Communications Report

August 2026 – November 2026

Will Armbruster, Public Information Officer Senior

Will Armbruster has been in his role as Public Information Officer Senior PIO for just over one year. Will is supported by Sawyer Crenshaw (Communications Specialist) and a new seasonal hire Kaleb Churchwell (Assistant Communications Specialist). Kaleb was hired to assist with managing the social media page as well as creating templates for park staff to use on social media to increase brand congruency. Will and Sawyer have been managing press releases, media inquiries, public records requests, social media, marketing, internal communications, and overall communications support to all IDRP staff. They have successfully run many weekend or summer long lodging and camping reservation discounts focused on increasing occupancy in traditionally low occupancy parks. These efforts have proven successful in driving occupancy when there is last minute availability. These promotions will continue throughout the slower season with hopes of continuing to improve occupancy. Twin Peaks Ranch State Park has been added to The Knot, a wedding marketing website, with hopes of increasing group reservations. Since signing up with The Knot Twin Peaks Ranch State Park has received over 40 inquiries for weddings in both 2027 and 2028. Twin Peaks Ranch is being used as a pilot program on The Knot platform and if it continues to be successful the communications team will begin discussions on signing up more parks to the platform such as Ponderosa, Harriman, Farragut, and Priest.

Social Media

Park staff continue to manage their own social media pages. The communications team's goal is to help boost individual park posts, provide guidance and support in content creation, and manage the IDRP main social media pages. Frequency of posts has increased on all social media platforms and below is a report of social media impact on the department wide social media pages not individual parks social media pages.

Facebook August 31-October 15:

- Views - 31.7k (up 60.1%)
- Interactions - 340 (up 56%)
- New Followers - 100
- Reach - 3.3k (Up 54%)

Instagram August 31-October 15:

- Views - 26.5k (Up 31.6%)
- Interactions - 462 (Up 39.2%
- New Followers - 247
- Reach - 3.3k (Up 54%)

Recent Media Coverage

- Foster, kinship families invited to outdoor adventure at Harriman State Park
- Upcoming Harriman State Park event offers fly-fishing for foster families
- Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation: Three major trail projects complete
- Idaho Parks and Rec, U.S. Forest Service announce historic agreement
- Divide Trail 505 reopens for motorized use in Idaho's Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests
- Thousand Springs site of Clif Bar volunteer effort
- Ponderosa State Park prescribed burn to bring smoke to McCall area this week
- Idaho expands outdoor access at Phyllis Lake and Shoshone Falls
- As state officials pursue route change for Idaho Centennial Trail, here's how to give your feedback

Website

A new website will be launched on the 2nd of November and during the board meeting we will run a demo of the new page to illustrate improvements to members of the board. This new site will improve the visitor experience, making our web content more professional, accessible, and easier to navigate. On the new website park staff will be able to make minor updates to their specific park webpages. Providing park staff with this autonomy has improved park's ability to share important updates in a timely manner.

The Communications team has also created an event submission form that park staff can complete ahead of in park events to be sure those events are shared on the website. The goal of this was to help potential or actual customers identify programs happening during their potential or actual stay. The goal of creating this process of marketing events is to further drive attendance at interpretive programs while also driving park occupancy.

Website updates to the old webpage have been made promptly, and the communications team is working to systematically make updates as requests come in or fixes are needed.

Media Relations/Press Releases

Multiple press releases have been sent since the communications over the fall and multiple radio, and video interviews have been conducted. The communications team is stressing proactive communication while strengthening relationships with media throughout Idaho. Will has been attending weekly meetings with Emily Callahan from the Governor's Office with other state department PIOs.

Recent Press Releases

- Ponderosa State Park to Start Prescribed Burning in October 2026
- The 2026-2027 Be Outside, Idaho Grant Cycle is Now Open
- Fostering Family Adventures Heads to Harriman State Park Sept. 26
- Phyllis Lake Project Expands Outdoor Access in Sawtooth National Recreation Area
- 180 Volunteers from Mondelēz International Make Large Impact at Thousand Springs State Park
- Divide Trail 505 Open for Recreation Travel
- Idaho Parks and Recreation Board Approves Safer Route for Idaho Centennial Trail
- Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, U.S. Forest Service Announce Historic Good Neighbor Authority Recreation Agreement

Public Records Requests

Will work closely with the Deputy Attorney General's office to respond to public record requests with the appropriate information. At the current moment there are no outstanding Public Records Requests within the agency. Since starting with the agency, Will has processed 54 Public Records Requests.

Foster Families in the Park

On Saturday, September 26, Idaho foster families spend the day at Harriman State Park. The event was focused on outdoor recreation, connection, learning, and reflection. The event was held through a partnership between the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare and Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. These events continue to prove to be wonderful opportunities to expose Idahoans to our fantastic State Park System.

July – August – September 2026

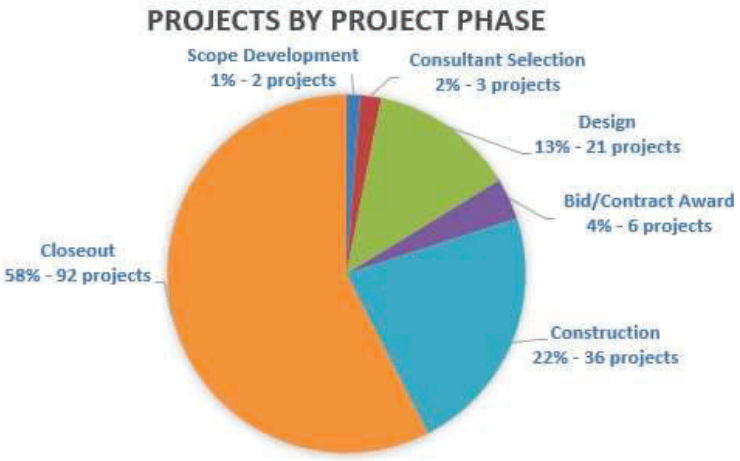
DEVELOPMENT BUREAU

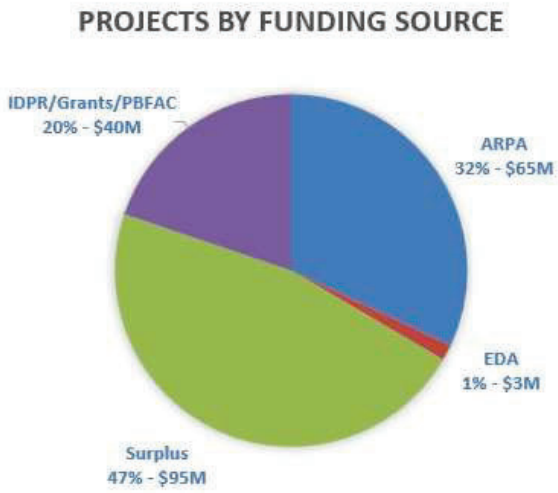
Bureau Chief – Melanie Schuster

GENERAL UPDATE

The Development Bureau is currently managing 160 active projects totaling over $200 million. The charts below illustrate where projects currently are in the development process by project phase and funding source. As we approach the finish line to complete ARPA nearly $63 million of the $65 million awarded has been spent. 36 of the 45 projects, or 80%, are substantially complete. For Surplus funding nearly $63 million of the $95 million awarded has been spent. 117 of 178 projects, 65%, are substantially complete.

This summer every corner of the state was busy with construction going full tilt to get all ARPA projects completed by the end of the year. We are down to two campgrounds remaining with Mowry and Henrys Lake getting completed late fall. With the Chatcolet Marina completed the contractors have moved across the lake to Rocky Point to install docks that won't get your feet wet and much needed improvements to access and parking areas.





New projects in design include Bear Lake Fish Haven development, East Fork campground, Sage Springs improvements at Bear Lake, and Twin Peak campground development. On the housing front the seasonal housing at Harriman is framed and roofed to be completed before winter. At Lake Cascade, foundations are being poured and framing will start shortly. We are also finishing final approvals needed to get the new duplex at Bear Lake under construction this fall.

While we are hoping for a long fall, we are confident we will get to the finish line of completing our ARPA obligations by the end of the year. We have created numerous new opportunities for recreation in Idaho as well as completing much needed deferred maintenance projects.

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ARPA FUNDING TRACKING *subject to change

IDPR ARPA TRACKING - July 2022 to December 2026

budget updated 10/1/26

Project #	Park	Project Name	Earmarked Budget	Allocated Budget	Obligated Budget	Expended as of 6/30/2026	Start Date	Completion
300037	North Region	Minor Maintenance	$141,934.42	$141,934.42	$141,934.42	$141,934.42	July 2022	April 2024
300038	South Region	Minor Maintenance	$168,028.05	$168,028.05	$168,028.05	$168,028.05	July 2022	July 2024
300039	East Region	Minor Maintenance	$50,954.24	$50,954.24	$50,954.24	$50,954.24	April 2023	August 2023
300040	Dworshak	North Region Vault Toilets - Freeman Ck	$367,633.43	$367,633.43	$367,633.43	$367,633.43	Dec 2024	July 2025
310112	Priest Lake	Priest Lake CG Elec & Water Upgrades	$650,000.00	$650,000.00	$650,000.00	$650,000.00	Sept 2022	June 2023
3101243	Priest Lake	New Day Use Areas	$140,913.54	$140,913.54	$140,913.54	$140,913.54	Feb 2024	Sept 2024
310333	Round Lake	Tree House Camping	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	Oct 2023	May 2026
3103251	Round Lake	IDL Cabins (ORFAC)	$850,000.00	$850,000.00	$850,000.00	$299,605.67	Nov 2024	
310413	TCDA	TCDA Bike-in Campsites	$2,600,000.00	$2,600,000.00	$2,600,000.00	$2,600,000.00	June 2023	Sept 2025
310531	Farragut	Peterson Group Camp	$1,522,062.14	$1,522,062.14	$1,522,062.14	$1,522,062.14	Feb 2023	May 2026
310611	Old Mission	Pathway Repairs and ADA Access	$290,949.57	$290,949.57	$290,949.57	$290,949.57	Sept 2023	Dec 2024
310731	Mowry	Campground Development	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	March 2024	
310815	Heyburn	Lakeview Cottage Renovations	$70,160.60	$70,160.60	$70,160.60	$70,160.60	Jan 2023	April 2024
310816	Heyburn	Rocky Point Lodge	$487,144.36	$487,144.36	$487,144.36	$487,144.36	Sept 2022	Nov 2024
310831	Heyburn	Wastewater Facility Repairs	$3,900,000.00	$3,900,000.00	$3,900,000.00	$3,900,000.00	Jan 2023	
310832	Heyburn	Replace Rocky Point Docks	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	$1,600,000.00	May 2023	
3108243	Heyburn	Replace Chatcolet Docks	$9,539,385.97	$9,539,385.97	$9,539,385.97	$9,539,385.97	May 2024	August 2026
320215	Dworshak	Freeman Creek Phase 2 Waterline Upgrades	$1,861,006.47	$1,861,006.47	$1,861,006.47	$1,861,006.47	April 2023	Sept 2025
320312	Hells Gate	Hells Gate Marina Restroom Upgrades	$147,528.58	$147,528.58	$147,528.58	$147,528.58	Jan 2023	Sept 2023
320392	Hells Gate	Marina Dock Replacement Ph 2	$700,000.00	$700,000.00	$700,000.00	$700,000.00	July 2023	Feb 2026
3205251	Winchester	New Day Use Areas	$110,479.00	$110,479.00	$110,479.00	$110,479.00	July 2024	Dec 2025
330133	Ponderosa	Kokanee Cove Renovations	$7,457,046.06	$7,457,046.06	$7,457,046.06	$7,457,046.06	Sept 2023	May 2026
3301245	Ponderosa	Chokecherry CG Elec & Water Replacement	$1,566,000.00	$1,566,000.00	$1,566,000.00	$1,566,000.00	Sept 2024	June 2025
330231	Eagle Island	RV Campground	$4,200,000.00	$4,200,000.00	$4,200,000.00	$4,200,000.00	Jan 2023	
330233	Eagle Island	Calf Barn Reroof & Building Stabilization	$389,932.44	$389,932.44	$389,932.44	$389,932.44	April 2023	May 2024
330513	Bruneau Dunes	New Observatory	$1,543,897.65	$1,543,897.65	$1,543,897.65	$1,543,897.65	Aug 2022	May 2023
3307252		Horsethief Reservoir Development (ORFAC)	$1,500,000.00	$1,500,000.00	$1,500,000.00	$1,500,000.00	Aug 2024	June 2026
340332	Thousand Sp.	Thousand Springs Vault Toilets	$422,313.57	$422,313.57	$422,313.57	$422,313.57	April 2023	Dec 2024
340333	Thousand Sp.	Replace Water Lines to Ritter Island	$1,043,865.04	$1,043,865.04	$1,043,865.04	$1,043,865.04	July 2022	Sept 2024
340395	Thousand Sp.	Billingsley Creek Campground	$1,400,000.00	$1,400,000.00	$1,400,000.00	$1,400,000.00	Aug 2024	May 2025
340542	Castle Rocks	Ranch Unit Bridge Replacement	$423,196.45	$423,196.45	$423,196.45	$423,196.45	April 2023	Oct 2024
350133	Massacre Rocks	Sewage System Replacement	$742,167.94	$742,167.94	$742,167.94	$742,167.94	May 2023	March 2026
350135	Massacre Rocks	New Day Use Areas	$29,048.03	$29,048.03	$29,048.03	$29,048.03	May 2023	Nov 2024
350311	Bear Lake	East Beach CG Ph 2 Elec Upgrades	$132,000.00	$132,000.00	$132,000.00	$132,000.00	Aug 2022	June 2023
350321	Bear Lake	East Beach CG Water Upgrades	$88,000.00	$88,000.00	$88,000.00	$88,000.00	Aug 2022	June 2023
350332	Bear Lake	Bear Lake Vault Toilets	$181,397.38	$181,397.38	$181,397.38	$181,397.38	Aug 2022	June 2023
350333	Bear Lake	East Beach Renovations	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	March 2023	May 2026
3503242	Bear Lake	Future Park Acquisition	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	Jan 2024	March 2024
360132	Harriman	Water & Septic System Upgrade	$3,000,000.00	$3,000,000.00	$3,000,000.00	$3,000,000.00	March 2023	Nov 2025
360231	Henrys Lake	Phase 2 Waterline Upgrades	$528,199.88	$528,199.88	$528,199.88	$528,199.88	July 2022	Nov 2022
360232	Henrys Lake	Sewer Connection	$816,000.00	$816,000.00	$816,000.00	$10,000.00	July 2022	
360233	Henrys Lake	Campground Expansion	$2,434,000.00	$2,434,000.00	$2,434,000.00	$1,733,132.16	Jan 2023	
360531	LOYF	LOYF Camping Improvements	$3,047,280.25	$3,047,280.25	$3,047,280.25	$3,036,784.26	April 2023	
300035	Statewide	Statewide Employee Housing	$1,200,000.00	$1,200,000.00	$1,200,000.00	$981,686.21	Sept 2023	
300036	Statewide	AT Bridge	$333,875.85	$333,875.85	$333,875.85	$333,875.85	Jan 2023	July 2025
	Statewide	ORFAC (non-IDPR projects)	$1,223,599.09	$1,223,599.09	$1,223,599.09	$1,223,599.09	July 2024	
Project Totals (*Subject to Change)			$65,000,000.00	$65,000,000.00	$65,000,000.00	$62,713,928.05		

*Gray color means project is complete

*Note that some numbers may be off due to financial systems transition to LUMA

SURPLUS FUNDING TRACKING *subject to change

IDPR SURPLUS TRACKING

budget updated 10/1/26

Project #	Park	Project Name	Earmarked Budget	Allocated Budget	Obligated Budget	Expended as of 6/30/2026	Project Start	Project Completion
*Gray color means project is complete								
310132	Priest Lake	Group Camp Restroom - Additional Funding	$675,000.00	$675,000.00	$675,000.00	$631,056.72	July 2023	May 2026
310141	Priest Lake	Entry Station - Additional Funding	$535,000.00	$535,000.00	$533,658.63	$470,327.21	July 2023	May 2026
3101242	Priest Lake	Campground Improvements	$793,723.23	$793,723.23	$793,723.23	$793,723.23	Sept 2023	Sept 2024
3101244	Priest Lake	Lionhead Group Camp Bunkhouse Repairs	$54,745.00	$54,745.00	$54,745.00	$54,745.00	May 2024	June 2024
3101245	Priest Lake	Conceptual Design	$46,500.00	$46,500.00	$46,500.00	$46,500.00	June 2023	Aug 2024
3101251	Priest Lake	Kootenai River Property	$3,200.00	$3,200.00	$3,200.00	$3,200.00	June 2025	Sept 2025
310332	Round Lake	CG Water & Elec Upgrade - Additional Funding	$160,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	Aug 2023	
310333	Round Lake	Tree House Camping - Additional funding	$264,000.00	$260,000.00	$261,684.73	$261,684.73	Oct 2023	May 2026
3103242	Round Lake	Backup Generators	$359,649.00	$359,649.00	$359,649.00	$359,649.00	April 2024	March 2026
31033243	Round Lake	Vehicle Pole Buildng Replacement	$394,633.01	$394,633.01	$394,633.01	$394,633.01	April 2024	Nov 2024
3103244	Round Lake	Well Upgrades	$98,233.15	$98,233.15	$98,233.15	$98,233.15	April 2024	May 2026
310414	TOC	Boundary Survey	$150,000.00	$150,000.00	$49,900.00	$46,611.81	Oct 2023	
3104251	TOC	Post & Chains on Trail of the CDA	$110,267.00	$110,267.00	$110,267.00	$110,267.00	July 2024	Dec 2024
310412	TOC	New Maint. Shop - Additional Funding	$477,953.79	$467,953.79	$467,953.79	$467,953.79	March 2023	April 2025
310413	TOC	Bike-in Campground - Additional Funding	$165,000.00	$150,000.00	$149,012.98	$149,012.98	June 2023	Sept 2025
310441	TOC	Install Crosswalk Indicator Signs - Additional Funding	$23,036.16	$23,036.16	$23,036.16	$23,036.16	Jan 2025	June 2025
310542	Farragut	Residence #2 Remodel	$71,034.17	$71,034.17	$71,034.17	$71,034.17	May 2023	July 2023
310532	Farragut	Buttonhook Bay Improvements	$506,768.56	$675,596.00	$506,768.56	$382,241.78	July 2024	
310531	Farragut	Peterson Group CG Additional Funding (RV match)	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	$2,500,000.00	Feb 2023	May 2026
310531	Farragut	Peterson Group CG Additional Funding	$950,000.00	$800,000.00	$902,897.81	$589,465.09	Feb 2023	May 2026
3105261	Farragut	Snowberry Shower House Replacement	$760,000.00	$700,000.00	$726,002.46	$83,415.04	July 2024	
3105262	Farragut	Eagle Boat Launch Road Repairs	$707,001.36	$785,000.00	$707,001.36	$665,228.98	July 2024	May 2026
3105252	Farragut	Eagle Break Water Repairs	$47,223.00	$47,223.00	$47,223.00	$47,223.00	July 2024	Sept 2025
310641	Old Mission	Repaint Old Mission - Additional funding	$124,342.34	$124,342.34	$124,342.34	$124,342.34	July 2023	Nov 2023
3106251	Old Mission	Visitor Center Security System Replacement	$10,611.72	$10,611.72	$10,611.72	$10,611.72	March 2025	June 2025
310731	Mowry	Mowry Development - Additional Funding	$4,100,000.00	$4,000,000.00	$3,969,457.80	$2,527,161.11	Nov 2024	
310741	Mowry	Mowry House Siding Replacement Refurbishment	$500,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	Nov 2024	
310831	Heyburn	Wastewater Facility Repairs - Additional Funding	$1,700,000.00	$2,100,000.00	$831,202.21	$399,470.50	Jan 2023	
3108241	Heyburn	Plummer Creek Bridge Evaluation	$49,971.47	$49,971.47	$49,971.47	$49,971.47	June 2023	Feb 2024
3108242	Heyburn	Plummer Creek Footbridge Demo	$47,895.00	$47,895.00	$47,895.00	$47,895.00	April 2024	May 2024
3108251	Heyburn	Rocky Point Staff House Reroof	$49,950.00	$49,950.00	$49,950.00	$49,950.00	Oct 2024	Dec 2024
3108252	Heyburn	Leased Cottage Sites	$200,000.00	$15,000.00	$1,507.62	$1,507.62	Nov 2024	
3108243	Heyburn	Chatcolet Marina - Additional Funding	$13,660,000.00	$14,000,000.00	$14,861,605.00	$11,949,185.03	June 2023	Aug 2026
310832	Heyburn	Rocky Point Marina - Additional Funding	$9,607,050.95	$8,000,000.00	$11,400,000.00	$3,731,845.89	June 2023	
3108253	Heyburn	Acquisition McCabe Cabin	$315,000.00	$315,000.00	$315,000.00	$315,000.00	Nov 2024	April 2025
3108261	Heyburn	Rocky Point Lodge Bat Abatement	$100,000.00	$30,000.00	$29,198.40	$29,198.40	Aug 2025	
3109251	CDA Parkway	Higgens Point Dock Improvements	$87,181.00	$87,181.00	$87,181.00	$87,181.00	July 2024	Jan 2026
300040	Dworshak	North Region Vault Toilets - Additional Funding	$185.55	$185.55	$185.55	$185.55	Dec 2024	July 2025
320232	Dworshak	Big Eddy Lodge Carpet - Additional Funding	$38,209.18	$38,209.18	$38,209.18	$38,209.18	Nov 2023	Jan 2024
320233	Dworshak	Surface Water Intake - moved from ARPA	$152,000.00	$150,000.00	$152,000.00	$52,159.90	Jan 2022	
320241	Dworshak	Big Eddy Lodge Exterior Restain	$138,696.00	$138,696.00	$138,696.00	$138,696.00	June 2023	April 2024
320242	Dworshak	Big Eddy Lodge Replace Deck	$172,239.50	$172,239.50	$172,239.50	$172,239.50	April 2023	Aug 2025
3202243	Dworshak	Wastewater Upgrades Design	$150,000.00	$200,000.00	$115,000.00	$110,924.15	Jan 2024	
3202244	Dworshak	Volunteer Site	$100,000.00	$135,000.00	$41,218.15	$41,218.15	Jan 2024	
320311	Hells Gate	Repair and Resurface Trail - Additional Funding	$52,079.00	$52,079.00	$52,079.00	$52,079.00	Aug 2023	May 2024
320321	Hells Gate	Sewer System Upgrade - Additional Funding	$2,650,000.00	$250,000.00	$2,330,499.65	$203,274.87	Sept 2023	
320397	Hells Gate	Camper Cabin Improvements	$118,099.76	$118,099.76	$118,099.76	$118,099.67	Sept 2023	March 2024
320392	Hells Gate	Marina Dock Replacement - C&D docks	$1,375,324.44	$1,375,324.44	$1,375,324.44	$1,341,128.56	June 2024	Feb 2026
320396	Hells Gate	Bike-In Campground	$21,270.82	$21,270.82	$21,270.82	$21,270.82	June 2023	May 2024
3203261	Hells Gate	Marina Dredging	$25,250.00	$25,250.00	$25,250.00	$0.00	March 2026	Sept 2026
	Hells Gate	Marina Loading Dock	$300,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00		
320531	Winchester Lake	Winchester Yurts	$15,196.41	$300,000.00	$15,196.41	$15,196.41	Sept 2023	March 2025
3205241	Winchester Lake	Staff House Repairs	$25,000.00	$25,000.00	$12,101.71	$21,455.71	July 2023	
3205242	Winchester Lake	Campground ADA Pathway	$144,930.25	$146,000.00	$144,930.25	$144,930.25	June 2023	Dec 2025
3205243	Winchester Lake	Appaloosa/Yurt Loop Waterline Replacement	$297,064.08	$305,000.00	$297,064.08	$297,064.08	June 2023	Dec 2025
330131	Ponderosa	RR Upgrade Activity Center - Additional Funding	$46,766.27	$46,766.27	$46,766.27	$46,766.27	May 2023	Jan 2024
330133	Ponderosa	Kokanee Cove - Additional Funding	$4,220,000.00	$4,220,000.00	$4,218,537.14	$3,825,760.66	Sept 2022	May 2026
330143	Ponderosa	Visitor Center Reroof	$58,647.00	$58,647.00	$58,647.00	$58,647.00	Oct 2023	Oct 2023
3301244	Ponderosa	Deluxe Cabins Sidewalks	$29,600.00	$29,600.00	$29,600.00	$29,600.00	Oct 2023	Dec 2023
3301245	Ponderosa	Chokecherry CG Elec & Water - Additional Funding	$392.79	$392.79	$392.79	$392.79	Sept 2024	June 2025
3301261	Ponderosa	NW Passage Bank Stabilization	$55,000.00	$55,000.00	$47,802.57	$47,802.57	Mar 2025	Oct 2025
330231	Eagle Island	RV Campground - Additional Funding	$3,750,000.00	$3,550,000.00	$3,692,875.56	$4,111,317.92	July 2023	
330233	Eagle Island	Calf Barn Rehabilitation	$4,200,000.00	$750,000.00	$662,025.30	$614,941.87	April 2024	
3302241	Eagle Island	Dairy Barn Reroof	$114,600.00	$114,600.00	$114,600.00	$114,600.00	Sept 2023	Dec 2023
3302242	Eagle Island	Reroof Maintenance Yard Shop	$15,985.00	$15,985.00	$15,985.00	$15,985.00	Oct 2023	Dec 2023
3302243	Eagle Island	Dormitory Partial Demo & Abatement	$290,000.00	$290,000.00	$286,452.00	$164,012.17	Oct 2023	

*Note that some numbers may be off due to financial systems transition to LUMA

SURPLUS FUNDING TRACKING *subject to change

3302244	Eagle Island	Parking Lot Improvements	$1,800,000.00	$1,800,000.00	$1,769,553.05	$1,568,820.97	March 2024	
3302251	Eagle Island	RV Host Sites	$62,096.04	$100,000.00	$62,096.04	$62,096.04	Dec 2024	Dec 2025
	Eagle Island	Slaughterhouse Demo & Abatement	$250,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00		
330432	Lucky Peak	New Idaho City Yurt	$259,199.10	$259,199.10	$259,199.10	$259,199.10	Dec 2024	Nov 2025
330441	Lucky Peak	Discovery Erosion Control - Additional Funding	$265,000.00	$265,000.00	$265,530.34	$263,552.14	Dec 2024	April 2026
3304242	Lucky Peak	Springs Shores Irrigation Pump Replacement	$75,800.07	$57,860.00	$75,800.07	$75,800.07	Jan 2024	March 2025
3304243	Lucky Peak	Discovery Unit Irrigation Pump Replacement	$9,734.00	$10,000.00	$9,734.00	$9,734.00	Jan 2024	Oct 2024
3304251	Lucky Peak	Skyline Deck Maintenance	$8,217.70	$8,217.70	$8,217.70	$8,217.70	Oct 2024	Oct 2025
330512	Bruneau Dunes	Steele Reese Housing Conversion	$19,173.70	$19,173.70	$19,173.70	$19,173.70	Sept 2023	May 2024
330513	Bruneau Dunes	Landscape Upgrades at Observatory	$99,500.00	$99,500.00	$99,500.00	$99,500.00	May 2023	April 2024
330513	Bruneau Dunes	Paving throughout the park	$1,250,500.00	$1,250,500.00	$1,250,500.00	$1,250,500.00	April 2023	Oct 2023
330541	Bruneau Dunes	Irrigation and Landscaping - Additional Funding	$52,649.19	$52,649.19	$52,649.19	$36,524.19	Jan 2025	Oct 2025
330521	Bruneau Dunes	Repair Old Observatory	$200,000.00	$200,000.00	$183,320.00	$183,320.00	Aug 2024	Aug 2025
3305242	Bruneau Dunes	Install Planitarium in Observatory	$206,910.00	$206,910.00	$206,910.00	$206,910.00	July 2023	
3305251	Bruneau Dunes	Water Treatment Upgrades	$150,000.00	$150,000.00	$30,508.00	$25,500.00	Jan 2024	
3305261	Bruneau Dunes	Ranger Residence Repair	$40,270.23	$40,270.23	$40,270.23	$40,270.23	June 2025	Oct 2025
330641	Three Island	Irrigation Upgrades - Additional Funding	$37,045.95	$40,000.00	$37,045.95	$37,045.95	March 2024	July 2025
330642	Three Island	Renovate Old VC Restroom - Additional Funding	$45,165.89	$45,165.89	$45,165.89	$45,165.89	Nov 2024	Feb 2025
3306251	Three Island	Electrical Panels Cooling	$22,564.92	$32,316.00	$22,564.92	$22,564.92	June 2025	June 2026
330733	Lake Cascade	New Utility Building Additional Funding	$159,411.90	$159,411.90	$159,411.90	$159,411.90	Feb 2024	Oct 2024
3307241	Lake Cascade	Upgrade Paving Blue Heron Campground	$1,004,629.61	$993,710.86	$993,710.86	$993,710.86	Oct 2023	Nov 2024
3307242	Lake Cascade	Ridgeview Shower House Reroof	$42,272.15	$42,272.15	$42,272.15	$42,272.15	Nov 2023	Jan 2024
3307251	Lake Cascade	Shoreline Erosion (BOR Match)	$250,000.00	$250,000.00	$0.00	$0.00		
3307261	Lake Cascade	Provide Permanent Staff Housing (BOR Match)	$800,000.00	$800,000.00	$800,000.00	$226,043.57	Jan 2024	
3307271	Lake Cascade	Buttercup & Sage Bluff Drainage Issues (BOR Match)	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$0.00	$0.00		
3307272	Lake Cascade	Boulder Creek Projects (BOR Match)	$350,000.00	$350,000.00	$0.00	$0.00		
330832	Headquarters	Fire Alarm System Upgrades	$195,035.28	$195,035.28	$195,035.28	$195,035.28	July 2023	Oct 2024
3308241	Headquarters	LED Lighting Upgrades	$58,368.50	$58,368.50	$58,368.50	$58,368.50	April 2024	Jan 2025
3308242	Headquarters	Well Tie-in Irrigation Upgrades	$12,535.00	$12,535.00	$12,535.00	$12,535.00	May 2024	Oct 2024
3308251	Headquarters	OHV Shop Reroof	$11,025.00	$11,025.00	$11,025.00	$11,025.00	July 2024	Aug 2024
3308261	Headquarters	Refurbish Restroom	$15,000.00	$15,000.00	$2,425.42	$2,425.42	Oct 2025	
3403241	Thousand Springs	Remodel Manager House	$120,000.00	$120,000.00	$117,170.25	$109,370.75	Jan 2024	
340322	Thousand Springs	Visitor Center Interpretation	$100,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	Feb 2024	
340395	Thousand Springs	Billingsley Creek Camgpround - Additional Funding	$150,000.00	$150,000.00	$148,531.56	$148,531.56	Dec 2024	May 2025
340532	Castle Rocks	Lodge Improvements	$156,317.17	$156,317.17	$156,317.17	$156,317.17	July 2023	April 2024
3405243	Castle Rocks	Bunk House Maintenance	$50,610.00	$160,000.00	$50,610.00	$50,610.00	July 2023	April 2024
3405251	Castle Rocks	Remodel Staff Housing	$106,347.02	$106,347.02	$106,347.02	$106,347.02	Sept 2024	May 2026
3406251	Lake Walcott	Water Systems Upgrades (BOR Match)	$400,000.00	$400,000.00	$45,275.00	$26,721.14	July 2024	
3406252	Lake Walcott	Campground Electric Upgrades	$246,846.20	$350,000.00	$246,846.20	$246,846.20	Feb 2025	March 2026
350135	Massacre Rocks	Parking Lot Improvements	$675,000.00	$675,000.00	$675,000.00	$675,000.00	July 2023	Nov 2024
3501241	Massacre Rocks	East Region Crew Shop Housing	$991,982.22	$991,982.22	$991,982.22	$991,982.22	May 2024	Dec 2025
3501251	Massacre Rocks	IDL Eask Fork (ORFAC)	$1,000,000.00	$1,000,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	June 2025	
3501261	Massacre Rocks	House Maintenance	$55,000.00	$55,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	July 2025	
350133	Massacre Rocks	Sewer Replacement - Additional Funding	$10,265.16	$10,265.16	$10,265.16	$10,265.16	May 2023	March 2026
350333	Bear Lake	East Beach Renovation	$800,000.00	$800,000.00	$759,968.27	$674,174.89	May 2024	May 2026
350341	Bear Lake	North Beach Boat Ramp Improvements	$71,306.84	$65,000.00	$83,469.34	$36,863.33	April 2024	June 2026
3503242	Bear Lake	Bear Lake County Property	$64,675.00	$64,675.00	$64,675.00	$64,675.00	Nov 2023	Nov 2024
3503243	Bear Lake	Vault Toilet Replacement	$28,156.12	$28,156.12	$28,156.12	$28,156.12	April 2024	May 2025
3503244	Bear Lake	North Beach Dock Repairs	$50,000.00	$50,000.00	$23,580.00	$23,580.00	June 2024	
3503261	Bear Lake	Staff Housing Duplex	$1,080,000.00	$800,000.00	$41,199.36	$26,200.00	March 2025	
3503271	Bear Lake	Sage Springs CG Improvements (RV Grant Match)	$40,000.00	$40,000.00	$2,397.55	$0.00	March 2025	
360102	Harriman	Scovel Center Winterization	$261,603.13	$400,635.03	$261,603.13	$219,180.67	Sept 2024	
360131	Harriman	Ranch Office Remodel	$378,000.00	$368,000.00	$377,799.91	$372,400.23	July 2023	Nov 2025
360132	Harriman	Water & Septic System Upgrades	$450,000.00	$450,000.00	$247,244.64	$184,260.35	Dec 2024	
360134	Harriman	Historic Building Reroof & Chimney Repairs	$116,829.51	$169,706.05	$116,829.51	$116,829.51	July 2023	
360135	Harriman	Replace HVAC/Remove Fuel Tanks	$171,858.44	$171,858.44	$171,858.44	$171,858.44	July 2023	July 2024
360141	Harriman	Paving John Muir Trail	$18,994.61	$18,994.61	$18,994.61	$18,994.61	June 2023	Dec 2024
3601243	Harriman	Manager House Improvements	$164,941.00	$164,941.00	$164,941.00	$164,941.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
3601244	Harriman	Asst. Manager House Improvements	$165,091.00	$165,091.00	$165,091.00	$165,091.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
3601245	Harriman	Shop Improvements	$45,000.00	$45,000.00	$45,000.00	$45,000.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
3601246	Harriman	Vehicle Storage Improvements	$31,000.00	$31,000.00	$31,000.00	$31,000.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
3601247	Harriman	Gas Storage Maintenance	$8,000.00	$8,000.00	$8,000.00	$8,000.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
3601248	Harriman	New Welcome Center Design	$400,000.00	$400,000.00	$400,000.00	$150,764.63	Oct 2023	
3601249	Harriman	Honeymoon Hotel Maintenance	$197,698.00	$197,698.00	$197,698.00	$177,614.85	July 2023	
36012410	Harriman	Icehouse Maintenance	$45,846.00	$45,846.00	$45,846.00	$45,846.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012411	Harriman	Cattle Foreman's House Maintenance	$107,803.83	$107,803.83	$107,803.83	$107,803.83	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012412	Harriman	Ranch Manager House Maintenance	$118,917.50	$118,917.50	$118,917.50	$118,917.50	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012413	Harriman	Tractor House	$50,220.00	$50,220.00	$50,220.00	$50,220.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012414	Harriman	Tractor Storage	$175,320.00	$175,320.00	$175,320.00	$175,320.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012415	Harriman	Cook House	$136,731.02	$136,731.02	$136,731.02	$136,731.02	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012416	Harriman	Harriman Cottage Maintenance	$197,343.42	$197,343.42	$197,343.42	$197,343.42	July 2023	Sept 2024

