

# Long-Term Stewardship LLNL Livermore Site

2018 Long-Term Stewardship (LTS) Conference

August 22, 2018

Peter McKereghan  
Environmental Restoration Department



# Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory Livermore Site



View of LLNL Livermore Site looking west toward San Francisco Bay

# LLNL Livermore Site Background

---

- U.S. Navy operated NAS Livermore during WWII (1940s)
- LLNL established in 1952
- Ground water contamination first discovered in 1983
- Volatile organic compounds (VOCs), fuel hydrocarbons, metals (chromium), tritium
- Regulatory oversight by US EPA and State of California

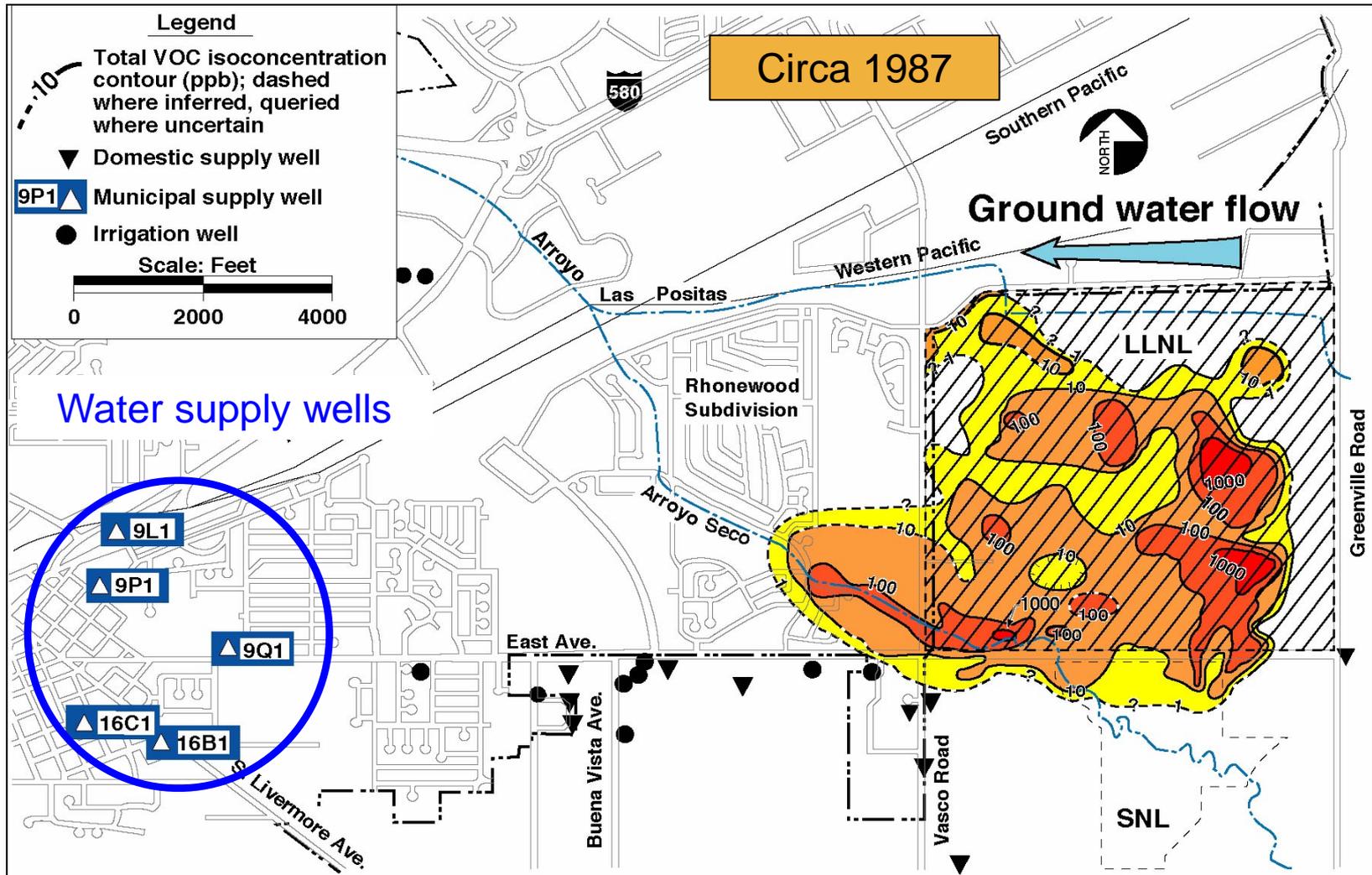
# Initial Ground Water Contaminants from Navy Aircraft Maintenance Operations (WWII)



