

# CROSSROADS

BY CANYON COUNTY PARKS, CULTURAL &  
NATURAL RESOURCES

## CANOE SCIENCE CAMP

Creating the next generation  
of land stewards | p. 22

## THE BENEFITS OF PRESERVING HISTORY

How spending on historic  
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improves the economy | p. 18

## WILDFIRE EDUCATION

The Wildland Fire program  
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This winter, Sergeant Jason Roberts of Canyon County Sheriff's Office's Marine Patrol and Ben Larsen from Canyon County Information Technology both obtained special permission to take drone footage of Celebration Park camping and visitor areas. We are very grateful to Sgt. Roberts and his team and Ben Larsen for their assistance in getting this fantastic footage!





Interpretive Specialist Greg Blodgett practices flint knapping a projectile point from obsidian.



(Above) Celebration Park staff were able to venture to Wees Bar to look at the amazing petroglyphs.



(Above) Primitive Technology experts Rod Dotson (left) and Bill Todd (right) demonstrate flint knapping at a class at Celebration Park.



(Left) University of Idaho graduate students Jenny Wolfe (left) and Kayla Bordelon (right) teach a class on wildfire ecology and audience-centered education.





*(Left)* Jared Fluckiger is the Outdoor Recreation Planner for the Morley Nelson Snake River Birds of Prey National Conservation Area. Here, he's shown giving a lecture to College of Western Idaho students at the Crossroads Museum at Celebration Park with a raptor and an owl as a special guest. This program is a partnership between Canyon County Parks, Cultural & Natural Resources and the Bureau of Land Management.

*(Right)* A prehistoric bison bone donation from former Canyon County Parks Director Tom Bicak. Now housed in the Celebration Park Visitor Center, these bones help students and visitors learn about the difference between modern and Pleistocene megafauna.



*(Left)* Celebration Park staff learned first aid, CPR, AED, and auto-injector training from Canyon County Paramedics Deputy Chief Casey Walker. Students learned adult, child, and infant rescue techniques in order to be prepared for worst-case scenarios at Celebration Park.



(Top) Interpretive Specialist Robyn Foust teaches College of Idaho Outdoor Program students on the atlatl range at Celebration Park.



Desert Studies Institute (DSI) annual 2-day course at Celebration Park. Students study Desert Ecology and the lifeways of ancient native people for undergraduate or graduate credit.



(Top) The Wildfire Ecology Field Trip includes an ecology hike, fire science lab, and a presentation on wildland firefighting (pictured).



Annual Melba Fun Run Classic Car Show.



(Left) Gunner Bradford oversees site preparations of an area where the parks storage container will sit. Previously on private property near Celebration Park, the 40-foot shipping container will be outfitted with electricity and security for safe on-site storage.

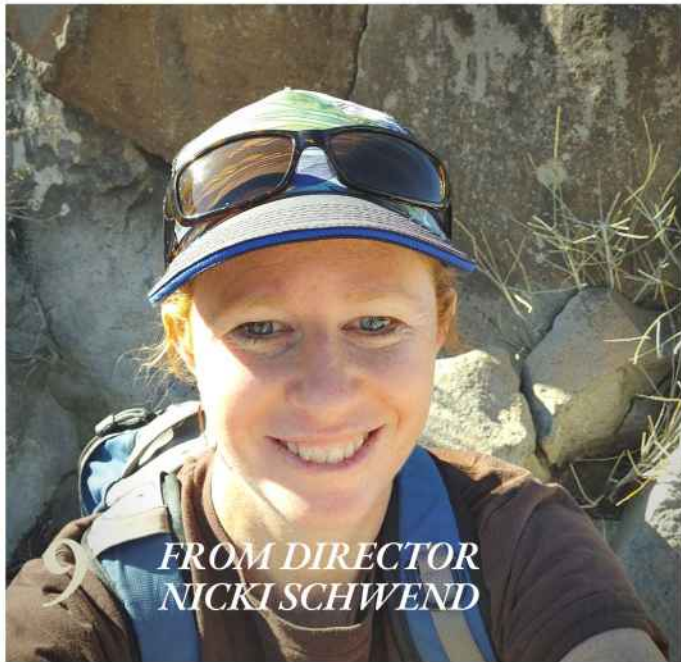


(Right) Interpretive Specialist Brendan Blowers-de Leon helps move everything into the container.

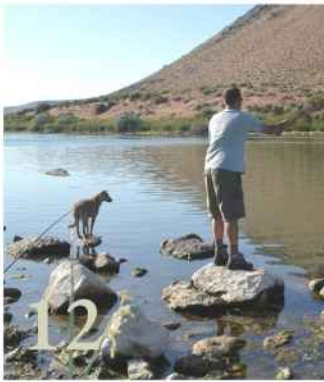
(Below) Naylor Towing provided the logistics of the container move and it arrived safely and without issue.



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FROM DIRECTOR  
NICKI SCHWEND



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Hint: a lot!



## RC&D UPDATE

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*Canyon County Parks offers more than just petroglyph tours - read about everything we offer in place-based education.*



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# FROM THE DIRECTOR: NICKI SCHWEND

Why the gap?

Crossroads – where have you gone? Many people have reached out to us wondering what happened to their Crossroads magazine. Are they still on the list? Do we still print them? When will a new one be coming out? We've been happy to get the encouraging feedback that you all like the Canyon County Parks, Cultural & Natural Resources magazine and want to continue receiving them. Well, here it is!

Our Parks department has seen a lot of changes over the last year plus had to overcome hurdles related to the 'you know what' that we're all tired of dealing with. It became necessary to take a hiatus on producing Crossroads while we get our feet back under us. There's been a lot of training as we've restructured, repositioned and are training almost every position because they are either new to the County or in a new position. We are happy with our team and here's how that has played out:

- Laura Barbour is now the Assistant Director of Parks
- Eric Savadow is our new Program Manager based out of Celebration Park
- Dylan Starry is our new Visitor Services Specialist out of Celebration Park



Director Schwend practices flint-knapping at an event in 2021.

And of course, each year we employ Interpretive Specialists (I.S.) and train them to provide the best educational programming possible. We're lucky to have some I.S. that stay on year-round, or return after a winter hiatus, but every year we get a group of new I.S. to train.

With new staff comes new perspectives and new skills. We've spent much of this last year training staff, but also re-working many of our publications – partially because they were due for it and partially because county websites and emails were changed to a new format.

For anyone that's had an official school field trip to Celebration Park or Lake Lowell, you're probably familiar with the workbooks as you've seen the same ones for many, many years. Since we had to update websites and emails we felt that it was a perfect time for a thorough edit, review and update. Staff has worked incredibly hard on these and we're quite proud of the results. Next we're planning changes and improvements to the Celebration Park brochures so be on the lookout next time you visit Celebration Park. ■

**"AM I THEY STILL ON  
THE LIST? DO YOU  
STILL PRINT THEM?  
WHEN WILL A NEW  
ONE BE COMING OUT?"**

# Islands to Canyons



My name is **Eric Savadow**. I was born on an island. This is the part where I usually let people guess which island, and people usually guess Hawaii, Tahiti, or New Zealand. In fact, I was born in Manhattan, on a cold day at the end of December. The next thing people usually want to know is how a city boy like me got here. Well... I drove.

It was significant life experiences in nature that brought me both to Idaho and to work with Canyon County. The idea of what creates a significant life experience is simply that one has an experience that helps them remember a person, a place, or an idea. Research suggests that fun experiences are what stay with us the best and I have had no shortage of fun experiences in nature.

