



Region 9
The Pacific Southwest

Environmental Results Through Tribal/EPA Partnerships



Fiscal Year 2006 Accomplishments





Dear Readers,

I am pleased to share with you our *Environmental Results Through Tribal/EPA Partnerships*. This is our fifth report and it provides a valuable overview of accomplishments in collaboration with tribes in the Pacific Southwest/Region 9.

An important part of EPA's mission is working in partnership with federally recognized tribes to protect tribal environmental health and resources. To this end, we are honored to work collaboratively with tribes in one of the most diverse areas of the country, from Picayune Rancheria in the shadow of Yosemite National Park to Gila River Reservation near the Casa Grande National Monument, to the Washoe traditional areas of Lake Tahoe. In undertaking this responsibility, EPA works on a government-to-government basis with the federally recognized tribes of the Pacific Southwest to protect more than 27 million acres, approximately 10% of the region's land base.

Tribes working in collaboration with EPA are able to accomplish the shared goals of clean air, water, land, and healthy communities. In 2006, EPA and tribes of the Pacific Southwest achieved many environmental successes, including providing safe drinking water, closing open dumps, cleaning up leaking underground storage tanks, inspecting pesticide application operations, and restoring watersheds.

This report not only shares the accomplishments of tribes and the EPA for 2006, it also inspires us to continue working collaboratively with tribal governments to protect the future of tribal lands and generations yet to come.

For more information on these and other tribal environmental accomplishments, please visit our website at: www.epa.gov/region09/indian/success/.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Wayne Natri". The signature is fluid and cursive, extending across the width of the text area.

Wayne Natri
Regional Administrator

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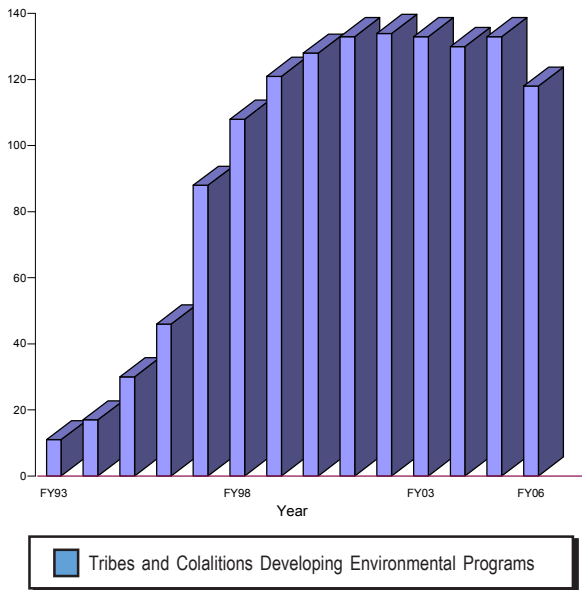
Cover Photos: Grand Canyon Floor, Arizona by Larry Woods
Trinidad Bay, California by Greg Nesty
I-80 Corridor, Nevada by Amanda Flick

Basket designs courtesy of the Phoebe Hearst Museum, Berkeley, California

Tribal Results

EPA's Pacific Southwest Region includes 146 Indian tribes and nearly 40% of the tribal land in the United States. Tribal lands are subject to federal and tribal environmental laws, but many tribes have lacked the capacity or funding to carry out environmental programs. In recent years, a change has been occurring. Tribes have forged productive partnerships with other agencies and neighboring communities. In 2006, 118 tribes and four coalitions developed environmental programs and 74 tribes (over half) are monitoring the environment.

Number of Tribes Developing Environmental Programs



Environmental conditions on many reservations in the Pacific Southwest Region are challenging. More than one third of reservation households are at or below the poverty level. Nineteen percent of homes lack complete plumbing. More than 1,000 open dumps

are found on tribal lands. Over a third of the region's tribes are located in areas that do not meet air quality standards.

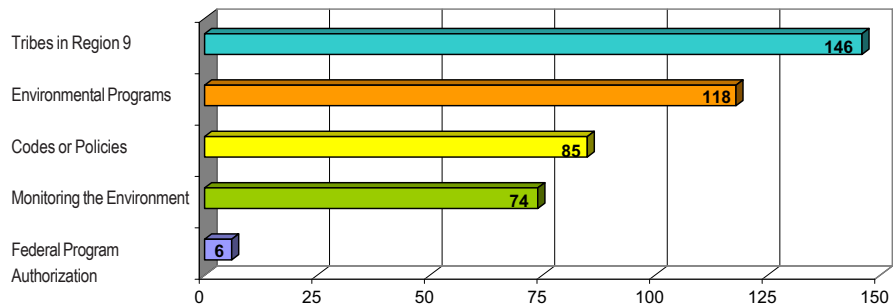
EPA is working in partnership with tribes to face these challenges head-on. Together, we are achieving positive results! Working as partners, the tribes and EPA have made significant progress in protecting tribal lands, waters, air and other resources.



Ak-Chin Indian Community - Presentation of the Regional Administrator's Environmental Achievement Award; pictured are Ak-Chin Tribal Youth (from left to right) Jane Lopez, Aylissa Garcia, Doria Garcia, Bradley Miguel, and Kariann Justin; Regional Administrator Wayne Nastri and Arizona Governor Janet Napolitano.

In the Pacific Southwest, many tribes have strong partnerships with state governments. EPA Regional Administrator Wayne Nastri presented the Ak-Chin Indian Community an Environmental Achievement Award for their many accomplishments, including solid waste clean ups and protection of water resources.

Environmental Capacity Building



Clean Air

Twenty-three tribes received EPA grant support for air quality activities and 27 tribes are operating a total of 54 air monitors.

