

Name \_\_\_\_\_



# Hidden Secrets of the Reserve

# Scavenger Hunt

Visit each interpretive sign as you read the clues to find the mystery phrase. Start your adventure at sign #1



## CLUE 1 – PARKING LOT

This is not your ordinary parking lot. The pavers have spaces in between them that allow rain water to pass through to recharge the groundwater below. This parking lot helps protect the area from flooding and helps clean up stormwater before it enters the Boise River and our groundwater. Write the first letter of the word 'stormwater' to the last letter of the first word of the puzzle.

## CLUE 2 – HISTORY

Look around and imagine fields and farm land as far as you can see! In the mid 1950's that's what Hyatt Wetlands was, then it became a large gravel pit until 1997 when Larry and Geri Hyatt donated the land to the City of Boise so we could turn into an amazing park! Now you can observe plants and wildlife in their natural surroundings and habitat right in the middle of Boise. Write the letters "a" and "t" as the second and third letters in the first word of the puzzle.

## CLUE 3 – WETLAND FUNCTIONS

Careful where you step! The water, plants and soil are the habitat, food, and shelter for many microorganisms, bugs, fish, mammals, birds and amphibians! Wetlands are a nursery for young wildlife

and a resting place for migratory birds. The wetlands are also like a sponge, absorbing extra water when it rains or floods and releasing it slowly to the groundwater. Besides all of these important functions, it's a beautiful place to get outside and recreate! Write the first letter of nursery as the first letter in the first line of the puzzle.

## CLUE 4 – STORMWATER

Rain water, also known as stormwater, from neighborhoods carries large amounts of pollutants, such as fertilizer, oil, litter and pet waste that can negatively impact the quality of the water. Hyatt Wetlands cleans this water for us by filtering out the pollution and protecting the Boise River. Write the letters "u" and "r" as the fourth and fifth letters in the first word of the puzzle.

## CLUE 5 – FILTERS

A lot is happening in the stormwater filter below you. Soil, plant roots and sand are cleaning up pollution that enters the wetlands from the streets and neighborhoods. As dirty water passes through this filter, pollution gets cleaned up by tiny organisms, taken up by plants, or trapped in the sand. Then the clean water flows into the wetland and eventually to the Boise River. Write the word "filter" on the second line of the puzzle.

## CLUE 6 – WILDLIFE

Look and Listen? What do you hear or see? Hyatt Wetlands is an urban wetland that provides a home or habitat for all kinds of plants and animals. There are many different kinds of birds that live here ... Osprey, Great Blue Herons, and Mallards to name a few. There are also fox, small rodents, frogs and turtles! Do you see the big bat? the Osprey pole? Take a few minutes and try to spot as much wildlife as you can. Write the letter "e" as the second to last letter in the first word of the puzzle.

**KEY:** Not only is Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve a beautiful place to walk and watch wildlife, it also prevents pollution because it acts as:

|   |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |   |

Email your answer to [etrout@cityofboise.org](mailto:etrout@cityofboise.org) and receive a prize from Eddy Trout, Boise's official stormwater mascot!

