



SPRING 2023 E-NEWS

2023 GRANTS

The Meg and Bert Raynes Fund has awarded fourteen grants in 2023, including a wide range of projects that will benefit wildlife in our region and bring knowledge about them to the public.

Research projects that build on those funded in the past include studies of nest parasitism and migration patterns for sparrows in the sagebrush steppe; monitoring studies for northern goshawks, great gray owls, and ferruginous hawks in northwest Wyoming; population studies of moose, harlequin ducks, and western toads in Grand Teton National Park; and phenology of native plants.

We are also continuing our contributions in 2023 to Nature Mapping Jackson Hole; Sporting Lead-free; the annual Greater Yellowstone Crane Festival in Teton Valley, Idaho; and the biannual Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium on October 26, 2023. This year's theme is *Developing a Grand Strategy for Conservation in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem*.

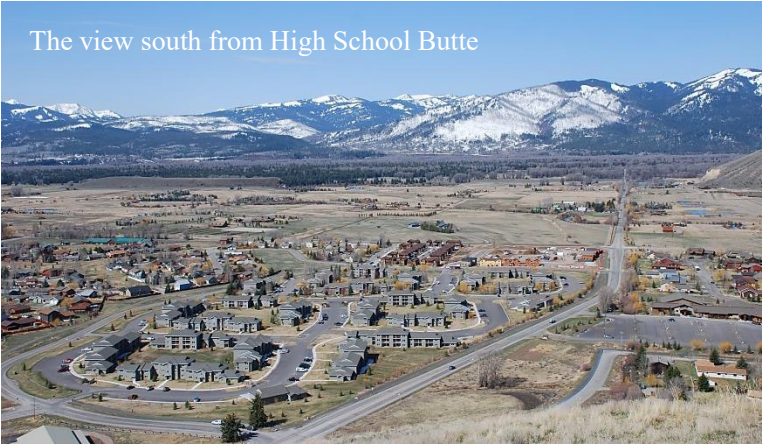
One avian species to be studied through our grants for the first time is the Loggerhead Shrike. This study will investigate the effects of natural gas extraction activities on reproductive success and habitat selection of the Loggerhead Shrike (*Lanius ludovicianus*), a rapidly declining bird, which is breeding within an altered landscape.

We have also funded several projects that, in addition to having value for science, are educational in nature. These include:

High School Butte Living Laboratory. For this project, Teton County middle and high school students will work together with professional researchers, scientists, and wildlife experts, to conduct experiments and research to understand the impacts of invasive species, soil quality and native species of



The view south from High School Butte



plant and wildlife habitat. Students will also be involved in restoration and habitat improvement projects based on their findings.

Wildflower Watch. Established in 2018, this citizen science program takes place in Jackson Hole and Cody. Through phenology studies it seeks to engage Wyoming community members in data collection to help scientists and land managers understand how climate change may be affecting plants and animals.



Amphibians of Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks Traveling Photo Exhibit. This exhibit is meant to develop public appreciation for amphibians in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and support for their conservation. The exhibit will consist of panorama photos of wetland landscapes and photos of the native and non-native Amphibian species inhabiting Yellowstone and Grand Teton National Parks. Targeted venues include museums, libraries, and visitor centers in Wyoming, Idaho, and Montana. This exhibit will be part of the Idaho Museum of Natural History's traveling exhibit program.



Our heartfelt thanks for your support of these and other important projects through the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund. Read more about our grantees and their work at www.rayneswildlife.org