*Note that some numbers may be off due to financial systems transition to LUMA

SURPLUS FUNDING TRACKING *subject to change

36012417	Harriman	Dining Cottage Maintenance	$159,956.56	$159,956.56	$159,956.56	$159,956.56	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012418	Harriman	Boys House Maintenance	$179,092.42	$179,092.42	$179,092.42	$170,786.92	July 2023	
36012419	Harriman	Jones House Maintenance	$280,153.20	$280,153.20	$280,153.20	$280,153.20	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012420	Harriman	Small Shop Maintenance	$99,120.00	$99,120.00	$99,120.00	$99,120.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012421	Harriman	Ranch Foreman's House Maintenance	$137,760.00	$137,760.00	$137,760.00	$137,760.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012422	Harriman	Sheep Barn Maintenance	$39,332.00	$39,332.00	$39,332.00	$39,332.00	July 2023	Sept 2024
36012423	Harriman	Golden Lake Dam Repairs	$342,500.00	$62,500.00	$342,500.00	$34,819.63	May 2024	Sept 2026
36012423	Harriman	Silver Lake Dam & Culvert Repairs	$300,000.00	$62,500.00	$231,188.00	$0.00	May 2024	
3601261	Harriman	Dorm Electrical Repairs	$9,611.00	$9,611.00	$9,611.00	$9,611.00	Jan 2026	March 2026
360233	Henrys Lake	Campground Expansion	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	$257,925.84	$56,155.97	Dec 2024	
3602243	Henrys Lake	Staff Cabin Repairs	$55,716.31	$55,716.31	$55,716.31	$55,716.31	June 2024	May 2025
3602242	Henrys Lake	Conceptual Design	$3,450.00	$3,450.00	$3,450.00	$3,450.00	May 2024	Aug 2025
3602241	Henrys Lake	Boat Ramp Concrete Replacement	$0.00	$650,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	Dec 2024	
3602251	Henrys Lake	IDL Cabins (ORFAC)	$750,000.00	$750,000.00	$27,700.00	$24,886.78	July 2025	
360432	Ashton-Tetonia	Visitor Center Upgrades	$400,000.00	$425,000.00	$397,363.03	$357,746.89	June 2023	
3604241	Ashton-Tetonia	Visitor Center Purchase	$351,126.82	$351,126.82	$351,126.82	$351,126.82	June 2024	Aug 2024
3604242	Ashton-Tetonia	Ashton-Tetonia Trailhead Conceptual Design	$2,550.00	$25,000.00	$2,550.00	$2,550.00	June 2023	Sept 2024
3604254	Ashton-Tetonia	Drummond Property	$4,000.00	$15,000.00	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	June 2023	Feb 2025
360513	LOYF	Bayhorse Preservation	$640,000.00	$600,000.00	$617,247.91	$586,416.01	Sept 2023	
360531	LOYF	Camping Improvements Ph 1 (RV Grant Match)	$500,000.00	$500,000.00	$26,714.00	$26,449.40	April 2024	
360541	LOYF	Exterior Painting - Additional Funding	$24,366.71	$24,366.71	$24,366.71	$24,366.71	May 2024	Jan 2025
3605251	LOYF	Bayhorse Bridge Replacement	$200,000.00	$80,000.00	$31,400.00	$27,310.25	Jan 2023	
3605271	LOYF	Hot Springs Improvements Ph 2 (RV Grant Match)	$260,000.00	$260,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	July 2026	
3606261	Twin Peaks	Salmon Ranch Acquisition	$4,861,403.04	$5,250,000.00	$4,861,403.04	$4,861,403.04	July 2025	Oct 2025
3606262	Twin Peaks	Twin Peak Initial R&M	$488,596.96	$388,700.46	$462,112.72	$409,680.01	July 2025	
3606271	Twin Peaks	Twin Peaks Ranch CG Development (RV Grant Match)	$175,000.00	$175,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	June 2026	
3000247	North Region	North Region Minor Maintenance Program	$660,385.37	$660,385.37	$660,385.37	$660,385.37	Oct 2023	June 2026
3000248	South Region	South Region Minor Maintenance Program	$641,667.00	$641,667.00	$614,186.90	$614,186.90	Oct 2023	
3000249	East Region	East Region Minor Maintenance Program	$666,667.00	$666,667.00	$668,636.30	$645,377.30	Oct 2023	
300035	Statewide	Seasonal Housing	$400,000.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00	Sept 2023	
300046	Statewide	Statewide Park Residence Repairs	$773,366.58	$537,278.58	$0.00	$0.00	May 2023	
300047	Statewide	Statewide Natural Resource Protection	$249,865.65	$250,000.00	$249,865.65	$249,865.65	Aug 2023	Feb 2026
	Statewide	FY28 Grant Match	$1,592,500.00	$0.00	$0.00	$0.00		
3000002	ORFAC	ORFAC Docks & Navigation Improvements	$57,232.50	$57,232.50	$57,232.50	$0.00	April 2025	
30004	ORFAC	ORFAC Adaptive Recreation Equipment	$112,500.00	$112,500.00	$112,500.00	$95,850.17	April 2025	
30005	ORFAC	ORFAC White Pine Easement	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	April 2025	June 2025
3000005	ORFAC	ORFAC Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Trails	$7,800.00	$7,800.00	$7,800.00	$7,800.00	April 2025	April 2026
3000006	ORFAC	ORFAC Sawtooth Wilderness Trails	$8,500.00	$8,500.00	$8,500.00	$8,500.00	April 2025	Aug 2026
30007	ORFAC	East Idaho Grazing Association	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	$300,000.00	$0.00	April 2025	
3000007	ORFAC	ORFAC Frank Church River Trails	$17,000.00	$17,000.00	$17,000.00	$17,000.00	April 2025	Aug 2026
3000010	ORFAC	ORFAC Wood River Trails	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$19,858.31	April 2025	
3000012	ORFAC	ORFAC Pend Oreille Story mapping	$25,650.00	$25,650.00	$25,650.00	$0.00	April 2025	
3307252	ORFAC	ORFAC Horsethief Reservoir Capital Dev.	$2,000,000.00	$2,000,000.00	$2,000,000.00	$1,054,592.67	Aug 2024	
300042	ORFAC	ORFAC Unassigned	$401,317.50	$401,317.50	$401,317.50	$0.00		
Surplus Project Totals (*Subject to Change)			$95,000,000.00	$85,023,442.87	$82,830,513.03	$62,715,214.05		
*Gray color means project is complete			**Earmarked Budget**	**Allocated Budget**	**Obligated Budget**	**Expended as of 10/1/2026**		

*Note that some numbers may be off due to financial systems transition to LUMA

NORTH REGION

Project Number and Name — Status

310132 – Priest Lake Replace Group Camp RR/Shower Building — Closeout
Construction started after Labor Day 2025 and continued through the winter, opening to the public in June 2026. Vault toilets have been installed at the Lionhead Campground and at the Group Camp as well as the new septic system for the host site at Lionhead Campground.

310141 – Priest Lake Lionhead Entrance Station Construction — Closeout
See project 310132.

310321 – Round Lake Campground Improvements — Closeout
Defined camping pads have been installed in the lower and upper loops. The campground road has been widened where trees allow, old concrete barriers have been replaced with rock, and new fire rings have been installed. The project is in closeout.

310332 – Round Lake Electric & Water Upgrades — Bidding
Design is complete and reviewed by DEQ. Contractor is pricing booster pump upgrades.

310333 – Round Lake Treehouses (ARPA) — Closeout
Construction of the two new treehouses has been completed, and reservations are now open to the public.

3103242 – Round Lake Backup Generators — Construction
Three backup generators have been installed. Pricing received for fencing campground generator.

3103244 – Round Lake Well Upgrades — Closeout
The pump has been replaced, and the project is in closeout.

3103251 – Round Lake IDL Cabins (ORFAC/ARPA) — Construction
Contractor is installing conduits to run power to the new park model cabins. The cabins will be installed in mid-October along with the well, grey water, and site work.

310412 – Trail of CDA Land Acquisition & Construct Maintenance Shop — Closeout
Project is complete, and the park has moved into the shop and duplex. Final close out documents have been received and the project is in closeout.

310413 – Trail of CDA Bike-In Campsites (ARPA) — Closeout
Construction of the campground is complete and is open to the public. Work is being finalized on record drawings and easements for the closeout process.

Project Number and Name Status

310414 – Trail of CDA Survey Trail Boundaries (Surplus) Design
The surveyor is under contract to survey the trail heading west from the shop ten miles to the county line. Survey has been received for review.

310531 – Farragut Peterson Campground (ARPA & Surplus) Closeout
Construction of the campground is complete and is open to the public. Working on record drawings and easements for closeout.

310532 – Farragut Buttonhook Bay Infrastructure Improvement (Surplus) Construction
The Buttonhook Bay dock has been installed, and the restroom repairs are complete. Road improvements were completed in September.


Improved Road to Buttonhook Bay

Project Number and Name	Status

310541 – Farragut Connect VC & Brig to Fiber Optic — Construction

Due to extremely high monthly costs for fiber service the park has opted to procure Starlink to provide internet service to the Brig and Shop. Equipment is being purchased.

3105251 – Farragut Access Improvements (ITD) — Construction

The project is substantially complete, and the highway intersection/pedestrian underpass is open to the public. An additional drainage inlet is being installed in the median at the request of ITD.



Farragut Access Improvements

Project Number and Name Status

3105252 – Farragut Eagle Breakwater Repairs Closeout
The Eagle Cove Breakwater repair project is complete, and the project is in the closeout process.

3105261 – Farragut Snowberry Shower House Replacement Construction
The project has been bid and the construction contract has been awarded. Demolition of the old shower house is complete and construction began in September.


Snowberry Shower House

3105262 – Farragut Eagle Boat Launch Road Repairs Closeout
Road construction is complete for the Eagle Cove Boat Launch Road and water main replacement. The project was completed by Memorial Day 2026. Hydroseed is still being established.

Project Number and Name Status

310731- Mowry New Campground (ARPA) Construction

Construction of the staff duplex and new well continued throughout the winter. Work on the new campground, shelter, restroom, and shower building has started and will be completed Fall 2026. Work on the Mowry house will start mid-October.



New Campground at Mowry

Project Number and Name	Status

310741 – Mowry House Siding and Foundation Repairs — Construction
See project 310731

310824 – Heyburn Rocky Point Fuel Dispenser Replacement — Closeout
The old tank at Rocky Point was moved to the shop area and the new fuel dispenser has been installed at Chatcolet.

310831 – Heyburn Wastewater Facility Repairs (ARPA) — Construction
Construction of the nine lift stations is now complete. Rock filters have been installed at storage ponds 1 and 2 and modifications to the headworks building are complete. Design for repairs to the transfer pump facility is ongoing and construction is expected to begin in Winter 2026/2027. Replacement of the Rocky Point water main over Peedee Creek will begin in October.

310832 – Heyburn Rocky Point Dock Replacement (ARPA) — Construction
Utilities have been installed and the parking lot has been graded. Dock frames have been delivered and installed. Currently pouring concrete abutment to install gangway.



New Docks at Rocky Point

Project Number and Name	Status

3108243 – Heyburn Replace Chatcolet Docks (ARPA) Cloesout
The project is substantially complete and open to the public. Public input has been overwhelmingly positive.



Chacolet Marina Store

3108261 – Heyburn Lodge Bat Abatement (Surplus) Design
The first round of abatement has been completed. Extensive exterior bat nesting from the removal of the boat garages requires additional exterior mitigation measures be instituted.

DPW 23833 – Heyburn Rocky Point Cottage Upgrades Closeout
North Region DPW Deferred Maintenance Design Build team has completed the remodel upgrades.

DPW 26542 – Heyburn Rocky Point Shoreline ADA Access Scoping
IDPR has requested and received delegation for this project from DPW to complete the project as part of the Rocky Point marina improvements. Work will proceed when spending authority has been granted.

3109251 – CDA Parkway Higgens Point Dock Improvements (Surplus) Closeout
The dock work will be included in the Farragut Improvements project. The gangway replacement and dock repairs are complete and the project is in closeout.

Project Number and Name	Status

320181- McCroskey Redtail Primitive Campground & Shelters — Design
Design is complete. University of Idaho has presented their findings regarding site impact and public opinion. Project is on hold pending input from park before proceeding.

320141- McCroskey Develop Group Shelter, Toilet, Parking — Design
See Project 320181.

320233 – Dworshak Surface Water Intake Replacement (Surplus) — Design
The Preliminary Engineering report (PER) has been approved by DEQ. Final design is complete. Waiting for Army Corp approval and funding to proceed.

3202243 – Dworshak Wastewater Upgrades — Design
Test pit approval was received from USACE on 10/17/25. The Design-Build team has submitted the engineer recommendations for Freeman Creek and Three Meadows to IDPR for review.

3202244 – Dworshak Volunteer Site Expansion (Surplus) — Construction
Received USACE project approval on 10/17/25. Work has started on the volunteer sites with help from the north region crew.

320321 – Hells Gate Sewer System & Facility Upgrade — Bidding
The Design-Build team is proceeding with non-ground disturbing activities while the design has been finalized and submitted to DEQ for review. USACE permit has been submitted and approved. Pricing has been received and the work will proceed Winter/Spring 2027.

320392 – Hells Gate Marina Mooring Dock Replacement (ARPA) — Closeout
The marina is open to the public. Working on final closeout documentation.

DPW 25543 - Hells Gate ADA Restroom Remodel (PBFAC) — Design
Design is complete and bid documents are being finalized. The project will be bid Winter 2026.

3205241 – Winchester Staff House Repairs (Surplus) — Construction
Garage door replacement and electrical upgrades have been completed. A quote is being obtained to replace the gutters and downspouts. Project will be completed Winter 2026.

SOUTH REGION

Project Number and Name — Status

330133 – Ponderosa Kokanee Cove Dev & Renovations (ARPA & Surplus) Phase 3 — Construction
The final phase of work to connect the Aspen, Blackberry and Chokecherry campgrounds to city water has started and is expected to be completed early November 2026.

330141 – Ponderosa Reroof Ranger Residence A — Construction
Reroof has been completed. Residing has begun and will be completed by the end of October 2026.



New Siding on Ponderosa Residence

330142 – Ponderosa Reroof Ranger Residence B — Closeout
Residing has been completed and the project is in close out.

3301251 – Ponderosa NW Passage Campground Bank Stabilization (Surplus) — Closeout
This is a joint project with IDFG to stabilize the bank between the river and the fishing pond. Construction was completed at the end of October and the project is in close out.

DPW 26543 – Ponderosa Activity Center Exterior ADA Access — Construction
Construction has started and the project will be completed late Fall 2026.

330231 – Eagle Island RV Campground (ARPA & Surplus) — Construction
The campground remains open with landscapers working to complete the project. Seeding and temporary irrigation has been completed and the germination and acceptance of the landscape effort should occur in Spring 2027.

Project Number and Name Status

330233 – Eagle Island Calf Barn Rehabilitation (Surplus) Bidding
Review and permitting efforts have been completed for the building rehabilitation into office and event space. Construction is scheduled to start November 2026.

3302243 – Eagle Island Dorm Abatement (Surplus) Construction
The dormitory has been cleaned up and abated. Construction is now proceeding with structural bracing, exterior lighting, and means of securing the building to complete the project. Awaiting installation of Idaho Power transformer to set perimeter lighting.

3302244 – Eagle Island Parking Lot Improvements (Surplus) Closeout
Landscaping and temporary irrigation is currently underway. All other aspects of the project have been completed.

3302251 – Eagle Island RV Host Sites (Surplus) Closeout
Two new RV host sites with electrical, water and sewer connections are ready for use.

3302261 – Eagle Island Replace Fuel Tank Construction
A 500-gallon diesel/gasoline tank is being installed with a containment slab, electrical wiring, disconnects, and tank appurtenances.


Formwork for Fuel Tank at Eagle Island

Project Number and Name	Status

DPW25540 – Eagle Island Staff Housing Renovations — Bidding
DPW is working with a light construction service contractor to receive a proposal for the kitchen and bathroom remodel, flooring replacement, and painting. Planning for winter 2026/2027 construction.

330432 – Lucky Peak Idaho City Additional Yurt (Surplus) — Closeout
Construction was completed in mid-November. The yurt opened for winter reservations.

330441 – Lucky Peak Discovery Erosion Control — Closeout
The project is substantially complete, with ribbon cutting occurring April 30, 2026.

DPW 26540 - Lucky Peak Sandy Point Lower Restroom Replacement — Design
Per our request, DPW to change scope of work from remodel to replacement. We are working toward design.

330541 – Bruneau Dunes New Irrigation Well — Closeout
A new well cannot be drilled due to water right restrictions, so Eagle Cove Campground will be xeriscaped to reduce water needs. Eagle Cove xeriscape construction is complete, and the project is in closeout.

3305251 – Bruneau Dunes Water Treatment Upgrades (Surplus) — Bidding
The water treatment upgrades have been approved by DEQ. Bid documents have been prepared and bidding is scheduled for November 2026.

3305261 – Bruneau Dunes Manager's Residence Siding Replacement (Surplus) — Closeout
The project includes siding and window replacement to address deferred maintenance items. Work is complete and the project is in closeout.

330641 – Three Island Irrigation Pump and Control Upgrades — Closeout
The project has been completed and is in the closeout phase.

3306251 – Three Island Electrical Panels Cooling (Surplus) — Closeout
This project is completed and closed out.

3307252 – Horsethief Reservoir Development (ORFAC) — Construction
Design-Build contract is in place, and the project is under construction. This project has been turned over to Idaho Fish & Game for management of the project

Project Number and Name Status

3307261 - Seasonal Housing; Lake Cascade (Surplus) Construction
Construction began August 10, 2026, and is scheduled to be completed in early February



Pouring/Formwork for Lake Cascade Season Housing Retaining Walls

DPW 26541 – HQ Bldg. HVAC Replacement (PBFAC) Scoping
We will put this project out to bid July 2027, for a winter 2027/2028 project.

340322 – Thousand Springs VC Exhibits Design
The Project has been transitioned to a new Design-Build team as the former team went out of business. Design drawings are complete and the project has been approved by PBFAC for construction. Shop drawings are currently underway with installation planned for Spring 2027.

3403241 – Thousand Springs Manager House Maintenance (Surplus) Construction
All that remains is for the structure to have the exterior painted which is scheduled for Fall 2026.

EAST REGION

Project Number and Name	Status

340531 - Castle Rocks VC Water System Upgrade — Closeout
Water treatment has been installed to address the high iron content in the water. The project is now in close out.

340541 - Castle Rocks Fishpond ADA Improvements — Closeout
The project is complete, and the project is in close out.

3405251 - Castle Rocks Ranger House Upgrades (Surplus) — Closeout
The installation of new HVAC system was the last phase of remodel and has been completed. The project is now in the closeout process.

3406251 - Lake Walcott Water Systems Upgrades — Bidding
Construction is scheduled to start fall 2026..

3406252 - Lake Walcott Campground Electric Upgrade (Surplus) — Closeout
New 50-amp power distribution pedestals have been installed throughout campground, and the project is in the closeout process.

350133 – Massacre Rocks Sewer System Replacement (ARPA) — Closeout
The project is complete, close out documents are in place, and the project is in the close out phase.

350134 – Massacre Rocks E. Fork Campground (Surplus - ORFAC) — Design
A design-build team has been selected for this project. Design will begin in September.

3501241 – Massacre Rocks East Region Maintenance Shop — Closeout
Construction of the shop is complete, and the project is in close out.

3501261 – Massacre Rocks House Maintenance (Surplus) — Scoping
The project will be completed by the East Region Maintenance Crew in Fall 2026.

350333 – Bear Lake East Beach Renovation (ARPA) — Closeout
Construction of the new campground with 14 sites and 2 group sites has been completed..

3503244 – Bear Lake North Beach Dock Repair (Surplus) — Bidding
Dock repairs are in the procurement process and anticipated to be completed Fall 2026.

3503251 – Bear Lake Permanent Staff Housing — Design
Design is complete and in the permitting process. Construction is to start late Fall 2026.

Project Number and Name	Status

3503271 – Bear Lake Sage Springs CG Improvements (RV Grant/Surplus) Design
Design has begun for the RV grant improvements to add power and water to the new campground.

360102 – Harriman Scovel Center Winterization Construction
Grading is complete and decking installed. New HVAC has been installed and is functioning well. Soffit repairs are under construction and completion is expected Fall 2026.


Scovel Center Soffit Repairs

Project Number and Name Status

360131 – Harriman Historic Ranch Office Rehabilitation Closeout
Final work to include cellar door replacement and heater installation for new well equipment has been installed and construction is complete. The project is in the closeout process.



Ranch Office Living Room with Refinished Floors

360132 – Harriman Water & Septic System Upgrades (ARPA & Surplus) Construction
Water and Sewer System project is substantially complete. Design team has submitted O&M (Operation and Maintenance manual) and as built drawings to East Idaho Public Health and Department of Environmental Quality for their review, and approval. Work is underway with DEQ and the Fire Marshal to finalize fire water supply to facility.

360134 – Harriman Historic Reroofs (Surplus) Closeout
All reroofs have been completed. Additional bat boxes have been installed to keep bats out of the newly cleaned and sealed buildings. Chimney repairs and structural upgrades have been completed. The project is in closeout.

3601248 – Harriman New Welcome Center (Surplus) Design
The project is under design with the building location chosen and the schematic design phase completed. The project is currently on hold pending funding for construction.

3601249 – Harriman Honeymoon Hotel Maintenance (Surplus) Closeout
Reroof, and bat abatement completed. Bats have moved into their new condos outside the building. Interior completed in September 2024. Re-wiring has been completed, and the project is in close out.

Project Number and Name	Status

36012423 -Harriman Dike and Culvert Repairs (Surplus) Construction
The Golden Lake levy improvement project is complete. Construction for culvert and headgate repair at Silver Lake will occur in October/November 2026.


Golden Lake Levy

300035 - Seasonal Housing; Harriman Construction
Construction has begun, house is framed and roof system is currently being installed. Project is scheduled for winter 2026 completion.

360232 – Henrys Lake Sewer Connection (ARPA) Construction
See project 360233.

Project Number and Name Status

360233 – Henrys Lake Campground Expansion (ARPA) Construction
Construction is underway, underground utilities are in place final grade is being set. Asphalt and site amenities are in the process of installation, and the project is scheduled to be finished December 2026.



Paving at new Henrys Lake Campground

360432 – Ashton-Tetonia Visitor Center (Surplus) Construction
Waiting for the shed to move through DOPL for approvals. The main water line is old and creating sediment issues. We are requesting proposals for replacement.

300036 – Ashton-Tetonia Trail Bridge Inspections & Repair (ARPA) Closeout
Historic bridge work has been completed and passed inspection with repairs including tightening of deck, railings, installation of expansion joints, piers and abutments poured. Project is in close out.

Project Number and Name Status

360431 – Ashton-Tetonia Trail Upgrades (EDA) Construction
Contractor has paved the approximately 6 miles of trail as well as the parking lots. Site work and gate installation are in progress. Project to be completed Fall 2026.



Ashton Tetonia Trail Upgrades

360513 – Land of Yankee Fork General Rehabilitation (Surplus) Construction
Structural Engineer team surveyed structures in July 2023. Initial work is complete to shore up the Dryer building and Stamp Mill completed. Summer 2024 reroofs have been completed for the stamp mill, dryer building, caretakers building, pyramid roof house and green house. Contractor has completed repairs on the Stamp Mill. Structural stabilization of Skylark will be completed in 2026.

360531 – Land of Yankee Fork Camping Improvements (ARPA) Design
RV grant has been received for a new visitor center, changing rooms, restrooms, and showers. The design team has completed initial cost estimates for the project and is proceeding with design for the water and sewer improvements.

3605251 – Land of Yankee Fork Bayhorse Bridge Replacement (ARPA) Design
Design updated to remove pressure treated wood as requested by BLM environmental review. Received ROW permit from BLM. Construction will be scheduled pending permit approval.

3606262 – Twin Peaks Initial R&M (Surplus) Construction.
Work was completed to accomplish the grand opening. Remaining work includes fire hood installation and ADA room upgrades.

Financial Report Cover Sheet

FY 2027 Financial Reports
Quarter and Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2026

Prepared by:

Steve Martin, Financial Officer

Submission Date:

October 14, 2026

Summary:

Attached are the first quarter financial reports for fiscal year (FY) 2027. The information presented accurately reflects an overview of the department's revenues, expenditures, and cash balances along with a summary of the Passport Program and my explanatory notes. Also included for this quarter is the annual summary of the endowment fund accounts. We have elected to defer withdrawals this year because cash balances in these funds are sufficient to support activities for the next several years.

- Page 2 – FY 2027 Financial Statement / Budget Status as of 09/30/2026
- Pages 3-6 – FY 2027 Y-T-D Park Operations Revenues / Expenditures
- Page 7 – FY 2027 Cash Balances as of 09/30/2026
- Page 8 – FY 2027 Y-T-D Passport Program Revenue
- Pages 9-15 – FY 2027 Endowment Fund Reporting
- Notes

Park revenue started the year up $185,800 (3.4%) versus FY 2026. This is a positive result attributable to some increases and decreases across different parks (see Notes for additional details).

Passport revenue decreased $73,500 (-5.4%) versus FY 2026 due to a notable reduction in the number of two-year registrations.

Year-to-date Park expenditures are up $429,200 (6.8%) consistent with increases in our budget appropriation. Higher budgeted increases in personnel, operating and capital outlay expenditures will be consistently higher compared to FY 2026 (see Notes for additional details).

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
FY 2027 Financial Statement / Budget Status
as of September 30, 2026

Program/Object	Appropriation [1]	Expenditures	Encumbrances [2]	Balance	% Remaining
Operations					
Personnel Costs	$ 21,365,400	$ 6,095,506	$ -	$ 15,269,894	71.5%
Operating Expenditures	11,660,800	3,377,616	-	8,283,184	71.0%
Capital Outlay	3,457,528	441,125	645,069	2,371,334	68.6%
Trustee & Benefit	30,981,691	2,197,835	20,594,773	8,189,083	26.4%
Subtotal	**$ 67,465,419**	**$ 12,112,081**	**$ 21,239,842**	**$ 34,113,496**	50.6%
Capital Development					
Personnel Costs	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Operating Expenditures	-	-	-	-	
Capital Outlay	69,718,366	10,952,734	-	58,765,632	84.3%
Trustee & Benefit	-	-	-	-	
Subtotal	**$ 69,718,366**	**$ 10,952,734**	**$ -**	**$ 58,765,632**	84.3%
Total	**$ 137,183,785**	**$ 23,064,816**	**$ 21,239,842**	**$ 92,879,128**	**67.7%**

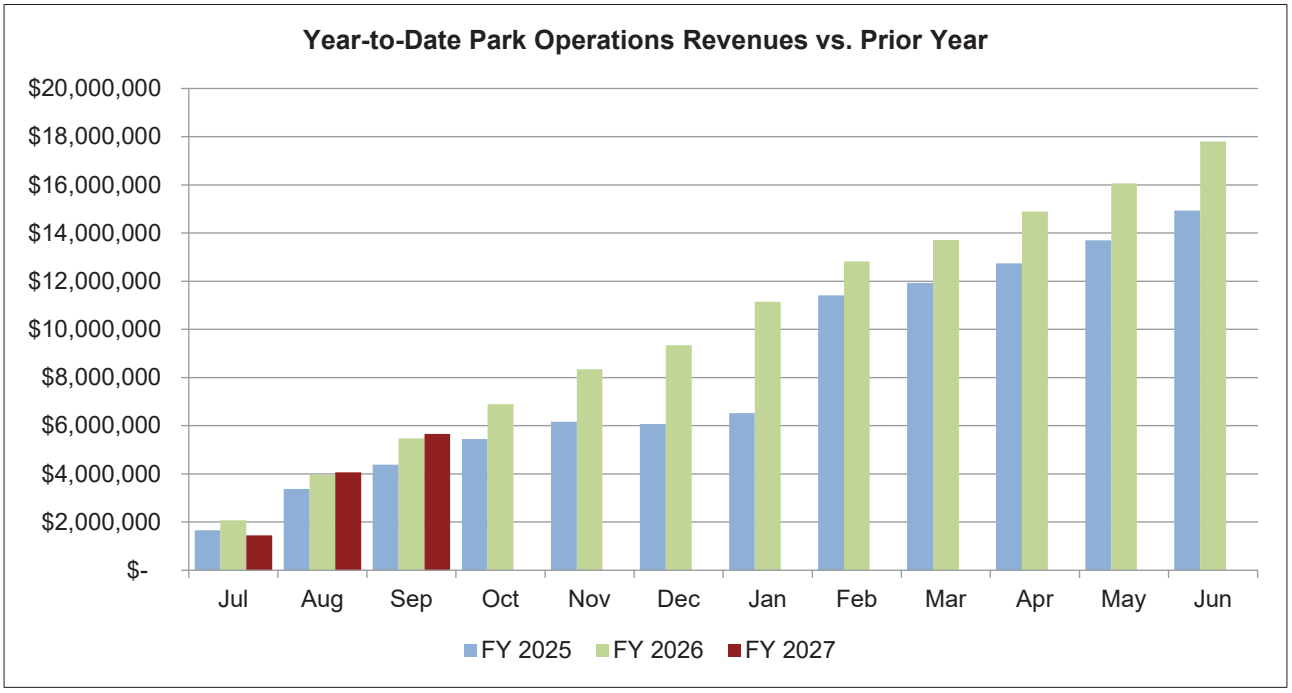
[1] Appropriation Includes:

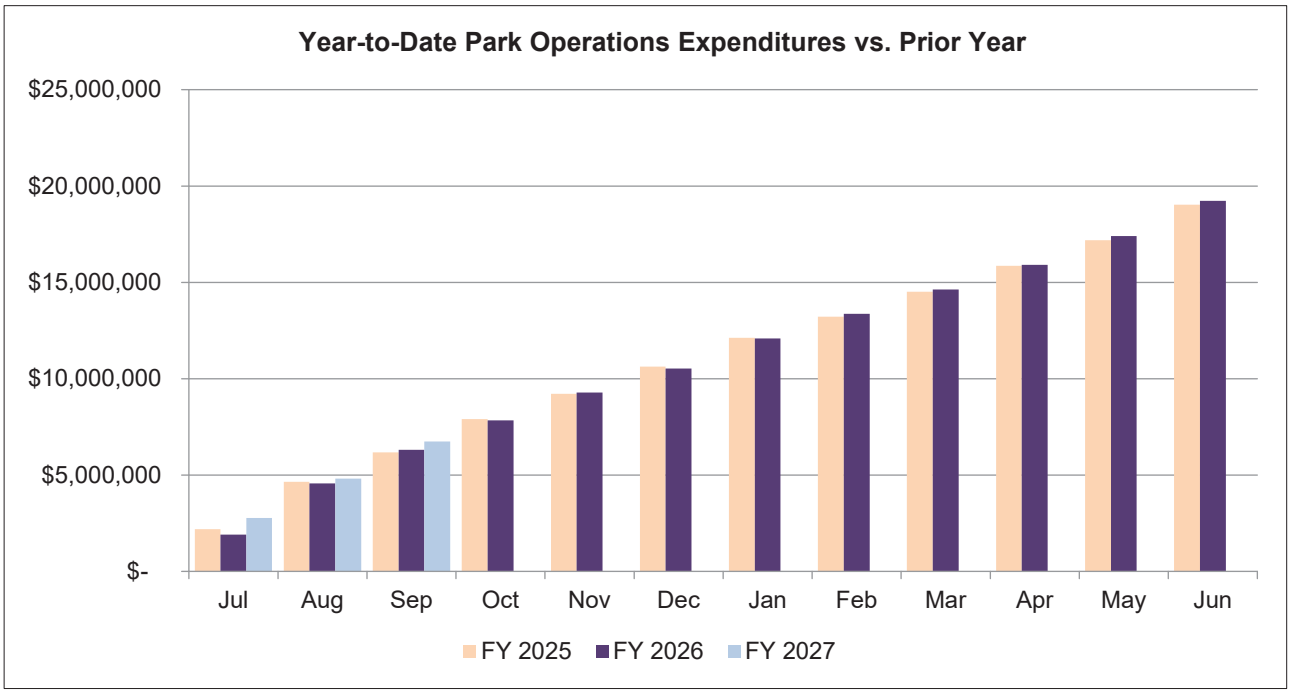
Original Appropriation	68,618,200
ECF Grants	11,506,868
ECF Purchasing	553,851
Capital Reappropriation	56,504,866
Program Transfers	-
Receipts to Appropriation	-
Holdbacks	-
Rescissions	-
	137,183,785

[2] Encumbrances Includes:

Grant Contract Balances	20,594,773
Open Purchase Orders	645,069
AP Accruals	-
	21,239,842

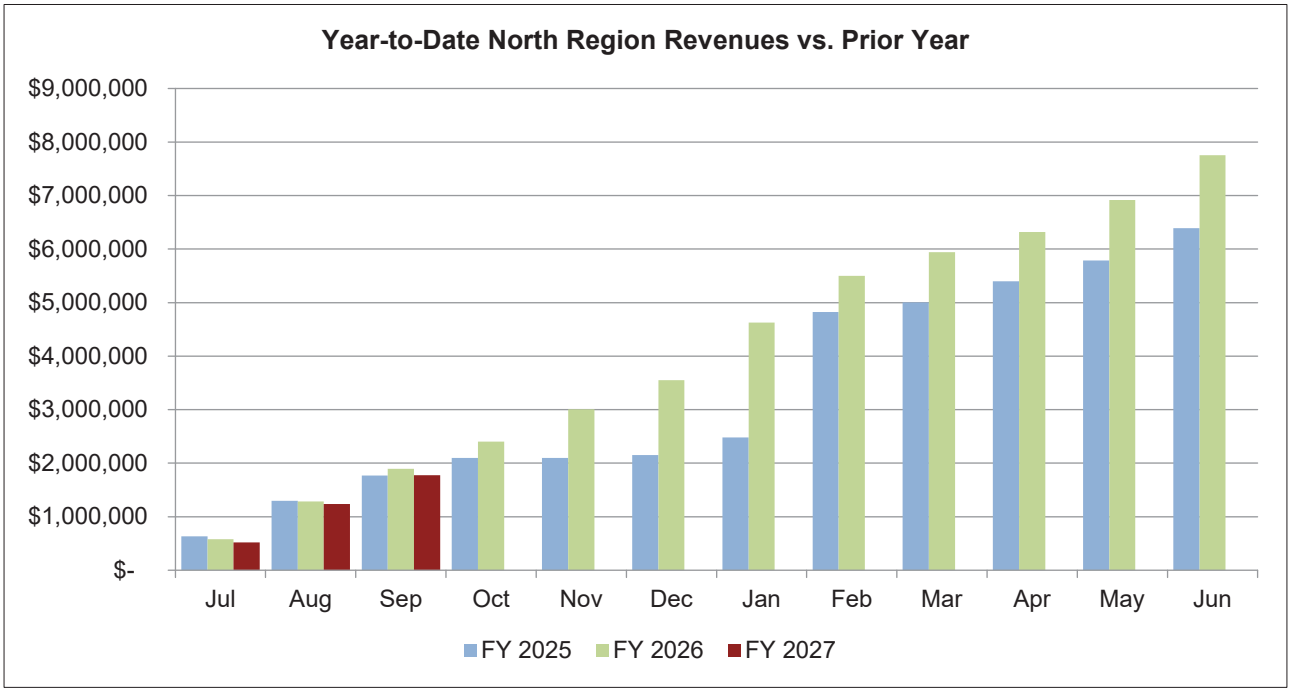
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Park Operations - All Funds
Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures
September 30, 2026

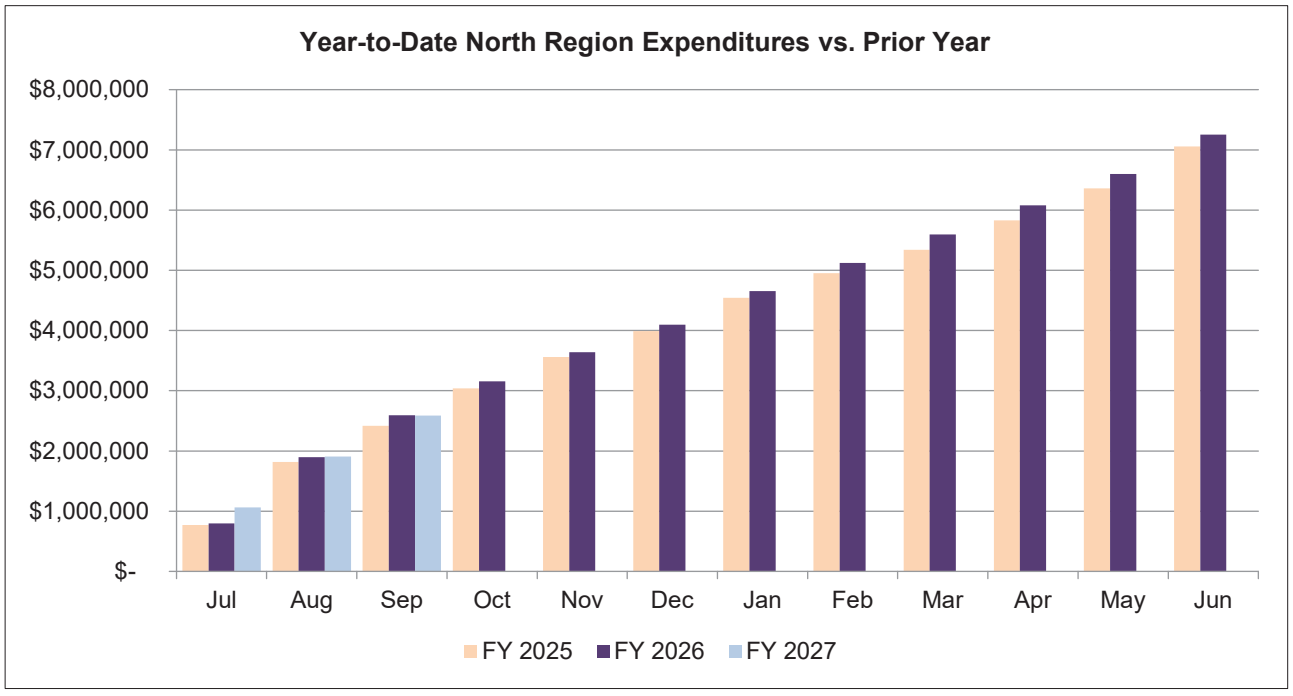




- All Park Operations fiscal year-to-date revenues are up $185,800 (3.4%) compared to FY 2026.
- All Park Operations fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up $429,200 (6.8%) compared to FY 2026.

