

DRAFT MANAGEMENT PLAN APPENDIX A-1
Contract Entities and Plan Participants

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Multiple agencies and entities are involved in managing and protecting fish and wildlife populations and their habitats in the Upper Snake subbasins. Numerous Federal, State, and local land managers are responsible for multipurpose land and water use management, including protecting and restoring fish and wildlife habitat. Many natural resource specialists from these various organizations contributed to developing the Upper Snake Province (USP) Plan in addition to those contracted by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (NPCC). The contract entities and plan participants involved in development of the USP Plan are outlined below.

Overview of the Upper Snake Province Planning Process

The USP Plan is distinguishable from most plans prepared for the NPCC because it addresses multiple subbasins covering multiple states.

Contractors Retained by the NPCC to Develop the Plan

The USP Plan was developed in general accordance with guidelines provided by the NPCC for subbasin planning (NPPC 2001a, 2001b). This plan, as with other plans, consists of three primary elements:

Part I. An Assessment of the current and potential physical and biological characteristics of the three subbasins. This includes identification of species and habitats that are the focus of the Management Plan.

Part II. An Inventory of programs and projects implemented over the last 5 years that "...relate to watershed planning, restoration, and protection of fish and wildlife habitats and species recovery" (NPPC 2001b).

Part III. A Management Plan that includes a vision of the future condition of fish and wildlife in the USP that is made up of the three subbasins; biological objectives that describe changes needed to achieve the vision; strategies to meet the biological objectives; a discussion of how the plan integrates recovery goals for species listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA); and State water quality management plans.

The NPCC entered into a contract with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) in Boise to complete Part 1 and Part 2 of the planning process, and with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes in Fort Hall, Idaho, to complete Part 3 of the planning process and to combine all elements into a comprehensive planning document. The Shoshone-Bannock Tribes contracted Bannock Technologies, Inc. (BTI) of Pocatello and Idaho Falls to complete Part 3, which received additional support from Portage Environmental, Inc., Idaho Falls, and Gregory Aquatics, Mackay.

IDFG organized a technical team of natural resource specialists familiar with the province to prepare the assessment and inventory documents. BTI organized and facilitated a planning team for preparing the management plan and soliciting public involvement on the plan.

The intent of the original work plan with the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and IDFG (NPCC 2003b) was to develop the Draft Upper Snake Province Plan within a thirteen-month time frame. The actual time frame was compressed to nine months as a result of delays in contracting (August 2003 – May 2004). It was always the intent of the technical and the planning teams to work in parallel, however, due to additional contractual delays, the planning teams did not get organized until January of 2004. The technical team proceeded with the development of the assessment and inventory and provided updated portions of those documents to BTI as their development progressed.

The final draft version of the assessment and inventory was completed on May 27, 2004. Due to the delays in the development of the draft management plan, the Upper Snake Planners decided that the assessment and inventory would be attached as an appendix to the draft management plan.

The management plan was completed with the limited time remaining and submitted to the NPCC. An independent scientific review panel found the assessment (Part 1) adequate but the Inventory (Part 2) and the Management Plan (Part 3) incomplete. As a result, the Upper Snake Province Plan was found to be lacking and was not approved by the NPCC.

CH2M HILL was contracted in September 2004 to rewrite the plan through the same collaborative process used by BTI. CH2M HILL was also contracted to complete the project inventory; and create an addendum to the Assessment that described the biological linkage and rationale between the limiting factors described in the Assessment and the focal habitats and focal species described in the Management Plan. Even though the planning process was conducted according to the plan originally proposed by IDFG and the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and as envisioned by the Council, time constraints forced it to be curtailed at the point when information from the planning teams was becoming available for consideration by the technical team.

An overview of the organizations and individuals responsible for various aspects of the planning process is presented in Table 1.

