

# **AVISTA CORPORATION**

---

## **2010 TO 2014 FIVE-YEAR WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION AND ENHANCEMENT SUMMARY REPORT**

IDAHO 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION  
SECTION IV

Spokane River Hydroelectric Project  
FERC Project No. 2545

Prepared By:  
Avista Corporation

*September 30, 2015*

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

1.0	Introduction.....	1
1.1	Background.....	1
1.2	Post Falls HED.....	2
2.0	Five-Year Report .....	4
2.1	Annual Work Plans.....	4
2.2	Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project .....	4
3.0	Budget and Funding.....	8
4.0	References.....	9

## APPENDICES

Appendix A. Annual Work Plans

Appendix B. Photographs

Appendix C. Consultation Record

## FIGURES

Figure 1. Post Falls Project Location Map

Figure 2. Shadowy St. Joe Project Area

## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background**

On June 18, 2009, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license for Avista Corporation's Spokane River Project, FERC Project No. 2545 (Project) for a 50 year license term. The FERC License (License) became effective on June 1, 2009 and includes operation of the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (HED) in Idaho (FERC 2009). Ordering Paragraph D of the License incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act (IDEQ 2008). The Conditions can be found in Appendix A of the License.

The Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan (Plan) was completed to comply with FERC License Conditions identified in Section IV of Appendix A of the State of Idaho Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (Idaho WQC) and Article 401 (a) No. 3. The Idaho WQC states in Section IV that within the first year after the new FERC License becomes effective, Avista shall submit a Plan to IDEQ for approval. Article 401 (a) of the License required Avista consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) in the preparation of the Plan and that the Plan must be approved by FERC prior to implementation.

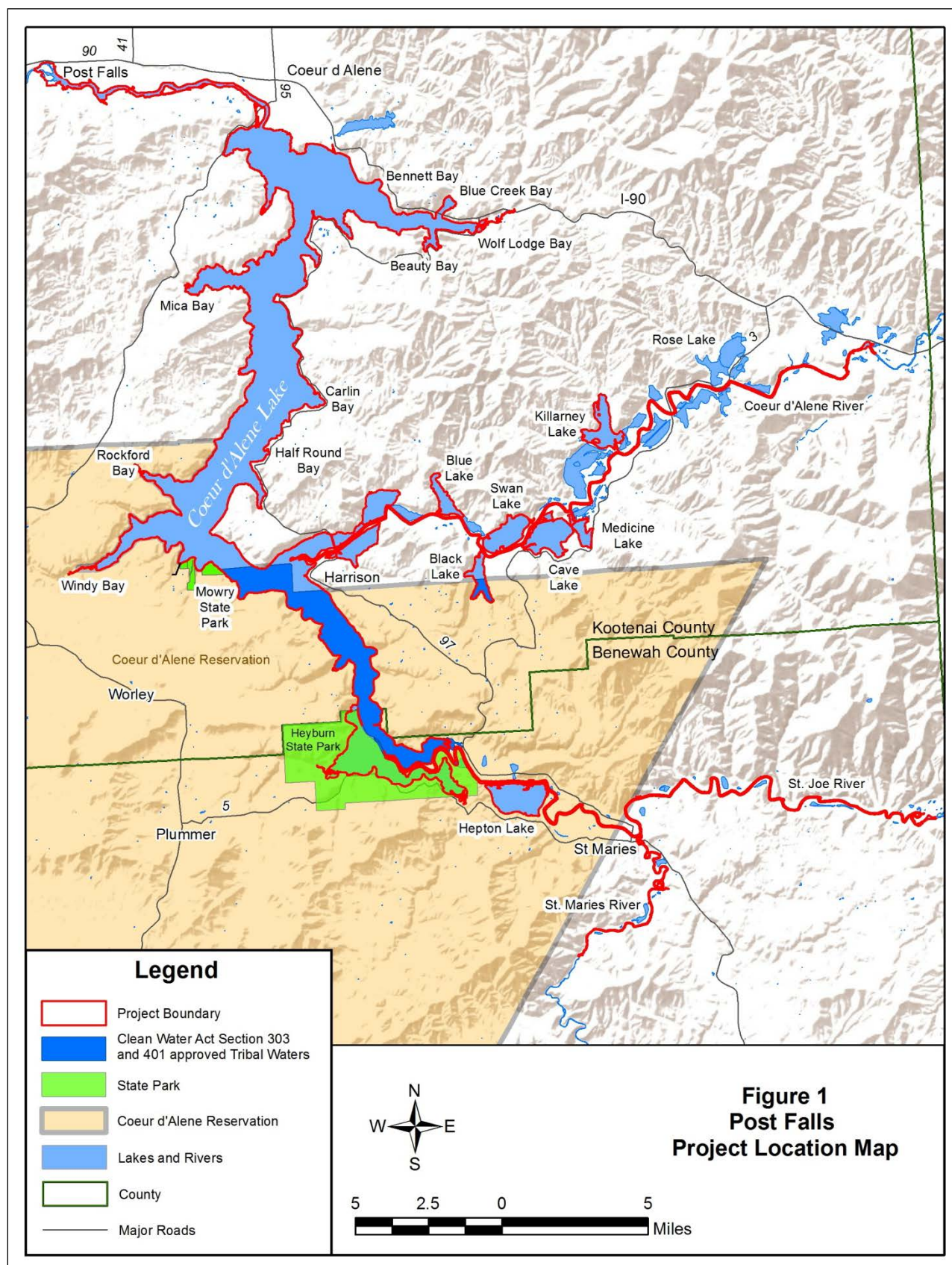
The Plan was developed in consultation with and approval of IDEQ. Avista consulted and provided IDEQ, USFWS and IDFG a thirty day review period of the final Plan in accordance with the License. Avista began implementing the Plan upon final FERC approval, which occurred on October 5, 2010.

Avista prepared this five year summary report (Report) as described in Section IV. 2. C. of the Idaho WQC and as outlined in the Plan. This Report documents implementation of the measures described in the Plan and the overall results achieved during the previous five years. The Report shall be submitted to IDEQ within six months following each reporting period (the reporting period is five years after FERC approved the Plan). The Report will be submitted to FERC following consultation with IDEQ, IDFG and USFWS.

## **1.2 Post Falls HED**

The Post Falls HED includes three dams located on the Spokane River about nine miles downstream from the outlet of Coeur d'Alene Lake (Lake). This outlet which forms a natural channel restriction is the headwaters of the Spokane River. The Post Falls HED Project boundary encompasses the Lake, the Spokane River upstream of the Post Falls Dam, and the lower reaches of the St. Joe, Coeur d'Alene and St. Maries rivers at the normal full pool elevation of 2,128.0 feet (Figure 1). The Post Falls HED controls water levels in the Lake and the lower reaches of tributaries to the lake, except during winter and through most of the spring run-off season. During the winter and spring runoff season the outlet channel, located nine miles upstream of the dams, control the water elevation in the Lake and the flows in the Spokane River.





## **2.0 FIVE-YEAR REPORT**

### **2.1 Annual Work Plans**

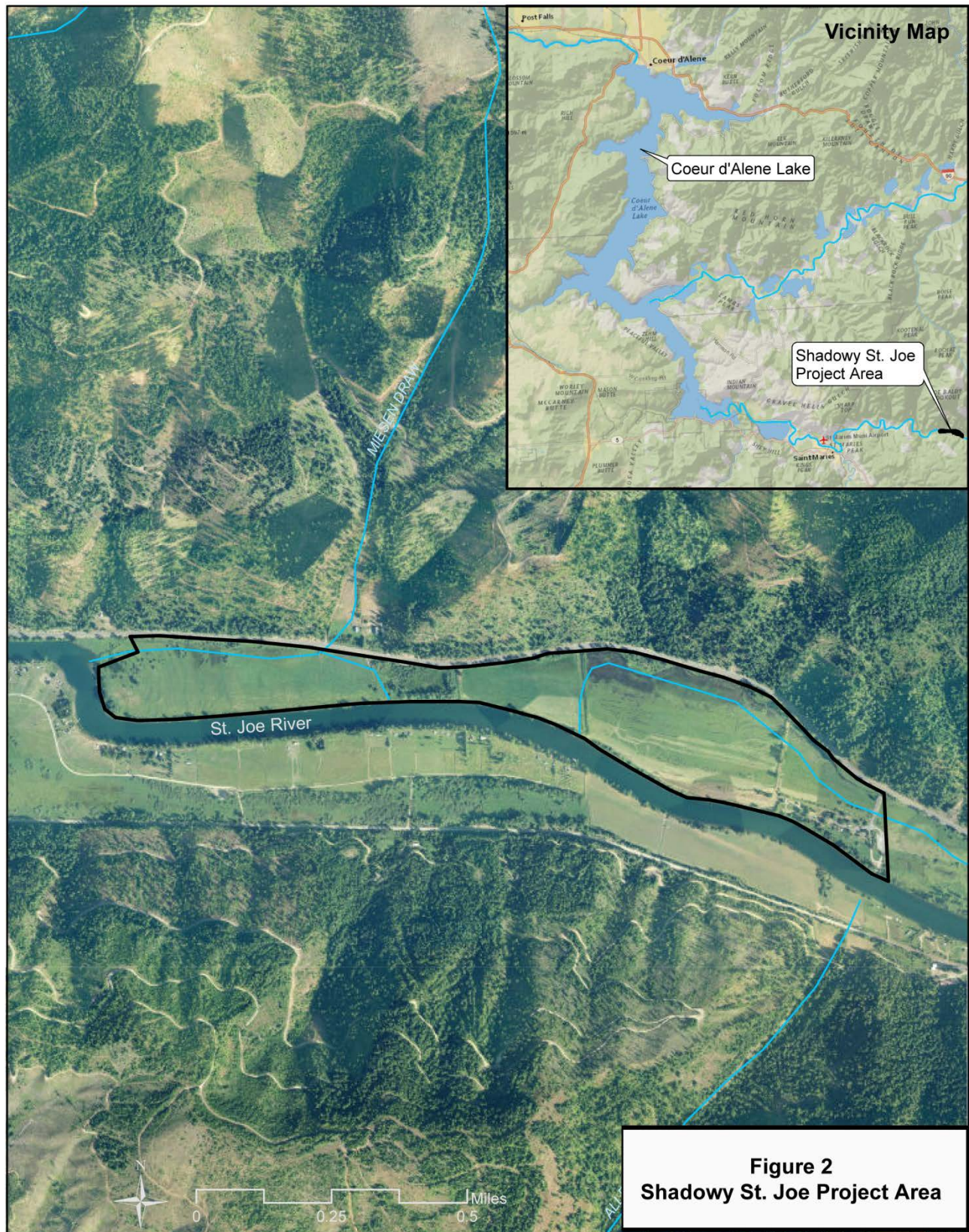
Avista held annual meetings with IDFG and IDEQ, each year between 2010-2014. The purpose of these annual meetings was to develop and approve the Annual Work Plans (AWPs). In 2010, IDEQ and IDFG approved the 2010 AWP which included tasks to initiate and implement the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project. Tasks for this project were implemented between 2010 and 2014 as outlined and approved in the subsequent 2011-2014 AWPs (Appendix A).

### **2.2 Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project**

This project was ranked as high priority by the IDEQ, IDFG and Avista through the criteria described in Appendix E of the Plan. This project is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Post Falls HED and qualifies for perpetual protection. Multiple partners cooperated in the implementation of this restoration project, including Avista, IDFG, IDEQ and Ducks Unlimited (DU), collectively referred to as the Partners.

The project consists of approximately 124 acres, of which IDFG owns 62 acres and Avista owns 62 acres. It is located along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the U.S. Forest Service's Shadowy St. Joe Campground. The project includes approximately one and a half miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River (Figure 2). Photo points were established and photographs were taken to document ongoing progress for this project (Appendix B).





