US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Walla Walla District
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CITY OF ASHTON WASTEWATER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT

ASHTON, IDAHO

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1970

ADMINISTRATIVE RECORD – DO NOT DESTROY

PROJECT FILE NUMBER: PM-EC-2018-0050

June 2018

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1 Project Description

1.1 Project Name

City of Ashton Wastewater System Improvements Project, Ashton, Idaho

1.2 References

a. ER 200-2-2 (33 CFR 230) Environmental Quality Procedures for Implementing the National Environmental Policy Act
b. 40 CFR 1500-1508 Regulations for the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act
c. Section 595 of Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999 106-53 (PL 106-53)

1.3 Project Location

The City of Ashton is located in Fremont County, Idaho (Figure 1). The proposed action area is entirely within the city limits of Ashton. The proposed project is located at Township 9 North, Range 42 East, Sections 25 and 36, Boise Meridian at approximate latitude 44.0714, and approximate longitude -111.4491.

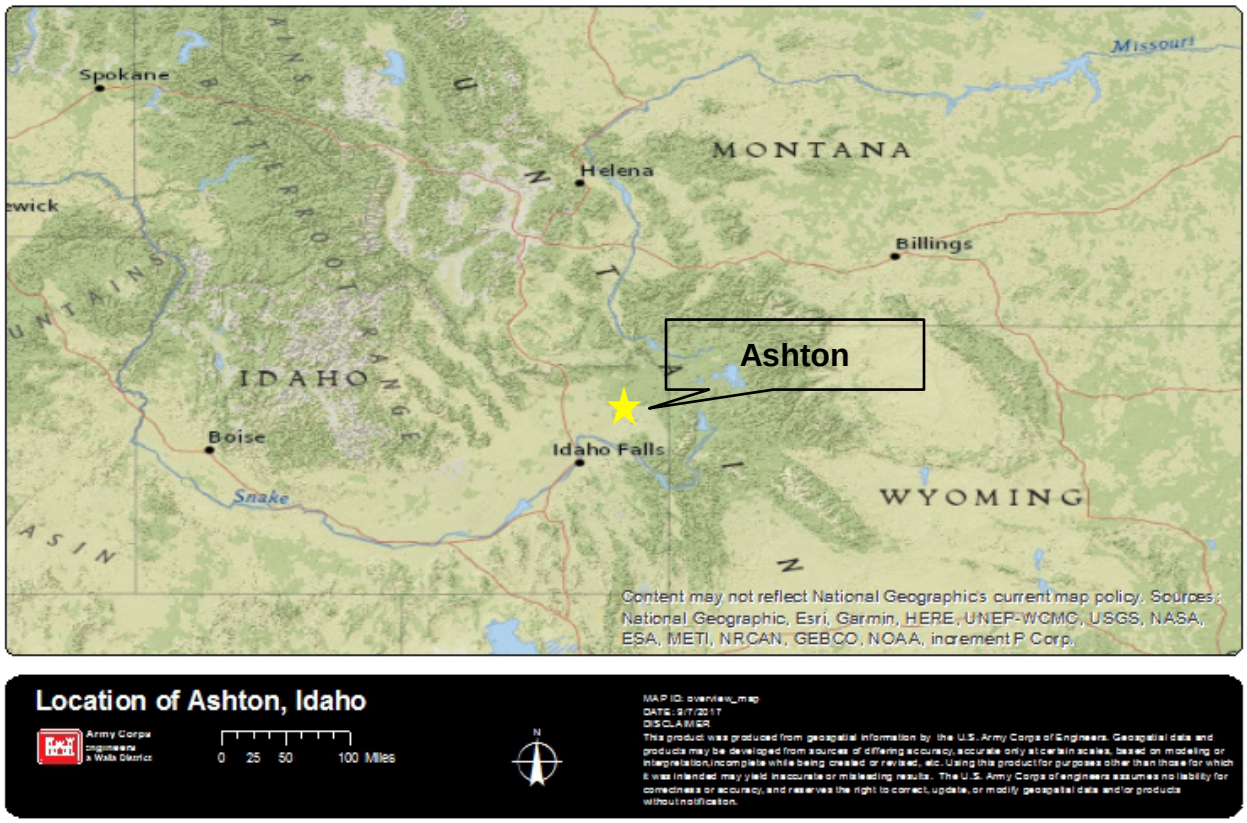

Figure 1. Location of Ashton, Idaho.

1.4 Project Description

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District (Corps) proposes to assist the city of Ashton, Idaho (City) with its Wastewater System Improvements Project under the authority of Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999. Ashton is located in eastern Idaho in the northeast corner of the Rexburg Micropolitan Statistical Area. Approximately 1,064 people reside in Ashton. The Corps is proposing to share costs with the City for replacement of 8,100 feet of wastewater collection pipe.

1.4.1 Background Information

The City of Ashton, Idaho is located on US Highway 20 and Idaho Scenic Highway 47 in the northern portion of Fremont County. It is also in the upper northeastern corner of the Snake River Plain. The Snake River Plain is noted for its abundant and high-quality groundwater resources, and the corresponding groundwater aquifer has been designated as a sole-source aquifer. The City is located at the foot of a gigantic volcanic caldera associated with the Island Park area of Idaho and the Yellowstone National Park area of Montana and Wyoming. Significant geologic activity in the recent geologic past includes extensive lava flows, which underlie the City and perch groundwater in shallow subsurface deposits.

As part of the utility infrastructure, the City owns, operates, and maintains the wastewater treatment plant (WWTP), which treats domestic sewage from local residents and commercial establishments. The City also maintains a gravity wastewater collection system, which drains west across town and then north along US Highway 20 to the lagoon treatment facility. It is the goal of the City to maintain a high-performing sustainable utility infrastructure, provide continued protection of the health of City residents and the environment, and plan for future growth. The WWTP uses a four-cell lagoon to provide secondary treatment. After treatment, effluent is disinfected in a chlorine contact chamber and then is either land applied by sprinkler irrigation on adjacent ground (during the summer months) or is otherwise discharged to Spring Creek, a small stream that makes its way into the Ashton Reservoir on Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Spring Creek discharge is regulated by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

The City's current NPDES permit which became effective April 1, 2014, includes final ammonia limits which the City must meet beginning October 1, 2019: 2.92 mg/L for December through May, and 1.34 mg/L for June through November. The City cannot meet the wintertime ammonia limit using the wastewater lagoons.

A Facility Planning Study was completed by Keller Associates in July 2016 that concluded the current collection system has old concrete and clay pipes that are breaking down and need to be replaced within 5-20 years. Since then, the City has endoscopically examined the remaining clay and concrete sewer lines and have prioritized them according to their current condition and estimated life span. The City has begun to take action towards addressing the problems. The City would receive

Corps funding to replace approximately 8,100 feet of the City's failing sewer collection lines based on the prioritized list in their Facility Plan.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-2-2, *Procedures for Implementing NEPA,* and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) *Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA),* Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 1500-1508. The objective of the EA is to evaluate potential environmental effects of the proposed action and determine if significant effects would result. If effects are relatively minor, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) would be issued and the Corps would proceed with the proposed action of assisting the City with its Wastewater System Improvements Project. If the environmental effects are determined to be significant, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be prepared before a decision is reached on whether to implement the proposed action. Applicable laws under which these effects would be evaluated include but are not limited to, NEPA, the Endangered Species Act, the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and the National Historic Preservation Act.

The NEPA is a full disclosure law, providing for public involvement in the NEPA process. All persons and organizations that have a potential interest in this proposed action – including the public, other Federal agencies, state and local agencies, Native American Tribes, and interested stakeholders – are encouraged to participate in the NEPA process.

1.4.2 Authority

The WRDA of 1999 authorized the Corps to participate in environmental infrastructure projects in rural Nevada and Montana. Public Law 108-7 (February 20, 2003) amended this legislation to include the State of Idaho. The 2017 Omnibus Bill provided funding to the Corps under the Section 595 Program.

1.5 Purpose and Need

The Corps proposes to assist the City with its Wastewater System Improvements Project. The purpose of the action to improve the collection and treatment of wastewater in the City. The operation of the City's wastewater collection and treatment systems are protective of public health. The action is needed because system deficiencies in the collection system could create public health concerns if they are not addressed. The majority of the collection system was constructed prior to 1960 and the treatment facilities have not been improved since construction in 1965. The current collection system has old concrete and clay pipes that are breaking down and need to be replaced. Failing sewer lines could allow leakage from the system into the groundwater and could cause sewer backups into residences. Both of these conditions could create public health concerns. These conditions also create maintenance concerns.

1.6 Scope of the Proposed Federal Action

This EA does not assess potential effects associated with the entirety of efforts being undertaken by the City to improve their wastewater treatment facilities.

The Federal action described above in Section 1.4 is associated with a larger series of wastewater system improvements. The City has secured funding from several non-federal sources to pursue construction of a new lined storage pond to store treated effluent during the non-irrigation season, remove biosolids from the existing lagoons, replace the existing aerators, repair the chlorine contact basin, construct an inline filer as part of the irrigation system, and build a control structure allowing isolation of individual effluent ponds.

The Corps is not assisting the City with the entire proposed project. The Corps and the City have agreed the Corps would provide funding to assist with replacement of the worst 25% of the City's wastewater collection pipes. This is a separable element of the larger project and has independent utility. Section 595 of WRDA 1999 (Public Law (PL) 106-53, as amended by PL 108-7, authorizes the Corps to participate in water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects in rural Idaho and provide assistance for the City of Ashton Wastewater System Improvement Project.

The larger project is not, however, being evaluated as (1) a connected action, or (2) an indirect effect of the proposed Federal action. Federal actions generally include all actions which are potentially subject to Federal control and responsibility (40 C.F.R. § 1508.18). Additionally, the scope of a NEPA document should consider connected, cumulative, and similar actions. Actions are connected (i.e., closely related) if they (i) automatically trigger other actions, (ii) cannot or will not proceed unless other actions are taken previously or simultaneously, and (iii) are interdependent parts of a larger action and depend on the larger action for their justification (40 C.F.R. § 1508.25(a) (1) and 40 C.F.R. § 1502.4(a)). If one of the actions might reasonably be completed without the existence of the other, the two actions have independent utility and are not "connected" for NEPA purposes.

