

NELSON

Case Study · Tioga, North Dakota

One of the largest inland oil spills in US history.

21,000 barrels of Bakken crude released into North Dakota farmland. Nelson treated 1.2 million tons on site and handed the field back to the farmer who owns it.

MOUNTRAIL COUNTY · NORTH DAKOTA

2.4M t
Soil excavated and handled

1.2M t
Thermally treated to criteria

0
Tonnes landfilled

THE WORK

21,000 barrels of Bakken crude released into agricultural soil. Nelson mobilized a full thermal plant to the release footprint and treated the impacted soil on site rather than hauling it to disposal.

Topsoil was stripped, stockpiled and preserved through the campaign, then returned to grade after treatment so the field could be put straight back into production.

PROJECT RECORD

NELSON ROLE	Thermal treatment: technology, plant and operations
CONTAMINANTS	Approx. 21,000 barrels of Bakken crude. Petroleum hydrocarbons (TPH)
VOLUME	2.4 million tons excavated, 1.2 million tons thermally treated
CRITERIA	State-approved site TPH criteria, verified pile by pile at client- and regulator-specified volumes
SITE	Pipeline release across farmland, Mountrail County, North Dakota
EQUIPMENT	Mobile direct-fire thermal desorption unit, baghouse, oxidizer, quench, feed hopper and scale belt
SCHEDULE	A multi-year campaign, run to completion
RESULT	No soil landfilled. Restored to grade and back in wheat production