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Friends of the Teton River

# water lines

Winter 2009

*Working together for clean water,  
healthy streams, and abundant fisheries*

*Healthy Watersheds, Healthy Communities*



# a message from the executive director



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Thank you all for a successful and productive year in the Teton Watershed. For much of the summer, our new office was humming with FTR members and supporters, anglers, interns, irrigators, and other Teton River fans! Highlights of the FTR summer included completion of Phase 1 of Teton Creek restoration and the installation of the new larger bridge on Cemetery Road; the fact that Trail Creek remained connected to the Teton River for most of the summer; the start of a three year, \$640,000 research project focused on conjunctive management of water resources in the Teton and Henry's Fork basins; students throughout Teton Valley reaping the rewards of FTR's Watershed Teacher's Institute; and a series of fun and educational hikes, floats, and parties celebrating our water resources and the wonderful place where we live.



Yvon choosing the next fly; photo by Gabe Rogel.

by waters backed up behind the Teton Dam; these photos served as the basis for Charlie Craighead's presentation at the Fisherman's Dinner last May. This year's float was the first time the Chouindards and Craighead had returned to the Teton Canyon since 1974. Although Frank Craighead passed from the physical world in 2001, his spirit touched the float that coincided with what would have been his 93<sup>rd</sup> birthday.

FTR invited Yvon, Malinda, and Charlie to return to the lower Teton River as we yet again face the threat of a dam on one of the last free-flowing headwater streams of the Snake River watershed. During the next two years, the Idaho Department of Water Resources and US Bureau of Reclamation will conduct an appraisal-level study to assess options for water storage in the Teton Basin. FTR is working closely with Trout Unlimited, Idaho Rivers United, American Rivers, and the Greater Yellowstone Coalition to actively participate in the appraisal study and ensure that appropriate hydrologic and economic analyses are completed and all options considered. Additionally, as the Bureau of Land Management considers Wild and Scenic designation for reaches of the Teton River and its tributaries, FTR encourages members to share your input with the BLM. For more information, and to offer your thoughts on the Wild and Scenic Rivers review process, please click on the following link: [http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/fo/upper\\_snake/Planning/wild\\_and\\_scenic\\_eligibility.html](http://www.blm.gov/id/st/en/fo/upper_snake/Planning/wild_and_scenic_eligibility.html)

We believe that we are at a critical juncture for the Teton Watershed. At the same time that FTR is making huge strides in restoring the upper watershed, a rebuild of a dam on the lower river would decimate one of the last strongholds for Yellowstone cutthroat trout and one of the last truly wild river canyons in the western U.S. In view of this, in this edition of Water Lines, education and outreach director Amy Verbeten explores how the future of the Teton Watershed depends on all of us.

We hope you will become involved in the work FTR has begun in Teton Valley. Please join us as we work together to make the Teton River and its watershed a model for collaborative, science-based watershed management.



Lyn paddling the lower Teton River; photo by Gabe Rogel.



At the end of a long beautiful day in the Teton Canyon; photo by Gabe Rogel.

ON THE COVER: In the Teton Canyon; photo by Gabe Rogel [www.rogelphoto.com](http://www.rogelphoto.com)

*Lyn Benjamin*

Lyn Benjamin

# THE FUTURE OF THE TETON WATERSHED

## DEPENDS ON ALL OF US

by Amy Verbeten, *Education Director*

2010 marks an important benchmark for the Teton Watershed. In the summer of 2000, a group of farmers, outfitters and guides, scientists, conservationists, and government agency representatives came together in recognition of the need to understand and protect Teton Valley's precious water resources. Catalyzed by a series of research reports that described serious threats to water quality, aquatic ecological functioning, and native fish populations in the Teton Basin, this diverse group formed the nonprofit Friends of the Teton River. Today, as a result of

FTR's science, restoration projects, and listening to residents, no one knows the Teton Valley watershed better than FTR. As we move forward into our next 10 years, we are committed to our core values of sound science, impartial communications, stewardship of water resources, and collaboration with a diverse range of stakeholders. However, we cannot do it alone. The ultimate success of watershed protection and restoration is determined by the degree of community trust and support that we earn. The future of the Teton Watershed truly depends on all of us.

**“Although science provides the key to unlocking natural resources problems, that key doesn't necessarily come with the requisite instructions for application in human settings.”**





### **Conjunctive water management.**

Or divisions between water and people?

