



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

Panhandle Health District

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Healthy People in Healthy Communities



Welcome to the Bunker Hill Superfund Site! Thank you for considering this beautiful part of North Idaho as a place to purchase your next property. Prior to your purchase, Panhandle Health District (PHD) would like to make you aware of a few key details regarding this area.

Mining, an industry central to the existence of our local communities, has existed in the Silver Valley since the early 1880s. Unfortunately, early mining practices did not take into consideration potential impacts to human health or the environment. Mines were allowed to dump mine and mill waste directly into local waterways where they were carried downstream. Frequent flood events spread this pollution even further into area communities. As early as 1903, local farmers brought lawsuits against mining companies due to loss of crops and livestock caused by these practices. In addition, smelter smoke from the Bunker Hill Smelter Complex contributed to the issue via polluted airborne emissions. Because of these historic practices, portions of the Silver Valley and Coeur d'Alene Basin are contaminated with heavy metals such as lead, arsenic, and cadmium. In 1983, the Bunker Hill Superfund Site was added to the EPA's national priority list, beginning the long-term process of cleaning up the heavy metal contamination spread throughout the region.

After years of investigation, clean-up actions began in 1986 and continue today. To protect human health, remediation of residential areas was deemed a priority. Soil samples were taken to a depth of eighteen inches to determine the amount of arsenic and lead that existed within the native soils. Soils sampling at or above 1000 parts per million (ppm) lead and/or 100 ppm arsenic were removed down to a depth of twelve inches and were then replaced by clean materials. Due to the depth of contamination found across the site, only partial removals could be completed. Contaminants still exist below many clean barriers and if these barriers are properly maintained, residents are kept safe from exposure.

To maintain these barriers, the Institutional Controls Program (ICP) was established. The ICP is a program of PHD, based out of its Kellogg Office. It is the responsibility of the ICP to issue permits and educate contractors and homeowners who are working on properties within Site boundaries about properly maintaining remediated barriers. Inspections are conducted at each project location and records of all barrier disturbances are kept for future reference. It is important that prospective homeowners have access to documentation and information on all permitted work that has been performed on the property they intend to purchase.

The ICP provides a variety of services to homeowners, all at no cost. In addition to overseeing the maintenance and restoration of barriers, the ICP also provides homeowners with free materials such as Tyvek suits, rolls of plastic, and respirators for use during remodeling projects. Our free HEPA vacuum loan program provides vacuums for cleaning your home. Attics, crawlspaces, and unfinished basements may still contain elevated levels of lead and other contaminants, so using proper protection during remodeling and landscaping projects will safeguard your health and the health of your family.

Exposure to lead and other heavy metals can occur through ingestion or inhalation of contaminated materials from a variety of sources including compromised barriers, lead-based paint in older homes, lead-contaminated drinking water, and certain recreational activities. Though most residential remediation has been completed, there are still many undeveloped areas throughout the Site where exposure can occur. PHD provides free blood-lead testing year-round

Institutional Controls Program
35 Wildcat Way Suite A
Kellogg, ID 83837
208.783-0707

through Shoshone Medical Center in addition to various testing events held throughout the year. If you are ever concerned about your exposure to lead or if you would like to learn more, please reach out to PHD and our helpful staff will be glad to assist you.

Permits are required for any excavation or dirt disturbance activities and certain interior projects taking place within the Bunker Hill Superfund Site. For permit inquiries, please contact the ICP at (208) 783-0707. Obtaining your ICP permit will provide you with access to our soil disposal repositories where soil and other contaminated materials will be accepted free of charge. Trailers may also be requested to aid in the proper disposal of contaminated materials. All contaminated waste materials must be taken to one of our free disposal repositories. Contaminated materials will not be accepted anywhere else. Access codes are required for admittance to these sites and will be issued with your permit. Barrier disturbances and restoration will also be monitored and recorded by the ICP. The ICP is the only agency able to certify that the barriers on your property have been maintained as we are the sole recordkeeper of all permitted work. Obtaining proper permitting is the responsibility of each homeowner and can aid in any future property sales.

Occasionally when purchasing a property, you may receive notification that there is an active ICP permit for the property you are considering. Active permits indicate that work has been scheduled to commence on the property or has not yet been completed. Permits are not closed until the ICP has certified that all disturbed barriers have been properly reinstalled. If a property is purchased prior to the closing of a permit, you, as the new homeowner, will inherit the legal responsibility for barrier restoration. If you are concerned about open permits on the property you are purchasing, please contact our office.

