Current

Ada County Parks & Waterways

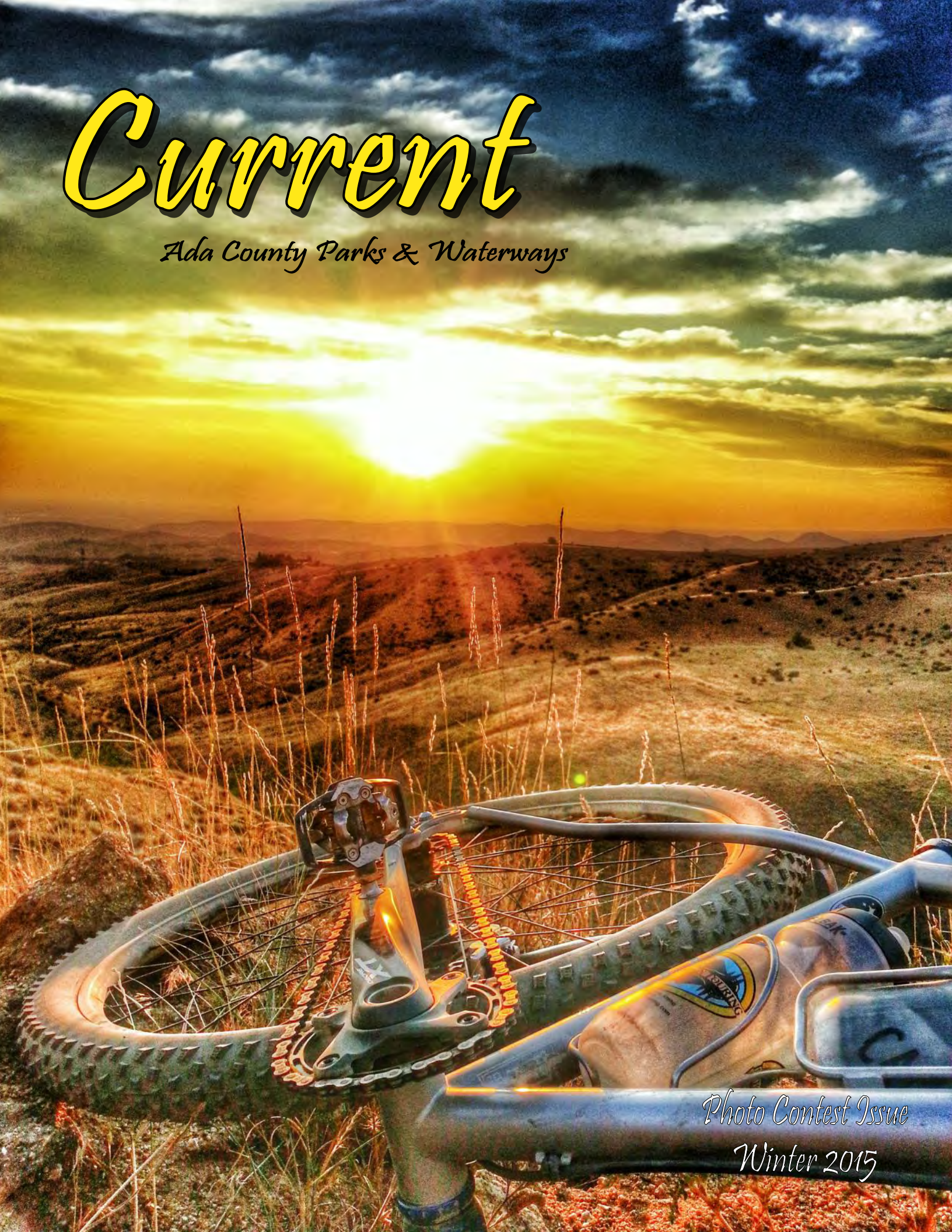


Photo Contest Issue

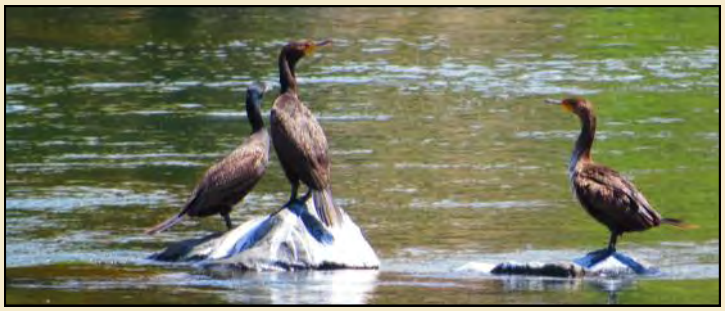
Winter 2015

Board of Ada County Commissioners: Dave Case, Jim Tibbs, Rick Yzaguirre

Honorable Mention – Dylan Aishiteru
Oregon Trail

In This Issue

3 Director's Cut
4 Landscape/Scenic
8 Action
12 Wildlife
16 Abstract/Close-up
20 Human Interest
23 Department Staff Photos



Ada County Parks & Waterways
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https://adacounty.id.gov/Parks-Waterways

Scott Koberg	Director
Carolyn Nitz	Administrative Specialist
Candy Hahlbeck	Booking/Events Coordinator
Chris Osborn	Maintenance Mechanic
Moses Salazar	Maintenance Mechanic
Thomas Harshfield	Event Attendant

Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson
Boise River

**Editor's note: We've seen coyotes, foxes, deer, bobcats, beavers, raccoons, and even a moose in Barber Park but photos of birds dominated our "Wildlife" category*

Director's Cut

What started out in October as a fun activity to involve our community in a unique celebration of Ada County's Sesquicentennial (150 years!) ultimately turned into a pretty serious photo contest. The result is this edition of Current: a complete issue dedicated to sharing ***YOUR* photos** from ***YOUR* adventures** right here in Ada County. Needless to say we were impressed.

First off, congratulations to our **Grand Prize Winner and cover photographer Mike Paananen** for his awesome shot overlooking Hull's Gulch taken this summer in the Boise Foothills. Oddly enough Mike's photo was the very first one we received on the very first day we announced our contest. And although several others throughout the contest gave it a run for its money none were able to knock it off the cover. Submitted as a "Landscape/Scenic" photo Mike's winning shot could have qualified for a few other categories as well and certainly earned the best overall photo prize and a spot on our cover as a result.

But perhaps the most impressive detail in his artistically composed photo is that lonely chainring in the foreground. **Anyone willing to pedal a fixed gear hardtail bike (i.e. one gear and no rear suspension) up above Hull's Gulch in the middle of July deserves praise beyond "best overall photo".** Hats off to you Mike.

A sincere thank you to **all** contest participants for taking the time to visit our parks and waterways and submit your photos. We couldn't have made this issue without you. With the exception of our last page every photo you see here was submitted by our readers. Also, a special **congratulations to our 1st place photographers** in each of the following individual photo contest categories:

Gary Raney	*Landscape/Scenic*
David Swindler	*Action*
Elizabeth Lamas	*Wildlife*
Keith Hyde	*Human Interest*
Paul Dawson*	*Abstract/Close-up (*also most total photo entries)*

We even received photos from parks, trails, and properties that our department doesn't manage so we decided to honor our favorites from this bunch with a "Best of the Rest" category.

Once you see all the great shots in this issue we hope you'll be inspired to hit the ground running in 2015 and explore all the open space and recreational opportunities our county has to offer. It's hard to imagine what Ada County might look like in another 150 years or what types of outdoor activities will be popular but it's safe to say we've got it pretty good right now!

Happy New Year and thanks for keeping Current!

-Scott Koberg, Director

Best of the Rest – Keith Hyde
Sandy Point Beach

Landscape/Scenic

1st Place – Gary Raney
Fivemile/Victory Wetland

Photographer's statement:

I took this photo December 7th at the Fivemile/Victory wetlands. I thought everyone would go to Barber Park and the Greenbelt, so I wanted to choose the little known place. Even I didn't know it was there! This was one of the few nicer days in December and the reflection of the colors in the water made for a photo that I'm proud to submit. I had hoped to make it back for an abstract category photo, but I've ran out of time, so I presume you'll agree that this one has to be scenic.

Landscape/Scenic

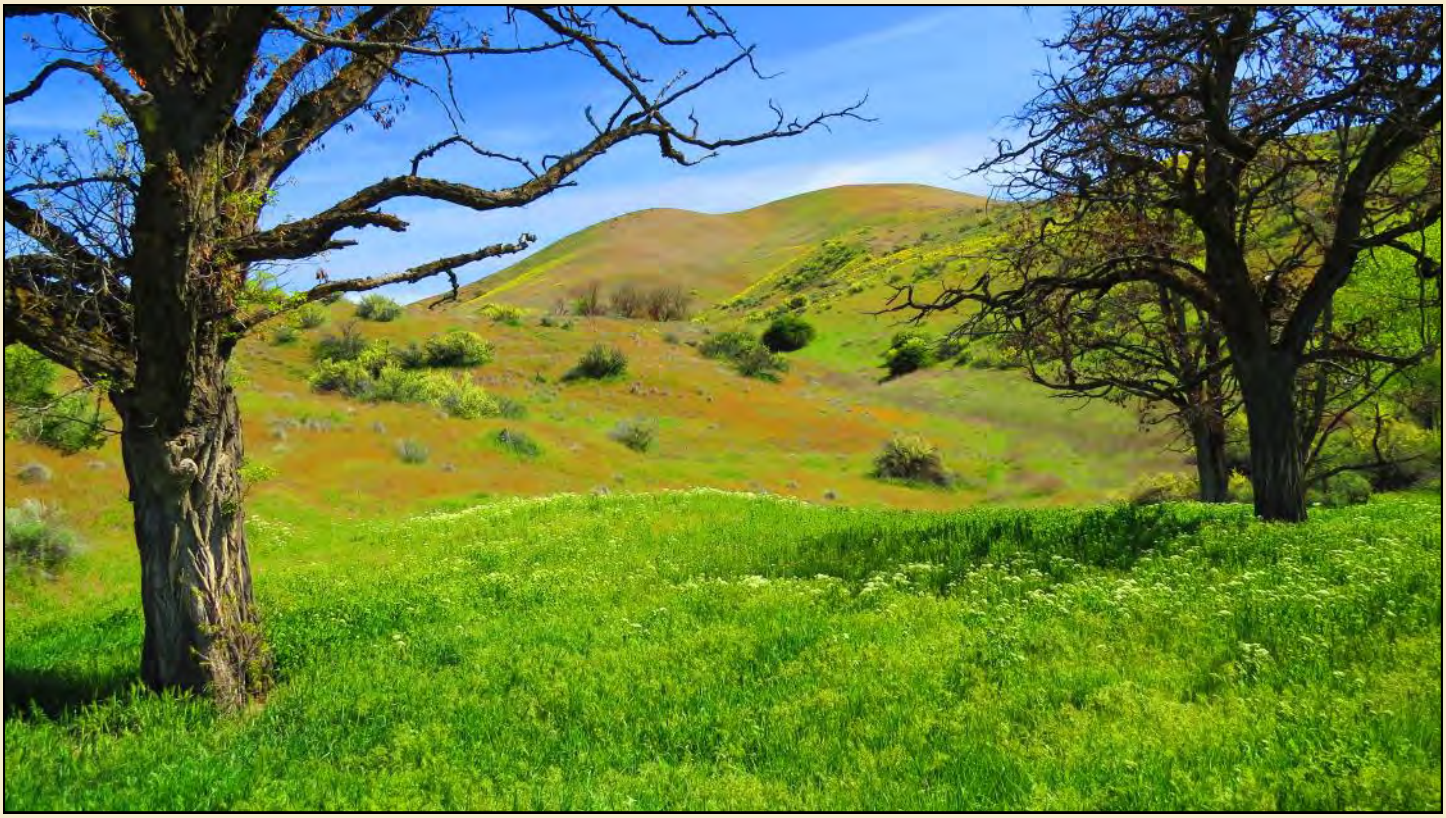
2nd Place – George Adam

Boise River

3rd Place – Clay Almquist

Barber Park

Landscape/Scenic



Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson

Highland Valley Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Honorable Mention – Arica Nitz

Lucky Peak Lake

Landscape/Scenic

Honorable Mention – Jim Culpepper

Boise River

Best of the Rest – Sandy Lindberg

Veterans Memorial Park (Idaho Parks & Rec)

Action

1st Place – David Swindler
Corrals Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Photographer's statement:

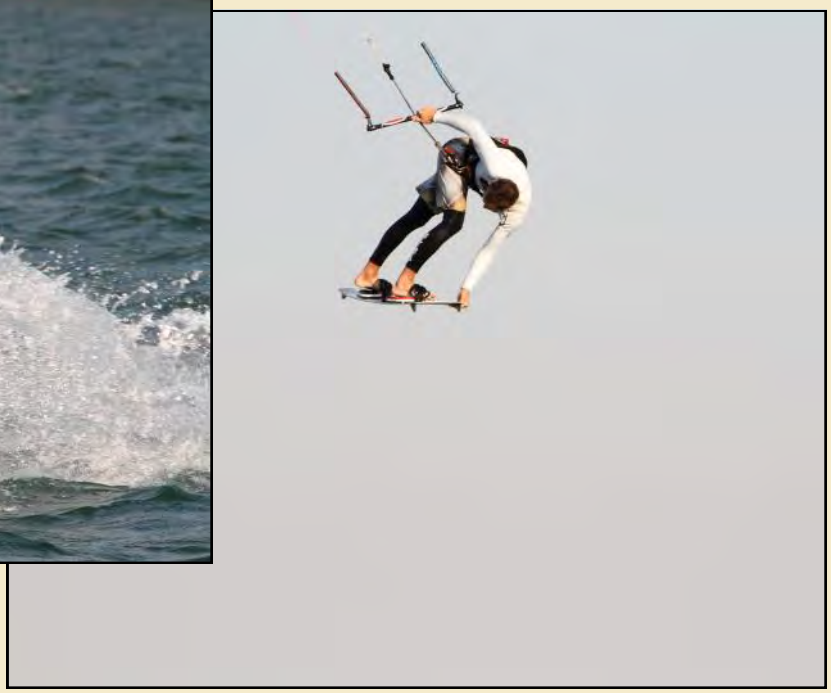
I love mountain biking in the foothills above Boise - especially during an inversion when all the plants are coated with frost. This shot is a selfie. I set the camera on a tripod and triggered it remotely as I got closer. If you're interested in learning more about photography, visit my website at www.ActionPhotoTours.com.

Action

2nd Place – Cheryl Faber
Lucky Peak Lake

3rd Place – Trey Clay
Ada County Bike Park

Action



Honorable Mention – Keith Hyde
Lucky Peak Lake (both kite surfing photos)

Honorable Mention – Mike Paananen
Corrals Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Action

Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson
Central Ridge Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Honorable Mention – Chris Cook
Veterans Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Best of the Rest – Scott Johnson
Boise River

Wildlife

1st Place – Elizabeth Lamas
Boise River Riparian Area

Photographer's statement:

As a child, I was captured by nature's beauty, and wildlife in their natural element. It was then, that I began my journey to better understand nature through photographical art. Nature, like art, is neutral; how deeply a person is moved, either speaks to the knowledge, understanding, and love one brings to it. I know that through my many outdoor activities I am recharged and the need for adventure is fulfilled and from such experiences of mystery and wildness. It is then that I get opportunities to capture wildlife in their most natural environments.

Wildlife

2nd Place – Paul Dawson

Boise River

3rd Place – Carolyn Fletcher

Boise River Greenbelt

Wildlife

Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson
Barber Park (Eckert Road Bridge)

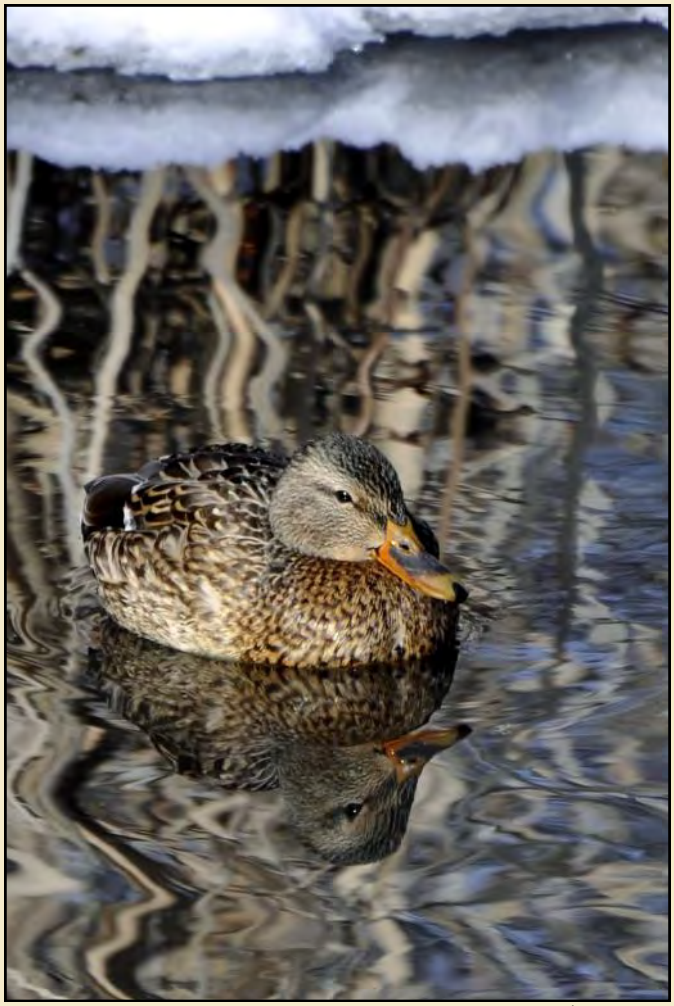
Honorable Mention – Norma Russell
Owls Roost Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

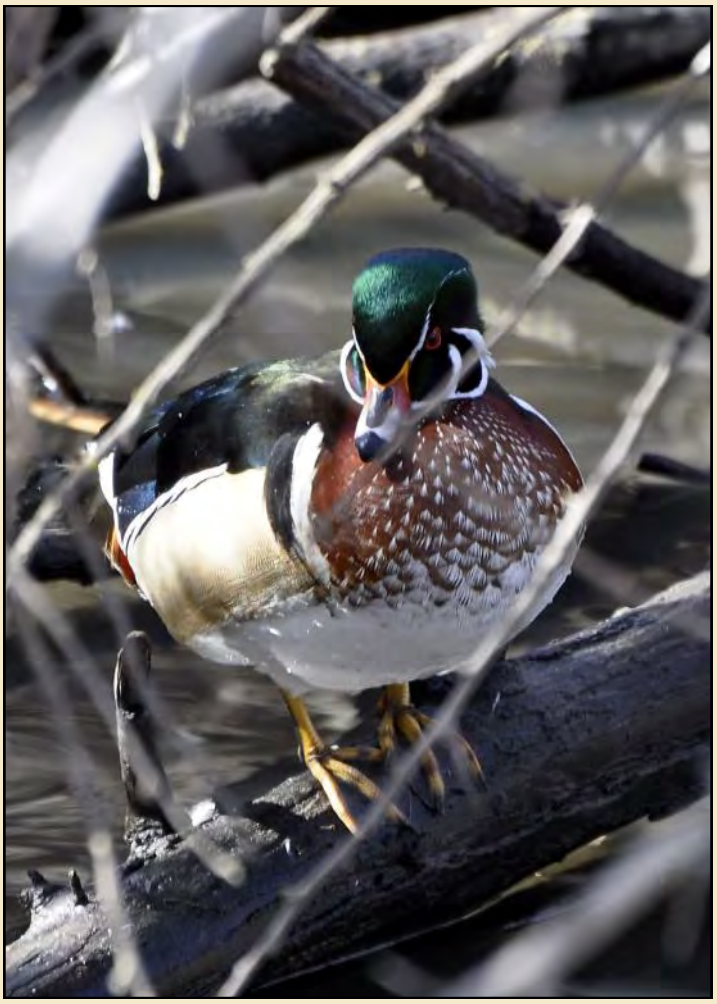
Honorable Mention – Jim Culpepper
Boise River Greenbelt

Wildlife

Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson

Military Reserve Connection (Ridge to Rivers)





Best of the Rest – Carolyn Fletcher

Kathryn Albertson Park (Boise Parks & Rec)

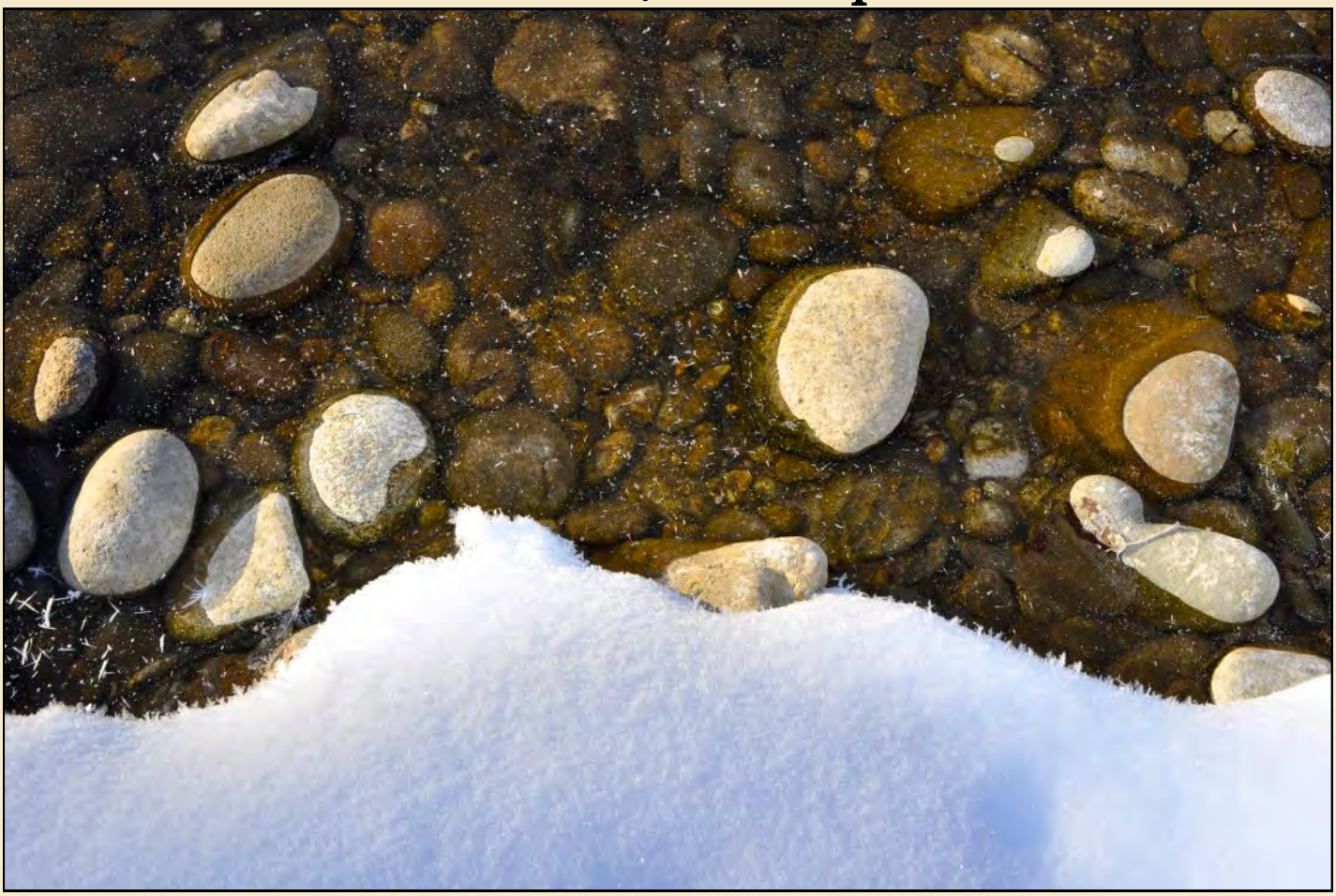
Abstract/Close-up

1st Place – Paul Dawson
Barclay Bay (Lucky Peak Lake)

Photographer's statement:

I live in East Boise and often bike to Lucky Peak Reservoir and up the dirt road by the power station to Turner Gulch. On this day, June 13, 2014, I also biked to and from Lydle Gulch from Barclay Bay and observed some sagebrush Mariposa tulips near a dirt trail. I took this image in macro mode with a vivid option using a Canon SX50 camera. (the settings were 1/1000 sec., f/4.5, iso 80, and exposure of -0.3).

Abstract/Close-up



2nd Place – Jim Culpepper

Boise River

3rd Place – Paul Dawson

Boise River Greenbelt

**Editors note: Yes, we are aware this is a weed (aka "Showy Milkweed")*

Abstract/Close-up

Honorable Mention – Jim Culpepper
Boise River Greenbelt

Honorable Mention – Jim Culpepper
Boise River Greenbelt

Abstract/Close-up

Best of the Rest – Carol Cramp

Veterans Memorial Park (Idaho Parks & Rec)

Best of the Rest – Norma Russell

Jim Hall Foothills Learning Center (Boise Parks & Rec)

Human Interest

1st Place – Keith Hyde
Lucky Peak Lake

Photographer's statement:

Lucky Peak Lake is a top destination with Treasure Valley boaters for both slipping out of town after work and for a weekend with the water. With partners Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation and Ada County Parks & Waterways, the US Army Corps of Engineers works to provide recreational opportunities in balance with stewardship of natural resources and public safety. It's our goal that everyone visiting the lake can make it a safe and enjoyable experience like this boatful is certainly doing!

Human Interest

2nd Place – Keith Hyde

Lucky Peak Lake

3rd Place – Fudo Jahic

Lucky Peak Lake

Human Interest

Honorable Mention – Mike Pellant
Ada County Bike Park

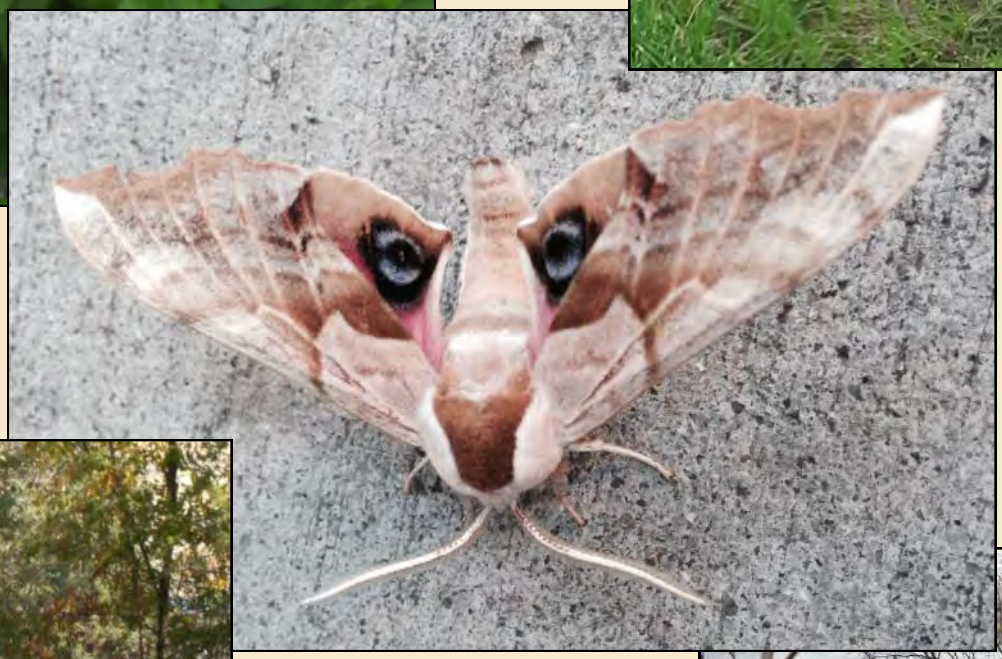
Honorable Mention – Dorene MacCoy
Boise River

Honorable Mention – Kyle Maclean
Oregon Trail

Department Staff Photos

Candy Hahlbeck
Barber Park

Moses Salazar
Barber Park



Carolyn Nitz
Barber Park

Scott Koberg
Boise River

Chris Osborn
Boise River (beaver lodge)

4049 Eckert Road
Boise, ID 83716

Ada County
1864 150 2014
Sesquicentennial

Best of the Rest – Carolyn Fletcher
Intermountain Bird Observatory – Lucky Peak site