# WWII Plane Assembly



# Municipal supply wells within 3 miles of the plume placed LLNL on EPA's Superfund National Priority List



# LLNL ground water cleanup to date

- Pump-and-Treat initiated in 1989
- Constructed 37 treatment facilities:
  - 28 ground water facilities
  - 9 soil vapor treatment facilities
- Treatment to date:
  - 6 billion gallons of ground water
  - 850 million cubic feet of soil vapor
  - 3,300 kg (3.6 tons) of VOCs have been removed from the subsurface
- Fuel (gasoline) release site remediation completed in 1996
- Tritium primarily below drinking water cleanup standard

# Current Status and Next Steps

---

## Optimization:

- Pump-and-treat facility build-out complete
- Leveraging technology for efficient operation
- Evaluating alternative cleanup techniques

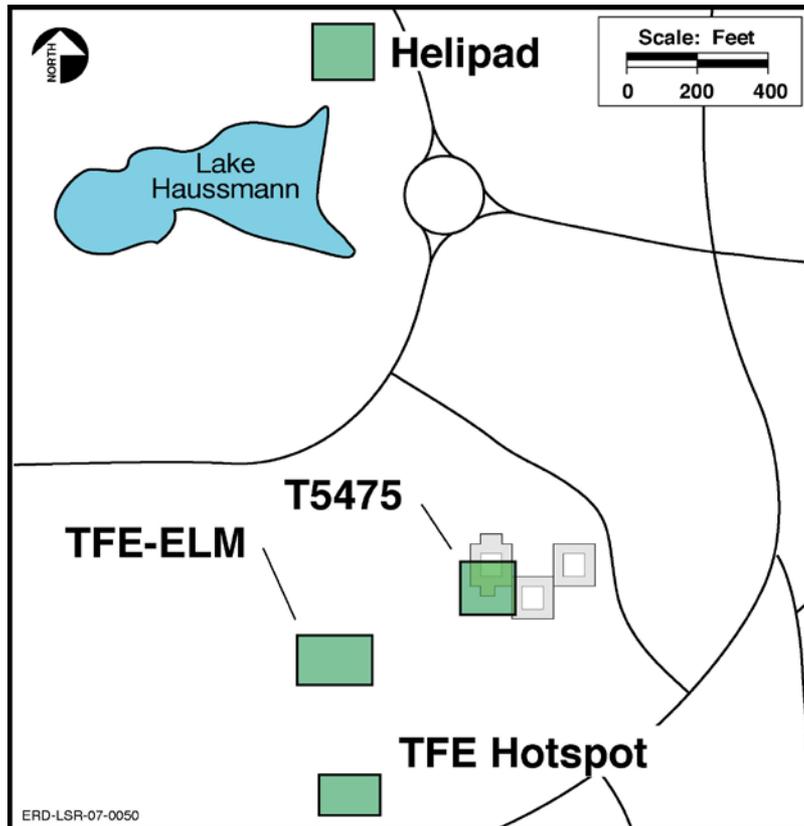
## Goal:

- Reduce life-cycle cost by reducing time to cleanup/closure

# Livermore Site Environmental Restoration

- Primary VOCs:
  - Trichloroethylene (TCE;  $C_2HCl_3$ )
  - Perchloroethylene (PCE;  $C_2Cl_4$ )
    - aka Tetrachloroethylene
- Although tritium in site groundwater predominately less than the MCL, it poses difficulties when implementing the approved pump-and-treat remedy.
- Aqueous- and vapor-phase granular activated carbon (GAC) used to remove VOCs from groundwater and soil vapor may be designated as mixed waste in areas of comingled VOC and tritium plumes.

