

OUR MISSION is to work collaboratively for clean water, healthy streams, and a thriving wild fishery in the Teton Watershed. We implement on-the-ground projects, partnerships, and programs that restore stream health and function, improve water quality and quantity, and connect people of all ages with water resources.

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Max Ludington, Teton Creek/Farms & Fish

Friends of the Teton River FY Annual Report

## Welcome Message

#### Dear Friends,

As our community continues to grow, so does the impact we collectively have on the Teton River Watershed. With this growth, Friends of the Teton River's focus continues to shift from "How can we do everything ourselves?" to "How can we all share in the conservation and stewardship of our community's water resources?" This collaborative approach recognizes, supports, and grows our entire community's capacity to problem-solve and plan for a future that addresses diverse needs for water and diverse approaches to watershed conservation.

An important part of this shift is to make intentional efforts to actively listen to and learn from our community, so that we can continue to connect best practices with the best available science. Community partners who work in a truly collaborative way can identify common priorities, leverage more funding, share lessons learned, and spread the work-load in a way that makes for greater efficiency and effectiveness. It is also important to recognize that "sharing" (funding, ideas, or even the credit) isn't always easy, and we don't always manage to do it perfectly. We believe it is vitally important, however, to continue doing this hard work, especially with the increasing pressures placed on our watershed and our community by climate change, a growing population, and continued land use change.

## Friends of the Teton River 2018 Annual Report



Amy Verbeten, Executive Director (since 2012)



Anna Lindstedt, Development Director (since 2007)

In this Annual Report, we share what we've been able to accomplish in the past year with your support, input, and engagement. In 2018, homeowners and residents took part in clean water initiatives and incentive programs, made possible by community and funding partnerships. FTR and the Henry's Fork Foundation now share a new staff position focused on a regional Farms & Fish Initiative, and are working together to gather public input about the future of river recreation and use. FTR and the Teton Regional Land Trust shared fundraising responsibility, as well as staff and financial resources, to restore the stream channel, floodplain, and riparian forest on an easement in the Teton Creek Corridor, Local farmers and ranchers shared agricultural innovations and grazing management success stories with donors during the Farms & Fish Benefit and with the public on the first-ever Teton Valley Farm & Ranch Tour (pages 4-5). FTR worked together with local, regional, and national funding partners to raise \$817,514 for these and other projects, programs, and shared community efforts (page 11).

We have had tremendous success in eighteen years, implementing programs and projects that have made a big difference in a relatively short time. Our organization truly believes that this is just the beginning of what can be accomplished as we continue to work together (pages 12-13).

In 2019, we will continue to lead watershed conservation efforts by actively sharing resources and the responsibility for water stewardship with our community. Thank you for generously supporting this organization through your contributions and participation, and for sharing our passion for conservation.

any Verbeten Ama Lindele

Sincerely,

www.tetonwater.org 3

# 2018 Key Accomplishments





In collaboration with FTR, Teton County, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Teton Regional Land Trust, local artist Helen Seay designed and painted mural artwork for two new vault toilets at access points on the Teton River.

2018

#### **Farms & Fish**

In August, Teton Valley farmers and ranchers shared the success of the Farms & Fish Initiative with more than one hundred community members during the Teton Valley Farm & Ranch Tour. In two short years, you have helped us raise \$60,000 in matching funds that have made FTR and the local agricultural community eligible to receive more than \$700,000 in state, federal, and foundation grants. Grant funds make it possible for local farmers and ranchers to experiment with no-till and cover crop techniques on more than 500 acres in Teton Valley. These grants also incentivize canal companies to participate in an aquifer recharge project that aims to add 10,000 acre feet of water to our local aguifer and support a multi-year staff position shared with the Henry's Fork Foundation to expand and monitor these projects throughout the watershed.

#### **Community Outreach**

Whether it's through watershed education programs for adults and school-aged children, public access improvements, cleaner drinking water, restored stream corridors, or a great fishing experience, our community shares in our success. In 2018, fifty homeowners and residents benefitted from our septic pumping incentive program, a free well-water testing day was hosted at the high school, and FTR organized Teton County's first household hazardous waste collection day, co-sponsored by the Teton County transfer station. These programs provide our community with tangible ways to protect, steward, and enjoy the water resources we all share.