### **A thriving native trout fishery.**

Or species extinction?

### **Live water and flowing streams.**

Or dry stream beds?

### **A vibrant local economy.**

Or resource exhaustion?

### **A water conservation ethic.**

Or water shortages?

### **A model watershed.**

Or a marred watershed?



*New fish-friendly irrigation structures open up migration corridors and keep trout in-stream, while delivering the water irrigators need.*

## **Sound Science**

Science has formed the cornerstone of our work from the outset. FTR's first priority as a new organization was to implement a comprehensive research and monitoring program. The organization's first five years were spent conducting research that allowed us to better understand the complexities of the watershed, and to prioritize the work needed to restore it. We found that, like many western watersheds, the Teton is facing a wide range of threats, which we have categorized into four primary categories: Impaired Water

Quality, Barriers to Fish Passage, Flow-Limited Streams, and Aquatic Habitat Loss.

Based on the initial research, FTR and our partners were able to develop a series of prioritized actions that would contribute to achieving an overall restoration vision for the watershed. Since 2005, we have worked closely with our community, and with local, state, and federal agencies, to make great strides in restoring our watershed, using sound science as our guide.

## **Education**

Since its inception, FTR has believed that educating the community is essential to fostering a healthier watershed. As FTR Executive Director Lyn Benjamin has noted, "Although science provides the key to unlocking natural resource problems, that key doesn't necessarily come with the requisite instructions for application in human settings."

So, we have established a comprehensive Watershed Education Program designed to build a community with the skills, knowledge, and motivation to collaboratively address water resource issues. Our work to educate the current and next generation of watershed stewards reaches community members of every age. Our Teton Watershed program of study provides K-12 students with a district-approved watershed science

curriculum that addresses state science standards, while a professional development program helps teachers integrate watershed studies into their classrooms. Each summer, a Teton Valley high school student receives a paid internship through us to work side-by-side with water resource professionals. Our monthly Water Wise Community Education Series series has drawn 50 to 60 diverse participants per session, with topics ranging from Water Law to Water Wise Landscaping. Targeted education and outreach with local government officials helps bridge the gap between land use planning and water management, and meetings with stakeholders on Trail Creek and Teton Creek help us define collaborative goals for water use that incorporate the needs of farmers, fish, and towns.

## **Thinking Like a Watershed**

A watershed is defined as the land area that drains to a common body of water such as a lake, river, or ocean. But a watershed is more than just a static geographic area. John Wesley Powell, the 19th-century soldier, scientist, and explorer of the American West, put it best when he said that a watershed is "that area of land, a bounded hydrologic system, within which all living things are inextricably linked by their common water course and where, as humans settled, simple logic demanded that they become part of a community."

Federal, state, and local agencies, in addition to large-scale funders such as the Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) and the Laird Norton Family Foundation, are in-

creasingly recognizing that watersheds are the best scale at which to manage natural resources and to promote healthy communities and ecosystems. Research has shown that the conventional, project-based approach to watershed restoration and funding can be successful in addressing specific problems. However, this conventional approach tends to promote piecemeal restoration strategies that do not effectively address broad-scale watershed issues, and that do not adequately involve the needs of all stakeholders. A watershed-scale approach has been the foundation of FTR's work since our inception nearly 10 years ago, as we work to find multi-faceted, locally derived solutions to the threats facing our watershed.



## Working Together for Water, Wildlife, People, and Livelihoods

FTR was founded by a diverse group of individuals. On the surface, it might seem as though the interests of irrigators, anglers, developers, policy-makers, and conservation groups have little in common. However, FTR has found that water has the power to bring us all together.

FTR works closely with local, state, and federal agencies to prioritize improvements, implement projects, and monitor our local watershed. Collaboration allows us to build bridges with our neighbors, and find the creative solutions that benefit the watershed and a variety of needs.

