



BASIN BULLETIN

A Quarterly Review of Cleanup in the Coeur d'Alene River Basin

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Community Involvement Contact:

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Subscriptions & Submissions

The Basin Bulletin can be sent to your email address as a pdf and/or Microsoft Word file. To request addition or corrections to the mailing list, or to make a submission to the Basin Bulletin, please contact:

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Two Lower Basin Recreational Areas To Be Cleaned Up

Under the 2002 Record of Decision for OU-3 (Coeur d'Alene Basin), two Lower Basin recreational areas will be cleaned up in 2003-2004. The Basin Commission approved both projects in May 2003. Cleanup actions will occur at the East of Rose Lake Boat Launch and the Highway 3/Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes Crossing site. The goal for both sites is to reduce human exposure to lead and arsenic contaminated soil/sediment and build upon an existing recreational facility to create a clean oasis for recreational use. The Recreational Area Project Focus Team (PFT) and Citizens' Coordinating Council (CCC) group has been involved in scoping of the design alternatives, and review of both 30% and 95% designs. A community meeting was held on May 28th to share 30% designs with interested community members.

At the East of Rose Lake Boat Launch, contaminated soil will be capped by installation of a paved parking lot to accommodate 6 vehicle/trailer spaces and 6 vehicle-only spaces and construction of a 16-foot boat launch. The parking area will be graded to direct a majority of the runoff away from river. A safer and more convenient access off E. River Road will replace the existing access from Highway 3. A protective fence will be installed around the historic pioneer schoolhouse located on the property. The riverbank will also be stabilized near the boat launch to reduce erosion and human exposure to contaminated banks. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and the USDA Forest Service (USFS) jointly own this site. Under Superfund, EPA will fund actions on IDFG's western part of the property and the USFS will fund the cleanup on their eastern end of the property. Under an agreement with EPA, the US Army Corps of Engineers produced the design and will manage the construction activities for both sites.

At the IDFG Highway 3/Trail Crossing site, contaminated soil next to the parking lot will be paved and have a 20 foot wide grass barrier installed. IDFG plans to install several picnic tables at the site for Trail users.

Work will be initiated during Fall 2003 at both sites and will be completed with the paving component in Spring 2004. Both sites will be finished prior to the 2004 recreational season.

For more information contact:

EPA – Anne Dailey, 206-553-2110, dailey.anne@epa.gov

IDFG – Bryan Helmich, 208-769-1414, bhelmich@idfg.state.id.us

USFS – Jeff Johnson, 208-765-7442, jkjohnson@fs.fed.us

Residential Sampling and Cleanup in the Basin

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) led the Basin yard sampling and cleanup efforts in 2003 as part of the annual work plan approved by the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission

(BEIPC). In 2003, IDEQ exceeded the workplan goals by sampling 847 residential properties and cleaning up 91 residential properties. Priority was placed on sampling and cleaning up properties that are considered high risk (where expectant mothers or children under age 6 live). Residential

properties (including play areas, roadway shoulders, driveways, gardens, and other areas) are being sampled to determine if they contain high levels of lead or arsenic. The majority of sampled properties in 2003 were in the Upper Basin (Mullan, Wallace, Silverton, and Osburn). By the end of the year, about half of the property owners will have received their sample results. The remainder of the results will be sent in early spring when the results are available from the labs. Samples were sent to Silver Valley labs and EPA's national contract lab for analysis.

Basin sampling is expected to be a multi-year effort. Participation in the sampling program is voluntary—over 80% of homeowners who have been contacted have agreed to sampling.

TerraGraphics Environmental Engineers, contractors to the IDEQ, has employed 31 local hires who are in the field as samplers or providing office support. Samplers work in teams of three and are in Osburn (one team), Mullan/Wallace (two teams), and other areas (one team).

