

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Steven M. Huffaker, Director

Project W-173-D-21

FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

Annual Project Performance Report



WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

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September 2005
Boise, Idaho



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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Actual PR and State Match costs represent payments made through June 30, 2005. Expenditures after June 30, 2005 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by December 30, 2005.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	\$550,059	\$540,097
State: Match	\$183,353	\$180,032
Total Project	\$733,412	\$720,130

5. Objectives:

To establish and maintain an efficient and effective workforce organized to fulfill annual project objectives of the Wildlife Habitat Management Program.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Coordination and administration activities are funded by PR, State License, and other Federal and private grants. Combined expenditures coded to coordination and administration from all funding sources exceeded \$1,220,113 (leave and overhead costs not included). Federal assistance funds and Idaho's funding match accounted for 43% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking. The number of habitat staff increased to 45 full-time employees during this grant period. Thirty-three full-time employees and several seasonal employees (80 months) were supported in part by PR dollars.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

One (1) State Habitat Manager provided habitat program direction, coordinated work plan activities, administered budgets, facilitated recruiting efforts, and provided interagency coordination statewide. Six (6) Regional Habitat Managers coordinated and administered habitat

program activities at the regional level and supervised Regional Wildlife Biologists and Utility Craftsmen. Twenty-five (25) Regional Wildlife Biologists administered all habitat program responsibilities within their designated Habitat District and supervised seven (7) Wildlife Technicians assigned to specific Wildlife Management Areas or a portion of a Habitat District. Five (5) Utility Craftsmen coordinated habitat maintenance activities region-wide. One (1) Maintenance Craftsmen position was added to the habitat staff this year and performs maintenance at several regional facilities in the Clearwater Region. Biologists, Technicians, and Craftsmen recruit, train, and supervise temporary employees hired to complete specific assignments.

Four (4) Regional Wildlife Biologists (R4 Isolated Tracts Program, Boise River Habitat District, Clearwater Habitat District, SE Farm Bill Coordinator), two (2) Wildlife Technicians (Tex Creek and Andrus WMAs), and one (1) Maintenance Craftsmen (Clearwater Region) were hired and received training during this grant period. This recruiting and training effort was similar to the previous year except that 2 biologist positions (one permanent, one 2-year temporary) were created to help expand the services we provide to private landowners interested in wildlife habitat conservation programs. This expansion was supported by grants received from the Intermountain West Joint Venture and Natural Resource Conservation Service.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Idaho Habitat Program Annual Report for FY05
The Compass 2005, Idaho Department of Fish and Game Strategic Plan
Wildlife Management Area website location @<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/cms/wildlife/wma/>

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Panhandle Region. All work was accomplished in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Establish and maintain an efficient and effective workforce organized to fulfill annual project objectives of the Panhandle Region Wildlife Habitat Management Program.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Panhandle Habitat Section is funded by a variety of sources including state-generated license funds, Pitman Robertson (PR) funds, Dingle Johnson (DJ) funds, and Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funds. Funding sources are used in a coordinated fashion to attain similar, supporting objectives.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Panhandle Region is divided into 3 habitat districts, each being assigned 1 Regional Wildlife Habitat Biologist (RWHB). Each RWHB is provided a crew of seasonal employees and a series of budgets originating from multiple funding sources to implement the habitat program at the district level. One utility craftsman and associated crew is available to assist with the development, maintenance, and operation of Department facilities when not working on fishing and boating access sites. One Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager (RWHM) supervises the referenced employees and provides regional oversight of program direction, budgeting, and planning.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Coordination and administration were carried out as anticipated. No discrepancies of consequence exist.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Clearwater Region. All work was accomplished in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Develop and maintain an effective work force to implement habitat program objectives.
- Coordinate and administer budgets and training opportunities.
- Participate on internal Department teams and activities to further Department and habitat management objectives.
- Evaluate and coordinate potential habitat acquisition projects.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Implemented the Clearwater Region Wildlife Habitat Program objectives through regional program personnel, including 3 habitat biologists, 2 wildlife technicians, 1 utility craftsman, 1 habitat manager, and several seasonal support personnel. Personnel were involved with habitat management activities on 3 WMAs comprised of 78,297 deeded acres and 38,000 acres under lease of cooperative management agreement, 4 wildlife habitat areas (WHA) encompassing 437 acres, and custodial management of 5 conservation easements. Coordinated and managed budgets, including both state and federal.
- Participated in training including Certified Public Manager training, Fire Ecology, ArcGIS, Road Construction, Skidding Techniques, Noxious Weed Management, ADA Requirements, Supervision I-IV, Wetland Delineation, NRCS Toolkit, and NRCS Technical Service Provider (TSP). Coordinated furbearer management in Clearwater Region.

- Coordinated annual regional urban Canada goose hunts (4 hunts, approximately 100 participants).



- Participated on the Department's Lands Committee to evaluate potential habitat acquisitions in Idaho. Continued to develop a funding package with other entities to acquire a high priority habitat parcel in the region.
- Coordinated with Idaho Department of Lands and the Department's Lands Committee on a proposed 5,000-acre land trade between the Department and the Idaho Department of Lands.
- Worked with adjacent landowners on motorized access related issues on Craig Mountain WMA.
- Coordinated with BPA and the Nez Perce Tribe on Craig Mountain WMA management.
- Wrote newspaper articles on wildlife related issues.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southwest Region. All work was accomplished in Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Improve the quality of key wildlife habitats such as big game winter range, waterfowl and upland bird production areas, riparian areas, and native plant communities to provide for existing wildlife habitat needs on lands managed by the Department in Southwest Region.
- Develop additional quantity of wildlife habitat to support increased production on Department-managed lands in Southwest Region.
- Assist private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat on their lands.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funds provided part of personnel salaries for accomplishment of habitat development activities. Operations were funded primarily from licenses, and private land habitat development was partially funded by landowner cost-share.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Wildlife habitat quality was improved on Department lands:

- Managed livestock grazing on 56,000 acres of big game winter range to improve rangeland plant communities.
- Monitored all Department-managed lands and controlled noxious weeds and invasive plant species on 3,873 acres of wildlife habitat.

- Managed water levels on 400 acres of ponds and wetlands for maintenance of ecological and hydrological function to improve waterfowl nesting and brood-rearing habitat and hunting opportunity.
- Maintained 860 waterfowl nest structures.
- Planted and maintained 300 acres of food plots.
- Restored 64 acres of winter range by planting or seeding grasses, shrubs, and forbs.

Developed wildlife habitat on private lands:

- Coordinated with federal, state, and non-governmental agencies to develop wildlife habitat on private lands within respective habitat districts through the Farm Bill, competitive grants, and other conservation programs as opportunities became available and varying degrees of partnership occurred throughout the Region.
- Participated in 12 waterfowl and 33 upland cost-share agreements to develop wildlife habitat on private land using Department HIP funds.
- Constructed 2 water developments at springs on the Rocking M conservation easement.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Magic Valley Region. All work was accomplished in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Elmore, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Oneida, Owyhee, and Twin Falls counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Maintain contact and liaison with federal, state and local government and private entities within Magic Valley Region regarding fish and wildlife habitat modifications plus population monitoring.
- Work with intra-regional staff, regional reservists, etc. on WMA habitat projects, access sites, isolated tracts, or other public lands projects as needed.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Regional habitat staff held coordination meetings with BLM and USFS regional staff to discuss issues and provide project updates. Regional staff attended county commissioner meetings, NRCS/FSA meetings, and sportsmen organizational meetings and banquets to discuss fish and wildlife habitat modifications and population monitoring in Magic Valley Region.
- Regional habitat staff worked with intra-regional staff, reservists, and volunteers on numerous projects in Magic Valley Region. Population monitoring, habitat improvement, and public access projects comprised the majority of work performed.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southeast Region. All work was accomplished in Bannock, Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, Power, and portions of Bingham and Oneida counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Establish and maintain an efficient workforce organized to fulfill annual project objectives of the Southeast Region Wildlife Habitat Management Program.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funding was used to cover permanent and temporary salaries as well as operating funds. All funding sources were used to accomplish the objectives listed below.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Thirty-one habitat cooperative agreements were reviewed.
- Participated in Soda Hills BPA Wildlife Mitigation Area management including 1 meeting, and worked with BLM and SBT to improve access facilities.
- Participated in numerous meetings within and between regions to establish objectives and strategies regarding the Mule Deer Initiative (MDI). This included development of a draft plan.
- Prepared 2 new acquisition proposals for presentation to the Lands Committee and attended 3 meetings and 1 conference call representing the Southeast Region. Several previous submissions from the Southeast region also received further discussion.
- Handled several technical assistance requests and delegated others to regional habitat biologists.

- 8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

- NA -

- 9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Develop and maintain an efficient and effective workforce to implement habitat program objectives.
 - Administer project resources, coordinate project activities, share information with internal and external customers, and fulfill annual project objectives.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Upper Snake Region Habitat Management Program is administered by 1 Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager (RWHM) and includes all of Idaho Fish and Game's Upper Snake Region. The Region is divided into 5 habitat districts. One Regional Habitat Biologist (RHB) is responsible for administering Department-managed properties within each Habitat District as well as other programs within the Habitat District. Three of 5 Habitat Districts have permanent wildlife technicians assigned to Department-managed properties to assist the RHBs. Seasonal employees are assigned to work under the oversight of the wildlife technicians and RHBs on Department-managed properties. A utility craftsman assists all 5 habitat districts with construction and maintenance projects on Department-managed properties. Each of the 5 habitat districts has a mixture of funding sources including PR funds and state license funds. Four of 5 habitat districts receive federal or other mitigation funding as well. Activities are charged to appropriate funding sources.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**
 - The RWHM participated at the state level to select habitat section members.

