

# Don't fence me in!



It's probably safe to say that most Ada County residents aren't even aware that **Hubbard Reservoir** exists. Many of those who *have* actually heard of it would likely have difficulty finding it on a map or explaining just, "What is Hubbard Reservoir?" Despite it's name, **Hubbard Reservoir** doesn't hold much water but with **377 acres of open space** it sure does provide some outstanding wildlife and



waterfowl habitat in addition to unique recreational opportunities. With a parking facility and trailhead (along with a variety of trails for hiking, biking, and horseback riding) users are welcome to explore this **wonderful oasis provided by Ada County Parks & Waterways** through a lease agreement with the State of Idaho. Recently — with input from the Ada

County Parks, Open Space and Trails Advisory Board and Friends of Hubbard Reservoir (FOHR) and under the leadership of an ambitious young Eagle Scout candidate — we've made some improvements at Hubbard. By removing over a mile of unused barbed wire fencing, Jerod Stolp and his crew (along with his proud parents Greg and Trina) helped eliminate a safety hazard and create a designated off-leash dog park area. While we provided guidance, staff support, and much of the equipment, Jerod handled the rest. We think his letter to us provides a nice summary of the project:

**Directions:** From I-84 take Eagle Rd. exit south to Hubbard Rd.; turn left onto Hubbard Rd. and then take first right onto Stewart Rd.; follow Stewart Rd. 3/4 miles to trailhead parking area on right.



*Just wanted to report that the barbed wire and t-posts were removed on Saturday, October 26, 2013 at Hubbard Reservoir. I had 67 people there to help me. That was about 270 volunteer hours. The final hour count with preparation, planning, gathering tools and recruiting volunteers was 290 hours.*

*I want to let you know how much I appreciate all the hard work from Ada County Parks and Waterways. Chris Osborn (Ada County Parks & Waterways Maintenance Mechanic) did an awesome job getting some of the tools and safety equipment, recycle bin, a porta potty and a backhoe to help with this project. Chris did such an awesome job marking the fences for my volunteers. That made it so easy for them to know what fences needed to come down. It was a great experience working with him and I appreciate all his hard work and communication he had with me.*

*There was some feedback yesterday of some of the people who use the park. A woman on horseback and two trucks with horse trailers had stopped to see what was going on and they were all excited to see the barbed wire gone and they were going to tell some of their friends who ride horses of the changes. Some of my volunteers even commented on how much nicer and more usable the park is now.*

*Thank you all again for such a great experience. I learned so much about project planning, preparation, and about being a leader. Here are a few pictures from Saturday.*

*I will let you know when my Eagle Court of Honor is and would love it if you all could attend.*

*Sincerely,*

*Jerod Stolp*

