

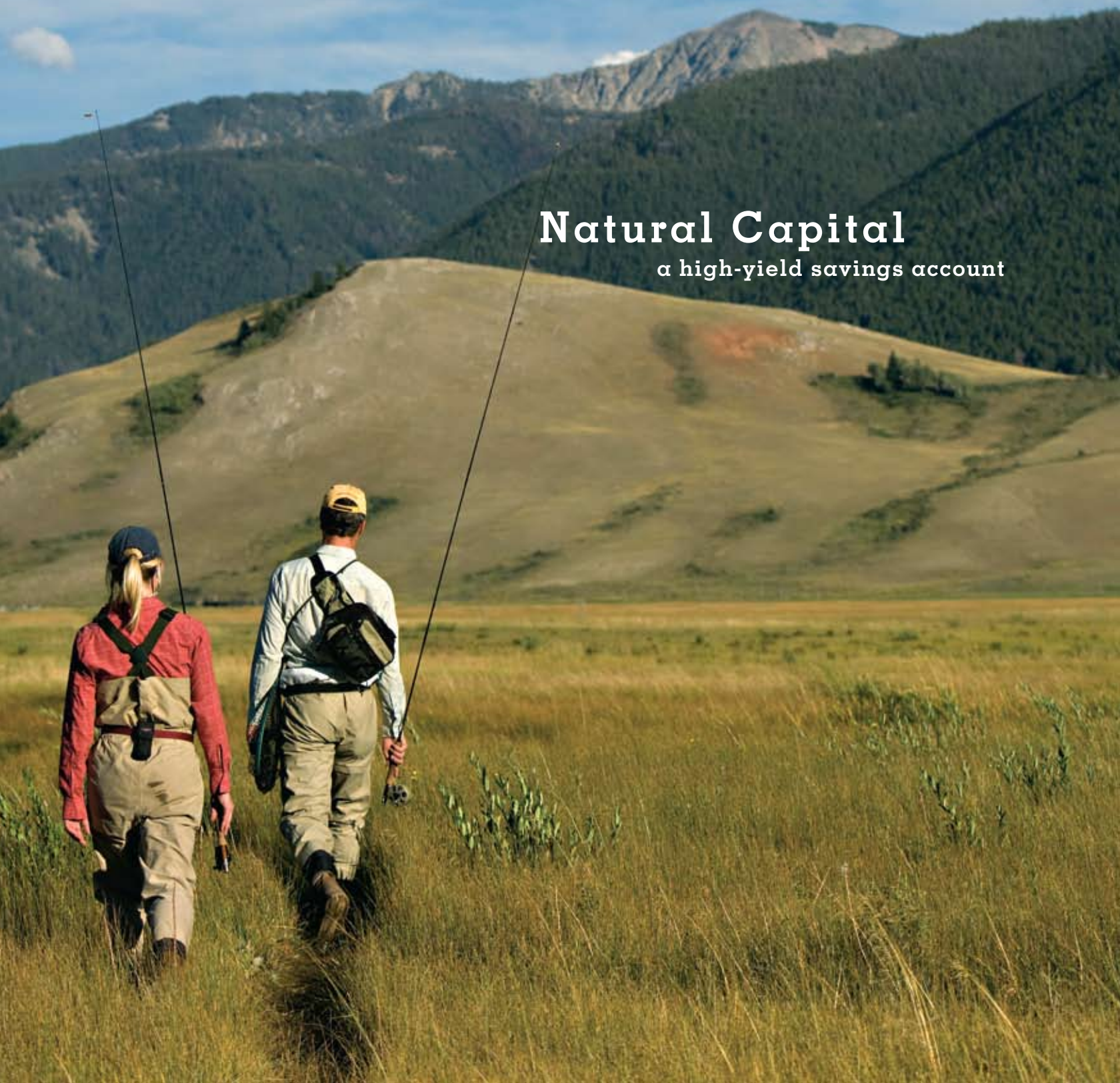
open lands

news from the Jackson Hole Land Trust

FALL/WINTER 2007

Natural Capital

a high-yield savings account



It is easy to appreciate the aesthetic values provided by conservation easements.

