

### **Communications Memo**

## Communications Program Report: Third Quarter, 2021 Craig Quintana, Public Information Officer, Sr.

### Accomplishments & Tasks Underway

- Media/Marketing/Advertising/Outreach
  - <u>News Releases</u>: We broke a bit of news in the second quarter of 2021, upping the profile of the department through the summer and into September.
    - A release about fire restrictions within State Parks got widespread coverage during this particularly bad wildfire year.

Like

Write a comment...

🝐 You're commenting as Craig Quintana.

- The update on August 26<sup>th</sup> also got noticed by several media outlets.
- A July 14<sup>th</sup> release about Be Outside, Idaho grants for 2021-22 drew a little play.
- A release about the fire ban for all North Region parks went out on July 12<sup>th</sup> and got coverage with the wealth of other, statewide fire news.
- o <u>Media</u>:
  - Communications worked with a CNN reporter on a travel story that highlighted Bruneau Dunes, Thousand Springs and the City of Rocks. Many thanks to our park staffers who helped facilitate this great coverage.

Comment

A Share

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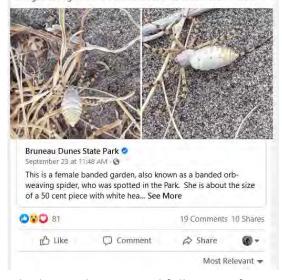
- Social Media Engagement Between all park and recreation pages, the agency
  - has 124,405 followers on Facebook. This is an increase of 7,263 since our last report. We continue to accumulate an average of 1,000 followers a month across our Facebook platforms. Parks are becoming increasingly more engaged with their own pages, which has been a major contributor to our sizable growth.

Other social media:

Our main IDPR Instagram page has 23,276 followers. Between all park and program Instagram accounts, we have a total of 95,098 followers, an overall increase of over 2,000 since our last board report.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation 🤗 September 29 at 7:35 AM · 📀

Check out this intense #WildlifeWednesday post from Bruneau Dunes State Park, featuring the Banded Orb-Weaving Spider, also known as the Banded Garden Spider. The size of a 50 cent piece with a white head and black eyes, these spiders can lay up to 1,400 eggs during their winter season. Emerging in the spring, the spiderlings remain with their mother until they are able to fend for themselves. Can you imagine having 1400 babies at once?! That's a lot of mouths to feed!

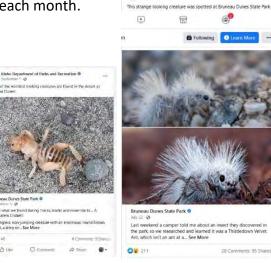


Between Instagram, Facebook,

Twitter, YouTube, Pinterest, and LinkedIn, we have a total following of over 219,000 people, reaching well over 400,000 engagements (click, like or share) each month.

Notable social media efforts included:

- Announcement of the new fees for non-Idaho residents to camp and enter some of our most popular parks.
- The popular Wildlife Wednesday posts, which spotlights critters at different parks. (Apologies for all of the bug pictures, but Bruneau was simply nailing it.)



Idaho Department of Parks and Re

We also used social media to publicize and target alerts and news about water quality issues at Lake Cascade and Lucky Peak. Cascade was plagued by the now-familiar algae outbreak, but the concern at Lucky ended up being a false alarm, which validated the decision to downplay the initial findings until more data was gathered.

The 2021 Mind Your Wake Campaign began May 17 and finished on September 2 with a series of television and radio ads promoting safe recreation on the water. The focus of this campaign is to minimize the impact of wakes on shorelines and to other recreationists. Funded by the U.S. Coast Guard, \$160,000 was put towards TV (\$121,000), radio (\$28,000), and digital ads (\$11,000). On both TV and radio, each station donated "match" plays, which more than doubled our paid airtime and nearly tripling our intended audience reach.

- **TV:** 17,383,344 impressions (only 5,930,347 were paid, remaining were match). An impression is a possible viewer/listener.

- **Radio:** 5,155,006 impressions (only 1,757,714 were paid, remaining were match)

- Digital: 759,685 impressions

### **Sponsors and Partners**

• Recreate Responsibly Idaho 2.0 – the partnership between Idaho recreation and resource agencies has returned for a second year, largely shifting the focus from

COVID to caring for the outdoors, as millions of new people enjoy outdoor recreation. Partners include IDPR, Idaho Fish & Game, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and Idaho Tourism. Tourism brought \$300,000 in federal relief funding to the effort, making for a robust traditional and social media effort:

- YouTube Ads generated 309,000 views
- Facebook ads generated 46,095 clicks and 3.3 million impressions (potential looks)



- IDPR's page generated nearly 19,000 clicks
- TV and radio spots appeared in most major media markets in Idaho
- Represented IDPR at the Idaho Conference on Recreation and Tourism (ICORT) in early October, speaking about the Recreate Responsibly campaign, its objectives and strategies. Feedback for the largely online event was good, despite technical problems with the presentation.
- Idaho 55 Construction: Continued work with the Idaho Transportation Department and its outreach contractor to publicize on IDPR's social media the Idaho 55 construction project, which impacts operations at Ponderosa and Lake Cascade parks.
- Participated in the Barber Pool Master Plan workshop on September 15, representing the department at the planning exercise for the open acreage near

IDPR headquarters and the Boise River.

 Chelsea and Craig interviewed members of the IDPR Interpretation Program about the future of interpretation after the retirement of Jamie Little. We've gathered a lot of insights about the program and how people want to see it unfold moving forward.

### Miscellaneous/Reminders /Last Meeting Follow-Up

- Craig and Chelsea continue to support the Idaho Recreation and Tourism Initiative, working with our new coordinator, Mindy Peper, to make the group more active and relevant.
- The partnership with the Friends of Idaho State Parks and the Idaho Press produces monthly spotlight articles on parks in the *Exploring Idaho Parks* series.
- Also working with the Friends of Idaho State Parks to expand the *Experience Idaho Loaner Backpack Program.* The program currently operates in 13 state parks and will be available at Thousand Springs, Lucky Peak, Massacre Rocks, and Dworshak State Parks by season's end. The program continues to be funded by a large donation from former Gov. Dirk Kempthorne and family.
- Continuing work with Idaho Commerce and Madden Media to shoot a new educational video for the Old Mission, a project that's reached the half-way mark and should finish filming by year's end.



Junior Ranger at Lucky Peak using the binoculars from the Experience Idaho Backpacks

- Seeking general fundraising and relationship building opportunities.
- Facilitate all agency-related information requests (Idaho Public Records Act) and to serve as primary media contacts.
- Miscellaneous agency brochure revisions, news releases, web updates, and social media posts, etc.
- Continue to handle special projects as assigned presentations, legislative needs, talking points, speeches, graphics, and web updates.

### **OPERATIONS DIVISION QUARTERLY REPORT**

### JULY-AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2021

### **OPERATIONS DIVISION: TROY ELMORE, ADMINISTRATOR**

### **Mission**

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

### <u>Goals</u>

- 1. To provide leadership and direction for the ongoing daily operations of Idaho State Parks, the IDPR Recreation Bureau, the Natural Resources Management Program, and the Education and Experience Program.
- 2. 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 and hired Walcott State Park Manager Ryan Buffington.
- Conducted interviews and hired Eagle Island State Park Manager Matt Cooper.
- Conducted interviews and hired Cascade Park Manager Blake Packer.
- Conducted interviews and hired Lucky Peak State Park Manager Surat Nicol.
- Visited Massacre Rocks State Park with Senator Lent, Representative Armstrong, Power County Commissioner Anderson, local grazing permittees, and Idaho Department of Lands.



East Fork Rock Creek Discussion with Senator Lent, Representative Armstrong and IDL grazing permittee

• Met with City of Rocks/Castle Rocks Park Manager Wallace Keck, Assistant Manager Tara McClure-Cannon, and South Region Manager Garth Taylor to discuss park budget complexity and process.

• Attended National Association of Park Directors conference in Pennsylvania with Director Buxton.



NASPD Troy operating Cordless chainsaw and Director Buxton Representing IDPR in Pennsylvania

- Participated in national state park concessions group teleconference call.
- Evaluated Cascade marina proposals for eligibility with Theresa Perry and Blake Packard.
- Met with Gateway Concessionaire at Eagle Island to discuss upcoming season operations.
- Toured Lucky Peak State Park and met staff.
- Toured Winchester, Hell's Gate and Dworshak State Park. Met with LCSC President Cynthia Pemberton and Representative Lori McCann from Lewiston.
- Continued work on FY23 Budget submission.
- Attended region development projects meeting.
- Attended Lucky Peak Lake Partnership meeting and tour. Met with BOR, Ada County Parks and Waterways, Ada County Sheriff, Ada County Commissioner Davidson, Ada County Commissioner Beck, and park staff.
- Attended August IDPR Board Meeting and tour in Wallace.
- Participated in South/East Region Manager teleconference call.
- Met with Jeff Parker to discuss Idaho Conservation Corps. transition to new office and exit strategy.

## □ IDAPA FEE □ BOARD ACTION REQUIRED □ INFO ONLY, NO ACTION REQUIRED

AGENDA Idaho Park and Recreation Board Meeting December 1, 2021 IDPR Headquarters 5657 Warm Springs Ave. Boise, ID 83716

AGENDA ITEM: FY 2022 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Financial Reports

ACTION REQUIRED: Information Only

PRESENTER: Steve Martin

### PRESENTATION

Attached are the first quarter financial reports for fiscal year (FY) 2022. The information presented reflects an overview of the department's revenues, expenditures, and cash balances along with a summary of the Passport Program. Also included for this quarter is the annual summary of the endowment fund accounts. Considering the extraordinary investment gains in FY 2021, we have requested and received the withdrawals shown on page 14. These funds have been deposited into the dedicated funds for each park and will go towards ongoing operations.

- Page 2 FY 2022 Financial Statement / Budget Status as of 09/30/2021
- Pages 3-6 FY 2022 Y-T-D Park Operations Revenues / Expenditures
- Pages 7-13 FY 2022 Cash Balances as of 09/30/2021
- Page 14 FY 2022 Y-T-D Passport Program Revenue
- Pages 15-19 FY 2022 Endowment Fund Distributions and Reporting

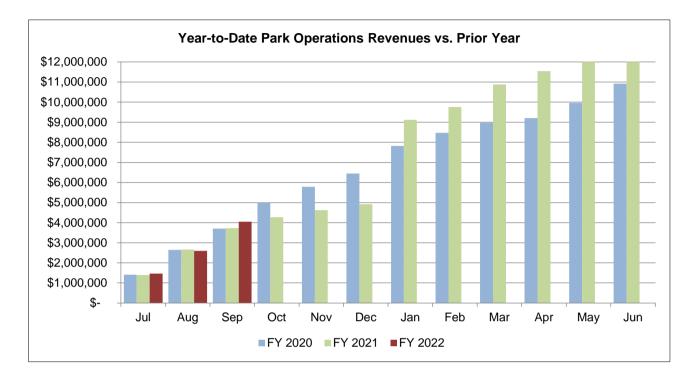
### STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS

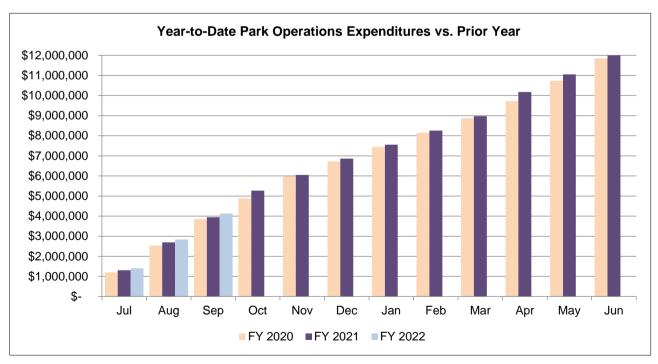
This agenda item is for information only.

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation FY 2022 Financial Statement / Budget Status as of September 30, 2021

Program/Object	Ap	propriation	E	xpenditures	En	cumbrances	Balance	% Remaining
Management Services								
Personnel Costs	\$	2,728,500	\$	582,496	\$	-	\$ 2,146,004	78.7%
Operating Expenditures		2,747,200		627,770		-	2,119,430	77.1%
Capital Outlay		21,700		-		-	21,700	100.0%
Trustee & Benefit		13,561,800		2,537,813		5,971,453	5,052,534	37.3%
Subtotal	\$	19,059,200	\$	3,748,079	\$	5,971,453	\$ 9,339,668	49.0%
Park Operations								
Personnel Costs	\$	11,331,300	\$	3,036,049	\$	-	\$ 8,295,251	73.2%
Operating Expenditures		6,273,817		2,058,219		-	4,215,598	67.2%
Capital Outlay		1,329,305		7,969		-	1,321,336	99.4%
Trustee & Benefit		1,427,500		540		-	1,426,960	100.0%
Subtotal	\$	20,361,922	\$	5,102,778	\$	-	\$ 15,259,145	74.9%
Capital Development								
Personnel Costs	\$	-	\$	-	\$	-	\$ -	
Operating Expenditures		-		-		-	-	
Capital Outlay		22,449,984		1,154,903		-	21,295,082	94.9%
Trustee & Benefit		-		-		-	-	
Subtotal	\$	22,449,984	\$	1,154,903	\$	-	\$ 21,295,082	94.9%
Total	\$	61,871,106	\$	10,005,759	\$	5,971,453	\$ 45,893,894	74.2%

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Park Operations - All Funds Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures September 30, 2021

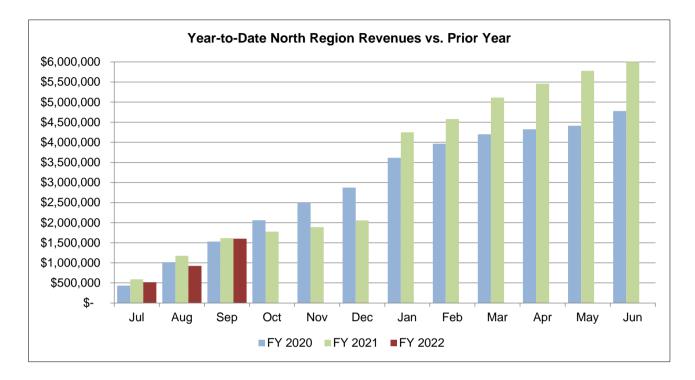


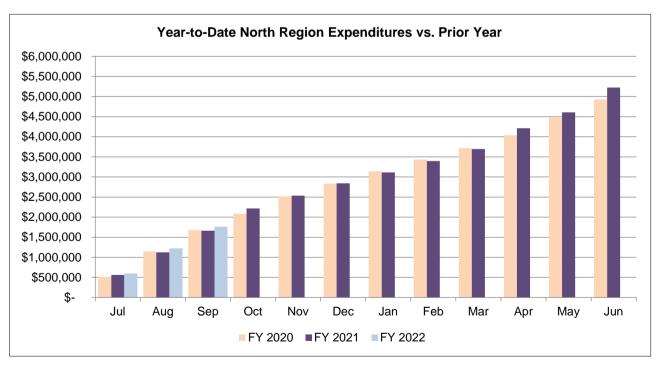


- All Park Operations fiscal year-to-date revenues are up \$320,700 (8.6%) compared to FY 2021

- All Park Operations fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up \$187,000 (4.7%) compared to FY 2021

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation North Region - All Funds Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures September 30, 2021

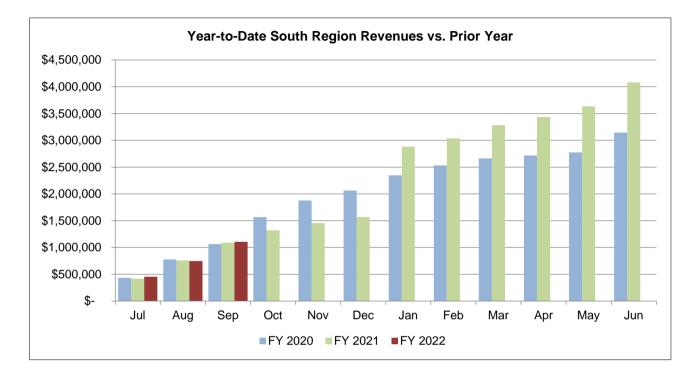


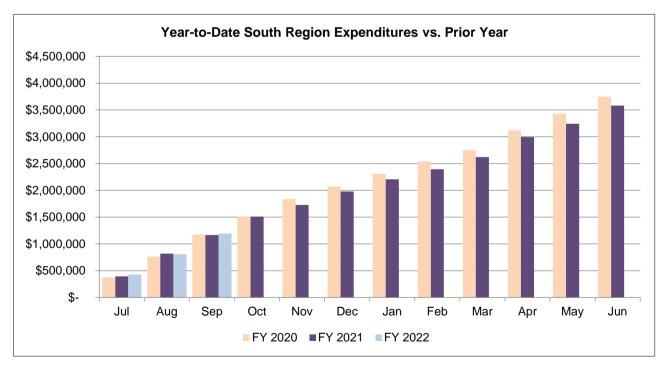


- North Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are down \$12,200 (-0.8%) compared to FY 2021

- North Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up \$99,100 (6.0%) compared to FY 2021

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation South Region - All Funds Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures September 30, 2021

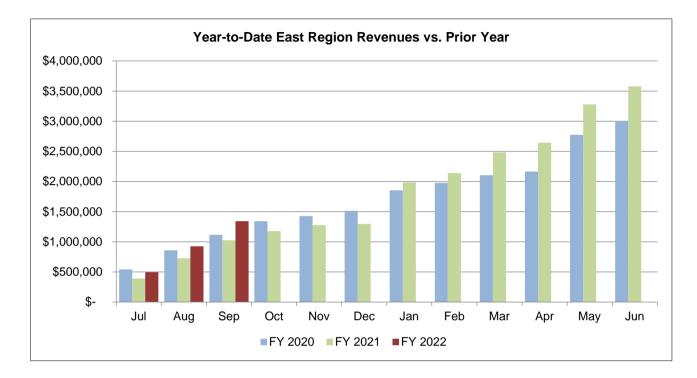


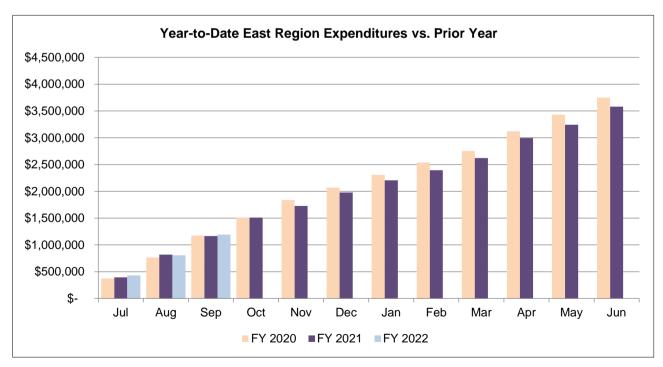


- South Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are up \$17,500 (1.6%) compared to FY 2021

- South Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up \$28,200 (2.4%) compared to FY 2021

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation East Region - All Funds Year-to-Date Revenues and Expenditures September 30, 2021

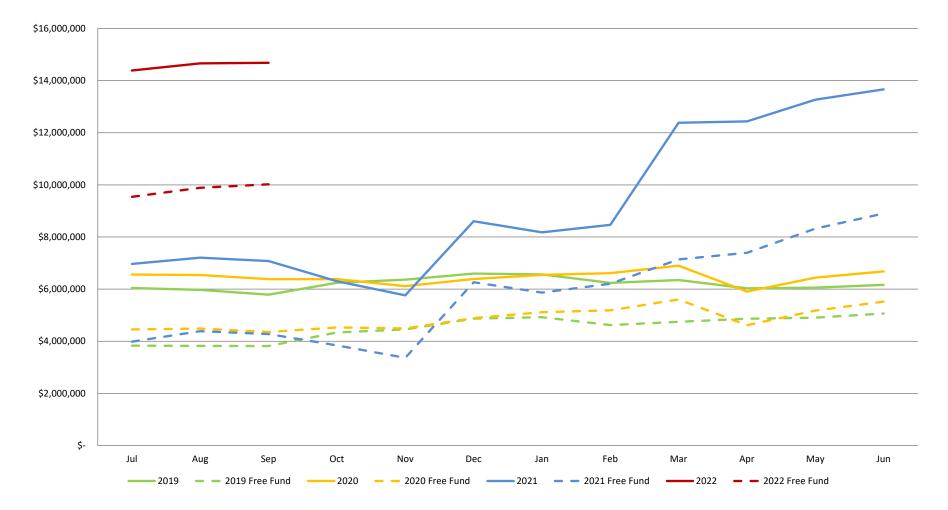




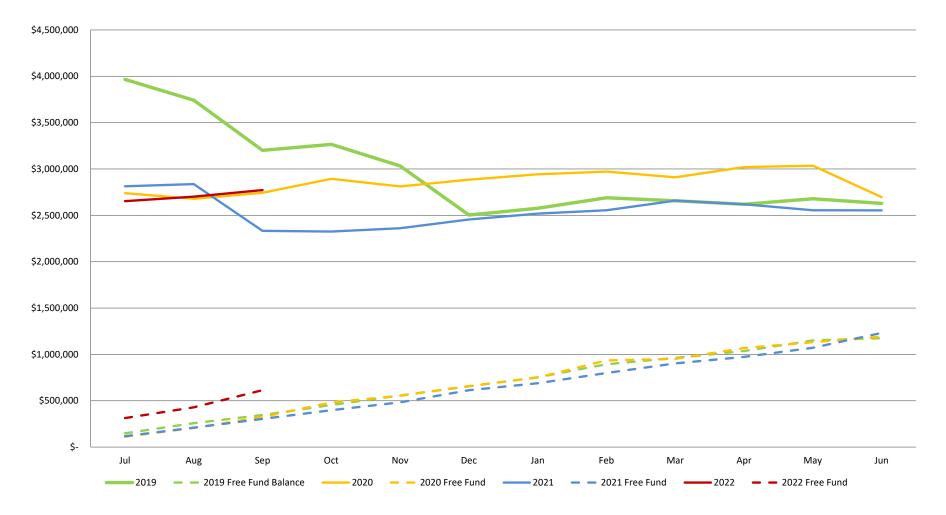
- East Region fiscal year-to-date revenues are up \$315,400 (30.8%) compared to FY 2021

