

**UPDATE OF BALTIMORE REGION TOXICS  
WORKSHOP (Aug 3)  
AND  
REGIONAL CASE STUDIES OF NOVEL PCB  
REMEDIATION**

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Sep 13 2017



## BALTIMORE REGION TOXICS WORKSHOP

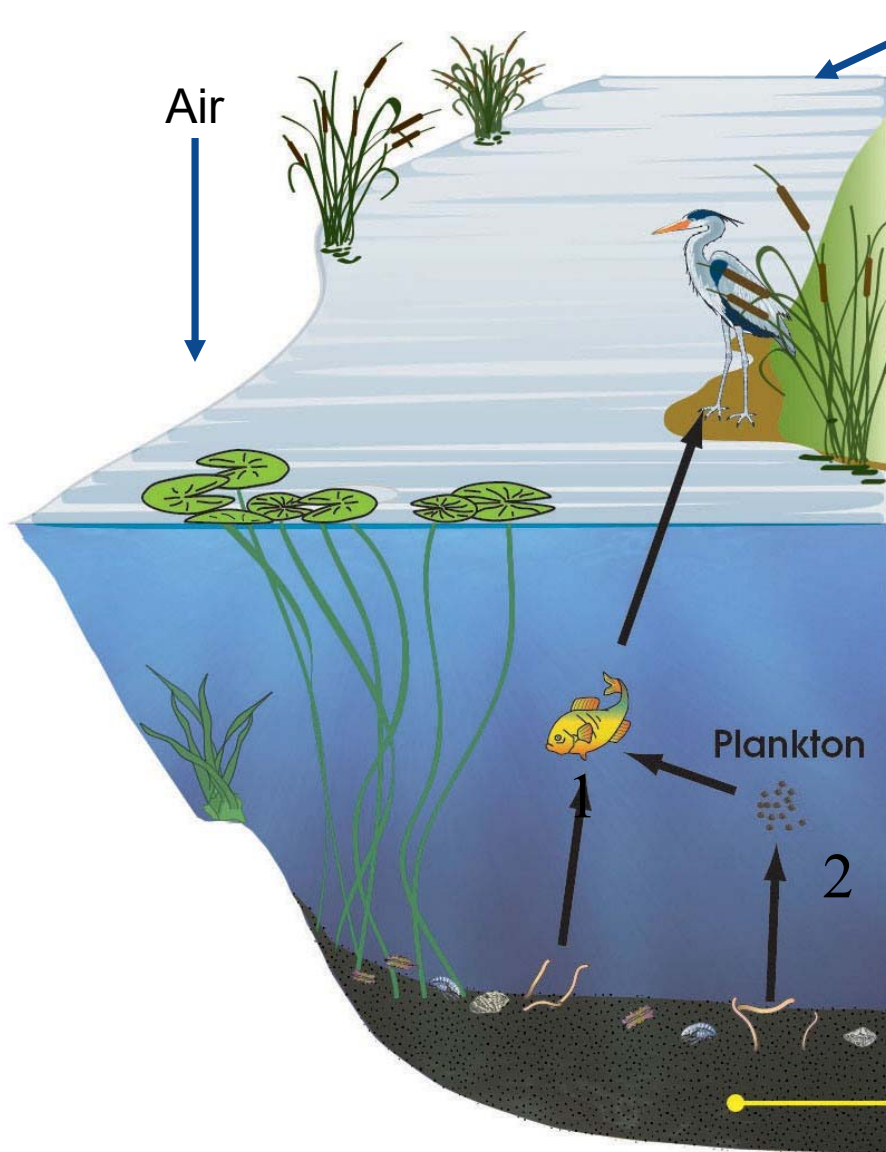
August 3, 2017 USGS Office at University of Maryland Baltimore County, 5522 Research Park Drive  
**POC: Emily H. Majcher**, P.E. Hydrologist, USGS MD-DE-DC Water Science Center: [emajcher@usgs.gov](mailto:emajcher@usgs.gov)

Time	Topic	Presenters/Facilitators	Presenter Organization
9:00 am	Introductory remarks	Steve Stewart and Robert Shedlock	Baltimore County USGS MD-DE-DC Water Science Center
9:15 am	The Toxics TMDL Process and TMDL Monitoring for Toxics	Len Schugam	Maryland Department of Environment, Science Services Administration
9:45 am	The Dilemma of the Jurisdictions	Steve Stewart	Baltimore County Dept of Environmental Protection and Sustainability
10:15 am	Activities of EPA Chesapeake Bay Program Toxics Workgroup	Greg Allen	EPA Chesapeake Bay Program
10:45 am	BREAK		
11:00 am	Monitoring in support of TMDL for PCBs in the Delaware Estuary and Bay	Dr. Thomas Fikslin	Delaware River Basin Commission
11:25 am	Implementation of the PCB TMDL for the Delaware Estuary and Bay	Greg Cavallo	Delaware River Basin Commission
11:50 am	LUNCH		
12:35 pm	Review of relevant research in monitoring and remediation	Emily Majcher Bob Summers	USGS Maryland WSC KCI
12:50 pm	Monitoring and Cleanup of an Industrial Site in the Baltimore region Contaminated with PCBs: A Case Study	Dr. Upal Ghosh	University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC)
1:20 pm	Innovations in monitoring for PCB's and PAH's	Dr. Michael Unger Dr. Upal Ghosh Dr. Charles Walker	Virginia Tech UMBC USGS MD-DE-DC Water Science Center
2:20 pm	BREAK		
2:35 pm	Treatment Remediation: what can be done and where	Dr. Allen Davis Dr. Staci Capozzi Dr. Kevin Sowers Dr. Michelle Lorah Dr. Neal Durant	University of Maryland University of Maryland University of Maryland USGS MD-DE-DC Water Science Center Geosyntec Consultants
4:10 pm	Summary Discussion and potential next steps	Select representatives from the BUWP Actionable Science Workgroup	various



