

MARSSIM Overview I

MARSSIM Technical Seminar Series September 15, 2006 Eric W. Abelquist Oak Ridge Associated Universities



Lecture Topics

MARSSIM Overview

Use of DQO Process

Integrated Final Status Survey

MARSSIM experience...just a few of the many examples

- Nuclear power plants Trojan, CY, MY
- DNSC Curtis Bay and Hammond Depots
- DOE at ANL, BNL, Rocky Flats, Battelle
- Gaseous Diffusion Plants
- Army Corps FUSRAP sites; Air Force and Naval Base Cleanups

COMPASS—MARSSIM Software

- Funded by the NRC, assists D&D professionals and regulators with MARSSIM implementation
- Help trains MARSSIM users with survey designs, power curves, DQA
- Consistency of information which facilitates the regulator's review

Decontamination and Decommissioning Science Consortium

- Consortium of DOE decommissioning expertise to help D&D professionals stay abreast of the increasing number of technical information resources available
- "The information is out there... the DDSC effectively integrates and transfers the D&D information to those who need it."
- Consortium members are now ORAU and ANL



www.orau.gov/ddsc/ (DDSC Web Site)

- Provides location for all the diverse and dispersed elements of D&D operations
- Provides latest in decommissioning news
- Offers an "Ask the Expert" feature
- Integrates the many disciplines of D&D...D&D projects, dose modeling, survey instrumentation, regulations, remediation technologies, D&D operations







MARSSIM

- A consensus document prepared by DOD, DOE, EPA and NRC on the methodology for performing radiological surveys
- A flexible approach to planning, conducting, and assessing radiological surveys to demonstrate compliance
 - Based on the DQO Process...nothing (not much anyway) is written in stone!



MARSSIM Scope

- Demonstrating compliance with release criteria for **building surfaces** and **surface soils** (up to 15 cm depth)
- MARSSIM does not include selecting the release criterion, obtaining DCGLs, subsurface soil, or building materials
- (MARSSIM group also preparing guidance for subsurface soils and building materials)



MARSSIM Objectives

- Guidance for planning final status surveys:
 - How many samples are needed?
 - What measurement methods and survey instrumentation to use?
 - How to determine if DQOs have been met?
 - How to reduce survey data to demonstrate compliance with release criteria?



MARSSIM Process (Data Life Cycle)

- Plan (DQO process)
- Implement (conduct surveys)
 Scanning, direct measurements, and samples
 Assess (data quality assessment)

Statistical tests and EMC

Decide (compliance with release criteria)



Data Quality Objectives (DQOs)

- DQO process is a series of planning steps for establishing criteria for data quality and developing survey designs
- "Guidance for the Quality Objectives Process" EPA QA/G-4; August 2000



DQO process consists of 7 steps

- 1) State the problem
- 2) Identify the decision
- 3) Identify inputs to the decision
- 4) Define the study boundaries
- 5) Develop a decision rule
- 6) Specify limits on decision errors
- 7) Optimize the survey design

We are working on independent verification DQOs!



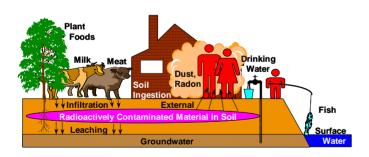
Release Criteria

- Regulatory agencies establish release criterion (e.g. 25 mrem/y); NRC's SRP
- Exposure scenarios and pathway modeling to convert to measurable concentrations called DCGLs (RESRAD, DandD codes):
 - Derived Concentration Guideline Levels
 - For both soil concentrations and surface activity on structures

