



# NEWS

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## **AGREEMENT COULD PROTECT LAND ALONG THE SNAKE INCLUDING ASTORIA HOT SPRINGS**

**JACKSON, Wyoming** –Astoria Hot Springs, long one of Jackson’s most beloved recreational spots on the Snake River, could be reopened for the public to enjoy under a plan announced today by The Trust for Public Land, a national nonprofit conservation organization. Northlight Trust I, the real estate investment firm that owns the property, has given The Trust for Public Land and Cygnus SRSC, doing business as The Snake River Sporting Club, an opportunity to craft a transfer of ownership plan that will restore this unique site.

The property is located on the south side of the Snake River, about two miles south of Hoback Junction, at the entrance to the Snake River Sporting Club. Formerly a popular hot springs pool and campground, the land was slated for intense development and the pools closed to the public in 1999. The property was rezoned as a “Planned Resort Development” and would likely be developed if this effort fails.

Chris Deming of The Trust for Public Land notes, “I’m excited that we have a chance to recreate a hot springs park at such a unique and historical site along the Wild and Scenic Snake River. There is a lot of work ahead of us, but like the “Save the Hoback Campaign”, we will be working hand in hand with the community to make this happen.”

The Trust for Public Land and Cygnus are proposing relocating single-family homes and commercial rights to less sensitive areas in the existing development. If approved, the plan will reclaim the hot springs as a signature amenity for the people of Jackson and beyond. The effort

will require The Trust for Public Land and partners to raise support from private donors and public sources to rebuild the hot springs and create a park.

Jeff Heilbrun, the General Manager of the Snake River Sporting Club, said, “We are excited about the potential to restore the Astoria Hot Springs site as a public park. The new owners of the Sporting Club realize the added value to their project if it is done well. We look forward to working with The Trust for Public Land to help make that happen. The ability to reclaim a rare and beautiful site like this with a natural hot springs is an incredible opportunity.”

“Northlight is delighted to be working with The Trust for Public Land to achieve our vision of public access to the Astoria Hot Springs. It offers great swimming and access to the outdoors for locals and visitors to Jackson and nearby national parks,” says Ben Gerig of Northlight. “This agreement creates a mutually agreeable solution that supports our business and makes this spectacular resource available to the community.”

Astoria Hot Springs was owned by the Porter Family from 1959 until 1999. Robert and Patti Gill, who operated Astoria the final ten years their family owned it, said, “The hardest thing our family has ever done was to sell that property. We are thrilled to think that almost 15 years after being closed, the site could be acquired by The Trust for Public Land and once again become a favorite spot for the community to enjoy.”

Protecting the site will also fit into a string of publicly accessible land and parks along the Snake River, all the way to Grand Teton National Park. “This is very exciting news,” said Rebecca Reimers the Executive Director of the Snake River Fund. “For almost ten years now we have been part of a wonderful collaboration of local, state, and federal agencies and non-governmental organizations to help protect and enhance public access and recreational opportunities along the Snake River. The addition of the Astoria Hot Springs site along the Snake River adds a unique opportunity for both recreational access for the public and enhanced stewardship on this remarkable river side property.”

Teton County Commissioner Paul Vogelheim said, “The protection of key natural resources like this is critical to maintaining the character of the valley and access to outdoor opportunities. I’m thrilled to hear that The Trust for Public Land is trying to reclaim this property for the community and visitors to northwestern Wyoming.”

Founded in 1972, The Trust for Public Land is the leading nonprofit working to conserve land for people. Operating from more than 30 offices nationwide including Jackson Hole, The Trust for Public Land has protected more than three million acres from the inner city to the wilderness and helped generate more than \$34 billion in public funds for conservation. Nearly ten million people live within a ten-minute walk of a Trust for Public Land park, garden, or natural area, and millions more visit these sites every year. Learn more at [tpl.org](http://tpl.org)