Partnerships, trust, and effective collaboration have been fundamental to our success as an organization. Our vision is to be a model for watershed conservation that puts science and local knowledge into practice and actively grows our community's capacity to participate in watershed conservation. By sharing resources and stewardship with our community, we are implementing projects and programs that support our economy, values, and quality of life.



#### **Teton Creek Restoration & Reforestation**

FTR has invested more than \$3.6 million to research, restore, protect, and improve fish habitat, stream flows, water quality, and riparian health in the Teton Creek Corridor over the past dozen years. In 2018, FTR and the Teton Regional Land Trust worked together—sharing \$320,000 in grant funding, as well as staff time and expertise—to restore 1,000 linear feet of Teton Creek stream channel; remove half a mile of degraded road, building foundations, and an old septic tank from the floodplain; and restore thirty-one acres of riparian habitat within a conservation easement property held by TRLT. By sharing our expertise and resources, this project gave both organizations the unique opportunity to restore a previously developed floodplain back to a natural, functioning condition that provides flood protection and other ecosystem services to the entire community.



#### **River Recreation & Use**

In addition to its importance to the livelihoods of fish, wildlife, and people, the Teton River is also an amazing recreational asset for residents and visitors alike. As river recreation and visitation to the Teton River have increased substantially, FTR has initiated efforts to improve existing amenities and gather input regarding public access and use so that we can help our community work together to conserve the river as a protected ecosystem and a recreational asset long into the future. During the summer of 2018, FTR worked with the Henry's Fork Foundation and other partners to conduct a survey to assess economic value and recreational use on the Teton and other regional rivers. FTR is also working with students and professors at the University of Montana's Center for Natural Resources and Environmental Policy to gather input to assess public perception of issues related to river recreation and determine whether there is a need and community interest in establishing a river recreation management plan for the Teton River. We will be sharing the results of these assessments with the community in 2019.

# Thank You, **Memhers!**

#### Caddis Fly (up to \$99)

Boots Allen Sarah & Clayton Bieber Nancy & James Bjorken Mike Commins Mike Coyle Molly & Peter Fenger Bruce Flatow Tim Frazier Susan Hawkins Julie Robinson & Dave Hensel Paula Kelley; In Honor of Aven Kelley Jason Kelley: In Honor of Aven Kelley Linda & Alan Klagge Linda Kotowski Carolyn Keeler & Mike Lavey Baerbel & Ivo Lucchitta Steve McDonald: In Honor of Wayne Ramsey Shawn Meisl Lorri & Don Mitchell Corrine & Larry Orme Peggy & Paul Pettit Janna Rankin Ron Razzolini Babette Thorpe & John Rice Jeanie & Fred Staehr Andy Steele Daphne Stoner Lizz & Gerry Verbeten Nadja & Robert Ward Genie & Robert Weppner

#### Pale Morning Dunn (\$100 - \$249)

Steve Auer Jayma & Greg Bammerlin Jan & Tom Cogbill; In Memory of Elizabeth Colladay Sword Nancy & James Curtes Deborah & Asa Davis Laurel Dorr Suzanne & Harvey Edwards Janet & Dale Endris John Fedders Doc Frangos Alisha & Chad Horrocks Brad Hull Rita & Ed Isbey; In Honor of Brian Berry Laurie & John Kalivas Kim Keeley Anna & Ken Kirkpatrick Ronnie & Richard Klein Ruth Lindstedt Kay & Emmett McCarthy Betsy & Matt McGlone Susan & Bill Metzdorff Lane Mortensen Carmen & Ken O'Dell Carl Palmer Linda & Ken Pierce Betty & Jacob Reiss Kelly Sanders Cherie & Neil Small Margaret & John Stanchfield Scott Swanson David Theis Bette & Peter Versloot Carol & Casimir Yost

#### Blue Winged Olive (\$250 - \$499)

Gail & Tim Buckley Tim Buckley Lornae & Billy Dwyer Alice & John Finley Pam & Lee Holmes Stacy & Dennis LaBare Deb & Bob Malheiro; In Memory of Art Frakt Virginia & Bruce Northcott Emily Selleck Jason Shiebler Marta Smith Travis Gay & Thomas Sneed Jane & Don Streubel Dave Ward

