

## GOCO saves working wet meadowlands



📷 Large and small mammals call the ranches home, including a resident elk herd and river otter.

---

*By: Valley Publishing - Updated: 1 year ago*

*Posted Dec 24, 2019*

## Conejos Initiative funded

CONEJOS —As part of the Open Space Grant Program, Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) will work with the Rio Grande Headwaters Land Trust and Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust to conserve the 500-acre Rancho la Luz, the 433-acre Jackson Ranch, the 160-acre Crowther Meadows Ranch, and the 587-acre Caldon Cattle Company property, all located in the Conejos River floodplain near Manassa and some of the oldest ranches in Colorado.

In addition to helping maintain the region’s agricultural heritage, as the ranches will stay in operation, conserving the properties will protect 3.48 miles of active channels of the Conejos and San Antonio rivers.

The riparian areas create a rich nesting and foraging environment for a wide array of waterfowl and migratory birds, such as bald eagle and greater sandhill crane.

Large and small mammals call the ranches home, including a resident elk herd and river otter.