# FREELY DISSOLVED CONCENTRATIONS:

Critically important to describe pollutant exposure

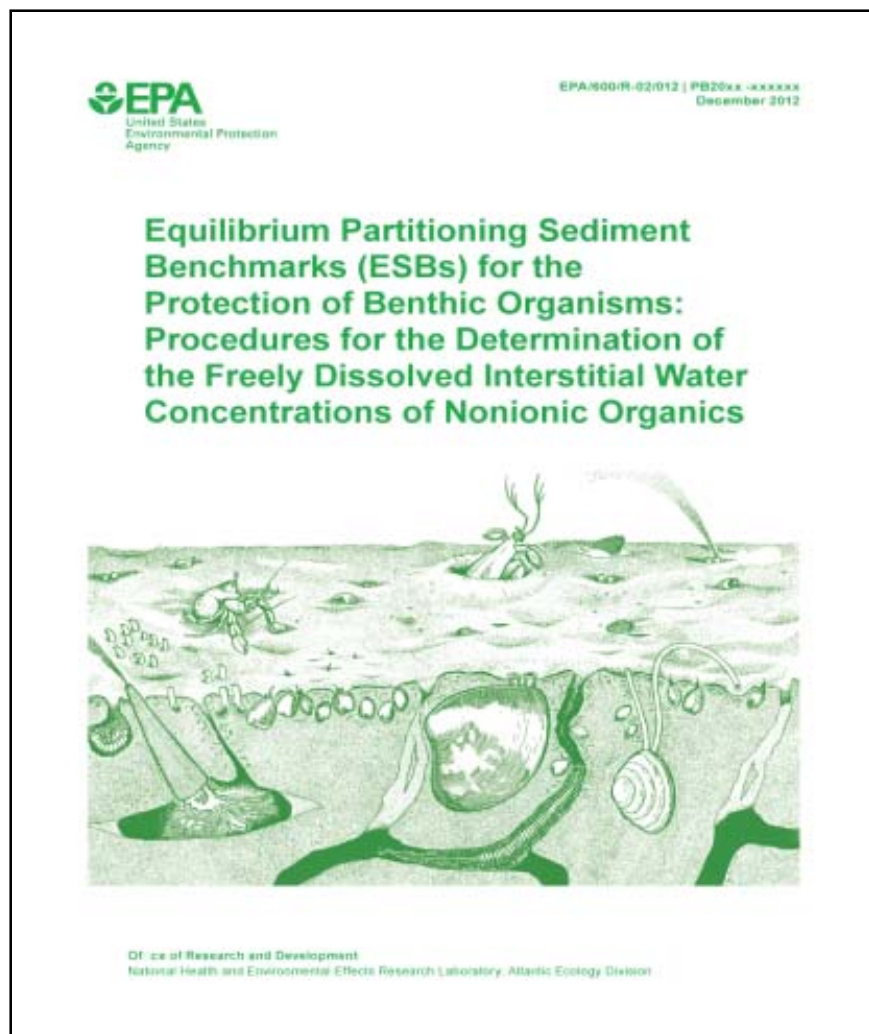


Exposure to sediment contaminants through:

- 1) bioaccumulation in benthic organisms
- 2) flux into the water column, and uptake in the pelagic food web.
- 3) Water is the medium for major transport processes

Contaminated sediment

# USEPA GUIDANCES ON DISSOLVED CONCENTRATIONS



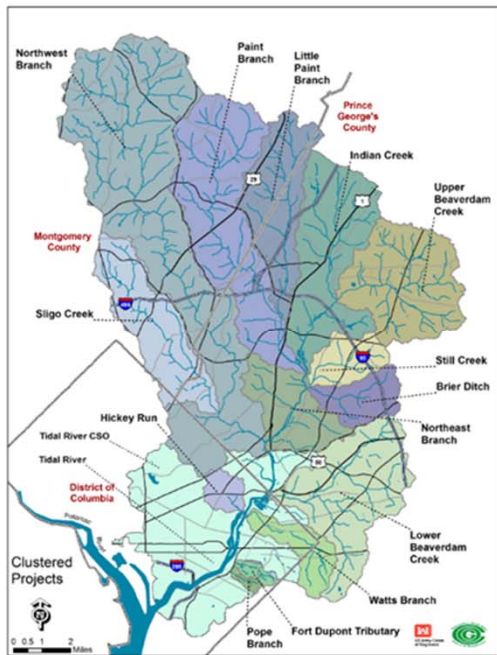
EPA/600/XX-15/071

## Laboratory, Field, and Analytical Procedures for Using Passive Sampling in the Evaluation of Contaminated Sediments: User's Manual

The diagram illustrates the use of passive samplers in a water column and sediment. It shows wildlife (bird, fish, mussel) in the water column and benthos (sediment) with contaminants like PCBs, PAHs, and DDT. A graph shows the deployment and retrieval of a passive sampler, with a label 'Passive Samplers' and 'Water Column'. To the right of the diagram are three small images of passive samplers: a vertical one, a horizontal one, and a yellow one.