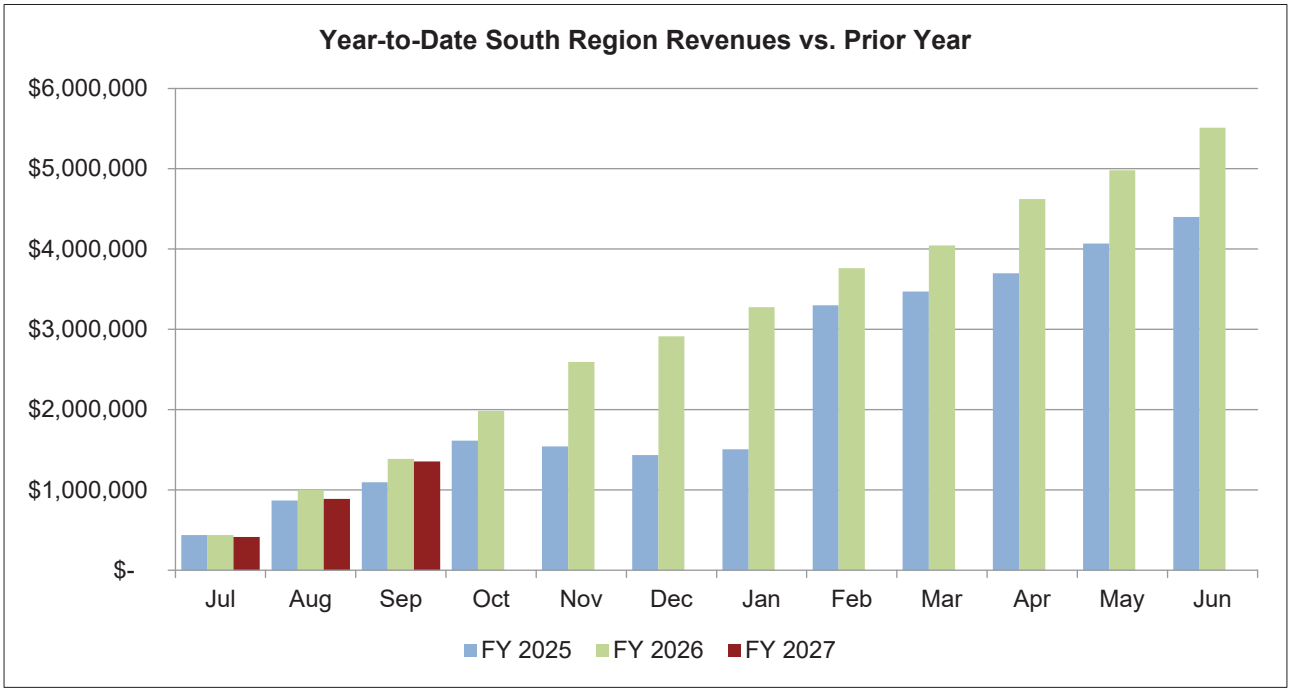
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
North Region - All Funds
Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures
September 30, 2026

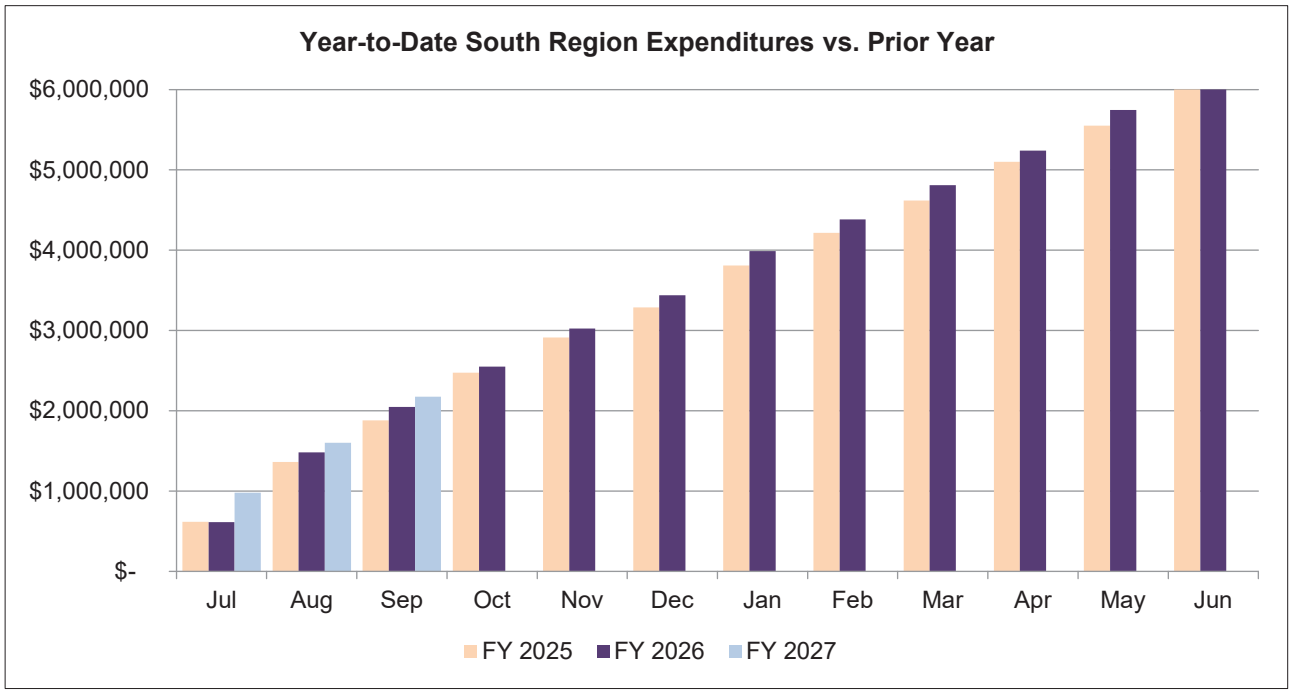




- North Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are down $120,300 (-6.4%) compared to FY 2026.
- North Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are down $3,200 (-0.1%) compared to FY 2026.

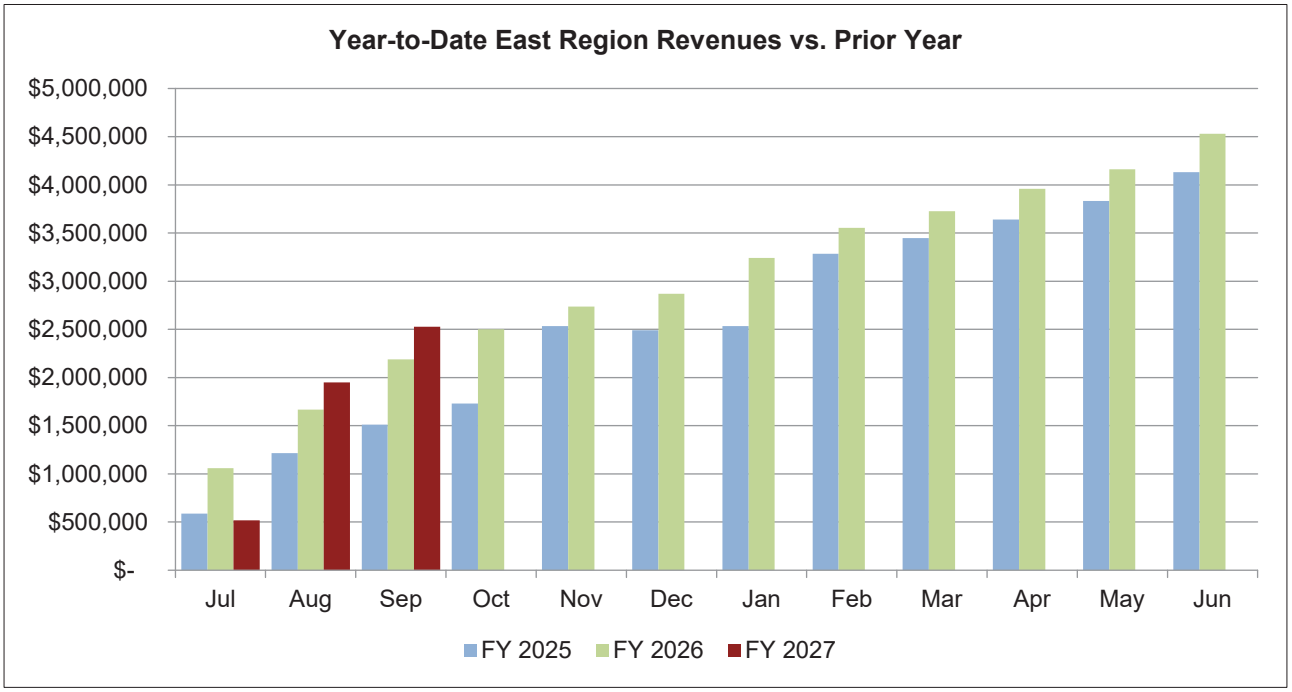
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
South Region - All Funds
Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures
September 30, 2026

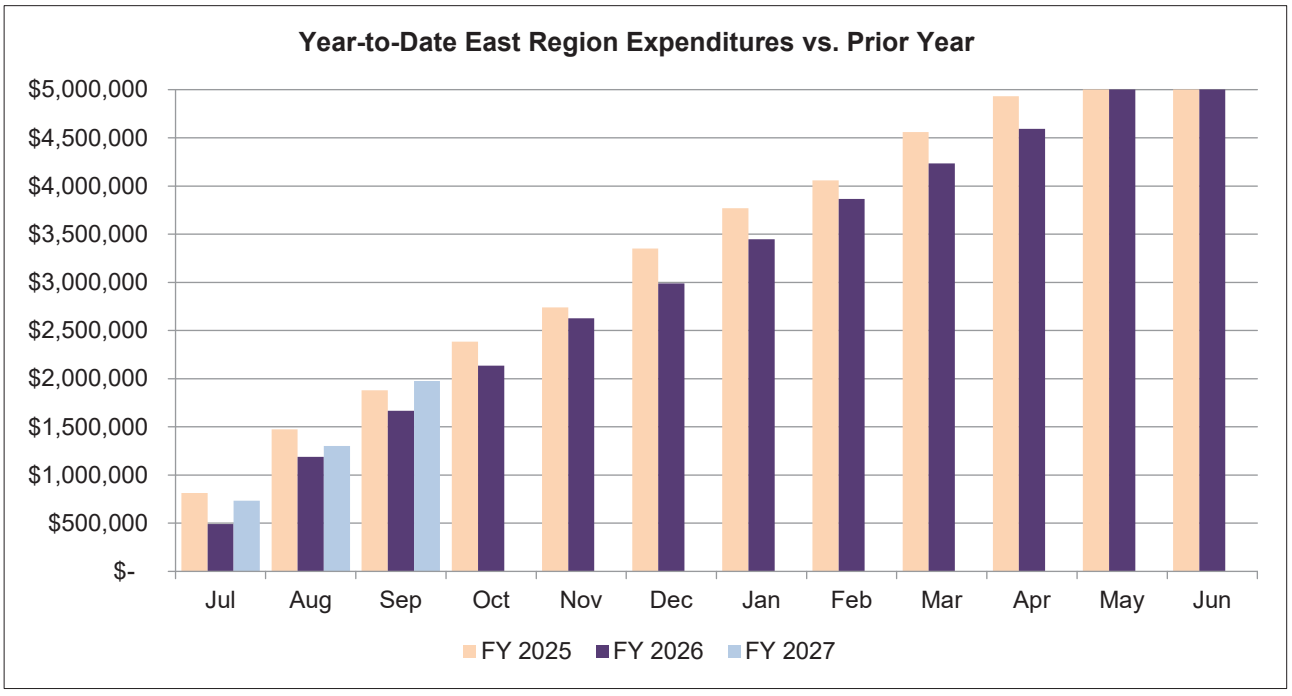




- South Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are down $29,800 (-2.2%) compared to FY 2026.
- South Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up $125,800 (6.1%) compared to FY 2026.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
East Region - All Funds
Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures
September 30, 2026





- East Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are up $336,000 (15.3%) compared to FY 2026.
- East Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up $306,600 (18.4%) compared to FY 2026.

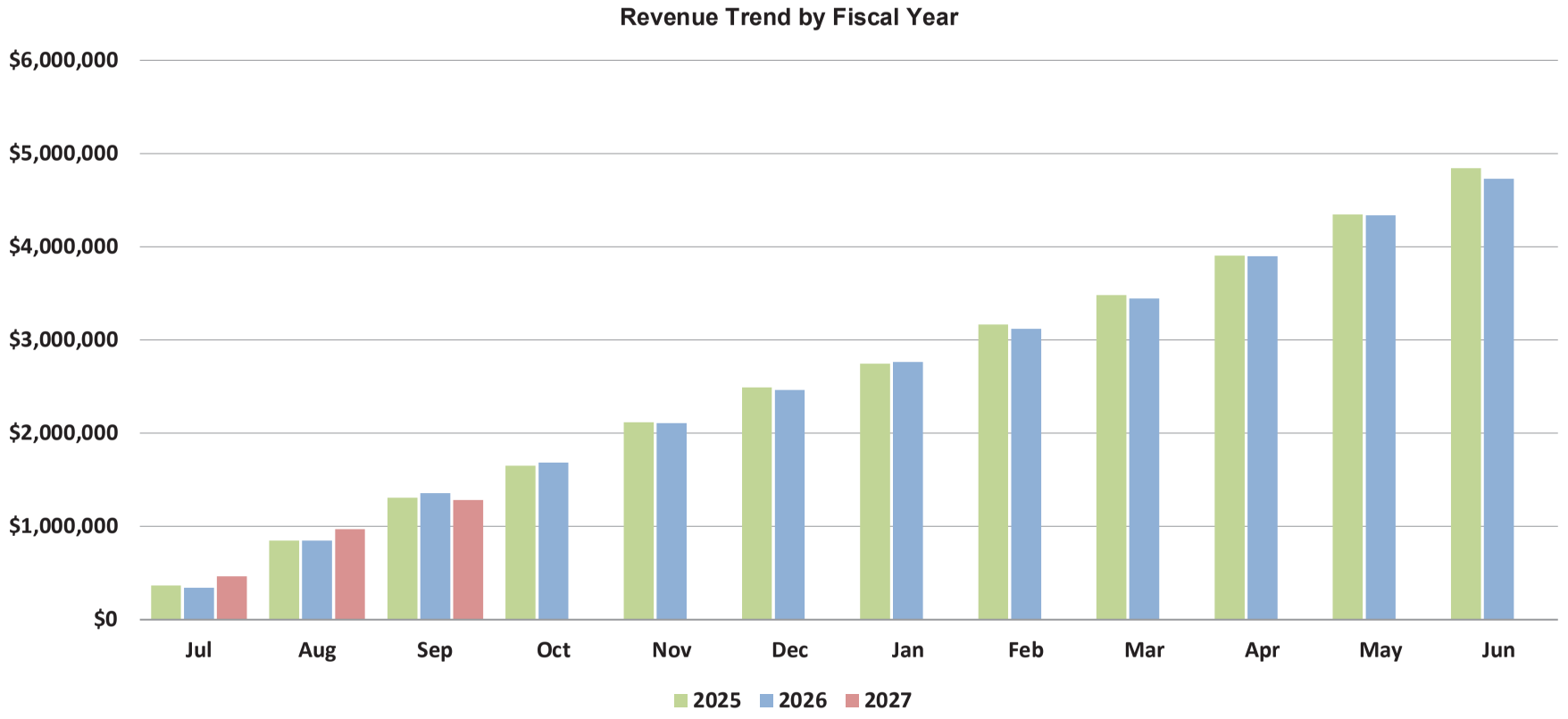
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Statement of Cash Position By Fund - FY 2027
as of September 30, 2026

Fund	Description	Beginning Balance	Cash Inflows	Cash Outflows	Cash Balance	Grants / Capital Obligations	Unobligated Fund Balance
12500	Federal Indirect Cost Recovery	$ 444,638	$ -	$ (91,345)	$ 353,293	$ -	$ 353,293
24300	Parks and Recreation Fund	53,181,107	11,937,643	(20,508,631)	44,610,119	32,169,807	12,440,313
24302	Parks & Rec - Registration Administration	4,836,938	4,033,454	(683,037)	8,187,355	-	8,187,355
24303	Parks & Rec - Sawtooth License Plate	2,472	29,225	-	31,697	-	31,697
24304	Parks & Rec - Cutthroat Wildlife Plate	138,075	40,783	(2,829)	176,029	35,811	140,218
24305	Parks & Rec - Mountain Bike	330,523	15,424	-	345,947	72,453	273,494
24701	Recreational Fuels - Capital Improvement	4,258,632	555,393	(348,776)	4,465,250	2,122,905	2,342,345
24702	Recreational Fuels - Waterway Improvement	3,721,741	555,393	(318,218)	3,958,917	3,635,481	323,436
24703	Recreational Fuels - Off-road Motor Vehicles	3,928,487	555,393	(119,912)	4,363,969	1,045,565	3,318,404
24704	Recreational Fuels - Road & Bridge	2,935,245	290,727	(515,031)	2,710,940	1,107,718	1,603,223
24706	Recreational Fuels - Administration	77,640	349,268	(200,121)	226,786	-	226,786
25001	Registration - State Vessel	20,310	346,025	(366,336)	-	-	-
25002	Registration - Cross Country Ski	224,057	283	(14,687)	209,653	-	209,653
25003	Registration - Snowmobile	2,805,897	63,848	(1,308,997)	1,560,748	-	1,560,748
25004	Registration - Motorbike	2,616,497	223,304	(410,470)	2,429,331	210,808	2,218,522
25005	Registration - Recreational Vehicle	36,097,748	1,561,109	(315,961)	37,342,897	23,432,881	13,910,016
25006	Registration - State Avalanche Fund	124,671	15,587	(31,000)	109,258	-	109,258
34000	Federal ARPA [1]	1,180,938	-	(687,213)	493,725	2,010,125	(1,516,400)
34430	Federal ARPA - SLFRF	3,454,167	-	(1,064,342)	2,389,824	2,286,072	103,752
34800	Federal Grant Fund [1]	3,180,702	1,429,365	(1,243,340)	3,366,727	10,049,323	(6,682,596)
34900	Miscellaneous Revenue	1,898,335	-	(1,286,727)	611,608	485,488	126,120
41001	Enterprise	8,689,214	909,478	(679,333)	8,919,360	13,849	8,905,510
49601	Expendable Trust - Park Donations	532,451	54,767	(29,232)	557,987	-	557,987
49602	Harriman Trust	1,409,978	35,195	(108,129)	1,337,045	184,422	1,152,623
49603	Park Land Trust	3,678,262	212,482	(75,981)	3,814,763	497,698	3,317,065
49605	Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes	658,967	51,731	(43,286)	667,412	-	667,412
	Total	**$ 140,427,691**	**$ 23,265,877**	**$ (30,452,931)**	**$ 133,240,638**	**$ 79,360,405**	**$ 53,880,233**

Notes: [1] Federal Grant Fund is a borrowing limit and does not represent department cash

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Passport Program Revenue FY 2027
as of September 30, 2026

Gross Revenue	FY 2026 September	FY 2027 September	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change	FY 2026 Y-T-D	FY 2027 Y-T-D	Increase/ (Decrease)	% Change
1-Year Registrations	$ 197,300	$ 122,480	$ (74,820)	-37.9%	$ 537,930	$ 518,110	$ (19,820)	-3.7%
2-Year Registrations	311,800	189,600	(122,200)	-39.2%	818,860	765,160	(53,700)	-6.6%
Total	**$ 509,100**	**$ 312,080**	**$ (197,020)**	**-38.7%**	**$ 1,356,790**	**$ 1,283,270**	**$ (73,520)**	**-5.4%**
Transactions								
1-Year Registrations	19,730	12,248	(7,482)	-37.9%	53,793	51,811	(1,982)	-3.7%
2-Year Registrations	15,590	9,480	(6,110)	-39.2%	40,943	38,258	(2,685)	-6.6%
Total	**35,320**	**21,728**	**(13,592)**	**-38.5%**	**94,736**	**90,069**	**(4,667)**	**-4.9%**



Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Endowment Fund Cash Distribution Statement
FY 2027

Ritter Island Endowment Fund

Fund	CAM	Org Cost Center	Account	FY 2026 Expenditures	FY 2027 Budget Allocation	9/30/26 Cash Balance	FY 2027 Additional Cash Requirement
49603	34049603237PLT	23071	500 - PC	$ -	$ -		
49603	34049603237PLT	23071	676 - OE	9,448	15,000		
49603		13500	789 - CO	-	-		
			Total	**$ 9,448**	**$ 15,000**	**$ 252,497**	**$ (237,497)**

Balance as of June 30, 2025	FY 2026 Withdrawal	FY 2026 Fees	Balance as of June 30, 2026	FY 2026 Investment Gain	
$ 2,225,458	$ -	$ 7,612	$ 2,586,061	$ 368,215	16.5%

FY 2027 Withdrawal Amount $ -

No distribution requested due to sufficient cash balance for FY 2027 and FY 2028 requirements.

Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes Endowment Fund

Fund	CAM	Org Cost Center	Account	FY 2026 Expenditures	FY 2027 Budget Allocation	9/30/26 Cash Balance	FY 2027 Additional Cash Requirement
49605		21050	501 - PC	$ 21,882	$ 30,100		
49605		21040	500 - PC	113,126	129,900		
49605		21050	676 - OE	31,299	30,100		
49605		13500	789 - CO	-	-		
			Total	**$ 166,306**	**$ 190,100**	**$ 667,412**	**$ (477,312)**

Balance as of June 30, 2025	FY 2026 Withdrawal	FY 2026 Fees	Balance as of June 30, 2026	FY 2026 Investment Gain	
$ 4,741,683	$ -	$ 16,219	$ 5,510,003	$ 784,539	16.5%

FY 2027 Withdrawal Amount $ -

No distribution requested due to sufficient cash balance for FY 2027 and FY 2028 requirements.

Ritter Island Endowment Fund - Investment Performance Report

June 30, 2026

Current Value of the Fund	**$ 2,586,061**
Investment Change in Market Value Inception-to-Date	**$ 2,132,360**
Contributions Inception-to-Date	**$ 1,000,000**
Withdrawals Inception-to-Date (fees & distributions)	**$ 546,299**

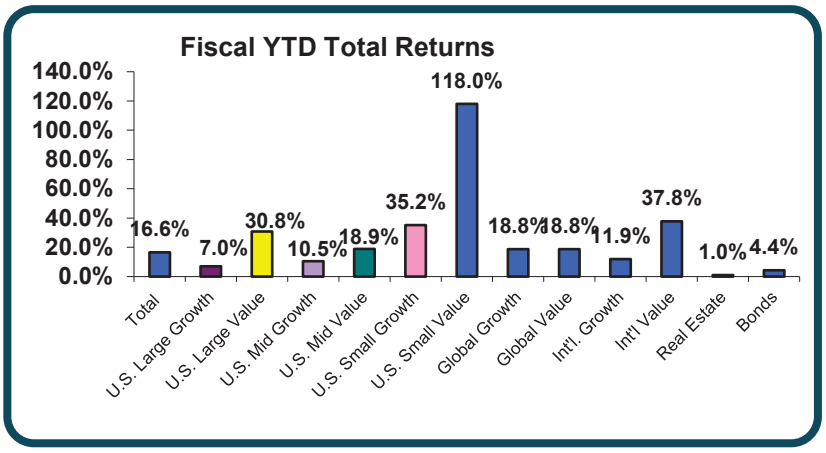
Investment inception date September 2007

Gross Returns	One Month	Cal. Y-T-D	Fiscal Y-T-D	One - Year	Three - Year	Five - Year	Ten - Year	I-T-D
Total Fund Return	**0.7%**	**9.3%**	**16.6%**	**16.6%**	**13.4%**	**7.1%**	**9.9%**	**7.7%**
*Benchmark**	*-0.2%*	*8.5%*	*18.0%*	*18.0%*	*15.2%*	*8.0%*	*10.1%*	*7.6%*

** Benchmark: 49% Russell 3000(R3), 21% MSCI ACWI ex-US (ACX), 30% BBC Aggregate(AGG)*

Current Asset Allocation

U.S. Equity	**37.2%**
Large Cap	*26.2%*
Mid Cap	*6.8%*
Small Cap	*4.1%*
Global Equity	**12.4%**
Int'l Equity	**17.2%**
Bonds	**23.2%**
Real Estate	**9.6%**
Cash	**0.4%**
	100.0%



Endowment Fund Staff Comments:

Financial markets were mixed during June and there was an equity market rotation away from growth oriented A.I. and semiconductor stocks and into more value-oriented industrials, financials and healthcare. Oil prices fell significantly due to optimism surrounding the U.S.–Iran ceasefire, which led to lower inflation expectations and a small decline in interest rates. Kevin Warsh chaired his first FOMC meeting and outlined plans to form five new internal task forces to evaluate Fed communications, its balance sheet, the sources of data it considers, productivity and jobs and the framework used for managing inflation.

Trail of the CDA Endowment Fund - Investment Performance Report

June 30, 2026

Current Value of the Fund	**$ 5,510,003**
Investment Change in Market Value Inception-to-Date	**$ 4,679,084**
Contributions Inception-to-Date	**$ 2,163,600**
Withdrawals Inception-to-Date (fees & distributions)	**$ 1,332,681**

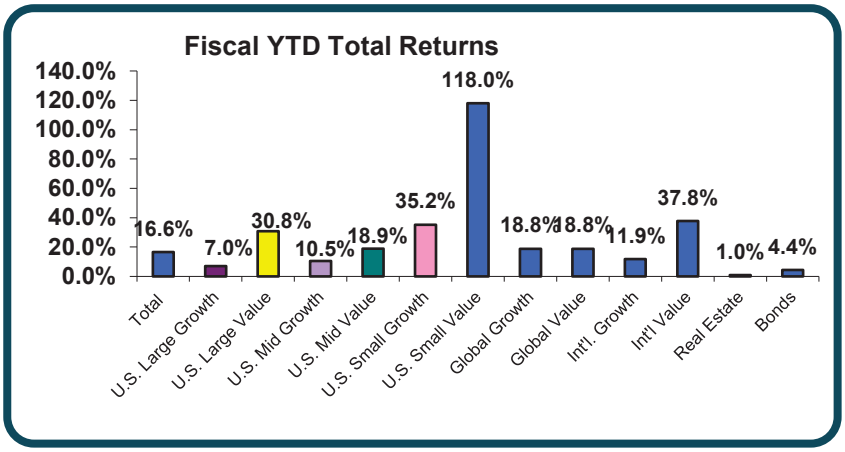
Investment inception date June 2009

Gross Returns	One Month	Cal. Y-T-D	Fiscal Y-T-D	One-Year	Three-Year	Five-Year	Ten-Year	I-T-D
Total Fund Return	**0.7%**	**9.3%**	**16.6%**	**16.6%**	**13.4%**	**7.1%**	**9.9%**	**8.9%**
*Benchmark**	*-0.2%*	*8.5%*	*18.0%*	*18.0%*	*15.2%*	*8.0%*	*10.1%*	*9.0%*

** Benchmark: 49% Russell 3000(R3), 21% MSCI ACWI ex-US (ACX), 30% BBC Aggregate(AGG)*

Current Asset Allocation

U.S. Equity	**37.2%**
Large Cap	*26.2%*
Mid Cap	*6.8%*
Small Cap	*4.1%*
Global Equity	**12.4%**
Int'l Equity	**17.2%**
Bonds	**23.2%**
Real Estate	**9.6%**
Cash	**0.4%**
	100.0%



Endowment Fund Staff Comments:

Financial markets were mixed during June and there was an equity market rotation away from growth oriented A.I. and semiconductor stocks and into more value-oriented industrials, financials and healthcare. Oil prices fell significantly due to optimism surrounding the U.S.–Iran ceasefire, which led to lower inflation expectations and a small decline in interest rates. Kevin Warsh chaired his first FOMC meeting and outlined plans to form five new internal task forces to evaluate Fed communications, its balance sheet, the sources of data it considers, productivity and jobs and the framework used for managing inflation.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Endowment Fund Investment History

Ritter Island Endowment Fund
Established September 2007

	Actuals													
	FY 2008	**FY 2009**	**FY 2010**	**FY 2011**	**FY 2012**	**FY 2013**	**FY 2014**	**FY 2015**	**FY 2016**	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**FY 2021**
Principal Contribution ($1,000,000)	1,000,000													
Investment Gain / (Loss)	(17,364)	(96,158)	95,041	168,553	29,836	90,201	152,686	27,527	22,437	153,084	117,201	121,508	74,021	443,138
Withdrawals (Distributions)				(29,100)	(105,000)	(26,213)	(54,000)	(35,000)	(25,000)	-	(39,000)	(41,000)	(44,000)	-
Fees	(3,684)	(3,684)	(3,684)	(3,976)	(3,623)	(3,608)	(3,695)	(3,733)	(3,530)	(3,817)	(969)	(2,581)	(6,820)	(7,196)
Market Value (as of June 30)	978,952	879,110	970,467	1,105,944	1,027,157	1,087,537	1,182,528	1,171,322	1,165,229	1,314,496	1,391,728	1,469,655	1,492,856	1,928,798
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	-1.7%	-9.8%	10.8%	17.5%	3.3%	8.9%	14.6%	2.4%	2.0%	13.2%	9.0%	8.9%	5.2%	29.7%
Net Annual Return (net of Fees)	-2.1%	-10.2%	10.4%	17.0%	2.4%	8.4%	13.7%	2.0%	1.6%	12.8%	8.8%	8.5%	4.6%	29.2%
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	-2.1%	-6.4%	-0.7%	3.8%	3.6%	4.4%	5.7%	5.3%	5.0%	5.7%	5.9%	6.1%	6.1%	7.4%
Actual / Desired Distribution				3.0%	9.5%	2.6%	5.0%	3.0%	2.1%	0.0%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%	0.0%
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	218.815	215.693	217.965	225.722	229.478	233.504	238.343	238.638	241.018	244.955	251.989	256.143	257.797	271.696
Annual Inflation Rate	5.0%	-1.4%	1.1%	3.6%	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%	2.9%	1.6%	0.6%	5.4%
Compounded Inflation Rate	5.0%	3.6%	4.6%	8.2%	9.9%	11.6%	13.7%	13.8%	14.8%	16.5%	19.3%	21.0%	21.6%	27.0%
Principal in Constant (FY 2008) Dollars	1,050,218	1,035,950	1,046,484	1,082,072	1,098,712	1,116,256	1,136,979	1,138,217	1,148,190	1,164,525	1,193,241	1,209,726	1,216,183	1,270,097
Market Value Variance to Inflation	***(71,266)***	***(156,840)***	***(76,017)***	***23,872***	***(71,555)***	***(28,719)***	***45,549***	***33,105***	***17,039***	***149,971***	***198,487***	***259,929***	***276,673***	***658,701***

(XIRR) = Internal Rate of Return for Irregular Cash Flows

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Endowment Fund Investment History

