



IDAHO FISH AND GAME GOLDSHEET

July 2026 Commission Meeting

Agenda Item: Silver Creek Property Exchange (**Action**)

Presented by: Casey Pozzanghera

Position/Title: Lands/Mitigation Program Coordinator

Agenda Item No.: 5. J.
Bureau Chief Approval: SR

Background:

The Silver Creek East Access Site property exchange would exchange 1 acre of IDFG land (blue polygon in map), currently being encroached upon, for a nearly adjacent 1 acre of privately owned land (red polygon on map). A neighboring landowner (Bashaw) has inadvertently been running a center pivot irrigation system over IDFG land for several years, following historical fence lines that do not adhere to legal property boundaries. The exchange would transfer legal ownership of IDFG's 1 acre to Bashaw, allowing them to keep their center pivot in its current location, and would give IDFG a new 1-acre parcel that is nearly adjacent to the encroached upon acreage and provides better access by public users. This exchange would resolve all ownership and property boundary issues related to the accidental encroachment.

A broker's opinion was conducted, and each parcel was valued at \$7,500. The Department would cover survey and closing costs and Mr. Bashaw has agreed to split the costs of installing new fencelines to properly delineate the newly drawn property boundaries. No additional exchange of funds would be necessary to equalize value between the parcels.

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

Statutory Authority and/or Policy Issues:

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

Public Involvement Process:

Blaine County commissioners have been notified.

Justification:

The proposed action would resolve a property boundary issue, improve staff's ability to manage the property, and improve public access at the site.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommend completing the Silver Creek property exchange as presented by staff

Suggested Motion:

I move the Commission complete the Silver Creek property exchange in Blaine County, as presented by staff.

