



STREAM RESTORATION AND FISH PASSAGE IN THE BHSS- 2025 TSFWG

REBECCA STEVENS- COEUR D'ALENE TRIBE





- BHSS Superfund & NRDA- recap
- Follow up from 2025 TLEF presentation
https://mediaspace.nau.edu/media/Restoration+and+the+Future+of+Mining+in+the+Bunker+Hill+Superfund+Site/1_01_xa0pts/381819972
- Restoration Partnership
- Fish Passage Barrier Removal with Sunshine Mining Company
- Partners and Process
Project Implementation



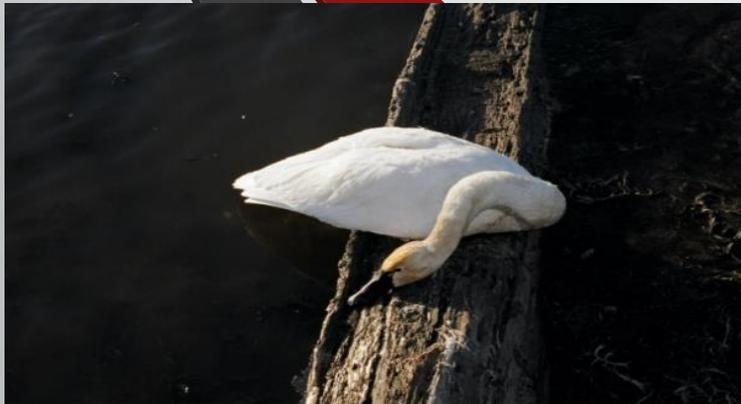
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ST. MARY'S, IDAHO

COEUR D'ALENE, INDIANS, PLUMMEY IDA.



NRDAR

Natural Resource Damage Assessment and Restoration



Goal: “Restore, Rehabilitate, Replace, &/or
Acquire the equivalent of injured natural
resources”



Restoration Partnership

Natural Resource Trustees / Trustee Council

U.S. Dept. of the Interior U.S. Dept. of Agriculture

Coeur d'Alene Tribe

State of Idaho

Representative Governments/Agencies





Water , Soils, and Sediment

Migratory Waterfowl



Fish and Aquatic Life

Photo courtesy of Pat Clayton

Photo courtesy of Pat Clayton

Settlements, Bankruptcy, etc.

- 1995- Gulf Pintlar
 - 2000-UPRR
- 2001-Sunshine Mine (bankruptcy, NSR's)
- 2001-Coeur Callahan
 - 2003-ASARCO





