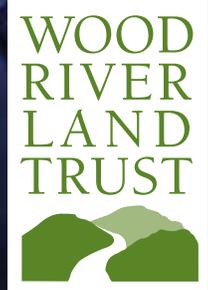


# Wood River Land Trust

Protecting the heart of the valley...now and for the future.

Fall 2016



*The American  
Dipper*

*Rethinking Water  
in the Wood River  
Valley*

*Impact  
Report*



This newsletter is published by  
**WOOD RIVER LAND TRUST**  
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 by Collin Whitsett

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*A Message from Scott Boettger, Executive Director*

**IT WAS 20 YEARS AGO THIS FALL WHEN I FIRST CAME TO IDAHO TO INTERVIEW FOR THE LAND TRUST JOB.**

It was Homecoming when I arrived and the parade was rolling down Main Street. The leaves were changing. It was one of our spectacular fall days and everyone was out cheering. It was an All-America scene. It was beautiful and I knew the river was rumbling by not too far away. It was my first taste of this special place.

I was in town for the rest of the weekend, so I went into a local realtor's office, and while the housing costs didn't sound so good, the fishing did.

I headed out to the river and the fish were rising, but I couldn't catch them. Like this job, they provided a challenge worthy of pursuit. That's when I decided I'd do everything I could to help protect what is so wonderful about this place.

I was thrilled, honored, and a little bit scared when I was offered the job. But it didn't take long to realize I'd made the best decision of my life. I soon met and began working with people who had also been touched by this magical part of Idaho. People like you who have a passion for saving and restoring its land, water, wildlife habitat, and recreational opportunities.

It reminds me of something my dad used to like to say, "Many hands make a light load."

Thanks to so many helping hands, we've had a lot of success these past 20 years saving the places you and I love. Places that make us happy, and that make the world around us a bit healthier and more hopeful—a challenge still worthy of pursuit.

Thank you for lending your hand and for ensuring this important work goes on now, and for future generations. Our shared passion makes all the difference.



Scott and Shelly at the South Fork of the Snake's famous Falls Creek Falls.



**The American Dipper Appreciates Your Help**

American Dippers are North America's only aquatic songbird.  
 Photos by John Finnell

*By Josie Brownell*

**HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A BIRD** that can walk underwater? The American Dipper is small enough to fit in the palm of your hand and yet it spends a majority of its time exploring high mountain streambeds throughout the West. The only true aquatic songbird in North America, the Dipper lives in and around fast-flowing streams and clearly isn't afraid of getting swept away in the current!

We recently spotted an American Dipper at our Valley Creek Preserve in Stanley, and that's good news, since its varying population depends upon healthy streams. The Valley Creek Preserve covers 34 acres of land in the heart of downtown Stanley (including a one-mile stretch of the creek), protecting riparian areas and stunning views of the Sawtooth Mountains—and, as it turns out, great habitat for the American Dipper. Who knew such a unique little bird could live in downtown Stanley?

With a diet consisting of aquatic insects and tiny fish, the Dipper feeds entirely underwater. Dipping, diving and walking amongst the rapids (sometimes holding its breath for as long as 15 seconds) this small and mighty gray/brown bird methodically scans the streambed in search of food. When not gripping submerged rocks with its feet and walking underwater, the Dipper builds dome-style nests behind waterfalls, on mossy rock walls, under ledges, or among roots on the riverbank. At only six-inches tall, it's not hard for it to find a little nook to call home.

With all the rivers and streams running through our valley and surrounding area, riparian habitat

and cold water is common, bringing the American Dipper to the Wood River Valley. Besides Valley Creek Preserve, you may also be able to spot one in areas like Galena Pass, Redfish Lake or from the Bow Bridge in Hailey. They've also even been seen around Craters of the Moon National Monument, in the Pioneer Mountain Range, and at the Silver Creek. They definitely pick some pretty spots to set up shop. Maybe they crave those stunning mountain views as much as we do?

Thanks to your help\* those riparian areas, like the ones at Valley Creek and the Draper Wood River Preserve, are forever protected against development, meaning this exceptionally unique bird can dip and dive in local waters for years to come.

By protecting land, you are benefitting more than just us humans. Our work also helps animals that depend on these beautiful places remaining open, animals like the American Dipper.

So the next time you're at one of the Land Trust's riverfront preserves and you hear that bubbling, sharp "zeet-zeet-zeet" song of the American Dipper, please consider it a thank you call.

**\*NOTE:** *The Land Trust was able to leverage your donations to help provide staff the time to work on procuring a \$1,058,042 grant to acquire the Valley Creek Preserve in 2015. The riverfront property in Stanley had been subdivided into 47 home lots, but it's now protected in perpetuity, for the American dipper and for you to enjoy.*

# Rethinking Water in the Wood River Valley

## WHAT YOU DO

### MAKES A BIG DIFFERENCE!

Hardscapes can add to the beauty and functionality of your landscape while reducing water use. Photo by Scott Boettger

By Mike McKenna

**WHILE GOLD HAS GARNERED MORE HEADLINES** and sparkles more brightly in the minds of many, water has always been the most precious and important resource in the Western U.S. It has also been the most misunderstood, misused and fought over. But however big the water issue in the West is, what you do can and does make a big difference.

That's why it's time we get a better understanding of the issues and figure out ways we can make difference, especially since a water crisis is on the horizon here in Wood River Valley and tackling it is a priority for the Land Trust.

"What we have to realize is that water conservation starts in your home, in your backyard," Pat McMahon, the Director of the Galena Water District, told participants at a recent Water and Wine talk the Land Trust helped host for residents of Elkhorn and Sun Valley.

While we may not have any control over natural

occurrences like drought and climate change, we can control how much and what ways we use our most important natural resource.

To help you better understand the challenges facing the Wood River Valley and how you can make a positive impact, here's a rundown of some of the key issues.

#### CONJUNCTIVE MANAGEMENT, WHAT'S YOUR FUNCTION?

Water rights in Idaho came to a crossroads in the 1980s. That's when the state was forced to come in and figure out how to handle the junction where surface water and ground water rights meet.

After completing hydrological studies and wading through numerous legal proceeding and precedents, the State of Idaho determined that there was a connection between water below ground and water on the surface. They reasoned that the water was all one source, that it was cojoined. So the "conjunctive management" plan was set into place. Its goal was simple: manage all water, both on the

At 168 gallons per day, Idahoans average the highest use of water per capita in the country.

According to a 2010 U.S Geological Survey, only two states use more water than Idaho: Texas and California.

surface and below ground in wells and aquifers, as one. This meant that senior water rights users, primarily "surface right" users like farmers and ranchers with rights dating back to the 1880s, could make water calls on other holders, regardless of whether the junior rights were above or below ground.

In January of 2014, conjunctive management was finally adapted to both the Big Wood and Little Wood watersheds. And it has changed the game completely.

