

## Weekly Update

# Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #55

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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 **159,256 hours** without time lost to injury.



Shown on center Right is the finished upstream dike blocking of the CFR at head end of bypass channel. Deer Creek is entering by-pass channel at center left.

### 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 say hi!

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

### Currently:

- **Completed the diversion dike upstream of the bypass channel on April 12th.** This substantial dike is needed to keep the Clark Fork River flowing into the bypass channel (and out of the old channel). The Deer Creek flow is also directed into the bypass channel. The diversion dike, constructed of compacted fill and rock, is designed to withstand a 100-year flood.
- **Former Clark Fork River channel is nearly dry** as flows are re-routed into the bypass channel.
- **Sediment excavation continues.** Excavation from Cell 4 has been completed. Excavation from Cell 5 starts this week.
- **Continue loading 45 rail cars each day.** To date, **738,103 tons** (641,828 cubic yards) of sediment have been hauled to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for use in site reclamation.
- **Sediment de-watering continues.** Pumping 185 gallons per minute from 6 wells on the south side of the bypass channel to keep sediments dry for excavation and handling. Pumped water is discharged into the Clark Fork River; pumping will be discontinued after high flows this spring.
- **Construction of the coffer dam upstream of the Milltown Dam spillway continues.** This coffer dam will protect the sediments upstream of the spillway from erosion during high flows and provide a dry work environment for the upcoming spillway and radial gate removal. In preparation, some rip rap from the Blackfoot River flood berm has been removed. Construction of this coffer dam should be completed by April 25th. .
- Work continues on schedule for replacement of the **State Highway and pedestrian bridges.**



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

## Upcoming Events

- **April 19-26, 2008** Bike, Walk, Bus Week
- **Sat, April 19**, Milltown-Bluff tour, 3:15 - 5:15 pm;
- **Weds. April 23**, 6-8 pm, Walking tour of Piltzville
- **Sat. April 26**, Bonner to Marshall Grade tour 3:15-5:15 pm. For more info, please call 258-6335.
- **Tues, April 22**, Milltown Redevelopment Working Group monthly meeting 6:30-9:00 pm at Bonner Lutheran Church.
- **Mon, May 12**, Bonner Milltown Community Council meeting, 7:00 pm, at Bonner School Library.

### Upcoming work:

- Continue sediment excavation and hauling
- Continue to remove powerhouse channel over bank sediments.
- Continue building the coffer dam upstream of spillway area
- Start geotechnical drilling on dam left abutment near cliff.
- Work continues on Hwy 200 (MDT) and Bonner Pedestrian bridge (Missoula County)
- EPA continues its local well programs and is schedule with well upgrades.

To view on-going activities, visit:

<http://www.clarkfork.org/> click on the webcam

Brought to you by the Clark Fork Coalition

Made possible by donations from Envirocon, MRL, & Modern Machinery

To watch a time-lapsed video of the Milltown Dam breach produced by American Whitewater:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ISLInzprz3M>

## 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
- 2009** Spillway removal  
Sediment removal  
Raul hauling sediment

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



## On-going Monitoring

The Milltown Cleanup Project has on-going monitoring programs. Funded by EPA, Missoula County and U of M are monitoring area groundwater. Although the Blackfoot River has dropped about 8 feet at the I-90 bridges after the powerhouse coffer dam breach; preliminary data shows that area ground water levels have dropped less than 12 inches. USGS (EPA funded) is monitoring surface water for suspended sediment transport. Envirocon monitors for water quality daily. Water quality data can be found at <ftp://milltown.envirocon.com> Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks is continuing to monitor its caged and radio-tagged fish and has so far seen no mortalities in the study area downstream of the Milltown Project Area.



Construction of the upstream spillway coffer dam.

## TRESPASSING

There have been a number of trespassers accessing the closed portion of the Blackfoot River and the construction site. Please spread the word that the Blackfoot and Clark Fork Rivers are closed from just upstream of Stimson and from below Turah Bridge, to the MRL rail bridge.

**Trespassers will continue to be fined.**

If you have questions or concerns about your residential well, please call Tony Berthelote at 207-5856.



Powerhouse channel right overbank sediment removal.