

## *DEC Reuse and Redevelopment Initiative*



*Former Universal Recycling Site - Fairbanks*

## *Coordinating with IGAP*



John B. Carnahan  
DEC Brownfield Coordinator  
Alaska Forum on the Environment  
Anchorage, February 14, 2007

# Why do I care about IGAP?

## *The Indian General Assistance Program*

- Nearly every community I talked to had an IGAP coordinator.
- The mission of IGAP is capacity building *wrt* environmental program management.
- The environmental concerns in rural communities are similar across the state.
- These same problems very often hinder a community's development plans (*sounds like brownfield problem!*).
- All environmental programs should be coordinated and aligned – especially in small, remote communities (so should *state agencies!*)

# Alaska is unique

- Large, extreme state – much of population off the road network
- Cost of doing work more expensive in rural Alaska
- Large number of tribes across the state
- Substantial IGAP budget in Alaska (roughly 10 times the EPA brownfield funding annually)
- IGAP is very strong program – brownfield programs still more difficult to employ...

# What is IGAP?

## *My basic understanding*

- Build capacity to manage environmental program requirements.
- Identify/track environmental issues in your community.
- Understand and document environmental concerns – mapping?
- Special focus on solid waste issues? - *An immediate issue that must be managed.*
- Coordinate with government agencies.
- Training of staff to provide various environmental and technical duties.

# What does a brownfield program possibly do?

## State & Tribal Response Program = STRP

- Focused on building internal capacity.
- Identify brownfield sites – create an *inventory* (mapping?).
- Develop a community *vision*.
- Create opportunities for public input – *you can't underestimate a good community supported plan!*
- Create the conditions to carry through with your project.
- Train and educate community and staff on keeping it all together.
- Make your information available to those that want to see it (public record).
- Coordinate with both DEC and EPA.

# What are we seeking?

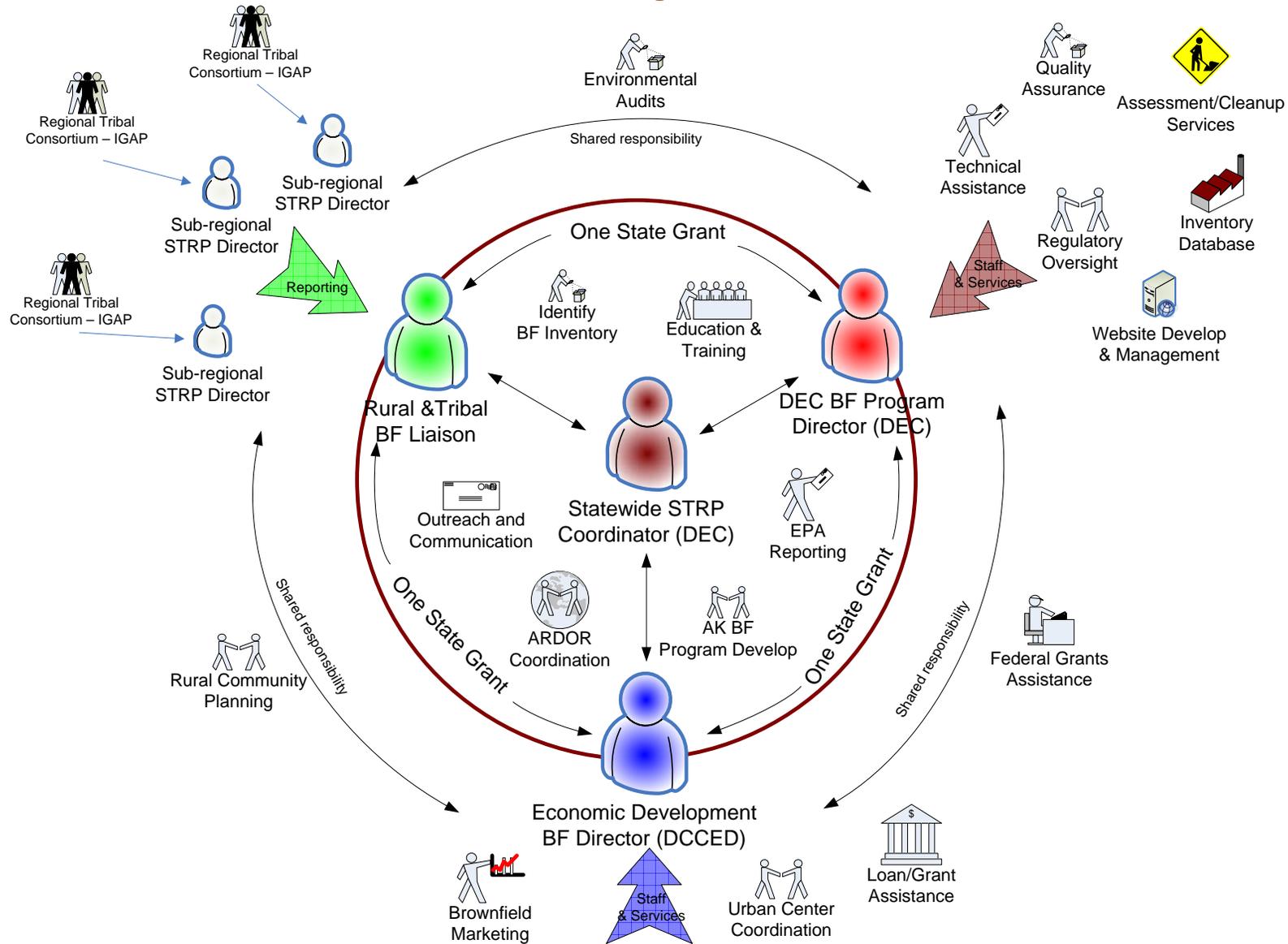
- A communication line between rural IGAP programs and DEC's R&R (brownfield) program.
- Include IGAP folks on our outreach list-serve.
- Better understanding in DEC as to how we can assist your IGAP initiatives.
- Better determine how the IGAP program can fulfill STRP grant objectives while staying on task.
- Education and training on issues of brownfield and IGAP importance.
- Community planning and development that incorporates contaminated site cleanups.
- Financial assistance to address brownfield cleanups (RLF may jump-start this!)

# What we hope to see in the end

- Increased awareness and understanding of brownfields
- Better defined urban and rural *brownfield* issues
- Coordinated inter/intra-governmental support
- State support and financial assistance
- Economic development resources – *make vision a reality*
- Revolving Loan Fund – *loans and grants*
- Alaska Brownfield legislation – *incentivize brownfield redevelopment across Alaska*
- Inter-agency brownfield task force – *identify what Alaska needs*

*Proposals to address non-brownfield issues*

# Proposed Alaska State Brownfield Program Coordination



John B. Carnahan  
Brownfield Coordinator  
and Sonja Benson  
Department of Environmental Conservation  
Contaminated Sites Program  
610 University Ave – Fairbanks – 99709  
451-2166 or 451-2156

[John\\_Carnahan@dec.state.ak.us](mailto:John_Carnahan@dec.state.ak.us)

[Sonja\\_Benson@dec.state.ak.us](mailto:Sonja_Benson@dec.state.ak.us)

<http://www.dec.state.ak.us/spar/csp/brownfields.htm>