Ritter Island Endowment Fund
Established September 2007

	Actuals					Projections				
	FY 2022	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**
Principal Contribution ($1,000,000)										
Investment Gain / (Loss)	(242,043)	176,719	213,648	234,110	368,215	129,303	135,408	137,756	140,151	142,595
Withdrawals (Distributions)	(57,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(81,245)	(82,654)	(84,091)	(85,557)
Fees	(7,998)	(6,867)	(6,836)	(7,073)	(7,612)	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)
Market Value (as of June 30)	1,621,757	1,791,609	1,998,421	2,225,458	2,586,061	2,708,164	2,755,127	2,803,030	2,851,890	2,901,728
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	-13.0%	10.9%	12.0%	11.7%	16.6%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Net Annual Return (net of Fees)	-13.0%	10.5%	11.5%	11.4%	16.2%					
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	6.1%	6.4%	6.6%	6.9%	7.3%					
Actual / Desired Distribution	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	296.311	305.109	314.175	322.561	333.952					
Annual Inflation Rate	9.1%	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	3.5%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Compounded Inflation Rate	36.1%	39.0%	42.0%	44.7%	48.2%	50.2%	52.2%	54.2%	56.2%	58.2%
Principal in Constant (FY 2008) Dollars	1,360,695	1,390,387	1,420,101	1,446,793	1,482,107	1,502,107	1,522,107	1,542,107	1,562,107	1,582,107
Market Value Variance to Inflation	***261,062***	***401,222***	***578,320***	***778,665***	***1,103,954***	***1,206,057***	***1,233,020***	***1,260,923***	***1,289,783***	***1,319,621***

(XIRR) = Internal Rate of Return for Irregular Cash Flow

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Endowment Fund Investment History

Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes
Established June 2009

	Actuals											
	FY 2010	**FY 2011**	**FY 2012**	**FY 2013**	**FY 2014**	**FY 2015**	**FY 2016**	**FY 2017**	**FY 2018**	**FY 2019**	**FY 2020**	**FY 2021**
Principal Contribution ($2,163,600)	2,163,600											
Investment Gain / (Loss)	176,195	199,265	139,458	194,959	323,831	59,056	49,854	326,572	250,369	257,832	157,773	944,530
Withdrawals (Distributions)		(240,200)	(200,000)	(61,523)	(165,000)	(75,000)	(50,000)	-	(84,000)	(89,000)	(94,000)	-
Fees	(2,472)	(3,679)	(7,644)	(4,315)	(4,492)	(4,522)	(4,121)	(4,738)	(2,069)	(5,502)	(14,537)	(15,339)
Market Value (as of June 30)	2,337,323	2,292,709	2,224,523	2,353,644	2,507,983	2,487,517	2,483,250	2,805,084	2,969,384	3,132,714	3,181,950	4,111,141
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	8.2%	9.1%	6.4%	8.9%	14.6%	2.4%	2.1%	13.2%	9.1%	8.8%	5.2%	29.7%
Net Annual Return (net of fees)	8.0%	8.4%	5.7%	8.6%	13.6%	2.2%	1.8%	13.0%	8.9%	8.5%	4.6%	29.2%
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	8.0%	8.4%	7.8%	8.1%	9.2%	8.2%	7.4%	8.0%	8.1%	8.2%	8.0%	9.4%
Actual / Desired Distribution		10.3%	8.7%	2.8%	7.0%	3.0%	2.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	0.0%
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	217.965	225.722	229.478	233.504	238.343	238.638	241.018	244.955	251.989	256.143	257.797	271.696
Annual Inflation Rate	1.1%	3.6%	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%	2.9%	1.6%	0.6%	5.4%
Compounded Inflation Rate	1.1%	4.6%	6.3%	8.0%	10.1%	10.2%	11.2%	12.9%	15.7%	17.4%	18.0%	23.4%
Principal in Constant (FY 2009) Dollars	2,186,390	2,263,389	2,299,391	2,337,350	2,382,187	2,384,865	2,406,443	2,441,785	2,503,914	2,539,581	2,553,552	2,670,201
Market Value Variance to Inflation	***150,933***	***29,320***	***(74,868)***	***16,294***	***125,796***	***102,652***	***76,807***	***363,299***	***465,470***	***593,133***	***628,398***	***1,440,940***

(XIRR) = Internal Rate of Return for Irregular Cash Flows

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
Endowment Fund Investment History

Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes
Established June 2009

	Actuals					Projections				
	FY 2022	**FY 2023**	**FY 2024**	**FY 2025**	**FY 2026**	**FY 2027**	**FY 2028**	**FY 2029**	**FY 2030**	**FY 2031**
Principal Contribution ($2,163,600)										
Investment Gain / (Loss)	(515,694)	376,528	455,210	498,807	784,539	275,500	288,475	293,445	298,514	303,684
Withdrawals (Distributions)	(123,000)	-	-	-	-	-	(173,085)	(176,067)	(179,108)	(182,210)
Fees	(17,043)	(14,631)	(14,566)	(15,069)	(16,219)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)
Market Value (as of June 30)	3,455,404	3,817,301	4,257,945	4,741,683	5,510,003	5,769,503	5,868,893	5,970,271	6,073,676	6,179,150
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	-13.0%	10.9%	12.0%	11.7%	16.6%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Net Annual Return (net of fees)	-13.0%	10.5%	11.5%	11.4%	16.2%					
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	7.8%	8.0%	8.2%	8.4%	8.8%					
Actual / Desired Distribution	3.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	296.311	305.109	314.175	322.561	333.952					
Annual Inflation Rate	9.1%	3.0%	3.0%	2.7%	3.5%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Compounded Inflation Rate	32.5%	35.4%	38.4%	41.1%	44.6%	46.6%	48.6%	50.6%	52.6%	54.6%
Principal in Constant (FY 2009) Dollars	2,866,218	2,930,459	2,994,748	3,052,499	3,128,905	3,172,177	3,215,449	3,258,721	3,301,993	3,345,265
Market Value Variance to Inflation	***589,186***	***886,842***	***1,263,197***	***1,689,184***	***2,381,098***	***2,597,326***	***2,653,444***	***2,711,550***	***2,771,683***	***2,833,885***

(XIRR) = Internal Rate of Return for Irregular Cash Flows

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
FY 2027 Q1 Financial Statements

Financial Officer Review Notes

Page 2 - Budget Status Comments:

1. Total budget appropriation includes FY 2027 year-to-date totals including all additions and adjustments.
    a. Original Appropriation = $68,618,200 (S 1363 and S 1417) a 20.5% increase from FY26 primarily due to increased personnel costs and capital development projects.
        i. PC up $781,600 (3.8%) - $372,900 for health insurance and $288,000 for 2.95 FTP.
        ii. CO up $8.8 million for development projects.
        iii. $152,300 ongoing reduction in General Fund (PC & OE).
    b. Capital Development Reappropriation = $56,504,900 (FY26 carryover).
    c. ECF = $11,506,700 for grants. $553,900 for delayed capital purchases, all approved by DFM.
2. PC and OE results are consistent with prior fiscal years, right where we would expect to be ¼-way through the year.
    a. **Combined Management Services and Park Ops**
        i. PC – 71.5% remaining is typical for the first quarter as more seasonal money is spent as parks finish up the busy summer season (through Labor Day).
        ii. OE – 71.0% remaining is typical for the first quarter.
        iii. CO – 68.6% remaining is typical as we are busy completing the requisition and purchase order processes for the year.
        iv. T&B – 26.4% remaining is typical as we complete loading current year grant projects in Luma. This should be completed in the 2nd quarter.
    b. **Capital Development** carryover into FY 2027 was $56,504,900 (in FY26 it was $109.3 million).
        i. $38.7 million in 24300 from Surplus Supplemental and other previously budgeted capital projects.
        ii. $6.1 million was ARPA
        iii. $2.2 million in RV projects
        iv. $5.1 million in Federal projects (LWCF with RV projects)
        v. In FY 2026 we had a total of $58.6 million in expenditures, which established a new record.

Pages 3 – 6 – Park Revenues and Expenditures Comments:

1. **Revenue** – Total Park is up $185,800 (3.4%) over 1st quarter FY 2026. Revenue should be more consistent entering our 4th year in Luma, except for some timing variances and new campground openings as noted below.
    a. North Region – down $120,300 (-6.4%) is attributable to:
        i. Farragut $77,000 negative variance from change in Shooting Range revenue processing (IDFG now taking ownership).
        ii. Priest Lake down $61,000 on camping and retail (high refund activity?)
    b. South Region – down $29,800 (-2.2%) is attributable to:
        i. Eagle Island down $110,800 on timing variances and/or loss of concession leases offset by $70,000 increase in camping revenue (started very late in September 2025).
        ii. Ponderosa $61,800 increase in cabin rentals.
        iii. Lucky Peak, Thousand Springs, Three Island and Bruneau all down slightly on camping and MVEF.
    c. East Region – up $336,000 (15.3%) is attributable to:
        i. Bear Lake up $311,800 on camping and MVEF.
        ii. Twin Peaks Ranch up $65,000 new operations.
        iii. Slight decreases at Harriman, Henrys, Lake Walcott, Challis Hot Springs and Massacre Rocks.
    d. Passport revenue is down $73,500 or -5.4% versus FY 2026. There was a notable decline in the number of 2-year passports.
2. **Expenditures** – FY 2027 base PC up $781,600 (3.8% higher than FY 2026) 2.95 new FTPs, health benefits, and additional seasonal OHV trails staff. OE is up $236,100 (2.1%) for Twin Peaks OE, additional seasonal OHV trails OE, and SWCAP fees. Total PC and OE are a combined $1 million (3.2%) higher than FY 2026.
    a. Year-to-date increase of $429,200 (6.8%) is attributable to $178,300 in PC, $74,300 in OE and $176,600 in capital outlay purchases.
    b. Base PC Increase by Region
        i. NR – up $22,800 (1.4%) (.45 new FTPs).
        ii. SR – up $19,700 (1.3%).
        iii. ER – up $135,800 (11.1%) (2.5 new FTPs).
        iv. Increases include health benefit cost changes $372,900 ($2,040 per FTP) represents a 2% increase in total PC ($20.6 million for FY 2026).
    c. OE Expenditures by Region
        i. NR – down $21,000 (-2.5%)
        ii. SR – up $32,100 (5.7%)

iii. ER – up $63,200 (14.3%)

d. CO Expenditures budget (excluding Capital Development) is up $300,500 (11.6%) over FY 2026 so this will contribute to the overall increase in FY 2027.

3. Fund Balance Analysis – No changes to significant funding sources for parks.

   a. Grants / Capital Obligations equal the total ECF approved for FY 2027.

Human Resources Board Report
November 2026

Jennifer Quinno-Miller – Human Resource Officer

Over the past two months, the Human Resources team has been busy with recruitment efforts, including numerous job postings, interviews, hiring activities, and participation in job fairs. The team continues to support daily HR operations, including employee onboarding and offboarding, payroll, workers' compensation claims, employee leave management, performance appraisals, employee relations, and supervisor guidance. Additional efforts have focused on updating agency policies, particularly employee housing and new statewide requirements, providing training opportunities, and improving internal HR processes. Employee recognition also remains a priority, with the launch of nominations for the 2026 IDPR Annual Awards. HR continues to work closely with managers and employees across the agency to provide support and keep operations running smoothly.

IDPR Annual Awards

Continuing with the previous annual tradition, we launched the continuation of the highly requested IDPR Annual Awards! The awards officially returned last year after a brief hiatus but after employees expressed appreciation for their return it continues to be one of the top priorities highlighted in our recent employee engagement survey. Now, the 2026 nomination process is officially open.

Like last year, awards will be presented during regional and headquarters meetings, with at least one award in each category per region, plus an additional Statewide Ranger of the Year will be selected.

Employees submit nominations via an online form submission process. Award categories include:

Director's Award – Recognizes a permanent office/administrative employee at any level who performs duties in a superior manner and exemplifies the most valued traits in a public park and recreation employee.

Beth Durham Award – Recognizes a permanent field employee at any level who performs duties in a superior manner and exemplifies the most valued traits in a public park and recreation employee.

Ranger of the Year Award – Recognizes a permanent ranger who performs exceptionally and exemplifies the ideal traits of a park ranger. Awards will be given in each region, plus **one Statewide Ranger of the Year**.

Certificate of Merit (Appreciation) – Open to all Department employees. May be awarded for a specific project, uncommon action, or sustained high-level performance in routine tasks.

Excellence in Interpretation – Recognizes any department employee or work unit that demonstrates dedication, resourcefulness, and innovation in interpretation through in-park or outreach efforts. Awards may recognize specific accomplishments, projects, or sustained effort.

Volunteers in Parks – Presented to private citizens whose time, effort, and/or contributions significantly enhance IDPR activities or facilities.

2026 Employee Engagement Survey Results

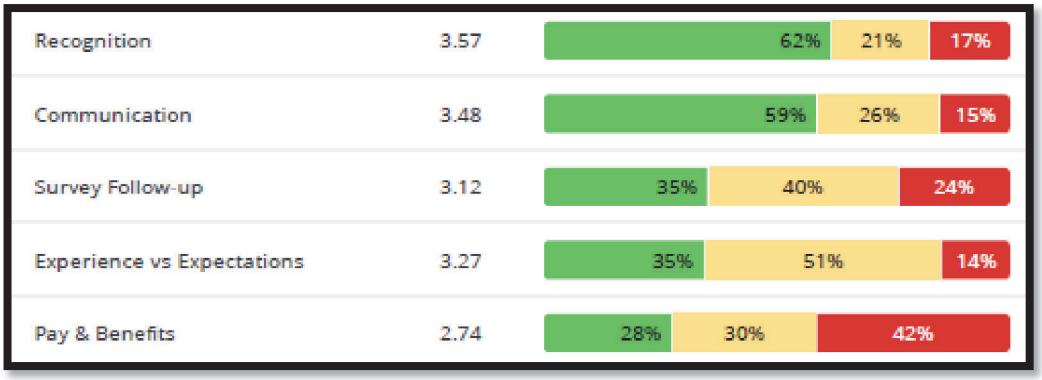
The third annual statewide employee engagement survey is complete and the results are in. Director Buxton and the executive leadership team are working on a plan to expand the most favorable categories as well as improve the least favorable categories.

Results include:

5 Most Favorable Categories:



5 Most Unfavorable Categories



Lupe Arteaga - HR Business Partner III & Jeremy Trent – HR Business Partner I

Below are the recent hires made. You will notice that some employees are highlighted in different colors. This is to emphasize the mobility within our agency, illustrating that commitment and dedication to IDPR can lead to growth opportunities, whether through seasonal or permanent roles.

- Those highlighted in yellow are seasonal employees who were promoted to permanent, classified positions.
- Those highlighted in green are permanent, classified employees promoted to other positions.
- Those highlighted in blue are permanent, classified employees who laterally transferred or accepted a voluntary demotion to other locations.

EAST REGION			
Park Manager	Twin Peaks Ranch State Park	Brian DiLenge	10/11/26
Ranger	Twin Peaks Ranch State Park	**Vacant**	
Ranger	Land of the Yankee Fork State Park	**Vacant**	
Ranger	Harriman State Park	**Vacant**	
Ranger	Bear Lake State Park	Kyle Cazier	9/16/26
Ranger	Castle Rocks/City of Rocks	**Vacant**	
Utility Craftsman	East Region	Jordin Peterson	9/14/26
HEADQUARTERS			
Boating Program Supervisor	Recreation Bureau	Coby Bishop	9/17/26
Boating Education Training Coordinator	Recreation Bureau	Mitch Koslosky	10/26/26
Equipment Operator	Recreation Bureau	Joseph Garrison	9/28/26
Equipment Operator	Recreation Bureau	**Vacant (as of 10/26/26)**	
Regional Trails Specialist (East)	Recreation Bureau	**Vacant**	
Technical Records Specialist 2	Registrations & Reservations	Maren McCaleb	11/2/26
Registrations & Reservations Program Manager	Registrations & Reservations	**Vacant**	
Administrative Assistant 1	Registrations & Reservations	**Vacant**	
NORTH REGION			
Ranger	Old Mission State Park	**Vacant**	
Ranger	Hells Gate State Park	**Vacant**	
Office Specialist 2	Priest Lake State Park	**Vacant (as of 10/31/26)**	
North Region Manager	North Region Office	**Incumbent's retiring on 1/16/27, recruitment for successor now**	
SOUTH REGION			
Assistant Park Manager	Lucky Peak State Park	**Vacant**	
Administrative Assistant 1	Lucky Peak State Park	Mary Nicdao Burns	10/26/26
Ranger	Lake Cascade State Park	Ryan Busby	10/14/26
Ranger	Ponderosa State Park	Helene Sutherlin	9/29/26
Ranger	Thousand Springs State Park	Cheyenne Fernandez	11/8/26

Connie Bartich – Volunteer & Workforce Programs Specialist

Overview

Branding, growing, and refining the IDPR Volunteer Services Program has been a key focus during these past few months. We have worked to strengthen the program's identity, improve communication tools, and create a clearer and more welcoming experience for volunteers. These updates are helping the program become more visible, consistent, and engaging across the state. On Monday, November 16th, we will be rolling out a NEW Volunteer SharePoint resource for the parks that will include everything from recruiting volunteers to retaining them. This site will be updated regularly to ensure the information remains current and relevant.

Volunteer Update

The program has 247 Host/On-site Volunteers, and an additional 202 additional regular serving Volunteers, along with hundreds of Group Volunteers for the 2026 season thus far.

YTD: January through September 2025- 69,767 hours and 903 volunteers

YTD: January through September 2026- 72,660 hours and 1031 volunteers

Volunteer Services Improvements

Following are some of the improvements made in August through the beginning of October:

- Designed NEW "Thank You Volunteer" banner and distributed one to each region.
- Designed and printed NEW volunteer stickers.
- Branded and updated the NEW Volunteer flyers.
- Will brand and have the Volunteer and Coordinator Handbooks updated by Monday, November 16th.







Recruitment

- Created a NEW Workamper advertisement for IDPR volunteer opportunities that will remain active year-round.
- October 2027 IDPR Volunteer Kick-off Campaign: Shared posts on social media, continued contacting Workamper members, reached out to previous IDPR applicants, encouraged parks to connect with current

volunteers about returning for the 2027 season, and promoted flyer posting throughout the parks.

Communication:

- Continue sending monthly/bi-monthly updates to parks and maintain regular communication with parks as needed.
- Completed the full "Start to Finish" volunteer recruiting, onboarding, and offboarding process and will share with parks on Monday, November 16th
- Posted at least once a month on the IDPR Volunteer Facebook Page and coordinated posts with the main IDPR Facebook Page and parks.
  - August- Before and After- Shared small projects at some of our parks.
  - September- Event Recap- Shared Clif Bar Event.
  - October- Celebrated Retirees, shared the October Volunteer Recruitment Post for the 2027 Season, and highlighted the Cribstock 2026 event held at Eagle Island State Park.

Groups & Events

Statewide volunteer engagement continues to grow through coordinated events and group initiatives.

- **RV Volunteering Friends (2027):** Created a 6-week agenda; supported five park Teams meetings, with one remaining; and reserved ten campsites for 16–20 volunteers at each park. The same group of volunteers will work on projects at two parks in each region beginning in mid-May 2027 and wrapping up at the beginning of July, with a one-week break between each region. The project flow will include Twin Peaks Ranch, Land of the Yankee Fork/Challis Hot Springs, Lake Cascade, Ponderosa, Farragut, and Priest Lake. RVVF has 300+ members, and IDPR projects were filled within just a couple of hours, and all have a waitlist. This group is expected to contribute up to 4,500 hours of skilled and incredibly generous service to our state park system.

- **Clif Bar Volunteer Event:** Collaborated with Thousand Springs State Park, Clif Bar/Mondelez and Idaho Business for the Outdoors on a large-scale event with 180 volunteers on Friday, September 4, 2026. 1080 service hours were completed in one day.







- **Cribstock 2026:** In early October, Eagle Island State Park hosted a volunteer event focused on building fish habitats for the park's pond. The Eagle Home Depot generously donated several of the needed supplies. We made multiple efforts to invite participants, including reaching out to fishing clubs, contacting school counselors, and posting the project on JustServe. This was truly a team effort, with marketing support provided by Anna Medlin.







Partnerships

Partnerships are vital to IDPR, expanding our capacity and strengthening stewardship across Idaho's State Parks.

- **American Hiking Society- National Trails Day 2027:** Coordinating statewide efforts with AHS and our communications and trails leads to ensure all three regions host stewardship projects, volunteer activities, or interpretive programs on June 5, 2027.
- **Expansion of Group Project Growth:** In the coming months, with the help of parks sharing their volunteer needs, I plan to connect parks with volunteer groups ranging from corporations to organizations, such as the Idaho Master Naturalists. My goal is to identify one new group with one new project for every section of the IDPR Volunteer Services Program for the 2027 season. This includes parks, trails, boating, Headquarters, and more. Some events may be small while others may be larger, depending on the projects submitted. Cribstock 2026 served as our pilot for this concept. A Microsoft Form is already in place and has been shared with coordinators to collect project ideas.
- **Local Business and Vendors:** Our vendors want to support our parks; we simply need to ask. I will continue connecting with vendors to secure supplies for future group volunteer projects.
- **Internships:** Schools have reached out to IDPR expressing interest in partnering on an internship program. During November and December, we will review our current program internally to identify opportunities to strengthen these partnerships moving forward.

MANAGEMENT SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT

July · August · September (1st Quarter)
Fiscal Year 2027

Management Services Administrator
Adam R. Zaragoza

IDPR Mission
Improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship.

Management Services Administrator Primary Functions

- Provide management services staff with the necessary tools to succeed in their jobs and provide leadership and direction for registration, reservations, grants, fiscal and development programs.
- Work with Operations Administrator (Troy Elmore) to identify the needs of the operations staff and assist in meeting those needs.
- Proactively work to meet the Director and Board priorities, projects, concerns and implement the agency's strategic plan.

Administrative Duties

- Focus on supporting the team members and providing them with the tools to do their jobs effectively and enjoy what they are doing.
- Continual review of agency policies, interpretations and where updates may be needed.
- Continual review of parks and where possible expansion opportunities exist.
- Continue to work on various projects for the agency.

MAJOR TASKS AND WEEKLY UPDATES

July 6 to July 10

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Returned from a long family vacation over the 4th of July holiday week. Coordinated a meeting with the Girl Scout of Silver Sage regarding the Ponderosa State Park Lease. Met with Governor's staff to discuss a transition of duties amongst his staff.

July 13 to July 17

Regularly scheduled executive team meetings. Started the interview process for the Recreation Bureau Chief including two interviews this week. Met with DFM and Governors staff regarding upcoming rules and the agency FY2028 budget. Monitored our summer camping season reservations and Director Buxton and I held the first in person negotiation with Girl Scout representatives at IDPR's offices. Finally, met with BLM regarding potential Good Neighbor Authority (GNA) projects.

July 20 to July 24

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Worked most of the week interviewing candidates for the Recreation Bureau Chief position. Additionally, continued working with the contracts officer and attorney generals office to try to finalize updated concessions agreements.

July 27 to July 31

Vacation and caddie duties for Owen in Pinehurst, North Carolina.





August 3 to August 7

Continued a couple days of vacation to watch Owen compete in the Junior State Amateur. Happy to inform the Board he won, and is the 2026 Junior state champion. Returned to work mid week to get caught up, general administrative duties and support for the team.

August 10 to August 14

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Met with our PR team, grants and administrative staff to launch the SCORP survey. Weekly conference call with the AG, Contracts Officer regarding concession agreements. The Director, Ops Administrator and I met with Senator Crapo's staff to discuss ongoing land issues throughout the State.

August 17 to August 21

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Held and all Rec staff meeting introducing our Bureau Chief. Worked with the Director to draft lease terms for a Headquarters tenant, in conjunction with the state leasing office. Continued to work on concession templates, and, golfed with Joel Halfhill (IDPR South Region Construction Manager) in the annual Mountain States Concrete Pipe Association scramble.

August 24 to August 28

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Worked with our development bureau chief and staff to start to log "lane miles." Understanding IDPR's lane miles will be helpful as we intend to seek additional road and bridge funding, either through ITD or other options.

August 31 to September 4



General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Worked from Twin Peaks Ranch State Park for a few days to assist regional staff and park staff as needed. Reassured the park staff, County Commissioners and the community that IDPR is all in to ensure Idaho's newest state park becomes a gem for the State.

September 7 to September 11

The Director, Ops Administrator and I continued the negotiations of the Girl Scouts lease at Ponderosa State Park. This is a high priority for the agency as land values have skyrocketed around Payette Lake since 2016. Met with USFS staff regarding possible GNA projects and process again. Performed an exit interview for an outgoing R+R employee.

September 14 to September 18

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Listened into the monthly land board meeting to see if there was any interest for IDPR. None to report at this meeting.

September 21 to September 25

The Idaho Association of Counties meeting was in Boise and I met with the Chair of the Lemhi County Commissioners and his legal staff to discuss updates at Twin Peaks Ranch. Flew to north Idaho and had breakfast with our Priest Lake State Park Manager. Toured the IDL/IDPR endowment land project at Round Lake State Park. More progress is needed asap and the development team is aware. Went to Mowry, and Heyburn to check status on the Rocky Point Marina. Visited with the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene staff. Finished the week providing an update to the Director on my north Idaho visit and preparing for the Permanent Building Fund presentation.

September 28 to October 2

General administrative duties and support for the Director and IDPR's mission. Received a counter offer from the Girls Scouts of Silver Sage and will be discussing that counter with the Director and Board at the next quarterly Board meeting.

CONTRACTS OFFICER SUMMARY

July · Aug · Sept (1st Quarter)

Fiscal Year 2027

The Contracts Officer's summary is intended to provide the Board a quarterly report of all agreements that have been executed. The position, as well as this report, will continue to be a work in progress as we transition contracts into this role and the reporting structure. The primary duties of the contracts officer is enforcement and management of all real estate contracts, agreements and encroachments for the agency.

North Region Concession Contracts:	2
South Region Concession Contracts:	2
East Region Concession Contracts:	5
Total in Q1, Fiscal Year 2027:	**9**

**This report does not include annual moorage leases for Lucky Peak, Hells Gate, Dworshak or Heyburn. It is the intent of staff to report on moorages each year during Q3 or Q4.*

***This report is not all inclusive as various Park staff are handling concessions contracts or lease agreements. However, the Contracts Officer is working with Park staff to retain copies of all contracts per House Bill 97 (2023), Idaho Code 67-1085. This is an ongoing task in the LUMA system.*

End of Report

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM – KEITH JONES

Mission

Help protect and enhance the natural resources of Idaho State Parks.

Goals

- Assist parks with forest and/or land management activities that promote resource health and safety, while meeting the objectives of the park.
- Assist parks with weed control efforts.
- Help parks with wildfire hazard mitigation.
- Develop a working network with natural resource professionals, partner agencies, and organizations that will benefit IDPR.

Quarterly Program Report

- Set and flagged unit boundaries for a 2028 timber sale at Farragut in cooperation with IDFG to thin a Doug fir dominant stand in the southwest corner of the park. This project will aim to free up resources for the residual stand, address disease and insect issues while improving forest resilience, wildlife habitat, and reduce wildfire risk.

- In cooperation with SITPA, IDL, USFS, City of McCall fire and park staff, we successfully conducted an 80-acre prescribed burn at Ponderosa state park on a previously thinned ponderosa pine restoration project area.

- In the planning stages for a restoration thinning at Ponderosa to protect and reestablish the existing high elevation sage meadows in the park near the activity center.

- Working with Old mission staff to design a integrated pest management program to restore native grass habitat to the 3 acres west of the Visitor center.

- Presenting a fire adapted forest class for the south region ranger roundup.

- Cruised a new direct sale at Farragut that will open the trees in and around the boy scout era friendship poles, providing an improved aesthetic for the new central entrance and a proper visitor experience in that day use area of the park.

- Ongoing hazard fuels mitigation work at Harriman funded through the IDL shared stewardship program. The project is thinning and treating excessive fuels along main roadways and adjacent to infrastructure in the park with hand crews and small masticating equipment.

- Closed a third direct timber sale at McCroskey addressing extensive blowdown in the park from recent wind events.

- Coordinated with IDL to secure funding for the mechanical treatment of sub merchantable Grand fir in the Watertower II project area which was thinned 3 years ago to return the 60-acre site to a pre fire suppressed Ponderosa pine forest type. Work is scheduled for this fall.

- Marked trees and flagged/painted all unit boundaries for a salvage sale in a unit at Heyburn that was devastated by the windstorms resulting in close to five hundred thousand board feet of downed timber. In addition to salvaging the extensive blowdown, this will be a 125-acre project to improve stand resilience and durability, removing root rot susceptible species and freeing up resources favoring the Larch, Ponderosa Pine and Western white pine on the site.

- Administering three direct sales for the south side of Heyburn to address more extensive blowdown from the windstorms that affected trail access for the equestrian users and loss of large Ponderosa pine in previous restoration project areas. The goal is to remove as much as possible to reduce beetle outbreaks and recover as much value as possible.

- Work with Park management to identify and prioritize natural resource infrastructure needs in each park, to be included in developments CIP process. This will be in alignment with the development process and will help maximize collaboration, identify, and allocate potential alternative funding sources for projects, and maximize efficiency.

- Representing IDPR as a member on the Idaho Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) preparedness committee (tasked with creating the Idaho EAB response plan), and the IDL forestry competition steering committee which is May 14th.

- Representing IDPR on the state forestry contest steering committee.

NORTH REGION QUARTERLY REPORT
JULY – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2026

MISSION: To serve North Idaho Park users and recreationists providing them with quality experiences that are safe and enjoyable while managing and protecting the public's investment and natural resources.

GOALS:

- Ensure that all facilities are kept clean and hazard-free.
- Utilize both paid and volunteer staff to man visitor centers and entrance booths to answer questions and sell park permits.
- Patrol parks ensuring user needs, user safety, and resource protection.
- Manage operations and opportunities to ensure quality experience and resources are provided and enhanced.

Primary Issues and Concerns

1. Seasonal Staff Shortages
2. Minimal budgets with increased fixed costs, and higher use.
3. Aging facilities and equipment
4. Meeting ever-increasing use and opportunity demands insuring quality experiences.

NORTH REGION SERVICE CENTER – DAVID WHITE, REGION MANAGER

- Participated in the IDPR Special Board Meeting; All-Staff Team's Meeting; weekly OPS Region Manager Teams Meetings; NR Park Manager's Teams Meeting; USACOE Monthly Project update Teams Meeting;
- Worked with AG's office on several encroachment issues between the TOC and the CdA Parkway.
- Coordinated with staff a response to Snake River Adventures concession proposal.
- Developed a response to IDFG's hunting proposal for McCroskey and identifying other items and processes that need to be followed.
- Met with McCroskey family and Department staff to discuss park operations.
- Reviewed Heyburn operations and projects with park staff.
- Working with a Heyburn lease holder on the possible purchase of a cabin for public rental.
- Working with staff to fill vacant positions.

NR MAINTENANCE CREW – LANNY NEIPERT, MAINTENANCE FOREMAN

CdA Parkway:

- Spoke with Tim from Stillwater about pressure tank for irrigation at Silver beach

Dworshak:

- Delivered picnic tables and fire rings
- Spoke with John about Vol. site sewer lines. He is looking for as-builts on existing sewer line and new waterlines and electrical lines

Hells Gate:

- Signs - Cut four new drinking water signs so Park will be in compliance with the Corps.
- Delivered 78 regular and 4 ADA fire rings from NR

Heyburn:

- Called Tessa about auction vehicles and then picked up three auction vehicles and brought them to North Region lot
- Talked with Jim about sewer line repairs for manger's residence

McCroskey:

- Delivered 6 picnic tables and associated parts and 3 regular and 2 ADA fire rings to Heyburn

North Region Office:

- Fabricated extension pole for forklift to install TOC railings
- Installed new electrical outlet in NR shop breakroom for ice maker and refrigerator and cleaned water scale from the ice machine
- Designed signs for Idaho Forestry contest for Keith
- Tore Otter trailer hubs and bearings apart. Replaced hub seals and re-packed bearings and re-installed everything
- Cut 504 Christmas tree ornaments in the shape of Idaho for Nez Perce/Clearwater National Forest Service office for the National Christmas tree
- Advanced Fire performed 5-year maintenance on fire suppression system in NR office, annual backflow checks on fire suppression backflow device and annual fire extinguisher checks
- Mocked-up sign for Adam for the Idaho Council on Developmental Disabilities and e-mailed Michael Lindenfelser about the paint colors needed for signs. Then picked up cedar for new signs and designed, cut, and painted new signs.
- Took 6 vehicles and 1 ATV to Auctions Northwest

Old Mission/TOC:

- Picked up handrails from Spokane Galvanizing and installed them on the Enaville bridge for TOC
- Talked with Rikki about how to fix handrail in CXT that was vandalized

Priest Lake:

- Talked with Lonnie about beach signs for Indian Creek

Round Lake:

- Rented an excavator and concrete buggy to move gravel for ADA trail improvements for Development; dug up failing section of trail and built a retaining wall out of old concrete "tombstones" to shore the trail up; dug anchor trench on opposite side of trail and filled with 2 ½ angular rock to shore up that side of trail; excavated about 1' of material off of trail to lower slope and added 5/8" gravel topcoat and compacted; replaced culvert that was to short and fixed slope on the trail and added 5/8" topcoat of rock and compacted trail around culvert.

OHV/Boating:

- Moved LJK materials down from OHV shed loft for Peter

NR OFFICE STAFF

- Training new OS2
- Processing bulk uniform orders for all the parks in the North Region and coordinating distribution of items to the different parks
- Participated in IDPR Retail Teams discussions over items ordering and America 250 products
- Working with Anna to coordinate the distribution of the fee envelopes to the parks and return of envelopes that were not printed correctly
- Worked with Avista to get misapplied payments corrected and credited to the correct park accounts
- Worked with Lucas, Melanie, park staff and Nadine to get the last MM project contract and documentation completed and payments to contractors processed
- Complied responses from park managers and staff into condensed report for NR Manger on several quick turnaround suspense's.
    - Single Occupancy Restrooms/Showers Inventory
    - FY 27 Staff Training Opportunities
    - DPW 5 Yr Facility Needs 2026
    - Concession Agreement 2026 Feedback
    - WADOL CPS Contract Renewal

COEUR D'ALENE LAKE PARKWAY – LIZ PALFINI, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Parkway is running smoothly.
- We are experiencing customer friction due to a landowner who claims Beacon Point Beach and harasses visitors.

Park/Program Usage

- July had 1 permit
- August had 8 permits: 3 weddings, 1 company picnic, 2 library events, 1 triathlon, and a lake event.
- September had 4 permits: 4 special events

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**	
Special Events at CDA Parkway	12		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Regular maintenance ongoing

Staff Training

- Staff attended the monthly safety meeting.

Park Manager's Narrative

- Regular maintenance along the trail.
- Removal of no trespassing signs popping up at Beacon Point.
- Dock repairs are ongoing
- Repair of irrigation system is finally finished
- Ryan has identified several beetle kill trees around Higgens Point that will need to be removed this year and will work with Keith to put together a removal plan.

FARRAGUT STATE PARK – LIZ PALFINI, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Overall, customer complaints are low. Number one complaint was about smoke.

Park/Program Usage

- July had 29 permits: 6 weddings, 4 family reunions, 1 America 250 event, 1 church gathering, 7 family reunions, 3 XC group, 4 church, 1 trail life group, 1 wedding, 1 AA group
- August had 44 permits: 4 weddings, 1 grad party, 1 company party, 3 family reunions, 1 XC event, 1 rehearsal dinner, 1 high school reunion, 7 churches, 12 friend groups, 2 Girl Scout groups, 1 truck rally group, 1 school group, 5 XC team campouts, 1 work campout, 1 Trail Life group, 1 disc golf tournament, 1 navy event
- September had 20 permits: 6 weddings, 6 family/friend reunions; 2 churches; 2 work campout; 1 XC team, 1 Flying event; 1 XC race; 1 disc golf tournament

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	104	21,490
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Brig and Jr Ranger Station will open Friday before Memorial Day weekend and closed Sept 1
- 0 backpacks were lent, 0 fishing poles, 0 tackle boxes

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Library Partnership Programming	14	820
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation (Brig Tours)	67	7,411
Traditional Interpretation	28	1,207
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	67	4,031
School Programming	5	212
Special Events at Farragut		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Hazard trees were removed within campgrounds and along trails and roadways.

