



Tribal Brownfields and Response Programs

Respecting Our Land, Revitalizing Our Communities

EPA United States Environmental Protection Agency

2011

Foreword

States and tribal nations bear important responsibilities for the day-to-day mission of environmental protection, but declining tax revenues and fiscal challenges are pressuring state agencies and tribal governments to do more with fewer resources. Strong partnerships and accountability are more important than ever. EPA must do its part to support state and tribal capacity and, through strengthened oversight, ensure that programs are consistently delivered nationwide. Where appropriate, we will use our own expertise and capacity to bolster state and tribal efforts.

– Excerpt from EPA Administrator, Lisa Jackson's Seven Priorities for EPA's Future Memorandum

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response
Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization
Washington, DC 20460

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Purpose

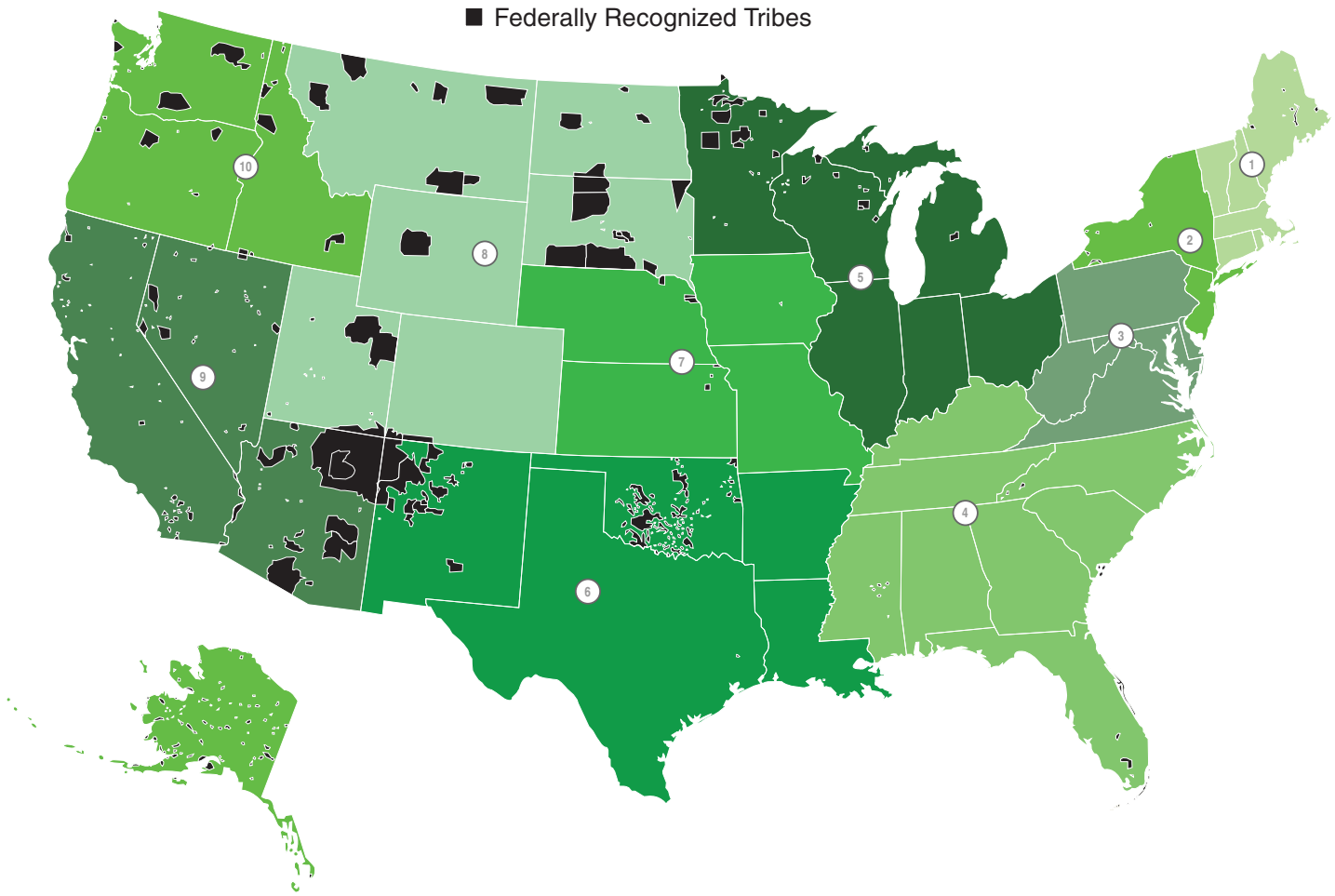
This report highlights how tribes are using U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Brownfields funding to address contaminated land in Indian country[1] and other tribal lands. It also highlights the challenges tribes face. It provides an historic overview of EPA's Brownfields Program, as it relates to tribes, and demonstrates EPA's commitment to the development of tribal capacity to deal effectively with contaminated lands in Indian country. The report includes examples of tribal successes to both highlight accomplishments and serve as a resource for ideas, information and reference.

[1] Use of the terms "Indian country," "tribal lands," and "tribal areas" within this document is not intended to provide legal guidance on the scope of any program being described, nor is their use intended to expand or restrict the scope of any such programs, or have any legal effect.

Overview

There are 565 federally recognized tribes within the United States. Each tribe is an independent, sovereign nation, responsible for setting standards, making environmental policy, and managing environmental programs for its people. While each tribe faces unique challenges, many share similar environmental legacies.

INDIAN COUNTRY WITHIN EPA REGIONS 1 THROUGH 10



Environmental issues in Indian country range from developing basic administrative infrastructure to passing sweeping new laws; from controlling illegal open dumping to developing wastewater and drinking water infrastructure; from controlling and removing leaking underground storage tanks to asbestos and lead abatement and removal; and from air pollution to the cleanup and reuse of contaminated land.

Given each tribe's unique history and culture and the complexity of jurisdictional issues, the ability to address environmental issues in Indian country calls for new approaches and ways of thinking. The EPA Brownfields Program provides these approaches, and progress and results are occurring across Indian country.

Brownfields and Contaminated Land in Indian Country

Brownfields and other contaminated lands are found throughout the United States. Often legacies of an industrial past or bygone business, they dot the landscape of large and small communities. Brownfields are defined as "real property the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant."[2] They come in many forms and sizes. Brownfields can be the abandoned warehouse or corner gas station, the local mill site or abandoned mine. In Indian country they are as diverse as the communities in which they are found.

To address environmental issues in Indian country, many tribes establish their own environmental protection and natural resource management offices. To clean up and reuse contaminated lands, many create brownfields programs or "Tribal Response Programs." However, tribal communities often lack funding to sustain environmental program capacity building and continue to need outside technical assistance and expertise. Additionally, many tribes seeking to address brownfields in their communities face problems that are found in many small or rural areas in the United States. Rural locations typically do not have the technical resources that many larger communities have, nor the economic drivers associated with more dense populations that might spur cleanup and reuse. Tribes may seek to return contaminated land to a non-economic reuse (e.g., returning land to a culturally beneficial reuse), which often must be funded by the public sector or tribal government and which may not attract the interest of those with private cleanup dollars.

Despite the challenges, revitalization of contaminated lands is an environmental issue being addressed successfully across Indian country. With the assistance of grants and other resources available through EPA's Brownfields Program, tribes are making great strides in cleaning up and returning contaminated land back to productive use. By using the grants and tools available, tribes address their fundamental environmental and revitalization goals and enrich the health and welfare of their communities.

U.S. EPA Brownfields Resources for Revitalization of Contaminated Land in Indian Country

Since the inception of EPA's Brownfields Program in 1995, the program's goal has been "to empower states, tribes, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields." The program provides financial and technical assistance for brownfields revitalization, including annual competitive grants for environmental assessment, revolving loan funds (RLF), cleanup, and job training, and non-competitive funding for state and tribal response programs. In 2002, the passage of the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act—referred to as the Brownfields Amendments—codified many of the policies EPA developed. The Brownfields Amendments authorized, among other things, two main sources of funding that may assist tribes in revitalizing contaminated land in Indian country:

(1) Section 128(a) State and Tribal Response Program funding
(2) Section 104(k) Competitive Grant Program funding

Tribal Response Program Grants

Tribal Response Program funding—referred to as "Section 128(a)" funding after the section of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) that it falls under—can be used to create new or to enhance existing environmental response programs. Authorized at $50 million per year and shared among states, tribes and territories, the funding is awarded on an annual basis.

The primary goal of the funding is to ensure that response programs include, or are taking reasonable steps to include, the following four elements in their programs:

1. Timely survey and inventory of brownfield sites.
2. Oversight and enforcement authorities or other mechanisms and resources to ensure that a response action will protect human health and the environment.
3. Mechanisms and resources to provide meaningful opportunities for public participation.
4. Mechanisms for approval of a cleanup plan and verification and certification that cleanup is complete.

[2] Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980, as amended, § 101(39).

The funding can also be used for limited site assessments or cleanups at brownfield sites; for other activities that increase the number of response actions conducted or overseen by a state or tribal response program; to capitalize revolving loan funds for cleanup; to purchase environmental insurance; or to develop other insurance mechanisms for brownfields cleanup activities.

Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grants (ARC Grants)

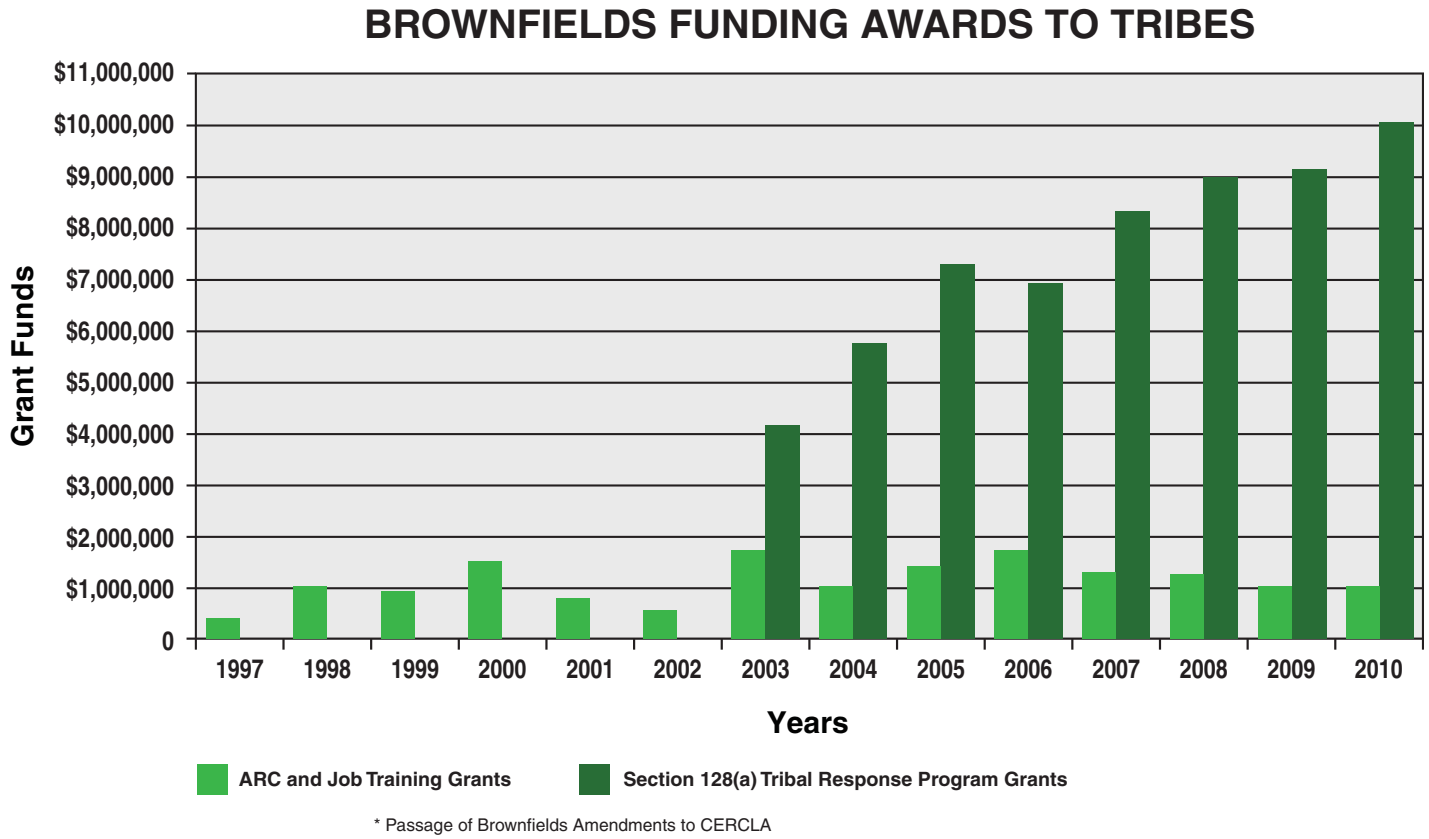
The 104(k) competitive grants are awarded through an annual competition. Most federally recognized tribes are eligible to apply for this funding.[3] ARC grants may be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and hazardous substances, pollutants or contaminants (including hazardous substances co-mingled with petroleum). Opportunities for funding are as follows: Brownfields Assessment grants (each funded up to $200,000 over three years); Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund (RLF) Grants (each funded up to $1,000,000 over five years); and Brownfields Cleanup Grants (each funded up to $200,000 over three years).

Job Training Grants

Job Training grants—competitively awarded on an annual basis—are also available to most federally recognized tribes. To help residents located in areas affected by brownfields take advantage of jobs created by the assessment and cleanup of these properties, EPA initiated the Brownfields Job Training grants.

Among other things, the Job Training grant funds may be used for:

- Training residents in the handling and removal of hazardous substances, including training for jobs in sampling, analysis and site remediation.
- Training in the management of facilities at which hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants or petroleum contamination are located.
- Training for response activities often associated with cleanups such as landscaping, demolition and ground water extraction.
- Development or refinement of existing training curriculum.
- Training participants in the techniques and methods for cleanup of leaking underground storage tanks and other sites contaminated by petroleum products, asbestos abatement, or lead abatement where these topics are a component of a more comprehensive hazardous waste management training course or environmental technology training course.



[3] In Alaska, only an Alaska Native Regional Corporation and an Alaska Native Village Corporation, as those terms are defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, and the Metlakatla Indian Community are eligible. CERCLA § 104(k)(1).



Brownfields Tribal Highlights and Results

Developing and Enhancing Programs for Tribal Needs

Tribes use Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding for a variety of activities. Tribal response programs conduct assessments and provide oversight at properties, create codes and ordinances, develop inventories of properties, and educate their communities about the value of protecting and restoring tribal natural resources and community health.

This section highlights how Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program and other funding are applied in tribal environments, as well as the obstacles encountered and lessons learned. These highlights serve as a reference for tribes to learn from what other tribes have accomplished with EPA's Brownfields Program funding.

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Grantees

Passamaquoddy Tribe

Sipayik Environmental Department

Passamaquoddy Tribe - PL PT
P. O. Box 343
Perry, ME 04667
http://www.wabanaki.com/sed/PROGRAMS/default.htm

Contact(s): Dale Mitchell, *Brownfields Coordinator*
dalem@wabanaki.com
207-853-2600 Ext. 245

Overview

- **Location:** Eastern Maine
- **Land Area:** 120,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,400 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Environmental Department is responsible for the health of the natural resources under tribal management. Its responsibility begins by assessing and mapping these resources and related risks, then developing programs to ensure that these natural resources are protected. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory and published on the internet
- Created a Public Record
- Developing tribal ordinances
- Conducting Phase I assessments on several properties
- Entering enrolled properties into ACRES

Program Highlights



Tank Removal Activities at the Sipiyak Corner Store Property

The Passamaquoddy Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to inventory contaminated properties on its lands. The tribe occupies two separate locations in Maine, Perry and Princeton; they are commonly referred to as the Pleasant Point and Indian Township Reservations, respectively. In 2005, the Passamaquoddy Tribe at Pleasant Point received assistance from the Maine Department of Environmental Protection's Brownfields Program to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments at the Sipiyak Corner Store property, which included a vacant gas station. The investigations found contaminated soil associated with the former tanks and pump island. An immediate removal of four underground storage tanks (UST) was conducted with funding through the state's Groundwater Fund. The cleanup is complete and the property is ready for redevelopment. The tribe is also conducting an inventory on properties on the Pleasant Point Reservation. Through its inventory efforts, the tribe identified—and is currently working to complete an assessment on—the former Gates building. This former upholstery manufacturing building has suspected soil contamination resulting from previous manufacturing activities. The tribe is targeting a privately owned junk yard on tribal land. The tribe plans to conduct an assessment on the property and create an ordinance that prevents private landowners from operating dumps on the reservation in the future. The tribe conducted Phase I and Phase II assessments at a former museum; a leaking UST was identified and contaminated soil was removed and replaced. And, Phase I and Phase II assessments were completed on a private piece of property located adjacent to the reservation. It is expected that this property will be the future home of a new tribal elementary school.

