

Advantages and disadvantages of addressing brackish target aquifers for AR

General advantages of AR	Additional advantages using brackish aquifers
Subsurface storage of water, quality and heat!	Extra subterranean reservoir
Purification	Admixed brackish groundwater less polluted
Damping quality and temp. Fluctuations	Less interference other users of aquifer
Maintain or restore groundwater levels/pressures	Direct reversal of salinization or sea water barrier
Disposal of undesired waters or Reuse of effluents	
Transport of water (aquifer as aquaduct)	
Impede land subsidence	
Reduce storm runoff+erosion, maintain river flows	

General problems of AR	Additional problems in brackish target aquifers
physical clogging of infiltration basins / wells	clogging by clay mobilization
(bio)chemical clogging of recovery systems	
accumulation of pollutants from input	too high recovery --> brackish water
flushing with mobile pollutants (pharma, xenobio)	brackish groundwater exfiltrating elsewhere
leaching of aquifer matrix (pH+redox buffer, CEC)	extra dissolution of CaCO3 and F+ PO4 minerals
mobilization of As, Fe, Mn, Ni, NH4, DOC	mobilization of Na, K, Mg, B, Li, Mo, F, PO4
water losses by lateral outflow or mixing	water losses by vert upflow (buoyancy)
rise of groundwater tables	
interference other users	more corrosion of well materials

Processes accompanying salt (SWI) or fresh water intrusion (FWI) in aquifers without evaporites

Local mixing of fresh and salt groundwater

Direct changes in EC, TDS, osm. press., density, piezometric level

Cation exchange (Na, K, Ca, Mg, Fe, Mn, NH_4 , Ba, Li, Rb, Sr)

Precipitation / dissolution of carbonate minerals (cave development)

Formation of dolomite (Mg/Ca > 6 mol basis)

Changes in porosity and permeability by:

- Flocculation and deflocculation of clay
- Precipitation (cements) or dissolution (caves) of carbonates
- Dolomitization (generating microporosity)

