



# HENRY'S FORK FOUNDATION

## NEWSLETTER

### Access secured!

We have a success story that we would like to share with you.

On September 29, 2005, four months ahead of schedule, the Henry's Fork Foundation completed the purchase of a strategic two-acre parcel of riverfront property, and then immediately donated the land to Fremont County. This is part of a unique public-private partnership to place a traditional rustic boat launch on private property into a conservation easement, thereby closing the parcel to commercial development. The land, known as the Stone Bridge property, passes from private into public domain, effectively securing public boat access to this section of the river. The Henry's Fork Foundation secured the purchase with a local and national fundraising campaign. The gift deed to Fremont County restricts development to a boat launch, parking area, road improvements and restroom facilities in an effort to maintain permanent public boat and fishing access at the site.

For years, the Stone family has generously allowed the public to launch boats and access the Henry's Fork from their property, which is approximately ten miles east of Ashton. In 2003, the Stone family put the property on the market. Tamra Cikaitoga, director of Fremont County Parks and Recreation, feared that residential development of this property would eliminate public access to this popular section of the Henry's Fork. She brought

her fears to Steve Trafton, executive director, who without hesitation committed the resources of the Henry's Fork Foundation to help resolve the dilemma. Not long after the property went on the market, the Henry's Fork Foundation secured it through an option agreement to purchase the property and began fundraising.

This is one of the most beautiful stretches of the Henry's Fork as it cascades out of the wild and spectacular Mesa Falls area. The foundation is thrilled that Fremont County will be our partner in keeping it open to angler access for generations to come. The Stone family is to be commended for their spirit of public good, granting us the option to buy their land for public purpose despite market pressures for real estate development.



Present at the completion of the Stone Bridge purchase/donation were (back, left to right) HFF Board Chair Gene Quinn, Fremont County Commissioner Donald Trupp, property owners Benny Stone and David Stone, HFF Executive Director John Hoagland, (front seated) Fremont County Parks & Recreation Director Tamra Cikaitoga, and HFF consultant Kim Goodman.

*Photo by Susan Quinn*

The success of this purchase is due largely to the many donors, who gave in excess of \$200,000 to make this purchase possible. The donations came from local and national conservation and business sources, including Henry's Fork Foundation members, the angling public, Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, The Orvis Company and its customers, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation,

our ever-supportive outfitters and guides, and community leaders who touted the project from the beginning. We are all partners in the stewardship of the Henry's Fork, and this project

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

exemplifies our respective cooperative efforts.

At the closing, Tamra Cikaitoga stated with tears in her eyes: "The outpouring of support for this land donation was broad-based and spectacular. It's a highlight in my career and I'm proud to be part of the project. Fishing and other river recreation activities are important economic drivers in our community, and river access is a magnet for our residents and visitors alike."

The Henry's Fork Foundation and Fremont County will dedicate the site in a ceremony this coming June. You are invited to join us and celebrate.

**John F. Hoagland**  
Executive Director

**Gene Quinn**  
Chairman



The new Vernon Bridge site is part of this year's lower river access success story. Improvements—boat ramp, road, parking and signs—were paid for by HFF. The site was designed by engineers from the Idaho Fish and Game Department, which also donated the concrete blocks to construct the boat ramp. Site improvement work was carried out by Fremont County, which will maintain the site as a public access in perpetuity.

Thanks are due Tamra Cikaitoga, director of Fremont County Parks and Recreation, and Jim Fredericks and Mel Sadecki, Idaho Department of Fish and Game. Special thanks to volunteer Steve Lookabaugh, who helped with the signage for the project.