Penobscot Indian Nation

Department of Natural Resources

12 Wabanaki Way
Indian Island, ME 04468
http://www.penobscotnation.org/DNR/DNR1.htm

Contact(s): John Banks, *Director*
john.banks@penobscotnation.org
207-817-7330

Overview

- **Location:** Tribal lands in Western, Eastern, Central, and Northern Maine
- **Land Area:** 130,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,400
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Penobscot Indian Nation Department of Natural Resources (PIN/DNR) provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 130,000 acres of land. Programs administered by PIN/DNR include Forest Management (i.e., timber sales administration, forest mapping and inventory, and timber stand improvement), Water Resources Management, Air Quality Protection, Fish and Wildlife Management, Geographic Information System services, and Conservation Law Enforcement. The addition of Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expands PIN/DNR's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. DNR is funded by a variety of federal and tribal funding sources.

Program Highlights

The Penobscot Indian Nation DNR is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to begin the process of developing an inventory of potential brownfields properties, and strengthen Penobscot Nation tribal capacity to respond to contaminated sites within Penobscot tribal lands.

EPA Region 2 Brownfields Grantees

Seneca Nation

Seneca Nation Environmental Protection Department

84 Iroquois Drive
Irving, NY 14081
http://www.sni.org/node/77

Contact(s): Anthony Memmo
anthony.memmo@sni.org
716-532-2546

Overview

- **Location:** Western New York
- **Land Area:** 20,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 7,200 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Seneca Nation Environmental Protection Department was created in 1992 to provide a wide array of services for the Seneca communities, along with regulating and permitting environmentally sensitive issues within all territories of the Seneca Nation. The Environmental Protection Office houses the following programs: Water and Air Quality Standards, Underground/Aboveground Storage Tanks, Solid Waste, National Environmental Policy Act, Brownfields, Pesticides and a new regulatory permit section. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Conducted a comprehensive property inventory
- Attended brownfields trainings
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

Seneca Nation is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to actively locate and identify brownfields properties and build an inventory of properties to determine areas of concern within its reservation boundaries. Most of the property information has come from the community's historical knowledge of the tribal lands. The tribe uses public meetings and announcements in its bi-monthly newsletter to inform and educate tribal members about brownfields efforts, and to ask for assistance in identifying former uses of abandoned or underutilized properties on the reservation. The community identified several properties with past oil spills and provided valuable information regarding an historic rail yard property. The tribe's Environmental Protection Department worked extensively with the community to determine the past use and potential risk of contamination associated with the former rail yard property. The tribal environmental staff also used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to attend brownfields training sessions to broaden its knowledge regarding brownfields issues and tribal response programs. The tribe plans to prioritize the properties in its inventory and use Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to assess properties and get them ready for cleanup.

St. Regis Mohawk Tribe

St. Regis Mohawk Environmental Division

412 State Route 37
Akwesasne, NY 13655
http://www.srmtenv.org

Contact(s): Les Benedict, *Assistant Director*
les.benedict@srmt-nsn.gov
518-358-5937

Overview

- **Location:** Northern New York
- **Land Area:** 15,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,700
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The efforts of the St. Regis Mohawk Environment Division are directed toward preventing disease and injury, while at the same time, promoting lifestyles that respect, protect and enhance the environment for the next seven generations at Akwesasne. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Conducted a comprehensive property inventory
- Developed tribal ordinances
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

Environmental Assessments (EA) and Environmental Reviews (ER) have become important planning and development tools for the tribe because of increased development on the reservation. The format and structure for conducting EAs and ERs parallel that of the National Environmental Policy Act and are tailored to the uniqueness of the St. Regis Mohawk Tribe and Mohawk Culture. The process was drafted, reviewed, revised, finalized, and adopted by the Environment Division. The resulting Environmental Review Checklist document provides staff with tools and guidance necessary for objectively determining impacts from proposed projects. The checklist was also developed into a short form designed for developers who are considering a project. The structure and format is specific in guidance and the process has been streamlined allowing for efficient processing of EAs and ERs.

EPA Region 4 Brownfields Grantees

Seminole Tribe

Seminole Environmental Resource Management Department

6300 Stirling Road
Hollywood, FL 33024
www.seminoletribe.com/culture/brownfields/home.htm

Contact(s): Isidro Duque, *Brownfields Coordinator*
IsidroDuque@semtribe.com
954-965-4380 Ext. 10626

Overview

- **Location:** Central and South Florida
- **Land Area:** 90,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,500 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Assessment Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

In October 1987, the Tribal Council of the Seminole Tribe of Florida created the Environmental Resource Management Department (ERMD). The ERMD's mission is to protect and evaluate the tribe's land and water resources and facilitate the wise use and conservation of these resources by other departments. The ERMD has offices on the Hollywood, Big Cypress and Brighton Reservations. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Conducted a comprehensive property inventory
- Assessing properties throughout the reservations
- Created a Public Record
- Developing a comprehensive development and community participation plan
- Developing tribal ordinances

Program Highlights

Managed under the ERMD, the Seminole Tribal Response Program assessed many properties; these assessments help pave the way for redevelopment that improves the lives of tribal members. The Seminole Tribe developed a brownfields inventory using geographic information system technology to successfully identify and characterize brownfields and help define the extent of contamination on the tribe's land. Using its inventory to prioritize sites, the Seminole Tribe assessed over 25 properties throughout its six reservations. The tribe conducted assessment and cleanup activities at the Snake Road Pond 2 on the Big Cypress Reservation. The tribe is working with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Florida Department of Transportation, and the Federal Highway Administration on improvements to Snake Road and one of the projects included the reconstruction of a bridge on a contaminated portion of the roadway. An environmental assessment discovered arsenic impacted soils. ERMD working with the tribe's Transportation Department, regulatory agencies and other stakeholders, evaluated the affected area and soil excavation, removal and proper disposal was conducted in an effective and efficient manner. The tribe is also in the process of developing a comprehensive tribal development plan to ensure that once properties are assessed and cleaned up, they are put back into productive reuse. A key component in this process is community participation and input. Response program staff use the Seminole Water Commission meetings as a way to provide information to the public about brownfields properties and to gather feedback regarding community needs and priorities. In addition, the tribe developed an ordinance that provides a code of law focusing on storage tanks, permitting processes, treatment and transport of substances, and cleanup targets. This comprehensive set of guidelines allows the program to be more proactive and provide the authority to address brownfields challenges.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Grantees

Fond Du Lac Band
Lake Superior Chippewa

Fond Du Lac Environmental Department

1720 Big Lake Road
Cloquet, MN 55720
http://www.fdlrez.com/newnr/environ/brownfields.htm

Contact(s): David Smith, *Brownfields Coordinator*
DavidSmith@fdlrez.com
218-878-7119

Overview

- **Location:** Northeastern Minnesota
- **Land Area:** 23,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,700 (4,000 enrolled members)
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Fond Du Lac Environmental Department developed the Brownfields Section to ensure the health and wellbeing of America's people and environment. The program enhances collaboration and communication essential to facilitate brownfields cleanup and reuse, provides financial and technical assistance to bolster the private market, and enhances the community's long-term quality of life through sustainable reuse. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Assessed properties throughout the reservation
- Created a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances

Program Highlights

The Fond Du Lac Environmental Department is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to address five active Underground Storage Tank (UST) facilities within the boundaries of the Fond du Lac Reservation. Four of the facilities are convenience stores with multiple active USTs (one owned and operated by the Fond du Lac Reservation) and an airport with two active USTs, bringing the total of 11 active USTs on the reservation. There are also 22 USTs that are not in operation and have been closed. The presence of USTs with petroleum on the reservation presents a potential hazard to the environment, which in turn can directly affect the health of tribal people on the reservation. Now, UST owners and operators are required to implement the Technical Standards and Corrective Actions policies that EPA developed and consequentially passed as Law.

Keweenaw Bay Indian Community

Lake Superior Band of Chippewa Indians

Natural Resources Department
14359 Pequaming Road
L'Anse, MI 49946
http://www.kbic-nsn.gov/html/NR/ERP/erp.htm

Contact(s): Katie Kruse, *Brownfields Coordinator*
kkruse@kbic-nsn.gov
906-524-5757

Overview

- **Location:** Upper Peninsula of Michigan
- **Land Area:** 56,698 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,200
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The L'Anse Indian Reservation, located in Baraga County in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, consists of 56,698 acres of land. The Keweenaw Bay Indian Community (KBIC) also retains reservation lands in Ontonagon County and Trust lands in Marquette County. Due to historical industrial and commercial on-reservation activity and activities such as illegal dumping, environmental impacts are present or suspected to be present on some of these KBIC lands. Achievements to date using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfield sites within and near the L'Anse Reservation
- Developed a formal KBIC process for identifying, assessing, cleaning up, and redeveloping known or potential brownfield sites
- Developed protocol for responding to community requests for site investigation
- Fostered public participation and education
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

KBIC is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to actively locate and identify brownfields properties, and build an inventory of potential brownfield sites within the L'Anse Reservation boundaries. It is developing an inventory by talking to tribal elders, using historical society resources, and talking with tribal members about former uses of abandoned or under utilized properties on the reservation. KBIC's Natural Resources Department is developing protocols and cleanup standards that will establish a process for moving properties through the assessment and cleanup phases and result in beneficial property reuse. KBIC completed the assessment and cleanup of the Sand Point property using tribal general funds, EPA Brownfield Cleanup funds, Great Lakes Basin program funds, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding. The Sand Point property consists of shoreline property impacted by copper ore processing waste, known as stamp sands. Stamp sands contain low level concentrations of heavy metals. As part of the cleanup, a soil and vegetation cap was constructed over more than 33 acres of stamp sand area. KBIC transformed the property into a recreational area for use by tribal members and the general public. KBIC's long-term plan is to incorporate attractive greenspace and landscape architectural design and provide hiking trails, wildlife viewing, and areas for personal reflection. KBIC will focus on increasing community awareness regarding contaminant issues in the area, and developing assessment and cleanup protocols in the coming years. The tribe plans to conduct outreach to develop the vision for the cleanup and reuse of brownfields properties; it will continue to visit area schools and work with youth in the community to teach children about the importance of land stewardship.

Lac du Flambeau

Lac du Flambeau Brownfields Response Program

P.O. Box 67
Lac du Flambeau, WI 54538
http://www.ldftribe.com/department_details.php?departmentID=21

Contact(s): Kristen Hanson, *Brownfields Coordinator*
brownfields@ldftribe.com
715-588-4290

Overview

- **Location:** Northern Wisconsin
- **Land Area:** 87,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,500 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Tribal Response Program identifies, inventories and responds to environmental contamination concerns within the reservation. The program oversees assessments and cleanups, and selected assessments and cleanups are conducted at prioritized brownfield sites. Activities completed using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed comprehensive inventory of properties with environmental concerns
- Developed a tribal spill reporting and cleanup code with soil and ground water cleanup standards
- Conducted environmental assessment or cleanup work at eight brownfield sites
- Oversaw assessments and cleanups from sites that participate in the Tribal Response Program
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members
- Offered Hazardous Material Technician Training and Refreshers to a team of 13 responders
- Trained staff to better identify, assess and respond to contamination risks
- Created and continue to maintain a Public Record
- Developed a draft public participation plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

The Lac du Flambeau Tribal Response Program used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to build capacity to better handle real and perceived contamination risks within the reservation. Training and public participation has allowed the tribe to better identify and respond to contaminated sites. Assessments and cleanups are overseen by the tribe through the Tribal Response Program. In addition, a Hazardous Substance Control Code with spill reporting and cleanup requirements, including soil and ground water cleanup standards, has been developed. Prioritized site-specific brownfield work allowed for the reuse of two scrapyards and three contaminated wilderness areas. Targeted Brownfields Assessment assistance from EPA allowed for the redevelopment a brownfield property into a multipurpose judicial and public safety building. The Tribal Response Program's identification and assessment of a perchlorate contaminated site followed by the Emergency Response Division's removal, additional Tribal Response Program assessment, and Targeted Brownfield Assessment helped define this complex site. The result of the inventory, oversight and site-specific work is a safer environment for reservation residents. Planners and decision makers have better information to make development and resource use decisions.

Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe

Leech Lake Environmental Department
Brownfields Response Program

6530 US Highway 2 NW
Cass Lake, MN 56633

Contact(s): Diane Thompson, *Brownfields Coordinator*
dthompson@lldrm.org
218-335-7400

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central Minnesota
- **Land Area:** 869,324 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 9,566
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe received its first Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding in the fall of 2003. The Band has had a Hazardous Substance Control Act (HSCA) in place since 2000, which establishes cleanup standards and an enforcement framework for response to spills. The Band used the funding to develop Brownfields Response Program manuals, with the help of a legal consultant, to assist the Band with oversight work. The Band has oversight authorities over several sites being addressed within the Leech Lake Reservation. In addition, the Band has developed a Quality Assurance Project Plan to assure sampling activities produce reliable data. The Brownfields Response Program staff is actively involved with the Tribal Emergency Response Committee, which is currently updating the Leech Lake emergency response plan.

Program Highlights

The Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe Brownfields Response Program is developing its internal capabilities to perform all phases of assessment work without contractors. The Band conducted its own field sampling at two brownfields properties. Staff performed a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment on the Onigum Parish Hall that was suspected to have asbestos and lead paint contamination. The building, owned by the Episcopal Diocese of Minnesota, is adjacent to a Head Start Center. Soil sampling around the perimeter of the building confirmed the soil exceeded the HSCA cleanup standard for lead. In 2010, the Band required the owners to investigate and address the release of hazardous substances. The Band approved the plan submitted by the diocese that included demolition and soil remediation. The diocese carried out the cleanup in compliance with Leech Lake laws and the Leech Lake Brownfields Response Program requirements. The second property is a wooded site adjacent to a wetland with wood shavings dumped by a former wood treating facility on the reservation. Band staff developed the sampling plan with assistance from its environmental consultant and then conducted the sampling of soil, wood waste and wetlands sediment. The Band is currently working on the draft assessment report and expects an additional round of sampling.



Leech Lake Brownfields Technician Collecting Soil Samples

Little River Band Ottawa Indians

Little River Band Natural Resources Department

159 Brick Yard Road
Manistee, MI 49660
https://www.lrboi-nsn.gov/nrd

Contact(s): Jimmie Mitchell, *Director*
jmitchell@lrboi.com
231-398-2183

Overview

- **Location:** Western Coast of Michigan
- **Land Area:** 3,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 4,100
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The mission of the Little River Band Natural Resource Department is to maintain the cultural, spiritual and physical existence of the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians by protecting, preserving, and when necessary, enhancing the naturally occurring resources within the tribe's 1836 Ceded Territory. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfield properties
- Conducted assessments on properties on its reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

In an effort to repurchase parcels of land throughout the reservation, the Little River Band of Ottawa Indians obtained 87 acres for a traditional gathering ground that was contaminated by years of agricultural use. The main contamination concern was arsenic levels above the Michigan Public Act 451 Generic Residential Cleanup Criteria accumulated in the soil from decades of orchard management and agricultural chemical dumping. The Brownfield Coordinator, funded through the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program, managed an EPA Brownfields Assessment grant and a Cleanup grant; these grants funded the Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments, the reuse plan, and cleanup for the property now known as the Pow Wow Grounds. Little River Band of Ottawa Indians received a letter of "No Further Response Action Required" from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality in October 2009. In addition to the traditional Pow Wow that will be held annually at the grounds, the tribe will also use the Pow Wow Grounds for camping and other outdoor tribal activities.

Little Traverse Bay Band (LTBB) of Odawa Indians

LTBB Odawa Natural Resources Department
Environmental Services Division
Environmental Response Program

7500 Odawa Circle
Harbor Springs, MI 49740
http://www.ltbbodawa-nsn.gov

Contact(s): Douglas Craven, *Natural Resources Director*
dcraven@ltbbodawa-nsn.gov
231-242-1678

Overview

- **Location:** Northern Michigan
- **Treaty Reservation Area:** 215,954 acres
- **Population:** 4,458 Tribal Citizens
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The way of life for the Little Traverse Bay Band (LTBB) relies upon environmental protection for cultural perpetuation. This is rooted in the traditional reliance on Great Lakes fishing and the many plant species that have cultural, medicinal and spiritual values for the tribe. The LTBB embrace a mission to respect, honor and care for Mother Earth and her families, keeping the next seven generations in mind. The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians has a great concern regarding the Little Traverse Bay Cement Kiln Dust (CKD) CKD Removal Site located at Bay Harbor in Emmet County, Michigan, which is within the tribe's treaty delineated reservation.

