



## Henry's Fork Foundation MONTHLY HATCH

AUGUST 2011

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### Ashton Dam Construction Begins



## Ashton Reservoir to Draw Down as Construction Begins Again

After a relatively quiet phase in the Ashton Dam Remediation Project, construction began again on August 15. The remaining rock wall between the bypass tunnel and the reservoir will be removed through a combination of blasting and excavation. The reservoir draw down will start between August 22nd to 24th and it will take about 10 days for the reservoir to be lowered an additional 17 feet, the first time in nearly 100 years the reservoir will be this low.

Public access will be prohibited to Ashton Reservoir and the island directly below the dam during the draw down. However, the boat take-out near Hwy 20 will remain open during this time. During the draw down, there will be times that water flow levels below the dam fluctuate, both during blasting and as needed to control the movement of the accumulated sediment in the reservoir bottom. There will also be times, hopefully brief, when the water clarity is reduced as blasting debris and reservoir sediments pass through the bypass tunnel.

Water turbidity below the dam will be monitored with real-time stations by PacifiCorp and the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality. HFF has also assisted Idaho Fish and Game Department and PacifiCorp with pre-construction spawning gravel assessments. HFF staff will continue to be in close contact with both PacifiCorp and IDEQ throughout the project.

*Photo: The Ashton Dam bypass tunnel (outlet shown in photo) was opened in June of this year to accommodate the record-high river runoff.*

## Henry's Fork Day XXVII a Great Success!

Thank you to everyone who made the June 18, 2011 Henry's Fork Day a great success! With over 200 items donated and more than 400 supporters in attendance, this event was one of the best attended and most successful events in our history. We appreciate your generosity and support! We couldn't do the work of protecting, conserving, and restoring the Henry's Fork without you!



Congratulations to Jeff Roberts of Medina, WA as this year's Clackacraft drift boat winner (photo right). And special thanks to Clackacraft for the boat.

## Fremont County Adopts New Development Code

Fremont County Commissioners adopted a new Development Code on June 27, 2011. After years of work, the Fremont County Planning and Zoning Commission, interested citizens, government agencies, the Henry's Fork Foundation, Fremont Growth Solutions, and others, the Planning and Zoning Commission reached a compromise on the 305 page Development Code in late April. Although not perfect, the Planning and Zoning Commission's recommended draft included reasonable rural development densities and open space requirements, river and lakeshore setbacks, and strong requirements to protect fish and wildlife resources.

The Development Code adopted by the County Commission in June tossed aside these measures by doubling rural densities, reducing open space requirements, reducing river setbacks, and weakening fish and wildlife resource protections. To say this was a disappointment to the Henry's Fork Foundation would be an understatement. Many of the Planning and Zoning Commissioners were also dismayed to see so much of their hard work thrown aside, especially after receiving so many positive public comments. HFF will continue to engage in land use planning issues in Fremont County, and will work to revise key sections of the Development Code as the opportunity arises. We will also continue discussions with Fremont County about the importance of having a market study and fiscal impacts of development study completed.

## R&R Raffle Winners

Thank you to everyone who bought raffle tickets as part of the Research & Restoration fundraiser. The drawing was held May 24. Congratulations to this year's winners!

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: Six days of fly fishing in the fall on the Henry's Fork and South Fork of the Snake River. Winner: Russ Biaggne of Boise

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize: Cottonwood Camp on the South Fork Snake River Overnight Fishing Adventure with WorldCast Anglers. Winner: Charles Hrbek of Cambridge, MA

## About Us

The mission of the Henry's Fork Foundation is to conserve, restore, and protect the unique fishery, wildlife, and aesthetic qualities of the Henry's Fork watershed. HFF has worked to preserve the Henry's Fork since 1984. [Learn more about HFF](#)

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize: Two nights at Elk Creek Ranch in Island Park. Winner: Timothy Wright of Menlo Park, CA

4<sup>th</sup> Prize: HFF Attire or Merchandise (\$100).  
Winner: James Poulton of Pleasanton, CA

5<sup>th</sup> Prize: HFF Attire or Merchandise (\$50).  
Winner: Christoph Wadsworth of Dennis, MA