



Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation

Reuse & Redevelopment Program Brownfield Bulletin

Revitalizing Communities through the Recycling of Contaminated Properties

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Hot Links

R&R - Brownfield
CSP Website
EPA Region 10
BF Presentations
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Welcome!

Welcome to the SPRING 2014 edition of the DEC Brownfield Bulletin!

Spring arrived quickly in the Interior, and our recent visit to Anchorage indicated that the warm weather is just waiting in the wings and ready to show up sooner than we think. Summer is a busy time for all of us, as it comprises much of our short field season. Alaskans are used to packing in much during the short summer months – including subsistence activities and harvesting, fieldwork, fishing, and construction. Somewhere many of us still find the time to enjoy Alaska for the various reasons we call it home. All work and no play makes for long winters.

Our program has quite a bit scheduled for this summer and we look forward to moving things along. Our Division of Spill Prevention and Response will see two of its more experienced staff retire: *Steve Bainbridge*, the Program Manager for Contaminated Sites, and *Bill Janes*, the State & Private Sites Manager for Contaminated Sites, together having nearly 50 years of DEC service under their belt. We hate to see them go, but wish them well on their journey to new and exciting things. At the same time, we welcome Jennifer Roberts as our new Contaminated Sites Program Manager. Jennifer has a long history working here at DEC and was most recently the Federal Facilities Manager for Contaminated Sites. Our program is fortunate to capitalize on her equally long history here with DEC.

We hope you enjoy this edition of our newsletter, and if you ever have any information that would fit in our newsletter, please send it our way.

Best regards,

John -- **John Carnahan**, Alaska Brownfield Coordinator

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New Brownfield Program in Chuathbaluk

The Chuathbaluk Traditional Council's Brownfield Program started up on October 1, 2013. The program is funded by a tribal response program (TRP) grant from EPA and covers an area of interest approximately 3.5 square miles in size. Chuathbaluk is located on the north bank of the Kuskokwim River, 11 miles upriver from Aniak in the Kilbuk-Kuskokwim Mountains. It is 87 air miles northeast of Bethel and 310 miles west of Anchorage. Chuathbaluk is home to approximately 120 people.

Robert Hairell, Chuathbaluk's Brownfield Coordinator, provided the following insight about the goals and mission of the program:

"This Tribal Response Program is our opportunity to inventory, assess, and clean up our environment. Existing toxic waste is known to be in and around our village and 14(c)3 re-conveyed lands. Chuathbaluk is potentially the repository of toxic material weathered and eroded from numerous mining sites along the Kuskokwim River Watershed, particularly from the poorly environmentally documented Mid-Kuskokwim River Basin, and George River Basin. The potential Brownfields sites within the Village of Chuathbaluk include: previous landfills, previous areas used for fuel storage, 'old school site', numerous vacant lots in which a structural fire occurred, old dilapidated houses, and at least one derelict generator site. There are many documented environmentally "critical" sites along the Kuskokwim River and many additionally being inventoried and assessed by others; this program will address those undocumented sites directly affecting Chuathbaluk and the Kuskokwim River. Additionally, particular investigation, documentation, inventorying, and assessments will occur over the entire Mid-Kuskokwim area (from Napaimute to Aniak). This program, and its associated Brownfields component, will allow us to immediately locate and catalog potentially hazardous sites that directly affect us and any communities downstream."

We, here at DEC, are excited to see another group working toward the identification and reuse of brownfields in Alaska. We wish the Chuathbaluk Traditional Council's Brownfield Program the best of luck as it moves forward.

More information about Chuathbaluk's brownfields program is available by contacting Robert Hairell at (907) 467-4313 or ctc.roberthairell@gmail.com.

