



## **Brownfields 2011 Cleanup Grant Fact Sheet** ***Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, MT***

### **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders 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. In 2002, the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfields sites. Under this 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. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

### **Community Description**

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation were selected to receive a brownfields cleanup grant. The Flathead Indian Reservation (population 26,172) encompasses 1.3 million acres in northwestern Montana and was established exclusively for tribal members (population 7,469). The Tribes have identified 122 potential brownfields on the reservation, including abandoned mine sites, former mill sites, and leaking underground storage tanks. In addition, many buildings, including tribal housing, have actual or perceived contamination. The reservation's median household income is \$27,424, which is well below the state median income. In addition, 20 percent of the reservation's residents live below the poverty level. The target cleanup site is located on the main thoroughfare and is highly visible in the community. Cleanup of the target site will reduce threats of exposure to petroleum contamination and is expected to allow the Tribes to move forward with plans to construct tribal housing.

### **Cleanup Grant**

*\$200,000 for petroleum*

EPA has selected the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation for a brownfields cleanup grant. Petroleum grant funds will be used to clean up the Joseph Allotment site at Tract Number T2056-B on U.S Highway 93 in Elmo. The nine-acre site has been vacant since the creation of the reservation in 1855, and the site's subsurface is contaminated with petroleum from a large release of gasoline from an adjacent property. Grant funds also will be used to conduct community outreach activities.

### **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 (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 8 Brownfields Team  
(303) 312-7074

EPA Region 8 Brownfields Web site  
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-region-8>)

Grant Recipient: Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, MT  
(406) 883-2888

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.