



## Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts

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*The Mission of the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts is to promote and support land conservation excellence in Colorado through leadership, advocacy, education and outreach.*

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April 14, 2009

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U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Member of Congress,

On behalf of our Board of Directors, our members and supporters of conservation in Colorado, the Colorado Coalition of Land Trusts would like to thank you for your ongoing work to support the renewal of important tax incentives for private land conservation. We have over 50 member land trusts and local government open space programs in all areas of the state, from the Montezuma Land Conservancy in Cortez and the Mesa Land Trust in Grand Junction, to the San Isabel Land Protection Trust in Westcliffe.

Thank you very much for co-sponsoring HR1831, legislation to make the federal tax deduction for conservation easement donations permanent. Making the tax incentive permanent will allow landowners to conserve land and protect valuable natural and historic resources throughout Colorado. Colorado's land conservation community helps protect what makes our state so unique and we need to have this important incentive in our conservation toolkit. The tax incentive especially allows family farmers, ranchers and foresters to choose conservation and thus protect our air, water, locally grown food, special places and rural livelihoods.

If you or anyone from your office would ever like to go see conserved properties in your district, we would be more than happy to arrange the visit. We appreciate your rock-solid support for private land conservation in Colorado and especially in western Colorado. More importantly, my grandchildren's children will thank you for making the incentive permanent.

Sincerely,

Jill Ozarski  
Executive Director

Enc: Membership List  
Federal Tax Incentive Fact Sheet