

**FINAL  
RECREATION AND TRAFFIC SAFETY PLAN**

**Bear River Hydroelectric Project  
FERC Project No. 20**



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### Acronyms and Abbreviations

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act
ADAAG	ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities
AW	American Whitewater
BLM	U.S. Bureau of Land Management
cfs	cubic feet per second
DUA	Day Use Area
ECC	Environmental Coordination Committee
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
EMS	Environmental Management System
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FCSO	Franklin County Sheriff's Office
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
FS	Forest Service
FWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
GYC	Greater Yellowstone Coalition
IDEQ	Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
IDFG	Idaho Department of Fish and Game
IDPR	Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
IRU	Idaho Rivers United
ITU	Idaho Council of Trout Unlimited
LMP	Land Management Plan
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NPS	National Park Service
O&M	operation and maintenance
OHV	off-highway vehicle
PM&E	protection, mitigation, and enhancement measure
Project	Bear River Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 20)
RD	recreation day
RMP	Resource Management Plan
RTSP	Recreation and Traffic Safety Plan
SA	Settlement Agreement
SRMA	Special Recreation Management Area
Tribes	Shoshone-Bannock Tribes

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Bear River Hydroelectric Project (Project) is owned and operated by PacifiCorp, a U.S. Division of Scottish Power. Located on the Bear River in southeastern Idaho, the Project consists of four developments – Soda, Grace, Cove, and Oneida – which are hydrologically and electrically connected (Figure 1.0-1). The four developments were relicensed as a single Project by the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC) on December 22, 2003 (FERC 2003). In their Order issuing the new license, the FERC also approved the Settlement Agreement (SA) for the Bear River Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 20). This SA was the outcome of a relicensing process between PacifiCorp and 16 stakeholder participants who represented various resource agencies and interest groups. The SA includes a number of protection, mitigation, and enhancement measures (PM&Es) designed to address the effects of Project operations and maintenance on natural and cultural resources, safety, and recreation in the vicinity of the Project. Most of these measures were incorporated as articles into the new FERC license order with little or no modification.



**Photo 1. Oneida Reservoir and dam.**

As stipulated in the SA and by FERC License Article 416 for the Project (FERC 2003) (Appendix A), PacifiCorp is required to prepare a Recreation Plan for PacifiCorp-owned lands within the FERC Project boundary (including additional lands added per Article 427). The FERC requires that the Recreation Plan include the following information:

- A description of the type and location of all existing recreation facilities and use areas in the Project area (Figure 1.0-2);
- A description of the type and location of all new recreation facilities, including the following sites (Figure 1.0-2):
  - The boater put-in and take-out sites in the Grace bypassed reach (Black Canyon reach);
  - The boater put-in and take-out sites in the Oneida reach;
- A description of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) recreation site facilities;
- A description of measures for minimizing potential construction-related impacts associated with new recreation facilities;

**Figure 1.0-1. Bear River Project Region.**

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**Figure 1.0-2. Existing and New Developed Recreation Sites in the Bear River Project Area.**

*(Insert Figure 1.0-2)*

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- Identification of the entity or entities responsible for constructing, operating, and maintaining the existing and new recreation facilities in the Project area;
- A description of the operation and maintenance (O&M) schedule at existing and new recreation facilities in the Project area;
- A schedule for implementing funding measures related to recreation facility improvements and enhancements described in the Recreation Plan, including:
  - PacifiCorp to provide annual funding (up to \$10,000 annually) to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for O&M at Redpoint and Maple Grove Campgrounds;
  - PacifiCorp to provide a one-time payment (\$50,000) to the BLM to upgrade and improve recreation facilities at Redpoint and Maple Grove Campgrounds;
  - PacifiCorp to provide annual funding (not to exceed \$3,000) to Caribou County for O&M of recreation sites at Soda Reservoir (also known as Alexander Reservoir); and
- Conceptual drawings showing the type and location of existing and new recreation facilities in the Project area.

In addition to a Recreation Plan and as stipulated in the SA and by FERC License Article 416 for the Project (FERC 2003) (Appendix A), PacifiCorp is also required to prepare a Traffic Safety Plan for Oneida Project Road (Figure 1.0-2), per FERC License Article 417 (Appendix A). The FERC requires that the Traffic Safety Plan include the following information:

- A description of Oneida Project Road;
- Maps and/or drawings of the road; and
- A schedule and implementation plan for the following traffic safety-related measures:
  - PacifiCorp to provide annual maintenance (up to \$1,000) for traffic signs along Oneida Project Road;
  - PacifiCorp to construct a turn-around loop near the Oneida Day Use Area to improve safety and maneuverability for vehicles using Oneida Project Road;
  - PacifiCorp to provide annual funding (not to exceed \$3,000) to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office (FCSO) for law enforcement services along Oneida Project Road from May 1 through October 1; and
  - PacifiCorp to implement dust abatement measures (as necessary) along Oneida Project Road adjacent to and up to 100 feet on either side of Redpoint and Maple Grove Campgrounds.

This Recreation and Traffic Safety Plan (RTSP) presents the combined information regarding License Articles 416 and 417, along with additional whitewater boating and river flow-related requirements in License Articles 412, 418, 419, 420, 421, and 422 (FERC 2003) (Appendix A). This comprehensive RTSP provides overall management guidance related to Project area recreation, including whitewater boating and traffic safety along Oneida Project Road. As required by the FERC, this RTSP was prepared in consultation with the Environmental Coordination Committee (ECC) (Section 2.2) and will be finalized upon FERC approval.

## 1.1 Project Area

The Project includes (from upstream to downstream) four FERC-licensed hydroelectric developments – Soda, Grace, Cove, and Oneida (Figure 1.0-1). The License Applications (PacifiCorp 1999a, b, c) provide a complete description of each of the separate developments. The new FERC Project boundary will encompass all Project facilities, as well as certain PacifiCorp and BLM-managed lands in the vicinity of Oneida Reservoir and Narrows and PacifiCorp-owned lands along the Bear River upstream of the Grace Powerhouse in the lower portion of Black Canyon (FERC Article 427).



**Photo 2. Soda Powerhouse and Alexander Reservoir.**

The Soda Development is located in Caribou County, Idaho, approximately 44 miles north of the Utah border and 5 mile west of Soda Springs (Figure 1.0-1). The Development consists of Soda Dam, Alexander Reservoir, Soda Powerhouse, and other related operations and maintenance buildings. Several recreation facilities are also located within or adjacent to the Soda Development (Figure 1.0-2).

Alexander Reservoir has a surface area of 1,100 acres and approximately 12 miles of shoreline at normal pool elevation. Most recreational use associated with the Soda Development occurs on the reservoir and includes fishing, boating, and picnicking, among other activities (PacifiCorp 1999a).

The Grace/Cove Developments are located in Caribou County, Idaho, approximately 6 miles downstream of the Soda Development and 38 miles north of the Utah border near the town of Grace (Figure 1.0-1). The Developments include two small impoundments and bypassed sections of the Bear River. The Grace Forebay has a surface area of 38 acres, while the Cove Forebay has a surface area of 10 acres. A 26,000-ft-long flowline carries water from the Grace Diversion to the Grace Powerhouse, and a 6,125-ft-long flume and 500-ft-long penstock deliver water from the Cove Diversion to the Cove Powerhouse. The Grace bypass river reach (Black Canyon reach) is approximately 6 miles long, while the Cove bypass reach is approximately 1.9 miles long. The Grace Development includes an angler access site immediately upstream of the powerhouse



(Black Canyon Take-Out). There are no other existing developed recreation facilities associated with the Grace/Cove Developments, though dispersed shoreline fishing does occur along the bypassed reaches and impoundments, as well as occasional whitewater boating in the Grace bypass reach when water is available (PacifiCorp 1999b).



