

TETON STEWARDS

NEWSLETTER of the GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION

S U M M E



Transforming the Visitor Experience

GRAND TETON UNVEILS HIGH-QUALITY TRAIL IMPROVEMENTS and NEW ROUTE Closures at Jenny Lake as Inspiring Journeys Continues to Move Forward

ightharpoonup his summer it is increasingly obvious to Jenny Lake visitors that *Inspiring Journeys*—the multimillion dollar renewal effort at Jenny Lake for the NPS centennial in 2016—is well underway. The second of four construction seasons started in May, and, as with last year, the primary focus is on backcountry trail work. In September, physical changes in the frontcountry will also start to become apparent and will impact late season visitors. "We will maintain access to as much of the area as possible during construction," Chris Finlay, Grand Teton's chief of facilities, said. "Still, this effort will require visitor cooperation and patience over the next few years."



\$2.2 Million To Go!

\$11.8 million has been raised to date toward the Foundation's \$14 million goal. Grand Teton will contribute \$3 million to the project. Gifts of \$25,000 and above will be recognized in the Jenny Lake visitor plaza.

The campaign ends

Want to join the effort?

Contact Leslie Mattson
at 307-732-0629 or
leslie@gtnpf.org.

August 25, 2016.

Continued

Early season hikers heading around the south end of the lake are being rerouted onto the southwest horse trail as crews finish causeway walls and other work. By the end of June this lakeshore trail will be open for the remainder of the season.

Summer brings access to newly reconstructed trail sections that were closed last year, but other closures and reroutes are in place to keep visitors safe and workers productive. Most notably, the trail segment from Hidden Falls to Inspiration Point is closed all summer while crews reconstruct the bridges, rock walls, and trail tread. Access to Inspiration Point is via the lesser known Cascade Canyon Horse Trail, a forested route that connects Cascade Canyon to the lakeshore trail.

After Labor Day, underground infrastructure and utility work will begin in the visitor plaza and campground areas. A temporary visitor center will be moved to the south Jenny parking lot and will be readied to accommodate the public beginning spring 2016. The parking lot will be restriped to accommodate vehicular traffic and maximize parking efficiency in the condensed parking lots.

Finlay added, "Come early or late in the day, or enjoy other parts of the park as crowding will be worse before it gets better. Despite the park's detailed planning, we know that visitors will be inconvenienced during the next few summers of construction. But we also know that the end result will be well worth any temporary inconveniences."



Before—Difficult trail conditions hikers encountered

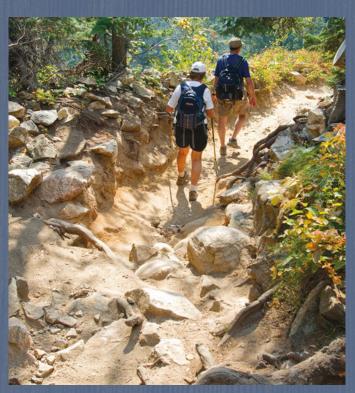
After— 2014 trail work that improved the hiking experience



Before & After

During summer 2014, crews installed:

- 1207 lineal feet of new trail
- 309 stone steps & checks on existing trail
- 12 stone drains
- 650 square feet of dry stacked wall
- 880 lineal feet of single-tier stone retaining wall
- 600 lineal feet of unused trail reclaimed



Photos: Bob Woodall, FPI, Inc. and Ryan Sheets/Sheets Studios

Hiking Tips

Plan Ahead

Whether hiking around the lake or using the shuttle to cross, you are still able to visit the ever popular Hidden Falls and Inspiration Point during construction season.

Combining these two destinations into one hike requires more time and distance than usual due to the temporary trail closure.

Jenny Lake Boating directs visitors to exit the dock and proceed to the right. Just west of the West Boat Dock, look for signs that clearly point to either destination. You'll access Hidden Falls via the normal approach east of the falls, but access to Inspiration Point will occur via Cascade Canyon or the Cascade Canyon Horse Trail.

Fewer People, Dramatic Scenery

Consider exploring other lakeshore hikes in the park. Rangers will happily recommend favorites and help you plan an unforgettable day.

Message from President LESLIE MATTSON

his summer marks the 10th anniversary of the Youth Conservation Program in Grand Teton National Park. It began in October 2005 with Shelby and Gale Davis, visionary philanthropists who generously support education and conservation. They told me about a program at Acadia where kids worked on trails and asked what it would take to launch such a program in Grand Teton. Their children had an incredible experience, and it impacted their outlook on wilderness, conservation, and the natural world. Shelby and Gale were also delighted that the kids came home exhausted each day!