In this case, the Corps does not have control or responsibility over other aspects of the wastewater system improvements. It cannot fairly be said that the proposed Federal action would cause the other wastewater system improvements to occur. Improvements to the WWTP itself are already scheduled and would occur whether or not the Corps assists with funding collection pipe replacement. Also, replacement of the wastewater collection pipes (the Corps' proposed action) could be accomplished without the other wastewater system improvements. The two actions, therefore, have independent utility and are not "connected" for NEPA purposes.

1.7 Construction Timeline

There are no environmental constraints on the work window. Construction would likely begin soon after a contract is awarded and continue until the failing collection lines are replaced.

2 Alternatives

Two alternatives are evaluated in this EA; the No Action Alternative and the Proposed Action Alternative. The No Action Alternative does not satisfy the project's purpose and need, but NEPA requires analysis of the No Action Alternative to set the baseline from which to compare other alternatives. No Action does not mean there would be no environmental impacts from this alternative. Additionally, while an EA is subject to the requirement that a reasonable range of alternatives be considered, an agency's obligation to consider alternatives under an EA is a lesser one than under an EIS. Also, statutory objectives (in this case Section 595 of WRDA 1999) serve as a guide to determine the reasonableness of objectives outlined in a NEPA document. Consequently, only the No Action and Proposed Action Alternatives are analyzed further.

2.1 Alternative 1: No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not cost-share replacement of the wastewater collection lines. The lines would remain in place and be operated at risk of failure. Deficiencies in the collection system could create public health concerns if they are not addressed. Failing sewer lines could allow leakage from the system into the groundwater and could cause sewer backups into residences. Both of these conditions could create public health concerns. The No Action Alternative does not meet the purpose and need, but is presented as required by NEPA to set the baseline from which to compare all other alternatives.

2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the proposed action, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would share costs with the City to assist the City with the replacement of the worst 25% of failing sewer collection lines, approximately 8,100 linear feet. The Corps would contribute 75% of the funds required for the wastewater collection line replacement.

In 2016, a planning study commissioned by the City examined the wastewater collection system and identified sewer pipes at risk of failure. Numerous cracks, fissures, and intrusions were identified in older clay and concrete sewer pipes. Figure 2 identifies the worst of the pipes, which are proposed to be replaced. Wastewater collection lines highlighted in yellow, orange, or red are in the most imminent danger of failure.

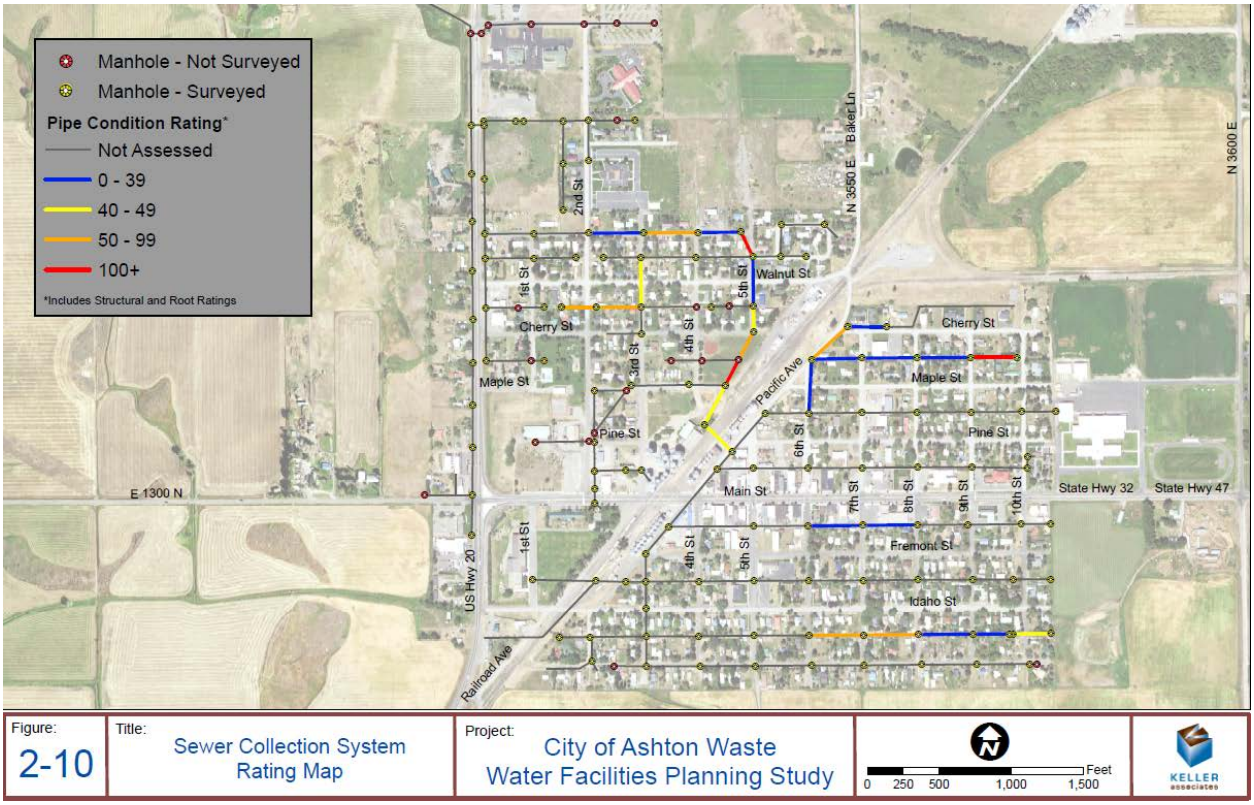

Figure 2. Location of proposed wastewater collection line replacement. Sewer lines highlighted in red, orange, or yellow are at risk of failure and recommended to be replaced.

The method of pipe replacement would be at the contractor's discretion. The two methods typically used to replace wastewater collection lines are open trenching and "pipe bursting". Open trenching consists of digging a trench to the level of the collection pipe, removing the old pipe, installing a new pipe, and back filling the trench. This is typically completed with a small excavator and excavated material is typically reused to fill the trench. Pipe bursting consists of shattering the existing pipe in small pieces, pushing it into the surrounding soil, and then towing a new pipe of similar or larger size into the borehole. In either instance typical equipment used would be a small excavator, a skid steer loader to move material, and trucks to haul supplies, equipment, and machinery. City streets would likely be closed at the replacement location for the duration of the work in either method.

3 Affected Environment and Environmental Effects

This section describes the existing affected environment (existing condition of resources) and evaluates potential environmental effects on those resources for each alternative. Although only relevant resource areas are specifically evaluated for impacts, the Corps did consider all resources in the proposed project area and made a determination as to which ones to evaluate. The following resource areas were evaluated: Water Quality, Air Quality, Wildlife, Noise, Threatened and Endangered Species, Cultural Resources, Soils, Socioeconomics, Recreation and Cumulative

Impacts. It was determined that it was not necessary to evaluate Aesthetics/Visual Quality, Environmental Justice, Climate Change, Aquatic Resources, Vegetation, or Recreation as implementation of the proposed action would not affect these resources (Table 1).

Table 1. Environmental Resources not evaluated further.

Environmental Component	Explanation
Aesthetics/Visual Quality	The proposed action would restore the roadways of Ashton to their original condition after pipe replacement is completed. No noticeable permanent structure or visual obstruction would remain. Only insignificant effects to Aesthetics would be observed during proposed project activities as equipment used in minor utilities repair would not be out of place on a public roadway.
Environmental Justice	The proposed action would have no negative impacts (e.g. economically) on any minority/ethnic group or social class.
Climate Change	The proposed action would have carbon emissions expected to be below de minimus levels and therefore no measurable effect to climate change is expected.
Aquatic Resources	The project area is located within the developed city limits of Ashton, Idaho. No work would be conducted on or near surface waters. There would be no effect to Aquatic Resources under the proposed action.
Vegetation	The project area is entirely within the developed city limits of Ashton, Idaho. There would be no effect on vegetation in the proposed action area.
Recreation	The project area is entirely within the developed city limits of Ashton, Idaho. There would be no effect on recreational opportunities near the proposed action area.

3.1 Water Quality

3.1.1 Affected Environment

There is a small stream (Spring Creek) in a surface depression between the City and the Henry's Fork of the Snake River which picks up local runoff and flows into the Ashton Reservoir on the Henry's Fork northwest of the City. The WWTP discharges to a very small branch of Spring Creek. There are also several irrigation canals or ditches originating from surface waters to the east which flow through the Ashton area in a general east-west direction. All surface water runoff in the area eventually drains to the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. The water quality of Henry's Fork is generally excellent with very little contamination other than a relatively high silt load during the spring runoff.

3.1.2 Environmental Consequences

3.1.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be minor negative effects on water quality in the project area. The City would not replace the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. Failing sewer lines could allow leakage into the groundwater of the community project area. The farming community around Ashton uses numerous wells for domestic and stock water supply as well as irrigation. Impairment to groundwater quality may threaten these uses.

3.1.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be positive effects to water quality in the project area. Replacement of failing sewer lines would prevent wastewater from intruding into groundwater. The proposed construction activities would be conducted away from surface waters and a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) would be developed. While excavated and staged materials generated during potential open trench pipe replacement present the potential for temporary run-off, the SWPPP and stormwater BMPs would be implemented prior to, during, and after project activities to reduce the potential for stormwater runoff and erosion to de minimus levels There would be no significant negative impact of the proposed action.

3.2 Air Quality

3.2.1 Affected Environment

Air Quality in the proposed action area is excellent. The project area meets Idaho State's ambient air quality standards and is in "attainment". Most noticeable pollutants are likely dust from farming operations during the summer or smoke from wood burning stoves in the winter.

3.2.2 Environmental Consequences

3.2.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative there would be no effects on air quality in the project area. The City would not replace the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. Failing wastewater collection lines do not present a threat to air quality in the community.

3.2.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be minor, less than significant negative impacts to air quality in the project area. Temporary impairment to air quality could result from excavation conducted as part of open trenching pipe replacement. Dust would be controlled through implementation of BMPs for dust control including applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, and covering excavated material. Air Quality would quickly return to background levels following completion of the project.