- The RWHM and RHBs provided orientation of new employees.
- Training opportunities were provided for employees including attendance at professional society meetings.
- The RWHM and the utility craftsman conducted the “Basic Training for Temporary Employees” seminar in spring.
- Periodic Regional habitat section meetings were conducted to coordinate activities and strengthen teams.
- Supervisors were required to attend supervisory training provided by Idaho Department of Human Resources.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

There is a lot of turnover in permanent wildlife technician and seasonal positions. Consequently, some positions are vacant for weeks or months. This turnover results in some loss of continuity and significant time for orientation and training of new employees. The wildlife technician position on Tex Creek Wildlife Management Area (TCWMA) was vacant approximately 4 months. A new wildlife technician was hired for TCWMA in January 2005.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Annual Noxious Weed Report
Annual Sharecropping Report

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Establish and maintain an efficient and effective workforce organized to fulfill annual project objectives of the Wildlife Habitat Management Program.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Some of the WHAs in Salmon Region are used for fishing and boating access. Three additional budgets (1 state and 2 federal D-J) are used to help manage these areas.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Two seasonal wildlife technicians were supervised in the Region. Their activities were directed at maintenance and development of 21 access areas and 7 backcountry WHAs. Also, 72 days were spent on project planning, report writing, payroll, budgets, and other administrative assignments.

8. **Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

- NA -

9. **List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

Internal timekeeping and state progress reports

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Actual PR and State Match costs represent payments made through June 30, 2005. Expenditures after June 30, 2005 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by December 30, 2005.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	\$336,147	\$367,615
State: Match	\$112,049	\$122,539
Total Project	\$448,196	\$490,154

5. Objectives:

To operate and maintain buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 31 Wildlife Management Areas and mitigation areas, totaling 370,000 acres, at current levels of use.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Operation and maintenance activities on lands managed by the Department are funded by PR, State License, and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$1,550,920 (leave and overhead costs not included). Federal assistance funds and Idaho's funding match accounted for 27% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Habitat personnel maintained approximately 260 miles of roads, 15 miles of trails, 450 miles of fences, 100 parking areas, 55 buildings, 30 restrooms, hundreds of signs, 130 water control structures, 40 miles of dikes, and equipment used for operation and maintenance activities. Facility improvements made during this grant period included:

- Resurfaced 2 parking areas at Boundary Creek WMA and Albeni Cove at Pend Oreille WMA
- Improved the roof, toilet, and hot water system at Red River WMA
- Replaced the office trailer and removed 2 residential trailers at Boise River WMA
- Replaced 24 miles of fence at Blackfoot River, Sterling, Sand Creek, and Tex Creek WMAs, Deer Park WMU, and Chilly Slough Wildlife Conservation Area
- Installed a new parking area at Sterling WMA
- Installed 10 head gates in the North Agriculture Fields at Market Lake WMA
- Cleaned Sandy Marsh Drain and Roscoe Ditch at Market Lake WMA
- Improved water level management without replacing the water control structure at Sandy Marsh Drain as proposed in the FY05 Federal Assistance Project Statement

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Annual operation and maintenance activities as well as low priority maintenance needs that were deferred from FY04 were accomplished during this grant period. An additional \$50,000 was added to the FY05 grant request to accommodate this anticipated workload. However, increasing gas prices, fleet rental rates, and cost of goods and services were not adequately factored into the budget request. The operation and maintenance project cost was \$490,154 and exceeded the budget by 9%.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Idaho Habitat Program Annual Report for FY05

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Panhandle Region. All work was accomplished in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 7 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and 23 smaller parcels totaling 32,581 acres.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Panhandle Habitat Section is funded by a variety of sources including state-generated license funds, PR funds, DJ funds, and BPA funds. Funding sources are used in a coordinated fashion to attain similar, supporting objectives.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Surfaced a ¼-acre parking facility and constructed a day-use area on Boundary Creek WMA.
- Surfaced a ¼-acre parking facility and placed informational signage on the Albeni Cove property.
- Completed shooting range improvements within the existing footprint of the Farragut WMA Range.
- Improved signage at 2 interpretive sites located within Coeur d'Alene River WMA.

8. **Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

Operation and maintenance issues were addressed as anticipated. No discrepancies of consequence exist.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Clearwater Region. All work was accomplished in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties.

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objectives:

Provide quality habitat, public hunting, and other wildlife-oriented recreation on over 126,000 acres of WMAs, WHAs, and conservation easements in Clearwater Region. Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and other necessary infrastructure.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Acres</u>
WMAs	
Red River	314
Craig Mountain	124,000 ¹
Joseph Plains	1,300
South Fork Clearwater	330
WHAs	
Aspendale	13
Fir Island	38
Paradise	19
EASEMENTS	
Anderson (White Bird Creek)	21
Henderson (Lawyer's Creek)	29
Koehler (Tolo Lake)	16

¹ Includes 78,600 deeded acres, 40,000 acres cooperatively managed with BLM and IDL, and 5,500 acres cooperatively managed with the Nez Perce Tribe.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Majority of funding for operation and maintenance comes from other sources of funding, including Department license dollars and BPA-funded trust funds. Outside grants and partnerships were responsible for funding over 75% of noxious weed management program.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Maintained 58 miles of road.
- Maintained 80 miles of fence and boundary markers.
- Maintained 100,000 tree, shrub, and grass plantings along 1.5 miles of stream.
- Managed noxious weeds on over 100,000 acres.
- Treated over 2,000 acres of noxious weeds.



- Maintained water system at Red River WMA.
- Repaired roof, toilet, and hot water facilities at Red River WMA.
- Maintained facilities at Billy Creek, Wapshilla Creek, and Benton Meadows on Craig Mountain WMA.
- Maintained and provided 7.7 miles of roads specifically for mobility-impaired sportsmen on Craig Mountain WMA.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southwest Region. All work was accomplished in Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and other infrastructure on the following regional WMAs, WHAs, and conservation easements, totaling 90,894 acres, to provide wildlife habitat, public hunting, and other wildlife oriented recreation.

<u>Area</u>	<u>Acres</u>
WMAs	
Fort Boise	1,548
C.J. Strike	13,508
Boise River	33,542
Payette River	920
Cecil D. Andrus	23,608
WHAs	
Roswell Marsh	676
Ted Trueblood	292
EASEMENTS	
Rocking M	16,800

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

This grant was used to fund part of the operating and maintenance costs associated with the regional wildlife habitat program, with the majority of operating funds coming from license

sources. Additional funding was provided by BLM for maintenance of isolated wildlife tracts and BPA for maintenance of 1 parcel on Boise River WMA.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Maintained 120 miles of roads and trails with associated gates, culverts, bridges, and signs.
- Maintained 180 miles of fences and boundary markers.
- Maintained 13 buildings, 5 restrooms, and 8 other structures.
- Maintained 32 gravel parking areas and associated signs.
- Maintained 40 water control structures.
- Maintained 13 miles of dikes.
- Boise River WMA office trailer was replaced with a vacant unit from Magic Valley Region, and a former residence trailer was removed from the Squaw Creek segment.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Magic Valley Region. All work was accomplished in Blaine, Camas, and Gooding counties.

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objectives:

Operate and maintain facilities, buildings, fences, gates, irrigation water delivery systems, and infrastructure on 4 WMAs in Magic Valley Region to provide wildlife habitat, public hunting, wildlife viewing, wildlife conservation education, and other wildlife-related recreational opportunities on 6,212 acres of Department land.

Magic Valley Region PR-funded WMAs:

- Hagerman WMA
- Billingsley Creek WMA
- Centennial Marsh WMA
- Carey Lake WMA

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Maintained 6.5 miles of hiking and horseback riding trails for public access to Department-managed lands.
- Maintained 15.5 miles of fence and 11 miles of unimproved roads.
- Maintained 6 acres of vehicle parking area.
- Maintained 5 restrooms.

- Maintained 6 miles of gated, wheel, and hand-line irrigation pipe.
- Maintained and repaired 7 project buildings.
- Maintained and repaired project equipment.
- Operated and maintained 28 water structures, 6 pumps, and 1 center pivot.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southeast Region. All work was accomplished in Bannock, Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, Power, and portions of Bingham and Oneida counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 5 WMAs, 5 conservation easement areas, and 4 access areas not tied to boating or fishing access. Of the 15,000 acres involved, the majority is managed as part of one of the WMAs. The Department is also directly responsible for assisting with administration of the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area and private property that is enrolled in the HIP program. Through MDI, the Department will also cooperate with private landowners and other public agencies to improve habitat for mule deer.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funding was used to cover portions of permanent and temporary salaries as well as operating funds. All funding sources were used to accomplish the objectives as listed below.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Approximately 12 miles of roads or trails and 23 parking areas were maintained through mowing and spraying to provide good quality and controlled access. Gates to control access on the Soda Springs mitigation area were upgraded and stiles installed to accommodate foot and horse traffic. At Sterling WMA, 1 new parking area was constructed and 2 others were upgraded.
- The structure on Portneuf WMA was removed and the site reclaimed. Useable appliances from the Georgetown Summit WMA cabin were removed and stored. Bids to contract the removal of the cabin and associated structures were gathered and submitted. All other structures received maintenance as needed.