- East Region fiscal year-to-date expenditures are up \$59,700 (5.3%) compared to FY 2021

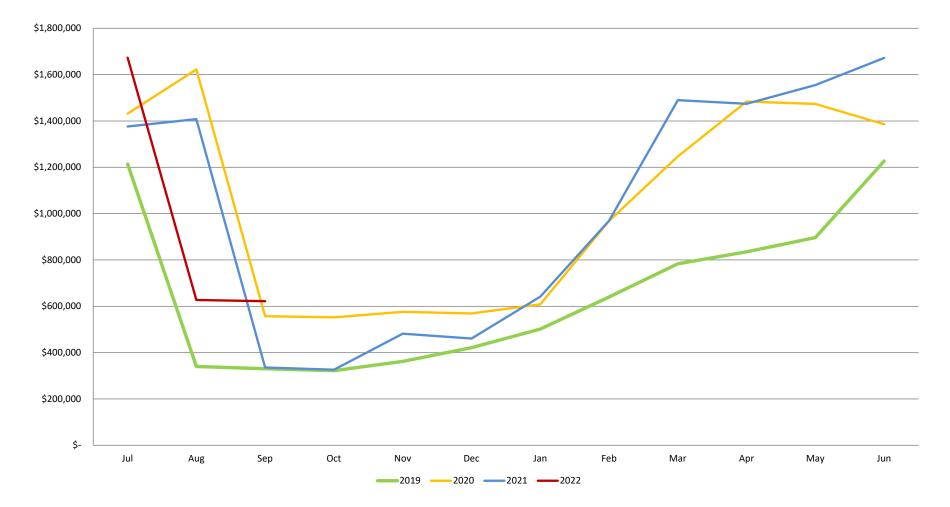
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Parks and Recreation Fund (0243) September 30, 2021



Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Recreational Fuels Capital Improvement Fund (0247.01) September 30, 2021

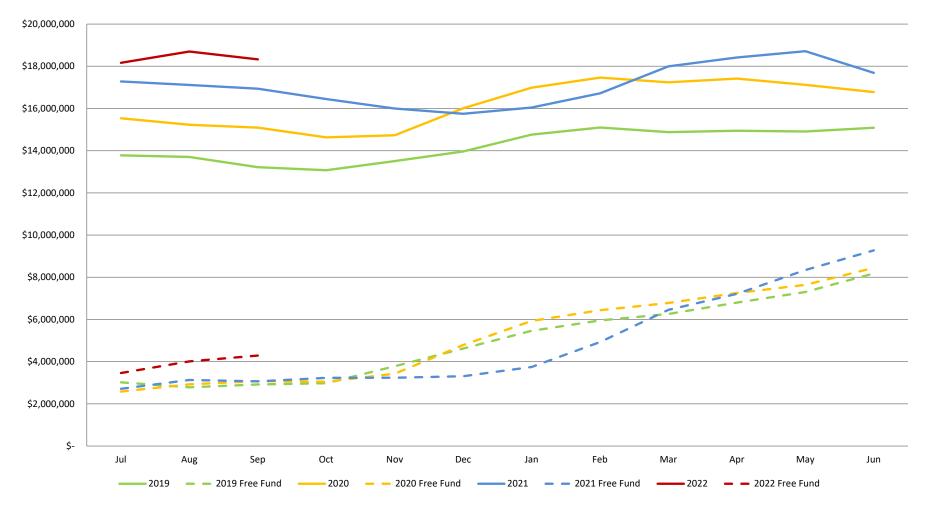


### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Snowmobile Fund (0250.03) September 30, 2021



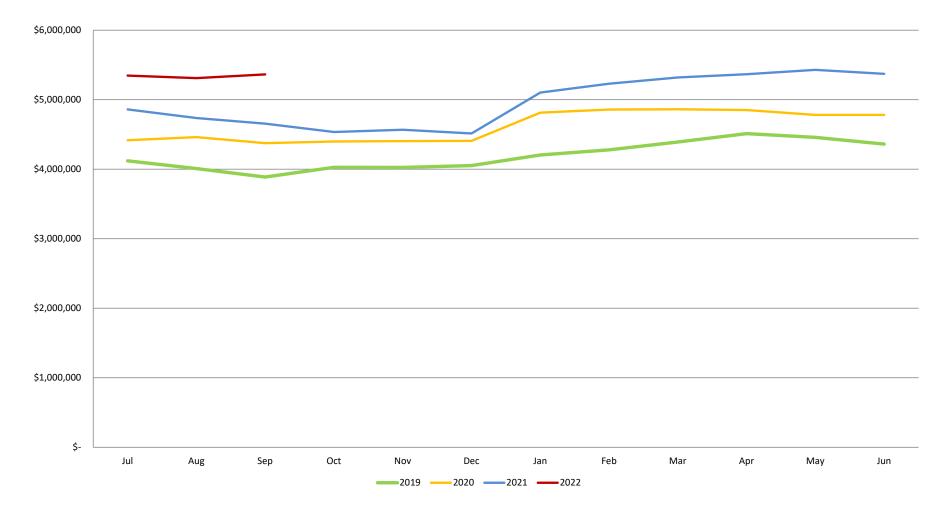
### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Motorbike / OHV Fund (0250.04) September 30, 2021





Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Recreational Vehicle Fund (0250.05) September 30, 2021

### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Cash Balance Trend - Enterprise Fund (0410.01) September 30, 2021



#### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Statement of Cash Balances - FY 2022 as of September 30, 2021

		Beginning	Cash	Cash	Cash		Uı	obligated
Fund	Description	Balance	Inflows	Outflows	Balance	Encumbrances	Fu	nd Balance
0125	Federal Indirect Cost Recovery	\$ 180,458	\$ 10,753	\$ (61,435)	\$ 129,776	\$-	\$	129,776
0243	Parks and Recreation Fund	13,663,522	4,243,365	(3,224,607)	14,682,280	28,000		14,654,280
0243.02	Parks & Rec - Registration Administration	2,937,918	277,086	(1,109,799)	2,105,205	-		2,105,205
0243.03	Parks & Rec - Sawtooth License Plate	-	22,110	-	22,110	-		22,110
0243.04	Parks & Rec - Cutthroat Wildlife Plate	62,732	29,399	(8,500)	83,630	48,694		34,936
0243.05	Parks & Rec - Mountain Bike	165,736	13,662	(17,380)	162,018	35,000		127,018
0247.01	Recreational Fuels - Capital Improvement	2,553,927	472,411	(253,708)	2,772,630	-		2,772,630
0247.02	Recreational Fuels - Waterway Improvement	2,939,350	472,411	(106,708)	3,305,052	1,858,509		1,446,544
0247.03	Recreational Fuels - Off-road Motor Vehicles	3,975,041	472,411	(138,499)	4,308,954	987,433		3,321,521
0247.04	Recreational Fuels - Road & Bridge	1,579,815	246,049	(133,575)	1,692,289	474,500		1,217,789
0247.06	Recreational Fuels - Administration	142,252	198,767	(164,729)	176,291	-		176,291
0250.01	Registration - State Vessel	293,475	1,072,231	(1,365,707)	(0)	-		(0)
0250.02	Registration - Cross Country Ski	152,818	5	(12,255)	140,568	-		140,568
0250.03	Registration - Snowmobile	1,672,149	38,840	(1,089,058)	621,932	-		621,932
0250.04	Registration - Motorbike	2,409,037	409,865	(252,293)	2,566,609	34,401		2,532,209
0250.05	Registration - Recreational Vehicle	17,687,263	1,847,226	(1,207,868)	18,326,621	7,711,536		10,615,085
0345	Federal CARES Act (COVID-19) <sup>1</sup>	1,300,000	-	(113,514)	1,186,486	-		1,186,486
0348	Federal Grant Fund <sup>1</sup>	952,442	1,337,257	(1,428,541)	861,158	3,440,120		(2,578,962)
0349	Miscellaneous Revenue	72,581	-	(9,983)	62,598	-		62,598
0410.01	Enterprise	5,372,739	836,558	(845,188)	5,364,110	-		5,364,110
0496.01	Expendable Trust - Park Donations <sup>2</sup>	356,834	33,485	(938)	389,381	-		389,381
0496.02	Harriman Trust	1,230,934	66,683	(99,934)	1,197,683	-		1,197,683
0496.03	Park Land Trust	3,167,296	78,727	(177,423)	3,068,600	-		3,068,600
0496.05	Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes	 533,312	164,537	(28,154)	669,694	-		669,694
	Total	\$ 63,401,632	\$ 12,343,838	\$ (11,849,794)	\$ 63,895,676	\$ 14,618,193	\$	49,277,483

*Notes:* <sup>1</sup> Federal Grant Fund is a borrowing limit and does not represent department cash

<sup>2</sup>0496.01 Includes State Trust Outdoor Recreation Enhancement (STORE) Act Funds (see 67-4247)

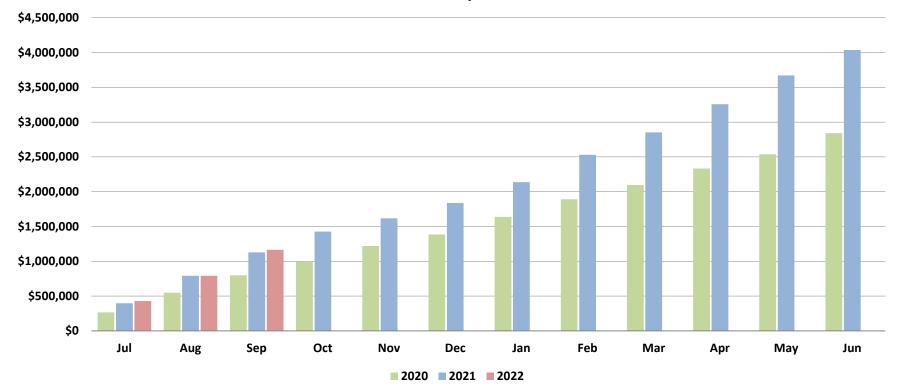
### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

#### Passport Program Revenue FY 2022

as of September 30, 2021

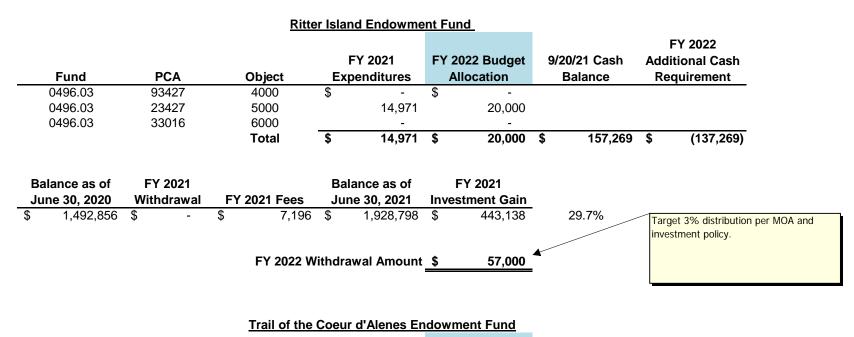
		FY 2021		FY 2022	l	ncrease/	%		FY 2021		FY 2022		Increase/	%		
Gross Revenue	Se	eptember	S	eptember	(C	Decrease)	Change		Y-T-D		Y-T-D		Y-T-D		Decrease)	Change
1-Year Registrations	\$	162,330	\$	166,330	\$	4,000	2.5%	\$	560,360	\$	528,770	\$	(31,590)	-5.6%		
2-Year Registrations		173,580		206,200		32,620	18.8%		568,080		637,020		68,940	12.1%		
Total	\$	335,910	\$	372,530	\$	36,620	10.9%	\$	1,128,440	\$	1,165,790	\$	37,350	3.3%		
Transactions																
1-Year Registrations		16,233		16,633		400	2.5%		56,036		52,877		(3,159)	-5.6%		
2-Year Registrations		8,679		10,310		1,631	18.8%		28,404		31,851		3,447	12.1%		
Total		24,912		26,943		2,031	8.2%		84,440		84,728		288	0.3%		

### **Revenue Trend by Fiscal Year**

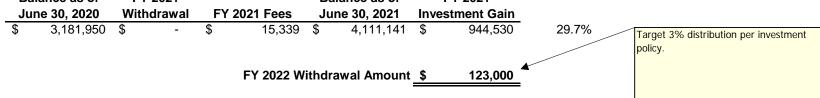


#### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

Endowment Fund Cash Distribution Statement FY 2022



Fund	PCA	Object		FY 2021 Denditures	FY	2022 Budget Allocation	9	/20/21 Cash Balance	 FY 2022 ditional Cash equirement
0496.05	21145	TOC - 4000	\$	23,656	\$	28,525			
0496.05	91146	TOC - 4000		102,174		71,595			
0496.05	21145	TOC - 5000		13,600		17,000			
0496.05	33007	6000		-		-			
		Total	\$	139,430	\$	117,120	\$	552,325	\$ (435,205)
Balance as of	FY 2021		Bal	ance as of		FY 2021			





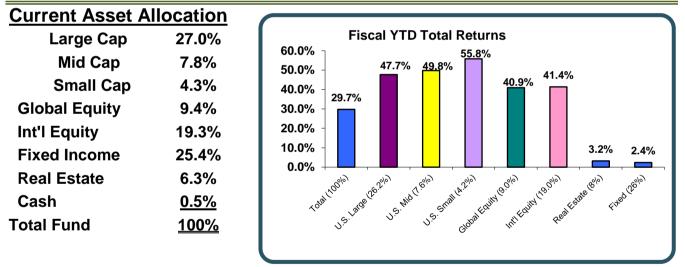


Current Value of the Fund	<b>\$ 1,928,798</b>
Investment Change in Market Value Inception-to-Date	\$ 1,381,712
Contributions Inception-to-Date	\$ 1,000,000
Withdrawals Inception-to-Date (fees & distributions)	452,913

investment inception date September 2007

<u>Gross Returns</u>	Current <u>Month</u>				Three · <u>Year</u>			<u>I-T-D</u>
<b>Total Fund Return</b>	1.1%	9.7%	29.7%	29.7%	14.1%	12.9%	9.5%	7.9%
Benchmark*	1.3%	8.7%	27.8%	27.8%	13.1%	12.1%	9.1%	7.5%

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



## **Endowment Fund Staff Comments:**

The endowment fund was up 29.7% during fiscal 2021, which is 3.8% above the benchmark. This surpasses our previous record of 24.6% that took place in fiscal year 2011 as financial markets recovered from the great financial crisis. Large growth stocks outperformed early in the fiscal year, as big technology companies were best positioned to support new ways of living and working from home due to COVID-19 induced quarantines. Small and value-oriented stocks outperformed in the second half of the fiscal year as effective vaccination efforts enabled a gradual and more broadly dispersed reopening of the economy. Our modest overweight to small and mid-cap stocks was beneficial during the fiscal year. The incredible speed of the financial market recovery would not have been possible without extraordinary monetary and fiscal support and outstanding efforts by the biotech and healthcare communities. Despite the outstanding results, there were challenges in certain parts of the portfolio. The retail and office sectors of our real estate investments were hit hard by COVID-19 quarantines but are recovering and posted positive results in the last two quarters. Fixed income struggled, because interest rates increased after dropped to all-time lows just prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Credit and TIPS performed well as the economic recovery resulted in spread tightening and inflation expectations escalated, but it was a difficult period for U.S. Treasuries giving the rising rate environment.



## Trail of the CDA Endowment Fund -Investment Performance Report

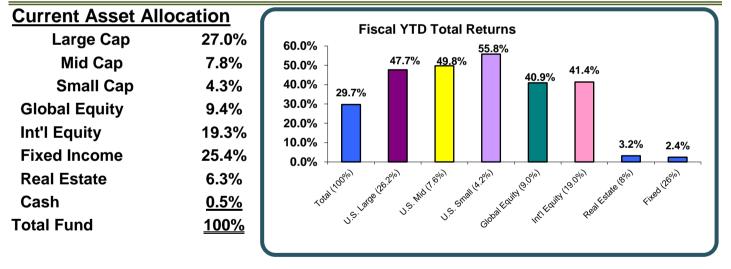


Final Report	June 30, 2021
Current Value of the Fund	\$ 4,111,141
Investment Change in Market Value Inception-to-Date	\$ 3,079,693
Contributions Inception-to-Date	\$ 2,163,600
Withdrawals Inception-to-Date (fees & distributions)	1,132,153

investment inception date June 2009

<u>Gross Returns</u>	Current <u>Month</u>				Three- <u>Year</u>	-	-	<u>I-T-D</u>
Total Fund Return	1.1%	9.7%	29.7%	29.7%	14.1%	12.9%	9.8%	9.6%
Benchmark*	1.3%	8.7%	27.8%	27.8%	13.1%	12.1%	9.4%	9.5%

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



## Endowment Fund Staff Comments:

The endowment fund was up 29.7% during fiscal 2021, which is 3.8% above the benchmark. This surpasses our previous record of 24.6% that took place in fiscal year 2011 as financial markets recovered from the great financial crisis. Large growth stocks outperformed early in the fiscal year, as big technology companies were best positioned to support new ways of living and working from home due to COVID-19 induced quarantines. Small and value-oriented stocks outperformed in the second half of the fiscal year as effective vaccination efforts enabled a gradual and more broadly dispersed reopening of the economy. Our modest overweight to small and mid-cap stocks was beneficial during the fiscal year. The incredible speed of the financial market recovery would not have been possible without extraordinary monetary and fiscal support and outstanding efforts by the biotech and healthcare communities. Despite the outstanding results, there were challenges in certain parts of the portfolio. The retail and office sectors of our real estate investments were hit hard by COVID-19 quarantines but are recovering and posted positive results in the last two quarters. Fixed income struggled, because interest rates increased after dropped to all-time lows just prior to the beginning of the fiscal year. Credit and TIPS performed well as the economic recovery resulted in spread tightening and inflation expectations escalated, but it was a difficult period for U.S. Treasuries giving the rising rate environment.

#### Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Endowment Fund Investment History

#### **Ritter Island Endowment Fund**

Established September 2007

					Projections									
	FY 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Principal Contribution (\$1,000,000) Investment Gain / (Loss) Withdrawals (Distributions)	29,836 (105,000)	90,201 (26,213)	152,686 (54,000)	27,527 (35,000)	22,437 (25,000)	153,084 -	117,201 (39,000)	121,508 (41,000)	74,021 (44,000)	443,138 -	96,440 (57,000)	98,052 (58,831)	99,653 (59,792)	101,286 (60,772)
Fees	(3,623)	(3,608)	(3,695)	(3,733)	(3,530)	(3,817)	(969)	(2,581)	(6,820)	(7,196)	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)	(7,200)
Market Value (as of June 30)	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	1,961,038	1,993,059	2,025,720	2,059,034
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	3.3%	8.9%	14.6%	2.4%	2.0%	13.2%	9.0%	8.9%	5.2%	29.7%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%
Net Annual Return (net of Fees)	2.4%	8.4%	13.7%	2.0%	1.6%	12.8%	8.8%	8.5%	4.6%	29.2%				
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	3.6%	4.4%	5.7%	5.3%	5.0%	5.7%	5.9%	6.1%	6.1%	11.7%				
Actual / Desired Distribution	9.5%	2.6%	5.0%	3.0%	2.1%	0.0%	3.0%	2.9%	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	229.478	233.504	238.343	238.638	241.018	244.955	251.989	256.143	257.797	271.696				
Annual Inflation Rate	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%	2.9%	1.6%	0.6%	5.4%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%
Compounded Inflation Rate	9.9%	11.6%	13.7%	13.8%	14.8%	16.5%	19.3%	21.0%	21.6%	27.0%	29.0%	31.0%	33.0%	35.0%
Principal in Constant (FY 2008) Dollars	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	1,290,097	1,310,097	1,330,097	1,350,097
Market Value Variance to Inflation	(71,555)	(28,719)	45,549	33,105	17,039	149,971	198,487	259,929	276,673	658,701	670,940	682,961	695,622	708,937

(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 2012	FY 2013	FY 2014	FY 2015	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025	
Principal Contribution (\$2,163,600) Investment Gain / (Loss)	139,458	194,959	323,831	59,056	49,854	326,572	250,369	257,832	157,773	944,530	205,557	208,885	212,263	215,708	
Withdrawals (Distributions)	(200,000)	(61,523)	(165,000)	(75,000)	(50,000)	-	(84,000)	(89,000)	(94,000)	-	(123,000)	(125,331)	(127,358)	(129,425)	
Fees	(7,644)	(4,315)	(4,492)	(4,522)	(4,121)	(4,738)	(2,069)	(5,502)	(14,537)	(15,339)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	(16,000)	
Market Value (as of June 30)	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	4,177,698	4,245,252	4,314,157	4,384,440	
Gross Annual Return (per EFIB Reports)	6.4%	8.9%	14.6%	2.4%	2.1%	13.2%	9.1%	8.8%	5.2%	29.7%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	5.0%	
Net Annual Return (net of fees)	5.7%	8.6%	13.6%	2.2%	1.8%	13.0%	8.9%	8.5%	4.6%	29.2%					
Total Annualized Return (XIRR)	7.8%	8.1%	9.2%	8.2%	7.4%	8.0%	8.1%	8.2%	8.0%	14.5%					
Actual / Desired Distribution	8.7%	2.8%	7.0%	3.0%	2.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	0.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	
Inflation Factor (CPI-U) as of June 30	229.478	233.504	238.343	238.638	241.018	244.955	251.989	256.143	257.797	271.696					
Annual Inflation Rate	1.7%	1.8%	2.1%	0.1%	1.0%	1.6%	2.9%	1.6%	0.6%	5.4%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	2.0%	
Compounded Inflation Rate	6.3%	8.0%	10.1%	10.2%	11.2%	12.9%	15.7%	17.4%	18.0%	23.4%	25.4%	27.4%	29.4%	31.4%	
Principal in Constant (FY 2009) Dollars	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	2,713,473	2,756,745	2,800,017	2,843,289	
Market Value Variance to Inflation	(74,868)	16,294	125,796	102,652	76,807	363,299	465,470	593,133	628,398	1,440,940	1,464,225	1,488,507	1,514,140	1,541,151	

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

### EAST REGION QUARTERLY REPORT JUL – AUG– SEP 2021

**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 - GARTH TAYLOR, EAST REGION BUREAU CHIEF

- Continued monitoring of region operating and seasonal budgets.
- Continue working with park managers on creating new opportunities with limited resources.
- Continue investment in interpretation, marketing, and revenue enhancing ideas.
- Continue to work on incident reporting and staff training.
- Continue working with parks for new programming, special events, new potential partnerships, and concession opportunities.
- Continue agency policy reviews and discussion.
- Billingsley Creek visitor center is now very close for substantial completion and occupancy should be cleared by November. We also look forward to a new 50-unit campground development project this coming fall. Ground has been broken and dirt is being moved to prepare for utility work.
- Continued monitoring of many development projects across the region.
- Recruitment and hiring continues and seems to be an ongoing challenge with retirements and folks moving around. We have filled the ranger opening at Walcott but we have a resignation recently at Harriman so another ranger opening to fill.
- New parking areas at Bear Lake and Box Canyon are still a hit, giving better access to our parks.
- Harriman has been recently paved all the way to Ranch View and the Scovel Center. It looks really good.
- Our parks remain very busy into the fall season and visitation numbers are still increasing. We strive to provide great, safe service.
- Seasonal help is still proving to be a challenge across the region. Increased wages have been approved.
- We continue to have monthly manager's conference calls to see how things are going across the region. Every park seems to have experienced similar challenges with increased visitation and of all things pump problems.

