



Record of Decision To Be Released In August

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/Coeur d'Alene](http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/Coeur%20d'Alene)

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

NewsBriefs Submissions

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

NewsBriefs 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

NewsBriefs Mailing List Corrections

Please direct your update to:

Pamela Moore, 206-438-2236

Email: pamela_moore@urscorp.com

Documents / Information Recently Added To The Information Repositories

Public comments on the Proposed Plan are accessible on CD-ROM at all repositories:

- North Idaho College Library
- Wallace Public Library
- Harrison City Hall
- Spokane Public Library Downtown Branch

Early August Release for ROD

EPA's Record of Decision is due to be released in early August. We cannot give an exact date because before the ROD can be released, we must finish responding to the more than 3,000 public comments on the Proposed Plan (from over 1,300 documents submitted by citizens, agencies, organizations and governments), and ensure that we have concurrence from the various governments affected by the decision.

EPA Administrator Will Visit the Basin

As you may already know, EPA's top official, Administrator Christine Todd Whitman, is planning a visit to the Coeur d'Alene Basin on August 13th as part of a trip to the Northwest and Alaska. At this time the Region 10 office has no additional information about the Administrator's itinerary. Her schedule is being handled by staff in Washington D.C. Any public events that are scheduled will be announced on our web page as soon as the Region is aware of them.

Innovative Technologies Will be Key to Basin Cleanup Efforts

One of the comments EPA has heard over the last several years is that we should be looking at innovative cleanup technologies that treat contamination in place and minimize the amount of material that needs to be excavated. We agree. EPA, the states, tribes and federal agencies, as well as local landowners, are already looking at or trying some innovative technologies. Once the ROD is issued, we can get started using these technologies on a larger scale in the Basin.

Starting with this issue, NewsBriefs will periodically provide updates on the efforts to evaluate and use

innovative cleanup approaches in the Basin. Some of the treatment technologies now being evaluated in the Basin are:

- Soil amendments intended to reduce the toxicity of sediments for migrating waterfowl. As noted last month, a study of soil amendments in the lower Basin is underway right now.
- "Permeable Reactive Barriers," or treatment ponds lined with material that would remove contaminants from the tributary creeks that contribute large amounts of dissolved metals like zinc to the South Fork. This technology will first need to be evaluated on a small scale to determine whether it will be useful on a larger scale in the Basin.
- Revegetation and "biostabilization" (planting grasses and other native vegetation) on contaminated riverbanks to minimize erosion and lessen the amount of lead entering the river from the banks. This technology has been tested in the Bunker Hill Superfund Site, or the "Box," and will also be tested for effectiveness in the Basin.

Questions & Answers

Q. Has EPA Region 10 responded to the National Superfund Ombudsman's 2001 "interrogatories?"

A. Yes. EPA responded to the Ombudsman's interrogatories in writing in September and October of 2001. Our responses were sent directly to the Ombudsman's office.

Q. Will either the Ombudsman's investigation or the potential National Academy of Sciences (NAS) review change EPA's plan for the Basin?

A. EPA is planning to release its Record of Decision for the Basin in early August. EPA has been and will continue to cooperate fully with both the NAS and the acting Ombudsman. If either of these reviews produces new information that indicates the Basin cleanup plan should be modified, EPA can amend the ROD accordingly.

Q. Why hasn't a federal representative been appointed to the new Basin Commission?

A. According to the Idaho legislation that formed the Commission, the federal representative must be appointed by the President of the United States. This appointment is being handled in Washington D.C. in

the same manner as other presidential appointments. While no official appointment is in place, EPA and other federal agency representatives have been attending Commission meetings and have been working with current members on the formation of the Commission.

Other Agency / Entity Contacts and Highlights

Bureau of Land Management

Contact: David Fortier, 208-769-5022

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

Contact: Phillip Cernera, 208-667-4119

Panhandle Health District

Contact: Jerry Cobb, 208-783-0707

The summer 2002 Blood Lead Survey program will begin on July 8th. The door-to-door survey will offer screening to all children ages 6 months thru 9 years. Fixed site screening will again be offered in the Basin to children ages 6 months thru 6 years. Again this year, screening will be offered at two locations in the Basin. Canyon school: lower Basin and upper Basin location is TBA.

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

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

Upcoming Events

Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission

July 9, 2002 – 1:00 p.m.

Idaho Health and Welfare Building – Wildcat Way, Kellogg

Agenda: Discussion on commission policy development and establishment of technical and citizen advisory groups; Discussion on Rex Mill site project; Lake Management Plan update.

Contact: Luke Russell, 208-783-5781

Coeur d'Alene Basin Citizen Advisory Committee (CBCAC)

Summer Recess until further notice

Rose Lake Historical Society Building – Rose Lake

Please see CBCAC's website at www.cdabcac.org for meeting agendas, past meeting minutes, posted reports, readings and other valuable information.

Contact: Geoff Harvey, 208-769-1422

Coeur d'Alene Basin Interagency Group (CBIG)

Recess until further notice

Contact: Jack Gunderman, 208-667-4119

Silver Valley People's Action Coalition

PO Box 362, Kellogg, ID 83837

Contact: Babara Miller, 208-784-8891

Shoshone Natural Resources Coalition (SNRC)

July 9, 2002 – 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

July 23, 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

Washington Citizens Advisory Committee (WCAC)

Board of Directors Meeting – July 8, 6:00 p.m.

Spokane County Water Works – 914 E. North Foothills Drive, Spokane

Members Meeting – July 17, 7:00 p.m.

Spokane County Library, Otis Orchards – 22324 E. Wellesley

Agenda: WA Department of Ecology and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality address cleanup issues and the status of the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission; Coeur d'Alene Tribe invited.

Contact: Jerry Boyd, 509-455-6000



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