



C.J. Strike

Wildlife Management Area



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Management Plan
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Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Southwest Region
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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is a 10,664-acre area of mixed ownership bordering the 7,500 surface acres of C.J. Strike Reservoir, extending 26 miles up the Snake River and 12 miles up the Bruneau River from C.J. Strike Dam. It is approximately 16 miles south of Mountain Home. The primary purpose of the reservoir is for power production, although it provides extensive recreational fishing and boating opportunities as well. The WMA was formed in 1953 when Idaho Power Company (IPC) granted authority to Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) to manage most of their lands within the C.J. Strike Dam project area. Through fee title acquisitions and agreements with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM), IDFG came to manage additional lands.

IDFG has managed the WMA with a priority on public hunting and fishing opportunity as well as wildlife production, wildlife viewing, and other compatible recreation. As a condition of the license issued to IPC in August 2004 by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), they were required to file, for Commission approval, a long-term C.J. Strike WMA operations and maintenance agreement with IDFG for the management by IDFG of IPC licensed-owned lands within the WMA. Because an agreement with IDFG could not be reached, IPC was required to submit to FERC a fish and wildlife management plan for their owned and licensed lands within the WMA that is consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA. This plan provides a statement of those goals and objectives as well as management priorities.

In January 2005, IPC began preparation of a new plan for their IPC owned-licensed lands within the C.J. Strike WMA. This new plan places their company-owned lands within the WMA completely under IPC control. Under their new plan, IPC will manage 2,611 acres within the WMA with hunting and fishing as the top management priority. IDFG will manage 8,053.06 acres plus the 7,500-acre surface area of C.J. Strike Reservoir within the WMA with hunting and fishing as the top priority.

This management plan was developed by IDFG with extensive public involvement, including preparation of the initial draft by volunteer sportsmen. The plan is structured after the IDFG strategic plan known as The Compass, and addresses management activities on all IDFG-owned and managed lands within the WMA. It is intended to be a long-term plan, with periodic reviews every five years. The vision for management of the WMA under this plan is that C.J. Strike WMA will be a premiere destination in Southwest Idaho to hunt upland game and waterfowl, to view wildlife in a natural setting, and access public fishing at C.J. Strike Reservoir.

INTRODUCTION

This plan is intended to guide the management of IDFG-owned or controlled lands in the vicinity of C.J. Strike Reservoir known as C.J. Strike WMA. Because IPC is required as a condition of the operating license for C.J. Strike dam to develop a plan for their lands within the WMA that is consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA, this plan also serves to provide a statement of those goals and objectives. The WMA is located approximately 16 miles south of Mountain Home, Idaho, comprising 10,664 acres of private and public lands surrounding C.J. Strike Reservoir and adjacent to the Snake and Bruneau Rivers in Elmore and Owyhee counties (Figure 1). It is further described in Appendix I.

The WMA was developed during the period when IPC constructed six new power plants on the Snake River between 1946 and 1952. The C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project created C.J. Strike Reservoir and was originally licensed on December 1, 1950, for a 50-year period. The C.J. Strike Power Plant, the sixth to be completed, began power production March 29, 1952. The development cost was \$21 million. As part of the original 50-year operating license, IPC established the C.J. Strike WMA and entered into an agreement approved by the Federal Power Commission (12-FPC-1-400) with IDFG and the USFWS on July 24, 1953, “to develop the fish and wildlife in the Snake River in and adjacent to the dam and reservoir, and to make the lands and waters herein referred to available for the propagation, feeding and conservation of fish and wildlife, and for hunting, fishing and other recreational uses and purposes by the public, subject to the Company’s requirements in the operation of the project.”

On May 18, 1967, the IDFG, BLM, and USFWS entered into a Cooperative Agreement under Title 43, Chapter 11, Public Land Order 4153, that authorized IDFG to manage all activities on BLM Type A lands (around Crane Falls Lake) and Type B lands (above and below the Loveridge Bridge area) for the hunting and fishing public. The BLM would continue to manage their Type C lands (near C.J. Strike Dam around the lower portion of the reservoir) for the continuance of public access and harvesting of fish and wildlife.

On August 4, 2004, FERC issued a new license to IPC to continue the operation of the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project No. 2055 (Appendix V). In the re-licensing, FERC required IPC to file, for Commission approval, a long-term C.J. Strike WMA operations and maintenance agreement with IDFG for the management (by IDFG) of IPC licensed-owned lands within the WMA. The purpose of the agreement was to ensure proper funding and implementation of measures to achieve WMA management goals and objectives on WMA lands owned by IPC. The license stipulated that in the event an operations and maintenance agreement with IDFG could not be reached, IPC was required to submit to FERC a fish and wildlife management plan for their owned and licensed lands within the WMA.

On December 27, 2004, IDFG and IPC signed a Letter of Agreement that both parties could not reach a long-term WMA operation and maintenance agreement and IPC would therefore submit their own fish and wildlife management plan to FERC. The agreement letter stated that IPC will manage its lands within the WMA and any other lands it owns within the boundary of the C.J. Strike Project with hunting and fishing as the top priority.

This significant management shift at C.J. Strike WMA removed IPC lands from IDFG management oversight. This new direction requires IPC to build and maintain the infrastructure necessary to implement on-the-ground management activities at the WMA. This transition may take several years to complete, so IDFG will continue to conduct operation and maintenance activities on IPC lands under the terms of a General Services Agreement. A separate management plan that guides IPC land management activities within C.J. Strike WMA has been developed by IPC and must be approved by FERC.

This C.J. Strike WMA Management Plan, prepared by IDFG, will direct management on all state and federal lands (8,053.06 land acres, including 6,108 acres of BLM lands within the WMA, and 7,500 reservoir surface acres). The IPC fish and wildlife management plan will direct management on IPC-owned lands (2,611 land acres) within the WMA. The hydropower license approved by FERC required IPC to develop a plan that is consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA, which are stated in this plan.

VISION

C.J. Strike WMA will be a premiere destination in Southwest Idaho to hunt upland game and waterfowl, to view wildlife in a natural setting, and access public fishing at C.J. Strike Reservoir.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game is:

“All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho. It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. It shall only be captured or taken at such times or places, under such conditions, or by such means, or in such manner, as will preserve, protect, and perpetuate such wildlife, and provide for the citizens of this state and, as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing, and trapping.

(Idaho Code Section 36-103)

Within the larger role of the Department, the mission for C.J. Strike WMA is to provide the general public with an area where hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing recreation is the central management focus; to provide habitat for the production of waterfowl and upland game birds; and to provide opportunities for wildlife-based recreational activities that are compatible with maintaining high-quality hunting opportunity and habitat.

This mission is consistent with *Idaho Code* 36-104 that authorizes the Idaho Fish and Game Commission to develop, operate, and maintain (acquired) lands, waters, or conservation easements for said purposes, which are hereby declared a public use:

1. For fish hatcheries, nursery ponds, or game animal or game bird farms;
2. For game, bird, fish, or furbearing animal restoration, propagation, or protection;

3. For public hunting, fishing, or trapping areas to provide places where the public may fish, hunt, or trap in accordance with the provisions of law, or the regulation of the Commission;
4. To extend and consolidate by exchange, lands or waters suitable for the above purposes.

DURATION OF THE PLAN

This plan will provide long-term management direction for the C.J. Strike WMA for at least 30 years and will be evaluated every five years to determine if adjustments are warranted. Following the periodic five-year reviews, the plan will be modified as necessary to accommodate changes in conditions as reflected in monitoring results, and to incorporate available advancements in management knowledge, tools, and techniques.

MANAGEMENT PRIORITIES

- I. Hunting and fishing recreation.
- II. Wildlife production.
- III. Wildlife viewing, appreciation, and education.
- IV. Other compatible wildlife related recreation.

Goals, Objectives, and Strategies

- I. Goal: Meet the demand for fish and wildlife recreation by providing public use of the WMA for at least 20,000 hunter days and 40,000 angler days.
 - A. Objective: Maintain a diversity of hunting, fishing, and trapping opportunities.
 1. Strategies:
 - a) Maintain existing access roads, ramps, and parking areas; regulate vehicle access on interior roads; post signs and boundary markers.
 - b) Maintain water levels in duck ponds by operating pumps and maintaining water control structures.
 - c) Maintain water level in Borden Lake by operating pump/siphon system.
 - d) Protect and maintain riparian and upland hunting cover, mow hunt lanes, and maintain fences.
 - e) Provide a minimum of 60 acres of wildlife food plots distributed in three areas.
 - f) Release annually up to 6,500 pen-reared rooster pheasants throughout the hunting season on IDFG, IPC, and BLM lands by 2010.
 - g) Evaluate issues related to introduction of turkeys, especially with adjacent landowners, and develop a release proposal to be considered at the regional and statewide levels.

- h) Develop, enhance, and maintain boating and fishing facilities at Cove Arm and Crane Falls Lake.
- i) Develop access for persons with disabilities, including a permanent waterfowl blind.

B. Objective: Sustain fish and wildlife recreation.

1. Strategies:

- a) Work together with IPC, BLM, and private landowners to optimize hunting and provide a variety of recreational opportunities, manage access, reduce potential impacts and conflicts, and achieve objectives for recreation and fish and wildlife populations.
- b) Protect existing rights for public access to WMA lands and waters for hunting, fishing, trapping, and wildlife viewing.
- c) Provide specialized access opportunities as necessary for persons of all abilities.
- d) Monitor public participation, demand, and satisfaction with fish and wildlife recreation on the WMA.

C. Objective: Support other compatible recreation.

1. Strategies:

- a) Provide wildlife viewing opportunities and information on proper wildlife viewing techniques and behavior.
- b) Manage dog training opportunities with location and timing in accord with objectives for hunting and wildlife production.

II. Goal: Increase wildlife production and capacity of habitat to support wildlife.

A. Objective: Increase waterfowl production to annual levels of 400 geese and 600 ducks (mallards, teal, gadwall, and wood ducks).

