



During fiscal year 2015, the Restoration Partnership (Partnership) consisting of the Natural Resource Trustees (USFS, BLM, USFWS, the CDA Tribe, and the State of Idaho; represented by the IDFG and DEQ) continued developing and finalizing the draft Restoration Plan and draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). In particular, the Partnership focused on the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Analysis of Effects for the DEIS and prepared for the release of the draft documents. The Partnership worked with EPA, DEQ, the Coeur d'Alene Work Trust, Basin Commission, and others to coordinate cleanup and restoration. On the ground work by the Partnership occurred under the 2007 Interim Restoration Plan, and included:

- **Schlepp Agriculture to Wetland Conversion Pilot Project**

Restoration and operation and maintenance activities continued including the planting of desirable plants beneficial to waterfowl feeding, the removal of undesirable plants, levee protection, and other activities. The result was the highest recorded numbers of tundra swan use at the site (4,200 swans during the migration season and over 3,000 in a single day). Overall, as many as 23 different species of waterfowl were observed feeding and resting in the clean habitat.

- **Robinson Creek Wetlands Restoration**

IDFG constructed 35 acres of restored wetlands in 2015 adjacent to the Schlepp Project described above. This included varied habitats important for waterfowl, shore birds, and other wildlife. It also included weeds control, water control mechanisms, and the use of native vegetation. The Partnership contributed funds to purchase a piece of property. Construction work and plantings are being funded through DEQ using funds related to Page Repository expansion and wetlands mitigation.

- **ASARCO Settlement Lands Transfer**

In 2015, the Partnership assisted in transferring ownership of nearly 1,200 acres of lands held by the Coeur d'Alene Work Trust over to two of the Coeur d'Alene Basin Natural Resource Trustees. These lands, which were a part of the ASARCO settlement, are primarily located in the Coeur d'Alene River corridor. The Tribe assumed ownership of 1,044 acres and IDFG assumed ownership of 140 acres. These lands are contaminated and there are no current plans for active remediation or restoration.