A simple drive from Jackson to Wilson along Highway 22 or a float down the Snake from Wilson to South Park would easily introduce a newcomer to the long-time work of the Jackson Hole Land Trust. Conservation of view sheds has been pivotal to our success in the valley. Protected vistas in well-traveled corridors contribute to Jackson Hole's rural character.

The IMPORTANCE
of OPEN LAND
to the WHOLE SYSTEM

Beyond the Beauty

Beyond the protection of iconic views are the more subtle conservation values that do not jump out at you as you drive past them, but are essential to the wellbeing of our ecosystem and therefore our daily lives.

For example, we know that thousands of migrating mule deer, elk, and bighorn sheep travel through easement protected property to reach the 5,500 acres of winter range also protected by conservation easements.

More subtle than these charismatic megafauna are the life-supporting elements of water, soil and air. Held within easement lands are the critical components that support not only the lives of plants and animals, but healthy living for our human community. Undeveloped lands offer countless ecosystem services.

Ecosystem services are defined as the materials and energy the natural world creates that benefit humankind: maintenance of genetic diversity among species of plants and animals, aid in climate regulation, carbon dioxide

and oxygen cycling, flood control, retention of soil and soil formation and support of insect pollination among others (Daily, 1997). These services, provided for free by the natural world, create a wealth of ecological abundance. When carefully conserved, this natural capital is the currency of nature that flows into our bodies and pockets as residents in this uniquely conserved valley.

WATER

Specific to Jackson Hole is the natural capital contained within our rivers and streams. The health of our streams holds value not only for the fisheries themselves but for our economy. In a January 2005 Trout Unlimited study on the Economic Value of Healthy Fisheries in



KIM FADIMAN

SOIL

In addition to supporting a diverse genetic library of plants, undeveloped soil holds roots and bacteria that perform the intricate work of water filtration, again for free. As water passes through soil, our pollutants and human generated toxins are filtered out. Clean drinking water is the result, from which we all reap the benefit. Soil plays an even larger role in sequestering carbon from the atmosphere. Carbon that has been absorbed by plants is transferred and held in soil as decaying plant matter or humus. Undisturbed soil creates a veritable bank of carbon that has been removed from the atmosphere by plants, naturally offsetting our carbon emissions.

Of the 19,782 acres of property conserved by the Jackson Hole Land Trust, the majority consists of completely undeveloped land with rich soil that will remain untrammelled and available for the necessary jobs of hydrologic filtration and carbon sequestration in perpetuity.

AIR

Breathing in crisp, clear mountain air is a sensation many associate with their arrival to Jackson Hole. The air quality in this valley is notably different from that of more developed regions. Conservation easement lands limit development and keep crucial air cleaning services in tact. Beyond the tract of land itself, retention of rural character

through conservation easements helps reduce crowding and eases traffic, further improving air quality. Protection and management of forests

gives us the ubiquitous presence of photosynthesis and the vital cycling of carbon dioxide into life-giving oxygen.

Jackson Hole's productive natural landscape serves us all. Research is being conducted on how conserved lands positively influence ecological wealth and how these services can be valued monetarily in our economy. There are many examples of how human health and economic wellbeing are directly linked to the abundance of natural resources on the planet. Due to a long history of conservation in this area, Jackson Hole holds a wealth of natural capital that provides economic strength and environmental health for our entire community. 🌻

Wyoming, it was determined that \$1.9 billion is generated annually by tourism to Wyoming, likely due to our spectacular environment. The study found that anglers spent approximately \$423 million and the sport fishing industry creates 3,500 jobs in the state (Trout Unlimited, 2005). The Jackson Hole Land Trust holds conservation easements on over 40 miles of trout streams. These shorelines, with limited development, provide homes for necessary insects, mollusks and amphibians and allow native plants and processes that cool, oxygenate and clean water to thrive. If aquatic systems become degraded, there will be a cascade effect directly felt by humankind.

Gretchen Daily is a professor at Stanford University in the department of Biological Sciences and the director of the Center for Conservation Biology as well as the chairman of The Natural Capital Project. From her perspective, "When you talk with people about conservation, you hear about water more than anything else. Clean water for drinking, well-managed watersheds for flood control, water for fishing, boating, scenic beauty—and much more. Conservation in watersheds inspires people, and with inspiration and a shared vision we can go far." Water is the lifeblood to our economy and our wellbeing. It makes sense that conservation of watersheds and wetlands is a focus point for the Jackson Hole Land Trust. With the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem forming the headwaters of three major river systems of the West, the ecological service of water in this region becomes even more critical to our country and our globe.

