

**ATTACHMENT D**  
**Environmental Information Document**

## Environmental Information Document

### Cougar Creek Water Users Association Water Facility Plan

#### I. INTRODUCTION

- a. Purpose of Plan. The Cougar Creek Water User's Association (CCWUA) maintains a Very Small Water System (VSWS), Public Water System No. ID1090030, at Cavanaugh Bay, Priest Lake, located near Coolin, ID in Bonner County. CCWUA recognizes their system may need upgrades to meet growth in use and the population served by the system. As a recently designated Public Water System, CCWUA and the Idaho Department of Environmental (DEQ) agree CCWUA needs to produce a Water Facility Plan to assure upgrades will meet IDAPA 58.01.08 requirements to protect public health and water resources.

This Environmental Information Document has been organized and prepared to support the partially DEQ-funded Water Facility Plan by reviewing potential environmental effects of the upgrades considered in the Water Facility Plan.

- b. Environmental Review Process. DEQ shall review the planning document associated with a DWSRF or CWSRF loan application or state planning grant project. Screening level environmental information shall be a part of any planning document submitted to DEQ. After an initial review of the screening level information provided and the Checklist for a Categorical Exclusion Request, the DEQ shall advise the applicant if an environmental information document (EID) is required. If required, it should be included in the planning document or may be submitted as a standalone document. Using references in the EID is acceptable on the condition that the EID is either a section of the planning document or is included as an appendix. The environmental assessment may also be made during the preliminary design.

#### II. Compliance Areas

- a. Floodplain Management. The purpose of floodplain management is to avoid adverse impacts of floodplains and to avoid development in a floodplain whenever there are practicable alternatives. If a project is located in a FEMA 100-year Special Flood Hazard Area, it is encouraged to choose an alternative site not located in a flood zone. A review of the applicable FEMA Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM), Attachment A, indicates the entire proposed project actions will be located outside of the 100-year Special

Flood Hazard Area defined for FIRM 16017C0225F as area below the base flood elevation (BFE) 2445.5 feet.

- b. Airport Clear Zone. Cavanaugh Bay Airport 66S maintains a grass-strip runway, located in the project area. The airport is owned by the Idaho Department of Lands and operated by the Idaho Division of Aeronautics. The runway is 120-feet wide and 3,100 feet long. The south runway is designated 33; the north runway is designated 15. The threshold of Runway 15 is offset approximately 100 to the south of the south right-of-way of Cavanaugh Bay Road. See Attachment B. Waterline construction in the segment of Cavanaugh Bay Road located north of Runway 15 will be within the Airport Clear Zone for Runway 15. Planning for waterline improvements in the vicinity of the Airport Runway will be coordinated with both the Idaho Department of Land and Idaho Division of Aeronautics prior to producing plans for permit.
- c. Archeological and Historic Preservation. The Idaho Cultural Resource Information System (ICRIS) is a map-linked database of approximately 51,000 historic sites in Idaho. ICRIS was consulted as a screening tool to identify archeologic and historic resources within the area of project effects (APE). A copy of the ICRIS depiction of the project area is attached as Attachment C. No historic or other sites of cultural importance are identified on the ICRIS mapping of the APE.

Nevertheless, since the APE is within the historic area occupied by the Kalispel and Salish Tribes, it may be prudent to include an inadvertent discovery plan in the project construction documents.

- d. Wetland Protection. The National Wetland Inventory (NWI) was consulted. A wetland is located west of and toward the south end of the Cavanaugh Bay Airport runway. A portion of proposed waterline for looping and improving pressures and operational redundancy is planned for installation between the runway and the wetland. Depending on the wetland buffer zone width, locating the waterline where shown may require mitigation. The wetland is shown with a PSS1B designation, meaning it is a Palustrine Scrub/Shrub with broad-leaf deciduous plants and is seasonally flooded. A copy of the NWI mapping is attached as Attachment D.

- e. **Farmland Protection.** The Prime and Important Farmlands database shows most of the APE to be Bonner Silt Loam, Cool, 0 – 4 Percent slopes. See Attachment E. Since the area is already developed as a resort residence area and the proposed improvements are to serve those residences without encumbering land that would otherwise remain or become farmland, it is most likely that the Prime and Important Farmland designation is already mitigated.
  
- f. **Groundwater Protection.** The aquifer from which CCWUA draws its water is not a designated sole source aquifer. However, it is the only viable water source for the Cavanaugh Bay area, and it is susceptible to surface contaminants as described in the accompanying Hydrogeology Report prepared by GeoEngineers for the Water Facility Plan. Three potential sources of contamination of the aquifer are identified in that report; a general waste storage site operated by Idaho Department of Lands (IDOL), located to the east of the Cavanaugh Bay Airport runway; a Tier II chemical storage site also operated by IDOL to the east of the Cavanaugh Bay Airport runway; and a leaking underground storage tank (LUST) formerly used by Cavanaugh's resort as part of its marina operation. The status of the LUST is under investigation.
  
- g. **Endangered Species.** According to the Idaho Governor's Office of Species Conservation, there are two threatened or endangered species with habitats overlapping or downgradient from the proposed project area. These include:
  - 1) **Bull trout.** ESA Status: Threatened. The project is within the Columbia Headwaters bull trout recovery unit. Priest Lake, the shoreline of which is 365 feet from the proposed well site, is bull trout habitat. To mitigate impacts to bull trout, the project will implement normal erosion and sediment control procedures during construction.
  - 2) **Woodland Caribou.** ESA Status: Endangered. The northern portion of Bonner County including Priest Lake and Cavanaugh Bay is shown to be historic woodland caribou habitat. However, the area is an already-developed residential area and will have negligible impact on woodland caribou. Further, the only area of North Idaho managed for woodland caribou benefit is 6,017 acres of federal land in Boundary County. No mitigation is proposed.

- h. Air Quality. The project will have temporary and relatively minor air quality impacts to the local area during construction. Mitigating measures that will be required in the construction documents for the construction contractor to follow will include using standard dust control measures and the use of equipment with Idaho air quality compliant engines and refueling practices.

The project will have long-term air quality impacts through the use of a diesel fueled backup generator. Impacts will be very low to negligible as generator usage will occur only a few minutes each month except during an emergency. Exercising the generator as generally recommended once per month will result in an increase in pollutant emissions. Use of the generator as intended will, on average, produce approximately the same rate of particulate matter, nitrogen compounds, and carbon compounds as a semi-tractor operating under full load, but for this will only occur for a few minutes per month, making the net effect negligible.

- i. Noise Abatement and Control. The project will have a temporary noise impact to the local area during construction. Mitigating measures that will be required in the construction documents for the construction contractor to follow will include construction hours restricted to customary daylight hours, between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm, and to use equipment with well-maintained mufflers and other standard noise abatement equipment.

The project will have a long-term noise impact through the use of a diesel fueled backup generator, but that impact will be very low to negligible because it will be muffled and occur only a few minutes each month except during an emergency. Exercising the generator as generally recommended once per month will result in a degree of noise. Use of the generator as intended will, on average, produce approximately the same volume of noise as a semi-tractor operating under full load, but generator usage will occur only for a few minutes per month, making the net effect negligible.

### III. Environmental Alternatives

- a. In priority order, Well 3, replace undersized distribution pipe, add dead storage to existing reservoir, construct additional distribution pipe to provide redundant loops to increase system reliability, backup power generation, and add a new reservoir to accommodate growth and fire flow, as recommended in the Water Facility Plan. Following the recommended action as well as the

mitigation measures in Section II of this Environmental Information Document will have no significant impact on sensitive environmental conditions in the project area.

- b. No Action. Not installing Well 3, replacing undersized distribution pipe, adding dead storage to existing reservoir, constructing additional distribution pipe, backup power generation, or a new reservoir will have no environmental effects. However, there will be adverse effects on the project community due to an increasingly unreliable water supply and distribution system as the system ages and the number of year-round residents increases.