Staff Training

- Staff attended the monthly safety meeting.

Park Manager's Narrative

- ITD has begun the repaving of Hwy 54. There are some construction delays, but overall, it is good.
- Construction meetings continue: Hwy 54 Brig Road is wrapping up; the road down to Buttonhook is complete, and Snowberry has begun.
- Chris and the maintenance team are working on the Eagle bathroom and discovered some issues with the TML tie-in going from the construction into the building. They will try to resolve this before the water is turned off for the season.
- The small booth has been moved over to the new central entrance, and work on the interior to add lights, heat, and AC, as well as electrical outlets, is underway. Road work is also going.
- Several lift station pumps are being replaced.
- Snowberry restroom has been demolished and will be rebuilt over the fall and winter.
- Sanistar dump stations are up, and we have all 5 running, but they will be winterized starting mid-October
- We are utilizing seasonal access at Brig Rd and North roads; electricity has been completed at both South Rd and Brig Rd.
- Most of our seasonals are gone, with a few staying till mid-October.
- DEQ permitting is still in the works. We passed the seepage test so we should be clear for permitting.
- Working with Kootenai County waterways to re-establish the no-wake buoy systems and signage.
- We installed the accordion gates at the Buttonhook restroom to protect it from winter vandalism.
- We have moved the Northside bulletin board and fee tube to make room for the new gate.
- A new fee tube has been fabricated for the sled hill area to help better capture winter MVEF fees at sled hill.
- We installed a bike repair station at the Visitor center
- Met with Keith to go over the natural resource work coming up in the near future.

DWORSHAK STATE PARK – JOHN SEELY, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The Big Eddy office is open 9am-5pm Monday-Friday.
    - The Marina store was closed for the season after Labor Day.
    - Fuel Sales are available any time the Big Eddy office is open, but appointments are encouraged.
- Big Eddy Lodge is open for rentals year-round.
- The entry station at Freeman Creek is open Sunday-Thursday 7:30am-5:00pm and 8am-8pm on Friday and Saturday.

    - After Labor Day the entry station will is now closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. It is open Wednesday- Saturday 7:00am-5:00pm
- We have one seasonal employee left in the park

Park/Program Usage

- Primary users are hunters, fishermen and weekend recreational campers.
- Traffic count: Jul – 6 /Aug – 21 /Sep – 138
    - This number is extremely low as the USACE operated traffic counter has been malfunctioning for the last several months, so numbers are not accurate. A new counter is supposed to be installed sometime in September.
- Campsites: Jul – 52.91% /Aug – 20.75% /Sep – 11.85%
- Group Camp: Jul – 80.65% /Aug – 22.09% /Sep – 21.84%
- Cabins: Jul – 68.85% /Aug – 49.56% /Sep – 28%
- Total Campground: Jul – 54.28% /Aug – 21.78% /Sep – 12.85%

Program Services

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- July 4th and 18th Outdoor Craft program partnering with Prairie River Library District.
    - The program on the 4th was making ornaments for the Capital Christmas tree.
- August 1st DWO attended PBS sponsored "Be My Neighbor Day" at the Lapwai High School
- August 15th and 29th Outdoor Craft program partnering with Prairie River Library District.
- September 6th Outdoor Craft program partnering with Prairie River Library District.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming	5	59
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site	1	104

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Dworshak, Hells Gate and Winchester are working with the Nez Perce tribe to introduce the Nez Perce language into the signage in all three parks as these areas are included in the tribe's usual and accustom lands.

Staff Training

- John Seely SORP Webinar- Visitor Use Management – 1 hour

Park Manager's Narrative

- The month of July is always the busiest month of the year for the park. Between compliance, adjusting docks and water treatment operations there is not much time to get any maintenance projects done.

- Water turbidity seems worse this year than in the past. The current surface water intake replacement project will be a big help for water treatment operations.
- Work has begun on repairing damaged boards on the marina at Big Eddy. Skirting boards and bumpers are being replaced that were damaged in a windstorm last season.
- On July 4th the park program consisted of making ornaments for the capital Christmas tree. We had 27 people show up for that program.
- The middle of August is when we start to lose our seasonal employees. By the end of the month ¾ of the seasonal employees were gone as they are all students.
- Visitation in the park seems to rise and fall with the water levels in the reservoir. With this in mind, the water level dropped to 63 feet below full pool by the end of the month (which is normal). When levels drop over 30 feet the park sees a significant drop in visitation.
- The park attended the PBS sponsored event called "Be My Neighbor Day" on August 1st. This event was held at the high school in Lapwai, Idaho. There were 104 attendees.
- Labor Day is the end of the busy season at Dworshak
- Three Meadows is open until mid-October, but there are no reservations after mid-September.
- The park participated in Lumberjack Days in Orofino Idaho. We placed 3 in our division during the parade and had a booth in the fair building.

COEUR D'ALENES OLD MISSION STATE PARK – WILL NISKA, MANAGER

Customer Service

- The quarter started strong with full seasonal staff working the park, but by the end of the quarter one Maintenance seasonal was left working

Park/Program Usage

- The traffic count: Jul – 5,081 /Aug – 4,218 /Sep – 2,786
- Howell Wedding- 50
- Gribbin Wedding- 50
- Immaculate Conception- 400

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	3	500
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Senior Center- 28p
- Yaniga- 10p
- Senior Center- 40P
- After School program- 35p
- Univest- 22 pp
- Tour Group – 25 pp
- Feast of the Assumption –
- Church Group – 18 pp
- Mental Health Fair -
- NW Discoveries – 24pp
- CDA Tribe Tour Group – 50pp
- NW Discoveries – 24pp
- Girl Time Get Away – 54pp
- Pondera Valley – 17pp
- NW Discoveries – 24pp

- Home School Group – 30pp
- Hayden Meadows – 70pp

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	13	426
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming	2	45
Special Events	1	
Special Events Held Off-Site	1	

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

Staff Training

- Ranger, Assistant Manager. Manager received Fire Training from IDL and Silver Valley Fire Rescue

Park Manager's Narrative

- Electrician was able to replace study niche lights in the museum
- Seasonal Appreciation Day was celebrated and an enjoyable time was had.

TRAIL OF THE COEUR D'ALENES – WILL NISKA, MANAGER

Customer Service

- No seasonals
- Keeping the trail open and clear for users.
- Visitors' needs and expectations are being met.

Park/Program Usage

- The traffic count totals: Jul – 65,260 /Aug – 35,859 /Sep – 19,185
    - Wallace – Jul – 4,576 /Aug – 3,697 /Sep – 3,036
    - Kellogg – Jul – 22,881 /Aug – 6,969 /Sep – 6,593
    - Enaville – Jul – 6,501 /Aug – 5,290 /Sep – 4,807
    - Harrison – Jul – 31,302 /Aug – 19,903 /Sep – 4,749

Program Services

- Silver Hoops- Kellogg

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	No. of Permits	No. of Attendees
Group Use Permit	1	1000
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

-

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Manager and NR maintenance staff installed the bridge railings on the Enaville bridge.
- IDL came out and inspected multiple hazardous trees and then Manger met with Keith Jones to remove the trees.

Staff Training

- Fire training with IDL and Silver Valley Fire Rescue

Park Manager's Narrative

- Manager attended weekly Central Shoshone County Water District Water Main construction meeting; a meeting in regard to an existing crossing with the Sundance Mine.
- Manager, NR Manager and department AG met to discuss TOC encroachments/ illegal crossings
- Manager and Real Estate Manager met with IDFG and BLM to walk the proposed connection trail from Pine creek trail head to the new campground.

HELLS GATE STATE PARK – STEVE KUSKIE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Lewis and Clark Discovery Center & Park Office: open 9:00am – 5:00pm, seven days a week.
- Jack O'Connor Center: open on Tues-Saturday, 10:00am – 4:00pm and Sunday, 1:00pm – 4:00pm
- The Discovery Center remains steady with general inquiry calls and permit customers.

Park/Program Usage

- Camper Cabins: Jul – 56% /Aug – 41% /Sep – 43%
- Full hookup sites: Jul – 86% /Aug – 83% /Sep – 88%
- Electric sites: Jul – 72% /Aug – 58% /Sep – 68%
- Basic campsites: Jul – 39% /Aug – 27% /Sep – 52%
- Marina: Jul – 42% /Aug – 42% /Sep – 39%
- American Cruise Lines made shore excursion stops at the Discovery Center on Sunday, Tuesday, and Friday afternoons. To optimize visitor flow, buses drop passengers off in half-hour intervals between 2:00 and 5:00 pm to explore the Center's self-guided interpretive displays and view the movie that focuses on the Corps of Discovery Expedition.

Program Services

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	21	1,568
Special Use Permit	5	655
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming - Booklets	68	
School Programming	2	425
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The Idaho Department of Corrections "Redshirts" work crew continued with four inmates at the start of the month and then reduced to two, concluding their seasonal service on August 27.
    - One project included replacing a section of concrete walkway, on a hillside and concrete pads were poured around several park benches.
    - Notably, staff also successfully installed a new irrigation system in the Volunteer Village area. This highly visible zone—previously non-irrigated since its inception—now features mature, viable turfgrass that enhances the park's entrance aesthetic for arriving visitors and the local community.
- Starting in September, maintenance coverage was at one seasonal employee (19.5 hrs/week), four volunteers, and the rangers. Most volunteers have physical limitations, so we assign their tasks accordingly
- The south irrigation pump owned and maintained by the Army Corps of Engineers has been out of service all season. This has prevented all campgrounds and the day-use area from being irrigated.
    - The resulting lack of irrigation across all campgrounds and day-use areas has caused severe heat stress to the turf, reverting heavy foot-traffic areas to bare soil.
    - Furthermore, this moisture deficit triggered premature foliage drop, forcing the park to initiate leaf-vacuum operations more than a month ahead of schedule and resulting in the apparent loss of several mature trees.
    - USACE officials publicly stated that a replacement pump is not anticipated until the new fiscal year beginning October 1, citing that components remain on order. Park management remains prepared to assist immediately upon parts delivery.
    - Maintenance staff will begin winterizing both the north and south systems in October regardless of whether the pump is repaired. We would like to run some deep-watering cycles before shutdown, but that is unlikely.

Staff Training

- Boating Safety – Nez Perce County Sheriff's Office.

Park Manager's Narrative

- Christmas came to Hells gate in July. The Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests will provide the 2026 U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree to stand in front of the Nation's Capital in Washington, D.C.
- This tree, the first U.S. Capitol Christmas Tree from the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, will be the focal point of a year of community events and festivities around Idaho. Hells Gate State Park hosted one of these events in collaboration with the U.S. Forest Service.
- Every Friday in July, a Christmas ornament painting party was open for kids and families in the day use area. Over 250 participants, mostly local community members, attended. These ornaments will be added to the Statewide effort to create 10,000 ornaments, made in Idaho, to adorn the Christmas tree at the Capital.
- Fire season began a few days under an Idaho Department of Environmental Quality Air Quality Alert, causing air quality related burn bans that include recreational campfires.
    - Fire restrictions were lifted in early September. With cooler fall temperatures moving in, firewood sales have increased substantially.
- Sandy Beach Infrastructure: Following the July installation of a new swim line and regulatory buoys at the Sandy Beach designated swimming area, the park experienced repeated incidents of vandalism resulting in severed lines.
    - To mitigate security risks and resource loss, park staff reinforced the buoy line with a steel cable line, which has successfully deterred subsequent tampering.
- Vandals shifted their activity from Sandy Beach to the day-use beach swim area, cutting the nylon swim line ropes as they had done at Sandy Beach. The swim line buoys were removed earlier than usual for the season. Cable will replace the nylon rope next year.
- Special Event Traffic: On August 23, an authorized local church event significantly exceeded its permitted attendance parameters.

    - While organizers projected 200 participants, actual attendance reached an estimated 300 to 400 individuals. The surge completely saturated all standard day-use parking spaces and designated overflow lots.
- The marina and boat launches were closed to boat traffic for dredging operations. Dredging is required every few years to keep the channel to the river open.
- Ranger Nathan Case resigned. Nate did an outstanding job, and his skills, drive, and calm demeanor will be difficult to replace.
- Two large community events in September appear to have driven additional camping reservations: the Lewiston Roundup and the Nez Perce County Fair.
- Three events also brought in additional camping reservations and day-use visitors: Thunder on the Snake, a two-day jet boat race; the Nimiipuu Protecting the Environment "Free the Snake" Flotilla, a peaceful protest featuring speakers, displays, a salmon dinner, and a flotilla of rafts, canoes, and kayaks; and Mainly Marathons, a two-day running event.
- Visitation Trends: Overall monthly park visitation was still lower than usual this quarter.

HEYBURN STATE PARK – NATHAN BLACKBURN, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Construction starting at Rocky Point made parking in July a bit more challenging, so rangers and office staff have spent time explaining the access in and areas to avoid for smoother operation.
- We started educating visitors on campground closing dates after Labor Day when our first campground, Chatcolet, closed for the season. The next will be closed on the first of October.
- Rangers in the field continued to answer questions regarding park fees, history and amenities.
- At the visitor center, staff stepped in to help several guests who ran into campsite double-bookings by finding them alternative spots. While using administrative campsites has helped handle these mix-ups in the short term, we are actively looking into why these booking errors keep happening and how we can prevent them moving forward.

Park/Program Usage

- The traffic count: Jul – 8,136 /Aug – 6,500 /Sep – 5,000
- Park usage is still high although roughly 1,500 fewer visitors than in July and August.
- Hawley's Landing and Benewah campgrounds remain 75-100% full during weekends and about half capacity during the week.
- Chatcolet campground use varies but has been about 50-75% full on weekends and sees less use during the week.
- Day use, particularly at Chatcolet is steady. Visitation there is the most consistent with people using the area to park and ride the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes while the weather is cooler and dry
- People are enjoying easy access to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes and the new Marina store. Gas sales at the marina were also steady through July and August.

Program Services

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	2	110
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming	2	21
Traditional Interpretation	6	96

Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Tessa Myhre is working with FEMA public assistance program to gather funding for the repairs needed to fix the historic CCC shelter roof at Plummer Point.
    - A declaration of damages has been made, and a site inspection happened on August 13th.

Staff Training

- Tessa Myhre started her continuing education credits to maintain her pesticide applicator's license.

Park Manager's Narrative

- Rangers noticed fireworks being set off late on the 4th of July. When they reached the suspected area at Rocky Point, activity had stopped. Additional staff investigated the following morning and narrowed down the violator after speaking with many of the leaseholders at Rocky Point.
- Staff also responded to a call about a possible death in the park. Law enforcement was called and confirmed the death in the park and helped with body retrieval.
- The Backcountry Horsemen were able to come to help clear trails from July 17-19. They cleared all of Scout out and Gandy Dancer loops as part of their annual group volunteer weekend. Staff will look to clear Rocky Top and Ponderosa Ridge in the fall when park usage goes down.
- Chatcolet Marina has reached substantial completion with only minor punch list items left. The new iron rangers had too shallow of a box, so we had new baskets made to sit inside, providing much more space for yellow envelopes when busy. More signage, including wayfinding, parking, and no power loading signs were installed. The slip markers were also put up for each dock space. New permanent swim ladders have arrived from fabrication and will be installed soon. Finally, the wave attenuator and breakwater lighting went through permitting with the Coast Guard and we are now confirming mounting compatibility with the whalers.
- At Rocky Point, all the marina piling is done except at the boat launch. Dock sections are going out quickly with more sections being delivered weekly and pavers being set between deliveries. Prep work for the abutment is almost complete and there is hope of pouring concrete by early October which will then cure before placing the gangway. On land, the ADA path to the beach is cut in and the retaining wall below the playground is in place.
- The group camp at Mowry has gravel throughout, encompassing roads to the ranger duplex and shower house as well as through each of the sites. The shower house has doors, and exterior siding is going on. At the mansion, all exterior siding has been removed.

MCCROSKEY STATE PARK – NATHAN BLACKBURN, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- With the help of the camp host, restrooms were kept stocked and clean throughout the quarter and informed visitors of the fire restrictions in the area while in the park.
- Visitor Center staff also were able to inform those that called to ask about the park as well.

Park/Program Usage

- Park usage started to decline in July due to high temperatures and smoke. We still get calls at the visitor center asking about trails and availability at McCroskey, however maintenance staff and camp host report fewer guests overall
- A Girl Scout troop did use the Fireplace shelter and surrounding campsites for a stargazing troop event in August.

Program Services

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	1	15
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Normal operations throughout the park.

Staff Training

- No staff training

Manager's Narrative (not covered above)

- The individual that had been staying in the park for several weeks was given 24 hours to evict from the Latah County Sheriff. He has since left the park with all his belongings and has not returned.
- Staff shortage and heavy workloads at Heyburn continue to demand most of our available resources, restricting our field presence at McCroskey to essential restroom maintenance and cleaning. We have not been able to tackle any of the larger maintenance items like resetting mile marker signs, working on trails, or clearing trees off the road shoulders

PRIEST LAKE STATE PARK – LONNIE JOHNSON, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Interpretive programs were conducted 2 and sometimes 3 times per day Tuesday through Saturday.
- The department of Agriculture set up an invasive species boat inspection area again at Indian Creek and Lionhead boat launches this year on July 23-24.
- New mattress and box spring were purchased and installed in the Grizzly and Mackinaw cabins at Indian Creek.
- We now have a bear spray rental program at Indian Creek and Lionhead units. It has been very popular. This program is in partnership with Idaho Fish and Game.
- September was busy in the beginning but slowed down toward the middle of month as school was back in session. The weather remained good toward end of month and visitation picked up.

Park/Program Usage

- 3 weddings took place in the park this month. 1 wedding at Indian Creek and 2 weddings at the Lionhead group camp. Perfect sunny weather for all three.
- Visitation remained steady in all 3 campgrounds during the quarter

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		

Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Emergency Services meeting in July

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	40	1,234
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	27	92
School Programming		
Special Events	1	69
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

Staff Training

- No training this month

Park Manager's Narrative

- The 4th of July Park parade we hold each year at Indian Creek had numerous campers along with the local fire department take part in the walk around the campground celebrating the special day.
- Septic tank and vault toilet pumping took place, and trash removal began 2 times per week in July.
- All seasonal and volunteer staff were gone before the end of September
- Reservations ended September 30th. Campgrounds are on first come basis as of Oct 1
- All docks at Indian Creek and Lionhead were pulled in on the 30th as lake level draw down started
    - We leave the 2 docks out at the Indian Creek boat launch, as we have the deepest launch on the lake after the lake level drops to winter pool
- Fishing picks up in the fall and gets better late winter

ROUND LAKE STATE PARK – MARY MCGRAW, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The visitor center hours have been reduced to 1:00pm to 4:00pm Friday through Sunday now that we are moving into the off season
- Park staff provided regular updates to phone and web services to keep customers informed of operational changes for the current season.

Park/Program Usage

- Park use was steady with day users, hikers and dog walkers.
- There were many campers throughout the quarter, both the 4th of July and Labor Day filled the park with campers and visitors. Weekend camping was half full after the holiday and the weekdays occupancy ranged from half to just a handful depending on the weather.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	No. of Permits	No. of Attendees
Group Use Permit	19	547
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Throughout the quarter, the weekends have been busy with shelters reservation, weddings, family reunions, church day camps, and birthday parties.
- We had three weddings at the shelters and amphitheater in September.
- We hired a master naturalist volunteer who presented a weekly hike throughout the quarter.
    - The hikes have ended for the season, but we will continue to work with the Master Naturalist to do some hikes in the winter, depending on the weather.
    - The campers, as well as community day use visitors, enjoyed this activity.
- For the quarter: 30 backpacks were loaned out and 73 fishing rods with tackle boxes loaned out.
- We had 49 people complete our 250-Minute Adventure Challenge this summer

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	22	335
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	10	172
School Programming	2	87
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- We are working with IDL and Northern Lights to get power to the cabin site and to drill a well for potable water at the cabin sites. The Pit toilet has been installed. We are working to identify where the living pads, entrance ramp and decks will be in relation to the cabins.

Staff Training

- Training to complete the water license continuing education credits to renew the water distribution license (3 Hr.)

Park Manager's Narrative

- The Manager attended meetings with Development regarding campground improvements, treehouses, and the water system upgrades.
- We continue to work with development to get the back-country cabins in place
    - We have be working with Thorco to get the electric conduit installed for Northern Lights to start pulling wire to get service to the cabin area
- A new computer for the Manager's desk was ordered and deployed and then ITS configured the computer to work with our printer and to be able to scan documents
- The ice creamer freezer failed, and a new one was purchased.
- We received out new UTV, but 3 of the 4 UTV's are in for repairs now.
- Work was done on the ADA trail by the region crew
- Blue Green algae appeared during the end of the month.
- The treehouses have been full all but a few days this quarter
- Staff did take some time off throughout the quarter
- Fire Ban was lifted just before Labor Day weekend
- Most of the Seasonal staff have been laid off
- Dock repairs were made, the railing on the edge of the docks was loose and needed new boards installed.
- The Sani Star Dump Station updates have been completed.
- There is an issue with the backup generator turning on at random times and running at all hours of the day and night. This issue was resolved by replacing the control panel that was defective. This was under warranty of the Manufacturer.
- The Dept of Ag staff was at the park to check and promote the invasive species sticker program.

- The AA1 continues to work with the reservation office to get the reservation system issues corrected.
    - The credit card reader has stopped working and he is working to get a new CC reader
- Work Continues to be done to remove dead timber from the shop area after the beetle infestation to the lodgepole pine trees.
- We have been working on cutting wood and splitting it for next season's firewood sales.

WINCHESTER LAKE STATE PARK – BETH SIMANEK, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Occupancy has slowed down since Labor Day.
- Most campers are retirees without kids, and there are significantly more walk-in reservations than in the summer season.
- There were a few deceased deer, again most likely due to EHD, however not as many as 2025.
- Winchester Days was very busy, with all campground loops and yurts full.
- The Nez Perce Air Quality intern conducted an interpretive program at Winchester Lake SP, Hells Gate SP and Dworshak SP on the importance of clean air. Scout made a special appearance at all 3 events.
- Greg from Bruneau Dunes SP visited the park and instructed the rangers on how to use our large telescope. He conducted 2 programs while at the park, one during the day to highlight the sun, and one in the evening using the telescope to look at the stars.
- IDFG submitted an LWCF grant application to raise more funds for the dam repair.
- Our seasonal park interpreter had a high participation rate in her last Saturday program, held on Labor Day weekend, which included making ornaments for the Capitol Christmas Tree.
- We had a positive Harmful Algae Bloom (HAB) from a test conducted on 6/11. The levels were still low enough to allow for recreation, but at 0.8 ug/L (microcystin) it surpassed the 0.2 threshold for dog safety. Staff updated social media and posted informational signs. The NP Tribe tested again on 7/16/26, and the microcystin levels had increased to 3.4 ug/L. This is still within the safe threshold for human recreation, and the informational signs were updated.
    - The HAB did not exceed limitations to create an environment unsafe for human recreation. Levels remained in the "dangerous to animals" category all quarter.
- We have one seasonal maintenance staff member remaining (into the first week of October).
- We were asked by a few community members to leave the dump station operable (with water) until after October 4th, to accommodate Lewis County Fair users to use it. Usually, we winterize everything on October 1. We will leave it on until approximately 10/5/2026, unless there is a chance of a hard freeze.

Park/Program Usage

- The traffic count: Jul – 7,869 /Aug – 6,047 /Sep – 3,999
- Appaloosa had 149 total camping nights, or 22.6% occupancy
- Bitterroot had 245 total camping nights, or 37.1% occupancy
- Camas Loops had 209 total camping nights, or 31.7% occupancy
- Tamarack Yurt: Jul – 70% /Aug – 61.3% /Sep – 46.7%
- Lodgepole: Jul – 77.4% /Aug – 29% /Sep – 33.3%
- Ponderosa: Jul – 90.32% /Aug – 72.7% /Sep – 36.7%
- Snowberry: Jul – 80.65% /Aug – 58.1% /Sep – 36.7%

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	6	870+
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	5	131
Traditional Interpretation	4	62
Environmental Education	7	110
Jr. Ranger Programming	4	160
School Programming		
Special Events	5 (Family Movie Nights)	153
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- There is some possible movement in the dam project, and IDFG will be applying for a LWCF grant to aid in paying for the dam repairs.
- Idaho Department of Lands has had their fire crews out continuing their thinning work. They have been instrumental in cleaning up a lot of the blowdown we received this past winter. They are also helping us by removing a lot of the standing dead White Firs we have. The dry winter contributed to significant die off.

Staff Training

- Rangers have continued to train seasonal employees on equipment usage.
- Seasonals have been attending online Luma training

Park Manager's Narrative

- Staff are beginning to winterize equipment and preparing for the winterization of facilities after October 1.
- DWO, HEL and WIN had a meeting with the linguistics employees with the Nez Perce Tribe to discuss possible collaboration on future signage.
- We continue to see an increase in electric scooters ridden by unsupervised children as well as adults.
    - There seems to be little regard for the rules of the road. Staff continue to advise visitors not to ride them in the park.

OPERATIONS DIVISION QUARTERLY REPORT
JUL-AUG-SEP 2026

OPERATIONS DIVISION – TROY ELMORE, ADMINISTRATOR

Mission: To improve the quality of life in Idaho through outdoor recreation and resource stewardship.

Goals:

- To provide leadership and direction for the ongoing daily operations of Idaho State Parks, the IDPR Recreation Bureau, and the Natural Resources Management Program.
- To leverage existing resources to provide staff with the necessary tools to accomplish the mission of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation.

Administrator's Report

- Conducted interviews for the Recreation Bureau Chief position and promoted Seth Hobbs from his role as State Park Reservations & Registrations Program Manager.
- Attended the Idaho Sportsman Policy Meeting and introduced Seth Hobbs as the new IDPR Recreation Bureau Chief. Provided an update on the Twin Peaks State Park ribbon cutting and related opportunities for sportsmen.
- Met with Kristin Sleeper at the Governor's Office to discuss Twin Peaks Ranch and agency updates.
- Attended meeting with Hailey Husband to discuss youth corps crews in Idaho and potential adaptive trail opportunities at the Idaho City Yurt System. Hailey is now applying for a grant in hopes of supporting trail system development.
- Met with DEQ to discuss a potential remediation grant project at the kilns at Bayhorse. Park Manager Blake Packer strongly urged that the project focus shift to soil remediation at the Ramshorn Mine. DEQ seemed amenable and indicated they would shift in that direction.
- Met with Lloyd Knight, our new Governor's Office Representative, provided an agency update, and welcomed him to his new position.
- Met Board Chairman Chuck Roady, IDFG Panhandle Region Commissioner Dave Bobbitt, and IDFG Panhandle Region Manager Carson Watkins at McCroskey State Park. Completed a park tour and discussed the possibility of adding some hunting opportunities.
- Met with Senator Mike Crapo's staff members Casey Attebery and Casy Jones at the IDPR headquarters. Gave them a tour of the facility, discussed Good Neighbor Authority, and shared U.S. Coast Guard concerns regarding vessel registration HIN numbers, including the invasive species sticker fee in Idaho.
- Met with Dan Waugh, Executive Director at IRC, to discuss recreation in Idaho and how IDPR can continue to foster its relationship with the Outdoor Recreation Committee. Seth Hobbs also attended in his new role.
- Participated in the Development Team's regional meetings to review the progress and status of all construction projects across the statewide park system.

- Participated in Twin Peaks Ranch State Park Manager interviews and hired Brian DiLenge from the Recreation Bureau. Brian brings an exciting plan and strategy for managing the park.
- Met with IDPR Board Member Erika Malmen to discuss Eagle Island's Winter Snow Hill RFP, which went out at the end of September. We also discussed the current lease agreement at Ponderosa State Park with the Girl Scouts.
- Attended monthly IDPR manager meetings and participated in weekly staff meetings.

RECREATION RESOURCES BUREAU QUARTERLY REPORT
July – September 2026

Boating Program

For the **July – September 2026** quarterly reporting period, these were among the activities of the Boating Program including Boating Safety Program:

Q3 2026 was very busy for the boating program. Coming off our PWC Swiftwater Rescue course in June, we were at the peak of the boating season. With low water levels in our state's reservoirs due to the lack of snowfall last year, we saw a lot of boating occurring in our rivers on the East side of the state. Hot temperatures also caused a lot of water recreation in the rivers in our municipalities.



Administration:

- Initiated and collected the Recreation Boating Safety (RBS) closeout data for all counties participating in USCG RBS grants (ER)
- Processed all Boat Idaho/Paddle sports data including printing/mailing out certificates/cards (ER)
- Maintained all LE databases (ER)
- Grant survey at Mud Lake boat launch with Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (ER)
- Coby Bishop was brought on to fill the vacant Boating Program Supervisor position.
- Attended the SOBA Conference (States Organization for Boating Access) in Boise (ER)

- Attended NASBLA (National Association of State Boating Law Administrators) Conference Knoxville, TN (ER)
- Joined NASBLA Education Committee (ER)
- NASBLA ***Boating Incident Training*** class presented in Idaho for the first time with 17 Students from Idaho, 4 students from the US Coast Guard, 2 students from the L.A. County Lifeguards, and students from 6 states (1 KY, 2 UT, 3 NM, 1 WI, 1 WA, 1 NE) (LE)

Boating Education Program:

- 12 Boat Idaho classes held (statewide)
- 143 Boat Idaho classroom students trained (statewide)
- 19 Boat Idaho home study students educated (statewide)
- 0 BEST courses held (NR)
- 0 Boat Idaho instructors trained (NR)
- 553 Boat inspections completed (statewide)
- Approximately 750 Handbook of Idaho Boating Laws booklets distributed (NR)
- 725 Facebook post views (down 2%)
- 9 Facebook interactions (up 50%)
- Reviewed and approved the BoatEd+ course by Kalkomey for Online Boat Education (ER)
- 1 outreach day at Blacktail – Ririe Reservoir (ER)
- 2 outreach days at Palisades Reservoir (ER)
- 2 outreach days on the Snake River in Idaho Falls (ER)
- 1 ride along Bonneville County Sheriff's Office (ER)
- 1 NSBC On-The-Water (OTW) Boat Operations Course (ER)
- 2 condensed PWC Swiftwater Rescue classes taught with Bonneville County Sheriff's Office with 20 students total from 5 different agencies (ER)



- 1 ride along Jefferson County Sheriff's Office (ER)
- 1 outreach day at Juniper – Ririe Reservoir (ER)
- NSBC On the Water safe boat operations course (ER)
- 1 outreach day at Snake River – Calamity, Palisades (ER)
- 2 outreach days with dealer partners at Eastern Idaho State Fair (ER)
- Documented and entered into USCG BARD reporting system 38 boating incidents with 8 fatalities and 19 injuries (LE)

Lifejacket Loaner Station Program:

- 0 Lifejacket loaner stations installed (NR)
- 5 Lifejacket loaner stations repaired (including sign replacement) (NR)
- 2 Lifejacket loaner stations constructed (NR)
- Met with USFS for installation of 2 LLS at Calamity and Big Elk Creek Boat Launches (ER)
- Boat launch and LLS surveys were conducted and recorded (ER)
- Delivered hundreds of loaner life jackets around the state (ER)
- 291 students were recorded statewide

Emergency Operations/Search and Rescue:

- Assisted Bonneville Couty Sheriff's Office with 1 river fatality and body recovery (ER)



Non-Motorized Trails Program

For the **July-September 2026** quarterly reporting period, these were among the activities of the Non-Motorized Trail Program:

- Maintained the Idaho City Backcountry Yurts and surrounding trail system, including removing hundreds of trees



- Partnered with Idaho Trails Association on two volunteer weekends at the Idaho City Yurts
- Hosted volunteer wood splitting days at the Idaho City Yurts



- Started developing a proposal to create new trails and improve accessibility at the Idaho City Yurts
- Worked with KTVB on a story to highlight the Idaho City Yurts

- Partnered with the communications team to get updated photos and videos of the Idaho City Yurts



- Managed tussock moth outbreak at Petersen Yurt
- Worked with the Forest Service to get highlines and hitching rails approved for the Idaho City Yurts
- Implemented projects using Good Neighbor Authority funding
- Worked with Idaho Conservation Corps on a section of the Idaho Centennial Trail



- Developed a maintenance tracking map layer for Idaho Centennial Trail
- Worked on Idaho Centennial reroute
- Managed and audited the non-motorized trails layer of the Idaho Trails Map to ensure up-to-date information

- Participated in Highway 21, Boise Forest Coalition, and Greater Boise Recreationalists Collaborative meetings
- Coordinated 2026 Idaho Centennial Trail maintenance projects – funded by 2025 Recreational Trails Program grant
- Worked with the Land Access Coordinator to write advocacy letters for non-motorized trails
- Worked to have a more active presence on social media to share Idaho's beautiful trails, volunteer opportunities, and updates about the Idaho City Yurts
- Coordinator attended Certified Public Manager (CPM) courses in working towards CPM certificate

Motorized Trails Program

For the **July – September 2026** quarterly reporting period, these were among the activities of the Motorized Trails Program including the Trail Ranger Program and OHV Education Program:

- The 2026 summer trail maintenance season was one for the record books with the amount of downfall to be cleared statewide.
- July through September crews were busy in the field mainly focusing on logging out trails with a few larger projects the Trails Specialist were involved with such as the Winnemucca and Pete Creek bridges.
- The Trails program included the promotion of Rene Rodriguez Jr to South Region Trails Specialist from the Equipment Operator roll and a new hire for SR Equipment Operator with Joe Garrison
- Site visits to Valley County for improved access to DF Development private land for both summer and winter OHV access
- Continued monthly meetings with Collaborative working group Central Idaho Trail Maintenance Board to finalize details of Trail Dozer disposal to Clearwater County and program of work for the following season in 2027
- Ongoing discussions with IDL on Rock Spring parcel for the development of OHV challenge trail access in North ID with plan of action for a lease agreement and outlined improvements for the area

OHV Education Program:

- 50 OHV safety classes held
- 303 OHV students trained
- 1 OHV Train-the-Trainer courses held
- 2 OHV instructors trained
- 115 OHV Accident Forms Collected
- 600 OHV in Idaho booklets distributed
- 6000 Snowmobiling in Idaho booklets distributed
- 10 Public Outreach Events attended
- 3,888 ATV/Motorbike Facebook page post views (**down** 77.8%)
- 47 ATV/Motorbike Facebook page interactions (**down** 40.5%)
- 4,908 Snowmobile Facebook page post views (**up** 2.8%)
- 35 Snowmobile Facebook page interactions (**up** 100%)

Trails Specialist Reports by Region:

East



1 bridge built at Winnemucca Creek with Forest Service and Club volunteers with IDPR Staff on Middle Fork Ranger Dist. Salmon Challis NF.

