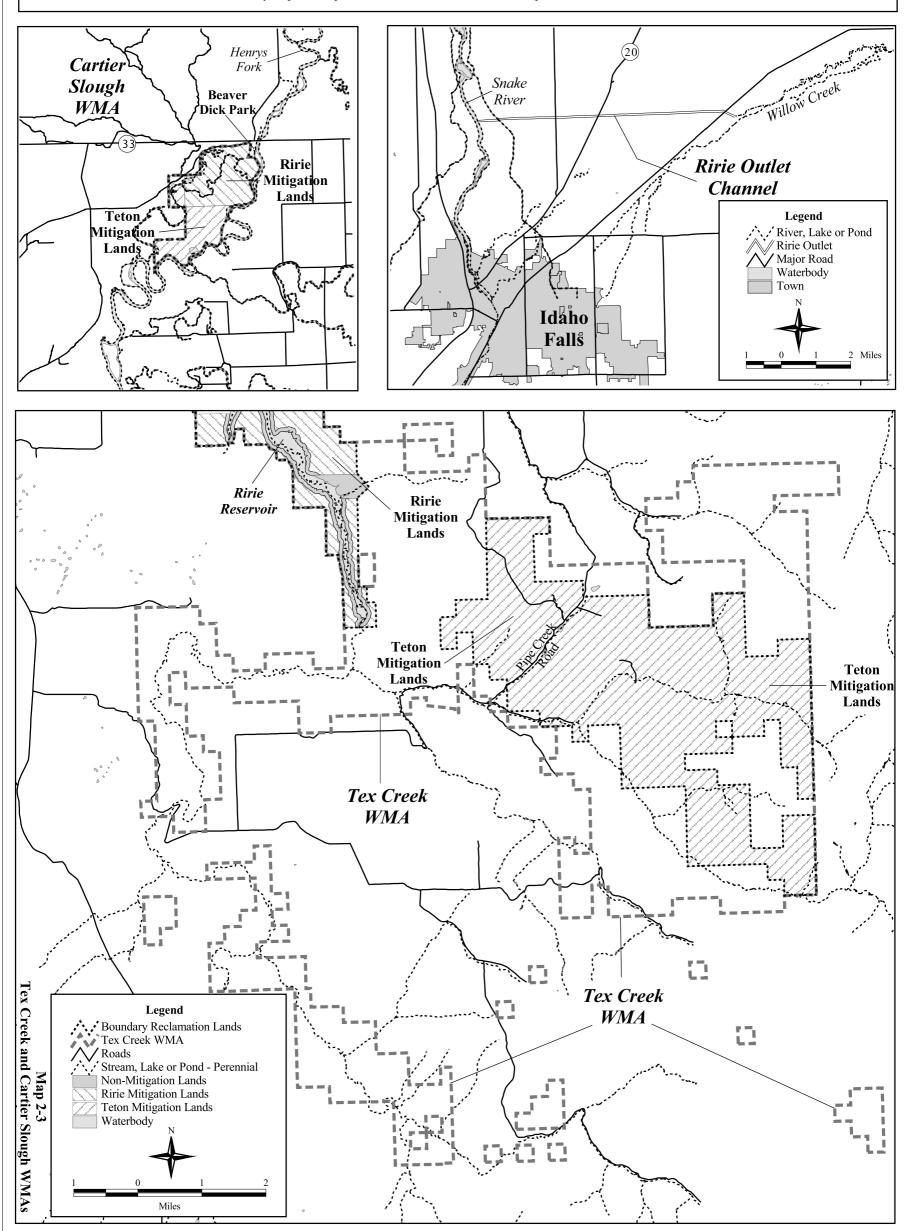
Map 2-3 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan All Alternatives Tex Creek and Cartier Slough WMAs and the Ririe Outlet Channel

The information displayed here is based on the best available data at the time of publication. Neither the authors, Reclamation, or any other party here warrant or represent that the information is in every respect complete and accurate, and are not held responsible for errors or omissions.



Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Management would continue under the Tex Creek Management Plan. IDFG management actions on Tex Creek were described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Management would continue under the Cartier Slough Management Plan as described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*.

Erosion Control

Non-Mitigation Lands

No long-term measures or practices are currently being implemented by Reclamation to control erosion. As described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*, Reclamation is not actively seeking to identify potential erosion problems. Rather, they react to situations or problems as they arise. Under Alternative A, Reclamation would not develop plans or programs involving a change from the current reactive mode to a more proactive mode of operations.

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Under the No Action Alternative, ad hoc measures would be implemented by Reclamation as described above.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Erosion control measures would be the same as described for Creekside Park and Vicinity.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Erosion control measures would continue to be managed under the Tex Creek Management Plan. IDFG management actions on Tex Creek were described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Management of erosion would continue as described in the Tex Creek Management Plan. Plan elements regarding erosion were described above.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Management would continue under the Cartier Slough Management Plan. Elements of the plan were described above.

Native Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement

Non-Mitigation Lands

No long-term measures or practices are currently being implemented by Reclamation to enhance native fish and wildlife protection. As described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*, Reclamation currently has no specific programs addressing native fish and wildlife protection on Non-Mitigation Lands. Reclamation is not actively identifying potential problems related to native fish and wildlife protection and enhancement. Rather, they react to situations or problems as they arise. Under Alternative A, Reclamation would not develop plans or programs involving a change from the current reactive mode to a more proactive mode of operations.

