

## **Coeur d'Alene Basin Five-year (2013-2017) Work Plan**

### **INTRODUCTION**

This plan for calendar years 2013-2017 covers environmental cleanup and improvement activities in the Coeur d'Alene Basin planned by the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission (BEIPC) and cooperating agencies and governments in accordance with responsibilities as stated in the Memorandum of Agreement establishing the BEIPC. This plan has been prepared by the Technical Leadership Group (TLG) and the Executive Director with review by the Citizen Coordinating Council (CCC), and is based on their recommendations for activities and work to be performed in CY 2013-2017. Annual work plans will address specific actions from this five-year plan. This proposed five-year work plan is organized as follows:

Part 1 – Environmental cleanup work performed through the federal Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) by the EPA and State of Idaho or work performed by responsible parties.

Part 2 - Other BEIPC Activities and Responsibilities

Part 1 includes work to implement the Record of Decision (ROD) for Operable Unit 3 (OU-3) and the Upper Basin ROD Amendment (RODA) for OU-2 and 3.

Part 2 includes work and responsibilities the BEIPC has assumed based on recommendations from the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Study and requests from citizens and communities of the Basin.

### **PART 1 – ENVIRONMENTAL CLEANUP WORK**

For Part 1, the scope of the proposed five-year work plan corresponds generally to the level of federal and state funding and the funding sources anticipated and work expected to be performed by the Coeur d'Alene Trust and other responsible parties over the five-year period, 2013-2017. The 2013-2017 Work Plan proposes a cleanup approach and a listing of priority activities for the 5-year planning period, and will also include a 5 year review and report by EPA in 2015. The proposal includes the following work:

- Residential and Community Property Remediation Including Private Drinking Water Supply and unpaved roads in OU-3; Basin Property Remediation Program (BPRP).
- Blood Lead Screening in Children
- Recreational Use Areas
- Repository Development and Management
- Remedial actions in the Upper Basin including paved road remediation and remedy protection projects
- Remedial actions in the Lower Basin including paved road remediation
- Basin Environmental Monitoring

**Table 1-1 Summary of Remedial Activities Proposed for Implementation for 2013-2017**

<b>Proposed Activity</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Lead Agency #</b>
Basin Property Remediation Program	Continue the residential and community property and private drinking water source remediation program and implement the unpaved "Road Surface as Remedial Barriers" Program for protection of human health as required by the OU-3 ROD.	Targeted Property Sampling complete by 2013. Remediate properties as they are mapped and cleared for work and remediate contaminated unpaved road surfaces. Program is expected to be substantially complete at the end of this 5-year period.	IDEQ and/or EPA utilizing CDA Work Trust
Blood Lead Screening in Children	PHD administrates screening of children for elevated blood lead levels through Shoshone Medical Center providers. This has been occurring annually in the CDA Basin since 1996 as a public health service. The purpose of the screening is to identify children with elevated blood lead levels and provide follow-up from a public health professional to identify ways to reduce lead exposures. The screening program also provides data to inform the Basin cleanup efforts. The cleanup action decisions are not based on annual blood lead testing results. Rather, the goal is to prevent lead exposures that could result in elevated blood lead levels. Community wide and area-wide results are made available to the public.	The blood lead screening program will continue in the same manner as it has in previous years with the exception of increasing the incentive to \$30 per child. PHD, EPA and IDEQ will continue to engage local residents and partner agencies to specifically discuss ways to increase participation in blood lead testing in the Basin. The agencies will continue to solicit input on public outreach activities that could be conducted in addition to the communications in Basin Commission groups and newspaper advertisements to increase participation in the Bunker Hill annual blood lead testing program.	IDEQ PHD

<b>Proposed Activity</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Lead Agency #</b>
Recreational Use Areas	Remediate identified recreation areas or develop substitute clean areas along the South Fork and main stem CDA River based on a Recreational Management Strategy and Guidelines Document.	Further update the comprehensive inventory of contaminated recreation use areas. Review operational plans for each recreation agency to identify commonalities that could be incorporated into an area wide recreation management guideline or strategy. Identify what else can be done to make recreation users aware of human health risks along the river corridor and to further educate people on how to minimize any risks. Remediate known contaminated recreation areas along the CDA River corridor.	EPA with state and federal agencies and CDA Tribe
Repository Development and Management	Repository activities center on three objectives: (1) operations at Big Creek Repository (BCR), East Mission Flats Repository (EMF), and Page Repository; (2) the development of additional repository sites; and (3) revision and implementation of the Waste Management Strategy (WMS).	Continue to utilize BCR for Upper Basin remediation and Institutional Controls Program (ICP) until it reaches capacity and close. Continue operations at EMF for remediation and ICP. Operate and expand Page to accommodate ICP waste in the Box. Complete development of the Upper Basin Lower Burke Canyon Repository (LBCR) at the Hecla Star Impoundment area. Implement the WMS within the Area of Contamination. Evaluate repository cover performance through monitoring and develop repository cover plans.	IDEQ EPA PHD

