

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #26

August 7, 2007

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

<http://www.cfrtc.org>

Status: The Milltown Reservoir cleanup project is going well and is now on schedule for powerhouse removal between mid-November 2007 and April 2008. To date, project personnel have worked **59,693 hours** without any time lost to injury.

Currently:

- Envirocon conducted **air monitoring** on July 26, testing for arsenic, copper and lead. All results were below detection limits and below worker health standards.
- Excavation of the **bypass channel** continues. Last week, workers removed 21,000 cubic yards (yd³), bringing the total volume removed to 346,800 yd³. Excavated soil is being stockpiled on-site until it is sent by rail to the repository beginning in late September or early October 2007.
- Work on the **rail road bridge** over the bypass channel continues. Workers are using a crane and diesel hammer to drive the bridge pilings, aiming to finish driving pile this week. The next step will be to install pile caps. The bridge should be complete in about 5 weeks.
- **Nineteen dewatering wells** are producing approximately 3380 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2685 gpm is being discharged into the Clark Fork River and 695 gpm is being discharged to the Blackfoot River via the **Sedimentation Pond**. Testing continues to show that the dissolved arsenic level in discharged water is an order of magnitude lower than the pumped water, e.g., dropping from 350 ppb to 35 ppb arsenic. Weekly sampling continues on the inflow and outflow water quality.
- Continue to work on the **Bypass Channel Berm**, mixing native alluvium (rockier soils) with original topsoils. The berm is built using clean materials which will not re-contaminate the area.
- Envirocon finished the rough **rail road** grade; will complete final grade next week.
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is continuing the **I-90 bridge stabilization** work. Workers have completed installation of the H-pile into bedrock on the west side of the west bound bridge. Workers are presently tying the H-pile into the existing abutment for additional stability. When this work is complete in a week or so, both traffic lanes (east bound and west bound bridges) will reopen.
- USACE continues to place "flexifloats" in the Blackfoot River in preparation for upgrades on the **I-90 Bridge center piers**. Approximately 40 of 100 barges are in place on the River.



Milltown Reservoir Community Office

(315 Anaconda St., Milltown, MT)

Office hours:

Tuesdays 12:30-3:30 pm
EPA and DEQ staff are available
— stop by to talk or just say hi!

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



August 7: Design Review Team members tour the site and watch piles being driven into bedrock in construction of the bypass channel bridge.



Workers driving bridge pilings



US EPA Montana Office
10 W.15th St., Ste.3200
Helena, Montana 59626
1-800-457-2690

Upcoming Meetings

- **Tuesday, August 28**
Community Health and Safety Committee meeting 10 am at the Piltzville Fire Station.
- **Tuesday, August 28**
Milltown Reservoir Redevelopment Working Group meeting at the Lutheran Church in Bonner, 6:30-9:00 pm.
- **Thursday, August 30**
Montana Department of Transportation public meeting about the Highway 200 bridge replacement project. 5:30-7:30 pm at the Bonner School.
- **Thursday, Sept. 6 & Tuesday, Sept. 12**
Public meetings to gather future land use ideas for the Milltown Reservoir cleanup area Public open space? Trails? Share your ideas with your neighbors from 6:30—9:00 pm on 9/6 and 9/12, Bonner School.

Upcoming work:

- Continue bypass channel excavation
- Continue bypass channel berm construction
- Continue rail road bridge construction
- Finish final grade of rail spur; will then be ready for Montana Rail Link to come in and lay track
- Continue rail spur construction from the main rail line to the BP/ARCo repository at the Anaconda Superfund Site
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work (jet grouting and abutment underpinning)
- Continue preparation for I-90 center pier work
- Next week, Missoula County (LS Jensen) should finish the pedestrian trail from the Piltzville Fire Station to the Bonner School
- Next week, USACE plans to begin micro-pile wall installation.
- In mid-August, begin hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel and then begin installation of the bypass channel liner
- Late September or early October, begin rail hauling sediments to the BP/ARCo repository



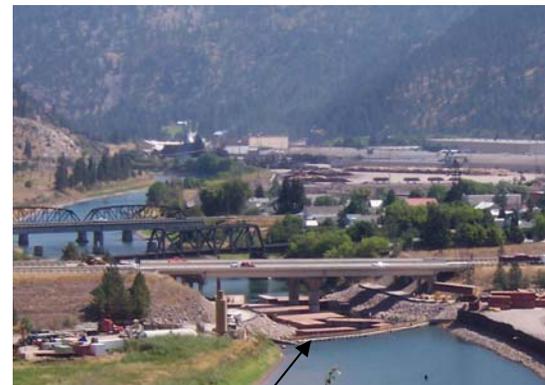
Preserving the History of the Powerhouse

With the decision to remove the Powerhouse before the dam spillway, members of the Milltown Redevelopment History and Culture subcommittee have been busy meeting with NorthWestern Energy, the Missoula County Historic Preservation Officer, and EPA to identify items that the group would like to see preserved. The 2005 Milltown Reservoir Consent Decree sets aside a turbine assembly and other items for the Milltown Redevelopment Working Group to use in retelling the role of the dam and powerhouse in the area's rich history. Deconstruction of the powerhouse is scheduled to begin in October 2007. The historic preservation team is also seeking storage/display space for these items until they find a permanent home, hopefully in an Interpretative Center envisioned near the confluence of the Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers.

For more information/to share ideas, please contact: Judy Matson, Redevelopment Working Group, 258-6335; Peter Nielsen, Missoula County, 258-4968; or Diana Hammer, EPA, 457-5040.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

2007	Build haul roads Build flood berms I-90 bridge mitigation MRL bridge mitigation Build bypass channel Build pedestrian trail Construct rail lines Rail hauling sediment Stage 2 drawdown Build coffer dam Powerhouse removal
2008	Spillway removal Sediment removal Replace Hwy 200 bridge Restoration Redevelopment
2009	Sediment removal Raul hauling sediment
2009	Restoration Redevelopment
2010	Restoration Redevelopment
2011	Restoration Redevelopment



Red "flexifloats" (barges) are placed in the Blackfoot River by USACE's contractor in preparation for stabilization work on the I-90 Bridge Center Piers.



Powerhouse turbine assembly and control panels

SAFETY REMINDER

DURING CONSTRUCTION, THE CLARK FORK AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS ARE CLOSED TO RIVER RECREATION ABOVE AND BELOW THE MILLTOWN DAM AND RESERVOIR AREA. Clark Fork River users must exit at the Turah fishing access; Blackfoot River users must exit at the Weigh Station access point.

VIOLATORS WILL BE FINED.

For more information, call MT FWP at (406) 542-5500.