1. Strategies:

- a) Develop and maintain goose brood pastures with vegetation manipulation, including managed livestock grazing.
- b) Maintain and refurbish all existing artificial nest structures as needed.
- c) Add 10 new nesting platforms annually until the optimum distribution is achieved.
- d) Administer a predator control program as needed.
- e) Provide residual nesting cover for waterfowl.
- f) Maintain existing wetlands.

- g) Control beaver populations to eliminate damage to water control structures at the Bruneau Duck Ponds and Ted Trueblood Wildlife Habitat Area.
 - h) Provide nesting sanctuaries February 28 to July 31 each year using posted closures and interpretive signage.
 - i) Implement control program for state-listed noxious weeds and other invasive plant species, like salt cedar, that pose a serious threat to existing plant and animal communities.
 - j) Monitor waterfowl production and assess effectiveness of management strategies.
- B. Objective: Increase upland game bird production to produce a minimum of 200 pheasants and 500 California quail annually.
- 1. Strategies:
 - a) Maintain large areas of residual nesting cover.
 - b) Irrigate cover-food plots of corn, sorghum, and other cereal grains.
 - c) Control noxious weeds through chemical, mechanical, cultural, and biological methods.
 - d) Protect and enhance shrub thickets that provide quail roosting sites.
 - e) Monitor upland bird production and assess effectiveness of management strategies.
- C. Objective: Maintain cover for white-tailed and mule deer.
- 1. Strategies:
 - a) Manage heavy cover at current cover density to adequately maintain existing big game populations.
 - b) Manage grain plots for use by deer.
- D. Objective: Increase capacity of habitat to support a diversity of game and non-game wildlife.
- 1. Strategies:
 - a) Inventory, map, assess, and prioritize habitats for protection, restoration, or enhancement.
 - b) Cooperate with other agencies and landowners to control the spread and prevent the introduction of state-listed noxious weeds and other invasive plant species, such as salt cedar, that pose a serious threat to existing plant communities.
 - c) Emphasize early detection and rapid response actions when managing noxious and invasive plant species in accordance with statewide invasive species strategies.

- d) Develop partnerships with adjacent landowners and land management agencies to restore and enhance wildlife habitat on their lands.
- e) Plant fruit bearing vegetation where favorable.
- f) Maintain boundary fences to exclude trespass livestock.

III. Goal: Provide professional administration of all WMA activities.

A. Objective: Administer the management of all lands within the WMA that are Department-owned or managed by agreement with BLM and Idaho Department of Lands.

1. Strategies:

- a) Hire and supervise temporary employees.
- b) Participate in water-user meetings.
- c) Engage in professional development and continuing education activities, including maintenance of Professional Applicator certification by Idaho State Department of Agriculture.
- d) Prepare and administer budgets, work plans, reports, and inventory, and perform other administrative duties as required.
- e) Administer grazing, farming, predator control, and other contracts.
- f) Enforce regulations for hunting, fishing, trapping, and public use of IDFG-managed lands.

B. Objective: Coordinate Department management activities with other landowners or land management agencies within and adjacent to the WMA.

1. Strategies:

- a) Monitor, review, and cooperate with IPC developments on IPC lands.
- b) Represent IDFG on the Management Advisory Committee and other coordinating groups relevant to WMA management.
- c) Provide coordination leadership on noxious weed and invasive plant control efforts on lands within the WMA.
- d) Develop Access Yes! and Habitat Improvement Program (HIP) contracts on private lands adjacent to the WMA.

C. Objective: Improve citizen involvement in WMA management.

1. Strategies:

- a) Establish a WMA Working Group of 5-7 members representing a diverse range of interests and backgrounds. Meet at least annually to review current year management activities and exchange information.

- b) Maintain a supply of WMA brochures and other IDFG-printed information relevant to WMA activities, which will remain available to the public in visible and readily accessible locations.
 - c) Coordinate volunteer work projects on the WMA.
- D. Objective: Maintain equipment and facilities for excellent customer service and management effectiveness.
- 1. Strategies:
 - a) Cooperate with IPC to maintain facilities for providing customer service and conducting WMA administration.
 - b) Maintain equipment and vehicles to support WMA objectives, including long-term planning for replacement.
 - c) Maintain public-use facilities, including informational signage, parking areas, roads, trails, and restrooms in clean and serviceable condition.

