

## Our City

As of this writing the Snake River Basin is tenuously perched at 97% of our annual snow water equivalent and at 88% of average snow pack. The Upper Snake River Basin Reservoir storage is at 78%. American Falls reservoir is taking on 2982 cfs and releasing 2740; a difference of 242 cfs or a plus 480 acre feet per day. It all looks good! Right? The ducks and geese are back and the crocus and day lilies are growing in my yard as buds are breaking on my rose and currant bushes. It's February 28<sup>th</sup>. It feels like we are a month early for just about everything. Experience and memory tells me that the good weather won't last and more winter will come; but according to the Weather Channel, March is coming in like a lamb. I am hopeful that the lion will precede April showers although I fear we are in for a long, early summer. Que sera sera. Were it so easy for most of us, but sadly no. Although as a City we will make hay while the sun shines.

The golf course is open! The new fleet of carts is here and needs to be used. Inventory is beginning to fill the racks, with much more on the way. Denny tells me he already has 17 tournaments scheduled, and he expects to end up with 20-25. The high school golf team started their season today and season passes are selling. Denny also tells me there is a group from a bit farther east that plans to play every Sunday on our course. From my perspective, it is exciting! Hell, I haven't hit a golf ball in over 20 years, but I am considering it. Of course if I do, it won't be golf per se but more hack and hoe.

Which is exactly what the Street Department is doing at Willow Bay as they remove encroaching willows to make room for the new boat docks being installed later this month. This past week Dusty and his crew have also been busy giving the Bay Café parking lot a facelift or at least a good grading and new gravel. The Street Department has also been busy sweeping streets, trimming trees and prepping the few gravel roads in town for grading. Trimming trees, that reminds me of the letter I got from the City last fall about trimming my low hanging tree limbs that tend to impede the garbage truck as Frank Marvin collects my weekly trash. I better get them trimmed before they leaf and start to sag again.

Willow Bay is open this week. It is supposed to be 60 degrees this coming weekend. You might want to consider making good use of the available water and great food at the Bay Café. As I mentioned last week, Candice will have some of the Bay's specialty sandwiches for your consumption at the Golf course too; so go hungry and play hard. Speaking of Golf and Willow Bay I will be meeting with the folks from the Bureau of Reclamation to discuss the installation of a driving range near the old VFW trap range this week. And yes Dave and Bob, I am still looking for a spot that will accommodate a new trap range. Like Dad used to say, "He sure ain't fast, but he's really slow." Don't be discouraged though, I do finish.

Progress was made during the Ferry Hollow Trail open house this past Thursday; thanks to all of you who attended. I had several very good conversations with many of you and look forward to more as progress is made. As I told Bryan Sprague about his concern for potential conflicts that may arise between trail users and those who hunt the fields adjacent to the trail for geese or ducks, please complete the online trail survey and include your thoughts in the comment box. Find the survey at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ferryhollowtrail>. The survey will remain available for the next two to three weeks. Once the data has been compiled

the committee will meet to determine the consensus of the community and how to best mesh everybody's wishes. Once a clearer direction for the trail is established, we will host another open house to share a more common vision with you. With a bit of luck and more work, by the time the spring sun is upon us in earnest and first crop hay is being cut, we should be ready to begin the construction of several segments of the Ferry Hollow Trail.

Until next week...