



PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE

Securing the Benefits of Commerce to
North America's Energy & Agriculture Heartland

NEWS RELEASES

Happy Holidays from the Ports-to-Plains Alliance

North Dakota recognizes transportation needs in energy corridor

New North Dakota governor on the two year budget cycle – "Counting the regular highway funding committed to these Western Districts, we are providing \$958 million altogether for infrastructure in oil country."

Congressmen in the Ports-to-Plains Region assigned to Ways and Means Committee and Energy and Commerce Committee

Enterprise Region joins tri-national partnership



Saskatchewan and Ports-to-Plains Alliance ... It's a Natural Fit (PowerPoint)

Ports-to-Plains Alliance meets with leaders in Moose Jaw, SK

U.S. highway group to visit Shaunavon

Upcoming Ports-to-Plains Alliance Activities

- January 3 -- Ports-to-Plains Alliance Board of Directors Meeting, Austin, TX
- January 3-5 -- Texas Transportation Forum
- January 11-12 -- Wyoming Economic Development Winter Meeting, Cheyenne, WY
- January 25 -- Montana Economic Development Association Day in the Rotunda, Helena, MT
- February 16-18 -- PTP Trade Task Force, San Angelo, TX
- April 6-8 -- PTP Energy Summit, Broomfield, CO

TRANSPORTATION



Editorial: An Economy runs through it

The saga in Idaho continues with largely emotional arguments in opposition creating a dam to the movement of equipment to a refinery in Billings, Montana. The articles below are typical of the media coverage and the efforts of minorities to impose their will on the North American economy.

Guest Editorial: Though Shalt Not Pass

Mica confirmed as chairman of House T&I Committee

Jim Oberstar, Exit Interview after 17 Terms with House Transportation Committee

Nebraska Legislative Update: Sen. Fischer Unveils Highway Funding Plan for the 2011 Legislative Session

Economic Development

Alberta Economic Outlook Good!

Alberta's employment sector is expected to lead the country next year with an increase of 2.3 per cent, up significantly from a "scant" 0.5 per cent in 2010, says a report released Wednesday by RBC Economics.



Despite Drug Violence, Business Is Booming in Mexico



ENERGY

Addressing Tailing Ponds taken seriously

Tailing ponds are often the main reason that reclamation of land disturbed by mining oil sands is slow. The following articles show the importance that the oil sands developers place on reclamation of the tailings ponds. Rather than maintaining their potential business advantage, they have decided that addressing the tailing ponds through cooperative sharing of research and technologies trumps advantage.

White House backs green tax provisions to build liberal support

AGRICULTURE

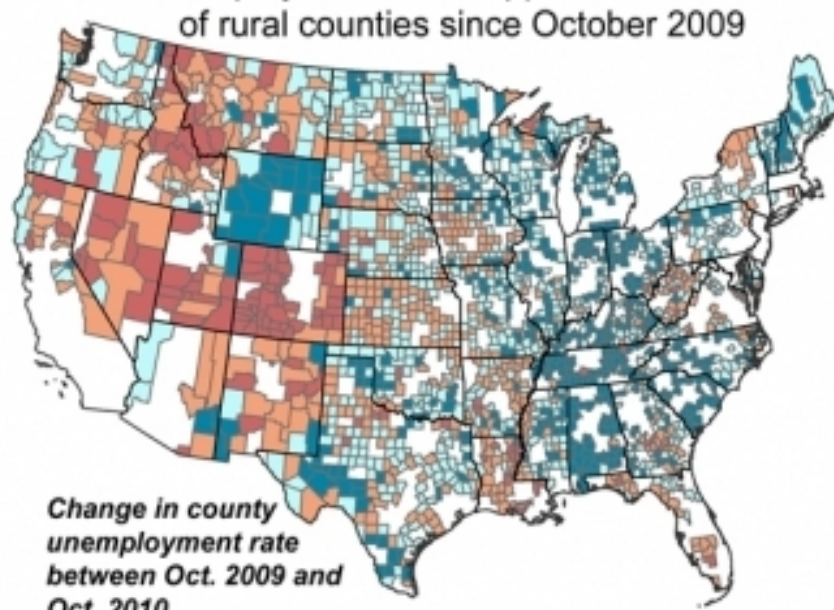
Two-Thirds of Rural America See Job Gains Since '09

Most rural counties gained jobs between October 2009 and 2010. But unemployment rates dropped most east of the Mississippi River, where the recession struck the hardest.

Ag aiding economy

Unemployment Falling

Unemployment has dropped in two-thirds of rural counties since October 2009



Change in county unemployment rate between Oct. 2009 and Oct. 2010

- Unemployment rate down by more than one point
- Unemployment rate down between 0 and 1 point
- Unemployment rate up between 0 and 1 point
- Unemployment rate up more than 1 point

Mark Your Calendar! 2nd Annual PORTS-TO-PLAINS ALLIANCE ENERGY SUMMIT

April 6-8, 2011
Omni Interlocken Resort
Broomfield, Colorado

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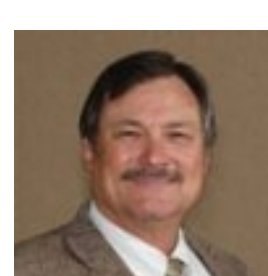
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**Board Member
Spotlight
Dwain
Morrison**

San Angelo, Texas

Dwain has been an active Ports-to-Plains Board Member since 2006. His personal vision for Ports-to-Plains is to see a divided 4-lane highway south from San Angelo, through the rural communities of Eldorado, Sonora and Del Rio, Texas.



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