

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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SUMMIT COUNTY ANNOUNCES COMPLETION OF ROUND VALLEY OPEN SPACE

Summit County, Utah –The fate of the last key parcel of open space in Round Valley has finally been determined. In a win-win solution, the Summit County Council and Landowner Nadine Gillmor reached a settlement that will preserve 290 acres of contiguous round valley land as open space. The Gillmor land has been an open space priority for the community and Snyderville Basin Special Recreation District (SBSRD) bond proceeds will be used to purchase this land, which provides vital community trail connections, critical habitat for the resident elk herd, and maintains the visual rural character. Though a priority for protection the fate of the land has hung in the balance of several lawsuits.

In a conciliatory approach, Nadine Gillmor and representing attorney, Bruce Baird, agreed on a settlement that includes termination of all four active lawsuits and the simultaneous recordation of a conservation easement to protect the property. Under the prudent leadership of the Summit County Council, a negotiated purchase price totaling \$7,425,000 will be paid to Gillmor in exchange. This is also made possible due to the support of Basin taxpayers who authorized a \$20 Million Open Space and Trails bond in 2010 and thanks is due for their contribution and now tangible commitment to the community character. The County Council and the SBSRD will authorize the transfer of \$6 Million from open space bond funds with the remaining \$1.425 Million due one year from closing.

Recent subdivision development hearings, known as Stoneridge, made before the Summit County Council demonstrated the great importance to the community of this beloved undeveloped parcel. Council members recognized that many residents offered to help pay for the cost of purchasing the Gillmor property, because much of the bond money had been prioritized for other critical community open space. Now the only way that those other community open spaces will be protected is if significant additional community money is raised. Joining forces with Utah Open Lands, the SBSRD and Summit County hope that as additional open space parcels are negotiated the community will once again step up to the plate and preserve this community's unparalleled quality lifestyle.

In order to create to a conservation solution for any property, the landowner must first be willing to consider it. Nadine Gillmor is credited by the County as being open to pursue a conservation option. "Nadine quote" It was her wish (insistence) that a conservation easement be placed on the property. The agreement, signed early on Wednesday morning by Summit County Manager, Bob Jasper, stipulates that at time of closing a conservation easement granted to Utah Open Lands will be placed on the property to preserve the land as open space in perpetuity. Quote from Bruce " "

The County Council was unanimous in support of the agreement, which was largely crafted through dialogue between Council member Chris Robinson and Bruce Baird. Council Member Robinson stated that "this 290 acres solidifies the "central park" concept of Round Valley and preserves a continuous link of open space and a wildlife corridor between SR 248, Old Ranch Road, Highland Drive and US 40." The property further meets the Basin Open Space Advisory Committee's primary objective of preserving sensitive lands, providing recreational opportunities, halting suburban sprawl, and protecting view sheds from major corridors. The County trusts that this news will be greeted by enthusiasm from the community in supporting this milestone of preservation.

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Additional Information & Attachments

- Map
- Real Estate Purchase Agreement
- Conservation Easement
- **Utah Open Lands** – Utah Open Lands Conservation Association (UOL) is a non-profit land trust. Its mission is to preserve and protect open space in order to maintain Utah’s natural heritage and quality of life for present and future generations. This is achieved by assisting private landowners, government agencies and communities in the voluntary preservation of the agricultural, scenic, recreational, historic and wildlife values of open land. The organization has preserved over 54,000 acres throughout the state and just completed the 1300 acre preservation of Hi-Ute Ranch 3-Mile Canyon in 2011.
- **Snyderville Basin Recreation District 2010 Open Space Bond** – In 2010, residents of the Snyderville Basin voted to approve a \$20 million bond for trails and open space. \$8 million is dedicated to the creation of trails throughout the Snyderville Basin Recreation District augmenting and connecting the over 300 miles of trails already established for Basin Residents. \$12 million of the bond proceeds are dedicated to the preservation of open spaces in the Basin that contribute to the residents quality of life.