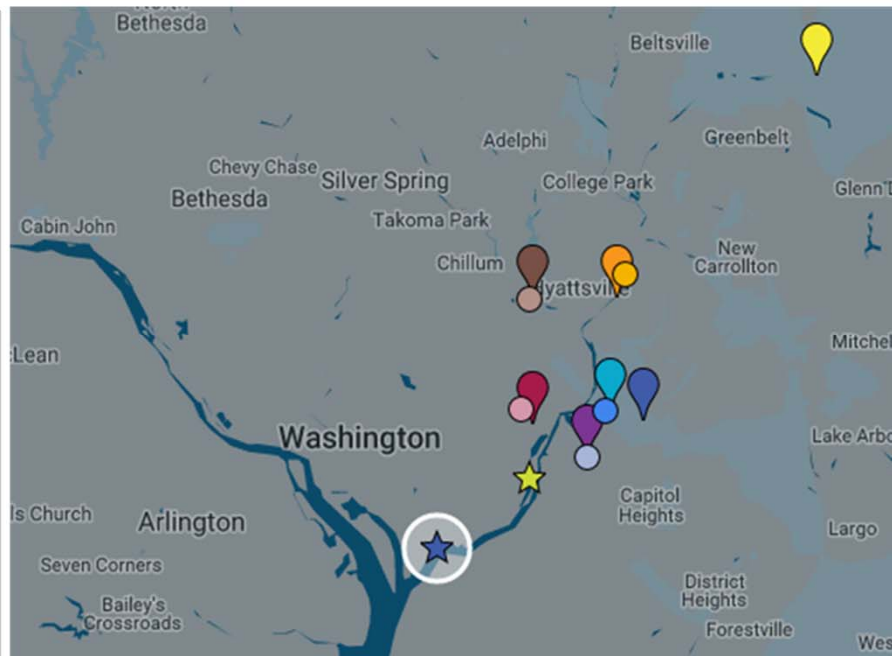
May 2016

# LOCAL CASE STUDY: ONGOING WORK AT ANACOSTIA RIVER AND TRIBUTARIES



Source: USACE

<http://www.nab.usace.army.mil/portals/63/docs/Environmental/Anacostia/Anacostia2.pdf>



Source: Google map

- ✓ Deployment Tributaries 2016 USFW
  - 1- Upper Beaverdam Creek (Beav Creek 1)
  - 2- NE Branch
  - 3- NW Branch
  - 4- Hickey run
  - 5- Watts Branch
  - 6- Lower Beaverdam Creek 2
  - 7- Zekiah swamp
  - 8- Lower Beaverdam Creek 3
- ✓ Deployment River 2016
  - 9- Kingman Island
  - 12- National stadium
- ✓ USGS gages
  - gage NE branch
  - gage NW Branch
  - gage Watts Branch
  - gage Hickey Run
  - gage Beaverdam

- Ongoing Remedial Investigation of Anacostia River
- Need quantitative understanding of ongoing inputs:
  - Tributaries
  - Flux from bed sediments
  - Air-water mass transfer
- Measurement of freely dissolved concentration of pollutants to assess fluxes
- Uptake in benthic organisms



## FIELD DEPLOYMENTS



Deployed in cinderblock for water column measurement

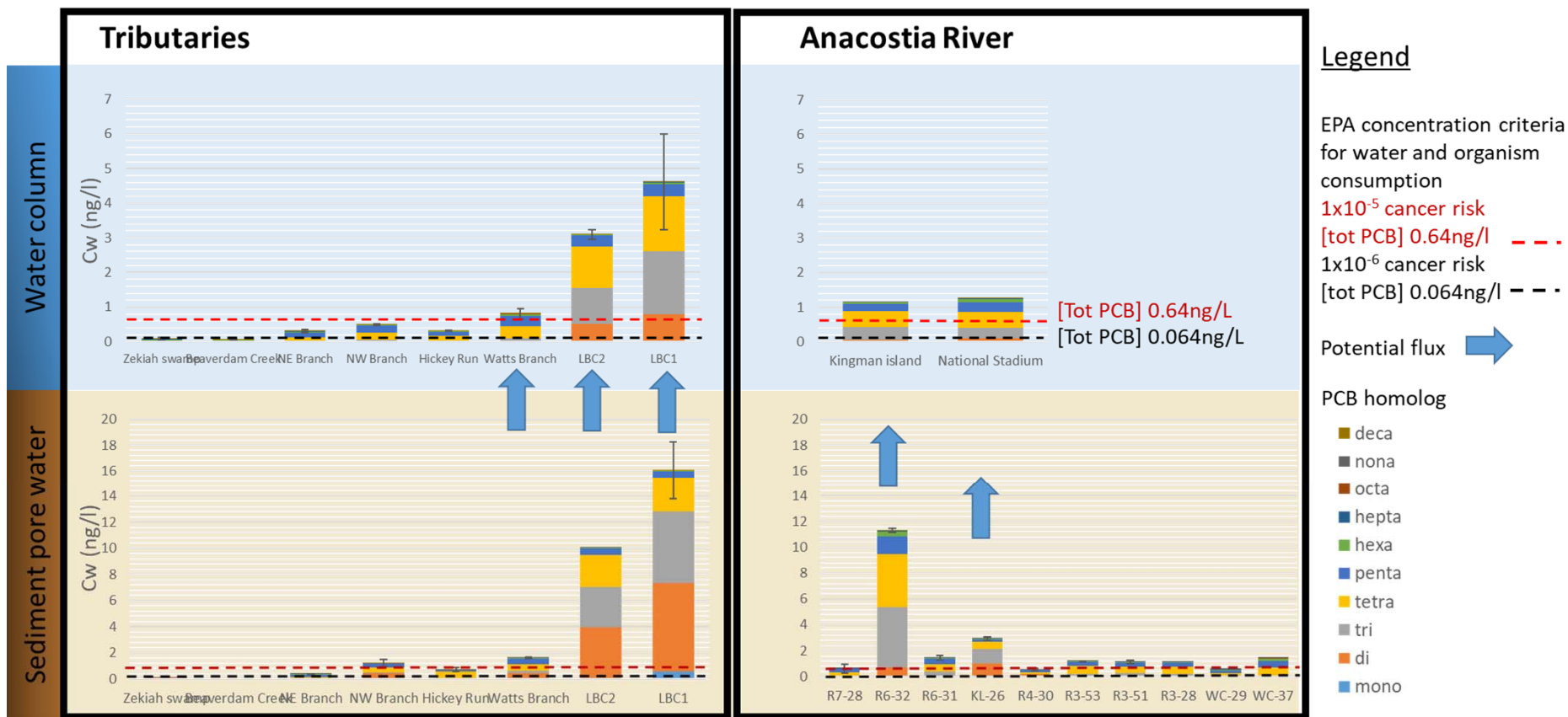


Passive samplers in frames for insertion in sediments



Air passive samplers

# PRELIMINARY DATA: PCBS IN OVERLYING WATER AND PORE WATER



- PCB levels <0.1ng/l at Upper Beaverdam and Zekiah swamp
- Low PCB concentration at NE branch
- Lower Beaverdam Creek (LBDC) sites show the highest levels of PCBs
- Potential flux from the sediments into water at several locations



