



2007 Award of Excellence
AIA Montana Design Awards Program
Merit Award



Photography by Gordon Gregory Photography

Architect of Record:

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River Rim Overlook Lodge and Grand Cabins

The River Rim Development is located in Teton County, Idaho, and overlooks the Teton mountain range and the verdant Teton Valley.

The Overlook Lodge and Grand Cabins were designed together to become the first structures in the first phase of the development in a style that captures the vernacular Idaho architecture in a contemporary way. Sitting three hundred feet above the Teton River along the rim of the river gorge, the project site was selected to capture the stunning vistas up and down the gorge and across to the Tetons. The Overlook Lodge (3,980 sf) was programmed as the main "living room" for all lot owners and will serve as the main community gathering place. It will accommodate dining events, casual fellowship and the basement will house the electric carts that will shuttle fisherman down the steep switchbacks to the river. The Grand Cabins (3,035 sf each) are the first three units in the area master planned for the denser cabin community around the Lodge. One cabin will serve as an ongoing model unit and the other two were pre-sold. Residential lots throughout the development are approximately one to acres.

The main sustainable strategy in the development itself was to preserve 80% of the land as either active agricultural farms or commonly held open space that will be used for cross-country skiing and horseback riding. The existing farmers will continue to live on the property and produce their crops of wheat and barley. The buildings themselves utilize good solar orientation, high Rvalue insulation packages, high-efficiency boilers and native landscaping.