

Henry's Fork Foundation, (208) 652-3567

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Henry's Fork Foundation opens extension office for the summer**

ASHTON – The Henry's Fork Foundation will reopen its extension office at Last Chance next week and hold a public barbecue lunch to celebrate the start of the summer season.

The Extension Office is located in the historic former gas station next to the Henry's Fork at the entrance to Angler's Lodge. The space has been donated by Angler's Lodge owner Dave Eby.

The opening is planned Thursday, May 29, with the barbecue lunch being served from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., featuring hamburgers and hotdogs cooked by HFF staff, side dishes and desserts prepared by HFF staff, and beverages. Lunch is free.

Brandon Hoffner, HFF executive director, said having an office in Island Park gives the foundation an additional presence in the area and provides a base for staff members and interns who spent much of their time on the river and working with agency representatives in the popular fishing area.

Office staff from the Foundation's headquarters in Ashton and members of the Idaho Master Naturalists Island Park chapter will spend time at the Extension Office on a rotating basis, but the conservation staff will be primarily responsible for its operation. Those staff members include Rod VanKirk, research and restoration director; Matt Cahoon, conservation technician; and Anne Marie Emery, conservation education biologist.

Hoffner said he and Brady Taylor, conservation fund director, will also be spending "plenty of time" there.

The Henry's Fork Foundation is the only organization whose sole purpose is to conserve, protect, and restore the unique fisheries, wildlife, and aesthetic qualities of the Henry's Fork and its watershed.

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