



RENDEZVOUS PARK NEWS
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Ribbon Cutting of new park amenities and viewing of 2019 Slide into R Park photos the focus of R Park's 5th Anniversary Lunch

(Wilson, Wyoming) Tuesday, September 24th — Rendezvous 'R' Park, a program of the Jackson Hole Land Trust, is excited to announce the official unveiling of new park amenities and photos from the 2019 Slide into R Park program this Friday, September 27th for its 5th Anniversary Celebration.

The community is invited to R Park from 12pm-2pm on Friday to tour the newly completed welcome structure, caretaker's unit, and picnic pavilion and celebrate the fulfillment of the community's original vision for R Park. The celebration will also feature an exhibit of students' photographs from the inaugural Slide into R Park program that ran from April through June 2019. The event will include lunch from Sagebrush Grille, live music from The Minor Keys, and a speaking engagement beginning at 1pm.

The new amenities will increase the park's capacity by providing a welcome structure where R Park staff can act as a resource to visitors by answering questions, providing tours, and being available for registered groups to utilize. The caretaker's unit will house an on-location ambassador and champion of the park who will establish a presence at the park during closed hours and work to monitor and maintain the park's amenities throughout the year. R Park's progress and success over the past five years can be attributed to the generous support of the LOR Foundation, the community and private donations. The new amenities and additions at the park were also made possible through a partnership with LOR.

"Since before we even opened R Park to the public five years ago, it's always been the plan to provide the community with the most functional and friendly version of R Park. We are excited about the expanded amenities that will enhance the visitor's experience and give our team more of a presence at and connection to the park," said Jenny Wolfrom, Director of Advancement & Engagement for Jackson Hole Land Trust. "Thanks to the LOR Foundation and the design and construction partners who have been instrumental in completing the community's vision of the park."

The lunch celebration will also host the first exhibit cycle for the 2019 Slide into R Park program. Funded by grants from the Center of Wonder and the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, the photo program was initiated to empower the bilingual youth of Jackson by utilizing R Park to develop and inspire visual storytelling skills with onsite photography lessons connecting storytelling and conservation of open spaces.

“Photography and conservation have a symbiosis that’s not accessible to everyone,” said Jr Rodriguez, Community Conservation Manager/R Park Director for JHLT. “R Park’s reclamation story and its current natural splendor provide ample opportunity to develop storytelling skills. Thanks to community partners, we were able to remove many barriers to entry by providing cameras, a photolab, and a bilingual instructor.”

R Park’s history runs deep through the veins of the Jackson Hole community. The once gravel-pit was purchased through a partnership between the JHLT, who holds its conservation easement, and the LOR Foundation. Now, R Park remains open to the public thanks to ongoing donations from those who envisioned its potential years ago and those who appreciate all it is becoming.

R Park is located on the corner of Highway 22 and the Teton-Village Road (4270 River Springs Drive, Wilson). Participants are encouraged to use alternative forms of transportation to attend, such as, START Bus or the community pathways.

About Rendezvous Park

A program of the Jackson Hole Land Trust, Rendezvous Park (R Park) is a private park for public use. R Park provides 40-acres of reclaimed public space designed to encourage all ages to engage with nature and inspire through open space interaction. All operating dollars are raised through donations. For the latest, follow @RendezvousPark

About the Jackson Hole Land Trust

The Jackson Hole Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization that was established in 1980 to protect and steward the treasured landscapes of Northwest Wyoming including Fremont and Sublette counties. With over 55,000 acres protected, our vision is a legacy of protected open spaces, wildlife habitat, working lands and community spaces that inspire current and future generations. For more information, please visit jhlandtrust.org.

About Slide into R Park

Slide into R Park is a collaborative program between Rendezvous Park, Slideluck Youth Initiative, the Art Association of Jackson Hole, Latino Outdoors to empower the bilingual youth of Jackson by utilizing R park to develop and inspire visual storytelling skills with onsite photography lessons connecting storytelling and conservation of open spaces. The program was funded by the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, The Center of Wonder, and the Jackson Hole Land Trust.