

LAKE PLAN: Another view of this document

We read with interest the Coeur d'Alene Press editorial comments on Sept. 14 "Don't Forsake The Lake Now." It showed a lack of understanding with regard to the issue of the Coeur d'Alene Superfund Site and the OU3 ROD which expanded the Bunker Hill Superfund Site.

Contrary to The Press's assertion that Lake Coeur d'Alene "has been spared the demoralizing, bad-for-business designation," Lake Coeur d'Alene IS A PART OF THE OU3 SUPERFUND SITE. In 2003 the Basin Commission accepted the 1996 Lake Management Plan (LMP) as the Coeur d'Alene LMP and encouraged DEQ to add a monitoring section and update the action tables. This was accomplished in 2002 and the draft LMP was circulated to the Lake Coeur d'Alene stakeholders and after the comments were incorporated, the LMP was released as the 2004 LMP.

The only major "hold-out" to the 2004 LMP was the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. The LMP lay dormant for a couple of years, only to be resurrected by EPA/DEQ/CDA Tribe using an EPA furnished "Conflict Resolution" facilitator. The EPA furnished facilitator recommended closing the LMP discussions to all Lake Coeur d'Alene stakeholders and the EPA, DEQ and Coeur d'Alene Tribe proceeded to draft the current proposed LMP.

As the Coeur d'Alene Press has reported, the local governments, the Lakeshore Homeowners Association, along with the Spokane River Association strenuously oppose the current LMP Draft. The basic reasons for their opposition to the newly drafted LMP is two-fold: 1) No solution was proposed to stem the large input of nutrients to Lake Coeur d'Alene from the St. Joe and Coeur d'Alene rivers (e.g., Nutrient percentage by source-56 percent St. Joe River, 26 percent Coeur d'Alene River and 0.5 percent Lakeshore Owners given by USGS in their 1991-92 Study of Lake Coeur d'Alene). Instead the document maintains the lakeshore homeowners are the cause for the lakes nutrient problem and proposes a three year study to identify the problem and poten-

associations and the local governments DO NOT CONSIDER IDAHO DEQ and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe as "the local control" in place of the duly elected county commissioners.

Additionally, the current draft of the LMP maintains all decision making authority with these two governmental groups (e.g., ID DEQ and Coeur d'Alene Tribe). In summary, the homeowner associations believe that a seriously flawed LMP is for worse for Coeur d'Alene Lakeshore owners. Spokane River property owners and local residents than the 1996 LMP with a monitoring section.

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