



# **HARRIMAN**

## **STATE PARK OF IDAHO**

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Rededication Week & Heritage Days  
July 17-23, 2022



# Island Park Chamber of COMMERCE



Congratulations  
40th Anniversary Rededication

*Island Park, Idaho a Season for Everyone*



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# PROGRAM GUIDE

## REDEDICATION WEEK AT HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO

### Event Dates

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# HARRIMAN

## FROM RAILROAD RANCH TO STATE PARK\*



Harriman State Park archives

### Origins of the Railroad Ranch

The Railroad Ranch began simply enough. In the 1890s, investors purchased land in Island Park and in 1902 incorporated the Island Park Land and Cattle Company (IPL&CC) to raise and sell livestock. Equally important, they regarded their ranch as a sporting retreat, and company bylaws reserved hunting, fishing, and camping privileges for incorporators and guests.

The Oregon Short Line railroad employed most of the original owners—William Bancroft and Silas Eccles being most prominent—giving the place its popular name, the Railroad Ranch.

### The Influence of John Muir

Andrew Carnegie gave money for libraries. Edward Harriman acquired land for parks. “What do you think the public likes best, parks or libraries?” Harriman prompted reporters, assured most people preferred open space to library buildings. Harriman’s children inherited his passion for nature.

When, in 1899, doctors advised Harriman to rest, he made the vacation into a scientific adventure.

He chartered a steamer, filling it with thirty of the nation’s outstanding scientists, naturalists, artists, and photographers, together with his family and crew. The George W. Elder steamed from Seattle in May, returning two months later following one of the most important excursions ever undertaken in Alaska.

John Muir, one of the passengers, became a life-long family friend. Muir frequently visited the Harrimans at their various properties, including the Railroad Ranch. In 1913, he spent 10 restful days at Island Park, recording impressions in one of his last journals written before his death in December 1914.



Solomon Guggenheim. Peggy Guggenheim Collection

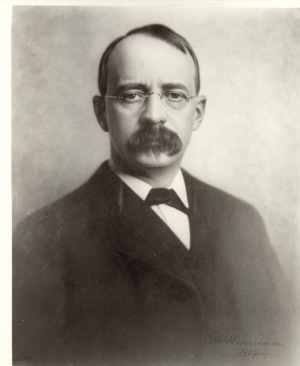
### The Guggenheims and the Harrimans in Island Park

Shortly after incorporating the IPL&CC, the three owners, Bancroft, Eccles, and James Anderson, acquired lots and constructed buildings. In 1906, three Guggenheim brothers—Solomon, Daniel and Murry—purchased ranch lots, beginning its history as a getaway for wealthy easterners. Later, in 1908, Edward Harriman acquired Murry’s lot as well the nearby, 325-acre Robert Osborne farm. By the time that deal closed, Edward Harriman had died. He never saw the Railroad Ranch.

His son Averell was the first Harriman to visit, stopping in 1909 while working for a Union Pacific survey crew. Perhaps his enthusiasm spurred his mother, Mary Harriman, to persist in efforts to purchase Guggenheim property. In 1911, Daniel Guggenheim sold her one-fourth interest in the Railroad Ranch and one share of Island Park Land and Cattle Company stock.

Mary, along with children Carol, Averell and Roland, visited the ranch that year. The boys hunted and took a five-day horseback trip to Yellowstone. Carol learned to fish, went riding and boating, and shared in ranch work. Mary recorded the “fine sight” of a bull moose standing in a lake, had her first row in a duck boat, and enjoyed a country dance under a new moon.

Years later Roland reminisced that, “it was a matter of love at first sight for all of us. The glorious scenery and weather, the fishing, the hunting, the horseback riding, and learning the lore of cattle handling all combined to lure us back there summer after summer.”



EH Harriman. Harriman State Park archives

\*Excerpts from *Harriman: From Railroad Ranch To State Park* by Mary E. Reed and Keith C. Peterson. Published in 1991 by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreations, Boise, Idaho.



## The Ranch as a Business

Romance surrounded the Railroad Ranch, luring eastern owners west year after year. Here they escaped business pressures, mingled with ranch hands, herded cattle, and acted the part of Western cowboys. Yet this was also a working ranch. Hundreds of cattle grazed its pastures, and the staff worked as hard as any Idaho ranchers. Still, the Island Park Land and Cattle Company remained an anomaly. The owners cared more about the property as a retreat than as a ranch, but hoped cattle profits might subsidize their leisure. That was never to be...

Despite the conflicts between business and entertainment, the property was always a working cattle ranch for those living there. In fact, it was one of Idaho's largest. By the 1950s, the Island Park Land and Cattle Company owned nearly 11,500 acres in Idaho and 1,500 in Montana. It leased or held grazing rights to 3,000 acres more. By that time, the ranch wintered about 2,500 head of cattle. The herd size increased each spring with the purchase of young steers. For a time the ranch also raised sheep growing to more than 2,000 before the flock sold in 1935.



Historic Railroad Ranch buildings. Photo by Jeff Oldroyd



Work on the cattle ranch. Harriman State Park archives - Ed Kroker



Ed Kroker (left) with Gladys and Roland Harriman. Harriman State Park archives - Ed Kroker



IDPR mascot 'Scout' taking the reins of a covered wagon. Harriman State Park archives

## From Ranch to Park

Edward Harriman believed you should, "leave whatever you touch better off for having touched it." ...

In 1910, a year after her husband's death, Mary Harriman gave 10,000 acres, along with a million dollars, to the Palisades Interstate Park in the Hudson River Valley. When over a half century later the Harriman family donated 11,000 acres to Idaho, the state officially named it "Harriman State Park of Idaho" to distinguish it from the earlier New York gift.