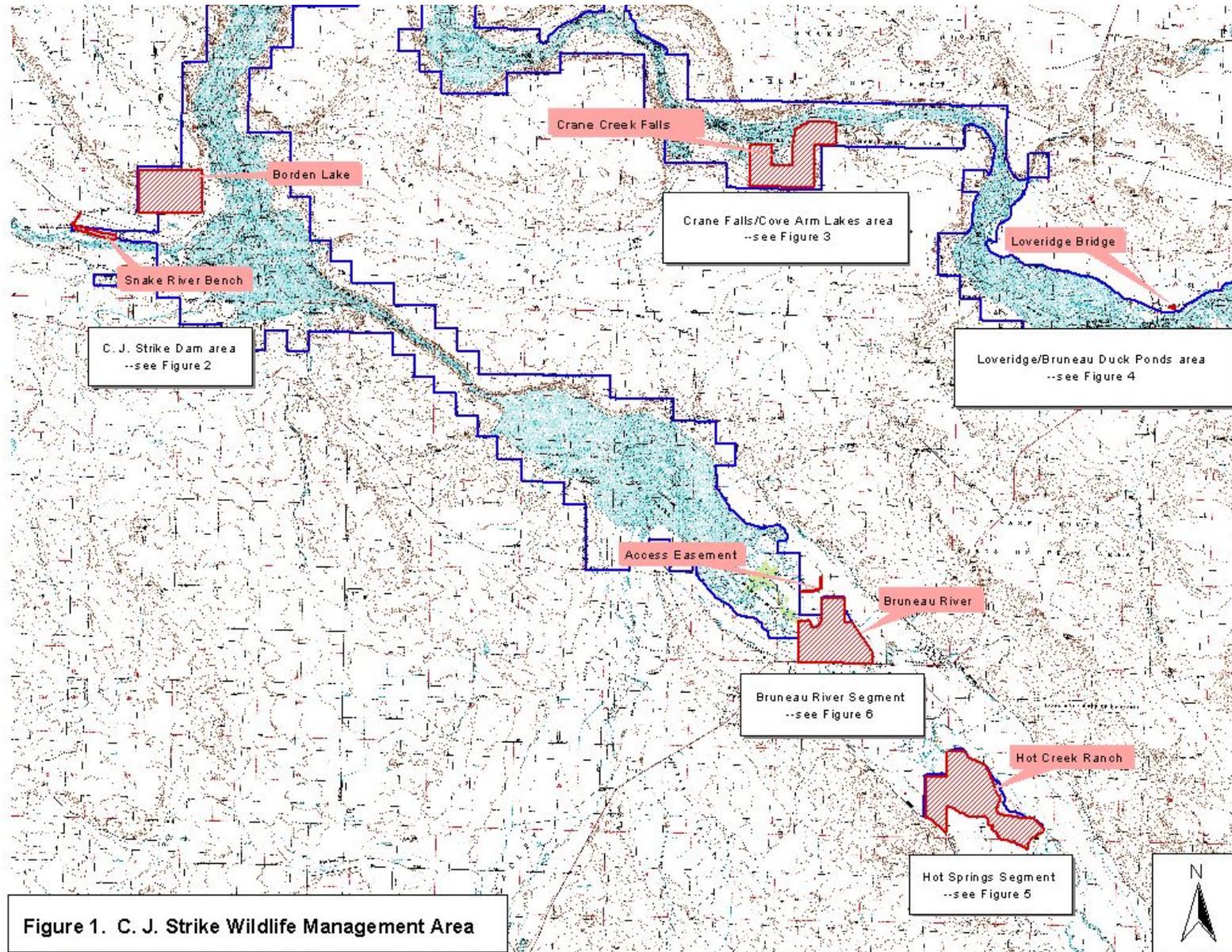


Figure 1. C. J. Strike Wildlife Management Area

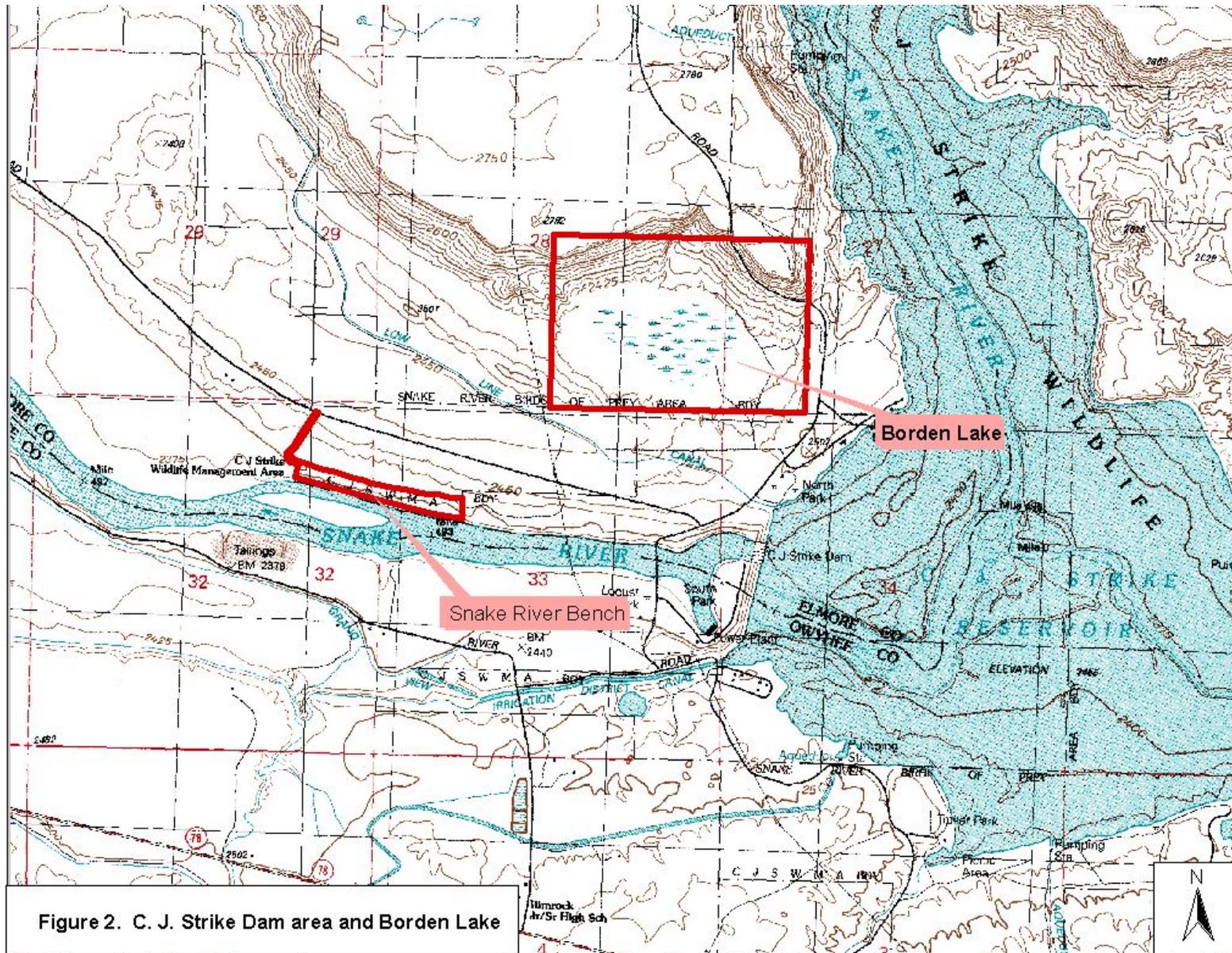


Figure 2. C. J. Strike Dam area and Borden Lake

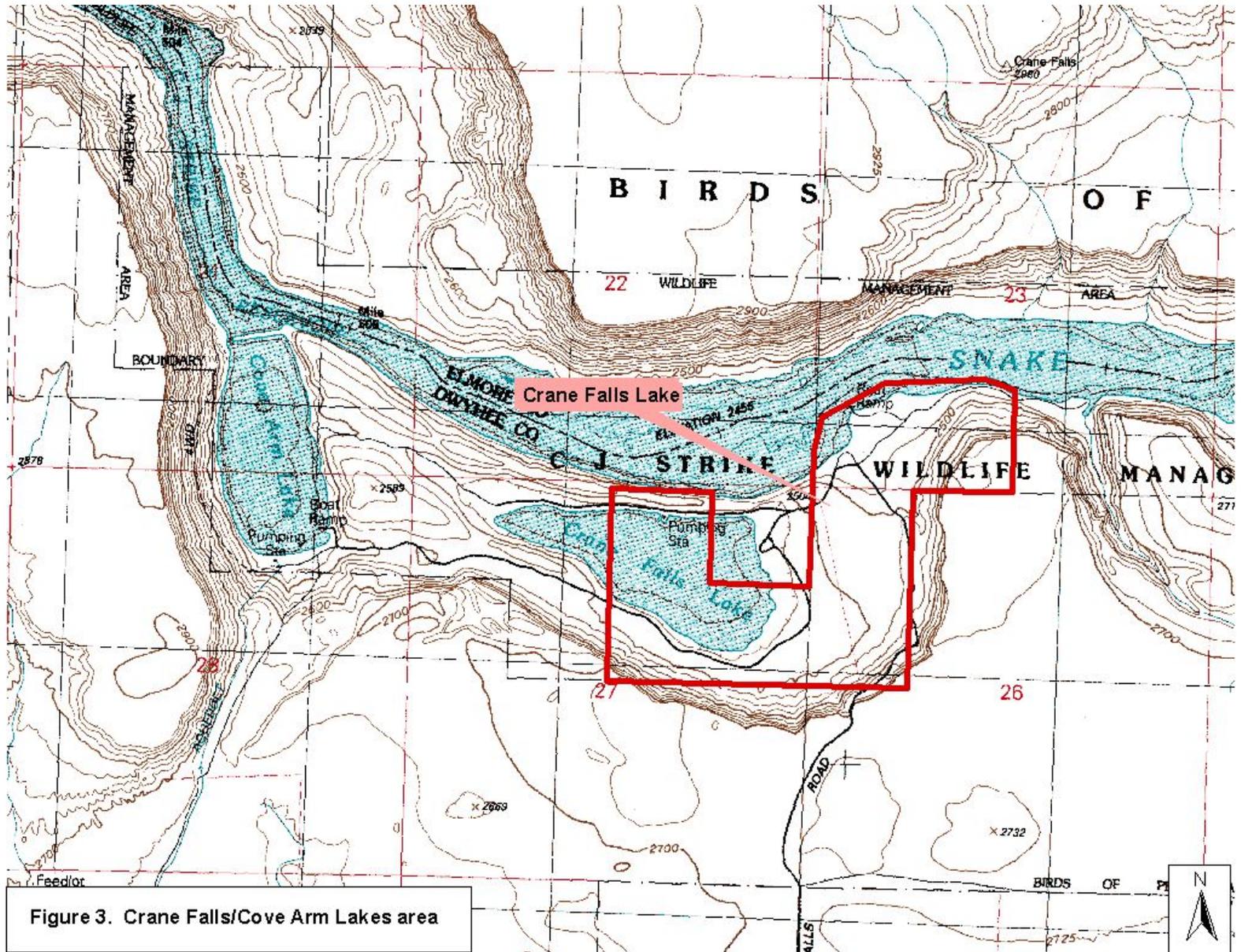


Figure 3. Crane Falls/Cove Arm Lakes area

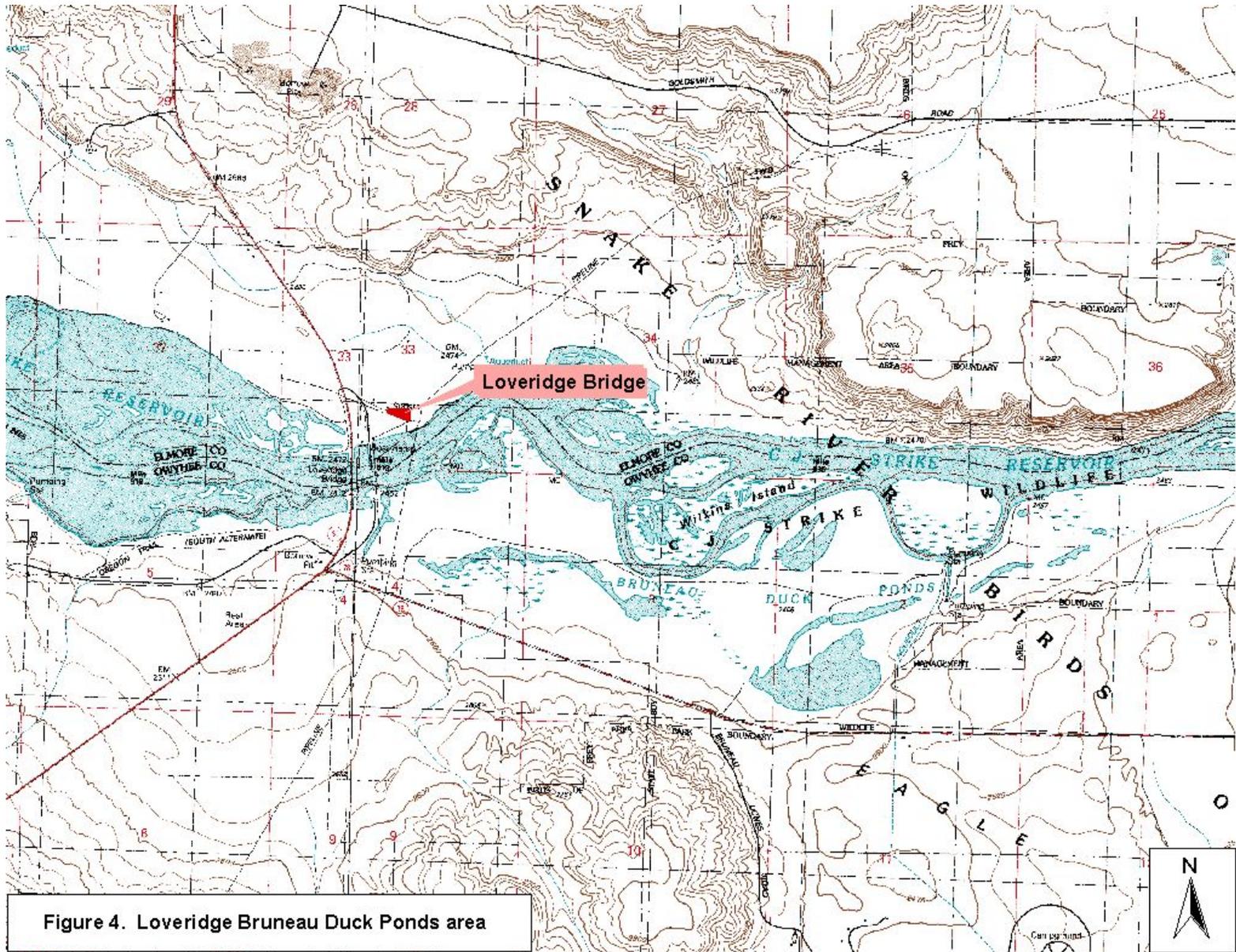


Figure 4. Lovridge Bruneau Duck Ponds area

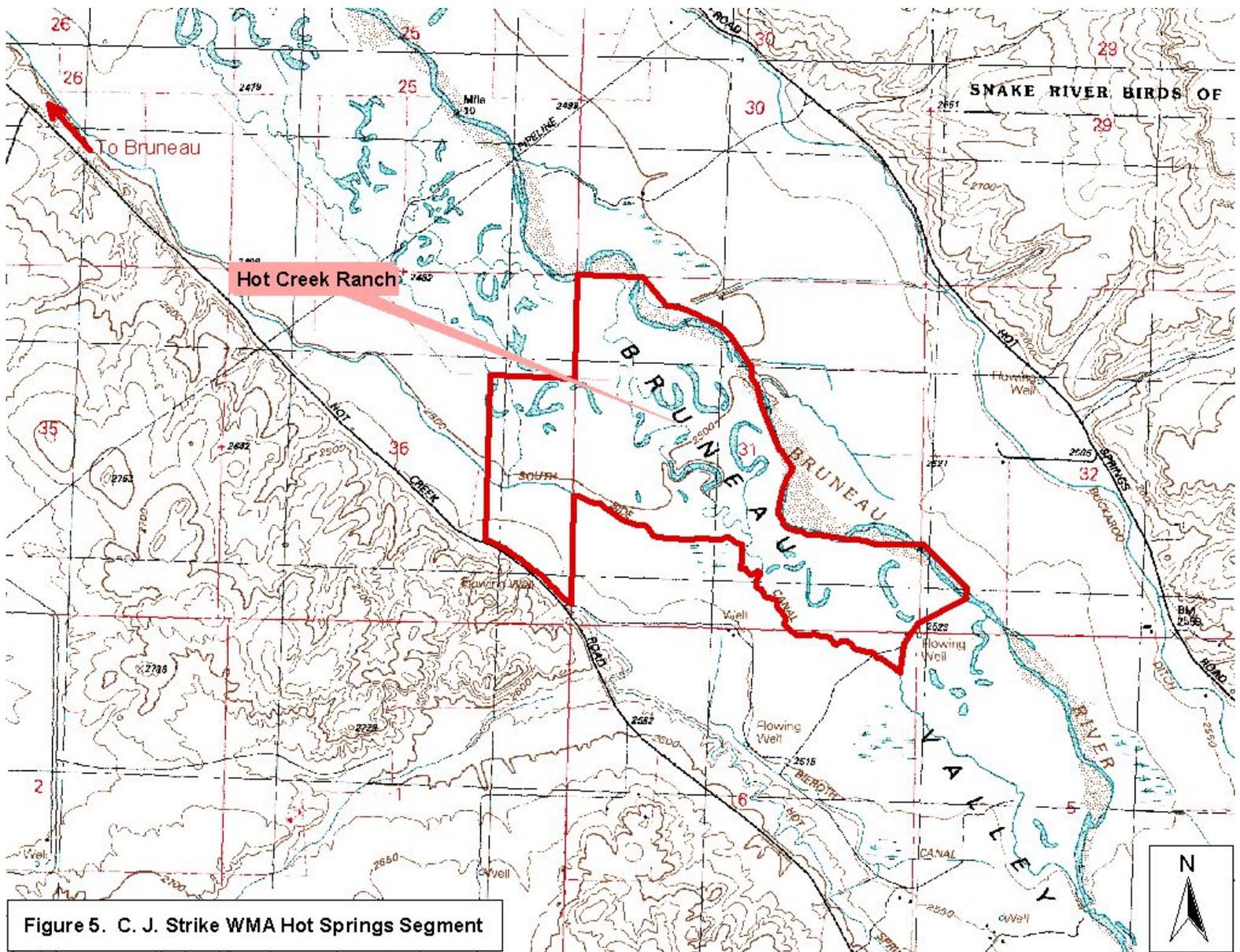
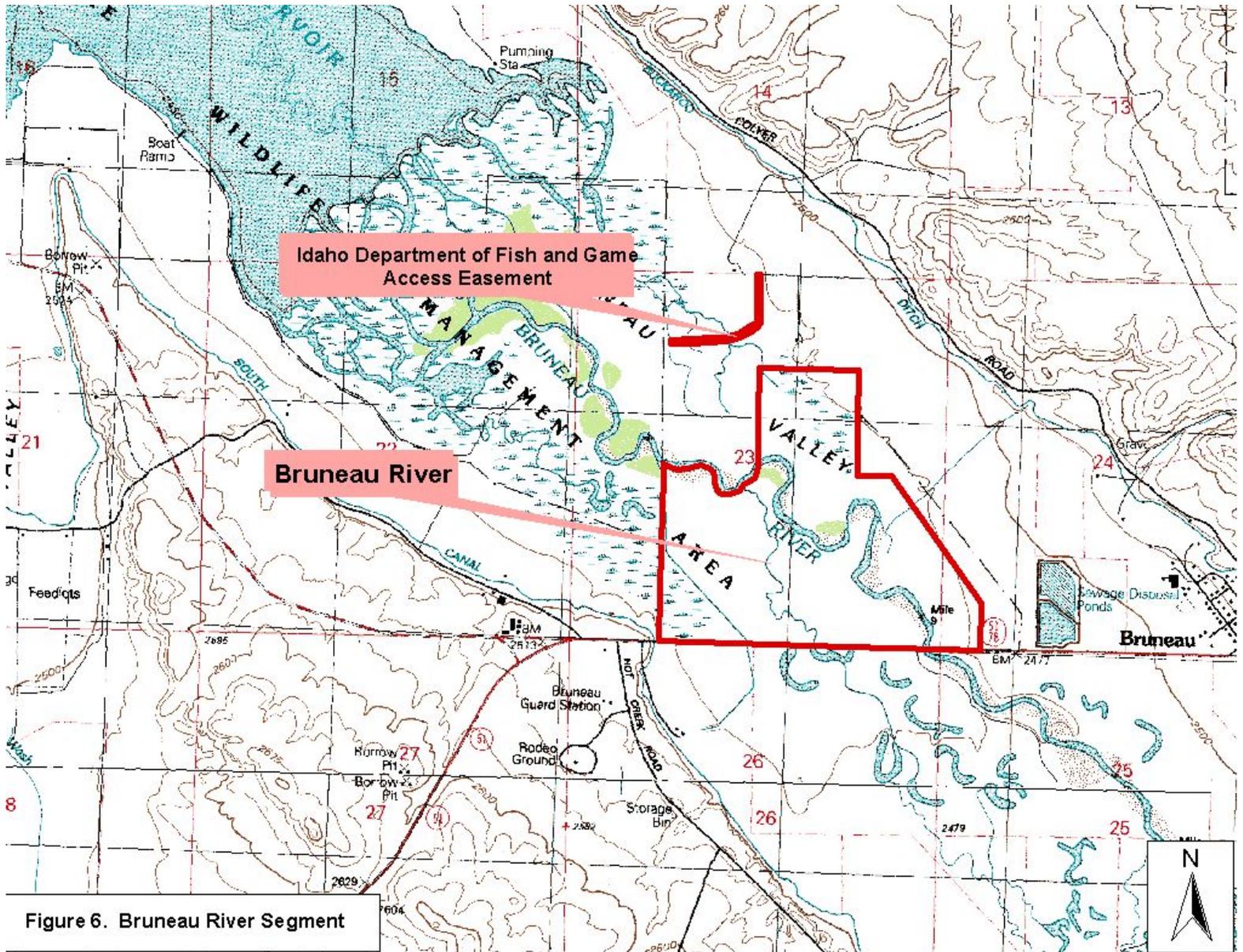


Figure 5. C. J. Strike WMA Hot Springs Segment



APPENDIX I

Physical Description

The C.J. Strike WMA includes 10,664 acres of land surrounding the 7,500 surface acres of C.J. Strike Reservoir and extending up the Bruneau River flood plain. C.J. Strike Dam, at Snake River mile 494, impounds a reservoir extending 26 miles up the Snake River and 12 miles up the Bruneau River. The WMA is located 16 miles south of Mountain Home, Idaho, via State Highway 51, and between Grandview and Bruneau along State Highway 78.

Elevation ranges from 2,455 feet at the reservoir surface to almost 3,000 feet in the surrounding uplands. Topography varies from riparian wetlands to rocky canyons and dry uplands, which results in a wide variety of habitat types. The dominant classifications are lakes, reservoir, rivers, riparian areas, wetlands, low sagebrush, and irrigated agricultural lands. Normal precipitation is slightly less than eight inches annually. Soils are also diverse, and are described in part in the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service Soil Surveys. The Elmore County Area, Idaho, survey was published in 1991 and the Owyhee County survey was completed in 2003.

The following lists WMA lands that are owned or managed by IDFG. The WMA also includes lands owned and managed by IPC which are not listed.

