

Meet the Staff:

Ian Wilson

by Jesse Steele, GRMW staff

The Grande Ronde Model Watershed (GRMW) welcomed a new team member in August. Ian Wilson will be taking over the Wallowa County Project Coordinator position based in Enterprise, Oregon. Ian is originally from Portland, Oregon, and moved to Wallowa County in 1998. Ian, his wife, Heidi, and their two kids, Ashley and Malachi, have lived just outside of Lostine, Oregon, along the Wallowa River for 21 years. Ian's eldest child, Ashley, just left home to attend the University of Montana in Missoula to study art education. His son, Malachi, is a seventh grader at Wallowa Junior High School and enjoys playing basketball.

During Ian's time living in Wallowa County,

he has owned and operated an outdoor store called Wallowa Outdoors in Enterprise as well as worked for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Nez Perce Tribe, the

Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, and now the GRMW. Ian earned a bachelor's degree in Fish and Wildlife Science from Oregon State University in 2015 and an associate's degree in Forestry from Central Oregon Community College in 1998. His extensive experience working in natural resources and education along with his well-established roots in Wallowa County make him a perfect fit for the GRMW.

Ian loves the outdoors and spends much of his free time with his family hiking in the Eagle Cap Wilderness and fly-fishing the area's numerous high lakes and streams. Not many people can say they have fished the entire Minam River from the headwaters (Minam

Lake) to the mouth, which Ian completed in 2018. Ian packed in an inflatable kayak to float and fish the remote river, catching everything from trout to Mountain Whitefish. To say Ian has a good understanding of the natural resources and geography of Wallowa County is an understatement!

Ian and his wife recently took over a portion of the family farm where they have been living and already have started making plans for how to improve the fish habitat along the property's one-mile stretch of the Wallowa River. Ian loves not only the vast recreational opportunities in Wallowa County but also the county's people. He often reminisces about his time operating the outdoor store, saying that his favorite part of that job was getting to talk with all the people who would stop in each day.

So, please stop in and congratulate Ian at his new office (located at **936 W. North Street, Enterprise, Oregon**) or give him a call at **541-426-0389**. ■



Ian with his daughter Ashley, son Malachi, and wife Heidi at Ashley's graduation from Wallowa High School (courtesy of Ian Wilson).

GRMW Board Meetings

Tuesday, November 26th, 2019

5:00 p.m.

Elgin Community Center

260 N 10th St.

Elgin OR 97827

Tuesday, February 25th, 2020

5:00 p.m.

Wallowa Senior Center

204 E 2nd St.

Wallowa OR 97885

The public is welcome to attend.

Meeting dates are subject to change.

Please call (541) 663 - 0570 to confirm.

Thank you!

Like & Follow Us On Instagram & Facebook

