

Meeting Date: January 29, 2009

Agenda Item No. 16

Agenda Item: Land Legacy Trust Update

Bureau Chief Approval: JG

Prepared by: Servheen

Background:

The establishment of the Land Legacy Trust has been proposed by the Commission as a funding mechanism that will help secure financial resources that are needed to address the loss of wildlife habitats in Idaho. The implementation strategy to create and manage the Trust for habitat purposes was adopted in concept by the Commission during their May 2006 Commission meeting.

Since then the Department has laid the groundwork for the future sale of land assets and mitigation debt settlement that could establish or add to this Trust fund.

This Commission update will cover the status of surplus land disposal, settlement with BPA, and outreach and communications concerning the project. Staff seeks policy level direction that will help guide the implementation strategy used to create and manage the Land Legacy Trust.

Statutory Authority and/or Policy issues:

Land acquisition and disposal, Fund investment and management, policy level negotiations

Public Involvement Process:

Open public meetings, news and press releases, public outreach

Staff Recommendation:

Assist the Department in forming policy to establish and manage the Land Legacy Trust

Justification:

Alternative funding that addresses a critical Department function – the conservation of fish and wildlife habitat