MONTANA DEQ

REMEDIATION DIVISION ANNUAL REPORT FISCAL YEAR 2012: JULY 1, 2011 - JUNE 30, 2012

It is the mission of the Montana Department of Environmental Quality to protect, sustain and improve a clean and healthful environment to benefit present and future generations.

It is the mission of the Remediation Division to protect human health and the environment by preventing exposure to contaminants released to soil or water, and to oversee compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.

The Remediation (REM) Division (Division) is one of four divisions under the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). The Division is responsible for overseeing investigation and cleanup activities at state and federal Superfund sites, reclaiming abandoned mine lands, implementing corrective actions at sites with leaking petroleum storage tanks and overseeing groundwater remediation at sites where agricultural and industrial chemical spills have caused groundwater contamination. The purpose of these activities is to protect human health and the environment; to prevent human and ecological exposure to hazardous or deleterious substances that have been released to soil, sediment, air, surface water or groundwater; and to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal regulations.

Program staff include bureau chiefs, section supervisors, environmental science specialists, reclamation specialists and other technical program staff. The Division Administrator oversees and ensures program administration. The Division Administrator's Office includes the division administrator, the office manager and administrative professional staff, the fiscal officer and staff, the information technology systems analyst and the public information officer.

This annual report covers the period from July 2011 through June 2012, mirroring the fiscal year. Many of the projects started during the reporting period will be completed in the next reporting period (July 2012 through June 2013) and thus may appear incomplete in this report.

INSIDE THIS REPORT

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Montana Department of ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

ABANDONED MINE LANDS PROGRAM

Purpose: Montana's Abandoned Mine Land Reclamation (AML) Program within the DEQ is responsible for cleanup and reclamation of historic (pre-1977) mining-related disturbances. In effect since 1980, Montana's AML Program is regulated by federal and state statutes, and by Montana's Approved Abandoned Mine Reclamation State Plan published in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). The AML Program is funded by a federal grant under the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act.

Program Highlights:

Bald Butte/Great Divide Project: This project was let for construction starting in 2010 and is anticipated to be completed October 2012. Construction at the Great Divide portion of the project was completed at the end of 2011 and the 2012 construction season saw work progressing with tailings excavation in Dog Creek. DEQ continued to work well with the BLM under the terms of a cooperative agreement that has the BLM providing the project waste repository location and additional funds for construction. The mine hazard protection component continued on the Great Divide ski hill to address vertical openings that occurred after project initiation. Portions of the BLM funding are American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA) stimulus funds, and the extensive ARRA reporting requirements for these funds has been assumed by the DEQ project manager. This three year construction project will be completed with stream channel restoration work on Dog Creek.

McLaren: Reclamation construction continued on the McLaren Tailings Abandoned Mine Reclamation Project at Cooke City, Park County. 2012 was the third year of an anticipated six year construction project. The tailings overlie an artesian aquifer which contains the historical channel of Soda Butte Creek. Considerable efforts in the project planning stage went into designing a construction dewatering and water treatment program for the site. Successful dewatering during 2012 allowed the contractor to get ahead of schedule on tailings removal and stabilization activities. Mine waste placement in the on-site repository consistently met compaction standards. The water treatment plant successfully treated and discharged to Soda Butte creek 800 gallons per minute. Work for the 2013 construction season will start with tailings excavation ahead of schedule.

Forest Rose Mine and Mill: Reclamation design work was completed and bid. The project was awarded and construction initiated at the Forest Rose Project. Controversy over project access required that AML change the access route, which required considerable improvements to eight miles of county and Forest Service road before construction equipment and supplies could safely access the site and repository. AML worked with Powell and Granite Counties on road surfacing and culvert replacement and with the Forest Service on road widening as part of access improvements. Reclamation work is progressing with tailings excavation from Dunkelberg Creek and placement of mine waste in the repository located two miles away on Forest Service property.

