



# The Grebe

Volume 7, Issue 3

Summer 2011

Mission of The Friends of Deer Flat:

*The purpose of this group is to promote, protect, and provide resources to preserve and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge for the enjoyment of present and future generations.*

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## Two Bald Eagle Nests are Successful in Fledging Young in 2011

By Bob Christensen

At Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, we have two pair of bald eagles that have set up nesting territories. The most familiar nesting area is about 1 mile west of the refuge visitor center. This is what we call the Narrows or North Side nesting territory. The other nesting pair has a nest in the SE corner of the refuge. It can only be accessed by boat. This is called the East Side nesting territory.



Fledgling Bald Eagles (FWS Photo)

Both pair of eagles establishes their nesting territories early in the year. Courtship mating, and nest building occur in February. Egg laying begins about the 1<sup>st</sup> of March and the young are hatched out beginning about the 5<sup>th</sup> of April. Then begins a feeding frenzy with the male eagle bringing in fish and the female feeding the hungry young. In a matter of weeks, the young eaglets change from their down gray plumage to fully feathered birds. And at fledging time they are generally a little larger than their parents in total weight. However, it will take up to five years for them to develop the mature plumage of adult eagles with the white tail and head feathers.

Last week I walked into the Narrows nest area to get a count on the fledglings. An adult eagle sounded the alarm as I approached and flew north from the nest to a perch pole ¼ mile away. At first I could only see one fledgling perched on the side of the nest. But by moving to different positions, I finally saw the beak and top of the head and eye of another fledgling lying low in the nest. Meanwhile both adult eagles were keeping watch from their remote position on the perch pole.

(continued on page 5)

## A Message to Members:

As we move quickly into summer with our warm days and cooler evenings I hope you will each take at least one day or evening to enjoy your Refuge. As you spend time there, please consider what it is that you value most about having Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge in your back yard. Please make at least mental notes regarding what is working and what does not enhance your experience.

As you may have read, the staff recently published four (4) proposals for the future of Deer Flat NWR. Plan 1 was to let it remain as it is with no additional oversights, or restrictions, or limitations by humans in authority. The other three alternatives looked at new options related to speed (in some parts of the lake and for specific time periods), limiting non-wildlife dependent activities and large group events not centered around wildlife, making foot-traffic the priority once guests have arrived at the Refuge, and the addition of several other features and amenities. If you have not seen the options, please go to <http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/refugeplanningPlanningUpdates.html> and click on **Planning Update #3**. Page three (3) of the document discusses concepts common to all three alternatives. Maps and text are next. As you look at the legends of the three alternatives you will notice that all three propose adding a canoe launch, a dock (to fish from), a photo blind, and a Visitor Contact Station at the lower dam. Alternatives three and four propose a children's Nature Play Area and an Observation Blind in addition to the other four items. Swimming would be moved to one area and some shoreline access would be restricted.

When the Friends met on the evening of May 27<sup>th</sup> to learn about and understand the proposal, there were immediate comments from members about why certain things should be re-considered (placement of a foot path); Jennifer was appreciative of the input from those of you who have a long-term understanding of why such things should be taken into consideration. We all want the best plan possible—a plan that will help as many people as possible enjoy the Refuge, each in her or his own way. In order for that to happen, WE NEED YOUR THOUGHTFUL INPUT. If the only official comments submitted are comments from the people and groups who want **no change**, then those are the comments that the county commissioners will see, and your congressional delegation will see, and local civic leaders will see when comments are made public (transparency of process).

I strongly encourage you to speak as an independent citizen and tax payer since we are 50+ voices strong if we each send comments and only one voice if we submit a group statement. We may submit something as Friends, but we cannot speak for you with regard to what you most enjoy and want to see retained or changed, so please don't think we have it covered and you need not make your own thoughts known. In fact, I encourage you to make many comments between now and July 29<sup>th</sup>. Look at each component and make it the subject line of your comment. If you write one long comment, parts may not receive the attention they deserve (by the various people viewing them) and we do not want that to happen. If you have a great idea or insight, submit it...and if you have an even greater one next week, submit it, too. There is no limit to how often you can share your thoughts, and the more the better!



