C.J. Strike
Wildlife Management Area

Management Plan
2014

Southwest Region

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2014 – 2023 Management Plan
December 2014

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Southwest Region
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Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Executive Summary

Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Department) manages 32 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Researchers from the University of Idaho and The Nature Conservancy evaluated the value of Idaho's WMAs to wildlife. They found the WMA network, created to support game species, "also conserves the full range of Idaho's wildlife and other ecological features" (Karl et al. 2005). Surveys and monitoring work conducted by Department biologists on Southwest Region WMAs confirms their value to big game, nongame, and many at-risk species identified in Idaho's State Wildlife Action Plan. In many cases, WMAs provide the principal habitat for at-risk species in the Southwest Region.

Wildlife Management Areas often abut other protected lands such as National Forests, Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands, or private lands protected by conservation easement. Due to the wildlife-focused management, WMAs often serve as highly productive core areas of the landscapes in which they exist. Management of these areas involves a combination of restoring and maintaining important natural habitats to contribute to landscape-level habitat function (e.g., sage-steppe, slough wetlands) and creating hyper-productive habitats (e.g., food plots, impounded wetlands) to enhance the carrying capacity for certain wildlife species.

Wildlife Management Area management plans strive to direct management that upholds these values. They may also be bounded by legislative and/or funding mandates, Department species plans, the State Wildlife Action Plan, conservation partner objectives, national wildlife conservation strategies and plans (federal and non-government organizations), and especially the Department's own strategic plan, *The Compass*. Priorities, Management Directions, Performance Targets, and Strategies have been developed to be as consistent as possible with all of these documents and to capture the broader conservation values already provided by WMAs and ensure these values are protected and enhanced.

The Department's Southwest Region includes six WMAs containing approximately 95,000 acres of land with a primary management focus of maintaining highly functional wildlife habitat, as well as providing wildlife-based recreation. Andrus WMA, at the upper end of Hells Canyon in Washington and Adams counties, is an important wintering area for deer and elk. Boise River WMA, in Ada, Boise, and Elmore counties, provides critical winter range for mule deer and elk near Idaho's largest human population centers. The other four Southwest Region WMAs comprise wetland, riparian, and upland habitats managed with an emphasis on upland game and waterfowl production and hunting. These include Fort Boise WMA at the confluence of the Boise and Snake rivers in Canyon County; Payette River and Montour WMAs along the Payette River in Payette and Gem counties; and C.J. Strike WMA on the Bruneau and Snake rivers near C.J. Strike Reservoir in Owyhee and Elmore counties.

Each WMA is managed as part of a larger habitat district, which may also include other lands owned or operated by the Department for wildlife habitat or public access. Management of lands for wildlife habitat could not succeed without the cooperation and collaboration of many partners, with the Department as either a licensed tenant or a neighbor. Examples include Idaho

Department of Lands, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Bureau of Reclamation (BOR), BLM, U.S. Forest Service, Bonneville Power Administration (BPA), Idaho Power Company (IPC), and other private landowners.

Personnel and operating funds for regional wildlife habitat programs are provided through a combination of hunting licenses and fees, federal aid from excise taxes under the Pittman-Robertson Act, and to some degree by BPA and BOR as mitigation for habitat losses resulting from construction of various dams in the region. Hunters fund a large portion of management costs, and they are rewarded with habitat management areas that sustain many of the region's big game herds and provide consistent waterfowl and upland game bird production and hunting opportunities. Non-hunters, who value the varied resources provided by WMAs, also benefit from the broad ranging conservation values associated with Department lands.

This document provides direction in the form of goals, objectives, and strategies for the management of the C.J. Strike WMA (CJSWMA), which are consistent with the Department Strategic Plan, *The Compass*. The CJSWMA is 16 miles south of Mountain Home in southwest Idaho. It encompasses 11,008 acres bordering the 7,500 surface acres of C.J. Strike Reservoir, extending 26 miles up the Snake River and 12 miles up the Bruneau River from C.J. Strike Dam. The Department currently manages 8,053 land acres, including 6,108 acres of BLM lands within the WMA, and 7,500 reservoir surface acres. The IPC currently manages 2,955 acres of IPC-owned lands within the WMA.

Wildlife habitats include lakes, reservoir, rivers, riparian areas, wetlands, upland grasslands, sagebrush, and agricultural areas primarily managed for waterfowl and upland game production, hunting and fishing access, and other outdoor-orientated recreation.

The current management direction of CJSWMA was initiated after a series of public meetings and user surveys. Issues pertaining to CJSWMA were identified by the public and the Department and grouped into three categories: habitat management, wildlife management, and public use management.

Based on the review of management issues, WMA biologists and regional staff identified four management priorities for CJSWMA. These are waterfowl habitat, upland game bird habitat, special status species habitat, and wildlife-based recreation and education.

Next, we conducted a focal species assessment to evaluate which species or conservation targets may serve to guide management of the WMA. Species evaluated included game, nongame, and special status species. Conservation targets could include single species, groups or guilds of species, or habitat types that represent a group or guild of species. Waterfowl, upland game birds, and riparian habitats were selected to best represent management priorities on the CJSWMA. We also evaluated how the selected conservation targets and associated management actions fit into the larger landscape beyond the CJSWMA border.

The final step was the creation of the Program Management Table for CJSWMA. It outlines the management direction, performance targets, strategies, and outcome metrics that CJSWMA staff

will use to manage for the conservation targets and associated management priorities at both the CJSWMA and landscape scale.

This C.J. Strike WMA Management Plan, prepared by the Department, will direct management on all state and federal lands (excluding IPC lands). This plan will serve as a guide for current and future managers to direct efforts and resources for maximum wildlife benefit, public enjoyment, and efficient operation. As new information and technology becomes available, and as more property is acquired, strategies may be modified to most effectively reach the goals and objectives in this plan. All goals, objectives, and strategies are dependent on adequate funding, personnel, and public support.

Introduction

This management plan is designed to provide broad guidance for the long-term management of C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (CJSWMA). It replaces an earlier management plan written in 2006. This updated plan was completed during 2012 and 2013 with extensive public input. The Plan is tiered off other Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Department) plans and policies summarized below.

- State Wildlife Action Plan (2005)
- Statewide management plans for:
  - waterfowl (1991)
  - upland game (1991)
  - mule deer (2010)
  - white-tailed deer (2005)
  - elk (2014)
  - moose (1991)
  - furbearer (1991)
- Statewide big game depredation management plan (1988)
- Conservation Plan for the Greater Sage-grouse in Idaho (2006)
- Policy for Avian and Mammalian Predation Management (2000)

The Plan is intended to guide the management of Department-owned or controlled lands in the vicinity of C.J. Strike Reservoir known as CJSWMA. Because IPC is required, as a condition of the operating license for C.J. Strike Dam (see Appendix X), to implement a plan for their lands within the Wildlife Management Area (WMA) that is consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA, this CJSWMA plan also serves to provide a statement of those goals and objectives.

Department Mission

All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho. It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. It shall be only captured or taken at such times or places, under such conditions, or by such means, or in such manner, as will preserve, protect, and perpetuate such wildlife, and provide for the citizens of this state and, as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping (Idaho Code Section 36-103).

Department Strategic Goals

The Department's 2005 Strategic Plan, *The Compass,* is the primary guiding document for all other Department plans and outlines four goals for the Department:

- Fish, Wildlife and Habitat: Sustain Idaho's fish and wildlife and the habitats upon which they depend.
- Fish and Wildlife Recreation: Meet the demand for fish and wildlife recreation.
- Working With Others: Improve public understanding of and involvement in fish and wildlife management.
- Management Support: Enhance the capacity of the Department to manage fish and wildlife and serve the public.

The 2014 WMA plans describe the management direction for each of the 32 WMAs the Department manages to help accomplish these goals. The specific *Compass* goals and objectives relevant to WMA management are included in Appendix I.

Statewide WMA Vision

Our WMAs are managed to provide and showcase important habitat for all wildlife and to offer high quality, wildlife-based public recreation.

C.J. Strike WMA Vision

C.J. Strike WMA will be a premiere destination in Southwest Idaho to hunt upland game and waterfowl, view wildlife in a natural setting, and access public fishing and trapping in and adjacent to C.J. Strike Reservoir.

Modification of Plan

This plan provides broad, long-term management direction for CJSWMA. It will be evaluated at least every five years to determine if adjustments are needed. The plan will be modified as needed to accommodate changing conditions and goals and to incorporate available advancements in management knowledge and techniques.

Other Considerations

All strategies proposed in this plan are bound by the contractual agreements between cooperating agencies, the mission of CJSWMA, and all applicable Department species management plans and policies. Issues and strategies that are inconsistent with the mission were not considered. In addition, the implementation of all strategies will be subject to available funding, personnel, and safety considerations.

Area Description and Current Status

The CJSWMA is an 11,008-acre area of mixed ownership bordering the 7,500 surface acres of C.J. Strike Reservoir, extending 26 miles up the Snake River and 12 miles up the Bruneau River from C.J. Strike Dam. It is approximately 16 miles south of Mountain Home. The primary purpose of the reservoir is for power production, although it provides extensive recreational fishing and boating opportunities as well. The WMA was formed in 1953 when Idaho Power Company (IPC) granted authority to the Department to manage most of their lands within the C.J. Strike Dam project area (Appendix II). Through fee title acquisitions and agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), the Department came to manage additional lands (Appendix IX).

This C.J. Strike WMA Management Plan, prepared by the Department, will direct management on all state and federal lands (8,053.06 land acres, including 6,108 acres of BLM lands within the WMA, and 7,500 reservoir surface acres). The Department has managed the WMA with a priority on public hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunity as well as wildlife production, wildlife viewing, and other compatible wildlife-related recreation.

On August 4, 2004, FERC issued a new license to IPC to continue the operation of the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project No. 2055 (Appendix X). Subsequent to re-licensing, IPC now manages all of its own lands within the boundary of the C.J. Strike Project. Any lands IPC owns within the WMA (2,955 acres) are to be managed in a manner that is consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA, with hunting and fishing as the top priority. A separate management plan approved by FERC guides IPC land management activities within CJSWMA, with oversight by a Management Advisory Committee made up of Department, USFWS, Idaho Parks and Recreation, BLM, and selected neighbor landowners.

The CJSWMA management plan was developed by the Department with extensive public involvement. The plan is structured after the Department strategic plan known as *The Compass*, and addresses management activities on all Department-owned and managed lands within the WMA. It is intended to be a long-term plan, with periodic reviews every five years.

Providing hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities for public enjoyment of the wildlife resources continues to be the number one priority of the CJSWMA. The WMA is located approximately 16 miles south of Mountain Home, Idaho, comprising 11,008 acres of private and public lands surrounding C.J. Strike Reservoir and adjacent to the Snake and Bruneau rivers in Elmore and Owyhee counties (Figure 1). Elevation ranges from 2,455 feet at the reservoir surface to almost 3,000 feet in the surrounding uplands. Topography varies from riparian wetlands to rocky canyons and dry uplands, which results in a wide variety of habitat types. The dominant classifications are lakes, reservoir, rivers, riparian areas, wetlands, low sagebrush, and irrigated agricultural lands. Normal precipitation is slightly less than eight inches annually. Soils are also diverse, and are described in part in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Surveys (NRCS 1965). The Elmore County Area, Idaho, survey was published in 1991 and the Owyhee County survey was completed in 2003.

For management and descriptive purposes, CJSWMA is divided into seven management segments: 1) Trueblood Segment from Cottonwood Bench to Big Foot Bar including the Trueblood Wildlife Habitat Area (Figure 2); 2) Borden Lake Segment, including BLM Cove Recreation Site to Department Cottonwood Bench property below C.J. Strike dam; 3) Bruneau Segment from the Cove Recreation Site to Highway 78 on the Bruneau River; 4) Crane Falls Segment from Canyon Creek on the Snake River side of the dam to Rattlesnake Creek; 5) Hot Springs Segment from Hwy 78 on the Bruneau River and upstream, including property owned by the Department on the Bruneau River; 6) Indian Cove Segment from Flat Iron butte to above the Hammett bridge; and 7) Loveridge Segment from Rattlesnake Creek to Flat Iron Butte. Each segment has unique habitat and management characteristics, but all segments fit within CJSWMA management priorities.

The Trueblood Segment is dominated by the Snake River that has very little public access, and most of the management is focused on the Trueblood WHA food plots, ponds, and wetlands. The Trueblood WHA Segment is a 327.6-acre parcel located north of the Snake River at the city of Grand View and west of Hwy 67 (Figure 2), acquired as a Sikes Act agreement in 1983 with BLM for waterfowl production and continued public hunting access. There is approximately 90 acres of wetland with three manmade ponds, 10 acres in irrigated food plots, and the balance is black greasewood/grass uplands with perennial springs with an irrigation drain ditch above the wetlands. The property surrounds a 40-acre private pond and upland parcel with two access easements.

The Borden Lake segment is dominated by the C.J. Strike power plant and high-use recreation campsites with associated ATV, trash, and some agriculture issues. The Bruneau Segment is dominated by the Bruneau arm of C.J. Strike Reservoir and the Bruneau delta dealing with grazing, IPC farm ground, some private land, and heavy public use. Most of the Crane Falls segment is only accessible by boat with some public use at Crane Falls on land owned/managed by the Department and a portion by IPC with the primary issue of trespass grazing. The Hot Springs Segment is dominated by private agriculture land with a portion owned by the Department that involves farming, irrigation water, and trespass grazing issues. The Indian Cove Segment is primarily monitoring withdrawn lands and maintaining public access to the Snake River. The Loveridge Segment is withdrawn BLM lands that the Department manages for public use and wetland values including a farming agreement for wildlife use.

The dominant feature of the CJSWMA is C.J. Strike Reservoir, which has a capacity of 250,000 acre-feet and covers 7,500 surface acres. Stored water backs up 26 miles of the Snake River and 12 miles of the Bruneau River. Seepage from the newly constructed reservoir filled an 80-acre basin on the south side of the Snake River which is now Crane Falls Lake. This lake was stocked with rainbow trout in 1954 and soon became a trophy trout fishery. The lake has since evolved into an excellent warm-water fishery in combination with the rainbow fishery. In 1968, a dike was constructed across the mouth of a small reservoir cove located just west of Crane Falls Lake to create another trout fishery. The result was Cove Arm Lake; the 100-acre impoundment dike was breached soon after to allow enough water to refill the cove for previous agricultural irrigation pumping and allow boat access to the reservoir.

C.J. Strike Reservoir is one of the most popular fisheries in southwestern Idaho. Anglers fish the WMA throughout the year, but use is especially heavy during May and June. Rainbow trout, bluegill, black crappie, channel catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, and sturgeon are sought-after game fish. In addition to shoreline access, several improved and unimproved boat ramps are available on the reservoir.

C.J. Strike Reservoir provides a natural waterfowl sanctuary. Ducks and geese are present on the WMA throughout most of the waterfowl hunting season. A variety of waterfowl hunting experiences can be found, including jump shooting on the WMAs many potholes and small streams; hunting over decoys on the larger ponds, rivers, and the reservoir; and field hunting for Canada geese on agricultural lands on or next to the WMA. Except for a small safety zone established around the headquarters, there are no areas closed to hunting on the WMA.

White-tailed and mule deer inhabit portions of the WMA. Hunting is permitted with short-range weapons, as provided under a general hunt and a controlled hunt permit system.

For upland game hunters, ring-necked pheasants, gray partridge, and California quail can be found on the CJSWMA and adjacent croplands. Pen-reared pheasants continue to provide one of the most popular hunting opportunities every fall. Chukar partridge can be found on the arid canyon areas of the WMA. Early season hunting for mourning doves can be good over the entire management area. Other activities on the WMA include trapping (trappers must register with the WMA manager), sight-seeing, camping, picnicking, boating, water skiing, wind surfing, photography, general wildlife viewing, and bird watching. Opportunities exist to engage in these activities year-round, although some areas may have posted nesting season closures from February 1 through July 31.

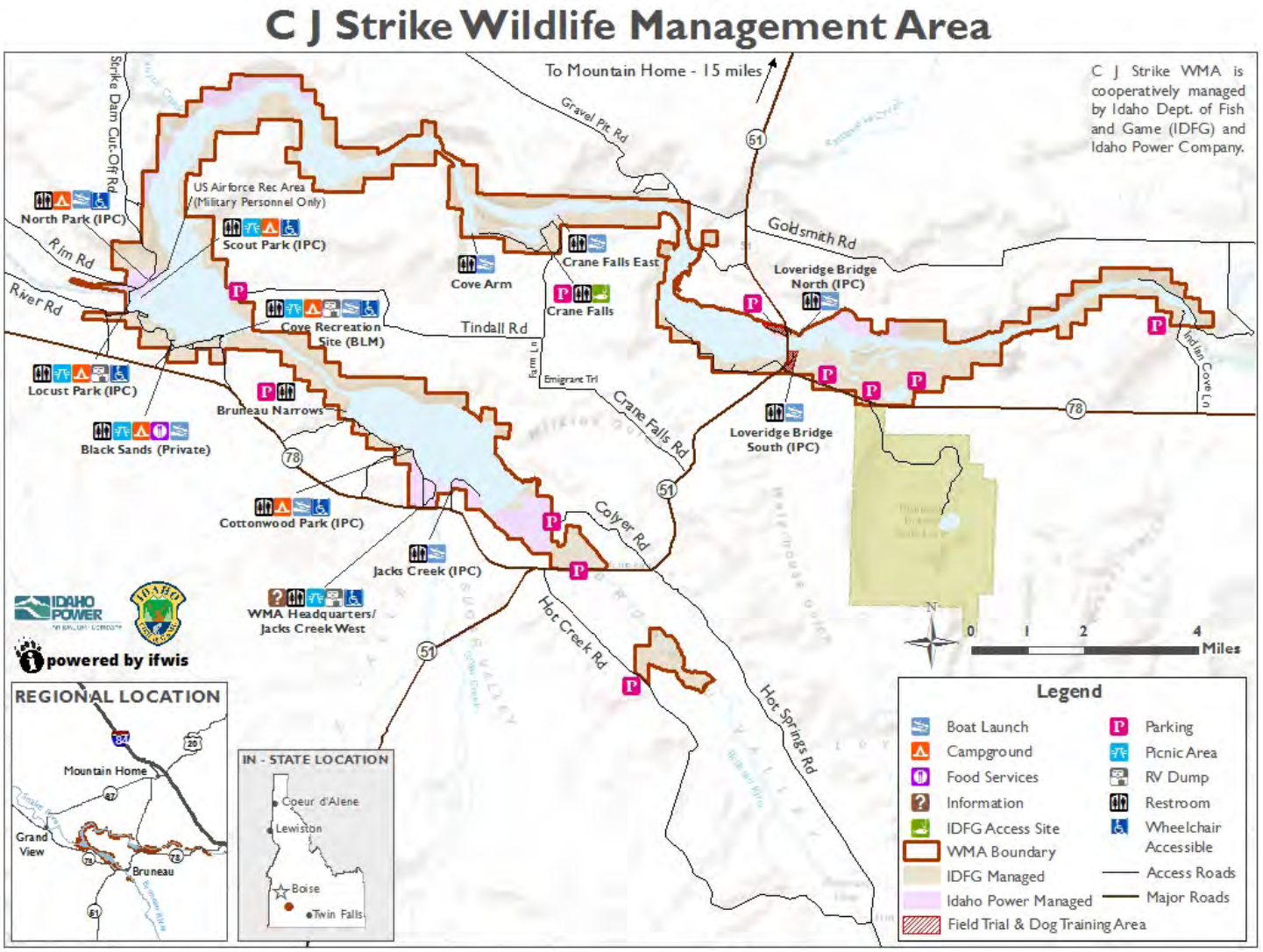

Figure 1. C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area.

