

Selkirk Conservation Alliance



HELP US KEEP PRIEST LAKE BLUE!

www.scawild.org

Selkirk Conservation Alliance



MISSION: Engage the public in southern Selkirk resource and land management issues through cooperation, scientific inquiry, education and economic diversification.

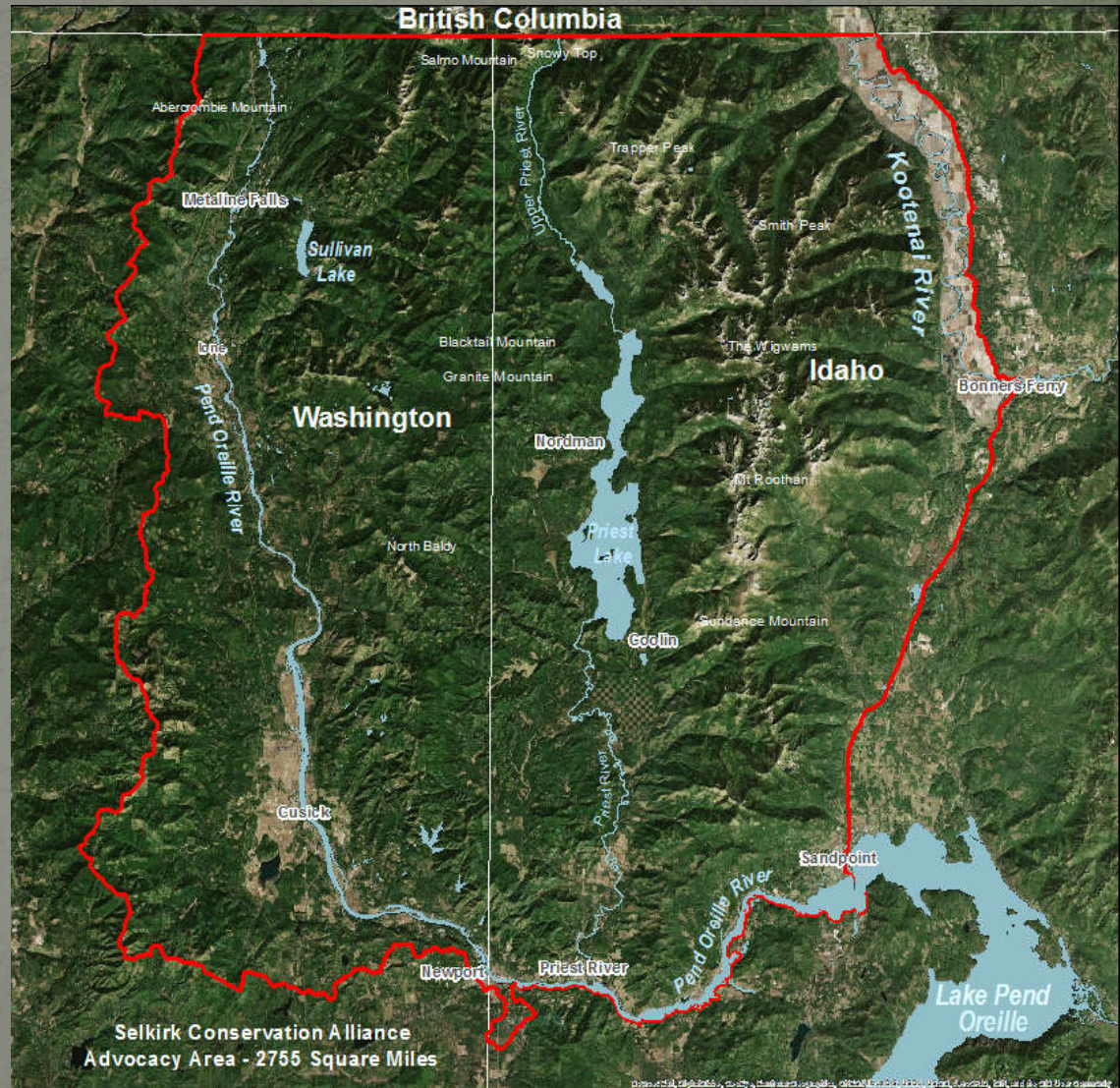
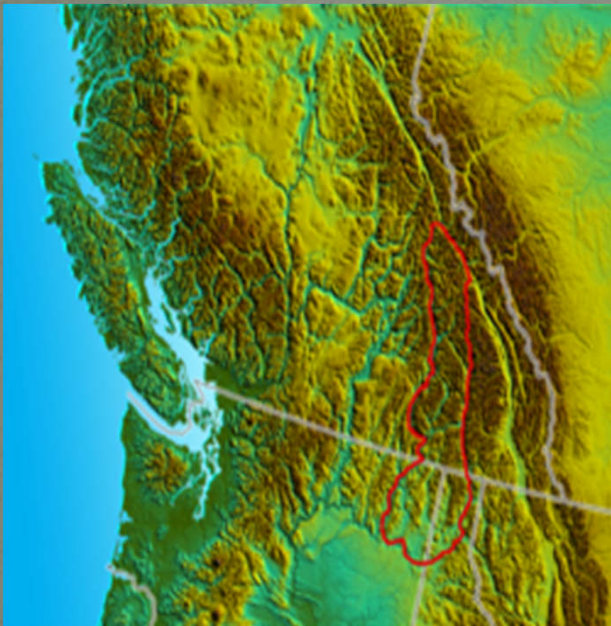
VISION: The Selkirk Conservation Alliance is the leading and faithful advocate to all who live, love and benefit from Priest Lake and its surroundings. We are committed to understanding, supporting and protecting the environment and all living beings found here. We are dedicated to the educational programs and scientific research that support and maintain this rare and exceptional environment for future generations.