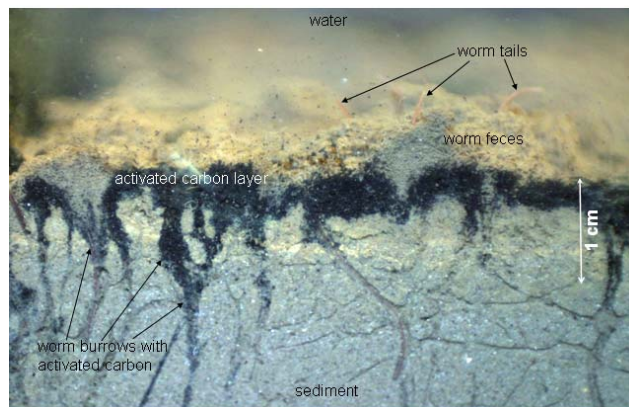
# MANAGING EXPOSURE FROM HISTORIC DEPOSITS OF CONTAMINATED SEDIMENTS



- Contaminated sediment sites are large
- How do you clean up an ecologically sensitive site without destroying it?
- Current technologies are expensive and disruptive
- Need for innovative techniques that reduce risks



# STRONG SORPTION REDUCES PCB UPTAKE IN WORMS



**Environmental**  
Science & Technology

FEATURE  
pubs.acs.org/est

## In-situ Sorbent Amendments: A New Direction in Contaminated Sediment Management<sup>†</sup>

Upal Ghosh\*

University of Maryland Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland 21250, United States

Richard G. Luthy

Stanford University, Stanford, California, United States

Gerard Cornelissen

Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Oslo, Norway; University of Life Sciences, Ås, Norway; Stockholm University, Stockholm, Sweden

David Werner

Newcastle University, Newcastle upon Tyne, United Kingdom

Charles A. Menzie

Exponent, Alexandria, Virginia, United States



Initial laboratory studies demonstrated reduction of PCB biouptake after AC or biochar amendment

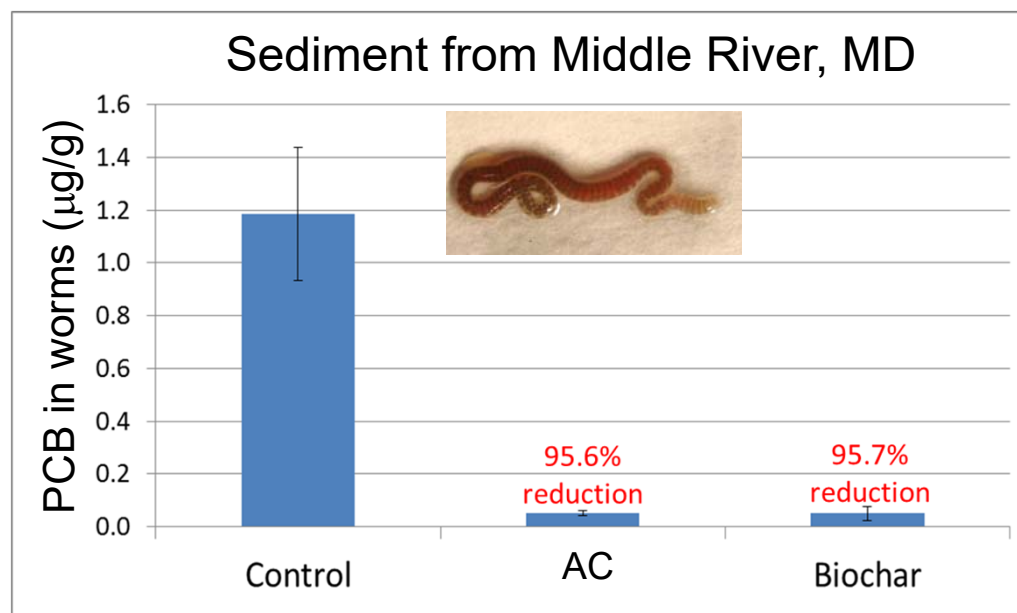
Surface application is worked into sediments through bioturbation

