



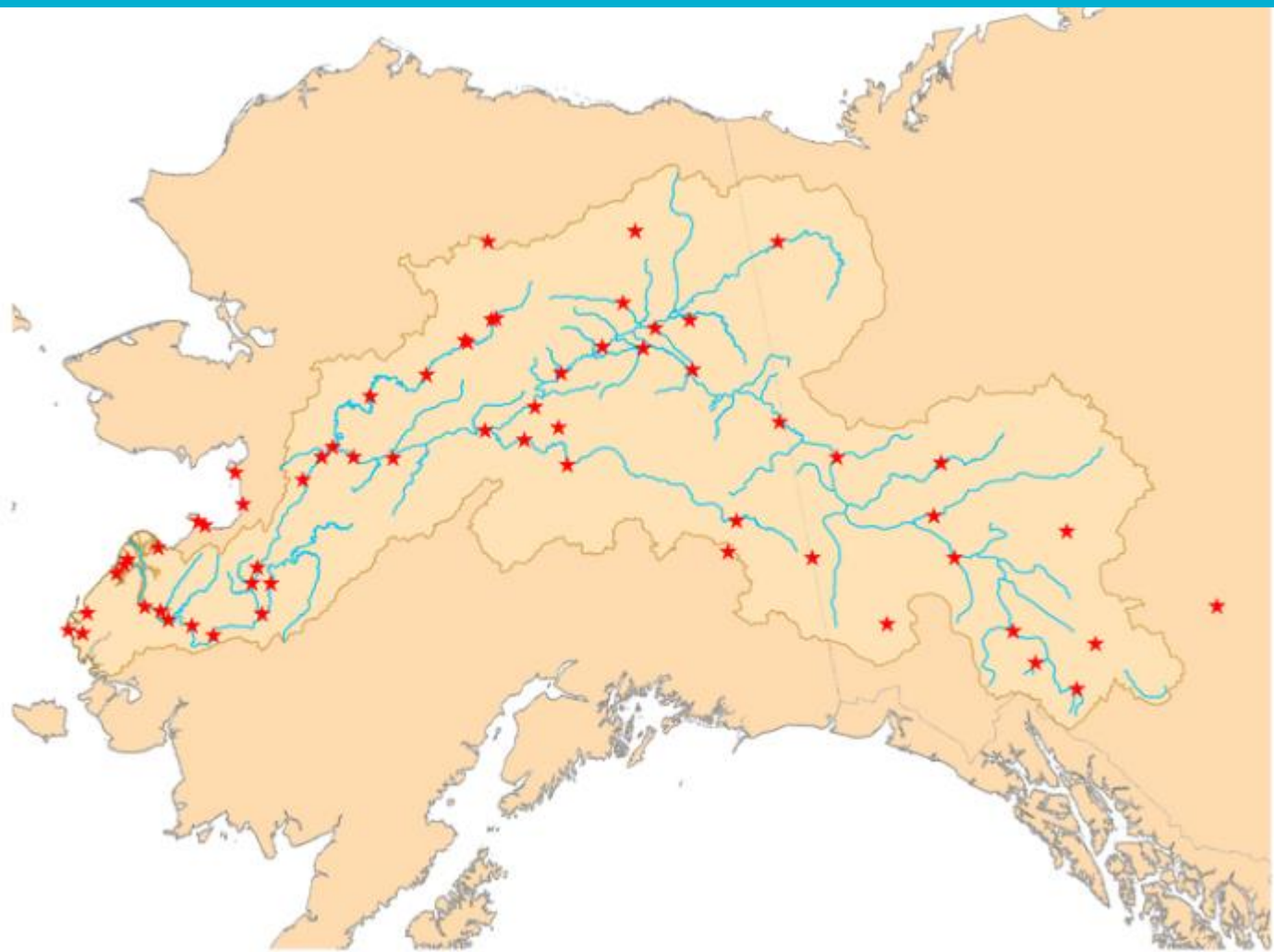
Brownfields Tribal Response Program

Jordan Finney

Brownfield and Outreach Coordinator

Background

- YRITWC was established in 1997 – serving 73 signatory Alaskan Tribes (56) and First Nations (17)
- YRITWC Brownfield Department established in 2005 – TRP
- Community-Wide Assessment Grant (2021-2023)



