

Heyburn State Park

Introduction: For millenia the site of Heyburn State Park was an important part of the homeland of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe. Chatcolet Lake and surrounding environs became a popular destination for recreationists in the late 19th and early part of the 20th century. They came to picnic, camp and enjoy nature. The area was recognized by Congress as a resource worth retaining when they named it Heyburn Park and offered it to the state in 1908.

Heyburn is a natural park with a variety of different habitats. Though many things have changed in the hundred-plus years since its establishment, the natural resources have remained much the same. Large old growth ponderosa pines tower over grassy hillsides covered in wildflowers. Cedar trees are mixed with hemlocks and western white pines, Idaho's state tree. Near lakes and wetlands you will find a myriad of wildflowers, plants, birds and animals. Casual visitors can still see osprey and whitetail deer. There are views of the mountains in the distance, the meandering St. Joe River and breathtaking views of the lake. Visitors can utilize over 44 miles of hiking trails that can provide a semi-wilderness experience. There is also access to the 72 mile Trail of Coeur d'Alenes State Park.

Heyburn State Park is rich in history. At the request of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, the first mission church was built by the Jesuits in 1843 along the St. Joe River in an area near the park. The historic Mullan Road was built across the park area in 1859 and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. The park itself is the granddaddy of Idaho's park system, dating back to 1908 when Senator Weldon Heyburn pushed the legislation through Congress, reserving 7,825 acres for park purposes at the southern tip of Lake Coeur d'Alene. The park was a popular excursion for vacationers from Coeur d'Alene when steamboats still plied the lake. The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) had a camp here in the 1930s. Their legacy can be seen in the recreational facilities and structures that they built that are still in use today. These structures are now on the National Registry of Historic Places.

Getting There: Heyburn State Park is located about 6 miles east of Plummer, Idaho. In Plummer, take State Highway 5 east from State Highway 95. Highway 5 runs through Heyburn State Park from west to east and there are several different turn-offs for various areas of the park. The first turnoff is about 5 miles from the Highway 95 and Highway 5 intersection. It is Parkside Road on the right side of the Highway before you enter the park. Turn right here in order to go to the Southside Trailhead area. The Southside Trailhead area can be found about 5 miles up this road. The second turn-off is the road to the Appaloosa Trailhead. This turn-off is a left turn off Highway 5 about 1,300 feet past Parkside Road. The next turn off is what might be considered

the main entrance to the park. This is the Chatcolet Road/Hawley's Landing turn-off. It is a left turn off of Highway 5 that is about 1 ½ mile past the Appaloosa Trailhead turn-off. It is just past the railroad underpass and is well marked. Take this turn off for access to Hawley's Landing, Plummer Creek, Plummer Point, and the Chatcolet area. Another 1 ¼ mile on Highway 5 will bring you to the Rocky Point turn-off on the left side of the highway. About 4 miles east Rocky Point on Highway 5 will bring you to Benewah Lake Road turn-off. Turn left here and follow Benewah Lake Road for about 1 mile to the Benewah Campground and day use area.

Major Features:

The Landscape: The old growth forest is no doubt the dominant natural feature at Heyburn State Park. Upland forest vegetation, consisting primarily of ponderosa pine, Douglas fir, grand fir, western larch, dominates the mountainsides of the park. Other tree species such as western white pine, western red cedar, and western hemlock grow where moisture, light, and soil conditions are favorable for growth. Meadow, riparian, wetland, and dry grassland vegetation are also present in lesser amounts.

The Lakes: At 2,128 feet elevation, the St. Joe River is the highest navigable river in the world. Today, motorboats ply its lower 25 miles. White-water enthusiasts shoot frothy rapids closer to its headwaters in the Bitterroot Mountains at the Montana/Idaho border. Inside Heyburn State Park, the St. Joe River flows between Chatcolet Lake, Benewah Lake and Round Lake, then between Lake Coeur d'Alene and Hidden Lake, separated only by narrow strips of riverbank. This marvel was created by the construction of the Post Falls Dam on the Spokane River in 1906. Engineers expected that the St. Joe River would disappear under the Lake Coeur d'Alene system. However, its banks lined with large cottonwood trees extends above the lake surface outlining the river's ancestral path. Thus it is commonly referred to as the "shadowy St. Joe."

The Park: The park consists of a total of 7,838 acres, 5,505 acres of land and 2,333 acres of water. The elevation of the park ranges from 2,128 feet at the lakeshore to 3,366 feet at Shoemaker Butte. The park gets about 165,820 day use visitors and 29,739 camping visitors for an annual total of 195,559 visitors. The Economic Impact of the park as provided in a 2018 BSU Study was about \$6,197,000 annually. The park is large enough to contain several separate and distinct use areas described below.

Chatcolet: The Chatcolet area was the first area in the park to be developed for recreational purposes. It is the original site of the "town of Chatcolet" which once consisted of a train station and numerous other buildings used to provide services to early tourist. Today it looks quite different from its historic roots.

The campground was originally constructed here by the CCC. This campground consists of 38 standard campsites. Although it has four little toilet buildings with flush toilets, there is no modern restroom with toilets, sinks and showers. Further, the campsites have rather small parking spurs that are not very level. So this is pretty much a tent campground. Basically no improvements have been done to this campground since it was built in the 1930s.

The Chatcolet picnic area is located on a large grassy lawn in between two groupings of private cottage leases. There are 2 group shelters located here that were originally built by the CCC. There is also an improved restroom with flush toilets that had also been built by the CCC.

The picnic area has about 12 picnic tables available for use.

The Chatcolet day use area includes a very large gravel parking lot that serves the picnic area, the boat launch area, and the Chatcolet Marina. It also serves as a trailhead for the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. There is an improved restroom with flush toilets on the south side of the parking lot. A vault toilet is located on the north side of the parking lot close to the boat ramp. There is plenty of room for vehicles with boat trailers in the parking lot, however, the parking spaces are not delineated.

There is a two lane boat ramp with a spacious courtesy docking area. The marina is operated by the IDPR. It has about 21 rental slips available and 51 privately owned boat houses that rent dock space from the park.

The Chatcolet area also has a total of 52 private cottage lots and just north of Chatcolet on Hidden Lake are 23 float homes whose sites are leased by the IDPR.

Currently, all the access roads and parking lots in Chatcolet have gravel surfaces. Plans for revamping the Chatcolet area were completed by the Welch Comer engineers/surveyors in 2011. The plan calls for paving the roads and parking lots, enlarging the marina for additional slips and providing a place for the 23 float homes, and generally improving and modernizing the area.

The Shoeffler Butte Loop trail is 1.4 miles, This trail will take you to the highest point in the park (Elevation 3,366 ft.) where you will have good views of the "Harrison Flats" and Indian Mountain to the west.

The historic Mullan trail is 1.5 miles. It begins at the Chatcolet Campground near campsite 114 and climbs up the ridge to the west. This trail was originally used by the Coeur d'Alenes to travel to their hunting and berry picking grounds. It was later utilized as part of the Mullan Road, which was completed in 1859.

The Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes is a 72 mile long paved trail that runs between the towns of Plummer and Mullan, Idaho. This converted railroad line is open to bicycles, roller blades and foot traffic. But only a segment of this trail is within Heyburn State Park. The remainder is designated as the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes State Park. The biggest attraction on this trail in Heyburn State Park is the 3,100 foot bridge/trestle across the St. Joe River that provides outstanding views of the surrounding area. For using the trail to the east, the best parking lot/trailhead is the Chatcolet day use area. For using the trail to the west, the best parking lot/trailhead is the Indian Cliffs Trailhead.

Plummer Point: Plummer Point is a day use area that was originally constructed by the CCC. It has a gravel access road and a gravel parking lot. There are two little toilet buildings with flush toilets There are two individual picnic shelters and 1 group shelter available. There are six picnic tables, some with grills there. Plummer Point has a pebbly swimming beach with a dock.

Just up Chatcolet Road from Plummer Point past the park maintenance area are located two camping cabins. The Blue Heron and Osprey camper cabins are at a quiet spot just off of Chatcolet Road. Each 12 X 12 cabin features heating units and air conditioners and can sleep up to five people. The Osprey Cabin is on a hill overlooking Chatcolet Lake. The Blue Heron Cabin is surrounded by shade trees and also overlooks Chatcolet Lake. These cabins offer better views than any of the park's campsites. They both have easy access to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. There is a vault toilet nearby for use by cabin occupants:

The nearby Indian Cliffs Trailhead is located where Chatcolet Road cross the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. It provides access to four trails. The Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes as described

above can be used from this trailhead.

The CCC Nature Trail is a 1 mile loop. It is one of the first trails ever constructed in the park by the CCC in 1937. A portion of it meanders along the bottom of worn basalt ledges creating large rock slides covered with moss and fascinating mounds of white lichen.

The Indian Cliffs Trail is 2.6 miles. It is a well groomed trail that gains 520 feet in elevation to excellent views of the lower St. Joe River. The route incorporates a variety of habitats ranging from dark cedar groves to high open ponderosa pine meadows. It also passes through a small grove of Pacific yew trees.

The Whitetail Loop Trail is 8 miles. Beginning at the Indian Cliffs Trailhead this trail follows a primitive fire road through the park. However, 1.75 miles is on a single track trail.

Plummer Creek: There is a gravel parking lot with a vault toilet situated on Chatcolet Road just south of the Plummer Creek bridge. This location serves both as a picnic area with 3 tables and grills and as the park's premier wildlife interpretive location with an interpretive shelter with display panels, a bird blind, and a boardwalk trail. The boardwalk trail is a short walk out into the marsh that sits on the edge of Chatcolet Lake near Plummer Creek.

The Plummer Creek Trail is ½ mile in length. It begins on the west side of Chacolet Road at the Plummer Creek Bridge. This short trail follows along the creek and connects to the Indian Cliffs Trailhead.

The Plummer Creek Fire Trail is 1.6 miles. This is a well shaded trail through stands of hemlock, cedar, and white pine. It can be hiked as a loop by fording Plummer Creek (a wet crossing) and returning via the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes.

Hawley's Landing: The focal point of Hawley's Landing is the park's visitor center and office. Trail maps, brochures, and interpretive display panels are found here that help to orient you to park resources. There is a paved parking lot at the visitor center. The visitor center has improved restrooms (flush toilets)..

The Hawley's Landing Campground features a total of 52 campsites. Forty-two of these campsites have water and electricity hook-ups. Of those forty-two, 6 sites have sewer hook-ups as well. The remaining ten campsites are for tent camping and are on a separate loop of the campground. At the end of this loop is an amphitheater. There 3 improved restrooms and 1 restroom building with toilets, sinks, and showers. The campground access roads and parking spurs are all gravel surfaced. A short trail leads down to the lake shore where a dock is provided for those who wish to moor their boats while camping. The campground is set back from the lakeshore on a bluff.

Unfortunately, the properties with the best views of the lake at Hawley's Landing are the 11 private cottage leases immediately above the lake shore. One of these cottage leases had been relinquished back to the IDPR. This is the Lakeview Cottage that the IDPR rents out. The Lakeview Cottage (2 bedroom with full bath) is located on the shoreline of Chatcolet Lake. It has electric heat, fireplace and enclosed screen porch. It has a spectacular view of Chatcolet Lake. It also has access to a dock with space for one boat.

The Lake Shore Loop Trail is 1.3 miles. It begins at Hawley's Landing Campground and takes you to the Plummer Creek Marsh Wildlife Viewing Area. This segment of the trail has no significant grades and is easily hiked by people of all ages. It passes through the parks most accessible western red cedar grove.

Rocky Point: Exactly as its name would imply, Rocky Point is a promontory point of rocky material that sticks out into Chatcolet Lake. Its shorelines provide great views of the surrounding area and because of this it has always been a focal point in the park. The CCC built a picnic area here in the 1930s. The picnic area includes an improved restroom (flush toilets) and a group shelter. There are 10 picnic tables available for use next to a nice sandy swimming beach. A playground is also located here.

The IDPR operates a marina here that has about 42 boat slips for rent and 61 privately owned boathouses that rent dock space from the park. Adjacent to the marina is a four lane boat ramp with three courtesy docks. One of the courtesy docks has a small marina store concession. The marina store rents paddle boats, canoes, and kayaks. They sell fuel, snacks, beverages, fishing gear, and ice.

There are two gravel parking lots at Rocky Point. One is near the marina that can handle vehicles with boat trailers, however, the parking spaces are not delineated. There is a vault toilet adjacent to this lot. The other lot is for the picnic area.

One of the most unique structures at Rocky Point is the lodge that was built by the CCC in the 1930s. It was originally designed to be used as a concession building that had rooms for rent and a restaurant. It has not been used for that purpose since the early 1990s. For a while it functioned as the park office and visitor center, until the new visitor center was completed at Hawley's Landing in 2009. It is empty now and is not being used for any particular purpose and is in a state of arrested decay. Recommendations have been made to remodel it and use it as an event/reunion center. But no action is expected on this in the near future.