Led to several pilot-scale demonstrations

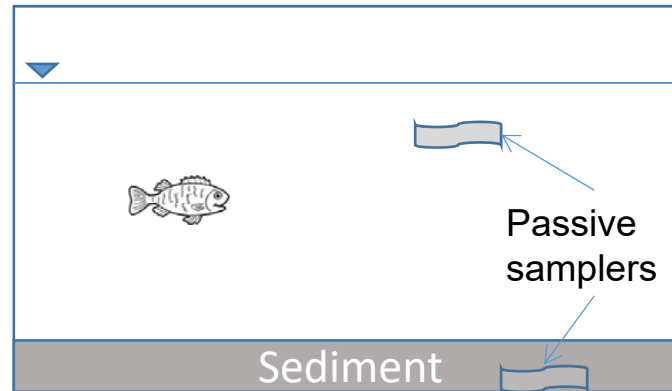
*Zimmerman et al. ES&T 2003*

*Sun & Ghosh, ES&T 2007*

*Ghosh et al. ES&T 2011*

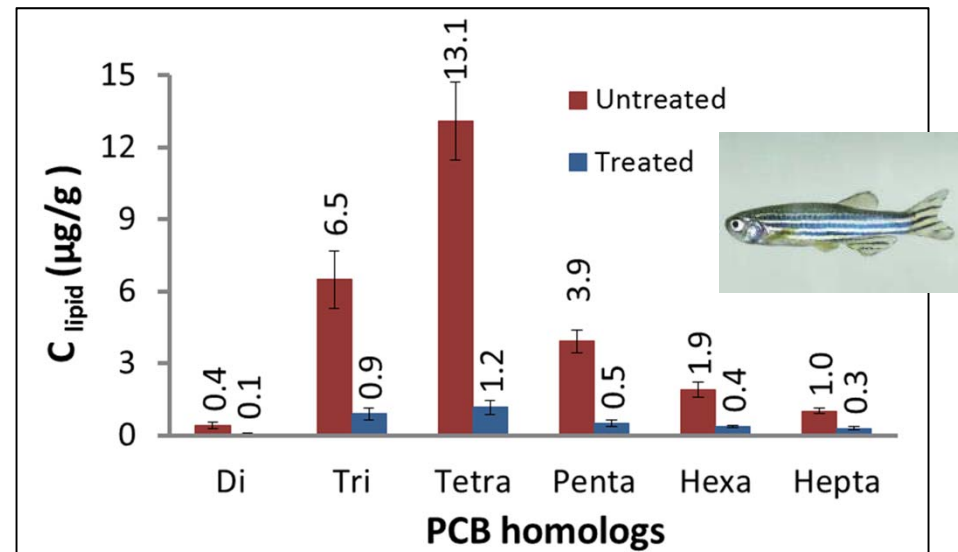
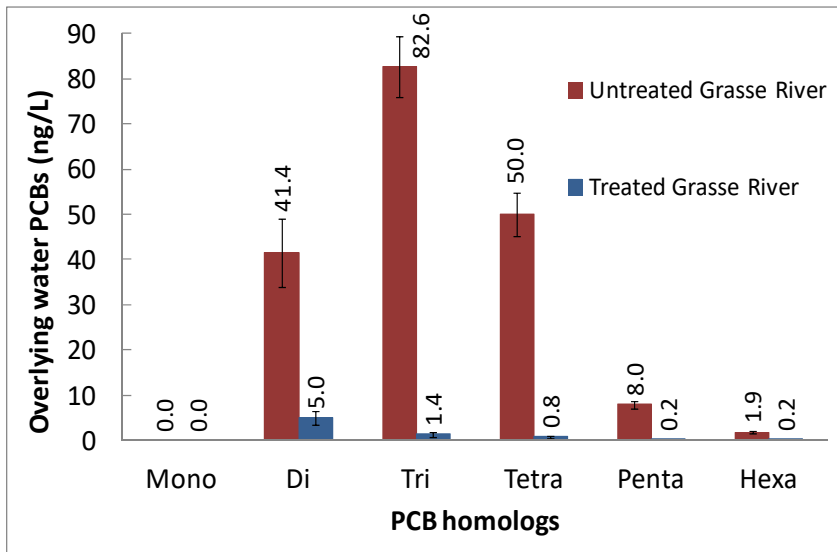


# DO BENTHIC EXPOSURE REDUCTIONS TRANSLATE TO REDUCED PCBs IN FISH?



NIH R01:  
2011-15

Components in each aquaria



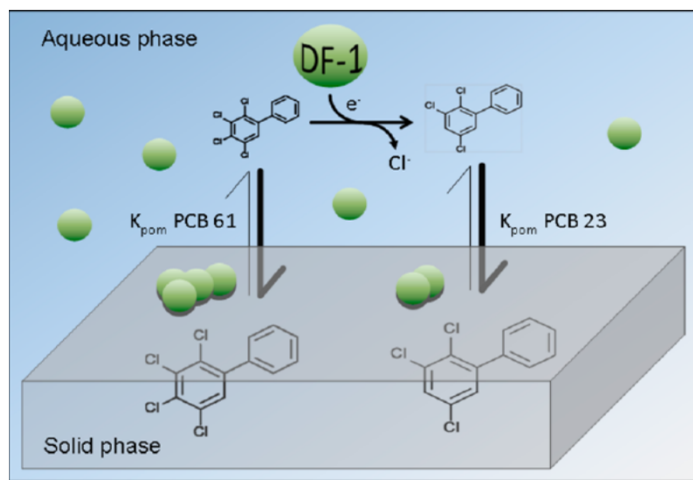
- PCBs in water reduced by **> 95%** upon amendment with AC.
- The AC amendment reduced the PCB uptake in fish by **87%**
- **Need solid mechanistic understanding of processes to scale up and translate to the field**

# ACTIVATED CARBON AS SUBSTRATE FOR BIOAUGMENTATION

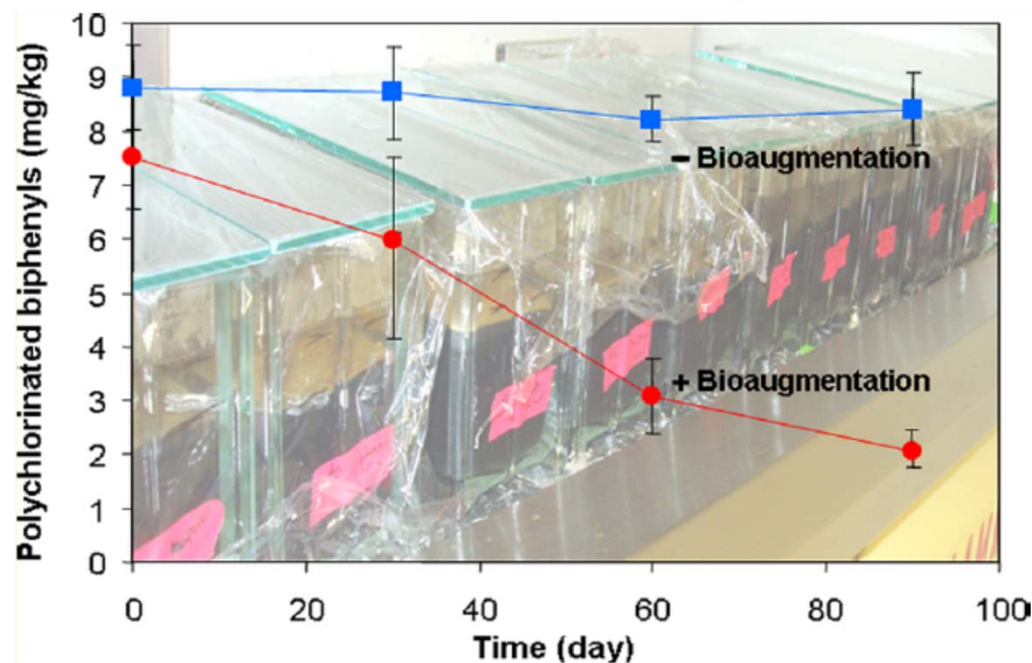
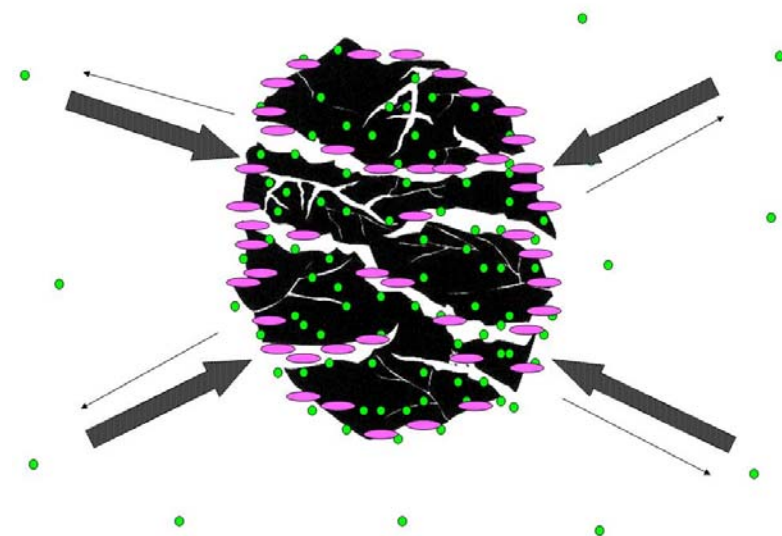
Collaboration with Dr. Kevin Sowers, UMBC-IMET