Selkirk Conservation Alliance

Advocacy Area

Southern Selkirk Mountains

The Selkirk's are distinct from and geologically older than the Rocky Mountains.



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fineart
america

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What We Do - 3 PILLAR PROGRAMS

- Environmental Education Program
- Scientific Research Program
- Advocacy Program



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What We Do: Education



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What We Do: Advocacy

CITIZENS PLAY A CRITICAL ROLE!

We work to educate YOU so we can collectively encourage regulatory agencies, local, state and federal governments and officials to make informed decisions on issues that will negatively impact air, water, wildlife and land.

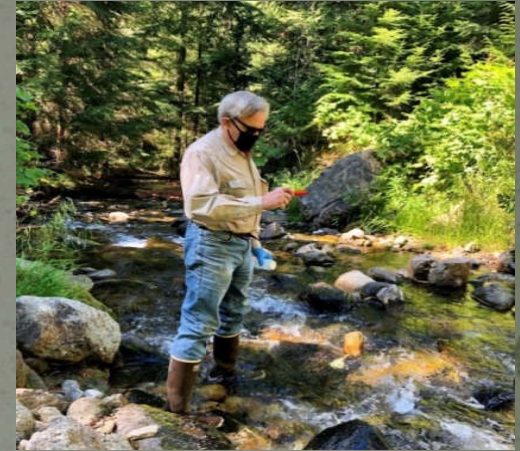
The historic outcome of increased public oversight and awareness of regulatory agency plans, policies, projects etc. is **BETTER** land management and stewardship of publically owned natural resources including land, air, wildlife, forestry and water resources.



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What We Do: Scientific Research Citizen Science!

- Priest Lake aquatic vegetation growth study
- Priest Lake water sampling project
- Priest watershed stream sampling project



