

## **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

### **Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Plan**

A Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) has been prepared which assesses the effects of the Coeur d'Alene Basin Restoration Plan on the quality of the human environment in accordance with the provisions of Section 102(2) (c) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 P.L. 91-190 (NEPA).

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Forest Service prepared the DEIS on behalf of the Coeur d'Alene Basin Natural Resource Trustees (Trustees) to address the effects of a comprehensive strategic framework to guide the restoration of natural resources injured by the release of mining related hazardous substances in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

The planning area consists of the 3,840 square mile Coeur d'Alene Lake Basin and the 230 square mile portion of the Hangman Creek watershed on the Coeur d'Alene Tribal Reservation. The area is located primarily in Shoshone, Kootenai, and Benewah Counties, in northern Idaho. A small portion of Bonner County lies at the extreme northern portion of the planning area. Small portions of Latah and Clearwater Counties occur in the planning area at the headwaters of tributaries of the St. Maries River.

Proposed restoration includes actions to restore streams, wetlands, and lakes that have been affected by mining-related contamination. The plan considers restoration of non-contaminated aquatic systems where doing so will benefit recovery of contaminated ecosystems. The plan also proposes to restore or enhance human uses of injured natural resources in the near term while longer-term ecosystem restoration proceeds.

Copies of the DEIS are available for review during business hours at the Idaho Panhandle National Forest Supervisor's Office at 3815 Schreiber Way, Coeur d'Alene Idaho, 83815. Copies are also available for viewing at: Forest Services offices in Smelterville (173 Commerce Drive) and St. Maries (222 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Street); the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service office in Spokane Valley, WA (11103 E. Montgomery Dr., Ste 2); the office of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe at the Felix Aripa Building in Plummer (401 Anne Antelope Rd); the offices of the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in Coeur d'Alene (2110 Ironwood Parkway) and Kellogg (1005 West McKinley Ave); the office of the Panhandle Health District in Kellogg (114 W Riverside Ave); and the office of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Coeur d'Alene (2885 W Kathleen Ave).

The DEIS may also be viewed and/or downloaded from: [www.restorationpartnership.org/RPDEIS](http://www.restorationpartnership.org/RPDEIS).

The Trustees will hold public meetings ("open house" format) to provide an overview of the document, commenting opportunities, and provide the public an opportunity ask questions and speak with representatives from the Trustees and members of the EIS analysis team. These meetings will be announced at least 15 days in advance through local media, the website, and/or public mailings. Public meetings are currently scheduled for:

December 6, 2016 – 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the St. Maries Fire Department, 308 W. Jefferson St. Maries, ID

December 7, 2016 – 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Coeur d’Alene Public Library 702 E. Front St. Coeur d’Alene, ID

December 8, 2016 – 5:00-7:00 p.m. at the Osburn VFW Hall, 318 E. Mullan Ave. Osburn, ID

Comments may be submitted electronically at [www.restorationpartnership.org/comments](http://www.restorationpartnership.org/comments) or via email at [comments@restorationpartnership.org](mailto:comments@restorationpartnership.org).

Comments may also be submitted by mail to:

Coeur d’Alene Basin Restoration Plan EIS  
Idaho Panhandle National Forest  
3815 Schreiber Way  
Coeur d’Alene, ID 83815

Comments will be accepted for 60 days following the publication of the Notice of Availability in the Federal Register on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016. The comment period closes on **January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017**. For more information, contact Caj Matheson, Coeur d’Alene Basin Natural Resource Trustees Communications Specialist, at (208) 667-5772; Jo Christensen, US Forest Service, at 208-765-7417; or Jeff Johnson, US Forest Service, at 208-765-7313.

### Coeur d’Alene Basin Natural Resource Trustees