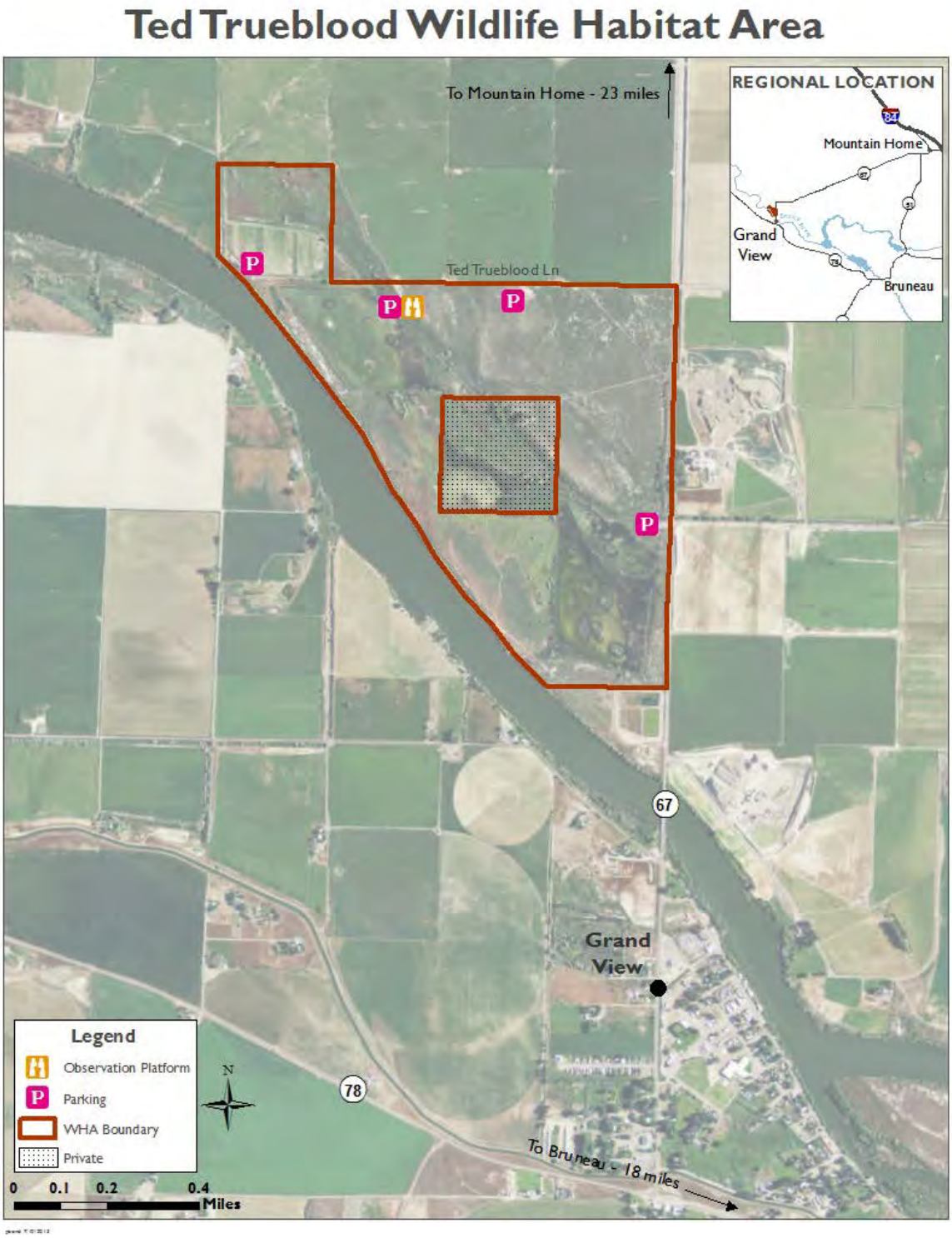

Figure 2. Ted Trueblood Wildlife Habitat Area.

Management Issues

This list of issues was developed after extensive public input as described in Appendix IV. Two general groups provided input, WMA users and neighboring landowners. Department policy direction and WMA staff management experience also helped shape the list of current issues (Appendix IV).

Throughout 2012 (Feb-Dec), an online survey form was available on the Department website. The survey allowed participants to answer questions and provide feedback on WMA management statewide and the management of specific WMAs. C.J. Strike WMA personnel also developed a similar survey that targeted WMA users that may have missed the online survey. The CJSWMA survey was conducted from September 12 through December 21, 2012 by volunteer Department Reservists trained in the survey protocol.

The issues identified were grouped, based on similarity, into three general categories, Habitat Management, Wildlife Management, and Public Use Management. Each issue is summarized and some potential management options discussed. Issues identified with an asterisk are those that were added from personal contacts and conversations with visitors and Department personnel.

Habitat Management

1. **Improvements are needed to internal structures at CJSWMA, including fences, access, signs, and roads.***

   Discussion: Fences, roads, and signs are expensive to build and maintain. Most of CJSWMA has no boundary fence due to the terrain and reliance on signs, topography, BLM, or private fences to delineate the boundary limits, yet some locations require both internal and boundary fencing to limit trespass grazing, control motor vehicle access, delineate parking/driving lanes, and inform visitors of WMA boundaries. Fence repairs and replacement are made as needed using wildlife-friendly fence guidelines and internal fences are removed wherever practical.

   There are few internal roads open to public vehicles due to terrain, habitat needs, and safety. The roads are built of native materials maintained as needed allowing access to a specific parking area on the WMA. Some roads can develop rough areas between annual maintenance times. The road into Crane Falls is planned for improvement and a cattle guard is proposed at the top of the canyon. Each driver needs to assess their vehicles ability as some roads are rougher than others. Driving beyond the parking areas is not permitted.

   Signs are used to guide visitors in the use and special rules of the WMA and are placed at locations easiest to read and inform. The WMA desires to give needed information without developing a wall of signs; therefore, the Department has information and brochures at

offices, vendors, and internet sites available to provide more complete information to the public.

2. **Grazing/Farming as methods of vegetation control on CJSWMA may not be the best options.***

   Discussion: Grazing and farming are done on the WMA to develop specific habitat conditions both to increase winter wildlife food and to change the structure of the vegetation. For example, grazing can open up the woody vegetation and allow for grass and forb growth. Currently, there is just one grazing agreement on the WMA, which is on the Bruneau Segment (Appendix VIII). Farming is used to develop food plots and change some habitats to more productive growth. Farming is accomplished through cooperative use agreements as per Department policy. There is currently one farming agreement for the Loveridge Bridge Segment (Appendix VIII).

3. **Is working with partners essential to CJSWMA operation?***

   Discussion: A very small portion of CJSWMA is owned by the Department and the WMA would not exist without partners. The WMA is a group of partners working within agreements, withdrawals, easements, and licenses to reach common goals for wildlife and the public. Partners with the Department include IPC, BLM, neighboring landowners, Owyhee and Elmore counties, and several user organizations. Working with partners within and beyond the WMA boundaries is the best way to reserve public access and improve habitat for wildlife.

4. **Trees and shrubs at camp sites are being cut up for firewood and to make room for campers and recreational vehicles.**

   Discussion: To cut, dig, or remove any crops, trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs, logs, or fuel wood is restricted and stated in IDAPA 13.01.03 concerning public use of lands owned or managed by the Department (Appendix XI). Removing vegetation, whether dead or alive, affects wildlife habitat and the enjoyment of other visitors to the WMA.

5. **The CJSWMA relies on volunteer help for habitat improvement projects.**

   Discussion: Volunteer help with WMA projects is a major asset to the Department. Projects utilizing volunteers are coordinated through the Regional Volunteer Program for doing plantings, nest structure repairs, irrigation, surveys, and other tasks to assist the Department mission of wildlife management.

6. **Noxious weeds are a problem not being dealt with on CJSWMA and may spread to the neighboring private land.**

   Idaho has 64 different species of weeds which are designated noxious by state law. These weeds are listed at the Idaho Department of Agriculture and are listed in three treatment

levels; Early Detection-Rapid Response (EDRR), Statewide Control, and Containment. The CJSWMA has one weed in the top list of EDRR, two weeds in Control group, and 10 weeds in the lowest Containment list. The Department is required by law to deal with noxious weeds. Potential methods may include herbicides applied by a licensed applicator, bio-control with insects or grazing, or mechanical methods such as hand plantings and pulling, fire, or cultivation. All other invasive vegetation is only controlled or enhanced to attain optimum wildlife habitat and meet the objectives of the WMA.

Wildlife Management

1. **Why is hunting of pen-raised pheasants continuing on CJSWMA?**

   Discussion: The hunting of pheasants has been very popular over the 60-year history of the WMA, and existing habitat is insufficient to meet hunter demand. The number of rooster pheasants stocked on the WMA is limited by funding and by the percentage of roosters recorded and reported as harvested on the Upland Game Bird Permit card. If funding is low and there is a low return to the bag as reported on the permit cards, there will be fewer birds stocked on that WMA. In other words, hunter cooperation with reporting is critical to the pheasant stocking program. The goal is that all birds released on the WMA will be harvested and recorded. However, once the birds are released, it is somewhat unpredictable where they will fly or if they will gather back together; therefore, stocking pheasants and getting them harvested can be very challenging.

2. **Too much area on CJSWMA is closed for upland and waterfowl nesting in the spring.**

   Discussion: The primary management goal on the WMA is hunting, but it is also important to protect key habitat areas for nesting to ensure at least some annual production. Except for pheasants, all other wildlife hunted on the WMA must be raised locally or migrate to the area. Approximately 1,750 acres of the WMA are closed to access from February 1 through July 31 of each year to allow upland game and waterfowl the opportunity to nest and rear young. This closure still leaves over 8,500 acres open for public access.

3. **Manage larger segment of CJSWMA for waterfowl production and hunting.**

   Discussion: C.J. Strike WMA currently maintains nesting structures throughout the WMA and maintains nesting closures on about 1,750 acres of available riparian and wetland habitat. Furthermore, large portions of the WMA are essentially not accessible in the spring due to steep terrain and lack of roads or trails, or high water levels. The hunting experience for waterfowl hunters is improved somewhat by closing the WMA to upland game hunting until after 10:00 AM during the pheasant season. We are planning to improve waterfowl habitat at Trueblood WHA.

4. **Feral animals are a problem on CJSWMA.**

   Discussion: Feral animals are becoming a greater problem throughout the United States and CJSWMA is no exception. In about 2006, feral hogs were illegally released on the WMA in the Bruneau Segment and began to cause problems by 2008. Within three years, the last of the feral hogs had been removed with help from private landowners, USDA/APHIS, Idaho Department of Agriculture, and Department enforcement officers. Feral house cats are also a problem on the WMA with few options of reducing their numbers.

5. **Wild turkeys are wanted on the WMA.**

   Discussion: Habitat for wild turkeys is lacking around CJSWMA and no plans are made to attempt introduction. Without the support of adjacent landowners, where wild turkeys would eventually congregate, introducing turkeys would most likely create a socially unacceptable depredation issue in the area.

6. **Improve chukar hunting on CJSWMA.**

   Discussion: Chukar are present in uplands and rocky canyons that lead into the WMA but current populations are low due to drought and weather conditions. In the past, chukar hunting has been fair on the WMA and could be so again with favorable conditions in the spring for nesting and chick production.

Public Use Management

1. **Public access needs to be available but consistent with WMA goals.**

   Discussion: Access for hunting, fishing, trapping, and other compatible wildlife-related recreation are two priorities of CJSWMA. Outdoor recreation such as dog training, camping, birding, sightseeing, or boating is a concern for the public and is part of the land use requirements on portions of the WMA.

2. **Continue to meet the demand for hunting, fishing, and trapping on CJSWMA.**

   Discussion: The WMA has expanded since 1950 and public use has increased over the years, and is open to those activities on its entire area. There may be opportunities to expand the WMA as funding and willing sellers are available. There is a need to keep working with neighboring landowners to allow wildlife activity on private property.

3. **Trash is a problem at areas of heavy public use.**

   Discussion: Concentrations of people commonly lead to more trash. Due to the remoteness of many parts of CJSWMA and cost of maintenance, there is a ‘Pack it in, Pack it out’ policy. We encourage the public to clean up after themselves and others to keep their area

clean. Placing trash receptacles on the WMA unnecessarily increases cost of maintenance and trash receptacles tend to be misused for general household trash.

4. Compliance with regulations of CJSWMA is a problem.

Discussion: Compliance with regulations is for the benefit of all visitors to the WMA. There are published regulations available online, at the WMA office, Department license vendors, and Department Regional and State offices concerning public use of lands owned or managed by the Department (Appendix XI). Failure to follow regulations limits opportunity for all users of the WMA.

5. Hunter overcrowding is a problem on CJSWMA.

Discussion: Overcrowding is most evident in connection with pheasant stocking. There are limited locations that are favorable to pheasant stocking and concentration of hunters is worse with some un-chaperoned and inexperienced hunters. If a hunter is not comfortable with the situation, there may be some options available, including choosing to find another location, choosing to help others learn, or join in and use special caution.

C.J. Strike WMA Management Program

The Department is responsible for the preservation, protection, perpetuation, and management of all wildlife, fish, and plants in Idaho for the citizens of this state, and as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping. Wildlife Management Areas allow the Department to directly affect habitat to maximize suitability for species in key areas. Management to restore and maintain important natural habitats, and create productive habitats to enhance carrying capacity for selected wildlife species remains a key strategy on CJSWMA. However, the most pervasive threats to WMA ecological integrity, such as noxious weeds, rural residential/commercial development, increased water diversion, and conflicting land uses on public lands, likely come from outside their boundaries. Therefore, WMA managers must recognize and create opportunities to participate in collaborative conservation and management programs with adjacent landowners, enabling broader influence to maintain the ecological functions that sustain WMA-dependent wildlife.

We propose that an effective way to enable a broader influence over the future of CJSWMA is through the use of focal species management. According to Noss et al. (1999), focal species are those used by planners and managers to determine the appropriate size and configuration of conservation areas. Conservation of species within landscapes used for other enterprises such as forestry, recreation, agriculture, grazing, and commercial development requires managers to determine the composition, quantity, and configuration of landscape elements required to meet the needs of the species present (Lambeck 1997). Since it is impractical to identify key landscape elements for all species dependent on CJSWMA, a carefully selected suite of focal species can act as a surrogate for the conservation of many species.

Identifying landscape-scale species priorities across ownership boundaries comprehensively addresses wildlife-related issues on the CJSWMA and creates a platform for conservation partnerships in the surrounding landscape. This step is also crucial for increasing the likelihood that WMA functions are resilient to inevitable changes in their associated landscapes.

The following six-step process was used to create the CJSWMA management program described in this plan. Each of these steps is described in detail on the ensuing pages.

1) Summary of Management Priorities
2) Focal Species Assessment
3) Selection of Conservation Targets
4) Coverage Assessment of Selected Conservation Targets
5) Spatial Delineation of Selected Focal Species/Habitat Landscapes
6) Creation of Management Program Table

Summary of Management Priorities

As part of the original 50-year operating license, IPC established the C.J. Strike WMA and entered in to an agreement with the Department and USFWS on July 24, 1953, “to develop the

fish and wildlife in the Snake River in and adjacent to the dam and reservoir, and to make the lands and waters herein referred to available for the propagation, feeding and conservation of fish and wildlife, and for hunting, fishing and other recreational uses and purposes by the public, subject to the Company's requirements in the operation of the project."

Additionally, legal mandates associated with the 2001 appropriation of federal funding for the State Wildlife Grants program also guide the Department's management priorities. The U.S. Congress appropriated federal funds through the State Wildlife Grants program help to meet the need for conservation of all fish and wildlife. Along with this new funding came the responsibility of each state to develop a State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP). The Department coordinated this effort in compliance with its legal mandate to protect and manage all of the state's fish and wildlife resources (IDFG 2005). The SWAP does not distinguish between game and nongame species in its assessment of conservation need and is Idaho's seminal document in identifying species at-risk. Therefore, at-risk species identified in the SWAP, both game and nongame, are a management priority for the Department.

In addition to the biological goals of preserving, protecting, and perpetuating all fish and wildlife in the state of Idaho, the Department also has a statewide goal of protecting and improving wildlife-based recreation and education. The Department's strategic plan, *The Compass*, outlines multiple strategies designed to maintain or improve both consumptive (e.g., hunting, trapping, fishing) and non-consumptive (e.g., wildlife watching) wildlife-based recreation opportunities across the state.

Taking the biological and funding resources of CJSWMA into consideration, in concert with the foundational principles of CJSWMA and statewide Department priorities, and after consultation with the CJSWMA Habitat Biologist, the Department developed the following list of broad-scale CJSWMA Management Priorities.

C.J. Strike WMA Management Priorities:

1. Waterfowl Habitat
2. Upland Game Bird Habitat
3. Special Status Species Habitat
4. Public hunting, fishing and other wildlife-based Recreation and Education Opportunities

Focal Species Assessment

This section of the Plan is an assessment of various conservation priority fish and wildlife species on CJSWMA in order to identify focal species to guide management. Table 1 evaluates taxa that are either flagship species (Groves 2003) and/or at-risk species identified by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in the Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (IDFG 2005) and key federal agencies.

Flagship species are popular, charismatic species that serve as symbols and catalysts to motivate conservation awareness, support, and action (Heywood 1995). Flagship species often represent a

landscape or ecosystem, a threat (e.g., habitat loss or climate change), organization (e.g., state government or non-government organization), or geographic region (e.g., protected area, Department Region or state; Veríssimo et al. 2009).

A principal limitation of the flagship species concept is that by focusing limited management resources on culturally and economically important species, more vulnerable species may receive less or no attention (Simberloff 1998). To overcome this limitation, we are explicitly considering a wide variety of at-risk species (Groves 2003); yielding a more comprehensive assessment that includes culturally and economically important species (e.g., pheasant and waterfowl) along with formally designated conservation priorities (e.g., bald eagle and sage-grouse). Categories of at-risk vertebrate species considered in this assessment are: 1) species designated as Idaho Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN); 2) species designated as Sensitive by Region 4 (Intermountain Region) of the U.S. Forest Service (USFS); and 3) species designated as Sensitive by the Idaho State Office of the BLM.

The Idaho SGCN list was developed as part of the Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy (IDFG 2005). The Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy document is now referred to as the SWAP. Idaho's plan serves to coordinate the efforts of all partners working toward conservation of wildlife and wildlife habitats across the state.

Although the Idaho SWAP SGCN includes most of the special status species identified by land management agencies in Idaho, some species not listed as SGCN are considered priorities by other agencies. C.J. Strike WMA is a mosaic of land ownerships including private lands, BLM lands, and lands managed by the Department. The BLM is a key partner in this landscape as their management actions directly influence ecological function on CJSWMA. To maximize coordination, communication, and partnership opportunity, we include BLM sensitive species in our biodiversity assessment.

United States Forest Service Sensitive Species are animal species identified by the Intermountain Regional Forester for which population viability is a concern, as evidenced by significant current or predicted downward trends in population numbers or significant current or predicted downward trends in habitat capability that would reduce a species' existing distribution. The Forest Service Manual (FSM 2670.22) directs the development of sensitive species lists. This designation applies only on USFS–administered lands.

Bureau of Land Management Sensitive Species are designated by State Directors in cooperation with the State fish and wildlife agency (BLM manual 6840). The Idaho State BLM Office updated these designations in 2003. The sensitive species designation is normally used for species that occur on BLM public lands and for which BLM has the capability to significantly affect the conservation status of the species through management.

The Intermountain West Joint Venture (IWJV) also maintains a list of priority species. The IWJV has identified 40 priority species from which to base conservation planning.

Information on species status, occurrence, beneficial management/conservation actions and threats were derived through consultation with Department staff, occurrence records in the Department's Idaho Fish and Wildlife Information System database, consultation with various BLM and USFS species lists, and species summaries provided in the Idaho SWAP.

Suitability of assessed species as a focal species were estimated by Southwest Regional Habitat and Diversity staff based on descriptions in Groves (2003) and USFWS (2005). Potentially suitable focal species may include species with one or more of the following five characteristics*:*

- *Species with high conservation need*
- *Species or habitats that are representative of a broader group of species sharing the same or similar conservation needs*
- *Species with a high level of current program effort*
- *Species with potential to stimulate partnerships*
- *Species with a high likelihood that factors affecting status can realistically be addressed* (USFWS 2005)

Table 1. Status of conservation priority species on C.J. Strike WMA including their potential suitability as focal species for management.