TABLE 1
Time Frame of Principle Contractors and Staff Responsible for Preparing Upper Snake Province Plan

<p>September 2004 – December 2004 September 2004 – Initial contract issued by the NPCC – CH2M HILL begins work November 2004 – last planning meeting December 2004 – submittal of Addendum, Inventory, and Management Plan</p>	<p>Addendum to Assessment, Project Inventory, and Management Plan</p>	<p>Primary Contractor: CH2M HILL Contact: Tom Haislip Staff: Jonathan Matthews Doug Bradley Chuck Blair</p>
<p>August 2003 – May 2004 SBT begins process of identifying potential subcontractors Sept 2003 – IDFG convenes first Technical Team meeting in Pocatello, Idaho May 2004 – Last Technical Team meeting conducted in Idaho Falls, Idaho; drafts of Assessment and Inventory documents transferred from IDFG to BTI</p>	<p>USP Assessment and Project Inventory</p>	<p>Primary Contractor: Idaho Department of Fish and Game Contact: Gregg Servheen Staff: Jon Beals, Wildlife Biologist Lance Hebdon, Fisheries Jeff Semmens, Database Kathy Cousins, Wildlife Wendy Eklund, GIS Analyst Jacob Mundt, GIS Analyst</p>
<p>August 2003 – May 2004 January 2004 – Contract negotiations begin between SBT and BTI; BTI staff attend Technical Team meeting March 2004 – BTI conducts public meetings in Burley, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Driggs, Ashton, and Arco, Idaho, and in Jackson, Wyoming April 2004 – BTI organizes Planning Teams for three subbasins and conducts two meetings with each Planning Team in Idaho Falls, Idaho; Arco, Idaho; and Jackson, Wyoming May 2004 – BTI prepares final document for submission to the NPCC</p>	<p>USP Management Plan</p>	<p>Primary Contractor: Shoshone-Bannock Tribes Contacts: Chad Colter John Fred Technical and Planning Team Participants: Hunter Osborne, Fisheries Dan Christopherson, Wildlife Russell Haskett, Game Officer Subcontractor: Bannock Technologies, Inc. Contact: Karen Haskett Staff: Kyle Babbitt, Facilitator Sheryl Hill, Biologist Andrea Ramone Planning Team Organizers and Responsibilities: Kyle Babbitt: Facilitator Sheryl Hill: Lead planner Karen Haskett: Documents</p>

Technical Team

Idaho Fish and Game Department

The original technical team was assembled and facilitated by Jon Beals and Lance Hebdon of IDFG's Natural Resources Bureau in Boise. Based on the recommendations of local IDFG staff, a contact list was compiled consisting of individuals affiliated with the following agencies and organizations: the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Caribou-Targhee National Forest, Salmon-Challis National Forest, Grand Teton National Park, Bureau of Land Management, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Idaho State University, Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Department of Water Resources, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department. These individuals were contacted by electronic mail and asked to participate in the assessment process. Those who did not participate in technical team meetings remained on the contact list throughout the process.

The Technical Team was divided into aquatic and terrestrial component groups in order to utilize available expertise most effectively in the time allotted to complete the Assessment. Component group members were asked to: 1) recommend focal habitats and species for the entire USP; 2) list and describe factors that limit focal habitats and species in the USP; 3) develop biological objectives for fish and wildlife populations and habitats in the USP; 4) suggest strategies for achieving biological objectives; and 5) provide data and documentation and/or sources of data and documentation to support their recommendations and suggestions. Between component group meetings, team leaders compiled and interpreted information gathered from team members and collaborated to ensure that the aquatic and terrestrial components of the Assessment were compatible and complementary.

Aquatic and terrestrial component groups met separately for the first five of seven Technical Team meetings held between September 2003 and May 2004. The individuals who participated as Technical Team members or who contributed information to the Assessment document are listed in Table 2. The component groups reconvened as a single team for meetings in March and May 2004. Meetings in September, October, and November were held at the IDFG office in Pocatello; meetings in January, February, March, and May were held at the IDFG office in Idaho Falls. Meetings were held from approximately 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. to accommodate travel from locations throughout the USP.

