

# Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

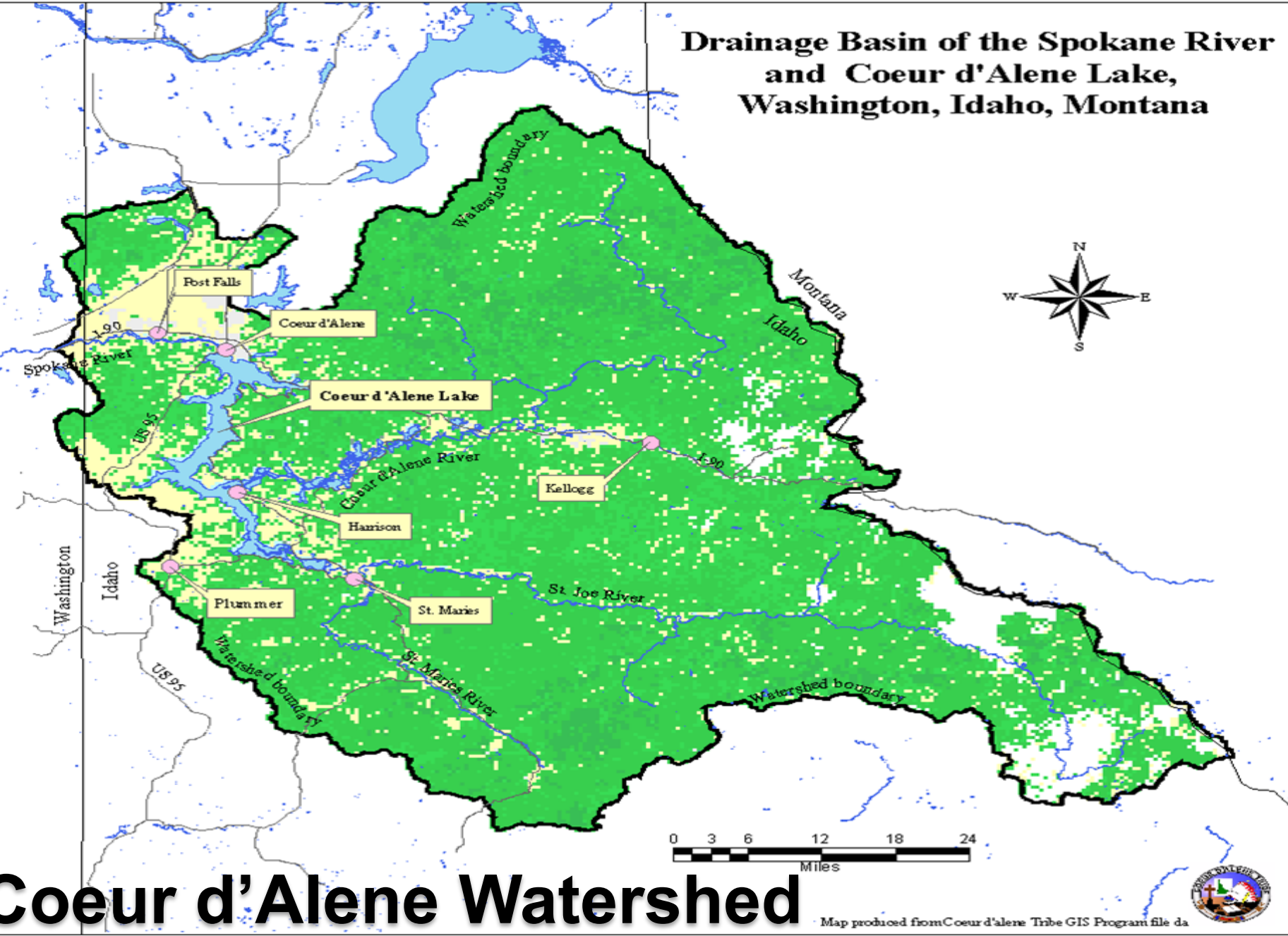
Leading Idaho and Coeur d'Alene Lake

Jamie Brunner

September 8, 2022



# Drainage Basin of the Spokane River and Coeur d'Alene Lake, Washington, Idaho, Montana



# Coeur d'Alene Watershed

Map produced from Coeur d'Alene Tribe GIS Program file da