### BEAR LAKE – KIRK RICH, PARK MANAGER

### Customer Service

- Most out of state visitors have accepted the new \$14.00 MVEF fee.
- Due to overcrowding we were forced to close North Beach for two hours in the afternoon, on two different Saturdays in July. This served to equalize usage by moving the flow of visitation to East Beach.

Park/Program Usage

- The campground was fully occupied through July and there were only a few unreserved campsites during the last week of August. September usage was strong with all weekends fully booked.
- We estimate a park usage increase of 5-7% for July of this year and had two \$20,000 Saturdays in July with MVEF collections. August usage was steady when compared to last year but with some rainy days and smoke for much of the month, we did see a slight decrease over July.
- Day-use group shelter reservations were at an all-time high in July and August but we believe many chose to use the beach and not occupy the reserved shelter.
- Overall, our vehicle attendance at East Beach has dropped compared to last year. However, this was compensated by increased usage at North Beach. This may have to do with more exposed beach and better access to the newly exposed beach.
- The busy Raspberry Days week brought heavy usage but did not seem to exceed a normal busy weekend. Our St. Charles shop was used for meals and a staging area.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Work continues on barrier rock, weed and brush removal, fence repair, and the relocation of signing and parking bumpers.
- Weed spraying was completed in conjunction with Bear Lake County in the area adjacent to North Beach.
- The end of year coliform and nitrite sample was successfully completed.

Staff Training

• Nothing to report.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Staff installed a new wood burning stove in the Quonset, complete with a ductwork distribution system and we also replaced faulty lights.
- Upgraded the administrative office and shop bulbs with LED energy efficient bulbs. <u>Manager's Narrative</u>
- One string of docks at North Beach was removed at the jetty in July. Due to the lower water level, we were able to remove large rocks and reattach the docks in a way they could still be used. Water continued to drop with September levels ending at 5912. Both ramps at North Beach remained usable.
- The irrigation pump failed at East Beach in July, and we were not able to get the replacement for two full weeks. As a result, we had to resort to using our culinary water to save as much of the lawn as possible while we waited on repairs.
- One 23-foot fiberglass boat burned up just off the North Beach jetty but luckily there were no injuries.
- Facebook visits came to 98,000 for the month of July—a record for the park.
- According to IBIS it appears we have collected over \$525,000 for the first two months of the FY22. No one knows the future but it is now projected that income for the FY might approach

\$900,000. It appears park income has already exceeded park operation budget by over \$150,000 for FY22.

• Contractor has commenced construction on new East Beach kiosk. The request to provide electricity from Rocky Mountain Power has not been signed. There is still some concern about what our long-term commitment would be under such a contract. It appears that Bear River Electric is now the contractor under Heavy Haul Construction.

### CITY OF ROCKS - WALLACE KECK, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The well pump at Emery remained off and non-functioning for August and September and water at the RV Dump Station was turned off in September.
- Some interpretive programs were cancelled in August due to unsafe air/smoky conditions.
- COVID-19 protocols were ramped up in August due to a resurgence in infections in Cassia County. All visitor center employees wore face coverings while working directly with the public.

Park/Program Usage

- Visitor center attendance was 3,089 in July; 2,463 in August; and 2,493 in September.
- Usage for this quarter: Campgrounds = 6,812 site nights; Lodge = 79 nights; Glamping Yurt = 68 nights; Bunkhouse = 46 nights; Shelter = 6.
- The hot and dry weather, along with heavy smoke from California and Oregon was a factor in decreased July and August visitation.
- Staff coordinated parking and camping for the Idaho Mountain Festival attended by approximately 173. Staff helped manage other group events including Warriors Rock, a wedding, and Challenge Athletes with 40 rock climbers.
- The park hosted 100 students and teachers from John V. Evans 2nd grade in September. Program Services
- Staff created an open captioned version of the welcome video to be presented at the visitor center and the video is audio described on the NPS website (ADA compliant).
- Staff updated City of Rocks Junior Ranger booklet and developed a bat Junior Ranger interpretive program.
- Assistant manager led and attended 2-days of programs for the Oregon-California Trail Association (OCTA).
- Jess Scheider, Artist in Residence, was here for a week and conducted live art in the park.
- Other programs included Coffee with a Ranger at Bath Rock and a dark night sky program every Saturday in September.
- Management co-led the Shoshone-Bannock Tribes of Fort Hall Community Event and wayside dedication. We teamed up to provide an auto tour, stopping at points of interest to provide interpretation.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	9	111
Interpretive Programming	30	424
Jr. Ranger Programming	7	47
Jr. Ranger Programming (Self-directed)		325
School Programming	2	148
Special Events	4	103

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Finished NHPA and NEPA compliance on NPS Sheridan Acquisition project.
- Signed MOA with Montana Conservation Corps for trail and erosion control projects.
- Found an extremely late-blooming red-osier dogwood in bloom on Almo Creek in July.

- Removed dead pinyon pine from Circle Creek Overlook as part of the larger project to study, understand, and take action to protect Idaho's northern-most pinyon woodlands. Crew from the NPS, along with park staff, conducted survey plots to determine baseline data on the current size, health, and structure of the woodlands. Manager met with USFS scientist and University of Oregon professor to continue the die-off study and discuss theories of disease and decline. Manager also published article on Plight of Pinyon Pine (reprinted later in Pocatello and Lewiston newspapers). In August, staff submitted a grant request for funds to identify pathogens attacking pinyon pine.
- Purchased and installed dark sky compatible lights at the visitor center.
- Staff visited the curation facility at Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument and discussed issues that need to be addressed for the continued housing of CIRO and Castle Rocks collections.
- A rare monarch butterfly sighting at the visitor center was documented in August.
- Staff (with the assistance of the Oregon-California Trail Association), believe to have found nine California Trail-era graves.
- Park staff may have located a shelter cave described and sketched in an 1849 California Trail journal.
- Ranger and crew continued the xeriscaping project on the east side of the visitor center by planting approximately 200 native plants. A vendor worked with us to design the signs for the Northern Great Basin and Range Xeriscape Interpretive Trail.
- Management developed full NEPA compliance for E-Bikes regulation changes per NPS. <u>Staff Training</u>
- Training included virtual interpretive training, Supervisory Academy, and Crucial Conversations.
- Assistant manager and ranger attended 2-day STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math), workshop at Declo Jr. High we are partners with Declo STEM and received a \$1,000 grant to support our STEM education program development.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Natural resource database development continued.
- Manager participated in a conference call between the NPS, The Conservation Fund, and IDPR, regarding the status of the realty purchase. He received and distributed the marketing booklet to all parties and wrote the letter seeking concurrence from the NPS Regional Director for the CIRO boundary expansion.

Manager's Narrative

- Maintenance crews completed construction of seven pedestrian bridges (two on Creekside Towers, one at Parking Lot Rock, two on South Fork Circle Creek, one at Flaming Rock, and one near Stine's Creek.
- Submitted a grant to National Park Foundation for Park Ventures program. This program focuses on inclusion in national parks to underrepresented communities.
- Met with development and HVAC contractor to discuss heating and air conditioning which the visitor center has neither.
- Climbing ranger wrote several incident reports, conducted investigations, collected fees, and provided first aid. The park has experienced vandalism, theft, minor injury, and conflict with visitors assessed a surcharge. These duties, as well as covering the visitor center when other staff need a lunch break are considered routine, but demonstrate the need for a well-trained, full-time, classified ranger dedicated to responding to rule compliance, medical emergencies, climbing management, and wherever needed at a moment's notice.
- Management conducted a review of the CIRO cooperative agreement with NPS and addressed fiscal issues with IDPR leadership Boise. We also developed an 0348-allocation request based on the meeting. Management now has full access to Grant Solutions.

- Staff worked with crews from the Student Conservation Association (SCA) and Montana Conservation Corps (MCC) to replace almost all check steps and water bars on Tea Kettle, South Fork Circle Creek, Creekside Towers, Stripe Rock, and Bumblie trails.
- Staff installed the new visitor center flagpole that was acquired from development funds. They • also constructed a new concrete slab at the visitor center vault toilet to correct a safety hazard and achieve ADA compliance.
- Maintenance staff installed a new mini-split heat pump at the Glamping Yurt, which will correct the temperature extremes in winter and summer.

# HARRIMAN/HENRYS/ASHTON TETONIA TRAIL/MESA FALLS – MARK ELIOT, PARK MANAGER

**Customer Service** 

- Weddings are still in popular demand. Staff members welcome wedding parties and we express our gratitude that they select our park to conduct the ceremony. However, it has become more apparent how much time is consumed by staff members to ensure the newlyweds are properly taken care of.
- The dormitory remodeling project is ongoing. Even though the contract time frame has expired • there are a few items that still require attention before the project can be finalized.
- The Bunkhouse/Cookhouse has reopened but we inform visitors renting the bunkhouse that there • are use restrictions due to the repair work that is not completed.
- Dry Creek Wildlife and Pest Solutions returned to help resolve issues related to bats in the Bunkhouse.

Park/Program Usage

- Although fishing was slow due to low river flows and hot, dry conditions, our trail use increased significantly and the park was very busy through July. August brought smoke and poor air quality but visitors still came out to enjoy the park.
- With COVID-19 restrictions and limitations lifting, staff members welcomed back Music Camp • and their wonderful performances.
- A film producer came to record a youth church choir behind the Jones House. Staff members had • a great time seeing all the talented participants. There were over 180 participants and chaperones.
- Harriman welcomed the annual mayor's meeting that took place in the Boy's House. Most • participating mayors were from southeastern Idaho.
- Harriman hosted an annual race called the Buffalo Run with over 100 participants and their supporters. This run consists of an 8.1 mile, 25k (15.5 mile), and 50k (31 mile) run that takes place on park trails.
- September brought guests from around the world to listen to the elk when the rut began.
- Harriman hosted the North Fremont County cross country meet which brought a wide range of visitors and users to the park.
- We were honored to host the Idaho State Patrol Eastern Idaho Leadership Team. The team and • staff enjoyed a productive meeting in the Jones House and we hope to have them back in the future.

**Program Services** 

Programs conducted for the quarter: Hike 'Round Harriman, Impressions of Harriman, Idaho Fish and Game Bear Trailer, Heritage Days, Jr. Ranger Day, DIY Bag Craft, ASL Geology Day, Endurance Hike, Let's Talk About Raptors, Owl Prowl, Jr. Ranger Field Journaling, Sunrise Elk Hike, Trivia Night, All About Elk, Autumn Splendor Hike, and Night Program: The Elk Orchestra.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	5	111
Interpretive Programming	9	239

Jr. Ranger Programming	1	36
School Programming	0	0
Special Events	1	250

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Fremont Country Weed Superintendent conducted the annual spray day event in July. Members from the United States Forest Service (USFS), Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Bonneville County, Jefferson County, Madison County, and Fremont County provided a total of 31 participants that joined park staff for this event and treated 119 acres of noxious weeds focusing on Canadian thistle, scotch thistle, spotted Knapweed, Hounds tongue, and many more.
- Marmots continue to have negative effects on our historical structures. We have continued efforts to utilize live traps, however with increased visitation and food availability, trapping has proven to be unsuccessful.
- Staff has been working to refurbish the exterior of the Harriman Cottage. Most of the painting has been completed and now we are working to replace and paint some edgings under the eaves. Staff Training
- Staff attended the OHV instructor course.

### Strategic Plan Actions

• We remain in contact with our JCC volunteer group, who were once again welcomed to the park. They helped set up snow pole markers along the main entrance road, conducted trail maintenance at the horse run, and helped with other projects as needed.

### Manager's Narrative

- The project to pave the road from the visitor center to the Scovel and Ranchview parking areas has been completed.
- Our visitor center also received a new metal roof.
- The broken fire hydrant at the ranch is still an ongoing issue and the decision was made to order a new fire hydrant.
- The region crew worked with staff and the Friends of Harriman to identify and establish a reroute of the John Muir ADA Trail to improve visitor safety. This project was completed in September and is getting a lot of compliments from the public.
- Early in the summer some facilities tested posted for E. coli in the drinking water but we are happy to report that clean samples have since come back and boil water notices were removed in September.
- Staff members are sad to announce the passing of our long-time ranger Jim Snider. Staff members held a memorial service on October 9 at the Scovel Center.

### ASHTON TETONIA TRAIL

Customer Service

- Installed hand sanitizer dispensers in both Marysville and Judkins CXTs.
- Continued to replace and repair broken signs along the trail.
- Engaged with trail users when possible.
- Planned a fall foliage bike ride and posted flyers along the trail and at Harriman. Park/Program Usage
- Continued sticker scavenger hunt until all stickers were found.
- TrafX counts for Marysville: July 789, August 746, September counter error.
- TrafX counts for Bitch Creek: July 743, August 684, September counter error.
- QR Code Scans 278 total scans as of 07/28/2021, 358 total scans as of 08/28/2021, and 420 total scans as of 09/29/2021.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Physically removed approximately 45 Canada thistle plants from the Marysville section of the trail.
- Graded the trail from Marysville to Fall River where the trail was becoming excessively rough to ride on.
- Tetonia City Hall assisted in planting two Aspen trees at the Marysville lot and five were planted by the Tetonia lot to hopefully provide shade for visitors in years to come.
- Replaced a broken gate northbound of the Felt lot.
- Planted a pollinator garden at the Marysville trailhead. Planted milkweed and sunflower seeds and will plant more native wildflowers in the Spring.
- Built new bulletin boards to install at the new Felt lot in October.
- Attended the Teton County Planning meeting concerning a subdivision that will potentially be built next to the trail.

### Staff Training

• Ranger completed an OHV Education program through IDPR and became a certified instructor. <u>Strategic Plan Actions</u>

- Continue to actively post on Facebook and answer questions about the trail and interact with users on the trail.
- Developed a report for development about wants and needs of the Ashton-Tetonia Trail for submitting a grant application.
- Huge shoutout to the region crew for relocating our parking lot in Felt and removing the old lots.
- Collected data along the trail with Survey123 to develop an improved map for the trail this winter.

Manager's Narrative

• The state and, in turn IDPR, has submitted a grant proposal for funding through the American Rescue Plan Act. Staff met with development to look at the trail and explore possibilities for use of those funds approximating \$3,000,000. The focus was on paving portions of the trail. Other improvements discussed were adding additional CXTs along the trail, and a maintenance shop at the Marysville trailhead.



(New felt parking lot)

(Autumn at BC Trestle)

### HENRYS

### Customer Service

- The shower house heat project was completed and a walkthrough with development and the east region manager was held on September 21.
- The fish cleaning station project is going ahead with the contract to be left open to revisions and to have a scale screen.
- Despite an alert on Reserve America, Facebook, and emails, concerning the dump station being closed, some campers were still taken by surprise.
- Higher priced campsites have not been well received by some non-residents and some left to find other places to camp.
- Idaho Fish and Game is considering making fishing on Henrys Lake year-round.
- Development added resurfacing and widening of the Goosebay Road/shop-maintenance road to the future projects list.
- Department of Agriculture boat inspectors did not inspect boats at the park this year.
- Development is planning to put in a concrete sidewalk between the boat ramp and the ADA parking, with bollards added for wheelchair access. The project will correct the grade and will make the toilet ADA.
- Well #1 is having problems and development plans to check the water level and pump by camera when the water is turned off in October.

### Park/Program Usage

- Day use declined for most of July and August because of the hot weather and the fish going to deeper, cooler water. Cooler weather in September brought people back out along with better fishing.
- The campground was 97.8% full in July, 91.3% full in August and 87.5% full in September. The park's tent sites were only 18.3% full in July, .03% in August, and .01% in September.
- The tent sites were occupied far less in 2021 than in 2020. As an example, there were 40 tent site nights in August 2020 and 3 tent site nights in August 2021.

### Program Services

- Interpretive programs given this quarter included: Nature Walk, Nature Bingo & Animal Clue Bingo Talk/Walk with our naturalists (Dr. Tim Halverson and Dr. Jessica Dimuzio), Introduction to Kayaking, Yoga, Bear Aware in Bear Country, Bird Walk, Jr. Ranger Program Orientation, Learning to RV, Henrys Memories, Wildflower Wander, Insect Safari, True Tales from the Wild, Henrys Lake Swan Song, and Leave-No-Trace and Trash Timeline games.
- We also had a program in July by J.R. Spencer, a Nez Perce/Ojibwe artisan, educator, and performing artist of Native culture and living traditions of his people.
- We held a new program this summer, B.A.R.K. Ranger, based on the National Parks, BARK in the Park. Companions learned about the park from a dog's point of view, why pets should be kept on a leash, and the importance of cleaning up after them. B.A.R.K. stands for: **B**ag your pet's waste, Always leash your pet, **R**espect wildlife, Know where you can go.
- Staff created four new sheets for Junior Rangers to use as the activity in the park to get their badge: ABC (Animal Bingo Clues), Nature Bingo, Spotless Scavenger Hunt, and Savvy Signage Seeker.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	42	302
Interpretive Programming	14	271
Jr. Ranger Programming	12	69
School Programming	0	0
Special Events	0	0

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Staff carried rocks that had been moved by wave action back to the shoreline which will help protect that part of the shore.
- The Cobb, Pen, and four cygnets were on the lake most of the summer with an occasional visit back to the Slough. Another pair of swans was sighted in the area in September.

Staff Training

• Nothing to report.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Dr. Tim Halverson returned to continue working on the flora and fauna BioBlitz. He and his wife, Dr. Jessica Dimuzio, also led several of our interpretation programs, which gave him more opportunity to spend more time in the park. In September, he turned over a list of 85 flowers with family, species, common names, and description that were found in the park.
- The dispersed camping area was divided up into ten sites so customers would know the boundaries.
- DEQ gave staff a heads-up that the "dead-end" in the Adams and Blue Dun campground water system could be a source of bacteria in the future.

Manager's Narrative

- The new trash service is working well but the compactor is showing wear and tear.
- The weather was even more extreme in September than in August. Temperatures were from the 70s to low 20s.
- Staff is preparing to close for the season. The park will be open for dry camping in Caddis Loop and day-use, but staffing will be limited.

### MESA

Manager's Narrative

- Harriman seasonal staff worked with USFS staff to build a more efficient pamphlet display.
- Even though the USFS car counts show reduced numbers, the collection of entrance fees increased dramatically. Staff is certain the decrease earlier in the season had to do with faulty equipment. Mesa did get a replacement car counter at the end of the season.
- After Labor Day weekend, staff members closed for the season. Efforts are being made to have an end-of-the-year recap with USFS staff.

### LAKE WALCOTT – RYAN BUFFINGTON, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- OHV and boat registration sales started to slow a little in July but remained a steady commitment from staff. However, having the local sheriff's office start selling registrations has helped to ease our volume.
- The entrance kiosk was open all weekends in August and the first two in September, greatly helping with parking compliance.
- In September, the handling and kayak docks were pulled out of the lake in preparation for the October draw-down by the Bureau of Reclamation.
- Efforts were made to expand our social media presence with the creation of an Instagram account and regular posts being made.
- Social media posts on dock removals were posted and except for a few complaints, the public has been understanding of the situation.
- We eliminated the four walk-in sites from the scout area, making the area park reservable only.
- The BOR placed their old spillway turbine by the informational kiosk in preparation for a new exhibit.

Park/Program Usage

• The Fourth of July weekend was extremely busy and strained our facilities.

- The State Disc Golf Tournament was held over the weekend of August 20. It was the largest ever, with 200 players and at least 200 others in attendance.
- Through August, the RV campground was mostly booked on the weekends and many of the weekdays as well. September saw full weekends but slower weekday use.
- We hosted many group events in our day use shelters including wedding receptions, family reunions, company picnics, and a large BOR event.
- Day use was very steady with disc golfers, motor boaters, and kayakers through September.
- Minico Cross Country Team was at the park in September with approximately 600 attendees.
- The local disc golf club has held weekly play.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming		
Jr. Ranger Programming	1	9
School Programming		
Special Events	1	400

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- We have been busy trimming and cleaning dead limbs from our trees for the health of the trees and safety of the public. Many of our trees are quite old so cleaning up fallen limbs and entire trees brought down by wind and rot is a constant effort.
- Cleaning out vegetation growing into our historic rock walls is also an ongoing project.
- Cleared brush, trees, and dead vegetation out of the parking island by Fish and Wildlife Headquarters with the help of the Work In Lieu of Detention probation program.

Staff Training

- Three seasonal staff members completed the OHV certification training and two completed chainsaw training classes with City of Rocks rangers.
- Ranger has been working with office staff to learn the reservation/registration system and is making progress learning our camping system. He is also working with our maintenance staff to learn the layout and facilities of the park.
- One seasonal staff member has been helping U.S. Fish and Wildlife finish up their duck banding project.

