



Rick Konrad

JACKSON HOLE CONSERVATION ALLIANCE

Annual Report FY 2007 • Message to Our Members

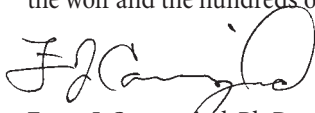
As our 28th year of working to protect Jackson Hole's unsurpassed environmental attributes comes to an end, we have much to celebrate. In a decision that showed respect for our valley's wildlife and natural resources – and for the community's voice – Teton County Commissioners voted in November to deny a proposal to upzone the 15-acre Osprey Creek parcel. This is a great testament to the power of civic involvement and to the strength that partnerships can bring. The Conservation Alliance is proud to have worked with committed neighbors throughout the valley for this victory for collaborative engagement and for community planning.

We can also laud the efforts of Wyoming's newly appointed U.S. Sen. John Barrasso to carry the torch for legislation to protect the Wyoming Range of the Bridger-Teton National Forest from oil and gas development, and to protect large portions of the Upper Snake River drainage through the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. Although the outcomes are not yet determined, the mere fact that our senator is committed to these efforts bodes well for a strong conservation outcome.

The Conservation Alliance is also proud to have been awarded a Community Foundation of Jackson Hole grant to compile the best and latest science to produce new maps showing wildlife values on private lands in Teton County. These maps, along with recommendations for protection, will be presented to county officials for consideration while our Comprehensive Plan is updated in 2008. Matching funds to make this project possible came from a few dedicated and loyal members who saw the value of our efforts and the need to be proactive in the Comp Plan process – to use the best information to provide science-based recommendations as opposed to waiting at the goal line to challenge the outcome.

Other Conservation Alliance work is also at full tilt. We remain a strong voice for a science-based Wyoming Wolf Management Plan. We have grave concerns that when Wyoming gains control over wolves, special interests will turn what could have been a conservation success story into a killing season for Wyoming's – and particularly Jackson Hole's – wolves. Other ongoing issues include the threat of new diseases infecting our iconic elk herds, the Bridger-Teton National Forest management plan revision, the Off-Highway Vehicle plan for the northern portion of the forest, and the ever-present threat that more of our public lands will be leased for oil and gas development.

The Conservation Alliance has a history of respected engagement in protecting and preserving this world-class landscape. We have a professional and dedicated staff, a caring and committed board of directors, and most of all, we have you, our loyal members. You have put your faith in our work and placed your interests in our hands, and for that we are forever thankful. Together, as an alliance, we will continue to speak for those who have no voice – the bear, the elk, the wolf and the hundreds of unseen species that form the natural and precious web of life of Jackson Hole.



Franz J. Camenzind, Ph.D.



Membership and Revenue Information

Members of the Conservation Alliance *are* the Alliance. Our members volunteer on committees, sit on the Board of Directors, attend town and county meetings, take action on program issues, address and stuff envelopes, and provide critical funding.

Thanks to the generous support of our members and supporting foundations, in 2007 the Alliance continued its important program work protecting the valley's wildlife, scenery and other natural resources. Seventy-five percent of our funding came from members like you! Thirteen percent was from foundation grants, 7 percent from investment income, 3 percent from field trips, and the final 2 percent was from educational forums and miscellaneous sales and events. Our 2,000-plus members, living in eight countries, and generous foundation donors make the Conservation Alliance's work of protecting Jackson Hole possible.

In other fundraising news, we're delighted to announce that our Planned Giving Program is up and running! Appropriate policies are in place, an investment fund has been established, and gifts have been received and others pledged. For more information about the program, please contact Lisa Vogelheim. She can share appropriate Alliance-related details and direct you to estate planning experts.

Also during 2007, we offered a fundraising field trip to Norway and the Arctic. We're planning a tour to Yellowstone for wolf watching in the New Year – please let us know if you'd like details. These expeditions not only inform people about the natural world, they help us know our current members better and bring us new members.

