contaminants of concern (primarily PFAS) and attainment of City of Flint sanitary sewer and potential NPDES permit discharge limits during operation of the groundwater interceptor trench.

## Groundwater Collection and Analysis

Groundwater will be collected from the four monitoring well intervals indicated on **Figure 3**. Shallow (screened with total depth less than 10 feet below ground surface [ft bgs]) and deep (screened with total depth > 10 ft bgs) monitoring wells were selected from near the center of each of the two legs of the trench to provide spatial representation of the future water to be extracted. The wells were also selected so that, when blended, the influent water for the treatability evaluation would represent the higher end of the PFAS concentration range that may be extracted during trench operation.

As discussed in the December 10, 2025, monthly meeting with EGLE, RACER, and Arcadis, prior to groundwater collection for bench-scale testing, samples will be collected for the analytical suite indicated in **Table 1** using the same low-flow sampling procedures as described under Task 1. The analytical suite includes contaminants of concern (PFAS and co-contaminants), general chemistry, and water quality characteristics (e.g., competing ions, foulants) that directly affect GAC and IX performance. The low-flow sampling will be performed prior to treatability water collection to establish geochemical equilibrium and mitigate VOC volatilization. It is recognized that some degree of volatilization may occur during subsequent storage and transport. If significant VOC loss were to occur, this could result in reduced competitive loading in the Rapid Small-Scale Column Test (RSSCT) column, potentially overstating GAC performance relative to field conditions. To address this, initial VOC characterization results will be used to contextualize RSSCT results, and the focus of treatability testing will remain on PFAS.

Following low-flow sampling for the analytical suite in **Table 1**, the water from the wells will be pumped into 5-gallon HDPE mixing pails with half-gallon measurements using a submersible pump. Water will then be transferred into the drum with a drum pump to minimize VOC volatilization.

Approximately 30 gallons of water will be collected in total from the four well intervals. The water will be collected into one 30-gallon HDPE drum, apportioned in accordance with **Table 2**. The wells were selected to represent the approximate groundwater concentrations anticipated from the shallow and deep zones along each trench segment. The ratios of water to be collected were developed based on the estimated groundwater flux rates for the operating collection trench system, with approximately 75% of the flow from the shallow zone with 25% from the deep zone.

Laboratory samples will be shipped to ALS Environmental Laboratories for analysis, and the drum will be shipped to Xylem Water Solutions for bench-scale testing in accordance with standard chain-of-custody requirements, including DOT labeling and shipping requirements, as described in *TGI – Sample Chain of Custody*. A substitute laboratory may be identified for analysis of anions, hardness, total organic carbon (TOC), dissolved organic carbon (DOC), and oil & grease.

**Table 1. Proposed Analytical Suite**

| Group                                 | Analytes  | Purpose / Notes   |
|---------------------------------------|---|---|
| <b>General Chemistry</b>              | Field: pH, temperature, oxidation-reduction potential, conductivity, turbidity<br>Laboratory: total dissolved solids        | Overall water quality context; scaling/fouling indicators |
| <b>VOCs</b>                           | EPA Method 8260   | Identify volatile co-contaminants                         |
| <b>PFAS</b>                           | EPA Method 537 Mod or ASTM 7979   | Primary contaminants of concern; treatment design basis   |
| <b>SVOCs</b>                          | EPA Method 8270   | Identify semi-volatile co-contaminants                    |
| <b>Metals (total &amp; dissolved)</b> | Iron, manganese, calcium, magnesium, sodium, potassium (EPA Method 6020/6010)   | Fe/Mn fouling; Ca/Mg hardness; Na/K ionic strength        |
| <b>Competing Anions</b>               | Sulfate, chloride, alkalinity (as CaCO <sub>3</sub> ), fluoride   | Compete for IX resin sites; reduce capacity               |
| <b>Silica</b>                         | Reactive silica   | Potential foulant for IX/GAC; pretreatment trigger        |
| <b>Hardness</b>                       | As CaCO <sub>3</sub>  | Scaling tendency; informs pre-treatment                   |
| <b>TOC/DOC</b>                        | Total Organic Carbon, Dissolved Organic Carbon  | Compete for GAC adsorption sites; shorten bed life        |
| <b>Oil &amp; Grease</b>               | EPA Method 1664   | Fouling potential for IX/GAC                              |
| <b>Other Indicators</b>               | Arsenic, cadmium, chromium, copper, lead, mercury, nickel, silver, and zinc (EPA Method 6020)<br>Mercury (EPA Method 245.1) | Sanitary sewer pretreatment requirements                  |

VOC = volatile organic compound; SVOC = semi volatile organic compound; CaCO<sub>3</sub> = calcium carbonate

**Table 2. Water Collection Plan**

| Drum                    | Representative Area                      | Monitoring Well  | PFOS Concentration | Volume to be Collected |
|-------------------------|--|------------------|--------------------|------------------------|
| (1) 30 gallon HDPE drum | Eastern Collection Trench, Deep Zone     | MW-04-151(15-20) | 160                | 3.5 gallons            |
|                         | Eastern Collection Trench, Shallow Zone  | MW-04-151(4-9)   | 8200               | 11.5 gallons           |
|                         | Southern Collection Trench, Deep Zone    | SB-04-49(13-18)  | 390,000            | 3.5 gallons            |
|                         | Southern Collection Trench, Shallow Zone | SB-04-46(4-9)    | 42,000             | 11.5 gallons           |

Estimated Concentration: 64,762 ppt PFOS

## Bench-Scale Testing

Bench-scale testing will be conducted using Rapid Small-Scale Column Tests (RSSCTs) to provide timely results that can be scaled to full-scale design.

Both RSSCTs and conventional pilot columns are recognized methods for evaluating GAC and IX performance. The RSSCT approach was selected to accelerate testing by reducing media particle size and adjusting flow conditions to mimic replicate full-scale mass transfer behavior under assumed operating conditions.

RSSCTs are useful during pre-design evaluations because they require relatively small water volumes (tens of gallons rather than hundreds to thousands) and provide quicker turnaround for comparing media types (weeks rather than months). This supports early evaluation of treatment alternatives and planning level cost estimates within the project schedule.

**Table 3** summarizes general full scale operating conditions used solely for RSSCT scaling purposes along with the corresponding bench scale test parameters. Final full scale design criteria will be established in subsequent project phases following interpretation of the RSSCT results.

**Table 3. Design Parameters**

| General                             | Units               | GAC       | IX        |
|-------------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>Full-Scale Design Parameters</b> |                     |           |           |
| Mesh size                           | none                | 12 x 40   | 16 x 40   |
| Vessel diameter                     | ft                  | 4         | 3         |
| Volume of media per vessel          | ft <sup>3</sup>     | 68        | 30        |
| Media bed depth                     | ft                  | 5.4       | 4.2       |
| Flowrate                            | gpm                 | 20        | 20        |
| Hydraulic loading rate              | gpm/ft <sup>2</sup> | 1.6       | 2.8       |
| Empty bed contact time              | min                 | 25.5      | 11.2      |
| <b>Bench-Scale Design</b>           |                     |           |           |
| Mesh Size                           | none                | 170 x 200 | 120 x 170 |

| General                    | Units  | GAC   | IX    |
|----------------------------|--------|-------|-------|
| Column diameter            | cm     | 0.476 | 0.476 |
| Volume of media per column | mL     | 1.42  | 0.713 |
| Media bed depth            | cm     | 8.0   | 4.0   |
| Flowrate                   | mL/min | 7.4   | 2.0   |
| Empty bed contact time     | min    | 0.19  | 0.36  |

cm = centimeter; ft = feet; ft<sup>3</sup> = cubic feet; gpm = gallons per minute; gpm/ft<sup>2</sup> = gallons per minute per square foot; min = minute; mL/min = milliliter per minute

The groundwater collected into one 30-gallon drum under Task 2 will be used as influent feedwater for the RSSCTs. Prior to column loading, the influent water received at the testing laboratory will be sampled for the full analytical suite (Table 1) to establish a baseline condition representative of the water actually being tested. This step will allow evaluation of potential changes in water chemistry during storage and transport and also provide a direct comparison between the field baseline samples and the influent used for treatability testing. The results will ensure that the RSSCT outcomes are interpreted properly in comparison to field conditions. Below is a summary of the approach and objectives.

### Column Setup and Operation

- Duplicate columns will be prepared for each media type (GAC and IX).
- Influent water will be fed at controlled flow rates to simulate full-scale hydraulic loading.
- Effluent will be sampled periodically to monitor contaminant breakthrough, with approximately 10 PFAS samples per media via EPA Method 537 modified and additional co-contaminants (i.e., VOCs, inorganics) analyzed as appropriate based on baseline results.
- Parameters such as bed volumes treated to breakthrough, exhaustion profiles, and removal efficiencies will be tracked.

### Interpretation

Breakthrough curves will be analyzed with respect to:

- PFAS chain length behavior (short-chain vs. long-chain).
- Impact of competing anions (sulfate, alkalinity/bicarbonate, chloride, etc.) on IX capacity.
- Influence of TOC/DOC and natural organic matter on GAC run times.
- Fouling/scaling risk from silica, iron, manganese, and hardness.

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## Deliverables

Results from the column/RSSCT testing will be compiled into a technical memorandum, including:

- Media exhaustion rates and projected changeout frequencies.
- Estimated bed volumes treated under site-specific chemistry.
- Comparative performance of GAC and IX.
- Inputs for a life-cycle cost analysis, including projected media usage, replacement frequency, and waste generation volumes.
- Design relevant parameters such as Empty Bed Contact Time (EBCT), surface loading rates and bed depth to inform preliminary sizing and configuration of full-scale vessels.

## Conclusions

Tasks are proposed to be initiated within 30 days of approval to proceed by EGLE. It is not anticipated that the vertical delineation findings will affect implementation of the collection trench, rather will close some important data gaps and help focus the design and bid documents.

Results of sampling will be provided to EGLE electronically within sixty (60) days of completion of the sample collection event (R 299.9611 Environmental Monitoring, Rule 611(6)). Analytical results will be managed using RACER's EQUIS database and the site-specific digital Conceptual Site Model. Results of each task will be communicated to EGLE in ongoing monthly meetings and summarized in a letter report.

Enclosures:

## Figures

Figure 1 Vertical Delineation Boring Locations

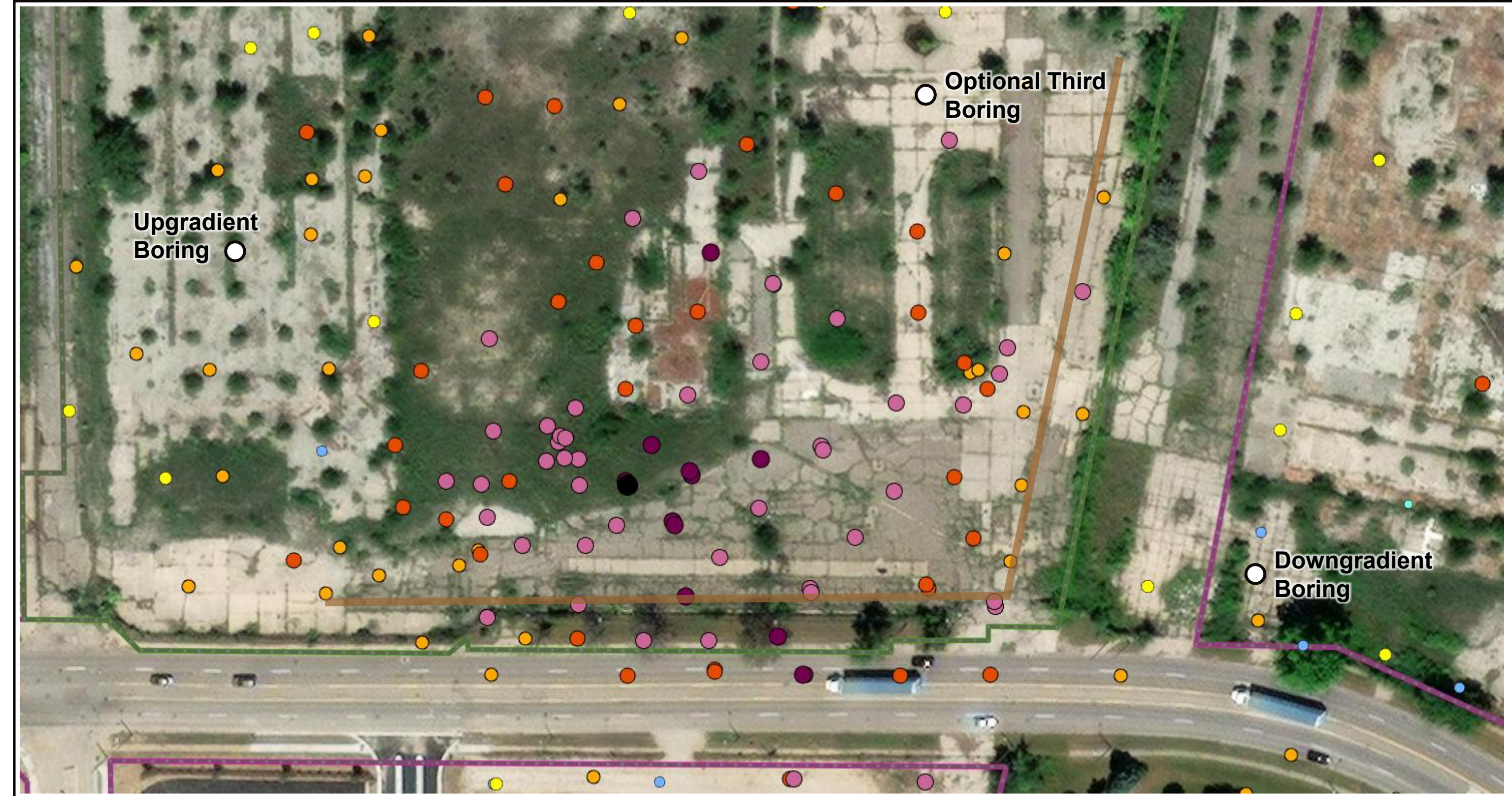
Figure 2 Geophysical Investigation

Figure 3 Treatability Water Collection Locations

## Attachments

Attachment 1 Technical Guidance Instructions

# Figures

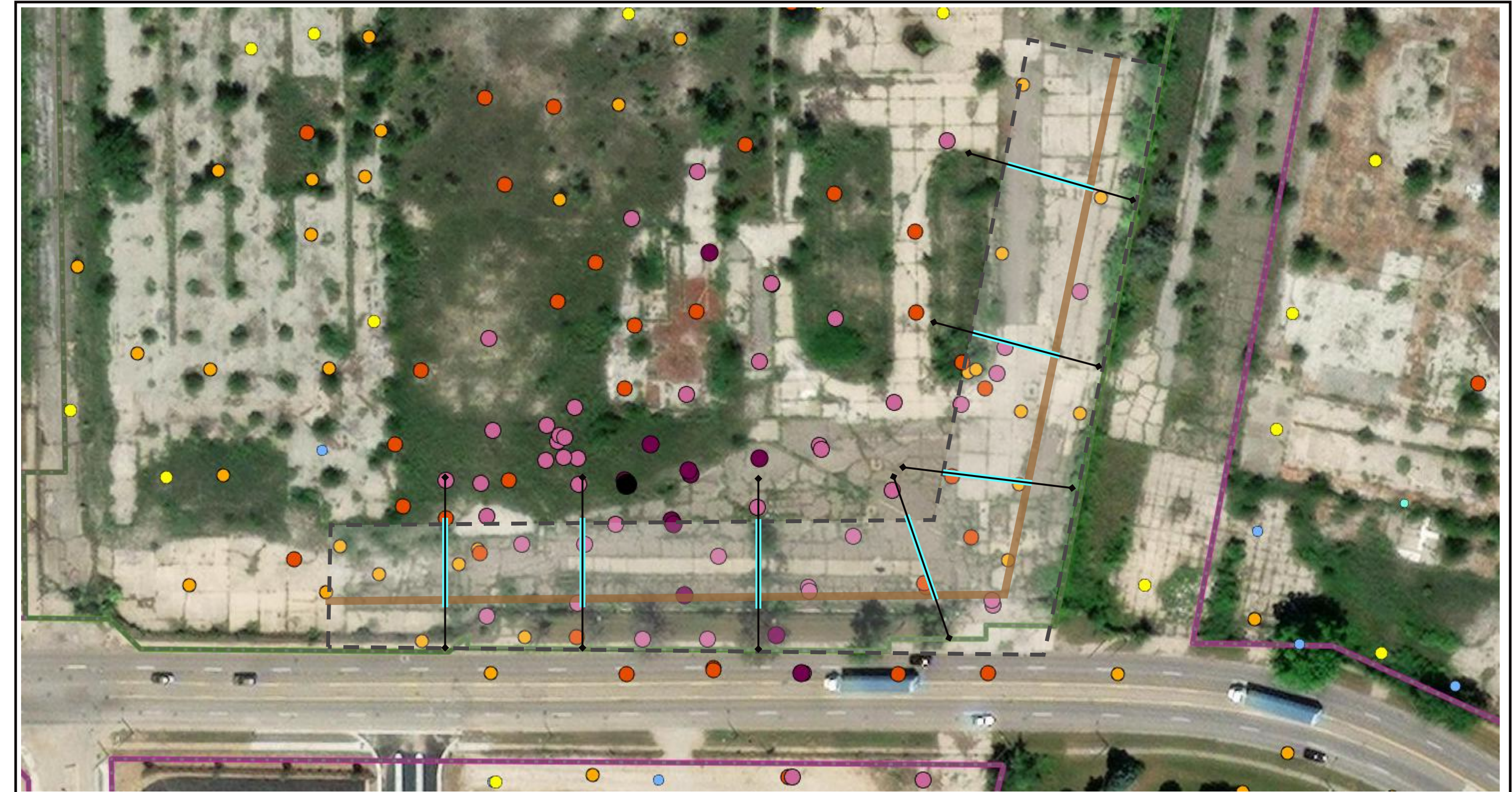


- Preliminary groundwater collection trench alignment
- Proposed vertical delineation drilling location
- Current RACER-owned properties
- Former RACER-owned properties

**Maximum PFAS Exceedance in Groundwater Sample**

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| >10,000x to 100,000x the SL | Detection < SL       |
| >1,000x to 10,000x the SL   | Non-detect (RL > SL) |
| >100x to 1,000x the SL      | Non-detect (RL ≤ SL) |
| >10x to 100x the SL         |                      |
| ≥SL to 10x the SL           |                      |

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| RACER TRUST, BUICK CITY, FLINT, MI           |          |
| <b>VERTICAL DELINEATION BORING LOCATIONS</b> |          |
|  | FIGURE 1 |



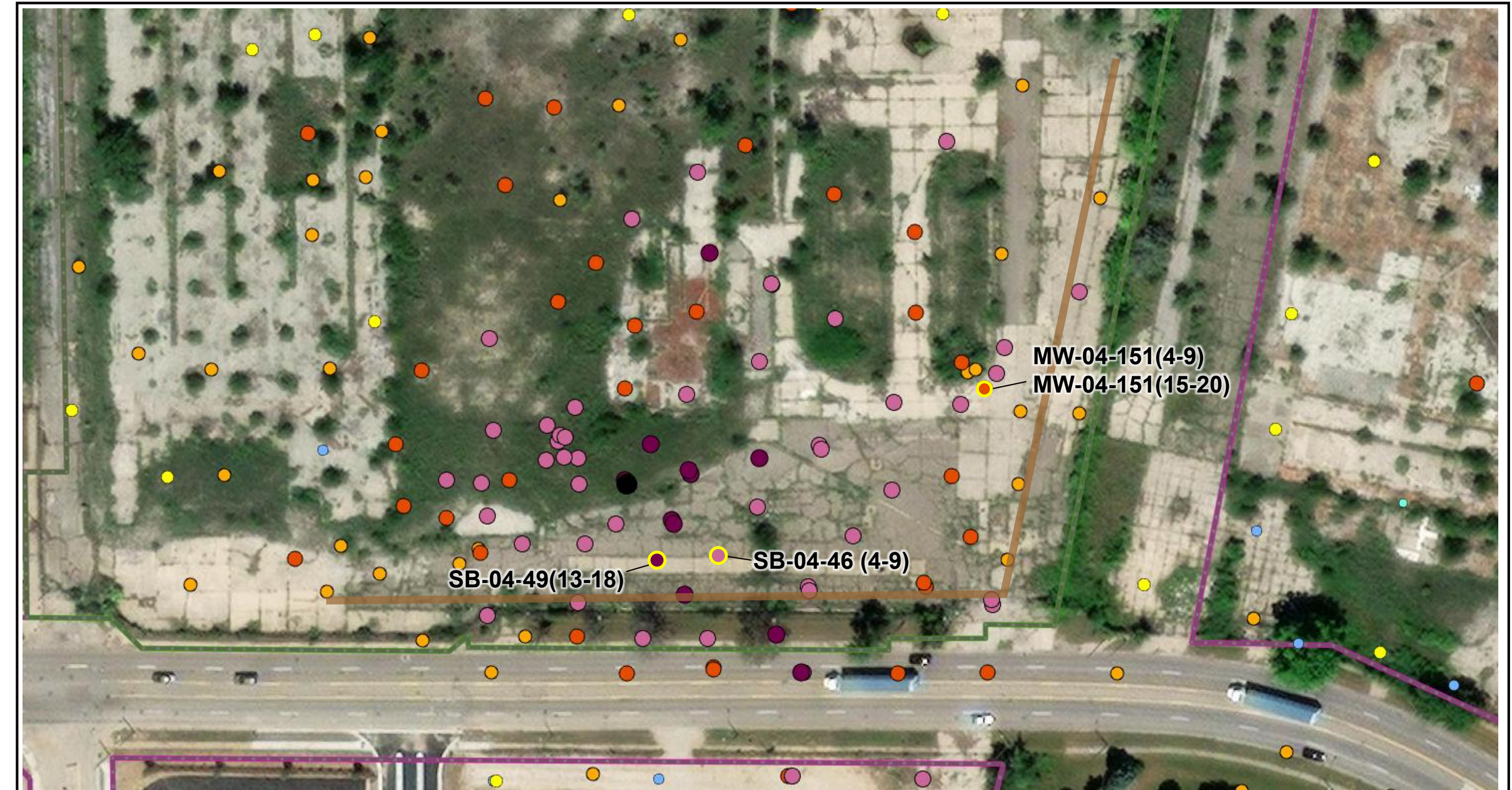
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- Preliminary groundwater collection trench alignment
- GPR survey area
- MASW transect (extent of data collection)
- MASW imagery profile
- Current RACER-owned properties
- Former RACER-owned properties

**Maximum PFAS Exceedance in Groundwater Sample**

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| >10,000x to 100,000x the SL | Detection < SL       |
| >1,000x to 10,000x the SL   | Non-detect (RL > SL) |
| >100x to 1,000x the SL      | Non-detect (RL ≤ SL) |
| >10x to 100x the SL         |                      |
| ≥SL to 10x the SL           |                      |

|                                    |                    |
|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| RACER TRUST, BUICK CITY, FLINT, MI |                    |
| GEOPHYSICAL INVESTIGATION          |                    |
|                                    | FIGURE<br><b>2</b> |



- Preliminary groundwater collection trench alignment
- Proposed treatability water collection well
- Current RACER-owned properties
- Former RACER-owned properties

**Maximum PFAS Exceedance in Groundwater Sample**

- |                             |                      |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| >10,000x to 100,000x the SL | Detection < SL       |
| >1,000x to 10,000x the SL   | Non-detect (RL > SL) |
| >100x to 1,000x the SL      | Non-detect (RL ≤ SL) |
| >10x to 100x the SL         |                      |
| ≥SL to 10x the SL           |                      |

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**TREATABILITY WATER COLLECTION LOCATIONS**



# **Attachment 1**

**Technical Guidance Instructions**

# **TGI – Monitoring Well and Borehole Decommissioning**

Rev: 4

Rev Date: August 22, 2024

## Version Control

| Issue | Revision No. | Date Issued     | Page No.  | Description   | Reviewed By                 |
|-------|--------------|-----------------|-----------|---|-----------------------------|
|       | 0            | March 16, 2021  | All       | Updated and re-written at a TGI   | Marc Killingstad            |
|       | 1            | April 13, 2022  | All       | Updated to new format, minor content and added decision chart   | Chris Shepherd/Jay Erickson |
|       | 2            | April 5, 2023   | All       | Annual review completed by Marc Killingstad.<br><br>Updated document revision number and document date.<br><br>Updated revision control page to reflect the changes made. | Marc Killingstad            |
|       | 3            | August 1, 2023  | Section 3 | Update to include considerations for developing site-specific plans for each decommissioning.   | Marc Killingstad            |
|       | 4            | August 22, 2024 | All       | Annual review and minor edits for clarity   | Marc Killingstad            |

## Approval Signatures

Prepared by:

8/22/2024

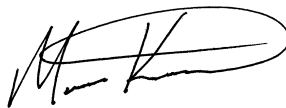


Chris Shepherd/Jay Erickson (Preparer)

Date

Reviewed by:

8/22/2024



Marc Killingstad (Subject Matter Expert)

Date

## 1 Introduction

This technical guidance instruction (TGI) describes the procedures for decommissioning groundwater monitoring wells and drilled boreholes. Monitoring wells and boreholes may be decommissioned when (1) it is found they are no longer suitable for collection of groundwater data (i.e., groundwater quality or groundwater elevation) due to damage and/or questionable construction; (2) they must be removed to avoid interference with other construction activities in the area or relocated for more effective monitoring; or (3) groundwater monitoring is no longer required at the location (i.e., temporary well or borehole).