- Directional and informational signing pertaining to all sites was evaluated and maintained seasonally.
- Seven road vehicles, 3 ATVs, and 4 pieces of farm machinery were maintained (generally through other funding).
- On Blackfoot River WMA, an additional 6,500 feet of barbed wire fencing was replaced by new let-down fencing, and another 3,000 feet of old fencing was replaced by buck and rail fencing. At Sterling WMA, 1,320 feet of barbed wire fence was replaced. Extensive repairs were also made to fencing on a conservation easement property in Oneida County.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Additional funding became available through other statewide projects, so the decision was made to fence the entire west boundary of Blackfoot River WMA with let-down fencing (6,500 feet vs. 3,300 feet).

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Operate and maintain buildings, informational kiosks, dikes, water control structures, restrooms, parking lots, roads and trails, fences, equipment, vehicles, irrigation systems, and miscellaneous user facilities on Department-managed properties in order to provide wildlife habitat, public hunting, and other wildlife-oriented recreation.
 - Maintain a safe workplace for Department employees and safe facilities for the public.
6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Upper Snake Habitat Management Program consists of 5 habitat districts, which contain the following managed properties. These management areas are a mixture of land ownership including IDFG, IDL, BLM, and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

<u>Area</u>	<u>Acres</u>	<u>County</u>
Cartier Habitat District		
Cartier Slough WMA	970	Madison
Gem State WHA	70	Jefferson
Twin Bridges (Allen) WMU	81	Bonneville
Market Lake Habitat District		
Market Lake WMA	5,071	Jefferson
Deer Parks WMU	3,173	Jefferson

Mud Lake Habitat District		
Mud Lake WMA	8,853	Jefferson
Chilly Slough WCA	1,800	Custer
Sand Creek Habitat District		
Sand Creek WMA	32,215	Fremont
Tex Creek Habitat District		
Tex Creek WMA	31,715	Bonneville
Easements		
Winterfeld	422	Bonneville
Kruse	800	Bonneville
Birch Creek Ranches	300	Clark
Total Acres administered:	85,470	

Cartier Slough WMA and a portion of TCWMA are BOR mitigation projects for the Ririe Dam and Teton Dam projects. Gem State WHA is a City of Idaho Falls mitigation project. Deer Parks WMU and Twin Bridges WMU are BPA mitigation projects. IDFG owns lands at Market Lake WMA, Mud Lake WMA, Chilly Sough WCA, Sand Creek WMA (SCWMA), and TCWMA. Other properties are managed by the Department via agreements and management plans.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Implemented the Upper Snake Region Habitat Management Program objectives as defined in existing long-range Department plans through Regional personnel.
- The utility craftsman engineered and helped construct and maintain projects on all management areas as needed. The utility craftsman was designated the Habitat section's safety officer and, as such, periodically inspected equipment.
- The RWHM conducted a formal inspection of WMAs and facilities with staff annually. Most vehicles and boats are on a Department-managed fleet maintenance system. Some services are contracted locally.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

The irrigation water delivery system at the recently acquired Chester Wetlands segment of the SCWMA continues to be in very poor condition. A significant amount of labor, heavy equipment use, and contracted services were required to maintain the water delivery ditch in operating condition. Funds from an NAWCA grant were secured to upgrade the ditch with assistance from Ducks Unlimited engineering. However, due to uncertainties in Department water rights for the area, the project has been put on hold. Remedies to water rights issues at the Chester Wetlands are being pursued.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Annual WMA inspection report forms are retained in the RWHM's files

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Supervise the operation and maintenance of buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 21 access areas and 7 backcountry WHAs at current levels of use. These properties provide wildlife and fisheries habitat, fishing, hunting and boating access, and other wildlife-oriented recreation.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Some of the WHAs in Salmon Region are used for fishing and boating access. Three additional budgets (1 state and 2 federal D-J) are used to help manage these areas.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Maintenance of 21 access areas and 3 WHAs was done. One CXT was placed at Hayden Creek and 1 at the Bobcat Gulch access area. The shelter was completed at the Deer Gulch access area.

8. **Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

- NA -

9. **List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

Internal progress reports

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Actual PR and State Match costs represent payments made through June 30, 2005. Expenditures after June 30, 2005 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by December 30, 2005.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	\$336,147	\$291,673
State: Match	\$112,049	\$97,224
Total Project	\$448,196	\$388,897

5. Objectives:

1. Improve key wildlife habitats such as big game winter range, waterfowl and upland game production areas, riparian areas, and native plant communities to meet existing wildlife habitat needs on lands managed by the Department.
2. Create additional habitat in areas lacking adequate habitat to support a desired population level.
3. Work with private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat on private property.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Habitat development and enhancement activities are funded by PR, State License, and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$1,642,781 (leave and overhead costs not included). Federal assistance funds and Idaho's funding match accounted for 17% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking. Federal Aid funds were used only for personnel and administrative costs associated with habitat development projects on private land. Farm Bill conservation programs, federal and state conservation programs, and competitive conservation grants typically fund projects on private land.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Objective 1. Habitat personnel manipulated water levels on approximately 6,500 acres of wetlands to provide seasonal habitats for various wildlife, treated over 20,500 acres of noxious weeds through integrated noxious weed control (biological, chemical, mechanical), produced food and nesting cover for waterfowl and upland game birds on over 10,000 acres, and managed livestock grazing on over 56,000 acres of big game winter range. This is a partial list of wildlife habitat activities conducted on lands the department managed during this grant period. Habitat personnel implemented other practices designed to maintain or improve riparian, rangeland, grassland, and forestland plant communities.

Objective 2. Habitat personnel created new or additional habitat at the following areas:

- Planted trees and shrubs on 2 acres at Coeur d'Alene River WMA
- Installed 4 new food plots (10 acres) at Boundary Creek and Coeur d'Alene River WMAs
- Restored a 60-acre wetland on the Albeni Cove Segment of Pend Oreille WMA
- Harvested 1,000 pounds of wild rice seed at Coeur d'Alene River WMA and planted the seed at Boundary Creek WMA
- Planted over 10,000 riparian shrubs along 0.5 miles of stream at Red River WMA
- Conducted 40-acre prescribed burn in Red River WMA meadow habitat
- Seeded grasses, forbs, and shrubs on 64 acres of winter range on Boise River WMA
- Constructed 2 water developments on Rocking M Conservation Easement
- Planted willows along 3 miles of Camas Creek on the Centennial Marsh WMA
- Planted 750 trees and shrubs along a 3,500' shelterbelt at Carey Lake WMA
- Planted sedges and willows along ¼ mile of riverbank at Blackfoot River WMA
- Planted 237 acres of crop land to a grass-forb mix at Tex Creek and Market Lake WMAs
- Installed 4 wildlife guzzlers at Tex Creek WMA
- Installed 24" culvert and water control structure on northern dike of Marsh 4 to improve irrigation to North Agriculture Fields at Market Lake WMA
- Expanded the irrigation system 120' and planted 150 trees and shrubs along the ditches at Mormon Ranch WHA

Objective 3. Habitat personnel worked with private landowners to implement conservation programs designed to restore wildlife habitat on private lands. Overall, nearly 6,900 acres (4,700 uplands, 2,200 wetlands) were enhanced through 193 Habitat Improvement Program contracts established during this grant period. The top 5 practices included: stubble management (1,999 acres), nesting cover (1,557 acres), riparian enhancement (1,505 acres), food plots (352 acres), and shelterbelts (309 acres). This represents a 30% increase in total acres improved compared to the previous year and the greatest increase was within the riparian enhancement practice.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

The fire restoration project at Boise River WMA was scaled back substantially because the area that eventually burned on the WMA was less than anticipated. Habitat development costs were \$59,300 or 13% less than the project budget. The difference was largely due to the increased emphasis on O&M activities rather than developing new habitat projects.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Idaho Habitat Program Annual Report for FY05
FY05 Habitat Improvement Program Annual Report
2004 Annual Noxious Weed Report
2004 Clearwater Pheasant Initiative Annual Report

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Panhandle Region. All work was accomplished in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Improve key wildlife habitat associated with wetlands and big game winter range located on Department-managed lands.
- Improve upland game bird and featured nongame species habitat located on Department-managed lands as peripheral opportunities allow.
- Improve wildlife habitat on private property.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Panhandle Habitat Section is funded by a variety of sources including state-generated license funds, PR funds, DJ funds, and BPA funds. Funding sources are used in a coordinated fashion to attain similar, supporting objectives.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Management activities on Department administered lands located within the Panhandle included a variety of activities. The entire Department ownership in the Panhandle was evaluated for noxious weed infestations and control actions were implemented on 5 WMAs. Approximately 15,090 acres of wetlands were managed to maintain important hydrologic functions, maximize waterfowl production, maintain nongame species habitat, and provide waterfowl hunting opportunities. Approximately 16,468 acres of big game range were managed to promote critical habitat features including winter range and provide big game hunting opportunities.

