[](http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/goshrp2/GetInvolved/ImplementationAssistance/)**Eco-Logical Lead Adopter**

**Project Summary**

1. **Project Purpose**

The goal of the Lead Adopter project is to provide consistent, credible, current, and coherent data on Idaho’s fish and wildlife for transportation planning and project development to minimize resource impacts, reduce costs, and maintain efficient schedules. This purpose will be achieved through IDFG developing and refining their Idaho fish and wildlife data and providing it in geospatially explicit data layers to be consumed by ITD’s IPLAN through GIS services and applications from IDFG’s ArcGIS Server.

1. **Project Coordination**

The Lead Adopter project will be implemented according to the structure set forth and agreed by ITD and IDFG. The project will be coordinated, supported, and integrated by IDFG with the following projects and efforts to insure all their respective successes and the goals of the Lead Adopter project.

* Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG )
  + Conservation Data Center (CDC) information
  + State Wildlife Action Plan (SWAP) revision
  + Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN)
  + Species of Economic and Recreational Importance (SERI)
  + State Wildlife Grant TRACS project
  + Idaho Fish and Wildlife Information System (IFWIS)
  + EPA funded “Building “Idaho’s Wetlands” project
  + Western Governors’ Association Crucial Habitat Assessment Tool (CHAT)
* Idaho Transportation Department (ITD)
  + IPLAN
  + Ecological User Incentive Grant
  + ITD funded Research Project “Methodology for Prioritizing Appropriate Mitigation to Reduce Big Game Animal-Vehicle Collisions on Idaho Highways”
* U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Endangered Species Act (ESA) information
* U.S Geological Survey GAP program

1. **Proposed Use of Funds**

Not to exceed $250,000. IDFG will be reimbursed for staff time and/or the acquisition of contract support to work as identified in Table 1. Work time and funding proportions in Table 1 are estimated and may be adjusted as the project is implemented.

1. **Deliverables**

Expected deliverables include:

1. Application Programming Interface (API) for project level viewing, development, delivering, reporting and reviewing IDFG data.

Geospatially explicit fish and wildlife data and metadata, including previously manually exported semi-annually, delivered via solution architecture to IPLAN.

1. Completed inventory of fish and wildlife species layers currently available, including the available resolution.
2. Geospatially explicit layers to support highway construction project clearances including:
   1. Idaho SGCN species and associated conservation ranks, actions, and priorities with metadata.
   2. Priority Idaho SERI species and ranks with metadata.
   3. Priority habitats and habitat condition with metadata, including fish data.
   4. Wetlands
   5. Updated project level landscape integrity and wildlife connectivity layers to enhance the work accomplish as part of the ITD research project on animal-vehicle collisions
3. ITD-IDFG GAP analysis of data needs and delivery that can be used to better how the two agencies do business.
4. “Lessons learned” from the Lead Adopter grant about data usage, maintenance and updates drafted for inclusion in the new MOU between IDFG and ITD that is part of the User Incentive grant.
5. Update the ITD “Corridor Planning Guidebook” to leverage the streamlining and changes that have been developed as a result of the Lead Adopter Grant.
6. Communication plan to perpetuate project outcomes.
7. **Timeframe**

FHWA has established an approximate timeframe of 24 months starting in May 2013. Changes and adjustments to schedule are subject to the approval of the Executive Steering Committee.

**TABLE 1. Proposed Use of Funds**

| **Priority** | **Task Description** | **Owner** | **Estimated Length/**  **Completion Date** | **Estimated Cost** | **Outcomes** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **1** | Develop solution architecture for GIS services from IDFG’s ArcGIS Server to be consumed by IPLAN and ITD contractors. | IDFG | 12 months/  December 2014 | $25,000 | * API for project level viewing, development, delivering, reporting and reviewing. * Process and schedule for programmatic system and data updates. * Data use security protocols and limits. * Continuously updated WVC database and maps. * Programmatic process, systems, and structure outline and agreement for incorporation into policy level cooperative agreement. |
| **2** | Update and prioritize geospatially explicit IDFG data on SGCN, SERI, habitats, linkage and connectivity to the project and planning scale. | IDFG | 24 months/  June 2015 | $150,000 | * Completed spreadsheets for all fish and wildlife species. * List and maps of ID SGCN species and associated conservation ranks, actions, and priorities. * List and maps of priority ID SERI species and ranks. * Priority maps and models of project level landscape integrity, wildlife connectivity, and crossings. * Spatial layers of priority habitats and habitat condition. * ITD-IDFG GAP analysis of data needs and delivery |
| **3** | Develop, vet, and apply data aggregation and prioritizations by standardized rules to ID crucial areas and prioritized fish and wildlife resources. | IDFG | 12 Months/  June 2015 | $50,000 | * Spatial layers and metadata of ID crucial habitats. * Scale defined as appropriate to data and project and planning decision making. * Rule set and definitions for standardized and statewide aggregation and prioritization of habitats. |
| **4** | Develop and implement communication plan to perpetuate project outcomes and promote ITD and IDFG stakeholder outreach and media involvement. | IDFG,ITD | 12 Months/  June 2015 | $25,000 | * Outreach and education materials * that IDFG/ITD can use to do what?Meetings and workshops * List of comments, suggestions, and input * that does what?Recommendations from stakeholder committee |