*Photos by Mel Sadecki*

**The donors who made possible the success of HFF's access campaign deserve a large thank you. Below are listed the names of donors who contributed to this fund through October 31.**

**\$95,000**  
Idaho Dept. of Parks & Recreation

**\$30,000 +**  
National Fish & Wildlife Fdn.  
The Orvis Company

**\$10,000 +**  
Henry's Fork Anglers  
Henry's Fork Lodge  
TroutHunter, LLC  
Upper Snake River TU

**\$5,000 +**  
Robert & Gail Bardin  
Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation

**\$2,500 +**  
Margaret Lee

**\$1,500 +**  
Peter G. Backus  
Richard Hansen  
Mike & Sheralee Lawson  
Peter J. Treboldi  
Upper Snake River Fly Fishers

**\$1,000 +**  
John Hancock  
John Khademi  
Richard W. Muzzy, Jr.

North Idaho Fly Casters  
Theodore E. H. Olson, MD  
Bruce Raskin/Kathleen Boone

**\$500-999**  
Paul J. Ashkenaz  
Gary Dawson  
Charles L. Drury  
Mel Foster, Jr.  
Rene & Bonnie Harrop  
Mike & Sheralee Lawson  
Leblang Charitable Fdn.  
Joe Maggio  
Bruce Raskin/Kathleen Boone  
Robert W. Reniers  
Bob Rosenberg  
Ed Rosenfeld  
Philip & Joanne Salz  
TU Cutthroat Chapter of CO Vanguard Charitable Endowment Program

**\$100-499**  
Jim Abbott  
Robert Abbott  
Scott Ackleson  
Jim D. Anderson  
Steve Anderson  
John B. Ashton  
Dr. & Mrs. William Bachman  
John Bechtholt  
Michael Bittner  
Mr. & Mrs. Richard W. Bogan

Kathy Boone  
Baird Brittingham  
Andrew H. Brunner  
John A. Bush  
John Campbell  
Richard Chong, DDS  
Steven J. Clements  
Michael Cook  
David & Carol Corrado  
Robert H. Cosgriff  
Thomas J. Costello  
William D. Crowel  
Joseph & Sarah Denig  
David L. Dieter  
Ronald Dong  
Daniel Edwards  
Ken & Linda Edwards  
Endodontics, LLC  
Paul L. Erwin  
Larry Evans  
Phyllis Faircloth  
James Fenner  
McLane Fisher  
H. Eugene Fisk  
Barry Freeman  
Pete Frischmann  
Jim Galloway  
Mr. & Mrs. David Gathman  
Paul Gibbs  
Greg Grimes  
Gloria & Francis Gularte  
Michael & Kathy Haake  
John Hanousek

Eric Hardy  
Pam Hardy  
Robert G. Hardy  
Dennis Harrigan  
George Herrmann, Jr.  
William Hertzberg/Ellen Leue  
Ken Hines  
Robert M. Hodges, Jr.  
Colin Hooks  
Kurt Huhner/Irene Stojko  
Joe Irwin  
Randy L. James  
Moe & Pamela Johnson  
John A. Jost  
Duke Kebow  
Brian Kenkman  
John Paul Kimzey  
Rachel L. Kuenstler  
Allan R. Larson  
Robert Lentz  
Joseph Leyo  
Malcolm Lovett  
Dr. James W. Lukens  
Ron Lynch  
Erika MacDonald  
Dr. Enn Magi  
Frank Malvoso  
David O. Marks, DDS  
D. Mattoon  
Leonard Mazur  
James Meehan  
Conard & Patricia Metcalf

*(Continued on page 3)*

*(Continued from page 2)*

Richard Miller  
 Todd P. Milner  
 Kent Morris  
 Robert Murdoch  
 Mayson Neel  
 Dr. Frederck Neher  
 Wesley & Janet Nelson  
 William P. O'Kelly  
 Peter R. Orser  
 Lois & Henry Ortmann  
 Les Osuch  
 Mark Palo  
 Walter Paskey  
 Thomas Patch  
 Carolyn Pedone/John Rose  
 Lawrence Penn  
 Steve Petsche  
 Thomas C. Proctor, Jr.  
 Quest Entities  
 Bruce Raskin/Kathleen Boone  
 Ted Richardson  
 Dr. Gregory Rose  
 Richard Rubenstein  
 Bill & Kay Scott  
 Jeffery Seidensticker  
 Bell Senn

