

Conserve

News from Lemhi Regional Land Trust and Salmon Valley Stewardship

A Quarterly Newsletter

Spring 2018

Lemhi Regional Land Trust Welcomes New Executive Director

The Board of Directors and staff of Lemhi Regional Land Trust (LRLT) are excited to announce that after a nationwide search, Jennifer Smith will be joining our staff as our new Executive Director. Jen holds Bachelor of Science degrees in Biology and Wildlife Biology and earned a PhD in Organismal Biology and Ecology from the University of Montana studying the ecological and behavioral effects of invasive species introduction on native grassland communities. Currently she is a Field Operations Manager charged with management of a field office and personnel associated with data collection across the state of Colorado for the National Ecological Observatory Network Project (www.neonscience.org) and has spent time working for and with various state, federal, non-profit, and private organizations conducting and facilitating scientific research in North Dakota, Montana, and Kansas. While Jen grew up in South Dakota, she considers Montana and Idaho her adopted home after spending ten years in the area and is excited to return "home" with her husband Tony and three boys Killian, Kincaid, and Kian.

Jen and her family will be relocating to Salmon from Colorado and she will be starting at LRLT the first week of June. As Executive Director her duties will include coordinating all LRLT operations, working closely with the Board of Directors and overseeing the day to day activities of LRLT including the office, budget, staff and properties, as well as the land acquisition, community outreach and fundraising activities. We hope you'll join us in welcoming Jen and her family to the community at the Working Lands Celebration on June 14th or stop by the office and say "hi" later on this summer!



LRLT's new Executive Director, Jen Smith.

Salmon Valley Stewardship Recognized for Public Engagement

Salmon Valley Stewardship received the 2018 Outstanding Public Engagement Award during the Public Lands Alliance's Partnership Awards Ceremony. "The Partnership Awards honor the incredible efforts of the public and private sector, working together for the benefit of public lands," said David Poteet, Board President of PLA.

The Outstanding Public Engagement Award recognizes exemplary products, displays, programs or services created in partnership by a nonprofit organization and public lands that advance meaningful and sustainable connections between individuals and America's public lands. SVS was recognized for our outreach project, the out.LAND.ish podcast. The podcast is part of a larger campaign, Your Forests, Your Future, to get Americans involved in shaping the future of their forests.

Be on the lookout for out.LAND.ish Season 2 in May!

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1. voices from *your* public lands



SVS at the Lemhi County Famer's Market

Important Famer's Market Dates

June 2 – Market Opening! Come see the **Pollinator Trailer** with live music from Rita Richardson

June 14 – Live music from Brian Ernst

June 9, 23, 28; August 11, 28; September 8, 22 – Live music from Eddy Up!

July 7, August 4, September 1 – Live music from Gilmore City Council

September 29 – Market Closing Celebration

Kids in the Park TBD!

This summer, Salmon Valley Stewardship will be a fixture at the Lemhi County Farmer's Market, beginning June 2nd. We will be showcasing our Pollinator Trailer, a pollinator conservation outreach tool, designed to expand on our Pollinator Pathways project and increase community awareness of the importance pollinator species play in our local ecosystem and food system. It will be staffed by one of our lovely summer interns! Please contact Dan at danielhobbs@salmonvalley.org for more information.

Additionally, the out.LAND.ish podcast will, on certain weekends, be hosting a listening booth for you to give our work a listen. Make sure to follow the podcast on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram to find out when the podcast team will be out there!

The Market, located at Veteran's Memorial Park in Salmon, runs every Saturday from 9am to 1pm beginning June 2nd. This year's market will continue to feature honey, veggies, goat's milk soap, handspun yarn, handcrafted art, jewelry, knives, custom jerky, salves, teas, tinctures, eggs, and more! The Market will include food options such as breakfast burritos and sweet breads!

For more information about Farmer's Market vendors and events contact the Market Manager at lemhifarmersmarket@gmail.com.