## 2 Intended Use and Responsibilities

This document describes general and/or specific procedures, methods, actions, steps, and considerations to be used and observed by Arcadis staff when performing work, tasks, or actions under the scope and relevancy of this document. This document may describe expectations, requirements, guidance, recommendations, and/or instructions pertinent to the service, work task, or activity it covers.

It is the responsibility of the Arcadis Certified Project Manager (CPM) to provide this document to the persons conducting services that fall under the scope and purpose of this procedure, instruction, and/or guidance. The Arcadis CPM will also ensure that the persons conducting the work falling under this document are appropriately trained and familiar with its content. The persons conducting the work under this document are required to meet the minimum competency requirements outlined herein, and inquire to the CPM regarding any questions, misunderstanding, or discrepancy related to the work under this document.

This document is not considered to be all inclusive nor does it apply to all projects. It is the CPM's responsibility to determine the proper scope and personnel required for each project. There may be project- and/or client- and/or state-specific requirements that may be more or less stringent than what is described herein. The CPM is responsible for informing Arcadis and/or Subcontractor personnel of omissions and/or deviations from this document that may be required for the project. In turn, project staff are required to inform the CPM if or when there is a deviation or omission from work performed as compared to what is described herein.

In following this document to execute the scope of work for a project, it may be necessary for staff to make professional judgment decisions to meet the project's scope of work based upon site conditions, staffing expertise, regulation-specific requirements, health and safety concerns, etc. Staff are required to consult with the CPM when or if a deviation or omission from this document is required that has not already been previously approved by the CPM. Upon approval by the CPM, the staff can perform the deviation or omission as confirmed by the CPM.

## 3 Scope and Application

The purpose for decommissioning monitoring wells or boreholes no longer in use is to (where applicable):

- Eliminate physical hazards associated with an out-of-use monitoring well or drilled borehole
- Conserve the yield and hydrostatic head of confining aquifers
- Reduce maintenance costs, relocate for more effective monitoring/characterization or facilitate property development

- Prevent the intermingling of separate aquifers; and
- Remove a potential conduit for the vertical migration of constituents in groundwater.

This TGI covers the decommissioning of single-cased overburden monitoring wells when a replacement well will not be installed within the same borehole. Three potential decommissioning methods—plug-in-place, casing removal, and overdrilling—are described below. In addition, guidance for the decommissioning of a soil boring when only drilled for characterization and/or a monitoring well has not been installed, is also provided.

*Although these procedures are generally applicable for the decommissioning of double-cased monitoring wells or wells installed within bedrock, it is critical that a detailed decommissioning strategy be developed on a well-by-well basis to avoid possible technical and/or health and safety issues (e.g., leaving conductor casing in place while overdrilling monitoring well casing may require a different grout mix to accommodate subsurface expansion of the grout and avoid possible heaving at the ground surface).*

Additional information regarding potential methods to decommission these types of wells (i.e., double-cased or bedrock monitoring wells) may be found in *ASTM D5299-17 – Standard Guide for Decommissioning of Ground Water Wells, Vadose Zone Monitoring Devices, Boreholes, and Other Devices for Environmental Activities* (ASTM 2018). Furthermore, *ASTM D6001-05 – Standard Guide for Direct-Push Groundwater Sampling for Environmental Site Characterization* (ASTM 2012) provides details on methods used to decommission boreholes or temporary monitoring wells installed via direct push technology (DPT). Consultation with appropriate subject matter expert is also recommended prior to developing decommissioning plans.

## 4 Personnel Qualifications

Arcadis field personnel will have completed or are in the process of completing site-specific training as well as having current health and safety training as required by Arcadis, client, or regulations, such as 40-hour HAZWOPER training and/or OSHA HAZWOPER site supervisor training. Arcadis personnel will also have current training as identified in the site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) which may include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Blood Borne Pathogens (BBP) as needed. The HASP will also identify any access control requirements.

Prior to mobilizing to the field, the team will review and be thoroughly familiar with relevant site-specific documents including but not limited to the task-specific work plan or field implementation plan (FIP)/field sampling plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), HASP, historical information, and other relevant site documents.

Arcadis personnel will be knowledgeable in the relevant processes, procedures, and TGIs and possess the demonstrated required skills and experience necessary to successfully complete the desired field work. Additionally, the Arcadis team will review and be thoroughly familiar with documentation provided by equipment manufacturers and become familiar with the operation of (i.e., hands-on experience) all equipment that will be used in the field prior to mobilization.

The decommissioning procedures described below will be carefully adhered to and conducted under the supervision of an experienced geologist, engineer, or other qualified individual. Ideally, Arcadis personnel directing, supervising, or leading well decommissioning activities will have a minimum of one (1) year of previous experience with decommissioning procedures. It is recommended that field employees with less than six (6) months of experience be accompanied by a supervisor (as described above) to ensure that proper decommissioning techniques are employed.

Drilling contractors involved in the decommissioning activities must be trained with the equipment and must be licensed within the applicable state. Further, drilling contractors will provide their own, task-specific Health & Safety Plan, which will be included in the HASP, unless specified otherwise.

## 5 Equipment List

The following materials, as required, will be available during pre-decommissioning and decommissioning activities:

- Site Health and Safety Plan (HASP)
- Copy of Well Decommissioning (Abandonment) Permit, if required. If a grout inspection is required as specified in the Well Decommissioning (Abandonment) Permit, contact the appropriate agency prior to field activities.
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) and health and safety equipment as required in the HASP (e.g., air monitoring equipment, hard hat, steel-toe boots, exclusion zone barriers/caution tape)
- FIP that includes (at a minimum) site map, well construction records (table or logs), location of wells to be decommissioned, and decommissioning plan
- Information concerning the construction of the well to be decommissioned (i.e., location, ID, photos, boring and construction logs, etc.)
- Appropriate field forms or field notebook

*NOTE: Example forms including a Well Decommissioning Checklist, a Well Decommissioning Form, and a Well Decommissioning Record are included with this TGI as **Attachment A***

- Well keys
- Electronic water-level probe
- Cleaning/decontamination equipment
  - Non-phosphate laboratory soap (Alconox or equivalent), brushes, clean buckets or clean wash tubs—new buckets or tubs will be purchased if it cannot be determined if the present items are clean
  - Distilled or de-ionized water for equipment decontamination
- Drill rig with registered well driller (with copy of driller’s registration) and experienced personnel if overdrilling is used as method for decommissioning or if appropriate
- Any necessary specialized well drilling/decommissioning equipment/materials including (but not limited to):
  - Tremie pipe
  - Estimated volume of predetermined type of cement specified (e.g., Type I/II Portland cement). Additional quantities (1.5 times or more) of the estimated quantity are recommended (see Section 10)
  - Appropriate sealing material, such as bentonite

- Identify appropriate water source for mixing cement (use potable water source if/when available)
- Appropriate mixers to mix the cement or grout to the project specifications
- Containers for collecting spoils and well materials; and

## 6 Cautions

- *Ensure that all state, local, and client requirements for well/borehole decommissioning are reviewed and followed and that any required permits are secured prior to mobilization.*
- Access to the property where the monitoring well/borehole is located will be secured in advance.
- Utility clearance is required prior to decommissioning activities. Utility clearance may or may not have been conducted prior to well/borehole installation or utilities could have been installed adjacent to the well/borehole after installation.
- Avoid using drilling fluids or materials that could impact groundwater or soil quality or could be incompatible with the subsurface conditions.
- Water used for overdrilling or grouting boreholes upon completion will be of a quality acceptable for project objectives. If the water quality is unknown, testing of water supply will be performed.
- Specifications of materials used for backfilling the borehole will be obtained, reviewed, and approved to meet project quality objectives and jurisdictional specifications. Backfill material needs to be suitable for the geology and contaminants at the well location. Some grouts may crack and leak particularly when used in the vadose zone (Olufsen et al. 2009).
- Grout and cement mixtures will be checked to verify they meet the specifications (e.g., water to solids ratio). Verify with the contractor that they can mix the materials to the required specifications prior to mobilizing.
- All sealing material including bentonite tablets, pellets, chips, or slurry grouts must be listed under *American Standards Institute/National Sanitation Foundation (ANSI/NSF) Standard 60* for potable water contact, if the well and/or aquifer is designated for drinking water.
- If the borehole was advanced through an asphalt or concrete surface using a cutting or coring devices, all debris needs to be removed before filling the opening with material matching the surrounding surface. Check with the owner or operator for specification regarding the surface replacements.

## 7 Health and Safety Considerations

Health and safety protocols will be described in the site-specific HASP. The HASP will be followed, as appropriate, to ensure the safety of field personnel.

Utilities must be cleared in accordance with Arcadis's Health and Safety Standard *Utility Location and Clearance* before doing intrusive activities (e.g., digging or overdrilling).

Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) will be worn at all times in line with the task and the site-specific HASP.

Review all site-specific and procedural hazards as they are provided in the HASP, and review Job Safety Analysis (JSA) documents in the field each day prior to beginning work. If a JSA does not exist for the decommissioning work to be performed, field staff or team member will prepare a new, task-specific JSA.

*If at any time during conduct of the work it becomes apparent that the proper tools to do the job safely are not available or the conditions are unsafe, stop work and contact the project manager and/or the health and safety manager.*

## 8 Procedure

The plug-in-place, casing removal, overdrilling, and borehole decommissioning/abandonment methods are briefly described below. Typical steps to complete monitoring well decommissioning and borehole abandonment are included in **Attachments B through E**.

*NOTE: Some sites/jurisdictions may allow clean backfilling with soils, etc. (i.e., clean boreholes/sites) depending on the exact circumstances (i.e., not a significant vertical conduit). See matrix at the end of this section.*

The procedures outlined herein correspond to ASTM D5299, which allows for modifications to procedures, based on site-specific conditions. ASTM D5299 states

*Decommissioning of boreholes and monitoring wells, and other devices requires that the specific characteristics of each site be considered. The wide variety of geological, biological, and physical conditions, construction practices, and chemical composition of the surrounding soil, rock, waste, and groundwater precludes the use of a single decommissioning practice. The procedures discussed in this guide are intended to aid the geologist or engineer in selecting the tasks required to plan, choose materials for, and carry out an effective permanent decommissioning operation. Each individual situation should be evaluated separately, and the appropriate technology applied to best meet site conditions. Considerations for selection of appropriate procedures are presented in this guide, but other considerations based on site specific conditions should also be taken into account.*

### 8.1 Plug-In-Place Method

In this method the well screen is left in place and may be additionally perforated, along with the casing, to allow the grout seal to penetrate the surrounding annulus. The plug-in-place method is applicable at locations where available information indicates that the annular space contains an adequate seal and vertical migration of constituents across a confining layer into an adjacent aquifer(s) is not a concern in the well casing and screen interval, or if other considerations (e.g., double-cased well construction) preclude removal of the well casing. Typical procedures used to decommission a monitoring well using the plug-in-place method are presented in **Attachment B**.

### 8.2 Casing Removal Method

In this method, the protective casing and the well riser screen are removed, if possible, prior to sealing the borehole. The casing removal method is generally applicable at shallow locations where vertical migration of constituents across a confining layer into an adjacent aquifer(s) is not a concern and where the integrity of the borehole is reasonably expected to be maintained following removal of the well materials (i.e., the borehole will

not collapse to a significant degree). Typical procedures used to decommission a monitoring well using the casing removal method are presented in **Attachment C**.

## 8.3 Overdrilling Method

In this method, a portion or all the well is overdrilled to remove the casing and annular materials, if present, using a drill rig to prior to sealing the borehole. The overdrilling method is the most conservative decommissioning procedure and is primarily utilized at locations where a well has penetrated a confining layer and there is no evidence that the annular space around the well casing was adequately sealed, or if attempts to remove the well casing are unsuccessful. Typical procedures used to decommission a monitoring well using the overdrilling method are presented in **Attachment D**.

## 8.4 Abandoning a Soil Boring/Borehole

This method is used to abandon/seal a soil boring/borehole after drilling. The general steps for abandoning a soil boring/borehole are summarized in **Attachment E** and are based on *ASTM D5299-99* as well as *ASTM D6001*.

## 8.5 Pre-Abandonment Activities

All abandonment methods will employ the following initial steps at a minimum:

1. Staff will complete the following activities to identify the location, construction, and condition of the well/boring, and to determine the appropriate method and equipment to be utilized based on the depth, diameter, condition, and access to the monitoring well:
  - a. Review records concerning the well/boring to be decommissioned
  - b. Review the existing monitoring well log/boring log to identify characteristics (e.g., total depth, casing diameter, initial borehole diameter, type of casing, annulus seal(s), type of material(s) used)
2. Locate the monitoring well/boring in the field
  - a. Identify if the decommissioning equipment can access the monitoring well/boring and/or if special considerations (e.g., construction of an access road) are necessary to gain access
  - b. Conduct total depth measurements and water level measurements (as necessary)
  - c. A downhole video log may also be conducted to assess the condition of the well casing and screen (as necessary)
3. Review the regulations, FIP/work plan, and data quality objectives, and verify the condition of the well to determine the most appropriate well abandonment method (see matrix below)
4. Obtain decommissioning permits (as required)
5. Conduct utility clearance in accordance with Arcadis' HS Standard *Utility Location and Clearance*

6. Calculate the volume of the well/boring and the annulus (where appropriate) that will need to be filled utilizing field measurements, well construction/boring details, and formulas provided in the main document
7. Record all observations and measurements

The following tables indicates which abandonment methods may be most appropriate for specific conditions and additional measures that may be appropriate:

| Conditions  | Plug In Place | Casing Removal | Overdrilling | Additional measures   |
|---|---------------|----------------|--------------|---|
| No annular seal   | *             | X              | X            | Perforate casing* and grout annulus or overdrill and seal where appropriate   |
| Contamination present in borehole/well  | X             | X              | X            | Verify materials are compatible with contaminants or conditions (pH, chemical compatibility, etc.)                                |
| Contamination deemed not a threat to groundwater, borehole above confining layer and will not function as a conduit | -             | -              | -            | If the borehole is shallow, not a potential conduit, and FIP/objectives and regulations allow, it may be backfilled with cuttings |

## 9 Waste Management

Investigation-Derived Waste (IDW), including purge water, decontamination liquids, and disposable materials (plastic sheeting, PPE, etc.) will be stored on site in appropriately labeled containers (disposable materials will be contained separately) and disposed of properly. Containers must be labeled at the time of collection and will include date, location(s), site name, city, state, and description of matrix contained (e.g., soil, PPE). Waste will be managed in accordance with the *TGI – Investigation-Derived Waste Handling and Storage*, the procedures identified in the FIP or QAPP as well as state-, federal- or client-specific requirements. Be certain that waste containers are properly labeled and documented in the field log/notebook.

Waste management protocols will be described in the site-specific FIP.

## 10 Data Recording and Management

Digital data collection is the Arcadis standard using available FieldNow® applications that enable real-time, paperless data collection, entry, and automated reporting. Paper forms should only be used as backup to FieldNow® digital data collection and/or as necessary to collect data not captured by available FieldNow® applications. The Field Now® digital form applications follow a standardized approach, correlate to most TGIs and are available to all projects accessible with a PC or capable mobile device. Once the digital forms are saved within FieldNow®, the data is instantly available for review on a web interface. This facilitates review by project management team members and SMEs enabling error or anomalous data detection for correction while the staff are still in the field. Continual improvements of FieldNow® applications are ongoing, and revisions are made as necessary in response to feedback from users and subject matter experts.

The process of decommissioning the well and the materials used will be documented in the project-specific field book or on an appropriate field form in accordance with Arcadis QP306 – Field Activities Documentation.

Management of the original documents from the field will be completed in accordance with the site-specific QAPP. Records generated as a result of this TGI will be controlled and maintained in the project record files in accordance with project requirements.

To assure that a well is properly plugged and there has been no bridging of the plugging materials, verification calculations and measurements are required to determine whether the volume of material placed in the well/borehole equals or exceeds the volume of the void being filled. In general, the volume should exceed 120 percent of the well volume to account for the annulus. Alternatively, the volume of the annulus can be estimated. Further, staff should document quantities used and verify the grout/cement mixtures meet specifications. The calculations will be documented in the project-specific field notebook or the appropriate field form.

Some useful formulas for calculating well and material volumes are provided below.

- 7.481 gallons = 1 cubic foot
- 202.0 gallons = 1 cubic yard
- $Volume\ of\ Borehole\ [gal] = \pi \times (borehole\ radius)^2 [ft^2] \times (length\ of\ borehole)\ [ft] \times 7.481\ [gallons\ per\ cubic\ ft]$

## 11 Quality Assurance

Records (original field documents) generated as a result of this TGI will be controlled and maintained in the project record files in accordance with project requirements as outlined in the FIP/work plan and/or QAPP

Field forms, logs/notes (including daily field and relevant calibration logs), and digital records will be maintained by the field team lead.

Records will be transmitted to the Arcadis Project Manager and/or Task Manager, as appropriate, at the end of each day or as specified in the FIP/work plan.

Electronic data files will be sent to the project team and uploaded to the electronic project folder daily or as specified in the FIP/work plan.

Management of the original documents from the field will be completed in accordance with the site-specific QAPP.

## 12 References

ASTM. 2012. D6001-05 - *Standard Guide for Direct-Push Groundwater Sampling for Environmental Site Characterization*.

ASTM. 2018. D5299-17 – *Standard Guide for Decommissioning of Ground Water Wells, Vadose Zone Monitoring Devices, Boreholes, and Other Devices for Environmental Activities*.

Lutenegger, A.J. and D.J. DeGroot. 1995. Techniques for sealing cone penetrometer holes. *Canadian Geotechnical Journal*, Vol. 32, No. 5, pp. 880-891.

U.S. EPA. 1997. *Expedited Site Assessment Tools for Underground Storage Tank Sites, A Guide for Regulators, EPA 510-B-97-001*. Office of Underground Storage Tanks, Washington, DC.

Olafsen Lackey, Susan; Myers, Will F.; Christopherson, Thomas C.; and Gottula, Jeffrey J. 2009. *Nebraska Grout Task Force In-Situ Study of Grout Material 2001 - 2006 and 2007 Dye Tests*. Conservation and Survey Division. 413.

## 13 Attachments

- Attachment A.** Example Decommissioning Forms
- Attachment B.** Plug In Place Procedures
- Attachment C.** Casing Removal Procedures
- Attachment D.** Overdrilling Procedures
- Attachment E.** Soil Boring Procedures

# Attachment A

## Example Decommissioning Forms





# Well Decommissioning Form

Project Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Page: \_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_  
 Project Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conducted By: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Subcontractor: \_\_\_\_\_

| Well ID | Dia. (in) | DTW (ft) | TD (ft) | Lengths Removed   | Fully Removed? |
|---------|-----------|----------|---------|-------------------|----------------|
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
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|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |
|         |           |          |         | Riser:<br>Screen: |                |

Details:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_



# Well Decommissioning Record

Site Name: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Well ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Project Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Installed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Abandoned: \_\_\_\_\_

Subcontractor: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Well Depth from TOC: \_\_\_\_\_ (ft)

Screen Depth from TOC: \_\_\_\_\_ (ft)

Water Table Depth from TOC: \_\_\_\_\_ (ft)

Casing Diameter: 2-inch  4-inch

Screen Diameter: 2-inch  4-inch

Casing Type: Galvanized  PVC

Stainless Steel  Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Screen Type: Galvanized  PVC

Stainless Steel  Length: \_\_\_\_\_

Casing/Screen: Pulled  Cut

Depth BGS: \_\_\_\_\_ (ft)

Borehole Grouted: Yes  No

From \_\_\_\_\_ (ft) to \_\_\_\_\_ (ft)

Grout Type: Bentonite  Cement

Grouting Method: Through Casing  Tremie  Other  (explain)

Grout Type/Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

Area Resurfaced: Yes  No

Resurfacing Details: \_\_\_\_\_

Crew:

Location Sketch:

Comments:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Consultant

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company/Position

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

# Attachment B

## Plug In Place Procedures

## ATTACHMENT B: Plug-In-Place Procedures

In this method the well screen is left in place and may be additionally perforated, along with the base of the well, to allow the grout seal to penetrate the surrounding filter pack. The decommissioning process consists of the following steps:

1. Perform a search of available records concerning the well to be decommissioned. The following activities will be completed to identify the location, construction, and condition of the well, and to determine the appropriate equipment to be utilized based on the depth, diameter, and access to the monitoring well:
  - Review the existing monitoring well log to identify construction characteristics (e.g., total depth, casing diameter, initial borehole diameter, type of casing, type of material(s) used)
  - Locate the monitoring well in the field
  - Identify if the decommissioning equipment can access the monitoring well and/or if special considerations (e.g., construction of an access road) are necessary to gain access
  - Conduct utility clearance.
  - Conduct total depth measurements and water level measurements
  - Calculate the volume of the well that will need to be filled utilizing field measurements and formulas provided in the main document
  - Record all observations and measurements
2. Remove the protective casing and well casing to a depth of approximately 3 to 4 feet below ground surface (bgs), if possible.
3. Perforate the base of the well screen utilizing a length of drilling rod or other equipment.
4. Prepare a neat cement grout. (*Note: A neat cement grout is preferred for application through an in place well; whereas a bentonite grout or hydrated bentonite pellets may also be considered at locations where the well casing is removed or the well is over drilled. Bentonite will only be installed below the water table to ensure that the seal hydration is maintained. Neat cement grout is comprised of no more than 5.5 to 6 gallons of water per 94 lb. bag of cement.*)
5. Place the neat cement grout or other sealing material in the perforated well casing via the tremie method (i.e., the grout will be pumped from the bottom of the well upward). The grout will be added until the well is filled to above the top of the well casing remaining in place (i.e., typically approximately 3 to 4 feet bgs). Verify that the amount of grout added equals or exceeds the calculated volume of the void to be filled.
6. The grout will be allowed to set for a minimum of 24 hours and the remainder of the borehole will be filled with concrete and/or other surface finish materials (*see Step 7*).
7. The borehole shall be terminated with a minimum 1-foot-thick concrete plug above the grout and the remaining portion of the borehole shall be filled flush with grade with material(s) compatible with the surrounding land surface (e.g., asphalt, gravel, topsoil).
8. A Well Decommissioning Log will be completed. If required, a state-specific Well Decommissioning Log will be used and submitted to the appropriate state agency.

