

Lesson 1

A Hundred Years of Idaho State Parks

Theme: “Happy Birthday to you...”

Content Objectives:

Students will:

- Learn about how, when, and why state parks were created
- Learn what is available at state parks today
- Create a state park folder

Suggested Level:

Fourth (4th) Grade

Standards Correlation:

- Language Arts
 - Standard 2: Comprehension/Interpretation 2.1, 2.2
- Health
 - Standard 4: Consumer Health 4.
- Humanities: Visual Arts
 - Standard 2: Critical thinking 2.2
- Physical Education
 - Standard 3: Physically Active Lifestyle 3.1
 - Standard 4: Personal Fitness 4.1
- Social Studies
 - Standard 4: Civics and Government 4.1

Suggested Time Allowance:

One 1-hour session

Park Employee Materials to bring to classroom

- “Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho” Program Script
- “Transportation poster board pictures”
- “Poster board camping photos”
- Idaho State Parks and Recreation Guides** (one for each student and teacher)
- Idaho Official Highway Maps** (one for each student and teacher)

Teacher Materials:

- “Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho” (including “transportation poster board pictures” and “poster board camping photos”)
- Idaho State Parks and Recreation Guides** (one for each student and teacher)
- Idaho Official Highway Maps** (one for each student and teacher)
- Idaho State Parks 100th Birthday Celebration DVD **“Idaho State Parks for Kids! ”**
- Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart
- Pocket folders (one per student)
- Art supplies
- Cupcakes

Preparation:

- Contact the state park nearest you to find out if a park employee is available to present the “Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho” and schedule the day and time
- If a state park employee is unavailable, make copy of “Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho Script” (for each student) and order or download “transportation poster board pictures” and “poster board camping photos” from IDPR website.
- Order **“Idaho State Parks and Recreation Guides”** (one for each student and teacher)
- Order **“Idaho Official Highway Maps”** (one for each student and teacher)
- Pocket folders (one per student)

- Art supplies
- Cupcake Celebration. Bring cupcakes to introduce birthday celebration and to motivate class to learn about state parks

Procedures:

Session 1:

1. Introduce the State Park Employee by name and park. Allow employee to present the "Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho". If a State Park Employee is unavailable, present the script yourself or as a class.
2. Review the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart with class to allow students to see the organization of the parks in relationship to the governor.
3. List parks students have visited and what activities they participated in, i.e. camping, boating, attend programs, Junior Ranger programs, etc.
4. Hand out folders and tell students these are to keep Idaho State Park information for the 100th celebration of Idaho State Parks as they learn and gather information.
5. Students should write their names on the folders and then be allowed to decorate the exterior with drawings of activities available at state parks (hiking, camping, fishing, water slide, boating, etc...).
6. Park Employee or teacher hand out to each student a copy of "**Idaho State Parks and Recreation Guide**" and "**Idaho Official Highway Map**" for future activities. Give the students a few minutes to look at the maps. The maps are to be put into their folders along with any other materials they are given for this unit.
7. View the Idaho State Parks 100th Celebration DVD "**Idaho State Parks for Kids!**" as a class.
8. Cupcake Celebration. Serve cupcakes as introduction to Idaho State Park 100th celebration. **Before** handing them out, have each student tell one reason why they think state parks are important or one fun thing they have done or would like to do at a state park.

Assessment Strategies:

- Class participation
- Folder completion
- Walking Chart completion

Extension Activities:

- Refer to Idaho State Park 100th Anniversary Activity Book for additional activities.
- As a class chart the number of miles from their school to Custer City, Idaho. This historic gold mining town is the geographical center of Idaho and part of the Land of the Yankee Fork Historic Area. Have class participate during recess/PE to collectively or individually walk the number of miles from their school to Custer. Keep track on a classroom chart. A mileage chart to Custer is included in this packet.

Resources:

- Idaho State Parks Guidebook** (Paperback) **Author:** Bill Loftus **Publisher:** Tribune Pub Co **Date Published:** 1989 **ISBN-13:** 9780960750658
- Idaho State Parks and Recreation Guide FREE** Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Regional Service Center contact information: PO Box 83720 • Boise, ID 83720-0065 • (208) 334-4199 or online at www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov
- Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Homepage** www.parksandrecreation.idaho.gov

Headquarters in your area:

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2885 Kathleen Avenue, Suite 1
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Celebrating 100 Years of Parks in Idaho

One hundred year old! Now that's pretty old. Can you think of some things that are at least 100 years old? Here are some things to think about that happened 100 years ago in 1908:

Grand Canyon National Monument was created
Boy Scouts of America started
Mother's Day was celebrated for the first time
Henry Ford rolled his first Model T automobile off the production line (It cost \$825 to buy)
Chicago Cubs won the Worlds Series and have not won since!
Actors Jimmy Stewart, "It's a Wonderful Life", and Buddy Ebsen, "Beverly Hillbillies" born Geronimo, Apache chief, died
First Class stamp was \$ 0.02 per ounce--now it is \$ 0.41
4th modern Olympic games were held in London, England
The first horror movie premiered in Chicago, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*
The zipper was invented
1st true skyscraper, 47 stories, built
William Howard Taft elected 27th President of the United States
The New Year Ball was dropped for the 1st time at Times Square
46th star was added to the U.S. Flag for Oklahoma
Albert Einstein presented the quantum theory of light
1st football uniform numbers used (University of Pittsburgh)
Oil discovered in Persia (southern Iran). Petroleum production began in the Middle East
1st time people traveled across the U.S. by car, it took 32 days, 5 hours and 25 minutes
"Take Me Out to the Ball Game" was a hit on the song charts

