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## Surface water microbial community response to the biocide 2-2-dibromo-3-nitrilopropionamide used in unconventional oil and gas extraction.

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1 **Surface water microbial community response to the biocide 2-2-dibromo-3-**  
2 **nitrilopropionamide used in unconventional oil and gas extraction**

3

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23

**24 Abstract**

25           Production of unconventional oil and gas continues to rise, but the effects of high-density  
26 hydraulic fracturing (HF) activity near aquatic ecosystems are not fully understood. A commonly  
27 used biocide in HF, 2,2-dibromo-3-nitrilopropionamide (DBNPA), was studied in microcosms of  
28 HF-impacted vs. HF-unimpacted surface water streams to (1) compare the microbial community  
29 response, (2) investigate DBNPA degradation products based on past HF exposure, and (3)  
30 compare the microbial community response differences and similarities between the HF biocides  
31 DBNPA and glutaraldehyde. The microbial community responded to DBNPA differently in HF-  
32 impacted vs. HF-unimpacted microcosms in terms of 16S rRNA gene copies quantified, alpha  
33 and beta diversity, and differential abundance analyses of microbial community composition  
34 through time. The difference in microbial community changes affected degradation dynamics.  
35 HF-impacted microbial communities were more sensitive to DBNPA, causing the biocide and  
36 byproducts of the degradation to persist for longer than in HF-unimpacted microcosms.  
37 Seventeen DBNPA byproducts were detected, many of them not widely known as DBNPA  
38 byproducts. Many of the believed to be uncharacterized brominated byproducts detected may  
39 pose environmental and health impacts. Similar taxa were able to tolerate glutaraldehyde and  
40 DBNPA, however DBNPA was not as effective for microbial control as indicated by a smaller  
41 overall decrease of 16S rRNA gene copies/mL after exposure to the biocide and a more diverse  
42 set of taxa was able to tolerate it. These findings suggest that past HF activity in streams can  
43 affect the microbial community response to environmental perturbation such as the biocide  
44 DBNPA.

**46 Importance**

47           Unconventional oil and gas activity can affect pH, total organic carbon, and microbial  
48 communities in surface water altering their ability to respond to new environmental and/or  
49 anthropogenic perturbations. These findings demonstrate that DBNPA, a common hydraulic

50 fracturing (HF) biocide, affects microbial communities differently as a consequence of past HF  
51 exposure, persisting longer in HF-impacted waters. These findings also demonstrate that DBNPA  
52 has low efficacy in environmental microbial communities regardless of HF impact. These  
53 findings are of interest, as understanding microbial responses is key for formulating remediation  
54 strategies in UOG impacted environments. Moreover, some of DBNPA degradation byproducts  
55 are even more toxic and recalcitrant than DBNPA itself, and this work identifies novel  
56 brominated degradation byproducts formed.

57

## 58 **INTRODUCTION**

59 Unconventional oil and gas (UOG) extraction has revolutionized the energy industry in the  
60 U.S. The use of hydraulic fracturing (HF) has made previously unreachable UOG reserves  
61 available for economically feasible extraction and pushed the U.S. towards energy independence  
62 (1). Multiple environmental concerns have accompanied this energy production growth. One of  
63 the most commonly added chemicals to HF fluids are biocides. Biocides are used in HF  
64 operations to control microbially-induced corrosion of casings and pipes, and gas souring caused  
65 by acid-producing and sulfate-reducing bacteria (2). However, biocides have warranted concern  
66 for several reasons. Biocides have varying degrees of reported efficacy due to potential resistance  
67 or inactivation of the biocides in HF conditions (2-5). Additionally, their toxicity and potential  
68 impact on the environment remains a contentious topic (2, 6). The fate of these biocides in the  
69 environment and their impact on microbial communities are poorly understood.

70 The biocide 2,2-dibromo-3-nitropropionamide (DBNPA) is the second most commonly  
71 used biocide in UOG after glutaraldehyde. DBNPA is a fast-acting electrophilic biocide, it is  
72 quick and effective in contact, but the protection is not long lasting (7). This biocide inhibits  
73 essential biological functions by reacting with nucleophiles (particularly sulfur-containing) inside  
74 the cell (8). DBNPA, and some of its degradation products, can also be harmful to humans and  
75 animals. These associated compounds have been demonstrated to be moderately to highly toxic

76 by ingestion and inhalation, can be corrosive to eyes, and can cause developmental issues in  
77 terrestrial and aquatic animal studies (9, 10).

78 DBNPA is not toxic to all life, however, as it is biodegradable under both aerobic and  
79 anaerobic conditions, with a reported biotic half-life of fewer than 4 hours for both at neutral pH  
80 (10). However, the hydrolysis and aquatic photolysis half-life of this compound are pH-  
81 dependent, with faster degradation occurring at a more alkaline pHs. For example, the abiotic  
82 half-life of DBNPA at a pH 5, 7, and 9 is 67 days, 63 hours, and 73 minutes respectively (10).  
83 Conversely, low pH has been characteristic of HF-impacted streams (11, 12), thus providing  
84 favorable conditions for the stability of DBNPA and its degradation products.

85 The products of DBNPA biodegradation are the same under aerobic and anaerobic  
86 metabolism (10). Still, the relative abundance of these degradation intermediates and their  
87 reported half-lives varies depending on conditions such as pH, hydrolysis, photolysis, nucleophile  
88 presence, and aerobic or anaerobic conditions (10, 13). There are two known degradation  
89 pathways of DBNPA (Figure S1). The first pathway involves the hydrolysis of DBNPA into  
90 dibromoacetonitrile (DBAN)  $\rightarrow$  dibromoacetamide (DBAM)  $\rightarrow$  dibromoacetic acid. DBAN is  
91 more recalcitrant and three times more toxic than DBNPA (13). Dibromoacetic acid, a  
92 problematic disinfection-by-product (14), has a half-life of 300 days and breaks into glyoxylic  
93 acid, oxalic acid, bromide ions and carbon dioxide (15). However, a higher presence of total  
94 organic carbon (TOC) and/or nucleophilic reactions under ultraviolet light favors a second  
95 degradation pathway, where DBNPA degrades to monobromonitropropionamide (MBNPA), a  
96 compound two times less toxic than DBNPA (13), and then to cyanoacetamide (CAM) (13, 15). It  
97 was previously shown that HF-impacted streams have higher dissolved organic carbon than HF-  
98 unimpacted streams (16), which may impact DBNPA degradation products in impacted  
99 environments.

100 DBNPA can reach the environment in many ways; surface spills into the soil, surface  
101 water, and aquifers; incomplete removal after water treatment; groundwater contamination after

102 equipment failure (leakage), and unintended fractures or abandoned wells (2). DBNPA  
103 environmental contamination could also occur in several of the steps associated with HF  
104 operations e.g., the transportation of chemicals to the site; mixing of HF fluids and chemicals on  
105 site; subsurface injection of the HF fluids; handling, collection, and storage of produce water; and  
106 disposal of the produced water (17). Understanding the impacts of surface and shallow  
107 groundwater spills, leaks, and disposal of poorly treated HF wastewater in the environment is of  
108 great concern as several studies have reported cases of the accumulation of toxic chemicals (such  
109 as hydrocarbons, benzene, toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylene, diesel, chlorinated solvents, among  
110 others) in groundwater, streams, soils, and sediments at HF operating sites (18-22). However, no  
111 study has investigated DBNPA degradation by-products and the microbial community changes  
112 over time in aerobic stream waters impacted by HF. This study aims to (1) understand the  
113 differences in local stream microbial community responses to DBNPA, (2) identification of  
114 DBNPA degradation by-products in streams impacted and unimpacted by HF operations, and (3)  
115 compare the microbial community response differences and similarities between the HF biocides  
116 DBNPA and glutaraldehyde.

## 117 **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### 118 **Quantification of bacterial 16S rRNA gene abundance over time**

119 The 16S rRNA gene abundance was quantified at various points through the course of the  
120 experiment (Figure 1). Prior to DBNPA addition, the starting mean 16S rRNA gene  
121 concentrations were  $4.03 \pm 0.60 \times 10^4$  gene copies/mL in the HF- impacted streams microcosms  
122 (HF+) and  $4.38 \pm 0.50 \times 10^4$  gene copies/mL in HF-unimpacted streams microcosms (HF-). This  
123 difference was not statistically significant. Bacterial 16S rRNA gene in microcosms from two  
124 HF+ streams (Little Laurel, LL and Naval Hollow, NH) decrease immediately following addition  
125 of DBNPA and then increase, while Alex Branch (AB) displayed an increase in bacterial 16S  
126 rRNA gene concentration by day 7. In contrast 16S rRNA gene abundance in microcosms from  
127 two HF- streams (East Elk, EE and West Elk, WE) increase, while Dixon Run (DR) experienced

128 a decrease in 16S rRNA gene concentration by day 7. Specifically, seven days after addition of  
129 DBNPA an average decrease of  $-0.16 \log_2$  fold change (FC) in 16S rRNA gene copies/mL was  
130 observed in HF+ microcosms, and a small average increase of  $0.22 \log_2$  FC was observed in HF-  
131 microcosms, indicating more sensitivity to DBNPA in HF+ microcosms. However, by day 56 the  
132 HF+ experienced a  $4.9 \log_2$  FC and HF- experienced a  $3.9 \log_2$  FC. The difference in averaged  
133 16S rRNA gene copies/mL through time (day 7 to 56) between HF+ and HF- microcosms was  
134 statistically significant ( $p < 0.05$ ). At day 56, the HF+ and HF- controls (no DBNPA added  
135 microcosms) were not significantly different from each other, both experienced an  $8.3 \log_2$  FC  
136 from the initial gene copies/mL at day zero. The similitude in starting microbial abundance prior  
137 to DBNPA addition indicates that the difference in microbial abundance observed after DBNPA  
138 addition was due to the initial impact of DBNPA on the microbial community, followed by its  
139 response and adaptation to the biocide, and low biocidal activity of DBNPA over time.