Desorption of DOC, PO_4 , B, F upon FWI

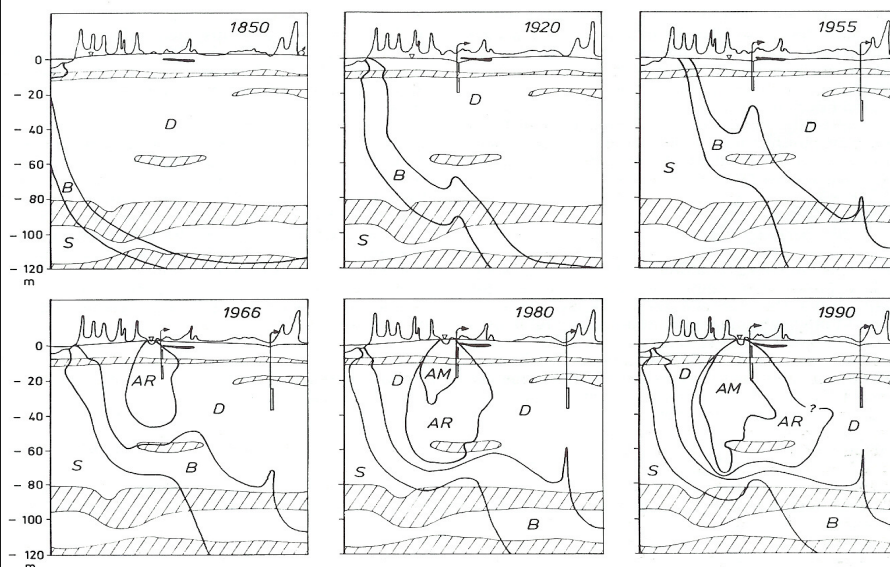
Adsorption of B, F upon SWI

Other removal processes: U, SO_4 upon SWI

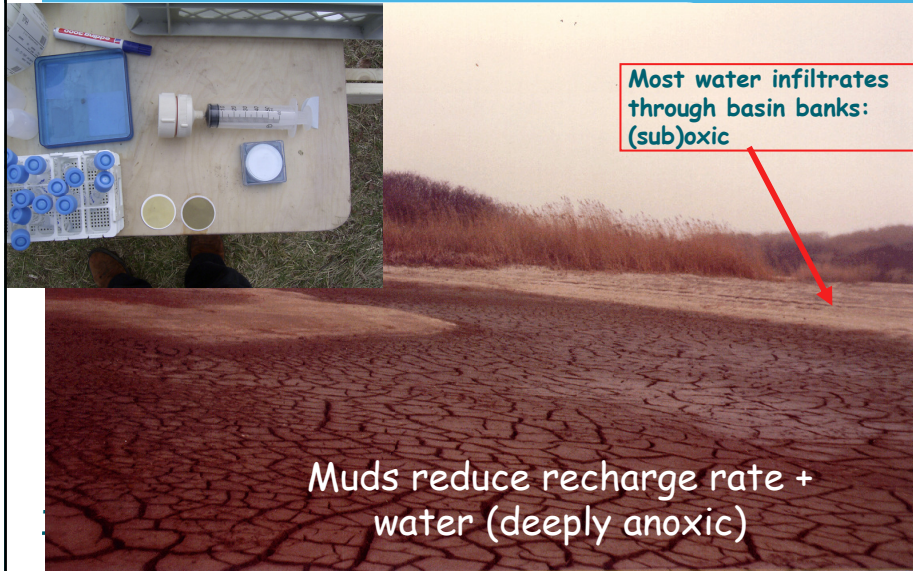
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Salinization and MARS north of The Hague (Stuyfzand, 1993 p.97)



Clogging of recharge basins and wells. Also neoformation of BOM + CaCO_3 precipitation



Clogging will lead to (deeply) anoxic conditions → spatial and temporal variations in water quality

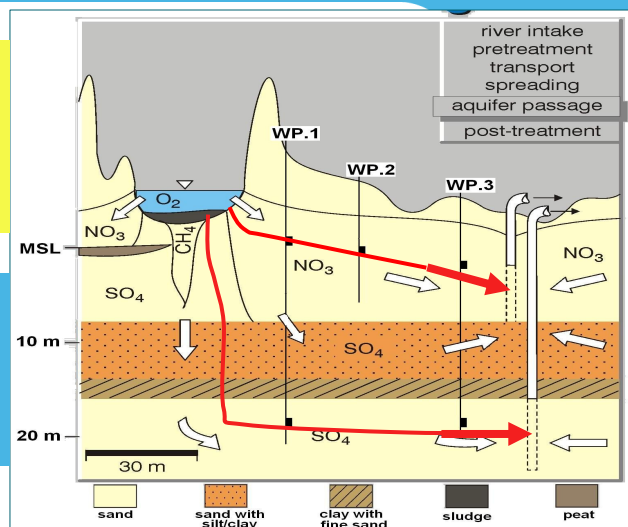
Crucial for pollutants:

- mobility
- (bio)degradation
- toxicity

Zoning:

O_2 = oxic
 NO_3 = suboxic
 SO_4 = anoxic
 CH_4 = deep anoxic

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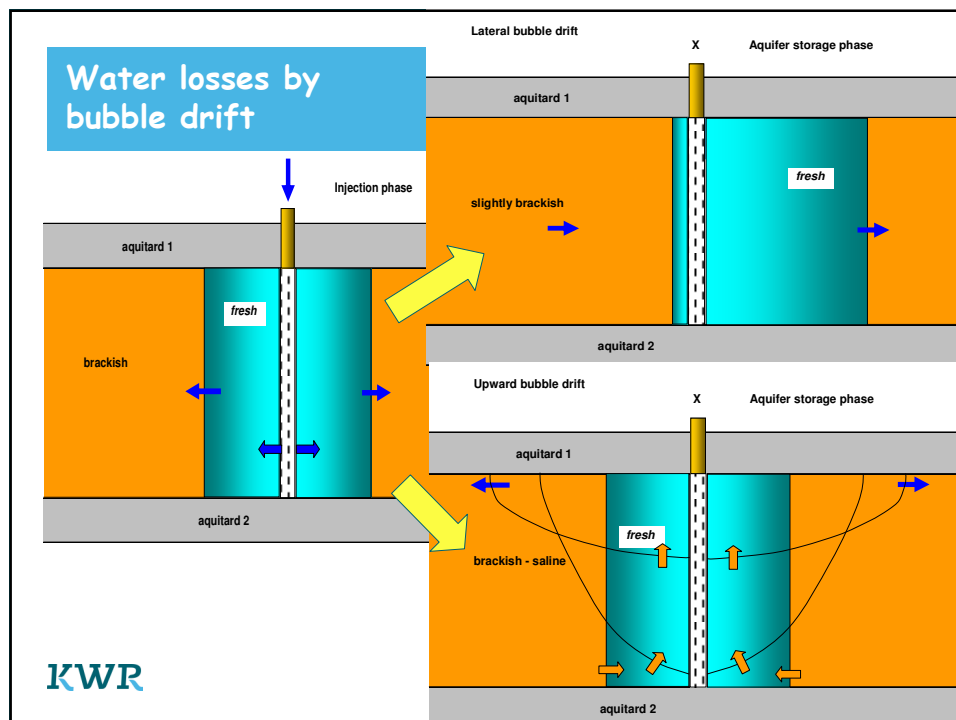


Fe(OH)₃ clogging of recovery / pumping wells Diagnosis by camera inspection + chem analysis



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Cation exchange: its duration upon FWI >> SWI

The classical reaction (most text books):



But more realistic is:



Its duration in aquifers:

$$R_{EQ} = t_{EQ} / t_{H2O} = 1 + \text{CEC} \rho_s (1 - n) / [n \Sigma C]$$

Examples:

$$\text{CEC} = 10 \text{ meq/kg d.w.}; \rho_s = 2.65 \text{ kg/L}; n = 0.35$$

$$\text{Fresh water intrusion: } \Sigma C = 6 \text{ meq/L} \rightarrow R_{EQ} = 9.2$$

$$\text{Salt water intrusion: } \Sigma C = 520 \text{ meq/L} \rightarrow R_{EQ} = 1.1$$

Cation exchange triggers various dissolution reactions

Cation exchanger: the main trigger



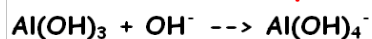
Calcite dissolution due to Ca-sequestration by exchange



fluoro-apatite dissolution due to Ca-sequestration by exchange



Gibbsite dissolution if pH > ca. 8.5

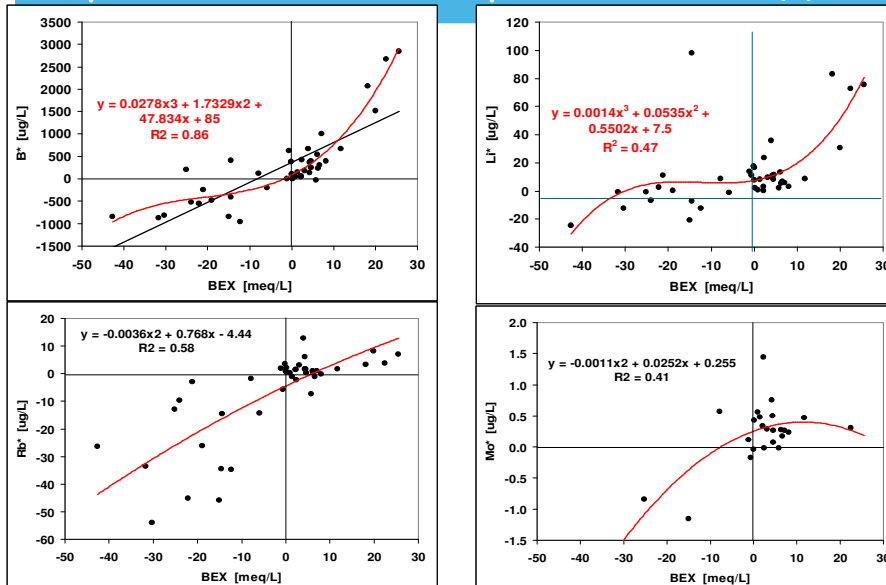


Results in concentration increases for:

Na, K, Mg, HCO₃, PO₄, F, OH (pH up), (Al)

Results in change from CaHCO₃ in NaHCO₃ or MgHCO₃ type

B, Li, Rb +Mo, corrected for marine contribution via Cl_i are pos. linked to BEX: desorption due to FWI (+)



Correcting individual ions for contribution of sea salt → losses or gains by hydrogeochemical reactions

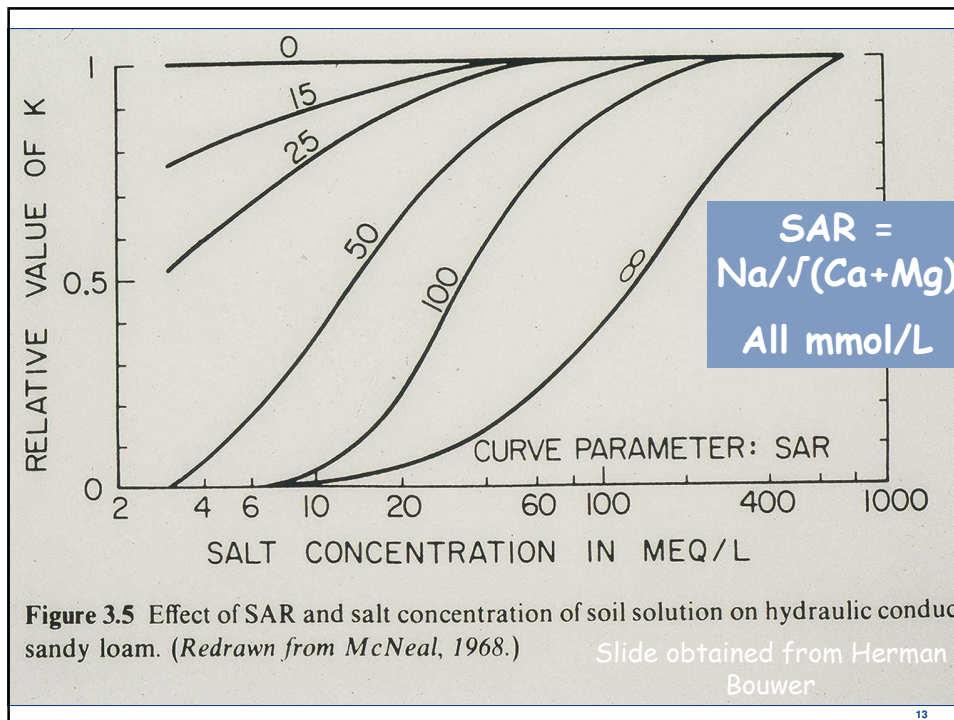
$$X^* = X - \alpha_X \text{Cl}^-$$

with: $\alpha_X = X/\text{Cl}$ in SMOW

Major			Trace		
constituent	mg/L	mol/L	constituent	mg/L	mol/L
Na ⁺	0.5564	0.8581	B	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$7.541 \cdot 10^{-4}$
K ⁺	0.0206	0.0187	Br ⁻	$3.48 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.543 \cdot 10^{-3}$
Ca ²⁺	0.0213	0.0188	F ⁻	$7.19 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.341 \cdot 10^{-4}$
Mg ²⁺	0.0668	0.0974	Li ⁺	$9.34 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$4.773 \cdot 10^{-5}$
SO ₄ ²⁻	0.1401	0.0517	Mo	$5.17 \cdot 10^{-7}$	$1.913 \cdot 10^{-7}$
TotH (Ca ²⁺ + Mg ²⁺)		0.1162	Rb ⁺	$6.06 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$2.513 \cdot 10^{-6}$
BEX = Na ⁺ +K ⁺ +Mg ⁺	meq/L	1.0716	Sr ²⁺	$4.21 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$1.702 \cdot 10^{-4}$