Overall Tribal Air Accomplishments

EPA awarded 23 tribal air grants, for a total of just over \$3 million. Five tribes also conducted air assessments with additional funding in their General Assistance Program (GAP) grants and four tribes received radon grants. Twenty-seven tribes are currently monitoring for either particulate matter or ozone, three more tribes than last year. In Region 9, 66 tribes had air quality that did not meet national health standards, while 80 tribes had air quality that did attain federal health standards.



Navajo Nation - Power Generating Plant.

Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS)

After much comment, especially from tribes, EPA decided to retain the 24-hour PM-10 standard and continue to enforce it in rural areas. The exemptions for agricultural and mining sources have been removed from the rule. In addition, EPA strengthened the 24-hour standard for fine particles.

Tribal Minor New Source Review (NSR) Rules Proposed

EPA proposed requirements for permitting new and modified sources of air pollution. These requirements are important because they close the “regulatory gap” that has existed for many years for tribes. They would require air emission permits for new or modified small industrial facilities, and large industrial facilities on tribal lands not meeting national clean air standards.

Navajo Nation

EPA delegated the major source permit program to the Navajo EPA for the two major power plants on the reservation. The permit fees for these power plants will now go to the Navajo EPA and will be used to support their permit program.



Navajo Nation - Four Corners Power Plant.

EPA proposed two Federal Implementation Plans (FIPs), for the Four Corners Power Plant and the Navajo Generating Station. These would establish federally enforceable emission limits for several pollutants. Many regional stakeholders participated in the proposal. If the FIPs are finalized, a significant amount of sulfur dioxide emissions will be reduced.

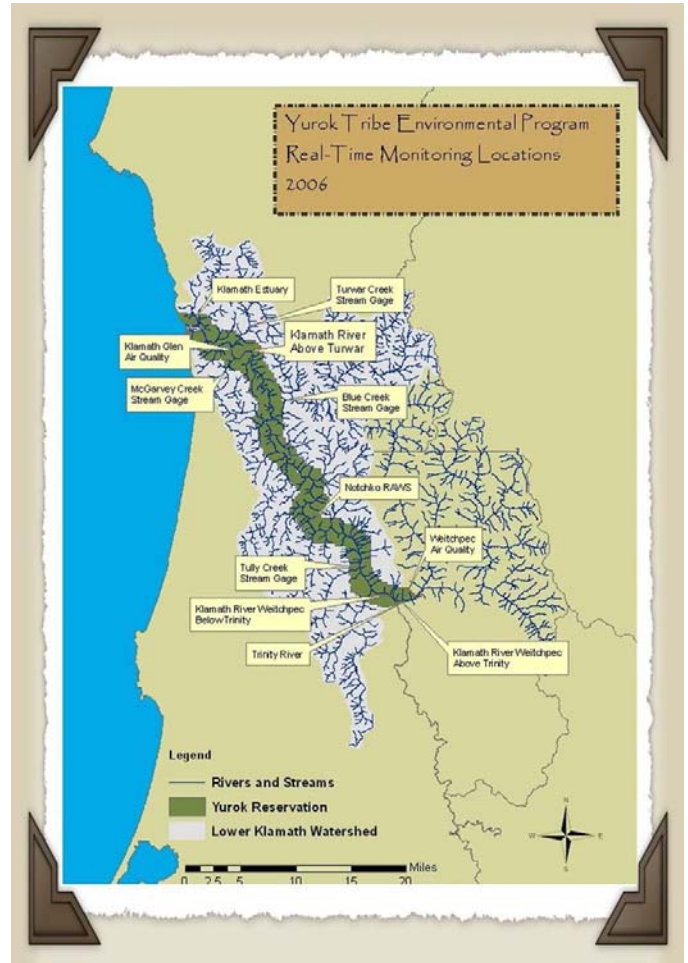
EPA proposed a Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) permit for the Desert Rock-power plant on the **Navajo Nation**. EPA and Navajo EPA conducted substantial outreach to tribal members and the general public on this controversial project.



Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Bishop Community of the Bishop Colony - A future tribal air quality specialist measuring wind speed on the Owens Dry Lake, at a field trip sponsored by the Bishop Tribe's Air Quality Program, Bishop Indian Education Center and Great Basin United Air Pollution Control District.

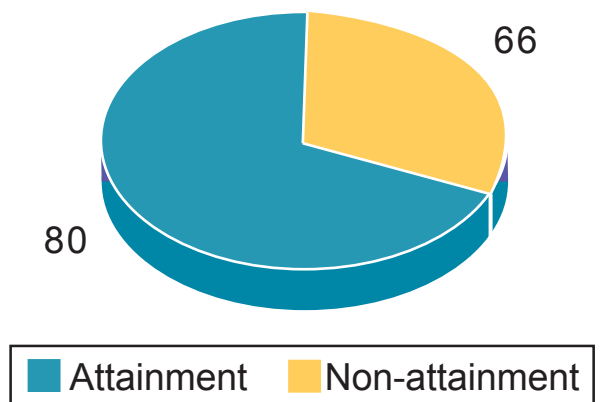
Tribal Accomplishments and Collaboration

Many tribes work closely together, and share information. The **Yurok Tribe** Environmental program developed a Real-Time Environmental Monitoring Station, which is now available on the web at <http://exchange.yuroktribe.nsn.us>. The **Bishop Tribe** continued to work with other nearby tribes and the local air district to assess the impacts of the Owens Dry Lake, the largest source of particulate pollution (PM-10) in the nation. The Tribe also participated with several others in the Tribal Environmental Exchange Network, a system that makes air quality and meteorological data available in real time on the web, facilitating region-wide data analysis.