Edgar C. Shanks  
 Charles & Judy Shepard  
 Leigh Shuman  
 David Slikkers  
 Burton S. Smith  
 Fred J. Smith  
 William B. Smith, MD  
 James E. Stalter  
 Bill Stamps  
 William Stock  
 Robert P. Sullivan  
 Paul Swacina  
 K. Wade Tolman  
 Edward R. Towns  
 Tradewind Plastering & Drywall  
 Dale Ude  
 Union Pet Clinic  
 Dr. Joseph E. Van Cura  
 Mark Vegwert  
 Jackson Walters  
 William Wason  
 Michael Waterman  
 Tom & Marie Watkins  
 David K. Wells, Jr.  
 Daniel A. Wolfe  
 Matthew & Michelle  
 Woodmansee  
 Tris J. Yerrington

**To \$99**  
 M. W. Aichroth  
 Scott Balsai  
 R. Hart Beaver  
 James Blugerman  
 Patrick M. Brennan  
 Michael Brinda  
 James Brucklacher  
 Becky & Joseph Bunderson  
 Ellen M. Cafferty/Jack Bolton  
 James Cain  
 Richard R. Cain  
 Martin Cannon  
 Dan Cenis  
 Ted Chu  
 James D. Costello  
 Susan Dowling  
 Robert L. Duba  
 J.D. Eklund  
 Jerome Forck  
 William H. Funk  
 Nathan Gardner  
 Ronald Geason  
 Stanley Gibson  
 Donald Gostomski  
 David Grainger  
 David Harpman  
 Randy Hersey  
 Jane C. Heiser

Linda Henrikson  
 James Hilton  
 Steve & Laura Huntley  
 E. Walter Katzenberg  
 Brenton Kidder/Robina Holmes  
 James Kidd  
 Marshall M. Kilduff  
 John A. Kowal  
 Michael & Patricia Lane  
 Steve Lempitski  
 Thomas E. Long  
 Thomas McCoy  
 Robert Mottern  
 Bill & Doris Oakley  
 Larry Pancoast  
 Brian Preston  
 Don & Barb Rau  
 T.J. Roper  
 James Schuster  
 Jack Sibbald  
 Thomas Slager  
 Tad Sweet  
 Garth Taylor  
 Elton R. Thompson  
 Craig & Sandra Wallace  
 James Webb  
 Michael J. Weigand  
 Mr & Mrs Charles Woods

**CURRENT DONORS**

*Many thanks to the following who have donated more than \$100 to HFF since our last newsletter.*

**\$9,000+**

Nancy Byers  
 Gregory Nau

**\$5,000+**

Lyman & Carol Casey  
 Hugo J. Melvoin  
 Thaddeus C. Sweet

**\$1,000-4,999**

Will & Lillias Johnston  
 Jannifer Lee  
 Upper Snake River  
 Cutthroats/TU  
 Larry & Gay Wood

**\$500-999**

Steve Born  
 Warren Carlson  
 Sid Eliason  
 James B. Greene  
 Dave & Cam Halstead  
 Lew & Jill Mithun  
 Rodger & Teresa Nye  
 Charley Pettigrew  
 Leonard & Carol Raizin  
 Philip & Joanne Salz  
 David Slikkers  
 Stonefly Society/ Wasatch  
 TU

**\$300-499**

Patsy G. & Richard A. Adams  
 Marge Bartsch  
 Albert E. Bradbury  
 AMFFA/Veryl Frye

Andrew H. Brunner  
 Paul Buehner  
 Lee Burke  
 Bruce Strange Dole  
 Paul Dremann  
 Jane D. & Michael Hampton  
 Gloria Hendricks  
 Ed & Cindy Hikida  
 Robert A. Lees, II  
 Randy & Lisa McAllister  
 R. H. McCulloch  
 Gary Morisoli  
 Neil Moss  
 John P. Oakes  
 Bruce Raskin/Kathleen  
 Boone  
 Dale R. Schuh  
 Marshall & Ann Turner