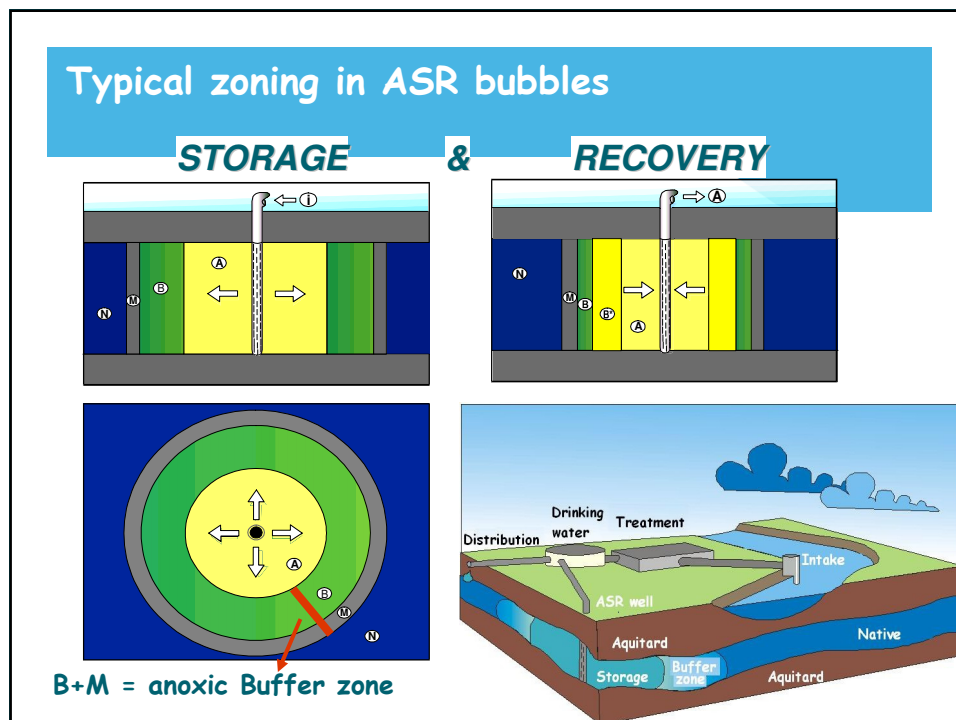
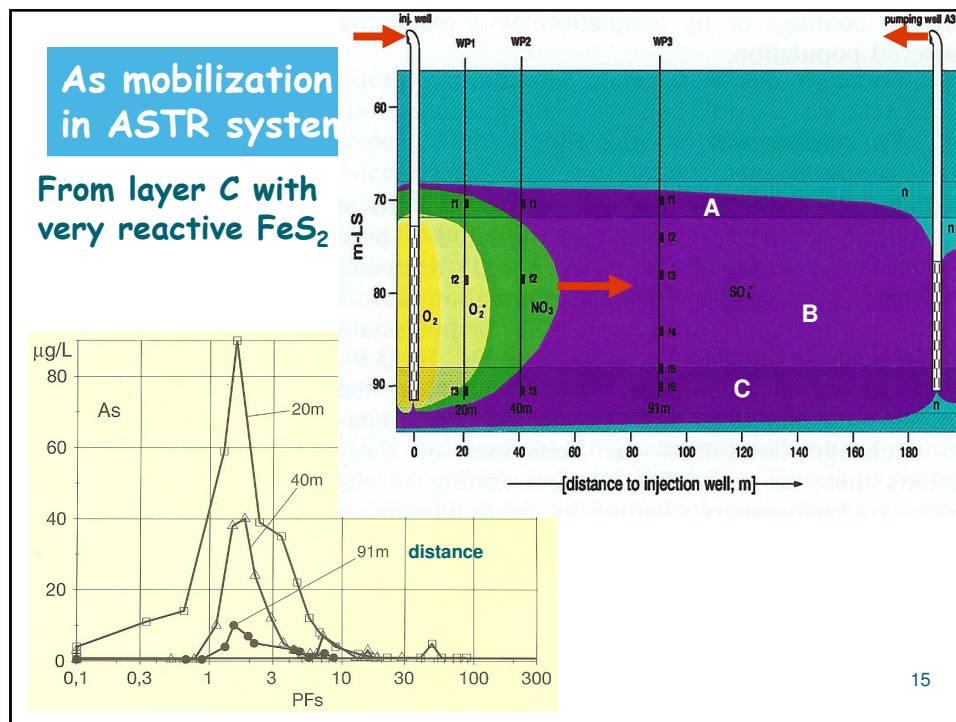
Example:

$$\text{Na} = 50, \text{Cl} = 100 \text{ mg/L} \rightarrow \text{Na}^* = 50 - 56 = -6 \text{ mg/L}$$

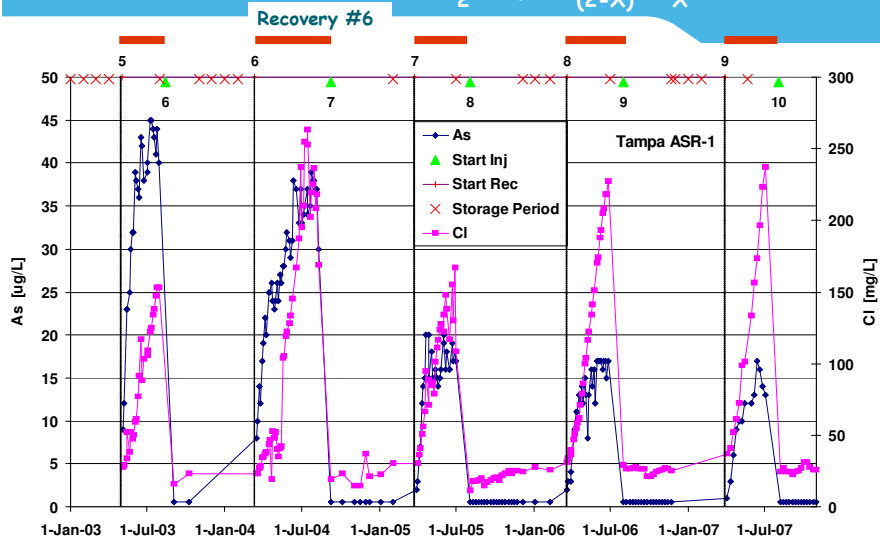


Arsenic mobilizing processes in general During AR especially # 2+5+6+7			
No.	Mobilizing process	Trigger	Freq
1	Desorption by decreasing AEC	Ripening of iron(hydr)oxides (Fe^{2+} flushing, Time, Temp increase); Increase of pH and Temp; Clay+peat compaction?	C
2	Anion exchange	Flushing with higher conc of PO_4 , H_2SiO_4 , HCO_3 , DOC, SO_4 , F, I; Changes in selectivity of sorbent	CC
3	Dissolution of minerals containing As traces (like glauconite?, apatite, vivianite, siderite, struvite)	Flushing of (deeply) anoxic system with lower pH and lower conc of PO_4 , Fe^{2+} , CO_3 , etc.	C
4	Dissolution of As-minerals (like As_2S_3)	Flushing of (deep) anoxic system with higher conc of CO_3^{2-} which raises solubility by complexes as $As(CO_3)_2^-$, $As(CO_3)(OH)_2^-$, $AsCO_3^+$	RR
5	Oxidation of Fe-sulphide minerals	Moderate or no input of O_2 and high input of NO_3 with Fe^{2+} (partly) escaping from oxidation; Lowering of groundwater table	CC
6	Reduction of H_3AsO_4 to H_3AsO_3	High input of CH_4 , H_2 , labile DOC;	CC
7	Reductive dissolution of iron(hydr)oxides and manganese oxides	High input of H_2S but Fe^{2+} low; Inundation or rise of groundwater table; Contact with SOM; Raised Fe^{2+} input	