## *Role of AC in promoting activity*

- AC appears to stimulate PCB dechlorination
- Mechanism not fully understood – ongoing research
- Concurrently sequesters PCBs from the aquatic food chain
- Focus of two ongoing SERDP and ESTCP funded projects



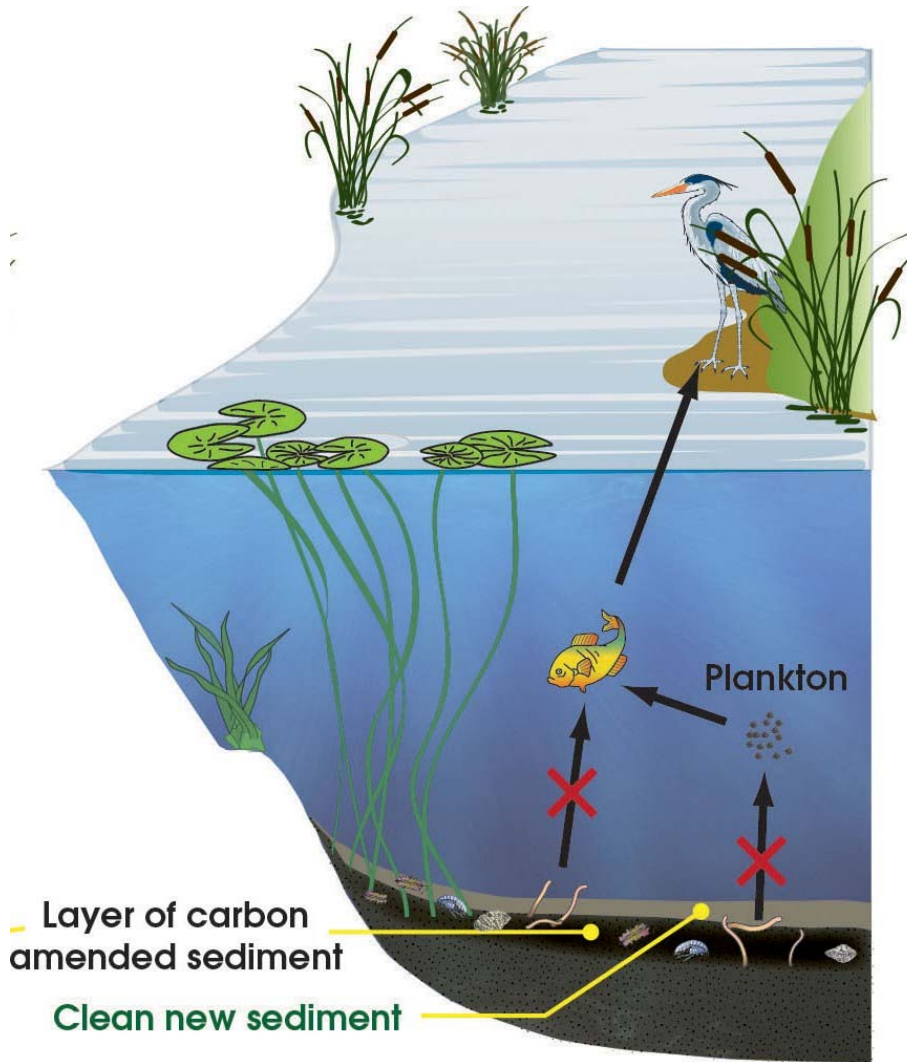
*Lombard et al. ES&T 2014*



*Payne et al. Environ. Sci. Technol. 2013*



# CONCEPTUAL MODEL OF IN-SITU TREATMENT WITH AC



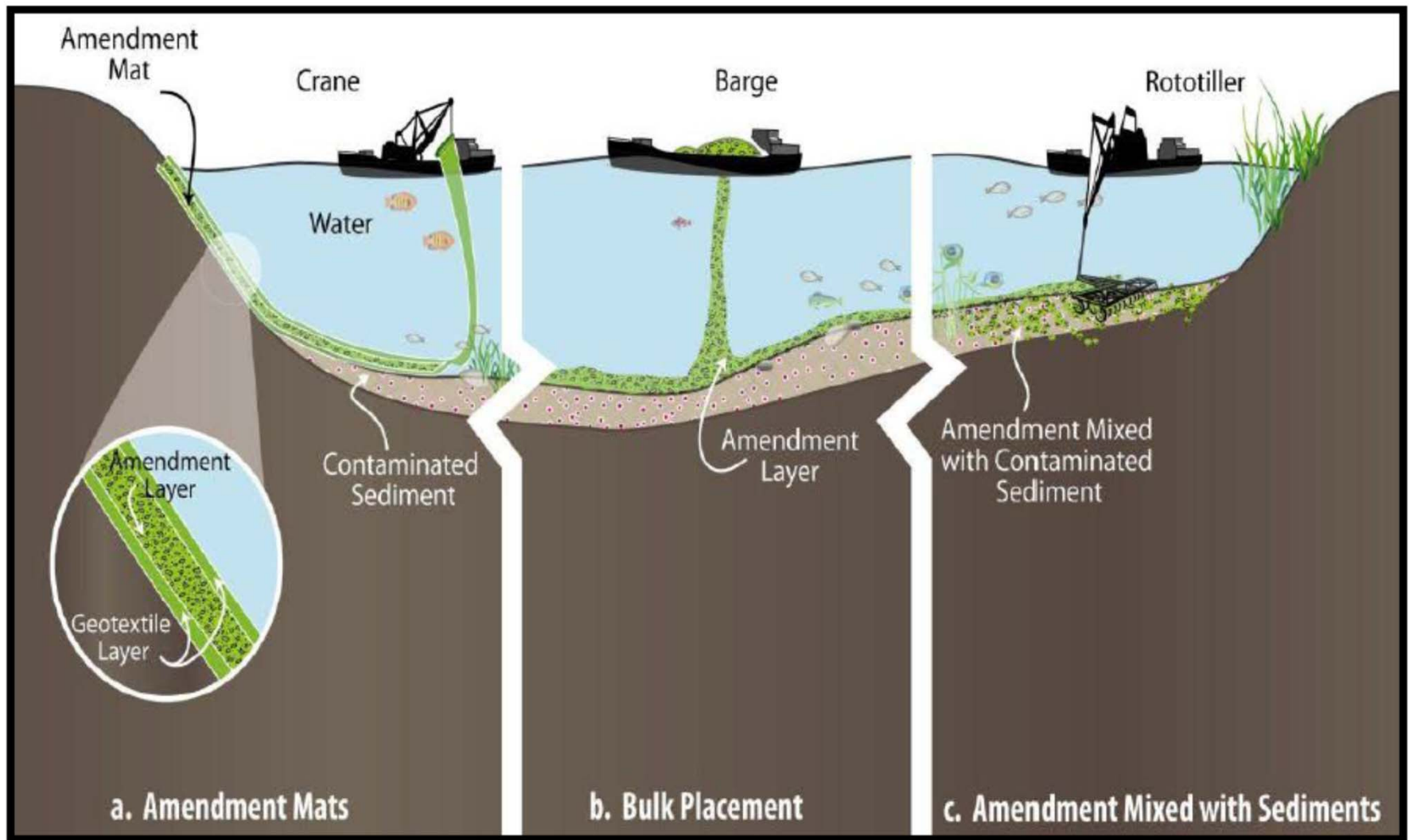
AC amended reduces exposure to food chain through:

- 1) Reduced bioaccumulation in benthic organisms
- 2) Reduced flux into water column and uptake in the pelagic food web.
- 3) In the long-term, the carbon amended layer is covered with clean sediment.
- 4) Each process needs to be described quantitatively for scale-up
- 5) How do we engineer to the field?