TABLE 2
 Natural Resource Professionals in the Upper Snake Province Who Served as Members of Technical Team or Contributors to the Assessment

Aquatic Component Group		Terrestrial Component Group	
Deb Mignono Dick Munoz	USFWS	Bryan Aber	Caribou-Targhee National Forest
John Fred Hunter Osborne	SBT	Dan Christopherson	SBT
Dave Teuscher Dick Scully	IDFG, Southeast Regional Office	Dick Sjostrom Dick Munoz Larry Dickerson	USFWS
Dan Garren Jim Fredericks	IDFG, Upper Snake Regional Office	Geoff Hogander	BLM
Kevin Meyer	IDFG, Fisheries Bureau	Lauri Hanauska-Brown	IDFG, Upper Snake Regional Office
Sue O'Ney	Grand Teton National Park		
Contributors to the Assessment Document			
Doug Megeargle, Matt Campbell		IDFG	
Bart Gamett		Salmon-Challis National Forest	
Jim Capurso		Caribou-Targhee National Forest	
Rob Gipson		WYG&F	
Steve Lysne		USFWS	
Ryan Neuman		USBR	

CH2M HILL

Fisheries biologist Doug Bradley and wildlife biologist Chuck Blair co-wrote the Addendum to the Assessment. Mr. Bradley also redrafted the Inventory document. Mr. Bradley and Mr. Blair met with John Beal and reviewed IDFG Technical Team notes to better understand and document the rationale for selecting focal habitats and focal species and the linkage to their limiting factors.

Planning Team

Bannock Technologies, Inc.

The original Planning Team developed by BTI was composed of representatives from government agencies with jurisdictional authority in the subbasins, fish and wildlife managers, county and industry representatives, and private landowners (Table 2 and Table 3). A Planning Team was organized for each of the three subbasins located in the USP. The Planning Teams for the Snake Headwaters and Upper Snake Closed Subbasins met in Jackson, Wyoming, and Arco, Idaho, respectively. The Planning Team for the Upper Snake Subbasin met in Idaho Falls, Idaho.

The Planning Teams met monthly throughout the project period. The goals for each of the first Planning Team meetings were to: 1) continue developing the vision statement for the future condition of fish and wildlife in the subbasin; 2) review information contained in the draft Assessment document; and 3) begin reviewing the biological objectives developed by the Technical Team. The objectives of the second Planning Team meetings were to: 1) approve the final version of the vision statement; 2) continue to review information contained in the draft Assessment document; 3) discuss final recommendations regarding biological objectives; 4) encourage submissions for the Inventory; and 5) discuss research needs.

The lack of participation in the Planning Teams for these subbasins caused concern regarding adequate representation and thorough coverage of issues in the subbasins.

TABLE 3

Existing Groups in the Upper Snake Province that Could Be Utilized to Increase Awareness of the Northwest Power and Conservation Council, Its Fish and Wildlife Program, and the Planning Process

Type of Group	Examples of Groups in the Upper Snake Province		
Watershed council – A grassroots, locally based citizen’s group intended to foster communication and education.	Blackfoot River Watershed Council Henry’s Fork Watershed Council		
Watershed advisory group (WAG) – A stakeholder group that “advises the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality on the development and implementation of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) and other State water quality plans” (Idaho Statute 39-3615).	American Falls WAG Continental Divide WAG Lake Walcott WAG Portneuf River WAG Willow Creek WAG		
Federal agency advisory groups – Groups composed of local residents who are appointed by the agency to serve in an advisory capacity on management programs and issues of interest to the public.	Idaho National Engineering and Environmental Laboratory Citizen Advisory Board (CAB) BLM, Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) BLM, South Central Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) BLM, Eastern Idaho Resource Advisory Committee (RAC) Caribou-Targhee National Forest Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)		
Nonprofit organizations – Locally based, nonprofit corporations that conduct advocacy, education, and/or research focused on a particular resource or area of interest.	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Friends of the Teton River Henry’s Fork Foundation Jackson Hole Alliance Jackson Hole Land Trust Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Southeast Idaho Mule Deer Foundation</td> <td>Jackson Hole One Fly Greater Yellowstone Coalition Teton Regional Land Trust Teton Science School Trout Unlimited The Nature Conservancy</td> </tr> </table>	Friends of the Teton River Henry’s Fork Foundation Jackson Hole Alliance Jackson Hole Land Trust Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation Southeast Idaho Mule Deer Foundation	Jackson Hole One Fly Greater Yellowstone Coalition Teton Regional Land Trust Teton Science School Trout Unlimited The Nature Conservancy
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Inter-agency working groups – Groups established through formal memoranda of agreements (MOAs) among any combination of local, State, Federal, and Tribal agencies.	The Greater Yellowstone Coordinating Committee (GYCC)		

CH2M HILL

CH2M HILL was contracted to rewrite the Management Plan in September 2004 and to complete the Management Plan by December 31, 2004. Previous participants in the BTI planning process for developing the original Management Plan (Part III) were asked to again participate in reviewing those issues not appropriately addressed in that original plan. Five meetings were held through the months of October and November. Those who attend at least one of these meetings are summarized in Table 4. Those who could not attend but were kept informed and participated via e-mail correspondence are listed in Table 5.

