



Laughlin Gulch, Saguache County

The property known as Laughlin Gulch lies on the historic Laughlin Stock Driveway, the route that ranchers along Saguache Creek have used for more than a century to take their cattle to and from high country range in the San Juan Mountains. Funding for the conservation easement came from Lottery-funded Great Outdoors Colorado and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The 160 acres are completely surrounded by several thousand acres of Federal and State land. The property hosts a spring which provides water year-round for livestock and wildlife in the area. This area is an important big game range, primarily providing habitat for elk, mule deer and bighorn sheep. Pine and juniper woodlands cover much of the property, which also has impressive views of the Saguache Creek Valley and the Sangre de Cristo Mountains to the east. To the south and west, the neighboring public lands rise into secluded valleys and forested hillsides that offer numerous recreational amenities including high quality hunting opportunities for elk and mule deer. Protection of the Laughlin Gulch Property ensures that the neighboring public lands will not be negatively affected by development in the area.