



On the Move with Anadromous Fish Carl Stiefel, Fisheries Biologist, Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Many people are well aware that ducks and geese migrate each year, but did you know fish undertake some pretty impressive migrations as well? Fish migrate to spawn (reproduce), to seek refuge, and to feed. Like many things in nature, there is a lot of variation in the migration patterns of fish and biologists have coined terms to describe these patterns. For example, "fluvial" fish, such as Yellowstone cutthroat trout, migrate between small streams and rivers to larger rivers downstream. A slight twist of this scenario includes fish that migrate between streams and lakes or reservoirs; these fish are referred to as "adfluvial" and include species like the bull trout in Lake Coeur d'Alene. Another, and probably best known type of fish migration, is called "anadromy." Examples of anadromous fish include Chinook salmon and steelhead, which migrate from freshwater to the ocean and back. One thing that all

of these types of migrations have in common is that they are all cyclical – to breed, the adult fish make their way back to the river where they were born.

Migrations, particularly anadromous migrations, can be very dangerous and the long journey (over 2,000 miles round trip) consumes a lot of energy. As anadromous fish migrate they are exposed to a gauntlet of dangers that reduce the likelihood of survival. For example, juvenile Chinook salmon (smolts) are preyed upon by otters, herons, and other birds as they migrate to the ocean as juveniles, and a substantial number die because of hydroelectric dams. Life doesn't get any easier when these fish reach the ocean. Adult Chinook salmon are constantly being preyed upon by sharks, seals, and killer whales while they are in the ocean, as well as by anglers and bears in rivers and streams as they

return to spawn. Over the long run, many fish from the population die before having the chance to return to their natal waters to spawn. With so many dangers you may wonder how anadromous fish can persist at all. The answer lies in what they gain from these migrations.

Abundant food supplies in the ocean allow anadromous fish to overcome the cost (energy expenditure) and dangers (predators) of migration. These abundant food supplies allow them to regain the energy expended in migrating to the ocean and grow to a large size in a relatively short period of time; which results in increased energy reserves (body fat) allowing

them to make the return trip home without having to feed along the way. This allows them to stay focused on their ultimate goal: returning to spawn where they were born. The abundant food also allows them to produce significantly more eggs, resulting in more offspring. For example, a female kokanee, a landlocked form of sockeye salmon, generally produces about 300 eggs while a female sockeye, which has migrated to the ocean, can produce 3,000 eggs.

continued on page 2...



Adult steelhead; © Ron Roberts

FEATURES

- 1** On the Move
Carl Stiefel,
Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game

It's not easy being an anadromous fish...

- 3** Winter Events
Find a great escape near you!

- 6** Snow School
Cindy Busche and Christine Rivas,
Boise WaterShed Environmental
Education Center

Connecting kids to the natural world.



IDAHO TAX CHECKOFF

BENEFITS WILDLIFE AND WATCHABLE WILDLIFE!



Consider making a donation to nongame wildlife in Idaho. The ONLY two ways to financially support animals that are not hunted, fished, or trapped is by donating on your Idaho State Income Tax form or purchasing an Idaho wildlife license plate.

Watchable Wildlife is direct beneficiary of the Nongame Wildlife Conservation Fund! But if that is not enough, peregrine falcons, bald eagles, pygmy rabbits, native amphibians and reptiles and songbirds are just a few of the species that benefit from this donation.

Remember, IDFG receives NO tax dollars and nongame animals receive NO hunting and fishing license sales dollars, so donate via your Idaho State Income Tax form today!!

