

Weekly Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

Issue #39

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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.cfrtc.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 **95,955 hours** without any time lost to injury.

Currently:

- Recent snow and ice have slowed construction work down considerably.
- **Continue loading rail cars with excavated sediment for transportation to the repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site. 186,425 tons** (162,109 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.
- **Due to the ice and snow, work was suspended on the bypass channel berm.** Workers are finding more finely grained soils in the alluvium so they may not need to add buried A soils to meet the compaction specifications. About 18,000 cubic yards have yet to be removed.
- Continue to line the **Bypass Channel**. Reno mattress installation is about 45% complete. Turf Reinforcing Mat (TRM) is 40% installed. The bypass channel should be completely lined and 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 has been going slowly and will continue through December 2007.
- **Continue installing a "toe drain"** on the south side of the bypass channel berm for (surprise!) drainage. Last week 900 feet was installed; should be completed this week.
- **Twenty five dewatering wells** are producing 3095 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2435 gpm are discharged into the Clark Fork River, 145 gpm are discharged to the Blackfoot River directly and 515 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**. Due to the cold weather, workers have also had to de-ice the equipment. The coffer dam is in place around the center pier on the eastbound lane. Work crews have de-watered about 8 feet down around that center pier. Thirteen of the 16 shafts are in place. The remaining 3 shafts have been drilled down through the iron and concrete seal and will be complete by the end of this week.. I-90 Bridge mitigation should be done in January 2008.
- Montana Department of Transportation (MDT) continues its work on the **State Highway 200 Bridge**; the bridge will be removed and the detour bridge will be in place by April 2008.
- Missoula County has put bids out to remove and replace the **Bonner Pedestrian Bridge**. The County expects to award the contract in early 2008 and have the bridge removed by April 2008.



Installation of "toe drain" on south side of the Clark Fork River bypass channel

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
Helena, Montana 59626
1-800-457-2690

Upcoming Events

- SUNDAY, DEC. 2**
Community Christmas Celebration in Bonner
 2-6 pm in decorated House #42. History displays, Cultural carols, Original art displays, door prizes and raffle. 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 and TRM installation
- Continue hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel through December
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work
- MDT continues work on the Hwy 200 bridge

Community Involvement Update

There are a number of avenues community members can use to stay informed about and involved in activities related to the Milltown cleanup:

- Weekly updates
- Informational kiosks
- EPA/DEQ weekly office hours in Milltown
- Redevelopment Working Group meetings
- Community Health and Safety meetings
- Design Review Team representatives
- Project Websites
- Periodic public meetings

And... *coming soon to the bluff overlook!*

- Public viewing area and kiosk
- Project webcam

To learn more about any of these, please contact Diana Hammer, EPA: 406.457.5040 or hammer.diana@epa.gov

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



View of the Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site from the bluff overlook, 11/13/07. (Due to current snow-covered site conditions, we are re-using this photo)