These services, provided for free by the natural world, create a wealth of ecological abundance.

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TIMOTHY C. MAYO



FLO MCCALL

Lending Spring Creeks a Helping Hand

The image of a massive excavator digging around in a stream bed does not often conjure sentiments of healing waters and restoration. But when that excavator pulls up four feet of mucky, homogeneous silt to expose a long buried bed of perfect spawning gravel (small rock cobble in which trout lay their eggs) it becomes apparent that life is about to improve for the trout of Cody Creek. Removing the silt from these creeks is like uncovering a time capsule. In those bare spawning gravels lie the secrets of our valley's watershed prior to human alterations.

The Snake River trout species are dependent on the numerous spring creeks and tributaries for their reproduction. With the installation of levees along the Snake River, the connectivity of these spring creeks to the main stem of the river became impaired. Additionally, the natural flood regimes that historically would clear out any silt in these ecologically valuable spring creeks was lost. Conveyance of water for agricultural purposes also alters natural stream flow patterns, causing accumulation of silt. With the buildup of silt comes encroaching vegetation, making watercourses more difficult for trout to travel upstream for necessary reproductive efforts. The presence of this sludgy silt also illustrates the need for humans to take action to restore stream health, in balance with the needs of other species, such as trumpeter swans.

Roger Smith, the Director of Outdoor Pursuits and Resident Naturalist at 3 Creek Ranch, began with the vision that trout should be able to leave the Snake River, find viable spawning habitat, and reach the headwaters of Blue Crane Creek, Cody Creek, and Spring Creek, all of which flow through the 3 Creek Ranch development. He began working with his neighbors in 2005 to create connectivity for trout and provide more optimal habitat. Roger worked with



cody creek restoration



blue crane creek redds

ROGER SMITH

Joe Urbani and Associates to maintain the thalwegs (the deepest part of the creek channel), add graveled point bars to force the streams back into a natural meandering pattern, and alter the velocity of the water to create a dynamic flow. The crew removed tons of silt with excavators and in turn placed tons of perfectly sized spawning gravel onto the stream beds in desirable spawning areas. The trout habitat was further improved by placing multiple logs into the banks to create sheltered overhangs for the fish.

In late spring, mimicking the former role of strong spring flood waters, Roger and his crew don their waders and rake the spawning gravels to remove the accumulated silt and vegetation. These creeks will require constant maintenance, and every 15 years the process of dredging and graveled will need to be repeated, a costly and demanding endeavor. Prior to the restoration, Roger used to see only three redds (a depression in the gravel stream bottom where trout have laid and fertilized their eggs) among all the 3 Creek Ranch waters, now he sees 12-14 redds each spring. Not only is the hydrologic health of these streams greatly improved but the fishing has exceeded even its own world class status.



KIMI FADIMAN



TIMOTHY C. MAYO

From the president

As an architect, I spend a great deal of time contemplating the connection that we as individuals have with this land, from the smallest magical details to the magnificent big picture. At the zoom-in level we are moved by the forget-me-nots and mint leaves along the banks of our waterways. We feel historic and seasonal connections to these lands when we see the calves frolic in the spring or when fall brings the season's last cutting of hay. As we zoom-out we consider the valley's scenic vistas and outward still to the bigger scope of our connectivity to the ecosystems beyond the perceived boundaries of our valley. As humans, we look to nature for much needed respite from the busy world and for the vital functions of air, soil and water. Through these connections, from the micro to the macro we begin to understand the need to protect our planet's environment. Sustainability and environmental responsibility have become a critical and permanent issue at this time in history and land protection has been at the forefront of this movement. Through land protection we safeguard the earth's vital life supporting functions. We are fortunate to be a part of this



magnificent place inhabited by a community that holds the natural environment in high value. The Land Trust will continue the thoughtful actions of protection and will provide education and awareness to help people recognize the significance of our local ecosystem, from tiny insects to majestic rivers, in the health of the greater planet. Join me in perpetuating the value of protection and celebrating this fantastic place we call home.