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Under the No Action Alternative, ad hoc measures would be implemented by Reclamation.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Proactive measures would not be implemented, as described for Creekside Park and Vicinity.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Native fish and wildlife protection measures would continue to be managed under the Tex Creek Management Plan. IDFG management actions on Tex Creek were described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Management of fish and wildlife would continue as described in the Tex Creek
Management Plan. Actions were described above for Ririe Mitigation Lands at Tex Creek.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Fish and wildlife protection and enhancement measures would be implemented according to the Cartier Slough Management Plan as described in Alternative A, *Summary of Features*.

Improved or Restricted Access

Non-Mitigation Lands

Under the No Action Alternative, access would continue as it is available currently.

Creekside Park and Vicinity

At Creekside Park on the east side of Willow Creek below the dam, the area is closed to motorized access. However, ad hoc parking and trails currently lead to various unmanaged streamside areas.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

Ad hoc pedestrian access would also continue at the dam area of Juniper Park, with vehicular access across the dam during daylight hours in conjunction with, and support from, Bonneville County law enforcement. No formal trails or shoreline access would be available in the Juniper area.

Ririe Outlet Channel

The Ririe Outlet Channel would continue to be used as a flood control channel with mostly open access on both sides, and grazing would continue through a lease.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Access would also continue as-is on Ririe Mitigation Lands. Current access to various parcels is via Meadow Creek Road, Lincoln Road, and Pipe Creek Road.

Willow Creek Arm

No shoreline access restrictions are currently in place or proposed at the Willow Creek Arm.

Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands

On Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands, no formal trails or shoreline access would be available.

<u>Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA</u>

Current access to various parcels is via Meadow Creek Road, connecting unnamed roads in the WMA, and Pipe Creek Road. On Teton Mitigation Lands, the Pipe Creek Road would be open year-round, but would still not be plowed during the winter for vehicular access. Snowmobile use of this road would continue as snow conditions permit.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Cartier Slough is currently accessed via State Highway 33 (SH-33). No changes in access are proposed under the No Action Alternative.

Improved Facilities and Miscellaneous

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Under the No Action Alternative, facilities would not be improved and no new amenities would be added at Creekside Park, the area would continue to be closed for recreation use and no facilities, signage, or fencing would be added. Ad hoc use would continue.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

At Juniper Park, current uses and facilities would not be changed. Juniper Campground, which currently has two, 40-site loops, would not be expanded. The Juniper Boat Launch would also not change in size or use. The reservoir area and entrance gate would not be changed.

Benchlands Area

There are no plans to change the current size or uses of the Benchlands or reservoir area. However, the restroom facilities would be upgraded to meet Federal accessibility standards according to the existing Reclamation mandate.

Blacktail Park, Access Road, and Adjacent Reservoir Area

At Blacktail Park, the access road, and adjacent reservoir area, the current facilities and uses would not be changed under the No Action Alternative. This includes moorage facilities; the reservoir area, the Blacktail Park Day Use Area; and the boat launch and associated parking. Electrical power would continue to be provided by a generator and no camping would be allowed.

Ririe Outlet Channel

At an isolated parcel on the Ririe Outlet Channel, Reclamation would retain the parcel and continue grazing through a lease.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands

A small parcel of Ririe mitigation land labeled as an agricultural use area on Table 2.2-1 and Map 2.2 is currently farmed by a local farmer in exchange for the farmer not grazing a valuable piece of critical winter range located outside of Tex Creek. All alternatives would explore a formal exchange of these properties or would formalize the existing use through a lease.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Teton Mitigation Lands, the primary activity is hunting, and no defined or signed trails would be provided.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

At Cartier Slough, recreation uses would continue to be managed under the Cartier Slough Management Plan. Existing facilities include a two- to three-car gravel parking area, informal trails, and an informal small boat launch.

2.3.2 Alternative B—Preferred Alternative: Recreation Development Compatible with Increased Natural Resource Protection Emphasis

Summary of Features

Alternative B would allow limited expansion and development of recreation sites and facilities, and would increase protection and management of natural and cultural resources on Reclamation's lands. The approximate locations of facilities and trails included in Alternative B are shown on Maps 2-3, 2-4, and 2-5. It is summarized on Table 2.2-1.

Under Alternative B, all existing recreation areas would be upgraded to meet Federal accessibility requirements whenever possible. Additional signs would be posted to inform the public of property boundaries and pertinent rules and regulations. Orientation kiosks would be situated at several key locations to provide visitors with useful information pertaining to the use of the area, including educational materials, maps, and interpretive displays of the area's landscape and biological features. In general, the existing recreation sites at Ririe Reservoir would be modified to better accommodate current and expected future demand and use. This includes creating and expanding swimming areas, developing non-motorized trails, adding parking, enhancing park landscaping, and adding more floating platforms on the reservoir. Except for meeting accessibility requirements, recreation facilities would be upgraded or expanded only after documentation of increased demand. The management designation of most non-active recreation lands at Blacktail Park would be changed to non-mitigation lands and managed as WMA to be consistent with actual plan practices.

This alternative would promote management actions that focus on increasing the protection and enhancement of native fish and wildlife and their habitat (vegetation, wetlands, riparian areas, water quality), as well as proactive measures to protect cultural resources and ensure that Tribal treaty rights are met. For Reclamation's lands not within Tex Creek or Cartier Slough, this would entail implementing strategies to better monitor and control noxious and invasive weeds, monitor and address erosion problems, designate buffers and limit access and construction within riparian areas and wetlands, and institute time of year restrictions in areas harboring Federal and state designated species of special concern (including Federally listed rare, endangered, or threatened species). On Reclamation lands within Tex Creek and Cartier Slough, management actions would be implemented to increase support of the IDFG in carrying out their respective management plans.

