

Winter 2002



Welcome to EarthTracks, an environmental education newsletter for Idaho teachers. Here you'll find news from the "Projects" (Learning Tree, WET and WILD), the Bureau of Land Management, and others interested and active in environmental education. We encourage your suggestions and thoughts.

Happy 2002!

Spring is just around the corner, and that means it's time to start thinking about summer.

We've compiled information about opportunities for you to learn new things, have exciting adventures, and earn academic credit this summer. (*NOTE: Our spring one-credit workshops for Project's Learning Tree, WET and WILD are listed on the side-bar of page 2. Don't miss them!*)



Teachers investigate the properties of fire at a PLT workshop

LOOK INSIDE

for information about

- ❖ Videos, CD's, Posters, Booklets
- ❖ *Wildlife Express*, Arbor Day, Educational trunks
- ❖ Wildlife and Tree shirts
- ❖ Summer workshop opportunities GALORE!



Workshop Calendar Spring 2002 Dates

Project's WET, WILD and Learning Tree

1 credit classes

Feb. 8-9

Boise, WET

Feb. 22-23

Boise, PLT

Mar. 1-2

Boise, WILD

Twin Falls, PLT

Mar. 8-9

Moscow, PLT

Homedale, WET

Hailey, WILD

Mar. 15-16

Nampa (Deer Flat Refuge), WILD

Mar. 22-23

Sandpoint, WET

Apr. 12-13

Boise, WET

Bonnars Ferry, WILD

Idaho Falls, PLT

Post Falls, PLT Secondary

Potlatch, PLT Secondary

Apr. 19-20

Ketchum/Stanley, WET

May 3-4

Coeur d'Alene, WET

May 10-11

Post Falls, PLT

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

WILD: 208-334-2633
ladams@idfg.state.id.us

WET: 208-422-0737
jscanlin@uidaho.edu

PLT: 208-334-4061
plt@idahoforests.org



TEACHING MATERIALS

(See back panel for contact information.)



Three new titles in the PLT/IFPC Lending Library

Timber! Empires of Industry. From the History Channel. Filled with rare footage and expert interviews, Timber! is a riveting look at one of the nation's oldest industries and how it is preparing for the future. 50 minutes. Jr./Sr. High. With teaching guide. Contact PLT to borrow this video.



Trees are the Answer. Patrick Moore, co-founder of Greenpeace, provides insights into how forests work and how they can play a powerful role in solving many current environmental problems. 30 minutes. Jr./Sr. High. Contact PLT to borrow this video.

Forests and Paper Forever. From the Technical Assn. of the Pulp and Paper Industry. Interactive CD-ROM. Colorful animated graphics, virtual forests to explore, a virtual journey through the recycling process, and interactive activities. Recipient of the *Learning Magazine Teachers' Choice Award* in 2001. Contact PLT to borrow this CD-ROM.

New materials from the Rangeland Commission

New Video Available!

"Ranching in Harmony with the Land" is an inspiring new video release from the University of Idaho and Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission (IRRC). Three ranchers show how they take care of the land with different grazing management techniques. 35 minutes. Contact the IRRC to borrow or purchase this video.

Backpack Guide to Idaho Range Plants. Packed with info about Idaho vegetation regions, grass identification tips, and grasses, "grass-likes," forbs, shrubs and trees. Contact the IRRC for your free copy.

Rangeland Posters—BEAUTIFUL—And Free!

1. Idaho Rangelands: Wild Open Spaces
 2. Rangeland—Idaho's Roots
- Contact the IRRC to request these posters.

www.idrange.org is under re-construction. Visit us later this spring to see the resources and materials offered over the web for educators.

TRUNKS and SUCH

Have you checked out a **Wildlife Trunk** lately? Contact the Project WILD office to reserve one now! Contact the Project Learning Tree office to borrow **Paper-Making** or **Forester** kits. Contact the Project WET office to borrow a **Water History** trunk, **Groundwater Flow** model or **Enviroscape** model.