**Photo 3. Cove Forebay.**

The Oneida Development is located in Franklin County, Idaho, approximately 20 miles north of the Utah border near the town of Preston (Figure 1.0-1). The 22 miles (35.4 km) of river separating the Cove Powerhouse and Oneida Reservoir are not included in the FERC Project boundary. Oneida Reservoir, formed by Oneida Dam, has a surface area of 480 acres. There are two existing developed recreation facilities on the shoreline of Oneida Reservoir – Maple Grove Campground (managed by the BLM) and Oneida Day Use Area (DUA) (Figure 1.0-2). A third existing recreation facility, Redpoint Campground (managed by the BLM), is located on the Bear River downstream of the Oneida Dam, although it is outside of the previous FERC Project boundary (a new expanded FERC Project boundary, which includes this site, is described in License Article 427). Camping, fishing, swimming, boating, and tubing are the most popular recreational activities currently associated with the Oneida Development (PacifiCorp 1999c).

## **1.2 Existing Developed Recreation Facilities in the Project Area**

This section describes existing recreational facilities in the Project area. The location of each existing developed recreation facility is depicted on Figure 1.0-2. New recreation facilities in the Project area are described in Section 1.3. Identified dispersed recreation sites and use areas are described in the Land Management Plan (LMP).

### **1.2.1 Oregon Trail Park and Marina**

Oregon Trail Park and Marina is located on the northern shoreline of Alexander Reservoir near Soda Springs (Figure 1.0-2). Caribou County owns and manages the site, except for 0.5 acres along the shoreline, which it leases from PacifiCorp. The site has a boat ramp,



**Photo 4. Oregon Trail Park and Marina.**

floating dock, picnic tables, picnic shelters, trash receptacles, playground equipment, parking for approximately 30 vehicles, and a vault toilet building (PacifiCorp 1999a).

### 1.2.2 Second Bridge Boat Launch

Second Bridge Boat Launch is located on the northern shoreline of Alexander Reservoir, adjacent to an old bridge abutment and approximately 1 mile upstream of the Soda Dam (Figure 1.0-2). The site consists of a boat ramp, floating dock, trash receptacles, a portable toilet, and a large gravel parking area. Caribou County leases the site from PacifiCorp and is responsible for routine O&M (PacifiCorp 1999a).



**Photo 5. Soda Powerhouse DUA.**

### 1.2.3 Soda Powerhouse Day Use Area

Soda Powerhouse DUA is also located on the northern shoreline of Alexander Reservoir, adjacent to the Soda Dam and Powerhouse (Figure 1.0-2). The site consists of a concrete hand-launch boat ramp, a floating dock, a small sand beach, picnic tables, a picnic shelter, trash receptacles, a drinking fountain, and a large irrigated lawn. A restroom is provided in one of the vacant PacifiCorp employee houses adjacent to the DUA. Parking is available along the access road to the site. Large groups can reserve the park. PacifiCorp owns and maintains this site (PacifiCorp 1999a).

### 1.2.4 Maple Grove Campground

Maple Grove Campground is located on the southeastern shoreline of Oneida Reservoir, approximately 1 mile upstream from the Oneida Dam (Figure 1.0-2). This campground is managed by the BLM. The site consists of 13 campsites, each with a picnic table, fire pit, and grill, and two vault toilet buildings. The vault toilets and two of the campsites are ADA-accessible. The Maple Grove Campground also has a small day use area with a boat ramp, floating dock, and gravel parking area for approximately 4 vehicles (PacifiCorp 1999c). There is a \$5 per night user fee at this site (BLM 2004).



**Photo 6. Entrance sign at Maple Grove Campground.**

### 1.2.5 Oneida Day Use Area

The Oneida DUA is located on the southeastern shoreline of Oneida Reservoir, immediately upstream of Oneida Dam. The site consists of a boat ramp, floating dock, 10 picnic sites (each site with a picnic table, grill, and fire pit), a double-vault toilet building, and parking for approximately 20 vehicles (PacifiCorp 1999c).



Photo 7. Oneida Day Use Area.

### 1.2.6 Redpoint Campground

Redpoint Campground is located along the Bear River, approximately 2 miles downstream of Oneida Dam and outside of the previous FERC Project boundary (Figure 1.0-2). This campground is managed by the BLM. The site consists of 10 primitive campsites, several picnic tables, and a vault toilet building (PacifiCorp 1999c). There is no fee associated with use of this site (BLM 2004).

## 1.3 **New Recreation Facilities in the Project Area**

This section describes new recreational facilities in the Project area, as required by the SA and FERC license order. The location of each new developed recreation facility is depicted on Figure 1.0-2. Existing recreation facilities in the Project area are described in Section 1.2. Additional detail regarding each of the new recreation sites described below is provided in Section 4.1 and Appendices B and C.

### 1.3.1 Black Canyon Put-In

The Black Canyon Put-In is located along the upper portion of the Grace bypass reach, immediately downstream of the Grace Dam near the Highway 34 Bridge (Figure 1.0-2). The site was previously used as an angler access area (PacifiCorp 1999b). The new put-in consists of a hand-launch boat ramp, a gravel parking area for approximately 15 vehicles, and a portable restroom. PacifiCorp owns and is responsible for ongoing O&M at this new site (FERC 2003).

### 1.3.2 Black Canyon Take-Out

The Black Canyon Take-Out is located along the lower portion of the Grace bypass reach, approximately 0.5 miles upstream of the Grace Powerhouse (Figure 1.0-2). The site was previously used as a dispersed recreation area (PacifiCorp 1999b). The new take-out consists of a hand-launch boat ramp, a gravel parking area for approximately 15 vehicles, and a portable restroom. PacifiCorp owns and is responsible for ongoing O&M at this new site (FERC 2003).

### 1.3.3 Oneida Narrows Put-In

The Oneida Narrows Put-In is located downstream from the Oneida Dam along Oneida Project Road (Figure 1.0-2). The new site consists of a hand-launch boat ramp, a gravel parking area for approximately 10 vehicles, and a portable restroom. PacifiCorp owns and is responsible for ongoing O&M at this new site (FERC 2003).

### 1.3.4 Oneida Narrows Take-Out

The Oneida Narrow Take-Out is located downstream of the existing Redpoint Campground along Oneida Project Road (Figure 1.0-2). The new site consists of a hand-launch boat ramp, a portable restroom, and parking for approximately 10 vehicles along the site of the road. PacifiCorp is responsible for ongoing O&M at this new site, which is located on BLM-managed land (FERC 2003).



## 2.0 OVERVIEW

This section presents an overview of the RTSP. Specifically, it provides a user's guide, describes ECC consultation, discusses the purpose and intent of the RTSP, provides a brief overview of the implementation programs, lists issues and assumptions, and defines key terminology used throughout the RTSP.

### 2.1 User's Guide

This section is intended to clarify potential future conflicts or ambiguity in implementing the RTSP during the term of the new license. If the authority or action is unclear or contradictory, the following prioritized list of agreements, plans, or documents will guide decision-makers. The priority is as follows:

1. FERC license terms and conditions (including the SA).
2. Project management plans, including the RTSP (after FERC approval) and associated detailed sections and appendices (e.g., Section 4.0, Appendix B, etc.).
3. Project management plans, including the RTSP and associated broader purpose and intent statements (e.g., Sections 2.3, etc.).

