# Supporting information

### Tracking in situ biodegradation of 1,2-dichloroethenes in a model wetland

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**1. Material and methods** 



44 Fig. S1. Detailed scheme of the model constructed wetland (A), locations of the oxygen sensor 45 devices (B) and location of the pore water sampling devices (C). The values are provided in [mm]. The model horizontal subsurface flow wetland consisted of a stainless steel tank (201 x 46 60 x 5 cm), filled to an average depth of 54 cm with quartz sand ( $kf_{average} = 2.27 \pm 0.14 \times 10^{-4}$  m 47  $s^{-1}$ ; grain size = 0.4-0.63 mm) and planted with the common rush (*Juncus effusus*, L.). A 50 cm 48 49 long water pond at the outflow side remained in direct contact with the atmosphere. The 50 system was equipped with a permanent cooling system maintaining the tank and the wetland 51 at 11°C ± 2 °C. An automatic lighting system simulating day-night irradiation in moderate 52 climates was used in the greenhouse (Wiessner et al., 2005).

53 (B) A 50 cm long polishing pond at the outflow side remained in direct contact with the 54 atmosphere. The front part of the system consisted of a 1 cm thick glass pane, allowing direct 55 in situ oxygen measurements via oxygen-sensor devices and direct visual observation of the 56 system. Specific planar oxygen sensor spots (Presens, Regenburg, Germany) attached to the 57 inner part of the glass sealing the system (•), allowed to measure at discrete resolution ( $\Delta \sim 6$ 58 cm) dissolved oxygen concentrations in four vertical profiles along the soil compartment (at 6, 59 49, 94 and 139 cm). Measurements required an oxygen meter device (Fibox 3, Presens, 60 Regenburg, Germany) with fiber-optic oxygen minisensor based on a polymer optical fiber 61 (POF). The device irradiates light through the optical fibber which contacts the glass where the 62 sensor spot is attached (system inner side) causing molecules to excite. Molecules returning to 63 the basic state also irradiate luminescent light which is captured and its intensity is recorded. In 64 the presence of oxygen molecules, excited luminescence molecules can be transferred 65 radiationless to the basic state and the intensity of the luminescence light is diminished. The 66 intensity of the luminescent light is inversely proportional to the oxygen concentration in the 67 sample.

68 (C) Groundwater was continuously pumped from the 50 L tank and injected at equal flow rate 69 (0.4 mL min<sup>-1</sup>) by means of three channel pipes ( $\emptyset = 4 \text{ mm}$ , ISO-VERSINIC<sup>®</sup>, LIQUID-scan, 70 Überlingen, Germany) before it reached the inflow chamber, passed through the model 71 wetland and is drained away at the pond (175 cm from the inflow). The pump (ICP-N-8,

ISMATE, Wertheim-Mondfeld, Germany) was regularly checked during the investigation period. The supplied groundwater in 50 L tanks and maintained under anaerobic conditions at constant N<sub>2</sub> pressure (0.5 mbar). Pore water sampling devices are located at 6, 49, 94, 139 cm from the inflow. At each of these distances, the ports are displayed at 20, 32, and 44 cm depth from the surface ( $\circ$ ).

