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Eagle Valley Land Trust

Land Conservation for Public Access
Saving Land Where People Live

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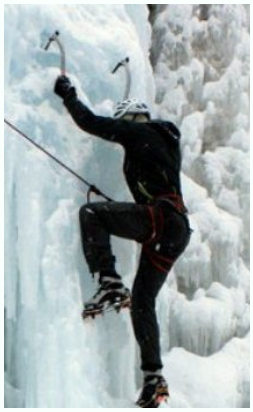

Dear Scott,

Happy New Year from your Local Land Trust! We look forward to another productive year of local land conservation in 2013!

Saving Land for People

One of our many conservation objectives at the Eagle Valley Land Trust is to Save Land For People. In addition to saving land for wildlife habitat, to preserve our Western ranching and mining heritage and to protect air, water and environmental quality, one of our primary goals is to ensure that the people of our community enjoy the perpetual benefits of open space and land conservation.

30,877 people, nearly 60% of our population in Eagle County, live within 1 mile of the I-70 corridor. We believe in providing front door access from neighborhoods to conservation areas; saving lands that are within walking distance of where people live.

13 of our conservation easements offer public access. We are proud to say that over 22,000 people live within one mile of these local conservation areas. Your local Land Trust has focused significant energy and resources on publicly accessible conservation easements on the valley floor for the

enjoyment and education of the people of Eagle County.

Front Door Conservation

- 5,204 people live within 1 mile of the Miller Ranch Community Open Space conservation easement.
- 4,637 people live within 1 mile of one of the Homestead Conservation and Public Recreation Project (4 conservation easements.)
- 7,497 people live within 1 mile of the Eagle River Preserve conservation easement.
- 4,526 people live within 1 mile of one of the four public conservation easements within the Town of Vail (Ptarmigan, East Vail Waterfall, Buffehr Creek, and Meadow Creek conservation easements.)
- 6,636 people live within 1 mile of the West Avon/Beaver Creek Point conservation easement currently being finalized between the Land Trust and the Town of Avon (as part of the larger Eagle Valley Land Exchange Project.)

Fishermen on Miller Ranch Open Space

*Using 2010 US Census data for Eagle County, EVLT is able to determine how many people live within a designated distance from a local conservation easement that allows for public access.

Did You Know?...

"Fiscal Cliff" Impact on Conservation

Due to the recent "Fiscal Cliff" deal in Washington, if you are a local landowner and you donate a conservation easement on your land in 2013, you may deduct 50% of your adjusted gross income off of your tax bill, up to the value of the easement. And, if you are a qualifying farmer or rancher whose primary business is agriculture, you can deduct up 100% of your income. Conservation easement donors may also carry-forward tax deductions for 15 years, in addition to the year of the donation.

If you own land in Eagle County and may be interested in donating a conservation easement on your land, we can help you maximize that conservation easement for your tax purposes. Here is an example: a landowner earning $50,000 a year who donates a $1 million conservation easement may deduct $25,000 for the year of the donation and then for an additional 15 years. That's $400,000 in tax deductions. If the landowner qualifies as a farmer or rancher, they can zero out their taxes. In that case, they could take a maximum of $800,000 in deductions for their million dollar conservation easement gift. Any landowners interested in learning more, please contact Kara Heide at kara@evlt.org.

Did You Know?...

EVLT Receives Statewide Land Stewardship Award!

The Land Trust was the recipient of The Jane Silverstein Ries Foundation's 2012 JSR Award. The statewide award was presented in recognition of our "pioneering sense of environmental awareness and stewardship of land use values in the Rocky Mountain Region."

The JSR Foundation is the charitable arm of the Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects. Local landscape architect, Sherry Dorward, nominated EVLT for this prestigious award.

We are proud and honored to be recognized for our land stewardship efforts.

Yours in Conservation,

Eagle Valley Land Trust

970.748.7654 | www.EVLT.org

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