I discussed the possibility of a teen trail crew with then Superintendent Mary Gibson Scott and Chris Finlay, chief of facilities, and the idea was met with excitement and enthusiasm. Once the needs and costs were identified, the Davises made a leadership gift to pilot the crew in summer 2006.

Ten years later, 189 teens have participated in YCP. This program is more than a job; it is an action-packed educational opportunity that accomplishes park projects and helps participants develop a conservation ethic and work skills. Since 2006, we've raised \$1,686,985 for YCP and have a long list of donors who believe in this effort. Shelby and Gale continue to play a leadership role, as does the Coca-Cola Foundation, Vail Resorts, AC and Penney Hubbard, JWJ Family Foundation, Susan Lancelotta and Nick Koutrelakos, The Norman F. Sprague, Jr. Foundation, U.S. Bank, Mountain Khakis, Skinny Skis, Wells Fargo, and Marmot, to name a few.



Not only has YCP experienced enormous success, it inspired two other youth initiatives that are growing: NPS Academy, an internship program for diverse college students, and Pura Vida, an outreach program for local Latino students.

Thanks to our wonderful supporters for allowing YCP to flourish. If you see the teens on the trail this summer, say hello. One day, they will bear the responsibility for our national parks. I'm confident these young men and women will be well prepared for the job.

Leslie Mattson

President

Our Team is Growing

You may know Steve Cain as Grand Teton's senior wildlife biologist, but after his January 2015 retirement from the National Park Service our donors will now see Steve in a very different role a development officer at the Foundation. We look forward to putting his decades-long knowledge about Grand Teton to great use, informing and connecting our donors to park wildlife. Welcome, Steve!





Photo: Lisa Erdberg

T.A. Moulton Barn

Preserving the Homesteading Legacy on Mormon Row

he six remaining historic homesteads on Mormon Row are some of the most visited cultural sites in Jackson Hole. This district, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1997, provides a lasting example of the life of families who lived near Blacktail Butte at the turn of the century. The T.A. Moulton family settled this ranchland in 1907, and the T.A. Moulton barn is the only building remaining from their homestead.

The barn is an impressive 1½ story log structure and a prominent visual element of Mormon Row. The landmark has been documented by countless photographers, artists, historians, and writers as a symbol of the Old West and was featured in the Hollywood classic, "Spencer's Mountain." The barn helps tell the story of what Thomas, his brother John, and their neighbors experienced in their new life in the shadow of the Tetons.

Thomas Alma Moulton built the core structure in 1928, and the Moulton family added a hayloft in 1934 and a shed-roof extension in 1939. The classic western gable-with-shed structure appears much like it did long ago, although its condition is now degraded. Character-defining details are deteriorating, and damage to critical features protecting it from the elements is threatening the building's structural integrity.

This summer, the park will host volunteers, including descendants of the Moulton family, and the Michigan volunteers—a cultural preservation group who has been coming to the park for 20 years. These groups will work on the roof, walls, and floor of the T.A. Moulton barn, led by Harrison Goodall, a renowned architectural conservator with over 40 years of experience in cultural resource stewardship in Grand Teton. A preservation carpenter from the Western Center for Historic Preservation will accomplish specialty work, and the Foundation-funded Youth

Conservation Program teen crew will also participate.

Since 2012, Foundation support for Mormon Row has enabled assessment of the condition of structures, the creation of a comprehensive preservation plan, and critical stabilization of multiple structures. The park is in planning stages of a comprehensive effort to improve visitor access and interpretation throughout Mormon Row, including improvements to parking and other visitor facilities, addition of an accessible interpretive path, and continued preservation and stabilization of the cultural resources throughout the area. Foundation support will elevate the impact of this effort through preserving the iconic T.A. Moulton barn, providing insight into the rich cultural history of Grand Teton and inspiring future generations of park visitors.

Want to support preservation efforts? Contact Leslie Mattson at 307-732-0629 or leslie@gtnpf.org.

Message from Grand Teton National Park Superintendent DAVID VELA

s I look back on my first year at Grand Teton, it's great to recall the wonderful people with whom I've become acquainted and reminisce about the amazing experiences that filled my days. What better way to begin my second year than to honor the National Park Service established in 1916 to protect our nation's most significant and remarkable places. I am extremely thankful to call this national park home and grateful to serve a leadership role at a time when the agency's accomplishments are being recognized through a celebration of its 100th anniversary.