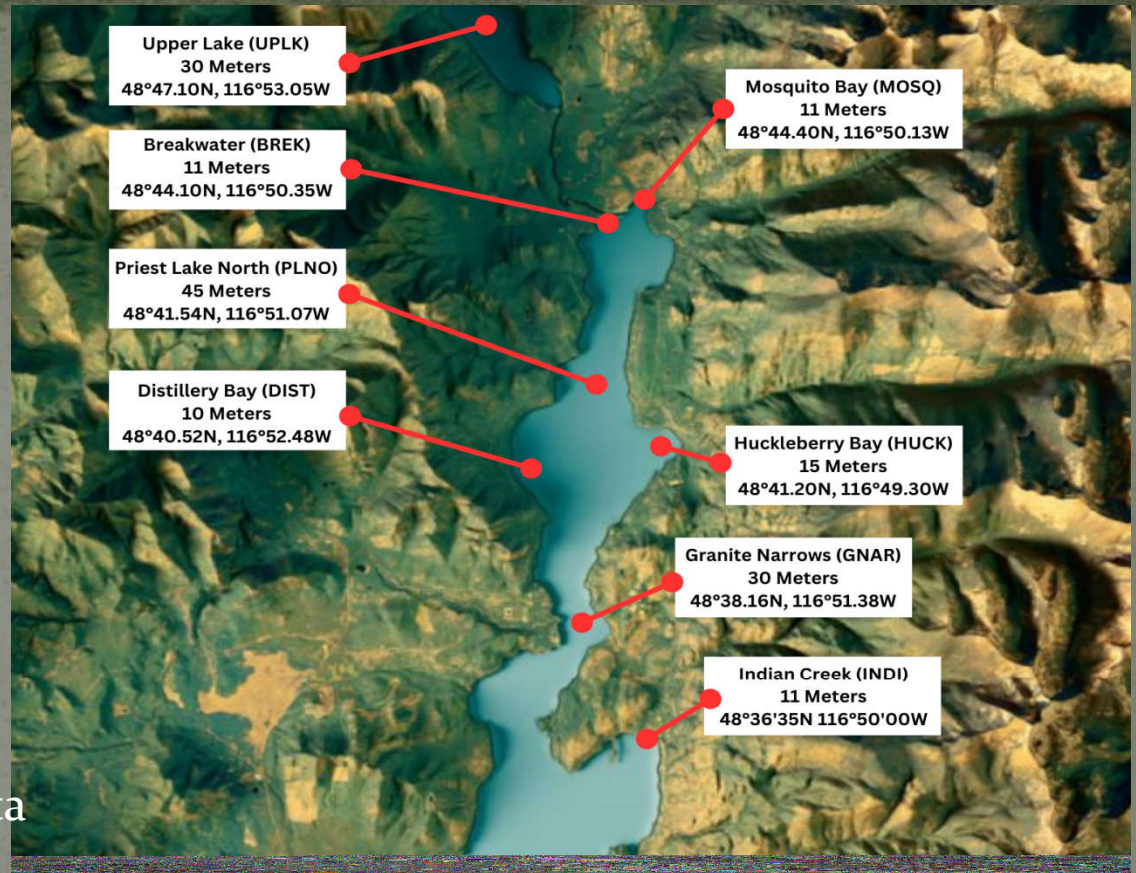
Priest Lake Water Quality Monitoring

Water samples are collected and submitted to laboratory (SVL Analytics, CdA) for analysis for

- Total Nitrogen (TN)
- Total Phosphorus (TP)
- Chlorophyll-a

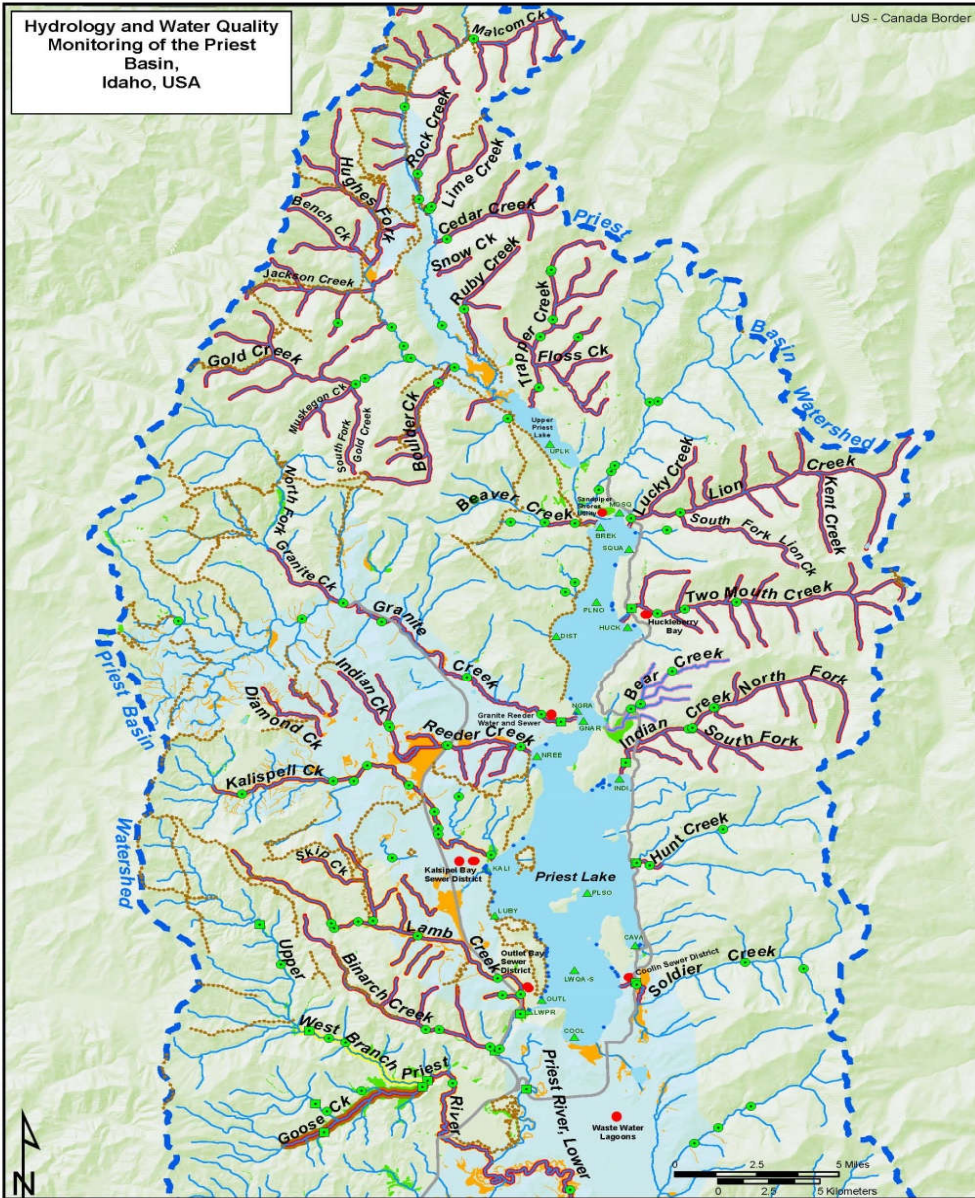
Our team further collects data on;

