

Colorado Cattlemen's
Agricultural Land Trust



2011 Annual Report



Dear Friends,

Nearly 20 years ago, the membership of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) embarked on a remarkable journey. Led by some visionary leaders like Kirk Hanna and Jay Fetcher, CCA became the first livestock association in the nation to form a land trust. They did this because they saw what was happening to Colorado and realized that without the working ranches - and just as importantly - the ranch families, there was not going to be a future for agriculture in our state.

Fast forward to 2011, and the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust continues to make great strides in preserving ranches, ranchers and our agricultural future. This past year saw CCALT complete 26 conservation transactions, adding more than 19,000 acres of permanently protected land. What we are most proud of is that more than 80% of those transactions were with traditional ranch families, the people that we envisioned helping stay on their land and in ranching years ago. The remainder are properties that are leased to longtime ranchers around the state.

As a supporter, partner or advisor to CCALT, you helped make this happen and we are happy that you can share in this success. In these days where it is often hard to tell what impacts a non-profit has, the success of the Land Trust is easy to appreciate. The ranch in that high mountain valley will be there forever, and so will the vast expanse of the eastern plains. We are proud and humbled to be a part of this as well.

Looking forward, there is much to do. Funding for conservation is getting tighter, and the demand for our services is growing. CCALT continues to adapt, grow and create new ways to protect our ranching heritage; not only for us, but for the future. Stay tuned throughout the next year, we will be sure to let you know about even more success!!



Chris West

Chris West
Executive Director

William E.L. Fales

William E.L. Fales
Board President



Your dollars at work:

The Kent Rickenbaugh Memorial Fund

Over the past decade, CCALT has been able to host a number of interns to advance the work of the Land Trust, and to provide a meaningful work experience for young professionals. In 2002, to honor the legacy of former CCALT Board Member Kent Rickenbaugh, the Rickenbaugh family established a memorial fund to help cover the costs of CCALT's interns. Taking a look back, it is clear that this is a program that is working well for both the Land Trust and the greater conservation community.

Michelle Pugliese – 2001 – Duke University. She is now the Land Protection Director at the Southern Appalachians Highlands Conservancy in Asheville, NC.

Dan Kaiser – 2002 – Duke University. Dan's interest in water and economics led him to stints with the EPA and a private water consulting firm. He is now pursuing his personal interest in organic farming on New Zealand's North Island.

Ray Ilg – 2003 – University of Maine. Ray rose from intern to Director of Conservation at CCALT. He is now the New England Regional Director for Ducks Unlimited.

Eric Sinn – 2005 – Plymouth State University, MA.

Carolyn Aspelin – 2006 – Colorado State University. After securing a full time job with CCALT following her internship, she has risen to become CCALT's lead project staff and is now Director of Conservation Transactions.

Our mission...

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust protects productive agricultural lands and the conservation values they provide by working with ranchers and farmers, thereby preserving Colorado's ranching heritage and rural communities.

Mark Howe – 2006 University of Denver Law School. Mark finished law school, passed the bar and returned to Ouray County where he is now a lawyer with the Tisdale Law Firm.

Jordan Beezley – 2008 – University of Denver. Jordan works for the State of Colorado overseeing the conservation easement program at the Division of Real Estate, where he is now the Program Manager.

Jerod Smith – 2011 – University of Wyoming. Jerod has transitioned into a Project Assistant position with the Land Trust. Now in his second year with CCALT, he is completing a large amount of easement monitoring visits and working on several new conservation easements across the state.

Courtney Hurst – 2012 – Colorado State University. Courtney is in the midst of her internship and is working on a project in conjunction with the American Farmland Trust and the easements that they hold in Colorado.

Ongoing contributions continue to fund the internship program. Are you interested in supporting this program? Simply mail in the enclosed envelope and be sure to mark your donation under the Kent Rickenbaugh Memorial Fund.

2011 Donors

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust would like to express our sincere thanks to those individuals, businesses, and organizations that have partnered in CCALT's unique vision.

We particularly want to thank the 27 landowners who contributed easements in 2011.

