

## 5.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Five policy recommendations developed at the technical symposium and summarized below will be pursued by WHC and its partners. A list of issues that need addressed for guidance documents will be developed as an amendment to this white paper and serve as a basis for future work.

- Develop protocol for objective performance measures that are both quantitative and qualitative to evaluate ecological enhancement measurements. This protocol should delineate criteria for appropriate performance measurements, including those criteria set forth in Section 3 of this paper. Additionally, the protocol should consider the need and appropriateness of long-term monitoring to compare the performance and cost-effectiveness of natural versus conventional remedial techniques.
- Develop a guidance document to aid site managers, state and federal managers, and communities in the application of ecological enhancements at environmentally impacted properties. A proposal has been drafted by the Interstate Technology & Regulatory Council and WHC to develop such guidance materials as described in *Ecological Enhancements within the Design, Construction and Monitoring of Remediation Systems*. Funding to complete this guidance has not yet been secured.
- Conduct demonstration projects to clearly illustrate the process of ecological sustainability. In addition to demonstration projects, create a feedback mechanism through an online clearinghouse documenting performance and costs associated with remediation projects that incorporate ecological enhancements. Specifically, the clearinghouse would promote site-specific analyses documenting benefits of ecological enhancements and comparing costs to other more traditional remediation technologies.
- Encourage EPA to develop a technical memorandum that addresses the applicability of ecological enhancements for regulatory decision making.
- Produce and disseminate information for lay audiences that clearly explains the science behind ecological enhancements and its applicability to cleanup and restoration projects of all kinds.