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User Manual for Concawe  
LNAPL Toolbox

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# User Manual for Concawe LNAPL Toolbox

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**LNAPL Toolbox:**

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**User Manual:**

Newell, C.J., B. Strasert, P. de Blanc, P. Kulkarni, K. Whitehead, B. Sackmann, and H. Podzorski, 2021. User Manual for Concawe LNAPL Toolbox, Concawe, Brussels, Belgium.

**At the request of:**

Concawe STF-33 Task Force:

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## ABSTRACT

LNAPL stands for “Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids” or hydrocarbons that exist as a separate undissolved phase in the subsurface at some sites with legacy releases of fuels. They are referred to as “Light” because most petroleum hydrocarbons are less dense than water. Because LNAPLs can sustain dissolved groundwater plumes for long time periods, it is important to understand how much LNAPL may be present at site, if the LNAPL can migrate, if it can be recovered, how the LNAPL composition changes over time, how long it may persist, and finally quickly the LNAPL body is attenuating.

Understanding LNAPL behavior is complex, and therefore Concawe envisioned compiling a unique collection of useful tools, calculators, data, and resources to help LNAPL scientists and engineers better understand how to manage LNAPL at their sites. Concawe commissioned the development of the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox, a wide-ranging but easy to use web-based toolbox to deliver key LNAPL knowledge to the LNAPL remediation community. The LNAPL Toolbox is intended to be a clear, transparent tool that regulators can use to validate site information that is given to them and to learn about LNAPL so that they are able to make informed decisions using sound science. The toolbox uses a three-tiered approach that provides access to over 20 different LNAPL tools (key infographics, nomographs, calculators, mobility models, videos, checklists, and other formats) with different levels of complexity, activation energy, and time requirements. The three tiers of complexity are:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

In terms of content, the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox is designed to address six questions via six different sections:

1. How much LNAPL is present?
2. How far will the LNAPL migrate?
3. How long will the LNAPL persist?
4. How will LNAPL risk change over time?
5. Will LNAPL recovery be effective?
6. How can one estimate Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD)?

The Concawe LNAPL Toolbox is designed to be accessed via a webpage on an internet browser ([http://lnaplttoolbox.concawe.eu/lnapl\\_toolbox/](http://lnaplttoolbox.concawe.eu/lnapl_toolbox/)), or by downloading the Toolbox for use on a personal computer (<https://github.com/concawe/LNAPL-Toolbox->). In this manual, there are stand-alone descriptions of each component of the LNAPL Toolbox, such as the Overview and supporting information for each of the three Tiers in each of the 6 questions.

## KEYWORDS

Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids, LNAPL, LNAPL transmissivity, LNAPL Specific Volume, LNAPL Migration, LNAPL Persistence, LNAPL Risk, LNAPL Recovery, NSZD, LNAPL Models, LNAPL Calculators, LDRM, LNAST, LNAPL dissolution, REMFuel, LNAPL composition

## INTERNET

This report is available as an Adobe PDF file on the Concawe website (<http://www.concawe.eu/>).

### NOTE

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*This report does not necessarily represent the views of any company participating in Concawe.*

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## 1. QUICK START

For the LNAPL Toolbox, Concawe envisioned compiling a unique collection of useful tools, calculators, data, and resources to help LNAPL scientists and engineers better understand how to manage LNAPL at their sites. It is intended to be a clear, transparent tool that regulators can use to validate site information that is given to them and to learn about LNAPL so that they are able to make informed decisions using sound science. Once a user enters the toolbox either through the web or in the downloadable version, they engage with the Toolbox in the following steps using **Table 1.1:**

Step 1: Determine the question you would like to learn more about (Column 1).

Step 2: Decide on the level of effort you would like to apply (Columns 2 through 4):

*Tier 1: a few minutes (approximately)*

*Tier 2: a few hours (approximately)*

*Tier 3: learn about more complex tools*

Step 3: Go to the appropriate tab using the Home Page buttons or the Navigation Bar.

**Table 1.1.** Concawe Toolbox Organization and Structure (see Table of Contents to Navigate to More Detailed Sections about Each Question)

Key LNAPL Questions	Tier 1 Quick Info	Tier 2 Models / Tools	Tier 3 Gateway to Complex Tools
How much LNAPL is present?	Text, Simple Table and Graphic	NAPL Volume / Extent Tool	LDRM Resources and Video
How far will LNAPL migrate?	Text and Simple Graphic	LNAPL Additional Migration Tool and Mahler Migration Model	HSSM and UTCHEM Resources and Video
How long will LNAPL persist?	Text, Simple Graphic and Table	LNAPL Lifetime Calculator	LNAST and REMFuel Resources and Videos
How will LNAPL risk change over time?	Text and Simple Tables	LNAPL Dissolution Calculator	LNAST Resources and Video
Will LNAPL recovery be effective?	Text and Simple Graphics	LNAPL Transmissivity & Darcy Flux Calculator	Computer Modelling Resources
How can one estimate NSZD?	Text and Simple Graphic	NSZD Rate Converter, NSZD Temperature Enhancement Calculator	NSZD Resources and Videos

The following sections of the User Manual include more detail on each of the 18 cells in Table 1.1 (separate tabs in the web tool) . Each of the 18 sections is designed to be a stand-alone document, so there is some duplication of information in the different sections.

The use of the Toolbox can be illustrated with the following conceptual example in Section 1.1, where there is an LNAPL body that currently is being recovered using LNAPL skimming wells. The site owner would like to determine if the LNAPL recovery system is still needed to meet the remediation objectives. There is uncertainty about some fundamental aspects about this LNAPL site, and the site conceptual model needs to be updated.

In this manual, there are stand-alone descriptions of each component of the LNAPL Toolbox, such as the Overview and supporting information for each of the three Tiers in each of the 6 questions

## 1.1. CONCEPTUAL EXAMPLE APPLICATION OF THE CONCAWE LNAPL TOOLBOX

### 1.1.1. Former LNAPL Conceptual Site Model (Old LCSM)

The Former LCSM had these problematic features:

- There was a large volume of LNAPL in the subsurface as indicated by a calculation where the site-wide average thickness of the LNAPL in the monitoring wells was multiplied by the area of the LNAPL body.
- It was assumed that much of this LNAPL was recoverable by the existing LNAPL skimming system, even though LNAPL recovery was much lower than the initial LNAPL recovery rate.
- It was assumed that LNAPL recovery had to continue until there was no more LNAPL observed in each of the site monitoring wells (an apparent LNAPL thickness of zero).
- Although long-term LNAPL monitoring data indicated that LNAPL body was stable and no longer expanding, a U.S. EPA LNAPL model (HSSM; Weaver et al., 1994) had been used many years ago and indicated that the LNAPL body was likely to continue to expand for the next 30 years without LNAPL recovery. These old modelling results greatly complicated efforts to retire an on-going LNAPL recovery system comprised of LNAPL skimmer wells.
- Based on the scientific knowledge from the mid-1990s, the only process that was removing LNAPL was dissolution of higher solubility constituents in the LNAPL, and it would take hundreds of years to remove these soluble constituents and the lower solubility compounds would likely persist forever.

### 1.1.2. Example: How to Update the LNAPL Conceptual Site Model (New LCSM)

**Step 1.** The Tier 1 “How much LNAPL is present?” tab (Figure 1.1) is used to develop a much more accurate estimate of the **specific volume** of LNAPL based on soil type and LNAPL apparent thickness. When the specific volume was multiplied by the LNAPL body area, an updated estimate of the LNAPL volume in the subsurface is developed. This new estimate was many times lower than the original estimate because the Former LNAPL conceptual site model volume estimation method was based on inaccurate understanding and assumptions.

**Figure 1.1.** Excerpt from “How much LNAPL is present” Tier 1 tab. 

**How much LNAPL is present?**

Tier 1      Tier 2      Tier 3  
Quick Info    Models/Tools    Gateway to Complex Tools

**Introduction: Specific Volume**

In the past, a common misconception of the vertical distribution of free product at the water table was based on the idea that LNAPL occurs as a distinct lens in which the drainable pore space is completely saturated with LNAPL, and that the thickness of LNAPL in a monitoring well accurately represented the thickness of LNAPL in the formation. This was often referred to as the “pancake layer” model for LNAPL, but it does not reflect the important part soil properties play in the relationship between the amount of LNAPL in the formation and the thickness of LNAPL in a well (referred to as “apparent thickness”).

In the table to the right, the amount of LNAPL in the formation for three different apparent LNAPL thicknesses in a monitoring well is described in terms of a “specific volume.” The specific volume is the volume of LNAPL in a given location divided by the surface area. This is a calculated value, and the amount of LNAPL present is an average divided by the area. This would be the thickness of LNAPL that would remain in an LNAPL zone if the soil and water in that area were hypothetically removed.

For example, if there is one metre of LNAPL measured in a monitoring well screened in a sand, that corresponds to about 0.32 cubic metres (320 litres) of LNAPL per square metre of area. If this well was screened in a silt, there would only be about 0.040 cubic metres (40 litres) of LNAPL per square metre of area. This table shows the relationship between soil type, apparent LNAPL thickness, and the actual amount of LNAPL in the formation per square metre of area. The figure below shows how the ITRC LNAPL Training Course describes LNAPL Specific Volume.

See the soil texture triangle to the bottom right to convert soil data in terms of % Sand, % Silt, and % Clay to the USDA soil classification system shown in the specific volume table to the right.

There are two types of specific volume:  
**Specific Volume:** All the LNAPL present in the subsurface is used;

If a well has this much LNAPL:			
	0.1 metre	0.3 metre	1 metre
<b>Soil Type</b>	<b>This much LNAPL is in the formation (<math>m^3/m^2</math>)</b>		
Silty Clay	0.000041	0.00039	0.0045
Silt	0.00020	0.0028	0.040
Loam	0.0005	0.0058	0.084
Sand	0.0025	0.059	0.32

Table developed for Concawe Toolbox 2020 using LNAPL tool developed by de Blieck, P. and S. K. Farber. 2018. 25th IPIC: International Petroleum Environmental Conference October 30 – November 1, 2018, Denver, Colorado.

See more soil types

Soil texture triangle showing the USDA classification system based on grain size and sand/silt/clay content (Public domain, Wikipedia)

1,000 x 1,000

**Step 2.** Step 1 indicated more detailed information would be beneficial, and two models are evaluated: the mid-level complexity Tier 2 model in the Concawe Toolbox (Figure 1.2); and a more complex model called LDRM that is explained in Tier 3 text and videos. Based on this information, the Tier 2 model is selected, site data was compiled and entered into the input data spreadsheet, and the model is run. The “How much LNAPL is present?” model provides a more refined estimate of the total LNAPL present in the subsurface and another piece of information: the amount of LNAPL that is potentially mobile and the amount of LNAPL that is permanently trapped as residual LNAPL.

**Figure 1.2.** Excerpt from “How much LNAPL is present” Tier 2 tab. 

**How much LNAPL is present?**

Tier 1      Tier 2      Tier 3  
Quick Info    Models/Tools    Gateway to Complex Tools

**Multi-Site LNAPL Volume and Extent Model**

**What the Model Does**

This tool calculates several key LNAPL values, including specific volume, recoverable LNAPL volumes, and transmissivity, at multiple locations for multiple layers of differing aquifer media. These values are used to calculate a total subsurface LNAPL volume. Based on LNAPL gradients specified by the user, estimated LNAPL velocities are also calculated. The distribution of calculated values is depicted graphically.

**Inputs:**

Will reset all input values.

**Map    Interpolation    Model Output**

**+** **-**

**Step 3.** The “How much LNAPL is present?” model (Figure 1.2) (note - this is the same model as in Tier 2 “Will LNAPL recovery be effective?”) is used to develop a map of the LNAPL transmissivity that was based on site-specific LNAPL properties, site-specific soil characteristics, and site-specific layering/stratigraphy. With this map, guidance from the U.S. Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council<sup>2</sup> was consulted, which suggests:

- If the LNAPL transmissivity is less than 0.0093 m<sup>2</sup>/day then hydraulic recovery of LNAPL was likely not be efficient, sustainable and unlikely to be cost effective.

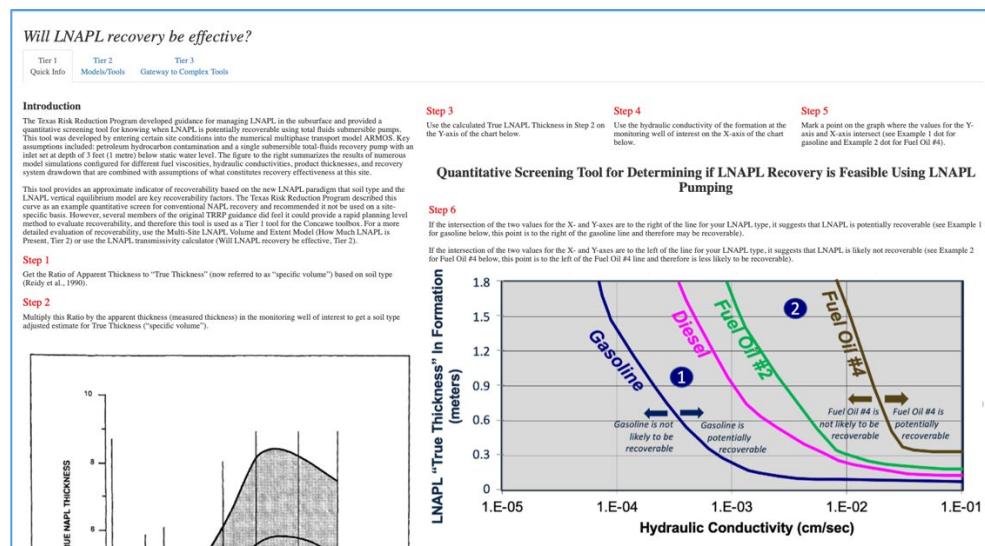
<sup>1</sup> In this Manual the symbol  means this is a screenshot from the LNAPL Toolbox itself and  means this is a screenshot from a reference document.

<sup>2</sup> The Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council (ITRC) is a United States coalition of environmental regulators, site owners, academics, and consultants working to reduce barriers to the use of innovative air, water, waste, and remediation environmental technologies and processes. It is led by U.S. state environmental regulators. To our knowledge there is no equivalent organization in Europe.

- If the LNAPL transmissivity is greater than  $0.074 \text{ m}^2/\text{day}$  then hydraulic recovery of LNAPL was likely to be effective.
- Wells exhibiting LNAPL transmissivity values within the range of  $0.0093$  and  $0.074 \text{ m}^2/\text{day}$  are likely dominated by residual LNAPL. These values account for multiple soil and LNAPL types (ITRC, 2018).

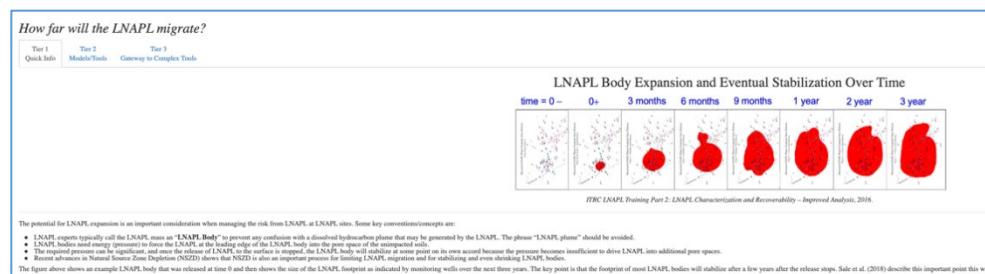
Surprisingly, only one well out of the LNAPL skimming wells exceeds the  $0.0093 \text{ m}^2/\text{day}$  threshold, indicating that the rest of the skimming wells were not providing much environmental benefit. The simple Tier 1 “Will LNAPL recovery be effective?” tab (**Figure 1.3**) also showed similar results, increasing the confidence that LNAPL recovery should be terminated at all but one of the existing LNAPL skimmer wells.

**Figure 1.3.** Excerpt from “Will LNAPL recovery be effective” Tier 1 tab. 

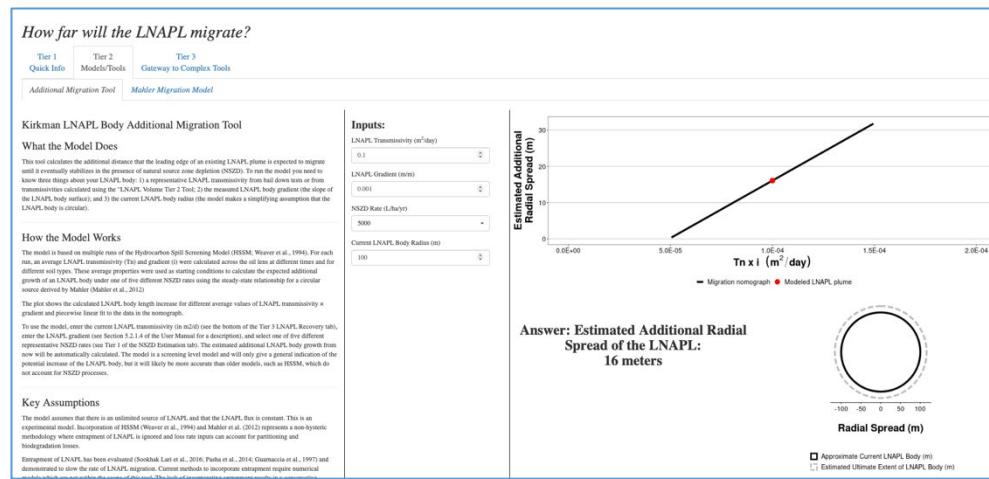


**Step 4.** The Tier 1 “How far will LNAPL migrate?” tab (**Figure 1.4**) indicates that Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) is a key factor in stopping the continued migration of LNAPL bodies, and the Tier 2 “How far will LNAPL migrate?” tab (**Figure 1.5**) learn that LNAPL models that do not consider NSZD likely overestimates LNAPL migration because they does not consider NSZD. The site consultants and site owners determine that more NSZD information would be key to update the LCSM but do not have a strong background in NSZD. Therefore, they consult the three tiers in the “How does one estimate NSZD” tab in the Toolbox.

**Figure 1.4.** Excerpt from “How far will the LNAPL migrate” Tier 1 tab. 

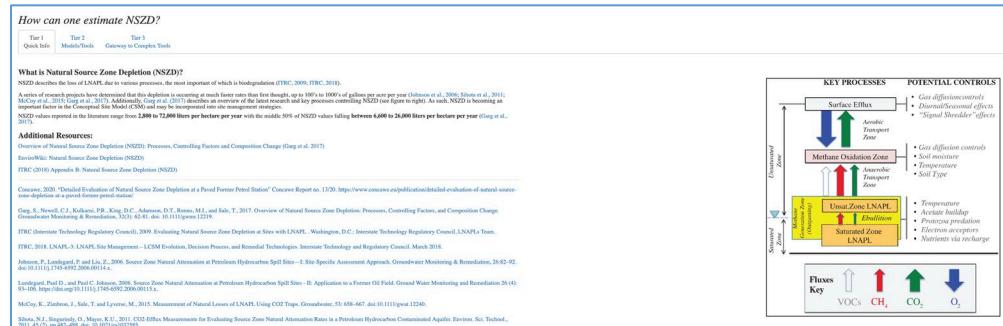


**Figure 1.5.** Excerpt from “How far will the LNAPL migrate” Tier 2 tab. 



**Step 5.** Based on the discussion of NSZD in the Tier 1 “How far will LNAPL migrate?” tab (Figure 1.5), the Tier 1 “How can one estimate NSZD?” tab (Figure 1.6) is consulted and quickly showed that almost all LNAPL bodies are naturally attenuating at 10 or 100 times the rate assumed in the Former LCSM. The New LCSM indicated that typically when NSZD is measured at a site, the rates are in the thousands to tens of thousands of litres of LNAPL being biodegraded by NSZD per hectare per year. The Tier 3 “How can one estimate NSZD?” tab (Figure 1.7) provides links and videos on methods to actually measure NSZD at an LNAPL site, and the site consultants begin to evaluate if literature NSZD values shown in the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox were sufficient to update the New LCSM or if site-specific measurements were needed.

**Figure 1.6.** Excerpt from “How can one estimate NSZD” Tier 1 tab. 



**Figure 1.7.**Excerpt from “How can one estimate NSZD” Tier 3 tab. 

**How can one estimate NSZD?**

Tier 1 Quick Info   Tier 2 Model/Tools   Tier 3 Gateway to Complex Tools

Information on this page can be downloaded using the button at the bottom of the page.

Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) has emerged as an important new remediation alternative for LNAPL sites. Key references and a description of what they explain about NSZD are provided below:

- The ITRC's (2018) LNAPI Site Management – LCSM Evolution, Decision Process, and Remedial Technologies guidance is heavily influenced by the developments in measuring and applying NSZD for LNAPL site management, with over 100 specific mentions of NSZD in the document and a detailed NSZD appendix. More importantly, it provides detailed information on three frequently used NSZD assessment methods:
  - The gas-trap method (gas traps and gas chambers).
  - Carbon dioxide-based methods, including Carbon Traps and dynamic closed flux chambers (e.g. DCC-LI-COR), and
  - The borehole heat monitoring method (Thermal Monitoring).
- Key references for the gas-trap method:
  - Enviroflux (Carbon Trap)
  - LI-COR (DCC-LI-COR)
  - GasTrap (Carbon Trap)
- Garg et al.'s (2017) Overview of Natural Source Zone Depletion: Processes, Controlling Factors, and Composition Change provides a detailed review of how NSZD developed, key NSZD processes, potentially NSZD-controlling factors, and how NSZD affects the composition of LNAPL (one graphic to right). It is based on roughly 100 technical references.
- Kulkami et al.'s (2020) Application of Four Measurement Techniques to Understand Natural Source Zone Depletion Processes at an LNAPL Site describes an extensive research project where four different NSZD measurement techniques were used at a site and then compared.
- Lari et al.'s (2019) Natural Source Zone Depletion of LNAPL: A Critical Review Supporting Modeling Approaches discusses key NSZD processes required to model NSZD and the capabilities of 34 models to accommodate 21 important phenomena.
- ESTCP's Environmental Wiki has an entry describing NSZD where the significance of NSZD is discussed along with NSZD stoichiometry, the gaseous expression of NSZD through gas evolution, and measuring temperature to determine NSZD (Polska, T., J. Fitzgibbons, and P. Kulkami, 2019).
- CRC CARE's (2018) Technical Report 44: Technical Measurement Guidance for LNAPL Natural Source Zone Depletion provides practical guidance on the measurement of NSZD rates using various available methods. The document applies to hydrocarbon sites that have a need for theoretical, qualitative, or quantitative understanding of NSZD processes. Its Appendix B contains a checklist for practitioners.

**Videos about NSZD**

Two videos were developed for the NSZD article in the ESTCP Environmental Wiki. They can be viewed here:

- Carbon Traps NSZD
- Thermal Monitoring NSZD

**What NSZD Rates are Seen at Hydrocarbon Sites?**

The following table from Garg et al. (2017) summarizes measured NSZD rates at various hydrocarbon sites in the U.S. The middle 50% of the NSZD rates range from 700–2,800 gallons per acre per year.

Examples of Site-Wide Average NSZD Rate Measurements at Field Sites					
NSZD Study	Number of Sites	Site Wide NSZD Rate (Gallons/Acre-Year)			Reference
		All Sites	Middle 50%	25th-75th Percentile	
Refinery terminal sites	6	2300-7700	2400-3700	-	McCoy 2012
1979 crude oil spill	1	1400	-	-	Slobots et al. 2011
Seasonal range		310-1100	-	-	Slobots et al. 2016
Refinery/terminal sites	2	1100-1700	1250-1550	-	Workgroup, L.A. LANPL 2015
Petroleum/gasoline	5	300-3000	1050-2700	-	Piotnick et al. 2014
Diverse petroleum sites	11	300-5600	600-800	-	Palata 2016
All studies	25	300-7700	700-2800	-	
Saturated zone electron acceptor biodegradation capacity	9	0.4-53	1.7-19	-	This paper (see Appendix S1)

Notes: Middle 50% column shows the 25th and 75th percentile values. To demonstrate the significance of methanogenesis, NSZD rates calculated from the biodegradation capacity of electron acceptors in the saturated zone, ignoring methanogenesis, are shown in the last row.

**SUMMARY OF NSZD RATES FROM 31 SITES**

Fuel Type	Fuel Carbon Range	Number of Distinct Sites	Total No. of Measurements	Range of NSZD Rates Measured (L/ha/yr)	Median NSZD Rate (L/ha/yr)
Natural Gas Liquid*	C1-C6	5	1661	1,590 - 54,800	4,700
Mixed	—	6	855	1,760 - 57,060	4,400
Crude Oil	C8-C44	2	77	2,250 - 24,000	7,700
Gasoline	C5-C12	4	144	2,800 - 41,200	9,800
Diesel and Jet Fuel	C9-C24	12	134	650 - 99,400	12,250
Fuel-Grade Ethanol	C2H6O	2	183	123,200 - 152,500	138,000
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>3654</b>		<b>8,750</b>

\*May also contain smaller amounts of C7-C12 hydrocarbons

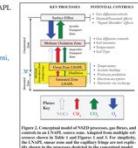
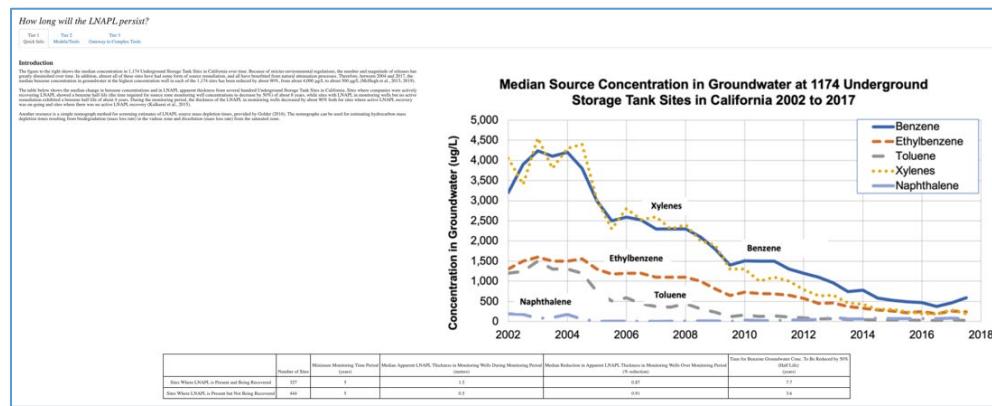


Figure 1: Conceptual model of NSZD processes. gas fluxes, and associated processes. This figure is a simplified conceptual model of the processes described in Table 1 and Figures 1 and 2 of the methods. (a) shows the conceptual model of the process depicted in the field study.

**Step 6.** Using mid-range NSZD rates from the Tier 1 NSZD Estimation tab, the Tier 2 “How far will LNAPL migrate?” tab (**Figure 1.5**) is consulted and the Kirkman Additional LNAPL Migration Model built into the Concawe Toolbox (**Figure 1.6**) is then applied using existing site data. It shows the existing LNAPL body is not likely to expand to any significant degree even if the LNAPL skimmer wells were shut down. This provides additional support that most of the LNAPL skimmer wells had done their job and were ready to be retired.

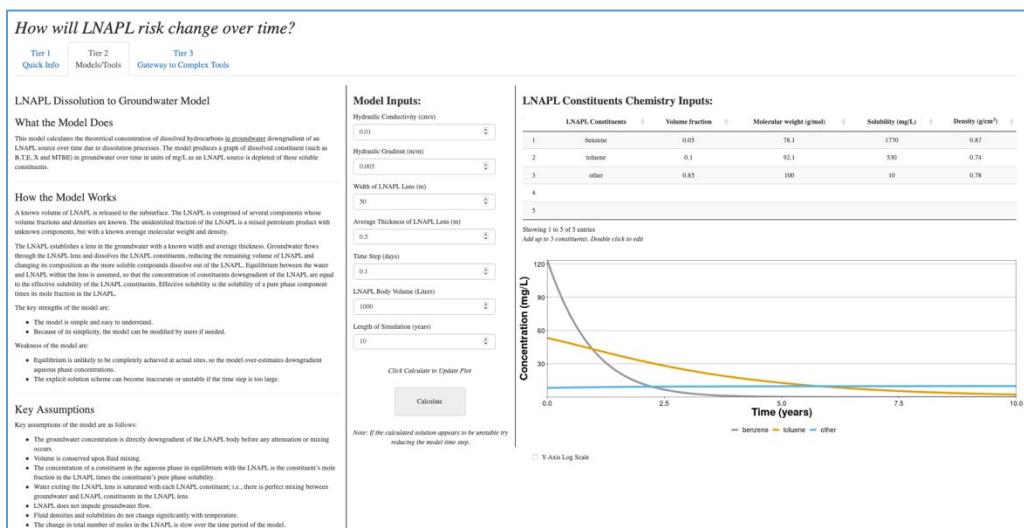
**Step 7.** The potential longevity of the LNAPL is then evaluated to update the LCSM. After reviewing the Tier 1 “How long will LNAPL persist?” tab (**Figure 1.8**), the simple Tier 2 LNAPL lifetime model is applied by entering the volume of LNAPL from Step 2, the area of the LNAPL body, and mid-range NSZD rates from the Tier 1 NSZD Estimation tab (**Figure 1.6**). Two different LNAPL volume vs. time graphs are obtained. One method assumes a constant NSZD rate into the future and suggested the LNAPL would all be removed by the year 2030. The second method assumes NSZD rates declined over time and suggested 90% of the LNAPL present now would be gone by the year 2050. Overall, this wide range of LNAPL longevity estimates inform the New LCSM that LNAPL longevity estimates decades in the future have significant uncertainty, but agree that LNAPL is being removed over time.

**Figure 1.8.** Excerpt from “How long will the LNAPL persist” Tier 1 tab. 



**Step 8.** Because of the uncertainty in the LNAPL longevity estimates, the site consultants and site owners become interested in estimates of how the hypothetical groundwater exposure pathway associated with LNAPL dissolution products might change over time (there is no on-going risk at this site as no exposure pathways were complete). The Tier 2 “How will LNAPL risk change over time?” model (**Figure 1.9**) is initially run to obtain a forecast of the benzene concentration over time. Later a more sophisticated LNAPL model described in the Tier 3 “How will LNAPL risk change over time?” tab called REMFuel is run, based on the comments included in the Concawe Tier 3 description of REMFuel and the information provided in the video link provided in the Tier 3 tab. This modelling effort shows that the risk associated with the hypothetical groundwater exposure pathway over time was reduced faster than the likely LNAPL removal rate.

**Figure 1.9.** Excerpt from “How will LNAPL risk change over time” Tier 2 tab. 



**Figure 1.10.** Excerpt from “How will LNAPL risk change over time” Tier 3 tab. 

*How will LNAPL risk change over time?*

Tier 1      Tier 2      Tier 3  
Quick Info    Models/Tools    Gateway to Complex Tools

Information on this page can be downloaded using the button at the bottom of the page.

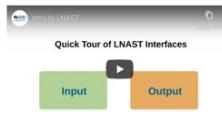
The risk posed by the toxic components of an LNAPL plume is a function of the constituents' concentration in groundwater in contact with the LNAPL. A multi-component LNAPL dissolution model based on the LNAPL constituent mole fraction and Raoult's law (Mayer and Hassanzadeh, 2005) is provided in Tier 2 and shows how the dissolved constituent concentrations immediately downgradient of an LNAPL body change over time. A more sophisticated computer tool, API's LNAST model, also shows the change in dissolved phase LNAPL concentrations over time (Huntley and Beckett, 2002). It is summarized below. Finally, two other key LNAPL attenuation studies, a LNAPL mass balance developed by Ng et al. (2014) and a 2003 report about weathering of jet fuel LNAPL, are also reviewed below.

**Overview of API's LNAPL Dissolution and Transport Screening Tool (LNAST)**

- LNAST is a free calculation tool, information about LNAPL, and LNAPL parameter databases. LNAST focuses on LNAPL distribution and fate at the water table. The calculation tool part of LNAST:
- Predicts LNAPL dissolution and migration with time;
- Calculates downgradient dissolved-phase concentrations through time;
- Shows results both with and without hydraulic recovery of LNAPL;
- Simulates LNAPL migration under various conditions;
- Combines multi-phase transport, dissolution, and solute transport;
- Accounts for relative permeability effects caused by LNAPL;
- Zones of flow are predicted, which may allow LNAPL to move through them, extending the longevity of these zones;
- Good tool for estimating how long an LNAPL-generated plume will persist.
- Powerful tool to see if LNAPL recovery reduces the longevity of the source and plume.
- Key output is concentration of dissolved-phase constituents vs. time at an observation well.
- Does not account for Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD).
- Assumes that remediation occurs shortly after the LNAPL release. You cannot release LNAPL many years ago and then start the remediation now a few decades later. The REMFUEL model will do this, see Tier 3 of “How long will LNAPL persist?” portion of the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.
- LNAST can be downloaded here.

**Video**

A short video to learn more about LNAST can be found here.



[Link to LNAPL Dissolution and Transport Screening Tool](#)

**Step 9.** The Concawe Toolbox helps site owners and consultants update the former, incorrect LNAPL Conceptual Site Model and greatly strengthen the case for:

- Retiring most of the old, inefficient LNAPL skimming wells at the site because of low LNAPL recoverability and the expectation of little or no LNAPL expansion in the future;
- Better understanding that further significant LNAPL migration was unlikely and that benzene concentrations were expected to go down over time;
- Using NSZD as the LNAPL management technology in the future.
- Continued long-term groundwater monitoring to ensure that the long-term removal of the LNAPL body by NSZD is on-track.

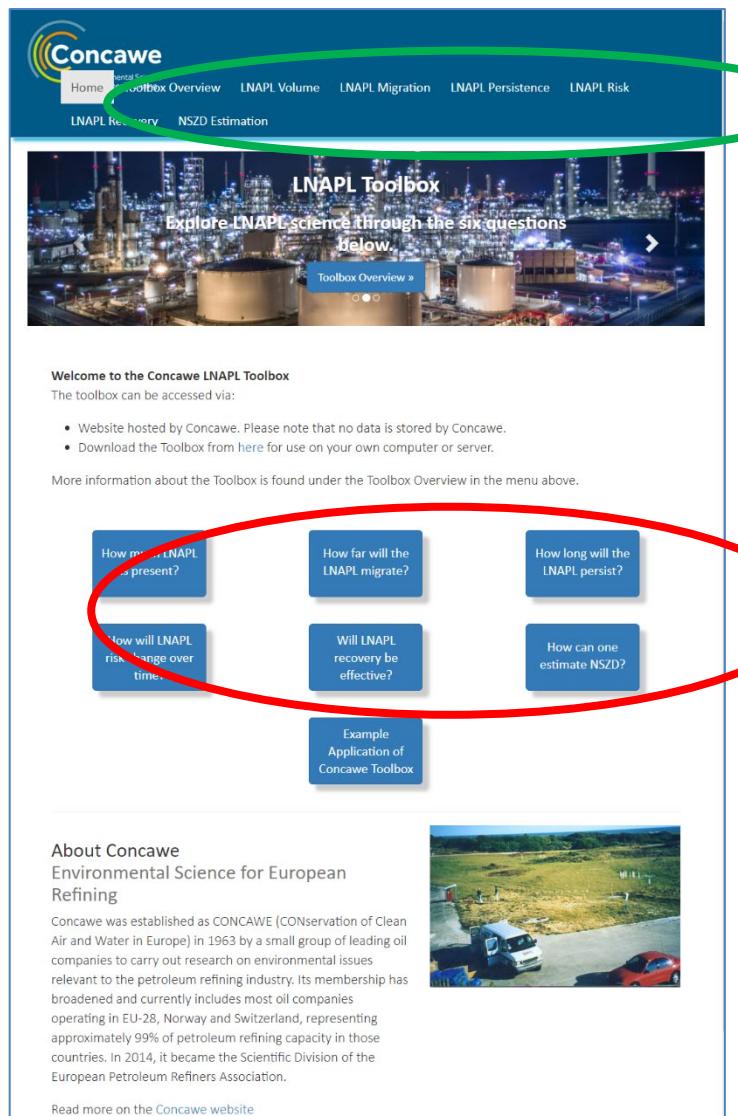
## 2. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOME PAGE” TAB

### 2.1. WHAT THIS PAGE DOES

This page describes Concawe, the organization that funded the LNAPL Toolbox (Figure 2.1). It provides two ways to navigate to answer six key questions:

- Method 1: Click on one of the six key LNAPL question buttons below the large image (circled in red).
- Method 2: Use the tabs near the top of the page to get to an overview of the Toolbox, or to go to one of the sections for the six key LNAPL questions (circled in green).

**Figure 2.1.** Excerpt from “Home” tab. 



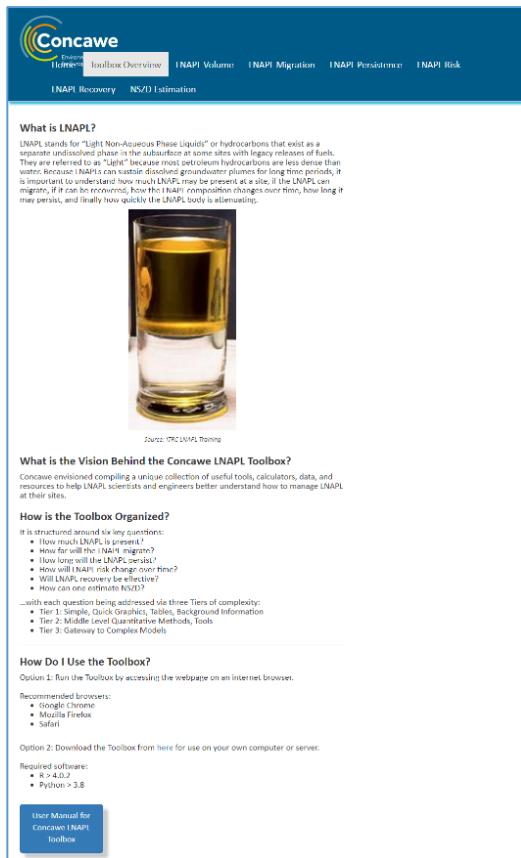
### 3. TOOLBOX CONTENT: “TOOLBOX OVERVIEW” TAB

#### 3.1. WHAT THIS PAGE DOES

Provides overview of the Toolbox via these questions and answers:

#### 3.2. KEY LNAPL QUESTIONS

**Figure 3.1.** Excerpt from “Toolbox Overview” tab. 



**What is LNAPL?**

LNAPL stands for “Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids” or hydrocarbons that exist as a separate undissolved phase in the subsurface at some sites with legacy releases of fuels. They are referred to as “light” because most petroleum hydrocarbons are less dense than water. Because LNAPLs can sustain dissolved groundwater plumes for long time periods, it is important to understand how much LNAPL may be present at a site, if the LNAPL can migrate, if it can be recovered, how the LNAPL composition changes over time, how long it may persist, and finally how quickly the LNAPL body is attenuating.



Source: ITRC LNAPL Training

**What is the Vision Behind the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox?**

Concawe envisioned compiling a unique collection of useful tools, calculators, data, and resources to help LNAPL scientists and engineers better understand how to manage LNAPL at their sites.

**How is the Toolbox Organized?**

It is structured around six key questions:

- How much LNAPL is present?
- How far will the LNAPL migrate?
- How will the LNAPL persist?
- How will LNAPL risk change over time?
- Will LNAPL recovery be effective?
- ...with each question being addressed via three Tiers of complexity:
  - Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
  - Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
  - Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

**How Do I Use the Toolbox?**

Option 1: Run the Toolbox by accessing the webpage on an internet browser.

Recommended browsers:

- Google Chrome
- Mozilla Firefox
- Safari

Option 2: Download the Toolbox from [here](#) for use on your own computer or server.

Required software:

- R > 4.0.2
- Python > 3.8

[User Manual for Concawe LNAPL Toolbox](#)

1. **What is LNAPL?** LNAPL stands for “Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids” or hydrocarbons that exist as a separate undissolved phase in the subsurface at some sites with legacy releases of fuels. They are referred to as “Light” because most petroleum hydrocarbons are less dense than water. Because LNAPLs can sustain dissolved groundwater plumes for long time periods, it is important to understand how much LNAPL may be present at site, if the LNAPL can migrate, if it can be recovered, how the LNAPL composition changes over time, how long it may persist, and finally quickly the LNAPL body is attenuating.
2. **What is the Vision Behind the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox?** Concawe envisioned compiling a unique collection of useful tools, calculators, data, and resources to help LNAPL scientists and engineers better understand how to manage LNAPL at their sites. The Toolbox is intended to be a clear, transparent tool that regulators can use to validate site information that is given to them and to learn about LNAPL so that they are able to make informed decisions using sound science.

