



The Custer County Miles City (CCMC) Flood Protection project is a cooperative effort between the City of Miles City and surrounding Custer County to reduce flood risk and the burden of ever increasing flood insurance costs with the completion of a new levee structure.



CURRENT CONDITION:

- Almost 80% of residences and businesses in Miles City are located within the natural floodplain or floodway at the confluence of the Yellowstone and Tongue Rivers.
- In addition to the obvious flood risk and the potential for large scale property and critical infrastructure damage, citizens of Miles City pay substantial flood insurance premiums, representing approximately 23% of ALL flood insurance policies in Montana, a total of just over \$625,000 annually (2015). It is anticipated that by the year 2020, the total amount leaving Miles City annually in flood insurance premiums will exceed 1.2 million dollars.
- Miles City is the business, educational, and medical hub of eastern Montana. A flood event in Miles City would be catastrophic not just to the town, but to the entire region.

ACTIONS TAKEN OR ONGOING:

- As we reported in early August, the Section 205 Study has been temporarily discontinued for FY2019-2020. This decision was made after careful consideration by the City of Miles City regarding the ability to meet the matching requirements for the Study, and also by USACE regarding the availability of hydrology staff to continue work. Despite the temporary discontinuation of the work on the Section 205, assessment of the Miles City slough continues. The City is utilizing a pre-disaster mitigation grant awarded by FEMA in 2017 to complete an assessment of the slough for rehabilitation and use in storm water management and internal drainage. This is a critical piece of the overall flood mitigation strategy and will allow the City to determine the full rehabilitation need and plan for implementation.

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Given that work on the Section 205 Study is temporarily discontinued, there will be no public meeting in October as there has been the past four years. Although work continues on the slough, there is nothing critical to report to the community and the City wants to be respectful of citizens' busy schedules. It is anticipated that there will be an update on both the Section 205 Study and the slough rehabilitation assessment during flood awareness day in April. Notice of that meeting will be distributed when a date and agenda are finalized. Project information can continue to be found at the project website, www.ccmcfloodprotection.com or by contacting Samantha Malenovsky, Miles City Floodplain Administrator at 406-234-3493.