

## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Cattlemen's Land Trust Sunset BBQ to Showcase Hutchinson Ranch Conservation

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) will hold its 9<sup>th</sup> annual Sunset BBQ at the Hutchinson Ranch near Salida, Colorado on Saturday, August 23rd. CCALT recently completed a project with the family, ensuring that the ranch will remain a historical working ranch. Proceeds from the BBQ will be used by the Land Trust to protect additional ranches in the Upper Arkansas Valley.

The Hutchinson Ranch was homesteaded in the 1860s by Joseph Hutchinson. The ranch has since been passed down through six generations, making it the oldest family-owned ranch in the Upper Arkansas Valley.

The Hutchinson family committed to work to permanently protect the ranch with conservation easements. The family determined years ago that the only way to preserve this land as both a historic working ranch and as open space was to adapt, embrace and support conservation easements.

"We are proud to host this year's CCALT Sunset BBQ and want to express thanks to all who helped us in the process," said Art Hutchinson.

The 2014 BBQ will begin with a tour at the historical homestead, followed by cocktails, dinner, live entertainment from Salida's Phoebe and Harper Powell, and an auction. Bids for the auction items can also be placed online in advance of the event at <a href="www.biddingforgood.com/ccalt">www.biddingforgood.com/ccalt</a>.

The Sunset BBQ is hosted by landowners in different regions of the state every year. This is the first time that the BBQ has been held in Chaffee County. CCALT, along with many other conservation partners, has conserved over 2,300 acres on six working ranches. The Land Trust has the opportunity to protect another 1,000 acres in the next few years in Chaffee County.

"The Hutchinson Ranch is the perfect location. This ranch serves as an example of what can be accomplished through conservation partnerships with non-profits, local government agencies, landowners and their families," said Chris West, CCALT Executive Director.

Tickets are available for the August 23<sup>rd</sup> event, which will begin at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$150 per person and all proceeds will go toward CCALT's conservation efforts. For more information, or to RSVP, visit the event website at www.ccalt.org or email Alyssa Street at alyssa@ccalt.org.

## About the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT)

CCALT was formed in 1995 by the membership of the Colorado Cattlemen's Association to help Colorado's ranchers and farmers protect their agricultural lands and encourage continuing agricultural production. They are the first state livestock association in the nation to form a land trust. CCALT has developed an excellent track record in successfully completing transactions, and has worked with over 270 ranching families statewide to protect more than 424,000 acres.

## **2014 Sunset BBQ Event Sponsors**

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**Hutchinson Ranch** 

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