Trail Boss

\$10,000 - \$25,000

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers
Denny and Joy Swanson & the
Wayne Swanson Charitable Fund

Cowboy

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Allan C. Beezley, P.C.
William Fales & Marj Perry
Penny Lewis
Robert D. Lindner Jr.
K.H. Stapleton

Wrangler

\$1,000 - \$4,999

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777 Investment Corporation
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Bradbury Family Partnership
Mike Branham & Elizabeth Searle
Brown & Mardi Cannon
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in honor of Marie M. Robotham
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Steele Street Bank & Trust
Tax Credit Connection
The Trust for Public Land
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\$500 - \$999

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Chris & Kyle West
Mark S. Weston
Tim & Annie Wohlgenant
Marty & Laurie Zeller

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\$1 - \$499

Anonymous (5)
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John & Lisa Anderson
Gilbert & Steph Anderson
Carolyn Aspelin
Timothy D. Bachicha
Herbert & Laura Bacon
Louis & Pamela Bansbach
Robert & Carolyn Barnett
Battle Creek Holdings
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Brad & Melinda Beck
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Cade L. Benson
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BIO-Logic Inc.
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Eagle Rock Ranch
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Consulting
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Pete Bond
Robert Boswell
Arthur & Baba Bosworth II
David Bower
Tom & Margaret Bradbury Sr.
Emy Brawley
Steven & Catherine Brooks
Corinne Joy Brown
Reeves & Penny Brown
Sylvia Brown
Brown, Wheeldon,
Tafoya & Barrett
Keith & Charlotte Bumgarner
Timothy & Jennifer Burns
Jennifer Callender
Carpenter & Klatskin, P.C.

Joe & Tina Cary
Ray & Melanie Chamberlain
Dr. John M. Cheney
Edward & Anne Close
Cogswell Construction
James W. Coleman
Polly Coleman
Tom & Kristy Collins
David C. Conley, P.C.
Conservation Solutions, LLC
Conservation Tax Credit
Vincent & Kathy Cook
Keith Cox
Richard & Barbara Crow
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Cummings Ranch
Sue Cummings
Miles & Jeanne Davies
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Dean & Tracy Dowson
Kathleen Doyle
Mike Eckhoff & Jill Ozarski
George & Sonja Ek
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Dieter Erdmann
Everhart Ranch, LLC
Ernie Fazekas
Lois Ferguson
John Fielder
Flora Fieldman
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Charles & Marie Frederickson
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Deborah Lieberman
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James Gallagher
Caleb & Sidney Gates
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Christine Gerdes
Donald & Nancy Glenn
Erik & Shelby Glenn
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Donna Middlebrooks
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Patrick & Carla Grant
Hawk Greenway
Heather Noyes Gregg
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Gina Guy
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Diane Brown
Lyla Hamilton
Hanna Ranches, Inc.
Marilyn Harding
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Larry D. Harvey, P.C.
Tony & Connie Hass
Harley & Lorraine Higbie
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in honor of Sue Anschutz-Rodgers
Gene Hollenbeck
Keith & Debbie Holsinger
Kent Holsinger & Erin Silver
Pieter & Helen Hondius
Miriam Horn & Charles Sabel

A. Ryland Howard
in honor of John Tweedy
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Hutchison, Inc.
IDI Ranch, Inc.
Ireland Stapleton Pryor
& Pascoe, P.C.
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Chris & Jane Jensen
Kirk Johnson & Chase DeForest
Kamar, Inc.
Kaplan, Kirsch, Rockwell
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The Kellogg Organization
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Thomas & Joan Kelsch
Stephan & Dawn Kettler
Jeremy & Holly Kinney
Elizabeth Kirkpatrick
in memory of Marie M. Robotham
Knott Land and Livestock
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John Perry Morgan*
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Kent & Ruth Obee
Thomas O'Donnell
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Sally Pearce
in honor of Deedee & Peter Decker
Peterson Appraisal Co.
Peterson Ranch, Inc.
Greg Peterson &
Kathleen Curry
James Peterson
Sharon Lanyon Pierce
Dan Pike & Shelley Morton
Keith & Colleen Poole
Powell & Murphy, P.C.

