

2006

Friends of the Teton River

ANNUAL REPORT

Thank you for your support From the FTR Board

While 2006 was only our sixth year in operation, we have moved leaps and bounds ahead with many important accomplishments to benefit our valley's watershed and to fulfill our mission of working for clean water, healthy streams and abundant fisheries in Teton Valley. Congratulations are due to our hard-working staff, and especially to our many supporters and friends who make our accomplishments possible. Thank you to all from the FTR Board of Directors!

We continue to recognize the importance of education to protect our water resources in the future. In 2006, we reached over 350 students in Teton Valley through our school programs and numerous adults during five workshops on the Teton Watershed. We hope these outreach efforts will help to ensure good water stewardship for the long term.

FTR has continued our collaboration with the Idaho Department of Water Resources by systematically measuring water diversion from the huge network of irrigation canals and ditches throughout the valley. Not only has this led to a more accurate analysis of water use and availability, but it has led to more communication and cooperation with farmers and ranchers in the valley.

Additionally, FTR initiated funding for a Snotel (Snow Telemetry) study site that monitors weather and snowfall near Grand Targhee. This site is a tool for students to learn the relationship between snowfall and water in Teton Basin and provides more accurate water quantity forecasting for water users.

Last year our efforts also focused on restoration. Over 600 feet of stream bank was restored and approximately 7,300 square feet of riparian vegetation planted (along with nearly 90 willow shrubs)—all on Teton River and Teton Creek.

Our staff worked very hard with the Board of County Commissioners to help establish a Groundwater Protection Ordinance. This ordinance will ensure that, when conditions warrant, a nutrient pathogen study will be required for developments that pose a threat to water quality.

Our "River Party" continues to grow in popularity, and this year over 300 people attended. As more discover every year, it's a great way to learn more about FTR, visit with neighbors, and support our mission. Two moonlight floats on the Teton River and a wildflower hike were other events sponsored by FTR in our efforts to help citizens enjoy and appreciate our watershed.

The Board of Directors is proud of our progress and accomplishments in 2006. We recognize how fortunate we are to have a very effective, efficient and dedicated staff who are being recognized as experts in water conservation in the valley. FTR's collaborative approach and unbiased data is proving to be a tremendous resource for landowners, developers and citizens concerned with conserving water resources for the next generations. Our progress would not have been possible without the tremendous support we receive from the Teton Valley community. Again, thank you all for helping us work toward clean water, healthy streams and abundant fisheries in the valley.

Reporting activities and accomplishments from January 1 to December 31, 2006

2006 — What a Year That Was!

From Lyn Benjamin, FTR Executive Director

Last week I launched at 7 a.m. from the Nickerson Bridge for an early morning float with two friends on the Teton River. It was the quintessential fall morning, the kind we dream about in the middle of summer, with cool, clear air and vibrant colors. En route we were serenaded by thousands of sandhill cranes, entertained by seven moose in various stages of courtship, and awed by the beauty of our surroundings. The float was a perfect reminder of why FTR and its supporters are working so hard; the Teton River is an incredible, irreplaceable resource. Thanks to you, our supporters, we are protecting all of Teton Valley's water resources for future generations.

Here are some highlights of the work for clean water, healthy streams and abundant fisheries that FTR accomplished in 2006:

EDUCATION

Raising a whole new generation of water stewards



America" award by the Boy Scouts of America for outstanding leadership in the area of natural resource

FTR completed its K-12 bilingual Teton Watershed curriculum. The organization was involved with every school in Teton Valley and provided classroom or field experiences for 350 students. We were awarded the "Good Turn for

conservation and water education. We hosted two interns, Josh Wise (Teton High school) and Kim Petersen (Idaho State University), who worked in our streamflow and water quality monitoring programs. We also presented a series of five watershed-education classes for adults at Teton High School.



Left: FTR interns, Josh Wise and Kim Petersen, on Trail Creek; Right: Anna and the Scouts.

OPEN CHANNELS

at work on Trail Creek



diversion was rebuilt to replace an eroding weir with a series of pools that make fish passage possible all year. The second project involved the construction of a rock weir designed to create an entrance pool to

FTR completed two projects that will improve fish passage, spawning opportunities, and fry survival on Trail Creek. The Town Canal

the existing fish ladder at the main diversion on Trail Creek. Additionally, FTR completed a stream restoration project at Brookside Hollow where we stabilized 600 feet of eroding streambank, installed three J-hook weirs and planted vegetation.