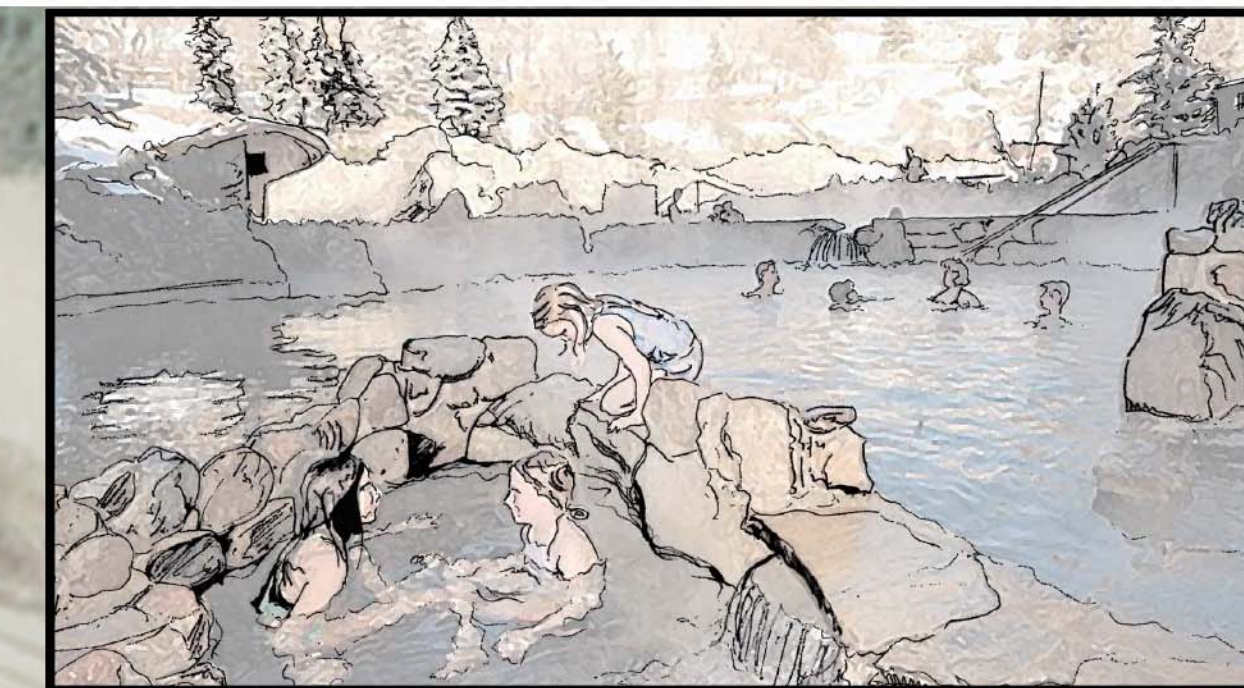
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# LEGEND

- 1 PICNIC PAVILION
- 2 PROPOSED PICNIC PAVILIONS
- 3 RESTROOM/INFORMATION KIOSK
- 4 PARKING (20 CARS)
- 5 HELI-PAD
- 6 HOT SPRINGS DECK
- 7 KID'S WADING POOL
- 8 TROUT POND
- 9 NATURE/DISCOVERY TRAIL
- 10 SOFT TRACK (JOGGING, FITNESS, CROSS-COUNTRY SKI TRAIL)
- 11 FITNESS STATION
- 12 PLAYGROUND



TROUT POND



KID'S WADING POOLS



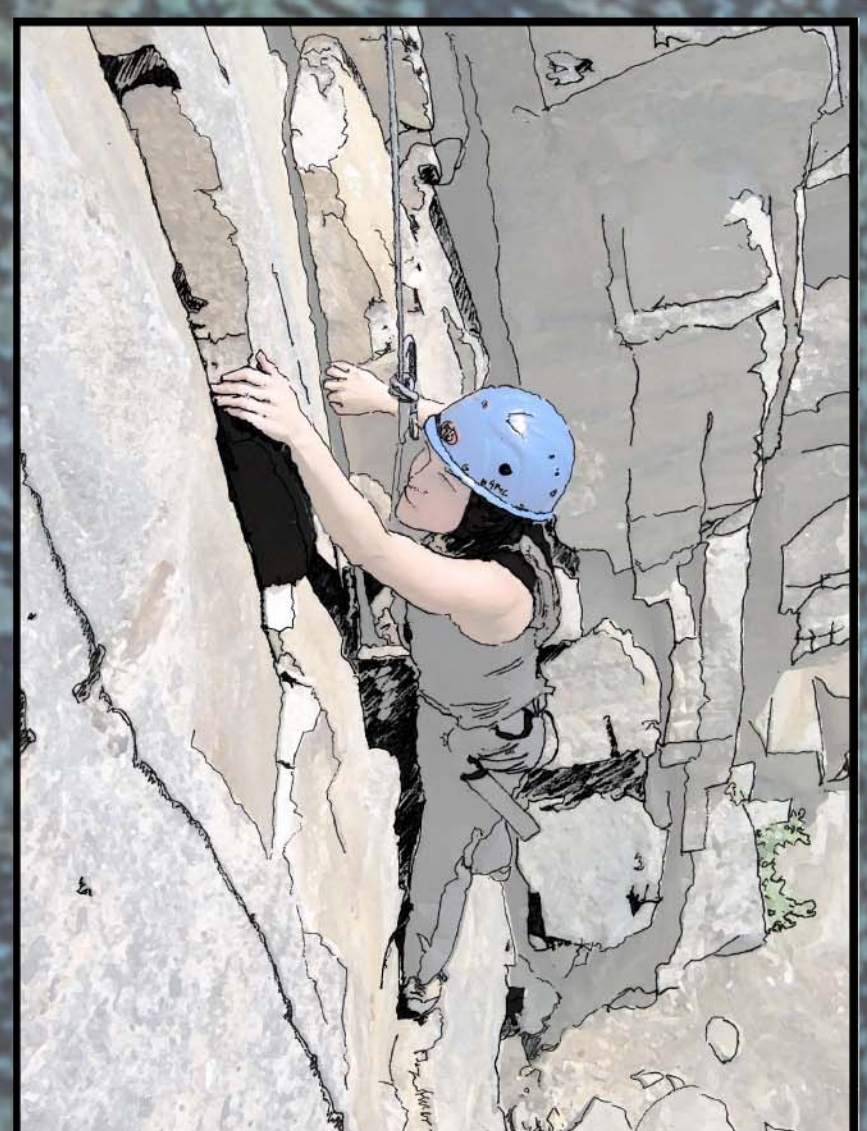
EXISTING JOHNNY COUNTS CABIN (PARK MANAGER'S RESIDENCE)  
 GALLEY (OPEN-AIR CLASSROOM, RESTROOM, KITCHEN)  
 HOT SPRINGS CABIN (OFFICE, TICKET BOOTH, RESTROOM, CHANGING ROOM)