And Heyburn State Park, Idaho's first state park, was established in northern Idaho. As the first state park to be created in the Pacific Northwest, it is also the oldest state park in the Pacific Northwest. The park is named for United States Senator, Weldon Brinton Heyburn. Senator Weldon B. Heyburn loved the scenic beauty of Idaho and viewed it as a very valuable treasure and he wanted to do something about saving the best of it. He began the process to preserve the land at the southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene and Chatcolet Lake near Plummer, Idaho in Idaho's northern panhandle. Senator Heyburn wanted to be sure that Idaho had at least one national park and tried to gain national park status for the property. He worked very hard to convince others that a national park designation was the best choice but he was unsuccessful. After long negotiations, a temporary compromise was reached that provided for sale of the potential parkland to Idaho state authorities for a state park at a modest price of \$12,000. Senator Heyburn did not want a state park because he felt that it would be hard and near impossible for the state legislature to come up with the adequate funding needed for a park. He was right. The first appropriation from Idaho's legislature was not enough to cover the purchase price. Finally, two years later enough funds were set aside to purchase the 5,505-acres park. Idaho was left with a state park instead of a national park.

Heyburn State Park has a strong Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) legacy. When President Franklin Delano Roosevelt took office in 1933 our nation, as a whole, was bankrupt in money and spirit. He asked Congress for a large amount of money to create new jobs. The Emergency Work Act was passed and President Roosevelt took the money and created the Civilian Conservation Corps. The corps was put in place to provide conservation jobs for thousands of unemployed young men that in turn would help preserve our nations natural resources. These young men worked in forests, parks, lands and water. Each state had camps and was allocated funds to run their CCC programs. One such camp was at Heyburn State Park.

Company 1995 completed much of the original construction at Heyburn from 1934 – 1942. The CCC camp known as SP-1, short for State Park One, had approximately 150 – 200 young men, mostly from Idaho, and some from Illinois, New York and Oklahoma. They built roads, trails, picnic areas, shelters, bathrooms, bridges, beaches, benches and the Rocky Point Lodge. Many of the original CCC structures still stand today. The young men were paid \$30.00 per month, of which \$25.00 was sent home to help their families. With careful budgeting, the boys could stretch their five dollars for an entire month. (See attached CCC menu and costs from 1937 and CCC trivia)

This year we are celebrating 100 years of state parks in Idaho. Although the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation was not created until 1965, the State Land Board administered scenic and recreation areas as early as 1907. The State Highways Department took over in 1947, but in 1949 control of the parks was transferred back to the State Land Board. A Parks Division was created within the Land Board in 1953 and a former superintendent of Glacier National Park took charge of the Idaho program in 1958.

In 1965, two things came together that resulted in the creation of a state park system in Idaho. First, Roland and Averell Harriman agreed to donate what is now Harriman State Park to the State of Idaho on the condition that a professional agency be created to manage it. Second, the federal Land and Water Conservation Fund was created. Statewide recreation planning was required to qualify for the federal funds, which were used to develop state and local recreation facilities. It would take a state agency to do that. Currently there are 30 state parks and recreational trailways in Idaho.

Let's look at how things have changed over the years. Back in the early days of Idaho state parks, transportation to the parks was by team and buggy, steamboat, train and the Model T. (*Use transportation poster board pictures here*) Roads were rough and Interstate highways did not exist. A Model T cost \$290.00 in 1925, (the same year this steamboat picture was taken) and gasoline was only pennies per gallon. Today the average new car costs over \$20,000.00 and gas is at or near \$3.00/gallon. Today we drive to state parks in a car or pickup, large modern motor homes, big trucks pulling RVs, or four-wheel drive SUVs.

Camping in a state park a hundred years ago was definitely roughing it, at least by today's standards. (*Use poster board camping photos here*) Imagine no water, electricity, modern bathrooms, etc. There were very few facilities.

Today, the camping picture has changed dramatically for most of our state parks. Additional types of camping experiences are now offered. We find new high tech lightweight tents, (a bit different than these photos), big recreational vehicles and motor homes in our campgrounds. Most campgrounds provide hot showers, flush toilets, electricity, tables and grills and have added areas for large group campsites. We even see TV satellite dishes on top of RVs! What would those people from long ago think of that?

Recently, Idaho State Parks and Recreation added more choices for campers. With changing and expanding populations, there are park visitors who want a little more comfort and may not have a camper, tent or RV. For these people, accommodations such as cabins and yurts are a comfortable and affordable way to enjoy an outing in many Idaho State Parks. If you prefer not to "rough it" by sleeping on the ground, cabins and yurts are the ideal place to stay.

Besides greatly improved camping facilities in the last 100 years, a variety of other recreation activities have been added. State parks offer swimming, hiking, disk golf, fishing, interpretive programs, boating, bicycle and horseback trails, etc. Interpretive programs include nature walks, historic skills demonstrations like churning butter, making soap or cooking in a Dutch oven, video and audio tours, Junior Ranger programs or some other fun activity that helps you learn about the park and what lives there.

In 2008, Idaho celebrates 100 years since the establishment of its first state park, Heyburn State Park. Many things have changed in the past 100 years, but one thing that has not changed is the mission of Idaho State Parks and Recreation – "To improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship."