As future homeowners, the most crucial step you can take to protect yourself and your family is to learn as much as possible about the property you are purchasing. Our staff is available to walk you through all the information given to you by our department. For your reference, we offer free classes discussing the topics covered in this letter in further detail. Feel free to contact PHD if you are interested in attending one of these classes or if you have any further questions about the responsibilities of owning property on the Bunker Hill Superfund Site.

Sincerely,



Mary Rehnborg, ICP Program Manager

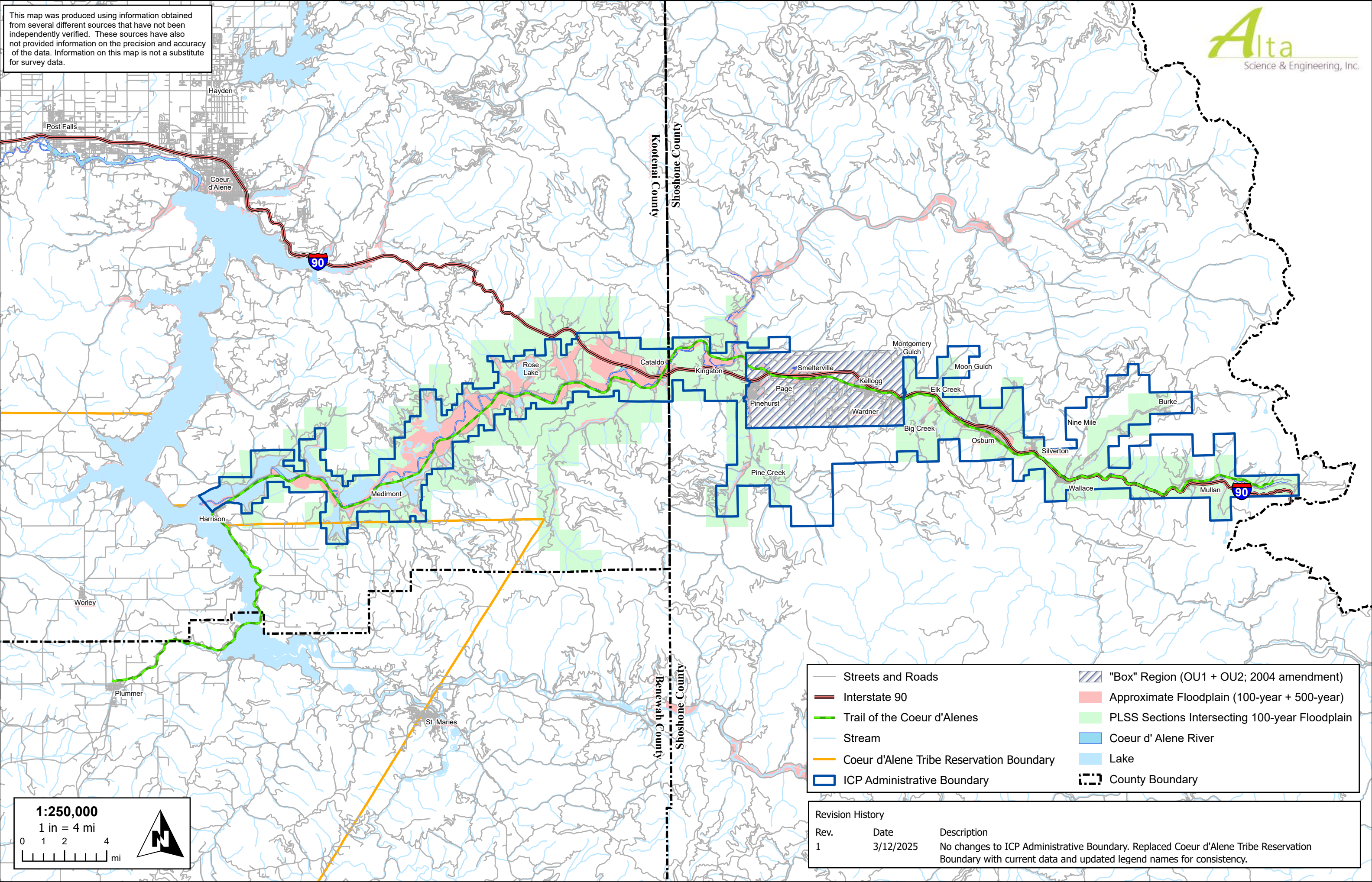
35 Wildcat Way

Suite A

Kellogg, ID 83837

208-783-0707

mrehnborg@phd1.idaho.gov



This map was produced using information obtained from several different sources that have not been independently verified. These sources have also not provided information on the precision and accuracy of the data. Information on this map is not a substitute for survey data.

