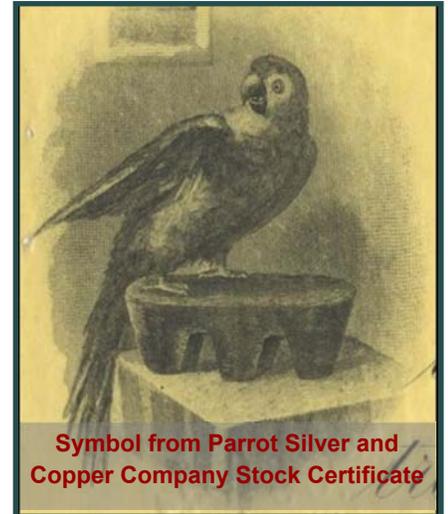


PROJECT UPDATE

PARROT TAILINGS WASTE REMOVAL PROJECT



The Parrot Silver and Copper Company smelter operated along the north bank of Silver Bow Creek from 1881 to 1899. This smelter was located just east of the current day Butte Civic Center. It was one of the finest and most efficient milling and smelting facilities in its day. The Amalgamated Copper Company, which later became the Anaconda Copper Mining Company, purchased the assets of Parrot in 1899 and immediately closed the smelter and shipped ore from the Parrot Mine to the Washoe Smelter in Anaconda. The Parrot Smelter was demolished in 1906 but the slag dumps and tailings pile, shown in the left portion of the photo above, remained on site. In the late 1950's, the Anaconda Company placed overburden from the Berkeley Pit on top of the Parrot Smelter site. In about 1978, Butte-Silver Bow built the County Shop Complex atop the site. Two ballfields were built atop the slag pile north of Civic Center Road. In 1983, the State of Montana filed a lawsuit in U.S. District Court against the Atlantic Richfield Co. (ARCO) under Superfund law for injuries to the natural resources in the Upper Clark Fork River Basin from Butte to Milltown. The 2008 consent decree settled the Butte Area One portion of Montana v. ARCO. In 2010, a 9-member citizen council, the Butte Natural Resource Damage Restoration Council (BNRC), was created so Butte citizens could have a direct voice in how the \$28.1 million settlement would be used to restore, replace, or acquire the equivalent of the injured alluvial groundwater and surface waters of Blacktail and Upper Silver Bow Creek. The BNRC worked with NRDP and the public to produce the Butte Area One Restoration Plan in 2012. This plan emphasized restoring the aquifer and protecting the creeks by removing wastes left in place, including the Parrot Tailings.

For more information, contact:

NRDP Office at 406-444-0205, nrdp@mt.gov, <https://dojmt.gov/lands/butte-area-one/>

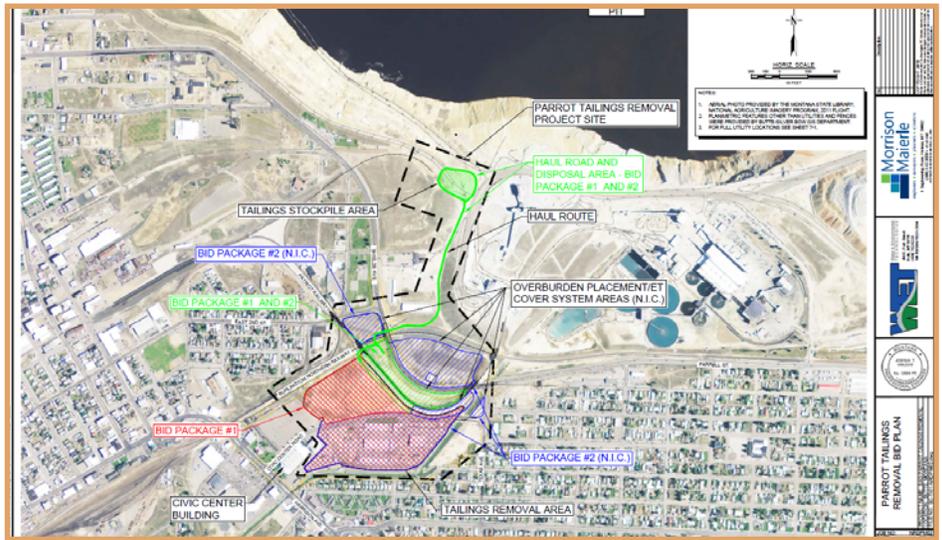
Jim Ford, Project Manager at 406-444-4034; or

Pat Cunneen, Environmental Specialist at 406-533-6882

These periodic updates are intended to provide information about activities at the Parrot Tailings Waste Removal Site.



Governor Bullock



Parrot Tailing Removal Plan—Phase 1 Work Area Shown in Red

In October 2015, Governor Bullock announced his intention for removal of the Parrot Tailings and the contaminated soil beneath them, as essential for the recovery of the alluvial aquifer and for the long-term protection of Silver Bow and Blacktail Creeks. Since then the NRDP has worked with numerous entities to facilitate the removal of the Parrot wastes. Bullock stated, “It is my hope that this project will serve as an example of what is possible in Butte.”

Upcoming Work:

Phase 1: remove wastes north of Civic Center Road (Summer—Winter 2018)

Phase 2a: would relocate BSB shop complex (Spring 2019—Summer 2020, depending on BSB contracting)

Phase 2b: depending on BSB contracting, remove wastes south of Civic Center Road and return site to end use (Summer 2020—Fall 2021)



PROJECT PARTNERS

The Parrot Tailings Waste Removal Project was made possible through the collaboration of numerous entities working together. They are: Governor Bullock, the BNRC, Butte-Silver Bow, Montana Resources, BNSF Railway Company, Upper Clark Fork River Basin Advisory Council, the US Environmental Protection Agency, Water and Environmental Technologies, Morrison Maierle, and North Western Energy.

Phase 1 Contractor Selected

Seven bids ranging from \$2.67M to \$5.53M were received for the Phase 1 Parrot Waste Removal Project. MK Weeden Construction of Lewistown, Montana submitted the low bid. Weeden is the largest earth-moving contractor in Montana and Wyoming. They plan to use large off-road heavy equipment to complete the job. Work will start by fencing off the Phase 1 work area north of Civic Center Road.

