

Meeting Date: August 19-20, 2020

Agenda Item No. E3

Agenda Item: Region 6 – Tex Creek Admin site

Approved by: TB

Prepared by: Don Kemner and Steve Elam

Background:

This 15-acre tract is located within the Tex Creek Wildlife Management Area roughly 20 miles southeast of Idaho Falls. The parcel, Tex Creek WMA headquarters site, currently sits on Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) land. Plans to replace the aging living quarters with a high-quality bunkhouse led to an opportunity for IDFG to acquire the parcel in fee title from BOR.

IDFG's ownership of the Tex Creek headquarters site will greatly simplify ongoing operations and maintenance, as well as future improvements and upgrades. The acquisition will include a shooting range to be utilized by IDFG's enforcement staff for firearms qualifications and training.

Onsite improvements encompass a shooting range, wood shed, covered storage, multi-purpose shop and corral.

This property was previously presented to the Commission during Executive Session in May 2019.

The acquisition cost is \$75,000 (appraised value) of license funds.

FILT is estimated at \$63 per year. There would be no change in operating and maintenance costs as these expenses are included in the current WMA annual budget.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition in accordance with Commission land acquisition policy.

Public Involvement Process:

Bonneville County commissioners have been notified.

Staff Recommendation:

The Lands Committee recommends acquiring the 15-acre property.

Suggested Motion: Commission adopts staff recommendation and approves acquisition of the 15-acre Tex Creek property.