- Streets and Roads
- Interstate 90
- Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes
- Stream
- Coeur d'Alene Tribe Reservation Boundary
- ICP Administrative Boundary
- "Box" Region (OU1 + OU2; 2004 amendment)
- Approximate Floodplain (100-year + 500-year)
- PLSS Sections Intersecting 100-year Floodplain
- Coeur d' Alene River
- Lake
- County Boundary

Revision History		
Rev.	Date	Description
1	3/12/2025	No changes to ICP Administrative Boundary. Replaced Coeur d'Alene Tribe Reservation Boundary with current data and updated legend names for consistency.

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1 in = 4 mi

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ASSISTANCE FOR HOMEOWNERS

We want you to have the tools to protect yourself, your family and the clean barrier in your yard. Here are some free services and supplies you can obtain with a simple phone call - (208) 783-0707:

- **Education:**

Information about your property and how to avoid exposure.

- **Sample Assistance:**

Identify areas of concern that may need to be sampled and provide information on land use. (PHD, at its discretion, may collect samples and provide sample analysis when appropriate.)

- **Plastic Covering:**

Provided for soil crawl spaces or a temporary barrier for indoor construction to protect dust from traveling throughout the home as well as outside excavation.

- **Gravel or Soil:**

Provide clean soils to site residents for small projects.

- **Contaminated Soil Disposal:**

For small projects, PHD will supply a container and haul the material to the appropriate disposal site at no charge, or provide access to local soil repositories for the disposal. All loads must be covered and truck bed liners must be used when the soils are saturated.

- **Lead Certified Masks & Respirators**

- **Vacuum Cleaner Free Rentals**

- **Tyvek suits**

- **Contractor Listing:**

ICP maintains a list of contractors licensed to perform work regulated by the ICP.



ASSISTANCE FOR CONTRACTORS

Track Projects:

PHD maintains a record of construction activities by property. This information is available to assist with land transactions within the Bunker Hill Superfund Site.

Soil Disposal:

Unless capped on site, soils with elevated levels of metals, especially lead, must be disposed of at sites approved by PHD and/or the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ).

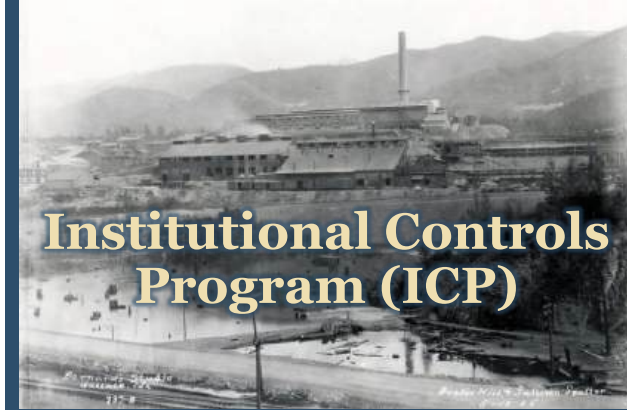
- All loads must be covered.
- Trucks must not track nor spill contaminated material.
- Contractor generated materials* must also be disposed of at an approved site.

*This also includes contaminated construction debris including but not limited to concrete, asphalt, piping culverts, etc.



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Institutional Controls Program (ICP)

The ICP is a locally enforced set of rules and regulations designed to ensure the integrity of clean soil and other protective barriers placed over contaminants left throughout the Bunker Hill Superfund site.

To find out if a property has been remediated, contact Panhandle Health District at
208-783-0707.

