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Pictured left to right: Nathan Nadal, Chloe Romero, Hannah Grace Galbreath, Emma Doherty, Chloe Perel, Ab

One of the most exciting signs that summer has begun at the HFF campus is the arrival of interns. The office begins to buzz with new energy as students from across the country arrive for their first experience in Henry's Fork country. A core part of the internship program is the Don C. Byers Memorial Internship. Established in 1996 to honor the memory and legacy of Don C. Byers, this year marked the 25th anniversary of the Byers Internship. To honor the occasion, the Byers family, led by Don's nephew Evan Byers, supported not one, but two interns, and made a \$2,500 donation to a standout professor, Eric Billman, in the Wildlife and Fisheries program at BYU-Idaho.

All seven of the 2022 summer interns did a fantastic job with their independent projects and can be proud of what they accomplished.



To get a more in-depth glimpse of what their projects entailed, please check out their blog posts, using the QR code or visit https://www.henrysfork.org/blog.

Internship Program Review

Emma Doherty, St Lawrence University

Emma created a comprehensive review of the internship program by compiling information from old newsletters, sorting through old digital storage systems, and interviewing past interns. Emma also created and administered a survey to HFF's former interns, and analyzed the results. All of the information collected will be added to HFF's database and will directly support program enhancement and aid in the success of future interns.



igail Lewis, Hailey Phillips



Emma Doherty fishing on the South Fork.

Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Intensity and Frequency Over Time

Hannah Grace Galbreath, Washington and Lee University

Hannah Grace worked with Doctoral Research Associate, Jack McLaren to determine whether HABs (harmful algal blooms) in Island Park Reservoir and the upper Henry's Fork have increased as a function of increased awareness and reporting, or as a negative trend in water quality due to climate change, increased water use, change in land, and other factors. She collected data in person and compared it with water quality data from the 1970s-present.



Hannah Grace taking water measurements

Long Term Project Monitoring *Chloé Romero, Stanford University*



Chester Dam, one of the sites Chloé Romero visited.

Chloé catalogued HFF's past, on-the-ground conservation projects by collecting a full history and then visiting sites to conduct monitoring. Chloé formulated a protocol for gathering data at each location and was able to make key recommendations based on site status. Her work was vital in determining whether project goals continued to be met, and prioritizing future projects for the Foundation.

Henry's Fork Irrigation Practices

Chloe Perel, Brown University

Chloe worked with Doctoral Research Associate Christina Morrisett and Farms and Fish Program Manager Daniel Wilcox to evaluate the history of the Henry's Fork watershed irrigation practices. A variety of producers, canal companies, and local farmers were interviewed, helping to formulate a picture of irrigation practices and the "why" behind them. The results from her project will be used to generate aquifer recharge strategies.



Volunteers provide crucial help during the busy summer months on a variety of projects, such as fieldwork, events, and river cleanups. Keeping the banks of the Henry's Fork clear of trash and debris can not only improve the overall fishing and river experience, but can also benefit water quality and the overall health of the river. On July 30, volunteers, HFF staff, and interns participated in HFF's 2nd riverside cleanup event and scoured the banks of the Henry's Fork for refuse. Trash and debris were gathered and removed from Stone Bridge to Jump-Off Canyon, as well as a few access sites in the lower watershed. Volunteers

filled a truck bed with trash, including tire rims, wood, and even a raft. Thank you to everyone who participated in keeping the river clean.

HFF's next river cleanup will be on September 1, 2022. If you would like to be added to the volunteer list, please send an email to jasper@henrysfork. org or click on the QR code to fill out the volunteer form.











"Fishing is hope experienced....catching a fish is hope affirmed....a line in the water is hope extended." Or, at least that's what author Paul Quinnett once wrote. Nearly 30 women extended this hope and caught fly fishing fever at HFF's first ever ladies fishing day! Expert fly fishing anglers Millie Paini (TroutHunter), Kris Millgate (Tight Line Media), and Steph Albano (Finatical Fly Fishing) graciously extended their years of experience during the morning sessions.