FUNDS	CONVEYANCE	INSTRUM NUMBER	DATE AQUIRED	AQUIRED FROM	COST	ACRES
PR	EASEMENT	261773	12/12/1990	IDAHO POWER CO	\$300.00	0.55
	<p>A twenty-foot (20) wide strip of land located in the W2NW, Section 34, being 10.0 feet on each side of the following described centerline: Commencing at the section corner common to Sections of 27, 28, 33 and 34: thence S 89°59'00" E a distance of 454.43 feet along the North Section line of Section 34 to the TRUE POINT OF BEGINNING; thence S 00°26'54" E a distance of 611.49 feet; thence S 21°10'40" E a distance of 478.00 feet; thence S 37°39'47" W a distance of 219.01 feet; thence S 30°42'31" E a distance of 115.45 feet; thence S 77°44'04" E a distance of 269.29 feet; thence S 54°32'20" E a distance of 67.00 feet to the edge of C J Strike Reservoir; thence continuing S 54°32'20" E a distance of 30.00 feet into the reservoir for the pipeline intake to the POINT OF TERMINUS. Note: Borden Lake.</p>					
GIFT	QUIT CLAIM DEED	101150	6/7/1959	R. W. BENNETT	\$0.00	15.95
	<p>T 5 S, R 4 E, BM. That part of Lot 1 of Sec. 32 and that part of Lot 4, Sec. 33 lying and being S of the following described line: Beginning at a point on the E boundary line of said Lot 4 which point lies S 0°03' E a distance of 1,431.5 feet from the NE corner of said Lot 4, thence N 84°3' W a distance of 900 feet, thence N 76°25' W a distance of 860 feet, thence N 74°13' W a distance of 952 feet to a point on the W boundary line of said Lot 1 of Sec. 32 and which point lies S 0°03' E a distance of 885 feet from the NW corner of said Lot 1 excepting therefrom the following tract: beginning at a point which bears S 0°03' E a distance of 944.3 feet from the NW corner of said Lot 1, thence S 72°5' E a distance of 193 feet, thence S 16°27' W 204.8 feet to the N bank of Snake River, thence N 75°30' W 46 feet, thence S 75°45' W 80 feet to a point on the W boundary line of said Lot 1 extended, thence N 0°03' W 261.7 feet to the point of beginning. Contains 0.79± acres; Also, a 40-foot road right-of-way for a public road on and over a portion of said Lot 1 of Sec. 32 extending 20 feet on each side of the following-described centerline: beginning at a point on the W boundary line of Lot 1 which point is S 0°03' E a distance of 885 feet from the NW corner of said Lot 1, thence N 74°13' E a distance of 20 feet, thence N 29°57' E a distance of 782± feet to a point on the S right-of-way line of an existing county road.</p>					
NONE	AGREEMENT	I-04153	5/18/1967	BLM	\$0.00	0
	<p>Tract C (Other Public Lands) T5S, R4E, BM. Sec. 12, Lots 5, 6, and 7; Sec. 13, NW¼/4NE¼; Sec. 22, SW¼/4SE¼; Sec. 26, NW¼/4NE¼ and SE¼/4SW¼; Sec. 27, E½/2NE¼; Sec. 35, SW¼/4NE¼. T6S, R4E, BM. Sec. 2, Lots 1, 2, 3, and 4; Sec. 3, Lots 1 and 2 and SW¼/4NE¼; T5S, R6E, BM. Sec. 31, Lots 6, 7, and 9 and SE¼/4SW¼. T5S, R7E, BM. Sec. 28, Lots 4, 5, and 6; Sec. 29, Lot 4; Sec. 33, Lot 1; Sec. 34, Lot 2. T6S, R8E, BM. Sec. 3, Lot 12 (first form withdrawal); Sec. 4, Lots 4, 5, 8, and 9; Sec. 5, Lot 1 (first form withdrawal). NOTE: Tract C lands are subject to livestock grazing by BLM permit provided that such proposed use of the land will not interfere with proper management of the C.J. Strike WMA. Tract C lands are not</p>					

APPENDIX II

Vegetation, Habitat, Soils

Habitat Class¹

Classification	Acres
Annual grasslands	1,092
Low sagebrush	2,850
Salt desert shrub	683
Escarpment-shrub	2,162
Cottonwood	118
Willow	290
Marsh & swamp	254
Reservoir	2,696
Island	450
Irrigated agriculture lands	60
Streams	9

Soils (U.S. Soil Conservation Service capability class)

Class	Description	Acres
III	severe limitations that reduce the choice of plants or require special conservation practices, or both	236
IV	very severe limitations that restrict the choice of plants or require very careful management, or both	4,425
V	little or no hazard of erosion but have other limitations, impractical to remove, that limit their use mainly to pasture, range, forestland, or wildlife food and cover	1,412
VI	severe limitations that make them generally unsuited to cultivation and that limit their use mainly to pasture, range, forestland, or wildlife food and cover	2,696
VII	very severe limitations that make them unsuited to cultivation and that restrict their use mainly to grazing, forestland, or wildlife	1,895
Total		10,664

¹ Habitat classification - Idaho Fish and Game, 1973, Judd and Brown

APPENDIX III

Wildlife and Fish

Species	Scientific name	Seasonal Population Level ^a			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
MAMMALS					
White-tailed deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>	L	L	L	L
Mule deer	<i>Odocoileus hemionus</i>	L	L	L	L
Nuttall's cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus nuttallii</i>	L	M	M	M
Pygmy rabbit	<i>Sylvilagus idahoensis</i>	L	L	L	L
River otter	<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	L	L	L	L
Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	L	L	L	L
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>	H	H	H	H
Black-tailed jackrabbit	<i>Lepus californicus</i>	M	M	M	M
Yellow-bellied marmot	<i>Marmota flaviventris</i>	L	L	L	L
White-tailed antelope squirrel	<i>Ammospermophilus leucurus</i>	H	H	H	H
Piute ground squirrel	<i>Spermophilus mollis</i>	H	H	H	H
Pocket gopher	<i>Thomomys townsendi</i>	H	H	H	H
Kangaroo rat	<i>Microtus pensylvanicus</i>	H	H	H	H
Bushy-tailed woodrat	<i>Neotoma cinerea</i>	M	M	M	M
Coyote	<i>Canis latrans</i>	H	H	H	H
Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>	M	M	M	M
Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	H	H	H	H
Badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	M	M	M	M
Weasel	<i>Mustela frenata</i>	L	L	L	L
Mink	<i>Mustela vison</i>	M	M	M	M
Feral cat	<i>Felis domesticus</i>	M	M	M	M
BIRDS					
Greater scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	M	L	N	N
Common goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	H	L	N	L
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	H	L	N	L
Ruddy duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	M	L	N	L
Tundra swan	<i>Cygnus columbianus</i>	M	L	N	L
Common merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>	M	L	N	L
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>	L	H	H	M
Long-billed curlew	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	N	L	L	N
Spotted sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularia</i>	N	L	L	N
Common loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>	L	L	L	L
Western grebe	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	M	M	H	M
Wilson's phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>	N	N	L	N
American avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>	N	L	M	L
Willet	<i>Caoptrophorus semipalmatus</i>	N	N	L	N
Black-necked stilt	<i>Himantopus mexicanus</i>	N	N	L	N
Greater yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>	N	N	L	N
Sora rail	<i>Porzana carolina</i>	N	L	M	L
Eared grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	L	L	M	L
American white pelican	<i>Pelecanus erythrorhynchos</i>	N	L	M	L
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	H	M	L	M
Green-winged teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	M	L	N	H
Wood duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	M	M	M	H
American wigeon	<i>Anas americana</i>	M	N	N	L

Appendix III. Continued.

Species	Scientific name	Seasonal Population Level ^a			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	M	M	L	M
Northern pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	H	H	L	H
Snow goose	<i>Chen caerulescens</i>	L	N	N	N
Common snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>	N	N	L	N
Virginia rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>	N	L	M	L
American coot	<i>Fulicia americana</i>	M	M	H	M
Ring-necked pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	M	M	H	H
California quail	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	M	M	H	H
Chukar	<i>Alectoris graeca</i>	L	L	M	M
Gray partridge	<i>Perdix perdix</i>	L	L	M	M
Mourning dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	L	L	M	L
California gull	<i>Larus californicus</i>	L	M	M	L
White-faced ibis	<i>Plegadis chihi</i>	N	N	L	N
Ring-billed gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>	L	M	M	L
Forster's tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>	L	M	M	L
Black tern	<i>Chilidonias niger</i>	N	N	L	N
Greater sandhill crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>	N	L	N	N
Double-crested cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	L	L	L	L
Great blue heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	M	M	M	M
Snowy egret	<i>Egretta thula</i>	M	M	M	M
Black-crowned night heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	N	L	L	N
Eastern kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>	L	L	L	L
Western kingbird	<i>Tyrannus verticalis</i>	N	L	M	L
Says pheobe	<i>Sayornis saya</i>	N	N	L	N
Willow flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>	N	L	M	L
Western wood peewee	<i>Contopus sordidulus</i>	N	M	M	L
Horned lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>	N	N	M	N
Bank swallow	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	N	M	M	M
Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	L	L	N	L
Cliff swallow	<i>Hirundo pyrrhonota</i>	N	N	M	M
Black-billed magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	H	H	H	H
Common raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	M	M	M	M
American crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	H	H	H	H
Pinyon jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	L	N	N	N
Black capped chickadee	<i>Parus atricapillus</i>	L	L	N	L
White-breasted nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>	L	L	L	L
Brown creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>	L	L	L	L
House wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>	N	N	M	N
Canyon wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>	N	M	H	M
Sage thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	N	M	H	M
American robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	L	M	M	M
Western bluebird	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	N	L	L	L
Loggerhead shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>	N	N	L	N
European starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	H	H	H	H
Yellow warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	N	N	L	N
Yellow-rumped warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	N	L	L	N
Wilson's warbler	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	N	N	L	N
House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	H	H	H	H
Western meadowlark	<i>Sturnella neglecta</i>	H	H	H	H
Yellow-headed blackbird	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>	N	N	M	N
Red-winged blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	M	M	H	M

Appendix III. Continued.

Species	Scientific name	Seasonal Population Level ^a			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Brewers blackbird	<i>Euphagus cyanocephalus</i>	H	H	H	H
Brown-headed cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>	N	N	L	N
Northern oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>	N	N	L	N
Western tanager	<i>Piranga ludoviciana</i>	N	N	L	N
American bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	L	L	L	L
Turkey vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	N	L	M	N
Sharp-shinned hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>	N	L	L	L
Rough-legged hawk	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	L	N	N	N
Red-tailed hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	M	H	H	M
Swainson's hawk	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	N	N	N	L
Ferruginous hawk	<i>Buteo regalis</i>	L	N	N	N
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>	H	H	H	H
Bald eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	M	N	N	N
Northern harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	H	H	H	H
Osprey	<i>Pandion halidetus</i>	L	L	N	N
Prairie falcon	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	H	H	H	H
American kestrel	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	H	H	H	H
Western screech owl	<i>Otis kennicottii</i>	M	M	M	M
Coopers hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	L	M	H	M
Great horned owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	M	M	M	M
Burrowing owl	<i>Speotyto cunicularia</i>	L	L	L	L
Long-eared owl	<i>Asio otus</i>	L	L	L	L
Short-eared owl	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	L	L	L	L
Common night hawk	<i>Chordeiles minor</i>	L	M	H	M
Common poor-will	<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttallii</i>	N	N	M	N
Rufous hummingbird	<i>Selasphorus rufus</i>	N	N	M	N
Belted kingfisher	<i>Ceryle alcyon</i>	M	M	M	M
Red-shafted flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	H	H	H	H
Black-headed grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus melanocephalus</i>	N	N	L	N
Evening grosbeak	<i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i>	N	N	L	N
Lazuli bunting	<i>Passerina amoena</i>	N	N	L	N
House finch	<i>Carpodacus mexicanus</i>	L	L	L	L
Gray-crowned rosy-finch	<i>Lleluosticte tephrocotis</i>	H	H	L	H
American goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>	L	L	L	L
Savannah sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	H	H	H	H
Grasshopper sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	N	M	M	M
Vesper sparrow	<i>Pooecetes gramineus</i>	N	M	M	M
Lark sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	N	M	M	M
Oregon junco	<i>Junco oreganus</i>	H	M	N	M
Slate-colored junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	M	N	N	N
Barn owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	M	M	M	M
Downy woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	M	M	L	M
Hairy woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	L	L	L	L
American tree sparrow	<i>Spizella arborea</i>	M	N	N	N
Chipping sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	N	M	M	N
Brewers sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri</i>	M	M	M	M
White-crowned sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>	H	H	H	H
Fox sparrow	<i>Passerella iliaca</i>	N	N	M	N
Song sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	H	H	H	H
Feral pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	M	M	M	M

Appendix III. Continued.

