

## 50-9. MANN LAKE (IBA)

### Boundaries and ownership:

*Boundaries:* Entire reservoir; west – Dam, South – East Powers Ave.

*Ownership:* Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District, managed through a cooperative agreement with Idaho Department of Fish and Game

### Focal species using the site and timing of use:

In spring and summer, waterbirds (American Coot, Western Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Ring-billed Gull, California Gull, Franklin's Gull, Bonaparte's Gull) and waterfowl (Canada Goose, Mallard, American Wigeon, Northern Pintail, Redhead, Bufflehead, Ruddy Duck) are common, although likely that little breeding occurs at the lake itself. Large migratory shorebird population in the fall (July-September), including Western Sandpiper, Semipalmated Plover, Black-bellied Plover, Killdeer, American Avocet, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Stilt Sandpiper, Long-billed Dowitcher, and Wilson's Phalarope. Also present during migration are the waterbird species listed above for the summer months, as well as Common Tern, Caspian Tern, and Black Tern. Wintering species include waterfowl (including occasional use by Tundra Swans and Snow Geese), Great Blue Herons, and assorted gulls.

### 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	exposed mudflats	Rip-rap dam
waterfowl	open water	none
shorebirds	exposed mudflats	rest of shoreline
gulls	all areas	none

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

Good access to mudflats on eastern shore – footpath down to water from the model airplane airport. Can scan most of reservoir from this spot. Can also view most of the area from the main parking lot. Mann Lake is freely accessible to the public from dawn to dusk.

### Conservation issues:

- Excessive drawdown (this areas is managed primarily for irrigation) as a result of a severe drought in the early 1990's allowed shoreline shrubs, in particular willows, to become established (although some may also have been planted by local birders). This has reduced the area of the mudflats to migrating shorebirds and loafing waterfowl, but has increased the available habitat for resident and migratory songbirds.

### Conservation measures taken, in progress, or proposed:

- The Lewiston Orchards Irrigation District regularly scalps the shoreline with heavy equipment, thus preventing afforestation on approximately 20 % of the shoreline
- Because the lake has a large crappie population, it may be suitable for an artificial Osprey nesting platform

### Past and current surveys:

- Multiple studies of shorebird migration – contact the Palouse or Canyon Audubon chapters for more information and data

## Potential survey methods

### *Description*

- a. Census for waterfowl and waterbirds on the open water in late summer or winter.
- b. Area searches for migrating shorebirds from observation points near Type 1 habitat (eastern shore of reservoir by the model airplane airport).
- c. Census for gulls during waterfowl counts.

*Selection bias:* N/A - The lake is entirely visible and available for surveys with a limited amount of walking necessary

*Measurement error and bias:* N/A - It is a small lake so a skilled birder with binoculars and a spotting scope should be able to identify every bird

**Needed pilot studies:** None needed

### **Contact:**

NAME: Joel Sauder – IDFG  
ADDRESS: 1540 Warner Ave., Lewiston, ID 83501  
PHONE: 208-799-5010  
FAX: 208-799-5012  
EMAIL: [jsauder@idfg.state.id.us](mailto:jsauder@idfg.state.id.us)

### Secondary Contact:

NAME: Charles Swift – Palouse Audubon  
PHONE: (w) 208-885-5331  
(h) 208-883-0553  
EMAIL: [charless@moscow.com](mailto:charless@moscow.com)