(continued on page 4)

*Mark your calendar...*

## Upcoming Events

### ***Biodiversity Basics Day Camp***

June 20th - 24th, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Discover how animals, plants and humans survive in the desert. Preregistration required.

### ***CCP Open House***

Friday and Saturday, July 8th and 9th

Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge is developing a Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Refuge. The CCP will guide Refuge management and public use for the next 15 years.

### ***Lakeside Lavender Festival***

July 9th and 10th

Help staff the Refuge booth and enjoy the beauty of lavender fields. Contact Cody Dix (467-9278) for additional information.

### ***Desert Detectives Day Camp***

July 11th through July 15th - 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Participants will discover how animals, plants, and people survive in the desert through indoor and outdoor activities, including hikes, experiments, crafts, and games. Children entering second and third grades in fall 2011 are invited to join us at this week-long, interactive day camp. To be held at the Visitor Center.

## Upcoming Refuge Events:

For more information on all events, contact the refuge at 467-9278 or [deerflat@fws.gov](mailto:deerflat@fws.gov)

The **Grebe** newsletter is published quarterly. If you have an article or photo that you would like to be included in a future newsletter, please contact Denise Hughes at [den.hug100@gmail.com](mailto:den.hug100@gmail.com)

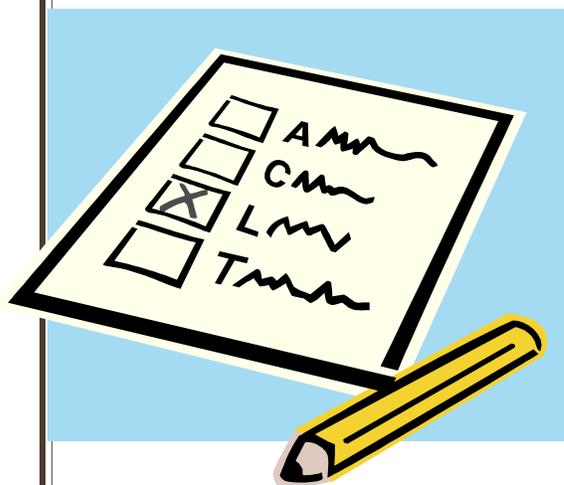
(continued from page 2)

To submit your thoughts via technology, go to <http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/ccp/comments.cfm> and complete the form. By submitting comments in this way, they can immediately be sorted by topic and added to the data base. If you do not have computer access, oral and written comments may be submitted and a staff member will type them into the data base.

If you were not able to attend our initial meeting regarding the proposals, the next open house is scheduled for Friday, July 8<sup>th</sup> from noon-3:00 p.m. and 6:00-9:00 p.m. and again on Saturday July 9<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Thank you for being part of this important process!

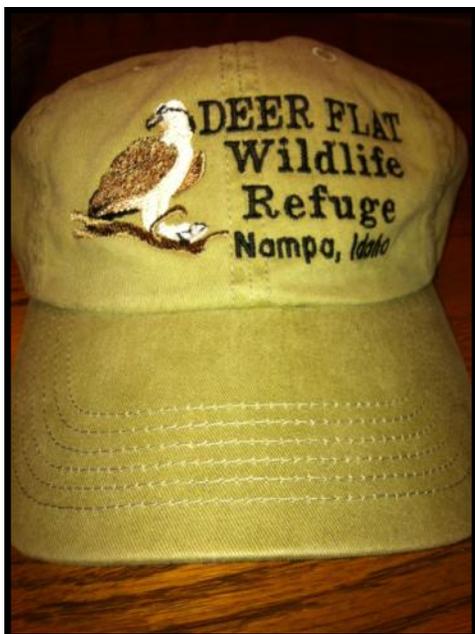
Genevieve Johannsen  
President, Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge



**Let your Voice be heard!**

## The Grebe Nest Bookstore

If you haven't stopped by the Grebe Nest lately, you have missed seeing two new items at the store. Show your support for the Refuge with a Deer Flat ball cap or a Teddy Roosevelt bear. Both would make great gifts for the person who loves the outdoors.