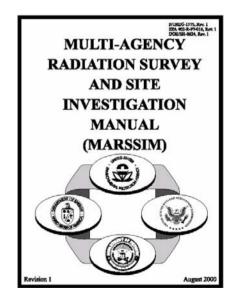


Gaps Between DCGL Development and MARSSIM

Pathway Analysis



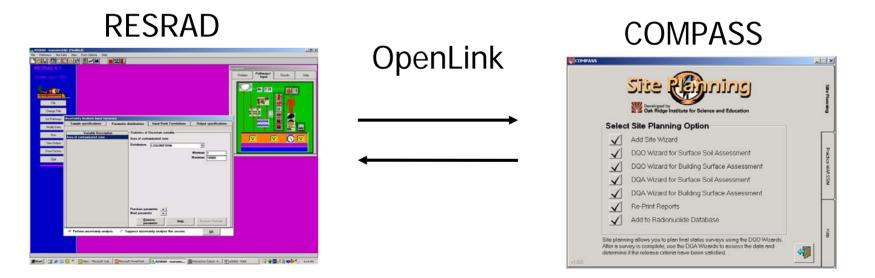
DCGL MARSSIM Implementation



RESRAD/COMPASS: Enhanced

Computational Ability

 Incorporating RESRAD and COMPASS would allow users to quickly integrate dose based area factors into the MARSSIM DQO/DQA process





Scenarios Used to Determine DCGLs

• Residential

Commercial/Industrial

- Building occupancy
- Building renovation
- Drinking water

- Agricultural
- Recreational



Pathways Used to Determine DCGLs

- External
 - Meat ingestion

- Ingestion of drinking water
- Milk ingestion
- Plant ingestion
 Soil ingestion
- Fish and seafood ingestion Radon inhalation
- Inhalation of resuspended particulates

Use of DCGLs

- Average level of radioactivity
- Units
 - Surface activity in Bq/m^2 or $dpm/100 \text{ cm}^2$
 - Volumetric (soil) in Bq/kg or pCi/g
- Obtained from regulatory guidance based on default pathway parameter values, or from site-specific pathway modeling



Types of DCGLs

- $DCGL_W$
 - DCGL for residual radioactivity evenly distributed over a large area
 - Use with WRS or Sign test
- DCGL_{EMC}
 - DCGL for small areas of elevated activity
 - Used for the elevated measurement comparison to identify areas that require further investigation
 - Developed using different exposure assumptions than $\mathrm{DCGL}_{\mathrm{W}}$
 - Considers results of individual measurements

Area Factor

- A factor used to adjust $DCGL_W$ to estimate $DCGL_{EMC}$ $DCGL_{FMC} = DCGL_W * Area Factor$
- Represents magnitude by which the residual radioactivity in a small area of elevated activity can exceed the $DCGL_W$ while maintaining compliance with the release criterion
- Site-specific area factors should be determined based on regulatory guidance

Prerequisites for Applying DCGLs

- Identify site-specific contaminants of potential concern
- Identify relative ratios among contaminants
- Identify isotopic ratios and determine state of equilibrium for decay chains (e.g., ²³⁸U, ²³²Th)

Surrogate Measurements

- Surrogate measurements
 - Measure one radionuclide to demonstrate compliance for one or more radionuclides
 - One "easy" to measure radionuclide present in a "consistent" ratio with difficult to measure radionuclide(s)
- Establish "consistent" ratio
 - Members of a natural decay series
 - Process knowledge

Example of Surrogate Measurements

- ⁶⁰Co and ⁵⁵Fe are present in soil
 - ⁶⁰Co gamma rays are easier to measure
- 60 Co DCGL_W = 10 pCi/g 55 Fe DCGL_W = 200 pCi/g Ratio of 55 Fe to 60 Co = 5

$$DCGL_{Co, Mod} = 10 * \frac{200}{(5/10) + 200} = 8 \text{ pCi/g}$$

Multiple Radionuclides

- Each nuclide-specific DCGL corresponds to the release criterion
- Presence of multiple radionuclides would exceed the release criterion
- Methods for accounting for multiple radionuclides
 - Modify assumptions made in exposure pathway modeling to account for multiple radionuclides
 - Unity rule
 - Gross Activity DCGL

Radiation Survey and Site

Investigation Process

- Historical Site Assessment
- Preliminary Surveys (Scoping/Char.)
- Remedial Actions (RA)/RA Support Survey
- Final Status Survey
 - Classify site areas
 - Divide into Survey Units
 - Demonstrate compliance with release criteria

Historical Site Assessment (HSA)

- Identify potential sources of contamination
- Differentiate areas of different contamination potential - Impacted or Non-impacted
- Provide input to scoping and characterization survey designs
- Provide assessment for potential of contaminant migration



Classification of Areas

- Areas with higher potential for contamination receive higher degree of survey effort
- Impacted
 - Class 1
 - Class 2
 - Class 3
- Non-impacted