3.3 Wildlife

3.3.1 Affected Environment

The general area of Ashton supports populations of deer, elk, moose, bear, buffalo, and wolves. Small mammals such as coyote, fox, rabbit, and raccoon are also known to exist in the area along with game birds and waterfowl. Seasonal use areas for some species do exist along Henry's Fork of the Snake River.

3.3.2 Environmental Consequences

3.3.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative there would be no negative effect on wildlife in the project area. The City would not repair the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. No ground disturbing activities would take place. The potential failure of the wastewater collection lines would have no negative impact to wildlife in the area.

3.3.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be minor, less than significant negative impacts to wildlife in the project area. Since improvements to the wastewater facilities would occur in already disturbed areas, negative impacts to wildlife (if any) are anticipated to be minimal.

3.4 Threatened and Endangered Species

3.4.1 Affected Environment

On 9 May 2018 the Corps reviewed the current list of threatened and endangered species that may exist in the project area under jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for Fremont County in Idaho (Consultation Code 01EIFW00-2018-SLI-1177). There are no species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the project area. The list of USFWS protected species is shown in Table 2.

Table 2. ESA listed species that may occur in the area potentially affected by this action.

Species	Scientific Name	Status
USFWS		
Listed Species		
Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos horribilis*	Threatened
North American Wolverine	*Gulo gulo luscus*	Proposed Threatened
Ute Ladies'-Tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	Threatened

There is no critical habitat designated or proposed for these species within the project area.

3.4.2 Environmental Consequences

3.4.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no negative effect on threatened and endangered species in the project area. The City would not repair the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. No ground disturbing activities would take place. The potential failure of the wastewater collection lines would have no effect to threatened and endangered species in the area.

3.4.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be no negative effect on threatened and endangered species in the project area. Grizzly bear are found in open, shrub communities near wooded cover, riparian areas, and wet meadows of mountainous regions of the American West (Servheen, 1983; Zager et al., 1983). Near the project area, grizzly bear are most likely to be found in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest near the Wyoming border. Grizzly bear populations near the project area are part of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Distinct Population Segment, and were delisted due to recovery in 2018 (83 FR 18737 18743). Based on their life history requirements and habitat preference, grizzly bear are extremely unlikely to occur in any areas that are part

of this proposed action – developed areas within the city limits of Ashton, Idaho. There would be no effect to grizzly bear from implementation of the proposed action.

North American wolverines inhabit areas cold enough to reliably maintain deep snow cover late into the warm season (Copeland et al., 2010). In Idaho, wolverines are found in remote mountainous regions with little human disturbance. Near the proposed action area, wolverines likely inhabit the higher elevations of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest near the Wyoming border (Groves, 1988). The most reliable predictor of wolverine occurrence in the American West is deep, persistent snow cover until mid-May (Aubry et al., 2007). Wolverines are not known to occur in the project area and are not likely to occur there as the action area consists of a developed city with little snow cover after February. There would be no effect to North American wolverine from implementation of the proposed action.

Ute ladies'- tresses was first discovered in Idaho along the South Fork of the Snake River. The species is now known from Bonneville, Fremont, Jefferson, and Madison counties along the Snake River and from wetland sites along the Henry's Fork River. Ute ladies'- tresses is associated with perennial stream terraces, floodplains, oxbows, seasonally flooded river terraces, subirrigated or spring-fed abandoned stream channels and valleys. No populations of Ute ladies'- tresses occur within the project area which is entirely in uplands within the city limits of Ashton, Idaho.

3.5 Historic/Cultural Resources

3.5.1 Affected Environment

The Area of Potential Effect (APE) for the proposed action is the 8,100 feet of wastewater line to be replaced, the surface streets in the proximity, and all staging areas and access roads that would service the repair work. All proposed action areas would be accesses through existing roads and equipment would be staged on existing roads as well.

On 6 November 2017, the Environmental Review Officer for East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association requested Historic and Cultural review of the proposed action from the Shoshone-Bannock Tribe, the Shoshone-Paiute Tribe, the Northwestern Band Shoshone, and the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office (ISHPO). After review, the ISHPO identified one historic property in the APE. The Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall building is listed as a historical building on the National Register of Historic Places. The building is located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Main Street and 6th Street. There are no other sites listed on the National Register of Historic Places that are located within the study impact area.

3.5.2 Environmental Consequences

3.5.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would likely be no immediate negative impacts to Historic/Cultural Resources in the project area. The City would not repair the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. No ground disturbing activities would take place. The potential failure of the wastewater collection lines may have the potential to impact archaeological resources that may be unassessed and unrecorded.

3.5.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be no negative impact on Historic/Cultural Resources in the APE. The improvements to the wastewater collection system would be conducted on public rights-of-way and developed property and should not have any adverse effects on any properties with historic or cultural significance. If historical or cultural material is found during construction, all work in the area of the discovery would cease (construction can proceed elsewhere), efforts would be made to protect the find, and the appropriate consulting parties would be contacted immediately. Please see the attached Historical Preservation Checklist and the attached determination from Corps Staff Archaeologist Chris Wernick dated 15 May 2018.

3.6 Soils

3.6.1 Affected Environment

The City is located on underlying basalt formations varying from zero to several tens of feet below the ground surface. Past studies have stated that it is possible to excavate a short distance into the fractured surface of the lava rock, while deeper excavations encounter increasingly more solid rock material which requires specialized equipment or blasting to excavate. The presence of underlying lava rock in close proximity to the ground surface presents significant challenges in terms of location and cost of buried pipeline facilities in many areas near the project area.

The entire system is capped by windblown silt loess originating in the Snake River Plain located to the southwest. This soil structure supports significant agricultural operations in the areas around the City. The City generally slopes to the northwest at a slope of approximately 0.8%. The highest elevation within the City occurs within the southeast portion and is approximately 5,273 feet above sea level. The lowest elevation occurs near the northwest portion of the City and is at approximately 5,225 feet (Schiess & Associates, 2010).

The geologic units near Ashton are comprised of silicic volcanic rock of the Yellowstone Group and basalt of the Snake River Group (Jorgensen and Engineering and Land Surveying, 2000). The Ashton area is located within the Natural Resources Conservation Service soil survey titled Fremont County, Idaho, Western Part. According to this survey, the primary soil types in the area are Kucera-Lostine silt loams and Kucera-Sarilda silt loams. Typical soil profiles for these soil types are comprised of silt loam to a depth of 60 inches. During construction activities within the City, certain areas were found to have 24 to 36 inches of soil above the basalt rock layer (Schiess & Associates, 2010).

3.6.2 Environmental Consequences

3.6.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would likely be no immediate significant impacts to soils in the project area. The City would not repair the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. No ground disturbing activities would take place. The potential failure of the wastewater collection lines would have little potential to impair soils within the proposed action area.

3.6.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be minor, detrimental short-term effects on soils in the project area. Excavation of failing sewer lines has the potential for some soil loss due to erosion of excavated and staged materials. Soil loss would be controlled through implementation of BMPs for dust control including applying dust suppressants, covering trucks, and covering excavated material. No future impacts to soils would be anticipated upon completion of the proposed construction activities.

3.7 Socioeconomics

3.7.1 Affected Environment

The City is located within Fremont County, Idaho. In 2017, Idaho had an estimated population of 1.717 million and Fremont County had an estimated population of 13,094. The county population has held roughly steady since 13,242 people were counted in the 2010 census (U.S. Census Bureau, 2018).

The median household income for Fremont County in 2016 dollars is $49,973. Major industries in the area include Agriculture & Forestry, Educational Services, Health Care, Construction, Professional Services, Lodging & Food Services, Food Processing, Government, Social Services, Mining and Gas Extraction, Recreation, and Retail Services. According to the Idaho Department of Labor, in December 2017, the

unemployment rate of Fremont County was 2.6%. The national average at that time was 4.1 percent (Idaho Department of Labor, 2018).

3.7.2 Environmental Consequences

3.7.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there may be negative impacts to socioeconomics in the project area. The City would not repair the failing sewer lines, but would allow the pipes to continue to function in their damaged state. The potential failure of the wastewater collection lines could result in the loss of property and livelihood.

3.7.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action – Wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Under the Proposed Action, there would be no negative impacts to socioeconomics in the project area. During the construction period there would be minor economic benefits to local businesses in the area as a result of contractors working in the vicinity. In addition, the repair of failing sewer lines would help the community to avoid costly emergency repairs resulting from a failed sewer line.

3.8 Cumulative Impacts

(NEPA and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing the Act require Federal agencies to consider the cumulative impacts of their actions. Cumulative effects are defined as, “the impact on the environment which results from the incremental impact of an action when added to other past, present and reasonable foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-federal) or person undertakes such other actions” (40 CFR § 1508.7). Cumulative impacts can result from individually minor, but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time.

In addition to the proposed action, the City is modernizing other elements of its wastewater treatment system. Planned improvements included a new storage pond, and modernization of the wastewater treatment plant. These types of projects typically result in minor short-term construction-related impacts to the human environment; however, there are not collectively significant cumulative environmental impacts of the Proposed Action primarily because it restores the existing wastewater treatment system to full performance but does not augment the system. Potential adverse effects are construction-related (e.g., increased noise and dust) and are of a minor and temporary nature.

There are no known major cumulative impacts from the Proposed Action to replace failing sewer lines in Ashton, Idaho. The expected impacts are short term and localized and would not have significant negative impacts to resources. All repairs would be carried out in previously disturbed habitats and would not enlarge the footprint of the wastewater system.

4 Compliance with Applicable Environmental Laws and Regulations

4.1 National Environmental Policy Act

This Environmental Assessment was prepared pursuant to regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.). NEPA provides a commitment that Federal agencies will consider the environmental effects of their proposed actions prior to implanting those actions. Completion of this environmental assessment and signing of a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), if applicable, fulfills the requirements of NEPA.