—Peggy Gilday

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A land ethic ... reflects the existence of an ecological conscience, and this in turn reflects a conviction of individual responsibility for the health of the land. Health is the capacity of the land for self-renewal. Conservation is our effort to understand and preserve this capacity.

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Mr. and Mrs. Charles Leonard	Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas McClanahan	Larry and Diane North	Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Read	Tom and Jan Segerstrom
Jim Leubbers and Agnes Bourne	Duncan McClelland and Harriet Jones	Pat Nott	Lindsey Reed and James Sergio Dominguez	Mr. and Mrs. Steve Sharkey *in memory of Cy Harrice
Joe and Sophia Levinson	Porgy McClelland and B.J. Reed	Ron and Rose Novak	Jim and Sandy Reese	William Shaw
Remy Levy and Cathy Kehr	Thomas McClung	Anthony Nuland	Mr. and Mrs. Anthony Regan	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Shea
Tim Libassi	Mr. and Mrs. William McClure	Jack and Carole Nunn	Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Reilly, Jr.	Dick and Dottie Sheahan
Carol and Ed Liebzeit *donor advised fund, CFJH	Holly McCollister *in memory of Paul and Esther McCollister	Ted and Alice Oakley	Mr. and Mrs. Fred Reimers	Mr. and Mrs. John Sheffield
Sam and Robin Lightner *in memory of Tom Wiancko		Karen Oatey and David Landes	Debbie Reis and Dave Wipper	John Sherman, Jr.
The Lightner Sams Foundation		Will and Julie Obering	Rendezvous Engineering P.C.	Jack and Katherine Shook
Mr. and Mrs. William Lindsay		Ken and Nita O'Dell	Chuck and Nancy Resor *donor advised fund, CFJH	Dick and Sandy Shuptrine
Paul and Anne Lippold		Mr. and Mrs. Stacy Oelsen	Jamie Resor and Catherine Scott	John and Lucretia Sias
		David and Janet Offensend	John and Kitty Resor *donor advised fund, CFJH	Barry and Priscilla Sibson
		Scott and Kacy O'Hare	Stan and Louise Resor	Elizabeth Sidamon-Eristoff and Hunter Lewis
		Keith Ohmmeis	Bill Resor and Story Clark	Mr. and Mrs. Donald Sider
			Joel and Kristin Revill	Don and Diane Siegel
				The Honorable and Mrs. Alan Simpson
				Frank and Mimi Slaughter
				Dick and Donna Slayton

Welcome new board members

Mike Marshall

Mike Marshall graduated from the University of Georgia in 1966 with a degree in Business/Finance. He spent nearly twenty-five years in the investment banking and securities brokerage industry, during which time he owned and managed several different investment firms. He has also served as chairman of two publicly-owned companies. In 1993 he retired from active management to spend more time on investments and other personal interests.

For the past fifteen years, Mike and his wife Carol have maintained their primary residence in Jackson Hole, where they spend summers and winters. All four of their adult children and their seven grandchildren live in Atlanta, Georgia, where Mike and Carol still have a home, and visit on a regular basis.

Mike and his family own and operate a company in Atlanta, Georgia

Capital, LLC, which originates and invests in secured real estate bridge loans, primarily around the Southeast.

Mike and Carol both continue to be involved in various community and charitable activities.



DOROTHY CHRISTIANS

Kate Mead

Kate Mead lives on a cattle ranch in Spring Gulch with her husband Brad, her youngest son Tucker, and three short-legged cow dogs. When not worrying about her oldest son Sam, who is a freshman at the University of Denver, Kate divides her time between managing 350 head of mother cows, 15 head of horses, and a law practice in Jackson, Wyoming.

Kate is admitted to the Bar in the states of Arizona and Wyoming and is a graduate of the University of Wyoming law school. Kate first came to Wyoming as an undergraduate on a ski racing scholarship. She was born and raised near Stowe, Vermont.

Kate is on the Board of the Grand Teton National Park Foundation, was twice elected to the Teton County Natural Resource District, and was a multi-term board member and legal counsel to The Learning Center. Outside of the local area, Kate is a member of the Mountain States Legal Foundation Litigation Board.



