

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A special thanks to Jim Vincent, outdoor writer-photographer, and to John Randolph, Editor, *Fly Fisherman* for Jim's recent article on the Foundation. Both of these gentlemen are committed to The Henry's Fork; the Foundation greatly appreciates their efforts.

We express our gratitude to the supporters of the Henry's Fork Foundation, Inc.

Respectfully,

Officers:

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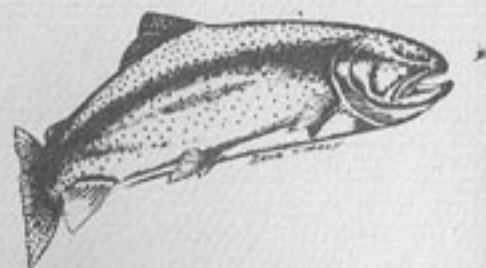
URGENT NOTE:

If you have ever wanted to save a River, **please** help do so now. The bill to study the Henry's Fork as a addition to the federal Wild and Scenic River System needs our immediate support in the U.S. Senate. Please write in favor of this bill to:

- 1) Honorable James A. McClure, Id.
 - 2) Honorable Steven Symms, Id.
 - 3) Your Senators
c/o U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510
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The Henry's Fork Foundation, Inc.
P. O. Box 61
Island Park, Idaho 83429

NEWSLETTER — MARCH 1986



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TAX EXEMPT STATUS

Finally, in February 1986, the IRS ruled the Foundation to be tax-exempt under 501 C (3) of the Code; this means past and future contributors are tax-exempt for the donors. Under ruling 509 A (1) other foundation contributors are also tax-exempt. We need your help in recruiting potential donors; individuals, foundations, and corporations.

FEDERAL & STATE RIVER PROTECTION

We have supported U.S. Representative Richard Stalling's bill in the Congress to study a major portion of Henry's Fork for potential inclusion in the national Wild and Scenic River System. The Targhee Forest is to begin this study in 1986 and will take two years. If then approved by the Congress, there would be no hydropower projects built downstream as far as Ashton, with a possible exception of one at Island Park Dam.

Draft legislation has been prepared for consideration of a State of Idaho Wild and Scenic Rivers system. Governor Evans has proposed a House Bill which would include the Henry's Fork as the first river designated in the state.

HYDROPOWER

The Foundation has been very active in battling the potential hydropower development on the river. We petitioned to intervene with the FERC on a request for license for a hydropower project at the Island Park Dam by the Fall River Cooperative, Inc., principally on the basis of potential damage to the fishery downstream because of inadequate temperature and dissolved oxygen controls, negative effects on the local economy, and safety issues. The Foundation also petitioned to intervene with the FERC on two new applications for study for hydropower plants at Sheep Falls and on Warm River. The application for study at Sheep Falls was granted that at Warm River is apparently still under consideration.

Five proposed hydropower projects downstream from Riverside have been either disapproved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission or abandoned.

POWER BOATING

A Fremont County ordinance, effective November 1985, prohibits motor boats on Henry's Fork from Osborne Bridge to Riverside.

The Directors and Officers of The Henry's Fork Foundation are sending this newsletter not only to those who have been such valuable contributors this past year but also to many others who have spent time in Island Park and sampled the incomparable rainbow fishing there. We are proud of what has been done. We seek your support for continued progress. Everything that has happened so far has been the consequence of the initiative and actions of many; individuals, County, State, and Federal agencies have been major and fundamental contributors. Some of the more significant events or decisions that have evolved include those mentioned in the newsletter.

RESEARCH

The first Foundation-sponsored research was conducted over the summer of 1985. An Idaho State University student, Kieran Donahue, was based at Harriman State Park and monitored and mapped impacts from cattle grazing and siltation from Osborne Bridge to Pinehaven. He also surveyed raptor use in the area. A report was also produced on raptor use in the Pinehaven-Hatchery Ford area for the Targhee National Forest, which helped fund the work. Donahue was supervised by Dr. Jack Griffith, a fishery biologist in the Idaho State University Department of Biological Sciences.

The Foundation is committed to a long-term research program on Henry's Fork with Idaho State University under the direction of Dr. Griffith. We have been able to secure commitments of \$32,000 for research in 1986. The money is from the federal excise tax on sporting goods (\$24,000) and from matching funds provided by the Foundation (\$4,000) and the Idaho Department of Fish & Game (\$4,000). Idaho Fish & Game is thus giving the Henry's Fork high priority, and we appreciate their support.

Two graduate students will begin fisheries projects. One, Craig Contor, began in January and a second student will begin in June, under the supervision of Griffith and Steve Elle, Regional Fisheries Manager. Studies will initially focus on habitat utilization by the rainbow trout, especially a function of river flow. Both high gradient (Box Canyon and Riverside to Hatchery Ford) and low gradient (Ranch to Pinehaven) portions of river will be examined. Population estimates will be conducted and movements of fish will be assessed.

Plans are well along for an Idaho State University **Field Station** (Foundation sponsored) in a dedicated building on Harriman State Park which will house researchers, laboratory facilities and a library. The Idaho Department of Parks & Recreation is cooperating with the University to finalize the agreement this spring, and Gene Eyraud, Harriman Park Manager, is very supportive.

CATTLE BANK EROSION

To combat the serious river bank erosion that has become very evident in recent years, a coalition of organizations, including The Idaho Park Foundation sponsor group, has agreed to install a complete electric solar powered \$10,000 fencing system on both sides of Henry's Fork from Osborne Bridge to Pinehaven on the west bank and to the Targhee Forest boundary on the east (near Fish Creek) before the grazing season begins in 1986. It is indeed a pleasure to have been part of a venture involving so many organizations (Idaho Park Foundation, Idaho Fish & Game, Idaho Parks & Recreation, U.S. Forest Service, and The Henry's Fork Foundation). The result will enhance the River by limiting siltation and promoting spawning and aquatic habitat development.

HUMAN IMPACT

V. Ferrese, Seattle architect, has completed sketches for a fisherman's access along the north border of Harriman State Park, adjacent to Last Chance. Amenities planned for the area include toilets, drinking water, a canal bridge, and shaded tables. Foundation resources will not be committed to this project until after research support is provided.

FUNDING

In the initial fund drive of the Foundation, 144 people contributed over \$9,000 in life and annual associate memberships. G. N. Ifft contributed an additional \$2,000 to the support of the first student research in the summer of 1985.

We are deeply indebted to those contributors, but need additional help. We believe the Foundation has established itself as one of integrity and credibility. Officers and directors receive no remuneration for countless hours, yet the expenditures for research, fencing and field station development exceed our income. If you know of individuals or organizations who can help our cause, please let us know of them.