Yurok Tribe of the Yurok Reservation - Real Time Air Monitoring Station Web Page <http://exchange.yuroktribe.nsn.us>.

Pacific Southwest Tribes Located in Air Quality Non-Attainment Areas:



Clean & Safe Water

Clean and safe water remains a critical, integral aspect of EPA's partnership with tribes. In the Pacific Southwest, tribes face diverse challenges in producing safe drinking water, sanitation, and protecting watersheds and fisheries. Many tribes in the region intertwine water with cultural activities.

Over 25,836 tribal homes have received safer drinking water since 1996.

Over 4,126 homes have better wastewater disposal facilities.

8,114 tribal homes along the US/Mexico border have upgraded water infrastructure since 1999.

64 Tribes are eligible to receive funding to restore watersheds.



Fort Independence Indian Community of Paiute Indians Water Operater, Norm Wilder, in front of new water tank.

On the **Navajo Nation**, the Counselor Chapter constructed a new sewage lagoon system using the EPA Clean Water Act Indian Set-Aside Program and Indian Health Service funding.

In 2006, under the Wastewater Tribal Set-Aside Program, EPA funded 19 projects with 5.7 million dollars. Construction projects will serve approximately 4,126 tribal homes with better sanitation.



Navajo Nation, new lagoon.

Providing Water Safe to Drink

Tribes and EPA are working in partnership to provide safe drinking water for tribal community members.

In 2006, under the Drinking Water Tribal Set-Aside Program, EPA funded approximately \$3.8 million for eight construction projects for ten tribes, and other projects, including four feasibility studies.

The **Fort Independence Reservation** successfully completed a water system improvement project. This project serves 45 tribal homes and includes chlorination equipment, pump controls, meters and a new storage tank.

Protecting Water Quality

In 2006, many tribes were eligible to receive funding from EPA's Pacific Southwest Regional Office to monitor rivers, streams, and wetlands under the Clean Water Act.

The **Trinidad Rancheria** completed its Water Quality Assessment using funding from a Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 106 Water Quality Grant.

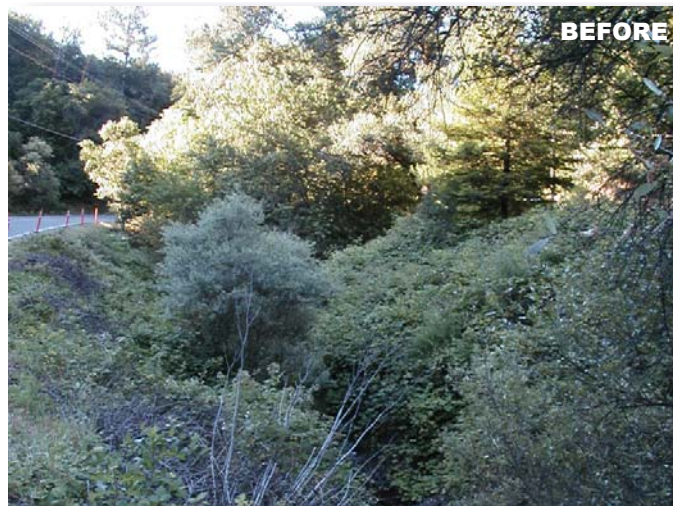
50 tribes received non-point source pollution control program grants to restore and protect watersheds in FY 07.



Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of the Trinidad Rancheria, kelp beds.

Using Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 319 funds, the **Dry Creek Rancheria** removed invasive Himalayan Blackberry and Vinca (periwinkle), more than 30 telephone poles, and other solid waste from a creek. In all, 36 tons of waste were removed from 600 feet of the main stream on the Rancheria.

This project benefits the Russian River Watershed by keeping sediment, solid waste, and creosote (from treated telephone poles) from entering the stream, and restoring habitat for native plants and wildlife.



BEFORE



AFTER

Dry Creek Rancheria of Pomo Indians of California - stream bank restoration project.



La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the La Jolla Reservation, tributary stream clean-up.

Using CWA Section 319 funds, the **La Jolla Band** cleaned up an illegal solid waste dump along a streambed, removing several bins of solid waste and several oil drums.



La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the La Jolla Reservation, drinking water monitoring equipment; Chris Devers, Pauma Tribal Chairman, also of the Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC), providing assistance.

The La Jolla Band also removed invasive tamarisk and re-planted native vegetation.



La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the La Jolla Reservation, invasive species removal project.

During 2006, EPA's Pacific Southwest Regional Office approved three tribes to be treated in a manner similar to a state to administer their Water Quality Standards (WQS) programs.

The **Navajo Nation**, the largest tribe in the United States in both area and population, had "treatment as a state" (TAS) approved on January 20, 2006, and its WQS program approved on April 11.

In California, the **Bishop Tribe**, had their TAS approved on October 24, 2005, and their WQS program approved on January 18, 2006.



Paiute-Shoshone Indians of the Bishop Community of the Bishop Colony, Treatment as a State approval: pictured left to right are Kristin Gullatt, R9 Tribal Water Program Manager; Juliette Nabahe, Bishop Tribe Water Technician; David Coursen, EPA Attorney; former Tribal Chairman Gerald Howard; and Laura Yoshii, EPA Deputy Regional Administrator.

National Accomplishment

During Fiscal Year 2006, EPA approved five tribes to be treated in a manner similar to a state (TAS) to administer the WQS program, and approved the initial WQS for four tribes.

This is the highest number of TAS approvals in one year since 1996, and the highest number of WQS approvals since 2001. This brings to 37 the number of tribes treated as a state for WQS, and to 30 the number of tribes with EPA-approved water quality standards.



