

IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Cal Groen, Director

Project W-173-D-23

FEDERAL AID IN WILDLIFE RESTORATION

Annual Project Performance Report



WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT

July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

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September 2007
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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Budgeted funds and actual expenditures include overhead and leave costs. Actual Pitman Robertson (PR) and State Match expenditures represent payments made through 30 June 2007. Expenditures after 30 June 2007 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by 29 December 2007. All values were rounded to the nearest \$100.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	609,000	485,700
State: Match	203,000	161,900
Total Project	812,000	647,600

5. Objective(s):

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 and State License funds and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources were approximately \$1,124,035 not including overhead costs. Federal Assistance funds (including Idaho's funding match) accounted for 48.7% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking. Forty out of the 48 full-time employees working

within the Habitat Program were supported in part by PR funding during this grant period.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

One State Habitat Manager provided habitat program direction, coordinated work plan activities, administered budgets, facilitated recruiting efforts, and provided interagency coordination statewide. Six Regional Habitat Managers coordinated and administered habitat program activities at the regional level and supervised 24 Regional Wildlife Biologists and 3 Utility Craftsmen. Regional Wildlife Biologists administered all habitat program responsibilities within their designated Habitat District and supervised 6 Wildlife Technicians assigned to specific Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) or a portion of a Habitat District. Three additional Habitat Biologists were assigned to Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) Centers or Soil and Water Conservation District (Conservation Planner) offices to administer wildlife conservation programs on private land. Utility Craftsmen coordinated habitat maintenance activities region-wide. Biologists and Utility Craftsmen recruit, train, and supervise temporary employees hired to complete specific assignments.

Two Senior Wildlife Technician positions were reclassified and shifted to new assignments. One position shifted to a population biologist and the second remained in the habitat program.

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

Additional personnel changes after 1 July will close the gap between budget and actual expense.

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

FY07 Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) Habitat Program Report
FY07 IDFG Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) Final Performance Report I-1-1
FY07 IDFG LIP Interim Performance Report I-2-1

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 1, 2007

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. Objective(s):

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, 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.

The 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. Objective(s):

Develop and maintain an effective work force to implement habitat program objectives. Work closely with the public, including private landowners, to maintain and improve habitat on both public and private lands. Provide technical assistance to the NRCS through the Technical Service Provider (TSP) program and Contribution Agreement. 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.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Implemented the Clearwater Region Wildlife Habitat Program objectives through regional program personnel, including 4 Habitat Biologists, 2 Wildlife Technicians, 1 Utility Craftsman, 1 Maintenance Craftsman, 1 Habitat Manager, and several seasonal support personnel. Personnel were involved with habitat management activities on 3 wildlife management areas comprised of 81,200 deeded acres and

- 40,000 acres under lease or cooperative management agreement, 4 Wildlife Habitat Areas (WMA) encompassing 437 acres, and custodial management of 5 conservation easements. Coordinated and managed budgets, including both state and federal.
- Provided TSP support to the NRCS.
 - Participated on the Tri-State and Salmon River Weed Management Committees.
 - Participated in training including Certified Public Manager training, Herbicide Safety and Training, Supervision, NRCS TSP, OC Spray/Defensive Chemical Weapon, IDFG In-Service Training School, Idaho Chapter Wildlife Society, and North Central Idaho Grazing Conference.
 - Coordinated furbearer management in the Clearwater Region.
 - Participated on the Department's Lands Committee to evaluate potential habitat acquisitions in Idaho.
 - Coordinated with the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the IDFG Commission, and the public to purchase the 2,800 acre Redbird Creek property adjacent to the Craig Mountain WMA (CMWMA).
 - Coordinated with the Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) and the Department's Lands Committee on a proposed 5,000 acre land trade between the Department and IDL.
 - Coordinated with IDL, the Nez Perce Tribe, and Clearwater Realty Company on the development of an additional land trade on Craig Mountain to benefit wildlife and the public.
 - Worked with adjacent landowners and members of the public on motorized and administrative access-related issues on CMWMA.
 - Coordinated with BPA and the Nez Perce Tribe on CMWMA management.
 - Wrote newspaper articles on wildlife related issues.
 - Developed draft Youth Mentored Hunt Program and Guidelines, in coordination with regional personnel, Pheasants Forever, IDFG Headquarters, and members of the public.
 - Applied for and received grant monies from the Wild Turkey Federation and Pheasants Forever.
 - Developed wildlife seeding mix handout for landowners in Nez Perce and Latah counties.
 - Administered public firewood timber sale on CMWMA, resulting in an estimated \$2,000 in receipts toward the CMWMA budget.
 - Coordinated with other regional and headquarters personnel and individual outfitter and guides regarding permits outfitting on CMWMA.
 - Developed third mobility impaired route on CMWMA.
 - Conducted public open house covering future management of CMWMA and newly acquired Redbird Creek property.
 - Provided presentations on habitat-related issues during sportsman's breakfasts or as requested by other groups.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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:**

Develop and maintain an effective and efficient work force to implement habitat program objectives, administer project resources, coordinate project activities and share information with internal and external customers, manage the disposal of dead wildlife, and control of predators.

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.**

Additional license funds were budgeted for this project to provide for operations, maintenance, capital improvements, and a portion of personnel costs throughout the Southwest Region, including Fort Boise, Boise River, Cecil D. Andrus, C.J. Strike, and Payette River WMAs. PR project funds provided a portion of personnel funds for administration and implementation of project objectives. The Southwest Region habitat management program also includes the Nampa Habitat District and McCall Subregion, which are funded entirely through other sources.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Southwest Region Wildlife Habitat Program objectives were met through regional program personnel. Five biologists, 2 wildlife technicians, 1 utility craftsman, and a variable number of seasonal support personnel in 5 habitat districts in which PR project funds provided a portion of personnel funds were supervised by the RWHM. A total of 50.75 months of permanent personnel salaries and 14.38 months of temporary personnel salaries were supported with this project.

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

Personnel funds expended were slightly less than the grant amount due to the retirement of 1 permanent employee and reduced availability of temporary employees.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
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. **Objective(s):**
 - 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 regional intra-regional staff, 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 the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) regional staff to discuss issues and provide project updates. Regional staff attended County Commissioner meetings, NRCS/Farm Service Agency (FSA) meetings, and sportsmen organizational meetings

and banquets to discuss fish and wildlife habitat modifications and population monitoring in the Magic Valley Region.

- Regional habitat staff worked with intra-regional staff, reservists, and volunteers on numerous projects in the 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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 as listed below.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Fifty-nine habitat cooperative agreements were reviewed. This included 23 projects geared toward upland game through the Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) and another 40 projects of forb and shrub plantings to benefit upland and big game through the Mule Deer Initiative (MDI) on private land (mostly Conservation Reserve), Department lands, and other public lands.
- The habitat manager participated in Soda Hills BPA Wildlife Mitigation Area management including 2 meetings with BLM and Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and

Caribou County officials to improve access facilities and limit impacts to wintering wildlife.

