



JACKSON HOLE CONSERVATION ALLIANCE
P.O. Box 2728 • Jackson, WY 83001 • (307) 733-9417 • www.jhalliance.org

News Release: 5/21/10; Contact: Brodie O'Brien or Louise Lasley at (307) 733-9417

Steam Powered Airplane Headlines Fifth Annual Party for the Pronghorn

Local bluegrass favorites Steam Powered Airplane and Tucker Smith will jam into the night at the Fifth Annual Party for the Pronghorn on June 4, 7 to 10 p.m. at Snow King Resort's Grand Room.

A community celebration of the Teton Park antelope herd's annual return to the valley, this year's party will also feature a slide show of stunning photographs taken along the pronghorn migration route by Joe Riis. These images – painstakingly collected while Joe hiked the entirety of the 170-mile migration route between the herd's winter range in Sublette County and summer range in Grand Teton National Park – are not to be missed.

Conservationists, federal land managers and state wildlife agencies have worked for years to preserve the Teton Park pronghorns' migratory path – the longest annual migration of any mammal in the western hemisphere, excepting the Arctic caribou herds.

“Several places along the path make passage difficult,” said Louise Lasley, public lands director for the Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, sponsor of the event. “Rivers, trees and steep cliffs pinch the route down to just meters wide at some points, increasing the pronghorns' exposure to predators. Even worse, human development has caused additional bottlenecks. Oil and gas wells, roads, houses, fences – all make a dangerous journey even more perilous.”

“Party for the Pronghorn is not only a celebration of the return of pronghorn into the valley each year, but it lets us see the progress made and the interest generated each year in protecting this remarkable migration,” she added. “We really want to welcome the whole community to join in this celebration of Jackson Hole's incredible wildlife, and of the people working to protect them.”

Partygoers will also learn about this summer's Nature Mapping Jackson Hole project to monitor the movement of pronghorn in the Gros Ventre Wilderness, and how they can pitch in to help ensure the herd's well-being for years to come.

A \$5 donation at the door includes great live music and dancing till 10 p.m., free cake, a cash bar, the chance to win many raffle and silent auction prizes donated by generous local businesses and organizations (including two large prints of Joe Riis' work) and a guaranteed good time with friends and neighbors.

Sponsors of Party for the Pronghorn include Bank of Jackson Hole, Grand Teton National Park, Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance, Jackson Hole Radio, National Elk Refuge, Skinny Skis and Snow King Resort.

-- # # # --

The Jackson Hole Conservation Alliance is a nonprofit organization dedicated to responsible land stewardship to ensure that human activities are in harmony with the area's irreplaceable wildlife, scenic and other natural resources. The organization has more than 2,000 members from Jackson Hole and across the nation.