3. **How is the Toolbox Organized?** It is structured around six key questions:

1. How much LNAPL is present?
2. How far will the LNAPL migrate?
3. How long will the LNAPL persist?
4. How will LNAPL risk change over time?
5. Will LNAPL recovery be effective?
6. How can one estimate NSZD?

Each question is being addressed via three Tiers of complexity:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

4. **How Do I Use the Toolbox?**

1. Option 1: Run the Toolbox by accessing the webpage on an internet browser. Validated browsers tested by Toolbox Developers: Google Chrome (96.0.4664.45+), Mozilla Firefox (94.0.2+), and Safari (15.0+)
2. Option 2: Download the Toolbox from <https://github.com/concawe/LNAPL-Toolbox-> for use on your own computer or server. Required software: R > 4.0.2 and Python > 3.8

5. **How Do I Cite the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox?**

*Strasert, B., C. Newell, P. de Blanc, P. Kulkarni, K. Whitehead, B. Sackmann, and H. Podzorski, 2021. Concawe LNAPL Toolbox, Concawe, Brussels, Belgium.*

## 4. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOW MUCH LNAPL IS PRESENT?” TABS

There are three levels of information that are delivered with the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

Each of the three Tiers are described below in this Section.

### 4.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: HOW MUCH LNAPL IS PRESENT?

#### 4.1.1. Introduction: Specific Volume

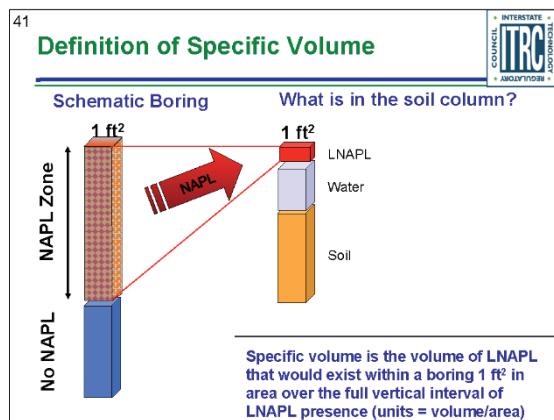
In the past, a common misconception of the vertical distribution of free product at the water table was based on the idea that LNAPL occurs as a distinct lens in which the drainable pore space is completely saturated with LNAPL and that the thickness of LNAPL in a monitoring well accurately represented the thickness of LNAPL in the formation. This was often referred to as the “pancake layer” model for LNAPL (ITRC, 2018, Section 3.1), but it does not reflect the important part soil properties play in the relationship between the amount of LNAPL in the formation and the thickness of LNAPL in a well (referred to as “apparent thickness”).

In **Table 4.1** the amount of LNAPL in the formation for three different apparent LNAPL thicknesses in a monitoring well is described in terms of a “specific volume” (Do). The specific volume is the volume of LNAPL in a given location divided by the surface area (**Figure 4.1** from the ITRC LNAPL Training Program). This is a calculated value of the actual amount of LNAPL present in an area divided by the area. This would be the thickness of LNAPL that would remain in an LNAPL zone if the soil and water in that area were hypothetically removed.

**Table 4.1.** Specific volume of LNAPL in units of  $\text{m}^3$  per  $\text{m}^2$  (or just meters) for combinations of apparent LNAPL thickness in a monitoring well and soil type. 

		If a well has this much LNAPL:		
		0.1 metre	0.3 metre	1 metre
Soil Type	This much LNAPL is in the formation ( $\text{m}^3/\text{m}^2$ ):			
	Silty Clay	0.000041	0.00039	0.0045
Silt	0.00020	0.0028	0.040	
Loam	0.00034	0.0058	0.084	
Sand	0.0025	0.059	0.32	

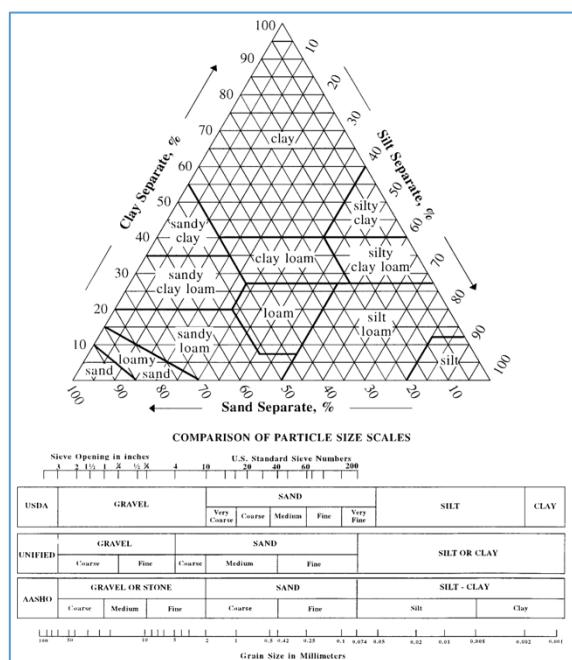
**Figure 4.1.** Definition of specific volume (ITRC, 2014). 



For example, if there is one metre of LNAPL measured in a monitoring well screened in a sand, that corresponds to about 0.32 cubic metres (320 litres) of LNAPL per square metre of area. If this well was screened in a silt, there would only be about 0.040 cubic metres (40 litres) of LNAPL per square metre of area. **Table 4.1** shows the relationship between soil type, apparent LNAPL thickness, and the actual amount of LNAPL in the formation per square metre of area. **Figure 4.1** shows how the ITRC LNAPL Training Course describes LNAPL Specific Volume.

**Figure 4.2** shows the soil texture triangle that can be used to convert soil data in terms of % Sand, % Silt, and % Clay to the USDA soil classification system shown in the specific volume table in **Table 4.1**.

**Figure 4.2.** Universal soil classification system (USCS) required to use Table 4.1. 



Finally, there are two types of specific volume:

*Specific Volume*: All the LNAPL present in the subsurface is used;

*Mobile Specific Volume*: Only the LNAPL present above the LNAPL residual saturation is used.

## 4.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: HOW MUCH LNAPL IS PRESENT?

### 4.2.1. Multi-site LNAPL Volume and Extent Model (de Blanc and Farhat, 2018)

A new tool to determine the volume of subsurface LNAPL has been created for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox. The tool is an extension of the commonly used LNAPL Distribution and Recovery Model (LDRM) developed for the American Petroleum Institute (API) by Dr. Randall Charbeneau of the University of Texas (Charbeneau, 2007). The new tool accommodates multiple soil layers, multiple locations, a highly accurate integration method, and automatic interpolation.

LDRM is frequently used to determine the subsurface LNAPL specific volume (volume per unit area, Do) and transmissivity (Tn). Point estimates of Do can then be used to determine subsurface LNAPL volumes, and Tn estimates can be used to optimize remediation.

LDRM calculates Do and Tn at a single location based on user input for up to three soil layers. Although LDRM is widely used by practitioners, a limitation of the software is the need develop a separate input file to calculate LNAPL Do and Tn at each location where LNAPL apparent thickness has been measured. These limitations can make determinations of Do and Tn time-consuming and expensive when many measurements are needed.

The Multi-site tool was developed to overcome some of the limitations of LDRM. The tool calculates Do and Tn at an arbitrary number of locations for up to ten different soil layers of differing lithology. Any number of soil types and properties may be specified by the user. The simultaneous determinations of Do and Tn at many locations saves a tremendous amount of time when many locations must be analysed. Do and Tn are calculated in the same manner as in LDRM.

LNAPL Do and Tn can be calculated by integrating LNAPL saturations over the thickness of LNAPL in the formation. A total LNAPL volume is estimated as an area-weighted average of these calculated thicknesses.

### 4.2.2. Details of the Multi-site LNAPL Volume and Extent Model

#### 4.2.2.1. What the Model Does

The Multi-site tool calculates several key LNAPL values, including specific volume, recoverable volume, and transmissivity, at multiple locations for multiple layers of differing soil types. These values are used to calculate a total subsurface LNAPL volume. Based on LNAPL gradients specified by the user, estimated LNAPL velocities are also calculated. The distribution of calculated values is depicted graphically.

#### 4.2.2.2. How the Model Works

The model is based on an extension of the methodology of the API's LDRM (Charbeneau, 2007). The user enters data into three different input databases: 1) a soil parameter input database, 2) a well coordinate and fluid level gauging input database, and 3) a stratigraphy input database. The model determines the layers in

which LNAPL is present, then calculates specific volume and other LNAPL parameters for the layered system. An area-weighted average of the specific volume is calculated to arrive at a total LNAPL volume.

#### 4.2.2.3. Key Assumptions

The model assumes that the LNAPL is in hydrostatic equilibrium with the surrounding media. Relative permeability is calculated by combining the Mualum model with the van Genuchten soil characteristic curve parameters (Charbeneau, 2007). See the attachment “Soil Properties Resources” for more details about how to convert between different soil classification systems.

#### 4.2.3. Steps for Using the LNAPL Volume and Extent Model

1. Download the data template (**Figure 4.3**).

**Figure 4.3.** Screenshot of Location\_Information Tab in Downloadable Data Template Spreadsheet Showing Example Data for Volume and Extent Model. 

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	Monitoring Well	Date	Latitude	Longitude	LNAPL Top Depth Below Ground Surface (m)	LNAPL Bottom Depth Below Ground Surface (m)	LNAPL Gradient (m/m)
2	TF-01	2009-06-25	53.4792235	-31.6370004	6.03	6.03	0.0086
3	TF-02	2009-06-25	53.4787581	-31.6367291	6.46	6.46	0.0086
4	TF-03	2009-06-25	53.4788652	-31.6367142	6.44	6.45	0.0086

2. On the “Location\_Information” tab, enter the following information for each location where you have LNAPL thickness data in a monitoring well:

*Latitude, Longitude* in decimal degrees (if you do not have latitude and longitude, you must geo-reference one of your existing figures using a GIS system or commission surveyors to obtain these data). You will need to have latitude and longitude data that is to the 5th decimal place (0.00001 decimal degrees) to get locations within one metre accuracy.

*Top and Bottom Depth of LNAPL Below Ground Surface:* Calculations of LNAPL properties like Do and Tn are independent of elevation and only rely on lining up the stratigraphy with the LNAPL measurements at each location. Units: metres.

*LNAPL Gradient:* The change in vertical top of LNAPL elevation between two monitoring points in the area of the LNAPL observation divided by the distance between these points. Do not use elevations corrected for LNAPL / water density effects. The gradient is entered by the user and not calculated by the tool, so elevation differences between points do not matter. Units: metre per metre.

Use as many rows as you have locations for your site.

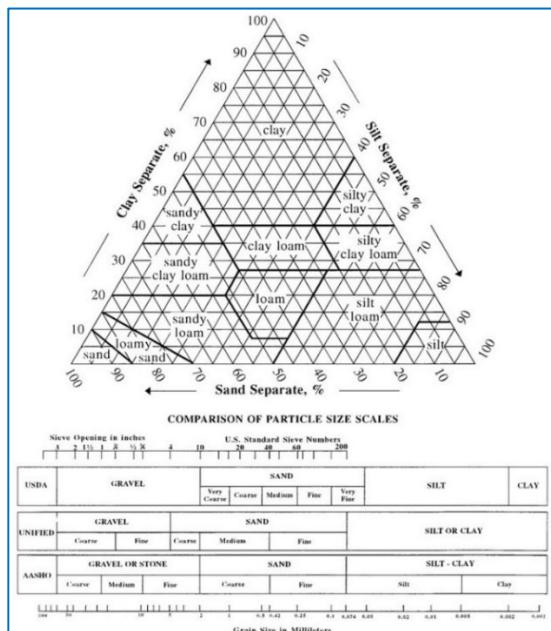
3. This information is obtained from the geologic boring log for that particular well which classifies soil type using one of several different types of soil classification systems. You are limited to one of the soil types shown on the “Soil\_Types” tab (you can copy and paste the soil type from “Soil\_Types” to “Stratigraphy”, although, as explained in the next section, you can customize the soil type list). The default soil types are from Carsel and Parrish (1988) using the USDA soil classification system (see figure below). You add one layer in the model for each different soil type layer shown in the boring log. Enter the Depth to the top of that layer in metres and the Depth to the bottom of that layer in metres.

**Figure 4.4.** Screenshot of Stratigraphy Tab in Downloadable Data Template Spreadsheet for Volume With Example Data for LNAPL Volume and Extent Model. 

A	B	C	D
Monitoring Well	Layer Top Depth Below Ground Surface (m)	Layer Bottom Depth Below Ground Surface (m)	Soil Type
2 TF-01	2.44	3.66	Clay
3 TF-01	3.66	6.40	Silt
4 TF-01	6.40	7.01	Loamy sand
5 TF-01	7.01	8.54	Silt loam
6 TF-01	8.54	10.98	Silty clay
7 TF-01	10.98	12.80	Sand
8 TF-01	12.80	13.11	Clay
9 TF-02	2.44	3.05	Clay
10 TF-02	3.05	4.27	Silt
11 TF-02	4.27	4.88	Loamy sand
12 TF-02	4.88	7.93	Silt loam
13 TF-02	7.93	13.11	Silty clay
14 TF-02	13.11	14.94	Sand
15 TF-02	14.94	15.24	Clay
16 TF-03	3.66	5.18	Clay
17 TF-03	5.18	5.79	Silt
18 TF-03	5.79	7.01	Loamy sand
19 TF-03	7.01	8.84	Silt loam
20 TF-03	8.84	15.55	Silty clay
21 TF-03	15.55	19.21	Sand
22 TF-03	19.21	19.51	Clay
23 TF-04	2.44	3.35	Clay
24 TF-04	3.35	4.27	Silt
25 TF-04	4.27	5.79	Loamy sand

The USDA soil texture triangle on grain size and sand/silt/clay content is shown in **Figure 4.5**. If your soil data are classified using the USCS system, you can convert to the USDA soil type using **Table 4.2** from Garcia-Gaines and Frankenstein (2015). See the attachment “Soil Properties Resources” for more details (Section 10.3) (excerpt shown in **Figure 4.6**) or refer to ISO standard ISO 14688 Parts 1 and 2. If your soil data are from some other soil classification system, then you can enter your own soil types in the input spreadsheet (but you will need van Genuchten soil characteristic curve parameters for your soil types) or use the % Sand, % Silt, % Clay data for you soils with the triangle chart above to apply the USDA soil types built into the data input spreadsheet.

**Figure 4.5.** USDA soil types required to use LNAPL Volume and Extent Model. 



**Table 4.2.** Excerpt from Garcia-Gaines and Frankenstienk, 2015 (see Section 10.3 for more details). 

		USCS classification						Consensus
		SSURGO (2014) Table 8 WES (1961) Table 9 Wilson et al. (1965) Table 10 Rollings and Rollings (1996) Table 11 Curtis (2005) Table 12		Ayers et al. (2011) Table 13		Baylot et al. (2013) Table 14	FASST (2004) Table 15	
USDA Classification		MP	P	MP	P	MP	MP	
Sand	SM	SP-SM	SW, SP	—	—	SP	SP	
Loamy Sand	SM	CL	SM	SC	—	SM	SM	SM
Sandy Loam	SM	ML, CL	SM	—	—	SC	SM	SM
Sandy Clay Loam	CL	SC	SC	—	—	SC	SC	SC
Sandy Clay	SC, CL	—	SC	CL	—	SC	SC	SC
Loam	CL	ML	ML	—	—	CL	ML	CL
Silt Loam	CL	ML	ML	—	—	SM	ML	ML
Silt	ML	—	ML	—	—	ML	ML	ML
Clay Loam	CL	—	CL, MH	—	—	CL	CL	CL
Silty Clay Loam	CL	ML, CH	MH	—	—	CL	CL	CL
Clay	CH, CL	GC	CH	CL	—	CH	CH	CH
Silty Clay	CH, CL	—	CL, MH	—	—	CL	CH	CH

4. You can replace any of the data on the “Soil\_Types” tab with site-specific data or a custom soil type. In most cases the model will not be applicable to fractured rock settings except in the case where the fracturing is at a scale where it can be considered a porous media. For a good discussion about LNAPL behaviour in fractured fine-grained soils, see Adamski et al. (2005). For information about LNAPL in fractured rock, see Appendix D of ITRC (2018).

**Porosity** is the effective porosity of the soil (replace with lab measurements or your preferred estimated effective porosity). Units: unitless.

K<sub>s</sub> is the saturated hydraulic conductivity for water flowing in the soil in units of metres per day. Users can use the default values for each soil provided in the data input spreadsheet, or they can replace these estimated values with data from slug tests or pumping tests other preferred values for K<sub>s</sub>. Units: metres per day.

**Figure 4.6.** Screenshot of Soil\_Types Tab in Downloadable Data Template Spreadsheet for Volume With Default Soil Data for LNAPL Volume and Extent Model 

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Soil types 1 through 12 from Carsel and Parrish (1988)					van Genuchten Parameters		
Soil Num	Soil_Type	Porosity	Ks (m/d)	Theta_wr	N	alpha (1/m)	M
3	1	Clay	0.38	0.048	0.068	1.09	0.8
4	2	Clay loam	0.41	0.062	0.095	1.31	1.9
5	3	Loam	0.43	0.25	0.078	1.56	3.6
6	4	Loamy sand	0.41	3.5	0.057	2.28	12.4
7	5	Silt	0.46	0.06	0.034	1.37	1.6
8	6	Silt loam	0.45	0.11	0.067	1.41	2
9	7	Silty clay	0.36	0.0048	0.07	1.09	0.5
10	8	Silty clay loam	0.43	0.017	0.089	1.23	1
11	9	Sand	0.43	7.1	0.045	2.68	14.5
12	10	Sandy clay	0.38	0.029	0.1	1.23	2.7
13	11	Sandy clay loam	0.39	0.31	0.1	1.48	5.9
14	12	Sandy loam	0.41	1.1	0.065	1.89	7.5
15	Add additional rows as needed.						

5. In the “Choose Input File” section in the tool, select “Browse” to upload the file.

Enter data for the following parameters on the input screen itself:

**Water Density:** Typically enter 1 g/cm<sup>3</sup> unless the groundwater is saline. You usually do not need to make a correction for temperature because temperature has a small effect on water density. Units: grams per cubic centimetre.

**LNAPL Density, LNAPL Viscosity, LNAPL/Water Interfacial Tension (IFT):** Using density and viscosity values from **Table 4.3** below from page 10 of Source Report A of the LA LNAPL Recoverability Study (link below) or from values in the Engineering Toolbox<sup>3</sup>, enter values from laboratory tests of the LNAPL at your site in the model (see **Figure 4.7**). For interfacial tension, pure phase literature values are often misleading due to changing interfacial tension due to weathering that results in field values often less than 30 dynes/cm. Additional complexity occurs when the sum of air/LNAPL and LNAPL/water IFT falls close to or below the air/water IFT. At weathered diesel sites the LNAPL/Water IFT was below 10 dynes/cm for a groundwater with significant polar hydrocarbons.

<https://www.gsi-net.com/en/publications/la-lnapl-recoverability-study.html>

**Figure 4.7.** Screenshot of Data Entry Table for LNAPL Volume and Extent Tool. 

Water Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	1
LNAPL Density (g/cm <sup>3</sup> )	0.8
LNAPL Viscosity (cp)	2
Air/Water Interfacial Tension (dyn/cm)	65
LNAPL/Water Interfacial Tension (dyn/cm)	15
Air/LNAPL Interfacial Tension (dyn/cm)	25
Residual Saturation (f) Factor	0.2
<b>Calculate</b>	

<sup>3</sup> [https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/fuels-densities-specific-volumes-d\\_166.html](https://www.engineeringtoolbox.com/fuels-densities-specific-volumes-d_166.html)

**Table 4.3.** Excerpt of LNAPL Properties Table from the LA LNAPL Workgroup Project (2015). 

	Density @ 15°C (g/cm³)	Viscosity (cp)
Gasoline	0.729	0.355 – 0.659
Diesel	0.827	Wide range
JP A/B	0.77 – 0.79	1.18 – 1.59
Crude Oil	0.832 – 0.914	Wide range

Units for density: grams per cubic centimetre.

Units for viscosity: centipoise.

If you are considering performing laboratory tests to measure your LNAPL properties, the API document Methods for Determining Inputs to Environmental Petroleum Hydrocarbon Mobility and Recovery Models is a useful compilation of testing methods.

