

Mission Guidelines

Planning of the property (12 acre IFPL parcel) shall be restricted to non-commercial; non-profit activities that are focused on open space and limited support facilities in keeping with adjacent properties (Donor restrictions on gifts).

Acknowledge classification of 12 acre IFPL parcel as a portion of the Northern Buffer Management Unit as identified in the Barber Pool Conservation Area Master Plan (US Army Corps of Engineers – July, 2002) and the outlined management concepts.

Coordinate development plans with the Barber Pool Conservation Area and those involved with planning so as not to conflict with or duplicate efforts.

Master Plan – Final

The final master plan presents recommended development guidelines and site improvements proposed for the 12 acre Idaho Foundation for Parks and Lands (IFPL) parcel of land. It is the product of several months of planning where program creation and alternative approaches to development were explored. The planning group made up of key stakeholders, included: neighborhood representatives, adjacent landowners, various regulatory agencies and property acquisition donors. The master plan reflects discussions and decisions made by the stakeholders.

The master plan is an important first step in the development process. It will most likely vary in physical form, as science, engineering and final design progress, but the basic tenants will remain as the guiding principles for site improvements.

Site Improvements

- Habitat Restoration

Using native or adaptive species, with an emphasis on indigenous plants, the entire site will be replanted to establish habitat indicative of other areas within the Barber Pool Conservation Area. Phasing of this process may be necessary to establish protective erosion control planting early.

- Wetland/Riparian (Cottonwood Forest)
- Upland

- Neighborhood Access and Connectivity

Harris Ranch Community, Riverstone International School (RIS), Idaho Shakespeare Festival (ISF), Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) and Ada County Barber Dam.

- 6-8 Ft wide, paved, ADA compliant access pathways
- Service lane (monitor stations – Barber Dam)
- Wayfinding signage

- Ada County/Boise City Bikeway

This segment of bikeway will connect to the larger system on the east and west ends of the site. The west end connection is proposed to approach the site along a corridor paralleling the south edge of the FERC deflection berm. The approach from the east currently has two potential options. One would parallel the RIS/IFPL property line north to connect with the existing system. The second option would travel easterly through IFPL, ISF and IDPR land to intersect the existing bikeway at the existing IDPR traveler’s restroom. The second option will have some planning and design challenges but would provide a better bikeway user experience.

- 20 ft. wide easement – 12 ft. paved surface
- Meet all bikeway safety and design standards
- Wayfinding signage

- Rest Stop/Trail Head

A small, low maintenance wayside and trail head for visitors headed to observation overlooks.

- Picnic tables with shade structure
- Interpretive kiosk (natural and cultural features)
- Benches
- Bike racks
- Public art
- Wayfinding signage
- Nature trails/observation overlooks

- IFPL 3 Acre Set-aside

Intended for potential future, non-commercial non-profit limited support facilities, i.e. ISF, RIS.

- Trout Stream

There has been a concerted effort over the past ten years to create a trout stream that connects the upper and lower reaches of the Boise River currently impeded by Barber Dam. The trout stream (Alta Harris Creek) now approaches lower Barber Dam. Continue to explore all technical, regulatory and management issues with the intent of completing the trout stream through the 12-Acre IFPL parcel to connect with existing Alta Harris Creek.

- Irrigation

Generally, the recommendation is no permanent irrigation across the site, however establishment irrigation is highly recommended.

For any hope of success in establishing and maintaining healthy habitat:

1. Select appropriate indigenous or adaptive plant species
2. Success will not happen in one season, so a program for annual reseeding/replanting should be in place.
3. Avoid berm-building...berms will most likely require supplemental irrigation to maintain any plantings

Longer-term supplemental irrigation should be considered on the expanded west side of existing Shakespeare berm and the rest stop/trail head.

Explore partnerships between ISF, RIS and IFPL to potentially improve and expand the ISF irrigation facility. This in the end may mean a whole new system to serve all three entities.

- Fencing/Natural Barriers

There is some existing chain-link fencing onsite. IFPL should explore the management value of expanding and improving the existing fencing. There are issues regarding restricting visitors and more importantly pets to sensitive areas within the Barber Pool Conservation area. This must be balanced with expansion/maintenance costs, appropriate visitor trail access connectivity and the practicality of controlling undesirable access.

Properly designed and strategically placed natural barriers using dense, thorny vegetation (i.e. hawthorn, wild rose) are effective tools for managing pedestrian traffic. Natural barriers should be used in conjunction with traditional fencing techniques. Design of fencing should be wildlife compatible.

- Public Art

Public art will be an integral component to site improvements made within the 12 acre parcel. Opportunities are limitless:

1. Entry and way finding signage
2. Cultural and natural interpretation of the site
3. Structural elements
 - ◆ Information Kiosk
 - ◆ Shade shelters/picnic tables
 - ◆ Bike racks
 - ◆ Benches
4. Stand-alone element(s)
 - ◆ Sculpture