RIVERSIDE CABIN (TROUT FISHING, OUTDOOR EDUCATION, RETREATS)

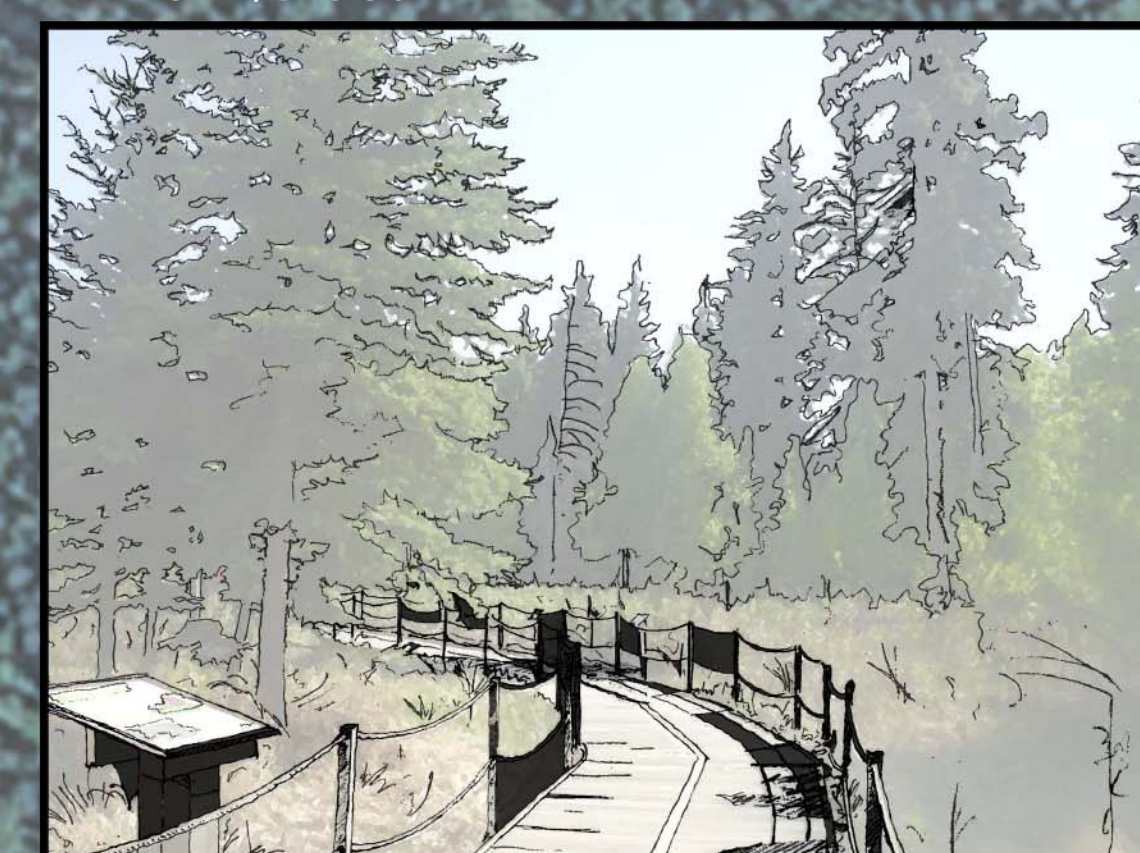
RIVERSIDE CABIN ELEVATION



BOULDERING HILL



NATURE/DISCOVERY TRAIL



# ASTORIA HOT SPRINGS PARK

## DRAFT SCHEMATIC PLAN

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