Class 1 Areas

- Class 1 survey: applies to areas with the highest potential for contamination, and meet the following criteria: (1) impacted; (2) potential for delivering a dose above the release criterion; (3) potential for small areas of elevated activity; and (4) insufficient evidence to support reclassification as Class 2 or Class 3.
- Areas that have, or had prior to remediation, a potential for radioactive contamination (based on site operating history) or known contamination (based on previous radiation surveys) above the DCGL_W



Class 2 Areas

- Class 2 survey: applies to areas that meet the following criteria: (1) impacted; (2) low potential for delivering a dose above the release criterion; and (3) little or no potential for small areas of elevated activity.
- Areas that have or had prior to remediation, a potential for radioactive contamination or known contamination, but are **not expected** to exceed the DCGL_W



Class 3 Areas

- Class 3 survey: applies to areas that meet the following criteria: (1) impacted; (2) little or no potential for delivering a dose above the release criterion; and (3) little or no potential for small areas of elevated activity.
- Any impacted areas that are not expected to contain any residual radioactivity or are expected to contain levels of residual radioactivity at a small fraction of the DCGL_w based on site operating history and previous radiation surveys.



Scoping Survey

 Expands upon HSA data by collecting judgmental samples in potential areas of concern

Objectives

- Provides input to characterization survey design
- Supports classification of site areas
- Identifies site contaminants and their variability
- Identifies non-impacted areas that may be suitable background reference areas



Characterization Survey

- Primary Objective: Determine the nature and extent of contamination - Builds upon the HSA and scoping survey results
- Other Objectives:
 - Evaluating remediation alternatives
 - Modeling input for site-specific DCGLs
 - Input to final status survey design MARSSIM emphasis

Remedial Action Support Survey

- Provides a real-time assessment of the effectiveness of decontamination efforts
- Typically relies on a simple radiological parameter - direct measurements of surface activity, soil scans/analysis in the field
- Determines when an area/survey unit is ready for the final status survey



Final Status Survey

- Objective: Demonstrate that residual radioactivity in each survey unit satisfies release criteria
- Builds on data from HSA and survey results from scoping and characterization surveys
- Survey design relies on DQO process for data collection (MARSSIM Appendix D)



Final Status Survey (cont.)

- Null hypothesis (H₀): Residual radioactivity exceeds the release criteria
 - compare to NUREG/CR-5849 which used t test and confidence interval approach
- Decision errors occur when H₀ is rejected when it is true (Type I), or when H₀ is accepted when it is false (Type II)



MARSSIM Statistics: Hypothesis Testing

 Survey results are used to select between one condition of the environment (null hypothesis) and an alternative condition

Decision

Accept H_0 Reject H_0

True Condition

H_0 is TrueH_0 is FalseNo errorType II errorType I errorNo error

Statistical Power $(1 - \beta)$

- Type I errors (or α) are specified at the DCGL_W, while Type II errors (or β) are specified at the lower bound of the gray region (LBGR)
- Power (1 β): Probability of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is false; survey design with high power means correctly releasing survey units (high power is good)

Final Status Survey (cont.)

- Two statistical tests are used to plan and evaluate final status survey data:
 Wilcoxon Rank Sum (contaminant in bkg)
 Sign Test (contaminant **not** in bkg)
- Elevated measurement comparison test
 - not a statistical test; performed on judgment samples that were collected at likely areas of contamination or based on scanning results



Identify Survey Units

- Class 1, 2 and 3 areas divided into survey units—prior to final status survey
 - Areas of similar contamination potential or common history
 - Areas naturally distinguishable from other portions of site
- A survey unit may **not** include areas that have different classifications



Suggested Survey Unit Sizes

- Class 1
 Structures
 Land areas
 Class 2
 Structures
 Land areas
- Class 3
 - Structures
 - Land areas

Typical Maximum 100 m² floor area 2,000 m²

> 100 to 1,000 m² floor 2,000 to 10,000 m²

no limit no limit



Background Reference Areas

- For contaminants that are present in background media or when gross activity measurements performed
- Similar physical, geological, radiological characteristics as site being evaluated
- Site may require more than 1 reference area if it exhibits significant variability



Selection of Instrumentation

- Selection based on contaminants, their associated radiations, media surveyed and MDCs
- Consider field (static measurements and scanning) and lab instrumentation
- MDCs less than 10% of the DCGL are preferable—while MDCs up to 50% of the DCGL are acceptable