140 Quantification of the 16S rRNA gene shows that the HF- microbial communities were  
141 initially more resistant and/or tolerant to the DBNPA perturbation, as shown by the overall  
142 positive log-fold change in the gene copy number at day 7. DBNPA is a fast-kill biocide, thus  
143 resistance at the initial time point is indicative of inefficacy of microbial control in HF-  
144 microcosms. Through time, both HF- and HF+ showed strong resilience and adaptation to  
145 decreasing concentration of DBNPA, however by day 56 HF+ had an overall greater gene  
146 copies/mL (Figure 1) and the log-fold change than HF-.

147 There is no indication that the HF+ streams had any prior exposure to DBNPA prior to  
148 this experiment. UOG operators in the area have disclosed the use of other biocides, such as  
149 glutaraldehyde (reported in self-disclosing website fracfocus.org). Thus, prior exposure to HF  
150 activity, not containing DBNPA, did not appear to provide 'priming' or a competitive advantage  
151 to DBNPA exposure based on 16S rRNA gene copies/mL alone, but it provided favorable  
152 conditions for quicker resilience (23). Furthermore, quantification of the 16S rRNA gene copy  
153 number shows that there is overall environmental tolerance to high concentration of DBNPA,



154 indicating DBNPA is not as effective in controlling complex and dynamic microbial communities  
155 as compared to environmental isolates or engineered systems (9, 24).

### 156 **Microbial Community Structural Changes**

157         Microorganisms in headwater ecosystems are environmental regulators of natural  
158 geochemical cycles and organic matter cycling (25, 26). Microorganisms are very sensitive to  
159 perturbation making them good sensors of environmental change and effective for tracking  
160 contaminants (27). Before DBNPA addition HF- microcosms had an overall higher evenness and  
161 richness than HF+. After addition of DBNPA, evenness and richness were affected through time  
162 in both HF+ and HF- microcosms. Shannon diversity, which account for the abundance and  
163 evenness of species present, showed that HF+ microcosms experienced a smaller decrease in  
164 evenness and richness—even though HF- had an overall higher diversity (Figure 2a) ( $P < 0.01$ ).  
165 Meanwhile, while not statistically significant, Simpson diversity (Figure 2d) which also accounts  
166 for the abundance of species present, indicated minimal changes in diversity over time except for  
167 HF- at day 21. Still, diversity increased by day 35. In contrast, Chao1 ( $P < 0.05$ ) and Observed ( $P$   
168  $< 0.05$ ) measurements (Figure 2b and 2c), which include unique and rare operational taxonomic  
169 units (OTUs) in their calculations, experienced a more prominent decrease in diversity, as fewer  
170 OTUs dominated over time. In contrast, when comparing day zero with day 56 control to test  
171 bottle effect, the changes detected by day were not significant, and HF- maintained higher  
172 diversity than HF+.

173         Analysis of weighted UniFrac distances between samples revealed that there was a  
174 difference in phylogenetic composition response between HF+ and HF- microbial populations.  
175 The weighted UniFrac distances were plotted on a directional Principal Coordinate Analysis  
176 (PCoA), PC 1, explained 27.90 % of the sample variance, while PC2, explained 17.99% of the  
177 sample variance (Figure 3). At day zero, prior to DBNPA addition HF+ and HF- already clustered  
178 separately along the PC1 axis, but after DBNPA addition HF+ and HF- visibly separated more  
179 over time, showing that the HF+ and HF- got more dissimilar over time after addition of DBNPA.

180 Meanwhile the HF+ and HF- no-DBNPA added controls cluster together at day 56. Permutational  
181 multivariate analysis of variance (PERMANOVA) indicated that there were statistically  
182 significant differences between HF+ and HF- microbial community through time (Table 1). This  
183 difference indicates that DBNPA selected for different sets of taxa based on HF exposure.

#### 184 **Differentially Enriched Taxa Over Time and Between HF+ and HF- Microcosms**

185 The initial bacterial population (before DBNPA amendment) in all microcosms,  
186 regardless of HF history, was predominantly *Proteobacteria*, which comprised more than 75.5%  
187  $\pm 4.8\%$  of 16S rRNA gene reads in HF+ and more than  $64.4\% \pm 3.2\%$  in the HF- group.  
188 *Proteobacteria* were expected to dominate, as previous studies on these Pennsylvania streams  
189 reported this phylum as the principal population (11, 12, 16). However, initial proportions of  
190 *Beta*, *Alpha*, and *Gammaproteobacteria*, in that order of abundance differed between the HF+  
191 and HF- groups. Taxa plots illustrate the difference in microbial community structure over time  
192 (Figure S2a and S2b). *Gammaproteobacteria* were the first responders in both HF and HF- after 7  
193 days of DBNPA addition with *Pseudoalteromonadaceae* as the most dominant family at this  
194 time,  $12.3\% \pm 4.0\%$  of HF+ microcosms and  $19.4\% \pm 2.2\%$  of HF- microcosms. A strong  
195 correlation between *Gammaproteobacteria* and HF+ streams has been shown before (11, 12). By  
196 day 35, *Alphaproteobacteria*, specifically, the genus *Methylobacterium* was the most dominant  
197 taxa ( $15.6\% \pm 7.7\%$  in HF+ and  $30.5\% \pm 6.2\%$  in HF-). However, by day 56 a more diverse  
198 microbial composition was observed, with few overall dominant taxa. In HF+ the most dominant  
199 taxa were Unclassified bacteria ( $10\% \pm 5.1\%$ ), *Comamonadaceae* ( $9.5\% \pm 2.7\%$ ),  
200 *Alcanivoracaceae* ( $8.9\% \pm 7.8\%$ ), and *Sphingomonadaceae* ( $7.9\% \pm 2.4\%$ ), and in HF- the most  
201 dominant taxa were *Comamonadaceae* ( $6.3\% \pm 0.8\%$ ), auto67\_4w from the order  
202 *Pedosphaerales* ( $5.7\% \pm 1.3\%$ ), and *Methylobacteriaceae* ( $6.3\% \pm 2.7\%$ ) (Figure 4).

203 There were important changes to the microbial community structure in both HF+ and HF-  
204 following amendment with DBNPA. Seven days after DBNPA amendment, the relative  
205 abundance of 29 taxa were significantly different (DESeq2, Wald Test  $P \Rightarrow 0.01$ ) in both HF+

206 and HF- compared to day zero; 24 of which increased in relative abundance, and five decreased  
207 (Table S1). The two taxa with the highest increase were identified as the family AEGEAN 185  
208 (7.43 log<sub>2</sub>FC) from the SAR404 phylum, and family SAR 324 (7.26 log<sub>2</sub>FC) a member of the  
209 class *Deltaproteobacteria*. Both of these taxa were reported in a similar experiment using the  
210 biocide glutaraldehyde (28). AEGEAN 185 matches to sequences of a clone library from the  
211 North Aegean Sea, but its metabolic profile is unknown (29). Sequenced members of SAR 324  
212 are known to possess genes for methane monooxygenase and dehalogenases that, if expressed,  
213 can co-metabolize halogenated compounds such as DBNPA (30-32). The only enriched genus  
214 with a relative abundance greater than 2% at all time points in the experiment was *Alcanivorax*  
215 (3.27 log<sub>2</sub>FC). *Alcanivorax* is a known oil degrader (33) and was also enriched in glutaraldehyde  
216 microcosms, showing a wide range of xenobiotic compounds it is capable of tolerating, and even  
217 possibly degrading (28). In addition to the three previously mentioned taxa, 9 more were enriched  
218 with both glutaraldehyde and DBNPA: *Achromobacter*, *Synechococcus*, SarSea-WGS and  
219 Artic95A-2 from the SAR 406 clade, *Acidimicrobiales*, *Nitrospina*, *Sphingopyxis* and  
220 *Euryarchaeota* Marine group II and III. Of the five suppressed OTUs, three were from the order  
221 *Burkholderiales*. Differential abundance analysis between HF+ and HF- at day 7 showed 51 taxa  
222 were significantly different; 30 were enriched in HF+, and 21 were enriched in HF- (Table S2).  
223 The most substantial log FC was *Micrococcus* (6.14 log<sub>2</sub>FC), and the taxa that were enriched and  
224 comprised more than 2% relative abundance in HF+ were *Verrucomicrobiaceae*,  
225 *Caulobacteraceae*, *Janthinobacterium*, *Novosphingobium*, *Oxalobacteraceae*, and  
226 *Limnohabitans*.