Help us celebrate 100 years of Idaho state parks. All parks will celebrate on July 12, 2008 with a party. Tell a friend. Idaho State Parks and Recreation looks forward to providing another 100 years of state parks and recreational opportunities for the citizens of Idaho and our guests.

CCC -Civil Conservation Corps
Camp SP-1, Company 1995

Heyburn State Park - 115 men
Menu for Friday, August 27, 1937

Breakfast

Item	Cost Per Unit	Quantity	Total Cost
Mush*			
Hot Cakes	\$ 0.23	3 pounds	\$ 0.69
Canned Milk	\$ 0.05	48 cans	\$ 2.40
Syrup*			
Fresh Peaches	\$ 1.00	2 pounds	\$ 2.00
Pork Links	\$ 0.22	35 pounds	\$ 7.70
Fresh Milk	\$ 0.02	120 gallons	\$ 2.40
Butter	\$ 0.33	6 pounds	\$ 1.98
Sugar	\$ 0.05	25 pounds	\$ 1.25
Coffee*			
TOTAL			\$ 18.42

*There were no costs that day for mush, syrup or coffee. Supplies must have already been on hand.

Dinner

Item	Cost per Unit	Quantity	Total Cost
Franks	\$ 0.16	45 pounds	\$ 7.20
Sour Kraut	\$ 0.28	2 pounds	\$ 0.56
Canned Milk	\$ 0.05	24 cans	\$ 1.20
Mustard	\$ 0.23	1/2 gallon	\$ 0.23
Boiled Spuds	\$ 0.01	40 pounds	\$ 0.40
Macaroni & Cheese	\$ 0.06	6 pounds	\$ 0.36
Cheese	\$ 0.19	6 pounds	\$ 1.14
Sugar	\$ 0.05	25 pounds	\$ 1.25
Corn on Cob	\$ 1.40	1 1/2 (<i>bushel???</i>)	\$ 1.40
Chocolate Pudding	\$ 0.23	2 dozen	\$ 0.46
Cornstarch	\$ 0.07	2 pounds	\$ 0.14
Coconut	\$ 0.11	2 pounds	\$ 0.22
Lettuce Salad	\$ 0.50	1/4 pound	\$ 0.50
Bread	\$ 0.05	20 pounds	\$ 1.00
TOTAL			\$ 17.71

Supper

Item	Cost per Unit	Quantity	Total Cost
Fried Chicken	\$ 0.28	100 pounds	\$ 28.00
Mashed Spuds	\$ 0.01	50 pounds	\$ 0.50
Lard	\$ 0.13	40 pounds	\$ 5.20
Dressing	\$ 0.01	10 gallons	\$ 0.10
Sage	\$ 0.06	1 pound	\$ 0.06
Sugar Brown	\$ 0.07	1 pound	\$ 0.07
Canned Milk	\$ 0.05	24 cans	\$ 1.20
Sugar	\$ 0.05	25 pounds	\$ 1.25
Sweet Spuds	\$ 0.12	15 pounds	\$ 1.80
Shrimp Salad	\$ 0.55	1/4 pound	\$ 0.55
Shrimp	\$ 0.12	32 pounds	\$ 3.84
Olives	\$ 0.37	3 pounds	\$ 1.11
Bread	\$ 0.05	15 pounds	\$ 0.75
Butter	\$ 0.33	5 pounds	\$ 1.65
Ice Cream	\$ 0.90	7 gallons	\$ 6.30
Crackers	\$ 0.10	10 boxes	\$ 1.00
Cocoa	\$ 0.49	1 pound	\$ 0.49
TOTAL			\$ 55.31

Bakers Menu

Item	Cost per unit	Quantity	Total Cost
Eggs	\$ 0.23	6 dozen	\$ 1.38
Ex. Vanilla	\$ 0.36	1 bottle	\$ 0.36
Powdered Sugar	\$ 0.07	9 pounds	\$ 0.63
TOTAL			\$ 2.37

Lunches - 400 Sandwiches

Item	Cost per unit	Quantity	Total Cost
Oranges	\$ 5.75	1 case	\$ 5.75
Lemons	\$ 8.75	1 case	\$ 8.75
Hams, Smoked	\$ 0.27	50 pounds	\$ 13.50
Cheese	\$ 0.19	15 pounds	\$ 2.85
Bologna	\$ 0.13	20 pounds	\$ 2.60
Butter	\$ 0.33	6 pounds	\$ 1.98
Bread	\$ 0.05	50 pounds	\$ 2.50
Mayonnaise	\$ 1.17	1 gallon	\$ 1.17
Sugar	\$ 0.05	25 pounds	\$ 1.25
TOTAL			\$ 40.35

Cost Summary for Entire Day

Breakfast	\$ 18.42
Dinner	\$ 17.71
Supper	\$ 55.31
Bakers Menu	\$ 2.37
<u>Lunches</u>	<u>\$ 40.35</u>
Total	\$ 134.16

The Civilian Conservation Corps in Idaho 1933 to 1942 Amazing Facts

Camps in Idaho 163 (in 51 locations)

Number of Men from Idaho 28,074

Number of Men from other states 86,775

Total 113,849

Some of the projects completed in Idaho:

Lookout houses and towers	236
Dams	91
Telephone lines	3,034 miles
Trees planted	28,614,000
Fire firefighting	484,149 man days
Tree and plant disease and insect control	641,464 acres
Rodent and predatory animal control	4,049,971 acres