WILD and WOODY apparel

Project WILD Shirts for sale: \$18.00



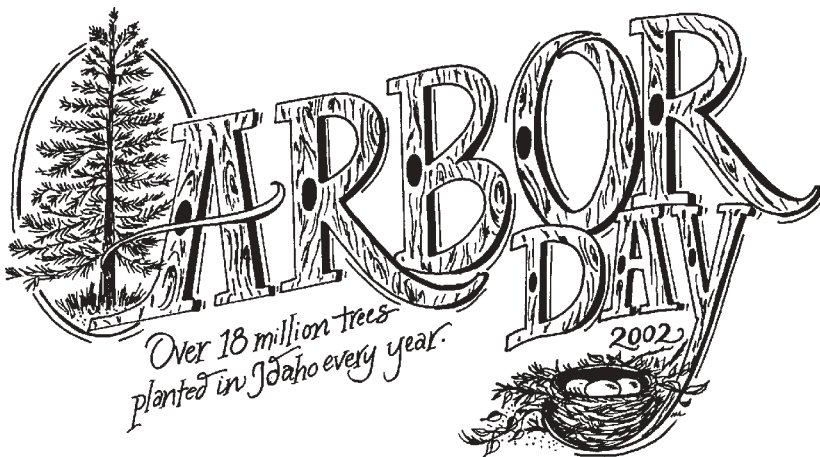
- Long Sleeved Henleys: green, dark blue, light & dark gray
- Long sleeved Mock Turtle-necks: white & tan
- Sweatshirts: gray

To order send request & check or money order to the Project WILD office. Add \$2.00 shipping and handling for each shirt. Or better yet, pick up at the

Idaho Department of Fish & Game in Boise.

Idaho TREE-shirts—SPECIAL SALE!

These popular short-sleeved cotton t-shirts featuring Idaho coniferous trees are now available for just \$10 each (plus \$3 shipping for one to five shirts—for bigger orders, contact us). While supplies last. Adult S, M, L, XL. Contact the PLT office to order your shirts today—or order online at www.idahoforests.org



Arbor Day T-Shirts

Beautiful new Arbor Day design. High quality short-sleeved shirts. Youth sizes (S,M,L) and adult (S,M,L,XL) are just \$7, XXL are \$8 and XXXL are \$9. Postage is included. Contact the PLT office to order your shirts today—or order online at www.idahoforests.org

Earth Day and Arbor Day—A great time for educators!

Earth Day is Monday, April 22 and Arbor Day is Friday, April 26. What a great excuse for spending a week doing environmental education. (Not that anyone needs an excuse!) Get out your activity guides and select some WILD, WET and PLT activities for the week. Better yet, make a whole month out of it! This is also a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate how Environmental Education helps you and your students effectively meet Idaho's state achievement and exiting standards. **Contact the PLT office to request special materials about Arbor Day.** Please indicate grade level.



WILDLIFE EXPRESS alert!

Attn: 4th-6th grade teachers. We need your input! *Wildlife Express* is very costly for us to put out each month. Please let us know how valuable it is to you. Would you be willing to download it and copy it? Would publishing every other month be sufficient? We're open to and appreciate ideas and comments. Please contact the Project WILD office with your thoughts.

WORKSHOPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

APRIL/MAY

“Clear Visions, Clear Voices” Idaho Environmental Education Summit 2002. April 26-27, Boise

Keynote Speaker: Allen Pinkham, Nez Perce elder, storyteller, and author of *Salmon and His People*

Other features: Exemplary EE program presentations and exhibits, field trips, discussion and planning for environmental education throughout the state, annual meeting of Idaho Environmental Education Association (IdEEA). Please come and share your ideas.

Location: DoubleTree Hotel Downtown, 1800 Fairview Ave., Boise

Registration: \$35 (\$50 after 3/1/02). Send fee to IdEEA, 2211 S. 2nd Ave., Pocatello ID 83201. Call or email Donny Roush with questions: 208-232-5674, roush@srv.net.

Continuing education credit is available from BSU, ISU and U of I.

