

Field Trial of a Pulsed Limestone Diversion Well

P. L. Sibrell USGS Leetown Science Center, Kearneysville, WV 25430 C. F. Denholm, M. H. Dunn Stream Restoration Inc., Mars, PA



U.S. Department of the Interior U.S. Geological Survey

AMD at Jennings

Vertical Flow Pond

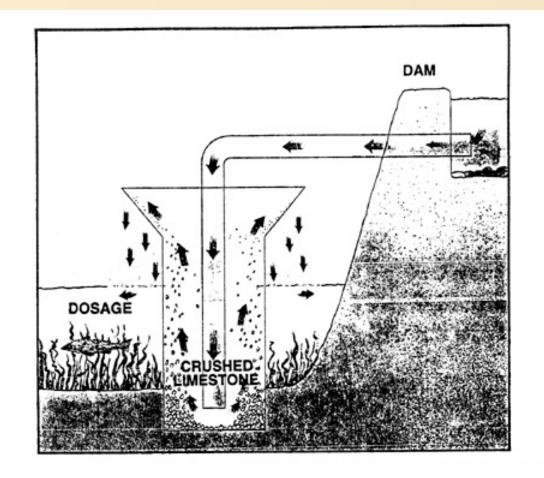


Quonset Hut





Diversion Well Schematic



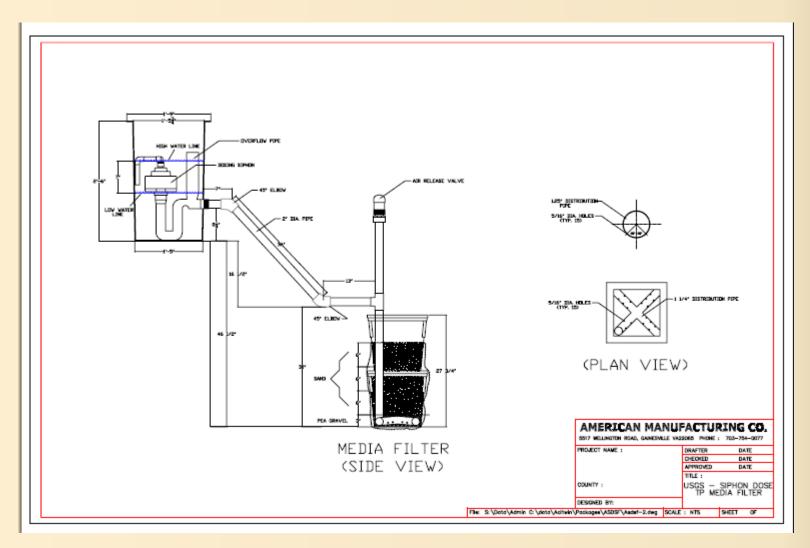


Pulsed Limestone Bed System





Pulsed Diversion Well





Pulsed Diversion Well Advantages

- Provides reproducible flow conditions at any flow rate up to design maximum.
- Utilizes sand sized limestone for greater reactivity and increased rate of acid neutralization.
- More attrition due to movement of intermittently fluidized limestone sand bed scours particles and reduces potential for armoring.
- > May be able to recycle CO_2 .



Limestone Dissolution Rate Expression (Sverdrup, 1985)

$$\frac{-dm}{dt} = \left\{ \frac{D}{\Delta r} \cdot \left[H^{+}\right] + k_{2} \left[CO_{2}\right] + k_{W} - k_{B} \cdot \left[Ca^{+2}\right] \cdot \left[HCO_{3}^{-}\right] \right\} \cdot \frac{3 \cdot m}{p \cdot r}$$
Reaction with hydrogen ion Reaction with carbon dioxide with H₂O Backward reaction rate Mineral surface area