- Participated in 3 meetings and 1 field tour within and between regions to establish objectives and strategies regarding the MDI. The Department was also represented as part of the Eastern Idaho Aspen Working Group, and habitat personnel were actively involved in initial discussions and development of supporting documents.
- Regional personnel continued leading roles in the Curlew, Big Desert, and East Idaho Uplands sage-grouse working groups.
- Represented the region on the Lands Committee, attending 4 meetings and 2 conference calls. Prepared 2 new acquisition proposals for presentation to the Lands Committee.
- 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

- Maintain contact and liaison with federal, state, and local government and private entities within Upper Snake Region regarding fish and wildlife habitat modifications plus population monitoring.
- Work with regional staff, reservists, volunteers, 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.

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. In 2007, a Farm Bill Coordinator position was added to the Habitat Section. This position coordinates with the NRCS, FSA, and SCDs to promote Farm Bill programs and accomplish projects.

- Regional habitat staff held coordination meetings with BLM and USFS regional staff to discuss issues, coordinate activities, and provide project updates. Regional habitat staff attended a coordination meeting with Wyoming Game and Fish, County Commissioner meetings, NRCS/FSA meetings, project open houses, and sportsmen organizational meetings and banquets to discuss fish and wildlife habitat modifications and population monitoring in the Upper Snake Region.
- Regional habitat staff worked with other regional staff, reservists, and volunteers on numerous projects in the Upper Snake Region. Population monitoring, habitat improvements, and public access projects comprised the majority of work performed.
- The RWHM participated at the state level to select Habitat Section members.
- The RWHM and RHBs provided orientation of new employees during an annual presentation.
- Training opportunities were provided for employees including attendance at professional society meetings.
- Several habitat biologists are participating on statewide management planning efforts and one is serving as a board member of the Idaho Weed Council.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project I – Coordination and Administration

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

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.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

The Salmon Region is comprised of 1 Habitat District which is assigned 1 budget and employee from the Wildlife Habitat Program. The Regional Wildlife Habitat Biologist acts as the Regional Habitat Manager and is supervised by the Regional Wildlife Manager. There is 1 Utility Craftsman and 1 Wildlife Technician who assists with district level activities and supervised by the Regional Habitat Biologist. Two volunteers were used on projects contributing 42 hours of their time.

- 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.**

Annual PR report

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Budgeted funds and actual expenditures include overhead and leave costs. Actual PR and State Match expenditures represent payments made through 30 June 2007. Expenditures after 30 June 2007 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by 29 December 2007. All values were rounded to the nearest \$100.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	368,600	349,700
State: Match	122,900	116,500
Total Project	491,500	466,200

5. Objective(s):

To operate and maintain buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 31 WMAs 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 and State License funds and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$1,426,400, not including overhead costs. Federal Assistance funds (including Idaho's funding match) accounted for 32.7% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

In FY07, habitat personnel maintained approximately 273 miles of roads, 12 miles of trails, 462 miles of fences, constructed 7 miles of new fence, 138 parking areas, 70 buildings, 30 restrooms, numerous signs, 106 water control structures, 51 miles of dikes, 8 miles of irrigation pipe, 10 miles of canals, and equipment used for operation and maintenance.

- The Rapid Lightning Creek Bridge on the Pend Oreille WMA was replaced.
- The Boundary Creek WMA water system was connected to the Smith Creek Property water delivery system.
- The Portneuf WMA fencing project is underway but was not completed due to extremely hazardous fire conditions. Repairs were again made to the fencing on a conservation easement property in Oneida County.
- At Market Lake WMA, 2 water control structures on the Sandy Marsh Drain were replaced, and a new water control structure on the North Triangle Marsh was added, improving water level management on an existing wetland (Upper Snake Region).

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

- A washed out water control structure located on the Rapid Lightning segment of the Pend Oreille WMA was slated for replacement in FY07. The project was delayed due to logistical issues and has been rescheduled for FY08.
- Work on the Farragut WMA Range was postponed following issuance of a court ruling which placed restrictions upon current development options.
- The Portneuf WMA fence project is underway but will likely not be completed until after fire conditions moderate in mid-September.

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

FY07 IDFG Habitat Program 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 1, 2007

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. Objective(s):

Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 7 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.

- A total of 15 miles of roads, 2 miles of fence, 10 parking areas, 7 buildings, 6 restrooms, 50 signs, 25 water control structures, and 12 dikes were maintained.
- The Rapid Lightning Creek Bridge on the Pend Oreille WMA was replaced. The IDL was the lead agency, handling all design work, permitting issues, and contracting responsibilities. The BLM and 6 adjoining private landowners were also participating partners.

- The Boundary Creek WMA water delivery system was connected to the Smith Creek Property water delivery system.
- Trees and brush were cleared from the Hidden Island and Bare Marsh trails on the Coeur d'Alene River WMA.
- Nine wildlife/wetland interpretive signs were secured and are scheduled to be installed on the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation managed bike path which passes through the 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.

- A washed out water control structure located on the Rapid Lightning segment of the Pend Oreille WMA was slated for replacement in FY07. The project was delayed due to logistical issues and has been rescheduled for FY08.
- Work on the Farragut WMA Range was postponed following issuance of a court ruling which placed restrictions upon current development options.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. Objective(s):

Provide quality habitat, public hunting, and other wildlife-oriented recreation on over 128,000 acres of WMAs, WHAs, and conservation easements in the Clearwater Region. Operate and maintain buildings, structures, and other necessary infrastructure.

<u>Area Name</u>	<u>Acres</u>
WMAs	
Red River	314
Craig Mountain	126,900 ¹
Joseph Plains	1,300
South Fork Clearwater	330
WHAs	
Aspendale	13
Fir Island	38
Paradise	19

¹ Includes 81,400 deeded acres, 40,000 acres cooperatively managed with BLM and IDL, and 5,500 acres cooperatively managed with the Nez Perce Tribe.