<b>Proposed Activity</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Lead Agency #</b>
Upper Basin Remedies	<p>Implement the Roadway Surface Remediation Strategy for paved road surfaces for protection of human health as noted in the OU-3 ROD for the Upper Basin. Implement the Remedy Protection Program and the prioritized human health and ecological cleanup projects identified in the Superfund Cleanup Implementation Plan (SCIP) for the RODA along with any accompanying natural resource restoration actions. Coordinate as needed with the governmental structure that manages the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene remedy.</p>	<p>The Roadway Surface Remediation Strategy establishes a process for the EPA and IDEQ to work with local road jurisdictions to remediate damaged paved road surfaces that serve as barriers to contaminated road subgrades. The objective is to complete this program within the objectives of the SCIP as funds are available. The RODA provides a comprehensive list of actions in the Upper Basin. The SCIP will provide a priority list of cleanup actions in the Upper Basin including completing OU-2 remedies in the box and remedy protection projects that will be completed as funds become available. Those cleanup actions will be coordinated with natural resource restoration actions. The Plan and inherent adaptive management process will help ensure that the most effective actions are taken first.</p>	EPA and IDEQ w/ supporting agencies and CDA Tribe.

<b>Proposed Activity</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Lead Agency #</b>
Lower Basin Remedies	<p>Implement the Roadway Surface Remediation Strategy for paved road surfaces for protection of human health as noted in the OU-3 ROD in the Lower Basin.</p> <p>Evaluate and prioritize potential ecological remedies noted in the OU-3 ROD comparing RI/FS data with data from CWA projects and other sources. Implement, as appropriate, remedies that are captured in decision documents and that have a low potential for recontamination and/or that may inform future remedy decisions. Capture any such actions in annual work plans. Ensure that remedies are coordinated with natural resource restoration activities.</p> <p>Coordinate as needed with the governmental structure that manages the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene remedy.</p>	<p>The objective is to complete the Roadway Surface Remediation Strategy program in the Lower Basin within the objectives of the SCIP as funds are available. Utilize information and recommendations from the Enhanced Conceptual Site Model (ECSM) for the Lower Basin. The ECSM serves to refine the current understanding of the Lower Basin with respect to river flows and sediment transport. Detailed planning for future remedial action in the Lower Basin requires more comprehensive knowledge of the complex mechanisms by which lead in sediment is mobilized, transported, and deposited. EPA is working with the Lower Basin PFT to help determine the type and amount of data necessary to measure and model sediment transport and river system dynamics in the Lower Basin. These data and other information will be used to examine Lower Basin remedies previously selected in the 2002 OU 3 ROD and determine whether the selected actions should be modified or supplemented. The Lower Basin work will likely include review of select remedial actions identified in the 2001 Feasibility Study Report. This may result in an amended ROD for the Lower Basin.</p>	EPA, IDEQ, USFWS and CDA Tribe

<b>Proposed Activity</b>	<b>Scope</b>	<b>Objective</b>	<b>Lead Agency #</b>
Basin Environmental Monitoring	Continue to implement long-term monitoring and make results available via the new WQX data management system. The site environmental monitoring data will be accessible at <a href="http://www.bunkerhilldata.org">www.bunkerhilldata.org</a> . The biological monitoring data and annual monitoring reports are also accessible at EPA's web page under Technical Documents at <a href="http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda">http://yosemite.epa.gov/R10/CLEANUP.NSF/sites/cda</a> Implement remedial action effectiveness monitoring as appropriate.	Implement the consolidated CDA Basin environmental monitoring plan (BEMP). The goal of the BEMP is to monitor and evaluate the progress of the remedy in terms of improving ecosystem conditions and make adjustments in the monitoring program that inform ongoing and upcoming near term cleanup actions. Information from this program will also help guide the Implementation Plan process.	EPA working with other agencies including IDEQ, USFWS, and USGS and the CDA Tribe.