Restoration Plan



Restoration Need

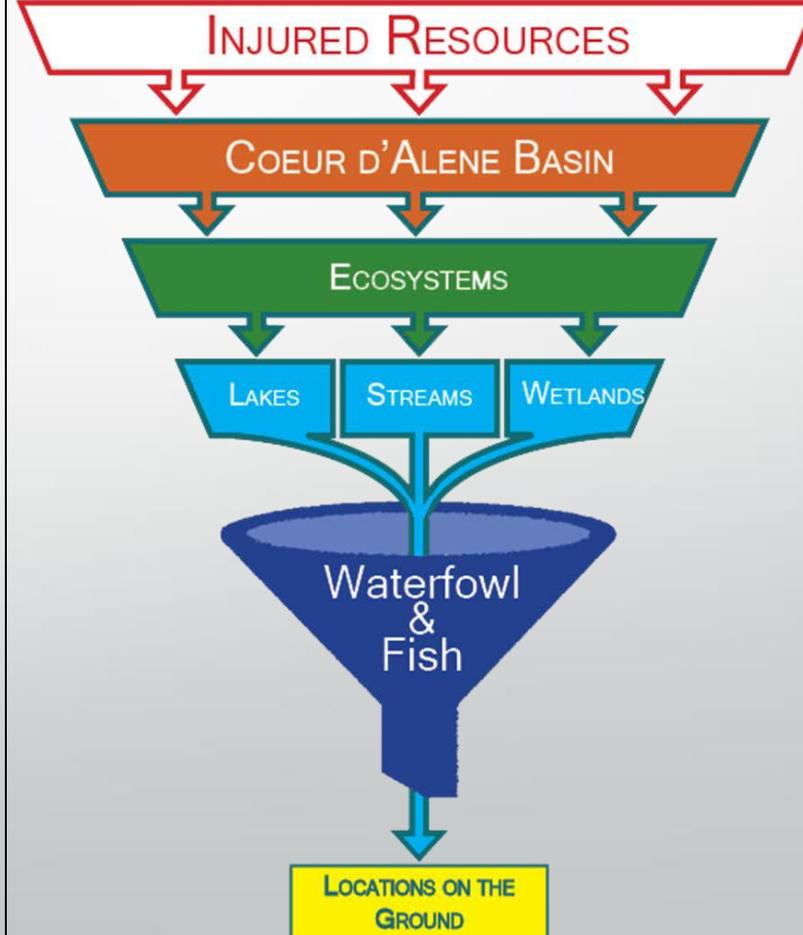
Approach and Values

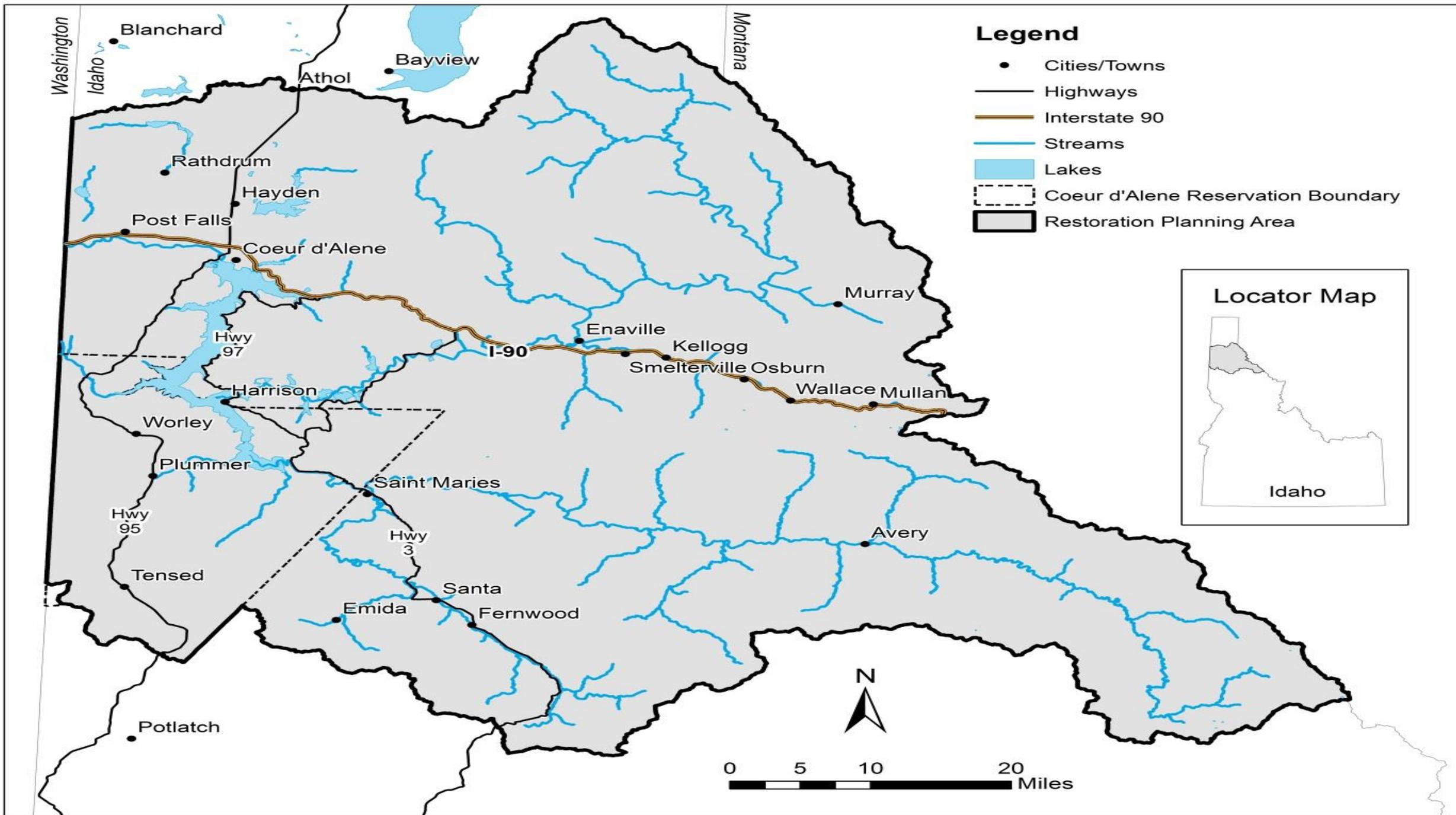
Geographic Prioritization
(Identifying locations on the ground)