Pond at Gila River Indian Reservation of the Gila River Indian Community.

Protecting Tribal Lands

EPA works collaboratively with tribes in one of the most diverse areas of the country, from the Monument Valley at **Navajo Nation** to the **Yurok Tribe** at the mouth of the Klamath River. EPA works on a government-to-government basis with the federally recognized tribes of the Pacific Southwest to protect more than 27 million acres, approximately 10% of the region's land base.

Both ordinary trash and hazardous waste threaten tribal lands. For example, tribal lands across the Pacific Southwest host over 1,000 open dumps, 175 abandoned or uncontrolled leaking underground storage tanks, and six major abandoned mine sites. In 2006, several tribes closed dumps, cleaned up metal waste, disposed of household hazardous waste, dealt with abandoned vehicles and developed recycling programs.

In 2006, tribes along with the EPA inspected 55 underground storage tanks, issued 24 field citations, and conducted 6 UST inspector trainings with over 76 tribal participants. To date, 132 underground storage tanks have been cleaned up on tribal land.

Tribes closed 79 open dumps this year with EPA GAP and solid waste grant assistance. These dumps range in size from small scatter sites to larger community dumps.

45 tribes have prepared an integrated solid waste management plan.

85 tribes have conducted solid and household hazardous waste management activities.

Underground Storage Tanks

In 2006, EPA provided underground storage tank training to tribes through a cooperative agreement with the Intertribal Council of Arizona (ITCA).

The **Gila River Indian Community** and EPA began full scale operation of a soil treatment system at the Arizona Traders Trading Post leaking underground storage tank site in Sacaton, Arizona. The new treatment facility includes three wells that extract and treat hydrocarbon vapors from the soil. EPA estimates soil cleanup will be completed in three years and groundwater cleanup could take up to ten years.



Gila River Indian Community of the Gila River Reservation, and the Arizona Traders Trading Post soil and groundwater treatment operating system. Left to right: Jennifer Allison-Ray, Lieutenant Governor of the GRIC; Jeff Scott, Director of EPA's Waste Management Division; and Chris Prokop of EPA's Underground Storage Tank Program Office.

The **San Carlos Apache Tribe** conducted a Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) site cleanup. The cleanup crew included tribal members and contractors.

Closing Open Dumps

The Supai Village, located at the **Havasupai Reservation** on the Grand Canyon floor, is accessible only by helicopter, horse, mule, or on foot. Until now, the Havasupai Tribe had little choice but to dispose of waste at the community's open dump,



San Carlos Apache Tribe of the San Carlos Reservation, leaking under-ground storage tank cleanup crew of tribal members and contractors.

where waste was burned to reduce volume, creating air pollution. After more than nine years of working together to find a sustainable solution, the Havasupai Tribal Council, tribal staff, EPA, Indian Health Service (IHS), and Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) developed and agreed upon a new hauling plan. The plan utilizes existing tribal mule or horse hauling enterprises, which are owned and operated by tribal members. Hauling began in summer 2006, and will result in proper management of approximately 196 tons of waste each year.



Havasupai Tribe of the Havasupai Reservation, new solid waste management plan horse team loading and hauling trash bundles.

The **Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe** in Nevada has made an aggressive attempt to clean up their reservation.

Three communities on the Pyramid Lake Reservation had approximately 32 acres of open dumps. The Tribe closed these sites and developed a post-closure plan. The Tribe will use post-closure activities and their solid waste ordinances to prevent future illegal dumping. Because open areas are magnets for open dumping, the Tribe will use re-vegetation for range rehabilitation and dumping prevention.



Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe of the Pyramid Lake Reservation, Nixon Dumpsite.

In southern California, the **Torres Martinez Tribe** and EPA brought over 25 state, local, tribal, and federal agencies together to form the Torres Martinez Solid Waste Collaborative, an innovative partnership to address widespread dumping on the Torres Martinez Reservation. In its first year, the collaborative closed the largest dump on the reservation, cleaned up four dump sites and reached an agreement on an inter-agency plan to clean up dumps and prevent access by installing berms and gates. A billboard was constructed at the Torres Martinez reservation and the Tribe partnered with Crime Stoppers to offer a reward for turning in violators.



Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians - illegal dump site and billboard.

Tribal Waste Reduction

In March, 2006, the **Hopland Band of Pomo Indians** celebrated the grand opening of a new buy-back recycling center, paying CRV (California Refund Value) to community recyclers who bring in their glass, plastic and aluminum beverage containers. The name of the new Lalil Daqaw recycling center (see sign, below) is in the Hopland Pomo dialect and means “to give back” or “to return.” In the first few months of the center’s operation, the Tribe recycled 2,400 pounds of aluminum, 1,300 pounds of plastic, and 3,000 pounds of glass. The Hopland Tribal EPA staff has worked closely with the tribe’s casino to establish a “Green Team”. The goal of the Green Team is to implement a recycling program and reduce solid waste generated by the casino by up to 50%.



Hopland Band of Pomo Indians of the Hopland Rancheria, sign at the grand opening of the new buy-back recycling center. Recycling center sign translates “to give back” in the Hopland Pomo dialect.



Hopland Band of Pomo Indians of the Hopland Rancheria - Tribal Environmental Staff.

The **Hopi Tribe** Environmental Protection Program successfully completed two Household Hazardous Waste collection and Electronic Waste collection events. The events were open to all local community members, businesses, local agencies, schools, and local Navajo communities. The goal was to provide education to the residents and to help eliminate illegal dumping of chemical products and unwanted electronic items on Hopi lands.



Hopi Tribe of Arizona - hazardous and electronic waste collection event.