#### IV. Public Participation and Notice Process.

A public meeting to review the preferred alternative will be required. A notice through the local publication of record, and reasonable outreach to local residents will be made to advertise the public meeting. The Water Facility Plan and this Environmental Information Document will be made available for review by interested parties at least 14 days before the date of the public meeting, with instruction for access to these documents provided within the public notice for the meeting. Representatives of the engineering firm preparing the reports (Coffman Engineers) and CCWUA will attend the meeting and be available for questions. All questions will be recorded and a response made either in the meeting and published afterward, or at minimum, all questions received during the public meeting will be published along with answers within 14 days following the public meeting.

The CCWUA Board will review the documentation and vote on its adoption. A record of the Board meeting will be provided to IDEQ.

The record of the public meeting will be provided to IDEQ as the lead agency for the EID. It will be IDEQ's responsibility to issue either a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) or a determination that further review is required.

#### V. Attachments

Attachment A – FIRMette, Flood plain map of project area

Attachment B – Airport Clear Zone map showing nearest proposed project actions

Attachment C – Historic Resource Map

Attachment D – NWI (National Wetlands Inventory) Mapper

Attachment E – NRCS Prime and Other Soil Information Map

Attachment F – Endangered Species Memo – Prepared by IDEQ

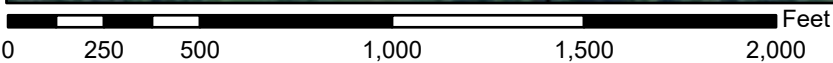
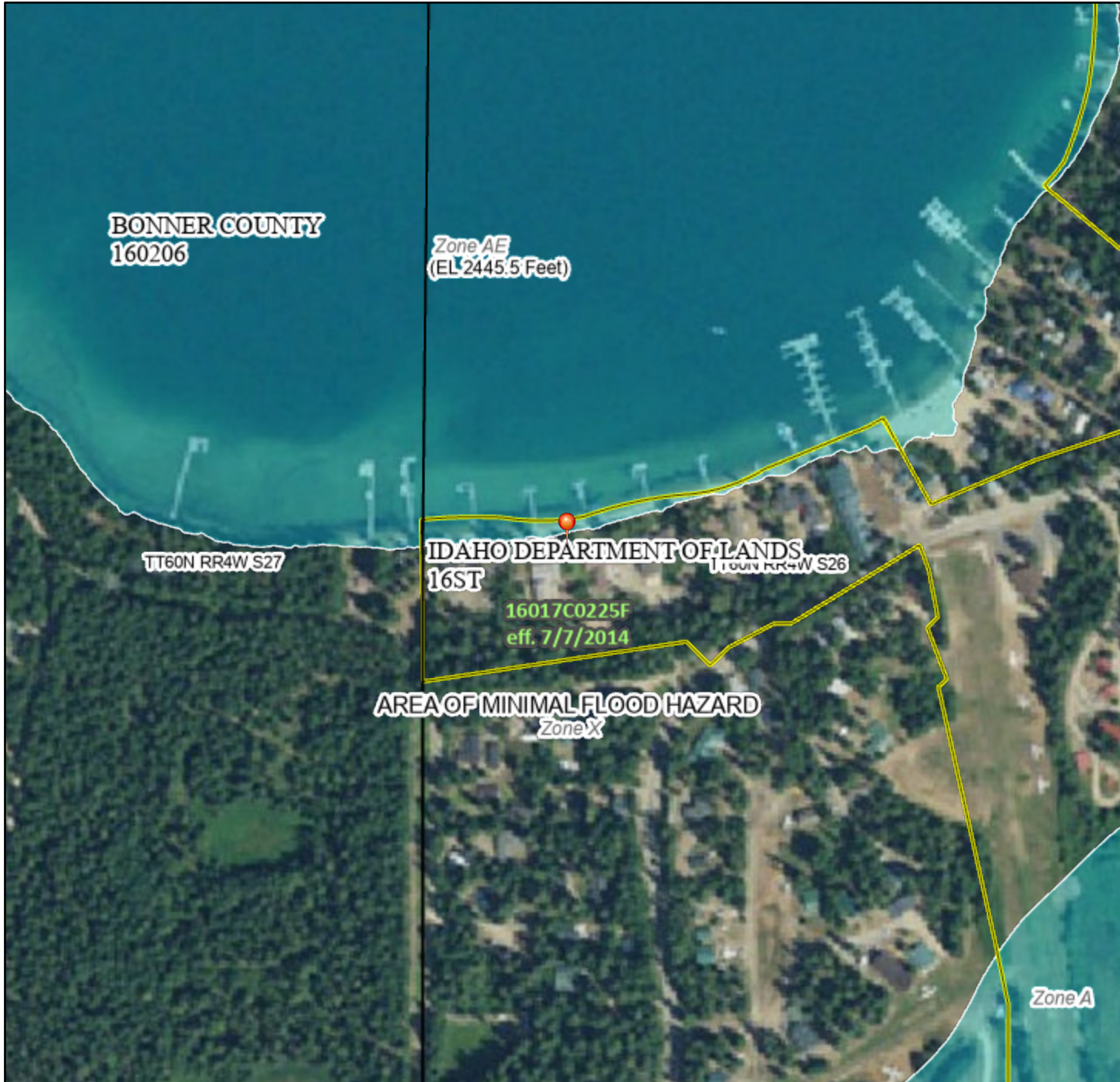
Attachment G – Wetland Response from US Army Corps of Engineers

Attachment H – Record of Tribal Consultation – Prepared by IDEQ

# National Flood Hazard Layer FIRMette



116°49'56"W 48°31'34"N



1:6,000

116°49'19"W 48°31'10"N

Basemap Imagery Source: USGS National Map 2023

## Legend

SEE FIS REPORT FOR DETAILED LEGEND AND INDEX MAP FOR FIRM PANEL LAYOUT

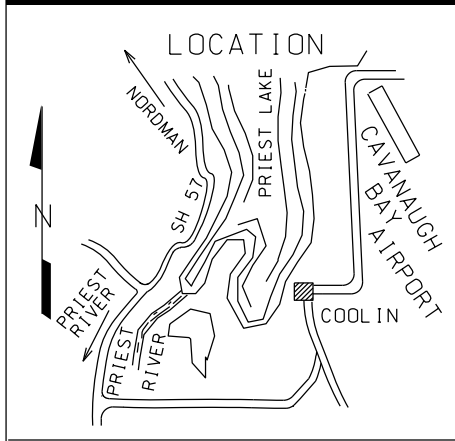
SPECIAL FLOOD HAZARD AREAS		Without Base Flood Elevation (BFE) <i>Zone A, V, A99</i>
		With BFE or Depth <i>Zone AE, AO, AH, VE, AR</i>
		Regulatory Floodway
OTHER AREAS OF FLOOD HAZARD		0.2% Annual Chance Flood Hazard, Areas of 1% annual chance flood with average depth less than one foot or with drainage areas of less than one square mile <i>Zone X</i>
		Future Conditions 1% Annual Chance Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Reduced Flood Risk due to Levee. See Notes. <i>Zone X</i>
		Area with Flood Risk due to Levee <i>Zone D</i>
OTHER AREAS		NO SCREEN Area of Minimal Flood Hazard <i>Zone X</i>
		Effective LOMRs
		Area of Undetermined Flood Hazard <i>Zone D</i>
GENERAL STRUCTURES		Channel, Culvert, or Storm Sewer
		Levee, Dike, or Floodwall
OTHER FEATURES		20.2 Cross Sections with 1% Annual Chance Water Surface Elevation
		17.5 Coastal Transect
		Base Flood Elevation Line (BFE)
		Limit of Study
		Jurisdiction Boundary
		Coastal Transect Baseline
MAP PANELS		Digital Data Available
		No Digital Data Available
		Unmapped

The pin displayed on the map is an approximate point selected by the user and does not represent an authoritative property location.

