**BROWNFIELDS REPORT**

Annual Newsletter Submitted by Marce Simeon

A Brownfield is a property in which, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. It is estimated that there are more than 450,000 brownfields in the U.S. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties increases local tax bases, facilitates job growth, utilizes existing infrastructure, takes development pressures off of undeveloped, open land, and both improves and protects the environment. The Native Village of Napaimute has been operating a Brownfields program since 2016.

One of the tools utilized under the program is the Brownfield Inventory Tool (BIT). It is a comprehensive brownfield program management tool in which we are able to enter detailed site data, (including, but not limited to land ownership and types of contaminants) upload documents and data, and generate and export a variety of reports, including a Property Profile Form.

The State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation has public information available in an inventory database with legend of active and complete sites. This database depicts contamination in our region and across the state.

It is also imperative to mention that many contaminated sites have yet to be identified and logged into any existing inventory database. This is due to the vast scope, size, and limited resources for assessments.

Long-Term goals of the Brownfields/Tribal Response Program include:

Public Awareness of BF Program and Sites Complete Inventory of potential BF sites (Region)

Surveys of BF sites and ID of potential contamination Partnerships with responsible parties for cleanup Minimize Napaimute’s risk of causing contamination Partnerships with/on ACP (potential for LCM work)

Trained and certified staff to participate in cleanup assessments activities

Ensure protection of environment by oversite of planned cleanup activities (Red Devil or others)

Protection of public health, environment, and natural resources

For more information or to report a possible contaminated site in our around Napaimute, please contact the Brownfields Program Coordinator at (907)675-4388 or at napaimute.brownfields@gmail.com