Robert Hairell

Brownfields Coordinator,
Chuathbaluk Traditional Council

Melinda Brunner

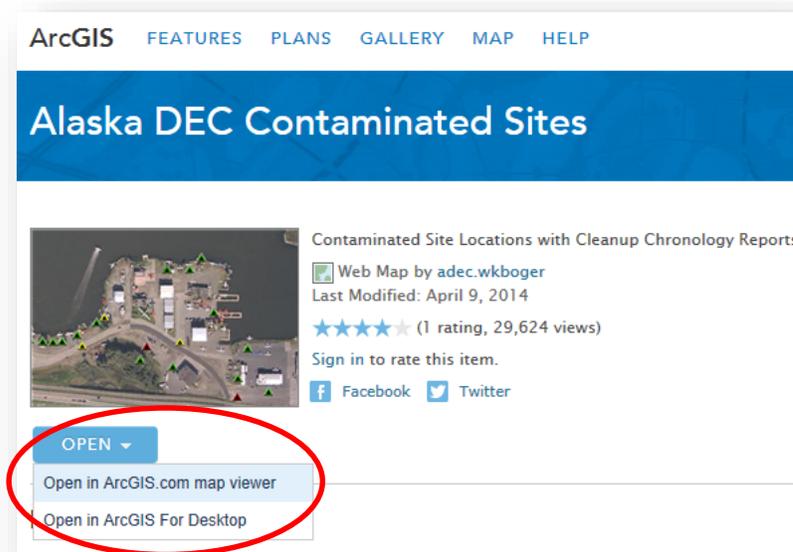
Environmental Program Specialist



Chuathbaluk as seen from the air. Photo provided by Robert Hairell.

Check it Out! Contaminated Sites Online Public Web Map

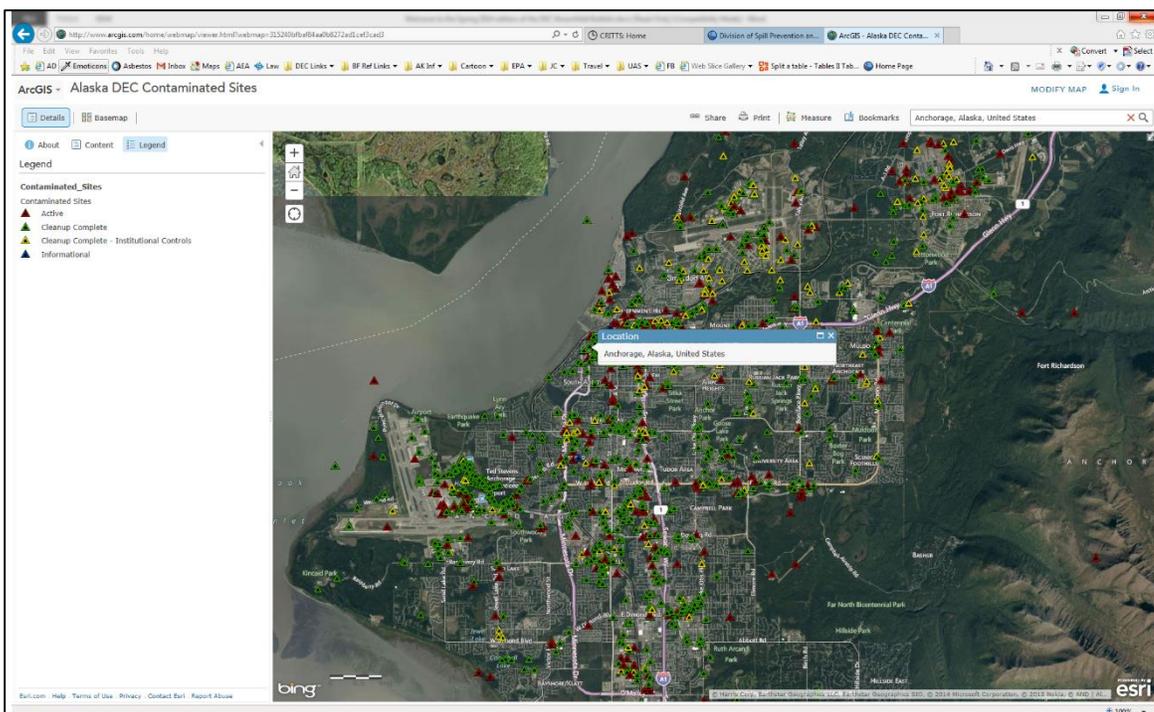
Whether you are seeking information about your development project or a better understanding of contaminated site issues in your neighborhood, the [DEC Contaminated Sites Program \(CSP\)](#) has a tool for you. The [web map link](#) was created by the CSP to assist the public in identifying known Contaminated Sites across the State of Alaska. This map displays contaminated sites based on latitude and longitude information specific to each individual site. It provides basic information and a link to the cleanup chronology report for each selected site.