**\$100-299**

Gerald W. Abbott  
 Len Ackerman  
 James Adams  
 Stu Asahina  
 Kenneth A. August  
 Giovanni Bajetti  
 Mike Bayer  
 John Bradshaw  
 Janice M. Brown  
 Lewis & Mary Brown  
 Peter D. Bundy  
 Richard Call, MD  
 Kirk Carlson  
 A. Michael Casey  
 Stan Chatham  
 Thomas R. & Susan Cook  
 Roy E. Crawford

Lisa DaCosta  
 Catherine & Laurent Dobler  
 J. Lynn Dougan  
 Bruce Edwards  
 Alan Egger  
 Duaine & Billye Elg  
 Elliott-Hall  
 Peter & Debbie Flood  
 Jeff Fraser  
 GIP Friesen  
 John H. Garzoli  
 Diane Gerber  
 David Gilmore  
 Charles R. Godchaux  
 Andy Goode  
 Franklyn Gorell  
 Dick Greene/Barbara Klesel  
 Gary Grigg  
 Peter Grisley  
 John Tom Hancock  
 Scott & Mimi Hayes  
 Gerald Hayward  
 Henikoff Family Fund  
 Gary Hennings  
 F. John & Pam Hill  
 Donald R. Hinton  
 Greg & Julie Hoffman  
 Larry Holman  
 Richard & Jane Hunt  
 William B. Hurst  
 Joe Johnson  
 Justin & Debbie Jones  
 James J. Kennedy  
 David M. Kennedy  
 Larry Kitchen  
 William A. Klein  
 Dietmar Kluth

Austin E. & Joan Larsen  
 Harvey Lehrer  
 Lee Lowery  
 Jim Lyons  
 Dr. Joseph D. Maggio  
 Frank Malvoso  
 Marine Ventures Fdn.  
 Peter Mazonas  
 Judy McBride  
 Conrad & Patricia Metcalf  
 George & Susan Mitchel  
 Glen Mitchel  
 Terry Mooney  
 T. Richard Morris  
 Jane & John Nelson  
 Jeff & Patricia Nord  
 Robert D. Payne, Jr.  
 Maunsel Pearce  
 Carolyn Pedone/John Rose  
 Wesley Petit  
 Rodney V. Peveto, MD  
 James C. Poulton  
 Eugene F. Quinn  
 Dr. Robert Renger  
 Jack & Dianne Robison  
 Ed Rosenfeld  
 Robert & Sally Roth  
 D. Barry Sibson  
 Larry & Myrtle Siefken  
 Steven Sieraski  
 Leanora Stephens  
 Bruce & Colleen Weber  
 Rod Weisser  
 Tom Woodbury/Barbara  
 Jaffe  
 Richard Young



Best wishes from HFF Board and Staff for Happy Holidays and a  
 Prosperous New Year



## Experts look at the fishery below Island Park Dam

*In August, the Henry's Fork Foundation hosted a meeting to discuss the current state of the fishery in the Box Canyon and the Railroad Ranch, and the role that stocking might play in its management. The meeting was stimulated by the heightened interest in stocking caused by some reported poor fishing success, lack of large fish, the apparent drop in insect hatch frequency and size, the continued drought in Idaho, sedimentation, winter flows, and other factors that may or may not contribute to angling success. Jim Fredricks and Dan Garren of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) and Jim DeRito, HFF Conservation Director, gave presentations. Thanks to the Island Park News for its coverage of the meeting. A summary of the presentations, prepared by Fredricks and Garren, follows.*

### Historical background

Little quantitative information exists about the fishery below Island Park Dam prior to 1972. Island Park Dam was constructed in 1938 and its typical operation included very low or zero discharge from the dam in the winter. Between 1938 and 1972, 76 percent of the winters had some period of complete shut-off at Island Park Dam, meaning the flows through the Box Canyon and Harriman Ranch were limited to the Buffalo River flow (about 200 cfs).