Idaho Water Awareness Week May 6-10, Statewide



For the 9th consecutive year, sixth graders will celebrate and learn about Idaho’s incredible water. The multi-agency Idaho Water Awareness Week Committee compiles materials about curricular activities, field trips, and water festivals for participating classroom teachers. For more information, contact Julie Scanlin at Project WET.

Geothermal Energy Workshops May 10-11, Twin Falls

..... May 24-25, Boise

Did you know that the Snake River Plain is one of the “hottest” places on earth? Or that Boise, in 1906, developed the first geothermal (earth heat energy) heating district in the country? Or, that there are folks raising alligators in Idaho because of natural warm water springs? Many of us have had the pleasure of enjoying one of the hundreds of great hot-springs that dot south central Idaho. Ever wonder why they are there?

GEO: Great Earth Odyssey is a new teacher training workshop that will explain why southern Idaho is such a geothermally rich area, who is currently using this energy resource and what the potential is for this renewable resource as a part of Idaho’s future energy picture. Participants will get hands-on experience using classroom-ready curricular materials. The activities are interdisciplinary and focused primarily at the middle school level. A background in geology/earth science is helpful, but not required.

CONTACT: Julie Scanlin at Project Wet.

JUNE

The Alpine Conference June 9-13, near Alpine, WY



LEARN ABOUT: How environmental education can increase your ability to use problem-solving techniques and generate higher level thinking skills in children and adults. Designing and conducting effective outdoor science activities and interpretive experiences. Skills for leading effective discussions.

CREDITS: 1-3, grad or undergrad.

CONTACT: Dick McCloskey at 208-426-3490, 800-632-6586 ext. 3490. rmcclosk@boisestate.edu

FEE: \$275

Central Idaho Natural Resources Camp and Workshop June 10-15, near Ketchum

Inland Empire Natural Resources Camp and Workshop June 16-22, near Harrison

LEARN ABOUT: The principles and practices of natural resources management (soil, water, range, forests and wildlife). Environmental concerns, resource interdependence, development demands, quality of living and land-use planning. Hands-on approach. *Offered for both youth and teachers.*

CREDITS: 1 or 2

CONTACT: Central Idaho: Kristin Keith at 208-459-6365. kristink@uidaho.edu.

Inland Empire: Emily Smelser: 509-773-5823, ext. 108. emily.smelser@wa.usda.gov

FEE: Central Idaho: \$170 (\$180 after 5/22) Inland Empire: \$210



WORKSHOPS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Idaho Water Camps **June 18-21, Twin Falls**
 **June 18-21, Idaho Falls**
 **June 25-28, Lewiston**

WHAT: Two days of general water education featuring the Project WET Curriculum and Activity Guide, and two days of local water resource field trips. Gain a better understanding of local water resources, issues and management as well as interdisciplinary curricular materials. Make connections with local water resource professionals.

CREDITS: 2

CONTACT: Julie Scanlin at Project WET.

Burning Issues: Fire Ecology (PLT) **June 24-28, McCall**

LEARN ABOUT: The role of fire in Idaho’s forests and range ecosystems—past, present and future. Great activities and field trips! Receive wonderful teaching resources, including an interactive CD-ROM.

CREDITS: 2 or 3.

CONTACT: Michelle Youngquist at Project Learning Tree

FEE: \$250. (After 3/30/02: \$275). Send \$75 registration fee to reserve your space. Balance due at workshop. Fee covers graduate credits, 4 nights lodging, all meals, teaching materials, field trips and other expenses.



Testing the Wild Water and Testing the Wild Land **June 25-July 1, Main Salmon River**

LEARN ABOUT and experience a six day expedition of “Testing the Wild Water and Testing the Wild Land” on the main Salmon River between Corn Creek and Vinegar Creek. A hands-on contextual learning experience that involves real research and real white water.



CREDITS: 1 or 3.

CONTACT: Bob Beckwith, Project SITE, at 208-939-0017. bobbeckwith@qwest.org

FEE: \$850 includes 6 day float trip, meals and lodging. Inquire about scholarships.