Cleanup decisions are based on sampling results: a vegetative barrier or gravel is placed if lead levels are between 700 and 999 parts per million; soil is excavated and replaced in cases where lead levels are 1000 ppm or higher, or arsenic is 100 ppm or higher. Cleanup is being performed by Randall Contractors, Kellogg, Idaho. Of the 91 residential cleanups completed this year, 42 were residences and 49 were roadway right of ways that are adjacent

to residential properties. Twenty two of these properties are classified as high risk. Eight crews were employed by Randall—two in Osburn, three in Wallace/ Silverton, and three in Mullan.

Both TerraGraphics and Randall completed their work for the season by November 15 and they will resume cleanup in the spring as soon as weather allows. IDEQ and its contractors have been meeting with public officials and working directly with homeowners to ensure property owner satisfaction.

If you would like more information about this project or are interested in participating in the 2004 sampling, please call the Kellogg Superfund Project Office at 208-783-5781.



Basin Commission Update

At their November 2003 meeting, the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission approved a plan for 2004 cleanup work. The plan includes both cleanup activities and water quality projects. On the cleanup side, the plan for 2004 includes:

- Cleanup of 200 to 300 residential and community properties.
- Development of an institutional controls program to protect areas that have been cleaned up.
- Continued operation of the Big Creek repository for cleanup materials, and identification of additional repository areas.
- Drinking water upgrades for private wells with elevated metals.

- Improvements at Thompson Lake Boat launch to reduce exposure to contaminated soils, and additional signs on nine lower river recreational areas.
- Evaluation of technology for treatment of contaminated water in Canyon Creek.
- Monitoring throughout the basin to identify trends and measure the effectiveness of cleanup.
- Designs for cleanup at Golconda, Rex, and Constitution mine and mill sites.
- Development of a plan to sequence cleanup actions in the lower river basin.

Water quality projects approved by the Commission for a Clean Water Act grant are:

- Upgrade and monitoring of the bioreactor at the Success site in Ninemile Creek.
- Investigation of recontamination at Meyer Creek.
- Revegetation demonstration project on East Fork of Pine Creek.
- Evaluation of metals removal technologies at the Page Sewage Treatment Plant.
- Evaluating surface and groundwater interactions at Canyon Creek.

The Commission also set meeting dates for 2004 - February 18, May 12, August 18, November 10. Meeting locations will be announced prior to each meeting.

2003 Coeur d'Alene Basin Year In Review

The Year's Highlights

The Basin Commission adopted a five-year plan for priority activities in the Coeur d'Alene River Basin in August. At the November meeting, the Commissioners approved the one-year plan, which is a detailed workplan for the first year of the five-year plan. Work has begun on this plan.

EPA and the US Army Corps of Engineers successfully completed emergency upgrades at the Central Treatment Plant in Kellogg. The plant treats mine water to prevent contamination from reaching the south fork of the Coeur d'Alene River. Critical equipment was replaced to keep the plant operating but more work remains to be done in 2004 to protect the river.

Ongoing Basin Activities

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, the Washington Department of Ecology, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and EPA continue to provide staff support to the Basin Commission. They also participate in the Technical Leadership Group, the Project Focus Teams and the Citizens Coordinating Committee. (See insert for all contact listings.)

Currently, there are eleven project focus teams. Please check the insert in this Bulletin to find out what the teams are working on and how to contact the team leaders if you would like to join one of these teams

Information Repositories

North Idaho College Library
1000 Garden Avenue
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208-769-3355

Wallace Public Library
415 River Street
Wallace, ID 83873
208-752-4571

Harrison City Hall
100 Frederick Street
P.O. Box 73
Harrison, ID 83833
208-689-3212

Spokane Public Library
906 West Main Avenue
Spokane, WA 99201
509-444-5336

EPA Field Office
1910 Northwest Boulevard,
Suite 208
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208-664-4588

EPA Seattle Office
Superfund Record Center
1200 Sixth Avenue
Seattle, WA 98101
206-553-4494

Websites

EPA Coeur d'Alene Basin

[http://
Yosemite.epa.gov/R10/
CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda](http://Yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda)

Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission

[http://
www.basincommission.com](http://www.basincommission.com)

Technical Leadership Group (TLG)