<https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/groundwater/lnapl/~/media/97D9B7561D34477F85D790DC1E3CCDBB.ashx>

*Air/Water Interfacial Tension (surface tension):* 65 dyne/cm is typically used for fresh groundwater. Units: dynes per centimetre.

*Air/LNAPL Interfacial Tension:* These data are typically not measured but estimated. A value of 25 dyne/cm is often used. Units: dynes per centimetre.

*Residual Saturation (f) Factor:* The f factor is described in **Figure 4.8** (page 46 of Source Report A of the LA LNAPL Recoverability Study (LA LNAPL Workgroup, 2015). Units: unitless.

**Figure 4.8.** Screenshot of F Factor Explanation from LA LNAPL Workgroup Report (2015). 

4. F-Factor method. Charbeneau (2007) and Johnson and Adamski (2005) present a model for estimation of residual LNAPL saturation based on the maximum LNAPL saturation experienced by the soil (the "initial" LNAPL saturation). The model assumes that the residual saturation is linearly related to the initial saturation by:

$$S_{or} = f_r S_{oi} \quad \text{Equation 4.8}$$

where:  $S_{or}$  = LNAPL residual saturation ( $L^3$  LNAPL/ $L^3$  pores);  
 $f_r$  = residual f-factor (unitless); and,  
 $S_{oi}$  = initial LNAPL saturation (or maximum LNAPL saturation at any time;  
 $L^3$  LNAPL/ $L^3$  pores)

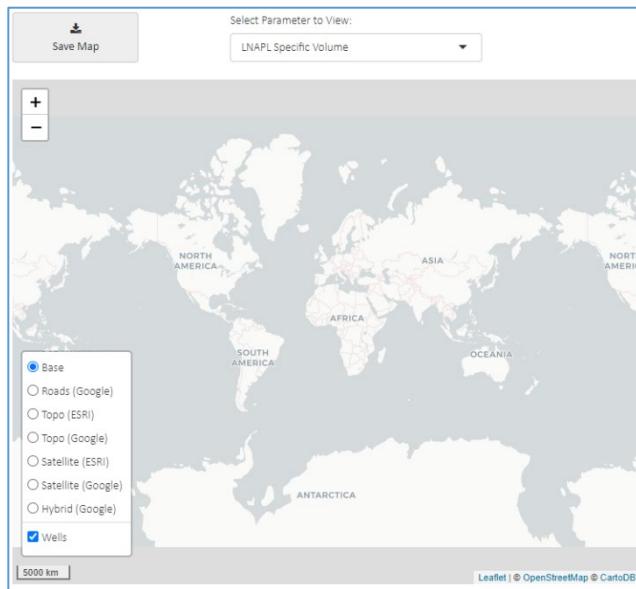
The residual f-factor appears to vary with soil texture and may also be different for saturated and unsaturated soils (Charbeneau, 2007). Vadose zone values of the f-factor determined using a similar model are reported to be 0.2 to 0.5, with a median value of 0.3 (Charbeneau, 2007). Charbeneau (2007) also reports on laboratory work by other researchers on specific soils and fresh LNAPL that give the following residual f-factor values:

Soil Type	factor values
Ottawa sand	0.18
Fine to medium sand (Safety Bay)	0.23
Fine sand and loamy sand (Texas City)	0.39 and 0.43
Clay loam (Swan Valley)	0.56

6. Use the map search/selection tool to build a *base map* for the graphical display of the LNAPL spatial information (see selection options to the right).
7. Click the “Calculate” button in the bottom / middle of the input screen.

Select one of the following Output Parameters to view on the map (**Figure 4.9**):

**Figure 4.9.** Screenshot of Model Output Map in LNAPL Volume and Extent Model. 



**LNAPL Specific Volume:** See Section 4.1.1 for an overview of specific volume. Units: cubic metres of LNAPL per square metre of horizontal surface area. (This unit is equivalent to metres of LNAPL).

**Recoverable LNAPL Specific Volume:** See Section 4.1.1 for an overview of specific volume. Units: cubic metres of LNAPL per square metre of horizontal surface area. (This unit is equivalent to metres of LNAPL).

**Average LNAPL Relative Permeability:** Relative permeability is a concept used to convey the reduction in fluid flow caused by the presence of multiple mobile fluids. It is the ratio of the hydraulic conductivity of the fluid at a given saturation to the fluid hydraulic conductivity at complete saturation with the fluid of interest. Units: unitless.

**Apparent Thickness of LNAPL:** The thickness of LNAPL observed in a well. Units: metres.

**Average LNAPL Conductivity (also sometimes referred to as LNAPL hydraulic conductivity):** The average conductivity of the LNAPL, obtained using the saturated water hydraulic conductivity corrected for relative permeability and LNAPL density and viscosity. Units: metres per day.

**Average Transmissivity:** The average transmissivity of the LNAPL for all the data points. It is often compared to an LNAPL transmissivity threshold to determine if the LNAPL is likely to be recoverable using conventional technologies such as LNAPL skimming or pumping (see Section 8.2 or the short excerpt below):

*Based on guidance from ITRC (2018), the key threshold for LNAPL recovery is the LNAPL transmissivity has to be higher than this general range of numbers: 0.0093 to 0.074 m<sup>2</sup>/day. If the calculated or measured LNAPL transmissivity is below that the lowest value, then there is a high probability that LNAPL hydraulic recovery will not be cost effective or efficient. If above the highest number, then*

*hydraulic recovery has a much higher likelihood of being feasible. Wells exhibiting LNAPL transmissivity values within this range are likely dominated by residual LNAPL. These values account for multiple soil and LNAPL types (ITRC, 2018).*

**LNAPL Unit Flux:** The volume of LNAPL that is passing through a unit width of the porous medium per unit area per day. Units: cubic metres per metre per day.

**Average LNAPL Seepage Velocity:** The calculated average velocity of LNAPL through the water bearing unit. This is likely a conservative value as losses due to Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) are not considered (see Section 9.0). Units: metres per day.

8. You can save the map for later by clicking the “Save Map” button.
9. Click the tab for “Interpolation” will show an interpolation of the distribution of the selected parameter across the site, along with the Area-Weighted Specific Volume and Recoverable Specific Volume.

#### 4.2.3.1. Developers

The LNAPL Volume and Extent Model, was developed by Dr. Phillip de Blanc and Dr. Shahla Farhat of GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*de Blanc, P.C., and S. K. Farhat, 2020. LNAPL Volume and Extent Model. Programmed by GSI Environmental for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

### 4.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: HOW MUCH LNAPL IS PRESENT?

#### 4.3.1. Comparison of Concawe Tool vs. API LDRM Model

While the Concawe Toolbox includes the Tier 2 LNAPL Volume and Extent Model (de Blanc and Farhat, 2018) for evaluating how much LNAPL is present, another option is to apply the API LDRM Tool. These two tools can be found here:

- **Multi-site LNAPL Tool:** Built into Concawe Toolbox Tier 2 under the questions “How much LNAPL is present?” and “Will LNAPL recovery be effective?”
- **API LDRM Tool:** Download from the API web site here (<https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/ground-water/lnapl/ldrm>); requires Windows operating system. Note there are two separate manuals: Volume 1 provides background theory and conceptual models. Volume 2 is the actual User Guide with help on parameter selection.

#### 4.3.2. Similarities Between Multi-site Volume and Extent Tool and LDRM

- Both calculate specific volume, recoverable volume, and transmissivity at individual well locations using the same relationships.
- Both use the f-factor method to calculate residual LNAPL saturation.

#### 4.3.3. Differences Between Multi-Site Volume and Extent Tool and LDRM

The differences between the Multi-Site Volume and Extent Tool and LDRM are summarized in Table 4.4.

**Table 4.4.** Differences between the Multi-Site Volume and Extent Tool and LDRM.

Multi-Site Volume and Extent Tool	LDRM
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>estimates spatial variation of transmissivity and LNAPL volumes, while the LDRM does not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allows users to account for smear zones above and below the LNAPL lens, while the Multi-site tool does not.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>accesses a customizable soil properties database for different soil types, while the LDRM requires users to enter this information manually for every well.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>allows users to specify a fixed or variable residual saturation or f-factor, while the Multi-site tool uses only a variable f-factor for residual saturation.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>estimates spatial variation of transmissivity and LNAPL volumes, while the LDRM does not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>simulates LNAPL recovery for several kinds of systems, while the Multi-site tool does not simulate LNAPL recovery.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is limited to a 3-layer system, while the Multi-site tool considers up to 10 layers.</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>is limited to a single location, while the Multi-site tool calculates LNAPL properties at unlimited locations simultaneously.</li> </ul>

#### 4.3.4. Overview of LDRM

*"The API LNAPL Distribution and Recovery Model (LDRM) simulates the performance of proven hydraulic technologies for recovering free-product petroleum liquid releases to groundwater. Model scenarios included in the LDRM are hydrocarbon liquid recovery using single- and dual-pump well systems, skimmer wells, vacuum-enhanced well systems, and trenches. The LDRM provides information about LNAPL distribution in porous media and allows the user to estimate LNAPL recovery rates, volumes and times."*

In general, the LDRM is a very powerful tool to simulate multiphase flow behaviour that controls LNAPL recovery. To run LDRM, it is helpful to have an understanding of capillary pressure relationships (e.g., van Genuchten relationship; van Genuchten, 1980), LNAPL residual saturation concepts such as the f-factor, and the design of LNAPL recovery systems.

#### 4.3.5. Learning More About LDRM: Other Teaching Resources

The Tier 3 Gateway also includes the following LDRM information:

- A short video describing LDRM: <https://youtube/nvc-49udgW8>
- An example of some LDRM output
- A general LDRM flowchart
- LDRM References
- Link to key LDRM documents: <https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/ground-water/lnapl/ldrm>

## 5. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOW FAR WILL THE LNAPL MIGRATE?” TABS

There are three levels of information that are delivered with the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

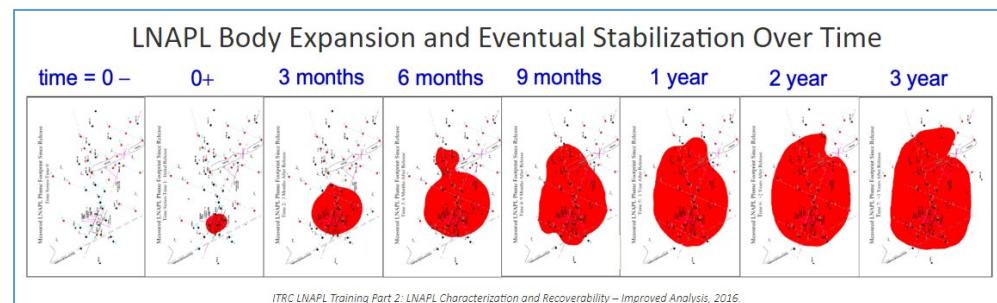
### 5.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: HOW FAR WILL THE LNAPL MIGRATE?

#### 5.1.1. Introduction to LNAPL Body Expansion

The potential for LNAPL expansion is an important consideration when managing the risk from LNAPL at LNAPL sites. Some key conventions/concepts are:

- LNAPL experts typically call the LNAPL mass an “LNAPL Body” to prevent any confusion with a dissolved hydrocarbon plume that may be generated by the LNAPL. The phrase “LNAPL plume” should be avoided.
- LNAPL bodies need energy (pressure) to force the LNAPL at the leading edge of the LNAPL body into the pore space of the unimpacted soils.
- The required pressure can be significant, and once the release of LNAPL to the surface is stopped, the LNAPL body will stabilize at some point on its own accord because the pressure becomes insufficient to drive LNAPL into additional pore spaces.
- Recent advances in Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) show that NSZD is also an important process for limiting LNAPL migration and for stabilizing and even shrinking LNAPL bodies.
- The Tier 1 Quick Info tab shows this graphic of LNAPL body expansion and eventual stabilization over a three-year period:

**Figure 5.1.** LNAPL Body Expansion and Eventual Stabilization (ITRC, 2015) 



The figure above shows an example LNAPL body that was released at time 0 and then shows the size of the LNAPL body as indicated by monitoring wells over the next three years. The key point is that the size of most LNAPL bodies will stabilize after a few years after the release stops. Sale et al. (2018) describe this important point in this way:

“A primary concern at LNAPL sites has been the potential for lateral expansion or translation of LNAPL bodies. Fortunately, long-term monitoring suggests that the extent of LNAPL bodies at older LNAPL releases tend to be stable, even when potentially mobile LNAPL exist within the LNAPL bodies (Mahler et al. 2012b). An important exception to stable LNAPL bodies is new releases. Historically, the primary explanation for the stability of older LNAPL releases has been low LNAPL saturation (fractions of pore space containing LNAPL) and correspondingly low formations conductivities to LNAPL. More recently, Mahler et al. (2012a) added the argument that natural loses of LNAPL play a critical role in controlling lateral expansion or translation of LNAPL bodies. In general, the threshold condition for expanding LNAPL bodies, at older release sites, is LNAPL release rates that are greater than natural source zone depletion rates. Much like dissolved phase petroleum hydrocarbon plumes, the extent of LNAPL bodies can be strongly limited by natural processes.”

## 5.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: HOW FAR WILL THE LNAPL MIGRATE?

### 5.2.1. The Kirkman LNAPL Body Additional Migration Tool

#### 5.2.1.1. What the Model Does

This tool, called the Kirkman LNAPL Body Additional Migration Tool, calculates the additional distance that the leading edge of an existing LNAPL body is expected to migrate until it eventually stabilizes in the presence of Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD). To run the model, you need to enter three things about your LNAPL body into the model: 1) a representative LNAPL transmissivity from bail down tests or from transmissivities calculated using the Tier 2 LNAPL Volume and Extent Model; 2) the measured LNAPL body gradient; and 3) the current LNAPL body radius (the model makes a simplifying assumption that the LNAPL body is circular).

#### 5.2.1.2. How the Model Works

The model is based on multiple runs of the Hydrocarbon Spill Screening Model (HSSM; Weaver et al., 1994). For each run, an average LNAPL transmissivity ( $T_n$ ) and gradient ( $i$ ) were calculated across the oil body at different times and for different soil types. These average properties were used as starting conditions to calculate the expected additional growth of an LNAPL body under one of five different NSZD rates using the steady-state relationship for a circular source derived by Mahler (Mahler et al., 2012).

The plot shows the calculated LNAPL body length increase for different average values of LNAPL transmissivity  $\times$  gradient and piecewise linear fit to the data in the nomograph.

To use the model, enter the current LNAPL transmissivity (in  $m^2/d$ ) (see the bottom of the Tier 3 LNAPL Recovery tab), enter the LNAPL gradient (see Section 5.2.1.4 of the User Manual for a description), and select one of five different representative NSZD rates (see Tier 1 of the NSZD Estimation tab). The estimated additional LNAPL body growth from now will be automatically calculated. The model is a screening level model and will only give a general indication of the potential increase of the LNAPL body, but it will likely be more accurate than older models, such as HSSM, which do not account for NSZD processes.

#### 5.2.1.3. Key Assumptions

The model assumes that there is an unlimited source of LNAPL and that the LNAPL flux is constant. This is an experimental model. Incorporation of HSSM (Weaver et al., 1994) and Mahler et al. (2012) represents a non-hysteretic methodology where

entrapment of LNAPL is ignored and loss rate inputs can account for partitioning and biodegradation losses.

Entrapment of LNAPL has been evaluated (Sookhak Lari et al., 2016; Pasha et al., 2014; Guarnaccia et al., 1997) and demonstrated to slow the rate of LNAPL migration. Current methods to incorporate entrapment require numerical models which are not within the scope of this tool. The lack of incorporating entrapment results in a conservative approach where the upper bound of LNAPL migration extent is estimated. The results of this tool are intended to be used for demonstrating LNAPL body stability by comparing the maximum potential for LNAPL migration to current extent.

The model is useful for estimating the upper bound of LNAPL migration. However, if the calculated LNAPL extent is used in cumulative LNAPL loss and time to depletion estimates then the resulting estimates would overestimate losses and underestimate time to depletion (Sookhak Lari et al., 2016). It is appropriate to use current delineated LNAPL body extent for cumulative loss calculations or time to depletion estimates.

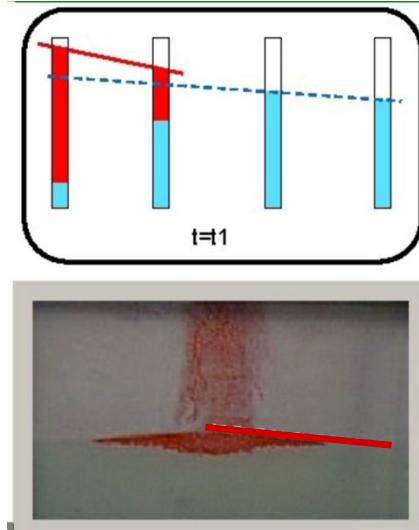
#### 5.2.1.4. Input Data

*LNAPL Transmissivity:* LNAPL transmissivity can be determined in two general ways:

1. *Computer Models:* Use a multiphase LNAPL model to calculate transmissivity based on soil type, LNAPL properties, and other factors. The Tier 2 LNAPL Volume and Extent Model can be used to easily estimate LNAPL transmissivity, as can LDRM. Sale (2001) provide methods for determining inputs to environmental petroleum hydrocarbon and recovery models.
2. *Field Measurements (ITRC, 2018):* Conduct field data and analyse the data to calculate the LNAPL transmissivity. ITRC (2018) and ASTM (2013) prescribe three approaches:
  1. *LNAPL Baildown Testing:* Note a computer spreadsheet is available to process the data from baildown tests to determine transmissivity (Charbeneau et al., 2012) (no metric units, however).
  2. *Manual LNAPL Skimming Testing.*
  3. *LNAPL Recovery System Evaluation.*

The ITRC's LNAPL guidance has a detailed discussion of how to measure and use LNAPL transmissivity (ITRC, 2017) as does the ASTM's Standard Guide for Estimation of LNAPL Transmissivity. Units: metres squared per day.

**Figure 5.2.** LNAPL gradient (red line) vs. Hydraulic Gradient (Blue Dashed Line) (Source: ITRC). 



**LNAPL Gradient:** The vertical difference between the air/LNAPL interface points in the area of the LNAPL observation divided by the distance between these points. Units: metre per metre. See ITRC LNAPL training figure (**Figure 5.2**); the LNAPL gradient is the red line in the top panel and the white dashed line in the bottom panel.

**NSZD Rate:** Users do not enter an NSZD rate but select one of five existing values in a pull-down menu. These values are a representative range of NSZD values described in Garg et al. (2017) and are presented in SI units in the Tier 1 NSZD Estimation tab of the Concawe Toolbox: “*NSZD values reported in the literature range from 2,800 to 72,000 litres per hectare per year with the middle 50% of NSZD values falling between 6,600 to 26,000 litres per hectare per year (Garg et al., 2017).*” The five options for the NSZD rate are:

- 5,000 litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year (low end rate);
- 7,300 litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year (low end of the middle 50% of NSZD sites);
- 10,000 litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year (mid-range value);
- 25,000 litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year (high end of the middle 50% of NSZD sites) (see Tier 2 NSZD Temperature Enhancement Calculator);
- 50,000 litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year (high end rate or potential rate if NSZD is enhanced by increased temperature or other factors).

**Current LNAPL Body Radius:** Use maps showing which monitoring wells have LNAPL apparent LNAPL thickness to estimate a representative radius of the LNAPL body. If the LNAPL body is not circular, taking the average of each width divided by two in all four directions can be used to obtain the current LNAPL body radius. Units: metres.

### 5.2.1.5. Developer

This LNAPL tool, sometimes referred to as the Kirkman LNAPL Body Additional Migration Tool, was developed by Andrew Kirkman of BP. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*Kirkman, A., 2021. LNAPL Body Additional Migration Tool. Andrew Kirkman, BP. Programmed by GSI Environmental for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

## 5.2.2. Mahler Model

### 5.2.2.1. What the Model Does

Methods developed by Mahler et al. (2012) illustrate that natural losses of LNAPL (e.g., NSZD) can play an important role in governing the overall extent of LNAPL bodies. This module calculates the overall length of a contiguous LNAPL body, given an inflow of LNAPL rate, NSZD rate, and time period.

### 5.2.2.2. How the Model Works

The user is able to select a Long-Term LNAPL Release Rate, NSZD Rate, and a Time Period of Model. The output is an estimate for the ultimate LNAPL body length.