JEREMY SHOCKLEY

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- Ed and Barbara Terry
- Allan and Frances Tessler
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- The Teton Club

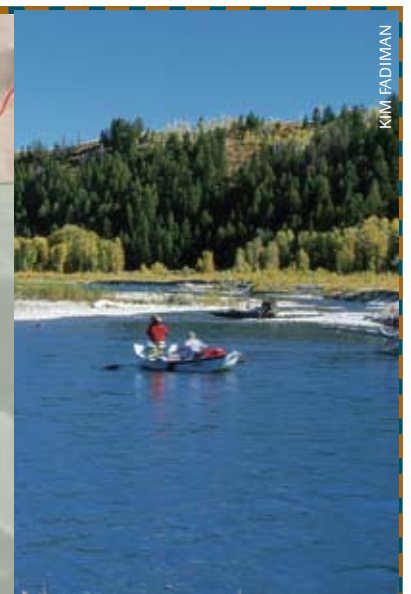
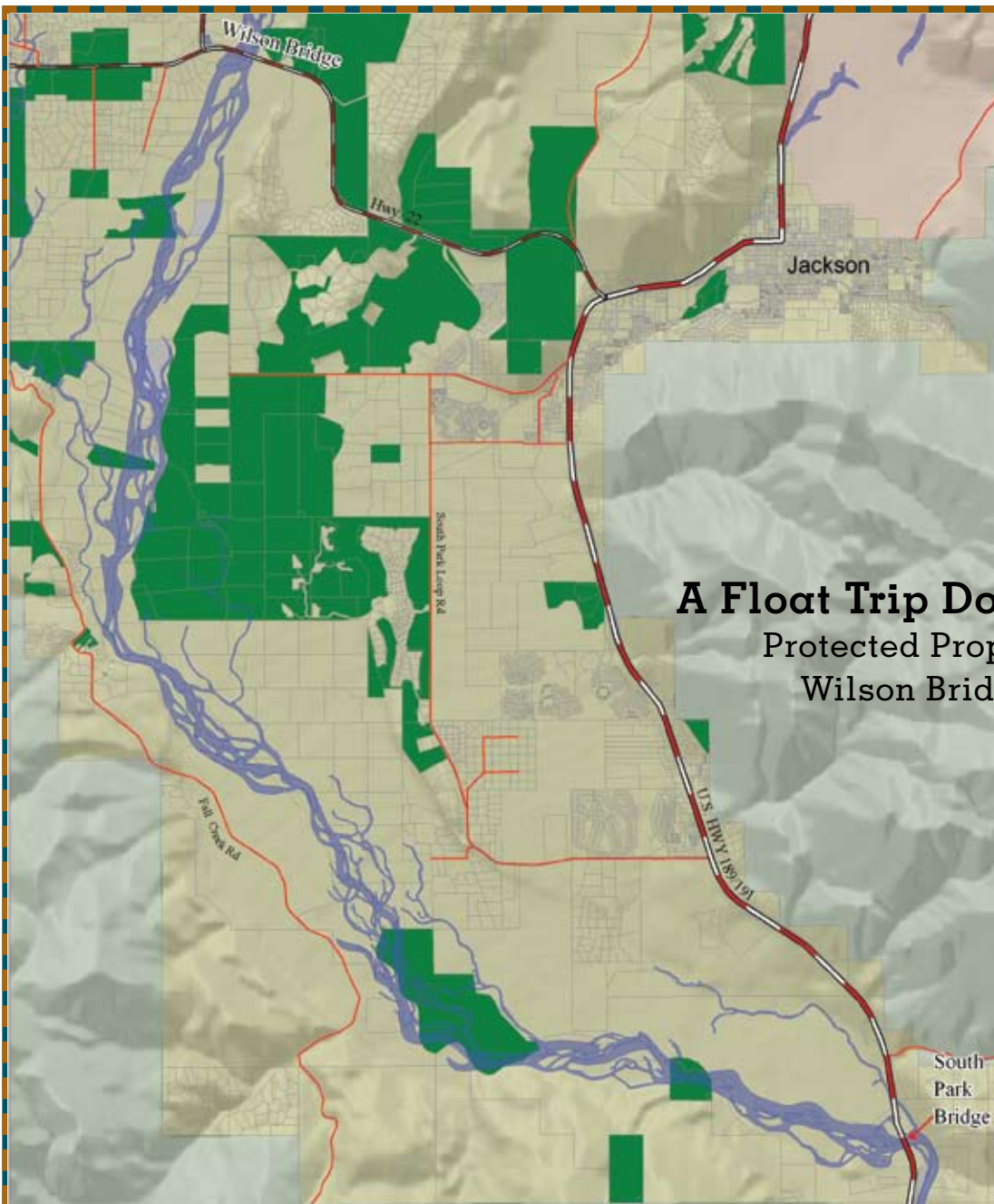
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- Greg and Dimmie Zeigler
- Karl and Dian Zeile
- Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Zukin, Jr.
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert Zukin
- Lois Zumberge
- *in memory of Robert Zumberge
- Sandy Zvegintzov
- Mike and Patty Zyniewicz