**# Note with planning and implementation of remedial activities, lead agencies will coordinate with federal, state, tribal and local agencies as appropriate.**

## **PART 2 – OTHER BEIPC ACTIVITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

For Part 2, the scope of the five-year work plan includes a number of work items that the BEIPC has elected to become involved in and items of work needed to accommodate some of the recommendations of the NAS study. The plan includes the following work:

- Lake Management Activities
- Flood Control, and Infrastructure Revitalization
- Communications and Public Involvement
- Natural Resource Damage Restoration

### **2.1 LAKE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

The OU-3 Interim ROD did not include CDA Lake in the Selected Remedy nor is there a remedy identified in the Upper Basin RODA. The OU-3 Interim ROD anticipated that the State, Tribe, federal agencies, and local governments would implement a Lake Management Plan (LMP) outside the CERCLA (Superfund) process using separate regulatory authorities. The updated LMP was approved in 2009 and implementation has been underway. Implementation of the LMP is an adaptive management process and adjustments may be necessary as monitoring and other data are obtained and analyzed.

As referenced in Subsection 4.5.1 of the 2009 LMP, many of the agencies, governments, and other stakeholders that address water quality in CDA Lake are represented on the BEIPC, TLG

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or CCC. As such, these various BEIPC forums represent unique opportunities for LMP coordination and implementation which IDEQ and the Tribe intend to fully utilize.

Examples of activities envisioned for implementation of the LMP throughout the 5 year planning period include, but are not limited to the following:

1. In 2010, the Tribe and IDEQ initiated the 3 Year Nutrient Source Inventory (as identified in Section 3.3, Objective 3 of the LMP) in the St. Maries/St. Joe watersheds. The Tribe and IDEQ selected 7 sites where water quality has been monitored. Tribe and IDEQ staff are evaluating the data collected, and decisions will be made on whether to continue sampling for the winter season of 2103.
2. Continue joint water quality monitoring throughout Coeur d'Alene Lake for metals, nutrients, physical parameters, and biological communities. Throughout the 5-year planning period, the Tribe and IDEQ will continue utilizing the ELCOM-CAEDYM and LOADEST models. These models are utilizing real-time data that is collected from Coeur d'Alene Lake including the establishment of five meteorological stations. In the summer of 2012, the Tribe installed a data logger buoy on the lake at Round Lake (collecting parameters such as water temperature and dissolved oxygen at multiple depths). In 2011, IDEQ installed a 10 meter weather station at Loff's Bay point adjacent to Camp Cross. In exchange for the weather station location, IDEQ and the Tribe have introduced a water quality curriculum and training to the camp counselors, and this will continue in 2013.
3. Present the draft annual monitoring reports for TLG review and comment when they are available.
4. Participate in Coeur d'Alene Basin Watershed Advisory Groups in order to re-assess Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and develop Implementation Plans.
5. Participate in joint educational outreach events such as: the North Idaho Fair, Leadership Coeur d'Alene, Women in Science, training of camp counselors at Camp Cross, Camp Four Echoes (Girl Scouts) and another youth camp in 2013, and water quality programs for local schools.
6. The LMP Education/Outreach Program, Lake\*A\*Syst (a home owners guide to environmental stewardship within the Coeur d'Alene Basin), was finalized in 2012. Materials will be printed and electronic versions developed. In 2013, Tribe and IDEQ staff will develop marketing and outreach strategies to involve property owners in the voluntary Lake\*A\*Syst Program.
7. The Tribe will continue to implement the invasive Aquatic Plant Survey and Treatment Program within their current jurisdiction, and IDEQ will continue implementing their aquatic plant surveys within northern pool bays.
8. Prioritize and initiate riverbank stabilization projects along eroding riverbanks in the St. Joe and lower St. Maries Rivers. IDEQ and Tribal staff will collaborate with Avista, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), the Soil & Water Conservation Districts, the Counties,

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and local landowners. Projects under the IDEQ agreement with Avista will begin when all permits can be obtained. Initial projects will be along the Coeur d'Alene River at Medimont (a §319 grant administered by the Kootenai/Shoshone Soil and Water Conservation District), and along the Shadowy St. Joe recreational area on the St. Joe River. Completion of these projects may continue into 2013. The first two years of projects under the Tribe's agreement with Avista have been identified and will be designed and implemented during 2013/2014.