77 **1.2. Quality of the supplied groundwater.** The hydrogeochemistry did not substantially vary over time. Overall, the geochemical data of groundwater samples suggested that several 78 terminal electron accepting processes (TEAPs) co-existed over time. The sampled 79 80 groundwater likely originated from various aerobic and anaerobic sections of the aguifer and 81 the hydrogeochemistry reflected subsurface heterogeneity of biogeochemical reactions. Nitrate 82  $(4.5 \pm 0.1 \text{ mg L}^{-1}, n = 9)$  is a potentially relevant electron acceptor. Simultaneously, the presence of ferrous iron (2.3  $\pm$  0.6 mg L<sup>-1</sup>, ~85% of total iron) suggests microbial iron reduction 83 84 but it also may have been transported from adjacent zones of the aguifer controlled by other 85 redox reactions. The background concentration of sulphate in the supplied groundwater (747.4 86  $\pm$  36 mg L<sup>-1</sup>) was high, but sulphide could not be detected. At the range of redox potential 87 measured (+204 to +478 mV), sulphate reduction is not likely to occur. The main contaminants 88 were cis- and trans-1,2-DCE, as well as monochlorobenzene with mean concentrations of 1062 ± 63; 284 ± 36 and 810 ± 56  $\mu$ g L<sup>1</sup>, respectively (*n*=9). The overall dominance of the *cis*-89 90 DCE isomer over the trans- suggests a biological production, as industrial grade DCE usually 91 consists of 60 to 70 % trans-DCE (32). Furthermore, concentrations of tetrachlorethene and trichloroethenes were systematically very low (< 5  $\mu$ g L<sup>-1</sup>), emphasizing the possible role of 92 93 reductive dechlorination with concomitant accumulation of DCE as reported elsewhere (27,30). 94 The hydrogeochemical framework was conducive to reductive dechlorination of DCE as 95 suggested by the detection of vinyl chloride (255  $\pm$  98 µg L<sup>-1</sup>), ethene (21  $\pm$  30 µg L<sup>-1</sup>) and 96 Dehalococcoides spp.-related DNA (data not shown) at favorable pH (6.65 ± 0.19). 97 Dehalococcoides sp. related DNA was systematically detected between day 225 and 430 (data 98 not shown). A Dehalococcoides-specific amplification protocol was used for detecting 99 Dehalococcoides-affiliated bacteria as previously-described (Hendrickson et al., 2002). 100 However, the simultaneous occurrence of oxidation pathways leading to transient, not detected 101 metabolites can not be excluded.

### 102 **1.3. Sampling procedure**

103 Pore water samples were retrieved from twelve sampling ports (Fig. 1C) consisting in butyl 104 rubber septa and equipped with stainless steel cannels and nickel-plated luer-lock valves 105 (Roth, Karlsruhe, Germany) across the system at the inflow chamber, and at 6, 49, 94, 139 cm 106 from the inflow. At each of these distances, three depths, 20, 32, and 44 cm from the surface 107 were systematically investigated. In parallel, water samples were collected at the pond (175 108 cm from the inflow). In situ oxygen measurements were performed at discrete resolution ( $\Delta = 6$ 109 cm) through the front glass board in four vertical profiles along the soil compartment at 6, 49, 110 94 and 139 cm from the inflow. During each sampling campaign, aqueous samples were 111 retrieved from sampling ports were systematically dispensed into 20 ml VOC vials for 112 concentration analysis (headspace free), 5 ml vials for geochemical analysis, 20 ml glass vials 113 containing NaCl at saturation point to inhibit further microbial activity (~10 ml headspace) with 114 Teflon-coated septa for isotope composition analysis. Samples were stored on ice and directly 115 transported to the laboratories for chemical analysis and samples for isotope analysis were 116 stored at 4°C until analysis. The same procedure was used for aqueous samples retrieved 117 from the inflow chamber and the pond but 150 ml glass vials containing NaCl at saturation 118 point were used for isotope analysis.

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120 1.4. Porewater geochemistry analysis. Quantification of chlorinated ethenes, ethene and 121 methane was performed with a gas chromatograph equipped with a flame ionisation detector (Varian Chrompack CP-3800, Middelberg, The Netherlands) as previously described. The 122 123 detection limits of the *cis*-1,2-dichloroethene, *trans*-1,2-dichloroethene, vinyl chloride and ethene were 50, 30, 5 and 5 µg L<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Oxygen measurements were performed using 124 125 a Fibox-3 oxygen meter with fiber-optic oxygen minisensor based on a polymer optical fiber and 126 planar PSt3-oxygen sensors (PreSens, Regenburg, Germany) directly sealed on the inner part 127 of the glass pane. Oxygen concentration was also measured in the tank, inflow and outflow of 128 the model system using colorimetric methods (CHEMets oxygen kits K-7501 and K-7512, 129 CHEMetrics, Düsseldorf, Germany) according to the manufacturer's protocol. Redox potential

