Appendix H. IDAHO IMPORTANT BIRD AREAS (IBA) PROGRAM.

Idaho's Important Bird Areas (IBA) program was launched in 1996 as a partnership between Idaho Partners in Flight and the Idaho Audubon Council. An IBA Technical Committee was formed to encourage nominations and review materials for candidate IBAs. Since 1997, the committee has reviewed nominations and voted to accept or reject each nomination. To date, 58 sites have been officially recognized as IBAs, representing 3.8 million acres of wetland and upland habitat throughout the state, and including a variety of land ownerships. All six National Wildlife Refuges in Idaho have been identified as IBAs, as well as 14 IDFG WMAs. Forty-five IBAs are wetland sites and 13 are upland sites; 11 are globally-recognized, such as American Falls Reservoir, Oxford Slough, and Minidoka National Wildlife Refuge. The Idaho IBA program is now beginning phase two of the IBA process. Proponents are being sought to work toward conservation and management of IBAs. These individuals and organizations will be champions for bird conservation at particular sites and will work cooperatively with each site's land manager or landowner.

Another important part of phase two is bird monitoring. Monitoring already has been initiated at some sites, conducted either by biologists responsible for the management of the area, or by volunteers. These efforts, intended to collect basic information about the IBAs, at a minimum create an inventory of bird species present at each site, which will lead to further investigations. Idaho's new statewide all-bird monitoring program – the Idaho Bird Inventory and Survey (IBIS) will initiate more extensive monitoring at all wetland IBAs and selected upland IBAs across the state. Under the IBIS program, monitoring was initiated at five wetland IBAs in 2004, with an additional 20 being added in 2005. Wetland IBAs have been the initial focus of the IBIS program so that much-needed information on the distribution and abundance of Idaho's waterbirds and shorebirds can be gathered.

The following Tables provide more information about Idaho's existing IBAs, arranged by Ecological Section. For each IBA listed, Part I provides information on which SGCN species can be found there, habitat is briefly described, and issues, actions, and potential partners for conservation projects are summarized; Part II summarizes ongoing and recommended monitoring activities.

Part I - Designated Important Bird Areas in Idaho

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
OKANOGAN HIGHLANDS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Boundary Creek WMA American White Pelican, Bald Eagle, Black Tern	Extensive wetlands that are being restored to their historic state. Relatively undisturbed mixed forest habitat of conifer and cottonwood/birch riparian. Also consists of floodplain forest and meadows.	Mining: Water sources are contaminated from old mining operations	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established IDFG Wildlife Management Area (WMA). Research: Research is under way to look at contamination within the WMA. Habitat Restoration: Wetland restoration is underway. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Clark Fork Delta Bald Eagle, Common Loon	The site contains riparian islands, marsh, old-growth cottonwood, and large grand fir.	Habitat-wide Processes: Dam operation causes continuing loss of delta lands to erosion. Housing and Urban Development: Private land in the delta is being subdivided and sold.	Law and Policy: WWP Cabinet Dam re-licensing procedure is starting. Monitoring: Bald Eagle nests are monitored each year by IDFG.	IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Denton Slough Western Grebe, Black Tern	Shallow wetland - part of Pend Oreille Lake. Supports many submerged plants.	Habitat-wide Processes: Dam operation alters natural hydrology resulting in degraded habitat quality. Motor-powered Recreation: Easy public access has potential for disturbing breeding birds, as Western Grebes are nesting adjacent to boat ramp.	Land/Water/Species Management: Covered by the Pend Oreille WMA long-range management plan. Research: Assessing impact of boat ramp use on nesting Western Grebes is recommended. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Fisherman Island/Oden Bay Hooded Merganser, Common Loon, Bald Eagle, Western Grebe, Red-necked Grebe	Ponderosa Pine and Douglas-fir surrounded by shallow lake.	None identified at this time	Monitoring: IBIS, Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.	Potentially IDFG, other partners not identified at this time
Kootenai NWR Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, Bald Eagle, Black Tern	2,774 ac. refuge consists of approx. 800 ac. wetlands (cattail marsh/open water), 700 ac. cropland, 700 ac. grassland/brush/trees, and 600 ac. forest and brushland on the east slope of the Selkirks.	Invasive Species: Introduced Plants/animals. Water Use: Over-extraction of groundwater; water rights. Human-powered Recreation: Recreational development/overuse	Habitat Restoration: USFWS is currently working on wetland projects to manage water levels, etc. May see more shorebird habitat available in near future. Publicly-owned Protected Areas: An established National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Monitoring: IBIS	USFWS
McArthur Lake Wilson's Phalarope, Bald Eagle, American White Pelican, Red-necked Grebe	Rich fen with deep peat soils. Roughly 600 surface ac. shallow lake.	Habitat-wide Processes: Marsh succession appears advanced. Invasive Plants: Noxious weeds, such as tansy and knapweed. Invasive Animals: Raven predation on nesting waterfowl.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established IDFG WMA. Natural Processes Restoration: Proposed drawdowns to control succession. Habitat Restoration: Field conversion to seeded grassland. Invasive Species Control and Management: Selective pesticide for Raven control-DRC 1339 (carefully conducted using artificial nests). Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Morton Slough Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle	Shallow bay and slough adjacent to Pend Oreille River.	Housing and Urban Development: Subdivisions and development occurring adjacent to slough. Habitat-wide Processes: Dam operation alters natural hydrology resulting in degraded habitat quality	Monitoring: IBIS, Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.	Potentially IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Pack River Delta Bald Eagle, Common Loon	Meandering river with floodplains and oxbows.	Habitat-wide Processes: Operation of Albeni Falls Dam causes continuing erosion.	Monitoring: IBIS, Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.	IDFG, Army Corps of Engineers
Upper Priest Lake Bald Eagle, Common Loon, Harlequin Duck	Contains one of largest contiguous blocks of old-growth red cedar in continental U.S. Represents cedar/hemlock forest habitat with no road access, and undeveloped riverine habitat. Under consideration as Botanical Area and Research Natural Area by USDA Forest Service.	Motor-powered Recreation: The lake had been proposed as a non-motorized lake, yet the effort was unsuccessful. Heavy use by boats in the summer has the potential to disturb water-nesting species, especially Common Loons.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Most of the land has since been purchased by IDFG. Further efforts to close the site to motorized boat use is recommended. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, USFS
Westmond Lake Black Tern, Northern Pintail, Wilson's Phalarope	Large, flat site with high annual water level dynamics. Central deep pothole remains inundated year round. Spyrea-lined ditches; sedge/rush wetland; spatterdock and submerged aquatics in deep pothole portion.	Water Use: Site is drained by functioning drainage system. Housing/Urban Development: New residential homes being added fairly regularly. Grazing & Ranching: Problems with overgrazing are serious. Nutrient Loads: There's potential for water pollution due to nearby drain fields.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is now under the protection and management of IDFG. Land/Water/Species Management: Covered by the Pend Oreille WMA long-range management plan. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
BITTERROOT MOUNTAINS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Heyburn State Park Red-necked Grebe, Bald Eagle	Encompasses shoreline and water area of Benewah and Chatcolet Lakes. Land portions covered with mixed-conifer forest.	Invasive Plants: Western white pine, particularly old growth, has been affected by introduced white pine blister rust. Motor-powered Recreation and Hunting: Summer recreational power boating and fall waterfowl hunting results in months of constant disruption of waterbird activities.	Natural Processes Restoration: Prescribed burning proposed to maintain ponderosa pine. Land/Water/Species Management: The University of Idaho is drafting a Natural Resource Management Plan for the park.	IDPR – Heyburn State Park
Miners and Flat Creeks No SGCN	Old growth western hemlock habitat types, and several riparian areas.	Logging: Habitat fragmentation due to past harvest, although large acreage of old growth remains.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Allocation of additional acres of old growth has taken place. Protected Area Management: Road closures have been made.	USDA Forest Service

