



LEMHI  
REGIONAL  
Land Trust

# Annual Report 2021

ALEX SHOLES PHOTOGRAPHY

## Board of Directors:

Bob Russell • Mike Overacker  
Tom McFarland • Shane Rosenkrance  
Ingrid Fulstone • Ace Hess  
Becca Aceto • Mike Dougherty  
Chris Healy • Mike Kossler

## Staff:

Jennifer Smith • Breann Green  
Charli Williams • Jim Roscoe  
Katie Berasi

## Stay in touch with us!

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Lemhi Regional Land Trust



lemhilandtrust



## A Note from the Chairman and Executive Director...

Where did the summer go?!? It seems that we were just celebrating at our annual Working Lands Celebration together and now it's almost the holiday season! We are incredibly humbled and thankful for everyone's support over this last year and know that we couldn't do what we do without your support. We hope you have prioritized connecting with nature and getting outside in your own way, wherever you call home.

We had many highlights this year thanks to your support. We were able to bring our first Land and Water Conservation Fund conservation easement to the finish line, securing Salmon River recreational access for perpetuity. Our restoration program wrapped up and began monitoring the success of the Big Springs Confluence project, our biggest restoration project to date. The Salmon School Garden welcomed over 400 kids into an upgraded greenhouse with heat, extending both the growing and programming seasons and launched our first year-long adult learning series. A record breaking number of attendees celebrated with food, drink and dancing at our annual Celebration.

We are excited to keep moving local conservation forward together in 2022!

With thanks,

Bob Russell  
Board Chairman

Jennifer N. Smith  
Executive Director

**CONSERVING LANDSCAPES AND  
LIFESTYLES IN CENTRAL IDAHO**

# THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS!

## FRIENDS (up to \$75)

Allen, Bill and Diz  
Anonymous  
Baker, Bob and Melba  
Baker, Jim  
Benedict, Bernice  
Boone, Carolyn  
Gallogly, Karen  
Gregory, Sally  
Harper, Madison  
Johnson, Barbara and Cameron  
Kapeleris, Susie  
Kempner, Chuck and Mona Sellegren  
Lemhi Title Company  
Mudd, Dan and Lisa  
Nemeth, Craig and Marimae  
Nichols, Tony and Rosemary  
Owens, Jim  
Waidley, Fred and Sue  
Walker, Chris and Cindy  
Werner, Paul  
Whitfield, Michael  
Wiggington, Elaine

## PARTNERS (\$76-\$150)

Allen Accounting  
Bates, Patty and Rick Hafenfeld  
Gapp, Gary  
Geary-Smith, Joan

Haggas, Cindy and William Osborne  
Hagen, Mike  
Hoffman, Kevin  
Hoffman, Roy♦ and Sharon  
Jones, Trent  
Leidner, Stuart and Nina Chambers  
Lemhi Soil and Water Conservation District  
Lim, Liz  
Littlejohn, Lucy★  
Mueller, Nate and Frances  
Overacker, Mike and Meridee  
Resources First Group  
Rocky Mountain Environmental  
Scott, Mike and Joyce  
StAAF, Norma and Nick Hazelbaker  
Swift River Farm  
Weiss, Jim♦ and Diana  
Wellard Constructors, Inc.  
Woodward, Priscilla★

## SUSTAINERS (\$151-\$250)

Burke, Jane and Thornton  
Loucks, Bob and Ann  
Whelan, Will  
Povirk, Kyra★  
Schuldt, Diane & Pete★  
Stolp, Gerald  
Wallis, Harley and Eileen

## TRAILBLAZERS (\$251-\$500)

Boyd Foster Backhoe Service  
Cook Westfall, Deb  
Friehe, Berend and Carla  
H & N Irrigation  
Kozacek, Susan  
Lyons, Jim  
McFarland, Tom and Teresa  
Miller, Jerry♦ and Barbara  
Power, Gary and Tamara

## STEWARDS (\$501-\$999)

Andrus, Anita and Tawna Skinner  
Nelson, Tom and Carol

## GUARDIANS (\$1,000+)

Daskalos, Spiro  
Hernandez, Mario and Glenda  
Kossler, Norma  
Monoyios, Nikos and Valerie Brackett  
Page Foundation  
Perlmutter, Shelly  
Russell, Bob and Nancy★  
Tonsmeire, Skipper

♦Our condolences to the families of these donors who passed away in 2021.