# Historical Land Uses

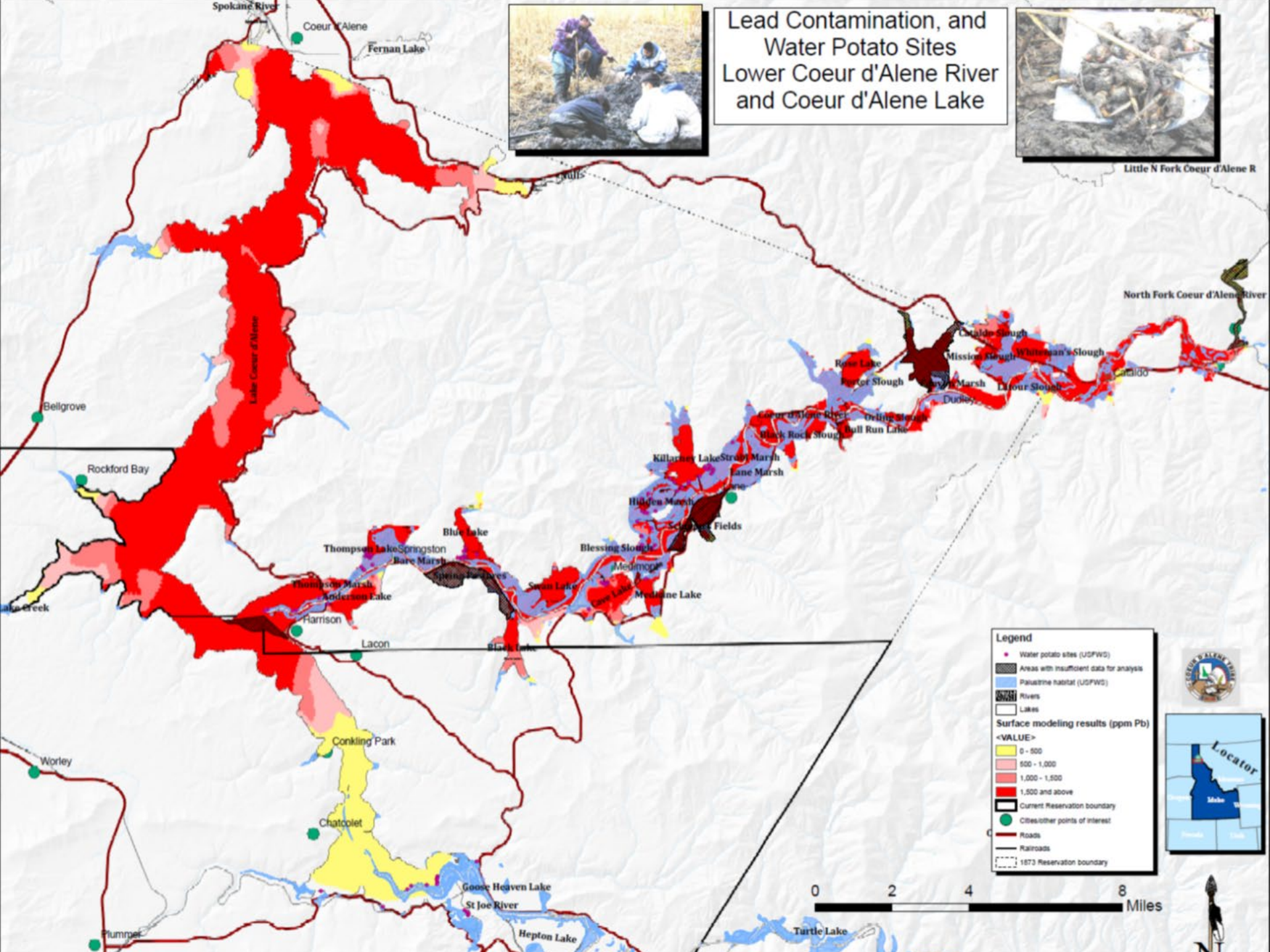
- 1880's Silver and Gold discovered near Prichard, ID
- Logging surrounding hill sides for mines and railroads
- 1886-1992 UPRR hauled ore down river, across the Lake, along lakeshore
- Mine tailings discharged directly into rivers and floodplains