Habitat development projects completed on Department-managed lands included:

- Approximately 2 acres were planted to tree and shrub species on Coeur d'Alene River WMA.
- Two food plots totaling 5 acres were planted on Boundary Creek WMA.
- Two food plots totaling 5 acres were planted on Coeur d'Alene River WMA.
- A moist soil management strategy was continued on the 1,000 acre McArthur Lake WMA wetland complex.
- A 60-acre wetland restoration project initiated in FY04 was completed on the Albeni Cove Segment of Pend Oreille WMA.
- Staff began planning a timber sale to restore an old growth ponderosa pine stand located on Coeur d'Alene River WMA.
- Approximately 1,000 pounds of wild rice seed was harvested on Coeur d'Alene River WMA and distributed for planting on Boundary Creek WMA.

Habitat development projects also completed on privately-owned property:

- The Department managed a 450-acre parcel owned by Ducks Unlimited. Wetland development, upland seeding, and noxious weed control efforts were conducted as per requirements associated with a Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administered Wetland Reserve Program easement.
- Staff contacted 36 private landowners to discuss habitat related improvement opportunities.
- Twelve private land projects were initiated of which 8 were completed and 4 are pending.
- Completed private land projects resulted in 14 acres of ponds, 23 acres of woody plantings, 4 acres of food plots, and the installation of 12 waterfowl nest structures.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Habitat issues were addressed as anticipated. No discrepancies of consequence exist.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Clearwater Region. All work was accomplished in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Improve habitat quality and quantity on big game winter and summer range, waterfowl and upland bird production areas, riparian areas, and native plant communities on lands managed by the Department in Clearwater Region.



- Assist private landowners enhance wildlife habitat on their lands.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

By combining Department Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) funds, funds from outside grants, Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) funds, and NRCS farm bill funds, Clearwater staff are able to maximize enhancement of private lands for upland birds and other wildlife species. BPA funds, trust funds, and Department license funds are utilized to accomplish the majority of habitat developments on Department lands.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Improved wildlife habitat on Department lands:

- Continued shrub planting and grazing exclosure project at Red River WMA with BPA funds. Goal is to establish riparian community where one historically occurred. Planted over 10,000 riparian shrubs along 0.5 miles of stream.
- Conducted 40-acre prescribed burn in Red River WMA meadow habitat.
- Constructed approximately 4 miles of fence to protect existing habitats on Department WMAs from motorized vehicle disturbance and livestock grazing.
- Cruised timber and set up 2 timber sales on Craig Mountain WMA.
- Coordinated with Idaho Department of Lands and other entities to set up fire lines for the upcoming 1,500-acre Madden Creek prescribed burn on Craig Mountain WMA.

Developed wildlife habitat on private lands:

- Coordinated with federal, state, and non-governmental agencies to develop wildlife habitat on private lands within respective habitat districts through the Farm Bill, competitive grants, and other conservation programs as opportunities are available.
- Implemented Clearwater Pheasant Initiative –

Latah and Nez Perce counties, 7/1/04 to current, FY05										
Number Contacts Made	Number Projects Initiated	Number Projects Completed	Number RWB Man-hours	Number Temp Man-hours	Conservation Meetings Attended	Acres Food Plots	Acres Stubble Mgt.	Acres Nesting Cover	Acres Winter Cover	Acres Riparian Cover
220	149	130	1,920	3,104	32	94	1,609	4,167	44	654.5

- Received additional TSP training.
- Continued to develop the 25-acre Chapman Wetland on private land near Weippe.
- Constructed a wildlife viewing platform and kiosk with grant funds.
- Constructed 1.5 miles of fence to protect a newly established wetland conservation easement area on private land on a tributary to Lawyer’s Creek.



8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Pheasant Initiative Annual Report

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southwest Region. All work was accomplished in Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Improve the quality of key wildlife habitats such as big game winter range, waterfowl and upland bird production areas, riparian areas, and native plant communities to provide for existing wildlife habitat needs on lands managed by the Department in Southwest Region.
- Develop additional quantity of wildlife habitat to support increased production on Department-managed lands in Southwest Region.
- Assist private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat on their lands.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funds provided part of personnel salaries for accomplishment of habitat development activities. Operations were funded primarily from licenses, and private land habitat development was partially funded by landowner cost-share.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Wildlife habitat quality improved on Department lands:

- Managed livestock grazing on 56,000 acres of big game winter range to improve rangeland plant communities.
- Monitored all Department-managed lands and controlled noxious weeds and invasive plant species on 3,873 acres of wildlife habitat.

- Managed water levels on 400 acres of ponds and wetlands for maintenance of ecological and hydrological function to improve waterfowl nesting and brood-rearing habitat and hunting opportunity.
- Maintained 860 waterfowl nest structures.
- Planted and maintained 300 acres of food plots.
- Restored 64 acres of winter range by planting or seeding grasses, shrubs, and forbs.

Developed wildlife habitat on private lands:

- Coordinated with federal, state, and non-governmental agencies to develop wildlife habitat on private lands within respective habitat districts through the Farm Bill, competitive grants, and other conservation programs as opportunities became available and varying degrees of partnership occurred throughout the Region.
- Participated in 12 waterfowl and 33 upland cost-share agreements to develop wildlife habitat on private land using Department HIP funds.
- Constructed 2 water developments at springs on the Rocking M conservation easement.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Magic Valley Region. All work was accomplished in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Elmore, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Oneida, Owyhee, and Twin Falls counties.

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objectives:

- Maintain wildlife habitat in Magic Valley Region to provide wintering habitat for waterfowl and upland birds; nesting habitat for waterfowl and upland birds; brood-rearing habitat for waterfowl; and feeding and foraging areas for waterfowl, upland birds, and shorebirds.
- Develop wildlife habitat in Magic Valley Region to provide additional waterfowl and upland bird nesting and security cover areas; provide additional foraging habitat; and increase availability and diversity of winter habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and big game.
- Develop and enhance wildlife habitat on privately-owned lands in Magic Valley Region.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Managed water levels throughout winter on 25 acres of water impoundment areas at Hagerman WMA.
- Maintained 190 acres of wetlands vegetation on Hagerman and Billingsley Creek WMAs to provide thermal and escape cover for wintering upland birds.
- Maintained 6 miles of shelterbelts on Carey Lake and Hagerman WMAs to provide cover and food.
- Irrigated 670 acres of herbaceous cover for nesting habitat on Centennial Marsh, Hagerman, and Carey Lake WMAs.

- Maintained 350 artificial nesting platforms for waterfowl on Centennial Marsh, Carey Lake, and Hagerman WMAs.
- Controlled weeds on 6,212 acres of PR-funded WMAs.
- Utilized biological weed control of purple loosestrife on 200 acres of wetlands at Hagerman and Billingsley Creek WMAs.
- Maintained water levels for 4,200 acres of wetlands on Billingsley Creek, Hagerman, Carey Lake, and Centennial Marsh WMAs.
- Maintained grazing pastures for waterfowl.
- Maintained 26 acres of food-producing trees and shrubs on Carey Lake and Hagerman WMAs.
- Developed 47 HIP projects on private lands in Magic Valley Region.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southeast Region. All work was accomplished in Bannock, Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, Power, and portions of Bingham and Oneida counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Improve key wildlife habitat on 4 specific big game winter ranges, 1 waterfowl and upland game production area, and numerous riparian areas and native plant communities to meet existing wildlife habitat needs on lands managed by the Department. Create additional habitat in areas lacking adequate habitat to support a desired population level. Work with private landowners and other public land managers to enhance wildlife habitat with particular emphasis on mule deer and sage grouse populations.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funding was used to cover portions of permanent and temporary salaries as well as operating funds. All funding sources were used to accomplish the objectives as listed below.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Water levels were monitored and controlled on 1 waterfowl production area to maximize nesting and brooding habitat and to prevent disease outbreak.
- In cooperation with a private conservation organization, approximately 500 feet of river bank was planted with sedges on Blackfoot River WMA. A joint project with USFS and the Moose Foundation resulted in the planting of 1,000 willow cuttings on a tributary of Blackfoot River.
- Personnel consulted with private landowners and Farm Bill administrators to develop wetland projects through cooperative agreements and HIP funds. One riparian enclosure was supported and the FmHA conservation easement in Oneida County has required additional

fencing effort and weed control. Efforts have been ongoing to acquire an additional 500 acres with wetlands or restorable wetlands adjacent to Sterling WMA.