8 shifts Trail Ranger shifts completed, shift total statistics:

MILES CLEARED	NUMBER DOWNFALL	TREAD WORK (FT)	WATER BARS	BRUSH WORK (FT)	ATV (MI)	MB (MI)
637.9	5,288	53	162	51,215	79.3	558.6

South



1 bridge built with Forest Service and Clubs and IDPR Staff on Pete Creek Trail on the McCall Ranger Dist. Payette NF.

6 Trail Ranger Shifts completed, shift total statistics:

MILES CLEARED	NUMBER DOWNFALL	TREAD WORK (FT)	WATER BARS	BRUSH WORK (FT)	ATV (MI)	MB (MI)
393	2,536	690	265	2,255	6.1	256.9

North

8 Trail Ranger shifts completed, shift total statistics:

MILES CLEARED	NUMBER DOWNFALL	TREAD WORK (FT)	WATER BARS	BRUSH WORK (FT)	ATV (MI)	MB (MI)
201.10	3,235	265	7	7,492	12.8	195.40

ATV Trail Ranger Crew (Statewide)

MILES CLEARED	NUMBER DOWNFALL	TREAD WORK (FT)	WATER BARS	BRUSH WORK (FT)	ATV (MI)	MB (MI)
201.7	2,318	5,332	7	18,469	201.7	0

Land Access Program

For the **July – September 2026** quarterly reporting period, these were among the activities of the Lands Program pursued by the Land Access Coordinator:

- Four trail and bridge projects were completed, made possible through long-term, pre-requisite Program coordination and communication, and NEPA commenting activities:
    - Near City of Salmon, Twin Peaks Ranch SP Trail, two NEPA projects approved by BLM and USFS were implemented by East Region Trail Program, mapped by this Program, and the trail was opened to the public in July directly connecting the Park to the vast regional road and trail network for all uses up to full-width OHV. https://arcg.is/jGmTm0
    - Salmon-Challis NF redesignated trails 4024 & 4150 from non-motorized to single-track motorized. Research by the Program proved that 4024 NM designation was an error of oversight in the 2009 and 2014 TMP processes. Spurred by the inquiry, the Forests also determined Tr4150 was additionally not correctly designated per analysis during prior TMP processes. East Region Trails Program Specialist's working relationship with Forest resulted in implementation of the redesignation of Tr4024, including its physical recovery of the lost trail (three-days' downfall clearing by Trail Rangers to recover 8 miles of multiple use single-track). https://arcg.is/er0ar2 and https://arcg.is/1WePWr6
    - Payette NF, Council Ranger District, the Program had detected in 2023 that a trail being lost to nature was removed from the MVUM (thus motorized-closed). The trail is now physically-restored. Single-track motorized access will be shown as authorized on the MVUM as trail 213B. Collaboration and partnership with a local trail club and the Forest resulted in recovering 3.8 miles of access for all single-track uses. https://arcg.is/15Snjy0
    - Payette NF, McCall Ranger District, an approved but long-stalled project, Pete Cr Trail 144 bridge (41'; over Lake Cr.), was completed in September. This was the result of two years of Program collaboration with stakeholders and the Forests, research on and provision of project materials the Forest was not able to provide to restart the stalled project, and labor and equipment time contributed by the Motorized Trails Program to implement, in partnership with the project lead trail club. https://arcg.is/1jWeT87
- Nine (9) meetings and field trips were attended including Forest Restoration Collaboratives, State and Federal agencies, and recreation stakeholders.
- Notably: Land Access Coordinator spent the first week of August in the Elk City region of the Nez Perce National Forest to prove out the function of an offline mobile Trail Survey

application created by the Program and to train local volunteers on its use. The Survey project will result in an objective, comprehensive report for the three Ranger Districts of the NPNF, on trail-intersection/trailhead signage, access status, and conditions. The report is expected to be released over the coming winter after the conclusion of the field season.

Policy Status Tracking, Project Analysis, and Official Comments

- For the reporting period, staff submitted formal written comment on behalf of the agency for two (2) policymaking or land management project matters. Over the report period, no opportunities to comment were coordinated by OSMEC "State Family" (formerly separately coordinated under OEMR and OSC depending on NEPA Project type).
- Of greatest importance, and of both national and Idaho impact, a letter was prepared for and signed by the Director, submitted to USDA Forest Service supporting their proposed Preferred Alternative framework for a Rulemaking process to revise the 2005 Travel Management Rule (36 CFR 212). By 2017 the Rule contributed centrally to the documented 4,800-mile/41% loss of designated motorized trail access and 100% of non-system trail access in Idaho through implementation of Travel Management Plans (TMP). (See Story Map.)
  The FS's proposed Rulemaking framework addresses changes necessary to align with the rescission of 1972 and 1977 OHV Minimization Criteria Executive Orders, and to address *sufficiency of recreational opportunities* by focusing on Access over prohibition by guiding an *Open unless Ordered Closed* policy basis.
- A small number of minor NEPA projects to be authorized under Categorical Exclusion (CE) were analyzed but either had no opportunity to comment under new NEPA rules or were determined not to require comment due to lack of application to recreational access.

Idaho Trails Mapping Applications (trails.idaho.gov)

- Current OSV Mapping technology service provider (MapGears) was engaged to begin developing an offline mobile app version of *Idaho Trails* to include both Summer and OSV/Snowmobile Groomed Trails editions in one combined app. The app is anticipated to be released in time for the OSV grooming season.
- Summer Edition:
    - Over the reporting period, with collaborative assistance of Non-Motorized Trail Program staff, **49,841 route records** received one or more updates to attributes (e.g. narrative trail information, names, seasonal-open dates) or

centerline geometry (e.g. trail reroutes; surface roads to trailheads added) to improve map quality and comprehensiveness for presenting recreational access opportunities.

- Winter (OSV Grooming) Edition:
    - No changes during the off season.

RESERVATIONS & REGISTRATIONS QUARTERLY REPORT

July - September 2026

Rebecca Honsinger

Mission

The Reservations & Registrations (R&R) Program proudly supports IDPR's customers through the oversight of IDPR's camping and lodging reservation system, statewide retail sales, and the department's recreational registration and permit sales system. The Program also distributes registration and permit funds to communities and other agencies statewide to develop and maintain trails, facilities, and programs for motorized recreation.

R&R System Contract

R&R staff continue to work with our contractor to resolve system issues and improve usability.

23 - Support Tickets Resolved requiring release of new coding/system updates, including major rework of “added-on” Motor Vehicle Entrance Fee for clarity and improved Parks Passport validation.

The 2-year contract is set to expire on 31 December 2026, but a 1-year renewal period has been signed.

Reservations - New Reservable Inventory

Twin Peaks Ranch State Park officially opened to the public on 1 July 2026. During the grand opening event, 50% discount codes were passed out to attendees; 10 codes were redeemed for stays within the reporting period.

Staff are working on the build-out for two new Basic Cabins at Round Lake State Park in partnership with the Idaho Department of Lands. Reservations will go live sometime this Fall.

Atlas Marketing

R&R has started utilizing Brandt's Atlas Marketing tools to send promotional emails to our customers. This service will be integral for sending registration and permit renewal reminders, advertising camping and lodging promotions, and helping fill "last-minute" availability.

2027 Group Camp Lottery

The 2027 Group Camp Lottery application period ran from 15 June 2026 through 31 August 2026. Winners were selected in early September. Any unreserved nights will be released to the public to book in November.

Group Camp	Total Applications	Application Fees
Group Camp 100 – Bear Lake	54 (37 Resident)	$1,828.25
Group Camp 101 – Bear Lake	24 (20 Resident)	$721.00
Lionhead Group Camp – Priest Lake	251 (148 Resident)	$9,038.25

2026 Reservation System Business Management Association Conference

The Reservation System Business Management Association (RSBMA) Conference was held again this year; the first conference since the COVID pandemic. The conference was held at Hocking Hills State Park, Ohio.

The RSBMA is an integral resource for staff who manage central reservation systems, allowing for the sharing of best practices, policies, and ideas across State, Provincial, and Municipal Park organizations across North America.

Key areas of focus at this year's conference included: Cancellation and No-Show Policies, RFP Process Management, and Online Retail. Discussions on these topics will help guide R&R in updating the Department's Cancellation Policies, and well as the next RFP process which will begin again during Fall 2027.

Reservations – Visitation Overview

Data below shows the total number of camping nights available, nights occupied, and net revenue by Park for the July – September 2026 reporting period. Comparisons for Occupancy and Net Sales are provided based on the same reporting months from the previous year.

Camping Park	Nights Available	Nights Sold	Occupancy %	Occupancy YoY Change	Net Sales	Net Sales YoY Change
Bear Lake	5,952	3,844	64.58%	**-13.00%**	$172,898.14	**23.05%**
Bruneau Dunes	10,117	1,802	17.81%	**-15.21%**	$46,607.90	**-3.79%**
Castle Rocks	3,309	1,368	41.34%	**-1.80%**	$48,969.09	**0.40%**
Challis Hot Springs	6,210	3,376	54.36%	**-2.01%**	$120,630.90	**-3.78%**
City of Rocks	5,776	3,153	54.59%	**-13.62%**	$79,157.20	**15.66%**
Dworshak	10,456	2,692	25.75%	**3.06%**	$75,286.64	**10.36%**
Eagle Island	4,566	2,149	47.07%	**202.64%**	$95,961.55	**625.79%**
Farragut	26,923	16,412	60.96%	**-1.45%**	$971,123.21	**-1.07%**
Hells Gate	7,550	4,385	58.08%	**-13.34%**	$155,469.81	**-10.67%**
Henrys Lake	7,854	4,015	51.12%	**4.60%**	$198,794.93	**-5.74%**
Heyburn	11,854	4,973	41.95%	**-10.43%**	$167,335.87	**-2.84%**
Lake Cascade	25,875	11,647	45.01%	**6.87%**	$382,869.12	**8.77%**
Lake Walcott	3,581	1,943	54.26%	**-5.78%**	$53,786.57	**-6.89%**
Massacre Rocks	4,932	1,278	25.91%	**-12.62%**	$35,891.17	**3.36%**
Old Mission	2,295	34	1.48%	-	$549.54	-
Ponderosa	16,194	13,818	85.33%	**-2.07%**	$655,733.37	**-0.63%**
Priest Lake	13,875	9,383	67.63%	**-4.02%**	$538,062.85	**12.98%**
Round Lake	4,869	2,480	50.93%	**-10.52%**	$87,128.60	**-10.54%**
Thousand Springs	4,590	2,047	44.60%	**19.27%**	$68,131.59	**11.87%**
Three Island Crossing	7,502	4,029	53.71%	**-10.32%**	$132,705.69	**-5.52%**
Winchester Lake	6,318	2,606	41.25%	**6.05%**	$69,038.61	**13.58%**
TOTALS	190,598	97,434	51.12%	**-3.33%**	$4,156,132.35	**4.11%**

Reservations – Visitation Overview

Data below shows the total number of lodging nights available, nights occupied, and net revenue by Park for the July – September 2026 reporting period. Comparisons for Occupancy and Net Sales are provided based on the same reporting months from the previous year.

Lodging Park	Nights Available	Nights Sold	Occupancy %	Occupancy YoY Change	Net Sales	Net Sales YoY Change
Bruneau Dunes	184	102	55.43%	**-12.58%**	$8,018.90	**-9.82%**
Castle Rocks	268	109	40.67%	**-5.83%**	$18,726.28	**-26.45%**
Dworshak	445	224	50.34%	**-7.15%**	$46,983.41	**1.66%**
Farragut	891	650	72.95%	**-6.28%**	$55,649.43	**-10.78%**
Harriman	1,742	745	42.77%	**33.87%**	$116,149.94	**659.83%**
Hells Gate	673	320	47.55%	**0.76%**	$25,028.72	**-7.96%**
Henrys Lake	275	224	81.45%	**2.11%**	$18,262.21	**3.27%**
Heyburn	453	244	53.86%	**-1.13%**	$30,729.94	**-1.75%**
Idaho City Yurts	597	319	53.43%	**12.40%**	$31,278.69	**2.82%**
Lake Cascade	90	34	37.78%	**-14.44%**	$3,726.34	**-14.13%**
Lake Walcott	170	100	58.82%	**29.84%**	$7,614.35	**12.60%**
Massacre Rocks	349	104	29.80%	**-16.42%**	$8,021.74	**-23.63%**
Ponderosa	1,485	1,030	69.36%	**-11.82%**	$235,115.65	**30.55%**
Priest Lake	624	512	82.05%	**-0.74%**	$53,852.50	**-5.34%**
Round Lake	176	159	90.34%	-	$35,826.50	-
Thousand Springs	171	67	39.18%	**-46.83%**	$14,698.12	**-32.42%**
Three Island Crossing	734	277	37.74%	**-3.04%**	$20,764.04	**-11.44%**
Twin Peaks Ranch	1,715	404	23.56%	-	$37,872.44	-
Winchester Lake	358	206	57.54%	**8.31%**	$16,027.72	**14.71%**
TOTALS:	11,400	5,830	51.14%	**-11.98%**	$784,346.92	**34.64%**

Reservations – Visitation Overview

Data below shows the total number of camping nights available, nights occupied, and net revenue by Park for the "Peak Season" reporting period of Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Comparisons for Occupancy and Net Sales are provided based on the same reporting months from the previous year.

Camping Park	Nights Available	Nights Sold	Occupancy %	Occupancy YoY Change	Net Sales	Net Sales YoY Change
Bear Lake	7,523	4,803	63.84%	**-20.64%**	$217,784.34	**25.16%**
Bruneau Dunes	12,110	2,580	21.30%	**-12.29%**	$67,939.88	**3.23%**
Castle Rocks	3,957	2,025	51.18%	**-4.25%**	$74,997.56	**1.05%**
Challis Hot Springs	7,435	4,074	54.79%	**-2.26%**	$151,790.88	**3.36%**
City of Rocks	6,870	4,268	62.13%	**-11.90%**	$109,563.81	**28.77%**
Dworshak	12,501	3,874	30.99%	**19.27%**	$107,227.16	**45.57%**
Eagle Island	5,483	2,690	49.06%	**1251.90%**	$134,584.23	**10850.80%**
Farragut	33,472	20,078	59.98%	**-7.64%**	$1,192,251.79	**1.77%**
Hells Gate	9,063	5,278	58.24%	**-10.21%**	$192,565.59	**-1.27%**
Henrys Lake	9,407	5,034	53.51%	**1.92%**	$249,941.44	**-1.53%**
Heyburn	14,854	6,406	43.13%	**-4.32%**	$220,693.81	**4.47%**
Lake Cascade	30,798	15,841	51.44%	**1.30%**	$519,495.64	**8.94%**
Lake Walcott	4,279	2,284	53.38%	**-8.46%**	$62,666.41	**-4.02%**
Massacre Rocks	5,893	1,720	29.19%	**-12.58%**	$47,947.26	**2.47%**
Old Mission	2,745	45	1.64%	-	$725.98	-
Ponderosa	19,367	16,623	85.83%	**-4.94%**	$763,881.65	**4.69%**
Priest Lake	16,676	11,173	67.00%	**-9.16%**	$632,343.63	**16.89%**
Round Lake	5,815	3,093	53.19%	**-11.74%**	$110,686.37	**-4.38%**
Thousand Springs	5,496	2,716	49.42%	**19.06%**	$91,932.60	**13.54%**
Three Island Crossing	8,976	5,223	58.19%	**-11.59%**	$176,893.91	**-2.52%**
Winchester Lake	7,516	3,683	49.00%	**-5.99%**	$102,427.26	**9.23%**
TOTALS	230,236	123,511	53.65%	**-6.16%**	$5,228,341.20	**9.29%**

Reservations – Visitation Overview

Data below shows the total number of lodging nights available, nights occupied, and net revenue by Park for the "Peak Season" reporting period of Memorial Day Weekend through Labor Day. Comparisons for Occupancy and Net Sales are provided based on the same reporting months from the previous year.

Lodging Park	Nights Available	Nights Sold	Occupancy %	Occupancy YoY Change	Net Sales	Net Sales YoY Change
Bruneau Dunes	220	134	60.91%	**-10.09%**	$10,518.90	**18.29%**
Castle Rocks	322	142	44.10%	**-6.33%**	$25,971.56	**2.01%**
Dworshak	531	306	57.63%	**-3.69%**	$71,547.82	**54.81%**
Farragut	1,098	819	74.59%	**-10.02%**	$70,677.62	**13.31%**
Harriman	2,084	740	35.51%	**300.83%**	$116,513.28	**662.21%**
Hells Gate	811	412	50.80%	**-0.62%**	$32,649.83	**20.06%**
Henrys Lake	329	259	78.72%	**6.51%**	$20,763.28	**17.41%**
Heyburn	510	281	55.10%	**-5.23%**	$34,281.57	**9.61%**
Idaho City Yurts	724	428	59.12%	**10.84%**	$41,918.61	**37.80%**
Lake Cascade	100	47	47.00%	**-20.30%**	$6,532.87	**50.54%**
Lake Walcott	218	109	50.00%	**15.34%**	$8,254.70	**22.07%**
Massacre Rocks	429	138	32.17%	**-19.28%**	$10,679.31	**1.67%**
Ponderosa	1,567	1,066	68.03%	**-3.18%**	$262,453.26	**45.73%**
Priest Lake	764	595	77.88%	**-5.88%**	$61,900.21	**8.81%**
Round Lake	185	166	89.73%	-	$43,670.82	-
Thousand Springs	225	120	53.33%	**-22.42%**	$25,301.94	**16.33%**
Three Island Crossing	878	377	42.94%	**-2.81%**	$28,924.39	**23.37%**
Twin Peaks Ranch	1,330	239	17.97%	-	$30,231.09	-
Winchester Lake	427	293	68.62%	**4.84%**	$22,438.60	**60.60%**
TOTALS	12,752	6,671	52.31%	**-0.04%**	$925,229.66	**58.82%**

Registrations

Data below shows the total number of Registrations and Permits sold for the July – September 2026 reporting period. Year-over-Year comparisons are provided based on the same reporting months from the previous year. Year-to-Date comparisons are provided based on total sales from the previous sticker year*.

Registration / Permit Type	Total Sticker Sales	YoY Change	Year to Date Change
Boat Registration	15,779	**8.30%**	**- 12.98%**
OHV – 1 Yr	12,967	**- 4.61%**	**2.29%**
OHV – 2 Yr	29,380	**89.38%**	**51.87%**
**Resident & Non Resident breakdown will be available after report update			
Snowmobile – 1 Yr	115	**- 44.71%**	**- 13.97%**
Snowmobile – 2 Yr	242	**71.63%**	**- 0.09%**
**Resident & Non Resident breakdown will be available after report update			
Snowmobile – Rental	Data will be available after report update		
Invasive Species – Non Motorized	55,394	**6.80%**	**0.54%**
Invasive Species - Motorized	5,811	**0.21%**	**1.79%**
Park N Ski – 3 Day	2	**100%**	**100%**
Park N Ski – Annual	16	**- 27.27%**	**- 27.27%**
MVEF - Annual	Data will be available after report update		
OHV MVEF – 1 Yr	Data will be available after report update		
OHV MVEF – Resident 2 Yr	Data will be available after report update		
OHV MVEF – Non Resident 1 Yr	Data will be available after report update		
OHV MVEF – Non Resident 2 Yr	Data will be available after report update		

*Boat Sticker Year – November through December of the following calendar year.
OHV Sticker Year – November through December of the following calendar year.
Snowmobile Sticker Year – September through August of the following calendar year.
Invasive Species Sticker Year – November through December of the following calendar year.
Park N Ski Sticker Year – September through April of the following calendar year.
MVEF Sticker Year – September through December of the following calendar year.

SOUTH REGION QUARTERLY REPORT
JUL – AUG– SEP 2026

MISSION: To provide a safe and unique experience while preserving, protecting, and enhancing recreation. We interpret natural, cultural, and historic values and maintain park infrastructure for visitor services and programs, while looking for new opportunities.

GOALS:

- Ensure that all facilities are kept clean and hazard-free.
- Utilize both paid and volunteer staff to staff visitor centers and entrance booths.
- Patrol parks ensure user needs, user safety, and resource protection.
- Assess operations and opportunities to ensure quality experiences are provided.

SOUTH REGION SERVICE CENTER – JOHANNES GIESSEN, SOUTH REGION BUREAU CHIEF

- With David Landrum's retirement at Thousand Springs State Park, we promoted the assistant manager, Juelie Traska, to fill the vacancy. Subsequently, ranger Ruth Klinkenborg was promoted to assistant park manager.
- We saw an additional two rangers leave their workstations at Ponderosa and Cascade respectively. The main concerns mentioned by the employees were pay and housing issues.
- Attended the 2026 NASPD conference in Louisiana, which is a fantastic opportunity to learn from other state park leaders of processes and strategies we could implement in our park system.
- Incidences throughout the regions were less frequent than they have been in previous years during this time, which is a net positive.
- The assistant manager and the office administrator at Lucky Peak State Park both resigned this quarter, citing inability to align personal goals with their respective positions. Pay deficiencies were cited as reasons for departure.
- Thousand Springs State Park hosted a volunteer event to establish the Kelton Trail unit of the park. This event was sponsored by the Clif Bar Company, who brought out over 100 volunteers to help build a hiking trail through the unit. The company shut down their Twin Falls factory for the day to make this event happen.
- The Marina at Lucky Peak State Park continues to be of highest concern in the region and the park. It is getting increasingly difficult to maintain and repair with a definite end of life expectancy well in the past. A new, innovative funding source will be necessary to allow for a complete replacement. This is the major funding source for the park.
- The landscaping concerns at Eagle Island State Park campground continue to persist. The current landscaping subcontractor spent months installing temporary irrigation in the campground to achieve grass germination. However, as it currently stands, that system will get removed after 180 days, leaving the park potentially with dead grass. Solutions are currently being discussed.
- Both sauna concession contracts were fully executed this quarter at Eagle Island and Ponderosa, allowing the concessionaires to begin their implementation.

BRUNEAU DUNES – BRYCE BEALBA, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- During July and August, higher-than-normal temperatures resulted in lower visitation.
- Visitation increased in September as cooler weather returned.
- Observatory programs remained strong throughout the quarter, with attendance trending 15–20% higher than last season.

- Park staff continue to find nails exposed by wind on the two smaller dune sites, remnants of historic bonfires.
- In August, Manager Bealba hosted a representative from the Mountain Home Arts Council for a tour of the Steele-Reese Education Center, amphitheater lawn, and Observatory to explore the potential for future art exhibits, plays, and concerts.
- Visitor center staff repainted the VC restroom, improving the facility's appearance.
- Phone service at the park was highly unreliable this quarter. The long-standing issue worsened, and CenturyLink indicated they do not plan to repair the deteriorating line. As a result, the park transitioned to a cellular-based VOIP-style system to ensure consistent communication.
- A scout troop completed a September service project that removed all Russian thistle from the Equestrian Campground.
- Staff prepared plans and schedules for the Winter Observatory programs and arranged for porta potties due to the seasonal restroom water shutoff.

Park/Program Usage

- Car Counter numbers were 2,510 in July, 988 in August, and 2,103 in September.
- The visitor center had 1,101 visitors in July, 2,284 in August, and 1,777 in September.
- The park had 120 sandboard rentals in July, 218 in August, and 2,379 in September.
- Sandboarding and the Observatory remain our two main attractions. Board replacements are needed due to wear, and although new boards cost about $200 each, they recoup their cost in a month or less.
- In September, the Boise Astronomical Society held their annual Star Party this month, renting the entirety of the Eagle Cove Campground.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	8	255
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- The Observatory weekend programs were open and well attended.
- During the summer, the visitor center staff began hosting guided interpretive hikes which included assisting with trail improvements and adding new trails.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	32	2,869
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The park received a grant to repair the river pump. It was removed in August for rebuilding, completed in September, and is scheduled to be brought online in October.

- Weeds in Eagle Cove remain persistent. Despite four herbicide applications, growth continues to outpace treatment, so staff have begun hand-pulling to improve site appearance.
- Rush skeletonweed continues to spread along roadsides. Because the plant has no leaves, herbicide is ineffective. Staff have been hand-pulling it for several years to keep it contained, though new patches continue to appear.
- The domestic water system has likely failed and will require full replacement.
- The Eagle Cove irrigation system is experiencing pressure-related breaks, likely due to the transition of much of the system to drip irrigation. Regional staff installed breather valves to help alleviate the issue.
- Hydroseeding in Eagle Cove has not produced the desired results. Overseeding efforts were unsuccessful, and staff plan to attempt another round in the fall.
- Staff cleared trails around the Small Lake, and Ranger Normand used his aquatic herbicide certification to treat willow starts emerging through the trail.
- Additional trail improvements around the Small Lake were completed in September.

Staff Training

- No formal training took place this quarter.

Manager's Narrative

- The park has continued working with BSU regarding internships opportunities.
- Public interest remains strong for a potential Music-in-the-Park series at the Observatory Amphitheatre. Funding requests have been submitted for a bandshell and related infrastructure. The contractor for the current Observatory repair project has already installed power in anticipation of this future use, and a trademark application has been submitted.
- The new observatory has unplanned operating costs that are coming to light including the need for software upgrades, maintenance contracts, training contracts, as well as costs associated with taking the observatory "online" for remote operation and research.
- Seasonal housing is a necessity to attract qualified applicants. The housing being constructed at the SR dormitory will be used for 1-2 staff members and does not completely satisfy the need.

EAGLE ISLAND – ANDREW SALZANO, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Visitation in July began strong and was comparable to last year, but poor air quality at the end of July, and throughout August due to wildfire smoke, led to noticeable decreases in visitation.
- To support visitor clarity during air quality and fire restriction periods, staff placed a whiteboard at the kiosk outlining current allowable and restricted activities.
- Ongoing construction in the campground continued to create challenges. As landscapers began the irrigation phase of the project, campers reported issues such as belongings being moved, items getting soaked, and early-morning or weekend noise. Staff worked directly with campers to address concerns. Temporary camping discounts helped reduce the volume of complaints, though guests booking through the call center were occasionally unaware of active landscaping.
- In August and September, Campground conditions improved. Repeat campers commented on the new greenery and look forward to seeing the grounds once grass is fully established and construction fencing is removed.

- Early check-in requests have remained a recurring issue. Despite staff explaining that early access is not allowed due to cleaning schedules and consistent policy enforcement, some campers move to their sites ahead of time.

Park/Program Usage

- Park visitation was up 8% in July, down 42% in August, and up 6% in September compared to 2025.
- 79 shelter reservations took place during this quarter, some requiring group use permits.
- The Park's Traffic Count was 14,187 in July, 12,494 in August, and 12,089 in September.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	24	5,060
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- In July, there were 6 programs/events held in the park. Many programs during this quarter were cancelled due to wildlife smoke and heat conditions.
- One Jr. Ranger program was held in September.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	7	90
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Park staff continued removing puncture vine throughout the park. Construction-disturbed areas saw increased growth this year, requiring additional hand-pulling efforts.
- Staff also treated puncture vine along the roadside near the Hatchery Road entrance and within the shop yard.
- The dormitory building experienced additional graffiti in August, which staff painted over. In September, new cameras and an updated surveillance system were installed on the shop building to improve security.
- Most hay fields in the park were mowed and bailed by the concessionaire in September.
- Trail maintenance was a major focus in September, including mowing and pruning trees along key routes.
- Beavers blocked multiple culverts leading from the pond to the river, requiring monitoring and future mitigation.

Staff Training

- In July, one FTE and three seasonal staff completed their CPR and AED certification, totaling 32 combined hours of training.
- There was a staff training held in September for burnout and wellness.

Manager's Narrative

- Landscape rehabilitation efforts continued this quarter. Park staff worked closely with the Development and Reservations teams to identify solutions that minimize operational disruptions during ongoing construction activities.
- In July, staff began hosting park reading events, which have drawn a strong group of returning participants.
- Eagle Police increased their patrol presence in the park, and staff appreciate their continued support.
- Park management met with cross-country organizers in August to plan fall events, and the park successfully hosted the Eagle Island Invitational Cross-Country meet in September.
- In August, the park also hosted the Aaron Butler Memorial Foundation event.
- Staff met with Gateway Parks to discuss winter season staging plans.
- E-moto bikes continue to create safety and compliance concerns, as riders often operate unsafely and leave the area when contacted by staff.
- Park management met with Silver Creek Fire to coordinate upcoming spring projects.
- Management also met with the Development team and contractors to review plans for addressing failed landscape rehabilitation in the parking lot and to assess the status of campground landscape improvements.
- Staff met with Water District 63 and obtained approval for installation of a metering device for lake outflow.

LAKE CASCADE – DALTON CRANE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The Fourth of July brought the park to maximum capacity across all units. Firework shows in Cascade and at Poison Creek drew significant crowds. To accommodate visitors, Van Wyck Campground was used for day-use parking, and the expanded parking lot at Poison Creek supported a record number of guests.
- Staff continued work on constructing a concrete pad for a new observatory at the Visitor Center.
- In August, staff completed trail system improvements leading to the lakeshore in West Mountain, Buttercup, and Huckleberry. These upgrades were designed to reduce through-campsite foot traffic and enhance accessibility to the water. Gravel was placed, and new signage installed.
- A new trail entrance for the Boulder Creek Day Use area was installed and opened in August, with fencing and signage added to identify the additional northern footpath access point.
- Staff replaced door locks at the Osprey Point Group Use area to improve access to the yurts.
- Tamarack removed their marina in mid-September, in accordance with the timeline outlined in their contract.
- September's favorable weather supported steady late-season visitation, with strong camping and fishing activity.

Park/Program Usage

- Campground reservations remained as strong as in prior years, with weekends consistently filling to capacity. Weekdays were quieter, allowing staff to complete required maintenance.

- Fishing activity was high throughout the quarter, with multiple tournaments occurring on the lake. July and August events, including the PRB Junior Tournament, and three September tournaments all used Sugarloaf as the base for launching and weigh-ins.
- Poison Creek's Day-use area saw significantly higher visitation with the marina and expanded parking. Weekend use ranged from 80 percent capacity early in the quarter, though cooler weather later in the season brought weekend usage closer to 50 percent.
- Tamarack's expanded beach use declined as temperatures cooled and algal blooms increased.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	26	1,585
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Two roving interpretive programs were hosted in Poison Creek Campground this quarter.
- Two hosts in our park units administered Jr. Ranger programs throughout August.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education	6	140
Jr. Ranger Programming	6	68
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Manager Dalton Crane attended Valley County Waterways meetings to discuss improvements to waterway access and related management issues within the county.
- Staff added wildflower seeds and transplanted fir trees in designated areas to enhance natural resources.
- Staff installed and repaired fencing along the west-side campgrounds to help protect natural resource areas.
- Parking barriers were installed in Poison Creek Campground to keep vehicles on asphalt surfaces and prevent resource damage.
- Staff worked alongside the Valley County Weeds Department for two days to spray noxious weeds in Sugarloaf, the quarry, Big Sage, and Sage Bluff, with a primary focus on spotted knapweed.
- Trail development continued, with support from the Backcountry Horsemen of Idaho, who assisted in removing hazard trees and clearing trails in proposed development areas on the west side of the lake.
- The Valley County Weeds Department implemented biological control measures between Big Sage and Pelican Cove as part of ongoing noxious weed prevention efforts.
- The Valley County Weeds Department, in coordination with park staff, began removing reeds and willows at the Monarch Garden site.

Staff Training

- No formal training took place this quarter.

Manager's Narrative

- Staff worked with IDFG and the Valley County Sheriff's Office during the Fourth of July to address compliance issues.
- One ranger departed in July. Interviews were completed, and park management hired Ryan Busby, whose first day is October 14.
- Work with Tamarack to separate marina users from the campground was completed. Fencing, signage, and traffic flow improvements significantly enhanced the experience for both campers and day-users.
- The reduction of campground dumpsters transitioned smoothly. Only one additional transfer-station trip was required this season, compared to multiple trips in 2025 when more than twice as many dumpsters were in place, indicating strong visitor compliance with pack-in/pack-out expectations.
- Development of new employee housing began, with estimated completion in early 2027. The project will provide housing for two rangers and up to eight seasonal staff.
- The BOR proposal for the West Mountain Trail was submitted, including reference to the approved 2006 MOU.
- Overall, park compliance continued to improve compared with prior years, with fewer surcharges and fewer issues in both day-use areas and campgrounds.

LUCKY PEAK – SURAT NICOL, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Visitation in July dropped significantly due to prolonged hot, smoky conditions; however, SUP use remained high at the new beach development in the Discovery Unit.
- A few cases of swimmer's itch were reported at Sandy Point in July.
- Many seasonal staff concluded their employment in August as they returned to school.
- Potable water was unavailable at Discovery in August due to equipment failures.
- In September, lake levels dropped to winter pool and irrigation was shut off across all units.
- Park hours were adjusted after Labor Day: Discovery and Spring Shores operated from sunrise to sunset, while Sandy Point operated 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

Park/Program Usage

- In July, boating activity increased at Spring Shores Marina.
- Very hot weather with several smoky days gave the park inconsistent visitation throughout this quarter.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	No. of Permits	No. of Attendees
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- The park was able to offer interpretive programming throughout this quarter when seasonal staff were available.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	2	85
Traditional Interpretation	10	169
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	8	158
School Programming	1	60
Special Events	7	139
Special Events Held Off-Site	2	401

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

Staff Training

- Staff attended agency-wide video conference in September.

Manager's Narrative

- Heavy smoke reduced visitation, altered work plans, and caused cancellation of two events (Challenged Athletes Foundation and a regatta).
- Discovery Park parking lot repainting completed using Road & Bridge funds.
- Half Iron Man preparations on USACE property displaced boat ramp use and increased traffic at Spring Shores.
- Moorage customers began removing vessels during the August drawdown.
- Discovery's chlorinator system failed, leaving the park without potable water for several weeks; new equipment was installed and externally calibrated.
- Staff participated in Idaho Public Lands Day at Bogus Basin, engaging roughly 140 visitors.
- New visitor activities launched at Lucky Peak, including painting classes and IDPR-themed bingo.
- The park is losing two key team members: Administrative Assistant Courtnee Rader and Assistant Manager Bri Sabin.
- Winterization began in September, including shutting down irrigation systems.
- North Junior High hosted its annual water safety day at Spring Shores with around 75 participants.
- Seasonal Ranger Lila Jensen represented the park at Bug Day at the Idaho Botanical Garden.
- Bri organized the annual Girl Scouts Love State Parks event at Sandy Point, continuing a 7-year partnership.
- Courtnee organized a volunteer day at Sandy Point with approximately 80 LDS volunteers assisting with painting, cleaning, and grounds work, continuing an 8-year partnership.

PONDEROSA – MATT LINDE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Customer service operations were strong in July. With full staffing at the entrance kiosk, visitor center, and camp host sites, we were able to consistently meet visitor needs and respond effectively to inquiries.
- In August, the visitor center remained open daily to maintain customer service levels. Staff at the entrance kiosk declined due to employee departures, so kiosk hours transitioned to weekends only in September. Visitor center hours were also reduced. Camp hosts continued to provide valuable support and maintain a high standard of service.