North Idaho College California Gull, Pygmy Nuthatch	A 28 ac. campus with lawns, parking lots/buildings, 100+ year-old ponderosa pines all surrounded by a diked road.	Human-powered Recreation: Heavy recreational beach use in the summer. Housing and Urban Development: Potential for college to expand its facilities may cause removal of ponderosa pines.	None identified at this time.	Potentially North Idaho College

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Wolf Lodge, Beauty, and Blue Creek Bays Northern Pintail, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, Bald Eagle	From the lake shore rise steep mountains covered with western larch, Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine and grand fir.	Logging and Grazing: Logging on surrounding private lands is a major problem. Grazing in meadow pastures is a serious problem. Housing and Urban Development: Development of home sites along lakeshore. Recreation: Serious recreational development/overuse could also be a potential disturbance problem for birds in the area.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: BLM has acquired, and plans to acquire more, lands. Awareness Raising and Communications: BLM implemented environmental education at Mineral Ridge Trail and Wolf Lodge Eagle viewing. Public land along Blue Creek Bay offers excellent opportunity for more environ. ed. Monitoring: IBIS, Coeur d'Alene Audubon conducts monthly surveys.	BLM, Coeur d'Alene Audubon
PALOUSE PRAIRIE ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Mann Lake American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Black Tern, California Gull, Northern Pintail	The reservoir has mudflats, willow areas in addition to nearby fields.	Water Use: Excessive drawdown as a result of early 1990's severe drought allowed shoreline shrubs, particularly willows, to establish. Has reduced area of mudflats for migrating shorebirds and loafing waterfowl.	Habitat Restoration: The Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District (LOID) regularly scalps the shoreline with heavy equipment, thus preventing afforestation on approx. 20 % of the shoreline. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, LOID
Snake and Clearwater Rivers Confluence Northern Pintail	Lake and river habitats along the Snake and Clearwater Rivers. Lake area formed by Lower Granite Dam on Snake River.	Pollution: Potential water pollution. Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational overuse and bird disturbance are minor problems. Housing and Urban Development: Potential residential/commercial development.	Policy and Regulations: The confluence is currently protected by hunting ban. Monitoring: IBIS, use by wintering waterfowl is monitored each year (since at least 1999) by participants in the Christmas Bird Count.	Palouse Audubon Chapter, IDFG
IDAHO BATHOLITH ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Boise Ridge Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle, Merlin	Exceptional representations of shrub-steppe, mountain shrub, and mixed conifer habitats. Ridge is southern-most extension of central Idaho mountains and makes up northern geographic boundary of Snake River Plains.	Habitat Conversion: Loss/destruction of habitats from fire, timber harvest, or urban development are major threat/issue. Grazing & Ranching: Over-grazing is a problem. Invasive Plants: Invasion of exotic plant species. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational use threatens area.	Research: Long term avian monitoring and research is ongoing. Awareness Raising and Communication: Research station open to public. Multiple school groups visit site to learn about the Idaho Bird Observatory. Protected Area Management: Two roads closed to help with monitoring. Limiting grazing in areas used extensively by migrating songbirds is recommended.	Idaho Bird Observatory

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Lake Cascade Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, Bald Eagle, American White Pelican, Common Loon, Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, California Gull, Peregrine Falcon, Snowy Egret, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope	Shallow freshwater 'lake' (reservoir) that freezes during winter, bounded to west by the West Mountain Range. Four major tributaries enter from northeast: Lake Fork Creek, Gold Fork River, Boulder Creek, and Willow Creek. Wetland plants include rushes, sedges, wetland and upland grasses, cattails, and willows.	Pollution: Water quality is a persistent problem, evidenced by noxious algal blooms, aquatic weeds, and fish kills. High nutrient influx and sedimentation from shoreline erosion are primary sources of pollution. Soil erosion along the east shores is a persistent problem. Recreation Areas: Potential disturbance to nesting waterbirds and waterfowl looms as Tamarack Resort develops infrastructure and recreational programs (kayak tours, marina) and draws increased use to BOR and FS developed recreation sites.	Standards: DEQ instituted a Total Maximum Daily Limit in 1998 to address water quality. Habitat Restoration: BOR constructed 68 ac. of wetlands to treat water flowing into reservoir from tributaries. Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Six WMAs protect ~4,000 ac. Additional 1,400 ac. designated conservation/open space. Additional measures detailed in BOR's Resource Management Plan (2002). Natural Processes Restoration: Cattle grazing allotments along shoreline have been terminated and fences erected to reduce phosphorus influx from runoff. Monitoring: IBIS, Bald Eagles monitored by Boise State University, and Western Grebes monitored by IDFG.	BOR, DEQ, IDFG
Salmon River East of Riggins White-headed Woodpecker, Bald Eagle	Steep-sided canyon with rock outcrops, cliffs, and grasses. Side drainages have riparian habitat. Large ponderosa pine and pine snags are present.	Recreation: Recreational use/overuse is a minor problem. Habitat-wide Processes: Lack recruitment of young ponderosa pines, and conservation of mature and dead pines for woodpeckers.	Species Restoration: Need to encourage management to recruit new ponderosa pines and conservation of mature and dead pines.	USFS, BLM
BLUE MOUNTAINS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Hixon Sharptail Preserve Sharp-tailed Grouse	Primarily sagebrush, but also grassland, riparian, and mountain brush.	Habitat-wide Processes: Drought is a problem. Human-powered Recreation: Disturbance of birds is a potential issue.	Privately-owned Protected Areas: Reserve has been established for the grouse.	The Nature Conservanc y
BEAVERHEAD MOUNTAINS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Chilly Slough Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Wilson's Phalarope, Long-billed Curlew, Peregrine Falcon	Palustrine emergent wetlands. Vegetation primarily Carex fen, cattail marsh, Baltic rush, greasewood/wildrye.	Grazing and Ranching: Overgrazing by livestock on private lands. Water Use: Potential diversion of water from headwater springs which would serious issue with spawning rainbow trout.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Acquisition of private lands has led to an additional 1,082 ac. to BLM and IDFG, for a total of 1,820 ac. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
OWYHEE UPLANDS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Blacks Creek Reservoir Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Franklin's Gull, California Gull, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Wilson's Phalarope, Long-billed Curlew, Northern Pintail	Reservoir that fluctuates with water supply (drought/rainfall). Surrounded by sagebrush hills and cheatgrass.	Invasive Species: Potential introduced plants/animals. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Significant habitat degradation and bird disturbance resulting from 4WD vehicle use along mudflats. Serious problem with illegal shooting of migratory waterbirds and passerine. Habitat-wide Processes: Serious drought problems.	Policy and Regulations: In order to protect species using the reservoir, a shooting ban is recommended at this site. Current availability of enforcement personnel is not sufficient to curb current illegal shooting. Motorized vehicle use should be restricted to upland habitat. Monitoring: IBIS.	BLM, IDFG, Golden Eagle Audubon
Blacks Creek Road Western Burrowing Owl	Dominant habitat is sagebrush, with cheatgrass encroaching on much of the area.	Grazing and Ranching: Overgrazing is a major problem. Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational overuse, particularly off-road vehicle use, causing serious bird disturbance. Housing and Urban Development: Residential/Commercial development causing serious disturbance to birds.	None identified at this time.	Golden Eagle Audubon
Boise River Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle, California Gull	Riparian area, consisting of mostly cottonwoods, but also willow species.	Pollution: Water pollution and water diversion/channelization is a potential problem. Housing and Urban Development: Residential and commercial development is a serious issue. Human-powered Recreation: Recreational development and overuse is a serious issue. These are resulting in serious disturbance to birds in the area. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought is a problem.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Barber Park is a protected portion. Awareness Raising and Communication: IBO conducted a pilot education program (outdoor exercises for high school students) at Barber Pool in 2001. A major outreach event (~1,000 public attendees) called Bald Eagle Days is held each January. Formal Education: IBO has developed a plan for year-round environmental education program in Barber Pool that would structure outdoor lessons around monitoring and habitat improvement projects for local K-12 students. Monitoring: IBIS, Bald Eagle winter roost site monitored by Idaho Bird Observatory (IBO).	IBO, Golden Eagle Audubon, IDPR, Idaho Shakespeare Festival, Foundation for Parks and Lands, Ada County, Bald Eagle Days Committee