### 5.2.2.3. Key Assumptions

A limitation of the current methodology is the assumption of constant inflow of LNAPL throughout the entire lifetime of the LNAPL Body into the subsurface. Given either the reduction or termination of an LNAPL body, the times for stabilization and LNAPL body length could be much shorter. Additionally, LNAPL migration is not a function of the hydraulic gradient of the groundwater. Finally, the tool is limited to three different selections for the Long-term LNAPL Release Rate, three different selections for NSZD Rate, and three different selections for Time Period.

### 5.2.2.4. Input Data

The input data consist of three types of data:

**Long-Term LNAPL Release Rate:** The Mahler model assumes a constant, continuing LNAPL release rate to the subsurface. The LNAPL body size eventually will stabilize due the attenuation effects of NSZD. Units: litres per year

**NSZD Rate:** An estimated or measured NSZD rate for the site. Units: litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year.

**Time Period of Model:** The year to see the result. Units: numerical years.

**Figure 5.3** LNAPL Toolbox Input Screen for Kirkman Model. 

**Inputs:**

Long-Term LNAPL Release Rate (L/yr)	250
NSZD Rate (L/ha/yr)	5000
Time Period Of Model (years)	40

**Output Results:** The model returns the Estimated Ultimate LNAPL Body Length in units of metres. This is the length that the LNAPL body stabilizes at where the continual entry of LNAPL into the subsurface is balanced by the NSZD rate over the area of the LNAPL body. Units: metres from the LNAPL entry point.

#### 5.2.2.5. Developer

This LNAPL tool was derived from the work of Mahler et al., 2012 by Poonam Kulkarni, GSI Environmental. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*Kulkarni, P., 2021. LNAPL Migration Calculator based on Mahler et al. Model. Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

### 5.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: HOW FAR WILL THE LNAPL MIGRATE?

#### 5.3.1. Overview

The Concawe Toolbox includes a new Tool developed by Andrew Kirkman based on LNAPL mass limitations included in the HSSM conceptual model integrated with LNAPL transmissivity relationships and LNAPL removal via Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) using the Mahler et al. (2012) model (see Section 4.2). This Tier 3 section provides additional information about HSSM and UTCHEM, two tools that can be used to answer the question “How far will the LNAPL migrate?” The 2012 paper by Mahler et al. (2012) presents important findings on how NSZD limits LNAPL migration. Finally, an emerging LNAPL modelling method being developed by GSI’s Dr. Sorab Panday is a promising new approach where LNAPL modelling can be performed using a commonly used groundwater model like MODFLOW.

#### 5.3.2. Overview of HSSM

- “HSSM” is an acronym for Hydrocarbon Spill Screening Model.
- Uses analytical relationships to simulate LNAPL movement.
- Simulates vertical LNAPL flow through the unsaturated zone.
- Simulates formation and decay of an LNAPL lens at the water table.
- Assumes a circular lens that is not affected by a water table hydraulic gradient.

- Simulates dissolution of LNAPL constituents and dissolved plume migration.
- Older model that requires workarounds to run on 64-bit operating systems like Windows 10.
- NSZD cannot be simulated, so that LNAPL spreading predictions in HSSM will overestimate actual spreading.
- Can be downloaded here: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/hydrocarbon-spill-screening-model-hssm-windows-version>.

#### 5.3.3. Overview of UTCHEM

- University of Texas chemical flood simulator developed for the oil industry.
- 3-D finite-difference numerical simulator for NAPL.
- Simulates multiphase, multicomponent, variable temperature systems and complex phase behaviour.
- Accounts for chemical and physical transformations and heterogeneous porous media. Can account for NSZD processes but, to our knowledge, this has never been done.
- Uses advanced concepts in high-order numerical accuracy and dispersion control and vector and parallel processing.
- Extremely powerful model but expensive and can be difficult to run.
- Due to its complexity, it is typically only used for more complicated LNAPL/environmental problems.
- Can be run either as a stand-alone program or accessed through GMS package (e.g., <https://www.aquaveo.com/software/gms-groundwater-modeling-system-introduction>)

#### 5.3.4. Learning More About HSSM and LDRM: Other Teaching Resources

The Tier 3 Gateway also includes the following information:

- A short video describing HSSM and UTCHEM:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6im2Z63DiY>
- Overview of Mahler et al. (2012) LNAPL Stability Paper
- Checklist of Input Data for HSSM
- General Flowchart for Running HSSM
- Example Output from HSSM
- UTCHEM Key Processes that Require Input Data
- Example UTCHEM Flowchart for a Surfactant Problem
- An Emerging LNAPL Model: The Panday LNAPL Simulator Based on MODFLOW

## 6. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOW LONG WILL THE LNAPL PERSIST?” TABS

There are three levels of information that are delivered with the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
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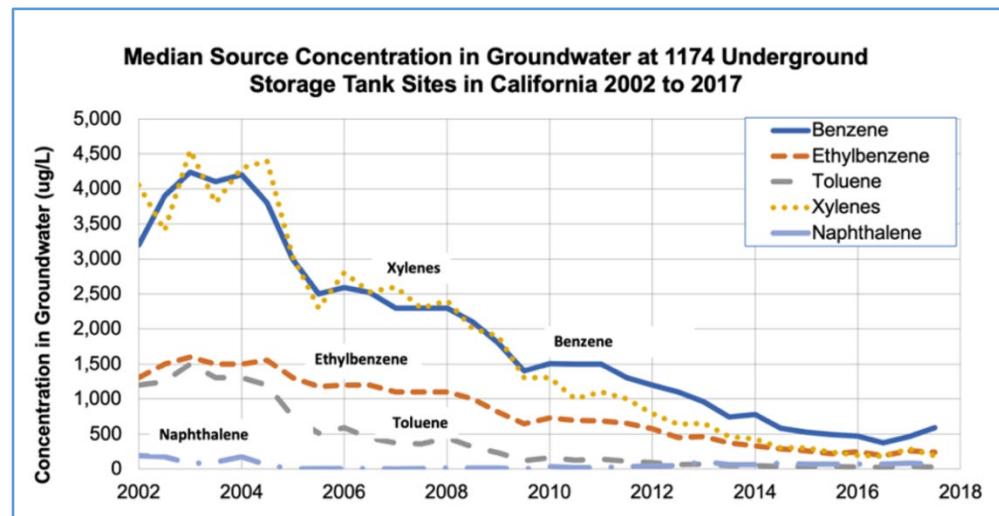
Each of the three Tiers are described below in this Section.

### 6.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: HOW LONG WILL THE LNAPL PERSIST?

#### 6.1.1. Introduction

**Figure 6.1** below shows the median concentration in 1,174 Underground Storage Tank Sites in California over time. Because of stricter environmental regulations, the number and magnitude of releases has greatly diminished over time. In addition, almost all of these sites have had some form of source remediation, and all have been subjected to natural attenuation processes. Between 2004 and 2017, the median benzene concentration in groundwater at the highest concentration well in each of the 1,174 sites has been reduced by about 90%, from about 4,000 µg/L to about 500 µg/L (McHugh et al., 2013, 2019).

**Figure 6.1.** Median concentration in 1,174 Underground Storage Tank Sites in California over time (McHugh et al., 2013, 2019). 



**Table 6.1** below shows the median change in benzene concentrations and in LNAPL apparent thickness from several hundred Underground Storage Tank Sites in California. Sites where companies were actively recovering LNAPL showed a benzene half-life (the time required for source zone monitoring well concentrations to decrease by 50%) of about 8 years, while sites with LNAPL in monitoring wells but no active remediation exhibited a benzene half-life of about 4 years. During the monitoring period, the thickness of the LNAPL in monitoring wells decreased by about 90% both for sites where active LNAPL recovery was on-going and sites where there was no active LNAPL recovery (Kulkarni et al., 2015).

**Table 6.1.** Median change in benzene concentrations and in LNAPL apparent thickness from several hundred Underground Storage Tank Sites in California (Kulkarni et al., 2015). 

	Number of Sites	Minimum Monitoring Time Period (years)	Median Apparent LNAPL Thickness in Monitoring Wells During Monitoring Period (meters)	Median Reduction in Apparent LNAPL Thickness in Monitoring Wells Over Monitoring Period (% reduction)	Time for Benzene Groundwater Conc. To Be Reduced by 50% (Half Life) (years)
Sites Where LNAPL is Present and Being Recovered	327	5	1.5	0.87	7.7
Sites Where LNAPL is Present but Not Being Recovered	444	5	0.5	0.91	3.6

Another resource is a simple nomograph method for screening estimates of LNAPL source mass depletion times, provided by Golder (2016). The nomographs can be used for estimating hydrocarbon mass depletion times resulting from biodegradation (mass loss rate) in the vadose zone and dissolution (mass loss rate) from the saturated zone.

## 6.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: HOW LONG WILL THE LNAPL PERSIST?

A simple LNAPL lifetime calculator was developed based on a “box model” and mass balance concepts for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.

### 6.2.1. What the Model Does

This simple LNAPL lifetime calculator shows two different models of how Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) will remove LNAPL over time.

- The left graph in the Tool Output shows a “zero order” NSZD model where the current NSZD rate stays constant over a long period of time, as suggested by Garg et al. (2017) (see excerpt in **Figure 6.2**; source: Garg et al., 2017).
- The right graph Tool Output shows a “first order” NSZD model where the current NSZD rate drops in proportion to the mass of LNAPL remaining. Many natural attenuation models assume this type of relationship (e.g., BIOSCREEN model, Newell et al., 1996).

**Figure 6.2.** Excerpt from Garg et al. (2017) Discussing Factors that Suggest that Long-Term NSZD Rates May Be Generally Zero Order. 

3. Does the NSZD rate change over time? How does LNAPL composition change over long time periods as NSZD progresses?

While there is considerable temporal variability in measured NSZD rates possibly due to factors such as “signal shredding,” soil moisture, etc., there are several lines of evidence that suggest that over decades, the NSZD rate is generally zero order: (1) the presence of controls such as acetate, predation, and so on that may provide a feedback mechanism on the long-term NSZD rate; (2) long-term laboratory studies (e.g., Siddique et al. 2008) showing zero-order behavior at higher hydrocarbon concentrations); (3) the semi-sequenced biodegradation of different buckets observed at Bemidji, add up to a fairly constant bulk

NSZD rate (Ng et al. 2015) (Figure 9); and (4) the hydrocarbon composition literature that shows the potential for sequenced biodegradation of different hydrocarbon chemical classes. Therefore, current knowledge suggests that a zero-order depletion rate can be assumed for much of the life of the LNAPL until a low saturation of LNAPL or a relatively recalcitrant fraction is left, but research is needed to determine if this fraction should be considered important for site management, for example, its magnitude and any persisting secondary water quality effects.

### 6.2.2. How the Model Works

Given an initial LNAPL body volume and NSZD rate (either via an NSZD study in the field or using typical NSZD rates in the scientific literature), the model calculates an estimated range when most/all of the LNAPL will be removed by NSZD.

### 6.2.3. Key Assumptions

The model assumes the user has an estimate of the LNAPL volume remaining in the subsurface (in volume units of total litres of LNAPL in the source zone) and has an estimate for the NSZD rates. Current knowledge suggests that a zero-order depletion rate can be assumed for much of the life of the LNAPL until a low saturation of LNAPL or a relatively recalcitrant fraction is left, but research is needed to determine if this fraction should be considered important for site management, for example, its magnitude and any persisting secondary water quality effects.

Overall, the linear model will present a best-case estimate for the LNAPL lifetime, and the first order model will be more conservative (i.e., may overestimate the LNAPL lifetime).

### 6.2.4. Input Data

**Initial Volume of LNAPL Body:** This is the current volume of the LNAPL body in the LNAPL source zone of interest. Users typically use this tool in the area of the LNAPL body where mobile LNAPL is observed (i.e., LNAPL is observed in monitoring wells). This can be difficult to estimate, but typically two methods are used (Units: litres of LNAPL in the LNAPL body):

1. Use an LNAPL model where the user enters the amount of LNAPL present in monitoring wells, soil data, and stratigraphic information to estimate the

LNAPL volume. The Tier 2 calculator in the LNAPL Volume section is designed to provide this information.

2. Use soil sampling data where the LNAPL body is discretized in some way and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) sampling data represent each discretized volume. The concentration of each soil sample is multiplied by the discretized volume and then adjusted using the density of the soil and the density of the LNAPL to convert the final answer to litres of LNAPL in each discretized volume. The LNAPL volume in each discretized volume are added together to obtain the total volume of LNAPL.

*Area of the LNAPL Body:* Use maps of the LNAPL body to estimate the area of the LNAPL body. Users typically focus on the area of the mobile LNAPL body where LNAPL is observed in monitoring wells. Units: hectares.

*NSZD Rate:* Enter the NSZD rate. Typically used measurements methods rely on carbon efflux or temperature generation. See the NSZD Estimations tab, ITRC (2017), or the ESTCP EnviroWiki (Palaia et al., 2019) for more detailed information about NSZD. NSZD values reported in the literature range from **2,800 to 72,000 litres per hectare per year** with the middle 50% of NSZD values falling between **6,600 to 26,000 litres per hectare per year** (Garg et al., 2017). Similarly, a recent dataset of 31 distinct sites encompassing over 3,000 measurements from three different methods (DCC-LICOR, Carbon Traps, and Thermal Monitoring) was compiled. Measured average source area NSZD rates ranged from **655 to 152,470 litres per hectare per year**, with a median of **8,750 litres per hectare per year** (Rosansky et. al., 2021). Units: litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year.

*Model Year Start Year:* Enter the year for which you have the estimate for the initial volume of the LNAPL body. This could be the initial year of the release or spill if the spill volume was known, or the year that the sampling data were collected and then used to estimate the volume of the LNAPL body. Units: calendar year.

*Model End Year:* Enter the year you would like to see the results. Users can change this value to see when mass of the LNAPL diminishes to an important endpoint due to NSZD. Units: calendar year.

### 6.2.5. Developer

This LNAPL tool was developed by Poonam Kulkarni of GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas, USA. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*Kulkarni, P., 2021. LNAPL Body Lifetime Calculator. Programmed by GSI Environmental for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox*

## 6.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: HOW LONG WILL THE LNAPL PERSIST?

### 6.3.1. Overview

A simple box model is provided in Tier 2 and provides a range of time required for the LNAPL to be removed by Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD). Users enter the estimated mass/volume of LNAPL present and the estimated NSZD rate.

Two more sophisticated computer tools that can be used to estimate how long the LNAPL might persist at a site are REMFuel (Falta et al., 2012) and LNAST (Huntley and Beckett, 2002). A short summary of each model is provided below.

### 6.3.2. USEPA'S REMFuel Model

- REMFuel is a coupled analytical source zone/plume response model distributed by USEPA.
- Based on popular REMChlor model used at chlorinated solvent sites.
- The source zone model includes a box model where the mass of the dissolution product to be modelled is entered and a relationship “gamma” that describes the mass flux out of the source at any time compared to the remaining mass is specified by the user.
- Solute transport model simulates advection, dispersion, retardation, sorption assuming simple 1-D groundwater flow.
- The user can specify any percent of source removal at any time to model plume response to active remediation.
- The user can model plume remediation at any time in three separate spatial zones by increasing first order decay constants.
- NSZD can also be simulated by entering a value for “Source Decay” although there is no discussion in User’s Guide on how to do this.
- Key output of the model are graphs showing the concentration (or mass discharge) of the constituents in the dissolved plume vs. distance from source.
- Download model from USEPA web page here: <https://www.epa.gov/water-research/remediation-evaluation-model-fuel-hydrocarbons-remfuel>.

### 6.3.3. Overview of API's LNAPL Dissolution and Transport Screening Tool (LNAST)

- LNAST is suite of calculation tools, information about LNAPL, and LNAPL parameter databases. LNAST focuses on LNAPL distribution and fate at the water table. The calculation tool part of LNAST:
  - Predicts LNAPL distribution, dissolution, and volatilization over time.
  - Calculates downgradient dissolved-phase concentration through time.
  - Shows results both with and without hydraulic recovery of LNAPL.
  - LNAST simulates the smear zone and the downgradient dissolved plume.
  - Combines multi-phase transport, dissolution, and solute transport.
  - Accounts for relative permeability effects caused by LNAPL.
  - Zones of high LNAPL saturation have much less groundwater flow through them, extending the longevity of these zones.
  - Good tool for estimating how long an LNAPL-generated plume will persist.
  - Powerful tool to see if LNAPL recovery reduces the longevity of the source and plume.
  - Key output is concentration of dissolved constituents in the plume vs. time at an observation well.
  - Does not account for NSZD.
  - Assumes that remediation occurs shortly after the LNAPL release. You cannot release LNAPL many years ago and then start the remediation now a few decades later.

- LНАST can be downloaded here: <https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/ground-water/lnapl/evaluating-hydrocarbon-removal>.

#### **6.3.4. Learning More About REMFuel and LНАST: Other Teaching Resources**

The Tier 3 Gateway also includes the following information:

- A short video describing REMFuel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8JP8gyZcr8>
- A short video describing LНАST:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2F66MNywKk>
- Checklist of Input Data for REMFuel
- Example Output from REMFuel
- Checklist of LНАST Input Data for LНАST
- Example of LНАST Output Data

## 7. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOW WILL LNAPL RISK CHANGE OVER TIME?” TABS

There are three levels of information that are delivered with the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

Each of the three Tiers are described below in this Section.

### 7.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: HOW WILL LNAPL RISK CHANGE OVER TIME?

#### 7.1.1. Introduction

The potential risk associated with LNAPL composition can change over time as the LNAPL is weathered due to Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD), often decreasing over time. This reduction in risk over time increases the reliability of NSZD as a long-term LNAPL management strategy. **Table 7.1** on the next page shows an approximate way to conceptualize the change in risk as LNAPLs weather. At most LNAPL sites, most of the risk in groundwater associated with potential ingestion is due to the amount of benzene that is present in the LNAPL. The higher the mole fraction<sup>4</sup> of benzene in the LNAPL, the higher the potential concentration of dissolved benzene in groundwater. In this example, the composition of a fresh gasoline and a weathered gasoline were taken from a 1990 paper by Johnson et al. (this table is shown to the bottom of the Tier 1 screen). As can be seen in the table, the fresh gasoline had a benzene mole fraction of 0.0093 (calculated from a mass fraction of 0.0076 or about 1% by weight) (column 2). These calculations assumed a temperature of 20°C and 1 atmosphere pressure. The weathering process removes benzene, and the weathered gasoline mole fraction was 0.0028 (mass fraction of 0.0021) (column 3). When the mole fractions are multiplied by a pure-phase effective solubility (column 4), a theoretical concentration in groundwater can be calculated for water in perfect equilibrium with the LNAPL (columns 5 and 6). Then, using common regulatory criteria in the U.S. for allowable concentrations in drinking water (column 7), a relative risk (RR) factor was calculated for both the fresh and weathered gasoline (columns 8 and 9) where the equilibrium water concentration is divided by the regulatory criteria. As shown in columns 8 and 9, benzene by far has the highest regulatory risk.

The bottom right of the table shows the cumulative relative risk for the BTEX compounds and naphthalene was 3,285 for the fresh gasoline but only 1,020 for the weathered gasoline. Therefore, in this simple example, the relative risk associated with the LNAPL was reduced by almost 70% when going from a fresh gasoline to the weathered gasoline sample. This is only an example of how the hypothetical risk of LNAPL can change over time due to LNAPL attenuation processes over time. Although each site will be different, in general LNAPL attenuation processes will reduce the risk associated with groundwater ingestion and indoor air exposure pathways over time.

<sup>4</sup> Mole Fraction is defined as unit of the amount of a constituent (expressed in moles),  $n_i$ , divided by the total amount of all constituents in a mixture (also expressed in moles),  $n_{tot}$ .  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mole\\_fraction](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mole_fraction)

**Figure 7.1.** Screenshot of Change in Risk Due to LNAPL Weathering Hypothetical Example. 

Change in Risk Due to LNAPL Weathering: A Hypothetical Example								
Col. 1	Col. 2	Col. 3	Col. 4	Col. 5	Col. 6	Col. 7	Col. 8	Col. 9
LNAPL Constituent	Gasoline Mole Fraction	Weathered Gasoline Mole Fraction	Pure-Phase Solubility (mg/L)	Fresh Gasoline Concentration in Water (mg/L)	Weathered Gasoline Concentration in Water (mg/L)	Risk Criteria (mg/L)	Fresh Gasoline Relative Risk (RR) (-)	Weathered Gasoline Relative Risk (RR) (-)
Benzene	0.0093	0.0028	1,750	16	5	0.005	3,248	986
Toluene	0.057	0.041	515	29	21	1	29	21
p-xylene	0.086	0.015	198	17	2.9	10	1.7	0.3
m-xylene	0	0.037	158	0	5.9	10	0	0.6
o-xylene	0	0.027	175	0	4.7	10	0	0.5
Naphthalene	0.003	0.006	32.9	0.11	0.2	0.017	6.5	12
							Total:	3,285
							Percent Reduction in Risk Due to Weathering:	69%

### 7.1.2. Developer

Charles Newell and Tom McHugh of GSI environmental developed this conceptualization of changing LNAPL risk over time. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

Newell, C.J. and T. McHugh, 2021. *LNAPL Risk Change Over Time Example, Concawe LNAPL Toolbox*.