Species	Status Designation(s)	Occurrence Context in C.J. Strike WMA Landscape	Threats	Beneficial Management and Conservation Actions	Suitability as a Focal Species for C.J. Strike WMA
Western Pearlshell (*Margaritifera falcata*)	SGCN	Occurs in high-gradient rivers and streams, but occurrence on WMA unknown.	Decline of fish populations serving as hosts for parasitic larvae; changes in flow management and/or water quality could affect habitat suitability. is;	Promote natural flow regime, maintain water quality.	*Unsuitable as a focal species***.** Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Western Ridged Mussel (*Gonidea angulata*)	SGCN	Occurs in medium to large rivers, including sites in the Snake River Basin; reported from Snake River, but occurrence on WMA unknown.	Decline of fish populations serving as hosts for parasitic larvae; changes in flow management and/or water quality could affect habitat suitability. s	Promote natural flow regime, maintain water quality.	*Unsuitable as a focal species***.** Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Snake River aquatic gastropod assemblage	SGCN; ESA Endangered; ESA Threatened; ESA delisted (G3) BLM	Occurrence in mainstem Snake River. Includes Jackson Lake Springsnail (*Pyrgulopsis robusta*), Bliss Rapids Snail (*Taylorconcha serpenticola*), Green River Pebblesnail (*Fluminicola coloradoensis*), Shortface Lanx (*Fisherola nuttalli*),Snake River (*Physa natricina*)	Affected by improper flow regulation, resulting in stranding above waterline; loss of water quality, including changes in temperature regime, oxygen concentration, and pollutants; and introduced predators and competitors.	Promote natural flow regime, maintain water quality. Manage for complex river system having wide variety of in-stream habitat.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species***.** Distribution is associated with main channel riverine habitat adjacent to WMA; distribution of some species may no longer include the WMA following habitat alteration from reservoir inundation.
Bruneau Hot Springsnail (*Pyrgulopsis bruneauensis*)	ESA Endangered	Occurrence in the Bruneau river drainage associated with thermal-influenced off-channel and hyporheic springs.	Negatively affected by loss of groundwater and associated loss of ground-level area and quality of habitat.	Manage groundwater extraction and recharge rates to promote persistence of thermally-influenced springs.	*Unsuitable as focal species*. Distribution peripheral to WMA.
Bruneau Dunes Tiger Beetle (*Cicindela waynei*)	SGCN	Occurs on Bruneau Dunes State Park and immediate vicinity at boundary of park.	Invasive annuals, such as cheatgrass, are responsible for dune and sand field stabilization, resulting in the loss of habitat essential for larval development.	On-site restoration projects to reduce stands of invasive plants are needed on BDSP and areas immediately adjacent. Programs addressing weed densities and ecological function in the surrounding landscape is also beneficial.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Distribution is not on the WMA.
Northern Leopard Frog (*Rana pipiens*)	SGCN	Historical occurrence in the WMA, but current status in the vicinity unknown. Largely extirpated from southwest Idaho. Habitat includes: flooded marsh and meadow habitat; pockets of shallow open water, off-channel pools, and undercut banks. In Idaho, burrowing owls are patchily distributed throughout the southern half of the state (J. Belthoff, Boise State University, pers. comm.), but the population size is unknown.	Competition with and predation by introduced bullfrogs and introduced fish (e.g., smallmouth bass) may be a limiting factors. Disease may also be a threat).	Maintain shallow off-channel ponds and flooded riparian wetland habitats. Manage habitat to discourage invasion by bullfrogs.	*Unsuitable* ***as a focal species.*** Historical distribution in the project area. Current status unknown.
Woodhouse's Toad (*Anaxyrus woodhousii*)	SGCN	Occurs in the Snake River drainage. Suitable habitat may occur on the WMA, but status in vicinity is undocumented. Breeding sites are perennial or permanent standing water. Moist upland sites protected from freezing—e.g., woody debris piles—are used during hibernation.	Predation of eggs or tadpoles by bullfrogs and introduced fish (e.g., smallmouth bass) may be locally important. Loss of coarse woody debris and other structure for overwintering may be locally important.	Maintain shallow marshland and riparian wetland habitats. Maintain coarse woody debris and other surface structure.	*Unsuitable as a focal species***.** Occurrence on WMA possible but unknown.
Groundsnake (*Sonora semiannulata*)	SGCN	Occurs at lower elevations in rocky habitat in the Snake and Boise river valleys. Associated with xeric, sparsely vegetated sites.	Potentially affected by declines in invertebrate prey populations and changes in vegetation from nonnative annuals, particularly when invasive plants encroach on sparsely vegetated habitat. Susceptible to mortality from vehicles, including off-road vehicles.	Minimize new road development and off-road vehicle use. Avoid quarry expansion within occupied habitat. Avoid broadscale insect pesticide applications. Manage nonnative weeds.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Occurs in upland habitats on the WMA, representing low-elevation xeric habitat having low vegetation density and biomass.

Species	Status Designation(s)	Occurrence Context in C.J. Strike WMA Landscape	Threats	Beneficial Management and Conservation Actions	Suitability as a Focal Species for C.J. Strike WMA
Long-nosed Snake (*Rhinocheilus lecontei*)	SGCN	Occurs at lower elevations in the Snake River Valley. Associated with xeric, sparsely-vegetated habitat. Preys on lizards and small mammals.	Negatively affected by weed invasions reduce lizard abundance and burrowing small mammals. Susceptible to mortality from vehicles, including off-road vehicles.	Minimize new road development and off-road vehicle use. Manage weed invasions in occupied sites.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Occurs in upland habitats on the WMA, representing low-elevation xeric habitat having low vegetation density and biomass.
Great Basin Collared Lizard (*Crotaphytus bicinctores*)	SGCN	Occurs at lower elevations in the Snake River Valley. Associated with sparsely-vegetated habitat. Preys on insects and small vertebrates, particularly young lizards.	Potentially affected by declines in invertebrate prey populations and changes in vegetation from plant encroachment on sparsely vegetated habitat. Susceptible to mortality from vehicles, including off-road vehicles. Extensive rock quarrying considered a potential threat in some areas.	Minimize new road development and off-road vehicle use. Avoid quarry expansion within occupied habitat. Avoid broadscale insect pesticide applications. This species would benefit from restoration and management programs directed at nonnative weed management.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Occurs in upland habitats on the WMA, representing low-elevation xeric habitat having low vegetation density and biomass.
Black-crowned Night Heron (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)	SGCN	Nest in mixed-species colonies on riparian trees and shrubs, often on islands; occasionally in emergent vegetation (e.g., bulrush/cattail marsh; Trost and Gerstell 1994).	Disturbance of nesting islands. Loss of riparian woodland habitat through reduced cottonwood regeneration and tree thinning can reduce habitat suitability. May accumulate pesticides, affecting eggs and chicks.	Maintain river flows to facilitate cottonwood regeneration and maturation. Avoid disturbance to islands. Reduce pesticide applications and runoff pathways.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Breeding colonies occur in the vicinity.
Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)	SGCN	Colonial tree-nesting species. Uses islands or riparian tree stands. Nesting documented on CJSWMA although current status is unknown.	Disturbance of nesting islands. Loss of riparian woodland habitat through reduced cottonwood regeneration and tree thinning can reduce habitat suitability.	Maintain river flows to facilitate cottonwood regeneration and maturation. Avoid disturbance to islands.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Breeding colonies occur in the vicinity.
Snowy Egret (*Egretta thula*)*us*	SGCN	Potential breeding reported in the vicinity of the WMA, but continued use undocumented and nesting on WMA unknown. Colonies are in trees, often mixed with other species, such as black-crowned night heron.	Disturbance of nesting islands. Loss of riparian woodland habitat through reduced cottonwood regeneration and tree thinning can reduce habitat suitability. May accumulate pesticides, affecting eggs and chicks.	Maintain river flows to facilitate cottonwood regeneration and maturation. Avoid disturbance to islands. Reduce pesticide applications and runoff pathways.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Breeding and foraging habitat is not documented on the WMA, although a breeding colony may occur in the vicinity.
Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)	SGCN	Breeding occurs in mixed-species colonies in large trees, often at the highest point in the colony, over water, or on islands (IDFG 2005). Breeding documented on CJSWMA.	Disturbance of nesting islands. Loss of riparian woodland habitat through reduced cottonwood regeneration and tree thinning can reduce habitat suitability. May accumulate pesticides, affecting eggs and chicks.	Maintain river flows to facilitate cottonwood regeneration and maturation. Avoid disturbance to islands and creating bridges to otherwise isolated islands. Reduce pesticide applications and runoff pathways.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Breeding and foraging habitat is well-represented on the WMA, and breeding colonies occur in the vicinity.
American Avocet (*Recurvirostra americana*)	SGCN	Generally associated with wetlands containing bulrush, cattails, and sedges, although individuals spend most of their time, and place their nests, in more open areas that have no vegetation or very sparse vegetation (Robinson et al. 1997). Occurs associated with shallow wetlands on the WMA and in associated agriculture runoff. Likely breeding colony on the WMA.	Loss and degradation of wetland habitat, including vegetation succession. Disturbance during nesting is a prevalent threat to populations. Threats may potentially include contamination of foraging wetlands from agricultural runoff.	Maintaining early-succession shallow ponds. Minimizing access to breeding areas during the nesting period.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Occurrence on or near WMA includes use of foraging habitat and may include breeding.
American White Pelican (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*)	SGCN	Currently occupied colonial nesting sites are in eastern Idaho. Large rivers, reservoirs, and lakes are used as foraging habitat. In western Idaho, foraging birds may include individuals from the eastern breeding colonies or nonbreeders. Non breeding pelicans use the WMA 6-7 months of the year for foraging and loafing.	This species is piscivorous and sometimes is in conflict with sportsmen as a result of perceived or real predation on sportfish. Disturbance to vulnerable nesting sites on islands is a primary conservation issue. Habitat loss due to either flooding or draining areas can destroy breeding sites and foraging areas (Evans and Knopf 1993).	Protect and maintain wetland habitats and water levels.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Wide-ranging species that may irregularly visit the WMA.

Species	Status Designation(s)	Occurrence Context in C.J. Strike WMA Landscape	Threats	Beneficial Management and Conservation Actions	Suitability as a Focal Species for C.J. Strike WMA
California Gull (*Larus californicus*)	SGCN	Breeding occurs on barren or sparsely vegetated islands in natural lakes, reservoirs, or rivers (Winkler 1996). Breeding site documented on island on Snake River, south of Weiser, but no breeding has been documented elsewhere in vicinity of WMA.	Low water levels. Disturbance to vulnerable nesting sites on islands from boat recreation and island visitation.	Maintenance of water levels that separate nesting islands from dry land. Minimize disturbance to nesting colonies.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Habitat unsuitable for nesting.
Caspian Tern (*Sterna caspia*)	SGCN	Breeding documented in southern Idaho, but not in vicinity of WMA. Generally nest on open, fairly flat islands or islets of lakes, reservoirs, and rivers. Forages over lakes, reservoirs, rivers, and sloughs and preys almost exclusively on fish.	Low water levels and human disturbance at nesting areas; illegal shooting.	Maintain water levels and minimize disturbance at nesting sites.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Habitat unsuitable for nesting.
Forster's Tern (*Sterna forsteri*)	SGCN	Occurs on CJSWMA, but birds are possibly nonbreeding or post-breeding individuals since nesting has not been documented in the area. Breeds on floating mats of vegetation or on the ground on islands.	Low water levels that expose nesting sites to predation; disturbance to nesting sites.	Maintain water levels and minimize disturbance at nesting sites.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Habitat unsuitable for nesting.
White-faced Ibis (*Plegadis chihi*)	SGCN	Colonial breeders, with nesting documented at two locations in southwest Idaho. In Idaho colonies are found in hardstem bulrush/cattail marshes. Forages for aquatic and moist soil invertebrates in shallowly flooded wetlands and irrigated croplands. Alfalfa, barley, and native hay meadows are important foraging areas.	Drought and/or diversion of water away from existing marsh/wetland habitat have resulted in temporary or permanent abandonment of traditional nesting sites (IDFG 2005); pesticide exposure risk (Ivey et al. 2005). Loss of foraging habitat after conversion from flood irrigation to center-pivot irrigation practices.	Acquiring water rights for existing wetland sites used by ibis (Ivey and Herziger 2005); providing suitable water levels during the nesting period; minimization of human disturbance (Oakleaf et al. 1996). Providing incentives for retaining traditional flood irrigation.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Clark's Grebe (*Aechmophorus clarkii*)	SGCN	Nesting occurs on freshwater lakes or marshes with extensive open water (Storer and Nuechterlein 1992).	Water level fluctuations (Trost and Gerstell 1994) are a threat to nesting success; in particular, reservoir water levels during the nesting period are important. Disturbance and nest damage from waking powerboats during nesting may also affect some populations.	Monitoring water quality and reducing drastic water level fluctuation during the breeding season (Ivey and Herziger 2005).	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Breeding habitat within the project area.
Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*)	SGCN	Nesting occurs in the southern and southeastern parts of Idaho (Trost and Gerstell 1994). Nests on large water bodies on floating mats of vegetation.	Water level fluctuations (Trost and Gerstell 1994) are a threat to nesting success; in particular, reservoir water levels during the nesting period are important. Disturbance and nest damage from waking powerboats during nesting may also affect some populations.	Avoid water level fluctuation during breeding season (Ivey and Herziger 2005); close access to breeding areas and impose restrictions on watercraft during the nesting period.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Breeding habitat within the project area.
Waterfowl (ducks, geese)	Flagship	WMA wetlands and the Snake River provide important habitat for a diversity of breeding and wintering waterfowl.	Disturbance during nesting periods, lack of appropriate nesting cover, and loss of habitat from invasive plants are primary threats.	Manage habitat to provide foraging and nesting habitat. Manage water to provide ponds and flooded meadow habitat. Manage vegetation to reduce prevalence of undesirable plant species.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* WMA has been managed for waterfowl habitat since acquisition.
Long-billed Curlew (*Numenius americanus*)	SGCN	3000-5000 nesting pairs estimated in southern Idaho. Uses upland habitat adjacent to the WMA; nests in grassland and disturbed shrubland habitat.	Housing development; disturbance from recreation to nests. Loss of foraging habitat and reduced availability of invertebrate prey. Nesting failure possibly related to disturbance exposing nests to avian predators.	Manage disturbance to nesting habitat. Minimize applications of insecticides in foraging habitat. Use enforcement patrols to minimize illegal shooting. Apply management practices to maximize foraging values in agricultural, wetland, and grassland habitat.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Habitat unsuitable for nesting on WMA.

Species	Status Designation(s)	Occurrence Context in C.J. Strike WMA Landscape	Threats	Beneficial Management and Conservation Actions	Suitability as a Focal Species for C.J. Strike WMA
Yellow-billed Cuckoo (*Coccyzus americanus*)	Candidate for ESA listing; USFS Sensitive; BLM Sensitive; SGCN	Historically a rare summer visitor and breeder in the Snake River Valley. Occurs in dense riparian tree stands, often composed of willow and/or cottonwood having dense understory vegetation.	Loss of riparian breeding habitat from agricultural development and river flow modification and management.	Develop and maintain large stands of cottonwood and willow having low levels of disturbance and human and livestock trailing.	*Unsuitable as a focal species*. Unlikely to occur at WMA.
Upland game birds	Flagship	WMA has resident populations of upland game birds, including California Quail, Gray Partridge, Ring-necked Pheasant, and Chukar.	Habitat loss and destruction.	Preservation and enhancement of nesting cover; increases in insect biodiversity and amount of insects present for chicks.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* CJSWMA has been managed for upland bird habitat since acquisition.
Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)	SGCN	Associated with riparian cottonwoods, which birds use for foraging perches and nest sites. Nest occurs in the WMA.	Loss of productivity resulting from disturbance during nesting. Loss of riparian cottonwood stands through failed cottonwood regeneration. Shooting, poisoning, and electrocution also source of mortality.	Minimize disturbance around nest sites. Promote river flows that maintain riparian cottonwood stand regeneration and maturation.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* One documented nest on CJSWMA; wintering eagles are common on the Payette River.
Ferruginous Hawk (*Buteo regalis*)	SGCN	Occurs in upland sites adjacent to the WMA. Nests in shrub-steppe and juniper woodland habitat. Relies on ground squirrels, rabbits, and other diurnal small mammals as prey.	Agricultural development and conversion of native habitat to agricultural uses. Mortality from wind turbines is a concern in some areas.	Maintain prey populations (ground squirrels, etc.). Avoid wind turbine installations or mitigate with operational curtailment at critical periods. Avoid disturbance to nesting birds.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area, although nesting occurs on the CJSWMA.
Burrowing Owl (*Athene cunicularia*)	SGCN	Breed in open grassland, shrubland habitat. Nests are in natural burrows excavated by American badgers (*Taxidea taxus*). Forages in short-grass, mowed or overgrazed pastures, etc. Preys on large insects and small vertebrates, particularly rodents (e.g., mice, voles, pocket gophers). Western burrowing owls are commonly seen around CJSWMA.	Loss of nesting habitat through urbanization and agricultural conversion is a serious threat throughout Idaho; pesticides are a potentially significant threat to this species as it often nests close to agricultural fields; indiscriminant killing of badgers may limit nesting burrows.	Manage American badger populations since burrowing owls rely on pre-existing burrows for nesting. Minimize pesticide spraying and use of rodenticides in occupied habitat.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species*. Habitat is limited on CJSWMA, however Burrowing Owls are on the Northern edge of the WMA and may occur within the boundary.
Merlin (*Falco columbarius*)	SGCN	Common migrant and locally abundant winter resident, but a rare breeder (Craig and Craig 1989). Nesting habitat in Idaho has been shrub-steppe dominated by sagebrush, and nests are in abandoned nests, often those constructed by corvids. Uncommon at WMA.	Loss of nesting habitat and decreased prey abundance due to habitat modification; West Nile virus and avian influenza may affect productivity (IDFG 2005).	Develop habitat management programs to benefit prey populations, which would include most passerines.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Swainson's Hawk (*Buteo swainsoni*)	SGCN	Distribution poorly documented in vicinity of WMA. Nests are often constructed in trees bordering open landscapes.	Wind farm development (Erickson et al. 2001); conversion of native grasslands to croplands and urban development (England et al. 1997).	Maintain and restore native grasslands; protection of migration corridors and important stopover habitat (IDFG 2005).	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Insectivorous bat assemblage	SGCN	Potentially includes Spotted bat (*Euderma maculata*), California myotis (*Myotis californicus*), and Townsend's Big-eared Bat (*Corynorhinus townsendii*). Distribution and abundance is highly correlated with roost habitat, which includes trees, cliff walls, and mines and caves.	Wind turbines are a substantial source of mortality for tree-roosting migratory species and poses a threat to resident populations, as well. Disturbance and destruction of roost sites through mine closures, renewed mining, recreational caving. Loss of invertebrate populations from broad-scale pesticides intended to control pests.	Include siting and operational considerations in wind farm installations. Work with land managers to preserve roost habitat. Take measures to protect roosts from disturbance, including cave gating. Manage pesticide applications to avoid foraging habitat.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Assemblage has agricultural economic importance and has potential to have high-diversity in CJSWMA.
Piute Ground Squirrel (*Urocitellus mollis*)	SGCN	Endemic subspecies (*U. m. idahoensis*) occurs along north side of Snake River, and a more widespread subspecies (*U. mollis mollis*) potentially occurs to the south of the river. Occurs in shrub-steppe habitat with big sagebrush, shadscale, black greasewood, and winterfat.	Habitat conversion to tilled croplands, loss of plant diversity to invasive plants, and rodent control through poisoning and recreational shooting.	Maintain and restore diversity and productivity of forb and grass food plants. Minimize and mitigate property damage and resulting conflicts.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* WMA does not contain suitable habitat.

Species	Status Designation(s)	Occurrence Context in C.J. Strike WMA Landscape	Threats	Beneficial Management and Conservation Actions	Suitability as a Focal Species for C.J. Strike WMA
Townsend's Pocket Gopher (*Thomomys townsendii*)	SGCN	Occurs in lower elevation river valleys in the Snake, Boise, and Payette river drainages. Occurrence on the WMA is unknown.	Habitat loss; cultivation, and activities that reduce plant biomass, such as habitat conversion, livestock grazing, and wildfires (IDFG 2005). Persecuted as a crop pest.	Maintain and restore diversity and productivity of forb and grass food plants. Minimize and mitigate property damage and resulting conflicts.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Bighorn Sheep (populations south of Snake River) (*Ovis canadensis*)	Rangewide: G4T1 Statewide: Critically imperiled (S1) BLM: Type 3 IDFG: Big Game Animal	Occurs south of the WMA along tributaries to WMA.	Loss of native grasses and forbs to fire; disease. Landscape-scale habitat protection and restoration is needed, particularly with respect to weed and fire management. Efforts to manage livestock to minimize interaction with bighorn sheep herds and to maximize availability of forage are also important.	Work with federal managers to improve conditions through proper range management and fire control and vegetation choices.	*Unsuitable as a focal species.* Limited information on distribution in the project area.
Mule Deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*)	IDFG – Big game animal	Occurs in portions of the WMA.	Habitat fragmentation from conflicting land uses on adjacent public and private lands; conflicts with agricultural producers.	Protect and expand existing winter range; support management that increases habitat.	*Potentially suitable as a focal species.* Mule deer are a culturally and economically important wildlife species in southern Idaho and are a species with a good potential for developing conservation partnerships.

Selection of Conservation Targets

The focal species assessment identified six species that are potentially suitable focal species for management on the CJSWMA. Of these, we selected ring-necked pheasant and mallard to serve as focal species.

