



Now Is The Time To Comment On The Proposed Plan For Basin Cleanup

EPA Contacts

Coeur d'Alene Basin Team Leader

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Community Outreach

Dick Martindale, 208-664-4588

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EPA Website

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda>

Contact Marianne Deppman at 206-553-1237 with any comments or suggestions.

News Briefs Submissions

Contact Pamela Moore at 206-438-2236 with any comments, suggestions or submissions.

News Briefs Available Through Email

News Briefs issues can be sent as a pdf or Microsoft Word file to your email address. Please send requests to pamela_moore@urscorp.com

Documents / Information Recently Added To The Information Repositories

There have been no new additions to the Information Repositories in the past month.

Comment Period For The Proposed Plan Closes February 26

Just a reminder that comments on the Proposed Plan need to be in by February 26, 2002. EPA has already received many comments on the plan, including the comments provided at the public meetings in November. But, if you are planning to submit written comments, please be sure they are postmarked by February 26th. Comments should be sent to:

Sheila Eckman

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

1200 6th Avenue

Seattle, WA 98101

Once the comment period ends, EPA, in consultation with the other regulatory partners, will consider all the comments received and make appropriate changes to the cleanup plan. The final cleanup plan will then be documented in the Record of Decision (ROD) scheduled for release in Spring 2002. The Responsiveness Summary, which is part of the ROD, will include responses to all comments received so that individuals can see how their specific comments were addressed in determining the final cleanup plan.

The ROD is final once it is signed by EPA's Region 10 Regional Administrator. **There is no public comment period on the ROD and it is not published in the Federal Register for comment. Now is your opportunity to provide input on the proposed cleanup approach in the Basin.**

EPA can amend the ROD if additional information becomes available after the ROD is signed or if the need to change the cleanup approach becomes apparent. The Superfund process anticipated the potential need to make changes after a ROD is issued. The regulations include specific procedures for modifying a remedy after a ROD is final. Major or fundamental changes to the ROD would be subject to additional public comment

through release of a new Proposed Plan, an additional formal public comment period, and issuance of a ROD amendment.

Tips For Providing Public Comment

When preparing your public comment on the Proposed Plan, here are some tips to follow:

- Be as specific in your comments as possible.
- Tell us which elements of the proposal you support, which elements you disagree with and explain why you feel the way you do.
- Provide specific examples and suggestions for solutions or improvements.
- Include your name and address.

CERCLA Amendment

On January 11, 2002, CERCLA (the Superfund Law) was amended when the President signed the Small Business Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. More information and the text of the legislation can be found at:

<http://www.epa.gov/swerosps/bf/sblbra.htm>

News Briefs Mailing List Expansion

With this issue, the Coeur d'Alene Basin News Briefs is now being mailed to the entire Basin mailing list. Please let us know if your address is not correct, if you are receiving multiple copies or if you would like any other changes made to your mailing information. Please direct your update to:

Pamela Moore
206-438-2236
Email: pamela_moore@urscorp.com

Other Agency / Entity Contacts and Highlights

Bureau of Land Management

Contact: David Fortier, 208-769-5050

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Contact: Phillip Cernera, 208-667-4119

Recently the State of Idaho and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe signed a Memorandum of Agreement to form a committee to evaluate the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan. The plan was originally developed in 1995 by the State of Idaho's Department of Environmental Quality and the Tribe.

The new committee will evaluate the plan and its implementation, taking into account any new or additional information, legal or regulatory decisions and remedial activities that have occurred since the plan was adopted. The evaluation process will consider the current long-term appropriateness, implementability and effectiveness of the plan.

The committee will seek the participation of appropriate local, state or federal governmental entities that may be involved or concerned with the plan. The committee hopes to complete its evaluation and make recommendations no later than July 2002.

Panhandle Health District

Contact: Jerry Cobb, 208-783-0707

Private Land Owners / Managers

Contact: Frank Frutchey, 208-682-2077

Spokane Tribe

Contact: Randy Connolly, 509-258-7709

Contact: Fred Kirschner, 509-924-0184

State of Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Contact: Rob Hanson, 208-373-0290

Contact: Geoff Harvey, 208-769-1422

Contact: Luke Russell, 208-783-5781

Contact: Nick Zilka, 208-783-5781

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) has extended the public comment period on an assessment of water quality in the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River watershed to Wednesday, February 27, 2002.