# Attachment C

## Casing Removal Procedures

## ATTACHMENT C: Casing Removal Procedures

The decommissioning process will consist of the following steps:

1. Perform a search of available records concerning the well to be decommissioned. The following activities will be completed to identify the location, construction, and condition of the well, and determine the appropriate equipment to be utilized based on the depth, diameter, and access to the monitoring well:
  - Review the existing monitoring well log to identify construction characteristics (e.g., total depth, casing diameter, initial borehole diameter, type of casing, type of material(s) used)
  - Locate the monitoring well in the field
  - Identify if the decommissioning equipment can access the monitoring well and/or if special considerations (e.g., construction of an access road) are necessary to gain access
  - Conduct utility clearance
  - Conduct total depth measurements and water level measurements
  - Calculate volume of well that will need to be filled utilizing field measurements and formulas provided in the main document
  - Record all observations and measurements
2. Remove the protective casing, if possible.
3. Remove the well materials (riser and screen) using a method that keeps the borehole open to allow for proper seal placement.
4. Examine removed well materials to ensure that the entire section has been removed. Also ensure that the borehole has not collapsed and that the tremie pipe will be able to be inserted to the base of well depth. If the well casing is broken below grade and cannot be retrieved, or if the tremie pipe will not reach the base of the well, decommissioning will be completed by using the over drilling method.
5. Prepare a neat cement grout or a bentonite grout that is compatible with the soil and groundwater conditions present at the monitoring well. (Note: A neat cement grout or a bentonite grout is preferred for this application. Hydrated bentonite pellets may also be considered if the entire well boring is over drilled, using procedures similar to those for decommissioning boreholes).
6. Place the cement grout in the borehole via tremie method (i.e., the grout will be pumped from the bottom of the borehole upward). The grout will be added until the borehole is filled to approximately 3 to 4 feet bgs. Verify that amount of grout added equals or exceeds the calculated volume of the void to be filled.
7. The grout will be allowed to set for a minimum of 24 hours and the remainder of the borehole will be filled with concrete and/or other surface finish materials (see Step 8 below).
8. The borehole shall be terminated with a minimum 1-foot-thick concrete plug above the grout and the remaining portion of the borehole shall be filled flush with grade with material(s) compatible with the surrounding land surface (e.g., asphalt, gravel, topsoil).
9. A Well Decommissioning Log will be completed. If required, a state-specific Well Decommissioning Log will be used and submitted to the appropriate state agency.

# Attachment D

## Overdrilling Procedures

## ATTACHMENT D: Overdrilling Procedures

The decommissioning process using the Overdrilling Method will consist of the following steps:

1. Perform a search of available records concerning the well to be decommissioned. The following activities will be performed to identify the location, construction, and condition of the well, and determine the appropriate equipment to be utilized based on the depth, diameter, and access to the monitoring well:
  - Review the existing monitoring well log to identify construction characteristics (e.g., total depth, casing diameter, initial borehole diameter, type of casing, type of material(s) used)
  - Locate the monitoring well in the field
  - Identify if a drill rig can access the monitoring well and/or if special considerations (e.g., construction of an access road) are necessary to gain access
  - Conduct utility clearance
  - Conduct total depth measurements and water level measurements
  - Calculate the volume of the well/borehole that will need to be filled utilizing field measurements and formulas provided above
  - Record all observations and measurements
2. Remove the protective casing, if possible.
3. If the protective casing has been removed, advance a hollow-stem auger or other drill casing (with an outside diameter larger than the well diameter) over the well casing to the bottom of the original borehole.
4. Prepare a neat cement grout or a bentonite grout that is compatible with the soil and groundwater conditions present at the monitoring well. Alternatively, hydrated bentonite pellets may be used to plug the borehole, using procedures similar to those for decommissioning boreholes. As described for the plug in place method, bentonite will only be placed below the water table to ensure that the seal hydration is maintained. .
5. Place the cement grout in the borehole via tremie method (i.e., the grout will be pumped from the bottom of the borehole upward) at the same time the hollow-stem augers or drill casing are removed from the borehole. Grout will be added until the borehole is filled to approximately 3 to 4 feet bgs. Verify that the amount of grout added equals or exceeds the calculated volume of the void to be filled. If hydrated bentonite pellets are utilized, measure deposition depth with a weighted tape as the hollow-stem augers or drill casing are removed from the borehole to ensure that bridging does not occur. At shallow well locations installed in competent formations, it may be possible to remove the hollow-stem augers or drill casing prior to installing the sealant. If this is attempted, confirmatory measurements must be taken to verify that borehole integrity was maintained prior to plugging the hole.
6. The grout will be allowed to set for a minimum of 24 hours and the remainder of the borehole will be filled with concrete and/or other surface finish materials (see Step 7 below).
7. The borehole shall be terminated with a minimum 1-foot-thick concrete plug above the grout and the remaining portion of the borehole shall be filled flush with grade with material(s) compatible with the surrounding land surface (e.g., asphalt, gravel, topsoil).

8. A Well Decommissioning Log will be completed. If required, a state-specific Well Decommissioning Log will be used and submitted to the appropriate state agency.

# Attachment E

## Soil Boring Procedures

## ATTACHMENT E: Soil Boring Procedures

The following steps for decommissioning a soil boring are based on ASTM D 5299-99:

1. Prepare a neat cement grout using Type I Portland cement and potable water mixed according to the following ratio: one bag of Type I Portland cement (94 lbs) mixed with 5.5 to 6 gallons potable water.
2. As soon as the borehole is completed, place a grout pipe (tremie pipe) to the bottom of the boring and pump sealing grout slowly through the pipe to displace material in the borehole. Inject grout starting from the bottom of the hole. Grout slowly to prevent channeling of the grout. As the grouting progresses, slowly raise the pipe. Complete the grouting in one continuous operation, continuing to pump grout until overflowing grout is seen at the surface. The overflowing grout will be similar in appearance and characteristics to the grout being pumped down the hole.
3. Grout may settle over a 24-hour period. After 24 hours, check the grout in the borehole for settlement. If settling has occurred, place additional grout to the surface. When grouting is complete, finish the surface in a manner appropriate for final use (e.g., concrete).

Boreholes and temporary monitoring wells installed via Direct-Push Technology (DPT) also need to be decommissioned to avoid creating a conduit for vertical contaminant migration, either from the surface or between subsurface geologic units. Several methods are available, but the selected method will need to be capable of backfilling the hole completely (without gaps) with grout or a slurry. Applicable method will depend on factors such as, type and size of DPT equipment, subsurface conditions, and state and/or local regulations. The type of grout/slurry can also depend on the remedial action at the site (e.g., silica flour grout mixture may be selected for sites that may be treated with in-situ thermal technology).

The methods available for decommissioning DPT boreholes include:

- **Retraction grouting:** Involves pumping a high-solids bentonite and water mixture or a neat cement grout through the rod and tool string and out the bottom of the sampling tool as the tool is withdrawn from the hole ensuring that the borehole is sealed throughout its length. Considered to be most reliable method.
- **Re-entry grouting:** Involves pumping grout through a tremie pipe into the borehole immediately following withdrawal of the drill string or the drill string may be reinstalled in the borehole, without the sampling tool, so that grout may be pumped through the open rods. Grout is pumped continuously from the bottom to the top as the tremie pipe (or rod string) is withdrawn to avoid gaps and bridging of the grout. This method is effective if the hole remains open until tremie pipe or rods can be extended to the bottom of the borehole. If the borehole collapses, the tremie pipe or rods will not penetrate to the total depth of the hole, making it necessary to put an expendable tip on the end of the rod string, push the string to the total depth of the hole, knock out the tip, and pump grout through the rods as they are withdrawn.
- **Surface pouring:** Involves pouring either dry bentonite (granules, chips, or pellets), bentonite slurry, or neat cement grout from the surface down the open borehole after the rod string and tool are removed. The simplest method of borehole decommissioning, but it may not be as effective as the other methods in most situations. May be effective if the borehole does not collapse after the rods are removed, and if the borehole is relatively shallow (less than about 10 or 15 feet). If dry bentonite materials are proposed, it will only be effective if the bentonite is either hydrated from the surface

immediately after installation or if it is installed beneath the water table and requires that the soil moisture content be sufficient to keep the bentonite hydrated after installation.

Additional details for these methods can be found in ASTM D6001 (ASTM, 2012b) as well as EPA (1997) and Lutenegeger and DeGroot (1995).

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# TGI – Monitoring Well Development

Rev: 2

Rev Date: April 5, 2023

## Version Control

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|       | 0            | 4/24/2017   | All      | Re-written as TGI  | Marc Killingstad |
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## Approval Signatures

Prepared by:



4/5/2023


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Jay Erickson (Preparer)

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Date

Reviewed by:



4/5/2023

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Marc Killingstad (Subject Matter Expert)

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Date

## 1 Introduction

This Technical Guidance Instruction (TGI) covers the development of screened wells used for obtaining representative groundwater information and samples from granular aquifers (i.e., monitoring wells).

*Note: This TGI only applies to monitoring well development and not remediation (injection/extraction) well development.*

## 2 Intended Use and Responsibilities

This document describes general and/or specific procedures, methods, actions, steps, and considerations to be used and observed by Arcadis staff when performing work, tasks, or actions under the scope and relevancy of this document. This document may describe expectations, requirements, guidance, recommendations, and/or instructions pertinent to the service, work task, or activity it covers.

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## 3 Scope and Application

The objectives of monitoring well development are:

1. Repair damage to the borehole wall from drilling that can include clogging, smearing or compaction of aquifer materials;
2. Remove fine-grained sediment from the formation and filter pack that may result in high turbidity levels in groundwater samples;
3. To re-sort formation and filter pack material adjacent to the well screen;

4. To recover any drilling fluids (if used) that may affect the permeability of the formation and filter pack or alter the water quality around the well; and
5. To optimize the well efficiency and hydraulic communication between the well screen and the formation.

Successful monitoring well development is dependent on the following:

1. Hydrostratigraphy – Permeable formations containing primarily sand and gravel are more easily developed due to lower percentages of silt and clay material. Water in permeable formations can be moved in and out of the screen and/or through the formation easier than in less permeable deposits.
2. Well Diameter – Development tooling including brushes, surge blocks, pumps and jetting tools are more readily available for wells 4 inches in diameter and greater.
3. Well Design – Wells with filter packs and screens designed to match the formation through the analysis of formation sieve samples are easier to develop. An important aspect to well design is to minimize the size of the annular space between the formation and well screen. Adequate room must be allowed for the proper installation of well materials, but not too large as to prevent/reduce communication with the surrounding formation.
4. Drilling Methods – Different drilling methods result in varying amount of borehole damage and, therefore, impact the degree to which development will be successful.

Well development methods for monitoring wells include the following:

1. Bailing – Use of a bailer to remove water and sediment from the well casing. This technique does little to remove fines from the filter pack and may lead to bridging of sediment since the flow is in only one direction, toward the well screen. The most effective use of bailing during monitoring well development is in conjunction with other methods (e.g., surging/swabbing) to remove fines accumulated in the monitoring well between cycles of other development methods.
2. Pumping/over pumping – Use of a pump to remove water and sediment from the well casing, over pumping involves pumping the well at a rate that exceeds the design capacity of the well. Similar to bailing, this technique does little to remove fines from the filter pack and may lead to bridging of sediment since the flow is in only one direction, toward the well screen. Small diameter monitoring wells have the additional constraint on pump size and flow rates which further limit the effectiveness of this methodology.
3. Backwashing (rawhiding) – Consists of starting and stopping a pump intermittently to produce rapid pressure changes in a well. This method can produce better results than pumping alone since the procedure involves movement of the water in and out of the screen and formation. However, in many cases the surging action is not rigorous enough to fully develop the well and might be considered the final phase of development after a more rigorous method has been used. Again, small diameter monitoring wells have the additional constraint on pump size and flow rates which further limit the effectiveness of this methodology.
4. Surging/swabbing – Use of a mechanical surge block or swabbing tool to operate like a piston with an up and down motion. The downstroke causes a backwash action that breaks up bridged sediment and the upstroke pulls the dislodged sediment into the well. This method works well for both small and large diameter monitoring wells. Care should be taken on the downstroke so as not to force fines back into the formation, frequent pumping/purging during surging help to keep fines out of the well. Double surge blocks are recommended, and this is typically the most effective method for development of monitoring wells.

5. Jetting – Use of a tool fitted with nozzles that direct streams of water horizontally into well screens at high velocity. Due to the size of the tooling, this method is better suited for wells 4 inches in diameter and larger. The method is also more effective with wire-wrapped/continuous slot screens due to the increased open area. Jetting requires specialized equipment and concurrent pumping to prevent reintroducing fines into the filter pack. Additionally, depending on the configuration of the tool, jetting may require subsequent surging/pumping to remove fines dislodged in the filter pack and formation. Typically, jetting is not a preferred option for new well development but may be effective as part of a re-development/rehabilitation effort.

For most situations, surging/swabbing coupled with bailing or pumping to remove dislodged materials is recommended.

Final well development for properly designed and constructed monitoring wells may begin after the annular seal materials have been installed and allowed to cure, since these wells are designed to retain approximately 90% of the filter pack material. This cure time is typically at least 24 to 48 hours after the sealing materials have been installed.

This TGI is meant to provide a general guide for proper development of newly installed monitoring wells.

A site-specific field implementation plan (FIP) for well installation and development detailing the specific methods and tools is strongly recommended to provide site-specific instruction and guidance.

## 4 Personnel Qualifications

Generally, Arcadis field personnel will have completed or are in the process of completing site-specific training as well as having current health and safety training as required by Arcadis, client, and/or state/federal regulations, such as 40-hour HAZWOPER training and/or OSHA HAZWOPER site supervisor training. Arcadis personnel will also have current training as specified in the Health and Safety Plan (HASP) which may include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Blood Borne Pathogens (BBP) as needed. In addition, Arcadis field sampling personnel will be knowledgeable in the relevant processes, procedures, and TGIs and possess the demonstrated required skills and experience necessary to successfully complete the desired field work. The HASP and other documents will identify other training requirements and access control requirements.

The designated Field Manager is responsible for periodic observation of field activities and review of field generated documentation associated with this TGI. The Field Manager is also responsible for implementation of corrective action if problems occur (e.g., retraining personnel, additional review of work plans and TGIs, variances to QC sampling requirements, issuing non-conformances, etc.).

Prior to mobilizing to the field, personnel will review and be thoroughly familiar with relevant site-specific documents including but not limited to the task-specific work plan or field implementation plan (FIP)/field sampling plan/work plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), HASP, historical information, and other relevant site documents.

Field personnel assigned to install and develop monitoring wells are responsible for completing their tasks in accordance with the specifications outlined in this TGI and other appropriate and relevant guidelines.

Monitoring well development activities will be performed by persons who have been trained in proper well development procedures under the guidance of an experienced field geologist, engineer, or technician.

## 5 Equipment List

Required equipment depends on the selected method and should be detailed in the site-specific FIP; however, the following are typically required.

- Approved site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP)
- Approved site-specific FIP which will include site map, well construction information/borehole information, and development plan
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) and health and safety equipment, as required by the HASP
- Field notebook and/or smart device (phone or tablet)
- Cleaning/decontamination equipment
  - Non-phosphate laboratory soap (Alconox or equivalent), brushes, clean buckets or clean wash tubs—new buckets or tubs will be purchased if it cannot be determined if the present items are clean
  - Distilled or de-ionized water for equipment decontamination
- Monitoring well keys
- Water-level meter
- Down-hole multiparameter water quality sonde (e.g., YSI)
- Plastic sheeting (e.g., Weatherall Visqueen) to protect all down-hole sampling equipment from contact with potential sources of contamination
- Well development forms/logs
- Well construction logs/diagrams
- Weighted tape (of sufficient length for maximum site depth)
- Turbidity meter
- Camera
- Watch/timing device

## 6 Cautions

*Different USEPA regions and/or state regulatory agencies may stipulate deviations from this document. It is the responsibility of the Project Team (Project Manager and Technical Lead) to be fully aware of the requirements from the applicable regulatory framework.*

Prior to beginning field work, the project technical team will ensure that all field logistics (e.g., access issues, health and safety issues, communication network, schedules, etc.) and task objectives are clearly understood by all team members. An internal call with the project technical team to review the FIP/field sampling plan/work plan scope and objectives is strongly recommended prior to mobilization to ensure that the field work will be effectively and efficiently executed.

Where surging is performed to assist in removing fine-grained material from the sand pack, surging must be performed in a gentle manner. Excessive suction could promote fine-grained sediment entry into the outside of the sand pack from the formation.

Avoid using development fluids or materials that could impact groundwater or soil quality or could be incompatible with the subsurface conditions.

In some cases, it may be necessary to add potable water to a well to allow surging and development, especially for new monitoring wells installed in low permeability formations. Before adding potable water to a well, the Certified Project Manager (CPM) and/or Project Hydrogeologist must be notified, and the CPM shall make the decision regarding the appropriateness and applicability of adding potable water to a well during well development procedures. If potable water is to be added to a well as part of development, the potable water source should be sampled and analyzed for constituents of concern, and the results evaluated by the CPM prior to adding the potable water to the well. If potable water is added to a well for development purposes, at the end of development the well will be purged dry to remove the potable water, or if the well no longer goes dry then the well will be purged to remove at least three times the volume of potable water that was added

## 7 Health and Safety Considerations

Field activities associated with monitoring well development will be performed in accordance with a site-specific HASP, a copy of which will be present on site during such activities.

Appropriate PPE will be worn at all times in line with the task and the site-specific HASP.

Review all site-specific and procedural hazards as they are provided in the HASP, and review Job Safety Analysis (JSA) documents in the field each day prior to beginning work.

Access to well locations may expose field personnel to hazardous materials such as contaminated groundwater or NAPL (e.g., petroleum hydrocarbons, chlorinated solvents). Other potential hazards include pressurized wells, stinging insects that may inhabit well heads, other biological hazards (e.g., ticks in long grass/weeds around wellhead), and potentially the use of sharp cutting tools (scissors, knife). Open well caps slowly and keep face and body away while allowing to vent any built-up pressure to vent. Only use non-toxic peppermint oil spray for stinging insect nests. Review client-specific health and safety requirements, which may preclude the use of fixed/folding-blade knives and use appropriate hand protection.

Do not enter confined spaces unless following appropriate confined space entry procedures specified in the HASP.

If thunder or lightning is present, discontinue sampling until 30 minutes have passed after the last occurrence of thunder or lightning.

## 8 Procedure

As indicated above, for most monitoring wells, gentle surging coupled with bailing or pumping to remove dislodged sediment is recommended.

## 8.1 Preliminary Well Development

After installation of the primary filter pack around the monitoring well screen, preliminary well development is recommended be performed to ensure that the filter pack settles and does not bridge within the annular space. The preliminary well development steps are as follows:

1. Measure and record depth to water, total depth of well, and depth to top of the sand pack in the annulus.
2. Use steel or weighted bailer to remove any fines that have accumulated in the bottom of the well.
3. Lower an appropriately sized double-surge block into the screened portion of the well on a rigid pipe or high-density tubing and gently cycle up and down to force water in and out of the screen slots and formation. A two-foot throw is recommended (use tape or chalk marks on the pipe or tubing); however, the entire length of well screen must be gently surged.
4. Start above the screen and gently surge over two-foot intervals while working down to the screen bottom.

*NOTE: Care must be taken not to surge the well too aggressively at this point as the casing is not well-supported and damage could occur. The objective is to create enough surging action to settle the primary filter pack and provide some preliminary removal of accumulated materials before final development.*

*NOTE: If possible, ensure that the developer surges the block upward faster than downward to pull the fines out of the filter pack, instead of forcing them back in (and allowing for proper settlement).*

5. Monitor the total depth of the well periodically during surging to ensure that we are not pulling excessive amounts of filter pack through the screen and remove any debris accumulated in the well with a weighted bailer or pump.
6. Re-measure the top of the sand in the annulus to see if more sand pack is necessary. Remove any fines that have accumulated out of the well using a submersible pump or weighted bailer.

*NOTE: If the monitoring well was drilled using mud rotary drilling methodology or if significant fines were encountered during the well installation, consider adding a commercially available 'mud' dispersant (e.g., AQUA-CLEAR PFD, Nu Well 220, etc.) as part of the preliminary development. This will help to break up the 'skin' along the borehole wall created by either the drilling fluid or smearing during drilling and assist in final development. Follow manufacturer's directions for dosing, and the mixture should be worked through the entire saturated screen interval by gently surging or brushing.*

## 8.2 Final Well Development

After sufficient time has passed to allow for proper curing of the well seal/grout (i.e., 24 to 48 hours), final well development can be performed. Final well development steps are as follows:

1. Don appropriate PPE (as required by the site-specific HASP).
2. Place plastic sheeting around the well.
3. Clean all equipment entering each monitoring well, except for new, disposable materials that have not been previously used.
4. Open the well cover while standing upwind of the well, remove well cap. Insert PID probe approximately 4 to 6 inches into the casing or the well headspace and cover with gloved hand. Record the PID reading in

the field notebook. If the well headspace reading is less than 5 PID units, proceed; if the headspace reading is greater than 5 PID units, screen the air within the breathing zone. If the PID reading in the breathing zone is below 5 PID units, proceed. If the PID reading is above 5 PID units, move upwind from well for 5 minutes to allow the volatiles to dissipate. Repeat the breathing zone test. If the reading is still above 5 PID units, don the appropriate respiratory protection in accordance with the requirements of the HASP. Record all PID readings.

5. Obtain an initial measurement of the depth to water and the total well depth from the reference point at the top of the well casing. Record these measurements in the field logbook. It is recommended to use a weighted tape for the total well depth measurement.
6. The depth to the bottom of the well should be sounded and then compared to the completion form or construction diagram for the well. Any discrepancies should be reported immediately to the CPM and/or Project Hydrogeologist. If sand or sediment is present inside the well, it should first be removed by bailing. Do not insert bailers, pumps, or surge blocks into the well if obstructions, parting of the casing, or other damage to the well is suspected. Instead report the conditions to the CPM and/or Project Hydrogeologist and obtain approval to continue or cease well development activities.

