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For Immediate Release
Date: April 17, 2023

Restoration Partnership to begin soliciting for natural resource restoration project ideas

COEUR D'ALENE, Idaho — The Restoration Partnership (Partnership) will solicit natural resource restoration project ideas from the public and interested stakeholders through their website from April 17 to June 1, 2023.

“There is a lot of restoration potential in the Coeur d'Alene Basin, and we are excited to support the community members' ideas for clean water and clean habitat for people and wildlife in the area,” said Christy Johnson-Hughes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Coeur d'Alene Office Supervisor and member of the Partnership’s Trustee Council. The Partnership seeks project ideas from private citizens, businesses, non-profit organizations, local, state, and federal agencies, Tribal governments, and others. Project ideas must meet the goals and objectives outlined in the Restoration Plan.

Project idea forms and selection criteria can be found at:

<https://www.restorationpartnership.org/index.html>

Project proponents are asked to briefly describe their desired projects using the project idea form. Trustees for the Partnership will review and rank project ideas received over a two-week review

period. Once a project idea is selected, the Partnership will invite the successful proponents to submit full applications. If you have any questions, please email info@restorationpartnership.org and someone will get back to you.

The Restoration Partnership is made up of representatives from the State of Idaho (Idaho Department of Fish and Game and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality), the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the U.S. Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service and Bureau of Land Management), and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (Forest Service).

After nearly three years of implementing natural resource restoration projects in the Coeur d'Alene Basin, the Partnership is now seeking more focused project idea solicitation on 1) Enhancing uncontaminated streams that provide critical habitat for bull trout; 2) Restoring connectivity between streams with high metals concentrations and adjacent to clean water refugia, and restoring migration corridors for native salmonids between identified strongholds and injured streams to facilitate recolonization and reestablishment of self-sustaining aquatic communities; 3) Restoring and enhancing areas adjacent to ongoing stream and/or wetland restoration areas or have previously dedicated funds from other sources; 4) Restoring and/or enhancing wetlands that have been remediated by the US Environmental Protection Agency; 5) Supporting water quality improvement projects that complement Leading Idaho Initiative projects; and 6) Supporting ecological improvement projects, stream and wetland restoration that directly flow into Coeur d'Alene Lake.

For more information and to view the Restoration Plan visit: www.restorationpartnership.org.