



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
March 2, 2026

Generosity of Donors Enables CCALT to Award Almost \$60,000 in Wildfire Relief Funding to Impacted Landowners

LAKEWOOD, Colo. – Through the generosity and care of friends, neighbors and everyday Coloradans, the Colorado Cattlemen’s Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) raised almost \$60,000 in disaster relief funding, which is being awarded to four farming and ranching families that suffered serious damage and disruption during last summer’s wildfires.

The relief funds are being awarded through CCALT’s Emery-Wilhelm Family Agricultural Resiliency Fund. Established in 2023, the fund enables CCALT to provide direct financial assistance to landowners to complete restoration and enhancement projects and support efforts to recover from natural disasters.

From individual donors and businesses that serve agricultural producers, and even a church in Greeley that conducted a special offering with its congregation, when CCALT put out the call for donations, concerned Coloradans responded -- and did so with the “neighbor helping neighbor” spirit that defines our Western way of life. 100 percent of the funds raised by CCALT for wildfire relief are being put on the ground to provide support for recovery efforts.

Awards are being made to the following farms and ranches:

Farm / Ranch	Restoration Project	Award
RH Ranch	219-acre reseeded project	\$14,456.91
Heil Property	Protection of infrastructure from post-wildfire debris flows	\$14,690.33
L Bar Slash Ranch	Replacement of 8 miles of fencing that was damaged or destroyed	\$15,000
Merriam Ranch	Water infrastructure repair and replacement due to damage from post-wildfire flooding	\$15,000
Total wildfire relief funding that was raised and is being distributed		\$59,147.24

"The response from our donors was nothing short of extraordinary, and on behalf of CCALT, I want to express our sincere gratitude to every person and organization that gave," said CCALT Chief Executive Officer **Erik L. Glenn**. "This relief funding is a powerful reminder of what is possible when a community rallies together.

"CCALT will remain steadfast in our commitment to the landowners and rural communities at the heart of our work — not only as conservation partners, but as neighbors who show up in times of need," added Glenn.

The 2025 wildfire season in Colorado was one of the most destructive in recent history, with more than 265,000 acres burned. The Lee Fire, which was concentrated in Rio Blanco County, burned 137,758 acres, making it the fourth-largest wildfire in state history. The fire was first reported on August 2 and was not fully contained until September 16, more than a month later.

About Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT)

The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) partners with landowners to conserve and steward Colorado's working landscapes and agricultural heritage for the benefit of all Coloradans. Since 1995, CCALT has partnered with over 400 families to conserve more than 820,000 acres of Colorado ranch land. CCALT seeks to build a future where Colorado's working lands, farm and ranch families, and rural communities thrive — ecologically, economically and culturally. More information about CCALT is available at: ccalt.org

Members of the media: for more information, please contact Darryl Seibel, CCALT Director of External Relations, at (720) 557-8266 or darryl@ccalt.org.