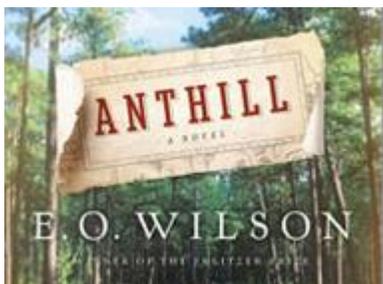


## Two Bald Eagle Nests (continued from page 1)

This week I was able to boat into the East Side nesting area with members of the refuge staff. As we approached the nest, we could see an adult eagle, probably the female, behind the nest and at least one young on a branch above the nest fanning its wings in preparation for its first flight. As we approached more closely, we then could make out another young bird squatting on the fore edge of the nest. Meanwhile the other adult, probably the male, was perched in a snag about 50 yards to the west. We had seen him earlier chasing an osprey away from the nest area and he, himself, then being harassed by another bird which appeared to be a gull or a tern.

So, the final data observation is that both bald eagle nesting territories had active, occupied nests and each fledged two young.

## Love Books? Get Involved in the “Wild Read”



Anthill, a novel by renowned biologist E.O. Wilson, is the book chosen for the online “Wild Read” book group. The discussion, moderated by a bevy of well-known authors and conservation experts, is taking place right now on the refuge vision website hosted by NWRA and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at <http://americaswildlife.org>.

All you need to do is buy or borrow a copy of Anthill and sign up right away so you don't miss a single discussion of the book at <http://americaswildlife.org/wildread/>. It's free, it's fun, and it's designed to deepen the conversation for the National Wildlife Refuge visioning process taking place in Madison, Wisconsin, in mid-July.

Each week beginning May 15, we'll focus the discussion on a different chapter of Anthill. We hope the discussions will encourage a culture of sharing and story-telling about refuges and places we love in nature. Just before the conference, during the week of July 3-9, renowned author Margaret Atwood will serve as a moderator for the book group's wrap-up discussions. Don't be left out. Sign up today at <http://americaswildlife.org/wildread/>

## Comments Sought on Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge Preliminary Draft Alternatives

*The Refuge seeks to improve its conservation activities*

As many of you probably know, the Refuge is currently seeking public comments on the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) preliminary draft alternatives. Comments on the preliminary draft alternatives will be considered as the Service develops the draft CCP/Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

The current preliminary draft alternatives were developed using public feedback received during the scoping process in summer 2010 and the best available science. The range of action alternatives is designed to meet Refuge purposes and the Refuge System mission, and to provide sufficient sanctuary for wildlife, while allowing most recreational uses to continue on the Refuge.

Planning Update 3, which summarizes the draft goals and the alternatives and associated maps, has been distributed to individuals on the CCP mailing list. If you have not received a copy, you can download it from the Refuge website (<http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/>) or pick up a copy at the Refuge Visitor Center. Anyone who would like to receive future updates on the Refuge CCP can call the Refuge office at (208) 467-9278 or email [deerflat@fws.gov](mailto:deerflat@fws.gov) and request to be placed on the CCP mailing list.

There will be several opportunities for the public to comment on the preliminary draft alternatives. During June and July, Refuge staff will accept invitations to attend meetings of non-governmental organizations and provide a PowerPoint presentation on the preliminary draft alternatives and the CCP process. The Service will also host an extended open house at the Refuge Visitor Center in July. The public is invited to meet Refuge staff, learn more about the preliminary draft alternatives, and provide written comments. Open house times are as follows.

