



Celebrating 10 Years in the Teton Region

Ten years ago we began working with the LOR Foundation to help assess the opportunities, threats and challenges facing the region and to outline a strategy to invest in regional wellbeing and resilience. Community leaders identified dozens of opportunities for deep impact that fell outside of the reach of their organizations, highlighting a critical need for greater collaboration. We created LegacyWorks to play that role, and the first collaborative projects we supported were wildly successful. Those successes seeded new ventures on both sides of the Tetons, in the Upper Snake and along the eastern flank of Yellowstone. As our work became truly regional, it also grew to span wildlife, water, equity, community resilience and climate action.

What was true ten years ago is even more the case today: we face daunting challenges but have tremendous opportunities to catalyze real change and deep impact. The issues we face are intersectional, requiring us to work across sectors and weave together social, economic and ecological elements into a cohesive whole. They require new skills in impact finance, new ways of tapping our community's potential, and far greater collaboration than we typically see. And if anything, they're even more urgent as we see real local impacts of the climate crisis and global pandemic, both of which are exacerbating the inequities that threaten our ways of life.

As we look back on ten years of work, it's clear that together we are building pathways to achieving far greater impact than was possible before. Here we share a few brief highlights from some of the work that's building these pathways to the future. Each of these efforts require ongoing stewardship and investment, as do the emergent collaborations they enable. Your support for our work is more important than ever, and we hope you'll join us on the journey!

Carl Palmer, Executive Director

Support us at Old Bill's

This is the third year that LegacyWorks is participating in Old Bill's Fun Run. We hope that you will consider making a gift at cfjacksonhole.org/old-bills by September 16, 2022.

Or visit our website at legacyworksgroup.com/donate for other ways to donate.

We appreciate your support!



DONATE THROUGH SEP 16, 2022

Donations will be matched through the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole





Teton Water Users Association

When Wyatt Penfold was a boy, he remembers how his parents managed spring runoff by soaking the seed potato fields with as much water as possible as it flowed off the mountains. For generations, local agricultural producers like Wyatt have implemented this practice to spread water during peak spring runoff and recharge the aquifer so it would be available for use later in the summer.

Flood irrigation disperses abundant spring water, allowing it to sink into the aquifer and eventually reach the river later in the season, when farmers and fish need it most.

When the agricultural community reached out to Friends of the Teton River (FTR) for support on how to maintain and expand this practice, FTR saw an unprecedented opportunity to work with the water users to achieve the shared goals of water resiliency for agriculture and for ecosystem health of the river.

In close partnership with irrigators, LegacyWorks, FTR and Henry's Fork Foundation are in year five of monitoring the amount of water recharged during the spring season by six water managers. Conversations are shifting to how to create market-based, self-sustaining, water user led programs for this work to continue in perpetuity.

For more information about the Teton Water Users Association, visit TetonWaterUsersAssociation.org.

Clean Water Coalition

When a 2017 study showed serious human-caused pollution in Fish Creek, a few local water organizations decided to act. They formed a new collaborative around the desire to improve water quality and reduce nonpoint source pollution in the region's waterways and brought in LegacyWorks to facilitate. Their initial focus was education and outreach around best practices, which led to the creation of the Trout Friendly Lawn program. The program has been hugely successful in Jackson Hole and this year expanded into Teton Valley.

The Coalition is currently working on new guidelines for management of ponds, trees, shrubs and winter snow storage while assessing further opportunities for collaborative impact.



Teton Creek Corridor

The Teton Creek Corridor is a collaborative conservation project to preserve open space, support agriculture, encourage responsible development, improve riparian habitat, and expand a public pathway along Teton Creek around the community of Driggs, and eventually beyond. For the past eight years, LegacyWorks has facilitated a group of local partners who are advancing the multi-faceted elements of the project.

With a remarkably successful phase one now complete, the partners have expanded the scope and scale of the project as we move towards a decade of conservation and community impact success. In the year ahead look for big news on the protection of hundreds of acres of key farmland buffering Driggs, the extension of the pathway system, improvements in in-stream flow for Yellowstone Cutthroat trout and even key community infrastructure improvements like expansion of the wastewater treatment facility and a potential new affordable housing project.

Teton Creek Corridor is the project that launched LegacyWorks and its ever expanding impact is a testament to the power of well-facilitated collaborative efforts among committed local partners.



Upper Snake Collaborative

Increased demand for water downstream and declining snowpacks are impacting the Upper Snake River watersheds we call home. Resulting late season flow reductions and higher in-stream temperatures threaten both the ecological integrity of our waterways and the viability of agriculture in the region.

A group of nonprofits working with the agricultural community and other stakeholders formed the Upper Snake Collaborative to address these challenges. The collaborative believes we need to create an additional 60,000 acre foot carry-over in Island Park Reservoir to allow water managers to address ecological and agricultural goals of the river system. The partners have assessed opportunities to create this additional flow and just received a major multi-year federal grant for one of the highest impact opportunities - lining Conant Creek to reduce water loss in the irrigation system and allow the saved water to be used for other purposes.

Modeled on the Teton Creek Corridor, the Upper Snake River Collaborative is facilitated by LegacyWorks Group with the intention of building capacity and supporting follow on projects that create a pathway to bigger impact opportunities. We will soon launch a storymap to share the success of the collaborative – what we've achieved and what's to come.