Most users may choose to open the map up in the **ArcGIS.com map viewer**

that is easily accessed by clicking the first pull-down under the 'Open' tab at the home screen. You do not require any special software to make this work. You will then be directed to a map with all of the known populated places in Alaska depicted.

Select the basemap type to best represent your needs for navigation and zoom in to the map location of



interest. You can use the search box on the map viewer to enter complete addresses, place names, or a town and state. You can also search by location by entering Longitude and Latitude (X, Y) coordinates separated by a comma.

Contaminated sites will show up as you dial into the map if the

checkbox is marked under 'Content.' You will see triangles that represent each contaminated site: red means the site is 'Active' and open; green indicates the site has a 'Cleanup Complete' designation; yellow implies the site has a 'Cleanup Complete – Institutional Controls' assignment, and blue is an 'Informational' designation to track on information about a project that is not a confirmed contaminated site, but investigation has taken place.

If you click on one of the sites, an information window will open to the side. From here, you can scroll to the bottom of the window and click on a hotlink that takes you directly to the CSP database record.

Play around with it and it is easy to learn how this map can help you better understand contaminated sites in your area of interest. Questions regarding the [web map](#) can be directed to Will Boger at 451-2370 or willet.boger@alaska.gov. A more comprehensive web map tutorial is available at <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/web-map/mapTutorial.htm>.

John Carnahan

Brownfield Coordinator

Free Community Profile Maps Available for Download

The Alaska Department of Commerce, Community, and Economic Development has Community Profile Maps available online in Adobe pdf format. Most computers come equipped with Adobe Reader, the program needed to view the maps. The Community Profile Maps cover many of the rural communities across Alaska, from Barrow to Petersburg and Fort Yukon to Akutan. These are aerial maps with defining features such as schools, community centers, landfills, and rivers labelled. There are typically two or more maps available for each community, usually based on aerial photos taken about 20 years apart in time. The maps can be useful to

folks researching brownfields, since you can see how land use has changed over time. The maps are free to [download](#) and users can purchase hard copies of the maps by contacting George Plumley at george.plumley@alaska.gov.

The maps cost \$2.00 per sheet for city and tribal organizations, and \$4.00 per sheet for members of the public. The sheets are typically 24"x36" or 30"x42". Shipping and handling fees apply if the maps have to be mailed out.

Melinda Brunner

Environmental Program Specialist

PLANNING & LAND MANAGEMENT COMMUNITY PROFILE MAPS



NOTES: The following maps are stored in the "Adobe Acrobat" format. To view the maps you will need to have installed the **Adobe Reader** which you can [download](#) a free copy. For maps completed since 1999 you have the ability to turn on and off layers in the maps based on your browser configuration (this is by default in Internet Explorer).

The online versions of the community profiles maps presented below are 24" by 36" and 30" by 42" in size. These are large graphic files (.75 Mb's to 30.7 Mb's) and they may take some time to download to your computer depending on your connection speed.