Rocky Point would have probably been a great natural setting for a campground with its great views and immediate access to a sandy beach and beautiful shoreline. But unfortunately, about 80% of Rocky Point is taken up by 78 private cottage leases. A few of these leases have been relinquished back to park properties. One of these is the Rocky Point Cottage that the IDPR rents out. The Rocky Point Cottage (2 bedroom with full bath) is near the beach, playground, boat launch, docks and marina store. The cottage has electric heat, large living room, covered patio and charcoal grill. It also has a washer and dryer.

The Cedar Loop Trail is a short loop for hikers only. It begins at Rocky Point at a point that is right across Highway 5 from the wide spot at the upper Rocky Point loop road. The Cedar Loop climbs the hill above the Rocky Point Marina to a point where it ties in with the Rocky Top Loop Trail. There is a picnic table at this junction and a great view of Chatcolet Lake and the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes bridge. The trail then follows the Rocky Top Loop Trail east for about a quarter of a mile before dropping back down to the starting point.

Benewah: The Benewah area was originally the "Benewah Resort." The Benewah Resort was a concession that may have a history tracing back to the 1920s. The Benewah Resort concessionaire chose not to renew their contract in 1999. Due to the condition of the building and the expense of bringing the electrical and plumbing systems up to code, park officials tore it down. But nine mobile homes who have a "grandfathered" lease remain there today.

The day use area consists of a gravel parking lot adjacent to a somewhat primitive one lane boat ramp with a courtesy dock.

The Benewah Campground has 39 campsites. Fifteen of these campsites have water and electrical hook-ups. Eight of those fifteen sites feature sewer hook-ups as well. The remaining 15 sites are tent campsites. The campground has an improved restroom with flush toilets, sinks, and showers. The campground has a dock for campers who wish to moor their boats.

The Benewah Lake Road is the access to the area. It is paved for part of the way, but when it reaches the park boundary it is a gravel surface for the rest of the way.

Appaloosa: The Appaloosa Trailhead is designed primarily for equestrian use. It has a gravel parking lot for vehicles with horse trailers. It also has group use corrals. There are 4 picnic tables and a vault toilet here.

This area is the trailhead for the Appaloosa Trail. This trail is 2.8 miles. It is a multi-use trail that is also open to horses. Equestrians can reach the trailhead by traveling west on Highway 5 for 1.4 miles from the entrance to Chatcolet Road.

Southside: The Southside Trailhead is designed for multi-trail use but has features that cater to equestrian use. It has a gravel parking area and 6 campsites with individual corrals. There are 3 picnic tables available. It provides access to a lot of great trails that are located in the upland areas that are south of Highway 5 in the park. There are four loop trails that can be accessed from this trailhead. There are several places along these routes to stop for lunch with tables and awesome views of Chatcolet and Benewah lakes. These trails are multi-use and open to horses.

The Scout Out Loop Trail is 2 miles. It follows a level bench of Douglas fir and ponderosa pine before switch backing down into the Pee Dee Creek canyon. There it follows Pee Dee Creek downstream for about a quarter of a mile before climbing back to the bench and meandering back to the trailhead.

The Gandy Dancer Loop Trail is 4.2 miles. It starts down the Scout Out Loop Trail, but continues east to the Bill Morris Road. It crosses a small stream and goes down a heavily timbered draw on an old road towards Highway 5. It traverses through a moist north slope covered with Western red cedar, Douglas fir, and grand fir. The trail goes under a railroad trestle that is 200 feet above the creek. The trail then parallels Pee Dee Road and then up Pee Dee Creek Canyon back to the trailhead.

The Rocky Top Loop Trail is 5 miles. This trail follows the Gandy Dancer Loop Trail to the east to the Bill Morris Road. From there it circles a large bench between the Bill Morris Road and Cottonwood Creek. It traverses open stands of ponderosa pine with awesome views of Chatcolet and Benewah Lakes.

The Ponderosa Ridge Loop Trail is 7.4 miles. This trail follows the route of Gandy Dancer Loop Trail and the Rocky Top Loop Trail. It actually starts off of the Rocky Top Loop Trail at its easternmost point. The Ponderosa Ridge Loop Trail drops down from this point and crosses Cottonwood Creek and climbs back up the other side. The trail traverses through damp north slopes blanketed with cedar and grand fir to open Ponderosa ridges. It winds through several drainages before topping out on the ridge above Benewah Lake. There are picnic tables at this viewpoint. The trail will then drop down a series of switchbacks and cross Cottonwood Creek again before climbing back to the Rocky Top Loop Trail.

Geology: The underlying bedrock at Heyburn State Park is sedimentary in origin from the Precambrian Belt series, or igneous basalt of the Miocene age. However much happened geologically since that strata was deposited. The Belt Supergroup substructure extends through Alberta, British Columbia, Montana, Washington and Idaho, and is understood to be more than 2 billion years old. The sedimentary rocks are mildly metamorphosed and includes argillite, siltite, quartzite and dolomite.

The igneous rock outcrops are small, unconnected remnants of much larger basalt flows

considered to be part of the Columbia River Plateau Flood Basalts. The flows formed horizontal terraces that can be seen all along the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene, the western base of the Coeur d'Alene mountains, the St. Maries River (beyond the mouth of the St. Joe River), and several miles up the Coeur d'Alene River. The terraces range from 200 to 500 feet above the lake depending upon the initial slope of the lava from its source to the west. The number of flows is not known, but the depth of each generally ranges from 2 to 10 feet. The basalt has a very uniform composition and differences between flows are slight. The tops and bottoms of each flow are generally more vesicular than the middle. This basalt is the youngest rock of the area, formed in the middle or upper Miocene age, roughly 7 to 23 million years old. An example of the basalt flows can be seen in the talus slopes along the CCC Nature Trail.

There are areas in the park where metamorphic rocks can be found. Near Benewah Lake there are places where Benewah Shale was quarried to use in the CCC construction in the park.

The Coeur d'Alene Mountains to the east are intricately laced with faults, though no known faults are located in the area of Heyburn State Park. The nearest known fault is located north and east of the city of St. Maries and continues eastwardly up the St. Joe River Valley.

The Pleistocene and late Pliocene Epochs included a series of glacial advance ice ages that began about 2.5 million years ago and lasted until 10,000 years ago. Four major glacial periods are recognized in North America: the Nebraskan, Kansan, Illinoian, and Wisconsinan (Pinedale) glaciations. During the Pinedale glaciation, Canada and the northern United States were glaciated by two large continental ice sheets. The Cordilleran Ice Sheet was the smaller sheet, which covered southwestern Canada and the northern areas of Washington, Idaho, and Montana. The Purcell Trench Lobe was the eastern lobe of the large Cordilleran Ice Sheet, and it reached as far south as Lake Pend Oreille, and formed Glacial Lake Missoula. The glacier pushed material in front of it, and deposited lateral moraine material and stratified sands and gravel as the ice retreated in what is now the location of the City of Coeur d'Alene. Lake Coeur d'Alene was never glaciated; it was never occupied by an ice lobe. This Purcell Trench Lobe advanced southward, it blocked the water in what is now Lake Coeur d'Alene from exiting the basin to the north. Also, melt water from the glacier flowed south into the Lake Coeur d'Alene area; hence Lake Coeur d'Alene is a result of the glaciations, and is also a drowned river valley. When the Purcell lobe retreated it left moraine material behind which dammed the river basin behind it and to the south, forming Lake Coeur d'Alene. Ultimately the trapped flooded basin water exited over a basalt lip near North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene and flowed out to the west into what is now the Spokane River.

Ecosystems and Plant Communities: Heyburn State Park encompasses a variety of habitats: Douglas fir forest, lakes and ponds, marshes and wetlands, meadow/prairie, and riparian.

Douglas Fir Forest: The old growth forest of Heyburn State Park holds the oldest living and tallest residents of the park. Trees as old as 300 years exist in the park. Numerous species of trees thrive here providing homes and shelter for the animals. The ponderosa pine or yellow pine grows up to 180 feet tall and 4 feet in diameter. It can range in age up to 500 years. It is recognized by their jigsaw puzzle-like bark and the bark smells like vanilla. The western white pine grows up to 180 feet tall and 4 feet in diameter and it can range in age up to 200 years. It is Idaho's state tree. The western red cedar grows up to 250 feet tall and 6 feet in diameter. It ranges in age up to 1,000 years. The western red cedar ranks second only to the giant Sequoia in old growth diameter width. The Douglas-fir grows up to 130 feet tall and up to 3 feet in diameter. It

can range up to 400 years. The western larch is commonly known in Idaho as tamarack. It can grow up to 200 feet tall and 4 feet in diameter. It can range in age up to 300 years. The western larch is one of only three tree species that are cone bearing (coniferous) and deciduous (dropping their needles each autumn). The park also has grand fir and western hemlock trees. Because the park consists mainly of old growth forest, the trees here are among Idaho's tallest and oldest. The lush undergrowth in this forest includes the Rocky Mountain maple.

The smallest forest trees in the park are the Pacific yew which can only achieve a height of about 50 feet and a diameter of 2 feet. Despite its small size, it can range in age up to 1,000 years. Because it was looked upon as worthless for lumber production, after the surrounding lumber quality trees had been cut, the yew trees were commonly piled and burned as slash which kept them out of the second growth forests. So the Pacific yew is a remnant species that is now only found in old growth forests. Because the forests of Heyburn State Park have been in protective status since early in the 20th century, remnant groves of Pacific yew have survived. For this reason, the Pacific yew is the keynote species in the park. The Pacific yew or western yew (*Taxus brevifolia*) is a conifer native to the Pacific Northwest of North America. It ranges from southernmost Alaska south to central California, mostly in the Pacific Coast Ranges. Because of common slash and burn forestry practices, they now mostly occur in parks and other protected areas, quite often in gullies. The tree is extremely slow growing, and has a habit of rotting from the inside, creating hollow forms. It has thin scaly brown bark, covering a thin layer of off-white sap wood with a darker heartwood that varies in color from brown to a magenta/purplish hue to deep red. The leaves are lanceolate, flat, dark green, ½ to 1 inch long, arranged spirally on the stem, but with the leaf bases twisted to align the leaves in two flat rows either side of the stem. The seed cones are highly modified, each cone containing a single seed which develops into a soft, bright red berry-like structure called an aril. The seeds contained in the arils are eaten by thrushes and other birds, which disperse the hard seeds undamaged in their droppings. Pacific yew grows in varying types of environments; however, in drier environments it is mostly limited to stream side habitats, whereas in moist environments it will grow up onto slopes and ridgetops. Pacific yew is shade tolerant; however it can also grow in sun. The tree's shade tolerance allows it to form an understory, which means that it can grow along streams providing shade to maintain water temperature. The chemotherapy drug paclitaxel (taxol), used in breast, ovarian, and lung cancer treatment, is derived from the bark of the Pacific Yew.

Lakes: Chatcolet Lake, Hidden Lake, Round Lake, and Benewah lake were historically separate and distinct from one another. They were originally divided by the St. Joe River. However, after the dam was built on the Spokane River in 1906 and the water level of Lake Coeur d'Alene was increased, these lakes became connected bodies of water and essentially became part of Lake Coeur d'Alene. But the meandering remnant river banks of the St. Joe River still provide some degree of separation and the four lakes with their historic names persist.

Lake Coeur d'Alene is the headwaters of the Spokane River. While it has all the appearances of a pristine lake, unfortunately, it is anything but. The biggest problem of all is invisible. The lake is a repository for 75 million tons of sediment polluted with lead, cadmium, arsenic and zinc. In the early days of mining, tailings were deposited directly into the south fork of the Coeur d'Alene River. These metals have washed downstream after more than a century of mining in Idaho's Silver Valley. Due to the Clean Water Act and because mining operations have become more efficient, much less pollution is being deposited than in the past. But because of the huge amount of mine tailings in the Silver Valley, the toxic legacy will be with us for many years

to come, likely forever. The toxic metals are sequestered at or near the bottom of the lake. If oxygen levels are high enough, metals remain trapped in this area, because the sediments act as a sink for metals. This is where the decrease in oxygen is concerning: as oxygen levels near the bottom of the lake decrease, the solubility of metals in the lake's sediment are affected, releasing metals into the water column. For this reason, the overall goal is to try to maintain the lake in a low-nutrient status, with high levels of oxygen in the lake's bottom waters.

Another concern is the problem of private developments along the lake shore. The problems caused by these developments are many, but disruption of the phosphorus cycle is most concerning. Phosphorus pollution flowing into Lake Coeur d'Alene has greatly increased since the 1990s. Phosphorus is a naturally-occurring mineral, found in soil and rocks. In a forested ecosystem, it is absorbed and constantly recycled by plants and soil microorganisms. Once vegetation and topsoil are removed, phosphorus reaches the lake water by erosion and runoff. In the water, it acts as a nutrient, increasing growth of aquatic plants. Interestingly, plants and plant parts can also be a source of phosphorus. Phosphorus is readily taken up by aquatic invasive weedy species. When the plants die off in the fall, oxygen is removed from the water during the decomposition process. When this happens, oxygen is no longer available for fish and other aquatic life that depend on it. Excess growth of these plants also blocks available sunlight to bottom-dwelling species, and this combination of processes speeds the problem of lake eutrophication. Eutrophication, or hypertrophication, is when a body of water becomes overly enriched with minerals and nutrients that induce excessive growth of plants and algae. This process may result in oxygen depletion of the water body.