★Monthly donor



*LRLT founding board members, Fran and Joe Tonsmeire were the inspiration for establishment of the Tonsmeire Eddy for their dedication to our mission during their lives and support of our future in their legacy gifts.*

## Leaving a Legacy

Including Lemhi Regional Land Trust in your will is one of the easiest gifts you can make to ensure that your support of locally led conservation is around for future generations. It's an investment in the vision we all share of our community and the landscapes and lifestyles we all cherish.

The Tonsmeire Eddy is a group of individuals who have invested now or pledged to invest in the future of conservation. Establishment of this group and its associated endowment fund is how our organization is planning for perpetuity. We wanted to welcome our newest Tonsmeire Eddy members and thank Norma Kossler, Bob and Nancy Russell, Amy Tonsmeire, and Seth Tonsmeire for your contributions to the endowment over the past year.

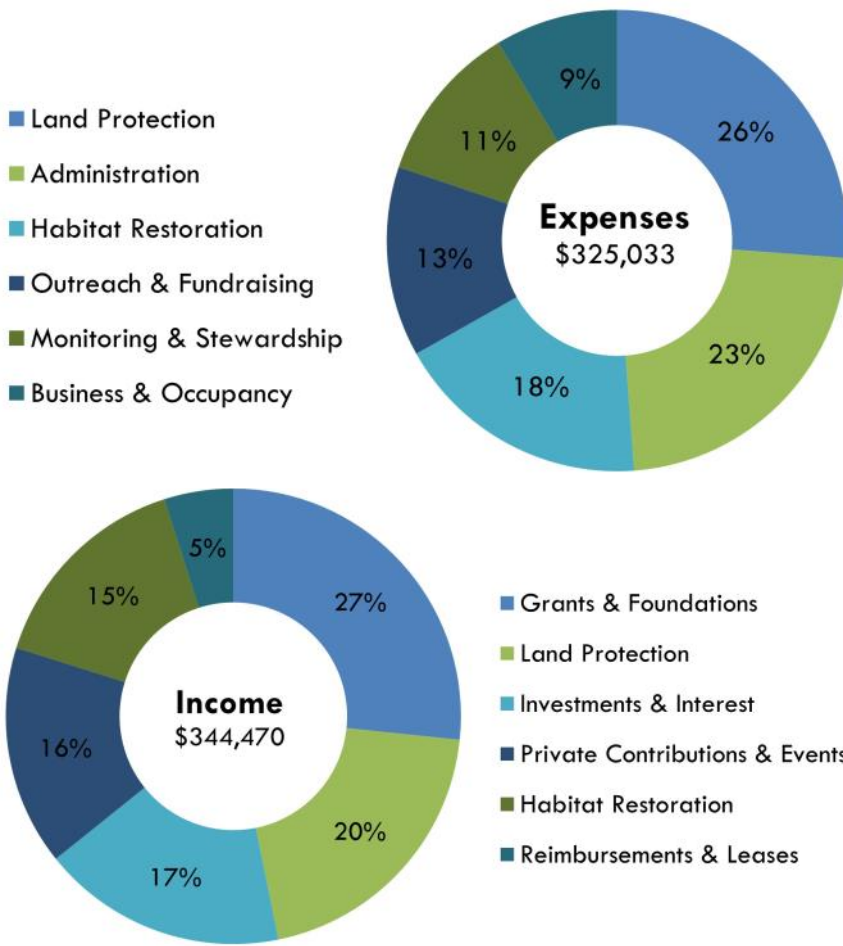
To learn more about legacy giving options or if you are interested in joining the Tonsmeire Eddy, give Jen a call at (208) 756-8879. We would be honored to help you design your own conservation legacy.

