

50-8D. LAKE PEND OREILLE (PACK RIVER DELTA IBA)

Boundaries and ownership:

Boundaries: North/East – ID 200, South – Lake Pend Oreille, East – Sunnyside road.

Ownership: Army Corps of Engineers, managed by Idaho Dept. Fish and Game

Focal species using the site and timing of use:

This site supports thousands of waterfowl (Tundra Swans, Canada Geese, Redheads, Lesser Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser, Mallard, American Wigeon, Ring-necked Duck) and Common Loons during spring and fall migrations. Osprey, Bald Eagles, and Great Blue Herons nest along the shoreline. Bald Eagles also use the area for foraging during high waterfowl concentrations.

Location of type 1 and 2 habitat within the site:

Functional Group	Type 1 Habitat	Type 2 Habitat
waterbirds	open water & emergent vegetation	none
large waders	breeding colonies, emergent vegetation	rest of shoreline
waterfowl	open water, edges during breeding season	none

Access to the type 1 and 2 habitat and visibility of the birds:

Foot and motor boat access is available to the public. A few pull-outs are available along ID-200 for viewing. Sunnyside road, which is along the west side of the delta also provides a few viewing spots. However, the majority of the site will need to be surveyed by boat.

Conservation issues:

- Operation of Albeni Falls Dam causes continuing erosion
- Dam operation alters natural hydrology resulting in degraded habitat quality

Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed:

- Albeni Falls mitigation program is being funded by BPA
- Covered by the Pend Oreille WMA long-range management plan

Past and current surveys:

- Aerial winter waterfowl count
- Canada goose nesting pair counts

Potential survey methods

Description

- a. Colony counts for nesting Great Blue Herons.
- b. Census for waterfowl and waterbirds on the open water by boat (or on foot from areas along shoreline accessed by boat) during migration.

Selection bias: N/A

Measurement error and bias: None if surveys are done by boat. If surveying from shoreline, measurement bias would be an issue.

Needed pilot studies: None needed.

Contact:

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