*NOTE: If the monitoring well was drilled using mud rotary drilling methodology or if significant fines were encountered during the well installation, it is recommended that a commercially available 'mud' dispersant (e.g., AQUA-CLEAR PFD, Nu Well 220, etc.) be included as part of the final well development to effectively break up the 'skin' along the borehole wall created by either the drilling fluid or smearing during drilling.*

*Per manufacturer's instructions, the general procedure for adding dispersant is as follows:*

- i. Determine volume of water in screen area and double the calculated volume to account for water in gravel pack and formation interface*
  - ii. Once the water volume is determined, calculate the required treatment volume of dispersant need per manufacturer's recommendations*
  - iii. Mix thoroughly before introducing into well*
  - iv. The preferable application method utilizes a tremie line with the product applied into the screened area*
  - v. Mixture should be thoroughly blended in well, then agitated via surging/swabbing/brushing repeatedly (e.g., every two hours) for a period of up to 24 hours*
  - vi. The dispersant should sit for at least 6 to 8 hours or overnight before continuing well development activities*
7. After allowing the dispersant to sit for the required time (if dispersant is used), start the mechanical development by lowering an appropriately sized double-surge block (or similar) into the well on a rigid pipe or high-density tubing.
    - i. Surging should start above the screen to reduce the possibility of "sand-locking" the surge block. Initial surging should be with a long stroke and at a slow rate (20 to 25 strokes per minute)
    - ii. After surging above the screen, the well should be cleaned via bottom-loading bailer, submersible pump, or inertia pump tubing with check valve to the bottom of the well

- iii. Begin surging at the lower end of the screen, gradually working upward, surging in 2-ft intervals until the entire screen has been developed.
  - iv. Surge the well a minimum of 10 throws per 2-ft screen interval.
  - v. Each interval may require several surge cycles to achieve the best development.
  - vi. The entire length of well screen must be surged.
  - vii. Ensure that the developer surges the block upward faster than downward to pull the fines out of the filter pack, instead of forcing them back in (and allowing for proper settlement)
  - viii. measure total depth of the well periodically during surging to ensure that excessive amounts of sediment are not being pulled through the screen. Remove any debris accumulated in the well via simultaneous airlifting (if a combined tool is available) or with bailing/pumping.
8. After completing a cycle of surging, lower a bottom-loading bailer, submersible pump, or inertia pump tubing with check valve to the bottom of the well and gently bounce on the bottom of the well to collect/remove accumulated sediment, if any. Remove and empty the bailer, if used. Repeat until the bailed/pumped water is free of excessive sediment and contact at the bottom of the well feels solid. Alternatively, measurement of the well depth with a weighted tape can be used to verify that sediment and/or silt has been removed to the extent practicable, based on a comparison with the well installation log or previous measurement of total well depth.
9. After surging the well for a minimum of two cycles and removing excess accumulated sediment from the bottom of the well, re-measure the depth-to-water and the total well depth from the reference point at the top of the well casing. Record these measurements in the field log book.
10. Remove formation water by pumping/bailing.
- i. Where pumping is used, measure and record the pre-pumping water level.
  - ii. Operate the pump at a relatively constant rate
  - iii. Measure the pumping rate using a calibrated container and stopwatch, and record the pumping rate in the field log book
  - iv. Measure and record the water level in the well at least once every 5 minutes during pumping
  - v. Record any relevant observations in terms of color, visual level of turbidity, sheen, odors, etc.
  - vi. Pump or bail until termination criteria specified in the site-specific FIP are reached
  - vii. Record the total volume of water purged from the well

*NOTE: The FIP may also specify a maximum turbidity requirement for completion of development. Unless otherwise specified the maximum turbidity should be 50 NTUs or less*

11. While developing, take periodic water level measurements (at least one every five minutes) to determine if drawdown is occurring and record the measurements on the Well Development Log.
12. While developing, calculate the rate at which water is being removed from the well. Record the volume on the Well Development Log.
13. While developing, water is also periodically collected directly from the well or bailer discharge and readings taken of the indicator parameters: pH, specific conductance, and temperature. Development is

considered complete when the indicator parameters have stabilized (i.e., three consecutive pH, specific conductance, and temperature readings are within tolerances specified in the project work plans or within 10% if not otherwise specified), the extracted water is clear and free of fine sediment and most importantly, when acceptable volume of water has been removed and/or a sufficient amount of surging has been performed.

14. In certain instances, for slow recharging wells, the parameters may not stabilize. In this case, well development is considered complete when minimal amounts of fine-grained sediments are recovered, and an acceptable volume of water has been removed.
15. If the well goes dry, stop pumping or bailing. Note the time that the well went dry. After allowing the well to recover, note the time and depth to water. Resume pumping or bailing when sufficient water has recharged the well.
16. Contain all development water in appropriate containers.
17. When complete, secure the lid back on the well.
18. Place disposable materials in plastic bags for appropriate disposal and decontaminate reusable, downhole pump components and/or bailer

## 9 Waste Management

Investigation-Derived Waste (IDW), including purge water and decontamination liquids, will be stored on site in appropriately labeled containers and disposed of properly. Disposable materials will be stored and disposed of separately. Containers must be labeled at the time of collection and will include date, location(s), site name, city, state, and description of matrix contained (e.g., water, PPE). Waste will be managed in accordance with the *TGI – Investigation-Derived Waste Handling and Storage*, the procedures identified in the FIP/field sampling plan/work plan or QAPP as well as state-, federal- or client-specific requirements. Be certain that waste containers are properly labeled and documented in the field log.

## 10 Data Recording and Management

Digital data collection is the Arcadis standard using available FieldNow® applications that enable real-time, paperless data collection, entry, and automated reporting. Paper forms should only be used as backup to FieldNow® digital data collection and/or as necessary to collect data not captured by available FieldNow® applications. The Field Now® digital form applications follow a standardized approach, correlate to most TGIs and are available to all projects accessible with a PC or capable mobile device. Once the digital forms are saved within FieldNow®, the data is instantly available for review on a web interface. This facilitates review by project management team members and SMEs enabling error or anomalous data detection for correction while the staff are still in the field. Continual improvements of FieldNow® applications are ongoing, and revisions are made as necessary in response to feedback from users and subject matter experts.

All well development activities will be documented on appropriate log forms as well as in a proper field notebook and/or PDA. Additionally, all documents (and photographs) should be scanned and electronically filed in the appropriate project directory for easy access. Pertinent information will include personnel present on site; times of arrival and departure; significant weather conditions; timing of well development activities; development

method(s); observations of purge water color, turbidity, odor, sheen, etc.; purge rate; and water levels before, during, and after pumping.

Management of the original documents from the field will be completed in accordance with the site-specific QAPP. Records generated as a result of this TGI will be controlled and maintained in the project record files in accordance with project requirements.

Development activities will be documented on appropriate field logs as well as in a proper field notebook. All field data will be recorded digitally or with indelible ink. Field forms, logs/notes (including daily field and calibration logs), digital records, and chain-of-custody records will be maintained by the field team lead. Any deviations or omissions from this TGI should be documented.

Initial field logs and forms will be transmitted to the Arcadis CPM and/or Technical Lead at the end of each day unless otherwise directed by the CPM. The field team leader retains copies of the field documentation.

## 11 Quality Assurance

Quality assurance procedures will be conducted in accordance with the Arcadis Quality Management System or the site-specific QAPP. Refer to the QAPP or FIP/sampling plan/work plan for specific requirements.

## 12 References

American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM), Designation D5521-05. *Standard Guide for Development of Ground-Water Monitoring Wells in Granular Aquifers*. American Society for Testing Materials. West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

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# TGI – Monitoring Well Installation

Rev: 2

Rev Date: August 30, 2023

## Version Control

| Issue | Revision No. | Date Issued | Page No. | Description   | Reviewed By                            |
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|       | 0            | 4/24/2017   | All      | Re-written as a TGI   | Marc Killingstad<br>Peter C. Frederick |
|       | 1            | 6/23/2022   | All      | Put into new template format, reviewed and made minor revisions | Whitney Plasket<br>Marc Killingstad    |
|       | 2            | 8/30/2023   | All      | Annual review completed by SME. Updated Rev 1.                  | Marc Killingstad                       |

## Approval Signatures

Prepared by:



8/30/2023

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Whitney Plasket

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Date

Reviewed by:



8/30/2023

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Marc Killingstad

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Date

## 1 Introduction

This Technical Guidance Instruction (TGI) describes methods used to install groundwater monitoring wells in unconsolidated aquifers. It is assumed that the monitoring well to be installed has been properly designed, including sizing of the filter pack and screen, the length of the screen, total depth of the well, material strength and compatibility and surface completion. Typical monitoring wells are constructed of manufactured screen and engineered filter pack and are generally suitable for formations with granular materials having a grain size distribution with up to 50% passing a #200 sieve and up to 20% clay-sized material. Monitoring wells installed in formations finer than this may not be able to produce turbidity free water.

## 2 Intended Use and Responsibilities

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In following this document to execute the scope of work for a project, it may be necessary for staff to make professional judgment decisions to meet the project's scope of work based upon site conditions, staffing expertise, regulation-specific requirements, health and safety concerns, etc. Staff are required to consult with the CPM when or if a deviation or omission from this document is required that has not already been previously approved by the CPM. Upon approval by the CPM, the staff can perform the deviation or omission as confirmed by the CPM.

## 3 Scope and Application

The monitoring well installation procedures set forth herein are consistent with the approach and methods presented in the American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) *D5092 – Standard Practice for Design and Installation of Groundwater Monitoring Wells* (ASTM D5092). As such, following this TGI in combination with proper well design (see appropriate TGI and/or consult with appropriate subject matter expert), well development (see appropriate TGI), groundwater sampling procedures (see appropriate TGI), and well maintenance and

rehabilitation (see appropriate TGI and/or consult with appropriate subject matter expert), will result in a monitoring well suitable for: (1) collection of groundwater samples representative of the surrounding formation and free of artificial turbidity; (2) measurement of accurate groundwater levels; and (3) hydraulic testing of formation sediments immediately adjacent to the open interval of the well to assess hydraulic properties (e.g., slug testing).

Monitoring well boreholes in unconsolidated (overburden) materials are often drilled using the hollow-stem auger drilling method; however, other drilling methods are also suitable for installing overburden monitoring wells and may be appropriate given site-specific geologic conditions or project objectives. These methods include drive-and-wash, spun casing, rotasonic (sonic), dual-rotary (Barber Rig), and fluid/mud rotary with core barrel or roller bit. Direct-push techniques (e.g., Geoprobe® or cone penetrometer) and driven well points may also be used in some cases within the overburden.

Monitoring wells to be installed within consolidated materials such as fractured bedrock are commonly drilled using air rotary, water-rotary (coring or tri-cone roller bit), or sonic drilling methods. For guidance when installing monitoring wells in consolidated materials, please consult the appropriate subject matter expert and, if available, the applicable guidance document.

The drilling method to be used at a given site will be selected based on site-specific consideration of anticipated drilling/well depths, site or regional geologic knowledge, type of monitoring to be conducted using the installed well, project objectives, and cost. Consultation with the appropriate subject matter expert is also strongly recommended.

No oils or grease will be used on equipment introduced into the boring (e.g., drill rod, casing, or sampling tools). No polyvinyl chloride (PVC) glue/cement will be used in constructing or retrofitting monitoring wells that will be used for water-quality monitoring.

Coated bentonite pellets are generally not recommended because of potential chemical incompatibilities between the coating material and groundwater chemistry.

Specifications of materials to be installed in the borehole will be obtained prior to mobilizing onsite. These materials generally include:

- Well casing (length, material, and diameter);
- Well screen (length, material, diameter, and slot size);
- Grout (typically neat cement grout, which is 5-6 gallons of water per 94 lb. bag of Portland Type I/II cement *with no bentonite* but, as applicable, up to 5% bentonite can be added);
- Filter pack (filter pack type and fine sand seal type, as applicable); and
- Bentonite (type, as applicable/needed, non-coated pellets or tablets are generally preferred over chips).

Well materials will be inspected and, if needed, cleaned, or replaced prior to installation. The field task manager or field team lead will communicate with the drilling company ahead of time to make sure the materials meet the required specification for well construction.

NOTE: If installing monitoring wells for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances please refer to *TGI for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Field Sampling Guide*.

## 4 Personnel Qualifications

Arcadis field personnel will have completed or are in the process of completing site-specific training as well as having current health and safety training as required by Arcadis, client, or state/federal regulations, such as 40-hour HAZWOPER training and/or OSHA HAZWOPER site supervisor training. Arcadis personnel will also have current training as identified in the site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP) which may include first aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), Blood Borne Pathogens (BBP) as needed. The HASP will also identify any access control requirements.

Prior to mobilizing to the field, Arcadis field personnel will review and be thoroughly familiar with relevant site-specific documents including but not limited to the field implementation plan (FIP)/task-specific work plan, Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP), HASP, historical information, and other relevant site documents.

Arcadis field personnel will be knowledgeable in the relevant processes, procedures, and TGIs and possess the demonstrated required skills and experience necessary to successfully complete the desired field work. Personnel responsible for overseeing drilling operations will have at least 16 hours of prior training overseeing drilling activities with an experienced geologist, environmental scientist, or engineer with at least 2 years of prior experience.

Arcadis personnel directing, supervising, or leading well installation activities will have a minimum of 1 year of previous environmental monitoring well installation experience. Field employees with less than six months of experience will be accompanied by a supervisor (as described above) to ensure that proper well installation techniques are employed.

Additionally, the Arcadis field team will review and be thoroughly familiar with documentation provided by equipment manufacturers and become familiar with the operation of (i.e., hands-on experience) all equipment that will be used in the field prior to mobilization particularly the selected drilling method/rig.

Monitoring well installation activities will be performed by persons who have been trained in proper well installation procedures under the guidance of an experienced field geologist, engineer, or technician. Field sampling is typically performed for soil or bedrock characterization as part of monitoring well installation; therefore, field personnel will have undergone in-field training in soil or bedrock description and sample collection methods, as described in *TGI for Soil Drilling and Sample Collection*, *TGI for Bedrock Core Collection and Description*, and *TGI for Soil Description*.

## 5 Equipment List

The following materials may be required during soil boring and monitoring well installation activities:

- Site Plan with proposed soil boring/well locations;
- Field Implementation Plan (FIP)/Work Plan that includes site map with proposed well locations, well construction details (tabulated and drawings) which will include well casing material and size, well screen material and size, length of screen, target depth and screen interval, filter pack material, development methods, and previous boring logs (as available);
- Field Sampling Plan (FSP), and site-specific Health and Safety Plan (HASP);
- Personal protective equipment (PPE) as required by the HASP;

- Traffic cones, delineators, caution tape, and/or fencing as appropriate for securing the work area, if such are not provided by drillers;
- Appropriate soil sampling equipment (e.g., stainless steel spatulas, knife);
- Soil and/or bedrock logging equipment as specified in the FIP/work plan or other appropriate project documents;
- Appropriate sample containers and labels;
- Drum labels as required for investigation derived waste handling;
- Insulated coolers with ice, when collecting samples requiring preservation by chilling;
- Photoionization detector (PID) or flame ionization detector (FID);
- Ziplock style bags;
- Water level or oil/water interface meter;
- Locks and keys for securing the well after installation;
- Decontamination equipment (bucket, distilled or deionized water, cleansers appropriate for removing expected chemicals of concern, paper towels);
- Engineer's tape/measuring wheel;
- Weighted tape;
- Disposable bailers;
- Forms/notes:
  - Tablet with digital forms
  - Field notebook
  - Chain-of-custody forms
  - Digital camera (or smart phone with camera);
  - Appropriate field forms, consider including a photo of the well head and a Google Earth map showing the well location.

Prior to mobilizing to the site, Arcadis personnel will contact the drilling subcontractor or in-house driller (as appropriate) to confirm that appropriate sampling and well installation equipment will be provided. Specifications of the sampling and well installation equipment are expected to vary by project, and so communication with the driller is necessary to ensure that the materials provided will meet the project objectives. Equipment/materials typically provided by the driller could include:

- Drilling equipment required by the ASTM standard guidance document D1586, when performing split-spoon sampling;
- Disposable plastic liners (when drilling with direct-push equipment);
- Drums for investigation derived waste (IDW);
- Equipment to move IDW drums, if required;
- Drilling and sampling equipment decontamination materials;
- Decontamination pad materials, if required;

- Traffic cones, delineators, caution tape, and/or fencing as appropriate for securing the work area, if required; and
- Well construction materials.

## 6 Cautions

- Prior to beginning field work, underground utilities in the vicinity of the drilling areas will be delineated by the drilling contractor or an independent underground utility locator service. See Arcadis standard for proper utility clearance protocol.
- Prior to beginning field work, contact the project technical team (including Project Hydrogeologist) to ensure that all field procedures, logistics (e.g., access issues, health and safety issues, communication network, schedules, etc.), and objectives are clearly understood by all team members.
- Some regulatory agencies require a minimum annular space between the well or permanent casing and the borehole wall. When specified, the minimum clearance is typically 2 to 3 inches on all sides (e.g., a 2-inch diameter well requires a 6-inch diameter borehole). In addition, some regulatory agencies have specific requirements regarding grout mixtures and well seal materials. Determine whether the oversight agency has any such requirements prior to finalizing the drilling and well installation plan. If installing a monitoring well into consolidated sediments, refer to regulatory agency rules regarding casing.
- The maximum screen length may also be dictated by regulatory agencies. If installing a monitoring well with greater than a 10-ft screen, refer to regulatory agency rules regarding screen length.
- If dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPL) are known or expected to exist at the site, refer to the project specific documents for additional details regarding drilling and well installation to reduce the potential for inadvertent DNAPL remobilization. Similarly, if light non-aqueous phase liquids (LNAPLs) are known or expected to be present as “perched” layers above the water table, refer to the *DNAPL Contingency Plan*. Follow the general provisions and concepts in the DNAPL contingency plan during drilling above the water table at known or expected LNAPL sites.
- Avoid using drilling fluids or materials that could impact groundwater or soil quality or could be incompatible with the subsurface conditions. Water used for drilling and sampling of soil or bedrock, decontamination of drilling/sampling equipment, or grouting boreholes upon completion will be of a quality acceptable for project objectives. Consider testing of water supply as necessary.
- Similarly, consider the compatibility between the well materials and the surrounding environment. For example, PVC well materials are not preferred when DNAPL is present. In addition, some groundwater conditions leach metals from stainless steel or are corrosive to metal well materials, and some remedial technologies are incompatible with certain materials of construction. If questions arise, contact the CPM and Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead to discuss.
- Specifications of materials used for backfilling the borehole will be obtained, reviewed, and approved to meet project quality objectives. Bentonite is not recommended where DNAPLs are likely to be present or in groundwater with high salinity. In these situations, neat cement grout is preferred.
- As noted above, coated bentonite pellets are not recommended for monitoring well construction, as the coating could impact the water quality in the completed well.

- Heat of hydration during neat cement grout curing must be considered to avoid damage to PVC well materials. The annular space for a typical monitoring well is small enough that heat of hydration should not create excessive temperature increases which may damage PVC well material. However, washouts in the borehole can lead to thick accumulations of grout which can produce enough heat during curing to weaken and potentially damage PVC casing. If heat of hydration is a concern, contact the Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead to address the issue.
- Similarly, it is imperative that backfill volumes (filter pack and well seal) be estimated and then closely monitored to ensure that materials are not 'lost' to the formation. If estimated volumes do not reasonably match actual volumes, contact the Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead to address the issue.

## 7 Health and Safety Considerations

Field activities associated with monitoring well installation will be performed in accordance with a site-specific HASP, a copy of which will be present on site during such activities. The HASP may require that the drilling company provide their own HASP and/or Job Safety Analyses (JSAs).

The HASP will be followed, as appropriate, to ensure the safety of field personnel. Review all site-specific and procedural hazards as they are provided in the HASP, and review Job Safety Analysis (JSA) documents in the field each day prior to beginning work.

Prior to drilling, utility clearance must be performed (see Section 6). Appropriate personal protective equipment (PPE) must always be worn in accordance with the task and the HASP.

Working outside at sites with suspected contamination may expose field personnel to hazardous materials such as contaminated groundwater or NAPL (e.g., oil). Other potential hazards include biological hazards (e.g., stinging insects, ticks in long grass/weeds, etc.), and potentially the use of sharp cutting tools (scissors, knife). Only use non-toxic peppermint oil spray for stinging insect nests. Review client-specific health and safety requirements, which may preclude the use of fixed/folding-blade knives and use appropriate hand protection.

If thunder or lightning is present, discontinue drilling and sampling until 30 minutes have passed after the last occurrence of thunder or lightning.

## 8 Procedure

The procedures for installing groundwater monitoring wells are presented below:

### **Hollow-Stem Auger, Drive-and-Wash, Spun Casing, Fluid/Mud Rotary, Sonic, and Dual-Rotary Drilling Methods**

1. Prior to monitoring well installation, determine the expected volumes of filter pack and seal materials including grout (neat cement or cement-bentonite) and bentonite (if applicable).
2. Locate boring/well location, establish work zone, and set up sampling equipment decontamination area.
3. During well installation, record construction details, measurements, and tabulate materials used (e.g., screen and riser footages; filter pack volume; bags of cement/sand; volume of grout; etc.) in the field notebook as well as appropriate field forms.

4. Advance boring to desired depth.
  - a. Collect soil and/or bedrock samples at appropriate interval(s), document, and store samples for laboratory analysis as specified in the FIP/Work Plan.
  - b. Decontaminate equipment between samples in accordance with the *TGI for Groundwater and Soil Sampling Equipment Decontamination* or if installing monitoring wells for per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances please refer to *TGI for Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Field Sampling Guide* for both sampling and decontamination guidance.
  - c. A common sampling method that produces high-quality soil samples with relatively little soil disturbance is described in *ASTM D1586 – Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils* (ASTM D1586). Split-spoon samples are obtained during drilling using hollow-stem auger, drive-and-wash, spun casing, and fluid/mud rotary.
  - d. Sonic drilling produces soil cores that, for the most part, are relatively undisturbed, but note that when drilling in consolidated or finer-grained sediment the vibratory action during core barrel advancement may create secondary fractures or breaks.
  - e. Dual-rotary removes cuttings by compressed air or water/mud and allow only a general assessment of geology.
5. Describe each soil sample as outlined in *TGI for Soil Description* and document descriptions in the field notebook and/or field tablet or field forms and photo document the samples. It should be noted that electronic logs must be backed up and transferred to a location accessible to other project team members as soon as feasible to retain and protect the field data. During boring advancement, document all drilling events in field notebook or field forms, including blow counts (number of blows required to advance split-spoon sampler in 6-inch increments) and work stoppages. Blow counts will not be available if sonic, dual-rotary, or direct-push methods are used.
6. Before installing a screen, it is important to confirm that the borehole has been advanced into the targeted saturated zone. This is particularly important for wells installed to monitor the water table and/or the shallow saturated zone, as the capillary fringe may cause soils above the water table to appear saturated. If one or more previously installed monitoring wells exist nearby, use the depth to water at such well(s) to estimate the water-table depth at the new borehole location.

**NOTE:** *To verify that the borehole has been advanced into the saturated zone, it is necessary to measure the water level in the borehole. For boreholes drilled without using water (e.g., hollow-stem auger, cable-tool, air rotary, air hammer), verify the presence of groundwater (and/or LNAPL, if applicable) in the borehole using an electronic water level meter, oil-water interface probe, or a new/decontaminated bailer. For boreholes drilled using water (e.g., drive and wash, spun-casing with roller-bit wash, sonic, or water rotary with core or roller bit), monitor the water level in the borehole as it re-equilibrates to the static level.*

*In low-permeability units like clay, fine-grained glacial tills, shale, and other bedrock formations, it may be necessary to wait overnight to allow the water level to equilibrate. Document depth to water in the borehole on the appropriate field forms and field notebook. If there are questions concerning the depth of the well/screen interval, consult with the project technical lead prior to finalizing well depth/screen interval. To the extent practicable, ensure that the depth of the well below the apparent water table is deep enough so that the installed well can monitor groundwater year-round, accounting for seasonal water-table fluctuations. When in doubt, err on the side of slightly deeper well installation.*

7. Upon completing the borehole to the desired depth, if a screened well construction is required, install the monitoring well by lowering the screen and casing assembly through the augers or casing. Monitoring wells typically will be constructed of 2-inch-diameter (although sometimes 4-inch), flush-threaded PVC or stainless steel slotted or wire wrapped well screen and blank riser casing. Smaller diameters may be used if wells are installed using direct-push methodology or if multiple wells are to be installed in a single borehole, according to the well design as outlined in the FIP/Work Plan. The screen length and other construction details will be specified in the FIP/Work Plan based on regulatory requirements and specific monitoring objectives. Monitoring well screens are usually 5 to 10 feet long, but the screen length will depend on the purpose for the well and the objectives of the groundwater investigation and will (in most cases) be determined prior to the field mobilization.