## TONSMEIRE EDDY MEMBERS

Established 2020

**Jody Brostrom • Ken Hill • Norma Kossler • Bob and Nancy Russell • Amy Tonsmeire • Seth Tonsmeire**

# Organizational Financial Statements



With each conservation easement completed, Lemhi Regional Land Trust requests a contribution to our stewardship fund. These funds can only be used for the stewardship and legal defense of our conservation easements or stewardship lands and are managed in investment accounts. The interest generated by these funds can then be designated for use by the board of directors.

To date we have used interest to contribute towards our operating expenses, create a six month operating reserve and contributed to our operating endowment!

## Celebrating Our Roots with Agriculture Week

Since 2021, Lemhi Regional Land Trust has teamed up with a diverse array of partners, all coordinated by the Lemhi County Extension Office, to ensure that every grade in every school in Lemhi County has the opportunity for educational programming as part of Agriculture Week each March. For our part, Outreach Coordinator, Charli Williams, visited with Pioneer Elementary kindergarten, first and fifth grade classes, along with sixth graders from Salmon Junior-Senior High School.

Kindergartners and the kindergarten - first grade split class learned about chickens and eggs and to cap off their activity, Executive Director, Jen Smith visited each class with a chicken, giving them the opportunity to see and pet it if they so chose. Plants were the topic of choice for the first grade classes. Students learned about the parts of the plant and built their very own plants out of vegetables.

With COVID forcing the cancellation of the traditional fifth grade field trip to the University of Idaho's Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension and Education Center in Carmen in 2020, the decision was made to have sixth grade join in on this year's fifth grade beef production lessons. Students rotated through stations including one on DNA in the beef industry, where Charli conducted a simple science experiment allowing the students to extract and view DNA from strawberries.





# Rock Springs Property Workday

In late 2020, Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT) began receiving calls notifying us of vandalism on our Rock Springs property in the Upper Pahsimeroi Valley. A large section of jack fence protecting the pond area had been tipped over and both the signs explaining the property ownership and public access opportunities were torn down. With such a large piece of fence down, LRLT turned to the Trout Unlimited River of No Return Chapter for help. Chapter members spent a day in the Pahsimeroi with Stewardship and Restoration Coordinator, Breann Green setting the fence back up and making all the necessary repairs.

LRLT is proud to be able to provide public access to our ambassador properties and encourages community members to contact us if they notice anything amiss. Due to the size of our service area, small staff and the remoteness of some properties, we are only able to visit these properties a few times per year and we are dependent on the users being respectful of the property and community members notifying us if they notice any issues.

Want to learn more about our ambassador properties? Visit [www.lemhilandtrust.org](http://www.lemhilandtrust.org) and click "LRLT Owned Lands". Noticed something on a property that needs our attention? Give us a call at (208)756-8879 or email [info@lemhilandtrust.org](mailto:info@lemhilandtrust.org).

## Progress at the Big Springs - Lemhi River Confluence

The Big Springs - Lemhi River Confluence restoration project is located at the confluence of Big Springs Creek and the Lemhi River just north of Leadore, Idaho, on the Leadore Land Partners conservation easement.

Planning and design of this project began in 2016 and 2017 with Rio Applied Science and Engineering and Intermountain Aquatics, and construction of this three phase habitat restoration project on both Big Springs Creek and the Lemhi River occurred during the summers of 2018, 2019, and 2020, with 2021 marking the first completed year of the project. All phases of the construction were completed by Leadore-based Boyd Foster Backhoe Service, Inc. The goal of the project was to improve habitat for Endangered Species Act listed fish, restore natural channel movement to maintain diverse habitat and ensure adequate shade to create cool water spots favored by fish. To meet these goals, the project placed natural materials, such as logs and plants, to create areas of both fast and slow water, provide both large and small rocks for the fish to build nests to lay their eggs, create multiple large pools of quiet water and improve the vegetation along the stream banks to prevent erosion and provide shade.