The universe of potential brownfield sites within the treaty delineated reservation area is unknown to the LTBB; therefore, an inventory of these sites is needed. In addition, the tribe lacks ordinances that address emergency response and/or cleanup standards. The goal of this new program is to address environmental contamination affecting LTBB and lands located within the LTBB treaty delineated reservation area. Planned accomplishments using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Initiate development of a tribal response program
- Focus on hiring and training staff
- Initiate an inventory of contaminated sites
- Initiate review of LTBB ordinances for gaps in enforcement authority and develop ordinances, regulations and procedures for response programs
- Review cleanup plans for actions on tribal property and that affect tribal resources

Lower Sioux Indian Community

Lower Sioux Office of the Environment
Brownfields Program

39527 Res Highway 1
Morton, MN 56270
http://www.lowersioux.com/d-environment.html

Contact(s): Deb Dirlam, *Director of Environmental Programs*
deb.dirlam@lowersioux.com
507-697-8643

Overview

- **Location:** Southwest Minnesota
- **Land Area:** 1,700 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 930
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

Established in 1993, the Lower Sioux Office of the Environment (OE) protects the quality of the tribe's water, land and air resources. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfield properties
- Conducted assessments on properties on its reservation
- Created a Public Record with access via website

Program Highlights

The Lower Sioux Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program to create standards of land care. These standards will become management tools to correct past land abuses and secure the future for the Lower Sioux Community's seventh generation of Dakota. The tribe is focusing its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a public record, obtaining technical training for the Brownfield Coordinator, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. The Brownfields Program recently completed Phase I and Phase II environmental assessments at an abandoned gravel pit. Soil and ground water samples were collected at the site to determine contamination and hazards. The results from this project will determine the course of action that is needed to clean up the property for future use. The tribe is also conducting educational outreach activities including the presentation of education materials at the Lower Sioux Health Fair on the proper disposal of hazardous waste.



Assessment Activities at the Abandoned Gravel Pit Site

Match-E-Be-Nash-She-Wish Band of Pottawatomi (Gun Lake Tribe)

Environmental Department

P.O. Box 218
Dorr, MI 49323
http://www.mbpi.org/Administration/environmental.asp

Contact(s): R. Todd Williamson, *Brownfields Coordinator*
rtwilliamson@mbpi.org
616-681-8830 Ext. 305

Overview

- **Location:** Southwestern Michigan
- **Land Area:** 484 acres (147 in Trust)
- **Population:** 400
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Environmental Department is funded entirely from outside sources, largely through EPA grants. Currently the tribe is using an EPA General Assistance Program grant to support the base environmental program. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding in 2011 expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Planned accomplishments using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Conducting a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Attending brownfields trainings

Program Highlights

The Gun Lake Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe is focusing funding on developing an inventory of properties and a public record, establishing environmental ordinances, and obtaining technical training for staff members. The tribe is creating outreach and educational opportunities to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues.

Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe

Department of Natural Resources and Environment
Brownfield 128(a) Tribal Response Program

43408 Oodena Drive
Onamia, MN 56359
http://www.millelacsband.com/Page_NaturalResources.aspx

Contact(s): Jammie Thomas-Rasset, *Brownfield Coordinator*
jammie.thomas@millelacsband.com
320-532-4772

Overview

- **Location:** East-Central Minnesota
- **Land Area:** 61,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 4,000
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe's Department of Natural Resources and Environment develops and implements fish, wildlife, wild rice, and forestry improvement activities and regulates hunting, fishing and gathering on the reservation. It also provides services such as conservation enforcement, environmental protection, natural resource permits, historical preservation, and Ojibwe cultural programming. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding in 2010 expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Published the inventory on the tribe's website
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances for cleanup standards
- Conducted Phase I and II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Fostered public participation through education and emergency response exercises
- Offered environmental training to staff, tribal members and neighboring emergency response personnel

Program Highlights

The Mille Lacs Band of Ojibwe assessed contamination on the former St. Croix Girls Camp that had been used as a dump site for many years. Using its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, the Band cleaned up the property and returned it to reuse as a school.

Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi

Environmental Department - Brownfields Program

2221 1-1/2 Mile Road
Fulton, MI 49052
http://www.nhbpi.com/departments/environmental.html

Contact(s): John Rodwan, *Environmental Director*
jrodwan@nhbpi.com
269-729-5151 Ext. 202

Overview

- **Location:** South-Central Michigan
- **Land Area:** 530 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 1,100
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi Environmental Department is responsible for environmental stewardship and management of tribal natural resources. This is accomplished through establishing environmental ordinances and policies, preparing environmental assessments, managing the Brownfields Environmental Response Program, ensuring compliance with tribal/federal environmental regulations and participation in various committees and workgroups. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfields properties
- Created a Public Record
- Initiated development of enforcement authorities
- Initiated development of soil cleanup standards

Program Highlights

As part of the Nottawaseppi Huron Band of the Potawatomi's Brownfields Program the tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop an Environmental Response Program that can be applied to the prevention of environmental incidents and addressing properties with pre-existing environmental degradation. The program includes a Public Participation Plan that brings the tribe, community and area stakeholders together for inclusive and meaningful exchange of information and ideas to promote a successful redevelopment of brownfields properties. Following formal inventory of brownfields properties associated with the Pine Creek Reservation a Stakeholder Committee will be established to outline ways to successfully redevelop brownfields in the community. This committee will formulate a public participation model, which describes a process for working toward community consensus and strong communication during redevelopment of a brownfield. In addition, the tribe developed a Tribal Environmental Response Committee (TERC), of which the Brownfields Coordinator is the Vice Chair. The TERC was formed through Council Resolution and has been successful in evaluating environmental risks and developing approaches to manage these potential risks.

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin

Oneida Tribe Environmental, Health & Safety Division

N7332 Water Circle Place
Oneida, WI 54155
http://www.oneidanation.org/environment

Contact(s): Victoria Flowers, *Brownfields Coordinator*
vflowers@oneidanation.org
920-496-5328

Overview

- **Location:** Northeastern Wisconsin
- **Land Area:** 103 square miles
- **Reservation Population:** Approximately 21,300 (4,199 enrolled members on the Reservation)
- **Enrolled Tribal Membership:** Approximately 16,597 (6,912 in Northeastern Wisconsin)
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The tribe's Environmental, Health & Safety Division provides services that preserve, restore and enhance the environment, and protect and educate its people consistent with the culture, vision and priorities of the Oneida Nation. The Division includes five program areas: Conservation, Eco-Services, Environmental Quality, Health & Industrial Services, and Community Wells & Septic. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfields properties
- Developed an online database application to track potential exposure mechanisms and analyze risks
- Developed tribal ordinances
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

Oneida's Tribal Environmental Response Program (TERP) used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to host an Oneida Household Clean Sweep event on September 17, 2010. The TERP partnered and received additional support from the Oneida Recycling Program, Brown County, and the Oneida Environmental, Health and Safety Division staff. The TERP developed a "Handbook of Household Hazardous Chemicals and Non-Toxic Solutions" that was provided to all members, and promoted the event through its education and outreach efforts. Brown County and tribal staff collected, categorized, and recycled or disposed of the waste properly. The event attracted approximately 240 enrolled Oneida Tribal members and collected the following:



Items Collected During the Oneida Household Clean Sweep Event

- Scrap Metal/Appliances: 8,300 pounds
- Electronics: 17,437 pounds
- Household Hazardous Waste: 13,017 pounds
- Used Tires: 4,000 pounds
- Lamps/PCB Ballasts/CFLs: 345 pieces
- Mercury Thermometers: 12 pieces

The numbers from this effort will be used by TERP to gauge the effectiveness of the outreach and education campaign; by the Healthy Homes Program to increase awareness about and reduce household chemical hazards; by the Recycling Program to measure recycling rates; and by the Water Quality Program to increase awareness about mercury in the environment.

Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians

Red Lake Department of Natural Resources
Red Lake Environmental Response Program (RL ERP)

15761 High School Drive
Red Lake, MN 56671
http://www.redlakednr.org/Brownfields.html

Contact(s): Timothy Neadeau, *Brownfields Coordinator*
tneadeau@redlakenation.org
218-679-3959

Overview

- **Location:** Northern Minnesota
- **Land Area:** 805,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 5,200
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Environmental Program's main responsibility is to assure that Red Lake Nation is in compliance with federal environmental regulations in order to protect tribal members and resources. The program maintains a permanent staff of four: a Program Director, an Air Quality Specialist, an Environmental Specialist, and a Brownfields Coordinator. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Developed an outreach program to educate the community about brownfields issues
- Offered environmental training to tribal members
- Created a Public Record
- Developing ordinances dealing with hazardous materials on the reservation

Program Highlights

The Red Lake Band of Chippewa Indians used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to provide Hazardous Materials Technician training to approximately 20 tribal responders from June 28 - July 2, 2010. The tribe hosted the training for environmental, fire, emergency medical services, and police staff from Red Lake and three other EPA Region 5 tribes. Tribes realize that when their reservation is located far from emergency response resources they need more local staff trained and ready to act in the face of a spill or release incident. The course involved two exercises focused on stopping leaks and emergency containment. The Center for Labor Education and Research/Workplace Safety Training Program at Jefferson State Community College delivered the training under a grant from the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences in partnership with the Native American Fish and Wildlife Society.

Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe

Planning Department
Environmental Response Program

7070 E. Broadway Road
Mt. Pleasant, MI 48858
http://www.sagchip.org/planning/index.htm

Contact(s): Craig Graveratte, *Brownfields Coordinator*
cgraveratte@sagchip.org
989-775-4081

Overview

- **Location:** Central Michigan
- **Land Area:** 138,240 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 26,000 in Mt. Pleasant (3,576 Enrolled Tribal Members with 1,650 living on Tribal Lands)
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The mission of the Planning Department is to assist the Tribal Council in the reacquisition of lands within and around the Isabella Reservation; diversify the tribal economy; provide decent and affordable housing to members within the community; help design and manage needed construction projects as part of a team effort (including code compliance and inspection services as outlined in the tribal building code); maintain and implement an effective transportation program within the reservation; oversee environmental protection efforts on lands within the tribe's jurisdiction; and implement the community's vision regarding its future growth and development as defined in the most recently adopted Strategic and Community Master Plans (including the implementation and enforcement of related codes and ordinance). Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed an inventory of potential brownfield properties
- Created a Public Record
- Developing an Integrated Waste Management Plan
- Eliminating illegal dumps on tribal properties

Program Highlights

The Saginaw Chippewa Indian Tribe used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to conduct household hazardous waste collection that removed over 6,000 pounds of chemicals, oil, paints and pesticides from the community. It is currently working on holding a full scale/functional emergency exercise with tribal, city and county representatives.

St. Croix Chippewa Indians of Wisconsin

St. Croix Environmental Services/Natural Resources Tribal Brownfields Response Program

24663 Angeline Avenue
Webster, WI 54893
http://www.stcciw.com/stcroixepa/index.html

Contact(s): Sarah Slayton, *Brownfields Coordinator*
sarahs@stcroixtribalcenter.com
715-349-2195 Ext. 5240

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern Wisconsin
- **Land Area:** 4,700 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,900
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The St. Croix Environmental Services and Natural Resources Department is composed of seven programs: Clean Water, Indoor Air, Geographic Information, Brownfields, Solid Waste and Recycling, Youth Forest, and Utilities. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory and geographical information online database
- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Published the inventory on the tribal/departmental website
- Developed tribal ordinances

Program Highlights

The St. Croix Chippewa Indians used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program grant funds to develop the St. Croix Tribe Geographic Information online database that contains geographic and assessment record information for brownfields properties on their land. The tribe also used funding to complete a property inventory and public record, and developed a Brownfields Rehabilitation ordinance and Hazardous Material Release Contingency Planning ordinance.

EPA Region 6 Brownfields Grantees

Absentee Shawnee Tribes

Office of Environmental Protection
Tribal Brownfields

2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, OK 74801
http://www.astribe.com/oep/brownsfields.html

Contact(s): TBD, *Brownfields Coordinator*
405-273-9966

Overview

- **Location:** Central Oklahoma
- **Land Area:** 12,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 3,000 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, Job Training Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Absentee Shawnee Tribes Brownfields Programs are innovative and have brought the tribe to the forefront of brownfields redevelopment. With the approval of the tribe's Brownfields Code, the program will continue to expand the Tribal Brownfields Response Program. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory and geographical information online database
- Developed tribal ordinances
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians has provided job training to more than 124 students to date. EPA Brownfields Job Training grants awarded in 2006 and 2008 provided the main funding source to initiate and continue this program. The Absentee-Shawnee job training program, in participation with the Gordon Cooper Technology Center and East Central University of Oklahoma, is one of the only three accredited asbestos training programs in Oklahoma and the only program that provides free training. Before graduating, students are trained in asbestos remediation; HAZWOPER; confined space and rescue training; first aid and CPR; the National Incident Management System; and inspector contractor supervision. Students have the opportunity to develop skills on actual environmental assessment and cleanup projects. This coordinated effort gives students real-life experience and supports tribal site specific efforts funded by EPA's Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program. The tribe's brownfields office and job training classrooms are located on a 21-acre former brownfields property. Students use nearby brownfields with illegal dumping, asbestos and mold issues to apply their skills, including how to: conduct site screenings; conduct mold assessment and inspections; use a global positioning system to mark properties; and use equipment such as underground survey instruments. The tribe's Office of Environmental Protection hired graduates from the program to work within its brownfields office. For example, one former student is employed as the asbestos trainer and another graduate has his own company, which has been awarded contracts from the Absentee-Shawnee Tribe of Indians and other tribes for cleanup projects. Other graduates have obtained employment in the asbestos and solid waste fields, tribal environmental programs, and some work for the United States Geological Survey and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Cherokee Nation/Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC)

Cherokee Nation Environmental Protection Commission

P. O. Box 948
Tahlequah, OK 74465
http://www.cherokee.org/Government/EPG/Default.aspx
http://www.itecmembers.org/Programs/ITECBrownfieldsResponseProgramIBRP.aspx

Contact(s): Bobby Short, *Brownfields Coordinator*
bshort@cherokee.org
918-453-5089

Overview

- **Location:** Northeastern Oklahoma
- **Land Area:** 14 County Tribal Jurisdictional Service Areas
- **Population:** 40 ITEC Member Tribes in Oklahoma, New Mexico, and Texas
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Cherokee Nation Environmental Commission/Inter-Tribal Environmental Council (ITEC), provides environmental compliance and capacity building services for the Cherokee Nation, as well as 40 additional member tribes in Oklahoma, Texas and New Mexico. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory and geographical information online database
- Developed tribal ordinances
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

With a staff of 30 full-time employees in its environmental program, the Cherokee Nation conducts site visits and Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments. It focuses on redeveloping several key properties to increase tourism in the area. A recent project involved the Saline Courthouse. The courthouse was built in 1888 as one of nine original courthouses for the Cherokee Nation and it served as a hub of commerce and a public gathering space. The tribe estimates that the restoration of the 14-acre Saline Courthouse National Park (in which the courthouse is located) will cost approximately $4.4 million. This involves restoring the courthouse and nearby springhouse, creating a visitor center and improving the caretaker's quarters. Remediation of lead-based paint from the exterior siding of the courthouse is complete. This task was complex and time consuming, thereby requiring craftsmen to restore a portion of the siding. Funding from an EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant was used, and 12 Cherokee citizens were trained in the proper procedures for lead-based paint remediation. Employees worked alongside a contractor on the project, and continue to work with the same firm on other projects. Cherokee Nation is currently in various stages of redevelopment of other historical properties such as the Supreme Court building, Territorial Prison, Cherokee Male Seminary, Cort Mall, and the Cherokee Courthouse.



The Springhouse on the Saline Courthouse National Park Property During Redevelopment

Eight Northern Indian Pueblos Council, Inc. (ENIPC)

ENIPC Environmental Program
Office of Environmental Technical Assistance

P.O. Box 969
Ohkay Owingeh, NM 87566
http://www.enipc.org/Environment_files/Brownfields.htm

Contact(s): Boyd Nystedt, *Director*
bnystedt@enipc.org
505-692-7073

Jacquelyn Gutierrez, *Project Manager*
jgutierrez@enipc.org

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central New Mexico
- **Land Area/Population:** 22 Pueblos and Tribes in New Mexico and West Texas
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Office of Environmental Technical Assistance (OETA) was established in 2005 as a priority of the All Indian Pueblos Council in conjunction with the Mescalero and Jicarilla Apache Nations and the Pueblo of Ysleta Del Sur in Texas to improve environmental program capacity and provide a regional resource for technical assistance. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completing a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Provided technical assistance in the development of tribal ordinances

Program Highlights

The Eight Northern Indian Pueblo Council (ENIPC) is the newest recipient of Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding in Region 6. The ENIPC is establishing a Brownfields Tribal Response Program that will assist 22 pueblos and tribes in New Mexico and West Texas in promoting the enhancement of environmental resources and environmental health, and protecting tribal lands from environmental hazards. The ENIPC convenes regularly with the pueblos' and tribes' environmental project directors and staff to improve and maintain communication, network and identify key environmental issues of concern. This group, known as the Intertribal Resource Advisory Committee, has identified brownfields as a priority issue in relation to the health of its people and lands, as well as the importance of understanding the direct correlation between the need to clean up contaminated properties, protect environmental health, and increase economic development capabilities.

