

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #43

January 15, 2008

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[http://www.epa.gov/
region8/superfund/sites/
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<http://www.cfrtac.org>

Status: The Milltown Reservoir cleanup is on schedule for powerhouse removal this winter; diversion of the Clark Fork River into the bypass channel and breaching of the Powerhouse coffer dam in early spring. Personnel have worked 117,527 hours without time lost.

Currently:

- Yesterday, workers began removing the right abutment wall of the Milltown Dam structure. This marks another important project milestone and the first step in the structural removal of the Milltown Dam. Workers are creating a large opening in the north wall of the Powerhouse so the generators can be removed this week. Demolition will take about two



Removal begins of the right (north) abutment wall of the Milltown Dam Structure, 1/15/08.

- weeks to complete. Workers plan to begin demolition of the Powerhouse in February. The Milltown Redevelopment Working Group is working with NorthWestern and Envirocon to preserve one of the generators and many other historic items from the Powerhouse. Demolition is being documented with photos and video.
- **Continue loading rail cars with excavated sediment for transportation to the repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.** 351,856 tons (305,962 cubic yards) of sediment have been hauled to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for disposal.
- **Resumed work on the bypass channel berm;** Only approximately 10,000 cubic yards of material are needed to complete the berm; construction should be completed in the next few weeks.
- **Continue to line the Bypass Channel.** Installation of the reno mattress and TRM are about 70% complete. The lining should be completed in the next few weeks.
- **Trucks continue to haul rock per day** to supply materials for lining the bypass channel and rip rap for the upstream coffer dam. Rock will be hauled for another month from the east and west.
- Excavation continues at the bypass channel outlet (see photo on page 2). Metal beams ("walers") brace the sheet piling during excavation; Excavation should be completed this week.
- **Twenty four dewatering wells** are producing 2455 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2195 gpm are discharged into the Clark Fork River and 260 gpm are discharged to the Blackfoot River directly. These numbers include the discharge from three new wells in the inlet coffer dam. The other wells in the inlet structure are being abandoned so excavation of those contaminated sediments can begin. Pumping of wells to the sedimentation pond in the lower bypass channel has been discontinued. This water is now discharged directly to the Blackfoot River.

Milltown Reservoir Community Office

(315 Anaconda St., Milltown, MT)

Winter Office Hours:
Tuesdays 1:00-3:00 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.



US EPA Montana Office
10 W. 15th St., Ste. 3200
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Upcoming Events

- **Tuesday, January 22** Milltown Redevelopment Working Group monthly meeting, 6:30-9:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Bonner.
- **Monday, February 4** Missoula County will host an open house to discuss possible designs for a pedestrian loop trail from Bonner to Turah. 4-7 pm at the Bonner School.
- **Tuesday, February 5** Design Review Team Site Tour
- **Tuesday, February 26** Milltown Redevelopment Working Group monthly meeting, 6:30-9:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Bonner.
- **EPA/DEQ Project Update Open House and Public Meeting**, March. Date/location TBD.
- **Design Review Team meeting on Stage 3A Preliminary Design Report**, mid-March.

Update on Area Bridges

I-90: USACE and its contractors have poured the final concrete cap on the west bound center pier. Next week, USACE will remove the sheet piling from around the center piers.

Highway 200: MDT and its contractors continue to make good progress; workers have begun removing the decking on the old bridge. Traffic is now routed completely on the detour bridge. Speed limit is 25 MPH. The new bridge should be in place this fall.

Pedestrian Bridge: Missoula County and its contractor have installed the work bridge and are now removing the concrete deck from the old pedestrian bridge. The new "hybrid" bridge should be in place this fall.

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
- Continue opening up the Powerhouse north wall
- Install two grade control structures
- USACE begins removing center pier foundation forms and coffer dam
- USACE begins removal of "flexi-float" barges in Blackfoot River week of January 21.
- USACE will re-configure the slope along the I-90 embankment this summer
- MDT continues work on the Hwy 200 bridge
- County continues work on the Pedestrian bridge

PROJECT SCHEDULE

- | | |
|-------------|--|
| 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 |

Area residents: If you have questions or concerns about your well, please call Tony Berthelote at 207-5856 or EPA at 457-5000.



Final concrete cap on the center pier on the west bound lanes of I-90, January 11, 2008.



The Highway 200 and Pedestrian Bridges in Bonner are active construction zones. For your own safety, please obey posted signs.



Excavation adjacent to the Sheet Piling at the Bypass Channel Outlet. Note the "walers" (metal beams) at the base of the sheet piling to provide structural support as soil is excavated away.

EPA plans to open the Bypass Channel in March 2008.