

**Clark Fork River  
Operable Unit of the  
Milltown Reservoir Clark  
Fork River  
Superfund Site**

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# River Review

Cleanup Update

February 2013

## Remediation and Restoration Developments

### Reach A, Phase I Remediation/Restoration To Begin March 2013

DEQ began advertising the construction contract for the Reach A, Phase 1 Remediation project of the Clark Fork River on December 9 as required by the state's formal bid solicitation process. The bid opening occurred on January 13, 2013. The contract was awarded to Helena Sand & Gravel, a Montana company with extensive experience working on projects of this size and complexity. Cleanup is scheduled to begin on the Reach A Phase 1 project area in March 2013. This area is within the first 1.6 miles of the Clark Fork River immediately below Warm Springs Ponds.

Over 300,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil will be removed from the headwaters of the Clark Fork River. Streambanks will be reconstructed using bioengineering techniques and native vegetation. Throughout the project, several public roads will see increased traffic from haul trucks removing waste and importing clean backfill. Public safety, traffic control and dust control are priority concerns for this project. DEQ will be keeping the public informed of project updates and traffic information throughout construction. These updates will be posted weekly in the local newspapers and the DEQ website will be updated regularly.

Please contact DEQ's Project Manager Brian Bartkowiak at (406) 841-5043 with any questions or concerns regarding the upcoming construction.

**Public safety is our number one concern and we appreciate the public's support throughout this project.**



Reach A, Phase I General Construction  
Bid Walk Through- December 2012



Slickens along the Clark Fork River, Reach A, Phase I.

### Public Information Session

DEQ will be hosting a public information session regarding the upcoming Reach A, Phase 1 construction. The information session will be held at the Racetrack Fire Hall, located at 6887 South Frontage Road in Deer Lodge on February 27, 2013 from 6-8 pm. The contractor construction schedule and haul road plans will be available at that time. DEQ and NRD staff will be available to answer any questions and address any concerns. For questions regarding this upcoming event please contact DEQ's Public Information Officer, Jeni Garcin at 841-5016 or [jgarcin2@mt.gov](mailto:jgarcin2@mt.gov).

### Remediation Developments—Continued

#### Eastside Road Pasture Completion

The pasture remediation project on 146 acres along Eastside Road began on November 11, 2012. The contractor for the project was selected through the state's formal bid solicitation process and was awarded to Ueland Western Reclamation, LLC. The contract included "deep till" of the soil, seed bed prep fertilization and drill seeding.

The majority of the work was completed on December 13, 2012. New fencing will be completed in the spring to keep livestock out of the pastures until the vegetation can become established.

The pasture lands were contaminated by historic flood irrigation from the Eastside ditch. These areas were sampled in spring 2010. Remediation will establish self-sustaining vegetation and reduce blowing dust.



Beginning of Pasture Remediation Work— November 2012



Post Pasture Remediation Work—November 2012



### Attention Contractors

To be considered for bid, a contractor must meet several criteria, including but not limited to, being bonded and insured, a registered contractor with the State of Montana, and trained (40 hours) in emergency hazardous waste operation (HAZWOPER). The DEQ will develop designs for various stages of the work. When a design is complete, the construction project will be put out for bid on the DEQ website at [www.deq.mt.gov](http://www.deq.mt.gov). Typically, the bid is open for 30 to 60 days. The DEQ will respond to questions and hold a pre-bid conference. The sealed bids are opened in public. The DEQ selects the lowest responsive and responsible bid.

**Check out the CFR webpage on the DEQ website for updates and information throughout construction!**

<http://deq.mt.gov/fedsuperfund/cfr.mcp>



The Clark Fork River Operable Unit (CFR OU) is part of the Milltown Reservoir/Clark Fork River Superfund Site. The CFR OU includes the Clark Fork River from its headwaters near Warm Springs Creek to Milltown Reservoir, just east of Missoula. The heavy metals (Cadmium, Copper, Zinc, and Lead) and arsenic in the Clark Fork River are from historic mining, milling and smelting processes linked to the Anaconda Company operations in Butte and Anaconda.

The majority of the cleanup will occur along a 43 mile stretch of the river from Warm Springs in Anaconda/Deer Lodge County downstream to Garrison in Powell County. This is known as "Reach A." The primary sources of contamination are tailings mixed with soil in the stream banks and historic floodplain. These sources threaten human health and animal and plant life.