Strategic Plan Actions

• Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

- Kayak docks were repaired and reinstalled with the help of Idaho Watersports and the South Region maintenance crew.
- Began holding bi-monthly employee meetings to keep everyone working on the same page, streamline our operations, and address any issues.
- Brought in Dalry Electric to make repairs to campsites 2,4,7,9. The sites were tripping the breakers in the sub-station behind the restrooms.
- Attended bi-weekly planning meetings with BOR for the new spillway exhibit.
- Continued communications with Adrift Kayak to bring in their rental company next year for a possible concession.
- Met with the new recreation director from the Bureau of Reclamation, David Harper.
- New camp hosts arrived in September, and we are happy to have them through the winter.
- The park purchased a new 40-ton wood splitter to help with firewood production.

- We continue to clean up in and around the house and shop yard. Our surplus inventory is being staged behind the shop in anticipation a public sale in October.
- Completed the FRPP (Federal Real Property Report) for the visitor center and park O&M for the BOR.

### LAND OF THE YANKEE FORK – RICK THOMPSON, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- July 15-16 and July 30-31 park staff attended Rally in the Pines ATV event and sold registration stickers to attendees.
- We are open seven days a week from 9 am-5 pm.
- The park carries the USFS Challis and Salmon area maps for sale.
- Park sells registration stickers for ATV, boat, invasive species, and snowmobiles.

Park/Program Usage

- The park had 4,087 visitors for July, 6,065 in August, and 1,736 visitors for September.
- The park movie was shown 145 times to 481 visitors in July, 127 times to 377 visitors in August, and 71 times to 224 visitors in September.
- Custer City and the Yankee Fork Gold Dredge opened Saturday May 29 and closed for the winter on September 7.
- Custer Day was cancelled by USFS for Covid concerns.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming		
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events	1	20

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The Wells Fargo building roof was removed in July, allowing the stone mason to complete the masonry phase. In September, the contractor installed the wood decking and in October, Keltic Engineering inspected the roof before metal sheeting was to be applied.
- Settling and buckling of the stamp mill building recently occurred and we are doing what we can to brace a section of the building.
- Park staff bracing up dryer shed structure at Bayhorse to prevent collapse.
- Staff Training
- Nothing to report.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Participated in Challis Community Trails Group site visit and meeting with BLM, IDPR East Region Trail Specialist, Idaho Highway Dept, and community members on July 28 to discuss potential Challis Hot Springs trail link.
- Park received A/V equipment purchased with USFS funds. Working with USFS seasonal interpreter to produce new PowerPoint program for Custer.

Manager's Narrative

- The Bayhorse parking lot was resurfaced July 17.
- The Ride the Bayhorse ATV event was held August 20-21 with 20 visitors participating. East Region Trails Specialist and Recreation Education Coordinator also assisted. The event was conducted smoothly and without any incidents.

- Attended Chamber of Commerce meeting, Custer Association meeting, and Dredge Association meetings. Proposal to change Ride the Bayhorse event date next year to the first weekend in August was well received.
- Department of Environmental Quality conducted an inspection of the water system on September 27. Two significant deficiencies were noted and are already in the process of being remedied.

## MASSACRE ROCKS – TRAVIS TAYLOR, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- We had quite a few calls in July asking why our reservation system wasn't working and had to explain that the campground was already full.
- Already receiving calls in September regarding winter availability and availability for next summer.
- Fielded a lot of calls regarding switching to first come first serve camping and when we will be closing the lower loop.

Park/Program Usage

- Park was very busy in July and August with a full campground every weekend and about half full throughout the week. We did not see our normal August slowdown again this summer. Even with temps well into the 90's for most of the month the campground stayed busier than normal.
- Boating was busy in July and August. River levels remained high, although the reservoir was already very low.
- Summer months were extremely hot which slowed down much of the hiking and disc golfing.
- Labor Day Weekend was busy with a full campground, but uneventful. Camping during the week finally showed signs of slowing with the weekends remaining at near full capacity.
- Boating has remained popular with American Falls reservoir being empty, however murky water has slowed fishing.

Program Services

- Interpretive programs included plant walks and Oregon Trail activities.
- We have been working to mark out a high school cross country course and bring back racing to Massacre Rocks.
- We had Rockland Elementary's 4<sup>th</sup> grade visit the park on September 28 for a field trip.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	9	50
Interpretive Programming	2	23
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• The reroof of the Register Rock shelter and the fence replacement have been completed. <u>Staff Training</u>

- Ranger is working on her Wilderness EMT recertification. Most of this is being completed online.
- We are beginning to look into winter training classes.
- Strategic Plan Actions
- Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

- July heat was relentless. Daily highs were in the 90's every day, taking a toll on the crew, and we backed off several projects due to this.
- The project to reroof the pressure tank building was completed.

- Manager met with representatives from the Governor's office to film a short video about the park on the August 16.
- Manager met with the Director, Operations Administrator, Development Bureau Chief/Management Services Administrator, Senator Lent, and several local Power County politicians about the possibility of IDPR managing camping along a section of the East Fork of Rock Creek.
- Manager met with development staff and PumpCo regarding the state of our wells and pumps. For the most part, everything is in good shape, but we do need some work on our pressure tanks for both well systems.

## THOUSAND SPRINGS – DAVID LANDRUM, PARK MANAGER

## Customer Service

• Every second Saturday of the month we held an ATV/Motorbike class, which were well attended. <u>Park/Program Usage</u>

- Day use in our parks has increased over the past years and heavy visitation started two months earlier this year.
- The public is getting out and hiking Box Canyon, walking the trails on Ritter Island, walking and riding bikes on the path at Billingsley Creek, using the riding arena at night, fishing at Crystal Springs, and picnicking at Malad Gorge.
- The annual Arts Festival was held on Ritter Island and was attended by over 4,000 people.
- With the weather cooling down in September, visitation started to slow, although it is still higher compared to previous years.
- Our houses on Ritter Island are staying busy and are booked nearly every weekend through the end of the year.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming		
Jr. Ranger Programming	1	7
School Programming		
Special Events	1	4000

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Work on the new visitor center at Billingsley Creek is in the final stages and we look forward to moving into the building.
- The bid was awarded for the 50-unit campground at Billingsley Creek. The contractor has started to move equipment in and is in the beginning stages of marking the area for the groundwork to begin in mid-October.
- The barn on Ritter Island is scheduled to get a new roof in mid-October.

## Staff Training

- Staff has been meeting every Tuesday with full time, seasonal, and volunteers. We also add a safety training to each meeting.
- Staff is still working on their CEO online training.

Strategic Plan Actions

• Nothing to report.

Manager's Narrative

• The walk/bike path at Billingsley Creek was seal coated in September.

• Manager and South Idaho Tourism did a tour of several of our park units with five journalists who are working on an article about our parks and the area.

## SOUTH REGION MAINTENANCE CREW – CHRISTOPHER RE, FOREMAN

## Ashton Tetonia Trail

• Moved the parking lot in Felt approximately <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> mile from the original lot. Added new base and increased capacity. Used existing material from the old lot to make the new one. Tried to make the old area ready for natural ground cover to grow back next spring which will discourage people from parking there.



## Harriman State Park

- In August we transported the bulldozer and the grader to the park in preparation for the John Muir trail reroute. We roughed out approximately 600 ft of new trails, rerouting the trail to stop and start at the parking area.
- In September we finished the reroute. We spread gravel the length of the trail, graded and compacted with the bulldozer, and cleaned up the dirt that was excavated in the creation of the new path.



## Lake Walcott State Park

- Helped fix an irrigation line break under the road. We repaired the break and added extra fill to anticipate settling. Will go back and asphalt after area has settled.
- Helped park staff with collecting larger tree trunks that had fallen during a windstorm.
- Worked with park staff and Idaho Power Sports to fix the EZ docks that were wrecked during last fall's windstorm. After repairs were complete, we helped find the anchors and moved the dock in place.
- In September we helped the park pull both the handling and the fishing docks early this year due to the lake level dropping below normal. The BOR can now work on the dam.
- Helped the park repair a 6" main irrigation leak and helped the park fix a leak in the water and the irrigation line near the bathroom by the Kiosk.



## **Thousand Springs**

- Helped fix the irrigation line that was believed to have broken at Billingsley Creek.
- Helped clean up the slash and wood chip pile at Billingsley to clear area for fence builders.
- Helped reglaze windows at the barn at Ritter Island. Fixed 17 windows with park staff.
- Fixed the potable water line to the ranger houses at Malad Gorge and added a shut off valve to help isolate it. Now the house can be shut off without shutting off the water to the shop and the volunteer camp sites.

## SOUTH REGION QUARTERLY REPORT JUL – AUG– SEP 2021

**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 for 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.

## SOUTH REGION SERVICE CENTER – THERESA PERRY, SOUTH REGION BUREAU CHIEF

- The south and east regions were formally divided with the hiring of a new south region manager, Theresa Perry in July. The south region is comprised of Ponderosa, Lake Cascade, Eagle Island, Lucky Peak, Bruneau Dunes, and Three Island Crossing. The work location for this position has been established in Cascade – sharing office space with University of Idaho Extension and Kelly's Whitewater Park staff.
- With support and knowledge of the south region manager and the south-east administrative assistant monitoring and understanding the region operating, minor maintenance, and road and bridge budgets have started.
- As a new region manager, developing new working relationships with each of the park managers has created a better understanding of the unique needs and opportunities each park has. A common challenge each park presents is related to staffing, and the impacts that limited operating funds and aging infrastructure has on the park's resources and its visitors. During this reporting period the focus has been to begin learning the unique (but also similar) challenges each park has and provide support to staff as they manage existing resources, while trying to secure new opportunities (i.e., new programming, partnerships, and concession).
- Several meetings with the operations chief and development bureau have provided a better understanding of ongoing, needed, and upcoming projects and issues while gaining knowledge of the processes (i.e., budgeting, prioritizing, policy review) which assist in determining direction.
- Regular agency policy reviews and discussions with the operations chief and fellow region managers continue.
- Revised and released the request for proposals for marina services at Lake Cascade. Two proposals were received, evaluated, and accepted with the intention of negotiation to begin in November.
- Recruitment and hiring continues to be an ongoing challenge. During this reporting period the Cascade, Eagle Island, and Lucky Peak park manager positions were filled, along with the assistant manager position at Eagle Island, and a ranger position at Lucky Peak. Additionally, administrative assistant positions for Bruneau and Three Island Crossing were filled. Several ranger positions are vacant along with the assistant manager position at Lake Cascade.
- Recruitment and retention of seasonal staff continues to be a significant challenge. Providing housing and competitive wages are key factors in filling these essential positions. Examples of these shortages are seen in the lack of regular hours of park visitor centers and full access to park facilities.
- We continue to have monthly south and east region manager's conference calls. This monthly call provides a platform for staff to provide updates along with an exchange of operational challenges experienced and possible solutions.

- Continued monitoring of many development projects across the region. Several unexpected and unfunded issues occurred during this reporting period which are tied to major infrastructure systems. These issues are explained in the parks reports below and are examples of the critical infrastructure issues parks are facing.
- Planning of the combined south and east region managers meeting is underway and is scheduled for November 9 and 10.

## BRUNEAU DUNES – BRYCE BEALBA, MANAGER

## Customer Service

- Stage two fire restrictions were lifted in the final days of September after being in place most of the summer.
- Our interpreter has expanded her work to our social media accounts, dramatically driving up our presence and drawing a lot of attention to the park.
- Staff made improvements to the trail marker system, significantly decreasing the number of lost hikers and rescues. The problem does persist however, and we are discussing ways to further improve the system such as including better markers and water caches along the trail.
- We will need to secure seasonal funding to be able to staff the new telescope and accommodate the increase in visitation which will require at least two new seasonal aides.
- We decided to not continue the observatory programs for the remaining two weeks of the regular season so our astronomers could continue working on the Dark Sky application. We are hoping to have certification in place by the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original telescope opening, and the scheduled grand opening of the new telescope facility in 2023.

## Park Usage

- High temperatures in July and August decreased visitation and camping, along with the ability to rent sandboards due to sand temperatures. September however brought a few cooler days which allowed sandboarding during limited times as temperatures allowed.
- While the park remained busy in September, we suspect that fire restrictions kept camping numbers down.
- The visitor center had 1,673 visitors in July, 1,891 in August and 1,802 in September.
- We have seen an uptick in portrait photography in the park. Most photographers are coming from the Boise area and are unaware of permit requirements. We have reached out to several businesses on social media, and of course we talk with them when we see them in the park.
- The Boise Astronomical Society (BAS) held its annual Star Party in the park although no public participation occurred this year due to concerns over the Delta variant.

Program Services

- Public and private stargazing programs were held in July and August but were halted mid-September due to a possible staff Covid exposure.
- Scorpion Walks is a popular program which follows the public observatory program, and many attend both programs.
- We have created partnerships with the city of Mountain Home and the Mountain Home Parks and Recreation Department to provide programming in the park and at the City's Senior Center.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming	95	1,363
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Manager provided comments to the IDPR director and operations administrator to be considered in the agency's response to the USAF proposed Environmental Impact Studies regarding flight changes in our area.
- The irrigation well pump is still in the process of being repaired. We can see the impacts of our well failure on the park trees and lawns. Despite our best efforts, many trees are showing dead branches and leaf drop, many have died. We need to develop a rehab plan for the lawn and replanting of the trees that were lost.
- The additional water usage for irrigation along with high domestic water use may be affecting the domestic well. We are seeing large amounts of black sand come through the system and discovered high levels of arsenic in the domestic water. We are conducting additional tests to verify the levels.
- We received new-to-us docks from Ponderosa as well as a new ramp. This, coupled with the new path and dock abutment have significantly improved Small Lake access.

Staff Training

• Nothing to report.

Strategic Plan Actions

• The Owyhee Planning Commission adopted a "Dark Sky Focus Area" for some of the land surrounding the park. This designation will require all new buildings in the area to install Dark Sky compliant fixtures, decreasing light impact to the park and night skies, and adding credibility to our Dark Sky Certification efforts.

• We have been attending the Mountain Home Travel and Tourism meetings via Zoom. <u>Manager's Narrative</u>

- Through state and federal surplus, along with Covid-19 funds, we were granted funding for several projects that will improve the park and visitor experience. The projects include creating an entrance kiosk, repaving the visitor center and observatory parking lots, building a new state-of-the-art telescope, installing a camera on our existing telescope and wiring the scope to broadcast live images into the Steele-Reese Education Center. Initial scoping and bids have begun on some of the projects, while the visitor center and kiosk projects have begun.
- We received several inquiries from national media this year and were featured in articles or programs by PBS, CNN, AAA Travel, and in National Geographic in July.

## EAGLE ISLAND – MATT COOPER, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Opened waterslide for the July 4 weekend; the late opening was due to staffing shortage.
- Continued to take shelter reservations and talk with event coordinators for 2021.
- Responded to visitors' questions about COVID-19 requirements in the park and domestic water issues via phone, Facebook, and email.

Park/Program Usage

- The park hosted the City of Eagle Fun Days fireworks on July 4.
- Park visitation in July was busy on weekdays and even busier on weekends. August and September visitation slowed while the parks domestic well water was offline and being repaired, and also the start of school.
- WildRoots Nature School began their school season in the park.

• Police K-9 training continued to use our fields and outbuildings for training. <u>Program Services</u>

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming (ZipBoise)	105	640
Interpretive Programming		

Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events	1	3500

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- A volunteer group performed a flora and fauna survey for the park.
- We continue to pull and spray invasive weeds around the park.
- Continued to patrol the park's historical buildings and look for damage from vandalism. <u>Staff Training</u>

• Water rescue training would be good to have for permanent and summer seasonal staff. <u>Strategic Plan Actions</u>

- Working with local dog groups on the feasibility of a dog training area in the park.
- Working with City of Eagle on the trails master plan.
- Working with the Sheriff's Department regarding bike patrols at Eagle.

Manager's Narrative

- The domestic water well in the park started to pull sand. Well company found that the original casing had collapsed. Repairs were made and we worked with DEQ for proper sampling and testing of the water.
- We continue to work with EcoLake on lake aerator air lines issue.
- The main wood walking bridge into the park is collapsing. We closed a portion of the bridge and are working with development bureau to rebuild it.
- Ziplines closed operations for the summer on August 14.
- Met with state and district cross country and event directors to discuss issues and logistics of having such large events in the park while the state is operating in Crisis Standards of Care and COVID requirements.
- Met with development to discuss projects and the future of the park. Projects discussed included the domestic well replacement, replacing the main walking bridge, and replacing the roof on the ranger house.
- Met with Gateway Parks snow hill staff to discuss the upcoming season.

#### LAKE CASCADE – BLAKE PACKER, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- The Van Wyck unit was closed on the evening of July 1 in preparation for the community Independence Day celebration on July 3. The fireworks ignition area was located at the adjacent Cascade Golf Course. Spectators were allowed to sit on the golf course which reduced the normally crowded conditions experienced in the Van Wyck unit. On the morning of July 4, the unit was clean and reopened for camping and day use by 9:00am with the help of 20 volunteers.
- As lake levels dropped in August, the Buttercup and Boulder Creek boat ramps became unusable for launching most boats. Handling docks were removed and signs regarding lake levels at other ramps were posted.
- DEQ issued open burn restrictions and an air quality advisory for Valley County for a few days in August. Following this advisory the park removed firewood for sale and placed fire restrictions in our campgrounds until the advisory was lifted.

Park/Program Usage

• All campgrounds and day use areas were at capacity in July. Midweek usage in August slowed a bit but remained at capacity throughout the weekends. The presence of toxic algae blooms on the lake and the open burn restriction in mid-August contributed to the slowdown. Several campgrounds, especially Ridgeview and Poison Creek, were at capacity on the weekends and busy mid-week for most of September.

- The park hosted two Southern Idaho Sailing Association regattas, and a two-day Intermountain Bass Kids Tournament in July.
- During the month of July, the park's watercraft rental program thrived, logging 107 individual rental reservations. In comparison, there were 42 individual rentals in 2020. Unfortunately, a toxic algae advisory was put in place mid-August and it was decided to shut down the park's kayak and paddleboard rental operation. This year's water quality and lake levels were detrimental to the park's revenue through September.
- A few of the park's campgrounds were closed in September and we removed handling docks at Boulder Creek, Sugarloaf, and Poison Creek boat ramps. All camp sites were available on a first come first serve basis.

Program Services

- The following interpretive programs were held this season at the park: Lost But Not Forgotten-Towns Submerged by Lake Cascade, Primitive Fire Skills, Our Moon, All About Owls, Nature's Detective, and Crown Point Trail Bike Ride.
- Due to staffing shortages summer interpretive programs concluded at the end of August.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming	8	145
Jr. Ranger Programming	2	29
School Programming		
Special Events	3	44

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Two groups came to the park and completed noxious weed removal around the office area, contributing a total of 84 volunteer hours in July. Park staff continued with control of noxious weeds in September, using both mechanical and chemical methods.
- Staff completed tree thinning and hazard tree removal in Blue Heron, Sugarloaf, Boulder Creek, and Snowbank campgrounds.
- Staff continued to correct deficiencies in the irrigation system at Sugarloaf Campground. <u>Staff Training</u>
- Training needs identified: Reservation System Training, Interpretative Training, Compliance Enforcement Officer (full 60-80-hour course), First Aid and CPR, Snowmobile Training, DHR Supervisory Academy, and DHR Crucial Conversations.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Staff worked with development bureau on the Crown Point and Blue Heron projects; addressing design and NEPA document details. Staff also worked in conjunction with development and BOR to address timelines for the completion of these projects.
- Park staff worked with development on alternative methods to correct issues with the well at the Poison Creek irrigation system. We will be pulling the pump and accessing the viability of the well with a camera survey of the well.

Manager's Narrative

- Park staff starting planning and preparing the Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development of marina facilities at the park. This included the scheduling of deadlines for submission and evaluation of proposals.
- Due to an increase in kayak and paddleboard rentals in July the park identified outdated rental equipment in need of replacement. Park staff also identified methods to secure additional rental equipment, increase the capacity of rental equipment, and add a secure life jacket drying rack.

- Park staff worked closely with development staff and the contractor to crack seal and stripe parking and road markings throughout Cabarton, Snowbank, Blue Heron, Big Sage, Sage Bluff, Van Wyck, Ridgeview, Crown Point, Sugarloaf, and Poison Creek units.
- Park staff have been preparing Blue Heron for the completion of the Blue Heron CXT project that will be completed in October.
- All traffic counters were removed for the season and final counts submitted. Due to mechanical failure with the counters the park was unable to submit data from all locations. It will be necessary to replace 8 of the 22 traffic counters if we are to provide complete data by next summer.

## LUCKY PEAK – SURAT NICOL, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Moorage customers were notified in July about dropping lake levels and customers started removing vessels by the end of the month.
- Spring Shores concession closed for the season in September and concessionaire will make all payments by January.
- The disc golf course was installed at Sandy Point at the end of September.
- Reduced visitation during the winter months will accommodate for dogs to be off leash at all units beginning October 1.
- Spring Shores ramp closed in September due to low water.

Park/Program Usage

- July 4 weekend was very busy at Sandy Point and Discovery with both units filling to capacity each day.
- Sandy Point and Discovery visitation was very high in July and all three units saw increased activity on the weekdays and weekends.
- Reduced visitation in August was attributed to early drawdown and lower lake levels, smoke and poor air quality, the Western Idaho Fair, and schools being back in session.
- Spring Shores and surrounding areas were used by multiple agencies for K9 trainings in July and August. Dogs were introduced to working on boats, near and in water. Attack, drug, and dual use dogs were present.
- Non-motorized boating activity was up at all three units in September.

Program Services

- Astronomy programs were offered every Friday and Saturday night in July at Spring Shores although half the programs were cancelled due to smoke, clouds, and inclement weather.
- Park staff organized a nighttime bat program at Discovery. We have been working with bat biologist, Bill Doerring, on researching local bat populations and educating the public. We observed a lot of bats and had hands on activities for participants. This was a trial run and designed to test our program on a small group. We only had a few attendees but learned a lot.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming	12	100
Jr. Ranger Programming	1	15
School Programming		
Special Events	1	45

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• We had 30 volunteers come to help us weed, rake, and add mulch at the pollinator garden at Sandy Point.

