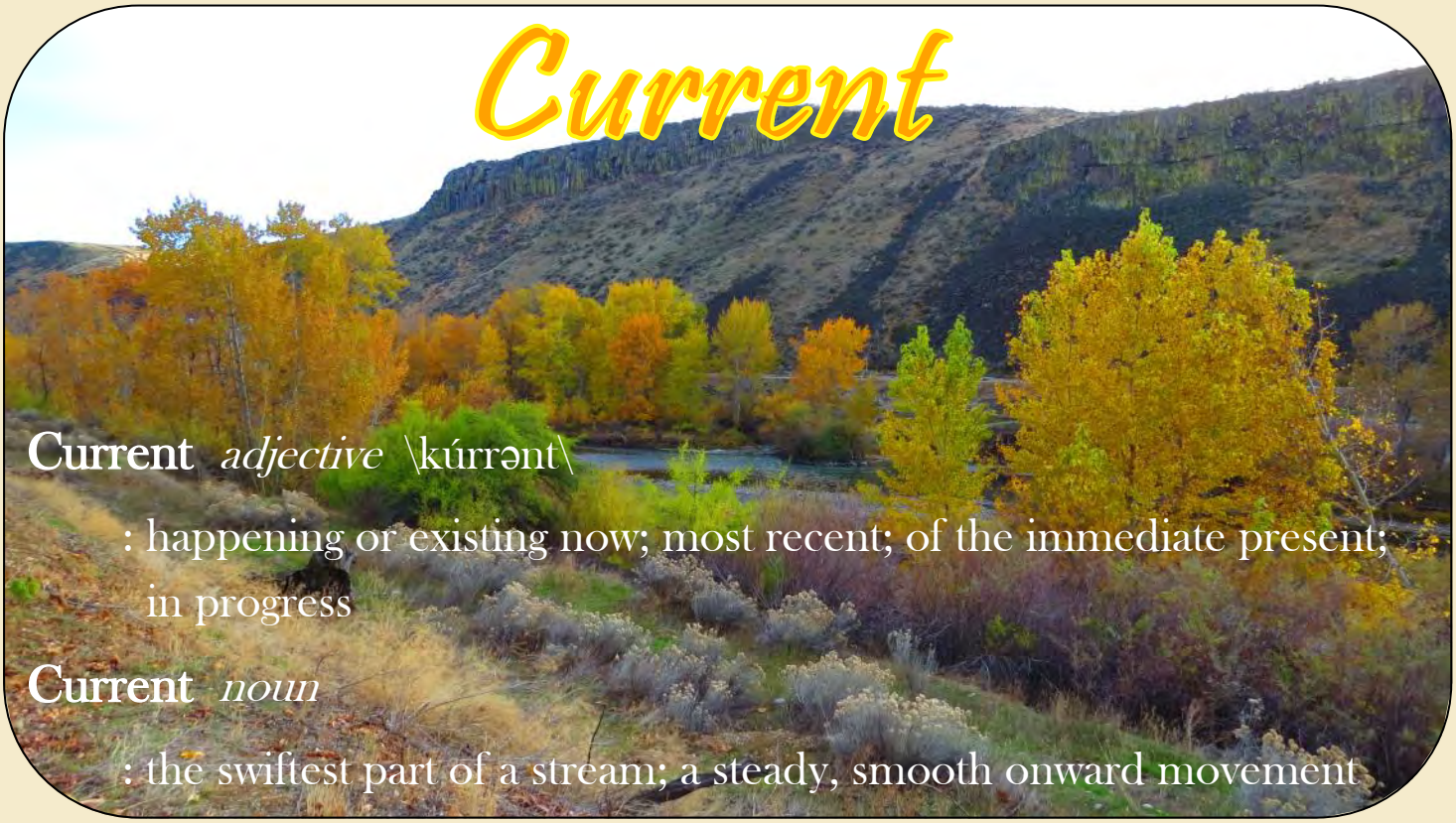
Current

Ada County Parks & Waterways

Photo Contest Issue

Winter 2016

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



Judge's Choice – Paul Dawson
Boise River Greenbelt

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

Judge's Choice – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River

**This didn't win any awards but we had to respect the fight in that crawdad as well as the timing of the photo!*

Director's Cut

Judge's Choice – Kirk Rothwell
Three Bears Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Following a hotly contested competition and careful consideration by our judges panel we're pleased to congratulate **Mike Paananen as the repeat winner of our Grand Prize cover shot photo!** The details, vibrant colors, depth of field, and unique artistic composition once again set Mike's photo apart from the rest and earned him his place as "King of the Mountain". And speaking of mountains, Mike had this to say about his winning shot taken from one of the newer additions to the Ridge to Rivers trail system - Around the Mountain Trail (ATM) - up at Bogus Basin:

