

Henry's Fork 101: Trout, **Bugs, and Sediment** 2023 Fishing Conditions and River Health Interns in the Field OICE OF THE RO HENRY'S FORK



### **Board of Directors**

Chair

Elena Gates Motlow San Francisco, CA

Vice Chair Jack Coyle Estero, FL

Finance Chair Jesse Lowe San Diego, CA

**Secretary** Ron Miller *Swan Valley, ID* 

**Governance Chair** Bruce Raskin *Palo Alto, CA* 

**Development Chair** Cliff Nowell *Englewood, FL* 

Executive Committee At-Large Shauna Williams, MD Eagle, ID Eric Baughman
Salt Lake City, UT

Robert Curtis Idaho Falls, ID

Ralph Hamm Littleton, CO

Jonathan Heames West Yellowstone, MT

Andy Jenkins Chester, ID Bill Klyn

Jackson, WY

James K Pohl, MD Austin, TX

Philip Sawyer San Francisco, CA

Allison Smoot Heber City, UT

Shane Wooten Shelley, ID

### **Staff Members**

Brandon Hoffner Executive Director

Brady Taylor Conservation Fund Director

Rob Van Kirk Science Program Director

Jamie Powell
Communications and
Outreach Director

Julie Maurer Membership and Systems Coordinator

Matt Hively Aquatic Resource Coordinator

Darcy Janssen
Finance and Office
Administrator

Melissa Muradian Water Quality Data Consultant

Paige Cahoon Graphic Design and Marketing Coordinator

Shawn Holwegner Technical Coordinator

Dave Weskamp South Fork Initiative Restoration Manager Devan Ence Membership and Annual Fund Manager

Kamberlee Allison Outreach and Events Manager

Daniel Wilcox
Farms and Fish
Program Manager

Amber Roseberry Conservation Technician

Christina Morrisett Water Resources Consultant

Jack McLaren Aquatic Ecology Program Manager

Jasper Davis Outreach and Communications Coordinator

Kathy Anderson Campus Front Office Coordinator

Sarah Newcomb Doctoral Research Associate

## Get to Know Our Staff

Amber Roseberry, Conservation Technician

Amber joined the HFF team as the Don C. Byers Memorial Intern in 2019. Now, as HFF's Conservation Technician, she is out on the river weekly (and year-round) working on HFF's water quality monitoring network of sondes, taking water samples, measuring streamflow, maintaining HFF's livestock fencing, monitoring the Buffalo fish ladder, and deploying and monitoring equipment.

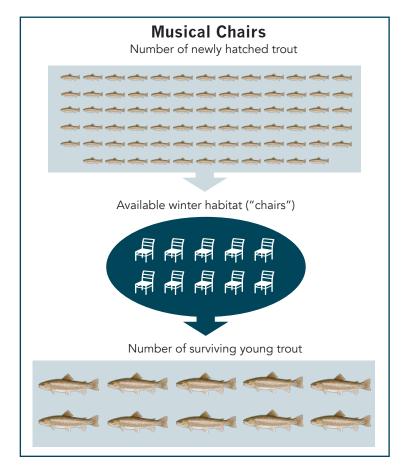




### What makes more fish from Island Park Dam to Riverside?

Below Island Park Dam, there is ample habitat and food for trout in spring and summer. However, decades of research have shown there is only so much winter habitat available. This means trout have to play a game of musical chairs. Whether you start with 100,000 or 300,000 newly hatched trout, winter flow sets the number of chairs, and determines how many trout will survive the winter.





## The Ranch's Insect Balancing Act

On the Harriman State Park, or "Ranch" reach, sediment is actually at the heart of a balancing act between more productivity (more insects total) and more favorable species composition (% of the population that is mayflies, caddisflies, and stoneflies).

More mayflies, stoneflies, and caddisflies with:

- Less fine sediment.
- Lower summer flows from Island Park Reservoir
- Lower turbidity (sediment) ---> less nutrients, lower productivity
- Better bug species composition, but lower abundance

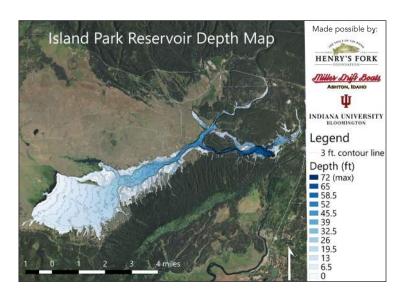


Higher total aquatic insect populations with:

- More fine sediment
- Higher summer flows from Island Park Reservoir
- Higher turbidity (sediment) --> more nutrients, plants, and productivity
- Less of our favorite bugs, but higher abundance

### Where does sediment come from in Island Park Reservoir?

Data are now teaching us that sediment is not just building up due to an "aging reservoir". Changing climatic conditions (new weather patterns of increased variability and extremes) seem to be allowing for sediment to be moved over from the shallow west end of the reservoir via "density currents". The west end sits in a valley made of sediment, eroded off of the Centennial Mountains over geologic time. Learn more at henrysfork.org under "Sediment & Turbidity".