## Staff Training

• Staff needs training on processing fiscal tasks and tracking budgets in more detail. <u>Strategic Plan Actions</u>

• Spring Shores hosted a two-day sailing class for disabled youth ages 12-17. The event was conducted by our partners at Southern Idaho Sailing Outreach (SISO) and Challenged Athletes (CAF). Eight students with mobility issues traded crutches and wheelchairs for sailboats. This is the first ever event for CAF, SISO, and IDPR and it was a huge success. We hope to make this part of the summer sailing curriculum.

Manager's Narrative

- The Director, Lt. Governor McGeachin, and other key IDPR staff toured Lucky Peak State Park. They were shown some projects such as the Discovery shoreline, the Sandy Point playground site, and the marina improvement plan. We really appreciate everyone taking the time to visit us.
- Staff participated in the annual Lucky Peak Lake partnership meeting. Special thanks to Ada County Parks and Recreation Director Scott Koberg for organizing the event and providing the incredible food! The meeting brings all the agencies that work at the lake together for a day of exchanging information and future plans.
- It's been a whirlwind of activity with a new region manager, new manager 3, and a new ranger. Staff are addressing typical issues involved with any transition and appreciate all the help we are getting from HQ staff.
- Eagle Island was kind enough to host a Memorial Service for former Director Yvonne Ferrell. It was nice to see many of the now retired employees that worked for Yvonne and who helped build this agency. It was a lovely tribute and many thanks to the Eagle Island staff for being so accommodating.
- Dane Weber, our paddleboard rental and shaved ice concessionaire at Sandy Point, closed for the season in September and paid his concession fees. Dane runs a great operation and had a very successful season grossing approximately \$117,000.
- We are making progress with communication issues at Sandy Point. Landlines are good but internet speed is still painfully slow and not usable if more than one person is online. ITS has been great in working with us and trying to find a solution.

## PONDEROSA – MATT LINDE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

• Due to low staffing we had to close the visitor center one day a week. We also were not able to open the entrance kiosk this year due to lack of staff.

Park/Program Usage

- There were many events held in the park in July, mostly family reunions and local events.
- Parking has affected park usage with little to no parking spots left at our visitor center and day use areas during peak times. This has led to people using different areas of the park that are less developed and more susceptible to degradation.
- July and August were full camping months with very few open spots.
- With Covid resurging in August, some group events were cancelled but we still had a number of weddings and group get togethers, just a bit less than a typical summer.
- The Xterra adult race was canceled this year but the children's race went on. The Dash and Splash high school running event was also held without any issues.
- Visitation slowed considerably in September. We had three out of five camping loops open with about 60% capacity. Large groups continued to use the outdoor shelters for get togethers due to the pandemic. Cabin usage remained high through September and it continues to be a struggle to keep them clean and ready for the next guests with one dedicated cleaner.

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming		
Interpretive Programming	6	227
Jr. Ranger Programming	3	66
School Programming	34	380
Special Events	14	1951

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The Meadow Marsh sale was closed at the end of September. The logger was released from the contract and all is completed on his end. We have Southern Idaho Timber Protective Association coming in October to masticate trees that were not part of the cut and pile some of the slash that has accumulated in the skidding trails. They will also do some of the piling along the fire break.
- The work on the fossil display has stopped again due to lack of funding. Private donations were not enough to cover the costs of the display.

#### Staff Training

- Two of our rangers attended a tree insect and disease class in August.
- Strategic Plan Actions
- The second phase of the utility upgrade in the Peninsula campground was postponed until fall of 2022 due to funding issues. Hopefully we can accomplish this much needed upgrade in 2022.
- Work continued on the Meadow Marsh cut to complete the strategic plan for natural resources. <u>Manager's Narrative</u>
- Our cabin cleaning person was very busy, and we had to help her multiple times in order to get all cabins cleaned in a three-hour window. It would be helpful if we could change the check in or check out time to give us one more hour to clean these cabins.
- Being short on seasonal staff took its toll on permanent staff. We changed our schedules to best serve the needs of customers but that meant our nighttime ranger was not able to work nights from Sunday to Thursday. We sent the ranger phone home with park staff who live in the park to answer the phone if campers had issues.
- We are planning to keep the Bear cabin offline to use as a seasonal house for the 2022 summer season. We can place two seasonal workers in this cabin which should help a little with the seasonal housing crisis.
- We have a project coming in October to help with our four oldest cabin roofs leaking. We hope this project can start in mid-October and end before the snow gets too deep.

## <u>THREE ISLAND – NITA MOSES, PARK MANAGER</u>

## Customer Service

- Camp hosts have been a great help in the campground, and seasonal employees and volunteers have been vital in both the history center and the kiosk.
- Maintenance and irrigation remain the most difficult tasks to stay on top of with only one fulltime and one part-time seasonal maintenance employee.
- Manager switched hours and days of staff members at the kiosk and maintenance to provide better coverage and make the most of our limited personnel.
- Maintenance staff continues to spend a lot of time taking care of multiple cabins with same day check-out and check-in. We have also had to close some of our eight cabins in order to clean and sanitize with our limited staff.

Park/Program Usage

• The visitor center served 2,119 visitors for the month of July, 1,908 in August, and 1,383 in September. Year to date we have had 11,047 visitors.

- The traffic counter read 4,996 in July, 4,312 in August, and 4,433 in September.
- R&J Tours, Inc. from Minnesota toured the Oregon Trail History and Education Center.
- Every weekend continues to be completely booked in the campground. Staff fields numerous calls from many surprised individuals who do not have a reservation and can't get one because everything is booked through the peak season which ends October 31.

• A disc golf tournament with 57 people was held in the park in September.

## Program Services

- We held a program about the different kind of bats we have in Idaho and the various characteristics of all bats.
- Three outdoor star gazing programs were held with Dr. Chuck Schroll. Chuck owns his own plane, and this is the second time this year he has flown into the airport next door and put on naked-eye astronomy programs.

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	10	193
Interpretive Programming	1	25
Jr. Ranger Programming		
School Programming		
Special Events		

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- There were over 21 straight days of 100+ degree weather in July causing very dry conditions throughout the park. That coupled with the many campers made it quite challenging to irrigate the campground.
- IDFG and the YNot Winery next door conducted a depredation hunt to mitigate the crop (wine grapes) damage from mule deer. A fawn was left without its mother, but another doe with twins adopted it.
- We continue to prune trees and spray for broadleaf weeds throughout the park.
- A large Russian olive tree near the Manager's residence had to be removed as it had become a hazard. After removal, we found that a broken water line under the tree was eroding away the soil around the root ball.

Staff Training

- Blood Borne Pathogen training for new seasonal employees was held.
- Manager attended the Zoom meeting regarding COVID-19.

Strategic Plan Actions

- Manager has been reordering products for the gift shop. Sales have been excellent, and the shelves are starting to look bare.
- Although we had planned to keep the entrance kiosk and visitor center open longer hours and more days this year, staffing turnovers has made this difficult.

#### Manager's Narrative

- The park has been allocated funding to replace two UTV's that no longer work and are not worth fixing. The contract has been awarded, but ETA on the two mules is estimated to be next spring due to Covid.
- We continue to have many compliance issues with dogs off leash, parking vehicles and equipment on the grass, and the use hammocks which damage the park trees.
- A new compliance issue over the summer was visitors building extremely large fires in the fire rings during very dry and hot conditions. The camp hosts were trying to enforce the park rules at night but have received limited compliance from the campers. The possibility of having night shifts next year was discussed.

- The smoke from fires in Oregon and California prompted the DEQ to order burn bans in August and September due to terrible air quality.
- We had an infestation of boxelder bugs in the Cottonwood cabin. It was treated twice, but they just kept returning. Staff moved incoming reservations to another cabin and put foggers both underneath the cabin and inside the cabin. Staff are awaiting the results.
- Meetings with Idaho State Police, HQ, region manager and park manager were held to discuss the possibility of putting a manufactured home in the park for an ISP trooper to live and serve this region.

## SOUTH REGION MAINTENANCE CREW – CHRISTOPHER RE, FOREMAN

### Eagle Island

• Graded the road to the equestrian area.

## Lake Cascade State Park

• Delivered eight, used dock sections from Ponderosa to Lake Cascade that are being used to extend and repair the handling docks at Blue Heron and Buttercup. We also helped the park install the docks.

## South region transportation

- Picked up the trailer from Bruneau Dunes to haul a UTV from Carl's Cycle to Ponderosa. Brought 2nd UTV from Ponderosa to Carl's cycle to be repaired.
- Loaded docks from Ponderosa and delivered to Bruneau.
- Picked up parking barriers and delivered them to Ponderosa.

## QUARTERLY REPORTS JULY – AUGUST – SEPTEMBER 2021

**MISSION:** To serve North Idaho Park users and recreationists providing them a quality experience that is safe and enjoyable while managing and protecting the public's investment and the 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 experiences and resources are provided and enhanced

## **Primary Issues and Concerns**

- 1. Staff Shortages
- 2. Minimal budgets, 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

- Participated in the Heyburn Rocky Point Lodge Design Kickoff Meeting; Executive Staff Meetings via phone; discussion with Heyburn recreation residence lessee Troy Lozano, his attorney, and Steve Strack the Deputy Attorney General, to discuss Mr. Lozano's lease violations and resolutions; park retails sales processes and results discussion
- Reviewed potential ARPA projects with Development Staff; TOC encroachments onsite; Nesbitt property; Winchester operations with staff; Hells Gate operations with staff; Dworshak operations with staff
- Gave an IDPR/North Region presentation to the Leadership CdA Class participants
- Assisted with Round Lake Park Ranger interviews; Dworshak State Park Manager interviews; Hells Gate and Heyburn Ranger interviews
- Coordinated and discussed final Dworshak USACOE Lease terms
- Reviewed Park operations with staff at Old Mission, Trail of the CdAs, Dworshak
- Coordinated CdA Regional Chamber Natural Resource Committee Meeting
- Met with CdA Tribe, Harrison Dock Builders and Heyburn staff to discuss Chatcolet Marina redesign; Shoshone County, PHD, Tribe, park staff and others to review Cataldo Boat Launch renovations; with One-Shot Charlies owner to discuss trees located within TOC ROW of impacting the view and potential mitigation options
- Participated in Board Zoom Meeting
- Assisted with various TOC encroachment issues and OM/TOC park operations
- Participated in Permanent Building Fund Tour of Farragut's Brig and discussion of creating a centralized entrance, visitor center; OLD Mission Tour by Senator Risch's staff that was visiting North Idaho
- Met with and reviewed various TOC encroachment applicants to discuss their projects and requirements; assisted staff in following up on several lease issues from non-payment to trespass
- Coordinated a Heyburn Lease violation resulting in the issuance of a Notice of Lease Termination

## NR MAINTENANCE CREW

- <u>Farragut:</u> Welded tabs on gate arms and gate posts and installed at Viewpoint
- <u>Heyburn:</u> Tore down Chatcolet restroom and removed foundation in prep for new installation; Relocated bulldozer to burn pile
- <u>North Region Office:</u> Various vehicle, equipment, and facility repairs; Made retirement plaque for Steve Strack the Deputy Attorney General; Assisted with preparations for Board Meeting; Created forty Idaho service plaques
- <u>Old Mission/TOC:</u> Helped remove fallen cotton wood tree across Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes; Picked up parts at Ragan Equipment and delivered to OM; Talked with Ranger about repairing water spigot at boat launch later in Fall; Installed cabinets in VC conference room
- <u>Priest Lake:</u> Looked at White Pine shower house and Schaffer cabin with Sr. Engineer Technician and contractor; Reviewed Lion Head campground entrance and exit for possible gate install with Sr. Engineer Technician and Park Manager; Delivered brochures to park for Boat Education Safety Coordinator; Delivered Jr. Ranger items to park
- <u>Round Lake:</u> Used backhoe to dig up electrical junction box by Brownie
- <u>Winchester:</u> Shipped traffic counters to park; Spoke with Park Manager regarding woodstove problems and need for replacement pellet stove
- <u>OHV/Boating:</u> Moved Trail-cat and mini-excavator out to employee lot before new gate install at Region Office complex

## NR OFFICE STAFF

- Training of new hire for front office and replacement for Office Specialist II
- Busy with walk in registrations and phone lines
- Assisted with arrangements for Park Board Tour
- Administrative Assistant II position vacant
- Staff filling in as needed to cover duties
- Preparing for Fall Region Meeting

## PRIEST LAKE STATE PARK – LONNIE JOHNSON, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- Keeping visitors happy while imposing stage two fire restrictions came with its challenges Most people understood and complied, others needed a little more education
- Worked with development bureau on the paving project of Lionhead Campground Road and the restroom refurbishment at White Pine
- Work began on paving, refurbishment of restroom and Schaefer cabin in September

## Park/Program Usage

- Usage for July remained busy for camping, cabins, day use and group camp
- The Park was busy in August, but not as busy as last year at this same time. High heat, smoke and not being able to have campfires may have contributed to this

## Program Services

• Re-Creation Unlimited had very good turnout throughout the quarter

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	37	1510
Interpretive Programming	31	1280
Jr. Ranger Programming	25	479
School Programming	0	0
Special Events	1	70

## Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• Nothing to report

#### Staff Training

• No formal training this quarter

## Park Manager's Narrative

- The story of July was hot, dry, record high temperatures, record lack of moisture and stage two fire restrictions
- August started out with extreme high temperatures and very dry. Middle of month heavy smoke rolled in; toward end of month, we received some rain and wind that blew out the smoke
- Campers were happy and wood sales soared on August 27, as the stage 2 fire restrictions were lifted
- September brought an end to all our seasonals and volunteers

## **ROUND LAKE STATE PARK – MARY MCGRAW, PARK MANAGER**

Customer Service

• Visitor Center hours were at peak season (11:00 am to 9:00 pm) for most of this quarter, hours were reduced for the off season in September

## Park/Program Usage

- Campsites were full in July. The extreme hot weather (100's +) and low air quality due to fires resulted in campers checking out early and many cancellations, for the most part these early check out and cancellations were filled with walk in campers
- Visitors have been using the trails and day use areas to fish, hike and walk dogs
- Both shelters were reserved every weekend in July, with four weddings, family reunions and friends just getting together
- The Amphitheater was reserved four of the five Saturdays for wedding ceremonies
- The first week of August camping was busy on weekends and during the week. The rest of the month we were full on weekends and were maybe half full during the week
- The first week of September camping was busy with campers, after the holiday (Labor Day weekend) camping slowed down with less than half-full weekends and 3 or 4 campers during the week. Day use area was busy

#### Program Services

- In July we presented Jr. Ranger programs every Saturday and 3 evening programs
- Two staff members participated in the online Interpretative training
- SOLE was in the park for a weeklong Jr. Naturalist program
- In September we presented one Jr. Ranger program during the holiday weekend

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	14	203
Interpretive Programming	3	73
Jr. Ranger Programming	10	256
School Programming	0	0
Special Events	0	0

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• A volunteer worked to open the trails and provide better views of the lake and surrounding area by limbing and cutting leaning trees

## Staff Training

• No training this quarter

## Strategic Plan Actions

• Funding from an RV Grant has been awarded for the installation of defined living pads in each campsite in conjunction with vegetation management plan to protect the resources and enhance visitor camping experiences

## Park Manager's Narrative

- Fire ban went into effect July 12. Propane fire pits were also banned
- We have resumed all rentals and loaner programs this year. Customers are happy to have them back
- We were unable to sell ice during the month of July, there was an ice shortage during the hottest days of the summer
- We had the PAC bicycle Tour (traveling cross country Washington to New Hampshire) in the park for a lunch break on their tour
- Manager has signed up for new internet service, we are on the waiting list, expecting to receive equipment and service in 2022
- We have been taking many calls regarding the nonresident fee increases, people making reservations think the system is over charging and call us for an explanation
- The power to the Amphitheater has failed and will need to be replaced in the future. We are working to determine where the issue is and fix it temporarily
- Worked with Master Naturalist to plan for the summer's activities involving the Master Naturalist programs
- Manager has worked with a local high school to have a community service project completed at the park
- Director and Development Bureau Chief and Alex Adams from the Governor's office toured the park and the Nesbitt property
- We have worked with the Information manager to get our backpacks restocked, as well as get some new resale items
- We have had some issues with sewer lift station 1 and 2, we are working to get the relay switch and capacitors replaced so the pumps will operate correctly
- We are starting to plan to participate in the City Nature Challenge for 2022, we are working with the local master naturalist group

- Manager presented a program to Gonzaga Public Land Management class
- Park staff responded to a small fire in the park. The fire was quickly put out and determined by investigators to have been unintentionally, human caused
- Staff has spoken with at least 75 potential campers that left the park due to the non-resident fee increase

## FARRAGUT STATE PARK – LIZ PALFINI, PARK MANAGER

## Customer Service

- We were seeing some cancellations due to air quality in July, but others walked into those cancelled sites
- Weekends continue to be full and areas like the boat launch and Beaver Bay swim beach is crowded most Saturdays and experiencing capacity issues
- Complaints from nonresidents have increased as expected. Surprisingly many of the complaints haven't been just about the increase but about how the reservation system is applying the increase folks believe they have started the reservation process at the lower price point and then it doubles at the end, so they think there is a problem with the computer. I'd say we have fielded over 50 calls just regarding the "bait and switch" they think is happening. We are getting lots of questions about what makes someone an Idaho resident. We have been going with Driver's license for residency and the ability to register to vote
- In August, the nine-month reservation window for next year is opening and folks are experiencing the increase for the first time. Many of the complaints are still not about the increase but about how the reservation system is applying the increase
- Physically manning a gate is the only reliable way to ensure that day users pay their entry fees
- Farragut State Park occupancy was on average 60-75% for September waning after the Labor Day weekend. Weekends continue to be full and areas like the boat launch and Beaver Bay swim beach crowded most Saturdays but closures due to capacity weren't necessary
- Reservations have ended so we are firmly into the First come First serve season. All campgrounds except Waldron are closed and winterization has begun
- Without manned gates we are seeing a remarkable increase in surcharge tickets for nonpayment. Majority of folks getting surcharges are local Idaho residents

## Park/Program Usage

- July totals: 5 weddings; 9 family reunions; 2 company picnics; 2 church groups; 10 churches; 14 family/friend campouts; 1 boy scout troop; 1 XC team; 1 bike group; 1 disc golf tourney; 1 search and rescue
- August totals: 12 weddings; 1 rehearsal dinner; 15 family reunion; 1 birthday party, 7 company picnics; 4 church group; 8 church campouts; 20 family/friend campout; 1 girl scout troop; 2 equestrian events, 3 XC team; military helo training

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	0	0
Interpretive Programming	29	844
Jr. Ranger Programming	11	302
School Programming	2	44
Special Events	0	0

Group Use	No. of Groups	No. of Attendees	
Farragut Junior Ranger Station	0	3279	
Museum at the Brig	0	8523	
Group use shelters/day use	51	6040	
Group camping	68	7235	
Group use permits	14	5065	
Higgins Point	24	1206	
Parkway Special Events	3	1500	

Program Services

- We hosted ten family story time events in partnership with the Athol Library with 128 participants in July and 46 participants in August
- July totals: 74 backpacks checked out. Jr Ranger story time 103 participants
- August totals: 83 backpacks checked out. Guidebooks 487 and badges 551, patches 26 and 4 certificates
- We hosted 3 family story time events in partnership with the Athol Library Sept 10 40 people; Sept 17 30 people; Sept 20 25 people; Sept 24 23 people

## Staff Training

• All Field Staff attended weekly safety meetings this quarter

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• Beetle outbreaks of both Western Pine and IPS are causing concerns for the resource within the park and a re-evaluation of future resource work. Future resource plans are now focused on addressing the salvage and work in areas that have been impacted by the beetle outbreak. The future parking area next to the Brig Museum has been cleared

## Strategic Plan Actions

- During this quarter all areas were open and occupied. Field staff concentrated on routine maintenance and customer service complaints fixing various items throughout the park due to wear and tear and increased usage
- We experienced increased operational pressure due to increased camping numbers and the • trend for customers to shorten their stay. We have had to increase the number of trash dumpsters within the campgrounds to a total of 11 with 2 pickups per week. This has increased our fixed costs to just around \$36,000 for the 12-week busy reservation timeframe and an overall annual budget of \$49,000 (increased from \$21,300 last FY). Unprecedented heat hit us this summer and we saw the effects within the campgrounds. We had major electrical issues due to the increase in electrical demand from customers. We had to call the electricians out 4 times to assess sporadic faults in July. The electric bill for June and July totaled over \$22,000 which is an overall increase of \$9,000 (current FY22 projection is budgeting \$65,800 up from last year's \$57,800). Our septic system had to be pumped throughout the summer which in and of itself is not new. The frequency of these pumping events however has increased as visitation as well as turn-over increases. Currently we are averaging 90 site turnovers each day out of 283 campsites and cabins. This is an added strain on the entire operation. If these trends continue our projections for FY22 fixed costs increase by 40-60%
- We have identified a need for at least 7 new camp host opportunities to help manage the new capacity issues we are facing. This means building 7 new host campsites in our residence

area. These volunteers will help staff the multiple entrance booths, coverage for campsite volunteers and an increase in interpretation presence

- Work is in progress renovating the Museums archive room and archive office. Ultimately these improvements will allow park staff to better protect the museum's collection as well as provide access to researchers who want to view what we have. Work on the Junior Ranger Station has also added colorful murals to the walls and enhanced the visitor's space
- July celebrated our 60 camp volunteers who contributed over 6,000 hours of service working in areas throughout the park including the front-line fee booths. They weathered the fee changes right along with our front-line VC staff
- Planning is complete on a conceptual design for a central entrance for the park and moving of the visitor center to be in the Brig building. The benefit of having a central entrance allows for controlled access to the park during summer months and allows Rangers to concentrate on customer service and projects rather than fee compliance. Staff have started minor projects associated with the central entrance plan to reduce project costs and begin the process of establishing trails and amenities based upon that visitor center placement