Trees planted in the United States --3 billion

CCC Trivia

- The CCC helped build Idaho's first state park (Heyburn State Park)
- All Five Star Generals of World War II were involved in the organizing and running of the CCC
- Famous CCC alumni include actors Raymond Burr, Walter Mathau and Robert Mitchum; boxer Archie Moore; baseball player Stan Musial; and test pilot Chuck Yeager.
- The CCC built 46,584 bridges
- In 1940, it cost approximately \$1,000 per year per enrollee for food, clothing and allotments to dependents.
- The typical enrollee had been out of work for seven months prior to enlisting. He weighed about 147 pounds and gained an average of 11 pounds after joining.
- If an enrollee was absent more than eight days, he was given a dishonorable discharge.
- Enrollees were granted three days leave to vote or register to vote.
- Before the CCC was established in 1933, many European countries, as well as Canada and South Africa had established work camps.
- The Soviet Union praised the CCC program.
- More than 85,000 Native Americans enrolled in the CCC program.
- During its 10-year history, the CCC operated 163 camps in the Gem state. Nearly 30,000 Idaho men found jobs in the CCC. The number of men who were working in Idaho from out-of-state was over 86,000.
- The CCC boys built more than 90 dams, more than 200 lookouts, planted millions of trees and built miles of roads and trails.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's 30 State Parks*
List of Idaho State Parks Acquisitions

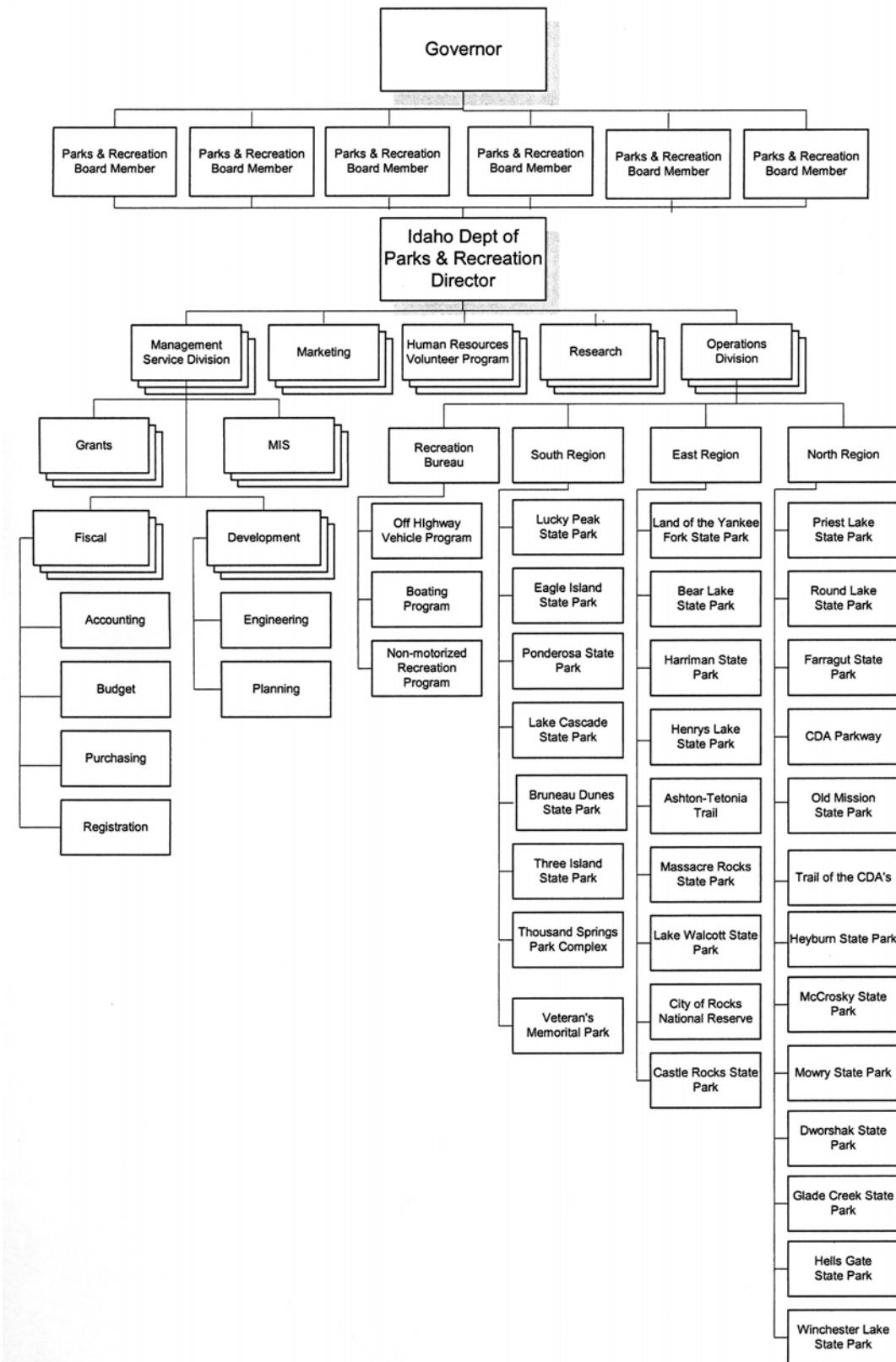
Heyburn (1908)* Administers Mary Minerva McCroskey (1995)* Mowry (1972)*	Veterans Memorial (1969)* Operated by City of Boise	Old Mission (1975)* Administers Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes*
Harriman (1965)* Administers Henrys Lake (1973)* Mesa Falls	Thousand Springs Administers Malad Gorge (1970)* Crystal Springs Niagara Springs (1994) Earl M. Hardy Box Canyon Nature Preserve (1999) Billingsley Creek Ritter Island Vardis Fisher	Eagle Island (1978)*
Bruneau Dunes (1967)*	Hells Gate (1973)*	Dworshak (1989)* Administers Glade Creek (1998)*
Massacre Rocks (1967)*	Round Lake (1973)*	Land of the Yankee Fork (1990)*
Lucky Peak (1967)* Administers Discovery (1935) Sandy Point Spring Shores	Priest Lake (1973)*	Ashton-Tetonia Rail Trail (1995)* No Public Facilities Available
Three Island Crossing (1968)*	Farragut (1973)* Administers Coeur d'Alene Parkway (1996)*	Lake Cascade (1999)*
Bear Lake (1969)*	Ponderosa (1973)*	Lake Walcott (1999)*
Winchester Lake (1969)*	City of Rocks (1973)* City of Rocks NR (1988) Administers Castle Rocks (2003)*	