Part of the attraction to Heyburn State Park has always been the lakes. Park officials are doing all that they can to prevent pollution from park property sources, but Lake Coeur d'Alene is such a large body of water and park officials may have little influence over water quality.

Marshes and wetlands: There are numerous marshes and wetlands in Heyburn State Park. Many of these exist where creeks enter the lakeshore. These areas support cattails, rushes, sedges, lily pads, water potatoes, and other aquatic species. Waterfowl and shorebirds find these area particularly attractive. The best known of these is the Plummer Creek marsh. The park has developed this location as its premier wildlife interpretive site. A boardwalk trail is provided so that visitors can get an up close look at a functioning marsh. The upper reaches of Benewah Lake are almost entirely made of a very marshy wetlands.

Meadow/prairie: Meadows and prairie grassland occur in clearings of the Douglas fir forests. This ecosystem can also be associated with ponderosa pine forest where the trees are well spaced have still retained some of their "park-like" appearance. Park officials have an ongoing resource management program aimed at restoring these types of forests. Some of the wildflowers that can be found in the park include lupine, trilliums, mariposa lily, calypso orchids, mountain lady's slipper orchid, dwarf waterleaf, false Solomon's seal, and the very showy trumpet honeysuckle.

Riparian: The best example of the riparian ecosystem are the remnant banks of the St. Joe River that support willows, birch, and black cottonwood trees. The undeveloped lake shores in the park are representative of what the lake edge riparian area is supposed to look like. The upland riparian areas are those that grow along the edges of the parks creeks. These are Pee Dee Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Plummer Creek, and Benewah Creek. The riparian vegetation includes

willow, black cottonwood, alders, and a lush undergrowth.

Wildlife:

Mammals: The mammals present in the park include: beaver, black bear, Canada lynx (Listed Threatened), Columbian ground squirrel, coyote, elk, flying squirrel, long tail weasel, mink, moose, mountain lion, mule deer, muskrat, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, river otter, snowshoe rabbit, striped skunk, western red squirrel, white tailed deer, chipmunk, and yellowbelly marmot.

Birds: The birds present in the park include: American coot, American dipper, American white pelican, bald eagle, barn swallow, barred owl, belted kingfisher, black-billed magpie, black-capped chickadee, chestnut-backed chickadee, blue grouse, ruffed grouse, brown creeper, bufflehead, Bullock's oriole, California gull, California quail, Canada goose, cedar waxwing, Clark's nutcracker, cliff swallow, common loon, common merganser, common nighthawk, raven, dark-eyed junco, double crested cormorant, downy woodpecker, eared grebe, golden eagle, great blue heron, great horned owl, harlequin duck, hooded merganser, horned grebe, house finch, killdeer, mallard, mountain bluebird, mourning dove, northern shoveler, northern flicker, osprey, pileated woodpecker, red-tailed hawk, red-winged blackbird, ring-necked pheasant, robin, ruddy duck, ruffed grouse, Stellers jay, turkey vulture, violet-green swallow, Virginia rail, western flycatcher, western meadowlark, western tanager, wild turkey, spotted towhee, calliope hummingbird, MacGillivray's Warbler, pine grosbeak, red crossbill, and nuthatch.

Because of their very close association with a preferred habitat of old growth forest, the keynote species is the pileated woodpecker. The pileated woodpecker (*Dryocopus pileatus*) is a woodpecker native to North America. This insectivorous bird is a mostly sedentary inhabitant of deciduous forests in eastern North America, the Great Lakes, the boreal forests of Canada, and parts of the Pacific Coast. The term "pileated" refers to the bird's prominent red crest, with the term from the Latin pileatus meaning "capped". Adults are 16 to 19 inches long, their wing span is 26 to 30 inches across, and they weigh about 11 ounces. They are mainly black with a red crest, and have a white line down the sides of the throat. They show white on the wings in flight. Adult males have a red line from the bill to the throat, in adult females these are black. Their breeding habitat is forested areas across Canada, the eastern United States, and parts of the Pacific Coast. This bird favors mature (old growth) forests and heavily wooded parks. These birds mainly eat insects, especially carpenter ants and wood-boring beetle larvae. They also eat fruits, nuts, and berries, including poison ivy berries. Pileated woodpeckers often chip out large and roughly rectangular holes in trees while searching out insects, especially ant colonies. They also lap up ants by reaching with their long tongues into crevices. Pileated woodpeckers may also forage on or near the ground, especially around fallen, dead trees, which can contain a variety of insect life. Usually, pileated woodpeckers excavate their large nests in the cavities of dead trees. They make such large holes in dead trees that the holes can cause a small tree to break in half. They raise their young every year in such holes. Once the brood is raised, the pileated woodpeckers abandon the hole and do not use it the next year. When abandoned, these holes provide good homes in future years for many forest songbirds and a wide variety of other animals.

Reptiles and Amphibians: The reptiles and amphibians present in the park include: bull snake, garter snake, northern alligator lizard, pond turtle, water snake, rubber boa, western toad, tree

frog, bull frog, spotted frog, long-toed salamander, and Van Dyke's salamander.

Fish: The fish present in the park include: largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, black crappie, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, brown trout, blue gill, pumpkinseed sunfish, bullhead, chinook salmon, kokanee salmon, tiger muskie and yellow perch.

Cultural History: Before the arrival of the Euro-Americans in the area, the Schitsu'umsh (Coeur d'Alene) Tribe traditionally inhabited a landscape comprising about 5 million acres of land centered around Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, including much of the Panhandle and stretching into parts of Montana and Washington. The tribe had many permanent settlements around the lake and also in the surrounding areas. They hunted in the mountains filled with elk, deer, black bear, and fished in the lakes and streams which were filled with various species of fish.

There were Coeur d'Alene camps near Ch'mi'wes, which was the lands between Round, Benewah and Chatcolet Lakes. Plentiful birch trees provided materials for the heavy canoe traffic and winter fuel. This locale offered protection from cold winter winds and more temperate days and nights. On the level higher ground at Sq'wedusmn ("face paint"), near Indian Cliffs, families planted extensive gardens, precursors to later era's farm fields.

Those who made their summer and winter camps near today's Hawley's Landing and at Benewah Lake were closely related, and kin to the residents of the St. Joe drainage. They called themselves *hnych'mchinmish*, the people of the area between the two rivers, where the St. Maries River enters the St. Joe.

One of their best food sources were water potatoes. Water potatoes, *sqigwts*, grow in the marshy edges of the lake. They were regularly harvested by women in the late fall using digging sticks, or, when the water levels rose, by loosening the tubers and letting their single leaves and long stalks float the potatoes to the surface. Prepared, stored, or cooked in the manner of other such tubers and root crops, they provided a staple food for the winter. It was only in desperate times, when hunger demanded it, that winter campers might raid the water potatoes stored by other lake inhabitants, the muskrats, or *chch'likhw*. The availability of this food source influenced their choice of the area around the lakes as their homeland.

Modern Coeur d'Alenes still refer to those places as their homelands. Large tribal families near here until the 1900s, hunted, fished, and gathered food in the nearby mountains and on the western plains. Their lives were centered on the lake and its tributaries. They practiced gardening skills on the grounds above the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes. Those large gardens and hay fields were the beginning of the tribal farms later established on the Palouse.

In the early 1800s. The Schitsu'umsh came into contact with French-Canadian trappers and traders. It has been said that these traders were very skillful in manipulating the Indians. But it seems that the Schitsu'umsh were not that easy to warm up to and hence the traders never dared to settle among them. This led to the traders giving them the nickname Coeur d'Alene (heart of awl) meaning they were hard or small or sharp hearted.

The famous Jesuit missionary, Father Peter De Smet first met the tribe on October 31, 1841 when three Coeur d'Alene families visited his mission in Montana. Three Coeur d'Alene children were baptized that day. On April 16, 1842, De Smet went to meet the Coeur d'Alenes in their own land while journeying through the area on his way to Fort Colville. He remained among them for three days, baptizing twenty-four adults and all of their children.

By the time this contact was made with the Jesuit missionaries, the Tribe had 27 settlements, but sickness and epidemics had significantly reduced their numbers and by 1850 the

tribe would consist of only about 500.

The Coeur d'Alenes had asked De Smet to send a Black Robe to teach them. De Smet promised to do so and choose Father Nicholas Point as the first missionary priest to serve the Coeur d'Alene, Brother Charles Huet also accompanied Point on this assignment. The two missionaries arrived in the territory of the Coeur d'Alene homeland on November 4, 1842. They selected a site for the mission considerable south of Lake Coeur d'Alene along the St. Joe River. By Christmas of that year they had erected a rudimentary house of prayer.

After spending the winter near present day Coeur d'Alene, the missionaries returned to the St. Joe Mission site on March 30, 1843, and immediately began building a church. So many tribal members participated in the construction overseen by Brother Huet, that by April 7, they completed the framework of the church. By April 13 it was enough finished that Point offered the first mass on Holy Thursday just before Easter.

This original Jesuit mission had been built in their homeland, at *St'uts'te'wes*, at a place now called mission point. At the time, Chatcolet Lake, Hidden Lake, Round Lake, and Benewah lake were all separated by narrow pieces of land between them with the St. Joe River bisecting this lush valley. Around the edges of the lakes and the river were marshy areas. It was the abundance of food sources that attracted the Tribe to live here. However, it may not have been the best site for a European style building. The missionaries had invested a great deal into the St. Joe site with the object of living among the Tribe. However, it wasn't long before they decided to move the mission. They found out that during the springtime, rising water made the site nearly unapproachable from the north on horseback and the fields and pastures were often covered with water. The mission church itself could be subject to flooding and there were also many mosquitoes..

By this time, the primary missionary was Father Joseph Joset. In November 1845, Father De Smet ordered Joset to "look for a site more convenient." This began the process of moving the mission to the location known as Cataldo. Once the Cataldo mission was completed in July 1846, the old St. Joe Mission was abandoned.

The natural wealth of the forests, rivers, and lakes sustained their existence for countless generations on five million acres of ancestral land. The Coeur d'Alene had abundant living. Their lifestyle was forever altered with the discovery of gold in the Idaho panhandle in 1860.

Tribal families moved within reservation boundaries after 1870, before large-scale farming, mining, and timber development of their homelands. The Coeur d'Alene were forced onto a reservation in 1873.

With the establishment of the Union Pacific Railroad from Plummer to Mullan in 1888, tribal members would take advantage of this new form of transportation. Coeur d'Alene women, would ride the trains after the turn of the century, conversing in their native language, impressing their non-Indian neighbors. These women often traveled to the lakes to fish year around. In the winter they carried gunnysacks, or canvas bags. The caught fish would be placed in the bags, dipped in the water, then hung in the cold air; frozen for the trip home, and storage. Near here, at the "stopping place," Hntsaqaqn, riders from the south and west could transfer to the steamboat landing, where Coeur d'Alene men worked skidding logs for the boats and trains.

After the lake levels rose due to the 1906 construction of the post falls dam tribal men could be found near the lake shore selling cord wood to the steamboats in the winters between farm seasons. The frozen lakes afforded shortened travel routes for visiting relatives, favorite sites for tribal women ice fishing, and open water areas for duck and geese hunters.

Starting in 1907, a series of actions would take place that each downsized the Coeur

d'Alene reservation. One of the actions involved the establishment of Heyburn State Park.

After 1909 the reservation was opened to homesteading. Nevertheless, the Coeur d'Alene people continued to sustain themselves spiritually by visiting and staying in the distant mountains and along the near lake shores.

History: Euro-American history would begin in the area of Heyburn State Park in 1843 with the Jesuits establishing the St. Joe Mission. The mission was moved to Cataldo in 1846.

In the 1850s, the Army wished to conduct an expedition and was conducted a search for a practical transcontinental railroad route. On March 3, 1853, Congress had appropriated \$150,000 to survey railroad routes across the Pacific Northwest. Isaac Stevens was appointed to lead the survey project on March 25, 1853. Stevens largely had his pick of men for the survey project, and chose a wide range of common soldiers, laborers, topographers, engineers, doctors, naturalists, astronomers, geologists, and meteorologists. John Mullan was assigned to the Stevens survey party as a topographical engineer. Mullan's survey duties would cause him to be an early explorer of Northern Idaho and Northwestern Montana. Upon joining up with the rest of the Stevens party in December 1854, Mullan learned that Congress had appropriated \$30,000 to build a military wagon road from the confluence of the Platte and Missouri rivers in the Nebraska Territory to the military road leading from Fort Walla Walla to Olympia in Washington Territory. In July 1857, Stevens moved to Washington, D.C., and began pushing for money to build the Fort Benton-Fort Walla Walla road. Although it is unclear if Stevens actually made the request, in late 1857 Mullan was detached from Company A and ordered to the capital to assist Stevens with his efforts.