## The Future Depends on All of Us

As we reach this anniversary, it is important to look back and recognize all that we have achieved in the past 10 years. It is also important that we critically evaluate our approach, and plan for the next 10 years of work. We have found that we can be very effective by using sound science as the basis for our decision making, educating the public of all ages, working together, and thinking like a watershed. We have made a long-term commitment to the watershed because we recognize its ecological importance, and we know that protecting and restoring it for the next generation is a continuing process. However, we can succeed only if you and others agree to join us in making this commitment.

the Teton a “model watershed” in which our community works together to create a place where water supports a vibrant and diverse local economy. We believe that we can have both a thriving native trout fishery and adequate water for agriculture all season long. We also believe that we can have clean drinking water, flowing streams, and bio-regionally appropriate development. But realizing this vision requires that each of us considers water in the decisions we make every day.

The work we have accomplished thus far is a real testament to *your* dedication and the work we’ve accomplished *together* over the past nine years. And if we continue to work together, we can leave the legacy of a healthy watershed for our children and grandchildren.

We invite you to join us as we move forward in making

## HEALTHY WATERSHEDS, HEALTHY COMMUNITIES



FTR works closely with **local, state and federal agencies** to prioritize improvements, implement projects, and monitor our local watershed, as well as provide education and outreach to the public about our water resources.

*Idaho Fish and Game Fisheries Biologist, Brett High, teaches 5th graders about trout anatomy.*



As Teton Valley increasingly becomes a community based on **recreation and tourism**, residents are getting involved in protecting and restoring the watershed that we call home.

*Anna Lindstedt fly fishes on the Teton River after a day of work. She moved to Teton Valley to enjoy a variety of outdoor pursuits.*



**Developers** are stepping forward to restore streamflows and habitat to the creeks that run through their subdivisions. They recognize that healthy streams are an amenity for homebuyers and make good economic sense.

*Developer Fran McKibben (at right), helped start a citizen's group that is working to restore over a mile of Teton Creek.*



**Irrigators** depend on water for their livelihood. FTR works with irrigators to develop “win-win” projects that provide adequate water for both crops and aquatic ecosystems.

*John Rice tests the headgate at a new fish-friendly irrigation diversion on Badger Creek, which will keep trout out of irrigation canals.*

## program updates

### Watershed Teacher Institute Benefits Local Students

*Students throughout Teton Valley started out the 2009-10 school year by learning about their watershed and the scientific process, thanks to FTR's Watershed Teacher Institute.*

by Amy Verbeten, *Education Director*

Supported by a start-up grant from the Environmental Protection Agency, FTR designed the Watershed Teacher Institute to help teachers increase knowledge in watershed science concepts, and to enhance teaching skills that promote student inquiry, critical thinking, and increased achievement in science and literacy. As the final product for the winter/spring 2009 class, participating teachers designed a series of inquiry-based lessons designed to teach students about local watershed science concepts during the 2009-10 school year.

Driggs Elementary School fifth-grade teacher Sara Stevens was a participant in FTR's inaugural Watershed Teacher Institute. Designing a hands-on, inquiry-based stream study project was Sara's final project for the course. Her students first ventured into the field on August 28, when they took

a walking tour to a spring creek that flows through the Huntsman Springs property. Students made observations about the stream and developed scientific questions to investigate on their next outing. On September 4, students spent the day in Teton Canyon, carrying out their investigations on Teton Creek. They sampled macroinvertebrate populations, studied water temperature, and measured stream morphology characteristics such as depth, width, and velocity. "This was such a great way to set a tone for the school year," Sara said.

"I feel like my students are encouraged to be curious about the world around them, to use scientific skills to investigate their questions, and to apply their textbook learning to the real world. I really feel like this class has changed the way I teach, and the way my students learn!"

Students in every grade at the Teton Valley Community School (TVCS) benefited from the Watershed Teacher Institute. Teachers Natasha Peterson (fifth through eighth grades), Amber Jacobsen (first and second grades), Tori Hederman (kindergarten), and Deb Loudenslager (pre-school) worked together to create a whole-school watershed investigation unit for their final project. On September 24, every student and teacher at TVCS, along with a lot of parent volunteers, spent the morning in separate grade-level groups investigating individual aspects of the Teton Canyon ecosystem. In the afternoon, they were combined into multi-age groups, with students of every grade level coming together to share their knowledge.

"Using the watershed as a local context for academic studies enhances student learning and gives students a sense of pride and ownership over their own education," said Natasha Peterson, "as well as the place in which they live." Added Amber Jacobsen: "Working together with co-workers to plan a whole-school educational unit was one of the most valuable aspects of the class. Our students really know the importance of our watershed!"