A central tenet of our NPS mission is youth engagement. Clearly, young people represent the next generation of park stewards and our brightest hope for the future of resource conservation. Grand Teton National Park Foundation has long supported our outreach to young audiences through the NPS Academy, Pura Vida, and Youth Conservation programs, and we thank you for that patronage. As part of the NPS centennial, we look forward to working with park staff and partners to increase our outreach through classroom programs and special events. During the next 18 months, we will strive to kindle a spirit of conservation and

stewardship among youngsters, acquaint diverse visitors with the importance of resource preservation, and reinvigorate those who already support the NPS and its mission. All 407 NPS units will be working toward a common goal: To connect with and create the next generation of park visitors, supporters, and advocates.

In April, the NPS launched its "Find Your Park" campaign to better communicate the value of all national park areas and inspire support. Grand Teton served as one of three parks for the kick-off, and we used an interactive kiosk with Skype capabilities to connect with visitors in New York City, Los Angeles, Washington, DC, San Francisco, and Atlanta. It was a novel way to spread the word about the wonders of our National Park System.

This fall, national parks will extend free visits to all 4th graders plus their families to connect them to their American heritage. And in January 2016, we will host an urban ambassador summit, called Mountains to Main Street, to inspire college students toward becoming conservation leaders and NPS ambassadors. Add to that our ongoing NPS Academy, and we are definitely on track to expand youth engagement and conservation stewardship.



As the days unfold, we will embrace every opportunity to educate visitors about the importance of the NPS and share our Teton story of conservation and philanthropy epitomized by the efforts of park advocates such as John D. Rockefeller, Jr., Laurance S. Rockefeller, Olaus and Mardy Murie, and our Foundation family. We are also the fortunate recipients of a heritage forged by early NPS leaders such as Stephen Mather and Horace Albright who were early champions of Grand Teton National Park.

There is much to celebrate together in the coming months, and I look forward to a summer filled with new adventures in this remarkable landscape. Thanks for all you do to further our stewardship and service responsibilities in 2015 and beyond.

Bear Boxes

A perfect gift for the wildlife enthusiast in your life

\$1,500 funds a bear-resistant food storage box in Grand Teton National Park with a 3 x 5" stainless steel plaque to honor your special person. They'll receive an irresistible teddy bear and information about why bear boxes are so important, wrapped in a festive box and tied with a bow.

Your bear box will be located at a popular park campsite. It's sure to bring a smile to friends and family who care about protecting park wildlife and making Grand Teton a safer place for visitors and bears alike. Thanks to donors, 300 boxes have been installed. 700 more are needed to reach our goal.

Visit www.gtnpf.org/initiatives/wildlife/ to learn more about bears and these life-saving lockers. Contact Steve Cain at 307-732-0629 for your bear box today!





Legacies and Lasting Marks

PHILANTHROPISTS and CONSERVATIONISTS who have RECENTLY PASSED but LEFT LASTING MARKS on JACKSON HOLE and GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK. WE are INDEBTED to EACH of THEM for the IMPORTANT ROLE they PLAYED in GIVING BACK, STANDING Up for, and ACTIVELY PARTICIPATING in our LOCAL COMMUNITY. THE FOUNDATION is VERY THANKFUL for their GENEROUS SUPPORT, WISDOM, and LEADERSHIP OVER the YEARS. THEIR COMMITMENT to this PLACE is MATCHED ONLY by their GENEROSITY and the LEGACIES they LEAVE BEHIND.



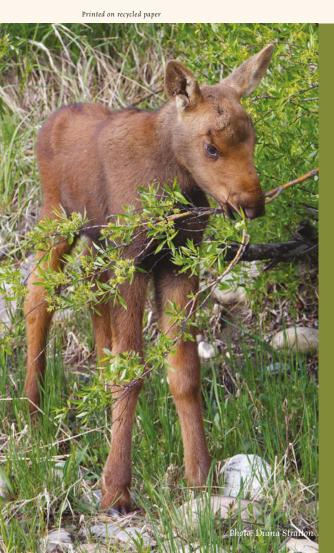
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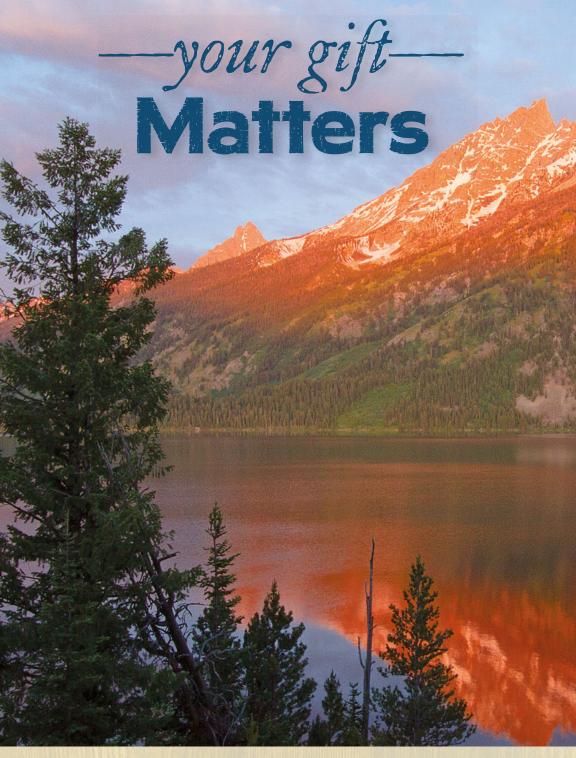
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--love---Jenny Lake?