Provide

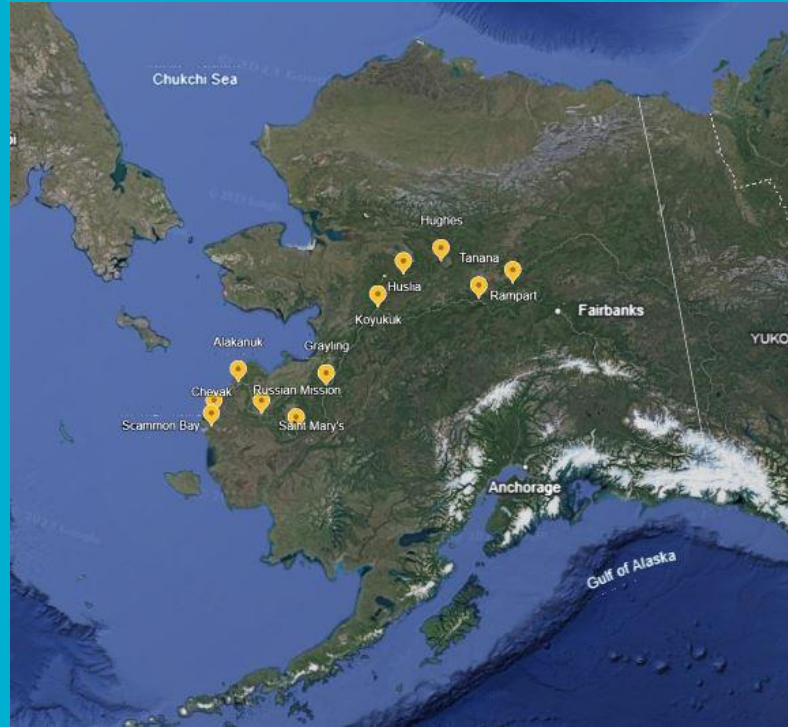
- Phase I/II
- ABCA
- Action Plans
- Trainings
- Technical Assistance
 - Community Outreach / Visits
 - Informational Flyers for Public Spaces
 - Training
 - Assistance with Grant Writing
 - Assistance with Cleanup Plan



Projects

- Hughes - TBA
- Chevak - TBA
- St. Mary's - TRP funding
- Beaver - HBMI and deferred to Fish and Wildlife





Hughes

- 2008 - Phase I & Limited Phase II
- 2009 - ADEC Environmental Management Plan
- 2012- Generator Building Cleanup
- 2014 - Capital Investment Grant, but was returned
- 2023 - Applied for TBA for an updated Phase II
- 2024 Phase II completed



Hughes School Tank Farm Targeted Brownfields Assessment

WHAT IS A BROWNFIELD?

A **brownfield** is a property whose redevelopment or reuse may be complicated by the presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant.

WHAT ARE PHASE I AND PHASE II ENVIRONMENTAL SITE ASSESSMENTS?

In **Phase I**, people check how a property is used now, and has been used in the past, to determine if there may be hazards there. They do not usually take and test samples.

In **Phase II**, people take and test samples (for example, of soil and groundwater) to look for petroleum products or hazardous substances below the ground surface.

WHAT IS THE TARGETED BROWNFIELDS ASSESSMENT PROGRAM?

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA's) **Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA)** program helps states, tribes, and municipalities be more certain about what contamination exists at brownfield sites. The program can help determine how contaminated a site is (through Phase I and/or Phase II site assessment) and make a list of cleanup options and estimates of their costs. It does not include help with the site cleanup. The Hughes School Tank Farm was approved to receive TBA Services from EPA Region 10 in March 2023.

SITE HISTORY AND PREVIOUS INVESTIGATIONS

The TBA site consists of two lots owned by the State of Alaska and the City of Hughes: the former school tank farm area, and the area of the former generator buildings. In 1994, a flood damaged aboveground bulk fuel storage tanks at the school and the plant, causing a spill. There was another spill in May 2006, when two "empty" tanks tipped over and piping was disrupted. Some environmental assessment and cleanup work has already been done at the site.