As a little boy, my parents had a house in the area where the Catskill Mountains meet the Hudson Valley. On the weekdays, we lived in New York City, but I spent most

weekends riding my bike and getting to know trees. In the winter, we ice skated on the nearby creek. As a teen, I lived in the suburbs of the city, surrounded by trees, rivers, ponds, and deer. My exposure continued through summer camp in Maine and summers as a dishwasher in Yellowstone, Glacier, and Grand Teton National Parks.

I solidified the outdoors as a profession when I began my seven-year career with REI. Working for REI, I created new significant life experiences with others in nature, backpacking, hiking, paddleboarding, climbing, and skiing. The common denominator for all of this was fun and these fun experiences are what made me a stakeholder in this planet's outdoor spaces.

Though my reasons to care about the outdoors were solidified, there came a day when telling others to go outside was not enough for me anymore. Telling others to try new experience is not nearly as rewarding to me as helping other people have them. This is how I got into outdoor education and outreach. In 2019, I left for University of Idaho – McCall Outdoor Science School. There, I received my Masters in

Environmental Education and Science Communication so that I could gain invaluable experience instructing Idaho's children on science and the workings of nature, outside of buildings and textbooks. In addition, I learned about the various mediums and methodologies with which one can communicate science and the psychology of what makes new ideas tenable to the general public.

When I was told about an opportunity to give and shape educational opportunities for Canyon County Parks, I jumped headfirst at the chance. In our parks department, I can continue to do what I love: teaching students from all over Idaho about nature. I have also had a wonderful time teaching

students and learning about the rich archaeological and historical heritage of the parks and this state. Every day, I am truly humbled by the incredible work we get to do, the team I get to work with, and the students and visitors who return again and again to

our parks system. I look forward to continuing to create experiences that you will remember so that we can all be stakeholders in this great place. ■



# Coming Full-Circle



I'm **Dylan** and I'm the newest addition to Canyon County Parks full-time staff. I work as the Visitor Services Specialist. The outdoors has always called to me. As a kid, I grew up combing the woods and deserts for arrowheads and my teen years were spent hiking to every lake I could find in the White Clouds. I spent hours trying to make fire without tools or trying to build a bow that actually worked (it never did). Time outside helped define who I was.

But I also spent a great deal of time away. Nearly my entire adult life was spent abroad, searching for meaning, unique cultures and languages, and good food. While I found a lot of the latter two, I still struggled to find that meaning I had been seeking. I was a kindergarten teacher for many years in South Korea. I loved that job – the kids, especially. And I felt professionally fulfilled, but the problem was still that I was so far away from home.

My family are still here and I was missing their lives.

So, I came back to Idaho. But I found that something was still missing. I wasn't making an impact, making a difference, on the lives of the people I encountered each day. And I wasn't connecting to my home.

When I got the call to start work at the Parks Department, I knew something good was coming. I was not disappointed. My first six weeks of work was helping run Canoe Science Camp, full of 10 to 12-year-olds and all their energy, sweetness, and sass. And I loved it. I loved the kids, the science, and feeling connected to nature in the same way I was in my youth. Now I'm meeting people, learning loads of new things, and at least in my mind, starting to make the difference I've been wanting for so long.

As I write this from Celebration Park, I sit in the Visitor's Center, looking out the window straight down the Snake River Canyon, all the way to Con Shea Basin, and I am reminded how lucky, happy, and proud I am to have this job. I feel that this job is bringing things full-circle – connecting me once again to the land I grew up on and the places that helped form who I am. I still have memories of coming to this park as a fourth-grader, throwing atlatl darts at the mammoths – or were they butter dish lids back then? Now I get to teach kids to do the same thing, guiding them to feel that same connection to this place that I once did, creating land and history stewards in the process.

Creating the next generation of environmental stewards—that's our goal at Canyon County Parks, and it's one I'm proud to lend a hand toward. ■



Possibly Dylan's highest professional achievement: hitting the mammoth on the atlatl range at Celebration Park.

# DEPARTMENT UPDATE

## CELEBRATION PARK EAST END CAMPING AREA IMPROVEMENTS

Throughout 2021 and early 2022, a popular part of Celebration Park received a major overhaul. The East End, previously a primitive campground, has been redeveloped as an RV camping area (there are sites available for tent campers as well). Celebration Park is a hub for boaters, campers, archaeology enthusiasts, and educational field trip programs that bring 10,000 K-12 students to the park each year. Half a mile upstream from the Visitor Center, the East End is more secluded and is frequented by hikers, anglers, birdwatchers, tent campers and RV users seeking a more remote-feeling experience. The improvements were funded by a generous grant from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation's Recreational Vehicle (RV) Fund. The RV Fund provides grants to public agencies to create and/or improve facilities for RV users—learn more at <https://parksandrecreation.idaho.gov/grants-and-funding>.

Overnight campers and day-use recreationists alike will benefit from the upgraded RV pads and parking areas, and the new campsite amenities, including new picnic tables and fire rings at each site, as well as an ADA-accessible vault toilet. A new multiuse trail, paved in asphalt, runs  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from the East End entrance to the turnaround, allowing nonmotorized users to enjoy the scenery. The path also provides entry to several fishing accesses along the river. The East End remains dry camping only, with no water or RV hookups.

Another new feature at the East End is a new Life Jacket Loaner Station provided by Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation through their Sport Fish Restoration and Boating Trust Fund. This is part of an ongoing IDPR project to make water recreation safer throughout Idaho. There are already three other Life Jacket Loaner Stations in Canyon County Parks: one near the boat ramp at Celebration Park and two at Lake Lowell Park.

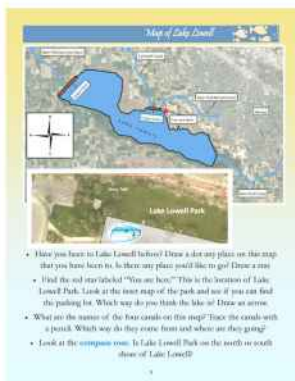
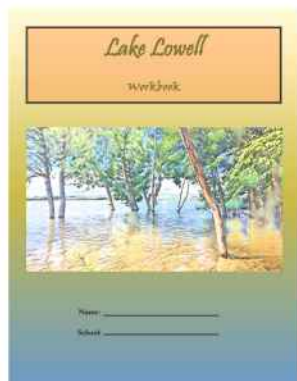
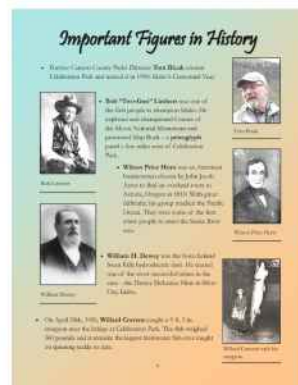
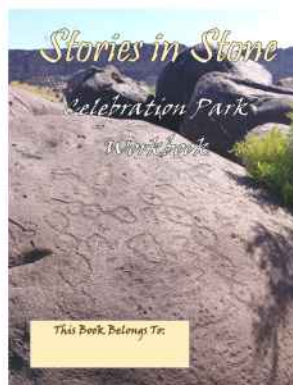


## FIELD TRIP WORKBOOK UPDATES

Another important update this year has been our field trip workbooks. These have been an important part of Celebration Park and Lake Lowell field trips for years - and they haven't been updated much since they were first created!

Visitor Services Specialist Dylon Starry and Programs Manager Eric Savadow took on the daunting task of completely reworking these workbooks from scratch. Using updated photos, language, and state and national education standards, these new workbooks provide students with frontloading activities, where they can learn vocabulary and ideas to help them better prepare for their class field trips. Teachers can also benefit from them, as they provide many different lesson supplements, such as geology, hydrology, history, and science.

Some of the highlights of the Stories in Stone (Celebration Park) field trip workbook include the history of the Bonneville Flood, information on petroglyphs, and details on the story of the Historic Guffey Railroad Bridge.