227 The microbial communities at days 21, 35, 49, and 56 (Tables S3, S4, S5, and S6,  
228 respectively) followed a similar trend, with approximately 100 differentially enriched taxa in both  
229 HF+ and HF- microcosms compared to day zero. Through time, many OTUs related to marine  
230 environments such as *Idiomarina*, SAR 324, Aegean-185, *Alteromonadaceae*, ZD017, *Halomonas*,  
231 and *Alcanivorax* were enriched. Enrichment of marine taxa is notable as osmotic regulation and

232 efflux pumps, which are important attributes of marine microbes, have been linked to biocide  
233 tolerance (34-37) but mechanistic details about microbial tolerance to DBNPA have not been  
234 previously reported. Marine organisms are found in low abundance in freshwater streams, and  
235 they can bloom when conditions are favorable (38), which indicates a potential competitive  
236 advantage of halotolerant bacteria to DBNPA. For example, a halotolerant *Halomonadaceae* was  
237 shown to be enriched in HF exposed anaerobic sediments treated with DBNPA (39). Other  
238 halotolerant bacteria have also emerged as bacterial biomarkers of UOG impacts in freshwater  
239 streams (40). HF fluids contain high abundance of halophilic and halotolerant bacteria (41),  
240 which can be displaced to streams in the event of an HF fluid spill.

241 Other differently enriched organisms between days 21, 35, 49, and 56 (Tables S3, S4, S5,  
242 and S6, respectively) included *Dietzia*, *Bacillus*, *Methylobacterium*, *Verrucomicrobiaceae*,  
243 *Novosphingobium*, *Caulobacteracea*, among others. *Dietzia* was previously shown to resist  
244 antimicrobials in freshwater and wastewater ecosystems (42). *Bacillus* has been reported to  
245 possess intrinsic resistance to antimicrobial as they can form spores when antimicrobial pressure  
246 is encounter (43, 44). Bacterial spores are the least susceptible to biocidal action (43).  
247 *Methylobacterium* is a common environmental microbe that was previously shown to be enriched  
248 and dominant after freshwater consortium was exposed to glutaraldehyde (28), and species in this  
249 genus have been shown to be resistant to other antimicrobials (45). Another microcosms study  
250 using sediment and water anaerobic mixture showed that DBNPA exposure decreased  
251 *Methylobacteriaceae* abundance (39), indicating that oxygen availability is needed for  
252 *Methylobacterium* resistance and enrichment in the presence of DBNPA. *Novosphingobium* are  
253 commonly found in environments impacted by anthropogenic activity (46). They are known to be  
254 effective biodegraders of toxic and recalcitrant compounds (46). However, the family  
255 *Sphingomonadaceae*, which *Novosphingobium* is a member of, also was shown to decrease after  
256 exposure to DBNPA in a previous anaerobic sediment and water microcosms (39), indicating  
257 again that oxygen or sediment presence affect tolerance and resistance of this taxa. Taxa enriched

258 in HF+ but not HF- included *Verruimicrobiaceae* and *Caulobacteraceae* which were shown by  
259 another study to be susceptible to a low dosage of DBNPA in sediments that were not exposed to  
260 HF (39). The enrichment of these taxa only in HF+ microcosms may indicate that prior exposure  
261 to HF fluids can build tolerance to DBNPA in *Verruimicrobiaceae* and *Caulobacteraceae*  
262 regardless if HF fluids contained DBNPA. Furthermore, *Caulobacteraceae* has been previously  
263 identified as a microbial biomarker of UOG activity in streams in PA (40).

264 At day 56, the negative control had 209 differentially enriched taxa compared to day  
265 zero, which can be attributed to bottle effect (Table S11). Meanwhile, at day 56 the experimental  
266 and negative control microcosms (no DBNPA added) had 181 differentially enriched taxa. Of  
267 those, 111 were enriched in the experimental microcosms (Table S12), which, when summarized  
268 at genus level, reveals that *Bacillus*, *Idiomarina*, *Glaciecola*, *Alcanivorax*, *Acinetobacter*, *Vibrio*,  
269 *Dietzia*, *Methylobacterium*, *Pseudoalteromonas*, *Marinobacter*, *Novosphingobium*,  
270 *Stenotrophomonas*, *Burkholderia*, and *Oxalobacteraceae* (unclassified genus) show tolerance and  
271 adaptation to DBNPA.

272 Another study used .0025% v/v DBNPA with and without the addition of FeOOH in  
273 anaerobic microcosms constructed with sediment inoculum from up- and downstream from a  
274 UOG wastewater treatment facility to understand how UOG wastewater processing affects  
275 downstream microbial communities and how those changes affect anaerobic microbial responses  
276 to HF fluid additives (39). That study found three enriched families in the UOG-downstream  
277 microcosms amended with only DBNPA and two of those, *Halomonadaceae* and  
278 *Staphylococcaceae*, were also found in this study. Conversely, the same UOG downstream  
279 samples were amended with FeOOH and DBNPA, and six families were enriched, two of which  
280 were also detected in this study: *Rhodospirillaceae* (enriched over time in HF+ as compared to  
281 HF-, Tables S2, S7 to S10), and *Ignavibacteriaceae* (enriched at days 21 and 35, Table S3 and  
282 S4). However, the study by Mumford et al. (2018) only sample at day 42 after incubation, and the

283 low DBNPA concentration, sediment, and anaerobic conditions used are expected to result in  
284 wide differences between that study and the one described here.

### 285 **Microbial community responses to DBNPA vs. Glutaraldehyde**

286 We recently conducted a similar study using 100 mg/L of the biocide glutaraldehyde  
287 (28). The changes in microbial abundance observed after treatment with DBNPA contrast with  
288 the results of the glutaraldehyde experiment. In the glutaraldehyde study, all of the six stream  
289 microcosms experienced an initial decrease in microbial abundance. On average HF+  
290 communities were initially more resistant to the biocide, as observed by a smaller log-fold change  
291 of 16S rRNA gene/mL by day 7. By day 56, HF- showed stronger resilience by having a bigger  
292 positive log-fold change. These results show that the microbial abundance adaptation response in  
293 these microbial communities is biocide specific.

294 *Methylobacterium*, *Idiomarina*, *Bacillus*, and *Alcanivorax*, among others, were enriched  
295 in the presence of both DBNPA and glutaraldehyde (28). The enrichments indicate that these taxa  
296 have a competitive advantage when exposed to these two electrophilic biocides. Previous studies  
297 have shown that glutaraldehyde resistance may be caused by the expression of efflux pumps (36,  
298 47). However, the mechanisms for DBNPA resistance is not known, and functional genomics and  
299 transcriptomics analyses are needed to better understand this mechanism.

300 Furthermore, Weighted UniFrac beta diversity (Figure 3) showed a distinct phylogenetic  
301 response between HF+ and HF- microcosms. This was similar to what was observed in previous  
302 work (28), yet glutaraldehyde showed more significant phylogenetic distances on a PCoA plot.  
303 The primary axis explained 65.4 % of the variation and the second axis explained 10%, while for  
304 DBNPA PC1 and PC2 explained 27.90% and 17.99% respectively, showing that the response and  
305 phylogenetic changes due to DBNPA addition were not as pronounced as for glutaraldehyde.  
306 Even though both are electrophilic biocides, DBNPA is a fast kill biocide while glutaraldehyde  
307 biocidal properties are longer lasting (2). Glutaraldehyde is also more persistent over time (28),  
308 with a biotic half-life of 33.8 d in HF- and a biotic half-life of 51.9 in HF+, potentially explaining

309 the more pronounced differences in the phylogenetic distribution of glutaraldehyde-treated  
310 microcosms over time. Furthermore, the alpha diversity changes and the differentially enriched  
311 taxa suggested that the microcosms contain a higher quantity of OTUs that are able to tolerate and  
312 adapt to DBNPA as compared to having just a few OTUs becoming enriched as it the case of  
313 glutaraldehyde (28). For example, *Methylobacterium* was the most dominant taxa by day 35 in  
314 the microcosms exposed to DBNPA (15.6% in HF+ and 30.5% in HF-), but by day 56 there is  
315 not clear dominating taxa. In contrast, when exposed to glutaraldehyde *Methylobacterium*  
316 dominated the community from day 21 throughout day 56. At this final time point  
317 *Methylobacterium* represented 70.6% of the observed microbial community HF+ and 84.2% in  
318 HF- (28). Based on this comparison, combined with the significant increase in 16S rRNA gene  
319 copies, it seems that DBNPA tolerance is more ubiquitous. There are multiple possible  
320 explanations for this result: (1) changes in the microbial community structure and/or adaptation of  
321 individual community members improves resilience of the community as a whole, and (2)  
322 DBNPA is degraded either biotically or abiotically more rapidly than glutaraldehyde (28, 48, 49).