Potential conflicts or ambiguity in implementing the RTSP may be discussed and addressed during periodic ECC meetings (Sections 3.0) and during periodic RTSP review (Section 4.6), and will be summarized in the Annual Report to the FERC (Article 401; Appendix A). Revisions, if necessary, to the RTSP to help clarify potential conflicts or ambiguity may occur as necessary at the discretion of the licensee or at least every 10-15 years (Section 4.6).

### 2.2 ECC Consultation

Implementation of the RTSP is the primary responsibility of PacifiCorp as licensee. However, FERC has directed that the RTSP will also be developed and implemented in consultation with the ECC. The ECC is composed of representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), BLM, National Park Service (NPS), Forest Service (FS), Shoshone-Bannock Tribes (Tribes), Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ), Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR), Idaho Council of Trout Unlimited (ITU), Idaho Rivers United (IRU), Greater Yellowstone Coalition (GYC), American Whitewater (AW), and other stakeholders. The ECC is expected to provide consultation on the implementation of the RTSP and other plans (e.g., LMP, etc.) and to help in the administration of post-licensing activities in the Project area. PacifiCorp will conduct ECC meetings to meet the new license consultation requirement throughout the term of the new license.

### 2.3 BLM Resource Management Plan Coordination

In addition to ongoing ECC consultation, PacifiCorp will also coordinate with the BLM as they develop their Draft Pocatello Resource Management Plan (RMP)/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), which includes BLM-managed lands within the Project area (Figure 1.0-2). PacifiCorp is committed to working with the BLM to ensure consistency between this RTSP and the BLM's RMP, especially in regards to the following issues:

- OHV Use—continued OHV use in the Project area will be confined to designated roads only;
- Overnight Camping—overnight camping will be allowed only at designated campgrounds in the Project area (Maple Grove and Redpoint campgrounds); and
- River Access Sites—access to the river will be allowed only at existing developed river access sites (e.g., Oneida Narrows Put-In, Oneida Narrows Take-Out).

The Draft Pocatello RMP/EIS is currently in development by the BLM. Preliminary planning suggests the designation of the Oneida Narrows Canyon as a BLM Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA)(pers. comm., B. Newman 2004). SRMAs are BLM administrative units

established to direct recreation program priorities, including the allocation of funding and personnel, to those public lands where a commitment has been made to provide specific recreation activity and experience opportunities on a sustained yield basis. This includes a long-term commitment to manage the physical, social, and managerial settings to sustain these activity and experience opportunities.

Delineation is based on administrative/managerial criteria such as recreation values and uses, land tenure and use patterns, administrative efficiencies, resource values, and public concern. These areas usually require a high level of recreation investment and/or management. They include recreation sites, but recreation sites alone do not constitute a SRMA.



**Photo 8. Redpoint Campground (BLM).**

Through development of the Draft Pocatello RMP/EIS, including the potential Oneida Narrows Canyon SRMA, the BLM and PacifiCorp will coordinate recreation-related management actions and measures to ensure consistency between the BLM's plan and this RTSP on lands within the Project area. The two plans should complement each other, especially in regard to OHV use, overnight camping, river access sites, and

dispersed recreation management policies, actions, and measures on Project lands within the Oneida Narrows Canyon. Some flexibility is intentionally built into the RTSP to address the fact that the BLM's Draft Pocatello RMP/EIS is still in development. Section 4.6 provides additional detail about the RTSP review and update process.

## 2.4 Purpose and Intent

The purpose of the RTSP is to define PacifiCorp's involvement, role, and responsibilities in implementing recreation resource and traffic safety components of the FERC license terms and conditions (Appendix A). PacifiCorp's responsibilities include managing and operating certain existing and new recreation facilities, public use areas, and specific roadways associated with the Project, including site-specific and programmatic measures.

Taken as a whole, the RTSP represents a single "umbrella" PM&E for recreation resources and traffic safety. More specifically, the RTSP is an implementation tool to be used to plan, design, construct, fund, operate, and maintain existing and proposed developed public recreation facilities and programs in the Project area for the term of the new license. The RTSP is intended to be specific to PacifiCorp's recreation resource and traffic safety roles and responsibilities in the Project area. The RTSP does not make management or resource commitments for other entities, such as the BLM or other state and federal agencies.

The RTSP presents six programs that are intended to implement site-specific and programmatic recreation and traffic safety measures, as described in and required by the new FERC license. These measures were first developed in the SA and were agreed upon by PacifiCorp and other stakeholders (i.e., members of the ECC). Recreation resource technical studies conducted by PacifiCorp for relicensing were also used as a basis for decision-making and development of the RSTP.

## 2.5 Overview of Implementation Programs

This section provides an overview of the RTSP's six programs. These programs include PacifiCorp's responsibilities for implementing actions to address recreation resources and traffic safety needs, as outlined in the new FERC license, in the Project area. The six RTSP programs include:

- **Recreation Facility Development/Capital Improvement Program** (Section 4.1) – defines PacifiCorp's construction-related responsibilities, identifies proposed recreation development projects, provides estimated costs for recreation measures (Appendix B), identifies locations and conceptual layouts of the development measures (Appendix C), and discusses general facility development standards and criteria to be used. In some cases, partnerships with the BLM and Caribou County are identified.
- **Recreation Operations and Maintenance Program** (Section 4.2) – defines PacifiCorp's O&M responsibilities, provides estimated costs for O&M (Appendix B), and discusses general facility and use area maintenance standards to be

followed. In some cases, partnerships with the BLM and Caribou County are identified.

- **Recreation Monitoring Program** (Section 4.3) – defines PacifiCorp’s responsibilities related to periodic monitoring of recreation use in the Project area, specifically as they relate to completion of FERC Form 80 every 6 years (Appendix D).
- **Whitewater Boating Program** (Section 4.4) – defines PacifiCorp’s requirement to provide whitewater boating flows, discusses boater facility development/capital improvement and O&M in the Project area related to whitewater boating, and details other programmatic whitewater boating proposals.
- **Traffic Safety Program** (Section 4.5) – defines PacifiCorp’s proposed roadway capital improvements (Appendix B), O&M, and safety measures along Oneida Project Road. A proposed law enforcement agreement with the FCSO is also identified.
- **Plan Review and Update Program** (Section 4.6) – defines how and when the RTSP will be updated or revised, if necessary, over the term of the new license.

## 2.6 Issues and Assumptions

Based on the relicensing process, as well as ECC consultation, several issues and assumptions were identified regarding the management of recreation resources in the Project area. These issues and assumptions are important to consider if revisions or modifications are needed in the future to the RTSP and include the following:

- The Project has resulted in public outdoor recreation opportunities and needs along the shorelines of Project reservoirs and river reaches. These opportunities and needs are located principally within or directly adjacent to the FERC Project boundary.
- PacifiCorp and the agencies provide both developed and dispersed public recreation opportunities in the region and share areas of responsibility.
- To satisfy public outdoor recreation needs, several recreation providers, including PacifiCorp, have developed, operated, and maintained various recreation facilities, principally within or adjacent to the FERC Project boundary.
- New recreation facility development by PacifiCorp will be concentrated in suitable areas where it is compatible with the land uses and natural and cultural resources.
- No additional recreation facility construction is planned in the future within or adjacent to the FERC Project boundary by PacifiCorp, beyond those



developments described in this RTSP. The BLM will be responsible for all future recreation development that may be needed due to increased visitor use beyond the current capacity in the Oneida Narrows area over the term of the new license.

