

# Cleanup Update

# Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #75

March 4, 2009

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Websites:  
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region8/superfund/sites/  
mt/milltown](http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/milltown)

<http://www.cfrtac.org>

## Milltown Reservoir Community Office

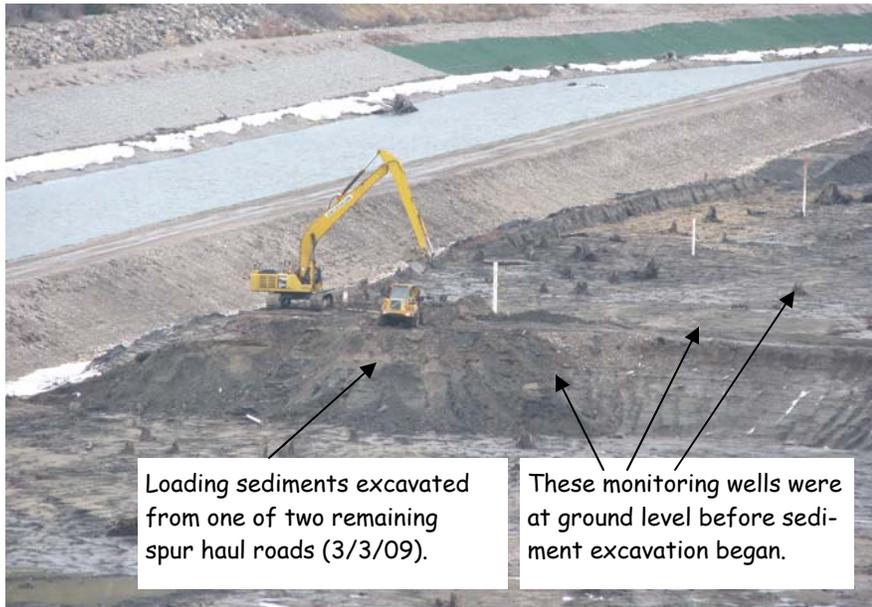
(315 Anaconda St., Milltown, MT)

EPA/DEQ are available  
to meet with you.  
Just give us a call to talk and/or  
set up a meeting!

These updates are intended to  
provide you with the latest  
information about remediation,  
restoration and redevelopment  
activities at the  
Milltown Reservoir Superfund Site.

**Status:** The Milltown Project continues to go very well and is on schedule. Project personnel have worked **261,528 hours** without time lost to injury.

- **Continue to excavate, load and haul contaminated sediments off-site for disposal.** The total to date (3/1/09), is 2,115,601 tons (approximately 1,627,385 cubic yards). This portion of the project is 74% complete! Excavation and removal of the main haul road is complete. Excavation now continues along the remaining two spur roads (see photo at right). After



Loading sediments excavated from one of two remaining spur haul roads (3/3/09).

These monitoring wells were at ground level before sediment excavation began.

these are removed, excavation will begin along the edges of the rail loading pad. Removal, loading and hauling of sediments is expected to continue until fall.

- **De-watering of the spillway removal area continues.** River water has seeped into the spillway area. 1600 gallons/minute (gpm) are being pumped out and back into the Clark Fork River.
- **Grade control work is complete.** The grade control will help reduce the head-cutting (erosion back upstream in the river channel) in the restored channel that might otherwise occur when the spillway coffer dam is breached (expected the week of March 23).
- **Excavation of upstream sediments is about 10% done;** expected to be complete before April. EPA and the MT Natural Resources Damage Program are working with Envirocon to remove approximately 60,000-100,000 tons of material in the restoration area (Area 4) upstream of the remedial project area. If not removed, this material might otherwise scour downstream, if above normal flows occur this spring.



**Grade control structure as seen from the bluff.** When the de-watering pumps below the former spillway are turned off, this area will flood and the structure will no longer be visible. The "hole" is expected to fill in with cobbles and gravel during this spring's high flow.



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## Upcoming Events

- **Monday, March 9**  
**Bonner Milltown Community Council meeting** at 7 pm in the Bonner School Library.
- **Tuesday, March 11**  
**Milltown Informational meeting** Thompson Falls High School, 7-8:30 pm
- **Monday, March 16**  
**Milltown virtual "site tour"** 5-6 pm at Milltown Bluff Overlook; **Milltown Informational Public Meeting** at St. Ann's Catholic Church in Bonner, 7-8:30 pm.
- **Thursday, March 12**  
**(NOTE DATE CHANGE)**  
**Milltown Redevelopment Working Group meeting** 6:30 -8:30 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Bonner.
- **Week of March 23**  
**Breach Milltown Dam Spillway Cofferdam** (Exact date yet TBD)
- **Tuesday, April 14**  
**Design Review Team Site Tour/Briefing**
- **Monday, April 13**  
**Milltown-Bonner Community Council meeting**, 7 pm in the Bonner School Library.
- **Saturday, April 18**  
**1st Annual Superfun(d) Run**—a 10k, 5k and 1 mile fun run/walk along the new Milltown and Bonner community trails. For more information, visit: [www.friendsof2rivers.org](http://www.friendsof2rivers.org) or call 546-6026.

### Upcoming work:

- Sediment excavation/hauling/disposal
- Surface and groundwater monitoring
- I-90 bridge work
- Week of 3/9: Remove temporary work bridge downstream of the I-90 bridges
- Week of 3/16:
  - Remove divider block
  - Final preparations for breach
- Week of 3/23
  - Breach spillway coffer dam
- By 4/1—complete I-90 bridge work
- Implement BMPs in areas 4 and 5, and the spillway coffer dam area to limit downstream transport of sediments.



Monthly Design Review Team Tour/Briefing, 3/3/09. DRT members, CFRTAC and Missoula County, represent the public in reviewing Milltown cleanup plans.

## PROJECT SCHEDULE

2009 I-90 Bridge mitigation  
Stage 3 drawdown  
Sediment removal  
Sediment loading  
Rail hauling sediment

	Restoration
	Redevelopment
2010	Restoration
	Redevelopment
2011	Restoration
	Redevelopment

To view on-going activities, please visit:

<http://www.clarkfork.org/>

and click on the webcam.



The photo above (3/3/09) shows the initial removal of contaminated sediments upstream of the remedial project area (Area 4) to prevent them from scouring during spring high flows. Preventative measures such as these reduce downstream river and fisheries impacts. If all goes as planned, up to 100,000 tons of material could be removed by April 2009.