

30 YEARS OF CONSERVATION FOR THE COMMON GOOD



NORTHERN ROCKIES  
CONSERVATION  
COOPERATIVE



The will be trimmed away if we go with a short cover.



NRCC continues to be a leading marketplace for new, more effective conservation ideas and a launching pad for innovative start-up projects. We've grown to a team of 42 researchers, educators, and on-the-ground problem solvers, many of whom have received regional, national, and international awards and recognition.

Increasing pressure on natural areas and wildlife from roads, traffic, tourism,

recreation, development, disease, and more require us to work harder and create smarter alternatives to help humans and wildlife thrive alongside one another.

Our work has centered on species and ecosystems and the human institutions that have been developed to manage shared resources. We have built knowledge, skills, and leadership with workshops, consultations, and projects.

NRCC remains a very efficient low-overhead, large-outcome organization with a small staff and a diverse group of project experts and partnering organizations. We facilitate fast, practical implementation of projects with our lean administration and we encourage creative ownership among our project directors.

We are also unique in how we integrate social science skills and ecological expertise to improve human management, learning, and decision-making processes. The goal of our work is to achieve common good for current and future generations.

We hope this publication gives you a better understanding of who we are, what we do, and how we contribute to conservation. We invite you to participate as a partner, educator, funder or another role of your choosing. Together, we are creating a better future for human and wildlife communities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Susan G. Clark".

Susan Gail Clark  
*Founder and Emeritus Board Member*

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peyton Curlee Griffin".

Peyton Curlee Griffin  
*Board President*

3

NUMBER OF ACTIVE PROJECTS

4

57

NUMBER OF PROJECTS SUPPORTED IN LAST FIVE YEARS

TOTAL NUMBER OF INTERNS

66

AVERAGE NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES ON PAYROLL LAST FIVE YEARS

22

8

NUMBER OF RESEARCH ASSOCIATES AT FIVE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY. NOW...

42

## BY THE NUMBERS

64

PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS  
*(see page 7 for complete list)*

AVERAGE ANNUAL INCOME IN LAST FIVE YEARS

\$650,387

12 STATES

AND

14

COUNTRIES

LOCATIONS OF PROJECTS IN LAST FIVE YEARS

46

TOTAL NUMBER OF WORKSHOPS AND CONFERENCES

91%

PERCENT SPENT ANNUALLY ON PROGRAM

30

YEARS OF LONGEST-RUNNING PROJECT  
*(Michael Whitfield's Bald Eagle study)*



# 30 YEARS ON THE LEADING EDGE OF CONSERVATION FOR THE COMMON GOOD

A few of our accomplishments....



## 1987

**NRCC Founded**  
NRCC is founded by Susan Clark and Denise Casey as a home for independent researchers, diverse projects, and leading edge conservation.



## 1988

**NRCC Pioneers Greater Ecosystem Concept in Yellowstone**

NRCC and partners push Yellowstone-area managers and scientists to consider a **new** systemwide concept – the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem – to maintain native species and ecosystem processes.

**NRCC Sponsors The Wolf Fund Initiative**

NRCC provides the **first** home for Renee Askins' project to reintroduce wolves into the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

## 1989

**Rare, Sensitive and Threatened Species of Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem**

NRCC leads agency and nonprofit partners in the **first** inventory of rare, threatened, and endangered species of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.



## 1990

**Conserving Greater Yellowstone: A Teacher's Guide**

NRCC creates the **first** ecosystem-based secondary education curriculum for Greater Yellowstone. This work stimulated similar curricula elsewhere.



## 1992

**Management of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem: An Annotated Bibliography**

NRCC publishes the **first** bibliography of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem's ecological and social science research. (Second bibliography published 1999.)



## 1994-1996

**Biodiversity Conference and Buffalo Jubilee**  
NRCC and partners convene **first** Jackson Hole community dialogue about biodiversity and a celebration of the iconic bison of Greater Yellowstone.



Danielle Lehle

## 1997-1998

### Elk Management Working Group, Workshop, and Monograph

NRCC convenes a stakeholder group to find common ground in elk management and carries out an integrative study, which leads to a monograph and additional projects in 2015 and 2016.



## 1999

### Carnivores in Ecosystems: The Yellowstone Experience

After co-hosting a conference with the National Park Service's Yellowstone Center for Resources, NRCC produces a book on all medium and large carnivores of the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

## 2002

### The Policy Process: A Practical Guide for Natural Resource Professionals

NRCC founder issues a comprehensive guide for natural resource professionals with methods for understanding and addressing complex environmental management problems, which is now used worldwide.

## 2003

### 1st Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium

NRCC and the Teton Science School co-host the **first** Jackson Hole-focused wildlife research conference.