- PacifiCorp and the other recreation providers within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary are responsible for operating, maintaining, renovating, and upgrading existing as well as new recreation facilities over the term of the new license.
- Recreation providers within and adjacent to the FERC Project boundary, including PacifiCorp, must comply with current ADA regulations, including ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities (ADAAG), as amended. ADAAG, as amended, may define the upgrade of some existing recreation facilities over the term of the new license when facilities receive major maintenance or are replaced.
- Partnerships and/or cost sharing between PacifiCorp and other recreation providers is planned for cooperatively funding some measures in the Project area that will benefit the general public and improve the overall recreation experience in the Project area.
- Over the term of the new license, PacifiCorp will continue to allow dispersed public recreational use of lands within the FERC Project boundary, except where public safety, security, or resource concerns have been identified. While dispersed recreational use (e.g., hunting, fishing, hiking, etc.) of Project area lands will be allowed, overnight use (i.e., camping) will be prohibited on PacifiCorp-managed lands within the FERC Project boundary, except at designated campgrounds. Additionally, OHV use is restricted to existing roads on PacifiCorp lands within the Project boundary.

## 2.7 Explanation of Terms

Key terms and concepts used throughout the RTSP that are relevant to recreation planning and traffic safety in the Project area include:

- Environmental Coordination Committee (ECC) – A work group established by the SA and new FERC License Order to provide consultation on the development of implementation and monitoring plans for various resource areas and to help in the administration of post-licensing activities in the Project area. Group members include representatives from each of the SA signatories.
- License – The new FERC license for the Bear River Hydroelectric Project, FERC Project No. 20.
- PacifiCorp – Project licensee and a U.S. Division of Scottish Power.

- Project – The Bear River Hydroelectric Project, including the Oneida, Grace, Cove, and Soda Developments.
- Project area – The Project area includes all waters and lands within the FERC Project boundary, including Project reservoir and river reach recreation sites.
- Project boundary – The FERC Project boundary, as amended in the new FERC license.
- Recreation-related needs – Recreation needs, as stated in the new license, which are associated with the development and operation of the Project for the new license term.
- Term of the new license – Thirty years, as ordered by the FERC in the new license.
- Traffic safety-related needs – Traffic safety needs along Oneida Project Road, as stated in the new license, which are associated with the development and operation of the Project for the new license term.

### **3.0 ROLES, PLANNING, AND COORDINATION**

An important part of the RTSP over the term of the new license is planning and coordination and the roles various entities will perform relative to recreation resources in the Project area and traffic safety along Oneida Project Road. This section describes the roles and responsibilities of PacifiCorp and others, coordination activities including potential environmental compliance and permitting, and periodic reporting associated with implementation of the RTSP and its associated programs.

#### **3.1 PacifiCorp and Agency Roles and Responsibilities**

Implementation of the RTSP is the responsibility of PacifiCorp. PacifiCorp's expectations of the basic roles of the primary recreation resource and traffic safety entities involved in RTSP implementation are listed below. These entities include the BLM, FCSO, and Caribou County. It is acknowledged that PacifiCorp, through the RTSP, cannot assign funding, staffing, or other resource allocation responsibilities to other entities, such as the BLM, unless specified in an Outline Agreement or other legal contract. Implementation of the RTSP will involve the following anticipated roles and responsibilities:

PacifiCorp: Roles and responsibilities over the term of the new license include:

- Implementation of the RTSP.
- Coordination of proposed recreation and traffic safety actions with other Project-related resource management plans.
- Preparation of periodic reporting to the ECC and FERC (annual reports and FERC Form 80).
- Preparation of periodic updates, if necessary, to the RTSP and tracking any changes over time (Section 3.2).
- Participation in ECC meetings.
- Support continued partnerships among PacifiCorp and tribal, federal, state, and local governments and other recreation interest groups in the Project vicinity.

BLM: Roles and responsibilities over the term of the new license include:

- Participation in ECC meetings.
- Lead agency for implementing actions related to the forthcoming Draft Pocatello RMP/ EIS, when adopted (the Oneida Development is located within the BLM's Pocatello Resource Area).

- Upgrade of Maple Grove and Redpoint campgrounds, with a one-time assistance payment from PacifiCorp.
- Lead agency for National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and other environmental and cultural resource compliance within BLM-managed lands.
- Continue to operate and maintain Maple Grove and Redpoint Campgrounds (with annual funding assistance from PacifiCorp).
- Construction and O&M of a potential future recreation site in the Oneida Narrows, if needed.

Caribou County: Roles and responsibilities over the term of the new license include:

- Continue to operate and maintain Oregon Trail Park and Marina and Second Bridge Boat Launch (with annual funding assistance from PacifiCorp).

Franklin County Sheriff's Office: Roles and responsibilities over the term of the new license include:

- Provide seasonal law enforcement services along Oneida Project Road per a future agreement with PacifiCorp (to be developed).

ECC Members: Roles and responsibilities over the term of the new license include:

- Participation in ECC meetings.
- Provide consultation on PacifiCorp-developed implementation and monitoring plans for resources within the Project area.
- Assist in the administration of post-licensing activities, as described in the new FERC license.

### **3.2 Periodic Review**

Implementation of the proposed recreation and traffic safety measures in the RTSP is expected to occur as detailed in the various programs through the term of the new license. However, some flexibility is built into the RTSP to address unanticipated changes in conditions over time.

At ECC meetings, the parties may consider potential minor adjustments in some specific actions or schedules, if needed and appropriate. However, major revisions to the RTSP are not planned. PacifiCorp will consider these scheduled changes of specific actions as allowed by FERC in the new license. Additional future recreation facility development, except as described in the RTSP and required by the new FERC license, is not an intended result of periodic review of the RTSP. Any agreed-upon adjustments to specific actions or schedules in the RTSP will be documented by PacifiCorp.

On a 10- to 15-year basis during the term of the new license, PacifiCorp will initiate a formal review of the RSTP. This review will also occur in conjunction with scheduled ECC meetings and may result in updates or revisions to the RSTP if needed. Factors that may trigger revisions to the RSTP may include the following:

- Revisions and updates to agency-adopted land and resource management plans;
- Catastrophic natural events, such as major forest fires or natural disasters, and significant effects of social disorder; and
- New federal or state policies, regulations, and laws that significantly affect recreation resources in the Project area for the new license term.

Upon completion of a revised RTSP by PacifiCorp and review by the ECC, the RTSP will be reprinted if major substantive changes are agreed upon during the review period. Recommendations for updates and revisions to the RTSP may be submitted by any party and will be considered by PacifiCorp. Agreed-upon changes to the RTSP will be incorporated into a revised document. The revised RTSP will be submitted to the FERC for final review and approval. Any disagreement on revisions to the RTSP may be resolved using the Alternative Dispute Resolution process, as described in Section 5.0 of the Bear River Project SA. Additionally, revisions or updates to the RTSP will not increase the overall financial obligation to PacifiCorp as shown in Exhibit B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs.

### **3.3 Environmental Compliance and Permitting**

PacifiCorp will coordinate with the BLM and ECC regarding any necessary federal environmental analyses, compliance, and permitting for Project recreation- and traffic safety related construction projects that will be located on BLM-managed lands, as identified in Exhibit B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs, and Exhibit C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings.

Environmental analysis, compliance, and permitting activities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Federal NEPA compliance
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers administered Clean Water Act—Section 404 wetland permitting
- State stream alteration permits
- National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) Section 106 compliance for cultural and historical resources
- Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance

- County zoning and permitting requirements
- Others activities as needed

To the extent possible, planned recreation and traffic safety projects will be grouped together to minimize environmental compliance and permitting needs and to foster review of cumulative effects. Such groupings may be geographical (by reservoir or river reach), temporal (in a block of years), or topical (similar recreation or traffic facilities). NEPA compliance will also be tiered, to the extent possible. NEPA compliance actions may be tiered under the FERC Project relicensing EIS.