DONATIONS. See instructions, page 9. I wish to donate to:			
35. Nongame Wildlife Conservation Fund	*	36. Idaho Children's Trust Fund	*
37. Special Olympics Idaho	*	38. Idaho Guard and Reserve Family ...	*
39. American Red Cross of Greater Idaho ..	*	40. Veterans Support Fund	*
41. Idaho Foodbank	*	42. Opportunity Scholarship Program ...	*
43. Enter total donations. Add lines 35 through 42		43	00
44. TOTAL TAX PLUS DONATIONS. Add lines 34 and 43		44	00

On the second page of Idaho Individual Tax form 40, line 35 gives you the opportunity to donate to the Nongame Wildlife Conservation Fund. This fund supports over 90% of Idaho's wildlife species (animals that cannot be hunted, trapped or fished). Besides purchasing a wildlife license plate for your car, this is the only way to donate to this fund.

left photo: Woodhouse toad by Bruce Haak; right photo: long-billed curlew by Mike Morrison

continued from page 1...

The combination of having the energy reserves to return, and producing more offspring, ultimately increases the likelihood that a few adult fish will return to where they were born to spawn and start a new generation.

When you think about it, it is a remarkable achievement for a migratory fish to complete its lifecycle. So next time you pass by one of the many river systems in Idaho that has a population of migratory fish, take to time to appreciate what these fish endure to continue their lifecycle.



Left photo: juvenile steelhead (smolt); right photo: IDFG fisheries technician with an adult steelhead © Ron Roberts.





Winter 2011 Wildlife Events

Bald Eagle Days

5657 Warm Springs Ave., Boise;
<http://baldeagledays.blogspot.com>

Jan. 29 - 10am-4.30pm

A FREE public celebration of bald eagles and all of Boise River's wildlife. Join the fun at the Idaho Shakespeare Facility with live bird presentations, lectures, wildlife viewing, and children's activities. A great opportunity to get outside this winter!

Boise Watershed

11818 West Joplin Rd., Boise;
(208) 489-1284 www.cityofboise.org/Bee/WaterShed/Home/index.aspx

Go with the flow to the Boise WaterShed every third Saturday of each month. Activities and crafts take place from 10:00 – 1:00 pm, followed by a wastewater treatment plant tour from 1:00 – 2:00. Note: For the safety of our guests, wastewater tours will be canceled if snow or ice is on the ground. Closed-toe shoes required for tour. FREE admission! No pre-registration required.

Jan. 15 - Fire and Ice

Unearth the geologic mysteries of how our watershed was formed. From 10:30-11:15, hear from BSU Professor Walter Snyder about our region's geologic setting for geothermal energy use. From 11:30-noon join the staff from the Foothills Learning Center as they set off an exploding trash can volcano! View a model of how geothermal heat works with Boise City's Geothermal Coordinator Kent Johnson. Create an earthquake and see the wave with our seismometer. Flow water and "pollution" through a tabletop groundwater model and even make your own aquifer!

Feb. 19 - The Water Wise Home

Conserving water makes dollars and sense! Learn how to make every drop count at home. Join Idaho Botanical Garden's Natural Communities Specialist Ann Debolt at 10:30 as she introduces waterwise landscaping principles and design. Then at 11:30 let Basalite acquaint you with attractive permeable

pavement options for your yard that can help benefit the environment. Visit United Water's booth and show your UW water bill for free water conservation devices, and take a tour of waterwise turf options at The Turf Company's booth. Children can plant a seed, create a seed collage, paint a colorful butterfly, meet Eddy Trout, and spin the Water Wheel for a prize! benefits, techniques for success, gardening through the seasons, and some of the 43 plants in the Boise WaterShed's new Waterwise Demonstration Garden. Find out answers to your tree questions and learn about the benefits of trees and tree selection at the Boise City Community Forestry booth. Gather ideas to get your garden started at our community information booth. Families can press plants, make bird feeders and plant seeds in a cup to take home.

Mar. 19 – World Water Day

Spring is here! After a long winter Make a splash during our cultural celebration of water as part of World Water Day. At 10:30 go on safari with artist Matt Laurance who will introduce you to the Boise WaterShed's elephant sculpture made of mud! At 11:30 TRICA's leap troupe will perform a dance to live music. Inside the exhibit hall make mud art with Matt, colorful rainsticks, musical wave makers, water music and more! Visit the USGS booth to learn about activities that support water resources management in Iraq and hear from the Treasure Valley Engineers Without Borders about global water projects. Finally, try your hand at identifying water pollution while learning about Boise's local groundwater issues.