DEQ is seeking to establish total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for sediment in the South Fork Coeur d'Alene River and certain tributaries (Canyon Creek, Ninemile-East Fork Ninemile Creeks, Government Gulch, and Pine-East Fork Pine Creeks). In addition, DEQ is proposing to remove Moon Creek from the list of sediment-impaired waterbodies.

Copies of the draft assessment are available for review through the comment deadline at DEQ's Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, the Kellogg, Wallace and Coeur d'Alene Public Libraries, and in PDF format on DEQ's web site at:

www2.state.id.us/deq/water/water1.htm#TMDLs

To obtain information and/or submit comments, contact:

Geoff Harvey
DEQ Coeur d'Alene Regional Office
2110 Ironwood Pkwy., Suite 100
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814
208/769-1422
Email: gharvey@deq.state.id.us

State of Washington Department of Ecology

Contact: John Roland, 509-625-5182

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

Contact: Dan Audet, 509-893-8001

United States Forest Service

Contact: Jeff Johnson, 208-765-7442

United States Geological Survey

Contact: Paul Woods, 208-387-1353'

The water quality network was sampled by USGS staff during the rain on snow event that occurred over January 7 through 10. The event was important to sample because no high flows had occurred for about one year. Therefore lots of materials that had been deposited in the river channel over the past year were mobilized by this event.

Concentrations of total lead (1,790 micrograms per liter) and phosphorus (227 micrograms per liter) were measured at the mouth of the Coeur d'Alene River, near Harrison.

Combined with elevated streamflows, these concentrations produced one-day loads to Coeur d'Alene Lake of 120,000 pounds of total lead and 15,200 pounds of phosphorus on January 9. The sum of total lead and phosphorus contributed

by the South and North Forks of the Coeur d'Alene River was only 2.9 percent and 40 percent, respectively, as compared to the loads entering the lake.

A presentation of sampling data will be given at the March meeting of the Coeur d'Alene Basin Interagency Group (CBIG). Please see the Upcoming Events section of News Briefs for the date and location of the meeting.

Upcoming Events

Coeur d'Alene Basin Citizen Advisory Committee (CBCAC)

February 6, 2002 – 7 to 9 p.m.

Rose Lake Historical Society Building – Rose Lake, ID

Agenda: Approval of the January 6, 2002 Meeting Notes; Report on CAC request for extension of SF Coeur d'Alene Sediment TMDL comment period ; Report on CAC request to be SF Coeur d'Alene WAG; Request for letter of support for Lake Management Education and Outreach Proposal by Geoff Harvey; Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan Review presented by Coeur d'Alene Tribe; Coeur d'Alene River Bank Stabilization Project presented by Shalan Dawson, KSSWCD; Development of the CAC's report on the Lake Plan.

Contact: Geoff Harvey, 208-769-1422

Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition (SNRC)

February 12, 2002 – 11:30 am to 1:30 p.m.

February 26, 2002 – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

Brooks Hotel - 500 Cedar Street, Wallace, ID

(Group meets second and fourth Tuesday of each month.)

Contact: Connie Fudge, 208-753-6022

Coeur d'Alene Basin Interagency Group (CBIG)

March 13, 2002 – Time To Be Arranged

Idaho Department of Fish & Game – Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene

Agenda: To Be Arranged. This meeting will include a presentation on USGS results from water quality network sampling during the January rain on snow event.

Contact: Jack Gunderman, 208-667-4119

Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes Public Meetings

February 19, 2002 – 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

VFW, 4th and Mullan, Osburn

Agenda: Status of trail construction and Questions & Answer session.

February 20, 2002 – 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

EMT Center, 101 Frederick Street, Harrison

Agenda: Status of trail construction and Questions & Answer session.

February 21, 2002 – 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Coeur d'Alene Tribe Wellness Center, 1100 A Street, Plummer

Agenda: Status of trail construction and Questions & Answer session.

Washington Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)

Meeting On Cleanup Of Heavy Metals Contamination In The Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Basin

February 4, 2002 – 7:00 p.m.

Corbin Senior Center – 827 W. Cleveland, Spokane, WA – Upper South Room

Agenda: Presentation of WCAC board's comments on EPA Proposed Cleanup Plan by WCAC board members. Discussion and opportunity for additional public comments.

Contact: Jim Wilson, 509-252-2290