

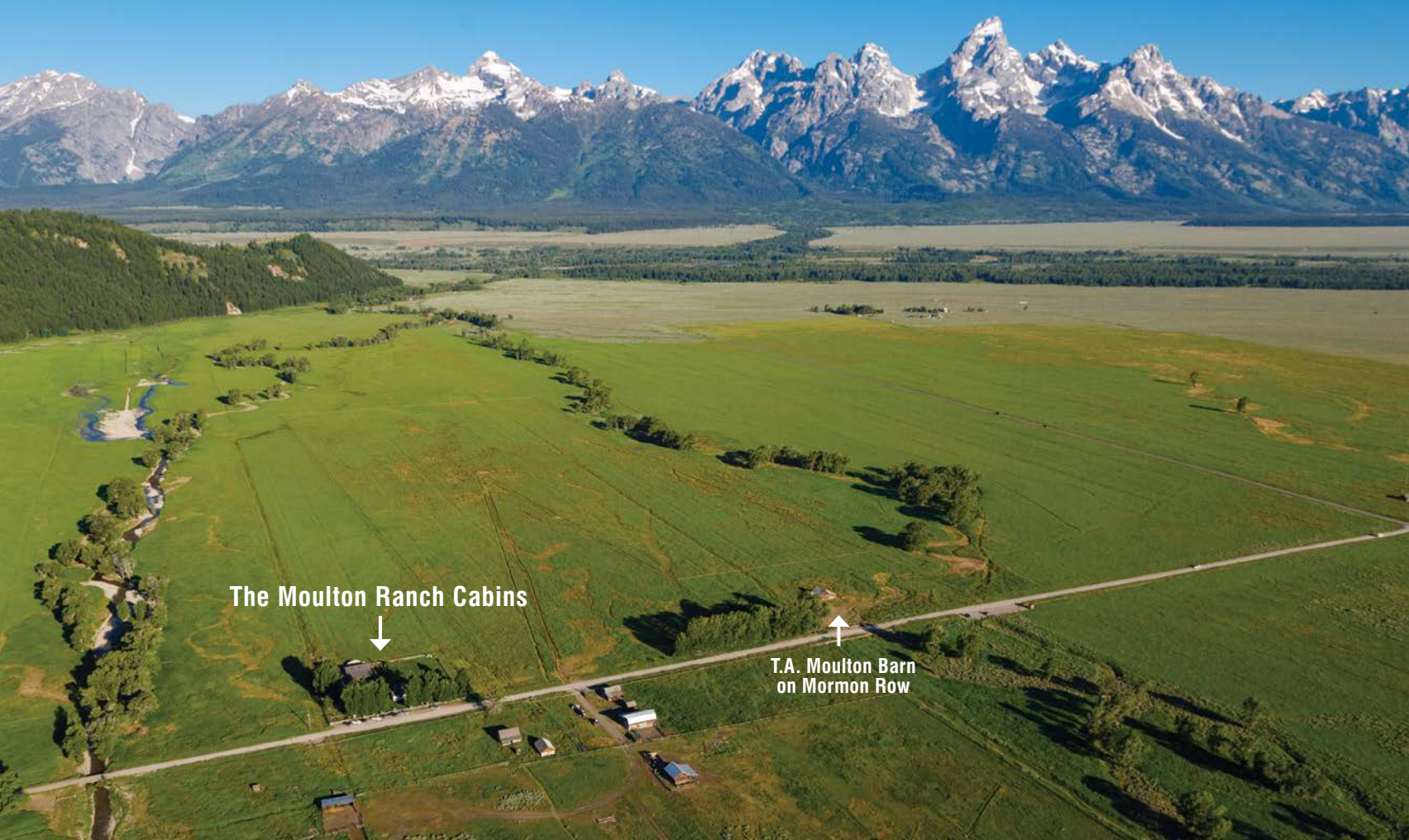
SPRING/SUMMER 2018



TETON STEWARDS

NEWSLETTER of the GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK FOUNDATION





The Moulton Ranch Cabins

T.A. Moulton Barn
on Mormon Row

Critical Private Inholding *on* Mormon Row *to* Become Part *of* Grand Teton National Park

Iola and Hal Blake have spent their summers living on Mormon Row and running the Moulton Ranch Cabins for twenty years. The last privately-owned inholding in Grand Teton's well-known historic district was transferred to them in 1998 by Clark Moulton, Hal's grandfather and son of T.A. Moulton—one of the original pioneers who homesteaded the area in the early twentieth century. Iola and Hal made the decision to put their home on the market last June.

The Blakes wanted the property to become part of Grand Teton, but after discussing the opportunity with park leadership, they realized the National Park Service did not have the funds to purchase it outright. Grand Teton National Park Foundation is pleased to share that a strategy is now in place to preserve the property and ultimately transfer it to the park.

Under Teton County's current zoning regulations, a private purchaser could have redeveloped the inholding, building up to 10,000 square feet of new

construction that would not have been compatible with the historic district, scenic viewshed, and conservation purposes of the surrounding park.