*Left side top to bottom: Local teachers Dan Romano and Rose Hendricks analyze a water sample; A Driggs Elementary student gets an up close view of macroinvertebrates; Driggs Elementary students share their stream study data. Right side top to bottom: Teacher Sara Stevens investigates Teton Creek with her students; Sara Stevens' 5th grade class visits a stream at Huntsman Springs; Watershed Teacher Institute participant Laina Tomb tests water quality.*



**FTR is currently seeking funding to support the next Watershed Teacher Institute during the 2010-11 school year. If you would like to donate to FTR's Teacher Professional Development program, please contact Development Director Anna Lindstedt at (208) 354-3871.**

## Teton Creek Restoration Gets Underway!

by Mike Lien, *Stream Restoration Director*

FTR is pleased to announce that Phase 1 construction of the highly anticipated Teton Creek Stream Restoration Project has begun! At the beginning of September, FTR, along with Teton County, installed a new Cemetery Road Bridge over Teton Creek, replacing the older, undersized bridge. This was the first milestone in a nearly two million dollar project that has been in the works for more than three and a half years. Project construction on the mile-long project will be conducted over multiple phases during the next few years. The scope of each construction phase will depend on funding.

This fall, in addition to the new bridge, FTR will stabilize and restore 2,000 feet of streambank, construct 600 feet of

floodplain, and install several grade-control structures, also as part of Phase 1 construction. The cost for this work is estimated at \$250,000. We are currently undergoing a rigorous process to hire a qualified contractor, and plan to start work by November 1.

For Phase 2 construction, which will occur next year, FTR has already received a \$200,000 grant from the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, and we are actively pursuing a Congressional Appropriation.

FTR would like to thank all of the Teton Creek stakeholders and funders who have worked hard and contributed time and funds necessary to make this project possible!



Teton County Road and Bridge crew places the middle section of the bridge.



A large crane is used to "fly-in" a bridge section.



Mike surveys progress as bridge footers are set.

## A Wet Summer for Trail Creek *Streamflow Restoration*

by Ty Mack, *Streamflow Restoration Program Director*

2009 was another great year for streamflows in Trail Creek. Mother Nature helped us out with a slightly above average snowpack, but much of the credit goes to the Trail Creek Sprinkler and Irrigation Company (TCSIC), whose careful water management maximized the amount of water left in Trail Creek while still meeting agricultural and residential water demands. The TCSIC irrigation system delivers water from diversions on Game Creek and Trail Creek to more than 7,000 acres in the Victor area, primarily via a buried pipeline system pressurized by gravity. Careful management and frequent adjustments to the intakes allow maintenance of adequate pressure for efficient water delivery, while maximizing the water remaining in Trail Creek. Three members of the Board of Directors of TCSIC are active participants in the Trail Creek Stakeholder Group, and are working closely with FTR to develop strategies to meet water demands on Trail Creek while maximizing benefit to the stream system and fishery.

Although it is still too early to observe any response in fish populations, two consecutive years of strong summer flows in Trail Creek should provide a boost to Teton Valley fisheries. This includes resident trout in Trail Creek, as well as native Yellowstone cutthroat trout in the main stem of the Teton River that utilize Trail Creek as spawning habitat.

FTR and stakeholders on Trail Creek have also been working on other flow restoration and water conservation strategies, including: surface water to groundwater source switches to provide additional water in-stream; partnering with the City of Victor to improve subdivision performance specifications to encourage water conservation and minimize conflicts with agricultural water users; and planning a comprehensive water conservation education and outreach campaign. Above all, these collaborative efforts are showing that people can come together to work toward innovative solutions to challenging water-resource problems.



## Counting, Tagging and Monitoring Fish

by Ty Mack, *Streamflow Restoration Program Director*

What monsters lurk beneath the calm water of the Teton River? FTR staff and volunteers found out during the biennial Idaho Fish and Game (IDFG) fish population survey, held during the second and third weeks of September. FTR staff, board, and volunteers provided 120 hours of labor to assist IDFG employees in the electrofish sampling of three reaches of the river located between the South Bates Bridge (75 S) and Harrops (Highway 33) Bridge. During the first week, trout populations were sampled using two drift-boat electrofishers that produce an electric current in the water, which momentarily stuns the fish and allows them to be quickly netted and transferred to an aerated holding tank. Each fish was then marked with a hole punched in the tail (it grows back completely within a couple of weeks), and its species and total length were recorded. During the second week, each reach was sampled again using the same methods. The recapture rate—or the percentage of marked fish captured—allows for a complete population estimate to be calculated. (Full results will not be available for some time,



but initial observations echo anglers' reports of healthy trout populations in the Teton.) While mixing electricity and water may sound dangerous, electrofishing is actually a safe and common fishery sampling technique that results in very low rate of fish mortality or injury.

The September sampling also marked the start of some exciting new fisheries research FTR will be undertaking in partnership with IDFG, with financial and technical support from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation. In an effort to better understand the life cycle and the range and timing of migration of the native Yellowstone cutthroat trout (YCT), PIT tags, or passive integrated transponders, were implanted in all YCT captured during the sampling. PIT tags, similar to the microchips implanted in pets, provide a unique identifying number for each tagged fish that is associated with its size, condition, and location of capture. The tags are narrow glass tubes 23mm in length that are inserted into an open space in the chest cavity with either a tiny scalpel incision or a syringe-like implanter. Data about tagged fish can then be gathered either by recapturing the fish during future sampling, or automatically when they swim past a PIT tag reader site ("interrogation site") installed in an area river or stream. Better data about the YCT life cycle will allow FTR to be more strategic in our restoration efforts (both flow and habitat), and help us better evaluate the effectiveness of the work we do.



*Above: Identifying and measuring trout before inserting a tag; Left: Netting a trout from the IDFG driftboat.*

## Work begins on USDA-funded research project

by Amy Verbeten, *Education Director*



In late 2008, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) awarded a \$620,000 federal grant to a collaborative group composed of Friends of the Teton River, the Fremont-Madison Irrigation District, the Henry's Fork Foundation, and researchers from Humboldt State

University (HSU) in Arcata, California. The ultimate goal of the project is to develop water management strategies that will make more water available for agriculture, while simultaneously enhancing ecological health in key stream reaches in the Teton and Henry's Fork basins.

On-the-ground work began on the project during the summer of 2009. HSU physical-science graduate students Kimberly Peterson and Brian Apple, under the guidance of professor Rob Van Kirk, measured discharge in irrigation canals and stream channels for the purpose of estimating gains from and losses to groundwater. The team made visual observations of geologic features, springs, and canal returns along the Henry's Fork in order to identify locations and approximate amounts of groundwater and surface-water returns to the river.

Social-science graduate student Lora Liegel, under the advice of professors Yvonne Everett and Mark Baker, collected quantitative data on land development and met

key stakeholders and decision makers. This data will allow Lora to quantify the rate at which agricultural land is being developed, and estimate water-use characteristics of different types of development. Informal stakeholder meetings served to introduce the research team and project to key watershed stakeholders, who, in turn, provided suggestions on particular aspects of development and water management that are important to the local community.

In the remaining two and a half years of this three-year project, the research team will work to quantify the potential effects of increased irrigation efficiency and development on reducing overall water use. They will also investigate the potential impacts of lower overall water on both stream flow restoration efforts, as well as on the availability of groundwater for domestic use. Based on the research findings, researchers and NGOs will work with stakeholders to develop a water conservation and management strategy for the Teton and Henry's Fork watersheds.

For additional information about the project, including detailed project reports, please visit <http://humboldt.edu/~henrysfk>.



*Above: HSU students measure streamflow in Trail Creek. Left: HSU faculty talk with local stakeholders.*



## Many Thanks to FTR's Summer 2009 Intern Team!

Once again, Friends of the Teton River was fortunate to have an excellent pair of interns during the summer of 2009. Ashley Smith, who received the 2009 Summer High School Internship award, is a fifth-generation Teton Valley resident and junior at Teton High School. Her internship was made possible through a generous donation from the Donald C. Brace Foundation, with the support of Karen Scheid. Anna Bramucci, who worked as FTR's Summer Hydrology Technician, came to FTR with a background in Antarctic hydrology. Anna is now researching water quality in Arctic lakes as a graduate student at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

FTR interns' primary responsibilities are checking staff gauges and measuring flows in irrigation ditches throughout the valley, as well as measuring flows in Teton River tributaries. The data they collect is provided to Deputy Watermaster Denny Thomas, who then administers diversion headgates. This summer, the interns also helped with a fish passage restoration project, managed invasive weeds, and collected surface water and groundwater quality data.

