



Working Together: Aligning Communities, Academia and the US EPA

Community Involvement Training Conference
August 19, 2009
Seattle, Washington



Reaching Across Boundaries: Sharing Challenges and Opportunities

Superfund Research Program

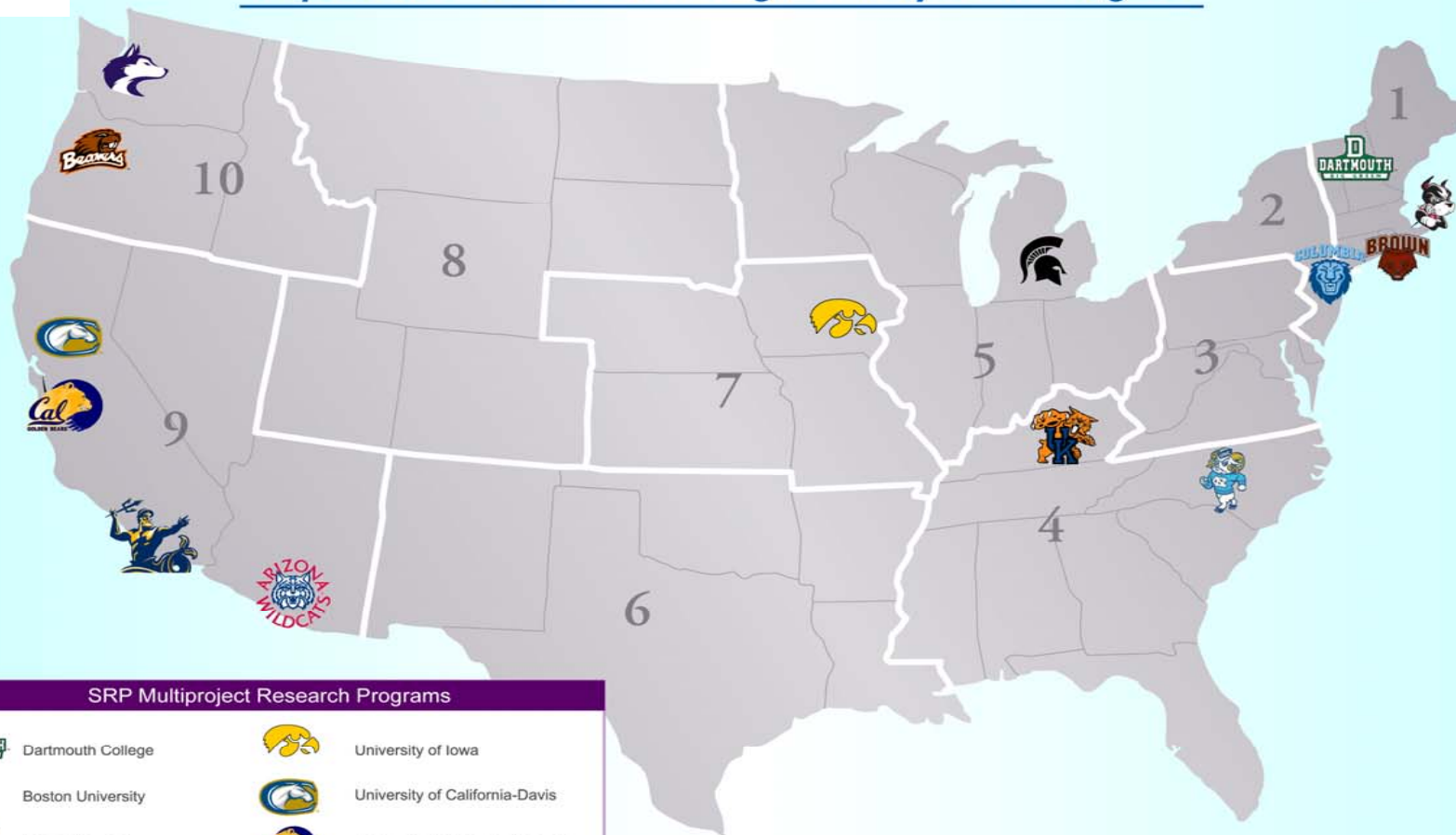
a network of university grants

research coordinated with the
Environmental Protection Agency















seeking solutions to health and
environmental issues associated with
hazardous waste sites

QuickTime™ and a
TIFF (LZW) decompressor
are needed to see this picture.

