Blackrock Creek, the Buffalo Forks, Lewis River and the Snake River. Once again, each waterway was accessed in multiple locations and I gathered an additional 20 gigabytes of data for the project. My good friend, George Leys, who has been a resident of the valley for close to 50 years, led our Buffalo Forks trek. We covered 12 miles, or more, with heavy gear bags in order to visit the confluence of the North and South Buffalo Forks.

The UW NPS Research Station, ideally located in the northern portion of the Upper Snake River Watershed along the banks of Jackson Lake in Grand Teton National Park, was the perfect home base for this second segment of the project. It enabled us to spend more time in the field, rather than on the road. I also did quite a bit of photographing and recording, both video and audio, right on the grounds of the Research Station. With the exception of an occasional airplane, the sounds collected around the Research Station, including approaching thunderstorms, rain, wind, squirrel banter, etc., were some of the cleanest recordings made throughout our journey. The library at the Research Station was also an inspiring resource. I collected numerous new titles to read and browsed a few of the many excellent guidebooks. I also enjoyed meeting the other residents conducting research at the Station and sharing our respective projects. Although my project was more artistic than scientific, I felt tremendous support from the other researchers and staff of the Station. It is truly an inspiring location for anyone looking for a quiet retreat to focus and renew.

In total, our travels took us throughout the Bridger Teton National Forest, Grand Teton National Park, Yellowstone National Park and Teton, Sublette, Lincoln and Park counties, an estimated 800 miles of driving (many of which were dirt, or gravel). We also hiked roughly 30 miles, most of which consisted of unmarked trails, overgrown access roads, or game trails. In addition to the usual critters, we spotted numerous elk, pronghorn, and black-tailed deer, a beaver, moose, sandhill cranes and evidence of a large grizzly bear along the Buffalo Fork.



ART MUSEUM OF EASTERN IDAHO UPPER SNAKE RIVER EXHIBIT

I am currently editing the imagery and recordings and working on several pieces for the Upper Snake River exhibit at The Art Museum of Eastern Idaho. My portion of the show will consist of a large circular video projection of moving water captured at each of the waterways. The video will be projected on the ground and a corresponding audio component will surround the viewer. There will also be two large still image pieces hung on the walls. One piece consists of a photographic typology of rocks collected over the 10 days, while the other is a large "map" created from video stills placed in the relative geographical location they were captured. Several additional monitors will be scattered throughout the gallery showing various wind study footage and timelapse sequences. Finally, a photo book titled, "Journey Water" that compiles my photographs in a loose visual narrative chronicling our adventures, will also be on display.



