Red Diesel spill at a farm impacting local watercourse- East Lothian

The Client: Loss Adjuster

The Challenge: Solutions received an emergency call from a Farmer reporting a 1000 litre red diesel spill, diesel was entering the local irrigation channel used by all surrounding farms. The challenge came firstly to restrict the spread of red diesel, then remediate the site and restore the amenity of the irrigation channel.

The Solution: Emergency mitigation measures were deployed to prevent migration of the red diesel further off-site. Absorbent booms were deployed at strategic locations to stop contamination from moving downstream. A containment pond was then excavated to collect contaminated waters in order to reduce the flow entering the irrigation channel.

Following the emergency response works, local farmers were advised not to use the irrigation channel. Mitigation measures were monitored daily at first, with regular replacement of saturated absorbents.

A remediation strategy was designed, and then approved by the loss adjuster and SEPA.

Remediation works included:
- surfactant scrub of spill location and drainage runs;
- on-site treatment of approx. 100,000 litres of impacted waters from the containment pond;
- excavation of contaminated soils for on-site treatment; and;
- bioremediation of contaminated soils.

Regular monitoring of the irrigation channel was carried out for the duration of the project, demonstrating that red diesel was not migrating downstream of the last line of booms. Works were concluded with a scientifically robust verification report.

Duration: 1 month + 3 months for bioremediation.