TABLE 4
 Names And Affiliations of Regular Participants of the CH2M HILL Planning Team

UPPER SNAKE PLAN PARTICIPANTS	
Yvette Tuell	SBT
Leander Watson	SBT
Chad Colter	SBT
Dan Christopherson	SBT
Hunter Osborne	SBT
Tom Dayley	NWPCC
Jerry Rigby	Committee Of Nine
Travis Thompson	Committee Of Nine
Dick Munoz	USFWS
Dexter Pitman	IDFG – Region 5
Jonathan Matthews	CH2M HILL
Tom Haislip	CH2M HILL
Geoff Hogander	BLM
Greg Mladenka	DEQ

Table 5
 Names and Affiliations of Participants of the CH2M HILL Planning Team That Followed the Process via e-mail

UPPER SNAKE CONTRIBUTORS	
Aida Farag	USBR
Dick Bauman	USBR
Rob Gipson	WG&FD
Jim Capurso	Caribou-Targee National Forest
Bryan Aber	Caribou-Targee National Forest
Roy Fowler	NRCS

Mike Etcheverry	DEQ
Kim Goodman	Teton Regional Land Trust
Greg Servheen	IDFG Headquarters
Clyde Lay	DEQ
Larry Dickerson	USFWS
Bart Gamett	Salmon-Challis National Forest
Pete Dittmar	Jackson Hole Land Trust
Dustin Miller	Idaho Farm Bureau

These meetings were held at the IDFG Region 5 headquarters in Pocatello and occurred on October 12, 19, 26, and November 2, and 30, 2004. A conference call was held on December 27, 2004, to finalize comments on the final text in the Management Plan.

Public Participation

The staff of BTI publicized the original USP planning process beginning the last week of February 2003. A four-page brochure (Appendix A-2) was mailed to more than 320 individuals, nonprofit organizations, special interest groups, and local, State, Federal, and Tribal agencies. The brochure contained information about the NPCC, the USP, and the USP planning process. It also listed the dates, times, and locations of the introductory public meetings and included a public comment sheet (Appendix A-3) that could be completed and returned to BTI by those who chose not to attend meetings. Contact information for BTI staff and sources of additional information, including the uniform resource locator (URL) for the NPCC's Internet web site and the URL for BTI's informational web site¹ (Appendix A-4), were also included in the brochure. Eleven of the comment sheets that were included in the brochures were returned to BTI, and comments submitted by the respondents in response to specific questions are summarized in Appendix A-3.

The brochures were mailed to representatives of the following stakeholder groups: city and county government, planning and zoning commissions, State legislature, Congress, State and Federal resource management agencies, Tribal resource management agencies, conservation districts, irrigation districts, weed control districts, extension agencies, environmental advocacy groups, motorized and non-motorized recreation groups, hunting and fishing groups, conservation groups, resource advocacy groups, environmental education groups, citizen's resource management groups, and community improvement groups. After the brochures were mailed, BTI staff continued the outreach efforts. Individuals who returned comment sheets were also invited to serve on a Planning Team. Representatives of stakeholder groups that are typically not participants in resource planning were sought to be part of plan development. Such groups included farmers, ranchers, and advocates of motorized vehicle recreation.

¹This site was developed and maintained by Portage Environmental, Inc., Idaho Falls, Idaho. It became operational on March 18, 2004.

A press release (Appendix A-5) was issued describing the planning process and announcing meeting dates and locations to the following newspapers: *The Arco Advertiser*, Arco, Idaho; *Idaho State Journal* and *Idaho Unido*, Pocatello, Idaho; *Island Park News*, Island Park, Idaho; *Jackson Hole News and Guide*, Jackson, Wyoming; *Post Register*, Idaho Falls, Idaho; *Rexburg Standard Journal*, Rexburg, Idaho; *South Idaho Press*, Burley, Idaho; *Star Valley Independent*, Afton, Wyoming; *Teton Valley News*, Driggs, Idaho; *The Morning News*, Blackfoot, Idaho; and *The Times-News*, Twin Falls, Idaho. At least two newspapers ran stories based on the press release. Most people who attended the public meetings learned about them from sources other than the newspaper.