The Conservation Targets selected to guide management on CJSWMA (corresponding CJSWMA Priority in parentheses are):

1. Mallard (Waterfowl Habitat)
2. Ring-necked Pheasant (Upland Game Bird Habitat)
3. Riparian Habitat (Special Status Species Habitat)

Waterfowl

Waterfowl were selected as a Conservation Target because they represent historic and current management priorities on CJSWMA. Mallards especially rely on a broad array of habitat components including wetland and riparian habitat, forage crops, and secure winter habitat to thrive within the CJSWMA landscape. Therefore, efforts to sustain mallards and other waterfowl species by conserving these varied habitat components will benefit a wide range of other species.

Upland Game Birds

Upland game birds were selected as a Conservation Target because they represent historic and current management priorities on CJSWMA. As a group, upland game birds rely on a broad array of habitat components including dense woody cover, good nesting cover, and abundant forage habitat to thrive within the CJSWMA landscape. Therefore, efforts to sustain upland game birds by conserving these varied habitat components will benefit a wide range of other species.

Riparian Habitat

Our vision for riparian areas is healthy and functioning habitats that provide linkage and habitat continuity throughout the watershed. Maintaining, improving, and protecting riparian habitat on the WMA will benefit a variety of species. Riparian habitat is used by several SGCNs in Table 1 for some or part of their annual life cycle. In arid landscapes such as southwest Idaho, migrating birds rely on riparian areas to rest and refuel. Several species of neo-tropical migrant songbirds nest in riparian habitats. Furthermore, these habitats contribute to the overall wildlife diversity of CJSWMA, and increase opportunities for wildlife viewers.

Viability Assessment of Selected Conservation Targets

We define an effective Conservation Target as one providing meaningful conservation benefits for multiple species that share similar habitat requirements or life history traits. They are useful for directing limited management resources and maximizing conservation effort. One measure of

effectiveness is to assess the number of species that a Conservation Target benefits (or covers) within the management landscape.

Regional Habitat and Diversity staff worked together to complete the coverage assessment table (Table 2). We evaluated each of the Conservation Targets to determine which species from Table 1 would benefit from management activities focused on that target. Evaluations are based on knowledge of species habitat requirements, occurrence within the management landscape, and the scope of current and planned management actions. The assessment considered only those habitat features or needs relevant to the species as it occurs on the management landscape. For instance, we emphasized the importance of resting and foraging habitat needs for waterfowl and waterbirds, knowing that most breeding activity for these species occurs elsewhere. Our results indicate that the selected Conservation Targets on CJSWMA provide substantial, but variable habitat benefits for an array of assessed species. We found that of the 32 focal species or groups evaluated, 18 would benefit from management actions for waterfowl; 14 species would benefit from management actions for upland game birds; and 15 would benefit from management actions for riparian habitat.

We also evaluated which species or guilds would receive little or no tangible benefit from management actions for specific Conservation Targets; these are designated “conservation needs.” We identified conservation needs for several species or guilds and determined that further data will be useful to inform the next WMA planning process. Recent studies suggest the conservation needs of some of these species (e.g., Myotis guild) are increasing dramatically. A prudent management strategy is to consider a landscape where these species may be prioritized for management in the future. Broad strategies for addressing these management needs are identified in the following Management Program Table (pages 34-37), but typically include collection of additional baseline data.

Table 2. Analysis of Conservation Target coverage and identification of conservation needs.

	Conservation Targets[a]			
Species Assessed in Table 1	**Waterfowl**	**Upland Game Birds**	**Riparian Habitat**	**Conservation Need**
Invertebrates				Yes
Northern Leopard Frog	X		X	
Woodhouse's Toad	X		X	
Groundsnake		P		
Long-nosed Snake		P		
Great Basin Collared Lizard		P		
Black-crowned Night Heron	X		X	
Cattle Egret	X		X	
Snowy Egret	X		X	
Great Egret	X		X	
American Avocet	X			
American White Pelican	P			
California Gull	P			
Caspian Tern	P			
Forster's Tern	P			
White-faced Ibis	P			
Clark's Grebe	P		P	
Western Grebe	P		P	
Waterfowl	X		X	
Long-billed Curlew	P	P		
Yellow-billed cuckoo			P	
Upland game birds		X	P	
Bald Eagle	P		P	
Ferruginous Hawk		P		
Burrowing Owl		P		
Merlin		P	P	
Swainson's Hawk		P		
Insectivorous bat assemblage	P	P	P	
Piute Ground Squirrel		P		
Townsend's Pocket Gopher		P		
Bighorn Sheep		P		
Mule Deer		P	P	

[a] Entries marked with "X" indicate that the majority or all habitat needs for an assessed species within the management landscape are being met by management actions benefitting the Conservation Target. Entries marked with "P" indicate only a portion of the species habitat needs are being met by management actions for the Conservation Target. Conservation needs exist where target-specific management actions provide little or no tangible habitat benefit for an assessed species. Blank cells under conservation targets may indicate a conservation need or where dissimilar habitat needs preclude conservation benefits.

Spatial Delineation of Selected Focal Species/Habitat Landscapes

Each focal species/habitat has an area of influence associated with it. This approach recognizes that while CJSWMA is very important to wildlife, it is still part of a larger landscape that determines the health of wildlife populations in the area. As part of a larger landscape, WMAs influence, but do not control, most wildlife populations. Looking across our fences at the total landscape is imperative to achieving conservation in the long term. This section of the plan is dedicated to understanding how the WMA fits into the larger landscape—the role it currently plays, future roles it may play, and how influences outside the WMA can dramatically influence, for good or bad, the relative value of the WMA to conservation.

There are four watersheds or Hydrologic Units (HUC) that influence CJSWMA. These are the C.J. Strike Reservoir, Bennett Creek, and Birch Creek HUC on the Snake River and the Bruneau Valley HUC on the Bruneau River (Figure 3).

The juxtaposition and composition of habitats outside the CJSWMA influence the wildlife community within the WMA boundaries. Waterfowl and several special status species are migratory and may only use the WMA or the Snake and Bruneau rivers for a brief period of time each year. The landscape characteristics, including agricultural lands, which make this area an important waterfowl wintering area and migration corridor, should be maintained. In contrast, upland game birds are local residents and are impacted by habitat changes on a smaller scale. Management actions and large-scale habitat loss and disturbance occurring within this larger landscape impact habitat and wildlife on the WMAs. The CJSWMA biologist provides technical assistance to land management agencies and private landowners to benefit wildlife species and habitat. These activities are included in the CJSWMA Program Management Table (pages 34-37).

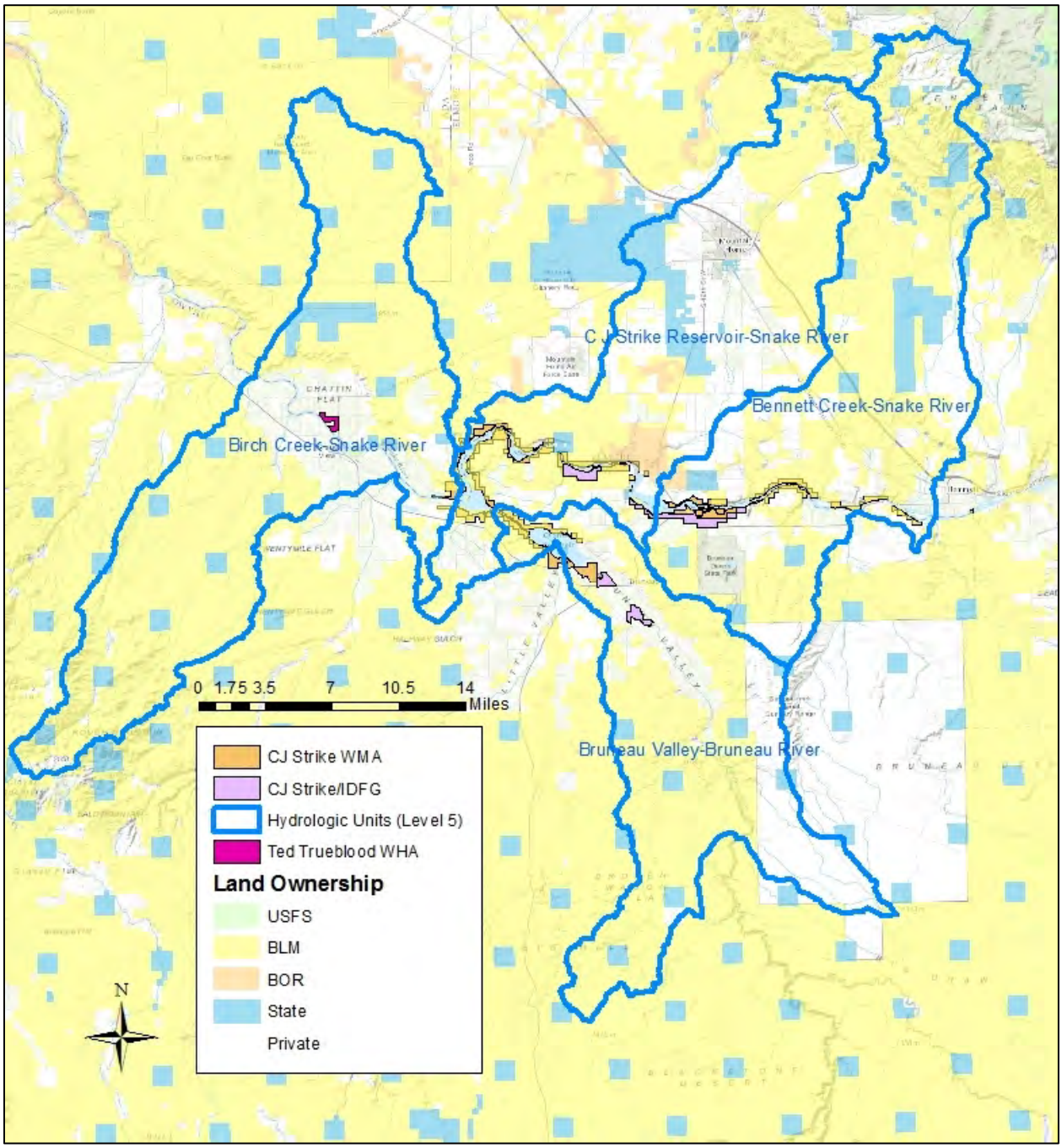

Figure 3. C.J. Strike WMA, Ted Trueblood WHA, and land ownership within selected hydrologic units.

C.J. Strike WMA Management Program Table

The following table outlines the Management Directions, Performance Targets, Strategies, and Outcome Metrics CJSWMA staff will use to manage for the Conservation Targets selected (page 29) to represent each CJSWMA Priority (page 21) at both the CJSWMA and Conservation Target-specific landscape scale. The last section of the table outlines strategies that will be used to increase our knowledge of the Conservation Needs identified in the Conservation Target coverage assessment (Table 2). The Compass Objective column links the Management Directions in this table to the objectives of the Department's strategic plan, *The Compass* (Appendix I).

WMA Priority: Waterfowl Habitat					
Conservation Target: Mallard					
Scope	**Management Direction**	**Performance Target**	**Strategy**	**Metric**	**Compass Objective (Appendix I)**
CJSWMA	Provide high quality production and migration habitat in good to excellent ecological condition, while enhancing wetland productivity and diversity	Restore deep-water habitat in at least one silted-in pond by 2019. Annually, starting in 2014, remove silt from ponds susceptible to excess sedimentation as needed.	Sample deposition layer in Loveridge, Big and Trueblood ponds in 2015. Assess which ponds are at risk of silting in. Evaluate methods for drainage and removal. Manage water flows away from periods of deposition.	Number of ponds restored and/or dredged	A, B, C
			Remove silt to maintain flows necessary for quality habitat and wetland function.		
		By 2019, treat 50% of unproductive and overgrown tall emergent marsh units to approach an approximate 1:1 ratio of open water to tall marsh vegetation (e.g., cattail-hard stem bulrush) for the benefit of waterfowl breed pairing, brood rearing, and other functions; treat the remaining 50% by 2024.	Use water level manipulation, herbicide applications, mechanical treatments, and/or fire to rejuvenate stands of depauperate, unproductive marsh vegetation and maintain an approximate 60:40 mix of open water and marsh vegetation.	Percentage of tall emergent marsh units treated; ratio of open water to tall emergent marsh vegetation in units	
			Replace water control structures on Trueblood Segment.		
		Treat 10 acres of wetland and upland waterfowl nesting habitat annually to improve ecological condition of habitat from poor-fair category to good-excellent category, as measured by floristic quality objectives, including increasing native species richness by 10% and decreasing noxious weed and Russian olive cover by 50%.	Draw-downs will be performed after the peak summer nesting season.	Acres improved	
			Close 1,750 acres of core area to public access from February 1 to July 31.		
			Treat Russian olive and salt cedar in Hot Springs and Loveridge segments.		
			Maintain at least 100 wildlife nesting structures annually.		
			Replant disturbed areas (e.g., ditch banks, spoil piles, road banks) with grass.		
			Use fire, mowing, and other treatments (e.g., planting native plants of high value to wildlife) after nesting to increase diversity, floristic quality, and structure of mesic meadow and upland grassland communities		
			Use chemical, mechanical, and biological methods to control and limit the spread of noxious weeds in wetland and upland nesting areas.		

WMA Priority: Waterfowl Habitat					
Conservation Target: Mallard					
Scope	**Management Direction**	**Performance Target**	**Strategy**	**Metric**	**Compass Objective (Appendix I)**
Waterfowl Landscape	Provide high quality waterfowl production and migration habitat while enhancing wetland productivity and diversity for a broad range of wildlife	Restore and/or enhance 100 acres of wetland and/or riparian habitat over by 2024 for waterfowl breeding, nesting, and brood rearing.	Collaborate with public and private landowners to restore and/or enhance wetland and riparian habitats by implementing improved habitat management techniques (e.g., water fluctuation, protection of nesting cover) and specific treatments (e.g., vegetation manipulation, planting native species).	Acres improved	A, B, C, F, G, I, K
			Work with public and private landowners, EOCWMA, and County Noxious Weed Control departments in Elmore and Owyhee County to limit the spread of noxious weeds.		
			Install 20 wildlife nesting boxes on private property. Work with landowners to service and maintain boxes.		
			Provide technical support on habitat management and vegetation improvement.to public and private landowners in the Southwest Region.		
WMA Priority: Upland Game Bird Habitat					
Conservation Target: Ring-necked Pheasant					
Scope	**Management Direction**	**Performance Target**	**Strategy**	**Metric**	**Compass Objective (Appendix I)**
CJSWMA	Provide high quality production habitat for upland game birds	Improve the ecological condition and structure of 200 acres of upland nesting habitat by 2024	Transition from annual food plots to perennial forb and grass plantings to create large blocks of dense nesting and hiding cover.	Acres improved	A, B, C
			Use chemical, mechanical, and biological methods to control noxious weed populations and limit the spread of noxious weeds in upland areas.		
		Control unauthorized livestock use to improve nesting and brooding cover.	By 2020, repair and/or rebuild boundary fence at Loveridge, Cottonwood Bench, and Crane Falls segments.	Violations detected	
		By 2016, create and maintain two upland bird brood rearing areas at least 1 acre in size.	Install brood strips in suitable locations. Develop additional brood strips depending on success and location availability within food plots.	Brood strips created	
		Create five brush piles for escape cover annually.	Install brush piles for escape cover in suitable locations; maintain adequate spacing between piles.	Piles created	
Upland Game Bird Landscape	Provide high quality production habitat for upland game birds	Improve 100 acres of upland habitat by 2025 including 5 acres at Trueblood, 10 acres at Hot Springs, 14 acres at Loveridge.	Annually interseed 10 acres on public and private ground to desirable shrub/forb/grass mix to improve nesting cover.	Acres improved	A, B, C, F, G, I, K
			Control noxious weeds per State guidelines.		
			Work with public and private landowners to create and improve nesting habitat. Promote Department HIP Program.		

WMA Priority: Special Status Species Habitat					
Conservation Target: Wetland and Riparian Habitat					
Scope	**Management Direction**	**Performance Target**	**Strategy**	**Metric**	**Compass Objective (Appendix I)**
CJSWMA	Provide high quality cover and food sources for migrating waterfowl, waterbirds, shorebirds and SGCN wildlife, while maximizing potential water quality and ecosystem support functions	By 2019, identify SGCN that utilize CJSWMA habitats.	Create GIS layer of SGCN observations on or near CJSWMA.	Projects completed	B, C, D, F, G, H, K
			Identify most frequent/prevalent SGCN on CJSWMA; work with Department Diversity Program to identify habitat needs.		
			Coordinate with the Department Diversity Program to conduct surveys for SGCN.		
		By 2020, assess the potential function and condition of priority wetland management segments at CJSWMA.	Use Wildlife Bureau staff to assess condition and potential function and condition of wetland management units using Wetland Ecosystem Services Protocol for the United States (WESPUS); include marsh successional stage. Coordinate data with IPC data.	Assessment completed	
		By 2020, implement shallow water short-emergent marsh and wet meadow management (e.g., flooding and periodic drawdowns) at the appropriate times and frequency on >20 acres to improve ecological condition for increased utilization by SGCN.	Use chemical, mechanical, and biological methods to control and limit the spread of noxious weeds and increase the diversity and productivity of wet meadows and shallow marshes.	Acres improved	B, C
			Manage water levels to increase duration of saturation and shallow flooding in wet meadows and shallow marshes during spring and maintain groundwater closer to surface for longer duration in early summer to maximize invertebrate production.		
			Using input from Department Diversity Program staff, adapt management of suitable wetland and riparian habitats to specific SGCN needs.		
Wetland and Riparian Landscape	Provide high quality cover and food sources for migrating waterfowl, waterbirds, shorebirds and SGCN wildlife, while maximizing potential water quality and ecosystem support functions	By 2020, restore and/or enhance 20 acres of riparian/wetland habitats on public and private lands for use by SGCN and all wildlife.	Conduct planting projects to establish desirable riparian/wetland vegetation in degraded habitats.	Acres improved	B, C, F, G, H, I, K
			Work with landowners to implement irrigation practices and water management that maintains saturation of fields for longer periods throughout the summer to increase invertebrate production for the benefit of migratory wading and shorebirds.		
			Work with public and private landowners, County Noxious Weed Departments, and the EOCWMA Department to treat noxious weeds.		
			Provide technical support to landowners regarding habitat improvements.	Technical assistance provided	
			Contribute to Watershed Advisory Groups and other working groups as needed to improve water quality and other habitat conditions by implementing best management practices for agricultural and urban land uses.		

WMA Priority: Public hunting, fishing, trapping and other wildlife-based Recreation and Education Opportunities					
Scope	**Management Direction**	**Performance Target**	**Strategy**	**Metric**	**Compass Objective (Appendix I)**
CJSWMA	Provide opportunity for consumptive and non-consumptive wildlife-based recreation and education	Provide at least 60,000 recreational hunting, fishing, and trapping user days annually.	Increase Department law enforcement presence to curtail illegal activities.	User days	E, F, G, H , K, L, M, N
			Support Department-sponsored youth hunts.		
			Evaluate hunter congestion issues. Seek input from Commission and Wildlife Bureau on methods to reduce overcrowding.		
			Maintain dog training area in accord with hunting and wildlife objectives.		
			Stock pheasants as allocated and distribute widely for equitable hunting options.		
		Provide at least 10,500 non-consumptive wildlife-based recreation and education user days annually.	Update and reprint CJSWMA bird list and brochure. Make accessible on Department website, at R3 office, and CJSWMA Headquarters.		
			Facilitate tours and presentations to school groups and other interested parties.		
			Encourage and facilitate volunteer projects and work days.		
			With Diversity program lead, evaluate feasibility of construction of a permanent wildlife viewing structure.		
		Maintain facilities, signage, and roadways to facilitate recreation and education.	Provide accurate and up-to-date maps, brochures, and signs.	Facilities maintained	
			Maintain roadways and trails at CJSWMA.		

Monitoring

The CJSWMA 2006 Management Plan identified three areas for monitoring, yet little data was collected and no evaluation done in respect to the following:

1. Monitor public participation, demand, and satisfaction with fish and wildlife recreation on the WMA.
2. Monitor waterfowl production and assess effectiveness of management strategies.
3. Monitor upland bird production and assess effectiveness of management strategies.

Monitoring and reporting are critical for tracking accomplishment of performance targets identified in the CJSWMA Management Program Table. Monitoring can be separated into three categories: compliance monitoring, biological monitoring, and public use monitoring.

Compliance Monitoring

Compliance monitoring documents the completion of regular management tasks that are essential to WMA operations. These include but are not limited to:

- Maintaining WMA facilities and access sites
- Maintaining infrastructure at ponds and wetlands
- Providing technical assistance to local agency staff and private landowners
- Maintaining public access sites

Compliance monitoring will be reported annually at work plan meetings between regional and headquarters staff.

