



JACKSON HOLE LAND TRUST NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: December 7, 2010

Contact: Laurie Andrews, 307-733-4707 or laurie@jhlandtrust.org

Ranch in the Heart of the Dunoir Valley Protected

Dubois, WY -- The Wind River Program of the Jackson Hole Land Trust is pleased to announce the first success in an effort to work with landowners in the Dunoir Valley who are interested in protecting their land: the donation of a conservation easement on the Lazy G Ranch.

The 15-acre Lazy G Ranch, owned by Robert and Mary Lou McGee, is situated on Six Mile Creek, in the heart of the Dunoir Valley and is home to an array of wildlife including elk, eagles, wolves, bears, mule deer, pronghorn and moose.

The breathtaking Dunoir Valley is surrounded by the jagged peaks and escarpments of the Absaroka Mountains, and is one of the most wildlife rich areas in the state of Wyoming, boasting premiere habitat for ungulates, predators, raptors and fish. The valley is comprised of private ranches surrounded by public lands. The significant wildlife, agriculture, and open space values of these private lands make them a priority for the Wind River Program of the Jackson Hole Land Trust.

Wind River Program Director Ellen Vanuga explains, "Countless generations of wildlife have migrated through the McGees' property, between summer and winter range, and counted on the cover, forage, water and seclusion it provides. The protection of this small, but strategically located property perfectly exemplifies how the benefits of conservation extend far beyond property lines. "

The McGees' have generously donated a conservation easement on their property, eliminating all development potential and ensuring that the land remains an ecologically functional facet of the valley.

"This property has been in our family for nearly 40 years. Although it is small, it is no less important to preserve the property in a conservation easement in this unique beautiful valley. We are very pleased to make this donation," Bob McGee said.



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The Wind River Program, a program of the Jackson Hole Land Trust, was initiated in 2007 with the purpose of supporting the Dubois community in conserving the upper Wind River watershed. To date, over 2,670 acres have been protected in this area.

The Jackson Hole Land Trust is a private, non-profit organization that works to protect the scenic, ranching and wildlife values of Teton County and the surrounding areas. 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.