

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #38

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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.

To date, project personnel have worked **86,954 hours** without any time lost to injury.

Currently:

- **Air monitoring** results from sampling conducted in the Powerhouse during the lead-paint abatement did not detect lead in the area outside the work area. Levels of lead inside the work area were right at (50) or slightly above (55) the OSHA limit of 50 mg/m³. Respirators are required.
- **Completed installation of a diversion in the Clark Fork River** just upstream of Duck Bridge. This diversion is intended to keep the river away from the project area so work on the inlet to the bypass channel can proceed more efficiently. Plans are to divert the Clark Fork River into the bypass channel this winter/early spring — after removal of the Powerhouse this winter and immediately before breaching the Powerhouse coffer dam.
- **Continue removal of the lead-based paint from the Powerhouse** which began on October 29. Workers have nearly finished removing the lead-based paint from the north wall and will begin work on the floors later this week. Lead-based paint removal should be complete next week.
- **Continue loading rail cars with excavated sediment for transportation to the repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.** 147,765 tons (128,491 cubic yards) of sediment have been hauled to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for disposal. Over the next 2 years, trains will haul 2.2 million yd³ of sediments, resulting in a restored aquifer, river, and fishery.
- **Workers continue excavating near the outlet channel of the bypass channel.** The area behind the sheet piling will be backfilled with clean materials. This work sets the stage for breaching the outlet and diverting the Clark Fork River into the bypass channel in winter/early spring 2008.
- **Continue to excavate the Bypass Channel Berm.** It is 80% complete; should be done in mid-December 2007. Workers continue to line the bottom and south sides; 45% complete. Turf Reinforcing Mat is 40% installed. The bypass channel should be completely finished by the end of December 2007.
- **Trucks continue to haul 12-15 truckloads of rock per day** to supply materials for the bypass channel. Hauling will continue through November 2007.
- **Installed a toe drain** on the south side of the bypass channel berm for (surprise!) drainage.
- **Twenty five dewatering wells** are producing 3165 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2385 gpm are discharged into the Clark Fork River, 170 gpm are discharged to the Blackfoot River directly and 610 gpm are discharged first to the **sedimentation pond** and then to the Blackfoot River.
- **USACE and its contractors continue to work 24/7 to strengthen and stabilize the I-90 bridge center piers.** Work has been going slowly as crews drill through 16" I-beams to install the bridge supports. Work continues on the west bound lane center pier with 10 of the 16 drilled shafts in place. I-90 Bridge mitigation should be complete in January 2008.
- **Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) has installed the work bridge on the downstream side of State Highway 200** and is now installing the detour bridge. The current Highway 200 bridge will be removed and the detour bridge will be in place by April 2008.



Excavation near what will be the outlet of the Clark Fork River bypass channel — the new temporary confluence with the Blackfoot River

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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Helena, Montana 59626
1-800-457-2690

Upcoming Meetings

- **TUESDAY, NOV. 27** Milltown Redevelopment Working Group meeting, 6:30–9 pm at the Lutheran Church in Bonner. Members of the public are welcome.
- **SUNDAY, DEC. 2** Community Christmas Celebration in Bonner 2-6 pm in House #60 (next to Credit Union). Sponsored by Friends of Two Rivers; Free and open to the public.
- **TUESDAY, DEC. 4** Design Review Team Milltown Site Tour
- **TUESDAY, DEC. 11** Health and Safety Meeting, 10 -11 am, Piltzville Fire Station
- **TUESDAY, DEC. 11** EPA and the State of Montana will host a public meeting/open house to discuss progress on the Milltown Reservoir Cleanup, Restoration, and Redevelopment. **Open House 5:30-6:30 pm; Public Meeting 6:30-8:30 pm** in the Bonner School Community Room.

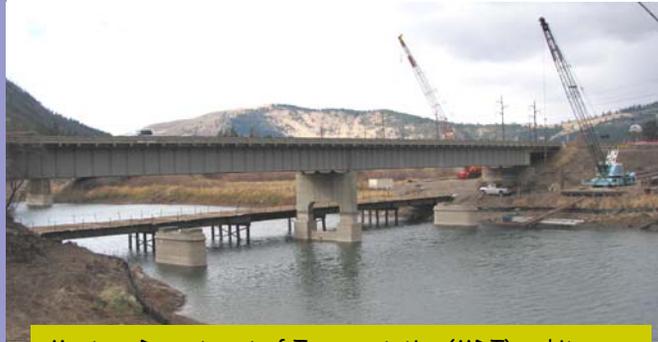
Local Well Inventory

EPA is implementing a pro-active program to identify and replace wells at risk of going dry because of the reservoir draw downs.

If you have questions about your well, please call Tony Bethelote: (406) 207-5856 (cell)

Upcoming work:

- Continue bypass channel berm construction
- Continue reno mattress installation
- Continue hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel; through November
- Continue lead-based paint removal in Powerhouse
- Start installing boulder clusters in bypass channel to aid in fish passage.
- Continue excavation of the bypass channel outlet to the Blackfoot River.
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work
- MDT continues work on the Hwy 200 bridge



Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) and its contractor, Frontier West, have installed a temporary work bridge for construction of the new Highway 200 bridge.

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 Replace walking bridge Restoration Redevelopment
2009	Sediment removal
2009	Restoration Redevelopment
2010	Restoration Redevelopment
2011	Restoration Redevelopment



View of the Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site from the bluff overlook, 11/13/07.