School Break Programs

Drop in to these fun all-ages programs offered on school break days! In addition to the exhibit hall, special activities and crafts will take place from 10:00 am – noon. FREE admission! Community groups, home schools and Mom's clubs welcome! No pre-registration required.

Jan. 21 – Amazing Ice Lab

See for yourself why solid water is so cool! Learn how water "transforms" in our water cycle demonstration. Break the ice with fun frozen experiments! Melt a hole in an ice balloon with a flashlight. Observe how salt melts ice and create colorful designs in large ice blocks. Watch ice dance and float as you learn about density, buoyancy and gravity. Paint pictures with ice, play with ice using cool tools in a sensory tub, and complete the experience with an ice cube treasure hunt!

Jan. 24 – Winter Wildlife

Discover how animals adapt to the winter wonderland with a blizzard of crafts and activities. Find out how to identify animal tracks in the snow and encourage birds to visit your home with a pine cone bird feeder. Create a cozy cave for a hibernating bear, color an animal who dresses in seasonal camouflage, and make a pine cone squirrel!

Spring Break: Mar. 28 - 31

Come spring into action at the Boise WaterShed! Create a colorful springtime scene with plant pigments and make your own paper from recycled materials at our papermaking station. Explore your watershed with a large-scale tabletop model and learn how you can become part of the pollution solution. Celebrate spring with plant and animal crafts from recyclables that are sure to make a splash! Free activities will take place from 10:00 am-noon, with a wastewater treatment plant tour at 11:00 am. Tour limited to 40 people, closed-toe shoes required, no strollers.

Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve

Arco; (208) 527-1300;
www.nps.gov/crmo

When the Loop Road is closed to car travel by snow, there are many other options for exploring the wonderful winter world of Craters of the Moon.

Visitor Center open daily from 8am - 4:30 pm, except for federal holidays (Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Years Day, MLK Birthday)

View exhibits and audio-visual presentations to learn more about your national monument. There are also publications on sale in our book store about the cultural and natural history of the park and the region.

Cross-country Skiing/

Snowshoeing: Mid Dec. - Feb.

The 7 Mile Loop Drive is groomed for skiing as snow pack and staffing allow. Most of the Loop Drive follows relatively level terrain and can be completed in 2 to 4 hours. There are also excellent opportunities for snowshoeing throughout the park. Check the website or contact the visitor center for updated snow conditions.

Winter Snowshoe Adventures

Jan. 15, 22, 29 and Feb. 5, 12, 19, 26; 9.30 am-3pm.

Explore a cooler side of Craters of the Moon on a Ranger guided Winter Snowshoe Adventure. The day begins with a 30 minute classroom session followed by several hours out in the park on snowshoes. Look for tracks and climb a volcano on this 2-4 mile trek. Lunch is eaten in the field. Snowshoes are available for complementary use to those who need them. Reservations are required and participants need to be at least 10 years of age for this moderately strenuous walk. Call early to sign up for these popular excursions at 208-527-1335.

Snowshoe Walks

Jan. 2, 16, 23, 30 and Feb. 6, 13, 20, 27; 1-2.30pm.

Snowshoe with a Ranger on our 1.5 mile Snowshoe Loop Trail. Snowshoes are available for use and there is no charge for these events. No experience or reservations are required but participants should be at least 8 years old and walks are limited to 25 people. Meet at the visitor center and be prepared to spend an hour and ½ outdoors with warm waterproof boots and clothing.

Winter Wildlife Events continued on page 4...

Winter Wildlife Events cont...