- pH
- Turbidity
- Secchi depth
- Conductivity
- Profile measurements of water temperature and dissolved oxygen



Hydrology and Water Quality
Monitoring of the Priest
Basin,
Idaho, USA

US - Canada Border



Sampling Sites STREAMS (est. 2019)

- Lamb Creek
- Binararch Creek
- Upper West Branch Priest
- Caribou Creek
- Lion Creek
- Two-Mouth Creek
- Bear Creek
- Indian Creek
- Hunt Creek
- Cougar Creek
- Soldier Creek
- Trapper Creek
- Kalispel Creek
- Granite Creek
- Chase Creek
- Upper Priest River
- Reeder Creek



SCAWILD.ORG
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Special Data Credits:
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
Environmental Protection Agency
Tri-City Forest Service
US Geological Survey
Malheur National Forest
Siskiyou Conservation Alliance

Water Monitoring
 ● Beneficial Use Reconnaissance Program - Burp, IDEQ
 ● Water Quality Sites - Kalispel Tribe
 ▲ Water Sampling Sites 2017 - SCA
 ● Possible Groundwater Plumes

TMDL Triggers
 — Water Temperature
 — Fish Bioassessments
 — Multiple Biota Habitat Bioassessments
 — Fecal Coliform

Water Features
 — Lake or Pond
 — Aquifers
 — Wetlands on Aquifers
 — Wetlands
 — Watershed Boundary
 — Streams

Other Features
 ● Waste Water Lagoons
 — Trails
 — Major Roads

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ADOPT-A-STREAM Program



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Reporting to;

- Kalispel Tribe
- Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ)
- Idaho Department of Lands (IDL)
- University of Idaho
- Community



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Human impact on our lakes is inevitable, how we manage it NOW is critical for short and long term conservation!



