

# Upper Coeur d'Alene Basin Proposed Plan



***Basin Commission Meeting  
August 18, 2010***

# Proposed Plan Schedule

- Released for a 45 day Public Comment period -- July 12 to Aug. 25, 2010 *(preceded by a 45 day delay as requested by a number of parties)*
- A number of requests for extensions
- Comment period extended 90 days to November 23, 2010 --- *this will be announced broadly following this meeting*

Here's some of the things  
we've heard so far

- **Cleanup plan threatens mining jobs**
  - **Water collection will dry up rivers & creeks**
  - **Cleanup is a massive expansion by EPA**
  - **Only one chance for public input**
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# Cleanup and Mining Can Coexist

- Cleanup will not change mining regulations
- Mining operations can continue both now and into the future
- Provides more certainty to the mining companies for future planning

# Groundwater cleanup key and will not dry up rivers & creeks

- Contamination levels are so high in some waters that source control alone will not do the job – water treatment is needed!
- Highly contaminated groundwater will be collected and discharged back to the South Fork
- Under lowest flows – less than 7% of Canyon Creek and South Fork flows would be removed

# Cleanup is not a massive expansion

- 2001 Interim ROD included only a portion of all remedial actions needed
  - Plan provides a “road map” of the cleanup; provides scope, scale and cost of actions needed
  - Plan provides flexibility during implementation of cleanup so Trust funds can be used wisely
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# Public Input Important Now and in the Future

- **Proposed Plan comment period is important – but not the only chance for comment**
- **Provide input at Basin Commission and CCC meetings**
- **Join and participate in TLG**
- **EPA seeking input during the comment period on type and frequency for input in the future**

# What will the cleanup look like?

- ✓ Clean up mine / mill sites with high human health risk



Silver Crescent Mill  
and Tailings Site



1999



Summer 2009

# Role of the Basin Commission in Adaptive Management

- **Roles of PFT and TLG**
- **Input from CCC**
- **Participation by Community Representatives**
- **1 year and 5 year plans**
- **Formal comment during Basin Commission Meetings**

# Schedule

## ➤ Fall 2010 –

- Evaluate and consider public comments
- Make any necessary changes in FS and/or cleanup plan
- Develop Responsiveness Summary
- Continue development of Implementation Plan

## ➤ Winter/Early Spring 2011 – **Issue Record of Decision Amendment**



**Thank you!**