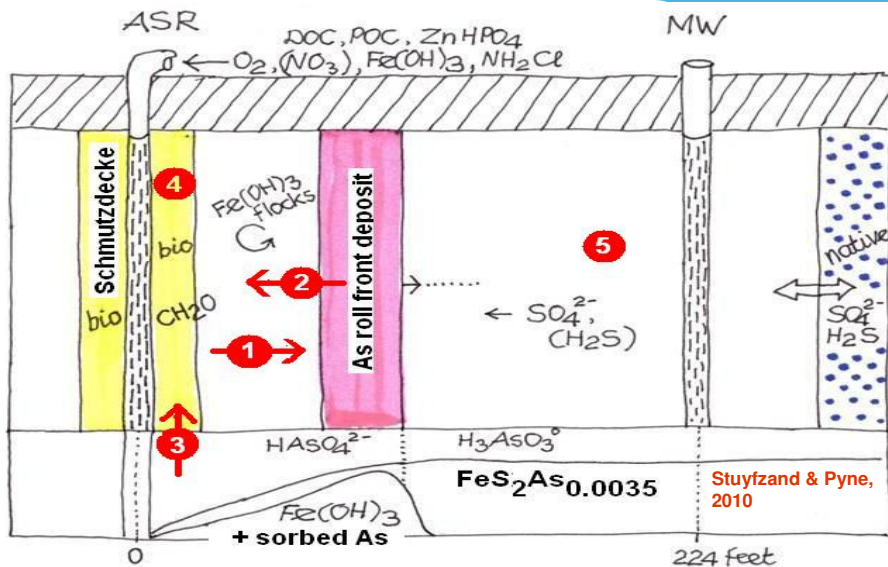
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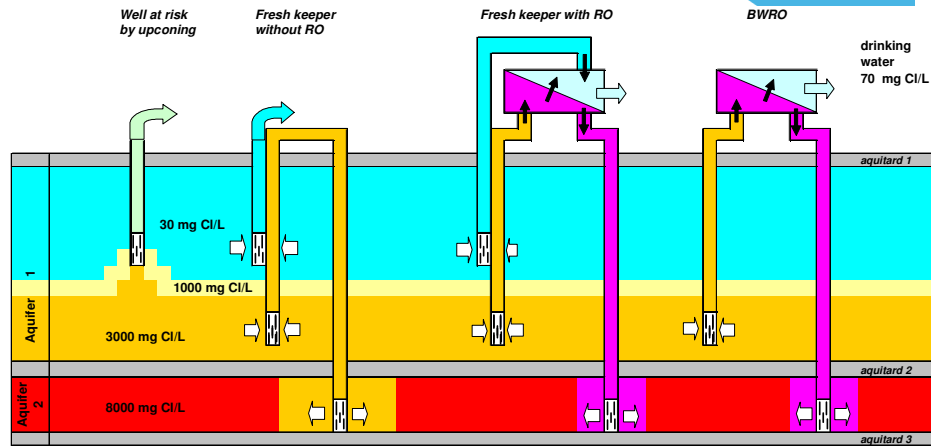
Arsenic mobilization in Florida ASR systems:



Conceptual model of As peaking during ASR backpumping with zonation of processes (im)mobilizing As in Florida.



The aquifer for waste disposal: MC from brackish groundwater RO (BWRO)



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Some conclusions

When addressing brackish aquifers, take care of:

- Clay migration: by selecting low SAR infiltrate and aquifer with low clay content (+dominant clay type being kaolinite)
- Removal of TSS by pretreatment + sel intake
- Well management to prevent ageing of clogging
- Measures to reduce WRI in ASR applications (As, Mn): reduce input of oxidants (As), keep pH > 7.5 (Mn)

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