EASEMENTS

Anderson (White Bird Creek)	21
Henderson (Lawyer's Creek)	29
Koehler (Tolo Lake)	16

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 the noxious weed management program.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Maintained 58 miles of road, including the development and implementation of a \$30,000 cooperative grant and road project with Idaho Parks and Recreation and Nez Perce County Road Department.
- 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.
- Procured a \$54,000 grant from Idaho State Department of Agriculture and a \$20,000 grant from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation and treated over 1,350 acres of noxious weeds on CMWMA, including aerial applications on 800 acres of whitetop and 400 acres of yellow starthistle and 150 acres of ground applications on a variety of species of noxious weeds.
- Maintained facilities at Red River and Billy Creek, Wapshilla Creek, and Benton Meadows on CMWMA.
- Maintained and provided 7.7 miles of roads specifically for mobility impaired sportsmen on CMWMA.
- Worked with Sportsman for Fish and Wildlife and other volunteer groups to remove old buildings and corrals at newly acquired Redbird Creek property.
- Continued to negotiate on an agreement with landowner across river in order to continue to most efficiently access Billy Creek Ranch for habitat enhancement and administrative activities.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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 92,418 acres, to provide wildlife habitat, public hunting, and other wildlife-oriented recreation:

<u>Area Name</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.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- Maintained 132 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.
- Treated 3,820 acres of weeds on lands owned or managed by the Department.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. Objective(s):

Operate and maintain facilities, buildings, fences, gates, irrigation water delivery systems, and infrastructure on 5 WMAs in the Magic Valley Region to provide wildlife habitat, public hunting, wildlife viewing, wildlife conservation education, and other wildlife-related recreational opportunities on 7,026 acres of Department land. Magic Valley Region PR Funded WMAs include:

- Hagerman
- Billingsley Creek
- Centennial Marsh
- Carey Lake
- Big Cottonwood

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 8.5 miles of hiking and horseback riding trails for public access to Department-managed lands; 17.5 miles of fence; 11 miles of unimproved roads; 6.5 acres of vehicle parking area; 5 restrooms; 7 miles of gated, wheel, and hand-line irrigation pipe; maintained and repaired 8 project buildings and equipment; operated and maintained 33 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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 the administration of the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area and private property that is enrolled in the HIP program. Through MDI, the Department also cooperates 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. Signs,

gates, and stiles to control access on the Soda Springs mitigation area (BPA mitigation) were maintained. In cooperation with USFS, 1 unauthorized motorized trail on Montpelier WMA was physically closed. One administrative road on Sterling WMA was graveled and a number of parking areas were upgraded.

- The old shop building at Sterling WMA was razed and the ground reclaimed and seeded.
- All other structures received maintenance as needed. The cabin at the Blackfoot River WMA was given a thorough cleaning, but none of the propane appliances have been installed.
- 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 the Portneuf WMA, the fencing project is underway but was not completed due to extremely hazardous fire conditions. Repairs were again made to the 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.

The Portneuf WMA fence project is underway but will likely not be completed until after fire conditions moderate in mid-September.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Butte, Bonneville, Bingham, Custer, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objective(s):**
 - 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	1,028	Madison
Gem State WHA	70	Jefferson

Twin Bridges (Allen) WMU	81	Jefferson
Access Areas	600	Madison and Teton
Beaver Dick WMU	310	Jefferson
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	32,337	Bonneville
Easements		
Winterfeld	422	Bonneville
Birch Creek Ranches	300	Clark
Total Acres administered: 86,362		

Cartier Slough WMA and a portion of Tex Creek WMA (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 Slough 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. Most vehicles and boats are on a Department-managed fleet maintenance system. Some services are contracted locally.
- Constructed 7 miles of fence (again), maintained 14 buildings, 148 miles of fence, 38 miles of roads, and 4 miles of trails. Maintained 22 miles of dikes, over 25 parking areas, 230 goose nest boxes, 73 wood duck boxes, 35 ponds and at least 20 kiosks including 1 new kiosk. Hundreds of water control structures were maintained and at

- least 60 (headgates) were replaced. Six irrigation wells, pumps and associated sprinkler lines were maintained. About 10 miles of irrigation ditches were maintained and repaired.
- Enhanced 1 building for storage of herbicide by adding a concrete floor.
 - Installed new compound security gates at Market Lake WMA.
 - Insulated Market Lake shop so it could be heated and used in winter.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project II – Operation and Maintenance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

- Supervise the operation and maintenance of buildings, structures, and infrastructure on 7 backcountry WHAs and 28 access areas at current levels of use. These properties provide wildlife and fisheries habitat; fishing, hunting and boating access; and other wildlife-oriented recreation.
- Perimeter fencing, 1 outhouse, and a footbridge are scheduled for placement at the Pahsimeroi River Access Area (PRAA) WMA. Both sites are on disturbed/filled areas. A comprehensive cultural survey was completed on 23 January 2006 by S. Miller, Faunal Analysis and CRM Services. No cultural concerns exist except for a log building which is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The 2 projects are located about 1 mile from the log structure and will have no impact on its designation.

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.

- Supervised and maintained the region's 7 miles of roads and trails, 4 miles of fence, 28 parking areas, 5 buildings, 8 restrooms, signs, 3 water control structures and equipment used for operation and maintenance.
- The Elk Bend outhouse was completed. The PRAA outhouse (CXT) was delayed to FY08 due to easement issues. The footbridge was delayed to FY08 due to delays in completing the required NEPA documents.
- PRAA perimeter jack fence was completed.

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

- The PRAA outhouse (CXT) was delayed to FY08 due to easement issues.
- The footbridge was delayed to FY08 due to delays in completing the required NEPA documents.

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

Annual PR 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Budgeted funds and actual expenditures include overhead and leave costs. Actual PR and State Match expenditures represent payments made through 30 June 2007. Expenditures after 30 June 2007 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by 29 December 2007. All values were rounded to the nearest \$100.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	352,500	350,400
State: Match	117,500	116,800
Total Project	470,000	467,200

5. Objective(s):

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 and State License funds and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$2,394,500, not including overhead costs. Federal Assistance funds (including Idaho's funding match) accounted for 16.5% 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.

PR funding helped habitat personnel accomplish 16.5% of the following accomplishments:

- Habitat personnel manipulated water levels on approximately 5,400 acres of wetlands to provide seasonal habitats for various wildlife; treated over 17,500 acres of noxious weeds through integrated noxious weed control (PR funded 1,650 acres of biological control and 5,500 acres of mechanical); produced food and nesting cover for waterfowl and upland game birds on over 10,000 acres; restored 1,630 acres of winter range by planting or seeding grasses, shrubs, and forbs; planted an additional 50,000 shrubs but acreage was not recorded; and managed livestock grazing on over 56,000 acres of big game winter range. This partial list is representative of the habitat activities conducted during this grant period.

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

- **Centennial Marsh WMA, Magic Valley Region:** This project (planting 3 miles of riparian habitat [willows] along Camas Creek on the Centennial Marsh WMA) was approved the previous year (FY06) but was not completed. This year, bids for the project came in double what had been projected and there were no additional funds available to complete the project, so the project was postponed until we can secure additional funding. These funds were shifted to accomplishing Objective 3, specifically shrub plantings on an additional 200 acres of mule deer winter range.
- **Hagerman WMA, Magic Valley Region:** Developed 50 acres of upland bird and waterfowl nesting habitat on the Hagerman WMA. New plantings will occur during October 2007. PR funds were used for personnel only.