130 and pH were measured on site with the use of a Sen Tix ORP electrode (WTW, Weilheim, 131 Germany) and a Sen Tix 41 (WTW, Weilheim, Germany) electrode, respectively. Nitrite-132 nitrogen, nitrate-nitrogen, sulphate and chloride anions were analyzed by ion chromatography 133 (DIN EN ISO 10304-2). Photometrical methods were used to determine Fe(II) (DIN 38406-E1), 134 phosphate (DIN EN 1189) and ammonium-nitrogen (DIN 38406-E6) concentrations. Total iron 135 and manganese were analysed by Inductive Coupled Plasma Atomic Emission Spectrometry (ICP-AES) in a CIROS spectrometer (DIN EN ISO 11885). Sulphide concentrations were 136 137 determined according to the Cline method cline (Cline, 1969). TOC and DOC were analyzed in 138 a Total Organic Carbon analyzer (TOC-5000-500, Shimadzu Europa) and COD was measured 139 by organic matter oxidation with potassium dichromate (Lange cuvette tests, LCK314, Hach 140 Lange LTD, Manchester, UK).

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### 142 **1.5. Compound specific isotope analysis**

143 Stable carbon isotope compositions of chlorinated ethenes were measured using a gas 144 chromatography-combustion-isotope ratio mass spectrometry system (GC-C-IRMS). Aliquots 145 (1000 µL) of head space samples were injected into a gas chromatograph (Agilent 6890; Palo 146 Alto, USA) in split mode connected via a combustion line to a Finnigan MAT 252 isotope ratio 147 mass spectrophotometer via a combustion line. Samples analysis was carried out within 30 148 days after collection. Samples were heated for at least 1 h at 60°C prior to measurement to 149 enhance partitioning of analytes into the head space and were measured at least in triplicate. Aliquots (500 to 1000 µL) of head space samples were manually injected in a split/splitless 150 151 injector at 250°C with split ratio set at 1:3. Chromatographic separation was achieved on a CP-152 PoraBond column (50 m x 0.32 mm ID, 5 µm film; Varian, Palo Alto, USA). The oven temperature program was: 100°C (5 min); 20°C min<sup>-1</sup> to 150°C; 5°C min<sup>-1</sup> to 210°C; increase 153 with 20°C min<sup>-1</sup> to 225°C and hold isotherm for 5 min. The carbon isotope ratio for an individual 154 155 compound is reported in &-notation [‰] relative to the Vienna Pee Dee Belemnite standard (V-156 PDB, IAEA-Vienna) (Eq. 1) (Coplen et al., 2006):

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$$\delta^{13}C_{compound} \left[\%_{o}\right] = \left(\frac{({}^{13}C/{}^{12}C)_{compound}}{({}^{13}C/{}^{12}C)_{Standard}} - 1\right) \times 1000.$$
(1)

The analytical error is  $\pm 0.5 \delta$  unit and incorporates both the accuracy and the reproducibility on replicate measurements of the sample. The relationship between the extent of fractionation and the amount of contaminant degraded is described by the following equation after Mariotti *et al.* (Eq. 2):

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$$\frac{R}{R_0} = f^{(\alpha-1)}$$
 (2)

where *R* is the isotope ratio ( ${}^{13}C/{}^{12}C$ ) of the contaminant at a given fraction remaining (*f*), *R*<sub>0</sub> is the initial isotope ratio of the contaminant, and  $\alpha$  is the estimated fractionation factor for the particular reaction. Estimates of the wetland isotope fractionation factor  $\alpha$  were derived from the slope of the standard linear regression plot and converted into an enrichment factors  $\varepsilon$ according to equation 3:

168 
$$\varepsilon[\%_{o}] = (\alpha - 1) \times 1000 \tag{3}$$

### **2. Results**

# **2.1.** Groundwater and wetland pore water quality.

	Supplied groundwater		Wetland system				
				First period: 0	) – 127 [day]	Second period: 199 – 430 [day]	
Variable	Unit	Range	Mean (n = 9)	Sand compartment (n = 56)	Pond (n = 11)	Sand compartment (n = 96)	Pond (n = 8)
pН	-	6.2 - 7.0	$6.65 \pm 0.19^{a}$	6.81 ± 0.19	7.09 ± 0.11	$6.90 \pm 0.18^{a}$	7.26 ± 0.24
Electric conductivity	[mS cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	2.0 - 2.3	2.2 ± 0.1				
Dissolved oxygen	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	2.5 - 5.7	4.7 ± 1	1.59 ± 1.38	> 6 <sup>c</sup>	$0.40 \pm 0.55$	3.50 ± 1.50
Redox potential	[mV]	204 - 478	327 ± 71	+173 ± 53	+166 ± 34	-137 ± 155	-52 ± 187
Chloride	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	118 -144	127.1 ± 9	159 ± 32.4	148 ± 23	184 ± 54.6	193 ± 38.3
Sulphate	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	670 - 777	747.4 ± 36	766 ± 104	929 ± 78	741 ± 223	801 ± 327
Nitrate	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	3.3 - 5.8	4.5 ± 1	< LOD	< LOD	< LOD	< LOD
Nitrite	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	< 1.35	< 1.35	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.
Sulphide <sup>b</sup>	[µM L <sup>-1</sup> ]	< LOD	< LOD	0.40 ± 1.10	0.90 ± 1.52	$366 \pm 532$	67 ± 125
Iron(II)	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.1 - 2.9	$2.3 \pm 0.6$	$0.02 \pm 0.03$	< 0.01	1.72 ± 2.15	$1.46 \pm 2.38$
Tot. iron	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.2 - 4.2	$2.7 \pm 0.9$	0.11 ± 0.06	$0.09 \pm 0.04$	$3.68 \pm 8.90$	1.64 ± 2.65
Ammonium	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	n.d.	n.d.	1.59 ± 1.38	$0.05\pm0.03$	$0.73 \pm 0.76$	$0.55 \pm 0.71$
Methane	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	n.d.	n.d.	< LOD	< LOD	< LOD	< LOD
Total organic carbon	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	31.6 ± 32.9	n.d.	$35.9 \pm 33.0$
Dissolved organic carbon	$[mg L^{-1}]$	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	16.2 ± 11.7	n.d.	$33.5 \pm 30.2$
Dissolved inorganic carbon	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	85.2 ± 15.4	n.d.	96.2 ± 25.8
Chemical oxygen demand	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	n.d.	n.d.	n.d.	18.3 ± 3.7	n.d.	68.9 ± 53.1
Maximal isotope shift (Δδ <sup>13</sup> C)	%	n.d.	n.d.	<i>cis</i> -DCE: 3.8 <i>trans</i> -DCE: 2.7	<i>cis</i> -DCE: 3.3 <i>trans</i> -DCE: 3.6	<i>cis</i> -DCE: 28.8 <i>trans</i> -DCE: 8.1	<i>cis</i> -DCE: 29.3 <i>trans</i> -DCE: 7.1
Ethene	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	5.4 - 90.7	20.9 ± 29.4				
Vinyl chloride	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	202 - 509	255 ± 98	Reter to body text			
Trans-1.2-DCE	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	229 - 350	284 ± 36	Average spiked initial concentration 1.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup>			
1.1-DCE	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.2 - 1.2	$0.4 \pm 0.4$		n.c	ł.	
<i>Cis</i> -1.2-DCE [µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]		1011 - 1218	1062 ± 64	Average spiked initial concentration of 6.5 mg L <sup>-1</sup>			

Benzene	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	15.4 - 44.0	26.3 ± 10.0
1.2-Dichloroethane	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.4 - 3.2	$2.0 \pm 0.5$
Trichloroethene	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	1.1 - 4.2	2.5 ± 1.0
Tetrachloroethene	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	0.3 - 0.7	$0.5 \pm 0.1$
Chlorobenzene	[µg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	716 - 871	810 ± 56

