



June 6, 2016

To *River Heights Residents*
From *Michael Wardle, Director of Planning*
Subject *Threat to Wildlife Habitat*

When you moved into *River Heights*—the interface of urban development and Fish and Game’s *Boise River Wildlife Management Area (WMA)*—you were presented a manual (riverheightsboise.com - *community documents*) describing the benefits of living in this unique environment as well encouragement to protect it.

The second page of this message shows the relationship of *River Heights* and *WMA* lands owned by the *Idaho Department of Fish & Game* and *Idaho Fish & Wildlife Foundation*.

In 2005, Brighton added to the *WMA* with a donation of foothills land to the *Foundation*. Then, in late 2013, Brighton donated the Maynard Creek wildlife corridor north of Warm Springs Avenue—considered by Boise City and Fish & Game to be the most critical wildlife habitat—to the *Department*.

Brighton has acted to protect your property, as well as habitat, by providing educational materials, and by constructing a sedimentation basin at the mouth of Maynard Gulch and a split-rail fence to separate public-access trails from wildlife management areas.

With that background . . .

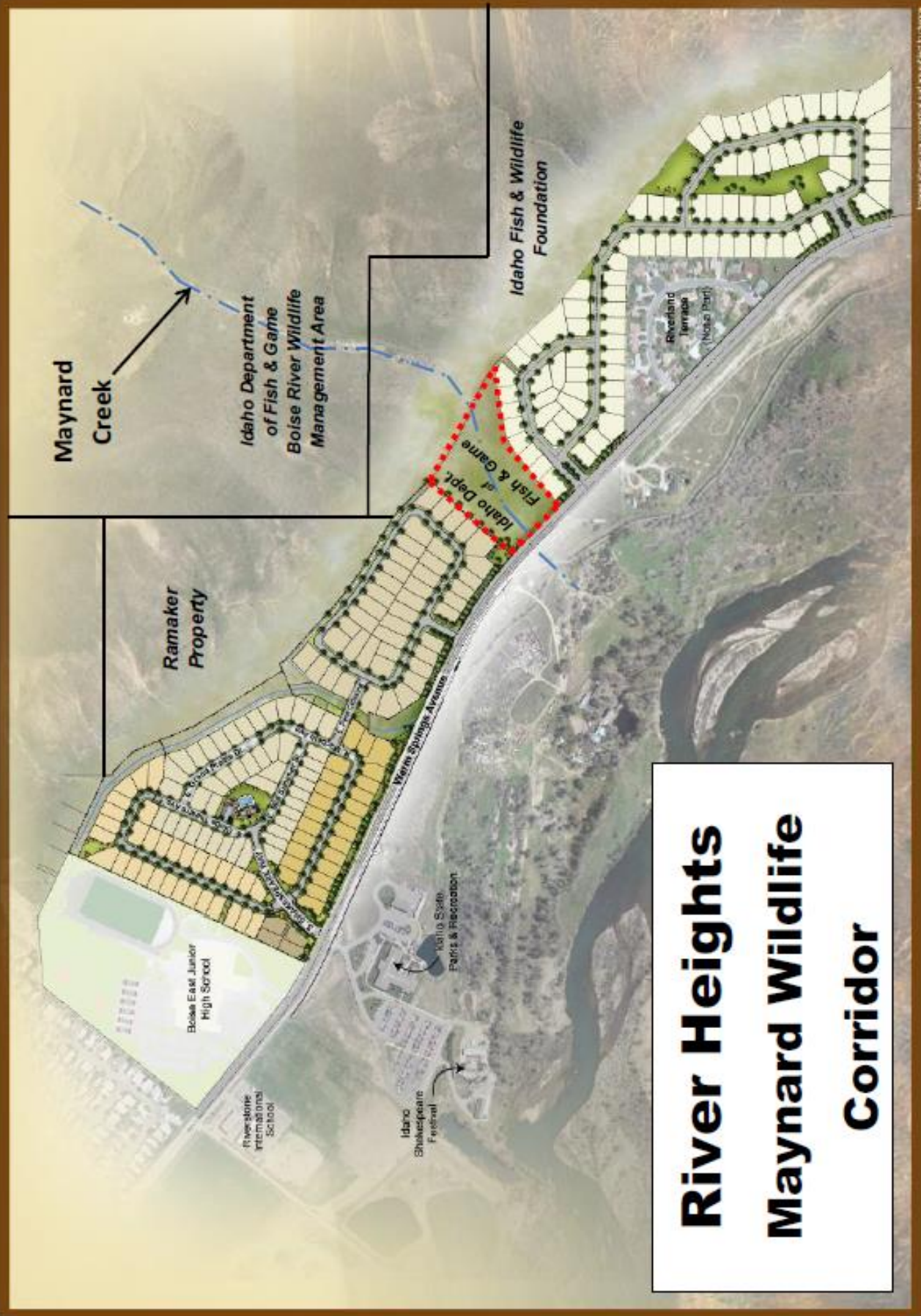
Those protected resources are being threatened. Recent four-wheeler activity on private land (*Ramaker*) and *Fish & Game’s WMA* has damaged vegetative habitat and fencing. Fish & Game fencing repairs and “*No Motorized Vehicles*” signage have been torn down.

Brighton has since chained and posted access points as a precaution, but *River Heights* residents are encouraged to be vigilant against trespass and vandalism—and protective of your own “*backyard*.”

Why this should be a concern to you . . .

Illegal off-roading has the potential to spark wildfires, destroying habitat and putting the *River Heights* community at risk from fire and subsequent erosion and mud slides. Unfortunately, it has happened before!

I would be happy to respond to your questions: 287.0512 - direct or 863.6150 - cell.



River Heights Maynard Wildlife Corridor