### 323 **Abiotic and Biotic Transformation of DBNPA**

324 We evaluated the degradation of DBNPA over 56 days (d) using both biotic and abiotic  
325 microcosms constructed from HF+ and HF- streams (Figure S3 and Figure S4). However, the  
326 degradation rate of DBNPA could not be calculated as quantification by HPLC-DAD revealed a  
327 sharp increase in DBNPA signal at day 14 at two of the HF+ sites with documented spills (AB  
328 and LL, both biotic and abiotic samples). The sharp increase in DBNPA signal could not be  
329 attributed to human error, or equipment malfunction (Figure S3 and Figure S4). It is possible that  
330 a coeluting compound was absorbed in the same region or interfered with the HPLC-DAD  
331 measurement, which could explain the spike at day 14 (Figure S4), due to chromophores and/or  
332 similar degradation products that may not be distinguishable with this method (50). However,  
333 DBNPA non-detection was achieved by all HF- biotic microcosms sets (28 d for EE, 49 d for  
334 WE, and 56 d for DR), while only one HF+ biotic microcosm set reached non-detection (56 d for



335 NH). Conversely, only one HF<sup>-</sup> abiotic microcosms set reached DBNPA non-detection (49 d for  
336 EE) and only one HF<sup>+</sup> abiotic microcosm set (56 d for NH). These observations indicate HF<sup>-</sup>  
337 microbial communities were better at tolerating and degrading DBNPA.

338 DBNPA degradation has been documented previously (10, 13, 15). It was shown by  
339 others that degradation rate of this biocide is pH dependent with degradation rates inversely  
340 proportional to pH (10, 15). In this study, HF<sup>+</sup> streams had an average pH of  $4.9 \pm 0.13$  and HF<sup>-</sup>  
341 streams had a pH of  $6.5 \pm 0.46$  (Table S15), and HF<sup>-</sup> microcosms depleted DBNPA faster than  
342 HF<sup>+</sup> which agrees with the pH dependent degradation trends previously reported (10, 15). The  
343 only biotic HF<sup>+</sup> microcosm set to reach non-detect was NH which had the least acidic pH of the  
344 set (Table S15). However pH based hydrolysis was not the only factor contributing to degradation  
345 as abiotic microcosms were not able to reach non-detect at the same speed, indicating microbial  
346 biodegradation also played a role.

347 To evaluate whether a contaminant or degradation product with similar absorbance and  
348 retention time as DBNPA may be contributing to the DBNPA signal, the biotic and abiotic  
349 samples from days 0, 7, 14, 21, and 28 from the HF<sup>+</sup> sites (AB and LL) and also two HF<sup>-</sup> sites  
350 for comparison (WE and EE) were analyzed using nano-HPLC-HRMS. High mass accuracy  
351 measurements ( $\pm 5$  ppm) and fragmentation data from the LC-MS were used to qualitatively  
352 evaluate the results, first by searching for DBNPA and known degradation products, and then by  
353 comparing the number of brominated compounds detected. Then, relative abundance values and  
354 integrated peak area were used to evaluate the trends of these compounds across the five time  
355 points within each sample set. The DBNPA molecular ion ( $[M+H]^+ = 240.8606$  *m/z*) was not  
356 detected in most of the samples analyzed, which may be due to prolonged storage or multiple  
357 freeze-thaw cycles (each sample experienced 2 freeze-thaw cycles). However, because bromine  
358 (Br) has a unique isotopic signature (Figure S5), multiple other brominated species were  
359 observed; some of which were known DBNPA degradation products, but many were previously-  
360 unreported species and potentially novel brominated degradation products (Table S13). Across



361 the four sites (WE, EE, AB, LL), five time points (day zero to 28), and two microcosm conditions  
362 (biotic or abiotic) analyzed (n = 40), 18 brominated species were observed, including DBNPA  
363 and four known degradation products: CAM, MBNPA, DBAN, and DBAM (Figure S1, Table  
364 S13). The detected mass to charge ratio, predicted elemental formula, and putative structure of  
365 some of these brominated products are described in Table S13. More brominated species were  
366 detected in the abiotic samples (an average of  $14.1 \pm 2.8$ ) compared to the biotic samples ( $11.7 \pm$   
367  $4.4$ ) (Figure S6). There were also more brominated species in the biotic HF- samples ( $13 \pm 5.6$ )  
368 than the biotic HF+ samples ( $10.4 \pm 3.3$ ) and in abiotic HF- samples ( $15.2 \pm 3.5$ ) than the abiotic  
369 HF+ samples ( $13 \pm 1.7$ ) (Figure S6). Number of brominated compounds increased through time  
370 in all samples (Figure 4), indicating the formation of byproducts of degradation or reaction of  
371 bromide with available organics in the water. Similar to the trend observed by HPLC-DAD, the  
372 number of brominated species detected by LC-MS in the HF+ abiotic samples (AB and LL)  
373 increased sharply from day zero to day 14 (Figure S6). The total “brominated signal” (summed,  
374 integrated peak areas at each time point) also increased sharply at day 14 in the abiotic HF+  
375 samples (Figure S7). While not as strong, the brominated signal also increased at day 14 in the  
376 two abiotic HF- samples. For the biotic samples, a steady increase in brominated signal over time  
377 was observed regardless of the microcosm, with the highest signal occurring at day 21. The  
378 qualitative trends are consistent with the initial HPLC-DAD measurement, which suggests that  
379 these brominated degradation products may indeed have impacted the signal response in the  
380 initial measurement.

381 MBNPA and CAM, two known degradation products of the less toxic degradation  
382 pathway (Figure S1), were detected in abiotic and biotic in both HF+ microcosms (AB and LL)  
383 and one HF- (EE). DBAN, toxic pathway degradation product (Figure S1) was detected in the  
384 biotic LL microcosms (HF+) and abiotic and biotic EE microcosms (HF-), while DBAM, another  
385 toxic degradation pathway product, was detected in both biotic AB and LL (HF+) and only  
386 abiotic LL, while both abiotic and biotic WE and EE (HF-). Others have shown that the

387 preference for one degradation pathway is dependent on total organic carbon (TOC) content, and  
388 that higher TOC selects for the less toxic pathway, with MBNPA as an intermediate (13). It is  
389 documented that HF+ streams in PA, including AB and LL, have higher dissolved organic carbon  
390 than HF- due to land clearing practices from well-pad development (16). Here, mean TOC (Table  
391 S14) at day zero was significantly higher in HF+ samples ( $7.81 \pm 1.11$  mg/L) than in HF- samples  
392 ( $4.09 \pm 0.95$  mg/L; *t*-test,  $P = 0.02$ ), which could explain the presence of the nontoxic pathway  
393 intermediates at the HF+ microcosms, TOC could also be reacting with bromine left after  
394 complete DBNPA degradation. Other factors to consider include different enzymatic capabilities  
395 of the microbial communities present within the samples or different water chemistries favoring  
396 one pathway over another. The water chemistry measured *in situ* (Table S15) was reported  
397 previously: temperature (HF+:  $16.8^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 1.96$ , HF-:  $12.8^{\circ}\text{C} \pm 0.58$ ), pH (HF+:  $4.9 \pm 0.13$ , HF-:  
398  $6.5 \pm 0.46$ ), conductivity (HF+:  $29.2 \pm 3.67$   $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ , HF-:  $33.7 \pm 5.66$   $\mu\text{S}/\text{cm}$ ), and total dissolved  
399 solids (HF+:  $20.8 \pm 2.80$  mg/L, HF-:  $23.9 \pm 4.01$  mg/L) (28). Even though the differences in these  
400 parameters were not significantly different between HF+ and HF-, the differences in pH may  
401 affect the stability of DBNPA as discussed previously. This observation is also supported by  
402 cluster analysis as the detected brominated species clustered by HF impact history (Figure 5a).  
403 Samples also clustered by biotic and abiotic conditions per stream, indicating that microbial  
404 presence affected the degradation byproducts (Figure 5b). Overall, these results suggest that  
405 DBAM and other brominated species may be persistent degradation products of DBNPA that,  
406 depending on the history of the watershed, may be preferentially selected over the desired less  
407 toxic pathway with MBAN and CAM as intermediates. More DBNPA degradation kinetic  
408 experiments are needed to better understand the conditions dictating intermediate formation.

#### 409 **Environmental Implications**

410 Our findings demonstrate that previous HF exposure causes surface water microbial  
411 communities to respond differently to the biocide DBNPA as compared to HF-unimpacted

412 communities. HF exposure history, and its effect in water chemistry and microbial interactions,  
413 may also affect the formation of DBNPA brominated degradation products. In a similar  
414 experiment using glutaraldehyde, a distinct microbial community was enriched between HF+ and  
415 HF- after glutaraldehyde perturbation. In the glutaraldehyde experiment the HF+ microbial  
416 community showed higher tolerance to glutaraldehyde based on higher diversity and a smaller log  
417 fold decrease of the 16S rRNA gene concentration, but HF- microbial community was able to  
418 degrade glutaraldehyde faster. The faster glutaraldehyde biodegradation in HF- was attributed to  
419 biotic-abiotic interactions as HF+ had acidic pH compared to HF- (28), as glutaraldehyde activity  
420 is enhanced at alkaline pH (51). Alkaline pH forms more reactive sites in the cell wall, this effect  
421 allows more bacteria to be susceptible to glutaraldehyde while depleting the glutaraldehyde in  
422 solution as it cross-links with the bacterial wall (51).