Great Falls Coal Field Acid Mine Drainage: AML released the results of an extensive water treatment assessment for the multiple acid mine discharges (AMDs) in the Great Falls Coal Field near the communities of Sand Coulee, Stockett and Belt. This report compiled historic discharge data into a GIS system that included water quality data, measured flow rates, sampling location coordinates and previously mapped mine workings. AMD discharges where grouped based on potential for combined treatment and the treatability of combined discharges was assessed. Treatment assessment included bench scale testing of two prospective water treatment technologies. The AMD discharges were assigned a prioritization ranking based on contaminant loads, receiving water impacts, potential for human health exposure, resource potential of the impacted water bodies, AMD treatability and cost considerations. Net Present Value (NPV) worksheets were calculated for each proposed plant location based on 100 years of treatment. NPV included capital costs, annual operations and maintenance (O&M), 5 year periodic costs and 30 year periodic costs. NPV cost of treatment was estimated at between $20 million and $27 million for the various plant locations proposed. Water treatment at the community of Belt received the highest ranking under the prioritization scheme.

Sand Coulee Water Supply: The community of Sand Coulee is surrounded by abandoned coal mines developed during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Most of these underground mine workings are flooded with acidic mine water which discharges to local seeps and streams. The flooded mines and contaminated streams have impacted underlying groundwater with elevated concentrations of metals and sulfate. The presence of contaminated surface water and groundwater in the vicinity of Sand Coulee has resulted in the abandonment of shallow quaternary wells and limited the options available for the supply of potable water required by residents. In April 2012, AML drilled a test well to the Madison aquifer to determine if a replacement supply of water could be found for Sand Coulee. The test well successfully located water at 800 feet below ground surface. During July 2012, the Sand Coulee municipal supply was drained twice; current wells were not able to keep up with demand, even with water rationing that limited use to culinary and bathing. AML alleviated this situation by putting the test well into production to supplement Sand

ABANDONED MINE LANDS PROGRAM—CONTINUED

AML Program Highlights Continued...

Coulee's limited supply. Due to water right limitations, the test well can only be pumped at 35 gallons per minute for a maximum of 10 acre-feet per year. AML continues to develop plans to replace the community distribution system and is working on water rights permitting for the community that will allow replacement wells to be used at their full production potential.

Other Coal Mine Projects: AML continued work on coal projects, including subsidence issues in Red Lodge and Roundup and Custer and Powder River Counties. Coal subsidence investigations also continued in northeastern Montana with geophysics used to define undermined areas and depth to mine voids. Reports of new subsidence continued to be brought to the program's attention, including the report of a farmer who had a mine collapse under him while combining his wheat in Daniels County. AML continues to contract subsidence repairs including using local contractors hired under agency purchase orders. Other coal projects included surface burning at abandoned coal mines in Musselshell County after the Bull Mountain wildfires.

Coal Fire Abatement Projects*:* AML is working on completing the coal fire abatement activity in the Johnson Creek drainage in Custer County. Previous work has included extinguishing eight coal fires on private land with additional work on BLM property added this year. Extensive wildland fires in southeastern Montana this fire season has promoted understanding of how dangerous and persistent coal outcrop fires are once ignited by wild fire. AML has worked with the US Forest Service (USFS) and Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) fire commanders to educate fire responders and mop up crews about the need to address coal outcrop fires at the time of the wildfire response so that these fires do not fester and burn for years, after which costs of containment raise exponentially.

Non-Office of Surface Mining Funded Abandoned Mine Reclamation Projects

Beal Mountain Mine*:* Beal Mountain mine is a USFS led project where the DEQ is a contributing partner. Funding for DEQ's work at the Beal Mountain mine is from Resource Indemnity Trust-Reclamation Development Grants (RIT-RDG) and from limited funds remaining from the reclamation bond turned over to DEQ from the bankruptcy trustee for the site. Work consisted of placing cover soil on the waste rock dump, re-vegetation treatments and construction of runoff ditches to direct water flowing off the waste rock dump. Work continues on this site with design and bidding of a project to construct an additional runoff ditch in the fall of 2013.