**NOTE:** *The slot size and filter pack gradation will be predetermined in the Work Plan (or equivalent) or FSP and based on site-specific grain-size analysis (sieve analysis) or other geologic considerations or monitoring objectives. Consult the Project Hydrogeologist and/or subject matter expert if there are questions/concerns regarding the filter pack and slot size specified. If the screen slot size and filter pack have not been based on site-specific grain-size analysis, consider collecting soil samples during well installation so future wells can be properly designed.*

**NOTE:** *A blank sump may be attached below the well screen if the well is being installed for DNAPL recovery /monitoring purposes. If so, the annular space around the sump may be backfilled with filter pack during placement around the well screen.*

8. A blank riser will extend from the top of the screen to the level specified in the FIP/Work Plan (e.g., approximately 2.5 feet above grade if a stick up or just below grade where a flush-mounted monitoring well is specified).

**NOTE:** *For wells greater than 50 feet deep, placement of centralizers may be desired to assist in centering the monitoring well in the borehole during installation. Refer to the FIP/Work Plan and/or consult with the Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead.*

9. When the monitoring well assembly has been set, using a tremie place the washed silica filter pack in the annular space from the bottom of the boring to a height above the top of the screen as specified in the FIP/Work Plan (typically placed to at least 2 feet above the top of the well screen). The filter pack will be placed, and drilling equipment extracted in increments until the top of the sand pack is at the appropriate depth.

**NOTE:** *It is very important to verify that the expected volume of filter pack matches with the actual amount placed. There can be differences due to irregularities in the borehole geometry. Washout of the borehole will result in the need for greater than calculated well materials. If a difference of more than 10% is noted, consult with the Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead. The filter pack will be consistent with the screen slot size and the soil particle size in the screened interval, as specified in the FIP/Work Plan.*

10. After placement of the filter pack, preliminary well development is recommended be performed to ensure that the filter pack settles and does not bridge within the annular space and to remove any fines accumulated in the well during installation. This typically entails gently surging the entire well screen to prevent filter pack material bridging and to settle the filter pack prior to well seal installation. For recommended procedures, please refer to the *TGI for Monitoring Well Development*. Monitor the placement of the filter pack (e.g., with a weighted tape measure) and, as necessary during preliminary development (i.e., settlement), add filter pack to ensure proper thickness/height above screen is attained.

11. Depending on the project-specific requirements and applicable federal/state/local regulations, a well seal comprised of either fine sand or hydrated bentonite will then be placed in the annular space above the filter pack, typically at a minimum of 2 feet thick—follow the specifications outlined in the FIP/Work Plan). If non-hydrated bentonite is used, allow sufficient time for hydration to occur (typically a minimum of 30 minutes, but follow manufacturer’s recommendations and/or specifications outlined in the FIP/Work Plan). Potable water may be added to hydrate the bentonite if the seal is above the water table. Monitor the placement of the fine sand/bentonite seal (e.g., with a weighted tape measure).

**NOTE:** *Coated bentonite pellets are generally not recommended for monitoring well construction because of potential chemical incompatibilities between the coating material and groundwater chemistry.*

12. During the extraction of the augers or casing, a neat cement or cement/bentonite grout will be placed in the annular space from the well seal to a depth as specified in the FIP/Work Plan (e.g., approximately 2 ft. below groundwater surface). It is recommended that grout be placed with a tremie pipe. Ensure that seal materials are mixed at the proper ratios with water following manufacturer’s recommendations.

**NOTE:** *If it is necessary to install a monitor well into a permeable zone below a confining layer (i.e., confined conditions), particularly if the deeper zone is believed to have water quality that differs significantly from the zone above the confining layer, then a telescopic well construction may be considered.*

*In this case, the borehole is advanced approximately 3 to 5 feet into the top of the confining layer (depending upon the thickness of the confining layer), and a permanent casing (typically PVC or stainless steel) is installed into the socket drilled into the top of the confining layer.*

*The casing is then grouted in place. The preferred methods of grouting telescoping casings include (1) pressure-injection grouting using an inflatable packer installed temporarily into the base of the casing, such that grout is injected out the bottom of the casing until it is observed at ground surface outside the casing; (2) displacement-method grouting (also known as the Halliburton method), which entails filling the casing with grout and displacing the grout out the bottom of the casing by pushing a drillable plug, typically made of wood to the bottom of the casing, following by tremie grouting the remainder of the annulus outside the casing; or (3) tremie grouting the annulus surrounding the casing using a tremie pipe installed to the base of the borehole.*

*In all three cases, the casing is grouted to the ground surface, and the grout is allowed to set prior to drilling deeper through the casing. Refer to the FIP/Work Plan, Project Hydrogeologist, and/or subject matter expert for the completion of non-standard monitoring wells, including telescopic wells.*

13. Install the monitoring well surface completion as specified in FIP/Work Plan. Typical completions are a locking, steel protective casing (extended at least 1.5 feet below grade and 2 feet above grade) over the riser casing and secure with a neat cement seal. Alternatively, for flush-mount completions, place a steel curb box with a bolt-down lid over the riser casing and secure with a neat cement seal. In either case, the cement seal will extend approximately 1.5 to 2.0 feet below grade and laterally at least 1 foot in all directions from the protective casing and will slope gently away from the casing to promote drainage away from the well.
14. When an above-grade completion is used, the riser will be sealed using an expandable locking plug and the top of the well will be vented by drilling a small-diameter (1/8 inch) hole near the top of the well casing or through the locking plug, or by cutting a vertical slot in the top of the well casing. When a flush-mount installation is used, the riser will be sealed using an unvented, expandable locking plug.

15. Monitoring wells will be labeled as specified in the FIP/Work Plan. If not specified, use indelible ink or paint with the appropriate designation on both the inner and outer well casings and/or inside of the curb box lid. If called for, mark a consistent measuring point by cutting a V in the PVC casing or marking the measuring point in black.
16. After completing the well installation, lock the well, clean the area, and dispose of materials in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 9 below.
17. After completing well installation, finalize documentation and follow data management procedures outlined in Section 10 below.
18. For final well development guidance and procedures, please refer to the *TGI for Monitoring Well Development*.

### **Direct-Push Method**

The direct-push drilling method may also be used to complete soil borings and install monitoring wells. Examples of this technique include the Diedrich ESP vibratory probe system, GeoProbe®, or AMS Power Probe® dual-tube system. Environmental probe systems typically use a hydraulically operated percussion hammer. Depending on the equipment used, the hammer delivers 140- to 350-foot pounds of energy with each blow and provides the force needed to penetrate very stiff to medium dense soil formations. The hammer simultaneously advances an outer steel casing that contains a dual-tube liner for sampling soil. The outside diameter (OD) of the outer casing ranges from 1.75 to 2.4 inches and the OD of the inner sampling tube ranges from 1.1 to 1.8 inches.

The outer casing isolates shallow layers and permits the unit to continue to probe at depth. The double-rod system provides a borehole that may be tremie-grouted from the bottom up. Alternatively, the inside diameter (ID) of the steel casing provides clearance for the installation of small-diameter (e.g., 0.75- to 1-inch ID) micro-wells.

If direct-push drilling has been determined to be a viable method for site conditions and project objectives, procedures for installing monitoring wells in soil using the direct-push method are described below.

1. Locate boring/well location, establish work zone, and set up sample equipment decontamination area.
2. Advance soil boring to designated depth, collecting samples at intervals specified in the FIP/Work Plan. Samples will be collected using dedicated, disposable, plastic liners. Collect and describe samples in accordance with the procedures outlined in Steps 4 and 5 above. Collect samples for laboratory analysis as specified in the FIP/Work Plan.
3. Upon advancing the borehole to the desired depth, install the micro-well through the inner drill casing. The micro-well will consist of approximately 1-inch ID PVC or stainless-steel slotted screen and blank riser. The filter pack, well seal, and neat cement/cement-bentonite grout will be installed as described, where applicable, in Steps 9 through 12 above.
4. Install surface completion (protective steel casing or flush-mount), as appropriate and as described in Steps 13 through 15 above.
5. After completing the well installation, lock the well, clean the area, and dispose of materials in accordance with the procedures outlined in Section 9 below.
6. After completing well installation, finalize documentation and follow data management procedures outlined in Section 10 below.

### Driven Well Point Installation

If specified in the FIP/Work Plan, well points installed by pushing or driving using a drilling rig or direct-push rig (or hand-driven where possible) will typically consist of a 1- to 2-inch-diameter threaded steel casing with either 0.010- or 0.020-inch slotted stainless-steel screen. The screen length will vary depending on the hydrogeologic conditions of the site. The casings will be joined together with threaded couplings and the terminal end will consist of a steel well point. Because they are driven or pushed to the desired depth, well points do not have annular backfill materials such as sand pack or grout. Refer to the FIP/Work Plan and/or consult with the Project Hydrogeologist/Technical Lead and/or subject matter expert for specific guidance on drive point installation procedures/specifications.

## 9 Waste Management

IDW, including soil cuttings and excess drilling fluids (if used), decontamination liquids, and disposable materials (well material packages, PPE, etc.), will be placed in clearly labeled, appropriate containers, or managed as otherwise specified in the Work Plan (or equivalent), FSP, and/or IDW management guidance document.

Investigative-Derived Waste (IDW) generated during drilling activities, including soil and excess drilling fluids (if used), and decontamination liquids, will be stored on site in appropriately labeled containers and disposed of properly. Disposable materials will be stored and disposed of separately. Containers must be labeled at the time of collection and will include date, location(s), site name, city, state, and description of matrix contained (e.g., soil, PPE).

Waste will be managed in accordance with the *TGI for Investigation-Derived Waste Handling and Storage*, the procedures identified in the FIP/work plan or QAPP as well as state-, federal- or client-specific requirements. Be certain that waste containers are properly labeled and documented in the field log.

## 10 Data Recording and Management

Digital data collection is the Arcadis standard using available FieldNow® applications that enable real-time, paperless data collection, entry, and automated reporting. Paper forms should only be used as backup to FieldNow® digital data collection and/or as necessary to collect data not captured by available FieldNow® applications. The Field Now® digital form applications follow a standardized approach, correlate to most TGIs and are available to all projects accessible with a PC or capable mobile device. Once the digital forms are saved within FieldNow®, the data is instantly available for review on a web interface. This facilitates review by project management team members and SMEs enabling error or anomalous data detection for correction while the staff are still in the field. Continual improvements of FieldNow® applications are ongoing, and revisions are made as necessary in response to feedback from users and subject matter experts.

If not using FieldNow®, all well drilling/installations activities will be documented on appropriate field/log forms as well as in a proper field notebook and/or Personal Digital Assistant (PDA) and/or tablet. All field data will be recorded digitally or with indelible ink. Field forms, logs/notes (including daily field and calibration logs), digital records, and chain-of-custody records will be maintained by the field team lead. Any deviations or omissions from this TGI will be documented.

Additionally, all documents (and photographs) should be scanned and electronically filed in the appropriate project directory for easy access. Pertinent information will include personnel present on site, times of arrival and departure, significant weather conditions, timing of well installation activities, soil descriptions, well construction specifications (screen and riser material and diameter, sump length, screen length and slot size, riser length, filter pack type and volume, type of well seal (fine sand or bentonite seal) and volume, type and volume of grout (neat cement or cement-bentonite), and other materials used.

Management of the original documents from the field will be completed in accordance with the site-specific QAPP. Records generated as a result of this TGI will be controlled and maintained in the project record files in accordance with project requirements.

Initial field logs and forms will be transmitted to the Arcadis CPM and/or Technical Lead at the end of each day unless otherwise directed by the CPM. The field team leader retains copies of the field documentation.

Locations of newly installed wells will be documented photographically and/or on a site sketch. If appropriate, a measuring wheel, engineer's tape, or handheld GPS will be used to determine approximate distances from key site features or estimated coordinates.

The well location, ground surface elevation, and inner and outer casing elevations will be surveyed using the method specified in the FIP/Work Plan. Generally, a local baseline control will be set up. This local baseline control can then be tied into the appropriate vertical and horizontal datum, such as the National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD) of 1929 or North American Vertical Datum (NAVD) of 1988 and the State Plane Coordinate System. At a minimum, the elevation of the top of the inner casing used for water-level measurements should be measured to the nearest 0.01 foot. Elevations will be established in relation to the NGVD of 1929 or the NAVD of 1988. A permanent mark will be placed on top of the inner casing to mark the point for water-level measurements.

## 11 Quality Assurance

Quality assurance procedures will be conducted in accordance with the Arcadis Quality Management System or the site-specific QAPP. Refer to the QAPP or FIP/sampling plan/work plan for specific requirements.

All drilling equipment and associated tools (including augers, drill rods, sampling equipment, wrenches, and any other equipment or tools) that may have come in contact with soil will be cleaned in accordance with the procedures outlined in the appropriate TGI. All well construction materials will be inspected and cleaned (as necessary) prior to well installation.

Field-derived quality assurance blanks will be collected as specified in the FIP/work plan and/or site-specific QAPP, depending on the project quality objectives. Typically, field rinse blanks (equipment blanks) will be collected when non-dedicated equipment (e.g., split-spoon sampler, stainless steel spoon) is used during soil sampling. Field rinse blanks will be used to confirm that decontamination procedures are sufficient and samples are representative of site conditions. Trip blanks for VOCs, which aid in the detection of contaminants from other media, sources, or the container itself, will be kept with the coolers and the sample containers throughout the sampling activities and during transport to the laboratory.

Operate all monitoring instrumentation in accordance with manufacturer's instructions and calibration procedures. Calibrate instruments at the beginning of each day and verify the calibration at the end of each day. Record all calibration activities in the field notebook.

## 12 References

- American Society for Testing Materials (ASTM) D5092 - *Standard Practice for Design and Installation of Ground Water Monitoring Wells*. American Society for Testing Materials. West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.
- American Society of Testing and Materials (ASTM) D1586 - *Standard Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils*. American Society for Testing Materials. West Conshohocken, Pennsylvania.

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# TGI – Sample Chain of Custody

Rev: 4

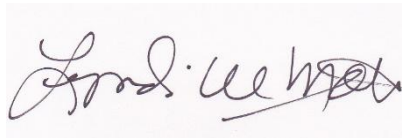
Rev Date: May 5, 2025

## Version Control

| Issue | Revision No. | Date Issued       | Page No. | Description   | Reviewed By     |
|-------|--------------|-------------------|----------|---|-----------------|
|       | 0            | April 19, 2017    | All      | Re-write to COC only  | Richard Murphy  |
|       | 1            | May 23, 2017      | 4,7,9    | Add: Guidance on use of previous version of TGI.<br>Add: Info on COCs for multiple shipping containers<br>Modify: Move letter i. to letter m. and change to “when appropriate”  | Peter Frederick |
|       | 2            | April 29, 2020    | 4, 11    | Remove obsolete link  | Lyndi Mott      |
|       | 3            | December 28, 2022 | All      | Updated Arcadis format<br>Added to 6c. Collection time between COC and container must match.<br>Added to 6o. Add name of overnight courier when relinquishing samples.<br>Updated reference documents and added internet links. | Lyndi Mott      |
|       | 4            | May 5, 2025       |          | Annual review: edited multiple sample and container handling (refer to Section 8, step 10).   | Dennis Capria   |

## Approval Signatures

Prepared by:



5/5/2025

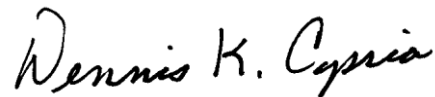
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Lyndi Mott (Preparer)

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Date

Reviewed by:



4/29/2025

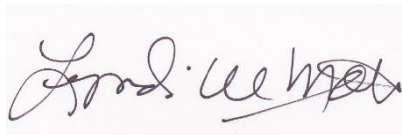
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Dennis Capria (Chain of Custody Reviewer)

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Date

Reviewed by:



5/5/2025

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Lyndi Mott (Subject Matter Expert)

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Date

## 1 Introduction

This Technical Guidance Instruction (TGI) provides the procedure for Arcadis field personnel for required documentation during the collection of environmental field samples and transfer of custody to a laboratory. It provides direction for completion of the Chain of Custody form that must accompany collected field samples for analysis by a laboratory.

## 2 Intended Use and Responsibilities

This document describes general and/or specific procedures, methods, actions, steps, and considerations to be used and observed by Arcadis staff when performing work, tasks, or actions under the scope and relevancy of this document. This document may describe expectations, requirements, guidance, recommendations, and/or instructions pertinent to the service, work task, or activity it covers.

It is the responsibility of the Arcadis Certified Project Manager (CPM) to provide this document to the persons conducting services that fall under the scope and purpose of this procedure, instruction, and/or guidance. The Arcadis CPM will also ensure that the persons conducting the work falling under this document are appropriately trained and familiar with its content. The persons conducting the work under this document are required to meet the minimum competency requirements outlined herein, and inquire to the CPM regarding any questions, misunderstanding, or discrepancy related to the work under this document.

This document is not considered to be all inclusive nor does it apply to all projects. It is the CPM's responsibility to determine the proper scope and personnel required for each project. There may be project- and/or client- and/or state-specific requirements that may be more or less stringent than what is described herein. The CPM is responsible for informing Arcadis and/or Subcontractor personnel of omissions and/or deviations from this document that may be required for the project. In turn, project staff are required to inform the CPM if or when there is a deviation or omission from work performed as compared to what is described herein.

In following this document to execute the scope of work for a project, it may be necessary for staff to make professional judgment decisions to meet the project's scope of work based upon site conditions, staffing expertise, regulation-specific requirements, health and safety concerns, etc. Staff are required to consult with the CPM when or if a deviation or omission from this document is required that has not already been previously approved by the CPM. Upon approval by the CPM, the staff can perform the deviation or omission as confirmed by the CPM.

## 3 Scope and Application

This TGI describes the general Chain of Custody (COC) procedures and guidance instructions for samples collected from project sites that are relinquished from Arcadis' possession.

COC is defined as the maintenance of an unbroken record of possession of an item from the time of its collection through some analytical or testing procedure. COC is typically documented by a written record of the collection, possession, and handling of samples collected from a project location. Each sample will be tracked by a documented record that efficiently documents the individuals who were responsible for the sample during each successive transfer of that sample to various recipients beyond Arcadis' possession. This information can be used to legally establish the integrity of the samples and therefore the analytical results derived from the samples. This

information can be used in addition to other records and documentation regarding the samples, such as field forms, field logs, and photographs.

A sample is considered under custody if:

- It is in your possession; or
- It is in your view, after being in your possession; or
- It was in your possession and then you then locked it up to prevent tampering; or
- It is in a designated secure area.

Continued use of previous version of TGI:

Although not recommended, Arcadis program-, project-, and client-teams may be able to use the previous version of this TGI provided that it meets all of the quality expectations of Arcadis and client and meets applicable regulatory requirements. It is up to the program, project, and/or client-team leader to determine whether it is appropriate to adopt the current TGI or to continue using the previous version.

However, all new work not associated with the previous version of this TGI must be performed with the current version of the TGI.

When adopting this new TGI, users of the previous versions must be aware that specific handling, packing, and shipping procedures and guidance has been removed and that those should be addressed within program or project plans (e.g., Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPP), Work Plans, Sampling and Analysis Plans (SAPs), etc.) or in a more detailed TGI specific to that sampling activity, whether related to media, constituent/analyte, client, state, etc.

In addition, adopting this new TGI will require users to refer to the Arcadis Department of Transportation (DOT) Safety Program for procedures and guidance on the determination and handling, packing, and shipping of samples that are or may be considered hazardous materials.

## 4 Personnel Qualifications

Arcadis personnel performing work under the purview of this TGI will have received appropriate training and have field experience regarding the collection of samples from project locations. Arcadis personnel will have all other applicable and appropriate training relevant to the sampling work and project site.

## 5 Equipment List

The following list provides materials that may be required for each COC. Project reporting and documentation requirements must be reviewed with the CPM prior to execution of work. Additional materials, tools, equipment, etc. may be required, and project staff are required to verify with the CPM and/or Technical Expert what specific equipment is required to complete the COC.

- Indelible ink pen (preferably either black or blue ink);
- COC form (**Appendix A**) from either Arcadis, laboratory receiving and analyzing the samples, or other applicable and appropriate entity for the work performed;
- When appropriate, such as for litigation or expert testimony work, custody seals or tape.

## 6 Cautions

One way in which the law tries to ensure the integrity of evidence is by requiring proof of the chain of custody by the party who is seeking to introduce a particular piece of evidence.

A proper chain of custody requires three types of affirmations: (1) affirmation that a sample is what it purports to be (for example, soil collected from a specified location and depth); (2) affirmation of continuous possession by each individual who has had possession of the sample from the time it is collected until the time it is analyzed or held by a laboratory; and (3) affirmation by each person who has had possession that sample remained in substantially the same condition and not contaminated or affected by outside influences from the moment one person took possession until the moment that person released the evidence into the custody of another (for example, affirmation that the sample was stored in a secure location where no one but the person in custody had access to it).

Proving chain of custody is necessary to "lay a foundation" for the samples in question, by showing the absence of alteration, substitution, or change of condition.

Ensure that appropriate sample containers with applicable preservatives, coolers, and packing material are planned for and provided at the site at the time of sample collection.

Understand the offsite transfer requirements of the samples for the facility at which samples are collected.

If an overnight courier service is required schedule pick-up or know where the drop-off service center is located and the hours of operation.

**An Arcadis employee appropriately trained at the correct level of internal hazardous materials/DOT shipping must complete an Arcadis shipping determination to address applicable DOT and International Air Transport Association (IATA) shipping requirements.** Review the applicable Arcadis procedures and guidance instructions for sample packaging, and labeling. Prior to using air transportation, confirm air shipment is acceptable under DOT and IATA regulations.

The person relinquishing possession of the samples or other member of the project team should contact the final recipient of the samples to confirm receipt and review any special provisions on the COC or questions that they may have.

## 7 Health and Safety Considerations

Follow the health and safety procedures outlined in the project/site Health and Safety Plan (HASP) as well as other applicable H&S requirements, such as:

- Arcadis Hazardous Material/DOT handling, packaging, and shipping training
- Project site-specific H&S training
- Client-specific H&S training
- Constituent-specific H&S training
- Media-specific H&S training

## 8 Procedure

Collected samples must be uniquely identified, and properly documented, containerized, labeled with unique identifier, possessed in a secure manner during remainder of sampling event, packaged, and shipped to recipient laboratory.

### Sample Identification

The method of sample identification depends on the type of measurement or analyses performed. In some cases, in-situ measurements of existing conditions and/or sample location must be made during sample collection.