#### Gray Drake (\$500 - \$999)

Debra & Dave Beach Trish & Mike Boyd Katharine Butler: In Honor of Karen & Dean Scheid Bill D'Evelyn Family Foundation Judy & Tom Fauntleroy Dawn Felchle Alexander Good Jay Hauth Tina Cullman & Chuck lossi Andrew McCloy Kathleen O'Brien & John Norton Lvnn Sandmann Karen Scheid: In Honor of Dean Scheid Linda & John Seiter Sue & Tom Williams

#### Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (\$1000 - \$4999)

Robert Bailie Kevin Bauer

Ann & Reed Coleman Hammill Family Foundation Arlin Grimes Henikoff Family Foundation Jane Durcan & John Hoffmann Wendy & Richard Hokin Kathy & Ted Jablonski Jen & Gary Price Dean Scheid Patricia Andrews & Art Simonetti Jeanie & Les Thurmond Jen & Chris Tissot Gini & Clint Van Siclen

#### Teton River Stewards (\$5000+)

Jean Crabtree Richard Grundler Twing & Chuck Pitman

#### Gifts, in memory of Jack Revoyr (1935-2018)

Chelcie Abajian Nadia Funn Elizabeth Kennedy Martine Singer Katherine Snider **Dvan Sublett** 

#### Gifts Designated for **Teton Creek Restoration**

David Emlev Anne Fomon; In Memory of Grant Wood Jr. Jerry Long Dean Scheid: In Honor of Karen Scheid Cindy & Evan Stubbart; In Honor of Dean Scheid Sam Williamson

Pamela Zentmyer

Joyce & Felix Zajac

# Thank You, Tin Cup Donors!

#### **Sharing in community philanthropy**

Anonymous (11) Megan & Travis Allen Boots Allen Phyllis Anderson Jay Anderson Jeanne & Peter Anderson Barbara & Gerald Aronowitz Beage Atwater David Axelrod Sarah & Tom Balben DeeAnn & Al Baldwin Karen Barnett Debra Barracato LaVere Beard Anna Lindstedt & Nick Beatty Rav & Bill Belk Jean & Bob Benedict Richard Berg Ellen & Nicholas Besobrasow Sarah & Clayton Bieber Jill & Bart Birch Jim Bjorken Heidi & Eric Blischke Jacqueline Bolvoschak Alice & Bill Bonev Linda & Chuck Borrenpohl Trish & Mike Boyd Shannon Brady Ann Toy & Porter Broughton Blue Bunch Dot & Joe Burns Linda & Ray Butts Pat Butts Sharon Shopper & Arnold Byrd Jen & Joe Calder Penny Oslund & Billy Chow Jennifer & Jared Cieslewicz Pat O'Leary & Tom Clark Sue Miller & Greg Collins Bobbi St Clair and Doug Colonel Missy & Ryan Colver Deb Adams & Joe Costello Elizabeth Coulter Laurie & Allan Crary Amy & Bill Cutting

Mike Dawkins Deepen Fund Trevor Deighton Donna Dengler Joanne & Terry Dimattio Sarah & Ken Dunn Patricia & James Durrett Melodee & Martin Ebv Marge & Stan Edwards Betty & Bud Elliott Jeff & Kirstin Engelman Dawn Felchle Molly & Peter Fenger Rebecca Yaguda & Tony Ferlisi Kath & Tom Ferris Alice & John Finley Alicia & Aaron Finley Melanie & David Fischel Kris & John Fisher Kristi & Mark Fisher Jannine & Scott Fitzgerald Geno Forsythe Deborah & David Fosdick Patricia Formichelli & Howard Garber Shelly & Lou Gaylord Kim & Geordie Gillett Neil Gleichman Ann Goodell Molly Robertson-Goodrich Grand Teton Brewing Company Georgina Worthington & John Greenwood Janna & Bill Grover Alison & Peter Hady Lisa Johnson & Ben Hammond Eileen & Doug Hancey Mary Lou & Paul Hansen Nell & Mark Hanson Agnes & Brandon Harrison Gloria Smith & Edie Harrop Melissa & Herb Heimerl Eric Helgoth Carole Travis & Leo Henikoff

