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Mark Hadley, Editor
(801) 538-4737

In this issue:

Mountain goat viewing
Watch sage-grouse

See Mountain Goats on April 10

Fun activities for kids also part of the event

Sandy -- Colorful flowers and warmer weather aren't the only signs spring is here: so are mountain goats at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon!

You can see and learn more about the goats at a free wildlife-viewing event. The event will be held Saturday, April 10.

Free activities for children are also part of the event.

"April is one of the best months to see the goats," says Bob Walters, Watchable Wildlife coordinator for the Division of Wildlife Resources. "This event will be a great opportunity to get out and watch their sure-footed antics."

The event will be held at the Park-and-Ride lot at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon in Salt Lake County. DWR biologists will be at the lot from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

To reach the canyon, travel east out of Sandy on 9400 South.

"You'll be able to get a front-row look at these agile rock climbers using spotting scopes and binoculars we'll have on hand," Walters says. "You can also pick up a poster and a card that will teach you more about mountain goats."

Activities for children will be held from 9 a.m. to noon. "Your kids can stamp goat tracks using ink stamps and paper we'll make available," Walters says. "We'll also have some goat horns and goat fur that you and your kids can pick up and handle."

For more information, call Walters at (801) 538-4771.

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Contact: Bob Walters, DWR Watchable Wildlife Coordinator (801) 538-4771

View Strutting Sage-grouse on April 10

Price -- The “bloop, bloop” sound that male sage-grouse make, as they strut on their breeding grounds, is one of the most unique sounds you’ll ever hear in nature.

And the sight of the grouse strutting is pretty unique too!

You can hear and watch this ritual yourself at a free wildlife-viewing event in east-central Utah. The event will happen April 10 at Emma Park, about 13 miles north of Price.

The Division of Wildlife Resources is sponsoring the event.

To see and hear the spectacle, you need to be at the viewing site early. Viewing is best before the sun comes up and just after the sun has risen. Grouse leave their strutting ground within an hour after sun-up.

Before making the trip, please remember that several things can force the grouse to leave the viewing site early or to not visit the site at all. Those factors include eagles or coyotes near the site. Wind, rain or snow can also keep the grouse under cover and out of sight.

After the birds leave their breeding ground, the grouse spend the day feeding and resting in stands of sagebrush. They remain mostly out-of-sight until the following morning at first light, when they congregate at their strutting ground again.

DWR biologists will be on-hand with spotting scopes and binoculars. They’ll help you find the grouse and answer any questions you have.

Directions:

- From the Wasatch Front, travel east on US-6 from Spanish Fork. At the top of Price Canyon, look for the Emma Park sign, and turn left onto the Emma Park Road. Travel east until you see vehicles with the state of Utah seal on their doors.

- To get to Emma Park from Price, travel north on US-6 to the Castle Gate power plant. Turn right onto US-191, and travel northeast about six miles to the Bamberger Monument. From there, turn left onto the Emma Park Road, and travel west until you see the state vehicles.

For more information, call Brent Stettler at (435) 613-3707 or (435) 613-3700.

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Contact: Brent Stettler, DWR Southeastern Region Conservation Outreach Manager
(435) 613-3707 or (435) 613-3700