Minimum Detectable Concentration (MDC)

- MDC = expected activity level a specific instrument/technique can be expected to detect 95% of the time
- Critical for select a "realistic" MDC (overestimate) for a specific measurement method
- Calculate for each type of area



Scanning Sensitivity

- Greater sensitivity = lower levels of contaminant detected
- Sensitivity depends on
 - Sensitivity of instrument
 - Ability of surveyor
- Slowing down the scanning speed improves scan sensitivity



Final Status Survey—DQOs

- Outputs from DQO process
 - State decision errors associated with H₀
 - Specify a gray region ($\Delta = DCGL LBGR$)
 - DCGL is the upper bound of the gray region
 - lower bound of gray region (LBGR) is set at the expected mean concentration in the survey unit (depends on good characterization)



Final Status Survey Design—WRS Test

- Estimate standard deviation of contaminant in both reference area (σ_r) and survey unit (σ_s)
 - From scoping/characterization surveys, or collect limited number of measurements
 - **u** Use larger value of σ_r or σ_s



Final Status Survey Design—WRS Test

- Calculate the relative shift—ratio of Δ/σ ($\Delta = DCGL - LBGR$)
- Determine P_r —tabulated probability based on relative shift (Δ/σ)
- Determine decision error percentiles, $Z_{1-\alpha}$ and $Z_{1-\beta}$ (based on selected decision errors)



Final Status Survey Design—WRS Test

Calculate sample size (N) for each reference area/survey unit pair:

$$N = \frac{(Z_{1-\alpha} + Z_{1-\beta})^2}{3(P_r - 0.5)^2}$$

 Increase number of data points by 20% to allow for lost or unusable data (Table 5.3 provides sample sizes—already includes 20% increase)



Final Status Survey—WRS Example

- Site contaminant: Cs-137
- Parcel of land on site has been characterized
 - Class 2 area—12,000 m²
 - Divided into 2 survey units
- Background reference area selected
- DCGL_w for Cs-137 is 8 pCi/g



Final Status Survey—WRS Example

- Characterization data used for planning: <u>Survey Unit</u> Cs-137 $4.8 \pm 2.9 (1\sigma)$ $0.8 \pm 0.5 (1\sigma)$
- Relative shift calculated with LBGR set at 4 pCi/g: $\Delta/\sigma = (8-4)/2.9 = 1.38$
- For this relative shift (rounded down to 1.3), $P_r = 0.82$



Final Status Survey—WRS Example

 Decision errors chosen
 Type I (α) is 0.025; Type II (β) is 0.10, so Z_{1-α} = 1.96 and Z_{1-β} = 1.28
 Substituting into sample size eqn: N = (1.96+1.28)²/3(0.82-0.5)² = 34.2

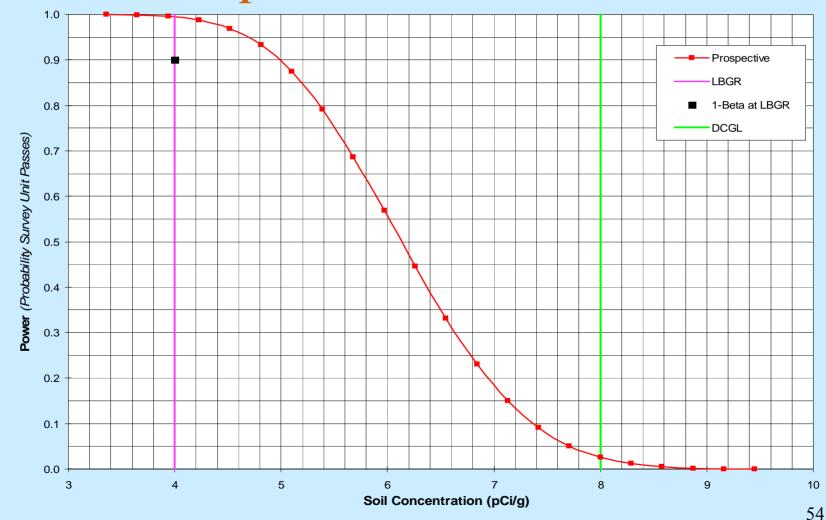
Increase by 20% and round up—42 samples [Confirm in Table 5.3: N/2 = 21]

