

4.0 RELEVANT CONSIDERATIONS

As with any project, evaluation of the appropriateness, implementability, cost-effectiveness, and efficacy need to be considered with all remedies and ecological enhancements. Engineering analysis needs to consider potential limitations/constraints, as well as benefits, associated with any proposed remedy on a site-specific basis. Eight considerations, based on the “lessons learned” through case studies and technical committee expertise were formulated during the technical symposium:

- Plan for and encourage ecological enhancement end uses from the beginning of each project.
- Plan for sustainability of ecological enhancement.
- Be persistent in finding allies among state and federal regulators and natural resources agencies early in the process.
- Plan for specific circumstances and design—incorporating ecological enhancements is not a “one size fits all” process.
- In using natural remediation technologies, be prepared to provide proof of concept.
- The current state of financial cost/benefit is not well defined.
- Expect to monitor and adapt.
- Educate and involve local community stakeholders from the beginning of the project.

Specific examples include appropriate consideration of food chain bioaccumulation/bioavailability, animal foraging, biomass disposal, evapotranspiration dynamics, need for irrigation and fertilizing, use of pesticides, future land use, public access and site maintenance among others.