Under Alternative B, native vegetation, fish, and wildlife protection and enhancement on Ririe and Teton mitigation lands at Tex Creek and Cartier Slough and on non-mitigation lands that are not used for recreation facilities would involve a variety of actions, including the following:

- Designing and constructing facilities within existing disturbed areas to the greatest extent feasible to minimize impacts on native species
- Minimizing disturbance of all native plant communities during design and construction of all facilities
- Keeping all new trails and facilities at least 20 feet from wetland and riparian zones except where trails must cross riparian areas
- Increased efforts to control noxious and invasive weeds including actively searching for and
 mapping infestations, developing an integrated pest management control program, and
 increased control efforts involving the use of measures appropriate to the site and situation
 including herbicides, hand-pulling, spraying, and the use of parasitic or defoliating insects
- Planting riparian vegetation as needed for habitat improvement or erosion control
- Actively work with IDFG to identify opportunities to improve habitat conditions for wildlife and native aquatic species

Increasing noxious weed control efforts may involve additional funding or re-prioritizing management activities supported by Reclamation. Particular attention would be paid to identifying and controlling noxious weeds and erosion along trails.

A coordinated effort would be executed under this alternative to work with Bonneville County and IDFG to close Pipe Creek Road during the winter season to better protect wintering big game. This alternative would also support IDFG's efforts to improve non-motorized public access to and use of Tex Creek and Cartier Slough.

Site-Specific Actions by Assessment Category

Native Vegetation Protection and Enhancement

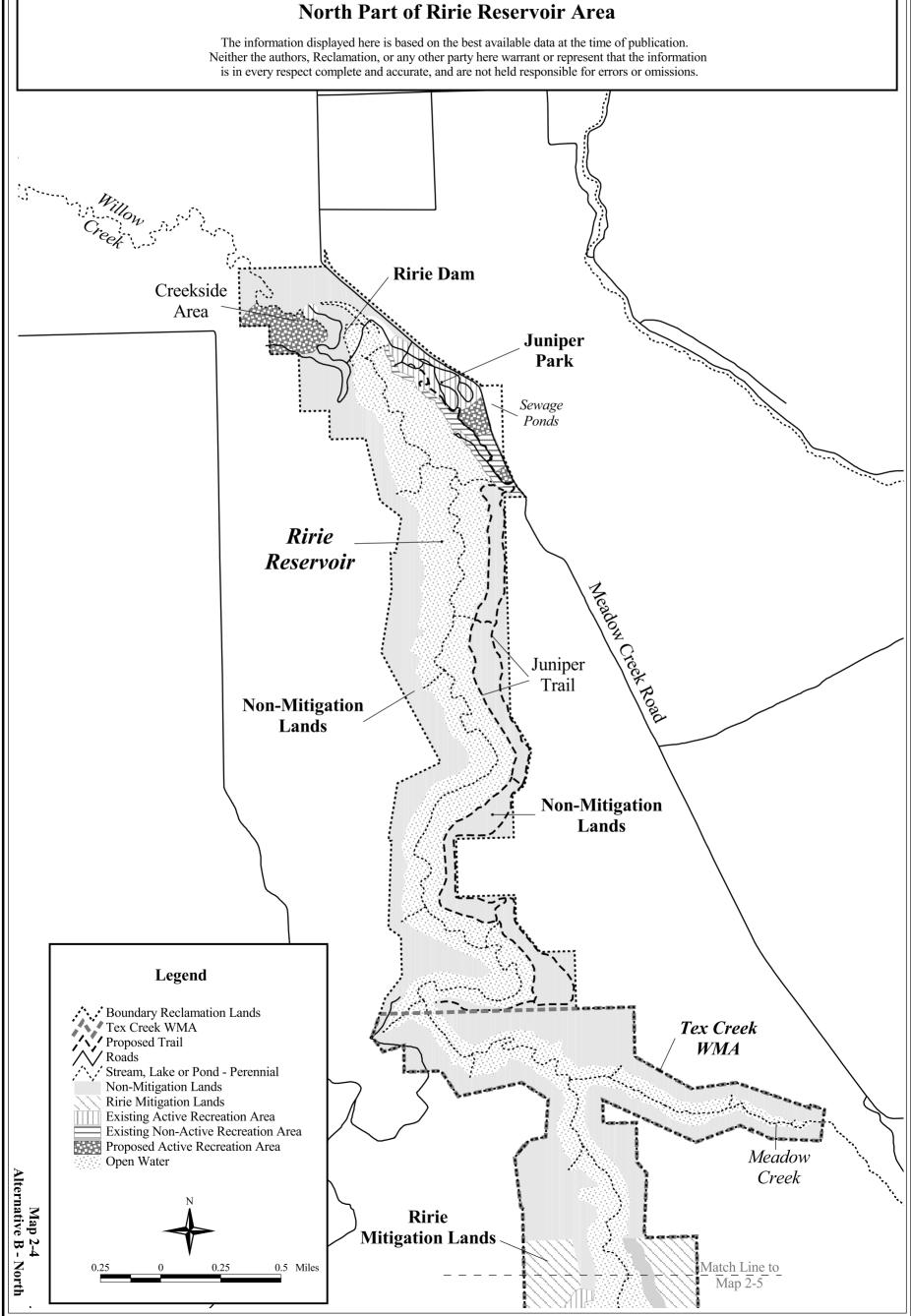
Non-Mitigation Lands

Because Alternative B focuses on increasing natural resource protection, measures are included to enhance native vegetation protection on Non-Mitigation Lands.

