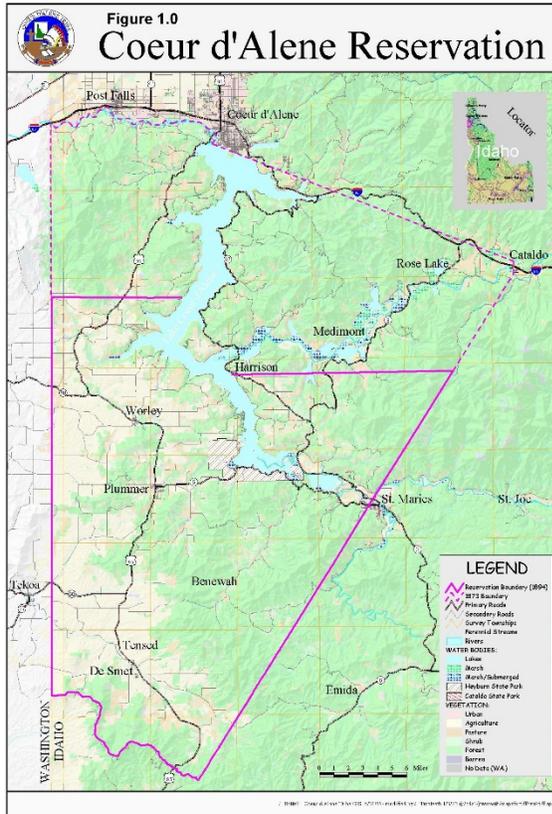


# Coeur d'Alene Tribe Brownfields Program

## September 2022



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 on and near the Coeur d'Alene Reservation. The addition of the U.S. 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 that may affect 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 Brownfields Activities

During the past several years the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Brownfield Program identified potential brownfield sites. Three sites were selected by the Tribe, and 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 contaminants are present and require remedial action to restore the site for redevelopment.

### **Old Tensed Town Landfill**

The Old Tensed Town Landfill Site is located approximately 1.5 miles west of the town of DeSmet on the north side of DeSmet Road at latitude 47.1502, longitude -116.9781. The site is land held in trust by the U.S. Government for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The main portion of the site is approximately 6 to 7 acres. This site 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 completed a Phase I ESA report at the Old Tensed Town Landfill which recommended conducting soil and groundwater sampling at the site to determine whether contaminants impacted the site soils and groundwater. Subsequently, the Tribe's Brownfield Program completed a draft Phase II Environmental Site Assessment report to determine the potential presence, extent and magnitude of a wide range of environmental contaminants. The Tribe sampled soil and groundwater on August 12-20, 2019 and April 13-21, 2020 for the report. Initial sampling analysis discovered three types of contaminants: 1) arsenic concentrations near regional background with elevated concentrations at two locations, 2) Dioxin Regional Screening Level (RSL) for resident soil exceedances were found at three locations, and 3) 4,4-DDT RSL exceedance was found at one location.

For the next year, the Tribe is determining with EPA if additional site characterization and sampling is needed at the Old Tensed Town Landfill. A review of the report indicates that additional exploratory work and sampling is recommended to further characterize the site. Sample data collected from these activities will be used to determine the type and levels of contaminants present. Additionally, the assessment would be used to develop appropriate monitoring and clean-up actions, if needed.

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### **Worley Co-operative Supply**

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe recently completed a draft Phase I ESA report at the former Worley Co-Operative Supply site located at 9815 and 9819 W "F" Street, Worley, Idaho. The site is approximately 0.8 acres in size. The land is held in fee status by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The site was developed in the early 1930's. It operated as a farmer co-operative supply store for more than 50 years. A residential house also occupied the site. It is known



that the co-op primarily sold petroleum, fertilizer, seed, and feed. In 1998, leakage from two abandoned underground storage tanks was discovered. The release of petroleum to the soil and groundwater was remediated to the EPA's satisfaction in December 2002. The draft Phase I ESA report recommends conducting soil and groundwater sampling (Phase II ESA) at the site to determine whether contaminants impacted the site soils and groundwater. Environmental concerns documented in the report include the former storage and dispensing of petroleum products, sales of farm chemicals, and hazardous building materials of the demolished structures.

### **Old Agency Courts Building**

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe recently completed a draft Phase I ESA report of the Old Agency Courts Building which is located on Old Agency Road, and situated on Parcel RP46N05W227800A, Plummer, Idaho. The site is located on Indian land held in trust by the U.S. Government at latitude 47.3142, longitude -116.9545. The Subject Site occupies a small portion of the parcel (approximately ½ acre) and is identified as the Old Agency Courts



Building and surrounding grounds. The building is approximately 8,000 square feet and previously housed the Tribal court room and administrative offices. The Phase I ESA report recommended the performance of a Hazardous Materials Survey to address environmental issues related to potential hazardous building materials in the structure. A Hazardous Materials Survey was conducted on September 22, 2022 that examined the structure for asbestos-containing materials (ACM), suspect lead-based paint (LBP) and complete a visual inspection to identify mercury-containing equipment, fluorescent lights and ballasts, Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) containing equipment, chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs) containing equipment, as well as any other potentially hazardous materials that may be present in the building which could present an exposure risk during demolition or renovation activities. The lab results and draft survey report is currently under review.

### **Plummer Pole Yard**

The pole yard site is a 33-acre Brownfield site, owned by the City of Plummer, that was historically used for wood treating operations. During the late 1950s and early 1960s, Union Pacific Railroad

leased a portion of the site set aside for a railroad depot to support a variety of industrial wood products operators that conducted activities such as pole peeling and wood utility pole treating. It is suspected that the wooden poles were treated with a chemical mixture of creosote and pentachlorophenol (PCP) in diesel. Laboratory analysis of pole treatment chemicals discovered creosote, pentachlorophenol (PCP), diesel, oil, and PAH in the soils and groundwater. The EPA conducted a Targeted BF Assessment in 2020-2021 and conducted a Time Critical Removal Action in 2022. During the removal action, EPA contractors removed 3460 tons of contaminated soil and disposed of it in two landfills that accept contaminated soil. The Tribe has been coordinating with the City of Plummer on this site for many years. The site is ready for redevelopment planning.

### **Future Brownfields Activities**

Next year, the Tribe is planning to conduct additional brownfield activities on selected sites that include:

- Additional sampling at the Old Tensed Town Landfill.
- Phase II ESA soil and groundwater sampling at the Worley Co-operative Supply.

The Tribe will also continue to work on building the components of a Brownfields Program that include development of Standard Operating Procedures, completion of the Community Outreach Plan, and the development of the Tribe's Environmental Regulatory Code.

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

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