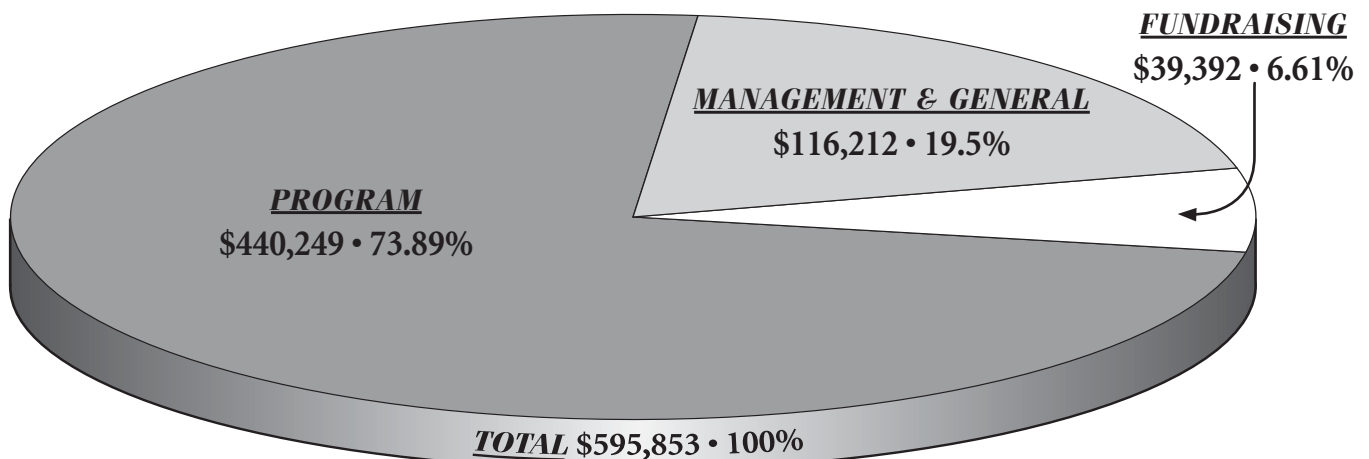
This year brought us an opportunity to work with St. John's Hospital Foundation for a joint fundraiser, A Showcase of Surprises. Thanks to the tireless work of Addie Donnan, Amy Bryan and their army of volunteers, this was a successful event. Save the dates, Sept. 5 – 7, for next year's Trunk Show, which will be held at the Center for the Arts. In February, the Dakota room at Amangani was filled to capacity for *A Conservation Scrapbook*, Frank Craighead's slides presented by Charlie Craighead. Many of the attendees commented that they felt privileged, like they'd been invited into the Craighead living room. Another similar event is being planned for the coming year with Charlie and Lance Craighead in a larger venue to benefit Craighead Environmental Research Institute and the Alliance.

One of the best ways for the Conservation Alliance to grow is through you. Thank you for introducing us to your friends, encouraging them to join the Alliance and giving them gift memberships!

Revenues for Fiscal Year 2007 (July 1, 2006 – June 30, 2007)

| | Revenue | Percentage of Total Revenue |
|--|------------------|-----------------------------|
| Contributions, Gifts & Dues | \$494,669 | 75% |
| Foundation Grants | \$86,970 | 13% |
| Investment Income | \$47,725 | 7% |
| Field Trips | \$17,015 | 3% |
| Educational Forums & Films | \$10,142 | 1% |
| Fundraising Events – Net | \$3,894 | <1% |
| Sale of Goods | \$2,140 | <1% |
| TOTAL REVENUES | \$662,555 | 100% |
| Reserves | \$585,174 | |

Statement of Expenses Fiscal Year 2007



TOP TEN ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2007

1 With generous help from private donors and grants from The Community Foundation of Jackson Hole and Wyoming Community Foundation, the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance gathered the best scientific wildlife and natural resource data available and worked with area agencies and mapping experts to analyze **Teton County's Natural Resource Overlay zone**. This critically important planning tool for protecting wildlife on private lands should prove to be a key resource for the community during the ongoing Comprehensive Plan update process.

The Alliance also joined with Jackson Hole residents to uphold the integrity of the Natural Resource Overlay when it was challenged by the Osprey Creek development at the old KOA off the Teton Village Road. Thanks to many people who commented in defense of wildlife and strategic planning, county commissioners voted to turn down the developer's request to put 74 units on this 15-acre parcel in an area intended for low density.

2 The Alliance's work for a **safe and environmentally friendly solution to highway reconstruction** at a landslide-prone area near Hoback Junction paid off in 2007. The Wyoming Department of Transportation agreed to shelve its plans (to either reroute the Hoback River or reroute Hwy. 89/191 over the river into the Bridger-Teton National Forest and back) to give researchers time to develop better technology.

The Community Foundation of Jackson Hole funded our study by American Geotechnical, Inc., which detailed an alternative that would protect drivers – without harming the river – by using shear-pins and tie-back anchors to stabilize the section.

3 In wildlife issues ranging from the delisting of grizzlies and wolves, to protecting Jackson Hole's sage grouse, to trying to prevent the spread of disease in Wyoming's iconic elk herds, the Conservation Alliance has been a persistent **proponent of using science to inform intelligent wildlife management decisions**.

4 To **protect the Palisades Wilderness Study Area**, the Conservation Alliance, Greater Yellowstone Coalition, Earthjustice, Sierra Club and Wyoming Wilderness Association negotiated with the National Forest Service and High Mountain Heli-skiing for a transitional decrease in heli-skiing in the Palisades to legally mandated 1984 levels by the year 2010.

