

# Volunteer Newsletter

## Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge



Photo courtesy Mackenzie Tietjen

February 2015

Junior Duck Stamp Art Days Volunteers and Participants

**Don't Miss These Volunteer Opportunities** Volunteers are especially needed for the following projects: **Scout Day Leader** (lead wildlife-related badge programs for Scouts) and **Discover Wildlife Journeys Field Trip Leaders** (helping 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grade learn at the refuge). See next page for more information.

### Cheers!

Thanks to all the bird feeding volunteers for keeping the feeders full. Thanks to Noreen for coordinating the feeding program. And, finally, thanks to all bird seed donors. Birds have been visiting the feeders very frequently and keeping the volunteers busy!

### What's New?

The new trail connecting the Centennial Trail to the bird viewing blind is complete! Thanks to volunteers Cathy, Michael, and Tammy for helping stamp wildlife tracks in the new trail and to the Friends of Deer Flat for helping to make that ADA trail possible.

### Around the water cooler...

We want to welcome our new residential volunteer Tammy! She will be helping us revise our Discover Wildlife Journeys field trip program and improve other environmental education programs as well as helping with other projects.

### Friends of Deer Flat Wildlife Refuge



We want to welcome the new Friends board for 2015 and thank them for their service! The Friends of Deer Flat is a non-profit organization that supports the Refuge in many ways. Memberships start at \$10 and are tax deductible. If you are a member don't forget to renew your membership for 2015.

**Friendsofdwr@gmail.com for info about membership or getting involved.**



*Volunteer Mike keeping the Visitor Center bird feeders full. Photo courtesv Mackenzie Tietien*



## Upcoming Events

*Unless otherwise stated, all activities take place at the Refuge Visitor Center*

### **Wild About Life**

#### **Lecture: The**

#### **California Condor:**

#### **Back from the Brink.**

Wednesday February 4<sup>th</sup>,

7PM. They reached a

low of just 22 birds in the 1980s but now have a global population exceeding 430 birds.

Learn about the recovery

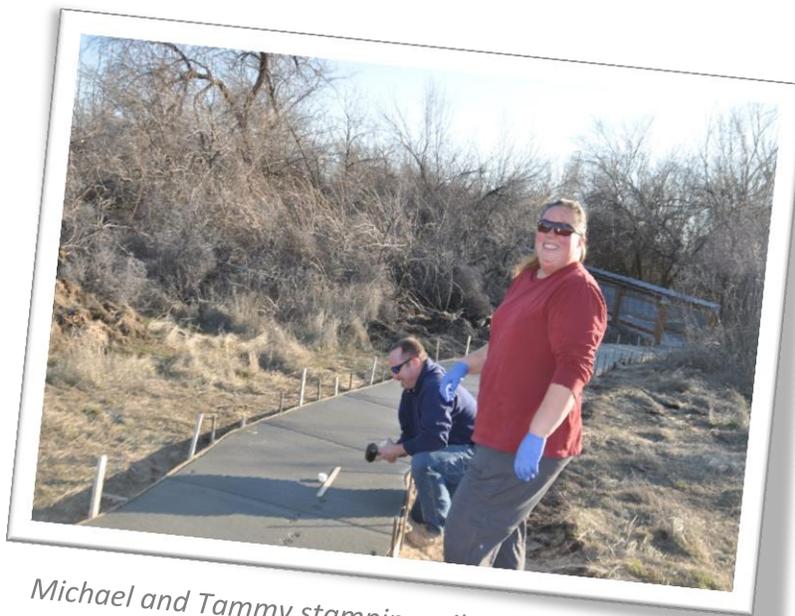
process and the vital role

played by The World Center for

Birds of Prey in Boise. Tate Mason, The Peregrine Fund.

**Junior Duck Stamp Art Days** Feb 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>

10AM-4PM. K-12 students are invited to drop in to draw



*Michael and Tammy stamping wildlife tracks on the new trail. Photo courtesy Mackenzie*

and learn about Idaho waterfowl. All art supplies are provided for them to create their own Junior Duck Stamp Art Contest entry. Junior Duck Stamp entries for the 2015 contest are due by March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

### **Cabin Fever**

#### **Reliever Exhibit**

Saturday Feb, 7<sup>th</sup>

9:30am to 5:30pm. This

Kids First Cast event at

the Karcher Mall is

designed to get families

out of the house by teaching them

about fishing, casting, archery, water safety, and conservation. Visit the Refuge booth while you're there.

## Don't-Miss Volunteer Opportunities!

### **Scout Day Leader** — Feb 7, Mar 7, Apr 4, & May

2, 1-3 PM. Lead programs that include nature crafts

and a nature walk to help Scouts earn wildlife-related badges. No scouting experience necessary—only enthusiasm and a willingness to learn!

### **Discover Wildlife Journeys Field Trip**

**Leaders** — Tuesdays-Thursdays from April to May,

9:30am-2:30pm. Help influence the next generation

of conservationists (4th-6th graders) by connecting

them with nature! Training session early April.

## Other Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities

### **Wood Duck Box Survey** — March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>

and 26<sup>th</sup> Help survey, clean, and repair over 100 refuge wood duck boxes and (new this year!) 6 owl boxes.

### **Reading at the Refuge** — 1st & 3rd Mondays

10:00am and 2:00pm Our environmental educator is completely booked with other programs every Monday in May so we definitely need volunteers to lead storytelling and craft making with pre-school children in May. But we also need volunteers for other months too. Stories and crafts provided.

### **Earth Day Work Day** — Saturday April 18<sup>th</sup>

Celebrate Earth Day at Deer Flat! Crew leaders needed, as well as volunteers to improve habitat for wildlife by removing noxious weeds and litter, and maybe more. Deadline to register: Crew leaders: March 23; Crew members: April 13.

### **Saturday Visitor Center Host** — Saturdays 10-4

Next quarterly schedule: April-June Without volunteer help, the Visitor Center wouldn't be open on Saturdays. If you enjoy interacting with people and sharing wildlife stories with visitors, then this might be the opportunity for you. Schedule is flexible and we need more people on the roster to make schedules work. Sign up today!

## Donations Wanted

**Empty Two-Liter Pop Bottles:** If you have some left over from the super bowl bring them in! They will be used in the new and improved Discover Wildlife Journeys.

**Owl Pellets** for students to dissect and learn from.

**Old Baking Sheet** for use with the owl pellets.

**Camouflage Cloth** (extra or worn out camo clothes or blankets) for use in future programs.

*Please drop donations at the Visitor Center!*

To sign up or find out more contact Mackenzie Tietjen, Volunteer Coordinator at [deerflat@fws.gov](mailto:deerflat@fws.gov) (208)-467-9278