423 DBNPA caused a different microbial response than the biocide glutaraldehyde. First, HF-  
424 microcosms were better at tolerating DBNPA based on initial 16S rRNA log fold change, which  
425 is opposite to what was observed with glutaraldehyde. This could be in part due to DBNPA faster  
426 hydrolysis at increasing pH, causing HF- microcosms to deplete DBNPA faster as compare to the  
427 more acidic HF+ microcosms. Second, even though similar microbial groups were enriched, a  
428 more diverse microbial population was able to resist DBNPA as compared to glutaraldehyde, as  
429 *Methylobacterium* enrichment represented up to 92% of glutaraldehyde microcosms (28). The  
430 difference in microbial response may be caused by the DBNPA fast-kill approach, where its  
431 biocidal activity is more potent at the moment of initial contact, while glutaraldehyde works over  
432 a period of days to weeks. However, both DBNPA and glutaraldehyde depletion was faster in  
433 HF- microcosms.

434 This study revealed that DBNPA and associated degradation products can be persistent in  
435 stream water. TOC could have a role in the formation of degradation products. These findings are  
436 of importance, as environmental persistence may further hinder the return of the microbial  
437 communities to pre-impacted states affecting nutrient cycle, and further retard microbial natural

438 biodegradation capabilities (i.e. microbial attenuation) in the environment, potentially requiring  
439 intervention to stimulate the affected area to enhance the preference for DBNPA non-toxic  
440 degradation pathways. Environmental persistence of the brominated disinfectant by-products can  
441 cause harm to the public and environmental health. For example, the persistence of these  
442 disinfectant by-products may affect ecosystem function, e.g. microbial primary production and  
443 natural attenuation which could have unknown cascading effects to higher trophic levels (10, 52-  
444 55). Broad HF impacts have already been shown to affect micro and macroinvertebrates, fish and  
445 other aquatic organisms in the streams used as source water for the microcosms (16, 56).

446 Many of the taxa enriched in this study have been previously reported as being capable of  
447 degrading or co-metabolizing xenobiotic compounds. Although a genetic pathways for microbial  
448 biodegradation of DBNPA has not been determined, as a halogenated compound, it is likely that  
449 the aerobic degradation pathways would involve cometabolism, aerobic assimilation, or  
450 dehalogenation (57, 58). In the non-toxic degradation pathway of DBNPA (Figure S1), the  
451 bromines are substituted by hydrogen, which could be achieved by microbial reductive  
452 dehalogenation (59), and by abiotic mechanisms. For example, AB and LL (HF+ streams)  
453 derived microcosms showed intermediates of the less toxic degradation pathway, in both biotic  
454 and abiotic conditions, but MBNPA was an order of magnitude higher in biotic conditions  
455 (Figure 5b), leading to the conclusion that microbial biodegradation is active and rapid compared  
456 to abiotic degradation alone. Further research is needed to understand which microbes can use  
457 DBNPA as a carbon source, electron donor, or electron acceptor in metabolism.

458 Additional research is needed to determine a complete degradation pathway, including  
459 quantification of all brominated intermediates, and to better understand when one DBNPA  
460 degradation pathway is preferred over the other to adequately handle a HF chemical spill  
461 containing DBNPA. Furthermore, differences in degradation kinetics of DBNPA and associate  
462 degradation products between HF+ watersheds and pristine should be determined to quantify and  
463 determine under what conditions HF+ microbial communities are more efficient at debrominating

464 DBNPA and its degradation byproducts. DBNPA may not persist in the environment, but its  
465 brominated degradation products, such as DBAN, have a longer half-life and could be more  
466 harmful to the public and environmental health.

467

## 468 **MATERIALS AND METHODS**

### 469 **Stream Selection and Sample Collection**

470 For comparison purposes, sample collection was identical and done at the same time as  
471 Campa et al., 2018 . Briefly, sample selection employed GIS surveys, and the Pennsylvania  
472 Department of Environmental Protection (PADEP) records to minimize watershed variation  
473 caused by industrial activities other than UOG extraction. Streams selected were in forested areas,  
474 with no indication of past mining activity or other anthropogenic impacts in the PADEP records.  
475 HF-impacted (HF+) streams had active UOG wells within the watershed. These streams were  
476 Alex Branch (AB), Little Laurel (LL), and an unnamed tributary to Naval Hollow (NH). AB and  
477 LL had reported surface spills (60-62). The spills occurred in 2009 when a pipe carrying  
478 flowback water burst, leaking into LL, and to a lesser extent to AB. In the same year, HF  
479 chemicals were accidentally spilled into AB. The three HF un-impacted (HF-) streams had  
480 construction development involving well pads, but no HF activity had started. These streams  
481 were UNT East Elk (EE), unnamed tributary to West Elk (WE), and Dixon Run (DR). Refer to  
482 Table S15 for geological coordinates of the watersheds. A detailed description of the sites,  
483 screening process and selection has been described previously (11-13, 56, 63).

484 Collection of stream water from three HF+ and three HF- streams in northwestern  
485 Pennsylvania occurred in June 2015 under low flow conditions. Samples were collected in sterile  
486 Nalgene bottles and stored at 4°C until use. Conductivity, pH, temperature, and total dissolved  
487 solids were measured at collection time using a weekly calibrated Eutech PCSTestr 35 Multi-  
488 parameter test probe.

### 489 **Microcosm Setup**

490 Dow Chemicals' literature showed effective kill (> 6 log reduction) of acid producing  
491 bacteria (APB) and sulfate-reducing bacteria (SRB) using 25 mg/L of DBNPA (24); nevertheless,  
492 biocide usage in HF is highly variable with reports between 10 to 800 mg/L (6). Thus,  
493 microcosms were constructed using 125 mg/L DBNPA in 235 mL of stream water. DBNPA was  
494 purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (CAS 10222-01-2). Abiotic controls were autoclaved to kill all  
495 microbes present and were used to measure abiotic degradation of DBNPA. Negative biological  
496 controls (No-DBNPA added) were used to examine the bottle effect in microbial communities  
497 with no biocide added. Abiotic and biological controls were set at a volume of 20 mL. All  
498 microcosms were set in triplicates at ambient temperature (~21°C) under aerobic conditions and  
499 minimal light exposure for 56 days. Microcosms were uncovered only for sampling events and  
500 were shaken before sampling. Samples were collected every seven days for chemical analysis and  
501 day zero, 7, 21, 35, 49, and 56 for microbial analyses. TOC was measured before the beginning of  
502 the experiment using a Shimadzu TOC-L Series analyzer with ASI-L autosampler (Shimadzu,  
503 Kyoto, Japan) following the protocol described in Campa et al., 2018.

#### 504 **Quantification of Bacterial 16S rRNA Gene**

505 DNA was collected by filtering 25 mL of microcosm water through a 0.2 µm nylon filter  
506 (Sterivex), and frozen at -20°C until use. The frozen filter was cut with sterile pliers. The filter  
507 membrane was cut with a sterile razor and DNA was extracted from the membrane using Mo Bio  
508 PowerSoil DNA isolation kit following manufacturers specifications. Bacterial primers  
509 Bac1055YF and Bac1392R were used to quantify the 16S rRNA gene in a QuantStudio 12K Flex  
510 Real-Time PCR system (ThermoFisher Scientific). For reaction mixture, and qPCR parameters  
511 refer to Campa et al. (2018).

#### 512 **16S rRNA Gene Amplicon Library Preparation, Sequencing, and Data Analyses**

513 After DNA extraction, the v4 region of the 16S rRNA gene was amplified using the  
514 primers and protocol described previously (64). Refer to Campa et al. (2018), for the description

515 of library preparation. The final libraries were run in the Illumina MiSeq (San Diego, CA, USA)  
516 using a v2 (2 x 150 reads) kit following manufacturer's specifications.

517 Data analyses were done in QIIME (version 1.9.1) following the protocol described in  
518 Campa et al. (2018). Briefly, after joining forward and reverse reads and demultiplexing, quality  
519 filtration was set to an average Q-score of more than 19. De novo and reference-based chimera  
520 detection was done using UCHIME in the USEARCH package (65, 66). OTU picking was done  
521 using the Greengenes database (version May 2013)(67) applying a 97% sequence identity cut-off  
522 using UCLUST(65). Representative sequences for each OTU were aligned using the PyNAST  
523 method (68) and taxonomy was assigned using the RDP classifier (69). The OTU table was  
524 filtered further to remove sequences with counts below 0.005% and any samples with less than  
525 1000 sequences were discarded and the OTU table was cumulative-sum scaling (CSS) normalized  
526 (70) for beta diversity, weighted UniFrac distance matrix calculation (71). Weighted UniFrac  
527 distance matrix was visualized using a directional Principal Coordinate Analysis (PCoA) in  
528 EMPERor (72) forcing the x-axis by days. The OTU table and weighted UniFrac was then  
529 imported into R and the packages Phyloseq (73) and Vegan (74) were used for statistical analyses  
530 as described below. An unnormalized OTU table was also exported into R for alpha diversity and  
531 DESeq2 analyses (75, 76). Difference in alpha diversity metrics, Chao 1, Simpson, Shannon,  
532 and Observed species, were computed using the package Phyloseq (73) to understand the  
533 difference in evenness and richness between HF-impacted and HF-unimpacted microcosms  
534 before and after DBNPA addition. Statistical analyses were performed as described in the next  
535 section.