4.2 Endangered Species Act

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) established a national program for the conservation of threatened and endangered fish, wildlife and plants and the habitat upon which they depend. Section 7(a)(2) of the ESA requires Federal agencies to consult with the USFWS and NMFS, as appropriate, to ensure that their actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or adversely modify or destroy their critical habitats. Section 7(c) of the ESA and the Federal regulations on endangered species coordination (50 CFR §402.12) require that Federal agencies prepare biological assessments of the potential effects of major actions on listed species and critical habitat.

Potential effects to threatened and endangered species were analyzed by the Corps in May 2018. The Corps has determined that this action, as proposed, would result in no effect to Threatened and Endangered species or Critical Habitats. See the attached City Of Ashton Wastewater System Improvements Project ESA Memorandum.

4.3 National Historic Preservation Act

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 as amended directs Federal agencies to assume responsibility for all cultural resources under their jurisdiction. Section 106 of NHPA requires agencies to consider the potential effect of their actions on properties that are listed, or are eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). The NHPA implementing regulations, 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800, requires that the Federal agency consult with the State Historic Preservation Officer , Tribes and interested parties to ensure that all historic properties are adequately identified, evaluated and considered in planning for proposed undertakings.

The City initiated consultation with the ISHPO and several tribal bodies in the region in November 2017. On 17 April 2018, ISHPO determined that the proposed project would have no effect to historic properties. On 15 May 2018, Corps Archaeologists determined that the proposed action would have no effect to historic properties.

4.4 Clean Water Act

The Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972 establishes the basic structure for regulating discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and regulating quality standards for surface waters. Section 401 of the Federal Clean Water Act requires that any Federal activity that may result in a discharge of dredged or fill material to waters of the United States must first receive a water quality certification from the state in which the activity would occur. Section 404 of the Clean Water Act established a program to regulate the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.

Section 402 of the Clean Water Act also regulates ground disturbance that could potentially cause storm water run-off into waters of the U.S. Activities involving construction or soil disturbance on the shoreline or upland have the potential for storm water runoff and would be subject to the storm water provisions of Section 402 if the area of soil disturbance would be more than an acre and would discharge storm water into surface water.

The Corps has determined that there are no waters of the United States win the proposed action area, nor would the proposed project would not result in discharge of dredged or fill materials or pollutants. The proposed action would not involve soil disturbance of more than one acre. The proposed action would not require a Clean Water Act permit.

4.5 Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management

This Executive Order outlines the responsibilities of Federal agencies in the role of floodplain management. Each agency must evaluate the potential effects of actions on floodplains and avoid undertaking actions that directly or indirectly induce development in the floodplain or adversely affect natural floodplain values.

The proposed action would not directly or indirectly induce growth in the floodplain or adversely affect natural floodplain values.

4.6 Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands

This order directs Federal agencies to take actions to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands when undertaking Federal activities and programs. It has been the goal of the Corps to avoid or minimize wetland impacts associated with their planned actions.

The proposed action would not result in the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands.

5 Literature Cited

Aubry, K.B., Mckelvey, K.S., Copeland, J.P., 2007. Distribution and Broadscale Habitat Relations of the Wolverine in the Contiguous United States. J. Wildl. Manag. 71, 2147–2158. https://doi.org/10.2193/2006-548

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U.S. Census Bureau, 2018. U.S. Census Bureau QuickFacts: Fremont County, Idaho [WWW Document]. URL https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/fact/table/fremontcountyidaho/PST045217 (accessed 5.11.18).

Zager, P., Jonkel, C., Habeck, J., 1983. Logging and Wildfire Influence on Grizzly Bear Habitat, in: 5th International Conference on Bear Research and Management. International Association for Bear Research and Management, pp. 124–132.

6 Attachments

U.S Fish and Wildlife Office Species List dated 9 May 2018.
USACE NWW Cultural Resources Record of Internal Review dated 15 May 2018.
City Of Ashton Wastewater System Improvements Project ESA Memorandum dated June 1 2018.
Historic Preservation Checklist

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: May 09, 2018
Consultation Code: 01EIFW00-2018-SLI-1177
Event Code: 01EIFW00-2018-E-02478
Project Name: City of Ashton wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location, and/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 final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. 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.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they 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 utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. 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:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

Please be aware that bald and golden eagles are protected under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 668 *et seq.*), and projects affecting these species may require development of an eagle conservation plan (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/eagle_guidance.html). Additionally, wind energy projects should follow the wind energy guidelines (http://www.fws.gov/windenergy/) for minimizing impacts to migratory birds and bats.

Guidance for minimizing impacts to migratory birds for projects including communications towers (e.g., cellular, digital television, radio, and emergency broadcast) can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/towers.htm; http://www.towerkill.com; and http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/CurrentBirdIssues/Hazards/towers/comtow.html.

Please note: The IPaC module for producing a list of proposed and designated critical habitat is currently incomplete. At this time, we ask that you use the information given below to determine whether your action area falls within a county containing proposed/designated critical habitat for a specific species. If you find that your action falls within a listed county, use the associated links for that species to determine if your action area actually overlaps with the proposed or designated critical habitat.

Canada Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*) - *Designated February 24, 2009.*
Counties: Boundary County.

Federal Register Notice: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2009-02-25/pdf/E9-3512.pdf#page=1
Printable Maps:
http://www.fws.gov/mountain-prairie/species/mammals/lynx/criticalhabitat_files/

20081222_fedreg_unit3_draft.jpg
GIS Data: http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/docs/crithab/zip/lunx_ch.zip
KML for Google Earth: (None Currently Available)

Selkirk Mountains Woodland Caribou (*Rangifer tarandus Caribou*) - *Proposed November 30, 2011.*
Counties: Bonner and Boundary Counties.

Federal Register Notice: http://www.fws.gov/idaho/home/2011-30451FINALR.pdf
Printable Maps: http://www.fws.gov/idaho/home/Map1_sub1_150.pdf
GIS Data: (None Currently Available)
KML for Google Earth: (None Currently Available)

Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) - *Designated September 30, 2010.*
Counties: Adams, Benewah, Blaine, Boise, Bonner, Boundary, Butte, Camas, Clearwater, Custer, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Kootenai, Lemhi, Lewis, Nez Perce, Owyhee, Shoshone, Valley, and Washington Counties.

Federal Register Notice: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2010-10-18/pdf/2010-25028.pdf#page=2
Printable Maps: http://www.fws.gov/pacific/bulltrout/CH2010_Maps.cfm#CHMaps
GIS Data: http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/docs/crithab/zip/bulltrout.zip
KML for Google Earth: http://www.fws.gov/pacific/bulltrout/finalcrithab/BT_FCH_2010_KML.zip

Kootenai River White Sturgeon (*Acipenser transmontanus*) - *Designated July 9, 2008.*
Counties: Boundary County.

Federal Register Notice: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2008-07-09/pdf/E8-15134.pdf#page=1
Printable Maps: (None Currently Available)
GIS Data: http://criticalhabitat.fws.gov/docs/crithab/zip/fch_73fr39506_acit_2009.zip
KML for Google Earth: (None Currently Available)

Slickspot Peppergrass (*Lepidium papilliferum*) - Proposed May 10, 2011. Counties: Ada, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, and Payette Counties.

Federal Register Notice: http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-10-26/pdf/2011-27727.pdf
Printable Maps: http://www.fws.gov/idaho/Lepidium.html
GIS Data: (None Currently Available)
KML for Google Earth: (None Currently Available)

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Tracking Number in

the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

Attachment(s):

- Official Species List

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

Consultation Code: 01EIFW00-2018-SLI-1177

Event Code: 01EIFW00-2018-E-02478

Project Name: City of Ashton wastewater Collection Line Replacement

Project Type: WASTEWATER PIPELINE

Project Description: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District (Corps) proposes to assist the city of Ashton, Idaho (City) with its Wastewater System Improvements Project under the authority of Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999. Ashton, is located in eastern Idaho in the northeast corner of the Rexburg Micropolitan Statistical Area. Approximately 1,064 people reside in Ashton. Currently, wastewater service is provided within City limits by a gravity wastewater collection system and an aerated lagoon treatment facility with discharge of treated effluent directly to a small unnamed branch of Spring Creek in the winter and into a field adjacent to the wastewater treatment facility in the summer. The majority collection system was constructed prior to 1960 and the treatment facilities have not been improved since construction in 1965. The City is operating under a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit which allows a maximum of 2.92 mg/L of ammonia in treated effluent discharged into Sewer Creek. Ammonia concentration in the wastewater lagoon effluent is typically 20-30 mg/L.

Project Location:

Approximate location of the project can be viewed in Google Maps: https://www.google.com/maps/place/44.073110619425535N111.44880865850342W

Counties: Fremont, ID

Endangered Species Act Species

There is a total of 3 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[1], 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.

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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
Grizzly Bear *Ursus arctos horribilis* Population: U.S.A., conterminous (lower 48) States, except where listed as an experimental population or delisted There is **proposed** critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7642	Threatened
North American Wolverine *Gulo gulo luscus* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5123	Proposed Threatened

Flowering Plants

NAME	STATUS
Ute Ladies'-tresses *Spiranthes diluvialis* No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/2159	Threatened

Critical habitats

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

CENWW-PPL-R

Cultural Resources Record of Internal Review

Project Name:	Ashton, Idaho / 595 Continuing Authority Project
Record Date:	May 15, 2018
Record Author:	Christopher D. Wernick
USACE Project Location:	City of Ashton, Idaho
Project County, State:	Fremont County, Idaho
Township, Range, Section:	T09N, R42E Secs 25, 26, 35, & 36
2USGS Topographic Maps:	USGS 7.5' Quads. "Ashton, Idaho" (1967)
Landowner:	City of Ashton and Private Land Owners
Cultural Report No.:	2018-NWW-021
Compliance Project No.:	PM-EC-2018-0050

Project Description

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, (Corps) Walla Walla District proposes to participate in a cost share project with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the City of Ashton—located in Fremont County, Idaho (Figure 1)—in order to rehabilitate the city's wastewater collection and treatment systems (Project). The Corps' proposed action (undertaking) utilizing Section 595 funding will include design review and the partial replacement of approximately 8,100 feet of deteriorated clay and concrete sewer lines. Other improvements using non-Corps funds will include improving the existing treatment facility, construct an adjacent winter storage pond jack, and repair or replace failing waste water treatment plant (WWTP) equipment needed to maintain the facility.