- Artificial nesting structures (goose and mallard) at Sterling WMA, Blackfoot River WMA, and throughout the Region were maintained or replacements installed as necessary.
- Approximately 600 acres were treated to maintain high-quality nesting and brooding areas. Methods included grazing, mowing, disking, and some chemical treatment. All other acreages were protected from grazing and wildfire to maximize vegetation structure for cover. Forty acres of private hay crop received delayed mowing through the HIP program.
- Approximately 300 acres of high-energy grains were provided on Department-administered properties or on private property with HIP funds (17 projects) to serve as food for upland game and/or waterfowl. Additional irrigation mainline and a pump were installed at Sterling WMA and permanent cover and food-plots were planted to provide high-energy grains and high-quality cover.
- Two hundred and seventy acres of CRP parcels involving 6 private landowners were treated through inter-seeding to improve plant diversity and quality of brooding cover. Another 25 acres was fertilized on 3 separate ownerships to assess the response of vegetation and big game foraging in particularly key areas. Woody cover plantings were established at 17 separate locations on private property and Department properties (including 15 private landowners, Georgetown Summit WMA, and Edson Fichter Nature Area) to improve habitat for big game, upland game, and non-game. Ten shelterbelts or thickets will benefit mainly upland game. In addition, 53,000 seedlings of highly palatable forage species (big sage, bitterbrush, 4-wing saltbush, Hobble Creek sage, silver sage, and winterfat) were planted on CRP and other higher elevation sites to increase winter range values for big game while also providing cover value for upland game.
- Field tours were attended and written comments provided pertaining to 22 project proposals from other land management agencies (see Project V below).
- Three specific predators (feral house cats, striped skunks, and raccoons) were controlled on Sterling WMA during the nesting season with a private contractor funded through statewide projects.
- Approximately 1,000 acres were directly treated for noxious weeds in cooperation with county weed departments and 4 CWMA's. In addition, a private contractor was hired with statewide funds to treat 400 acres at Sterling WMA in fall and spring.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

The number of HIP projects fell slightly below that planned (29 upland completed vs. 40 planned, 1 riparian wetland vs. 10 planned) as more time has been devoted to MDI; however, total acreage impacted was to similar to that planned. We provided technical assistance and/or financial assistance to approximately 70 cooperators including private and public land managers.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- Planting records: ArcView project, R-5 server @ U:\Habitat\Projects\projects.apr, shapefile-U:\Habitat\Habitat\bitterbrush.shp
- Nest box records: ArcView project, R-5 server @ U:\Habitat\Projects\projects.apr, shapefile-U:\Habitat\Nestbox\nestbox.shp
- HIP records: HIP statewide database

- Weed control records: Statewide weed plan and report
- Predator control records: Statewide predator removal report

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Improve and maintain high-quality waterfowl and upland game habitat.
 - Improve and maintain high-quality big game transition, migration, and winter range habitats.
 - Focus efforts to improve habitat for mule deer as per MDI and the MDI action plan.
 - Pursue projects that benefit sage-grouse.
 - Restore or replace in-kind habitat on mitigation properties.
 - Provide high-quality habitat for wildlife species at risk (T&E, sensitive, etc.).
 - Provide custodial management of federally threatened Ute's Ladies Tresses on SCWMA.
 - Manage habitat on Department-administered properties to provide diverse recreational opportunities.
 - Pursue habitat developments on Department-administered properties within the context of healthy ecosystems and landscape management.
 - Assist private landowners in efforts to improve or develop wildlife habitat on private land.
 - Collaborate with public land managers to improve or develop wildlife habitat on public land.
6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Cartier Slough WMA and a portion of the TCWMA are BOR mitigation projects for the Ririe Dam and Teton Dam projects. Gem State WHA is a City of Idaho Falls mitigation project. Deer Parks WMU and Twin Bridges WMU are BPA mitigation projects. IDFG owns lands at Market Lake WMA, Mud Lake WMA, Chilly Sough WCA, SCWMA, and TCWMA. Other properties are managed by the Department via agreements and management plans. Upper Snake Region is responding to a new, priority mule deer management plan, as directed by the Commission and

IDFG leadership. The Idaho Governor's office through the Office of Species Conservation has also identified sage-grouse habitat conservation as a high priority issue.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Investigated opportunities to secure wildlife habitat on private and public lands.
- Administered HIP and Adopt-A-Wetland programs on private and public lands.
- Established Regional programs, priorities, and policies regarding habitat development.
- Reviewed and approved habitat improvement plans.
- Administered Regional budgets and resources toward habitat development.
- Administered management agreements and leases.
- Reviewed and developed land acquisition proposals.
- Developed Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to provide planning tools, and map and evaluate habitats and project proposals.
- Planted 458 acres of permanent vegetation to improve habitat.
- Maintained guzzlers to provide water sources. Developed 3 new guzzlers.
- Manipulated existing habitat via prescribed fire, mowing, and harvest techniques.
- Administered vehicle restrictions.
- Maintained boundary fences to prevent unauthorized livestock grazing on WMAs and coordinated fence maintenance with neighbors.
- Replaced approximately 5 miles of boundary fences.
- Developed new artificial nesting structures for Canada geese and ducks.
- Monitored area closures to protect habitats and wildlife.
- Monitored and protected sensitive plant species.
- Treated noxious weeds on 3,800 acres via biological, chemical, and mechanical means.
- Monitored water rights and coordinated water delivery to WMAs.
- Protected nesting habitats for T&E species.
- Inventoried and mapped key habitats for wildlife species at risk.
- Established food plots on WMAs via sharecrop agreements, volunteer support from NGOs, and through IDFG labor and equipment.
- Replaced water delivery structures to provide better water level control in marshes and ponds.
- Provided standing crops and crop residue on WMAs for wildlife food and cover via 4 sharecrop agreements.
- Administered motorized use plans on WMAs to regulate motorized use.
- Helped design habitat improvements on private and public land and provided cost-sharing where appropriate.
- Monitored existing habitat improvement agreements, conservation easements, and leases.
- Participated in management activities of CWMAAs.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

The Upper Snake Habitat Section collectively spent \$112,555 to control noxious weeds on 4,689 acres of Department-administered land in 2004. This total reflects contributions from various funding sources including state license funds, PR funds, BPA mitigation funds, BOR mitigation funds, and from state-sponsored CWMAAs. Approximately 236.5 acres were planted to permanent cover. Four new guzzlers were installed. Approximately 21.5 miles of boundary fence were replaced.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Upper Snake Region – Noxious Weed Control Program for IDFG Managed Lands – Weed Plans and 2004 summaries

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Improve key wildlife habitats such as big game winter range, waterfowl and upland game production areas, riparian areas, and native plant communities to meet existing wildlife habitat needs on lands managed by the Department.
- Create additional habitat in areas lacking adequate habitat to support a desired population level.
- Work with private landowners to enhance wildlife habitat on private property.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Some of the WHAs in Salmon Region are used for fishing and boating access. Three additional budgets (1 state and 2 federal D-J) are used to help manage these areas.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- One-hundred and fifty trees and shrubs were planted along the ditches on Mormon Ranch WHA. The irrigation system was expanded another 120 feet. Noxious weeds were sprayed on 1 WHA and 19 access areas.
- In cooperative projects with BLM, 140 acres were burned in the Challis area to enhance bighorn sheep winter range. Similarly, 15 acres of aspen were treated in the Salmon area to rejuvenate aspen clones. The Region coordinated weed spraying efforts on 120 acres of federal land through 3 CWMAs.
- Upland tree and shrub plantings were done on 3 acres by 3 private landowners. Thirteen acres of upland were seeded to wildlife habitat by 1 private landowner.

- 8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

- NA -

- 9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

Internal progress reports

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Actual PR and State Match costs represent payments made through June 30, 2005. Expenditures after June 30, 2005 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by December 30, 2005.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	\$152,794	\$129,156
State: Match	\$50,932	\$43,052
Total Project	\$203,726	\$172,208

5. Objectives:

1. To collect current public use information on Department-managed lands including recreational use, opinions, hunting success, and harvest.
2. To collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information on Department-managed lands.
3. To collect and or obtain current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information for statewide management recommendations.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Survey and inventory activities conducted by habitat personnel are funded by PR, State License, and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$387,831 (leave and overhead costs not included). Federal assistance funds and Idaho's funding match accounted for 32% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Objective 1. Collected visitor-use information at most WMAs using traffic counters, random visitor surveys, targeted field contacts, hunter participation check stations, and trailhead surveys. Public use surveys and reports were completed for Pend Oreille, Farragut, Coeur d'Alene River, and Boundary Creek WMAs.

Objective 2. Wildlife habitat and population information collected on Department-managed lands is site-specific and designed to monitor the primary objectives of each parcel. Survey and inventory activities included vegetation transects on big game winter range and riparian habitats, stream flow and water table monitoring, noxious weed monitoring and mapping, breeding bird surveys, waterfowl brood and pair counts, sage-grouse lek counts, and aerial big game and chukar surveys.

Objective 3. Habitat personnel were involved in survey and inventory activities within their area of responsibility (i.e., Habitat District or Region). Activities were similar to those listed in Objective 2 but included more collaborative work with outside agencies and Department personnel.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Idaho Habitat Program Annual Report for FY05
Pend Oreille WMA Public Use Report
Farragut WMA Public Use Report
Coeur d'Alene River WMA Public Use Report
Boundary Creek WMA Public Use Report

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Panhandle Region. All work was accomplished in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah counties.

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objectives:

- Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands including recreational use, opinion, hunting success, and harvest information.
- Collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristic information on Department-managed lands.
- Collect and/or obtain current wildlife habitat and population characteristic information for regional management direction.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

The Panhandle Habitat Section is funded by a variety of sources including state-generated license funds, PR funds, DJ funds, and BPA funds. Funding sources are used in a coordinated fashion to attain similar, supporting objectives.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Survey and inventory work completed on Department-managed lands in the Panhandle included:

- Three Regional Wildlife Biologists began development of monitoring plans for their respective habitat districts.
- Public use surveys initiated in FY04 were completed for Boundary Creek, Pend Oreille, and Coeur d'Alene River WMAs.
- A western grebe colony was monitored on Pend Oreille WMA.
- Water-right use and diversion was monitored on Boundary Creek WMA.