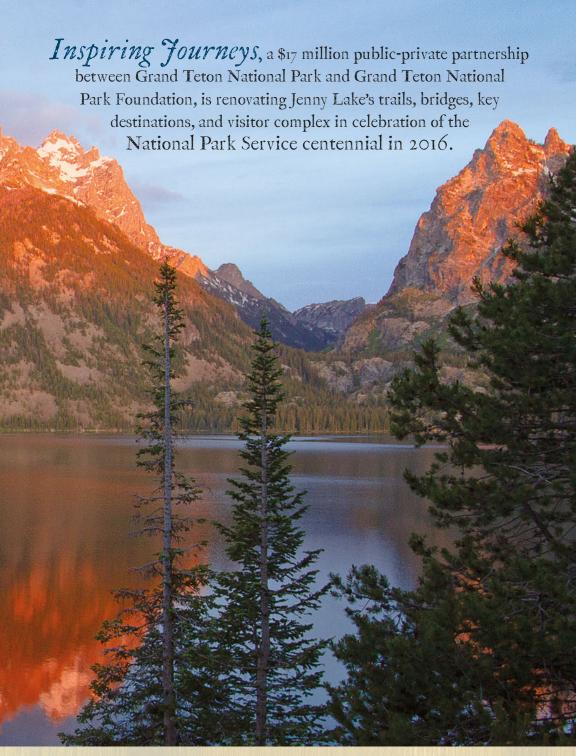
INSPIRING JOURNEYS
A CAMPAIGN for
JENNY LAKE



Double Your Impact

National parks belong to all Americans. Each person who values Grand Teton National Park can play a role in improving the experience for all who visit.

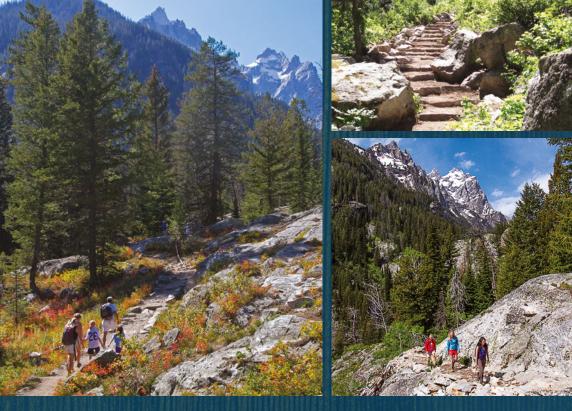
It's easy. Give up to \$500 to the *Inspiring Journeys* campaign and your gift will be matched, dollar for dollar, by the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole and an anonymous donor until we reach our \$50,000 goal. Once we complete this challenge, the \$50,000 you helped raise becomes \$100,000 in on-the-ground project funding.





Don't miss this opportunity to double your gift.

Your generosity will bring sustainable solutions to Jenny Lake while transforming the experience of 1 million people who visit each year.



The Need

Trails built in the 1930s have become worn, and damage now threatens fragile habitat and prevents many people from exploring all the area has to offer. Minimal information exists to educate visitors in the tiny visitor center, and facilities can't accommodate the number of people who come each year.

The Vision

Inspiring Journeys builds upon the park's longtime philanthropic roots to create unforgettable experiences and a sustainable trail system for the National Park Service's **next century**.

Backcountry visitors will enjoy phenomenal hiking with more predictable trail surfaces and greatly improved access to Hidden Falls and Inspiration Point.

Frontcountry visitors will discover an outdoor plaza that is a destination in itself with educational and interactive content, improved access for those with limited mobility, and formal viewing areas that highlight vistas.



Give Today and Help Us Reach Our Goal!

Visit www.gtnpf.org or call 307.732.0629 PO Box 249 • Moose, WY 83012