JULY/AUGUST

Idaho Range Camp **June 30-July 3, McCall**

At this hands-on camp, high school students will learn about techniques used by rangeland management professionals to assess the condition of Idaho’s vast rangelands. Field trips to many locations will provide an excellent outdoor experience. Great preparation for State Range Assessment Contest. Provided by the Idaho Section of the Society for Range Management and the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission.

CONTACT: Gretchen Hyde at the Rangeland Commission or Karen Launchbaugh at (208) 885-4394 or klaunchbaugh@novell.uidaho.edu for more information and registration materials.

Rangeland Curriculum Development Workshop **June 30-July 3, McCall**

Turn your knowledge and interest in Idaho’s vast heritage of ranching and rangelands into elementary classroom activities. Rangeland experts will be on hand to provide assistance, and you’ll provide your education expertise. This is your chance to share your talents and creative abilities with teachers throughout Idaho. Idaho children need to understand the place in which they live—so help us provide them with effective resources.

Stipends are available. Meals, lodging, materials, and field trips are provided. Space is limited.

CONTACT: Gretchen Hyde at the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission for an application.

PROJECT WILD–II, III, and IV

WILD II, McCall **July 7-13**

WILD III, Clark Fork **July 28-August 3**

WILD IV, Harriman State Park **July 14-20**

If you’re a teacher and you’ve taken Project WILD, you’re eligible for more fun and educational adventures! Learn about wolves, salmon, bears, bats, elk and birds of prey in WILD II. WILD III features goats, caribou, brown bear, bull trout and whitetail deer. In WILD IV, study moose, bison, swans, cranes, cutthroat and creatures of the night.

CREDITS: 3. **NOTE:** Open to current teachers only. Prerequisite: Project WILD.

CONTACT: Lori Adams at Project WILD

FEE: \$325 each (*includes \$50 deposit*)



JULY/AUGUST continued

Rangelands in the Classroom July 15-19, 2002, McCall

WHAT: Nearly half of Idaho is classified as rangeland! Learn more about this abundant resource and how to bring it into your classroom. Let your environment enhance your curriculum. This interdisciplinary workshop provides hands-on assessment techniques, field trips, resource materials, and a great location in which to learn. Take a field trip to a sheep camp to discuss livestock/wolf interactions. Representatives of Defenders of Wildlife and the livestock industry will accompany us.

CREDITS: 2 or 3

CONTACT: Gretchen Hyde the Rangeland Commission or Karen Launchbaugh at (208) 885-4394 or e-mail klaunchbaugh@novell.uidaho.edu.

FEE: \$50 before May 31. \$75 after May 31. Includes all materials, field trips, meals, and four nights lodging.



Natural Resources Teachers Workshop July 22-26, Coeur d'Alene

LEARN ABOUT: The science behind timber, water, mineral and agriculture management. Economic considerations and environmental protection. Hands-on activities, *abundant* take-home resources.

CREDITS: 3 undergrad. (EWU) or 2 graduate (U of I) or ESD 101 clock hours.

CONTACT: Diahne Gill, Northwest Natural Resources Institute: 509-459-4121. dgill@chamber.spokane.net.

FEE: \$150 covers: snacks, lunches, family BBQ, numerous hands-on teaching materials, activity kits and field trips.

Heartland Peaks Workshop: Environmental Education for Everyone July 28-Aug. 2, McCall

LEARN ABOUT: Infusing environmental education into daily programs. Adapting hands-on, activity-based, exemplary environmental education materials to ethnically diverse and special needs students. Collecting, recording, interpreting environmental data. Fire behavior, paleoecology, insects, forests and more!!!

CREDITS: 1, 2, or 3 graduate or undergraduate.

CONTACT: Dick McCloskey at 208-426-3490, 800-632-6586 ext. 3490. rmcclosk@boisestate.edu

FEE: \$275

MORE WORKSHOPS!