The **2008 Phase I and Limited Phase II assessments**, which found soil contamination at the former tank



farm, at the prefab building drain spot, and in the footprint of the former power plant.

A **2012 cleanup** near former generator buildings, which removed about 340 cubic yards of petroleum-affected soil and took it to a landfill cell next to the Hughes landfill for storage and treatment. Because of budget limits and the size of the landfill cell, this cleanup did not remove all soil contaminated above state cleanup levels.

A **2014 attempted cleanup**, cancelled because heavy equipment was not available.

TBA SCOPE OF WORK

EPA contractors ERG and Alta Science and Engineering, Inc. will conduct the TBA for the Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council. They will study how site conditions have changed since the assessments in 2008 and take further environmental samples. The information gained will be used to analyze cleanup options and costs, based on future uses and redevelopment plans. Site assessment work has been done in the past, but it has been more than a decade since the 2008 environmental sampling and some areas were not sampled in the past due to lack of access to equipment.)

A Phase I site visit is being conducted in July 2023. Phase II sampling should be done during summer/fall 2023, depending on weather. The analysis of cleanup options and cost estimates will be completed in winter 2023.

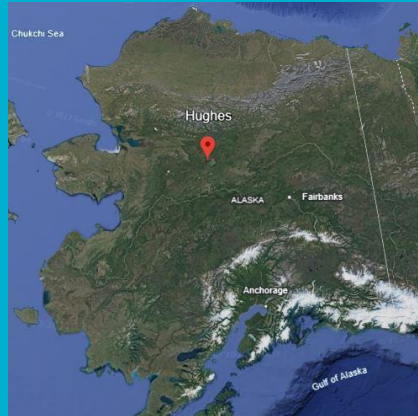
QUESTIONS?

You can direct questions to:

Cynthia Beatus, Environmental Coordinator for the Hughes Village Council
(907) 889-2239, cba.hughes.igap@gmail.com

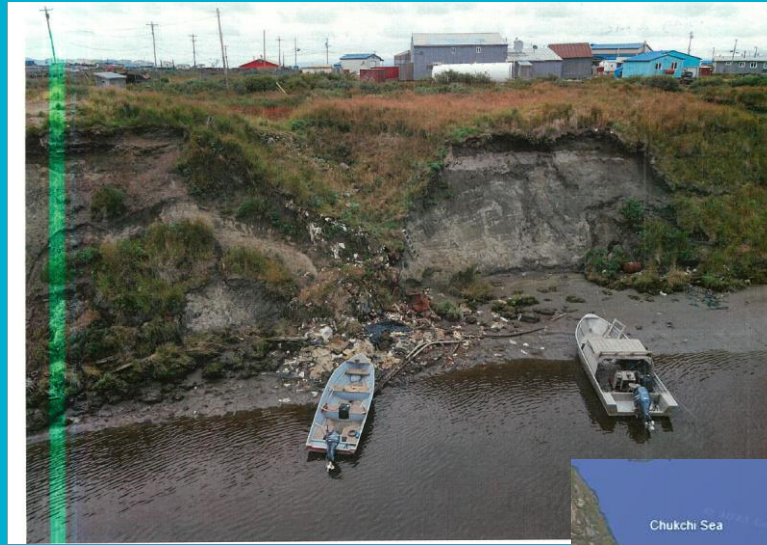
Benjamin Brandeberry, Brownfields Technician-
Yukon River Inter-Tribal Watershed Council
(907) 258-3337, bbrandeberry@yritwc.org

Additional information is available at:
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/targeted-brownfields-assessment-requests-region-10>



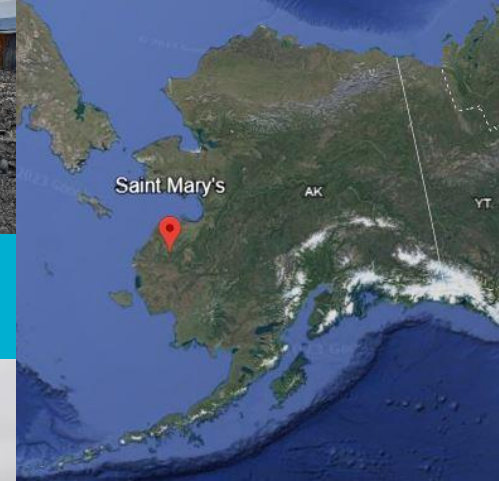
Chevak

- 2014 - Waste Erosion Assessment & Review (WEAR)
- 2015 - DEC Action Plan
- 2023 - TBA Application



