

Grant Report: Creating Educational Opportunities for Citizen Scientists in Jackson Hole

Teton Raptor Center

In the spring of 2014, Teton Raptor Center, in partnership with Nature Mapping Jackson Hole, a program of the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation, presented a series of three public education programs called Talon Nights. The programs, which were free to the public, focused on the identification, ecology and natural history of wild raptors and were hugely successful. More than 100 people from Wyoming and Idaho attended the programs.

- **March Talon Nights:** The first Talon Nights event featured an overview of the five raptor groups found in Jackson Hole—Eagles, Owls, Hawks, Falcons and Osprey. Local raptor experts, Jason Jones and Roger Smith, spoke on the characteristics by which members of each group could be identified. Participants then broke into smaller groups for hands-on activities, as well as a chance to meet live birds of prey.
- **April Talon Nights:** Our second Talon Nights event focused on the habits and habitats of wild raptors in Jackson Hole. Roger Smith spoke on the many ingenious ways raptors have adapted to use the landscape and participants had a chance to further develop their birding skills through activity stations with optics, GPS and the newest birding apps.
- **May Talon Nights:** The final Talon Nights event featured Roger Smith and avian biologist Bryan Bedrosian of Craighead Beringia South, who explained complex raptor behaviors, such as migration, and how scientists study these behaviors in the wild. Participants finished up with activities featuring owl vocalizations and a flighted raptor demonstration.



In December of 2013, Teton Raptor Center gratefully received \$2,850.00 in grant funding from the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund to support these programs. Funds were used as follows:

Item	Vendor	Amount
Check # 30707	CFJH/Meg & Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund	\$2,850.00
May program snacks	Alberstons	-\$109.97
March program snacks	Smiths	-\$76.71
April N&G Ad	JH News and Guide	-\$345.60
March N&G Ad	JH News and Guide	-\$345.60
Activity Supplies	Staples	-\$2.29
Plates and Napkins	Dollar Store	-\$21.20
GPS Unit	REI	-\$161.95
Books	Amazon	-\$70.36
Ink for Printing	Staples	-\$160.47
Books	Grizzly and Wolf Discovery Center	-\$15.40
April program snacks	Albertsons	-\$67.98
Birding Apps	iTunes	-\$63.53
iPad	Apple	-\$279.00
Meeting Snacks	Whole Grocer	-\$15.50
Spotting Scope	Optics Planet	-\$64.84
TRC staff time	TRC	-\$1,014.62
Books	Hancock House Publishing	-\$34.99
	Total :	\$0.00

Teton Raptor Center is so grateful for the support of the Meg and Bert Raynes Wildlife Fund in presenting these programs. Your assistance enabled over one hundred people to deepen their appreciation of wild raptors and to see more birds!