## Fishing Conditions and River Health in 2023



On a river as storied as the Henry's Fork, the river's health and quality of fishing conditions are understandably top of mind for anglers. We know the Henry's Fork faces challenges. Even the strong snow year we had last winter couldn't counteract nearly three years of severe drought. That said, the Henry's Fork remains impressively resilient among rivers in the west. The summer has brought great water quality, consistently better than last year, and anglers have reported good fishing. A cold, wet start to the summer brought fishing conditions more similar to the 1980s and 90s. While hatch and fishing timing didn't line up with the previous five years or so, maybe that's a good thing. This spring and early summer gave us a peek at what things used to be like before this most recent run of drought and warming conditions.

As seen even in recent drought years, there are aspects of the





fishing day HFF can impact for the good. A planned spring freshet cleared 320 tons of sediment out of the Island Park to Pinehaven reach and will benefit insect communities next year. Precision water management, working with partners, irrigators, and water managers by sharing data and models, has saved record amounts of water, avoiding some of the highest ranges of irrigation season flows, saving water in Island Park Reservoir, increasing trout populations over what would be expected, reducing turbidity (sediment that comes out of the reservoir), and ensuring cooler water in reservoir outflow for longer. All of these actions improve the health of the fishery, the fishing experience, or both.

Overall, we are incredibly lucky to have a river as resilient and varied as the Henry's Fork, as well as the capacity, knowledge, and support to meaningfully adapt to changing conditions and drought.

## **Intern's Summer Projects**

To read more about their work, visit henrysfork.org/blog and click "Intern".



# Michael Hensley University of Wisconsin-Madison

Harriman Water Temperature Project

Mike installed and monitored 17 temperature sensors in the Harriman State Park reach to get a better sense of temperature differences within the Ranch.



# Taya Brewer University of Montana Western

Don C. Byers Memorial Intern

Taya helped run HFF's new summer outreach program, Morning Bites, maintained livestock fencing, and assisted staff in planning events.



## Sophie Pedzich Colgate University

Communications and Outreach Intern

Sophie helped to create an educational cart for the Interpretive Center and assisted with outreach events like the Watershed Festival and Youth on the Fly.



# Tanner Harron Washington & Lee University

River Use Surveys
Intern

Tanner conducted the river use assessment, which ran from Memorial to Labor Day, counting river users at Box Canyon, Stone Bridge, and Big Springs.



## Eva Jones Stanford University

Hydrology Intern

Eva worked with Graduate Associate, Sarah Newcomb, to assess and analyze watershed patterns to predict streamflow response.



### Marlia Richer St. Lawrence University

Field Work Intern

Marlia helped maintain HFF's water quality monitoring network of sondes, collected turbidity, water quality, and streamflow data, and participated in river cleanups.

# MAKE A WILL MONTH

## DO YOU HAVE A WILL?

Is it up-to-date? If you were to die today, would your property go to the people and charities for whom you want to provide and in the manner you would like to provide?

Do you have peace of mind that your plans are in order?

Despite the importance of having a will (or trust), many Americans never get around to drafting one. For those who do have a will, it was drawn up many years ago and hasn't been looked at since. Now may be the right time to review or create your will during National Make a Will Month.





# Benefits of a Will and Well-Constructed Estate Plan

## A will and well-thought-out estate plan will...

- Afford you the opportunity to create a final legacy and testimony to share your core values and beliefs with your family and friends
- Provide an appropriate inheritance that meets the needs of family, individuals and charities important to you
- Ensure the transfer of your estate with the fewest delays
- Avoid unnecessary costs, estate taxes, taxes on retirement plans and other expenses
- Minimize interpersonal conflicts and maximize a positive impact on family and others
- Direct the selection of a guardian for your heirs who are minors
- Give you peace of mind

Henry's Fork Foundation 801 Main Street, Ashton, ID 83420

Gordon L. Nelson, CPA, CFP®, Planned Giving Specialist legacy@henrysfork.org | 435-213-9986 | www.HFFLegacy.org





## Harriman "Ranch" Water Temperature Project



Earlier this summer, anglers helped select 17 locations in the Ranch to monitor for changes in water temperature, and data is now available. First, the Pinehaven location is essentially the warmest mainstem location in the Ranch, but many other locations are much cooler (e.g., Last Chance and the upper Ranch are 3-8 degrees cooler).