News of the one-of-a-kind real estate listing spread across the nation, highlighting the risk of losing this key piece of Grand Teton National Park's history. A generous philanthropist approached the Foundation to see if there was a possibility to purchase the Moulton Ranch Cabins and donate the inholding to Grand Teton. The anonymous donor cares deeply for the park and is



Above Left/Right: The Moulton Ranch Cabins are located just south of the T.A. Moulton Barn on Mormon Row.

Left: The T.A. Moulton Barn was built by Hal Blake's great grandfather and is the most photographed barn in the country.

*Aerial Photo: David Swift
Moulton Cabins: Drew Orland, Sky Def Productions
T.A. Moulton Barn: Mark Gocke*

“The opportunity to preserve an important part of the Mormon Row Historic District is incredible and helps to achieve our cultural resource stewardship responsibilities. It will allow the historic district to stay intact and will provide protection of the facilities through much-needed seasonal workforce housing and increased presence at the site. My deepest gratitude to all involved for maintaining this legacy in Grand Teton National Park.”

—GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT DAVID VELA

concerned about its pressing need for seasonal workforce housing.

“What a wonderful phone call to receive,” Grand Teton National Park Foundation President Leslie Mattson said. “There are many benefits of this property becoming part of the park. We are proud to help keep the Mormon Row Historic District intact and further the conservation of Grand Teton National Park. The Foundation is focused on protecting park resources and finding solutions that further Grand Teton’s scenic,

wildlife, and historic values. This is a great resolution for a key inholding and builds on the success of Antelope Flats.”

The Blakes will transfer their Mormon Row property to Grand Teton National Park Foundation before year-end. This will continue a near century-long effort for the National Park Service to manage and conserve all land within Grand Teton’s boundaries, a vision that has incrementally shaped the park that we know today. Once transferred to the park, the existing lodging facilities will eventually be utilized for seasonal

employee housing—a critical need for Grand Teton.

Although Iola and Hal are sad to see this chapter in their lives come to a close, they are ready to embrace what the future holds. “We are thrilled that the Foundation is purchasing the property for the park,” Hal said. “To have the park take over the stewardship of our family’s story and legacy, we are so grateful.”

Message from President
LESLIE MATTSON



I've just begun my fourteenth year leading Grand Teton National Park Foundation. I still come to the office every day excited to advance our mission to enhance and protect Grand Teton National Park. We could not accomplish all that we do without our dedicated team and committed supporters.

Last June we learned that the only remaining inholding on the prominent Mormon Row Historic District was for sale. Recognizing what was at risk, the Foundation began conversations with our partners at Grand Teton about how we might be able to help acquire this property for the park. We were approached by an anonymous donor who was interested in helping the Foundation purchase the Moulton Ranch Cabins to ultimately transfer to Grand Teton. We are thrilled to be working with this individual who recognized what was best—preventing development in this special corner of Grand Teton and providing much-needed seasonal workforce housing for the park.

I'm happy to share we plan to complete the purchase by fall.

We also recently launched the **WILD TREASURES** campaign, which will raise \$2.5 million for projects to preserve and protect Grand Teton's iconic wildlife and their habitat. Wildlife viewing is the number one reason people visit this park. This campaign will help ensure that the species that call this place home are here for the enjoyment of future generations.

This summer marks the final season of construction at Jenny Lake as part of our *Inspiring Journeys* campaign. Trail closures will be in place, so please check-in at a visitor

center before you go for the most up-to-date information. We can't wait to share the completed project with you early next summer—the transformation is truly amazing and we could not be more pleased with the quality of work completed.

I hope you and your family have the opportunity to enjoy this summer in Grand Teton, and thank you for helping us make our park the best that it can be!

Leslie Mattson

A photograph of a large herd of elk in a grassy field, with a single bear visible in the background. The scene is set in a natural, open landscape with tall grass and some shrubs.

WILD TREASURES

A CAMPAIGN *for* GRAND TETON NATIONAL PARK WILDLIFE
A STORY *of* STEWARDSHIP...*for* GENERATIONS

Photo: Diana Stratton

Grand Teton National Park anchors the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, where native flora and fauna interact much as they have for thousands of years in one of the largest intact temperate ecological systems on Earth.

Grand Teton is a place where stunning landscapes, fabled wildlife, mindful stewardship, and the latest science come together to create an immersive visitor experience that forges connections with far-reaching resonance. Park visitors and supporters become curators, keepers, and custodians of a cherished legacy.

Yet a variety of pressures in and around the park mean that the once self-sustaining landscape needs vigilance, active participation, and assistance from those who value all that it represents. Changing visitation, land use and development patterns, climate change, and invasive species all threaten to disrupt the sensitive ecological rela-

tionships that characterize Grand Teton today. These pressures hold potential for diminishing the park's biological, scientific, and visitor experience appeal.

In response, the park and Foundation have come together with a plan to advance active, scientifically-based stewardship of wildlife and their habitats. **WILD TREASURES** will support the park's highest priority research, conservation, and education program needs. By investing in sustained action, this campaign will foster ambitious work of lasting impact, helping to ensure the vibrancy and relevance of Grand Teton's wildlife as a central feature of the park experience for generations to come.