On March 15, 1858, the War Department issued orders for construction of the Fort Benton-Fort Walla Walla Road. Mullan was ordered to report to Fort Walla Walla and supervise the effort. The War Department relied on the legal authority and \$30,000 appropriation provided in 1855 to begin the work.

In July 1859, the crew reached Lake Coeur d'Alene. Mullan decided to build the road on the shortest route past the lake, which was along the southern edge. Unfortunately, this meant a rapid, 700-foot descent into the Valley of the St. Joe River, and then an extremely difficult passage through dense timber and heavy underbrush. Massive, fallen trees blocked the route every few feet, and boulders, some of them half-buried, had to be blasted or rolled out of the way. It took eight days just to reach the valley floor. Mullan then encountered a large swamp, which his crew bridged with a corduroy road. Reaching the 240-foot-wide St. Joe River, the crew built two flat-bottomed boats to serve as a ferry, since building a bridge was not practical. The work crew reached the Coeur d'Alene Mission at Cataldo on August 16, having blazed 198 miles of road

So the section of the Mullan Road through Heyburn State Park was completed in the summer of 1859. In his book, *Construction of a Military Road*, Mullan wrote this on July 16, 1859:

We had left the plains of the Columbia river proper and reached the spur of the Bitter Root mountains, where our more difficult work commenced. We had chosen for our location a line which jutted upon the southern edge of the Coeur d'Alene Lake, would follow up four miles the valley of the St. Joe river . . . Our first work of difficulty was to make the descent of seven hundred feet from the table land to the valley of the St. Joe. Several points were examined, but none afforded a natural descent and I was forced to make one over a long spur making down to the lake and junction of the St. Joe River with the outlet of Round Lake. Over the outlet a bridge of sixty feet was constructed.

By the winter of 1860, it was apparent that the route south of Lake Coeur d'Alene was impractical due to marshy ground, seasonal flooding, and large rivers in the area. In 1864, a new section of road was built north of the lake. By July 1, 1862, that road was completed. Once built, the Mullan Road received little attention from the Army. It was used by civilians, gold seekers, and settlers as the main travel artery for this region. With the advent of the railroad in the 1880s, the Mullan Road no longer served long-distance wagon trains and was replaced by an automobile highway in 1916. The 624 mile Mullan road stretched from Fort Benton, Montana to Walla Walla, Washington. It was built between 1858-1862. The road cost a total of \$230,000.

The Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation was established by Executive Order on November 8, 1873 and modified by subsequent congressionally ratified agreements. The reservation comprised approximately 590,000 acres in Idaho.

The Dawes Act was passed in 1887 which authorized the allotment of 160 acres of reservation land to each member of the Tribe and opened up the un-allotted lands to homestead entry. In the case of the Coeur d'Alene Reservation, the year 1908 was set for completion of the necessary surveys and the beginning of allotment of claims.

In 1888, With the Secretary of the Interior having obtaining the prior consent of the Tribe, Congress granted a railroad right-of-way to the Union Pacific Railroad within the boundaries of the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation. This was the Wallace-Mullan Branch right-of-way between Plummer and Cataldo, Idaho. This rail line was constructed right through the area that would become Heyburn State Park. A train stop was developed at what would become the Chatcolet Townsite. This townsite had a train station, a store, a bar and amusements, including a carousel. The Union Pacific Railroad tracks ran along the lakeshore and extended around Plummer Point and up Plummer Creek to the town of Plummer. The land tenure at the township was somewhat dubious, because being that it was built on Indian Reservation land, the building owners had at best, only "squatters rights."

The townsite at Lake Chatcolet would soon become a popular recreation destination for Spokane residents. Not only could it be reached by train from Spokane, you could also ride the Coeur d'Alene and Spokane Electric Railway to Coeur d'Alene and then board a steamship to Chatcolet. By the turn of the 19th Century, Lake Chatcolet would become a popular destination for steamboat excursions from Coeur d'Alene that sent travelers to the southern end of the lake and up the St. Joe River to St. Maries.

Idaho Territory was admitted into the Union on July 3, 1890 as the 43rd state.

In 1906 Washington Water Power constructed a dam on the Spokane River at Post Falls. The level of Lake Coeur d'Alene rose approximately six feet. This created the phenomenon of the St. Joe River flowing through the lake. Further the previously separate lakes, Chatcolet, Hidden, Round, and Benewah were now joined with Lake Coeur d'Alene and seasonal fluctuations in the water levels were eliminated. This would greatly enhance the recreational potential of the area and make it even easier for steamships to reach the Chatcolet Townsite.

Construction on the Milwaukee Road Railroad through the area began in 1907 and service to St. Maries would begin on July 4, 1909.

The Union Pacific Railroad built the unique 224-foot through-truss swing-span bridge at the southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene in 1921.

Although primitive automobile roads had been built into the area earlier, the official State Highway 5 from Plummer to St Maries was not completed until 1932.

In 1942, the Post Falls dam height was raised which brought the level of Lake Coeur

d'Alene up another two feet.

The St. Maries River Railroad took over the Milwaukee Road Railroad segment through the park in 1980.

Park History: Being Idaho's oldest state park, Heyburn has a very lengthy and complicated history. While many of the events would serve to enhance the park for future generations, some initiatives ended up being historical blunders that will take decades to correct and overcome.

Around the turn of the 20th Century, the area around Lake Chatcolet had become a favorite location for picnicking, fishing, and camping. Spokane, Washington was growing and people from the city would travel by train and steamship to recreate along the southern reaches of Lake Coeur d'Alene.

Senator Weldon Heyburn had a dilemma. He was from the Northern Idaho town of Wallace and had been elected to the Senate in 1903. He would become a reluctant proponent of a national park in northern Idaho. He was well aware of the scenic qualities of the area encompassing the southern end of Lake Coeur d'Alene. He also knew that a "pleasuring ground" had sprung up on the shores of Lake Chatcolet that even had its own stop on the Union Pacific line. Further, "park visitors" would arrive by train or steamships down Lake Coeur d'Alene to reach the place. But at the time, this was all taking place on land that was included in the Coeur d'Alene Indian Reservation.

As a result of policies instituted under the General Allotment Act (Dawes Act) of 1887, each member of the Tribe was to select and receive 160 acres of reservation land in the spring of 1908 and excess land within the boundaries of the reservation was to be opened to homesteading. Heyburn thought that Tribal members or settlers would make selections of their plots on the best properties along the lake shores and this would result in barring the public from the area. Further, settlement on the lots would subject the lands to timber cutting, agriculture and other commercial uses that would destroy the scenic beauty.

So to avoid this problem, Heyburn sponsored a bill in 1907 to create Chatcolet National Park to be administered by the Secretary of the Interior. Heyburn never spelled out what sort of "national park" he expected to develop, but it seems highly probable that he anticipated a turn-of-the-century beach resort and genteel summer retreat for excursionists. At that time, there was a great interest in preserving the awe inspiring, so called "freaks of nature."

The *Coeur d'Alene Evening Press* noted:

This particular spot is designated because it has been for years the most popular camping and fishing ground in the Inland Empire ... It is the most popular measure of local interest Heyburn has introduced..

His bill passed the Senate, but failed in the House. Framed by picturesque mountains and dissected by the world's highest navigable river, the glacial lake valley boasted diverse waterfowl and other wildlife. The Chatcolet site could easily have met the stringent criteria for national park distinction had its natural values been adequately pitched to the U.S. Congress. Heyburn could have done a better job of describing the area of Lake Chatcolet that lay at the foot of steep bluffs covered with dense, old growth stands of pine and fir. He could have added that the open pine forests stretched to the rolling wheatfield and grasslands of the Palouse country. Also that beyond Lake Chatcolet, the alder and willow lined St. Joe River meandered. Beyond that lay Round Lake. The whole was a sunken valley across which the river flowed, its silt-raised banks barely above water. But alas, Heyburn's proposed boundaries only reached the St. Joe River, but did not encompass it. By failing to treat the old growth forest and the St. Joe as a natural wonders, he

would fail to describe a place worthy of the title “National Park.” Heyburn did not clearly identify the funds needed for the purchase of the park, compensation for the Indians, and future maintenance allocations.

He would not give-up and Heyburn resubmitted the bill in 1908. “I want in Idaho one National Park,” Heyburn told his colleagues in the U.S. Senate on March 16, 1908. But in 1908, there only existed seven National Parks at such places as Yellowstone, Sequoia, Yosemite, Mount Ranier and Crater Lake. Heyburn’s paltry proposal for Chatcolet National Park seemed somewhat inadequate to these in comparison. Further, those first “natural” parks had been entirely carved out of the public domain at no cost to the federal government. Heyburn’s proposal would require sequestering the lands (and possibly purchasing them) from an established Indian Reservation. Also the Chatcolet Park already had one railroad running right through it with another under construction in 1907 and the lake level had been artificially increased by placement of a dam at Post Falls. It just wasn’t “national park quality” if there was such a thing at the time.

As his bill languished in conference committee, Idaho Congressman Burton French attempted to persuade his fellow representatives to accept Heyburn’s proposal. He explained that the site was:

. . . rugged land lying at the junction of the beautiful St. Joe River with Lake Chatcolet, . . . one of the most beautiful spots in Idaho . . . and would have splendid value for park purposes, because it would be preserved as a beauty spot in which visitors could come from all of the Northwest and, in fact, the whole country.

While opposition remained, at least French’s support would mean that Heyburn’s proposal would not be dismissed outright. The House seemed to think it better to make the Chatcolet area into a state park. Heyburn complained, “state parks are always a subject of embarrassment.” But there was little time left before the Coeur d’Alene’s began selecting their allotments, Heyburn grudgingly accepted the amendment to allow the State of Idaho to buy the land for use as a state park. This paved the way for not only Idaho’s, but the Pacific Northwest’s first state park. The bill passed on April 20, 1908.

The Act provided:

Whereas, by appraisalment under direction of and approved by the Secretary of the Interior, the purchase price to be paid by the State of Idaho for the said lands has been fixed at \$11,379.17 and said Secretary has directed that said lands be conveyed to the state, upon payment ..., upon the following terms and conditions, to-wit: the lands are to be by said state held, used, and maintained solely as a public park, ..., the title to revert to the United States ..., absolutely if the said lands, ..., shall not be, ..., so used and maintained by the state, ... and in the event of the violation by the state of any of the conditions ..., then the United States may ... enter upon, and into the exclusive possession of, the said lands, ..., and have, hold, seize, and possess the same:

Before the Coeur d’Alene Reservation was opened for settlement, Congress withdrew a portion of the land, comprising 6,774.65 acres, from allotment and settlement by the Act of 1908. The Act authorized the Secretary of the Interior to convey the land to the State of Idaho for use as a public park:

The offer of a state park took the State of Idaho by surprise. Despite popular support for the park, the state had limited funding to improve or maintain the area. The 1908 attempt to fund the purchase of the park for \$15,000 from the Fish and Game Department’s budget failed due to

insufficient funds. On March 16, 1909, the legislature approved \$12,000 from the general fund to be paid by the Fish and Game Fund when it had sufficient money to make the purchase. The Legislature further provided: that the name of the said park shall be Heyburn Park; that the State Game Warden was to administer the park; that the State Game Warden was authorized to make concessions for three places of refreshment and entertainment, and to make concessions for suitable boating facilities; that the State Game Warden may hire no more than two policemen; and that the State Game Warden make necessary rules and regulations and determine the manner of their enforcement.

On June 28, 1911, the State of Idaho purchased an area of 7,840 acres, including land and water for \$11,379.17 and dedicated it to the use and enjoyment of the people. It rapidly became a very popular summer playground. When Secretary of the Interior Walter L. Fisher, drew up the deed transferring the land to Idaho, he based the wording off of Heyburn's original national park bill which required, "... the preservation from injury and spoliation of all timber, mineral deposits, natural curiosities, or wonders within the park, and their retention in their natural condition."

One of the first developments undertaken after the creation of the park was the dredging of a channel from the St. Joe River into Lake Chatcolet. This allowed excursion steamers to dock at the park. The railroad was already in existence at the turn-of-the-century and regularly scheduled excursion trains ran during the summer months.

The Idaho Legislature had assigned the administration of the state park to the Fish and Game Department. State Game Warden Frank M. Kendall protested the park being foisted on his department. He argued that it was "... unjust to place the burden of a state park, which is of no benefit except to the local community in which it is located, upon any department and especially upon the Fish and Game Department." Kendall further proposed that the state sell the timber rights in the park to pay for the land and development of the park. Kendall, Heyburn, and the state supported the idea, however, the deed of conveyance required the timber be preserved from injury and spoliation. So much of the forests at Heyburn State Park remain as old growth to this day.