Members of the **Ak-Chin Indian Community** conducted a “Clean-up Day” on the reservation. As a result, the Tribe recycled more than 100,000 pounds of scrap metal and appliances. The clean-up crew also incorporated education about the importance of proper solid waste disposal.



Ak-Chin Indian Community - Community Clean-Up Day. The community clean-up crew.

Cleaning up Superfund Sites

In past years, mining operations were scattered across the West. Many tribes have mines on their land. Several abandoned mines are currently listed as Superfund sites and are considered environmental threats mainly due to the pollution of surface and groundwater from acids and dissolved metals. In the past year, three tribes conducted removal actions at mine sites for mercury, copper, and uranium.

In California, the **Elem Indian Colony** has worked in collaboration with EPA regarding the Sulphur Bank Mercury Mine Superfund site, placed on the National Priorities List in August 1990. Since that time, EPA conducted numerous removal actions including stabilizing the Waste Rock Dam (at the mine), removing contaminated soil in the Elem Indian Colony, sealing nearby geothermal wells, and rerouting clean storm water around the mine to prevent contaminated water overflow.

In June 2006, EPA began another removal action at the Elem Indian Colony to permanently remove mercury and arsenic contaminated mine wastes from the residential area. Before initiating this removal, EPA consulted with the Tribe since this is a sensitive cultural resource area. EPA was at first assisted by a tribal cultural monitor and later by an archaeologist. As part of this removal action, EPA temporarily relocated 17 families (approximately 60 people).



Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulfur Bank Rancheria - mercury and arsenic removal (left) and vehicle cleaning pad (right).

While the families were temporarily relocated, EPA excavated mine waste from 16 residential lots and demolished five homes. EPA is nearing completion of the second phase of the residential area cleanup. This includes demolition of the entire paved roadway system in the residential area and excavation of underlying mine wastes. This phase also includes construction of a new water supply system. To complete the work, EPA will install five new modular homes to replace the homes that were demolished, reconstruct the paved roadway system, place clean topsoil and re-vegetate all of the residential lots. EPA is spending approximately \$7.35 million on this removal action.



Elem Indian Colony of Pomo Indians of the Sulfur Bank Rancheria - new modular home installation.

In Nevada, the Yerington Mine site is a 3,400 acre abandoned open-pit copper mine that was operated by Anaconda Copper from 1958 to 1978. This abandoned mine is located approximately 70 miles southeast of Reno and approximately 2-1/2 miles south of the **Yerington Paiute Reservation**. The site has acid mine drainage, along with ground-

water and soil contaminated with heavy metals and radionuclides, raising concerns in the nearby community and the Yerington Paiute Tribe.

While the Yerington Paiute Tribe, EPA, the State of Nevada, and the Bureau of Land Management continue the site investigation, EPA has completed two emergency removal actions in the past year. The first action removed 120 Polychlorinated Biphenyl (PCB) transformers and capped approximately 100 acres of potential dust sources on the site. Total cost was approximately \$850,000. The second project involved building a new 4-acre evaporation pond, relining a second fluid collection pond, and building an interceptor trench to capture acid mine drainage. This work cost \$1.5 million.



Yerington Paiute Tribe of the Yerington Colony and Campbell Ranch - abandoned Anaconda Copper Mine polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) removal, capping and sealing approximately 100 acres of potential dust sources, including construction of a four-acre pond.

In Arizona, EPA and the **Navajo Nation** are almost finished with a project to identify all known abandoned uranium mines across the Navajo Nation and establish a preliminary ranking based on risk. More than

500 of these mines have been mapped. The final report and database should be complete in July 2007. This will provide the Navajo Nation with a powerful tool to prioritize sites. To date, EPA has conducted removal actions at the Bluewater Uranium Mines as well as two radioactive hogans. Last year, the Navajo Nation requested EPA investigate and clean up the Northeast Church Rock Uranium Mine site, located about 16 miles northeast of Gallup, New Mexico. In September EPA, with the participation of Navajo Department of Justice, reached an agreement with the United Nuclear Corporation requiring the company to investigate soil contamination related to historic uranium mining and processing operations at the 125-acre site. Work on this is expected to begin soon.



Navajo Nation - Church Rock Mine site.

Revitalizing Brownfields

EPA provided Brownfields funding for several projects on tribal lands, totaling \$1.35 million for assessment and cleanup. EPA's Brownfields Program is also providing financial assistance to **Gila River Indian Community, Navajo Nation** and **Tohono O'odham Nation** to establish and enhance their response programs and develop an inventory of Brownfields sites. Finally, EPA provides direct technical assistance through the targeted Brownfields Site Assessment program. As a result of EPA's assessment of the Environmental Concrete Concepts Inc. site on the **Tohono O'odham Nation**, the Tribe has determined that this site does not require cleanup and is available for commercial development.

Healthy Tribal Communities

U.S. Mexico Border

In partnership with the Mexican government and nonprofit organizations, including the Native Cultures Institute of Baja California (CUNA), Aqualink, JA JAN Coalition, and the Baja California Intertribal Council, the **Pala Band of Mission Indians** helped provide safe drinking water to the indigenous communities **San Jose de la Zorra** and **San Antonio Necua** in Baja California, Mexico. The new wells and water distribution systems serve 380 people in these communities. In April 2006, a delegation of U.S. and Mexico officials visited San Antonio Necua and provided an additional \$150,000 to increase access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation, and to train people in the communities to operate and maintain the new water systems.



San Antonio Necua - community member tests new well.