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
C. J. Strike Reservoir Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, American White Pelican	*Potamogeton* is a common submergent. Emergents mainly hardstemmed bulrush, cattails, and sedges. Riparian zone dominated by shrubs, forbs and grasses with willow and Russian olive overstory. Uplands dominated by black greasewood, shadscale, and big sagebrush with annual and perennial grass understory.	Pollution: Degradation of water quality from an increased nutrient load from agriculture and food processing. Pesticide poisoning of wildlife is a problem. Grazing and Ranching: Habitat degradation by excessive grazing. Invasive Plants: Invasion by exotic plants. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational development/overuse.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Part of this site is an established IDFG WMA. Compliance and Enforcement: Proposed - Strictly enforce water quality standards for agriculture and industry. Land/Water/Species Management: On the WMA, only using grazing to improve wildlife habitat. Use of physical, biological, and chemical controls of invasive plants is in progress. Training: Pesticide applicators are trained and licensed by the state. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, BLM, Idaho Power
Camas Prairie Centennial Marsh WMA Northern Pintail, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Peregrine Falcon, Long-billed Curlew, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, California Gull	Comprised primarily of sedges, *Juncus* spp., and camas, while silver sagebrush delineates marsh's high water line. Uplands comprised of basin big sagebrush, rabbitbrush, bitterbrush, and Great Basin wildrye.	Invasive Species: Introduced plants/animals. Predation is a problem. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought is a serious problem at this site. Water levels are much lower than historically, and the entire site dries up earlier than historically.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established IDFG WMA. Land/Water/Species Management: Brood-rearing ponds supplied by wells. Exploring additional methods of restoring water levels at this site is recommended. Invasive Species Control & Prevention: On-going predator trapping program. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Eagle Island No SGCN	Riparian area with cottonwoods.	Human-powered Recreation: Recreational development and overuse, resulting in bird disturbane is potential problem. Housing and Urban Development: Residential/Commercial development is potential problem.	Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, Golden Eagle Audubon

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Fort Boise WMA Northern Pintail, Western Grebe, American White Pelican, Black-crowned Night-heron, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Caspian Tern, Long-billed Curlew	Thick vegetation (underbrush, grass, Russian olive and cottonwoods). Some marshy areas and several large ponds. Willows and heavy cottonwood concentrations surrounding river banks. Wetlands surrounded by cattails, bulrush, sedges, and purple loosestrife.	Human-powered Recreation: Recreational development/overuse, resulting in disturbance of birds. Housing and Urban Development: Nearby residential/commercial development. Hunting,Trapping & Fishing: Excessive or irresponsible hunting. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought and water quality. Invasive Animals: Carp are major problem, as they are consuming aquatic plants that are used by waterfowl.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established IDFG WMA. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: In winter 2004/2005, ponds were drained to kill off carp; ponds will be replanted with appropriate aquatic plants and re-filled prior to 2005 nesting season. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Heron Island/Hagerman WMA Common Loon, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Bald Eagle, Western Grebe, California Gull, Forster's Tern, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew	Many springs, spring creeks, spring fed ponds, and Snake River. 200-ft. basalt cliffs edge Snake, with pockets of riparian bottomland and upland benches. Uplands consist of sagebrush and grassland. Riparian habitat consists of coyote, wood rose, skunkbush sumac, peachleaf willow—harstem bulrush and other emergents.	Invasive Species: Introduced plants/animals: cheatgrass, European Starling, House Sparrow. Habitat Conversion: Recreational development/residential development potential high on adjacent land. Water Use: Springs completely dependent on Snake River Plains aquifer, which is highly susceptible to groundwater contamination, overpumping and drought. Excessive soil erosion/degradation.	Compatible Resource Use: Efforts are on-going on the WMA to allocate water to satisfy various needs of users (i.e., agriculture and hatchery). Policy and Regulations: Water pollution problems on WMA are being addressed by various government agencies. Publicly- and Privately-owned Protected Areas: All the land is in the hands of federal, state and private conservation groups. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, TNC
Lake Lowell/Deer Flat NWR Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Bald Eagle, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, California Gull	Marsh, mudflats, riparian woodlands, large open water.	Invasive Species: Introduced plants or animals. Water Use: Over-extraction of groundwater is potential problem. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational overuse is a problem, resulting in disturbance to nesting birds. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established NWR. Monitoring: IBIS	USFWS