Each of them are accomplished in their field and had many

great stories and experiences to share. They covered topics such as fly fishing gear and clothing, fly rod components and assembly, knot tying, and an introduction to different types of fishing flies. In the afternoon, the group took to the banks of the Warm River to practice casting, bank and wade fishing, and to enjoy a picturesque lunch.

HFF hopes to continue providing opportunities for women to connect and experience fly fishing on the Henry's Fork. Stay tuned for future opportunities.



Daniel Wilcox taking Chloe Perel on a tour of the Henry's Fork watershed.

Cataloging and Water Monitoring

Hailey Phillips, Brigham Young University – Idaho

Hailey, one of HFF's Don C. Byers Interns, grew up in the local watershed. This summer, she cataloged all of the peer reviewed essays, HFF reports, thesis dissertations, and other important HFF documents into an online format for easy access. Hailey also worked with Aquatic Resource Coordinator Matt Hively to conduct river cleanups, take water samples, and collect data in the field.



Hailey Phillips collecting water samples.

South Fork Initiative Access Catalog

Abigail Lewis, Colgate University

Abigail visited each boat ramp and campsite along the South Fork Snake River to geotag and inventory the sites for the amenities available (restrooms, trashcans, parking availability, etc.). She then created a catalog and two maps to display this information. Her maps are available on the HFF website and in the Interpretive Center at 801 Main Street in Ashton.



Welcome!

For more information about each angler access site, simply touch the corresponding number on the map.

To return to the home screen at any time, look for the button to take you back to the river.

A glimpse at Abigail's Interactive Map for the Interpretive Center.

Data Analysis and Water Quality Monitoring *Nathan Nadal, Brigham Young University – Idaho*

Nathan is HFF's second Don C. Byers intern, and he worked with the science team to conduct field research and assist with projects such as Buffalo River fish ladder monitoring. Nathan counted and measured fish, checking for gill lice, and recorded data to better understand the movement of these spawning fish. He also assisted with weekly flow measurements with the Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler (ADCP) below Island Park Dam.



Nathan Nadal assists Amber Roseberry with taking ADCP Measurements at Ora Bridge.

In Memoriam: William Jack Roberts Jr.



Jack Roberts made an indelible mark on the Henry's Fork Foundation through his boundless generosity and excellent leadership. Jack and his wife Janet donated the Henry's Fork Country Interpretive Center in honor of Harry and Lillian Lewies, and often went above and beyond to ensure crucial programs were possible, and to inspire others to support conservation. Jack served as Chair of the Board of Directors from 2019-2020, leading by example with character and dignity.

Look around this watershed and you will see the impact Jack and Janet have had on the health and beauty of this resource. Jack will be dearly missed, but his legacy will be reflected across this landscape and in the people he touched with his kindness and friendship.

Jack's obituary was printed in the Austin American-Statesman.



DID YOU KNOW?

The watershed mean April-June air temperature in 2022 was 40.5 degrees F, compared to 45.7 degrees F in 2021, and the 1989-2021 average of 42.7 degrees F.

There was a less than 0.5% probability of observing a temperature as low as this year's given the 35-year observed trend of 1.1 degree increase per decade.

Our snowpack lasted 3 weeks longer than expected thanks to the cold spring.

KEY FACTS

PROJECT SIZE

1.56 miles of stream restored

NUMBER OF COLLABORATORS

18+ collaborators

DATA COLLECTION

4 years of data collection and macroinvertebrate monitoring

FUNDING

> \$350k in grant funding

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

This year marks 4 years since the start of the South Fork Initiative. SFI launched efforts in 2018 to restore Rainey Creek and other tributaries to their former glory and to conserve and protect critical fish populations.





Critical Trout Habitat Recovery Continues as Rainey Creek Restoration Phase 2 Begins

Project Background

Flowing from Palisades Dam to the confluence of the Henry's Fork, the South Fork Snake River boasts the largest native Yellowstone Cutthroat Trout (YCT) population in the state of Idaho. Rainey Creek is one of four major tributaries to the SFSR, and although the largest of the four tributaries, it is the least productive. The lower 8 miles of Rainey Creek currently is an over-widened channel, causing slow water velocity, shallow depth, and sparse riparian vegetation, which offers very little habitat complexity. The accumulation of these impacts exposes this reach to solar loading, which causes high water temperatures during late summer and early fall.