- Stream flows were monitored on Boundary Creek WMA.
- The effectiveness of predator control activities was evaluated on Boundary Creek WMA.
- Waterfowl breeding pair/brood counts were completed on 4 WMAs.
- Waterfowl banding occurred on 4 WMAs and over 2,000 ducks were banded.
- Hunter check stations were operated on 3 WMAs during opening weekend of waterfowl season.
- Photo-points were established and photographs taken on 3 WMAs.
- Noxious weed infestations were monitored and the success of treatment was evaluated on 5 WMAs.

In addition to activities on Department-managed lands, the following survey and inventory work was completed on alternate areas to assist with collection of regional data utilized by the Wildlife Population Management Section:

- Bald eagle productivity was monitored throughout Panhandle Region.
- Pheasant crow counts were conducted.
- RWHBs assisted with the operation of deer and elk hunter check stations.
- RWHBs assisted with winter aerial surveys for big game.
- Habitat Section staff completed the annual mid-winter waterfowl survey.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Survey and inventory issues were addressed as anticipated. No discrepancies of consequence exist.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- Pend Oreille WMA Public Use Report
- Farragut WMA Public Use Report
- Coeur d'Alene River WMA Public Use Report
- Boundary Creek WMA Public Use Report

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Clearwater Region. All work was accomplished in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands, including public use levels, activities, and harvest information.
- Collect current information on wildlife habitat and population characteristics on lands managed by the Department.
- Assist in collecting regional wildlife population information for statewide population management decisions.
- Monitor upland game populations in reference to new habitat improvement.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Project funding was combined with other license and federal funds to accomplish objectives.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Conducted furbearer snow-track counts on USFS lands.
- Conducted regional waterfowl survey with wildlife population personnel.
- Coordinated and conducted regional pheasant brood route surveys.
- Participated in black bear survey routes.
- Participated on aerial chukar surveys on Craig Mountain WMA.
- Participated in regional wild turkey trapping and translocation activities.
- Conducted multiple crop residual pheasant flushing surveys to measure effectiveness of stubble management program.
- Monitored relocated mountain quail movements on Craig Mountain WMA.

- Spent approximately 10 days assisting wildlife population personnel with big game surveys, including bighorn sheep surveys on Craig Mountain WMA.



- Gathered information on Craig Mountain WMA upland game harvest via age and sex information gathered from the placement of wing barrels.

Chukar			Gray Partridge			Ruffed Grouse			Blue Grouse		
Juvenile	Adult	Juv:Ad	Juvenile	Adult	Juv:Ad	Juvenile	Adult	Juv:Ad	Juvenile	Adult	Juv:Ad
100	86	1.2:1	30	38	.78:1	24	22	1.1:1	15	32	.40:1

- Installed traffic counters to gather information on public use of the Gaiser Segment of the Craig Mountain WMA. Compiled results.
- Conducted sensitive plant survey on the Redbird parcel adjacent to Craig Mountain WMA.



8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Species PR reports including elk, mule deer, white-tailed deer, black bear, upland game, and waterfowl

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Southwest Region. All work was accomplished in Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands, including public use levels, activities, and harvest information.
 - Collect current information on wildlife habitat and population characteristics on lands managed by the Department.
 - Assist in collecting regional wildlife population information for statewide population management decisions.
6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The PR project grant provided a portion of personnel funds for administration and implementation of project objectives. Additional costs for personnel salaries and operations related to survey and inventory objectives were covered by non-project state license funds and other federal grants.
7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Public use information:

 - Quantified visitor use on Department-managed areas using car counters in random surveys.
 - Monitored indexes of hunter participation and success using annual check stations on opening days of upland and waterfowl seasons on Fort Boise WMA.
 - Monitored use and success of hunters on Cecil D. Andrus WMA using season-long hunter check-in procedures.

Wildlife on Department lands:

- Continued progress in developing geographic information systems mapping skills through training, practice, and software support for WMA personnel to document and communicate wildlife habitat and population information on Department lands.
- Conducted annual brood pair counts on WMAs with waterfowl production.
- Measured forage utilization using standard techniques on Department lands with livestock grazing management.

Regional wildlife surveys:

- Trapped and banded migratory birds.
- Conducted counts of sage-grouse leks and roadside counts for other game birds, including pheasants and mourning doves.
- Conducted aerial surveys of big game, waterfowl, and chukars.
- Collected and analyzed condition and location information for big game traffic mortalities.
- Coordinated with Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA) to inventory and map noxious weed infestations in respective habitat districts.
- Assisted in capture operations for regional mule deer winter survival studies and statewide big game ecology research.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Magic Valley Region. All work was accomplished in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Elmore, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Oneida, Owyhee, and Twin Falls counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands including recreational uses, opinions, hunting success, and harvest.
- Collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information on Department-managed lands.
- Collect and obtain current fish and wildlife habitat and population characteristics information throughout Magic Valley Region for statewide management recommendations.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Trailhead sign-in registers and random field surveys were conducted to determine visitor use on WMAs.
- Conducted random field checks of hunters on opening day of specific hunts and on weekends.
- Used traffic counters on WMAs to determine motorized access use during different seasons of the year.
- Worked with local conservation officers to enforce motorized closures on WMAs.
- Mapped noxious weed infestations and treatment areas using GPS and ARCVIEW software on Department-owned lands.
- Conducted riparian transect surveys and/or historical photo-points to document riparian vegetation succession.

- Assisted regional Department population biologists, BLM, and USFS biologists with various field projects to determine fish and wildlife presence/absence, distribution, relative abundance, hunter or angler harvest information, and public response/acceptance, etc. to wildlife management programs and policies. Conducted surveys to detect presence of West Nile Virus in bird populations on WMAs in Magic Valley Region.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southeast Region. All work was accomplished in Bannock, Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, Power, and portions of Bingham and Oneida counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Collect current public-use information on 5 WMAs and 4 access areas including recreational use, opinions, hunting success, and harvest. Collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information on all 5 WMAs in the Region. Collect and/or obtain current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information for statewide management recommendations.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funding was used to cover portions of permanent and temporary salaries as well as operating funds. All funding sources were used to accomplish the objectives as listed below.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Traffic counters were again placed on all parking areas on Sterling WMA to obtain a total count of user visits throughout the hunting season. In addition, as with all other WMAs excepting Montpelier, more detailed information was gathered at voluntary sign-in stations to gather opinions and information on types of use. Compliance with the new travel management imposed on the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area was again monitored.
- Established vegetation transects were surveyed on 2 big game winter ranges in order to document forage utilization and changes in plant condition and species composition. GPS and ArcView software was used to map plant communities and track noxious weed infestations. Department personnel coordinated closely with 7 county weed departments and 4 CWMA's to share information.
- Sharp-tailed grouse lek surveys were conducted on Portneuf WMA. Waterfowl pair counts and brood surveys were conducted on Sterling WMA.

- Habitat personnel assisted with aerial surveys, lek surveys, dove banding at Sterling WMA, biological check stations, and research projects to monitor movements and population trends of upland game, waterfowl, and big game.
- Small mammalian predators were removed from Sterling WMA throughout nesting season (see Project III above).

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- Due to time constraints, only 6 of 23 vegetation transects were surveyed on big game winter ranges; however, all data was entered into an electronic database.
- User surveys for WMAs in the East District do not provide level of use due to a lack of traffic counters.
- Pheasant crow counts at Sterling WMA were not conducted. Due to low population levels, it was decided that the method does not provide an effective means of detecting variations in population.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- User survey records summarized for Blackfoot River WMA, Georgetown Summit WMA, Portneuf WMA, and Sterling WMA with internal Regional memos and reports
- Waterfowl production records summarized for Sterling WMA in an internal Regional report
- Sharp-tailed grouse lek records summarized for Portneuf WMA in an internal Regional report
- Dove banding records are available from the state office

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Collect public use information on Department-managed properties to determine public use levels, user activities, and harvest information.
- Collect information on wildlife habitat on public land.
- Collect information on wildlife populations on public land.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Cartier Slough WMA and a portion of Tex Creek WMA are BOR mitigation projects for the Ririe Dam and Teton Dam projects. Gem State WHA is a City of Idaho Falls mitigation project. Deer Parks WMU and Twin Bridges WMU are BPA mitigation projects. IDFG owns lands at Market Lake WMA, Mud Lake WMA, Chilly Sough WCA, SCWMA, and TCWMA. Other properties are managed by the Department via agreements and management plans. BPA mitigation projects have defined monitoring programs. TCWMA and Cartier Slough WMA are managed consistent with the BOR Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan of 2001.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Public use information was collected via traffic counters, incidental personal contact surveys, and some stratified random surveys per Regional protocol.
- Wildlife habitat was monitored on managed properties with permanent vegetation transects, photo points, and GIS mapping. An emphasis was placed on mapping noxious weeds and control operations.