The **Tohono O'odham Utility Authority** received an EPA Environmental Award for providing safe drinking water to the O'odham indigenous community of **Quitovac** in Sonora, Mexico. The new water system serves a boarding school for 100 O'odham children and 18 homes. The Mexican government is now extending electricity to the community and has committed to upgrading the homes to provide indoor plumbing. Before the water system, each home used hand-dug wells. The Pan American Health Organization is providing a health clinic.

Also at the **Tohono O'odham Nation**, the Baboquivari Inter-tie Project will connect the

communities of S. Komelik, Choulic, Topawa and Cold Fields to the Topawa Water System to service a total of 111 homes with a population of 393.



Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona's Baboquivari - Inter-tie Project.

The **Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians** completed construction of a trunk sewer which serves 13 government buildings on the Pechanga Indian Reservation, and provides sewer access for all homes on the reservation. With a grant from EPA, the Tribe co-funded this project and successfully managed the planning, design and construction.



Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the Pechanga Reservation - trunk sewer construction.

The **Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians** completed drinking water system improvements, including a new well, water storage tank and distribution

system, to replace a substandard water system with inadequate supply. The new water system serves 49 homes, a health clinic and government buildings. The Tribe received a Tribal Border Infrastructure grant for this project and oversaw all aspects of the project.

The **Cocopah Indian Tribe**, which shares 12 miles of its border with Mexico, restored over 200 acres of riparian habitat along the Lower Colorado River limitrophe, leveraging funds from EPA, the Bureau of Indian Affairs, and the Bureau of Land Management. With support from EPA's GAP program, the Tribe is working with the National Wildlife Federation and 23 organizations on both sides of the border to restore habitat on the Lower Colorado River.



Cocopah Indian Tribe - riparian restoration project.

Reducing Pesticide and Toxic Exposures

EPA's Pesticides Office provides funding, guidance, and oversight of pesticide compliance and enforcement programs, assessments of pesticide use and water quality, and public outreach on pesticides on tribal lands. As a result of these efforts, more than 12 million acres of tribal agricultural lands are regulated under federal and/or tribal pesticide authorities protecting more than 227,000 tribal members from unnecessary pesticide exposures. To put these numbers in context, there are approximately 26 million acres of agricultural land in production in California.



Gila River Indian Community - tribal agricultural land.

Based upon an inspection report referred by **Navajo Nation** EPA, U.S. EPA's Pesticide Program issued a penalty action with an \$8,320 fine against a commercial applicator. As part of the settlement, the company set up a new pesticide safety training course for its employees.

With support and training from EPA over the last five years, the **Pala Band of Mission Indians** has developed an effective pesticides program. The Tribe is using its pesticide monitoring capacity to ensure federal compliance and to assist schools and tribal members with alternatives to pesticides. In FY07, the Tribe will fully fund their pesticide program for the first time. This success demonstrates that building tribal capacity is an effective tool to assure safe pesticide use on tribal lands even as federal dollars are diminishing.



Left Photo: Hopi Tribe - tribal members at an Integrated Pest Management Project (IPM); Right Photo: La Jolla Band of Luiseno Mission Indians of the La Jolla Reservation - Head Start Program.



Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Vally Rancheria Tule Boat Festival.

In 2006, the **Hopi Tribe** successfully completed an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) project that reduced pesticide exposure for over 1,100 children. Project activities included IPM workshops, pest audits, site-specific technical assistance and capacity building. As a result of this IPM project, five Head Start Centers and 15 tribal facilities have reduced pesticide use by adopting IPM practices.

Conducting Environmental Education & Outreach

Tribes across the Region use the General Assistance Program to conduct environmental outreach and education. Several tribes host Earth Days and sponsor workshops including inter-tribal youth camps and native cultural resource gathering days. These activities are instrumental in educating community members about environmental threats and hazards while informing them on how they can become active participants in environmental protection.



Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians of California Environmental Youth Campout.



Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians of the Big Valley Rancheria Tule Boat Festival.



Cortina Indian Rancheria of Wintun Indians of California Environmental Youth Campout.



Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California - Salmon Festival.



Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation - Tribal Youth Water Sampling Activities.



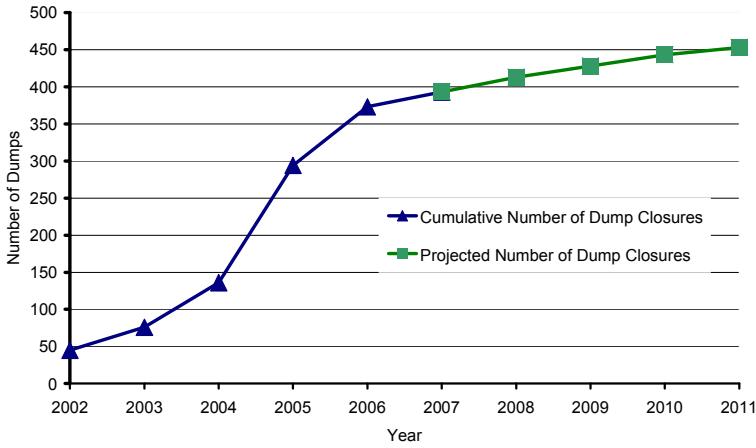
Quartz Valley Indian Community of the Quartz Valley Reservation of California - Salmon Festival.