Julie Robinson & Dave Hensel

Janet Conway-Heslin & Buol Heslin Peggy & Mike Hinman Nancy & Jeff Hogenson Dan & Virginia Hoke Pam & Lee Holmes Jeannette Chiari & Bill Horn Kim & David Jennings Rita & Fred Johnson Sarah & Hyrum Johnson Sarah & Brady Johnston Carl Jordan Dana Richardson & Dave Joslyn Diane Verna & Jeff Jung Kacey & Kai Karstens Joselin Matkins & Jeremiah Keavney Kim Keelev Jean & Wes Keller Aven Kelley Whitney Burgess & Tristan Kelley William Kelly Jr. Sue Lincoln & Glen Kerr Steven King Jean & Jim Kitchen Linda & Alan Klagge Kim Day & Jim Kleine Linda Kotowski Lani & Wrav Landon Sue & Gary Lang Cathy O'Connor & Chris Larson Carolyn Keeler & Mike Lavey Earle Layser Leadership at Play Debbie & Bill Leake Ellen & Leon Lederman Karen & Neil Leisch Gavle & Ron Lien Ruth Lindstedt Erica Linnell Linda Long Janet & Guy Loomis Baerbel & Ivo Lucchitta Cindy & Jerry Lucey Maria Havashida & Max Ludington Susan & Mayo Lykes Jen & Lars Magnusson Mary Marcowka Les Mason Kathleen & Milton May Nancy McCullough-McCoy & Mike McCov

Kate West & Alan McKnight

Linda & Mike Merigliano Tahia and lim Miller Sheilah Grebe & Gene Morandi Barbara & Mike Morey Julie & Tim Morley Deidre O'Connell & Ben Morris Christina Morrisett Jamie and Gary Moscowitz Mary Mullaney & Ralph Mossman Jaime Musnicki Dennis & Janet Nelson Molly Absolon & Allen O'Bannon Julie & William Obering Hilary & Carlos Ordonez Beverly Palm Debra Payne Shawna Burge & Andy Pearson Jeanette & Carl Pergam Marjorie & Tom Peter Rvan Peterson Linda Grimm & Stephen Piscatelle Liz Pitcher Donna Molinelli & Ray Pond Powder Mountain Press Josie Gray & Jared Power Lynne Wolfe & Dan Powers Linda & John Prentice Susan & Don Radkoski Janna Rankin Fllen & Jim Rein Cheryl & Jim Reinertsen Maureen Riegel Matt Rigsby Jackie & Sean Riley Barbara & Rusty Roberts Teresa Meachum & Ned Rockwell Fllen Rosenau Pamela & Jim Ross Amy & Jason Ruff Susie Reuter and Jeff Russell Iris Saxer Karen & Dean Scheid Philbin DeGot Schulz **Emily Selleck** Elle Émery & Max Shafer Julie Mueller & Don Sharaf Katharine Shepard Rustin Shill Kat & Bruce Smithhammer Tamara Sperber

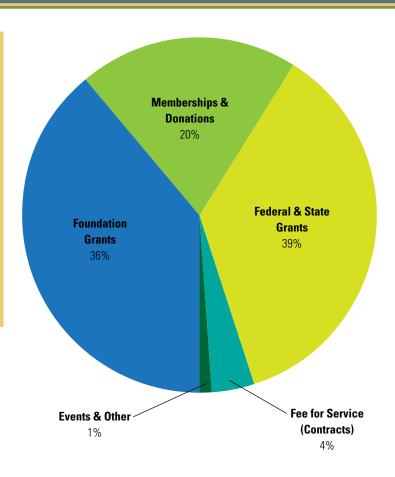
Lorene & Robert Spoelhof

Georgie Stanley Andy Steele Alice & Bob Stevenson Steve Summers Shannon & Larry Thal Jeanie & Les Thurmond Rich Trov Vancie Turner Linda & John Unland Robin Upton Lane & Chris Valiante Mitzi & John Van Arsdell Gini & Clint Van Siclen Betty & Mylan VanNewkirk Amy & Dan Verbeten Lizz & Gerry Verbeten Peter & Bette Versloot Claire Vitucci Natalie & Josh Volcko Michelle & Stephen Wade Lisa & Kent Wagener Sandy & Roy Walters Astrid & Todd Warden Abby & Willy Warner Margot & Tim Watters Clarissa & Ted Wells Diane Ruschke & John Werner Karin Wertheim Debbie & Bob Whipple Annette & Jeff White Pat & Dan Willert Caroline Herter & Ben Winship Nancy Hamill-Winter Jen Pierce & Dave Wood Shana & Ted Wood Susan & David Work Jill Navlor-Yarger Joyce & Felix Zajac