[www.basincommission.com/
TLG.asp](http://www.basincommission.com/TLG.asp)

Citizens Coordinating Council (CCC)

[http://
www.basincommission.com/
CCC.asp](http://www.basincommission.com/CCC.asp)

“Box” Cleanups Continue

Over eighty percent of the residential properties requiring cleanup in the Bunker Hill “Box” have been cleaned up. The US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is leading the cleanup activities on behalf of EPA. This year, the Corps completed cleanups at approximately 198 residential properties, including the Kellogg Middle School and Teeter’s Field. The Upstream Mining Group was scheduled to complete approximately 200 residential properties but only addressed around 40 properties. EPA and DEQ continue to work to ensure that the Upstream Mining Group meets its commitments.

FREE Workshop
Riparian Ecology and Restoration

Provided by: Chris Hoag and Jon Fripp,
 Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

Kootenai County Administration Building
 451 Government Way, Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

Thursday, January 29, 2004 – 8 AM to 5 PM

For more information contact: Anne Dailey, EPA
 (206) 553-2110 or Mark Addy, NRCS (208) 762-
 1030 ext 106

FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions

Q . What Happened to the Technical Assistance Grant?

A . EPA and the Basin Cleanup Coalition recently agreed by mutual consent to terminate a technical assistance grant (TAG) which was awarded in May 2003. The Coalition ultimately was unable to create an organization that could adequately represent the wide variety of interests in the Basin. A recent audit of the grant by the EPA Inspector General’s Office raised a number of issues that will be outlined in a report expected by the end of January. The Inspector General’s report will be placed on EPA’s Coeur d’Alene Basin website when it is available.

Instead of offering another technical assistance grant in the near future, EPA will continue to support the Basin Environmental Improvement Commission, the Citizens Coordinating Committee and other efforts in the Basin.

Calendar of Events

Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission (Commission)

Contact: Luke Russell, 208-783-5781

Basin Commission Board

February 11, 2004 – 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Kootenai County Administrative Building,
 451 Government Way, Coeur d’Alene

Please see the Basin Commission’s website at:

www.basincommission.com

Citizens Coordinating Council (CCC)

January 8, 2004 – 6:30 p.m.

Post Falls Library, 821 N. Spokane Street

www.basincommission.com/CCC.asp

Other Citizen Group Meetings

Coeur d’Alene Basin Citizens Advisory Committee (CBCAC)

Contact: John Snider, 208-664-9773

Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition (SNRC)

December 9 & 23; January 13 & 27, 2004

Contact: Connie Fudge, 208-753-6022

Group meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Brooks Hotel – 500 Cedar Street, Wallace, ID

Silver Valley People’s Action Coalition (SVPAC)

Contact: Barbara Miller, 208-784-8891
 PO Box 362, Kellogg, ID 83837

Washington Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)

Contact: Lloyd Brewer, 509-625-6968

Board of Directors Meeting

December 8, January 12, 2004

Board meets 2nd Monday of each month from 6 to 8 p.m. at Spokane County Water Works Bldg. – 914 E. North Foothills Drive, Spokane

General Membership Meeting

Date, Time and Place To Be Announced

**For Information About the
 National Academy of Sciences (NAS)
 Coeur d’Alene Project**

Go To:

<http://dels.nas.edu/best/projects.html>

Basin Commission Contacts

Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission (Commission) – Sherry Krulitz, Chairperson

Commission Members

| | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Allred, Steve; IDEQ Director | Phone: 208-373-0240 | FAX: 208-373-0417 | sallred@deq.state.id.us |
| Buell, Jack; Benewah County Commissioner | Phone: 208-245-3274 | FAX: 208-245-4364 | ksather@benewahcounty.org |
| Iani, John; EPA Region 10 Administrator | Phone: 206-553-1234 | FAX: 206-553-1809 | iani.john@epa.gov |
| Krulitz, Sherry; Shoshone County Commissioner | Phone: 208-752-3331 | FAX: 208-753-2711 | commsec@co.shoshone.id.us |
| Matheson, Chuck; Coeur d'Alene Tribal Council | Phone: 208-686-5403 | FAX: 208-686-6610 | mathesonc@cdatribe.org |
| McCurdy, James; State of Washington | Phone: 509-328-4220 | FAX: 509-456-0136 | jmcurdy@lawschool.gonzaga.edu |
| Panabaker, Dick; Kootenai Cnty. Commissioner | Phone: 208-769-4450 | FAX: 208-667-8534 | kc@co.kootenai.id.us |