"This photo was taken at one of our favorite summer resting spots. I am very fortunate that my riding buddies don't mind my constant need for a muse. I generally shoot with a Samsung NX1000 4/3 camera with a 30mm pancake lens. If you haven't experienced the Ridge to Rivers trail system at Bogus Basin, you are missing out."

Once each year we devote an entire edition of *Current* to sharing the results of our photo contest and the outcome is stunning. We'd like to thank **all** participants for submitting their photos and we especially want to recognize the **1st place photographers in each of our contest categories:**

Megan Carley	*Landscape/Scenic*
Keith Hyde	*Human Interest*
Paul Dawson	*Wildlife*
Jim Culpepper	*Abstract/Close-up*
Daniel Gonzalez	*Action*

It's easier than ever to punch a few buttons on your phone and blast a decent picture out into the world — and that's a cool thing — but the awareness, skill, patience and timing required to capture a unique moment with a compelling photo is a different thing altogether. It's refreshing to know there are still folks out there willing to explore, observe, photograph and share their inspiring and lasting images with us. Enjoy!

-Scott Koberg, Director

Judge's Choice – Ben Mors
Big Springs Loop Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

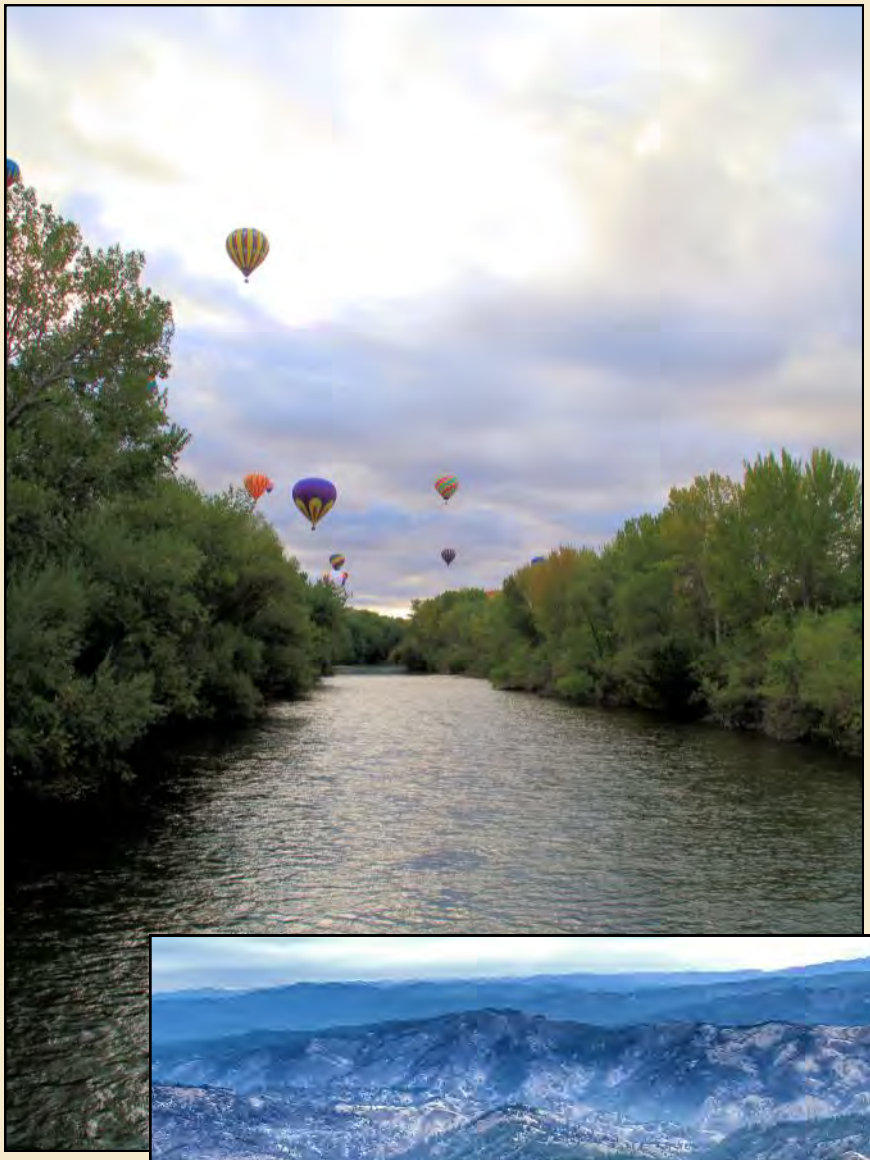
Landscape/Scenic

1st Place – Megan Carley
Corrals Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Photographer's statement:

This photo was taken while chasing my husband on a mountain bike one morning before work. He is rarely willing to stop for a photo so I get to practice my intervals as I snap a quick photo and sprint to catch up to him. We feel fortunate to live and recreate in such a beautiful place! I generally shoot with a Canon Rebel but on adventures such as these I use my trusty iPhone 6.

Landscape/Scenic