Examples of Stories in Stone Workbook (top right of page) and Lake Lowell Workbook (above).

The Lake Lowell workbook now teaches about migration of birds, the history of how Lake Lowell came into existence, water science, and about the blue-green algae that takes over the lake in late summer and autumn.

Teacher guides were also created to accompany the student workbooks. These will be a great improvement upon the small packet that had been provided to teachers in the past. These teacher guides go beyond the student workbook, explaining the stories and the science in much more detail and provide answers to student activities. All lessons were also carefully designed to align with Idaho State Standards, Common Core, and National Science Standards. ■

Examples of Teacher Versions of Stories in Stone and Lake Lowell Workbooks.



The Desert Studies Institute workshops combine classroom instruction with field experiences appropriate to an integration of knowledge concerning desert environments.

BOISE STATE UNIVERSITY

CANYON COUNTY PARKS,  
CULTURAL & NATURAL  
RESOURCES

# DESERT STUDIES INSTITUTE

MAY 16 – JUNE 26, 2022



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## Faculty

The faculty of the Desert Studies Institute is selected annually on the basis of the expertise in areas relating to the objectives of the DSI. Faculty from Boise State University and the region form the core of the instructional faculty.

## Cost

The Desert Studies Institute workshops are charged the summer per credit rates. There may be additional class fees. Learn more at [boisestate.edu/summer](https://boisestate.edu/summer).

## Registration

Registration is now open on [my.boisestate.edu](https://my.boisestate.edu).

## For more information

If you have questions, call Boise State Summer Sessions/Extended Studies

(208) 426-1709 or visit [boisestate.edu/summer](https://boisestate.edu/summer).



The Desert Studies Institute (DSI) was established in 1997 as a cooperative program between the Department of Anthropology at Boise State University and Celebration Park, which is operated by Canyon County Parks, Culture, & Natural Resources. Each year the Desert Studies Institute provides a broad range of academic offerings of interest and value to students, teaching professionals, Idaho's citizens and visitors.

The mission of the Institute is to provide educational programs and scholarly presentations concerning the prehistory, history, ecology and politics of Idaho's desert environments and deserts worldwide. The programs are presented to enrich the understanding and appreciation of complex desert ecosystems in Idaho and to promote their perpetual preservation as educational resources for the future.

### **Landscapes of Change: Dryland Soils, Landforms, and Climate**

**May 16 & 17, Jen Pierce**

This class will examine the processes (physical, chemical, and biological) that create and change landforms and soils, and will investigate major concepts in geomorphology, arid soils, post-fire erosion, modern and Quaternary climate change, and the role of soils and the critical zone in carbon storage and human systems. This field-based course will focus on sites in the Boise area, including the Reynolds Creed Critical Zone Observatory (Owyhees), and the Boise area (river terraces and foothills).

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Environmental Studies, and Geosciences. 1 credit.*

### **The Seismology Experience**

**May 26 & 27, Lee Liberty**

Seismologists study sound waves that propagate through the earth along the earth's surface. This experiential two-day course will discuss how earthquakes, explosions, ocean waves, and a hammer can reveal properties of a planet's interior. Students will record sound waves using geophones and a seismograph and utilize these measurements to infer soil properties, depth of water, approximate storage potential of water within soils, infer the depositional environment, and estimate ground response of soils to earthquakes or other vibrations.

*Cross-listed with Anthropology, Environmental Studies, and Geosciences. 1 credit.*

### **Late Pleistocene Megafaunal Extinctions: The Great Debate**

**May 30 & 31, Allison Wolfe**

38 genera of mostly large mammals went extinct in North America at the end of the Pleistocene. This workshop will focus on the hotly debated topic of what caused these extinctions. Learn about the different theories and debates that are still raging among scientists today, dive into the actual archaeological and paleontological evidence yourself, and discover how solving this mystery can be applied to modern wildlife conservation and might help prevent future extinctions.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biological Sciences, and Environmental Studies. 1 credit.*

### **Desert Ecology**

**June 1 & 2, Nicki Schwend, Laura Barbour**

This workshop will be held at Celebration Park and will include guided interpretive hikes, short lectures, and introductory field research and data collection. Explore the ecology of one of our region's most striking arid landscapes - the Snake River Canyon. Participants will learn about native plants, animals, human cultures, geologic history, and examine human history in this area over time. Pack a lunch/snacks and wear comfortable layers and be prepared to walk up to 5 miles.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Environmental Studies, and Geosciences. 1 credit.*

### **Basque Sheepherding in the Great Basin**

**June 7 & 8, Nikki Gorrell**

Basque immigrants began establishing themselves in the sheepherding industry in the American West in the 1880s. Students will learn how sheepherding in the coastal Basque Country transitioned and adapted to the Great Basin High Desert climate, and the essential role of Basque women and how the boarding houses they managed supported the sheepherding economy, Basque language and cultural preservation. Field trip to Basque Museum and Cultural Center, walking tour of boarding houses.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Environmental Studies, and History. 1 credit.*

### **The Great Basin Ethnobotany**

**June 8 & 9, Jennifer Cuthbertson**

An introduction to ethnobotany throughout the Great Basin. This workshop will include an overview of ethnobotany and archaeobotany, as well as a look at some of the ways in which humans have used plants in the shifting climates throughout the Great Basin. Plant characterizations and ecozones will also be discussed.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biological Sciences, and Environmental Studies. 1 credit.*

### **The Way West through Southern Idaho**

**June 11 & 12, Jerry Jerrems**

Review the history of emigration associated with the Oregon Trail in southern Idaho, placing an emphasis upon its role leading to environmental degradation along the trail corridor. Alternate perspective of the Oregon Trail as the relationship of the emigrants and Native Americans has been chronicled in the historic record and a clearer perspective of the archaeological evidence of the trail itself as observed in the field. Field trip to Three Island Crossing, Bonneville Point, and Interpretive Station on Hwy 21.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biological Sciences, Environmental Studies, and Geosciences. 1 credit.*

### **Ancient Peoples of Southern Idaho**

**June 14 & 15, Mark Plew, Nicki Schwend**

This workshop reviews the prehistory of Southern Idaho from its earliest beginnings some 16,000 years ago to peoples at the time of European contact. The first day of this workshop will consist of on-campus PowerPoint lectures and demonstrations. The second day will meet at Celebration Park - Idaho's only archaeological park - where additional presentations will be presented prior to visits to and discussions of the park's archaeological sites.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biology, and Environmental Studies. 1 credit.*

### **Death of an Ecosystem**

**June 25 & 26, Eric Yensen**

This workshop will focus on important ecological interactions in northern Great Basin ecosystems. Learn about the ecological roles of sagebrush, grasshoppers, ground squirrels, badgers, raptors, coyotes, and many others; how they interact to form a functional ecosystem; and how human activities are causing the collapse of this ecosystem.