Previously during drought or below average water years, only surface water users would be shut off based upon the date of their water rights. But now a "water call" can be made by senior rights holders. Such calls will have big impacts on the entire Wood River Valley, as municipalities, farmers, and county subdivisions all rely on ground water for their in-home and landscaping needs. Very few such wells have a date older than 1950.

The first local "water call" by senior right users in the Big Wood watershed was announced in February 2015, alleging that upstream groundwater users were depleting surface flows to downstream surface water users. It got blocked in court, but the challenges against that first call are being addressed and, sooner or later, another one is coming.

This presents a threat to our economy, food systems, recreation, wildlife, and day-to-day lives. But there are solutions. The Land Trust, along with a variety of partners, is working diligently to create forward-thinking, long-range solutions that will meet all of our needs – and keep the river alive and flowing.

These solutions range from the simple (e.g. landscaping and farm irrigation improvements that save water) to the complex (e.g. creating a water "bank" that allows users to bank, trade or purchase water).

So in this hotly debated issue this much we know is true: Our local water is over-allocated, and has been for decades, so it's up to each of us to better understand and better use our water for everyone involved.

#### THE WOOD RIVER WATER COLLABORATIVE

The Wood River Water Collaborative (WRWC) is a grassroots effort to tackle the water challenges facing our region. Its many, basin-wide participants include our legislators, private citizens, representatives of state agencies, non-profit organizations, and the private and public sector.

"It's time to think about how we look at landscapes and their impacts. You can make a difference."  
–Patti Lousen, Project Coordinator for the WRLT

The Land Trust helped to found the collaborative and we play an active role in its work.

The goal of the WRWC is to create a long term, practical, and legally supported water management framework that balances the consumptive needs of upstream and downstream users in order to provide water for people, crops, and fish, both now and in the future. Goals include: Preserving community values; Safe, clean drinking water to meet the needs of the watershed; Sustainable water use for farming and ranching; Ensuring healthy riparian habitat for fish and wildlife that rely on the Big Wood River, Little Wood River, Silver Creek and their tributaries.

#### CONSUMPTIVE VS. NON-CONSUMPTIVE WATER

Domestic water use is put into one of two categories. Consumptive water is used and not returned to the system. This primarily includes landscaping uses, where water is lost to plants or evaporation. Non-consumptive use is water that gets returned to the system, which primarily includes all household uses like washing clothes or dishes or using showers or toilets.

Approximately 95% of all non-consumptive water use returns to the system. According to the Environmental Protection Agency, as much as 50 percent of water used for irrigation is wasted due to evaporation, wind, or runoff caused by inefficient irrigation methods and systems.

It's estimated that about 70% of water used in Blaine County is for landscape and consumptive uses. Uses that deplete the resource, drain the river and aquifer, and create water shortages for senior rights users. Luckily, these are uses we can cut down on. Please check out our Spring Newsletter for all kinds of tips on how to help you save and better use water!

Just about anything you can buy consumes water to be made. For example, it takes 700 gallons of water to produce 1 pound of cotton and 240 gallons to produce a smart phone. That's why what you buy and how long it lasts makes a big difference.

"Unless there's a whole mindset change, we're not going to make a difference. We need to think about everyone from homes in Sun Valley to the farmers in Richfield."  
– Pat McMahon, Director of the Galena Water District



# RiverFest Rewards A Lucky Family

**ONE OF THE BIG GOALS** of the Land Trust’s annual RiverFest is to help connect people of all ages to the land you help us work so hard to save and restore. We hope the event will inspire and help connect people to the positive power of time spent in nature, but we don’t necessarily expect to change their lives. Thanks to this year’s event, however, at least one family’s life was changed for the better.

Adam Elias and his family came to RiverFest to enjoy the music, the great outdoors and to support the Land Trust. A local contractor, Adam said he is a big fan of the Land Trust, and he even makes regular donations to the Building Material Thrift Store.

“I’m a champion of what you guys do and I believe in it,” Adam said.

So when he signed up to enter for the chance to win a Stand Up Paddleboard (SUP), he did so to help support the Land Trust, not because he expected to win. “I’ve never won anything in my life,” he said.

That’s partly why Adam was shocked when we told him he’d been randomly selected as the winner of the 11’ inflatable SUP. The other reason is because of what it meant for his family.

Adam’s youngest son, Walter, is visually impaired. The 16-year-old had a chance to try a SUP the year before thanks to Higher Ground. He’d been asking for one ever since. So the family had put getting an SUP on the top of their wish list. But the boards and equipment are rather expensive, especially for a family of six living in Sun Valley. Luckily, fate decided to smile upon them, and Land Trust’s simple goal of getting people inspired and in touch with nature was taken to a higher level. We were able to make a family’s dream come true.

“This is amazing. It’s a wish come true,” Adam said. “We don’t know how to thank you. This will change our lives, especially Walter’s, for the better.”

Land Trust volunteers of any age and ability make good things happen for the Wood River Valley.



Fall is a fantastic time to add compost to your raised beds. Don’t worry if there are small bits of material left—they will continue to break down over winter.



## Tips for Prepping Your Landscape for Winter



Pine needle mulch: Pine needles make a good mulch for strawberries. They add insulation, and can help discourage slugs and other unwanted insect visitors.



Vetch is a great cover crop, and a member of the “bean” family—so it helps fix nitrogen in the soil.

By Sadie Boyer

**THERE ARE A HANDFUL** of simple steps you can take to ensure that your landscape and plants overwinter nicely this year. The most important are pruning dead and weak branches, watering your deciduous plants deeply before the first frost, and mulching!

**FOR LAWNS:** Prior to the first frost, remove all broad leaf suckers growing in your lawn. This will decrease competition for nutrients and water during the winter. Apply a slow release, low nitrogen organic fertilizer in late summer or early fall to help stimulate root growth. Organic fertilizer is important for feeding your soil, soil microbes, and your plants, whereas synthetic fertilizer only feeds your plants. Finally rake leaves over your lawn and other landscape plants to help insulate them and their root system.

**FOR TREES AND SHRUBS:** Gently prune your trees and shrubs this fall, looking for weak and diseased limbs that can be removed. Pruning in the winter is also important for promoting air circulation and for disease prevention, especially for fruit trees. Be sure to also give your evergreen shrubs and trees a deep watering before the ground freezes. With limited water resources during the winter, giving trees an extra deep watering before

winter takes over will help them survive the season with minimal damage from the cold. Protect the root systems of your trees and shrubs during the winter by mulching. It’s important to leave a thick layer (2-4 inches) of mulch around your plants to moderate soil and root temperatures, conserve soil moisture over the winter, and to promote healthy root growth. Try to avoid piling the mulch around the trunks of plants by raking the mulch back about 6 inches. Finally, cover all of your small deciduous shrubs with burlap, as well as plants and shrubs, like yews, that can be harmful to the winter foraging wildlife in the valley.