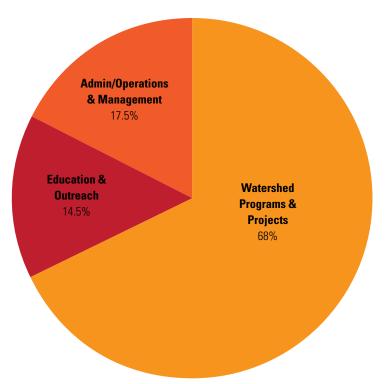
The 2019 Tin Cup Challenge giving period is Monday, June 3 – Friday, July 26, 2019 at 5pm; contributions are accepted online at *cftetonvalley. org*, via mail, and in person at the Community Foundation of Teton Valley.

Federal and State Grants Assistance	\$317,208
Membership and Donations	\$166,750
- Foundation Grants	\$292,373
Fee for Service (Contracts)	\$34,970
Special Events (Net of expense)	\$5,142
Other (Bank interest)	\$1,071

Friends of the Teton River raised \$817,514 in total revenue and support in 2018, with the majority of funds (83 percent) going to on-the-ground projects and programs, including stream restoration, soil health and water quality improvements, fisheries research, watershed monitoring, and community education and outreach. Revenues were derived from individual donors and events, federal and state grants, foundation support, and fee-for-service contracts.



#### 2018 EXPENSES - \$729,176



EXPENSES:			
Watershed Projects & Progran	ns		\$497,628
Education & Outreach			\$104,726
Operations & Program Management			\$126,822
Total Expenses			\$729,176
2017 Net Assets at End of Year	Unrestricted \$119,855	Restricted <b>\$133,410</b>	Total <b>\$253,265</b>
Change in Net Assets	\$10,483	\$77,855	\$88,338

<sup>\*</sup>Restricted Net Assets held at the end of FY 2018 will be spent on programs and projects in 2019-2020, for which they have been designated, by the individual or grantor.

Friends of the Teton River strongly believes in fiscal responsibility and accountability to its membership, project partners, and the general public. This report illustrates FTR's financial position as of December 31, 2018. Please contact us if you would like a copy of our 990 tax form, on file with the IRS.

# Thank You, Farms & Fish Initiative Donors!

Phyllis Anderson Stephen Bagley The Baltoro Trust Jeanne & James Beirne Heidi & Fric Blischke Flizabeth Coulter Debbie & Chip Daniels Deborah & Asa Davis Kathleen & Bo Dawson: In Honor of Trey Peacock & Chris Bryan John Fedders Annie & John Fenn Alice & John Finley Kris & John Fisher Deborah & David Fosdick Henikoff Family Fund Mike & Sheralee Lawson. Henry's Fork Anglers Pam & Lee Holmes Rita & Edward Isbey; In Memory of Randy Berry & John Short Jacobsen Family Fund

Doris & Mark Kelly Debbie & Bill Leake Mary & Sandy Mason Kathryn & Larkin McCormack Kay & Dick McIlroy Linda & John Prentice Janna Rankin; In Memory of Art Frakt Lynn Sandmann Dean Scheid Judy & Chuck Shepard Katharine Shepard; In Memory of John Siverd Nancy Siverd Julie & Michael Stalnecker Andy Steele Jeanie & Les Thurmond Jenny & Chris Tissot Gini & Clint Van Siclen Watters Family Fund Loyd Wright; In Memory of Randy Berry Anjali Tate & Greg Young



Zak Miller, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, introduces local producers on the Farm Tour.

Our community has shared their enthusiasm for the Farms & Fish Initiative through their interest and support, making it one of our most well-recognized and successful programs in only three short years. In 2018, donors helped us raise \$40,000, leveraging an additional \$506,000 in grant funding for no-till, cover crop, and other sustainable farming efforts.

# **2018 Grant Funding Sources**



**Teton River Recreation Improvements & Planning** 

Community Foundation of Teton Valley
CFTV Dawn Banks Memorial Fund



**Fisheries Monitoring** 

WorldCast Anglers Short Family Foundation



Water Quality/Quantity Monitoring

Idaho Department of Water Resources



Teton Conservation District (Wyoming)

Capacity Grants

Bonneville Environmental Foundation



**Community Education & Incentive Programs** 

Department of Energy (2017-2018)Δ + Idaho Department of Environmental Quality

Teton Springs Foundation
Teton Valley Trout Unlimited



Recharge/Water Markets

Bureau of Reclamation (2018-2019)Δ National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (2018-2019)Δ Legacy Works Group

Please note that grant awards and periods do not always correspond with FTR's fiscal year.

