

US Environmental Protection Agency  
10 West 15th Street, Suite 3200  
Helena, Montana 59626



## 2011 Investigations & Decisions



- Release ARWWS OU ROD Amendment
- Initiate Domestic Well Monitoring & Replacement Program
- Release Community Soils OU Proposed Plan
- Initiate Five-Year-Review follow-up investigations

## Do You Need More Information?

The Arrowhead Foundation now has an online directory of Superfund documents available for public review. And the library continues to grow. Simply go to: [www.library.anacondasuperfund.com](http://www.library.anacondasuperfund.com)  
Or, visit the Arrowhead office located at 118 E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street in Anaconda.

Please call any of the individuals listed below, if you have questions or need information.

- EPA: Charlie Coleman, Remedial Project Manager, 457-5038, or  
Wendy Thomi, Community Involvement Coordinator, 457-5037  
Nikia Greene, Community Involvement Coordinator, 457-5019
- Montana DEQ: Dick Sloan, Project Manager, 841-5046
- Anaconda-Deer Lodge County: Becky Guay, Chief Executive, 563-4000
- Arrowhead Foundation: Jim Davison, TAG Administrator, 563-5538
- Atlantic Richfield Company: Tony Brown, Project Manager, 714-228-6770  
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1-866-457-2690

# Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site

March 2011

## THIS UPDATE

Work  
Planned for  
2011  
&  
2010 Work  
A-1 Lumber  
Stucky Ridge  
Wetlands  
Warm  
Springs Creek  
Five-Year  
Review  
Community  
Soils



Superfund Annual Update - 2011

## Work Planned for 2011

### Anaconda/Old Works Area

- Complete removal activities in the Railroad Corridor
- Initiate cleanup of the West Rail Yards
- Complete soil capping of the Red Sands Area
- Complete soil capping of the Industrial Park Area
- Complete removal activities in the Industrial Park Area
- Continue capping of the Arbiter Industrial Complex
- Initiate cleanup in the Sewage Treatment Parcel
- Continue reclamation activities on Stucky Ridge

### Opportunity Area

- Initiate cleanup activities at the Beaver Dam School
- Initiate removal of Yellow Ditch
- Initiate cleanup activities adjacent to the Rarus Rail Line
- Capping Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area
- Continue restoration of the Wetlands
- Complete removal activities near I-90 Interchange
- Initiate reclamation activities east of I-90

## Reclamation A-1 Lumber

In an effort to develop prime Anaconda real estate, 8.5 acres at the A-1 Lumber site have been stripped of waste and contaminated soils and replaced with clean-fill.

EPA and Anaconda-Deer Lodge County targeted cleanup at the site to promote redevelopment opportunities such as a new Montana Veterans Center.

The contaminated soils and waste from the A-1 Lumber site were hauled to the Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area (A-9 waste cell), formally known as Opportunity Ponds.

After placing clean fill at the A-1 Lumber site, Western Reclamation, Inc. of Anaconda performed the vegetation work. They added compost to the clean fill and good seed germination can be seen at the site.

## FOURTH FIVE -YEAR REVIEW

A five-year review is performed wherever final remedies allow contaminants to remain in place. A significant part of this five year review focused on vegetation assessments conducted on capped or treated soils. Good vegetation is present in the capped Old Works floodplain adjacent to the historic Red Sands area. The five year review identified some concerns about the performance of the remedy. These concerns include erosion from steep slope areas onto the Old Work Historic Trail and from unauthorized motor vehicle access in the Old Works Historic Area, where high levels of arsenic are known to exist.

Aspens are flourishing next to rock check dams installed in 2001 near Smelter Hill.

## Community Soils

Most remaining work in 2010 consisted of residential yard cleanup outside of Anaconda, such as the Aspen Hills area. Soil sampling determines the depth of soil removal. Contaminated soils and mine wastes are excavated and hauled to the Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area.

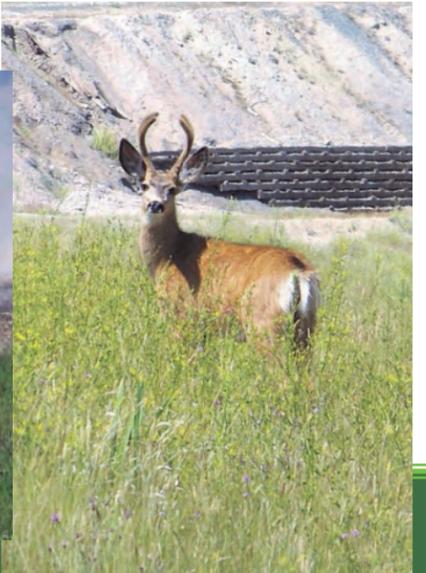
Rock caps and retaining walls prevent contaminated sediment from reaching city streets during storm runoff.

## 2010 Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area



EPA anticipates the same planting of approximately 34,322 shrubs and willows planted in 2010 for the spring of 2011. The planting crew consisted of mainly Butte and Anaconda residents.

