

CONSERVE

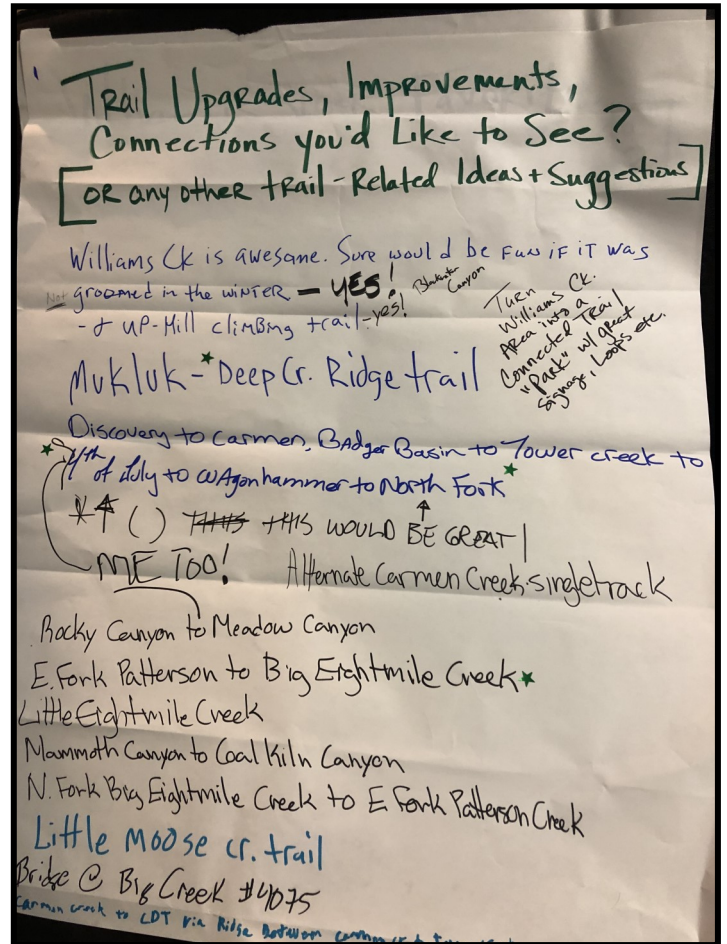
News from Lemhi Regional Land Trust
and Salmon Valley Stewardship

Winter 2019

2L Trails to Create “Adopt-a-Trail” Program

On Wednesday, January 9th, Salmon Valley Stewardship and partners presented 2L Trails Night at the Hub and Pork Peddler in Salmon. Early in the evening, citizens were invited to join the 2L Trails Group at the Hub Bike/Ski Shop to discuss their favorite local trails as well as how these users access and recreate on local trails. More than 60 individuals attended the event, representing user groups from hikers, dirt bikers, backcountry horsemen and mountain bikers. This crucial feedback received from users will serve to inform the structure of a brand new Adopt-a-Trail program, ensuring that 2L Trails, in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service, continues to focus on maintaining and improving trails that matter most to the local community. The evening wrapped up with a lively round of Trails Trivia, testing the trails-centric wisdom of the crowd.

The concept of Adopt-a-Trail will be similar to highway Adopt-a-Trail Programs, where citizens, businesses and other entities can commit to taking care of adopted trails; anything from clearing brush to sawing out logs, and more. If physically maintaining a trail is not feasible, trail adoption could also come in the form of financial support that would ensure experienced local trail crews keep these trails up to standard on behalf of the official trail adopter. Stay tuned for more information about this fledgling program in spring of 2019.



Attendees at 2L Trails Night had the opportunity to share their ideas for trail upgrades, improvements and more with the 2L Trails Group on January 9th.

Highway 93 South Trail to Break Ground

In other trails news, at the very end of 2018, Salmon Valley Stewardship and partners learned that the long-awaited Highway 93 Trail's full funding situation is no longer in question. The project, initiated in 2015 has since gone through the various stages of planning, culminating in a construction estimate that was nearly \$1 million above original estimates. In late 2018, the project entered a holding pattern, waiting to find out its fate, contingent upon whether the Federal Highway Administration would elect to fund the remaining portion of the project. As of December, the funding has been approved, and the project is moving forward, with actual ground-breaking slated for 2020.

This section of trail will greatly enhance travel safety for non-motorized travelers in the Highway 93 corridor, and will potentially open up trail connection possibilities for recreational users who wish to access public lands trails in the Williams Creek Area and beyond without ever having to drive their cars.

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The property donated by Bob and Nancy Russell sits at the corner of Sims Ranch Road and Williams Creek Road, directly west of the Shoup Bridge campground and south of the Cole Ranch conservation easement.



Property donors, Bob and Nancy Russell, with Lemhi Regional Land Trust board chairman, Merrill Beyeler.

A Legacy on the Salmon River

Thanks to the generosity of long time Lemhi Regional Land Trust supporters, Bob and Nancy Russell, our community has gained one more public access opportunity along the Salmon River! In December, the Russells donated a five acre parcel in the Chinook subdivision that includes approximately 900 feet of Salmon River frontage and three acres of streamside cottonwood gallery habitat. According to Bob Russell, “Our primary purpose for keeping [this property] largely undeveloped is to provide wildlife cover and a migration corridor from undeveloped lands east of the Salmon River to the Cole Ranch Conservation Easement north and west of the Shoup Bridge.”