- Wildlife populations were monitored in a wide variety of methods. Some of those methods included lek survey routes, hunter harvest reports, aerial surveys, goose pair counts, point count surveys, wing barrels, brood counts, and direct observations of individuals and groups of animals.
- Piezometers were installed at SCWMA to monitor water tables in order to determine effects on federally threatened Utes Ladies Tresses.
- RHBs monitored habitat on some public land via field tours with federal and state agency personnel and through independent inspections of grazing allotments and proposed timber and range projects.
- RHBs inspected sites for proposed subdivisions and reported findings in comment letters to county planning and zoning officials.
- RHBs inspected proposed conservation easements submitted by the Teton Regional Land Trust (TRLT) as requested and reported findings to TRLT personnel.
- Habitat staff assisted with trapping and banding of mourning doves.
- Habitat staff assisted with trapping and radio-collaring deer and elk.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Waterfowl brood surveys conducted only on some areas and not every year.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- Results from wildlife population surveys and monitoring are published in PR reports prepared by the wildlife populations staff
- Other survey data is recorded and kept in Regional files

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho
Grant number: W-173-D
Segment number: 21
Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management
Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005
Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands including recreational use, opinions, hunting success, and harvest.
 - Collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information on Department-managed lands.
 - Collect and/or obtain current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information for statewide management recommendations.
6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -
7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**
 - Three elk, 1 goat, 1 bighorn sheep, and 2 deer surveys were conducted.
 - All sage-grouse lek routes were run 4 times, the data compiled, updated, and stored in Regional databases.
 - A data base system was created to store the Region’s big game aerial survey data.
 - We assisted with fawn mortality studies in Units 36B and 30, sage-grouse telemetry and radio-collaring in Unit 37, and conducted bear bait transects in Unit 36B.
 - Fourteen workdays were spent assisting the Challis Sage-grouse Local Working Group in completing its sage-grouse management plan.

- 8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

- NA -

- 9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

Data from surveys were incorporated into appropriate PR reports and Department management plans

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Actual PR and State Match costs represent payments made through June 30, 2005. Expenditures after June 30, 2005 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by December 30, 2005.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	\$152,794	\$93,576
State: Match	\$50,932	\$31,192
Total Project	\$203,726	\$124,768

5. Objectives:

1. To provide current wildlife habitat and population information, concerns, and recommendations to state, federal, and private parties contemplating projects with the potential to affect wildlife.
2. To provide technical habitat and population management advice to public and private landowners and other agencies in order to sustain or enhance wildlife resources.

6. If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.

Technical guidance provided by habitat personnel to outside entities is funded by PR, State License, and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$191,671 (leave and overhead costs not included). This 47% increase in total expenditures over the previous year was supported by the Contribution Agreement with NRCS that established 2 new Farm Bill Coordinator positions. The primary duty of the Coordinators was to provide technical guidance to private landowners interested in Farm Bill conservation programs. Federal assistance funds and Idaho's funding match accounted for 48% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Habitat personnel dedicated more than 900 days to implement the technical guidance project. Objectives were often met by working cooperatively and collaboratively with other state and federal agencies, private parties, and non-governmental organizations. Examples of how these objectives were met include the following: mule deer management in SE Idaho, hydropower relicensing, urban-wildland development, forest practices, livestock grazing management, range rehabilitation, noxious weed control, wetland and riparian enhancement, transportation projects, wind-power development, and wildlife habitat improvements on private property.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

-NA-

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Idaho Habitat Program Annual Report for FY05
Clearwater Elk Collaborative Final Report
Conservation Agreement for Sage-grouse in the Greater Curlew Valley Area in Southeast Idaho
Agency comment letters for land use planning are stored on the IDFG network and managed by
Natural Policy Bureau

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Panhandle Region. All work was accomplished in Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Shoshone, and Benewah counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Provide current wildlife habitat and population information, concerns, and recommendations to state, federal, and private parties contemplating projects with the potential to affect wildlife.
- Provide technical habitat and population management advice to public and private landowners and other agencies in order to sustain or enhance wildlife resources.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The Panhandle Habitat Section is funded by a variety of sources including state-generated license funds, PR funds, DJ funds, and BPA funds. Funding sources are used in a coordinated fashion to attain similar, supporting objectives.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Panhandle Habitat Section staff met regularly with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NRCS, Farm Service Agency (FSA), Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Idaho Department of Lands (IDL), Idaho Department of Water Resources, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and Idaho Department of Agriculture. Additionally, contact was maintained with the major private landowners throughout the Panhandle including primarily timber companies, large farmers/ranchers, and hydropower operators. As requested by private entities and as deemed prudent with public entities, Panhandle Habitat Section Staff reviewed project proposals and provided input to reduce, eliminate, and/or mitigate for potential wildlife impacts associated with land management activities.

- 8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.**

Technical guidance issues were addressed as anticipated. No discrepancies of consequence exist.

- 9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.**

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Clearwater Region. All work was accomplished in Clearwater, Idaho, Latah, Lewis, and Nez Perce counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Provide current wildlife population and habitat information, concerns, and recommendations to federal, state, and local government agencies, industry, and private parties regarding potential wildlife impacts and mitigation actions related to projects that they are proposing within Clearwater Region.
- Work closely with the public, including private landowners, to maintain and improve habitat on both public and private lands.
- Provide technical assistance to NRCS through the TSP program.
- Provide outdoor recreational opportunities.
- Share information with internal and external customers.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

In October 2004, the Department entered into a Contribution Agreement with NRCS to provide Technical Services for planning and implementation of wildlife practices within the USDA Farm Bill. Funding to implement the Contribution Agreement was provided by NRCS. Implementation of the Contribution Agreement, in combination with the Department's HIP and LIP programs, greatly expanded the Department's landowner contacts and our ability to affect large acreages of habitat for upland game and other wildlife species.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Provided TSP services to NRCS. Made contact with over 220 landowners in regard to NRCS programs, LIP, and the Department's HIP program and Pheasant Initiative. Completed 71

Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) contracts, completed 17 CRP (CP-10) projects, completed 1 CCRP (riparian) project and initiated 7 others.

- Responded to requests for Department input on proposed projects within respective habitat districts in Clearwater Region. Provided information on wildlife habitat, probable species impacts and/or recommended mitigation measures.
- Participated on the Tri-State Weed Management Committee; Clearwater Weed Management Committee; Clearwater Elk Initiative; Senator Crapo's Elk Collaborative; Dworshak Land Management Committee; USFS Forest Plan Wildlife Committee; the Cow Creek, Potlatch Creek, and Palouse River Watershed Advisory Groups; NSWCD Conservation Priority Working Group; Palouse Technical Priority Working Group; and Nez Perce and Latah County AFO and EQUIP Technical Committees. Provided technical assistance to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers motorized access issues related to existing elk mitigation area.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Final Elk Collaborative Report to Senator Crapo

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southwest Region. All work was accomplished in Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Provide current wildlife population and habitat information, concerns, and recommendations to federal, state, and local government agencies, industry, and private parties regarding potential wildlife impacts of projects which they are planning within Southwest Region.
- Provide technical advice on wildlife habitat and species information to private parties and public entities to assist them in decisions on management activities which will sustain or enhance wildlife resources.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

The PR project grant provided a portion of personnel funds for administration and implementation of project objectives. Additional costs for personnel salaries and operations related to technical assistance objectives were covered by non-project state license funds and other federal grants.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

Regional habitat personnel responded to requests for technical assistance regarding potential impacts of proposed projects as requested either through individual evaluations and comment or participation in cooperative groups:

- In response to approximately 120 requests for comment on proposed projects within Southwest Region, biologists provided information on wildlife habitat, probable species impacts, and recommended mitigation measures using current available sources resulting in 81 written responses.

- Participated in interagency and intradepartmental technical and advisory groups for species recovery, hydropower development, and regional planning.

Wildlife habitat program personnel responded as requested in person, via telephone, or letter to approximately 110 direct inquiries regarding methods and recommendations for management of wildlife habitat on private and public lands within Southwest Region.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005
3. **Location of work:** Magic Valley Region. All work was accomplished in Blaine, Camas, Cassia, Elmore, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Oneida, Owyhee, and Twin Falls counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objectives:**
 - Provide current wildlife habitat and population information, concerns, and recommendations to state, federal, and private parties contemplating projects with the potential to affect fish and wildlife resources in Magic Valley Region.
 - Provide technical habitat and population management advice to public and private landowners and other agencies in order to sustain or enhance wildlife resources.
6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -
7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**
 - Worked with BLM, USFS, FSA, NRCS, and similar entities by providing information regarding resident and migratory wildlife populations within Magic Valley Region and how proposed land management practices or treatments may affect those resources directly and indirectly.
 - Provided 101 written comments regarding proposed land management practices to city, county, state, and federal agencies.
 - Provided technical assistance to 55 private landowners in Magic Valley Region wishing to improve habitat for wildlife resources

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- NA -

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Southeast Region. All work was accomplished in Bannock, Bear Lake, Caribou, Franklin, Power, and portions of Bingham and Oneida counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

Provide current wildlife habitat and population information concerns, and recommendations to state, federal, and private parties contemplating projects with the potential to affect wildlife. Provide technical habitat and population management advice to public and private landowners and other agencies in order to sustain or enhance wildlife resources.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

PR funding was used to cover portions of permanent and temporary salaries as well as operating funds. All funding sources were used to accomplish the objectives as listed below.

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Habitat staff worked closely with the Regional Environmental Staff Biologist to gather and provide input or otherwise represent the Department on 29 projects, tours, or meetings.
- Staff attended training on Farm Bill rules and have developed a close working relationship with the new Farm Bill Coordinator. We continued to assess potential impacts to wildlife values on CRP plantings and other habitat, especially regarding improvements proposed by ourselves or other land managers.
- The West Habitat District biologist was heavily involved in the development of the final draft of the Conservation Agreement for Sage Grouse in the Greater Curlew Valley. We have continued work with the Greater Curlew Valley Sage Grouse Working Group, especially regarding the initiation of research work to assess use patterns. The Caribou-Targhee Forest Travel Plan Revision (USFS) involved our staff in several aspects, but culminated in assistance to develop maps depicting the impacts of different alternatives. We continued

correspondence with BLM, Caribou County, and the Shoshone-Bannock tribes regarding the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area Management Plan and implementation of travel restrictions.