536 DESeq2 (76) R package was used to identify differentially enriched taxa through time  
537 and between HF+ and HF- microcosms at each time point (day 7, 21, 35, 29, and 56) to day zero  
538 no-DBNPA added controls. Day 56 DBNPA added microcosms and day 56 no-DBNPA added  
539 controls were compared as well. Per time point, comparisons between HF impact status were also  
540 made. For each comparison a Wald test was performed using the parametric fit-type and the P-



541 value was adjusted using Benjamini & Hochberg method. Reported OTUs had an alpha < 0.01  
542 and a reported 2 log<sub>2</sub> fold change or higher. following the protocol in Campa et al (2018). using a  
543 cutoff of 2 log<sub>2</sub> fold change or higher, and a Bonferroni adjusted p-value of 0.01.

#### 544 **Statistics**

545 For comparison purposes, statistical analysis was similar to that in Campa et al. (2018).  
546 To understand the effect of DBNPA on microbial community, 16S rRNA gene abundance was  
547 compared using a complete randomized design (CRD) with split plot using impact status (HF+  
548 vs. HF-) as the whole plot factor and time (days) as the split-plot factors using a mixed effect  
549 ANOVA model in the R nlme package (77). The least squares means were computed and  
550 separated with the Bonferroni method using the R emmeans package (78). 16S rRNA gene  
551 copies/mL were log<sub>10</sub> transformed to meet normality and variance assumptions for ANOVA. To  
552 compare the no-biocide control at day zero and at the end of the experiment (day 56), the same  
553 model was used. To determine the differences between HF+ and HF- at day zero, an independent  
554 sample t-test was performed with data for only that time point. Microbial community alpha  
555 diversity (Chao 1, Simpson, Shannon, and Observed species) values were rank transformed and  
556 compared using the same model as for 16S rRNA gene copies/mL. Finally, microbial community  
557 beta diversity weighted UniFrac distance matrix was used to compare temporal differences  
558 between HF+ and HF- microcosms before and after DBNPA addition were applying a nested  
559 PERMANOVA with 999 permutations using the adonis command in the Vegan (74) R package.  
560 All statistical tests were performed using R, and p-value significance was set at p= 0.05. See  
561 supplemental methods for R-scripts used.

#### 562 **Quantification of DBNPA using HPLC-DAD**

563 Every week, 1 mL of microcosm water was collected to compare the difference between  
564 the rates of abiotic and biotic DBNPA degradation in HF+ and HF- microcosms. After collection,  
565 samples were filter-sterilized using 0.2 µm nylon filter, acidified to pH 2.5 with phosphoric acid



566 to minimize hydrolysis of DBNPA as described by Blanchard *et al.* (1987), and were then frozen  
567 at -20°C until analysis.

568 DBNPA quantification was performed with an Agilent 1200 HPLC system using a  
569 modified method described by Blanchard *et al.* (1987). An Agilent Eclipse XDB-C18 column (5  
570 µm, 4.6 x 150 mm) was used for separation with a flowrate of 1mL/min and a diode array  
571 detector (DAD) was set at 210 nm for detection. The mobile phases and elution gradient were as  
572 follows: The initial composition was 75% deionized water (adjusted to pH 2.5 with phosphoric  
573 acid; eluent A) and 25% acetonitrile (eluent B), and eluent B increased linearly to 60% over 6  
574 min and further to 85% over an additional 4 min time period. Eluent B was held at 85% for 1 min  
575 before the column was equilibrated to initial conditions.

#### 576 **Detection of DBNPA Degradation Products Using Nano-High Performance Liquid**

#### 577 **Chromatography-High-Resolution Mass Spectrometry**

578 Filtered stream water samples were kept frozen in amber bottles in the dark at -20°C until  
579 analysis by nano-liquid chromatography-high-resolution mass spectrometry (nano-HPLC-  
580 HRMS). Measurements were collected using a Dionex UltiMate 3000 HPLC pump  
581 (ThermoFisher Scientific) coupled to an LTQ-Orbitrap Velos Pro mass spectrometer  
582 (ThermoFisher Scientific) equipped with a nano-electrospray ionization (ESI) source (Proxeon,  
583 Denmark) operated in positive mode under direct control of the XCalibur software, v2.2 SP1.48  
584 (ThermoFisher Scientific). The nano-electrospray column/emitter was prepared manually in-  
585 house using 100 µm i.d. fused-silica (Polymicro Technologies) which was laser-pulled and  
586 pressure-packed to 20 cm with Kinetex C18-RP material (5 µm, 100 Å, Phenomenex). The  
587 column was aligned in front of the MS capillary inlet, and 300 nL of the sample was manually  
588 injected directly onto the column. LC/MS-grade acetonitrile (ACN) and water (both degassed)  
589 were purchased from EMD Millipore, and formic acid (FA) from Sigma-Aldrich. Nano-flow rates  
590 were achieved with a split-flow setup prior to the injection loop (~250 nL min<sup>-1</sup> at the nano-spray  
591 tip) and separations were conducted by initially holding at 100% A (95% ACN/5% H<sub>2</sub>O/0.1%

592 FA) for 5 min, increasing linearly over 60 min to 100% B (70% ACN/30% H<sub>2</sub>O/0.1% FA), and  
593 then holding at 100% B for 5 min before re-equilibrating the column at 100% A for 20 min prior  
594 the next injection.

595 The mass spectrometer was externally calibrated for mass accuracy on the day of analysis  
596 using the positive calibration solution (Pierce, ThermoFisher Scientific). The ESI source capillary  
597 voltage was set to 3.0 kV and the capillary temperature to 275°C. High-resolution full scans were  
598 acquired in centroid mode at a resolving power of 30,000 over a mass range of 50 – 1000 *m/z*.  
599 Fragmentation data (MS<sup>2</sup>) were also collected using collision-induced dissociation (CID, He<sub>(g)</sub>)  
600 and a data-dependent acquisition approach on the top 5 most abundant ions in each MS<sup>1</sup> full scan.  
601 High-resolution (15,000 resolving power) MS<sup>2</sup> spectra were collected using a 2 *m/z* precursor  
602 isolation width, and an optimized 30% normalized CID energy for fragmentation. Raw LC/MS  
603 data were analyzed using the Thermo XCalibur Qual Software. Integrated LC peak areas were  
604 obtained from the extracted ion chromatograms (10 ppm tolerance).

#### 605 **Accession Numbers and Data Availability**

606 Mass spectrometry data was uploaded to the Center for Computation Mass Spectrometry (UCSD)  
607 online database MassIVE. The MassIVE ID number is MSV000082488. Microbial 16S rRNA  
608 gene amplicon sequences for both DBNPA treated microcosm and the glutaraldehyde treated  
609 microcosms were deposited in NCBI Sequence Read Archive (SRA) in SRA accession  
610 SRP151211 under BioProject PRJNA476929 as Biosamples SAMN09459387 to  
611 SAMN09459570, and SAMN09475542 to SAMN09475579.

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616 (Michigan Technological University), and 1805549 (Juniata College).

#### 617 **SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

- 618 Figure S1: DBNPA and known degradation products.
- 619 Figure S2: Microbial Community Shifts Over Time. A) Phylum, B) Genus
- 620 Figure S3: Biotic and abiotic degradation of DBNPA over time. Data is shown averaged by HF+  
621 and HF-.
- 622 Figure S4: Biotic and abiotic DBNPA degradation over time. Data is shown by water source  
623 location.
- 624 Figure S5: High-resolution mass spectrum of DBNPA standard.
- 625 Figure S6: Number of brominated species detected by nano-HPLC-HRMS in two HF- (left) and  
626 two HF+ (right) sets of microcosm samples, biotic and abiotic, from days 0, 7, 14, 21, and 28.
- 627 Figure S7: Summed peak areas for all brominated compounds at each time point (0, 7, 14, and 28  
628 days), normalized to each sample set (stream), analyzed by nano-HPLC-HRMS.
- 629 Table S1: DESeq2 results, OTU enrichment 7 days after glutaraldehyde addition
- 630 Table S2: DESeq2 results HF- vs HF+ enrichment at day 7
- 631 Table S3: DESeq2 results, enriched OTU at day 21 vs 0
- 632 Table S4: DESeq2 results, enriched OTU at day 35 vs 0
- 633 Table S5: DESeq2 results, enriched OTU at day 49 vs 0
- 634 Table S6: DESeq2 results, enriched OTU at day 56 vs 0
- 635 Table S7: DESeq2 results HF- vs HF+ enrichment at day 21
- 636 Table S8: DESeq2 results HF- vs HF+ enrichment at day 35
- 637 Table S9: DESeq2 results HF- vs HF+ enrichment at day 49
- 638 Table S10: DESeq2 results HF- vs HF+ enrichment at day 56
- 639 Table S11: DESeq2 results day 56 no-GA vs no-GA
- 640 Table S12: DESeq2 results day 56 vs day 56 no-DBNPA
- 641 Table S13: Putative DBNPA brominated degradation products detected by nano-HPLC-HRMS.
- 642 Table S14: Total Organic Carbon (TOC) concentration in source water prior to DBNPA addition.
- 643 Table S15: Geological coordinates and watershed physiochemical parameters.

