

Conserve

News From Lemhi Regional Land Trust & the Salmon School Garden

Everyone has those special places. Those places where you feel most at home. Those places you just can't get enough of. Some of us are lucky enough to live in our special places, others we visit as often as we can manage. If you're reading this newsletter, odds are good that one of your special places is Central Idaho. This rugged, remote corner of Idaho where the sagebrush sea of the Great Basin meets the towering pines of the Pacific Northwest has a way of drawing people in. Whether you were drawn by the wide open spaces, the cold, clear rivers or the small town charm, there's just something about this landscape that creeps into your bones and we all have a story about how Central Idaho became one of our special places.

Central Idaho became one of my special places on December 22, 1999, when a moving van loaded with my family's possessions (including a fully decorated, live Christmas tree) backed up to the front door of a house in Tendoy. I was eleven years old and Lemhi County had met my parents' criteria of a small town in the West with good hunting and fishing and a job offer. After graduating college in 2011, I knew that I wanted to make my way back to Central Idaho, so I happily accepted a part time job offer from Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT). At that time I intended to stay in that position for a year, then resume job searching for a full time position, but we all know what they say about best laid plans. One month before my self-imposed deadline, I accepted a full time offer from LRLT.

For the past twelve years, I've had the opportunity to work alongside the rest of the LRLT staff and board of directors to conserve some of the very best pieces of Central Idaho. That has afforded me the privilege of hearing about so many of your special places and why you cherish this place. As the Executive Director, I am honored to be able to continue being a part of LRLT's efforts to conserve our shared special place and ensuring that the next generation will have the opportunity to embrace Central Idaho as their special place. I hope you'll join us at one (or more!) of our upcoming events and I look forward to hearing about and conserving even more of your special places in the coming years.

Warmly,

Charli Williams

Charli Williams
Executive Director
Lemhi Regional Land Trust

Dry Gulch Project Completed



Since 2013, Lemhi Regional Land Trust has worked closely with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Salmon Field Office and the High Divide Collaborative to develop and promote projects for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) support. A top priority BLM project back in 2017 was the purchase of a 20-acre parcel at the mouth of Dry Gulch on Williams Lake Road for a future public trailhead to divert some public use and congestion away from the adjoining Henry Creek trailhead. Then landowners, Roy and Sharon Hoffman, had encouraged this project since they had purchased the property and had patiently waited several years for it to happen. Unfortunately, federal budgets were delayed throughout 2017 with no certainty of when LWCF and BLM funding for the purchase would actually be available. As a project partner, Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT) decided to step in, purchase the property, and then hold it for future resale to BLM, and thus fulfilling Roy and Sharon's goal. Lemhi Regional Land Trust purchased the Dry Gulch property in January 2018, and has held the property while allowing public access as we continued to work with the BLM to facilitate their purchase of the property. After five years of working with BLM, LRLT is excited to report that in January we officially sold this property to the BLM. The sale of this property and its future ownership by BLM ensures permanent public recreational and livestock access through Dry Gulch, and on to adjoining public lands. LRLT would like to extend a thank you to the many partners that made this project possible: the Hoffman Family, Salmon BLM Field Office and the High Divide Collaborative.

Working Lands Celebration

CELEBRATING 18 YEARS OF CONSERVATION IN
CENTRAL IDAHO

Dinner - Online and In-Person Auction - Kids Activities

Friday, June 23rd at 5:30

Elk's Lodge - Salmon, ID



LEMHI
REGIONAL
Land Trust

Writing the Land: Youth Edition

In March and April, LRLT and the 6th graders from Salmon Junior-Senior High School were fortunate enough to meet with CMarie Fuhrman. CMarie is the Director of Poetry, and Nature Writing Faculty at Western Colorado University and is the 2021-2023 Idaho Writer in Residence. She taught the different parts of a poem and how they relate to blackout and erasure poetry. To create their own erasure poetry, students were given an article on nature and were instructed to use that page as their canvas. Students read through the article and circle specific words they would like to use in their poem in the order they are written. Once the words have been selected, the students take a marker and "blackout" the unwanted words. CMarie also discussed how one can express themselves through poetry and how to use it to explore nature. On April 3rd, the students took a field trip to the Sacajawea Center and met with CMarie who was unable to attend in person due to weather, but joined via Zoom. CMarie emphasized the importance of connecting with the land and encouraged the students to use that connection to create their blackout poems. The top poems by these students will be selected to be published in a book with others from kids participating in land trust outdoor education programs from across the nation!

