

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #61

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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 **177,938 hours** without time lost to injury.



- **Demolition of the remainder of Milltown Dam continues despite the wet weather.** The photo above (6/10/08) shows excavators digging into the divider block. The south and east walls of the divider block have been removed; workers are removing the gravels that once filled the interior of the divider block. Once the north wall of the divider block is removed, workers will begin removing the radial gate (accessing it from the north side). That work should begin within the next 2 weeks. Removal of the Dam should take about 5 months. **The dam should be completely out this fall!**
- **Continue excavating sediments and loading 45 rail cars each day. To date, 983,435 tons (855,161 cubic yards) of sediment have been hauled to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for use in site reclamation.**
- **Berm inspections continue.** They are functioning very well and as intended.
- **Work continues for replacement of State Highway 200 and Pedestrian bridges over the Blackfoot River in Milltown.** Drilling continues for installation of eastside pier on the Hwy 200 Bridge. Both Bridges should be in place this fall.
- **Fish studies continue.** Fish, Wildlife, and Parks continues its caged fish and telemetry (radio-tagged) fish studies to monitor fish health and movement as a result of dam removal activities. No changes in caged fish mortality. **Fish continue to migrate upstream of the dam site.** FWP began its population monitoring in the Bitterroot River this week; the fish populations in the Turah and Milltown sections of the Clark Fork River will be studied in the next few weeks.
- **The Restoration Program will begin seeding soils to retard weed growth.** The flat areas will be broadcast-seeded and the stockpiled soils (sloped) will be hydro-seeded. Getting desirable species (i.e., regreen, slender, western and thickspike wheatgrass and green needlegrass) established is an effective way to control weed growth.

**Milltown Reservoir
Community Office**
(315 Anaconda St., Milltown, MT)

Office Hours:
Tuesdays 1:00-3:00 pm
EPA and DEQ staff are available.
Stop by to talk
or say hi!

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



US EPA Montana Office
10 W.15th St., Ste.3200
Helena, Montana 59626

Upcoming Events

- **Tuesday, June 17**
Monthly meeting of the Milltown Redevelopment Working Group, 6:30—9 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Bonner. The next working group meeting will be September 23, 2008.
- **Tuesday, June 24**
Restoration Public Hearing 6:30 pm in the Bonner School Community Room. The state is seeking public comment on a restoration funding proposal on how to spend money recovered in a natural resource damage settlement with ARCO on restoration projects in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin. The proposal, Draft Conceptual Framework for an UCFRB Restoration Priorities Road Map, will be subject of a 60-day public comment period ending on August 15, 2008 and public hearings in Bonner and 3 other communities. Written comments may be sent to the Natural Resource Damage Program, P.O. Box 201425, Helena, MT 59620-1425, faxed to 444-0236 or e-mailed to nrdp@mt.gov. This proposal is also available on the NRDP website at: <http://doj.mt.gov/lands/naturalresource/restorationroadmap.asp>

Upcoming work:

- Continue sediment excavation and hauling.
- Continue removal of the remainder of the Milltown Dam; removal should take about 5 months to complete.
- Work continues on Hwy 200 bridge (MDT)
- Work continues on the Bonner Pedestrian bridge (Missoula County).

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

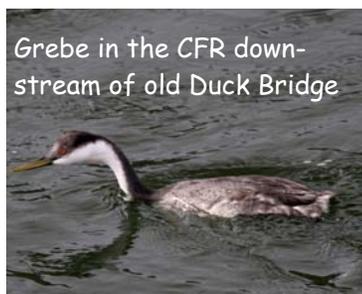
In cooperation with EPA, the US Geological Survey has just issued its Milltown Sediment Transport Report: Estimated Loads of Suspended Sediment and Selected Trace Elements Transported Through the Milltown Reservoir in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin, Montana, Water Years 2004-2007.

The report is available online:
<http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2008/5080/>

Wildlife Photos from the Milltown Project Area— taken by Larry Dears, PE, with EMC²



Bald Eagle over CFR



Grebe in the CFR downstream of old Duck Bridge



Northern Pygmy Owl



Dipper Chicks



Osprey with fish

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** Sediment removal



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

Safety Reminder

DURING THE MILLTOWN CLEANUP, THE CLARK FORK AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS ARE **CLOSED** TO RIVER RECREATION ABOVE AND BELOW THE PROJECT AREA.

Clark Fork River users must exit the river at Turah Fishing Access; Blackfoot River users must exit at Weigh Station.



VIOLATORS and TRESPASSERS WILL BE FINED.

For more information, contact Montana FWP at 542-5500.

River Otter swims near Milltown Dam spillway

