

Meeting Date: July 23, 2020

Agenda Item No. F.

Agenda Item: Region 1 – Lambros Acquisition

Approved by: TB

Prepared by: Don Kemner and Steve Elam

Background:

This fee title acquisition is to protect a 36 acre property located on the North Fork of the Coeur d' alene River, 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 currently consist 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. This property is adjacent to a 17 acre parcel where IDFG holds a conservation easement (Katie James property) to protect important fish habitat. The property is also bordered to the north by the US Forest Service and combined with the above 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 are 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:

Shoshone County commissioners have been notified.

Staff Recommendation:

The Department recommends acquiring the 36-acre property.

Suggested Motion: I move to approve acquiring the 36 acre Lambros property.