

*Ninemile cleanups have improved surface water quality as evidenced in sampling results immediately above and below many of the project areas prior to cleanup (called “baseline” monitoring) when compared with sampling results immediately after cleanup, as well as five-years after cleanup as part of remedial action (aka cleanup) effectiveness monitoring. For example, at the Interstate Callahan Cleanup Site, total lead has been decreasing since the remediation was completed. At the Interstate Millsite, the 2021 Water Monitoring Report shows similar results of decreased concentrations downstream.*

*These results are also seen downstream of Ninemile as evidenced in data collected over the past five-years as part of the Basin Environmental Monitoring Program. Between “water years” 2015 thru 2019, total and dissolved zinc and cadmium concentrations and loading to the South Fork Coeur d’Alene River were estimated to have decreased by 25 to 75 percent; total and dissolved lead concentrations and loadings were estimated to have decreased by 25 to 85 percent.*