

# Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries

Watershed Advisory Group  
Meeting

November 4, 2010



# Agenda

- Introductions
- Idaho Water Quality Standards
- Listing Process
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDL)
- WAG Roles/Responsibilities
- Other

# Introductions

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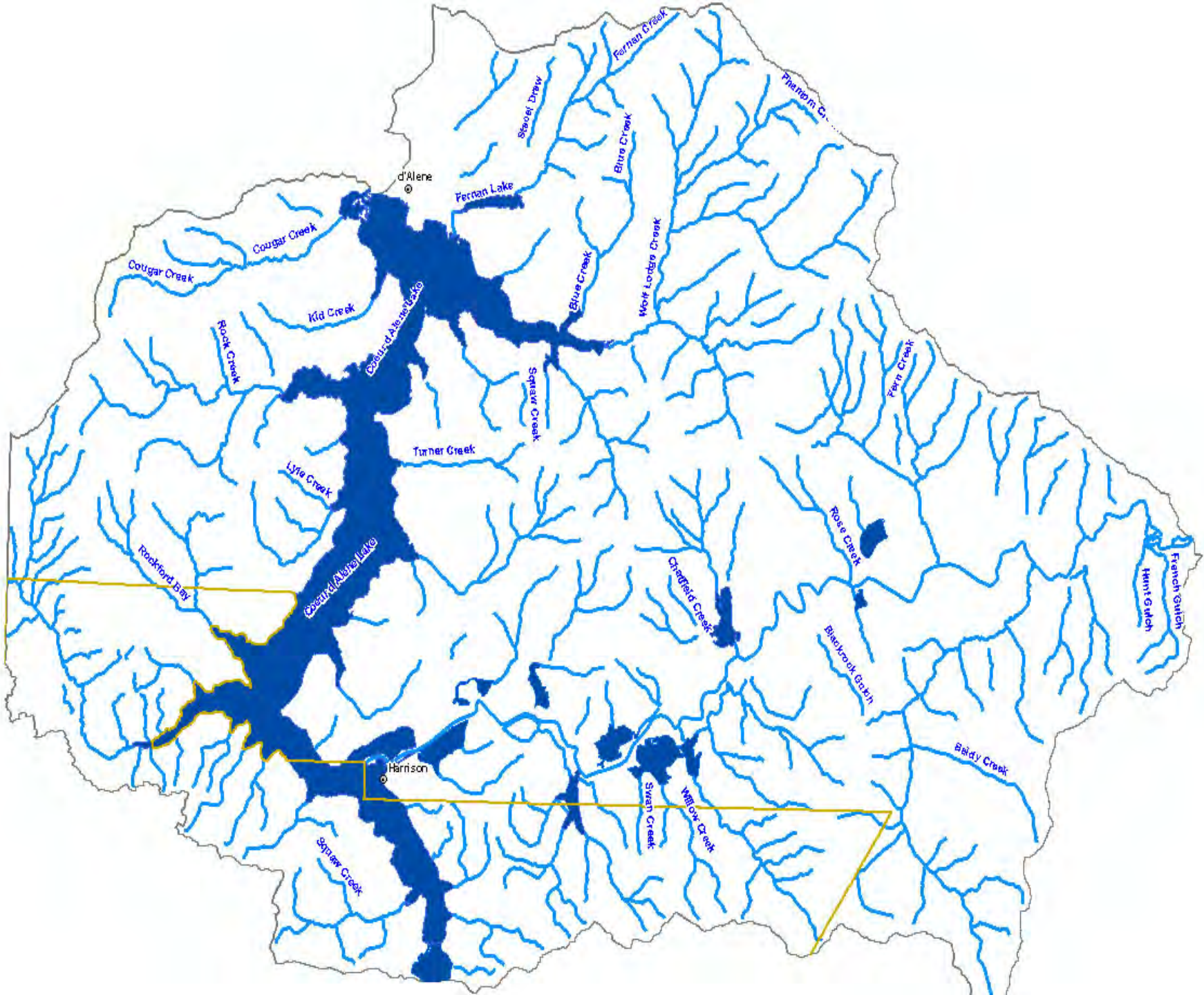
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# Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

- About Us
- Public Info & Input
  - Air
  - Water
  - Waste
  - INL Oversight
  - Maps & Data
  - Rules & Policies



## Popular Pages

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- [News Releases](#)
- [Public Comment Opportunities](#)
- [Recycling](#)
- [Today's Real-Time Air Quality](#)
- [Today and Tomorrow's Air Quality Forecast](#)
- [Working at DEQ](#)

## Hot Topics

- [Bunker Hill Superfund Site](#)
- [Vehicle Emissions Testing in the Treasure Valley](#)
- [Idaho Environmental Guide: A Resource for Local Governments](#)
- [Federal Stimulus Funding: Wastewater and Drinking Water Projects in Idaho](#)
- [Greenhouse Gases](#)

## Info By Audience

- [Businesses and Industry](#)
- [Citizens and Communities](#)
- [Educators and Students](#)
- [Growers: Crop Residue Burning](#)