Siphon Doser Assembly





Siphon Sump





Limestone Sand Sump



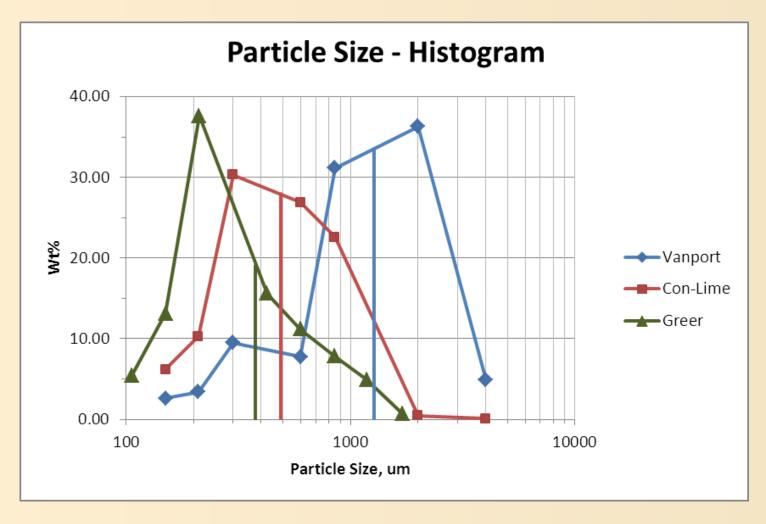


Complete System



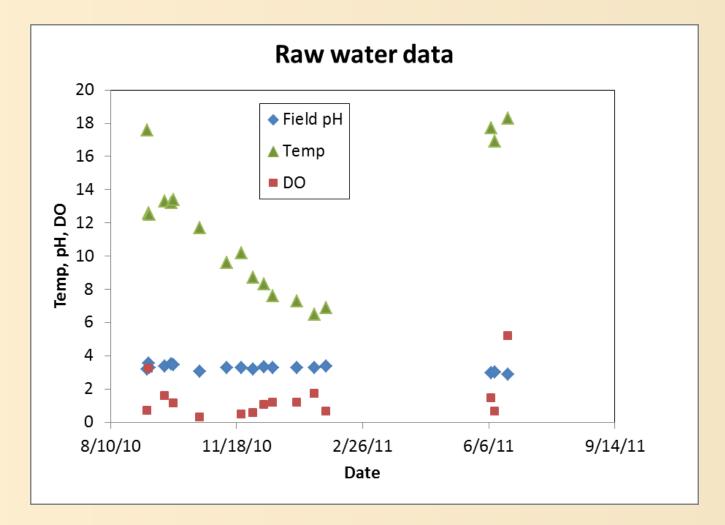


Limestone Size Distributions



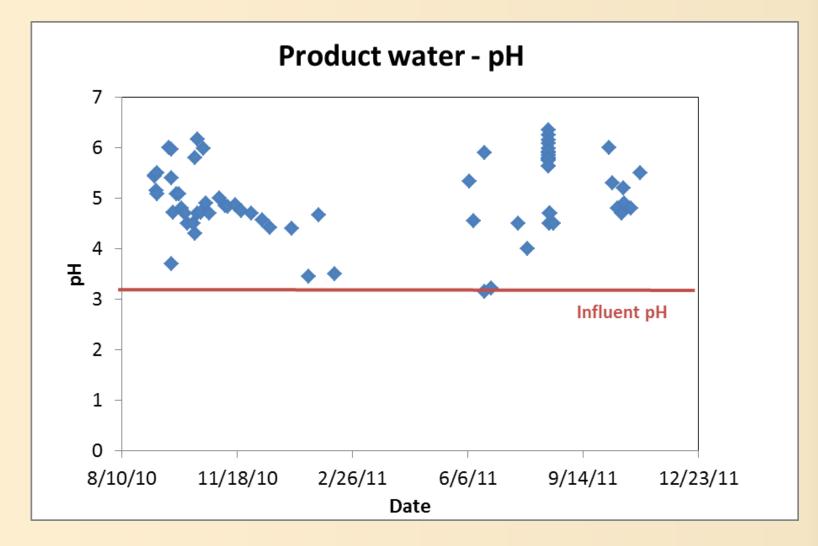


Influent water quality parameters



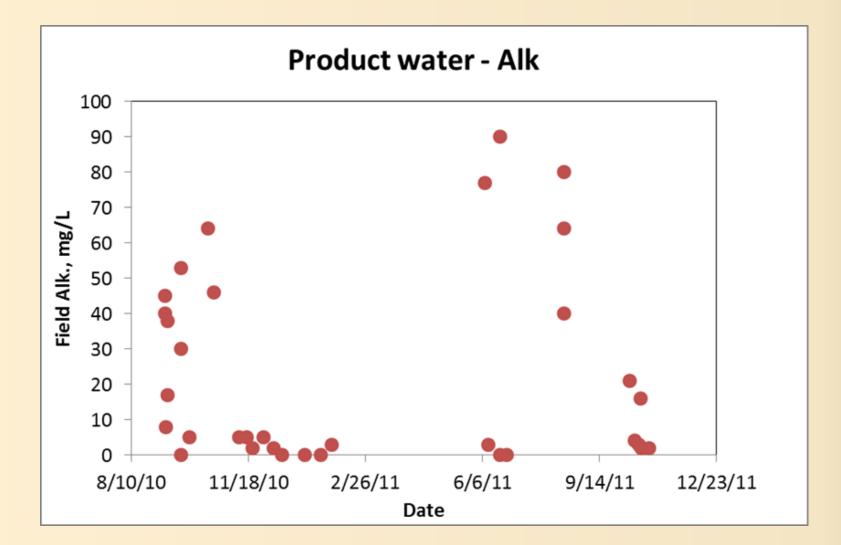


Results – pH of Treated Water





Results – Alk of Treated Water





Laboratory Analysis

						Fe		Mn		Al		
SAMPLE	SAMPLE	Q	LAB	Alk.	Acidity	Total	Soluble	Total	Soluble	Total	Soluble	SO4
ID	Date	L/min	PH	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L	mg/L
RAW	9/22/2010	18.9	3.33	ND	235.8	51.0	47.6	19.3	19.0	24.2	20.5	806.1
PDW1	9/22/2010	18.9	3.47	ND	223.2	47.9	45.6	20.3	19.1	21.3	20.6	740.8
PDW2	9/22/2010	18.9	5.64	20.32	77.0	44.0	41.9	19.1	18.6	7.9	2.5	535.2
PDW3	9/22/2010	7.6	6.16	49.62	43.8	43.4	37.4	20.1	18.6	7.7	0.9	559.3
RAW	10/20/2010	7.6	3.23	ND	275.0	44.9	43.1	21.8	21.1	22.8	21.5	580.3