- **Tex Creek WMA, Upper Snake Region:** This project entailed planting a grass-forb mix into existing crop fields (210 acres). The project converted approximately 600 acres in total of cultivated pasture grass to a mix of bunch grasses, alfalfa, small burnett, and native forbs to provide better forage, cover, and nesting habitat for wildlife at Tex Creek WMA. The seedlings have all taken root and are doing well.
- **Sand Creek WMA, Upper Snake Region:** Renovated water delivery ditches, structures, and dikes at the Chester segment of Sand Creek WMA and repaired existing ponds and created new ponds via a North American Wetland Conservation Act grant and completed Ducks Unlimited engineering plan.

In addition to these activities which were listed in the project statement, 1,300 acres of winter range were developed this year, 412 acres of forest and timber were managed, over 400 acres of nesting cover were developed, 53 new nest boxes were placed, and more than 480 acres of trees and shrubs were planted.

Objective 3.

- Through the Habitat Improvement Program (HIP), habitat personnel worked with private landowners to implement conservation programs designed to restore wildlife habitat on private lands. Overall, approximately 15,092 acres (14,875 uplands, 217 wetlands) were enhanced through 154 HIP contracts established during this grant period. The top 5 practices included nesting cover establishment (8,416 acres), rangeland improvement (4,925 acres), food plot establishment (225 acres), wetland enhancement (117 acres), and riparian enhancement (80 acres). Also included here are the shrub plantings on an additional 200 acres of mule deer winter range.
- The Landowner Incentive Program is securing 2 Conservation Easements on 324.5 acres of private property benefiting species of concern (Palouse Prairie and Upper Henrys Fork). It also is replacing 2 water barriers and assisting with fencing on Duck and Kelly Creeks and Henrys Lake. Projects should be completed during the next fiscal year.

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

- The Centennial Marsh WMA project (planting 3 miles of riparian habitat [willows] along Camas Creek) was approved in FY06 but was not completed. This year, bids for the project came in double what had been projected and there were no additional funds available to complete the project, so the project has been postponed until we can secure additional funding. These funds were shifted to accomplishing Objective 3, specifically shrub plantings on an additional 200 acres of mule deer winter range.
- The proposed Objective 2 for Tex Creek WMA included a portion about marsh dikes. There are no marsh dikes at Tex Creek, and therefore this was not accomplished.

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

FY07 IDFG Habitat Program Report
FY07 HIP Annual Report
2006 Noxious Weed Report
Pheasant and Quail Initiative Annual Progress Report-2007
FY07 IDFG LIP Final Progress Report I-1-1
FY07 IDFG LIP Interim Progress Report I-2-1

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 1, 2007

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. Objective(s):

- 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 32,581 acres was evaluated for noxious weed infestations and control actions were implemented as appropriate. 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. On the remaining 1,023 acres, habitat improvement activities were completed in a fashion peripheral to facility development and operation.

1. Habitat development projects completed on Department-managed lands in FY07 include the following:
 - Approximately 5 acres were planted to native tree and shrub species on the Boundary Creek WMA in fall 2006.
 - Two cereal grain food plots totaling 5 acres were maintained on the Boundary Creek WMA to provide feed for upland game birds and migrating waterfowl.
 - A moist soil management strategy was continued on the 1,000-acre McArthur Lake WMA wetland complex to enhance wetland productivity and maintain hemi-marsh conditions.
 - A plan was developed to restore an old growth ponderosa pine stand located on Coeur d'Alene River WMA, presented to the public, and placed on the IDL timber sale schedule.
 - One wild turkey winter wheat food plot was planted on the Coeur d'Alene River WMA.

2. Additional habitat development projects were completed on privately-owned property. Development projects completed on private lands in FY07 involved 27 habitat agreements. Habitat agreements included the following:
 - Thirty-four wood duck boxes and 19 goose platforms were installed.
 - One shallow pond was constructed. Construction of a second shallow water area was initiated.
 - Twenty acres of grass plantings were completed.
 - Five acres were planted to native trees and shrubs.
 - Two acres of emergent wetland vegetation were planted.
 - Fifteen acres of winter wheat food plots were established.
 - Thirty-three acres of winter wheat stubble were maintained for upland game birds.
 - Progress was made toward a 500+ acre wetland restoration associated with the Pack River Flats. A restoration plan was generated, partners were solicited, and \$500,000 worth of grants funds were secured to complete the project in FY09.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. **Objective(s):**

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 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.**

By combining IDFG HIP funds, funds from outside grants, 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.**

- 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 16,000 riparian shrubs along 1.0 mile of stream, covering 15 acres.
- Completed 4 timber sales representing 776,000 board feet and covering 412 acres.

- Improved habitat conditions on CMWMA with the implementation of a public firewood sale, targeting diseased lodgepole pine.
- Improved big game range on CMWMA by developing new leases requiring better livestock movement and management associated with the Coordinated Resource Management Plan between the Department, Nez Perce Tribe, and IDL.
- Implemented a 1,600-acre prescribed burn (October 2006) in the Madden Creek drainage on the CMWMA, in coordination with BLM, USFS, and IDL. Purpose of fire was to improve wildlife habitat and reduce fuel loads.
- Developed wildlife habitat on over 4,300 acres private lands through the NRCS Farm Bill program and the Department's HIP program.
- Finalized a Memorandum of Understanding covering management of the FMHA Henderson Riparian Easement Area, resulting in better spacing and management of livestock on adjoining lands. Goal is to improve habitat on surrounding lands while protecting easement area 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 -

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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 the Southwest Region.
- Develop additional quantity of wildlife habitat to support increased production on Department-managed lands in the 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.

- NA -

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Wildlife habitat quality was improved on Department lands by the following:

- Management of livestock grazing on 56,000 acres of big game winter range to improve rangeland plant communities.

- Controlled noxious weeds and invasive plant species on 3,820 acres of Department-managed wildlife habitat.
- Managed water levels on 400 acres of ponds and wetlands to improve waterfowl nesting and brood-rearing habitat.
- Maintained 950 waterfowl nest structures.
- Planted and maintained 210 acres of food plots.
- Restored 1,160 acres of winter range by planting or seeding grasses, shrubs, and forbs.
- Continued efforts with public and private entities to restore water to Roswell Marsh WHA while managing vegetation on the area to optimize habitat values.
- Lined 1,050 feet of earthen ditch on the Birding Islands segment of the Payette River WMA to improve water delivery (100% license funding).

Developed wildlife habitat on private lands by the following:

- Coordinated with federal, state, and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) 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.
- Developed 2 waterfowl and 26 upland cost-share agreements to develop wildlife habitat on private land using Department HIP funds.

