Construction to Begin on Phases 5 and 6

Construction on Phases 5 and 6 of the Clark Fork River cleanup is scheduled to begin in July 2014. These phases are located in Deer Lodge County, near Galen, Montana. DEQ solicited bids for this fixed-price remedial construction contract. Intermountain Construction Services, LLC (ICS) was the low bidder. ICS has extensive large scale project experience, including working on the Clark Fork River and Silver Bow Creek.

The project area covers 4.5 river miles between Galen Road and Gemback Road on two private ranches. Approximately 533,000 cubic yards of material will be removed and replaced with 244,000 cubic yards of clean fill. The project will last 400 calendar days.

To keep the public informed, DEQ will provide weekly updates in the Silver State Post and the Anaconda Leader that will include updated construction information. Weekly ads will also run on River Radio (96.9 FM). Monthly factsheets with project updates will be distributed via the email list service. To sign up for these updates, please visit this webpage: http://svc.mt.gov/deq/ListServe/clarkforkRiverStep1.asp. Monthly tours for stakeholders and the public will be held on site. Dates and times will be included in future River Reviews.

A public meeting to kick off Phases 5 and 6 is scheduled for July 2 from 6-8 pm at the Racetrack Community Center. DEQ will provide information on the upcoming construction work, including haul routes, project logistics, and other pertinent project information. The meeting will begin with a short presentation by DEQ, followed by a chance for the public to ask questions.

For more information contact, Brian Bartkowiak, Upper Clark Fork River DEQ Project Officer, at (406) 841–5043, (406) 461-3070 (cell), or bbartkowiak@mt.gov.

Directions to the Racetrack Community Center:
- Take the Racetrack Exit (195) off of I-90 (coming from Missoula, turn right at the exit, from Butte, turn left)
- Take the 1st right onto S. Frontage Road
- Stay on the Frontage Road for 0.6 miles. The Fire Hall is located on the right side of the road.

Attention Contractors

To be considered for a future 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.

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.
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.