The purpose of this project was to restore and create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St. Joe River. Specific goals included:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the 124 acre property. The restoration plan included specific actions, schedules, drawings and the intended results of the wetland complex.
- Place both IDFG's and Avista's property under perpetual, long-term protection.
- Explore the possibility of incorporating cool water refugia for native salmonids into restoration activities.

In order to complete the restoration effort it was necessary to complete the following tasks on annual basis:

#### **2010 Tasks:**

DU completed the topographic survey and wetland delineation of the Avista parcel in 2010 and combined the topographic maps of both the IDFG and Avista parcels into one contiguous map.

#### **2011 Tasks:**

Avista contracted with DU to complete a Conceptual Restoration and Design and Alternatives Report (Design) for the property. Four restoration alternatives were presented to the Partners at the meeting held on April 15, 2011. Alternative #1 was selected by the Partners and included two construction phases. Phase I ("EAST AREA") included all of the Avista owned parcel and the eastern portion of the IDFG parcel. Phase II ("WEST AREA") included the western portion of the IDFG property. Details of the two Phases are located in the Design.

The vegetation control portion of Phase I was initiated in 2011 and was continued in 2012. This included mowing, discing and herbicide treatments on areas that contained reed canary grass (*Phalaris arundinacea*).

#### **2012 Tasks:**

In 2012 the final design was completed and construction was initiated on both portions of the project. Site visits were completed with the agencies and the appropriate federal, state and local permits were obtained. The existing dike was breeched in order to allow the site to properly drain prior to

construction activities. Vegetation control activities (mowing and spraying) continued in the summer and fall on both portions of the project. In the winter of 2012 the Phase I earthwork and installation of the water control structure and rock overflow channel was completed. Phase II earthwork was initiated in 2012 and continued and completed in January of 2013. The Phase II earthwork was completed utilizing IDFG funding.

### **2013 Tasks:**

Avista and IDFG completed final grading, vegetation control work and re-vegetation on Phases I and II. The final grading was completing on approximately eight acres on Phase I and 11 acres on Phase II. Vegetation control work on both Phases included herbicide applications, mowing and discing. Re-vegetation included the re-seeding of eight acres of Phase I with both wetland and upland seed mixes, and re-seeding of 11 acres of Phase II with an oat food plot cover crop, followed by a seeding with an upland seed mix. Initial planting of approximately 3,987 trees and shrubs was completed on the Phase I portion. IDFG planted approximately 500 trees and shrubs and 800 sedge (*Carex* sp.) and rush (*Juncus* sp.) seedlings around the four ponds on Phase II.

### **2014 Tasks:**

Avista and IDFG completed herbicide applications on both Phase I and Phase II portions, and planted additional trees and shrubs. Protective enclosures were installed around the plantings to protect them from wildlife.



### 3.0 BUDGET AND FUNDING

Between 2010 and 2014, Avista spent approximately \$378,468 on the Shadowy St Joe Project (Table 1). Additional project funding was provided by IDFG in the amount of \$90,000 and DU staff contributed time worth approximately \$43,623. Budget sheets were developed and included in the AWP's to identify funding obligations, expenditures and carry over dollars.

**Table 1. Idaho WQC Section IV 2010-2014 Budget**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Carryover Dollars</b>	\$ -	\$75,688	\$137,198	\$171,250	\$43,428	\$94,201
<b>Funding Obligation</b>	\$75,000	\$75,688	\$76,112	\$77,010	\$78,866	\$80,152
<b>GDP</b>	0.92%	0.56%	1.18%	2.41%	1.63%	1.49%
<b>GDP Amount</b>	\$688	\$424	\$898	\$1,857	\$1,286	\$1,194
<b>Total Funding Obligation</b>	\$75,688	\$151,799	\$214,207	\$250,117	\$123,580	\$175,548
<b>Expenditures</b>	\$ -	<b>\$14,602</b>	<b>\$42,957</b>	<b>\$206,689</b>	<b>\$29,378</b>	<b>\$84,842</b>
Ducks Unlimited		\$14,601.71	\$23,547.64			\$3,517.83
IKON Office Solutions			\$16.15			
Ned Horner			\$42.50	\$3,845.66		
Primeland				\$1,542.70		
Plateau				\$6,380.00	\$10,020.90	
Misc				\$153.95		
Soggy Bottom				\$146,245.50	\$7,891.70	
Ducks Unlimited			\$19,350.65	\$48,521.30	\$11,465.68	\$81,323.99
<b>Carryover Dollars</b>	<b>\$75,688</b>	<b>\$137,198</b>	<b>\$171,250</b>	<b>\$43,428</b>	<b>\$94,201</b>	<b>\$90,706</b>

At the time this 2015 Report was completed, Avista had approximately \$158,462 available, which includes money that has been carried over from previous years, and \$75,000 allocated for 2015. Avista shall continue to make \$75,000 available on an annual basis to implement the approved Plan. Implementation of the Plan and expenditure of funds for specific projects will be governed by Section VIII.A of the Idaho WQC.

#### **4.0 REFERENCES**

- FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges For Use of Reservation Lands. Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. Project Nos. 2545-091 issued June 18, 2009. Washington DC.
- IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Annual Work Plans**



**2010**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT PLAN

**Spokane River Project, FERC No. 2545**  
**Post Falls Hydroelectric Development**

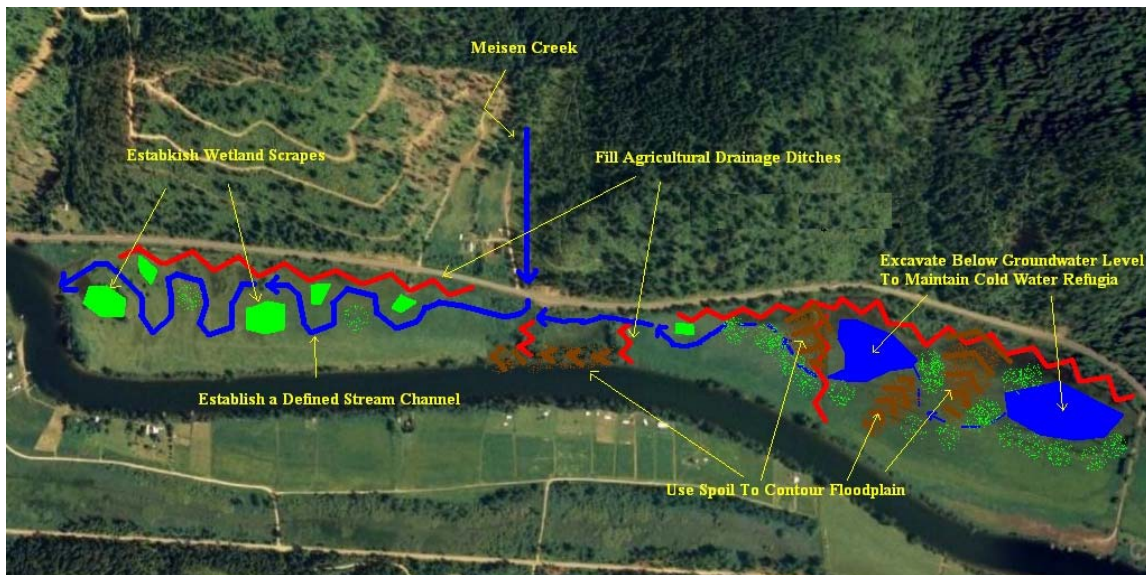
**Title:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project

**Introduction and Background:** On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license (license) for the Spokane River Project that includes the Post Falls Hydroelectric Project (HED) (FERC 2009). Ordering paragraph D of the license incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as Appendix A. Section IV. 2. of the IDEQ Certification Condition states that Avista shall consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and IDEQ annually to implement the measures of the FERC approved *Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010 to 2014* (Avista 2010). This Annual Work Plan (AWP) has been developed in consultation with IDEQ and IDFG to meet the requirements of the five-year plan for measures to implement in 2010.

**Priority:** According to the ranking criteria described in Attachment 1 of the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan this project is considered high priority since it is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Hydroelectric Project. This project qualifies for perpetual protection and multiple partners are organized for restoration and management assistance including IDFG, US Forest Service, IDEQ, and Avista. Partnerships maximize the benefits associated with the restoration project by expanding the land base, capitalizing on cost-sharing opportunities, and utilize a diverse pool of expertise.

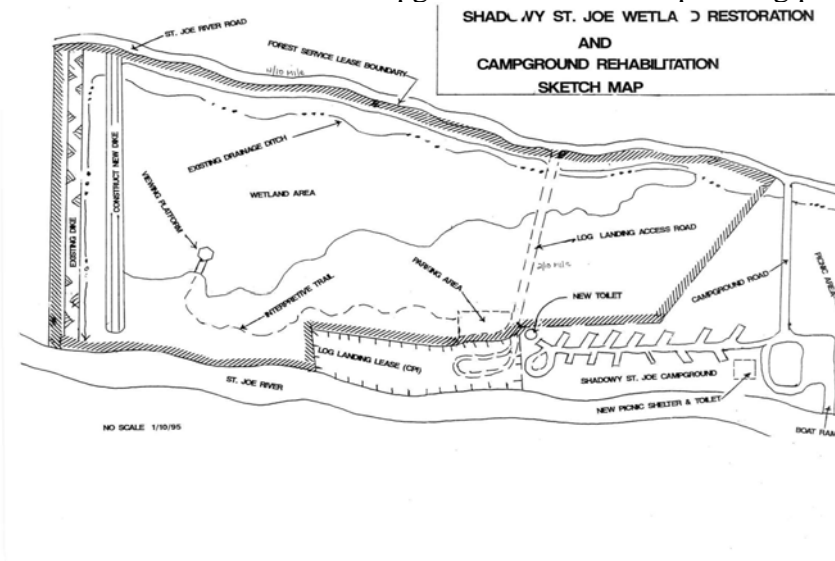
Currently, IDFG has federal funding to restore their parcel. These funds are potentially available for the next three years so this project has priority for urgency and immediate work.

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore/create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St Joe River in Idaho. The Project is focused on a combined total of approximately 124 acres of IDFG property and Avista property along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Collectively, the IDFG and Avista parcels represent 1 ½ miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River directly adjacent and hydraulically connected to the Project boundary of the Post Falls (HED). The IDFG owns 62 acres in fee title ownership approximately ¾ mile in length, encompassing the entire property located between Forest Highway 50 and the St. Joe River (Figure 1).



**Figure 1: Conceptual Project Design IDFG Property**

Avista owns approximately 62 acres in fee title ownership between the St. Joe River and Forest Highway 50 directly adjacent and upstream of the IDFG parcel (Attachment A). Within the Avista property is approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of St. Joe River frontage and associated riparian area (Figure 2). During the 1990's the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded a wetland mitigation restoration of the site for impacts associated with work completed on Forest Highway 50 between St. Maries and Avery. At the time, the U.S. Forest Service, Washington Water Power (Avista) and the FHWA were partners in the effort. A portion of this property is leased to the US Forest Service for the operation of the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Avista will work with the US Forest Service and accommodate the lease and campground area into the planning process for this project.



**Figure 2: Conceptual Project Design Avista Property**

Specific goals for the project include:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG properties. The restoration plan is expected to include specific actions, schedules, drawings and intended results of the wetland complex.
- Place both IDFG and Avista property under perpetual, long-term protection.
- Explore the possibility of incorporating cool water refugia for native salmonids into restoration activities.
- Support specific restoration recommendations to include portions or aspects of the following:

1. Fill the ditch along the base of Forest Highway 50.

The ditch currently intercepts all of the groundwater seeping out of the hillside for the entire length of both properties (1 ½ miles). Filling the ditch is expected to increase the water table height significantly, bringing water to the surface in places. Given the base of the ditch is 10-15' below road elevation, this action is not expected to saturate the road base.