These data will be recorded directly on field forms, logbooks, or other project record data sheets used to permanently retain this information for the project file. Examples of location identification information includes: latitude/longitudinal measurements, compass directions, well number, building number, floor number, room name, or proximity to a site feature unique to the site. Examples of in-situ measurements are pH, temperature, conductivity, flow measurement, or physical condition of the media being sampled. Physical samples collected are identified by a unique identifying number or code on a sample tag or label. These physical samples are removed from the sample location and transported to a laboratory for analyses.

In some cases, before samples are placed into individual containers and labeled as individual samples, samples may be separated into portions depending upon the analytical methods and required duplicate or triplicate analyses to be performed.

When completing a COC for samples, personnel must complete the following:

1. Written COCs must be completed with indelible ink (preferably either black or blue colored ink).
2. Written COCs must be completed using legible printed writing, and not cursive writing.
3. All entry fields on the COC form must be completed. If information is not applicable for a specific entry field, personnel will either put "N/A" or use a strike-out line or dash like "-----" to indicate no applicable information is needed for that field.
4. Use of quotation marks or lines/down arrows to represent repetitive/duplicative text in similar fields.
5. Regardless of the type or specific COC form, the following pertinent information must be provided on the COC form:
  - a. Arcadis project number
  - b. Arcadis project name
  - c. Project location, including street address, city, state, building number, providing as much detail as appropriate
  - d. Recipient laboratory contact and sample receiving shipping location information
  - e. Entities'/persons' contact information for who will be receiving analytical results
  - f. Name of sampler, i.e., person collecting sample and relinquishing possession of samples to the next entity in the chain of custody
  - g. Date of sample collection
  - h. If appropriate for the sample media, contaminant/constituent of concern, or analytical method, document time of sample collection using standard military time
  - i. Sample analytical method(s)

- j. Turnaround time required for analyses and/or reporting
- k. Instructions to laboratory regarding handling, timing, analyses, etc. as applicable and appropriate.
- l. Printed name and signature of the individual person who collected the samples and relinquishing possession of the samples
- m. If appropriate or when documentation of the specific sample collection method will influence how the laboratory handles, prepares, or analyzes the samples, document the sample collection methodology used for collecting the samples (e.g., ASTM D5755)

6. The following additional specific information will be entered on the COC form, regardless of what type of COC is being used:

- a. Unique Sample Identifier – The sample identifier (ID) must be unique to the individual sample it is applied to. The information in which the sample ID conveys is determined by the CPM, Technical Expert, and/or other project team members in advance of sample collection so that sample identification is consistently applied for the project. The sample nomenclature may be dictated by a specific client, program, or project database and require unique identification for each sample collected for the project. Consult with the CPM and/or Technical Expert for additional information regarding sample identification.

The sample ID could convey specific information regarding the sample to aid personnel in recognizing what the sample represents, or they may be arbitrary so as to facilitate the anonymity of the sample location, media, constituent of concern, project site, etc.

Examples of unique identifiers include:

- 1. Well locations, grid points, or soil boring identification numbers (e.g., MW-3, X-20, SB-30). When the depth interval is included, the complete sample ID would be “SB-30 (0.5-1.0) where the depth interval is in feet. Please note it is very important that the use of hyphens in sample names and depth units (i.e., feet or inches) remain consistent for all samples entered on the chain of custody form. DO NOT use the apostrophe or quotes in the sample ID.
  - 2. Sample names may also use the abbreviations “FB,” “TB,” “FD” and “DUP” as prefixes or suffixes to indicate that the sample is a field blank, trip blank, or field duplicate, respectively.
- b. List the date of sample collection. All indicated dates must be formatted using either mm/dd/yy (e.g., 03/07/09) or mm/dd/yyyy (e.g., 03/07/2009).
  - c. List the local time that the sample was collected. The time value should be presented using military format. For example, 3:15 P.M. should be entered as 15:15. The time listed on the COC form must match the sample collection time on the sample container(s).
  - d. Samples should be indicated to be either “Grab” or “Composite”. Grab samples are collected from only one unique location at one specific point in time.
  - e. Composite samples are a group of individual samples that are combined for analysis in their totality. Composite samples need to be documented if they are either collected from a number of different locations over a broader area to be representative of the entire area being sampled, or if they are representative of a single location over an extended period of time.

- f. If used, preservatives for the individual sample will be noted.
  - g. The requested analytical method(s) that the samples are being analyzed for must be indicated. As much detail, as necessary, should be presented to allow the analytical laboratory to properly analyze the samples. For example, polychlorinated biphenyl (PCB) analyses may be represented by entering “EPA Method 8082 – PCBs” or “EPA PLM 600-R93-116.” In cases where multiple analytical methods and/or analytical parameters are required for an individual sample, each method should be indicated for the sample (e.g., EPA 8082/8260/8270 or EPA PLM/400-point count).
  - h. If there are project-specific sample analytes to be reported, they should be specifically listed for each individual sample (e.g., 40 CFR 264 Appendix IX).
  - i. The total number of containers for each analytical method requested should be documented. This information may be included under the parameter or as a total for the sample.
  - j. When necessary, note which samples should be used for site specific matrix spikes in the Remarks or Comments field.
  - k. Indicate special project-specific requirements pertinent to the handling, shipping, or analyses. These requirements may be on a per sample basis such as “extract and hold sample until notified,” or may be used to inform the laboratory of special reporting requirements for the entire sample delivery group (SDG).
  - l. Indicate turnaround time (TAT) required for samples on COC. If individual samples have differing TATs, the different TATs for each sample or groups of samples must be clearly indicated.
  - m. Provide contact name and phone number in the event that problems are encountered when samples are received at the laboratory. The person relinquishing possession of the samples or other member of the project team should contact the final recipient of the samples to confirm receipt and review any special provisions on the COC or questions that they may have.
  - n. If available, attach the Laboratory Task Order or Work Authorization forms.
  - o. The “Relinquished By” field must contain the signature of the Arcadis person who relinquished custody of the samples to the next entity in the chain of custody, which may be another person, the shipping courier, or the analytical laboratory. If a courier, enter the shipping courier in the “Received by” such as FedEx. The date/time relinquished should be when the person signs the COC and seals the cooler or shipping container for pick-up by the shipping courier.
  - p. Dates and times must be indicated using the following format:
    - 1) Date: either mm/dd/yy e.g., 01/01/17 OR mm/dd/yyyy e.g., 01/01/2017
    - 2) Time: use military format, e.g., 9:30 a.m. is 0930 and 9:30 p.m. is 2130
  - q. The “Received By” section is signed by sample courier or laboratory representative who received the samples from the sampler. The laboratory will sign upon laboratory receipt from the overnight courier service.
7. When more than one page of the COC form is required to complete the total number of samples, use as many sheets as necessary to accurately and clearly, document the samples and information. Some COCs may have a standard first page/cover page, and subsequent pages may not contain all the detailed fields as

the first page/cover page. Ensure that any subsequent pages convey all of the necessary and pertinent information for each individual sample as required in this procedure document.

8. Pages of the COC must retain a page count of the total number of pages; e.g., Page 1 of 3, Page 2 of 3, Page 3 of 3.
9. Upon completing the COC forms, forward the original signed COC with the sample package. Ensure that the original COC form is secured with the sample package so that it remains with the physical samples for the duration of transport and handling to its final destination and ensure that the COC form will not be become damaged or rendered unreadable due to sample breakage/leakage if stored inside the sample shipping container or outside influences if COC is stored in an outside plastic pouch to the container.
10. If you've collected enough samples that would require more than one container to ship them all to the same laboratory or location, then each separate/individual container that contains any number of samples must have a separate COC representing only those samples contained within that specific container. Each separate COC may be a photocopy of the original with the sample location that is not in the cooler lined out and initialed. For example, if you have 3 total shipping containers for all of your samples, you must have a total of 3 separate, individual COCs for each of the 3 containers representing only those samples in their representative container (which this may be completed by crossing out the samples not in the container). Thus, every container holding samples must have its own, individual COC.
11. If electronic chain of custody (eCOC) forms are utilized, ensure that the requirements of this procedure and guidance instructions are followed to the extent possible. Verify that proper signature and COC procedures are maintained with the CPM and/or Technical Expert when using eCOC.

## 9 Waste Management

Not Applicable.

## 10 Data Recording and Management

The original signed COC shall be submitted with the samples. Copies of COC records will be transmitted to the CPM or designee at the end of each day unless otherwise directed by the CPM. The sampling team leader retains copies of the chain of custody forms for filing in the project file. Record retention shall be in accordance with client- and project-specific requirements and Arcadis policies, the most stringent will apply.

The option to use the Electronic Chain of Custody (eCOC) form in conjunction with the appropriate sample application(s) may be available through the FieldNow® program but is currently limited to a select list of approved analytical laboratories. Use of the eCOC application is intended to reduce common transcription errors both by field staff and laboratory staff on a conventional handwritten paper COC. Once the eCOC form is completed and approved on the field tablet by field staff, a PDF version of the form is automatically emailed to each assigned team member. In addition, a dedicated or mobile printer is recommended for printing a hard copy of the completed eCOC to be included in each sample cooler to meet laboratory requirements.

## 11 Quality Assurance

COC forms will be legibly completed in accordance with this procedure and guidance instruction document, as well as other applicable and appropriate project documents such as SAP, Quality QAPP, Work Plan, or other project guidance documents.

COC records will be reviewed by the CPM or their appropriate designee for completeness and accuracy to the applicable requirements. Non-conformances will be noted and corrected in a timely manner on the copies retained by Arcadis as well as contacting the ultimate receiving entity for correction to the originally signed COC in their possession.

## 12 References

Arcadis Transportation Safety Program requirements, procedures, and guidance instructions.

EPA Samplers' Guide – Contract Laboratory Program Guidance for Field Samplers, EPA document EPA-540-R014-013 October 2014 [https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-03/documents/samplers\\_guide.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-03/documents/samplers_guide.pdf).

EPA Region III – Sample Submission Procedures for the Office of Analytical Services and Quality Assurance (OASQA) Laboratory Branch revision 14.0 October 18, 2018, <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2018-12/documents/sample-submission-procedures-rev14.pdf>.

EPA Region IV Science and Ecosystem Support Division Operating Procedure for Sample and Evidence Management May 25, 2016, <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2015-06/documents/Sample-and-Evidence-Management.pdf>.

## Attachment A

### Chain of Custody and Laboratory Analysis Request Form



Arcadis U.S., Inc.  
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# TGI – Soil Description

Rev: 7

Rev Date: April 14, 2025

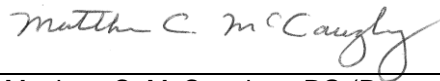
## Version Control

| Issue | Revision No. | Date Issued       | Page No. | Description  | Reviewed By                     |
|-------|--------------|-------------------|----------|--|---------------------------------|
|       | 0            | May 20, 2008      | 17       | Original SOP   | Joe Quinnan<br>Joel Hunt        |
|       | 1            | September 2016    | 15       | Updated to TGI   | Nick Welty<br>Patrick Curry     |
|       | 2            | February 16, 2018 | 15       | Updated descriptions, attachments and references in text                             | Nick Welty<br>Patrick Curry     |
|       | 3            | April 15, 2022    |          | Minor description edits, intro of grain-size K analysis, revised boring log template | Matt McCaughey<br>Patrick Curry |
|       | 4            | June 5, 2023      | All      | Annual review completed by SME.  | Patrick Curry                   |
|       | 5            | June 20, 2024     | All      | Annual review completed/approved by Patrick Curry                                    | Patrick Curry                   |
|       | 6            | Mar 31, 2025      | All      | Annual review completed/approved by Patrick Curry                                    | Patrick Curry                   |
|       | 7            | April 14, 2025    | All      | Edits to description of plasticity   | Patrick Curry                   |

## Approval Signatures

Prepared by:

4/14/2025



Matthew C. McCaughey, PG (Preparer)

Date

Reviewed by:

4/14/2025



Patrick Curry, PG (Subject Matter Expert)

Date

## 1 Introduction

This Arcadis Technical Guidance Instruction (TGI) describes proper soil description procedures based on visual inspection and testing of soil cores and samples. This document has been developed to emphasize field observation and documentation of details required to:

- Make hydrostratigraphic interpretations guided by depositional environment/geologic settings
- Provide information needed to understand the distribution of constituents of concern; properly design wells, piezometers, and/or additional field investigations; and develop appropriate remedial strategies.

## 2 Intended Use and Responsibilities

This document describes general and/or specific procedures, methods, actions, steps, and considerations to be used and observed by Arcadis staff when performing work, tasks, or actions under the scope and relevancy of this document. This document may describe expectations, requirements, guidance, recommendations, and/or instructions pertinent to the service, work task, or activity it covers.

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## 3 Scope and Application

This TGI should be followed for unconsolidated material unless there is an established client-required specific procedure or regulatory-required specific procedure. In cases where there is a required specific procedure, it should be followed and should be referenced and/or provided as an appendix to reports that include soil classifications and/or boring logs. When following a required non-Arcadis procedure, additional information required by this TGI should be included in field notes with client approval.

This TGI incorporates elements from various standard systems such as ASTM D2488-06, Unified Soil Classification System, Burmister and Udden Wentworth. However, none of these standard systems focus specifically on contaminant hydrogeology and remedial design. Therefore, although each of these systems contain valuable guidance and information related to correct descriptions, strict application of these systems can omit information critical to our clients and the projects that we perform.

This TGI includes the following attachments:

- **Attachment A** – Field Soil Description Guide
- **Attachment B** – Particle Size System Comparison
- **Attachment C** – Description of Logging Terms
- **Attachment D** – Blank Boring Log
- **Attachment E** – Completed Boring Log

This TGI does not address details of health and safety; drilling method selection; boring log preparation; sample collection; or laboratory analysis. Refer to other Arcadis procedure, guidance, and instructional documents, the project work plans including the quality assurance project plan, sampling plan, and health and safety plan (HASP), as appropriate.

## 4 Personnel Qualifications

Soil descriptions should only be performed by Arcadis personnel or authorized sub-contractors with a degree in geology or a geology-related discipline. Field personnel will complete training on the Arcadis soil description TGI in the office and/or in the field under the guidance of an experienced field geologist with at least 2 years of prior experience applying the Arcadis soil description method.

## 5 Equipment List

The following equipment should be taken to the field to facilitate soil descriptions:

- Field book, field forms or digital devices to record soil descriptions
- Field book for supplemental notes
- This TGI for Soil Descriptions and any project-specific procedure, guidance, and/or instructional documents (if required)
- Field card showing Wentworth scale
- Munsell® soil color chart
- Tape measure divided into tenths of a foot
- Stainless steel knife or spatula
- Hand lens
- Water squirt bottle
- 4-ounce glass jars with lids (for collecting soil core samples)
- Personal protective equipment (PPE), as required by the HASP
- Digital camera

- Folding table

## 6 Cautions

Drilling and drilling-related hazards including subsurface utilities are discussed in other procedure documents and site-specific HASPs and are not discussed herein.

Soil samples may contain hazardous substances that can result in exposure to persons describing soils. Routes for exposure may include dermal contact, inhalation and ingestion. Refer to the project specific HASP for guidance in these situations.

## 7 Health and Safety Considerations

Field activities associated with soil sampling and description will be performed in accordance with a site-specific HASP, a copy of which will be present on site during such activities. Know what hazardous substances may be present in the soil and understand their hazards. Always avoid the temptation to touch soils with bare hands, detect odors by placing soils close to your nose, or tasting soils.

## 8 Procedure

### 8.1 General Procedures

- Select the appropriate sampling method to obtain representative samples in accordance with the selected sub-surface exploration method, e.g., split-spoon or Shelby sample for hollow-stem drilling, acetate sleeves for direct push, bagged core for sonic drilling, etc.
- Proceed with field activities in required sequence. Although completion of soil descriptions is often not the first activity after opening sampler, identification of stratigraphic changes is often necessary to select appropriate intervals for field screening and/or selection of laboratory samples.
- Set up boring log field sheet.
  - Determine the proper units of measure. Drillers in both the US and Canada generally work in feet due to equipment specifications. Field geologists typically record drilling depths, core recovery, and sample intervals in feet and grain size in millimeters
  - Use the Arcadis standard boring log form (**Attachment D**). *Note that as of April 2022, several digital logging applications are available through the FieldNow™ program and the Fulcrum app. A future revision of this TGI, likely in early 2023, will emphasize digital logging methods and field boring log forms will no longer be acceptable. FieldNow is discussed further in Section 10.*
  - The boring log template includes a graphic log of the primary soil texture to support quick visual evaluation of grain size. The purpose of the graphic log is to quickly assess relative soil permeability. Note, for poorly sorted soils (e.g., glacial till), the principal component may not correlate to permeability of the sample. In this case, the geologist should use best judgement to graph overall soil type consistent with relative soil permeability. For example, for a dense sand/silt/clay till, the graphic log would reflect the silt/clay, rather than sand.

- Record depths along the left-hand side at a standard scale to aid in the use of this tool.
- Examine each soil core (this is different than examining each sample selected for laboratory analysis) and record the soil conditions in accordance with guidelines provided in Section 8.2.
- At the end of the boring, record the amount of drilling fluid used (if applicable) and the total depth logged.
- At a minimum, a written or digital boring log should be prepared with the following information:
  - Describe type of surface material (asphalt, grass, topsoil, gravel, etc.)
  - Describe the type of fill or non-native soils and estimated depth to native soils
  - Record sample intervals (soil cores, environmental and/or geotechnical samples)
  - Describe soil conditions in accordance with this TGI
  - Record moisture content and estimated depth to water table or saturated zone
  - Record the total depth and document why drilling was stopped (refusal, target depth achieved, etc.)

## 8.2 Soil Description Procedures

The standard soil description order is presented below.

- Depth
- PRIMARY TEXTURE
- Principal and Minor Components with Descriptors
  - % Modifiers and grain size fraction
  - Angularity for very coarse sand and larger particles
  - Consistency or Density
  - Plasticity for clay and clay mixtures
  - Dilatancy for silt and silt-sand mixtures
- Sorting
- Moisture Content
- Color
- Notes

**Depth.** To measure and record the depth below ground surface (bgs) of top and bottom of each stratum, the following information should be recorded.

- Measured depth to the top and bottom of sampled interval. Use starting depth of sample based upon measured tool length information and the length of sample interval.
- Length of sample recovered, not including slough (material that has fallen into hole from previous interval), expressed as fraction with length of recovered sample as numerator over length of sampled interval as denominator (e.g., 36/60 for 36 inches recovered from 5-ft [60-inch] sampling interval).
- Thickness of each stratum measured sequentially from the top of recovery to the bottom of recovery.
- Any observations of sample condition or drilling activity that would help identify whether there was loss from the top of the sampling interval, loss from the bottom of the sampling interval, or compression of the sampling interval. Examples: 14/24, gravel in nose of spoon; or 36/60 bottom 12 inches of core empty.

**Determination of Components.** Obtain a representative sample of soil from a single stratum. If multiple strata are present in a single sample interval, each stratum should be described separately. More specifically, if the sample is from a 2-foot-long split-spoon where strata of coarse sand, fine sand and clay are present, then the resultant description should be of the three individual strata unless a combined description can clearly describe the interbedded nature of the three strata. Example: SAND, fine; with interbedded lenses of Silt and Clay, ranging between 1 and 3 inches thick.

Identify principal component and express volume estimates for minor components on logs using the following standard modifiers.

| Modifier | Percent of Total Sample (by volume) |
|----------|-------------------------------------|
| and      | 36 – 50                             |
| some     | 21 - 35                             |
| little   | 10 - 20                             |
| trace    | <10                                 |

Determination of components is based on using the Udden-Wentworth particle size classification (see below) and measurement of the average grain size diameter. Each size class differs from the next larger class by a constant ratio of ½. Due to visual limitations, the finer classifications of Wentworth’s scale cannot be distinguished in the field and the subgroups are not included. Visual determinations in the field should be made carefully by comparing the sample to the Soil Description Field Guide (**Attachment A**) that shows Udden-Wentworth scale or by measuring with a ruler.

The following table summarized the modified Udden-Wentworth Scale for grain size classification. Note that gravel is a size category encompassing the granule, pebble, cobble, and boulder size classes.

| Udden-Wentworth Scale (Modified by Arcadis, 2008) |                   |             |             |                  |
|---|-------------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| Size Category                                     | Size Class        | Millimeters | Inches      | Standard Sieve # |
| Gravel (Cobble)                                   | Boulder           | 256 – 4096  | 10.08+      |                  |
|   | Large cobble      | 128 - 256   | 5.04 -10.08 |                  |
|   | Small cobble      | 64 - 128    | 2.52 – 5.04 |                  |
| Gravel (Pebble)                                   | Very large pebble | 32 – 64     | 0.16 - 2.52 |                  |
|   | Large pebble      | 16 – 32     | 0.63 – 1.26 |                  |
|   | Medium pebble     | 8 – 16      | 0.31 – 0.63 |                  |
|   | Small pebble      | 4 – 8       | 0.16 – 0.31 | No. 5 +          |
|   | Granule           | 2 – 4       | 0.08 – 0.16 | No.5 – No.10     |

|       |                               |                |                  |   |
|-------|-------------------------------|----------------|------------------|---|
| Sand  | Very coarse sand              | 1 -2           | 0.04 – 0.08      | No.10 – No.18                                     |
|       | Coarse sand                   | ½ - 1          | 0.02 – 0.04      | No.18 - No.35                                     |
|       | Medium sand                   | ¼ - ½          | 0.01 – 0.02      | No.35 - No.60                                     |
|       | Fine sand                     | 1/8 - ¼        | 0.005 – 0.1      | No.60 - No.120                                    |
|       | Very fine sand                | 1/16 – 1/8     | 0.002 – 0.005    | No. 120 – No. 230                                 |
| Fines | Silt (subgroups not included) | 1/256 – 1/16   | 0.0002 – 0.002   | Not applicable (analyze by pipette or hydrometer) |
|       | Clay (subgroups not included) | 1/2048 – 1/256 | 0.00002 – 0.0002 |   |

Identify components as follows. Remove particles greater than very large pebbles (64-mm diameter) from the soil sample. Record the volume estimate of the greater than very large pebbles. Examine the sample fraction of very large pebbles and smaller particles and estimate the volume percentage of the pebbles, granules, sand, silt and clay. Use the jar method, visual method, and/or wash method (Appendix X4 of ASTM D2488) to estimate the volume percentages of each category.

Sieve and hydrometer grain-size analysis can be used to vet the visual description, as well as used to estimate hydraulic conductivity. Lab or field sieve analysis is advisable to characterize the variability and facies trends within each hydrostratigraphic unit. It is recommended that sieve-hydrometer analysis be performed on representative samples from each soil type to estimate the fraction of each grain size category using ASTM D422 Standard Test Method for Particle-Size Analysis of Soils. If desired sieve sizes can be specified to follow the Udden-Wentworth classification (U.S. Standard sieve sizes 6; 12; 20; 40; 70; 140; and 270) to retain pebbles; granules; very coarse sand; coarse sand; medium sand; fine sand; and very fine sand, respectively.

Several empirical formulas provide a reliable means of estimating hydraulic conductivity (K) from grain-size distribution data, provided that the formation does not contain abundant fines that result in cohesive or plastic behavior or include cobble-sized grains (Payne et al. 2008). Grain-size analysis can help bracket the permeability of hydrostratigraphic units (HSUs) and identify order-of-magnitude spatial variations in K. Arcadis has completed modifications to the Excel-based program HydroGeoSieveXL (Devlin 2015) to process sieve data quickly and estimate K. The tool calculates estimated K values from grain-size data using 15 different empirical formulas. A decision matrix then selects which of the formulas is relevant for the soil type and calculates an average K.