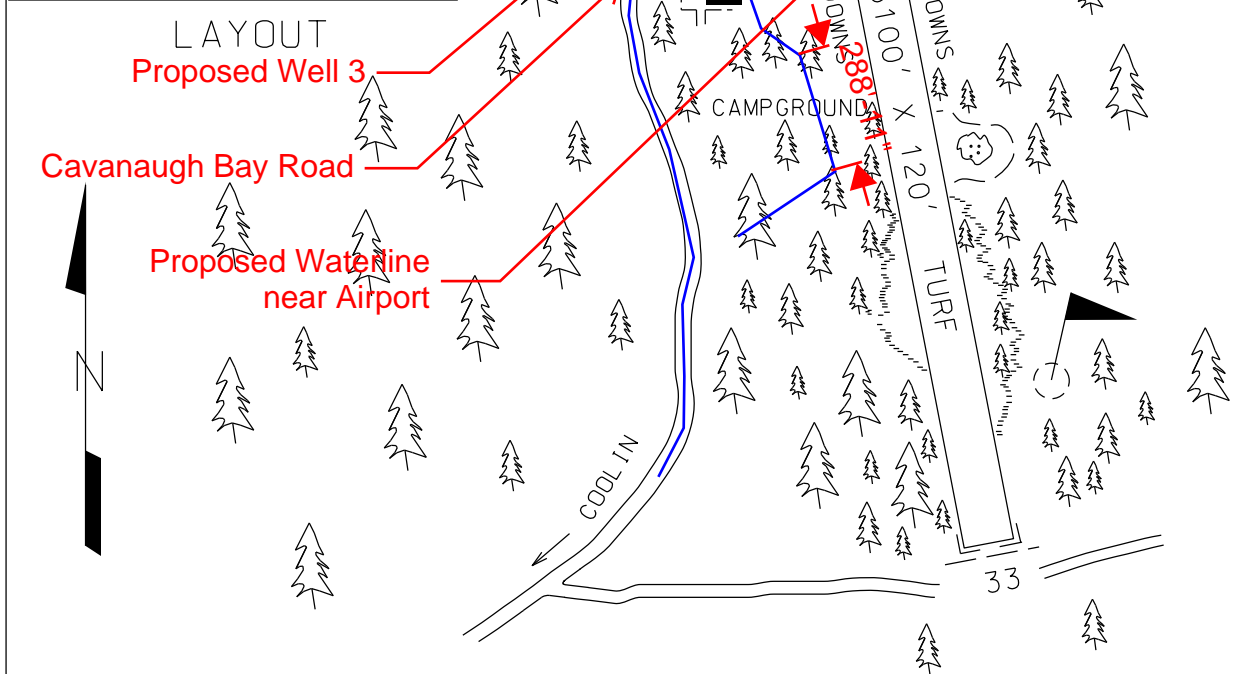
This map complies with FEMA's standards for the use of digital flood maps if it is not void as described below. The basemap shown complies with FEMA's basemap accuracy standards

The flood hazard information is derived directly from the authoritative NFHL web services provided by FEMA. This map was exported on 5/13/2025 at 5:20 PM and does not reflect changes or amendments subsequent to this date and time. The NFHL and effective information may change or become superseded by new data over time.

This map image is void if the one or more of the following map elements do not appear: basemap imagery, flood zone labels, legend, scale bar, map creation date, community identifiers, FIRM panel number, and FIRM effective date. Map images for unmapped and unmodernized areas cannot be used for regulatory purposes.



LAT 48° 31.12' LONG 116° 49.33'



ELEVATION 2484

CTAF 122.9

LOCATION 3 MILES N OF COOLIN

FUEL NO

<u>VOR</u>	<u>FREQ</u>	<u>RAD</u>	<u>NM</u>
COE	108.8	340°	44.5

SERVICES  
 COURTESY CAR, FOOD & LODGING  
 ADJACENT AREA, WI-FI @ MARINA.  
 CARETAKER AVAILABLE MEMORIAL DAY  
 THROUGH LABOR DAY. (208-659-8198)

