Cleanup Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

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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 <u>klarge@mt.gov</u>

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.cfrtac.org

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



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

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

Project personnel have worked 275,447 hours without time lost to injury.

Status: The Milltown Project continues to go very well and is on schedule.

Remediation

- As of Sunday, 2,432,223 tons (~ 1,870,941 cubic yards) of sediment have been excavated, loaded and hauled off-site. This portion of the project is 85% complete. Removal, loading, and hauling of the contaminated sediments should be complete by September.
- Sediment excavation continues along the northern edge of the rail loading pad.
- Installed 13 wells along the diversion dike at the upstream end of the Bypass Channel to keep the area drier as excavation of the new Clark Fork River channel begins.
- EPA-State removal of sediment from upstream Area 4 is complete (see photos below). A total of 87,867 cubic yards (about 105,000 tons) of sediments have been removed. EPA and the State removed this material to prevent it from scouring downstream during spring high flows.



Looking downstream from Area 4 Best management Practices (BMP) removal.



Looking upstream from Area 4 Best management Practices (BMP) removal.

- The banks under the I-90 Bridges have been seeded using the State's seed mix.
- Montana Rail Link removed 660 feet from the west end of the on-site rail line. This begins the first phase to back the rail line out as the sediment excavation/loading/hauling draw to a close by September. With this portion of the rail line gone, workers can remove the newly exposed contaminated sediments. This should take about 4 weeks to complete.

Restoration

- Began excavating Area 2 to prepare for the new Clark Fork River channel and re-graded floodplain. Material from this area is being stockpiled along the Bypass Channel and will be used later in the Bypass Channel reclamation scheduled for 2011.
- The Restoration Program continues to salvage plants for use in re-vegetating the riparian area along the restored channel.

Redevelopment

The Milltown Redevelopment Working Group and Missoula County sponsored a Community Work Day. Volunteers planted about 160 trees and shrubs along the newly restored "Black Bridge" (pedestrian bridge) in Milltown. The County and community volunteers will keep the new vegetation watered. Another work day is planned for this fall.

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, May 26
 Milltown Redevelopment
 Working Group regular
 bimonthly meeting from
 6:30-8:30 pm at Our
 Savior's Lutheran Church
 in Bonner. Come join us!

Upcoming work:

- Continue sediment excavation, hauling, and disposal of contaminated sediments
- Envirocon, USGS, and Missoula County
- continue surface and groundwater monitoring of Clark Fork River and wells
- FWP continues fish monitoring (caged fish and radio-tagged fish) on sections of the Blackfoot and Clark Fork Rivers
- USGS continues to monitor scour and flow conditions on the Blackfoot River
- Restoration work continues
- Redevelopment/Park planning continues
- This week, begin removing the "Buried A" soil horizon; will be stockpiled for later use.

PROJECT SCHEDULE

2009 Sediment removal
Rail hauling sediment

Restoration
Redevelopment
2010 Restoration
Redevelopment
2011 Restoration

Redevelopment











MRL beginning to pull the on-site rail line.



Newly seeded banks under the I-90 bridges.



Volunteers planting along the Black Bridge in Milltown., photo by Judy Matson, West Riverside, May 9, 2009.