Deer Flat NWR

13751 Upper Embankment Rd.
Nampa; (208) 467-9278;
www.fws.gov/deerflat

Jan. 15- Junior Duck Stamp Art, 1-3 pm.

Are you an artist? Do you want to learn more about wildlife? Would you like a chance to win a national art contest? 2nd, 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students are invited to the Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge's Visitor Center to learn about migratory bird habitat and conservation, bird watch, play wildlife games and create a work of original art for the Junior Duck Stamp art contest. This event is FREE and all supplies are provided.

Mar. 15- Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest entry deadline

Idaho's K-12 students are invited to participate in the Idaho Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest. Students can learn about environmental science and habitat conservation—and gain a greater awareness of the Nation's natural resources—by developing a design for the annual Junior Duck Stamp. All participants receive certificates. The Best of Show from Idaho is submitted to the national contest.

Wild About Life Lecture Series;
2nd Tuesday of every month; free

Jan. 11 - Falconry: Then and Now

Join master Falconer Jesse Woody, who has over 50 years of experience as a falconer. A live hawk will be present for this lecture discussing the practice of falconry from a historical and present-day perspective. The raptors used for the sport, as well as the present day regulation of falconry will also be discussed.

Feb. 8 - Stop Alien Invaders: Biological Control of Invasive Weeds

Come discover the control measures used to combat invasive weed species in Idaho including mechanical, chemical and cultural methods. The focus will be on biological controls for managing invasive species frequently encountered in southwest Idaho.

Environmental Resource Center

P.O. Box 819, Ketchum; (208) 726-4333; www.ercsv.org

Programs are held from 10am- 2pm. Attendance will be capped at 25 individuals, registration strongly recommended- call the ERC at 208.726.4333. Free to ERC members! Non-member donation: \$10/individual, \$20 family.

Jan 22 – Winter Animal Tracking

The ERC is thrilled to present the inimitable Ann Christensen! Ann has been sharing her passion and knowledge for the outdoors and our amazing home with valley youth and families for decades. We are honored to have her join the ERC this January for one of her legendary winter animal tracking workshops. Spend the day learning how to decipher the messages animals leave behind in the snow.

Jan. 16 – Snowshoe Birding

Winter in the Wood River Valley is, perhaps unexpectedly, an amazing place for birds. We all know that a great number of birds migrate south in the winter, and many of our summer residents have left us for warmer destinations. However, with it's waters open year-round, Silver Creek Preserve is the southern destination for many amazing birds. This winter, join local birder Poo Wright-Pulliam on an exciting adventure – snowshoe birding at Silver Creek Preserve.

Feb. 13 – Quinzhee Frenzy!

Quinzhees, or snow caves, can provide a great emergency shelter – or a fun winter wonderland! Join us to learn how to build these shelters, which differ greatly from igloos in function and design. We'll also learn basic snow science as we explore the unique characteristics of snow crystals that give them the strength to build these structures.

Feb. 20 – Snowshoe Birding

Winter in the Wood River Valley is, perhaps unexpectedly, an amazing place for birds. We all know that a great number of birds migrate south in the winter, and many of our summer residents have left us for warmer destinations. However, with it's waters open year-round,

Silver Creek Preserve is the southern destination for many amazing birds. This winter, join local birder Poo Wright-Pulliam on an exciting adventure – snowshoe birding at Silver Creek Preserve.

Foothills Learning Center

3188 Sunset Peak Rd., Boise; (208) 514-3755; www.cityofboise.org/Beefoothills/index.aspx

Second Sat. Programs are from 10am to 2pm. All ages welcome! Free; no registration is required. Please leave pets at home-thanks!

Jan. 8 - The Natives AREN'T Restless

A native plant landscape is easy, rewarding, and beautiful. It's also the right thing to do environmentally. Diane Jones of Draggin' Wing Farm is just the person to get you inspired to create a fantastic native landscape of your own. At 10:00 a.m. and again at noon, Diane will show and tell all you need to know. As usual, there will be children's activities as well.