COMMUNICATIONS CTAF 122.9

MANAGER  
208-334-8775, STATE OPERATED

NAV AIDS NO

FBO(s)  
NO

LIGHTS NO

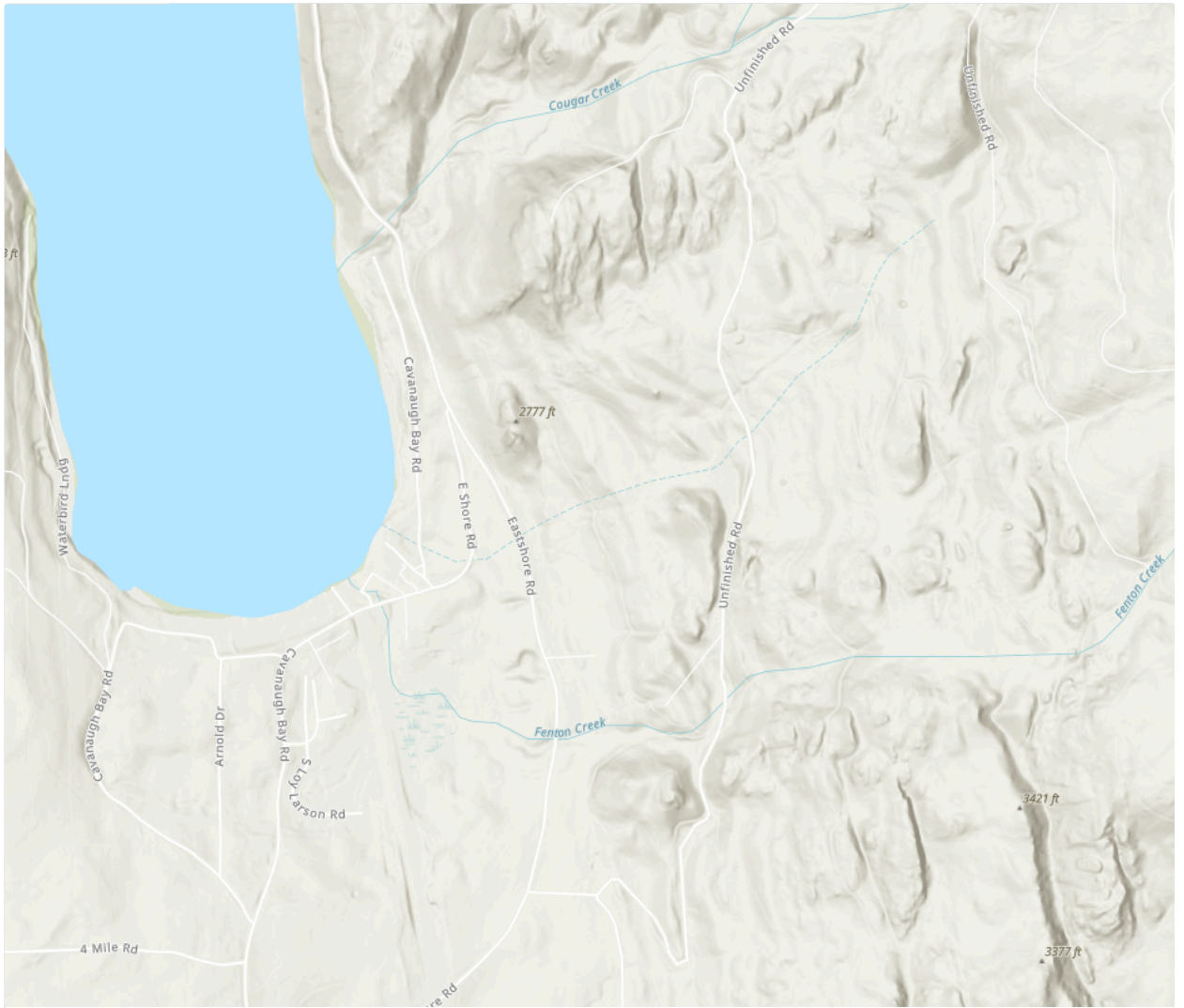
ATTENDED NO

REMARKS

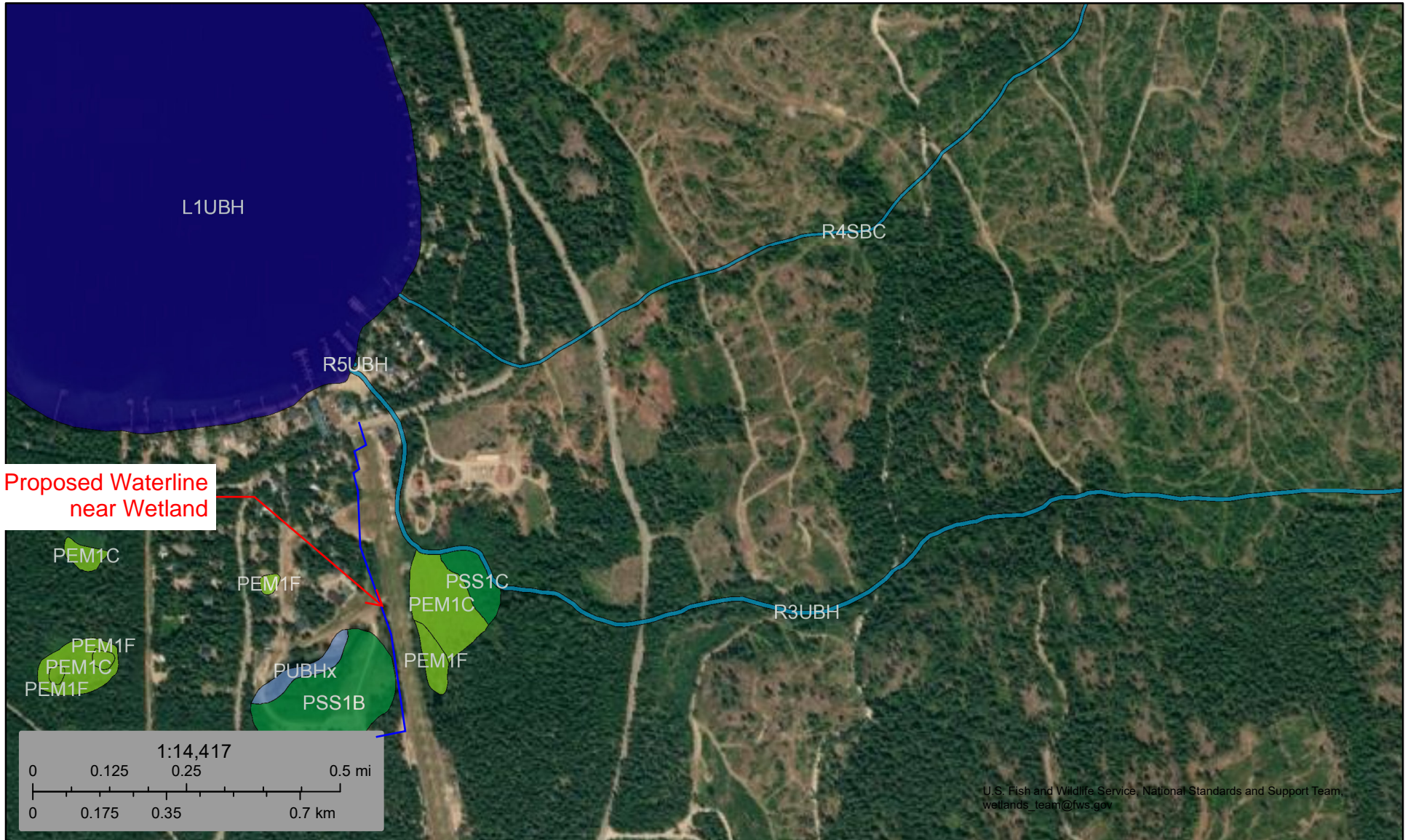
RT. HAND TRAFFIC FOR RWY 15. NORMALLY LAND RWY 15, DEPART RUNWAY 33.  
 SEAPLANE OPS CONDUCTED NORTH ADJACENT OF RWY IN CAVANAUGH BAY.  
 FIRST 800' RWY 15 AND TIEDOWNS SUBJECT TO SPRING FLOODING.  
 CAUTION: WATCH FOR SPRINKLERS ON RWY. NO WINTER MAINTENANCE.

\* Get recommended operating procedures :

[www.itd.idaho.gov/aero](http://www.itd.idaho.gov/aero) click publications



1000 ft



May 14, 2025

This map is for general reference only. The US Fish and Wildlife Service is not responsible for the accuracy or currentness of the base data shown on this map. All wetlands related data should be used in accordance with the layer metadata found on the Wetlands Mapper web site.

## Attachment E

**Soil Data Access (SDA) Prime and other Important Farmlands**

An SDA-populated select list is used to pick a state and SSA which enables creation of a "Prime and other Important Farmlands" based upon those selections. The data is not static; it hits Soil Data Access Live. To reset the table hit F5 on the keyboard. Once a survey is selected and table appears, if a new survey is selected it will append to the table at the bottom. [For more information about the table,](#)

