















■ Local

Raptor Center obtains Hardeman Barns, land

By Jennifer Dorsey Jackson Hole Daily

The Teton Raptor Center has purchased the land it operates on, the Hardeman Barns property in Wilson.

That transaction, along with an amendment last year to an easement on the property, puts the Raptor Center in a position to upgrade its facilities, Executive Director Amy Brennan McCarthy told the Jackson Hole Daily.

"We are looking to make some site improvements to provide some more space for our missions," she said, which include rehabilitating injured birds of prey and conducting research, conservation and education programs.

Ownership of the 25-acre property, which is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, has been transferred from the Jackson Hole Land Trust.

"We paid the appraised value," Mc-Carthy said when asked about the purchase price. The appraised value was \$1 million, she said.

A conservation easement on the property transferred from the Teton County Scenic Preserve Trust to the Jackson Hole Land Trust, McCarthy said.

The Land Trust has owned the Hardeman Barns property since 1989, when a "groundswell of community support" generated \$1.7 million to save the site from a 70-unit subdivision, a press release said. At that time a conservation easement was placed on the property.

A February 2016 amendment to the easement added restrictions on how the property can be used and developed. The amendment "provides clarifications and guidance for future site improvements and use," the press release said

McCarthy said the Raptor Center needs to upgrade its office space and its rehabilitation facilities.

The nonprofit is operating out of two offices, one on Berger Lane in Jackson and the other in a small horse barn on the Hardeman property, she said.



BRADLY J. BONER/JACKSON HOLE DAILY FILE Roger Smith talks with Cub Scouts about a great horned owl in 2009 at the Teton Raptor Center. The Raptor Center, which was leasing their property from the Jackson Hole Land Trust, recently purchased it.

The Raptor Center treated a record 140 birds last year. That total included more than 20 species. Birds come in for a variety of reasons. Some have been hit by cars or shot, for example. Some have ingested toxins or have flown into power lines.

The Raptor Center also has 10 resident birds of prey for educational purposes.

"We have to keep the resident raptors segregated from the patients," Mc-Carthy said. "They need distinct spaces."

In the hands of the Raptor Center "Hardeman Barns will remain a community asset and will continue to be stewarded by the Jackson Hole Land Trust to ensure all provisions of the conservation easement are being upheld," the press release said.

"Should the TRC decide to sell the property in the future the JHLT will have the ability to repurchase the property and guarantee that the community's vision is upheld," the release said.

BATSON DIES IN SALT LAKE CITY

Former Jackson resident Dr. John H. Batson died April 11 at the veterans hospital in Salt Lake City. He was 88.

Batson was a general surgeon who practiced in Jackson from 1971 through 1985.

A full obituary will follow in a future edition of the Jackson Hole News&Guide.

Corrections and Clarifications

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