EPA Region 7 Brownfields Grantees

Sac and Fox Nation of Missouri In Kansas and Nebraska

Sac and Fox Environmental Department

305 N. Main Street
Reserve, KS 66434
http://www.sacfoxfire.org/index.html

Contact(s): Mathue Fasching, *Tribal Response Coordinator*
mathue.fasching@sacfoxenviro.org
785-742-4706

Overview

- **Location:** Kansas and Nebraska
- **Land Area:** 17,200 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 250
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The mission of the Sac and Fox Environmental Department is to integrate environmental awareness and responsibility throughout the community, encourage environmentally sustainable practices, and protect the sanctity of the wildlife native to the reservation. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted environmental assessments on properties on its reservation
- Created a Tribal Response Plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Working on tribal codes and cleanup standards

Program Highlights

The Sac and Fox Tribe used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to help inventory contaminated sites on its reservation and conduct public outreach. When first receiving Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, the tribe drew upon experience from the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa in nearby EPA Region 8, and relied on technical expertise from EPA's Region 7 office and Pennsylvania's Land Recycling Program. These partnerships allowed Sac and Fox to develop its own successful program. Sac and Fox also worked with Kansas State University—which provides technical assistance to brownfields communities through an EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities grant—to develop several outreach fact sheets and a questionnaire. The tribe uses the fact sheets and questionnaire for direct outreach to community members who play an important role in identifying brownfields. Building partnerships within the community has encouraged people to share information about potential properties with the tribe's Environmental Department. These efforts have led to the identification of eight brownfield sites. The majority of sites on tribal land are undeveloped properties that have become illegal dumping areas. The brownfields inventory lists property characteristics, geographic information system information, known or suspected contamination, and the status of the investigation. Of the eight properties currently on the tribe's inventory, five of them revealed no threat of contamination from a Phase I assessment and the others are in the process of Phase II assessments. In addition, Sac and Fox Nation is working with surrounding agencies on signing cooperative agreements; one of these agencies is the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE). With assistance from KDHE, the tribe received funding to conduct lead and asbestos testing, two Phase I assessments, and two Phase II assessments. In addition, throughout the last year the Sac and Fox Environmental Department responded to two fuel spills and a 13-ton fertilizer spill.

Santee Sioux Nation

Santee Sioux Office of Environmental Protection
Tribal Brownfields Response Program

52948 Highway 12
Niobrara, NE 68760
http://www.santeedakota.org

Contact(s): Joel Valburg, *Brownfields Coordinator*
jjvalburg@yahoo.com
402-857-3347

Overview

- **Location:** Northeastern Nebraska
- **Land Area:** 9,500 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,500
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Santee Sioux Office of Environmental Protection provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 9,500 acres of land. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Santee Sioux Tribe of Nebraska used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe focused its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. The Santee Sioux Brownfields Program is also using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to address the following areas:

- Creating a priority listing of potential brownfield sites
- Conducting Phase I assessments of 16 potential brownfield sites
- Creating a Communications Plan
- Establishing system to record public response
- Establishing protocol to communicate risk
- Establishing institutional control mechanisms

Winnebago Tribe of Nebraska

Winnebago Environmental Protection Department

11 Old Mission Road
P.O. Box 687
Winnebago, NE 68071
http://www.winnebagotribe.com/epd.html

Contact(s): Molly Feldick, *Brownfields Specialist*
bagobrownfields@yahoo.com
402-878-4060 Ext. 1005

Overview

- **Location:** Northeastern Nebraska
- **Land Area:** 120,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,600
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Winnebago Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 120,000 acres of land. Programs administered by EPD include Water Resources Management, Air Quality Protection, Global Positioning System/Geographic Information System Services, Pesticide Circuit Grant Program, Solid Waste Management and Brownfields. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded EPD's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted an environmental assessment on a property on its Reservation
- Conducted cleanup activities on a property on its Reservation
- Created a Public Record

The tribe is also planning to establish an Emergency Response Team that includes all pertinent entities such as fire, police, emergency medical services, parks and recreation, Bureau of Indian Affairs and tribal council.

Program Highlights

The Winnebago EPD developed a newsletter to promote its program, introduce its staff, and inform the public about environmental issues. The newsletter contains articles about local environmental news, Earth Day, ways to "go green," and biographies of the EPD staff. The newsletter also presents a success story about site-specific environmental activities that were conducted with EPD's Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding. EPD conducted or was involved in the Phase I and Phase II assessments on two houses behind the Blackhawk Community Center. After the environmental assessments, EPD demolished the houses due to asbestos and mold in the walls and the structural instability of the buildings, and disposed of the contaminated debris properly. The cleanup was performed with the safety of the Winnebago people in mind and followed the cleanup schedule outlined by EPD. The Winnebago EPD newsletter is located on its website at: http://www.winnebagotribe.com/epd.html

EPA Region 8 Brownfields Grantees

Blackfeet Tribe

Blackfeet Environmental Office
Brownfields Program

457 Hospital Road
P.O. Box 2029
Browning, MT 59417
http://www.blackfeetenvironmental.com

Contact(s): Gerald Wagner, *BEO Director*
gwagner@3rivers.net

Shawn Lahr, *TRP/Brownfields Manager*
slahr@3rivers.net
406-338-7421

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern Montana
- **Land Area:** 1.5 million acres
- **Population:** 15,560 enrolled members, approximately 7,000 living on or near the Reservation
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Job Training Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Tribal Response Program at the Blackfeet Environmental Office (BEO) is responsible for identifying eligible brownfield sites on the reservation; establishing oversight and enforcement authorities; establishing a public record; providing opportunities for public participation; and developing mechanisms for approval of a cleanup plan. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted environmental assessments on properties on its reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights



One of 12 Designated Brownfield Properties on the Blackfeet Reservation

The BEO initially had six properties that were assessed through an EPA Brownfields Assessment grant. The public was included in this process because community input is a vital part of the BEO and public opinion is highly regarded as the Blackfeet Tribe's Brownfields Program continues to evolve. The six properties included: Former Blackfeet Pencil Factory; Old Browning Dump; Cemetery Lake; St. Michael's Cemetery; Sharp Lake; and No Name Lake. Since those initial assessments the Blackfeet Tribal Response Program has used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to assess six additional sites, including: Former Evans Chevron; Old Heart Butte Clinic; Camp Nine Facility; Kipco Properties; Former Blackfeet Transit Building; and the Blackfeet Mainstream Building. Environmental assessment activities involve a historical investigation of the properties followed by sampling and analysis of areas of concern. The field sampling activities help determine the type of contaminants, concentration level, and the spread of contamination. The BEO is continuing to provide Phase I and Phase II assessments under its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding and encourages the public to participate in the selection process of these properties as well as public participation in the reporting of potential brownfields properties.

Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (CRST)

CRST Department of Environment and Natural Resources Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 590
2001 Main Street
Eagle Butte, SD 57625
http://www.sioux.org/English/BrownsfieldProgram.php

Contact(s): Robert Smith, *Brownfields Coordinator*
rsmith@crstepd.org
605-964-6559

Overview

- **Location:** Central South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 3 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 8,500 living on or near the Reservation
- **EPA Grants:** Cleanup Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response

Program

The Cheyenne River Sioux Brownfields Program serves all enrolled members of the Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe (CRST) and those within the jurisdiction of the tribe. The program provides technical assistance to the public regarding environmental issues and disseminates information to the public regarding property cleanup activities. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducting environmental assessments on properties on its reservation
- Trained staff members to respond to emergency and non-emergency HAZMAT scenarios
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights



Emergency Response Activities at the Old Prosecutor Building

The Brownfields Program staff has been attending training seminars for environmental response activities from asbestos, lead, underground storage tanks, and Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER). The staff is currently federally certified and is capable of handling any hazardous activity. In August 2010 EPA's Emergency Response Unit conducted a removal action to clean up asbestos released from a dilapidated administrative building in Eagle Butte, South Dakota. The Old Prosecutor Building removal was triggered by continued vandalism and arson attempts, coupled with the fact that the building is located in close proximity to several residences. The CRST Department of Environment and Natural Resources personnel were instrumental in the initial identification of the hazard and worked closely with EPA's On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) in the planning and execution of the removal. CRST used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to provide onsite coordination and support. The close coordination between tribal personnel and EPA's OSC during the removal action provided valuable insight into the cleanup process and the lessons learned will be transferable to subsequent brownfields projects conducted by CRST.

Chippewa Cree Tribe (Rocky Boys)

Natural Resources Department

RR1 Box 544
Box Elder, MT 59521
http://www.rockyboy.org

Contact(s): Wyatt Decora, *Brownfields Coordinator*
wyatt_decora@hotmail.com
406-395-4225

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central Montana
- **Land Area:** 107,613 acres
- **Population:** Residents: 1,560; Non-Residents: approximately 1,240
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Rocky Boys' Natural Resources Department provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 107,000 acres of land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Trained staff members in ground water sampling
- Conducting a Phase I and Phase II site assessments of a brownfield

Program Highlights

The Rocky Boys Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop a tribal response program. The tribe has focused its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, and on obtaining technical training for staff members. In addition, the tribe is conducting Phase I and Phase II site assessments on an old police station property and providing oversight of the cleanup and demolition of the building to provide for reuse of the property.

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Division of Environmental Protection
Brownfields Response Program

301 Main Street
Polson, MT 59860
http://www.cskt.org/tr/epa_brownfield.htm

Contact(s): Marlene McDanal, *Brownfields Coordinator*
mmcdanal@cskt.org
406-675-2700 Ext. 7215

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern Montana
- **Land Area:** 1.317 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 7,469 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Cleanup Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

In 1991, the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes (CSKT) formed the Division of Environmental Protection within the Natural Resources Department. The purpose of the Division is to protect human health and the environment for all reservation residents. The Division of Environmental Protection has 10 programs including the Tribal Brownfields Response Program. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted environmental assessments on properties on the reservation
- Conducted environmental cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

Housing is a significant problem on the CSKT Reservation with an estimated 300 members awaiting home-sites. Many CSKT members could be housed on properties that currently sit idle due to contamination. CSKT's Brownfield Tribal Response Program (TRP) was created in 2003 and focuses on assessing and cleaning up a portion of its 136 inventoried brownfields and reusing them for housing. CKST completed several assessments with its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding and received its first EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant that assisted in cleaning up the Elmo Cash Store (brownfield site). CSKT Brownfield TRP Staff addressed a wide range of the reservation's contaminated land issues, from dump sites, to lead issues, to gas stations. They have taken on the unique challenges associated with meth labs, asbestos and contamination near waterways. CSKT Brownfield TRP staff developed their broad expertise through numerous trainings, including courses on Phase I and Phase II assessments, asbestos, meth labs, lead, underground storage tanks and Resource Conservation and Recovery Act issues. While CSKT Brownfield TRP staff does utilize consultants, this training enables staff to provide project oversight and analyze assessment results and confirm cleanups.



CSKT Staff Conducting Cleanup Activities

Crow Creek Sioux Tribe

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 380
Fort Thompson, SD 57339

Contact(s): Heather Grey Owl, *Brownfields Coordinator*
heatheray_05@yahoo.com
605-245-2212

Overview

- **Location:** Central South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 225,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,800
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Developed a draft Solid Waste Code with plans to receive Tribal Council approval and implementation
- Coordinated the annual Earth Day event with distribution of brownfields and other environmental information
- Distributed outreach educational materials through various media and keeps Tribal Council and other Tribal Department programs updated on brownfields activities

Program Highlights

The Crow Creek Sioux Tribe has used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a Tribal Response Program. The tribe has focused its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues, and assessing and cleaning up old abandoned buildings. For several years the Tribal Response Program has worked to address the large illegal dumping issue on the reservation. The tribe will continue to assess, clean up and find resolutions for this problem. In addition, the Tribal Response Program plans to assess and clean up an abandoned service station in 2011.



Abandoned Service Station Property that the Tribal Response Program will Address in 2011

Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe

Department of Natural Resources
Brownfields Program

403 W. Broad Avenue
Flandreau, SD 57028
http://www.fsst.org/epa/brownsfield_program.htm

Contact(s): Elizabeth Wakeman, *Brownfields Coordinator*
fsstitar1@mchsi.com
605-997-5122

Overview

- **Location:** Eastern South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 5,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 800
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Flandreau Santee Sioux Tribe's (FSST) Brownfield Program mission is to empower the tribal community and other stakeholders in environmental protection to work together in a timely manner to educate, prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. FSST works to provide technical assistance for brownfields by assessing reported or potential properties. Its goal is to collaborate and communicate essential cleanup and reuse information with other community entities including our tribal leaders – together creating a cooperative. This in turn will enhance FSST's community longevity and quality of life. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Developing Tribal Codes
- Created a Public Record
- Conducted several assessments and cleanups
- Conducted a Phase I Environmental Site Assessment prior to tribe purchasing a property

Program Highlights

The FSST Brownfields Program used EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessments to conduct Phase I and Phase II assessments for several sites and used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to clean up four of the properties making them available for redevelopment. There are plans to clean up the other sites with future Tribal Response Program funding. The Brownfields Program Coordinator held meetings and collected information for the development of an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP). This effort was the result of internal environmental programs working together, assistance from the University South Dakota to create supporting codes, and technical support from Indian Health Service (ISH), Circuit Rider and EPA Brownfields Project Manager. The coordinated process has been expanded to further clarify the tribe's authorities and expand from an ISWMP to develop Environmental Codes. In addition, a Penalty Matrix and enforcement procedures are being considered, and the tribe is working to ensure that the Tribal Environmental Codes can be used collaboratively with the City of Flandreau to manage environmental concerns in the area. Prior to the tribe purchasing a former vehicle dealership, the Brownfields Program Coordinator worked with the EPA Project Manager, IHS, and Circuit Rider to conduct a Phase I assessment for a former vehicle dealership in order to satisfy the landowner liability protection provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act.

Fort Belknap Indian Community

Fort Belknap Environmental Department
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

4656 Agency Main Street
Harlem, MT 59526
http://www.ftbelknap-nsn.gov/brownfields

Contact(s): Sherry Bishop, *Brownfields Coordinator*
bishopsherry@yahoo.com
406-353-8465

Chris Gardipee, *Environmental Technician*
c_h_g_2001@yahoo.com

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central Montana
- **Land Area:** 675,147 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 5,000 (5,426 enrolled members)
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Job Training Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation is located in remote north central Montana and is quite distant from a "typical" industrial brownfields property; however, the existing health and safety hazards associated with brownfields can be found in rural communities as well in large cities. The Gros Ventre and Assiniboine Tribes of the Fort Belknap Indian Community, recognize the importance of "communities" working together to promote a healthier and safer environment, while at the same time maintaining honor for the traditional and cultural values of its people. The Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding has allowed the FBIC to:

- Complete and maintain a current survey and inventory list of potential brownfield sites, complete a hazardous materials survey, and complete an Underground Storage Tank inventory
- Develop and revise environmentally related enforcement codes including revisions to the existing Solid Waste Management Code and the development of a Junk Vehicle Act
- Increase staff knowledge through various trainings and curriculums such as Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER), Asbestos, and Lead Inspector/Risk Assessor certification, Basic Inspector training for Compliance/Enforcement, and Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessment Training
- Maintain an updated Public Record of information for all enrolled brownfield sites

Program Highlights

The Fort Belknap Indian Community Brownfields Program has inventoried brownfields properties on its reservation, developed a public record of response actions, initiated the development of enforceable codes, and trained staff how to conduct environmental assessments and cleanups. The program, funded by EPA's Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program continues to focus on assessment work at properties with reuse potential. In 2010, the Brownfields Program collaborated with other tribal programs including the Planning and Transportation Department to address properties with re-use potential. Two sites now have re-use plans that are moving forward. A new Transit Garage will be constructed at a former irrigation storage yard that sat idle for years. The Transit Garage will provide shelter for the Transit buses and office space for Transit employees. Environmental cleanup was completed at another site, the Lodgepole Hall and the community is looking forward to renovation and reuse of the facility.