- $\Delta$  Represents a multi-year grant commitment, as indicated.
- $^{\ast}$  Indicates those grants awarded in FY 2018, for upcoming implementation.
- + This grant was made in connection with settlement of an enforcement action by the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality for alleged violations of the Idaho Hazardous Waste Management Act.

Healthy ecosystems and economies thrive together! FTR works hard to bring grant dollars into our community. Of the grant funds listed here, 75 percent will be paid to local contractors, businesses, organizations, and individuals who are helping us implement on-the-ground watershed projects and programs.

\$88K

**Bates Access Improvements & Restoration** 

Community Foundation of Teton Valley Idaho Department of Fish and Game Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation\*
Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation\*

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Bring Back the Natives\*

Western Native Trout Initiative

**Teton Creek Restoration/Teton Creek Corridor Collaborative** 

Creekside Homeowners Association
Cushman Family Foundation
Donald C. Brace Foundation

\$392K

USDA Forest Service Landscape Scale Grant in Partnership with

the Idaho Department of Lands(2016-2019) \( \)

National Fish and Wildlife Foundation Teton Creek Flood Control District

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

\$506K

Farms & Fish Initiative

Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (2017-2019)  $\Delta$ The Natural Resources Conservation Service (2017-2021)  $\Delta$ 

The Nature Conservancy

Patagonia

# ESOMICE

#### **Expertise** We base our work on scientific research and monitoring.

FTR leads the field in cutting-edge watershed science and methods that have gained national attention and the recognition of our peers and funders. From stream restoration and aquifer recharge to the targeted conservation of Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout, sound science is our guide.

Our ability to accomplish impactful projects is a direct result of sharing data and ideas with other experts and scientists, leaders in the fields of water and soil science, engineers, statisticians, floodplain managers, fisheries biologists, and you!

### **Local Knowledge & Input**

We listen to our community!

Science paired with local knowledge helps to develop stakeholder-driven solutions that work in Teton Valley.

In recent years, we heard public concerns that led us to conduct surveys and interviews regarding Teton River recreation and use, and to seek ways to address water quality threats, such as aging or unmaintained septic systems.

Our initiatives, like Farms & Fish, depend on input, ideas, expertise, research, and feedback from local producers. Sharing lessons learned helps us refine and expand on-the-ground efforts to improve water quality, soil health, and agricultural returns.

#### **Funding**

We invest in our community.

In the past year alone, FTR has leveraged individual contributions to raise an additional \$1.2 million in state, federal, and private foundation grants. Of this funding, 75 percent (\$900,000) is designated for onthe-ground habitat restoration, infrastructure improvements, aquifer recharge, costshare programs, and watershed research. We invest these financial resources back into our community, hiring and purchasing locally to support Teton Valley businesses.

We share the pie T



Teton River FY Annual Report

# Formula for Conservation

#### **Partnerships**

By working together, we can do so much more!

We have leveraged joint funding on several projects, such as the new Bates Bridge Public Access and Teton Creek restoration, both of which would have been impossible without significant partnerships with Teton Regional Land Trust, Teton County, and numerous other partners.

In 2019, FTR will share two staff members with the Henry's Fork Foundation. Bryce Contor, Landowner Outreach Manager, will continue to work on regional Farms & Fish Initiative goals. Beginning in 2019, Fisheries Technician Matt Hively will collect and analyze field data year-round for both organizations.

## **Community Decision-Making**

A community of informed citizens can help plan for the future.

FTR works with our community partners to design stream restoration projects, manage water resources, and plan growth in a way that protects critical ecosystem functions and services.

#### We don't make decisions alone!

By working with community partners, we prioritize which projects we'll focus on next and what can be a win-win for both people and our water resources. We are doing this in our current work with the cities, county, landowners, local engineers, and FEMA to ensure that flood risk maps for the county reflect the best available science and that our community plans ahead to reduce costs and impacts when flooding occurs.

# Stewardship Teton Watershed conservation depends on all of us.

We are a community resource providing a wide variety of services for the public, ranging from water quality testing and a septic pumping incentive program to staff expertise and data regarding floodplain planning, riparian restoration, water rights information, and more.

