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Future of Water Quality in Coeur d'Alene Lake

Speaker Bios Meeting 1

Jamie Brunner works for the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality as the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Supervisor. She has served this role since 2013 and has been working on natural resource issues in northern Idaho since 1999. She has worked on a variety of issues, including conservation planning on agricultural lands, riparian and aquatic habitat restoration, stormwater treatment alternatives, aquatic invasive species, and natural resource outreach and education. She has an Environmental Science degree from the University of Idaho.

Phillip Cernera is the Director of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's Lake Management Department. Born and raised on Long Island, Mr. Cernera was educated at the University of Idaho. In 1982, Mr. Cernera started his formal career as a Fisheries Scientist working on Russian and Japanese Fishing boats in the Bering Sea. Now back on dry land he has since worked as an environmental specialist in Indian Country for over 37 years. For the last 29 years Mr. Cernera has worked for the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and as Director of the Tribe's Lake Management Department, he manages the following Programs: Recreation Management, Shoreline Protection, Water Resources Management, and Hazardous Waste Management. Mr. Cernera also has been appointed by the Tribal Council to sit on the Basin Environmental Improvement Project Commission that oversees the implementation of a multibillion dollar EPA Superfund remedy. Phillip is a Trustee on a NRDA Council that will implement over 150 million dollars in restoration, and he also represents the Tribe on the National Tribal Water Council, FERC license compliance, Columbia River Treaty negotiations, and the north Idaho water rights adjudication.

Craig Cooper is a senior scientist with the Idaho Dept. of Environmental Quality Lake Management Plan, where he serves as the DEQ technical lead for limnological studies in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. He has over 25 years' of diverse experience in environmental science and energy/environmental technology and policy. Dr. Cooper's main area of expertise is in the biogeochemistry of metal contaminated systems. His additional areas of expertise include limnology and oceanography; environmental geochemistry; water quality data collection and analysis; environmental systems analysis; and energy/water/climate technology and policy. He has published research and served as a reviewer for various biogeochemical and environmental science and journals; conducted energy technology and policy analyses and reviews for the U.S. DOE Climate Change Technology Program; and holds patents in radionuclide decontamination technology. Dr. Cooper has previously held research positions at Indiana University and the Idaho National Laboratory.

Chris Fillios is the District 2 Commissioner of Kootenai County, Idaho. Born in Brooklyn, Chris spent 27 years in New York City, where he earned a Bachelors Degree from the City College of New York and a Masters Degree in international politics from New York University. He began his career in the early 1970s and worked in high tech and telecommunications for AT&T, Rockwell-Collins, and Digital Equipment Corp. before moving into the real estate industry. In 1990, Chris published Cutting through the Mortgage Jungle. Chris also served in the New York Army National Guard from 1970 to 1975. Chris and Linda moved to Coeur d'Alene in 2000. Chris joined Credit Services Bureau in Spokane as

their corporate sales manager until mid-2004. Recently, Chris worked as a realtor with Tomlinson Sotheby's International Realty, and as a residential appraiser. In May 2011, Chris was elected to the East Side Highway District Board of Commissioners, and was re-elected in May 2015, for another four-year term. He has since resigned his position at the ESHD, in order to serve as your District 2 County Commissioner, elected to a four-year term in 2017, and re-elected to a two-year term, January, 2020.

Tyler Jantzen, PE, CFM, is a Water Resources Engineer with more than 13 years of experience with hydrologic and hydraulic modeling. His hydraulic modeling experience includes piped urban systems, 1D open channel, 2D open channel, 2D sediment transport, and various coupled combinations of those. Applications of his technical modeling skills include riverine studies, contaminated sediment remediation, and erosion and scour analysis. In addition to modeling, Tyler is experienced in flood risk mapping and management, stream restoration, climate change adaptation, dam-break analysis, stormwater planning, roadway drainage design, and combined sewer system analysis. He received a B.S. in Civil Engineering from Gonzaga University, and an M.S. in Environmental and Water Resources Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dan McCracken serves as the Regional Administrator for Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in the Coeur d'Alene Regional Office, which covers Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Bonner, and Boundary Counties in northern Idaho. Mr. McCracken has spent the majority of his career working to solve environmental challenges in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. He is a licensed Professional Engineer with a technical background in the planning, design, and construction of CERCLA remedial actions, civil infrastructure, and aquatic ecosystem restoration. Prior to being appointed as Regional Administrator in 2020, he managed Idaho DEQ's Kellogg Superfund Project Office and worked as a contractor in environmental consulting for public and private clients primarily in the Coeur d'Alene Basin. In addition to his experience in Idaho, he has also worked with non-profit organizations, including the Blacksmith Institute and TerraGraphics International Foundation, to develop environmental cleanup plans at lead poisoning sites in Dakar, Senegal and Zamfara, Nigeria.

Ed Moreen is a licensed civil engineer in Idaho and a 1994 graduate of Washington State University in Civil/Environmental Engineering. Ed has been employed for the EPA since 2003 as a remedial project manager and prior to joining EPA, he was employed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a project engineer working at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation, on civil works projects, and the Bunker Hill Superfund Site. Ed's current responsibilities include management and oversight of the operate/design/build upgrade contract of the Central Treatment Plant, an industrial plant treating acid mine drainage and groundwater contaminated by mine waste and investigating contaminated sediment transport in the Lower Coeur d'Alene River Basin (37 river miles and adjacent 18,000 acres of contaminated lateral lakes, wetlands and floodplains). Ed's focus also included negotiation of a settlement agreement and subsequent monitoring/coordination with the Bunker Hill Mine purchaser. His 20+ years of working on this very large and complex heavy metal site has yielded extensive expertise in addressing the issues associated with implementation of CERCLA and development of relationships with the communities affected by it.

Kim Prestbo is a Remedial Project Manager at EPA working on the Bunker Hill Superfund Site since 2011. Her focus areas include the Lower Basin conceptual site model and off-channel remediation, groundwater collection and remediation in the Upper Basin, and the site-wide Basin Environmental Monitoring Program.

Bob Steed is the IDEQ's Coeur d'Alene Regional Office Surface Water Manager. With more than 30-years of professional experience with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Mr. Steed has served in Water Quality Programs and has extensive experience with Surface Water Quality monitoring, assessment, implementation and application of Idaho's water quality rules and standards.

Rebecca Stevens is the Program Manager for the Tribe's Lake Mgt. Department-Hazardous Waste Management Program. She also serves the role as the Restoration Coordinator with the Restoration Partnership. Rebecca has been working on water quality related issues for over 16 years and in 2009, she was co-author of the Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan. Rebecca represents the Tribe in the Bunker Hill Mining and Metallurgical Superfund Site remedial work and she participates in a variety of public outreach efforts throughout the Basin.

Lauren Zinsser is a hydrologist with the U.S. Geological Survey, Idaho Water Science Center, where she has worked on water resources projects across Idaho since 2016. In the Coeur d'Alene Basin, Lauren manages the surface water monitoring program; conducts trends analyses for long-term water-quality datasets; and studies surface water-groundwater exchanges. Lauren received her B.S. in Geology from Bates Colleges and her M.S. in Environmental Science from the University of Idaho.