## Park Manager's Narrative

- July was as busy as we anticipated. Even with the fee changes implemented staff and volunteers rose to the occasion and handled it wonderfully. We piloted our field check-in with Aspira using an iPad with a cellular package and it worked great. We were able to cut the lines down and assist the VC staff from the parking lot
- Communication with visitors concerning the excessive heat was positive and well received. We started to experience electrical issues as anticipated due to the increased pull from RV customers. We have also been communicating with customer regarding fire safety and keeping fires reasonable and that has also been well received
- Retail sales are being impacted by supply shortages. We haven't been able to restock since the beginning of the summer due to the lack of product availability. I estimate we are losing an estimated \$20,000 each month in retail sales. An increase in spending authority would allow us some added flexibility to buy even during the winter months and stockpile retail goods for sale during the busy season while allowing us that flexibility to restock as needed during the summer too
- September was as busy as we anticipated. We are experiencing a more frustrated customer as we move out of summer and into the shoulder season. The non-resident fees are hitting hard non-resident folks are shortening their stay at Farragut or deciding not to stay
- We are in the process of formalizing a park wide emergency plan. We are combining all hazardous materials information as well as utility locations for interagency communication during emergencies
- Per Director's request our front-line staff have begun a tally of non-residents who attempt to walk-in to a campsite but change their mind when they realize the cost to camp at Farragut. For the month of August, we tallied 27 walk outs; September, we tallied 16 walk outs

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

## Customer Service

• Parkway funds received, \$3,739.58 in July, \$1,762 in August and \$1,564 in September

#### Park/Program Usage

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees		
Experiential Programming	0			
Interpretive Programming	0			
Jr. Ranger Programming	0			
School Programming	0			
Special Events	0			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- July saw steady day use visitation with local runners, walkers and families getting outside on nice days. Trail counters were reinstalled and were working well all month. Higgens Point trail counter recorded 5,689 and Silver Beach recorded 7,938
- September saw steady day use visitation with local runners, walkers and families getting outside on nice days

## Strategic Plan Actions

- In July, Parkway Ranger worked on landscape maintenance projects as well as other wear and tear issues due to increased summer usage
- We are looking at future educational partnerships to help enhance the visitor experience at Parkway. We partnered with the CDA library to implement a story walk at Higgens point installed on April 14 and look forward to changing it out to a new story this summer
- Dock repair work continued and other routine maintenance projects throughout the parkway. Irrigation repair and other summer maintenance occurred as well as steady requests for special events and pavilion rentals
- In September the Parkway was readied for fall. Ranger worked on dock maintenance projects as well as other wear and tear issues due to increased summer usage. Ranger secured 24 donated trees from a local nursery that will be planted at the parkway in October

#### Park Manager's Narrative

• None

#### COEUR D'ALENES OLD MISSION STATE PARK – WILLIAM NISKA, PARK RANGER Customer Service

- Mission and Visitor Center open.
- Full seasonal staff hired
- Seasonals laid off, shortage of staff for last few weeks of August
- September seasonal staff at a minimum operating level. It is difficult to make any progress with minimal staff

#### Park/Program Usage

- Use was slightly down this quarter. 5,797 traffic count
- Staff giving presentations for tours. July traffic count 5,797, August 4,144, and September 3,871

#### Program Services

• None reported this quarter

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	1 – Cub Scouts	20
Interpretive Programming	10 – Tours	272
	878 - DVD	2953
	588 – Exhibit	2003
Jr. Ranger Programming	27 – Books	
	3 – Badges	
	3 – Patches	
School Programming	1 – School	30
Special Events	4 – Wedding	240
	2-Mass	300

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• Park Ranger met with Tribe to discuss need for Mission. Looking at repairing windows, pieces of siding, and interior walls of Mission

## <u>Staff Training</u>

• None reported this quarter

#### Strategic Plan Actions

- Strategic Plan Objective: 5 Be good stewards of the natural resources artifacts and assets entrusted to IDPR
- Action Item 6: Create reproductions of a Scotch Cap, Bandolier Bag, and Medicine Bag for display within the Sacred Encounters Exhibit to replace returned loaned artifacts
- Comments: Items and supplies gathered to complete Scotch cap. Searching for pattern. Waiting for remaining items for Bandolier Bag from supplier. Small medicine bag kit received
- Strategic Plan Objective: 1 Provide different and unique outdoor experiences. 2 Provide improved park visitor and recreation customer experiences. 5 Be good stewards of the natural resources artifacts and assets entrusted to IDPR
- Action Item 7: Create and develop a Traditional Food/Bird/Butterfly Garden in the north Visitor Center planting bed
- Comments: Plants have been planted and irrigation system currently turned on and monitored daily

Park Manager's Narrative

- Current challenges include parking and lack thereof, lack of staff, site security, and lack of staff housing
- Fielded numerous phone calls and emails regarding scheduling of weddings, school visits, and special events
- Hobo Data Loggers not consistently working, needing to be constantly reset to record needed information
- Connectivity and computer issues hindered staff in completing their work duties
- Mission Flats fire
- Extremely dry conditions, irrigation system down
- Historic Skills fair cancelled

- Potable water line remains broken at Cataldo Boat Ramp. No water available outside VC or Mission area. Ranger and Region Manger attended preconstruction meeting at boat ramp
- North Region Maintenance Crew added shutoff valve to boat ramp water line
- Water irrigation water and potable turned on
- Manager away from park
- Potable water line remains broken at Cataldo Boat Ramp
- Park Board toured Old Mission
- Senator Risch foreign relations committee visited park

# TRAIL OF THE COEUR D'ALENES – – WILLIAM NISKA, PARK RANGER Customer Service

Customer Service

- Staff focused on maintenance, downed tree removal, and clearing the trail
- August seasonals on fire crew. Ranger and OMSP seasonal staff covering basic daily tasks
- Limited staff

## Park/Program Usage

Trail traffic counters at the following sites for the quarter

- Wallace 20,004
- Harrison 14,410
- Enaville 13,453
- Kellogg 11,269
- Concessions on Trail: Adventure Cycling, Bicycle Adventures, Discovery Tours, Oregon River, ROW, and Wilderness Voyagers

Program Services

• None reported for this quarter

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees		
Experiential Programming	0			
Interpretive Programming	5 75			
Jr. Ranger Programming	0			
School Programming	0			
Special Events	0			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• None reported this quarter

## Staff Training

• None reported this quarter

## Strategic Plan Actions

- Strategic Plan Objective: 1 Provide different and unique outdoor experiences. 2 Provide improved experiences for park visitors and recreation customers
- Action Item 3: Conduct a shaded fuel break prescription to include thinning, pruning and removal of brush 5 feet out from both sides of the Trail ROW for approximately 21 miles. Worked with Natural Resource Program Manager
- Comments: Contractor completed

- Strategic Plan Objective: 2 Provide improved experiences for park visitors and recreation customers. 5 – Be good stewards of the natural resources, artifacts and assets entrusted to IDPR
- Action Item 4: Work with local birders, Audubon group and interested people to update the bird checklist for the Trail
- Comments: Working with contacts to find interested volunteers
- Strategic Plan Objective: 1 Provide different and unique outdoor experiences. 2 Provide improved experiences for park visitors and recreation customers. 5 Be good stewards of the natural resources, artifacts and assets entrusted to IDPR
- Action Item 5: Assess all Interpretive Exhibits within the park
- Comments: Developing forms for record
- Strategic Plan Objective: 6 Be good stewards of the funds entrusted to IDPR
- Action Item 7: Work with HQ staff to determine feasibility of corporate sponsorship for an advertising billboard. Work with HQ staff, and local chambers to determine and develop marketing strategy through social media
- Comments: Updates/corrections to trail map for social media sites completed. Funding secured for trail marketing through local chambers and tourism

## Park Manager's Narrative

- Continue to work through encroachment issues at Smelterville, Kellogg, Wallace, Enaville, Harrison and Medimont
- Worked with Central Shoshone Water District regarding their leases within the TOC ROW
- Current issues/challenges include unknown park boundaries and property lines, lack of staff to complete maintenance duties, lack of park housing, and unauthorized motorized vehicle use on the trail due to lack of sufficient access controls
- Trail inspection completed during the month separate from Arcadis
- Working with local group in 5k run Wallace to Kellogg
- Manager spent considerable time discussing trail access and crossings with potential new landowners. Property in the Silver Valley is at a premium
- Ranger attended preconstruction meeting for Shoshone County Water line project for Elizabeth Park TH
- Park Ranger and Region Manager met with Kootenai Electric at Black Rock to discuss proposed electric line

## HEYBURN STATE PARK – NATHAN BLACKBURN, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

- July customer service needs consisted primarily of assisting campers, selling registration products, and retail sales. The visitor center was busy, and staffing challenges due to inability to recruit seasonal help added extra challenges
- August customer service needs shifted in the second week of August dramatically from high visitation needs to managing a park fire and the public information and safety concerns associated with it
- September saw the loss of many park staff with the marina closing after Memorial Day

Park/Program Usage

• Campsite reservations saw a slight drop (5%) from 2020 levels, this was the next highest in park history. Day use visitation conversely was even higher than in 2020, with an increase in traffic counter numbers of 11% and MVEF Daily revenue up 13%

- With a fire ban in place and a fire closing all the north side trails, park use dropped to near record lows for August. Traffic counters saw a 32% drop from 2020, and reservations saw a reduction of 22%. Revenue was the lowest since prior to 2017
- Park use returned to near normal levels after the sharp reduction in August. Traffic counter numbers were down 5.6% from 2020, and camping reservations were down 3% (but still higher than all other previous years). Park revenue followed this pattern; down slightly from 2020 but still higher than typical

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees		
Experiential Programming	0			
Interpretive Programming	0			
Jr. Ranger Programming	0			
School Programming	0			
Special Events	0			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- The initial design meeting for the Rocky Point Lodge rehabilitation project was held in July, with a goal for the facility to be reopened to the public for the 2022 peak use season
- There is a direct sale of blow down occurring within Heyburn to minimize any beetle spread caused by the downed logs

## Staff Training

- Ranger attended weed management training. (8hrs)
- Ranger took an online interpretation training. (6hrs)

Park Manager's Narrative

- July was a challenging month for staff. Ranger began working part time at Winchester State Park, an assistant manager was yet to be hired, and Office Specialist was out on leave most of the month. This led to staffing very thin with only basic operations able to occur
- The initial design meeting for Rocky Point Lodge rehabilitation occurred as well as Assistant Manager interviews. Manager attended the annual cabin lessee association meeting
- Regardless of minimal staffing, Customer satisfaction seemed high, and the seasonal crew arose to meet the challenges of additional pressure of high visitation
- August saw the beginning of the new Assistant Manager tenure at Heyburn State Park. There were park tours with members of the Governor's office and state senators. The most significant event of August was the Toetly Three fire, which resulted in evacuation of Chatcolet Campground, notice of potential evacuation of Hawley's Landing Campground, the closure of the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's, and the closure of all north side trails. The fire burned less than 40 acres within the park, but due to topography and predominant winds had the potential for a truly catastrophic event, requiring an abundance of caution. This resulted in significantly reduced visitation in August, with traffic counter numbers the lowest since 2008
- During September, park use returned to more normal levels after the sharp reduction in August. The Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's reopened as did most of the north side trails except for the equestrian area which remained closed for safety. Development projects started kicking into high gear with the Chatcolet flush restroom demolished for replacement and pre-bid meetings for the Lakeview foundation and roof.

Interviews were held to replace a ranger position. Park use was slightly reduced from 2020, but higher than most other recent years

## MCCROSKEY STATE PARK – RON HISE, PARK MANAGER

## Customer Service

• Selling firewood permits at the Heyburn Visitor Center and assisting campers with information and directions was the primary customer service activities in September

## Park/Program Usage

- Having a burn ban in place reduced the campers to minimum in July and August
- Redtail Campground filled for Memorial Day weekend, and a fair number of fall campers came to enjoy the cooler weather with a total of 70 camping units

## Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees		
Experiential Programming	0			
Interpretive Programming	0			
Jr. Ranger Programming	0			
School Programming	0			
Special Events	0			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• Idaho Department of Lands and Natural Resource Manager are managing a sale in the northern portion of the park. A serious pine beetle infestation has instigated the planning of an emergency resource project to stop their spread

## Staff Training

• None reported this quarter

## Strategic Plan Actions

• None reported this quarter

## Park Manager's Narrative

- With hot dry weather in July, park use was low. There was a total of 23 campers in the park, almost all from out of state. Work on the Redtail Campground is over for the season, but additional work needs to be done to allow for rigs with trailers to turn around at the campground
- August Park use was minimal and consisted primarily of day users and less than a dozen campers. Resource work continued to be laid out to prepare for the beetle kill salvage
- Redtail campground filled for the first time in September. If use continues to be high for 2022, staffing may need to be readdressed to ensure protection of the resource from off-road use. Park staff winterized the water system and are still working with development for a completion of needed improvements to the campground

## HELLS GATE STATE PARK – CHARLIE CHASE, PARK MANAGER

Customer Service

The Lewis and Clark Discovery Center was open from 9:00 – 5:00 seven days a week. The marina store, operated by Snake River Adventures, was open seven days a week from 9:00 – 5:00. We have hired one of their employees to pump gasoline Friday – Monday. This allows our crew to stay on task during the weekends. Jack O'Connor Center lost a couple of volunteers and is now closed on Mondays and Tuesdays but open the rest of the week Wednesday – Friday, 10:00-4:00 and Saturday-Sunday, 1:00-4:00

## Park/Program Usage

- Most of this quarter's usage figures decreased over previous months
- The shelters were occupied less due to do with the huge amount of smoke in the air and the heat

Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees	
Experiential Programming			
Interpretive Programming			
Jr. Ranger Programming	42 – Books	42	
School Programming			
Special Events			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

• Natural Resource Program Manager came down and dropped a hazard tree next to the Birch Loop restroom

## Staff Training

• None reported this quarter

Strategic Plan Actions

• None reported this quarter

Park Manager's Narrative

- July has been HOT and dry, with smoke hanging in the valleys for weeks. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality issued an air quality alert for the five-county central Idaho area banning outside burning since very early July. This meant no campfires of wood or charcoal and the north Idaho parks also included propane campfire rings. Cooking was allowed on propane grills only. The air quality was marginal at best through the month
- Later in the month Idaho Department of Lands placed central Idaho in a Stage 2 burning alert which also banned campfires of wood or charcoal due to the extreme fire danger. This stopped all campfire wood sales
- Weekends were exceedingly busy in the campground; day use and the marina. Almost all the easily accessible parking lots were full of customers trying to beat the heat
- Finally, we received rain on August 20, along with cooler temperatures. This was the first real precipitation since June 15. Just after the rain, DEQ lifted the air quality alert and IDL lifted the STAGE 2 fire ban, and we could have campfires again. This allowed firewood sales for the first time since late June. The heat was intense with at least 24 days this summer at or over 100 degrees. Good irrigation has been necessary to keep the park presentable
- Park Ranger became Park Manager II at Dworshak State Park

- The annual Thunder on Snake occurred August 28 and 29. Only six racers competed on a beautiful summer weekend. Even the crowds were smaller this year. But everyone had fun, and all came back safe and sound
- September was an extremely nice, mild month, the average highs were around 80 while it cooled off well at night averaging 53 degrees. With precipitation at the airport totaling .69 inches, we finally exceeded our average rainfall for a month. The weather hasn't accomplished this since March. We have been irrigating daily to help all our stressed vegetation
- At the end of September, reduced staff at Hells Gate was assisted by our dedicated volunteer staff, the park would look poor and downtrodden without them. They have cleaned campsites, irrigated the campgrounds, and did all the various things that staff couldn't get to

## WINCHESTER LAKE STATE PARK – STEVE KUSKIE, ASSISTANT PARK MANAGER

## Customer Service

- The smoke from area fires slowed visitation a little for about a week. Those sites that were cancelled were quickly picked up by others willing to battle the air quality
- Early part of the month was as busy as it had been. By mid-month, we started to see breaks in the arrivals and a handful of empty sites. By the week before Labor Day weekend, we had only a handful of camps. The store slowed as inventory has decreased. The rentals were strong on the weekends, here and there during the week
- With the season coming to an end, we were able to start in on some big projects. We closed our serviced loops early to repave the roadway and pave the extra vehicle parking spots. For the most part, folks were ok with this. As always, not everyone that showed up was aware of the closures, so we dealt with a few disappointed customers

Park/Program Usage

- The smoke and proximity of the Snake River Complex significantly slowed visitation
- It was a nice change to have time in between yurt visitors in August

Program Services

- Interpretive program We began the evening programming over Memorial weekend. The WERC is doing bi-weekly programs with us supplementing with Saturday evening Outdoor Idaho videos. In July, we have a 'Family Movie Night' each Saturday through contributions to obtain permits. They were all well attended this season
- Jr. Ranger programs Saturday morning programs
- School Programming A Lewiston Fly Fishing class came out for a clinic
- Special Events Family movie nights

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees
Experiential Programming	0	0
Interpretive Programming	16	256
Jr. Ranger Programming	8	223
	Self-Guided	801
School Programming	1	32
Special Events	3	180

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- Our plans to burn with IDL came to fruition in April. We were able to complete a three-acre prescribed burn at Ponderosa Point. The positive effects of this burn have been commented on by public. ILRCC came out for a lunch during one of their meetings to discuss the partnership work accomplished in the park. Nez Perce Tribal Forestry & Fire Management also came out for a lunch to discuss the work
- The Craigmont IDL fire crew came over to the park in early June to continue the thinning effort near the entrance to the park. They continue to pile the slash for later burning
- With visitation slowing some, we have been able to get back to some natural resource management. We are continuing lining the road edge as well as thinning at the entrance to the park
- IDL made it back out to finish the entrance and started in on other areas of the park. They'll be back to burn the beehive piles sometime this fall and again in the spring
- More interpretive panels throughout the park could be added to discuss the diverse history of the area that the park encompasses. From the Nez Perce perspective, as well as the mill history. Also, there are unique geologic features whose history could be discussed. The cost of these panels is the biggest hurdle for the park
- We have a new 6-month Ranger that is CIG certified, with this new employee's interpretive focus, we hope that progress can be made

## Staff Training

• None reported this quarter

## Strategic Plan Actions

- Providing new interpretation programs
- Increasing revenue Our overall visitation is on the rise. We currently offer the senior discount which coupled with an annual pass, significantly decreases the amount of money the park sees from those visitors. An observation made this season was folks were staying here for other reasons than the discounted rate. It was a perk, not a deciding factor to stay. A look at this could be a way to increase the revenue of the park without any added resources. As always, we will continue to better our sites to entice more visitors

## Park Manager's Narrative

- Fish cleaning station is the most frequent interruption but we're getting good at cleaning it out. It's not down for long. Shower house needed some repairs, difficult to source some parts but we're getting what we need to stay at par, the additional Ranger sure made a huge difference
- The air quality forced a fair number of cancelations which allowed us to set some barrier rock, replace some tent pad parameters and get some gravel into some low spots. It was a short reprieve as those cancelations were quickly filled again
- We lost our volunteers early this season, it was a big hit. We were able to backfill one of the positions through Labor Day weekend
- Park is already able to offer interpretive programs we otherwise wouldn't have been able to. We're also seeing the benefit in having at least two staff members on shift versus solo
- Asphalt project went quickly and turned out great. Special thanks to Development for all the help

## DWORSHAK STATE PARK – NATHAN BLACKBURN, PARK MANAGER

## Customer Service

- July customer service needs consisted primarily of assisting campers, selling registration products, and retail gas sales
- August started off with high customer service needs. Due to wildfires customer service needs were reduced. The entry station remained open for daily operations
- In September customer service needs were lower than normal because of cancelations due to the fire and Covid. Registration demand was steady, and there was still a need for fuel. Office hours switched to by appointment only due to a lack of staff. The entry station remained open on weekends only

## Park/Program Usage

- Although use was lower than in 2020, the trend of increasing growth continued, despite near record low reservoir levels for this time period, unseasonably high temperatures, and a burn ban for a good portion of July
- Day use reservations were the highest in park history. The biggest change occurred with Small Mouth Moorage reservations. This can be attributed to the facility becoming reservable online and through the call center rather than through the park
- Traffic counter numbers were down from previous years due to the proximity of wildfires in August. There were 251 canceled reservations primarily due to the wildfires
- September traffic counter numbers were down from past years due to the proximity of wildfires, but still higher than average. Campsite stays were down 26% from last year but, are still on an upward trend. There were 56 canceled reservations including one Three Meadows reservation primarily due to the wildfires and Covid

## Program Services

Program Type	No. of Programs	No. of Attendees		
Experiential Programming	0			
Interpretive Programming	0			
Jr. Ranger Programming	0			
School Programming	1	12		
Special Events	0			

Preservation of Natural, Cultural, and/or Historical Resources

- During February, park management developed a comprehensive weed management plan for the park, focusing on esthetics, noxious weed mitigation, recreation access for disc golf controlling multifloral rose, and infrastructure preservation controlling woody plants in the sewage lagoons and along Three Meadows Road
- The Park finished most of the process of establishing a fire break along the park western boundary. Dworshak is waiting for a trail cat, culverts, and road base rock to be able to complete the project

## Staff Training

• Park Manager was informally trained in the usage of payment services and Reserve America by Hells Gate Administrative Assistant

## Strategic Plan Actions

• Repairing infrastructure issues helps to fulfill Objective 5: To Be Good Stewards of the Resources and Assets Entrusted to IDPR. To this end the grant for replacing the failing secondary water supply lines was granted and the engineering has begun. As of August, two

vault toilets were replaced. Work continues with the park water line replacement. The boat launch parking lot was repaved, and 9 more truck and trailer parking spaces were added

- Exploration of methods to attract a new user group has resulted in the decision to abandon the 3D archery course, maintain the standard archery range, and add an 18-hole disc golf course. These improvements will help to fulfill Objective 1.1 to provide different and unique outdoor experiences. The first nine holes and tees have been installed and the half course is fully playable. The following 9 holes are now playable but lack tee pads. This project has been managed almost entirely by Maintenance Craftsman; with him taking the lead in design, implementation, and crew management
- The Park is nearing completion of a fire break along the western boundary of the park fulfilling Performance Measure 3.1.2 to improve fire safety within our parks. A culvert and fill dirt will be needed to finish this project
- Manager has been developing a long range weed management plan for the park, helping to meet Objective 5 subcategory of quality natural resource management in our parks. This project was completed in January. Park will begin implementation of this management plan in the spring of 2022
- Expansion of the retail program at the Big Eddy Marina store and the Freeman Creek campground will help to meet Performance Measure 3.2.1, to continue to seek additional revenue. In spring of 2020, Manager purchased a large display case that was installed on the exit side of the Entry Station. Further expansion with mugs, water bottles, and sweatshirts are recommended but Operation Budget is insufficient to accommodate additional purchases with increasing utility costs. A limited number of mugs were purchased and were a hit with campers

## Park Manager's Narrative

- July was a challenging month for staff, with Park Manager at his new position in Heyburn State Park and a replacement yet to be hired, a great deal of pressure fell on Ranger and Park Administrative Aide. Both Winchester State Park and Hells Gate State Park assisted in filling in the blanks and sent rangers to cover shifts
- Given the low water levels, burn ban, higher than normal temperatures, and smoky air; it is clear the pattern of increased use is not abating. With visitation arguably the highest other than 2020, the pattern has held, and we can predict use will continue to climb. Staffing continues to be a major challenge with the park needing a classified administrative assistant and another full-time ranger. Recruitment is challenging without good housing options
- As Park Manager, I'd like to express my pride in the growth and operations of Dworshak State Park, and its finally having revenue that exceeds its basic operating costs. It truly is a gem of the IDPR system, one that is no longer so hidden. I sincerely hope that it receives the support it deserves in major maintenance, help with staffing challenges, and development for an improved user experience. Dworshak truly deserves it
- August was challenging due to lack of staff and the Bedrock fire's proximity to the park visitation dropped rapidly. Camping revenue was -\$3,159.85 due to many groups and individual camping reservations being canceled. The Park was never in jeopardy, however access to the park was
- The Bedrock fire was extinguished in September. This led to a bit of a return to "normal" in the second half of the month. Most of our seasonal employees have returned to school and are no longer working for the park. Because of this permanent staff has remained very busy having to pick up the slack of the day-to-day activities of the seasonals. Rangers organized a day of learning from the Cavendish elementary school. This consisted of nature walks and a

house fire demonstration. A local volunteer firefighter district brought down a fire engine for the kids to see. They also lit a doll house on fire to show how fire travels through a house

- The high cost of fuel has led to a rapid depletion of the parks operational budget. We have already spent more money on fuel this year than most years at year end
- I have continued to utilize the people and resources that are available to learn the duties and details of being the Manager of Dworshak State Park

## HUMAN RESOURCE REPORT JULY - SEPTEMBER 2021

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

**HR Unit's Mission:** IDPR's human resources program strives to provide the best in human resource management by recruiting highly qualified candidates as well as diverse and motivated volunteer candidates. Working to maintain an environment that is safe, respectful of each individual and clear in expectations.