Black Pine Mine: DEQ is responsible for administering a Trust Account established under the ASARCO Bankruptcy Settlement to implement reclamation actions at the Black Pine Mine. A work plan was developed and sampling activities were carried out. DEQ is responsible for operating a series of collection sumps and a pump back system at the mine to keep mine runoff from discharging to USFS property. Work continues on a long-term plan to remove wastes at the site to an engineered repository.

FEDERAL SUPERFUND BUREAU

Purpose: The Federal Superfund Bureau (FSB) is responsible for administering remedial cleanup activities, in consultation with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), at federal Superfund, or National Priority List (NPL) sites in Montana. The Montana Pole NPL Site, Clark Fork River Operable Unit (OU) of the Milltown Reservoir/Clark Fork River NPL Site, the Troy OU of the Libby Asbestos NPL Site and the Streamside Tailings OU of the Silver Bow Creek/Butte Area NPL Site are DEQ led sites. This means that DEQ is responsible for initiating and conducting remedial activities in consultation with EPA.

Program Highlights:

ACM Smelter and Refinery : Located in Black Eagle, this site officially became a federal Superfund site when EPA added it to the NPL in March 2011. Community members supported the listing. This is good for the economy as well as the environment and the DEQ looks forward to helping them reach their goals. Sampling began at the Community Soils areas for removal activities to be conducted at the end of 2011.

BN Somers: Conducted a large scale subsurface investigation to determine the nature and extent of a contaminated groundwater plume that was thought to have been cleaned up and conducted vapor monitoring of several residential homes. Additional sampling will be conducted during 2013 and remedial design of a treatment system could be initiated by Burlington Northern (BN).

FEDERAL SUPERFUND BUREAU — CONTINUED

FSB Program Highlights Continued...

Carpenter/Snow Creek Mining District: Conducted sampling of the water shed and designed a groundwater monitoring network. Only sampling will be conducted this year and *maybe* the Remedial Investigation (RI) report could be completed and the Feasibility Study (FS) started. Since there is no new start money for fund lead sites, the town of Neihart will not be addressed this year.

Clark Fork River OU: Approximately 13,000 cubic yards of contaminated soil were removed from 15 properties in 2010 and 2011. The top 6 to 24 inches of yard soil was excavated. The yards were replaced with clean soil and then re-vegetated. Design was underway to begin cleanup at the Deer Lodge Trestle area in fall 2011. Removal of approximately 10,000 cubic yards of contaminated soils was planned. In addition, approximately 1,000 feet of stream bank will be reconstructed and re-vegetated. This cleanup is being coordinated with Powell County's future land use planning for this area and with EPA cleanup at the adjacent Milwaukee Roundhouse Site. The CFR OU includes the Clark Fork River from its headwaters near Warm Springs Creek to Milltown Reservoir, just east of Missoula. Like Silver Bow Creek, the heavy metals (Cadmium, Copper, Zinc and Lead) and arsenic in the Clark Fork River are from historic mining, milling and smelting processes. 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 cleanup is expected to take 10 to 12 years. Phase 1 of Reach A will begin in 2013. Federal Superfund activities have brought hundreds of millions of remedial construction dollars and thousands of jobs to Montana's economy.

Flat Creek/IMM: Participated in meetings with EPA and DNRC for the design of a waste repository located at the Wood's Gulch area. The waste repository will officially become property of DEQ in 2013. Removal activities for the watershed area may start during 2013 as well.

Libby Asbestos NPL Site: DEQ continued to provide technical assistance for investigations and vermiculite removal and initiated field activities for the Troy Asbestos Property Evaluation. Removal action for OU 4 (Residential Area) will continue during 2013. Activity based sampling will continue at the Troy site. A Risk Assessment (RA) may be coming this year.