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Magic Reservoir Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, Common Loon, Red-necked Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, California Gull, Black Tern, Caspian Tern, Forster's Tern	Primarily sagebrush/salt desert shrub habitat surrounding the reservoir, with some grasslands	Habitat-wide Processes: Drought issues are serious problem, particularly for nesting gulls and Caspian Terns whose nesting site no longer surrounded by water. Invasive Animals: Predation is serious problem for nesting gulls. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational development/overuse is potentially a problem concerning disturbance of birds.	Research: Causes of gull nest failure need to be determined in order to determine what conservation actions may be necessary to protect breeding colonies. Monitoring: IBIS.	BLM, Idaho Magic Feathers (Kathleen Cameron)
Owyhee Uplands Greater Sage-grouse	Sagebrush and juniper dominate the Owyhee Uplands.	Invasive Plants: Invasive exotics, such as cheatgrass, are major problem. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought. Grazing and Ranching: Overgrazing by livestock is a serious problem.	None identified at this time.	BLM
Silver Creek Preserve Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Bald Eagle, Long-billed Curlew, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, California Gull	Considered premier example of a high-desert cold springs aquatic community. *Artemisia tridentata* and *Artemisia tripartita* dominate uplands and adjacent hillsides. Emergent wetlands containing bulrush, cattail, and sedges alternate along stream channels with willows and birch.	Pollution: Water quality. Water Use: Water quantity is affected by water withdrawal in the valley.	Privately-owned Protected Areas/Easements: Designated nature preserve, and some of adjacent lands have conservation easements on them. Alliance Development: County/state cooperation with TNC to preserve the watershed. Monitoring: IBIS.	TNC, IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Snake River Birds of Prey NCA Peregrine Falcon, Ferruginous Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Western Burrowing Owl, Long-billed Curlew, Grasshopper Sparrow	Snake River canyon surrounded by basalt cliffs. Plant communities consist of Wyoming big sagebrush associated with thurber needlegrass, bluebunch wheatgrass, bottlebrush squirreltail, basin wildrye, Indian ricegrass, Sandberg bluegrass, or needleandthread grass. Major shrubs in salt desert shrub communities include winterfat, shadscale, bucksage, spiny hopsage, greasewood, or fourwing or Nuttall saltbush.	Invasive Plants: Invasion of highly flammable non-native annual weeds, particularly cheatgrass, which provide fine fuels that perpetuate recurring fires and eliminate native shrub communities. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Illegal shooting of raptors and disturbance at nest sites. Recreational development/overuse is localized problem. Military Activities: Orchard Training Area activities are potential disturbance to nesting raptors. Habitat-wide Processes: Potential decrease in ground squirrel and badger populations. Destruction of desert crust is major threat. Excessive soil erosion/degradation. Grazing and Ranching: Over-grazing.	Awareness Raising & Communication: Educational signing, development of a visitor area, and preparation of maps and educational brochures for the public. Policy and Regulations: Control of OHV use. Partial shooting closure has been enacted. Hiring of Park Ranger. Land/Water/Species Management: Development of management plan for NCA has taken place. Management of livestock use and monitoring of U.S. Army Guard training area (Orchard Training Area). Habitat Restoration: Reseeding of fire-disturbed sites.	BLM
Snake River Island Wildlife Habitat Area Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret	Trees consist of black cottonwood, coyote willow, and Russian olive. The island is actually two islands close together with a channel in between. The channel is overgrown with coyote willow.	Invasive Plants: Russian olives are trying to invade the island. The wet nature of the soil probably inhibiting their expansion. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Disturbance of the birds is potentially a problem. Reports of intentional disruption of nesting birds. Housing and Urban Development: As of several years ago (~2001), heron rookery has been inactive. The birds may have moved a couple miles downstream, as there is a rookery nearby. The cause of this disappearance from the island is unknown, although disturbance from nearby residential development is suspected.	Research: Survey the island to determine if Russian olives are invading. Compare habitat of island with that of island nearby that is currently being used by herons and egrets. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Chemically treat the mature olive and pull out the young saplings. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, Red Willow Research, Inc.
CHALLIS VOLCANICS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				

Carey Lake WMA - see
Snake River Basalts

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
SNAKE RIVER BASALTS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
American Falls Reservoir Trumpeter Swan, Bald Eagle, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, California Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Tern	Dominant habitat is shallow water aquatic. Other major habitats include riparian willow and bottomland cottonwood. Surrounding habitats are sagebrush or agricultural fields. There are several small towns adjacent to the reservoir.	Pollution: Nutrient enrichment and pesticide runoff from surrounding agriculture lands. Human and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational activities are disturbance to avifauna. Pathogens: Several episodes of botulism in waterfowl. Grazing and Ranching: Grazing may reduce understory in willow and cottonwood habitats.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Most of shoreline is federal or tribal lands. Land/Water/Species Management: Management plan has been written and an irrigation water operation plan by USBR in progress. Awareness Raising and Communication: Springfield Bottoms has been designated as Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network site. Monitoring: IBIS.	Portneuf Audubon, IDFG, BOR, Fort Hall Indian Reservation, IDL
Camas NWR Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Peregrine Falcon, Bald Eagle, Burrowing Owl, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, White-faced Ibis, American White Pelican, Black-necked Stilt, American Avocet, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern	Cattail and hardstem bulrush marsh is main habitat. Baltic rush wetlands also found on site. Sagebrush steppe and dry sand bunch grass environment on uplands. Grain and hay are produced. Dense willow and cottonwoods occur along riparian zones. Marsh units maintained with canals and dikes. Water comes from Camas Creek and pumping.	Invasive Plants: Introduced noxious weeds especially Russian knapweed are serious problems. Management of Nature: Upstream channelization has increased sediment flow onto the refuge. Water Use: Increased ground water pumping in agricultural lands upslope from refuge have lowered the water table, drying up some marsh units and if continued could have drastic effects.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Site is an established NWR. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Chemical and biological weed control. Policy and Regulations: Legal proceedings and cooperative agreements to repair banks damaged by channelization. Legal proceedings to reduce, stop, or mitigate upslope ground water pumping. Habitat Restoration: Water level manipulation and pumping. Cessation of livestock grazing. Monitoring: IBIS.	USFWS