## HUMAN RESOURCES: Debbie Hoopes, Human Resource Officer

- Provide management of human resource and volunteer functions agency wide.
- Assist management with interviews for vacant positions and ensure talent is deployed to work units in timely manner.
- Manage the updates to the Department's Random Drug Test program to ensure compliance.
- Volunteer recruitment and networking continue year-round.
- Monitor IT security training and Respectful Workplace Training per state requirement to ensure compliance.
- Updated SharePoint to add relevant information.
- Continue to work with IDPR staff to provide guidance for COVID-19 questions and issues.
- Work with LUMA Capital Human Management team to ensure IDPR has representation for design and implementation slated for 2022. These meetings include areas such as absence management, benefits, occupational health, safety management, employee relations, talent acquisition, development planning, goal management, and performance management.
- Monitor Worker's Compensation claims and provide coordination among employees, management, and State Insurance Fund for progress and return to work information. Review of safety committee information and documentation. Review of Incident Reporting System which is provided to regions to attempt to mitigate accidents and ensure safety of all staff and volunteers.
- Work closely with DHR to ensure COVID-19 employer/employee issues are addressed. Continued to be point of contact for problem solving related to COVID issues with employees/seasonal/volunteers. Work with employees experiencing COVID-19 related issues that may require telework, and flexible work schedules.

	worker's compensation Data for 2017 2021 (to date).						
		Total Losses					
	Claims Count			*Total Losses	# Current Open Claims		
2019	24	\$4,938	\$11,159	\$32,036	2		
2020	30	\$7,528	\$204,582	\$246,557	4		
2021	27	\$6,3990	\$25,079	\$133,993	10		

## Worker's Compensation Data for 2017-2021 (to date):

\*Total Losses figures do not include reserves which are costs set aside for ongoing claims.

TURNO	VER					
Fiscal	Begin	End	Avg	Number of	Turnover	State
Year	Count	Count	Emp	Separations	Rate	
2019	148	144	146.9	29	*19.9%	14.9%
2020	144	154	149.0	17	11.7%	15.0%
2021	146	144	145	23	15.8%	18.9%
2022	147	143	145	11	7.6%	8.5%

\*11 retirements



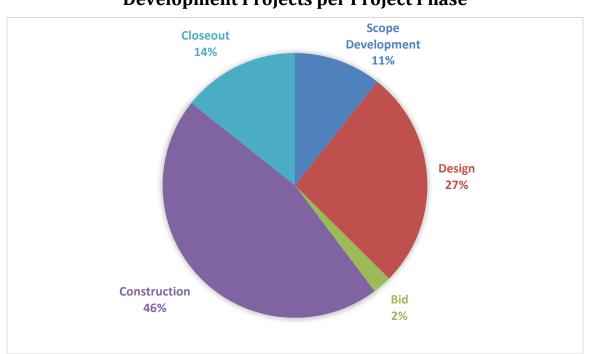
# July – August - Sept 2021

## **DEVELOPMENT BUREAU**

Interim Bureau Chief - Melanie Schuster

# **GENERAL UPDATE**

As we near the end of the second quareter of fiscal year 2022 the development team is manageing just under \$26 million in development projects. This includes an extra \$3 million in State Surplus funds as well as \$1.3 million in CARES Act 2.0 projects. Lucas Wingert, Serena Newman and Joel Halfhill have worked tirelessly to fast track the CARES Act 2.0 projects through the design and construciton process to complete the projects prior to December 31, 2021. Currently four CARES Act 2.0 projects are in the closeout process and the other two projects are slated to be complete by the end of November. The development team is currently managing 76 active projects statewide per the project phases shown belolw.



## **Development Projects per Project Phase**

Another significant milestone has been achieived with the Thousand Springs Visitor Center acheiveing Substantial Completion on 10/26/21. National Parks staff have already moved in and final punchlist items are being completed in anticipation of a soft opening of the visitor center in December. At the same time the Billingsley Creek Campground has broken ground and construction is commencing under the close eye of Erik Bush and Joel Halfhill. This work is the culmination of the long master planning process for the park, lengthy water rights negotiations and a challenging process to find sufficient funding for the project. It is great to see the fruits of this effort on the ground in the park.



The following is a brief narrative on active projects, their status and next major milestone as of November 1, 2021.

# **NORTH REGION**

#### Project Number and Name

**Current Status** 

Construction

310102 – Priest Lake Shafer Cabin Elec & Plumbing Repairs Amendment signed and construction started. Dock installed. Construction will continue in the spring with hopes to be done by Memorial Day depending on how early site is accessible.



Priest Lake Schafer Cabin Dock



Project Number and Name	<u>Current Status</u>
310111 – Priest Lake Repair Shower House Awarded to CoyotePak construction. Demo uncovered water damage.	Construction
310112 – Priest Lake Campground Electrical Upgrades Draft drawings complete. Bidding winter/early spring with construction scheduled for fall 2022.	Design
310113 – Priest Lake Lionhead Campground Paving Paving and striping completed. Final invoice in payment.	Closeout
310124 – Priest Lake Lionhead CG Paving Final Phase	Construction

310124 - Priest Lake Lionhead CG Paving Final PhaseCCares Act Additional Funds. Construction started 9/27/2021To widen boat launch road and parking. Expected completion by 11/1/2021.



Priest Lake Lionhead Paving Cares Act 2.0

310321 – Round Lake Campground Improvements New FY22 Project. In scope development.

310411 – Trail of CDA Restripe Trail & Parking In scope development, pending on new park management.

310412 – Trail of CDA Land Acquisition & Const Maint. Shop City of Kellogg staff presented the draft economic study findings to their Council in late September. The study is being finalized but had a scenario where an RV Campground is recommended. Staff is meeting with the City Planners in early November to discuss possible next steps. Alternate location Still an option.

310611 – Old Mission Church Porch Repair, Path Repair & Lift Replacement Design-Build contract has been executed and team is finalizing design, schedule, and construction costs. Pricing received and beyond project budget. Will proceed at this time with order and install of lift. Lift to arrive in January and be installed in the spring. Depending on funding all remaining items will be completed together when funding available.



Scope Development Scope Development Scope Development Design



**Current Status** 

Construction

310813 - Heyburn Replace Benewah Restroom Due to existing grades, additional fill is needed to provide ADA access and create a safe environment around the vault. CO #2 sent 10/29/2021.



310814 - Heyburn Replace Chatcolet Restroom Bidding took place 10/21/2021. Install spring 2022. Bidding

Design

310815 - Heyburn Replace Lake View Cottage Foundation Project bid 9/15/21 with no bids. Currently discussing project with various contractors and engineer to determine if any contractor would be willing to build the project and if not, what design changes would encourage bidding of

the project. Reroof has been completed.



Heyburn Lakeview Cottage New Roof



**Current Status** 

Design

310816 – Heyburn Lodge Remodel (State Surplus) Design-Build team under contract and design at 60%. Trade teams and Fire Marshal inspecting site to help determine best design option. No fire sprinklers required at this point. Construction to start in winter.



Heyburn Rocky Point Lodge Existing Conditions

310824 – Heyburn Rocky Point. Fuel Dispenser Replacement New FY22 Project. Developing Scope. Scope Development



**Current Status** 

310872 - Heyburn Chatcolet Campground RenovationsClose OutThere are some minor items to complete in the fall after the campground closes.Close Out



Heyburn Chatcolet Campground Renovations



310924 – CDA Parkway Rehabilitate & Vault Toilets New FY22 Project. In Scope Development.

320181- McCroskey Redtail Primitive Campground & Shelters Contract with Buddy's Backhoe Service to widen the turnaround from the New campground and help with test pits at the new day use shelter near Mile 12. Design contract signed for new day use shelter.



McCroskey Group Area



Digging test pits at potential future day use shelter

**Current Status** 

Scope Development

Design

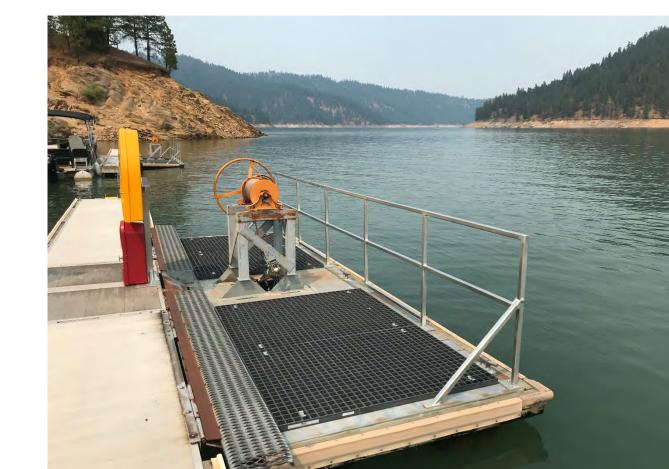
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**Current Status** 

Closeout

320202 – Dworshak Replace Marina Winch System Final invoice submitted and in close out process.



Dworshak Replace Marina Winch System

320211 – Dworshak Upgrade Water Treatment Plant Project complete, in closeout.	Closeout
320212 – Dworshak Repaint Group Camp Buildings Change Order start date 4/24/2022. Completion date of 5/17/2022.	Construction
320213 – Dworshak Upgrade Shower House Plumbing Change order due to materials on back order. Completion end of month.	Construction
320214 – Dworshak Roadway Repairs Boat Ramp Parking Completed paving and striping 9/21/21. In Closeout.	Closeout



Project Number and Name	Current Status
320215 – Dworshak Replace Freeman Creek Water Lines Project 75% set reviewed and approved. Engineer working on final design drawings.	Design
320222 – Dworshak Water Filtration System Upgrade FY22 Additional Funds. Negotiating scope of work with Keller Engineering	Scope Development
320311 – Hells Gate Repair & Resurface Trails Received Corps approval. Finishing scope.	Scope Development
320312 – Hells Gate Remodel Marina Restroom Bid opening took place 10/25/2021.	Bidding



Hells Gate Remodel Marina Restroom

320321 – Hells Gate Sewer System & Facility Upgrade Working on scope/budget for design with Keller Associates.

320392 – Hells Gate Marina Mooring Dock Replacement 404 Permit expected December. Plan to bid in November 2021. Scope Development

Design



**Current Status** 

320521 – Winchester Pave Upper Campground Construction to start on 9/8/21. Construction complete. Can closeout once invoice has been received. Closeout



Winchester Paving Cares Act 2



# **SOUTH REGION**

Project Number and Name	Current Status
330111 – Ponderosa Re-Engineer Lakeview Cabin Roof Structures Project bids October 19. Construction starting in November.	Construction
330113 – Ponderosa Shed Replacement New Project from of the office of insurance. A storage shed for equipment Collapsed in Winter 2021 and development will be running the replacement project. This project has been submitted to DBS for plan approval and it is currently in the proposal stage.	Bidding
330121 Ponderosa Blackberry Loop Water & Elec Upgrades LWCF funding approved. Reviewing THPO requirements. Will bid spring 22.	Design
330182 – Ponderosa CG Electrical and Water Upgrades Phase I Project in final completion.	Construction
330211 – Eagle Island Pump House Replacement Project on hold until the funding is available for the RV Campground. Replacing well pump.	Design



Repairs to Eagle Island Domestic Well

330212 – Eagle Island Sewer & Water Design Design on hold pending LWCF/RV funding. Reviewing additional water rights proposal from TO engineers.

Design



Project Number and Name	Current Status
330511 – Bruneau Observatory Parking & Pathway Repair Project will be combined with the observatory replacement project.	Scope Development
330512 – Bruneau Staff Housing Pilot Program Design work will start on site work and a pre-manufactured housing solution with additional funding proposed in FY23 to complete the project.	Design
330513 – Bruneau Dunes Observatory Replacement (State Surplus) Design is in the concept phase and the engineers are working with IDPR to establish the needs of the park and addressing infrastructure issues as well.	Design
330521 – Bruneau Dunes Observatory Repairs This project has been awarded and will start in November 2021. It includes Replacement of casters and carrying plates plus the refurbishment of the drive system that allows the rotation of the observatory.	Construction
330523 - Bruneau Dunes Green Space Visual System This project will replace all the audio-visual equipment. Project is finished and awaiting invoice.	Closeout
330524 - Bruneau Dunes Kiosk and Road Work Design is complete and construction has started.	Construction

Design is complete and construction has started. Project completion slated for mid-December 2021.



Bruneau Dunes access road milled and graded



## Current Status



Sidewalk grading toward Kiosk



Slab on grade for new Kiosk

330612 – Three Island Trailside CG Electrical Upgrades 100% design documents received. Bid late fall 2021.	Bid
330711– Lake Cascade Replace Blue Heron Rest Room Construction is scheduled to begin in May 2022.	Construction
330764 – Lake Cascade Blue Heron & Van Wyck Docks/Pilings Design/build contract to replace Blue Heron Docks.	Design
330771 – Lake Cascade Pelican Cove Day Use ADA Improvements & CXT Merge with Crown Point.	Design
330781 – Lake Cascade Crown Point Docks Design/build contract to replace the existing docks. Land Group to continue With design to make docks accessible.	Design



# **EAST REGION**

#### Project Number and Name

**Current Status** 

Construction

340303 – Thousand Springs Visitor Center

Project nearing completion. Substantial Completion issued for October 26 with a soft opening in late November. Interpretive design is ongoing with installation installation planned for spring. Grand opening scheduled for June 2022 after after interpretive materials have been installed.



New Thousand Springs Visitor Center

340311 – Thousand Springs Ritter Island Barn Reroof Reroof scheduled for November 2021 when material arrives.	Construction
340322 – Thousand Springs VC Exhibits Interpretive exhibits in design. Interpretive exhibits to be installed Spring 2022.	Design
340381 – Thousand Springs Ritter Island Refurbish Pink House Final drawings received in October with bidding in November and construction over the winter.	Design



340393 – Thousand Springs Billingsley Entrance Road This project has been combined with ongoing project 340303 Thousand Springs Visitor Center.

340395 – Thousand Springs Billingsley Creek Campground Project has been awarded to CSC Construction. Construction started early October 2021. Reviewing contractor submittals. Substantial Completion is contractually 8/15/22. The boundary fence between IDPR and IDFG has been completed. Clearing and grubbing and mass excavation is currently in-work.



Billingsley Campground Groundbreaking

340511 – Castle Rocks VC Exterior Maintenance Visitor Center brick has been repaired; flagpole is installed. Waiting for quote for installing park plaques on original pole base.



Castle Rocks VC Brick Repair



VC Re-purposing the old Flagpole

Current Status

Construction

Construction

Construction



Project Number and Name	Current Status
340512 – Castle Rocks New Vault Toilet Utilities have been installed. Awaiting delivery of building, scheduled for Spring 2022.	Construction
340513 – Castle Rocks Sheridan Acquisition (State Surplus) Property acquisition terms being worked thru with NPS, The Conservation Fund and IDPR. The Environmental Assessment has started.	Scope Development
340514 – Castle Rocks VC HVAC Upgrades DPW Delegated project. HVAC units are on back order. Will not be able to complete the upgrades before spring 2022. Will make a temporary fix for now.	Construction
340611 – Lake Walcott Boat Ramp RR Repair Bid has been awarded pending paperwork submittals. Final Completion is set prior to Memorial Weekend 2022.	Awarded
350311 – Bear Lake CG Loop Upgrades Phase 2 Farren Engineering contracted as the design consultant. Design to be ready in early December 2021.	Design
350312 – Bear Lake East Beach Paving (State Surplus + CARES Act 2.0) Paving has been completed at East Beach.	Construction



East Beach Paving Complete

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350321 – Bear Lake East Beach Campground Water Upgrades Farren Engineering contracted as the design consultant. Design to be ready in early December 2021.

350323 – Bear Lake East Beach Paving Final Phase & Kiosk

construction to be complete by the end of November 2021.

Cares Act Additional Funds. Groundwork for Kiosk has been started with

Construction

Design

Current Status



East Beach Kiosk Formwork

360102 – Harriman Scovel Center Winterization Engineering firm has started HVAC design.

Closeout

Design

360112 – Harriman Upgrade Dormitory Project is substantially complete and fully booked for the summer. Contractor is awaiting shipment of larger water heater to replace temporary water heaters. When heater arrives remaining punch list items will be completed at the end of October 2021.



360121 – Harriman VC Roof Replacement & Water Damage Repair New roof has been installed and Substantial completion turned in. Scheduled with Servpro 10/07/21 to assess water damage inside. Reroof is complete and we are awaiting a cost proposal to create new attic access and replace insulation. All work to be complete by end of year.

360122 - Harriman Historic Ranch Septic System InspectionScope DevelopmentParkers Septic is working on mapping and assessment.Scope Development

360123 – Harriman Pave Entrance Phase 2 Substantial Completion 10/01/21 pending punch list items. Final completion 10/30/21. Construction

Current Status

Construction



Harriman Entrance Paving



Road Paving and ADA Parking

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## Current Status



Poured sidewalks to buildings at Harriman



Finished parking lot and stripping



360201 – Henrys Lake Old Loop Asphalt Repairs Final Completion extended to 10/16/21 due to material shortages.

360222 – Henrys Lake Demo Old Restroom Part of 360271.

360271 – Henrys Lake Rest Room Remodel at Boat Launch Project in design. EIPH has not approved the septic system as designed. Design Team is looking for various options and other comparable projects to come up with a design that will be approved. Mid-July meeting scheduled with EIPH and DEQ to discuss options. Design option has been approved by EIPH and DEQ, Revised drawings have been submitted to EIPH for septic permit. Project will be Issued for bid this winter with construction in the summer.

360511 – Land of Yankee Fork Maintain Parking Lot Completed 07/26/21 pending invoices. Current Status

Construction

Scope Development

Design

Closeout



**Bayhorse Parking Maintenance** 



Project Number and Name	Current Status
360512 – Land of Yankee Fork Skylark Mine Trail Repairs Project issued to contractor. Late Fall2021 start of construction has been delayed due to additional earthquake activity which increased scope of work.	Award
360513 – Land of Yankee Fork General Rehabilitation (State Surplus) Project in scope development. Scope development will proceed pending completion of Wells Fargo reroof project.	Scope Development
DPW 21540 – Land of Yankee Fork VC HVAC Replacement Project completed 7/14/21. Closeout paperwork received. DPW awaiting final invoice to pay and will then close project.	Closeout
360521 – LOYF Wells Fargo Building Masonry & Roof Repairs Additional Funding for Project 360582.	Construction
360582 – Engineer Evaluation Bayhorse Building Stabilization The roofer has removed the existing roof and the mason has rebuilt the top of the walls in preparation for the new roof to be installed. Masonry walls reframed, roofing framed and roof metal installed. Roofing work complete. Will need to stain new wood and make minor masonry repairs in Spring 2022.	Construction





## MANAGEMENT SERVICES QUARTERLY REPORT

July – August – September 2021 First Quarter, FY2022

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 needs of the operations staff and assist in meeting those needs.
- Proactively work to meet Director and Board priorities and concerns.

#### Administrative Duties

- Accepted full time position on September 16, 2021, and under Director Buxton's leadership, haven't stopped running <sup>(2)</sup>
- Learning the organization on a broader spectrum and evaluated alternative structures with the Director, HR, and Operations Administrator.
- Learning differences between policies, rules, and legislation.
- After the Board approved amending policies 1010.4.2 and 1010.4.3, I started additional policy amendments with staff. Those policy amendments may be forthcoming at future Board Meetings.
- Focusing on supporting our team members and providing them what they need to do their jobs effectively and enjoy what they are doing.

