

## Civilian Conservation Corps Heyburn Camp SP-1

*Our greatest task is to put people to work. This is no unsolvable problem if we face it wisely and courageously. It can be accomplished in part by direct recruiting by the Government itself, treating the task as we would treat the emergency of war, but at the same time, through this employment, accomplishing greatly needed projects to stimulate and reorganize the use of our national resources.*

—Franklin D. Roosevelt

In 1933, during the dark days of the Depression, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established a work program for millions of unemployed young men called the, Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC).

Thus was born the so-called "Three C's" or President Roosevelt's "Tree Army". From 1933 to 1943, nearly four million of the country's young men, from all walks of life, worked to save or improve our natural resources. With skill, muscle and sweat they planted billions of trees, reclaimed millions of acres of land and constructed dams, bridges and fire trails. They did all this in between building entire state parks, improving national parks and restoring national monuments.

Here at Heyburn, we also had a "Tree Army". Known as Camp SP-1, Heyburn State Park played host to CCC Company #1995 during the years of 1934 through 1938, and the grand work they did here is still much in evidence.

Company 1995 helped open the park to the public during those years through a variety of construction projects. The men of Company 1995 laid a pipe line across Lake Chatcolet to Rocky Point. They constructed a picnic and camping area above Lake Chatcolet. They build roadways, trails (including the nature trail) and shelters throughout the park and built bathroom facilities with running water. They also constructed the Rocky Point Lodge and park manager houses. In addition, Company 1995 fought numerous fires, which threatened the area and were successful in saving thousands of acres of timberland.

Today, Heyburn State Park continues to enjoy the facilities created by the CCC during the Great Depression. In addition to the Park's stunning natural resources, we can see the evidence of work of a generation of young men who supported themselves and their families while doing important work on public lands here in Idaho and across the nation.

## Leave No Trace Pack It In, Pack It Out

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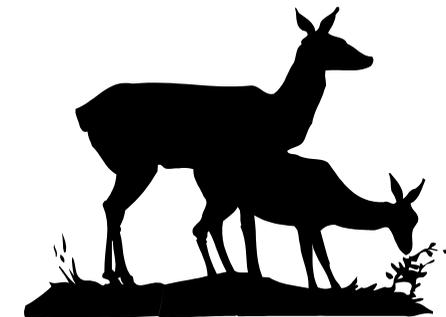
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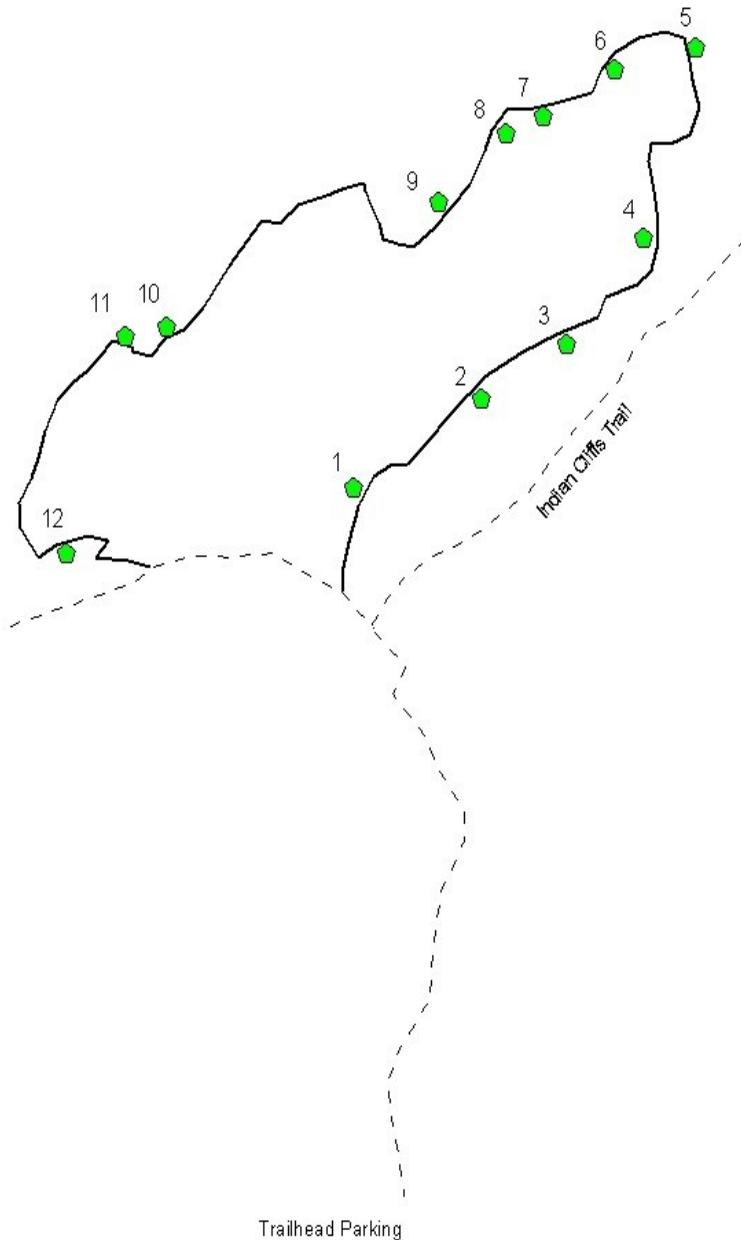
## WELCOME TO HEYBURN STATE PARK

**Civilian Conservation  
Corps  
Company #1995**

## NATURE TRAIL



Thank you for keeping the trail clean and using it only for foot traffic. Easy one-mile loop, however rocky terrain near talus slope.