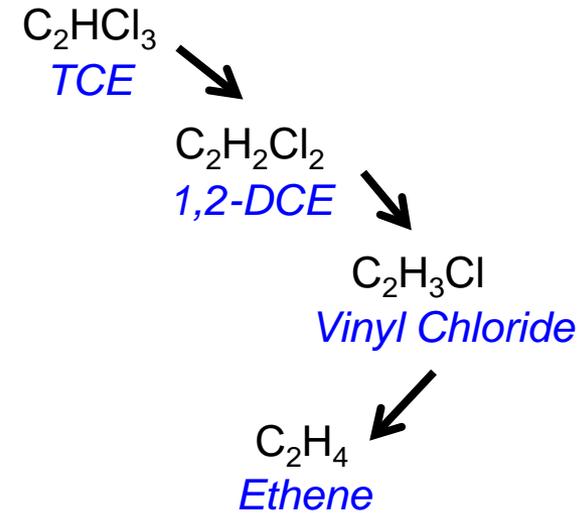
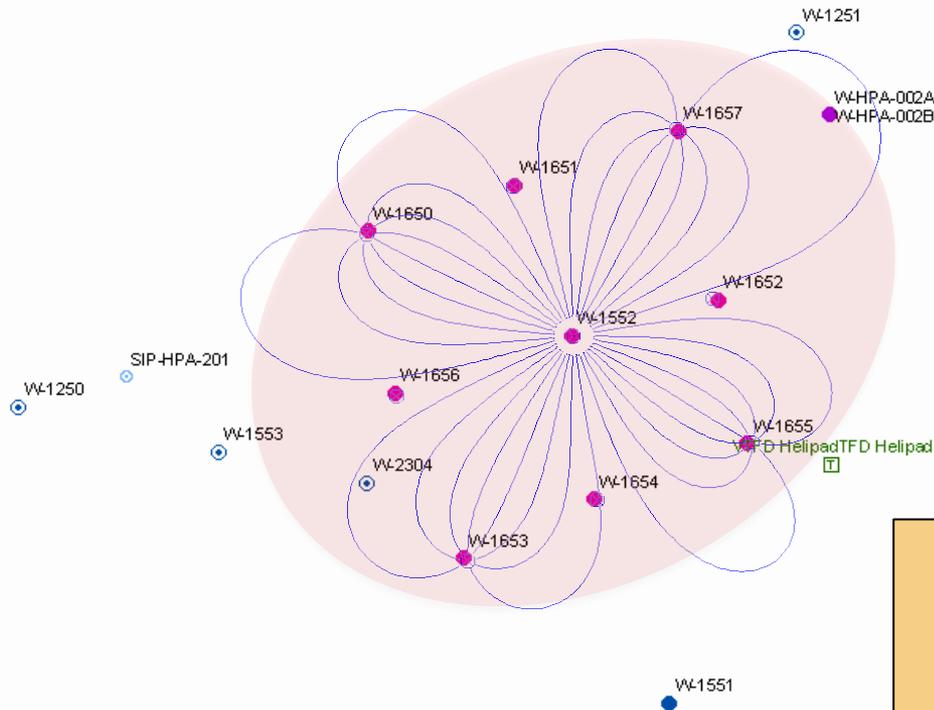
# Enhanced Source Area Remediation (ESAR) test sites



- **Helipad:** *in situ* bioremediation test
- **TFE-ELM:** thermally-enhanced ground water and soil vapor remediation
- **TFE Hotspot:** pneumatic fracturing to increase subsurface permeability
- **T5475:** tritium & VOCs in ground water
- **TFC:** Zero-Valent Iron (ZVI) emplacement