Second, data shows that groundwater inputs provide areas of cool refuge for fish. Fish choose locations that balance growth potential (greater when temperature is close to 68 degrees), food availability, dissolved oxygen needs, thermal stress, and security (cover). In many cases growth

potential, food availability, and cover may outweigh the short-term metabolic costs of a few hours per day of water temperatures that exceed 68 degrees.



## FAQs: The South Fork Initiative

Doesn't the South Fork Initiative take away from the Henry's Fork?

If HFF's resources are like a pie, starting work on the South Fork must take a piece out of that pie, right? In this case, the South Fork Initiative was launched and is funded entirely by South Fork-only donors and grant sources, ensuring that all Henry's Fork funds and effort stayed (and even grew) on the Henry's Fork.

Current work on the South Fork includes:

- Grant funding to install temperature monitors in Third Creek
- Post-restoration measurements of Third Creek with Westminster College
- Rotary drum fish screen on Rainey Creek with Trout Unlimited
- Planting native trees along the banks of Rainey Creek with Trout Unlimited and local citizens
- Educational kiosk for Rainey Creek



## Henry's Fork Days XXXIX

Thank you for making Henry's Fork Days XXXIX one to remember! Each year, Henry's Fork Days raises critical funds that make our work possible.

With over 30 projects on the Henry's Fork, we are improving fishing conditions, decreasing turbidity and water temperatures, and improving trout populations all thanks to your support.







## Contributions: April 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023

### \$10,000+

Kelly Barlow Jackson Hole One Fly Foundation Steven and Brenda Lowe Jon Riche Tom and Doris Squeri

### \$5.000+

Ricardo J. Alfaro, II

Eric and Cynthia Baughman Tom and Shelley Botts Flat Rock Club Bill and Debby Hackett Scott Henson Matt Knickrehm Thomas Mcrae, Jr. Tom and Beth McRae Ron and Mary Miller Ron Mittelstaedt Eric and Natalie Pauly Bernie Spriggs Stephen G.and Susan E. Denkers Family Foundation **Jason Tolliver** Jacob Turnbull Peter Turnbull and Zoe Grusky Brandon and Jill Warburton Willard L. Eccles Charitable Foundation

\$2.500+ American Endowment Foundation Big Sky Anglers, LLC Thomas and Joan Brown Phil and Cynthia Cohen Daniel and Amanda Conner Toby and Leslie Cotton Vini Cousins Jack and Diana Coyle Branch and Helen Craige Friends of the Teton River John and JoAnne Gaynor Sallie Griffith Jon and Karyn Hodge Rich Humphrey Will and Lillias Johnston Lee and Phyllis King Martin and Connie McLellan Jerry Nielsen Andrew Nowell Cliff Nowell and Laura Anderson Donald and Cathy Parker Dr. Jim and Bonnie Pohl Bill Rabon and Suzanne Landis Bob and Susan Rosenberg Ken and Mei-Ling Shiroishi Patrick Shooltz Steve and Renata Shore

Douglas and Lauri Siddoway

George and Leanne Sidney Steven Simper Allison Smoot Shaun Sparkman Chuck Sundry and Gloria Beattie Rick and Shauna Williams Matt and Debbie Woodard Randy and D'Andrea Worrall

### \$1.000+

John Banaugh Reed and Susan Bender Richard and Jill Bergquist Sandra Birk Kerry Buckheimer Vincent Burke and Corito Tolentino Lyman and Carol Casey Tony Cate and Erin Armstrong William and Melissa Connelly Allan Craig Tom Curlin Michael and Natalie Daines Ioe and Deborah DeSousa David Dexter Robert Ferlic Joe Francis John Garrett David Grainger Dick Greene and Barbara Klesel Ralph and Meggan Hamm III Tom and Jenifer Hansen Brett and Suzy Hayes Gregory and Martha Hein Richard and Lynne Hodge Tod and Ann Holmes Mark Horowitz **Jack Thomas Financial** Earl and Jamie James Gail Knight Pierre Lemieux David and Sally Long Maher Family Charitable Fund Tim and Alma Mansell Hank Mckinnel Peter McWeeny and Linday Sowa Rev. Peter and Wanda Michaelson Melissa Millican Chris Moore Stephen and Andrea Moss Geoff Motlow and Elena Gates Motlow Mark and Mindy Odom Robert Page