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- <sup>a</sup>The error range given for the hydrogeochemical variables corresponds to  $\pm \sigma$  of the mean value of *n* measurements.
- <sup>173</sup> <sup>b</sup>The concentration values of sulphide include S<sup>-2</sup>, HS<sup>-</sup> and H<sub>2</sub>S sulphide species.
- 174 <sup>c</sup>Colorimetric test only performed at day 127.
- 175 < LOD: below limit of detection
- 176 n.d.: not determined
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**Table S1**. Selected geochemical variables and contaminants concentration values in groundwater supplied to the constructed wetland and collected at the Bergmannshof contaminated site (Bitterfeld, Germany) and selected geochemical variables concentration values in sand compartment of the model constructed wetland for two phases of the investigation period: day 0 to 127 and day 127 to 430. Values correspond to the investigation period from day 0 to 430. Values for the groundwater quality are provided as the minimal and maximal concentration (range) and the mean values of nine sampling campaigns (*n*=9). Values for the pore water quality of the wetland are provided as the mean values over *n* measurements of measurement values retrieved from each sampling port and at each sampling date.

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188 **2.2. Biogeochemical development of the model wetland system** 

Fig. S2. Spatial and temporal development of oxygen concentrations and iron sulphide minerals precipitation in the model subsurface horizontalflow model wetland treating *cis*- and *trans*-1,2-dichloroethene (DCE) contaminated groundwater. Oxygen measurements were performed using

205 planar oxygen sensor spots displayed across the system (◊). Distribution of dissolved oxygen concentrations correspond to day 155, 225 and 430 206 and underline the overall trend towards concentration decrease over time. The range of oxygen concentrations changed of one order of magnitude between day 155 (0 to 1 mg L<sup>-1</sup>) and day 430 (0 to 7 mg L<sup>-1</sup>). The distribution of oxygen also suggest an overall oxygen concentration 207 208 decrease with increase depth and a concentration increase over the flow path, indicating the occurrence of spatial gradients of dissolved oxygen. 209 Snapshots of the system taken through the front glass board at different sampling times illustrate the development of major occurring redox 210 processes occurring in the sand compartment. In the unsaturated zone, the formation of reddish-brown iron oxide precipitates at the soil-water-211 atmosphere interface also occurred in close vicinity of zones where black iron sulphide precipitates were formed (enlarged snapshot at day 155). 212 Since day 199, microbially mediated ferric iron and sulphate reduction processes were detected, which clearly indicates anoxic conditions, as 213 revealed by the geochemical analysis (see above). In this period, precipitates of iron sulphide in the saturated zone of the sand compartment 214 progressively appeared as homogeneous black patches in association or not with the plant rootlets or root. The black front of iron sulphide 215 minerals gradually progressed from the inflow over the flow path since day 200 and reached the sand compartment-pond interface at 216 approximately day 300. This represents an average progression speed of about 1.5 cm day<sup>-1</sup>. At day 430, anoxic conditions prevail in the whole 217 system and oxygen concentrations were systematically < 0.5 mg L<sup>-1</sup>.

### 218 **2.3. Carbon mass balance**

	Investigation period [day]						
Variable	0 – 127 ( <i>n</i> = 10)			199 – 430 ( <i>n</i> = 8)			
	Inflow	Outflow	0.1	Inflow	Outflow	0.4	
	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	O/I concentration ratio	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	[mg L <sup>-1</sup> ]	O/I concentration ratio	
Chemical oxygen demand (COD)	21.5 ± 2.8 <sup>a</sup>	18.3 ± 3.7	0.9 ± 0.1	21.4 ± 9.50	68.9 ± 53.1	3.2 ± 8.2	
Total organic carbon (TOC)	13.9 ± 8.3	31.6 ± 32.9	$2.3 \pm 7.4$	15.6 ± 24.2	$35.9 \pm 33.0$	2.3 ± 17.1	
Dissolved organic carbon (DOC)	8.7 ± 3.8	16.2 ± 11.7	1.9 ± 2.5	15.9 ± 21.8	$33.5 \pm 30.2$	2.1 ± 11.9	
Dissolved inorganic carbon (DIC)	72.8 ± 10.4	85.2 ± 15.4	1.2 ± 0.1	58.7 ± 22.7	96.2 ± 25.8	$1.6 \pm 0.6$	

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<sup>a</sup>The error range given for the hydrogeochemical variables corresponds to  $\pm \sigma$  of the mean value of *n* measurements.