2011 Donors Continued

Grants & Foundation Partners

We would like to thank the organizations that provided grants in 2011.
CCALT appreciates our partnership with the following organizations:

Anonymous Foundation
Colorado Conservation Trust
Edmondson Foundation
Entelco Foundation
Flying Diamond Ranch Foundation
Gates Family Foundation
Great Northern Tavern Foundation
Great Outdoors Colorado
Gunnison Valley Land Preservation Fund

HPP South Park
Intermountain West Joint Venture
NAWCA
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The Colorado Health Foundation
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Community Foundation
The Etkin Family Advised Fund
The Gilman Family Foundation
The Nature Conservancy
The New-Land Foundation
The Trinchera & Tercio Foundation
The William H. Donner Foundation
Trescott Foundation Fund

Explorer Continued

\$1 - \$499

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Rafters 26 Ranch
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Ranchland Trust of Kansas
Ken Ransford
Rare Earth Science
Thomas & Celia Reed
Reeves, Riggs & Brenner
Robert & Susan Reid
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Melvin D. & Maurine Rettig
RW Appraisal
Frederica L. Riahi
Robert & Myra Rich
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in honor of Kent Rickenbaugh
William & Kathryn Roark
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in honor of Marie M. Robotham
Sarah Robotham & Ira Kaplan
in honor of Marie M. Robotham
William & Ann Robotham
in honor of Marie M. Robotham
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Ron & Sharry Roundtree
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The Tisdell Law Firm, P.C.
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Morris & Verna Ververs

Eagle Rock Ranch
Daniel L. & Lisa Walker
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Dr. Richard & P.J. Wenham
West Elks Consulting
Gordan K. & Lola Westdahl
Western Stock Show Association
Allan White & Jane McLeod
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in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Dale Lasater
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WSGALT
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Gerald & Karen Zink

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Johnson Storage & Moving Co.
Mardi Cannon
Nancy Petry
Steele Street Bank & Trust
Sweetwood Cattle Co.
Tax Credit Connection
The Trinchera & Tercio Foundation
The Trust for Public Land
Western Land Group
William and Joanne Sinclair

In Kind Donations

Sue Anschutz-Rodgers
Ark Anglers Outfitters
Cache La Poudre Feeds
Corinne Joy Brown
Bruce & June Conord
Miles & Jeanne Davies
Peter & Deedee Decker
Ben & Laurie Duke III
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Donald & Nancy Glenn
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John Land Le Coq
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C.J. & Nancy Mucklow
Odell Brewing Company
Pat and Sharon O'Toole
Ranchland Trust of Kansas
Terry & Maureen Reidy
Jackie Sanderson
Bill & Lindsay Serrell
William & Joanne Sinclair
Sweetwood Cattle Co.
Tito's Handmade Vodka
Vera Bradley
Jerry & Sonja Wenger

Please accept our sincere apologies for any unintentional mistakes or names that have been omitted. We have listed only donations that were received in our office by 12/31/2011. Any year-end donations that arrived in January will be listed in our 2012 report.

CCALT's Impact on Conservation in Colorado

The board and staff of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) are often asked what significant impact our organization has both within the ranching community and across Colorado. In 2011, the Land Trust Alliance (LTA) surveyed all of the land trusts across the nation in order to demonstrate how effective private land conservation has been in the last several years.

The results were incredible and invaluable. LTA determined that Colorado is a national leader in private land conservation, ranking second in total acres protected across the United States.

Breaking these numbers down to an organizational level, LTA discovered that CCALT holds conservation easements on more acreage than any other land trust in Colorado; and is ranked sixth in the nation in total acres protected by statewide or regional land trusts.

