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Wyoming Pathways Receives \$20,000 Grant for Further Development of the Greater Yellowstone Trail

*Project is one of six in the country to receive
Rails-to-Trails Conservancy's 2017 Doppelt Fund Grants*

[WILSON, WY]—Today, Rails-to-Trails Conservancy (RTC) announced the recipients of its 2017 Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund grants. The Greater Yellowstone Trail was one of six projects selected from a field of 215 applications nationwide.

“Wyoming Pathways requested a Doppelt Fund Grant to further plan, brand, and open the Greater Yellowstone Trail to increased public use. The project will help further develop trail partnerships and drive the continued completion of this world class 180-mile pathway and rail trail route that connects Jackson Hole Wyoming to West Yellowstone Montana via small towns in eastern Idaho,” said Tim Young, Wyoming Pathways Executive Director.

The Greater Yellowstone region is world-renowned for its stunning beauty, natural diversity, wildlife, pristine wilderness and abundant recreation opportunities. Communities within the region have sought to live in harmony with their environment by developing economies that simultaneously embrace, protect and leverage these assets. The concept of the Greater Yellowstone Trail seeks to provide residents and visitors alike with a sustainable, healthy and authentic way to experience the region’s unique environment. The \$20,000 grant received from the Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund will help bring that vision for the Greater Yellowstone Trail to fruition.

“Every week, I hear from dozens of organizations that manage trails—all with common challenges when it comes to funding small projects that address specific maintenance or trail development needs,” said Eli Griffen, RTC’s manager of trail development resources and the manager of the Doppelt Fund grant program. “This year’s grants offer critical investment in projects that will close important gaps in trail systems, measure the economic impact of trails and support specific maintenance needs.”

In total, RTC received over \$5 million in application requests for the 2017 grant cycle, a number that has increased by nearly \$1 million in the past year, demonstrating the growing demand for trail funding in communities nationwide. The 2017 Doppelt Fund grants were awarded in support of six projects, totaling \$102,500. Established in 2015, The Doppelt Family Trail Development Fund is a way to move forward critical projects that enhance health and transportation connectivity in their regions. A listing of all Doppelt Fund grant recipients can be found on [RTC's website](#).

Wyoming Pathways is the statewide voice of people who bicycle and walk. Our mission is to inspire, motivate and unite a strong community of public, business, and political leaders to improve people-powered travel and recreation opportunities in Wyoming, including bicycling, walking, hiking and cross-country skiing and fat biking.

Our purpose is to help develop, advocate, and secure favorable policies, facilities, and investments in public trails, pathways and complete streets for people in all Wyoming communities, and support non-motorized recreation and transportation advances through public outreach, legislative efforts, partnerships, education, encouragement, and trail support programs. Connect with Wyoming Pathways at wyopath.org and [@wyopath](#) on Facebook and Twitter.

Rails-to-Trails Conservancy, a nonprofit organization with more than 160,000 members and supporters, is the nation's largest trails organization dedicated to connecting people and communities by creating a nationwide network of public trails, many from former rail lines. RTC has field offices in Florida, Ohio, California and Pennsylvania. Connect with RTC at railstotrails.org and [@railstotrails](#) on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).