Determination of Effect

Because all ground disturbing activity associated with the Corps undertaking will be limited to previously disturbed soils, the Corps has determined this undertaking will have **No Potential to Affect Historic Properties**. Furthermore, the contractor will have an inadvertent discovery plan in place in the event archaeological artifacts or human remains are inadvertently discovered during any ground disturbing activity. They contractor will be responsible for contacting the federal agencies, State Historic Preservation Office, and regional tribes. Mitigation measures will be implemented as directed by the federal agencies, SHPO, and Tribes, and work will not resume at the discovery site without consent. This concludes the Corps Section 106 review, and the project can proceed as planned.

Figure 1: Area of Potential Effect (APE) map for the Notus Wastewater Improvement Project.

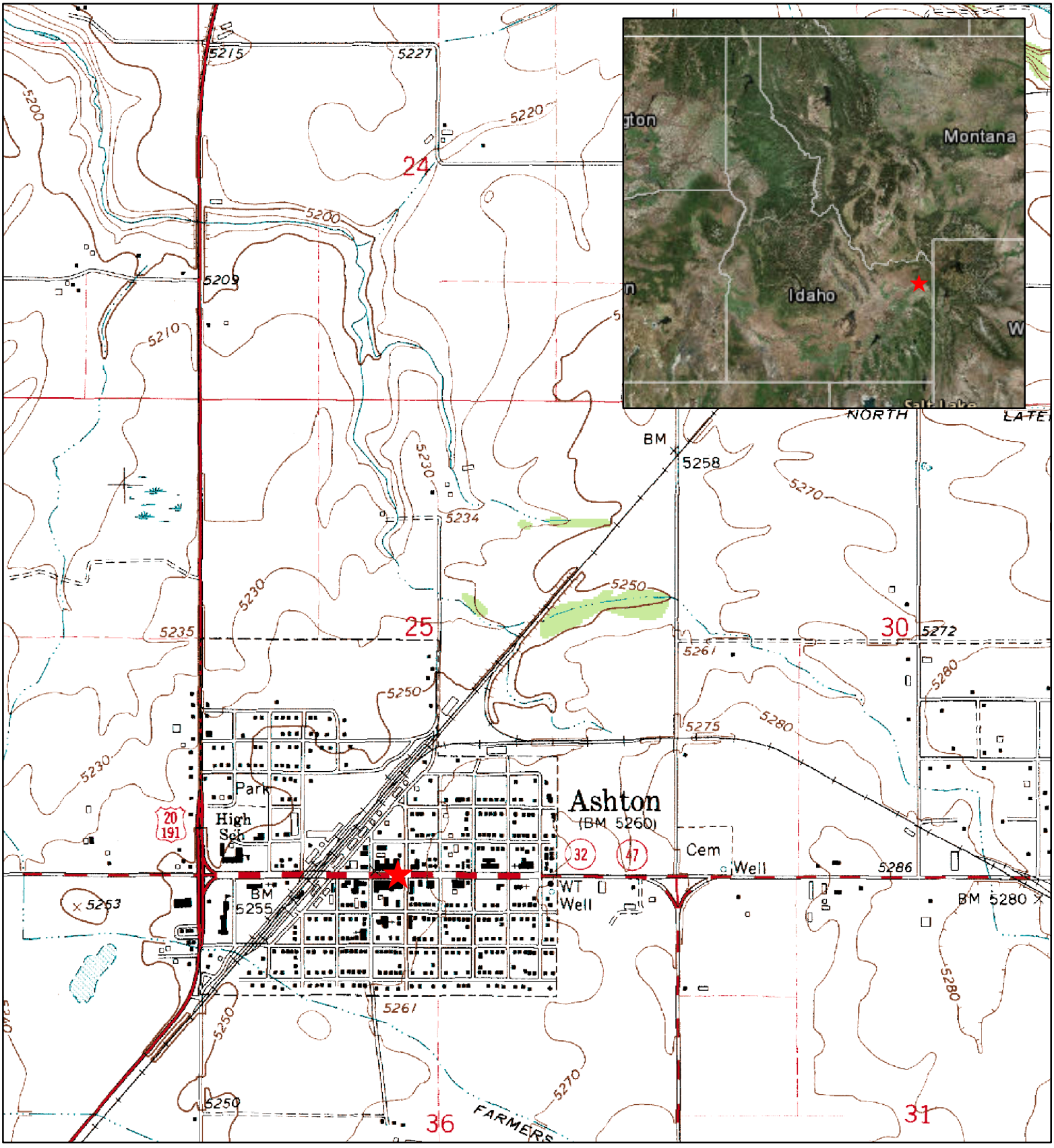
Finding:

☒	No Undertaking/No Potential to Cause Effects	☐	No Adverse Effect to Historic Properties.

☒ All of the proposed work is taking place in previously disturbed areas. As such, the Corps has determined this undertaking will have No Potential to Affect Historic Properties.

Certification of Results:
I certify that this investigation was conducted and documented according to Secretary of Interior's Standards and guidelines and that the report is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Christopher D. Wernick,
Archaeologist
US Army Corps of Engineers



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Legend

★ Ashton, ID 595 Project

Ashton, ID
595 Continuing Authority Project.
T09N R42E, Secs 25, 26, 35, & 36
Ashton, ID (1967)
USGS 7.5' Topo Map
Scale 1: 24,000

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

DATE: June 1, 2018

To: Environmental Compliance Files

From: John Hook, Fish and Wildlife Biologist

Subject: City Of Ashton Wastewater System Improvements Project PM-EC-2018-0050

1. This MEMORANDUM TO THE RECORD documents the Walla Walla District, US Army Corps of Engineers (NWW) Endangered Species Act compliance for the following proposed project: City of Ashton Wastewater System Improvements Project. The proposed project is located at Township 9 North, Range 42 East, Sections 25 and 36, Boise Meridian at approximate latitude 44.0714, and approximate longitude -111.4491 (Figure 1).

Purpose: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District (Corps) proposes to assist the city of Ashton, Idaho (City) with its Wastewater System Improvements Project under the authority of Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1999. The Corps is proposing to share costs with the City for replacement of 8,100 feet of wastewater collection pipe.

2. Project Description: Under the proposed action, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers would share costs with the City to assist the City with the replacement of the worst 25% of failing sewer collection lines, approximately 8,100 linear feet. The Corps would contribute 75% of the funds required for the wastewater collection line replacement.

In 2016, a planning study commissioned by the City examined the wastewater collection system and identified sewer pipes at risk of failure. Numerous cracks, fissures, and intrusions were identified in older clay and concrete sewer pipes. Figure 2 identifies the worst of the pipes, which are proposed to be replaced. Wastewater collection lines highlighted in yellow, orange, or red are in the most imminent danger of failure.

The method of pipe replacement would be at the contractor's discretion. The two methods typically used to replace wastewater collection lines are open trenching and "pipe bursting". Open trenching consists of digging a trench to the level of the collection pipe, removing the old pipe, installing a new pipe, and back filling the trench. This is typically completed with a small excavator and excavated material is typically reused to fill the trench. Pipe bursting consists of shattering the existing pipe in small pieces, pushing it into the surrounding soil, and then towing a new pipe of similar or larger size into the borehole. In either instance typical equipment used would be a small

excavator, a skid steer loader to move material, and trucks to haul supplies, equipment, and machinery.

Figure 1. Location of Ashton, Idaho.

3 Work Schedule. There are no environmental constraints on the work window. Construction would likely begin soon after a contract is awarded and continue until the failing collection lines are replaced.

4. Effects and Determination on ESA-listed Species:

On 9 May 2018 the Corps reviewed the current list of threatened and endangered species that may exist in the project area under jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for Fremont County in Idaho (Consultation Code 01EIFW00-2018-SLI-1177). There are no species under the jurisdiction of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) in the project area. The list of USFWS protected species is shown in Table 2.

Table 1. ESA listed species that may occur in the area potentially affected by this action.

Species	Scientific Name	Status
USFWS		
Listed Species		
Grizzly Bear	*Ursus arctos horribilis*	Threatened
North American Wolverine	*Gulo gulo luscus*	Proposed Threatened
Ute Ladies'-Tresses	*Spiranthes diluvialis*	Threatened

There is no critical habitat designated or proposed for these species within the project area.

Grizzly bear are found in open, shrub communities near wooded cover, riparian areas, and wet meadows of mountainous regions of the American West (Servheen, 1983; Zager et al., 1983). Near the project area, grizzly bear are most likely to be found in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest near the Wyoming border. Grizzly bear populations near the project area are part of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem Distinct Population Segment, and were delisted due to recovery in 2018 (83 FR 18737 18743). Based on their life history requirements and habitat preference, grizzly bear are extremely unlikely to occur in any areas that are part of this proposed action – developed areas within the city limits of Ashton, Idaho. There would be no effect to grizzly bear from implementation of the proposed action.

North American wolverines inhabit areas cold enough to reliably maintain deep snow cover late into the warm season (Copeland et al., 2010). In Idaho, wolverines are found in remote mountainous regions with little human disturbance. Near the proposed action area, wolverines likely inhabit the higher elevations of the Caribou-Targhee National Forest near the Wyoming border (Groves, 1988). The most reliable predictor of wolverine occurrence in the American West is deep, persistent snow cover until mid-May (Aubry et al., 2007). Wolverines are not known to occur in the project area and are not likely to occur there as the action area consists of a developed city with little snow cover after February. There would be no effect to North American wolverine from implementation of the proposed action.

Ute ladies'- tresses was first discovered in Idaho along the South Fork of the Snake River. The species is now known from Bonneville, Fremont, Jefferson, and Madison counties along the Snake River and from wetland sites along the Henry's Fork River. Ute ladies'- tresses is associated with perennial stream terraces, floodplains, oxbows, seasonally flooded river terraces, subirrigated or spring-fed abandoned stream channels and valleys. No populations of Ute ladies'- tresses occur within the project area which is entirely in uplands within the city limits of Ashton, Idaho.

There would be no "take" expected or anticipated of any individuals of the listed stocks mentioned above.

