

## 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 now on schedule for powerhouse removal between December 2007 and April 2008.

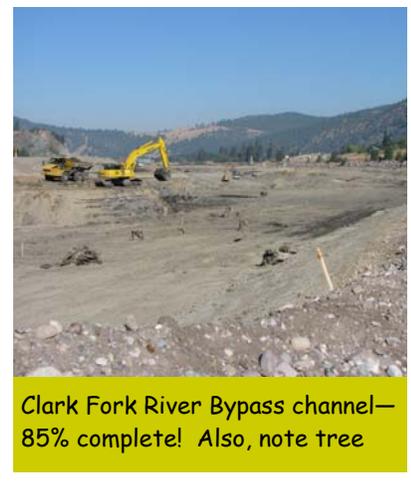
To date, project personnel have worked **64,385 hours** without any time lost to injury.

### Currently:

- Excavation of the **bypass channel** continues. Last week, workers removed 37,000 cubic yards (yd<sup>3</sup>), bringing the total volume removed to 459,800 yd<sup>3</sup>. Excavation is 85% complete! Excavated soil is being stockpiled on-site until it is sent by rail to the repository beginning in October 2007.
- Work on the **rail road bridge** over the bypass channel continues. Nearly all of the bridge supports are in place and the decking will be laid next week. After that, Montana Rail Link (MRL) will lay the track. The bridge should be complete in mid-September 2007.
- This week, Montana Rail Link is completing the rail line at the **BP/ARCo repository** at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.
- **Twenty dewatering wells** are producing 3350 gallons per minute (gpm), of which, 2615 gpm is being discharged into the Clark Fork River and 735 gpm is being discharged to the Blackfoot River via the **Sedimentation Pond**. Discharged water is clear and is not staining (iron, manganese) surrounding rocks. In addition to settling out metals, testing continues to show that the dissolved arsenic level in discharged water is an order of magnitude lower than the pumped water, e.g., dropping from 350 ppb to 35 ppb arsenic. Weekly sampling continues on the inflow and outflow water quality.
- 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.
- US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and its contractor are continuing the **I-90 bridge stabilization** work. Workers are finishing installation of the micropile walls. Work under the west bound lane is complete and micropile walls on the eastbound lane will be done next week. Both I-90 bridges should be open to traffic by mid-September.
- USACE and its contractor have placed "flexifloats" in the Blackfoot River in preparation for upgrades on the **I-90 Bridge center piers**. Workers hope to install sheet pile next week and then excavate sediment around the center piers and install 8 30" shafts on each center pier for added stability.



On-site Rail Bridge Construction



Clark Fork River Bypass channel—85% complete! Also, note tree



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## Upcoming Meetings

- **Thursday, August 30**  
Montana Dept. of Transportation public meeting about the Highway 200 bridge replacement project. 5:30-7:30 pm at the Bonner School.
- **Weds., September 5**  
Design Review Team Milltown site tour
- **Thursday, Sept. 6 & Tuesday, Sept. 12**  
Public meetings to gather future land use ideas for the Milltown Reservoir cleanup area  
Public open space? Trails? Share your ideas from 6:30–9:00 pm on 9/6 and 9/12, in the Bonner School Community Room.
- **Sept. 20-21**  
Design Workshop
- **Friday, Sept. 21**  
11:30–1 pm and 7-9 pm at St. Ann's Church in Bonner  
Public viewing/comment on designs for a possible Milltown Reservoir park/recreational area.

## SAFETY REMINDER

DURING CONSTRUCTION, THE CLARK FORK AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS ARE CLOSED TO RIVER RECREATION ABOVE AND BELOW THE MILLTOWN DAM AND RESERVOIR AREA. Clark Fork River users must exit at the Turah fishing access; Blackfoot River users must exit at the Weigh Station access point.

VIOLATORS WILL BE FINED.

For more information, call MT FWP at (406) 542-5500.



## Upcoming work:

- Continue bypass channel excavation
- Continue bypass channel berm construction
- Continue rail road bridge construction
- USACE continues I-90 bridge stabilization work (on abutments and center piers)
- Next week, Envirocon will begin hauling rock for the "reno mattresses" to line the bypass channel and then begin installation of the bypass channel liner. Hauling (16-18 trucks/day) will occur on I-90 and Rustic Road (Turah exit) and will continue through October.
- In the next 2 months, equipment and other items will be removed from the Powerhouse. Deconstruction should begin October 1.
- In October, begin rail hauling sediments to the BP/Anaconda repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.

## Implementing the Area Well Strategy

At the public meeting on August 1, EPA announced that in addition to its current well program (service calls, repairs and replacement, arsenic testing) EPA would implement a pro-active program to identify and replace wells at risk of going dry because of the reservoir drawdown. Briefly, the strategy is to:

Evaluate: 1) Hire a liaison; 2) Determine inventory of wells at-risk using public information (State/County) and the U of M groundwater report; 3) Collect information on at-risk wells and those lacking information; 4) Evaluate all public water supply wells and shared wells.

Take action: 1) Preemptively offer to install new wells for those at high risk; 2) Contract additional well drillers and pump services; 3) Continue service calls; 3) Hook-up temporary service connections; and 4) Continue to share information with the public.

Using EPA funds, Missoula County has hired Tony Berthelote, author of the U of M groundwater study, to serve as the Community Liaison. Over the next several weeks, Tony will be contacting residents in the West Riverside, Pine Grove, and Piltzville areas to implement this well strategy and determine the high priority wells. He will begin with wells serving numerous families.

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

## 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 Restoration Redevelopment
2009	Sediment removal Raul hauling sediment
2009	Restoration Redevelopment
2010	Restoration Redevelopment
2011	Restoration Redevelopment



Montana Rail Link workers installing track to the BP/ARCO repository at the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.