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U.S. Doubles Oil Estimate For Dakotas, Montana

USGS: Three Forks Has 3.73 Billion
Barrels Of Undiscovered Oil

BY SEAN COCKERHAM

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WASHINGTON — The federal government is doubling its estimate of how much oil might be discovered and harvested in the booming area of the Dakotas and Montana, a region that's already helping to drive the United States' dramatic shift into a role as the world's leading oil producer.

"These world-class formations contain even more energy resource potential than previously understood, which is important information as we continue to reduce our nation's dependence on foreign sources of oil," Interior Secretary Sally Jewell said Tuesday in a conference call.

The surge comes primarily because of the Three Forks shale formation, which lies mostly in North Dakota and crosses into South Dakota and Montana. It was considered to have little potential for pro-

ductive drilling the last time federal geologists launched an estimate of the area, four years ago. But advances in drilling techniques and growing activity by oil companies caused the U.S. Geological Survey to take a closer look.

The USGS now thinks the Three Forks formation contains 3.73 billion barrels of undiscovered and technically recoverable oil. Combined with a similar figure for the neighboring Bakken formation, it represents double the oil and nearly triple the natural gas that geologists thought the region held four years ago.

"The Three Forks was the big unknown," said Brenda Pierce, the energy resources program coordinator for the USGS. "There's been tremendous development in the Bakken, but the Three Forks is up and coming."

Intense development of the Bakken formation has transformed North Dakota in recent years. North

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ABOVE: Former "Survivor" contestant Holly Hoffman returned as the featured speaker at the ninth annual Celebrate Women event in Yankton Tuesday. BELOW: Michelle Marcotte (left) and Julie Auch of Yankton sample some of the wares at the Scentsy booth at Tuesday's Celebrate Women festivities. To see or purchase photos from this event, visit spotted.yankton.net. (Kelly Hertz/P&D)



Six Words To Survive

S.D. Woman Tells How Reality
Show Made Her A Real 'Survivor'

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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Holly Hoffman may not have won the "Survivor" reality television show and its \$1 million prize, but she still considers herself a winner.

The South Dakota woman made the four finalists — the last woman and the last in her age bracket — who battled deep in Nicaragua during Season 21 of the CBS reality series "Survivor" in 2010.

In the process, she learned about the things that really mattered to her — faith, family, friends and an inner strength and passion that she never knew existed.

In turn, that made her a true survivor. "It took me starving in the jungle to find out what life is about," she told an audience of nearly 250 during Tuesday night's ninth annual Celebrate Women program at Dakota Theatre in downtown Yankton. The *Press & Dakotan* was a sponsor of this event.

Hoffman, who also spoke at the 2011 Celebrate Women event, shared with her audience the six words of survival: attitude, determination, confidence, desire, faith and perseverance.

"Feel it, know it, show it, believe it," she said.

Hoffman compared life to a shopping cart — sometimes stuck, sometimes with the squeaky wheel, sometimes filled with junk, and usually left empty.

It was that need for fulfillment that led her to seek out the "Survivor" show.

Hoffman and her husband, Charlie, live on their ranch near Eureka. In the end, he went from becoming one of her biggest doubters to becoming one of her biggest supporters.

Holly Hoffman started her odyssey in May 2009, determined to land a spot among the 20 contestants chosen from among the 100,000 applicants.

Hoffman wasn't even going to send in her audition tape, believing the dream was so unrealistic and out of reach. But her husband persuaded her

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River Activists Put Focus On L&C Lake

BY RANDY DOCKENDORF

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RUNNING WATER — The traffic crossing the Chief Standing Bear Memorial Bridge gets a view not only of the Missouri River but also the sediment clogging the giant waterway.

That's bad news not just for recreation — a major part of the regional economy with more than one million visitors annually — but also wildlife, hydropower, water storage, flood control and a dependable water supply.

The marshy mass offers a glimpse of what lies ahead for Lewis and Clark Lake without further action, according to river activists. One such group, the Missouri Sedimentation Action Coalition (MSAC), met last week in Yankton.

MSAC president Larry Weiss says his or-

OUR TOWNS

Bon Homme County

ganization has focused its immediate attention on Lewis and Clark Lake, 30 percent filled with sediment and reduced from its original 25 miles to 17 miles.

"Where is the greatest problem on the Missouri River?" Weiss asked. "It's here — the sediment with the Niobrara River, filling in Lewis and Clark Lake. We at MSAC are focused on that particular area since it's the most visible."

MSAC officials see the potential for their work achieving more immediate results on Lewis and Clark Lake, Weiss said.

"We are looking at making the greatest im-

pact in a short time frame," he added.

The loss of Missouri River recreational opportunities could produce a major setback for the Yankton region, based on figures from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' "Value to the Nation" report in 2010.

Lewis and Clark Lake recreation attracts about \$30 million annually in both visitor spending and sales within a 30-mile radius, the Corps report said.

Recreation accounts for more than 600 jobs, about \$11.6 million in labor income and about \$17.5 million in valued added within the same 30-mile radius, the Corps said.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has predicted a 200-year sediment life for Lewis and

LAKE | PAGE 14



P&D ARCHIVE PHOTO: KELLY HERTZ

This photo of Bill Tamisiea was taken at the end of his second term on the Yankton County Commission in 2010. He was a county commissioner from 2000-2004 and 2006-2010. Funeral services for Tamisiea will be held Thursday.

County Commissioner Remembered For Friendliness, Budget Knowledge

BY NATHAN JOHNSON

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When William "Bill" Tamisiea left the Yankton County Commission at the end of 2010, he said he hoped that he had made a difference in the county.

Looking back on the life of the business owner and county commissioner, those who knew him say there is no doubt he had made a difference in their lives.

Tamisiea died Saturday at Avera Sacred Heart Hospital in Yankton at age 65.

After learning the family business, Tamisiea bought Baggs & Tamisiea, a John Deere implement dealership, from his father, Ralph Tamisiea, and Clint Baggs.

"(Bill) was a business man," said Tom Merrill, who first got to know Tamisiea and his family when they were neighbors. "He knew ag and how to sell a product."

Over time, the Merrills and Tamisieas became family, spending many holidays and free weekends together.

Merrill said the last several years had been difficult ones for Tamisiea.

He had Alpha-1, a progressive and genetic form of emphysema. That led to Tamisiea undergoing a lung transplant in Rochester, Minn., in 2008.

While the new lungs improved his quality of life,

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