



June 28, 2024

www.epa.gov/superfund/silver-bow-butte

Hello, Butte community members, leaders, and partners,

We hope you're all enjoying the warmer days and the official kickoff of summer. We're checking in with some updates related to the cleanup in Butte, including information about upcoming meetings, a personnel announcement, and helpful links. As always, please reach out to Molly (RPM), Emma (RPM), Katherine (CIC), Charles (CIC), or Mackenzie (CIC) with questions.

Community Conversation

We are working with our local and state partners to determine a date for our next community meeting in Butte. Given the need to work around important community events, holidays, and the kickoff of projects this summer in Butte, we are projecting early August for our next Community Conversation. We will be in touch with a date and time as soon as we're able. Our team is planning to host the event as an open-house-style of discussion to allow for more community engagement and to cover a wider variety of topics. If you have any suggestions, please don't hesitate to reach out.

Butte Priority Soils Operable Unit (BPSOU) Remedial Design/Remedial Action Progress Meeting (RDRA Progress Meeting)

The most recent publicly observable working RD/RA meeting took place on Tuesday, June 25. Joining information is always [available on our website](#) and is communicated to the Butte listserv in advance of the meeting. As a reminder, since these are working meetings, they are for observation only – any questions or comments should be submitted afterwards to the appropriate contact. We will publish the recording for the June 25 meeting in the coming weeks.

Recordings for the most recent RD/RA meetings are available using the links below.

- Butte Superfund Site Remedial Design/Remedial Action Progress Meeting (RDRA Progress Meeting) May 21, 2024: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HnUTzKy9fzU>
- Butte Superfund Site Remedial Design/Remedial Action Progress Meeting (RDRA Progress Meeting) April 23, 2024: https://youtu.be/gDQ5_Gu8V8A

Onsite Material

As was announced in this week's RD/RA meeting, Atlantic Richfield has decided to remove all onsite materials from the BPSOU corridor project areas that do not meet certain metals criteria in the Consent Decree (CD). Onsite material is soil or other natural material within a Superfund Site that is used to help

cleanup efforts at the Site. EPA supports Atlantic Richfield's decision to remove this material and is appreciative of all the community engagement that has taken place over the last year. EPA looks forward to continuing to progress site work and moving forward in a promising direction.

Office Hours

Office hours with BPSOU remedial project managers (RPMs) Emma Rott and Molly Roby have been taking place since early April at the Butte Silver Bow Readiness Center on Tuesdays from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. We are very grateful to BSB's Reclamation and Environmental Services staff for hosting. Given the low level of attendance and the need to focus on field work, the team is shifting office hours to once a month. The next office hour dates will be July 16th and August 13th. The team will provide more details about timing and location in upcoming communications. Note that as decisions about lead, repository siting, and others are made, the team will be available for additional office hours to support the community. If there are any recommendations for improving office hours, please reach out to Mackenzie, Charles or Katherine with those suggestions.

Lead (Pb) update

EPA is actively developing a proposed plan to implement the 2024 national lead guidance on the lead cleanup level for the BPSOU. When the proposed plan is released, there will be an opportunity for the public to provide comments. We will keep the Butte community updated as there is more information to share.

Repository Siting

Earlier in May, at a Council of Commissioners meeting, Atlantic Richfield and Butte-Silver Bow presented four candidate sites in Butte-Silver Bow County that could accept wastes from remediation projects set to begin in May 2025. This information was also presented to CTEC on Monday, 6/10. These sites, which were advanced through the siting process after incorporating substantial public feedback, include the Berkeley Pit, an area off Shields Avenue on Montana Resources property, land near the Kelly Mine area, and the existing Butte Mine Waste Repository Site. The process is now in the detailed evaluation phase, and a Draft Detailed Evaluation and Recommendations Report is expected to be completed and shared with the public this fall. Afterwards, the report will be finalized with stakeholder and public input incorporated, and a recommendation will be submitted to EPA, in consultation with DEQ.

Grove Gulch

In late May, after receiving concurrence with DEQ on comments, the agencies were able to issue conditional approval of the 100% Grove Gulch design. Cleanup is set to begin in the coming months pending final design approval. For additional information on Grove Gulch, [please visit BPSOU.com](https://www.bpsou.com).

Meet Allie Archer: EPA Montana Superfund Team Lead

Please join us in congratulating Allie Archer in her new position as the **Montana Superfund Team Lead**. Allie is currently a Superfund Remedial Project Manager located in Helena, Montana. She joined EPA as an RPM in 2015 after completing her service as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Senegal, West Africa. Allie has managed Superfund sites across Montana, which range from hardrock mining to a former paper and pulp mill. Many of you may already know Allie from her work for the past five years on the Montana

Pole site and her six years at Warm Springs Ponds. She has extensive experience in enforcement and community involvement with her sites. Allie holds an MS in Environmental Engineering from Michigan Technological University and a BS in Biological Systems Engineering and MS in Biological and Agricultural Engineering from Kansas State University.

Helpful Links

[EPA Superfund Site Profile Page](#)

[RMAP information](#)

[BPSOU.com](#)