Species	Scientific name	Seasonal Population Level ^a			
		Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
FISH					
Black crappie	<i>Pomoxis nigromaculatus</i>	H	H	H	H
Bluegill	<i>Lepomis macrochirus</i>	H	H	H	H
Brown bullhead	<i>Ictalurus nebulosus</i>	L	L	L	L
Carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	H	H	H	H
Channel catfish	<i>Ictalurus punctatus</i>	H	H	H	H
Largemouth bass	<i>Micropterus salmoides</i>	M	M	M	M
Mountain whitefish	<i>Prosopium williamsoni</i>	L	L	L	L
Northern pikeminnow	<i>Ptychocheilus oregonensis</i>	H	H	H	H
Pumpkinseed	<i>Lepomis gibbosus</i>	L	L	L	L
Rainbow trout	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss</i>	M	M	M	M
Smallmouth bass	<i>Micropterus dolomieu</i>	H	H	H	H
Largescale sucker	<i>Catostomus macrocheilus</i>	H	H	H	H
Warmouth	<i>Chaenobryttus gulosus</i>	L	L	L	L
White sturgeon	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	L	L	L	L
Yellow perch	<i>Perca flavescens</i>	H	H	H	H
White crappie	<i>Pomoxis annularis</i>	M	M	M	M
Chiselmouth	<i>Acrocheilus alutaceus</i>	L	L	L	L
Peamouth	<i>Mylocheilus caurinus</i>	L	L	L	L
Bridgelip sucker	<i>Catostomus columbianus</i>	M	M	M	M
REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS					
Common garter snake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>	L	H	H	H
Gopher snake	<i>Pituophis catenifer</i>	L	H	H	H
Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>	L	H	H	M
Western rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridis</i>	L	L	M	L
Desert horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma platyrhinos</i>	H	H	H	H
Short-horned lizard	<i>Phrynosoma douglasii</i>	L	L	L	L
Bullfrog	<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>	M	M	M	M
Western toad	<i>Bufo boreas</i>	L	L	H	M
Northern leopard frog	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	M	M	M	M
Pacific chorus frog	<i>Pseudacris regilla</i>	M	M	M	M

^a Seasonal population levels are based on estimates of relative abundance. L = low, M = medium, H = high, and N = not present.

APPENDIX IV

Development History

The first white travelers to visit what is now the C.J. Strike WMA were explorers, fur trappers, or pioneers on their way to Oregon to homestead. During the 1860s, they crossed through the southern part of the WMA on the south alternate of the Oregon Trail. This route left the main Oregon Trail near Glens Ferry, followed the southern edge of the Snake River, and rejoined the main trail near Parma.

Idaho Power Company constructed six new power plants on the Snake River between 1946 and 1952. The C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Power Plant, the sixth to be completed, began power production March 29, 1952. The development cost was \$21 million. As part of the original 50-year operating license, IPC established the C.J. Strike WMA and entered in to an agreement with IDFG and USFWS on July 24, 1953, “to develop the fish and wildlife in the Snake River in and adjacent to the dam and reservoir, and to make the lands and waters herein referred to available for the propagation, feeding and conservation of fish and wildlife, and for hunting, fishing and other recreational uses and purposes by the public, subject to the Company’s requirements in the operation of the project.”

C.J. Strike Reservoir has a capacity of 250,000 acre-feet and covers 7,500 surface acres. Stored water backs up 26 miles of the Snake River and 12 miles of the Bruneau River. Seepage from the newly constructed reservoir filled an 80-acre basin on the south side of the Snake River which is now Crane Falls Lake. This lake was stocked with rainbow trout in 1954 and soon became a trophy trout fishery. The lake has since evolved into an excellent warm-water fishery in combination with the rainbow fishery. In 1968, a dike was constructed across the mouth of a small reservoir cove located just west of Crane Falls Lake to create another trout fishery. The result was Cove Arm Lake, a 100-acre impoundment with water levels that fluctuate with those of the reservoir.

The primary purposes of the C.J. Strike WMA are to manage waterfowl and upland game birds and provide game bird hunting opportunities. To improve waterfowl habitat on the management area, two miles of dikes and 40 islands have been constructed near Loveridge Bridge on the south side of the Snake River. Fourteen islands and channels were constructed at Borden Lake, located northwest of the C.J. Strike Dam, with water supplied from the reservoir via siphon. More than 200 goose nesting platforms have been installed in and around the reservoir and man-made ponds. Platforms have also been installed along the WMA portions of the Bruneau and Snake rivers. In addition, numerous wood duck nesting boxes have been erected.

Upland game populations on the WMA are being enhanced through farming practices that provide year-round food and cover. For example, standing corn supplies food and cover for ring-necked pheasants and quail. About 60 acres of grain and 60 acres of corn and milo are grown on the WMA each fall and left standing for wildlife use. Pumping and irrigation systems are used to grow wildlife crops and to bring water to developed waterfowl brood ponds.

To provide fishing access for anglers, eight concrete boat-launching ramps and many public access sites have been developed around the reservoir. At the Cottonwood campground, a rock

Appendix IV. Continued.

jetty, boat docks, and a boat slippage were constructed in cooperation with the Elmore and Owyhee County Waterways Commissions. Two campgrounds are being maintained by IDFG and BLM. IPC has also developed two camping and picnic areas adjacent to the power plant at the dam.

APPENDIX V

Order Issuing New License to Idaho Power Company

Selected sections of the FERC Order issuing a new license to IPC appear below. A complete copy of the text is available at the following web address:

<http://www.ferc.gov/for-citizens/projectsearch/searchprojects.aspx>

108 FERC ¶ 61,129
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Before Commissioners: Pat Wood, III, Chairman;
Nora Mead Brownell, Joseph T. Kelliher,
and Suede G. Kelly.

Idaho Power Company

Project No. 2055-010

ORDER ISSUING NEW LICENSE

(Issued August 4, 2004)

1. This order issues, pursuant to sections 4(e) and 15 of the Federal Power Act (FPA),¹ a new license to Idaho Power Company (Idaho Power or licensee) to continue operation and maintenance of the 82.8-megawatt (MW) C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project No. 2055, located on the Snake and Bruneau Rivers in Owyhee and Elmore Counties, Idaho. Part of the project occupies federal lands managed by the U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM).²
2. This order also approves, as it applies to the C.J. Strike Project, an offer of settlement filed by Idaho Power on behalf of itself and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) with respect to the relicensing of C.J. Strike and four other Idaho Power projects on the Snake River. The settlement agreement contains provisions relating to the protection of specific federally listed threatened and endangered snail species. The new license issued in this order for the C.J. Strike Project includes conditions consistent with the terms of the agreement.³

¹ 16 U.S.C. and 797(e) and 808, respectively.

² Section 4(e) of the FPA, 16 U.S.C. § 797(e), provides that the Commission may issue a license for a project located on a federal reservation (defined at FPA section 3(2), 16 U.S.C. § 794(2)) only after it finds that the license will not interfere or be inconsistent with the purpose for which the reservation was created or acquired. The C.J. Strike Project occupies 2,982.63 acres (exclusive of transmission lines rights-of-way) of BLM land used for grazing. We conclude that the project's occupancy of this reservation does not interfere, and is not inconsistent, with the reservation's purpose or use. In addition, section 4(e) provides that the license of a project on reservation land shall contain such conditions as the Secretary of the department under whose supervision such reservation falls shall deem necessary for the adequate protection and utilization of such reservation. The Secretary of the Interior did not file any conditions under section 4(e).

³ The agreement is found at Appendix B to the new license issued concurrently for the Bliss Project No. 1975.

BACKGROUND

3. Today the Commission is issuing new licenses for five Idaho Power projects on the central portion of the Snake River Basin, in south-central Idaho.⁴ Starting furthest upstream, they are the 12.5-MW Shoshone Falls Project No. 2778, at river mile (RM) 615;⁵ the 34.5-MW Upper Salmon Falls Project No. 2777 (RM 580); the 60-MW Lower Salmon Falls Project No. 2061(RM 573); the 75-MW Bliss Project No. 1975 (RM 560); and the C.J. Strike Project (RM 494-518).⁶ The first four projects, located along a 57-mile-long reach of the river, are sometimes referred to as the mid-Snake projects.

4. More than 1,000 miles long, the Snake River is the largest tributary of the Columbia River. The Snake River has been heavily developed, as evidenced by the 23 dams on its mainstem, impounding nearly 50 percent of the river. Of the 37 million acre-feet of water that drains into the river each year, more than 14 million acre-feet are diverted for irrigation, municipal, and various other uses. The resulting impacts on the resources of the Snake River have included inundation of fish-spawning, wildlife, riparian, and island habitat.⁷

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

5. Construction and operation of the C.J. Strike Project was originally licensed effective December 1, 1950, with a 50-year term that expired in 2000.⁸ The project has continued to operate under annual licenses.⁹

6. The project occupies about 3,373 acres of federal lands managed by the BLM. It includes a 3,220-foot-long, 115-foot-high dam with three power intakes and three 22-foot-diameter penstocks; a reservoir extending 32 miles upstream on the Snake River and 12 miles upstream on the Bruneau River,¹⁰ having a surface area of 7,500 acres and a storage capacity of 240,000 acre-feet at normal maximum water surface elevation of 2,455 feet; a 198-foot-long powerhouse at the base of the dam containing three turbine generator units totaling 82.8 MW installed capacity; a 340-foot-wide, 78-foot-high concrete spillway with eight bays; and two transmission lines, one 65 miles long and the other 25 miles long. The current average annual generation at the project is 558,299 megawatt-hours (MWh).