Park/Program Usage

- July saw high overall visitation from both campers and day users. Kokanee Cove generated significant interest, with camp hosts receiving continuous inquiries. Trail, boating, and cabin use remained strong.
- Camping continues to be the primary driver of park use. Day-use visitation and group activity have slowed somewhat. Junior Ranger programs are being offered on Saturdays.
- In September, camping again led park usage. Day-use levels declined sharply and now consist mainly of local visitors using the trails for biking and hiking.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	6	357
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Junior Ranger programs were offered every Saturday morning in July, along with a weekly evening program tailored to the topic and audience.
- Although the Star Party was canceled this year, weekly evening programs, primarily on Thursdays, were successfully delivered by our seasonal interpreter, Alyssa, and consistently drew strong attendance.
- In September, Junior Ranger sessions continued every Saturday, complemented by an evening program for campers, also led by the seasonal interpreter.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	8	651
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	12	387
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site	5	574

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Coordination with SITPA continues mastication work in the Water Tower 2 unit, targeting grand fir under 8 inches. Equipment mobilization is scheduled for late September with active work occurring in October. The Meadow Marsh 2 burn, originally considered for mid-September, was postponed due to wet conditions and may be reconsidered if an appropriate weather window opens in October.

Staff Training

- Three employees completed the Wilderness First Aid course hosted by MOSS in August.
- Two rangers attended PistenBully training in Hyde Park, Utah, where they received instruction on maintenance and operation of the newly acquired groomer.

Manager's Narrative

- The park has been fully staffed since July 8, and the new rangers are performing well.
- Camp hosts, under Aaron Walker's leadership, continue to support campground operations effectively and serve as reliable points of contact for visitors.

- Plans to rebuild Lily Marsh Bridge have been postponed; the volunteer crew for next summer will instead focus on improving four ADA campsites in the Dogwood and Elderberry loops.
- Upcoming winter changes to the Nordic trail system will be developed in October, with assistance from headquarters in preparing a summary of planned updates.

THOUSAND SPRINGS – JUELIE TRASKA, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Summer visitation remained strong across all park units, with visitors taking full advantage of warm weather for hiking at Box Canyon, walking and biking at Billingsley Creek, and fishing and kayaking at Crystal Lake.
- The Rock House, Yellow House, and Pink House on Ritter Island continued to be among the park's most popular destinations, with reservations remaining fully booked through the summer.
- Visitor Center traffic continued to grow, averaging about 125 visitors per day. It operated seven days a week from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. through Labor Day, after which hours shifted to a five-day schedule from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Park/Program Usage

- July 2026 visitation totaled 4,905, down from 5,857 in July 2025, likely due to extreme heat.
- August 2026 saw 3,714 visitors, a decrease of 998 from August 2025.
- Despite lower totals, visitors spent more time inside the Visitor Center engaging with exhibits and seeking relief from the heat.
- September 2026 visitation increased to 2,762, up 415 visitors (18%) from September 2025.
- A Special Use Permit was issued for a September 12 auction at the Flea Market building to clear remaining personal property after the concessionaire's passing.
- The Magic Valley Arts Council held its annual Arts Festival on Ritter Island on September 25–26, drawing more than 4,000 attendees and featuring artists, food vendors, and live music.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	1	4,000
Special Use Permit	1	100
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- The park hosted its first night sky program at the Billingsley Creek Campground on September 20th. The program was led by Master Astronomer Chuck Schroll and provided visitors with an opportunity to learn more about the night sky and astronomy.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	34	169
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site	1	100

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The Billingsley Creek Visitor Center, which has operated for more than three years with temporary exhibits, completed the design phase for its permanent exhibits in partnership with NPS and NFusion. The project has moved into production, with installation now scheduled for spring 2027.
- The Billingsley Creek Campground, opened in May 2025, continued to perform exceptionally well, with most weekends fully booked and strong demand throughout the season.
- A large Clif Bar volunteer project was completed on September 4, 2026. Approximately 170 volunteers improved roadside visibility at the Malad Gorge Unit by clearing three miles of brush and upgraded roughly 300 yards of the Kelton Trail, later completed by a follow-up volunteer group. Director Buxton and historian Afton Patrick met with volunteers during the event. The effort significantly improved both areas, and the park greatly appreciates Clif Bar's contribution.

Staff Training

- No formal training took place this quarter.

Manager's Narrative

- On July 10, we held a well-attended retirement celebration for former manager Dave Landrum, joined by staff, retirees, and community members.
- On July 11, we hosted the annual Ice Cream Social at Ritter Island, a long-standing tradition honoring Minnie Miller, with more than 100 attendees.
- On August 6, interviews were held for the Assistant Manager position, resulting in the promotion of Ranger Ruth Klinkenborg.
- On September 28, we interviewed candidates for the vacant park ranger position and selected Cheyenne Fernandez, who will begin on November 8, 2026.
- With the summer season ending, staff began taking well-earned time off and using comp time accrued during the busy months.

THREE ISLAND – NITA MOSES, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The Oregon Trail History & Education Center (OTHEC) hours of operation from 9am to 4pm daily. The OTHEC was open for a total of 92 days during this quarter.

Park/Program Usage

- Visitors to the history center came from all over the country and abroad totaling 3,940 people.
- This quarter, international guests visited from Canada, Germany, England, Mexico, Taiwan, and Japan.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	10	600
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Multiple families held events at our reservable shelters during this quarter.
- Ranger John Redd and Volunteer Amy Alfredson hosted an Astronomy Night on September 11th & 12th.

- Master Astronomer Dr. Chuck Schroll flew in and held Night Sky Programs on September 19th & 19th.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	23	453
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	4	48
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Rangers Redd and Fossen continued applying herbicide to control puncture vine throughout the park. Seasonal employees manually pulled puncture vines and collected the thorns with a roller.
- Rangers Redd and Fossen and seasonal employees removed stumps throughout the campground left after last year's hazard tree removal.

Staff Training

- No formal training took place this quarter.

Manager's Narrative

- Rangers John Redd, Eric Cardona, Kevin Fossen, along with volunteers and seasonal staff, participated in the Glenns Ferry Fourth of July parade.
- Ranger Redd repaired three showers in the Wagon Wheel facility and two in the Trailside facility.
- Park Manager Moses and Rangers Fossen and Redd buried the sewer line for the washing machine at the Ranger Residence and prepared the area for new irrigation, grass seed, and fencing.
- Camp hosts Mike and Gwen McCoy left early in September due to a family emergency, leaving the park without a host for the remainder of the season.
- Irrigation issues in the Wagon Wheel loop caused campsite flooding due to low gravel levels; staff relocated campers as needed.
- New picnic tables were assembled and distributed throughout the park.

SOUTH REGION MAINTENANCE CREW – CHRISTOPHER RE, FOREMAN

- The region crew completed several park-specific projects:
- Thousand Springs State Park
    - The crew completed the fence at Ritter Island and began transporting larger 4-foot boulders to Bruneau Dunes.
    - Fire lines were completed, and the gravel pit area and burn pile were cleaned and organized.
    - Work continued widening the Kelton Trail parking area in partnership with the Utility Craftsman in July.
    - For the Clif Bar project on September 4, the crew hauled approximately nine loads of gravel and addressed electrical issues with unit R00197.
- After completing gravel hauling for the Kelton Trail early, the crew shifted to equipment maintenance and supported Andy in working toward his CDL.
- Ponderosa State Park

- The crew worked on the new Nordic ski trail parking lot, aligned with the Kokanee Cove Road project. The 100x100 lot was raised approximately two feet using excavated road material to improve drainage and reduce flooding.
- Ditching work around the new lot was also initiated.

EAST REGION QUARTERLY REPORT
JULY-AUG-SEPT 2026

MISSION: To provide a safe and unique experience while preserving, protecting, and enhancing recreation. We interpret natural, cultural, and historic values. To maintain park infrastructure for visitor services and programs, while looking for new opportunities.

GOALS:
- Ensure that all facilities are kept clean and hazard-free.
- Utilize both paid and volunteer staff to staff visitor centers and entrance booths to answer questions and sell park permits.
- Patrol parks ensuring user needs, user safety, and resource protection.
- Assess operations and opportunities to ensure quality experiences are provided.

EAST REGION SERVICE CENTER – RYAN BUFFINGTON, EAST REGION BUREAU CHIEF
- Warm and pleasant weather drove a bustling 2026 peak season, resulting in record visitation across several parks in the East Region. Despite the heavy usage, our teams made significant headway on key development priorities, ranging from large-scale undertakings like constructing new campground units and overhauling culinary water systems to essential park-level priorities like replacing signage and performing critical maintenance on rental facilities. Field staff successfully advanced these projects while continuing to provide exceptional customer service to our guests, ensuring quality experiences that will bring them back to Idaho State Parks for years to come.
- We also saw an increase in large-scale events across the region. Alongside established annual gatherings, our parks hosted numerous new events, including permitted Group Uses and park-level celebrations commemorating America 250. Our teams also responded professionally and courageously to challenging incidents, identifying specific operational and EMS training needs that we will address in upcoming training cycles.

Staffing Updates
- This quarter brought significant movement across our full-time staffing roster, with several vacancies filled and recruitment continuing for others. Although these transitions present operational challenges, we anticipate staffing levels will stabilize heading into the off-season. Recruitment pools remain exceptionally competitive, attracting a strong number of highly qualified candidates seeking careers with Idaho State Parks. Meanwhile, the intense hiring wave of the past few years appears to be settling into a steadier pace. After seeing our field staff rise to meet the many challenges of this peak season, I am exceptionally proud of what this team has accomplished.

Land of the Yankee Fork
- The unit experienced two vacancies this quarter; one has been filled via transfer, and the second is currently in recruitment.
- Joseph Blackburn transferred from Harriman State Park, where he most recently served as Assistant Manager, to a Park Ranger position at Land of the Yankee Fork. Joseph brings extensive institutional knowledge, having previously served IDPR as both a seasonal employee and Park Ranger. He began his State Parks career as a seasonal employee at Land of the Yankee Fork and has a longstanding appreciation for the Challis area. His return reflects his desire to support and help develop a park unit he cares deeply about.

Harriman State Park

- Harriman completed the selection process for the Assistant Manager position vacated by Joseph Blackburn. Additionally, Maintenance Ranger Jason Brown resigned to pursue professional opportunities closer to home.
- Josh Alm was selected as the park's new Assistant Manager following a rigorous, multi-round interview process from a highly competitive applicant pool. Josh joins IDPR from Nevada State Parks, where he served as a supervisory ranger, complemented by extensive prior supervisory experience in the private sector.

Bear Lake State Park

- The rangers saw two departures this quarter: Sheila Clements resigned her position, and Daniel Wahlen submitted his notice to accept an opportunity with the local Sheriff's Office.
- Kyle Cazier was selected to fill the Ranger vacancy created by Sheila's departure. Kyle has been a dedicated seasonal employee at Bear Lake for several years and is eager to transition into full-time service. Throughout his seasonal tenure, Kyle consistently demonstrated an exceptional work ethic and positive attitude. In his new full-time role, he will primarily focus on addressing the park's ongoing maintenance priorities.

City of Rocks National Reserve / Castle Rocks State Park

- The complex experienced two personnel transitions this quarter. Shelly Adams, long-time benefited seasonal housekeeper, retired from IDPR. Following the recent establishment of the full-time housekeeper position at the unit, Shelly's seasonal role will not be refilled; those funds will be reallocated back into the park's seasonal employee budget. Additionally, Park Ranger Carolyne Dewsnip resigned her position due to personal circumstances. Recruitment is currently open to fill the vacated Ranger position.

Twin Peaks Ranch State Park

- Twin Peaks Ranch experienced the highest volume of personnel turnover in the East Region. However, staffing is stabilizing as we head into the fall. The transition included changes in unit leadership and the ranger staff. Throughout these changes, Lead Housekeeper Lanette Stach and her team served as a dependable anchor, maintaining smooth day-to-day operations and ensuring visitor satisfaction remained on par with a fully staffed facility.
- **Park Manager:** In September, Zach Grogan resigned his position. Recruitment was initiated immediately while I temporarily assumed day-to-day operational management of the unit. After interviewing a strong applicant pool, we selected Brian DiLenge as the new Park Manager. Brian has served IDPR for nearly a decade, most recently as the East Region Motorized Trail Program Supervisor within the Recreation Bureau. He brings deep institutional knowledge, strong local and area community ties, and a clear strategic vision to advance Twin Peaks Ranch as a flagship state park destination.
- **Visitor Services Ranger:** Cheyanne Bradshaw was hired in July to lead visitor services. Cheyanne holds a bachelor's degree in natural resources and brings valuable federal experience from previous roles with both the U.S. Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management. She has made an immediate positive impact, proactively identifying operational needs and executing solutions to optimize guest services.
- **Maintenance Ranger:** Ranger Joe Reed resigned his position after five months of service. Recruitment for this vacancy is currently active, with an encouragingly competitive applicant pool.

BEAR LAKE – ANDREW STOKES, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The water was low and it became harder to launch larger vessels. This is out of our power, but we are the ones that get yelled at. Both for the lower water and not marking with buoys.

Park/Program Usage

- July was recorded breaking both in visitation and usage.
- In 1981, Bear Lake State Park was among the first parks to implement a $1 motor vehicle entry fee (MVEF). That year, the park recorded 14 days with 1,200 vehicles. This summer, I spoke with Kirk Rich, who confirmed that on July 4, 1981, he personally delivered $1,200 in collected MVEF fees to the bank.
- Fast forward to July 2026, where most weekends we are hitting 1,600-1,800 vehicles at just North Beach with the record being hit August 1 with over 1,800 vehicles.
- Park revenue remained strong throughout the summer. July gross revenue reached $648,826.92, nearly $220,000 above the previous year's record. August revenue totaled $363,809.83, a nearly 30% increase over August 2025's $284,787.68. September revenue was approximately $113,000, up 88% from just over $60,000 the previous September.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	112	4,949
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Held an America 250 bike parade at the campground and 250 flags at the park.
- Boat and OHV safety presentations were held in September along with Simplot safety fair Bear Lake and Soda Springs school districts.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events	1	64
Special Events Held Off-Site	2	28

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Working on adding Dingle Pond as a unit of the park. A beautiful day use recreation area owned by ITD. We are looking to become a managing partner, along with IDFG.

Staff Training

- Amy and Andy attended a very helpful vehicle extrication training session with the local fire departments.

Manager's Narrative

- Sage Springs Campground reopened for reservations between construction phases through Labor Day, attracting several bookings despite being a new, relatively unknown destination. Construction will resume in the fall, with work on Phase two nearing completion and utility installation expected to begin soon.
- The project that was completed at North Beach around the boat ramp has shown to have a few engineering flaws. These projects often look awesome on paper but once built and tested in real life situations, flaws appear. Park staff will work on fixing a few but overall, the project has been great. Most importantly, public safety and traffic flow are much better.

- We held a few beach days for the staff in July after work as a thank you. We would have dinner and go boating. We had a good turnout to each. The weather sometimes struggled to cooperate.

July was overall a very successful month. However, I want to share some thoughts regarding an incident that occurred this month.

We are in the business of making memories. Every summer, thousands of people visit Bear Lake State Park to enjoy family time, children's first experiences on the lake, sunsets around campfires, and weekends together. Those are the moments we work for.

But occasionally, despite everything we do, Bear Lake becomes the setting for a memory we desperately wish we could change. This July, just below our Mountain Fawn day-use area, a woman enjoying the lake was struck by a boat propeller and suffered catastrophic injuries, losing both legs. In an instant, an ordinary summer day changed her life and the lives of those who love her forever.

Incidents like this stay with those of us who respond to them. Over the years, these experiences accumulate, leaving memories we would rather not have. We celebrate engagements, reunions, birthdays, and perfect summer evenings, but sometimes we also stand beside people on the day their lives change forever.

These moments remind us how fragile life can be. We assume there will always be another boat ride, another weekend at the lake, or another summer with our families. Most of the time, there is. But sometimes, there isn't.

When I look across Bear Lake, I see more than the hundreds of thousands of visitors who come here each year. I see individual lives—someone's mother, daughter, or best friend. I see people whose worlds can change in an instant, just as ours can.

Perhaps that realization should change how we approach life.

Slow down. Pay attention. Be careful with one another.

Take the picture. Make the phone call. Stay for the sunset. Tell the people beside you how much they mean to you. And when you find yourself in the middle of an ordinary, wonderfully uneventful day with the people you love, don't be too quick to wish it away.

- Despite the challenges, full-time and seasonal staff worked exceptionally hard through a hot and busy July to serve our visitors. We remain grateful for their dedication and commitment to providing a safe and memorable experience at Bear Lake State Park.
- We have a lot of incidents where patrons are propping open the Sanistar foot pedals. We try to keep an eye on them. We caught a couple of people holding them open for others in their group. We have been forgiving but explain that it is theft of services and make them pay.
- We had a legislative tour out on the lake. Several local organizations were represented, several local politicians attended, and mostly Utah legislators were in attendance. I gave a report for Idaho's Bear Lake State Park.

One Last Time

I wasn't supposed to be at work that day, but an issue at the campground needed my attention. On my way back, I noticed a vehicle parked where it shouldn't have been. As I approached, I saw two men struggling to push a woman in a wheelchair nearly 100 feet through soft sand to get her back to their vehicle.

I stopped and told them that, in this circumstance, the rules could bend a little. They could bring their vehicle closer to the water to pick her up. That simple conversation changed my entire day.

The woman had grown up at Bear Lake, a place woven into her childhood and her life. After moving out of state, years passed without a visit. Now, as her health declined, her family had brought her back, knowing it might be her last time.

Her last time feeling the sand beneath her feet, the cold water around her ankles, and watching sunlight dance across the familiar blue ripples. For a few moments, she wasn't thinking about age or health. She was simply home.

As we talked, the people whose illegally parked vehicle had originally caught my attention quietly drove away. We laughed, realizing I had missed my opportunity to educate them about the rules. But standing there on the shore of Bear Lake, I realized I was the one who needed educating that day.

Every summer, we hurry through our visits, worry about finding the perfect campsite, and sometimes get frustrated when things don't go as planned. We assume there will always be another weekend, another summer, another sunset.

But someday, every one of us will do something we love for the last time, and we probably won't know when it happens. One last family vacation, one last conversation with a parent, or one last sunset from a familiar porch.

Maybe the lesson isn't to fear the last time, but to stop taking for granted that there will always be a next time.

Put your feet in the water. Watch the sun dance across the lake. Stay a little longer. Laugh with the people beside you.

And when life gives you an ordinary moment, recognize it for what it is: a moment you were never promised, in a life never meant to be taken for granted.

- Staffing updates include the departure of Daniel for a position with the Sheriff's Office, where increased pay was a significant factor. Shiela is also leaving to join Zions Bank after four years as a seasonal employee and nearly five years as a ranger. We appreciate their contributions to the park and wish both success in their new roles.
- We hosted the Bear Lake Brawl Triathlon for the fourth year. It was a great success. A Saturday on the east side this time of year might bring in a couple hundred at most in day use. The Saturday event brought in over $5,000. Plus, many of the participants also stayed in the campground.
- The colder nights have cooled off the water. During the swim portion of the triathlon, we assisted with several hypothermic individuals. A few were quite severe, but we were able to warm everyone back up.
- I was invited to attend the VIP tour of the newly constructed LDS temple in Montpelier as a representative of IDPR. Very beautiful building and very honored to have been invited.
- Hoping to get started on our staff housing soon.
- As another busy summer season ends, we extend our sincere appreciation to our seasonal staff, whose hard work and dedication are essential to our success. They become part of our park family, helping us provide excellent service during our busiest months. While we hope many will return next season, we wish those moving on to school, new jobs, and other adventures every success. We are grateful for their contributions and hope their time at Bear Lake State Park leaves them with lasting memories and friendships.

CITY OF ROCKS – TRENTON DURFEE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Campsite nights at City of Rocks and Smoky Mountain Campground totaled 1,460 in July, 1,010 in August, and 1,971 in September. Castle Rocks lodging recorded 40 nights in July, 17 in August, and 52 in September across the Ranch House, Cottage, and Yurt. Pavilion rentals totaled 3 days in July,1 in August, and 10 in September.
- Visitor Center attendance was 1,498 in August and 1,681 through September 22. Vehicle counts remained strong, with 7,141 at CIRO and 9,475 at CRSP in July, an increase of 2,794 vehicles over July 2025. September counts were 6,568 at CIRO and 6,933 at CRSP.

- Compliance efforts resulted in 19 surcharges in July and 37 in August. Of the August surcharges, 21 were paid, 8 waived, and 8 remained unpaid, generating $726 in collections. July surcharges included 14 paid, 3 waived, and 2 unpaid.

Park/Program Usage

- In August, we hosted two weddings, one at Twin Sisters in City of Rocks and another at the Ranch House and pavilion in Castle Rocks. One backcountry permit was also issued for Indian Grove. In September, we hosted four weddings, including one in City of Rocks and three in Castle Rocks. Other activities included a Southern Idaho Climbing Coalition event at the Bread Loaves, school visits, and use of the backcountry campground by four groups.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	8	493
Special Use Permit	0	0
Film Permit	0	0
Other permits	7	47

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- California Trail Day was expanded on July 4 in celebration of America's 250th birthday, featuring historical demonstrations, pioneer crafts, and educational activities at City of Rocks and the Visitor Center. The park also participated in the community parade with a decorated wagon and handcart. Castle Rocks State Park hosted a star party July 17–18.
- The weekly programs for July consisted of ranger talks, Junior Ranger programs, fishing & archery, ranger led hikes, the CA Trail Day, CSI Astronomical Society Star Party, and some programs for 4H.
- The weekly programs for August consisted of Junior Ranger stations at the visitor center, demonstrations such as roping, butter making, etc., and one ranger led hike.
- Over the Labor Day weekend Artist in Residence, Eric Braman, held two Poetry of the Land Workshops and from those workshops created a collaborative "Found Poem" called Petrichor Please! Another highlight was having Kevin Pogue give a Geology Q&A at Bath Rock.
- From September 4-30 we had a Pinyon Pine display in the visitor center for visitors to experience on their own.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming	6	76
Traditional Interpretation	35	389
Environmental Education	0	0
Jr. Ranger Programming	15	95
School Programming	2	0
Special Events	8	258
Special Events Held Off-Site	2	15

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Two new log drains were installed along Radicella to help mitigate erosion in the staging area. Heavy rainfall has significantly affected this location, and additional work will be needed. Two additional log drains were installed along the Creekside Towers Trail.
- During a hike along the North Fork Trail, staff encountered several impressions that appeared similar to dinosaur tracks. No official identification has been made, but the discovery certainly added some excitement to the day's trail work!

- The Idaho Conservation Corps (ICC) assisted with trail and resource projects in the park from August 24–27. Crew members cleared drains along the Box Top, Stripe Rock, and North Fork trails.
- On the North Fork Trail, ICC constructed rock check steps and a drain to help reduce erosion. The crew also cleared brush from around rocks containing pioneer signatures on the newly acquired Mickelson property, improving access for resource documentation and protection.
- Resource staff also constructed and replaced the pedestrian bridge near the Glamping Yurt where the trail crosses Almo Creek.
- Approximately 50 one-gallon containers of native bunchgrass, propagated in the City of Rocks greenhouse, were planted to restore disturbed areas east of the Visitor Center.
- Staff also prepared lawn areas for weddings and other events by removing cattle manure, leveling gopher mounds, and treating active gopher burrows as appropriate. Topsoil and dirt from the schoolhouse project were used to repair the area where a tree had previously been removed from the lawn at Castle Rocks.
- Vegetation management continued at CRSP and CIRO, with approximately 350 gallons of herbicide applied primarily around Circle Creek Ranch and the Castle Rocks pasture, plus an additional five gallons at Graham's parking lot. Staff also removed mullein from Castle Rocks pastures and along the creek bed.
- Completed the pipeline from the spring to the pond. Approximately 98 hours of labor and 750 yards.
- Resources staff constructed and replaced the pedestrian bridge near the Glamping Yurt that crosses Almo Creek.
- Completed the landscape design and project at the Almo Schoolhouse.
- A major July project involved removing a dead, cracked tree at Castle Rocks. Raft River Electric's tree-trimming crew assisted with the removal, while park staff provided equipment and handled cleanup. Eight employees worked on July 15, with six returning July 16 to finish clearing debris.

Staff Training

- LIVINGWORKS Start online course- 90 min.- (Sophia)
- DOI Talent – IMT IT awareness training 0.5 hour – Austin)
- Rope Rescue Training (Brad, Carolyn) 12hrs (8/11 8/20 8/25)
- DOI Talent – RBPT NPS Privacy training (Austin) 0.5 hour
- Completed exam for USU NEPA class (Austin) 5 hours
- Adobe Acrobat Class on building documents 9/17 Carolyn (1 hour)

Manager's Narrative

- Three new climbing routes at Triple Stamp were evaluated for bolt placement and route design. Terry, Carolyn, and Brad also received training in climbing anchor construction, proper cam placement, bolt identification, and recognizing older bolts that may require replacement. Staff reviewed the process for notifying CRAG when bolt replacement is needed.
- Work continued mapping locations for new signage along the Striped Rock Loop Trail, helping prepare for future improvements to wayfinding and visitor information.
- July also brought an emergency response when a lightning strike ignited a single tree near the entrance to Smoky Mountain. Austin responded and successfully extinguished the fire before it could develop into a larger incident.
- The month included an unexpected opportunity to meet with NPS Pacific West Region Recreation Fee Fund Source Manager Lynn Sanderson. Staff provided a tour and discussed site operations, projects, and related recreation fee considerations.

- A new directional sign was installed on the South Fork Trail to help visitors locate Hummingbird Corridor. Phil assisted Terry and staff with hauling a battery-powered auger down the trail for the sign installation. Phil also assisted with replacing a broken slat on the pedestrian bridge leading to Eagle Rock Grove Wetland.
- Brad and staff also repaired an area in Tiny Town where holds had been carved into a bouldering problem, and a tree had been removed. Wooden Park signs were repainted as part of ongoing maintenance.



- Staff tested the park's new all-terrain wheelchair on several routes during August. The wheelchair successfully traveled the Castle Rocks Trail to Edwards Homesite, visited Eagle Rock Grove Wetland, and completed the Ranch Road Loop. After traveling to all three locations, the wheelchair still had 66% of its battery remaining. The successful test demonstrated the potential for the chair to expand access to several important park destinations.
- August work at the historic Almo Schoolhouse included restoring three transom windows, repainting a cabinet, and completing the landscaping project.
- There was a large effort given to the CIRO roads in August. City of Rocks staff worked with the County Road crew to replace all the culverts from Bath Rock to Loger Springs. A total of 10 culverts were installed in five locations. In addition to the culverts, about 290 yards of gravel were applied to CIRO roads.
- Staff coordinated extensively with partner organizations to plan logistics, projects, and crew hitches. Coordination included Southern Idaho Cultural Resource staff, NPS Inventory & Monitoring (I&M), the Invasive Plant Management Team (IPMT), Northwest Youth Corps (NYC), Student Conservation Association (SCA), Montana Conservation Corps (MCC), Utah Conservation Corps (UCC), and other partners.





Castle Rocks State Park Tree Removal July 2026

Almo 4th of July parade 2026



- Looking ahead, staff began coordinating an educational outreach opportunity with Idaho State University. City Rocks staff worked with Justin Dayley, Director of ISU's Outdoor Adventure Center, and Sophia to arrange an October Zoom presentation for students in the university's Topics in Outdoor Education class.
- From maintaining trails and facilities to preparing for weddings, supporting educational programs, and improving park infrastructure, City Rocks staff accomplished a tremendous amount during September. Their work helped keep park facilities, recreation areas, and visitor spaces clean, safe, and ready for both everyday visitors and special events.

HARRIMAN - JESS BRUMFIELD, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- We received Morman Crickets into the park around the 4th of July, and they continued to be here throughout the month. We had a lot of interaction with visitors who were wanting to know more about the crickets/katydids. A seasonal employee made a flyer about the crickets, and it has come in very handy to answer curious questions. Most visitors were understanding about them, but we

did have few that were not. This month, we had several events taking place in the park and we had a lot of feedback from the guests that staff were handling their needs quite well and were grateful for their help when it was needed.

- We are continuing our message board in the front lobby. Guests to the park may record their wildlife sightings and such on board.
- We have also had several guests mention how grateful they were to see how kid friendly Harriman State Park is for their children and for the fun programs that are available to them.
- We've had many visitors stop at our state park on their way to Yellowstone, and they consistently commented on how beautiful and well-maintained the park is. They've praised our friendly, knowledgeable rangers and staff, and were surprised by the wide range of programs we offer for both children and adults. The cleanliness and care of the entire park really stood out to them as well.

Park/Program Usage

- We had two family reunions hosted in our Dorm and Dining Hall.
- Music Camp held three concerts in July, bringing many visitors to the park.
- Writer's Camp event was held July 25 through August 2, 2026.
- Both events used the Boys House and Scovel Center to teach classes and seminars.
- The second annual Ranching Days was held August 1, drawing approximately 110 guests and volunteers. Activities included horseback rides, food, western music, horseshoeing demonstrations, youth activities, and a family-friendly cattle drive organized by staff and local grazers.
- Anglers Academy held a Women's Fly-Fishing Clinic using the Boys House for classroom instruction and ecology education, with approximately 35 attendees. Participants practiced casting and fly fishing and took part in on-water demonstrations. About 12 guests stayed overnight at the Scovel Center.
- Idaho Falls Trail Runner, Inc., hosted a 25K/50K run in the park on August 15, with 66 runners and approximately 150 spectators. The group rented the Becker Yurt as a resting area and the Boys House for post-race refreshments.
- Ashton Idaho Stake Day Camp utilized our Ranchview Shelter on 8/22. They brought in about 50 young people who enjoyed a nice lunch at the shelter and then went on several of our hiking trails. Some of the guests enjoyed a guided hike with our two interpreter volunteers.
- Yoga and Writing Retreat held an event in August in our Scovel Center. They rented out our Boys House for daily use during their stay for Yoga classes and writing classes. They had just under 20 guests staying for the retreat.
- A wedding Party of 65 guests used the Boys House and the Dorm & Dining Hall in September.
- Also in September, Heavenly Hypnosis Retreat had about 20 guests attend their retreat using the Scovel Center and all 10 rooms. (apparently, they had a ghost story to tell about Scovel Room #5)
- Wine in the Woods Annual event put on by the Friends of Harriman was on Sept. 12, 2026, from 4pm to 7pm using the Boys House and lawn area. They had over 350 attendees. Staff helped the friends of Harriman with parking, and some setting up for the event.
- IDFG held a retreat and training using our Scovel Center and rooms.
- The Bird Family held a large family reunion in September using our Dorm and Dining Hall.
- Syringa Mountain School held a field trip for their school here and used the Dorm and Dining Hall from Sept. 29 to Oct. 2, 2026.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	11	659
Special Use Permit	1	350
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Two America 250 events were held July 8, including a monument dedication by the Island Park Historical Society along the Mesa Falls Byway and a celebration at Harriman State Park featuring a monument rededication, exhibits, ice cream, patriotic songs, and a nationwide reading of the Declaration of Independence. The "America 250: Moments That Made Us" exhibit was displayed during the events and throughout July, with printing funded by two local historical societies and park funds.
- Monthly evening Bat Programs at Harriman State Park drew 85 attendees in July, 70 in August despite stormy weather, and a season-high 90 in September. Attendance included first-time visitors, overnight guests, and a local Girl Scout troop and families who returned for the bats' evening flight. BYU-Idaho and INL staff provided presentations and support.
- Volunteers and staff provided tours and roving visitor assistance throughout the historic area and trails, answering questions about the park, its history, and historic buildings. These additional contacts totaled over 1,452 and are not included in the chart.
- Henrys Fork Wildlife Alliance sponsored a Nature Photography class and IDFG brought their Bear Trailer.
- Harriman State Park hosted its first Department of Health and Welfare Foster Family Day on September 26, welcoming more than 55 foster family participants along with additional public visitors. Activities included fly fishing and fly tying with The Mayfly Project, IDFG wildlife presentations, park programs, historic house tours, scavenger hunts, and a visit from IDPR mascot Scout the Fox.
- The Idaho Master Naturalists crew closed the Native Plant Garden for the season. Their supplies are now housed in the Friends of Harriman shed for the winter. They discussed programs for the public to add in the Garden next summer.
- A variety of programs were offered to the public which included a sunrise walk, bats, trail walks, and tours.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming	0	0
Traditional Interpretation	357	1,807
Environmental Education	40	587
Jr. Ranger Programming	41	347
School Programming	6	346
Special Events	3	280
Special Events Held Off-Site	1	30

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Maintenance staff repaired the concrete ramp and back steps at the Visitor Center and began restoring steps at historic buildings. Volunteers helped build new steps, repair door sills, and paint exterior windowsills. Visitors have shared positive feedback about the park's upkeep and appearance.
- On July 16, we had our annual weed spraying day with Fremont County and other agencies participating. Over 2,000 gallons of herbicide were sprayed within the park's property, helping to mitigate hounds tongue and thistle.

Staff Training

- Fremont County Weed helped train new park staff on weed spray applications and identification during the Spray Day event.

Manager's Narrative

- A meeting was held with park staff to plan for the August 1 Ranching Days event. The month of July found considerable amounts of time being spent in preparation for this exciting new community event.
- Following July interviews, Josh Alm, formerly a Nevada State Park Ranger, accepted the Assistant Park Manager position and began work at the end of September. He has moved into park housing and started training to oversee three state parks. Staff also held a meeting to begin preparations for Haunts of Harriman.
- Construction of the new six-bedroom seasonal housing unit progressed with installation of windows and HVAC units, along with roofing and siding. New interpretive education signs have been designed, and a graphic design company is producing the panels and metal poles.
- Development returned to the park to review the water system. It is still uncertain what still needs to be engineered to run the new wells and feed fire suppression. However, things are moving in a forward direction, and the wells were test-run and operated without issue.
- A cattle fence was completed around the park's spring water source, the goal of which is to protect it from cattle feces contaminating the water.
- Gravel and rock repairs to Golden Lake dyke was completed this month. The access road, which goes to the park's spring water source, is now a safe 12 feet wide.
- Soffit repairs occurred at Scovel Center, seeing Hardieback board placed in the outdoor porch ceiling area to deter birds and bat nesting. Work commenced on repairing the culvert and headgate on Silver Lake.

ASHTON-TETONIA TRAIL

Customer Service

- Vault toilets are cleaned and restocked several times a week.
- Social media and emails are checked to respond to questions and provide updates on the trail.
- Visitor Center hours are 9-5. Open 3 days a week until seasonal staff returns

Park/Program Usage

- Total visitation counts July-September:
  Marysville and Judkins counters were removed for paving project construction**.** Ashton Visitor Center: 1,096.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- The ATT seasonal interpretive staff member gave three interpretive program events, hosting two classes on each Friday. In addition, she travels to various points of interest along the trail to engage with visitors, answer questions, and provide information about the trail's history, as well as local plants and wildlife.
- ATT participated in the City of Ashton's 4th of July Parade with an ATT-constructed float**.**

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	6 programs. 12 classes	77
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site	1	Ashton 4th of July Parade

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The ATT Ranger has continued trail maintenance activities, including grading the trail surface and mowing vegetation along the trail corridor to improve safety, visibility, and overall trail conditions for visitors.
- ATT is working with Fremont County weed control district, who secured a grant for supplies to control invasive weeds along the trail. Trail was sprayed by the County and Park Ranger on July 9th.
- ATT ranger assisted Harriman State Park with their spray day event on July 16.
- Interpretive Seasonal Eleanor ended her season on 8/21/26 and seasonal Rhonda ended her season on 9/07/26 and is expected to return around the end of November.
- ATT Manager and Ranger attended paving construction meetings.
- ATT ranger attended monthly Ashton chamber of commerce meeting.

