

IDAWRA: *“Water Quality Goals in Collision: CERCLA v CWA, aka: The Uncertain Case of Zinc in the Coeur d’Alene*

Thursday, May 4, 2017, 11:30 - 1:00

Washington Group Plaza Executive Dining Room, 720 Park Blvd., Boise

Dr. Mark Solomon, Interim Director of the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute

Idaho Section of the American Water Resources Association

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A primary environmental goal of remediation at the Bunker Hill CERCLA site is achievement of Idaho water quality standards for lead, cadmium, and zinc in the Coeur d’Alene River. Meeting this goal is expected to result in increased bioproduction in Coeur d’Alene Lake and decreased hypolimnetic dissolved oxygen as zinc suppression of bioproductivity decreases. The result: achieving CERCLA goals and Idaho WQS in the river may create a violation of WQS in the lake as the 75 million tonnes of trace metal contaminated lakebed sediments are potentially released to the water column.

Bio: Mark Solomon is Interim Director of the Idaho Water Resources Research Institute at the University of Idaho. Dr. Solomon’s research focuses on managing water resources in complex jurisdictional environments where competing authorities and water resource objectives are present. He received his PhD in Water Resources from the University of Idaho. Prior to his work for the university, Dr. Solomon was a Latah County Commissioner, president of the Idaho Conservation League, a blacksmith and a logger. He has lived in Moscow since 1976.

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