

Remediation of a 300 bbl Crude Oil Spill Utilizing Gold Crew

On March 7, 2001 a release of approximately 300 bbls (12,600 gal.) of crude oil occurred from a tank battery in northeast Texas resulting in heavy contamination on site.



The crude oil released during this spill migrated from the tank battery into an area which was recently cleared and grubbed for a new pasture. This area was of particular concern due to the exposed and disturbed soils and the tendency for the oil to pool in the locally variable topography and saturate the soil. Also, the night of the incident there was rainfall on the order of 1.5 inches resulting in water/oil saturated conditions within the soil. The oil also traveled through this area and into a active pasture area which was subsequently isolated and slated for treatment. It was decided to utilize “in-situ burning” to remove much of the oil floating on the water contained in the various pools and pockets in the disturbed area.

After the burning took place, a vac truck was employed to recover any remaining free oils pooled, or floating, within the area. A trackhoe was then employed to mix, blend and homogenize the soil to an approximate depth of 18 inches, and to provide a uniform grade to the site. Abundant oil was observed leaching from the soil as it was being worked and turned. Due to the significant levels of contamination, no initial soil samples were taken at the outset of the cleanup.

A 3% solution of Gold Crew was then mixed in a 120 bbl (5,040 gal.) transport vessel and sprayed evenly out over the impacted areas of the site.

The site was left to undergo “enhanced natural attenuation” and visually monitored. Photos were taken on June 17, 2001 approximately 3 months after treatment.



Photos were again taken after approximately one year post treatment on May 29, 2002. A full vegetative cover is indicative of satisfactory remediation of the pasture area.

