

# Highlights Waste Management Division's Work with Tribes

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Jeff Scott, Division Director  
Annual EPA Tribal Conference  
October 19, 2011

# RCRA Tribal

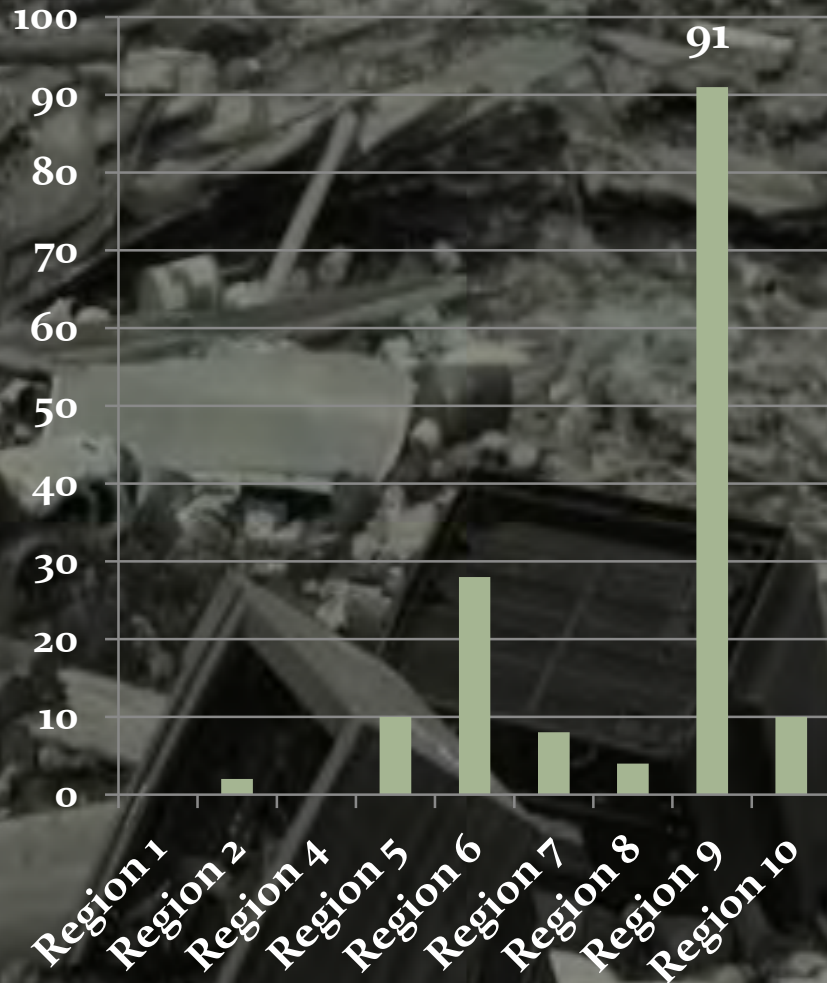
## Building Capacity and Regulating Waste

EPA's goals under RCRA:

- Protect human health and the environment
- Conserve energy and natural resources
- Reduce the amount of waste generated
- To ensure sound waste management
- Clean up releases to the environment



# 2010 Open Dump Cleanups in Indian Country



**Region 9 has ~1,300 open dumps left to clean up.**

## Tribal Solid Waste

*Our Goal: To ensure the safe and effective management of solid waste and promote sustainable and culturally appropriate solutions to address solid waste challenges.*

Priorities:

- Sustainable integrated waste management programs
- Close open dumps
- Landfill reviews
- National leadership

# Promoting Sustainable Solutions to Solid Waste Challenges

**Integrated waste  
management program  
development is a priority  
in Region 9.**

**Four tribes have  
hosted waste  
characterization  
trainings.**

**These events show how  
much can be recycled.**







1 proposed new landfill,  
2 operating  
Landfills,  
4 closed landfill reviews.

## Subtitle D Regulatory Responsibilities

- Review closure plans to ensure final covers meet performance standards
- Review new projects for variances in technical requirements

## Building Tribal Capacity

- Provide compliance assistance to tribes on landfill operations and applicable regulations

# National Leadership on Tribal Solid Waste Issues

- Peer Matching pilot program
- National Green Casino Initiative
- Green building initiative
- New publications/guides
- Working with tribes and AIEO to ensure that GAP Funds can support implementation of solid and haz-waste activities
- Developing a strategic plan for EPA to provide effective and consistent assistance for tribal solid waste management



**DC meets Indian country**

**Region 9 facilitates  
communication between  
tribes , regions, and HQ.**



# Compliance at Hazardous Waste Facilities, and Corrective Action

## Subtitle C Responsibilities on Tribal Land

- Regulate generators
- Permit Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities (TSDFs)
- Corrective action (clean-ups) to address releases to the environment
- Collaborate with tribes to assure tribal participation in all decisions