**FOR VEGGIE BEDS:** Remove all old plant material from your vegetable beds. Plant a hearty cover crop like winter field peas, winter rye, hairy vetch, or crimson clover. Each of these cover crops will help reintroduce nutrients like nitrogen into the soil and improve the organic matter in the soil. Plant them in late summer early fall, allow them to over winter, and cut them down and turn them into the soil in the spring. An alternative to cover cropping is adding a layer of mulch (2-4 inches) to your veggie beds.

Ellis Ranch protects the scenic views and critical wildlife habitat along the Salmon River.

# Accomplishments

*Because of your support, we had another banner year safeguarding the natural legacy of the Wood River Valley and surrounding landscape.*

## CONSERVING LAND

**WORKING FARMS AND RANCHES GREET US** with wide-open vistas and preserve the heritage of our community. They also provide critical habitat for both furred and feathered wildlife, especially as stop-overs during their migration. This year, you helped us permanently protect 765 acres of agricultural lands. The Timmerman Ranch II easements protect the scenic views as you enter the southern “gates” of the Wood River Valley—a common stopover for Sandhill cranes in spring and fall. Conserving the Ellis Ranch in Custer County preserves vistas and protects wildlife habitat along the Salmon River.

## RESTORING HABITAT

**WHEN WE CAN IMPROVE THE LAND** surrounding our rivers, creeks, and wetlands, everyone benefits. The land becomes resilient, wildlife thrives, and we improve the experience on and beside the water for the members of our community. All of these hold true for the restoration projects you helped us complete this year. The Croy Creek Wetlands restoration is making a noticeable difference, as the Reed Canarygrass is removed and natives are planted. The project along Elkhorn Creek not only improved the quality of the habitat, it created a more natural streambank, opening up views of the water and making the journey along the bike path even more enjoyable.

## DEMONSTRATING LEADERSHIP, DEVELOPING INNOVATION

**WHEN WE BRING PARTNERS TO THE TABLE**, all of us are stronger, nimbler, more creative, and more effective than we could ever be on our own. Nothing depicts this better than the work you’ve made possible with Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy and University of Idaho. The Home Rivers Initiative with TU is the umbrella under which much of our restoration work took place. Together, we also produced the Big Wood River Watershed Assessment. The assessment is serving as the underlying tool for the river restoration and protection efforts that we have planned for the coming years. Our new partnership with TNC and UI at Rock Creek Ranch will allow for a live demonstration of how conservation and sustainable ranching can work together to provide healthy landscapes for generations to come.

## BUILDING AN ENGAGED COMMUNITY

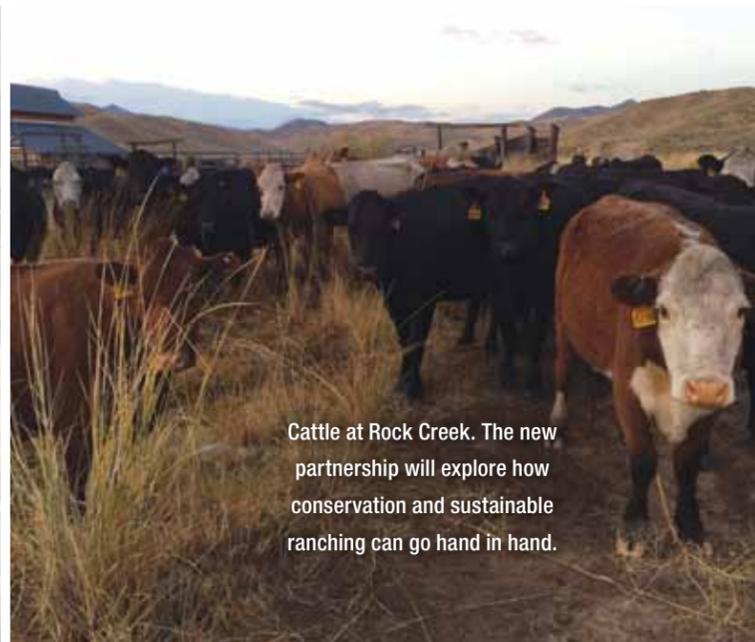
**YOU ARE HELPING US PROTECT OUR VALLEY** for today—and tomorrow. That means we need to connect with community members who share the same values we do, who can help us see the mission through. We worked to develop these passionate leaders of today and tomorrow through a variety of programs this year. RiverFest, on July 4th, brought the Big Wood River front and center in the minds of our community, raising crucial awareness of both the ecological and social importance of the river to the valley. This year, we partnered with the City of Hailey to make Trout Friendly more relevant than ever. Not only did we teach people how to conserve water and reduce pesticide use, they also received rebates from the City to remove lawn from their landscapes. The high school members of the Student Conservation Council led a variety of programs in the schools and out on the land that taught their peers and the younger students they mentored the importance of putting passion for the land into action.



Local agricultural lands play a key role for wildlife, such as these Sandhill cranes.  
Photo by Cintia Scola



Local students gain knowledge, skills, and passion by helping with the Elkhorn Creek restoration.



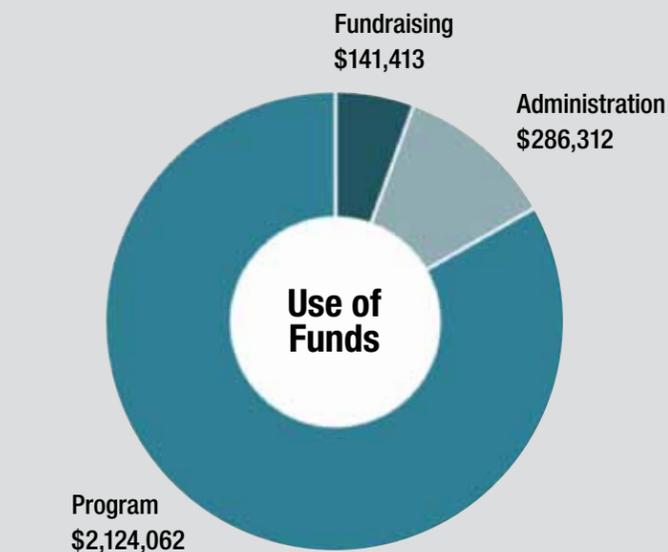
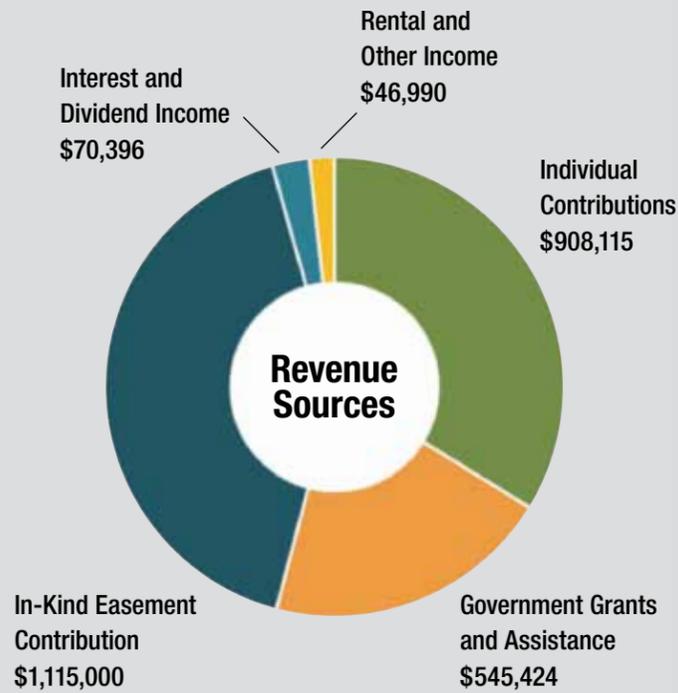
Cattle at Rock Creek. The new partnership will explore how conservation and sustainable ranching can go hand in hand.



