



Old Tensed Town Landfill

Coeur d'Alene Tribe Brownfields Program

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe's (Tribe) Environmental Programs Office in the Natural Resources Department manages programs to enhance and protect the environment and health of the population within the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. The addition of the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Section 128(a) Tribal Response Program (TRP), otherwise known as Brownfields, allows the Tribe to address the management and restoration of potentially contaminated and/or contaminated properties within Tribal lands.

Section 101 of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act of 1980 (42 U.S.C. 9601) defines a "brownfield site" 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."

The purpose of this grant-funded project is to identify and compile information on potential Brownfields sites, research assessment and clean-up opportunities on Tribal and Reservation lands, conduct public participation activities, and develop the Tribe's Brownfields Program.

With this funding the Tribe has started to take steps to establish and enhance the Tribe's Brownfields Program including:

- Maintaining a survey and inventory of known or suspected contaminated properties,
- Updating and maintaining data, assessments, and reports conducted on Tribal Lands,
- Establishing and maintaining a Public Record,
- Developing outreach and public participation activities and materials on Brownfields,
- Compiling reference material to ensure the assessment, cleanup plan, verification, and certification that cleanup is complete and protective of human health and the environment that is based on sound science and accepted practices, and
- Conducting site-specific Environmental Site Assessments as needed.

Past and Future Brownfields Activities

During the past three years the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Brownfield Program identified potential brownfield sites. One site, the old Tensed Town Landfill, was selected by the Brownfields Advisory Group and was approved by EPA to conduct Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments (ESA). A Phase I ESA is a document and record review and site inspection to identify Recognized Environmental Concerns (RECs) that may exist from historical site use. A Phase II ESA is a document of the results of field sampling to determine if there are contaminants that need to be cleaned up.

The Old Tensed Town Landfill Site is located approximately 4.5 miles east of the town of DeSmet on the north side of DeSmet Road. The Old Tensed Town Landfill was used as an unregulated waste dumping area as early as 1965 by citizens of Tensed and DeSmet and the surrounding areas; however, the exact years of the landfill operation are unknown. The landfill was closed just prior to 1990 by the placement of a non-engineered cap of topsoil. Surface water flowing over and perched groundwater flowing through the landfill may have been impacted by the remnants of the landfill. Following the closure, uncontrolled dumping continued to occur along the dirt access road for some time. The surface debris was cleaned up over a decade ago.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe has completed a Phase I ESA report at the Old Tensed Town Landfill which recommended conducting soil and groundwater sampling at the site to determine if there are contaminants that may need to be addressed.

The Tribe's Brownfield Program completed a geophysical survey and soil sampling for a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment to determine the potential presence, extent and magnitude of a wide range of environmental contaminants. The Tribe plans to include groundwater sampling in the data collection for the Phase II ESA in 2020. The Tribe will complete a Phase II ESA report once all of the data is collected and analyzed.

The sample data collected from these activities will be used to determine if contaminants are present and, if so, at what concentrations, and would be used to develop appropriate monitoring and/or clean-up actions if needed.

For more information or to submit a potential Brownfields site, please contact Ms. Tiffany Allgood, the manager of the Tribe's Environmental Programs Office, at (208) 686-8802 or email at tallgood@cdatribe-nsn.gov.

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