2. Fill the drainage ditch which separates the Avista parcel from the IDFG parcel.

This ditch currently intercepts groundwater flow from the upstream Avista parcel and routes it to the St. Joe River before it can reach the IDFG parcel. Filling the ditch is expected to further raise the water table and increase water flow through the IDFG parcel. Ground which is currently dry should remain saturated most of the season following this action.

3. Fill the drainage ditch located immediately east of the point Miesen Creek enters the floodplain.
4. Eliminate the man made channel which routes Miesen Creek directly to the St. Joe River.
5. Via excavation and the planned placement of fill, route Miesen Creek lengthwise along the property in a meandering fashion. The excavation should be completed to not drain the wetlands adjacent to the creek.
6. Excavation of pools which will be heavily influenced by groundwater and therefore remain full all year and facilitate the growth of emergent vegetation and not having surface water connection to Miesen Creek will be explored.
7. Encourage the establishment of native woody vegetation and supplement natural vegetation with plantings.

**Specific 2010 Annual Work Plan Tasks:** This project is expected to be a multi-year project including several tasks which will be implemented in partnership with IDEQ, IDFG and US

Forest Service. Specific tasks will be implemented after Avista consultation on this AWP, required funding or partnerships have been established, the necessary permits have been obtained, and any ESA consultation, if required has been completed.

**Task 1:** Avista work with IDFG, IDEQ, St. Joe River Ranger District of the US Forest Service to confirm property boundaries, lease requirements, cost share opportunities and management goals for long-term protection of the property.

**Task 2:** Select a qualified contractor to review existing information and, if necessary, complete a topographic survey of the Avista property. The topography on IDFG's property is scheduled to be completed in 2010. Develop the combined topography into an electronic contour site map and provide up to three (3) paper maps of topography.

**Task 3:** Select a qualified contractor (hydrologist or geomorphologist) to develop a detailed project restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG property:

**Step one:** Evaluate the existing information, the topographic data and the existing conceptual designs to identify and refine restoration options, anticipated groundwork, vegetation types and water resources.

**Step two:** Begin developing a detailed wetland restoration plan that will include a description of the recommended earth work activities, baseline wetland functions and performance goals as appropriate, the type and purpose of any potential water control features, native vegetation types and other relevant restoration features. The initial plan will include drawings, schedules, anticipated restoration and management actions, permitting requirements including any site-specific ESA consultation, and budgets required to complete the project. Cost share and partnership opportunities will be identified and included in the plan.

**Schedule:** [Depends on Plan approval, AWP consultation and approved permits]

Task 1: Contact participants: June 2010

Task 2: Select a contractor and complete a topographic survey: August, 2010

Task 3: Select a contractor to develop a detailed restoration plan: December, 2010

[Restoration plan to be completed in 2011]

**2010 Budget Summary Funds Allocated: (Estimated)**

<b>Task 1</b>	\$ 0?	
<b>Task 2</b>	\$ 15,000	
<b>Task 3</b>	\$ 40,000	
<b><i>Total obligation</i></b>		<b>\$ 55, 000</b>

*Available Cooperative Funds [Bonneville Power Administration TBD]*

<b><i>Total obligated Funds</i></b>	<b>\$ 55,000</b>
-------------------------------------	------------------

**References:**

- Avista. 2010. Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan 2010 to 2014. Draft in process. Avista Corporation. Spokane, WA.
- FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges for use of Reservation lands. Project Nos. 2545-091. US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. DC
- IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Idaho.
- IDFG. 2009 Draft Shadowy St. Joe Floodplain Restoration Scoping Meeting summary.
- Panhandle Bull Trout Technical Advisory Team (PBTAT). 1998. Draft Coeur d'Alene Lake Basin bull trout problem assessment. Prepared for the State of Idaho. 73 pp.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 2002(b). In bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) draft recovery plan. Chapter 15, Coeur d'Alene Lake Basin Recovery Unit. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Portland, Oregon. 92 pp.

**2011**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

**Spokane River Project, FERC No. 2545**  
**Post Falls Hydroelectric Development**  
**FERC License Appendix A**

**Title:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project

**Introduction and Background:** On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license (license) for the Spokane River Project that includes the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (HED) (FERC 2009). Ordering paragraph D of the license incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as Appendix A (IDEQ 2008). Section IV. 2. of the IDEQ Certification Condition states that Avista shall consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and IDEQ annually to implement the measures of the FERC approved *Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010 to 2014* (Avista 2010). This Annual Work Plan (AWP) has been developed in consultation with IDEQ and IDFG to meet the requirements of the five-year plan for measures to implement in 2011.

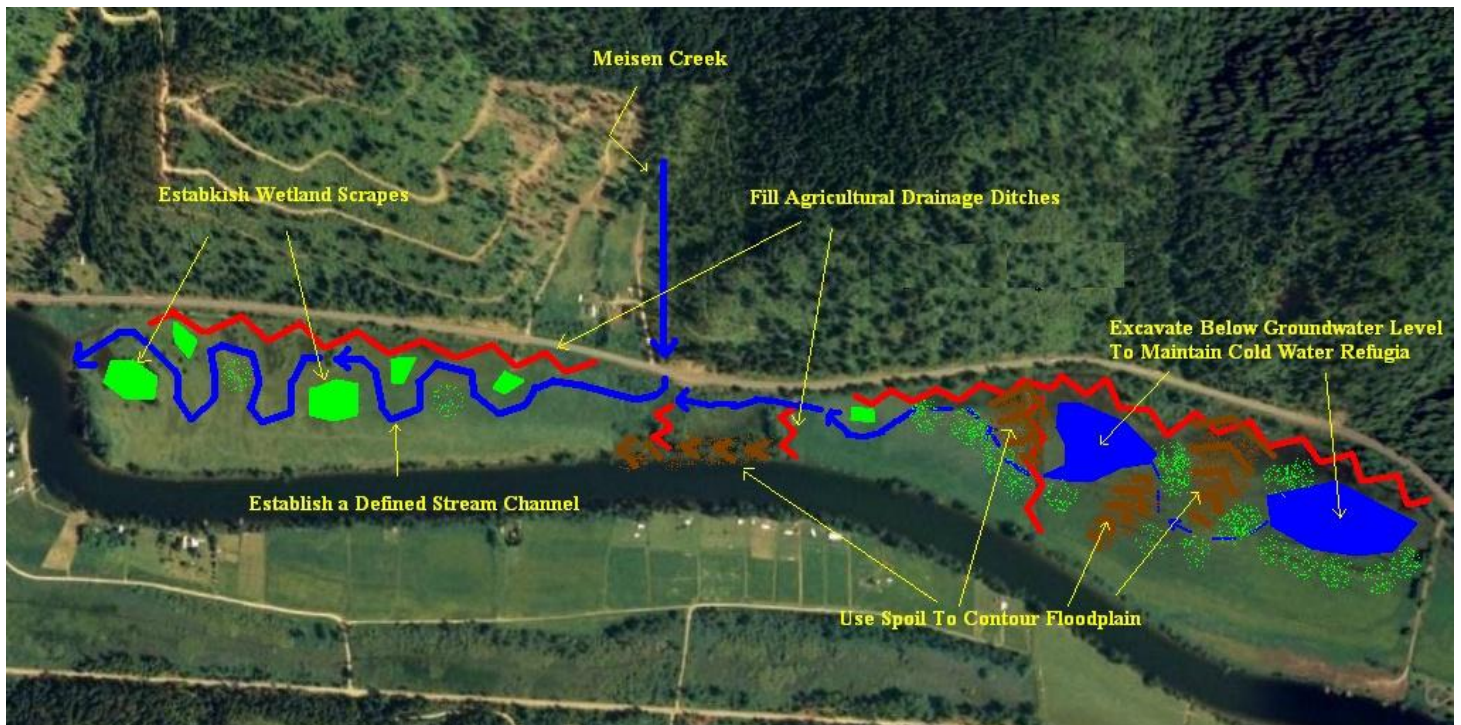
**Priority:** This project was ranked as high priority by the IDEQ, IDFG and Avista through the criteria described in Appendix E of the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan. This project is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Post Falls HED and qualifies for perpetual protection. Multiple partners will cooperate in the implementation of the restoration effort and the long-term management of the project.

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore/create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St Joe River in Idaho. Specific goals for the project include:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG properties. The restoration plan will include specific actions, schedules, drawings and intended results of the wetland complex.
- Place both IDFG and Avista property under perpetual, long-term protection.
- Explore the possibility of incorporating cool water refugia for native salmonids into restoration activities.

**Project Area and Ownership:** The project consists of a combined total of approximately 124 acres of IDFG property and Avista property along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the Shadowy St. Joe Campground (Attachment 1). Collectively, the IDFG and Avista parcels represent 1 ½ miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River directly adjacent and hydraulically connected to the Post Falls Project boundary. The IDFG owns 62 acres in fee title approximately ¾ mile in length, encompassing the entire property located between Forest Highway 50 and the St. Joe River (Figure 1).





**Figure 1: Conceptual Project Design IDFG Property**

Avista owns approximately 62 acres in fee title between the St. Joe River and Forest Highway 50 directly adjacent and upstream of the IDFG parcel (Attachment A). Avista's property includes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of St. Joe River frontage and associated riparian area. During the 1990's the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) funded a wetland mitigation project on the site for impacts associated with work completed on Forest Highway 50. The 1990's mitigation project will be greatly enhanced by the efforts associated with this project, given the wetland complex will be approximately twice as large, restores drainage ditches and the mouth of Meisen Creek. The upriver portion of Avista's property has been deeded to the US Forest Service (USFS) for the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Avista will work with the US Forest Service to incorporate the campground operation, as appropriate, into the planning process for this project.

**Previous Tasks Completed:** This AWP is the continuation of the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project approved in 2010. Completed tasks include the topographic survey and wetland delineation of the Avista parcel in 2010 and the combined topography mapping for both the IDFG and Avista parcels also completed in 2010.

**Specific 2011 Annual Work Plan Tasks:** This is expected to be a multi-year project including several tasks which will be implemented in partnership with IDEQ, the USFS and IDFG. The tasks will be implemented following Avista's consultation on this AWP, required funding has been established, and any necessary permits have been obtained.

**Task 1:** Ducks Unlimited, under contract by Avista for this project, will develop a detailed wetland restoration plan (Task 2 of the Ducks Unlimited Scope of Work (SOW)) for the combined Avista and IDFG property to include the following steps:

**Step one:** Evaluate existing information, topographic data and existing conceptual designs to identify and refine restoration options, anticipated groundwork, vegetation types and water resources. Complete field reports and the remainder of task 1 of the DU SOW;

**Step two:** Develop a draft restoration plan, which will include drawings, schedules, anticipated restoration and management actions, a description of the recommended earth work activities, the type and purpose of any potential water control features, potential vegetation control and/or re-establishment of native vegetation types. Other relevant restoration features and actions will also be presented to Avista, IDEQ, USFS and IDFG for review;

**Step three:** Complete the final detailed wetland and riparian restoration plan based on the input from the cooperating parties. The final plan will identify permitting requirements including any site-specific ESA and performance goals as appropriate, cost share and partnership opportunities and estimated budgets required to complete the project.

**Task 2:** Through consultation, the cooperating parties will select a contractor or an implementation team to begin implementing the restoration plan. The project budget will be determined and approved through the selection process.