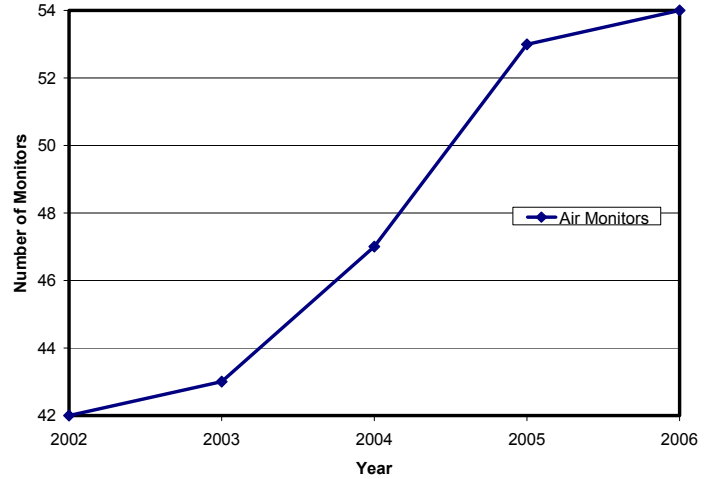
Kaibab Band of Paiute Indians of the Kaibab Indian Reservation - Tribal Youth Water Sampling Activities.

EPA Pacific Southwest Region Tribal 5-Year Trends

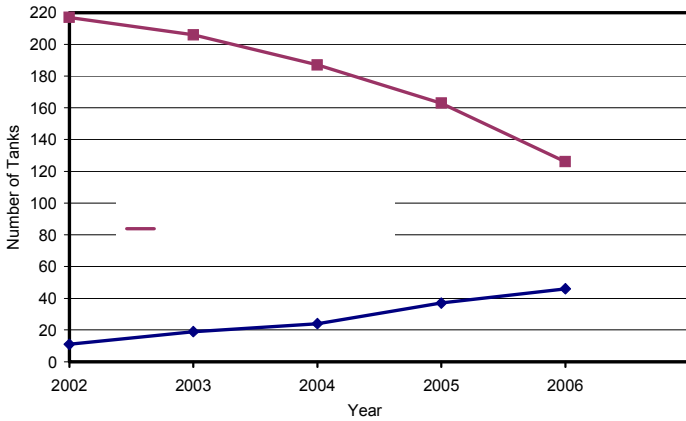
Dump Closures on Tribal Lands, EPA Region 9



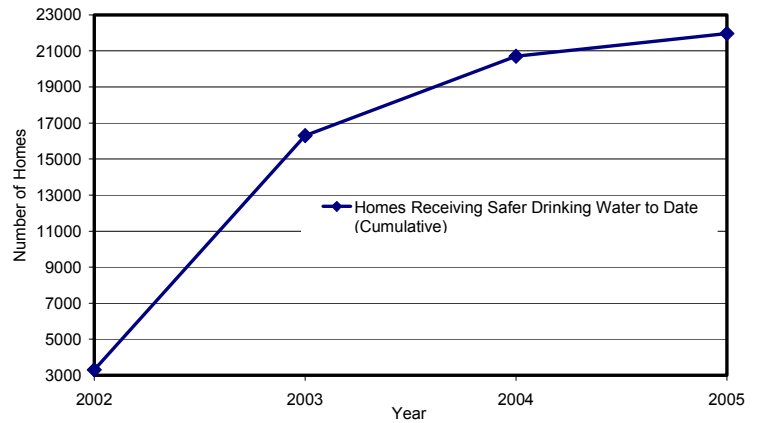
Number of Air Monitors Used by Tribes in EPA Region 9



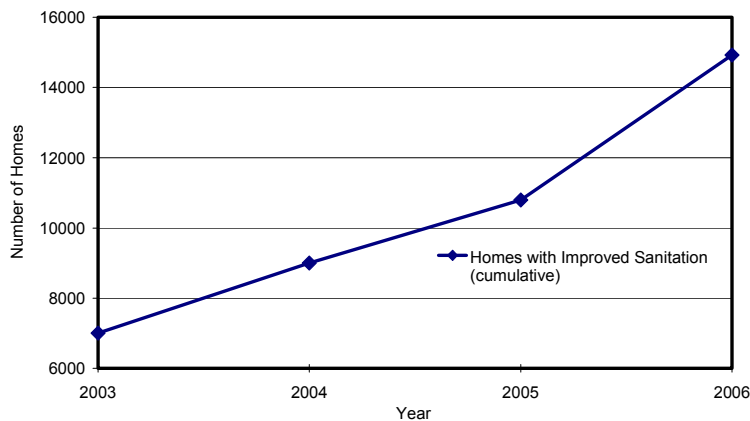
Leaking Underground Storage Tanks (LUST) on Tribal Lands, EPA R9, 2002-2006



Homes Receiving Safer Drinking Water on Tribal Lands in EPA Region 9, 2002-2005



Homes with Improved Sanitation on Tribal Lands, EPA Region 9 2002-2006



Compliance and Stewardship

In 2006, EPA issued federal credentials to seven tribal inspectors. Three inspectors were certified to conduct inspections under the Clean Water Act while four are now certified to conduct inspections for pesticides.



Rincon Band of the Luiseno Mission Indians of the Rincon Reservation - solid waste code drafting meeting.

EPA worked with tribes to provide compliance assistance to 100% of known tribal public water supply systems. Over 900 site visits were made to the 320 systems in the Pacific Southwest last year.

Perhaps one of the greatest opportunities for EPA and tribes to partner is in the areas of compliance and stewardship. The **Navajo Nation** and EPA pilot-tested a self-assessment tool for schools. Over the year, EPA provided compliance assistance to all 89 Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) schools and conducted 6 cross-media inspections of BIA schools.



Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians - one form of tribal compliance assistance.

EPA issued 26 enforcement actions to return facilities to compliance, and issued penalties totaling over \$80,000 to companies operating on tribal lands.



Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona - Cyprus Tohono Mine evaporation pond.