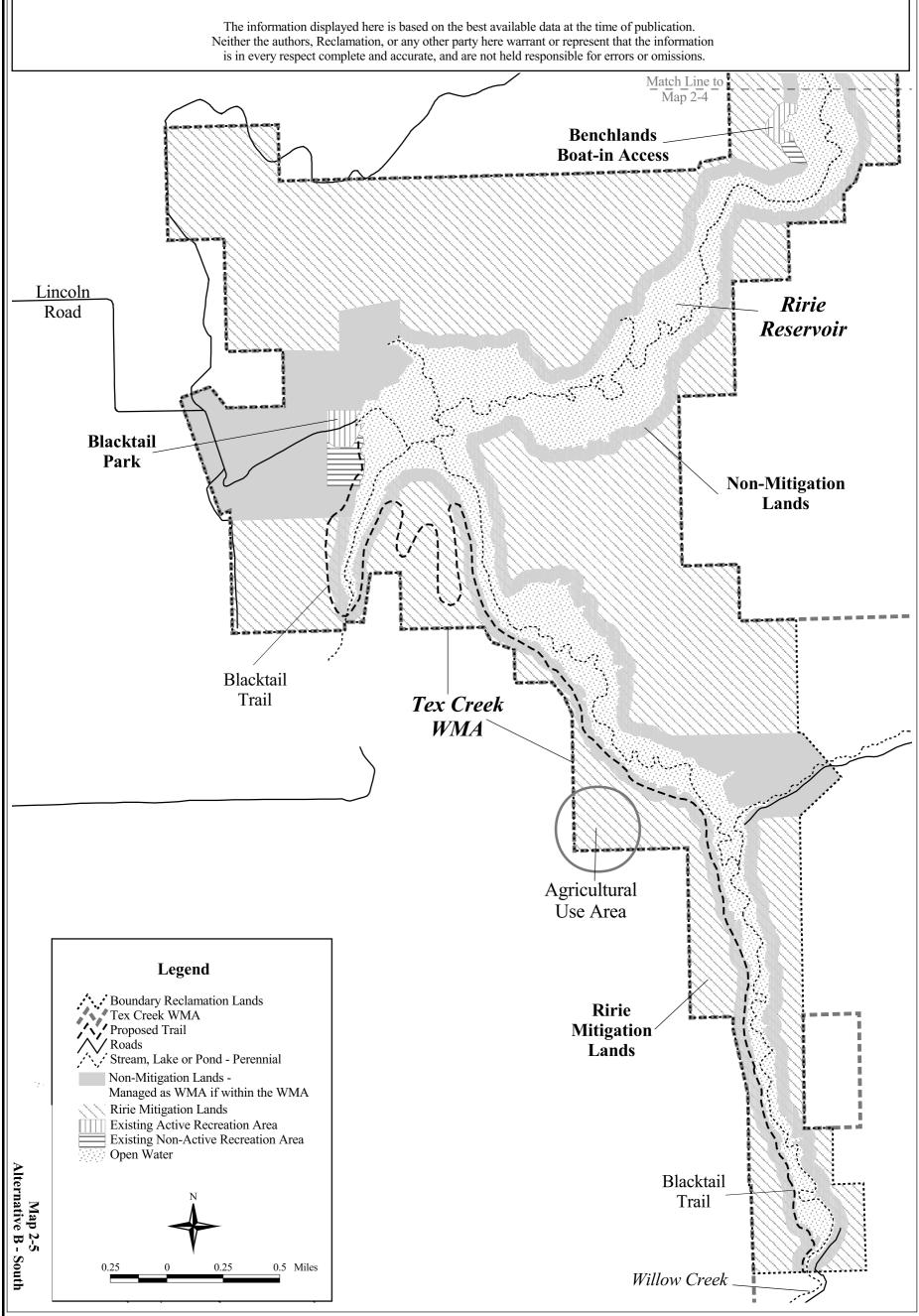
Creekside Park and Vicinity

Protect native vegetation during design and construction of recreation facilities. The area will be surveyed for Ute ladies' tresses.

Map 2-4 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan Alternative B North Part of Ririe Reservoir Area



Map 2-5 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan Alternative B South Part of Ririe Reservoir Area



Blacktail Park

Most of the non-active recreation lands would be changed to a non-mitigation designation and managed as WMA to be consistent with actual land management practices. An area to the south of the current active recreation area would remain as non-active recreation (Map 2-5).

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Provide increased monitoring for noxious weeds and interpretive information on noxious weeds, and conduct noxious weed control as needed. Native vegetation, fish, and wildlife protection and enhancement measures described above under Alternative B, *Summary of Features*, would be implemented. The Willow Creek area above the reservoir high water line will be surveyed for Ute ladies' tresses.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Ririe Mitigation Lands, increased noxious weed control would be provided to support the Tex Creek Management Plan. Native vegetation, fish, and wildlife protection and enhancement measures described above under Alternative A, *Summary of Features*, would be implemented.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Teton Mitigation Lands, native vegetation would be managed under the Tex Creek Management Plan. Native vegetation, fish, and wildlife protection and enhancement measures described above under Alternative B, *Summary of Features*, would be implemented. On Teton Mitigation Lands at Tex Creek, native vegetation protection and enhancement also includes formalizing a plan for conversion of former farm lands to native shrub communities. This is an ongoing IDFG program supported by Reclamation. It involves conversion of farmed lands that are currently dominated by smooth brome, which was originally planted along with other species to stabilize soils and reduce erosion, but has little wildlife value. Terraces are often constructed on these lands to reduce gully erosion. These lands are being cleared and planted with native species to establish shrub/grass communities that have substantially higher value for wildlife. Reclamation would work with IDFG to formalize and implement a plan for this conversion. The plan would describe methods and materials to be used, establish a schedule for completion of planned conversions, and address conversion costs and funding mechanisms.