Friday, July 8: 12 p.m. to 3 p.m. and 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

Saturday, July 9: 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Public comments will be accepted through July 29, 2011. Comments may be submitted as follows:

Online: [www.fws.gov/deerflat](http://www.fws.gov/deerflat)

Email: [deerflat@fws.gov](mailto:deerflat@fws.gov)

Mail: Jennifer Brown-Scott, Refuge Manager  
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge  
13751 Upper Embankment Road  
Nampa, ID 83686

Phone: (208) 467-9278

Fax: (208) 467-1019

The Draft CCP/EIS is expected to be available for public review and comment in the spring of 2012. The final CCP, expected to be completed in fall/winter 2012, will guide the next 15 years of Refuge management.

When Congress amended the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act (Act) in 1997, it incorporated an underlying philosophy that "wildlife comes first" on refuges. The Act provided the Service with guidance for managing refuges to ensure the long-term conservation of fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats. It also established six priority public uses on National Wildlife Refuges: wildlife observation and photography, hunting, fishing, interpretation, and environmental education. The Act also requires all lands within the Refuge System to be managed in accordance with a CCP to ensure that the management of each refuge reflects the purposes of that refuge and the mission, policies, and goals of the Refuge System.

## Osprey-Cam Update

On May 30<sup>th</sup> the osprey eggs began hatching. At first sight of the new chicks we could only verify the presence of 2 young; however, on June 11<sup>th</sup> at the refuge BioBlitz festival we were able to confirm that there are 3 chicks in the osprey nest. One appears to be less developed than the other two. So, he is the "runt" of the clutch. We will watch anxiously to see if he can compete successfully for food with his more advanced siblings. Meanwhile the male keeps bringing in fish several times a day to keep his mate and the chicks fed. The older two siblings are lunging around the nest now trying to strengthen their legs. We can still see the parents rearranging sticks on the nest, and the male is still bringing sticks to the nest. Perhaps this is a kind of anxiety relieving mechanism. Stay tuned for more exciting viewing as the young ospreys continue on their fast growth curve.

<http://www2.fiberpipe.net/deerflat/ospreycam.asp>

Another note of interest: an additional pair of osprey, which have a nest near the refuge shop area, is also raising young. We have been able to see at least two chicks on that nest.



**Recent Osprey-Cam Photos**

## Volunteer Opportunities...

Happy Summer, Friends! Doesn't it feel good to have the warm sun out again? I am really looking forward to outdoor trips and tending my family's garden this season, how about you? Summer is also a great time to visit, enjoy, and serve a few hours at Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge.

Before talking about what's ahead this season, I would like to quickly look back. First, thank you for your support in getting the Discover Wildlife Journeys field trips off and running this past April and May. And of course, thank you to all those volunteers who served five hours each trip to lead students in exploring birds, water and land insects, and micro-organisms. Students left with some new knowledge and a new appreciation for Deer Flat, in part thanks to our wonderful volunteers! Also thanks to Friends bus scholarships that allowed many schools to come on a field trip that otherwise would not have the funding.

I want to thank you, Friends, for all your support for this year's BioBlitz and Kids' Fishing Day Festivals. Thank you for providing lunch for over 50 volunteers who helped run the festivities this year. Volunteers were happy and grateful to receive a nice summertime meal of a burger/hot dog, salads, beans, and a soda. And the overall festival was a success as well, with over 300 folks attending the BioBlitz and nearly 200 folks attending Kids' Fishing Day!

Now let's look ahead at our summer calendar and take a peek at a variety of opportunities in the next few months. If you enjoy talking to folks about how great Deer Flat is, and want to spread the good word about the Refuge, we have **outreach festival volunteer positions** available in June and July. On June 25-26, the Refuge will have a booth at the **Boise Rec Fest**. And on July 9-10, the Refuge will have a booth at the **Lakeside Lavender Festival**. If you are interested in meeting and greeting folks, but would rather be closer to the Refuge, we always need (and appreciate) Saturday and weekday **visitor center hosts**. We are busy scheduling the next quarter (July-September) of Saturday Visitor Center host days, so consider signing up for a weekend or two!