Technical Leadership Group (TLG) – Phillip Cernera, Chairperson

| | | | |
|---|---------------------------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Adams, Bill; EPA Region 10 | Phone: 206-553-2806 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | adams.bill@epa.gov |
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| Audet, Dan; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | Phone: 509-893-8001 | FAX: 509-891-6748 | dan_audet@fws.gov |
| Brewer, Lloyd; City of Spokane | Phone: 509-625-6968 | FAX: 509-625-6537 | lbrewer@spokanecity.org |
| *Cernera, Phil; Coeur d'Alene Tribe | Phone: 208-660-8144 | FAX: 208-686-5222 | philc@cdatribe-nsn.gov |
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| Dailey, Anne; EPA Region 10 | Phone: 206-553-2110 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | dailey.anne@epa.gov |
| Dierich, Ginny; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | Phone: 206-764-3265 | FAX: 206-764-3706 | elizabeth.v.dierich@usace.army.mil |
| Eckman, Sheila; EPA Region 10 | Phone: 206-553-0455 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | eckman.Sheila@epa.gov |
| Fink, Rich; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | Phone: 208-762-5915 x 222 | FAX: 208-762-5905 | richard.e.fink@usace.army.mil |
| Fortier, David; Bureau of Land Management | Phone: 208-769-5022 | FAX: 208-769-5050 | david_fortier@blm.gov |
| Fredrickson, Sid; City of Coeur d'Alene | Phone: 208-769-2367 | FAX: 208-769-2366 | sidf@cdaid.org |
| Frutchey, Frank; Benewah County | Phone: 208-682-2077 | FAX: 208-682-2077 | |
| Gunderman, Jack; Coeur d'Alene Tribe | Phone: 208-686-1118 | FAX: 208-686-5222 | gunderman@cdatribe-nsn.gov |
| Hansen, Jim; U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service | Phone: 509-893-8034 | FAX: 509-891-6748 | jim_hansen@fws.gov |
| Hanson, Rob; IDEQ | Phone: 208-373-0290 | FAX: 208-373-0417 | rhanson@deq.state.id.us |
| Hardy, Rogers; Benewah County | Phone: 208-689-3731 | | rogershardy@aol.com |
| Helmich, Bryan; ID Dept. of Fish & Game | Phone: 208-769-1414 | FAX: 208-769-1418 | bhelmich@idfg.state.id.us |
| Johnson, Jeff; U.S. Forest Service | Phone: 208-765-7442 | FAX: 208-765-7307 | jkjohnson@fs.fed.us |
| Kirschner, Fred; Spokane Tribe | Phone: 509-924-0184 | | fredk@icehouse.net |
| LePard, David; ID Dept. of Water Resources | Phone: 208-769-1450 | FAX: 208-769-1454 | dlepard@idwr.state.id.us |
| Miller, Stan; Spokane County Utilities Office | Phone: 509 477-7259 | FAX: 509 477-4715 | smiller@spokanecounty.org |
| *Moreen, Ed; EPA Coeur d'Alene Basin Rep. | Phone: 208-664-4588 | FAX: 208-664-5829 | moreen.ed@epa.gov |
| Mullen, Tom; MFG Environmental | Phone: 208-667-2948 | FAX: 208-667-1739 | tom.mullen@mfgenv.com |
| *Roland, John; Washington Dept. of Ecology | Phone: 509-329-3581 | FAX: 509-456-5056 | jrol461@ecy.wa.gov |
| *Russell, Luke; IDEQ | Phone: 208-783-5781 | FAX: 208-783-4561 | lrussell@nidlink.com |
| Rust, Bill; Shoshone County | Phone: 208-556-8020 | | wcrust@imbris.com |
| Schlepp, Mike; K-S Soil & Water Cons. District | Phone: 208-689-3593 | | farmermike@nidlink.com |
| Sheppard, Clyde; Kootenai County | Phone: 208-773-9116 | FAX: 208-773-0162 | chsheppard@imbris.com |
| Snider, John; Kootenai County | Phone: 208-664-9773 | | jasduke5@imbris.com |
| Stevens, Rebecca; K-S Soil & Water Cons. District | Phone: 208-762-4939 | FAX: 208-762-9859 | ksswcd@icehouse.net |
| Stevenson, Mike; Bureau of Land Management | Phone: 208-769-5024 | FAX: 208-769-5050 | mike_stevenson@blm.gov |
| Suhr, Dave; Shoshone County | Phone: 208-556-4471 | | dmsuhr@imbris.com |
| Tesoro, Ray; U.S. Forest Service | Phone: 406-329-3523 | FAX: 406-329-3198 | rtesoro@fs.fed.us |
| Washburn, Carl; ID Department of Lands | Phone: 208-666-8606 | FAX: 208-769-1597 | cwashburn@dol.state.id.us |
| Werner, Terry; City of Post Falls | Phone: 208-777-9857 | FAX: 208-773-0549 | werner@postfallsidaho.org |
| Woods, Paul; U.S. Geological Survey | Phone: 208-387-1353 | FAX: 208-387-1372 | pfwoods@USGS.gov |
| Zilka, Nick; IDEQ | Phone: 208-783-5781 | FAX: 208-783-4561 | nzilka@nidlink.com |