For example, in September of 2006, EPA signed an Administrative Order on Consent with Cyprus Tohono Corporation to clean up mine waste from their copper mine two miles southeast of North Komelik. This \$18 million cleanup is being carried out by the mining company under EPA oversight, and is one of the costliest removal actions ever carried out on tribal land in Region 9. The cleanup is completely on the



Tohono O'odham Nation of Arizona - copper mine waste clean-up.

Tohono O'odham Nation and includes removing evaporation residues and tailings from five major facility areas which collectively cover approximately 450 acres.

EPA sent Compliance Assistance Notebooks to every tribe in Region 9. The notebooks contain compliance assistance information on air, water, waste management, and pollution prevention in schools. This effort was part of EPA's National Tribal Compliance Assistance priority.

EPA reached more than 31,000 people with information about compliance with open dumping rules in Indian Country. This outreach included community presentations, "no-dumping" alerts, training courses, and inspections.

The Institute of Tribal Environmental Professionals (ITEP) at Northern Arizona University was selected to provide five workshops to teach tribal inspectors to conduct compliance monitoring inspections under tribal law, and help them obtain authorization to conduct various inspections under federal law.

Healthy Schools

- EPA provided compliance assistance to all 89 BIA schools.
- Navajo Nation and EPA pilot-tested a self-assessment tool for schools.
- EPA conducted 6 multi-media inspections of BIA schools.



Coyote Valley Band of Pomo Indians of California - Head Start program, harvesting and replanting tribal garden.

Region 9 Tribal Program Office

GAP Project Officers	Project Officer	Phone
Northern California: Big Lagoon, Cedarville Rancheria, Cortina, Elk Valley, Fort Bidwell, Pit River, Quartz Valley, Redding, Resighini, Trinidad, Smith River, Blue Lake, Yurok, Karuk, Bear River, Hoopa, Susanville, Wiyot, Alturas Rancheria	Tim Wilhite (Placed – based in Yreka)	530-841-4577 Fax Number: 530-841-4571
Northern California/Fresno Area: Cloverdale, Cahto (Laytonville), Manchester /Pt. Arena, Redwood Valley, Sherwood Valley, Big Sandy, Cold Springs, North Fork, Picayune, Table Mountain, Coyote Valley	Dianne Albright	415-972-3830
Southern California: Chemehuevi, Cocopah, CRIT, Fort Mojave, Los Coyotes, NAEPC, Quechan	Hillary Hecht	415-972-3790
Southern California: Campo, Cuyapaipe, Jamul, LaPosta, Mesa Grande, Santa Ysabel, Sycuan, Torres Martinez, Agua Caliente, Augustine, Cabazon, Twenty Nine Palms	Willard Chin	415-972-3797
Southern California: Cahuilla, La Jolla, Ramona, Rincon, Santa Rosa Reservation, Santa Ynez, Pala, Soboba, San Manuel, San Pasqual, Inaja, Viejas(Capitan Grande), Pechanga, Pauma	Tina Williams	415-972-3784
Southern California: Barona, Manzanita, Morongo	Morena Villanueva (Part-time)	415-947-4239
Central California: Auburn, Berry Creek, Buena Vista, Enterprise, Greenville, Grindstone, Mechoopda (Chico), Middletown, Mooretown, Paskenta, Santa Rosa Rancheria, Scotts Valley, Shingle Springs, Tule River, CA Valley Miwok (Sheep Ranch), Chicken Ranch, Cachil Dehe Band(Colusa), ITCC, Jackson, Lower Lake, Round Valley (Covelo), Rumsey	Gilbert Pasqua	415-972-3788
California - Mendocino-Sonoma Area: Big Valley, Guidiville, Hopland, Lytton, Potter Valley, Robinson, Elem, Upper Lake/Habematolel, Dry Creek, Stewarts Point/Kashia Band, Pinoleville	Veronica Swann	415-972-3699
California – Owens Valley and Eastern Nevada: Big Pine, Bishop, Duckwater, Ely, Graton, Fort Independence, Ione, Lone Pine, OVIWC, Timbisha, Tuolumne, Bridgeport, Goshute, Benton/UtuUtu Gwaitu	Erica Yelensky	415-972-3021
Arizona: Hopi, Navajo, Tohono O’odham, Pascua Yaqui, San Juan So. Paiute	Pam Overman	415-972-3781
Arizona & Las Vegas: Ak-Chin, Fort McDowell, Gila River, Havasupai, Kaibab, Las Vegas, Moapa, San Carlos, White Mountain, Yavapai Apache, Yavapai Prescott, ITCA, Salt River, Hualapai, Tonto Apache	Tim Grant	415-972-3783
Nevada: Battle Mountain, Duck Valley, Elko, Fallon, Fort McDermitt, Pyramid Lake, Reno Sparks, South Fork, Summit Lake, Washoe, Walker River, Wells, Yerington, Yomba, ITCN, Lovelock, Winnemucca, Te-Moak	Greg Phillips (Placed– based in Carson City)	775-885-6085 Fax Number: 775-885-6147
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Radiation & Compliance Assurance

Grants & Program Integration

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Site Cleanup, Brownfields, Oil Pollution

Federal Facilities and Base Closures

Emergency Response & Planning

Community Involvement, Site Assessment

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RCRA Inspections & Enforcement

RCRA State Program Development

Underground Storage Tank Program

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Environmental Review/NEPA

Tribal Program

U.S.-Mexico Border Program

Stewardship/Performance Track

Management and Technical Services Division

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Laboratory & QA/QC, Facilities

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San Diego Border Office (San Diego)

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U.S. EPA Region 9 Tribal Program Office
http://www.epa.gov/region09/cross_pr/indian/success/index.html



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