## 2004

### NRCC Facilitates Trapper's Point Collaborative Working Group

NRCC facilitates the **first** generation of a working group helping ranchers and wildlife coexist, especially to benefit the long distance migration of pronghorn antelope.

## 2005

### State of Our Community Conference

NRCC partners with Charture Institute to co-host the **first** conference looking at the economic and ecological realities, challenges, and possibilities in Jackson Hole.

## 2006

### Banff Grizzly Bear Workshops

NRCC, invited by Banff National Park, facilitates a **new** multi-stakeholder bear management group to resolve contentious management issues.



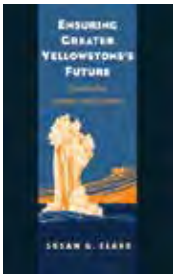


## 2007

NRCC Publishes Greater Yellowstone Directory  
NRCC and Charture Institute launch the **first** online directory of Greater Yellowstone conservation organizations.

## 2008

Ensuring Greater Yellowstone's Future  
A look at coordinated management efforts in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem to help citizens and decision makers working to sustain wildlife and local communities.



## 2009

Mule Deer and Development: Making Science Relevant to Planning  
With partners, NRCC publishes an assessment of Jackson Hole mule deer populations and offers policy recommendations for future herd conservation. This follows on NRCC's mule deer work from the 1980's.



## 2010

NRCC Hosts Wolverine Night  
NRCC hosts wolverine night to educate the public and enlists backcountry users to share sightings of tracks and animals.



## 2014

Large Scale Conservation in the Common Interest and Large Carnivore Conservation in the North American West  
NRCC produces two books that use **new** integrative approaches and case studies to offer recommendations for more effective conservation using biological and social science for improved human-wildlife coexistence.

## 2015

Experts in Residence Program Launched  
NRCC creates a Resident Expert program to provide **new** perspectives on conservation, including a Writer in Residence, Educator in Residence, Photographer in Residence, and Artist in Residence.



R.J. Walter



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## 2017

30th Anniversary  
NRCC celebrates 30 years of contributions to conservation for the common good.

# GROUND-BREAKING CONSERVATION INITIATIVES CONTINUE

NRCC has **been at the leading edge** of conservation for the past 30 years with its comprehensive problem-solving approach. NRCC's projects have provided critical new information and inclusive, integrative methods to citizens, natural resource managers, and policy makers. We have enabled current and emerging leaders and problem solvers to pioneer innovative, practical conservation work.

NRCC has **provided a base** for conservation start-ups unlike any other organization in Greater Yellowstone. NRCC's work has always been at the forefront of species and ecosystem management and science, environmental education, professional development, and community-based wildlife coexistence initiatives.

NRCC's Research Associates have **contributed important insights** into bighorn sheep, wolf, bear, mountain lion, lynx, bobcat, wolverine, bald eagle, amphibian, elk, and mule deer conservation, to name a few. Our scope has stretched beyond the U.S. to aid international conservation efforts on behalf of koalas, bandicoots, vicuna, great bustards, Mexican wolves, brown bears, snow leopards, elephants, and more.

NRCC's research and work acknowledges that many **"wildlife problems"** are in fact **"people problems,"** as humans come into conflict with one another about how wildlife is managed and for whose benefit. NRCC has supported work focused on leadership, decision-making, and stakeholder processes related to management of such species as wolves, elk, and grizzly bears.

These efforts have **produced many community-based conservation projects**, such as the NRCC-led Grizzly Bear Working Group in Banff, Alberta and the Northern Rockies Trumpeter Swan Stewards program in Idaho and Wyoming.

NRCC is **proud to support** these efforts, either by providing a permanent institutional home or by serving as an incubator for projects that later take off on their own. Our lean organizational structure allows for low overhead and efficient project administration. We are grateful to the agency, foundation, and nonprofit partners who collaborate to make projects happen. Thank you for your support!

**"NRCC provides a home for creative, independent people to try their hands at conservation entrepreneurship."**

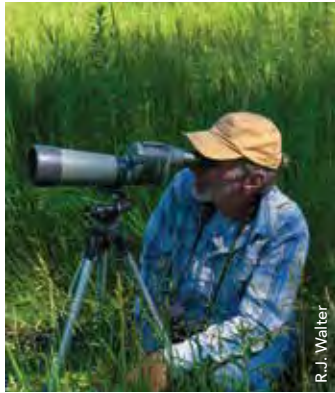
*Research Associate Dr. Seth Wilson*



R.J. Walter



R.J. Walter



R.J. Walter

**Clockwise from top:**  
Research Associates Corinna Riginos; Drew Reed;  
Michael Whitfield; Taza Schaming; Jason Wilmot



P. Martinez

# PARTNERING ORGANIZATIONS

We are grateful to have partnered with the following organizations over the years.

