



PROJECT PROFILE

Yakutat Tlingit Tribe, Tribal Response Program Yakutat, Alaska

Ridolfi provides project management and technical support to the Yakutat Tlingit Tribe (YTT) under the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Tribal Response Program (TRP). Ridolfi assisted the YTT with developing an inventory of contaminated sites and helped establish their Public Record during their first year.

Ridolfi created presentation materials and handouts for public meetings where the site inventory was present for review and input. Information on sites gathered during public meetings was then incorporated into the site inventory. Funding was used to provide oversight of response activities at an important cultural site impacted by dioxins. Ridolfi conducted an evaluation of soil and tissue data from multiple dioxin studies, and compiled and mapped the data using geographic information systems (GIS) to determine the extent of contamination and identify data gaps.

In addition, Ridolfi provided grant management and technical support to the YTT during their second year of capacity building under the USEPA Tribal Response Program. Ridolfi assisted the YTT with updates to their inventory of contaminated sites, updates to the Public Record, and presentation materials and handouts for public outreach.

Ridolfi merged the Field Sampling Plan into the draft Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) developed with FY 2008 funding to create a Sampling Quality Assurance Project Plan (SQAPP). The draft SQAPP was developed and submitted to the USEPA for review. EPA's comments were included into the final SQAPP.

Ridolfi supervised sample collection activities by tribal members, providing hands-on training while ensuring the protocols in the SQAPP were followed. Sample analysis was coordinated with the analytical laboratories, dioxin data was reviewed and validated, and the Anka Saltchucks Site Investigation Report was developed. Under current EPA funding, Ridolfi is working with appropriate YTT departments, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Alaska Department of Fish and Game to develop a scope of work to conduct additional site investigation activities in the Anka Saltchucks. Proposed activities include additional tissue sampling, and soil, sediment, and water sampling. Ridolfi provided information to the YTT on the status of proposed mining activities in the Yakutat Forelands. Alaska's general discharge permit for placer mining was reviewed. These efforts supported the Tribe in participating as a stakeholder early in the planning and permitting process.



Collecting soil and shellfish samples.



Tribal staff processing shellfish samples.