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

The area of fire-impacted winter range that was rehabilitated exceeded planned work due to a greater need than anticipated and the availability of additional resources to accomplish the work..

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. **Objective(s):**

Maintain wildlife habitat in the Magic Valley Region.

- Provide wintering habitat for waterfowl and upland birds.
- Provide nesting habitat for waterfowl and upland birds.
- Provide brood-rearing habitat for waterfowl.
- Provide feeding and foraging areas for waterfowl, upland birds, and shorebirds.

Develop wildlife habitat in the Magic Valley Region.

- Provide additional waterfowl and upland bird nesting and security cover areas.
- Increase availability and diversity of winter habitat for waterfowl, upland birds, and big game by planting 3 miles of riparian habitat (willows) along Camas Creek on Centennial Marsh WMA and establishing 2,500 linear feet of new shelterbelt at Carey Lake WMA.
- Provide additional foraging habitat.

Develop and enhance wildlife habitat on privately-owned lands in the 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 on PR funded WMAs.
- Utilized biological weed control of purple loosestrife on 200 acres of wetlands at the 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 28 acres of food producing trees and shrubs on Carey Lake and Hagerman WMAs.
- Developed 44 HIP projects on private lands in the Magic Valley Region. Maintained 2,500 linear feet of shelterbelts at Carey Lake WMA.
- Treated and rehabbed 50 acres of cheatgrass at Hagerman WMA.

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

The willow planting project at Centennial Marsh WMA was not completed.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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.

- A joint project with Monsanto Corporation and the Moose Foundation involved the planting of 850 bare root seedlings on a tributary of the Blackfoot River on the Blackfoot River WMA.
- Personnel consulted with private landowners and Farm Bill administrators to develop wetland projects through cooperative agreements and HIP funds. One small riparian enclosure was funded in Oneida County. Correspondence has continued with landowners toward acquiring an additional 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 cutting and chemical treatment of Russian olives. All other Department acreages were protected from grazing, early mowing, and wildfire to maximize vegetation structure for cover.
- Approximately 300 acres of high-energy grains were provided on Department-administered properties or on private property (20 projects) to serve as food for upland game and/or waterfowl. However, several thousand additional acres have also been improved through the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program; reported separately). Four hundred acres of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) parcels involving 17 private landowners were improved with forb plantings to provide forage for big game and brooding cover for upland game. Woody cover plantings were established at 25 separate locations on private property and Department lands to improve habitat for big game, upland game, and nongame. This included establishment of approximately 70,000 seedlings of highly palatable forage species (bitterbrush, 4-wing saltbush, Hobble Creek sage) planted on CRP and native range sites (improved approximately 300 acres).
- Field tours and meetings were attended and written comments provided pertaining to 25 project proposals from other land management agencies (See Subproject V-E below). Some projects involved considerable time commitments from all habitat staff and continue as ongoing projects (BLM Resource Management Plan, Sage-grouse Planning Areas/Working Groups, East Idaho Aspen Working Group).
- Three specific predators (feral house cats, striped skunks, and raccoons) were controlled on Sterling WMA during the nesting season with a private contractor partially funded through statewide projects.
- Approximately 2,000 acres were directly treated for noxious weeds in cooperation with county weed departments and 4 Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA). In addition, a private contractor was hired with statewide funds to treat 400 acres at Sterling WMA in the fall and spring.
- Meetings were held with the BLM, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and Caribou County Commission regarding proposed vegetation treatments and road management on the Soda Springs Hills Mitigation Area.

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 again fell below that planned (23 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. Interseeding efforts were replaced by interplanting of forb strips in CRP stands. Due to time constraints, no fertilization projects were completed during the reporting period. We provided technical assistance and/or financial assistance to approximately 40 cooperators including private and public land managers in the course of carrying out the various projects mentioned above.

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.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

- Improve and maintain high-quality waterfowl and upland game habitat.
- Improve and maintain high-quality big game transition, migration, and winter range habitats.
- Inventory Department-managed properties for nongame wildlife species.
- Focus efforts to improve habitat for mule deer as per MDI and the MDI action plan.
- Pursue projects that benefit greater sage-grouse.
- Restore or replace in-kind habitat on mitigation properties.
- Provide high-quality habitat for wildlife species at risk (threatened & endangered [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. The Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program has been a priority in the region in 2007.

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.
- Region helped initiate the Eastern Idaho Aspen Working Group to address concerns about aspen decline in Eastern Idaho.
- 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 including 4 sharecrop or use/trade agreements.
- Reviewed and developed land acquisition proposals. Initiated acquisition of 2 properties, evaluated and supported numerous conservation easements proposed by Land Trusts in the region.
- Developed Geographical Information Systems (GIS) to provide planning tools, and map and evaluate habitats and project proposals.
- Trained all Habitat staff in the use of ARC-GIS.
- Planted over 300 acres of permanent vegetation to improve habitat.
- Planted 50,000 upland shrubs on public and private property.
- Maintained 10 guzzlers to provide water sources. Developed 1 new guzzler.
- Manipulated existing habitat via prescribed fire, mowing, and harvest techniques.
- Supported USFS in fire use areas.
- Administered vehicle restrictions.
- Maintained 148 miles of boundary fences to prevent unauthorized livestock grazing on WMAs and coordinated fence maintenance with neighbors.
- Replaced approximately 7 miles of boundary fences.
- Developed new and maintained existing 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 over 3,000 acres via biological, chemical, and mechanical means. Coordinated with other agencies to treat more acres on public and private lands.
- Monitored water rights and coordinated water delivery to WMAs.
- Protected nesting habitats for T&E species.
- 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 1,100 acres of standing crops and crop residue on WMAs for wildlife food and cover via sharecrop agreements and direct Department efforts.
- Administered motorized use plans on WMAs to regulate motorized use.
- Helped design habitat improvements including 34 acres of corn foodplots 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 CWMA's.
- Completed wetlands improvement project at Chester segment of SCWMA via a North American Wetland Conservation Act grant and Ducks Unlimited.
- Cooperated in over 800 acres of Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program seedings.
- Coordinated the funding and burial of a proposed power line through critical sage-grouse winter range.

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 Region Habitat Section is full of overachievers. We will try harder to stick to doing only what we said we would do next year.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project III – Habitat Development

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

- 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. Habitat development projects on Department lands included creating 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.

