

# Characterization of Ranges: Lessons Learned

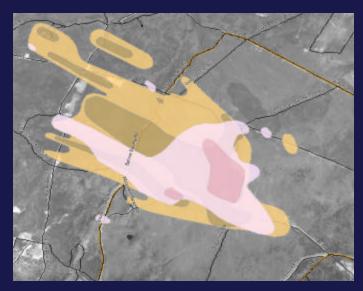
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#### **Lessons Learned**

- Analytical
- Soil Sampling
- Groundwater Sampling
- Contaminants of Concern
- Geophysical
- Fate-and-Transport
- Modeling
- Remediation







# **Training Areas**



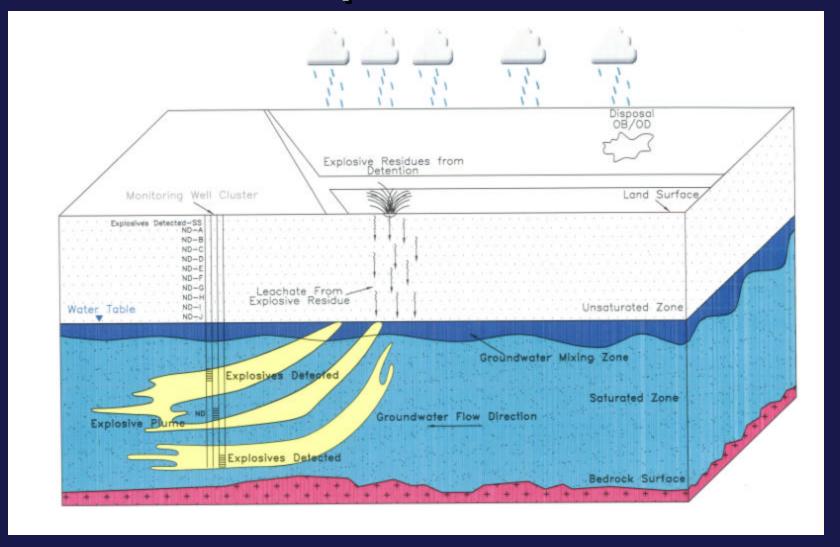


# MEC F&T Conceptual Model

- Deposition of particulates to ground surface
- Slow dissolution of particulates
- Rapid movement of dissolved explosives through unsaturated zone, leaving little residual contamination (RDX, HMX, perchlorate)
- Introduction to groundwater results in rapid transport away from source
- Significant sorption and/or transformation of TNT, aDNTs, DNT, EC, and NG in unsaturated zone
- WP rapidly oxidized in unsaturated zone



# **MEC F&T Conceptual Model**





#### Introduction

- Over 200 compounds analyzed
  - Explosives and Metals
  - Volatile organic compounds (VOCs)
  - Semi-volatile organic compounds (SVOCs)
  - Pesticides/Herbicides
  - Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs)
  - Polychlorinated napthalenes (PCNs)
  - Dioxins/Furans
  - Other (White Phosphorous, Cyanide, Dyes, Anions)
- Tentatively identified compounds (TICs) exhaustively evaluated



# Samples Collected by Media

- > 10,000 surface soil samples (0 to 2 ft)
- > 1,600 soil boring profile samples (10 to 300 ft)
  - ° > 150 individual locations
- 69 sediment samples from 19 water bodies
- 64 surface water samples from 19 water bodies
- 5 storm water samples from perimeter of the Impact Area
- > 6,000 groundwater profiling samples from > 400 borings
- < 10,000 groundwater samples</li>
  - ° > 700 monitoring wells at > 400 locations



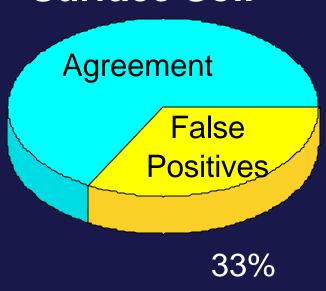
## **Analytical - Explosives**

- If rocket firing positions are investigated Method 8330 should be modified to improve the sensitivity to NG
- Explosive field analytical methods are not suitable for low concentrations anticipated on ranges
- Modifications to explosive analytical methods may be needed
  - ° expanded analyte list
  - ° changes to sample preparation
  - lower detection limits
- Photo diode array is a necessity for Method 8330 analysis
- Larger sample aliquots should be used