Renzetti

Chris Richmond

Tim Reynolds and Patty Isaeff

Paul and Martha Schmidt

John and Leslie Soderquist Larry and Dawn Stancil Marcus and Amber McConnell Dan and Jill Thompson Garv and Susan Thurmond Les and Jeanie Thurmond Chris Vance Lana Varney David Voros Andrew Zehrung

### \$500+

Suann Adams Ed and Teri Ahrens Steven Banks Al Blacklock Barbara and Peter Bundy Jim Carter and Jane Harrison Jason Cheever Ralph and Vera Conner Bill Crabtree Michael Deshazo Henry and Flory Ellis Mark and Jennifer Elzey Andrew Galbraith Patrick Gibbons Ben H. Godfrey, M.D. Dennis and Dannye Hanrahan Ric and Janet Harnsberger Brent Harris Scott and Mimi Hayes Jonathan Heames Braden Hepner C. Frederick and Karen Hollon William B. Hurst E. Frederick Hyde Frank Johnson Gred and Donna Jolly Rvan Keller Megdy Khoury Ellen T. Kirch Steve Lafflam Jesse and Whitney Lowe Scott Marboe Robert Murdoch Misty Nielsen Chris and Judith Oakley Nate and Shellie Oakley John Okada Tom and Kathy Old Neal and Nancy Oldemeyer Matt and Pamela Olson Bruce Oshita **Jeff Pennecard** Perk Perkins and Laurie Andrews Charley and Cynthia Pettigrew Clay and Laura Pickard Jerry and Cheri Poole Don Pratten

Bill and Sue Ruppel

Ron Salazar Tom and Becky Schell Craig Scholnick and Rachel Otto Charles and Judy Shepard Nathan Stansfield Roselyne C. Swig Rob Toth Upper Snake River Fly Fishers Gerald and Diane Vidergar Western Division American Fisheries Soc. Robert Wiebel Bert Williams

Mark Yasuda

\$250+ Eric and Camie Adema Jeffrey Anderson Shannon Ansley Tom Appleton Stanley Backlund Stacy Bennett Tom and Patty Bithell Kell Bodholt Christine Brakel Mike Brennan Tom Brewer Leonard Busby Jim Busch Tony Cerdan Mark Chandler Dan Coyne **Edward Craighill** Tim and Gina Crowley Maji and Bradley Daines Jim and Dana Dawson Marty and Janet Downey Julia Ellstade Don Ercanbrack Ronald and Laura Forsberg Jimmy & Milli Gabettas Greg and Kelly Golub Mark Gurney John and Kelsie Gwin Eric and Corinne Hensley Richard Hightower Ed and Cindy Hikida Jim and Margie Hill Sterling Jensen Scott Johnson Darren Josephson Amelie and Dan Kappes Terry Keller Kevin and Michele Moriarty Karl Klein Bill Klyn Sue Lang Mark Lanzl Tim Lawson and Janet Baer Duane D. Marler

Peter Martin Kelly McBryde Teresa McClendon Robert McQuade

Duncan and Angie Moore

Jason Munns Sarah Null John E. Oakason

Richard Ono and Anne Wagner

David Penrod Scott Petersen **Bradley Peterson** 

Kent and Carolyn Peterson Gene and Susan Quinn

Bruce Raskin and Kathleen Boone

Ted Rice

Terrance and Heidi Scott Mark and Shauna Shaltry Terre and James Short Stephen and Rebecca Siddoway

Gardner and Jeanette Skinner

**Jason Smith** 

Jonathan and Jodi Stiehl Ed and Elizabeth Strickland Sumner and Carol Swaner Michael and Lenette Telles

Thrivent

Rob and Sheryl VanKirk Parmer and Mary Van Fleet

Leilani Way Brad White Bob Wilske Jared Winkler Richard Wojahn

### In Kind

511 Main

Advanced Composites, Inc.