**Schedule:** [Depends on AWP consultation and approved permits]

Task 1: Steps one and two March 15, 2011; Step three July 31, 2011

Task 2: September 21, 2011

**2011 Budget Summary Funds Allocated:**

<b>Task 1</b>	<b>\$ 32,000.00</b>
<b>Task 2</b>	<b>\$ TBD</b>

<b><i>Total obligation</i></b>	<b>\$ 32, 000 + Task 2</b>
--------------------------------	----------------------------

*Available Cooperative Funds [Bonneville Power Administration TBD]*

<b><i>Total obligated Funds</i></b>	<b>\$ 32,000+</b>
-------------------------------------	-------------------



**References:**

Avista. 2010. Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan 2010 to 2014. Draft in process. Avista Corporation. Spokane, WA.

FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges for use of Reservation lands. Project Nos. 2545-091. US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. DC

IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Idaho.

**Annual Consultation: Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project**

**IDEQ**

**From:** Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 22, 2011 7:42 AM  
**To:** Vore, Tim  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Idaho Wetland Plan; 2011 Annual Work Plan

Tim, I appreciate the opportunity to review the annual workplan for the Shadowy St. Joe project. Please consider this e-mail IDEQ's approval of the AWP. Thank you.

Bob-

Robert Steed  
Surface Water Ecologist  
Coeur d'Alene Regional Office  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
2110 Ironwood Parkway  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
Voice (208) 769-1422 Fax (208) 769-1404  
email [robert.steed@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:robert.steed@deq.idaho.gov)

**IDFG**

**From:** Helmich,Bryan [bryan.helmich@idfg.idaho.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2011 12:25 PM  
**To:** Vore, Tim; Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov;  
daniel.redline@deq.idaho.gov; Benker,Miles  
**Cc:** Drake, Michele; Fitzhugh, Speed (Elvin); Wiley, Rene; Baker, Ted;  
Benker,Miles; Cousins,Kathy; Corsi,Charles  
**Subject:** RE: Draft Idaho Wetland Plan; 2011 Annual Work Plan  
**Attachments:** Wetland 2011 AWP Shadowy St Joe.pdf

Tim,

The draft annual work plan looks fine. Baring any concerns from our partners, I recommend it be accepted as written.

Bryan

---

**Avista transmittal of draft AWP to IDEQ and IDFG**

**From:** Vore, Tim [<mailto:tim.vore@avistacorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 25, 2011 10:14 AM  
**To:** [Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov); Helmich,Bryan; [daniel.redline@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:daniel.redline@deq.idaho.gov); Benker,Miles  
**Cc:** Drake, Michele; Fitzhugh, Speed (Elvin); Wiley, Rene; Baker, Ted  
**Subject:** Draft Idaho Wetland Plan; 2011 Annual Work Plan

Greetings-

Implementing the Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan requires developing Annual Work Plans (AWP) in the first quarter of each year. This draft AWP describes the activities we will accomplish in 2011.

This 2011 AWP is the continuation of the Shadowy St. Joe wetland restoration project we started in 2010. In 2011 our task is to prepare a restoration plan and begin to implement that restoration. Ducks Unlimited, the contractor we selected to prepare this plan is standing by, ready to start. They have done an excellent job for us so far.

Please review this draft AWP and provide any suggestion you may have by February 25 at the latest. If you agree with the AWP, please send me an email or letter accepting the AWP. I'll be glad to discuss this project with you and answer any questions you may have.

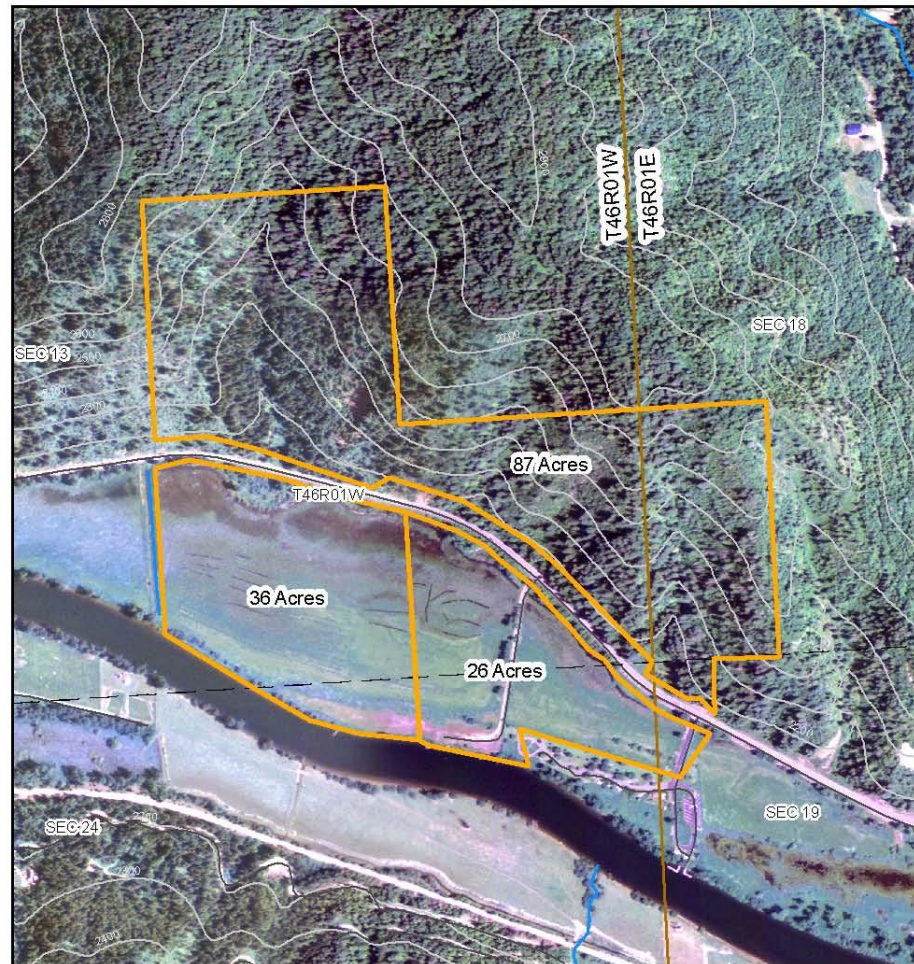
I want to thank you for a very productive 2010. To recap: FERC approved the 5-year wetland plan on October 5, 2010. We were in the field surveying topography on October 12; a wetland delineation was prepared December 6 and topographic mapping of the combined Avista and IDFG property was completed December 29.

Have a great week

Tim

<<Wetland 2011 AWP Shadowy St Joe.pdf>>

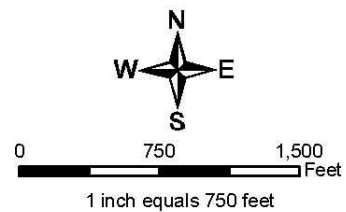
Attachment 1:



**Legend**

- AVISTA PARCELS
- nhd streams
- township range
- sections
- Streets
- contour 100ft

ST. JOE RIVER, BENEWAH CO., IDAHO



**2012**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

**Spokane River Project, FERC No. 2545**  
**Post Falls Hydroelectric Development**  
**FERC License Appendix A**

**Title:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project

**Introduction and Background:** On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license (license) for the Spokane River Project that includes the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (HED) (FERC 2009). Ordering paragraph D of the license incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as Appendix A (IDEQ 2008). Section IV. 2. of the IDEQ Certification Condition states that Avista shall consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and IDEQ annually to implement the measures of the FERC approved *Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010 to 2014* (Plan) (Avista 2010). This Annual Work Plan (AWP) has been developed in consultation with IDEQ and IDFG to meet the requirements of the five-year plan for measures to implement in 2011.

**Priority:** This project was ranked as high priority by the IDEQ, IDFG and Avista through the criteria described in Appendix E of the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan. This project is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Post Falls HED and qualifies for perpetual protection. Multiple partners will cooperate in the implementation of the restoration effort and the long-term management of the project.

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore/create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St Joe River in Idaho. Specific goals for the project include:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG properties. The restoration plan will include specific actions, schedules, drawings and intended results of the wetland complex.
- Place both IDFG and Avista property under perpetual, long-term protection.
- Re-establish native vegetation communities on the site.

**Project Area and Ownership:** The project consists of a combined total of approximately 124 acres of IDFG property and Avista property along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Collectively, the IDFG and Avista parcels represent 1 ½ miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River directly adjacent and hydraulically connected to the Post Falls Project boundary. IDFG owns 62 acres in fee title approximately ¾ mile in length, encompassing the entire property located between Forest Highway 50 and the St. Joe River.

Avista owns approximately 62 acres in fee title between the St. Joe River and Forest Highway 50 directly adjacent and upstream of the IDFG parcel. Avista's property includes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of St. Joe River frontage and associated riparian area. During the 1990's the Federal Highway Administration funded a wetland mitigation project on the site for impacts associated with work completed on Forest Highway 50. The 1990's mitigation project will be greatly enhanced by the efforts associated with this project, given the wetland complex will be approximately twice as large, restores drainage ditches and the mouth of Meisen Creek. The upriver portion of Avista's property has been deeded to the United States Forest Service (USFS) for the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Avista will work with the USFS to incorporate the campground operation, as appropriate, into the planning process for this project.

**Previous Tasks Completed:** This AWP is the continuation of the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project approved in 2010. In 2011 Avista contracted with Ducks Unlimited (DU) to complete a Conceptual Restoration and Design and Alternatives Report. Alternative 1, selected by the Partners, is described in the report and includes two phases. The vegetation control portion of Phase I was initiated in 2011 and will be continued in 2012.

**Specific 2012 Annual Work Plan Tasks:** This is expected to be a multi-year project including several tasks which will be implemented in partnership with IDEQ, the USFS and IDFG. As indicated above Alternative 1 was selected for the final design. This alternative has two phases, with Phase I anticipated to be implemented in 2012 and 2013. The tasks below are scheduled to be implemented in 2012.

**Task 1 Permitting (March-June)**

Complete the Clean Water Act Section 404 permit (Nationwide Permit #27), a Biological Assessment, Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan and compliance with the National Historic Preservation Act.

**Task 2 Agency Site Visit (April-May)**

Complete a site visit with the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Task 3 Breaching the Existing Dike, if feasible (May-June)**

Breaching the existing dike would allow the site to drain and dry faster.

**Task 4 Complete Final Design (May)**

DU will complete the final design and contractor bid package.

**Task 5 Contractor Selection (June-July)**

Select a contractor to complete the work.

**Task 6 Vegetation Control (July-August)**

Vegetation control will likely include mowing, spraying and burning.

**Task 7 Earthwork and Installation of Water Control Structures (August-October)**

Work under this task will be completed as outlined in the final design.

### **Task 8 Re-vegetation (October)**

Work under this task will be completed as outlined in the final design.

### **Budget**

The funding for the Plan was initiated in 2009 and is outlined through 2013 in the table below.

**Table 1. 2009-2013 Budget**

<b>Projected Available Funding:</b>					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Carryover Dollars	\$ -	\$ 75,688	\$ 136,506	\$ 188,785	\$ 244,700
Funding Obligation	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
GDP	0.92%	0.56%	1.18%	2.41%	0.00%
GDP Amount	\$ 688	\$ 420	\$ 885	\$ 1,808	\$ -
Total Funding Obligation	\$ 75,688	\$ 151,108	\$ 212,391	\$ 265,593	\$ 319,700
Expenditures	\$ -	\$ 14,602	\$ 23,606	\$ 20,893	\$ -
Carryover Dollars	\$ 75,688	\$ 136,506	\$ 188,785	\$ 244,700	\$ 319,700

**References:**

Avista. 2010. Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan 2010 to 2014. Draft in process. Avista Corporation. Spokane, WA.

FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges for use of Reservation lands. Project Nos. 2545-091. US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. DC

IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Idaho.



## **CONSULTATION RECORD**

## CONSULTATION WITH IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

---

**From:** Armes, David  
**Sent:** Friday, April 06, 2012 2:46 PM  
**To:** miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov; jim.teare@idfg.idaho.gov  
**Subject:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland 2012 Annual Work Plan  
**Attachments:** AWP 2012 Shadowy St Joe.doc

Miles and JJ,

Implementing the Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan requires developing Annual Work Plans (AWP) in the first quarter of each year. This draft AWP describes the activities we will accomplish in 2012. The tasks and schedule included in this AWP were discussed and developed during our 2012 annual meeting.

Please review this draft AWP and provide any suggestion you may have prior to April 25. If you agree with the AWP, please send me an email or letter accepting the AWP. I'll be glad to discuss this project with you and answer any questions you may have.

Thanks!

David Armes | Avista Utilities  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist  
Spokane River Licensing Branch  
1411 E. Mission Ave MSC-1 | Spokane, WA 99202  
office: (509) 495-2796 | cell: (509) 999-4475  
david.ames@avistacorp.com  
 Before printing, please think about the environment.

---

**From:** Teare, Jim [jim.teare@idfg.idaho.gov]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 17, 2012 2:40 PM  
**To:** Armes, David  
**Subject:** RE: Shadowy St. Joe Wetlands

Good afternoon David, IDFG has no comments and approves the AWP as is for the Shadowy St Joe restoration project. Thank you for your hard work on this and looking forward to more cooperative efforts with Avista Utilities on the Shadowy St Joe and future projects. JJ

---

**From:** Armes, David [<mailto:David.Armes@avistacorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 16, 2012 10:13 AM  
**To:** [Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov); [thomas.herron@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:thomas.herron@deq.idaho.gov); Teare, Jim; Benker, Miles; Hennings, Kristopher R -FS  
**Cc:** Brian Heck  
**Subject:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetlands  
**Importance:** High


Good Morning,

I spoke with Brian with DU today, we have an opportunity to get a contractor out to the St. Joe property to remove the existing water control structure and drain the site faster (the contractor is working in the area this week and will be available to complete the work). As we discussed in our annual meeting, this will allow for weed control to be implemented sooner and more effectively. Any material removed will be disposed of in uplands. No permits are required. Brian and I will likely meet the contractor on-site Wed. afternoon, or Thurs. to review the work. The work would be completed the end of this week or beginning of next week.

If anyone would like to attend the onsite meeting with the contractor, be present during the removal or has any questions please contact Brian or myself.

Thanks!

David Armes | Avista Utilities  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist  
Spokane River License Branch  
1411 E. Mission Ave MSC-1 | Spokane, WA 99202  
office: (509) 495-2796 | cell: (509) 999-4475  
[david.armes@avistacorp.com](mailto:david.armes@avistacorp.com)

 Before printing, please think about the environment.

## CONSULTATION WITH IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

---

**From:** Armes, David  
**Sent:** Friday, April 06, 2012 2:46 PM  
**To:** Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov  
**Subject:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland 2012 Annual Work Plan  
**Attachments:** AWP 2012 Shadowy St Joe.doc

Bob,

Implementing the Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan requires developing Annual Work Plans (AWP) in the first quarter of each year. This draft AWP describes the activities we will accomplish in 2012. The tasks and schedule included in this AWP were discussed and developed during our 2012 annual meeting.

Please review this draft AWP and provide any suggestion you may have prior to April 25. If you agree with the AWP, please send me an email or letter accepting the AWP. I'll be glad to discuss this project with you and answer any questions you may have.

Thanks!

David Armes | Avista Utilities  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist  
Spokane River Licensing Branch  
1411 E. Mission Ave MSC-1 | Spokane, WA 99202  
office: (509) 495-2796 | cell: (509) 999-4475  
[david.ames@avistacorp.com](mailto:david.ames@avistacorp.com)  
 Before printing, please think about the environment.

Avista did not receive any comments from Idaho Department of Environmental Quality.

**2013**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT PLAN**  
Updated March 2013

**Spokane River Project, FERC No. 2545**  
**Post Falls Hydroelectric Development**  
**FERC License Appendix A**

**Title:** Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project

**Introduction and Background:** On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license (license) for the Spokane River Project that includes the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (HED) (FERC 2009). Ordering paragraph D of the license incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as Appendix A (IDEQ 2008). Section IV. 2. of the IDEQ Certification Condition states that Avista shall consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and IDEQ annually to implement the measures of the FERC approved *Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010 to 2014* (Plan) (Avista 2010). This Annual Work Plan (AWP) has been developed in consultation with IDEQ and IDFG to meet the requirements of the five-year plan for measures to implement in 2011.

**Priority:** This project was ranked as high priority by the IDEQ, IDFG and Avista through the criteria described in Appendix E of the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan. This project is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Post Falls HED and qualifies for perpetual protection. Multiple partners will cooperate in the implementation of the restoration effort and the long-term management of the project.

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore/create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St Joe River in Idaho. Specific goals for the project include:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG properties. The restoration plan will include specific actions, schedules, drawings and intended results of the wetland complex.
- Place both IDFG and Avista property under perpetual, long-term protection.
- Re-establish native vegetation communities on the site.

**Project Area and Ownership:** The project consists of a combined total of approximately 124 acres of IDFG property and Avista property along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Collectively, the IDFG and Avista parcels represent 1 ½ miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River directly adjacent and hydraulically connected to the Post Falls Project boundary. IDFG owns 62 acres in fee title approximately ¾ mile in length, encompassing the entire property located between Forest Highway 50 and the St. Joe River.

Avista owns approximately 62 acres in fee title between the St. Joe River and Forest Highway 50 directly adjacent and upstream of the IDFG parcel. Avista's property includes approximately ¾ of a mile of St. Joe River frontage and associated riparian area. During the 1990's the Federal Highway Administration funded a wetland mitigation project on the site for impacts associated with work completed on Forest Highway 50. The 1990's mitigation project will be greatly enhanced by the efforts associated with this project, given the wetland complex will be approximately twice as large, restores drainage ditches and the mouth of Meisen Creek. The upriver portion of Avista's property has been deeded to the United States Forest Service (USFS) for the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Avista will work with the USFS to incorporate the campground operation, as appropriate, into the planning process for this project.

**Previous Tasks Completed:** This AWP is the continuation of the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project approved in 2010. In 2011 Avista contracted with Ducks Unlimited (DU) to complete a Conceptual Restoration and Design and Alternatives Report. Alternative 1, selected by the Partners, is described in the report and includes two phases. The vegetation control portion of Phase I was initiated in 2011 and will be continued in 2012.

In 2012 construction was initiated on both Phase I and Phase II portions of the project. Specific tasks included obtaining appropriate permits, agency site visits, breeching the existing dike to drain the Phase I portion, completing Phase I final design, the contractor selection process, construction management and staking, vegetation control activities (mowing and spraying), Phase I earthwork and installation of the water control structure and rock overflow channel, and Phase II earthwork (initiated in 2012 and continued in 2013, utilizing separate funding).

#### **Specific 2013 Annual Work Plan Tasks:**

##### **Task 1. Final Grading Phase I**

Final grading of approximately 8 acres on Phase I. This would be completed under the existing contract with Soggy Bottoms Inc. This work would be completed in April/May of 2013.

##### **Task 2. Final Grading Phase II**

Final grading of approximately 11 acres on Phase II. This could be completed as a change order with Soggy Bottoms Inc. or by Ducks Unlimited with an ATV and drag harrow. This will be determined during a site visit prior to implementation. This work would be completed in April/May of 2013.

##### **~~Task 3. Re-seeding Phases I and II~~**

~~Re-seeding of approximately 20 acres with a sterile triticale seed mix. This could be completed by Ducks unlimited. This work would be completed in April/May of 2013.~~

##### **Task 4. Vegetation Control Work Phases I and II**

This task would include the control of reed canarygrass for both Phase I and Phase II and could include application of herbicide to both phases following the green-up in the spring of 2013. This could be followed up by rototilling of the sprayed reed canarygrass sod in the summer of 2013.

#### **Task 5. Phase I Re-vegetation**

The Phase I Re-vegetation would be completed as identified in the final Phase I Planting Plan and as budgeted in the Final Report Document, Table 2, Alternative 1, Phase 1 Estimated Costs (may need to be updated to reflect 2013 costs). This work would be completed in the summer/fall of 2013.

#### **Task 6. Phase II Re-vegetation**

To be completed according to the Final Phase II Planting Plan. This work would be completed in the summer/fall of 2013.

#### **Task 7. Phase II(b) Miesen Creek Alternatives/Final Design**

This task would include an evaluation of the existing hydrology. Based upon the outcome of this evaluation, a final design for the Miesen Creek re-alignment could be completed. It should be noted that due to the current hydrology onsite, additional options may be evaluated for Miesen Creek that could include a “do nothing” alternative or minor improvements within or in the immediate vicinity of the existing channel. This would be determined by the group after evaluation of the existing hydrology. (Note: Phase II is currently inundated over a large portion of the site; re-alignment of the creek could drain the site faster, or result in a creek channel that is inundated most or all of the year).

#### **Budget**

The funding for the Plan was initiated in 2009 and is outlined through 2013 in the table below.

**Table 1. 2009-2014 Available Funding**

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>
Carryover Dollars	\$ -	\$ 75,688	\$ 136,506	\$ 169,434	\$ 39,553
Funding Obligation	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
GDP	0.92%	0.56%	1.18%	2.41%	0.00%
GDP Amount	\$ 688	\$ 420	\$ 885	\$ 1,808	\$ -
Total Funding Obligation	\$ 75,688	\$ 151,108	\$ 212,391	\$ 246,242	\$ 114,553
Expenditures	\$ -	\$ 14,602	\$ 42,957	\$ 206,689	\$ -
Ducks Unlimited		\$ 14,602	\$ 42,898	\$ 48,521	
IKON Office Solutions			\$ 16		
Ned Horner			\$ 43	\$ 3,846	
Primeland				\$ 1,543	
Plateau				\$ 6,380	
				\$ 154	
Soggy Bottom				\$ 146,246	
<b>Carryover Dollars</b>	<b>\$ 75,688</b>	<b>\$ 136,506</b>	<b>\$ 169,434</b>	<b>\$ 39,553</b>	<b>\$ 114,553</b>

**Table 2. 2012 Proposed Budget (Estimated Costs)**

<b>2013 PROJECTIONS (AWP Tasks)</b>	
<b>Task</b>	<b>2013</b>
Task 1. Final Grading Phase I	\$ 5,000.00
Task 2. Final Grading Phase II	\$ 5,000.00
<del>Task 3. Re-seeding Phases I and II</del>	<del>\$ 4,000.00</del>
Task 4. Vegetation Control Work Phases I and II	\$ 12,000.00
Task 5. Phase I Re-vegetation	\$ 51,000.00
Task 6. Phase II Re-vegetation	\$ 38,772.00
Task 7. Phase II(b) Miesen Creek Alternatives/Final Design	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1151,772.00</b>

## References:

Avista. 2010. Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan 2010 to 2014. Draft in process. Avista Corporation. Spokane, WA.

FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges for use of Reservation lands. Project Nos. 2545-091. US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. DC

IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Idaho.



## **Annual Consultation: Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project**

### **IDFG Consultation:**

**From:** Armes, David  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 4:22 PM  
**To:** 'Teare,Jim'  
**Cc:** 'Benker,Miles'  
**Attachments:** AWP 2013 Shadowy St Joe updated AUG2012.docx

Hi JJ,

Attached for your review is the 2013 Wetland Annual Work Plan. Please provide any comments you may have prior to April 26, 2013.