Roland and Averell Harriman's donation of their Island Park property reflected philanthropic lessons learned from their parents. In words that would have gratified his mother and father, Roland wrote that he and Averell gave the Idaho property,

"...Because we just could not face the prospect of its becoming nothing more than an uncontrolled real estate development with hot dog stands and cheap honky-tonks and because we could foresee the necessity for preserving such property for the enjoyment of future generations."



Former IDPR Director Steve Bly (left) with the Harrimans. Harriman State Park archives



# HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO REDEDICATION DAY & PUBLIC OPEN HOUSE

Forty years ago – on July 17, 1982 – Harriman State Park of Idaho officially opened to the public with a grand ceremony on the Railroad Ranch lawn overlooking the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Five years had passed since Roland and Averell Harriman executed transfer of their beloved Railroad Ranch to the State of Idaho in April 1977. During this time, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) invested in new infrastructure and readied the Park to serve the public. Fortunately, the Harriman's gift leveraged over \$1 million from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to finance the improvements.

Although Roland and Gladys Harriman passed away before the 1982 dedication, Averell and Pamela Harriman were present for the grand occasion. They toured the new park with IDPR representatives and listened to Governor John V. Evans as he dedicated this new Park to the people of Idaho.

More than 20 years earlier in 1961, Governor Robert Smylie finalized negotiations and signed the historic agreement that led to the creation of Harriman State Park of Idaho. The Harriman family placed several conditions on this extraordinary gift to ensure the long-term protection of fish and wildlife:

- The Park's land plus 10,000 acres of adjacent National Forest land must be managed as a wildlife refuge with no hunting or trapping permitted.
- A year-round sanctuary for waterfowl must be maintained on the Railroad Ranch section of Henry's Fork, particularly to protect the wintering grounds of the Trumpeter swan.
- Fishing within the Park is to be restricted to fly fishing only.
- Property taxes must be paid to Fremont County in perpetuity at the 1961 assessed valuation.
- All revenues from grazing leases, activity fees, etc. are to be retained for Park use, not used elsewhere in the state.
- A land exchange program is to be pursued with the USDA Forest Service to develop manageable land units and to resolve any boundary issues.
- A professionally staffed park service must exist to manage Harriman State Park of Idaho. [This condition led to the formation of the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation in 1965.]

After enjoying this generous gift for four decades, Harriman State Park supporters are rededicating themselves

**Sunday, July 17, 2022**

**1:00-3:00 pm**

**Railroad Ranch-Boy's House lawn**

to preserving the Harriman family's natural legacy. We need your ideas on how to improve and maintain the non-motorized Harriman trail system given increasing public use. Input is welcome from all users – hikers, anglers, birders, mountain and fat tire bikers, Nordic skiers, snowshoers and horseback riders – through one-on-one dialogue at the July 17 Open House.

Please plan to attend the Rededication event and help launch the new Harriman Trails Initiative!

*IDPR/Harriman State Park Staff  
Friends of Harriman State Park Board of Directors*



*Harriman State Park Grand Opening, 1982. Photo courtesy of IDPR*



# REDEDICATION SCHEDULE AND PARTICIPANTS

Please join us for this Free Special Event on Sunday, July 17th

## 1:00 PM - Rededication Ceremony

Welcome: Mark Eliot, Park Manager

Rededication Address: Susan Buxton, IDPR Director

Rededication Declaration: Governor Brad Little (invited)

Introduction of local and state officials and special guests

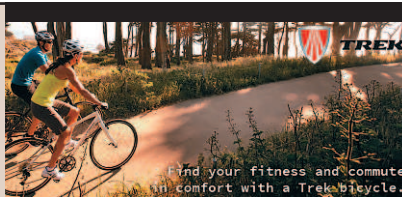
## 1:30-3:00 PM - Open House

<b>Day Hikers</b> Snake River Trails Alliance, Table Host	<b>Nordic Skiers/Snowshoe/Fat Tire Bikers</b> Idaho Falls Nordic Ski Patrol, Table Host
<b>Anglers</b> Troughunter Fly Shop, Table Host	<b>Wildlife/Bird Watchers</b> Idaho Master Naturalists, Table Host
<b>Mountain Bikers</b> Snake River Trails Alliance, Table Host	<b>Horseback Riders:</b> Backcountry Horsemen of Idaho - Eagle Rock Chapter, Table Host
<b>Historians:</b> Visit with Harriman volunteers seeking to preserve the historic buildings and to hear your stories about visiting or working at the former Railroad Ranch.	
<b>Friends of Harriman State Park:</b> Information on how to donate to special projects and the Harriman Trails Initiative.	
<b>IDPR/Harriman Staff:</b> Seeking public input on the Harriman East unit and Fish Pond.	



# THE MOUNTAIN SPORT SHOP

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**BICYCLES, CAMPING, BACKPACKING, HIKING, CLOTHING AND MORE...**

# THE HARRIMAN TRAILS INITIATIVE

Harriman State Park of Idaho officially opened to the public in 1982 for year-round outdoor recreation. Since that time, the Park has become especially popular with non-motorized recreationists from across Eastern Idaho and the Greater Yellowstone area. Designed primarily for hikers and cross-country skiers, the Park's trail system also is open to horseback riders and mountain bikers, and in the winter, to snowshoe and fat tire bike enthusiasts. In the summer and fall, anglers use the Park's trails to access various stretches of the Henry's Fork of the Snake River.

The diversity of non-motorized trail users means a wide variety of people are using the Harriman trail system, but this has led to user conflicts and more rapidly degraded trails. Bridges are showing this wear and tear, as are the trail surfaces that are down cutting with increasing bicycle and horse use. A number of remedies exist to expand, upgrade and maintain the trail system, but not all are compatible with the Park's designation as a wildlife refuge and the original intentions of the Harriman family.

