



Montana Scary Water Facts:

- 1) The Upper Clark Fork River Basin, stretching from Milltown to Butte, is the largest Superfund site in the US¹.
- 2) The Berkley Pit, once an open pit copper mine, is now a bubbling cauldron of toxic water over 900 feet deep².
- 3) The Montana Department of Environmental Quality has identified 100 waterways too polluted for swimming, fishing, and/or other uses³.
- 4) Montana is the 6th “driest” state in the nation⁴, based on annual precipitation, yet according to the Western Organization of Resource Councils the oil and gas industry used over 250 million gallons of water here for fracking wells in 2012⁵. This is enough water to fill more than 3,700 Olympic sized swimming pools.
- 5) In January of this year, 31,000 gallons of Bakken crude oil spilled into the Yellowstone River. This spill contaminated the drinking water of Glendive, Montana residents with a witches’ brew of volatile organic chemicals⁶.
- 6) Montana attorney general Tim Fox recently filed a lawsuit against the Clean Water Rule, one of the biggest steps forward for clean water in more than a decade, and now a court ruling left 63% of Montana’s streams once again without clear protection under the Clean Water Act⁷.

1: http://mtstandard.com/news/local/gov-bullock-celebrates-the-cleanup-of-silver-bow-creek/article_257ec5d0-864a-562c-8aab3879102357bd.html

2: <http://www.mbg.mtech.edu/env/env-berkeley.asp>

3: <http://deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/cwaic/reports.mcp>

4: <http://www.currentresults.com/Weather-Extremes/US/driest-states.php>

5: http://www.worc.org/userfiles/file/Oil%20Gas%20Coalbed%20Methane/Hydraulic%20Fracturing/Gone_for_Good.pdf

6: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/energy/2015/01/150130-yellowstone-river-oil-spill-ice-cleanup/>

7: <http://mtpr.org/post/montana-joins-lawsuit-against-federal-clean-water-rules>