

Meeting Date: May 14, 2020

Agenda Item No. 5.C.2.

Agenda Item: Region 1 – Lambros Acquisition (Action)

Approved by: TB

Prepared by: Don Kemner and Steve Elam

Background:

This fee title acquisition is to protect a 36.5 acre property located on the North Fork of the Coeur d’ Alene River. The subject property is located in Shoshone County approximately three miles north of Interstate 90. Acquisition of the Lambros property will provide protection of an integral portion of the North Fork Coeur d’ Alene River that provides cold water refuge for westslope cutthroat trout. The property consists of a mixture of large canopy riparian vegetation (e.g., cottonwood, cedar and aspen) and riparian shrub-scrub (e.g., willow, dogwood, and alder) and grass fields. The purchase will also provide benefits to wildlife species that are dependent upon riparian forest and associated riparian shrub land. In addition to providing public access, the Lambros property has the potential for development of a catch-out pond for stocked rainbow trout. This property is adjacent to a 17-acre parcel on which IDFG holds a conservation easement (Katie James property) to protect important fish habitat. The property is also bordered to the north by National Forest lands and, combined with James easement, will offer additional fish habitat protection in a highly critical area.

This property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in November 2017.

Acquisition cost of \$450,000 is provided by Avista mitigation for Post Falls dam.

Annual maintenance costs are estimated \$1,500.

FILT is estimated at \$373 per year.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

The Department notified the Shoshone County Commission of the potential acquisition in accordance with Idaho Code 36-104(b)(7).

Staff Recommendation:

The Lands Committee recommends acquiring the 36.5-acre property.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve acquiring the 36.5 acre Lambros property.