2nd Place – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River

3rd Place – Mike Paananen
Around the Mountain Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Landscape/Scenic

Honorable Mention – Paul Dawson
Lucky Peak Lake

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

Judge's Choice – Sandy Lindberg
Table Rock Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Landscape/Scenic

Honorable Mention – Daniel Gonzalez

Boise River

Judge's Choice – Jim Culpepper

Boise River Greenbelt

Human Interest

1st Place – Keith Hyde
Lucky Peak Lake

Photographer's statement:

The American Kestrel nest box and banding programs at Lucky Peak Lake offer unique teachable moments each spring. Here, a young lady with the New Roots Program – a weeklong, summer camp that connects refugee kids with conservation education – assists park rangers with leg banding a nest box of chicks. This work is done in partnership with researchers at Boise State University. Our great parks and open spaces in Ada County serve a wide variety of uses and users, benefitting all Treasure Valley residents.

Human Interest

2nd Place
Mike Paananen
Freddy's Stack Rock Trail
(Ridge to Rivers)

3rd Place
Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River

Wildlife

1st Place – Paul Dawson
Boise River Riparian Area

Photographer's statement:

Living in southeast Boise, near the Boise River and the Greenbelt, I often bike or walk along the river for recreation and to observe birds and wildlife that may be present. On this occasion, Dec 1, 2015, I was walking along the river near the Eckert Street bridge and flushed a covey of California quail into the bushes along the river. One of the quails landed in a small tree and remained there while I was able to take a number of photographs of it at various settings on my Canon Powershot SX50 camera. I was fortunate to photograph the quail in excellent light in a nice natural environmental setting.

