Leslie Van Beek
District I

Brad Holton
District II

Zach Brooks
District III

Greg Rast, Chief Operating Officer

June 10, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

For the past two and a half years, Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge has been working toward acquiring two parcels west of the intersection of Highway 45 and East Lewis Lane in Nampa. These two parcels, totaling approximately 52 acres, are adjacent to the Lake Lowell Unit of the Refuge and would increase access to hunting, trails, recreation, and wildlife.

The Canyon County Board of Commissioners as well as Canyon County Parks, Cultural & Natural Resources, strongly support efforts by Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge to acquire these two parcels.

Canyon County is experiencing rapid growth in population as well as higher rates of development in both the incorporated and unincorporated areas of the county.

The Canyon County Parks, Pathways and Cultural Resources Plan, adopted by the Canyon County Board of County Commissioners in 2022, highlights the Lake Lowell areas as a priority investment to increase recreational opportunities and access to areas around the lake.

Opportunities to expand recreational areas and increase access to wildlife in rapidly developing areas in Idaho are few and far between. Given that this process is now in its final stages, please consider this letter of approval, as requested by Governor Brad Little, as the catalyst to move this project forward.

Please note that time is of the essence in acquiring these parcels which will benefit all Canyon County residents, Idahoans and visitors from across our great state and nation.

Canyon County Board of Commissioners

commissioner Leslie Van Beek

Commissioner Brad Holton

- ZR

Operating Officer Greg Rast

Parks Director Nichole Schwend