⁴ The Snake River is a navigable waterway of the United States from its mouth on the Columbia River (which flows to the Pacific Ocean) to the mouth of the Henrys Fork River, at about river mile 774. Idaho Power Company, 14 FPC 71 (1955).

⁵ River miles are counted beginning at the mouth of a river.

⁶ On the Malad River, a tributary to the Snake River entering the Snake between the Bliss and the Lower Salmon Falls Projects is Idaho Power's 20.7-MW Malad Project No. 2726, a two-development run-of-river project whose current license expires July 31, 2004.

⁷ See City of Idaho Falls, Idaho, 80 FERC ¶ 61,342 at 62,129 (1997).

⁸ Idaho Power Co., 10 FPC 722 (1951).

⁹ See FPA section 15(a)(1), 16 U.S.C. § 808(a)(1).

¹⁰ The project dam is located just below the confluence of the Snake and Bruneau Rivers.

Appendix V. Continued.

7. The project is block-loaded to meet daily system demands, *i.e.*, one, two, or three units are brought on- and off-line as demand and water availability dictate. The project also operates in conjunction with the upstream Bliss and Lower Salmon Falls Projects to meet short-term load demands. This operation results in reservoir and tailwater level fluctuations. Although under the current license, the impoundment is allowed to fluctuate up to 5 feet per day, the daily fluctuation averages only 0.3 foot, with 70 percent of daily fluctuations being 0.2 foot or less. Daily tailwater fluctuations vary up to 4 feet, but 70 percent of the time are 3 feet or less. Under the current license, the project does not operate under minimum instream flow or downstream ramping rate requirements. However, Idaho Power voluntarily releases a minimum flow of 3,900 cfs.

LICENSE TERM

69. Pursuant to section 15(e) of the FPA,¹¹ relicensing terms shall not be less than 30 years nor more than 50 years from the date on which the license is issued. Our general policy is to establish 30, 40, and 50-year terms for projects with, respectively, little, moderate, or extensive redevelopment, new construction, new capacity, or additional environmental measures.¹²

70. In issuing both new and original licenses, the Commission coordinates the expiration dates of licenses to the maximum extent possible, to maximize future consideration of cumulative impacts at the same time in contemporaneous proceedings at relicensing.¹³ The Commission's intention is to consider cumulative impacts, to the extent practicable, at the time of licensing and relicensing, and to reduce the need to resort to the use of reserved authority. In this instance, the expiration dates of the new licenses for the C.J. Strike Project and the four Mid-Snake Projects should be coordinated, because the five projects will be operated in compliance with a single plan for the protection of listed snail species in the river basin. Because issuance of new licenses for these five projects involves only modest environmental measures, 30-year license terms, effective on the same date, are appropriate for each of the projects. Accordingly, the new license term for the C.J. Strike Project will be 30 years, effective the first day of the month in which this order is issued.

The Commission orders:

(A) This license is issued to Idaho Power Company (licensee) to operate and maintain the C.J. Strike Project, for a period of 30 years, effective the first day of the month in which this order is issued. The license is subject to the terms and conditions of the Federal Power Act (FPA), which is incorporated by reference as part of this license, and subject to the regulations the Commission issues under the provisions of the FPA.

¹¹ 16 U.S.C. § 808(e).

¹² See Consumers Power Company, 68 ¶ FERC 61,077 at 61,383-84 (1994).

¹³ See Use of Reserved Authority in Hydropower Licenses to Ameliorate Cumulative Impacts: Policy Statement, FERC Stats. & Regs. Preambles ¶ 31,010 (December 14, 1994), 59 Fed. Reg. 66,718 (December 28, 1994).

Appendix V. Continued.

Article 301. Revised Exhibits. Within 45 days of the date the Commission approves the C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Operations and Maintenance Agreement or a fish and wildlife management plan for licensee-owned lands within the WMA required by Article 413, and following the acquisition of riparian habitats required by Article 412, the licensee shall submit revised Exhibit G drawings, as appropriate with the Commission for approval and in accordance with the format described in Article 203. The revised project boundary shall include and clearly identify all licensee-owned lands within the WMA. The exhibits shall have sufficient detail to adequately delineate the relative location of project features. The licensee shall submit six copies to the Commission, one copy to the Commission's Portland Regional Director, and one to the Director, Division of Hydropower Administration and Compliance.

Article 302. Reservoir Drawdown Limitation Report. Within 60 days of the date of this license, the licensee shall submit one copy to the Division of Dam Safety and Inspections – Portland Regional Engineer and two copies to the Commission (one of these shall be a courtesy copy to the Director, Division of Dam Safety and Inspections), of a report describing the effects of reservoir drawdown limitations imposed by this license on local flooding and spillway adequacy of the project dam.

The report should include a flood routing study that evaluates the ability of the project to safely pass flows up to the Inflow Design Flood. The frequency that the nonoverflow structures would be overtopped under the historical and limited drawdowns should be compared. The report should discuss if there would be an increased likelihood of low-lying structures located upstream and downstream of the reservoir being flooded under the new operating scenario. If necessary, the report should include a plan and schedule for performing any remedial measures necessary to ensure the continued safe operation of the project during high flows.

The licensee shall implement any remedial measures required by the Division of Dam Safety and Inspections' Portland Regional Engineer.

Article 413. C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area Operations and Maintenance Agreement. Within six months of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval, a long-term C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area (WMA) operations and maintenance agreement with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Idaho DFG) for the management of licensee-owned lands within the WMA. The purpose of the agreement would be to ensure proper funding and implementation of measures to achieve WMA management goals and objectives on WMA lands owned by the licensee for the continued benefit of fish and wildlife resources associated with the project. At a minimum, the agreement shall include:

- (1) a provision for annual funding to be provided to the Idaho DFG in the amount of no less than \$138,100 adjusted annually for inflation using the consumer price index for implementing: noxious weed control plans, shoreline and sheet erosion control plans, rare and endangered species protection plans, wetland habitat protection and enhancement plans, waterfowl nesting programs, spring and stream protection measures, wildlife habitat improvement plans, amphibian management

Appendix V. Continued.

plans, grazing management, access improvements, and public education programs on licensee-owned lands within the WMA;

- (2) a provision for the establishment and support of a management advisory committee (MAC) to solicit and consider the interests of the licensee, Idaho DFG, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (Idaho DPR), Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Elmore County, Owyhee County, Southside Canal Company, and abutting private landowners, to the extent they are interested, in the management of the licensee-owned portions of the WMA;
- (3) a provision for the continued supply of water to the Borden Lake Game Management Area (GMA) in an amount sufficient to support the wildlife habitat goals of the GMA;
- (4) a provision for incorporating the licensee's 329-acre parcel referred to as the "Cabin Site" into the WMA, as appropriate and agreed to with Idaho DFG and FWS;
- (5) a description of the management goals and objectives, native upland and riparian vegetation management measures, and plans for funding and implementing habitat management measures on the "Cabin Site" parcel required by item 4 above;
- (6) a provision for the maintenance of WMA buildings and machinery and purchases of materials necessary for resource management activities on licensee-owned lands within the WMA;
- (7) a provision for providing labor for operation and maintenance associated with the foregoing activities; and
- (8) a schedule for reviewing and modifying the agreement, as needed.

The agreement shall describe and provide for any additional funding levels necessary to provide management of any wetlands, riparian, or spring habitats added to the WMA as a result of the implementation of Article 412.

By December 31 of each year of the license, the licensee shall file a report with the Commission demonstrating payment of allocated funds to the Idaho DFG, describing how such funds were spent to address resources on licensee-owned lands within the project boundary and projecting how such funds will be used the next year, and any agreed to increase in funding levels for the next year.

Appendix V. Continued.

In the event an operations and maintenance agreement cannot be reached, within one year of license issuance the licensee shall develop and file for Commission approval a fish and wildlife management plan for licensee-owned lands within the WMA for the continued benefit of fish and wildlife resources associated with the project. The plan shall include, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) goals and objectives for the management of licensee-owned lands;
- (2) development and implementation of integrated noxious weed control plans, shoreline and sheet erosion control plans, rare and endangered species protection plans, wetland habitat protection and enhancement plans, waterfowl nesting programs, spring and stream protection measures, wildlife habitat improvement plans, amphibian management plans, grazing management plans (including controlling trespass grazing through installation and maintenance of fencing as necessary), fish stocking plans, access improvements, and public education programs;
- (3) a provision for the continued supply of water to the GMA in an amount sufficient to support the wildlife habitat goals of the GMA;
- (4) a provision for incorporating the licensee's 329-acre parcel referred to as the "Cabin Site" into the WMA and any riparian habitat to be acquired in accordance with Article 412 into the WMA, as appropriate;
- (5) management goals and objectives, a detailed description of the measures to be used to establish and enhance native upland and riparian vegetation, and plans for funding and implementing the habitat management measures on the "Cabin Site" parcel required by item 4 above;
- (6) a plan for the establishment and support of a MAC to solicit and consider the interests of the licensee, Idaho DFG, FWS, BLM, Idaho DPR, Idaho State Historic Preservation Office, Elmore County, Owyhee County, Southside Canal Company, and adjacent private landowners in the management of the licensee-owned portions of the WMA;
- (7) a schedule and cost for implementing the plan; and
- (8) a schedule for reviewing and modifying the plan, as needed.

The licensee's wildlife management plan shall be consistent, coordinated, and compatible with the goals and objectives of the WMA and the policies defined in licensee's C.J. Strike Land Management Plan required by Article 416.

Appendix V. Continued.

