

THE PACK RIVER
WATERSHED
COUNCIL
PRESENTS...

THE RIVER RANGER

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 1

SUMMER 2014

FEATURING:

Pend Oreille
International
Migratory Bird Day

Pend Oreille Lake
Elevations

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Contact us at:
(208) 263-5310

First Annual Pend Oreille International Migratory Bird Day Celebration

The First Annual International Migratory Bird Day was celebrated this year at the Pend Oreille Wildlife Management Area, Pack River Unit on Saturday, May 31st.

International Migratory Bird Day is a conservation initiative that brings awareness about conserving migratory birds and their habitats throughout the Western Hemisphere. It is dedicated to international conservation efforts and environmental education in Canada, the United States, Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Originated by the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center, it is now coordinated by Environment for the Americas (www.birdday.org). Events are being held all over the country during the month of May, and this area's celebration was one of many.

The theme of this year's International Migratory Bird Day was "Why Birds Matter." Whether controlling insects, dispersing seeds, pollinating flowering plants, trees, and shrubs, or generating local tourism dollars, birds matter to us because of the many vital roles they play in our ecosystem. Birds

are much more than this, though! These marvels of migration, some weighing less than an ounce, entertain and inspire us. All of this and more are the reasons why birds matter, and why we celebrate them locally.

This local event was sponsored by the non-profit Save Our Cabinets with support from the Rock Creek Alliance. Save Our Cabinets is dedicated to the protection of the Cabinet Mountains Ecosystem.

Local birders Rich Del Carlo and Mary Costello offered guided bird walks throughout the morning. All ages and abilities participated in the event. Free educational materials and activities for children were provided as well as bird-friendly, shade-grown coffee for the adults. A good time was had by all.

For more information about the Rock Creek Alliance and the Save Our Cabinets organization, please contact Mary Costello at 208-290-1405. For general information, call 406-827-4896.

~ Submitted by Mary Costello, Save Our Cabinets



Western Tanager (*Piranga ludoviciana*)

Pend Oreille Lake Elevations...

Water managers at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are planning to operate Albeni Falls Dam to hold Lake Pend Oreille to within half a foot of a lake level of 2,061 feet above sea level by the end of September.

Idaho Fish and Game has requested a winter elevation of 2,051 feet for regionally supported and important Clark Fork restoration work; however, IDFG has shifted the date for being at that level

later from Nov. 8 to Nov 15. This additional week will allow the Corps to keep Lake Pend Oreille higher later into September.

The need to be down to 2,051 feet by mid-November is the issue driving the end-of-September lake level this year. Discussions are ongoing among the Corps, State of Idaho and the Bonneville Power Administration to address lake levels in future years.



Tree Seedlings - Order Soon for 2015!

Each year the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District sponsors an annual tree seedling sale. This year the District sold over 35,000 trees!

Now is the time to order for 2015. It is important to order early because there is a limited supply of trees. Payment is due with your order, but we guarantee full reimbursement if we cannot fill your order.

The trees will be ready to be picked up by the second week in April. We will notify you of the exact delivery date by March 2015. Trees can be picked up at the Delay Farm near Careywood.

We cannot make refunds for any trees that are not picked up on the scheduled delivery date.

The seedlings are sold in 5 and 8 cubic inch plugs, as well as 4 species this year of Plug+1's that are a bare root 2-year old seedling. They are sold at a great price for conservation and reforestation projects.

Fill out the enclosed order form then mail or bring in payments to:

Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District
1224 Washington Ave., Ste. 101
Sandpoint, ID 83864

"What I liked the most was they turned real-life problems into creative and fun activities and how they made me look at problems another way"

~5th Grade Student at the Water Festival

19th Pend Oreille Water Festival

This year marked the 19th consecutive year of the Pend Oreille Water Festival. This was the second year the Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District has administered this invaluable environmental education program and it was another great success.

This year, approximately 400 fifth graders from 13 public and private schools engaged with natural resource professionals and Sandpoint High School student mentors in multidisciplinary activities that focus on our most precious resource—water and the Clark Fork-Pend Oreille Watershed. Students

had the opportunity to touch, see, hear and creatively think about the dynamic world around them as they rotated through five different, interactive, instructional stations: Fisheries, Watershed, Water Quality, Animal Tracks and Northwest Explorers.

We would like to give a big thank you to all the individuals, businesses, and agencies who have supported the Water Festival over the years. This important youth program is funded solely by generous donations and grants and many volunteers.

32nd Annual Idaho State Forestry Contest

The 32nd Idaho State Forestry Contest was on May 8th at the Delay Farm in Careywood. The Forestry Contest is an annual event sponsored by the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District, Idaho Dept. of Lands, and U.S. Forest Service to promote youth education in the area of forest science and management.

Competitions include timber cruising, plant identi-

fication, compass and pacing, map reading, silviculture, tree identification, tree health, soil and water quality, noxious weeds and scaling.

Anyone in grades 6 through 12 may compete individually or on a team. If you have an interested student, you can contact the Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District at 208-263-5310x100 for more information.

IDAHO₂O Snapshot Sampling

The PRWC participated again this year in the IDAHO₂O Snapshot Sampling event on June 5th. Twice each year, all IDAHO₂O Master Water Stewards across the state of Idaho have the opportunity to sample their registered stream sites on the same day. This provides a state-wide “snapshot” of our water quality

We sampled the Pack River at the Northside School Bridge where we do our monthly water quality testing. The sample was tested for Nitrate, total Phosphorous, total Coliform, and E. coli. Both Nitrate and Phosphorous levels

were below detectable limits. E. coli levels did not exceed 126 E. coli organisms per 100 mL.