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Carey Lake WMA Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Hooded Merganser, Bald Eagle, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Wilson's Phalarope, Long-billed Curlew, American White Pelican, Black Tern, Forster's Tern, Caspian Tern	Shallow lake dominated by cattail and softstem bulrush. The lake is bordered on the west by agricultural ground, lava on the south and east and the highway to the north.	Invasive Species: Introduced plants/animals. Predation is also a problem. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an IDFG WMA. Easements: Water rights in Little Wood Reservoir are used to maintain water levels in Carey Lake. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: There is on-going predator trapping. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG
Cartier Slough WMA Northern Pintail, Trumpeter Swan, Snow Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, Bald Eagle	2.8 mi. riverbank and 3.95 mi. slough canals. Predominately a grassland floodplain but consists of a diversity of habitat types. Common flora include: aspen, black cottonwood, black hawthorn, red-osier dogwood, snowberry, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, coyote, narrowleaf and whiplash willow, common cattail, hardstem bulrush, Baltic rush, creeping spike-rush, short-beaked sedge, canary reedgrass, and Kentucky bluegrass.	Invasive Plants: The primary conservation problem of this site is infestation by noxious weeds, particularly leafy purge, and the potential for extensive infestation by purple loosestrife, which is found at low levels on the WMA and surrounding area. Grazing and Ranching: Pressure to use the area for livestock grazing could increase, resulting in overgrazing and disturbance. Human- and Motor-powered Recreation: Recreational use causing disturbance to birds. Housing and Urban Development: Residential expansion is increasing in area.	Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Biological agents for removal of leafy spurge and thistle. Proposing to release insects for spotted knapweed and purple loosestrife control as well. Developing a cooperative control effort with local canal company for purple loosestrife. Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established IDFG WMA. Restricting public access to foot or equestrian use only. Palisades mitigation funds can be used to purchase additional property in area from willing landowners. Easements also can be considered. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Craters of the Moon Greater Sage-grouse	Much of monument surface consists of barren lava flows. 22% or more is covered by shrubs (mostly sagebrush and antelope bitterbrush), grasses, or a combination. North end includes small portion of Pioneer Mountain foothills, and contains stands of Douglas-fir and quaking aspen. Riparian areas surround the small watercourses that arise from springs in the foothills.	Human-powered Recreation: Visitation for recreational purposes. Housing and Urban Development: Human development outside the monument is adding to the stresses, in particular air quality. Mining: Mining on borders of monument will/are affecting water quality and air quality. The aquifer could be negatively impacted due to draw down from future development.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established National Monument. Policy and Regulations: No hunting, mining, grazing, or timber extraction is allowed on the premises. Monitoring: Extensive flora, fauna, geologic, water, soil, and air quality surveys and monitoring are being conducted.	National Park Service
INEEL Shagebrush Steppe Merlin, Ferruginous Hawk, Swainson's Hawk, Burrowing Owl, Greater Sage-grouse	Shrub-steppe dominated by sagebrush, native grasses, and forbs. Likely largest block of least-disturbed sagebrush habitat in western U.S.	Habitat Conversion: Return of lands to public domain would increase agricultural activities, grazing, etc. Invasive Plants: Noxious weed invasion is likely if unrestricted public use increases.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Designated as a National Environmental Research Park in 1975. Approx. 256,000 ac. have been closed to livestock use for more than 45 years.	U.S. Dept. of Energy
Market Lake WMA American White Pelican, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Great Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Franklin's Gull, California Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Tern	Marsh/wetland meadow - *typha-scripus /carex-juncus* ; fluvauqent soils. Sagebrush/bluebunch wheatgrass; basalt plains, sandy loam, and igneous rock.	Invasive Plants: Noxious weed species are present, including Canada thistle, Musk thistle, Russian knapweed, field bindweed, and whitetop. Water Use: The water output of springs is 25% that of the output in the 1970s. Pollution: Unknown agent killing waterbirds in most years. Have tested negative for botulism, although symptoms resemble botulism.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an IDFG WMA. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Biological, mechanical, and chemical methods are used to control and eliminate noxious weeds. Easements: Currently investigating the potential to purchase water in reservoir system for use in the marshes. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Minidoka NWR Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Common Loon, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, Bald Eagle, Ferruginous Hawk, Burrowing Owl, American Avocet, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Caspian Tern, Grasshopper Sparrow	Uplands are sage-steppe; understory invaded by cheatgrass and some areas were planted with crested wheatgrass in the 1950/60/70s. There is a narrow fringe of trees and shrubs around the reservoir, in addition there are several islands for nesting colonial birds. The area has many basalt outcroppings and a few sand dunes.	Invasive Plants: Introduced annual and perennial plants, especially grasses, which have lowered natural plant diversity and consequently affected (reduced) animal diversity. Habitat-wide Processes: An increased fire frequency due to introduced cheatgrass. Grazing and Ranching: Past grazing has reduced the native riparian trees and shrubs. Human- and Motor-powered Recreation: Potential disturbance to nesting/molting birds if boating area is expanded.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: Site is an established NWR. Lake is zoned to keep boats away from nesting colonies and waterfowl molting areas. Unfenced areas are being fenced to prevent grazing from trespassing livestock. Working with BLM to develop stock watering areas off the refuge. Habitat Restoration: Native grasses planted after wildfires, where possible. Grazing discontinued in 1995 on most of refuge. Monitoring: IBIS.	USFWS, BLM
Mud Lake WMA Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Common Loon, Western Grebe, Clark's Grebe, American White Pelican, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, Great Egret, Cattle Egret, Peregrine Falcon, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, White-faced Ibis, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, Forster's Tern	Main plant communities are stands of introduced grasses; sagebrush and native grasses; saltgrass, Baltic, and spike-rush meadows; bulrush wetlands; stands of willows; and aquatic plant communities. Mud Lake sits in a 5.5 million year old caldera, this is a historic sump for Camas Creek, which is now used for water storage.	Invasive Plants: Serious infestation of Russian knapweed on the WMA. Human-powered Recreation: Increasing public use of the WMA and demands for additional/different recreational activities could increase disturbance to the birds. Grazing and Ranching: Minor overgrazing/over-browsing issues.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an IDFG WMA. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: IDFG has been trying to control the knapweed problem. Land/Water/Species Management: Mud Lake WMA Management Plan. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Sterling WMA American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Western Grebe, Trumpeter Swan, American White Pelican, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Forster's Tern, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, White-faced Ibis, Wilson's Phalarope, Northern Pintail, Bald Eagle, Swainson's Hawk, Western Burrowing Owl, Short-eared Owl, Peregrine Falcon	Comprised of 1500 ac of wetlands (cattail, bulrush, and open water), 1550 ac sagebrush/grass uplands, and 350 ac agricultural land (corn, grain, alfalfa).	Invasive plants: Canada thistle, Hoary cress, and perennial pepperweed are main noxious weeds. Habitat-wide Processes: Drought has lowered water levels in some ponds and decreased quality of understory vegetation. Invasive Animals: Feral cats, magpies, and skunks seem to have some impact on ground-nesting birds.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an IDFG WMA. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: IPM is on-going. Chemical, mechanical, and biological measures have been used for noxious plants. Trapper is hired to remove mammalian predators around waterfowl nesting season. Russian olive trees have been removed and are being prevented from re-invading. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG

Snake River Area of Critical Environmental Concern Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Harlequin Duck, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, Bald Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, Merlin, Common Loon, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Long-billed Curlew, Black Tern, Burrowing Owl, Boreal Owl, Yellow-billed Cuckoo	Upper section near Palisades Dam is a mountain valley; middle section on the South Fork, a rugged canyon; and lower section a wide river with broad dynamic floodplain. These provide gentle forested uplands, rugged mountains, cliffs, islands in river channel, the most extensive cottonwood gallery forest in Idaho/Intermountain west, Douglas-fir, aspen, and juniper/sagebrush vegetation. The USFWS rated it the most unique and biodiverse ecosystem in Idaho. River corridor vegetation dominated by narrow-leaf cottonwoods in the canopy, with woody understory of red-osier dogwood, silverberry, willows, and water birch.	Habitat Conversion: From multiple sources, including dams, levees, a private resort, and subdivision. Water Use: Irrigation diversions. Invasive Plants: Noxious weed invasion. Grazing and Ranching: Excessive livestock grazing, agricultural development. Human- and Motor-powered Recreation: Increasing recreational use.	Habitat Restoration: 11 habitat improvement projects underway and Adopt-A-Wetland program maintains waterfowl nesting areas and river clean-ups. BOR has made effort to release water to mimic pre-dam floods to facilitate cottonwood seedling establishment along rivers. Management: Use of federal land managed under Snake River Activity/Operations Plan which keys in on acceptable limits of recreation and livestock grazing, limits riparian vegetation degradation, and protects wildlife habitat with emphasis on T&E species. Planning and Zoning: Designated as Land and Water Conservation Fund Project in 1992. Land/Water Protection: 14 fee title acquisitions and one conservation easement acquisition have been purchased by BLM. BLM has worked with the IDFG and BPA to acquire 2 river parcels in fee title. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: BLM participates with interagency noxious weed control team.	BLM, IDFG, BPA, BOR, Teton Regional Land Trust

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Teton Basin Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Red-necked Grebe, White-faced Ibis, Long-billed Curlew, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern	Numerous spring-fed creeks, emanating from the valley floor. Notable among these spring-nourished habitats are fen wetlands, which have organic soils and are driven by groundwater. Riparian and wetland communities along River and tributaries typically contain sedge (*Carex* spp.), mesic grasses, willow (*Salix* spp.), and cottonwood (*Populus trichocarpa*). Upland habitats include grasslands, sagebrush shrublands, agricultural lands, aspen groves and mountain shrublands.	Housing and Urban Development: Residential development is the primary threat to wildlife habitat. Habitat-wide Processes: Water scarcity from drought. Water Use: Development and diversion of water resources. Grazing and Ranching: Overgrazing and other conflicts with agricultural land uses. Invasive Plants: Invasive weeds.	Easements: Multiple sites under conservation easement. Habitat Restoration: At easement sites, re-vegetation projects ongoing, cattle excluded, and waterfowl brood habitat created. Monitoring: IBIS; at easement sites, monitoring of sandhill crane roost sites, waterfowl brood surveys, waterbird surveys, marshbird surveys, passerine surveys, and Long-billed Curlew and Willet surveys on-going. In 2004, a systematic survey of Long-billed Curlews undertaken by Teton Regional Land Trust (TRLT) to assess population size. Long-billed Curlew point count surveys, following USFWS protocols, also are recommended.	Teton Regional Land Trust
YELLOWSTONE HIGHLANDS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Harriman Wildlife Refuge Trumpeter Swan, Common Loon, American White Pelican, Red-necked Grebe, Western Grebe, Snowy Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, American Avocet, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, Bald Eagle, Forster's Tern	Lodgepole pine forest with grassland and 2 lakes. Henry's Fork, numerous small creeks and marsh-pond areas throughout site, the refuge is within the Island Park caldera.	Invasive Species: Past problems with Mountain pine bark beetle, which has impacted lodgepole pine forest. Noxious weeds are a problem. Pollution: Because Henry's Fork, that runs through the refuge, runs through resort housing areas, there is potential for water pollution problems. Fishing: Potential for over-fishing.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This site is an established State Park. Policy & Regulations: Fish and Game monitors and implements fishing regulations. Monitoring: IBIS, annual noxious weed inventory is completed to monitor the introduction of any unwanted plant species.	IDPR, IDFG

