

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

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<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!

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

Status: The Milltown Reservoir cleanup project is going well and is still on schedule for powerhouse removal between December 2007 and April 2008. To date, project personnel have worked **71,671 hours** without any time lost to injury.

Currently:

- Envirocon conducted air sampling for arsenic, lead, and copper (area sample at Rustic Road access, area sample on site, personal sample on truck driver), two weeks ago and the results showed no detections of contaminants.
- Excavation of the **bypass channel is nearly complete**. Last week, workers removed 21,000 cubic yards (yd³), bringing the total volume removed to 541,000 yd³. All that remains to be removed are sediments near the outlet and inlet structures, and the land bridges. Excavation of the outlet is nearly complete and then workers will begin removing the land bridge at the west end of the site. When that is finished, workers will remove the east land bridge. Removal of the 30,000-40,000 yd³ from the land bridges should take about 3-4 weeks. Excavated soil continues to be stockpiled on-site until it is sent by rail to the repository in early October.
- Continue to work on the **Bypass Channel Berm**, mixing native alluvium (rockier soils) with original topsoils. The berm is built using clean materials which will not re-contaminate the area.
- Workers are busy lining the bypass channel with "**reno mattresses**," and are about 25% complete. Installation should be done by the end of November.
- **Trucks are hauling rock** to fill wire cages that workers tie together to form the "reno mattresses" for the bypass channel. The number of trucks may vary from day to day but there should be between 10-18 truckloads per day (I-90 and Rustic Road).
- The **rail road bridge** over the bypass channel will be finished this week. Montana Rail Link (MRL) has laid the track and now all that remains is installation of the walkway and handrail.
- MRL continues building the **rail spur**. Workers have finished laying track from the Bonner School onto the Site. MRL is now adding ballast and will finish the rail line this week.
- **Twenty three dewatering wells** are producing 3155 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2580 gpm are discharged into the Clark Fork River and 575 gpm are discharged to the Blackfoot River via the **Sedimentation Pond**. Discharged water continues to be clear and with low concentrations of iron and arsenic. Weekly sampling continues on the inflow and outflow water quality.
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is completing **jet-grouting** on the east side of the Blackfoot River the first week of October and will finish jet-grouting the west side by the end of October 2007.
- USACE and its contractors have finished installing **sheet pile coffer dams** around the **I-90 bridge center piers**. Installation of the drilled shafts should begin this week. I-90 Bridge mitigation should be complete by December 2007.



Montana Rail Link (MRL) workers installing pedestrian walkway and final touches to the on-site rail bridge over the Clark Fork River bypass channel, 9/25/07



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Upcoming Meetings

- **Tuesday, October 2**
Design Review Team site tour
- **Tuesday, October 9**
Milltown Community Health and Safety meeting, 10 am at the Piltzville Fire Station
- **Tuesday, October 23**
Milltown Reservoir Redevelopment Group monthly mtg., 6:30–9:00 pm at Our Savior's Lutheran Church



"Milltown Gateway" Design Idea



"River Confluence" Design Idea



"Reservoir" Design Idea



Discussing designs with community members

Upcoming work:

- Continue bypass channel excavation
- Continue bypass channel berm construction
- Continue reno mattress installation
- Finish rail line construction
- Begin staging sediments for loading onto railcars
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work
- Continue hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel; through October.
- In early October, begin rail hauling sediments (one 45 car train/day) to the BP/ARCO repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.
- Over the next several weeks, equipment and other items will be removed from the Powerhouse. Deconstruction should begin November 1.

Public Park/Open Space Design Workshop

Last week, over the course of a day and a half, approximately two dozen people drafted some initial designs of what may become a publicly-managed park and open space on land currently owned by NorthWestern Energy near the confluence of the Clark Fork and Blackfoot Rivers.

The "Design Workshop" was sponsored by the Milltown Redevelopment Working Group, National Park Service Rivers and Trails Program, EPA, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, Missoula County, and the Idaho-Montana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (IMASLA).

Community members participated in the workshop as key stakeholders and local experts, volunteering their time and energy. Leading the design efforts were six landscape architects (5 from the Missoula area and 1 from Idaho) who also volunteered their time and substantial talent!

Workshop participants were divided into 3 teams, each with a particular geographic focus: **Milltown Gateway** (near the pedestrian bridge), **Confluence Area**, and the **Reservoir Area**. The Confluence and Gateway Design Teams were asked to develop design 2 options: a low-intensity use and a higher-intensity use. The Reservoir team's task was to develop a natural design for the Clark Fork River area and to also design a viewing area on the bluff with trails leading to that overlook.

Workshop participants used park and open space ideas gathered from the community by the Redevelopment Working Group as a springboard for the first designs. Public comment was also taken during the workshop and incorporated into the re-designs.

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

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.

Over the next several weeks, Tony Berthelote will be contacting residents in the West Riverside, Pine Grove, and Piltzville areas.

If you live in one of these areas and are concerned about your well, please give Tony a call:
(406) 207-5856 (cell)

Plans are underway for additional public input and finalizing the designs.

Please stay tuned for more information and

more opportunities to view and comment on the draft designs.



More public input