**Principal Component.** The principal component is the size fraction or range of size fractions containing the majority of the volume. Examples: the principal component in a sample that contained 55% small to medium pebbles would be “PEBBLES, small to medium”; or the principal component in a sample that was 20% fine sand, 30% medium sand and 25% coarse sand would be “SAND, fine to coarse” or for a sample that was 40% silt and 45% clay the principal component would be “CLAY and SILT”.

The boring log form (**Appendix D**) includes a graphic log to visually illustrate a relative estimate of soil permeability. To use the graphic log, place an ‘X’ or shade the appropriate column for the primary soil texture. If the soils have a high percentage of a secondary soil texture (i.e., when the ‘and’ modifier is used), it’s acceptable to mark off the appropriate column for the secondary soil texture in this instance. However, care should be used to avoid marking off the columns for other minor soil textures because doing so will make it difficult to determine the relative soil permeability of the poorly sorted soils.

As noted above, for poorly sorted soils such as glacial till, the principal component may not correlate to permeability of the sample. In this case, the geologist should use best judgement to graph overall soil type consistent with relative soil permeability.

**Minor Component(s).** The minor component(s) are the size fraction(s) containing less than 50% volume. Example: the identified components are estimated to be 60% medium sand to granules, 25% silt and clay; 15% pebbles – there are two identified minor components: silt and clay; and pebbles.

Include a standard modifier to indicate percentage of minor components (see particle size table) and the same descriptors that would be used for a principal component. An example of minor constituents with modifiers include: some silt and clay, low plasticity; little medium to large pebbles, sub-round.

### 8.2.1 Secondary Descriptors

The following are the descriptors used outside of the principal and minor components. Note that plasticity should be provided as a descriptor for clay and clay mixtures. Dilatancy should be provided for silt and silt mixtures. Angularity should be provided as a descriptor for pebbles and coarse sand.

**Angularity.** Describe the angularity for very coarse sand and larger particles in accordance with the table below (ASTM D-2488-06). Figures showing examples of angularity are available in ASTM D-2488-06 and the Arcadis Soil Description Field Guide (**Appendix B**).

| Description | Criteria   |
|-------------|--|
| Angular     | Particles have sharp edges and relatively plane sides with unpolished surfaces |
| Sub-Angular | Particles are like angular description but have rounded edges                  |
| Sub-Rounded | Particles have nearly plane sides but have well-rounded corners and edges      |
| Rounded     | Particles have smoothly curved sides and no edges.                             |

**Plasticity.** Describe the plasticity for clay and clay mixtures based on observations made during the following test method (ASTM D-2488-06).

- As in the dilatancy test (described below), select enough material to mold into a ball about ½ inch (12 mm) in diameter. Mold the material, adding water, if necessary, until it has a soft, but not sticky, consistency.
- Shape the test specimen into an elongated pat and roll by hand on a smooth surface or between the palms into a thread about 1/8 inch (3 mm) in diameter. If the sample is too wet to roll easily, it should be spread into a thin layer and allowed to lose some water by evaporation. Fold the sample threads and reroll repeatedly until the thread crumbles at a diameter of about 1/8 inch. The thread will crumble when the soil is near the plastic limit.

| Description | Criteria   |
|-------------|--|
| Non-plastic | A 1/8-inch (3 mm) thread cannot be rolled at any water content.  |
| Low         | The thread can barely be rolled, and the lump cannot be formed when drier than the plastic limit.  |
| Medium      | The thread is easy to roll and not much time is required to reach the plastic limit. The thread cannot be rerolled after reaching the plastic limit. The lump crumbles when drier than the plastic limit.                        |
| High        | It takes considerable time rolling and kneading to reach the plastic limit. The thread can be rolled several times after reaching the plastic limit. The lump can be formed without crumbling when drier than the plastic limit. |

**Dilatancy.** Describe the dilatancy for silt and silt-sand mixtures using the following field test method (ASTM D-2488-06).

- From the specimen, select enough material to mold into a ball about ½ inch (12 mm) in diameter. Mold the material adding water, if necessary, until it has a soft, but not sticky, consistency.
- Smooth the ball in the palm of one hand with a small spatula.
- Shake horizontally, striking the side of the hand vigorously with the other hand several times.
- Note the reaction of water appearing on the surface of the soil.
- Squeeze the sample by closing the hand or pinching the soil between the fingers, and note the reaction as none, slow, or rapid in accordance with the table below. The reaction is the speed with which water appears while shaking and disappears while squeezing.

| Description | Criteria  |
|-------------|---|
| None        | No visible change in the specimen   |
| Slow        | Water appears slowly on the surface of the specimen during shaking and does not disappear or disappears slowly upon squeezing |
| Rapid       | Water appears quickly on the surface of the specimen during shaking and disappears quickly upon squeezing                     |

Note that silt and silt-sand mixtures will be non-plastic and display dilatancy. Clay mixtures will have some degree of plasticity but do not typically react to dilatancy testing. Therefore, the tests outlined above can be used to differentiate between silt-dominated and clay-dominated soils.

**Sorting.** Sorting is the opposite of grading, which is a commonly used term in the USCS or ASTM methods to describe the uniformity of the particle size distribution in a sample. Well-sorted samples are poorly graded and poorly sorted samples are well graded. Arcadis prefers the use of sorting for particle size distributions and grading to describe particle size distribution trends in the vertical profile of a sample or hydrostratigraphic unit because of

the relationship between sorting and the energy of the depositional process. For soils with sand-sized or larger particles, sorting should be determined as follows:

| Description   | Criteria   |
|---------------|--|
| Well Sorted   | the range of particle sizes is limited (e.g., the sample is comprised of predominantly one or two grain sizes) |
| Poorly Sorted | A wide range of particle sizes are present   |

You can also use sieve analysis to estimate sorting from a sedimentological perspective; sorting is the statistical equivalent of standard deviation. Smaller standard deviations correspond to higher degree of sorting (see Remediation Hydraulics, 2008).

**Consistency or Density.** This can be determined by standard penetration test (SPT) blow counts (ASTM D-1586) obtained when using hollow-stem auger drilling methods and a split spoon sampling device. Otherwise, some field tests are available as outlined below. When drilling with hollow-stem augers and split-spoon sampling, the SPT blow counts and N-value is used to estimate density. The N-value is the blows per foot for the 6” to 18” interval. For example, for a 24-inch split spoon soil core, the recorded blows per 6-inch interval are: 4/6/9/22. Since the second interval is 6” to 12”, the third interval is 12” to 18”, the N value is 6+9, or 15. Fifty blow counts for less than 6 inches is considered refusal. In recent years, more common drilling methods include rotary-sonic or direct push. When blow counts are not available, density is determined using a thumb test. Note however, the thumb test only applies to fine-grained soils.

**Fine-grained soil – Consistency**

| Description  | Criteria                                  | Blow Counts (6-12 to 12-18-inch split spoon interval) |
|--------------|---|---|
| Very soft    | Easily penetrated several inches by thumb | N-value < 2   |
| Soft         | Easily penetrated one inch by thumb       | N-value 2-4   |
| Medium Stiff | Indented about ½ inch with much effort    | N-value 5-8   |
| Stiff        | Indented with ¼ inch with great effort    | N-value 9-15  |
| Very Stiff   | Readily indented by thumbnail             | N-value 16-30   |
| Hard         | Indented by thumbnail with difficulty     | N-value > than 30                                     |

**Coarse-grained soil – Density**

| Description  | Criteria   | Blow Counts (6-12 to 12-18-inch split spoon interval) |
|--------------|--|---|
| Very loose   | Density classification of coarse-grained soils is only required when blow counts from standard penetration tests are performed during hollow-stem auger drilling | N-value 1- 4  |
| Loose        |  | N-value 5-10  |
| Medium dense |  | N-value 11-30   |
| Dense        |  | N-value 31- 50  |
| Very dense   |  | N-value >50   |

**Moisture Content.** Moisture content should be described for each soil sample in accordance with the table below (percentages should not be used unless determined in the laboratory). *Note that some drilling methods (e.g., sonic) can compress and dry out the sample during drilling. Therefore, it can be difficult to determine if a sample is saturated, or merely moist. In this case, care should be taken to try and determine a static water level within the borehole by measuring depth to water through the drill casing, if possible.*

| Description | Criteria                                 |
|-------------|--|
| Dry         | Absence of moisture, dry to touch, dusty |
| Moist       | Damp but no visible water                |
| Wet         | Visibly free water                       |

**Color.** Color should be described using simple basic terminology and modifiers based on the Munsell system. Munsell alpha-numeric codes are required for all samples. If the sample contains layers or patches of varying colors this should be noted, and all representative colors should be described. The colors should be described for moist samples. If the sample is dry, it should be wetted prior to comparing the sample to the Munsell chart.

**Notes.** Additional comments should be made where observed and should be presented as notes with reference to a specific depth interval(s) to which they apply. Some of the significant information that may be observed includes the following.

- Odor - You should not make an effort to smell samples by placing near your nose since this can result in unnecessary exposure to hazardous materials. However, odors should be noted if they are detected during the normal sampling procedures. Odors should be based upon descriptors such as those used in NIOSH “Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards”, e.g., “pungent” or “sweet” and should not indicate specific chemicals such as “phenol-like” odor or “BTEX” odor.
- Structure
- Bedding planes (laminated, banded, geologic contacts).
- Presence of roots, root holes, organic material, man-made materials, minerals, etc.
- Mineralogy

- Cementation
- NAPL presence/characteristics, including sheen (based on client-specific guidance).
- Reaction with HCl - typically only used for special soil conditions, such as caliche environments.
- Origin, if known (Lacustrine; Fill; etc.).

## 8.3 Example of Soil Descriptions

The standard generic description order is presented below.

- Depth
- PRIMARY TEXTURE
- Principal and Minor Components with Descriptors
  - % Modifiers and grain size fraction
  - Angularity for very coarse sand and larger particles
  - Consistency or Density
  - Plasticity for clay or clay mixtures
  - Dilatancy for silt and silt-sand mixtures
- Sorting
- Moisture Content
- Color
- Notes



**10-15 feet CLAY, trace silt, trace small to very large pebbles, subround to subangular up to 2" diameter; medium to high plasticity, stiff, moist, dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2). NOTE: Lacustrine; laminated 0.1 to 0.2" thick, laminations brownish yellow (10YR 4/3).**



**10 -15 feet SAND, medium to very coarse, little granules to medium pebbles, subround to subangular, trace silt; poorly sorted, wet, grayish brown (10YR5/2).**

Unlike the first example where a density of cohesive soils could be estimated, this rotary-sonic sand and pebble sample was disturbed during drilling (due to vibrations in a loose sand and pebble matrix) so no density description could be provided. Neither sample had noticeable odor so odor comments were not included.

## 9 Waste Management

Project-specific requirements should be identified and followed. The following procedures, or similar waste management procedures are generally required.

Water generated during cleaning procedures will be collected and contained onsite in appropriate containers for future analysis and appropriate disposal. PPE (such as gloves, disposable clothing, and other disposable equipment) resulting from personnel cleaning procedures and soil sampling/handling activities will be placed in plastic bags. These bags will be transferred into appropriately labeled 55-gallon drums or a covered roll-off box for appropriate disposal.

Soil materials will be placed in sealed 55-gallon steel drums or covered roll-off boxes and stored in a secured area. Once full, the material will be analyzed to determine the appropriate disposal method.

## 10 Data Recording and Management

### 10.1 Digital Data Collection Process Overview

Digital data collection is the Arcadis standard using available FieldNow® applications that enable real-time, paperless data collection, entry, and automated reporting. Paper forms should only be used as backup to FieldNow® digital data collection and/or as necessary to collect data not captured by available FieldNow® applications. The Field Now® digital form applications follow a standardized approach, correlate to most TGIs and are available to all projects accessible with a PC or capable mobile device. Once the digital forms are saved within FieldNow®, the data is instantly available for review on a web interface. This facilitates review by project management team members and SMEs enabling error or anomalous data detection for correction while the staff are still in the field. Continual improvements of FieldNow® applications are ongoing, and revisions are made as necessary in response to feedback from users and subject matter experts.

### 10.2 Digital Data Collection Tools for Soil Descriptions

Arcadis is transitioning from the use of paper forms to a digital soil description logging process using web-based FieldNow applications accessible on field tablets and smart phones. Company-wide roll out of a FieldNow application for soil descriptions is targeted by the end of 2022.

Paper forms are included in Revision 3 (April 2022) of this Soil Description TGI. Specifically, a blank boring log and completed boring log are provided in **Attachment D** and **Attachment E**. Additional guidance and examples of the digital data collection tools for soil descriptions will be provided in the next revision to this TGI.

### 10.3 Additional Guidance

The general logging scheme for soil descriptions is described in this document. Depending on project data quality objectives, specific soil description parameters that are not applicable to project goals may be omitted at the project manager's discretion. In any case, use of consistent procedures is required.

Completed logs and/or logbook will be maintained in the task/project field records file. Digital photographs of typical soil types observed at the site and any unusual features should be obtained whenever possible. Photographs should include a ruler or common object for scale. Photo location, depth and orientation must be recorded in the daily log or logbook and a label showing this information in the photo is useful.

For projects involving soil logging and soil sampling, the soil sample should be recorded on the Arcadis boring log form and the field logbook based on Data Quality Objectives for the task/project.

## 11 Quality Assurance

Soil descriptions should be completed only by appropriately trained personnel. Descriptions should be reviewed by an experienced field geologist for content, format and consistency. Edited boring logs should be reviewed by the original author to assure that content has not changed.

## 12 References

- ASTM D-1586, Test Method for Penetration Test and Split-Barrel Sampling of Soils.
- ASTM D-2488-00, Standard Practice for Description and Identification of Soils (Visual-Manual Procedure)
- ASTM D422, 63rd Edition, 1972 - Standard Test Method for Particle-Size Analysis of Soils.
- Devlin, J.F. 2015. HydroGeoSieve XL: an Excel-based tool to estimate hydraulic conductivity from grain-size analysis. Hydrogeology Journal, DOI 10.1007/s10040-015-1255-0.
- Folk, Robert L. 1980. Petrology of Sedimentary Rocks, p. 1-48.
- Payne, F. C., Quinnan, J. A., & Potter, S. T. 2008. Remediation Hydraulics. Boca Raton: FL: CRC Press.
- United States Bureau of Reclamation. Engineering Geology Field Manual. United States Department of Interior, Bureau of Reclamation. <http://www.usbr.gov/pmts/geology/fieldmap.htm>.
- Munsell® Color Chart – available from Forestry Suppliers, Inc.- Item 77341 “Munsell® Color Soil Color Charts. Field Gauge Card that Shows Udden-Wentworth scale – available from Forestry Suppliers, Inc. – Item 77332 “Sand Grain Sizing Folder.”
- NIOSH Pocket Guide to Chemical Hazards.

# Attachment A

## Soil Field Reference Guide

*The purpose of this attachment is to present a field reference guide for use during soil logging. Field staff are encouraged to bring a laminated copy of this reference guide into the job site.*



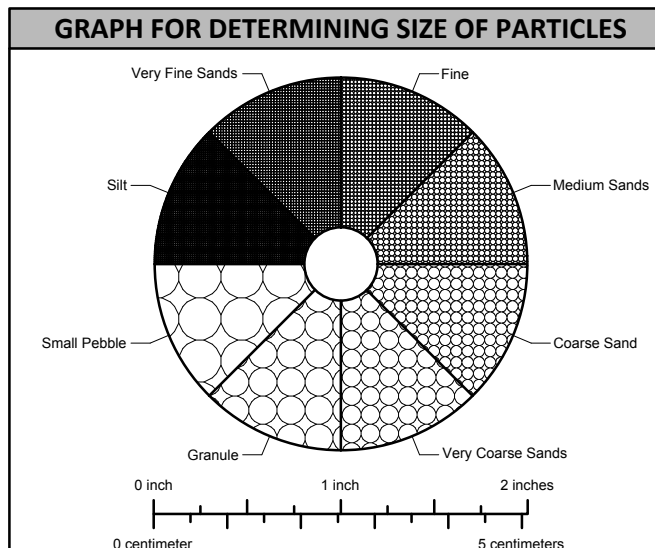
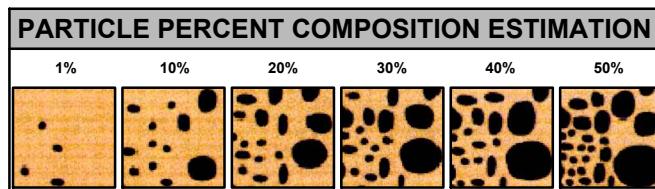
| FINE-GRAINED SOILS                |  |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| Description                       | Criteria   |
| <b>Descriptor - Plasticity</b>    |  |
| Nonplastic                        | A 1/8-inch (3 mm) thread cannot be rolled at any water content.  |
| Low                               | The thread can barely be rolled, and the lump cannot be formed when drier than the plastic limit.  |
| Medium                            | The thread is easy to roll and not much time is required to reach the plastic limit. The thread cannot be rerolled after reaching the plastic limit. The lump crumbles when drier than the plastic limit.                        |
| High                              | It takes considerable time rolling and kneading to reach the plastic limit. The thread can be rolled several times after reaching the plastic limit. The lump can be formed without crumbling when drier than the plastic limit. |
| <b>Descriptor - Dilatancy</b>     |  |
| No Dilatancy                      | No visible change when shaken or squeezed.   |
| Slow                              | Water appears slowly on the surface of soil during shaking and does not disappear or disappears slowly when squeezed.  |
| Rapid                             | Water appears quickly on surface of soil during shaking and disappears quickly when squeezed.  |
| Minor Components with Descriptors |  |
| <b>Moisture</b>                   |  |
| Dry                               | Absence of moisture, dry to touch, dusty.  |
| Moist                             | Damp but no visible water.   |
| Wet                               | Visible free water; soil is usually below the water table. (Saturated)   |
| <b>Consistency</b>                |  |
| Very soft                         | N-value < 2 or easily penetrated several inches by thumb.  |
| Soft                              | N-value 2-4 or easily penetrated 1 inch by thumb.  |
| Medium stiff                      | N-value 5-8 or indented about 1/2 inch by thumb with great effort.   |
| Stiff                             | N-value 9-15 or indented about 1/4 inch by thumb with great effort.  |
| Very stiff                        | N-value 16-30 or readily indented by thumb nail.   |
| Hard                              | N-value > than 30 or indented by thumbnail with difficulty.  |
| Color using Munsell               |  |
| Geologic Origin (if known)        |  |
| Other                             |  |

| DESCRIPTION ORDER   |
|---|
| <p>Depth Interval<br/>PRIMARY TEXTURE (e.g., SAND)<br/>Principal and Minor Components with Descriptors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• % Modifiers and grain size fraction</li> <li>• Angularity coarse sand and larger</li> <li>• Consistency or Density</li> <li>• Plasticity for silt and clay</li> <li>• Dilatancy for silt and silt-sand</li> </ul> <p>Sorting for granular sediments<br/>Moisture Content<br/>Color<br/>Other NOTES</p> |

| MINOR COMPONENTS % MODIFIERS |                                     |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Modifier                     | Percent of Total Sample (by volume) |
| and                          | 36 - 50                             |
| some                         | 21 - 35                             |
| little                       | 10 - 20                             |
| trace                        | <10                                 |

| FOR COARSE-GRAINED SOILS                       |  |
|--|--|
| Description                                    | Criteria   |
| <b>Descriptor - Angularity</b>                 |  |
| Angular  | Particles have sharp edges and relatively planar sides with unpolished surfaces. |
| Subangular                                     | Particles are similar to angular but have rounded edges.                         |
| Subround                                       | Particles have nearly planar sides but have well-rounded corners and edges.      |
| Round  | Particles have smoothly curved sides and no edges.                               |
| Minor Components with Descriptors              |  |
| <b>Sorting</b><br>Cu= d60/d10                  |  |
| Well Sorted                                    | Near uniform grain-size distribution<br>Cu= 1 to 3.                              |
| Poorly Sorted                                  | Wide range of grain size Cu= 4 to 6.   |
| <b>Moisture</b>                                |  |
| Dry  | Absence of moisture, dry to touch, dusty.  |
| Moist  | Damp but no visible water.   |
| Wet  | Visible free water; soil is usually below the water table. (Saturated)           |
| <b>Density</b>                                 |  |
| Very loose                                     | N-value 1 - 4  |
| Loose  | N-value 5 - 10   |
| Medium Dense                                   | N-value 11 - 30  |
| Dense  | N-value 31 - 50  |
| Very dense                                     | N-value >50  |
| Color using Munsell                            |  |
| Geologic Origin (if known)                     |  |
| Other  |  |
| <b>Cementation</b>                             |  |
| Weak Cementation                               | Crumbles or breaks with handling or little finger pressure.                      |
| Moderate Cementation                           | Crumbles or breaks with considerable finger pressure.                            |
| Strong Cementation                             | Will not crumble with finger pressure.   |
| <b>Reaction with Dilute HCl Solution (10%)</b> |  |
| No Reaction                                    | No visible reaction.   |
| Weak Reaction                                  | Some reaction, with bubbles forming slowly.                                      |
| Strong Reaction                                | Violent reaction, with bubbles forming immediately.                              |

| UDDEN-WENTWORTH SCALE                           |                |                   |                                  |
|---|----------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Fraction  | Sieve Size     | Grain Size        | Approximate Scale                |
| Boulder   |                | 256 - 4096 mm     | Larger than volleyball           |
| Large Cobble                                    |                | 128 - 256 mm      | Softball to volleyball           |
| Small Cobble                                    |                | 64 - 128 mm       | Pool ball to softball            |
| Very Large Pebble                               |                | 32 - 64 mm        | Pinball to pool ball             |
| Large Pebble                                    |                | 16 - 32 mm        | Dime size to pinball             |
| Medium Pebble                                   |                | 8 - 16 mm         | Pencil eraser to dime size       |
| Small Pebble                                    | No. 5+         | 4 - 8 mm          | Pea size to pencil eraser        |
| Granule   | No. 10 - 5     | 2 - 4 mm          | Rock salt to pea size            |
| Very Coarse Sand                                | No. 18 - 10    | 1 - 2 mm          | See field gauge card             |
| Coarse Sand                                     | No. 35 - 18    | 0.5 - 1 mm        | See field gauge card             |
| Medium Sand                                     | No. 60 - 35    | 0.25 - 0.5 mm     | See field gauge card             |
| Fine Sand                                       | No. 120 - 60   | 0.125 - 0.25 mm   | See field gauge card             |
| Very Fine Sand                                  | No. 230 - 120  | 0.0625 - 0.125 mm | See field gauge card             |
| Silt and Clay. See SOP for description of fines | Not Applicable | <0.0625 mm        | Analyze by pipette or hydrometer |

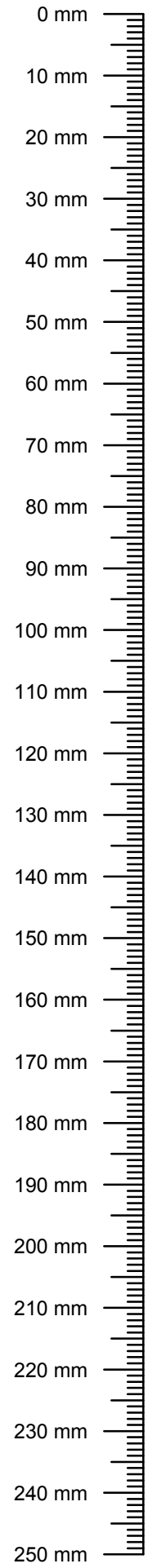
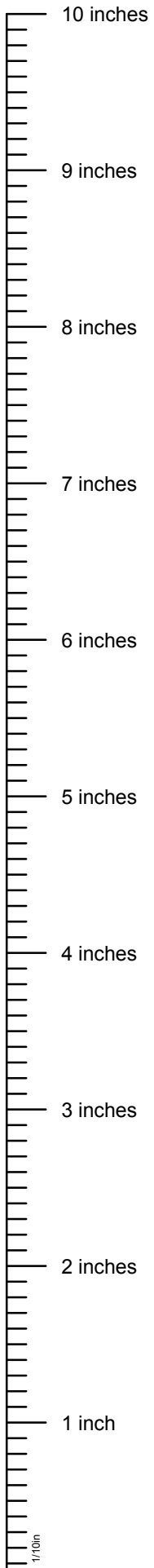


**EXAMPLE OF SOIL DESCRIPTION AND PHOTO**

10-15 feet CLAY, trace silt, trace small to very large pebbles, subround to subangular up to 2" diameter; medium to high plasticity, stiff, moist, dark grayish brown (10YR 4/2). NOTE: Lacustrine; laminated 0.1 to 0.2" thick, laminations brownish yellow (10YR 4/3).