The Henry's Fork was rotenoned from Island Park Reservoir downstream in 1958 to Mesa Falls and in 1966 to Ashton, eliminating most all of the trout, whitefish, and nongame fish. The river was restocked with rainbow trout out of Idaho hatcheries of an unspecified, mixed origin. The "Henry's Fork rainbow" is not a pure and unique strain of McCloud River rainbow trout. The Henry's Fork was stocked annually, but size, number, and location are not known. The first population estimate was conducted in Box Canyon in 1972, and creel surveys were conducted in 1973 and 1976. These are the first reliable records for the fishery. To provide water to the Ashton Dam hydro facility, winter flows were implemented in 1972. Though inadvertent, this represents the beginning of winter flow management. Though records are incomplete, approximately 31,000 catchable (9—10 inches) trout were stocked between Island Park Dam and Riverside Campground in 1973. This is thought to be representative of stocking rates in the early 1970s. The number of fingerlings stocked during this period is unknown. Stocking was discontinued in 1978; however, until 1994 the river below Island Park Dam was inadvertently "stocked" through entrainment of fish from Island Park Reservoir. Though there is no way of knowing how extensive this was, in years when the reservoir was drawn down to ten percent of full pool or less, thousands

of rainbow trout were added to the river— many of these being very large fish. Years of exceptionally high entrainment were 1977, 1979, 1981 and 1984. In 1979 angling writer Ernie Schwiebert wrote about the Henry's Fork, attracting national attention. In 1992 the reservoir was virtually emptied, flushing tens of thousands of tons of sediment and thousands of fish through the Box Canyon and into the Ranch, resulting in long-term changes to the stream channel, macrophyte community, and substrate in the Ranch section. Despite the damage to the system from the sediment, the fishery in 1993 was exceptional, demonstrating the impact of unintentional stocking from Island Park Reservoir.

### Flow management

In 1994, Island Park Dam was fitted with a screened hydro plant, essentially eliminating entrainment from the reservoir. Numerous studies completed by the late 1990s clearly demonstrate that the population is limited by juvenile overwinter survival. In other words, there is ample spawning habitat and fry production, even in low flows. The bottleneck is survival of the fry through the first winter. The overwinter fry survival is very dependent on late winter flows from Island Park Dam. The mid-1990s were characterized by several good water years, resulting in good winter flows and wild trout production.

The drought beginning in 2001 resulted in successive years of poor winter flows and poor wild trout production. A drought management plan developed in 2004 insures that stakeholders will meet annually to maximize benefits from available water and provide highest possible winter flows, while still filling Island Park Reservoir. This will likely result in at least 200 cfs during drought years. The fishery has been extremely dynamic; there is no "normal" to gage by, given the changes in Island Park Dam, stocking, and flow management. Wild trout densities are driven by winter flows. During years with good winter flows (late 1990s) trout densities approached the historical highs seen during the entrainment years and the stocking years.

A world-class fishery can be supported by wild trout with a return to average flows. IDFG monitors the Henry's Fork with annual electrofishing surveys. These surveys incorporate mark-recapture methodology, and result in density estimates of all trout over six inches. Typically, IDFG estimates population densities in three to four sites annually, but does the

*(Continued on page 5)*

*(Continued from page 4)*

Box Canyon reach every year, if possible. Water levels and flow conditions make sampling the Ranch section difficult; as a result, Box Canyon estimates are used to track population changes in the Ranch. The assumption that what is going on in the Box is representative of what is going on in the Ranch holds true during most years, but when trout densities are low, conditions in the Ranch may be even worse as trout choose more desirable habitat in the Box Canyon.

### **Population variables**

Recent population estimates for Box Canyon (2005) show the population to be slightly better than 2,000 fish per mile. While this is an improvement over the past several years, it falls below the peaks found in 1987 and 2000 (almost 6,000 fish per mile). Also of note is the amount of variation in population estimates—they have ranged from as low as 1,000 fish per mile to the peaks of 6,000 fish per mile.