Feb. 12 – Mud and Flood

Did you know that Hull's Gulch protects Boise from flooding? People past and present have shaped the foothills for flood control and protection from other natural disasters. Learn about geologic hazards in Boise's foothills - including landslides and earthquakes - and how engineering and technology can protect us. Then design, build, and test your own dam, and get dirty with other hands-on demonstrations. Our own graduate fellow, Emily Hinz, leads the way.

Mar. 12 - Pharmacy in the Foothills

Did you know sagebrush might be a treatment for Alzheimer's disease?! Yarrow grows wild in the Boise Foothills and has been used as a painkiller and an antiseptic. Come and explore Idaho's wild plants and learn the history of their medicinal uses with graduate fellow Stephanie Wyler. A talk on the medicinal use of plants will be followed by a guided tour through the foothills. And of course the kids will have their own crafts and explorations.

The World Center for Birds of Prey

5668 West Flying Hawk Lane, Boise; (208) 362-8687; www.peregrinefund.org

Jan 15 and Feb 19- FREE Family Field Trip Saturdays

Visit the World Center anytime between 10am-4pm and watch live bird presentations (10.45am, 12.15pm, 1.30pm, 3.15pm), explore the archives of falconry, and learn interesting facts about birds of prey.

Jan. 31- Polar Bears and Climate Change

Free; 7pm in the Simplot Ballroom at the Student Union Building (Boise State University)

A researcher whose work led to the decision to list polar bears as a threatened species will talk about how climate change is affecting this charismatic animal. Dr. Steven Amstrup remains hopeful that polar bear extinction can be avoided, despite the alarming loss of sea ice he has witnessed since he began his work in the Arctic in 1980. Because humans are causing climate problems, he believes humans can solve those problems and assure that sufficient habitat remains to allow polar bears to persist in the wild. For more info: www.peregrinefund.org/gyr_conference/specialevents.html

A TRUE IDAHO NATIVE SPECIES

Diane Evans Mack, Wildlife Biologist, Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game

The northern Idaho ground squirrel is a true Idaho native. Found ONLY in Adams and Valley Counties, it exists no other place in the world! It is one of the rarer mammals in North America and is protected under the Endangered Species Act as a threatened species. A new interpretive trail near New Meadows, Idaho, offers a rare opportunity to view this threatened species while learning about its natural history and habitat. The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Forest Service/Payette National Forest and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, helped fund the trail and interpretive signs.

This small burrow-dwelling animal occurs in forest meadow-grasslands surrounded by ponderosa pine and Douglas-fir forests, including lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service's Payette National Forest.

It is thought that northern Idaho ground squirrel populations decreased due to the loss of native meadow habitat from fire suppression and altered natural fire cycles. Development, shooting and poisoning, predators, competition from other ground squirrels, and nonnative plant invasion also have affected this species.

Conservation education and public outreach are critical to achieving this species' recovery by increasing awareness and encouraging true land stewardship. If more local residents, recreationists, hunters and wildlife watchers are aware of the northern Idaho ground squirrel and its habitat needs, they can take an active role in helping the animal rebound.

The trail's grand opening is scheduled for June 2011.



Ground squirrels are good!

**They're indicators of ecosystem health,
help build soil quality and improve vegetation,
and they're a vital part of the food chain.**

SnowSchool at Bogus Basin Partners with Boise Environmental Education

Christina Rivas and Cindy Busche, Boise WaterShed Environmental Education Center

SnowSchool, established by the Winter Wildlands Alliance, is the largest on-snow winter ecology education program in the nation. SnowSchool at Bogus Basin is a partnership between the Winter Wildlands Alliance, Bogus Basin, the Nordic Group, the Boise National Forest and regional schools. Housed in Frontier Point Nordic Lodge, the program provides a unique science-based field trip for fourth through sixth graders throughout the Treasure Valley.