Mileage to Custer, Idaho

From:

Town	Mileage
Boise, Idaho via Banks-Lowman via Idaho City	205 162
Idaho Falls, Idaho	198
Coeur d'Alene, Idaho via Lewiston, Idaho via Missoula, Montana	458 398
Lewiston, Idaho via Banks-Lowman	343
Twin Falls, Idaho via Arco-Challis via Sun Valley	234 152
Pocatello, Idaho	209
Salmon, Idaho	108
Sun Valley, Idaho	76
Stanley, Idaho	22
Butte, Montana	257
Missoula, Montana	253
Salt Lake City, Utah	370

**Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation
FY 2007**



Idaho State Parks for Kids! **DVD Fact Sheet**

Weldon B. Heyburn

Senator Weldon B. Heyburn loved the scenic beauty of Idaho and viewed it as a very valuable treasure and he wanted to do something about saving the best of it. He began the process to preserve the land at the southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene and Chatcolet Lake near Plummer, Idaho in Idaho's northern panhandle. This land became Idaho's first state park, Heyburn State Park.

Nell Shipman

Nell Shipman was born in Vancouver in 1892. She worked as an actress in theatrical companies before she entered the film industry. At the age of eighteen, she sold the rights to her book, *Under the Crescent*, to Universal to be made into a serial. She quickly developed a reputation as a talented writer, actress, and director. In 1916, she became an overnight success for her production of *God's Country and the Woman*. The film is based on a James Oliver Curwood story. Shipman produced, directed, and acted in the film. She is credited as one of the first directors to shoot her films almost entirely on location. Shipman continued with a string of successes shot at Priest Lake, Idaho with *Back to God's Country* (1919) and many other outdoor "wild animal pictures." Audiences were drawn to the seemingly exotic locations and "wild" animals in her films. She artfully created a persona of herself as a rugged and exotic "New Woman" of outdoor adventure.

By the 1920s, Nell's films decreased in popularity, so she closed down her production company in Idaho and sold her animals to the San Diego Zoo. She remained active as a screenwriter and novelist and wrote her autobiography in the 1960s before she passed away in 1970.

Bull Frog

The bullfrog is the largest frog in North America, with a voice to match its size. The booming call will travel more than a quarter mile. The bullfrog uses its call for attracting mates and staking out its territory.

The bullfrog prefers to make its home in ponds, lakes and slow moving water with lots of vegetation at the edge to provide easy hiding places. When spooked, the frog is just as likely to hide in vegetation as the water. You don't get to be the largest frog in North America by being a light eater. A bullfrog has teeth in the roof of its mouth and a muscular tongue capable of flipping prey into its mouth. Insects, crayfish, minnows and even small birds are meals for this hefty frog with a loud mouth.

Naval Training Station at Farragut

Farragut State Park once was the location of the second largest Naval training base in America. The United States wanted a training base far from the ocean to be safe from enemy attack. Construction started in April 1942 with 22,000 men working on

the vast project. By September of 1942, after five months of construction, Camp Bennion was the first of six recruit camps to open for training.

Each of the self-contained camps was designed to house, feed, and train 5,000 men at a time. There were six main camps. Each camp was laid out in the form of an oval with a huge drill field in the center. In 15 months, Farragut trained almost 300,000 sailors. The last recruits arrived in December of 1944. The training center was decommissioned in June of 1946.

Construction Techniques at Old Mission

In 1850, Father Ravalli arrived in the area now known as Cataldo and began designing the present mission building. Together, the Indians and Jesuits used large, hand-hewn logs that were cut near the site. All the planing and shaping was done by hand with a broad ax. They didn't have nails so holes were drilled in the upright timbers and the rafters and wooden pegs hold them together. The large logs were then latticed with saplings that were woven with grass and caked with mud. This process, know as "wattle and daub," created hollow walls over one-foot thick and a building constructed without nails. Evidence of this technique can still be seen today. The rocks for the foundation were dug in the mountains over half a mile away and carried to the building site. Mud was used to hold the stones in place and cement was added later. Each of the six columns in the front of the building is made from one tree. When finished three years later, the building was christened Mission of the Sacred Heart. The building is 90 feet long, 40 feet wide and 40 feet high. The only tools used to build the mission were a broad axe, an auger used for drilling holes, ropes and pulleys, a penknife and an improvised whip saw.