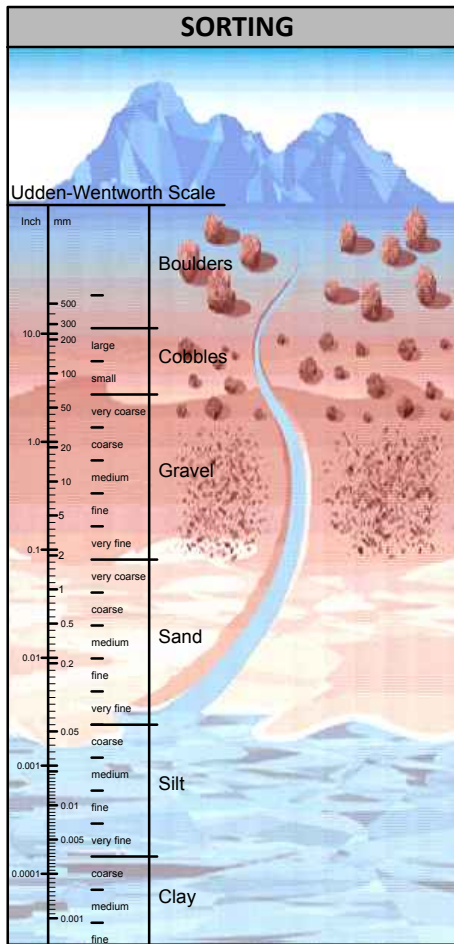
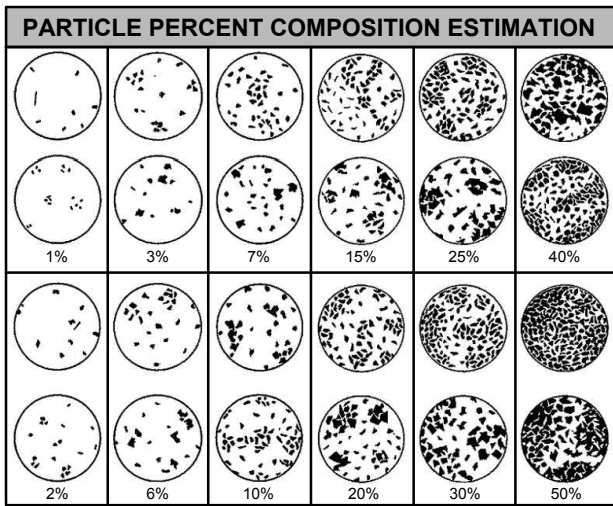
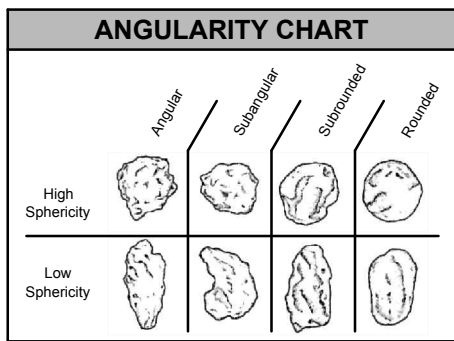
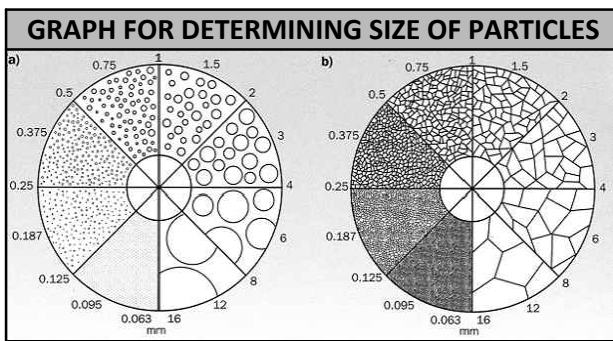
**EXAMPLE OF SOIL DESCRIPTION AND PHOTO**

10 - 15 feet SAND, medium to very coarse, little granules to medium pebbles, subround to subangular, trace silt; poorly sorted, wet, grayish brown (10YR 5/2).



| VARIATIONS IN SOIL STRATIGRAPHY |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| Term                            | Thickness of Configuration                                       |
| Parting                         | 0 - to 1/16-inch thickness.                                      |
| Seam                            | 1/16 - to 1/2-inch thickness.                                    |
| Layer                           | 1/2 - to 12-inch thickness.                                      |
| Stratum                         | > 12-inch thickness.   |
| Pocket                          | Small erratic deposit, usually less than 1 foot in size.         |
| Varved Clay                     | Alternating seams or layers of sand, silt, and clay (laminated). |
| Occasional                      | ≤ 1 foot thick.  |
| Frequent                        | > 1 foot thick.  |

| SOIL STRUCTURE DESCRIPTIONS |  |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Term                        | Description  |
| Homogeneous                 | Same color and appearance throughout.  |
| Laminated                   | Alternating layers < 1/4 inch thick.   |
| Stratified                  | Alternating layers ≥ 1/4 inch thick.   |
| Lensed                      | Inclusions of small pockets of different materials, such as lenses of sand scattered through a mass of clay; note thickness. |
| Blocky                      | Cohesive soil can be broken down into small angular lumps, which resist further breakdown.                                   |
| Fissured                    | Breaks along definite planes of fracture with little resistance to fracturing.   |
| Slickensided                | Fracture planes appear to be polished or glossy, sometimes striated.   |



| SETTLING TABLE (SILT/CLAY) |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| Diameter of Particle (mm)  | <0.625     | <0.031     | <0.016     | <0.008     | <0.004     | <0.002     | <0.0005    |
| Depth of Withdrawal (cm)   | 10         | 10         | 10         | 10         | 5          | 5          | 3          |
| Time of Withdrawal         | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec | hr:min:sec |
| Temperature (Celsius)      |            |            |            |            |            |            |            |
| 20                         | 00:00:29   | 00:01:55   | 00:07:40   | 00:30:40   | 00:61:19   | 04:05:00   | 37:21:00   |
| 21                         | 00:00:28   | 00:01:52   | 00:07:29   | 00:29:58   | 00:59:50   | 04:00:00   |            |
| 22                         | 00:00:27   | 00:01:50   | 00:07:18   | 00:29:13   | 00:58:22   | 03:54:00   |            |
| 23                         | 00:00:27   | 00:01:47   | 00:07:08   | 00:28:34   | 00:57:05   | 03:48:00   |            |
| 24                         | 00:00:26   | 00:01:45   | 00:06:58   | 00:27:52   | 00:55:41   | 03:43:00   | 33:56:00   |
| 25                         | 00:00:25   | 00:01:42   | 00:06:48   | 00:27:14   | 00:54:25   | 03:38:00   |            |
| 26                         | 00:00:25   | 00:01:40   | 00:06:39   | 00:26:38   | 00:53:12   | 03:33:00   |            |
| 27                         | 00:00:24   | 00:01:38   | 00:06:31   | 00:26:02   | 00:52:02   | 03:28:00   |            |
| 28                         | 00:00:24   | 00:01:35   | 00:06:22   | 00:25:28   | 00:50:52   | 03:24:00   | 31:00:00   |
| 29                         | 00:00:23   | 00:01:33   | 00:06:13   | 00:24:53   | 00:49:42   | 03:10:00   |            |
| 30                         | 00:00:23   | 00:01:31   | 00:06:06   | 00:24:22   | 00:48:42   | 03:05:00   |            |

# Attachment B

## Particle Size System Comparison

*The purpose of this attachment is to illustrate how the Udden-Wentworth particle sizes and descriptive terms compares to other particle size systems.*

*When in the field, it is a customary practice to compare current soil descriptions to historical soil boring logs for reference purposes. When reviewing boring logs prepared by others, field staff should first note the particle size system used and recognize these particle size systems may differ. This will avoid confusion when cross referencing between historical and new boring logs and when reviewing existing geologic cross-sections.*

*For example, a well-sorted sand with grain sizes ranging from 1 to 2 mm should be classified as a very coarse sand by the Udden-Wentworth system. As shown in this attachment, the same particle size would be classified as a medium sand by the United Soil Classification System. The later system has fewer particle size grades and in general, is less descriptive than the Udden-Wentworth system.*

## PARTICLE SIZE SYSTEM COMPARISON

| System Name                       | Used By                              | Grain size distribution in millimeters (mm) |       |         |      |        |        |           |         |         |        |       |          |         |       |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|-------|---------|------|--------|--------|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-------|----------|---------|-------|
| Udden-Wentworth                   | Remediation Geologists and Engineers |   |       | V. Fine | Fine | Medium | Coarse | V. Coarse | Granule | Pebbles |        |       |          | Cobbles |       |
|                                   |                                      | CLAY  | SILT  | SAND    |      |        |        |           |         | Small   | Medium | Large | V. Large | Small   | Large |
|                                   |                                      | 0.039                                       | 0.065 | 0.125   | 0.25 | 0.5    | 1      | 2         | 4       | 8       | 16     | 32    | 64       | 128     | 256   |
|                                   |                                      |   | 1/16  | 1/8     | 1/4  | 1/2    |        |           |         |         |        |       |          |         |       |
| United Soil Classification System | Geotechnical Engineers               |   |       | Fine    |      |        | Medium | Coarse    | Fine    |         | Coarse |       |          |         |       |
|                                   |                                      | CLAY  | SILT  | SAND    |      |        |        |           |         | GRAVEL  |        |       |          | COBBLE  |       |
|                                   |                                      | 0.074                                       |       |         | 0.42 |        | 2      | 4.75      |         | 19      |        | 75    |          | 300     |       |
| U.S. Dept. of Agriculture         | Soil Scientists                      |   |       | V. Fine | Fine | Medium | Coarse | V. Coarse | GRAVEL  |         |        |       |          |         |       |
|                                   |                                      | CLAY  | SILT  |         |      |        |        |           |         |         |        |       |          |         |       |
|                                   |                                      | 0.002                                       | 0.05  | 0.10    | 0.25 | 0.5    | 1      | 2         |         |         |        |       |          | 75      |       |

**Remediation Hydraulics 2008, page 195): The Udden-Wentworth scale is preferred "...because the geometric progression of grain-size diameter also reflects relationships that are important when considering the erosion and deposition of sediments during the depositional process. The correlation between increasing grain size and degree of sorting and permeability is the most important, as permeability structure is responsible for the mobile and immobile porosity within aquifer systems. "**

# Attachment C

## Description of Soil Logging Terms

*The purpose of this attachment is to concisely define the soil logging terms used when filling out boring logs. During report preparation, project staff could use this sheet as an index placed in front of the completed boring logs. Also, it can serve as a supplemental reference sheet during field activities.*

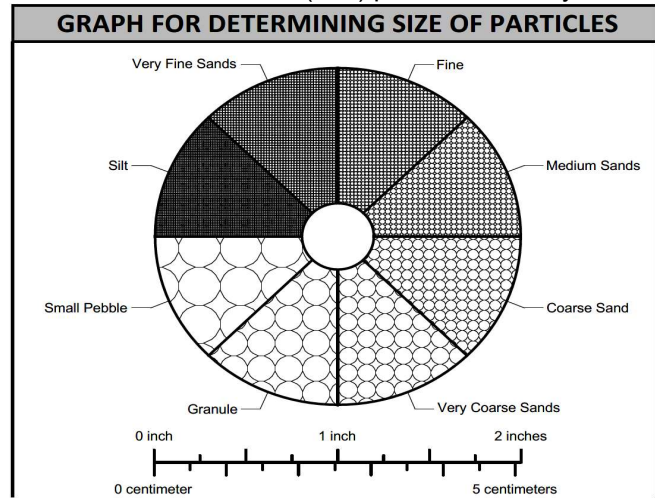
# Description of Logging Terms



Note: Soil descriptions based on Arcadis Technical Guidance and Instructions (TGI) procedures. Key terms defined below.

## Udden Wentworth Soil Sizes

|                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Boulder           | > 256 mm         |
| Large Cobble      | 128 to 256 mm    |
| Small Cobble      | 64 to 128 mm     |
| Very Large Pebble | 32 to 64 mm      |
| Large Pebble      | 16 to 32 mm      |
| Medium Pebble     | 8 to 16 mm       |
| Small Pebble      | 4 to 8 mm        |
| Granule           | 2 to 4 mm        |
| Very Coarse Sand  | 1 to 2 mm        |
| Coarse Sand       | 0.5 to 1 mm      |
| Medium Sand       | 0.25 to 0.5 mm   |
| Fine Sand         | 0.125 to 0.25 mm |
| Very Fine Sand    | 0.062 to 0.12 mm |
| Silt/Clay         | <0.065 mm        |



## Primary Texture (e.g. CLAY, SILT, SAND, GRANULE, PEAT, MUCK, FILL, etc.)

List particle size with the highest percentage per sample interval (e.g. SAND)

Always CAPITALIZE the primary texture

Follow primary texture with a comma followed by grain-size descriptors, etc.

## Minor Texture

|        |             |
|--------|-------------|
| And    | (36 to 50%) |
| Some   | (21 to 35%) |
| Little | (10 to 20%) |
| Trace  | (>10%)      |

## Angularity

|             |                     |
|-------------|---------------------|
| Angular     | Sharp edges         |
| Sub-Angular | Rounded edges       |
| Sub-Rounded | Well-rounded        |
| Rounded     | Smooth curved edges |

## Sand Density (Blow Counts/ft)

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Very Loose   | 0-4   |
| Loose        | 5-10  |
| Medium Dense | 11-30 |
| Dense        | 31-50 |
| Very Dense   | <50   |

## Silt/Clay Consistency (Blow Counts/ft)

|              |        |  |
|--------------|--------|--|
| Very Soft    | 0-2,   | thumb easily penetrates several inches   |
| Soft         | 3-4,   | thumb easily penetrates one inch         |
| Medium Stiff | 5-8,   | thumb indents 0.5 in. with much effort   |
| Stiff        | 9-15,  | thumb indents 0.25 in. with great effort |
| Very Stiff   | 16-30, | thumbnail is readily intended            |

## Sorting

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| Well Sorted   | 1 to 3 Particle Sizes |
| Poorly Sorted | 4+ Particle Sizes     |

## Moisture Content

|       |                    |
|-------|--------------------|
| Dry   | Dry to touch       |
| Moist | No visible water   |
| Wet   | Visible free water |

## Plasticity (for silts and clays)

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Non-Plastic       | 3 mm thread can not be rolled                               |
| Low Plasticity    | 3 mm thread can barely be rolled                            |
| Medium Plasticity | 3 mm thread can easily and quickly rolled, but not rerolled |
| High Plasticity   | 3 mm thread can be rolled slowly, but can be rerolled       |

## Dilatancy (for silts and silt-sand mixtures)

|       |  |
|-------|--|
| None  | No visible change in the specimen  |
| Slow  | Water appears slowly during shaking / disappears slowly or not at all upon squeezing |
| Rapid | Water appears quickly during shaking / disappears quickly upon squeezing             |

## Example Description

**10 -15 feet SAND, medium to very coarse, little granules to medium pebbles, subround to subangular, trace silt; poorly sorted, wet, grayish brown (10YR5/2).**

# Attachment D

## Blank Boring Log

*The purpose of this attachment is to present a blank field form for use during soil logging. A digital version (Microsoft Excel) of this field form is available from the authors (upon request). If project specific modifications to this boring log template are warranted, please contact the Site Investigation Community of Practice leader for further assistance.*





# Attachment E

## Completed Boring Log

*The purpose of this attachment is to provide an example of a completed boring log for reference purposes to field staff. The example provided is for a soil boring completed outside the waste mass of a closed municipal landfill near Baltimore, Maryland. The objective of the drilling program was to determine the depth to groundwater to determine the appropriate depth interval to install a soil gas monitoring well and groundwater monitoring well across the first water-bearing zone. The site geology consists of unconsolidated sediments of the Mid-Atlantic Coastal Plain, specifically the Upper Patapsco formation. These sediments were deposited in a moderate gradient fluvial environment during the Cretaceous period. The landfill was constructed into a regional clay confining unit.*

# BORING LOG



|                         |                                |                        |                                 |                          |                              |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------|
| <b>Boring ID:</b>       | <u>MW-08</u>                   | <b>Project Name:</b>   | <u>Acme Landfill</u>            | <b>Page:</b>             | <u>1 / 1</u>                 |
| <b>Permit ID:</b>       | <u>MD-PG-100</u>               | <b>Date Started:</b>   | <u>7/18/2018</u>                | <b>Ground Elevation:</b> | <u>50.5 ft</u>               |
| <b>Site Address:</b>    | <u>100 Landfill Road</u>       | <b>Date Completed:</b> | <u>7/18/2018</u>                | <b>Vertical Datum:</b>   | <u>NAVD 88, feet</u>         |
| <b>City, State:</b>     | <u>Baltimore, Maryland</u>     | <b>Total Depth:</b>    | <u>35 ft below ground</u>       | <b>Northing:</b>         | <u>123456.79</u>             |
| <b>Drilling Co:</b>     | <u>Earth Matters</u>           | <b>Depth to Water:</b> | <u>19 ft below ground</u>       | <b>Easting:</b>          | <u>123456.79</u>             |
| <b>Driller:</b>         | <u>Rod E. Piper</u>            | <b>Hole Diameter:</b>  | <u>2-inch</u>                   | <b>Horizontal Datum:</b> | <u>NAD 83 feet, MD State</u> |
| <b>Drilling Method:</b> | <u>Direct-push/hollow-stem</u> | <b>Core Device:</b>    | <u>5-foot macrocore sampler</u> | <b>Prepared by:</b>      | <u>Sandy Pebbles</u>         |
| <b>Boring Status:</b>   | <u>completed as well</u>       | <b>Drilling Fluid:</b> | <u>none</u>                     | <b>Reviewed by:</b>      | <u>Clay Brown</u>            |

| Drilling Information    |                    |                        |                         | Graphical Log for Primary Texture |      |           |      |        |        |             |         | Soil Description (Udden-Wentworth System) | Field Notes   |  |   |         |                         |
|-------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|------|-----------|------|--------|--------|-------------|---------|---|---|--|---|---------|-------------------------|
| Drilling Depth (ft bgs) | Core Interval (ft) | Core Recovery (inches) | VOC Vapor Reading (ppm) | Fines                             |      | Sand      |      |        |        | Gravel      |         |   |   | Depth Interval (ft), PRIMARY TEXTURE, Principal and Minor Components with Descriptors (% modifiers and grain size fraction, angularity for coarse sand and larger); Consistency/Density, Plasticity (clay or clay mix) or Dilatancy (silt/silt-sand), Sorting, Moisture Content, Color. NOTES:<br><i>Texture Modifiers: Trace (&lt;10%), Little (10 to 20%), Some (21 to 35%), And (36 to 50%)</i> | Driller's Observations, Geologic Formation, Field Screening Results, Sample Interval etc.                             |         |                         |
|                         |                    |                        |                         | clay                              | silt | very fine | fine | medium | coarse | very coarse | granule | pebble                                    | cobble  |  |   | boulder |                         |
| 0 to 1                  | 0-5                | 43.2/60                | < 1                     |                                   |      |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   | 0-0.5 ft, topsoil with organics  | Grass covered area  |         |                         |
| 1 to 2                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         |      |        |        |             |         |   |   | 0.5-5 ft, SAND, fine, trace silt, trace pebble, round; poorly sorted, moist, yellowish brown (7.5 YR 5/8). NOTE: some cementation, does not react with HCl   | continuous macro-core logging   |         |                         |
| 2 to 3                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 3 to 4                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         | cemented sand @3.6-4 ft |
| 4 to 5                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 5 to 6                  | 5-10               | 40.8/60                | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   | 5-10 ft, SAND, fine to coarse, round to subround; well sorted, moist, light to strong brown (7.5 YR 6/4 to 7.5 YR 5/6).  |   |         |                         |
| 6 to 7                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 7 to 8                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 8 to 9                  |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 9 to 10                 |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 10 to 11                | 10-15              | 36/60                  | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   | 10-12.5 ft, same as above with trace silt  |   |         |                         |
| 11 to 12                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 12 to 13                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 13 to 14                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  | 12.5 to 15 ft, same as above, color change to pink (7.5 YR 7/3) and reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/8)                        |         |                         |
| 14 to 15                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      | X         | X    | X      |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 15 to 16                | 15-20              | 55.2/60                | < 1                     |                                   |      |           |      | X      | X      |             |         |   |   | 15-18.9 ft, SAND, coarse to very coarse, round to subround; well sorted, moist, strong brown (7.5YR 5/6) to reddish yellow (7.5YR 6/6)   |   |         |                         |
| 16 to 17                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      |           |      | X      | X      |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 17 to 18                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   |      |           |      | X      | X      |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 18 to 19                | 20-25              | 36/60                  | < 1                     |                                   | X    | X         | X    |        |        |             |         |   |   | 18.9-22.7 ft, SAND, very fine to fine, and SILT, coarse to very coarse, poorly sorted, wet, light gray (7.5YR 7/1)   | water table encountered @ 18.9 ft   |         |                         |
| 19 to 20                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   | X    | X         | X    |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 20 to 21                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   | X    | X         | X    |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 21 to 22                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   | X    | X         | X    |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 21 to 23                |                    |                        | < 1                     |                                   | X    | X         | X    |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 23 to 24                | 25-30              | 30/60                  | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   | 22.7-25 ft, CLAY and SILT; high plasticity, soft to stiff at 25 ft, dry to moist, light gray (2/5YR 7/1) w/ red mottling (2.5YR 4/6)   | Middle Patapsco Confining Unit  |         |                         |
| 24 to 25                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 25 to 26                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  | 25-31.1 ft, CLAY and SILT; high plasticity, stiff; dry to moist, light gray (2/5YR 7/1) with red mottling (2.5YR 4/6) |         |                         |
| 26 to 27                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 27 to 28                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 28 to 29                | 30-35 ft           | 60/60                  | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 29 to 30                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 30 to 31                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 | X    |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 31 to 32                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 |      |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 32 to 33                |                    |                        | < 1                     | X                                 |      |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |
| 33 to 34                | < 1                | X                      |                         |                                   |      |           |      |        |        |             |         |   | 31.1-35 ft, SILT; high dilatancy; wet, gray (7.5YR 7/1) | End of direct-push boring @ 35 ft  |   |         |                         |
| 34 to 35                | < 1                | X                      |                         |                                   |      |           |      |        |        |             |         |   |   |  |   |         |                         |

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