*Field Trip. Cross-listed with Anthropology, Biological Sciences, and Environmental Studies. 1 credit.*

# 2022 ARCHAEOLOGY MONTH

MAY 7TH-8TH & 21ST

**CELEBRATION PARK**



## MAY 7TH

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM - MELBA FUN RUN CLASSIC CAR SHOW  
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM - FLINT KNAPPING DEMONSTRATION  
12:30 PM - 1:00 PM - Q&A WITH ROD DOTSON AND BILL TODD  
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM - OPEN FLINT KNAPPING

ALL DAY (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) - PETROGLYPH TOURS & ATLATL RANGE

## MAY 8TH

10:00 AM - 2:00 PM - OPEN FLINT KNAPPING

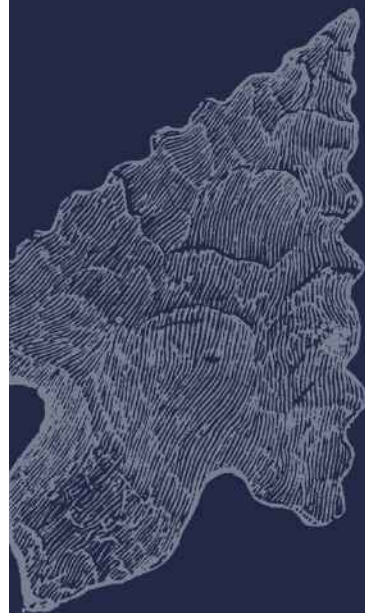
ALL DAY (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) - PETROGLYPH TOURS & ATLATL RANGE

## MAY 21ST

10:00 AM - 10:45 AM - FUR TRADING DEMO  
11:00 AM - 11:45 AM - Q&A WITH DEAN SHAW  
1:00 PM - 1:45 PM - PETROGLYPHS & PICTOGRAPHS OF IDAHO  
1:45 PM - 2:00 PM - Q&A WITH CAROLYNNE MERRELL

ALL DAY (10:00 AM - 2:00 PM) - PETROGLYPH TOURS & ATLATL RANGE

5000 VICTORY LN. MELBA, ID 83641 (208) 455-6022



# Canyon County Historic Preservation Commission

## Fiscal Year 2022 Update

The following Historic Preservation projects were awarded grant funding:

- American Legion Joseph H. Murray Post 18 Nampa Chateau—to restore the lower level north wall
- Canyon County Historical Society—to purchase photo archiving equipment
- Friends of Deer Flat National Refuge—to fund the Deer Flat Historical Resource Management Plan
- Woman's Century Club—to fund a document digitization project
- Greenleaf Historical Society—to fund The Shed at Garrett Ranches National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) application
- Historical Society of Middleton—to fund a Historical Survey and a Preservation Plan of Downtown Middleton (two grants awarded)
- Nampa Public Library—to fund printing and mounting of Images of Nampa Past
- Melba Valley Historical Society—to purchase lighting upgrades and fund NRHP application (two grants)
- Upper Snake River Tribes Foundation—to create and purchase Historical Signage at Celebration Park
- Warhawk Museum—to purchase 360° Virtual Tour Platform content and capabilities upgrade

Canyon County Historic Preservation Commission has been very successful in getting grants to various entities for historic preservation efforts. Idaho code grants the boards of county commissioners in their respective counties the authority to levy no more than twelve one-thousandths percent (.012%) on each dollar of market value for assessment purposes of taxable property within the county for the support of county historic societies and historic preservation projects. This creates a fund upon which the Historic Preservation Commission can draw to award grants for historic preservation within the county. Contact Nicki Schwend (Nichole.Schwend@canyoncounty.id.gov) for more information.



*(Background)* American Legious Joseph H. Murray Post 18 Nampa Chateau after restoration of the lower level north wall.

# Profiting from the Past: Historic Preservation's Economic Benefits

By Pete L'Orange  
Historic Preservation Planner  
Idaho State Historic Preservation  
Office

## Economic development

Achieving it is one of the driving forces for most communities. Businesses want more of it. Civic leaders pursue policies to encourage and support it. The eternal question is how to best make it happen for a community.

But one of the most effective methods for encouraging economic development in a community is also one of the most overlooked: preservation of the community's historic resources.

It's easy for preservation advocates to talk about protecting the community's sense of identity, or the aesthetic appeal of a historic neighborhood, or importance of local heritage. Unfortunately, such appeals often lose out when confronted with the desire for "economic development." But if historic preservationists make sure we're able to convey the *economic* benefits of historic preservation, then we are in a position to join the "economic development" discussion, advance historic preservation goals, and maybe, just maybe, win over some new converts.

And the best part, it's not actually that hard to show how historic preservation can be an economic development force from which a community can profit.

## Access to Tax Credits

The first economic benefit of historic preservation that always comes to mind is access to the Federal Historic Rehabilitation Tax Credit program. The Historic Tax Credit program was

established through a 1976 amendment to the National Historic Preservation Act, and since that time has supported over 45,000 rehabilitation projects and has leveraged nearly \$103 BILLION in private investment. In 2019 alone, the program leveraged over \$5.77 billion in investment nation-wide.<sup>1</sup>

The program has been so successful that it actually brings in *more* money in federal income than it pays out!

The Historic Tax Credit program provides a tax credit of 20% on qualifying rehabilitation costs, provided the work is done in keeping with the Secretary of the Interior's Rehabilitation Standards. Qualifying costs include most construction hard costs (walls, windows, floors, electrical, plumbing, interior lighting, et cetera) and some soft costs (such as architect and engineering fees). This both helps developers make project costs "pencil out" and encourages the preservation of a community's historic resources and character.

One of the greatest draws of the program is that it can benefit both large and smaller scale projects. In 2019, almost half (49%) of the projects cost less than \$1 million. This means that it is not just the big developers who can take advantage of the program. A great recent example is the Phillips 66 building in Boise. The owner of the building used the tax credits to rehab the building and the qualifying costs were only about \$160,000.

The biggest limitation of the program, however, is that it is only available to income-producing properties. This makes it impossible for homeowners to participate in the program. The other limitation of the program is that it only applies to Federal tax liability, meaning

that those who do not pay Federal taxes, such as non-profits, cannot use it. Some states have a state tax credit program which addresses these limitation; as of right now, however, Idaho does not have a state program (although there is some hope that we may be able to develop such a program in the future).

## Heritage Tourism

One of the other most obvious economic benefits of historic preservation is that it provides a



The Phillips 66 Station, Boise, ID.  
Photo from the Idaho State Historic  
Preservation Office.

community the chance to capitalize on heritage tourism. When people are once again able to travel and go on vacations (in a post-Covid world), heritage tourism will once again become a major economic driver for many communities.

People visit places for the unique character they offer; they don't visit someplace that looks and feels like it could be anyplace. That's where a robust historic preservation program comes into play. By working to preserve and enhance its unique, historic character, a community can position

<sup>1</sup> "Federal Tax Incentives for Rehabilitating Historic Buildings: Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2019," National Park Service, March 2020.

itself to attract those tourists. For example, think about the City of Wallace in northern Idaho; the local economy thrives on the City's ability to attract heritage tourism dollars every year. And they *can* do that *because* they have worked to make sure the City's historic character has been preserved.

Studies have shown that heritage tourists have a larger economic impact on a community than those who travel for recreation. A study by the Colorado Historical Foundation showed that, in 2008 alone, 11.8 million trips to the State of Colorado involved heritage tourism activities; that's 11.8 million heritage tourism trips to a state primarily known for its natural and recreational attractions. When compared to recreational tourists, heritage tourists stayed for longer, and spent more money. Those visitors spent \$190 million on cultural activities and \$54 million on historic activities. The average heritage tourist spent \$447, compared to \$333; they stayed an average of 5.8 nights, compared to 5.2 for recreational tourists <sup>2</sup>. And the vast majority of the income from these visitors goes directly into the community - lodging, dining, attractions, local artisans, and all the people employed in those professions benefit from those tourists.

### **Historic Commercial Districts Attract Small Businesses**

A major driver of most local economies is small business. It is estimated that small businesses account for between 60% and 80% of all jobs in the U.S. And historic commercial districts can attract those small businesses.