Welcome, Katie!



While working on her bachelor's degree in Biology with an emphasis in Ecology, Katie worked seasonally for LRLT for the last three summers. After graduating from Boise State University and receiving a B.S. in Biology with an emphasis in Ecology, Katie decided she wanted to return to her hometown and joined LRLT as the new Stewardship Coordinator. Within the community, Katie has become a coach for Salmon Hockey while also playing with the men's and women's leagues. She also owns and races a mini stock car at Salmon Valley Speedway.

Conservation Conversation

April 25 at 5:30 pm
at the Sacajawea Center

Please join us for our new series, Conservation Conversations, featuring people or topics of conservation interest in Central Idaho.

Wildlife Friendly Fence Conversion
Jessie Shallow - Mule Deer Foundation



Agriculture Week 2023

This year, under the coordination of the Lemhi County Extension Office, Lemhi Regional Land Trust teamed up with a variety of other organizations to offer educational programming to every school in the county. LRLT's presentations kicked off at Mountain Valley Farmstead in Carmen where Salmon Junior-Senior High sixth grade students were able to participate in a "feel lab". In this lab, they felt inside four different containers that simulated the compartments of a sheep's ruminant digestive system. The next field trip took place at the University of Idaho's Nancy M. Cummings Research, Extension and Education Center. Pioneer Elementary fifth grade and Fernwaters' 4th and 5th grades learned about DNA in the beef industry and were able to extract DNA from strawberries. The last of the events was visiting the Tendoy school and Pioneer Elementary first graders. These students learned different parts of a plant and were able to create a plant out of various vegetables to see that it was possible to eat all parts of a plant. In addition to all of these fun activities, the Salmon School Garden donated activity packets to each of the preschools in the area.



A sixth grade student feeling inside of a container that simulates the abomasum compartment of a sheep's stomach.



Fifth grade students have extracted the DNA from strawberries and are trying to get it to stick to a straw.



Students at the Tendoy School constructing a plant out of vegetables to determine if they really can eat all the parts of a plant.



Salmon School Garden

ANNUAL PLANT SALE

Saturday, May 13
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

1309 Minnie Street (Behind Wild Side Sports)

Plants Available

<p>FRUITS</p> <p>Cantaloupe & Watermelon</p>	<p>FLOWERS</p> <p>Alyssum - Amaranthus Zinnias - Marigolds Nasturtiums - Succulents Hanging Baskets</p>	<p>VEGETABLES</p> <p>Brussels Sprouts Eggplant - Pumpkins Hot & Sweet Peppers Tomatoes - Cucumbers Winter & Summer Squash</p>	<p>HERBS</p> <p>Basil - Cilantro Parsley - Oregano</p>
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Student Plant Sale Preparation



Students planting seeds in Ms. Cooper's Greenhouse Management Class.

Students in Ms. Cooper's Greenhouse Management Class at Salmon Junior-Senior High School have been busy since the beginning of March with preparing for the annual Salmon School Garden Plant Sale. The students have been diligently planting seeds, transplanting seedlings, and labeling each variety. Once the seedlings are large enough (and it stops snowing), the seedlings will be moved to the large greenhouse in the Garden. Kim Browne has volunteered to help alongside Ms. Cooper to provide assistance where it is needed. Outside of a bit of adult assistance, the rest of the work is completed by the students. We are so thankful and proud of all of their hard work!



Rows of starts planted by the students for the Annual Salmon School Garden Plant Sale.

Upcoming Events

April 25: Conservation Conversation with Jessie Shallow at the Sacajawea Center at 5:30 pm	May 13: Salmon School Garden's Annual Plant Sale	June 23: Annual Working Lands Celebration Dinner at the Elks Lodge at 5:30 pm
June - August (Dates TBD): Salmon School Garden Project Kids' Garden Program	October (Date TBD): Pumpkin Patch Party	September & November (Dates TBD): Conservation Conversations

Conserve

Spring 2023

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Click "Donate" or scan the QR code below to make a contribution to LRLT!



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The Salmon School Garden Project



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