“SnowSchool is about connecting kids to the natural world. At SnowSchool, elementary students get to sink their teeth into the wonders of the winter landscape by romping through the forest on snowshoes, constructing snow shelters and exploring natural science topics relevant to their classroom curriculum,” said Kerry McClay, SnowSchool Coordinator.

This is the third year the City of Boise’s environmental education centers, Boise WaterShed and Foothills Learning Center, have partnered with SnowSchool at Bogus Basin to offer each participating class a free, science-based pre-trip classroom lesson. Educators from either center visit a teacher’s classroom to present a hands-on introductory lesson in preparation for their outdoor snow excursion. Teachers have the choice between the Mountain Ecosystem curriculum or the Snow Science and Water Cycle curriculum.

Fifth grade teachers Carol Rose, Mark Brilz and Dawn Briggs at Horizon Elementary participate each year in the Boise WaterShed’s Snow Science and Water Cycle pre-visit lesson and Snowschool at Bogus Basin. “The pre-visit is a great introduction to Snowschool. It provides valuable background information for our snowshoeing experience—an experience many of our students would normally not have,” said Rose.

Snowschool at Bogus Basin is available to school groups by appointment only on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays from January through mid-March. For more information, contact Kerry McClay, SnowSchool Coordinator at (208) 344-8692 or snowschooll@bogusbasin.org



JOIN THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

COUNT FOR FUN, COUNT FOR THE FUTURE

New York, NY and Ithaca, NY—The 14th annual Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) is coming up February 18-21, 2011. The four-day event is free and is open to bird watchers of all ages and skill levels. Participants watch birds for any length of time on one or more days of the count and enter their tallies at www.birdcount.org. The results provide a snapshot of the whereabouts of more than 600 bird species. The GBBC is a joint project of the National Audubon Society and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology with Canadian partner Bird Studies Canada.

The 2010 GBBC was another record-breaker with more than 97,300 bird checklists submitted by an estimated 63,000 volunteers from across the United States and Canada. These volunteers found connecting with nature to be great fun.

"I enjoy being outdoors and birding is a source of relaxation and stress relief!" wrote one participant. "Looking and listening for birds forces me to focus on the environment around me at a higher level of intensity, and notice things I might otherwise miss."

From reports of rare species to large-scale tracking of bird movements, the GBBC provides insight into the lives of bird populations.

Mid-February is chosen as the time for the Great Backyard Bird Count because it offers a good picture of the birds typically found throughout the winter months. It also coincides with migration for some species, such as the Sandhill Crane. That window of transition affords an opportunity to detect changes in timing for northward migration.

On the www.birdcount.org website, participants can explore real-time maps and charts that show what others are reporting during the count. The site has tips to help identify birds and special materials for educators.

GBBC participant surveys have shown that people really enjoy exploring the data and say they learn more about their local birds. "I looked at data with my 9-year-old son to help him learn about birds in our area," wrote one parent. "We talked about migration, bird flyways and compared bird counts for our area (coastal South Carolina) with where his cousins live (Wisconsin and Alabama). We found out our area has a much greater variety of birds in February than either of the other two."

Participants may also enter the GBBC photo contest by uploading images taken during the count. Many images will be featured in the GBBC website's photo gallery. All participants are entered in a drawing for prizes that include bird feeders, binoculars, books, CDs, and many other great birding products.

Anyone can take part, from novice bird watchers to experts, by counting birds for as little as 15 minutes (or as long as they wish) on one or more days of the event and reporting their sightings online at www.birdcount.org.

A few highlights from the 2010 GBBC:

- A massive roost of nearly 1.5 million American Robins was reported in St. Petersburg, Florida. Will they be back in 2011?
- The invasive Eurasian Collared-Dove keeps expanding its range. It was reported in 39 states and provinces during the 2010 GBBC. Where will this hardy dove show up next?
- Tree Swallows showed dramatic increases in numbers during the last count, possibly because of warmer temperatures and earlier migration. Will that pattern hold true again for GBBC 2011?



