

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & RECOMMENDATIONS

Timeline

This guide is an overview of the process. Assessment and cleanup of a contaminated site takes time, persistence, and patience. The length of the process is dependent on extent of contamination, size of the cleanup, remediation options, and resources available. Securing funding for one portion of the project (i.e., assessment work) does not mean that funding for cleanup is available, you may have to seek multiple funding sources, and apply more than once.

Inventory

Complete a systemized list of lands in your communities that are suspected or known to be contaminated. An inventory of known contaminated, or suspected contaminated lands is a pre-requisite to prioritize which sites pose the greatest threat to human health, or those that are slated for reuse or redevelopment. Recommended step.

Prioritize

After you have completed the inventory, determine which sites or (suspected sites) pose the greatest threat to human health or the environment. Site(s) would take precedence or would proceed before others.

Brownfield

Brownfield is a term used to describe land previously used for industrial purposes or some commercial uses, which may have contaminated the site with hazardous waste or pollution. Brownfields is also the commonly used name of programs which may be a source of funding for assessment and cleanup, one of the eligibility criteria for funding is to have a re-use or redevelopment plan. Contact your local Brownfield office for further information. (This could be Tribal, State or Federal).

RESOURCES

ADEC - The Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has different programs and personnel who specialize in contaminated lands. ADEC can assist you in identifying what resources and funding you may be eligible to apply for.

ADEC is the recommended place to start the process and identify resources that may be available. 907-465-5206
<http://dec.alaska.gov/spar/csp/brownfields.htm>

U.S. Army Corp of Engineers - The Army Corp of Engineers offers a wide range of services related to contaminated lands including engineering, construction and technical services. Many funding sources require the ANCSA Corporations to work with the Army Corp of Engineers on projects. <http://www.poa.usace.army.mil/>

NALEMP - Native American Lands Environmental Mitigation Program (NALEMP) is a Department of Defense (DoD) program that mitigates environmental impacts to Indian lands and ANCSA-conveyed properties that are attributable to past DoD activities.

FUDS - The Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program cleans up environmental contamination at properties formerly owned, leased, possessed, or used by the military services (Army, Navy, Air Force, or other Defense agencies). The Army is the Department of Defense executive agent for FUDS, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is responsible for carrying out the program.

IGAP - Indian General Assistance Program (IGAP) is an EPA grant to help tribes develop capacity to administer environmental programs. These are not EPA employees. The grant program is available to tribes across Alaska. Contact an IGAP Coordinator for additional information.

ALASKA TRP - The Alaska Tribal Response Program (TRP) grantees are Alaskan, funded by EPA brownfield dollars, but not EPA employees. TRP is a noncompetitive grant program administered by the EPA for tribes or consortiums to establish and enhance environmental programs which address Brownfield sites.

U.S. EPA - The Environmental Protection Agency - Brownfield and Land Revitalization Program is a resource for technical assistance as well as some funding opportunities. <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-washington-idaho-oregon-and-alaska>

BLM Alaska The Bureau of Land Management Alaska completed an updated report to Congress on contaminated sites conveyed to ANCSA corporations. BLM continues to host the Contaminated Lands Database. Both the report and database can be accessed here: <http://www.blm.gov/ak/st/en.html>

ATSDR The Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry is a federal public health agency within the United States Department of Health and Human Services. The agency focuses on minimizing human health risks associated with exposure to hazardous substances. It works closely with other federal, state, and local agencies; tribal governments; local communities; and healthcare providers.

Tribal Consortia - Throughout Alaska Native nonprofits there are individual programs, grants and services committed to assisting ANCSA Contaminated Land projects, check with your local nonprofit to help identify resources (ANTHC, TCC, BBNA, etc.).

RESOURCE GUIDE FOR ALASKA NATIVE CORPORATIONS: Cleaning up Contaminated Land Conveyed under ANCSA

With the conveyance of 44 million acres from the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, over 600 contaminated sites were conveyed to Alaska Native Corporations.

This is an overview of process, definitions and resources that may be available for Village Corporations who have been conveyed contaminated sites.



ALASKA NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION ASSOCIATION

ANVCA promotes the success of our Village Corporations and protection of our Native lands.