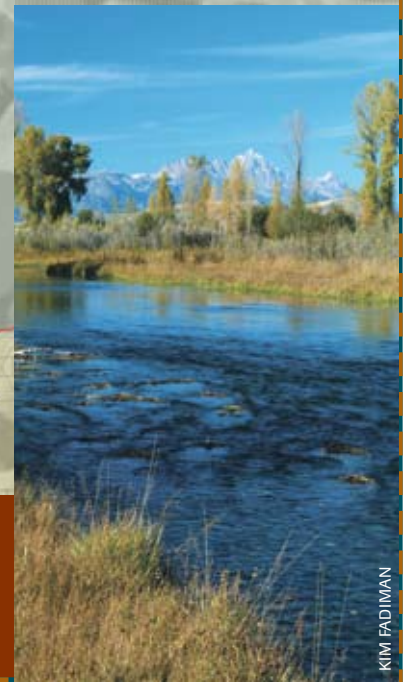
We appreciate being notified of any errors or omissions we may have made, please call us at 307.733.4707.





KIM FADIMAN

A Float Trip Down the Snake: Protected Properties from the Wilson Bridge to South Park

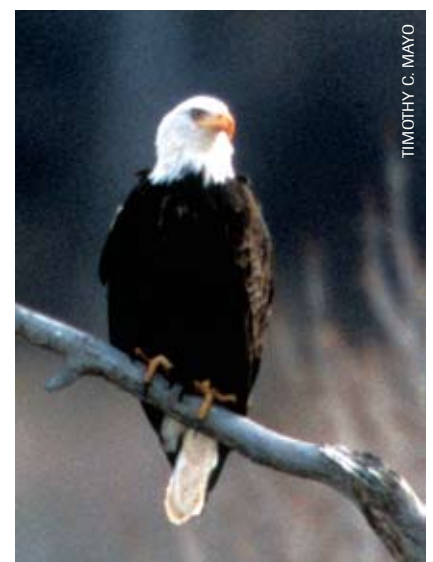


KIM FADIMAN

As river enthusiasts float down the Snake from the Wilson Bridge to the South Park Bridge, they float directly past seven conservation easement protected properties. These properties protect critical riparian habitat, a great diversity of species and a total of seven bald eagle nests.

Osprey and Bald Eagles: Fishing Birds of the Snake

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*) and bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) both inhabit the Snake River corridor but occupy different aquatic hunting niches. Bald eagles fish off the surface while osprey hunt by diving in feet first and submersing into the water. Bald eagles do not dive underwater because they lack the flexible wrist joint in their wing that osprey have, which restricts eagles from taking off from the water with a fish. Due to the eagle's inability to dive deep, our noble bald eagles tend to occupy the ecological niche of scavenger, eating sick, dying, or totally unwary fish off the surface of the water, rather than healthy fish swimming deeper underwater that are easier prey for the diving osprey. The osprey's advantageous wing structure makes it a more successful piscivorous (fish eating) predator than the eagle, so eagles turn to piracy, stealing fish from the more specialized osprey in aerial battles that are often observed above the Snake River Corridor.