The **Friends of Harriman State Park (FHSP)** is pleased to a partner with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation in launching a five-year fundraising initiative to benefit the non-motorized trail system beginning in 2023. Here are Phase One trail projects and their monetary commitments to date:

- **John Muir ADA Interpretive Trail - \$75,000 raised to reroute, reengineer and resurface**
- **River Trail Bridge over Lower Thurman Creek - \$15,000 raised thus far to replace**
- **Updated Pole Signs with Trail System Maps - \$10,000 committed by FHSP**

The partners will design additional projects over the coming year based on the public trail survey results (see below). For more information on how to donate to the new **Harriman Trails Initiative**, please go to page 26 in this program guide or visit the FHSP website at [www.friendsofharriman.org](http://www.friendsofharriman.org).

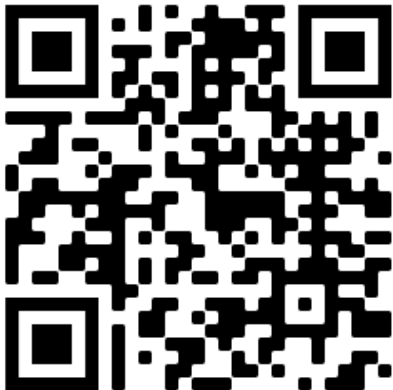
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## COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL USERS

### WE NEED YOUR HELP!

You can help Idaho State Park management and the Friends of Harriman State Park by participating in this survey so we understand your priorities regarding the Park's non-motorized trails. You may complete the survey online or return this form to the Park Visitor Center no later than July 31, 2022. You also may mail the form to Friends of Harriman State Park, PO Box 125, Island Park, ID 83429.

Please use the QR code below to access and complete the survey online, and THANK YOU!



*Cross-country skier. Harriman State Park archives*



# HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO - TRAILS INITIATIVE

## COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR NON-MOTORIZED TRAIL USERS

Please submit by July 31, 2022, either in person to Harriman State Park of Idaho Visitor Center or mail to:  
Friends of Harriman State Park, PO Box 125, Island Park, ID 83429

### Trail User Profile

Individual \_\_\_ OR # in Family \_\_\_ (enter ages for all family members using trails)

Age Range: 0-5\_\_\_ 6-12\_\_\_ 13-17\_\_\_ 18-24\_\_\_ 25-34\_\_\_ 35-44\_\_\_ 45-54\_\_\_ 55-64\_\_\_ 65+\_\_\_

City/State of Residence \_\_\_\_\_

### Type and Frequency of Your Trail Use (enter number of visits per season)

	Spring April-May	Summer June-Aug	Fall Sept-Nov	Winter Dec-Mar	Comments
Hiking					
Mountain Biking (Summer)					
Trail Running					
Angler Access Only (Hike/Bike)					
Horseback Riding					
Cross-Country Skiing - Classic					
Cross-Country Skiing - Skate					
Snowshoeing					
Fat Tire Biking (Winter)					
Becker Yurt Access (Summer)					
Other (specify):					

### Recent Observations re: Harriman Trail Conditions (within last two years)

	Great	Good	Fair	Needs Help	Clarifying Comments
Trail Surface (Summer)					
Winter Grooming					
Bridge Crossings					
Corridor Clearance					
Directional Signage					
Informational Signage					

Additional observations on the condition of the Harriman Trail System:

Type and Quality of Your Harriman Trail Experiences (check all that apply)

	High Quality	Average Quality	Poor Quality	Clarifying Comments
Time with Family/Friends				
Bird Watching				
Wildlife Viewing/Listening				
Nature Photography				
Physical/Technical Challenge				
Solitude/Meditation				
Artistic Inspiration				
Trail Riding on Horseback				
Angler Access to Henry’s Fork				
Other:				

Possible Improvements to Trail Conditions and Experiences (check all that apply)

	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	Clarifying Comments
Consider separate trails for hikers, cyclists and horses				
Fix ruts; U-shaped down cuts				
Consider one-way trails				
Update directional signage and trail maps and markers				
Widen bridges for safer water crossings				
Add more restrooms				
Add more interpretive signs and/or brochures				
Schedule more naturalist-led hikes, rides and ski trips				
Connect Harriman System with other Island Park trails				
Rent more trail equipment (e.g. bikes, skis, snowshoes)				
Other:				

Additonal thoughts, observations, and suggestions regarding the Harriman trail system:



# HARRIMAN BRIDGE REPLACED ON TIME AND WITHIN BUDGET

Friends of Harriman State Park set a four-year goal to execute the replacement of the Harriman Ranch Bridge across the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Built in 1921 of local materials sourced on site, the bridge served as the main entrance into the "Railroad Ranch" for the owners as well as a cattle crossing. After the Ranch transferred to the State of Idaho, the bridge and dirt road network became part of the park and community trail system.

The bridge had few repairs in its lifetime and as a result was condemned and closed in 2018. FHSP launched "The Ranch Bridge Project" in September 2017 with a goal of completing it in 2021 for the bridge's Grand Centennial. The last two years involved raising the necessary funds for the project from foundations and private donations, and working with private and IDPR engineers to finalize architectural plans and bid the construction work needed to set the bridge.

The new bridge arrived at Harriman State Park in three sections on October 28, 2020. It was assembled on shore over the next two days while the crane operators spent the following weekend moving three cranes on site for the lift and set. On November 2, 2020, the new Ranch Bridge was laid in its final resting place. On June 15, 2021, FHSP and Harriman State Park hosted a



*The original Harriman Ranch Cattle Bridge. Idaho Transportation Department photo*

dedication and Centennial Celebration rejoicing in this achievement.