1. **Western White Pine - (*Pinus monticola*).** Across most of its natural distribution, from central British Columbia to California's Sierra Nevada, western white pine grows scattered among forests dominated by firs and hemlocks. The pine stands out as a handsome tree with checkered bark and a slender, open crown adorned with long, dangling cones. A fire ravaged the area in 1910, destroying most of the white pines that remained after logging. This tree was one of the few that escaped both axe and flame.

2. **Grand Fir - (*Abies bifolia*)/Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*).** Both of these trees are considered shade tolerant. This means the tree will grow under the canopies of the ponderosa pine. Grand fir needles were pounded to a powder to produce salves to treat cuts, wounds, sores and skin infections. Douglas-fir seed and needles were used to make tea. The fragrant smell of boughs was used for bedding and is very popular as a Christmas tree. Identify the Douglas-fir by its unique feature on the cone: three-pronged pitchfork-shaped bracts that project from between the scales. By the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, it had replaced white pine as the prime industrial timber.

3. **Western White Pine - (*Pinus monticola*).** Western white pine was once the dominant species in the forest surrounding Coeur d'Alene. Today, western white pine covers only about 10% of its original range. The Big Idaho Fire of 1910 destroyed over 3 million acres of timber including the white pine. Identify this tree by its 5 needle bundles and long spacious pinecone. The tree has a diameter (dbh) of 44 inches and is 165 feet tall. This tree would make 15,633,200 kitchen matches and it would take 4 trees of this size to frame a 2,000 sq ft. house.

4. **Snags** - The remains of trees are never wasted. Insects, animals, and fungi inhabit these old deteriorating trees. Take a closer look at the circles in the tree. Carpenter ants cause the round circles while bark beetles cause the oblong circles. The brown sawdust material is called *frass* - be careful it contains insect droppings. Woodpeckers will peck at the trees to eat the insects thus creating homes for small animals or birds.

5. **Understory Vegetation** - The next 90 feet yield several species of shrubs used by the Native Americans as well as wildlife. The fruit and roots were used for food and medicines. Leaves were used for basket liners and as toilet paper. The birds eat the fruit while moose and deer eat the woody material.

6. **Ponderosa Pine - (*Pinus ponderosa*).** The name ponderosa was given because of its large size but will only live to about 500 years of age. This tree has a very thick and tough bark that protects it from fire. If you use your imagination the bark looks like pieces of a jigsaw puzzle. On a really hot day see if you can detect the scent of vanilla or butterscotch.

7. **Forest Fuels** - Historically fire played a major role in preventing the build up of fire fuel on the forest floor. Low intensity fire would consume the dry dead limbs, pine needles and small seedlings. This process would create meadows for wildflowers and wildlife habitat. Fire has been absent in the western forest for approximately 90 years thereby creating a heavy littered forest floor. Heyburn State Park is in the process of restoring fire thereby allowing ecological balance to return to the forest.

8. **Pacific Yew - (*Taxus brevifolia*).** This is a small understory tree identified by its red bark that peels into strips. The tree produces a red berry like fruit, which is a favorite treat among the birds. The substance taxol is found in the bark and needles and used in the chemotherapy drug for treatment of ovarian cancer. Native Americans would use the wood to make canoe paddles. The larger tree next to the Pacific Yew is a Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). This tree can grow under the shade provided by the ponderosa pine. The boughs were used for bedding and as a disinfectant and deodorizer. The hard wood made railway ties, pilings and poles.

9. **Western Red Cedar (*Thuja plicata*).** These majestic trees live to be 1,000 years old. The bark is peeled into strips and used to make baskets, ropes and mats. The trunks were dug out for canoes and today are used for furniture, cedar chests and caskets. This tree has been heavily logged and is disappearing from its range where trees have not been replanted.

10. **Talus Slope** - This hillside is covered with rocks that were formed by volcanic activity millions of years ago. Once magma, it became solid rock, but through many weathering it has broken up into the small rocks you see today.

11. **Lichens/Mosses** - Looking at the Douglas-fir you will find fluorescent green lichen called wolf lichen (*Letharia vulpina*). The Native Americans used this for face paint and leather dye. The long green stringy lichen is witch's hair (*Alectoria sarmentosa*). The brown string lichen is edible horsehair (*Bryoria fremontii*). Native people used this as a winter staple when cooked with wild onions, berries, roots or meat. This is also a winter food source for deer, elk and moose. The white lichen on the rocks is green reindeer (*Cladonia arbuscula*). This is winter food for caribou in the subarctic but usually remains under the snow here in the park.

12. **Concs** - This unique fungus is called *Red Belt* and is the most common wood decay in the Northwestern US. This fungus occurs when the tree is already dead and is important in the decaying process of the forest. *Pouch fungus* is the little white or tan mushroom looking fungus on dead trees. The pouch emerges through holes in the bark produced by bark beetle.