Idaho ▼

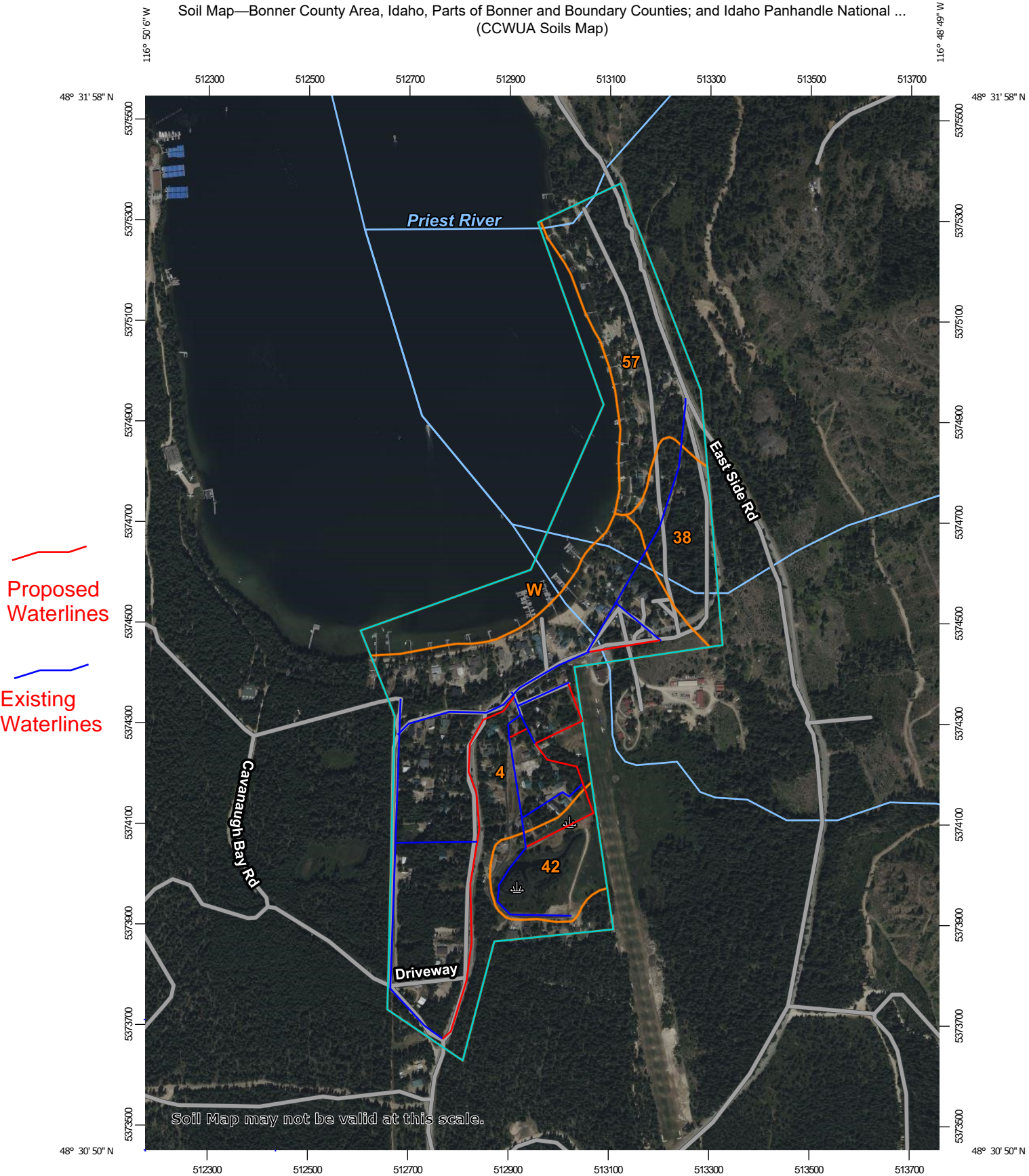
selected stateId = ID

Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties ▼

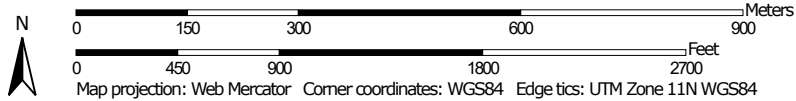
selected SSA areasympbol = ID604

State_Sym	Area_Symbol	Area_Name	mukey	Mapunit_SYM	Mapunit_Name	Farm_Class
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	152963	1	Ardtoo gravelly sandy loam, 35 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	152985	3	Bonner gravelly silt loam, 30 to 65 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	152996	4	Bonner silt loam, cool, 0 to 4 percent slopes	All areas are prime farmland
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	153007	5	Brickel-Rubble land association, 5 to 45 percent slopes	Not prime farmland
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	153018	6	Cabinet silt loam, 2 to 12 percent slopes	Farmland of statewide importance, if drained
ID	ID604	Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties	153025	7	Cabinet silt loam, 12 to 30 percent slopes	Not prime farmland

Soil Map—Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties; and Idaho Panhandle National ...  
(CCWUA Soils Map)




Map Scale: 1:10,200 if printed on A portrait (8.5" x 11") sheet.



## MAP LEGEND

### Area of Interest (AOI)

 Area of Interest (AOI)

### Soils

 Soil Map Unit Polygons

 Soil Map Unit Lines

 Soil Map Unit Points

### Special Point Features



Blowout



Borrow Pit



Clay Spot



Closed Depression



Gravel Pit



Gravelly Spot



Landfill



Lava Flow



Marsh or swamp



Mine or Quarry



Miscellaneous Water



Perennial Water



Rock Outcrop



Saline Spot



Sandy Spot



Severely Eroded Spot



Sinkhole



Slide or Slip



Sodic Spot



Spoil Area



Stony Spot



Very Stony Spot



Wet Spot



Other



Special Line Features

### Water Features



Streams and Canals

### Transportation



Rails



Interstate Highways



US Routes



Major Roads



Local Roads

### Background



Aerial Photography

## MAP INFORMATION

The soil surveys that comprise your AOI were mapped at 1:24,000.

**Warning:** Soil Map may not be valid at this scale.

Enlargement of maps beyond the scale of mapping can cause misunderstanding of the detail of mapping and accuracy of soil line placement. The maps do not show the small areas of contrasting soils that could have been shown at a more detailed scale.

Please rely on the bar scale on each map sheet for map measurements.

Source of Map: Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Web Soil Survey URL:  
Coordinate System: Web Mercator (EPSG:3857)

Maps from the Web Soil Survey are based on the Web Mercator projection, which preserves direction and shape but distorts distance and area. A projection that preserves area, such as the Albers equal-area conic projection, should be used if more accurate calculations of distance or area are required.

This product is generated from the USDA-NRCS certified data as of the version date(s) listed below.

Soil Survey Area: Bonner County Area, Idaho, Parts of Bonner and Boundary Counties  
Survey Area Data: Version 20, Aug 22, 2024

Soil Survey Area: Idaho Panhandle National Forest, Idaho-Washington-Montana  
Survey Area Data: Version 13, Nov 5, 2024

Your area of interest (AOI) includes more than one soil survey area. These survey areas may have been mapped at different scales, with a different land use in mind, at different times, or at different levels of detail. This may result in map unit symbols, soil properties, and interpretations that do not completely agree across soil survey area boundaries.

Soil map units are labeled (as space allows) for map scales 1:50,000 or larger.

Date(s) aerial images were photographed: Jul 14, 2023—Aug 13, 2023

## MAP LEGEND

## MAP INFORMATION

The orthophoto or other base map on which the soil lines were compiled and digitized probably differs from the background imagery displayed on these maps. As a result, some minor shifting of map unit boundaries may be evident.

## Map Unit Legend

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
4	Bonner silt loam, cool, 0 to 4 percent slopes	71.0	53.3%
38	Priestlake gravelly sandy loam, 15 to 35 percent slopes	11.0	8.2%
42	Pywell-Hoodoo complex, 0 to 1 percent slopes	10.2	7.7%
57	Treble, high precipitation-Rock outcrop complex, 35 to 65 percent slopes	22.8	17.1%
<b>Subtotals for Soil Survey Area</b>		<b>115.0</b>	<b>86.2%</b>
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>133.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres in AOI	Percent of AOI
W	Water	18.4	13.8%
<b>Subtotals for Soil Survey Area</b>		<b>18.4</b>	<b>13.8%</b>
<b>Totals for Area of Interest</b>		<b>133.4</b>	<b>100.0%</b>

**Attachment F**  
**MEMO**

**TO:** ALAN GAY, P.E., COFFMAN  
**FROM:** KATELYN FARETRA, DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY GRANT AND LOAN PROGRAM  
**SUBJECT:** COUGAR CREEK WUA DRINKING WATER IMPROVEMENT PROJECT – THREATENED/ENDANGERED SPECIES AND ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT  
**DATE:** APRIL 7, 2026

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The proposed project for the Cougar Creek WUA is located in Bonner County and is proposing to make improvements to their drinking water system. The project consists of the following:

- Upsize and replace pipeline
- Install loop piping
- Install new storage reservoir
- Drill new well and construct new well house
- Install backup power
- Update existing storage tank
- Install water meters

The project will address the following deficiencies with water capacity and storage.

### **Summary of Determinations**

Based on the information presented in the following sections of this memorandum, DEQ has made the following impact determinations:

- The proposed project will have “**NO EFFECT**” on federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or critical habitat.
- The proposed project will have “**NO EFFECT**” on Essential Fish Habitat.

### **Endangered Species Act**

DEQ utilized the Information Planning and Conservation (IPaC) Tool to aid in determining endangered and threatened species within the Area of Potential Effect (APE). The IPaC Tool can currently be accessed at the following internet address:

<http://ecos.fws.gov/ipac/>

The official species list obtained via the IPaC tool on April 7, 2026 indicated there are six threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list. The species list indicated there is one critical habitat, wholly or partially located within the boundaries of the APE. The output from the IPaC tool is attached to this memorandum.

