



NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1, No.1 Summer 2025



Friends of Edson Fichter Nature Area

P.O. Box 4257

Pocatello, Idaho 83205

friendsofEFNA@gmail.com



L to R: Mayor Brian Blad, President Jane Streubel, Deb Pein, Linda Popleka, Hannah Clawson, and Sarah Jackson. Photo by Eric Rude.



The Pollinator Event; June 21

The celebration of the first Pollinator Event at Edson Fichter Nature Area was a true joy with nearly 200 people coming together on an unusually crisp morning. Families learned about the importance of pollinators and partook in activities like painting, origami, scavenger hunts and went home with plants and seeds to help diversify their gardens! A special thank you to the dedicated team led by Linda Popelka and Deb Pein who united ten local organizations in creating a memorable day. Thanks to Mayor Blad for engaging with people and reading the city proclamation in front of the Monarch Waystation. Capturing the day with pictures was Eric Rude. Many agreed that this should be an annual celebration!

Portneuf Valley Environmental Fair; April



This was our first outreach event that helped build our membership! We were able to purchase a tent, table and banner and now we have a real presence.



Membership Drive; April & May

We want to welcome ALL our new members and THANK YOU for supporting our efforts! It was through our first membership drive and Idaho Gives Fundraiser in April that we gained serious ground. Other programs and outreach events are in the making and we couldn't do it without your support. Besides our seasonal newsletters, you will also receive email notifications for our special events, so stay tuned and come visit EFNA!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Adult Bird Walks**
 - Sat July 5 6:30 am
 - Sat Aug 2 6:30 am
- **Children Bird Walks**
 - Sat July 19 8:30 am
 - Sat Aug 16 8:30 am
- **September Nature Talks, Topics TBD.**
 - Wednesday Evenings, 6:00pm
 - Watch for updates on our website!



INTERESTING NEWS

Trail Improvements on the horizon!

The Friends' Group is actively applying and looking for grants to repair the paths around Ardith's Garden and the amphitheater. If you would like to help or if you know of an institution that would possibly donate to this project, please contact us.

The latest sightings at EFNA:

Yellow Warblers, Eagles, Mallards, Cedar Waxwings, Meadowlarks, Tree Swallows, Lazuli Buntings, Ospreys, Muskrats and so much more. Come see for yourself! A bird list for EFNA species is coming soon, so watch for it on our website.

WHAT ELSE?

Ideas? Comments? Neat sightings?

Please reach out to us either through the website below or the email and contact information above. And, if you have something you'd like to contribute to our seasonal newsletter such as a story, a sighting or photo, please reach out to us- we'd love to hear from you!



Photo by Jun Forest
May 20, 2025



<https://friendsofEdsonFichterNatureArea.com/>

Species in the SPOTLIGHT

Osprey: *Pandion haliaetus*



If you would like to contribute photos, a scientific article or a point of interest to the FEFNA newsletter, please contact us.



Photos by Jun Forest

Meet our logo bird, the **OSPREY**. It is sometimes known as a Sea Hawk, River Hawk or Fish Hawk. You can see this feisty predatory raptor pull a fish right from the pond after a high aerial dive! They are successful anglers, catching fish approximately 70% of the time and spend an average of 12 minutes hunting. Next time you cast your line, ruminate on that! Their feet have barbed pads on them enabling them to hold onto slippery fish and they have unusual toes; two grasping toes in front and two in the back. This makes them different from other hawks. The average lifespan of an osprey is 15-20 years, although the oldest recorded was 25 years. That's pretty impressive when you consider this bird migrates and logs over 160,000 migration miles in it's lifetime!

<https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Osprey/overview>



Photo by Jun Forest

BioBlitz! May

Our first BioBlitz was held on May 17th and spearheaded by the knowledgeable Dr. Charles Peterson, pictured below. People who attended learned how to use iNaturalist to report the diversity of species at a particular location. 30 observers contributed 363 observations of 120 species! Pictured beneath is Dr. Paul Allen leading a plant walk at EFNA during the BioBlitz.



And a special thanks to Hannah Clawson for the fresh look on EFNA's entry gates!



FEFNA Board Members:

Jane Streubel- President
Tracy Casselman- Vice President
Lisa Jorgensen- Vice President
Cristine Casselman- Secretary
Joanne Tokle- Treasurer
Don Streubel- Member
Meg Fleischmann- Member
Dale Reavis- Member



Come see Ardith's Garden in its prime!



<https://friendsofedsonfichternaturearea.com/>