Final Status Survey—Prospective Power Curve

- Prospective power curve is used to evaluate survey design relative to DQOs (facilitates survey design iteration)
- Type I and II errors specified at the DCGL_W and LBGR, respectively; only Type II errors occur below the DCGL_W



WRS Example—Power Curve



Final Status Survey—WRS Example (Revised Survey Design)

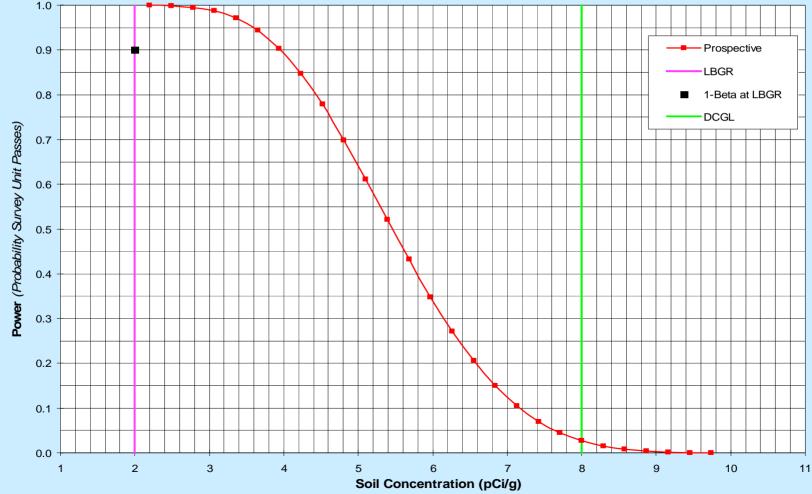
 Now assume expected mean is 2.8 pCi/g Cs-137; LBGR is set at 2 pCi/g which increases Δ/σ, reducing sample size:

 $\Delta/\sigma = (8-2)/2.9 = 2.07$

(Type I and II errors remain unchanged)

- From Table 5.3, N/2 = 12 samples
- How does this reduction in sample size affect the power curve? (reduced power)

WRS Revised Example—Power Curve





Determining Survey Locations (cont.)

- Random-start triangular grid pattern
 - Beginning with random start location, identify a row of points parallel to x-axis at intervals of L
 - A second row of points is then developed, parallel to the first row, at a distance of 0.866 L from the first row
 - MARSSIM Figure 5.5 provides an example of the triangular grid pattern



Hot Spot Considerations

Hot Spot Survey Design
 For Class 1 areas, determine if sample size is sufficient for hot spots that may be present

Based on n, average area bounded by sample points (a') represents largest hot spot that could exist, and not be sampled



Hot Spot Considerations (cont.)

- Area Factor—factor by which this area may exceed DCGL_W
- Determine required Scan MDC (same as DCGL_{EMC}):

= DCGL_W * Area Factor

Compare required scan MDC to actual scan MDC (based on detection sensitivity)



Hot Spot Considerations (cont.)

- If Actual Scan MDC < Required Scan MDC—then initial data point spacing sufficient (no additional samples needed)
- If Actual Scan MDC > Required Scan MDC—then calculate Area Factor that corresponds to actual Scan MDC:





Hot Spot Considerations (cont.)

- Determine hot spot area (new a') that corresponds to the calculated area factor (using actual scan MDC)
- New sample size (n_{EA}) is calculated by dividing new a' into the survey unit area, A



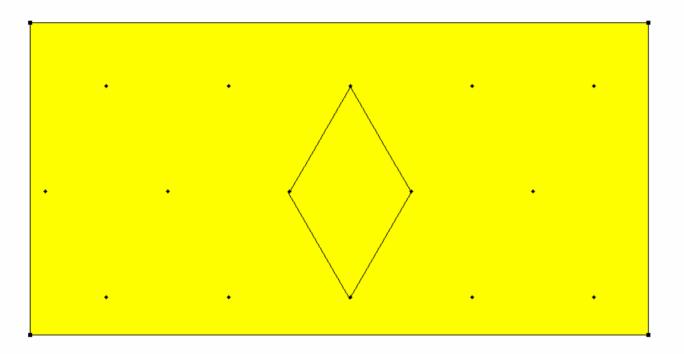
Example: Hot Spot Survey Design

- Sign test required 15 samples in Class 1 survey unit (A = 1800 m²)
- $DCGL_W = 2.5 \text{ pCi/g for Th-232}$
- a' = 1800/15 = 120 m²
- Look up AF that corresponds to 120 m² (may need logarithmic interpolation)
- Actual scan MDC = 5 pCi/g





