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For Immediate Release



Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance awarded \$25,000 from the Cross Charitable Foundation to protect Grand Targhee from massive expansion proposal.

Jackson, Wyoming — January 6, 2022

On December 16, 2021, the Cross Charitable Foundation announced that it awarded \$25,000 to the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance for grassroots advocacy related to the Grand Targhee Resort expansion proposal. The Cross Charitable Foundation assists organizations actively engaged in promoting the conservation and preservation of wildlife in our country and the world, with particular emphasis on conserving wildlife habitat and wildlife migratory routes.

Grand Targhee Resort has proposed a major and problematic expansion, and the Caribou-Targhee National Forest (CTNF) is evaluating the proposal through an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The proposal would impact the local wildlife, public lands, economy, housing, and community of Teton County WY and Teton Valley ID. If approved, Targhee would expand their boundaries by ~900 acres next to the Jedediah Smith Wilderness Area, which is critical habitat for isolated populations of bighorn sheep and grizzly bears, among other species, and within the Canada lynx area of influence. The expansion would also more than double the amount of skier capacity (from 3,000 to ~6,200 skiers/day) and would compound pressure on housing, transportation, local infrastructure, and natural resources.

The good news: *this expansion isn't inevitable*. Many local residents and organizations, including the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, are determined to improve the proposal so it is not harmful to wildlife or the community. With Cross Charitable Foundation funding, the Alliance will increase our participation and engage our local governments, constituents, and non-profit partners to seek an outcome for this proposal consistent with our values of protecting wildlife, wild places, and community character.

The Alliance has worked to prevent harmful proposals at Targhee for decades and is committed to advocate for the best possible outcome in the current National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. We learned many lessons from our recent Snow King expansion campaign and are eager to apply these lessons to influence the Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision with the Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

The Cross Charitable Foundation funding will support the Alliance's grassroots campaign to encourage public involvement throughout the Targhee NEPA process and advocate for responsible development *within existing boundaries* and for mitigation measures to offset impacts.

Thank you to the Cross Charitable Foundation for supporting a vision of a sustainable future for Grand Targhee Resort and the communities it serves.

For more information about our work, contact Alliance Conservation Program Manager Chelsea Carson at chelsea@jhalliance.org.

About the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance

40 years ago, a group of caring neighbors bound by a ferocious love for the magic of Jackson Hole founded the Jackson Hole Alliance for Responsible Planning. We've worked as a watchdog to defend Jackson Hole from many things you don't see today, from oil/gas wells in Cache Creek to a grizzly bear theme park to a dam that would have flooded Oxbow Bend. Now, as the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, we believe our valley still needs a local organization with deep roots to address bad ideas that don't align with our community's values. And we believe that if we are to succeed in protecting what we love about Jackson Hole, we must do more than respond to threats: we must empower the whole community to proactively create a better future.

That's why we work to make Jackson Hole a national model of a strong community living in balance with nature. This is a future for Jackson Hole where abundant populations of wildlife have the freedom to roam across the landscape, through our neighborhoods, and safely cross our roads; where we live in walkable neighborhoods with accessible transportation choices and affordable homes, surrounded by protected open space, working agricultural lands, and connected wildlife habitat; and where we respect wildlife when we recreate on protected, wild, well-managed public lands.

Visit www.jhalliance.org to get involved and learn more.

About the Cross Charitable Foundation

C WALKER CROSS

C. Walker Cross was the eldest child of Elias George Cross and Florence Hoxer Cross. The Crosses and Hoxers were early Ogden, Utah pioneers. Walker learned the motel business and a love of the outdoors from his father. Both father and son spent years together in business and shared time afield, hunting and fishing throughout the Mountain West. Through this Walker learned to appreciate the outdoors and wanted to help preserve it for generations to come.

His formal education was interrupted by his having to become involved in the family business, but he still recognized the value and importance of education and encouraged the pursuit of it as one of the keys to a successful life.

Walker's astute business acumen made him successful in the fields of motels and real estate. He was fun-loving, hard-working, and desired to help the world become a better place. This Foundation is his legacy.

OUR MISSION

Assisting organizations actively engaged in promoting education to enable our youth to become productive, contributing members of our society.

Assisting those organizations actively engaged in assisting the homeless and the oppressed.

Assisting those organizations actively engaged in promoting the conservation and preservation of our wildlife in our country and the world.

Assisting those organizations actively promoting conservation of the environment, with particular emphasis on conserving wildlife habitat and wildlife migratory routes.

Assisting those organizations promoting the health, care, and welfare of dogs, including the training of dogs to assist and benefit in improving the quality of life for humans and other animals.

Visit www.crosscharitablefoundation.net to learn more.

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