BEACH CLOSED

**HARMFUL BLUE-GREEN ALGAE BLOOMS.
NO SWIMMING OR WADING.**



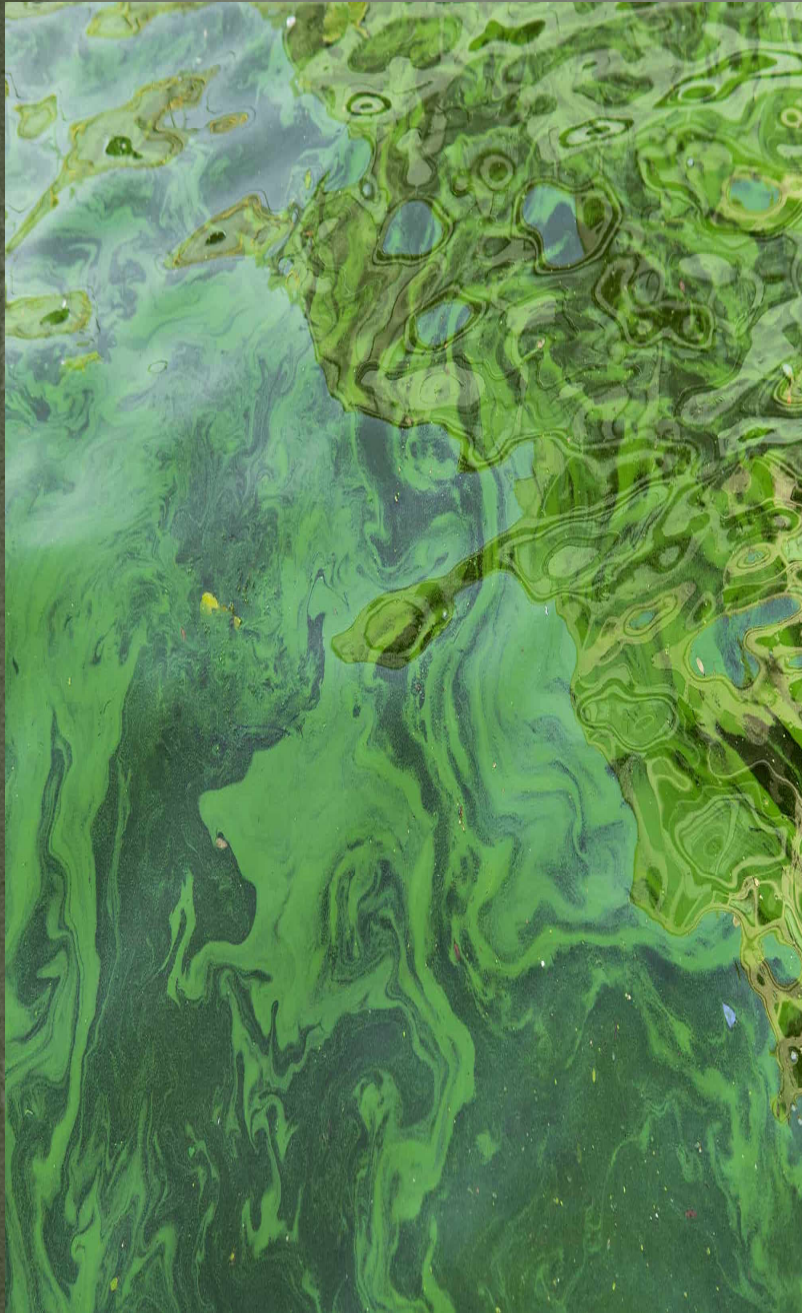
CONTACT CAN MAKE PEOPLE AND ANIMALS SICK

**IF YOU SEE BLOOMS OR SCUM OUTSIDE THE BEACH, DON'T SWIM,
FISH OR BOAT IN THOSE AREAS. KEEP KIDS AND PETS AWAY.**

Studies indicate that nutrients, temperature, and light are the main drivers for creation of toxic blooms. Phosphorus is usually the nutrient that triggers a bloom.

Cyanobacteria prefer calm sunny conditions. Water temperatures above 24 degrees Celsius (75 degrees Fahrenheit) are especially conducive to blooms.





Not all cyanobacteria blooms produce toxins. Studies reported by the National Institutes of Health indicate that between 25% and 75% of blooms produce toxins.

Only by conducting tests specific for the toxins can one be assured whether a bloom is toxic or not. These are usually conducted by a public health agency like a health district.

While there are relatively inexpensive screening tests (~ \$50/test), tests which identify specific toxins and thus the risk to human health are usually greater than \$500 per test.

- IDEQ and the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare (DHW) each play a role in identifying, responding to, and monitoring cyanobacteria harmful algal blooms (HABs).
- IDEQ staff are responsible for sampling Idaho water bodies and analyzing water quality data. They provide the sample results to DHW and the public health district in the area where a citizen reported the HAB, and they decide if it warrants a health advisory.
- The health advisory map is available on DHW's [Recreational Water Health Advisories](#) web page.

Report a Potential Harmful Algal Bloom

By phone: (866) 671-5385

By email: algae@deq.idaho.gov (online form)

Idaho's active HAB advisories are listed here:

<https://www.gethealthy.dhw.idaho.gov/recreational-water-health-advisories>

08/05/2024: Health Advisories for Avondale Lake and Fernan Lake

bloomWatch

- bloomWatch is a participatory science app that allows users to find and report potential cyanobacteria blooms in water bodies.
- The data users provide help government scientists to track and manage water quality and help officials protect public health and the environment from harmful blooms.
- Download the bloomWatch app today to report suspected harmful algal blooms in your community's water bodies.

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HELP US, JOIN and SUPPORT SCA

No one can do everything, everyone can do something!

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