

Frac Flowback & Produced Water Recycling Case Study

Key Benefits:

- Minimizes road usage
- Reduces CO2 footprint
- Maximizes water reuse potential
- Provides potable water for future use or land disposal at client sites

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Remove suspended solids
- Eliminate colloidal solids
- Reduce suspended and dissolved iron
- Control anaerobic bacteria
- Decrease river water demand
- Reduce disposal requirements

WATER RECYCLING SOLUTION

Project Scope:

The frac project required **50,000m³** of water for **202** fractures in a 6,000m deep well. However, the temporary diversion licenses allowed only **2,100m³** of fresh river water per day, leading to a shortfall of **10,000m³**.

Water Source:

The client had stored **40,000m³** of produced and frac flowback water in c-rings (4,000m³ to 8,000m³ capacity). Analysis revealed:



Parameter	Min Observed Max Observed

TDS 211,000 mg/L 293,000 mg/L

TSS 314 mg/L 8,030 mg/L

pH 5.72 6.33

Dissolved Iron <2 mg/L 22.1 mg/L

Total Iron 12 mg/L 110 mg/L

Oil & Grease 29.2 mg/L 21,500 mg/L

Bacterial Count 500 mg/L 130,000 mg/L

Treatment Process:

- **24-hour pre-treatment** to reduce dissolved iron
- **Ultra-filtration packages** deployed to maintain water quality
- Cleaned water **blended with river water** in a continuous feed process
- Water was supplied directly into the frac feed tank farm

Results:

Peak flow: 2,100m³/day

• Average flow: **1,200m³/day** (24-hour operation)

• Total cleaned water supplied: **12,350m**³

• Wastewater produced: **200m³** (**98.5% yield**)

Compliance ensured through twice-daily dissolved iron analysis



Final Water Quality:

Parameter Final Value

TDS 190,000 mg/L

TSS 200 mg/L

pH 5.9

Dissolved Iron 4.2 mg/L

Total Iron 4.2 mg/L

Oil & Grease Trace

Bacterial Count Trace

CONCLUSION

By recycling produced water, the client successfully met their water demand while reducing disposal exposure by **12,150m**³. The filtration process demonstrated consistent performance, as illustrated by pre- and post-treatment samples.

Efficient, sustainable, and cost-effective water management is essential for responsible resource development.