

Cleanup Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site



Issue #70

December 10, 2008

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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.cfrtac.org>

Status: The Milltown Project continues to go very well and is on schedule. Project personnel have worked **232,515 hours** without time lost to injury.

- **To date, workers have removed 1,782,495 tons (approximately 1,371,150 cubic yards) of contaminated sediment from the Site** and hauled by rail to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for Site reclamation. **Excavation is about 60% complete.** Most of the cells have been excavated and now workers are removing haul roads to get at the contamination below; the main haul road is currently being removed.
- **Spillway removal resumed on December 1, 2008.** Project Managers expect the spillway to be out in late January 2009. Then the only part of the dam left to remove will be the remnants of the divider block and that should come out late next summer.
- **Workers have increased the height of the flood berm** along the downstream side of the Project Area to protect against a 10-year winter high flow event. Currently, adding rip rap to the flood berm. Should be complete in January 2009.
- **De-watering of the spillway removal area.** Currently pumping at 250 gallons/minute.
- **EPA and the Natural Resource Damages Program (NRDP) are examining possible Best Management Practices (BMPs)** for erosion control upstream of the Project Area (in areas 4 and 5). Expect these BMPs to be in place before high flow—spring 2009.
- **NRDP removed 5600 logs from the Blackfoot River** this fall. More still need to be removed around the bridges later this winter. Twelve timber cribs were removed from the River this fall; four more will be removed next week.
- **MRL Bridge**—this week, finish erosion protection and remove the temporary bridge. Platform for trail will be installed after high flow 2009.
- **NorthWestern Energy continues to work on replacement of the gas pipeline across the Blackfoot River**, proceeding with directional drilling from the west side. Pipeline installation should be complete in January 2009.
- **State Highway 200 and Pedestrian bridges over the Blackfoot River in Milltown are open for use!** Revegetation and land reclamation work will be completed in 2009.



Excavation of cell 6, looking north toward I-90. 2/9/08.

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 to set up a meeting!

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



Looking upstream on the Blackfoot at the Highway 200 bridge (foreground) and Pedestrian Bridge (background). The new bridge piers are mostly out of the river, resulting in a more natural river with fewer obstructions.



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Upcoming Events

- **Bonner History Reprints** are available December 13 from 11 am—2 pm at the Bonner School. Cost is \$20. Copies are also available at the school during regular hours or may be ordered on-line at <http://www.bonner.k12.mt.us> Call 258-6151 for more information.
- **Sunday, Dec. 21 Second Annual Community Christmas Party** at the Hellgate Lions Park in West Riverside, 1-4 pm, FREE! Scott Cooney will discuss development plans. Please bring a gift for a service man or woman or non-perishable item for the Food Bank. Sponsored by the Friends of Two Rivers, for information, call Judy @ 258-6335.
- **Tuesday, January 6 Design Review Team** Tour of Milltown Site
- **Monday, January 12 Bonner Community Council meeting**, 7 pm, Bonner School Library
- **Tuesday, January 27 Monthly Milltown Redevelopment Working Group meeting** 6:30-8:30 pm at the Bonner Lutheran Church. Open to the public.

Upcoming work:

- Continue sediment excavation and hauling.
- Continue removal of the remainder of dam spillway; work complete in about 6 weeks.
- Continue monitoring surface and groundwater.
- I-90 bridge work—open up channel next week; install work bridge to east side next week.

Into the future:

- Plan to breach the spillway coffer dam in late January 2009 (could be delayed as late as March 2009 to allow installation of river restoration structures)
- Plan to transfer river flow from bypass channel to new river channel in August 2010.



I-90 Bridge (photo above) — This week: Finishing up installation of erosion protections on the west side to protect up to a 10-year high flow elevation and opening up the channel on the west side of the center pier. **Next week:** installing temporary construction bridge immediately downstream of bridges to access eastside and install erosion protection. Erosion protection on the west side will be completed to the 500 year flow elevation after the east side protection work is finished. The I-90 bridge mitigation should all be completed in January/February 2009.



View of the flood berm along the west side of the project area. The flood berm is being strengthened to withstand a 10-year winter flow event. Photo, 12/9/08.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- 2008** Sediment removal
 Rail hauling sediments
 Build coffer dams
 Powerhouse removal
 Stage 2 drawdown
 MRL bridge mitigation
 Replace Hwy 200 bridge
 Replace walking bridge
 Spillway removal
- 2009** I-90 Bridge mitigation
 Stage 3 drawdown
 Sediment removal

- Restoration**
Redevelopment
- 2010** Restoration
 Redevelopment
- 2011** Restoration
 Redevelopment

To view on-going activities, please visit:
<http://www.clarkfork.org/>
 and click on the webcam.