## A Day in the Life of an FTR Intern

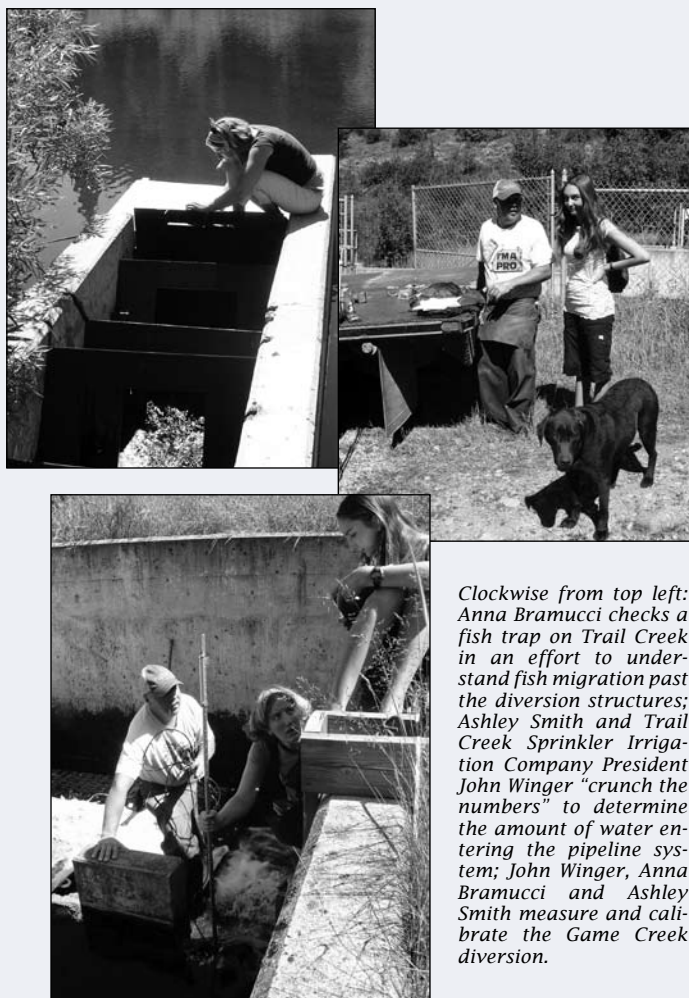
by Anna Bramucci and Ashley Smith, *Summer Interns*

This season has been, in every sense of the word, a torrent of activity, adventure, and—in our case—a fair amount of misadventure. Throughout our first week together, we managed to get lost and un-lost an average of three times a day. We relied heavily on the kindness of strangers, and once on Ashley's dad, to help us find our way. Slowly, we began to familiarize ourselves more with this brilliant valley.

Mucking through mud, or sometimes the more unpleasant aspects of a cow pasture, and wading knee deep through streams, quickly became the easiest components of this summer's season. It was the unexpected, often animal-related, experiences that posed both the biggest adventures and the heartiest laughter. Whether it was the cow moose that surprised us by leaping out of the stream, or the family of foxes that tracked us through a horse pasture, or merely the swarms of mosquitoes that blanketed our waders, the creatures of the Teton Valley kept us on our toes.

Throughout the season we learned many things, including how to handle the stick shift on FTR's not-so-trusty Ford "Exploder," how to catch small fish with our hands, and how to stay cool by having water fights on hot days. Most importantly, though, we both learned just how much work it takes to keep an effective nonprofit like this one going.

In closing, we would like to extend a big *thank you* to all of those who helped us when we were stuck and offered us cold drinks on hot afternoons. A special appreciation goes to all of the members, staff, and board of directors at FTR who make this sort of community-based natural resource work possible and successful!



Clockwise from top left: Anna Bramucci checks a fish trap on Trail Creek in an effort to understand fish migration past the diversion structures; Ashley Smith and Trail Creek Sprinkler Irrigation Company President John Winger "crunch the numbers" to determine the amount of water entering the pipeline system; John Winger, Anna Bramucci and Ashley Smith measure and calibrate the Game Creek diversion.

