

*Many state, federal, and local partners are working together to restore Yellowstone cutthroat trout and habitat in Teton Creek. Healthy native fish populations are important to many of our family traditions and clean water benefits the health of wildlife and people.*

# Idaho Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy

## From Vision to On-the-Ground Action

Idaho's Wildlife Strategy takes an ecologically-based approach to planning, organizing landscapes by geographic regions, called ecological sections, with similar species, habitats, and conservation needs. This section-level approach is combined with a fine-scale approach of identifying species-level issues and conservation needs for 229 species. The strategy promotes proactive conservation actions to ensure cost-effective solutions instead of reactive measures enacted in the face of imminent losses.

### ***Working with Partners to Bring Back Wildlife and Natural Areas*** **Restoring Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout to Teton Creek**

Priority conservation issues in Idaho's Comprehensive Wildlife Conservation Strategy include habitat loss and the resulting population declines in Yellowstone cutthroat trout populations. Many state, federal, and local partners are working together to implement a restoration project in Teton Creek that will improve habitat and increase trout numbers. Restoring stream flows, stabilizing stream banks, constructing fish habitat, and planting riparian vegetation will make the water cleaner and colder, which Yellowstone cutthroat trout prefer.

Healthy native fish populations are important to many of our family traditions and restoring clean water will benefit the health of wildlife and people.

### ***Gathering Information to Take Action*** **Obtaining Better Information on Small Mammals in the City of Rocks**

Idaho's wildlife conservation strategy prioritizes gaining better knowledge of native species and the habitats they depend upon in order to make crucial management decisions. City of Rocks National Reserve is home to several rare mammal species not found anywhere else in Idaho. Pinyon-juniper woodlands in City of Rocks National Reserve and Castle



Teton Creek/Mike Lien

Rocks State Park were surveyed in 2005 and 2006, providing new information on the distribution, abundance and habitat preferences of the cliff chipmunk, pinyon mouse, canyon mouse, brush mouse, and ringtail. This vital information will help Idaho in making cost-effective decisions to conserve these mammals before they become more rare and costly to protect.

### *Proactive Efforts that Benefit Wildlife and People*

## **Improving Sage Grouse Habitat**

Idaho's strategy for conservation of sage grouse, a priority species, includes protecting and maintaining sagebrush habitat, reducing sagebrush fragmentation, and reducing human disturbance. It is not uncommon to see 2,000 to 3,000 sage grouse in the Upper Snake River area during fall and winter, but they are threatened by collision mortalities and the interruption of migration corridors due to aboveground power lines. Cooperation between the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Rocky Mountain Power, Clark Soil Conservation District, and the Bureau of Land Management resulted in the burial of 4.7 miles of proposed power line and

the removal of 10 miles of existing power line, improving habitat and reducing mortality hazards for sage grouse in the area. Such efforts benefit vital habitat, helping to conserve the sage grouse for the enjoyment of future generations.

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Sage grouse/Idaho Department of Fish and Game

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City of Rocks/Jodi Vincent



Mammal trapping/Jodi Vincent