

# **Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet**

Department of  
Public Lands,  
Northern Mariana  
Islands

## **EPA Brownfields Program**

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under the Brownfields Law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

The Department of Public Lands was selected to receive one brownfields cleanup grant. The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) consists of 14 islands with a total land area of 183.5 square miles. Its largest island, Saipan, lies 3,300 miles west of Honolulu, Hawaii. Since becoming a commonwealth of the United States in 1976, the CNMI experienced a population (69,221) boom. Today, more than 50 percent of CNMI residents are non-U.S. citizens. The per capital income is \$6,178, and more than 40 percent of residents live below the U.S. poverty level. The unemployment rate is 8 percent.

A 2003 survey of the Marpi Point Village Homestead Site indicates that unexploded ordnance (UXO) is scattered across the 153-acre site. Assessment and eventual cleanup of the currently underutilized Marpi Point Village Homestead site will allow the islands to proceed with plans to grant lands to over 500 indigenous individuals and families to acquire homestead lots for the construction of new homes.

## **Cleanup Grant** – New 2008

\$200,000 – cleanup of hazardous substances.

EPA has selected the Department of Public Lands for a brownfields cleanup grant. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to develop cleanup plans for the 153-acre Marpi Point Village Homestead site.

### **Contacts:**

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields).

EPA Region 9 Brownfields Team  
415-972-3092  
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html>

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The Cooperative Agreement for this grant has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.

The Department of Public Lands is soliciting comments from interested individuals to submit comments to addresses listed under **Grant Recipient** within fifteen (15) days, but no later than May 3, 2008.