If you'd like to explore a part of Deer Flat that many folks overlook, and want to get some exercise and fresh air in at the same time, feel free to sign up for our **Snake River Islands Unit Weed Warrior event** on June 25. Volunteers will be helping remove noxious weeds on various islands, and will get to see some historically significant cultural artifacts as well. Of course you are always welcome to help fight the noxious weeds here at the Lake Lowell unit throughout the summer.

If any of these opportunities sound up your alley, or you would like to learn more about other volunteer positions and events, please feel free to let me know. You can contact me at 208-467-9278 or [cody\\_dix@fws.gov](mailto:cody_dix@fws.gov). It is always a pleasure to talk and serve with Deer Flat volunteers.

Enjoy the summer season and take care. We hope to see you at the Refuge!

Cody Dix

Volunteer Coordinator



## It's not too soon to start planning National Wildlife Refuge Week

I hope many of you were able to attend last October's wonderful celebration with music by The Clever Tones, and stories by firelight told by Dr. Vincent Kituku and Bob LaVelle, in addition to the children's activities and dinner. Even though it is only June, it is not too early to start planning this year's celebration. We have been very fortunate to have wonderful and talented committees put the event together in the past and I look forward to another wonderful and talented committee for this year's celebration to be held **October 9th-15th**. With the CCP in progress and people promoting the idea that the goal is to limit access to the Refuge, I feel that it is more important than ever to schedule and market activities that promote wildlife related activities. If you haven't been part of the planning before, please consider adding you talent to the committee. The sooner we start planning, the less stress there will be. If you are interested, please send me an email and let me know.

## Expansion of the Friends' Board

Each year we talk about expanding the board of directors for the Friends group and each year time slips away. As an organization we really do need a wider understanding of our role as an organization and that will only come from having a wider diversity of people on the board. To that end, I am asking you to reflect on our strengths and weaknesses as an organization, and think of others who can bring needed skills into the organization. Talk with that person and ask if s/he is willing to be nominated as a board member. If so, submit the name to us and we will review the nomination and set up an interview. The nominee does not need to be a Friends member. Please have all nominations to the current board by July 8<sup>th</sup>. We especially feel that we need at least one young adult on the board and perhaps a high school age Scout who is familiar with the Refuge. To nominate someone, please use the following form:

Name of nominee: \_\_\_\_\_

Nominated by: \_\_\_\_\_

Skills and qualities (Why do you think this person would be a good board member?): \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you known this person? \_\_\_\_\_

What is your association with her/him? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## Flat Blue

### A fun and exciting way to engage young conservationists!

By America's Wildlife in March 25th 2011

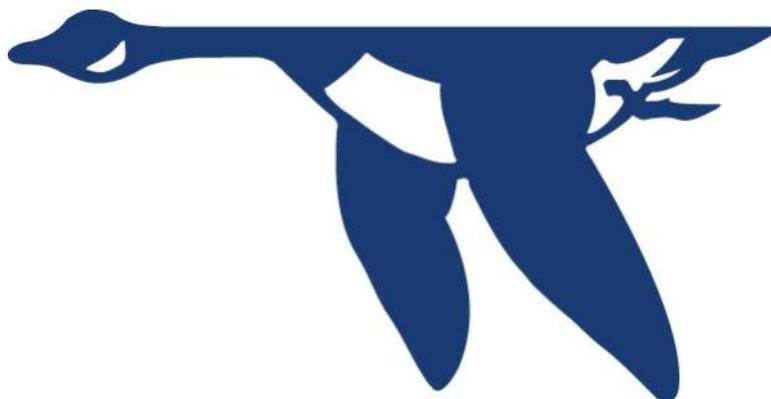
Get to know Flat Blue! Much like Flat Stanley – that fanciful, educational character that has traveled the nation and the world – Flat Blue is a fun way to engage with nature.