From the start, the park reflected the desires of the comfortable middle-class of the time. Excursionists from Spokane sought a quiet retreat for relaxation and the contemplation of nature. They rented houseboats, leased cabins, and stayed in a hotel that was soon built. Early park visitors were not seeking strenuous physical activity, but quiet enjoyment of nature in a cool, pleasant retreat. After the advent of the automobile, the non-urban park became less exclusive as visitor activities changed. The demand for beaches, docks, and more active recreational facilities increased. To accommodate this increase in use, some areas of the park were logged to generate money for roads and other improvements. Other than these improvements, it could be said that the Game and Fish Department perhaps did little more than complain about having to administer Heyburn State Park. The park would languish under its administration for only seven years.

The Idaho Legislature issued its Compiled Statutes of Idaho on July 1, 1918. A chapter on State Parks was included which outlined the laws under which Heyburn State Park was to be administered. The biggest change was that the responsibility for the park was reassigned to the Department of Public Works. The Department was given the power and duty to make rules and regulations necessary for the use and government of the park and provide for their enforcement. They were authorized to make concessions to proper parties for establishment of three places of refreshment and entertainment. They also were given full authority to determine the conditions of leases, concessions and privileges that shall be granted. Further the department was to appoint a

park superintendent for enforcement of the rules and regulations and that such person would be a deputy game warden with the powers and authority conferred on such person.

The first set of rules and regulations are somewhat indicative of the kinds of activities the Department of Public Works was trying to bring under control. Apparently one of the problems was the unauthorized occupancy of the park by residences, campers, or concessionaires. Now "leases" with the Department would be required.

Even when the "pleasuring grounds" of the park and the townsite of Chatcolet were on Indian Reservation land, "places of entertainment" had sprung up to cater to the recreational visitors to the area. The Department now required "written authority" for the erection of: places of refreshment or entertainment such as bath houses, launch houses, boat liveries, wharves, docks or landings or any other such buildings or structures.

The new regulations also prohibited destruction of timber or other vegetation, erection of toilets or outhouses, depositing litter or refuse, contamination of springs or water sources, lighting of campfires except where designated, or parking of automobiles except where designated. This latter regulation clearly indicated that primitive roads had reached the park by 1918.

In 1920, concerned about operating the state park into the future, the Department of Public Works requested the School of Forestry of the University of Idaho to make a reconnaissance of Heyburn State Park. A resource study of the park was conducted by F.G. Miller and Henry Schmitz. It would be the first report that identified the problem of poor sanitation conditions in the park. The report recommended the construction of cooking fireplaces, making of sanitary improvements, the development of drinking water supplies and the construction of better landing facilities on the lakeshore. It further recommended improvements to the entrance to the park, building driveways for car camping and other road developments.

It is not certain exactly when the first "private" cottages and float houses were built and authorized in the park. However, the University of Idaho report went on to recommend that lots for summer homes be laid out in certain favorable localities which were designated on a map, and that system of uniform lot rentals be adopted.

The Department of Public Works was quick to see the possibility of cottage and float home leases as a potential way to generate revenue to off-set the costs of operating and maintaining the park. Further, the 1918 statutes gave them the authority to do it. Unfortunately, this perhaps would be seen as a great historical blunder that would cause litigation issues with the Coeur d'Alene Tribe, cause sanitation issues, and impact park resources for decades to come.

One source indicates that the issuance of permits to maintain float homes on the lake began as early as 1920. The State also began leasing waterfront cottage sites. The leases and permits were granted for periods of up to ten years and were regularly renewed until 1976. A lease entitled the lessee to "the exclusive right and privilege to possess and use [the site] in the manner and for the purpose hereinafter contained," but prohibited commercial use and required the lessee to substantially improve the leasehold within two years. These modest vacation cabins were constructed within the park at Rocky Point, Hawley's Landing and the Chatcolet townsite. There may at one time been as many as 300 cabins, but that has since been reduced to under 200.

By 1921 improvements in the park's operations and facilities began to take place. The rules and regulations had been issued and were being enforced by the park superintendent. The campgrounds had been developed for the convenience of the public. Other improvements included the construction of roads and trails, building of boat landings and the development of a watering places.

One of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's first moves after taking office in 1933 was the formation of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC or three-Cs). Facing a nation on the brink of disaster, the President's mission was to revive the country by employing thousands of young men to preserve America's natural and historical heritage. Teams of men would work on projects to build the nation's rural infrastructure and reclaim despoiled landscapes. So urgent was the need to put men to work during the midst of the Great Depression that Congress passed the act and placed it on the President's desk in three days.

President Roosevelt clearly intended to focus some of the CCC's work on the acquisition and development of whole state park systems. Roosevelt put America's state parks at the forefront of the New Deal in 1933. He no longer wanted conservationists to have to go around state capitals with tin cups looking for alms. He was offering to the states the opportunity to acquire, establish and develop state parks within their states with the assistance of the federal government. Many states would take him up on the offer and they would double and triple the size of their state park systems. But, alas, not Idaho. While they clearly could have obtained several iconic scenic places on the National Forests of Idaho that would have made outstanding state parks, they only wanted the CCC help with developing facilities at Heyburn State Park.

Heyburn State Park would only be a small part of the CCC's activities in Idaho. The state's vast forest reserves and impassable, undeveloped lands lent themselves well to the CCC's focus on conservation and road building. After enactment of the program in March of 1933, regional foresters began organizing the first CCC assignments which were made a month later in April. One third of Idaho's enrollees were recruited in state, while the remainder originated from east coast and mid western states. Men with few employment prospects were given a small stipend, room, board, education and specialized training in exchange for their youthful energy and labor. Some of the men honed a trade skill which lasted them their working lives; others went on to serve in World War II, while some pursued college educations and professional careers.

Camp SP-1, Company 1995, at Heyburn State Park, was first organized in Camp Dix, New Jersey in May, 1933 under the command of Captain H.E. Tisdale. Subsequent Idaho assignments were at Kooskia, June 1933; Faniff, October 1933; Collins, May 1934; and finally at Chatcolet (Heyburn State Park) in 1934. Company 1995 – Camp SP-1 work projects varied by region and state. Some projects included building lodges, roads, bridges, and water systems. Other projects involved planting trees and stopping erosion. In Idaho, the emphasis was on fighting forest fires and removing white pine trees afflicted with blister rust disease. An exception to this would be Camp SP-1.

Use of Heyburn State Park by the general public remained inhibited by a lack of facilities and services. The arrival of CCC Company 1995 was to correct this deficiency and open the park to a new era of increased visitation and recreational enjoyment. This 200 man CCC company was under the supervision of the National Park Service, in cooperation with the Idaho Department of Public Works. They were given the assignment to began work on improvements such as roads, trails, water systems, campgrounds, picnic areas, and swimming beaches. Picnic shelters, change houses, restrooms, staff residences, and the lodge at Rocky Point were also to be constructed. But first the crew would have to build their own barracks and support structures at the Chatcolet site. Their work at Heyburn would begin on October 8, 1934.

The first corps members were Caucasian men between the ages of 17 and 23, unmarried, unemployed and most were from the eastern U.S. Later, the programs opened to American Indians, African-Americans, World War I and Spanish American War veterans. Work

assignments were for six days a week, and the men earned \$30 per month, \$25 of which the government mailed home to support their family. The men received training in specific job skills, as well as education in basic reading, writing, and arithmetic. They also got three meals a day, housing, and basic health care. Life was not all work. In the evenings, the camps came alive as over a hundred young men relaxed and had fun. Every camp had a canteen and a recreation center for ping-pong, boxing, and card games. Many camps established intramural sports leagues. Camaraderie led to friendships that would last many decades.

Education was a priority. Volunteers taught the men a wide range of subjects. The courses included reading, writing, typing, photography, first aid, cooking, blacksmithing, welding, mechanics, and woodworking. All of these were in addition to on-the-job training associated with the project.

Camp SP-1 was like a small city. There was a mess hall, a school building, a recreation hall (with a 1,000-volume library), an office and supply building, four barracks, buildings containing the toilets, showers, wash rooms and drying rooms, forestry quarters, an officers' quarters, a power plant, a repair shop, a blacksmith shop and several storage buildings. The camp had electric lights, flush toilets, hot showers, and a sewer system. Gravel walkways were edged by logs and formed a network among the buildings. Shrubbery was planted. All of the buildings had interior paint with the door and window frames painted green. The camp had been located where the Heyburn State Park maintenance buildings and yards are now.

The park's superintendent during the peak years of CCC construction was Rex Wendle, an Idaho native with a degree in forestry from the University of Idaho. Wendle's career at Heyburn had been preceded by an appointment as regional purchasing clerk for the National Park Service in Boise. His forestry background became more relevant when the Park Service appointed Wendle the Superintendent of the CCC program at the densely wooded Heyburn State Park. He and his wife Eila arrived at Lake Chatcolet in January of 1936 to oversee the park's most crucial building projects including the Rocky Point Lodge, administrative residences, and picnic facilities. According to the Wendles, who first lived at Rocky Point in makeshift quarters with no running water or heat, the beaches in this area were cleared of existing docks, boathouses and other structures which detracted from the scenic values of the area. Within the following year, work began on the Rocky Point lodge. Their living quarters as well as other major building projects were completed by the end of the year. A major project involved the laying of a water line that stretched along the lake bottom from the Chatcolet collection site to Plummer Point and on to Rocky Point. This water system could then enable recreational development.

Working behind the scenes in planning for the park's improvements would be architects, landscape specialists and engineers. The work would be done in what the National Park Service referred to as the "Rustic Style." This would incorporate the use of local wood and stone to create visually appealing structures appropriate for the landscapes. This architectural style is now sometimes referred to as "parkitecture."

Development of the park was largely due to the efforts of the CCC. From 1934 through 1942 the men of Company 1995 at Camp Heyburn SP-1 built roads, trails, picnic areas, campgrounds, restrooms, shelters, and the lodge at Rocky Point. Several of these facilities are still in use today and are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The legacy of the CCC at Heyburn State Park cannot be understated. They created long lasting improvements such as a central water supply system and such innovations as flush toilets and their related sanitation improvements in a state park in the 1930s. The CCC legacy is illustrated by the structures and improvements they built at Chatcolet, Plummer's Point, and Rocky Point.

At Chatcolet, the CCC designed and built the Chatcolet Campground. They built it with intersecting loop roads that featured log and stone "curbs" and vehicle backstops. Each unit had an iron fireplace. The loops were symmetrically arranged along the contours of the knoll to take maximum advantage of scenic vistas and park vegetation. However, the slopes upon which it was built was probably the only significant available space since other suitable ground was already encumbered by private cottage leases. The new campground was well adapted for automobile related "tent camping." However, the terrain is not conducive to the modern needs of RV users since developing large and level parking spurs is somewhat prohibitive. The most innovated improvement would be the six single flush toilets that were built throughout the Chatcolet Campground. Pairs of single toilets measuring about four feet by six feet were constructed of vertical half logs and painted brown.

A day use area was also constructed at Chatcolet. It had to be situated in between two bunches of private cottage leases. A lower picnic shelter was built here that measures about fifty feet by twenty-two feet and is the largest shelter in the park. It is more complex than the others with the gabled structure containing a massive stone fireplace with keystone hearth and log mantel. An upper picnic shelter was constructed that is a smaller version of the lower picnic shelter. It measures about twenty-five feet by thirty-one feet. It has open walls and broad gabled roof that is identical in construction to the lower picnic shelter. Then a very handsome day use restroom was constructed at the south edge of the lawn. It has eight-inch walls of concrete veneered in Benewah stone. It measures approximately thirty-two feet by nineteen feet.

Plummer Point could be described as the epicenter of CCC activity. This is where the camp barracks and support structures had been constructed. It was located where the current park maintenance facilities and yard are now. The only CCC structure left here is what was known as the Park Manager's Residence. It is located behind the park's maintenance headquarters at the original CCC camp site. This house is slightly smaller than the current Assistant Park Manager's residence at Rocky Point but reflects similar massing and use of random coursed, ashlar walls. It measures forty-six feet by twenty-six feet. It has an irregular floor plan. The open ceiling over the living room is constructed of large, square hewn beams. Dominating this room is a stone fireplace that extends through the roof.

In the area across Chatcolet Road from the maintenance facility is a place where the CCC built some trails. At the base of a steep wooded hillside they developed two hiking trails. The Nature Trail interprets local flora and fauna. The Indian Cliffs Trail rises to the top of the hill and affords spectacular views of the entire park and the St. Joe River valley. The trail's name is associated with Coeur d'Alene oral traditions and is an indication of the prominent basalt cliff along the trail. This trail features wood plank bridges which cross small streams, as well as dry-mortared retaining walls, and lava rock benches which are built into the hillsides. The trailhead for these trails is now located where the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes intersects with Chatcolet Road.

The Plummer Point picnic area includes several CCC constructed improvements. Since this area in the 1930s was the primary swimming beach on Lake Chatcolet, it was thought that a changing house was called for. So the primary structure here was built to be the changing house for swimmers, but it was since modified into a picnic shelter at an unknown date. As a change house, the rectangular structure was originally divided into men's and women's chambers, each containing a series of stalls and benches. The structure was originally not roofed. In the conversion of the structure to a picnic shelter, vertical boards were removed and a gabled roof added.