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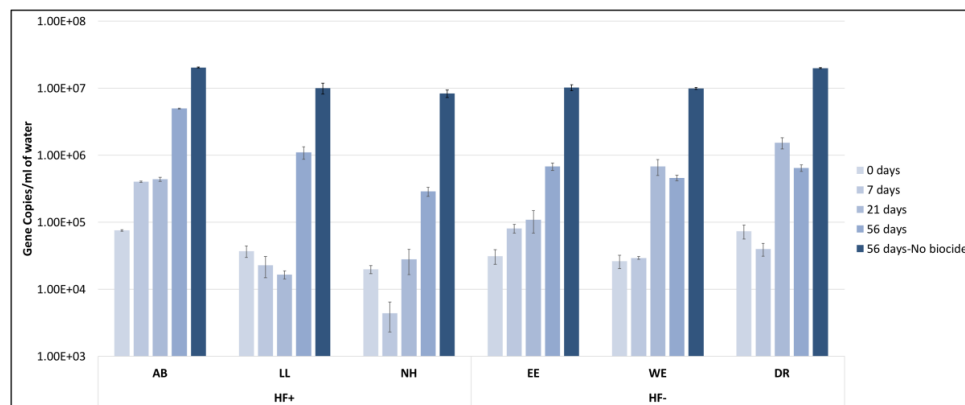
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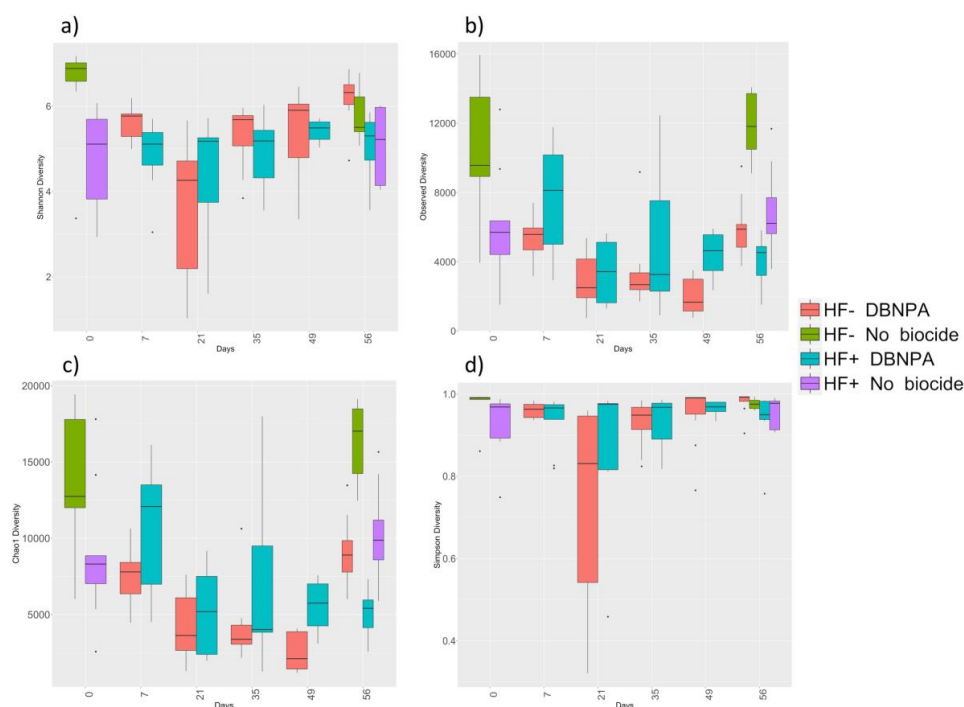
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900 **FIGURES AND LEGENDS**



901

902 **Figure 1.** Impacts of DBNPA in abundance of 16S rRNA gene copies/mL over time. Data shown  
903 is divided by HF-impacted (first three clusters, Alex Branch (AB), Little Laurel (LL), Naval  
904 Hollow (NH)) and HF-unimpacted (East Elk (EE), West Elk (WE), Dixon Run (DR))  
905 microcosms at day zero before DBNPA addition, day 7, 21, and 56 after DBNPA addition, and  
906 day 56 no-DBNPA added control. The bars are color on a gradient over time, with the last bar  
907 representing the no-DBNPA control at day 56. Each bar represents n=3, and the error bars  
908 represent one standard error.



909

910 **Figure 2.** Four different richness and evenness alpha diversity estimators comparing HF-

911 impacted and HF-unimpacted microcosms over time. The estimators used were (a) Shannon

912 Diversity, (b) Observed Diversity, (c) Chao1, and (d) Simpson Diversity. Red and green represent

913 HF-unimpacted microcosms. Red boxes represent the changes after DBNPA addition in HF-

914 unimpacted (days 7 to 56), while the green boxes represent the alpha diversity without DBNPA

915 addition in HF- (day zero and 56). Blue and purple boxes represent HF-impacted microcosms.

916 Blue boxes represent the changes after DBNPA addition in HF-impacted (days 7 to 56), while the

917 purple boxes represent the alpha diversity without DBNPA addition in HF- (day zero and 56).

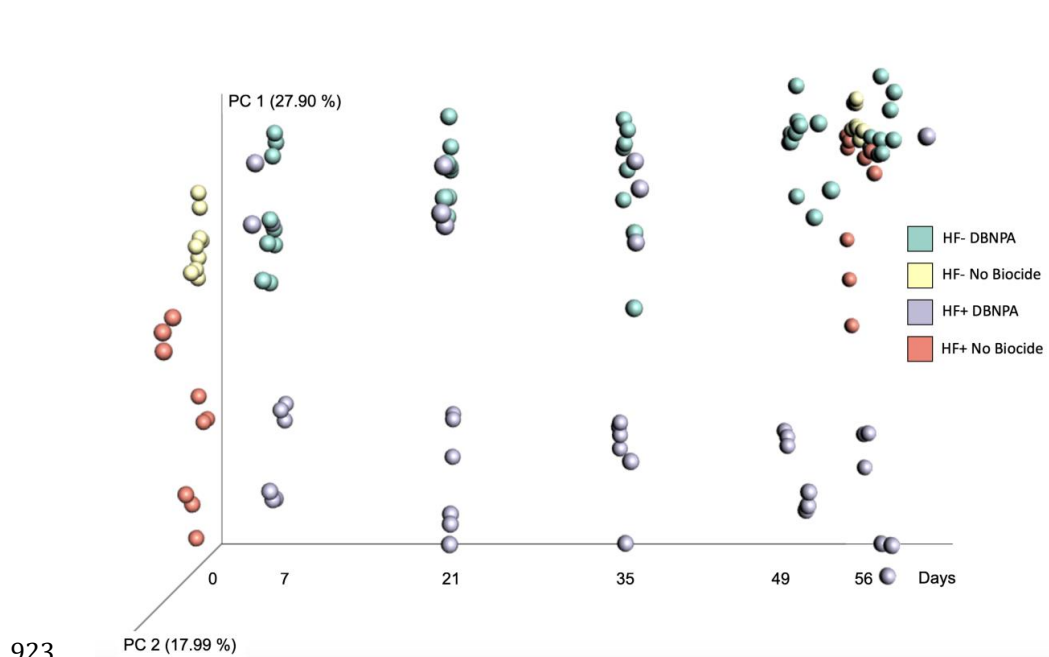
918 The box and whisker plot described the distribution of the data points. The beginning of the

919 whiskers to the beginning of the box are the upper and lower quartiles. The box represents the

920 interquartile range, which represents 50% of the data points (n=9). The vertical line inside the box

921 represents the median.