By enhancing understanding of the NPCC and its fish and wildlife program among the organizers and staff of groups such as those shown on Table 3, future planning efforts should be significantly enhanced. Table 3 includes examples of some of the groups in the USP that should be contacted by the NPCC for the purpose out of outreach efforts.

Public Meetings of the Planning Process

As a result of the demographics of the region, public meetings were held in one community (Jackson) in the Snake Headwaters Subbasin, in five communities (Burley, Pocatello, Idaho Falls, Ashton, and Driggs) in the Upper Snake Subbasin, and in one community (Arco) the Upper Closed Subbasin (Figure 2). Figure 2 also shows location of suggested future public meetings in the next planning cycle.

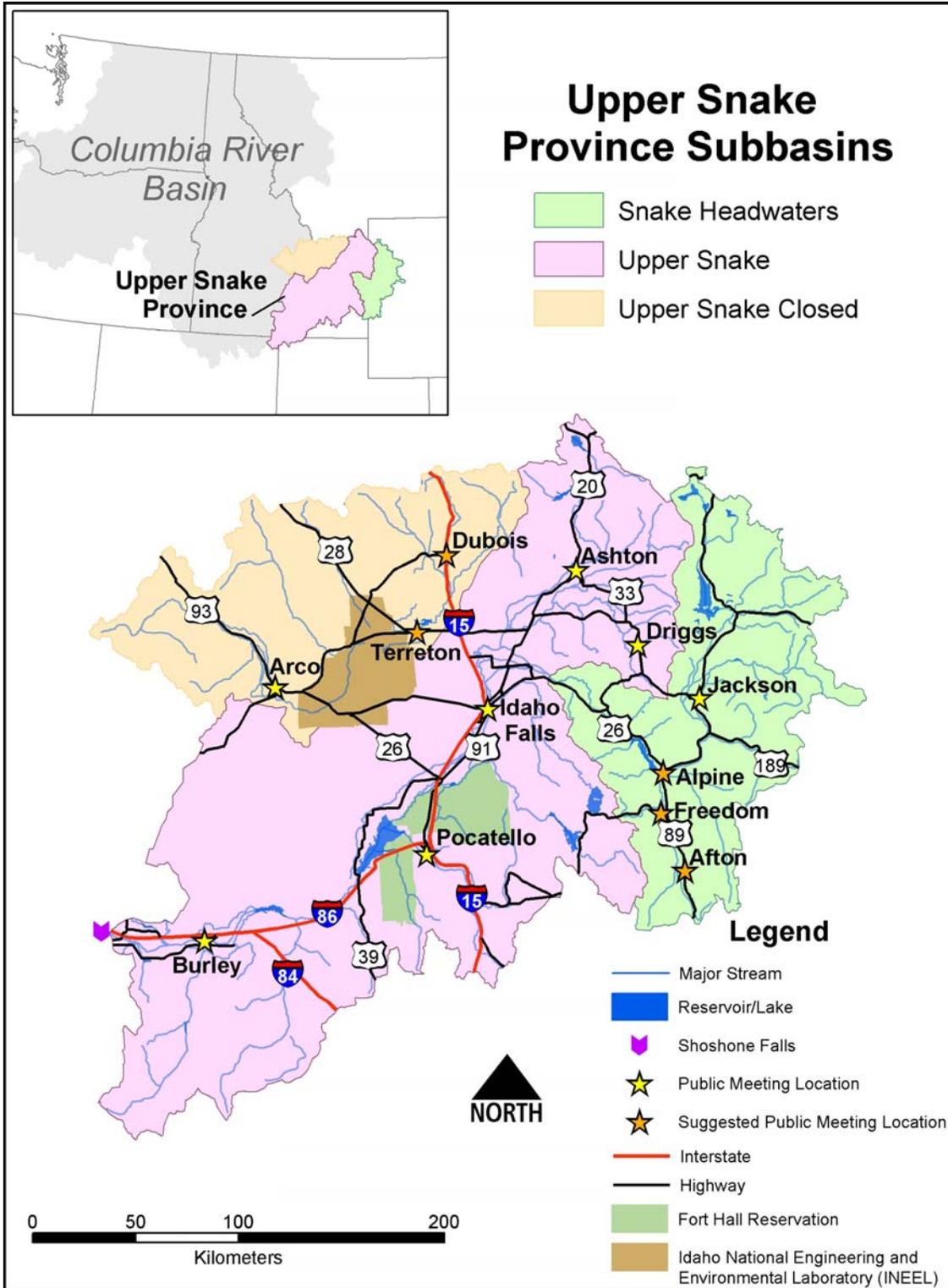


FIGURE 2
 Map of the Upper Snake Province showing communities where public meetings were held to introduce the planning process. Communities where public meetings are recommended as part of future planning efforts are also shown

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BTI suggests that it would be desirable to conduct meetings in the southern part of the Snake Headwaters Subbasin and in the northern and central parts of the Upper Snake Closed Subbasin. In the Snake Headwaters Subbasin, the economies of Freedom, Afton, and Alpine are strongly associated with agriculture and phosphate mining, whereas the economy of Jackson, where the meeting was held, is related to tourism due to its proximity to Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks. Although the economy of the entire Upper Snake Closed Subbasin is largely dependent on ranching, additional meeting locations are desirable because the unique issues affect each of the subbasin.

Table 6 is a summary of people who attended the public meetings. Forty-seven people attended the seven meetings. Most were environmental professionals representing either State or resource agencies, the SBT, or nonprofit organizations. Approximately one-third were private citizens interested in fish and wildlife issues.

Each public meeting followed the same general format, although information was refined over time in response to questions posed in previous meetings. The objectives for each meeting were to: 1) introduce the NPCC's planning process; 2) begin creating a vision statement for the appropriate subbasin; 3) identify team members to assist with developing the individual subbasin plan; and 4) identify how to combine the subbasin Management Plans.