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Table S3. COD, TOC, DOC and DIC concentrations for wetland inflow and outflow and outflow/inflow concentration ratios for the two investigation

223 period (day 0 to 127 and day 199 to 430). Organic compounds leaching from actively growing plants may be occurring during the first

investigation period, whereas leaching from decaying plant and microbial biomass may mainly contribute during the second investigation period.



225 2.4. *Cis*- and *trans*- DCE removal in the system

**Fig. S3.** Mean remaining fraction of *cis*- (white bars) and *trans*-1,2-dichloroethene (grey bars) in the sand compartment over the investigation period. The mean contaminant concentration values were obtained by averaging values obtained from each single sampling port (*n*=12) across the system and normalized by the initial concentration value at the inflow chamber. The error range given for each normalized value corresponds to the standard deviation and thus indicates the relative spatial variability of the remaining DCE fraction across the wetland.

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Distance from	Depth [cm below surface]	Sampling day					
inflow [cm below surface]		176		280		430	
		Δδ <sup>13</sup> C [‰]	Removed fraction [%]	Δδ <sup>13</sup> C [‰]	Removed fraction [%]	Δδ <sup>13</sup> C [‰]	Removed fraction [%]
6	20	0	0	0.6	9	1.5	0
49	20	0.2	0	1.9	21	6.8	32
94	20	0	13	1.8	23	26.4	56
139	20	0	0	2.0	13	33.4	61
6	32	0.1	0	0.1	5	0	0
49	32	0.2	0	1.2	9	3.7	0
94	32	0.2	14	1.6	16	13.5	35
139	32	0	11	1.9	8	21.7	44
6	44	0	0	0	8	0	0
49	44	0	0	0.8	5	5.6	5
94	44	0	1	2.3	10	16.5	33
139	44	0	16	0.7	12	25.6	60

**Table. S4.** Spatial distribution of the removed *cis*-DCE fraction, (in [%] of the *cis*-DCE concentration at the inflow), and shift in carbon isotopic composition of *cis*-DCE, ( $\Delta \delta^{13}$ C [‰], taking the *cis*-DCE isotopic signature at the inflow as a reference) in the model wetland system at representative sampling days (176, 280 and 430). Values correspond to the pore water sampling devices at 6, 49, 94, 139 cm from the inflow. At each of these distances, the ports are displayed at 20, 32, and 44 cm depth from the surface.

### **2.5. Carbon isotopic enrichment factors**

Time	Reg	gression	Enrichment		
Time		curve	factor		
[day]	R <sup>2</sup>	<i>p</i> -value	٤ [‰]		
0	0.91	0.012	$-4.4 \pm 0.80^{a}$		
0	0.59	0.131	-2.3 ± 1.14 <sup>b</sup>		
14	0.92	0.009	$-2.0 \pm 0.33^{a}$		
14	0.77	0.050	$-2.0 \pm 0.63^{b}$		
28	0.90	0.013	$-1.7 \pm 0.33^{a}$		
28	0.70	0.076	$-1.8 \pm 0.66^{b}$		
42	0.53	0.161	-9.8 ± 5.22 <sup>b</sup>		
70	0.68	0.087	$-2.3 \pm 0.92^{a}$		
99	0.56	0.088	-1.2 ± 0.63 <sup>a</sup>		
199	0.62	0.115	-2.5 ± 1.12 <sup>ª</sup>		
225	0.71	0.073	$-2.2 \pm 0.83^{a}$		
280	0.85	0.026	-12.2 ± 2.96 <sup>ª</sup>		
280	0.66	0.094	-13.5 ± 5.47 <sup>b</sup>		
327	0.71	0.073	$-13.3 \pm 4.82^{a}$		
327	0.77	0.050	-4.0 ± 1.24 <sup>b</sup>		
393	0.78	0.048	$-22.3 \pm 6.73^{a}$		
430	0.98	0.001	$-32.6 \pm 2.30^{a}$		
430	0.84	0.028	-18.8 ± 4.63 <sup>b</sup>		

