



## August 2023 Superfund Update

### Recent and Upcoming Activities

#### Lexington Wetlands Project Start

Atlantic Richfield is planning to begin work at the end of August on the Lexington Wetland project. The Lexington Wetland is the large pond bounded by I-90, Lexington Ave, and Greenwood Ave. This wetland is not part of the Superfund cleanup, but Atlantic Richfield will construct a community park as part of what are called the “end land use additions” to the Superfund remedy. The park will include parking, bathrooms, and trails connecting to the neighborhood.

From the wetland project, construction will proceed to the Grove Gulch stormwater basin across Lexington Ave which is a Superfund project to treat stormwater. This will mark the beginning of construction of the Butte Priority Soils Consent Decree projects.

*Rendering of the Lexington Wetland project from Atlantic Richfield’s design.*



## Buffalo Gulch Project Area Design

During July, EPA issued comments on Atlantic Richfield's 60% design package for the Buffalo Gulch project area. This Consent Decree project will both install stormwater treatment basins and include trails and boardwalks for public use in the area between Montana Street and Kaw Ave shown in the following photo.



The stormwater basins will provide water treatment by settling and adsorbing metals and will benefit water quality and aquatic life in Silver Bow Creek. Below is a rendering from Atlantic Richfield's 60% design.



As part of remedy design, CTEC reviews Atlantic Richfield's design submittals and provides comments to EPA and DEQ. The agencies then incorporate CTEC's comment into official agency comments as they deem appropriate. This is one of the primary methods by which CTEC helps to shape the future of the Superfund cleanup. CTEC comments covering issues such as sampling to ensure waste is removed or capped, safe design for waste caps, and contaminated groundwater controls are included in EPA's official comments in July. This shows the EPA supports CTEC's position on these important remedy issues.

#### **Human Health Exposure Assessment by ATSDR**

EPA has officially requested that the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) consider an arsenic and mercury human health exposure study for Butte. The ATSDR is separate from EPA and is under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. ATSDR is reviewing information from Butte and will hold a public meeting in about one month to explain their findings.

#### **Upcoming Activity Schedule**

On Thursday August 24<sup>th</sup> CTEC will host an open field trip to the Diggings East and Northside Tailings project areas. The field trip is open to everyone. Meet at 6 PM at the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor Center on George Street.