In 2014 the National Trust for Historic Preservation released a study on historic preservation's impact on urban vitality. The study looked at three different cities (Seattle, Washington, D.C., and San Francisco) and it found that in all three cases the areas of the cities comprised of older, small buildings outperformed the areas of newer, larger buildings. One of main reasons these historic areas did

better was specifically that they "serve as thriving incubators for small businesses, as vital centers of neighborhood services, and as regional destinations for restaurants, nightlife, and specialty retail." <sup>3</sup>

Many small businesses, especially new and start-up ones, find historic commercial spaces attractive because they are often smaller and cost less than modern construction, and because historic districts tend to have more foot traffic. Historic districts tend to have more commercial spaces in a smaller area, which often means a great mix of businesses (retail next to restaurants next to service businesses). For many businesses, this kind of mix is a real benefit because it means that customers who are coming down for one business very well may visit others - the retail shoppers decide they are going to stop in at one of the restaurants for lunch or dinner; the person stopping in the tax prep business also swings into the toy shop; the restaurant worker goes a door or two down to the little bank branch to deposit their paycheck. If someone is able to take care of multiple errands in one small area, they are more likely go there than they are to drive all across town.

### **Historic Downtowns Encourage Mixed-Use Development**

Because many historic downtowns are primarily made up of multi-story buildings, they provide an excellent opportunity for a community to encourage mixed-used development. By converting upper floors of historic commercial buildings to residential, communities can basically build in a customer base for the businesses occupying the first floor commercial spaces.

This kind of mixed use development is not just attractive to residents and businesses; it can also be a major cost savings to municipal governments. A report from the American Planning Association says, "Mixed use zoning is generally closely linked with increased

density, which allows for more compact development. Higher densities increase land-use efficiency and housing variety while reducing energy consumption and transportation costs." <sup>4</sup> For a community, this means that they may be able to reduce the amount that they have to spend on things like water and sewer lines, road paving and snow clearing, and they can respond to issues faster, simply because city staff don't have to go as far to get to where the issue is happening.

### **Support Residential Property Values**



Downtown Wallace, ID. Photo from the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office.

It can be easy to only talk about the economic benefits of preservation in relation to commercial properties and forget about the biggest portion of buildings in a community: residential. There are (almost) always going to be more residential buildings in a community than there are commercial ones. As such, it is important to make sure that we help people understand that they can benefit from historic preservation even if they don't own a commercial building in the City's downtown.

There have been a number of studies which have shown that the designation of a residential neighborhood as historic can (and often does) have a positive impact on the property values in that neighborhood. A report from the Colorado Historical Foundation looked at five case study areas around the state and concluded that "historic district

<sup>2</sup> "The Economic Power of Heritage and Place: How Historic Preservation is Building a Sustainable Future in Colorado," prepared by Clarion Associates of Colorado for the Colorado Historical Foundation, October 2011, 19.

<sup>3</sup> "Older, Smaller, Better: Measuring How the Character of Buildings and Blocks Influences Urban Vitality," National Trust for Historic Preservation, May 2014, 92.

<sup>4</sup> "PAS Quick Notes: Zoning for Mixed Uses," American Planning Association, July 2006.

designation does not automatically transform communities into high-income enclaves, but simply enhances the economic climate already present in those areas.” That said, “a negative effect was not observed in any of the areas researched [...]. On the contrary, property values in the designated areas experienced value increases that were either higher than, or same as, nearby undesignated areas.”<sup>5</sup> When conditions are good, historic neighborhoods tend to increase in property values at a higher rate than non-historic neighborhoods; when conditions take a downturn, historic neighborhoods tend to either maintain their value or decline less than non-historic ones. An analysis of residential foreclosures in Philadelphia between October 2009 and September 2010 found that foreclosures in historic districts were less than half of those in other neighborhoods.<sup>6</sup>

So, why do historic residential neighborhoods behave this way? The short answer is “cachet”. While most neighborhoods are going to have their own character and personality, historic neighborhoods tend to carry a sense of importance beyond just that neighborhood. People like being able to say that they live in a historic district. This is especially true when the community decides to take the initiative and adopt some level of design review for historic districts. By adopting historic design review, the community is making a statement about the importance of their historic resources and their heritage. And they make the statement that they are willing to collectively take the actions needed to make sure that those historic resources are going to be around for future generations.

### Keeps Money in the Local Economy

One of the biggest economic impacts that can come from historic preservation

is the fact that much of the money spent on preservation ends up staying in the community. Rehabilitation projects can employ local construction workers; supplies can be bought at local stores; new businesses that go into those buildings employ community residents.

According to a study from the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, 14.6 local jobs are created for each \$1 million in rehabilitation work. By comparison, \$1 million in manufacturing output for the same year resulted in only 9.2 jobs, and 11.2 jobs per \$1 million in new construction.<sup>7</sup> And these are jobs that cannot be outsourced.

There is also the fact that the economic impacts of historic preservation, and most especially rehabilitation work, have what is referred to as a multiplier effect. The multiplier effect is the term used by economists to describe how the economic impacts of something ripple out to the larger community - those who are paid for the materials or to do the work on a historic rehabilitation then spend that money at other local businesses; that income then goes to payroll, inventory, and other business expenses that feed into the local economy. While this kind of multiplier effect is a major benefit of most small businesses in a community, because historic preservation has a greater economic impact than other forms of development, its multiplier is naturally greater as well.

Another potential “ripple” to the local economy that

a historic rehabilitation can have is to encourage other properties to also undertake rehabilitation or other improvements. A study carried out in the 1990s found that a total of \$7 million in historic rehabilitation work in Trenton, New Jersey led directly to an additional \$41 million on other, non-historic rehabilitations throughout the city.<sup>8</sup>

\* \* \*

There are countless books, articles, opinion pieces, and reports on the economic benefits that historic preservation can bring to a community, and what’s been covered here is just the briefest introduction. But even a brief introduction can provide some useful talking points for conversations with property owners, community organizers, elected officials, and decision makers. The more we, as preservationists, can use these talking points when working in our communities, the more the public as a whole will come to see how historic preservation is not just an emotional or sentimental endeavor, but something that can lead to financial dividends for a community now and for the future. By preserving our past, we can do more than learn - we can profit. ■



Residential neighborhood in Coeur d'Alene, ID. Photo from the Idaho State Historic Preservation Office.

<sup>5</sup> “The Economic Benefits of Historic Preservation, 2005 Update,” Colorado Historical Foundation, prepared by Clarion Associates, July 2005, 28.

<sup>6</sup> Donovan Rypkema, “Stuck in Time: How Historic Preservation has to Change in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century,” keynote presentation for the Landmark Society of Western New York annual conference, 2014.

<sup>7</sup> “The Delaware Historic Preservation Tax Credit Program: Good for the Economy, Good for the Environment, Good for Delaware’s Future,” prepared by Donovan Rypkema and Caroline Cheong for the Delaware Division of Historical and Cultural Affairs, 2010, 5.

<sup>8</sup> David Listokin, et al, “The Contributions of Historic Preservation to Housing and Local Development,” *Housing Policy Debate*, 1998.

# SUMMER 2022

## CANOE SCIENCE CAMP for 10-12 year-olds



Canoe Science Camps are learning focused STEM summer camp for 10-12 year-olds interested in exploring the outdoors through science and recreation. Student participants collect water quality data using scientific instruments and engage in hands-on field science. Campers will explore concepts like experimental design and hypothesis testing to learn about ecology, hydrology, and local history. They also develop recreational paddling and hiking skills through practice each day. Trained adult guides in each canoe will ensure safety and provide a fun and supportive learning environment.



This program runs Monday-Friday, 9 AM to 2 PM, and is offered at Lake Lowell Park in Nampa.

Contact Eric Savadow,  
[Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov), for  
registration information.

**Registration fee:** \$50/child

**Schedule:** Four one-week sessions in June & July  
2022.

1st Session: June 13-17,  
2nd Session: June 20-24,  
3rd Session June 27-July 1  
\*\*\*July 4-8 OFF\*\*\*  
4th Session: July 11-15

Inquire Today!

[Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov)

Learn more about us at:

<http://canyoncounty.id.gov/parks>



# CANOE SCIENCE CAMP

Rural southwest Idaho is full of outdoor recreational opportunities. It's been a long-standing joke that you can go skiing, golfing, and kayaking in the same day. You can fish, hunt, hike, camp, kayak, raft, bike, even go paragliding or spelunking all within just a couple of hours drive from town. But many local kids are unable to access any of these incredibly beneficial educational and physical experiences in the outdoors due only to the fact that they are financially out of reach. Let's face it – skiing, golfing, and kayaking are expensive. Kids from more financially well-off families are able to develop recreational skills and confidence, whereas kids who aren't as financially secure are not. This lack of access robs children of a lifetime of future outdoor recreation and robs our waterways of future advocates and stewards.

To help address this disparity, Canyon

County Parks developed a summer Canoe Science Camp program at Lake Lowell Park in Nampa. Students are led by guides through an immersive experience of science, community, and sense of place at the lake. Participants learn how to paddle a canoe safely and efficiently, how to investigate water quality using scientific equipment, and how to collect and analyze scientific data. They also get to engage in team-building and guided journaling exercises, building community with their peers and with their local landscapes. By exploring and experiencing the ecology of Lake Lowell through hands-on activities, the campers participate in a much deeper and more meaningful learning experience.

In 2021, we were able to get five paid interns for the role of counselors. We had Garrett Hays, Cece Durcan, Haven Davis-Martinez, Abby Gregory, and Bella Martin. All of them were college students with the exception of Haven, who teaches first grade in the Boise area. All of them came with all kinds of different experiences with kids, ecology, and the outdoors. Abby had studied plant biology at the University of Idaho and had extensive knowledge of the flora of the area. Cece was also well-versed in biology from her time at Boston College. Garrett's interest in a career in conservation meant he could have

conversations with kids about the future of precious ecosystems. Bella had been a river guide and knew water safety and recreation like no one else. And Haven was a first-grade teacher, so her experience with kids was unmatched. New Canyon County Parks staff Dylon Starry and Eric Savadow also served as counselors for the duration.

The curriculum is designed to increase campers' ecosystem knowledge and skills, but also to encourage them to develop personal connection to their "backyard" landscapes, like Lake Lowell. One of the kids' favorite activities was learning about the macroinvertebrates that make the lake their home. (Macroinvertebrates are invertebrate animals that are large enough to be seen with the naked eye – think dragonfly nymphs, leeches, etc.) Through an active game called Macroinvertebrate Mayhem, they were able to learn about those animals, how they affect other animals, and how the water quality of Lake Lowell affects them, as well as what that means for us. Most students were shocked to learn that the water of the lake is not very clean, which leads to beneficial but sensitive organisms to suffer and more parasitic but tolerant ones to thrive. Our campers participate in guided recreation that is intentionally paired with scientific inquiry, allowing them to connect with their environment while exploring. Another activity the kids loved was canoeing – but it was so wonderful to see their scientific minds





Back row: Garrett Hays, Bella Martini, Abby Gregory. Front row: Haven Davis, Martinez, Cece Durcan

working. Many were interested in the endangered Western Grebes that make the lake their home in summer. Several students indicated a further interest in learning more about them. Another exciting aspect for the kids (and some of the counselors) was seeing the carp schooling near the surface of the lake. This led to a great talk about how these fish are actually invasive, and eat the eggs of the fish that Fish and Game biologists want to have in the lake. These conversations are important for Idaho students to have – we need to invest in the future stewardship these kids can bring. But it can be a dull conversation to have in a classroom. That's why the camp is so vital. We had this conversation on two canoes out in the middle of a lake!

Canoe Science Camp lasted for five week-long sessions and was partially funded with a grant from the Idaho STEM Action Fund. This helped to pay for important safety equipment and science tools and resources. Next year, we hope to add more analog scientific tools to the mix so that students can more easily see and understand the data

they find. This summer will also bring a new certification process thanks to a partnership with Idaho State Parks and the Canyon County Sheriff's Office. Full-time staff are now licensed to teach the Idaho State Boater's Safety course and all campers and interns will be able to get certified to safely operate non-motorized watercraft for free. ■



A sample of the many thank you cards from students.

# EDIBLE NATIVE PLANT LANDSCAPING

THE REAL "PALEO" DIET AVAILABLE IN YOUR OWN BACKYARD!



**ARTICLE BY BRENDAN  
BLOWERS-DELEON**

*CELEBRATION PARK  
INTERPRETIVE  
SPECIALIST*



Curating your home landscape or garden connects you with a tradition thousands of years old in which humans and plants share a special relationship. Native Shoshonean people living nomadic lifestyles began expanding into the area now designated as Idaho as early as 4,000 years ago, and the principle diets of these hunter-gatherers included a number of edible plants, not to mention the many practical and symbolic uses of plant material. For thousands of years (until contact with Westerners), the indigenous peoples lived off of a diet sourced by wild (unfarmed) plants. These wild native plants are still around today, and are ecologically adapted to the Idaho climate and its diverse plant hardiness zones.

# NATIVE PLANTS AT HOME

A sampling of plants gathered by Shoshone Native Americans for sustenance:

- camas bulb (*Camassia quamash*)
- wild onion
- bitterroot
- arrowleaf balsamroot
- tobacco root
- serviceberry
- chokecherries
- currant
- pine nuts
- seeds from junegrass, blue bunch wheat grass, thick spike wheat grass, and Nevada bluegrass

Berries were ground and mixed along with hunted meats to form nutritional patties, called pemmican, which were preserved chemically by the acidic berries.



Camas Lily (*Camassia quamash*)

Additionally, native tribes in Idaho such as the Nimi'ipuu (Nez Perce) collected:

- wild carrot
- kouse (also called "biscuit root" by non-native travelers)
- sunflowers
- huckleberries
- wild rhubarb

The list could continue. But which ones would grow well in your garden? A good place to start collecting some tips is at the Idaho Native Plant Society resource website. Specifically, the bulletin *Landscaping with Native Plants* from the University of Idaho<sup>1</sup> and the *Landscaping with Native Plants of the Intermountain Region*<sup>2</sup> from the BLM contain detailed notes and descriptions of nearly all of the edible plants from the above list. The guides include landscape uses and notes, regional considerations, availability, and pollinator attractiveness. Additionally, the two guides specify which of the plants are drought tolerant, how large they grow, how much water and sunlight they need, when they flower, and what color they bloom.

If there aren't already enough reasons to focus your landscaping efforts on native plants, the fact that these selected plants have been used in antiquity up to the present because of their important nutritional value to humans gives one more benefit to carefully designing your landscape with location-appropriate plants. The provided references will get you started, and remember also to keep learning along with archeologists and ethnobotanists about how people and plants have survived by cooperating for thousands of years. ■

## References:

- 1: <https://www.extension.uidaho.edu/publishing/pdf/BUL/BUL0862.pdf>
- 2: <https://www.blm.gov/documents/national-office/blm-library/technical-reference/landscaping-native-plants-intermountain>  
<https://digitalatlas.cose.isu.edu/geog/native/text/tribes.htm>

# SW IDAHO RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

## ➔ Treasure Valley Canopy Network



The Treasure Valley Canopy Network (TVCN) builds healthy and vibrant communities through collaboration, innovation, and through a lens of sustainability.

The RC&D has been a member since 2014. Some programs are the Shade Tree Program, the Canopy Continuum, Treasure Valley City Forest Credits Program, and City of Trees Challenge. More information can be found on their website at [www.tvcanopy.net](http://www.tvcanopy.net).

