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Colorado Leopold Conservation Award program seeks nominees

Sand County Foundation, the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Peabody Energy and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association are accepting applications for the prestigious Leopold Conservation Award honoring agricultural landowners who demonstrate outstanding stewardship and management of natural resources.

ARVADA, Colo. — Sand County Foundation, the Colorado Cattlemen's Association, the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust, Peabody Energy and Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association are accepting applications for the prestigious Leopold Conservation Award honoring agricultural landowners who demonstrate outstanding stewardship and management of natural resources.

Given in honor of renowned conservationist Aldo Leopold, the \$10,000 award recognizes private landowner achievement in voluntary conservation and is presented annually.

Applications are due by Feb. 3, 2014. Finalists and recipient will be announced in March. For complete application information, visit www.leopoldconservationaward.org.

"The outstanding agricultural landowners we honor with the Leopold Conservation Award exemplify what it means to be leaders in conservation for the benefit of our environment," said Brent Haglund, Sand County Foundation President.

"Being a part of the Leopold Conservation Award is a great way to highlight the sustainability of the beef industry in Colorado through their environmental, economic, and societal viability," said Terry Fankhauser, Executive Vice President for the Colorado Cattlemen's Association.

The Leopold Conservation Award recognizes extraordinary achievement in voluntary conservation. It inspires other landowners through these examples and provides a visible forum where farmers, ranchers and other private landowners are recognized as conservation leaders. In his influential 1949 book, *A Sand County Almanac*, Leopold called for an ethical relationship between people and the land they own and manage, which he called "an evolutionary possibility and an ecological necessity."

Award applicants are judged based on their demonstration of improved resource conditions, innovation, long-term commitment to stewardship, sustained economic viability, community and civic leadership, and multiple use benefits.

The Leopold Conservation Award in Colorado is possible thanks to generous contributions from Peabody Energy, Tri-State Generation and Transmission Association and The Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation.

For application information, please visit www.leopoldconservationaward.org.

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