In the summer of 2022, the Friends and Harriman State Park staff will begin the finishing touches on the bridge itself. This includes staining the bridge

abutments, adding more vegetation around the bridge site, and adding historic replica gates. The approaches to the bridge will be graded to ensure safety in recreational and cattle crossings.



*New bridge placement. Photo courtesy FHSP*



*Photo courtesy FHSP*





# HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO

## A NATURAL LEGACY

Harriman State Park of Idaho lies in the heart of the Harriman Wildlife Refuge—16,000 acres of forest, meadows, lakes and streams nestled inside the Island Park Caldera. As part of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, this sanctuary protects a wide diversity of birds and mammals similar to those living in nearby Yellowstone National Park. Within the Park's core 4,330 acres (the "Home Ranch") lie five major natural environments, each offering a different kind of experience.

**THE FOREST:** Lodgepole pine forest covers much of the park. This species, which constitutes more than 90 percent of the area's trees, experienced an infestation of mountain pine beetle that peaked in the 1980s. Douglas fir, spruce species and quaking aspen mix in with regenerating lodgepole.



*Harriman State Park archives*



*Wildflowers in Camas Meadow. Harriman State Park archives*

**SAGE MEADOWS:** The forest edge gradually moves out to the extensive meadowlands. Throughout much of the summer, these areas provide a spectacular display of wildflowers, but as fall arrives, the lush green grasses turn to tones of rust and straw.



*Coyote in Marsh. Harriman State Park archives*

**THE MARSHLANDS:** The presence of abundant water transforms portions of the sage meadows into marshlands that attract nesting waterfowl as well as sandhill cranes. In late summer and fall when stream flows slacken, the wetlands dry out and become favored locations for elk.





*Silver Lake. Photo by Janice Brown*

## LAKES AND PONDS:

The Park's two largest bodies of standing water are Golden and Silver lakes. These lakes, along with numerous smaller ponds, are home to many species of fish and waterfowl, as well as muskrats, otter and mink. Abundant aquatic vegetation makes the lakes favored feeding spots for waterfowl, while marshy areas along the shores provide nesting cover.

**THE RIVER:** The Henry's Fork of the Snake River begins at Big Springs, grows larger at its confluence with the Henry's Lake Outlet, and enters Harriman State Park after it emerges from the Island Park Reservoir and Box Canyon. Henry's Fork has long been known as one of the finest fly fishing streams in the West. It also is a favorite feeding area for moose and fishing birds such as the osprey and bald eagle. In the winter, the Henry's Fork remains ice-free thanks to warm springs and releases from the Island Park Reservoir, making it ideal overwintering habitat for Trumpeter swans. The largest of all North American waterfowl, Trumpeter swans were nearly extinct in the lower 48 states by the early 1900s due to hunting for hat feathers. By establishing a swan sanctuary at the Railroad Ranch, the Harrimans were critical to saving the Rocky Mountain population that still overwinters in the Henry's Fork watershed.



*An osprey has luck fishing. Photo by David Kilpatrick*



*Wintering Swans. Harriman State Park archives*



*Sego Lily. Harriman State Park archives*

# HARRIMAN IN RETROSPECTIVE

## A SPEAKER SERIES

“Rededication Week” is about looking back at 40 years of managing Harriman State Park of Idaho and its wildlife refuge while also looking to the future. What makes Harriman and its surrounding landscape so special? What lessons have we learned over the past four decades to improve resource and recreation management? How can we best preserve the unique Harriman experience for future generations?

Each day of Rededication Week, the Park is hosting special guest speakers who will answer these questions. Many have a long-term perspective with respect to Harriman State Park, the Henry’s Fork of the Snake River and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest. These “Retrospective” panels will run from 1:00-3:00 pm each day. Bring a comfortable chair and enjoy an educational afternoon at the Park!

**July 18-22, 2022**  
**Daily from 1:00-3:00 pm**  
**Free to the Public**

**Monday, July 18: Caldera Hydrogeology**

**Tuesday, July 19: Forest Ecosystems**

**Wednesday, July 20: The Henry’s Fork Fishery**

**Thursday, July 21: The Harriman Wildlife Refuge**

**Friday, July 22: Harriman’s Rangelands**

**Monday, July 18 – 1:00 pm**

**Ranchview Picnic Shelter**

### Caldera Hydrogeology



Upper Mesa Falls on the Henry’s Fork near Island Park, Idaho. Photo courtesy Bill Hackett

Harriman State Park of Idaho is nestled in a volcanic caldera, formed by massive explosions more than a million years ago and part of an immense volcanic system that is one of the largest and most violent on Earth. Nineteenth-century trappers’ journals and federal scientific investigations first described the geologic wonders of the Yellowstone - Island Park area, a place of extreme elevation, past cataclysmic volcanism, and the birthplace of major rivers. Today, sophisticated geophysical instruments monitor the area for signs of unrest, revealing the deep structure of Earth’s interior and its underlying magma system. The unique scenery, ecology and abundant water resources of the area are explained by its geologic history of volcanism- a story that is still being written.

Mesa Falls and the opposite cliffs are carved from Mesa Falls Tuff, a deposit of hot volcanic ash that was violently erupted more than a million years ago during formation of the Henry’s Fork caldera.



Streamflow in the Harriman Ranch reach of the Henry's Fork results from the interaction of climate, geology, management of Island Park Reservoir, and a complex system of water rights administered across the entire Snake River basin. The river's natural hydrology is dominated by large groundwater springs that emerge at the base of the Yellowstone Plateau at Big Springs, while its actual hydrology is regulated by management of Island Park Reservoir, and to a lesser extent, Henry's Lake, both of which store and deliver water for irrigation well downstream of the Ranch. In turn, Island Park Reservoir is part of a much larger system of reservoirs in the upper Snake River basin, management of which depends both on within-basin irrigation needs and on legal and administrative obligations as far downstream as the Columbia River.