If a planned recreation or traffic safety project is found to have potentially significant impacts that cannot be adequately mitigated or avoided, alternative recreation or traffic projects or sites will be considered to help satisfy the intended need of the original project. Alternative sites outside of the FERC Project boundary will not be considered as alternatives unless agreed to by PacifiCorp. These variables will be discussed during ECC meetings.

### **3.4 Periodic Reporting**

PacifiCorp will periodically document progress made in the implementation of the RTSP. Summary reports will be prepared and reviewed during ECC meetings and filed with FERC every 6 years when a FERC Form 80 is also required (Section 4.3). A sample FERC Form 80 is provided in Appendix D. These reports will summarize:

- FERC Form 80, as required every 6 years;
- Progress made on implementation of planned actions per the RTSP and FERC license terms and conditions; and
- Any changes made to the RTSP programs, including recreation and traffic safety projects being implemented and their schedule.

## 4.0 IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMS

This section describes the six programs that are intended to meet the RTSP's purpose and intent, as well as FERC license requirements. The six programs include:

- Recreation Facility Development/Capital Improvement Program
- Recreation Operations and Maintenance Program
- Recreation Monitoring Program
- Whitewater Boating Program
- Traffic Safety Program
- Plan Review and Update Program

### 4.1 Recreation Facility Development/Capital Improvement Program

PacifiCorp will implement identified recreation facility development/capital improvements that are intended to help meet many of the existing and future recreation needs identified in the Project area by upgrading existing facilities and/or constructing new facilities where appropriate, as defined in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs. This program identifies funding and construction responsibilities, construction schedules, facility development standards, and ADA compliance. Conceptual recreation development site plans and drawings are also provided in Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings. Seven recreation facility development/capital improvement program elements are discussed below.



**Photo 9. Hand boat launch at Soda Powerhouse DUA.**

#### 4.1.1 Recreation Facility Developments and Upgrades

PacifiCorp will be responsible for funding and construction implementation of the Recreation Facility Development/Capital Improvement Program presented in two RTSP appendices:

- Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs

- Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings

Recreation facility development actions described and displayed in these appendices are consistent with FERC License Articles (Appendix A). PacifiCorp funding for this program is estimated and presented in Appendix B. Budget amounts for the proposed actions are estimates of the funds needed to complete each action. The cost estimates also include any design, engineering, and permitting costs.

PacifiCorp will be responsible for designing, permitting, and constructing the recreation facility projects identified as “capital improvements” in Appendices B and C. PacifiCorp will manage and perform most of the construction-related capital improvement projects described in these appendices, unless noted otherwise. Construction documents will be prepared by PacifiCorp and then submitted to the appropriate agencies for review and approval (if any) prior to construction.

#### 4.1.2 Recreation Development Locations

Recreation facility development and upgrades are identified to help satisfy existing and future Project-related recreation needs in the Project area. These include new and expanded public recreation facilities that will be implemented during the new license term. The location of new and enhanced developed recreation sites are displayed in Figure 1.0-2. Recreation development conceptual site plans for these improvements are included in Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings. These plans provide conceptual design guidance for recreation projects contained in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs. Detailed design and construction drawings will be completed for each capital development project.

#### 4.1.3 Recreation Facility Design Guidelines

The following facility design and setting guidelines will be used by PacifiCorp to help site, construct, and upgrade its recreation facilities identified in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs, and Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings. Facility design and new facility siting will:

- Comply with current ADA and ADAAG, as amended, at the time major maintenance or renovation is undertaken;
- Comply with all appropriate public health and safety codes and regulations;
- Provide the opportunity for a high quality visitor experience and/or enhance visitor convenience;
- Minimize facility and site deterioration and operations and maintenance costs; and
- Protect natural and cultural resources.



#### 4.1.4 Americans with Disabilities Act Compliance and Facility Upgrades

Any newly constructed or significantly expanded, modified, or renovated facility will conform to the current ADAAG, as amended, that is in effect at the time of design, permitting, and construction. Requirements will vary by site due to topography and other variables and exclusions defined in ADAAG. ADA guidelines (as defined in ADAAG, as amended) provide guidance related to pathways, parking, toilets, and boat docks, as well as campsites, picnic sites, and trails (as proposed in new ADAAG guidelines currently under review by the U.S. Access Board).

#### 4.1.5 Environmental Project Review

New recreation facility development/capital improvement projects will be coordinated and permitted, as needed, with the appropriate approving jurisdiction, such as the BLM. If needed, PacifiCorp will acquire permits, certifications, and/or approvals, as defined in Section 3.3 – Environmental Compliance and Permitting, to construct or renovate recreation facility development/capital improvement projects identified in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs, and Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans.

#### 4.1.6 Agency and Public Review

Proposed recreation facility development/capital improvement projects will be reviewed at ECC meetings.

#### 4.1.7 Facility Construction Coordination and Schedule

All of the recreation facility development/capital improvement projects described in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs will be completed in the first 2 years of the new license. Updates to this schedule, if needed, will be discussed and revisions agreed upon at ECC meetings.

### 4.2 Recreation Operations and Maintenance Program

This program defines PacifiCorp’s developed recreation facility O&M responsibilities, as well as O&M standards and frequencies to be used by PacifiCorp at Project recreation facilities. Periodic O&M of existing and new recreation facilities is a required element of any recreation plan.

As defined in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs, PacifiCorp will perform annual O&M of identified PacifiCorp-managed recreation facilities using the



Photo 10. Picnic site at Oneida Day Use Area.

standards and frequencies described in this section. O&M will generally be performed by PacifiCorp or contractor staff, unless otherwise specified in a separate O&M agreement with another agency. For its recreation facilities and use areas, PacifiCorp will schedule and/or perform necessary O&M by providing necessary personnel, equipment, materials, and management, as appropriate.

If agreed upon by all parties involved, PacifiCorp and other agencies, such as BLM and Caribou County, may engage in future O&M cost sharing and fund leveraging if this will provide added efficiency and cost reduction to the Project and/or enhance the experience of Project area visitors.

For non-PacifiCorp-managed recreation facilities, PacifiCorp's annual funding of O&M at specific BLM (Maple Grove and Redpoint campgrounds) and Caribou County (Oregon Trail Park and Marina and Second Bridge Boat Launch) managed recreation facilities is required by the new FERC license (Appendix A). An accounting of this funding will be included in the Annual Report reviewed by the ECC.

#### 4.2.1 Recreation Facility Operations Schedule

Recreation facilities within the Project area, including those operated by PacifiCorp, the BLM, and Caribou County, will be open and available for public use within the Project area from April 1 through October 31, weather permitting (BLM 2004, FERC 2003). This schedule was developed to accommodate recreation visitors within the Project area, consistent with Project operations and other resource restrictions. Changes to this schedule may be made in consultation with the ECC, if needed.

#### 4.2.2 Recreation Facility Maintenance Standards and Frequency

Adequate maintenance of all recreation facilities within the Project area will be performed in accordance with recommended facility maintenance standards and frequencies defined in Table 4.2-2. All recreation providers in the Project area are urged to follow these recommendations. PacifiCorp-funding for O&M activities by other recreation providers (e.g., BLM, Caribou County) may be contingent upon compliance with these recommendations. The actual frequency needed to maintain the maintenance standards will vary based upon site-specific variables, such as park location, season, number of park visitors, and other factors. These recreation facility maintenance standards and frequencies may be revised, if needed, as conditions change over time. Any changes will be reviewed as appropriate in consultation with the ECC.