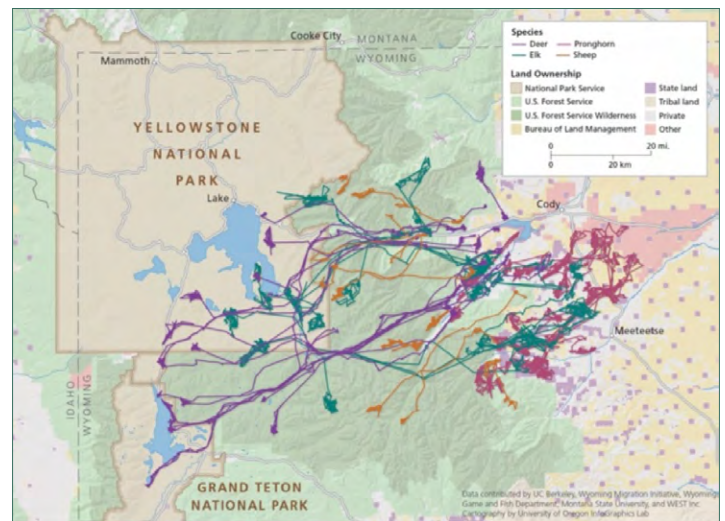


East Yellowstone Collaborative

Working with private landowners and partners, the East Yellowstone Collaborative (EYC) was formed to catalyze landscape-scale conservation along the Absaroka Front while enhancing the economic viability of ranches and their important role in wildlife conservation.

EYC is committed to finding conservation solutions that work for landowners and the community including habitat leases, habitat restoration, conservation easements, improved resource mapping layers for county planning, social gatherings around topics of interest/concern, and mutual aid and support.

EYC participants include Western Landowners Alliance, The Nature Conservancy in Wyoming, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Jackson Hole Land Trust, local landowners, Buffalo Bill Center of the West, and LegacyWorks Group as facilitator.



Migrations of the Absaroka Front



Winter Elk Range

We continue to work with ranchers to expand winter range for elk and mule deer in partnership with the Greater Yellowstone Coalition. We have entered into agreements with two Teton County ranchers to compensate them for changing their winter grazing programs in ways that benefit elk and we are in conversation with additional ranchers in the valley and to the south.

This innovative work is funded by the Knobloch Foundation, enabling us to tap into solutions designed by the ranchers themselves, opening up new tools in the conservation tool box.



Teton Climate Action Partnership

In January 2020 about 100 people came together at the Pink Garter Theater in Jackson, WY to catalyze local climate action. The Teton Climate Action Partnership (TCAP) evolved out of that initial convening. TCAP's vision is equitable net-zero carbon in the Teton Region by 2030. The TCAP partners believe that cross-sector collaboration enables them to identify and implement a diverse, distributed portfolio of projects that center equity and accelerate the community capacity and systemic change needed to achieve equitable net zero carbon by 2030. TCAP provides a collaborative, equitable, adaptive, community-wide and continuous cycle of project development within the partnership that feeds – and is fed by – climate action of the partners. The first ideas incubated within the partnership are beginning to take form as tangible actions in the community.

Partnership Framework

TCAP is a partnership, not a plan or organization.

How does real change happen in a community? It does take plans and policies, but most importantly we need to implement the collaborative projects that make a real difference and move us towards our goals. Thus, in lieu of a policy document and/or action plan to be considered for adoption through a political process, tetonclimateaction.org provides a dynamic collection of actionable impact opportunities curated by local partners who know the needs and opportunities the best. The project portfolio is updated quarterly as new project opportunities are identified and developed, and the dashboard is updated as partners implement projects and deliver impact.

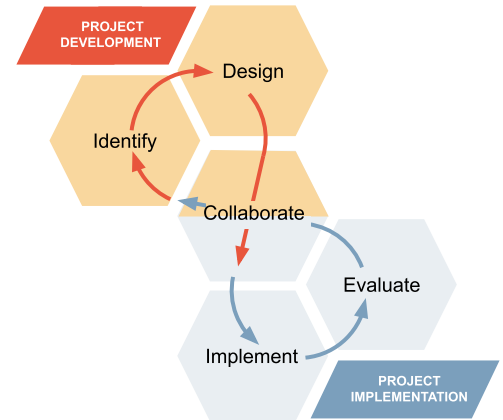
Dashboard

[Tetonclimateaction.org](http://tetonclimateaction.org) includes an interactive dashboard that allows decision makers and interested parties to dig into the community's emissions profile and consider the suite of projects needed to achieve net-zero carbon. The emissions dashboard builds on Yellowstone-Teton Clean Cities' 2008 and 2018 emissions inventories and is evolving to include additional data inputs and compatibility with other methods for calculating emissions. Dashboards showing data on climate change, equity, and climate action will also be added.

Overall the adaptive TCAP structure and dashboard allow for partners to commit to the vision and principles of the partnership as a whole, identify and collaborate on individual projects that align with their mission and interests, tell the stories of projects, elicit community support, and track our collective progress via the dashboard. While focusing on this action-oriented approach, TCAP still provides crucial resources and content needed for more formal policies and plans that need to be adopted by local governments – without waiting for the political process required to adopt them.

To suggest a project, interact with the dashboard, or learn more about TCAP, visit tetonclimateaction.org.

TCAP Adaptive Planning and Implementation Cycle



Project Opportunities Idea Form

Interactive Emissions Dashboard