Left: Completed step weirs at Town Canal on Trail Creek; Right: Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout Rescue on Badger Creek.

COLLABORATION



Water District #1 asked FTR to work with the Teton Valley watermaster to monitor streamflow diversions. We installed fifty measuring devices and implemented a monitoring program to measure irrigation

diversions throughout the valley. FTR also acted as a catalyst to bring together diverse stakeholders on Teton Creek in the Teton Creek Subwatershed Committee—a working group that will facilitate Teton Creek restoration. As part of this effort, FTR hosted the first Teton Creek restoration workshop

that was attended by thirty regional experts on stream restoration and local stakeholders. Another phenomenal collaborative effort was spearheaded by Anna Lindstedt to raise funds for a new Snotel site installation. The snowpack/weather monitoring station was installed at Grand Targhee, where it provides data useful to skiers, weather buffs, irrigators and anglers.



Left: Mike Lien installs a staff flow gauge measurement device on Trail Creek; Right: Anna Lindstedt measuring the snowpack at the Pine Creek Pass Snotel site.

CLEAN WATER



In December 2006 we worked with the Teton County Commissioners and Planning and Zoning Administrator Kurt Hibbert to pass the Groundwater Protection Ordinance that mandates a nutrient pathogen

study be completed for subdivisions that potentially pose a threat to groundwater quality. Additionally, we worked with the University of Idaho and Department of Environmental Quality to sample water quality in fifty domestic wells in Teton Valley. Finally, we continued our extensive monitoring of water quality in streams throughout the valley.

FTR and the University of Idaho team up to study groundwater quality in Teton Valley.

ENJOYING OUR WATERSHED

Once again this year, we took time to have fun with our members. We celebrated our 6th anniversary party on the river, and we hosted a full moon float on a perfect night in August, hikes in the Big Holes and Tetons, and a Teton River Stewards dinner. We fished the Teton, watched wildlife on its banks, and enjoyed lazy summer days floating down the river.

Mothers and Daughters: LeAnn and Megan Talbot, Karen Scheid and Donna Brace Ogilvie



FINANCIAL REPORT

Friends of the Teton River raised \$343,393 in 2006, with the majority of funds (about 87%) going to on-the-ground stream restoration projects, water quality testing, flow monitoring, watershed education and outreach. The remaining 13% went toward administration and fundraising. Revenues in 2006 were derived from federal grants(28%), private and foundation support(20%), and tremendous support from individual donors (50%).

Friends of the Teton River strongly believes in fiscal responsibility and accountability to its membership, project partners and the general public. The information presented here comes from a certified audit by Galusha, Higgins & Galusha, P.C.

REVENUE AND SUPPORT

Public Support:

Memberships and Donations	\$171,617
Public Support Grants & Foundation Grants (Old Bill's, CFJH, Donald C. Brace)	\$68,802
Special Events, net of \$9,851 expenses	\$8,601.00

Other Support:

Federal Grants Assistance	\$95,581
Program Income, net of \$4,641 expenses	(\$2,009)
Interest and Dividends	\$801

Total Revenue and Support **\$343,393**

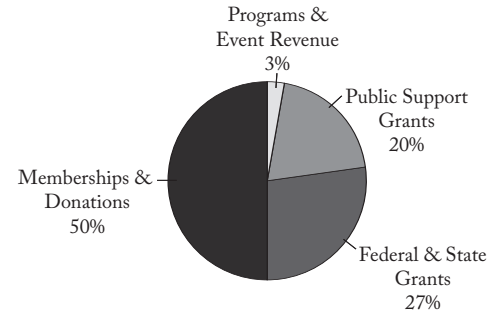
EXPENSES

Programs	\$225,262
Education & Outreach	\$71,810
Fundraising	\$25,628
Administration	\$18,792

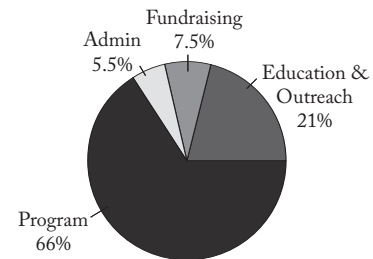
Total Expenses **\$341,492**

Net assets, January 1, 2006	\$107,950
Net assets, December 31, 2006	\$109,851
Increase in net assets	\$1,901

2006 Budget Income - \$343,393



2006 Budget Expenses - \$341,492



Thank you to all of our 2006 donors

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