## Find It Fast

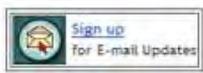
- Air Quality Initiatives by Cities and Counties
- Air Quality Permitting
- Basin Advisory Groups
- Board of Env. Quality
- Burning Guidelines
- Coeur d'Alene Lake Management
- Crop Residue Burning
- Drinking Water
- Emissions Inventory Download
- Job Opportunities
- Loans, Drinking Water Systems
- Loans, Wastewater Systems
- Mercury Spill, What to Do
- Mercury Studies
- Pollution Prevention Assistance
- Public Records Requests
- Regional Offices
- Rulemaking Activities
- TMDLs & Assessments
- Underground Storage Tanks, Regulation of
- Waste Division Inventory
- Water Quality Standards
- Watershed Advisory Groups**
- Workshops

- About Us
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- Rules & Regs

## About DEQ's Coeur d'Alene Region: Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries Watershed Advisory Group (WAG)

Watershed advisory groups (WAGs) are groups of interested citizens that provide local public input and guidance to DEQ during the development of water quality improvement plans or "Total Maximum Daily Loads" (TMDLs) for water bodies that fail to meet water quality standards. TMDLs are designed to reduce the levels of pollutants, such as bacteria and sediment, in impaired water bodies.

The Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries WAG was formed to develop and implement TMDLs to improve water quality in the Coeur d'Alene Lake Tributaries watershed. The watershed includes the Coeur d'Alene River downstream from Cataldo, its respective tributaries, and all tributaries to Lake Coeur d'Alene except the St. Joe and St. Maries Rivers. DEQ will consult with WAG participants on a regular basis throughout the TMDL development and/or five-year review process.



Return to  
[DEQ's Coeur d'Alene Regional Office Web Page](#)

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### Upcoming Meeting Date

Thursday, November 4, 2010, 10 a.m. - 12 noon

Idaho Fish and Game  
Large Conference Room  
2750 W Kathleen Ave.  
Coeur d'Alene, ID  
> [Link to Agenda](#)

# Background

- The Clean Water Act: “ restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the nation’s waters”.
- The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) oversees Idaho DEQ in fulfillment of the CWA requirements

# Idaho Water Quality Standards

- Under the CWA, States and Tribes must adopt water quality standards:
  - designates beneficial uses for the water,
  - sets criteria necessary to protect those uses, and
  - prevents degradation of water quality.



# Idaho Water Quality Standards

## Beneficial Uses

- Cold water aquatic life
- Salmonid spawning
- Primary contact recreation
- Secondary contact recreation
- Domestic water supply
- Special resource water
- Outstanding resource water

# Idaho Water Quality Standards

## Designated Beneficial Uses

Water Body	Designated Uses <sup>ab</sup>
Coeur d'Alene River – Latour Creek to Mouth	COLD, PCR
Coeur d'Alene River – South Fork Coeur d'Alene River to Latour Creek	COLD, PCR
Wolf Lodge Creek – source to mouth	COLD, SS, PCR, DWS, SRW
Fernan Creek – Fernan Lake to mouth	COLD, SS, PCR, DWS
Fernan Lake	COLD, SS, PCR, DWS

<sup>a</sup> COLD = cold water aquatic life, SS = salmonid spawning, PCR = primary contact recreation, DWS = domestic water supply, SRW = special resource water

<sup>b</sup> If a water body is undesignated, then cold water aquatic life and primary/secondary contact recreation are default beneficial uses.

# Idaho Water Quality Standards Criteria

- Criteria
  - Numeric – for example bacteria, metals, DO, pH, temperature
  - Narrative – nutrients and sediment
    - “Surface waters of the state shall be free from excess nutrients that can cause visible slime growths or other nuisance aquatic growths impairing designated beneficial uses.” IDAPA 58.01.02.250

# Idaho Water Quality Standards Antidegradation

- The Clean Water Act requires Idaho to protect the existing uses of all state waters and to protect high quality waters from degradation that, upon public review, is not necessary and important.

# Water Quality Monitoring

- DEQ collects information on water bodies to determine if they meet water quality standards and support their beneficial uses
  - Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program (BURP)
    - aquatic insects, fish, water chemistry, and habitat conditions
  - Special projects, complaints
  - Other water quality monitoring

# Listing Process



# Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)/Subbasin Assessment Process

- A subbasin Assessment is an evaluation and summary of current water quality status, pollutant sources, and control actions a Watershed.
  - While this is not a requirement of the TMDL, the assessment ensures impairment listings are up to date and accurate.
- A TMDL is an estimation of the maximum pollutant amount that can be present in a water body and still allow that water body to support beneficial uses.
  - TMDL is water body, and pollutant specific
  - It allocates allowable discharges of individual pollutants among the various sources.

# TMDL

- TMDL:  $LC = LA + WLA + NB + MOS$

LC = Load Capacity of the waterbody

The load capacity must be based on critical conditions

LA = Load allocation (nonpoint sources)

WLA = Waste Load Allocation (point sources)

NB = Natural Background

MOS = Margin of Safety

A load is fundamentally a quantity of a pollutant discharged over some period of time, and is the product of concentration and flow.



# Watershed Advisory Group Process

# Moving Forward . . .

Photograph by Maximum Exposure Photography ([www.plr.cd.org/](http://www.plr.cd.org/))