

an Idaho Power Recreation Site Outdoor season is in full swing, and Idaho Power's parks, campgrounds, and boat ramps are waiting to inspire

Idaho Power maintains dozens of recreational sites along the Snake River between American Falls and Hells Canyon, from simple boat launches to campgrounds complete with water and electrical hookups.

your summer.

We also operate a museum at our oldest hydroelectric site, Swan Falls Dam, and we staff the U.S. Forest Service's Hells Canyon Creek Visitors Center, which is the launch point for epic boat trips into the Hells Canyon National Recreation Area.

Some customers ask why the power company operates so many recreational facilities. As part of the federal licenses required for us to use the Snake River to generate electricity, we have an obligation to provide recreational opportunities to the public.

Our employees take pride in helping customers enjoy the great outdoors, and we are constantly looking for ways to make the experience even better. See the story on the back page for highlights of recent facility improvements you may notice this summer.

We stock popular fishing spots with rainbow trout each spring and fall for the benefit of anglers. We maintain geocaches at several parks for kids and adults who love a GPS-assisted treasure hunt. If you are looking for a day trip or a spot to host a family reunion picnic, our free day-use parks offer a shady respite from the summer sun. Several also have large picnic shelters available to reserve on our website.

Speaking of reservations, you really need one if you are planning an overnight stay at one of our campgrounds in Hells Canyon or at C.J. Strike Reservoir. These sites are more popular than ever, and a reservation ensures your spot is ready when you arrive.

Free campsites are still available on a firstcome, first-served basis at Swan Falls Dam and Moonshine Mine, as well as several undeveloped sites in Hells Canyon.

No matter where you pitch your tent, park your RV, or launch your boat, we ask that visitors follow a few basic safety precautions:

- Keep campfires within the approved fire rings provided at campgrounds, and always make sure your fire is completely out before you leave.
- Wear a Coast Guard approved lifejacket when recreating in, on, or around the water. Lifejackets are available for you to borrow at several popular boat launch sites.
- Stay up to date on changing conditions that could affect your trip. We provide updates on road closures, fire restrictions, and water conditions on our website.
- Start your trip at dahopower.com/recreation.



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## What's New at Idaho Power Parks?

Here are a few highlights of recent improvements to Idaho Power recreation facilities visitors might notice:

**American Falls**: A new angler access is now open on the west side of the Snake River, downstream of the dam on Fish Hatchery Road. There's a parking lot, vault toilet, and stairs leading down to the river.

Twin Falls Park: We've completed a two-year project to improve the road and stairway for waterfront access. The boat dock area now has an improved retaining wall and parking area as well as a vault toilet.

North Park: This popular C.J. Strike Reservoir access has new floating docks, and we'll be adding more around the reservoir this fall!

The historic **Swan Falls Powerhouse Museum** is open summer Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. for free self-guided tours. The museum was recently updated with new displays. Visitors can walk down into a turbine pit for a close-up view of how electricity has been generated there for more than a century.

The spillway area at Oxbow Dam is closed to the public, but plenty of great fishing spots remain accessible throughout that area of Hells Canyon.

Wondering about whitewater **conditions**? You can check stream gage information and potential Milner Mile releases on our website.



For a great guide to Idaho Power's parks and campgrounds

— including maps, directions, and a list of amenities — pick up our Fun Country brochure, freshly updated for 2025 and available at our campgrounds, the Hells Canvon Creek Visitors Center, or online at idahopower. com/recreation

#### June 2025 Side Dish

#### From the Electric Kitchen

### **Stovetop Baked Beans**

- 3 15-oz cans pinto beans, rinsed and drained
- 2 slices of bacon, cut into ½-inch pieces
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- ¼ cup ketchup
- ¼ cup dark molasses
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 Tbsp mustard

Place bacon in a large, deep skillet and cook over medium high until done. Drain and discard excess grease. Add the onion and sauté until tender. Stir in the beans, ketchup,

molasses, brown sugar, and mustard. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook uncovered, stirring occasionally, for 20 minutes or until sauce thickens. Makes eight half-cup servings.



# Fire Recovery Underway at Daly Creek

Idaho Power's Daly Creek property — a 10,000-acre wildlife habitat management area near Richland, Oregon — is part of our stewardship of lands near our Hells Canyon hydroelectric projects.

Last summer's Coyote Fire burned most of the Daly Creek Habitat Management Area as well as adjacent public lands. We began work last fall to rehabilitate this important habitat that supports native wildlife including elk, deer, bighorn sheep, and beaver.

We contracted a large drone to treat some areas and help prevent invasive grasses from taking over before native plants could regain a foothold. In some lowland areas where the terrain allowed. we reseeded large swaths with native bunchgrasses and other flowering plants to give them a head start.

We will continue to monitor and manage the health of the habitat. Nature is resilient, but it will take several years for the area to fully recover. To learn more about Daly Creek and our other habitat lands in Hells Canyon, the Hagerman Valley, and the Grand View area, visit idahopower.com/habitat.





## Did You Know?

Idaho Power owns 39 parks and campgrounds scattered across beautiful southern Idaho. Put one on your to-do list this summer!