Additionally, there will be no adverse modification to EFH under the provisions of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

The proposal complies with the provisions of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

This project does not involve activities subject to the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, as amended.

If any significant changes are proposed for this project, modifications should be reviewed and the effects determination will be re-analyzed.

5. Literature Cited

Aubry, K.B., Mckelvey, K.S., Copeland, J.P., 2007. Distribution and Broadscale Habitat Relations of the Wolverine in the Contiguous United States. J. Wildl. Manag. 71, 2147–2158. https://doi.org/10.2193/2006-548

Copeland, J.P., McKelvey, K.S., Aubry, K.B., Landa, A., Persson, J., Inman, R.M., Krebs, J., Lofroth, E., Golden, H., Squires, J.R., Magoun, A., Schwartz, M.K., Wilmot, J., Copeland, C.L., Yates, R.E., Kojola, I., May, R., 2010. The bioclimatic envelope of the wolverine (Gulo gulo): do climatic constraints limit its geographic distribution? Can. J. Zool. 88, 233–246. https://doi.org/10.1139/Z09-136

Groves, C.R., 1988. Distribution of the Wolverine in Idaho as Determined by Mail Questionnaire. Northwest Sci. 62, 181–185.

Servheen, C., 1983. Grizzly Bear Food Habits, Movements, and Habitat Selection in the Mission Mountains, Montana. J. Wildl. Manag. 47, 1026. https://doi.org/10.2307/3808161

Zager, P., Jonkel, C., Habeck, J., 1983. Logging and Wildfire Influence on Grizzly Bear Habitat, in: 5th International Conference on Bear Research and Management. International Association for Bear Research and Management, pp. 124–132.

JOHN HOOK
Biologist
Walla Walla District
US Army Corps of Engineers

GREEN SHEET F.1

Historic Preservation
Checklist for Responsible Entity

General requirements	Legislation	Regulation
Protect sites, buildings, and objects with national, state or local historic, cultural and/or archeological significance. Identify effects of project on properties	National Historic Preservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 470(f), Section 106	36 CFR Part 1294 36 CFR Part 800 24 CFR Part 58.5(a)

1. **Does the project include: Repair, rehabilitation or conversion of existing properties that are 45 years or older? New construction? The acquisition of undeveloped land? Or, any activity that requires ground disturbance (defined as one cubic foot of disturbed soil)?**

☐ No: STOP here. The Section 106 Historic Preservation review is complete.

- ❖ Record your determination that the project type will not adversely affect historic properties on the Statutory Worksheet or Environmental Assessment.

☒ Yes: PROCEED to #2

2. **Does the project involve <u>only</u> those activities permitted without further consultation under a programmatic agreement among the responsible entity, the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation?** Not applicable to Idaho, your response is "No"

☒ No: PROCEED to #3

3. **Does the project involve a structure that is less than 45 years old with no ground disturbing activities and <u>you have determined there is no potential to cause effects on historic properties per 36 CFR 800.3(a)(1)?</u>**

☐ Yes: STOP here. The Section 106 Historic Preservation review is complete.

- ❖ Record your determination that there is no potential to cause effect, including the age of the existing building if appropriate, on the Statutory Worksheet or Environmental Assessment.

☒ No: PROCEED to #4

4. **In consultation with SHPO/THPO and any tribes or groups that may have an interest in the project, have you determined that there are no historic properties affected?**

You must consider the Area of Potential Effect (APE). *The APE is defined as the geographic area within which an undertaking may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.* The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of an undertaking. (36 CFR Part 800.16)

- ❖ Consult the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) or if the project is on tribal land, the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) with details of the project and project site. SHPO or THPO typically has 30 days from receipt of a well-documented request to make a

determination. We recommend sending the letter with a return receipt form to document the contact. If they do not respond within the timeframe, you may proceed with your determination or consult with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP). Contact information for State Historic Preservation Officers is available at www.achp.gov/shpo.html. See also pages 59-61 of this chapter for SHPO and THPO contact information.

- ❖ Determine if there are tribes or groups that have demonstrated interest in the historic aspects of the project and invite them to participate in the consultation. You must make a reasonable and good faith effort to identify Indian tribes that may have an interest.

☒ Yes: STOP here. The Section 106 Historic Preservation review is complete.

- ❖ Attach SHPO concurrence to the ERR and copies of letters to and from other interested parties and your response. If SHPO/THPO did not respond within 30 days, your dated letter documents contact efforts.
- ❖ Record your determination of "no historic properties affected" on the Statutory Worksheet or Environmental Assessment.

☐ No: Continue to #5

5. **Will the project have an "adverse effect" (per 36 CFR 800.5) on any property(ies) listed or eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places?**

☐ No: *A categorically excluded project (24 CFR Part 58.35(a)) cannot convert to exempt under 58.34(a)((12)-you must go through the RROF process*.

- ❖ Attach SHPO concurrence to the ERR and copies of letters to and from other interested parties and your response.

☐ Yes:

- ❖ Resolve Adverse Effects per 800.6 in consultation with SHPO/THPO, the ACHP if participating, and any consulting parties. The CDBG may not be approved until adverse effects are resolved according to 800.6 or you have complied with 36 CFR Part 800. *A categorically excluded project (24 CFR Part 58.35(a)) cannot convert to exempt under 58.34(a)((12)-you must go through the RROF process*.

Historic Preservation Contacts
National Contacts

National Parks Service-National Historic Register
http://www.nps.gov/nr/research/

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation

Office of Planning and Review
1100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Suite 809
Washington, DC 20004
Phone: (202) 606-8503
Fax: (202) 606-8647
E-mail: achp@achp.gov
Website: www.achp.gov (The Council's Website includes a "Users Guide to Section 106 Review" and contact information for Federal agencies, State Historic Preservation Officers (SHPOs), and tribes.)

Idaho

State Historic Preservation Office

201 Main Street
Boise, Idaho 83702
Phone: (208)334-3847

Website: http://history.idaho.gov/state-historic-preservation-office (Includes contact names and addresses, guidance on submitting Section 106 consultation requests, and useful links.)

Idaho State Historic Society

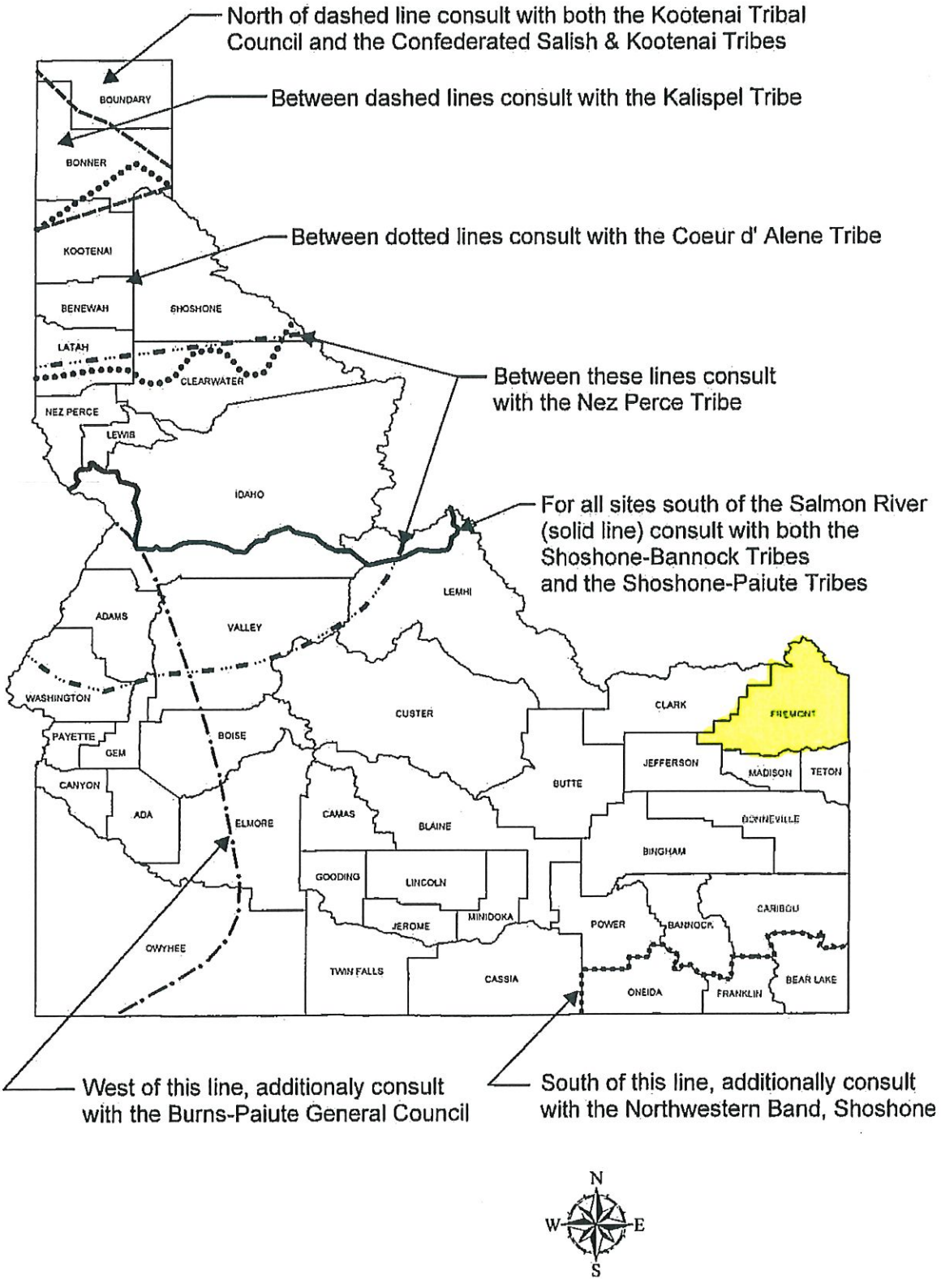
Deputy State Historic Preservation Office
210 Main Street
Boise, ID 83702
Phone: (208)334-3847
Fax: (208)334-2775
www.history.idaho.gov

Tribal Historic Preservation Officers and Tribal Contacts

Note: The areas of Idaho of interest to the tribes overlap in some instances and referral to two or more tribes may be necessary for at least the initial contact.

