

Cleanup Update

Milltown Reservoir Sediments Superfund Site

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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.cfrtac.org>

Status: The Milltown Project continues to go very well and is on schedule. Project personnel have worked 283,621 hours without time lost to injury.

REMEDIATION

- **As of Sunday, 2,550,447 tons (~ 1,961,882 cubic yards) of sediment have been excavated, loaded and hauled off-site.** This portion of the project is **89% complete.** Removal, loading, and hauling of the contaminated sediments to the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site should be complete by September 2009.
- **An impressive amount of gravel has been deposited below the former dam site.** This material will be part of the restored flood plain in this area. (Photo below 6/9/09).



- **Continue pumping from the 13 wells** along the diversion dike at the upstream end of the Bypass Channel to keep the area drier during excavation of the new Clark Fork River channel.
- **Recent air monitoring results from the project area detected no lead or arsenic in dust.** Copper was detected but well below levels of concern for public health or the environment. These results are from samples taken by Envirocon to monitor worker exposures and Site conditions the week of June 1, 2009. Additional air monitoring results will be taken and reported as they become available.

RESTORATION

- **Continue excavating Sediment Accumulation Area II (sub-area L)** 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.
- **Completed excavation of the buried A-horizon soils** from the bottom of the cells. Workers are stockpiled about 42,000 cubic yards for later use in river restoration.

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
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Helena, Montana 59626



Upcoming Events

- **Monday, July 13**
Milltown Bonner Community Council meeting 7 pm in the Bonner School Library
- **Tuesday, July 28**
Milltown Redevelopment Working Group regular bimonthly meeting from 6:00-9:00 pm at a local park (TBD). Join us for the meeting and a retirement pot-luck for Russ Forba. Details to follow.
- **Monday, August 10**
Milltown Bonner Community Council meeting 7 pm in the Bonner School Library
- **August 11-13**
Children's Environmental Health Summit: Greening our Schools and Daycares
Sponsored by the Montana Children's Environmental Health Network, EPA and DEQ. Location: Holiday Inn-Parkside in Missoula. Evening events on 8/11 and 8/12 are free; Registration for the Summit, 8/12-8/13 is required. Contact Diana Hammer for more information, 457-5040.

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
- Late-June: Remove additional rail track from on-site rail line
- By September: Complete removal and rail hauling of 2.2 million cubic yards of contaminated sediments from the former reservoir



Digging a new river channel in the former reservoir area. Note stumps from original floodplain.



Wagon wheel found partially exposed in the old Clark Fork River channel, approximately 100 yards downstream of the former Duck Bridge. The wheel was salvage intact and safely stored. (Photo provided by Envirocon, 6/3/09)

PROJECT SCHEDULE

2009 Sediment removal
Rail hauling sediment

Restoration
Redevelopment

2010 Restoration
Redevelopment

2011 Restoration
Redevelopment



FISHERIES UPDATE

The week of June 9, MT Fish, Wildlife and Parks began conducting its annual population estimates on river reaches in the area. FWP personnel will be electro-fishing the Missoula section of the Bitterroot, Huson, Milltown and Turah sections of the Clark Fork over the next 3-4 weeks. These are all river sections that FWP has been monitoring to determine the effects of the removal activities of Milltown Dam on fish health and survival. The timing at which we conduct an estimate on a particular river reach is flow dependant. This week, FWP will be conducting marking runs on the Bitterroot River.

Caged fish and telemetry studies done to date have not shown significant fish mortality below the dam as compared to the control sites.

David Schmetterling, FWP, 542-5514.

Safety Reminder

DURING THE MILLTOWN CLEANUP, THE CLARK FORK AND BLACKFOOT RIVERS ARE CLOSED



TO RIVER RECREATION ABOVE AND BELOW THE PROJECT AREA.
Clark Fork River

users must exit the river at Turah Fishing Access; Blackfoot River users must exit at Weigh Station. **VIOLATORS and TRESPASSERS WILL BE FINED.**

For more information, contact Montana FWP at 542-5500.