

## Beautification of Sacajawea Park

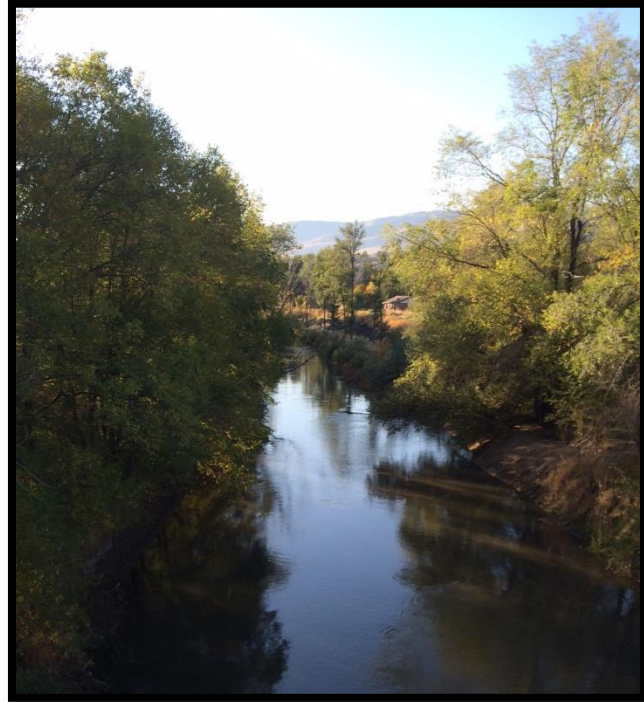
Sacajawea Park is located on the bank of a un- channeled portion of the Portneuf River in Pocatello, ID. The park has wonderful paved trails and great habitat for nesting waterfowl. The park is used for a number of activities including, casual family cycling, walking, running, sightseeing, bird watching, fishing and education. The park is also a popular spot for local photographers.

This project aims to improve accessibility, habitat and aesthetics for those that visit and call the park its home.

Both trailheads that serve the park are an eyesore and can be easily improved with added signage, optional lighting, landscaping and restroom. The foot bridge that leads visitors into the main loop is in good shape but is in need of weatherproofing to keep it in good condition. The majority of the main loop trail is at a low grade and easily accessible to all populations however, 3 small sections of sloping trail are difficult to maneuver, by adding hand railing to those areas it will enhance accessibility to the large population of elderly and disabled nearby residents that use the trail as well as improve aesthetics to the area. The main loop of the trail runs alongside of the Portneuf River. The stretch of the river is home to a large population of waterfowl and many guests of the park enjoy feeding the ducks, and geese and fishing off of the banks of the river. The constant traffic up and down the banks has caused severe degradation of the west slope of the bank and has made the area not only very dangerous for visitors to scale the steep slopes but completely eliminated the riparian area in many of the areas. The root systems are visible in the banks and many trees along the river are in danger of being swept away. With the addition of exclusion fencing to allow for the riparian area to heal and recover as well as platforms for continued use by those wishing to feed and watch the ducks, this stretch can be productive again.

Current signage in the park encourages imagination and play but over the years signs have been damaged by graffiti and educational activity areas have faded. Through the partnership with Bannock Civitan those areas will be cleaned and a fresh coat of paint will be added. Additional signage will provide information on the habitat in the park as well as the current conservation efforts and supporters.

The Partnership of Bannock Civitan will assure this projects continued success. Bannock Civitan has a dedicated committee to maintain Sacajawea Park and maintenance issues and concerns will be jointly handled by Bannock Civitan and the



City of Pocatello. Any conservation concerns will be addressed through the City's partnership with the Portneuf Soil and Water Conservation District as well as Bannock Civitan.

## **PROJECT NOTES:**

### **Intended results:**

Improve the sustainability and accessibility of the Portneuf River around Sacajawea Park by improving the river banks as well as installing spectator decks and hand railing along sloped portions of the trail. Provide accessibility and safety for the surrounding residents

### **Work Points:**

- Hand Railing
- Park Benches
- Riparian area Exclusion Fencing
- East and West Entrance Signs, Native Plant Garden, Lighting and Restroom
- Removal of Cement Blockade
- Spectator Decks
- Permeable Trail Surface (designated foot path from paved trail to spectator decks)
- Weatherization of East Entrance Foot Bridge

