

Meeting Date: May 18-19, 2022

Agenda Item No. 5G

Agenda Item: Strobel Marsh – Sawyer inholdings
acquisition – R1

Approved by: JR

Prepared by: Steve Elam for Sal Palazzolo, State Habitat Manager

Background:

This proposed acquisition of two parcels totaling 4.75 acres of wetland habitat are edge/in-holding properties on the Strobel Marsh segment of the Coeur d’Alene River WMA. Water level management of Strobel Marsh affects these two parcels. Although acquisition will expand the extent of publicly managed wetlands marginally, the real value in securing these properties is reducing future administrative burdens. The current owner is supportive of WMA operations and has allowed their land to be inundated by a handshake agreement. The parcels are on the market and future owners may be less supportive.

This property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in November 2021.

Acquisition cost of \$4,000 is provided by HB 530 funds.

IDFG already manages the adjacent surrounding land so resources are already available and on-site to manage these small additions to the WMA. Annual maintenance costs are estimated at \$198.

FILT is estimated ~\$5.00 per year.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

Kootenai County commissioners have been notified.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends acquiring the 4.7 acre Sawyer properties.

Suggested Motion: I move that the Commission approve acquiring the 4.7 acre Sawyer properties.