The CCC also constructed two identical cook stoves at the Plummer Point picnic area. Each of these rectangular structures rest on a concrete pad and measures fourteen feet by eleven feet. They also constructed two individual flush toilets that measure about four feet by six feet. They are constructed of vertical half logs and painted brown. Also in a secluded area near Plummer Creek. The CCC built a wellhouse.

By the time that the CCC began constructing some facilities at Rocky Point, the area was already encumbered by several private cottage leases. The facilities they constructed included a lodge, restrooms, picnic shelter and a park residence. These buildings were oriented toward the lake on a gently sloping shoreline and nestled among second growth conifers.

The Rocky Point Lodge was by far the largest structure to be constructed by the CCC at Heyburn State Park. The Rocky Point Lodge followed the "rustic" architecture style promoted by the National Park System in the 1930s. It is made of wood and stone from within the park. It was original designed for use by a concessionaire for a restaurant and lodging facility. It featured six upstairs rooms for rent with a restaurant on the main floor. The building was operated as a lodge from 1935 to 1994. After the departure of the concessionaire, this historic building has fallen into disrepair and has an uncertain future in terms of use.

The lodge is a rectangular, gabled, one-and-a-half story building resting on a concrete basement that rises into walls eight inches thick. The perimeter walls measure about sixty-nine feet by forty-seven feet. The shingle roof is pierced by three gabled dormer windows. A rectangular stone chimney rises from the northeast corner of the building. The six lodging rooms featured corner sinks, paneled closets and walls paneled halfway. Two restrooms with showers are located at the top of the stairs.

A restroom was constructed just in front of the lodge, toward the lake. This structure consists of an eight-inch wall of concrete veneered in Benewah stone. It Measures thirty-two feet by nineteen feet. It is more-or-less identical to the restroom built at the Chatcolet day use area.

A cook shelter was constructed at Rocky Point that contains a stone cook stove with a chimney rising through the roof. The structure rests on a concrete pad and measures about twenty-five feet by twenty-one feet. Adjacent to the cook shelter is an old concrete foundation measuring about twenty-nine feet by fourteen feet . This was a change house built by the CCC which no longer remains. The removal date of this structure has not been determined.

Another park residence was built by the CCC at Rocky Point. This was known as the Assistant Park Manager's Residence and was originally used by the Park Superintendent. It is located behind the lodge among 1920s-era private cottages. Measurements for the main portion of the building are about forty-six feet by eighteen feet. The rear section, including an addition, measures about thirty feet by twenty-three feet. Eila Wendle, wife of Park Superintendent during the CCC era recalled that the this residence at Rocky Point was originally appointed with furnishings from a Boise dealer that bore a "wagon wheel" motif.

In 1938, 50 acres were acquired along the park's northern boundary for \$500.00. This was the area known as Crane Mountain. It is now referred to as Shoeffler Butte.

By 1940 The national economy had improved and the end of the CCC was inevitable. Further, the attack on Pearl Harbor in 1941 focused America on defense needs. Congress failed to fund the Corps in 1942 by a vote of 158 to 151. The CCC disbanded, but was never officially terminated. The Heyburn State Park CCC camp was officially disbanded in 1942.

In 1947, the administration of Heyburn State Park was transferred to the Director of Public Highways which was then in the Department of Public Works. The park then became part of the public highway system of the State of Idaho.

Then in 1949 the park was transferred to administration by the State Land Commission under the Department of Lands. By that time the State Lands Commission had a handful of locations called "state parks." A Division of State Parks within the State Department of Lands was created in 1952 and Heyburn State Park was transferred to that division.

When the new Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation was formed in 1965, Heyburn became a unit of the State Park System and was transferred to this new agency.

Sometime in the 1960s, the lodge kitchen was removed.

The park received 138,285 visitors in 1974.

In the 1970s, the Coeur d'Alene Tribe became concerned about management of Heyburn State Park in terms of the private cottage leases becoming semi-permanent residences for some occupants and the problem of appropriate sewage disposal which was leading to possible pollution of the lake. The Tribe thought that the whole cottage lease program violated the terms of the parks' original patent document from the U.S. Government. The Tribe did not look upon the semi-permanent cottage leases as being legitimate "public park purposes." The Tribe believed, therefore, that patent to the lands of Heyburn State Park should revert back to tribal control.

In 1972, an Assistant Area Director of the Bureau of Indian Affairs, on behalf of the Tribe, wrote to the Director of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation suggesting that the cottage site leasing program violated the terms of the patent.

In 1975, perhaps for fear that the park may revert to the Tribe, the IDPR placed a moratorium on all transactions and/or improvements concerning the cottage site leases. Further, all improvements to park facilities were also curtailed.

Also in 1975, the Idaho legislature expressly indicated its intent to continue the cottage site leasing program on its state lands, and imposed additional requirements on lessees primarily concerning water and sewage control. At that time, there were 161 sites leased and 32 existing float home permits in Heyburn State Park covering approximately 21 acres.

Then the Solicitor of the United States Department of the Interior sent a letter dated March 3, 1976, to inform the Idaho Attorney General that the Solicitor's Office had concluded in regards to the cottage leasing program: "the State of Idaho is not in conformance with the conditions of the conveyance and unless the State undertake immediate correction action, all the lands included in the 1911 deed are subject to forfeiture to the United States." As a protective measure in the event of a lawsuit, the Idaho Board of Land Commissioners decided on March 9, 1976 not to renew cottage site leases or float-home permits in Heyburn State Park upon their expiration. The expected expiration year for these leases and permits was 1981.

Idaho filed suit in federal district court on December 30, 1976, seeking a declaratory judgment that its lease and permit practices did not violate the "public park" and anti-alienation conditions in the patent. As an alternative, Idaho sought a declaration either that its decision not to renew leases and permits constituted compliance with the Department of Interior's request so as to avoid forfeiture, or that granting one-year leases would comply with the patent. On September 7, 1977 the United States filed a complaint claiming the practices violate the conditions in the patent and seeking quiet title to the property. The suits were consolidated for trial and the court granted the Tribe and the Heyburn State Park Leaseholders Association limited leave to intervene.

In 1979, the floating "Park Hotel" at Chatcolet was removed and the boathouses were moved to their current location.

On November 9, 1979, the district court granted Idaho's motion for summary judgment,

concluding on the basis of its findings of undisputed facts that Idaho had not violated the conditions in the patent. Both the United States and the Tribe appealed, but before oral argument the United States moved to voluntarily dismiss its appeal, and a panel of this court granted the motion. With only the Tribe remaining, Idaho moved to dismiss the appeal on the ground that no case or controversy existed because any property interest flowed solely to the United States. The case was remanded to the district court for a determination of whether the Tribe possessed a beneficial interest in the power of termination.

The district court held that the Tribe did not have a beneficial interest in the power of termination. The Tribe appealed, and the 9th Circuit Court held that the Tribe had an interest and remanded the case back to the District Court for a determination of the nature and extent of the interest in 1983. On this second remand, the district court held, by memorandum dated August 9, 1984, that under the 1911 patent only the United States, and not the Tribe, could exercise the power of termination. The court also concluded that the United States, by virtue of its withdrawal from the litigation, had manifested an intent not to exercise the power of termination.

Pursuant to this 1984 court decision, the cottage site leases were reinstated after the Park Board moratorium of 1976.

The Tribe appealed to the 9th Circuit once again. The Tribe contended that the State of Idaho had violated the terms of the 1911 patent by which land formerly part of the Tribe's reservation was conveyed to Idaho for use as a public park. The Tribe appealed two decisions of the district court: the 1979 grant of summary judgment for Idaho, and the 1984 decision holding that even if Idaho breached the patent the Tribe may not exercise a power of termination. The Tribe continued to argue that they may pursue this appeal irrespective of its ability to exercise a power of termination. The Tribe told the court that Idaho thinks that leasing portions of a park to private individuals for the maintenance of cottages makes the leased portions available for the use of the public because those who lease the sites are members of the public. The Tribe thought that this interpretation of the word "public" was disingenuous. Rather, the Tribe saw the cottage lease program as privatization and that clearly such a practice would not be consistent with the requirement in the patent. They believed that the mere fact that members of the public lease the park land does not demonstrate that Idaho's leasing practices constitute proper park uses.

It could be said that the forfeiture case and subsequent legal proceedings and moratoriums put everything on hold at Heyburn State Park. During that period of time, the IDPR was making very few expenditures on the needs at the park. It was said by this time, that Heyburn had suffered years of neglect in recent decades. It was as if Heyburn State Park missed out on the improvements made to the Idaho State Park system in the 1970s and early 1980s.

The park did experience the inconvenience of the Mt. St. Helens volcanic eruption in 1980. It deposited three inches of ash throughout the park. The park was closed and cleanup took a year. Wild rice was harvested in the park for the first time in 1982. But in that year budget cuts would eliminate one of the three Park Ranger positions.

In 1988, improvements to the park's water system began with the construction of a 220,000 gallon reservoir at Chatcolet. New 6" main lines from Chatcolet to Hawley's Landing were installed. Then the Hawley's Landing campground was built in 1989. It was the first campground in the park that was adequate to accommodate RVs with water and electrical hook-ups. It also included a modern restroom with flush toilets, sinks, and showers.

There was a long lived concessionaire operating at Benewah dating back to the park's early days. It was called the Benewah Resort. In 1989, it was still renting small cabins and rowboats and operating a café and lounge. They also had leased out mobile home pads.

The Coeur d'Alenes lawsuit in the regards to the cottage leases did result in some policy changes. New leases were issued to the cottage owners in 1990. But as a result of the lawsuit, use is restricted to no more than six months per year. Cottage owners living in the park year round were grand fathered and allowed to continue to live there. In that same year, the State Park board voted to have all the float homes removed from Hidden Lake by 2010. But this still hasn't taken place.

The Mullan Road segment in the park was placed on the National Register of Historic Places on April 5, 1990.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe filed a lawsuit in 1991 against Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) and several mining companies seeking to address releases of hazardous substances in the Coeur d'Alene basin including contamination along the 71.5 mile right-of-way between Mullan and Plummer, Idaho.

The Rocky Point Concession filed for bankruptcy in 1991. As a result, the park took over operation of the Rocky Point Marina, and the lodge was converted into an interpretive center.

The Park Ranger position lost in 1982 was returned in 1991.

The Benewah Resort was purchased from the concessionaire in 1991. The resort was then leased to a new concessionaire. The "trailer park" in which certain individuals had established an occupancy right to old mobile homes in their ownership was continued.

The Bamboo Barn bar and restaurant at Chatcolet was purchased and torn down in 1992. The building was on Union Pacific Railroad property.

In 1993, the 6" main waterline was extended from Hawley's Landing to Rocky Point. The old wells at Rocky Point were then abandoned.

The Chatcolet CCC restroom was remodeled in 1993 with drywall, new toilets and fixtures.

The IDPR purchased the marina at Chatcolet from the Chatcolet Boathouse Owner's Association in 1994. The park then had two marinas to operate and maintain.

Underground fuel tanks were removed at Benewah, Rocky Point, and the park shop in 1994. The contaminated soils were removed and replaced. An elaborate air injection system was installed to mitigate a large area of contamination near the Rocky Point Lodge.

The last train ran on the Union Pacific rail line from Plummer to Mullan through the park in 1994. Then in 1995, the Union Pacific submitted a good faith offer to settle environmental claims associated with the Plummer to Mullan right-of-way. Union Pacific and the U.S., State and Tribal governments subsequently engaged in four years of investigations and negotiations to address the contamination.

The Plummer Creek wildlife viewing area with board walk and interpretive displays was constructed. in 1995.

On February 1, 1995, the Rocky Point CCC Properties, the Plummer Point CCC Picnic and Hiking Area, and the Chatcolet CCC Picnic and Camping Area were placed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Flooding in February 1996 devastated park roads, docks, marinas, and parking lots. Then a November 1996 ice storm knocked down thousands of trees throughout the park. Power was out for four days. Park trails were not reopened until the summer of 1997.

In the following year, another 100 year flood devastated the park in May. Day use areas, marinas, and parking areas were inaccessible until after Memorial Day.

An outbreak of Douglas fir bark beetle and western pine beetle begin in 1997 attacking park trees as a result of the many downed trees left from the November 1996 ice storm.

The Heyburn State Park Natural Resource Management Plan is completed and approved for implementation in 1998.

The Coeur d'Alene Tribe was awarded ownership of the lower third of Lake Coeur d'Alene and the lower St. Joe River in 1998. The State of Idaho appealed the decision which was later settled in favor of the Tribe by the U.S. Supreme Court. The Court's ruling did not address the waters within Heyburn State Park.

In 1999, the Union Pacific, United States, State of Idaho and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe entered into a consent decree requiring Union Pacific to undertake cleanup, trail construction and other obligations concerning the Plummer to Mullan right-of-way and to transfer it to the State of Idaho and the Coeur d'Alene Tribe for use as a recreational trail.

The concessionaire at the Benewah Resort chooses not to renew their contract in 1999. Due to the condition of the building and the expense of bringing the electrical and plumbing systems up to code the Department decides to tear it down. The lodge concession is also discontinued. But nine mobile homes in the old "trailer park" remain there today.