Lockwood Solvent Ground Water Plume: Worked with EPA and US Department of Justice (DOJ) on lodging a consent decree on August 15, 2011 and issuing a unilateral Administrative Order (AO). Both will provide for compliance with the Record of Decision (ROD) and initiate remediation action for cleanup of a contaminated groundwater plume and continued quarterly groundwater monitoring. Sampling will continue this year. Remedial design for a treatment system may occur later in 2013.

Milltown Reservoir Sediments NPL Site: Located in Bonner, this cleanup of contamination was nearing completion. The project is transitioning to restoration and long-term O&M. Work on the Milltown Bluff Overlook took place and is expected to open to the public in Fiscal Year 2012 (FY12).

Montana Pole NPL Site: Located in Butte, work continued at this site with remediation of groundwater and soil. Challenges arose with nearby dewatering but were handled and design began for the removal of soil piles. Work on the third Five-Year Review Report began with an expected release in early FY12.

Streamside Tailings OU: Construction continued in the Fairmont to Opportunity area of Silver Bow Creek. Work continued in Durant Canyon west of Miles Crossing. The narrow canyon and logistics of working around two operating rail lines presents challenges. Despite the difficulties, more than 80% percent of the 23 miles has been cleaned up. Trout and many other species of wildlife are thriving in reclaimed portions of the creek. The entire project, which extends from the I-15/I-90 bridges West of Butte, to Warm Springs Ponds, is expected to be completed by 2014.

Upper Tenmile Creek and Basin Mining Area: Conducted remediation for residential soils, investigated potential potable water sources and conducted acid mine discharge source control investigations and prepared a RI and FS for the Crystal and Bullion mine sites. A RI and FS for the Crystal mine site will be completed this year for waste rock. No money is available for the Bullion.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE CLEANUP BUREAU (HWSCB)

LEAKING UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS BROWNFIELDS SECTION

Purpose: The Leaking Underground Storage Tank (LUST) Trust Program addresses federally defined LUSTs at sites that are recalcitrant, bankrupt, or insolvent. LUST Trust funds may also be spent to address petroleum releases that have an unknown source area requiring investigation and cleanup.

Program Highlights:

LUST Trust Program

The program utilized a variety of program funding sources to accomplish work at 12 sites, including Ronan George's Conoco; Columbus Farmers Union; Sidney Trailside Truck Stop; Libby Penny Fleming Residence; Choteau Ron's Conoco; Choteau Key Pump; Dutton Key Pump; Glasgow Tommy's; Roundup Farmers Union; Roundup Pepco; Miles City Short Stop Exxon; Butte Front and Kaw Street. This work included enforcement and cost recovery actions where appropriate.

George's Conoco: Dismantling of the Phase III Electrical Resistance Heating (ERH) system used for cleanup of the release at George's Conoco in Ronan was a major accomplishment and clean up transitioned to monitored natural attenuation (MNA) status. Approximately 5600 gallons of gasoline was recovered during the Phase III ERH project, bringing the total recovered to 13,341 gallons.

Miles City Short Stop Exxon: As a part of the department's emergency response in Miles City, the LBS continued operation of the remediation systems installed at the Miles City Short Stop Exxon site to abate petroleum vapors. These systems included a positive pressure forced-air ventilation system to prevent the upward migration of vapors at the Lewis and Clark Apartments and six large soil vapor extraction systems for vapor abatement at the Short Stop Exxon, Lewis and Clark Apartments and the USPS Office. Testing of area businesses continued to determine the continued extent of vapor intrusion impacts and groundwater monitoring is ongoing.

Petroleum Brownfields Program

Site Inventories: Completed site inventories in 15 counties and coordinated with community contacts in Helena, White Sulphur Springs, Bozeman, Lewistown and Great Falls. Petroleum Brownfields are those sites where potential economic development is hindered by potential impacts or perceived impacts from past petroleum releases. Staff and college interns met with owners and operators to determine the current status of old release sites and discuss options and alternatives for assessment and cleanup of potential Petroleum Brownfields sites in communities. Staff completed eligibility determination reviews for three sites, all of which were determined eligible to receive Petroleum Brownfields funding from a 104(K) Brownfield grant.