TIMOTHY C. MAYO

Signature Approach to Grand Teton National Park Protected

1580 ACRES NEWLY UNDER EASEMENT ALONG MOOSE-WILSON ROAD

In August, the Jackson Hole Land Trust announced the acceptance of three new conservation easements from Snake River Associates covering over 1500 acres of land along Moose-Wilson Road from Lake Creek to Teton Village. These easements protect well over a mile of scenic foreground along this approach to Grand Teton National Park. They also limit development in wildlife corridors from the Teton Range to the Snake River and safeguard important agricultural land on a large Jackson Hole cattle ranch.

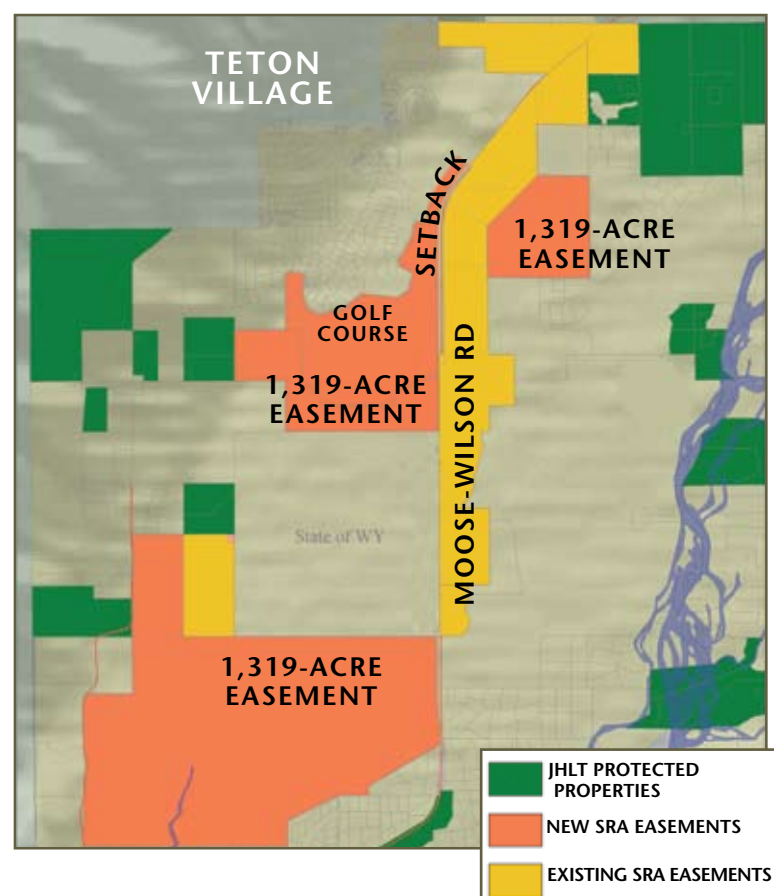
Protecting the scenic foreground along the highways in Jackson Hole, including the approaches to Grand Teton National Park, has always been a vital part of the Jackson Hole Land Trust's strategic plan. In 1984, members of the Snake River Ranch family donated their first easement to the Jackson Hole Land Trust that was along this highway. By 2000, the Snake River Ranch family had already protected over three and one-half miles of scenic foreground along the north half of Moose-Wilson Road. These three new easements add over one and one-third miles of protected highway frontage on the west side of the highway and extend the depth of the scenic corridor on the east side.

The Jackson Hole Land Trust now holds conservation easements protecting over five and one-half miles of scenic foreground along the Moose-Wilson Rd. from south of Lake Creek to the boundary of Grand Teton National Park. These easements permanently protect the rural character of the approach to Teton Village. This is a unique accomplishment; no other major resort in the West has permanently preserved its approach corridor through private lands.

In addition to the scenic importance of these easements, they also protect large parcels of important ranch land on the Snake River Ranch, established by Stanley B. Resor in 1929. Since these conservation easements connect with

over 25 existing easements, they sustain important wildlife movement, including one migration route that extends from the Bridger-Teton National Forest lands of the Teton Range across Moose-Wilson Road to the Snake River. These migration corridors are used by many species, from porcupine to mule deer and elk.

Speaking for the Hauge, Laughlin, and Resor families, Bill Resor said, "My family's been working with the Jackson Hole Land Trust since it was first established in 1980. It's great to make another step forward to protect additional ranchlands in this valley. We look forward to working with the Land Trust to achieve more conservation on our ranch in the future."