This gradual decrease in use over four years allows the company to move its operations to alternative terrain, resulting in heli-skiing numbers that will not endanger the Palisades' wilderness study area status. Just as important, the Forest Service was held to following NEPA legal procedures in place to protect the environment.

5 To ensure that our work for a wild and beautiful valley will be able to continue for future generations, we put into place the investment strategies and policies necessary for a **planned giving program for the Alliance**. Also, the number of donations to the Alliance through Old Bill's Fun Run 11 reached an all-time high in 2007 – even surpassing last year's record!

6 As part of our Forest Protection Campaign, the Alliance partnered with local and regional groups, as well as elected officials, to promote pending federal legislation to **protect the Wyoming Range of the Bridger-Teton National Forest** from oil and gas drilling in sensitive wildlands.

Thanks to the generous support of the Harder Foundation, we've also steadfastly participated in the on-again, off-again forest management plan revision process, which will likely resume early in 2008.

7 As an active member of the **Campaign for the Snake Headwaters** – a coalition of anglers, outfitters, landowners, business owners and conservation groups – the Alliance helped generate public support for pending federal legislation to include some 400 miles of 13 rivers and streams in northwest Wyoming in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

8 The Conservation Alliance has also been a strong voice for wildlife as Bridger-Teton officials work on an **off-highway-vehicle travel plan** for the northern part of the forest, which is due out this winter.

We hosted an open house in January for the public to review and comment on the first set of proposed motorized recreation routes, were on the panel at a public forum in February, and participated in three OHV field trips this past fall.

9 For years the Alliance has been one of a handful of advocates for an **appropriate scale of development on Grand Targhee's 120-acre site** right next to fragile public wildlands. We continue to work for protection of the area's wildlife and other natural resources as county commissioners approach a final decision on Targhee's bid for resort zoning.

10 The Conservation Alliance's **great educational programs, publications, campaigns, events, field trips and forums** have given our members and the community many opportunities to learn about the environmental issues affecting Jackson Hole.

Highlights of the past year include our monthly Info Lunch series, a wolf-viewing trip to the Lamar Valley, a Conservation Scrapbook presentation by Charlie Craighead, our Comp Plan Uncomplicated Citizen Advocacy Workshop, a forum on oil and gas leasing on the Bridger-Teton, our Second Annual Party for the Pronghorn, the Patagonia Wild & Scenic Environmental Film Fest, and several educational field trips to different areas of the Bridger-Teton.

Other outreach efforts included revamping our website to make it a better tool for informing people about what's going on in our community and on the public lands surrounding Jackson Hole, and reaching out to the community through a series of listening sessions with volunteers to gather their perceptions about conservation issues, as well as their perceptions of the work we're doing and how we can improve it.

1 To encourage the people of Jackson Hole to get involved in the Jackson/Teton County Comprehensive Plan update in hopes of **creating a community vision that respects and protects our community's irreplaceable scenic, wildlife and other natural resources.**

And, to contribute to the Comp Plan revision process by bringing forth:

- 1) the best available science on wildlife populations in Teton County, and
- 2) information about methods and strategies to direct growth at a responsible rate, in soundly defined patterns, and at a scale that reflects historical values and sustains our rural mountain character.

2 To continue to advocate for responsible land use planning, and to **"be there" to monitor and comment on private land development proposals** in the Town of Jackson and Teton County to ensure that they represent intelligent growth for our community.

3 To work with community partners, through research and discussion, toward **viable solutions to the affordable housing problem** in Jackson Hole that won't compromise wildlife and landscape health.

4 To ensure that development at Grand Targhee will not damage the area's **natural resources and wildlife**, and that future sprawl will be prevented.

5 To encourage Jackson Hole's citizenry to **participate in the ongoing Bridger-Teton National Forest management plan revision process** in hopes of protecting the land's scenic, recreational and wildlife resources from energy development and other threats.

6 To continue efforts to ensure that the Bridger-Teton National Forest's travel and recreation planning process **preserves roadless areas and minimizes off-road vehicle impacts** in our sensitive wildlands.

7 To advance work with community members and political leaders to **protect the Snake and its tributaries** under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

8 To persevere in **promoting science-based wildlife management policies** to slow the spread of diseases (which have the potential to devastate Greater Yellowstone wildlife herds) and to maintain the viability of threatened species such as wolves, grizzlies and sage grouse.

9 To promote the Alliance's Planned Giving program to make it easier for donors to **contribute to the future of Jackson Hole** while balancing their family and estate planning needs.

10 To continue to improve our relationships with the community's stakeholders, deepen our connections with those who care for Jackson Hole, and **improve our ability to address the conservation issues that are most important to us all.**

*"If we are facing
in the right direction,
all we have to do
is keep on walking."*

— *Buddhist Saying*



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Partnering for a Wild & Beautiful Valley Since 1979