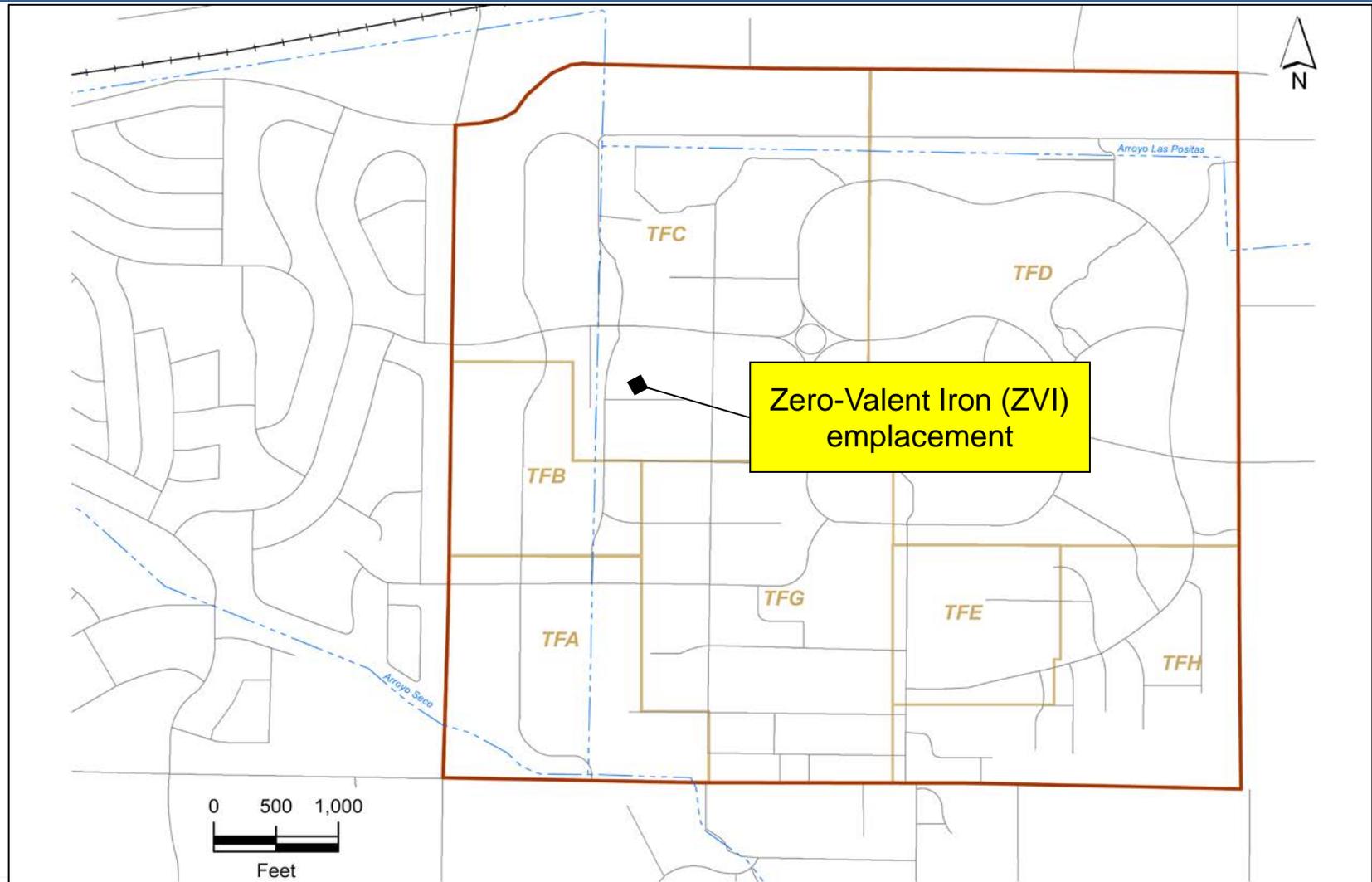
# In situ bioremediation test at former Helipad area