Do you have a water-related question? Give us a call or set up an appointment to visit with our staff. Call (208) 354-3871 or email *info@tetonwater.org*.



# **CURRENT CAMPAIGNS**



#### **Farms & Fish Program Update**

The Farms & Fish Initiative kicked off in 2017 as a joint-effort between FTR and the farming and ranching community to raise awareness and funding in support of soil and water management practices that will directly benefit working lands and livelihoods, while improving water quality, soil health, and the Teton River fishery.

With your support, our Farms & Fish fundraising campaign has raised \$90,000 in two years (2017-2018), helping FTR secure a total of more than \$1 million in state, federal, and foundation grants to put this program to work. In 2018, Bryce Contor, Landowner Outreach Manager, worked with local agricultural producers to voluntarily pilot a number of strategies over the next several years that will improve soil health, water quality, and river flows. These strategies, from no-till farming to targeted groundwater recharge, seek to implement placebased solutions that are supported by science and the community. By reducing nitrogen inputs and erosion, improving soil structure, upgrading canals and irrigation systems, and recharging the aquifer, we are keeping working lands working for ecosystem health.

# **Moo-ving Toward Conservation Practices for Cattle & Cutthroat**

FTR has proven that our stream restoration efforts have led to rebounding cutthroat numbers in the Teton River-from fourteen cutthroat per mile in 2003 to seven hundred cutthroat per mile as of the 2015 trout population survey. Cutthroat thrive in stretches of the river with gravel bottoms, willow-lined banks, and desirable holding water. These numbers are encouraging, but we know that there are places along the river in need of habitat improvement.

The Farms & Fish Initiative has given us a unique opportunity to work closely with our farming and ranching community to identify the most impactful projects for fisheries health, with a special focus on improving working lands adjacent to the Teton River and key tributaries. Built on the success of the no-till and conservation farming so far, we are expanding our efforts under Farms & Fish to work with ranchers who are leading the effort to implement best management practices on grazed lands along stream corridors. These projects will focus on reducing erosion, stabilizing riverbanks, and improving grazing management. For ranchers, this means getting assistance to restore and sustain the health of their water, land, and livelihood for the long-term. For our wild fishery, this means cleaner water, cooler stream temperatures, and better habitat.

#### **Support Rivers & Ranches**

Friends of the Teton River needs your support for our Rivers & Ranches Campaign. Your donation will go toward our \$30,000 goal to support restoration of riparian buffer areas, off-stream watering systems, and hardened river crossings for cattle. By meeting our campaign goal, you will help us secure more than \$240,000 in grant funding to do this work on the Teton River.

Make a contribution, in any amount, using our donation envelope (enclosed) or your credit card using DonorBox on our website at www.tetonwater.org.

Campaign contributors will be invited to a donor tour and reception. Look for a formal invitation and announcements this summer, and reserve your spot early. For event details or to receive more information email, dawn@tetonwater.org.



Off-channel livestock watering options decrease soil erosion and help maintain stable stream banks.



A hardened stream crossing for cattle on Trail Creek limits erosion and provides a single place for cattle to cross the stream.

#### **CONTACT US:**

Friends of the Teton River PO Box 768 Driggs, ID 83422 208.354.3871 donate by mail or online: www.tetonwater.org Non-Profit Organization US Postage PAID Driggs, ID Permit #8

# Save the Dates!

#### July 12

Rivers & Ranches Reception

FTR will host a private tour, talk, and reception for Rivers & Ranches Campaign donors and those interested in supporting this work (see page 15). RSVP required. Details and invitation to follow.

August 3 Fins & Fiddles This second annual celebration is sure to delight music lovers and river folk of all ages! Join FTR and the Targhee Music Foundation for this family-friendly event at the Knotty Pine in Victor, ID. Raffle prizes, kid's activities, pay-per-plate BBQ and beverages, plus live music featuring: The Balsamroots, Thomas Sneed & folk songs for children, and Masontown, from 4-8 pm. Suggested donation of \$10.

Teton Valley Farm Tour date 76.4 If you missed it last year, or want to learn more about the innovative conservation practices Teton Valley farms and ranches are using to support healthy ecosystems, then "hop on the bus." FTR and the Farm Bureau will offer this FREE tour later in the summer. Space will be limited; sign-up required. Details to come.