# Lead Contamination, and Water Potato Sites Lower Coeur d'Alene River and Coeur d'Alene Lake



**Coeur d'Alene River  
peak flow = 27,300 cfs (md)**

**City of Harrison**

**St. Joe River  
peak flow = 22,400 cfs**



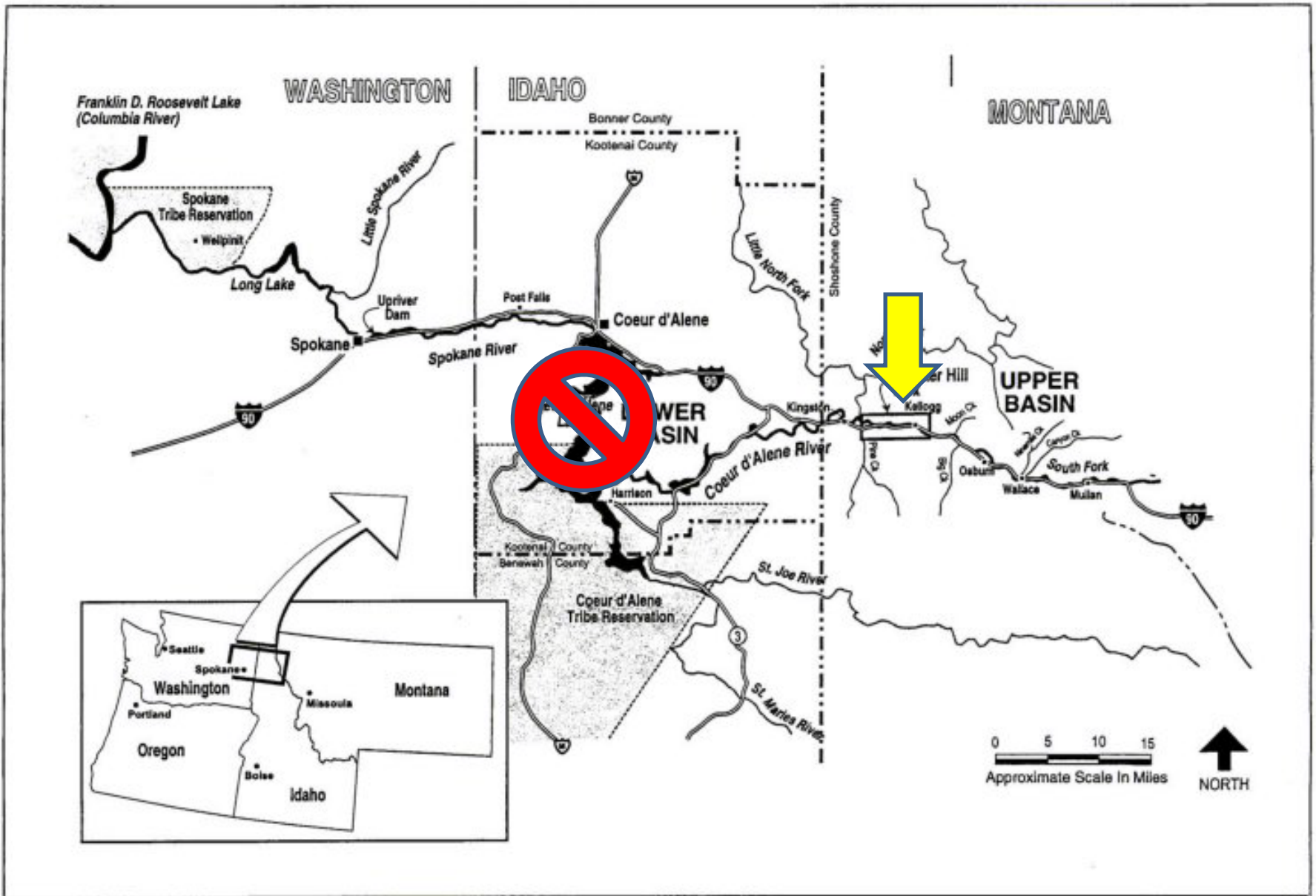


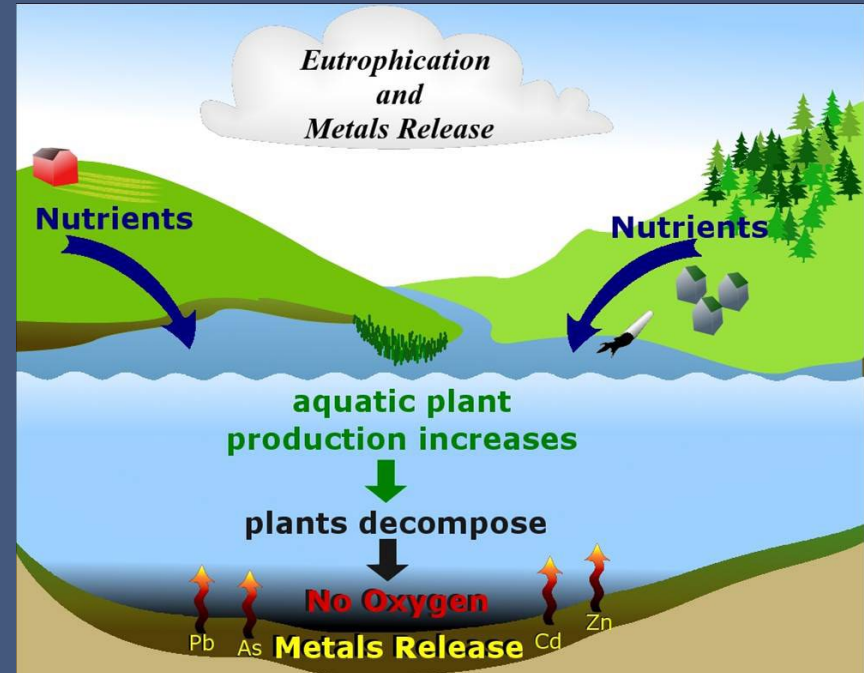
Figure 1.0-1  
Basin Study Area





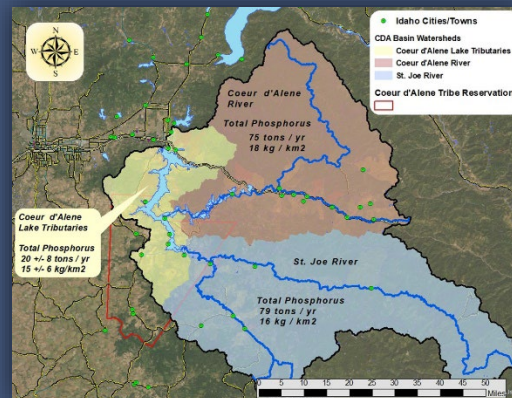
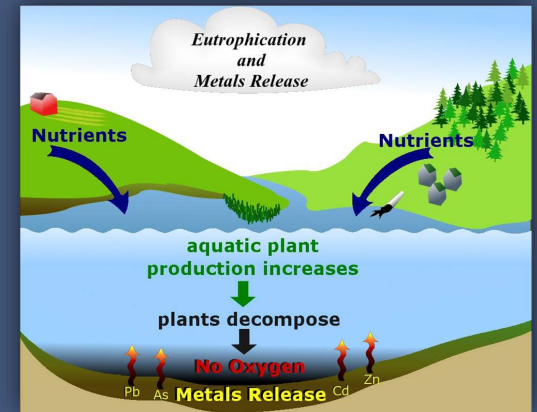
*To protect and improve lake water quality by limiting basin-wide nutrient inputs that impair lake water quality conditions, which in turn influence the solubility of mining-related metals contamination contained in lake sediments.*

2009  
Coeur d'Alene Lake  
Management Plan  
Goal



# Plan Objectives

1. Improve Scientific Understanding
2. Establish and Strengthen Partnerships
3. Nutrient Reduction Action Plan
4. Increase Public Awareness
5. Establish Funding Mechanisms



# Where are we now?

- Undesirable trends
- Triggers exceedance
- Coeur d'Alene Tribe questions LMP effectiveness
- Governor Little requests 3rd party review of lake data
- Governor Little's Leading Idaho initiative
- Lake management continues



# National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine (NAS)

- 3<sup>rd</sup> party review of Coeur d'Alene Lake data
- Sponsors: Idaho DEQ, Kootenai County, EPA