While dispersed recreation day use areas are not scheduled for routine maintenance, these areas should be monitored for excessive litter and new user built site "improvements." Dispersed day use area monitoring and potential maintenance will occur in accordance with protocols set forth in the LMP.

**Table 4.2-2. Developed recreation site maintenance standards and frequency recommendations.**

<b>Maintenance Standard</b>	<b>Recommended Frequency</b>
<p><b>Boat Ramps:</b> Surface may be asphalt-concrete (A-C), concrete, or gravel. Surfaces are to be in good condition. Ramps are to be kept free of debris. Areas are to be free of overhanging brush; adequate sight distance is to be maintained.</p>	<p><b>Monthly (in season):</b> Inspect boat launches and remove debris. Immediately correct or report all deficiencies and hazards.  <b>Bi-annually (pre- and post-season):</b> Inspect boat launches and docks; remove debris.</p>
<p><b>Buildings:</b> Including restrooms, picnic shelters, etc. Structures and associated fixtures are maintained in good repair, in safe, clean, and sanitary condition at all times. All buildings receive an annual structural maintenance inspection. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.</p>	<p><b>Weekly:</b> Inspect buildings and fixtures for repair needs; sweep or mop floors; clean sinks, windows, counters, seats, and displays with appropriate methods; empty waste containers.  <b>As required:</b> Replace light bulbs; remove spider webs.</p>
<p><b>Camp/Picnic Site Grills/Fire Pits:</b> Inspect for cleanliness and safety, vandalism, and natural resource conditions. Grills/fire pits should be free of unburned litter; grates should be intact, hinges working properly.</p>	<p><b>Weekly (minimum in season):</b> Remove litter from grills/fire pits. Remove cold ashes when fireplace is over ½ full.</p>
<p><b>Camp/Picnic Site Tables:</b> Inspect for cleanliness and safety, vandalism, and natural resource conditions. Tables should be sturdy, clean, free from food debris and graffiti.</p>	<p><b>Monthly (in season) or when dirty:</b> Wash picnic tables. Sand rough spots, tighten loose bolts, and replace damaged boards immediately.</p>
<p><b>Culverts and Ditches:</b> Associated with park roads, parking lots, and campgrounds. Culverts and ditches will be kept open and repaired so they function as intended.</p>	<p><b>Yearly Pre-Winter (September/October):</b> Perform inspections of culverts and ditches. After severe weather events, additional inspections may be warranted. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.</p>
<p><b>Garbage/Litter Collection:</b> All park areas are litter-free. Garbage cans are routinely emptied kept in good condition and free from odors.</p>	<p><b>Weekly:</b> Litter is removed from open spaces, camp and picnic sites, footpaths, and parking areas as soon as it is seen. Garbage can liners are removed as soon as they are full, and are replaced with new liners.</p>
<p><b>Gravel Surfaced Areas:</b> Including roads, parking areas, and campsites. Surfaces are to be in good condition. Areas are to be free of overhanging brush; adequate sight distance is to be maintained.</p>	<p><b>Semi-Annually:</b> Inspect all areas; remove overhanging vegetation; correct minor surface deficiencies; schedule major repair needs such as grading or resurfacing. Inspect immediately after severe weather events. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.</p>
<p><b>Boat Docks and Fishing Piers:</b> Decking and shoreline connection points are sound. Cleats, buoys, and markers are visible and correctly located. Hazards, litter, and unwanted vegetation are removed near boat docks and fishing piers.</p>	<p><b>Weekly (in season):</b> Inspect all areas; immediately correct or report all deficiencies and hazards. Inspect immediately following severe weather or high water events.  <b>Pre and Post Season:</b> Put docks in prior to and remove after primary recreation season. Inspect, repair, and or replace as needed.</p>
<p><b>Natural Occurrences:</b> Including snow, heavy rain, wind, and floods. Public and employee safety is established immediately.</p>	<p><b>Variable:</b> Inspect park areas as soon as possible after the occurrence. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.</p>

**Table 4.2-2. Developed recreation site maintenance standards and frequency recommendations.**

<b>Maintenance Standard</b>	<b>Recommended Frequency</b>
<b>Other Facilities and Activities:</b> Including maintenance services, ADA (barrier-free) campsites, areas of primary protection for cultural and natural resources and hazard trees. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.	<b>Monthly:</b> Inspect ADA (barrier-free) campsites. Inspect service contracts (refuse hauling, portable toilets, etc.). <b>Annually:</b> Inspect hazard trees.
<b>Paved Areas:</b> Including roads, parking lots, campsite hardstands, pavement surface may be A-C, concrete or paver block. Surfaces are to be in good condition. Striping is to be clearly visible. Areas are to be free of overhanging brush; adequate sight distance is to be maintained.	<b>Semi Annually:</b> Inspect paved areas; correct minor repair needs such as potholes; remove debris and overhanging brush; schedule major repair needs such as striping, overlay, or chip-seal. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.
<b>Restrooms:</b> Including pit and vault toilets, and restrooms inside other public buildings. Structures and fixtures are maintained in good repair, in clean and sanitary condition at all times. Items needing repair are corrected immediately or reported for scheduling.	<b>Weekly:</b> Inspect building and fixtures for repair needs; sweep floors, dispose of floor sweepings in waste containers; mop floors with disinfectant solution; clean sinks, urinals, toilets, mirrors, and counters with disinfectant solution, use scouring powder when necessary; dry sinks and toilet seats; empty waste containers. <b>Monthly:</b> Wash restroom walls with disinfectant; open and clean floor drains; clean the pipe chase and inventory maintenance supplies. <b>As required:</b> Replace light bulbs, replace paper products; remove spider webs; inspect and clean eave troughs.
<b>Signs:</b> Signs should be clean, legible, and damage-free; signposts should be straight.	<b>Monthly:</b> Inspect signs. Replace signs that are missing or damaged within 5 days (in season). Traffic control signs must be replaced immediately.
<b>Trails and Footpaths:</b> Surfaces may be A-C, concrete, gravel, wood chip, or native soil. Surfaces are to be in good condition. Footbridges are to be sound; stringers and decking are to be rot-free. Areas are to be free of overhanging brush; adequate sight distance is to be maintained.	<b>Quarterly:</b> Inspect all areas; remove overhanging vegetation; correct minor surface deficiencies; schedule major repair needs such as overlay, grading, or resurfacing. During season of operation inspect immediately after severe weather events. Monitor for excessive erosion or other cultural or natural resource damage.
<b>Turf Areas:</b> All turf and grass areas should be healthy and vigorous. Specific treatments such as irrigation, verti-slicing, fertilization, and pesticide application should be undertaken when necessary and appropriate. If parks are open, entry points to areas receiving fertilizer and pesticide applications will be posted for an appropriate time before, during, and after the treatment.	<b>Variable:</b> Grass within 50 ft of a building and in campsites should be mowed when its height exceeds 4". Roadsides should be mowed when grass exceeds 6" in height. Fields and open area meadows should be mowed when grass exceeds 12" in height. <i>This standard does not apply to habitat areas.</i>

Source: Developed by EDAW, Inc. 2004.

### 4.3 Recreation Monitoring Program

A component of the RTSP will be tracking visitor use levels and the implementation of management actions at each Project Development. PacifiCorp will document the status and effectiveness of management actions via Annual Reports in consultation with the ECC and filed with the FERC. These reports will allow the ECC and PacifiCorp to

assess whether management should be adapted to changing conditions and to prioritize management actions each year. Recreation facility conditions will be monitored during routine O&M, as described in Table 4.2-2.

