

Press Release  
December 9, 2011

The following is a joint announcement from Max Greenhalgh, Chair of the Summit County Basin Open Space Advisory Committee, BOSAC, and Wendy Fisher, Director of Utah Open Lands.

BOSAC, and Utah Open Lands are pleased to announce that an agreement has been reached for the acquisition of a conservation easement for 1268 acres in Three Mile Canyon in western Summit County, also known as the Hi Ute Ranch. The conservation easement strips the property of development rights and will provide restricted public recreation access to this treasured property. This acquisition is possible because of the desire of the owners, Paul Buehner and his family, to preserve this parcel as open space in perpetuity. In 2005, Utah Open Lands purchased a conservation easement preserving the front 163 acres of the Hi Ute Ranch, through private contributions and a grant from the first Synderville Basin Open Space Bond. In agreeing to preserve the entire Hi Ute Ranch as open space, Mr. Buehner and his family are leaving a legacy that will enrich the lives of existing residents and generations to come.

Utah Open Lands spear headed the current conservation purchase, working with the landowning family over many years and raising over \$700,000 thousand dollars of private funding for the purchase. Along with a significant contribution from the landowner and a request for funding from the Snyderville Basin Recreation District for \$2,800,000 the property which hosts critical habitat for many sensitive species, encompasses vital watershed value and provides important trail connections will be forever protected. If the County Council and Snyderville Basin Recreational District approve the expenditure of \$2,800,000 on Dec 14<sup>th</sup>, Utah Open Lands will have until the end of the year to raise a final \$500,000. "Certainly community members who can aid us in our race to preserve the property are invited to contribute and get in touch with Utah Open Lands" said Executive Director Wendy Fisher. Fisher added that the organization is also awaiting news on a pending grant. The Summit County Council is scheduled for 7 p.m. on December 14, 2011 at the County Courthouse in Coalville.