Several studies done in the 1990s identified survival of trout through their first winter as the primary influence on future abundance. When flows are higher there are more trout. Since there have been relatively low winter flows since 2001, trout densities are low. However, in the mid to late 1990s there were good winter flows, and a resulting increase in trout. The regression can be used to estimate the recovery potential for the Box Canyon and Ranch fisheries. At the current winter flow regime of 200 cfs, expect the population to stabilize at about 2,000 fish per mile. With more typical flows (300 to 400 cfs), see the population increase to about 3,000 fish per mile. Flows toward the extreme end (700-800 cfs) would produce about 5,500 fish per mile, and approach recent peaks in abundance.

### **The stocking alternative**

Constant flows for a six-year period are unrealistic, so the next step was to estimate the population under variable winter flows. The result is more realistic, with densities fluctuating, but averaging between 3,000 and 4,000 fish per mile. This is the most reasonable prediction for Box Canyon densities under wild trout management, with some variation above and below these numbers. Likewise, the Ranch should reflect similar trends as those estimated for the Box Canyon. It is important to note that maintaining a wild fishery involves inconsistencies in the conditions that produce good year classes of fish. Good water years result in higher densities. Given the poor recruitment since 2001, and the clear understanding of how winter flows limit overwinter survival and ultimately the fishery in the Box Canyon and the Ranch, the idea of

using hatchery fish to supplement the fishery during drought years has been discussed. The idea is to “fill in holes” in the wild trout population with hatchery fish. The stocking issue has two key facets: the first is biological — would it be successful; the second is social — do people support the idea of using hatchery fish on a stream currently managed for wild trout.

The idea of simply replacing what nature can't provide during drought years with fingerling (4—6 inch) trout in many ways sounds appealing. In years when January—March flows are less average, stable recruitment to the population could be maintained, and hence a more consistent fishery by adding in a few thousand juvenile trout. In reality, although stocking fingerling trout in rivers and streams was quite common 20 to 30 years ago, the practice has largely been discontinued around the West because of its ineffectiveness. In most situations, survival of juvenile hatchery fish is so low that fingerling stocking programs are extremely inefficient.

Currently, Idaho stocks no rivers or streams with fingerling trout. Where rivers and streams are stocked, “catchable” trout are stocked where they have a high probability of being caught within the same season, as very few of these fish survive in streams through the winter. There are places where juvenile trout are still successfully used in other states, e.g., below Flaming Gorge on the Green River where approximately 25,000 seven inch rainbow trout are stocked annually; but these are generally extremely productive tailwaters with ample habitat for juvenile fish.

### **Fishery management**

Though the Henry's Fork below Island Park Dam is certainly productive, it is not an easy place for juvenile trout to survive during the winter, particularly during low flows. More important, because of the domestic nature of the hatchery rainbow trout stocks now used in Idaho, overwinter survival of any hatchery fish would likely be extremely low. A shift toward hatchery fish may have negative consequences for the image of the Henry's Fork, which, overall, has been one of the world's greatest wild trout fisheries.

Management of fisheries throughout the state is guided by Idaho Fish and Game's fish management plan. These plans are written every five years and involve public comment through public meetings, random surveys, and informal discussions. They are ultimately approved by the IDFG Commission. The existing plan is designed to guide management through 2006. Statements in the current plan relevant to Henry's Fork are: Management of the Henry's Fork from St. Anthony to

*(Continued on page 8)*

## HFF Project Review

by Jim De Rito  
HFF Conservation Director

Here are some of the research, restoration, and resource protection projects that HFF is currently involved with:

### Rainbow trout telemetry in the Caldera

Fieldwork was completed in September for the second year of the radio telemetry project in the caldera. Most of the fish tagged in the Box Canyon during November 2004 remained there throughout the tracking period. A final report will be produced this winter to summarize the data collected during both years of the project.