### 7.1.3. References

Johnson, P.C., M.W. Kembrowski, and J.D. Colthart. 1990. *Quantitative Analysis of Cleanup of Hydrocarbon-Contaminated Soils by In-Situ Soil Venting. Ground Water*, Vol. 28, No. 3. May - June 1990, pp 413-429.

## 7.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: HOW WILL LNAPL RISK CHANGE OVER TIME?

An LNAPL Dissolution Calculator has been programmed into the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.

### 7.2.1. What the Model Does

This model calculates the theoretical concentrations of LNAPL constituents downgradient of an LNAPL release over time caused by dissolution processes alone.

### 7.2.2. How the Model Works

A known volume of LNAPL is released to the subsurface. The LNAPL is comprised of several components whose volume fractions and densities are known. The unidentified fraction of the LNAPL is a mixed petroleum product with unknown components, but with a known average molecular weight and density.

The LNAPL establishes a lens in the groundwater with a known width and average thickness. Groundwater flows through the LNAPL lens and dissolves the LNAPL constituents, reducing the remaining volume of LNAPL and changing its composition as the more soluble compounds dissolve out of the LNAPL. Equilibrium between the water and LNAPL within the lens is assumed, so that the concentration of constituents downgradient of the LNAPL are equal to the effective solubility of the LNAPL constituents. Effective solubility is the solubility of a pure phase component times its mole fraction in the LNAPL.

The key strengths of the model are:

- The model is simple and easy to understand.
- Because of its simplicity, the model can be modified by users if needed.

Weakness of the model are:

- The model only simulates dissolution and not any type of degradation of the LNAPL such as methanogenic NSZD processes (see Garg et al., 2017).
- Equilibrium is unlikely to be completely achieved at actual sites, so the model over-estimates downgradient aqueous phase concentrations.
- The explicit solution scheme can become inaccurate or unstable if the time step is too large.

### 7.2.3. Key Assumptions

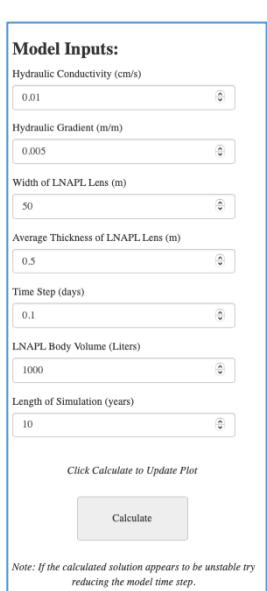
Key assumptions of the model are as follows:

- The groundwater concentration is directly downgradient of the LNAPL body before any attenuation or mixing occurs.
- Volume is conserved upon fluid mixing.
- The concentration of a constituent in the aqueous phase in equilibrium with the LNAPL is the constituent's mole fraction in the LNAPL times the constituent's pure phase solubility.
- Water exiting the LNAPL lens is saturated with each LNAPL constituent; i.e., there is perfect mixing between groundwater and LNAPL constituents in the LNAPL lens.
- LNAPL does not impede groundwater flow.
- Fluid densities and solubilities do not change significantly with temperature.
- The change in total number of moles in the LNAPL is slow over the time period of the model.

### 7.2.4. Input Data

The data input screen for this model are shown in **Figure 7.1**.

**Figure 7.1.** Data Input Screen for the LNAPL Toolbox Dissolution Calculator.



**Model Inputs:**

Hydraulic Conductivity (cm/s)  
0.01

Hydraulic Gradient (m/m)  
0.005

Width of LNAPL Lens (m)  
50

Average Thickness of LNAPL Lens (m)  
0.5

Time Step (days)  
0.1

LNAPL Body Volume (Liters)  
1000

Length of Simulation (years)  
10

*Note: If the calculated solution appears to be unstable try reducing the model time step.*

*Click Calculate to Update Plot*

**Calculate**

**Hydraulic Conductivity:** Enter the water saturated hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer with the LNAPL from pump tests, slug tests, or from estimates based on soil properties of the geologic media. Typical values (Newell et al., 1996):

- Silts:  $1 \times 10^{-6} - 1 \times 10^{-3}$  cm/s ( $8.6 \times 10^{-4}$  to 0.86 metres per day)
- Silty sands:  $1 \times 10^{-5} - 1 \times 10^{-1}$  cm/s ( $8.6 \times 10^{-3}$  to 86 metres per day)
- Clean sands:  $1 \times 10^{-3} - 1$  cm/s ( $8.6 \times 10^{-1}$  to 864 metres per day)
- Gravels:  $> 1$  cm/s ( $> 864$  metres per day)

For simple estimates, just enter the hydraulic conductivity of the aquifer soils. Sophisticated users can adjust this value to account for relative permeability effects caused by the LNAPL. Units: metres per day.

**Hydraulic Gradient:** From Newell et al. (1996): The rise over run of the groundwater potentiometric surface. In unconfined aquifers, this is equivalent to the rise over run of the water table. Typical values range from 0.0001 - 0.05 metres per metre. Units: metre per metre.

**Width of LNAPL Body:** Based on maps of the LNAPL body, enter the width across the LNAPL body (normal to the groundwater flow direction). One compilation of LNAPL sites suggested that the median LNAPL body width for a typical retail service station was about 46 metres and the width for non-service station LNAPL body was about 60 metres (Wiedemeier et al., 1999, Chapter 2). Units: metres.

**Average Thickness of LNAPL Body:** The typical thickness of the LNAPL body. Typical values range from 0.1 to 2 metres. This value can be determined from soil boring logs where LNAPL presence is determined from closely spaced soil samples, from visual observations, field instruments such as PIDs, LNAPL dye tests, or from models. Units: metres.

**Time Step:** Enter a value ranging from 0.1 to 10 days. Sometimes a trial-and-error approach must be used to obtain results from the dissolution model. If the calculated solution appears to be unstable, try reducing the model time step. Units: days.

**LNAPL Body Volume:** This is the current volume of the LNAPL body in the LNAPL source zone of interest. Users typically use this tool in the area of the LNAPL body where mobile LNAPL is observed (i.e., LNAPL is observed in monitoring wells). This can be difficult to estimate, but typically two methods are used (Units: litres of LNAPL in the LNAPL body):

1. Use an LNAPL model where the user enters the amount of LNAPL present in monitoring wells, soil data, and stratigraphic information to estimate the LNAPL volume. The Tier 2 calculator in the LNAPL Volume section is designed to provide this information.
2. Use soil sampling data where the LNAPL body is discretized in some way and Total Petroleum Hydrocarbon (TPH) sampling data represent each discretized volume. The concentration of each soil sample is multiplied by the discretized volume and then adjusted using the density of the soil and the density of the LNAPL to convert the final answer to litres of LNAPL in each discretized volume. The LNAPL volume in each discretized volume are added together to obtain the total volume of LNAPL.

**Length of Simulation:** Enter the year at which the groundwater concentration is desired. Year zero corresponds to the LNAPL body volume entered. Typical values: 1 to 100 years. Units: integer (not calendar year).

**LNAPL Constituent Properties:** Enter the name, volume fraction, molecular weight, solubility, and density of each LNAPL constituent. Make sure that the solubility/density data obtained from the scientific literature are at similar temperature and pressure as the LNAPL body. See more detail below and **Figure 7.2**.

**Figure 7.2.** Data Input Screen for LNAPL Constituents Chemistry in the LNAPL Toolbox Dissolution Calculator. 

LNAPL Constituents Chemistry Inputs:					
LNAPL Constituents	Volume fraction	Molecular weight (g/mol)	Solubility (mg/L)	Density (g/cm³)	
1 benzene	0.89	78.1	1770	0.87	
2 toluene	0.1	92.1	530	0.74	
3 other	0.01	100	10	0.78	
4					
5					

Showing 1 to 5 of 5 entries

**Volume Fraction of LNAPL Constituents:** Enter the volume fraction of each LNAPL constituent. See the Composition (Mass Fractions) of Fresh and Weathered Gasolines from Tier 1 for typical values (note mass fractions and volume fractions will vary slightly). For fresh gasoline typical values for benzene are 0.5% to 1.0%, although this value has changed significantly over time. These values must equal 1. Units: litres of constituent per litre of LNAPL.

Many laboratory analyses of LNAPL show composition as mass concentrations (mg/L). To convert a mass concentration of a constituent like benzene to a volume fraction, you will need to divide the mg/L value by the density of the constituent (78,000 mg per gram-mole for benzene). So, 1 mg/L benzene concentration in LNAPL becomes a volume fraction of  $1.3 \times 10^{-5}$  litres benzene per litre of LNAPL.

**Molecular Weight of LNAPL Constituents:** Enter the molecular weight of each known LNAPL constituent. Units: grams per mole. Commonly used values for different LNAPLs are:

- Gasoline ~105
- Jet Fuels: 160-180
- Diesel: 200-230
- Gas oils: 220 - 240
- Lube oils: 310 to 360
- Crude oils: large variation

**Solubility of LNAPL Constituents:** Enter the solubility of each LNAPL constituent. For the unknown or “other” fraction, a value less than 10 mg/L can be used to represent these compounds. One potential source for solubility data is Wiedemeier et al. (1999), Appendix B. Units: milligrams per litre.

**Density of LNAPL Constituents:** Enter the density of each known LNAPL constituent. For the “other” fraction, use the values provided in Figure 7.3 (from page 10 of Source Report A of the LA LNAPL Recoverability Study: <https://www.gsn-net.com/en/publications/la-lnapl-recoverability-study.html>); or use values from the literature; or perform laboratory tests to measure your LNAPL properties. The API document Methods for Determining Inputs to Environmental Petroleum Hydrocarbon Mobility and Recovery Models” is a useful compilation of testing methods.

**Figure 7.3.** Excerpt Showing Representative LNAPL Density for four Different LNAPLs (LA Workgroup, 2015). 

Density @ 15°C (g/cm³)	
Gasoline	0.729
Diesel	0.827
JP A/B	0.77 – 0.79
Crude Oil	0.832 – 0.914

<https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/groundwater/lnapl/-/media/97D9B7561D34477F85D790DC1E3CCDBB.ashx>

Units: grams per cubic centimetre.

#### 7.2.5. Model Output

The model calculates the resulting screening-level concentrations of key more-soluble components, such as the BTEX compounds, over time due to dissolution alone. The model accounts for the changing mole fractions of the constituents in the LNAPL over time, which then changes the resulting dissolved phase concentrations. The model results are approximate, as they do not consider the loss of less-soluble components, such as long-chained alkanes that are susceptible to NSZD processes (see Garg et al., 2017), but they do provide a general depiction of how dissolution alone can change the dissolved concentrations in groundwater. For a more detailed evaluation of how groundwater concentrations in LNAPL zones can change over time, see Golder (2016) or the REMFUEL model described in the LNAPL Persistence Tier 3 tab.

#### 7.2.6. Developer

This LNAPL tool was developed by Dr. Phillip de Blanc, GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas, USA based on Mayer and Hassanizadeh (2005). Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*de Blanc, P., 2021. LNAPL Dissolution Calculator. Programmed by GSI Environmental for the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

### 7.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: HOW WILL LNAPL RISK CHANGE OVER TIME?

#### 7.3.1. Overview

The risk posed by the toxic components of an LNAPL body is a function of the constituents' concentration in groundwater in contact with the LNAPL. A multi-component LNAPL dissolution model based on the LNAPL constituent mole fraction and Raoult's law (Mayer and Hassanizadeh, 2005) is provided in Tier 2 and shows how the dissolved constituent concentrations immediately downgradient of an LNAPL body change over time.

A more sophisticated computer tool, API's LNAST model, also shows the change in dissolved phase LNAPL concentrations over time (Huntley and Beckett, 2002). It is summarized below. Finally, two other key LNAPL attenuation studies, a LNAPL mass balance developed by Ng et al. (2014) and a 2003 report about weathering of jet fuel LNAPL, are also reviewed below.

### 7.3.2. Overview of API's LNAPL Dissolution and Transport Screening Tool (LNAST)

- LNAST is suite of calculation tools, information about LNAPL, and LNAPL parameter databases. LNAST focuses on LNAPL distribution and fate at the water table. The calculation tool part of LNAST:
  - Predicts LNAPL distribution, dissolution, and volatilization over time.
  - Calculates downgradient dissolved-phase concentration through time.
  - Shows results both with and without hydraulic recovery of LNAPL.
  - Simulates the smear zone and the downgradient dissolved plume.
  - Combines multi-phase transport, dissolution, and solute transport.
  - Accounts for relative permeability effects caused by LNAPL.
  - Zones of high LNAPL saturation have much less groundwater flow through them, extending the longevity of these zones.
  - Good tool for estimating how long an LNAPL-generated plume will persist.
  - Powerful tool to see if LNAPL recovery reduces the longevity of the source and plume.
  - Key output is concentration of dissolved constituents in the plume vs. time at an observation well.
  - Does not account for Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD).
  - Assumes that remediation occurs shortly after the LNAPL release. You cannot release LNAPL many years ago and then start the remediation now a few decades later. The REMFuel model will do this, see Tier 3 of “How long will LNAPL persist?” portion of the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.
  - LNAST can be downloaded here: <https://www.api.org/oil-and-natural-gas/environment/clean-water/ground-water/lnapl/evaluating-hydrocarbon-removal>.

### 7.3.3. Learning More About LNAST: Other Teaching Resources

The Tier 3 Gateway also includes the following information:

- A short video describing LNAST:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2F66MNywKk>
- Checklist of Input Data for LNAST
- Example Output from LNAST
- Description of Ng et al. (2014) LNAPL Model Example of LNAST Output Data
- Summary of Parsons Fuel LNAPL Weathering Study

## 8. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “WILL LNAPL RECOVERY BE EFFECTIVE?” TABS

There are three levels of information that are delivered with the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- Tier 1: Simple, Quick Graphics, Tables, Background Information
- Tier 2: Middle Level Quantitative Methods, Tools
- Tier 3: Gateway to Complex Models

Each of the three Tiers are described below in this Section.

### 8.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: WILL LNAPL RECOVERY BE EFFECTIVE?

#### 8.1.1. Introduction

The Texas Risk Reduction Program (TRRP) developed guidance for managing LNAPL in the subsurface and provided a quantitative screening tool for knowing when LNAPL is potentially recoverable using total fluids submersible pumps. This tool was developed by entering certain site conditions into the numerical multiphase transport model Areal Multiphase Organic Simulator for Free Phase Hydrocarbon Migration and Recovery (ARMOS). Key assumptions included: petroleum hydrocarbon contamination and a single submersible total-fluids recovery pump with an inlet set at depth of 3 feet(1 metre) below static water level. The figure to the right summarizes the results of numerous model simulations configured for different fuel viscosities, hydraulic conductivities, product thicknesses, and recovery system drawdown that are combined with assumptions of what constitutes recovery effectiveness at this site.

This tool provides an approximate indicator of recoverability based on the new LNAPL paradigm that soil type and the LNAPL vertical equilibrium model are key recoverability factors. The TRRP described this curve as an example quantitative screen for conventional NAPL recovery and recommended it not be used on a site-specific basis. However, several members of the original TRRP guidance did feel it could provide a rapid planning level method to evaluate recoverability, and therefore this tool is used as a Tier 1 tool for the Concawe Toolbox. For a more detailed evaluation of recoverability, use the Multi-Site LNAPL Volume and Extent Model (“How much LNAPL is present?”, Tier 2) or use the LNAPL transmissivity calculator (“Will LNAPL recovery be effective?”, Tier 2).

This LNAPL recoverability screening tool is used this way:

**Step 1.** Get the Ratio of Apparent Thickness to True Thickness (same as specific volume,  $D_o$ ) based on soil type (Reidy et al., 1990).

**Step 2.** Multiply this Ratio by the apparent thickness (measured thickness) in the monitoring well of interest to get a soil type adjusted estimate for “True Thickness” (the thickness of soil containing LNAPL in the formation, now referred to as “specific volume”).

**Step 3.** Use the calculated True LNAPL Thickness in Step 2 on the Y-axis of the chart below.

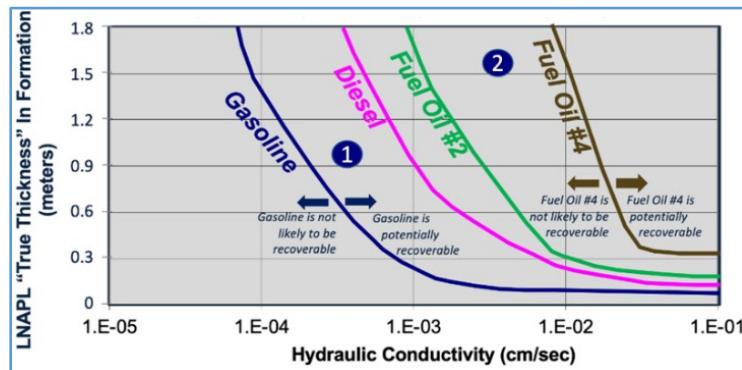
**Step 4.** Use the hydraulic conductivity of the formation at the monitoring well of interest on the X-axis of the chart below.

**Step 5.** Mark a point on the graph where the values for the Y-axis and X-axis intersect (see Example 1 dot for gasoline and Example 2 dot for Fuel Oil #4).

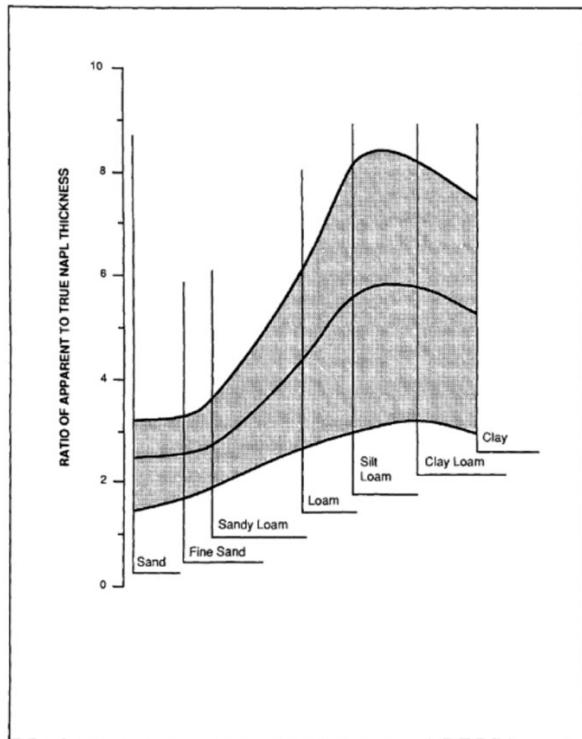
**Step 6.** If the intersection of the two values for the X- and Y-axes are to the right of the line for your LNAPL type, it suggests that LNAPL is potentially recoverable (see Example 1 for gasoline below, this point is to the right of the gasoline line and therefore may be recoverable).

If the intersection of the two values for the X- and Y-axes are to the left of the line for your LNAPL type, it suggests that LNAPL is likely not recoverable (see Example 2 for Fuel Oil #4 below, this point is to the left of the Fuel Oil #4 line and therefore is less likely to be recoverable).

**Figure 8.1.** Screenshot of TRRP LNAPL recoverability screening tool (TRRP, 2013) 



**Figure 8.2.** Screenshot of USEPA Figure “Ratio of Apparent to True LNAPL Thickness for Various Soil Types” (Reidy et al. 1990). 



## 8.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: WILL LNAPL RECOVERY BE EFFECTIVE?

LNAPL transmissivity is now an accepted way to determine if LNAPL is likely to be recoverable using conventional technologies such as LNAPL skimming or pumping. Based on guidance from ITRC (2018), the key threshold for LNAPL recovery is the LNAPL transmissivity has to be higher than this general range of numbers: 0.0093 to 0.074  $\text{m}^2/\text{day}$ . The range should be interpreted as a grey area for recoverability. If the calculated or measured LNAPL transmissivity is below that the lowest value, then there is a high probability that LNAPL hydraulic recovery will not be cost effective or efficient. If above the highest number, then hydraulic recovery has a much higher likelihood of being feasible.