# USE OF AMENDMENTS FOR IN-SITU REMEDIATION OF SUPERFUND SEDIMENT SITES

USEPA OSWER Directive 9200.2-128FS; April 2013

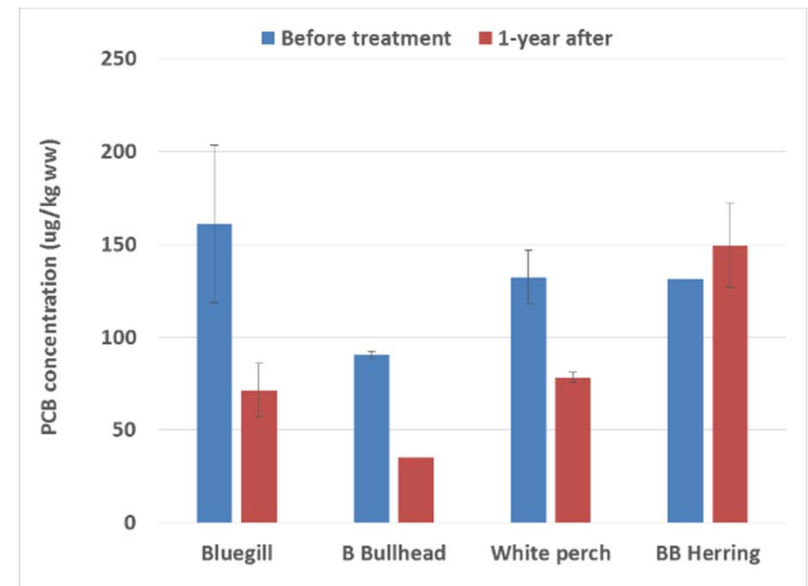


# FULL-SCALE REMEDIATION OF A LAKE



- 5-acre lake
- Target dose of 3 – 5% met
- 1-year results already showing reductions in PCBs in resident fish

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l88oE6aTHK8&feature=youtu.be>



# LOCAL CASE STUDY OF IN-SITU REMEDIATION: MIDDLE RIVER, MD

- Creek and tidally influenced estuary
- Industrial and residential area
- Recreational use
  - Boating
  - Swimming
  - Fishing
- Creek discharging into the cove
- 8 to 10 feet water depth in the cove
- PCB contamination
  - <1 – 3600 mg/kg total PCBs
- *In Situ* treatment area PCB concentrations generally < 3 mg/kg
- Silty sand sediment
- Organic carbon ~ 1 – 5.5 %