Database: Staff continued development of its database, continued to compile a list of petroleum release sites that have been considered in some way for Brownfields eligibility and continued to develop a list of possible petroleum release sites that may be addressed in the upcoming year. Other activities included updating the list on DEQ's Brownfields website in order to fulfill the Brownfields public record requirement; attending the Kalispell Brownfields meeting in Kalispell, Montana; revising the Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) for Investigation of Underground Storage Tank (UST) Releases; and completing acknowledgement letters for local Economic Development Authority (EDA) applications for competitive EPA cleanup grants.

Defense Site Memorandum of Agreement

The Defense Site Memorandum of Agreement (DSMOA) Program completed the review of a number of missile alert facilities (MAF) statewide, reviewing and providing technical comments on corrective action work plans for petroleum releases at the Havre, Del Bonita and Malmstrom Air Force Base sites. Work plan request letters were issued for a number of DSMOA sites requiring additional corrective action and groundwater monitoring. DSMOA staff also initiated work on the annual Joint Execution Plan (JEP) for future cleanup work and held a technical coordination meeting with Air Force environmental staff in Helena in July 2012.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE CLEANUP BUREAU — CONTINUED

LUST Trust Program Highlights Continued...

American Restoration and Recovery Act Program

LUST Trust completed final ARRA follow-up work at the five eligible ARRA sites, including Sidney Trailside General Store; Roundup Pepco; Columbus Farmers Union; Ronan George's Conoco; and Roundup Farmers Union.

All ARRA funding has been expended and no additional work will be completed using ARRA funds in the future. The final LUST Trust ARRA Grant report was submitted to the EPA.

PETROLEUM TECHNICAL SECTION

Purpose: The Petroleum Technical Section (PTS) oversees cleanup activities at active petroleum releases. They work with owner/operators (o/o) who are either self-funded (pay for cleanup on their own) or receive reimbursement from the Montana Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board (PTRCB).

Program Highlights:

For the state fiscal year 2012, PTS was fully staffed plus had an EPA LUST Trust grant supported temporary employee to assist with closures and low priority releases. Employees assisted in several real estate transactions and informational calls and due to several of these inquiries, closures resulted. Many employees assisted the Site Response Section (SRS) in the execution of an in-door air study and the section worked with the Petroleum Tank Release Compensation Board (PTRCB) on funding and obligations turn around time. PTS also worked in conjunction with the rest of the Remediation Division towards a database that will be accessible by the public, consultants and government agencies. Improvements were made to the DEQ Petroleum Release Program web page, including easy access to Public Information on approved work plans on sites affecting the public.

Closure Statistics: For the 4th consecutive year, PTS closed more releases than were confirmed. This trend has set them up for breaking below 1,400 active releases within the next 1-2 years, the first time since 1997. They investigated 16 suspect releases and confirmed 34 new releases, requested 328 work plans for investigations and requested clean up at 300 petroleum release sites. 295 work plans at 255 petroleum release sites were approved. The section received and reviewed 396 standardized and abbreviated reports for 297 releases. At least eight excavations were approved, which significantly speeds cleanup time.

Yellowstone Spill: Responded to the Yellowstone River ExxonMobil crude oil release. The staff in the Billings office worked in the command center and field during the early weeks of the release (July 5-31). Three other project managers spent several weeks combined on Shoreline Cleanup and Assessment Technique (SCAT) Teams.

House Bill 613: Implemented House Bill (HB) 613. The bill included estimating a time to closure (years) for over 1,000 releases in less than three months. The bill also had closure requirements with 47 releases in the first reporting period (July 1-December 31, 2011) and 92 cumulative for FY 2012 (second reporting period).

Petroleum Mixing Zones: Prepared and implemented technical guidance for closure with a petroleum mixing zone (PMZ). In addition, began to implement closures with a petroleum mixing zone at four releases.