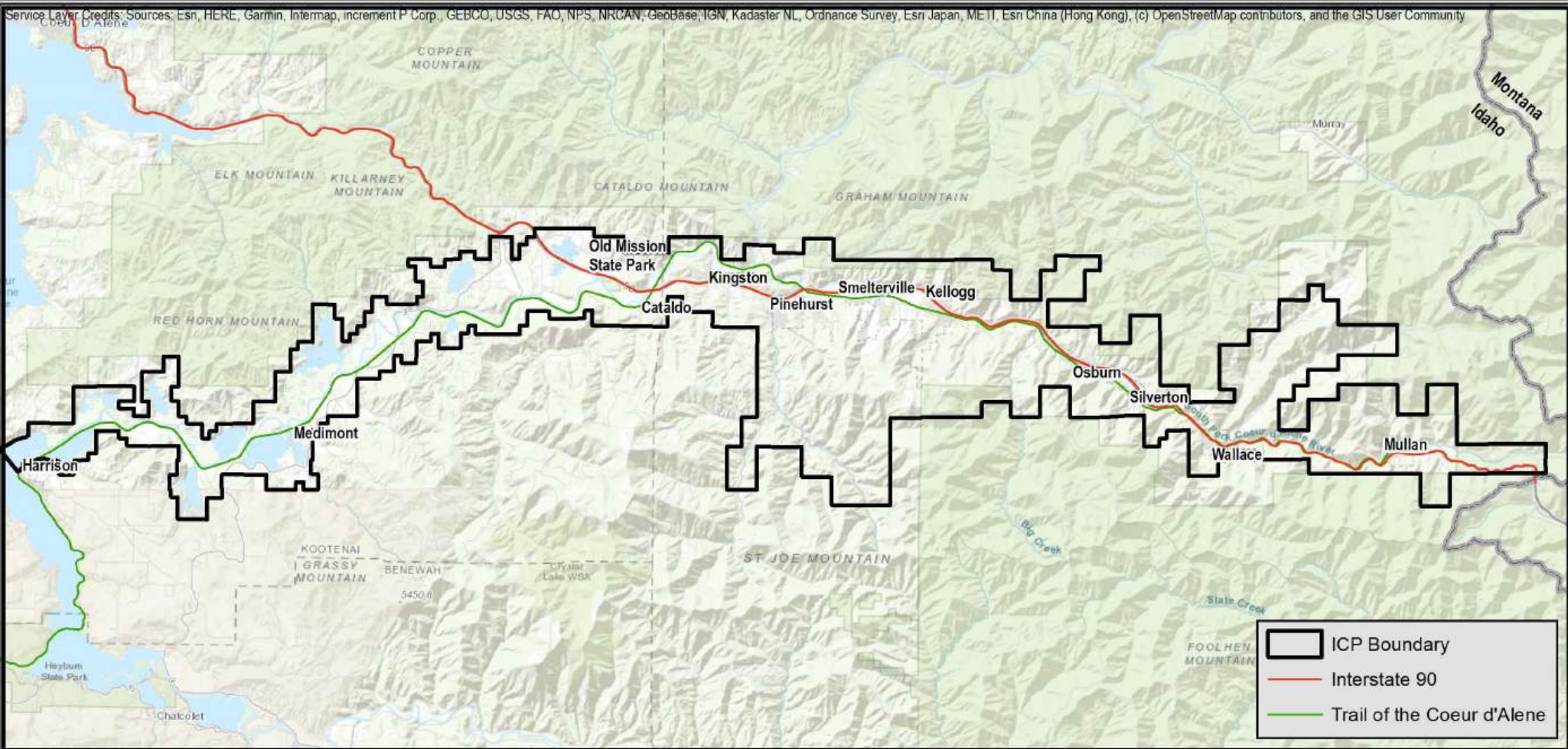
Do I need a permit?

For small projects involving less than one cubic yard of disturbed soil, no permit is required. Examples include landscaping, gardening, fencing, etc. PHD recommends recording the project with a record of compliance permit and arranging proper disposal of contaminated dirt.

All contractors involved in the following within the site boundaries must be licensed by PHD:

- Excavation
- Building demolition
- Grading
- Interior remodeling
- Construction
- Insulation
- Subdivisions and Planned Unit Developments.
- Work in basements or crawl spaces with exposed soils that are contaminated.
- Ceiling or attic work which is likely to disturb contaminated dust or debris.
- Any work within the Superfund Site that may break an existing barrier.

These requirements are put into place to ensure that work is done in a manner that protects both workers and site residents from exposure to metals, especially lead.



In many jurisdictions, the PHD permit must be issued and valid before work permits can be issued by other entities.

There are no fees associated with contractor licensing or work permits. Permitting is meant to ensure work is done in a manner that protects workers and residents on the Bunker Hill Superfund Site from exposure to metals, especially lead.

