

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

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[http://svc.mt.gov/deq/ListServe/
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River Review

August 2014

Construction Has Officially Begun on Phases 5 and 6

Construction on Phases 5 and 6 of the Clark Fork River cleanup began in July 2014. These phases are located in Deer Lodge County, near Galen, Montana. DEQ solicited bids for this remedial construction contract. Intermountain Construction Services, LLC (ICS) was the low bidder. 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. Streambanks and the floodplain will be rebuilt and revegetated. The project will last 400 calendar days.

River Closure Notice for Phases 1, 5 and 6

In conjunction with Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, a river closure has been issued for Phase 1 (1.9 river miles) and Phases 5 and 6 (4.5 river miles) of the Clark Fork River. This closure includes both the river and floodplain. The closure in Phase 1 will help protect vegetation while it becomes established and will be in effect until July 15, 2015. The closure in Phases 5 and 6 will allow construction crews to safely perform the cleanup without risk of incidents with recreationists in the river or on the streambanks or adjacent lands and will be in effect until July 15, 2016.



Updates

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 fact-sheets 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.

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). 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. DEQ will respond to questions and hold a pre-bid conference. The sealed bids are opened in public. DEQ selects the lowest responsive and responsible bid.



Internal haul roads were constructed with gravel from an onsite source in preparation for hauling of contaminated materials.



Trucks are loaded onsite with contaminated materials for transport to the BP/ARCO Waste Management Area.



Trucks deposit contaminated materials in the repository within the Waste Management area..

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.