- Provided technical assistance to approximately 70 private landowners for improvement or development of wildlife habitat through the Habitat Management Program. This included the development of 30 cooperative agreements as well as the improvement of approximately 450 additional acres of private land (15 CRP cooperators with important mule deer habitat) at no cost to the landowner.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

Progress on the Soda Hills Mitigation Area management plan has still been insufficient. We have participated in the scoping process by BLM in developing their overall management plan for the area. We have also cooperated with Shoshone-Bannock Tribe's and Department populations and research staff to acquire transmitters to study deer and elk movement patterns in the area.

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Final draft - Conservation Agreement for Sage Grouse in the Greater Curlew Valley Area in Southeast Idaho

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Custer, Fremont, Jefferson, Lemhi, Madison, and Teton counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Provide wildlife habitat and population information, concerns, and recommendations to local, state and federal agencies proposing projects or considering actions with the potential to affect wildlife.
- Provide assistance to private landowners who have interests in improving wildlife habitat on their property.
- Provide technical assistance which will sustain or enhance wildlife resources and which will help alleviate wildlife problems or concerns.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

Technical assistance is provided to the public and other agencies from a variety of employees in Upper Snake Region. The Habitat Section is responsible for providing technical assistance to private landowners who wish to improve their property for wildlife. The Habitat Section is also responsible for projects that are proposed at the Habitat District level, which may affect wildlife habitat. These would include subdivisions, timber sales, range allotment plans, prescribed fires, and other projects submitted by area agency representatives. The Region's Environmental Staff Biologist handles programs and projects that will impact the entire Upper Snake Region or a significant portion thereof. The Environmental Staff Biologist is also responsible for projects that deal with water issues and most fisheries issues. The Region's Landowner Sportsmen Coordinator is responsible for responding to landowners with wildlife depredation complaints and public access issues.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Requests for technical assistance were routed through the Regional Supervisor who assigned them to either the RWHM, Environmental Staff Biologist, or Landowner Sportsmen Coordinator.
- The RWHM assigned technical assistance projects to the appropriate RHB.
- The RHB prepared draft comment letters for subsequent approval by the RWHM and the Regional Supervisor.
- The Habitat section did its best to respond to all requests for technical assistance and to provide some technical guidance independent of whether cost-sharing was available from the Department.
- RHBs were encouraged to become familiar with and maintain current knowledge of habitats, issues, and projects within their Habitat Districts.
- Regional Habitat staff were encouraged to develop and maintain close working relationships with field-level personnel of local, state, and federal agencies as well as key members of non-governmental organizations operating within their Habitat District.
- Technical assistance is provided in written form, verbally, and often in person and onsite.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

Project comment letters are kept on file in the Regional office

Name, title, phone number, and e-mail address of person compiling this report:

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**FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION
ANNUAL PROJECT PERFORMANCE REPORT**

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 21

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2004 to June 30, 2005

Report due date: September 30, 2005

3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.

4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. **Objectives:**

- Provide current wildlife habitat and population information, concerns, and recommendations to state, federal, and private parties contemplating projects with the potential to affect wildlife.
- Provide technical habitat and population management advice to public and private landowners and other agencies in order to sustain or enhance wildlife resources.

6. **If the work in this grant was part of a larger undertaking with other components and funding, present a brief overview of the larger activity and the role of this project.**

- NA -

7. **Describe how the objectives were met.**

- Provided 23 written comments to various federal, state, county agencies, and cities addressing wildlife concerns on proposed land management/development projects. This required attendance at 16 agency/interagency meetings. Worked with other wildlife staff to put together a template letter which addresses subdivisions in Salmon Region.
- Continued participating as a steering committee member in the FCRONR Noxious Weed Management Area. Represented Salmon Region at 1 meeting and 1 field trip on the Lemhi CWMA. Represented Salmon Region at the Challis Stewardship LSGWG monthly meetings. Represented Salmon Region on the Department's TRD team which addressed the state's White-tailed deer Management Plan.
- Represented Salmon Region on the Department's Statewide Lands Committee and the Challis Experimental Stewardship team. Access area signs were also ordered (\$1,800) and placed this spring to better guide and inform the public to fishing access areas on the main Salmon River.

8. Discuss differences between work anticipated in grant proposal and grant agreement, and that actually carried out with Federal Aid grant funds.

- NA -

9. List any publications or in-house reports resulting from this work.

- All response letters are kept in the Region's archives
- Letters and verbal responses at meetings are kept in various federal and state documents

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Submitted by:

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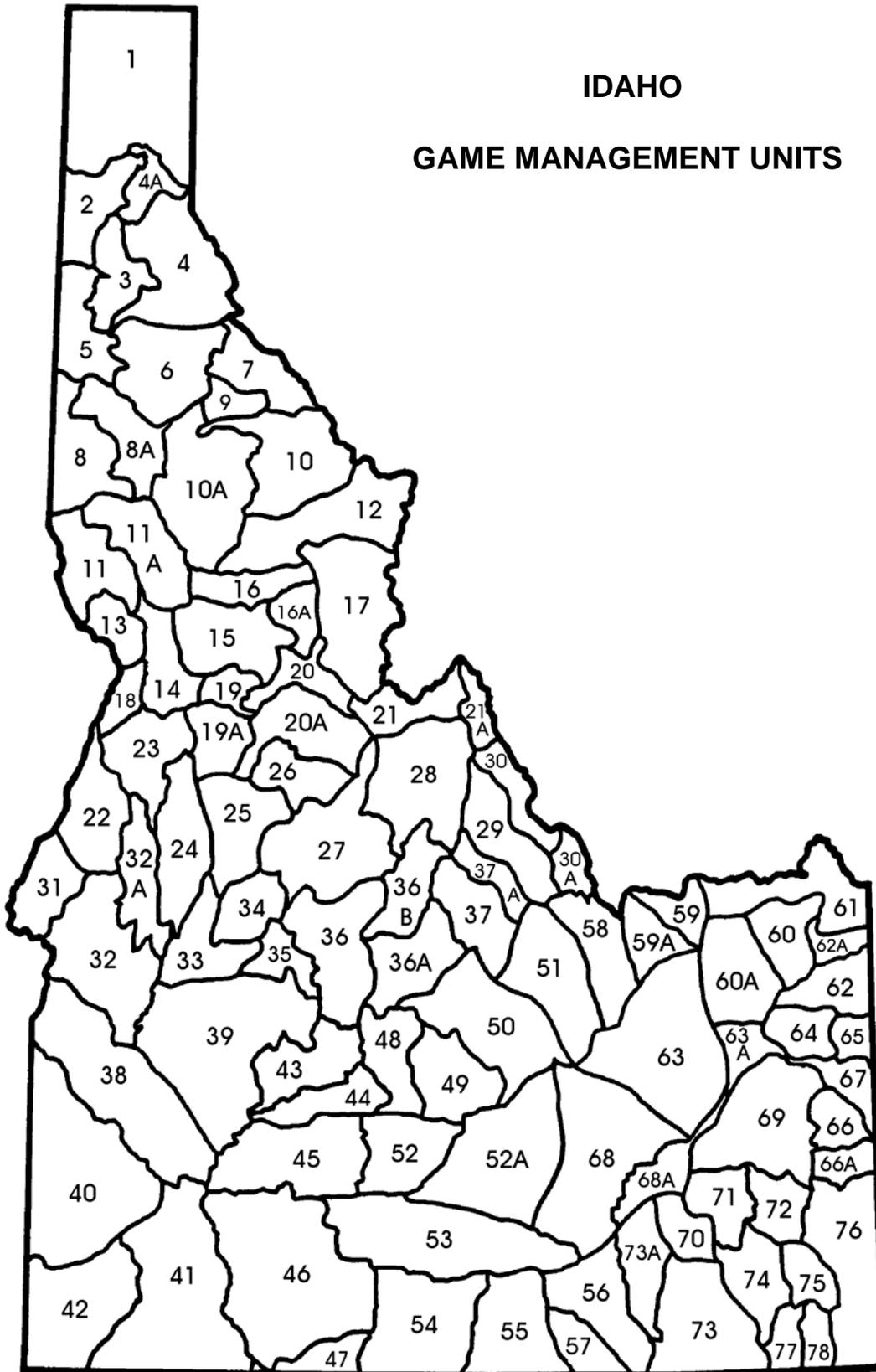
Approved by: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Dale E. Towell
Wildlife Program Coordinator
Federal Aid Coordinator

James W. Unsworth, Chief
Bureau of Wildlife

IDAHO

GAME MANAGEMENT UNITS



FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Program consists of funds from a 10% to 11% manufacturer's excise tax collected from the sale of handguns, sporting rifles, shotguns, ammunition, and archery equipment. The Federal Aid program then allots the funds back to states through a formula based on each state's geographic area and the number of paid hunting license holders in the state. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game uses the funds to help restore, conserve, manage, and enhance wild birds and mammals for the public benefit. These funds are also used to educate hunters to develop the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to be responsible, ethical hunters. Seventy-five percent of the funds for this project are from Federal Aid. The other 25% comes from license-generated funds.