Dear Members and Friends,

For almost a decade, FTR has dedicated itself to protecting and improving the Teton watershed, through sound science, on-the-ground restoration, community education and stakeholder collaboration. We sincerely thank you for your dedication to our watershed and contributions to this work. This year, your donations helped us to reach the following:

## 2009 Accomplishments:

- FTR began construction on the **Teton Creek restoration project** with Phase 1 of the multi-year, 1.7 million dollar effort; 1.2 miles of stream will be restored when the project is complete. This year, Teton Creek was also named as one of the nation's "**Top Ten Water's to Watch**" by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, recognizing its ecological importance to the recovery of Yellowstone cutthroat trout.



- We completed the **Hog Canal fish screen project** on South Leigh Creek, which will prevent Yellowstone cutthroat trout from becoming stranded in the canal.
- FTR partnered with landowners, the US Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Resource Conservation Service on 2,500 linear feet of **stream bank restoration** on Trail and Fox Creeks.

- In its second year, FTR's **Stream Flow Restoration Program** worked closely with water managers to maintain strong late-season stream flows in Trail Creek.
- Despite budget cuts by funding partners, FTR continued valley-wide **surface water quality monitoring** to keep an eye on one of our most precious resources—clean water.



- FTR was awarded a **10-year funding commitment** from the Bonneville Environmental Foundation, designating the Teton Valley as a "Model Watershed." BEF will provide FTR with not only funding, but also technical and scientific support as part of their commitment for the *next decade*.



**FTR put more than \$400,000 into on-the-ground projects and programs this year alone!**

As we reach our 10-year anniversary, it is important to look back and recognize all that we have achieved. It is also important that we critically evaluate our approach, and plan for the next 10 years of work. We have made a long-term commitment to the watershed because we recognize its ecological importance and know that protecting and restoring it for the next generation is a continuing process.

We hope that you'll join us in making this long-term commitment. Please pledge your support by making a gift to FTR at year-end. The contributions of our individual members are still the backbone of this organization; a real testament to your dedication and the work we've accomplished together over the past nine years. And together, we can leave the legacy of a healthy watershed to our children and grandchildren.

Sincerely,

Anna Lindstedt  
Development Director

***To make a year-end donation to FTR, please mail us your gift or click the "donate" button on our website at [www.tetonwater.org](http://www.tetonwater.org).***



# financial report

## Tin Cup Challenge 2009

Thanks to our generous donors and the contributors to the Community Foundation of Teton Valley matching fund, we raised \$67,000 in the 2009 Tin Cup Challenge to protect and improve our water resources.

We want to thank you for "digging deep" to show your support, despite the current economic uncertainty, and for helping us reach our Tin Cup goal. Your commitment to a healthy watershed and philanthropic leadership in the community continue to inspire us to work hard for clean water, healthy streams, and abundant fisheries ... now and for the next generations.



## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

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Peter & Mollie Fenger  
Jonathan Fenn  
Carol & Russell Ferris  
Alice & John Finley  
Kristi Meston & Mark Fisher  
Janna Rankin & Art Frakt  
Travis Gay  
Shelly & Lou Gaylord  
Julie Geng  
Geordie & Kim Gillett  
Neil Gleichman  
Gordon & Ann Goodell  
Robert & Mary Robertson-  
Goodrich  
Grand Teton Brewing Company  
Chad Green  
Virginia & Clint Grosse  
Richard Grundler  
Adair Mail & Antonio Guindon  
Emily Hagedorn  
Paul & Mary Lou Hansen  
Hal Harrison  
Janet Conway & Dr. Buol Heslin  
Dan & Virginia Hoke  
Ron & Caroline Janney  
Jenny & Chris Jensen  
Ben Hammond & Lisa Johnson  
Jorgensen Associates, PC  
Doug & Kimberly Kaiser  
Sarah Kaiser  
Kim Keeley  
Wes & Jean Keller  
Bill Kelly  
Susan Lincoln & Glenn Kerr  
Jerry & Viesia Kirk  
John & Rhonda Kjos  
Jeff & Darcy Klausmann  
Kimberly Day & James Kleine  
Dieter Knecht  
Emily & Carl Knobloch  
Cathy O'Connor & Chris  
Larson  
Ron & Judy Lease  
Leon & Ellen Lederman  
Lucey Electric  
Susan & Mayo Lykes  
Bob & Deborah Malheiro  
Sandy & Mary Mason  
Nancy & Mike McCoy  
Dr. Dick & Kay McIlroy  
Ken & Barbara McIntosh  
Stacy & Jesse Mead  
Linda & Mike Merigliano  
Mike & Margaret Merigliano  
Carol & Arthur Merkle  
Lew Mithun  
Allison & Dave Monroe  
Barbara & Mike Morey  
Mary Mullaney & Ralph Mossman  
K.C. & Diane Murphy  
Bob Mechikoff & Kathi Myers  
NOLS-Teton Valley Branch  
Ben Morris & Deirdre  
O'Connell  
Donna Brace Ogilvie  
Kim & Dee Olsen  
Charlie Otto  
Ann Loyola & Wood Palmer  
Joe & D.A. Palmer  
Deb Rouleau & Daniel Pauroso  
Debra Payne  
Hoke Peacock  
Lois & Kenneth Peterson  
Liz Pitcher  
Donna Molinelli & Charles  
Ray Pond  
Sharon Gusa & Chuck Quint  
Don & Susan Radkoski  
Kristen & Todd Reeve