Island Park Reservoir. Photo by Rob Van Kirk

## Retrospective Series

Moderated by Idaho Master Naturalists, Island Park Chapter

### Rob Van Kirk

*Senior Scientist and Director of Science and Technology  
Henry's Fork Foundation*

Rob first fished the Harriman Ranch section of the Henry's Fork in 1977, worked at Henry's Fork Anglers from 1981-1987 and was first hired to work by the Henry's Fork Foundation in 1994. Since then, he has studied the hydrology and ecology of the Henry's Fork both as an employee of the Henry's Fork Foundation (1994-1998 and 2013-present) and as a professor at Idaho State University (1999-2008) and Humboldt State University (2008-2013). He has published 35 peer-reviewed scientific papers and book chapters, 14 of which are devoted specifically to research conducted in the Henry's Fork watershed.

### William R. (Bill) Hackett

*Owner and Registered Professional Geologist  
WRH Associates, Inc.*

Once a professor of geology at Idaho State University and a staff scientist at the Idaho National Laboratory, Bill now serves as an INL consultant in volcanism and volcanic-hazard analysis. Bill has fished the Henry's Fork for more than 40 years and is a life member of the Henry's Fork Foundation where he served several terms as a director. Bill and his family live in Ogden, Utah, where the fishing is not bad, but not as good.



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next adventure!

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# The Forest Ecosystem

Lodgepole pine is the dominant tree in the Harriman Wildlife Refuge, providing cover for elk, moose, deer, owls and many small rodents. Most of the lodgepole pine forest in Island Park had died by the late 1980s due to an infestation of mountain pine beetles that began in the 1960s. As the US Forest Service and other agencies harvested dying stands across three decades, more sunlight reached the forest floor, allowing wildflowers and other plant life to prosper. Several Harriman State Park trails wind through the recovering lodgepole forest interspersed with stands of Douglas fir and quaking aspen.

The speaker presentations will focus on lodgepole pine forest management, the manipulated landscape of Island Park, and the value of forest restoration. They also will discuss fire history, fire behavior, fire response, and the need for more prescribed fire in the Greater Yellowstone landscape.



*Elk in Harriman State Park. Photo by Kristen Kaser*



*View from the Ridge, 1957. Harriman State Park archives - Ed Kroker*



## Liz Davy

*Retired Forest Service District Ranger*

Liz is a Forest Ecologist, Silviculturist and Retired District Ranger. She became familiar with Island Park starting in the mid-1980s when she drove up Fish Creek road, the paved road to nowhere, crested onto the Moose Creek Plateau and saw massive clearcuts and logging operations. Since then she has worked on the Targhee, Caribou-Targhee, Salmon Challis and Bridger-Teton National Forests with her last job as the District Ranger for Ashton/Island Park Ranger District. Liz worked cooperatively with Harriman State Park throughout her career with forest management and fuels reduction projects.



Clear cuts up to the boundary with Yellowstone National Park. Photo courtesy Liz Davey

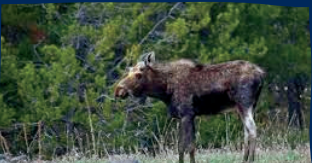
## Jon White

*Fuels Specialist, Ashton/Island Park and Dubois Ranger Districts, Caribou-Targhee National Forest*

Jon has been working in fire management for over 20 years with the US Forest Service, National Park Service, the US Fish and Wildlife, and The Nature Conservancy. He currently manage a fuels program on both the Ashton/Island Park and Dubois districts that implements mechanical and prescribed fire projects which reduces future wildland fire behavior adjacent to homes as well as improves ecosystem health by manipulating natural disturbances. Several of these projects have been in the Island Park area and a few of those have been adjacent to Harriman State Park.



Photo courtesy of Jon White



**40 YEARS.**  
**16,000 ACRES.**  
**22 MILES OF TRAILS.**  
**6,120 FEET ABOVE SEA LEVEL.**  
**IMMEASURABLE BEAUTY.**  
**INVALUABLE RESOURCE.**  
**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!**



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## The Henry's Fork Fishery

The Henry's Fork of the Snake River – particularly the “Ranch” stretch through Harriman State Park – is considered by authors and angling experts to be among the finest dry fly streams in the world. More than 40 years since have passed since the river was stocked with hatchery trout, and after the Island Park Dam hydroelectric facility came online in the early 1990s, far fewer trout have been able to migrate down from Island Park Reservoir. Today most of the rainbow trout population is wild with trout naturally spawned in the river.

Although descriptions of the world-class insect hatches and flat-water fishing experience on the Ranch were published in the angling literature in the 1960s and 1970s, scientific research on the river's hydrology and ecology lagged by a couple of decades. Starting with work by Dr. Jack Griffith and his students at Idaho State University in the 1980s, dozens of research and monitoring projects have identified the main ingredients that make the Ranch fishery unique. Primary among these is Island Park Reservoir, which both giveth, in the form of high nutrient concentrations, and taketh away, in the form of low winter flows that negatively affect the trout population. The ecological story of the Ranch fishery over the past 40 years is indeed a story of Island Park Reservoir and its management.

Over the past 40 years, the Henry's Fork watershed



*A radio-tagged rainbow trout is released into the river as part of a study to determine trout habitat preferences in the Harriman Reach. Photo courtesy of Henry's Fork Foundation*

also has experienced social change and a move towards more collaborative problem solving – not only in the Island Park area but statewide. In the 1980's there was much conflict and enmity over single issues such as swan management vs. fish management. For the last 25 years, more informed decision-making has become the norm with greater collaboration among all those involved through efforts such as the Henry's Fork Watershed Council.