PDW	10/20/2010	7.6	5.97	31.51	60.5	39.5	37.4	21.8	21.7	6.5	2.3	630.1
RAW	11/10/2010	7.6	3.33	ND	269.6	62.6	21.7	24.3	23.8	27.8	24.9	657.9
PDW	11/10/2010	7.6	4.53	ND	168.9	50.9	48.2	25.1	24.6	19.7	14.5	676.4
RAW	10/26/2011	3.6	3.22	ND	437.8	83.2	79.1	22.3	21.4	40.4	39.5	1084.8
PDW	10/26/2011	3.6	4.4	ND	273.2	51.2	49.5	23.4	21.5	30.9	29.8	910.9



Winter Conditions





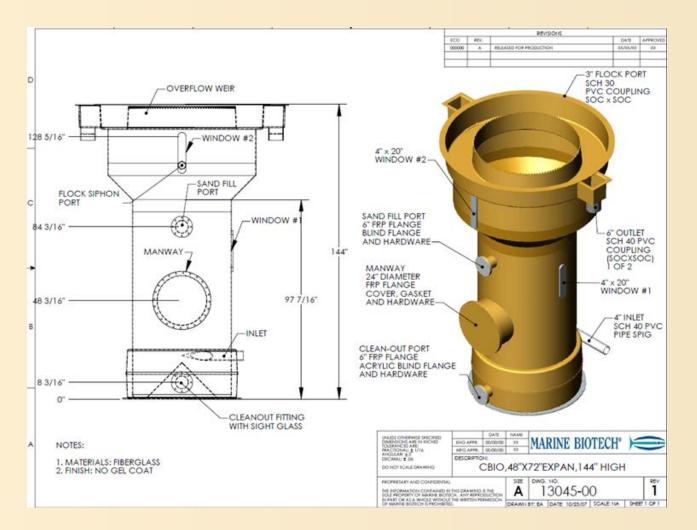
Plugging problems







CycloBio Reactor





Bottom Line

Modifications to the traditional diversion well, including use of a siphon doser and smaller limestone particle size, appear to offer advantages in acid neutralization and AMD treatment.

- ➢ Air release from the delivery piping prior to the sand bed is an important consideration and must be allowed for.
- Plugging of delivery lines and manifold orifices had a detrimental impact on performance.
- Objectives for future testing include pipeline pigging and use of a CycloBio reactor to minimize plugging issues.