Sawtooth Science Institute April through August

Explore Idaho's natural history with the Sawtooth Science Institute. Learn fascinating things in spectacular places! The Sawtooth Science Institute is offering 22 workshops from April through August. There's everything from "Lewis and Clark in Idaho" (follow their trail!), to "Idaho's Threatened and Endangered Species."

CREDITS: Most workshops carry one credit, but several are two credits.

CONTACT: SSI, PO Box 2167, Sun Valley, ID 83353. 208-788-9686. cgertschen@velocity.net.

For a complete list of workshops, and more information about SSI, visit <http://imnh.isu.edu/ssi>.

Yellowstone Association Institute also offers workshops.

CONTACT: Jeff Brown P.O. Box 117, Yellowstone National Park, WY, 82190. 307-344-2295.

jeffbrown@yellowstoneassociation.org.



SCHOLARSHIPS!

Scholarships are available for many workshops. Check with:

- ❖ Your local school district about funds for professional development.
- ❖ Idaho Science Teachers Association, c/o Kent Mickle, meikkent@d91.k12.id.us
- ❖ Idaho Environmental Educ. Assn., c/o Dick McCloskey, rmcclosk@boisestate.edu

Idaho's Future: Conservation Education

Idaho's highly successful MK Nature Center will soon have a partner in the mission to promote an understanding and appreciation of Idaho's fish and wildlife resources. **The Jack Hemingway Conservation Education Center**, named in honor of the late conservationist, is a landmark facility designed to meet the needs of Idaho students in the 21st century.

The Jack Hemingway Conservation Education Center will provide statewide, science-based learning by utilizing distance learning technology. The 10,000 square-foot center will feature two classrooms, one laboratory, a distance learning classroom and a 200-plus seat auditorium. Curriculum enhancement materials will be made available to students, teachers and the public throughout Idaho.

Conservation education classes from local schools will use the facility on a regular basis. Laboratory experiments in fish biology, aquatics, wetlands management and more may be shared across Idaho. Students and teachers will have access to resource professionals from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management, as well as many other federal and state agencies and private organizations. Additionally, resources and personnel will be provided to support **Project Wild**, a conservation-education program used by more than 7,000 teachers throughout the state.

The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation has partnered with the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and the Boise School District to build the \$3 million center. "Meeting this goal will depend on the generosity of individuals, businesses, corporations and foundations who support science-based education and outreach," said Gayle Valentine, IFWF Executive Director.

The Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation has received over \$770,000 in pledged support from the Boise School District, the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, funding team members, Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation Board members and individuals in Idaho and across the nation.



For more information, please contact Gayle Valentine at (208) 334-2648.



\$\$ for Fire-related Service Projects

Are your students planning a service project related to wildfires? Apply for a GreenWorks! grant. The national PLT office, in partnership with the BLM, is offering grants of \$500-\$2000 for service projects related to wildland fire. Teachers must be PLT-trained, and projects must be school or community based with local partners and hands-on youth participation. See grant guidelines at www.plt.org. (Go to "PLT in Action" and then to "GreenWorks." Deadline: 5/15/02.



For more information on Earthtracks, contact:

Idaho Dept. of Fish and Game
Project WILD
PO Box 25, Boise ID 83707
800-422-WILD
Lori Adams (208) 334-2633
ladams@idfg.state.id.us

U.S. Bureau of Land Management
Environmental Education
1387 S. Vinnell Way, Boise ID 83709
Shelley Davis-Brunner (208) 373-4020
shelley_davis-brunner@blm.gov

Idaho Forest Products Commission
Project Learning Tree
350 N. 9th St., #304, Boise ID 83702
800-ID-WOODS
Michelle Youngquist (208) 334-4061
plt@idahoforests.org

Project WET
800 Park Blvd., Plaza 4, #105, Boise ID 83712
Julie Scanlin (208) 422-0737
jscanlin@uidaho.edu

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission
PO Box 126, Emmett ID 83617
877-ID-RANGE
Gretchen Hyde (208) 398-7002
irrc@bigskytel.com

EarthTracks can be accessed at <http://www.idahoforests.org/teach1.htm>

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