



Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site

September 2007

Site Contacts

There are several sources for additional information on the Anaconda Smelter Superfund Site.

- **EPA**
Charlie Coleman, Remedial Project Manager, 457-5038—overall site issues
Wendy Thomi, Community Involvement Coordinator, 457-5037—communications
- **Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR)**
Dan Strausbaugh, Montana Office Representative, 457-5007—public health issues
- **Montana DEQ**
Larry Scusa, Lead Project Manager, 841-5036—overall site issues
Joe Griffin, Project Manager, 841-5042—groundwater
- **Anaconda Deer Lodge County**
Becky Guay, ADLC Chief Executive, 563-4000—overall site issues
Jim Kuipers, Consultant to ADLC, 782-3441—overall site issues
- **Anaconda Environmental Education Institute (TAG Group)**
Milo Manning, Technical Assistant, 563-5538—overall site issues
- **Opportunity Citizens Protective Association (OCPA)**
George Niland, 797-3343—Opportunity issues
- **Atlantic Richfield Company**
Gavin Scally, Project Manager, 723-1817—overall site issues

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from EPA's Direct Mail List,
please call EPA toll free at
1-866-457-2690 x5034



Focus on Opportunity Ponds. After cleanup, Atlantic Richfield's tailings ponds, located adjacent to Opportunity, will be called "Atlantic Richfield Land Management Area." For this fact sheet, they are called "The Ponds."

Milltown Sediments

Excavated sediments from the Milltown Dam are scheduled to begin arriving at The Ponds in early October. Montana Rail Link (MRL) has recently constructed a siding and two spurs along the BNSF railroad line that runs north-south parallel to Interstate 90. Forty-five railcars will each carry approximately 70 cubic yards (about 100 tons) of sediments totaling a 4,500-ton load to the siding every night. MRL will then haul the previous day's empty railcars back to Milltown.

During the day, Envirocon will unload railcars using an excavator sitting on top of an unloading ramp. The excavator will place sediments into 40-ton haul trucks, which will then haul the material to the D cell of The Ponds. Dozers will spread the material after it is end-dumped by the haul trucks. Each layer will be a minimum of 22 inches thick. The material will then be tested so appropriate soil amendments can be added before a grass seed mixture is drill-seeded.

A stockpile of nearly 500,000 cubic yards of excavated soil has been removed from behind Milltown dam and is ready for transportation.

Envirocon estimates it will take 800 days to transport the Milltown sediments to The Ponds for disposal. They intend to work seven days a week, with some breaks scheduled for the holiday seasons.



Excavator unloading rail cars



Contractors laying rail line to The Ponds

Capping and Seeding

To date, approximately 2,000 acres of the ponds have been covered and seeded by imported materials. These include clean borrow soil from areas near The Ponds (see map), impacted soils from the borrow areas, Stream-Side tailings and (in the future) Milltown sediments.

Because of their chemical and physical characteristics, some of the tailings can be used beneficially in the construction of covers for The Ponds. Tailings are either treated with alkaline amendments to a depth of 18 inches; or, if they are too rocky, to a depth of 12 inches followed by placement of a 6-inch soil layer. Other amendments such as organic matter and fertilizer are added as necessary, and a grass seed mix is drill-seeded.

Stream-Side Tailings from Silver Bow Creek continue to be transported to The Ponds for final disposal. The tailings are currently coming from two locations: Sub-area 2 and Sub-area 4. Sub-area 2 tailings are transported from a location near Ramsey on railcars along the Rarus Railroad. Sub-area 4 tailings are excavated east and south of Opportunity and are transported by haul truck. These materials enter the southern edge of The Ponds and are then placed in the B cells.



Typical seeded area

Community Air Monitoring

State and Federal air quality standards for dust are based on a 24-hour or annual average of collected samples. Because of community concern over potential contaminants present in dust during short-term strong wind events, in May 2007 Anaconda-Deer Lodge County began collecting particulate samples on an hourly basis. The county hopes to have real-time data available through the internet this fall. Samplers are currently located with the Atlantic Richfield PM 10 monitors as shown on the map to the right.

Atlantic Richfield has monitored ambient air since 2006. Samples are collected in accordance with State and Federal standards. Particulates, arsenic, and lead analysis have not exceeded National Ambient Air Quality standards.

Dust Control Measures Continue

A *Final Dust Management Plan* was approved by EPA and DEQ in March 2007. This plan provides information on management activities such as dust control and monitoring that Atlantic Richfield will implement during construction activities at The Ponds.

