

# Water for Trout

*\$500,000 annually*

A healthy fishery starts with water. The amount of water and the quality of water in the river have a direct impact on fish and insect health, and our fishing experience.

## Collaborative Water Management

Trout do not have water rights, so HFF must find ways to work within a system that affords us neither management authority nor decision-making power. What we do have, is data.

HFF's science program collects, analyzes, and distributes data on the scale of a small university lab. It is our reputation as a source for reliable data that gets us a seat at the table where those crucial water management decisions are made. It is through partnerships, the Drought Management Planning Committee, and the Henry's Fork Watershed Council that HFF shares daily water reports and custom, predictive modeling to influence management for the benefit of wild trout.



## Water Quality

HFF has also developed one of the most extensive water-quality monitoring networks run by a nonprofit in Idaho. With 12 sondes (underwater data collectors), a real-time data website, and an extensive water sampling protocol, HFF measures water temperature, dissolved oxygen, and water clarity parameters on a daily and weekly basis. HFF also maintains an annual macroinvertebrate study to track aquatic insect population health.

## Fisheries

HFF has completed or funded well over 100 research, monitoring, and restoration projects throughout the watershed. Since our founding, fisheries health, habitat, and biological research have made up the core of our programmatic work, including monitoring fish passage, implementing gill lice surveys, quantifying macrophyte cover, and conducting stream restoration work.

## The Value of Fishing

HFF collaborated with nonprofit, state agency, and university partners on a multi-year assessment of the economic value of recreational fishing in the Henry's Fork Watershed to help decision-makers understand the economic contribution of our fisheries to the region. HFF also conducts assessments of angler attitudes to better understand angler values and prioritize future conservation work.