The Salmon and Steelhead Program provides funding to maintain and create new anadromous fishing access sites. This program funded much of the fishing and boating access site maintenance in the region.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Management activities in the Salmon Region included implementing the noxious weed control program on the region's access areas and WHAs (1,140 acres); coordinating with the Lemhi, Custer, and Frank Church CWMAs; and tree and shrub plantings; and other

practices designed to improve riparian, rangeland, grassland, and forestland plant communities. One spring/pasture area on public land was fenced with a grant to enhance sage-grouse summer habitat through the Challis Sage-grouse Local Working Group. Habitat personnel also worked within the region to help develop and implement conservation programs and grants that are designed to restore wildlife habitat on private lands. Farm Bill conservation programs, federal and state conservation programs, and competitive conservation grants funded projects on private land. In addition:

- 30 acres of the Mormon Ranch WHA were sprayed for noxious weeds through a cooperative program with USFS and 3 access areas were managed to provide upland and waterfowl nesting habitat.
- 2 cooperative federal-state habitat projects were implemented to benefit elk and deer habitat and 2 cooperative federal-state habitat projects were implemented to benefit sage-grouse habitat.
- 1,320 trees and shrubs were planted on 5 private properties to improve upland and waterfowl habitat, and 1 shallow water site was enhanced to enhance waterfowl habitat along Challis 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.

Annual PR report

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Budgeted funds and actual expenditures include overhead and leave costs. Actual PR and State Match expenditures represent payments made through 30 June 2007. Expenditures after 30 June 2007 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by 29 December 2007. All values were rounded to the nearest \$100.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	144,200	96,300
State: Match	48,100	32,100
Total Project	192,300	128,400

5. Objective(s):

1. Collect current public use information on Department-managed lands including recreational use, opinions, hunting success, and harvest.
2. Collect current wildlife habitat and population characteristics information on Department-managed lands.
3. 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 and State License funds and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding sources exceeded \$274,393, not including overhead costs. Federal Assistance funds (including Idaho's funding match) accounted for 39.5% 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. (See below for a list of completed surveys.)

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.

Overall program emphasis remained skewed toward implementing habitat projects on public and private lands and providing technical assistance to landowners. The consequence was that fewer days were allocated toward survey and inventory activities within the regions. Actual project cost was \$79,700 less than the estimated project budget on 30 June 2007.

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

FY07 IDFG Habitat Program Report
2006-2007 IDFG Public Use Survey: Craig Mountain WMA
2006-2007 IDFG Public Use Survey: Coeur d'Alene River WMA

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 1, 2007

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. Objective(s):

- 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 the following:

- One Regional Wildlife Biologist finalized a monitoring plan for his respective habitat district.
- Public use surveys were initiated on the McArthur Lake WMA and Snow Peak WMAs.
- A western grebe colony was monitored on Pend Oreille WMA and the Coeur d'Alene River WMAs.
- Water right use and diversion was monitored on Boundary Creek WMA.
- Stream flows were monitored on Boundary Creek WMA.
- Waterfowl breeding pair/brood counts were completed on 4 WMAs.
- Waterfowl banding occurred on 4 WMAs and ~1,500 ducks were banded.
- Hunter check stations were operated on 3 WMAs during opening weekend of waterfowl season.
- Photo-points were monitored on 3 WMAs.
- Noxious weed infestations were monitored and the success of treatment was evaluated on 5 WMAs.
- Bat and songbird mist netting occurred on Coeur d'Alene River WMA.
- Goose nest platform and wood duck nest box surveys were conducted on the Boundary Creek, McArthur Lake, Pend Oreille, and Coeur d'Alene River WMAs.
- Osprey nests were surveyed on the Coeur d'Alene River WMA.

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

- Bald eagle productivity was monitored throughout Panhandle Region.
- Pheasant crow counts were conducted.
- Regional Wildlife Habitat Biologists assisted with the operation of deer and elk hunter check stations.
- Regional Wildlife Habitat Biologists 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.

- NA -

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. Objective(s):

- 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 improvements and from programs including HIP, Clearwater Pheasant Initiative, and the NRCS Farm Bill implementation.

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 snow track surveys for forest carnivores.

- Conducted regional waterfowl survey with wildlife population personnel.
- Coordinated and conducted regional pheasant brood route surveys.
- Participated in black bear survey routes.
- Assisted population staff on aerial big game surveys.
- Conducted crop residual pheasant flushing surveys to measure effectiveness of stubble management program.
- Gathered information on CMWMA upland game harvest via age and sex information gathered from the placement of wing barrels.
- Implemented recreational surveys for CMWMA.
- Coordinated a week-long survey for orange hawkweed, a noxious weed, in cooperation with the Tri-State Weed Committee and the Nez Perce Tribe.

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

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

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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.**

Work accomplished under this grant was done, in part, in support of regional and statewide wildlife population and habitat survey and inventory projects funded from non-project sources.

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

Public use information:

- Quantified visitor use on Department-managed areas using car counters and random surveys.

- Monitored indices 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 the area of developing geographic information systems application 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 CWMA's to inventory and map noxious weed infestations in respective habitat districts.
- Assisted in capture operations for regional mule deer winter survival studies.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
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. **Objective(s):**
 - 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, and 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 the 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 -

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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, random user survey (field contacts), and data from sign-in stations were employed to determine the level and type of public use throughout the year on Sterling WMA. Traffic counters were also installed on 5 main access points on the Portneuf WMA and 4 access points on the Blackfoot River WMA to obtain a more

- accurate total count of user visits. In addition, as with all other WMAs excepting Montpelier, more detailed information was gathered at voluntary sign-in stations to collect user opinions and information on types of use. Compliance with the new travel management imposed on the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area was again monitored in cooperation with BLM and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes. Negotiation with county officials to maintain the effectiveness of travel restrictions continues.
- Waterfowl pair counts and brood surveys were conducted on Sterling WMA in addition to more intensive nest searches coupled with subsequent monitoring.
 - Habitat personnel assisted with 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 the nesting season (See Subproject III E above).
 - As per the MDI action plan, big game winter ranges throughout the region have been designated and mapped. Detailed assessments and plans for 2 key winter ranges (1 each habitat district) have been essentially completed and await final approval from bureau personnel.
 - Regional personnel have been working closely with other agencies, NGOs and publics to identify and address concerns with aspen communities. This has included participation in the formation of the Eastern Idaho Aspen Working Group and attendance at workshops and field tours. Additional acres of aspen were treated on Blackfoot River WMA by a volunteer group.

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

- Voluntary sign-in stations have been placed on all WMAs except Montpelier WMA. An annual newsletter was produced for Sterling WMA. No newsletters or meetings were held pertaining to the other 4 WMAs. Brochures for Georgetown Summit and Montpelier WMAs were completed and have been distributed. The brochure for Sterling WMA was updated and reprinted.
- Due to time constraints, lek surveys on Portneuf WMA did not occur.
- Due to time constraints and personnel shortages, no vegetation transects were surveyed on big game winter ranges.
- Big game winter ranges have been identified as discreet polygons and mapped. Brief assessments of each individual area are nearly complete. More detailed plans of the Rockland Valley and East Bear Lake winter ranges are essentially completed pending final review.
- We continue working with NGOs and other land management agencies to prioritize and expedite aspen restoration projects through the East Idaho Working Group.
- Riparian habitat concerns have not been specifically identified and prioritized though considerable time has been spent on improving riparian conditions throughout the region through proposed rehabilitation projects, acquisition proposals, and administration of a conservation easement on private land.