Waters designated for primary or secondary contact recreation, such as the Pack River, are not to contain E. coli bacteria in concentrations exceeding a geometric mean of 126 E. coli organisms per 100 mL based on a minimum of five samples collected every three to seven days over a 30-day period according to IDAPA 58.01.02 Water Quality Standards.

Date	Nitrate (mg/L)	Total Phosphorus (mg/L)	Total Coliform (MPN/100 mL)	E. coli (MPN/100 mL)
6/5/14	0.125	0.002	90.9	24.6
10/24/13	0.066	0.018	108.1	8.6

"Water is the most critical resource issue of our lifetime and our children's lifetime. The health of our waters is the principal measure of how we live on the land."

- Luna Leopold

AIS Boat Inspection Stations... May 23rd

Bonner Soil and Water Conservation District has two boat inspection stations to administer again this year to monitor for aquatic invasive species (AIS). The stations are open from Friday May 23rd through Monday September 1st, 7 am to 7 pm except on certain days when the schedule will vary.

One station is set up at the Albeni Falls Visitor Center and the other one is at the Samuels Service Station. The one at Samuels Station has moved to the south end of the building, and boaters coming from the north are to take

the south intersection into Samuels and exit through the north intersection.

By Idaho state law, all boaters must stop at AIS inspection stations for a brief interview and inspection. All Boaters should Clean, Drain, and Dry their boats to ensure they don't carry organisms from one water body to another, whether they travel an inspection route or not.

AIS stickers are sold at both stations, \$22 for out-of-state motorized watercraft, and \$7 for non-motorized watercraft.

Calendar of Events...

May - November	Water Quality Monitoring: We usually monitor on the last Sunday of each month. If you are interested in helping, contact Jessica Erickson @ 208-255-5545.
July 17 th & July 22 nd	U of I Extension Course: <u>Ties to the Land ~ Your Family Heritage</u> , Sandpoint, ID. Tuesday, July 15 and Tuesday July 22, 2014 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. For more information call (208) 446-1680.
August 8 th	U of I Extension Course: <u>Forest Insects and Disease Field Day</u> , Sandpoint, ID. Friday, August 8, 2014 from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm. For more information call (208) 446-1680.





**Order
Soon!**

Mail or bring in this order form
and payment to:

Bonner Soil and Water
Conservation District
1224 Washington Ave., Ste. 101
Sandpoint, ID 83864

Phone: 208-263-5310 ext. 100

Fax: 208-263-0290

Email:
linda.ohare@id.nacdnet.net

Tree Seedling Order Form for Spring 2015 Delivery

Order 5" Plugs in multiples of 25 (full boxes contain 600)

Order 8" Plugs in multiples of 15 (full boxes contain 360)

5" plugs - 25 to a bundle	25	50	75	100	600	1200		# Ordered	Cost
<i>Cost per tree</i>	<i>0.55</i>	<i>0.55</i>	<i>0.55</i>	<i>0.55</i>	<i>0.45</i>	<i>0.33</i>			
Ponderosa Pine Coeur d'Alene - 2200'	13.75	27.50	41.25	55.00	270.00	396.00			

8" Plugs - 15 to a bundle	30	60	120	360	720	1080	1440	# Ordered	Cost
<i>Cost per tree</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.70</i>	<i>0.65</i>	<i>0.60</i>	<i>0.50</i>	<i>0.45</i>		
Western White Pine Moscow - blister rust resistant	21.00	42.00	84.00	234.00	432.00	540.00	648.00		
Western Larch North Idaho - 2200'	21.00	42.00	84.00	234.00	432.00	540.00	648.00		
Lodgepole Pine North Idaho - 2200'	21.00	42.00	84.00	234.00	432.00	540.00	648.00		
Douglas Fir Bead Lake - 2800'	21.00	42.00	84.00	234.00	432.00	540.00	648.00		

Plug +1 - Bare Root	40	80	120	200	400	1000		# Ordered	Cost
SOLD IN BAGS OF 120 OR 15 EACH	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.85</i>	<i>0.75</i>	<i>0.65</i>			
Ponderosa Pine CdA - 2200'	34.00	68.00	102.00	170.00	300.00	650.00			
Western White Pine North Idaho - 2200'	34.00	68.00	102.00	170.00	300.00	650.00			
Western Larch North Idaho - 2200'	34.00	68.00	102.00	170.00	300.00	650.00			
Douglas Fir Bead Lake - 2800'	34.00	68.00	102.00	170.00	300.00	650.00			

Name:		Subtotal
Address:		
Phone #:		6% Tax
Email:		Total



Pack River Watershed Council

The Pack River Watershed Council
c/o Bonner SWCD
1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-5310



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Bonner Soil & Water Conservation District
& NRCS
1224 Washington Ave., Suite 101
Sandpoint, ID 83864
208-263-5310

“The mission of the Pack River Watershed Council is to improve water quality and riparian habitat in the Pack River watershed for people, fish , and wildlife through education, collaboration, and cooperative projects.”

Thanks to Avista Watershed Council Funding, we are able to print and distribute this newsletter.