AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

AgendaTitle:
Correspondence; Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund; Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust Open Space Grant Application; Volk Ranch - Sneller Place Conservation Project

Action Requested: Board of County Commissioners' Signature

Parties to the Agreement:

Term Begins: **Term Ends:** **Grant Contract #:**

Summary:
Attached are the March 2013 and draft March 2014 letters requested by the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT). CCALT was unsuccessful at the grant attempt in 2013, and another letter has been requested.

Fiscal Impact: None

Submitted by: Katherine Haase **Submitter's Email Address:** khaase@gunnisoncounty.org

Finance Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date:

County Attorney Review: ○ Required ◉ Not Required

Comments:

Reviewed by: Discharge Date: Certificate of Insurance Required Yes ○ No ○

County Manager Review:

Comments:

Reviewed by: GUNCOUNTY1\MBIRNIE Discharge Date: 2/25/2014

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted:

Agenda Date: 3/4/2014 Follow Up Agenda Date:

Revised April 2013

March 4, 2014

Executive Director Lise Aangeenbrug
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
303 E. 17th Street, Suite 1060
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust (CCALT) Open Space Grant Application
Volk Ranch – Sneller Place Conservation Project

Dear Ms. Aangeenbrug,

The Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners supports CCALT's grant application for the Volk Ranch – Sneller Place Conservation Project. With the successful conservation of the property currently being offered by the Volk family, a total of more than 1,500 acres of viable agricultural land and important wildlife habitat will be permanent protected.

Gunnison County has a long history of supporting conservation efforts, both financially and through the efforts of the voter-approved Gunnison Valley Land Preservation Board, and we are very thankful for GOCO's assistance with these endeavors.

We strongly encourage you to give the CCALT's grant application your full consideration.

Sincerely,

Paula Swenson, Chairperson	Phil Chamberland, Commissioner	Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

DRAFT

Gunnison County
COLORADO

Gunnison County Board of County Commissioners
Phone: (970) 641–0248 • Fax: (970) 641–3061
Email: bocc@gunnisoncounty.org • www.GunnisonCounty.org

March 5, 2013

Ms. Lise Aangeenbrug, Executive Director
Great Outdoors Colorado Trust Fund
303 E. 17th Street, Suite 1060
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Aangeenbrug and Members of the Board:

Gunnison County is pleased to write to you in support of the Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust's (CCALT) application for funding the Volk Ranch – Sneller Place conservation project. The Volk Ranch is located in the northern reaches of Gunnison County near the town of Somerset. To date, the Volks through conservation easement donations have conserved 1,180 acres of their holdings below the Ragged Mountains. The property being offered for conservation by the Volks in 2013 would complete their conservation efforts and would permanently protect more than 1,500 acres of viable agricultural land and important wildlife habitat.

Since 1997, Gunnison County has been financially supporting conservation efforts through the voter approved Gunnison Valley Land Preservation Board. Gunnison County is proud of its efforts to support agricultural land conservation and is particularly thankful for the support of GOCO in helping to advance these efforts. Rooted in longstanding County Policy and our County's agricultural heritage, Gunnison County fully supports the preservation of the County's rich agricultural and western heritage and is proud to partner with CCALT on the Volk Ranch – Sneller Parcel and other conservation initiatives. Therefore, Gunnison County strongly encourages Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) to support this worthwhile conservation project by approving the open space grant application submitted by CCALT.

A GOCO Open Space grant will facilitate the completion of the Volk Ranch Conservation Project and will add to the impressive conservation work that GOCO has helped to fund within Gunnison County.

Thank you for giving Gunnison County the opportunity to comment on this important conservation initiative.

Sincerely,

Paula Swenson, Chairperson | Phil Chamberland, Commissioner | Jonathan Houck, Commissioner

200 East Virginia Avenue • Gunnison, CO 81230