There are three approaches to obtain LNAPL transmissivity values:

1. Measuring LNAPL Transmissivity in the Field (see three field measurement methods in Section 8.2.1 below);
2. Using the Tier 2 LNAPL Multi-Site Volume and Extent Model programmed in the LNAPL Toolbox (Sections 4.2 and 8.2.2);
3. Using the Tier 2 LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator programmed in the LNAPL Toolbox (Section 8.2.3).

### 8.2.1. Measuring LNAPL Transmissivity in the Field

LNAPL transmissivity concepts are described in ITRC (2018) and ASTM (2013) and prescribe three commonly used approaches:

1. LNAPL Baildown Testing. Note a computer spreadsheet is available to process the data from baildown tests to determine transmissivity (Charbeneau et al., 2012) (no metric units, however).
2. Manual LNAPL Skimming Testing.
3. LNAPL Recovery System Evaluation.

The resulting transmissivity can be compared against the 0.0093 to 0.074 m<sup>2</sup>/day transmissivity threshold described above to determine if LNAPL can be recovered effectively. Wells below this range have a high probability that LNAPL hydraulic recovery will not be cost effective or efficient. If above the highest number, then hydraulic recovery has a much higher likelihood of being feasible. Wells exhibiting LNAPL transmissivity values within this range are likely dominated by residual LNAPL. These values account for multiple soil and LNAPL types (ITRC, 2018).

### **8.2.2. Use the LNAPL Multi-Site Volume and Extent Model to Obtain LNAPL Transmissivity**

Go to Section 4.2 to understand what this tool does, what input data are required, and how to get transmissivity data as an output. The resulting transmissivity can be compared against the 0.0093 to 0.074 m<sup>2</sup>/day transmissivity threshold described above to determine if LNAPL can be recovered effectively.

### **8.2.3. Use the LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator**

#### **8.2.3.1. What the Model Does**

This tool calculates the following variables that indicate LNAPL volume and mobility at a single location for a single soil type: LNAPL specific volume, transmissivity, and Darcy flux. LNAPL transmissivity is the product of the average LNAPL conductivity times the thickness of the LNAPL lens. Large transmissivity values indicate that LNAPL has greater potential to move through the subsurface than small values and suggests that LNAPL may be more easily mobilized or recovered. Transmissivity is often used as an indication of when LNAPL recovery is no longer practical.

#### **8.2.3.2. How the Model Works**

The tool is based on the methodology of the API's LDRM (Charbeneau, 2007). The user enters parameters for the soil type, fluid properties, and the thickness of LNAPL observed in a monitoring well. LNAPL saturations are computed over the LNAPL thickness to calculate specific volume. Transmissivity is then calculated by integrating the saturation-dependent relative permeability over the LNAPL thickness. The product of the average relative permeability and the saturated hydraulic conductivity for the LNAPL is the LNAPL transmissivity. The transmissivity divided by the LNAPL thickness, then multiplied by the LNAPL gradient (see Section 5.2.1.4 for a description) is the LNAPL Darcy flux (volume of LNAPL per unit area of formation). The model uses an "f-factor" approach in which the LNAPL residual saturation is a function of the LNAPL thickness across the lens (Charbeneau, 2007).

Based on guidance from ITRC (2018), the key transmissivity threshold for LNAPL recovery is a value above: 0.0093 to 0.074 m<sup>2</sup>/day. If the calculated or measured LNAPL transmissivity is below that the lowest value, then there is a high probability that LNAPL hydraulic recovery will not be cost effective or efficient. If above the highest number, then hydraulic recovery has a much higher likelihood of being feasible. Wells exhibiting LNAPL transmissivity values within this range are likely

dominated by residual LNAPL. These values account for multiple soil and LNAPL types (ITRC, 2018).

#### 8.2.3.3. Key Assumptions

The model assumes that the LNAPL is in hydrostatic equilibrium with the surrounding media. Relative permeability is calculated by combining the Mualum model with the van Genuchten soil characteristic curve parameters (Charbeneau, 2007).

The model uses default values for various soil and LNAPL properties. Soil properties can be found in Carsel and Parrish (1988), and LNAPL properties can be found in Mercer and Cohen (1990) and Charbeneau (2003).

#### 8.2.3.4. Input Data

General input data from the model are shown in **Figure 8.3**.

**Figure 8.3.** Input Screen for LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator. 

**Inputs:**

Soil Type

LNAPL Type

Thickness of LNAPL in Well (m)

LNAPL Gradient (m/m)

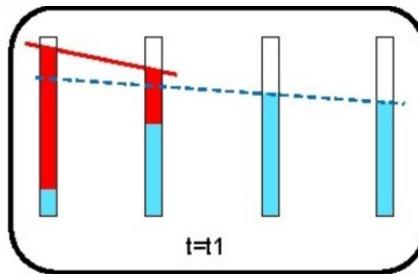
Note: LNAPL Gradient only affects results for LNAPL Darcy Flux and LNAPL Average Seepage Velocity.

**Soil Type:** Select the soil type that best describes the geologic media that contains the LNAPL.

**Thickness of LNAPL in Well:** Enter the thickness of the LNAPL accumulation in the well. Units: metres.

**LNAPL Gradient:** The change in vertical LNAPL elevation between two points in the area of the LNAPL observation divided by the distance between these points. Units: metre per metre. See red line from the ITRC LNAPL training figure (**Figure 8.4**).

**Figure 8.4.** Explanation of LNAPL Gradient (Red Line) vs. Groundwater Hydraulic Gradient (Blue Dashed Line) (ITRC, 2014) 



**LNAPL Type:** Select either crude oil, gasoline, diesel/kerosene/jet fuel, or heavy fuel oil (**Figure 8.5**).

**Figure 8.5.** Input Screen for LNAPL Type in the LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator. 

LNAPL Type	
crude oil	
crude oil	
gasoline	
diesel/kerosene/jetfuel	
heavy fuel oil	
0.01	

#### 8.2.3.5. Output from Model

The key output from the model is LNAPL transmissivity in units of metres squared per day, and supplemental values shown in **Figure 8.6**.

**Figure 8.6.** Output Screen for LNAPL Type in the LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator. 

Calculated LNAPL Transmissivity	
Parameters	Values
LNAPL Transmissivity (m <sup>2</sup> /d)	0.0053
Key threshold for LNAPL recoverability: LNAPL Transmissivity above this range (numbers <i>within</i> this range are in a grey zone for recoverability)	
Thickness of Formation Containing LNAPL (m)	0.95
Height of LNAPL/Air Interface above Water (m)	0.8
LNAPL Specific Volume (m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> )	0.02
LNAPL Mobile Specific Volume (m <sup>3</sup> /m <sup>3</sup> )	0.014
LNAPL Average Relative Permeability (unitless)	0.058
LNAPL Average Conductivity (m/d)	0.0056
LNAPL Darcy Flux (m/d)	5.3E-05
Average LNAPL Volumetric Content (unitless)	0.045
LNAPL Average Seepage Velocity (m/d)	0.0012

#### 8.2.3.6. Developer

This LNAPL tool was developed by Dr. Phillip de Blanc, GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas, USA. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*de Blanc, P., 2021. LNAPL Transmissivity Calculator, Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

### 8.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: WILL LNAPL RECOVERY BE EFFECTIVE?

#### 8.3.1. LNAPL Conceptual Site Model (LCSM)

“The LCSM is the collection of information that incorporates key attributes of the LNAPL body with site setting and hydrogeology to support site assessment and corrective action decision-making. The LCSM integrates information and considerations specific to the LNAPL body relating to the risks of the contaminant source, exposure pathways, and receptors. The content of the LCSM will typically evolve over time as different phases of the corrective action process require different information. What remains consistent is the emphasis in the LCSM on characterizing and understanding the source component, the LNAPL.” (ITRC, 2018). At sites where LNAPL recovery is the key remediation question, the LCSM can be refined and improved by using computer models and/or LNAPL transmissivity to better understand the potential for LNAPL recovery.

#### 8.3.2. Computer Models

Several computer models are available to help understand if LNAPL can be recovered effectively:

1. The API’s LDRM model can be used to determine how much LNAPL can be recovered. For an overview of LDRM, see Tier 3 of “How much LNAPL is present?”
2. The USEPA’s REMFuel model allows users to develop a simple box model of BTEX and oxygenates in an LNAPL source zone, simulate a historical release, and see the effects of removing some fraction of LNAPL in the current timeframe or sometime in the future. For an overview of REMFuel, see Tier 3 of “How long will LNAPL persist?”
3. The UTCHEM model can simulate LNAPL recovery and is particularly useful for extremely complex LNAPL problems and for modelling surfactant remediation projects. For an overview of UTCHEM, see Tier 3 of “How far will LNAPL migrate?”
4. The API LNAST model can be used to see the impact of LNAPL recovery on dissolved plumes. For an overview of LNAST, see Tier 3 of “How will LNAPL risk change over time?”

#### 8.3.3. LNAPL Transmissivity

More recently there has been a move to use LNAPL transmissivity as a key metric to evaluate LNAPL recoverability (e.g., ITRC, 2018). The ITRC’s “Top Three Things To Know about LNAPL Transmissivity” is reproduced to the right (Figure 8.7).

**Figure 8.7.** Top Three Things to Know about LNAPL Transmissivity (ITRC, 2018). 

**Top Three Things to Know about LNAPL Transmissivity ( $T_n$ )**

1.  $T_n$  describes a basic relationship between LNAPL drawdown in a well and LNAPL flow to that well. This makes it a representative metric for LNAPL recoverability by any hydraulic method—including skimming, pumping, vacuum extraction, or manual bailing.
2.  $T_n$  measurements must be used in context of the overall LCSM; identifying potentially confined or perched conditions and understanding seasonal changes are important to accurately measuring and appropriately using  $T_n$  as a metric.
3.  $T_n$  measurements are relevant to LNAPL saturation remedial objectives (e.g., recovering NAPL to the maximum extent practicable, or controlling LNAPL migration) and are not directly relevant to composition-based remedial objectives (e.g., meeting dissolved-phase groundwater standards).

The use of transmissivity has been catalysed by a general consensus that hydraulic recovery of LNAPL (skimmer wells, trenches, groundwater pumping, etc.) has a **Technology Threshold Metric** consisting of LNAPL transmissivity greater than 0.1 to 0.8 ft<sup>2</sup>/day (0.0093 to 0.074 m<sup>2</sup>/day). This metric may be used as a decision point for remedial system operation or technology transitions (ITRC, 2018). For example, in the State of Michigan, LNAPL guidance states “if the NAPL has a transmissivity greater than 0.5 ft<sup>2</sup>/day, it is likely that the NAPL can be recovered in a cost-effective and efficient manner unless a demonstration is made to show otherwise.” (ITRC, 2018). ITRC also describes five sites in detail that were used as the basis of this range (Section 2.3).

LNAPL transmissivity can be determined in two general ways:

1. **Computer Models:** Using a multiphase LNAPL model to calculate transmissivity based on soil type, LNAPL properties, and other factors. The Tier 2 LNAPL Subsurface Volume and Extent Model can be used to easily estimate LNAPL transmissivity, as can LDRM. Sale (2001) provide methods for determining inputs to environmental petroleum hydrocarbon and recovery models.
2. **Field Measurements (ITRC, 2018, Section 2.0):** Conduct field data and analyse the data to calculate the LNAPL transmissivity. ITRC (2018) and ASTM (2013) prescribe three approaches:
  1. **LNAPL Baildown Testing:** Note a computer spreadsheet is available to process the data from baildown tests to determine transmissivity (Charbeneau et al., 2012) (no metric units, however).
  2. **Manual LNAPL Skimming Testing.**
  3. **LNAPL Recovery System Evaluation.**

#### 8.3.4. Learning More About Computer Models: Other Teaching Resources

The Tier 3 Gateway also includes the following information:

- A short video describing LDRM:  
<https://youtube/nvc-49udgW8>
- A short video describing REMFuel:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H8JP8gvZcr8>
- A short video describing UTCHEM:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6im2Z63DiY>
- A short video describing LNAST:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2F66MNywKk>

## 9. TOOLBOX CONTENT: THE “HOW CAN ONE ESTIMATE NSZD?” TABS

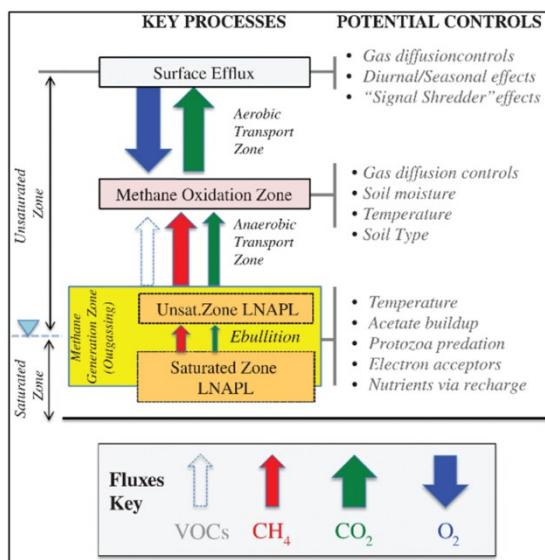
### 9.1. TIER 1 QUICK INFO: HOW CAN ONE ESTIMATE NSZD?

#### 9.1.1. What is Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD)?

NSZD describes the loss of LNAPL due to various processes, the most important of which is biodegradation (ITRC, 2009; ITRC, 2018). A series of research projects have determined that this depletion is occurring at much faster rates than first thought, up to 1,000's to 10,000's of litres of LNAPL being biodegraded per hectare per year (Johnson et al., 2006; Sihota et al., 2011; McCoy et al., 2015; Garg et al., 2017). Additionally, Garg et al. (2017) describes an overview of the latest research and key processes controlling NSZD (see **Figure 9.1**). As such, NSZD is becoming an important factor in the Conceptual Site Model (CSM) and may be incorporated into site management strategies.

NSZD values reported in the literature range from **2,800 to 72,000 litres per hectare per year** with the middle 50% of NSZD values falling **between 6,600 to 26,000 litres per hectare per year** (Garg et al., 2017). Similarly, a dataset of 31 distinct sites encompassing over 3,000 measurements from three different methods (DCC-LICOR, Carbon Traps, and Thermal Monitoring) was compiled. Measured average source area NSZD rates ranged from **655 to 152,470 litres per hectare per year**, with a median of **8,750 litres per hectare per year** (Rosansky et. al., 2021).

**Figure 9.1.** Key NSZD Processes and Potential Controls (Garg et al., 2017). 



#### 9.1.2. Key NSZD Resources

ITRC. 2018. *LNAPL-3: LNAPL Site Management - LCSM Evolution, Decision Process, and Remedial Technologies*. Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council. March 2018. <https://lnapl-3.itrcweb.org> Appendix B: Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD)

Concawe. 2020. “Detailed Evaluation of Natural Source Zone Depletion at a Paved Former Petrol Station” Concawe Report no. 13/20. <https://www.concawe.eu/publication/detailed-evaluation-of-natural-source-zone-depletion-at-a-paved-former-petrol-station/>

*Garg, S., Newell, C.J., Kulkarni, P.R., King, D.C., Adamson, D.T., Renno, M.I., and Sale, T. 2017. Overview of Natural Source Zone Depletion: Processes, Controlling Factors, and Composition Change. *Groundwater Monitoring & Remediation*, 32(3): 62-81. doi: 10.1111/gwmr.12219.*

*ITRC. 2009. Evaluating Natural Source Zone Depletion at Sites with LNAPL . Washington, D.C.: Interstate Technology Regulatory Council, LNAPLs Team.*

*ITRC. 2018. LNAPL-3: LNAPL Site Management - LCSM Evolution, Decision Process, and Remedial Technologies. Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council. March 2018.*

*Johnson, P., Lundegard, P. and Liu, Z. 2006. Source Zone Natural Attenuation at Petroleum Hydrocarbon Spill Sites—I: Site-Specific Assessment Approach. *Groundwater Monitoring & Remediation*, 26:82-92. doi:10.1111/j.1745-6592.2006.00114.x.*

*Lundegard, Paul D., and Paul C. Johnson. 2006. Source Zone Natural Attenuation at Petroleum Hydrocarbon Spill Sites - II: Application to a Former Oil Field. *Ground Water Monitoring and Remediation* 26 (4): 93-106. <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1745-6592.2006.00115.x>.*

*McCoy, K., Zimbron, J., Sale, T. and Lyverse. M. 2015. Measurement of Natural Losses of LNAPL Using CO<sub>2</sub> Traps. *Groundwater*, 53: 658-667. doi:10.1111/gwat.12240.*

*Palaia, T., J. Fitzgibbons, and P. Kulkarni. 2019. Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD). ESTCP Enviro Wiki. Accessed Feb. 2021. [https://www.enviro.wiki/index.php?title=Natural\\_Source\\_Zone\\_Depletion\\_\(NSZD\)](https://www.enviro.wiki/index.php?title=Natural_Source_Zone_Depletion_(NSZD))*

*Rosansky, S., Moore, S., DeRuzzo, G., McHugh, T., Kulkarni, P., Li, B. 2021. Evaluation and Demonstration of Techniques to Support Natural Source Zone Depletion at Multiple Sites. Draft Technical Report. Prepared for: NAVFAC EXWC.*

*Sihota, N.J., Singurindy, O., Mayer, K.U. 2011. CO<sub>2</sub>-Efflux Measurements for Evaluating Source Zone Natural Attenuation Rates in a Petroleum Hydrocarbon Contaminated Aquifer. *Environ. Sci. Technol.*, 2011, 45 (2), pp 482-488. doi: 10.1021/es1032585.*

## 9.2. TIER 2 MODELS/TOOLS: HOW CAN ONE ESTIMATE NSZD?

Two tools are provided in the Tier 2 Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) section of the Concawe LNAPL Toolbox:

- A NSZD Rate Converter
- A NSZD Temperature Enhancement Calculator

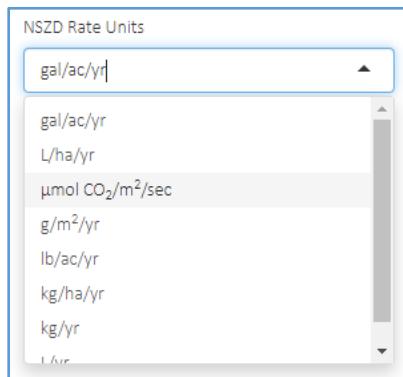
### 9.2.1. NSZD Rate Converter Tool

#### 9.2.1.1. What the Model Does

NSZD rates are reported in a variety of ways as shown by several options in the tool's pulldown menu. Practitioners typically report NSZD in units of volume of LNAPL biodegraded per area per time, such as "gallons per acre per year" in most of the NSZD projects performed in the United States. The NSZD Rate Converter Tool

converts typical measures of NSZD rates between metric and imperial, as well as converting from carbon dioxide flux (in units of  $\mu\text{mol CO}_2$  per square metre per second) to mass or volume of LNAPL degraded per area per time (ex. litres of LNAPL biodegraded per hectare per year).

**Figure 9.2.** Input Data Screen for NSZD Rate Converter. 



#### 9.2.1.2. How the Model Works

The user is able to select an LNAPL type or representative compound, enter an NSZD value and select starting units, and select a final desired unit of mass or volume of LNAPL degradation.

#### 9.2.1.3. Key Assumptions

For converting from a carbon dioxide flux in units of  $\mu\text{mol}/\text{m}^2/\text{sec}$  to an LNAPL volume or mass per area per time, the table below summarizes densities and molecular weights applied for each LNAPL type or representative compound. The default parameters apply the density of fresh gasoline (0.77 g/mL), and the molecular weight of octane (114.2 g/mol).