Work on Reservations: Tracked work on non-tribally owned releases on the reservations. PTS closed approximately 20% of the active releases within the boundaries of seven Montana reservations.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE CLEANUP BUREAU — CONTINUED

SITE RESPONSE SECTION

Purpose: SRS administers the state Comprehensive Environmental Cleanup and Responsibility Act (CECRA) and the Water Quality Act (WQA) to investigate and clean up hazardous substances at sites not addressed by the Federal Superfund program. Contaminant releases and waste disposal activities, spills or other operations at these sites caused contamination of air, surface water, groundwater, sediments and/or soils with hazardous or deleterious substances. Under CECRA, sites are ranked based on potential risks to human health and the environment.

Program Highlights:

The SRS Groundwater Remediation Program (GRP) addressed ongoing work at 83 sites and closed 1 existing site. SRS prioritized available resources to focus CECRA activities on 34 of the 59 maximum and high priority sites on the list of the 208 listed sites in Montana. In addition to routine reviews and approvals of plans, reports and other documents, SRS completed significant major actions at several of the state's high and maximum priority sites.

Yellowstone Spill: GRP oversaw the cleanup of the Yellowstone Spill that resulted from a rupture of ExxonMobil's Silvertip Pipeline, including negotiating an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) to address all remaining contamination, recover DEQ's past and future oversight costs and payment of a $1.6 million penalty by ExxonMobil Pipeline Company.

Bozeman Solvent Site: DEQ issued the ROD for the Bozeman Solvent Site. The decision specifies the final cleanup needed to address risks posed by residual contamination in saturated subsurface soils, contaminated vapors currently present beneath the on-site building and potentially present in future utility and construction excavations and contaminated groundwater. DEQ also successfully negotiated an AOC with the liable parties for implementation of the ROD. Design documents are being approved and clean-up is proceeding.

Vapor Intrusion Investigations: Completed at BN Livingston, BN Havre, BN Missoula, BN Whitefish, Miles City Railyard, Missoula White Pine Sash, Tank Hill and Whitefish Solvent Site to determine if vapors were moving from contaminated soil and groundwater into structures.

Burlington Northern Livingston Shop Complex: Over 30,000 gallons of petroleum product have been removed from the groundwater and subsurface soil. Soil vapor extraction is being conducted beneath two large railyard buildings with residual chlorinated solvents in the vadose zone (unsaturated zone of the soil). High concentrations of solvents are being removed and the indoor air quality of the buildings is now protective of railyard workers. Surface soil was characterized for petroleum, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), lead and asbestos and cleanup will occur this year.

KRY Site: DEQ previously received court orders requiring the liable parties at the KRY Site to implement the final cleanup that DEQ had identified in a ROD. Design documents were approved and final cleanup has begun. SRS is overseeing the final cleanup activities at the site, which are expected to be fully implemented by the end of 2013.

Miles City Railyard: DEQ requested the court interpret an existing 2006 settlement agreement between the potentially liable persons and DEQ at Miles City Railyard to recover costs incurred by DEQ in implementing the vapor intrusion investigation and other oversight costs.

Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex: Additional upgrades were made to the Upper Blackfoot Mining Complex water treatment plant (WTP) that allow for more efficient treatment of contaminated water. Approximately 32 million gallons of contaminated water were treated between July 2011 and the end of June 2012. Possible repository sites were evaluated to find a suitable location to contain contaminated wastes from the site and public comment was sought for the various options.

Brownfields Programs

Brownfields are real property, the expansion, redevelopment or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant or contaminant. Cleaning up and reinvesting in these properties takes development pressures off undeveloped, open land and improves and protects the environment. The division's Brownfields Program is supported in both the LUST Trust and SRS sections. Both sections have brownfields coordinators who maintain information about brownfields in Montana and assist communities in redevelopment of blighted properties.

HAZARDOUS WASTE SITE CLEANUP BUREAU — CONTINUED

SRS Program Highlights Continued...