Staff Training

- Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

- The Park Manager and Ranger met with the City of Ashton regarding water charges for the Visitor Center dump station. The existing lease assigns the city responsibility for operating the dump station and paying its utilities for 10 years. The City confirmed it will arrange and fund the separation of the shared water meter, so the dump station and Visitor Center are billed independently.





- Paving was completed on the Ashton and Tetonia sections of the trail, with parking lots also paved and some parking spaces striped. The trail officially reopened September 25 after Development approved public access to completed, safe sections. More than a dozen redesigned

gates are scheduled for installation this fall to help prevent unauthorized motorized access during summer months. MVEF fee stations will also be installed.

- The ATT is having fencing installed to protect park equipment from the public, as well as to keep vehicular traffic off the grass areas near the VC parking lot. The East Region Crew is in discussion about this.
- A new American Trail (ATT) sign is being fabricated for the Visitor Center to accompany the IDPR logo. Additional park logo signs have been produced for installation along the trail to improve visitor wayfinding and information.

HENRYS LAKE

Customer Service

- Idaho Department of Lands: DEQ approval for the new entrance station and cabins was received September 4, and plans were distributed. Water and electrical lines were extended to the site.
- Signs were put up at the ramp to remind people that they could get stuck in the mud along the shore. Several had to be helped out.

Park /Program Usage

- Campground occupancy was 63.2% in July, with 1,743 of 2,759 available nights occupied. Cabins reached 91.4% occupancy, while campsites reached 60.1%.
- August occupancy was 58.1%, with 1,603 occupied nights; cabins were 70% occupied and campsites 57.7%.
- September occupancy was 52.6%, with 1,609 of 3,060 available nights occupied. Cabins reached 84.4% occupancy, while campsites reached 58.9%. Cabin and campsite use increased over last year in August.
- Vehicle counts in July totaled 16,876, up 2,013 from 2025.
- August counts fell to 10,779, down 1,377, as seasonal visitation slowed earlier than usual.
- September recorded 9,898 vehicles, down 713 from 2025, despite approximately 60 more campsite nights.
- Fishing improved in September, but low lake levels limited boat launches to shallow-draft vessels, with some visitors opting to launch at Wild Rose for $25 per boat. Picnicking and hiking remained popular, especially on weekends.

Type of permit issued (*after event***)**	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	1	0 (no show)
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- America 250 Celebrations: On July 4, approximately 275 people participated in festivities including a parade, Wildlife Olympics, crafts, and watermelon. Staff decorated park vehicles and joined the parade in red, white, and blue. On July 8, 29 attendees gathered for a discussion and nationwide reading of the Declaration of Independence, followed by ice cream.



- Friday evening programs over the summer offered a variety of educational, cultural, and family-friendly experiences, including bear safety and awareness, wildlife, local history, fishing education, family bingo, inspirational photography, and cultural presentations. Featured programs included presentations by Idaho Fish and Game and the Henrys Fork Wildlife Alliance, *The Swans Song*, *John Colter: Mountain Man*, and a cultural presentation by J.R. Spencer, a Nez Perce/Ojibwe artisan, educator, and performing artist.
- Other summer events included morning yoga, Kayaking 101, and nature hikes led by Nancy Willard and Marie Thomsen. The hikes offered participants opportunities to observe local wildlife and plants while learning about bear safety, identifying grizzly and black bears, and proper bear spray use.
- Loaner fishing equipment remained popular throughout the summer, with fishing poles loaned 28 times and tackle boxes 13 times in July, 25 and 9 times in August, and 7 and 3 times in September, respectively.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**	
Experiential Programming	21	16	
Traditional Interpretation	10	264	
Environmental Education			
Jr. Ranger Programming	28	71	
School Programming			
Special Events	4th of July	304	
Special Events Held Off-Site			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The swans were last observed with all four cygnets. The family had been frequenting the dock ramp but has not been seen recently. Staff believe the cygnets may be beginning to fly, as they hatched earlier than usual and have been spending less time near the park.



- Weed spraying was continued in the park including around sites, living pads, parking lots, etc. Fremont County Weed Control brought two ATVs and sprayed 22 acres of musk thistle, knapweed and hoary alyssum with a few other thrown in.
- Staff maintained fire breaks by mowing throughout the season and continued spraying invasive species. Fire breaks were mowed in July following sufficient rainfall, though conditions later turned hot and dry.

Staff Training

- Bryce Fowler, Fremont County Weed Control Supervisor, came to the park to talk weeds with staff. In attendance were George, Chase, Andrea, Marie, and Annalee. (1.5 hrs.)

Manager's Narrative

- Nature Nugget Pursuit was completed in August and launched Labor Day weekend. The booklet includes trail map sections and location-based questions, with prizes available for participants. Staff will gather feedback to evaluate the adventure.
- Henrys Lake was 87% full, and the Upper Snake River system was 32% full at the end of the month.
- After cattle entered the campground for the second consecutive year, staff surveyed the fence line and located all property markers. The landowner plans to use geofencing collars to keep cattle off park property, avoiding costly fence replacement. Adult cattle have stayed out since the collars were implemented; calves entered once in September through an open gate and were removed by staff.
- Work at Damsel Loop included campsite grading, asphalt preparation, topsoil placement, and installation of water and sewer lines. A second CXT vault toilet was installed, while relocation of the existing unit awaits additional funding and crane availability. No progress was reported at the dump station. Water and electrical lines were extended to the new entrance station and cabin site on Idaho Department of Lands property.
- In August, staff completed two bat condos. IDFG, volunteers, and park staff then installed one at the park and a second off park property on the northwest side of the lake.
- The lake drawdown was steady in the first part of the summer, but starting in August, it went down very quickly. The boat docks were taken out on the 12th because the water was low.
- The park had some unusual visitors in August. A lone bison came into the park on August 5. It didn't stop to look at the scenery, just got almost to the entrance station and turned up the hill to the trails and kept going.





- Henrys Lake dropped down to 72% on September 24, but it went up to 73% two days later and maintained that level though the end of the month as irrigators are now harvesting crops. The Upper Snake River system was 9% full.
- In mid September, the park lost seven volunteers and one seasonal employee. One additional volunteer was released due to poor fit. Winter staffing currently includes three seasonals and two volunteers, with the possibility of adding two more volunteers.
- Idaho Fish and Game stocked the lake September 21–22 with approximately 1.1–1.2 million 3-inch cutthroat trout on the first day, followed by 111,000 5-inch brook trout and 250,000 3-inch cut-bows on the second day. Gull numbers increased tenfold on the second day, and mergansers were also observed.



LAKE WALCOTT – KIRSTEN MARCH, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Two parking violation warnings were issued during the Idaho State Disc Golf Championship.
- Several campers arrived without reservations after mistakenly believing they had completed the booking process. In some cases, they had checkout-page printouts but had not finalized their reservations. In one instance, staff could not locate a reservation or customer account to process a requested refund.
- A camper unfamiliar with Lake Walcott camped in the day-use area, claiming he could not find the campground. When contacted by a ranger, he became angry and demanded the ranger be fired. The park manager provided information on filing a complaint with the East Region Office.
- There was a missing child reported on Sunday, August 30. Park staff had found the missing child by the time he was reported missing and was reunited with the family.
- Due to reduced staff, the Visitor Center started winter hours on September 20. The Visitor Center is now open Monday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and closed on holidays.
- Water levels are expected to be at a historical low this year because of low precipitation. The Bureau of Reclamation is expecting the water levels to drop over 7 feet this year.
- Sprinklers were turned off on September 21. Water levels at the lake began to drop drastically and the irrigation pumps were turned off to keep them from clogging with debris.
- Docks were pulled from the boat ramps and kayak launch on September 21.

Park/Program Usage

- Campers and day users enjoyed the First Annual Independence Day Bike Parade. We had 26 riders participate in the parade. They were excited about this becoming a tradition at Lake Walcott State Park.
- The group camp saw much more use in July, occupancy was 38% which is way more than the average for this year of 13%. We are working with Reservations to make the group camp reservable online to help it be better utilized.
- An unexpected picnic of more than 200 people from local business Renaissance Ranch occurred July 25, requiring additional staff at the entrance kiosk and visitor center. Parking issues included vehicles parked outside designated spaces and on the grass. Staff have repeatedly asked the group to provide advance notice and submit a group use permit to allow for proper staffing and planning.
- July was Lake Walcott State Park's second-busiest month on record, with 10,086 vehicles. The busiest days of 2026 were July 25 (695 vehicles) and July 4 (661 vehicles). Common group activities included family reunions, weddings, fishing tournaments, and picnics. The Idaho State Disc Golf Championship, held in late July and early August, drew 223 participants plus spectators and family, with many arriving on July 30 to register and camp.
- Visitation slowed in August, with weekends remaining busier than weekdays and the campground full on weekends. Camping occupancy averaged 56%. Reserved shelters continued to host family reunions, weddings, birthdays, and gender-reveal parties. The final portion of the disc golf championship was included in July's report.
- September visitation slowed with the start of school and fair season, and campground occupancy dropped to 40%, though weekends remained busy with walk-in campers. The Minidoka Dam Run drew approximately 500 participants and spectators from at least eight schools. The Walcott Open disc golf tournament was held in mid-September after being rescheduled due to the potable water project. Fishing tournaments were canceled because of poor water conditions.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	22	2,220
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Lake Walcott State Park hosted three America 250 activities in July: the first annual Independence Day Bike Parade on July 4, with 26 riders; an America's Potluck celebration, where staff distributed 156 ice creams and popsicles; and participation in the July 8 nationwide synchronized reading of the Declaration of Independence.
- Manager March was joined by Ranger Sophia from Castle Rocks State Park to hold two programs with the Cassia County University of Idaho Extension 4H summer programs. Participants learned about animals in southern Idaho including hands on experience with furs, skulls, and antlers. The kids also made their own animal track using molds and air-dry clay.

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming	320	621
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming	24	74
School Programming		

Special Events	3	191
Special Events Held Off-Site	2	15

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Staff removed Russian olives along the shoreline and disc golf course, cleared fallen trees and branches ahead of the State Disc Golf Championship, and removed vegetation from historic staircases, rock walls, and connecting trails in the Upper Lakeview day-use area.
- A main sprinkler line broke near the cabins, requiring the park's sprinkler system to be shut down for 10 days while staff completed repairs. Cooler temperatures and rainfall helped prevent the park from drying out during the shutdown.
- There was also a main line sprinkler break across the road from the shop a week before Walcott Open. Weather was cooler and we received some rain, which helped keep the park from drying out while sprinklers were off. The crew worked hard to get the hole dug for repairs before they were laid off for the season.
- Idaho Power had Trees Inc out to trim or remove trees 60 ft on either side of the powerlines that come through the park. The company provided the park with pieces of wood ready to be split into firewood and wood chips. A large tree planted under a powerline had to be removed. Local park visitors raised their concern about the need for replanting trees. The park manager will work with the IDPR resource manager to determine what will fit our needs the best.

Staff Training

- Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

- On July 23, a visitor received a surcharge for failing to display his Idaho State Parks Passport, which he had left in his glove box. After verifying that the pass matched the vehicle, Park Manager March waived the surcharge. The visitor nevertheless demanded the ranger be fired and said he would file a complaint with the state (Incident 4505).
- On July 30, an unleashed dog bit a visitor on the hand while the owner was at a distance in the group camp. The injured visitor declined to contact law enforcement. Park Manager March issued the owner a citation for an off-leash dog (Citation F6004, Incident 4521).
- Hosting the Idaho State Disc Golf Championship again this year was fantastic. This year the championship also included two separate proposals with disc golfers playing in the event. Other disc golfers in the championship will be holding their small wedding here in August. We are thrilled to be the background for people making lifelong memories.
- Several members of the Snake River Disc Golfers club volunteered by trimming trees, weed eating, and clearing the tee pads of vegetation. Their time was much appreciated in preparation for the Idaho State Disc Golf Championship.
- Site 15 experienced intermittent electrical issues following the April 2026 upgrade. Electricians tightened the 30- and 50-amp connections, resolving the problem.
- August remained busy with camping and family events. Fiscal Year 2027 camping revenue is slightly below last year, while MVEF, retail, and cabin revenue have increased. Staff continue to maintain park grounds and support visitors, with all seasonal employees laid off by the end of September.
- Over Labor Day weekend, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality issued a health alert for a cyanobacteria harmful algal bloom at Lake Walcott. Staff notified campers and posted warning signs throughout the park on September 5. The alert remains in effect for 30 days, pending reassessment by IDEQ. The bloom remained visible along the shoreline as late as September 20.
- The Bureau of Reclamation began lowering Lake Walcott in mid-August, with record-low levels expected. As the water receded, staff coordinated with the East Region crew and Fish and Wildlife Service to remove the docks on September 21, one week earlier than in 2025. By the end

of September, the reservoir was at 20% capacity, with water levels below the end of the boat ramp.
- All seasonal employees and volunteers were laid off by September 24. Since then, the park manager and two park rangers have maintained park operations.
- Construction on the potable water project is expected to begin in mid-to-late October, though no start date has been confirmed. Campground reservations will remain open as long as possible. October priorities include winterizing park facilities, blowing out sprinkler lines using a Bureau of Reclamation air compressor, winterizing three unheated restrooms, and shutting down campground potable water by October 15.

LAND OF THE YANKEE FORK- BLAKE PACKER, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The park worked with the Idaho Transportation Department to update highway signage along US 93 and SH 75, improving directions to all park units, including the Interpretive Center, Challis Hot Springs, and Bayhorse Ghost Town. The updates were particularly important for Challis Hot Springs, which joined the state park system in May 2023.
- Park staff continued to complete trail maintenance and trail clearing on several OHV and motorbike trails throughout the Land of the Yankee Fork Historic Area during the summer months.
- The historical film at the Interpretive Center was shown 72 times to 189 visitors in September, compared to 49 times to 204 visitors in August.

Park/Program Usage

- Challis Hot Springs monthly passholder visits increased slightly from 280 in July to 288 in August, following a decrease from 304 in June.
- Interpretive Center visitation declined from 1,541 in July to 1,338 in August and 1,184 in September, following a June count of 1,188.
- Bayhorse Ghost Town visitation increased from 1,321 in June to 1,497 in July, remained steady at 1,498 in August, and rose to 1,721 in September. The site remains a popular stop for local campers, Challis Hot Springs visitors, and travelers passing through the area.
- The Interpretive Center's historical film was shown 65 times to 210 visitors in July, 49 times to 204 visitors in August, and 72 times to 189 visitors in September.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Park staff partnered with the U.S. Forest Service and Custer Townsite Association to host the 26th Annual Custer Days on July 11, welcoming approximately 624 visitors.
- Staff provided interpretive programs throughout the summer on the area's mining history, including Bayhorse, Custer, Bonanza, the Yankee Fork Gold Dredge, and surrounding mining towns, as well as the adjacent BLM Bison Kill Site. Information was shared with visitors at the Interpretive Center, Bayhorse Ghost Town, and Challis Hot Springs.
- The seasonal Interpretive Ranger offered guided tours at Bayhorse Ghost Town on Fridays and Saturdays from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The site remains open for self-guided tours in fall and typically closes between October 15 and November 1, depending on weather and road conditions.

- The 17th Annual Ride the Bayhorse OHV event was held August 14–15, attracting 28 participants and 21 OHVs. Riders explored BLM, Forest Service, state park trails and historic mine sites, with lunch and a raffle at Bayhorse Ghost Town. The event combined outdoor recreation with opportunities to learn about the region's mining history.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	186	1,304
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events	1	116
Special Events Held Off-Site	2	652

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Park staff have been in conversations with the IDPR Development Bureau, East Region Manager, IDPR Executive staff, IDEQ & IDL staff regarding potential soil remediation projects at the historic sites at Ramshorn Mine or the Bayhorse Ghost Town Kilns.
- Park staff are coordinating with IDPR Development Bureau, contractors, East Region Maintenance, the Trails Specialist, and the U.S. Forest Service to plan stabilization of historic structures at the Ramshorn and Skylark Mine Sites during the 2027 construction season.
- Park staff are coordinating with IDPR, IDEQ, and IDL leadership to explore potential soil remediation projects at Ramshorn Mine and the Bayhorse Ghost Town kilns. Staff provided IDEQ with information on Ramshorn Mine to support evaluation for future remediation, which could improve public access to these historic sites.

Staff Training

- Blake Packer completed Certified Pool/Spa Operator training in July to strengthen knowledge of pool operations and support management decisions at Challis Hot Springs. Land of the Yankee Fork park rangers may attend future training to further support pool operations.
- Training needs identified: Brandt System Training, Interpretative Training, Compliance Enforcement Officer (full 80-hour course), CEO Refresher, First Aid/CPR Training, First Aid/CPR Instructor Training, IDPR Snowmobile and Avalanche Awareness Training, IDPR OHV/Trails Training, IDPR Ranger Round-Up, IDPR Administrative Assistant Training, SITPA Chainsaw Training, Backcountry Horsemen Chainsaw Training, NOLS Wilderness First Responder Training, PNW Field Preservation School Training, DHR Supervisory Academy, DHR Crucial Conversations, DHR Crucial Accountability, DHR Getting Things Done, Certified Pool Operator Course, and State Park Leadership School.

Manager's Narrative

- Staff installed a new intake screen, irrigation pump, and filtration system at the Interpretive Center to address issues caused by canal algae and equipment problems. A fire suppression system leak identified in late June has been repaired, though additional corrections and improvements remain necessary.
- Due to recruitment challenges, park management, rangers, and volunteers completed trail maintenance throughout the peak season. Recruitment efforts will increase during the winter and spring to fill Seasonal Trail Ranger positions for next season.
- Recruitment for seasonal office staff continued in August to meet staffing needs at the park's two visitor centers and address recurring seasonal layoffs.
- Staff completed replacement of deteriorating drywall ceilings with moisture-resistant vinyl in all four restrooms adjacent to the Big Pool at Challis Hot Springs during the third week of August.

- Park staff have continued efforts to replace outdated or failing park signage up at the Challis Hot Springs and the Interpretive Center throughout the month of August.
- Staff improved the Interpretive Center's irrigation system by installing an intake screen, replacing the pump and filter, and replacing failing solenoids and sprinkler heads. A fire suppression system leak has been repaired, but additional deficiencies identified during 3-D Fire's five-year inspection remain pending funding approval.
- Park staff have completed a project to replace the privacy screen in front of the poolside restrooms at the CHS Big Pool. This included removing the existing failing privacy screen and installing a new cedar plank and treated wood privacy screen.
- The Interpretive Center's fire suppression system leak was temporarily addressed, but additional repairs remain necessary. Staff coordinated with IDPR leadership to secure funding, and the Development Bureau finalized a contract with 3-D Fire for repairs beginning in early November.

MASSACRE ROCKS – TRAVIS TAYLOR, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The word of the month for July was "HOT"! It was very hot this month with 27 days above 90 degrees and 11 of those topped out at over 100.
- July was very smokey as well with the fires from Oregon contributing most of the month with a couple more local blazes finishing out July
- Retail sales were $2,144 in July, dipped to approximately $1,150 in August, then rebounded to $2,038 in September. Popular items included T-shirts and hats in July, ice cream and toy lizards in August, and magnets, hat pins, and T-shirts in September.
- Temps normalized a bit through August but remained seasonably warm.
- River water remained very muddy due to low American Falls Reservoir levels. Water levels began dropping significantly during the last week of September, though boat launches remained accessible.
- Camping and cabin rentals ramped back up for Labor Day weekend and continued through the month with milder temperatures.

Park/Program Usage

- Camping was inconsistent in July due to the heat but picked up in the second half of August. Cabin rentals were slow in July and August but rebounded in September.
- Boating and fishing remained strong in July and August, as the park had one of the few remaining usable boat docks in the area. By September, low water levels reduced boating activity, while bank fishing increased.
- Had a large group of RC rock crawlers here as well.
- Bouldering and Disc Golf have picked up, especially with the cooler mornings.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit		
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation		
Environmental Education		

Jr. Ranger Programming		
Loaner Fishing Rods		7
Loaner Backpacks		3
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Nothing to report.

Staff Training

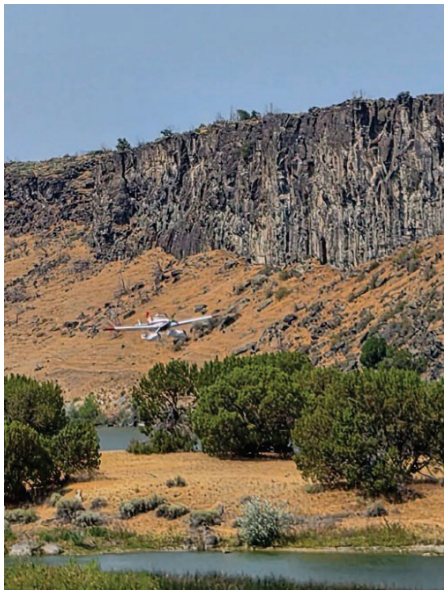
- Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

- The park experienced a couple of close calls in July, including the Lake Channel Fire, which started July 29 on BLM land across the river. Once contained, the fire had burned approximately 2,500 acres.







- On July 31 we had another close call along the interstate. Local responders jumped on it quickly, and I estimated it to be about two acres.
- Aside from the brutal heat, we were able to get some clean up done at Register Rock. We had several large Russian Olive trees blow over this winter and with the new fiscal year, the park invested in a proper saw to deal with the larger rounds.



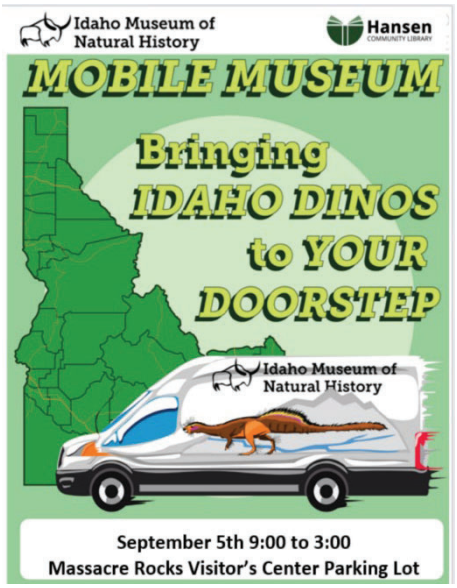
- I walked through the small freeway fire area we had across from the boat ramp. I was really astounded at the buildup of trash found in the small area. I think it's safe to assume the interstate shoulder is like this for miles.







- Had a Pallid Bat visit the Upper Loop restroom for a day.
- Travis assisted Twin Peaks during the last week of August, joined by longtime seasonal employee Kloee Tomkinson, who will finish the season there.
- Adam partnered with ISU's Mobile History Museum for a well-attended visit over Labor Day weekend.
- We were finally able to meet at East Fork on the 21st with Dev., IDL, and RIVHAB engineering. We now have a lock on the gate and will start some cleanup here very soon.





- We tackled some substantial rot on the deck of the sage brush cabin. Finished pics will be in next month's report.





TWIN PEAKS RANCH – RYAN BUFFINGTON, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Twin Peaks Ranch State Park's had its first month of officially being open.
- The park added stalls for overnight boarding of horses for guests who bring horses.
- The Recreation crew finished improving the OHV road that ties into the USFS road and trail system.
- Park staff continue to improve rooms by painting and updating fixtures.
- Park staff continue to develop non-motorized trails.
- The Park opened an account with the Wedding Wire and The Knot.
- Staff moved the guest check-in office to the Eagles nest and signed the road accordingly. The new location is proving to be more intuitive for our customers.

- Park staff performed trail maintenance on an existing but abandoned section of trail to the ponds below the ranch area. It's a small but important step in providing customers with recreational opportunities while staying at the unit.

Park/Program Usage

- Backcountry Horseman Lucky Draw Ride.
- The Park hosted the Nature Conservancy's annual meeting.
- The park hosted an area US marshals meeting.
- The park hosted an Association of Ranch Managers retreat.

Type of permit issued (*after event*)	**No. of Permits**	**No. of Attendees**
Group Use Permit	3	200
Special Use Permit		
Film Permit		
Other permits		

Park Sponsored Program or Event

- Park Rangers roving Interpretation programs

Program Type	**No. of Programs**	**No. of Attendees**
Experiential Programming		
Traditional Interpretation	2	25
Environmental Education		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		
Special Events Held Off-Site		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Park staff have been improving the natural resources by improving irrigation systems and establishing a noxious weed management program and removing invasive plant species to protect native vegetation, improve the health of the landscape, and prevent further spread.
- Park staff reported a wildfire on Twin Peaks Mountain. Park staff were able to assist BLM by giving good clear directions to the fire and relaying fire information to firefighters.
- Prior to the Tread Lightly!, OnX event, the local Jeep group cleared vegetation along the new OHV route, improving its accessibility.
- Park staff sprayed and removed weeds from around the ranch area.
- Park staff cleared vegetation and improved the tread on the canal road trail.

Staff Training

- The Park Manager has begun recruiting a new Park Ranger.
- Park staff will need to complete required CEO, CPR, and First Aid training to ensure employees are properly prepared to respond to workplace and visitor emergencies.
- Additional staff training needs include chainsaw and sawyer certification, pesticide applicator licensing for noxious weed spraying,
- Prior to the grand opening, Rebecca and Seth held a brief R&R training session with several staff members. With a new manager now coming to the unit, we have scheduled another on-site training for the fall for the new team members.

Manager's Narrative

- Twin Peaks Ranch State Park successfully held the first annual Backcountry Horsemen's Lucky Draw Ride. This event was very successful.

- During the 4th of July we were very close to being fully occupied with overnight guests. We had local visitors who wanted to avoid the fireworks and noise of festivities by staying on site in the cabins and boarding their horses on site with them.
- The park made a final decision on hiring Cheyanne and Lanette for the two permanent positions. Cheyanne filled the ranger position at the beginning of August. Lanette is currently filling the position of Lead Housekeeper.
- In September, Zach Grogan resigned from the Manager position
- The Park moved the staff office to the Eagles Nest, and prepared the lodge and kitchen area for restaurant concession recruitment
- Jumbos Café catered the Nature Conservancy Annual Meeting. They expressed interest in catering future events and potentially providing daily service through the peak operating season.
- Blake Packer from the Land of the Yankee Fork came up to the park to consult for the initial layout of a 3D archery course.
- Brian DiLenge led a volunteer team from Tread Lightly!, OnX, and a local Jeep organization on a service project to install new OHV kiosks along the new diversion road within the park and along the new motorized trail on the surrounding public lands.
- Joseph Reed resigned from his Park Ranger position in September.
- Jim and Michelle completed their volunteer season. Jim was a dedicated groundskeeper through the summer months, and Michelle helped the housekeeping team. They were great volunteers and will be missed.
- The housekeeping team has done a great job turning over and preparing rooms and facilities for guests. We consistently hear glowing feedback on their hard work.
- Park staff stained two of the cabins.
- We have coordinated with ITS and Custer-Tel to improve internet access across the unit. The goal is to get a Wi-Fi mesh that will cover the lodge area, from above the top rental units down to the shop and arena areas without interruption. The service to the area is adequate, but the on-site hardware will need to be updated.
- We offered a discounted reservation coupon at the grand opening, and we saw a number of those redeemed. This first quarter saw a steady increase in visitation as it progressed.
- Travis Taylor from Massacre Rocks sat in as the manager for a week through the transition, he identified a number of maintenance projects for the team to work on including updates to the disc golf course.

EAST REGION MAINTENANCE CREW - BRAD GILMER, FOREMAN

Castle Rocks State Park / City of Rocks State Park

- Staff assisted Trenton's crew with installing an NPS-provided CXT restroom, completing assembly over two days after the tank and concrete base were prepared. After installation, vandals carved names into the concrete.

Henrys Lake State Park

- Maintenance crew went to Henry's Lake to look at the new campground.

Harriman State Park

- Staff met with Rivers West to learn well system operations. After running the wells and spring overnight, a variable frequency drive (VFD) indicated unusually high pressure and the pumps began short cycling, so staff shut down the system. American Pump inspected the system, fine-tuned the pumps, and identified a faulty pressure sensor reading 30–40 PSI too high.
- Met with the Fire Marshall to do some initial testing on the water system to see what fire suppression system was going to be required on the new seasonal house.
- Brad and Jordin excavated the fire suppression water line near the Scovel Center to investigate pump short cycling but found no leaks. Further investigation revealed standing water and mold in

the dining hall crawlspace. The excavation was backfilled while staff continued tracing the line and investigating the source of the problem.

- Using Rivers West's as-built plans, staff located a fire suppression line leak at a corroded galvanized pipe connection to CPVC. Staff coordinated with regional personnel and Legacy Fire on repairs, which the regional crew will complete under Legacy Fire's oversight.
- Staff began the annual canal-cleaning project a week early to remove accumulated silt, grass, and debris, clearing approximately half a mile during the first week.
- Monitored the Silver Lake project for Development and provided task support as needed.

Massacre Rocks State Park

- Staff installed two delayed dock connectors from Grainger, while Travis seeks the final two pieces and dock replacement grant funding.

Ashton Tetonia Trail State Park

- Maintenance crew visited Ashton-Tetonia Trail with Nathan to look at the new paved sections and brainstorm some solutions to some steep sections near the trestles.

Bear Lake State Park

- Delivered the excavator to Bear Lake so they could use it to repair a water leak.

Land of the Yankee Fork State Park

- Brad attended the design meeting for Challis-hot springs with Development.

Twin Peaks Guest Ranch

- After months at Twin Peaks, staff spent a week relocating equipment to the Massacre shop and completing necessary oil changes and repairs on trucks and equipment.
- Went to Twin Peaks with Nathan and met the Fire Marshall to do our testing on the hood vent system in the kitchen as well as the hood vent system in the seasonal building.
- Brad attended the first round of campground design with Development
- Brad fixed the botched sink/toilet installed in the Quaken Aspen cabin, bringing it up to standard and ready for guests.
- Delivered two beds and two TVs for the Quaken Aspen cabin.

Lake Walcott State Park

- Docks were removed early due to rapidly dropping water levels. Staff identified broken supports and missing hardware, which Rolando expects to repair during the off-season.

East Region Crew tasks:

- Sealed the remaining shop concrete and washed dirt and grease off all equipment.
- Staff spread leftover dirt from the shop project's drain field across low spots in the maintenance yard, completing work postponed last fall due to time constraints.
- We completed equipment and vehicle maintenance following the Twin Peaks project. The regional crew is back in operation, with only a few noncritical parts still pending.
- Brad consulted with each park on their B7 replacements, confirmed their preferences, and built spec sheets for all parks.
- The crew delivered City / Castle Rocks new tilt deck trailer.
- Jordin started with the department as the Utility Craftsman for the region crew on September14.
- Brad & Jordin went to the East Fork Rock Creek design with Development.

COLLEGE OF NATURAL RESOURCES

University of Idaho

June – October 2026

Dual-Appointment Report

Sliding into Fall…



Studying recreation ecology brings our Lab to some wild places. This summer, **Brey Weygandt's** research on the **Teton River** brought us the gnarliest river put-in we've ever seen. "The Slide" is among the many considerations in the **Bureau Land Management** may bring to **Federal Energy Regulatory Commission** in the relicensing of Felt Dam, located near Driggs. We assisted the BLM in interviewing recreationists, commercial operators, landowners, and local stakeholders of this important river canyon.

Amber Hawes continues to work with **Liv Wells** and **Victoria Ortega** to develop interpretive theme inventories for **Heyburn** and **Round Lake**. Liv's work with Round Lake got picked up by the *Bonner County Daily Bee* and the *Coeur d'Alene Free Press*. Amber also finished **Bruneau Dunes, Eagle Island, Lake Walcott**'s reports this summer. Her third round of interviews with the remaining parks began this Fall. A big thanks to all park staff who are participating.

Dr. Zajchowski joined **Dr. Mary Engels** in publishing the results of her student's research on litter management in *Sustainability*. Visitors to **Lake Cascade, Ponderosa, Heyburn,** and **Farragut** and the Payette National Forest were surveyed to understand what impacts their waste disposal practices. One finding was the importance of signage in educating visitors on available resources and best practices.

Initiatives

International Assoc. of Society and Natural Resources Conference



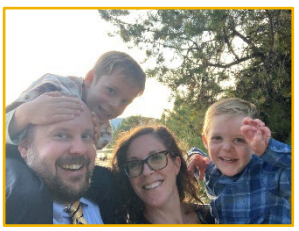
- **Amber, Brey, Shahriar** and **Dr. Zajchowski** traveled to Corvallis for the IASNR Conference in June. Brey presented his **Salmon River Basin** resource valuation work, Shahriar shared preliminary results of wildfire smoke impacts on **Ponderosa's** overnight visitation, and Amber detailed her research with the **National Park Service**.

Signs of Intelligence

- UI alumna **Jacqueline Snow's** Master's thesis research with **McCroskey** was published in the *Park Stewardship Forum* in September. Mrs. Snow's work focuses on the use of AI in interpretive sign design and its impact on trust for park stakeholders. Big thanks to **Drs. Jason Karl** and **Bert Baumgartner** for their help.

A Park Wedding

- Dr. Zajchowski's family celebrated **Anna Medlin's** nuptials at **Priest Lake**. Kudos to **Lonnie Johnson** for the great weather and amazing venue.





*Shahriar Rahman secured **two** grants to support his dissertation research, focused on wildfire smoke impacts on outdoor recreation. Shahriar is supported both by University of Idaho's **Institute for Modeling, Collaboration, and Innovation** and the **Western Rural Development Center** as a 2026 Graduate Fellow.*

WESTERN RURAL DEVELOPMENT CENTER

IMCI

Past and Upcoming Events & Visits

Park	Date
International Association for Society & Natural Resources ***Corvallis, OR***	**June 21-25**
BLM Teton River Research ***Driggs, ID***	**Aug 28-31**
McCroskey Friends Group ***McCroskey State Park***	**Sept. 30**
Western Association of Recreation Research Professionals ***Harriman State Park***	**Oct. 10-13**
Idaho Conference on Outdoor Recreation and Tourism ***University of Idaho, Moscow***	**Oct. 19-21**



New UI faculty, Dr. Iree Wheeler, leading a WARRP session at Harriman State Park.

Chris Zajchowski, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Parks, Tourism and Recreation Ecology
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Parks & Recreation Lab
University of Idaho

Initiatives

2028 Idaho SCORP Survey

- Dr. Zajchowski is assisting **Will Armbruster** with development **Idaho's Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP)** survey and additional data collection. An updated SCORP is required of every state every five to access Land & Water Conservation Fund grants. To supplement the survey, Chris' *NRS 1250* class will visit with attendees of the 2026 **Idaho Conference on Outdoor Recreation and Tourism** in Moscow. Students will document attendees' perspectives on statewide recreation opportunities, challenges, and needs.

ICORT
IDAHO CONFERENCE ON RECREATION & TOURISM

Big Shoes to Fill…

- **Brey, Amber, Shahriar, Nate, Drs. Wheeler** and **Zajchowski** traveled to **Harriman** for the **Western Association for Recreation Research Professionals** (WARRP) meeting. After a two-decade hiatus, we worked to bring back this regional meeting with a focus on low-cost professional development for graduate students and emerging professionals. WARRP was originally pioneered by UI legends, **Drs. Bill McLaughlin, Ed Krumpe,** and **John Hunt.** A big thanks to IDPR staff, **Kyle Babbit** and **Lexi Adlard** at Harriman for sharing the park's story and their passion for this special place.