

**RECREATION RESOURCES BUREAU QUARTERLY REPORTS
JANUARY – FEBRUARY – MARCH 2014**

RECREATION RESOURCES – DAVID CLAYCOMB, RECREATION BUREAU CHIEF

BOATING PROGRAM

The following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by the Boating Program. This is in addition to the routine tasks of answering questions from the general public and county marine deputies, grant administration, preparation for various training courses, attending county waterways committee meetings, attending user group meetings, and ordering of equipment and supplies.

- ◆ Staff is busy planning for the upcoming boating season including county grant management, budgeting, and marine law enforcement training. Boat safety classes are being taught all over the state by staff and/or local marine deputies. Juelie and Ed have conducted several certification courses for new boat safety education instructors.
- ◆ Staff participated in four major outreach events: the Spokane Boat Show, the Treasure Valley Boat Show, the Boat Wars Boat Show in Idaho Falls, and the Idaho Sportsman's Show in Boise. In addition the program also met with new U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary leadership in the Treasure Valley.
- ◆ Staff hosted the Basic Water Safety and Rescue class for North Region park staff at Hells Gate State Park on March 28. Also in attendance were rangers from the Army Corp of Engineers. The course highlights hazards associated with water rescues and promotes techniques that can be used to keep first responders safe. A very positive media clip on the training was aired on KLEW news.
- ◆ The program sponsored a remote wilderness training class in partnership with the Intermountain Jet Boat Association.
- ◆ Staff is planning an outreach event on May 17 at Centennial Park in Twin Falls to kickoff National Safe Boating Week. Program staff will install several life jacket loaner stations during the week and hold boat safety outreach events at sporting goods stores in the Burley area.

OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE PROGRAM:

Following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by the Motorized Trails Program Staff. This is in addition to the routine tasks of OHV education, trail maintenance, public outreach, and routine correspondence.

- ◆ Disabled Veteran Snowmobile Ride in McCall.
- ◆ Sportsman Show (largest public outreach event of the year).
- ◆ Avalanche Awareness classes reached 724 students statewide.
- ◆ Met with Nez Perce Clearwater N.F. to discuss UTV management, MVUMs, grants and other trail issues.
- ◆ Met with North Idaho College, USFS, and diverse recreation enthusiasts (working to create volunteer network and Canfield Mountain management plan that incorporates the new IDPR equipment operator).
- ◆ Attended the Panhandle Forest Collaborative meeting.
- ◆ Attended the Horse Haven Task Force Meeting.
- ◆ Attended Priest Lake Caribou monitoring meeting.

- ✦ IDPR Grant Committee Meetings at IDPR HQ.
- ✦ OHV Trainer Blair Geiger has relocated from Idaho Falls to CDA to fill the North OHV Trainer vacancy.
- ✦ Met with District Ranger from Lowman to discuss local outfitter's concerns regarding dirt bike use on trails out of Warm Springs Creek to Bull Trout Lake on Boise National Forest.
- ✦ Idaho Interagency OHV Coordinating Committee meeting at IDPR HQ.
- ✦ National OHV Conservation Council (NOHVCC) Idaho Trail Maintenance Workshop planning meetings (land manager training workshop to be held in May in Boise).

NON-MOTORIZED TRAILS PROGRAM:

The overall mission is to improve non-motorized trail opportunities in Idaho by working with various landowners, user groups, and other relevant parties to facilitate quality recreation opportunities.

- ✦ Staff promoted Idaho City Area yurt rentals by exhibiting at the Boise Sportsman Show. February and March yurt bookings were ahead of last year's numbers. Occupancy rates during this period run between 70-98%.
- ✦ Implemented a summer/winter Idaho City yurt fee increase of \$10 per night and an additional \$15 fee increase for prime nights in the winter.
- ✦ The last snow grooming was done on March 15. The snow groomer has been brought home to Boise and has been prepped for summer storage. This winter the snow groomer consistently groomed the 26 miles of trail on a weekly basis with no major breakdowns.
- ✦ Assisted in evaluation of RTP and Road and Bridge grants.
- ✦ Attended Ada County Foundation trail system (FACTS) trail meetings and helped with development of the nearly completed Idaho's statewide Bike/Ped plan.
- ✦ Organized a volunteer trail event for FACTS to brush a couple miles of greenbelt trail near Garden City. About 35 volunteers helped out.
- ✦ Continued to make the non-motorized trails' web pages more accurate and easier to use. Updated numerous digital maps on IDPR's web site for the State Parks and Park N' Ski program, and reprinted the Idaho City Area summer trail map.

OUTDOOR RECREATION ANALYST:

The following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by the Outdoor Recreation Analyst.

- ✦ Continued working with the Idaho Trails Web Application Updates. Consulted with staff on features essential to operating in the new application environment. Worked with Department of Administration to get many of these features back. We are close to getting the export to Google Earth back on the application.
- ✦ Reviewed and prepared comments on numerous proposed federal land NEPA documents. Submitted comments for the North Zone Travel Management Plan for the Cottonwood Field Office, BLM. The field office offered us cooperating agency status for the project and we accepted that offer.
- ✦ Continued to attend collaboration meetings for the Big Creek-Yellow Pine Restoration Project and the Nez Perce-Clearwater Forest Plan.