Biological Monitoring

Wildlife Management Areas across the state have a range of established biological monitoring programs and needs. Additional monitoring needs may have been identified during development of the CJSWMA Management Program Table. Biological monitoring includes wildlife, vegetation, and habitat monitoring. It may also include assessing the effectiveness of management and restoration activities. Monitoring may occur at multiple spatial and temporal scales, depending on objectives.

In 2010, CJSWMA personnel started vegetation photo monitoring to be repeated in three-year cycles in areas with little management change and annually for grazing, fires, and plantings. Vegetation photo monitoring will continue into the future as planned.

Future monitoring needs associated with performance targets and strategies identified in the CJSWMA Management Program Table are summarized in Table 3. The goal is to measure success or effectiveness of strategies that are implemented to reach performance targets. A

detailed monitoring plan including specific techniques will be completed for the WMA by December 31, 2014.

In 2010, the Department initiated a statewide, long-term habitat monitoring program for all WMAs. The goal of the program is to collect quantitative and comparable baseline data to monitor habitat change on all WMAs due to management actions or other causes. The baseline data collected will be specific to each WMA, based on the habitat types present and its unique management issues. Baseline data typically includes:

- Distribution and extent of cover types, including mapping of vegetation cover types
- Vegetation structure, composition, and condition
- Presence or abundance of noxious weeds and other invasive plants
- Riparian and wetland condition and function assessment
- Photo points

To date, this program has collected baseline data on five WMAs with surveys of all 32 WMAs expected to be completed by 2019. Baseline data for CJSWMA were collected in the summer of 2013. Although the results are not yet fully summarized for CJSWMA, the information will be incorporated into future plan reviews and revisions. This long-term program will be repeated starting in 2020. Coordination of vegetation monitoring between Idaho Power Company, BLM and the Department will facilitate a landscape view of the WMA.

Public Use Monitoring

Wildlife Management Areas use public surveys and monitoring tools (e.g., traffic counters) to evaluate public satisfaction and use patterns as well as identify issues of concern. In some areas, hunter check stations monitor hunter success and satisfaction. These survey data help managers determine whether they are meeting the goals for the WMA.

In 2012 (Feb-Dec), the Department initiated statewide WMA public surveys for comments on public use, expectations, and perception of WMA management for use in the current WMA planning (Appendix IV). In the fall of 2012 thru January 2013, CJSWMA personnel and Department Reservists started randomized ‘bus stop’ public use surveys using a questionnaire and observer notes to get actual user data.

Vehicle counts are planned for 2014 at access points in the WMA. Public use surveys will be repeated at CJSWMA in 2014.

Reporting

Each WMA will produce a five-year report on implementation of this WMA plan in 2019, including a summary of accomplishments and progress towards meeting performance targets. During the five-year review, WMA staff will determine whether modifications to the plan are

needed to meet performance targets, to accommodate changing conditions and priorities, or to incorporate advancements in management knowledge and techniques.

Table 3. Biological monitoring for C.J. Strike WMA, 2014-2023.

WMA Priority: Waterfowl Habitat		
Conservation Target: Waterfowl		
Performance Target	**Survey Type**	**Survey Frequency**
Annually maintain all artificial waterfowl nesting sites to increase nest success.	Visual survey of artificial nesting structures after hatching to determine use and nest success	Annually each spring
	Waterfowl brood surveys	Annually each summer
Support waterfowl and/or upland game bird nest success by planting or rehabilitating 20 acres of permanent herbaceous cover annually.	Waterfowl brood surveys	Annually each summer
WMA Priority: Upland Game Bird Habitat		
Conservation Target: Upland Game Birds		
Performance Target	**Survey Type**	**Survey Frequency**
Support waterfowl and/or upland game bird nest success by planting or rehabilitating 20 acres of permanent herbaceous cover annually.	Pheasant brood routes	Annually, in late summer
WMA Priority: Special Status Species Habitat		
Conservation Target: Riparian Habitat		
Performance Target	**Survey Type**	**Survey Frequency**
Inventory, map, assess, and prioritize habitats for protection, restoration, or enhancement by 2015.	Department WMA monitoring program.	Every 10 years
Identify SGCN that utilize CJSWMA	Presence/absence; density	As needed by Department Diversity Staff

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Appendices

I. THE COMPASS – THE DEPARTMENT'S STRATEGIC PLAN

In 2006, the Department completed a strategic plan—*The Compass*—based on public input and legislative mandates. It continues to guide the Department in 2014 and is the primary guiding document for all other Department plans developed since 2006. The following table presents the goals, objectives, and strategies from *The Compass* that are most relevant to WMA management. *Compass* objectives are lettered on the left side for reference in the Management Program Table.

The Compass	
GOAL—Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat	
Desired Outcomes	
• There is no net loss of habitat.	
• The Department is highly regarded as a comprehensive source of objective, scientifically-based information on fish, wildlife, and plants in Idaho.	
A. Objective – Maintain or improve game populations to meet the demand for hunting, fishing, and trapping.	
Strategies	
1.	Set harvest rules and regulations to achieve long-term sustainability of populations and habitat.
2.	Alleviate wildlife damage to agriculture.
3.	Manage predation to achieve a balance between game and predator populations.
4.	Regularly inventory, analyze, and report on game populations and habitats.
5.	Collaborate with tribes, private landowners, and agencies to manage populations and harvest for long-term sustainability.
B. Objective – Ensure the long-term survival of native fish, wildlife, and plants.	
Strategies	
6.	Inventory, monitor, and assess the status of native fish, wildlife, and plants and the habitats upon which they depend.
7.	Identify species with the greatest need for conservation action.
8.	Restore native species where they have declined or disappeared.
9.	Assist public and private landowners in the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of native fish, wildlife, and plants.
10.	Collaborate with interested and affected parties to implement plans to recover threatened and endangered species and conserve native fish, wildlife, and plants
C. Objective – Increase the capacity of habitat to support fish and wildlife.	
Strategies	
11.	Develop measurable and achievable management objectives for fish and wildlife habitat.
12.	Assess and prioritize habitats for protection, restoration, or enhancement.
13.	Acquire interest in property where Department management can provide exceptional benefits to fish and wildlife and associated recreation.
14.	Work in cooperation with other agencies and local governments to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive species.
15.	Develop partnerships with landowners, land management agencies, and others to restore, enhance, and conserve fish and wildlife habitats.

The Compass
GOAL—Fish, Wildlife, and Habitat
D. Objective – Eliminate the impacts of fish and wildlife diseases on fish and wildlife populations, livestock, and humans.
Strategies
16. Monitor fish and wildlife populations for disease.
17. Reduce or eliminate high concentrations of wildlife that pose significant disease risk.
GOAL—Fish and Wildlife Recreation
Desired Outcomes
• Recreational opportunities are abundant and well distributed around the state, while conflicts between recreationists are few and far between.
E. Objective – Maintain a diversity of fishing, hunting, and trapping opportunities.
Strategies
18. Provide opportunities specific to the needs of beginners, youth, people with disabilities, and families.
F. Objective – Sustain fish and wildlife recreation on public lands.
Strategies
19. Protect the public's right to use public waters for hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife viewing.
20. Obtain public access across private lands to public lands.
21. In partnership with land management agencies, provide information on fish and wildlife recreational opportunities and access on public land.
22. Provide fish- and wildlife-based recreation on lands owned or managed by the Department.
G. Objective – Maintain broad public support for fish and wildlife recreation and management.
Strategies
23. Support mentoring programs for new hunters and anglers.
24. Promote hunting, fishing, and trapping as legitimate uses of fish and wildlife and compatible with the conservation of all wildlife.
H. Objective – Increase opportunities for wildlife viewing and appreciation.
Strategies
25. Provide wildlife viewing opportunities on lands managed or owned by the Department.
26. Assess participation, demand, and satisfaction with wildlife-viewing and appreciation opportunities. Adjust management to achieve objectives.
I. Objective – Increase the variety and distribution of access to private land for fish and wildlife recreation.
Strategies
27. Collaborate with landowners and commercial operators to provide public recreation opportunities on private lands.

The Compass
GOAL—Working With Others
Desired Outcomes
• Fish and wildlife management is based on sound science and is responsive to the needs and expectations of Idaho citizens.
J. Objective – Improve citizen involvement in the decision-making process.
Strategies
28. Ensure that interested and affected parties are notified of opportunities to participate in decisions and that all voices are heard.
29. Provide quality and timely response to input from citizens and include rationale for decisions.
K. Objective – Increase public knowledge and understanding of Idaho's fish and wildlife.
Strategies
30. Provide user-friendly regulations and information.
31. Promote the use of Department facilities for fish and wildlife educational opportunities.
GOAL—Management Support
Desired Outcomes
• Facilities, equipment, and information systems are safe, reliable, and cost effective.
L. Objective – Attract and retain a diverse and professional workforce.
Strategies
32. Recruit and train volunteers to assist Department employees.
M. Objective – Provide equipment and facilities for excellent customer service and management effectiveness.
Strategies
33. Maintain and upgrade facilities and equipment.
34. Provide a safe, pleasant, and well-equipped work environment.
N. Objective – Improve funding to meet legal mandates and public expectations.
Strategies
35. Obtain funding through grants and partnerships that support the Department's mission.
36. Seek efficiencies and cost savings in all programs.

II. HISTORY

The first white travelers to visit what is now the C.J. Strike WMA were explorers, fur trappers, or pioneers on their way to Oregon to homestead. During the 1860s, they crossed through the southern part of the WMA on the south alternate of the Oregon Trail. This route left the main Oregon Trail near Glenns Ferry, followed the southern edge of the Snake River, and rejoined the main trail near Parma.

Since 1953, CJSWMA has been developed around the 7,500 acre C.J. Strike reservoir to protect public hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife-compatible recreation access associated with the reservoir. The land base was acquired over time through land purchase, easements, Public Land Withdrawals, and agreements to meet Department goals for wildlife management and to meet FERC license requirements for IPC operation of C.J. Strike Dam.

The CJSWMA is managed from an office facility south of the Bruneau Arm of C.J. Strike at Jacks Creek with IPC managing their deeded property of approximately 3,000 acres under FERC license requirements, and the Department managing 2,980 acres and cooperative management with BLM on another 1,884 acres within CJSWMA.

III. MANAGEMENT REQUIREMENTS AND AUTHORITIES

Federal funds, including those derived from the Land and Water Conservation Fund and USFWS Federal Aid Program, have been used in part to acquire and manage CJSWMA lands. Certain activities are prohibited from funding with Federal Aid funds, and all provisions of Federal Aid funding will be followed.

Other federal and state laws also affect management of the CJSWMA. The Department has responsibility under provisions of the Endangered Species Act to ensure that management actions protect threatened and endangered species, and responsibility under the Clean Water Act to ensure that water quality standards and guidelines are in place on CJSWMA lands and waters. Under the National Historic Preservation Act, the Department must ensure that historic properties are protected on the CJSWMA.

The Idaho Noxious Weed Law under Idaho Code 22-2405 requires all landowners to eradicate noxious weeds on their lands, except in special management zones. The counties are required to enforce the law and the State of Idaho is required to ensure the counties do so.

Consistent with Idaho Codes 38-101 and 38-111, and through a cooperative agreement with the Idaho Department of Lands, the Department is required to pay a fee for fire protection on all forest and some rangeland acreage it owns, and for residences in forest areas. Fees are submitted annually based on the number of qualified acres and residences owned by the Department.

The Department is required by Idaho Code 63-602A to pay a fee-in-lieu of taxes (FILT) for lands that are owned by the Department and meet certain code requirements. These fees are submitted annually to affected counties based on the number of qualifying acres and agricultural tax rates.

The Department entered an agreement in 1953 with Idaho Power Company (IPC) to manage IPC-owned land associated with C.J. Strike. The WMA was developed during the period when IPC constructed six new power plants on the Snake River between 1946 and 1952. The C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project created C.J. Strike Reservoir and was originally licensed on December 1, 1950, for a 50-year period. The C.J. Strike Power Plant, the sixth to be completed, began power production March 29, 1952. The development cost was $21 million.

On May 18, 1967, the Department, BLM, and USFWS entered into a Cooperative Agreement under Title 43, Chapter 11, Public Land Order 4153, that authorized the Department to manage all activities on BLM Type A lands (around Crane Falls Lake) and Type B lands (above and below the Loveridge Bridge area) for the hunting and fishing public. The BLM would continue to manage their Type C lands (near C.J. Strike Dam around the lower portion of the reservoir) for the continuance of public access and harvesting of fish and wildlife. Also on July 13, 1965, the Department and BLM entered into the Cooperative Agreement under Executive Order No. 10355 of May 26, 1952, Public Land Order 3740, a public land withdrawal that authorized the Department to manage 254.9 acres forming the Virgil Borden Lakes Game Management Area, also known as the Borden Lake Segment, below C.J. Strike dam.

On August 4, 2004, FERC issued a new license to IPC to continue the operation of the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project No. 2055 (Appendix X). In the re-licensing, FERC required IPC to file, for FERC approval, a long-term C.J. Strike WMA operations and maintenance agreement with the Department for the management (by the Department) of IPC licensed-owned lands within the WMA. The purpose of the agreement was to ensure proper funding and implementation of measures to achieve WMA management goals and objectives on WMA lands owned by IPC. The license stipulated that in the event an operations and maintenance agreement with the Department could not be reached, IPC was required to submit to FERC a fish and wildlife management plan for their owned and licensed lands within the WMA.

On December 27, 2004, the Department and IPC signed a Letter of Agreement that both parties could not reach a long-term WMA operation and maintenance agreement, and IPC would therefore submit their own fish and wildlife management plan to FERC. The agreement letter stated that IPC will manage its lands within the WMA and any other lands it owns within the boundary of the C.J. Strike Project with hunting and fishing as the top priority.

This significant management shift at C.J. Strike WMA removed IPC lands from Department-directed management. This new direction required IPC to build and maintain the infrastructure necessary to implement on-the-ground management activities at the WMA. A separate management plan approved by FERC guides IPC land management activities within C.J. Strike WMA with oversight by a Management Advisory Committee made up of Department, USFWS, Idaho Parks and Recreation, BLM, and selected neighbor landowners.

IV. PUBLIC INPUT SUMMARY

C.J. Strike WMA User Comments

Throughout 2012 (Feb-Dec), an online survey form was available on the Department website. The survey allowed participants to answer questions and provide feedback on WMA management statewide and the management of specific WMAs. One hundred forty-seven responses were directed to C.J. Strike WMA. Ninety percent visited the WMA less than five times per year with priorities of: 1) hunting, 2) fishing, 3) wildlife viewing, 4) boating, and 5) camping. One-hundred thirty six respondents indicated they are in favor of the current management plan and 11 not in favor of the current plan with seven not likely to be back to the WMA. Nineteen counties and three nonresidents are represented with Ada and Canyon County residents making up 71% of the survey respondents. Twenty-three individuals gave management suggestions of which 91% were about the Department's pheasant stocking program and related activities.

C.J. Strike Surveys 2012

A randomized CJSWMA Public Survey was initiated September 12, 2012 to gather specific use information on the WMA that was not apparent in the Statewide Plan Review. It was modeled on a 'bus stop creel survey' through direct interviews and observation of people using the WMA at 10 "Bus Stop" locations on the WMA. Trained Department volunteer Reservists conducted the surveys on randomized weekend and weekdays through December 21, 2012.

A total of 48 interviews were taken and 279 people were observed along with vehicle counts and pet (dog) counts. Seventy-one percent of people surveyed visited the WMA for six or more times per year with a maximum recorded as 30 visits per year. Ada and Elmore counties represented 70% of the total surveyed and 3% were nonresidents. Considering the time of year, it is not surprising that hunting, scouting, and dog walking represented 50% of the activities followed by in order: being outside, fishing, camping, dog training, wildlife viewing, photography, and ATV riding.

Summary of Issues

Below is a summary of management issues identified during public input surveys. Issues with an asterisk were added from personal contacts and conversations with visitors and Department personnel. Issues identified in the public surveys are listed below and categorized into three areas of management: Habitat, Wildlife, and Public Use.

Habitat

1. Expand lands of the WMA for public access to meet the demand for hunting, fishing and trapping.
2. Internal structure – fences, access, signs, road maintenance.*
3. Grazing/Farming methods of vegetation control on C.J. Strike WMA.*

4. Working with partners – NGO and government.*
5. Noxious weed control methods.
6. Trees and shrubs at camp sites are being cut up for firewood and camper room.
7. Desire to help with habitat improvement projects.

Wildlife

1. Stocking of pen-reared pheasants.
2. Too much area closed for nesting in the spring.
3. Manage larger segment for waterfowl.
4. Improve chukar hunting.
5. Where are the feral pigs?
6. Can wild turkeys be planted on the WMA?
7. Plant more fish at Crane Falls. (This is beyond the scope of this plan, but was forwarded to the Southwest Region Fisheries Manager.)

Public Use

1. Have toilets available for the hunting season where pheasants are planted.
2. Public information about the WMA. Can I hunt at CJSWMA?*
3. Hunter overcrowding is a problem for pheasant hunting and some waterfowl hunting areas.
4. We need a dog training area on the WMA.
5. There is too much trash at fishing and hunting parking areas.
6. There is a need for more law enforcement during the pheasant hunting season for tag violations and to deal with inexperienced hunters that are a danger to the rest of the hunters.

C.J. Strike Final Draft Public Review

Final draft WMA plans were made available to the public on the IDFG website for review and comment during May-June, 2014. Their availability was advertised on the Department website, by mailings, and news releases to inform Idaho's citizens of this opportunity to provide additional comment before the plans are submitted to the IDFG Director for approval and adoption.

The majority of the comments received on-line indicated the public strongly agreed or agreed with the CJSWMA management plan priorities and the plan as written. One commenter was neutral on the plan as written and agreed with the priorities and another was neutral on both the priorities and the plan. Specific comments received about the plan were: grazing management as to timing and location, no nesting closures needed, increase enforcement, public education about the WMA use, unused fence wire hazards, and banning lead shot on the WMA.

Additional written and spoken comment was received that gave general input to all WMA plans and specific to CJSWMA plan. In summary the comments were:

- WMA plans should: prioritize management of noxious weeds and OHV use, road densities and road locations; expand non-consumptive wildlife opportunities for the public; and utilize best management practices for activities beyond IDFG control.
- Additional emphasis should be placed on management for: threatened and endangered species; environmental education; WMA expansion to protected critical habitat; activities on adjacent public and private lands that impact or influence WMA's; motorized travel on adjacent lands; livestock grazing standards to protect habitat quality; prohibit the use of sheep and goats for grazing or as pack animals on WMA's with bighorn sheep; pack stock use; lead free ammunition and tackle use; and preventing trapping conflicts with other user groups.

Verbal comments specific to the CJSWMA plan were that vegetation monitoring could be coordinated and shared between the Department and Idaho Power Company; Wildlife habitat within CJSWMA is owned and managed by different entities, but the management of the wildlife rests completely with the State of Idaho - Department of Fish and Game and all properties within the WMA are managed for WMA purposes.

V. 2006 – 2013 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The CJSWMA plan was revised and approved in 2006 to meet management goals and objectives needed at that time. This is a partial listing of accomplishments of goals from the 2006 plan.

Goal: Meet the demand for fish and wildlife recreation by providing public use of the WMA for at least 20,000 hunter days and 40,000 angler days.

Objective: Maintain a diversity of hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities.

Accomplishments:

- Up to 3,600 pen-reared pheasants have been released annually throughout the hunting season and will continue as funding is available.
- Replaced the large duck pond pump; the small pump is now operated annually by Idaho Power (IPC), while the Department operates the large pump.
- IPC has modified the Borden Lake system to deliver the decreed water right to the lake. The Department still maintains easements, decreed water, and the federal land withdrawal forming the Borden Lake project.
- Wildlife food plots have been annually maintained on three areas of CJSWMA through farming agreements and WMA personnel.
- Existing access roads, ramps, and parking areas were maintained; vehicle access was regulated on interior roads; signs and boundary markers were posted.

Objective: Sustain fish and wildlife recreation.

Accomplishments:

- All of the access sites on the WMA have been maintained with most receiving major improvements to recreational access with new docks, boat ramps, restrooms, and camping areas.
- Public access to the WMA has been protected through agreements, identifying land management ownership, and cooperation with IPC, BLM, and private landowners.

Objective: Support other compatible recreation.