Fort Peck Tribes

Fort Peck Office of Environmental Protection

501 Medicine Bear Road
P.O. Box 1027
Poplar, MT 59255
http://www.fortpeckoep.org

Contact(s): Wilfred Lambert, *Brownfields Manager*
1wolfman@nemontel.net
406-768-5155

Overview

- **Location:** North-Eastern Montana
- **Land Area:** 2 million acres
- **Population:** 11,800 enrolled members; approximately 6,000 reside on or near the Reservation
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Fort Peck Office of Environmental Protection has used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding for the management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Developed Solid Waste Codes and Environmental Permits
- Established a Tribal Response Enforcement Program
- Adopted meth cleanup standards
- Conducted Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments and brownfields cleanups
- Conducted inspections of oil and gas wells
- Coordinated outreach educational events, including: spring cleanup, Earth Day, paint recycling
- Distributed outreach materials at pow wows, rodeo stampedes, schools and public meetings
- Updated the tribes' brownfields website

Program Highlights

The Fork Peck Tribes have used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop a tribal response program. In addition, the tribes' Brownfields Coordinator is overseeing a major assessment and cleanup project for the Old Fort Poplar Airport, located on Tribal Trust Land. Since 1944, crop dusting operations have based from the site. From 1964 to 2010, the tribe leased the property to the city and county for use as an airport, aircraft maintenance and the base for crop dusting operations. Contaminants of concern include pesticides, lead paint and petroleum products. Capitalizing on the site being located adjacent to a regional town and bordering a state highway, reuse options include tribal housing and commercial development.



Assessment Activities at the Old Poplar Airport Property

Lower Brule Sioux Tribe

Environmental Protection Office
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

187 Oyate Circle
Lower Brule, SD 57548
http://lbst-epo.org

Contact(s): Mary Jane Gourneau, *Brownfields Coordinator*
MJGourneau@LBST-EPO.org
605-473-8056

Overview

- **Location:** Central South Dakota located by the Missouri River
- **Land Area:** 225,970 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 1,362
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Lower Brule Sioux Tribe (LBST) created its Brownfields Program in 2003 to ensure the health of the natural environment and its people. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Trained staff members on brownfields related issues
- Developed tribal codes and regulations
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

LBST established the Public Record database, which can be located on its website. LBST is surveying and inventorying its reservation and created a database for the inventory; it updates the databases every six months or as necessary. LBST created a computer work station in the Environmental Protection Office and the public is invited to come in during working hours to access the public record on the internet. LBST also hosts public meeting four times a year and notifies the public through its website. To enhance the program's ability to provide technical and regulatory environmental response, the tribe sends its staff to trainings. In addition, LBST is establishing codes, policies, regulations and enforcement mechanisms. With the training experience and the establishment of the codes and policies, the tribe conducted Phase I and Phase II assessments on three properties: the Durkin Dump, Rodeo Dump and Kids Pond. The tribe is now in the process of putting in test wells on these properties to determine contaminant levels and close out these properties or take further action.

Northern Cheyenne Tribe

Environmental Protection Department (EPD)

P.O. Box 128
Lame Deer, MT 59043
http://www.cheyennenation.com

Contact(s): Jolisa Bahr-White Face, *Brownfields Coordinator*
jolisa.whiteface@gmail.com
406-477-6506 Ext. 102

Overview

- **Location:** Southeastern Montana
- **Land Area:** 444,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 9,496 enrolled members with about 4,100 residing on the Reservation
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Northern Cheyenne Environmental Protection Department (EPD) provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 444,000 acres of lands. Programs administered by the EPD include Water Resources Management, Air Quality Protection, Non-Point Source, Geographic Information System services, Underground Storage Tanks/Leaking Underground Storage Tanks, and Brownfields. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Developed a Solid Waste Code and Ordinance that provides guidance focusing on proper disposal and handling of solid waste. The code was formally adopted by the tribe, which will allow the EPD to be more proactive and provide the authority to address brownfields and solid waste challenges.
- Developed an extensive inventory and identified 125 brownfields properties potentially contaminated with a hazardous material. Most of the property information came from the community's historical knowledge of tribal lands. The EPD used health fairs, public meetings, local cable and the Chief Dull Knife College Library to educate tribal community members about the Brownfields Program and to ask for assistance in identifying former uses of abandoned or potentially contaminated properties.
- Created and maintains a Public Record
- Emergency response and cleanup oversight to oil/diesel spills along US Highway 212, a major route of transportation crossing the reservation

Program Highlights

In 2010, the Northern Cheyenne Tribe used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to conduct a Phase I site assessment on the Tongue River Lumber Company Facility, an abandoned lumber mill located in Ashland, Montana. The Phase I assessment revealed the following recognized environmental conditions: improperly stored chemicals in containers and drums, petroleum soil staining at various locations, the potential for underground diesel fuel lines associated with a 10,000-gallon aboveground storage tank, and abandoned vehicles and equipment. Using Tribal Land Authority funding, the tribe successfully inventoried, tested and properly disposed of all 55 containers and drums. The tribe anticipates working with EPA to perform a facility-wide Phase II assessment of the property. The property is owned by the tribe and is located outside the boundaries of the reservation within 1,000 feet of the Tongue River. The permitting and cleanup efforts require working with various agencies ranging from the Tribal Land Authority, Tribal Council, Rosebud County Officials, the Montana Department of Environmental Quality, and EPA.



Assessment and Cleanup Activities at the Tongue River Lumber Company Facility

Oglala Sioux Tribe

Environmental Protection Program
Brownfields Tribal Response Program
P.O. Box 320
West Highway 18 Behind Tribal Building
Pine Ridge, SD 57770

Contact(s): Lana Johnson, *Brownfield Coordinator*
osteplmj@gwtc.net
605-685-6820

Overview

- **Location:** Southwest South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 2.2 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 29,000
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Oglala Sioux Tribe's Environmental Protection Program provides guidance and technical assistance in the protection, conservation, management, and preservation of the tribal land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Oglala Sioux Tribe, located on the Pine Ridge Reservation has a land base of 2.2 million acres. The tribe's Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program staff recently completed the environmental cleanup and demolition of the Porcupine CAP Building in Porcupine, South Dakota. A longtime brownfield site, the 128(a)-funded Phase I and II environmental assessments were conducted in 2005-2006. Before assessment, the CAP building had been partially condemned due to structural failure, which resulted in the exposure of friable asbestos. The Oglala Sioux Tribal Response Program managed a contractor to conduct and certify the environmental cleanup activities during the winter of 2008. The tribe is currently considering redeveloping the site to build a community activity center for the tribal community.



The Porcupine CAP Building Property after Environmental Cleanup Activities

Rosebud Sioux Tribe

Rosebud Sioux Tribe Environmental Office
Brownfields Program

P.O. BOX 658
Rosebud, SD 57570
http://sicangu.com/Brownfields.html

Contact(s): Alex Swalley III, *Brownfields Program Technician*
swalleyalex@yahoo.com
605-747-2933

Overview

- **Location:** South-Central South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 922,759 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 20,800
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Brownfields Program is continuing to identify potential brownfields properties, establish an up-to-date inventory, and coordinate cleanup efforts in order to protect the environment and natural resources on its reservation. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Conducted household hazardous waste collection
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes
- Held public outreach meetings

Program Highlights

The Rosebud Sioux Tribe leveraged additional grants to supplement its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding and completed several brownfields projects. The tribe developed a brownfields inventory of 63 properties with Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding and cleaned up 32 of those properties with an Open Dump grant from the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The tribe continues to locate additional illegal open dumps and is working with the Indian Health Service in Aberdeen, South Dakota to complete site survey forms. The tribe is also working on plans to clean up and demolish three abandoned buildings that contain hazardous substances. In addition, the Brownfields Program received an EPA Household Hazardous Waste grant. The tribe used the funding to host a hazardous material cleanup event for the entire reservation. The tribe stationed drop off locations throughout the community where residents could bring their hazardous materials such as used oil, old batteries, lead based paint, pesticides, and herbicides. The tribe also assisted with the disposal of the local high school's hazardous materials from its science department. EPA Region 8 and circuit riders assisted with the event and assistance from other reservations including Standing Rock, Lower Brule and Pine Ridge. The tribe provided training by conducting a 24-hour Hazardous Waste Operations & Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training and an 8-hour refresher course. In coordination with IHS Circuit Riders, the tribe developed an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan and a final draft Solid Waste Code which is ready for internal tribal review. The Tribal Brownfields Program developed an educational outreach package and delivered presentations to schools and reservation districts. In coordination with EPA Region 8, the Tribal Brownfields Program tested older homes and other structures for lead paint where young children were present. The Rosebud Sioux Tribe Brownfields Program continues to make every effort available with the funding that it receives to make a positive impact on the surrounding environment.

Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Sioux Tribe

Office of Environmental Protection
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 509
Agency Village, SD 57262
http://www.swo-oep.com

Contact(s): Stephen Jackson, Sr., *Brownfields Site Coordinator*
sjackson_sr@sbtc.net
605-698-4998

Overview

- **Location:** Northeast South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 106,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 9,900
- **EPA Grants:** Cleanup Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Office of Environmental Protection currently administers an Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program grant on the Lake Traverse Reservation. The Office of Environmental Protection works with the community in a timely manner to prevent, assess and safely clean up contaminated properties for reuse. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record
- Created federal, state, tribal, contractual, and local partnerships on cleanup projects

Program Highlights

The Sisseton Wahpeton Oyate Sioux Tribe located in northeastern South Dakota is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding for coordination and oversight of cleanup activities on the Tekakwitha Old Orphanage/Boarding School property. In addition to Tribal Response Program funding, the tribe is using an EPA Cleanup grant through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to clean up and remove the asbestos and lead contamination on the property. In developing the ARRA grant application, environmental staff increased their capacity, and will continue to build expertise through the actual cleanup process.

Southern Ute Indian Tribe

Environmental Programs Division

P.O. Box 737
356 Ouray Drive
Ignacio, CO 81137
http://www.southern-ute.nsn.us/environmental-programs/tribal-response-program

Contact(s): Bob Kilian, *Brownfields Coordinator*
bkilian@southern-ute.nsn.us
970-563-0135 Ext. 2248

Overview

- **Location:** Southwest Colorado
- **Land Area:** 681,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 11,160 on the Reservation with 1,150 residents
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe's Brownfields Response Program works to identify brownfields properties within the reservation and conducts cleanups to safely remove dangerous facilities. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Southern Ute Indian Tribe is using its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to clean up brownfields properties. From experience on the Ute Park cleanup project, the Tribal Brownfields Program learned lessons that will help make the cleanup process more effective in the future. For example, a key challenge during the Ute Park cleanup was identifying and understanding processes for obtaining tribal approval of the contract with the cleanup contractor. The Tribal Brownfields Program now has a better understanding of the approval process and can apply language similar to the Ute Park contract for future brownfields cleanup activities. The Ute Park cleanup project included three buildings—tribal chambers, recreation hall and restroom buildings—all of which contained asbestos and lead-based paint contamination. Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding was used to assess the property, conduct asbestos abatement, and demolish and properly dispose of the building debris. Cleanup was completed and the property is now home to a chapel and multi-facility community center. The tribe also conducted assessment and cleanup activities on the Cabezon Ranch property, which included several buildings. Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments were completed in summer 2009 using contractual support from an EPA Region 8 Targeted Brownfields Assessment. The ranch house and bunk house contained lead and asbestos contamination and had structural instability issues, while some of the other buildings had old oil and pesticide containers. The property was cleaned up and revegetated. It is now a grazing area for livestock and hay production, and has a recreation area for hunting or snowmobiling.

Spirit Lake Nation

Spirit Lake Nation Environmental Protection Administration
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 99
Fort Totten, ND 58335
http://www.spiritlakenation.com/EPA_brownfields.htm

Contact(s): Sean Gourd, *Brownfields Coordinator*
sgourd@spiritlakenation.com
701-766-1286

Overview

- **Location:** East-Central North Dakota
- **Land Area:** 90,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 6,000
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot, Cleanup Grant, Job Training Pilot, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

Spirit Lake is investigating and cleaning up brownfields—many of which are abandoned properties that pose an immediate threat to the local community—to allow development to take place without fear of environmental legal liability. This benefits the Spirit Lake Nation and surrounding communities by bringing jobs to the area, making abandoned property functional, and possibly preserving properties that might have historical significance to the community. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Drafted tribal ordinances
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

Spirit Lake Nation received its first EPA Brownfields Assessment grant in 1999, and since that time it has completed numerous assessments and cleanups utilizing a variety of EPA funding sources. The Old Fort Totten Hospital project effectively leveraged numerous resources including an initial environmental assessment conducted using the tribe Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, while a structural engineering assessment was provided through a Targeted Brownfields Assessment. The EPA Superfund Emergency Response Program conducted an asbestos abatement and Brownfields Cleanup grant funding was used to remediate lead-based paint and mold. Today, the tribe is pursuing additional funding options to rehabilitate the building into apartments. Spirit Lake Nation conducted more than 18 assessments and several cleanups for properties such as the Old Fort Totten Community Center, St. Michael's Indian Mission School, and 32 homes at Rolling Hills and Ross Acres. Graduates from its Brownfields Job Training program were employed on all brownfields cleanup projects; they remediated lead-based paint, asbestos and mold. Spirit Lake Environmental Program Administration staff also used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop an Environmental/Solid Waste Ordinance (in final approval stages) that includes requirements for solid and hazardous waste management, Lead Codes and other environmental requirements; enforcement roles of the Tribal Response Program and other Tribal Programs; and a civil compliance and enforcement program to address illegal activities such as littering, illegal dumping and other environmental issues. The Solid Waste Ordinance will help Spirit Lake Nation continue to assess and clean up the more than 80 properties in its inventory, while requiring that releases of hazardous substances are properly addressed and remediated to prevent future brownfields. The tribe is also coordinating with the North Dakota Health Department and State Historical Society as the state conducts an assessment (mostly for lead and asbestos) for the historic Fort Totten Calvary Square complex, which is located on the Spirit Lake Reservation and is considered the best preserved fort west of the Mississippi River.

Standing Rock Sioux Tribe

Department of Environmental Regulation
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 516
Fort Yates, ND 58538
http://209.62.246.144/programs/display.asp?program_id=brownfieldsder&pg=Brownfield

Contact(s): Hans Bradley, *Brownfields Coordinator*
hbradley@standingrock.org
701-854-3823 Ext. 3808

Overview

- **Location:** North Dakota and South Dakota
- **Land Area:** 2.28 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 8,500
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe Department of Environmental Regulation has seven programs under this department: General Assistance Program, Clean Water Act -106 Water Pollution Program, Pesticides Enforcement Program, Underground Storage Tank Program / Leaking Underground Storage Tank Program, Brownfields / Tribal Response Program, Lead Program, and Environmental Quality Support Services. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Standing Rock Sioux Tribe successfully completed the environmental cleanup at the Old Smee School in Wakapala, South Dakota. Prior to cleanup, the abandoned and partially collapsed building contained friable asbestos and posed a significant threat to public health and the environment. Standing Rock received a Cleanup grant from EPA's Brownfields Program and used its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program to manage the project. Hans Bradley, Acting Brownfields Coordinator of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe, stated, "We are very grateful for the grant money. Without these funds it would have been very difficult to address the asbestos in the building." The former Smee School will be transformed into a community park.

Three Affiliated Tribes (Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nations)

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

404 Frontage Road
New Town, ND, 58763
http://www.mhanation.com/main/main.html

Contact(s): Lyle Gwin, *Brownfields Coordinator*
lgwin@mhanation.com
701-627-4569

Overview

- **Location:** North Dakota
- **Land Area:** 988,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 5,900
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nations (MHA Nation) provide comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribes' land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribes' scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Assessed contaminated sites
- Conducted oversight of site cleanups
- Assisted with tribal emergency response planning and activities
- Worked with EPA on brownfield site cleanups
- Drafted solid and hazardous waste regulations

Program Highlights

The MHA Nation is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribes focused their funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. In addition, the tribes have used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to conduct assessments and some site cleanups. The tribes drafted a complete solid and hazardous waste code to include the response program requirements.

Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa

Turtle Mountain Environmental Protection Agency (TMEPA)

Highway 5 West
P.O. Box 900
Belcourt, ND 58316
http://tmbci.net/wordpress

Contact(s): Ray Reed, *Brownfields Coordinator*
reed_627@hotmail.com
701-278-5977

Overview

- **Location:** Northern North Dakota
- **Land Area:** 140,107 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 14,000
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot and Grant, Job Training Pilot, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Conducted cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

In 2010, the Turtle Mountain Band of Chippewa used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to conduct oversight on a piece of fee land located in the center of the reservation that was listed on its brownfields inventory. A non-tribal member acquired a piece of fee land that was an old lumber company. Through cooperation with the state and other agencies the Tribal Response Program provided compliance assistance and oversight to the new owner on proper disposal and cleanup of the site. The cooperative efforts resulted in the new owner conducting a Phase I assessment along with cleanup of the property. The Turtle Mountain Environmental Protection Agency (TMEPA) conducted visual inspections and verification of the cleanup. The site is being redeveloped into a large-scale grocery center that will not only serve the tribal members but other communities surrounding the reservation. Without all the cooperation from the state, the new owner, TMEPA and other agencies this site would still be an eyesore and a potential environmental issue for the Turtle Mountain people. The Tribal Response Program continues to conduct oversight and compliance assistance of the new project and redevelopment of the site.



Redevelopment of the Former Lumber Company Property

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe

Environmental Programs Department
Brownfields Program

520 Sunset Boulevard
P. O. Box 448
Towaoc, CO 81334
http://www.utemountainuteenvironmental.org

Contact(s): Scott Clow, *Director*
sclow@utemountain.org
970-564-5432

Tomoé Natori, *Environmental Programs Director (Brownfields Public Outreach)*
tnatori@utemountain.org
970-564-5431

Overview

- **Location:** Southwestern Colorado, Northwestern New Mexico, and Southeastern Utah
- **Land Area:** 597,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,200
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

In 2003, the Ute Mountain Environmental Department used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate its new Brownfields Program. This program focuses on reusing and revitalizing tribal property contaminated by past activities where no responsible polluting party could be identified or no party could be identified to mitigate a potential contamination issue. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Created and maintain a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes (ready for Tribal Council approval in 2011)
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Conducted cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members
- Assisted tribal and federal regulators in reclamation specifications for oil and gas facilities
- Oversaw compliance with oil and gas field regulations
- Responded to oil spills, gas leaks and other hazardous materials emergency response issues
- Developed an “All Hazards Plan” with the Tribal Public Safety Department
- Assisted home owners with asbestos, mold and lead paint assessment and abatement

Program Highlights

The Ute Mountain Ute Brownfields Program used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to assess and clean up the “Old Dining Hall’ property. The namesake building was originally a Bureau of Indian Affairs School and later used for decades for annual Thanksgiving and Christmas Community dinners before falling into a state of disrepair. In addition, “Old Dining Hall” also contained asbestos and lead paint. Funding for the construction of a new facility was procured through a grant and tribal government funding. The Brownfields Program performed Phase I and Phase II assessments and asbestos abatement activities and disposed of the materials in an EPA-certified landfill. Today the new facility functions as a Towaoc Community Center with a meeting room facility and a commercial kitchen. The center has moveable partition walls to accommodate multiple types of functions and also houses the offices of the tribe’s newspaper, radio and cable media outreach programs.

Wind River – Eastern Shoshone & Northern Arapahoe

Wind River Environmental Quality Commission
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

Building 10, Washakie Street
P.O. Box 217
Fort Washakie, WY 82514
http://www.wreqc.com/brownfields/Defaults.html

Contact(s): Everett McGill, Brownfields Coordinator
emc2_h2o@hotmail.com
307-332-3164

Overview

- **Location:** Central Wyoming
- **Land Area:** 2.2 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 4,200 Eastern Shoshone and 7,400 Northern Arapaho enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Brownfields Tribal Response Program (TRP) for the Wind River Indian Reservation is vital for the tribes and the Wind River Environmental Quality Commission (WREQC) due to the old economic development, mining, oil fields and other business ventures. Many of these places were abandoned and left for the future generations to clean up. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted environmental assessments on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record
- Responded to oil and chemical spills and other hazardous materials emergency response issues
- Oversaw a Hazardous Material Cleanup day for household and agriculture waste collection
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

Over the last three years, the WREQC used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop an Integrated Solid Waste Management Plan (ISWMP) and a Solid Waste Management Regulation (SWMR). WREQC worked with tribal environmental programs to create supporting regulations and with tribal councils (Eastern Shoshone and Northern Arapaho Tribes) to receive approval. The Midwest Assistance Program provided technical assistance and support for the development of the technical documents. In addition, a Penalty Matrix and enforcement procedures are being considered and the tribe is working to ensure that the Tribal ISWMP and SWMR can be used collaboratively within the reservation boundaries to manage waste concerns.

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Grantees

Gila River Indian Community

Department of Environmental Quality
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 97
Sacaton, AZ 85147
http://www.gilariver.org

Contact(s): Margaret Cook, *Director*
margaret.cook@gric.nsn.us
520-562-2245

Overview

- **Location:** Central Arizona
- **Land Area:** 372,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 16,000
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot and Grant, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Department of Environmental Quality's primary responsibility is to protect human health and the environment. The Department works with EPA to ensure that facilities within the Gila River Indian Community's (GRIC) boundaries are in compliance with environmental laws and ordinances. The long-term goals of the Department are to reduce injuries, illnesses or fatalities due to pollution. The Department is committed to protecting the environment and quality of life at the GRIC. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes

Program Highlights

Since 1995, the GRIC utilized a range of EPA funding sources to develop a successful brownfields program. These EPA funding sources include: Superfund Preliminary Assessment/Site Inspection (PA/SI) funding; Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) funding; a Brownfields Showcase Community grant; two Brownfields Assessment grants; a Brownfields Cleanup grant; and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding. Each resource enabled GRIC to leverage additional funding. For example, an inventory conducted with PA/SI funding helped GRIC leverage TBA funds by identifying specific environmental assessment needs. Through its TBA experience, GRIC exhibited that it had built the capacity to manage a brownfields grant, thereby increasing its competitiveness for the Brownfields Showcase Community grant. These resources enabled GRIC to develop a comprehensive inventory of approximately 60 to 70 brownfields properties, assess approximately 20 properties, clean up several priority properties, and develop key partnerships. All of these activities directly impact tribal members. The Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program grant and Brownfields Cleanup grant allowed GRIC to assess and clean up petroleum contamination from leaking underground storage tanks on the St. John Mission property. The property was redeveloped into a Diabetes Education and Resource Center, which is widely used by the GRIC community members for treatment and research.

Hoopa Valley Tribe

Hoopa Tribal Environmental Protection Agency
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 1348
Hoopa, CA 95546
http://www.hoopa-nsn.gov/departments/tepa/brownfield.htm

Contact(s): Louisa McCovey, *Brownfields Coordinator*
louisamcc@hoopa-nsn.gov
530-625-5515

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern California
- **Land Area:** 89,600 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 2,600
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Hoopa Valley Tribe provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessments and cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Masonite Mill Creek property previously contained two underground storage tanks (UST), which leaked roughly 10,000 gallons of diesel fuel into the soil. The soil was also contaminated with pentachlorophenol from wood preservative activities conducted on the property. The USTs were removed and approximately 1,700 cubic yards of diesel/pentachlorophenol contaminated soil was removed and stockpiled adjacent to the excavation. The contaminated soil was conditioned through exposure to the sun and by adding organic material. This process called "in-situ land farming," reduced the contamination levels in the soil so that it is no longer a threat to human health or the environment. After the soil was treated, vegetation was planted to add nutrients to the soil. The goal of this project is to create a tribal agricultural lot of 25 acres that will provide alfalfa or related crops to the tribal agricultural interests in the Valley. Use of the Mill Creek property as an agricultural lot was chosen because of the dwindling agricultural lands on the reservation that are available to tribal members. Since the property is located in a floodplain, it is not appropriate for housing use.

Navajo Nation

Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency

P.O. Box 2946
Window Rock, AZ 86515
http://www.epa.navajo.org

Contact(s): Freida White, *Environmental Program Supervisor*
freidasw@juno.com
928-871-7820

Overview

- **Location:** Arizona, New Mexico and Utah
- **Land Area:** 27,000 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 250,000
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Navajo Nation EPA (NNEPA) assesses potential and actual hazardous substance releases to ensure that adequate action, including public participation, is undertaken, and to protect the public health, the welfare, and the environment on the Navajo Nation Land. Brownfields properties exist within the Navajo Nation and are inventoried, qualified and proposed for cleanup action. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Conducted assessment toward cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Created a Public Record

Program Highlights

After ten years of development, the Navajo Nation Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (NNCERCLA Law) was passed by the Navajo Nation in March 2008; it is the first tribal law of its kind. The law resembles the federal Superfund law with similarities such as a Hazardous Substance Fund (HSF), which was abolished under the federal Superfund law. The NN HSF is for projects where funding is not available. It also has key differences, such as covering petroleum and natural gas as “hazardous” substances and imposes liability for damages to cultural resources as well as to natural resources. The Navajo Nation used a portion of its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to enhance its program through development of the NNCERCLA Law. Following the NNCERCLA, the NNCERCLA Release Reporting Regulations, the Release Reporting Form, the Gap-Filling Policy, a Memorandum of Agreement in response to continued negotiations with stakeholders (representatives of Oil and Gas Industries who have challenged the NNCERCLA), and a Fund Management Plan were developed. The implementation process is expected to take at least another three years as the program documents are finalized and NNEPA continues its dialogue with non-tribal stakeholders. NNEPA is also outlining specific rates for tariffs, which will require a public comment process; it is establishing a Uranium Commission to lay the foundation toward a comprehensive authority, policy making body to address complex issues presented by Uranium. In addition to enhancing its program with the NNCERCLA Law, NNEPA remains focused on identifying and assessing potential brownfields. NNEPA identified approximately ten potential brownfield sites by holding public outreach meetings at Navajo Nation Chapters. After NNEPA staff provide an overview of the Brownfields Program, Chapter staff give a tour of potential brownfields based on their knowledge of previous site use. Before these sites are prioritized for environmental assessments, additional research is conducted to determine if the sites are likely to have contamination, and to ensure another Navajo Nation department is not already working on them. The Pinion McGee former trading post has been assessed through the Region 9 Targeted Brownfields Assessment, and the Sawmill site is next.

Rincon Luiseno Band of Indians

Rincon Environmental Department

1 West Tribal Road Building D
Valley Center, CA 92082
http://rinconmembers.net/epa

Contact(s): Tiffany Wolfe, *Manager*
twolfe@rincontribe.org
760-297-2632 Ext. 402

Overview

- **Location:** Southern California
- **Land Area:** 4,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 1,500
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Rincon Environmental Department provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record

The Rincon Environmental Department also oversees the General Assistance Program grant which is used for infrastructure development and provides funding for two cleanups on the reservation. Through this grant the department uses geographic information systems to build maps to locate areas that need to be inventoried. In addition, the Environmental Department oversees the Pollution Prevention Clean Water Act 106 grant. This grant assists the tribe in surface water sampling and database creation for water quality standards. The Environmental Department provides outreach and education to tribal members, the community, and local schools through funding from all three grants.

Program Highlights

The Rincon Luiseno Band of Indians is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe is focusing its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues.

Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community

Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (EPNR) Brownfields Program

10005 East Osborn Road
Scottsdale, AZ 85256
http://www.srpmic-nsn.gov/government/epnr/brownfields.asp

Contact(s): Lily Bermejo, *Brownfields Program Coordinator*
lily.bermejo@srpmic-nsn.gov
480-362-2631

Overview

- **Location:** Central Arizona
- **Land Area:** 52,600 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 8,700
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Salt River Pima-Maricopa Indian Community's (SRPMIC or Community) Environmental Protection and Natural Resources (EPNR) Division has been taking full advantage of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program (TRP) grant in order to successfully implement its Brownfields Program. The Community's Brownfields Program has been working diligently by evaluating areas for potential environmental and health concerns, inventorying sites, organizing public outreach, building enforcement methods, and finding funding for assessments and cleanup of sites. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:



Cleanup Activities at the Feedlot Property

- Completed potential brownfields site inventory
- Identified and are redrafting existing Community ordinances and policies to support the goals of the Tribal Response Program, by taking preventative measures
- Coordinated and conducted Community-wide Household Hazardous Waste Collection Events in conjunction with the EPNR Hazardous Substances Program
- Created a brownfields information page on the EPNR website
- Created a public outreach document accessible online to request brownfields information and property assessments
- Developed and maintain a Public Record information database online
- Fostered public participation by announcing the Brownfields Program on SRPMIC's "Au-Authm Action News" newspaper
- Offered several environmental trainings to SRPMIC's staff

Program Highlights

SRPMIC has used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to evaluate areas of contamination to add to the brownfields inventory. Funding has also allowed for the increased involvement of the Community, bringing awareness and allowing for its participation in locating and identifying sites. The SRPMIC was also awarded an EPA Brownfields Assessment grant which allowed for the assessment of the abandoned Feedlot on the Community. SRPMIC is now using an EPA Brownfields Cleanup grant to conducting cleanup activities at the Feedlot.

Tohono O'odham Nation

Department of Public Safety
Environmental Protection Office

P.O. Box 837
Sells, AZ 85634
http://www.tonation-nsn.gov

Contact(s): Lorinda Sam, *Program Manager*
lorinda.sam@tonation-nsn.gov
520-383-8681

Laurie Suter, *Environmental Specialist*
laurie.suter@tonation-nsn.gov
520-383-8681

Overview

- **Location:** South-Central Arizona
- **Land Area:** 2.8 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 28,000
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Pilot and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Tohono O'odham Nation Environmental Protection Office (TONEPO) was created to protect the Nation's human health and environment. Through the use of Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, resources have been used to identify, assess and provide cleanup monitoring on contaminated or perceived contaminated Tohono O'odham tribal lands from hazardous chemicals, pesticides, explosives, petroleum products, mining and mining by-products, as well as contributing to the development of environmental regulatory and compliance standards for the Nation. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Updated the property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Participated in outreach activity events
- Dedicated full time staff member to the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program
- Constructing a brownfields page on the Tohono O'odham Nation website (currently "under construction")

Program Highlights

The Tohono O'odham Nation is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop an inventory of properties and a public record, obtain technical training for staff members, and conduct outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. An integral part of the Tohono O'odham Tribal Response Program is the participation and collaboration of many diverse individuals from a variety of tribal, state and federal agencies; therefore, acting as a liaison between tribal community members and outside entities. The Nation's Brownfields program participates in numerous outreach events each year, educating thousands of tribal members on the subject of environmental issues. The Nation's program monitoring history includes environmental issue identification, resolution, institutional controls, and reuse planning.

Yurok Tribe

Yurok Tribe's Environmental Program

15900 Hwy 101 N.
Klamath, CA 95548
www.yuroktribe.org/departments/ytep/ytep.htm

Contact(s): Kathleen Sloan, *Program Director*
ksloan@yuroktribe.nsn.us
707-482-1822 Ext. 1009

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern California
- **Land Area:** 63,035 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 5,000
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

Yurok Tribe's Environmental Program (YTEP) consists of three Divisions: Water, Pollution Prevention, and Community and Ecosystems. YTEP is 100 percent grant funded, receiving the majority of its funding from the EPA Tribal Programs Office under the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory and published online
- Created a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances
- Trained staff members to respond to emergency and non-emergency HAZMAT scenarios
- Conducted Phase I Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) on the reservation with YTEP staff

Program Highlights

YTEP is creating capacity to perform Phase I environmental assessments using tribal staff. Prior to 2010, YTEP lacked the capacity to conduct and write assessment reports for its own lands, and relied on outside environmental contractors to perform assessments. YTEP used the inventory to prioritize and select properties for the four Phase I ESAs. The four Phase I ESAs were contracted to an environmental professional; the properties include: a former mill, gold mine, gas station and illegal dumpsite. The contractor and YTEP staff held a community meeting near the four properties and solicited information from community members and tribal elders. As part of that contract, YTEP received training and professional expertise on how to conduct Phase I assessments using American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) standards. YTEP used Section 128(a) Response Program grant funding to attend and complete the ASTM International training class: Phase I and II ESAs for Commercial Real Estate. Under fiscal year 2010 funding, YTEP has completed two Phase I ESAs on the reservation without contractor assistance.



Historic Picture of A. Brizard General Store, One of the Properties Where the Tribe Conduced a Phase I

EPA Region 10 Brownfields Grantees

Bristol Bay Native Association

Natural Resources
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 310
Dillingham, AK 99576
http://www.bbna.com/website/Natural%20Brownsfield.html

Contact(s): Arla Johnson, *Brownfields Program Manager*
ajohnson@bbna.com
800-478-5257 Ext. 328

Overview

- **Location:** Southwest Alaska
- **Population:** Tribal Consortium, made up of 31 Tribes
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Bristol Bay Native Association Natural Resources (NR) department provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services to a Tribal Consortium of 31 tribes. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded NR's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed a public outreach plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

The Tribal Brownfields and Environmental staff flew to New Stuyahok and Manokotak to hold brownfields public meetings and provide assistance with applying for an environmental assessment. The Tribal Environmental staff encouraged the Elders and other community members to come to the meetings to bring their knowledge of the past to contribute in locating contaminated properties in the respective villages. The meetings were successful in identify brownfields properties at both villages with the help of the Elders and community members.



