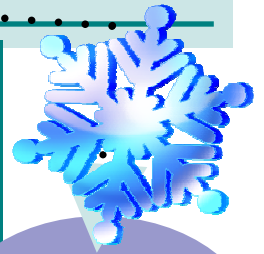


Cleanup Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site



Issue #72

January 21, 2009

For More Information:

Russ Forba, EPA
457-5042
forba.russ@epa.gov

Diana Hammer, EPA
457-5040
hammer.diana@epa.gov

Keith Large, MT DEQ
841-5039
klarge@mt.gov

Doug Martin, MT NRDP
444-0234
dougmartin@mt.gov

Peter Nielsen, Missoula Co.
258-4968
NielsenP@ho.missoula.mt.us

Websites:
[http://www.epa.gov/
region8/superfund/sites/
mt/milltown](http://www.epa.gov/region8/superfund/sites/mt/milltown)

<http://www.cfrtac.org>

Milltown Reservoir Community Office

(315 Anaconda St., Milltown, MT)

EPA/DEQ are available
to meet with you.

Just give us a call to talk and/or
to set up a meeting!

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 Project continues to go very well and is on schedule. Project personnel have worked **245,374 hours** without time lost to injury.

- **To date, workers have removed 1,923,709 tons (approximately 1,479,776 cubic yards) of contaminated sediment from the Site and hauled by rail to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site for Site reclamation. Excavation is over 64% complete.** Excavation is currently only occurring under the main haul road. Site access is limited. Removal, loading and hauling of contaminated sediments should continue through the fall.



Removing the final remnants of the Milltown Dam spillway,

- **On Tuesday, January 20, 2009, workers removed the final pieces of the Milltown Dam spillway.** During the final steps of spillway removal, excavators uncovered outcrops of bedrock near the base of the bluff. As the dam has been removed this past year, it has become more and more obvious why this location must have looked like an ideal place to build a dam over a century ago. Now the only part of the dam left to remove are the remnants of the divider block; some of which will be removed before high flow. The remainder of the divider block should come out this summer and then the dam will be completely out.
- **Workers have increased the height of the flood berm** along the downstream side of the Project Area to protect against a 10-year winter high flow event. Currently, adding rip rap to the flood berm to bring it up to the 10 year high flow event level. Trucks will be hauling riprap onto the Site from now through February.
- **De-watering of the spillway removal area.** Currently pumping about 1600 gallons/minute. Water quality is being monitored before discharge into the Clark Fork River.
- **EPA and the Natural Resource Damages Program (NRDP) are finalizing designs for the Best Management Practices (BMPs)** required for erosion control upstream of the Project Area (in areas 4 and 5). Expect work on these BMPs to begin by mid-February and for the BMPs to be in place before high flow this spring.
- **I-90 Bridge bank erosion protection work is underway.** The temporary work bridge is in place and work has begun on the erosion protection for the east bank. USACE should be finished in February. This is designed to protect the I-90 bridge abutments from a 500 year flood.
- **NorthWestern Energy is now using the new gas pipeline across the Blackfoot.** Workers are preparing the old gas pipeline for removal before spring high flows.



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

Upcoming Events

- **Sunday, January 25**
Bonner Area History Roundtable Program: "Working at the Mill," a panel discussion. 2-4 pm at St. Ann's Church.
- **Tuesday, January 27**
Monthly Milltown Redevelopment Working Group meeting 6:30-8:30 pm at the Bonner Lutheran Church. The public is welcome!
- **Weds., January 28**
Community Council Roundtable 7 pm at the Bonner School. Come and provide your ideas about the future of your community!
- **Sat., February 7**
"Hooked on Art" 10 am—4 pm at the Bonner School. Featuring artist Kendahl Jan Jubb. Also Community Art Market, live music, and lunch. For more information, please visit <http://www.friendsof2rivers.org>
- **Reminder: Bonner History Reprints** are available at the Bonner School. Cost is \$20. Copies are also available at the school during regular hours or may be ordered on-line at <http://www.bonner.k12.mt.us> Call 258-6151 for more information.

Upcoming work:

- Continue sediment excavation and hauling.
- Continue monitoring surface and groundwater.
- Continue I-90 bridge work—install east side and install east side bank erosion protection.
- Installation of river restoration grade control structures. Restoration structures will be placed in the spillway area prior to the coffer dam breach planned for March.
- Implementation of BMPs in areas 4 and 5, and the spillway coffer dam area to limit downstream transport of sediments.

To view on-going activities, please visit:
<http://www.clarkfork.org/>
and click on the webcam.



Section of the main haul road that has been removed

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
Spillway removal |
| 2009 | I-90 Bridge mitigation
Stage 3 drawdown
Sediment removal |



Excavation cell walls that have been removed



Spillway coffer dam that will be breached in March 2009. At that point, the joint Clark Fork and Blackfoot River channel will flow along the base of the Milltown bluff (not visible from this view). Much of the material on the far side of the spillway area (including portions of the divider block) will be removed before high flow this spring. Photo taken 1/20/09.