Babette Thorpe & John Rice  
Ellen Rosenau  
Jason Ruff  
Lynn Sandmann  
Dean Scheid  
Karen Scheid  
Jim & Philbin Schulz  
Sharon & Martin Scott  
John & Nancy Siverd  
Snake River Builders  
Lorene & Robert Spoelhof  
Jeanie & Fred Staehr  
Dr. John & Margaret Stanchfield  
Georgie Stanley  
Sarah Stiger Ewing  
Dan & Melissa Streubel  
Don & Jane Streubel  
Lauren Swan  
Steve & Diane Temple  
Teton Hearing Center, LLC  
Rosemary & Wade Thomas  
Wally & Leesa Thrall  
Tye Tilt  
Melia & Mike Tourangeau  
Erica & George Tremblay  
Tom & Wynne Ann Walsh  
Beverly Watson  
Timothy & Margot Watters  
Ted & Clarissa Wells  
Jennifer & Kent Werlin  
Virginia & Bill Wesley  
Alan McKnight & Kate West  
Betsy White  
Dan & Pat Willert  
Anne & Gerry Williams  
Caroline Herter & Ben Winship  
David & Susan Work  
John & Rosemary Young  
Joyce & Felix Zajac

### Grants

1% for the Tetons  
Idaho Governor's Office of  
Species Conservation  
Laird Norton Family Foundation  
National Fish and Wildlife  
Foundation/One Fly Foundation  
Sand County Foundation/Brad-  
ley Fund for the Environment  
U.S. Forest Service—Resource  
Advisory Committee

Working for clean water, healthy streams, and abundant fisheries in Teton Valley

## FTR in the Community

### Annual River Party



River folks of all ages joined us for our favorite summertime event—the annual Teton River Party—on the banks of the river in July. About 300 of our friends and members showed their support for clean water and healthy streams in Teton Valley by helping us celebrate our ninth year of work in the watershed. The picnic, drift boat raffle, and auction raised more than \$11,000 for FTR projects and programs. We look forward to commemorating a decade with you in 2010.

*Clockwise from Top Left: Member Bob Mechikoff “guards” the drift boat raffle prize; The bluegrass band Random Canyon Growlers pleased the crowd with their foot stomping tunes; Anna Lindstedt, Krissy Copeland, Lyn Benjamin, and Phyllis Anderson; Auctioneer Ray Breckenridge puts FTR Streamflow Restoration Director, Ty Mack, on the “auction block”; Member DeeAnn Baldwin enjoys the evening with her granddaughters.*

More than 100 people participated in the summer 2009 Watershed Hikes and Floats Series. The series began with our June Wildflower Walk, which boasted record attendance and incredible spring blooms. In July, emeritus board members Andy Steele and Don Streubel shared their knowledge of the plants and animals that inhabit our area. The annual Full Moon Float was a hit once again, with participants (thankfully) outnumbering mosquitoes. Sandhill cranes silhouetted against blue skies and changing leaves provided the perfect end to the summer series, as local bird expert Jeff Roelke facilitated the September Birds and Fall Colors Float.

### Hikes and Floats



*Participants on the September Birds and Fall Colors Float watch riparian wildlife; Andy Steele shares wildflower knowledge on the June Wildflower Walk.*