One year out from completion of the final phase, the native wetland vegetation is expanding and the in stream habitat continues to become more diverse. Best of all, the newly created habitat is being used not only by the endangered fish it was designed for, but also by owls, raptors, shorebirds, amphibians, deer, elk, moose and waterfowl!



# Salmon River Conservation Easement Completed

Lemhi Regional Land Trust worked with other conservation partners in 2013 to develop a list of potential projects and secured Land and Water Conservation Fund support. Working with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Salmon Field Office, several properties were jointly identified along the Salmon River Special Recreation Management Area (SRMA) as potential purchases or conservation easements. A property owned by Scott Turner along the Salmon River just north of Salmon came to the top of that list in 2018 and ground work and planning for a conservation easement began. For this project, LRLT worked with the landowner to negotiate the conservation easement, prepared baseline documentation, and completed other due diligence with the intent that once the conservation easement was completed, it would be transferred to and held by BLM. Then in the future, LRLT would assume the long-term stewardship monitoring under a cooperative agreement with the BLM.

This property covers approximately 85 acres with most of it on the river floodplain and has about a half mile of main Salmon River frontage. The project's primary conservation objective is to prevent subdivision and protect the river frontage and the scenic views of the Salmon River Breaks lying immediately across the river from the property. After nearly three years of discussions and the reauthorization of the LWCF, the conservation easement was completed and transferred to BLM in November 2021. The final conservation easement covers 45 acres of floodplain and river frontage, and most significantly, designates a space for public trail access corridor along the whole river frontage which in the future may help facilitate a river corridor trail spanning from Salmon to the Carmen public access site.



## Planting Seeds in the Salmon School Garden

Spring and early summer found Lemhi Regional Land Trust ambassador property, the Salmon School Garden busy and filled with students of all ages prepping beds, starting seeds and planting seedlings. Students from Pioneer Elementary, Salmon Junior-Senior High School, Leadore Elementary, the Tendoy School, charter school and homeschool students all had the opportunity to visit the Garden to take part in activities. Lessons in the Garden are tailored to each class and provide students the opportunity for hands on learning. In addition to starting seeds and planting, elementary school students also have the opportunity to practice skills like making predictions and observations, counting, measuring, identifying colors, while older students learn about topics such as soils, botany and genetics.



*Homeschool and charter school kids examined worms during their visit.*



*Students from Leadore and Tendoy Schools hunt for insects in the Garden.*



*Pioneer Elementary 1st graders plant their sunflowers in the Garden.*

# Calling Life Long Learners: Community Workshops

Following the success of the inaugural sauerkraut workshop held at the Salmon School Garden in October 2020, it was obvious to Lemhi Regional Land Trust that the community was interested in learning more about all things garden related. With that in mind, we've partnered with the Salmon School Garden to launch our first ever Community Education Workshop series. Supported by the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation, this six workshop series kicked off in October with a second sauerkraut workshop and will continue through 2022. Each workshop will have a different theme, with the specific topic, date, location and registration fee being announced closer to each workshop date.



Each batch of sauerkraut was as unique as the participants.

## From the Garden

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

Hosted by the Salmon School Garden Project

<b>October:</b> Preserving Garden Produce	<b>April:</b> Preparing for Growing
<b>December:</b> Gifts from the Garden	<b>June:</b> Backyard Birds
<b>February:</b> Planning for Spring	<b>August:</b> Cooking from the Garden

Specific topic, date, location and registration fees will be announced for each workshop individually.

To learn more or join our mailing list...

 The Salmon School Garden Project  (208)756-8879

 salmonschoogarden  charli@lemhilandtrust.org

Made possible through support from the Laura Moore Cunningham Foundation

## 7th Graders Explore at Morgan Bar

Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT) and Salmon Valley Stewardship (SVS) joined up with teachers Bridget Severe, Sean McKinney and Hollis Troughton to help get Salmon Junior-Senior High School's 7th grade outside at the end of their school year. The morning was filled with cycling through six stations learning about birds, invasive weeds, biological control of invasive species, fish and river systems, carnivores and search and rescue from some of the experts in our community. The afternoon was spent learning how to capture observations from the field through nature journaling, similar to the journals of Lewis and Clark and other explorers.