- Identification and mapping of noxious weed concerns is ongoing as is cooperation with local weed control authorities and weed cooperatives. In the past year, only the Highlands Weed Cooperative has been active.
- In the past year, there has been considerable involvement with Bingham County officials regarding West Nile Virus concerns and the Sterling WMA wetlands. Personnel have cooperated with county officials to monitor mosquito populations and apply recommended treatments.

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.

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

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Butte, Bonneville, Bingham, Custer, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objective(s):**
 - 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 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. 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.
- RHBs and the Tex Creek Technician have been very involved in research monitoring the impacts of elk upon mule deer.
- Summer mule deer habitat is being monitored in conjunction with the elk/deer study.
- 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, spotlight counts, capture and marking, small mammal live trapping, and direct observations of individuals and groups of animals.
- Piezometers were monitored 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.
- Avian Influenza was monitored via trapping and monitoring hunter harvest. This effort was led by RHBs.
- 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 took the lead on 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.

- NA -

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project IV – Survey and Inventory

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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

4. Costs: See statewide summary for estimated costs.

5. Objective(s):

- 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.
- Create an up-to-date Excel database with the region's sage-grouse leks. Also, a database system will be created to store the region's big game aerial survey data. The database will be made available to help Department and other natural resource personnel evaluate impacts of habitat projects on animal 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.

This work was completed in conjunction with the region's Wildlife Population Management Program and budgeted with additional funding from the Office of Species Conservation on sage-grouse work.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

- A database system was created to store the region's mountain goat and elk aerial survey data. Regional habitat personnel continued mapping noxious weed infestations and treatment areas using GPS and ArcView software.
- Regional habitat personnel assisted CWMAs with regional noxious weed inventory and mapping projects. Regional habitat personnel assisted with all aerial big game surveys, fawn mortality studies, sage-grouse lek counts, and trapping/banding studies. The sage-grouse lek database was updated in 2007. These data are kept in ArcView 9.1 shapefiles

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.

Annual PR 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

3. Location of work: Statewide.

4. Costs: Budgeted funds and actual expenditures include overhead costs. Actual PR and State Match expenditures represent payments made through 30 June 2007. Expenditures after 30 June 2007 were not available for this report but will be included in the final financial statement submitted by 29 December 2007. All values were rounded to the nearest \$100.

Source	Budgeted	Actual
Federal: PR	128,300	117,200
State: Match	42,700	39,100
Total Project	171,000	156,300

5. Objective(s):

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.

Technical guidance provided by habitat personnel to outside entities is funded by PR and State License funds and other Federal grants. Combined expenditures from all funding

sources exceeded \$376,016 not including overhead costs. Federal Assistance funds (including Idaho's funding match) accounted for 35.15% of the combined expenditures associated with this larger undertaking.

7. Describe how the objectives were met.

Habitat personnel dedicated approximately 700 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 Initiative, Clearwater Pheasant Initiative, 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 (Landowner Incentive Program, NRCS/Farm Bill).

In FY07, the Landowner Incentive Program accounted for giving technical assistance to 407 landowners, affecting 35,071 acres of private ground, 35 stream miles, and helping to put over \$950,000 dollars (other agencies) on the ground.

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

Technical assistance increased over the previous year but license budgets were used for this increase in cost. The contribution from PR decreased from 46% to 33.6% of combined expenditures. It is likely that personnel time may have been charged to Project I when it should have been charged to Project V due to similarities.

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

FY07 IDFG Habitat Program Report
FY07 IDFG LIP Final Progress Report I-1-1
FY07 IDFG LIP Interim Progress Report I-2-1

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 1, 2007

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. Objective(s):

- 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 USFS, BLM, Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, NRCS, FSA, Soil and Water Conservation Districts, 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 -

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

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. **Objective(s):**

Provide current information on wildlife populations and habitat and provide 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 the 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 the 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.**

During the last year, Clearwater regional personnel have continued to act as TSPs for planning and implementation of the wildlife practices within the USDA Farm Bill, under the terms of a Contribution Agreement. Funding to implement the Contribution Agreement was provided by NRCS. Implementation of the Contribution Agreement, in combination with the Department's HIP program and the LIP program, 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. Completed 117 projects representing over 200 landowner contacts in regard to NRCS programs, the LIP Program, the Department's HIP Program, the Pheasant Initiative, and Access Yes.
- Developed Conservation Plans for 3 large landowners.
- Assisted Environmental Staff Biologist when requested to respond 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, the Salmon River Weed Management Committee, the Dworshak Master Planning Committee, and Nez Perce and Latah County AFO and EQUIP Technical Committees.
- Worked on local committees for the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, Wild Turkey Federation, and Pheasants Forever.
- Provided technical guidance to the Idaho Outfitter and Guides Board on issues of Outfitter Overlap on CMWMA.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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, express concerns, and provide recommendations to federal, state, and local government agencies; industry; and private parties regarding potential wildlife impacts of projects which they are planning within the 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 that 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.

- NA -

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 98 requests for comment on proposed projects within the Southwest Region, biologists provided information on wildlife habitat, probable species impacts, and recommended mitigation measures using current available sources resulting in 62 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 120 direct inquiries regarding methods and recommendations for management of wildlife habitat on private and public lands within the 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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
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. **Objective(s):**
 - 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 the 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 52 written comments regarding proposed land management practices to city, county, state, and federal agencies.
- Provided technical assistance to 50 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 -

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

1. State: Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance

2. Report Period: July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007

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. Some of these projects involved intensive participation by all habitat staff to provide written comments and mapping aids. Of particular note was taking lead

roles in the sage-grouse working groups (3 in the Southeast Region), comments on the BLM Resource Management Plan, and the ongoing participation in the East Idaho Aspen Working Group.

- We continued to assess potential impacts to wildlife values on CRP plantings and other habitat, especially regarding improvements conducted or proposed by the Department or other land managers. This has involved close coordination with our Farm Bill coordinator and the MDI biologist and regional technicians.
- We continued correspondence with the BLM, Caribou County, and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes regarding the Soda Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area Management Plan and the implementation of travel restrictions. This included several meetings and 1 field tour with county officials.
- Provided technical assistance to approximately 63 private landowners or other land management agencies for the improvement or development of wildlife habitat through the Habitat Management Program. This included field contacts, project designs/cooperative agreements and the coordination of necessary equipment, materials and personnel. Many of these projects that occurred on public land or privately-owned CRP were funded at no cost to the actual landowner. Most projects were designed to primarily benefit mule deer and upland game.

