



# Brownfields 2003 Grant Fact Sheet

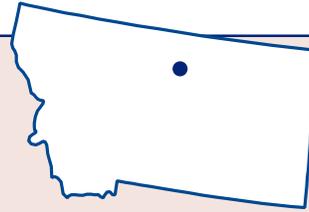
## *Fort Belknap Indian Community, MT*

### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic development to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is 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. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. The job training grants provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to prepare them for employment in the assessment and cleanup of brownfields sites. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### **Community Description**

The Fort Belknap Indian Community was selected to receive a job training grant. The Fort Belknap Indian Reservation has a tribal membership of 5,700 tribal members, of which 2,900 reside on the reservation. The remote location of the reservation contributes to an extremely high unemployment rate, which is at 71% compared to 4% in the surrounding counties. Being an agricultural economy, environmental training can help preserve natural and cultural tribal resources and provide jobs for residents. There are numerous potential brownfields on the reservation, including abandoned



### **Job Training Grant**

**New  
2003**

**\$200,000**

EPA has selected the Fort Belknap Indian Community for a brownfields job training grant. The Fort Belknap Indian Community and its partners plan to train 60 students, achieve a 70% placement rate, and track students for one year. The two-year, 370-hour training program consists of seven courses in a hazardous waste track offered during the first year of the program and eight courses in a remediation/ecosystem track offered during the second year. Students will include local residents of the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation and will be assisted in finding employment by the Tribal Employment Rights Opportunity (TERO) training program.

### **Contacts**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 8 Brownfields Team  
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[http://www.epa.gov/region08/land\\_waste/bfhome/bfhome.html](http://www.epa.gov/region08/land_waste/bfhome/bfhome.html)

Grant Recipient: Fort Belknap Indian Community  
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Prior to receipt of these funds in fiscal year 2003, the Fort Belknap Indian Community also received funding for assessment grants.

gold mining operations, abandoned buildings, abandoned railroad facilities, and many illegal dump sites. Because of the area's remote location and lack of trained local technicians, many other environmental problems remain uninvestigated. The grant will train local residents to address the community's many environmental concerns.