



## JACKSON HOLE LAND TRUST NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 2008

Contact: Blair Friedeman, 307-733-4707 or [blair@jhlandtrust.org](mailto:blair@jhlandtrust.org)

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### A Brilliant Close to The Jackson Hole Land Trust's *Campaign for Our Valley*

**Jackson Hole, Wyoming** – At the end of the year The Jackson Hole Land Trust concludes the *Campaign for Our Valley*, a ten-year, \$26 million community project that has protected from development more than 1,200 acres of open space in Jackson Hole.

The *Campaign* was launched in 1999 with the goal of funding the permanent conservation of the character-defining lands of this valley. Since that time, 653 individuals, businesses and foundations have invested in the effort.

“The generosity of this community has demonstrated resoundingly that open space and wildlife are at the core of our character and among our most fundamental values. We are so honored by the support of this community and incredibly proud of what we, as a community, were able to protect.” said Laurie Andrews, executive director of the Land Trust.

The funds raised from the *Campaign* directly translate into the completion of six high-priority projects, protecting forever over 1,200 acres of character-defining landscapes through conservation easements. These 1,200 acres include 444 acres of moose winter range, three bald eagle nests, 322 acres of crucial mule deer habitat, two and a half miles of Snake River frontage, one and half miles of Spring Creek and immeasurable awe-inspiring vistas.

The six projects that were made possible from *Campaign* funds are 181 acres of the Hansen Ranch, 250 acres of the Poodle Ranch, 41 acres of Karns Meadow, 105 acres of the Feuz Ranch in Buffalo Valley, 35 acres of Valley Springs Ranch and 341 acres on the U Lazy U Ranch. The protection of these properties not only protects critical wildlife habitat and scenic corridors but also multiple generations of ranching heritage.



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A conservation easement is a voluntary contract between a landowner and a land trust, government agency or another qualified organization in which the owner places permanent restrictions on the future uses of some or all of their property to protect scenic, wildlife, or agricultural resources (conservation values). The restrictions usually limit the number of future home sites but can, and often do, limit other uses as well.

The Jackson Hole Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization that works to protect the scenic, ranching and wildlife values of Jackson Hole. Since its inception in 1980, the Jackson Hole Land Trust has protected over 20,000 acres of open lands in and around Jackson Hole. For more information please visit [www.jhlandtrust.org](http://www.jhlandtrust.org).