## ➔ HOA Fuel Reduction



The SWI RC&D assisted three area Homeowners Associations with wildfire fuels reduction efforts. These included the Highland Nines Subdivision on the Boise

Front, the Meadow Creek Subdivision of Centerville, and the Surprise Valley Subdivision near Boise. The goal was to reduce fuels and reduce the risk of spreading wildfire, as well as provide access for emergency responders. 13 dump trucks were hauled away from the Highland Nines Subdivision and the Surprise Valley project is about 5,800 feet long by 40 feet.

## ➔ Glens Ferry Equipment



With RC&D community assistance grants coupled with USDA Rural Development Grants, Glens Ferry was able to purchase a brush hog and a mini-excavator as part of

their wildfire fuels reduction project. Glens Ferry Fire Department will use these tools to clear fuels around the recently repaved airport runway and the Glens Ferry Highway District will use them to trim vegetation along roadways. The excavator will also be used to build a fire loop, as well as to clear vegetation that is causing hazards at the airport.



## HORSETHIEF RESERVOIR CAMPGROUND IMPROVEMENTS

In partnership with ID Fish and Game, ID Parks and Recreation, and the YMCA, the Southwest Idaho RC&D has been the fiscal agent contracting for improvements at Horsethief Reservoir over the last three years.

We have been the fiscal agent for this partnership responsible for spending in excess of \$2.3 million. With these funds, we have re-developed Osprey Bay, Easters Cove, Timber Bay, Kings Point, and Bear Knob camping areas.

These areas have been paved, both roads and driveways. In addition, they have cement paths to the toilets and boat launches are paved. Potable water is available as well as some electrical hookups. Each campsite has a fire ring and picnic tables.

Along with these improvements, we have established a camp host facility. All these improvements will collectively provide a safe, fun environment for family vacations or for your weekend getaways while bringing economic stimulus to the area via RV Campers from all over the country.



## LOCAL FOREST COMMISSIONS

The SW Idaho RC&D is the fiscal agent handling various agency funding to maintain the facilitation, record keeping, web presence, and social outreach for each of the Coalitions by contracting with consultants.

The mission of the **Payette Forest Coalition** (PFC) is to build diverse community support for forest restoration.

A common bond is the idea that current forest conditions depart from those desired. Landscape scale restoration can transition the forest towards improved conditions and address five goals of the Coalition's interests:

Wildlife, Wildfire, Watershed Health, Access and Recreation, and Restoration Economics.

The PFC provides recommendations on all phases of restoration via four phases of landscape scale restoration projects:

- design of the proposed action
- administrative (environmental) review
- implementation by various contract authorities,
- multi-party monitoring

The project phases, from design to monitoring, establish an adaptive management structure to learn from each project and refine recommendations for subsequent actions.

The mission of the **Boise Forest Coalition** (BFC) (*pictured, top left*) is to provide the Boise National Forest with management recommendations.

The recommendations are developed through consensus decisions involving all members of the Coalition. They address natural resource, economic, recreational, and societal needs and are compatible with Forest Plan direction including implementation of the Forest's Wildlife and Aquatic Conservation Strategies.

All recommendations are economically realistic and promote future collaboration during implementation and monitoring.

### ➔ Pathways Community Crisis Center of Southwest Idaho



The Southwest Idaho RC&D is the fiscal agent handling grants for the operation of Pathways Community Crisis Center of Southwest Idaho. The Pathways Community Crisis Center will provide up to 23-hour 59-minute stabilization, behavioral health services,

and community linkage at no cost to men and women ages 18 and over. All individuals who need a safe non-judgmental environment to gain support for their mental health and/or substance abuse challenges are welcome. To further see all the services provided, please go to the Community Resource Company Website: [www.pcccsi.com](http://www.pcccsi.com). They are located at 7192 Potomac Drive in Boise and are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

### ➔ Elmore County Trade and Learning Center



This project entails renovating an old high school building built in the 1920's to house a trade and learning center for the city of Glenns Ferry and Elmore County.

This application is being submitted to allow the group, to utilize the 501(c)3 nonprofit status of the SWIRCD to apply for grants (while the board awaits completion of their own nonprofit status) and manage the funding as the building owner and group try to renovate it.

This project will be of huge benefit to the area, due to problems with recruiting and training a workforce in this area, The EC TLC will house two or more trade schools that offer training and classes to area businesses

and to students of both of our high schools that do not care to attend a 4-year university, but would rather be certified and enter the workforce at a younger age and with less expense. The classrooms will be leased to the trade schools that are interested in occupying the facility in the near future. Porterhouse Inc. (a Shelley Idaho Trade School) has already committed to being housed in the bottom floor of the building. ■

# Wildfire Education

## *Teaching about Wildfires*

Wildfire is a divisive topic in Idaho. Most of us from the area remember learning about the Great Fire of 1910 that burned 3 million acres and killed 86 people, wiped several towns off the map, and brought Ranger Ed Pulaski to firefighter fame and the critical firefighting tool he invented.

It's divisive because while many recognize the importance of healthy fire regimes, many others only see fire as the danger it presents to homes and wild areas. A fire regime is the pattern, frequency, and intensity of fires that prevail in an area over long periods of time.

If fires are too frequent, plants might not grow back before they're killed off again.

Too infrequent and plants won't go to seed, preventing growth. Many factors affect this, including native and invasive plant growth, human encroachment, and human intervention.

In August, we had an exciting class on wildfire education titled "Stories in Fire: A Pacific Northwest Climate Justice Atlas." It was led by Kayla Bordelon and Jenny Wolfe, both of the University of Idaho graduate program.

After overnighting in the Celebration Park dorms, Bordelon and Wolfe led Parks staff on a day-long lesson in wildfire ecology and creating audience-centered experience (ACE) lesson plans.

*Assistant Director Laura Barbour teaches Wildfire Ecology*

## *Stories in Fire with University of Idaho Graduate Students*

Several activities throughout the day were instrumental in teaching the lessons. First, students looked at images associated with wildfire and discussed why they relate to that photo. Another activity had students read different perspectives on wildfire and decide which they most closely related to. Some of these were understanding of the importance wildfires play, while others were rooted in fear and negative experiences.

One of the key points students took away from the lesson was in planning audience-centered lessons, and including essential questions (these frame the unit as a problem to be solved – they connect lived experience with what's learned) and dialogic questions (discussion-encouraging, open, and challenging) in creating curriculum. Essential questions are the big questions; they frame the entire unit/lesson as a problem to be solved. "What role does fire play in maintaining healthy ecosystems?" To answer these questions, students must take what they learn and combine it with their own experiences.

Dialogic questions are smaller in scale, but that doesn't mean they require less critical thinking. One of our favorite questions was, "How do we prioritize land when there's a fire?" This made us think about priorities; homes, of course, must take first priority, but then what? Surely, we'd protect farm and ranch land. Recreation areas, too. But what about rangeland? Wilderness? Grazing areas?

These natural places need to burn in order to stay healthy and stave off invasive species. Do we let them? At what cost?

In this one-day class, we learned to ask these questions of our audience and get them talking about the many different facets of wildfires. Then we had to incorporate what we'd learned into our already existing Wildland Fire field trip. Though we would only be able to change the field trip in small ways, the dialogic questions were what we wanted to incorporate the most. So far, we've already had a few chances to try it out with groups, and to great effect; the groups have been more engaged in the field trips and have been more enjoyable, overall. ■



*Programs Manager Eric Savadow demonstrates Rangeland Firefighting clothing and equipment*

**Now Hiring:** employment opportunities with Canyon County Parks!

# Come Work With Us!

## *Interpretive Specialists*

Interpretive Specialists are responsible for delivering our place-based educational programs for the public and schools in the area. This includes staffing the visitor center, giving tours, and leading groups of kids through interpretive hikes, and educational activities on our K-12 field trip programs.