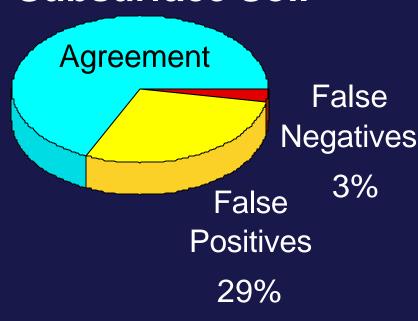


# Field vs Laboratory Results for RDX

#### **Surface Soil**



#### **Subsurface Soil**



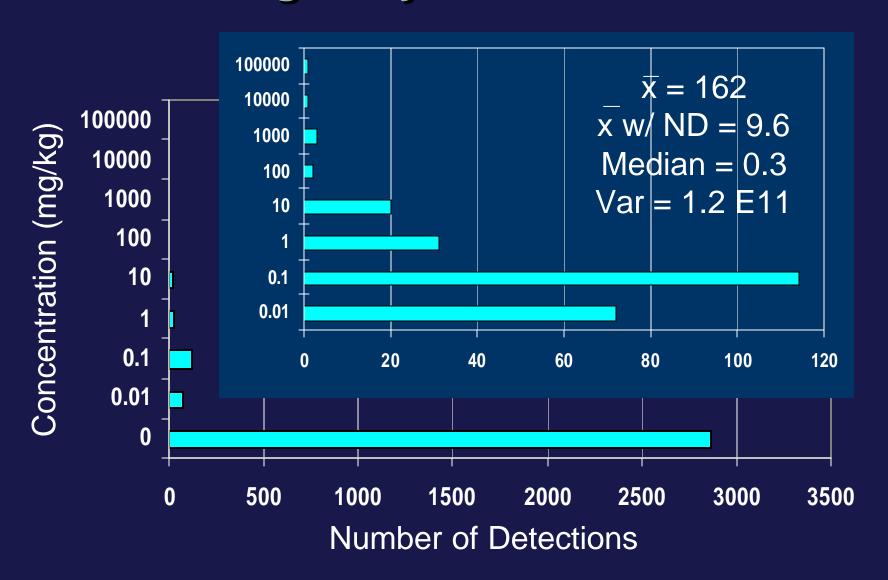


# **Soil Sampling**

- Explosives on ranges and propellants at firing positions are very heterogeneously distributed
- Composite soil sampling is necessary to determine mass of contaminants present
- Discrete samples are inappropriate (maximum concentrations)
- Sample homogenization in the field and lab is a must
- Soil sampling is not useful for finding source release "hotspots" on ranges, i.e # of samples