Protecting moments that matter—a first bear sighting, a chorus of wolves howling in the wind, or the spectacle of a hundred elk migrating in the morning mist—requires a solid, multifaceted program to conserve and protect park wildlife in the midst of contemporary pressures and challenges.

To learn more and support this \$2.5 million campaign, visit www.gtnpf.org/WildTreatures or call 307-732-0629.

Campaign Priorities

Research

- Grizzly bear-human interactions
- Wolf ecology and recovery status
- Animal migration
- Climate change impacts
- Native fish ecology

Conservation

- Native fish habitat restoration
- Sagebrush/grassland restoration
- Bear-resistant food storage boxes

Education

- Wildlife Brigade and String Lakers volunteer programs

WILD TREASURES will allow the park to be more strategic than ever before in prioritizing wildlife and natural resource research, conservation, and education efforts. Longer-term certainty of funds has already enabled the development of new partnerships with universities and agencies that will increase capacity, provide additional expertise, and leverage support.



Preservation Work Ensures Longevity of Bar BC Dude Ranch

Photo: Brad Schwarm/Alpenglowtours.com

Resting on the western bank of the Snake River, the Bar BC Dude Ranch is one of Grand Teton National Park's hidden gems. It is the second-oldest and best-known dude ranch in Jackson Hole, and served as an inspiration for later dude ranches.

During its peak, the Bar BC provided guests with an authentic cowboy experience while entertaining them in the evening with costume parties, original plays, and literary discussions. The park took over ownership in 1986. Today the site is a treasured destination as the dude ranch that defined this uniquely American phenomenon.

The two main buildings and social hubs of the Bar BC—the Main and Corse cabins—are in disrepair due to years of vacancy and limited park resources. Under the direction of Grand Teton's cultural resources staff, the Western Center for Historic Preservation began a two-year, Foundation-funded project in June to preserve these two structures. The goal is to maintain the existing form, integrity, and materials of the historic

district. The crew is currently focused on the Main Cabin. One of the highest priorities is to replace the building's foundation. The cabin will be lifted and placed on temporary blocks while the foundation is repaired, and will then be returned to its original orientation. New roof decking and historically used rolled roofing will be installed as all existing materials have greatly deteriorated. Special attention will be taken to brace the rock chimneys during wall stabilization and roof replacement. A new floor deck will be installed to match the historic floor deck, which has been lost due to weathering.

Preservation work on the Corse Cabin will also begin this summer, which includes removing deteriorated materials and doing initial site prepa-

ration. When complete, visitors will be able to experience the space that once served as the heart of the ranch and hosted famous guests such as Ernest Hemingway, John D. Rockefeller, Jr., and William Faulkner.

Work at the Bar BC will ensure that this fascinating historic resource will continue to inspire park visitors well into the future. This project is supported in part by Alliance for Historic Wyoming, Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, Wyoming Cultural Trust Fund, and generous individuals.

The Foundation's work is not complete and funding is still needed. To support the Bar BC restoration project, contact Cathy Wikoff at cathy@gtnpf.org or 307-732-0629.



Message from
Grand Teton National Park Superintendent
DAVID VELA



Photo: Diana Stratton

Another summer season is upon us as we prepare to host millions of visitors from around the world to experience this spectacular park. We are excited for the opportunity, and take this incredible responsibility very seriously.

Based on my many years of serving in the National Park Service, it is clear that Grand Teton National Park is truly a highly functional operation. We have exceptional employees and volunteers, and passionate partners and friends that are actively engaged in the park. Our success is due to everyone's dedicated service, hard work, and tremendous support, including that of the Foundation.

It is critically important that park priorities are aligned with the Foundation as we move forward. Working together, we will continue to achieve mutual outcomes and interests. I am excited to share that the park recently initiated *Grand Teton Next: Strategies for Success*, a pathway to identify our priorities and actions to support them. Park employees were instrumental in developing this strategy. It is not a com-

plete roadmap to achieve every priority and meet every demand, but it does guide us towards a vision with areas of emphasis.

The work of the Foundation is critical in meeting park priorities. Through the Foundation's efforts, such as the **WILD TREASURES** campaign, we will be much better positioned to successfully conserve the park's legendary wildlife and ecological processes that support them. The park's most treasured wildlife and habitats will be protected for the enjoyment of future generations.

One of our park emphasis areas is to protect historic buildings and landscapes, preserving evidence of the associated human relationships and the stories they contain. The historic Bar BC Dude Ranch and related colorful stories are a special

treasure that we are delighted to work in partnership to protect and maintain with the support of the Foundation.

These projects and many others continually remind me of the remarkable generosity of our friends at the Foundation. The acquisition of the Antelope Flats parcel was historic, and the recent work to acquire the Moulton Cabins in the Mormon Row Historic District will go a long way in achieving our cultural and historic resource stewardship responsibilities.

My sincere thanks to each and everyone involved with the Foundation, as it is with great pride that we move forward together as partners, in alignment, and leaving a lasting legacy for this majestic place. May everyone have a wonderful and fulfilling summer.

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