Fly fishing has become a huge part of Idaho's tourism economy, bringing millions of dollars into the state. The greatest challenge for the future is maintaining the quality of angling within Harriman State Park as more and more people desire that experience. More visitation and more support facilities could lead to compromising the very experiences so many desire if park planners and managers fail to consider the cumulative social and recreational impacts.



*Lonnie Allen, Owner of Three Rivers Ranch Outfitters. Submitted photo*



*Millionaires Pool. Harriman State Park archives*



## Lonnie Allen

*Owner, Three Rivers Ranch Outfitters*

Lonnie was born and raised in Fremont County, Idaho, and loves fly-fishing with family and friends. She is the third generation of a family-run fly-fishing business that has catered to tourists visiting the area for over 100 years. Lonnie has served on the boards of the Teton Regional Land Trust and the Idaho Nature Conservancy. She now serves as a Director of the Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association and is the Region 6 representative to the Idaho Travel Council.



Winter fishing on the Henry's Fork of the Snake River. Photo courtesy of Virgil Moore

## Mike Lawson

*General Manager, Henry's Fork Anglers*

Mike was born and raised in the Henry's Fork Valley and fished there most of his 75 years. In 1976, he and his wife Sheralee started Henry's Fork Anglers, an outfitter and fly fishing shop located in Last Chance upstream from the upper boundary of the Harriman State Park. Mike's mother grew up in Ashton where she worked for the Harrimans in the summer months while she was attending school. His father worked for the Union Pacific Railroad and was good friends with former Railroad Ranch Manager Ben Meese. Mike is the author of two books: *Spring Creeks* and *Fly Fishing the Henry's Fork*.

## Virgil Moore

*Retired Director, Idaho Fish and Game*

Virgil first experienced the Island Park Area while in graduate school and fishing the Henry's Fork in the 1970s. As Idaho Fish and Game Upper Snake Regional Fisheries Manager 1980 – 1984 and the State Fish manager (1984-1987), he worked with Harriman State Park on the fisheries management needs for the new park's plan. He was involved with the Harriman Park, Henry's Fork and Henry's Lake fish and wildlife issues until he retired as Director on 2019.



**GET FISHING NOW!  
SCAN ME!**



**LODGE GUIDES FLY SHOP BAR & GRILL**  
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## The Harriman Wildlife Refuge

The Harriman Wildlife Refuge includes 16,000 acres of National Forest including Harriman State Park of Idaho at its core. This panel will describe the history of the refuge, its designation, and cooperative federal and state habitat management. Idaho Fish and Game officials will highlight important wildlife resources in the Harriman State Park and key habitats in the vicinity. They also will discuss how bears use the Island Park area and particularly grizzly bear use of Harriman State Park and surrounding habitat.



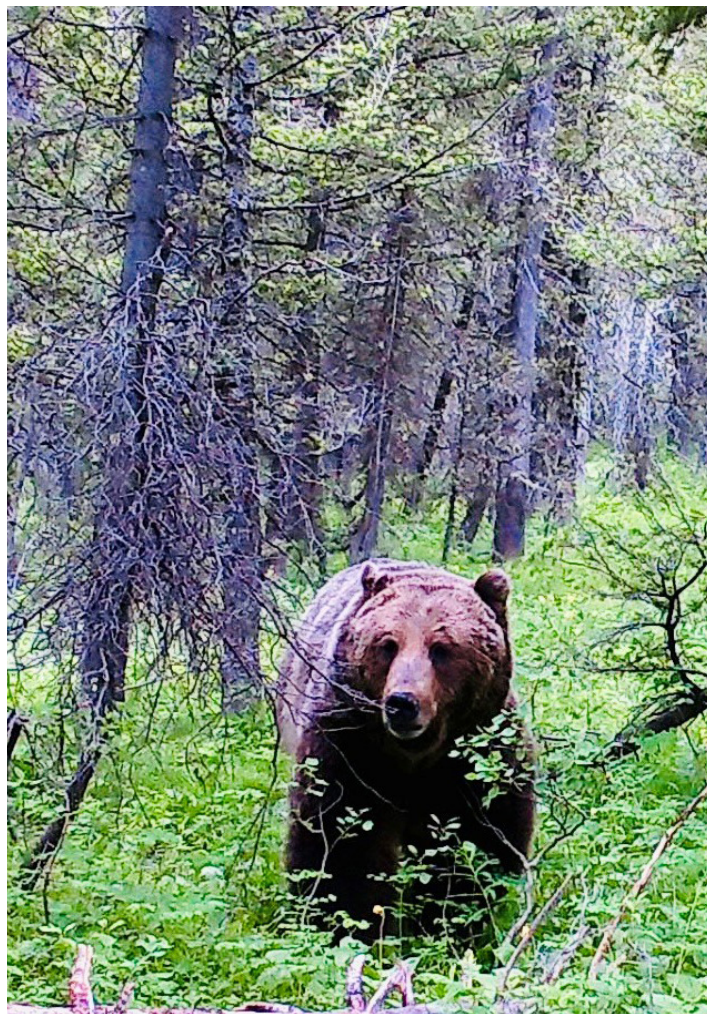
*A moose in the midst of a fireweed patch. Photo by Janice Brown*



*Trumpeter swans on Silver Lake. Photo by Janice Brown*



*Great Gray Owls. Photo by Tom Vezo*



*A grizzly wanders through Harriman State Park. Photo by Jeremy Nicholson*



## Liz Davy

*Retired Forest Service District Ranger*

(See bio on page 17)

## Rob Cavallaro

*Upper Snake Regional Wildlife Habitat Manager*

*Idaho Fish and Game*

Rob has worked in wildlife conservation and management in the Upper Snake Region (including Island Park) for 20 years focusing on special status species conservation and management, habitat conservation, restoration and stewardship.