Accomplishments:

- A viewing platform is maintained at Trueblood WHA and signs have been placed for the public to locate better viewing and birding sites. Education and recreational groups are assisted each year by WMA personnel with viewing and information about the WMA.
- A 150-acre location at Loveridge Bridge on the Snake River has been delineated for all bird-dog field trials and bird-dog training with the use of artificially propagated game birds between August 1 and September 30. Use will be under Department permit as

authorized by the Director under the rules set forth in IDAPA 13.01.15, "Rules Governing the Use of Dogs," Section 300. (5-3-03) Permits can be obtained at the Southwest Regional office in Nampa.

Goal: Increase wildlife production and capacity of habitat to support wildlife.

Objective: Increase waterfowl production to annual levels of 400 geese and 600 ducks (mallards, teal, gadwall, and wood ducks).

Accomplishments:

- Over the past six years, Department Reservists have organized volunteers, materials, and equipment in cooperation with CJSWMA to maintain duck and goose nesting boxes from Glenns Ferry to Swan Falls Dam, including all of CJSWMA and Trueblood WHA.
- All winter grazing agreements have ended to provide residual nesting cover in the spring.
- Water delivery systems have been repaired at Borden Lake Segment, Trueblood WHA, Hot Springs Segment, Bruneau Segment, and the Loveridge Segment to maintain existing wetlands.
- C.J. Strike WMA personnel participate in the Eastern Owyhee Coordinated Weed Management Area, maintain applicator license, annual training, and actively implement control of state-listed noxious weeds on the WMA that pose a threat to existing plant and animal communities.

Objective: Increase capacity of habitat to support a diversity of game and nongame wildlife.

Accomplishments:

- Grass/forb mixes and several thousand Woods' rose, juniper, silver sage, and big sage have been planted on CJSWMA and supplied to neighbors for appropriate habitat restoration after fires, on field ends, and disturbed sites to increase the capacity of habitat around CJSWMA.
- Boundary fences have been maintained as needed to exclude trespass livestock.

Goal: Provide professional administration of all WMA activities.

Objective: Administer the management of all lands within the WMA that are Department-owned or managed by agreement with BLM and Idaho Department of Lands.

Accomplishments:

- The transition from only Department management of the WMA to IPC lands managed by IPC and the Department managing the remainder has been accomplished. The old headquarters on IPC land has been cleared of all but the shop for storage, including the granary, house, garage, and stored materials. A new office and shop has been established with IPC closer to Hwy 78.

- Annual administration includes hiring and managing a temporary employee, attending water-user meetings, maintaining required certifications and licenses, preparing work plans and reports, administering contracts for WMA projects, and enforcing regulations.

Objective: Coordinate Department management activities with other landowners or land management agencies within and adjacent to the WMA.

Accomplishments:

- The Bruneau District Habitat Biologist monitored, reviewed, and cooperated with IPC developments on IPC land and represented the Department on the Management Advisory Committee for management of IPC land within CJSWMA.
- The Bruneau District Habitat Biologist represented the Department with coordinating groups on weed control, invasive animals and plants, and land use relevant to WMA management.

Objective: Improve citizen involvement in WMA management.

Accomplishments:

- Public involvement in management activities and education on the WMA are critical to maintain habitat quality and public understanding. Key citizen involvement primarily comes from the Regional volunteer program in the form of trained and dedicated volunteer reservists that do most of the work on Trueblood WHA, annual nesting structure maintenance, wildlife and public surveys, construction projects, and education for public fishing and check stations.

Objective: Maintain equipment and facilities for excellent customer service and management effectiveness.

Accomplishments:

- In the past five years two unused houses, a two-car garage, granary, tons of scrap tires, wood, metal, and unused, damaged equipment were removed from the WMA as per Idaho State Policy to clean up the property and remove ‘attractive nuisance’ and costly upkeep.
- The Hot Springs Segment irrigation system has been upgraded as funds were available for needed ditch crossings and repair of erosion problems. This is a continuing project to reduce the time and cost used to get the area irrigated and ready for the public.
- The pump for the Bruneau Duck Ponds in the Loveridge Segment has been replaced and put on a maintenance schedule.
- C.J. Strike WMA equipment has been repaired and maintained as needed.

VI. VEGETATION

Plant Species List

Common Name	***Scientific Name***
Yarrow	*Achillea millefolium*
Wyoming big sagebrush	*Artemisia tridentata wyomingensis*
Swamp milkweed	*Asclepias incarnata*
Showy milkweed	*Asclepias speciosa*
Spear saltbush	*Atriplex patula*
Green molly	*Bassia americana*
Fivehorn smotherweed	*Bassia hyssopifolia*
Kochia	*Bassia scoparia*
Tall beggar-ticks	*Bidens vulgata*
Cheatgrass	*Bromus tectorum*
Whitetop	*Cardaria draba*
Wooly sedge	*Carex pellita*
Clustered field sedge	*Carex praegracilis*
Canada thistle	*Cirsium arvense*
Bull thistle	*Cirsium vulgare*
Canadian horseweed	*Conyza canadensis*
Western tansymustard	*Descurainia pinnata*
Herb sophia	*Descurainia sophia*
Teasel	*Dipsacus fullonum*
Saltgrass	*Distichlis spicata*
Russian Olive	*Elaeagnus angustifolia*
Common spikerush	*Eleocharis palustris*
Bottlebrush squirreltail	*Elymus elymoides*
Quackgrass	*Elymus repens*
Willowherb	*Epilobium ciliatum*
Field horsetail	*Equisetum arvense*
Annual wheatgrass	*Eremopyrum triticeum*
Gray rabbitbrush	*Ericameria nauseosa*
Western goldenrod	*Euthamia occidentalis*
American licorice	*Glycyrrhiza lepidota*
Foxtail pricklegrass	*Heleochloa alopecuroides*
Common sunflower	*Helianthus annuus*
Foxtail barley	*Hordeum jubatum*
Povertyweed	*Iva axillaris*
Baltic rush	*Juncus balticus*
Prickly lettuce	*Lactuca serriola*
Perennial pepperweed	*Lepidium latifolium*
Clasping pepperweed	*Lepidium perfoliatum*
Great Basin wildrye	*Leymus cinereus*

Common Name	***Scientific Name***
Beardless wildrye	*Leymus triticoides*
Purple loosestrife	*Lythrum salicaria*
Alfalfa	*Medicago sativa*
Yellow sweetclover	*Melilotus officinalis*
Indian ricegrass	*Oryzopsis hymenoides*
Western wheatgrass	*Pascopyrum smithii*
Reed canarygrass	*Phalaris arundinacea*
Sandberg bluegrass	*Poa secunda*
Prostrate knotweed	*Polygonum aviculare*
Ladysthumb	*Polygonum persicaria*
Annual rabbitsfoot grass	*Polypogon monspeliensis*
Woods rose	*Rosa woodsii*
Curly dock	*Rumex crispus*
Coyote willow	*Salix exigua*
Russian thistle	*Salsola kali*
Greasewood	*Sarcobatus vermiculatus*
Hardstem bulrush	*Schoenoplectus acutus*
Common threesquare	*Schoenoplectus pungens*
Tumble-mustard	*Sisymbrium altissimum*
Climbing nightshade	*Solanum dulcamara*
Alkali sacaton	*Sporobolus airoides*
Sand dropseed	*Sporobolus cryptandrus*
Pursh seepweed	*Suaeda calceoliformis*
Tamarix	*Tamarix ramosissima*
Tall wheatgrass	*Thinopyrum ponticum*
Yellow salsify	*Tragopogon dubius*
Broadleaf cattail	*Typha latifolia*
Stinging nettle	*Urtica dioica*
Common cocklebur	*Xanthium strumarium*

Habitat Class[1]

Classification	Acres
Annual grasslands	1,092
Low sagebrush	2,850
Salt desert shrub	683
Escarpment-shrub	2,162
Cottonwood	118
Willow	290
Marsh & swamp	254
Reservoir	2,696
Island	450
Irrigated agriculture lands	60
Streams	9

Soils (U.S. Soil Conservation Service capability class)

Class	Description	Acres
III	severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require special conservation practices, or both	236
IV	very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or require very careful management, or both	4,425
V	little or no hazard of erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that limit their use mainly to pasture, range, forestland, or wildlife food and cover	1,412
VI	severe limitations that make them generally unsuited to cultivation and that limit their use mainly to pasture, range, forestland, or wildlife food and cover	2,696
VII	very severe limitations that make them unsuited to cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife	1,895
Total		10,664

Rare and Threatened Plant Species of C.J. Strike WMA
Justin R. Fulkerson
Idaho Department of Fish and Game/Idaho Natural Heritage Program
2013

There are currently 38 rare plant species occurring within a 25-mile buffer of CJSWMA. Of these 38 species, seven occur within the WMA (Table 1). There are historical reports (1940 and 1964) of slickspot peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*) on the border of the WMA, but the occurrence could not be found in a 1993 study. Due to the loss of habitat, the area was

1 Habitat classification - Idaho Fish and Game, 1973, Judd and Brown

determined to be unsuitable habitat in 1993, but potential habitat may remain within the WMA boundary. This species is the only federally-listed Threatened or Endangered species known to occur within the WMA, and its status is currently Proposed for Threatened or Endangered listing. Giant helleborine (*Epipactis gigantea*) has been reported historically on the border of the WMA. There are two occurrences of American wood sage (*Teucrium canadense* var. *occidentale*) and Snake River milkvetch (*Astragalus purshii* var. *ophiogenes*). Noxious weeds were reported near the American wood sage Element Occurrence (EO) 09 in 2000 and care should be taken to protect the American wood sage from herbicide spray. A popular fishing access point is located near Snake River milkvetch EO 40. The white-margined wax plant (*Glyptopleura marginata*) and desert pincushion (*Chaenactis stevioides*) occurrences within the WMA list OHV activity as a threat. These occurrences, as well as the American wood sage EO 10, occur within 0.10 mi of each other. The Shockley's buckwheat (*Eriogonum shockleyi*) occurrence lies on the border of the WMA at the edge of a road. However, records indicate that the observation was not complete and there is more suitable habitat in the area that can hold Shockley's Buckwheat, possibly within the WMA.

It should be noted that while rare plant data from the Idaho Natural Heritage Program (IDNHP) may not currently indicate other rare or threatened plant species within the WMA boundary, it is not equivalent to non-presence. Generally, Idaho Fish and Game WMAs have not been extensively surveyed for all potential rare plants. Also due to funding and priority of other plant species, many of the botanical surveys by IDNHP or federal agencies are over 15 years old. There is a possibility that neighboring rare species within the 25-mi buffer of the CJSWMA or other species may be present. For example, viable populations of Snake River milkvetch, slickspot peppergrass, Shockley's buckwheat (*Eriogonum shockleyi* var. *shockleyi*), and spreading gilia (*Ipomopsis polycladon*) occur within 17 yards to one mile of the WMA.

Plants in bold occur within the WMA boundary.

Common Name	**Scientific Name**
Mourning Milkvetch	*Astragalus atratus var. inseptus*
Mulford's Milkvetch	*Astragalus mulfordiae*
Newberry's Milkvetch	*Astragalus newberryi var. castoreus*
Pursh's Milkvetch	*Astragalus purshii*
Snake River Milkvetch	***Astragalus purshii var. ophiogenes***
Mud Flat Milkvetch	*Astragalus yoder-williamsii*
King's Desertgrass	*Blepharidachne kingii*
Compact Earth Lichen	*Catapyrenium congestum*
Desert Pincushion	***Chaenactis stevioides***
Alkali Cleomella	*Cleomella plocasperma*
Greeley's Wavewing	*Cymopterus acaulis var. greeleyorum*
Shining Flatsedge	*Cyperus bipartitus*
Bach's calicoflower	*Downingia bacigalupii*
White Eatonella	*Eatonella nivea*
Giant Helleborine	***Epipactis gigantea***
Calcareous Buckwheat	*Eriogonum ochrocephalum var. calcareum*
Palmer's Buckwheat	*Eriogonum palmerianum*
Shockley's Buckwheat	***Eriogonum shockleyi***
Packard's Buckwheat	*Eriogonum shockleyi var. packardiae*
Shockley's Buckwheat	*Eriogonum shockleyi var. shockleyi*
White-margined Wax Plant	***Glyptopleura marginata***
Spreading Gilia	*Ipomopsis polycladon*
Davis' Peppergrass	*Lepidium davisii*
Slickspot Peppergrass	***Lepidium papilliferum***
Bruneau River Prickly Phlox	*Leptodactylon glabrum*
Packard's Desert-parsley	*Lomatium packardiae*
Rigid Threadplant	*Nemacladus rigidus*
Simpson's Hedgehog Cactus	*Pediocactus simpsonii*
Janish's Penstemon	*Penstemon janishiae*
Spine-noded Milkvetch	*Peteria thompsoniae*
Desert Prenanthella	*Prenanthella exigua*
Annual Psathyrotes	*Psathyrotes annua*
Bugleg Goldenweed	*Pyrrocoma insecticruris*
King's Snapdragon	*Sairocarpus kingii*
Cinquefoil Tansy	*Sphaeromeria potentilloides*
Malheur Prince's Plume	*Stanleya confertiflora*
American Wood Sage	***Teucrium canadense var. occidentale***
Woven-spore Lichen	*Texosporium sancti-jacobi*

VII. WILDLIFE AND FISH SPECIES LIST

(*Selected Common Species; additional information available at www.idfg.idaho.gov*)

Species	Scientific Name	Seasonal Population Level[a]			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Mammals					
White-tailed antelope squirrel	*Ammospermophilus leucurus*	H	H	H	H
Coyote	*Canis latrans*	H	H	H	H
North American beaver	*Castor canadensis*	L	L	L	L
Porcupine	*Erethizon dorsatum*	M	M	M	M
Feral cat	*Felis domesticus*	M	M	M	M
Black-tailed jackrabbit	*Lepus californicus*	M	M	M	M
River otter	*Lontra canadensis*	L	L	L	L
Yellow-bellied marmot	*Marmota flaviventris*	L	L	L	L
Kangaroo rat	*Microtus pennsylvanicus*	H	H	H	H
Long-tailed weasel	*Mustela frenata*	L	L	L	L
Mink	*Mustela vison*	M	M	M	M
Bushy-tailed wood rat	*Neotoma cinerea*	M	M	M	M
Mule deer	*Odocoileus hemionus*	L	L	L	L
White-tailed deer	*Odocoileus virginianus*	L	L	L	L
Muskrat	*Ondatra zibethicus*	H	H	H	H
Raccoon	*Procyon lotor*	H	H	H	H
Piute ground squirrel	*Spermophilus mollis*	H	H	H	H
Pygmy rabbit	*Sylvilagus idahoensis*	L	L	L	L
Nuttall's cottontail	*Sylvilagus nuttallii*	L	M	M	M
American Badger	*Taxidea taxus*	M	M	M	M
Townsend's pocket gopher	*Thomomys townsendii*	H	H	H	H
Birds					
Cooper's hawk	*Accipiter cooperii*	L	M	H	M
Sharp-shinned hawk	*Accipiter striatus*	N	L	L	L
Spotted sandpiper	*Actitis macularius*	N	L	L	N
Western grebe	*Aechmophorus occidentalis*	M	M	H	M
Red-winged blackbird	*Agelaius phoeniceus*	M	M	H	M
Wood duck	*Aix sponsa*	M	M	M	H
Chukar	*Alectoris chukar*	L	L	M	M
Grasshopper sparrow	*Ammodramus savannarum*	N	M	M	M
Northern pintail	*Anas acuta*	H	H	L	H
American widgeon	*Anas americana*	M	N	N	L
Green-winged teal	*Anas carolinensis*	M	L	N	H
Mallard	*Anas platyrhynchos*	H	M	L	M
Gadwall	*Anas strepera*	M	M	L	M
Golden eagle	*Aquila chrysaetos*	H	H	H	H
Great blue heron	*Ardea herodias*	M	M	M	M
Short-eared owl	*Asio flammeus*	L	L	L	L
Long-eared owl	*Asio otus*	L	L	L	L
Burrowing owl	*Athene cunicularia*	L	L	L	L

Species	Scientific Name	Seasonal Population Level[a]			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Birds (cont.)					
Greater scaup	*Aythya marila*	M	L	N	N
American bittern	*Botaurus lentiginosus*	L	L	L	L
Great horned owl	*Bubo virginianus*	M	M	M	M
Bufflehead	*Bucephala albeola*	H	L	N	L
Common goldeneye	*Bucephala clangula*	H	L	N	L
Red-tailed hawk	*Buteo jamaicensis*	M	H	H	M
Rough-legged hawk	*Buteo lagopus*	L	N	N	N
Ferruginous hawk	*Buteo regalis*	L	N	N	N
Swainson's hawk	*Buteo swainsoni*	N	N	N	L
California quail	*Callipepla californica*	M	M	H	H
Willet	*Tringa semipalmata*	N	N	L	N
Turkey vulture	*Cathartes aura*	N	L	M	N
Brown creeper	*Certhia americana*	L	L	L	L
Killdeer	*Charadrius vociferus*	L	H	H	M
Snow goose	*Chen caerulescens*	L	N	N	N
Black tern	*Chlidonias niger*	N	N	L	N
Lark sparrow	*Chondestes grammacus*	N	M	M	M
Common night hawk	*Chordeiles minor*	L	M	H	M
Northern harrier	*Circus cyaneus*	H	H	H	H
Canyon wren	*Cistothorus palustris*	N	M	H	M
Northern flicker	*Colaptes auratus*	H	H	H	H
Rock dove	*Columba livia*	M	M	M	M
Western wood peewee	*Contopus sordidulus*	N	M	M	L
American crow	*Corvus brachyrhynchos*	H	H	H	H
Common raven	*Corvus corax*	M	M	M	M
Pinyon jay	*Cyanocitta cristata*	L	N	N	N
Tundra swan	*Cygnus columbianus*	M	L	N	L
Snowy egret	*Egretta thula*	M	M	M	M
Willow flycatcher	*Empidonax traillii*	N	L	M	L
Horned lark	*Eremophila alpestris*	N	N	M	N
Brewer's blackbird	*Euphagus cyanocephalus*	H	H	H	H
Prairie falcon	*Falco mexicanus*	H	H	H	H
American kestrel	*Falco sparverius*	H	H	H	H
American coot	*Fulica americana*	M	M	H	M
Common snipe	*Gallinago gallinago*	N	N	L	N
Common loon	*Gavia immer*	L	L	L	L
Sandhill crane	*Grus canadensis*	N	L	N	N
House finch	*Haemorhous mexicanus*	L	L	L	L
Bald eagle	*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*	M	N	N	N
Evening grosbeak	*Hesperiphona vespertina*	N	N	L	N
Black-necked stilt	*Himantopus mexicanus*	N	N	L	N
Barn swallow	*Hirundo rustica*	L	L	N	L
Bullock's oriole	*Icterus bullockii*	N	N	L	N
Dark-eyed Junco	*Junco hyemalis*	H	M	N	M

Species	Scientific Name	Seasonal Population Level[a]			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Birds (cont.)					
Loggerhead shrike	*Lanius ludovicianus*	N	N	L	N
California gull	*Larus californicus*	L	M	M	L
Ring-billed gull	*Larus delawarensis*	L	M	M	L
Gray-crowned rosy finch	*Leucosticte tephrocotis*	H	H	L	H
Belted kingfisher	*Megaceryle alcyon*	M	M	M	M
Western screech owl	*Megascops kennicottii*	M	M	M	M
Song sparrow	*Melospiza melodia*	H	H	H	H
Common merganser	*Mergus merganser*	M	L	N	L
Brown-headed cowbird	*Molothrus ater*	N	N	L	N
Long-billed curlew	*Numenius americanus*	N	L	L	N
Black-crowned night heron	*Nycticorax nycticorax*	N	L	L	N
Sage thrasher	*Oreoscoptes montanus*	N	M	H	M
Ruddy duck	*Oxyura jamaicensis*	M	L	N	L
Osprey	*Pandion haliaetus*	L	L	N	N
House sparrow	*Passer domesticus*	H	H	H	H
Savannah sparrow	*Passerculus sandwichensis*	H	H	H	H
Fox sparrow	*Passerella iliaca*	N	N	M	N
Lazuli bunting	*Passerina amoena*	N	N	L	N
American white pelican	*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*	N	L	M	L
Gray partridge	*Perdix perdix*	L	L	M	M
Cliff swallow	*Petrochelidon pyrrhonota*	N	N	M	M
Double-crested cormorant	*Phalacrocorax auritus*	L	L	L	L
Common poor-will	*Phalaenoptilus nuttallii*	N	N	M	N
Wilson's phalarope	*Phalaropus tricolor*	N	N	L	N
Ring-necked pheasant	*Phasianus colchicus*	M	M	H	H
Black-headed grosbeak	*Pheucticus melanocephalus*	N	N	L	N
Black-billed magpie	*Pica hudsonia*	H	H	H	H
Downy woodpecker	*Picoides pubescens*	M	M	L	M
Hairy woodpecker	*Picoides villosus*	L	L	L	L
Western tanager	*Piranga ludoviciana*	N	N	L	N
White-faced ibis	*Plegadis chihi*	N	N	L	N
Eared grebe	*Podiceps nigricollis*	L	L	M	L
Black-capped chickadee	*Poecile atricapillus*	L	L	N	L
Vesper sparrow	*Pooecetes gramineus*	N	M	M	M
Sora	*Porzana carolina*	N	L	M	L
Virginia rail	*Rallus limicola*	N	L	M	L
American avocet	*Recurvirostra americana*	N	L	M	L
Bank swallow	*Riparia riparia*	N	M	M	M
Say's phoebe	*Sayornis saya*	N	N	L	N
Rufous hummingbird	*Selasphorus rufus*	N	N	M	N
Yellow-rumped warbler	*Setophaga coronate*	N	L	L	N
Yellow warbler	*Setophaga petechia*	N	N	L	N
Western bluebird	*Sialia mexicana*	N	L	L	L
White-breasted nuthatch	*Sitta carolinensis*	L	L	L	L