9. The LMP Coordinators will continue to be involved in the Lower Basin PFT and support implementing projects identified in the 2002 OU-3 Interim ROD.

10. Present LMP activity updates to various groups throughout the year such as the North Idaho/Washington Lakes Conference, Homeowners Associations, Environmental Organizations, and Chambers of Commerce.

11. Provide an annual overview of LMP implementation activities to the CCC and solicit their input.

12. Continue to participate on an Advisory Committee to support the University of Idaho (UI) Extension Master Water Steward Program (IDAH20), and be involved in activities of the newly developed UI Community Water Resource Center.

13. In 2014, the Tribe and IDEQ will conduct a five year review of the LMP program.

This level of coordination with BEIPC forums will maximize opportunities for information exchange and advice working under the BEIPC MOA and work plans. Future coordination with the BEIPC recognizes that IDEQ and the Tribe retain their respective decision making authorities under CERCLA and the Clean Water Act (CWA).

## **2.2 FLOOD CONTROL AND INFRASTRUCTURE REVITALIZATION**

During the 5 year planning period, the BEIPC will continue to seek funding for a flood zone analysis and any needed development of flood control structures including an updated and certified levee system in the South Fork CDA River and Lower Pine Creek. The Executive Director will continue to work with the Idaho Silver Jackets organization including the COE, FEMA, Idaho Bureau of Homeland Security, Idaho Department of Water Resources, and the National Weather Service to develop an approach to dealing with potential flooding problems and levee management in the Upper Basin including coordination with the EPA for implementation of selected in-stream CERCLA remedies included in the RODA. The BEIPC will continue to assist Upper Basin communities and utilities in pursuing funding to implement the Drainage Control Infrastructure Revitalization Plan (DCIRP).

## **2.3 COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT**

During the 5 year planning period the agencies will continue to address issues and facilitating public involvement and education in BEIPC activities and communication between the Basin community and the BEIPC and CERCLA cleanup and natural resource restoration implementing

agencies. The CCC will continue to be the focus organization to assist in implementing this process.

## **2.4 NATURAL RESOURCE DAMAGE RESTORATION**

The CERCLA natural resource trustees in the Coeur d'Alene Basin are the United States (represented by the U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Bureau of Land Management), the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and the State of Idaho (represented by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality). A series of lawsuits followed the Superfund designation in the Coeur d'Alene Basin for response costs and natural resource damages. Natural resources injured by contamination included surface water, groundwater, riparian resources, benthic macro-invertebrates and phytoplankton, fish and wildlife, soils and sediments.

In the summer of 2011, the Federal District Court for the District of Idaho signed an order finalizing settlement between Hecla Mining Company and the United States, Coeur d'Alene Tribe, and the State of Idaho. Following the 2011 settlement agreement, the trustees entered into a Memorandum of Agreement to address the planning and implementation of restoration for natural resources and associated services injured, destroyed or lost as a result of the release of mining-related hazardous substances into the Coeur d'Alene Basin. Funds will be dedicated to projects which restore, rehabilitate, replace, or acquire the equivalent of the injured natural resources according to relevant statutes such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NRDAR. The trustees' goal is to restore the health, productivity and diversity of injured natural resources and the services they provide in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

The Trustees formed a Trustee Council (TC) to guide this process consisting of designated representatives from each trustee. The TC provides oversight, administration, and direction for the use of settlement funds. A Natural Resources Restoration Team (NRRT) was also created comprised of representatives from trustee agencies. This team's mission is to develop and implement a restoration plan to restore the health, productivity and diversity of injured natural resources and the services they provide for present and future generations.

During the 5-year planning period, the natural resource trustees will develop a Restoration Plan Environmental Impact Statement following the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This plan will be a comprehensive guide for restoration of injured natural resources in the Coeur d'Alene Basin and will be coordinated with remediation activities. The planning process is underway and will include the development of sub-basin assessments, adoption and implementation of a coordinated public outreach plan, public scoping, production of a draft plan, a public comment period, followed by response to comments, and finalization of the plan for restoration in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

During the 5-year planning period, the trustees will continue to coordinate with the BEIPC, participate in Project Focus Teams (PFTs), and provide updates on restoration planning efforts and ongoing implementation of projects that were identified in the 2007 Interim Restoration Plan. The NRRT will continue to coordinate with EPA to integrate restoration planning with remediation.