## Ground Water circulation system

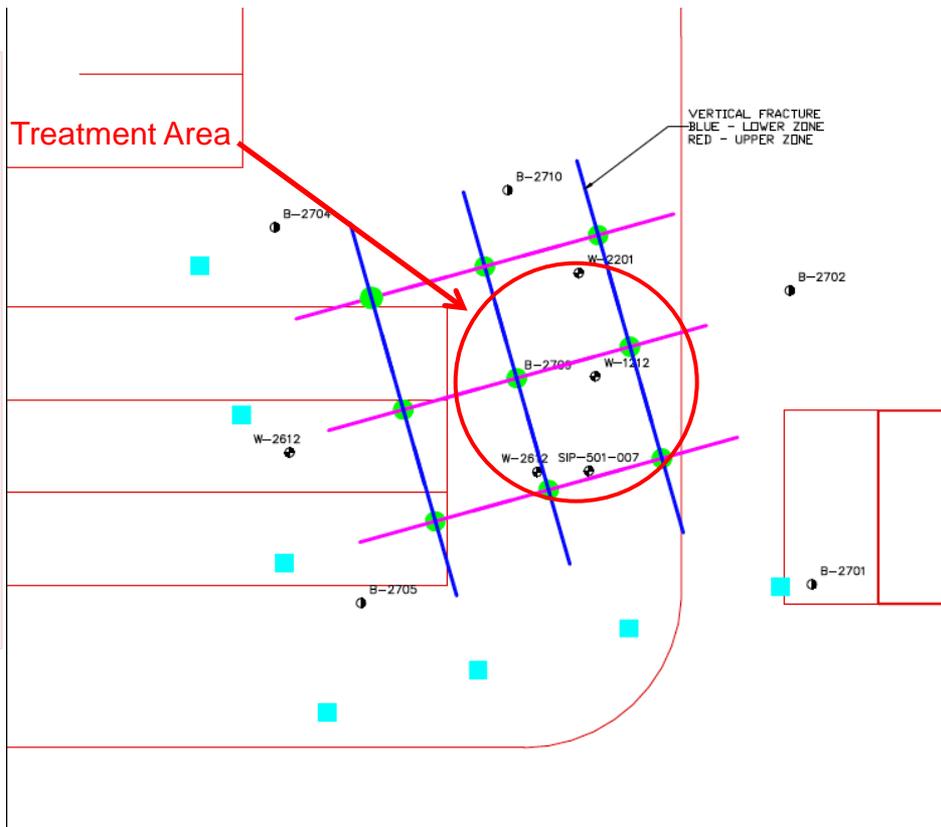
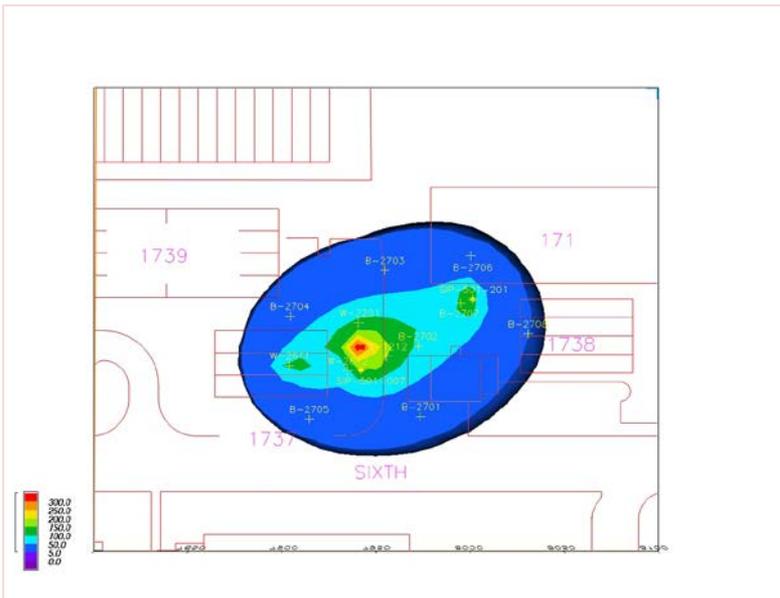


- Ground water extracted from four corner wells and re-injected into the center well
- Nutrients and microbes added to the re-injected ground water to destroy VOCs *in situ*

# Zero-Valent Iron (ZVI) Emplacement - 2014



# ZVI Dual-Azimuth Emplacement at TFC Hotspot Source Area



**OPTION #2  
CONCEPTUAL MULTI-AZIMUTH  
INSTALLATION LAYOUT**



- LEGEND**
- ZVI-PRB RESISTIVITY STRING LOCATION AND DESIGNATION (4 TOTAL)
  - ▲ ZVI-PRB HYDRAULIC FRACTURE WELL LOCATION AND DESIGNATION (6 TOTAL)
  - MULTI-AZIMUTH RESISTIVITY STRING LOCATION AND DESIGNATION (7 TOTAL)
  - MULTI-AZIMUTH HYDRAULIC FRACTURE WELL LOCATION AND DESIGNATION (9 TOTAL)
  - B-2705 PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED SOIL BORING
  - W-1212 EXISTING MONITORING WELL

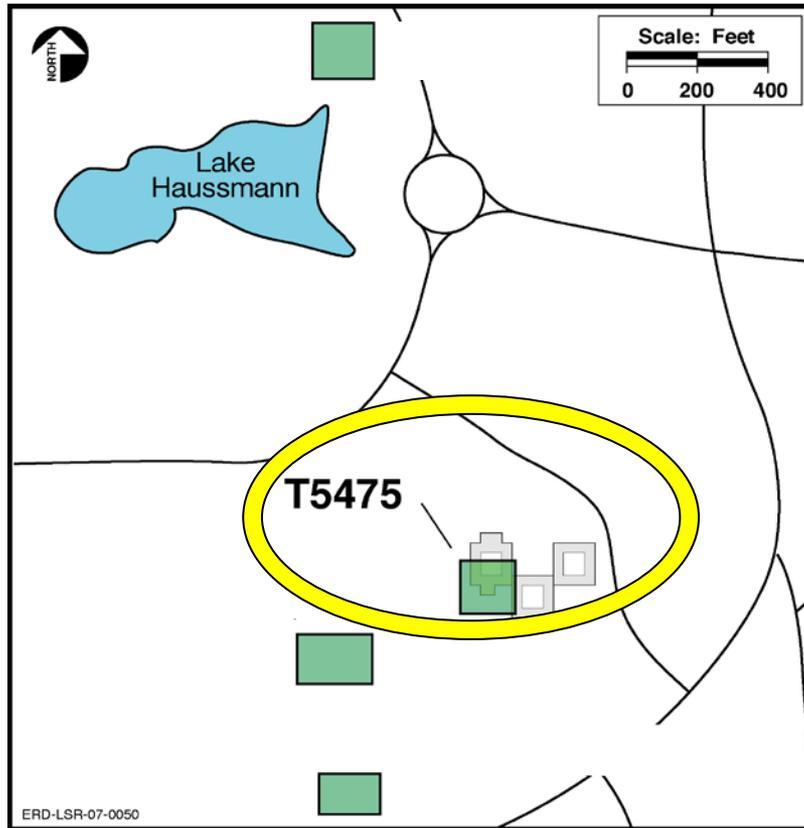
# Cross-Linked Gel with Suspended ZVI



# ZVI Emplacement using injection wells



# Enhanced Source Area Remediation (ESAR) test sites



- **Helipad:** *in situ* bioremediation test
- **TFE-ELM:** thermally-enhanced ground water and soil vapor remediation
- **TFE Hotspot:** pneumatic fracturing to increase subsurface permeability
- **T5475:** tritium & VOCs in ground water