Sample Plan Phase 1





Example Outdoor Area Factors

Area Factors (AF)				
Area (m ²)	Th-232	<u>2</u>		
3000	1			
300	1.19	Area Factor $= 1.33$		
100	1.36	for a' of 120 m^2		
30	1.78			
10	2.63			
3	5.49			
1	12.4			



Example: Hot Spot Survey Design

Scan MDC (required) = (2.5 pCi/g)(1.33)
 = 3.3 pCi/g

 Since the actual scan MDC (5 pCi/g) cannot detect 3.3 pCi/g, determine AF corresponds to actual scan MDC:

 $AreaFactor = \frac{ScanMDC(actual)}{DCGL_{w}} = 5/2.5 = 2$



Example Outdoor Area Factors

Area (m²) Th-232 3000 1 300 1.19 100 1.36	Area Factors (AF)			
300 1.19	Area (m ²)	<u>Th-232</u>		
	3000	1		
100 1.36	300	1.19		
	100	1.36		
30 1.78 New a' = 21.6 m ²	30	1.78 New a' = 21.6 n	n ²	
10 2.63 for area factor of 2	10	0 / 0	-	
3 5.49	3	5.49		
1 12.4	1	12.4	66	

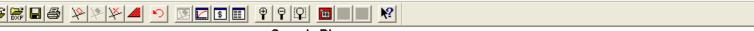


Example: Hot Spot Survey Design

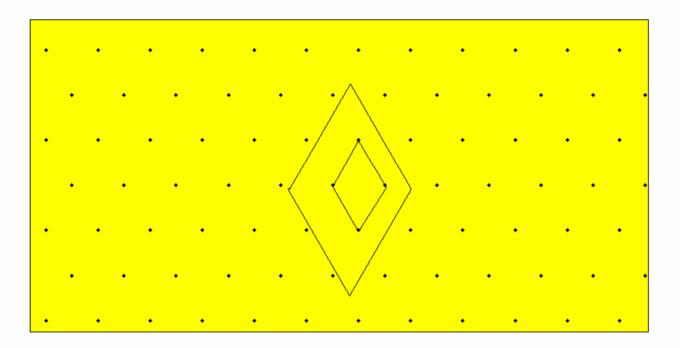
New sample size (n_{EA}): 1800/21.6 = 83.3 Round up to 84 samples !

This sample size has been driven by the potential for hot spots and an inadequate scan MDC





Sample Plan Phase 1





Integrated Final Status Survey

Key Steps of FSS Design (by P. Frame)

- 1) Classify site areas; identify survey units and reference areas
- 2) Determine the DCGLs
- 3) Determine whether Scenario A or B will be used; specify statistical tests for survey design (Sign test or WRS test)
- 4) Determine whether unity rule will be used for multiple radionuclides (also gross DCGLs for surface activity)
- 5) Choose equipment and measurement protocols
- 6) Determine scan and measurement MDCs
- 7) Determine survey investigation levels
- 8) Set acceptable probability of Type I and II errors
- 9) Determine number of statistical samples
- 10) Create reference grid and sample locations



Objectives of MARSSIM Integrated Design

- Understand the three types of radiation survey techniques
- Understand how information in MARSSIM impacts calculating detection limits and scanning sensitivity issues
- Understand the importance of an integrated survey design



Radiation Survey Techniques

- Three methods to measure radiation
 - Scanning
 - Direct measurement
 - Sampling
- No single method can provide comprehensive survey data



Direct Measurement

- Static measure of area -- detector placed near surface being surveyed for specific time and distance
 - Confirms scan surveys
 - Exposure rate measurements
- Radioactivity level is read out "directly" -- real time measurement



Scanning

 Controlled instrument moving across contaminated surface
 Specified speed
 Specified height

- Used to assess average activity and locate high activity areas
- Detects alpha, beta, gamma, and x-rays