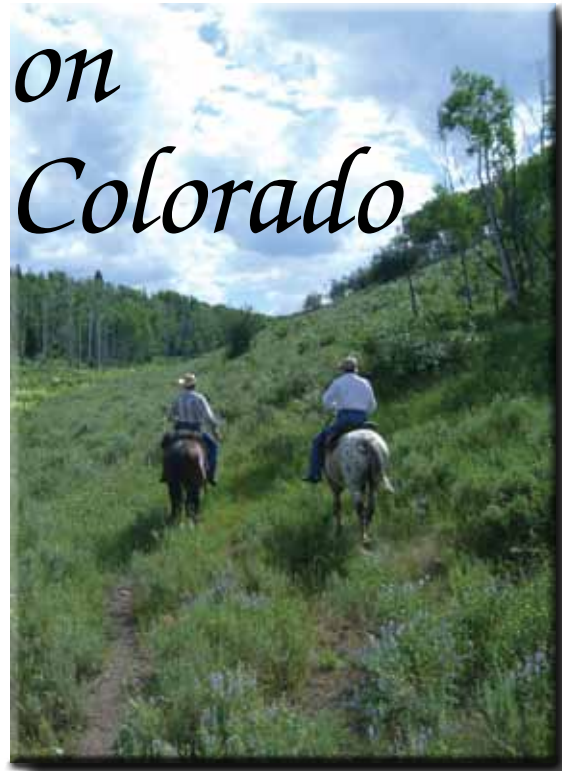
"The impact of CCALT has been one of the biggest stories in voluntary land conservation in the last decade. Their success points to the rising importance of working agricultural lands and the role of family ranchers and farmers as stewards of these landscapes."

- Rand Wentworth
Land Trust Alliance President

We have been blessed to have great partners like the lottery-funded Great Outdoors Colorado program and an innovative state tax credit program. These initiatives often provide the modest financial incentive to make conservation possible for traditional ranch families.

Our state is known around the world for its working ranch landscapes, soaring peaks and open vistas. It is in the interest of everyone who values Colorado to ensure that these landscapes are protected for future generations. Agriculture and Tourism/Recreation are two of the three biggest sectors of Colorado's economy and the conservation of private land helps to sustain our financial well-being. The work of CCALT helps to ensure that there will be wide open ranches which allow for agriculture, recreation and tourism to continue to thrive here.

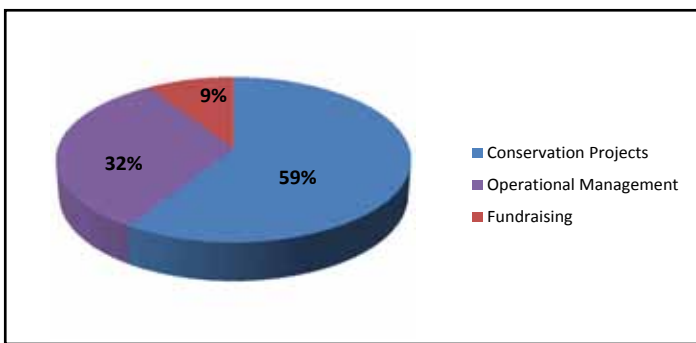
The landowners and families that we work with provide the key element of the success of land conservation in Colorado. To date, we have worked with more than 260 families. CCALT's goal is to have every farm and ranch family able to fully explore their conservation options and not be forced to sell out to development. Without these families and their dedication to protect their farms and ranches, the rest of the population in the state would not have the quality of life, food production and landscapes that we take for granted on a daily basis. Our thanks go out to all of these landowners who make our mission and impact on conservation in Colorado possible.



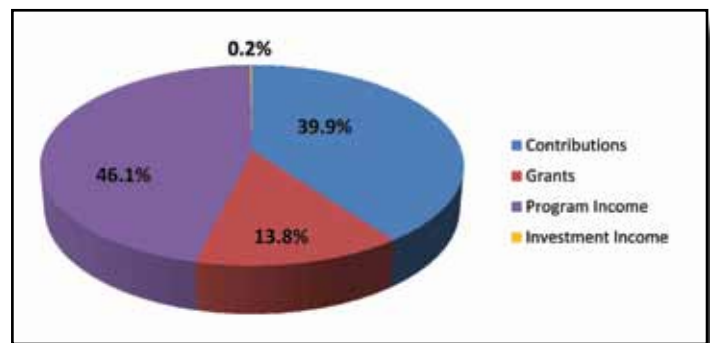
2011 Financials

CCALT is proud of its 17 - year record of fiscal responsibility and organizational growth. In 2011, the conservation easements accepted by the Land Trust were valued at \$27,404,850. CCALT raised \$10,127,250 in grants for conservation easement purchases and its landowner partners donated more than \$17 million in land value!

