

United States
Environmental
Protection Agency
Washington, D.C. 20460

Solid Waste
and Emergency
Response (5105)

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April 2001
www.epa.gov/brownfields/



EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot

Fort Belknap Indian Community, MT

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, and safely clean up brownfields to promote their sustainable reuse. Brownfields are abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial and commercial facilities where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by real or perceived environmental contamination. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years, with additional funding provided for greenspace) to test assessment models and facilitate coordinated assessment and cleanup efforts at the federal, state, tribal, and local levels; and job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years) to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund program (each funded up to \$1,000,000 over five years) to provide financial assistance for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

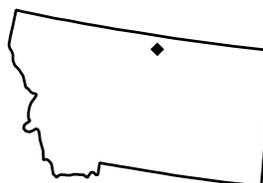
BACKGROUND

EPA has selected the Fort Belknap Indian Community for a Brownfields Assessment Pilot. The Fort Belknap Indian Community has 5,138 members, half of whom live on the 653,940-acre reservation. The reservation, whose residents suffer from a 70 percent unemployment rate and a 45 percent poverty rate, is located in north-central Montana, 30 miles south of the Canadian border. The community already has identified several landfills, illegal dump sites, abandoned buildings, and an abandoned rock quarry as potential brownfields. These sites threaten to contaminate groundwater and surface water, including wetlands areas and the Milk River, which serves as the community's drinking water supply.

OBJECTIVES

The Pilot's objective is to assess the environmental conditions of brownfield sites and prepare a comprehensive development plan that protects the health of residents and sustains the Fort Belknap Indian Community's landbase. The Pilot will identify, prioritize, and assess brownfield sites on the reservation, with close involvement of the tribal

PILOT SNAPSHOT



*Fort Belknap Indian Community,
Montana*

Date of Announcement:
April 2001

Amount: \$200,000

Profile: The Pilot targets several potential brownfields sites on the reservation, where the unemployment rate is 70 percent.

Contacts:

Fort Belknap Environmental
Program
(406) 353-8429

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 8
(406) 457-5018

Visit the EPA Region 8 Brownfields web site at:
[http://www.epa.gov/region08/land_waste/bfhome/
bfhome.html](http://www.epa.gov/region08/land_waste/bfhome/bfhome.html)

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

community and administration. Community members also will assist in developing an affordable, sustainable, long-term remedial design for reuse.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Activities planned as part of this Pilot include:

- Preparing an inventory of brownfields on the reservation and prioritizing them;
- Disseminating information to the public through newspaper articles, radio announcements, and newsletters;
- Seeking input from tribal members regarding the brownfields identification, inventory, and prioritization process; and
- Conducting Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments on high-priority sites.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.