Patti Lousen, Project Coordinator, leads a group down to the river to learn how it can be restored for better function, health, and habitat.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016



**THE LAND TRUST IS COMMITTED** to the lands we safeguard, rivers we restore, and wildlife we protect. We work diligently to ensure that your investment is used in the wisest and most impactful way, by leveraging your support and building the human and capital resources needed to secure the future of the

# LEVERAGING YOUR SUPPORT

**MORE. MORE DAYS WETTING A LINE**, bumping into a moose, strolling with your dog, making memories with your grandchildren. Over the years, you have invested more than \$17 million to ensure we all have more to enjoy, cherish, and explore. The Land Trust is also committed to more. Each dollar you donate is multiplied by 4 through government grants, land donations, and bargain sales. Today, the value of the land you protected is more than \$63 million. We know how much you value the special character of this valley, and we will always do more to ensure it is safeguarded forever. Thank you for being a part of this legacy.



**Private Donations: \$17,477,013**



**Conservation Value: \$63,454,205**

Wood River Valley's special character.

This truly is the promise of protection in perpetuity.

Our audited financial statement and Form 990 are available for your review on our website: [woodriverlandtrust.org](http://woodriverlandtrust.org).

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*Thank you to each of you who invested to safeguard the land, water, wildlife and recreational opportunities that makes the Wood River Valley so remarkable. Your gifts from April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016 protect the places you love. Thank you!*

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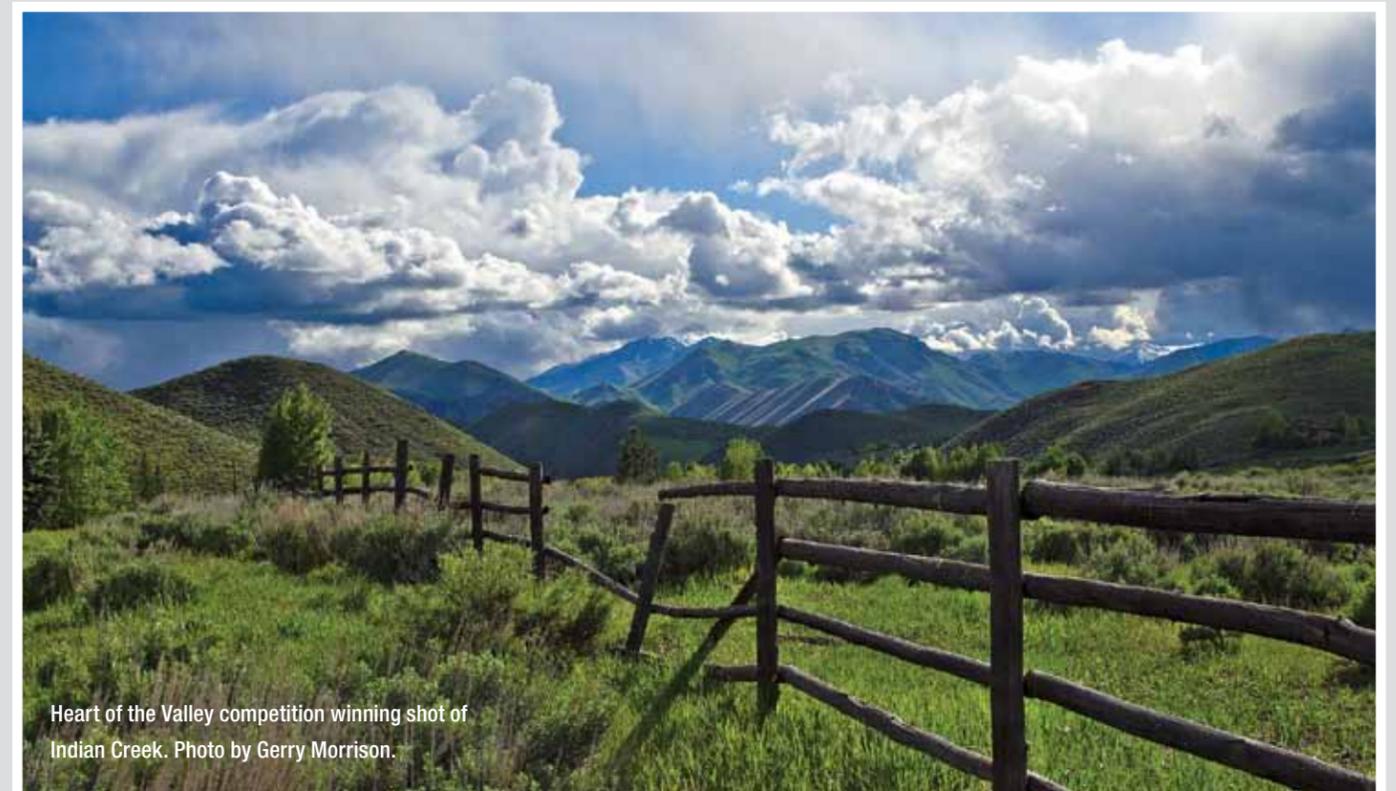
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Heart of the Valley competition winning shot of Indian Creek. Photo by Gerry Morrison.