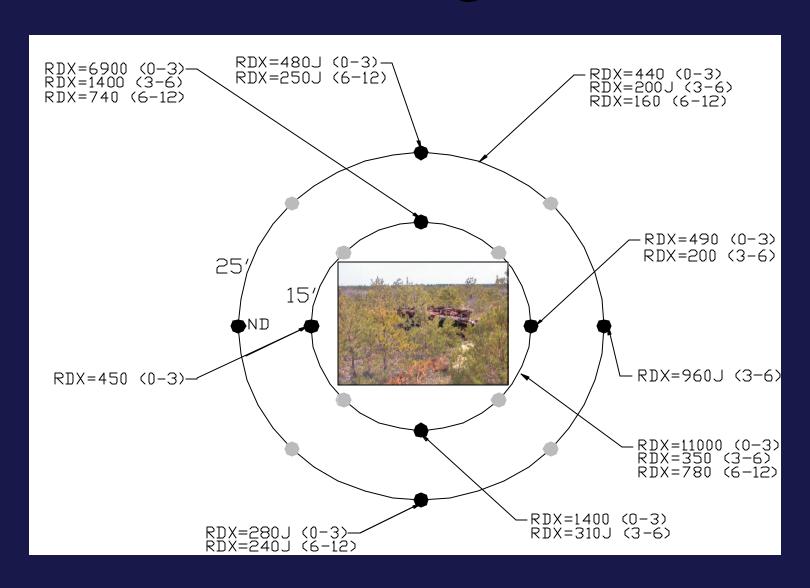


### **MEC Heterogeneity Issue**





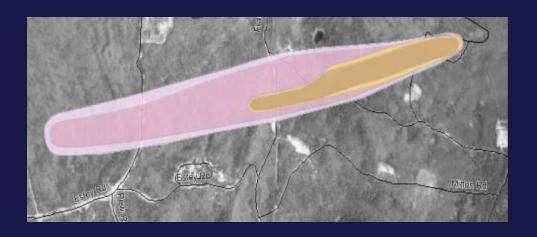
#### **RDX Soil Distribution @ T42**





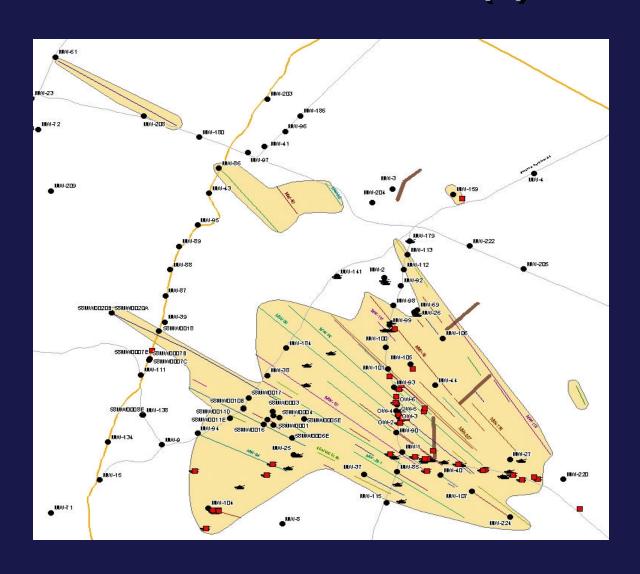
# **Groundwater Sampling**

- Ideal way for determining the release point of contaminants on ranges
- Some drilling greases and turbidity produce interferents with Method 8330
- Low flow sampling is important to reduce turbidity, especially for metals



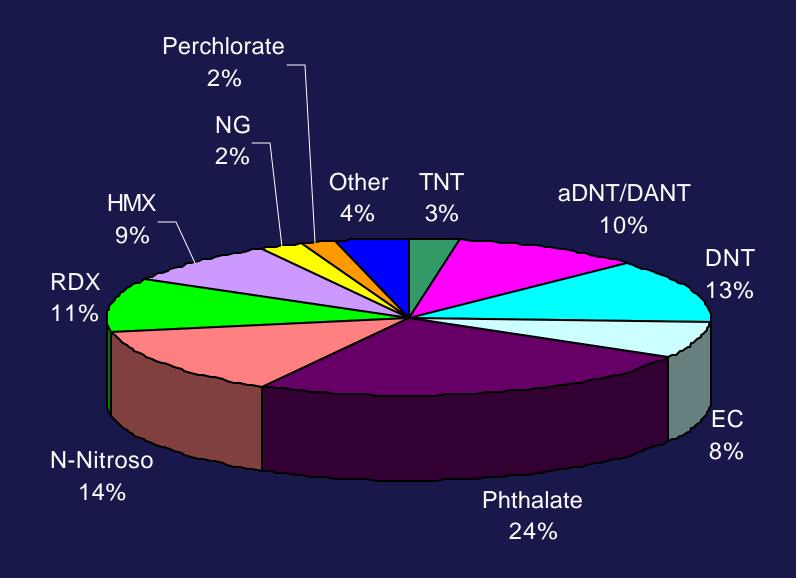


# **Probable RDX Source Area(s)**



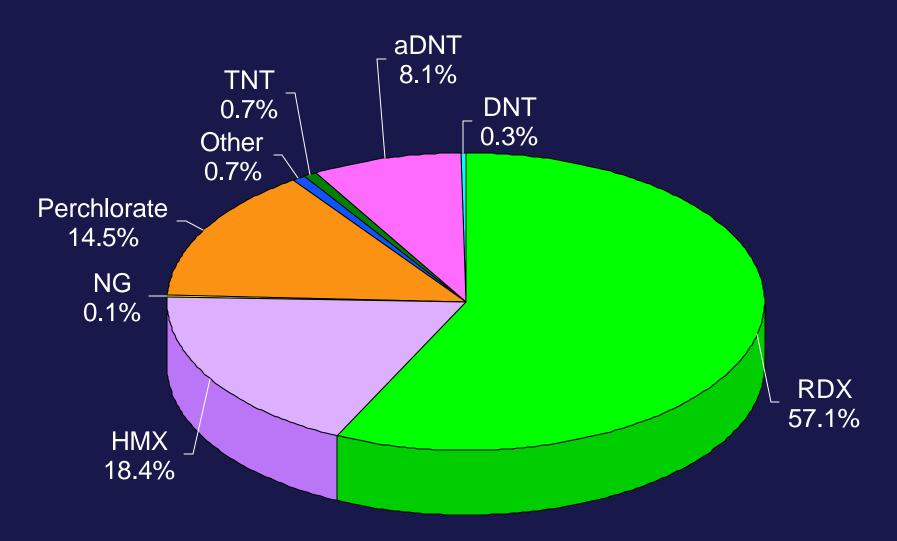


#### **MEC Distribution In Soil**





#### **MEC Distribution in Groundwater**





# MEC Distribution by Range Activity

Range Activity	MEC Anticipated
Artillery/Mortar Impact Area	RDX, HMX, TNT, 2a-DNT, 4a- DNT, perchlorate
Artillery/Mortar Firing Position	2,4-DNT, 2-6DNT, NC, diethyl phthalate, di-n-octyl phthalate, N-nitrosodiphenylamine
Rocket Target	RDX, HMX, TNT, NG
Rocket Firing Point	NG, NC, EC
Demolition Area	Explosives, metals, PAHs, perchlorate, PCNs, dioxins
Weapons Test Ranges	Explosives, perchlorate, PCNs, dioxins