Interpretive Specialists work part-time (up to 19 hours per week) and are based at Canyon County's Celebration Park. Join an amazing team and come work in a beautiful place! Please email Eric Savadow ([Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:Eric.Savadow@canyoncounty.id.gov)) for more information or visit <https://www.canyoncounty.id.gov/human-resources>



Interpretive Specialists are responsible for conducting tours and programs related to the cultural and natural history of Celebration Park, Lake Lowell, and other important places in Canyon County. Training will be provided on-the-job, so this position is a great way to learn more about our area and to share this knowledge with students of all ages, as well as visitors from near and far!



In addition to in-person tours, Interpretive Specialists will provide virtual versions of our field trip programs for schools that would otherwise be unable to attend in-person. This is a seasonal position and runs from mid-March through October, with the option to stay over winter at reduced hours



# BUS SCHOLARSHIPS

\$100 for Transportation Costs



## Drawn in Lottery System

We would love to offer the scholarships to every school, but we can't. In lieu of that, we draw 10 schools each semester.



## Any school can apply

Whether yours is public, charter, or private, any school group can win a \$100 Bus Scholarship.



## Accessible Education

Place-based education is important for all students. Bus Scholarships help keep things even.

## About Bus Scholarships

The Southwest Idaho Resource Conservation & Development Council collects donations, grants, and gift shop sales to help fund Bus Scholarships for regional schools.

Questions: Call 208-455-6022 or email [parksprogram@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:parksprogram@canyoncounty.id.gov)

Scholarships of

**\$100**

available

208-455-6022



[www.canyoncounty.id.gov/parks](http://www.canyoncounty.id.gov/parks)



@canyoncountyparks

# Lake Lowell Field Trips

Our Lake Lowell field trip program is a placed-based ecological experience designed to teach 2nd-3rd graders about the ecology and history of Lake Lowell and southwest Idaho. These field trips take place Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays in April and May.



\*This four-hour program teaches children about trophic levels, biomes, and the nature of their relationships with southwest Idaho's ecosystem.

\*An active game of **Feeding Frenzy** teaches about habitat, and how water quality impacts both fish and an important prey source: macroinvertebrates. Students learn more about macroinvertebrate identification and water quality parameters during a **hands-on scientific investigation** activity. We explore the relationships between hunting, fishing, and wildlife conservation against the backdrop of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge at Lake Lowell.

\*Students will also practice their **archery** and **atlatl** skills to compare two tools that revolutionized the culture of hunting and exploring biomes.

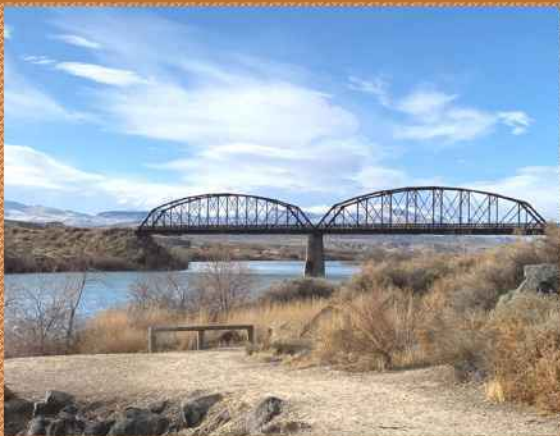


To book your Lake Lowell field trip, please visit our booking page at:  
<http://canyoncounty.id.gov/field-trips>

Questions? Please email us at:  
[parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov)

# Stories in Stone Field Trips!

Our flagship field trip program, **Stories in Stone**, is a place-based archaeological experience designed for students, **4th grade and up**, to engage with the rich cultural and natural history of southwest Idaho. Students will immerse themselves in the landscape of Idaho's first archaeological park—Celebration Park. This field trip is available from April through October.



This field trip will immerse students in exciting outdoor programs. This includes a **petroglyph tour**, which explores the park's petroglyph collection, a **Native American lifeways** presentation, a hunting lesson on the **atlatl range**, and a walk through Idaho's mining history during a scenic tour of the historic **Guffey Bridge**.



During this field trip to Celebration Park, students will learn through interaction with our interpretive team. Students will leave with a better understanding how ancient cultures and lifeways of southwest Idaho relate to their own lives today. Please visit

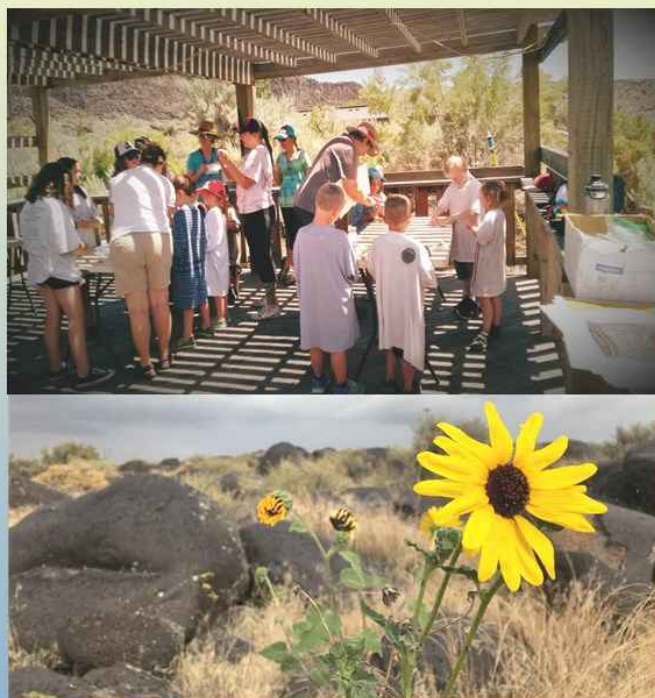
<http://canyoncounty.id.gov/field-trips> to schedule!

Questions? Please email us at: [parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov).

See you soon!

# Summer Stories in Stone Field Trips!

**Summer Stories in Stone** is a place-based archaeological experience designed for students, **ages 5 and up**, that engages them with the rich cultural and natural history of southwest Idaho in summer. Students will immerse themselves in the landscape of Idaho's first archaeological park—Celebration Park. This field trip is available for up to **40 students** a day. It runs **June 1-August 31**, on weekdays, from **10:00 AM-1:30 PM**.



This program immerses students in a series of exciting 30-minute outdoor programs. The lessons are tailored to keep children engaged, but cool, in the hot Idaho sun. This includes a short **petroglyph tour**, which explores the park's petroglyph collection, an indoor **Native American lifeways** presentation, a traditional game of **ring toss** or **atlatl**, and hands-on experience with **Native American ceramics**.

Our interpretive programs allow students to connect to this place through exploration, observation, and hands-on experience. They will leave with a better understanding of how ancient cultures and lifeways of southwest Idaho relate to their own lives.

Please visit <http://canyoncounty.id.gov/field-trips> to schedule!  
Questions? Please email us at: [parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:parksprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov).

# Wildland Fire Field Trips!

Our Wildland Fire ecology field trip program is a placed-based ecological experience designed to teach students in **4th-8th grades** about how they interact with fire in the natural ecosystem of Idaho, the sagebrush-steppe.



This field trip includes an **ecology hike** to explore the park's fire regime and a **fire science lab** to learn about fire behavior. Students will also attend a **wildland firefighting** presentation, where they learn about wildland firefighting tools and methods. In case your students are wondering, they will get to try an **atlatl** on the atlatl range, a Celebration Park favorite.



This four-hour field trip takes place at scenic Celebration Park and is lead by our interpretive team. Students will leave with a better understanding how wildfire regimes relate to their lives in Idaho. We hope that this will inspire them to take extra care with fire, but also to respect and understand fire's benefits.

Questions? Please contact us at [parcsprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov](mailto:parcsprograms@canyoncounty.id.gov).

To book a field trip please visit <http://canyoncounty.id.gov/field-trips>.



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