### Buffalo River hydroelectric improvements

Work on the Buffalo River dam and hydropower intake, owned by Fall River Electric Cooperative, has been underway since August. The new fish ladder is nearly complete, and work continues on the turbine intake and screening as well as the sealing of the dam face. The project should be completed and the fish ladder operational by the end of November. HFF has been a reviewing party to this relicensing process for several years, and our involvement will continue with the monitoring of the effectiveness of the fish ladder.



The new Buffalo River fish ladder will be operational this winter.

### Fisheries surveys

Electrofishing surveys were completed this summer at over 70 sites located across most of the remaining unsurveyed stream reaches in the Henry's Fork watershed. Many of the headwater stream sites visited this summer were dry. Brook trout dominated the majority of perennially flowing streams, a finding similar to that of past surveys on other streams. A final report will be prepared summarizing the data collected this year.

### Yellowstone Cutthroat (YCT) status summary

A status summary for YCT in the Henry's Fork, Teton, and Sinks drainages is ongoing. This summary has compiled data on trout distribution, relative abundance, and genetics throughout the three drainages. Nearly 1,200 fisheries survey locations have been compiled and mapped throughout the assessment area using data collected from 1996 to 2004 by a number of agencies and organizations. The project was presented to the Henry's Fork Watershed Council in May of this year, and received the Council's approval through the Watershed Integrity and Review Evaluation (WIRE) process. This project was also presented at a Yellowstone cutthroat trout symposium in Idaho Falls in late October (see the current "Monthly Hatch" on the HFF Web site for details). Work on the status summary will continue this winter with the addition of data collected in 2005.

### Chester Diversion Dam hydroelectric proposal

The Federal Energy Regulatory Committee began public scoping for the licensing proposal for the Chester Diversion Hydroelectric Project in September. Symbiotics, Inc., has proposed to install hydroelectric turbines on the existing Chester Diversion Dam on the Lower Henry's Fork. HFF has been tracking and reviewing this proposal for several years and will continue to do so as the Environmental Assessment process begins. If this project is to be implemented, HFF will help insure that all protection and mitigation measures are implemented to provide a net benefit to the fishery.

### Fish Passage improvements at Targhee and Howard creeks

The Highway 87 culverts on Targhee and Howard creeks are in the process of being replaced in order to improve upstream fish passage. Construction work began in September and should be completed by the end of November. A full span bridge is being placed over Targhee Creek and an open-bottom arch culvert is going in on Howard Creek. These passage structures will allow spawning Yellowstone cutthroat trout from Henry's Lake to successfully migrate upstream. A number of organizations made this project possible, including the Greater Yellowstone Coalition, the Henry's Lake Foundation, the Idaho Department of Transportation, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. The Henry's Fork Foundation contributed funding for the stream channel assessment work for this project.

✓ MARK YOUR CALENDARS ✓

THE ANNUAL SALT LAKE CITY RECEPTION  
FOR AREA MEMBERS AND FRIENDS IS SET  
FOR MARCH 3, 2006. SEE YOU THERE.

**Telemetry Project Begins on the Lower Henry's Fork**

A telemetry project begins on the Lower Henry's Fork with the radio tagging of 30 adult rainbow trout in December.

The trout will be tracked through two successive spawning cycles, survival of the fish permitting. This study will evaluate trout movements, migrations, and habitat use in a section of river that has many diversion dams.

As in our previous telemetry studies, we are providing an opportunity for interested people to sponsor individual fish for \$300. Several fish are still available to be sponsored. Sponsorship provides the opportunity to name your fish, enter into the "Traveling Trout Contest", and support a valuable project in the process!

Go to the HFF Web site for details on how to get involved, and to follow each fish as it negotiates its way through the hazards of winter. [www.henrysfork.org](http://www.henrysfork.org), or call 208-652-3567 for more details.

**HFF RETAIL ITEMS  
— CHECK HERE FOR GREAT HOLIDAY GIFTS —**

Share your pride - be the Voice of the River!