# TREATABILITY STUDY: MIDDLE RIVER, MD

- Phase 1 - Initial evaluation of amendments to reduce pore water PCBs and PAHs
  - Selection of two most effective amendments
- Phase 2 – Bioaccumulation study
  - Freshwater oligochaetes
  - Reduction in bioaccumulation with the selected amendments

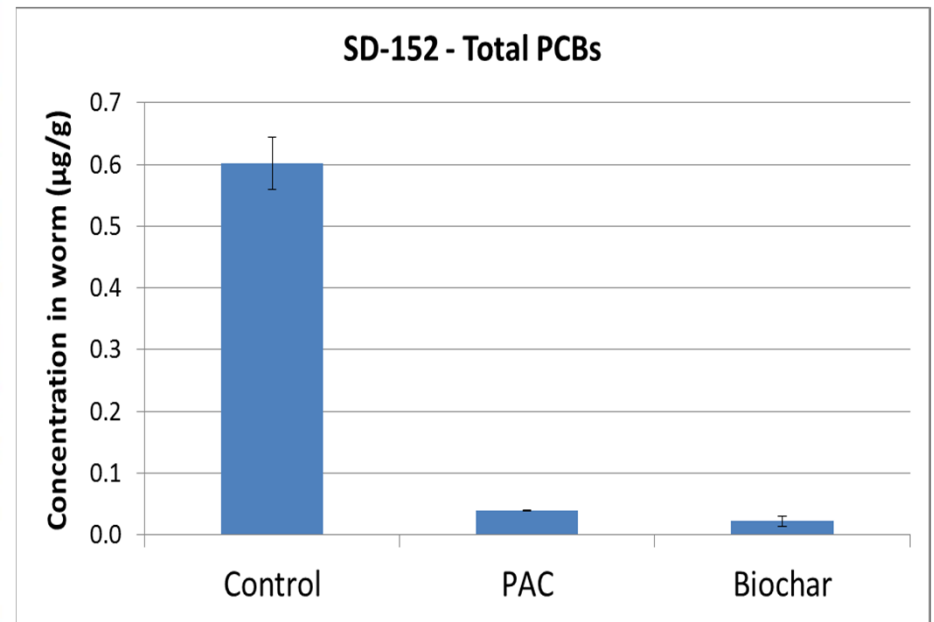
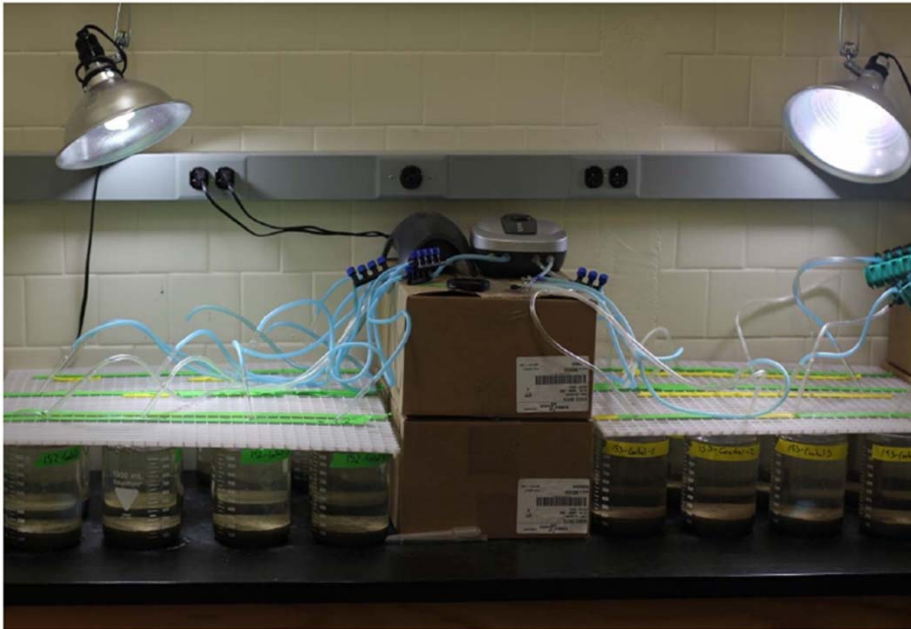


Figure 3. Laboratory bioaccumulation experiment using the freshwater oligochaete *L. variegatus*.



# UPCOMING FULL-SCALE APPLICATION IN MIDDLE RIVER, MD

- Combination remedy of dredging and *in situ* treatment
- Completion of dredging followed by application of a residuals management layer
- Application of activated carbon for the *in situ* treatment
- Approximately 1/3 of the area of contaminated sediment will have dredging and 2/3 *in situ* treatment
- Long term monitoring includes sampling of the *in situ* treatment areas
- Work completed under a Risk-Based Removal Application Approval with the US EPA



Middle River Complex and Martin  
State Airport Newsletter; March 2016

Sediment Remediation Areas



# SEDIMENT PORE WATER SAMPLE COLLECTION – IN SITU

- Three replicates collected at each sampling site
- Deployment for 28 days
- Performance reference compounds added to the passive samplers prior to deployment
- Samples analyzed for PCB congeners

#	Average Porewater PCB (ng/L)	RSD
1	11.2	11 %
2	57.1	7 %
3	22.7	21 %
4	11.2	14 %





# LOCAL CASE STUDY: PCB BIOREMEDIATION DEMONSTRATION AT ABHRAMS CREEK, MCB QUANTICO

*DoD – ESTCP Project*



- PCB impacted sediments in a 8 acre wetland
- Hybrid technology: Sequestration of PCBs on AC and microbial dechlorination
- 3000 kg bioamended SediMite deployed with air horn
- SediMite dose = 0.3g/10 g sediment
- Bioamendment dose =  $10^6$  cells/10 g sediment
- 50% reduction in PCBs levels in first year; no change in non-bioamended plots
- 76% reduction in porewater PCBs
- Cost of dredging and off-site disposal: \$25M

# ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- ◆ Funding support from NIEHS, SERDP/ESTCP, DOE, MDE, DNREC, Dow,
- ◆ Graduate students and post docs at UMBC

