

“The vast possibilities of our great future will become realities only if we make ourselves responsible for that future.”

-Gifford Pinchot



North Fork Coeur d'Alene River

Respect the River Program

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NORTH FORK



COEUR D'ALENE RIVER

<http://www.deq.idaho.gov/north-fork-cda-river-subbasin-wag>



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Respect the River Resource Guide

*A Program of the
Idaho Panhandle National Forests
with the
North Fork Coeur d'Alene River
Watershed Advisory Group*

RESPECT THE RIVER

“Respect the River” is an educational program to inform and engage river corridor users and balance the needs of the public while conserving water, fish, and riparian resources.

Respect the River Goals

- Maintain and improve public access
- Educate visitors on responsible recreation
- Restore damaged riparian areas
- Create partnerships with local groups, businesses, and agencies
- Improve fish habitat and water quality

Riparian Areas are Important

Streams and riparian areas provide water, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities. A “healthy” riparian area performs certain basic functions including healthy vegetation production, protecting streambanks from erosion, trapping sediments, improving water quality, recharging groundwater reserves, and regulating streamflow.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

Use established roads, trails, and campsites; do not create new ones.

User-created campsites and vehicles driven near the stream and riparian areas damage plant life, compact soils, damage tree roots, and cause erosion.

Pack it in, Pack it Out.

In addition to being unsanitary and unsightly, garbage within stream corridors affects aquatic habitat by accumulating in pools that provide refuge for aquatic species.



Help protect restoration sites.

Areas may be closed at times in order to rehabilitate riparian areas damaged by excessive use. Please respect the boundaries of these sites so they have time to heal.

RESPECT THE RIVER

Camping Etiquette 101 . . .

. . . helps protect rivers, fish habitat, and your favorite campsites:



- Camp at least 25 feet from water.
- Bring your own firewood or use a stove - fallen trees and driftwood provide fish habitat.
- Use established river access trails - save the trees and shrubs that protect the river bank.
- Leave your campsite cleaner than you found it.

Sponsored by the Idaho Panhandle National Forest

Dispose of human waste properly.

To protect water quality, human health, and the beauty of the river corridor, use available restrooms. If none are available,

- 1) Locate a site more than 200 feet away from the stream,
- 2) Dig a hole at least 8 inches deep to deposit waste,
- 3) Pack out used toilet paper along with garbage and cover hole.