

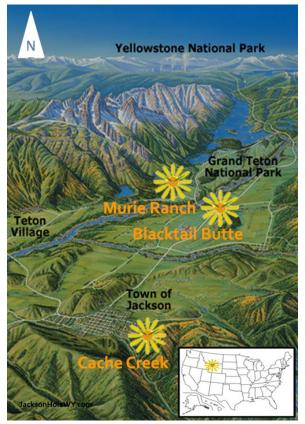
Wildflower Watch Spring 2021 Newsletter



A project of The Nature Conservancy and Northern Rockies Conservation Cooperative

The migration of the mountain bluebird marks the transition from winter in spring, and our Wildflower Watch community science hikes are soon to begin! This year we are limiting space to nine participants. We will be taking all the necessary Covid-19 precautions, while continuing to offer educational and fun excursions among the colorful mosaic of wildflowers in Grand Teton National Park.





Whether you have participated for years or are new to Wildflower Watch please join us for one or all of these upcoming **Wildflower Watch Hikes**:

Sundays 2-4pm at Blacktail Butte. Parking lot is just north of Moose Junction on Highway 89.

June 6
July 11
August 1
September 5*

*End of year appreciation party outdoors. Location and details to be announced.

Sign up by emailing Trevor Bloom at trevor.bloom@tnc.org.

If you are a trained citizen scientist, feel free to hike the Wildflower Watch trail alone or with friends, and record data using Nature's Notebook app at Blacktail Butte, Cache Creek or Murie Ranch. Email Trevor if you need an updated 2021 Wildflower Watch Citizen Science Field Guide, and please be cautious with emerging wildlife and variable trail conditions.

This year TNC will be rewarding our top community scientists with freshly designed Wildflower Watch shirts and other swag! Prizes will be given to community scientists with the most observations in 2021, youngest citizen scientist, most years involved in Wildflower Watch, and more!

Art and Science!!!

In addition to Wildflower Watch, we have other exciting events blossoming this Spring and Summer!

Greater Yellowstone Botanical Tour

In June we will break ground at the National Museum of Wildlife Art for the Greater Yellowstone Botanical Tour and native plant restoration on 20 acres that burned in the 2019 Wildlife Museum Fire. We have installed two interpretive signs and are recording an audio tour to educate the public on the importance of native plants to pollinators and



wildlife, ethnobotanical or human uses of plants, and native plant restoration techniques.

In the third week of June, we are looking for dedicated volunteers to assist with planting more than 2,000 native plant seedlings along the Sculpture Trail. We are limited to nine participants for each time slot (2 per day) on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday – June 22, 23 and 24 – at the National Museum of Wildlife Art. Email Trevor at trevor.bloom@tnc.org for more details and to register.

Thanks to generous grants from the Teton Conservation District and the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole, we have the resources to purchase plant materials for both the Botanical Tour as well as restoration at the 2019 Wildlife Museum Fire site. We will host a series of Restoration Workshops with invited speakers, and during the first three weeks of October we will be recruiting volunteers to help with native seed collections and planting for the 20-acre hillside. Stay tuned!



Wild Walls Murals in downtown Jackson!

We are excited to announce a new partnership between The Nature Conservancy, Jackson Hole Public Art, and local artists to produce **not one, but two** large murals in downtown Jackson inspired by Wildflower Watch! Each mural will focus on native wildflowers and their importance to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The murals will be accompanied by an Augmented Reality component that allows the viewer to scan the mural with his/her phone and watch an animation and short,

informative video. We cannot wait to see what these amazing artists produce! Keep an eye out for these murals around downtown Jackson in late June or early July!

See you on the trail!

Trevor Bloom
Community Ecologist
The Nature Conservancy