**Canada Lynx** (*Lynx Canadensis*; threatened/designated critical habitat) – The Canada lynx reside in boreal forest landscapes and provide one or more of the following beneficial habitat elements including snowshoe hares for prey, abundant, large, woody debris piles that are used as dens, and winter snow conditions that are generally deep and fluffy for extended periods of time. The proposed improvements will have “**NO EFFECT**” on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

**Grizzly Bear** (*Ursus arctos horribilis*; threatened/proposed critical habitat) – Grizzly bears are long-lived mammals that are found in wild, mountainous areas of the American West. There are six ecosystems identified in the 1993 Recovery Plan that represent an area large enough and of sufficient habitat quality to support a recovered grizzly bear population. The proposed improvements will have “**NO EFFECT**” on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

**North American Wolverine** (*Gulo gulo luscus*; proposed threatened) – The North American Wolverine distribution is restricted to high elevation and deep persistent and reliable snow cover (April 15 to May 14) is the best overall predictor of wolverine occurrence in the contiguous U.S. The proposed improvements will have “**NO EFFECT**” on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

**Bull Trout** (*Salvelinus confluentus*; threatened/designated critical habitat) – Bull trout are cold-water fish. The species must have the following: colder water; clean stream substrates for spawning and rearing; complex habitats with deep pools, undercut banks and lots of large logs; and lake and river connectivity to headwater streams for annual spawning and feeding migrations. The proposed improvements will have “**NO EFFECT**” on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

**Monarch Butterfly** (*Danaus plexippus*; proposed threatened) – The monarch butterfly is large and conspicuous with bright orange wings surrounded by a black border and covered with black veins. In the regions they are present, monarchs breed year-round, undergo long-distance migration, and live for an extended period of time. In the fall, in both eastern and western North America, monarchs begin migrating to their respective overwintering sites. The proposed improvements will have “**NO EFFECT**” on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

**Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee** (*Bombus suckleyi*; proposed endangered) – The Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee is a parasitic bee species, meaning it relies on other bumble bee colonies for survival. It's found in the western North American grasslands, prairies, and meadows. The

species can be found throughout northern North America in prairies, grasslands, and meadows. From 2008 to 2017, only 16 occurrences of Suckley's cuckoo bumble bee were recorded, but much of the species' range has not been thoroughly sampled. The proposed improvements will have **"NO EFFECT"** on the species and its critical habitat as the proposed work is within/adjacent to existing disturbance and there is no critical habitat in the proposed area(s) of work.

Therefore, the proposed project will have **"NO EFFECT"** on federally listed, proposed, or candidate species or critical habitats.

### **Essential Fish Habitat**

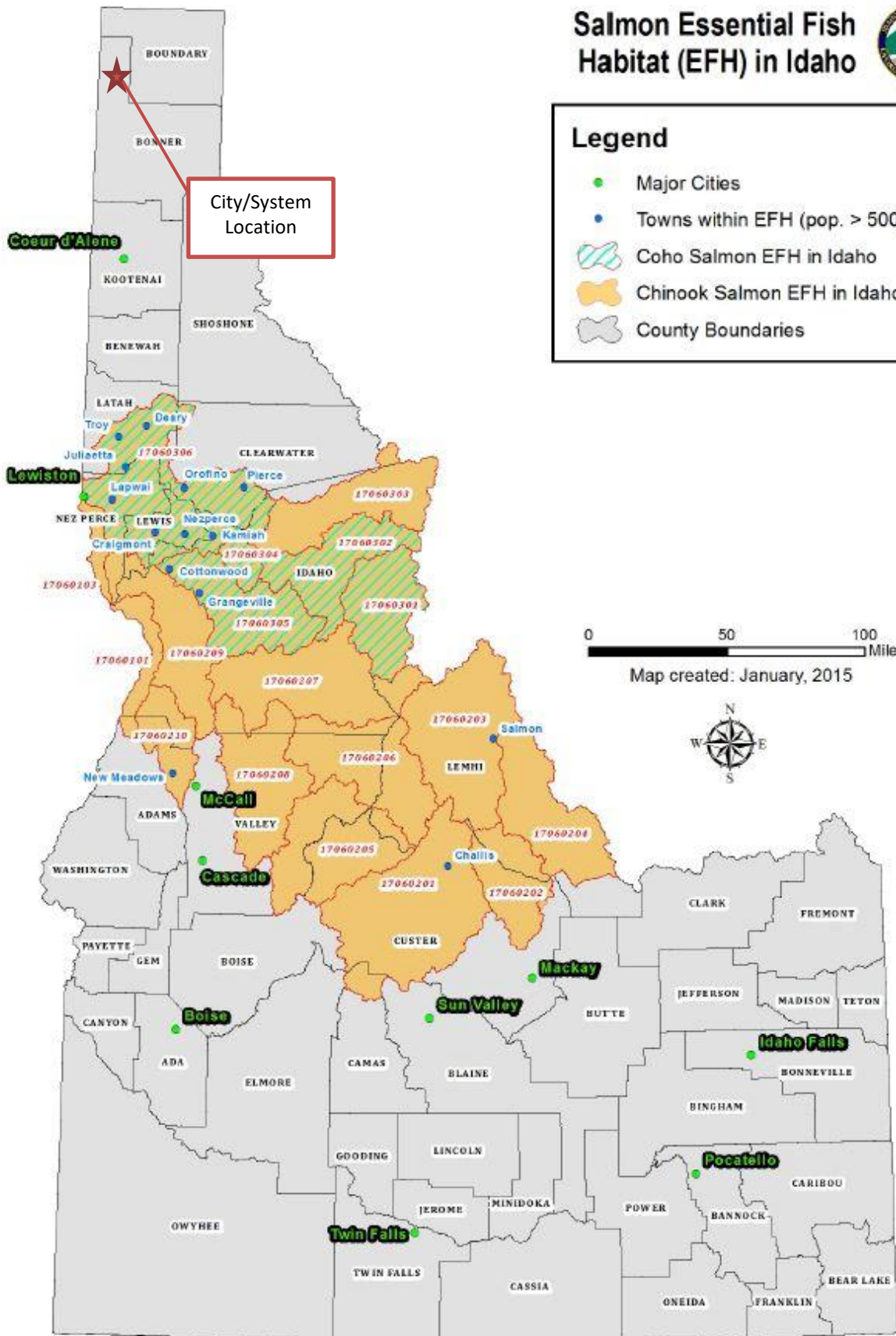
The project is located **outside** of all Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) for Chinook Salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) and Coho Salmon (*Oncorhynchus kisutch*) as identified in the attached EFH map. "All those water bodies occupied or historically accessible" in the identified hydrologic units are considered EFH, according to 50 CFR 660.412. The project will have **"NO EFFECT"** on Essential Fish Habitats.

# Salmon Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) in Idaho



## Legend

- Major Cities
- Towns within EFH (pop. > 500)
- Coho Salmon EFH in Idaho
- Chinook Salmon EFH in Idaho
- County Boundaries





## United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
Idaho Fish And Wildlife Office  
1387 South Vinnell Way, Suite 368  
Boise, ID 83709-1657  
Phone: (208) 378-5243 Fax: (208) 378-5262

In Reply Refer To:  
Project Code: 2026-0073308  
Project Name: Cougar Creek DW Project

04/07/2026 19:13:46 UTC

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of the proposed action and may be affected by the proposed action. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.). **This letter only provides an official species list and technical assistance; if you determine that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected in any way by the proposed action, even if the effect is wholly beneficial, consultation with the Service may be necessary.**

The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office website (<https://www.fws.gov/office/idaho-fish-and-wildlife/esa-and-consultation-resources>) includes several consultation resources including:

- Idaho-specific consultation contact information.
- Species-specific example conservation measures.
- Consultation Package Builder user guides for assistance in building consultations inside or outside the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system.
- Considerations for energy-related consultation.
- Acoustic effects calculator for bull trout.

If needed, contact the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Office (IFWO) with questions or for assistance regarding the proposed action's potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and proposed and designated critical habitat.