The licensee shall file the operations and maintenance agreement, or habitat management plan for licensee-owned lands if an agreement is not reached, after consultation with the FWS, BLM, Idaho DFG, and Idaho DPR. The licensee shall file with the agreement or the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the agencies' comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the agreement or the plan. The licensee shall not implement the agreement or the plan until notified by the Commission that the agreement or the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the agreement or the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 414. Visual Resource Management Plan. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a Visual Resource Management Plan to improve viewing opportunities at four project locations: Jacks Creek Viewpoint, Bruneau Duck Ponds Viewpoint, Bruneau Arm Viewpoint, and Borden Lake Viewpoint. At a minimum, the plan shall include an implementation schedule and provisions for the following:

- (1) grading to provide safe parking and viewing;
- (2) directional signage from the nearest public road; and
- (3) interpretive information regarding natural and cultural features of interest.

The licensee shall prepare the plan after consultation with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (Idaho DPR). The licensee shall include with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the Idaho DPR, and specific descriptions of how the comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the Idaho DPR to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project specific information.

Article 415. Historic Properties. Upon license issuance, the Licensee shall implement the "Programmatic Agreement Among the Commission, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Officer for Managing Historic Properties that May Be Affected by a License Issuing to the Idaho Power Company for the Continued Operation of the C.J. Strike Hydroelectric Project in Elmore and Owyhee Counties, Idaho (FERC No. 2055)," executed on May 10, 2002. In the event that the Programmatic Agreement is terminated, the licensee shall continue to implement the provisions of its approved Cultural Resources Management Plan. The Commission reserves the authority to require changes to the

Appendix V. Continued.

Cultural Resources Management Plan at any time during the term of the license. If the Programmatic Agreement is terminated, the licensee shall obtain approvals from or make notifications to the Commission and the State Historic Preservation Officer where the Cultural Resources Management Plan calls upon the licensee to do so.

Article 416. C.J. Strike Land Management Plan. Within 6 months of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a C.J. Strike Land Management Plan. In addition to identifying and explaining the policies, standards, guidelines, and land use designations that shall be followed to protect and manage environmental resources and public use and safety on project lands, the plan shall also include, at a minimum:

- (1) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, target species, control methods, performance standards, and monitoring and re-treatment measures that shall be implemented to control noxious weeds on lands within the project boundary during the first 5 years of the plan;
- (2) site-specific maps and detailed information showing schedules, costs, protection methods, grazing management, monitoring, and maintenance measures that shall be implemented to protect shorelines and riparian habitat on lands within the project boundary during the first 5 years of the plan; and
- (3) a provision for review, consultation, and revision of the plan as needed every 5 years through the license period.

The licensee shall update and finalize the C.J. Strike Land Management Plan after consultation with the U.S. National Park Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. The licensee shall file with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how their comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan shall not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 417. Recreation Management Plan. Within one year of license issuance, the licensee shall file for Commission approval a Recreation Management Plan to provide guidance for implementation of recreation enhancement measures and for ongoing management, operation

Appendix V. Continued.

and maintenance of project recreation resources throughout the license term. At a minimum, the plan shall include provisions for the following:

- (1) continued leasing and cooperative maintenance and operation of the U.S. Air Force Recreation Area;
- (2) improvement of the North Park day-use and tent-camping area by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads and parking, designating camping areas, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding two group shelters and additional picnic tables to the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shore, and adding docks;
- (3) improvement of the North Park recreational vehicle (RV) camping and boat parking areas by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads through the park, redesigning boat trailer parking, defining camping spaces, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding a group shelter, vault toilet and picnic tables to the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shore, and adding docks;
- (4) improvement of the North Park boat-mooring facilities by excavating a channel to allow safer navigation and boat access to the shore and boat docks;
- (5) improvement of Locust Park camping opportunities by adding roads and redesigning traffic flow and parking, defining camping spaces for RVs and tents, adding picnic tables and fire rings, adding a vault toilet, and creating a day-use area with picnic tables and parking;
- (6) improvement of the recreational fishing experience in the vicinity of Locust Park by adding a fish-cleaning station;
- (7) operation and maintenance of the Locust Park RV dump station completed by the licensee in 1999;
- (8) improvement of Scout Park by adding a group picnic shelter and planting trees;
- (9) participation with U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the improvement of Cove Recreation Site by redesigning traffic flow, improving roads through the site, defining camping spaces, constructing a vault toilet, adding picnic tables and fire rings to campsites, constructing a group shelter, placing picnic tables in the day-use area, building a pedestrian footpath along the reservoir shoreline, and adding docks;
- (10) improvement of Narrows Sportsman's Access by adding docks and grading the access road to allow for improved vehicle parking and turn around;

Appendix V. Continued.

- (11) improvement of Cottonwoods Campground by working cooperatively with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (Idaho DFG) to redesign traffic flow, improve roads through the park, define camping spaces, add picnic tables and fire rings to campsites, landscape, construct a vault toilet, add a group picnic shelter, and add picnic tables and parking to the day-use area;
- (12) improvement of Jacks Creek Sportsman's Access by regrading the road, adding a defined boat-trailer parking area and vault toilet, and building a new dock;
- (13) improvement of Loveridge Bridge North Access by regrading the road, adding a defined boat-trailer parking area, and adding a seasonal toilet;
- (14) implementation of an interpretation/ information program for the public in the form of signs and kiosks at recreational facilities and viewpoints; and
- (15) an evaluation of, and proposal for, a safe and aesthetically pleasing swimming area at North Park free of potential interference from motorized water craft.

For each of the recreation improvement measures listed above (items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15), the plan would include, at a minimum, site plans and design drawings; a discussion of how the needs of the disabled were considered in the planning and design of each improvement measure; detailed erosion and sediment control measures; and a schedule for implementation and maintenance.

The licensee shall prepare the plan after consulting with the BLM, Idaho DFG, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, Elmore County, and Elmore County Waterways Commission. The licensee shall include with the plan, documentation of consultation, copies of comments and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the comments are accommodated by the plan. The licensee shall allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and to make recommendations before filing the plan with the Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing shall include the licensee's reasons, based on project-specific information.

The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Implementation of the plan shall not begin until the licensee is notified by the Commission that the plan is approved. Upon Commission approval, the licensee shall implement the plan, including any changes required by the Commission.

Article 418. Reservation of Authority to Prescribe Fishways. Authority is reserved by the Commission to require the licensee to construct, operate, and maintain, or to provide for the construction, operation, and maintenance of, such fishways as may be prescribed by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Commerce under section 18 of the Federal Power Act.

Appendix V. Continued.

Article 419. Annual Review Meeting. By no later than December 31 of each license year, the licensee shall:

- (1) consult with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and Idaho Department of Environmental Quality to determine the interest and need for a meeting for purposes of discussing the progress of monitoring activities required by this license, including any monitoring results;
- (2) if one or more of the agencies deem a meeting necessary, host and coordinate the meeting, file a summary of the meeting with the Commission, and submit copies of the meeting summary to the participating agencies; and
- (3) if all the agencies do not deem a meeting necessary, file a statement with the Commission indicating that there was no agency interest in a meeting and submit copies of the statement to all of the agencies.

(G) This order is final unless a request for rehearing is filed within 30 days of the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313 of the FPA. The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this license or of any other date specified in this order, except as specifically ordered by the Commission. The licensee's failure to file a request for rehearing shall constitute acceptance of this order.

By the Commission.

(S E A L)

Linda Mitry,
Acting Secretary.

APPENDIX VI

Public Recreation

Providing hunting, fishing, and wildlife viewing opportunities for public enjoyment of the wildlife resources continues to be the number one priority of the C.J. Strike WMA.

Ducks and geese are present on the WMA throughout most of the waterfowl hunting season. A variety of waterfowl hunting experiences can be found, including jump shooting on the WMA's many potholes and small streams; hunting over decoys on the larger ponds, rivers, and the reservoir; and field hunting for Canada geese on agricultural lands on or next to the WMA. Except for a small safety zone established around the headquarters, there are no areas closed to hunting on the WMA. The reservoir's large surface area provides a natural waterfowl sanctuary.

For upland game hunters, ring-necked pheasants, gray partridge, and California quail can be found on the WMA and adjacent croplands. Chukar partridge can be found on the arid canyon areas of the WMA. Early season hunting for mourning doves can be good over the entire management area. Possible introduction of wild turkeys on the WMA and initiation of chukar partridge releases are anticipated. The release of pen-reared cock pheasants continues to provide one of the most popular hunting opportunities every fall.

White-tailed and mule deer inhabit portions of the WMA. Hunting is permitted with short-range weapons, as provided under a general hunt and a controlled hunt permit system.

C.J. Strike Reservoir is one of the most popular fisheries in southwestern Idaho. Anglers fish the WMA throughout the year, but use is especially heavy during May and June. Rainbow trout, bluegill, black crappie, channel catfish, largemouth and smallmouth bass, and sturgeon are sought-after game fish. In addition to shoreline access, several improved and unimproved boat ramps are available on the reservoir.

Other activities on the WMA include trapping (trappers must register with the WMA manager), sight-seeing, camping, picnicking, boating, water skiing, wind surfing, photography, general wildlife viewing, and bird watching. Opportunities exist to engage in these activities year-round, although some areas may have posted nesting season closures from February 1 through July 31.

C.J. Strike Wildlife Management Area Management Plan

Submitted by:



Dick Orcutt, Regional Wildlife Habitat Biologist

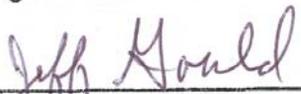
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Reviewed by:



Jerry Deal, Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager

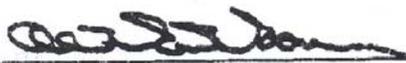
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Jeff Gould, State Wildlife Habitat Manager

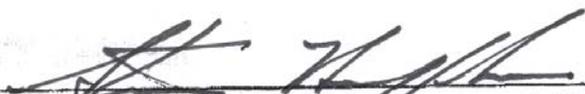
Date: 12/29/05

Approved by:



Al Van Vooren, Regional Supervisor

Date: 12/29/05



Steve Huffaker, Director, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Date: 12-30-05