Wildlife

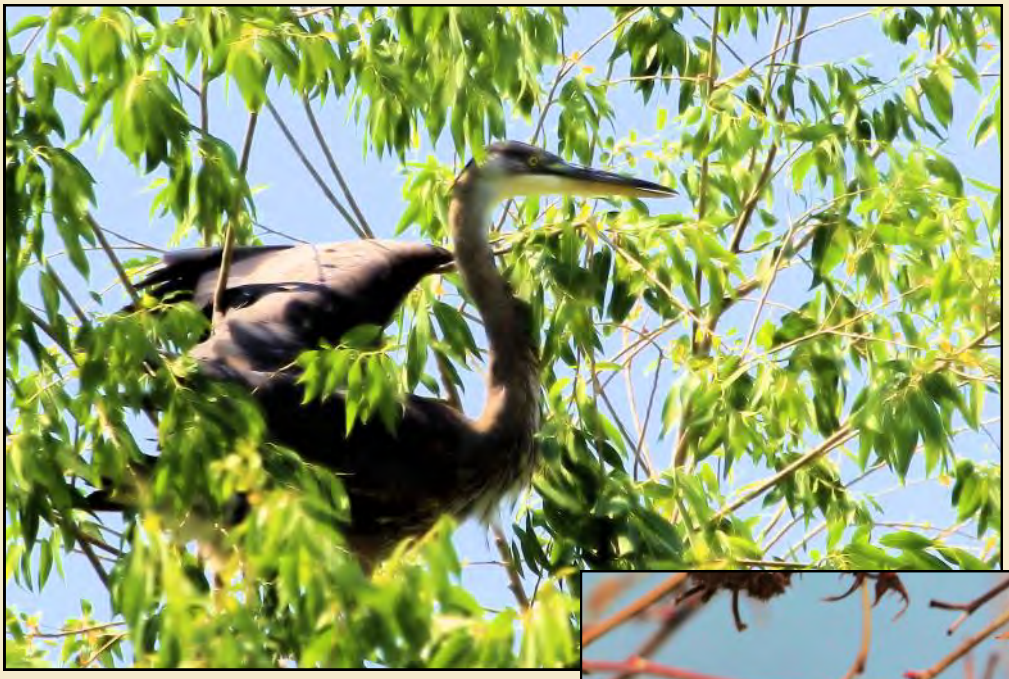
2nd Place – Daniel Gonzalez

Boise River Riparian Area

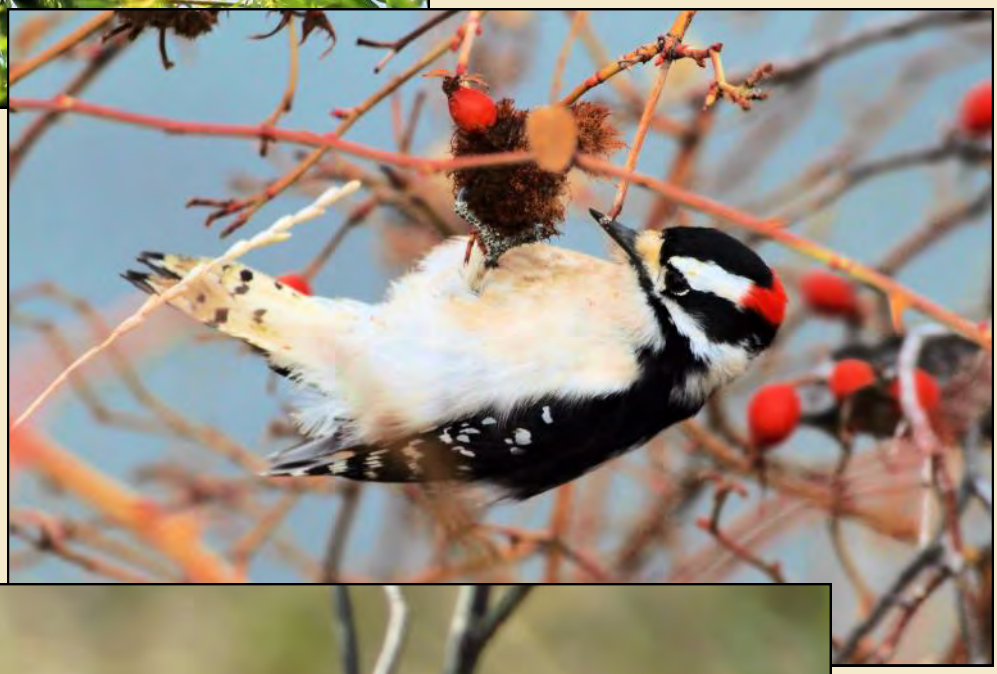
3rd Place – Daniel Gonzalez

Boise River

Wildlife



Honorable Mention – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River Riparian Area



Honorable Mention – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River Riparian Area

Judge's Choice – Paul Dawson
Five Mile Creek Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Abstract/Close-up

1st Place – Jim Culpepper
Boise River

Photographer's statement:

This photo was taken along the Boise river near Barber Park last winter on a cold but beautiful day! Love the area to walk, you never know what you're going to come across! I use a Nikon D5000 with a Tamron 18-270mm lens.

Abstract/Close-up

2nd Place – Sandy Lindberg
Barber Park

3rd Place – Paul Dawson
Cobb Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Abstract/Close-up

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

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

Action

1st Place – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River

Photographer's statement:

As a Boise Police Greenbelt Patrol Volunteer I get to cover over 25 miles of the greenbelt each time out. This has given me so many opportunities to photograph nature and human activities. I have been blessed by those opportunities to share these photographs with so many organizations that use them for educational purposes. This photograph is one taken along the Boise River where kayakers often test their skills. This is the first photo contest I've ever entered and am glad it was for Ada County Parks and Waterways.