**Next Steps:**

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), federal agencies are required to ensure actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered and threatened species or destroy or adversely modify designated critical habitat; they are also required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species.

**Consultation with the Service may be required when there is a federal nexus;** federal nexus is a term used to indicate an action's connection to a federal agency as a result of that agency authorizing, funding, or carrying out the action, or any portion of it. Examples of federal actions include, but are not limited to (a) actions intended to conserve listed species or their habitat; (b) the promulgation of regulations; (c) the granting of licenses, contracts, leases, easements, rights-of-way, permits, or grants in aid; or (d) actions directly or indirectly causing modifications to the land, water, or air (50 CFR 402.02). **If the proposed action involves a federal nexus, work with the federal action agency and the Service to determine whether the action may affect listed species and if a biological assessment (BA) is required.** More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at: <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf>. If there is no federal nexus and adverse effects to listed species or critical habitats may occur from the proposed action, contact the local Service office to discuss other regulatory options for evaluating these potential effects.

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changes in habitat conditions, or other factors could change the species that may be impacted by the action. Under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, **if the federal agency or the designated non-federal representative does not begin preparation of the BA within 90 days of receipt of (or concurrence with) the species list, the federal agency or the designated non-federal representative must verify (formally or informally) with the Service the current accuracy of the species list at the time the preparation of the assessment is begun.** An updated species list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the original species list. The Service recommends that applicants request updated species lists for their actions on the IPaC website at least every 90 days during the planning and implementation period to ensure the most up-to-date information is utilized for consultation purposes. This can be done by clicking the "Request Updated Species List" button within the IPaC page for the proposed action. The IFWO recommends not requesting an official species list until ready to enter consultation, which will help keep fiscal year tracking dates closer to the year of actual consultation.

In addition to using IPaC to generate this official species list and create a record for tracking purposes, IFWO recommends using IPaC to identify any Determination Keys that may be available for the action area. For more information, see the Determination Key section in the FAQ portion of this letter, below.

We also recommend using the Consultation Package Builder for the development of a BA for any activities, structures, or ESA-listed entities not covered by Determination Keys. To avoid creating more than one project record, ensure the IPaC project page with the official species list

is used to access Determination Keys and Consultation Package Builder. IFWO has developed a statewide Consultation Package Builder user guide relevant to all ESA-listed entities, two species-specific user guides (grizzly bear and wolverine), and example conservation measures for several species, available at <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/idaho-consultation-builder-documents>. Consultation Package Builder helps ensure consistency across new consultations and streamlines the IFWO review process. Please contact IFWO for assistance with conservation measures for other species, habitats, or actions not provided.

The Service appreciates your consideration for threatened and endangered species. We encourage federal agencies to include conservation of these species and their habitats in project planning to further the purposes of the Act.

**Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your action that you submit to our office.**

### **Migratory Birds:**

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) were enacted to protect native birds from action-related impacts. Any federal or non-federal activity resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding MBTA and BGEPA, see <https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permits>.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. The applicant can comply with the MBTA and BGEPA by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Applicants should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize action-related stressors or minimize the exposure of migratory birds or eagles and their resources to the action-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds>.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit <https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds>.

The Service appreciates your consideration for migratory birds, and bald and golden eagles.

### Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. How are species on the IPaC Official Species List for my action determined?**

The primary information used to generate this species list includes known species ranges and areas where activities may have indirect impacts to listed species. For example, activities upstream of aquatic species habitat may impact water flow or water quality downstream where the species or habitat occurs.

As species can move and site conditions can change, the presence of species on this Official Species List only means they or their habitat may occur within the action area. To fully determine whether species or habitat are actually present and the potential impact of a proposed action on listed species, additional site-specific information must be considered.

## 2. Does this list include NOAA Fisheries species?

No, this list does not include species outside of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) jurisdiction, including Fisheries Division of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA Fisheries). IPaC does not provide a list of species or critical habitats under the jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries, as the Service does not have the authority to speak on their behalf. Please contact NOAA Fisheries for species under their jurisdiction (<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/topic/consultations/endangered-species-act-consultations>).

Generally, NOAA Fisheries is the lead agency for listed marine species, which includes anadromous species, while the Service manages land and freshwater species. As a general rule, if in doubt, use the information you receive from IPaC for planning purposes and contact the appropriate local office(s) to ensure that you have a complete understanding of the information you receive.

## 3. What is a Determination Key (DKey) and who can use one?

If there are listed species expected to occur in your action area, you may be able to use a DKey, if one has been developed for your action type, location, and potential species impacted. A DKey is based on an existing programmatic consultation or internal standing analysis and, for qualifying actions, will help you make a determination about impacts of the proposed action on listed species and habitats. A DKey consists of a series of questions about the proposed action and associated activities and conservation measures. A DKey results in automatically generated consultation documents for qualifying projects. As DKey output letters are automatically generated, **follow-up communication steps with IFWO may be required** – please read the generated letter carefully for any next steps.

## 4. What is Consultation Package Builder (CPB) and who can use it?

If a DKey for a specific species or activity does not apply or is not available, IPaC's Consultation Package Builder (CPB) can help analyze a proposed action and make effect determinations for listed species. The CPB walks you through a series of questions and mappers in an interactive, step-by-step process to help prepare an environmental review document (appropriate for use as a BA or Biological Evaluation). The CPB leverages the Service's data and includes recommended effect pathways and conservation measures designed to help you avoid or

minimize effects to listed species. At this time, effects to critical habitat will need to be entered manually and can refer, as appropriate, to previous sections on effects to listed species and their habitats. When finished, you can generate an environmental review document that can be submitted to the Service as part of your consultation package. The outcome of the BA determines whether informal or formal consultation or a conference is necessary (50 CFR 402.02 and 402.12).

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Bald & Golden Eagles
- Migratory Birds
- Wetlands

## OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

**Idaho Fish And Wildlife Office**  
1387 South Vinnell Way, Suite 368  
Boise, ID 83709-1657  
(208) 378-5243

## PROJECT SUMMARY

Project Code: 2026-0073308  
Project Name: Cougar Creek DW Project  
Project Type: Water Supply Pipeline - Maintenance/Modification - Below Ground  
Project Description: -pipe replacement  
-new loop piping  
-new storage reservoir  
-new well and well house  
-backup power  
-updating existing storage tank with dead storage  
-Install meters

### Project Location:

The approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: <https://www.google.com/maps/@48.52341225,-116.82263991131498,14z>



Counties: Bonner County, Idaho

## ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES

There is a total of 6 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

- 
1. [NOAA Fisheries](#), also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## MAMMALS

NAME	STATUS
Canada Lynx <i>Lynx canadensis</i> Population: Wherever Found in Contiguous U.S. There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3652</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,9922.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,9922.pdf</a>	Threatened
Grizzly Bear <i>Ursus arctos horribilis</i> Population: U.S.A., conterminous (lower 48) States, except where listed as an experimental population There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7642">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7642</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/9923.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/9923.pdf</a>	Threatened
North American Wolverine <i>Gulo gulo luscus</i> No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5123">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5123</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,10083.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,10083.pdf</a>	Threatened

## FISHES

NAME	STATUS
Bull Trout <i>Salvelinus confluentus</i> Population: U.S.A., coterminous, lower 48 states There is <b>final</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location overlaps the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8212">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8212</a> General project design guidelines: <a href="https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,9921.pdf">https://ipac.ecosphere.fws.gov/project/7RPSLCRBHRDXNBV5JNPI3XX2O4/documents/generated/7151,9921.pdf</a>	Threatened

## INSECTS

NAME	STATUS
Monarch Butterfly <i>Danaus plexippus</i> There is <b>proposed</b> critical habitat for this species. Your location does not overlap the critical habitat. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>	Proposed Threatened
Suckley's Cuckoo Bumble Bee <i>Bombus suckleyi</i> Population: No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10885">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/10885</a>	Proposed Endangered

## CRITICAL HABITATS

There is 1 critical habitat wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction.

