

# APRIL • 2022 Connections



## Got Spring Fever?

Get Outdoors with Idaho Power!



**It has been a long winter. Summer's not far off, but April can also be a great time to explore one of the many parks, campgrounds and other recreational sites Idaho Power maintains along the Snake River.**

**Whether you live in Pocatello or Baker City, or somewhere in between, you aren't far from a great destination for a picnic, a day trip or a weekend outdoor getaway. Here are a few ideas:**

### See the Sights

Hells Canyon is the deepest gorge in North America, full of history, natural beauty and wildlife. Spring comes early here, and visitors often spot deer, bighorn sheep and mountain goats.

Shoshone Falls is taller than Niagara. During high-water years, this iconic cataract makes an ideal backdrop for epic selfies. But even when flows over the falls are low, the view of the river, the park at the overlook and the surrounding canyon are well worth the trip. While you're in the area, visit our Twin Falls Park, just three miles upstream.

### Get on the Water

Whether you are motoring out on C.J. Strike Reservoir to catch fish or looking for a quieter spot to launch a canoe, you'll find Idaho Power boat ramps all along the river, from American Falls to Hells Canyon Reservoir.

Before you go, ensure all watercraft are cleaned, drained and dry to avoid moving

invasive mussels from one water body to another. Have your boat inspected and get your invasive species sticker. Learn more at [invasivespecies.idaho.gov](http://invasivespecies.idaho.gov).

### Go Fishing

Idaho Power adds thousands of catchable trout to popular fishing spots along the Snake River each year. Our spring release added 50,000 rainbows to C.J. Strike Reservoir just last month! We also released several thousand fish at American Falls, Centennial Park near Twin Falls and the Bell Rapids boat ramp in the Hagerman Valley last fall.

### Spring is for the Birds

Birdwatching is popular at many of the wildlife habitat areas we manage, from the Hagerman Valley to Turner Ranch near C.J. Strike Reservoir, to Hells Canyon. We own more than 25,000 acres of wildlife habitat, and most is accessible to the public. You can find maps, directions and birding checklists at [idahopower.com/habitat](http://idahopower.com/habitat).

### Go on a Treasure Hunt

Geocaching is an outdoor adventure game that can be played by anyone with a global positioning system (GPS) device or a smart phone. Participants search for hidden containers, called geocaches, and then share their experiences online. Caches are typically waterproof containers of varying sizes and shapes, holding miscellaneous items, such as logbooks and trinkets. There are caches all over the world!

Idaho Power has a dozen "powercaches" hidden on publicly accessible locations within our parks. Each one has a code that you can use to download an electronic stamp. Collect all 12 for a special prize!

Get started at [idahopower.com/geocaching](http://idahopower.com/geocaching).

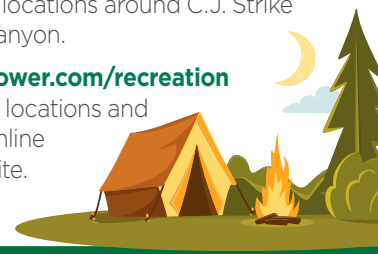
### Bust Out the Camping Gear

Spring is a great time for an early season campout to ensure your equipment is ready for summer adventures.

The popularity of Idaho Power's campgrounds in Hells Canyon and at C.J. Strike Reservoir has soared in recent years. Finding a campsite on the most popular weekends can be difficult, but online reservations ensure you'll have a spot when you arrive, and they save money.

We maintain less-developed, no-fee campsites that are available on a first-come, first-served basis at Swan Falls and in several locations around C.J. Strike and in Hells Canyon.

Go to [idahopower.com/recreation](http://idahopower.com/recreation) for a full list of locations and a link to our online reservations site.



# Safety First!

Anyone who is in, on or around the water at this time of year needs to take extra precautions.