Species	Scientific Name	Seasonal Population Level[a]			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Birds (cont.)					
American goldfinch	*Spinus tristis*	L	L	L	L
American tree sparrow	*Spizella arborea*	M	N	N	N
Brewer's sparrow	*Spizella breweri*	M	M	M	M
Chipping sparrow	*Spizella passerina*	N	M	M	N
Forster's tern	*Sterna forsteri*	L	M	M	L
Western meadowlark	*Sturnella neglecta*	H	H	H	H
European starling	*Sturnus vulgaris*	H	H	H	H
Greater yellowlegs	*Tringa melanoleuca*	N	N	L	N
House wren	*Troglodytes aedon*	N	N	M	N
American robin	*Turdus migratorius*	L	M	M	M
Eastern kingbird	*Tyrannus tyrannus*	L	L	L	L
Western kingbird	*Tyrannus verticalis*	N	L	M	L
Barn owl	*Tyto alba*	M	M	M	M
Wilson's warbler	*Wilsonia pusilla*	N	N	L	N
Yellow-headed blackbird	*Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus*	N	N	M	N
Mourning dove	*Zenaida macroura*	L	L	M	L
White-crowned sparrow	*Zonotrichia leucophrys*	H	H	H	H
Reptiles and Amphibians					
Western toad	*Anaxyrus boreas*	L	L	H	M
Racer	*Coluber constrictor*	L	H	H	M
Western rattlesnake	*Crotalus viridis*	L	L	M	L
Short-horned lizard	*Phrynosoma douglasii*	L	L	L	L
Desert horned lizard	*Phrynosoma platyrhinos*	H	H	H	H
Gopher snake	*Pituophis catenifer*	L	H	H	H
Pacific tree frog	*Pseudacris regilla*	M	M	M	M
Bullfrog	*Rana catesbeiana*	M	M	M	M
Northern leopard frog	*Rana pipiens*	M	M	M	M
Common garter snake	*Thamnophis sirtalis*	L	H	H	H
Fish					
White sturgeon	*Acipenser transmontanus*	L	L	L	L
Chiselmouth	*Acrocheilus alutaceus*	L	L	L	L
Brown bullhead	*Ameiurus nebulosus*	L	L	L	L
Bridgelip sucker	*Catostomus columbianus*	M	M	M	M
Largescale sucker	*Catostomus macrocheilus*	H	H	H	H
Warmouth	*Chaenobryttus gulosus*	L	L	L	L
Carp	*Cyprinus carpio*	H	H	H	H
Channel catfish	*Ictalurus punctatus*	H	H	H	H
Pumpkinseed	*Lepomis gibbosus*	L	L	L	L
Bluegill	*Lepomis macrochirus*	H	H	H	H
Smallmouth bass	*Micropterus dolomieu*	H	H	H	H
Largemouth bass	*Micropterus salmoides*	M	M	M	M
Peamouth	*Mylocheilus caurinus*	L	L	L	L
Rainbow trout	*Oncorhynchus mykiss*	M	M	M	M
Yellow perch	*Perca flavescens*	H	H	H	H

Species	Scientific Name	Seasonal Population Level[a]			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Fish (cont.)					
White crappie	*Pomoxis annularis*	M	M	M	M
Black crappie	*Pomoxis nigromaculatus*	H	H	H	H
Mountain whitefish	*Prosopium williamsoni*	L	L	L	L
Northern pikeminnow	*Ptychocheilus oregonensis*	H	H	H	H

[a] Seasonal population levels are based on estimates of relative abundance. L = low, M = medium, H = high, and N = not present.

VIII. OTHER PROGRAMS

C.J. Strike WMA is open to public use listed in the pamphlet Idaho Department of Fish and Game Lands and Access Areas Public Use Rules (IDAPA 13.01.03) including the following restrictions:

- Vehicles must remain on established, open roads.
- Camping is allowed with improved sites at Cottonwood, Jacks Creek, Crane Falls, C.J. Strike dam, BLM Cove Recreation Site, and Black Sands Resort (private).
- Visitors may not harass wildlife during non-hunting seasons including areas signed as nesting areas and closed to all access from February 1 through July 31.
- Dog training and trials are to be done in the designated Dog Training Areas by Loveridge Bridge on the Snake River as shown in Appendix Figure VIII-1.

Grazing Program

Grazing has been a part of the management of CJSWMA for vegetation management, control of noxious weeds, and providing trails for hunting access. Currently, only the Bruneau Segment is grazed in early summer within Department guidelines designating March 1 as the earliest date for grazing on WMAs. Grazing continues to be considered as an option for managing vegetation.

Winter grazing would be contrary to WMA management goals if residual cover is removed prior to nest initiation for waterfowl and pheasants. With spring/early summer grazing, grasses have time to re-grow and provide needed nesting cover and for fall hunting. Waterfowl and upland bird production and hunting are a top priority for CJSWMA.

Farming Program

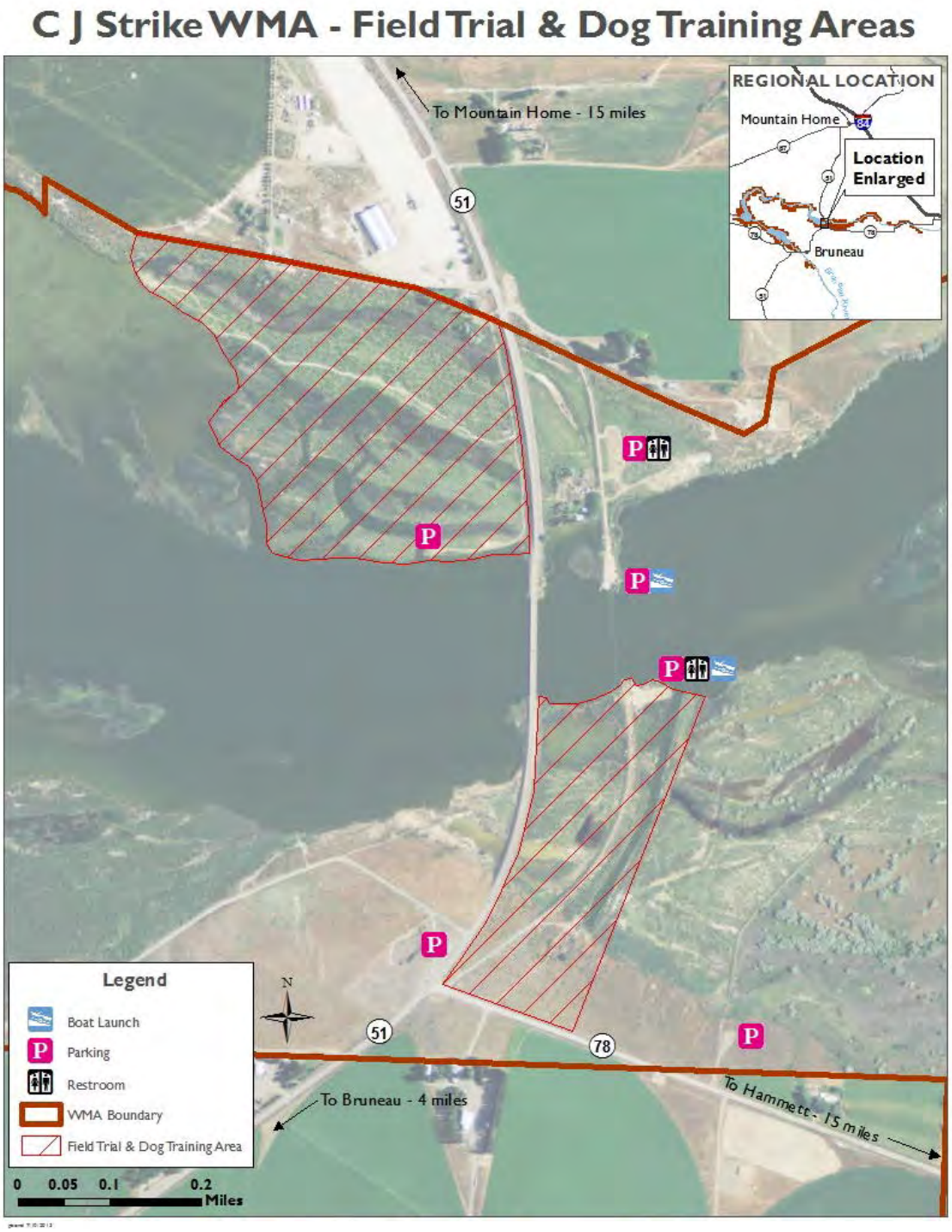
Farming operations on CJSWMA are intended to provide annual wildlife food and cover plots in addition to a traditional hunting experience for upland game. Twenty five to 45 acres are farmed each year for food plots at the Trueblood, Loveridge, and Hot Springs Segments. Crops are chosen for wildlife values, seed availability, adaptions to alkaline soils, water needs, and rotated for soil fertility and stability.

Cooperative farming and grazing agreements are developed in compliance with Department and State policy. There is currently one farming agreement at Loveridge Segment allowing the cooperator to remove a portion for their use in exchange for leaving a portion of the crop standing and caring for the total farmed area. C.J. Strike WMA personnel manage farming on Trueblood and Hot Springs Segments with WMA equipment.

Dog Training

There is one designated dog training area on CJSWMA at Loveridge Bridge on the Snake River (Appendix Figure VIII-1) for dog trials and training. Dog training is permitted outside the

nesting and brood-rearing period, February 1 to July 1, and not in conflict with designated hunting seasons.



Appendix Figure VIII-1. Designated dog training area at C.J. Strike WMA.

IX. LAND ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS

C.J. Strike WMA includes 11,008 acres of land surrounding the 7,500 surface acres of C.J. Strike Reservoir and extending up the Bruneau River flood plain. C.J. Strike Dam, at Snake River mile 494, impounds a reservoir extending 26 miles up the Snake River and 12 miles up the Bruneau River. The WMA is located 16 miles south of Mountain Home, Idaho, via State Highway 51, and between Grandview and Bruneau along State Highway 78.

The following lists WMA lands that are owned or managed by the Department. The WMA also includes lands owned and managed by IPC which are not listed.

Land Acquisitions, Easements, and Agreements						
Funds	**Conveyance**	**Instrument Number**	**Date Acquired**	**Acquired From**	**Cost**	**Acres**
PR	Easement	88428	1/19/1954	IDL	$20	2
Exchange	Easement	88344	1/30/1954	Oris Hopson	$0	2.87
PR	Warranty Deed	88873	2/23/1954	E. L. Stevens	$2,500	113.33
None	Easement		3/10/1954	E. L. & Byron Stevens	$0	0.1
None	Easement	93963	3/29/1956	A. C. & Effie Mackley	$0	0.1
None	Easement	99759	5/9/1956	Milford Vaught	$0	0
None	Agreement	I-06678	9/10/1958	BLM	$0	291.6
Gift	Quit Claim Deed	101150	6/7/1959	R. W. Bennett	$0	15.95
None	Easement	102215	3/10/1960	Bruneau Cattle Co.	$0	0.1
PR	Warranty Deed	105575	8/31/1961	Stevens	$3,000	120
None	Agreement	I-09685	3/27/1963	BLM	$0	54.9
PR	Warranty Deed	117374	5/15/1963	W. J. Perfect	$5,000	1.23
Gift	Agreement		5/3/1965	Elmore Co. Comm.	$0	3.77
None	Agreement	I-04153	5/18/1967	BLM	$0	0
None	Agreement	I-04153	5/18/1967	BLM	$0	1,544.9
None	Easement		5/4/1972	Rancho Idaho, Talbot	$0	0.4
None	Easement	I-15670	11/20/1979	BLM		
None	Agreement		1/24/1980	Idaho Power Co.	$0	0
HB530, WSF	Warranty Deed		6/29/1990	Colyer Cattle Co.	$95,520	160
PR	Easement	261773	12/12/1990	Idaho Power Co.	$300	0.55
HB530, DU	Warranty Deed	204200	12/31/1990	Owen Ranches	$50,000	70
WSF, DU	Warranty Deed	205466	7/16/1991	Colyer Cattle Co.	$30,000	75
HB530, DU	Warranty Deed	208195	6/17/1992	Bruneau River Wildlife Ranch	$305,000	429.6

WATER RIGHTS

Hot Springs Segment					
Number	**TRS Diversion**	**Rate (cfs)**	**Priority Date**	**Water Use**	**Source**
51-24B	T07S,R06E,S05	0.24	4/1/1881	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-25B	T07S,R06E,S05	0.05	4/1/1897	Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-26B	T07S,R06E,S05	0.10	4/1/1905	Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-27A	T07S,R06E,S05	1.50	4/1/1875	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-28A	T07S,R06E,S05	0.54	4/1/1897	Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-42A	T07S,R06E,S05	0.21	4/1/1875	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-43A	T07S,R06E,S05	0.420.23	4/1/1876	Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-10166	T07S,R06E,S05	13.66	2/15/1925	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-10169	T07S,R06E,S05	0.24	2/15/1925	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-10218	T07S,R06E,S05	0.17	4/1/1875	Irrigation, Stock	Bruneau River
51-10219		1.0	4/1/1876	Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-10225		0.086	4/1/1897	Irrigation	Bruneau River
	Hot Springs Canal	33.3 shares of 700		Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-10165	T06S,R05E,S36	0.06	12/31/1949	Domestic	Ground Water
Bruneau River Segment					
	Southside Bruneau Canal	10 shares (10 inches of 1,200 inches)		Irrigation	Bruneau River
51-10279	T06S,R05E,S23	0.02	12/31/1860	Stock	Bruneau River
Borden Lake Segment					
2-7425	T05S,R04E,S34	1.0	1/26/1988	Wildlife	Snake River
Loveridge Segment					
2-7004	T06S,R06E,S2	18.0	10/19/1967	Storage, Irrigation, Wildlife	Snake River

X. ORDER ISSUING NEW LICENSE TO IDAHO POWER COMPANY

Selected sections of the FERC Order issuing a new license to IPC appear below. A complete copy of the text is available at the following web address:
http://www.ferc.gov/for-citizens/projectsearch/searchprojects.aspx

108 FERC ¶ 61,129
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Pat Wood, III, Chairman;
Nora Mead Brownell, Joseph T. Kelliher,
and Suedeen G. Kelly.

Idaho Power Company Project No. 2055-010

ORDER ISSUING NEW LICENSE

(Issued August 4, 2004)

1. This order issues, pursuant to sections 4(e) and 15 of the Federal Power Act (FPA),2 a new license to Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power or licensee) to continue operation and maintenance of the 82.8-megawatt (MW) C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project No. 2055, located on the Snake and Bruneau rivers in Owyhee and Elmore Counties, Idaho. Part of the project occupies federal lands managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).3

2. This order also approves, as it applies to the C.J. Strike Project, an offer of settlement filed by Idaho Power on behalf of itself and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) with respect to the relicensing of C.J. Strike and four other Idaho Power projects on the Snake River. The settlement agreement contains provisions relating to the protection of specific federally listed threatened and endangered snail species. The new license issued in this order for the C.J. Strike Project includes conditions consistent with the terms of the agreement.4

2 16 U.S.C. and 797(e) and 808, respectively.
3 Section 4(e) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. § 797(e), provides that the Commission may issue a license for a project located on a federal reservation (defined at FPA section 3(2), 16 U.S.C. § 794(2)) only after it finds that the license will not interfere or be inconsistent with the purpose for which the reservation was created or acquired. The C.J. Strike Project occupies 2,982.63 acres (exclusive of transmission lines rights-of-way) of BLM land used for grazing. We conclude that the project's occupancy of this reservation does not interfere, and is not inconsistent, with the reservation's purpose or use. In addition, section 4(e) provides that the license of a project on reservation land shall contain such conditions as the Secretary of the department under whose supervision such reservation falls shall deem necessary for the adequate protection and utilization of such reservation. The Secretary of the Interior did not file any conditions under section 4(e).
4 The agreement is found at Appendix B to the new license issued concurrently for the Bliss Project No. 1975.

BACKGROUND

3. Today the Commission is issuing new licenses for five Idaho Power projects on the central portion of the Snake River Basin, in south-central Idaho.5 Starting furthest upstream, they are the 12.5-MW Shoshone Falls Project No. 2778, at river mile (RM) 615;6 the 34.5-MW Upper Salmon Falls Project No. 2777 (RM 580); the 60-MW Lower Salmon Falls Project No. 2061(RM 573); the 75-MW Bliss Project No. 1975 (RM 560); and the C.J. Strike Project (RM 494-518).7 The first four projects, located along a 57-mile-long reach of the river, are sometimes referred to as the mid-Snake projects.

4. More than 1,000 miles long, the Snake River is the largest tributary of the Columbia River. The Snake River has been heavily developed, as evidenced by the 23 dams on its mainstem, impounding nearly 50 percent of the river. Of the 37 million acre-feet of water that drains into the river each year, more than 14 million acre-feet are diverted for irrigation, municipal, and various other uses. The resulting impacts on the resources of the Snake River have included inundation of fish-spawning, wildlife, riparian, and island habitat.8

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

5. Construction and operation of the C.J. Strike Project was originally licensed effective December 1, 1950, with a 50-year term that expired in 2000.9 The project has continued to operate under annual licenses.10

6. The project occupies about 3,373 acres of federal lands managed by the BLM. It includes a 3,220-foot-long, 115-foot-high dam with three power intakes and three 22-foot-diameter penstocks; a reservoir extending 32 miles upstream on the Snake River and 12 miles upstream on the Bruneau River,11 having a surface area of 7,500 acres and a storage capacity of 240,000 acre-feet at normal maximum water surface elevation of 2,455 feet; a 198-foot-long powerhouse at the base of the dam containing three turbine generator units totaling 82.8 MW installed capacity; a 340-foot-wide, 78-foot-high concrete spillway with eight bays; and two transmission lines, one 65 miles long and the other 25 miles long. The current average annual generation at the project is 558,299 megawatt-hours (MWh).

5 The Snake River is a navigable waterway of the United States from its mouth on the Columbia River (which flows to the Pacific Ocean) to the mouth of the Henrys Fork River, at about river mile 774. Idaho Power Company, 14 FPC 71 (1955).
6 River miles are counted beginning at the mouth of a river.
7 On the Malad River, a tributary to the Snake River entering the Snake between the Bliss and the Lower Salmon Falls Projects is Idaho Power's 20.7-MW Malad Project No. 2726, a two-development run-of-river project whose current license expires July 31, 2004.
8 *See* City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, 80 FERC ¶ 61,342 at 62,129 (1997).
9 Idaho Power Co., 10 FPC 722 (1951).
10 See FPA section 15(a)(1), 16 U.S.C. § 808(a)(1).
11 The project dam is located just below the confluence of the Snake and Bruneau rivers.

7. The project is block-loaded to meet daily system demands, *i.e.*, one, two, or three units are brought on- and off-line as demand and water availability dictate. The project also operates in conjunction with the upstream Bliss and Lower Salmon Falls Projects to meet short-term load demands. This operation results in reservoir and tailwater level fluctuations. Although under the current license, the impoundment is allowed to fluctuate up to five feet per day, the daily fluctuation averages only 0.3 foot, with 70 percent of daily fluctuations being 0.2 foot or less. Daily tailwater fluctuations vary up to four feet, but 70 percent of the time are three feet or less. Under the current license, the project does not operate under minimum instream flow or downstream ramping rate requirements. However, Idaho Power voluntarily releases a minimum flow of 3,900 cfs.