Kenton Dick, Manager **Burns-Paiute General Council** HC-71 100 Pasigo Street Burns, OR 97720 541-573-2088 Fax: 541-573-2422 KENTON.DICK@BURNSPAIUTE-NSN.GOV	Josie Shattanana Cultural Resource Program **Kootenai Tribe of Idaho** PO Box 1269 Bonners Ferry, ID 83805 208-267-3519 Fax: 208-267-2960 josie@kootenai.org
Jill Wagner,, Ph.D., THPO **Coeur d'Alene Tribe** PO Box 408 Plummer, ID 83851 208-686-1572 Fax: 208-686-1901 jwagner@cdatribe-nsn.gov	Keith Patrick Baird, THPO **Nez Perce Tribe** PO Box 305 Lapwai, ID 83540 208-621-3851 Fax: 208-843-7419 keithb@nezperce.org
Marcia Pablo, THPO **Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes** 42487 Complex Boulevard Pablo, MT 59855 406-675-2700 Ext. 1077 marciap@cskt.org	Carolyn Boyer Smith Cultural Resource Coordinator **Shoshone-Bannock Tribes** PO Box 306 Fort Hall, ID 83203 208-478-3707 Fax: 208-237-0797
Kevin Lyons Archeologist **Kalispel Tribe** PO Box39 Usk, WA 99180 509-445-1147 Fax: 509-445-1705 kjlyons@knrd.org	Ted Howard, Director Cultural Resource Program **Duck Valley Shoshone-Paiute Tribes** PO Box 219 Owyhee, NV 89832 208-759-3100 Ext 243 Fax: 775-757-2219 Howard.ted@duckvalley.org
Patti Timbimboo Cultural Resource Program **Northwestern Band, Shoshone Tribe** 862 S Main St, Ste 6 Brigham City, UT 84302 435-734-2286 Ext 13 Fax: 435-734-0424 ptimbimboo@nwbshoshone-nsn.gov	

CONSULTATION ON CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS SITES
APPROXIMATE AREAS OF CONCERN FOR EACH TRIBE



IDAHO STATE
HISTORICAL
SOCIETY

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho

Janet Gallimore
Executive Director
State Historic
Preservation Officer

Administration:
2205 Old Penitentiary Rd.
Boise, Idaho 83712
208.334.2682
Fax: 208.334.2774

Idaho State Museum:
610 Julia Davis Dr.
Boise, Idaho 83702
208.334.2120

Idaho State Archives and State Records Center:
2205 Old Penitentiary Rd.
Boise, Idaho 83712
208.334.2620

State Historic Preservation Office:
210 Main St.
Boise, Idaho 83702
208.334.3861

Old Idaho Penitentiary and Historic Sites:
2445 Old Penitentiary Rd.
Boise, Idaho 83712
208.334.2844

HISTORY.IDAHO.GOV

17 April 2018

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440

Re: City of Ashton Wastewater System Upgrade / SHPO# 2018-137

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Thank you for continuing consultation with our office on the above referenced project. We are in receipt of the additional information relative to the City of Ashton wastewater system upgrade, located in Fremont County, Idaho.

Pursuant to 36 CFR 800, we have applied the criteria of effect to the proposed undertaking. Based on the updated information received 13 April 2018, we find the proposed project actions will have **no effect** to historic properties.

In the event that cultural material is inadvertently encountered during implementation of this project, work shall be halted in the vicinity of the finds until they can be inspected and assessed by the appropriate consulting parties.

If you have any questions or the scope of work changes, please contact me via phone or email at 208.488.7468 or matt.halitsky@ishs.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

M. Halitsky

Matthew Halitsky, AICP
Historic Preservation Review Officer
Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

Pauline Johnson

To: Matt.Halitsky@ishs.idaho.gov
Subject: Environmental Review - Ashton
Attachments: Historical Society Response.pdf; Map of Ashton Collection Line.pdf; National Register.pdf

Hello Matt,

Enclosed is a copy of your response letter to our environmental review request dated November 6, 2017 regarding Ashton's Wastewater System Upgrade project. This project is replacing existing sewer collection lines in various locations within the City of Ashton at an average depth of 6'. The improvements to the collection system will be in public rights-of-ways or on developed property. There is one section of pipe that is new and is being installed in an existing alleyway; it is between manhole P-5 and P-6 (circled on the enclosed map).

Upon further review and according to the National Register of Historic Places in Idaho, Ashton has one location. It is called the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Hall building located on the northeast corner of the intersection of Main Street and 6th Street. I have attached a copy of the register also for your review.

Please review and respond at your earliest convenience.

Thank you,

Pauline Johnson
Project Administrator

The Development Company
Phone: 208-356-4524 Ext. 316
Fax: 208-356-4544

www.history.idaho.gov

Idaho • State Historical SOCIETY

C.L. "Butch" Otter
Governor of Idaho

Janet Gallimore
Executive Director
State Historic
Preservation Officer

Administration and Membership and Fund Development
2205 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, Idaho 83712-8250
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Fax: (208) 334-2774

Idaho State Historical Museum
214 Broadway Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83702
Office: (208) 334-2120
Fax: (208) 334-4059

Idaho State Archives and Records Center
2205 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, Idaho 83712-8250
Office: (208) 334-2620
Merle W. Wells Research Center
2205 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, Idaho 83712-8250
Phone: (208) 327-7060
Open Tues.-Sat. 11am-4pm

State Historic Preservation Office and Archaeological Survey of Idaho
210 Main Street
Boise, Idaho 83702-7264
Office: (208) 334-3861
Fax: (208) 334-2775

Old Idaho Penitentiary
2445 Old Penitentiary Road
Boise, Idaho 83712-8254
Office: (208) 334-2844
Fax: (208) 334-3225

Statewide Historic Sites
- Franklin Historic Site
- Pierce Courthouse
- Rock Creek Station and Stricker Homesite

5 December 2017

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440

Re: City of Ashton Wastewater System Upgrade / SHPO# 2018-137

Dear Ms. Johnson:

Thank you for consulting with our office on the above referenced project. We understand the scope of work includes improvements to the City of Ashton municipal wastewater system, located in Fremont County, Idaho.

Based on the information received 13 November 2017, our office is concerned that the proposed project actions may have the potential to effect historic properties. Additional information is needed for our office to evaluate the proposed undertaking and assess potential effects to historic properties. Detailed maps must be provided indicating where new sections of sewer lines will be located. Additional information such as depth of new lines and prior ground disturbance is also required information for our archaeologists to evaluate the project.

Please submit this additional information at your convenience. If you have any questions, please contact me via phone or email at 208.488.7468 or matt.halitsky@ishs.idaho.gov.

Sincerely,

Matthew Halitsky, AICP
Historic Preservation Review Officer
Idaho State Historic Preservation Office

Document Path: C:\Users\jjackson\Documents\ArcGIS\Packages\Sewer_2008_updates_289F3D1F-4ADF-4100-B213-16CE4216EBD8\v104\Sewer_2008_updates.mxd

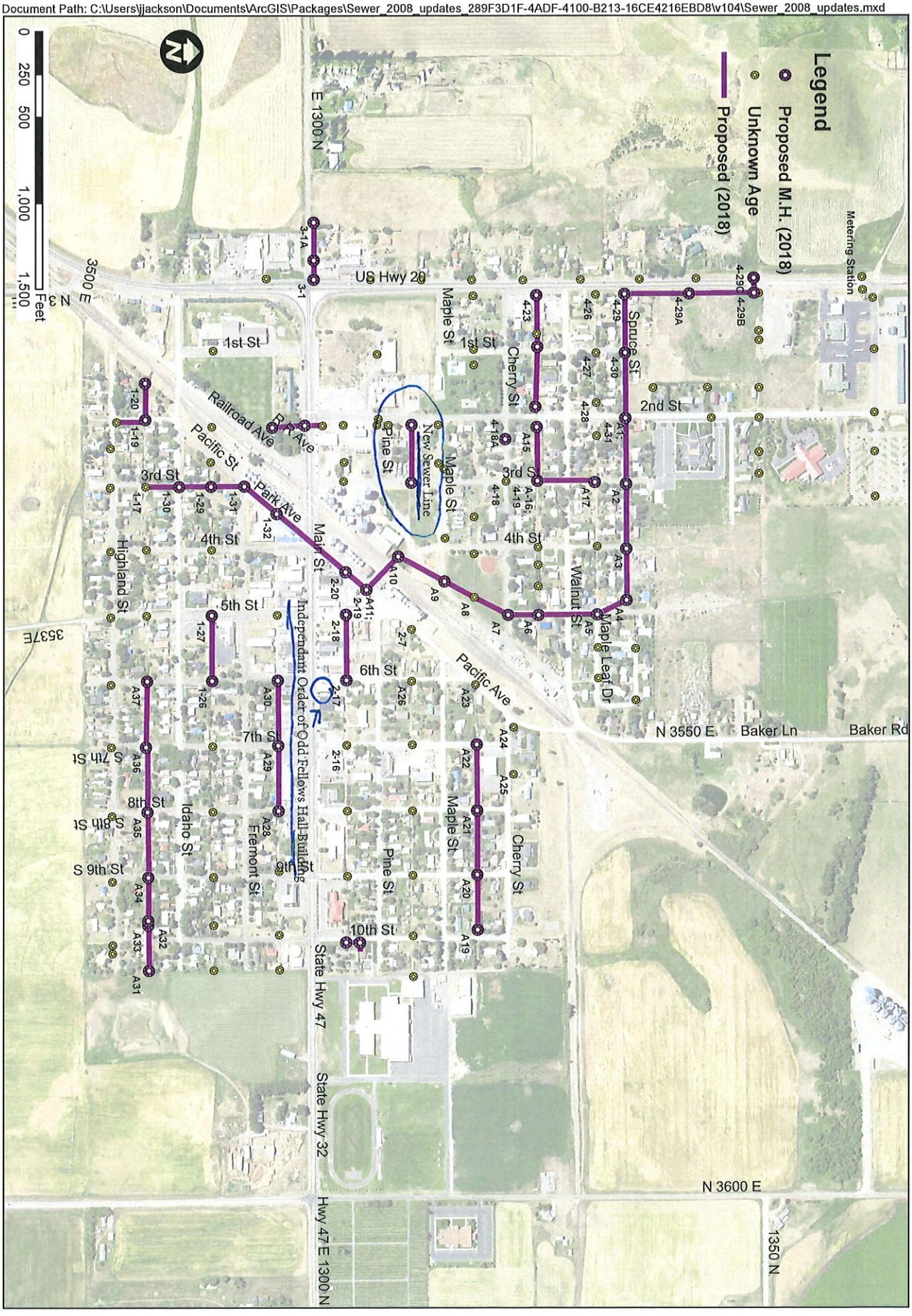

Figure:	Wastewater Improvements Phase 2	Prepared for:	
1	Proposed Sewer Line Replacements	City of Ashton	City of Ashton Idaho / KELLER associates