**Table 9.1.** Density and Molecular Weight for Common LNAPLs and LNAPL Constituents. 

LNAPL Type or Representative Compound	Density (g/mL)	Molecular Weight (g/mol)
Benzene	0.88	78.1
Octane	0.70	114.2
Decane	0.73	142.3
Fresh Gasoline	0.77	95.0
Fresh Diesel	0.83	200.0
Fresh Jet Fuel	0.80	185.0

#### 9.2.1.4. Developer

This LNAPL tool was developed by Poonam Kulkarni of GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas, USA. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*Kulkarni, P., 2021. NSZD Rate Converter, Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

## 9.2.2. NSZD Temperature Enhancement Calculator

### 9.2.2.1. What the Model Does

Hydrocarbon degradation can be enhanced with increases in temperature (Sustained Thermally Enhanced LNAPL Attenuation [STELA]) (Zeman et al., 2014; Kulkarni et al., 2017). Temperatures in the subsurface can be enhanced by a variety of technologies, such as installing electrical resistance heaters in the LNAPL zone; using clear plastic sheets (i.e., soil solarization) to provide solar heating; using solar swimming pool heaters and closed loop borehole heat exchangers (Kulkarni et al., 2015). This model uses the Arrhenius Law to estimate the potential NSZD rate enhancement with any externally created temperature increase up to 45°C.

### 9.2.2.2. How the Model Works

Arrhenius Law estimates for most biological systems, the temperature coefficient is 2.0 (i.e., NSZD rates will double with a 10°C increase in temperature) (Atlas and Bartha 1986; Riser-Roberts 1992).

$$Q_{10} = R_2/R_1^{[10/(T_2-T_1)]}$$

Where

$Q_{10}$  = temperature coefficient, typically 2.0

$R_1$  = NSZD Rate at temperature  $T_1$

$R_2$  = NSZD Rate at temperature  $T_2$

$T_1$  = Initial temperature (°C)

$T_2$  = Final temperature (°C)

### 9.2.2.3. Key Assumptions

For mesophilic anaerobic digestors, optimum temperature range between 30 and 38°C (Metcalf and Eddy, 1991; Gerardi, 2003). Maximum temperature approximated to be 40°C, after which bacterial populations decline.

### 9.2.2.4. Developer

This LNAPL tool was developed by Poonam Kulkarni of GSI Environmental, Houston, Texas, USA. Reference either the Concawe Toolbox (page i) or using this reference:

*Kulkarni, P., 2021. NSZD Temperature Enhancement Calculator, Concawe LNAPL Toolbox.*

## 9.3. TIER 3 GATEWAY TO COMPLEX TOOLS: HOW CAN ONE ESTIMATE NSZD?

### 9.3.1. NSZD Overview

- Natural Source Zone Depletion (NSZD) has emerged as an important new remediation alternative for LNAPL sites. Key references and a description of what they explain about NSZD are provided below:
- The ITRC's (2018) LNAPL Site Management—LCSM Evolution, Decision Process, and Remedial Technologies guidance is heavily influenced by the developments in measuring and applying NSZD for LNAPL site management, with over 100 specific mentions of NSZD in the document and a detailed NSZD appendix. More

importantly, it provides detailed information on three frequently used NSZD assessment methods:

- The gradient method, based on soil gas composition,
- Carbon dioxide flux-based methods, including Carbon Traps and dynamic closed flux chambers (i.e., DCC-LI-COR), and
- The biogenic heat monitoring method (Thermal Monitoring).
- Key vendors for these methods are:
  - EnviroFlux (Carbon Traps)
  - LI-COR (DCC- LI-COR)
  - Thermal NSZD (Thermal Monitoring)
- Garg et al.’s (2017) Overview of Natural Source Zone Depletion: Processes, Controlling Factors, and Composition Change provides a detailed review of how NSZD developed, key NSZD processes, potentially NSZD-controlling factors, and how NSZD affects the composition of LNAPL (see graphic to right). It is based on roughly 100 technical references.
- Kulkarni et al.’s (2020) Application of Four Measurement Techniques to Understand Natural Source Zone Depletion Processes at an LNAPL Site describes an extensive research project where four different NSZD measurement techniques were used at a site and then compared.
- Lari et al.’s (2019) Natural Source Zone Depletion of LNAPL: A Critical Review Supporting Modelling Approaches discusses key NSZD processes required to model NSZD and the capabilities of 36 models to accommodate 21 important phenomena.
- ESTCP’s Environmental Wiki has an entry describing NSZD where the significance of NSZD is discussed along with NSZD stoichiometry, the gaseous expression of NSZD through gas evolution, and measuring temperature to determine NSZD (Palaia, T., J. Fitzgibbons, and P. Kulkarni, 2019).
- CRC CARE’s (2018) Technical Report 44: Technical Measurement Guidance for LNAPL Natural Source Zone Depletion provides practical guidance on the measurement of NSZD rates using various available methods. The document applies to hydrocarbon sites that have a need for theoretical, qualitative, or quantitative understanding of NSZD processes. Its Appendix B contains a checklist for practitioners.

### **9.3.2. Additional NSZD Resources**

- Short video developed for the ESTCP EnviroWiki explaining carbon trap technology: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KF1uRIOZoQ>
- Short video developed for the ESTCP EnviroWiki explaining ThermalNSZD technology: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oh3WFyrtUL0>
- What NSZD rates are seen at hydrocarbon sites, a table from Garg et al., 2017 and from Rosansky et al., 2021
- What Enhanced NSZD rates are possible with low level heating

## 10. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### 10.1. CHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF LNAPLs AND KEY CONSTITUENTS

	<b>Density @ 15°C (g/cm³)</b>	<b>Viscosity (cp)</b>
Gasoline	0.729	0.355 – 0.659
Diesel	0.827	Wide range
JP A/B	0.77 – 0.79	1.18 -1.59
Crude Oil	0.832 – 0.914	Wide range

*Los Angeles LNAPL Workgroup, 2015. Final Report for the LA Basin LNAPL Recoverability Study. Los Angeles LNAPL Workgroup, Western States Petroleum Association.*

Table 1. Representative properties of selected LNAPL chemicals commonly found at Superfund sites (U.S.EPA, 1990), water, and selected petroleum products (Lyman and Noonan, 1990)

<i>Chemical</i>	<i>Density† (g/cm³)</i>	<i>Dynamic† Viscosity (cp)</i>	<i>Water† Solubility (mg/l)</i>	<i>Vapor† Pressure (mm Hg)</i>	<i>Henry's Law† Constant (atm-m³/mol)</i>
Methyl Ethyl Ketone	0.805	0.40	2.68 E+05	71.2	2.74 E-05 <sup>(2)</sup>
4-Methyl-2-Pentanone	0.8017	0.5848	1.9 E+04	16	1.55 E-04 <sup>(2)</sup>
Tetrahydrofuran	0.8892	0.55	3 E+05 <sup>(1)</sup>	45.6 <sup>(2)</sup>	1.1 E-04 <sup>(2)</sup>
Benzene	0.8765	0.6468	1.78 E+03	76	5.43 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
Ethyl Benzene	0.867	0.678	1.52 E+02	7	7.9 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
Styrene	0.9060	0.751	3 E+02	5	2.28 E-03
Toluene	0.8669	0.58	5.15 E+02	22	6.61 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
m-Xylene	0.8642 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.608	2 E+02	9	6.91 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
o-Xylene	0.880 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.802	1.7 E+02	7	4.94 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
p-Xylene	0.8610 <sup>(1)</sup>	0.635	1.98 E+02 <sup>(1)</sup>	9	7.01 E-03 <sup>(1)</sup>
Water	0.998 <sup>(6)</sup>	1.14 <sup>(6)</sup>	----	----	----
<u>Common Petroleum Products</u>					
Automotive gasoline	0.72-0.76 <sup>(3)</sup>	0.36-0.49 <sup>(3)</sup>	----	----	----
#2 Fuel Oil	0.87-0.95	1.15-1.97 <sup>(5)</sup>	----	----	----
#6 Fuel Oil	0.87-0.95	14.5-493.5 <sup>(4)</sup>	----	----	----
Jet Fuel (JP-4)	~0.75	~0.83 <sup>(5)</sup>	----	----	----
Mineral Base					
Crankcase Oil	0.84-0.96 <sup>(6)</sup>	~275 <sup>(4)</sup>	----	----	----

† Values are given at 20°C unless noted.

<sup>(1)</sup> Value is at 25°C.

<sup>(2)</sup> Value is at unknown temperature but is assumed to be 20°- 30°C.

<sup>(3)</sup> Value is at 15.6°C.

<sup>(4)</sup> Value is at 38°C.

<sup>(5)</sup> Value is at 21°C.

<sup>(6)</sup> Value is at 15°C.

*Newell, C.J., S.D. Acree, R.R. Ross, and S.G. Huling, 1995. Light Nonaqueous Phase Liquids. Ground Water Issue Paper. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency*

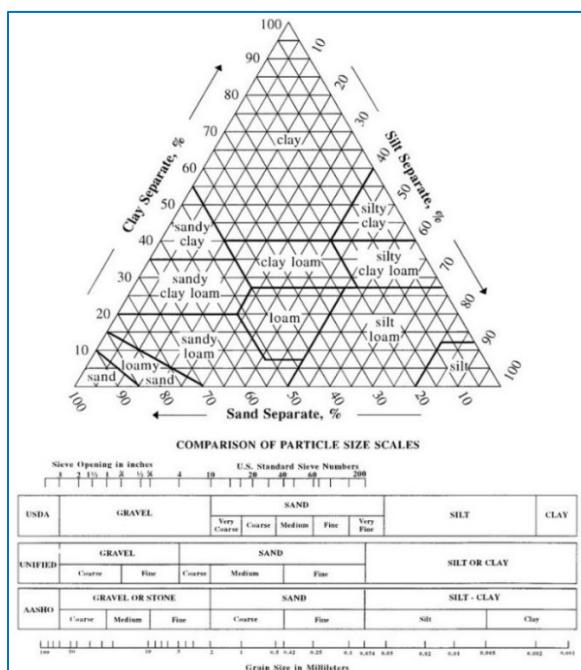
## 10.2. SOIL PROPERTIES RESOURCES

Excerpt from Garcia-Gaines, R. and S. Frankenstein, 2015. USCS and the USDA Soil Classification system. US Army Corps of Engineers, ERDC/CRREL Tr-15-4, March 2015. <https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a614144.pdf> (Public domain publication)

### Introduction to Soil Classification Systems.

ERDC/CRREL TR-15-4	2
<p><b>1 Introduction</b></p> <p>Soil characteristics and properties are important to human daily living. A variety of disciplines (geology, agriculture, engineering, etc.) require a systematic categorization of soil, detailing its physical properties. Due to different interests, numerous soil classification systems have been developed worldwide. Many soil scientists share a goal of developing a universally understood and accepted system. Also, it would be advantageous to unite available soils databases and create one global soil database. Many soil databases exist worldwide; most of them use different soil classification systems.</p> <p>Soil classification systems can be divided into two main groups, one for engineering purposes and another for soil science. For engineering purposes, the following are the most used classification systems (Das 2009):</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) textural soil classification</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on particle size distribution</li> <li>b. Commonly used because of its simplicity</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. <b>American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO) soil classification</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on particle size distribution and soil plasticity</li> <li>b. Used mostly by state and county highway departments</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. <b>Unified Soil Classification System (USCS)</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on particle size distribution, liquid limit, soil plasticity, and organic matter concentrations</li> <li>b. Widely used by geotechnical engineers</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p>For soil-science purposes, a variety of classification systems have been created for diverse uses. Most of them follow one of the following approaches:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <b>Natural system</b> (Muir 1969)       <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on soil morphology, behavior, or genesis</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>ERDC/CRREL TR-15-4</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Examples of classification systems that follow this approach are the French Soil Reference System, USDA soil taxonomy, and the World Reference Base for Soil Resources</li> </ul> <p><b>2. Technical system</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Organized and classified into groups for specific applied purposes (Cline 1949)</li> <li>b. Relies on the most current practices and an understanding of the intended use of soil or the present land-use regulations (Buol et al. 2011)</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Numerical system</b> (Buol et al. 2011)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on statistical analysis (by similitudes)</li> </ul> <p><b>4. Vernacular system</b> (Tabor 2001)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Based on names that describe characteristics, such as physical appearance (e.g., color, texture, landscape position), performance (e.g., production capability, flooding), and accompanying vegetation</li> </ul> <p>However, as we are interested in engineering-related work, we will be focusing mostly on USCS and the USDA and AASHTO soil classification systems.</p> <p>The USDA soil classification system is relatively simple to apply while USCS and the AASHTO classification system are more complex. There is no direct relationship between these soil classification systems, and moving from one system to another can be tedious and inexact. This presents an obstacle for a person who needs to work with a specific soil classification system but who has soil data that uses another classification system.</p>

**Soil texture triangle showing the USDA classification system based on grain size and sand/silt/clay content (Public domain, Wikipedia)**



## Converting between USDA and USC soil classification systems.

Table 17. Consensus of the most probable (MP) and possible (P) USCS classification per USDA texture classification.

USDA Classification	USCS classification						Consensus	
	SSURGO (2014) <i>Table 8</i> WES (1961) <i>Table 9</i> Wilson et al. (1965) <i>Table 10</i>		Ayers et al. (2011) <i>Table 13</i>		Baylot et al. (2013) <i>Table 14</i>			
	MP	P	MP	P	MP	MP		
Sand	SM	SP-SM	SW, SP	—	SP	SP	SP	
Loamy Sand	SM	CL	SM	SC	SM	SM	SM	
Sandy Loam	SM	ML, CL	SM	—	SC	SM	SM	
Sandy Clay Loam	CL	SC	SC	—	SC	SC	SC	
Sandy Clay	SC, CL	—	SC	CL	SC	SC	SC,	
Loam	CL	ML	ML	—	CL	ML	CL	
Silt Loam	CL	ML	ML	—	SM	ML	ML	
Silt	ML	—	ML	—	ML	ML	ML	
Clay Loam	CL	—	CL, MH	—	CL	CL	CL	
Silty Clay Loam	CL	ML, CH	MH	—	CL	CL	CL	
Clay	CH, CL	GC	CH	CL	CH	CH	CH	
Silty Clay	CH, CL	—	CL, MH	—	CL	CH	CH	

*Garcia-Gaines, R. and S. Frankenstein, 2015. USCS and the USDA Soil Classification system. US Army Corps of Engineers, ERDC/CRREL Tr-15-4, March 2015. <https://apps.dtic.mil/dtic/tr/fulltext/u2/a614144.pdf>*

### Soil Capillary Properties

Because the critical LNAPL thickness required to overcome the pore entry pressure of the formation is greater than that observed in the well, capillary forces in the formation would prevent the LNAPL from flowing.

Common soil properties and Brooks-Corey and van Genuchten parameters (Carsel and Parrish, 1988):

Soil	Porosity	Bulk Den.	$K_w$ (m/d)	Brooks & Corey Param.		van Genuchten Param.		
		(g/cm <sup>3</sup> )		$P_c$ head (m)	$\lambda$	N	$\alpha$ (1/m)	m
Clay	0.38	1.64	0.048	125.	0.09	1.09	0.8	0.0826
Clay loam	0.41	1.56	0.062	0.53	0.31	1.31	1.9	0.237
Loam	0.43	1.51	0.25	0.28	0.56	1.56	3. 6	0.359
Loamy sand	0.41	1.56	3.5	0.081	1.28	2.28	12.4	0.561
Silt	0.46	1.43	0.06	0.62	0.37	1.37	1.6	0. 70
Silt loam	0.45	1.46	0.11	0.5	0.41	1.41	2.	0.291
Silty clay	0.36	1.70	0.0048	2	0.09	1.09	0.5	0.0826
Silty clay loam	0.43	1.51	0.017	1	0.23	1.23	1	0.187
Sand	0.43	1.51	7.1	0.069	1.68	2.68	14.5	0.627
Sandy clay	0.38	1.64	0.029	0.37	0.23	1.23	2.7	0.187
Sandy clay loam	0.39	1.62	0.31	0.17	0.48	1.48	5.9	0.324
Sandy loam	0.41	1.56	1.1	0.13	0.89	1.89	7.5	0.471

*Los Angeles LNAPL Workgroup, 2015. Final Report for the LA Basin LNAPL Recoverability Study. Los Angeles LNAPL Workgroup, Western States Petroleum Association.*

## 11. GLOSSARY

<b>API</b>	American Petroleum Institute.
<b>Apparent LNAPL thickness</b>	Observed monitoring well LNAPL thickness. Terms that others have used to describe the observed monitoring well thickness are “apparent thickness” and “observed thickness”
<b>ASTM</b>	American Society for Testing and Materials.
<b>bgs</b>	Below Ground Surface
<b>BTEX</b>	Benzene, Toluene, Ethyl benzene, Xylene (BTEX). These are four of the most common constituents of LNAPL that dissolve from the LNAPL and can migrate in moving groundwater.
<b>First Order</b>	A type of attenuation model that assumes the rate that a substance is removed reduces over time in proportion to how much of that substance is left, such as $\exp(-k^*t)$ liters per year is removed from an LNAPL body at a certain time t.
<b>Formation LNAPL thickness</b>	This is the actual thickness of the subsurface soil that is impacted by LNAPL, sometimes called “True LNAPL Thickness”. Not all of the subsurface soil is filled with LNAPL.
<b>HSSM</b>	USEPA’s Hydrocarbon Spill Screening Model for modeling LNAPL migration.
<b>ITRC</b>	Interstate Technology and Regulatory Council. A United States coalition of environmental regulators, site owners, academics, and consultants working to reduce barriers to the use of innovative air, water, waste, and remediation environmental technologies and processes
<b>LCSM</b>	LNAPL Conceptual Site Model.
<b>LDRM</b>	The API LNAPL Distribution and Recovery Model (LDRM) simulates the performance of proven hydraulic technologies for recovering free-product petroleum liquid releases to groundwater.
<b>LNAPL</b>	Light non-aqueous phase liquids. These are lighter-than-water separate phase liquids, such as crude oil, gasoline, diesel fuel, etc., that can migrate into the subsurface and form either free, mobile, or residual LNAPL.
<b>LNAPL</b>	Light Non-Aqueous Phase Liquids.
<b>LNAPL relative permeability</b>	The ratio of LNAPL permeability to intrinsic permeability of the formation. It is a measure of how mobile an LNAPL accumulation is in the subsurface.
<b>LNAPL Transmissivity</b>	(LNAPL transmissivity is a measure of how much LNAPL can be transmitted horizontally through the subsurface in an existing LNAPL zone. Symbol: $T_n$ .
<b>LNAST</b>	LNAST is an API model that consists of suite of calculation tools, information about LNAPL, and LNAPL parameter databases. LNAST focuses on LNAPL distribution and fate at the water table
<b>Mobile LNAPL</b>	Free LNAPL that is moving laterally or vertically in the environment under natural prevailing hydraulic conditions.
<b>Mobile Saturation</b>	The LNAPL saturation level above which naturally occurring capillary forces prevent LNAPL from moving, thus the LNAPL is potentially mobile (see “Free LNAPL”).
<b>MODFLOW</b>	Modular groundwater flow model.

Mole Fraction	Mole Fraction is defined as unit of the amount of a constituent (expressed in moles), $n_i$ , divided by the total amount of all constituents in a mixture (also expressed in moles), $n_{tot}$
NSZD	Natural source zone depletion. The process where natural processes will remove LNAPLs from the subsurface by naturally occurring physical, chemical, and biological processes.
REMfuel	REMfuel is a USEPA source remediation/attenuation and plume migration model for LNAPL sites distributed by the USEPA and written by Dr. Ron Falta.
Residual LNAPL	LNAPL that represents discontinuous globules of LNAPL within the pore network and is immobile under prevailing conditions. Residual LNAPL can be thought of as “individual blobs of LNAPL in individual pores” in a gravel, sand, or silt. This concept is complex, with several different conceptual models on how to apply this value, and five methods to determine a value for residual saturation.
Residual saturation	The LNAPL saturation level below which naturally occurring capillary forces prevent LNAPL from moving, making the LNAPL immobile.
Specific volume	In a given area, the volume of LNAPL divided by the area. This is a calculated value of the actual amount of LNAPL present in an area divided by the area. This would be the thickness of LNAPL that would remain in an LNAPL zone if the soil and water in that area were hypothetically removed. Symbol: Do.
Stable body	A LNAPL body that is no longer moving laterally.
TRRP	Texas Risk Reduction Program
Unconfined LNAPL	LNAPL near the water table of an unconfined formation. Out-of-date conceptual models of LNAPL often referred to this as “floating LNAPL.”
USDA Soil Classification	U.S. Dept of Agriculture soil classification system.
USCS Soil Classification	Unified Soil Classification System.
UTChem	University of Texas chemical flood simulator, a 3-D finite-difference numerical model that can be used to simulate LNAPL migration and dissolution.
Zero Order	A type of attenuation model that assumes the rate that a substance is removed is constant over time, such as X liters per year is removed from an LNAPL body.

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