**NEW ITEMS**



**Campus Hoodie** (pictured left). Cardinal red with sewn lettering, kangaroo pocket. \$56.

**Kodiak Nuvola Sport Fleece Pullover.** Colors black, Evergreen. \$46.

**Nuvola Sport Fleece Vest.** Navy. Anti-pilling, mid-weight. \$30.

**Ranger Henley LS T-shirt.** Teal. 100% cotton, 3-buttons. \$30.



**Nuvola Microfleece zip T-neck.** Pacific blue. \$40.



**Nuvola Microfleece zip T-neck underlayer.** Black. \$40.



**SUPER SALE ITEMS**

**Short Sleeve T-shirts.** Various colors. Were \$18. NOW \$10.

**Long Sleeve T-shirts.** Various colors. Were \$25. NOW \$15.

**Challenger Nylon Jacket.** Front zip. Hood. Fleece lining. Black/oxford. Was \$55. NOW \$35.

**Packable Nylon Jacket.** Button front. Navy. Was \$40. NOW \$25.

**Men's Shorts.** Breathable nylon. Was \$30 NOW \$20.

**Fleece Vest.** Various colors/sizes. Was \$40. NOW \$30.



**Fleece Vest.** Electric blue in XL only. Was \$40. NOW \$25.

**Hooded Sweatshirt.** Full zip. Navy. Was \$40. NOW \$25.

**Pullover Sweatshirt.** Light gray w/trim. NOW \$20.

**DONOR FORM**

Yes, I support the work of the Henry's Fork Foundation. Accept my contribution for your efforts to understand, restore and protect the outstanding aesthetic, fishery and wildlife qualities of the Henry's Fork River basin.

- \$35 Individual (minimum for membership)
- \$50 Family
- \$100 Sponsor
- \$300 Patron
- \$1000 Advocate
- \$5000+ Benefactor

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # (MC, Visa, Discover) \_\_\_\_\_

Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Return this form with payment to: **Henry's Fork Foundation**  
PO Box 550  
Ashton, ID 83420

(Fishery... continued from page 5)

Island Park Dam will emphasize wild, natural populations without hatchery supplementation. The Henry's Fork from Riverside Campground to Island Park Reservoir supports a world famous wild rainbow trout fishery. This reach will remain a trophy fishery, managed under catch-and-release regulations.

Where compelling biological and social evidence indicates a change in management is necessary, the five-year plan can be modified prior to its expiration, though this process requires some time to collect

meaningful, pertinent information. Beginning next year (2006), IDFG will be writing a new five-year plan. At that time, if public input indicates a demand for a new management direction for the Henry's Fork, various alternatives can be evaluated and publicly scoped.

Jim Fredricks, Regional Fishery Manager, and Dan Garren, Regional Fishery Biologist, welcome any questions or comments with regard to this issue, or any other. They can be reached at (208) 525-7290 or [jfredricks@idfg.idaho.gov](mailto:jfredricks@idfg.idaho.gov)

## HF Watershed Council views successful project outcomes

The Sheridan Creek Restoration project, initially spearheaded by HFF, began ten years ago when the Henry's Fork Watershed Council was awarded an EPA 319 grant to restore spawning habitat, control sediment deposits to Island Park Reservoir, and repair/replace irrigation and diversion structures. The council formed the Sheridan Creek Subcommittee to oversee the project, which involved cooperation among federal, state and county agencies, ranchers and irrigators, and numerous volunteers. Work has gone on seasonally through all these years, culminating last year with the completion of riparian restoration on reaches of Sheridan Creek in Harriman State Park.

As the pictures on the right clearly show, the project has attained its goals. The top picture shows a stretch of Sheridan Creek at the start of the project, and the bottom photo shows the results of willow planting along that stretch. Members of the watershed council toured the project in September and witnessed this restoration as well as the new irrigation/diversion structures that were installed to minimize erosion and flooding and to allow fish passage.



**The Henry's Fork Foundation**  
**P.O. Box 550**  
**Ashton, ID 83420**

**Address Service Requested**