

## WRLT Final Grantee Report: June, 2018

Organization: Wood River Land Trust (LT)

Project Title: Developing Colorado Gulch Preserve into a Functioning Preserve

Grant Amount: \$22,565

**Objectives & Outcomes:** The Land Trust (LT) purchased 150 acres of private land on the Big Wood River just south of Hailey in November, 2016. For this to become a welcoming, natural retreat with public access for all - it required the LT to install a footbridge over a diversion canal, restore invasive weed areas to native plants, remove barb wire fences, develop foot trails and install signage. WRWCF grant monies enabled the purchase and installation of the footbridge and staff time for the additional work. Staff and volunteer labor have effectively removed the barb wire and the weed removal and restoration of the area will be ongoing for a number of years. We have been able to extensively reseed key areas with over 140 volunteer hours from middle school and high school students. New trails are currently being established and we are in the process of adding a second trailhead in the Colorado Gulch Preserve. This trailhead will connect with the existing trails. We are proud of a plaque that acknowledges the generosity of the WRWCF and this is scheduled to be installed on the footbridge by July 1. We want to insure recognition in perpetuity for the foundation.

### Impact:

The Wood River Land Trust is grateful for this generous support to make this project a reality. This footbridge is used each day and, through early June, trail count is averaging 313 visits a week - we know this will increase over the summer! The footbridge is truly a beautiful and lasting addition to the Preserve. Before the placement of the bridge, these paths in the area around the diversion canal could not easily be used, especially by those with physical limitations. With the placement of the new footbridge, our seniors and veterans, plus young families with strollers and small children, can also enjoy the solace of the outdoors. The new footbridge is now an integral part of the paths that are wide, flat, and meticulously maintained.

Our small town way of life is epitomized by our moments here in the Colorado Gulch Preserve and the Wood River Women's Foundation has enhanced that experience for the community.

Expenses	WRWCF Amount Requested	Actual
Salary and Benefits	\$ 3,500	\$ 3,250
Contract Services (consulting, professional, fundraising)	\$ 1,970	\$ 372
Supplies	\$ 17,095	\$ 18,270
Other - Gravel, site prep	\$ -	\$ 673
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$ 22,565</b>	<b>\$ 22,565</b>

**Photos:** See attached images