LICENSE TERM

69. Pursuant to section 15(e) of the FPA,12 relicense terms shall not be less than 30 years nor more than 50 years from the date on which the license is issued. Our general policy is to establish 30, 40, and 50-year terms for projects with, respectively, little, moderate, or extensive redevelopment, new construction, new capacity, or additional environmental measures.13

70. In issuing both new and original licenses, the Commission coordinates the expiration dates of licenses to the maximum extent possible, to maximize future consideration of cumulative impacts at the same time in contemporaneous proceedings at relicensing.14 The Commission's intention is to consider cumulative impacts, to the extent practicable, at the time of licensing and relicensing, and to reduce the need to resort to the use of reserved authority. In this instance, the expiration dates of the new licenses for the C.J. Strike Project and the four Mid-Snake Projects should be coordinated, because the five projects will be operated in compliance with a single plan for the protection of listed snail species in the river basin. Because issuance of new licenses for these five projects involves only modest environmental measures, 30-year license terms, effective on the same date, are appropriate for each of the projects. Accordingly, the new license term for the C.J. Strike Project will be 30 years, effective the first day of the month in which this order is issued.

<u>The Commission orders:</u>

(A) This license is issued to Idaho Power Company (licensee) to operate and maintain the C.J. Strike Project, for a period of 30 years, effective the first day of the month in which this order is issued. The license is subject to the terms and conditions of the Federal Power Act (FPA), which is incorporated by reference as part of this license, and subject to the regulations the Commission issues under the provisions of the FPA.

12 16 U.S.C. § 808(e).
13 *See* Consumers Power Company, 68 ¶ FERC 61,077 at 61,383-84 (1994).
14 *See* Use of Reserved Authority in Hydropower Licenses to Ameliorate Cumulative Impacts: Policy Statement, FERC Stats. & Regs. Preambles ¶ 31,010 (December 14, 1994), 59 Fed. Reg. 66,718 (December 28, 1994).

Article 301. *Revised Exhibits.* Within 45 days of the date the Commission approves the C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Operations and Maintenance Agreement or a fish and wildlife management plan for licensee-owned lands within the WMA required by Article 413, and following the acquisition of riparian habitats required by Article 412, the licensee shall submit revised Exhibit G drawings, as appropriate with the Commission for approval and in accordance with the format described in Article 203. The revised project boundary shall include and clearly identify all licensee-owned lands within the WMA. The exhibits shall have sufficient detail to adequately delineate the relative location of project features. The licensee shall submit six copies to the Commission, one copy to the Commission's Portland Regional Director, and one to the Director, Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance.

Article 302. *Reservoir Drawdown Limitation Report.* Within 60 days of the date of this license, the licensee shall submit one copy to the Division of Dam Safety and Inspections – Portland Regional Engineer and two copies to the Commission (one of these shall be a courtesy copy to the Director, Division of Dam Safety and Inspections), of a report describing the effects of reservoir drawdown limitations imposed by this license on local flooding and spillway adequacy of the project dam.

The report should include a flood routing study that evaluates the ability of the project to safely pass flows up to the Inflow Design Flood. The frequency that the nonoverflow structures would be overtopped under the historical and limited drawdowns should be compared. The report should discuss if there would be an increased likelihood of low-lying structures located upstream and downstream of the reservoir being flooded under the new operating scenario. If necessary, the report should include a plan and schedule for performing any remedial measures necessary to ensure the continued safe operation of the project during high flows.

The licensee shall implement any remedial measures required by the Division of Dam Safety and Inspections' Portland Regional Engineer.

Article 413. *C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area Operations and Maintenance Agreement.* Within six months of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval, a long-term C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA) operations and maintenance agreement with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Idaho DFG) for the management of licensee-owned lands within the WMA. The purpose of the agreement would be to ensure proper funding and implementation of measures to achieve WMA management goals and objectives on WMA lands owned by the licensee for the continued benefit of fish and wildlife resources associated with the project. At a minimum, the agreement shall include:

(1) a provision for annual funding to be provided to the Idaho DFG in the amount of no less than $138,100 adjusted annually for inflation using the consumer price index for implementing: noxious weed control plans, shoreline and sheet erosion control plans, rare and endangered species protection plans, wetland habitat protection and enhancement plans, waterfowl nesting programs, spring and stream protection measures, wildlife habitat improvement plans, amphibian management

plans, grazing management, access improvements, and public education programs on licensee-owned lands within the WMA;

(2) a provision for the establishment and support of a management advisory committee (MAC) to solicit and consider the interests of the licensee, Idaho DFG, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (Idaho DPR), Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Elmore County, Owyhee County, Southside Canal Company, and abutting private landowners, to the extent they are interested, in the management of the licensee-owned portions of the WMA;

(3) a provision for the continued supply of water to the Borden Lake Game Management Area (GMA) in an amount sufficient to support the wildlife habitat goals of the GMA;

(4) a provision for incorporating the licensee's 329-acre parcel referred to as the "Cabin Site" into the WMA, as appropriate and agreed to with Idaho DFG and FWS;

(5) a description of the management goals and objectives, native upland and riparian vegetation management measures, and plans for funding and implementing habitat management measures on the "Cabin Site" parcel required by item 4 above;

(6) a provision for the maintenance of WMA buildings and machinery and purchases of materials necessary for resource management activities on licensee-owned lands within the WMA;

(7) a provision for providing labor for operation and maintenance associated with the foregoing activities; and

(8) a schedule for reviewing and modifying the agreement, as needed.

The agreement shall describe and provide for any additional funding levels necessary to provide management of any wetlands, riparian, or spring habitats added to the WMA as a result of the implementation of Article 412.

By December 31 of each year of the license, the licensee shall file a report with the Commission demonstrating payment of allocated funds to the Idaho DFG, describing how such funds were spent to address resources on licensee-owned lands within the project boundary and projecting how such funds will be used the next year, and any agreed to increase in funding levels for the next year.

In the event an operations and maintenance agreement cannot be reached, within one year of license issuance the licensee shall develop and file for Commission approval a fish and

wildlife management plan for licensee-owned lands within the WMA for the continued benefit of fish and wildlife resources associated with the project. The plan shall include, but not limited to, the following:

(1) goals and objectives for the management of licensee-owned lands;

(2) development and implementation of integrated noxious weed control plans, shoreline and sheet erosion control plans, rare and endangered species protection plans, wetland habitat protection and enhancement plans, waterfowl nesting programs, spring and stream protection measures, wildlife habitat improvement plans, amphibian management plans, grazing management plans (including controlling trespass grazing through installation and maintenance of fencing as necessary), fish stocking plans, access improvements, and public education programs;

(3) a provision for the continued supply of water to the GMA in an amount sufficient to support the wildlife habitat goals of the GMA;

(4) a provision for incorporating the licensee's 329-acre parcel referred to as the "Cabin Site" into the WMA and any riparian habitat to be acquired in accordance with Article 412 into the WMA, as appropriate;

(5) management goals and objectives, a detailed description of the measures to be used to establish and enhance native upland and riparian vegetation, and plans for funding and implementing the habitat management measures on the "Cabin Site" parcel required by item 4 above;

(6) a plan for the establishment and support of a MAC to solicit and consider the interests of the licensee, Idaho DFG, FWS, BLM, Idaho DPR, Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Elmore County, Owyhee County, Southside Canal Company, and adjacent private landowners in the management of the licensee-owned portions of the WMA;

(7) a schedule and cost for implementing the plan; and

(8) a schedule for reviewing and modifying the plan, as needed.

The licensee's wildlife management plan shall be consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA and the policies defined in licensee's C.J. Strike Land Management Plan required by Article 416.

The licensee shall file the operations and maintenance agreement, or habitat management plan for licensee-owned lands if an agreement is not reached, after consultation with the FWS, BLM, Idaho DFG, and Idaho DPR. The licensee shall file with the agreement or the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan

after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the agreement or the plan. The licensee shall not implement the agreement or the plan until notified by the Commission that the agreement or the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the agreement or the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 414. *Visual Resource Management Plan.* Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a Visual Resource Management Plan to improve viewing opportunities at four project locations: Jacks Creek Viewpoint, Bruneau Duck Ponds Viewpoint, Bruneau Arm Viewpoint, and Borden Lake Viewpoint. At a minimum, the plan shall include an implementation schedule and provisions for the following:

(1) grading to provide safe parking and viewing;

(2) directional signage from the nearest public road; and

(3) interpretive information regarding natural and cultural features of interest.

The licensee shall prepare the plan after consultation with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (Idaho DPR). The licensee shall include with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the Idaho DPR, and specific descriptions of how the comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the Idaho DPR to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project specific information.

Article 415. *Historic Properties.* Upon license issuance, the Licensee shall implement the "Programmatic Agreement Among the Commission, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer for Managing Historic Properties that may be affected by a License Issuing to the Idaho Power Company for the Continued Operation of the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project in Elmore and Owyhee Counties, Idaho (FERC No. 2055)," executed on May 10, 2002. In the event that the Programmatic Agreement is terminated, the licensee shall continue to implement the provisions of its approved Cultural Resources Management Plan. The Commission reserves the authority to require changes to the Cultural Resources Management Plan at any time during the term of the license. If the Programmatic Agreement is terminated, the licensee shall obtain approvals from or make notifications to the Commission and the State Historic Preservation Officer where the Cultural Resources Management Plan calls upon the licensee to do so.

Article 416. *C.J. Strike Land Management Plan.* Within six months of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a C.J. Strike Land Management Plan. In addition to identifying and explaining the policies, standards, guidelines, and land use designations that shall be followed to protect and manage environmental resources and public use and safety on project lands, the plan shall also include, at a minimum:

(1) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, target species, control methods, performance standards, and monitoring and re-treatment measures that shall be implemented to control noxious weeds on lands within the project boundary during the first five years of the plan;

(2) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, protection methods, grazing management, monitoring, and maintenance measures that shall be implemented to protect shorelines and riparian habitat on lands within the project boundary during the first five years of the plan; and

(3) a provision for review, consultation, and revision of the plan as needed every five years through the license period.

The licensee shall update and finalize the C.J. Strike Land Management Plan after consultation with the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The licensee shall file with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how their comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan shall not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 417. *Recreation Management Plan.* Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a Recreation Management Plan to provide guidance for implementation of recreation enhancement measures and for ongoing management, operation and maintenance of project recreation resources throughout the license term. At a minimum, the plan shall include provisions for the following:

(1) continued leasing and cooperative maintenance and operation of the U.S. Air Force Recreation Area;

(2) improvement of the North Park day-use and tent-camping area by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads and parking, designating camping areas, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding two group shelters and additional picnic tables to the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shore, and adding docks;

(3) improvement of the North Park recreational vehicle (RV) camping and boat parking areas by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads through the park, redesigning boat trailer parking, defining camping spaces, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding a group shelter, vault toilet and picnic tables to the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shore, and adding docks;

(4) improvement of the North Park boat-mooring facilities by excavating a channel to allow safer navigation and boat access to the shore and boat docks;

(5) improvement of Locust Park camping opportunities by adding roads and redesigning traffic flow and parking, defining camping spaces for RVs and tents, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding a vault toilet, and creating a day-use area with picnic tables and parking;

(6) improvement of the recreational fishing experience in the vicinity of Locust Park by adding a fish-cleaning station;

(7) operation and maintenance of the Locust Park RV dump station completed by the licensee in 1999;

(8) improvement of Scout Park by adding a group picnic shelter and planting trees;

(9) participation with U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the improvement of Cove Recreation Site by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads through the site, defining camping spaces, constructing a vault toilet, adding picnic tables and fire rings to campsites, constructing a group shelter, placing picnic tables in the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shoreline, and adding docks;

(10) improvement of Narrows Sportsman's Access by adding docks and grading the access road to allow for improved vehicle parking and turn around;

(11) improvement of Cottonwoods Campground by working cooperatively with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Idaho DFG) to redesign traffic flow, improve roads through the park, define camping spaces, add picnic tables and fire rings to campsites, landscape, construct a vault toilet, add a group picnic shelter, and add picnic tables and parking to the day-use area;

(12) improvement of Jacks Creek Sportsman's Access by regrading the road, adding a defined boat-trailer parking area and vault toilet, and building a new dock;

(13) improvement of Loveridge Bridge North Access by regrading the road, adding a defined boat-trailer parking area, and adding a seasonal toilet;

(14) implementation of an interpretation/ information program for the public in the form of signs and kiosks at recreational facilities and viewpoints; and

(15) an evaluation of, and proposal for, a safe and aesthetically pleasing swimming area at North Park free of potential interference from motorized water craft.

For each of the recreation improvement measures listed above (items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15), the plan would include, at a minimum, site plans and design drawings; a discussion of how the needs of the disabled were considered in the planning and design of each improvement measure; detailed erosion and sediment control measures; and a schedule for implementation and maintenance.

The licensee shall prepare the plan after consulting with the BLM, Idaho DFG, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Elmore County, and Elmore County Waterways Commission. The licensee shall include with the plan, documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan shall not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 418. *Reservation of Authority to Prescribe Fishways.* Authority is reserved by the Commission to require the licensee to construct, operate, and maintain, or to provide for the construction, operation, and maintenance of, such fishways as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce under section 18 of the Federal Power Act.

Article 419. *Annual Review Meeting.* By no later than December 31 of each license year, the licensee shall:

(1) consult with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to determine the interest and need for a meeting for

purposes of discussing the progress of monitoring activities required by this license, including any monitoring results;

(2) if one or more of the agencies deem a meeting necessary, host and coordinate the meeting, file a summary of the meeting with the Commission, and submit copies of the meeting summary to the participating agencies; and

(3) if all the agencies do not deem a meeting necessary, file a statement with the Commission indicating that there was no agency interest in a meeting and submit copies of the statement to all of the agencies.

(G) This order is final unless a request for rehearing is filed within 30 days of the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313 of the FPA. The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this license or of any other date specified in this order, except as specifically ordered by the Commission. The licensee's failure to file a request for rehearing shall constitute acceptance of this order.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Linda Mitry,
Acting Secretary.

XI: PUBLIC USE OF DEPARTMENT LANDS AND ACCESS AREAS

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Lands and Access Areas Public Use Rules

13.01.03 – Public Use of Lands Owned or Controlled by Idaho Fish and Game

000. Legal Authority.
The Idaho Fish and Game Commission is authorized under Sections 36-104(b), Idaho Code, to adopt rules concerning the public use of lands owned or controlled by the Department of Fish and Game.

010. Definitions.

1. Aircraft. Every description of aircraft that is capable of being used as a means of transportation on or in the air.
2. Commercial Use. Any use or activity which is related to a business venture or for which a fee is charged, or where the primary purpose is the sale or barter of goods or services, regardless of whether the use or activity is intended to produce a profit.
3. Department Lands and Access Areas. Real property, which is owned or controlled by the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, which is managed for public recreation and for the protection, maintenance, and enhancement of fish and wildlife.
4. Designated Roads and Trails. All roads and trails posted as open and/or included on travel plan maps provided by the Department. Roads and trails not posted as open and/or included on travel plan maps are closed to motorized vehicles.
5. Motorized Vehicle. Every vehicle that is self-propelled except vehicles that are moved solely by human power.
6. Safety Zone. A posted area established for the safety and protection of persons, equipment, structures, or livestock, where no shooting is permitted into, across, or within.
7. Snow Machine. Any self-propelled vehicle designed primarily for travel on snow which is steered by skis and propelled by tracks.
8. Unattended. As it pertains to decoys shall mean to be over one hundred (100) yards from the decoys for a period of more than one-half (1/2) hour. As it pertains to campfires shall mean not within twenty (20) yards.
9. Watercraft. Any vessel that is capable of being used as a means of transportation on or in the water.

100. Public Use Restrictions.
Activities Prohibited Without Director Authorization. Unless specifically authorized by the Commission or under lease, permit, contract, or agreement issued by the Director, Regional Supervisor, or other authorized agent, the following activities are prohibited:

1. To enter, use, or occupy lands or water when said lands are posted against such entry, use, or occupancy.
2. To camp, park a vehicle and/or a trailer in any area posted against such use or to leave unattended a camp, vehicle, and/or trailer for more than forty-eight (48) hours or to camp or park a vehicle and/or trailer for more than ten (10) consecutive days in any thirty (30) day period in any one designated area.
3. To operate any motorized vehicles, including snow machines, except on designated roads and trails. Designated roads and trails are posted as open and/or included on travel plan maps provided by the Department.
4. To use watercraft on any waters which are posted against such use.
5. To start a fire without taking necessary measures to prevent its spreading or to leave a fire unattended. All fires are prohibited in areas posted against their use.
6. To use any form of fireworks or explosives at any time.
7. To permit dogs or other domestic animals to run at large when the owner or guardian is not present to control or care for them or to permit dogs to be off leash or conduct dog training when prohibited by posted notice.
8. To conduct dog field trials of any type during the period October 1 through July 31. All dog field trials and dog training with the use of artificially propagated game birds between August 1 and September 30 will be under Department permit as authorized by the director under the rules set forth in IDAPA 13.01.15, "Rules Governing the Use of Dogs," Section 300.
9. To construct blinds, pits, platforms, or tree stands where the soil is disturbed, trees are cut or altered, and artificial fasteners, such as wire, rope, or nails are used. All blinds shall be available to the public on a "first-come - first-served" basis. Portable manufactured blinds and tree stands are allowed but may not be left overnight.
10. To release or abandon any domestic or exotic fish, birds, mammals, amphibians, or reptiles.
11. To adjust, open, close, tamper with, or manipulate in any manner, any diversion structure, headgate, flume, recorded or flow dock or any device for water control. This shall not be construed as limiting the powers of other agencies or irrigation districts as provided by statutory law or rule.
12. To discard dead fish, birds, animals, or parts or remains thereof, waste water, metallic cans, bottles, plastic or paper cartons, shotgun shell casings, yard and agricultural wastes, garbage, machines, appliances, or other litter on or in any lands or waters.
13. To remove, destroy, mutilate, modify, or deface

any building or other structure, water control device, fence, gate, poster, notice, sign, survey or section marker, or any object of archaeological, geological, or historical value or interest.

14. To shoot within, across, or into posted safety zones.
15. To leave decoys unattended. Decoys cannot be put in place any earlier than two (2) hours prior to official shooting hours for waterfowl and all decoys must be picked up and removed from the hunting site no later than two (2) hours after official shooting hours for waterfowl that particular day.
16. To discharge any paintball guns.
17. To disturb or remove any soils, gravel, or minerals.
18. To turn domestic livestock into, or allow said animals to graze or trail on or across Department lands, except riding and pack animals may be used in association with hunting and for recreational uses or as posted.
19. To cut, dig, or remove any crops, trees, shrubs, grasses, forbs, logs, or fuel wood.
20. To place, maintain, or store any beehives or bee boards.
21. To use lands for any commercial purpose.
22. To place a geo-cache.
23. To use for group events of over fifteen (15) people.
24. To land or launch aircraft except on public airstrips.
25. To use or transport any hay, straw or mulch that is not weed seed free certified.

For more information call:

Panhandle Region – 208-769-1414

Clearwater Region – 208-799-5010

Southwest Region – 208-465-8465

McCall Subregion – 208-634-8137

Magic Valley Region – 208-324-4359

Southeast Region – 208-232-4703

Upper Snake Region – 208-525-7290

Salmon Region – 208-756-2271

Idaho Fish and Game adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability or veteran's status. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of Idaho Fish and Game, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, Mailstop: MBSP-4020, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone: (703) 358-2156. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Department of Fish and Game for assistance.

Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code. BOC-9-2010/10,000/41913.

Public Use of Department Lands and Access Areas

Idaho
Department of Fish and Game
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Boise, Idaho 83707
208-334-3700

Cal Groen, Director

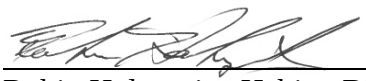
http://fishandgame.idaho.gov

C.J. STRIKE

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA PLAN

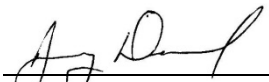
Approval

Submitted by:

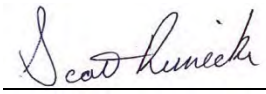


Robin Holmquist, Habitat Biologist

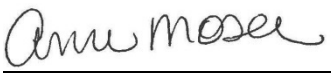
Reviewed by:



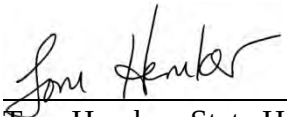
Jerry Deal, Regional Habitat Manager



Scott Reinecker, Regional Supervisor

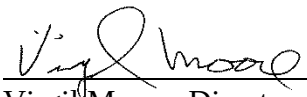


Ann Moser, Bureau of Wildlife



Tom Hemker, State Habitat Manager

Approved by:



Virgil Moore, Director