Creating Connections

COMPLETED JHLT PROTECTION PROJECTS

Protected lands at the foot of the Teton Range play an important role by safeguarding the interface between public lands to the west, agricultural lands to the east, and the vital connectivity to the Snake River riparian corridor.

Teton Front (Jones)

Richard and Allison Jones protected their 36-acre property on the west side of Fish Creek Road at the foot of the Teton Range. The Jones Teton Front property sits within a significant complex of other easement-protected private



Teton Front (Jones)

KIM FADIMAN

link between protected lands to the east and west connecting the Snake River and Fish Creek riparian corridors. Wildlife use of the property is varied and includes seasonal use by deer and elk and crucial winter habitat for moose. Protection of Four Springs Ranch shelters the important fisheries located in the nearby spring creeks. Maintaining the agricultural nature of the property provides forage for wildlife but also preserves the ranching heritage characteristic to the Jackson Hole area. To date, the Feldmans have protected approximately 106 acres of their ranch.

Patrick

Robert and Kathleen Patrick have owned an 80-acre piece of undeveloped easement-protected land on the west side of Fall Creek Road for more than 15 years. The easement over their property reserved the right to build two residences. Last year, the Patricks decided to purchase an adjoining 15-acre parcel that had a home on it. They razed the home and donated a new easement over the now 95-acre property that allows only one principle residence on the entire property. The Patrick property and the neighboring protected properties serve as an important buffer between the expanding development pressures in and around Wilson and the vast expanse of open land found in the neighboring Bridger-Teton National Forest.



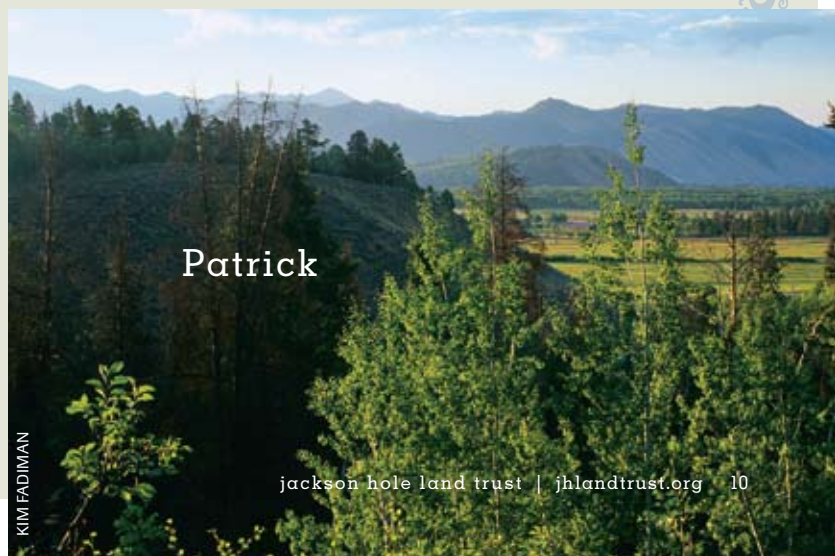
Four Springs Ranch

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properties and public land. Protected lands at the foot of the Teton Range play an important role by safeguarding the interface between public lands to the west, agricultural lands to the east, and the vital connectivity to the Snake River riparian corridor. The high level of ecological function on this land is attributable to the variety of vegetative cover types found on the property. Wildlife use of the property is diverse, as denoted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's classification of the property as crucial winter habitat for moose and spring, summer, and fall habitat for elk and mule deer. This property is visible from Highway 390 and from Highway 22, creating scenic benefits to this easement as well.

Four Springs Ranch II

Mark and Marcie Feldman donated the second easement over their Four Springs Ranch, which is located off Wenzel Lane south of Highway 22. The property is an important



Patrick

KIM FADIMAN

JOSEPH R. SMITH, CIRCUMERROSTOCK

Eventually, all things merge into one, and a river runs through it. The river was cut by the world's great flood and runs over rocks from the basement of time. On some of the rocks are timeless raindrops. Under the rocks are the words, and some of the words are theirs. I am haunted by waters.

– NORMAN MACLEAN, *A RIVER RUNS THROUGH IT*

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