Brownfield Property in Pilot Point

Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska

Native Lands & Resources Department

9097 Glacier Highway
Juneau, AK 99801
http://www.ccthita.org

Contact(s): Desiree Duncan, *Program Manager*
dduncan@ccthita.org
907-463-7183

Overview

- **Location:** Southeast Alaska
- **Land Area:** 35,138 square miles
- **Population:** 72,954
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Central Council of Tlingit & Haida Indian Tribes of Alaska's (CCTHITA) Brownfields Response Program is developing capacity and understanding of tribal responsibilities as they relate to the health and environmental conditions on lands with tribal interests. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding has allowed the tribe to identify sites and establish various collaborative efforts that make Alaska brownfields work unique and dependent to situational and geographical area. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Developed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Developed awareness of brownfields
- Established a foundation for youth involvement in brownfields work

Program Highlights

CCTHITA is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe is focusing its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields awareness and issues. The tribe created and developed an Environmental Youth Leadership Team with a focus on gathering traditional, historical knowledge, and western science.

Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT)

Natural Resources Department

P.O. Box 150
Nespelem, WA 99155
http://nrd.colvilletribes.com/index.htm

Contact(s): Don Hurst, *Brownfields Coordinator*
don.hurst@colvilletribes.com
509-634-2421

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central Washington
- **Land Area:** 1.4 million acres
- **Population:** Approximately 9,000
- **EPA Grants:** Area-wide Planning Project, Assessment Grant, Job Training, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Colville Confederated Tribes' (CCT) Environmental Trust Department manages programs to enhance and protect the environment and health of the population within the Colville reservation. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding allows the tribe to address the management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Enforce provisions of the CCT Hazardous Substances Control Act
- Assess the environmental condition of sites in Public Record
- Oversee cleanup efforts and verify their completeness
- Publish the Public Record annually
- Increase the capacity of staff through training and professional registration
- Make applicable technical expertise available to other tribal departments
- Participate in regional planning with potential environmental affects on natural resources
- Collaborate with federal agencies on enforcement activities

Program Highlights

The Environmental Trust Department is a subdivision of CCT's Natural Resources Department that has the authority to investigate and clean up hazardous substances that have been released into the environment. This authority was established by Tribal Code. The tribe continues to use Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to expand and enhance its response program as new properties enter the Public Record and existing properties are the focus of progressive response actions and remediation. In addition to environmental responsibilities within the Colville Indian Reservation, a significant strength of the Natural Resources Department staff is capacity in cross-disciplinary, regional and international matters of substantive interest to CCT. Examples include participation in planning and implementation of improvements to the tribes' reservation-wide solid waste system, active participation on state and county advisory committees for solid waste management, assessments of brownfield sites on the reservation, participation on a statewide workgroup concerned with the development of freshwater sediment cleanup regulations and providing limited support to the tribe through technical review and consultation of work concerning the Upper Columbia River.

Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, & Siuslaw Indians

Department of Natural Resources – Environmental Division
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

1245 Fulton Avenue
Coos Bay, OR 97420
http://www.ctclusi.org/ctclusinew/NaturalResources/EnvironmentalDivision/TribalResponseProgram/tabid/307/Default.aspx

Contact(s): Howard Crombie, *Director of the Department of Natural Resources*
hcrombie@ctclusi.org
541-888-7511

Overview

- **Location:** Western Oregon
- **Land Area:** 405 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 900
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua, and Siuslaw Indians are a federally recognized Tribal Government on the South/Central Oregon Coast with Tribal Administration Offices in Coos Bay, Oregon. The tribes' Department of Natural Resources (DNR) used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop an inventory of known and suspected contaminated properties that are located on and off tribal lands. DNR staff maintains and updates the inventory regularly and it serves as a list of properties from which assessments or cleanups can be selected as part of the tribes' site-specific activities. Some of the accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a survey and inventory of known or suspected contaminated properties
- Updated and maintained data, assessments, and reports conducted on tribal lands
- Created and established a Public Record
- Developed outreach material on Tribal Response Program
- Participated in inter-governmental meetings to discuss tribal land cleanup efforts
- Drafted tribal ordinances that protect tribal lands

Program Highlights



Aerial View of Coos Head Property

The tribes reacquired a 43.10-acre tract known as Coos Head, located near Charleston, Oregon in late 2005. Coos Head had a long history of military use beginning in 1875 – first by the U.S. Army, then the U.S. Navy, and then by the Oregon Air National Guard. Throughout the 130 years of military occupation, areas on the property were contaminated. Until these contaminated areas are cleaned up, the tribes' ability to reoccupy and redevelop Coos Head remains severely restricted. Currently, there are three active cleanup programs which are working on the Coos Head Assessment and Remediation Project. The Underground Storage Tank Program cleans up soil and ground water contaminated with gasoline and diesel which have leaked from buried fuel tanks or which is the legacy of soil stockpiles or soil farming. The Military Munitions Response Program cleans up lead slugs, lead shot, and skeet fragments from firing ranges. The Installation Restoration Program cleans up general chemical contamination including solvents used to clean auto parts, PCBs leaked from transformers, etc. Partners working on the Coos Head cleanup project include the Air National Guard, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, U.S. Navy, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality.

The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation

Tribal Response Program

Fisheries Resource Management Program
Yakama Nation Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 151
Toppenish, WA 98948
http://host119.yakama.com/Habitat/Remres/TRP/brownfields.html

Contact(s): Paul Ward, *Director*
ward@yakama.com
509-865-5121 Ext. 6363

McClure Tosch, *Brownfields Coordinator*
mcclure@yakama.com
509-865-5121 Ext. 6413

Overview

- **Location:** South-Central Washington
- **Reservation:** 1.2 million acres
- **Population:** 10,268 enrolled members
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Yakama Nation has reserved lands and rights covering over 20 million acres throughout what are now the states of Washington and Oregon. The sacred relationship between the People, the Salmon and the Columbia River is the foundation of time-honored laws of the Yakama People: the laws that protect life and the cycles of nature and provide for human well being; the laws that govern longhouse traditions; and the laws that support tribal practices, which have sustained the Yakama people since time immemorial. The Yakama Nation is expanding its capacity to engage in oversight related activities of contaminated sites throughout the Pacific Northwest. The initial priority of the Tribal Response Program (TRP) is to evaluate and rank hazardous waste sites impacting Yakama Nation's aquatic resources. The initial inventory of sites has been developed and consists of sites from EPA, Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, and Washington State Department of Ecology databases along the Columbia River and its tributaries. Current activities within the TRP are the prioritization of sites; determination of involvement at high priority sites; education and outreach; assessing brownfield sites for priority restoration or habitat enhancement projects; and establishing a coordinated effort among various Yakama Programs to establish Yakama specific cleanup standards. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a site inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Redesigned and expanded website
- Created public outreach materials
- Developed a vision statement for Yakama Nation's TRP
- Hosted a workshop focused on developing a strategy to Columbia River Restoration

Program Highlights

The Yakama Nation hosted a Columbia River Restoration Workshop on October 12, 2010 in Seattle, Washington. The workshop included Yakama Nation Staff, Tribal Council Members, and invited guests. The goal of the workshop was to develop a strategy for cleaning up and restoring the Columbia River. From this workshop they developed a vision statement, public outreach plan, and several different public outreach materials that will be used extensively in various forums including public events, tribal council, and on the tribe's website.

Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross (GASH)

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 8
Anvik, AK 99558
http://www.anviktribalcouncil.com/brownfields.html

Contact(s): Kate Chaussee Nicholai, *Brownfields Coordinator*
info@ruralalaskaempowered.com
907-748-1658

Overview

- **Location:** Western Alaska
- **Land Area:** 11.9 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 600 within the GASH region
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

Formerly the Anvik Tribal Brownfields Program, the project now encompasses three neighboring communities: Grayling, Shageluk and Holy Cross. The Grayling, Anvik, Shageluk, and Holy Cross (GASH) Brownfields Program provides natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 11.9 square miles of land. These villages face similar brownfields issues including tank farms, abandoned dump sites and contaminated properties. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record
- Conduct Phase I/II assessments on properties
- Develop a public outreach plan
- Foster public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

The GASH Brownfields Response Program used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to work with the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Wastershed Council to conduct a Phase II assessment at the old Alaska Village Electric Cooperative tank farm and former generator building. Potential contaminates at the abandoned property included diesel fuel, PCBs, lead, and solvents. The Community of Anvik plans to clean up the property and develop it into a multi-use facility and boat storage.



View of the Abandoned AVEC Property

Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe

Natural Resources Department
Brownfields Tribal Property Response Program

1033 Old Blyn Highway
Sequim, WA 98382
http://www.jamestowntribe.org/programs/nrs/nrs_browns.htm

Contact(s): Pam Edens, *Brownfields Coordinator*
pedens@jamestowntribe.org
360-681-4658

Overview

- **Location:** Northwest Washington
- **Land Area:** 100 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 600
- **EPA Grants:** Cleanup Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Natural Resources Department protects treaty rights of the natural resources of the Point No Point Treaty area for the benefit of Jamestown S'Klallam Tribal members and future descendants. In this capacity, the Department is charged with ensuring the orderly harvest of fish, shellfish and wildlife resources, providing opportunities for tribal members to derive subsistence and/or livelihood from the harvest of these resources, increasing opportunity through restoration, enhancement and scientific study, and reversing the decline of these resources resulting from environmental degradation. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on tribal lands
- Conducted cleanup activities on properties on tribal lands

Program Highlights

With funding awarded from EPA's Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program, the Natural Resources Department assessed tribal properties for potential environmental hazards to determine if cleanup is needed before they can be developed. A public record of these property assessments was established and is available to the tribal community and members of the public in the tribe's library on the South Campus. This public record remains in the library and the records of all future property assessments and cleanups will be added. In addition, the Natural Resources Department developed an inventory of all tribal property holdings and is reviewing each parcel for possible environmental hazards. To keep tribal citizens informed of the work being done through the EPA Brownfields Program, articles are published in the tribe's newsletter, information about recent brownfields activity is posted on the tribe's website and exhibits are displayed at the All Tribal meeting each September. The tribe also addressed the environmental hazard at a former gas station which facilitated transferring it into Trust status allowing redevelopment into the Longhouse Market and Deli. When the tribe purchased the Dungeness Golf Course in 2006, Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding was used to conduct Phase I and II assessments that identified a waste oil spill and pesticide contamination in a wash pit. The tribe worked with Washington State Department of Ecology's Voluntary Cleanup Program to clean up these contaminants.

Kuskokwim River Watershed Council (KRWC)

Brownfields Tribal Response Program Main Office

P.O. Box 334
Aniak, AK 99557
http://www.kuskokwimcouncil.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=60&Itemid=70

Contact(s): Joey Billy, *Brownfields Coordinator*
krwc.brownfield@kuskokwimcouncil.org

Office Location:
460 Ridgecrest Drive, BNC Complex, Suite 119
P.O. Box 2986
Bethel, AK 99559-2986
907-545-3980

Overview

- **Location:** Western Alaska
- **Land Area:** 37,120 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 15,000
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The focus of the Kuskokwim River Watershed Council's (KRWC) Brownfields Program is to collaborate with communities in the Kuskokwim River watershed to: inventory potential brownfield sites; foster public participation in cleanup and reuse of contaminated sites; provide relevant training; maintain a watershed-wide record of contaminated sites for the public to access; and assist with an environmental assessment of sites. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on tribal lands
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

On her visit to Alaska in July 2010, EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson spent time with Joey Billy, the Brownfields Coordinator for KRWC Tribal Response Program (TRP). KWRC is one of the 14 current TRPs in Alaska. Although KRWC is a new Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program grantee, it is in the planning stages for both Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation Brownfields Assessments and EPA's Targeted Brownfield Assessments for the Kuskokwim River Watershed villages. Mr. Billy and Administrator Jackson discussed the hardship that Alaska TRPs face in trying to clean up brownfields properties without eligibility for the competitive brownfields grants. The Alaska TRPs are networking and researching other available funding sources to help them address brownfields properties.



EPA Administrator Lisa Jackson and Joey Billy, the KRWC Brownfields Coordinator

Makah Indian Nation

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 115
Neah Bay, WA 98357
http://www.makah.com

Contact(s): Chad Bowechop, *Brownfields Coordinator*
bowechop.chad@centurytel.net
360-645-3015

Overview

- **Location:** Northwest Olympic Peninsula, Washington
- **Land Area:** Approximately 47 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 1,400
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Makah Indian Nation environmental programs provide comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 47 square miles of land and treaty protected marine and ocean areas. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed a public outreach plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

Located in the northwestern most point of the continental United States, the Makah Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to help craft federal and state oil pollution legislation, rulemaking and policies to provide response capacity for oil spills in tribal treaty waters. On the Strait of Juan de Fuca, a 95-mile stretch of water linking Puget Sound to the Pacific Ocean, the Makah Tribal treaty area accommodates the third busiest waterway for commercial shipping traffic, threatening the environmental and ecological health of Makah's rich sea and land culture. The tribe is striving to build response capacity within its fishing fleet and throughout the community. In 2007, the U.S. Coast Guard 13th District, Marine Spill Response Corporation (an independent, nonprofit Oil Spill Response Organization dedicated to national response), ExxonMobil and other members of the response community began conducting a coordinated annual HAZWOPER training to boost response preparedness on the Outer Washington Coast. The tribe is also working with Navy Region NW and the Navy Supervisor of Salvage to station spill response equipment at Neah Bay. Support and coordination provided by Makah Tribe has made this training program very successful in the Neah Bay community. The tribe also used its Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to develop a contaminated site inventory to identify contaminated properties for cleanup. Because of the tribe's cultural connection to the sea and land, it is making efforts to clean up contamination and preserve the natural resources from which tribal members have subsisted for centuries.

Maniilaq Association

Tribal Environmental Program
Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 256
Kotzebue, AK 99752
http://www.maniilaq.org/environmental.html

Contact(s): Stanley Tomaszewski, *Brownfield Coordinator/ Backhaul-Recycling Tech.*
stanley.tomaszewski@maniilaq.org
907-442-7639

Overview

- **Location:** Northwest Alaska
- **Service Area:** 39,000 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 8,500
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Maniilaq Association, a nonprofit organization and consortium of 12 federally recognized tribes, headquartered in Kotzebue, Alaska provides health, social, elder, and tribal government services for approximately 8,500 residents within its Northwest Alaska service area. The association established its Tribal Environmental Protection (TEP) program in 1997 with funding from EPA. The program provides tribal governments and municipalities with technical assistance to identify, assess and monitor environmental issues. TEP also works extensively to educate and promote ownership, responsibility and prevention to community members; foster environmental stewardship practices; and has developed regional training sessions in the villages. The Maniilaq Association committed the TEP to establish comprehensive backhaul-recycling, Climate Change Adaptation, and Tribal Response Brownfield Restoration/Prevention programs in the region benefiting the health and the environment of current and future generations of inhabitants of the northwest arctic. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Establish a public record of response actions
- Complete an inventory of potentially contaminated sites in seven communities
- Assist four sites in two communities get selected for Alaska DEC Brownfield Assessment (DBA) assistance

Program Highlights

The Maniilaq is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to enhance and build capacity to the established Tribal Response Program within Maniilaq TEP. The Tribal Response Program's directive is to provide technical assistance to the 11 Native villages that Maniilaq Association serves and to provide education to the general public about the number and type of brownfield sites within this area. The Maniilaq TEP vision is also to develop partnerships with local governments to reduce the risk of exposure of contaminants found in the brownfield sites to the public, and to assist in fully reclaiming sites for the public's use such as community development, subsistence harvesting, habitat restoration, and community gardening.

The TEP has implemented a recycling program as well as a regional backhaul program to assist communities within the service area with staging and transporting recyclable materials via Kotzebue to Anchorage and/or Seattle. The project is a partnership between Maniilaq Association and its member tribes, the City of Kotzebue, Northwest Arctic Borough/Municipalities, and regional transportation providers. Two years since inception, the program has backhauled for recycling over 70,000 pounds of electronic waste, two tons of fluorescent lights, 16 tons lead-acid batteries, and over three tons of 'white goods' (i.e., washers, dryers, refrigerators, freezers). The Maniilaq Association Back Haul Recycling Program demonstrated the ability to divert substantial amounts undesirable materials from entering the solid waste stream and the environment; however the full measure of accomplishment will be the stoppage of accumulation certain refuse items by establishing permanent outlets that systematically prevent future backlog.