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Cabin Creek Lakes. Photo by Josie Brownell

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 Marty Arvey  
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 Rear Admiral Donald V. Boecker and  
 Gay Scott Boecker  
 Rudy and Susan Boesch  
 Gail Boettger

Michael and Chris Boskin  
 Boswell Family Foundation  
 Steve Botti and Vicki Lawson  
 Tom Bowman and Patti Lousen  
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 Gregg E. Brandow  
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 Claire Casey  
 John B. Cathey  
 Page Chapman III  
 John Charney  
 City of Hailey



Scarlet Gilia. Photo by Collin Whitsett

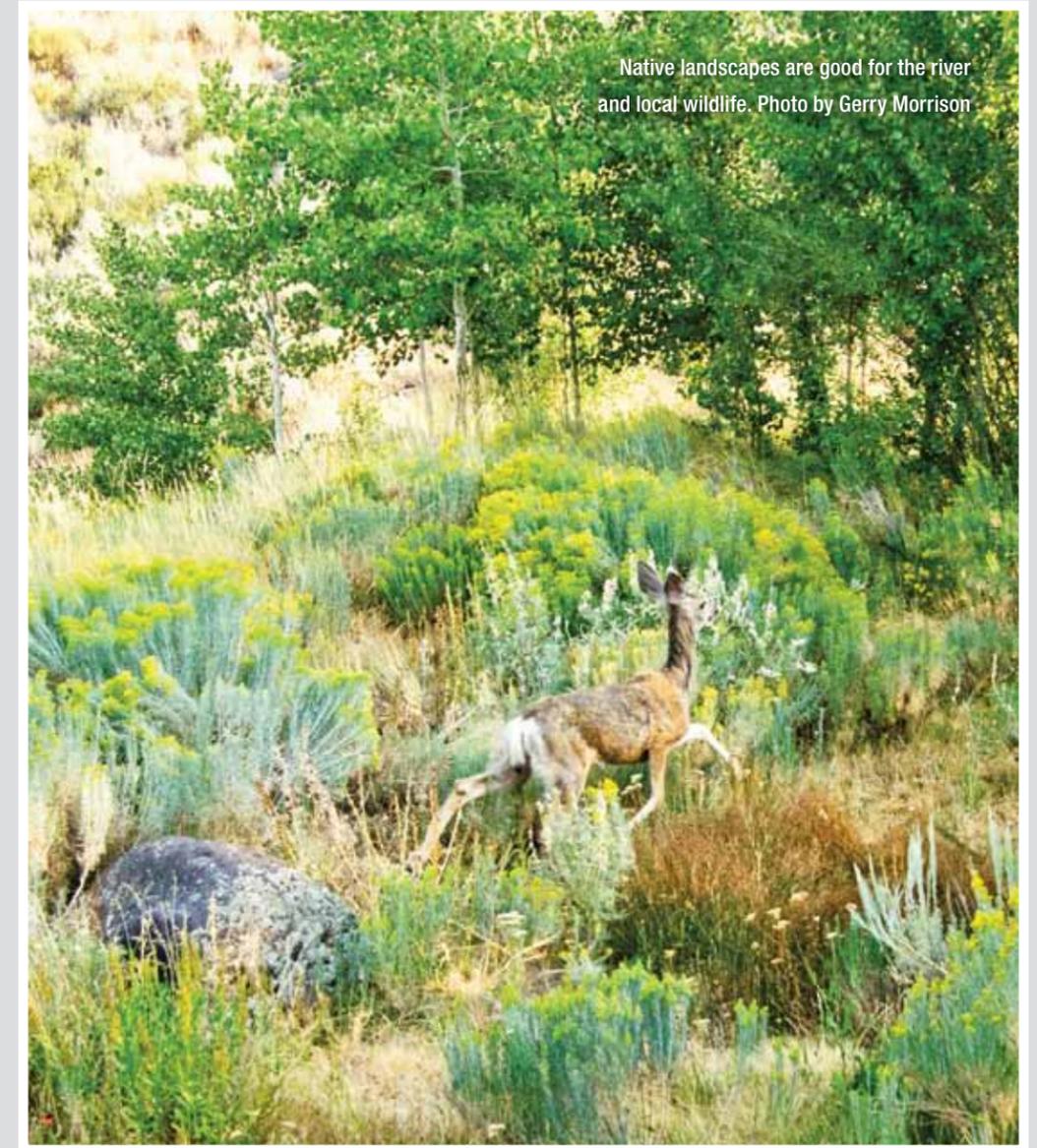
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 Paul Connolly\*  
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 Dennis and Leah Conyers  
 Cooper Landscapes  
 David Costa  
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 Roy Crawford  
 Steve Crosser  
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 Thomas Dawson and Jerre  
 Coyne-Dawson  
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 Jerry and Deanne Drake  
 Rick, Anne and Chelsea Dressell  
 Buck Drew and Becky Klassen  
 Chris and Holley duPont  
 Marlene and John Durbin  
 Steven and Elizabeth Durels  
 Charles and Margaret Durnin  
 Jamie and Jim Dutcher  
 Ted and Darlene Dyer  
 Pam and Kirk Ebertz  
 Jerry Edelbrock and Jeri Howland  
 Kurt Eggers

Sue and Earl Engelmann  
 Evergreen Landscaping  
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 Joyce Fogg  
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 Marcia Lee Kent  
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 Robert Lynch  
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 John Macomber  
 Jory Magidson and Caren Frankel  
 Peter and Sandra Maier  
 John Maine and Kim Baltzell  
 Ed Matthews & Vilma Keri  
 Alysia May  
 Penny and Chris Mazzola  
 Mike and Anita McCann  
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 Steve Mitchell and Louisa Moats  
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 Christie and Ed Moore  
 Sally and John Morbeck  
 Mountain High Landscapes  
 Mountain Wanderlust  
 Marr and Nancy Mullen  
 Cynthia and Kingsley Murphy  
 Native Landscapes



Native landscapes are good for the river  
 and local wildlife. Photo by Gerry Morrison

We speak for critters who can't speak up  
 for themselves. Photo by John Finnell



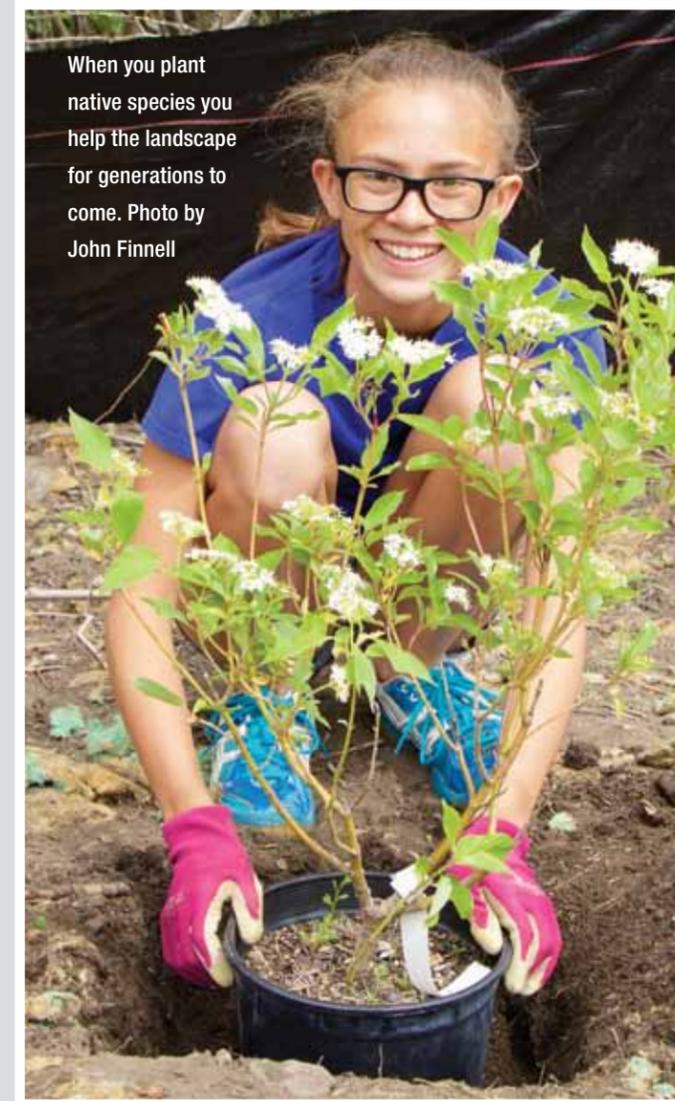
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 Andrea Nelson and Rod Harten  
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 Patsy and Mark Nickum  
 Bruce Norvell  
 Peter and Barrie O'Neill  
 Robert Ordal  
 Nancy and James Osborn  
 Dorothy Ann Outzs  
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 Matt and Calysta Phillips