- Scope
  - Evaluate current water quality (nutrients/metals)
  - Impacts of anoxia on fate of nutrients and metals
  - Impacts of reduced zinc levels on algal growth (Central Treatment Plant)
  - Will metals be released if current trends continue? If inconclusive, what data do we need?
  - Relevance of metals release to human/ecological health risks
- Final report end of September 2022

# Leading Idaho Initiative



- \$2 million for phosphorus-reducing projects in 2021
- ARPA Leading Idaho for CdA Lake
  - \$20 million for phosphorus-reducing projects
  - Allocate by end of CY2024
  - Spend by end of CY2026

**Applications due September 15, 2022**

[deq.idaho.gov/coeur-dalene-lake-advisory-committee-notice-of-solicitation](https://deq.idaho.gov/coeur-dalene-lake-advisory-committee-notice-of-solicitation)

# Eligible Projects



- 1) On-the-ground projects
- 2) In the Idaho portion of the Coeur d'Alene Lake watershed
- 3) Reduces phosphorus entering Coeur d'Alene Lake
- 4) Not a research project
- 5) Not on federally-owned/managed lands
- 6) Applicants selected for funding will need to provide a Duns #, Tax ID #, Professional Liability #, and Workers Comp Policy #

# Thank you!

Jamie Brunner

[jamie.brunner@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:jamie.brunner@deq.idaho.gov)

208-666-4623