

From: [Flack, Brandon](#)
To: [Anneke Solsby](#)
Cc: [Mitchell Taylor](#); [Stephanie Blochowiak](#); [Brenna Garro](#)
Subject: RE: Powers Butte Energy Center (Ada and Canyon counties) - Request for Information
Date: Friday, December 22, 2023 12:43:45 PM
Attachments: [image003.png](#)

Hi Anneke,

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) has received your request for information related to the Powers Butte Energy Center Project, a 250-megawatt solar power and 200-megawatt battery energy storage project on approximately 2,385 acres located 1.5 miles southeast of the Bowmont in both Ada County and Canyon County, Idaho. This email serves as an IDFG letter addressing fish, wildlife, and plant resources as a component of the natural features of the property, including any sensitive plant and wildlife species recorded in the project vicinity.

IDFG has not conducted specific wildlife surveys on the property. The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Information System (IFWIS) database contains observation records of 3 Idaho Species of Greatest Conservation Need (SGCN) on the project property and 3 additional SGCN within 1 mile of the property boundary.

SGCN Observed on Project Property			
	Species Name	SGCN Tier	State Rank
	California gull	2b	S3B, S2N
	Hoary bat	2	S3
	Ring-billed gull	3b	S2B, S2N
SGCN Observed within 1 mile of Project Property			
	Species Name	SGCN Tier	State Rank
	California gull	2b	S3B, S2N
	Ferruginous hawk	2	S3B
	Golden eagle	2	S3
	Hoary bat	2	S3
	Pygmy rabbit	2	S3
	Ring-billed gull	3b	S2B, S2N

Definitions of SGCN tiers can be found in the Idaho State Wildlife Action Plan (<https://idfg.idaho.gov/swap>) and definitions of state ranks can be found here: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/species/taxa/ranks>

Aerial imagery and the report from SWCA indicate most of the project property is currently disturbed, being used mainly for agricultural production, and contains little native vegetation that could provide habitat for native wildlife species. Considering the footprint of the project overlays an area that has already been disturbed (or is surrounded by other suburban development or agricultural lands) and little intact native habitat exists on the project property or on the adjacent properties, IDFG would not anticipate effects of the proposed activities on native plant or terrestrial wildlife populations.

Thank you for your interest in the state's fish, wildlife, and plant resources. Please feel free to contact me with additional information needs or other questions.

Regards,

Brandon Flack
Regional Technical Assistance Manager

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game
Southwest Region
15950 N. Gate Blvd.
Nampa, ID 83687
Ph: (208) 854-8947



From: Anneke Solsby [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, December 15, 2023 3:16 PM
To: Flack, Brandon <brandon.flack@idfg.idaho.gov>
Cc: Mitchell Taylor [REDACTED]; Stephanie Blochowiak
[REDACTED]
Subject: Powers Butte Energy Center (Ada and Canyon counties) - Request for Information

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Hi Brandon –

Savion, LLC (Savion), doing business as Powers Butte Energy Center, LLC is proposing the construction and operation of the utility-scale Powers Butte Energy Center (Project), which would consist of an up to 250-megawatt (MW) solar photovoltaic (PV) generation array, 200-MW battery energy storage system (BESS), and ancillary facilities on approximately 2,385 acres of privately-owned lands in both Ada County and Canyon County, Idaho. The Project Area is located approximately 1.5 miles southeast of Bowmont, Idaho (see attached kmz).

We anticipate submitting land use applications to Ada and Canyon counties in mid-January for the Project. Therefore, we are requesting a letter from Idaho Dept of Fish & Game regarding protected wildlife on the site to inform permit development and review for sensitive wildlife and critical habitat review for the site. Our environmental consultant, SWCA, conducted a preliminary records search of sensitive plant and wildlife and special-status species using data from the Idaho Conservation Data Center and USFWS databases followed by pedestrian surveys last spring for a general habitat characterization and identifying potential areas for slickspot peppergrass. The survey results are attached. Additional surveys will be conducted prior to construction, as pertinent, in consideration of feedback from IDFG and USFWS.

Please let me know if you have any questions or need anything else to inform your review.

Thank you in advance!

Anneke Solsby | Director, Permitting & Environmental
[503.894.0258](tel:503.894.0258) | Savion, LLC