Broad recreation-related monitoring will be integrated with PacifiCorp’s corporate Environmental Management System (EMS) for the Project. The EMS provides Project personnel with a standard approach to address “nonconformance issues” and specifically addresses public use, recreation safety, and road maintenance issues, among others. The EMS requires PacifiCorp to address each nonconformance issue with appropriate preventive/corrective actions. For each incident documented, PacifiCorp will complete a tracking form that is reviewed by the Management Review Team and will be available for ECC review. The EMS Project Representative will ensure that the corrective action is implemented and that the problem is corrected in the manner prescribed. The EMS process is further described as a monitoring component in the LMP.

In addition to EMS-related monitoring, recreational use level monitoring is also required over the term of the new license by FERC, per Form 80 reporting requirements. PacifiCorp’s FERC Form 80 recreational use level reporting requirements are described in Section 4.3.1. Potential dispersed recreation and public use impacts will be monitored as a component of the LMP.

#### 4.3.1 Reporting Requirements—FERC Form 80

Every 6 years, PacifiCorp will complete and file a FERC Form 80, summarizing recreational use levels in the Project area. A sample FERC Form 80 is provided in Appendix D. ECC members will have the opportunity to review and comment on the draft FERC Form 80 prior to filing the form with FERC. Recreational use in the Project area will be estimated on the Form 80 in recreation days (RD), FERC’s preferred unit of recreation measurement. An RD is defined as a visit by a person to a recreation facility for any length of time during a 24-hour period.

#### 4.4 **Whitewater Boating Program**

This program defines PacifiCorp’s responsibilities, per License Articles 418, 419, 420, 421, and 422 (Appendix A), for providing whitewater boating flows in the Black Canyon reach and the Oneida Narrows reach, as well as new whitewater boater facility development at both river reaches (Figure 1.0-2). These enhancements and other whitewater boating-related measures are further defined below.



**Photo 11. Black Canyon bypass reach.**

#### 4.4.1 Whitewater Boating Flows

PacifiCorp will enhance whitewater boating opportunities in the Project area by providing for and/or enhancing identified Project recreation facilities used by whitewater boaters, operating and maintaining these Project facilities and access sites, and providing for Project flow releases that allow for whitewater boating in the Project area, consistent with the availability of flows and other considerations defined by FERC in the new license (see PacifiCorp’s Black Canyon Monitoring Plan, FERC License Article 407).

Per License Article 419 (as revised by the Order on Rehearing; Appendix A), PacifiCorp will provide flows in the Black Canyon reach in accordance with the schedule and flows listed in Table 4.4-1.

**Table 4.4-1. Whitewater boating schedule and flows in the Black Canyon reach.**

License Years	Flow Level	Schedule
2 – 4	Up to 900 cubic feet per second (cfs), when spill is at least 500 cfs into the reach; no limits on ramping rates.	Up to 96 hours during 16 separate occasions between April 1 and July 15 each year.
5 – 7	Between 700 and 1,500 cfs, if available.	Total of 96 hours of flows averaging 1,050 cfs in 16 separate releases of 6 hours in length on weekend days between April 1 and July 15 each year.
8 – 30	Between 700 and 1,500 cfs, if available and no significant adverse effects on ecological attributes in Black Canyon reach (License Article 407).	Total of 96 hours of flows averaging 1,050 cfs in 16 separate releases of 6 hours in length on weekend days between April 1 and July 15 each year.

Source: FERC 2003, 2004.

Per License Article 420 (Appendix A), PacifiCorp will also provide flows below the Oneida Powerhouse, if available for recreation, that minimize the frequency of river level fluctuations. If available, PacifiCorp will provide flows of at least 900 cfs between Memorial Day and Labor Day each year below the Oneida Powerhouse (Figure 1.0-2). The specific flow regime will be developed reported annually to the IDEQ in consultation with the ECC.

#### 4.4.2 Whitewater Boating Facility Development/Capital Improvements

PacifiCorp will enhance whitewater boater access in the Project area by developing four new river access sites (Figure 1.0-2). These boater river access sites are also described in the Recreation Facility Development/Capital Improvement Program (Section 4.1). Each of the new boater access sites is described in detail in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs, and Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings and include:

- Oneida Narrows Take-Out
- Oneida Narrows Put-In
- Black Canyon Take-Out



- Black Canyon Put-In

#### 4.4.3 Whitewater Boating Operations and Maintenance

PacifiCorp will provide for adequate O&M of each boater access site, as defined in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs. O&M for each boater access site should be provided in accordance with the developed recreation site standards and frequencies described in Section 4.2.2.

In addition to routine O&M at boater access sites, PacifiCorp will also operate a flow information website (<http://www.pacificorp.com/Article/Article40779.html>) and toll-free flow phone (1-800-547-1501) per License Article 422 (Appendix A). The website flow calendar will be updated on a weekly basis between April 1 and July 15 of each year, while flow data from existing stream gages will be maintained on the website from March 1 to November 30 of each year. The message on the toll-free phone will be updated each day and include recorded information regarding data from the existing stream gauges and scheduled release dates.

### 4.5 Traffic Safety Program

This program defines PacifiCorp’s responsibilities, per License Article 417 (Appendix A), for the development of a Traffic Safety Plan (or program) for the Oneida Project Road (Figure 1.0-2). Traffic Safety Program components are defined below.

#### 4.5.1 Oneida Project Road

The Oneida Project Road is the primary access route to Oneida Reservoir, including public recreation sites and Project facilities located at the reservoir and along the Oneida Narrows river reach (Figure 4.5-1). The road is accessed from Highway 36 and is



**Photo 12. Oneida Project Road.**

approximately 8 miles long to its terminus at Maple Grove Campground. The first mile of Oneida Project Road is paved and maintained by Franklin County. PacifiCorp maintains the remaining 7 miles of road. The PacifiCorp-maintained portion of Oneida Project Road is graded and graveled. The portion of the road from the Oneida Day Use Area to the Maple Grove Campground is currently maintained by PacifiCorp in a condition suitable for passenger car use from mid-May through mid-September, as was required by the previous FERC license.

Access from the north to the Maple Grove Campground and Oneida Day Use Area is provided via Maple Grove Road, an approximate 5-mile long county (from Highway 34 to the hot springs) and private (from the hot springs to Maple Grove Campground) gravel

road off of Highway 34. Franklin County and private landowners seasonally maintain most of this road. However, the portion of Maple Grove Road from the hot springs to Maple Grove Campground is not regularly maintained (PacifiCorp 1999c).

For purposes of developing the Traffic Safety Program, Oneida Project Road was divided into six roadway segments (A through F) (Figure 4.5-1). Qualitative inventory and condition information for each road segment is provided in Table 4.5-1. In general, most of Oneida Project Road is in good condition, though minor improvements (e.g., additional gravel, blading, etc.) have been identified in most segments that PacifiCorp is responsible for maintaining. Most of these potential improvements fall under routine O&M of the road (Section 4.5.4). Multiple larger-scale roadway improvements were identified along Segment E of Oneida Project Road that are considered beyond routine O&M. These potential improvements are further described in Section 4.5.3. PacifiCorp, in consultation with the BLM, will prioritize potential roadway improvements along all segments of the road (License Article 417 specifies that up to \$100,000 [one-time] will be earmarked for roadway improvements along Oneida Project Road).

#### 4.5.2 Traffic Safety Management Roles and Coordination

Due to historical Project use of the road, PacifiCorp is the primary entity responsible for the continued management and maintenance of the Oneida Project Road. PacifiCorp's specific responsibilities along Oneida Project Road include the following:

- Implementation of traffic safety-related actions, per License Article 417 requirements; and
- Coordination of traffic safety-related actions with other Project area management plans (e.g., LMP, etc.).

