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Press Contacts:

Alyssa Street, Development & Communications Director
Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust

[720-557-8270](tel:720-557-8270)

alyssa@ccalt.org

Cattlemen's Land Trust Celebrates 20 Years of Conservation in Colorado at the Elk Ranch Near Colorado Springs

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) will hold its 10th annual Sunset BBQ at the Elk Ranch near Colorado Springs, Colorado on Saturday, July 11th. The Sunset BBQ is hosted by landowners in different regions of Colorado every year, but this is the first time that the BBQ has been held in Teller County. Portions of the Elk Ranch were conserved by the family and CCALT in the late 2000s.

"We love our working landscapes and the people who protect them," said Mark Johnson. "The Johnson/Hammond family is honored to be hosting this 20th anniversary celebration."

The 2015 BBQ will begin with a variety of special activities and a tour of the ranch, followed by cocktails, dinner, live entertainment from Coal Town Reunion, and an auction. Bids for auction items can also be placed online in advance of the event at www.biddingforgood.com/ccalt. Proceeds from the BBQ will be used by CCALT to protect additional working ranches throughout the state.

CCALT has conserved more than 450,000 acres on more than 280 working ranches all across Colorado and is currently working with more than 20 other ranching families on conservation projects throughout the state. CCALT provides ranching families with important tools to carry on the agricultural heritage that defines Colorado and the American West.

"The Elk Ranch provides the perfect setting for a celebration of 20 years of conservation success. This ranch serves as an example of what can be accomplished through conservation partnerships

with non-profits, local government agencies, landowners and their families. It also serves as a reminder that there is still more work to be done," said Erik Glenn, CCALT executive director.

Tickets are available for the July 11th event, which will begin at 5 p.m. Tickets are \$150 per person for general admission or \$250 for a patron ticket which includes special activities throughout the day. All proceeds will go toward CCALT's conservation efforts statewide. 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 (CCA) to help Colorado's ranchers and farmers protect their working lands and encourage continuing agricultural production. CCA is the first state livestock association in the nation to form a land trust, and CCALT has developed an excellent track record in successfully completing conservation transactions.

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