#### Major Tasks

- In early July, initiated the ARPA program in preparation for the FY2023 legislative session. Park staff and development staff did an excellent job in accelerating their scope and estimating for potential future projects.
- Visited Heyburn State Park on July 28<sup>th</sup> to help assess sewer issues with Regional Construction Manager and Park Manager.
- Visited with Idaho Department of Lands (IDL) on July 29<sup>th</sup> at Priest Lake State Park to discuss a future road and bridge project. We have partnered with IDL on road improvements all the way to Lionhead. Happy to report IDL will be installing a new bridge in summer 2022.
- Met with the Mayor of Middleton on August 5<sup>th</sup> to discuss IDPR's grant programs.
- On August 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>, toured Farragut, Old Mission and Heyburn with Governor's Budget Director and State Legislators. Park Manager Nate Blackburn (Heyburn) did an excellent job demonstrating our challenges we have with the Heyburn sewer system.



- On August 13<sup>th</sup>, met with City of Kellogg planner to discuss the Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's shop, and, if the City is open to partnering with IDPR and developing a campground.
- Enjoyed some time with my family at Priest Lake after the August Board meeting.
- In mid-August, worked with Grants and Development staff to prepare a grant application to pave the Ashton Tetonia Trail. The grant is an economic development grant and has been submitted to the Feds.



• September 1, met with Senator Lent, Director Buxton, Ops Administrator Troy Elmore, and other dignitaries to visit property south of Rockland, Idaho.





• September 2, attended the Billingsley Creek Campground pre-construction meeting with Development Staff.



Joel Halfhill (Construction Manager) and Erik Bush (Design Professional) leading the meeting

- September 7, attended a tour at Farragut State Park with the Permanent Building Fund Council (PBFAC). The Council visited Farragut as the Brig Renovation project is the agencies highest priority request for DPW funding in FY2023. Liz Palfini (Park Manager) did an outstanding job showing the Council the condition of the Brig, and the benefits the project will have.
- September 20 to 22, visited the East Region with Garth Taylor and East Region Construction Manager, Serena Newman. Checked in on updates for Harriman Paving and drove the Ashton Tetonia Trail.
- September 23, met with Castle Rocks staff regarding amendment to our Federal Partnership agreement.

## <u>Natural Resource Management Program – Keith Jones</u>

## Mission

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

## <u>Goals</u>

- 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**

- Completed road construction and gate installations for the "Blue sky" timber sale at McCroskey.
- Worked with IDL staff to identify, inventory and cruise a Western Pine Beetle epidemic in McCroskey. We will do everything we can to expedite this salvage sale. This sale is tentatively scheduled to be sold this winter, so harvest can begin late winter/ early spring ('22) to help facilitate infested tree removal before beetle emergence in the Summer. Right of way agreements were created and signed with Park neighbors of the sale to maximize harvest and hauling efficiencies and address a complete treatment at one time, as the neighbors will address their infested trees simultaneously.
- Toured the Toetly 3 fire aftermath along the Trail of the Coeur d Alenes with tribal reps, to assess impacts and potential hazards, and suitability for public use along sections of the trail within Heyburn and Tribal management.
- Park Projects funded by the IDL Western states fire grant and the Landscape Scale Restoration grants have begun. These grants will fund on the ground hazard fuels mitigation for prioritized Parks and wildfire preparedness, planning and visitor education to the tune of \$480k. These projects are scheduled to be completed this fiscal year:
  - -Working with Ponderosa Park staff, SITPA, Idaho Firewise and IDL Payette office to create a "fire adapted Park" interpretive trail to showcase the lessons and values of restoring and maintaining the natural fire adapted Ponderosa Pine stands that are found in the park.
  - -Harriman State Park Forest stand delineation / natural resource management plan.

- -Hazard fuel and slash management work on the MeadowMarshII timber sale at Ponderosa State Park. This project will use grant funds to treat slash and fuels created during the cutting portion of the timber sale. Small diameter trees will be hand cut a scattered to be followed by prescribed broadcast burning to treat the fuels in the spring.
- Meeting with IDL foresters to workplan and prioritize the next three years of timber management projects in Heyburn, McCroskey, Farragut, Round Lake, and Priest Lake.
- Responded to assessments and work on hazard trees at Farragut, Priest Lake Heyburn, McCroskey, Harriman and Hells Gate.
- The cutting and development phase of the MeadowMarsh II timber sale at Ponderosa State Park is complete. This sale sold at auction for a total value of \$168,875, and includes 93 acres (900MBF), and is prescribed to return a dry mixed conifer stand to its historical range of variance. The goals for the site are to restore historic pre fire suppression era species composition and return periodic low intensity prescribed fire to the system. This project will also, in combination with 3 previous sales, create a "firesmart belt" across the peninsula helping to protect Park and community resources from the potential catastrophic fire that could occur in the current stand conditions. This was a 2year contract.

The next steps to be completed this fall/early winter are to pile slash along the shaded fuel break we created and burn those piles along with the large slash piles accumulated at the landings during the sale. This will be followed by machine and handwork to thin the remaining small diameter Grand and Doug fir, and then prescribe burn in the Spring of 2022 to remove the fuels, expose mineral seed beds and encourage new Ponderosa Pine recruitment.

- The "Northern Sky" timber sale at McCroskey has begun. Right of way and road clearances have all been cut and hauled, rock has been delivered and applied. This project will selectively remove approximately 2.3 million board feet of over stocked shade tolerant tree species on 128 acres and generate roughly \$600,000 in revenue. Road brushing and seral tree species planting on the site are included in the contract work and will help improve safety and access to the park, while also creating a more historically representative fire included stand.
- Continue working with the Parks to create their top five natural resource project priorities. This will be in alignment with the development process and will help maximize collaboration, identify, and allocate potential alternative funding sources for projects, minimize any duplication of efforts, and create

complete projects that are turnkey for the Parks and public to enjoy (from design/construction to restoration and re vegetation).

## **RECREATION RESOURCES BUREAU QUARTERLY REPORTS**

## **Boating Program:**

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

- As of September 30, there have been 10 confirmed boating fatalities around the state. Idaho averages 9 recreational boating fatalities annually. Early indications are that boat accidents are down approximately 20% from 2020.
- Matt Lowe and Jessica Smith partnered with the Twin Falls Sheriff's Office in July to install a new life jacket loaner station at Centennial Waterfront Park. Matt and Jessica also provided a boat safety outreach booth over the weekend and participated in media interviews. The weekend events were a great success and promoted partnerships and safety.
- Dave Claycomb, Dave Dahms and Sam Hoggatt met with staff from the Kootenai County Sheriff's Office to discuss the local ordinance passed by the county to regulate boating activity on the Spokane River. The Sheriff's Office took the group out on the Spokane River to get a firsthand look at some of the key areas where conflicts are happening.
- Dave Dahms and Randy Herman, along with marine deputies from Nez Perce County and Whitman and Asotin counties in Washington, met with Coast Guard staff from Sector Columbia River to discuss joint efforts for education and enforcement on the Snake River.
- Dave Claycomb and Dave Dahms joined Director Buxton in McCall to meet with industry representatives and talk about various boating issues on Payette Lake, including the local ordinance passed to expand the shoreline no wake zones. The group had the opportunity to take a boat ride and get a firsthand look at wake surfing and some of the local concerns associated with this activity.
- Program manager Dave Dahms attended the annual conference hosted by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators (NASBLA). The general and breakout sessions were very informative and provided updates on many issues pertaining to boating safety from several entities throughout the United States. Dave had a chance to meet with many partners including online course vendors as well as regional and HQ staff from U.S. Coast Guard.

## **Motorized Trails Program:**

The following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by the Motorized Trails Program. This is in addition to the routine tasks of answering questions from the public and routine tasks around the office.

- Attended Salmon Challis Trails group meeting where we are working on the Twelve Mile Trail project area with the Salmon BLM office and the Salmon Challis National Forest.
- Attended on the ground meeting with Challis Community Trails. We are working with ITD to try and build a recreational multi-use trail connecting Land of the Yankee Fork State Park to Hot Springs Road.
- Received approval from state purchasing on the Sole Source Authorization to proceed with Map Gears program for mapping snowmobile trails and groomers statewide.
- Attend NOHVCC meetings with BLM in Challis, Pocatello, and Boise.
- Attend 4 volunteer trail events with Idaho Single Track Alliance (Yamaha Grant Project), Youth Employment Program, Snake River Mountain Bike Club, Palisades Ranger District, Idaho Falls Trail Machine Association, and the Back Country Horsemen. Trail work and various bridge construction projects on the Salmon Challis National Forest and the Caribou Targhee National Forests.
- Work with IDL on 50" trail maintenance, singing. Laying out an additional 8-10 miles of single-track trail on IDL ground. Discussed various future projects and plans.
- Offered 97 OHV classes with a total of 246 students completing the courses.
- Attended Utah Avalanche Center event along with the Franklin County Highmarkers, Franklin County SAR, Cache County SAR.
- Attended the Ride the Bayhorse event in Challis
- Provided Motorbike and UTV training to 60 Air National Guard service members in two training events.
- Attended IDL's safety meeting to speak to OHV safety and education efforts in Idaho.
- Attended both the Idaho Trail Machine Association State event and the Idaho State ATV Association State Ride. Both events took place near Burgdorf Idaho on the Payette National Forest.

## **Collaborative Program:**

The following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by Trevor Anderson from the Collaborative Program.

• Attended two separate boating collaborative meetings, the Western Whitewater Association and the Hells Canyon Collaborative. During the Hells Canyon Collaborative, staff engaged the Forest Service on installing an IDPR Life Jacket Loaner station at the Pittsburg Landing site (per the public's request). This has led to continued collaborative discussions about building an IDPR loaner station at the Pittsburg Landing boat ramp site. A grant project to build a second ramp was also discussed.

- Attended the numerous collaborative meetings including the Panhandle Forest collaborative, Boise Forest Coalition collaborative, Snake River Trails Alliance collaborative and the Payette Coalition collaborative.
- Attended the Clearwater Basin Collaborative, where a proposed expanded wilderness proposal ("The Great Burn") in the Nez Perce National Forest was discussed which would limit motorized vehicles.
- Staff reviewed and commented on the 2021 Nez Perce National Forest Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Specifically, we commented on the FEIS' recommendation for the expansion of wilderness area, which would lead to the decommissioning of motorized trails. Staff requested that more transparent tables be added to the plan to delineate the gain and losses of motorized trails, so that the public could better understand the impacts of the FEIS. These comments led to a September group meeting with the Forest Service to discuss these impacts in more detail.
- Staff attended the Clearwater Basin Collaborative. Staff gave a presentation to the collaborative members which explained the importance of OHV recreation to the state of Idaho. This presentation was important, as it presented a base for why IDPR would oppose the "Great Burn" wilderness proposal being presented to the group for support
- Staff attended the Nez Perce-Clearwater NF Forest Plan Revision FEIS- Cooperating Agency review meeting. Staff met with Cheryl Probert, the Forest Supervisor of the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forest, to explain how the Nez Perce wilderness proposal and the decommissioning of motorized trails affected IDPR and its motorized user groups. Cheryl Probert responded positively and explained that she understood the importance of motorized recreation and that any motorized trails decommissioned would be re-commissioned in another part of the forest (a 1:1 ratio), meaning that there would be no net loss of motorized trails.
- Staff submitted Preliminary Draft EIS comments for the Lava Ridge Wind Project

## Non-Motorized Trails Program:

The following is a list of activities that have been recently completed by the Non-Motorized Trails Program. This is in addition to the routine tasks of answering questions from the public, Yurt maintenance and upkeep, and tasks around the office.

- The Idaho State Legislature and Governor allocated \$250,000 for maintenance of the Idaho Centennial Trail (ICT) during the 2021 Legislative session. ICT funding is managed by the IDPR Development Bureau, in collaboration with the NM trails program. ICT priorities are currently be evaluated for the 2021 and 2022 field seasons, with a preliminary scheduled and work plan in place
- Updated signage has been completed from the Southern terminus of the ICT to the Castle Rocks section near Mountain Home
- ICT maintenance in the Selway Wilderness and Upper Priest Lake is scheduled for fall 2021, pending fires and crew availability
- The "Idaho Trails Supporter" completed its first year of availability. This is a voluntary pass, or sticker, that Idaho trail users can purchase online or in stores. The goal is to raise

awareness of non-motorized trail issues and raise revenue for non-motorized trail maintenance on public lands statewide. 1,974 stickers have been sold through June 30, 2021. The 2021 Sticker went on sale June 5<sup>th</sup>

- In addition to the IDPR online sales portal, stickers are now available at five stores: JD's Bodega, both of Georges Cycles locations, REI in Boise, Idaho Mountain Trading in Idaho Falls and most recently Hyperspud Sports in Moscow. REI has purchased 725 stickers to resell online and in stores. REI is selling them at no profit
- Federal Highways approved the second Central Idaho Trail Maintenance Project RTP grant in partnership with the Idaho Trails Association, Selway Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation, Youth Employment Program, and Idaho Conservation; along with the Payette, Boise, Salmon Challis, and Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. The goal of the grant is to maintain a large swath of trails within the Central Idaho Priority area and be a model for trail partnerships.
- Various Conservation Corps and the and Idaho Based Non-Profits will complete projects in 2022, pending fire closures. Idaho Trails Association and Youth Employment Program projects are being scheduled for the 2022 field season
- The Non-Motorized Trails Manager spent 8 days on a trail maintenance project in the Frank Church Wilderness, partnering with the Forest Service and the Selway-Bitterroot Frank Church Foundation
- The Non-Motorized Trails Manager too part in the Wilson Creek trail Coalition and helped with an equestrian user group conflict at Celebration Park
- The Idaho City Backcountry yurts saw 66% occupancy in the first quarter. Yurt occupancy levels in 2020 were 55%, and in 2019 for the same period was 41%.
- This will equal about and a \$7,000 revenue gain over the same period in 2022, plus a \$15,000 revenue gain over the same period in 2019
- Predicted Idaho City Yurts system fall and winter season 2021-2022 will be busy. Occupancy will be at 100% for the end of the winter, and around 50% to 60% for weekdays. After December first, occupancy will be near 100% for weekdays as well
- In addition, all weekends are booked through the end of the winter, along with 90% of days from mid-December through Mid-March 2022
- Volunteer crews from the Idaho Conservation Corps maintained about 15 miles of trails in the yurt system this past May at no cost to IDPR, in some cases this included an almost complete rebuild of trails damaged by the Pioneer Fire
- All the aged solar lighting systems have now been preplaced at the Yurts. Decking and floors at Elkhorn Yurt is scheduled to be replaced in September, all other major improvements are being postponed due to the cost of lumber
- Park N Ski passes saw a significant increase this winter, approximately 30% more passes were purchased this winter over the same period than in Nov-Feb 2019/2020 (5,494 vs 7,623)

## RESERVATION & REGISTRATION (R&R) PROGRAM QUARTERLY REPORT July – August – September '21

#### **RESERVATION & REGISTRATION PROGRAM – SETH HOBBS**

### Mission

The program's scope of responsibility includes oversight of IDPR's camping resources, statewide retail sales, including permits, and the department's recreational registration program for snowmobiles, boats, and off-highway vehicles. The program also distributes registration funds to communities and other agencies statewide to develop and maintain trails, facilities, and programs for motorized recreation. The R&R program proudly supports IDPR's customers.

## **Registrations/Permits**

With the start of the 2022 sticker year, IDPR is now giving the option for customers to purchase one or two-year stickers for OHVs and Snowmobiles. Because of the low price for the OHV sticker, we anticipate them being very popular with the OHV community.

Product Type	July - September Sales	CY Year to Date Sales
Boat	11,820	91,498
OHV	20,600	136,515
Non-Resident OHV	6,272	16,916
Invasive Species (Non-Motorized)	31,641	110,410
Invasive Species (Not Registered in Idaho)	4,699	11,884
Resident Snowmobile	202	9,828
Rental Snowmobile	0	1,106
Non-Resident Snowmobile	335	17,463
Park N' Ski 3-Day	0	1,532
Park N' Ski Annual	14	1,183
Motor Vehicle Entry Fee	694	4,724
OHV Motor Vehicle Entry Fee	412	610

#### **DMV** Training

The Registration program grew from 11 counties selling IDPR stickers to 31 in three months. We have six counties scheduled for training and are working on scheduling training for the remaining seven counties. This increase is a massive step for the program and our customers. Our customers have expressed they want to use the DMVs as a one-stop shop for all their vehicle-related business.

## FY21 4th Quarter Visitation Stats

Park visitation numbers continue to climb through the fall season. See charts on the following pages. We implemented the new fee structure for non-resident camping at our Tier A parks. These fee changes have had a mixed review, with most residents liking the change. Primarily the complaints about the fees are from non-resident campers from Washington. Most reservations for the season had already been made under the old pricing structure, so those affected were the last-minute or walk-in customers.

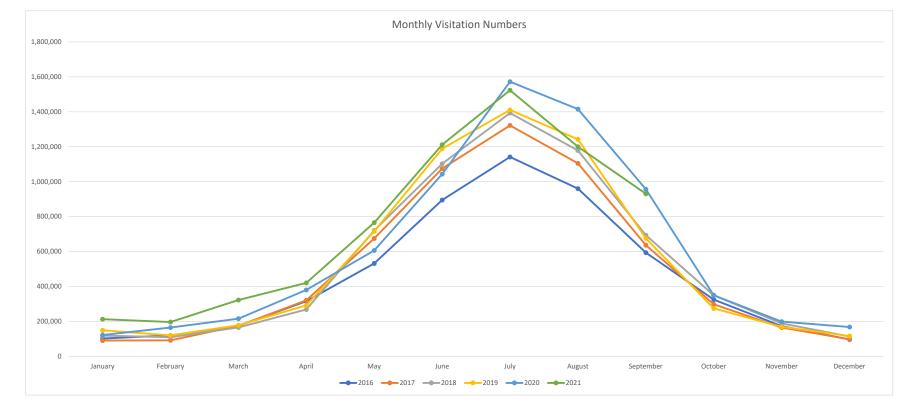
#### 2022 Peak Season Current Reservations

These are current reservation percentages for the 2022 season. The effects of the non-resident fee increases in the Tier A parks can not be fully assessed until the completion of the season next year. The below numbers encompass the current nine-month reservation window from Memorial Day weekend through July 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022.

Tier A Parks	2022 Booked Occupancy %	2021 Total Occupancy %
Farragut	21.39%	73.77%
Henrys Lake	19.81%	95.34%
Ponderosa	68.02%	90.32%
Priest Lake	57.28%	82.08%
Round Lake	3.02%	69.17%
Tier B Parks		
Bear Lake	42.29%	91.49%
Castle Rocks	8.71%	79.55%
Hells Gate	12.27%	72.74%
Heyburn	12.70%	68.86%
Lake Cascade	30.69%	67.52%
Tier C Parks		
Bruneau Dunes	1.31%	41.73%
City of Rocks	25.47%	86.17%
Dworshak	9.05%	52.34%
Lake Walcott	8.32%	73.50%
Massacre Rocks	1.52%	61.95%
Three Island	9.14%	78.24%
Winchester Lake	9.39%	74.22%
<u>Non-Tier Parks</u>		
Harriman	50.96%	67.60%
Idaho City Yurts	7.65%	72.91%
Thousand Springs	32.22%	91.53%

#### YoY Monthly Visitation Numbers

	January	February	March	April I	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Yearly Total	<u>%∆</u>
2016	102,277	119,825	175,565	315,384	531,894	894,895	1,141,430	959,975	593,570	324,765	173,190	96,633	5,429,403	
<u>2017</u>	90,644	91,687	174,999	320,676	675,271	1,074,921	1,321,952	1,105,086	636,383	298,594	164,831	98,152	6,053,196	
%∆	-11.37%	-23.48%	-0.32%	1.68%	26.96%	20.12%	15.82%	15.12%	7.21%	-8.06%	-4.83%	1.57%		11.49%
2018	118,787	109,489	165,542	268,192	720,522	1,102,401	1,393,051	1,178,227	693,372	349,708	188,641	113,424	6,401,356	
%Δ	31.05%	19.42%	-5.40%	-16.37%	6.70%	2.56%	5.38%	6.62%	8.96%	17.12%	14.45%	15.56%		5.75%
<u>2019</u>	149,695	119,999	178,091	292,065	715,831	1,188,495	1,410,846	1,242,443	675,857	274,821	. 168,919	116,507	6,533,569	
%∆	26.02%	9.60%	7.58%	8.90%	-0.65%	7.81%	1.28%	5.45%	-2.53%	-21.41%	-10.45%	2.72%		2.07%
2020	122,213	165,043	215,983	380,213	606,501	1,043,509	1,572,168	1,415,278	956,558	349,743	199,324	167,910	7,194,443	
%∆	-18.36%	37.54%	21.28%	30.18%	-15.27%	-12.20%	11.43%	13.91%	41.53%	27.26%	18.00%	44.12%		10.12%
<u>2021</u>	212,698	196,569	322,385	420,500	765,560	1,211,475	1,523,376	1,199,899	930,872				6,783,334	
%Δ	74.04%	19.10%	49.26%	10.60%	26.23%	16.10%	-3.10%	-15.22%	-2.69%					



#### YoY Year-to-Date Visitation Numbers

	January	<u>February</u>	March A	<u>April</u>	May	June	July	August	<u>September</u>	<u>October</u>	November	December	Yearly Total	<u>%∆</u>
<u>2016</u>	102,277			713,051	1,244,945		3,281,270	4,241,245					5,429,403	
<u>2017</u>	90,644			678,006	1,353,277	2,428,198	3,750,150	4,855,236	5,491,619				6,053,196	
%∆	-11.37%			-4.91%	8.70%		14.29%	14.48%						11.49%
<u>2018</u>	118,787			662,010	1,382,532		3,877,984	5,056,211	5,749,583	6,099,291	6,287,932		6,401,356	
%∆	31.05%			-2.36%	2.16%		3.41%	4.14%						5.75%
<u>2019</u>	149,695		,	739,850	1,455,681		4,055,022	5,297,465					6,533,569	
%∆	26.02%			11.76%	5.29%		4.57%	4.77%						2.07%
2020	122,213			883,452	1,489,953		4,105,630	5,520,908					7,194,443	
%∆	-18.36%			19.41%	2.35%		1.25%	4.22%			9.50%	6 10.12%		10.12%
<u>2021</u>	212,698			1,152,152	1,917,712		4,652,563	5,852,462						
%Δ	74.04%	42.47%	45.39%	30.41%	28.71%	23.51%	13.32%	6.01%	4.72%					
	Year-to-Date Visitation Numbers													
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