## Jeremy Nicholson

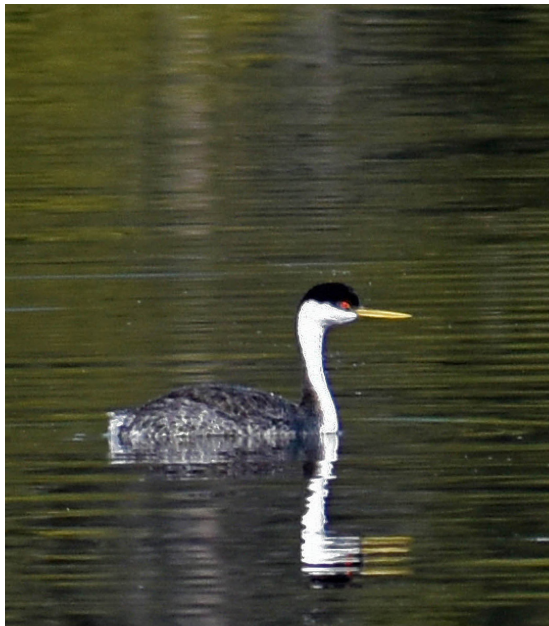
*Upper Snake Regional Wildlife Biologist*

*Idaho Fish and Game*

Jeremy has worked with grizzly bears in the Yellowstone Ecosystem for 10 years. For the last six years, Jeremy has worked with IDFG, stationed in Island Park, focusing on grizzly bear management, education, and research.



*A bald eagle along the Henry's Fork. Photo by David Kilpatrick*



*Western Grebe. Harriman State Park archives*



*A sandhill crane in a lush meadow. Photo by Kristen Kaser*



*Silver Lake in Harriman State Park. Photo by Janice Brown*

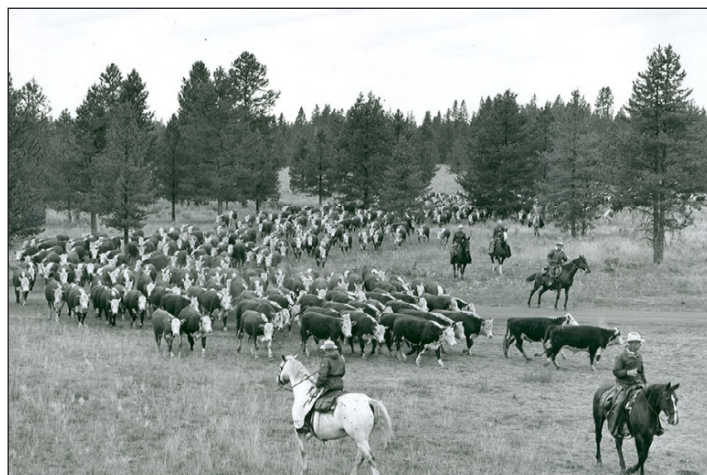


# Harriman Rangelands

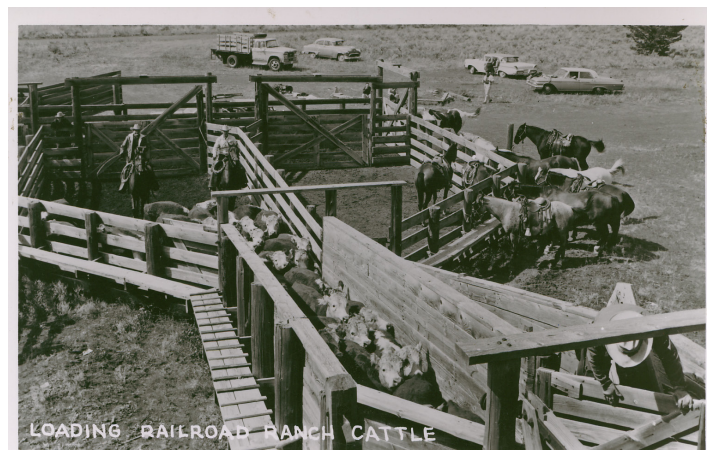
One of the Harriman gift conditions mandated that proceeds from livestock grazing at the former Railroad Ranch be retained for use at the new park and not be spent elsewhere in the state. Because continued livestock production was clearly Harriman's intent, today cattle still graze the lush pastures of the Home Ranch and the Sheridan grazing unit at the west end of Island Park Reservoir. The challenge of managing this valuable range resource for both cattle and wildlife will be the primary focus of these Retrospective speakers.

Ranchers who have decades of experience grazing Harriman's pastures will cover the following topics:

- A brief history of livestock grazing at Harriman.
- Integrating management of waterfowl and cattle on the same ground.
- Management of Harriman's water rights
- Cooperative efforts to improve grazing management resources along the Henry's Fork involving grazing lease holders, the Friends of Harriman State Park and the Henry's Fork Foundation.
- The future of cattle operations at Harriman that underscore the importance of continued livestock grazing for agricultural production.



Cattle drive. Harriman State Park archives



Cattle drive. Harriman State Park archives



Charlie Jone, Gladys and Roland Harriman. Harriman State Park archives





### Chad Taylor

*Senior Lands Resource Manager  
Idaho Department of Lands*

Chad grew up on a ranch and farm in Malad, Idaho where he first became interested in wildlife, the outdoors, and the natural world in general. In 2012, Chad received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Wildlife and Wildlands Conservation from Brigham Young University in Provo, UT. Chad helps fulfill the IDL mandate by leasing and managing roughly 300,000 acres of land across nine counties for grazing, crop production and conservation.

