

Meeting Date: January 25, 2024

Agenda Item No. 5E

Agenda Item: Cherry Plant Acquisition (**ACTION**)

Bureau Chief Approval: SR

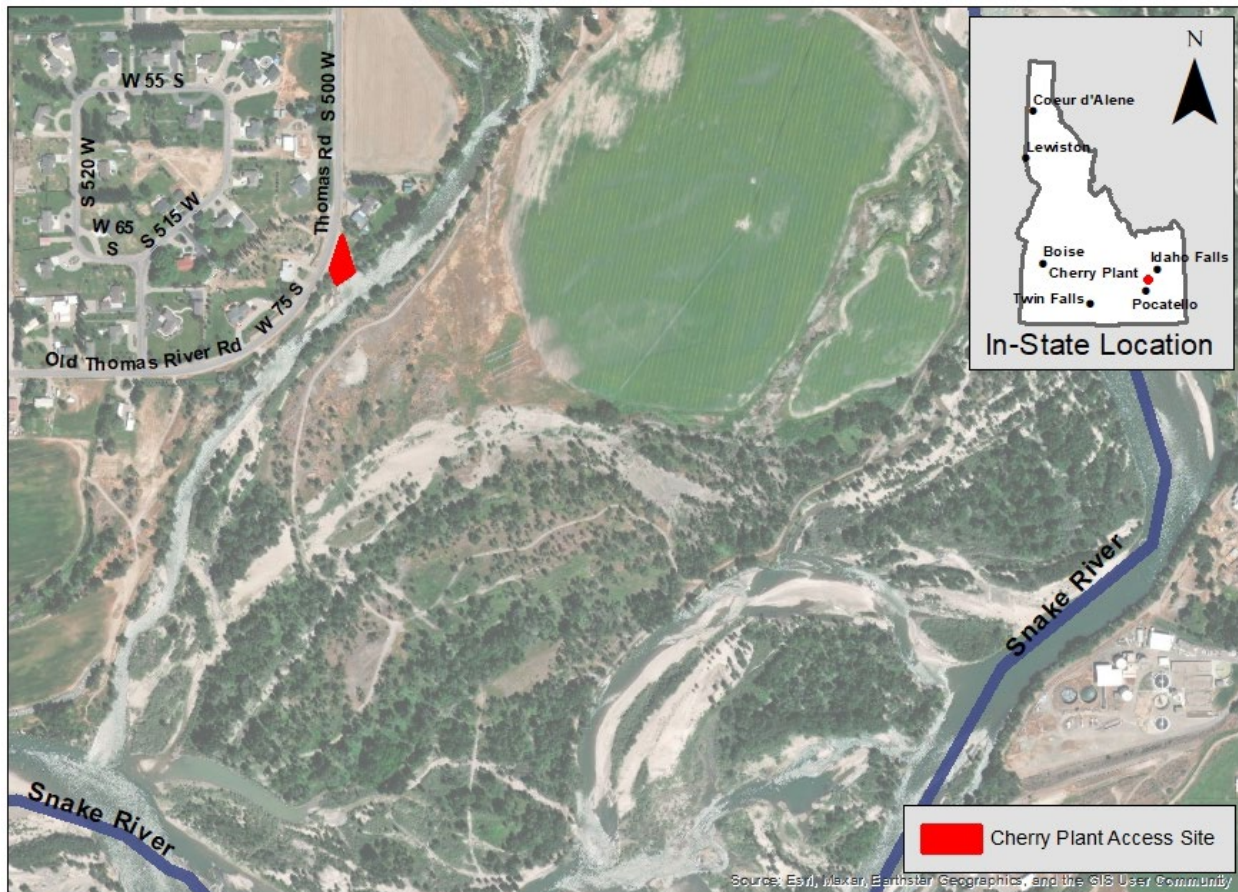
Prepared by: Casey Pozzanghera, Natural Resources Program Coordinator and Steve Elam, Mitigation Staff Biologist

Background:

The Department is proposing fee-title acquisition of the 0.33-acre Cherry Plant property. The parcel is a fishing access site on the Snake River in Bingham County, approximately 1.5 miles downstream from the City of Blackfoot. While the Department has managed the property for decades, ownership was never properly transferred from the original owners (Cherry family) to the Department, as intended. Regional staff were recently made aware that the heirs of the property would like to formally donate the property and transfer title through quit claim deed. Acquiring the property will formalize the Department’s ownership and secure the property in perpetuity for public access.

The Regional Fishing and Boating Access Program expects to spend approximately \$25,000 on initial improvements to the boat ramp, parking, and signage. Fee in Lieu of Tax payments are not applicable as the property is less than 10 acres (Idaho Code 63-602A).

This property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in July 2023.



Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

The Idaho Fish and Game Commission has the authority to acquire land (Idaho Code 36-104(b)(7)). Land acquisition is in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

Bingham County commissioners have been notified.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend acquiring the 0.33 acre Cherry Plant Access Site.

Suggested Motion: I move to acquire the 0.33 acre Cherry Plant Access Site.