73000685	Bear River	Bear River Massacre;Massacre at Boa Ogoi;Battle of Bear Rive	3/14/1973	Preston	Franklin	ID	NW of Preston off U.S. 91	FALSE		Single	Listed	NATIONAL HISTORIC LANDMARK
75000630	Oneida Stake Academy		5/21/1975	Preston	Franklin	ID	NW corner of 2nd, S. and 2nd, E. Sts.	FALSE	Nuffer,John	Single	Listed	
76000673	Cowley, Matthias, House		7/19/1976	Preston	Franklin	ID	110 S. 1st St., E.	FALSE	Unknown	Single	Listed	
87001585	Franklin Cc	000641 County Courthouses in Idaho MPS	9/27/1987	Preston	Franklin	ID	39 W. Oneida	FALSE	Pope,Hyrum C.; Thomas,W.F.	Multiple	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
89000135	US Post Of	Preston M US Post Offices in Idaho 1900--1941 MPS	3/16/1989	Preston	Franklin	ID	55 E. Oneida St.	FALSE	Simon,Louis A.	Multiple	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
74000738	Weston Canyon Rock Shelter		7/25/1974	Weston	Franklin	ID	Address Restricted	TRUE		Single	Listed	
97000763	Independe	Ashton State Bank Building	7/9/1997	Ashton	Fremont	ID	Jct. of 6th Ave. and Main St.	FALSE	Johnson, Smokey; Baker, William	Single	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
79000788	Sack, Johnny, Cabin		4/19/1979	Big Springs	Fremont	ID	Island Park	FALSE	Unknown	Single	Listed	
97000756	Conant Creek Pegram	Pegram Truss Railroad Bridges of Idaho MPS	7/25/1997	Grainville	Fremont	ID	Over the Conant Creek. 1 mi. S of jct. of Sq	FALSE	Pregram. George H.	Multiple	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
00000742	Crabtree, Glen and Addie, Cabin		6/29/2000	Island Park	Fremont	ID	3939 Cowan Rd.	FALSE	Crabtree, Charles Samuel	Single	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
86001184	Bishop Mountain Lookout		5/23/1986	Island Park	Fremont	ID	Forest Rd. 80120	FALSE	Civilian Conservation Corps	Single	Listed	ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTATION
94000131	Big Falls In	TG-790;Upper Mesa Falls Lodge	5/31/2002	Island Park	Fremont	ID	W bank of Henrys Fork at Upper Mesa Fall:	FALSE	Unknown	Single	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
94001452	Sherwood,	Sherwood Museum	12/9/1994	Island Park	Fremont	ID	ID 87 W of jct. with US 20	FALSE	Sherwood, Joseph	Single	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
96001508	Island Park	Railroad Ranch;Harriman State Park of Idaho	12/20/1996	Island Park	Fremont	ID	US 20, approximately 1 mi. SW of Island Pa	FALSE	unknown	Single	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
79000789	Fremont County Courthouse		1/8/1979	St. Anthon	Fremont	ID	151 W. 1st St., N.	FALSE	Wayland & Fennell	Single	Listed	
82000344	Idaho State	Industrial ! Tourtellotte and Hummel Architecture TR	11/17/1982	St. Anthon	Fremont	ID	W of St. Anthony on N. Parker Hwy.	FALSE	Tourtellotte & Hummel	Multiple	Listed	
89000136	US Post Of	St. Anthon US Post Offices in Idaho 1900--1941 MPS	3/16/1989	St. Anthon	Fremont	ID	48 W. First North	FALSE	Simon,Louis A.	Multiple	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION
97000761	St. Anthony	Pegram Tr Pegram Truss Railroad Bridges of Idaho MPS	7/25/1997	St. Anthon	Fremont	ID	Over Henry's Fork. 0.5 mi. S of jct. of S. Par	FALSE	Pregram. George H.	Multiple	Listed	DATE RECEIVED/PENDING NOMINATION

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440
Phone: (208) 356-4524 Ext. 316
Fax: (208) 356-4544
E-mail: Pauline.johnson@ecipda.net

November 6, 2017

Matthew Halitsky, AICP
Historic Preservation Review Officer
Idaho State Historic Preservation Office
210 Main Street
Boise, ID 83702

RE: City of Ashton Public Facilities - Wastewater System Improvement Project – Phase 2
Request for Comments for Preparation of an Environmental Information Document

Dear Matthew Halitsky:

The City of Ashton, Idaho will be submitting an application for Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funds for Public Facilities – Wastewater Collection System Improvement – Phase 2 project. All ICDBG projects are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The City of Ashton would like to request your comments concerning the improvements as they relate to possible environmental impacts.

The proposed improvements will consist of the removal and replacement of defective clay & concrete sewer pipes with new PVC piping as identified on the attached map. All piping is within the City of Ashton boundaries.

The City of Ashton requests that your office review the proposed project for possible adverse impacts this undertaking would have on **Historical Properties** in the project area.

Please forward your comments to Pauline Johnson at the above address. We would appreciate your response within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this proposed project or if you need any further information, please contact me at (208)356-4524 ext. 316 or at Pauline.Johnson@ecipda.net

Sincerely,

Pauline Johnson
Environmental Review Officer Signature

The Development Company

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440
Phone: (208) 356-4524 Ext. 316
Fax: (208) 356-4544
E-mail: Pauline.johnson@ecipda.net

November 6, 2017

Patti Timbimboo, Cultural Resource Officer
Northwestern Band Shoshone
707 North Main Street
Brigham City, Utah 84302

RE: City of Ashton Public Facilities - Wastewater System Improvement Project
Request for Comments for Preparation of an Environmental Information Document

Dear Patti Timbimboo:

The City of Ashton, Idaho will be submitting an application for Idaho Community Development Block Grant (ICDBG) funds for Public Facilities – Wastewater Collection System Improvement – Phase 2 project. All ICDBG projects are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The City of Ashton would like to request your comments concerning the improvements as they relate to possible environmental impacts.

The proposed improvements will consist of the removal and replacement of defective clay & concrete sewer pipes with new PVC piping as identified on the attached map. All piping is within the City of Ashton boundaries.

The City of Ashton requests that your office review the proposed project for possible adverse impacts this undertaking would have on **Cultural Resources** in the project area.

Please forward your comments to Pauline Johnson at the above address. We would appreciate your response within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this proposed project or if you need any further information, please contact me at (208)356-4524 ext. 316 or at Pauline.Johnson@ecipda.net.

Sincerely,

Pauline Johnson
Environmental Review Officer Signature

The Development Company

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440
Phone: (208) 356-4524 Ext. 316
Fax: (208) 356-4544
E-mail: Pauline.johnson@ecipda.net

November 6, 2017

Ted Howard, Director
Shoshone-Paiute Tribe
P.O. Box 219
Owyhee, Nevada 89832

RE: City of Ashton Public Facilities - Wastewater System Improvement Project
Request for Comments for Preparation of an Environmental Information Document

Dear Ted Howard:

The City of Ashton, Idaho will be submitting an application for Idaho Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for Public Facilities – Wastewater Collection System Improvement – Phase 2 project. All ICDBG projects are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The City of Ashton would like to request your comments concerning the improvements as they relate to possible environmental impacts.

The proposed improvements will consist of the removal and replacement of defective clay & concrete sewer pipes with new PVC piping as identified on the attached map. All piping is within the City of Ashton boundaries.

The City of Ashton requests that your office review the proposed project for possible adverse impacts this undertaking would have on **Cultural Resources** in the project area.

Please forward your comments to Pauline Johnson at the above address. We would appreciate your response within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this proposed project or if you need any further information, please contact me at (208)356-4524 ext. 316 or at Pauline.Johnson@ecipda.net.

Sincerely,

Pauline Johnson
Environmental Review Officer Signature

The Development Company

Pauline Johnson
East-Central Idaho Planning & Development Association, Inc.
299 East 4th North
Rexburg, Idaho 83440
Phone: (208) 356-4524 Ext. 316
Fax: (208) 356-4544
E-mail: Pauline.johnson@ecipda.net

November 6, 2017

Carolyn Boyer Smith
Cultural Resources Program
P.O. Box 306
Ft. Hall, Idaho 83203

RE: City of Ashton Public Facilities - Wastewater System Improvement Project
Request for Comments for Preparation of an Environmental Information Document

Dear Carolyn Boyer Smith:

The City of Ashton, Idaho will be submitting an application for Idaho Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds for Public Facilities – Wastewater Collection System Improvement – Phase 2 project. All CDBG projects are subject to review under the National Environmental Policy Act. The City of Ashton would like to request your comments concerning the improvements as they relate to possible environmental impacts.

The proposed improvements will consist of the removal and replacement of defective clay & concrete sewer pipes with new PVC piping as identified on the attached map. All piping is within the City of Ashton boundaries.

The City of Ashton requests that your office review the proposed project for possible adverse impacts this undertaking would have on **Cultural Resources** in the project area.

Please forward your comments to Pauline Johnson at the above address. We would appreciate your response within 30 days from the date of this letter. If you have any questions concerning this proposed project or if you need any further information, please contact me at (208)356-4524 ext. 316 or at Pauline.Johnson@ecipda.net.

Sincerely,

Pauline Johnson
Environmental Review Officer Signature