Superfund Research Programs by EPA Region



SRP Multiproject Research Programs

	Dartmouth College		University of Iowa
	Boston University		University of California-Davis
	Brown University		University of California-Berkeley
	Columbia University		University of California-San Diego
	University of Kentucky		University of Arizona
	University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill		Oregon State University
	Michigan State University		University of Washington



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Reaching Across Boundaries: Sharing Challenges and Opportunities

Format

- Case study presentations followed by interactive panel discussion with audience

Goals

- Improve University SRP engagement of CICs as partners and better serve communities
- Share ways to leverage academic and scientific resources
- Introduce existing SRP resources

Presenters & Panelists

Hiram Sarabia- University of California San Diego, SRP

Reducing Exposure to Superfund Chemicals in Tribal Communities Along the U.S.- Mexico Border

Norma Wells, Monica Rameriz, Denise Moreno- University of Arizona, SRP

Building a Community-Based Participatory Research Program with Promotoras

Darlene Schanfald- Northwest Toxic Communities Coalition

Katie Frevert- University of Washington, SRP

The Northwest Toxic Communities Coalition- supporting and empowering communities impacted by toxic waste

Reaching Across Boundaries: Sharing Challenges and Opportunities

Value of Academic Partnerships

Superfund Research Programs:

- University-based and tasked with translation of current research and community outreach

University 'mission' includes providing a benefit to the community. State universities must report evidence to the legislature.

- Interdisciplinary and interagency

Impacted communities and CICs must operate in an interagency world.

- Positioned to work across boundaries

Promote communication of research findings, facilitate discussions, and broaden scientific understanding

Panel

Envisioning Bridges

Possible roles for SRP-

- Contribution to the CIC newsletter
- Introduction of SRP via national CIC conference call
- Access to university news sources
- Exploration of graduate student and work-study student opportunities
- Attendance at community meetings
- Review of science communication materials
- Access to current/relevant research
- Assistance with TAG grants

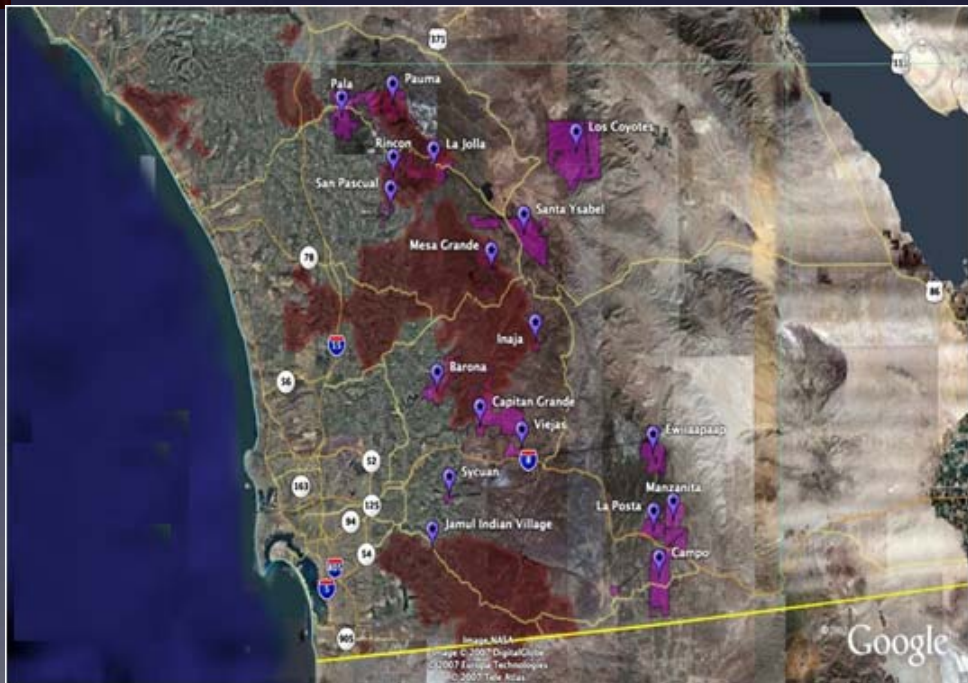
Reducing Exposure to Superfund Chemicals in Tribal Communities Along the U.S.-Mexico Border