A backyard visitor (sharp-shinned hawk); © Terry Gray.

HOW TO DO THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

It's as Easy as 1, 2, 3!

- 1. Plan to count birds for at least 15 minutes on one or more days of the count.** You can count each day or just some of the days and you can count in different places. Just be sure to keep a separate list of birds for each day and each location.
- 2. For each type of bird you see, count the most you see at any one time.** For example, maybe you see two chickadees when you start watching, then five chickadees a few minutes later. The number you put on your list for chickadees is five. Do not add two plus five. (This way you don't accidentally count the same bird twice.)
- 3. Enter your results on the Great Backyard Bird Count website (www.birdcount.org)** Then watch the maps as more and more people enter their reports.



Renew Your Newsletter Subscription

To update your subscription, fill out this form and send to:

Windows to Wildlife
Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game
P. O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707-0025

- Please add me to mailing list
- Renew my subscription (check one below)
 - \$_____ Donation enclosed.
Make check payable to "Windows to Wildlife"
 - Trout plate purchase or renewal,
 - Elk plate purchase or renewal,
 - Bluebird plate purchase or renewal,
 - Nongame tax checkoff donation (state income tax),
 - Other nongame donation _____
- Please list my name as a contributor in the next newsletter
(You won't be listed in the next newsletter if you don't check this box.)
- Remove my name from the email list. _____
- Change my email address.
 - Name _____
 - Street _____
 - City _____
 - State/Zip Code _____
 - Email _____

Do you drive a car? Do you pay taxes? If you answered yes to both of these questions, you have *two* opportunities to support nongame wildlife in Idaho! If you are reading this newsletter, you probably already have an Idaho Wildlife license plate! Thank you!

The proceeds from your plate purchase help programs and projects directed toward species not hunted, fished or trapped (97% of Idaho's wildlife including plants!)



DO SOMETHING WILD!
Check off a gift for watchable wildlife on your Idaho income tax form. It's deductible!

Another way you can make a difference in wildlife conservation in Idaho is on your 2010 tax form. This option is located on line 37 of Idaho Tax form 40. Donate any amount and feel great that you are supporting nongame fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and birds!

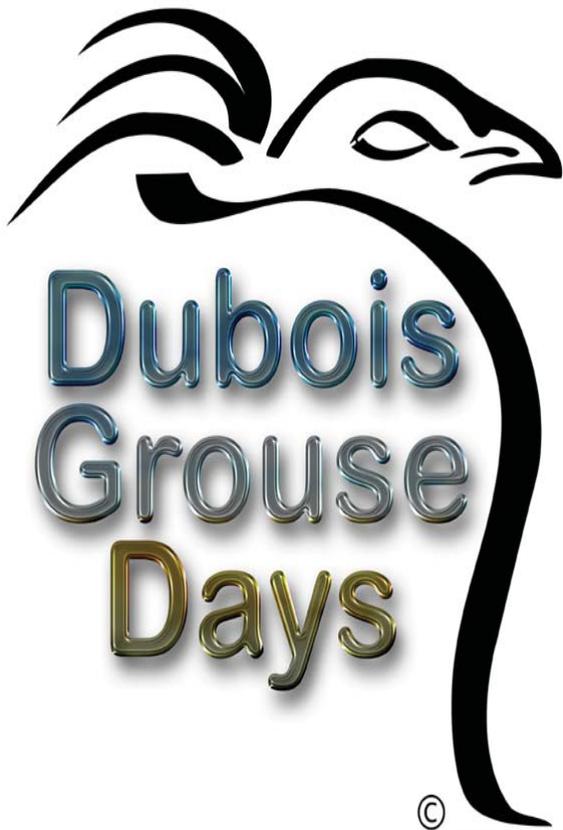
Thank You to All Contributors

- Mark Arana
- Deniz Aygen
- B. Bakeberg
- Anne Bowler
- Mark + Norma Butler
- Stephany Erwin
- June Heilman
- Earleen Hilde
- Jim + Mary Paige Jeffress
- Mike + June Matteson
- Ada Perrine

The following people made direct donations, purchased or renewed a wildlife license plate, or let us know of a tax check-off donation between October through December 2010. This list represents those who marked the contributor box when they donated to the Conservation Sciences Program. However, many subscribers not listed here have contributed generously and Idaho's nongame wildlife thanks you ALL!