The agenda for the meetings consisted of introductions, an explanation of the NPCC, a summary of the planning process, and a discussion of fish and wildlife issues in the subbasin. Attendees also identified: 1) concerns associated with local fish and wildlife populations and their habitats; 2) goals for fish and wildlife and their habitats; and 3) projects that had been or could be implemented to benefit, enhance, or protect fish and wildlife and their habitats. The meetings ended with an invitation to participate in the Planning Team.

Information collected during the public meetings was documented and compiled into a comprehensive set of meeting minutes (Appendix A-7).

TABLE 6
 Dates and locations of public meetings conducted in three subbasins of the Upper Snake Province, numbers of attendees, and stakeholder groups represented

Date	Location	Subbasin	Number of Attendees	Agencies, Organizations and Stakeholder Interests Represented
March 16	Best Western Inn Burley, Idaho	Upper Snake	4	West Cassia Soil and Water Conservation District; USBR; DEQ, Twin Falls Regional Office; farming; irrigated agriculture
March 17	Ramada Inn Pocatello, Idaho	Upper Snake	10	NRCS, American Falls Service Center; DEQ, Pocatello Regional Office; SBT; Idaho State University (student); Southeast Idaho Mule Deer Foundation; real estate business
March 22	Teton County Commissioners Office Jackson, Wyoming	Snake Headwaters	9	WYF&G; Greater Yellowstone Coalition; USBR; USFS, Bridger Teton National Forest; Trout Unlimited; North Wind Environmental, Inc.; Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance
March 23	Idaho Falls Public Library Idaho Falls, Idaho	Upper Snake	12	SBT; Trout Unlimited; ISCC; Brigham Young University-Idaho (student); Willow Creek Watershed Advisory Group; Teton Regional Land Trust; citizen
March 25	Teton County High School Driggs, Idaho	Upper Snake	2	Friends of the Teton River; Teton Regional Land Trust
March 30	Ashton Community Center Ashton, Idaho	Upper Snake	6	Brigham Young University-Idaho (student), Ashton Area Development Committee, Teton Regional Land Trust, ranching, fishing guide and outfitter
March 31	Arco/Butte Business Incubation Center Arco, Idaho	Upper Snake Closed	4	Big Lost River Irrigation District, ranching, irrigated agriculture