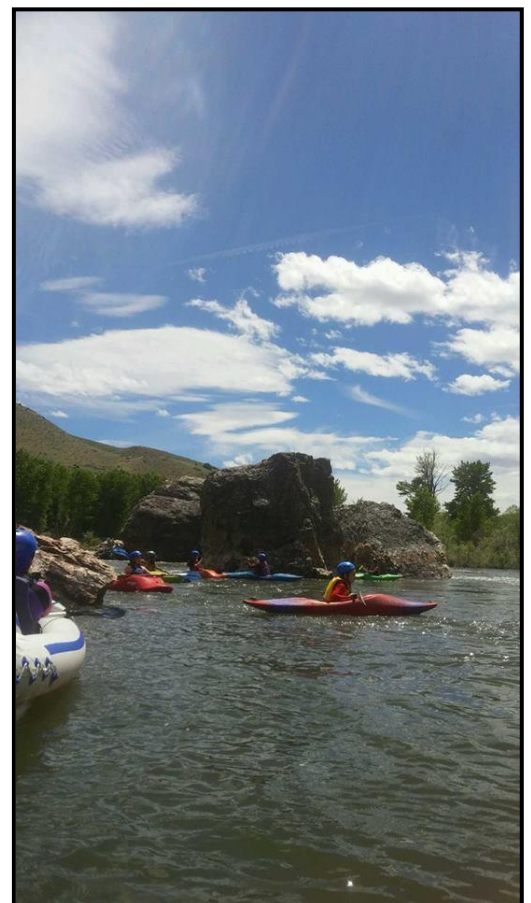


Your Forests, Your Future Teams Up with Salmon River Fest

Salmon River Fest 2018 is right around the corner! This year, Your Forests, Your Future, a partnership between the US Forest Service and SVS to create buzz around our public lands, will be a sponsor of the weekend-long event on June 15-17. Be on the lookout for SVS staff representing the podcast and dishing out freebies!

Salmon River Fest is a weekend-long festival celebrating the Salmon River, organized by the Salmon Whitewater Park Association. Events include a Community Float, kayak races, live music at Sweet Water Hollow Event Center, kayak skill building classes, a speaker series on Friday evening and a river clean up.

For more details visit the Salmon Whitewater Park Association's Facebook page. For more information about Your Forests, Your Future visit: www.yourforestsyourfuture.org



A Message from Toni

As winter loosens its grip and fades into spring, I watch our horses prancing and eager to get out on the green grass. A similar excitement and eagerness has been brewing in the SVS office as our board and staff looks to the future of SVS, our community, and our land. We first reached out to many of you, who provided valuable feedback and candid input about our work. Your comments helped provide the direction we were looking for as we wrap up our new strategic plan that will guide us through the next several years. On the shorter horizon, we look forward to many exciting activities and events our organization and community already have on the calendar, a few of which we share below.

This past year, we said farewell to dedicated board member, Bob Price. We thank Bob for his candid input, his superb sense of humor, and for helping support SVS over the years. We wish him well as he pursues more adventures on streams near and far! More recently, Sara Campbell and Emerald LaFortune are bringing new expertise and diversity to our team, and we are looking to fill three open seats on our board of directors. Please let us know if you are interested in joining us in our mission strengthening the connection between people and the natural world through collaboration and experiential learning in the Upper Salmon Region. We believe that our natural, cultural, and community resources are second to none and are thrilled to look toward our future of working together to celebrate them.

Toni Ruth is a founding board member of Salmon Valley Stewardship and joined the staff as Executive Director in 2016.



Tiffany and Cameron, the SVS Field Crew Dream Team, conducting aspen stand monitoring last summer.

Donations Needed for SVS

Salmon Valley Stewardship is looking for the following items to boost our capacity to complete natural resources monitoring projects!

- Laptop or tablets to support our summer interns.
- A 4WD pickup truck to allow us to accept more jobs, as we are currently limited in our carrying capacity with our vehicles.

Remember, SVS is a non-profit organization and these donations are tax deductible!



Join our Forest Collaboration Groups!

Since 2006, SVS has coordinated the Lemhi Forest Restoration Group (LFRG). LFRG volunteers have spent thousands of hours working side by side with Salmon-Challis National Forest staff to collaboratively design restoration projects on national forest lands. Since the inception of LFRG, the results of this multi-stakeholder effort have had a tremendously positive impact on forest restoration efforts and associated local community benefit. Our collaborative success hinges on people who are willing to learn and raise questions collectively, spend time in the field together, and show respect for others and their ideas. Currently the LFRG is working together on the Salmon Municipal Watershed Restoration Project to ensure protection of the City of Salmon's drinking water while improving watershed and forest health.

Spring 2017, SVS reconvened the Central Idaho Aspen Working Group (CIAWG) to bring together partners and citizens to promote restoration of aspen communities in Lemhi and Custer counties. SVS hosted an aspen workshop last July to celebrate the reconvening and provide a setting for members to share information and results of aspen restoration projects and inventories. Current aspen efforts include inventorying aspen stands to document current conditions and which stands are at most risk of conifer encroachment.

We would love more community involvement in our LFRG and CIAWG collaborative groups. For more information and to join our mailing lists, contact Jenny at jennygonyer@salmonvalley.org.

Interested in joining our crews and learning more about our native flora and fauna? Come join our crew for a day or more! They would love to take you for a fantastic hike and show you our "office."



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