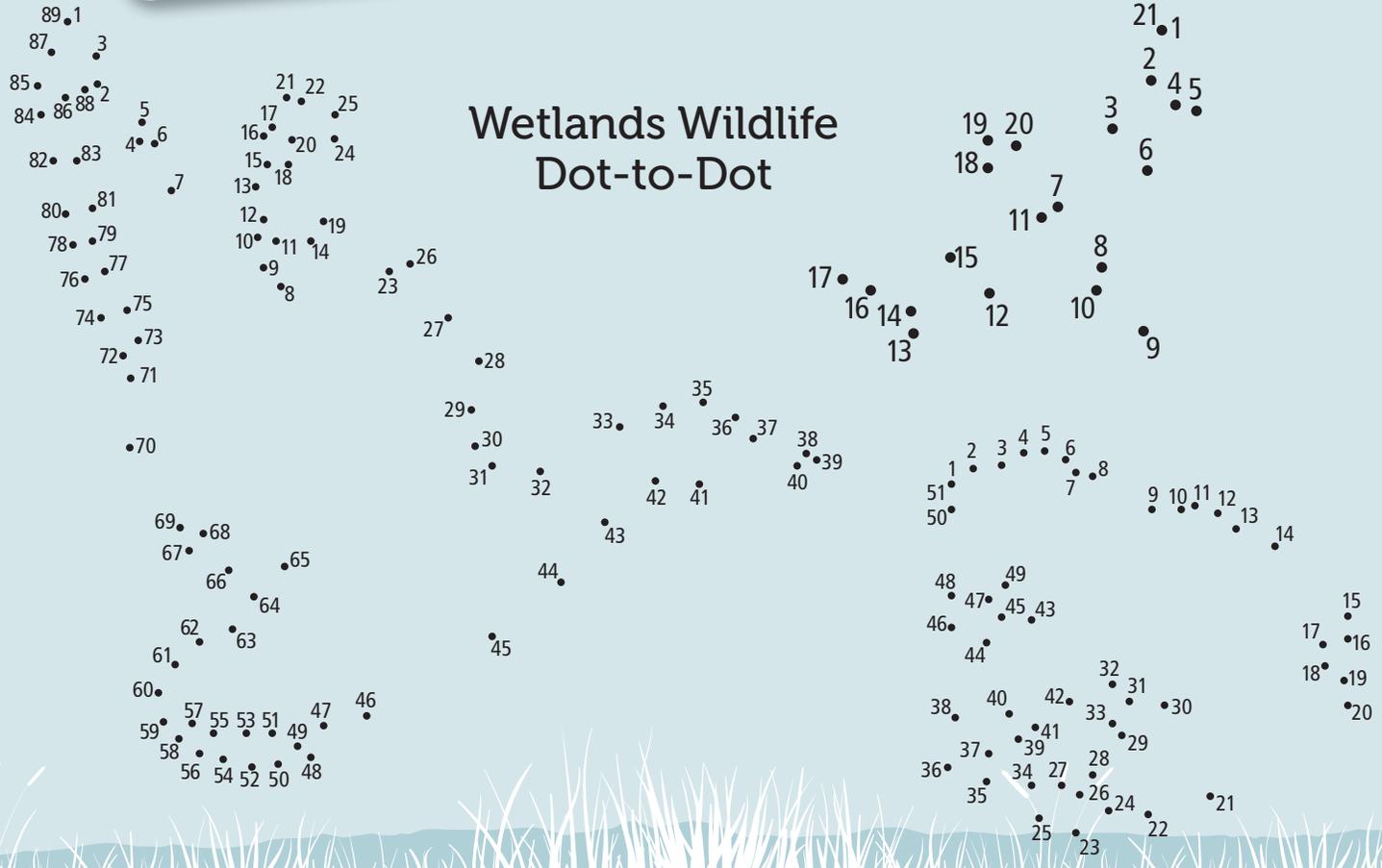


# Wetlands Word Search



- BATS
- BOISE RIVER
- CATTAILS
- CRANE
- DRAGONFLIES
- DUCKS
- FILTER
- FROG
- GROUND WATER
- KOI
- POLLUTION
- SCAT
- STORMWATER
- WATER
- WATERSHED
- WETLANDS

## Wetlands Wildlife Dot-to-Dot



For more info on the Hyatt Hidden Lakes Reserve and other urban wetlands in the City of Boise visit: [www.BoiseWetlands.org](http://www.BoiseWetlands.org)

To learn more about your watershed or to request an environmental education lesson at the wetlands visit the Boise WaterShed at: [www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org](http://www.BoiseEnvironmentalEducation.org)

To learn more about the stormwater pollution prevention and Eddy's Fin Club visit: [www.PartnersforCleanWater.org](http://www.PartnersforCleanWater.org)