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 Leigh and Louise Rabel  
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 Nancy and Rich Robbins  
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 Lee and Lauren Rowe  
 Tom Rule  
 Rose Rumball-Petre and Ted Stout  
 Naomi and Scott Runkel  
 Allen and Diana Russell  
 Dianne and Calame Sammons  
 Lyle and Gloriana Saylor  
 Carol Scheifele-Holmes and  
 Ben Holmes  
 Leonard and Phyllis Schlessinger  
 Lester Schwartz  
 Stuart Shaffer  
 Laura and Mike Shannon  
 Sandy Shaw  
 John and Nancy Shepherd  
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Linda Sisson  
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 David Stansfield and Linda Drake  
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 Paul and Betsy Sunich  
 Sergio and Denise Tavares  
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 David and Kimm Terpening

Martial and Justin Thirsk  
 Conrad and Jeremy Thomas  
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 Trout Unlimited, Inc.  
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 George and Nickye Venters  
 Robert Vestal and Jyl Hoyt  
 Joel and Jeanne Vilinsky  
 George Wade  
 Karl and Diana Wadsack  
 Judith Walker  
 Steve Wall and Nancy Crandall



When you plant native species you help the landscape for generations to come. Photo by John Finnell

Kevin Wallace  
 Richard A. Wathne, M.D.  
 James Watkinson and Hermione Beresford  
 Annie and Mike Weber  
 Marvin and Judi Weber  
 Liza Weekes  
 Nelson Weller  
 John\* and Sharon Wellsandt  
 Ron and Ann Whyte  
 Peter and Anne Marie Wick  
 Jaci and Mason Wilkins  
 Ron and Carolyn Willis  
 Wes Wills  
 Winn's Compost  
 Jeremy Wintersteen  
 Nancy Winton  
 Roland Wolfram and Patti Zebrowski  
 Wood River Women's Foundation  
 Member's Fund in the Idaho Community Foundation,  
 Chris Bracher  
 Sue Woodyard  
 Richard and Rebecca Worst  
 James K. Worthey  
 Louise and Wayne Wright  
 Cheryl and Peter Ziegler

**\* = Deceased, Bold = Big Wood Society Members**

Community Support page captions clockwise from the top:  
 Scott Boettger shares Land Trust success stories with supporters. Photo by Collin Whitsett;  
 Volunteer John Seiller at Boxcar Bend workday. Photo by ?;  
 Students work together on Elkhorn Restoration Project. Photo by ?;  
 Board co-chair Richard Carr, development manager Lisa Huttinger, and board member Dan Smith enjoying time at Rock Creek Ranch. Photo by Collin Whitsett

*Donations are often made to the Land Trust in recognition of individuals who have made a significant impact on the lives of others. These gifts create a lasting tribute to friends and loved-ones by helping to protect and restore the beauty and character of the Wood River Valley and surrounding areas.*

### Gifts in Honor

Bruce, Jim, and Staff at the Building Material Thrift Store  
 Richard Carr  
 Ed and Susan Cutter  
 Ed Cutter  
 The Diehl Family  
 Bryce Jordan Gilmore  
 Lisa Huttinger  
 Patti Lousen and the Student Conservation Council  
 Gloria Osberg  
 Phoebe  
 Ann and Irwin Sentilles  
 Chad and Genevieve Stoesz  
 Robert and Diana Weiss

### Gifts in Memory

John Ackerman  
 Hal Anawalt  
 Joan & Hal Anawalt  
 Brend Baldensperger  
 Doug Boettger  
 Robert E. Bond, Sr.  
 Frances K. Brossy  
 Pat Dinkelspiel  
 Frankie  
 Pat Hanggi  
 Carl J. Hoffman  
 Arthur A. Strom and Barbara Van Waters Strom  
 Mr. William G. Tennille III  
 Jane Thurman  
 Bruce Alan Weber  
 George C. Williams



# Community Support

*We are fortunate to have so many supporters in the community. We are grateful for the remarkable businesses, who demonstrate their commitment to this special place through their support of the Land Trust. And we celebrate the volunteers who dedicate countless hours in leadership and work on the land. Thank you for protecting the places we all love!*

### Business Partners HEART OF THE VALLEY CONTEST

Fiscal Sponsor  
 Zions First National Bank

### ADDITIONAL IN-KIND BUSINESS DONORS

Davis Embroidery  
 Hailey Chamber of Commerce  
 Local Food Alliance, HarvestFest  
 Toni's Ice Cream  
 Danny Walton and BIC Sport SUP  
 Wood River Farmer's Market

### TROUT FRIENDLY PARTNERS

*These partners help promote water conservation, pesticide reduction, and native plant use throughout the valley.*  
 Advanced Irrigation Solutions  
 Arborcare  
 BigHorn Landscaping  
 Big Wood Landscape  
 Blaine County Recreation District  
 Blaine Soil Conservation District  
 Branching Out Nursery  
 Cooper Landscapes  
 City of Hailey  
 City of Ketchum

City of Sun Valley  
 C-U next Storm  
 Clearwater Landscaping  
 Clemens Associates  
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 Evergreen Landscaping  
 Garden Space Design  
 Greenscape Lawn and Garden, Inc  
 Hemingway Chapter Trout Unlimited  
 Living Earth LLC  
 Magic Valley Turfgrass  
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Native Landscapes  
 Nichols Landscapes  
 Organic Solutions  
 Sawtooth Botanical Garden  
 Silver Creek Supply  
 Sun Valley Water and Sewer  
 The Turf Company  
 Thunder Spring  
 Webb Landscaping  
 Whitehead Landscaping  
 Winn's Compost





We're always happy to have the help of Andrea and Benny.

## Volunteer Spotlight: Andrea Pierceall

**ANDREA PIERCEALL AND HER CORGI, Benny,** having been bringing their great energy to help out at the Land Trust offices for over a year now. Every time they walk in the door, the office seems to get a little bit brighter. Benny runs around and says hi to everyone, while Andrea helps us with

everything from filing to mailings.