Hairy woodpecker © Terry Gregory



SAVE THE DATE!

9th Annual Sage Grouse Festival

April 15- 16, 2011

Dubois, Idaho

SAGE GROUSE VIEWING AND CONSERVATION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

- Friday evening social dinner and then off to bed early!
- Early morning guided lek tours to view the amazing courtship display of the male greater sage grouse.
- Delicious late breakfast following lek tour.
- Outstanding bird presentations in the early afternoon- falconry, Birding in Costa Rica, Teton Raptor Center
- Raffle to raise funds for sage grouse conservation projects.
- Additional local birding opportunities before or after event.

For information: jeff_liday_179@hotmail.com; 208.313-2730

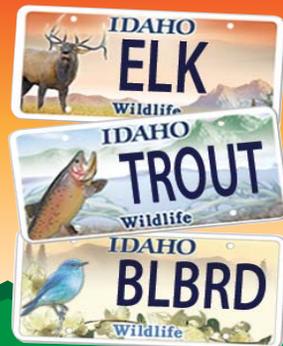
www.grousedays.org

Reel in Idaho's Wildlife!

A portion of your Wildlife License Plate purchase and/or renewal contributes to Idaho's Wildlife:

- Conservation
- Education Programs
- Habitat Improvements
- Wildlife Publications

Your support helps protect Idaho's wildlife heritage for present and future generations!



**GO WILD!
BUY WILD!**



**CATCH ONE AT YOUR LOCAL DMV OR ONLINE AT:
www.accessidaho.org/secure/itd/personalized/plates.html**

Support Idaho's Wildlife Heritage!

Auction begins
Feb. 18, 2011
at 9am

SAVE THE DATE!



2010 auction winners with a radio collared elk calf.



2010 auction winners floating the Salmon River.

Who: The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation, a nonprofit organization celebrating twenty years of helping to protect and sustain Idaho's fishing, hunting and wildlife heritage.

What: The 2011 annual online auction will bring a host of exciting trips in Idaho's great outdoors, including wildlife experiences with biologists from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Successful bids will be rewarded with opportunities of a lifetime!

When: February 18-28, 2011

Where: online (visit www.ifwf.org for the latest updates)

Why: It is the Foundation's largest fundraiser, attracting anglers, hunters, hikers, campers and wildlife enthusiasts. Last year proceeds from the auction benefited the Watchable Wildlife Program!!

How: The 2011 auction will bring a host of exciting trips in Idaho's great outdoors, including wildlife experiences with biologists from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Successful bids will be rewarded with opportunities of a lifetime!

Windows to Wildlife

Conservation Sciences Program
P O Box 25
Boise, ID 83707-0025

Forwarding Service Requested

Windows to Wildlife is a quarterly publication of the Idaho Watchable Wildlife Committee and IDFG Conservation Sciences Program.

Deniz Aygen — Editor

deniz.aygen@idfg.idaho.gov
208•287•2750



The Watchable Wildlife Committee and the Conservation Sciences Program grant permission to reprint uncopyrighted text, NOT artwork, provided Windows to Wildlife is credited.

The Idaho Watchable Wildlife Committee is comprised of the following agencies and organizations:

Golden Eagle Audubon
Idaho Department of Commerce & Labor
Idaho Department of Fish and Game
Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation
Idaho Power
U.S. Bureau of Land Management
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
U.S. Forest Service
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service