WMA Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough

Increased noxious weed control would be provided in support of the Cartier Slough Management Plan, as described for the Willow Creek Arm.

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Erosion Control

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Erosion problems would be monitored and corrected as needed to protect facilities under Alternative B at Creekside Park and Vicinity.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Erosion would be monitored and addressed as described for Creekside Park.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On the Ririe Mitigation Lands, erosion problems would be monitored and addressed, in addition to the erosion control actions implemented under the Tex Creek Management Plan. Monitoring and addressing erosion problems would involve a more proactive role for Reclamation. Reclamation would develop and implement a plan and program to actively identify and address erosion problems along trails and roads, at recreation sites, and along stream channels. Actions that would be implemented to address erosion problems would depend on the nature and location of the problem. Potential actions include planting riparian vegetation along streams or existing ponds, constructing new catchment ponds, introducing beavers, and constructing retaining walls or other bank/shoreline stabilization measures. Reclamation would also take an active lead role in a future TMDL process that would address general erosion and sediment problems in the Willow Creek watershed.

<u>Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA</u>

On Teton Mitigation Lands, increased onsite erosion control efforts would be implemented as described for Ririe Mitigation Lands. In addition, Reclamation would take an active leadership role in the future TMDL process to quantify and substantially reduce sediment entering Willow Creek and its tributaries.

Native Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

At Creekside Park and Vicinity, measures described under native vegetation protection and enhancement would be implemented to maintain and protect riparian vegetation. These actions would, in turn, enhance fish and wildlife habitat.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Protection and enhancement measures would be the same as described for Creekside Park and Vicinity.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Ririe Mitigation Lands, native fish and wildlife protection measures would be managed under the Tex Creek Management Plan, described in Alternative A. Additional enhancement measures adopted by Reclamation would be the same as those described above under Alternative B, *Summary of Features*.

<u>Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA</u>

Fish and wildlife protection measures would also be provided on Teton Mitigation Lands as described above under Alternative B, *Summary of Features*. In addition, the Pipe Creek Road would be closed by Bonneville County, subject to their approval, to vehicles and snowmobiles during the winter to protect wintering big game.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

At Cartier Slough, protection and enhancement of native fish and wildlife habitat would be managed under the Cartier Slough Management Plan for the area as described for Alternative A. Enhancement measures would be the same as those described above under Alternative B, *Summary of Features*.

Improved or Restricted Access

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

At Creekside Park on the east side of Willow Creek below the dam, existing ad hoc parking areas and trails would be formalized. Improvements would include upgrading trails to Federal accessibility standards whenever possible, organizing the parking area, and adding orientation and interpretive displays and regulatory signage.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

At Juniper Park near the dam area, Alternative B would allow for the development of an accessible fishing pier off the dam face into the reservoir. Parking and access would be organized to accommodate use of the pier, and interpretive displays and regulatory signage would be provided. In addition, a new 4- to 6-mile-long, non-motorized trail for pedestrians and bicycles would be constructed along the rim

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and shoreline of the east side of the reservoir. The trail would be developed in two or more phases and would start at the Juniper Visitor's Center. The purpose of the trail would be to connect the rim and shoreline for fishing and other shoreline activities. The trail would include connections from the rim and shoreline for fishing and other shoreline activities.

Ririe Outlet Channel

A new access point would be provided near where the Ririe Outlet Channel drains into the Snake River (this confluence is shown on Map 2-3). Grazing would be eliminated and dry-land wildlife habitat, consisting of native upland shrubs, grasses, and forbs, would be developed on an isolated parcel adjacent to the outlet channel.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Willow Creek Arm

Shoreline access would be restricted along a portion of the Willow Creek Arm under Alternative B. No shoreline access would be permitted from April 1 to July 15 within 1/4-mile of a bald eagle nest. Reclamation would monitor the eagle nest and activity for three consecutive nesting periods to determine if, and what, the potential effects of unrestricted boating use in the Willow Creek Arm are on the bald eagles nesting there. Reclamation would seek assistance from FWS, IDFG, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and local boating organizations to accomplish monitoring activities. A monitoring plan developed with FWS is included in Appendix B. Reclamation would pursue with the county seasonally implementing boating restrictions if monitoring results indicate potential effects to bald eagles.

Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands

A new non-motorized trail would be developed on Ririe Mitigation Lands, as shown on Map 2-5. The trail would start at Blacktail, extend south along the west side of Willow Creek, and connect to an IDFG trail that extends farther into Tex Creek. Equestrian use and facilities meeting accessibility standards would be included.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Teton Mitigation Lands, Reclamation would work with IDFG and Bonneville County to close Pipe Creek Road during the winter season, thereby eliminating snowmobile use, subject to Bonneville County approval. The expected success of this effort is uncertain, but is likely low at this time.