Thanks!

**David Armes** | Avista Utilities  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist  
Spokane River License Branch  
1411 E. Mission Ave MSC-1 | Spokane, WA 99202  
office: (509) 495-2796 | cell: (208) 651-4536  
[david.ames@avistacorp.com](mailto:david.ames@avistacorp.com)  
 Before printing, please think about the environment.

No comments received.

**IDEQ Consultation:**

**From:** Armes, David  
**Sent:** Friday, March 29, 2013 4:21 PM  
**To:** 'Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov'  
**Subject:** 2013 Wetland Annual Work Plan  
**Attachments:** AWP 2013 Shadowy St Joe updated AUG2012.docx

Hi Bob,

Attached for your review is the 2013 Wetland Annual Work Plan. Please provide any comments you may have prior to April 26, 2013.

Thanks!

**David Armes** | Avista Utilities  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist  
Spokane River License Branch  
1411 E. Mission Ave MSC-1 | Spokane, WA 99202  
office: (509) 495-2796 | cell: (208) 651-4536  
[david.ames@avistacorp.com](mailto:david.ames@avistacorp.com)

 Before printing, please think about the environment.

No comments received.

**2014**  
**ANNUAL WORK PLAN**  
**WETLAND AND RIPARIAN HABITAT PROTECTION & ENHANCEMENT PLAN**

**Spokane River Project, FERC No. 2545**  
**Post Falls Hydroelectric Development**  
**FERC License Appendix A**

**Title: Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project; and  
Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation**

**Introduction and Background:** On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license (license) for the Spokane River Project that includes the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development (HED) (FERC 2009). Ordering paragraph D of the license incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Certification Conditions under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act as Appendix A (IDEQ 2008). Section IV. 2 of the IDEQ Certification Condition states that Avista shall consult with Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and IDEQ annually to implement the measures of the FERC approved *Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010 to 2014* (Plan) (Avista 2010). This Annual Work Plan (AWP) has been developed in consultation with IDEQ and IDFG to meet the requirements of the five-year plan for measures to implement in 2014.

**Priority:** This project was ranked as high priority by the IDEQ, IDFG and Avista through the criteria described in Appendix E of the Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan. This project is directly adjacent and ecologically connected to the Post Falls HED and qualifies for perpetual protection. Multiple partners will cooperate in the implementation of the restoration effort and the long-term management of the project.

**Project Description:** The purpose of this project is to restore/create a self-sustaining wetland complex along the St Joe River in Idaho. Specific goals for the project include:

- Develop a detailed restoration plan for the combined Avista and IDFG properties. The restoration plan will include specific actions, schedules, drawings and intended results of the wetland complex.
- Manage both the IDFG and Avista properties as long term wetland properties.
- Remove and control invasive species on the site.
- Re-establish native vegetation communities on the site.

**Project Area and Ownership:** The project consists of a combined total of approximately 124 acres of IDFG property and Avista property along the St. Joe River in Section 13, T46N R1W, about 10 miles upriver of the town of St. Maries near the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Collectively, the IDFG and Avista parcels represent 1 ½ miles of riverfront along the St. Joe River directly adjacent and hydraulically connected to the Post Falls Project boundary. IDFG owns 62 acres in fee title

approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile in length, encompassing the entire property located between Forest Highway 50 and the St. Joe River.

Avista owns approximately 62 acres in fee title between the St. Joe River and Forest Highway 50 directly adjacent and upstream of the IDFG parcel. Avista's property includes approximately  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile of St. Joe River frontage and associated riparian area. During the 1990's the Federal Highway Administration funded a wetland mitigation project on the site for impacts associated with work completed on Forest Highway 50. The 1990's mitigation project will be greatly enhanced by the efforts associated with this project, given the wetland complex will be approximately twice as large, restores drainage ditches and the mouth of Meisen Creek. The upriver portion of Avista's property has been deeded to the United States Forest Service (USFS) for the Shadowy St. Joe Campground. Avista will work with the USFS to incorporate the campground operation, as appropriate, into the planning process for this project.

**Previous Tasks Completed:** This AWP is the continuation of the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project approved in 2010. In 2011 Avista contracted with Ducks Unlimited (DU) to complete a Conceptual Restoration and Design and Alternatives Report. Alternative 1 was selected and is described in the report and includes two phases. The vegetation control portion of Phase I was initiated in 2011 and will be continued in 2012.

In 2012 construction was initiated on both Phase I and Phase II portions of the project. Specific tasks included obtaining appropriate permits, agency site visits, breeching the existing dike to drain the Phase I portion, completing Phase I final design, the contractor selection process, construction management and staking, vegetation control activities (mowing and spraying), Phase I earthwork and installation of the water control structure and rock overflow channel, and Phase II earthwork (initiated in 2012 and continued in 2013, utilizing separate funding provided by IDFG).

In 2013 Avista and IDFG completed final grading, vegetation control work and re-vegetation on Phases I and II. The final grading was completing on approximately 8 acres on Phase I and 11 acres on Phase II. Vegetation control work included the control of reed canarygrass on both Phase I and Phase II and included herbicide applications, mowing and disking. Re-vegetation included the re-seeding of 8 acres of Phase I with both wetland and upland seed mixes, and re-seeding of 11 acres of Phase II with an oat food plot cover crop followed by a seeding with an upland seed mix. Initial planting of approximately 3,987 trees and shrubs was completed on the Phase I portion, which includes the Avista property and a small portion of IDFG property. Additionally, IDFG planted approximately 500 trees and shrubs and 800 sedge (*Carex* sp.) and rush (*Juncus* sp.) seedlings around the four ponds on Phase II.

### **Specific 2014 Annual Work Plan Tasks:**

#### **Task 1 Herbicide Treatments**

IDFG will complete herbicide treatments of reed canarygrass and other non-desirable plants for both Phase I and Phase II. Spot spraying, weed wiping or full spraying will be utilized as determined by IDFG. Multiple applications may be needed in some locations.

## **Task 2 Evaluate 2013 Plantings**

IDFG and Avista will evaluate the tree and shrub plantings as well as the areas that were re-seeded in 2013.

## **Task 3 Discing Portions of Phase II**

Portions of Phase II will be disced and prepared for fall seeding. Following the discing, additional herbicide application may be required should new reed canarygrass grow in the disced areas. Herbicide applications are described under Task 1.

## **Task 4 Re-Seeding**

Re-seeding will occur with the wet meadow seed mix on portions of Phase II. All acreage chemically treated for reed canarygrass control will be re-seeded. This is estimated to be 20 to 25 acres.

## **Task 5 Project Evaluation**

As needed, Avista and IDFG will partner with Ducks Unlimited to evaluate future potential wetland restoration projects.

## **Table 1. 2009-2014 Available Funding**

The funding for the Plan was initiated in 2009 and is outlined through 2014 in the table below.

	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>
Carryover Dollars	\$ -	\$ 75,688	\$ 136,506	\$ 169,434	\$ 39,553	\$ 86,435
Funding Obligation	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000	\$ 75,000
GDP	0.92%	0.56%	1.18%	2.41%	1.68%	0.00%
GDP Amount	\$ 688	\$ 420	\$ 885	\$ 1,808	\$ 1,260	\$ -
Total Funding Obligation	\$ 75,688	\$ 151,108	\$ 212,391	\$ 246,242	\$ 115,813	\$ 161,435
Expenditures	\$ -	\$ 14,602	\$ 42,957	\$ 206,689	\$ 29,378	\$ 72,016
Ducks Unlimited		\$ 14,602	\$ 23,548			
IKON Office Solutions			\$ 16			
Ned Horner			\$ 43			
Ned Horner				\$ 3,846		
Primeland				\$ 1,543		
Plateau				\$ 6,380	\$ 10,021	
Misc.				\$ 154		
Soggy Bottom				\$ 146,246	\$ 7,892	
Ducks Unlimited			\$ 19,351	\$ 48,521	\$ 11,466	\$ 72,016
<b>Carryover Dollars</b>	<b>\$ 75,688</b>	<b>\$ 136,506</b>	<b>\$ 169,434</b>	<b>\$ 39,553</b>	<b>\$ 86,435</b>	<b>\$ 89,419</b>

**Table 2. 2014 Proposed Budget (Estimated Costs)**

<b>2014 Annual Work Plan Tasks</b>	
<b>Task 1 Herbicide Treatments</b>	<b>\$ 6,000.00</b>
<b>Task 2 Evaluate 2013 Plantings</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Task 3 Discing Portions of Phase II</b>	<b>\$ 3,000.00</b>
<b>Task 4 Re-Seeding</b>	<b>\$ -</b>
<b>Task 5 Project Evaluation</b>	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$19,000.00</b>

**References:**

Avista. 2010. Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan 2010 to 2014. Draft in process. Avista Corporation. Spokane, WA.

FERC. 2009. Order Issuing New License and Approving Annual Charges for use of Reservation lands. Project Nos. 2545-091. US Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. DC

IDEQ. 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Certification Under Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act. Issued June 5, 2008. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. Idaho.

## Annual Consultation

**From:** [Robert.Steed@deg.idaho.gov](mailto:Robert.Steed@deg.idaho.gov)  
**To:** [Armes, David](#)  
**Cc:** [Jamie.Brunner@deg.idaho.gov](mailto:Jamie.Brunner@deg.idaho.gov); [Thomas.Herron@deg.idaho.gov](mailto:Thomas.Herron@deg.idaho.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation  
**Date:** Monday, May 12, 2014 12:01:18 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

David; The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality concurs with Idaho Fish and Game and approves the Avista's 2014 Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation.

Thank you,

Bob-

Robert Steed  
Surface Water Ecologist  
Coeur d'Alene Regional Office  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
2110 Ironwood Parkway  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814  
Voice (208) 769-1422 Fax (208) 769-1404  
email [robert.steed@deg.idaho.gov](mailto:robert.steed@deg.idaho.gov)

---

The information contained in this email may be privileged, confidential or otherwise protected from disclosure. All persons are advised that they may face penalties under state and federal law for sharing this information with unauthorized individuals. If you received this email in error, please reply to the sender that you have received this information in error. Also, please delete this email after replying to the sender.

---

**From:** Armes, David [<mailto:David.Armes@avistacorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 3:46 PM  
**To:** Robert Steed  
**Subject:** FW: Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation

Hi Bob, IDFG has approved the AWP. Thanks.

---

**From:** Benker, Miles [<mailto:miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 3:22 PM  
**To:** Armes, David  
**Cc:** Teare, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation

Hello David,

The Department has reviewed and approves the Avista's 2014 Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation.

Thank you,

Miles Benker  
Regional Wildlife Biologist  
Idaho Fish and Game



*Five-Year Post Falls Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection & Enhancement Plan, 2010-2014*  
*Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project*  
*Revised April 2014*

2885 W. Kathleen Ave.  
Coeur d' Alene, ID. 83815  
Office (208) 769-1414  
Cell (208) 790-3181  
[miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov)

---

**From:** Armes, David [<mailto:David.Armes@avistacorp.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2014 11:44 AM

**To:** Teare,Jim; Benker,Miles

**Subject:** Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation

JJ and Miles,

Attached for your approval is the 2014 Annual Work Plan. The Annual Work Plan is required to be approved for implementation by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. Please provide any comments or approval prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks!

**David Armes**

Terrestrial Resource Specialist



PO Box 3727 MSC-1  
Spokane, WA 99220  
1411 E Mission MSC-1  
Phone 509.495.2796  
Cell 208.651.4536  
F 509.495.8469  
<http://www.avistautilities.com>



**From:** [Teare, Jim](#)  
**To:** [Benker, Miles](#); [Armes, David](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 4:37:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

My approval as well. Thanks, David.