Work Begins

In 2018, the Henry's Fork Foundation -- South Fork Initiative (SFI) and numerous partners began working with private landowners to restore selected reaches of Rainey Creek to improve adulating spawning habitat, juvenile rearing habitat, and natural stream function. Phase 1 of

the Rainey Creek Restoration Project was completed in 2021, and since then SFI has worked with partners to begin Phase 2 in the fall of 2022. A section of Upper Third Creek, a tributary to Rainey Creek, was completed in February of 2022 and restored an additional 0.52 stream miles. This collaborative effort included instream restoration work as well as the construction of 4,440 feet of riparian fencing.

Funding to Make the Work Possible

Funding is crucial, and without it the South Fork Initiative's mission would not be possible. This year, SFI was awarded funding from the Idaho National Laboratory

(INL), which will support a wide range of projects such as: three restoration projects on Rainey Creek, operation of water quality stations on the South Fork, and two years of macroinvertebrate sampling. One of these projects will ensure that YCT can gain access to suitable habitat located on private and public lands.

In addition to the INL, the Jackson Hole One Fly has also contributed to this project and will focus on the assessment and design of the stream crossing barrier. The South Fork Initiative is also pleased to have received additional grant money that will allow for the creation and implementation of an additional kiosk at Rainey Creek (Phase 1).

Help From the Local Community

Local students, such as the Madison High School FFA, Madison Elementary School, and Swan Valley Elementary School have been an integral part of these restoration projects. Students have been growing native seedlings in their greenhouse, and they will work with SFI to plant them along the banks of the South Fork in the fall. Additionally, Westminster College joined forces with SFI which created a project opportunity for Geology students. Five students completed pre and post restoration surveys to understand stream channel dimensions and profiles that are critical to developing a restoration construction plan that allows the stream channel to function naturally and provide critical habitat for salmonids. These survey lessons provide the tools necessary to help develop future geomorphologists who will restore degraded stream systems and improve YCT and other cold-water aquatic species habitat.

None of this work would be possible without critical partners. Thank you to all of the community members, volunteers, landowners, state, federal, and non-governmental partners. See a full list of SFI's partners and collaborators at https://www.henrysfork.org/partners.

CAN YOU SPOT THE REDD?

A redd is a spawning bed where YCT digs a shallow impression and lays eggs. Evidence of more fish, as well as redds such as this one, have been observed since Phase 1 of the Rainey Creek restoration ended.



Contributions: October 1, 2021 - March 31, 2022

\$10,000+

Stephen E. Denkers Ralph and Meggan Hamm III Steven and Brenda Lowe Bill Rabon and Suzanne Landis Steven Simper Dwayne Speegle Tom and Doris Squeri Stephen G. and Susan E. Denkers Family Foundation The TE Foundation

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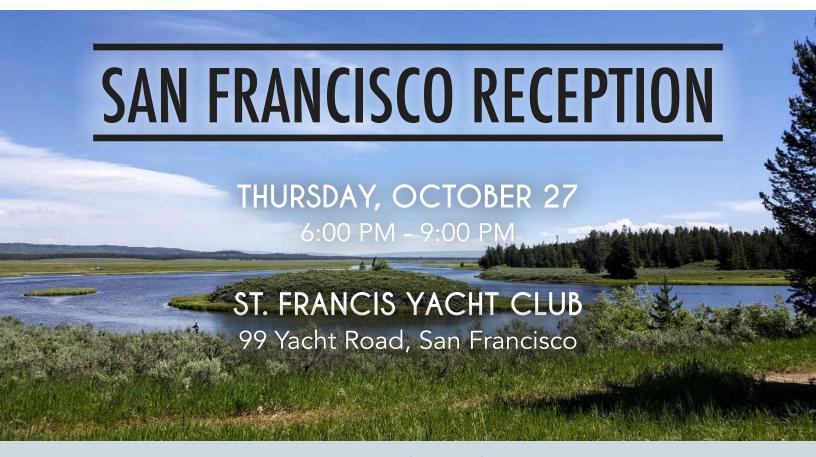
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