# AGENDA ITEM or FINAL CONTRACT REVIEW SUBMITTAL FORM

**AgendaTitle:**
Consent 08 - Ratification of Correspondence; Great Outdoors Colorado; Cranor Ranch Conservation Easement Support

**Action Requested:** Motion

**Parties to the Agreement:**

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

**Summary:**
The attached letter was signed and distributed on 3/3/15. It will need to go on the 3/17/15 agenda for ratification of signatures.

**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\khaase Discharge Date: 3/12/2015

◉ Consent Agenda ○ Regular Agenda ○ Worksession Time Allotted:

Agenda Date: 3/17/2015 Follow Up Agenda Date:

*Revised April 2013*

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 3, 2015

Great Outdoors Colorado
303 E. 17th Avenue, Suite 1060
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Cranor Ranch Conservation Easement

Dear GOCO:

Gunnison County is supportive of the Cranor Ranch Conservation Easement (625 acres) grant application to the GOCO Open Space Program. Our County is very encouraging of conservation easements on open lands, agricultural lands and wildlife habitat. This position is articulated in the Gunnison County Land Use Resolution in several sections:

> "PROTECT THE HERITAGE OF OUR RURAL CHARACTER. To protect ranching and other existing industries, the beauty of the landscape and rural character of Gunnison County, in order to enhance recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, preserve important archeological and historic sites and viewsheds, and conserve soil, water, and forestry resources. To ensure that no land use change significantly detracts from the economic base, the environmental, historical, recreational, or aesthetic character of the County." (Gunnison County Land Use Resolution §§ 1-103.A.3.)

> "PROMOTE CONTINUING VIABILITY OF AGRICULTURE. To promote innovation in land use changes that contribute to continuing viable agricultural operations and recognize the public benefit of protecting the open space that agricultural operations provide, and to discourage land use changes that jeopardize those activities. To identify land use change on agricultural land, to protect ditches and stock drive routes, to encourage land use change that will retain the agricultural productivity of the land and to discourage land use change that will adversely affect agricultural operation on lands not owned by the applicant." (Gunnison County Land Use Resolution §§ 1-103.C.3.)

> "PRESERVE WILDLIFE HABITAT. To protect and preserve lands from land use activities and patterns of development that would cause significant net adverse effects to sensitive wildlife habitat and to discourage land uses that will impair or destroy such habitats, or their utilization by wildlife species, or that would endanger a wildlife species." (Gunnison County Land Use Resolution §§ 1-103.D.3.)

In addition, the Board of County Commissioners has set an annual goal of conserving 1,700 acres of private land annually. Thank you for your support of this valuable project.

Sincerely,

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