Inspection: All work must be inspected by PHD personnel prior to final permit approval. Inspections may be called for by the applicant at prescribed intervals. All barriers must be maintained.

Contractor Licensing

There are no fees associated with contractor licensing or work permits.

The class is less than two hours.
Please call ahead to reserve a spot: (208) 783-0707

Monday 8:00 am Excluding Holidays

Thursday 1:00pm

If you have a large group, we can come to you!

Contractor licenses must be renewed each year. Log onto Panhandle Health District's website to take the renewal test:

panhandlehealthdistrict.org/institutional-controls-program

You May Be Exposed to Lead During the Following Activities...



Hiking or Riding near Historic Mine and Mill Sites



Camping, Playing or Recreating in Contaminated Soil or on Shorelines



Fishing with Lead Weights or Shooting with Lead Ammunition

Coeur d'Alene River and Chain Lakes

The Coeur d'Alene River currently has a fish consumption advisory in place which includes the length of the river from Enaville downstream to Coeur d'Alene Lake. The Chain Lakes advisory includes Thompson Lake, Anderson Lake, Blue Lake, Black Lake, Swan Lake, Cave Lake, Medicine Lake, Killarney Lake, and Bull Run Lake.

Fish from the Coeur d'Alene Basin were tested for mercury, arsenic, cadmium, and lead. High mercury levels were found in fish species such as bass, bullhead, kokanee, northern pike, and panfish. Mercury levels are comparable to other advisories issued in Idaho.

Please visit fishadvisory.dhw.idaho.gov for more information.

	Bass ^b	Bullhead	N. Pike	Panfish ^c
General Adult Pop.	4	12	5	7
Pregnant Women ^a	2	11	5	6
Children	2	6	2	3

**Consumption Advisory
(8 oz meals per month)**

- a. Pregnant women, those planning to become pregnant, and nursing mothers
- b. Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass
- c. Bluegill, Crappie, and Perch

* It is recommended that children, pregnant women and individuals with high blood-lead levels should eat fewer Bullhead than stated above.

Need More Information?

Contact the following to learn more:

Lead Health Intervention Program

The effects of lead commonly go unrecognized. Contact us with questions about exposure risks, free blood-lead testing, and educational programs. We recommend annual blood-lead testing for all children, especially those living or recreating in the Coeur d'Alene Basin.

Panhandle Health District
(208) 783-0707

There are resources available to help you make decisions that protect you, your property, and water quality on or near waterways in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. For more information, contact the **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality** at (208) 666-4623 or the **Coeur d'Alene Tribe** at (208) 667-5772 or visit www.uidaho.edu/ourgem.



Play Clean Like Riley!



Keep the dirt and dust off your face and feet, And wash your hands before you eat!

You can also contact the **Idaho Department of Environmental Quality** at (208) 783-5781 or for more information visit:



cdabasin.idaho.gov

**Have Fun
AND
Stay Safe
in the
CDA Basin**



cdabasin.idaho.gov

A Beautiful Place with a Unique History

In the 1880s, mining began in the Silver Valley. The area eventually became one of the most productive mining areas in the United States. Though common, early industry practices caused disastrous effects on the environment. The problem was only compounded by flooding and other natural forces, causing heavy metal contamination to be spread throughout the area. Environmental cleanup has been ongoing for decades and will continue for the foreseeable future. Heavy metals pose a risk to human health, local wildlife and the environment. Contamination can be encountered along shorelines, in floodplains, and at or near historic mine and mill sites. One of the most common contaminants is lead. Exposure occurs through ingesting or inhaling contaminated soil. Lead exposure can affect nearly every system of the body and often has no obvious initial effects. There is no safe level of lead exposure.



Tips for Staying Safe and Having Fun

- * Wash your hands and face before eating
- * Bring clean water for drinking, cooking, and washing. Do not use water from the river even if it is filtered!
- * Eat on a table or on a blanket in grassy areas for protection
- * Remove dirt from clothes, toys, pets, and equipment before leaving. Soil tracked home from recreation areas becomes an exposure source for you and your family.
- * Cover your mouth and nose when riding on off-road trails
- * When you use the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, stay on the trail and in designated areas
- * Check fish consumption advisories. It is best to eat fillets only.
- * Do not harvest edible plants from floodplain areas
- * Remember, prolonged exposure increases risk especially for young children and expecting mothers