Improved Facilities and Miscellaneous

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

At Creekside Park, the area would be reopened and renovated for day use and group camping. Improvements would include a loop trail from the park to Willow Creek, day use facilities, group tent camping as demand warrants (possibly by reservation), upgraded facilities and structures, orientation kiosk, interpretive displays, regulatory signage, and enhanced park vegetation (shade trees and irrigation system). Property boundary signage would be installed as needed along Reclamation property. All facilities except the trail would be constructed in existing disturbed areas.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

At Juniper Park, the entrance gate would be reorganized and better signage would be added. The interior of the Visitor's Center would be reorganized as an interpretive, educational, and enforcement facility. A new, non-motorized trail would be developed from the Visitor's Center and Juniper Campground to a shoreline day use area. At the dam overlook and trailhead day use area, Reclamation, in conjunction with a cost-sharing partner, would pursue providing an orientation kiosk, interpretive displays, and regulatory signage. To improve safety, "at your own risk" signage would be posted for rock climbing, and Reclamation would pursue an ordinance with Bonneville County to prohibit cliff diving. Also at the shoreline day use site, a swimming area would be created where no boats would be allowed. An overnight moorage facility would be provided for overnight campground users. In the vicinity of the Juniper Boat Launch, overflow parking uphill of the current parking area would be developed. Reclamation would analyze provisions for allowing materials to be submerged in the reservoir at a suitable site that avoids safety hazards for scuba divers. Signage indicating that diving is "at your own risk" would be included. In the reservoir area, at least three day use floating platforms would be provided. At Juniper Campground, a third loop would be developed to accommodate approximately 40 additional camping sites or group camping. The development of a new trailhead and 4 to 6 mile non-motorized trail would be allowed along the rim and shoreline adjacent to the east side of the reservoir.

Benchlands Area

Under Alternative B, existing day use facilities would be expanded at the Benchlands area. A swimming area (no boating allowed) would be created, and

restroom facilities would be made accessible whenever possible. At least three floating day use platforms would be provided.

Blacktail Park, Access Road, and Adjacent Reservoir Area

At Blacktail Park, many new and renovated recreation facilities would be allowed. Moorage facilities would be renovated and at least two floating day use platforms would be provided. At the Blacktail Park Day Use Area, the existing swimming area would be expanded or a new area would be provided. An orientation kiosk, interpretive displays, and regulatory signage would be provided, along with improved park vegetation such as shade trees. The day use area would be expanded as infill within existing park area boundaries to accommodate additional day use as warranted by demand. A new non-motorized trail would be developed to accommodate equestrians, hikers, and bicyclists and provide access to the south along Willow Creek and farther into Tex Creek. The trail would be maintained during the Blacktail Park use season. Additional parking capacity would be added to meet demand within the existing park area. The existing boat launch area would be reconfigured to better manage traffic flow and parking. The existing boat ramp would be expanded if needed, based on demonstrated demand. Electrical power capacity at Blacktail would be increased using onsite, solar power generation. Renovation or expansion of concessionaire facilities would be allowed. As with the No Action Alternative, no camping would be allowed.

Ririe Outlet Channel

At the Ririe Outlet Channel, Reclamation would retain an isolated parcel and manage it for wildlife benefits through an agreement with IDFG.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

For a realty action at an Agricultural Use Area in the remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands, shown on Map 2-5, Reclamation would use the same approach as for the No Action Alternative. They would explore an exchange for wildlife habitat benefit or formalize the existing use through a lease to include wildlife benefit.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Teton Mitigation Lands, Reclamation would coordinate with IDFG's efforts to develop trails and parking, and provide interpretive displays and regulatory signage. Reclamation would also allow for the development of four additional primitive campsites as demand warrants. Locations would be determined with IDFG at the time the campsites are needed. Primitive camp sites are grassy areas without facilities. They would have a 2-week camping limit.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Reclamation would support IDFG's efforts to improve non-motorized public access to and use of the Cartier Slough, including a nature interpretation trail connecting with the adjacent Beaver Dick County Park. Photography and viewing blinds would be provided, and retriever trials and dog training would be allowed with seasonal restrictions. Ad hoc cross-country skiing would continue to be allowed in Cartier Slough, but no trail grooming would be allowed.

2.3.3 Alternative C—Recreation Development/Maintain Natural Resource Emphasis

Summary of Features

Alternative C is designed to maintain current efforts of protecting and managing natural and cultural resources on Reclamation's lands and allow for a moderate level of expansion and development of recreation sites and facilities (that is, the maximum level possible given the existing constraints imposed by the WMA designations and management priorities). The general locations of facilities and trails included under Alternative C are shown on Maps 2-3, 2-6, and 2-7. It is summarized on Table 2.2-1.

In addition to the recreation site and facility improvements summarized under Alternative B, this alternative would also increase the amount of camping (including at Blacktail during summer months only), increase the capacity of all day use areas, and provide more floating platforms. In general, all of the existing recreation sites at Ririe Reservoir would be modified or expanded to ensure current and anticipated future demand within carrying capacity limits.