THE PROCESS:

From site identification to final site restoration

Contaminated Site

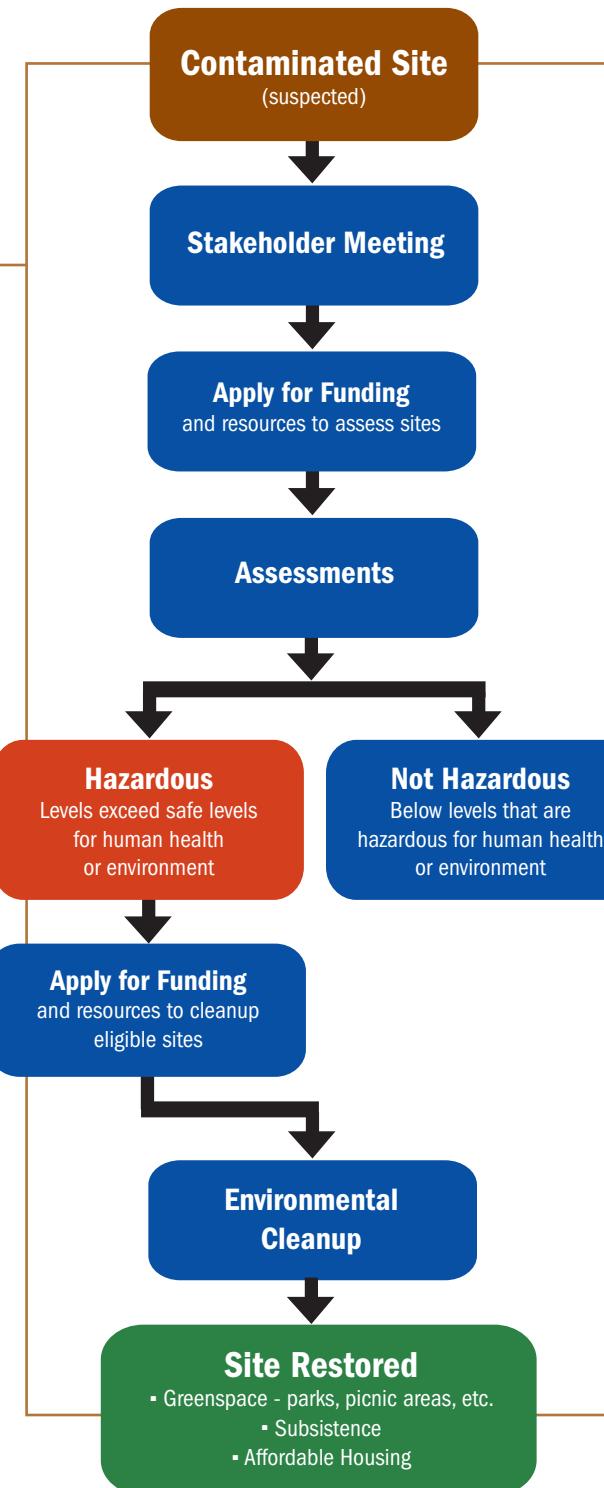
When there is a suspected contaminated site on ANCSA conveyed land, this is an overview of the typical process to clean up or remediate contamination. Contaminants are any physical, chemical, biological or radiological substances or matter present in soil, water or air that may pose a threat to human health or the environment. Environmental contaminants can impact human health and the environment when a hazardous substance or waste is improperly managed at a site.

Stakeholder Meeting

Stakeholders can include community members, groups, or organizations that have interest or concerns about a property's future. This can include state or federal agencies, tribal organizations, non-profits, and individuals. You can also think of a stakeholders in terms of actions taken by an individual or group to either assist or block a project in moving forward. While not required, engaging stakeholders is strongly recommended to gather and share information. Stakeholders often become invested when they are a part of crafting a re-use or re-development plan, which is a necessary component for some funding sources.

Apply for Funding - Assessment

In many circumstances there are funds available to contract for assessment. These are funds you must apply for. If the ANCSA Corporation has funds available they can proceed using their financial resources for assessment costs.



Assessment

Assessment is the process that verifies contamination exists through sampling and laboratory analysis.

Not Hazardous

Contamination may exist in this site but does not escalate to the level posing a human health or environmental risk.

Hazardous

The contamination has been determined to exceed levels safe for human health and the environment.

Apply for Funding- Cleanup

Different funding sources are available depending on individual criteria regarding the contaminated site, working with the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation is recommended to assist you in determining eligibility.

Environmental Cleanup

Projects vary in scale depending on size and scope. In most instances contaminated sites can be remediated and reused, although some sites have been determined to have permanent contamination.

Site Restored

Once the hazardous substances have been removed the site can be re-developed. Re-development and re-use can include greenspace, subsistence, affordable housing, community or economic development.