The Trail of the Coeur d'Alene's was completed and opened for public use in 2003. The swing bridge over the St. Joe River was raised and did not open until 2004.

Work began on upgrading the waterlines at Chatcolet and Rocky Point in 2005.

The State Park Board votes to keep the float homes in Hidden Lake in 2006. In 2007, they explored the idea of consolidating the float homes at Hidden Lake along the south shoreline and then developing the rest of the area for public recreation.

Construction of a new park headquarters and visitor center began in 2007. Funding came from Governor Kempthorne's "Experience Idaho" program. Also, restoration of the CCC buildings was completed.

In 2007, E-coli contamination was found in the park's main well which prompts a boil water notice for park users. Tests confirm that the contamination was entering the well via Plummer Creek. A new well was drilled and the problem was rectified in January of 2009.

2008 marked the park 100th anniversary.

A Management agreement was signed with the Panhandle Health District in 2009 which ultimately required that the park to develop a central wastewater treatment facility. Work began on the new wastewater treatment facility and collection system. It was designed to serve all the cottages and park facilities from Rocky Point to Chatcolet. The State Park Board then votes to move the Hidden Lake float homes into the Chatcolet marina. They set a five year deadline contingent upon funding. The float homes still haven't been moved to Chatcolet.

The new visitor center at Hawley's Landing opened in 2009.

IDPR conducted a public process to develop a new Heyburn State Park Master Plan in 2009/2010. The master plan is completed in July 2010.

Welch Comer Engineers/Surveyors completed a master plan for Chatcolet Marina in 2011.

The process of appraisals for raising of cottage lease rates began in 2019. At that time the State Park Board had made available for lease 142 cabin sites and 24 float home sites within Heyburn State Park. Trash, street lights, water, and sewage services are included in the rents.

Recreation Activities:

Scenic Viewing: Heyburn State Park was originally set aside, in part, for its outstanding scenery.

The park provides views of mountains, forests, lakes, and rivers. There are several park roads that access the various parts of the park. Just the drive on Highway 5 from the park's western boundary to its eastern boundary offers a number of places to take in the scenery.

Fishing: Largemouth bass, smallmouth bass, northern pike, black crappie, rainbow trout, cutthroat trout, brown trout, blue gill, pumpkinseed sunfish, bullhead, chinook salmon, kokanee salmon, tiger muskie and yellow perch can be caught in the park's lakes. The marina store at Rocky Point sells fishing gear and tackle. But because of the contamination in the lake anglers should consult the Idaho Fish Consumption Advisory for Lake Coeur d'Alene

Hunting: Heyburn State Park is unique in that it includes 2,333 acres of lake surface. Around the edges of the lake property are found very productive wetlands in regards to a healthy population of waterfowl. The lake property is open to licensed/in-season hunting of waterfowl.

Boating: Heyburn State Park is a boater's paradise. The park operates two marinas and 3 boat ramps. Rocky Point has a four lane boat ramp and Chatcolet has a two lane boat ramp. There is a boat ramp at the Benewah day use area, but it is narrow and a bit "primitive." There are gravel parking lots adjacent to all three boat ramps that can accommodate vehicles with their boat trailers. The Rocky Point marina store rents out paddle boats, canoes, and kayaks. The park actually owns all 25 docks that are on the shorelines of the park's lakes. However, some of these docks are affiliated with private cottage leases. But courtesy docks are provided at each boat ramp and mooring docks are available at Chatcolet, Plummer Point, Hawley's Landing, and Benewah.

Swimming: Swimming can be done off of any of the park's shorelines, but swimmers should avoid using the docks as they are designed for boating use. The park provides two roped off swimming beaches, one at Rocky Point and one at Plummer Point. However, lifeguard services are not provided and you must swim at your own risk.

Lodging: There are several lodging options available at Heyburn State Park. The original campground constructed by the CCC is at Chatcolet. This campground consists of 38 standard campsites. Although the campground provides flush toilets, unlike most state park campgrounds,

Please Remember

- There are no lifeguards on duty at any of the designated swimming beaches. Swim at your own risk.
- Open fires are allowed only in the places provided.
- Park in marked stalls and lots only.
- Motor vehicles are to stay on established roadways unless directed otherwise.
- Personal floatation devices are required for any water craft on the lake or river.
- Dogs must be on a leash at all times, and are not permitted in the buildings.
- There is no entrance station to the park. All vehicles must pay the \$5.00 per day entry fee when using the areas in the park where it is required at self-serve fee stations provided.
- All watercraft must display a current invasive species decal.

there is no central building that provides, flush toilets, sinks, and showers here. The campground loop roads are gravel and are situated a top a slope. The campground does offer excellent access to some of the park trails.

Near the park maintenance area are located two camping cabins for rent. These are the Blue Heron and Osprey camper cabins. They provide excellent access to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes along the lake shore.

The Hawley's Landing Campground features a total of 52 campsites. Forty-two of these campsites have water and electricity hook-ups. Of those forty-two, 6 sites have sewer hook-up as well. So this is an excellent campground for those with larger RVs. The campground loop roads and parking spurs are gravel. The campground sits on a bluff above Lake Chatcolet, but don't count on campsites with lake views or campsites on the edge of the lake. There are private cottage leases in between the campground and the lake.

Also at Hawley's Landing is the Lakeview Cottage that can be rented. It has 2 bedroom with a full bath. It is located on the shoreline of Chatcolet Lake. It has electric heat, fireplace and enclosed screen porch.

Since most of Rocky Point is taken up by private cottage leases, the only lodging available there is the Rocky Point Cottage that can be rented. It has 2 bedroom with a full bath. It is within walking distance of the beach but is not situated on the lakeshore. A playground, boat launch ramp, docks and marina store are nearby. The cottage has electric heat, large living room, covered patio and charcoal grill. It also has a washer and dryer.

The Benewah Campground is sort of far removed from the main part of the park near the eastern park boundary. It has 39 campsites. Fifteen of these campsites have water and electrical hook-ups. Eight of those fifteen sites feature sewer hook-ups as well. The remaining 15 sites are tent campsites. The shoreline area is somewhat marshy and there is no swimming beach here.

Picnicking: Heyburn State Park has four primary places for picnicking. These are at Chatcolet, Plummer Point, Plummer Creek, and Rocky Point.

The Chatcolet picnic area has two group shelters, an improved restroom, a grassy area, and there are about 12 picnic tables available. This picnic area is located quite a ways from the lakeshore and there is no official swimming beach nearby.

The Plummer Point picnic area has 2 individual shelters and 1 group shelter. There are six picnic tables, some with grills there. There are also flush toilets near the parking lot. This picnic area has an official swimming beach and a mooring dock. The picnic tables are location in quiet and shady places with great views.

At the Plummer Creek boardwalk, there is a small gravel parking lot with a vault toilet, There is a secluded grassy area with 3 tables available.

The Rocky Point picnic area includes an improved restroom (flush toilets) and a group shelter. There are 10 picnic tables available that are situated on a grassy area immediately adjacent to an official swimming beach. There is also a playground here.

Park officials have also placed some picnic tables at the Appaloosa and Southside trailheads. Also, some tables have been placed at some view points on the Cedar Loop Trail and the Ponderosa Ridge Loop Trail for those visitors who might want to have a "hike-in" picnic.

Nature Study/Birding: With old growth forests, extensive marshes, and riparian-lined shallow lakes, Heyburn State Park is a place where nature study is highlighted. A key wildlife viewing area is the Plummer Creek Marsh. With its boardwalk trail and interpretive shelter, it offers great

viewing opportunities for waterfowl, shorebirds, raptors, and songbirds. From October until the lakes freeze over, up to 10,000 waterfowl use Heyburn State Park as a way point. The most abundant species tundra swans, American widgeons, ospreys, bald eagles, mallards, wood ducks and Canada geese.

Dozens of bird species can be found in the old growth forests of the park. Young trees and shrubs provide food and cover for ground-nesting birds like the ruffed grouse and spotted towhee. Birds which nest in shrubs and low tree branches include hummingbirds, MacGillivray's Warbler and pine grosbeak. Many birds line their nests with soft grasses, moss and other plants from the forest floor. Tall trees are where the pileated woodpecker, Western tanager and tiny chestnut-backed chickadee hunt for insects. High in the forest canopy, red crossbills pry open cones to eat the seeds inside. Brown creepers spiral up and around large trees trunks searching for insects. Large snags (dead trees) provide homes for the northern flicker and other woodpeckers. Owls, nuthatches, chickadees, bluebirds, flying squirrels and bats are among the species that nest or roost in abandoned woodpecker nest holes.

Trails: With about 44 miles of trails through the woods, Heyburn State park can offer a "semi-wilderness" experience for those that get out on the trails. For example, the Indian Cliffs Trail offers a beautiful 2.8 mile trail to experience the bluffs of Indian Cliffs. From here you can witness the splendid views of Lake Chatcolet and the mouth of the St. Joe River. The Indian Cliffs Trail introduces you to the deep forest and grassy hillsides habitats. Throughout the growing season you will discover hillsides covered in wildflowers. Regardless of the season, you will experience the diverse deep forest environment of ponderosa pines, western red cedars, western hemlocks, and western white pine.

The CCC Nature Trail offers a shorter and less strenuous experience. This one-mile walk will introduce you to many of the forest features of Heyburn State Park. Plan on spending about an hour exploring this nature trail.

The Southside Trailhead offers many more trail experiences. These trails, except the Cedar Loop, are open to the use of horses as well.

The Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes State Park runs right through Heyburn State Park. This is a 73 mile paved path that was built on the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way. The trail extends from Mullan, ID to Plummer, ID, taking you from mountains grandeur through the Silver Valley, along the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene, over the Chatcolet Bridge through Heyburn State Park, and on to Plummer. A lot of people camp at Heyburn State Park in order to have easy bicycle access from their campsite to this trail

Horseback Riding: Equestrian users have assisted the park officials in establishing two trailhead for horseback riding. The Appaloosa area have a gravel parking lot suitable for vehicles with horse trailers. There is a vault toilet here with some corrals and access to the 2.8 mile Appaloosa trail.

The newly constructed Southside trailhead features a gravel parking area and 6 campsites with individual corrals. The parking spurs at the campsite are large enough to accommodate vehicles with horse trailers. This trailhead provides access to the Scout Out Loop, the Gandy Dancer Loop. The Rocky Top Loop, and the Ponderosa Ridge Loop trails that total almost 20 miles.

Visitor Center: The park headquarters/visitor center was built in 2008 and is situated near the

entrance to the Hawley's Landing campground on the Chatcolet Rd. It is 2,600 square feet in size and houses interpretive displays, a retail sales area, a meeting room, and park administrative offices. There is selection of maps and brochures available. For example, for nature study you can pick up a park bird list. For hiking there are two park trail brochures. It is a good place to get oriented for your park visit.

History Study: Although, Heyburn State Park is not a history park, there is a lot of history here. You can hike the historic Mullan Road that was once the primary Euro-American route across Northern Idaho. You can also experience the 1930s by visiting the several structures in the park that were built by the CCC. These can be found at Chatcolet, Plummer Point, and Rocky Point. They were designed to be built with a certain kind of architecture called the "rustic style" or as some have called it "parkitecture."

Resource Management Issues: Heyburn State Park has an extensive background for planning for and addressing the resource management issues in the park. Some of the recommendations in these plans have been implemented, but many others have not, primarily due to a lack of adequate funding. The pertinent documents are:

- The Heyburn State Park Natural Resource Management Plan done in 1998.
- The Heyburn Park Trail/ROW Operations Plan in regards to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes done in 2007.
- The Coeur d'Alene Lake Management Plan developed jointly by the Coeur d'Alene Tribe and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality in 2009.
- The Heyburn State Park Master Plan done in July 2010.
- The Master Plan for the Chatcolet Marina done in 2011.

Perhaps the resource management issue of greatest importance is water quality in the lake. This is important at Heyburn since 2,333 acres of surface water is in the custody and control of the IDPR. Further, it is an issue that has arisen during the litigation brought against the State of Idaho by the Coeur d'Alene tribe in the 1970s. The water quality of the lake directly affects the natural conditions of the resources present in the lake and has direct impacts on the recreational activities the lake is used for. As early as 1990, a General Development Plan for the park identified water quality issues in the lake including high runoff of topsoil from surrounding lands leading to a significant build up and lake eutrophication, and water contamination from inadequate cottage and float home septic systems.

The primary threats to water quality in the lake and related recreational use are:

- Lake eutrophication due to source point pollution and runoff from park properties and developments.
- Proliferation of certain plant species that are now displacing native flora and obstructing boating activity.
- Possible siltation from soil and gravel runoff.

The IDPR has made great strides in eliminating much of the source point pollution. As a result of a management agreement with the Panhandle Health District in 2009 the IDPR developed and constructed a central wastewater treatment facility at the park.. It was designed to

serve all the cottages and park facilities from Rocky Point to Chatcolet. This eliminated much of the point source pollution to the lake. However, it seems that the final movement of the 23 float homes from Hidden Lake to the Chatcolet marina with a tie in for their sewage disposal to the new system is yet to be completed..

