Since 2014, we have removed 870,000 cubic yards of contaminated material!

The 2019 construction season is rapidly approaching again for the Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex (UBMC). DEQ anticipates beginning the next phase of work at UBMC near Lincoln in June. Last year, the season’s work included the removal of 171,310 cubic yards of contaminated material from the banks and floodplain of the Blackfoot River and its tributaries. Also, new stream channel and adjacent floodplain were constructed from the confluence of Mike Horse and Beartrap creeks down to the Water Treatment Plant. The 2019 season will wrap up the remaining work in this stretch including removal of the temporary construction road and associated restoration of the remaining floodplain. Remediation work in Additive Alternates A and B will be completed this year under the existing Phase 4 contract with Missouri River Contractors. Restoration of these areas will be completed under a separate Phase 5 contract with Glacier Excavating, Inc. The stretch of river from the Water Treatment Plant to just upstream of the Midnight Cabin, is identified as “Additive Alternate A” (see map on reverse page). Additive Alternate B runs from just above Midnight Cabin down to the area just below the old Edith Mine.

By the time 2019 construction wraps up for the season, DEQ expects to have removed at least 1 million cubic yards of contaminated material, which is twice the original estimate.

Safety First: As in previous construction seasons, Meadow Creek and Mike Horse roads will be closed until work stops for the winter. Please watch for UBMC project haul trucks on the road beginning in June. Trucks will travel Highway 200 from the eastern base of Roger’s Pass at Meadow Creek Road to the intersection of highways 200 and 279 east of Lincoln, then one mile southeast of Highway 279 to the repository. DEQ, the Natural Resource Damage Program (NRDP), and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) are grateful for your continued patience as we are steadily working to the finish line. Please don’t hesitate to call a member of our project team with any questions or concerns.

DEQ, NRDP, and USFS look forward to seeing you at the next public meeting.

Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex
Public Meeting

Please join DEQ, NRDP, and USFS for a public meeting on the Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex. Learn about what’s ahead in 2019.

Thursday, June 6th, 6-8 p.m.
Lincoln Library
102 9th St. Lincoln, MT

DEQ will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate. To request an accommodation, please contact Joann Wiggins at (406) 444-6795 or jwiggins@mt.gov.