Action

2nd Place – Trey Clay

Ada County Bike Park

3rd Place – Daniel Gonzalez

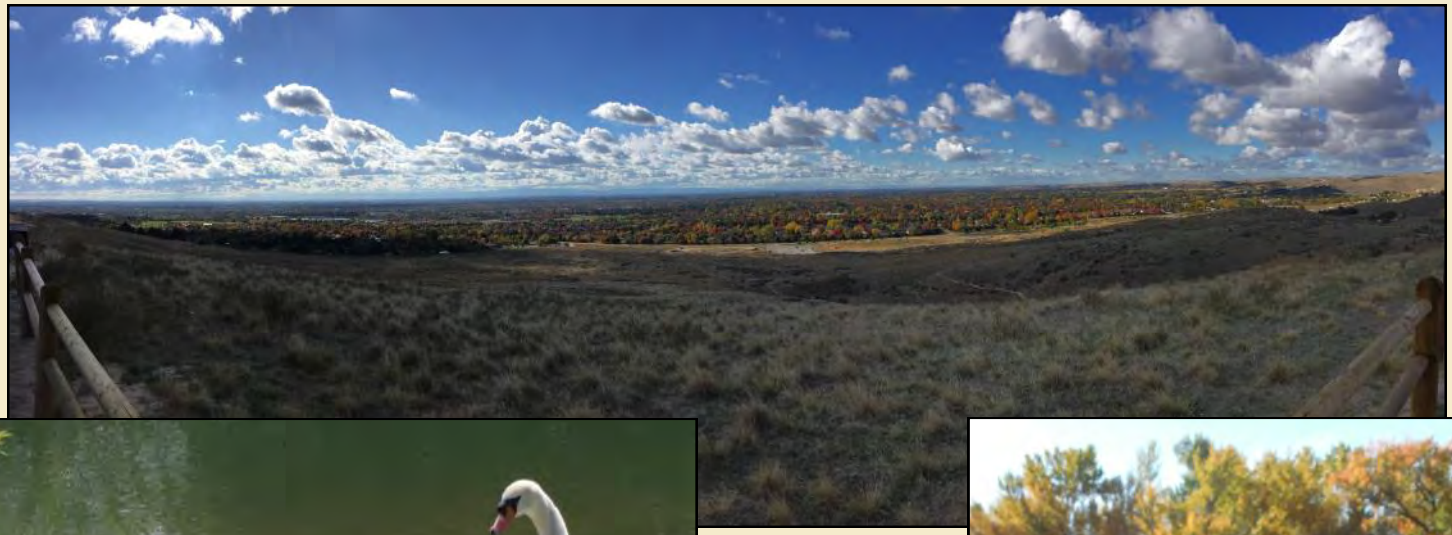
Boise River

Action

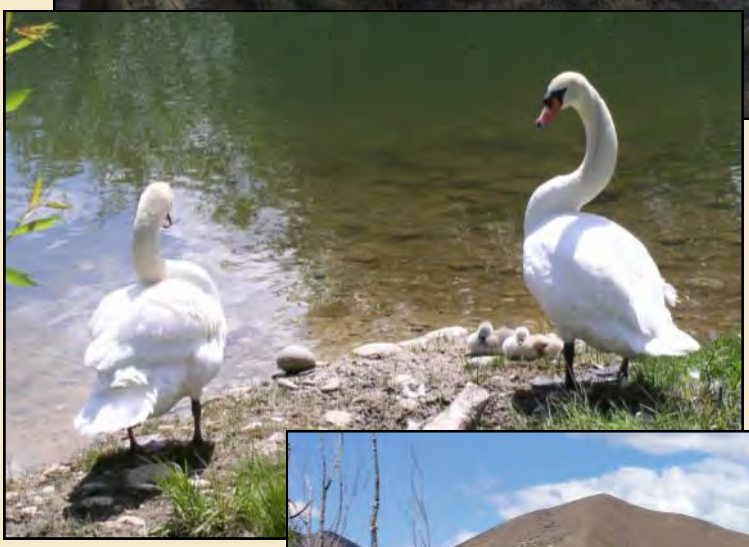
Honorable Mention – Mike Paananen
Sweet Connie Trail (Ridge to Rivers)

Honorable Mention – Keith Hyde
Lucky Peak Lake

Department Staff Photos



Candy Hahlbeck
Ada County
Bike Park



Carolyn Nitz
Boise River
Riparian Area

Scott Koberg
Boise River

Chris Osborn
Lucky Peak Lake

Tom Harshfield
Barber Park Event Center

Moses Salazar
Barber Park

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Honorable Mention – Daniel Gonzalez
Boise River