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Mesa Marsh Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Common Loon, Western Grebe, Bald Eagle, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Black Tern	This site is located in one of the largest volcanic craters in the world. Beaver have dammed the outlet resulting in increased depth in the marsh. Lodgepole pine forest surrounds the marsh and nearby meadows along with some sagebrush.	Hunting, Logging, etc.: In extreme dry years, grazing may have negative impact on marsh vegetation, and increase bird disturbance, however grazing does help keep the vegetation vigorous. Past timber harvest impacted tree nesting habitat and wildlife security around marsh. Waterfowl hunting occurs while sensitive species using the marsh.	Protected Area Management: Roads have been closed leading into the marsh. The location of the marsh is not advertised nor promoted. Monitoring: IBIS, The Trumpeter Swan Society monitors nesting swans; continuation of this effort is encouraged.	USFS, Trumpeter Swan Society
NORTHWESTERN BASIN AND RANGE ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Blackfoot Reservoir American White Pelican, Western Grebe, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, California Gull, Black Tern, Caspian Tern	Blackfoot Reservoir is an open water reservoir with several islands. The islands are primarily sagebrush type habitat with some willow riparian. The surrounding uplands are primarily sagebrush habitat with pockets of lava outcrops and patches of aspen.	Water Use: Reservoir can be drained for irrigation. Especially a problem in drought/low water years. This impacts the fishery and possibly reduces food base. Low water can leave nesting island exposed to increased disturbance or predation. With low water levels, fisheries managers are concerned about pelican and cormorant impacts on stocked rainbow trout, and on native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (a SGCN). Hunting, Trapping and Fishing: Sportsmen concerned about bird impacts on recreational fishing.	Research: Fisheries biologists have conducted a two-year study on pelican and cormorant food habits on the reservoir. Pelicans and cormorants were found to have a significant impact on stocked fish. Biologists are considering various stocking options as well as bird management options. Monitoring: IBIS.	IDFG, IDL, BLM, Bureau of Indian Affairs
Bowen Canyon Bald Eagle Sanctuary Bald Eagle	Approx. 644 ac. of commercial forestland, 415 ac. Douglas-fir/maple habitat, 229 ac. subalpine fir/maple habitat. Herbaceous vegetation includes bluebunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, big sagebrush, and antelope bitterbrush.	Motor-powered Recreation: The primary problem in the past has been to restrict snow mobile activity in the area. Habitat Conversion (Potential): Mixed ownership – lower part of canyon is privately owned.	Policy and Regulations: As an Area of Critical Environmental Concern, the following stipulations apply: (1) No post, pole, firewood, or commercial timber sales, (2) Stipulations on oil and gas leases to protect habitat, (3) Area is closed to snowmobile use from Nov. 15th to April 15th, (4) Area was withdrawn from mineral claims under the 1872 mining law, and (5) No geothermal or phosphate exploration is allowed.	BLM

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
City of Rocks National Reserve Long-billed Curlew, Greater Sage-grouse, Burrowing Owl, Pinyon Jay, Virginia's Warbler	Uplands consist of juniper/pinyon/mountain mahogany; lowlands primarily basin big sagebrush; protected areas around granite spires and riparian areas contain aspen, chokecherry, balsamroot, prickly pear, and grasses. Above 7,000 ft., pockets of Douglas-fir, subalpine fir, lodgepole and limber pines are also found.	Habitat Converson: Road improvements, grazing, social trails, and campsites have contributed to a serious erosion problem. Gullification and sediment loading in riparian areas are causing loss of habitat crucial to birds. Habitat-wide Processes: The exclusion of fire in the management of the area is a serious concern. Invasive Species: Also problems with introduced plants/animals and natural pests/disease.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: City of Rocks has mitigated some areas, but can't get ahead of the curve. The National Park Service money has been made available for fiscal year 1997 in order to make headway.	NPS
Raft River-Curlew Valley Ferruginous Hawk Area Greater Sage-grouse, Sharp-tailed Grouse, Western Burrowing Owl, Ferruginous Hawk, Swainson's Hawk	Plant communities include: big sagebrush/native grasses; big sagebrush/crested wheatgrass; big sagebrush/cheatgrass/ annuals; greasewood; crested wheatgrass. Less than 14" of rain per year, but increases with altitude.	Human- and Motor-powered Recreation: Some illegal shooting of birds on nests and other disturbance of nests near desert roads. Habitat-wide Processes: Occasional wildfires may threaten certain nest trees and habitat. Invasive Animals: Some nest predation, harassment and/or occupancy by Common Ravens and Black-billed Magpies. Farms, Plantations & Ranches: Conversion to agriculture is a problem.	Policy and Regulations: On BLM lands, measures routinely taken to protect nesting Ferruginous Hawks from disturbance via project/NEPA mitigation. Shrub-steppe habitats and nest trees are protected from wildfire to extent possible. Buffer zones of 0.5 miles (Burley) and 1.0 mile (Malad) surrounding Ferruginous Hawk nests, within which APHIS-ADC has agreed not to conduct aerial shooting or ground calling/shooting of predators between March 1 and July 15. Habitat Restoration: Vegetation management/treatments/fire rehabilitation projects designed to provide for structural diversity and prey base concerns. Monitoring: BLM has assisted in annual monitoring of raptors since 1972, and provided artificial nest structures for raptors. Awareness Raising and Communication: BLM has conducted some "outreach" with ranchers.	BLM