Brainerd Foundation	International Association for Bear Research and Management	Southwick's Zoo
BrushBuck Guide Services	Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation	Sun Ranch Institute
Bunting Family Foundation	Knobloch Family Foundation	Teton Science Schools
Bureau of Land Management	LaSalle Adams Fund	The Murie Center
Charture Institute	Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund	The Summerlee Foundation
Chase Wildlife Foundation	Mountain Livestock Cooperative	The Wolverine Foundation
Cinnabar Foundation	National Birds of Prey Trust	Tides Foundation
Community Foundation of Jackson Hole	National Ecological Observatory Network	Trust for Mutual Understanding
Confluence Fund	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	US Geological Survey
Defenders of Wildlife	National Park Service	US Fish and Wildlife Service
Denver Zoo	Noah's Ark Foundation	US Forest Service
Disney Conservation Fund	Norcross Wildlife Foundation	Wilburforce Foundation
Earth Friends Wildlife Foundation	Patagonia	Wildlife Conservation Society
Fall River Electric	People and Carnivores	Woodcock Foundation
Fanwood Foundation	Pew Charitable Trust	World Wildlife Foundation
Flat Creek Fund	Predator Conservation Alliance	WY Department of Transportation
George B. Storer Foundation	Pumpkin Hill Foundation	WY Game and Fish Department
Greater Yellowstone Network	Regina B. Frankenberg Foundation	WY Wildlife Advocates
Harder Foundation	Riverbanks Zoo	Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies
Henry P. Kendall Foundation	SHIFT Festival	Yellowstone to Yukon Partner Grants Program
Hollomon Price Foundation		

R.J. Walter



## JACKSON HOLE WILDLIFE SYMPOSIUM

One of NRCC's most prominent recurring educational projects is the Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium, which we've hosted or co-hosted on six different occasions over the past decade. The event provides a valuable forum for researchers, managers, and citizens to explore the challenges facing wildlife in Jackson Hole, the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, and beyond.

Topics of past symposia have ranged from "The Value of Wildlife" and "Making Science Relevant to Management," to "Human-Wildlife Coexistence: Integrating Science, Education, and Conservation." Workshops, quick talk sessions, keynote addresses, posters, panel discussions, and awards to outstanding conservationists have been part of each symposium.

**"The topic was spot on for what we are dealing with in the GYE and what will be the challenges facing us in the future." – 2017 JHWS participant**

**"Really thought-provoking! Very happy with the overall tone of the conference and the ideas I walked away with." – 2017 JHWS participant**



## RESIDENT EXPERT PROGRAM

In 2015, NRCC introduced the Resident Expert Program, drawing on diverse disciplines and unique approaches to conservation problem solving. These talented professionals share their expertise in art, photography, writing and education to further NRCC's conservation work.



### KATIE HOLSINGER

*Artist in Residence*

Artist and writer Katie Holsinger is currently collaborating with fifty regional artists and writers on *The Artists Field Guide to Greater Yellowstone*. The book showcases reflections on nature, community, and place against the backdrop of Greater Yellowstone. Works from this project were on exhibit at the 2017 Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium.

### RICHARD L. WALLACE

*Educator in Residence*

Educator, researcher, and conservation scientist Richard L. Wallace was the driving force behind the 2017 Jackson Hole Wildlife Symposium and is currently working on a multi-year effort with NRCC to assess existing, and recommend new, educational programs in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.



### R.J. WALTER

*Photographer in Residence*

In addition to providing much of the stunning photography used by NRCC, photographer R.J. Walter has been selected as one of the 65 World's Top Wildlife Photographers. Her work has been included in the Nature's Best Photography exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of Natural History in D.C. She partners with other organizations including The African Wildlife Foundation, Save the Elephants, The Chimpanzee Sanctuary and Wildlife Conservation Trust.

### TODD WILKINSON

*Writer in Residence*

Journalist and author

Todd Wilkinson has spent the last 30 years writing on a variety of environmental and other subjects. His work has appeared in *National Geographic*, *The Christian Science Monitor*, and *High Country News* to name a few. His books include *Science Under Siege: The Politician's War on Nature and Truth* and *Grizzlies of Pilgrim Creek*. As Writer in Residence, Todd has written several pieces and led thought-provoking workshops and discussions on behalf of NRCC.



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## RESIDENT EXPERTS

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R.J. Walter  
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Todd Wilkinson

# THANK YOU

to the partners and sponsors who continue to work with us to achieve conservation for the common good.

Cover and Back Cover images: R.J. Walter