Ospreys

The Osprey is a medium-large fish-eating bird of prey or raptor. It tolerates a wide variety of habitats, nesting in any location that is near a body of water and provides an adequate food supply. Size wise, the Osprey reached 24 inches in length and has a wingspan of 6 feet. It is brown on the upperparts and predominantly whitish on the head and underparts, with a brownish eyepatch and wings. The main diet for an Osprey is fish. The Osprey is featured on the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's logo.

The Great Depression, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC)

When President Franklin Delano Roosevelt took office in 1933 our nation, as a whole, was bankrupt in money and spirit. He asked Congress for a large amount of money to create new jobs. The Emergency Work Act was passed and President Roosevelt took the money and created the Civilian Conservation Corps. The corps was put in place to provide conservation jobs for thousands of unemployed young men that in turn would help preserve our nations natural resources. These young men worked in forests, parks, lands and water. Each state had camps and was allocated funds to run their CCC programs. One such camp was at Heyburn State Park.

Virgil McCroskey

Virgil Talmadge McCroskey comes closer than anyone to being Eastern Washington's equivalent of conservationist John Muir. The son of pioneers who homesteaded near the village of Steptoe, in the Palouse hills of extreme Eastern Washington, he became a successful pharmacist and inherited the family farm. Earnings from pharmacy and the eventual sale of the farm enabled him to finance his passion for conserving significant land for future generations. Over the years he patiently bought up property and worked to preserve and improve it. His acquisitions ultimately resulted in two state parks: Steptoe Butte State Park in Washington and Mary Minerva McCroskey State Park (also called Skyline Drive) just over the border in Idaho. Both were areas of natural beauty and interest that he could see from his childhood home. His generosity and hard work preserved them for the enjoyment of generations to come, as he put it: "for all the people, forever and ever". Virgil McCroskey made a major contribution to the state parks movement in Washington and Idaho.

Corps of Discovery, Sacajawea

The Louisiana Purchase of 1803 doubled the size of our nation at that time. President Thomas Jefferson asked Meriwether Lewis and William Clark to take an expedition into the unmapped area. He wanted them to observe and record the plants, animals, geography, geology and people they encountered along the way. President Jefferson provided the best supplies, clothing, firearms, equipment and rations that were available.

Many different people traveled with Lewis and Clark along their journey, but one of the most memorable was Sacagawea. She is the Indian woman who accompanied Lewis and Clark to the Pacific Ocean. Sacagawea was born in Idaho and belonged to the Lemhi Shoshone Tribe.

Reservoir Operation as it Relates to Boating

The water levels at reservoirs like Dworshak fluctuate, go up and down, greatly throughout the year to help reduce flood damage, generate power and aid juvenile salmon in their migration to the ocean. The reservoir generally reaches its full elevation by mid-June, depending on the snow pack and precipitation of the previous winter and spring. Boating is best when the reservoir is full which is throughout most of the summer months. In August, the water levels drop dramatically, which makes access to the water difficult.

Nez Perce Canoes

The Nez Perce Indians made dugout canoes from large Ponderosa or cottonwood trees. They burned the wood to make it easier to hollow out the middle of the canoe. After burning, they used sharp tools to cut away the burned portion of the tree. These canoes were very heavy and awkward to maneuver. The Nez Perce taught Lewis and Clark how to make these canoes so they could continue their journey down the Clearwater River and on to the Pacific Ocean.

Scorpion

Scorpions are interesting animals. They have six to twelve eyes, but do not have good eyesight. They sense their way around using sensitive hairs and special organs on their legs and bodies that pick up vibrations and scents.

Scorpions are able to emit a visible light in the dark under an ultraviolet light. This process is called fluorescing. Since scorpions are active at night, some scientists believe that this special process allows the scorpion to avoid damaging light levels.

This unusual feature can make scorpions easier to collect and observe. When darkness falls, portable UV lights can be carried into the field where scorpions live. Scorpions caught in the nearly invisible UV light glow an eerie greenish color, making them easy to spot in the darkness.

Dark Skies

On a clear night the average person can see several thousand stars with the naked eye. Using a typical hobbyist telescope, that number increases into the tens of thousands and with a large observatory telescope millions of stars are visible. Although our viewing possibilities on Earth seem infinite, there are many problems with observing space from the surface of this planet. Light, pollution, and our atmosphere all act to filter and distort the view of the heavens. Scientists must consider many factors when viewing the starts. Most large observatory telescopes are in remote areas at high elevations where the air is cold, dry and clear and no light pollution.

Oregon Trail River Crossing

Known in later years as Three Island Crossing, the Oregon Trail ford across the Snake River above Glenns Ferry actually used only two of the three islands available at that point in the river channel. Located on an old Indian and fur traders route through the valley of the Snake, the crossing formed a difficult obstacle to emigrant wagons. Many risked the crossing, even though they had to cross the Boise and the Snake Rivers again at Fort Boise. Otherwise they faced a longer, harder dry route on the south side of the Snake River.

Approximately 250,000 people traveled the Oregon Trail, half of which attempted to ford the river at Three Island. The depth of the river was estimated to be 6-8 feet. The first large wagon train came through Idaho in 1844. It had an estimated 1,475 people, 250 wagons and stretched more than 4 miles. Many emigrants traded bacon, bread and beans for salmon with the Shoshone, Paiute and Bannock Indian tribes.

Gold Mining, Gold Panning

Idaho has a rich heritage of mining. The discovery of gold in 1860 led many people to the Idaho territory. Gold was discovered in different areas of Idaho. There are several different types of mining processes.