6th Annual STRP Brownfields Workshop a Success

Representatives from DEC's Reuse & Redevelopment Program, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and 17 of Alaska's tribal response programs met in Fairbanks on March 18-19, 2014 to discuss brownfields and other relevant subjects. Each year all Tribal Response Program managers and staff are invited to attend a two-day workshop, share successes, discuss grant issues and concerns, and learn from each other. The Tribes also participate in a special breakout session where they collaborate on a multitude of issues and then report back to the EPA and state. The experience is positive and educational for all. Presentations for this workshop and our past workshops are posted at [this link](#). Thank you to all that participated in and contributed to this successful workshop. Our next workshop is likely to be held in Anchorage in spring of 2015. Planning will start soon!

Melinda Brunner

Environmental Program Specialist

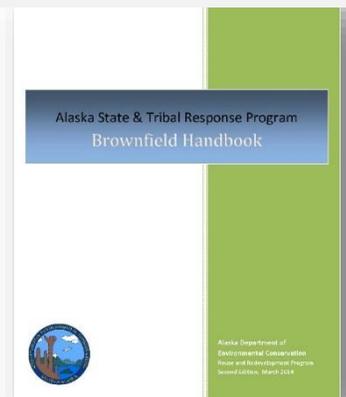


Participants of the 6th Annual Alaska State & Tribal Response Program Brownfields Workshop smiling for the camera.

2nd Edition Alaska STRP Brownfield Handbook Available

The second edition of the Alaska State & Tribal Response Program Brownfield Handbook is now available for download (click on the picture). The latest additions to the handbook include a listing of brownfield-related references, newsletters and newsgroups available, as well as a tutorial describing how to use DEC's Contaminated Sites Web Map. Supporting documents excerpted within the body of the handbook are now available in their entirety via hyperlink from the main table of contents in this on-line version.

Please let us know if you have other useful ideas or additions we should consider for future versions of the handbook. It is designed to be a dynamic



online tool to assist all environmental program staff in bettering their understanding of both brownfield and overall contaminated site and cleanup issues. We appreciate feedback of any type.

Melinda Brunner

Environmental Program Specialist

Join the Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network!

ALASKA NATIVE TRIBAL HEALTH CONSORTIUM
leaders in life care

Search:

About ANTHC | ANMC Hospital | Community Health | Environment/Engineering | Business/Support

You are here: ANTHC > Community Health Services > Community Environment and Safety > Climate and Health > LEO home

Local Environmental Observer (LEO) Network

Northern communities are changing due to environmental impacts, climate change and development. Monitoring the environment is important for understanding the risks and benefits and for adaptation. The LEOs are the eyes, ears and voice of environmental change in our communities.

[Click here to Post an Observation](#)

[Click here to Join LEO](#)

We are tribal professionals who apply traditional knowledge, western science and technology to document unusual plants and wildlife, extreme weather, erosion, flooding, droughts, wildfire and other events that can threaten food security, water security and community health. Check out our LEO monthly maps, and other links to learn more. To view the LEO Observations Dataset, [click here](#).

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Return to: [Global and Alaska](#)

5,354 Visits
2 Recent Hits Alaska

Do you like to keep track of your local environment? Would you like to have your input and observations documented and available for others to see? Then join the LEO Network!

We were fortunate to have Michael Brubaker, the program director, provide a well-received presentation on LEO participation at our STRP Brownfield workshop in March. The LEO Network is hosted by the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, Center for Climate and Health and supported by the Environmental Protection Agency, and Landscape Conservation Cooperatives. To become a LEO you must work in the environmental, health, natural resource or community services field under a tribal or first nation organization, or be representative of a partner LEO host organization. There is also a

LEO Youth Program that matches local youth with participating LEO organizations to help share and document observations from the youth perspective.

Check the list of LEO communities on the [home page for LEO](#) youth opportunities where you live. Click [here](#) to view a slideshow of some of the [Alaska](#) LEO Network Communities.

Keri DePalma

Environmental Program Specialist

Brownfield Calendar and News

EPA Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes - Due May 30, 2014

What: EPA is accepting applications for the FY 2014 Hazardous Waste Management Grant Program for Tribes until May 30, 2014. This grant can be used for many different activities, including (but not limited to) hazardous waste identification, hazardous waste minimization and recycling, and hazardous waste transportation. More information about the grant is available at <http://www.grants.gov/web/grants/search-grants.html> if you search funding opportunity "EPA-OSWER-ORCR-14-04." The maximum award amount is \$74,750. This could be a good way to fund hazardous waste management activities in Alaska.