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

We have continued to work with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes biologists and the BLM toward the completion of the management plan for the Soda Springs Hills Wildlife Mitigation Area. This planning was addressed within the BLM Resource Management Plan and the comments provided. A management plan for the mitigation area is still being led by the tribal biologists and is still in process.

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: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
3. **Location of work:** Upper Snake Region. All work was accomplished in Butte, Bonneville, Bingham, Custer, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison and Teton counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objective(s):**
 - 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 Sportsman 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. Well over 100 comment letters were written.
- 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.
- Of note, the Habitat Section has been involved in 1 existing and 2 new sage-grouse local working groups and the Eastern Idaho Aspen Working Group.
- RHBs have been instrumental in providing comments on conservation easement proposals. In many instances IDFG comments have been critical in obtaining the easements.
- RHBs were encouraged to become familiar with and maintain current knowledge of habitats, issues, and projects within their Habitat Districts.
- Regional Habitat staff was encouraged to develop and maintain close working relationships with field-level personnel of local, state, and federal agencies as well as key members of NGOs operating within their Habitat District.
- All RHBs actively participate with their corresponding CWMA.
- 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.

- NA -

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

1. **State:** Idaho

Grant number: W-173-D

Segment number: 23

Grant name: Wildlife Habitat Management

Project number and name: Project V – Technical Guidance
2. **Report Period:** July 1, 2006 to June 30, 2007

Report due date: September 28, 2007
3. **Location of work:** Salmon Region. All work was accomplished in Custer and Lemhi counties.
4. **Costs:** See statewide summary for estimated costs.
5. **Objective(s):**
 - 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.
 - Participate as a committee member for the Challis Local Sage-grouse Working Group, Lemhi and Frank Church CWMAs, and the Lemhi County Planning and Zoning Commission.
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.**
 - Current wildlife habitat and population information was provided upon request (31 letters, 22 meetings attended) on proposed projects and activities within the Salmon Habitat District. Technical advice and information on Department management

programs and policies was provided to the public and personnel of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, BOR, BLM, USFS, NRCS, FSA, Lemhi and Custer Soil and Water Conservation Districts, Challis Local Sage-grouse Working Group, Lemhi and Frank Church CWMAs, and the Lemhi and Custer Counties Planning and Zoning Commissions.

- Wildlife population and habitat information was also provided to the Idaho Departments of Water Resources, Transportation, Parks and Recreation, Lands, and Agriculture; and other local groups by telephone, letter, person-to-person, and through participation in inter-agency technical and advisory committees.

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.

Annual PR report

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Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager

Paul Wackenhut

Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager

Terry Thomas

Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager

Tom Keegan

Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager

Greg Painter

Regional Wildlife Biologist

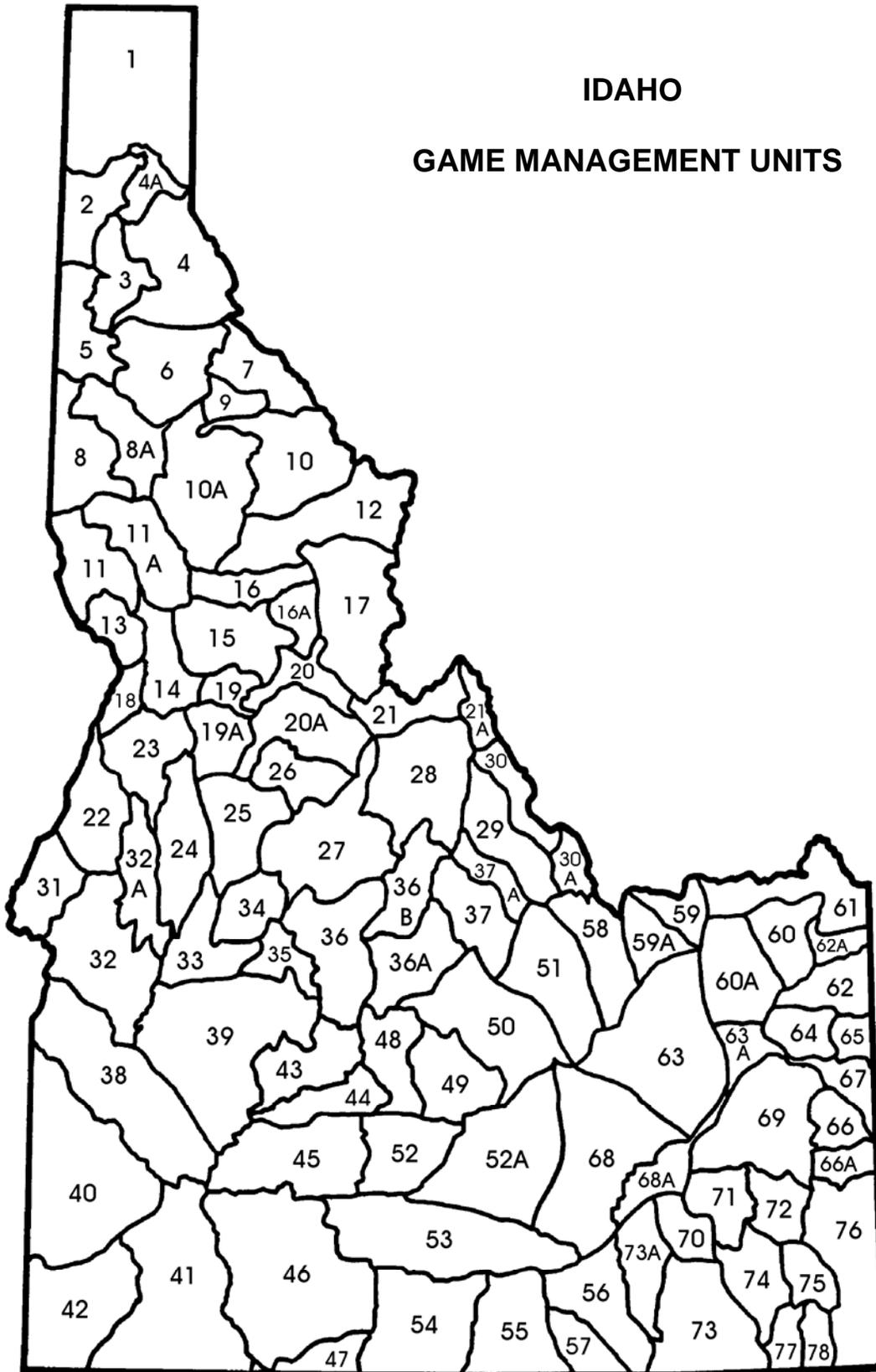
Approved by: IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

Dale E. Toweill
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.