**Table S5.** Mean carbon isotope enrichment factors ( $\epsilon$ ), coefficient of determination (R<sup>2</sup>) and *p*-value of the regression curve for a Rayleigh model for <sup>a</sup>cis-1,2-DCE and <sup>b</sup>trans-1,2-DCE degradation the constructed wetland over the investigation period (430 days). A single and integrative "mean isotope enrichment factor" was derived for each DCE isomer at each sampling date, taking the inflow chamber values as initial values. For this purpose, discrete-depth concentrations and isotopic composition values retrieved at each of the four vertical profiles across the wetland (6, 49, 94 and 139 cm from the inflow) were separately averaged before a mean enrichment factor was calculated. The enrichment factor was only retrieved if the coefficient of determination was > 0.5. The error range given for the enrichment factor corresponds to the standard error of the predicted y-value in the regression.

Time	Depth below surface	Reg	ression curve	Enrichment factor
[day]	[cm]	R <sup>2</sup>	<i>p</i> -value	<b>٤ [‰]</b> ع
0	20+32 <sup>1</sup>	0.87	0.022	$-4.5 \pm 2_{3} Q_{1}^{a}$
0	44	0.92	0.010	-4.7 ± 0.8 <sup>ª</sup>
0	44	0.73	0.066	-2.8 ± 1,0p <sup>b</sup>
14	20+32 <sup>1</sup>	0.82	0.033	-1.7 ± 0.4 <sup>ά</sup>
14	44	0.97	0.002	-2.6 ± 0,3ª
14	20+32 <sup>1</sup>	0.72	0.069	-1.8 ± 0.6 <sup>6</sup>
14	44	0.93	0.008	-2.7 ± 0,∯∆
28	20+32 <sup>1</sup>	0.80	0.041	-1.7 ± 0.5 <sup>ª</sup>
28	44	0.83	0.032	-1.9 ± 0,55°
28	44	0.81	0.038	-1.5 ± 0.4 <sup>ช</sup>
42	44	0.75	0.057	-8.9 ± 2,96
56	44	0.72	0.068	$-6.7 \pm 2.4^{a}$
225	20	0.81	0.036	$-3.7 \pm 0.23^{a}$
225	44	0.83	0.031	$-5.2 \pm 0.4^{a}$
280	20	0.74	0.060	$-7.6 \pm 0.6^{a}_{8}$
337	20	0.86	0.023	$-7.8 \pm 0.5^{a}$
337	32	0.89	0.017	-16.6 ± 9,050°
393	20	0.77	0.050	-18.0 ± 2.3 <sup>ª</sup>
393	32	0.72	0.069	-22.1 ± ຊິດໃດ້
430	20	0.94	0.006	-33.7 ± 4.4 <sup>a</sup>
430	32	0.96	0.004	-31.4 ± 3 <sub>0</sub> 3ª
430	44	0.96	0.004	$-27.2 \pm 2.7^{a}$

288

302

**Table S6**. Carbon isotope enrichment factors ( $\epsilon$ ), coefficient of determination (R<sup>2</sup>) and *p*-value 303 of the regression curve corresponding to a Rayleigh model for <sup>a</sup>cis-1,2-DCE and <sup>b</sup>trans-1,2-304 305 DCE degradation the constructed wetland over the investigation period (430 days). Raw data 306 were obtained from porewater samples retrieved across the wetland along the flow path at 307 three distinct depths: 20 cm, 32 cm and 44 cm. Isotope composition and concentration data 308 were also evaluated separately for each investigated depths. Three enrichment factors were 309 then retrieved for each specific flow path per sampling date and per DCE isomer, taking the 310 inflow chamber values as initial values. An enrichment factor was only retrieved if the 311 coefficient of determination was > 0.5. <sup>1</sup>Equally pooled samples corresponding to samples 312 from depths 20 and 32 cm below the surface level. The error range given for the enrichment 313 factors correspond to the standard error of the predicted y-value in the regression.

314



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