ASTM Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessment (ESA) Training - July 22-24, 2014

What: ASTM International will host a three-day training July 22 - 24 in Anchorage that will cover ASTM Standards for Phase I and II ESAs (E1527-13 and E1903-11). This course is similar to the one the R&R Program sponsored last December in Anchorage. The participants will gain an understanding of how to use the standards and how the standards affect the way you do business. Contact Marianne Erwin at merwin@astm.org or (610) 832-9668 for more information.

Applying for EPA Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup Funding - November 2014

When? EPA receives numerous inquiries regarding preparation of proposals for the Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) grant competitions every year. Some applicants find it quite difficult to prepare proposals in only 60 days, the typical amount of time the Request for Proposals (RFP) allows from publication until the proposals are due. However, there are still many activities that applicants can perform in advance of the RFP (commonly referred to as the ARC Guidelines) being made publically available. EPA has outlined many of these activities in the [linked document](#). EPA hopes that using this list to get started preparing your ARC proposal early will facilitate your efforts in the preparation of a thorough, thoughtful, timely, and most importantly, successful proposal. More information can be obtained at the EPA Proposals and Funding Information [website](#).

EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments

When: There is no application deadline to request an assessment from EPA's Targeted Brownfield Assessment Program! TBA requests may be submitted to the EPA Region 10 office at any time. Requests are subject to eligibility requirements and available funding. DEC's R&R staff will work with Alaska applicants seeking a TBA, so please contact any of our staff if you have questions or would like us to help you obtain the necessary request forms and set up a project. Information can be obtained from EPA can be obtained at [website](#).

New Partners for Smart Growth Conference Presentations

What: The New Partners conference was held in February this year, and all presentations are available for free download at [this link](#). Presentations covered many pertinent brownfield topics, from including rural development interests to urban planning, from transportation to 'Zombie Subdivisions.' It is always interesting and educational to see what else is being discussed and how each of us can incorporate new lessons into our programs.

Not on DEC's R&R Brownfield Mailing List?

Please go to <http://list.state.ak.us/soalists/DEC-Brownfields-announcements/jl.htm> to sign up for our e-mailing list and ensure you get the latest information on DEC's Reuse and Redevelopment Initiative! Once you sign up, an email will be sent to your email address and you simply need to hit reply and send—that's it! Please forward any information you receive from our list-serve to anyone you think would be interested, and please send us any announcements that may be pertinent, and we will forward them to the brownfield community that has developed across Alaska. Thanks!

LINKS IN THIS NEWSLETTER – In the event that you are viewing this in hard copy and unable to click on the links provided throughout the newsletter, below are several of the websites for your reference.

- **DEC R&R (Brownfield) Program:** <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields.htm>
- **Contaminated Sites Program:** <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/index.htm>
- **Chuathbaluk Traditional Council:** <http://chuathbaluktc.wix.com/chuathbaluk>
- **Web Map:** <http://www.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=315240bfbaf84aa0b8272ad1cef3cad3>
- **Web Map Tutorial:** <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/web-map/mapTutorial.htm>
- **DCRA Maps:**
<http://commerce.alaska.gov/dnn/dcra/PlanningLandManagement/CommunityProfileMaps.aspx>
- **Alaska STRP Handbook:** <http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields.htm#handbook>
- **Local Environmental Observer:** <http://www.anthc.org/chs/ces/climate/leo/>
- **EPA Proposal and Funding Information:** <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>
- **EPA Targeted Brownfield Assessments:**
<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/brownfields/targeted+brownfields+assessments>
- **ASTM International:** <http://www.astm.org/>
- **New Partners for Smart Growth Presentations:** <http://newpartners.org/program/presentations>