The traveling Blue Goose will send you skyward and be part of the Conserving the Future conference this summer.

The Blue Goose is a decades-old symbol of conservation for the National Wildlife Refuge System, and now AmericasWildlife.org is making it possible for you to get to know the unofficial mascot better.

To download a copy of Flat Blue, go to <http://americaswildlife.org/flatblue/>

Print Flat Blue and take him/her on an adventure, including any wildlife refuge. Introduce Flat Blue to your local schools and include him/her in the curricula. Take him/her to camp or the pool this summer! Flat Blue is yours to decorate and enjoy.



Whatever you do, make sure to take a photo and tell the story of your adventure with Flat Blue. Then email it

to [americaswildlife@gmail.com](mailto:americaswildlife@gmail.com) with “Flat

Blue” in the subject line. Be sure to include Flat Blue's location, his/her experience, the date, and who took the picture. (Note: If you want to be in the picture with Flat Blue, please be sure to fill out the *release form* and send it along with your image.)

Share your stories and let your imagination soar!



## TIME TO SAY GOODBYE TO A FRIEND

Kendra Niemec, Deputy Refuge Manager has taken a position in at the Upper Mississippi River NWR in Wisconsin; her last day at Deer Flat NWR was Thursday, June 16th. We want to say thank you to Kendra for the hard work ethic and smile she brought with her and we wish her well in her new position. The Friends sent her with a departing gift of etched mugs and other uniquely Idaho items.

## Between Friends

As many of you realize, the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge is one of approximately 230 Friends organizations, nationwide. When we come together and share ideas it strengthens each organization and when we work with the National Wildlife Refuge Association we have leadership in Washington D.C. that represent us and our Refuges. As we work through the CCP process, we may be asking our national organization (who is very skilled at talking with elected officials) to step in and help present the logic behind Deer Flat NWR and the need to have a plan for preserving it as a Refuge.

There are ways for us to be involved with the national association and with other Friends groups:

**Conserving the Future July 11-14 in Madison, WI**—both Jennifer and I will be attending this “vision conference”, and you can participate on-line, as well, by going to [www.AmericasWildlife.org/live](http://www.AmericasWildlife.org/live) to watch live, streaming video. “During plenary sessions, Friends will be able to submit questions from their own computers as speakers also take questions from the floor. Blogs will be routinely updated from the conference and posted at [www.AmericasWildlife.org/blog](http://www.AmericasWildlife.org/blog).”

To learn more about the core outlines that have been developed, visit [www.americaswildlife.org](http://www.americaswildlife.org). You may also submit questions and comments to the current outlines. If you have specific that you would like me to take to the conference, please email them to me at [gcj\\_83651@yahoo.com](mailto:gcj_83651@yahoo.com).

**National Wildlife Refuge Association** ([www.refugeassociation.org](http://www.refugeassociation.org)) has a listserv that you may each subscribe to so that you receive news of pending issues and events in a timely manner. By working with the NWRA to advocate for refuges and wildlife, you can help ensure a “vibrant future for the Refuge System and American wildlife.” To support their efforts, the NWRA is asking all Friends groups to help them raise \$40,000.00 to use to support both Friends and the National Wildlife Refuge System wildlife and habitat. If you would like to make a dedicated contribution that we will document, deposit, and then forward, with all other dedicated contributions, as a check from the Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge, please use the form below to do so. You may mail it in or drop it by the Refuge in an envelope addressed to the Friends.