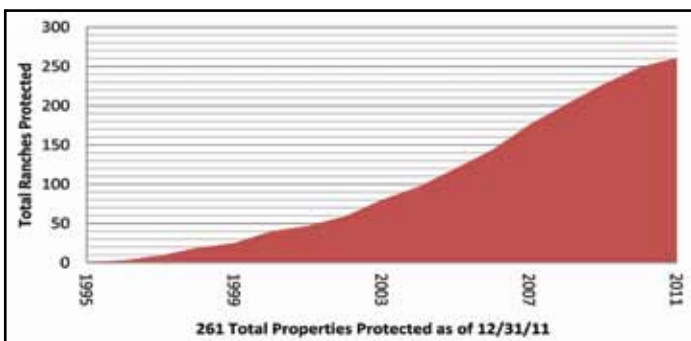
Operating Expenses



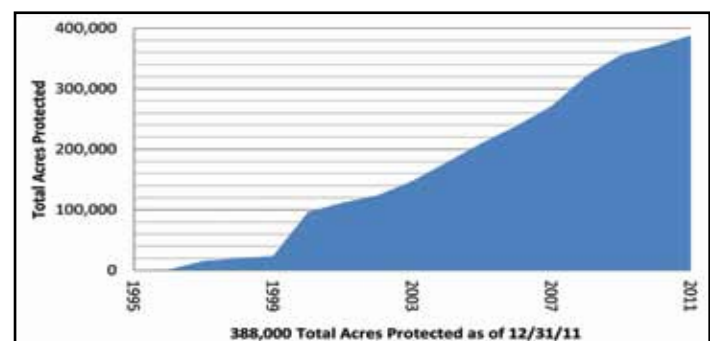
Operating Revenue



Ranches Protected



Acres Protected



CCALT has a dedicated Stewardship Endowment Fund to provide for the long-term stewardship of its conservation easements and it adds to that Fund with each new project. As of December 31, 2011, the Fund balance was \$2,128,481. CCALT is proactive in its efforts to defend the conservation easements that it holds and this is one way that it can support landowners who have conserved their lands with CCALT. The Legal Defense Fund provides security that landowners' wishes for their property will be upheld in perpetuity against threats such as condemnation or third party trespass. As of December 31, 2011, the Fund balance was \$258,330.

Colorado Cattlemen's
Agricultural Land Trust



8833 Ralston Road
Arvada, Colorado 80002

www.ccalt.org

tel: 303-225-8677 fax: 303-431-6446



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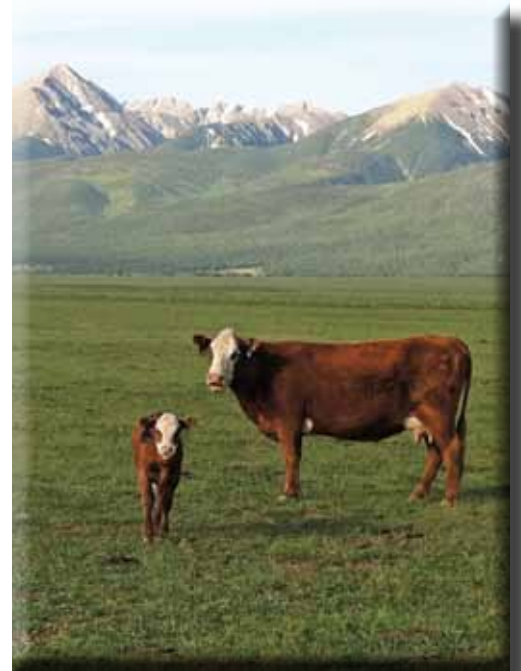
Max Vezzani

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Rusk Ranch, Custer County

Front Cover: Focus Ranch