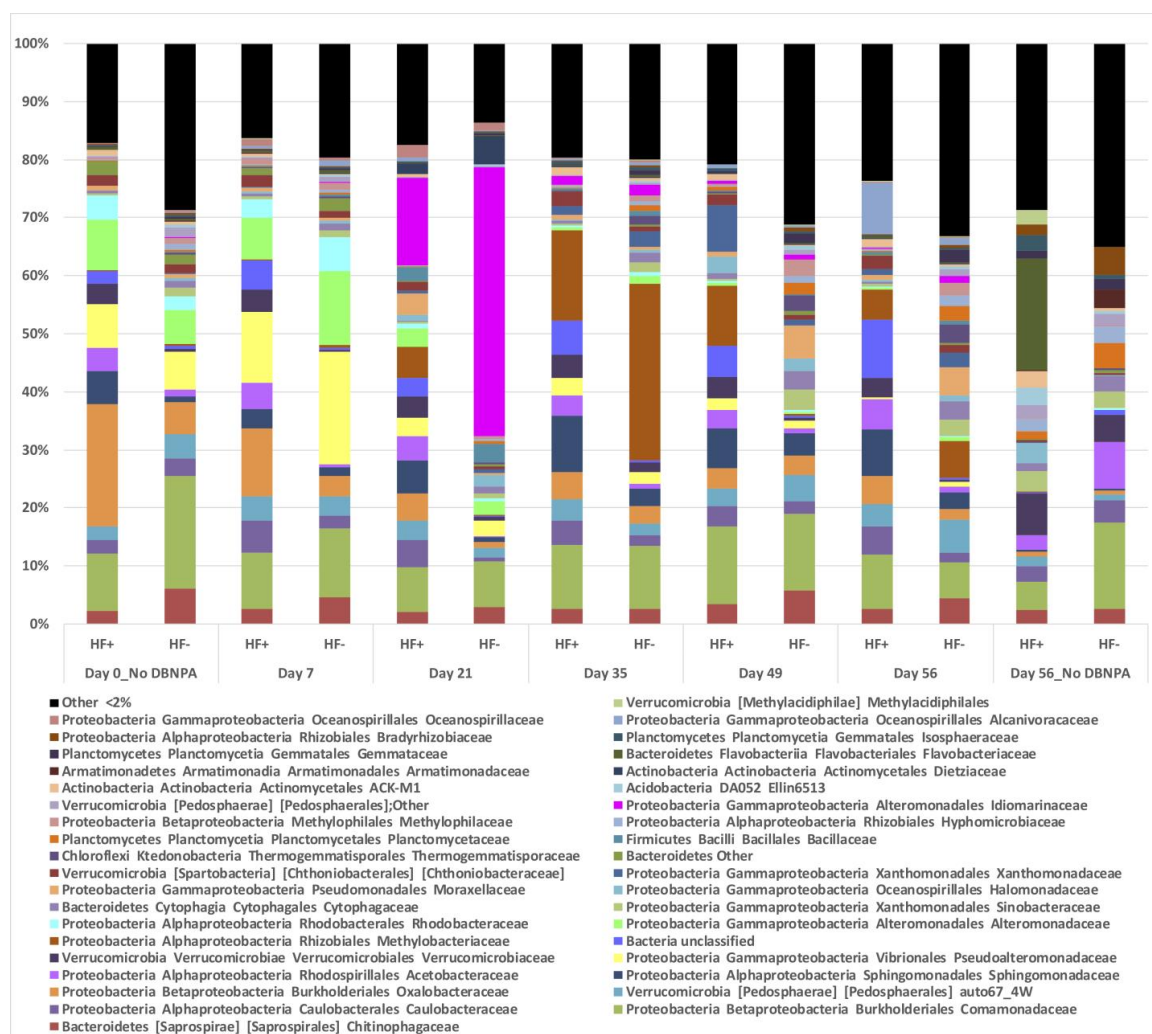
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923

924 **Figure 3.** Directional Principal Coordinate Analysis (PCoA) plots of weighted UniFrac distances  
925 between microcosms. Samples were plotted on the x-axis from left to right according to days  
926 sampled, 0, 7, 21, 35, 49, and 56. Samples are colored by hydraulic fracturing (HF)-impact  
927 history and DBNPA addition. The green legend = HF-unimpacted plus DBNPA addition, yellow  
928 legend= HF-unimpacted without biocide addition, purple legend= HF-impacted plus DBNPA  
929 addition, and pink legend= HF-impacted without biocide addition. Samples without biocide  
930 addition were only measured day 0 and day 56.

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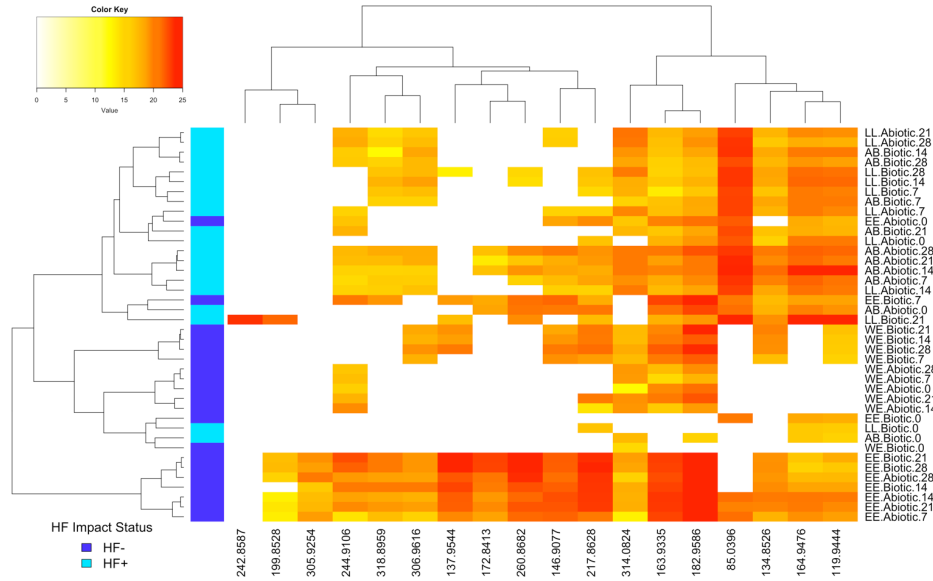
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933 **Figure 4.** Temporal changes of microbial community relative abundance in averaged hydraulic

934 fracturing-impacted (HF+) and hydraulic fracturing-unimpacted (HF-) microcosms treated with

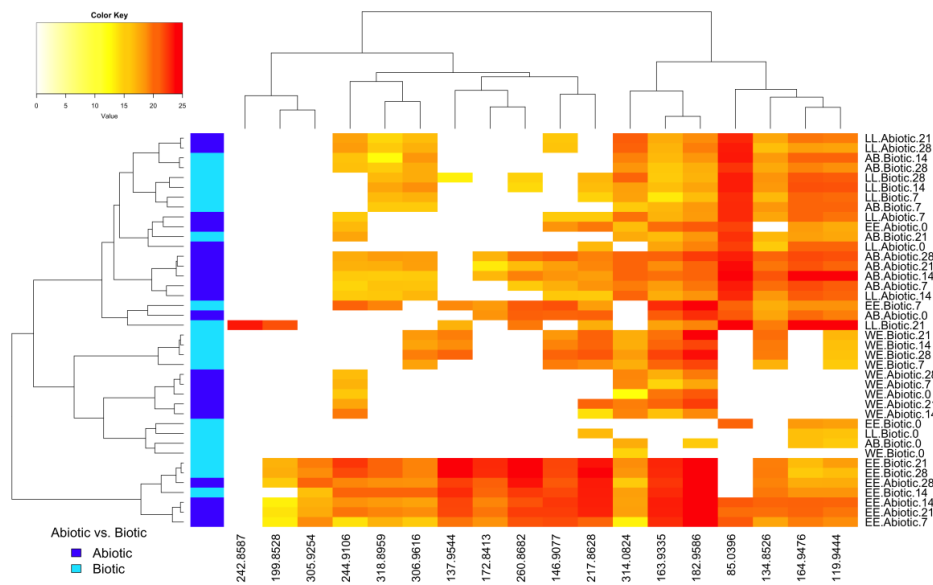
935 the biocide DBNPA. Microbial taxa are summarized to the Family level.

936 A)



937

938 B)



939

36

940 **Figure 5.** Heat maps of the normalized  $\log_2$  peak areas for brominated species detected by nano-  
 941 HPLC-HRMS. The dendrograms cluster samples using the Ward method of agglomeration. Rows  
 942 represent samples (described by stream location, condition, and day of collection) and columns  
 943 represent m/z ratios of the brominated species detected. The top dendrogram is clustered by  
 944 brominated species that varied similarly across the data set. A) The left dendrogram clusters first  
 945 by HF+ (light blue) or HF- (dark blue) streams, and then by abiotic and biotic microcosms. B)  
 946 The left dendrogram clusters by abiotic (dark blue) and biotic (light blue) samples.  
 947

948 **Table 1.** Nested PERMANOVA of weighted UniFrac distances  
 949

Source of Variation	Degrees of Freedom	Sum of Squares	Mean Square	F. Model	R2	P value
HF_ImpactStatus	1	0.9515	0.95148	30.3412	0.15771	0.001
Biocide	1	0.4506	0.45056	14.3678	0.07468	0.001
Biocide:Days	2	0.7840	0.39199	12.5000	0.12995	0.001
HF_ImpactStatus: Biocide	1	0.1381	0.13806	4.4024	0.02288	0.001
HF_ImpactStatus: Biocide: Days	2	0.1653	0.08266	2.6359	0.02740	0.001
Residuals	113	3.5436	0.03136		0.58737	
Total	120	6.0330			1.00000	

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952