JJ

**Jim (JJ) Teare**

Idaho Fish and Game  
Panhandle Regional Habitat Manager  
2885 W. Kathleen Ave  
Coeur d' Alene, ID 83815  
office: (208) 769-1414  
Cell: (208) 221-0147  
<http://fishandgame.idaho.gov/>

**Think Habitat!**

---

**From:** Benker, Miles  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 22, 2014 3:22 PM  
**To:** 'Armes, David'  
**Cc:** Teare, Jim  
**Subject:** RE: Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation

Hello David,  
The Department has reviewed and approves the Avista's 2014 Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation.  
Thank you,

Miles Benker  
Regional Wildlife Biologist  
Idaho Fish and Game  
2885 W. Kathleen Ave.  
Coeur d' Alene, ID. 83815  
Office (208) 769-1414  
Cell (208) 790-3181  
[miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:miles.benker@idfg.idaho.gov)

---

**From:** Armes, David [<mailto:David.Armes@avistacorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Monday, April 21, 2014 11:44 AM

**To:** Teare,Jim; Benker,Miles

**Subject:** Annual Work Plan for the Shadowy St. Joe Wetland and Riparian Restoration Project and Protection and Enhancement Project Evaluation

JJ and Miles,

Attached for your approval is the 2014 Annual Work Plan. The Annual Work Plan is required to be approved for implementation by April 30<sup>th</sup> of each year. Please provide any comments or approval prior to April 30<sup>th</sup>.

Thanks!

**David Armes**

Terrestrial Resource Specialist



PO Box 3727 MSC-1  
Spokane, WA 99220  
1411 E Mission MSC-1  
Phone 509.495.2796  
Cell 208.651.4536  
F 509.495.8469  
<http://www.avistautilities.com>



**APPENDIX B**  
**Photographs**

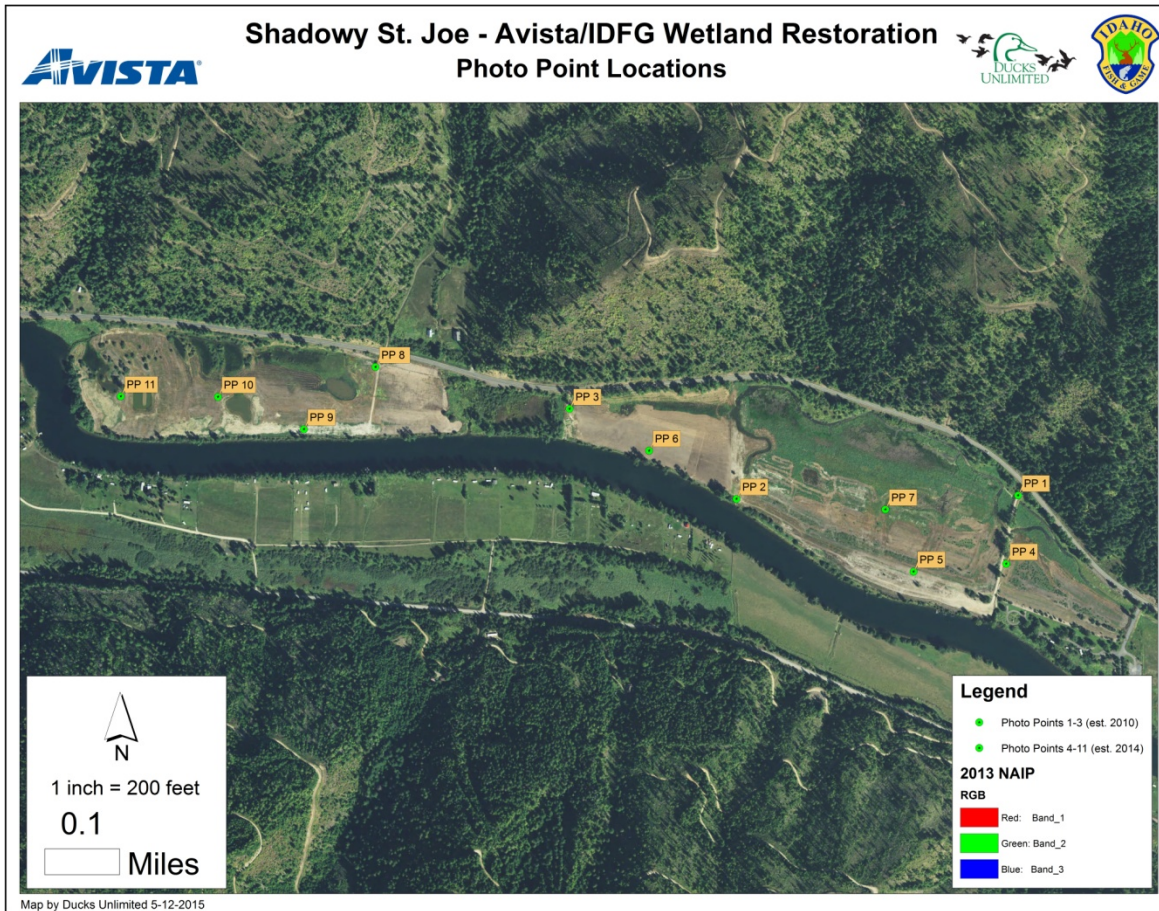


Photo point locations at the project site. Photo points 1-3 were established in 2010, the remainder in 2014. Photos were taken several times in 2014 at all photo points to document the restoration features during different times of the year to illustrate water levels, vegetative growth, and wildlife use at the site.

Photos: Photo credits to Ducks Unlimited unless otherwise stated.



Photo 1. 8-29-2011. Before restoration. Note the yellow tansy (left, noxious weed) and the 7-8 ft tall reed canarygrass.



Photo 2. 8-29-2011. Before restoration. Lower part of Avista property, sedge community.





Photo 3. 8-29-2011. Before restoration. Photo point 2, looking northerly at the large levee and ditch features.



Photo 4. 8-29-2011. Before restoration. Photo Point 3, looking easterly into the IDFG property with the large levee visible as a line crossing the site in the distance.



Photo 5. December 12, 2012. During construction. Long-reach excavator excavating one of the depressions on the Avista property.



Photo 6. December 12, 2012. During construction. Swale created before removal of the large levee and ditch.



Photo 7. December 12, 2012. During construction. Dump truck moving earth from the excavations to the upland areas. Spoils were graded and seeded the following year, and planted with trees and shrubs.



Photo 8. December 12, 2012. During construction. Levee and ditch features still remain. They were the last to be removed, so that a water control structure could be installed.





Photo 9. April 11, 2013. First spring after construction. Site is flooded as planned. Photo point 1 is at the entrance to the Avista property. View southwesterly.



Photo 10. April 11, 2013. Near Photo Point 2, looking northward where levee and ditch used to be. The black grate is part of the water control structure that drains the water to the St. Joe River when opened. Compare to photos 3 and 8.



Photo 11. April 11, 2013. From Photo Point 3, looking easterly. IDFG portion of the property adjacent to the Avista portion is flooded as expected. This is the target maximum water elevation at this location. The levee that used to cross the property has been removed. Compare to photo 4.



Photo 12. April 11, 2013. Outlet of the easterly Avista/IDFG property to the St. Joe River. Constructed rock spillway diverts water to the St. Joe river when it rises above a certain elevation at this location. On this date, water was at the planned maximum water surface elevation (Photo 11) and was overflowing to the river as designed.



Photo 13. October 17, 2013. Properties have been treated for reed canarygrass, disked and prepped for seeding. Seeding of the upland grass mix on the log landing of the Avista property is ongoing in this photo.



Photo 14. October 17, 2013. From Photo point 2, looking north westerly into the IDFG property. Site is dry, prepped and ready to be seeded.





Photo 15. October 17, 2013. Water control structure (foreground) and beaver decoy (cage and pipe in distance) during a drier time of the year when structure can be easily seen. Same one as viewed in the Photo Point 2 picture. Excavations and lower areas of the fields still hold water.



Photo 16. October 22, 2013. Plant materials ready to be installed at the site. Trees and shrubs.



Photo 17. October 22, 2013. Plant materials ready to be installed at the site. Live poles: willows and dogwood.



Photo 18. October 22, 2013. Plant materials ready to be installed at the site. More trees and shrubs.



Photo 19. October 29, 2013. Plantings complete. Western red cedars were caged for protection against browsers.



Photo 20. October 29, 2013. Cluster of live poles installed in the wet meadow area.





Photo 21. October 29, 2013. Cluster of trees and shrubs installed in a riparian area.



Photo 22. October 29, 2013. Closeup of a cluster of trees and shrubs installed in a riparian area.



Photo 23. Photo point 1. September 16, 2014. A diversity of wetland vegetation now exists in the lower areas of the Avista property.



Photo 24. At Photo point 7. September 16, 2014. At the edge of an excavation on the Avista property. A diversity of wetland vegetation dominates the inundated areas.



Photo 25. From Photo point 2, on September 16, 2014. Looking towards where the levee-ditch used to be. IDFG property (left), and Avista property (right side of photo).



Photo 26. Photo point 3. September 16, 2014. This area responded well to the removal of reed canarygrass and the restored hydrology. Native seed bank flourished and a variety of native wetland vegetation now dominates.





Photo 27. Photo Point 8. September 16, 2014. At entrance to IDFG property downstream of Miesen Creek. Looking into one of four excavations. Reed canarygrass persists in patches, but many species of wetland plants are now established from the seed bank.



Photo 28. Photo Point 9. September 16, 2014. Looking westerly along the upland portion of the IDFG property. Seeded species are coming up along this area (rows).



Photo 29. Photo Point 11, looking easterly. Far westerly end of the IDFG portion of the property, downstream of Miesen Creek. Showing one of the excavations, and plantings along wetland edge.



Photo 30. Avista Portion, Photo Point 1, entrance to property. December 5, 2014. In winter, the excavations and waterways are more apparent.



Photo 31. Many Canada geese were observed using the Avista property in March, 2014. Swans were also reported using the property during spring migration.



Photo 32. Mallards and other dabbling ducks using the Avista property in March, 2014. Spring migration is an energetically demanding time for waterfowl, and restored habitats such as these provide much needed stop-over sites for resting and feeding. Some birds remain to breed, as evidenced by the juvenile birds seen in the summer (see photos above).





Photo 33. May 6, 2014. Camas on the Avista property, near the log landing. This area was seeded the previous fall, but that had not sprouted much at the time of this photo. All of the camas in this picture was underneath the canarygrass before restoration.



Photo 34. May 6, 2014. Camas on the Avista property, near the campground. Camas was recruiting from bulbs as well as sprouting from seed. It is unknown whether it will persist over the long term, but it was an impressive response by the plant from released competitive pressures.



Photo 35. Wetland associated birds had nested in the restored wetland habitat in 2014, as evidenced by juveniles present in the summer. Juvenile Sora rail.



Photo 36. This juvenile hooded merganser was seen in the summer of 2014 in the wetlands, along with juveniles of other duck species and other wetland-associated birds.



Photo 37. June 27, 2014 Spotted sandpiper nest in the upland grasses. During the site visit this day, 5 "territories" of sandpipers were apparent, as evidenced by birds flushing, then making alarm calls and displays. One pair was seen with chicks, and one nest was found on this day.



Photo 38. September 16, 2014. Many species of mammals benefit from wetland and riparian restoration. Deer were observed frequently, muskrat and beaver were present, and evidence of many other species was seen throughout site visits. This beaver was seen at the far western end of the western IDFG property, in the last excavation at the downstream end.