I wish to contribute to the National Wildlife Refuge Association to assist them in advocating for America’s wildlife.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Please send my receipt to: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Discover Wildlife Journeys Numbers

# of schools that attended: 10

# of students that attended: 1262

# of schools that attended with scholarship: 6

# of students that attended with scholarship: 666

Dear Friends of Deer Flat,

While I've had many projects to work on during my time at the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge, a main focus has been the Discover Wildlife Journeys field trip program. I've helped expand on the scripts and stories, organize the materials and coordinate with volunteers to help create a field trip program that is not only enjoyable and educational, but in many ways illuminating. Many of the kids who came out for the field trips had never been to the Refuge or had no idea that it even existed. We were able to reach more than twelve hundred students, parents and teachers from 10 different schools. Over 600 of those students were able to attend because of the bussing scholarships provided by the Friends.

We were able to offer something unique to the students of the Nampa, Caldwell and Boise because of the curriculums support of inquiry-based learning rather than merely lecture or show-and-tell like many other field trip programs. As part of my own development hours associated with the internship I have observed field trip programs from all over the Treasure Valley and I can honestly tell you that together we have created a truly exceptional field trip experience. Overall the teacher and parent feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

The funds provided by the Friends purchased the materials we use for the program including boots for wading in the lake, binoculars for bird watching, guides for plant, insect, bird and track identification and many other supplies. The funds used to pay for my internship have also been provided by the Friends. Without these funds the Discover Wildlife Journeys program and environmental education capabilities of Deer Flat would have been vastly reduced.

I am so grateful that the Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge has such a supportive and resourceful Friends group. Thank you so much for making it possible for me to be a part of this program and many others as Environmental Education Specialist. My own experience here was an invaluable opportunity and I've enjoyed it greatly.

I spent this spring at the Refuge working with kids to identify birds using binoculars, look for aquatic invertebrates in the lake, study insects and look at minute creatures under microscopes.

I can't think of any better way to have spent my time.

Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Claire Deters  
Environmental Education Specialist  
Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge

## Raising Funds by Doing What You Already Do

For a while now we have talked about making gift cards available to members as a way of adding to our budget. Yes, you can buy them in stores and from other sources, and when you do they keep the 2% to 17% from the sale and add it to their budget or daily sales receipts. If you would like us to allow you to **pre-order** through the Friends group the percent raised would go into our account and be used to forward our mission. You could use the cards to purchase things/gifts for others, or you could give them as gifts. Either way, our Friends group would reap the benefits.

I have pasted information about a few of the nearby stores below, but you may click on the link below to view the many options including local restaurants. We would want pre-orders in by October so that you can receive your cards in time to use them or give them for the holidays. Please e-mail me with a YES (I am interested in pre-ordering cards) or NO so that we can talk about putting an order form together for distribution if there is enough interest.

<http://www.glscrip.com/>

	card price/% back	card price/% back	card price/% back
<b>Sporting Goods</b>			
Big 5 Sporting Goods	\$25.00 8.00 %		
Cabela's	\$25.00 11.00 %	\$100.00 11.00 %	
Dick's Sporting Goods	\$25.00 8.00 %		
L.L.Bean **	\$25.00 17.00 %	**\$100.00 17.00 %	
Nike	\$25.00 12.00 %		
Orvis	\$25.00 17.00 %	\$100.00 17.00 %	
REI	\$25.00 8.00 %		
Shopko	\$25.00 3.00 %	\$50.00 3.00 %	
Sports Authority	\$25.00 8.00 %	\$100.00 8.00 %	
Tanger Outlets	\$25.00 8.00 %		
Target	\$25.00 2.00 %	\$100.00 2.00 %	
<b>Specialty Retailer</b>			
Bath & Body Works	\$10.00 13.00 %	\$25.00 13.00 %	
Build-A-Bear Workshop	\$25.00 8.00 %		
Container Store	\$25.00 9.00 %	\$100.00 9.00 %	
Cracker Barrel	\$10.00 9.00 %	\$25.00 9.00 %	
Disney	\$25.00 2.00 %	\$100.00 2.00 %	\$1,000.00 2.00 %
Fannie May Candies	\$10.00 25.00 %		
Hallmark	\$25.00 4.00 %		
Honey Baked Ham	\$10.00 12.00 %		
Jiffy Lube	\$30.00 8.00 %		
Jo-Ann Fabrics	\$20.00 6.00 %		
Michaels	\$25.00 4.00 %		
Nike	\$25.00 12.00 %		
Nutrisystem	\$50.00 12.00 %		