St. Mary's

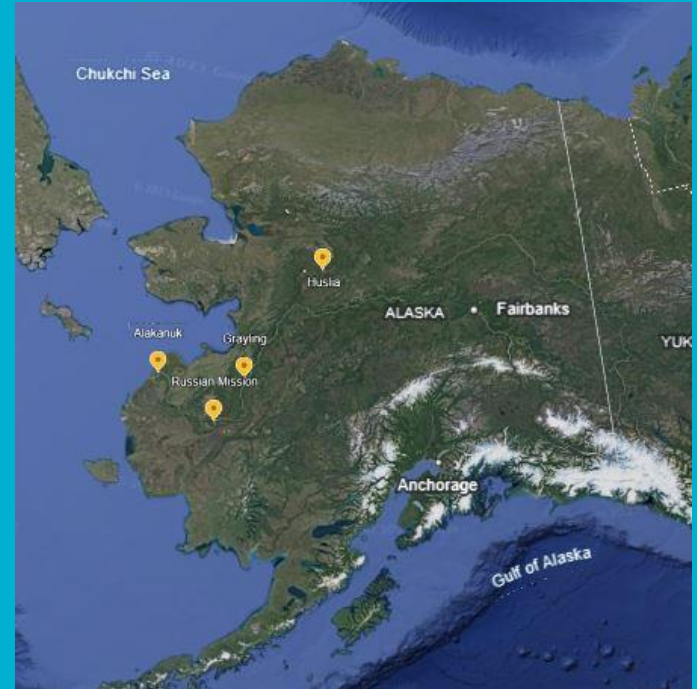
- 2022 - Reached Out
- 2023 - TRP funding for Phase I
- 2024 - Attempting DBAC for Phase II, or write a Phase II into our FY 24 funding



Community Wide Grant

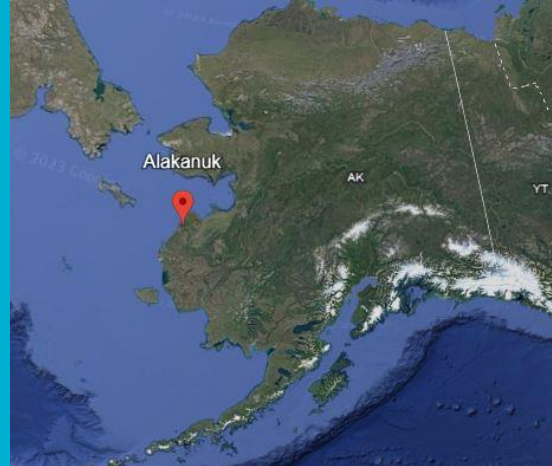
Current Projects:

- Alakanuk– Boneyard – Phase I
- Huslia – Boat Landing – Phase I
- Russian Mission – 2 Buildings - HBMI
- Grayling – Native Store UST – Phase II



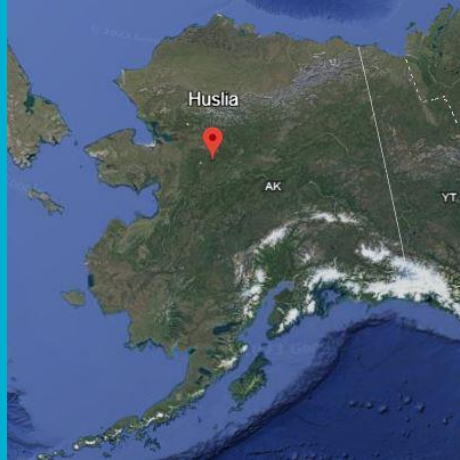
Alakanuk

- Old Boneyard
- Site from 1980's
- 2023 - Phase I
- 2024 - Community Meeting for next steps