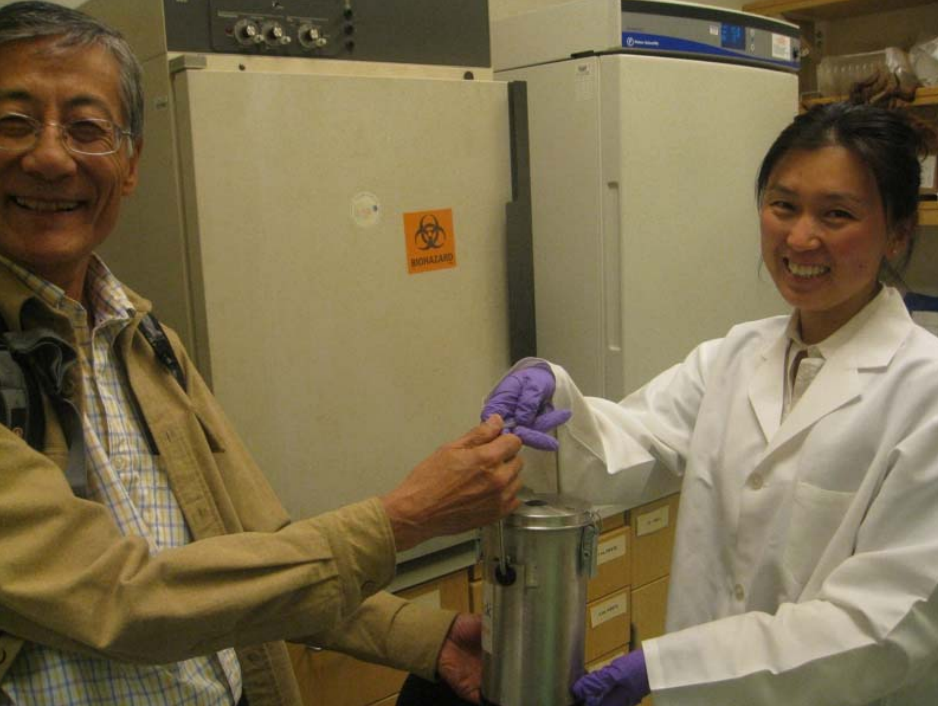
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Keith Pezzoli and Hiram Sarabia-Ramirez
UCSD USP/SRP









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- 29 Palms Band of Mission Indians/Tribal EPA (Dr. Marshall Cheung)

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Building a Community-Based Participatory Research Program with Promotoras



**U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Community Involvement Training Conference
Reaching Across Boundaries: Sharing Challenges and Opportunities
August 19, 2009**

Norma Wells, Denise Moreno Ramirez, MS & Monica Ramirez, MPA

CASA Promotoras

- Share what they have learned with the community
- Provide skills, information, training and connections that result in true improvements in their neighborhoods



CASA Promotoras

- Build the capacity of neighborhoods one by one as they knock on doors
- Are trusted in the community where many times agency or academic personnel are not



Partnership Building



Invited to attend
Community Assist
of Southern
Arizona (CASA)
Community
Advisory Board

Asked to sit on
CASA Advisory
Board.

Trainings

Community Need

Human Capital
Community-based
Participation
Public Participation
Popular Education
Local Knowledge

Engagement

Science Translation



Promotoras requested 200
copies of each of our
bilingual materials

Partnership Successes

- 2008 Pollution Prevention (P2) Grant Recipients
- NASA Space Grant Recipient
- 7 collaborative trainings



Promotora Successes

- 2,650+ environmental health issues home visits
- 900+ pollution prevention business visits
- Community mapping (assets and hazards)
- 200+ referrals to City of Tucson Lead Hazard Control Program and Health Center



Supporting and Empowering Communities Impacted by Toxic Waste



Darlene Schanfald- Northwest Toxic Communities Coalition

Katie Frevert- Research Translation Outreach Core UW SRP



University of Washington's Partnerships with Tribal Nations and Community Organizations

- **RTOC partnerships before NWTCC**

- Shoalwater Tribe

- Swinomish Tribe

- Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition

- Community Coalition for Environmental Justice

- International District Housing Alliance (Project WILD)

- Marine Resources for Future Generations

- **RTOC partnerships added since NWTCC**

- Silver Valley Community Resource Center

- Alaska Community Action on Toxics

- North Sound Baykeepers & RE:Sources

- Olympic Environmental Council

- SHAWL Society (Sovereignty, Health, Air, Water, Land)

- Lake Roosevelt Forum



Northwest Toxic Communities Coalition

Our mission:

To connect with and empower communities impacted by toxic waste and to share resources, information and support for toxic clean up efforts throughout the Northwest states..



Reasons for Building NWTCC

Equitable treatment of impacted communities

- Share information, resources, and strategies
- Enhance community involvement to increase access to information and decision-making

Factors affecting site cleanup not isolated

- Precedent at one site affects future decisions
- Some solutions require regional/policy solutions (i.e. management of contaminated sediments)
- Disseminate research findings throughout region/nation

Structure of the NWTCC

Equity issues guide evolution of NWTCC

- Flat structure
- Revolving board representation
- Equal board representation from each state
- Collaborative agendas and annual work plan



Rayonier Site Port Angeles Washington



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Rayonier Mill Site 2006



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