



Coeur d'Alene, Idaho  
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## ADVANCED REFERENCE CONDITION TECHNIQUES: SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES & PROBLEM SOLVING

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### Course Presenters

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# **RFC202 – Advanced Reference Condition Techniques: Special Circumstances and Problem Solving**

- **McAllister:** Using historical information to assist characterizing reference condition
- **Barbour:** Challenges in urban (MD) and agricultural landscapes (MS)
- **Baker:** Reference condition for reservoirs (TVA)
- **Break**
- **Heakin:** Selecting Reference Sites In Agricultural Areas — A South Dakota Case Study
- **Suplee:** Challenges in Selecting Reference Streams in Plains Landscapes: Northeastern Montana

# Reference site selection is

- An iterative screening process for selecting sites
  - That are minimally or least disturbed by human activities and resultant stressors
  - That are representative of the aquatic resource in the region of interest
- Guided by indicators of human disturbance/stress
  - In the atmosphere
  - In the landscape/watershed
  - In the riparian corridor or near the site
  - In the channel
  - In the water
  - In the biota
- Available at different spatial scales

# Hierarchical Screening Process

## SOURCES OF SITES

- Digital stream maps
- Lists

- Surveys
  - probability
  - other
- Best professional judgement

## SCREENING BASIS