Lake eutrophication is also making it difficult for boats to navigate in some areas. Dredging has come up often as a possible remedy. What serves as a horrible historic blunder was the introduction of wild rice to the lake. Apparently wild rice was seeded in the park in the 1960s by a waterfowl hunting group, perhaps with assistance from Idaho Fish and Game. It was thought that providing this as food source would increase waterfowl populations and enhance hunting opportunity. The wild rice has thrived in the shallow lakes and has become the dominant species in some areas. There is now concern that wild rice, which is not naturally occurring, should be eradicated or controlled. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game has advised the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation that control of wild rice would unlikely be successful and that eradication is virtually impossible. However, the wild rice has displaced native flora and has impacted the natural aspects of the lake. The IDPR has let some contracts for commercial harvesting of the wild rice, but these actions don't seem to be putting a dent in the problem.

Another big problem that affects the natural qualities of the lake is the invasion and proliferation of Eurasian watermilfoil. It was discovered and mapped in Benewah Lake, Chatcolet Lake and other portions of the south end of Lake Coeur d'Alene Lake and the St. Joe River, by a Tribal diver team in 2004. A milfoil survey and treatment program was implemented by the Tribe with ISDA funding and Heyburn cooperation during 2006 through 2009. This was an integrated pest management effort which utilized divers for hand and suction removal, bottom barriers and herbicide applications. Over \$792,000 in State funds were spent during this period in surveying over 4,000 acres and treating approximately 1,400 total acres of the densest infestation. While milfoil densities were reduced, the aerial coverage increased through 2009 as treatment protocols were modified to improve efficacy. One challenge addressed by this program was the presence of a hybrid form of milfoil which was tested and found to be slightly less susceptible to the herbicide used (2,4-D). A Survey of the St. Joe and St. Maries rivers in 2008 found an upstream infestation in the St. Maries which is being addressed using diver suction removal.

After over 100 years since its establishment, most of Heyburn State Park roads and parking lots are still gravel and have not been replaced with pavement. Some adjacent private landowners have objected to increased traffic and dust on the roads caused by park visitors. Lake Coeur d'Alene has a salmon/trout fishery. It has long been known that these species need clean pebbly gravels on lake and stream bottoms for spawning. Other agencies like the Forest Service have recognized this and have moved towards paving heavily use recreation access roads in areas adjacent to streams and lakes. Moving towards paving the access road system in the park would help to mitigate these issues. It would also enhance access and increase visitor enjoyment in the park.

Noxious and invasive species remain a significant resource management issue in the park. The following weeds have been identified in the park: spotted knapweed, common tansy, dalmatian toadflax, meadow hawkweed, common mullein, Canada thistle, Sulfur cinquefoil, Oxeye daisy, St. Johnswort, rush skeletonweed, yellow toadflax, bull thistle, orange hawkweed, field bindweed, and purple loosestrife. Park officials have been engaged in some eradication efforts, but without greater emphasis and adequate staffing and funding, like with the wild rice and watermilfoil, this seems like a losing effort.

For decades, the occurrence of wildfire in the park has been practically eliminated. For fire adapted species such as the ponderosa pine forests, this has altered their natural condition. Fires assure forest vitality. In Heyburn State Park ponderosa pines need low-intensity ground fires on about a fifteen-year cycle to maintain forest health. The fires clear the forest floor of debris, grasses, shrubs, and small trees. Insects and insect larvae that damage the forest are destroyed, or reduced in numbers, thwarting infestations. The fires provide a fertile bed for seeds to germinate, and the cycle continues. Park officials have developed a progressive group of forest restoration objectives. These objectives lead to an active program of prescribed burning and tree harvesting. The goal is to maintain a healthy ponderosa pine forest community, similar to the primeval forest. Fire, whether prescribed or natural, is the central element of that goal.

The leasing of private cottage lots and float house places is a practice that might be considered the greatest blunder in the history of Heyburn State Park. The intent when the program started in the 1920s was perhaps two fold. First, it would encourage recreational access and visitation to the park and second it would provide rental revenues that could be used for meeting the expenses of operating the park. However, since the time the leasing program was first put in effect, there have been significant changes in park uses and practices. Demand for park facilities is now very high; there is no longer a need to encourage the public to use public parks by offering long-term private leases of park land. Moreover, removing selected parts of Heyburn Park from public use currently has an adverse general impact, since the public would make use of that land if permitted to do so. The modern view is most clearly reflected in the federal government's present policy of eliminating virtually all leasing of federal park and forest lands. Under present day circumstances, it is hard to say that this leasing practice meets the condition of the land patent requiring that the Heyburn tract be devoted solely to use as a public park. Idaho grants to private parties affluent enough to afford the privilege the exclusive long-term use and possession of prime lakefront areas of the park for the construction and maintenance of private summer homes. This practice clearly restricts the use by the public of those portions of the park.

Historical sources indicate that there may have been as many as 300 cottage leases in the park at one time. In 1975, as a result of the Coeur d'Alene Tribe's litigation with the State of Idaho, they identified that there were 161 cottage leases and 32 float homes at that time. In 2018, Park Manager Ron Hite said there were about 167 cottage leases, 23 float home leases, and 9 mobile home leaseholds in the park. The maps produced for the 2019, lease appraisal process identified 141 cottage lease lots with 17 lots that had been relinquished to park ownership and custody. So it could be said that at least ½ of the historic level of leases in the park have been eliminated, probably over the past 60 years. This would be a rate of about 3 relinquishments per year. At this rate, it means that it may take over 50 years to eliminate all the cottage leases in the park.

The leasing program has presented major economic impacts to the park. The multi-million dollar effort of developing and constructing a waste water treatment facility is an example of this. Further, the park's potable water system also services the occupants of these private cottage sites and float homes. Basically, park officials provide all the docks and dock maintenance, road maintenance, trash removal, sewer and water services to the cottage leases and float homes. Park officials also must occasionally provide "dog catcher" services. It has been said that the Heyburn State Park Manager is also the mayor of the "Town of Heyburn."

To reduce impacts in areas where private exclusive use and public recreation use conflicts exist, some of the leased cottage sites were identified in the 1990 Heyburn State Park General

Development Plan for “phase out.” In practical terms, this means the IDPR is interested in removing many sites from the leased properties list in the park and would like to acquire improvements there on a willing seller/willing buyer basis. IDPR has no eminent domain authority and it was not the intention of the State Park Board or agency staff to cause any involuntary termination of leases that were identified for phase out. The ingredients of a successful phase-out program would require either a leaseholder willing to relinquish their holding without compensation or leaseholders willing to submit to a “buy-back” from the IDPR. Any buy-backs are totally dependent upon the IDPR having the adequate funding at the time a willing seller is ready for a buy-back. So a “phase-out” of all or selected cottage leases is not probable in the near future.

The part of the leasing program that is most critical at this time is the movement of the 23 float homes from Hidden Lake to the Chatcolet Marina. Many of these leaseholders would like to keep their float homes at Hidden Lake., However, that will not be possible because they are unable to comply long-term with the Sewage Management Agreement with Panhandle District Health. IDPR intends to accommodate existing float homes in a newly designed marina at Chatcolet. A plan to do this has been developed, but adequate funding has yet to be obtained.

Future Improvements Planned:

The Heyburn State Park Master Plan was done in July 2010. The master plan had several significant recommendations for improvements. The recommended developments were:

A Complete Remodeling of the Chatcolet Area: This remodel is recommended to include:

- A service building will be constructed in the Chatcolet area for bicyclists and marina customers. This concessionaire-operated building will feature bike rentals, bike accessories and light food service. The building will include flush toilets and showers for summer season and vault toilets will be located nearby to accommodate winter use.
- A marine pump-out station will serve the park from Chatcolet.
- The Chatcolet campground will be upgraded for RV campers but will retain tent camping sites.
- Realignment of Chatcolet Road to the campground is desired to pull it away from leased cottage sites.
- A permanent trail will be constructed from Chatcolet campground down the hill to the Trail of the Coeur d’Alenes.
- The Chatcolet Marina area will have a refurbished marina that will offer additional slips, improved security and a section dedicated to float home use.
- The day use parking will be improved to better manage parking. Parking lot size will be a key factor in determining the size of the new marina.

Pursuant to the above recommendation, The IDPR contracted with the Welch Comer engineers/surveyors for a Master Plan for the redevelopment of Chatcolet marina and day use area in 2011. This master plan included the following specific suggestions:

- Provide a new marina dock system that would include a concrete barrier for wave reduction.
- The new dock system would provide for 139 rental slips and 60 boat garages.
- The new marina concessionaire and restroom building would be installed at the gateway

to the new dock system.

- A separate dock system would be developed for placement and tie in to the parks wastewater system for the 24 float homes.
- The two lane boat launch ramp would be rebuilt. Adjacent to the boat ramp would be a new Chatcolet designated swimming beach. Next to the boat ramp area would be a paved parking lot for Trail of the Coeur d'Alene users.
- The south end of the existing Chatcolet gravel parking lot would be paved and converted to a 109 single stall parking lot for marina users without boat trailers.
- The north end of the existing gravel parking lot would be paved and converted to a lot that has 96 single stalls and 36 pull through trailer stalls. A trailer management zone would be added on the edge of the parking lot for launch preparation and tie down for boats.
- A 54 single stall paved parking lot will be developed off of the Chatcolet Campground Road for day use overflow.

Hidden Lake: Because of health regulations the existing 24 float homes at Hidden Lake must be moved to the redeveloped Chatcolet Marina. This will open up the Hidden Lake shoreline and offer the opportunity to place some limited overnight facilities—probably yurts—in the area. There will be buoys and/or destination docks in Hidden Lake where boaters can tie up and stay overnight. One or more vault toilets will serve on-shore and boat camping.

Hawley's Landing: Hawley's Landing Campground will be upgraded for RV campers but will continue to feature tent camping sites. This upgrade has already taken place. A safe paved bike route will be developed between Hawley's Landing and Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes.

Benewah: The Benewah campground will be upgraded for RV campers and will continue to feature tent camping sites. This upgrade has already taken place. It is thought that sewage disposal concerns will eventually preclude the continuation of the mobile home leases at Benewah. This has not yet occurred and nine mobile homes remain. Once these mobile homes have been removed, these will become RV pull through sites that will accommodate larger RVs and those visitors wanting longer-term camping.

Rocky Point: Rocky Point Lodge will be renovated to accommodate groups for overnight use and marketed as a site for group retreats of 12 to 20 people. Additional facilities such as rental cabins may be needed to service groups. The configuration of the group site will be dependent on further market research. Rocky Point moorage will remain available for leaseholders in the area.

Suggestions for the Future: After 100 years from its establishment, Heyburn State Park still has some unfinished business. The following are suggested improvements to the park.

- The IDPR should continue to move towards implementing all the recommendations made in the Heyburn State Park Master Plan and the Master Plan for the redevelopment of Chatcolet marina and day use area
- With the upgrading of the Chatcolet campground for RV campers, the IDPR should consider adding a modern restroom/shower house.
- IDPR should considering paving all the roads and parking lots (including campground

and cottage lease roads) in the Chatcolet Road system. This should include the Hawley's Landing campground and cottage lease roads, Plummer Creek parking lot, Plummer Point road and parking lot, Indian Cliffs trailhead parking lot, Chatcolet cottage lease roads, and Chatcolet campground roads.

- In addition to the recommendation for a paved trail link from Hawley's Landing to the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes, IDPR should consider extending such a trail all the way to Rocky Point.
- IDPR should consider paving all the cottage lease access roads and parking lots at Rocky Point.
- IDPR should consider working with Benewah County to pave the Benewah Lake Road from Highway 5 to the Benewah Campground.
- IDPR should consider building something like the Scofield Center lodging facility at Harriman State Park in a place near the Rocky Point Lodge near the lakeshore. This might require some "buy-backs" of private cottage lots. Such a lodging building would complement the use of the lodge as a reunion/retreat center.
- IDPR should consider establishing a "road assessment" to private cottage leases and float home leases to partial fund necessary road improvements..
- If it doesn't already exist, IDPR should consider trying to establish a funding mechanism so that revenues are on-hand on a continuous basis just in case a cottage leaseholder becomes a willing seller..
- The St. Maries Railroad runs right through the park on an old right-of-way originally granted to Old Milwaukee Road. The St. Maries Railroad is still using the tracks about 3 times per week. IDPR should monitor this situation. Should the St. Maries Railroad shut down operation, this old right-of-way would make an outstanding "Rails-to Trails" conversion because: (1) the rail bed extends the full length of Heyburn State Park from west to east connecting the Hawley's Landing area to the Benewah area; (2) there is potential to tie this rail bed into the Trail of the Coeur d'Alenes; and (3) the Old Milwaukee Road rail bed extends up the St. Joe River corridor through the Bitterroot Mountains and meets up with the Route of the Hiawatha trail.