

Pinebrook Homeowners' Association 7950 Pinebrook Road Park City, UT 84098



Dear Pinebrook Homeowners:,

When we give money we want to make sure it has an impact; that it will save a species, endure for the next generation, set a positive change in motion, and make a lasting difference. This year we celebrate our Silver Anniversary. In our 25<sup>th</sup> year of operation, Utah Open Lands' history is one of tremendous impact.

Lands protected decades ago, endure today. We defend and watch over these lands and have done so for a quarter of a century. Under our protection, the conservation impact of these places today, is even greater. This is, of course, because as our open space reserves dwindle, the need for protection and the refuge these places provide is more important.



Saw-whet owls on Perkins Flat Preserve
Photo courtesy of Hawkwatch International

The demonstration of this can be found in so many projects and a few come immediately to mind:

- conservation agreements to conserve greater sage grouse habitat, Utah Open Lands saved 3000 acres which serves as critical mating and rearing ground for sage grouse. Just this last year it was found to have more individual sage grouse than the other leks studied in the area.
- *Brooks Riverview Ranch Preserve* Two years after protecting a 300 acre ranch along the Provo River in Woodland, Columbia spotted frogs arrived. This species, a candidate for endangered species listing, is thriving on this land.
- The Gene and Deane Wheadon Farmland Preserve 15 years after its

initial conservation, this land is nurturing new farmers, growing organic produce and hosting a place for the community to gather, for kids to learn about where their food comes from and a vital open respite amid sprawling development.

Baker Griswold Open Lands Preserve - Prior to the 300 miles of trails now developed throughout the greater Park City area, this 300 acres carved-out a trail easement for what would become the Mid Mountain Trail.

In 1998, Utah Open Lands partnered with the Mesa Land Trust in Colorado to preserve a 32,000-acre ranch. On the Utah side exists one of the State's known bald eagle nesting sites was protected by this conservation easement, and it has fledged eaglets every year since. The fact that the bald eagle was an endangered species was among the many reasons for protecting this land. Today this land stands as a testament to the good work we can achieve; that the bald eagle has been removed from the endangered species list, is a demonstration that we can turn back from the precipice we seem destined for with so many species. This lands' forever protection, and fledgling eaglets, provides us with hope for tomorrow.

We all understand why preserving the natural world is important. It is fundamentally a choice we make for our own survival. It is also a choice for the next generation. Will they have natural areas to play in and explore, will they pick a fresh tomato from a local farm, and will they benefit from the survival of a species threatened with extinction? We hope you will join us in answering "Yes!" Your contribution ensures the conservation we achieve. Thank you!

Singerely,

Wendy E Fisher, Executive Director

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