In 2012, the goals of the Brownfields Program were to establish and enhance its state response programs and provide outreach and technical guidance to communities that are actively working toward revitalization of brownfields. SRS published the update to the Voluntary Cleanup and Redevelopment Act (VCRA) Guide, which will assist VCRA applicants in completing the environmental assessment and remediation proposal components. SRS also conducted a field chemical oxidation pilot test to investigate the remediation potential for chemical oxidation to treat recalcitrant wood treating chemicals (pentachlorophenol and dioxins/furans). Both the PTS, LUST Trust and SRS sections pooled resources to participate in Environmental Discovery Day (EDD); the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics Exposition (STEM Expo); and conduct a background indoor air study. The sections also participated in Bear Paw Development Authority's Introduction to Brownfields Workshop in Havre which provided an opportunity for interested parties to better understand the State and Federal Brownfields and regulatory processes.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATORS OFFICE

FISCAL SERVICES UNIT

Purpose: The Fiscal Services Unit (FSU) provide financial support by tracking budgets, including revenues and expenditures, as well as settlement monies, grants and contracts.

Program Highlights:

The fiscal team turned over during the year and new staff is coming up to speed with state processes. Desk manuals created by predecessors and the REM budget analysts from Financial Services (FS) significantly helped this process along. Budget Status Reports (BSRs) and quarterly grant reports, among others, were produced on time in spite of the transition headaches. These reports assisted the programs in managing within scope and on budget.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS TEAM

Purpose: The Administrative Professionals Team (APT) provides administrative support to the Division's programs, including records management, assistance with publications and legal postings, web page updates, bid package sales and walk-throughs, correspondence processing and more.

Program Highlights:

The team has worked closely with the other division and building staff to improve this section's performance and overall effectiveness. APT had three employees leave this year and hired new staff. This staff change has been tremendously successful for the Division, bringing fresh perspectives and new skills to assigned work units. There were increased opportunities for cross-training during these transition periods resulting in improved staff performance as a whole.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Purpose: The Division strives to be transparent, accessible and collaborative, to proactively provide public information about project purpose, developments and status to Montana's public, media and policy makers through methods that best reach the audience. We respond promptly, honestly and openly to news media and public questions, concerns and input. The Division's public information officer (PIO) helps Division programs involve the public in decisions that affect communities.

Program Highlights:

The Division's PIO supported the dissemination of information on the Yellowstone spill during the summer and worked closely with community members to answer questions and help direct people to the appropriate contacts to address concerns. In addition, this position worked with landowners in getting their water and soil samples analyzed as part of the assessment of potential contamination to river front properties.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE — CONTINUED

Public Information Program Highlights Continued...

Numerous fact sheets and newsletters, including the *MUST News,* were prepared, disseminated and posted on the Division's web-site.

A media event was held for the dedication of a historic sign in Toston that provides the history of mining in the area and explains the reclamation completed by the AML Program.

INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND TECHNICAL SERVICES (IMTS)

Purpose: REM Information Management and Technical Services (IMTS) provides division-level leadership and cross-program/ division coordination for the development, enhancement, documentation and management of the Division's information systems. It is REM IMTS' goal to "develop and maintain solutions to efficiently manage the Division's programs and improve access to program -specific information for both internal and external stakeholders."

Program Highlights:

In November 2011, Remediation hired a new System's Analyst, Staci Stolp, to provide division-level leadership and cross-program/ division coordination for the development, enhancement, documentation and management of the Division's information systems. Program IT staff provide additional IMTS Support.

The Division is currently utilizing a legacy system that is undersized, under-documented and otherwise outdated for the Division's needs in the 21st century. A division-wide effort has been undertaken to identify future needs and develop a plan for getting there. The following details emphasize the level of effort this process has taken:

Policy/Tool Development: In January, IMTS implemented a new REM IMTS Support Process and Tool. The purpose of the process is to provide consistent processes for requesting, tracking and managing IMTS support that will improve customer support, communication between affected parties and better identify the impacts to database enhancements. It will improve the ability to keep track of IMTS requests; the level of transparency between programs; documentation regarding database functionality and design; documentation on database/system problems (e.g., statistics related to system crashes); and documentation to support IT resource needs (e.g., Office of Information Technology (OIT) Systems Analysis Support).