This alternative would maintain but not increase current levels of protection and enhancement for native fish and wildlife, and their habitat (vegetation, wetlands, riparian areas, water quality). For Reclamation's lands not within the WMAs, this would generally not entail implementing any of the specific habitat improvement strategies summarized under Alternative B. On Reclamation lands within Tex Creek and Cartier Slough, management actions would be implemented that continue to support IDFG in carrying out their respective management plans, although not to the same degree as under Alternative B. Pipe Creek Road would remain open during the winter season; however, Reclamation would work with IDFG to provide appropriate informational signage alerting users to wildlife sensitivity. The alternative would support IDFG's efforts to improve non-motorized access to Tex Creek and Cartier Slough by allowing the same measures as described under Alternative B. The proactive measures to protect cultural resources and ensure that Tribal treaty rights are met on all Reclamation lands would be the same as those for Alternative B.

Site-Specific Actions by Assessment Category

Native Vegetation Protection and Enhancement

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Native vegetation protection and enhancement measures would be the same as under Alternative B.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Native vegetation protection and enhancement measures would be the same as under Alternative B.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Vegetation protection and enhancement measures would be the same as Alternative B in Tex Creek. Efforts to improve and expand native vegetation are not included.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Management would be the same as described for Ririe Mitigation Lands at Tex Creek.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

At Cartier Slough, measures would be the same as the No Action Alternative: management would continue under the Cartier Slough Management Plan for the area. Efforts to improve and expand native vegetation are not included.

Erosion Control

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Erosion control measures would be the same as under Alternative B.

Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Erosion control measures would be the same as under Alternative B.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Erosion control measures would be slightly less aggressive than Alternative B and would be continued under the Tex Creek Management Plan. Increased onsite erosion control efforts would be implemented as needed. Reclamation would take a more passive role in the future TMDL process.

Native Fish and Wildlife Protection and Enhancement

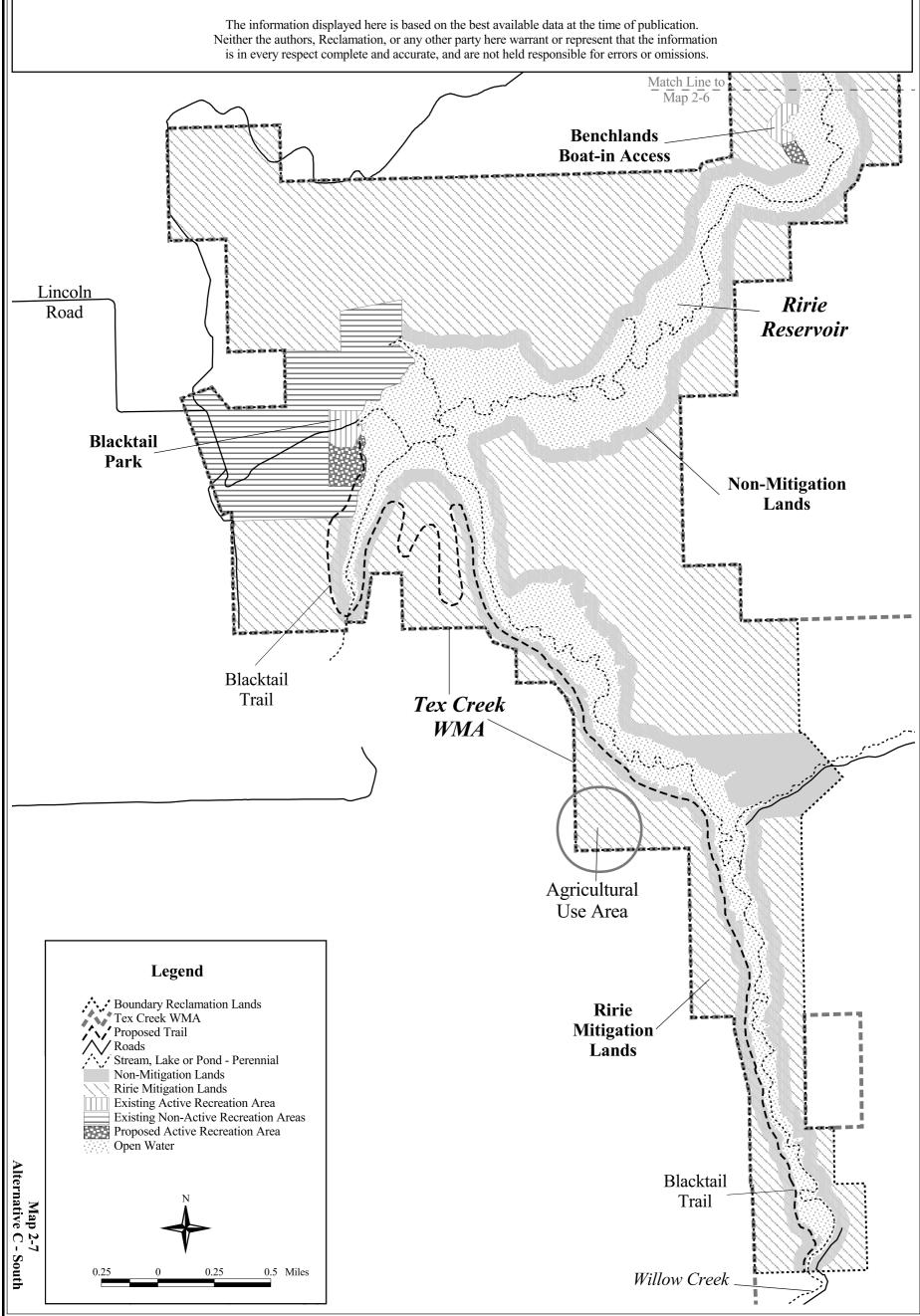
Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

On Reclamation's Non-Mitigation Lands, native fish and wildlife protection and enhancement measures would be the same as under Alternative B.