**APPENDIX C**  
**Consultation Record**



## Avista's Letter to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality



August 4, 2015

Mr. Thomas Herron  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
2110 Ironwood Parkway  
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

**Subject: Spokane River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2545  
2015 To 2019 Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan  
Plan and 2010 To 2014 Summary Report, as Required by the Spokane River License,  
Appendix A, Section IV**

Dear Mr. Herron:

On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license for the Spokane River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2545 (License). Ordering Paragraph D of the License incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Idaho WQC) for the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development. The conditions of the Idaho WQC can be found in Appendix A of the License.

Section IV of the Idaho WQC required Avista to complete the *2010 To 2014 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan* (Plan) which was approved by FERC on October 5, 2010. Avista is also required to prepare the *2010 To 2014 Plan Summary Report* (Report) which summarizes the work accomplished under the Plan and to provide copies of it to IDEQ, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). As such, we have enclosed a copy of the Report.

Additionally and in accordance with FERC's Order, Avista is required to submit a new five year Plan to IDEQ, IDFG and FWS for review and comment, and following IDEQ's approval of the new five year Plan, Avista will file it with FERC by October 5, 2015.

Avista has enclosed the *2015 To 2019 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan* and Report for your review and comment. Please provide your comments and recommendations on the Plan and Report, if you have any, by **September 4, 2015**. Following consultation, we are required to submit an IDEQ approved plan to FERC for final approval by October 5, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding the Report or Plan, please feel free to call me at (509) 495-2796.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "David A. Armes", is written over a blue circular stamp.

David A. Armes  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist

Enclosures (2)

c: Dave Leptich, IDFG  
Bryon Holt, USFWS

## Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Comments

**From:** [Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov)  
**To:** [Armes, David](#)  
**Cc:** [Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov)  
**Subject:** RE: Idaho Wetland Plan and Wetland Plan Summary Report  
**Date:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 2:22:10 PM  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)

---

Hi David,

I don't have any concerns. I do have a couple of tiny edits, though:

2015-19 plan

- Page 6, bullet 6, I think you mean *restore*, rather than *restoration*, but I may be reading it wrong.
- Page 9, last line under Coeur d'Alene River Basin, should there be an *are* or *may be* in there?

2010-14 summary

- Page 6, there's an extra *r* in canary grass at the end of "2011 tasks" (and I think they are two words)

I know you were looking for substantial comments, but I thought I'd share anyway. Take em or leave em. Otherwise, nice work!

Thanks,

Jamie

---

**From:** Thomas Herron  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 03, 2015 8:53 AM  
**To:** Armes, David  
**Cc:** Jamie Brunner  
**Subject:** RE: Idaho Wetland Plan and Wetland Plan Summary Report

David,

I've looked over the Plan and Report and they both look good to me. Jamie has also been looking at them and I haven't heard any concerns from her. I appreciate the breakdown of funding from 2009 through 2014 in each of the compiled reports in the Report. The Plan looks like it provides all the flexibility and latitude that we would need in the future. The projects that we have been talking about seem like they could fit. To that end I see a meeting scheduled at 5:00 to 5:30 on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup>? Is that still on? Which Pub? I'm happy to get together and talk about it if there is a meeting scheduled after hours on the Friday of a Long Weekend!  
Thanks for copying the documents to me.

Thomas Herron  
Regional Water Quality Program Manager  
Coeur d'Alene Regional Office  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
208-666-4631

---

**From:** Armes, David [<mailto:David.Armes@avistacorp.com>]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 04, 2015 2:30 PM



**To:** Thomas Herron

**Subject:** Idaho Wetland Plan and Wetland Plan Summary Report

Tom,

Attached are the *2015 To 2019 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan* (Plan) and *2010 To 2014 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Summary Report* (Report) for your review and comment. Please provide your comments and recommendations on the Plan and Report, if you have any, by **September 4, 2015**. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks!

**David Armes**

Terrestrial Resource Specialist



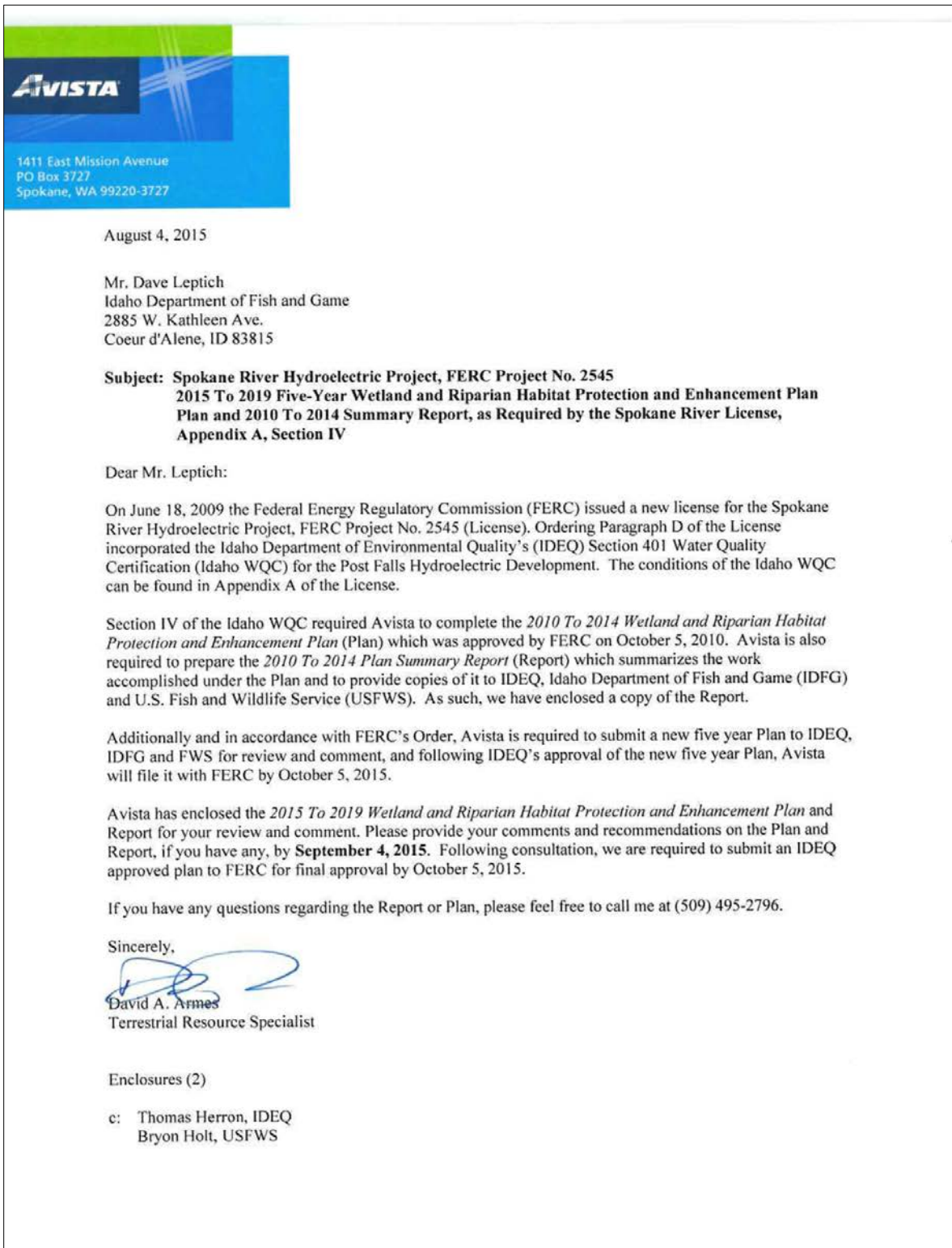
PO Box 3727 MSC-1  
Spokane, WA 99220  
1411 E Mission MSC-1  
Phone 509.495.2796  
Cell 208.651.4536  
F 509.495.8469  
<http://www.avistautilities.com>



### **Avista's Response to the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's Comments**

Avista has addressed all of IDEQ's comments by making the recommended changes.

## Avista's Letter to Idaho Department of Fish and Game



Avista did not receive any comments from IDFG on the Summary.

## Avista's Letter to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service



August 4, 2015

Mr. Bryon Holt  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
11103 E. Montgomery Drive  
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

**Subject: Spokane River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2545  
2015 To 2019 Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan  
Plan and 2010 To 2014 Summary Report, as Required by the Spokane River License,  
Appendix A, Section IV**

Dear Mr. Holt:

On June 18, 2009 the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a new license for the Spokane River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 2545 (License). Ordering Paragraph D of the License incorporated the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's (IDEQ) Section 401 Water Quality Certification (Idaho WQC) for the Post Falls Hydroelectric Development. The conditions of the Idaho WQC can be found in Appendix A of the License.

Section IV of the Idaho WQC required Avista to complete the *2010 To 2014 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan* (Plan) which was approved by FERC on October 5, 2010. Avista is also required to prepare the *2010 To 2014 Plan Summary Report* (Report) which summarizes the work accomplished under the Plan and to provide copies of it to IDEQ, Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). As such, we have enclosed a copy of the Report.

Additionally and in accordance with FERC's Order, Avista is required to submit a new five year Plan to IDEQ, IDFG and FWS for review and comment, and following IDEQ's approval of the new five year Plan, Avista will file it with FERC by October 5, 2015.

Avista has enclosed the *2015 To 2019 Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan* and Report for your review and comment. Please provide your comments and recommendations on the Plan and Report, if you have any, by **September 4, 2015**. Following consultation, we are required to submit an IDEQ approved plan to FERC for final approval by October 5, 2015.

If you have any questions regarding the Report or Plan, please feel free to call me at (509) 495-2796.

Sincerely,

  
David A. Armes  
Terrestrial Resource Specialist

Enclosures (2)

c: Thomas Herron, IDEQ  
Dave Leptich, IDFG

Avista did not receive any comments from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

## Final IDEQ's Approval of the 2010-2014 Summary Report

### Avista's E-mail to Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

**From:** Armes, David  
**To:** ["Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov"](mailto:Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov); [Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov)  
**Subject:** Idaho Wetland Plan for IDEQ Approval  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 22, 2015 2:22:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [2015 Five-Year Wetland Summary 9-15.pdf](#)  
[Idaho Wetland Plan 2015 to 2019 Five Year Update 9-2015.pdf](#)

---

Tom/Jamie

Attached for your approval are the revised 2015 to 2019 Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan and the 2010-2014 Summary Report. The Plan and Summary Report incorporate the comments provided by both IDFG and IDEQ. We are requesting your approval prior to September 29, 2015 so we can file the IDEQ approved plans with FERC prior to October 5, 2015.

Thanks,  
David

### Idaho Department of Environmental Quality's E-mail to Avista

**From:** [Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Robert.Steed@deq.idaho.gov)  
**To:** [Armes, David](mailto:Armes, David)  
**Cc:** [Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Jamie.Brunner@deq.idaho.gov); [Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Thomas.Herron@deq.idaho.gov)  
**Subject:** Idaho Wetland Plan for IDEQ Approval  
**Date:** Friday, September 25, 2015 2:25:45 PM

---

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality has reviewed the revised 2015 to 2019 Five-Year Wetland and Riparian Habitat Protection and Enhancement Plan and the 2010-2014 Summary Report provided to us via E-mail on September 22, 2015. IDEQ approves both the Plan and the Summary Report. Please file approved Plan and the Summary Report with FERC.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me at address below.

Robert Steed

Surface Water Ecologist  
Idaho Department of Environmental Quality  
Coeur d'Alene Regional Office  
2110 Ironwood Parkway, CDA ID 83814  
(208) 769-1422  
[Robert.steed@deq.idaho.gov](mailto:Robert.steed@deq.idaho.gov)