Shannon Williams (Lemhi County Extension), Kathy Imel (Sacajawea Center), Ray Stephenson (Salmon Search and Rescue), Toni Ruth (SVS), and Jen Smith and Breann Green (LRLT) all pitched in to bring the day together and share their knowledge. "Getting the kids outside and learning a bit more about the ecology of our area as well as the importance of being safe while outside was a fantastic way to wrap up our year," noted teacher Bridget Severe. "It's also important for the kids to see volunteerism at work within our community and these programs are a shining example of the diverse knowledge available and shared right here in Lemhi County."

Top Right: Ray Stephenson explains the role Salmon Search and Rescue volunteers play in our community.

Bottom Right: LRLT's Breann Green discusses native fish species found in the Salmon River.



# Working Lands Celebration a Success

On June 25th, Lemhi Regional Land Trust hosted our annual Working Lands Celebration at Sweet Water Hollow along the banks of the Salmon River. With 2020 in the rearview mirror, we were thrilled to again be able to host our traditional event where we could mingle and chat over dinner with all of our friends, neighbors and fellow community members. The Blue Sage Ramblers from the Pahsimeroi Valley provided music for the evening and over 250 folks joined us for an evening of dinner, music and kids' activities. Thanks to the generosity of our sponsors and folks attending the event and bidding on items on our online auction, we raised over \$22,000, which will go directly towards continuing our work of conserving land in this corner of Idaho we all cherish.



Above: A table was reserved in honor of the late Ken Hill where guests could toast to him and share a memory.

Below: Attendees line up on the stairs to pick up their dinners while the crowd listens to an update from Executive Director, Jen Smith.



Above: The Blue Sage Ramblers from the Pahsimeroi Valley provided the music for the evening.



## Working Lands Celebration Sponsors and Donors

Ace Hess  
Arctic Ice  
Backstage Dance Studio  
Becca Aceto  
Blue Sage Ramblers  
Bob and Nancy Russell  
Brad and Shannon Williams  
Bruce and Bonnie McFarland  
Caryll Designs  
Chad and Amy Fealko  
Chris and Cindy Walker  
Computer Zen  
Deb Cook Westfall  
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Gary and Tamara Power  
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Hyde Creek Ranch - Mike Tyacke  
Ingrid and Buck Fulstone  
Iron Maiden Welding  
Jay and Chyenne Smith  
Joan Geary-Smith  
Jody Brostrom  
Kristin and Mark Troy  
Kyra Povirk and Dave Lingle  
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Paul Werner—Creative Moments  
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Rick and Sherri Snyder  
Revival Gold

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Shane and Mimi Rosenkrance  
Stump Wizard - Mitch Wolfe  
Summit National Bank  
Sweet Water Hollow  
Swift River Farm  
Tawna Skinner and Anita Andrus  
Teton Toyota  
Teton Volkswagen  
Tolson and Wayment PLLC  
Tom and Teresa McFarland  
Valerie Brackett and Nikos Monoyios  
Charitable Fund  
Valley Agronomics  
Wild Side Sports

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**

*Lemhi Regional Land Trust is a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization and your gift is tax deductible as provided by law.*

**I wish to support Lemhi Regional Land Trust as a:**

- Friend: \$50 - \$75
- Partner: \$76 - \$150
- Sustainer: \$151 - \$250
- Trailblazer: \$251 - \$500
- Steward: \$501 - \$999
- Guardian: \$1,000+
- Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Want more bang for your buck? Become a monthly donor!**

Monthly giving is an easy way to support our work and those gifts truly do add up! Just \$10 a month turns into \$120 over the course of a year. Our monthly givers are the backbone to our work, in addition to their generosity they're practical and know that giving monthly allows us to devote the most time to conserving those places we all love.

**Visit [www.lemhilandtrust.org](http://www.lemhilandtrust.org) and click "Donate" to set up your monthly gift!**

Salmon, Idaho 83467

105 S. Center Street