Map 2-6 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan **Alternative C** North Part of Ririe Reservoir Area The information displayed here is based on the best available data at the time of publication. Neither the authors, Reclamation, or any other party here warrant or represent that the information is in every respect complete and accurate, and are not held responsible for errors or omissions. Ririe Dam Creekside Area Juniper Park Sewage Ponds Ririe Reservoir Juniper Trail Non-Mitigation Lands **Non-Mitigation** Lands Legend Boundary Reclamation Lands Tex Creek WMA Proposed Trail / Roads Stream, Lake or Pond - Perennial Non-Mitigation Lands Ririe Mitigation Lands **Existing Active Recreation Lands Existing Non-Active Recreation Lands** Proposed Active Recreation Open Water Meadow Creek Map 2-6 Alternative C - North Ririe **Mitigation Lands** Match Line to Map 2-7 0.5 Miles

Map 2-7 U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Ririe Reservoir Resource Management Plan Alternative C South Part of Ririe Reservoir Area



Remaining Non-Mitigation Lands

Measures would be the same as described for Creekside Park and Vicinity.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

No additional fish and wildlife enhancement measures are proposed beyond those included in the Tex Creek Management Plan, the same as described for Alternative A.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Measures would be the same as described for Ririe Mitigation Lands in Tex Creek.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

No additional fish and wildlife enhancement measures are proposed beyond those included in the Cartier Slough Management Plan, the same as described for Alternative A.

<u>Improved or Restricted Access</u>

Non-Mitigation Lands

Access would be expanded slightly under Alternative C as compared to Alternative B, and some Alternative B access restrictions would not apply as described below for specific locations.

Creekside Park and Vicinity

Near Creekside Park on the east side of Willow Creek below the dam, access would be the same as Alternative B, with the addition of day use facilities such as picnic tables, trash receptacles, shade structures, and a porta-potty.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

At Juniper Park, the access and trails development would be the same as described for Alternative B.

Ririe Outlet Channel

At the Ririe Outlet Channel, the gates would be opened and existing grazing would be eliminated along the channel roadway to permit full access.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Willow Creek Arm

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Seasonal shoreline access restrictions at the Willow Creek Arm would be the same as described for Alternative B.

Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands

Trails on Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands would also be the same as Alternative B.

Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

On Teton Mitigation Lands, the Pipe Creek Road would remain open year-round. Reclamation would work with IDFG to provide appropriate informational and regulatory signage alerting users to wildlife sensitivity.

Improved Facilities and Miscellaneous

Non-Mitigation Lands

Creekside Park and Vicinity

On the east side of Willow Creek below the dam, in the vicinity of Creekside Park, improvements would be the same as Alternative B, including the Reclamation property signage. Facilities in addition to those described for Alternative B follow.

Juniper Park and Vicinity

At Juniper park, the Visitor's Center and Day Use Area would be improved as described in Alternative B, plus a concessionaire-operated convenience store would be added to the Visitor's Center. As with Alternative B, an orientation kiosk, interpretive displays, and regulatory signage would be provided at the dam overlook and trailhead. The Juniper moorage facility would also include a fishing pier under Alternative C. At the boat launch, winter access for ice fishing would be added to the Alternative B list of improvements. Instead of three day use floating platforms, six platforms would be provided in the reservoir area under Alternative C.

Benchlands Area

On the Benchlands, overnight use of the area would be allowed in addition to the day use facilities described for Alternative B. Also, native vegetation would be removed and an additional area would be moved for expansion. Instead of three day use floating platforms, six platforms would be provided in the Mid-Reservoir Area within Tex Creek under Alternative C.

Blacktail Park, Access Road, and Adjacent Reservoir Area

At Blacktail Park, the moorage facilities would be expanded. Instead of two day use floating platforms, four platforms would be provided under Alternative C. In addition, Reclamation would develop a new day use area and associated facilities, such as a picnic table, trash receptacle, shade structures, landscaping, and vault toilets, adjacent to the overflow parking area. Additional parking capacity would be provided. A new boat launch facility would be developed at the upper (overflow) parking area. Electrical power could be brought into Blacktail by a party other than Reclamation, probably by permitting right-of-way along the access road into the park. Concessionaire facilities could also be expanded. Overnight camping facilities would be developed for tent, RV, or group camping adjacent to the overflow parking area. Camping would be allowed only during the Blacktail Park season and open fires would not be allowed.

Ririe Outlet Channel

The isolated parcel on the Ririe Outlet Channel would be disposed of under Alternative C.

Ririe Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA

Remaining Ririe Mitigation Lands

At an agricultural use area shown on Map 2-7, Reclamation would use the same approach as described for the No Action Alternative.

<u>Teton Mitigation Lands—Tex Creek WMA</u>

On Teton Mitigation Lands, recreation improvements would be the same as described for Alternative B.

Ririe and Teton Mitigation Lands—Cartier Slough WMA

Recreation uses would be the same as Alternative B in the Cartier Slough WMA.

2.4 Alternative Eliminated from Consideration

An alternative was considered at Ririe Reservoir earlier in the process that was eliminated from consideration. The theme of this alternative would have been very limited recreation development and enhanced natural resource protection. During the public involvement process, however, it was determined that very limited additional recreation development was not feasible because development was already past that point. The current ad hoc parking and trail situation, combined with the current overuse of the reservoir recreation facilities on some weekends and holidays and increasing regional population, would continue to contribute to overall resource degradation if use is not better controlled.