Native Village of Port Heiden

Tribal Environmental Department
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 49007
Port Heiden, AK 99549

Contact(s): Marty Waters, *Brownfields Coordinator*
pthenviro@gmail.com
907-837-2441

Overview

- **Location:** Western Alaska
- **Population:** Approximately 105
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Native Village of Port Heiden's Tribal Environmental Department provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record

Program Highlights

The Native Village of Port Heiden used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. They focused their funding on developing an inventory of proper ties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues.



Aerial View of the Native Village of Port Heiden

Native Village of Saint Michael

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 59050
St. Michael, AK 99659
http://www.kawerak.org/tribalHomePages/stMichael/index.html

Contact(s): Jeff Long, *Brownfields Coordinator*
jlong5096@yahoo.com
907-923-2304

Robert Lockwood, *Assistant Brownfields Coordinator*
907-923-2305

Overview

- **Location:** Western Alaska
- **Land Area:** 13,952 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 400
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Native Village of Saint Michael (NVSM) provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's 13,952 acres of land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record
- Coordinated with the Department of Defense to conduct Phase I assessments

Program Highlights

NVSM is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe is focusing its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. In addition, the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council coordinated training and inventory activities with NVSM on the development of its backhaul program. NVSM's backhaul program removed debris from several sites and delivered the waste to certified waste handling locations.

Native Village of Tununak (Nelson Island Consortium)

Brownfield Response Program

P.O. Box 77
Tununak, AK 99681
http://www.nelsonislandconsortium.org

Contact(s): Anastasia Evan, *Brownfields Coordinator*
nvtbrownfield@aol.com
907-652-6537

Overview

- **Location:** Western Alaska
- **Land Area:** 60.5 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 365
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Native Village of Tununak initiated its Brownfield Program in the fall of 2006. The program provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for its six member tribes: Chefornak, Kipnuk, Newtok, Nightmute, Toksook, and Umkumiut. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding has allowed the tribe to address the management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Published the inventory on the tribe's website
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes
- Conducted Phase I and II assessments on properties in the native villages of the Nelson Island Consortium
- Conducted cleanup activities on properties in the native villages of the Nelson Island Consortium
- Developed a public outreach plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

The Native Village of Tununak is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to continue the development of its tribal response program. The tribe focuses its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to the public. In addition, the tribe is conducting Phase I and II assessments on properties from the brownfields inventory and developing a public outreach plan to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues.

Nez Perce Tribe of Idaho

Department of Natural Resources
Water Resources Division – Groundwater Program

P.O. Box 365
Lapwai, ID 83540
http://www.nezperce.org/Official/waterresources/index.htm

Contact(s): Kevin Brackney, *Brownfields Coordinator*
kevinb@nezperce.org
208-843-7368

Overview

- **Location:** North-Central Idaho
- **Land Area:** 770,470 acres
- **Population:** 9,554 persons including 1,998 enrolled tribal members
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant and Assessment Grants.

Program

The Nez Perce Tribe (NPT) is beginning its seventh year managing Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to sustain, clean up and restore communities and ecological systems. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Leveraged additional funding including: EPA Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Prevention, LUST Assessment, Hazardous Materials Emergency Planning Grant, and NPT-funded Hazardous Emergency Response Team
- Completed an inventory that identified 17 priority properties on the reservation
- Developed a database consisting of 208 “properties of concern” with a relative contaminant ranking system—Project files are maintained and updated on each property for future use
- Completed Quality Management and Quality Assurance Project Plans
- Conducted Phase I and II assessments on the reservation with trained staff
- Provides an important service to reservation communities in processing environmental complaints regarding potential or actual contamination of soil and ground water

Program Highlights

The Nez Perce Tribe used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to provide oversight and enforcement for two Targeted Brownfields Assessments: the Richardson Sawmill in Orofino, Idaho and the American Legion Trap Range in Craigmont, Idaho. At the Richardson Sawmill property, the tribe used funding from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to conduct a Phase I assessment. The assessment identified residual polychlorinated biphenyl and creosote contaminated soil, a gasoline underground storage tank, lead contamination from a former trap range, buried “demolition debris,” and unexploded fireworks. The Nez Perce Tribal Enterprises have been interested in redeveloping the mill for many years; however, the perceived contamination has stifled most initiatives. The property has potential to generate jobs and income for the tribe due to its prime location and proposed recreational reuse along the beautiful Clearwater River. At the Craigmont Trap Range property, the American Legion and Craigmont Lions Club are interested in building a community baseball field. The Legion requested assistance from the NPT Response Program to develop an onsite lead-contaminated soil repository. The Legion has already developed and engineered an excavation plan to bury the contaminated soil and develop institutional controls to protect the repository for perpetuity.



Richardson Sawmill/Tribal Unit 45, Orofino, Idaho, 1973

Organized Village of Kasaan

Department of Natural Resources
Brownfields Program

P.O. Box 26
Kasaan, Ketchikan, AK 99950-0340
http://www.kasaan.org/brownfields_home.html

Contact(s): Neli Nelson, *Brownfields Coordinator*
neli@kasaan.org
907-617-9953

Overview

- **Location:** Southeast Alaska – Prince of Wales Island
- **Population:** Approximately 50
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Organized Village of Kasaan's Brownfields Program was established to identify and clean up potentially contaminated sites in the Kasaan Bay Watershed. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

Located on the third largest island in North America, Prince of Wales Island, the Organized Village of Kasaan is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to inventory sites within its traditional territory. This land is of mixed ownership, including the U.S. Forest Service, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, Sealaska Corporation, Kavilco Incorporated, and several different private land owners. For years, hard rock mineral mining was an important activity on the island. Past mining activity left the natural lands the Haida people use for subsistence littered with contaminated mining sites that pollute the natural ecosystem. To date, the tribe has inventoried 35 sites, and is leveraging partnerships to clean up and restore former mine sites to their natural environment and allow the tribe to maintain its way of life. The Salt Chuck Mine site, a former palladium mine, was inventoried by the tribe and identified for further evaluation. Visual surveys revealed the presence of mine tailings in the water; this was causing contamination to nearby clam populations. In 2009, the U.S. Forest Service received $1.4 million in federal stimulus funding to begin cleanup activity on the upland areas of the Salt Chuck mine site. The cleanup will include removing contaminated soil and dilapidated structures on the U.S. Forest Service-owned portion of the site.



Dilapidated Structures at the Salt Chuck Mine Site as Seen from Across Ellen Creek

Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe

Natural Resource Department
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

31912 Little Boston Road NE
Kingston, WA 98346
http://www.pgst.ekosystem.us

Contact(s): Jessica Coyle, *Brownfields Coordinator*
jcoyle@pgst.nsn.us
360-297-6271

Overview

- **Location:** Northwest Washington
- **Land Area:** 1,301 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 600
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's Natural Resources Administration oversees environmental protection and manages various programs designed to protect and enhance the natural treaty resources available to tribal members, and to promote self-governance, self-determination and self-sufficiency. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated properties within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

The first goal of the Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe's Brownfields Program was to create a list of potential brownfields properties though research and interviewing both technical professionals and community members. An EPA Assessment grant is being used to investigate the most concerning properties. The Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe is interested in cleaning up properties and focusing the reuse on returning land back to culturally beneficial uses, like shellfish harvesting. In addition, the tribe developed a Public Record that is accessible to the community and contains a list of potential brownfields properties and related information, along with additional documents and reports on cleanup related activities in the area.

Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

Environmental Waste Management Program (EWMP)
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

Building #52
P.O. Box 306
Fort Hall, ID 83203
http://www.sbtribes-ewmp.com

Contact(s): Kelly Wright, *Program Manager*
kwright@shoshonebannocktribes.com
208-478-3903

Overview

- **Location:** Southeast Idaho
- **Land Area:** 520,960 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 5,762
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Tribal Brownfields Response Program provides identification, assessment, cleanup, oversight, and monitoring of properties within the reservation that contain contaminants, pollutants or other materials with the potential to adversely affect human health and the environment. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties on the reservation
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Developed tribal ordinances and codes
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties on the reservation
- Conducted cleanup activities on properties on the reservation
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

Over the last year the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes' Environmental Waste Program Manager used Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to hold "Brownfields' Days" in each district of the 815-square mile reservation in southeast Idaho. The program created presentations, newsletters and brochures to provide outreach and address a legacy of pesticide, lead and asbestos contamination from agriculture, industry, mining, and illegal dumping. The most visible project that was an outcome of "Brownfields' Days" is a former railroad station where the cleanup of lead and asbestos contamination in the building made it ready for re-use as a tribal veterans center. In addition, the tribe is partnering with Idaho State University on plans to transform an old hospital into an environmental education center. Some brownfields properties on the reservation have also undergone ecological restoration, and three properties are being studied as possible locations for a wind farm or a waste-to-energy plant.

Swinomish Indian Tribal Community

Environmental Management Coordinator
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

11430 Moorage Way
LaConner, WA 98257
http://www.swinomish-nsn.gov/Resources/Environment/Compliance-Management.aspx

Contact(s): Jon Boe, *Environmental Specialist*
jboe@swinomish.nsn.us
360-466-2631

Overview

- **Location:** Northwestern Washington
- **Land Area:** 7,450 acres of uplands and 2,900 acres of tidelands
- **Population:** Approximately 900 enrolled tribal members
- **EPA Grants:** Assessment Grant, Cleanup Grant, Targeted Brownfields Assessment Grant, and Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Swinomish Indian Tribal Community's Environmental Management Coordinator protects the environment and human health on the Swinomish Reservation through management and regulation of uses and activities. Programs include: protection of air quality, management and cleanup of solid and hazardous waste, planning for hazardous incident response, control of invasive species, regulation of impacts on shorelines, sensitive areas and natural resources, environmental ordinance and policy development, and environmental review. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed and annually updated a brownfields property inventory of the reservation
- Created a Public Record
- Administered an Assessment grant and coordinated the completion of a Targeted Brownfields Assessment
- Coordinated the cleanup or partial cleanup of three properties
- Provided coordination and proposal development and oversight for the cleanup of a property under a Cleanup grant
- Participated in oil spill response exercises with local pipeline companies and refineries
- Provided environmental training to staff
- Conducted public outreach

Program Highlights

The Swinomish Reservation is located in northern Puget Sound, on a peninsula surrounded almost completely by ecologically rich and diverse tidelands, estuaries and marine waters. These areas provide a valuable subsistence and commercial fishing resource for the Swinomish people, as well as important economic development opportunities for the tribe. Much of the historic development on the reservation was on or near the shoreline. Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, along with additional Brownfields grants, is allowing the tribe to inventory and assess potential brownfields properties on these lands, and develop cleanup strategies to put previously contaminated and neglected areas into productive use. The Swinomish Lime Storage Site, for which the tribe recently received a Cleanup grant, is located in an ecologically important area on the Swinomish Channel and within the tribe's primary economic development zone. The site was assessed with an EPA Targeted Brownfields Assessment and found to be contaminated with metals and dioxins, likely the result of several decades of operation, on leased tribal land, as a processing and storage site for fertilizer and other agricultural amendments. The cleanup of this property will protect the public and the surrounding marine environment from contaminants on or leaving the property, and will facilitate the tribe's economic development of a valuable and strategic property.

Tangirnaq Native Village (Woody Island)

Environment and Natural Resources
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

3248 Mill Bay Road
Kodiak, AK 99615
http://kodiakbrownfields.wordpress.com/brownfields-response

Contact(s): Emily Jean Capjohn, *Brownfields Coordinator*
emily@woodyisland.com
907-486-2821

Overview

- **Location:** Southwest Alaska
- **Land Area:** 5 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 387
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Woody Island Environmental and Natural Resources programs provide comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding has allowed Woody Island to address the management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a property inventory
- Created a Public Record
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education

Program Highlights

The Woody Island Brownfields is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to gather information about contaminated properties, conduct public outreach, inventory and survey potential properties, and assist with possible assessment. The Brownfields Program coordinated with several other local government agencies to conduct a series of outreach presentations to the six remote villages on Kodiak Island. The Ouzinkie Village was the pilot in April 2010 and the success of the presentation led to two other visits to Ouzinkie over the summer of 2010. The Woody Island Tribal Council continues to develop partnerships with other villages on the island.

Tetlin Village Council

Tetlin Tribal Response Program

P.O. Box 797
Tok, AK 99780

Contact(s): Patricia Young, *Environmental Director*
pyoungak@gmail.com
907-883-1268

Andrew Baker, *Brownfields Coordinator*
andrewbuzbaker@gmail.com
907-324-2307

Overview

- **Location:** Eastern Interior Alaska
- **Land Area:** 743,000 acres
- **Population:** Approximately 140
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Tetlin Village Council provides environmental management services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding expanded the tribe's scope of work to include management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record
- Provide opportunities for meaningful public participation
- Began documentation of historical information regarding sites – including conducting elder interviews
- Organize and host community outreaches to all ages; especially youth as they are at risk when playing in or around sites in a small community
- Establish a Tetlin Tribal Response Team
- Host trainings in the village for Tribal Members and residents of the Native Village of Tetlin

Program Highlights

The Tetlin Village Council is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to initiate the development of a tribal response program. The tribe is focusing its funding on developing an inventory of properties and a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff members, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. The Tetlin Village Council continues to research funding opportunities to address and clean up potential brownfield sites within the community, as federally recognized tribes are eligible for almost all of the available brownfields funding, especially competitive grants.

Yakutat Tlingit Tribe

Brownfields Tribal Response Program

716 Ocean Cape Road
Yakutat, AK 99689

Contact(s): Alexander James, *Brownfields Coordinator*
ajames@ytttribe.org
907-784-3238

Overview

- **Location:** Southern Alaska
- **Land Area:** 9,460 square miles
- **Population:** Approximately 650
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe provides comprehensive natural resources management and environmental protection services for the tribe's land. The addition of the Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding has allowed the tribe to address the management and restoration of contaminated sites within tribal lands. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Complete a property inventory
- Create a Public Record
- Conduct an investigation of dioxin contamination in the Anchou Saltchucks, an area used for subsistence fishing
- Review investigations and cleanup work conducted by others

Program Highlights

The Yakutat Tlingit Tribe is using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding to continue the development of its tribal response program. The tribe's initial focus for its funding was developing an inventory of properties. Formerly Utilized Defense Sites make a large portion of this inventory. The tribe also focuses on developing a Public Record, obtaining technical training for staff, and conducting outreach and education to engage the community in environmental and brownfields issues. Now that the four program elements were established, the tribe is focusing on developing tools to support efforts to protect its people and natural resources. In 2010, the tribe conducted sampling of shellfish tissue for dioxins.

Yukon River Inter-Tribal Wastershed Council (YRITWC)

Sustainable Lands Department
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

323 Second Street, Unit A
Fairbanks, AK 99701
http://www.yritwc.org/Departments/SustainableLands/tabid/61/Default.aspx

Contact(s): Caleb Aronson, *Brownfields Coordinator*
caronson@yritwc.org
907-451-2530

Overview

- **Location:** Central Alaska and Northwestern Canada
- **Land Area:** 1.1 million acres
- **Population:** Consists of 70 First Nations and Tribes
- **EPA Grants:** Section 128(a) Tribal Response Grant

Program

The Sustainable Lands Department was created in 2007. The vision of the department is to promote sustainable land use practices throughout the Watershed by building local capacity and addressing contaminated site issues. The department has worked with 40 tribes and has identified over 230 contaminated sites. The Sustainable Lands Department focuses on three major areas: Brownfields Tribal Response Program, community emergency response and planning, and data warehouse and mapping. Accomplishments achieved using Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding include:

- Completed a comprehensive inventory of properties
- Created and maintained a Public Record
- Conducted Phase I/II assessments on properties
- Developed a public outreach plan
- Fostered public participation through outreach and education
- Offered environmental training to staff and/or tribal members

Program Highlights

With Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program funding, Yukon River Inter-Tribal Wastershed Council (YRITWC) conducted Phase I environmental assessments in two communities. The first assessment, at Hooper Bay, focused on nine plywood sewage disposal containers and the second, at Pilot Station, focused on a well pump station to determine whether a release had occurred. In addition, YRITWC worked with the Anvik Brownfields Program to conduct a Phase II assessment at the old Alaska Village Electric Cooperative tank farm and former generator building. The Community of Anvik plans to clean up the property and develop it into a multi-use facility and boat storage. The YRITWC Brownfields Team submitted the environmental assessment findings to EPA, Alaska Department of Environmental Control, and each of the three villages with recommended action plans. The environmental assessments helped characterize the extent of contamination and outlined clear cleanup plans that will lead to reuse and redevelopment.



YRITWC Staff Conducting a Phase II Assessment at the AVEC Property

United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Solid Waste
and Emergency Response

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www.epa.gov/brownfields