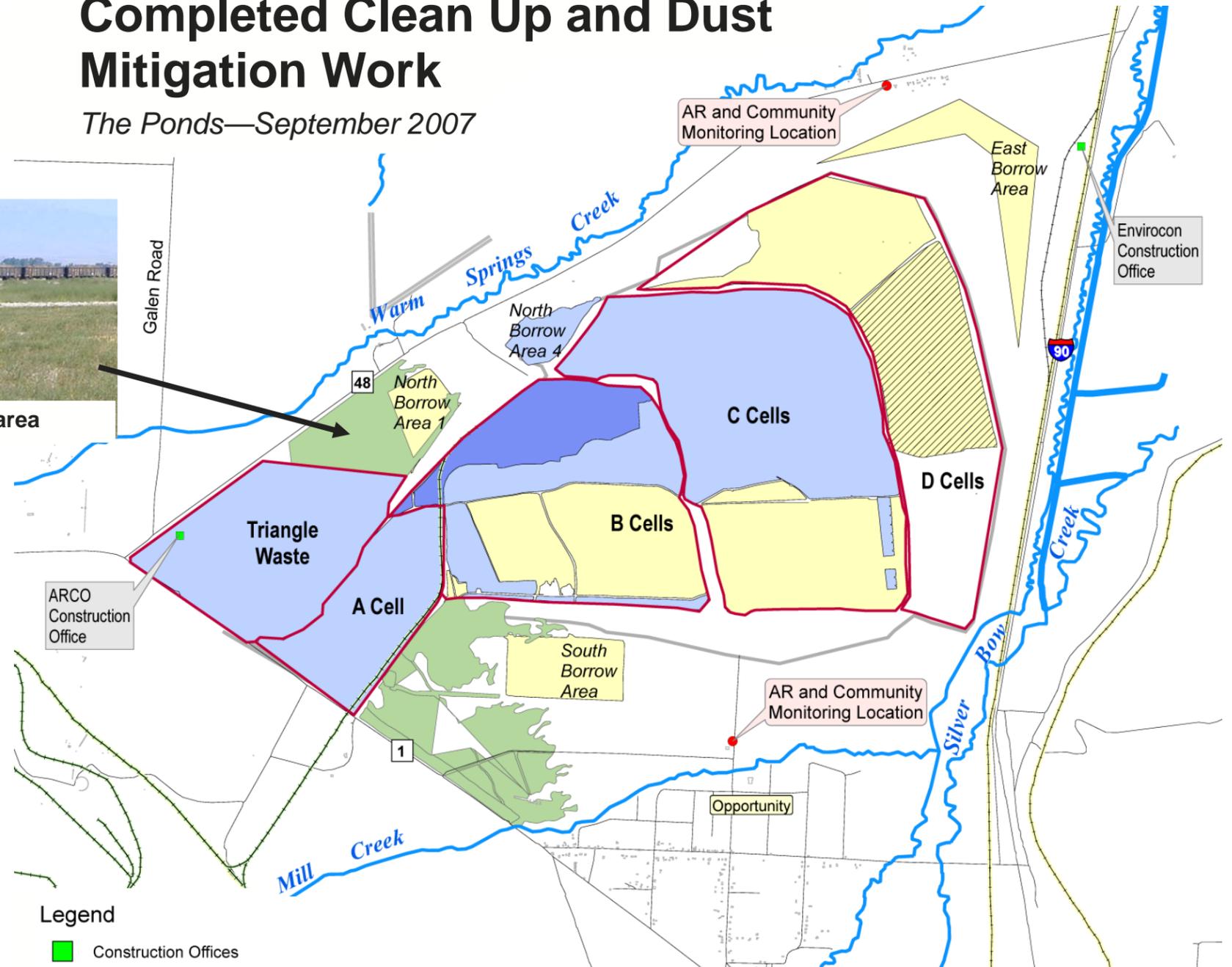
Dust control activities include application of polymer surfactant to unvegetated tailings and cover soil areas, a managed traffic plan, temporary seeding, and routine watering and surfactant application to haul roads.



Applying polymer surfactant

Completed Clean Up and Dust Mitigation Work

The Ponds—September 2007



Legend

- Construction Offices
- Dust Monitoring
- RARUS Railroad Spur
- Montana Rail Link siding and spur
- BNSF Railroad
- Milltown Placement Area (Fall 2007)
- Areas Completed by Fall 2007
- Streamside Tailings Placement Area (Ongoing)
- Tillage Areas (Completed by Fall 2007)
- Polymer/Interim Dust Control Cover (Completed)

What to Do If You See Dust at The Ponds....

EPA requires strict dust control measures for the construction areas. This includes watering of roads and borrow areas, mulching of treatment areas, use of magnesium chloride on haul roads, and (when necessary) work stoppages when fugitive dust leaves the site.

If you observe dust problems, please contact EPA's oversight personnel: Ken Brockman at 491-1933 or Larry Smith at 491-1620.