When asked why she loves the Land Trust, Andrea summed it up perfectly by saying, "This is a special place, and we need to protect it. It provides us with a life you can't find anywhere else – the people, the mountains."

We assume that Benny agrees, as his favorite place to run around is Indian Creek. In addition to volunteering at the Land Trust, Andrea is an accomplished writer and poet. She has been part of an online writing group for over 10 years, and finds time to write every day. One of Andrea's favorite subjects for her poems is the changing of the seasons. "I find the changing of the seasons very soothing. It's affirming and emotionally healing," she said.

The Land Trust could never accomplish what we've set out to do without the help of volunteers like Andrea. We are so grateful and thankful for all that Andrea, and you, do for us.

### Almost Over

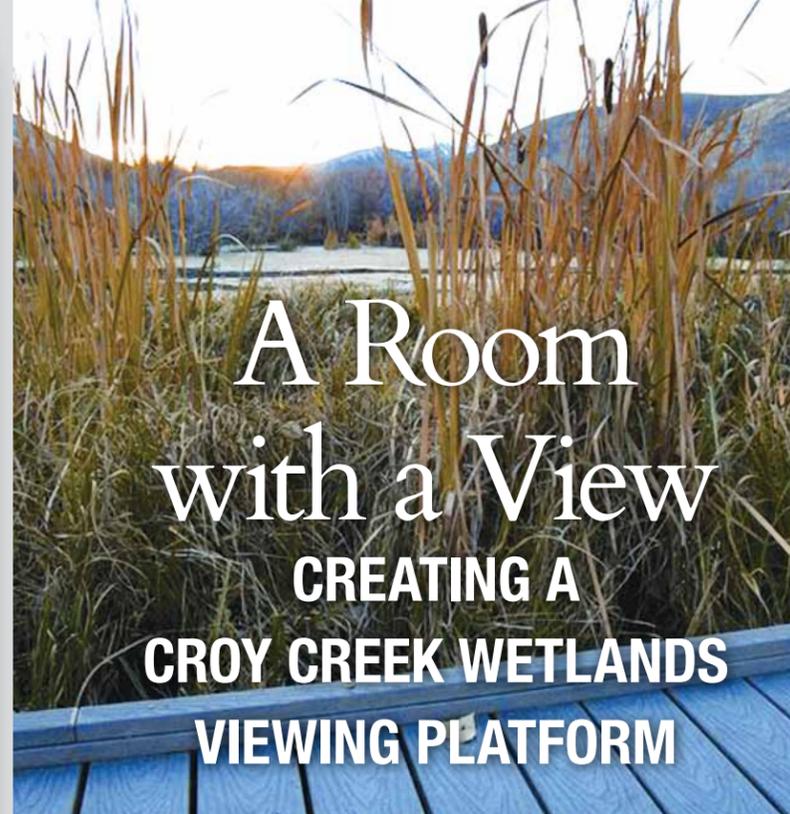
By Andrea Pierceall

*As summer fades  
there's a rush to  
understand it all:  
the clicking of grasshoppers  
the leaning hollyhock  
the second bloom of lupine  
pecked at pears  
a lone trowel lying  
in purple cabbage heads  
the last filaments of  
bright light fall upon  
tree bark and slip  
slowly down into  
snow*

### VOLUNTEERS

Al Amato  
David Anderson  
Larry Barnes  
Keith Battista  
Jeff Beacham  
Easten Beck  
Florence K. Blanchard  
Tom Blanchard  
Ransom Bleyer  
Fred Brossy  
Sharon Browder  
Barry Bunshoft  
Tess Burchmore  
Judy Cahill  
Kathleen Cameron  
Richard Carr  
Mark Caywood  
Ann Christensen  
Susanne Connor  
Leo Corrales  
Emma Coulthard  
Steve Crosser  
Ed Cutter  
Melanie Dahl  
Rick Davis  
Ranney Draper  
Dale Ewersen  
John Finnell  
Daralene Finnell  
John Flattery  
Autumn Fluetsch  
Shelly Forsling  
John French  
Chris Gammon  
Robin Garwood  
Erika Greenberg  
Terry Gregory  
Tracy Groll  
Michael Gunyan  
Chris Hansen  
Jae Hill  
Carl Hjelm  
Elliot Jacobs  
Eleanor Jewett  
Mason Johnson  
Trent Jones  
Claudia Klokke  
Diane Kneeland  
Jack Kueneman  
Kathie A. Levison

Brad Lynch  
Robyn Mattison  
Travis McBride  
Brooke McKenna  
Pat McMahon  
Sarah Michael  
Elisha Mueller  
Paula Neff  
Ed Northen  
Carmen Northen  
John Pace  
Rebecca Patton  
Steve Paulsen  
Andrea Pierceall  
Mariel Platt  
Wolf Riehle  
Scott Schnebly  
John A. Seiller  
Mackenzie Shardlow  
Dan Smith  
Stephy Smith  
Gayle Stevenson  
Megan Stevenson  
Steve Strandberg  
Brian Sturges  
Barbara Thrasher  
Bruce Tidwell  
Nate Twitchell  
Sandi Viau  
Gail Wenger  
Kelley Weston  
Molly Whittington  
Jon Wilkes  
Sophie Wilkes  
David Woodward  
John Wright  
Poo Wright-Pulliam  
Lissa York  
  
Hailey Elementary School, Laurie Roark's 2nd Grade  
Pioneer Montessori, Tom Downey's students  
Silver Creek Outfitters, Ewald Grabher, Mark Milkovich, Jim Sommercorn  
Wood River High School, Jennifer Bradshaw's students  
Wood River Middle School, Dan Gralenski's 6th Grade and Erica Liebel's students



**PICTURE AN ELEVATED RETREAT,** nestled amongst the cottonwoods, with an expansive bird's-eye view of the Croy Creek Wetlands and the surrounding mountains. A place where you could quietly watch as a moose and her calf feed in the pond, or study a great blue heron as it fishes below. A place where you could find a quiet retreat, someplace to slow down and revel in the peacefulness of the Draper Wood River Preserve.

The Land Trust is working to make this retreat a reality. The wildlife viewing platform we're working on creating will be accessed by stairs. There will be walls facing the wetland, designed as a blind, allowing people to watch wildlife throughout the year without getting in the way.

The site for this platform also rests on the old town dump. As part of this project, we will also be able to remove 300 cubic yards of dump material, creating a safer and more natural environment just minutes from downtown Hailey.

The viewing platform will provide our community with a unique perspective on the wildlife happenings in our backyard. It will be a resource for individuals, families, and our local schools to expand their understanding of animals in their natural habitat, and a place to enjoy the serenity of the Draper Wood River Preserve.

A lot of the ground work and a good percentage of the fundraising to make this project happen has already taken place, but there's more we can do. Please contact us at 208-788-3947 if you would like to become more involved in making this exciting and rewarding project a reality!