## Wildlife Occupying Reclaimed Areas In Anaconda



## East Borrow Area (EBA) Wetlands

The EBA wetlands are seeded with transitional and wetland seed mixes. The majority of the area is drill seeded, and the saturated areas are seeded by hand.



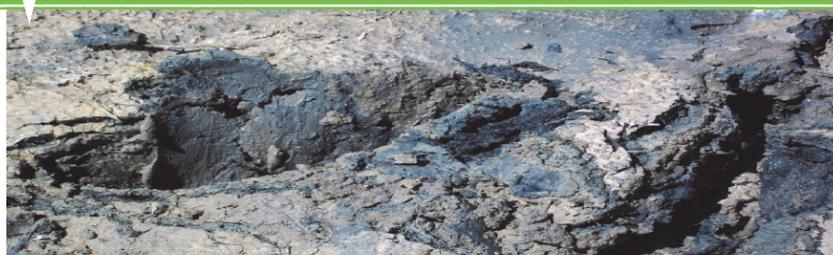
Moose, osprey, long-billed curlews, Canada geese, antelope, sand-hill cranes, deer, and many more animals have begun to frequent reclaimed areas in Anaconda.



The wetland project is one of the largest ever performed in the country. By August 2010, approximately 550,000 wetland plants inhabited the EBA. Through the 2009-10 period a total of about 1,850,000 plants were installed in the EBA wetlands. The 2011 wetland planting schedule will include the South Borrow Wetlands.



Subsurface hydric soils have begun to develop as evidence by the blue-grey color. Hydric soils favor the growth and regeneration of wetland vegetation.



## Milltown Sediments



2010 should have brought new vegetation to the waste repository where Milltown sediments are placed. EPA is dedicated to understanding and providing a solution to the scarcity on the Milltown sediments.

## WARM SPRINGS CREEK



Atlantic Richfield removed contaminated soils from the Warm Springs Creek floodplain in 2010. Additionally, they seeded approximately 180 acres south of the creek, and vegetation has started to sprout.



Building a temporary bridge over Warm Springs Creek allows trucks to haul stripped contaminated soils from the 238 acres north of Warm Springs Creek to the Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area.

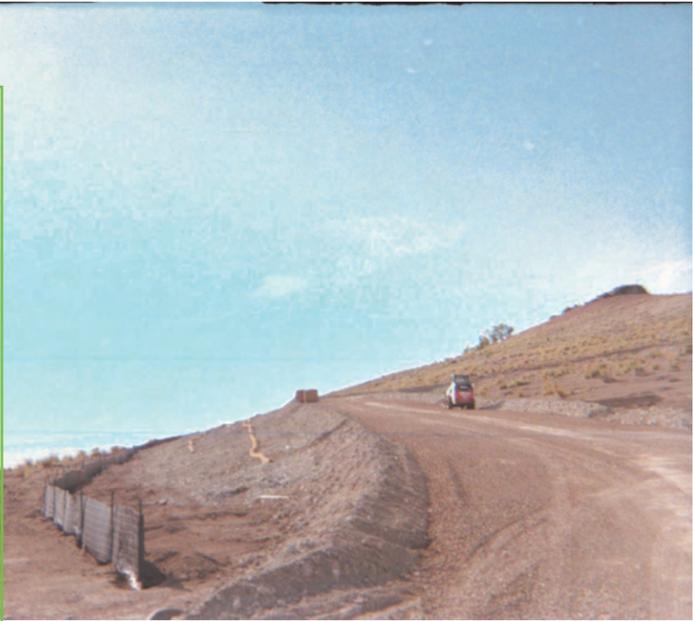
Best management practices (BMPs), including silt fence and straw bale dikes, prevent sediment transport to the creek during storm events. The temporary BMPs are put in place until strong vegetation is established.

During construction, plant ecologists marked the canopy area and other well-vegetated areas for preservation adjacent to stripping areas. Areas along the stream bank and certain tree canopy areas are restored by the Department of Justice - Natural Resources Damage (NRD) Program.



## Stucky Ridge

The Montana Department of Justice - Natural Resources Damage Program assumed certain remedial action responsibilities for portions of Remedial Design Unit (RDU) 1 Stucky Ridge and RDU 15 Mount Haggin under the 2008 Clark Fork River OU Consent Decree. A haul road, built in the spring of 2010, allows equipment access from the north side of Stucky Ridge. Sugar beet lime, a waste product from sugar refining in Billings, is added to the soil to neutralize acidity.



In addition to soil treatment, work in 2010 included planting trees and shrubs on steep slopes, and installation of storm water best management practices, including dozer basins, check dams, and sediment controls.



EPA expects construction to last three years. EPA anticipates the same abundant vegetation as seen in the demonstration plots on Stucky Ridge and the steep slope stabilization at Nazer Gulch.