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JACKSON HOLE



WILDLIFE  
FOUNDATION

## Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation Announces New Executive Director

**Jackson, WY** – The Board of Directors of the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation (JHWF) announced today the hire of Renee Seidler as the organization’s new Executive Director, effective April 14. Seidler comes to JHWF from her previous position at the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG), where she has served as the statewide Transportation Specialist since 2017. “I am delighted by the choice of Renee,” said JHWF Board President Bruce Pasfield. “Her extensive wildlife background and her scientific work to inform wildlife-vehicle collision reduction efforts make her uniquely qualified to lead the Foundation in the years to come.”

Seidler began her career in conservation as a scientist with the Wildlife Conservation Society, where she managed numerous research projects that informed management decisions and protected wildlife and habitat. At IDFG, Seidler played a critical role in establishing the agency’s Transportation Program and Wildlife Migration and Movement Program, and served as the liaison to Idaho state and federal transportation agencies. She regularly collaborated across agencies to provide data related to wildlife-vehicle conflict and wildlife movement and migration concerns. Seidler also led the team that installed the wildlife crossings interpretative site on Highway 191 near Pinedale.

“I am thrilled to become an integral part of the broad, community-based Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation family,” said Seidler. “This organization has accomplished very important and significant wildlife conservation goals over the last decades and I’m honored to have the opportunity to help continue this tradition.”

Lead volunteer Frances Clark, who organizes Moose Day and other JHWF programming, said “I am excited by the choice of Renee. She is immensely dedicated to and knowledgeable about wildlife large and small throughout the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. She also knows a lot about non-profit organizations, which is critical for all of us to do our good work for the wildlife we all care for.”

At JHWF, Seidler will lead a growing team of staff and volunteers working to reduce human-caused impacts on wildlife. In addition to guiding the Wildlife Friendlier Fencing program, she will oversee JHWF’s Give Wildlife a Brake program, its flagship citizen-science program Nature Mapping Jackson Hole, and play a lead role in fundraising efforts and local and regional partnerships.

Jon Mobeck, JHWF's outgoing Executive Director, said "Renee is an accomplished wildlife professional whose scientific contributions have underscored the impacts of development, roads and fences on wildlife movement. She's also a citizen science practitioner and energetic advocate for its conservation value. She'll add significant credibility to JHWF's local and regional work."

Mobeck has led the organization since 2016. Under his leadership, JHWF significantly grew its staff and budget, helped advance Teton County's Wildlife Crossings Master Plan, expanded Nature Mapping Jackson Hole, and took part in the removal or improvement of over 42 miles of fence. Mobeck continues to fulfill the role of Executive Director until mid-April, when Seidler begins her tenure.

## **ABOUT JACKSON HOLE WILDLIFE FOUNDATION**

Founded in 1993, the Jackson Hole Wildlife Foundation (JHWF) works to promote ways for our community to live compatibly with wildlife. It accomplishes its mission primarily through on-the-ground projects that it guides in collaboration with agencies, organizations and private landowners. Through its Nature Mapping Jackson Hole program, it gathers and disseminates wildlife data that can inform wildlife-friendly policies and educate the public on how to reduce potential conflict with our wild neighbors while increasing local knowledge of all wildlife species. JHWF has utilized thousands of volunteers in its Wildlife Friendlier Fencing Program over the past two decades to remove or improve more than 215 miles of fence for the benefit of migrating wildlife.

Since 1996, JHWF has introduced a variety of measures to reduce wildlife-vehicle collisions (WVCs) on Teton County highways. JHWF's Give Wildlife a Brake program has strategically installed fixed radar signs and variable digital message signs to protect wildlife in collision "hotspots" identified in its comprehensive Teton County Wildlife-Vehicle Collisions Database and in its corresponding "hotspot" maps.