Heart of the Valley

**THE NEW HEART OF THE VALLEY (HOV) PHOTO CONTEST** kicked off this summer and great photos of our area have been flooding in! We are now receiving about 40 entries per month and are selecting three lucky winners each month.

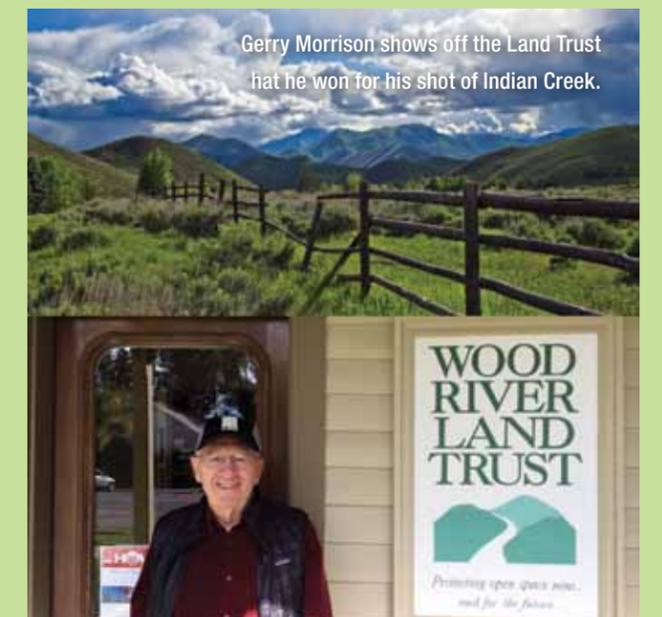
All the entries will now be shared on our website, [www.woodriverlandtrust.org/2016-hov-entries/](http://www.woodriverlandtrust.org/2016-hov-entries/), and the best shots of the month will be put on display at both Zions Banks in the valley and at the Hailey Visitor's Center.

Whether it's a picture of the brilliant colors of fall, or the first snowfall of the season or a shot of your dogs in the backyard, your kids skipping rocks or your favorite wildlife enjoying our great valley, we want to see it! And please stay tuned for themes in the upcoming months, which will be announced on our Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter pages.

### TO ENTER THE HEART OF THE VALLEY PHOTO CONTEST:

Tag @woodriverlandtrust, #lovethelandtrust, or #writhov in your photos on Facebook or Instagram, or email us at [hov@woodriverlandtrust.org](mailto:hov@woodriverlandtrust.org). Please remember that when you submit your photo, we reserve the right to use it in our publications and on our social media accounts (always including your name and letting you know when we do!)

Thanks for your support—and your great photos!



*Wood River Land Trust  
protects and restores land,  
water, and wildlife habitat  
in the Wood River Valley  
and its surrounding areas.*

*We work cooperatively  
with private landowners  
and local communities  
to ensure these areas are  
protected now and for  
future generations.*



# WOOD RIVER LAND TRUST



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Hailey, Idaho 83333

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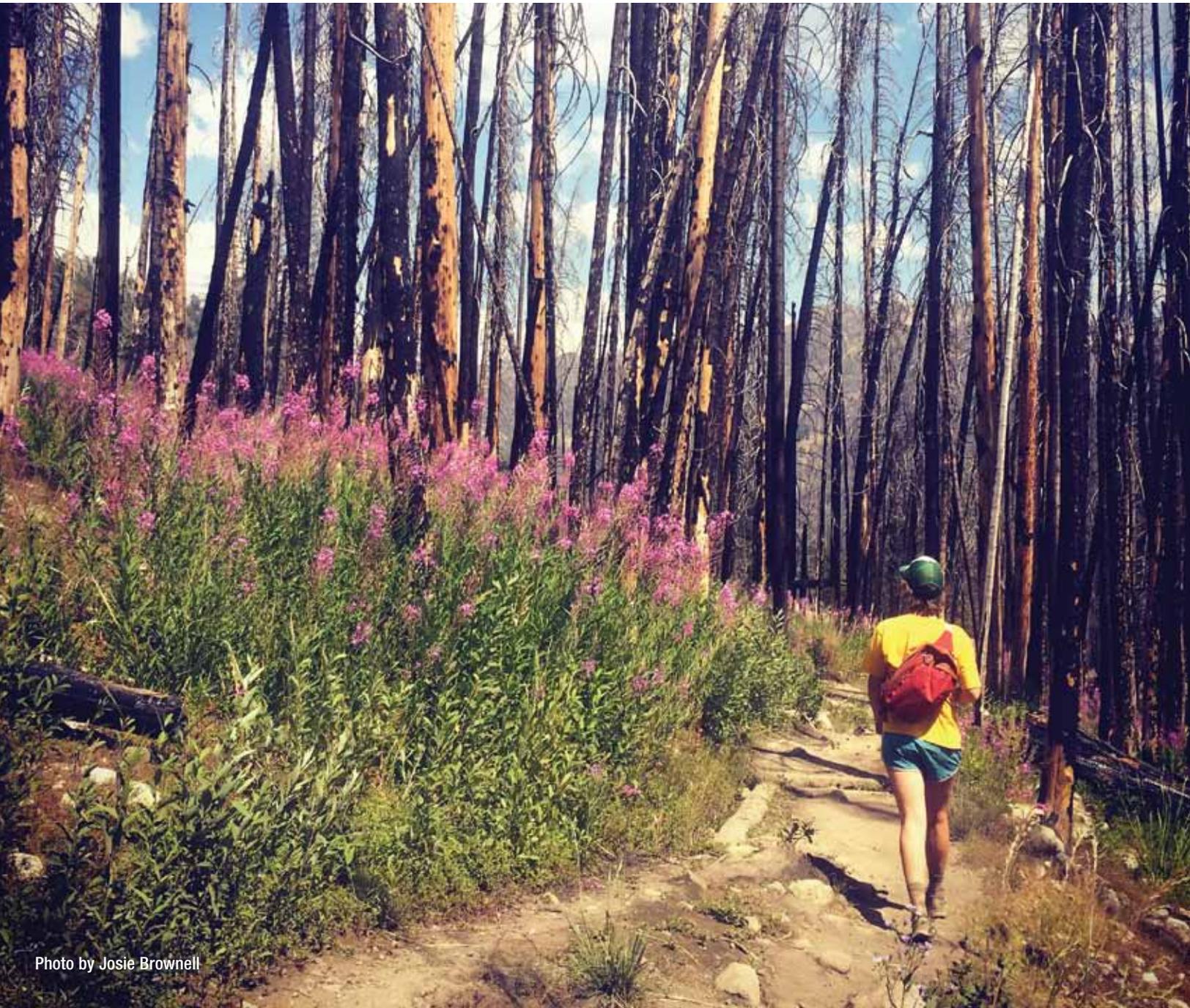


Photo by Josie Brownell