(*Core BEIPC Staff)

TLG Project Focus Team (PFT) Leads

| | | | |
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| Basin-wide Monitoring – Anne Dailey | Phone: 206-553-2110 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | dailey.anne@epa.gov |
| Biostabilization – Bill Adams | Phone: 206-553-2806 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | adams.bill@epa.gov |
| Biostabilization – Anne Dailey | Phone: 206-553-2110 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | dailey.anne@epa.gov |
| Human Health/Recreation – Anne Dailey | Phone: 206-553-2110 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | dailey.anne@epa.gov |
| Human Health/Residential – Rob Hanson | Phone: 208-373-0290 | FAX: 208-373-0417 | rhanson@deq.state.id.us |
| Lake Monitoring – Phillip Cernera | Phone: 208-660-8144 | FAX: 208-686-5222 | philc@cdatribe-nsn.gov |
| Streambank Stabilization – John Roland | Phone: 509-625-5182 | FAX: 509-456-6175 | jrol461@ecy.wa.gov |
| Streambank Stabilization – Nick Zilka | Phone: 208-783-5780 | FAX: 208-783-4561 | nzilka@nidlink.com |
| Upper Basin Source Areas – Bill Adams | Phone: 206-553-2806 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | adams.bill@epa.gov |
| Water Treatment/Canyon Creek – Bill Adams | Phone: 206-553-2806 | FAX: 206-553-0124 | adams.bill@epa.gov |
| Water Treatment/Mullan I/I – Luke Russell | Phone: 208-783-5781 | FAX: 208-783-4561 | lrussell@nidlink.com |

CCC Project Focus Team Volunteer Leads

| | | | |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Human Health/Recreation – Connie Fudge | Phone: 208-753-6022 | FAX: 208-556-2025 | fabfudge@imbris.com |
| Human Health/Residential – Connie Fudge | Phone: 208-753-6022 | FAX: 208-556-2025 | fabfudge@imbris.com |
| Lake Monitoring – Kristy Reed Johnson | Phone: 208/777-1588 | FAX: 208/777-1615 | kristyr@earthlink.net |
| Streambank Stabilization – Toni Hardy | | | rogntonihardy@aol.com |
| Water Treatment – Richard Costa | | | |



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Bunker Hill and Upper Basin
Quarterly Newsletter
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho