

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

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[http://www.epa.gov/
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)

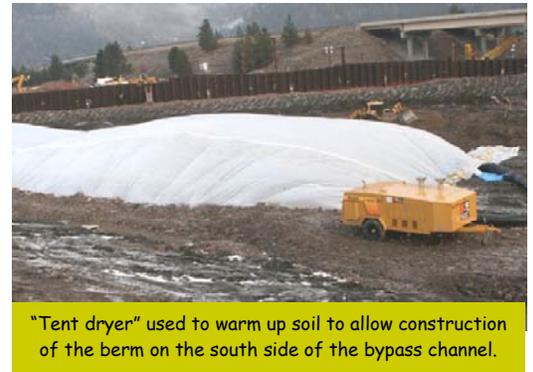
Office hours:
Tuesdays 12:30-3:30 pm
EPA and DEQ staff are available.
Stop by to talk
or just say hi!

Status: The Milltown Reservoir cleanup project is going well and is on schedule for powerhouse removal in 2008 before spring high flow.

The project reached the 100,000 hour milestone — **101,414 hours worked** without any time lost.

Currently:

- **Continue loading rail cars with excavated sediment for transportation to the repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.** 242,181 tons (210,592 cubic yards) of sediment have been hauled to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for disposal.
- **Continue work on the bypass channel berm;** however, recent cold and snowy conditions have slowed construction progress. To help meet compaction specifications for the berm in this cold weather, Envirocon has constructed a "tent dryer" to warm up the soils. Envirocon plans to complete the bypass channel berm in January 2008.
- **Continue to line the Bypass Channel.** 281,000 square feet of reno mattress installed; 50% complete. 70,000 square feet of the green Turf Reinforcing Mat or TRM installed; 50% complete. The bypass channel should be lined and finished in January 2008.
- **Workers continue to install boulder clusters in the bottom of the bypass channel.** These boulders are staggered to break up river flow and provide resting areas for fish as they travel through the bypass channel. With the removal of the Powerhouse and opening up of the Clark Fork, fish will be able to move upstream of the dam *unimpeded* for the first time in 100 years!
- **Trucks continue to haul 12-15 truckloads of rock per day** to supply materials for lining the bypass channel and rip rap for the upstream coffer dam. Rock is now being hauled from the east and the west. These are larger trucks (a "belly dump" towing a "pup") so please watch for these vehicles (they will be looking for you too!). Hauling will continue at least through December 2007.
- **Twenty five dewatering wells** are producing 2690 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2205 gpm are discharged into the Clark Fork River, 90 gpm are discharged to the Blackfoot River directly. 395 gpm are discharged first to the **sedimentation pond** and then to the Blackfoot River.
- **USACE and its contractors continue to strengthen and stabilize the I-90 bridge center piers.** All the drilled shafts and caissons have been installed. Crews will be working on the foundation, tying the new columns into the existing piers. Mitigation will be done in January 2008.
- The MT Department of Transportation (MDT) has installed the temporary work bridge downstream and the 2-lane detour bridge is in place upstream of the current **Highway 200 bridge**. Crews are building the roadway leading to and from the detour bridge. MDT plans to have the detour bridge open to traffic in early 2008. The new bridge should be in place next fall.



"Tent dryer" used to warm up soil to allow construction of the berm on the south side of the bypass channel.

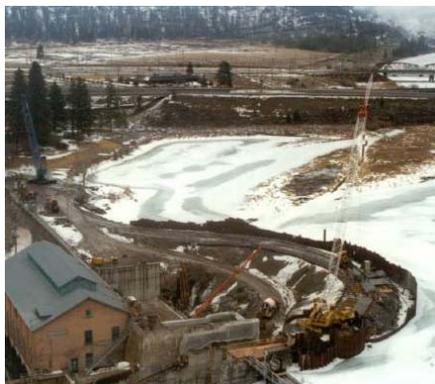
These weekly updates are intended to provide you with the latest information about remediation, restoration and redevelopment activities at the Milltown Reservoir.



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Upcoming Events

- The Milltown Redevelopment Working Group is not meeting in December. The next meeting will be Thursday, January 22, 2008 from 6:30-9:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Bonner.



Below is a photo of the Powerhouse coffer dam from 1988. This is similar to the coffer dam that will be built and breached in 2008.

During and after the coffer dam is breached, EPA estimates 300,000 cubic yards of sediments will be carried downstream, primarily clean sediments from the Blackfoot River.

To view a recent coffer dam breach: http://www.marmotdam.com/marmot_demolition_01.htm



A little holiday cheer along the bypass channel.

There will be no weekly updates for the weeks of December 17 and 24, 2007. Project work will continue. Regular Weekly Updates will resume in January 2008.

Upcoming work:

- Continue bypass channel berm construction
- Continue reno mattress and TRM installation
- Continue hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel through December
- Begin to install coffer dam at inlet of the bypass channel
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work
- MDT continues work on the Hwy 200 bridge

Milltown Reservoir Public Meeting Held

EPA and DEQ hosted an Open House and Public Meeting on Tuesday, December 11 at the Bonner School. Staff from the Montana Natural Resource Damages Program, Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Missoula County, University of Montana, and Envirocon were on hand with displays and to answer questions.

Powerhouse Removal — this was one of the main topics of the meeting. In preparation for the removal, most of the equipment has been taken out of the Powerhouse. The Milltown Redevelopment Working Group has been salvaging historic items for future display and interpretation. Workers will begin dismantling the Powerhouse shop in early January. Removal of the Powerhouse should be completed in February. Meanwhile, crews will be constructing a coffer dam just upstream of the Powerhouse and near the inlet at the upstream end of the Clark Fork River bypass channel. When all is ready (March/April 2008), the bypass channel will be opened, the coffer dam breached, and the Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers will flow through the gap where the Powerhouse and right abutment used to be. This will be something to see and will mark another big milestone in the cleanup, restoration, and redevelopment of the project area.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

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

Notice!

The Bonner Pedestrian Bridge will be closed to the public beginning Monday, December 17, 2007.

It will remain closed until the new hybrid bridge is in place, fall 2008.



View from the bottom of the bypass channel, looking upstream (to the east). The bypass channel is 4100 feet long and 100 feet wide at the base. Boulder clusters will aid in fish passage. It will be completed in January 2008.