NAME	STATUS
Bull Trout <i>Salvelinus confluentus</i> <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8212#crithab">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8212#crithab</a>	Final

## USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the [National Wildlife Refuge](#) system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## BALD & GOLDEN EAGLES

Bald and Golden Eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act <sup>2</sup> and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) <sup>1</sup>. Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to Bald or Golden Eagles, or their habitats, should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate avoidance and minimization measures, as described in the various links on this page.

- 
1. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
  2. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
  3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

There are Bald Eagles and/or Golden Eagles in your [project](#) area.

### Measures for Proactively Minimizing Eagle Impacts

For information on how to best avoid and minimize disturbance to nesting bald eagles, please review the [National Bald Eagle Management Guidelines](#). You may employ the timing and activity-specific distance recommendations in this document when designing your project/activity to avoid and minimize eagle impacts. For bald eagle information specific to Alaska, please refer to [Bald Eagle Nesting and Sensitivity to Human Activity](#).

The FWS does not currently have guidelines for avoiding and minimizing disturbance to nesting Golden Eagles. For site-specific recommendations regarding nesting Golden Eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

If disturbance or take of eagles cannot be avoided, an [incidental take permit](#) may be available to authorize any take that results from, but is not the purpose of, an otherwise lawful activity. For assistance making this determination for Bald Eagles, visit the [Do I Need A Permit Tool](#). For assistance making this determination for golden eagles, please consult with the appropriate Regional [Migratory Bird Office](#) or [Ecological Services Field Office](#).

### Ensure Your Eagle List is Accurate and Complete

If your project area is in a poorly surveyed area in IPaC, your list may not be complete and you may need to rely on other resources to determine what species may be present (e.g. your local FWS field office, state surveys, your own surveys). Please review the [Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#), to help you properly interpret the report for your specified location, including determining if there is sufficient data to ensure your list is accurate.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to bald or golden eagles on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these bald or golden eagles are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626</a>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

## PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

### Breeding Season (■)

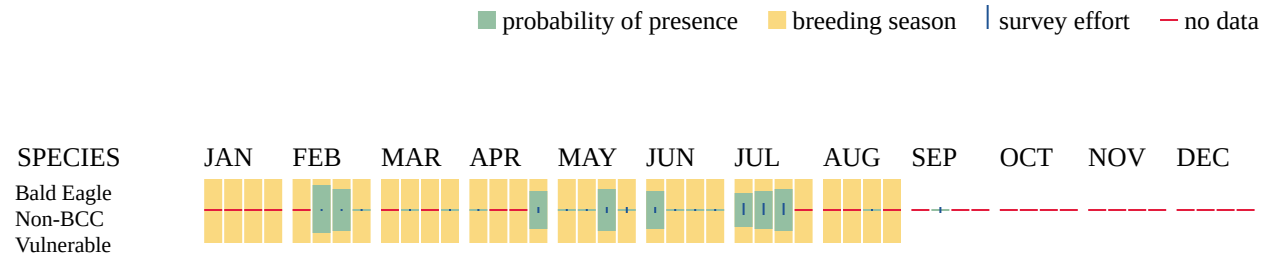
Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

### Survey Effort (|)

Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

### No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds <https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf>
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

## MIGRATORY BIRDS

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) <sup>1</sup> prohibits the take (including killing, capturing, selling, trading, and transport) of protected migratory bird species without prior authorization by the Department of Interior U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service).

1. The [Migratory Birds Treaty Act](#) of 1918.
2. The [Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act](#) of 1940.
3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, see the "Probability of Presence Summary" below to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626</a>	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31

NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Cassin's Finch <i>Haemorhous cassinii</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9462</a>	Breeds May 15 to Jul 15
Evening Grosbeak <i>Coccothraustes vespertinus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9465">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9465</a>	Breeds May 15 to Aug 10
Rufous Hummingbird <i>Selasphorus rufus</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8002</a>	Breeds Apr 15 to Jul 15
Western Grebe <i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i> This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6743</a>	Breeds Jun 1 to Aug 31

## PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read "[Supplemental Information on Migratory Birds and Eagles](#)", specifically the FAQ section titled "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

### Probability of Presence (■)

Green bars; the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during that week of the year.

### Breeding Season (■)

Yellow bars; liberal estimate of the timeframe inside which the bird breeds across its entire range.

### Survey Effort (|)

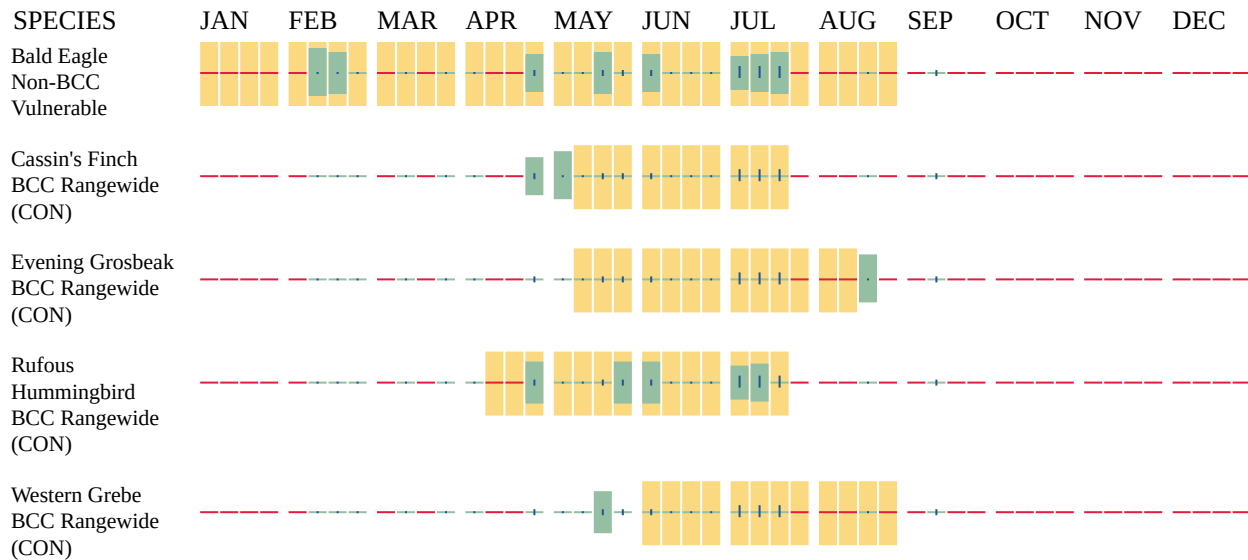
Vertical black lines; the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps.

### No Data (—)

A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

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■ probability of presence   ■ breeding season   | survey effort   — no data



Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Eagle Management <https://www.fws.gov/program/eagle-management>
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds <https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incident-take-migratory-birds>
- Nationwide avoidance and minimization measures for birds
- Supplemental Information for Migratory Birds and Eagles in IPaC <https://www.fws.gov/media/supplemental-information-migratory-birds-and-bald-and-golden-eagles-may-occur-project-action>

## WETLANDS

Impacts to [NWI wetlands](#) and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District](#).

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

WETLAND INFORMATION WAS NOT AVAILABLE WHEN THIS SPECIES LIST WAS GENERATED. PLEASE VISIT [HTTPS://WWW.FWS.GOV/WETLANDS/DATA/MAPPER.HTML](https://www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.html) OR CONTACT THE FIELD OFFICE FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Name: Katelyn Faretra

Address: 1410 N Hilton Street

City: Boise

State: ID

Zip: 83706

Email: [katelyn.faretra@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:katelyn.faretra@deq.idaho.gov)

Phone: 2083730249