Ecological Prioritization
(Identifying goals, major actions,
strategies and techniques)

Project Selection
(using selection criteria)

Restoration





**Aboriginal Territory spans across
MT, ID, and WA.
Current boundary is seen
around southern third of the lake**





Restoration compares to Remediation



Sunshine Mining Company submits a proposal



Fish Passage Barrier in a Clean Stream

- CDA Tribe to sponsor
- Big Creek Fish Passage Barrier Removal
- Cost share
- Multiple partners
- Permit needs



Permits 2 year acquisition

- NEPA/ESD
- Survey and design
- 401 WQS, ESA
- Section 106 NHPA
- FEMA No-Rise
- ACOE, in stream and County sign off
- CDA Tribe tracked progress/notes/contracts



Sunshine Diversion Dam Removal Project

Project Update: 12/8/2025

8-Sep-23 Project Application Submission

8-Nov-23 Project Awarded

		2024											2025												
		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
RP Team Meetings:		4	7	13	3	15		21		2		11		5	26										
Location:		KEL	CDA	KEL	CDA	KEL		KEL		CDA		KEL		CDA	CDA	KEL									
Project Design																									
General Engagement awarded																									
Project Site Survey																									
RP Meetings with CSWD																									
HMH Design & Cost (30%)																									
HMH Design & Cost (60%)																									
HMH Design & Cost (90%)																									
RP Design & Cost Approval																									
Project Permitting																									
HMH No-Rise Analysis																									
Shoshone County No-Rise Approval																									
FEMA No-Rise																									
Cultural Resource Assessment																									
BLM Determination of NEPA Adequacy																									
404 Permit																									
Project Bid/Contract																									
Prepare Bid Package																									
Early Site Visit by interested contractor																									
Open Project for Bidding on Construction																									
Award Contract																									
Construction																									
College Intern (3)																									
Material sourcing and procurement																									
Mobilization and staging																									
Construction																									

Design includes dam removal, bank stabilization, intake structure install, channel realignment

No-Rise certification includes site survey, receiving model from FEMA, running model, submitting no-rise cert, review and approval from FEMA, may be able to start early if SOP can be reimbursed later

404 permit application requires designs

Survey work dependent on stream flow and access

Cultural Resource Assessment work began week of 12/16/2024



- Instream LWD/barbs for fish habitat
- The main goal was to open up ~8 miles of fish passage by also installing dry wells for Sunshine Mine potential need for future water.
- Work with locally sourced rock materials
- Work with BLM and native seed mix for future plantings













Process

- Lessons Learned: Cast a wide net and not just local contractors (2 bids, totally different)
- Have a consistent presence of the same engineer on site daily during construction “shoot elevations!”
- Onsight stream restoration professional, this case was the RP USFS rep. Essential!
- This process was different due to the private company nature of Sunshine and Tribal Admin which worked well during gov’t shut down.
- NDA
- Good ole fashion relationships (Master Services Agreement)
- 15 days late Oct
- Field mods?



Common Goals & Objectives



It takes a village



- Construction completed early winter 2025
- Let the stream heal and riparian plantings spring 2026
- Future upstream structure removal to follow with historical designs (which we didn't have on this one)

