

City of Ketchum

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Ketchum Launches Warm Springs Preserve Donation Campaign

KETCHUM, Idaho – The City of Ketchum today announces its launch to preserve a 65-acre parcel of open space, Warm Springs Preserve. The property is currently part of the Warm Springs Ranch.

Warm Springs Preserve is the only significant undeveloped property in the city where the floodplain and native riparian corridor can be restored.

The city seeks to raise \$9 million to purchase the 65-acre parcel and \$1 million for a water conscious irrigation system and restoration improvements.

To meet the purchase requirements in the Option Agreement between the city and the owner of Warm Springs Ranch, the city must raise \$4.5 million by October 28, 2021 and the remaining \$4.5 million by April 28, 2022.

"This is our chance to preserve a special part of Ketchum, not only for ourselves, but for generations to come," said Mayor Neil Bradshaw. "I hope the community can come together and seize this unique opportunity."

Once the property is acquired, the following priorities will be established in perpetuity; preservation of green space and public access, Warm Springs Creek riparian zone and floodplain restoration, water conscious irrigation system, connector trail, informal gatherings and activities such as disc golf, Nordic ski and snowshoe trails and a public restroom.

Restrictions on the property include development, organized sports and reserved private or commercial events such as weddings.

After the acquisition of the property, the community will be engaged in a full-planning process to consider any other site improvement.

To learn more about the Preserve, visit <u>www.warmspringspreserve.org</u> or email <u>warmspringspreserve@gmail.com</u>.

The city has contracted with the Spur Community Foundation to act as the custodian of funds. To make a donation or receive more information, visit <u>https://spur.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create?funit_id=1066</u>, or contact the Spur Community Foundation Executive Director Sally Gillespie at 208.450.2507 or sally@spurfoundation.org.

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About the City of Ketchum

The City of Ketchum is located in the Wood River Valley in south central Idaho. Founded in 1880 during the mining boom, Ketchum is now regarded as one of the most popular destinations for winter and summer visitors due to its world-class skiing, mountain biking, fishing, hiking, restaurants, art galleries and shopping. In 2018, Ketchum was awarded designation by the International Dark-Sky Association as a Dark Sky Community and is included in the Nation's first International Dark Sky Reserve, one of only 13 in the world. The City of Ketchum hosts the famous annual Wagon Days Parade, held on Labor Day weekend, and numerous other year-round attractions. Ketchum is home to more than 10,000 full- and part-time residents. For more information about the City of Ketchum, visit www.ketchumidaho.org.