Placer mining referred to deposits of natural accumulations of precious metal dust, flakes, grains and nuggets that have been weathered free from the host rock that originally contained the materials. Panning consisted of using a gold pan, water and a shovel full of sand and gravel. The sand and gravel is worked until flecks of gold appear. Rocker boxes and cradles increased the amount of gold found in a shorter amount of time. Sluices, which are longer versions of a cradle, washed gravel down a 20-50 foot box. The fine gold washed down its length and was collected.

River mining used a process of flumes and ditches, sometimes miles in length. An entire river might be diverted through this system to allow access to the gravel beds in the river. Hydraulic mining used a jet of water at a high pressure to wash gravel from hillsides. Sometimes the nozzles were 6-9 inches in diameter. Dredges, huge floating mining machines, were built to recover even larger quantities of gold from rivers.

Hard rock mining was hard work. The ore was collected and then transported to another area to crush and collect the gold.

How the Snake River Springs Work

The Snake River Plain is composed of many lava flows. When the molten lava cools, it forms many cracks and fissures. Water trickles into the ground and into these cracks. The water slowly seeps deep into the ground and flows about one mile per year in a southerly direction until the water comes gushing out of the Snake River Canyon walls. Some of the water you see today entered the ground over 150 years ago! You can see many of these springs at Thousand Springs Park District.

What people see in rocks (clouds, etc.)

Have you ever sat outside on a summer day on the lawn or grass and watched the clouds? Some people like to lie on their backs and envision shapes and forms in the clouds. Sometimes you can see most anything on a good cloud-watching day.

Emigrants traveling through City of Rocks along the California Trail envisioned many different shapes in the rocks. There is frog rock, slipper rock-which looks just like Cinderella's slipper, dragon rock, saddle rock, chicken rock and one that looks like a sleeping camel. There are many different things to see in the rocks.

Rattlesnakes

There are approximately fifty species of rattlesnake, with numerous subspecies. They receive their name for the rattle located at the tip of their tails. The rattle is used as a warning device when threatened. The scientific name *Crotalus* derives from the Greek, *κρόταλον*, meaning "castanet". The name *Sistrurus* is the Latinized form of the Greek word for "tail rattler" (*Σειστρουρος*, *Seistrouros*) and shares its root with the ancient Egyptian musical instrument, the sistrum, a type of rattle. Most rattlesnakes mate in the spring. All species give live birth, rather than laying eggs. The young are self-sufficient from birth. As they do not need their mother after birth, the mother does not remain with her young.

The rattle is composed of a series of nested, hollow beads which are actually modified scales from the tail tip. Each time the snake sheds its skin, a new rattle segment is added. They may shed their skins several times a year depending on food supply and growth rates.

Black Widow Spiders

The black widow spider is known for its poisonous venom. It is a large spider found throughout the world and commonly associated with urban habitats or agricultural areas. Only adult female black widow spiders are gloss black with an hourglass shaped marking on the underside of its abdomen which, although most commonly red, may range in color from yellow to white to various shades of orange and red. They also bear a small, usually red (colors vary) dot near the spinnerets, which is separate from the hourglass. As with many venomous creatures, the brightly colored markings serve as a warning to predators. Eating a black widow will normally not kill a small predator (birds, et cetera), but the sickness that follows digestion is enough for the creature to remember that the bright red marking means "do not eat."

Bear Lake

Bear Lake was originally called Black Bears Lake. Donald Mackenzie of the North West Fur Company discovered it in 1817. Rendezvous Beach is named after the rendezvous point of fur trappers and American Indians in the early 1800s. Thousands of people gathered to trade at this historical site.

Bear Lake is approximately twenty miles long and eight miles wide with about half of the acreage located in Utah and half in Idaho. The most identifying characteristic of the lake is its turquoise-blue color.

Sandhill Cranes

The Sandhill Crane is a tall gray bird. The adults are grey with a red forehead, white cheeks and long dark pointed bill. They have long dark legs that trail behind in flight and a long neck that is kept straight in flight.

They nest in marsh vegetation or on the ground close to water. The female lays two eggs on a mound of vegetation. Cranes mate for life. Both parents feed the young, called colts, who are soon able to feed themselves. These birds can live up to 25 years. They eat insects, aquatic plants and animals, rodents, seeds and berries. Sandhill Cranes gather in large numbers when they migrate.

Trumpeter Swans

The Trumpeter Swan is the largest native North American bird and one of the largest waterfowl species on earth. Males typically measure from 57-64 inches and weigh 26 pounds. Females typically range from 55-60 inches and weigh 22 pounds.

These birds have white feathers with a long neck, a black bill subtly marked with salmon-pink along the mouthlines, and short black legs. The young are grey in appearance and become white after the first year.

Trumpeter Swans can be found in Alaska and northwestern and central North America. These swans migrate to and from the Pacific coast and portions of the United States, flying in V-shaped flocks.

Females lay 8 to 17 eggs in a mound of plant material. Swans mate for life. These birds feed while swimming, sometimes up-ending or dabbling to reach submerged food. They eat mostly aquatic plants. In winter they many also eat grasses and grains in fields.

This bird was named for its trumpet-like honk which some compare to the sound of a French horn.

Catch and Release Fishing

Catch and release fishing is defined as catching fish in a way that the act of hooking and then letting the fish go does not harm the fish. This is done by following several tips, regardless of the type of fishing you are participating in (fly fishing, spinner/lure or bait).

