



Executive Department
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor Proclamation

State Capital
Boise

WHEREAS, Coeur d'Alene Lake is considered the gem of North Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the lake spans 25 miles, including nearly 150 miles of shoreline within Kootenai and Benewah Counties; and

WHEREAS, Coeur d'Alene Lake tributaries include the Coeur d'Alene and St. Joe Rivers. The Spokane River serves as the lake's sole outlet; and

WHEREAS, the Coeur d'Alene Basin has a proud history rooted in mining and timber; and

WHEREAS, the Coeur d'Alene Basin provides extensive recreational opportunities to Idahoans and is a world-renowned destination for recreation and tourism, drawing in thousands of people each year; and

WHEREAS, historical land use practices, including mining, have deposited millions of tons of metals and sediments at the bottom of the lake. Other land uses have contributed additional sediments and nutrients into the lake; and

WHEREAS, water quality in the lake has improved in many ways over the last several decades, however phosphorus levels have been increasing and remain a concern; and

WHEREAS, the State of Idaho has been in discussions with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 10 to determine what additional mechanisms and actions are needed to manage hazardous substances in the lakebed sediments; and

WHEREAS, in 2019, I called for a third-party review of lake management activities to evaluate progress and guide future efforts. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) was selected and has begun its review; and

WHEREAS, as part of my Building Idaho's Future initiative, we directed \$2 million to be spent on near-term projects that improve water quality in Coeur d'Alene Lake; and

WHEREAS, I am committed to improving conditions within Coeur d'Alene Lake through local collaboration so that future generations can continue to enjoy this gem of North Idaho; and

WHEREAS, the Panhandle Basin Advisory Group (Panhandle BAG) was established to advise the Director of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) on water quality objectives within several watersheds including the Coeur d'Alene basin. Members of the Panhandle BAG have demonstrated interest and expertise necessary to advise the director on water quality issues affecting the region;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRAD LITTLE, Governor of the State of Idaho, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim:

- 1. The establishment of the Governor's Coeur d'Alene Lake Advisory Committee (CLAC) to advise the Governor, Director of DEQ, and the Panhandle BAG on the prioritization of Coeur d'Alene project proposals eligible for state funding.*
- 2. Members of the CLAC are appointed by and serve at the pleasure of the Governor and include, but are not limited to:*

- a. *A member of the Idaho State Legislature;*
 - b. *A local municipal elected official;*
 - c. *A local county commissioner;*
 - d. *A representative of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe;*
 - e. *A representative from the lakeshore property owners;*
 - f. *A representative of the local tourism industry;*
 - g. *A representative from a local chamber of commerce;*
 - h. *A member representing a local conservation or environmental organization; and*
 - i. *A representative of the public at large.*
3. *The Governor will appoint a chair and vice chair of the CLAC.*
 4. *The CLAC, in coordination with DEQ, will develop project criteria and qualifications and establish a timeline for interested parties to submit project proposals.*
 5. *Using the established criteria and qualifications, the CLAC will review project proposals and recommend projects and funding amounts to the Panhandle BAG for concurrence. DEQ will retain final decision-making authority.*
 6. *DEQ will staff and provide administrative support to the CLAC.*



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 20th day of August, in the year of our Lord two thousand and twenty-one.

BRAD LITTLE
GOVERNOR

LAWRENCE DENNEY
SECRETARY OF STATE