Being located just south of Salmon means that this lot has a high development potential, but thanks to the Russells the property will remain largely unchanged and the stream banks, high quality wildlife habitat and migration corridors will stay permanently intact. Looking to the future, and in accordance with the Russells’ wishes, the property will remain undeveloped but will feature walking trails and interpretive signs.

Lemhi Regional Land Trust Applies for Accreditation Renewal

Lemhi Regional Land Trust was initially awarded accreditation by the Land Trust Alliance Accreditation Commission in 2014 and five years later the time has come for us to apply to renew our accredited status.

The land trust accreditation program recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. Lemhi Regional Land Trust is pleased to be applying to renew our accredited status as we believe this program ensures the strength and long term stability of our organization.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, conducts an extensive review of each applicant’s policies and programs and The Commission invites public input and accepts signed, written comments on pending applications. Comments must relate to how Lemhi Regional Land Trust complies with national quality standards. These standards address the ethical and technical operation of a land trust. For the full list of standards see <http://www.landtrustaccreditation.org/help-and-resources/indicator-practices>.

To learn more about the accreditation program and to submit a comment, visit www.landtrustaccreditation.org, or email your comment to info@landtrustaccreditation.org. Comments may also be faxed or mailed to the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, Attn: Public Comments: (fax) 518-587-3183; (mail) 36 Phila Street, Suite 2, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866.

Comments on Lemhi Regional Land Trust’s application will be most useful by June 30, 2019.

A Mark of Distinction

The accreditation seal **AFFIRMS** national quality standards are met.



- SOUND FINANCES
- ETHICAL CONDUCT
- RESPONSIBLE GOVERNANCE
- LASTING STEWARDSHIP

Welcome Aboard!

Salmon Valley Stewardship is thrilled to welcome three new members to our board of directors this winter; Aaron Peets, Russ Chinske, and Geoff Fast. We'll be introducing you to these new Salmon Valley Stewardship team members individually. So, for now, please join us in welcoming Geoff Fast!

Raised in Idaho, Geoff found his love for nature as a youngster, hiking trails of central Idaho with his family. After high school, while volunteering in the forests of Europe, Geoff realized the value and uniqueness of his homeland here in Idaho, and came back enthusiastic to learn about issues affecting public lands in the Rockies. Geoff went on to study forestry, the environment, wilderness, and sustainability while in college at the University of Montana in Missoula. In 2000, a south-to-north hike across Idaho led him to the Salmon area, which attracted him for its open space, free flowing rivers and authentic community.

A USFS wilderness ranger in 'the Frank' for 18 years, Geoff is now expanding his career into trail coordination on the Salmon-Challis National Forest. In addition to trying to keep up with their 4-year-old twins Everett and Elsa, Geoff and his wife Hannah enjoy gardening, rafting, and exploring around their home on the banks of the Salmon River. Geoff says, "I just want to raise kids the way they should be... in clean open space, among wild rivers, with a healthy community to support them."



New Salmon Valley Stewardship board member, Geoff Fast, with his kids Everett and Elsa.

Tiffanie McAllister "Be a Better You" Award



Application Guidelines

- Applicant must be a graduate of Salmon High School
- Applicant must provide an official transcript showing a GPA of 2.5+
- Applicant must provide evidence of community service
- What are your plans? Present an essay, a video, a recording, art or another format to tell how this award will change you life. Be creative!

For an application form and more details on how to apply, visit: <https://bit.ly/2Gcdgz2>.

Soon after arriving in Salmon, Tiffanie McAllister stepped onto the board of Salmon Valley Stewardship bringing her great humor, sense of fun and adventure, no-nonsense "git 'er done" ethic, and her passion for education and youth to our organization and our community. She taught us that it's never too late to learn a new talent, step up to a challenge, lend a helping hand, or don a superwoman costume and be silly – and OWN it. Whether in a board meeting, on the ice at the hockey rink, rafting down a river, or pedaling up a hill on a mountain bike, we were inspired in Tiffanie's presence and benefited from all she shared in her love of family and community -- in her exuberant passion for life. She reminds us of the impact one person can have.

It is in that spirit and remembrance of Tiffanie that her husband Ryan, her family, and many friends established the **Tiffanie McAllister "Be a Better You" Award**. The award is intended to help offset educational expenses at a college or trade school or to help fund a "life adventure". We are happy to announce the first year of this award is open to Salmon High School graduates ages 18-23. Applications must be received by March 15, 2019 and will be announced in April.

Support Lemhi Regional Land Trust on Idaho Gives Day!

We need your help! Please join our campaign and help us reach our goal of \$7,500! We need you to tell your friends and family members about the important work we do and ask them to join us in helping to make a difference. **On May 2nd, starting at 12AM, visit <https://www.idahogives.org/> and make a donation to us and/or to any of the great participating nonprofit organizations in Idaho. You will have 24 hours to make your donation, and all giving will end at 11:59PM on May 2nd.**

Questions? If you have any questions or would like more information, let us know. Thank you in advance for your generosity to Lemhi Regional Land Trust!



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 City, State Zip

STAY IN TOUCH!

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