First the barbs of the hook/lure are bent down, creating a barbless hook making it easier to remove the hook from the fishes mouth. Second, handle the fish as little as possible and keep the fish in the water while removing the hook. It is important to not lift the fish with support out of the water. Lifting the fish directly out of the water by the line is like being run over by a car, all of the fish organs are pushed to the tail of the fish. Third, when handling the fish, be sure that your hands are wet in order to not remove the protective film layer from the fish skin. And finally fourth, if the fish has been played or worked hard, after unhooking the fish, support the fish in the water and move it back and forth to move oxygen through its gills. Once the fish is revived enough to escape from your hands, it will generally be okay.

Idaho State Parks

Contact Information

Bear Lake	(208)847-1045	P.O. Box 297, Paris, ID 83254	bea@idpr.idaho.gov
Bruneau Dunes	(208)366-7919	HC 85, Box 41, Mountain Home, ID 83647	bru@idpr.idaho.gov
Castle Rocks	(208)824-5519	P.O. Box 169, Almo, ID 83312	cit@idpr.idaho.gov
City of Rocks	(208)824-5519	P.O. Box 169, Almo, ID 83312	cit@idpr.idaho.gov
Coeur d'Alene Parkway	(208)699-2224	2750 Kathleen Avenue, Suite 1, Coeur d'Alene, ID 83815	coe@idpr.idaho.gov
Dworshak	(208)476-5994	P.O. Box 2028, Orofino, ID 83544	dwo@idpr.idaho.gov
Eagle Island	(208)939-0696	4000 W. Hatchery Rd., Eagle, ID 83616	eag@idpr.idaho.gov
Farragut	(208)683-2425	13550 E. Hwy. 54, Athol, ID 83801	far@idpr.idaho.gov
Harriman	(208)558-7368	3489 Green Canyon Rd., Island Park, ID 83429	har@idpr.idaho.gov
Hells Gate	(208)799-5051	5100 Hells Gate Road, Lewiston, ID 83501	hel@idpr.idaho.gov
Henrys Lake	(208)558-7532	3917 E. 510 N., Island Park, ID 83429	hen@idpr.idaho.gov
Heyburn	(208)686-1308	1291 Chatcolet Rd., Plummer, ID 83851	hey@idpr.idaho.gov
Lake Cascade	(208)382-6544	P.O Box 709, Cascade, ID 83616	cas@idpr.idaho.gov
Lake Walcott	(208)436-1258	959 E. Minidoka Dam, Rupert, ID 83350	wal@idpr.idaho.gov
Land of the Yankee Fork	(208)879-5244	P.O Box 1086, Challis, ID 83226	lan@idpr.idaho.gov
Lucky Peak	(208)334-2432	9725 East Highway 21, Boise, ID 83716	san@idpr.idaho.gov
Massacre Rocks	(208)548-2672	3592 N. Park Lane, American Falls, ID 83221	mas@idpr.idaho.gov
McCroskey	(208)686-1308	1291 Chatcolet Rd., Plummer, ID 83851	mcc@idpr.idaho.gov
Old Mission	(208)682-3814	P.O. Box 30, Cataldo, ID 83810	old@idpr.idaho.gov
Ponderosa	(208)634-2164	P.O. Box 89, McCall, ID 83638	pon@idpr.idaho.gov
Priest Lake	(208)443-2200	314 Indian Creek Park Rd., Coolin, ID 83821	pri@idpr.idaho.gov
Round Lake	(208)263-3489	P.O. Box 170, Sagle, ID 83860	rou@idpr.idaho.gov
Thousand Springs	(208)837-4505	P.O. Box 149, Hagerman, ID 83332	mal@idpr.idaho.gov
Three Island Crossing	(208)366-2394	P.O. Box 609, Glenns Ferry, ID 83623	thr@idpr.idaho.gov
Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes	(208)682-3814	P.O. Box 30, Cataldo, ID 83810	old@idpr.idaho.gov
Winchester Lake	(208)924-7563	P.O. Box 186, Winchester, ID 83555	win@idpr.idaho.gov



New camping opportunities





Family Camping Long Ago





Transportation 1920s



1 AUG.



Transportation 2007-2008



"Idaho State Parks are where I want to be"

Verse 1:

Here in Idaho there are several places that I love,
Where the jewels of the Gem State are plain to see.
Boating, hiking, camping too, there are so many things to do,
Idaho State Parks are where I want to be.

Verse 2:

Let's go fishing, climbing rocks, play on the beach or pan for gold,
Ski cross-country, bike or ride an ATV.
Stay in a cabin or a yurt, attend a program, or concert.
Idaho State Parks are where I want to be.

Verse 3:

Heyburn State Park was the first to be preserved for you and me,
Now there are so many more for us to see.
Happy Birthday Heyburn Park, 100 years to celebrate
Idaho State Parks are where I want to be.

Chorus:

There is Bear Lake, Bruneau Dunes, Castle Rocks and City of Rocks,
Coeur d'Alene Parkway, Dworshak, and Eagle Island,
Farragut and Harriman, Hells Gate, Henrys Lake, Heyburn,
Lakes Cascade and Walcott, Land of the Yankee Fork.

Lucky Peak and Massacre Rocks, McCrosky, and Old Mission too,
Ponderosa, Priest Lake, Round Lake, Thousand Springs, Three Island
Crossing,
Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, Winchester names them all.

Refrain: Idaho State Parks are where I want to be.