(continued on page 14)

## Raising Funds by Doing What You Already Do

	card price/% back	card price/% back	card price/% back
Omaha Steaks	\$25.00 11.00 %		
PetSmart	\$25.00 4.00 %		
Rocky Mountain Chocolate	\$10.00 11.00 %		
Sally Beauty Supply	\$25.00 12.00 %		
See's Candies	\$16.10 23.00 %		
Sephora	\$20.00 4.00 %		
<b>Home Decor</b>			
Bed Bath & Beyond	\$25.00 7.00 %	\$100.00 7.00 %	
Container Store	\$25.00 9.00 %	\$100.00 9.00 %	
Crate and Barrel	\$25.00 8.00 %	\$100.00 8.00 %	
Home Depot	**\$25.00 6.00 %	**\$100.00 6.00 %	**\$500.00 6.00 %
HomeGoods	\$25.00 7.00 %	\$100.00 7.00 %	
JCPenney	\$25.00 5.00 %	\$100.00 5.00 %	
Lands' End	\$25.00 16.00 %	\$100.00 16.00 %	
Macy's	\$25.00 10.00 %	\$100.00 10.00 %	
Marshalls	\$25.00 7.00 %	\$100.00 7.00 %	
Pier 1 Imports	\$25.00 9.00 %		
Pottery Barn	\$25.00 8.00 %	\$100.00 8.00 %	
T.J. Maxx	\$25.00 7.00 %	\$100.00 7.00 %	
Williams-Sonoma	\$25.00 8.00 %	\$100.00 8.00 %	

\*\*Special offers apply. Click on the "what's new" link on the website and view the 'latest news' or 'special offers'.

## WORKING TOGETHER TO MANAGE INVASIVE SPECIES ON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES

Sourced from NWRA

Non-native invasive species crowd out native wildlife and damage valuable habitat, making them the number one threat to the nation's 100-million-acre National Wildlife Refuge System. Rates of spread of invasive plants vary widely according to species and ecosystem type. On western lands conservative estimates of aggregate weed spread range from 10% to 15% per year.

In collaboration with the Center for Invasive Plant Management([www.weedcenter.org](http://www.weedcenter.org)), the NWRS has developed an [invasive plant online training program for volunteers](#). Designed for National Wildlife Refuge volunteers and Friends groups, the program provides science-based, introductory information that is suitable for anyone interested in learning about invasive plants. The five self-study modules address the purpose and history of the Refuge System, how refuges manage invasive plants and how volunteers are assisting them. It also contains tips and tools for community outreach. Each module contains a quiz and web-based resources that enable learners to explore topics more thoroughly.

Go to the following website to find out how you can help your local Refuge: [http://www.refugeassociation.org/new-pdf-files/volunteer\\_training.pdf](http://www.refugeassociation.org/new-pdf-files/volunteer_training.pdf)



Puncture Vine



Rush Skeltonweed



Photos sourced from Idaho Weed Awareness website





**FRIENDS OF DEER  
FLAT WILDLIFE  
REFUGE**

13751 Upper Embankment  
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Nampa, Idaho 83686-8046

***Executive Board:***

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**We are on the web at:  
[www.fws.gov/deerflat/  
friends.htm](http://www.fws.gov/deerflat/friends.htm)**

**To preserves and enhance Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge**

The Grebe is published four times a year — look for the next issue in Summer 2011

## **The Osprey, sometimes known as a Fish Eagle**

The Osprey is unusual in that it is a single living species that occurs nearly worldwide and is found in temperate and tropical regions of all continents except Antarctica.

Osprey usually return to Idaho in April and migrate south in October and November to Mexico and Central America.

Photos by Denise  
Hughes