Gary Aka

All Valley Anglers Bonnie Altshuld Ameripack Andres Fly Fishing Anglers Fly Shop

Bobbie Armor and James C. Poulton

Artisans for Hope Alison Bailey Balleto Vineyards Barbacoa

Brian and Gwen Benedict

Donovan Best Big Sky Anglers Blixt and Co. Dave Brackett

Jim and Glenda Bradley **Brookings Anglers Brookings Fly Shop** 

Philip Jay and Wesley Ann Brown

Jan Brunvand Jay and Quinn Bueter Robert Bugden S.F. (Kerry) Burkheimer

Jared Cady

Nicholas Calabro Campfire Lodge Jim Carter

Cathy Munson Studio Chandlers Steakhouse **Chocolate Lab Expeditions** 

Vicki Conner Costco Marc Crapo Gina Dalton Chris Daniel

Dave Brown Outfitters

Jack Davis Mike Denkers

Ray and Heidi Destefano Diamond D. Ranch Carroll and Ruth Dolson Robert and Kelli Dotson Doug and Lauri Siddoway

Douglas Outdoors Janet and Marty Downey

Dr. Slick

Dragontail Tenkara DRAGONtail Tenkara

Nichole Dye El Rinco'n Barry Endo

Fish Partner Angling Tours

Fishing Bear Lodge Fishpond

Flat Rock Club Fox Briar Paper Frostop Drive-In Jimmy Gabettas Mike and Minet Gatt Golden Stone Inn Duane Grant Bill Hackett

Dave Hall Kate Hall Kim Hall Iane Harrison Hatch Outdoors Mimi and Scott Haves HeadHunters Fly Shop Jonathan Heames Henry's Fork Anglers

Henry's Fork Lodge David Hilton Jonathan Hodge Gregg Hofland

Joe R. Howry Hungry Trout Fly Shop

Bill Hurst

**JD** Flies

Steve and Susan Hyde

Idaho2Fly Idaho Angler **Indian River Anglers** Ishiyama, Nelson Bob Jacklin Earl James JBT Floral

Andy Jenkins

Jimmy's All Seasons Angler

Jackie Jolley Marshall Jones Amelie Kappes Kendra Scott Jewelry Larry and Susan Kenney Kerry Burkheimer Fly Rod

Company Korkers Cal Kosberg Fanny Krieger Dick Landerman Bruce and Pam Leavitt

Let's Roam Dexter Levandoski Sharon Livingston Mitchell & Marina Lowe Matt and Amanda Lucas

April Mao Miles Marquez Marsh Dawn Peter Martin John Mauldin Beth and Tom McRae

Ron Miller Sam Miller Erik Moncada LLC Moonlit Fly Fishing Cathy Munson Tano Niccolo

Byron and Connie Nielsen

Jerry Nielsen

North Fork Native Plants NorthWest School of FlyFishing

Cliff Nowell Orvis Bruce Oshita Outcast Pierce Overholt Rob and Pam Pannier

Patagonia Greg Pearson TJ Powell

Rapid River Rentals Bruce Raskin Rep Your Water

Rio Rising

Robert Dotson Photography Jack and Janet Roberts Jeff and Amy Roberts Karlie Roland

Ron and Vanessa Sorensen

Sage

Matt and John Sanford Steve and Ann Schmidt Colton Schofield Scientific Anglers Terrance Scott

Will Scott

Seija Surr and Pam Davis

Shoppe on Main

Siddoway Sheep Co.

Simms

Connor Simper

Skwala

Sleepy J Cabins

Snake River RoadHouse

Dr. Slick Slide Inn Smitty

Snake River Net Co Snowden Vineyards Sportsmans Finest Cassie Spurling

Stone Meadow Ranch Stronks & Sons Mike Swick Target Pete Taylor Laura Tewes

The Fishing Bear Lodge The Fly Rod Company The Links at Overlake

The Lodge at Palisades Creek Inc.

Three Rivers Ranch Tito's Vodka Heidi Titus Jason Tolliver Trader Joes Tyler Treece TroutHunter Troutmap, LLC Umpqua Neal Ward

Water Time Outfitters Waterworks-Lamson Preston Wedel Dave WesKamp Pete Williams

Rick and Shauna Williams

Willie's Distillery Willow Creek

Winston Rod Company

Kuna Woods Mickey Wooten WorldCast Anglers James Wypijewski Yellow Sally Val Zupsan



PO Box 550 Ashton, ID 83420

www.henrysfork.org



801 Main Street PO Box 550 Ashton, Idaho 83420 208.652.3567 hff@henrysfork.org Connect with us online . . .



henrysfork.org



youtube.com/@HFfoundation