### Brad Foster

*Sheridan Unit Grazing Lessee  
CEO and Owner, Foster Land and Cattle*

For 35 years, Brad Foster has leased Harriman's Sheridan Grazing Unit that is adjacent to his family's neighboring ranch on Ice House Creek. He has owned and managed a total of 50,000 acres of rangeland that supports a mother cow operation of 5,000 head. Brad also has served as an advisor for the BYU Idaho Livestock Management program.



Sheridan Ranch building. Harriman State Park archives

### Shane Jacobson

*Home Ranch Lessee*

Shane Q. Jacobson is a self-employed rancher who operates his in-law's family farm/ranch. The Hanson Ranch has been family-owned and operated for nearly 140 years. Shane was raised in Dubois, Idaho, just 50 miles west of Harriman State Park. He received a degree from the University of Idaho in Rangeland Livestock Management and worked for the US Forest Service as a Rangeland Technician and Rangeland Management Specialist for 15 years.

Shane's father-in-law, Ted Hanson, was among the first ranchers to have a grazing lease when Idaho began managing Harriman State Park. Shane began managing the cattle 10 years ago, and Harriman State Park continues to be an important part of his cattle grazing rotation.



Ted Hanson on the Home Ranch. Photo courtesy Shane Jacobsen



CELEBRATING  
**40**  
YEARS

Proud Partner  
Friends of  
Harriman  
State Park  
on this Special  
Anniversary.

POST REGISTER



# Harriman



## Heritage Days

WESTERN HERITAGE CELEBRATION

HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO  
ISLAND PARK, IDAHO

### Friday July 22nd, 2022

NOON - 5:00 PM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

NOON - 5:00 PM VENDORS, EXHIBITS, AND ART SHOW

NOON - 5:00 PM FOOD TRUCKS

RANCHVIEW PARKING LOT

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM HISTORIC RANCH BUILDINGS TOURS

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM LIVE MUSIC AND WESTERN POETS

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM DRY RIDGE OUTFITTERS WAGON RIDES  
COOKHOUSE TO CATTLE BRIDGE

1:00 PM - 3:00 PM RETROSPECTIVE PANEL:  
HARRIMAN'S RANGELANDS  
BOY'S HOUSE

SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CONTACT HARRIMAN AT 208.558.7368

HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO  
3489 GREEN CANYON ROAD, ISLAND  
PARK, ID  
208.558.7368







# Harriman



## Heritage Days

WESTERN HERITAGE CELEBRATION

HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO  
ISLAND PARK, IDAHO

### Saturday July 23rd, 2022

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

10:00 AM - 5:00 PM VENDORS, EXHIBITS, AND ART SHOW

10:00 AM - 4:00 PM HISTORIC RANCH BUILDINGS TOURS

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM FOOD TRUCKS

RANCHVIEW PARKING LOT

START AT 11:00 AM PLEIN AIR PAINTING DEMO  
WITH DAN HIDALGO

11:00 AM - 5:00 PM LIVE MUSIC AND WESTERN POETS

1:00 PM - 4:00 PM DRY RIDGE OUTFITTERS WAGON RIDES  
COOKHOUSE TO CATTLE BRIDGE

SUBJECT TO CHANGE. CONTACT HARRIMAN AT 208.558.7368

HARRIMAN STATE PARK OF IDAHO  
3489 GREEN CANYON ROAD, ISLAND  
PARK, ID  
208.558.7368



# FRIENDS OF HARRIMAN STATE PARK

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

Friends of Harriman State Park, Inc. (FHSP) is a citizen support group founded in 2010 that serves as a fundraising and volunteer partner for Harriman State Park of Idaho. Our 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization works in cooperation with Harriman State Park management to preserve and enhance the park's natural and cultural resources and the visitor experience.

### Major Accomplishments

- Historic Harriman Bridge replacement
- John Muir ADA Compliant Interpretive Trail
- Jack fence repairs and replacement
- Winter facilities/trail upgrades
- Native plants garden
- Historic building preservation

### Current Board of Directors

Sally Neill, Secretary/Acting Co-President  
Janice Brown, Treasurer/Acting Co-President  
James Hardie, Vice-President  
Rose Alfieri  
Averell Fisk

Layne Hepworth  
Mary Noonan  
Jonathan Stiehl  
Harriman State Park Manager (Ex officio)

### You Can Help!

More than 800 donors have contributed to Friends of Harriman State Park since 2010 when it organized for the Park's long-term protection. In addition to raising funds for Park projects, FHSP seeks to convey to all Idahoans the special nature of this extraordinary public park and the importance of preserving its natural values in perpetuity. Donations of time and money are welcome; visit [www.friendsofharriman.org](http://www.friendsofharriman.org) for more information on how to contribute and/or volunteer. ***And please join us July 17-23, 2022, for Rededication Week activities!***



An aerial view of Harriman State Park of Idaho. Photo by Jeff Oldroyd





# WINE <sup>IN</sup> THE WOODS



A Wine and Beer Tasting on the Banks of the Henry's Fork

Food, Art, Music, Auction



**Proceeds benefit  
Friends of Harriman  
State Park**

FHSP is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit citizen support group that serves as a fundraising partner for Harriman State Park of Idaho. We work in cooperation with the Park to preserve its natural and cultural resources and its visitor experiences.

**September 10, 2022**

*Mimi Matsuda ©*

Harriman State Park 4-7pm  
\$30 advance; \$35 at door  
More information:  
[friendsofharriman.org](http://friendsofharriman.org)

Event Sponsors: Henry's Fork Lodge,  
TroutHunter, TEC Distributing of Idaho,  
Fall River Electric, Blackfoot Communications,  
Mimi Matsuda, Scott Balsai