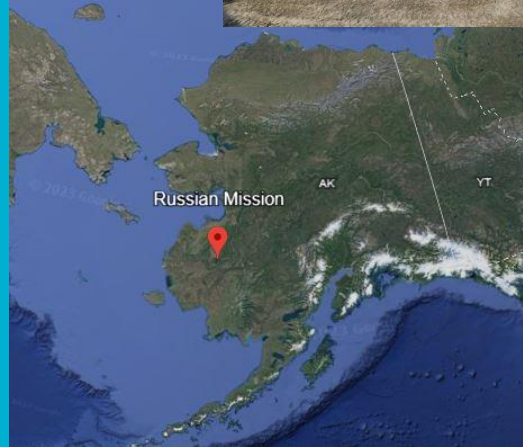
Huslia

- Old Barge Landing
- Drums & Old Cars
- High Priority - Erosion
- 2023 - Phase I Complete



Russian Mission

- City Office & Community Hall
- 2019 - Phase I Conducted by TRP
- August 2023 - HBMI completed & Received Final Reports
- City Office is Hazardous Free!
- Working on Actions plan for funding



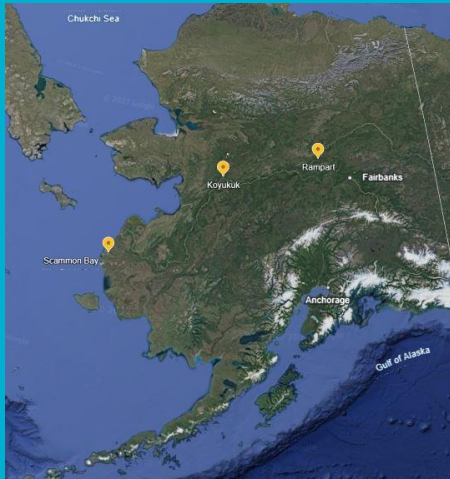
Grayling

- Underground Storage Tank
- 2012 - Phase I
- October 2023 - Phase 2
- Waiting for Final Report
- Working on an Action Plan for funding and next steps



Next Two Year Projects

- Koyukuk - Generator Building Phase I
- Scammon Bay - Tank Farm Phase I
- Rampart - BIA School ABCA



ANCSA Grant

- We were One of Seven Application for the ANCSA Grant
- Tanana Community Hall Cleanup
- Buried Railroad Logs Covered in Tar & Other Hazardous Waste
- High Priority
- Waiting for feedback from EPA



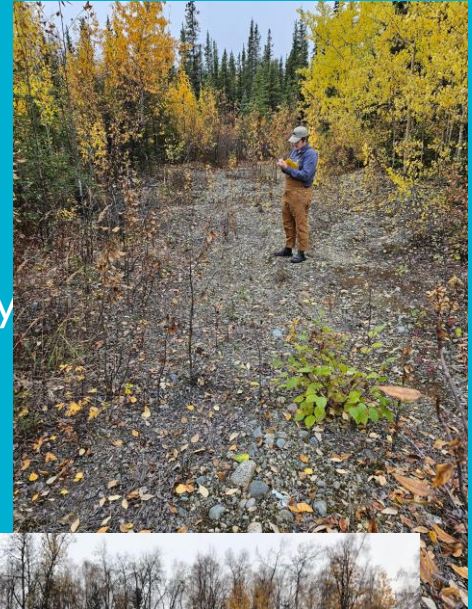
3-5 Years

- Rampart - Clean Up
- Grayling - UST Finding Funding for Grayling
- Huslia - Staging
- Alakanuk - Phase II



Next MARC Grant

We plan to apply for another MARC grant using TRP inventory



How Do We Do It?

- Write Assessments into TRP Grant
- Write Clean up into Grant
- Apply for Additional Services - TBA & DBAC
- Planning on Applying for Another MARC Grant
- Travel to Villages for Outreach = Best Way to Connect



Questions



Contact Information

Jordan Finney

Brownfields Program Coordinator

 jfinney@yritwc.org

Benjamin Brandeberry

Brownfields Technician

 bbrandeberry@yritwc.org