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
OVERTHRUST MOUNTAINS ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Grays Lake NWR Trumpeter Swan, Western Grebe, White-faced Ibis, Long-billed Curlew, American Avocet, Wilson's Phalarope, Peregrine Falcon, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, Forster's Tern	Grays Lake is a high mountain valley. It is probably the largest hardstem bulrush marsh in North America. There are large tall grass wet meadows around the marsh. Other habitats include croplands, willow, aspen, and mountain brush (these are minor components compared to marsh and grassland).	Invasive Plants: Introduced noxious weeds are a problem. Habitat Conversion (Potential): Dissected ownership pattern is major problem; many [land]owners could sell to developers. Water Use: Fort Hall Irrigation District could drain more water from the marsh or drain it earlier in the year. Renewed gold mining on Caribou Mountain could [lead to] increased sedimentation. Main portion of marsh is managed through agreement with Irrigation District; agreement could be withdrawn.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established NWR. Buy land when available. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Chemical, mechanical, and biological control of noxious weeds. Compatible Resource Use: Altered grazing regime and research project to manage livestock in a way to improve wildlife habitat. Grow crops and hay for cranes and geese. Alliance Development: Working with Irrigation District to improve water regime for wildlife. Monitoring: IBIS.	USWFS
Mink Creek/Cherry Springs Sharp-tailed Grouse, Pinyon Jay, Juniper Titmouse, Virginia's Warbler, Lesser Goldfinch	Prominent vegetation includes willow and dogwood thickets, hawthorn and chokecherry. Higher elevations flanked by aspen communities or Douglas-fir. Lower elevation riparian areas flanked by juniper and sagebrush.	Recreation/Grazing: Balancing recreational activities and domestic livestock grazing pressures with preserving and maintaining riparian/stream habitat.	Protected Area Management: Portions of this site are not grazed (Cherry Springs Nature Area). Habitat Restoration: In areas of livestock grazing, some riparian areas are being improved by modifying and moving developments from the riparian area.	USFS, Portneuf Audubon
Oxford Slough WPA Trumpeter Swan, Common Loon, Black-crowned Night-heron, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, White-faced Ibis, Franklin's Gull, Black Tern, Forster's Tern	Core is hardstem bulrush marsh. At north end are tall grass, alfalfa, and grain fields managed for nest cover and foraging areas.	Invasive Plants: Introduced noxious weeds. Recreation/Hunting: In 1996 someone shot about 50 Franklin's Gulls and White-faced Ibis.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established Waterfowl Production Area; boundary fenced and signed. Compatible Resource Use: Grazing discontinued. Cooperative farming program provides short grass foraging areas for geese and cranes, tall grass areas for nesting waterfowl, and grain crops for fall staging geese and cranes. Monitoring: IBIS.	USFWS

Site - SGCN Present	Habitat	Issues	Actions	Partners
Tex Creek WMA Sharp-tailed Grouse, Greater Sage-grouse, Bald Eagle, Franklin's Gull	Complex mix of CRP, permanent cover, brushy draws, winter wheat rotation, and riparian. Deep canyons with steep rugged slopes. Aspen and juniper/sage communities are common.	Invasive Species: Introduced plants/animals are a major problem. Human-powered Recreation: Recreational development/overuse is also a major problem. Habitat Conversion: Potential for loss of CRP around the WMA.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established IDFG WMA. Habitat Restoration: 4000 plus ac. converted from agriculture to permanent cover. Thousands of shrubs planted, riparian areas recovered, ponds built, and soil erosion decreased.	IDFG
BEAR LAKE ECOLOGICAL SECTION				
Bear Lake NWR Trumpeter Swan, Northern Pintail, Western Grebe, American White Pelican, Snowy Egret, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night-heron, White-faced Ibis, Peregrine Falcon, American Avocet, Black-necked Stilt, Long-billed Curlew, Wilson's Phalarope, Franklin's Gull, California Gull, Forster's Tern, Black Tern, Caspian Tern	Most of the refuge is a mix of hardstem bulrush, cattail, and open water. Wet meadows surround the marsh, which provide conditions for sedges, rushes, beardless wild rye, and salt grass. Drier areas have sagebrush, greasewood, and minor amounts of willow. Merkley Ridge is mountain brush with sagebrush. *Symphoricarpos* and serviceberry.	Invasive Species: Introduced Carp and noxious weeds are management problems. Energy Production, Mining, Etc.: Water diversion (entire flow of Bear River) through the refuge is adding nutrients, and sediments to the marsh. There is an inactive mine portal on the edge of the refuge though the ore body (phosphate rock); is not on refuge property. Utah Power and Light have water storage rights on the refuge and if they were to change their storage regimes it could negatively affect water levels in the refuge.	Publicly-owned Protected Areas: This is an established NWR. Species Restoration: Efforts under way to introduce nesting Trumpeter Swans. Invasive Species Control and Prevention: Mechanical, chemical, and biological control of noxious weeds and carp. Alliance Development: Cooperation and negotiation with Utah Power and Light to minimize negative impacts of water storage on refuge. Habitat Restoration: All cattle grazing discontinued. Compatible Resource Use: Haying and farming for wildlife. Efforts being made upstream to reduce non-point nutrient and sediment input in Bear River. Use of diking and timing of water intake to reduce influx of nutrients and sediments into the refuge. Monitoring: IBIS.	USFWS

Part II - Monitoring Idaho's Important Bird Areas

Ecological Section	Site	Ongoing and Recommended Bird Monitoring
OKANOGAN HIGHLANDS		
	Boundary Creek WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are recommended (ideally, year-round monthly waterbird censuses would be
	Fisherman Island/Oden Bay	Year-round waterbird censuses are recommended. Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.
	Kootenai NWR	Breeding and migration season waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, and Black Tern colony counts are recommended.
	McArthur Lake	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are
	Morton Slough	Breeding season waterbird censuses are recommended. Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.
	Pack River Delta	Breeding and migration season waterbird censuses are recommended. Bald Eagle nest is monitored each year by IDFG.
	Upper Priest Lake	Breeding season waterbird censuses are recommended.
	Westmond Lake	Breeding and migration season waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, and Black Tern colony counts are recommended.
OKANOGAN HIGHLANDS/FLATHEAD VALLEY		
	Clark Fork Delta	Bald Eagle nests are monitored each year by IDFG.
	Denton Slough	Breeding season waterbird censuses and Western Grebe colony counts are recommended. Seasonal monitoring of waterbirds using this site is also
BITTERROOT MOUNTAINS		
	Heyburn State Park	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	Miners and Flat Creeks	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	North Idaho College	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	Wolf Lodge, Beauty, and Blue Creek Bays	Coeur d'Alene Audubon conducts monthly surveys at this site. Continuation, and perhaps expansion during winter months, of this effort is recommended.
PALOUSE PRAIRIE		
	Mann Lake	Breeding season and migration waterbird censuses are recommended.
	Snake and Clearwater Rivers Confluence	Use of this site by wintering waterfowl is monitored each year by the participants in the Christmas Bird Count. It is recommended that continuation of this effort is ensured, as well as implementing wintering waterbird censuses.
IDAHO BATHOLITH		
	Boise Ridge	IBO raptor and songbird monitoring.
	Lake Cascade	Bald Eagles are monitored by Boise State University, and Western Grebes monitored by IDFG (these efforts will continue into the foreseeable future). In addition, we recommend implementing monthly waterbird censuses and seasonal area searches

Ecological Section	Site	Ongoing and Recommended Bird Monitoring
	Salmon River East of Riggins	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
BLUE MOUNTAINS		
	Hixon Sharptail	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
BEAVERHEAD MOUNTAINS		
	Chilly Slough	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are
OWYHEE UPLANDS		
	Blacks Creek Reservoir	Monthly monitoring of waterbird use is recommended, following procedures proposed by the state-wide monitoring plan, IBIS. Preliminary monitoring during the breeding season has been initiated by IDFG.
	Blacks Creek Road	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	Boise River	Monthly waterbird censuses are recommended. Monitoring of the Bald Eagle winter communal roost site at Barber Pool has been conducted since 1994 by Idaho Bird Observatory (IBO).
	C. J. Strike Reservoir	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, colony counts for heron rookeries, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are
	Camas Prairie Centennial Marsh WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are recommended.. Breeding season waterbird and marshbird monitoring was initiated by
	Eagle Island	Yearly monitoring of colony is recommended.
	Fort Boise WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Heron Island/Hagerman WMA	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended.
	Lake Lowell/Deer Flat NWR	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended..
	Magic Reservoir	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Owyhee Uplands	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	Silver Creek Preserve	Monthly waterbird censuses and breeding season marshbird playback surveys are recommended. Monthly waterbird censuses have been implemented as of April 2004, and marshbird surveys initiated in spring 2004 by IDFG.
	Snake River Birds of Prey	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
	Snake River Island Wildlife Habitat Area	Monitor island for nesting attempts by herons and egrets. Also monitor nearby active rookery site.
CHALLIS VOLCANICS		
	Carey Lake WMA - see Snake River Basalts	