Web Restructure: In January, IMTS completed Phase 1 revisions of the REM Division Website. Representatives from OIT and each REM Section contributed their time, ideas and feedback to revamp the REM website. Revisions included reorganization of the left navigation bar, inclusion of site Project Manager contact information, Frequently Asked Questions and reorganization of Division level pages.

Remediation Information Management System Project: IMTS officially kicked-off the REM Information Management System (RIMS) Project on January 20, 2012.The vision for RIMS is to improve the availability and quality of the information necessary to effectively deliver timely and accurate services to support DEQ Remediation Programs, and to provide data integrity and system availability. The RIMS Project is a multiphase effort. The first phase of the RIMS project is the planning phase. Phase 1 consists of four sub-phases, Project Management (PM), Business Process Re-design (BPR), Requirements Definition (RD) and Feasibility/ Alternatives Analysis (FAA).

As of June 2012, they are wrapping up the BPR tasks (i.e., development of 37 As-Is Processes and 26 To-Be Processes) and midway through the RD tasks. To date, the RIMS Project Team has drafted over 800 requirements, including topics covering Contractor Support Services; System Administration; Graphical User Interface and Navigation; Staff Management; Sample Data Management; and program specific issues. Phase 1 of the RIMS Project is scheduled to be complete in October 2012.

DIVISION ADMINISTRATORS OFFICE — CONTINUED

IMRS Program Highlights Continued…

DEQ Project Support: The REM Division is involved in several information technology projects geared at improving data quality, efficiency and information exchange/sharing. Below are the highlights from several of these projects.

CROMERR: The Cross-Media Electronic Reporting Regulation (CROMERR) provides the legal framework for electronic reporting (ER) under all of the EPA's environmental regulations. CROMERR establishes standards for information systems that receive reports and other documents electronically (including email, but excluding disks, CD's and other magnetic and optical media) that are submitted to satisfy requirements of a program that a state, tribe or local government is authorized to administer under Title 40. These standards cover a variety of system functions such as electronic signature validation. More information is available via the following link: http:// deq.sharepoint.mt.gov/teams/Projects/CROMERR/default.aspx.

DEQ Online Query System: DEQ will be transitioning its online query systems from NRIS to DEQ OIT. More information is available via the following link: http://deq.sharepoint.mt.gov/teams/Projects/DEQGISservices/OLQS/default.aspx**.**

FRS UST/LUST: The 2011 Exchange Network Grant Project will automate the Facility Registry System (FRS) data flow through the EN Node for UST/LUST data and clean-up Geospatial data for UST/LUST. Benefits include clean geospatial data for UST/LUST, fewer calls/less rework, significantly improved decision making, improved LUST reporting, and more assistance with upcoming projects. More information is available via the following link: http://deq.sharepoint.mt.gov/teams/Projects/FRSUSTLUST/default.aspx.

PTS Workflow: The PTS section required a more efficient means to support their closure process to ensure they are able to meet the requirements posted in House Bill 613: http://data.opi.mt.gov/bills/2011/sesslaws/ch0394.pdf. As such, the PTS section has chosen to utilize MS SharePoint to streamline the review process. More information is available via the following link: http://deq.sharepoint.mt.gov/teams/projects/ptssiteclosure/default.aspx.

System Support: As of June 22, 2012, IMTS received 47 IMTS requests. Of these requests, 7 requests were associated with system crashes and erroneous data and the remaining 40 requests were enhancements to the system or general support requests. The following table shows the high-level status of the requests received to date:

Request Status	Total
Assigned	12
Closed	23
In-Progress	8
New	4
Total	**47**