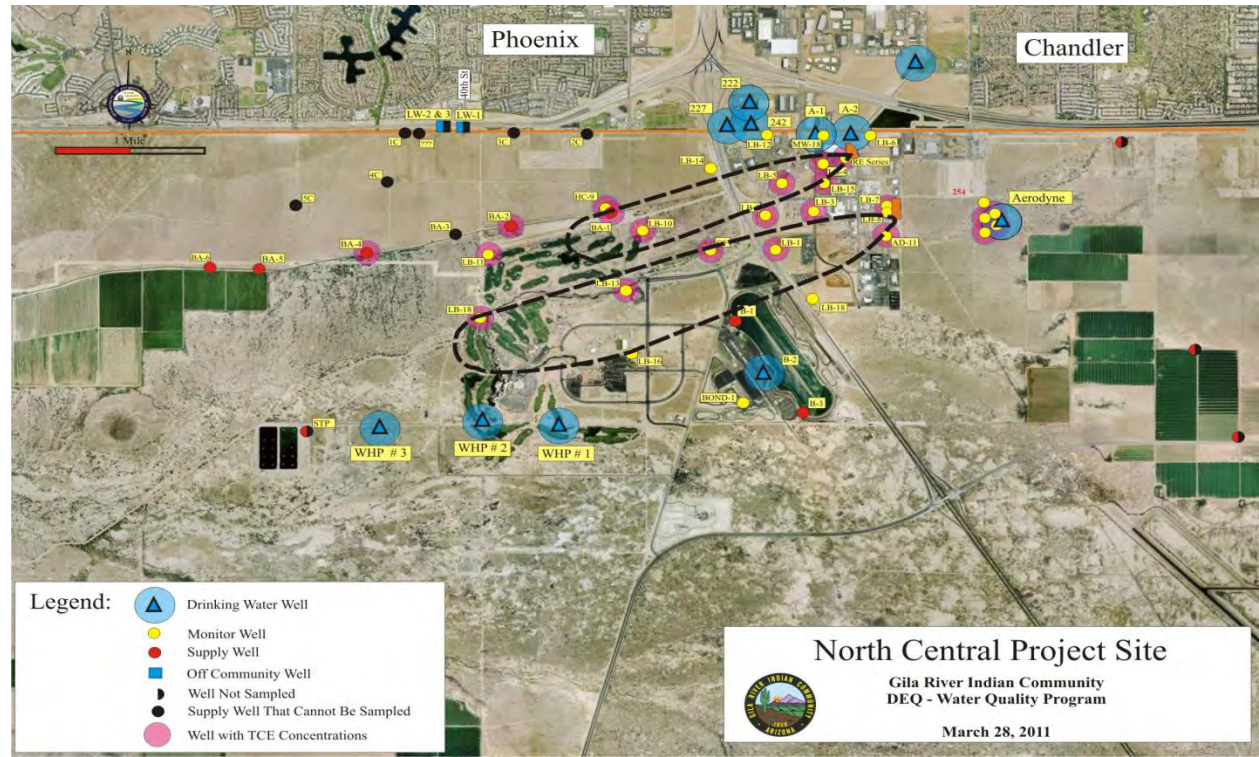


# The North Central Ground Water Project

Joint management of a large area clean-up with the Gila River Department of Environmental Quality and Region 9

GRIC technical and environmental expertise.

US EPA legal and regulatory authority.







# Underground Storage Tanks

*Our Goal: To eliminate releases by building tribal capacity.*



## Priorities:

- Increase compliance/provide compliance assistance
- Cleanup leaking or abandoned sites
- Increase tribal program capacity



# Region 9 Tribal Credentials

## Navajo Nation UST Inspection Program

- EPA renewed federal credentials for two Navajo EPA inspectors
- New credentials to two recently trained inspectors
- Navajo inspectors can write field citations





# Region 9 Tribal Credentials

## Washoe Tribal Coalition

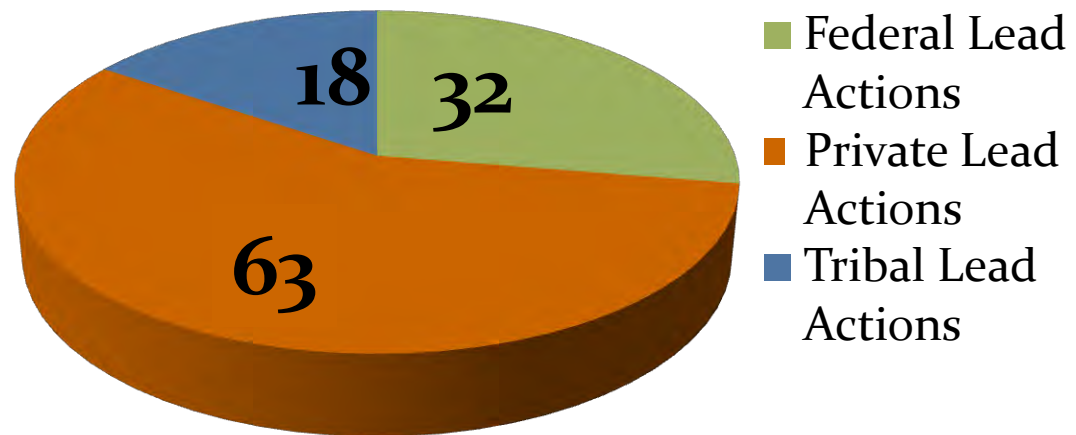
- EPA issued a two-year grant
- One federally credentialed inspector
- 9 tribes
- 20 facilities to inspect





# 10 Cleanups Completed in Region 9 This Year

## 113 Remaining Cleanups in Region 9



# Contact Information

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