Ecological Section	Site	Ongoing and Recommended Bird Monitoring
SNAKE RIVER BASALTS		
	American Falls Reservoir	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Camas NWR	Breeding season waterbird censuses, marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended. Line transects and migration monitoring of songbirds using the cottonwood gallery also are recommended.
	Carey Lake WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are recommended. Waterbird censuses were initiated in Spring 2004 by IDFG, and
	Cartier Slough WMA	Monthly waterbird censuses and breeding season point counts for passerines are recommended.
	Craters of the Moon	Extensive flora, fauna, geologic, water, soil, and air quality surveys and monitoring are being conducted.
	Market Lake WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Minidoka NWR	Monthly waterbird censuses, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Mud Lake WMA	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.
	Sterling WMA	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys are recommended, following methods proposed by the state-wide bird monitoring plan, IBIS. Waterbird censuses were initiated in Spring 2004 by IDFG, and marshbird playback surveys will be initiated in Spring 2005.
	Teton Basin	At easement sites, monitoring of crane roost sites, waterfowl brood surveys, waterbird surveys, marshbird surveys, passerine surveys, and curlew and willet surveys are on-going. In 2004, a systematic survey of Long-billed Curlews in the Teton Basin was undertaken by the Teton Regional Land Trust (TRLT) to assess population size. TRLT also conducted marshbird playback surveys in appropriate habitat in the area. Continued breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys at conservation easement sites are recommended. Curlew surveys, following USFWS
SNAKE RIVER BASALTS/BEAVERHEAD MOUNTAINS		
	INEEL Shagebrush Steppe	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
SNAKE RIVER BASALTS/OVERTHRUST MOUNTAINS		
	Snake River Area of Critical	Initiate landbird monitoring under IBIS program.
YELLOWSTONE HIGHLANDS		
	Harriman Wildlife Refuge	Monthly waterbird censuses, breeding season marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended.

Ecological Section	Site	Ongoing and Recommended Bird Monitoring
	Mesa Marsh	Breeding season waterbird censuses, marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended. The Trumpeter Swan Society and IDFG monitors nesting swans; continuation of this effort is encouraged.
NORTHWESTERN BASIN AND RANGE		
	Blackfoot Reservoir	Monthly waterbird censuses and colony counts are recommended (with special emphasis on pelicans).
	Bowen Canyon	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
	City of Rocks National	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
NORTHWESTERN BASIN AND RANGE/SNAKE RIVER		
	Raft River-Curlew Valley	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
OVERTHRUST MOUNTAINS		
	Grays Lake NWR	Breeding season waterbird censuses, marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended.
	Mink Creek/Cherry Springs	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
	Oxford Slough	Breeding season waterbird censuses, marshbird playback surveys, and colony counts are recommended.
OVERTHRUST MOUNTAINS/NORTHWEST BASIN AND RANGE		
	Tex Creek WMA	Initiate monitoring under IBIS program.
BEAR LAKE		
	Bear Lake NWR	Breeding season waterbird censuses and marshbird playback surveys, colony counts, and area searches for migratory shorebirds are recommended.

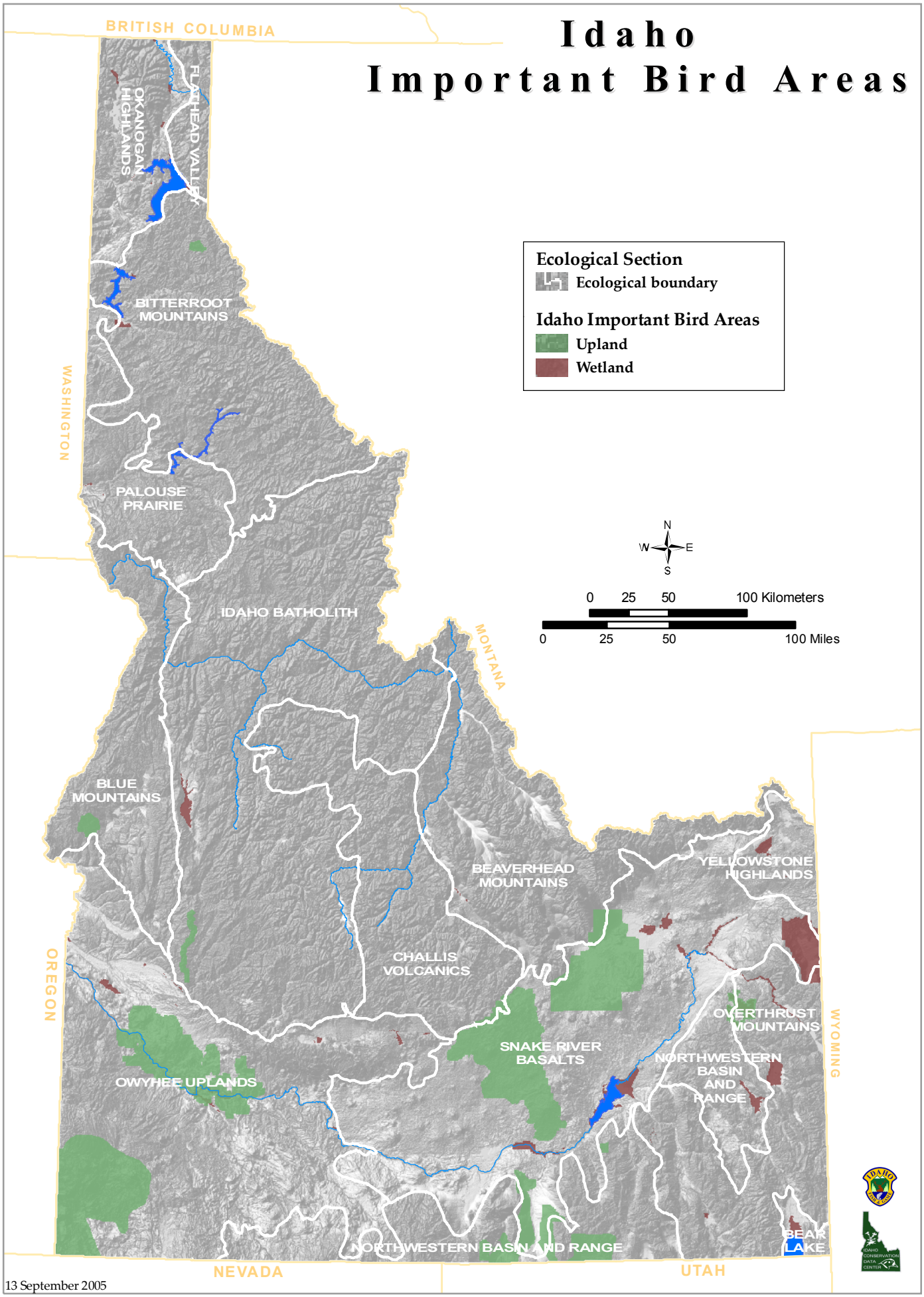

Figure 25. Important Bird Areas in Idaho.