

Wind River Reservation, Wyoming
Wind River Environmental Quality Commission
Wind River Tribal – Brownfields Tribal response Program (TRP)

In 1988, the Joint Business Council of the Eastern Shoshone and the Northern Arapaho Tribes (JBC) created the Wind River Environmental Quality Commission (WREQC) to investigate and report on matters of the Health and the Welfare of the Reservation residents and protect of the Environment. JBC also designated WREQC to be the primary point of contact between tribes and federal agencies charged with the protection of the Reservation Environment. As such, WREQC is the agency responsible for the implementation of the Brownfields Program on the Wind River Reservation.

Don Aragon is the Executive Director of WREQC and is responsible for the overall management of the Reservation's Brownfield Program and Supervision of WREQC staff. Everett McGill is the WREQC Brownfields Coordinator. He is the Primary point of contact between WREQC and the other Organization/individuals participating in the Brownfields Program. Including the U. S. EPA, Contact Laboratories, and Consultants assisting with implementation of the Brownfields Program. The Brownfields Coordinator is responsible for the oversight of the Program tasks including data collection and maintaining the QAPP.

The Brownfields Tribal Response Program (TRP) for the Wind River Indian Reservation is very vital for the Tribes and the Wind River Environmental Quality Commission (WREQC) because of all the old economic development, Mining, Oil fields that were abandon and a whole list of other business venture that did not work out for either the Tribes or private individuals for reasons unknown. When these failures happened, business venture site were usually abandon and left for the future generations to come along and clean up. This even pronounced today, because the WREQC has been doing other environmental sampling and work along the rivers & streams and often come across these pitiful sites. Even WREQC is doing work out in the back- country, and often they come across these old abandon mines and oil fields. Currently, the WREQC has the documents where these sites are located.

A Brownfields Site is a property where future use or development is hindered or limited because of the presence or perceived of hazardous substance, pollution, or contaminants. On the Wind River Reservation, this includes many former commercial and industrial sites that are now abandoned or under-utilized. Brownfields sites are areas that are not being addressed by other environmental clean-up and restoration programs. The Purpose of the Brownfields Program is to safely identify, asses, and cleanup these sites on the Reservation so they may be reused.

For More Information you can Contact Mr. Don Aragon Executive Director OR Everett McGill BF/TRP Coordinator at the WREQC office, contact number is 1(307) 332-3164. Send a Fax to 1(307) 332-7579. Or by Writing to WREQC at P.O. Box 217, Fort Washakie, WY. 82514