Soil Sampling

- Collect samples that accurately represent radionuclide concentrations at sample location (no standing water)
- Generally collect surface soil (0 to 15 cm depth) even surfaces at depth
- Depending on analysis, 100 grams to 1 kg of soil are collected for lab analysis
 - Identify specific radionuclides
 - Establish equilibrium status of decay series



Class 1 Areas -- Structures/Land

- 100% surface scan
- Number of data points from statistical tests plus additional measurements for small areas of elevated activity
- Scan designed to detect areas of elevated activity not detected by a systematic pattern



Class 2 Areas -- Structures/Land

- 10 to 100% surface scans in systematic and/or judgmental pattern
- Number of data points from statistical tests
- Scan designed to detect areas of elevated activity not detected by a systematic pattern



Class 3 Areas -- Structures/Land

- Random/Judgmental -- scan where experience tells surveyor contamination may exist
- Number of data points from statistical tests



- Investigation levels are radionuclide-specific levels used to indicate when additional investigations may be necessary
- When investigation level is exceeded, first step is to confirm measurement/sample
- Results of all investigations and corresponding actions must be documented



Class 1 Area

- Measurement/sample > DCGL_W and exceeds 3σ of mean should be compared with elevated measurement levels (depends on surface area)
- Measurement/sample > DCGL_{EMC} should be remediated and resurveyed
- Positive scan results investigate and determine areal extent and level of elevated activity



Class 2 Area

Measurement/sample > DCGL_W should be remediated as necessary and reclassified as Class 1

Positive scan results - investigate and determine areal extent and level of elevated activity



Class 3 Area

- Measurement/sample > DCGL_W should be remediated as necessary and reclassified as Class 1 (some portions may remain Class 3)
- Measurement/sample < DCGL_W, but residual radioactivity identified, should be reclassified as Class 1 or 2
- Positive scan results investigate and determine areal extent and level of elevated activity

Survey Methods and Techniques Applied to Real D&D Sites

- General survey conditions/H&S
- Survey unit selection
- Establish reference grid
- Surface scans
- Soil sampling



General Survey Conditions/H&S

- All standing water must be pumped out prior to survey
- No backfilling excavations/trenches until regulatory agency gives OK
- ISM concerns: tripping hazards due to uneven terrain; pit/trench entries possible confined space; underground utilities









Survey Unit Identification When Terrain is Uneven

- Terrain is likely uneven due to remediation, so survey units are Class 1
- Consider treating pits/excavations as their own survey units rather than part of the general uneven surface
 - fact that more soil was excavated indicates different contamination potential



Establish Reference Grid

- Establish a grid on uneven terrain as for any other 2-D land surface
- Gridding on more serious "moonscape" surfaces should account for all exposed surfaces (3-D)—so all exposed surfaces have equal probability of being sampled
- Excavations/trenches should have separate map with walls/sides folded out



Shielding/Collimation for Scanning in High-Background Areas

- Cone-shielded Nal scintillators for gamma walkovers
- Portable lead shields for Nal (heavy)
- In situ gamma spectrometry (HPGe) shielded units
- May not adequately reduce background

Scanning Considerations

- More difficult to move the detector over soil surface (uneven terrain/shield weight)
- Difficult to detect hot spots in the presence of high-background levels (hot spots easily masked)

 Requires re-assessment of scan MDCs – even with shielding the background is higher; scan MDC will increase due to reduced signal-to-noise ratio

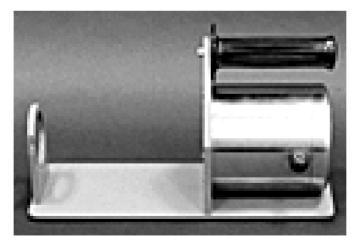


Ludlum Model 44-40, Shielded GM



Canberra Model 7417/7418 Carrier/Shields

- Compatible with 2" x 2" and 3" x 3" Nal detectors
- 18 mm lead shielding; 20 to 30 pounds





Portable Germanium Detector Shield





MARSSIM Overview I Conclusion

- There's a lot to know about the entire MARSSIM Process...but taken step-by-step, mastering MARSSIM is very doable!
- Our goal is to be the MARSSIM experts in 1) training and 2) evaluation of its implementation during our independent verification activities.