- Water temperatures are very cold, currents are swift even in reservoirs, and spring runoff can add snags and other hazards to the river.
- Be prepared for spring winds.
- Always bring a buddy. Let others know where you are going and when you expect to return.
- Equip your boat with throwable life rings, a sounding device and fire extinguisher.
- Life jacket loaner stations are at Cottonwood and North Park, Swan Falls, Lower Salmon Falls, McCormick Park and Hells Canyon Park.



## Project Update: Flight Lab Set to Open Soon

Idaho Power has a long history of working with the World Center for Birds of Prey to protect hawks, eagles and other raptors from interactions with electrical equipment. The next evolution in that partnership is the new Flight Lab exhibit opening this summer as part of the World Center's major expansion.

Over the winter, an Idaho Power line crew worked with students from Northwest Line-man College to install poles, crossarms and other electrical equipment in the display.

This exhibit shows how Idaho Power, the utility industry and conservation partners work together to protect raptors. Visitors will get an up-close look at the birds and

some of the equipment being used here in Idaho and around the world to protect these birds from electrocution.

Learn more about the display and the World Center's expansion at [peregrinefund.org](http://peregrinefund.org).



## From the Energy Efficient Kitchen

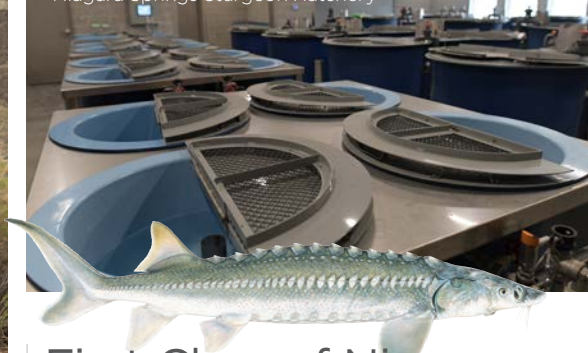
### Pineapple-nut Muffins

- |                     |                                             |
|---------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 1 ¾ cups flour      | ¼ tsp baking soda                           |
| 2 eggs              | ¾ cup chopped nuts                          |
| ½ cup sugar         | 1 (8 oz) can crushed pineapple, not drained |
| 2 tsp baking powder | <b>Topping</b>                              |
| 3 tbsp soft butter  | 2 tbsp sugar                                |
| ½ tsp salt          | ½ tsp cinnamon                              |

Mix flour, baking powder, salt and baking soda; set aside. Gradually beat sugar into butter, adding eggs one at a time. Add nuts. Sift in about ½ cup of flour mixture and stir just enough to moisten. Add pineapple (including juice) and then stir in the rest of the flour mixture. Evenly spoon batter into 12 muffin cups, filling each about two-thirds full. Sprinkle with cinnamon-sugar topping. Bake at 350° for 20 minutes.

Recipe selected from Idaho Power's Centennial Celebration Cookbook.

April 2022  
Breakfast



## First Class of Niagara Springs Sturgeon Return to the River

The first group of juvenile sturgeon from Idaho Power's Niagara Springs White Sturgeon Conservation Hatchery are being released into the Snake River this month.

About 2,000 sturgeon, weighing about a pound and measuring 10-12 inches, will be released between Shoshone Falls and Brownlee Dam to support the existing wild sturgeon population in the Middle Snake River.

In May 2021, Idaho Power biologists collected thousands of naturally fertilized sturgeon eggs from known spawning areas in the Snake River below Bliss Dam. Those eggs were taken to the new hatchery and reared for 11 months. They have been marked and implanted with a tiny electronic chip so biologists will be able to track their progress in the wild.

These fish are the result of a unique partnership between Idaho Power and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. The company now has five hatcheries dedicated to supporting increased angling opportunities and native fish populations under terms of its licenses to operate hydroelectric projects on the Snake River.

The Niagara Springs sturgeon hatchery was named the winner of the 2021 Outstanding Stewards of America's Waters award by the National Hydropower Association.

For a video tour of the hatchery, visit [youtube.com/idahopower](https://youtube.com/idahopower), or go to [idahopower.com/fish](http://idahopower.com/fish) for more information.