Law enforcement roles and responsibilities along Oneida Project Road are discussed in Section 4.5.5 – Local Law Enforcement—Franklin County Sheriff's Office.

#### 4.5.3 Proposed Traffic Safety Improvements and Capital Development

PacifiCorp will implement identified traffic safety improvements and capital developments along Oneida Project Road as identified in License Article 417 (Appendix A). Identified actions include maintaining traffic safety signs, constructing a turn-around loop, funding law enforcement patrols along the road from May 1 through October 1 annually, and implementing dust abatement measures (per suggested application practices described in Appendix E) adjacent to Maple Grove and Redpoint campgrounds. These actions are included in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs. A conceptual site plan for the proposed vehicle turn-around is also provided in Appendix C – Conceptual Site Plans and Drawings.

In addition to these identified actions, specific improvements within Segment E of Oneida Project Road are also recommended to improve traffic safety. Figure 4.5-2



**Figure 4.5-1. Oneida Project Road.**

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Table 4.5-1. Oneida Project Road inventory and condition.

Road Segment	Inventory <sup>1</sup>				Condition <sup>2</sup>				Comments
	Bridges	Cattle Guards	2 Veh. Width	Pullouts	Gravel/Grade	Potholes	Washboard	Erosion	
<b>A</b>	1	2	Yes	0	Good	A few	Yes	No	Several areas of washboard.
<b>B</b>	0	0	Yes	0	Fair	Several	None	No	Area adjacent to Redpoint Campground (100 ft in either direction) needs dust abatement.
<b>C</b>	0	1	Yes	0	Fair	A few	Yes	No	Several areas of washboard.
<b>D</b>	0	0	Yes	0	Poor	A few	None	No	Area of road near surge tank (on slope) needs to be bladed and graveled.
<b>E</b>	0	0	No	0	Poor	Several	None	Yes	Various potential needs to improve traffic safety (see Figure 4.6-2).
<b>F</b>	0	3	Yes	0	Fair	Many	None	No	Mix of private and county road; not regularly maintained. This segment of road is not part of Oneida Project Road, but is included here for analysis purposes only.

<sup>1</sup> Roadway inventory items reported in terms of number (e.g., 1 bridge), except 2 Veh. Width (Yes = 2 vehicles can safely pass each other; No = 2 vehicles cannot safely pass each other).

<sup>2</sup> Roadway condition items reported in qualitative terms.  
 Source: Developed by ED&A, Inc. 2004

**Figure 4.5-2. Oneida Project Road – Segment E.**

*(Insert Figure 4.5-2—on back of Table 4.5-1)*

displays the approximate location of proposed road improvements including corner improvements, new pullouts, and erosion control measures, as funding allows. These traffic safety improvements are also included in Appendix B – Recreation and Traffic Safety Measures, Schedule, and Estimated Costs. PacifiCorp, in consultation with the BLM, will prioritize potential road improvements in Segment E, as well as other improvements along Oneida Project Road, within the available funding of road improvements (\$100,000 per License Article 417).

#### 4.5.4 Traffic Safety Maintenance Activities

PacifiCorp is and will be the prime maintainer of the Oneida Project Road. PacifiCorp's traffic safety maintenance activities along this road include both traffic-generated and non-traffic-generated requirements. Traffic-generated road maintenance includes roadway maintenance work, except repair of major damage, that is made necessary as a direct result of, or to minimize the effect of, use and wear by general traffic. Non-traffic-generated road maintenance includes roadway maintenance work that is made necessary as a direct result of general weathering processes or uncontrollable influences that cannot be attributed to traffic use. The following are considered traffic-generated and/or non-traffic generated road maintenance activities:

- Surface blading
- Dust abatement
- Snow removal
- Minor structure replacement
- Brush removal
- Slide debris removal
- Culvert cleaning
- Hazard tree removal

During the term of the new license, emergency road maintenance may also be necessary due to unanticipated natural causes, occasional high levels of road use, or potential major damage. Emergency road maintenance may include repair of roads due to major damage caused by unusual natural events and situations that are not repairable by the periodic maintenance activities listed above.

In general, PacifiCorp will schedule required road maintenance on Oneida Project Road on an annual basis, as needed. The majority of road maintenance work would include activities that may be planned well in advance. Normal maintenance activities will include both recurrent and deferred maintenance activities. Recurrent maintenance will include all work that is needed on a continuing basis with accomplishment annually or more frequently. Deferred maintenance includes work that is deferred 1 or more years until it can be economically or efficiently performed.

#### 4.5.5 Local Law Enforcement—Franklin County Sheriff's Office

License Article 417 calls for the funding of seasonal law enforcement along Oneida Project Road (Appendix A). This funding will help enhance visitor safety along Oneida Project Road in accordance with a future Law Enforcement Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between PacifiCorp and the FCSO (to be developed).

PacifiCorp will provide funding assistance to the FCSO in the amount of \$3,000 annually (2004 dollars) for the term of the new license. This funding will be used to help patrol Oneida Project Road and to respond to calls in the Project area from May 1 to October 1 annually. Additionally, PacifiCorp will provide use of its radio frequency between Memorial Day and Labor Day to the FCSO to facilitate communications and law enforcement patrols along Oneida Project Road.

Annual FCSO law enforcement activities during the May 1 to October 1 timeframe along Oneida Project Road will be summarized in the Annual Report to the FERC (Article 401; Appendix A). Law enforcement patrols are expected to vary over the May 1 to October 1 timeframe, but will likely focus on periods when visitor use levels are greatest and when visitor management is needed most along Oneida Project Road (e.g., summer weekends and holidays). Revisions to the annual FCSO patrol schedule along Oneida Project Road will be discussed at ECC meetings, if needed.

The FCSO will provide annual summaries of patrols along Oneida Project Road to PacifiCorp. If reviews of these summaries reveal that anticipated FCSO patrols are not being conducted as planned, PacifiCorp reserves the right to terminate or redirect funding for law enforcement and will seek an alternative law enforcement provider for patrols on Oneida Project Road. Annual patrol summaries and potential issues will be discussed at ECC meetings, if needed.

#### **4.6 Plan Review and Update Program**

Implementation of the recreation and traffic safety measures in the RTSP is expected to occur as detailed in the various programs through the term of the new license. However, some flexibility is built into the RTSP to address unanticipated changes in conditions over time. Factors that may potentially result in major changes to the RTSP include revisions and updates to regional resource management plans, catastrophic natural events, new federal and state policies, regulations, and laws, and other events that may affect recreation and traffic safety management in the Project area. Future recreation facility development, unless currently included in the RTSP, is not anticipated to result from revisions and updates to the RTSP.

On an as-needed basis, recreation and traffic safety issues and concerns will be discussed at scheduled ECC meetings. Annual revisions to the RTSP are not anticipated; however, minor revisions may be made if agreed upon by all parties. The entire RTSP will be reviewed and updated, if necessary, by PacifiCorp every 10 to 15 years during the term of the new license. The ECC will be given an opportunity to review and recommend changes to the RTSP during PacifiCorp's review. PacifiCorp will consider suggested



revisions from ECC members, and agreed-upon changes to the RTSP will be incorporated into the revised document. The document will be reprinted only if major substantive changes are made. Additionally, the revised RTSP will be submitted to FERC for final review and approval. Any disagreements on revisions to the RTSP may be resolved using the dispute resolution process defined in the SA.

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## 5.0 REFERENCES AND LITERATURE CITED

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- BLM (U.S. Bureau of Land Management). 2004. Idaho BLM Outdoor Recreation (Southeast Idaho) website: <http://www.id.blm.gov/recreation/regions/southeast.html>. Accessed October 19, 2004.

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