

Conserved Colorado

Summer 2023 Guide

Support Colorado's protected land with your purchases and adventures!



a program by



We love Colorado.

We love its lands, and we love its people.

Let's bring them together.

Dear Reader,

You may be asking how Conserved Colorado works. It all starts with a landowner who chooses to protect their land with a conservation easement. Conserving land means permanent protection from property subdivision or development. It means that a ranch stays a ranch, a farm stays a farm – forever. It means that all the benefits that come from the land remain for future generations: local food, scenic views, fresh water, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation, outdoor education, and Colorado's heritage.

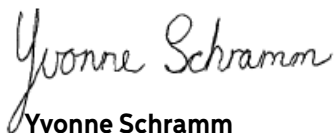
Conservation isn't a new concept. We recycle, save water, and use public transportation. But how can we protect the land in Colorado? How do we conserve the places that grow our food, clean our water, inspire our adventures, support our livelihoods, and nurture our souls? How can we ensure that future generations have a chance to experience Colorado at its best?

One action you can do is shop from Conserved Colorado. You will not only find local Colorado products and services, but you will also support land conservation across the state, as each business owner in this directory operates on and/or has permanently protected land with a conservation easement.

Let's honor these landowners and their livelihoods together. You can feel proud that the dollars you spend through this guide support businesses that maintain Colorado's unique character and quality of life.

Happy shopping!

Best,



Yvonne Schramm
Community Outreach & Education Manager
Colorado Open Lands

Using this Guide

This guide offers products and services across Colorado from a multitude of landscapes and communities. In an effort to make this guide user-friendly, we have segmented it by region and added an index at the back. While not all of these products and services are offered in your region, we encourage you to look at this guide when planning a trip to a new destination across the state. That destination may just have a conserved business you can support!

Note: Purchases are made directly with the farmers, ranchers, business owners, and landowners. Purchases are not conducted through Colorado Open Lands. We recommend visiting the website of the business to find the most up-to-date information, as product and service offerings can fluctuate over time.

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Symbol Key



Community Supported Agriculture



Dairy & Eggs



Fruit, Vegetables & Herbs



Hay & Feed



Plants & Seeds



Meats & Poultry



Preserves & Honey



Wool & Fiber



Education Opportunities



Event Venue



Hunting & Angling



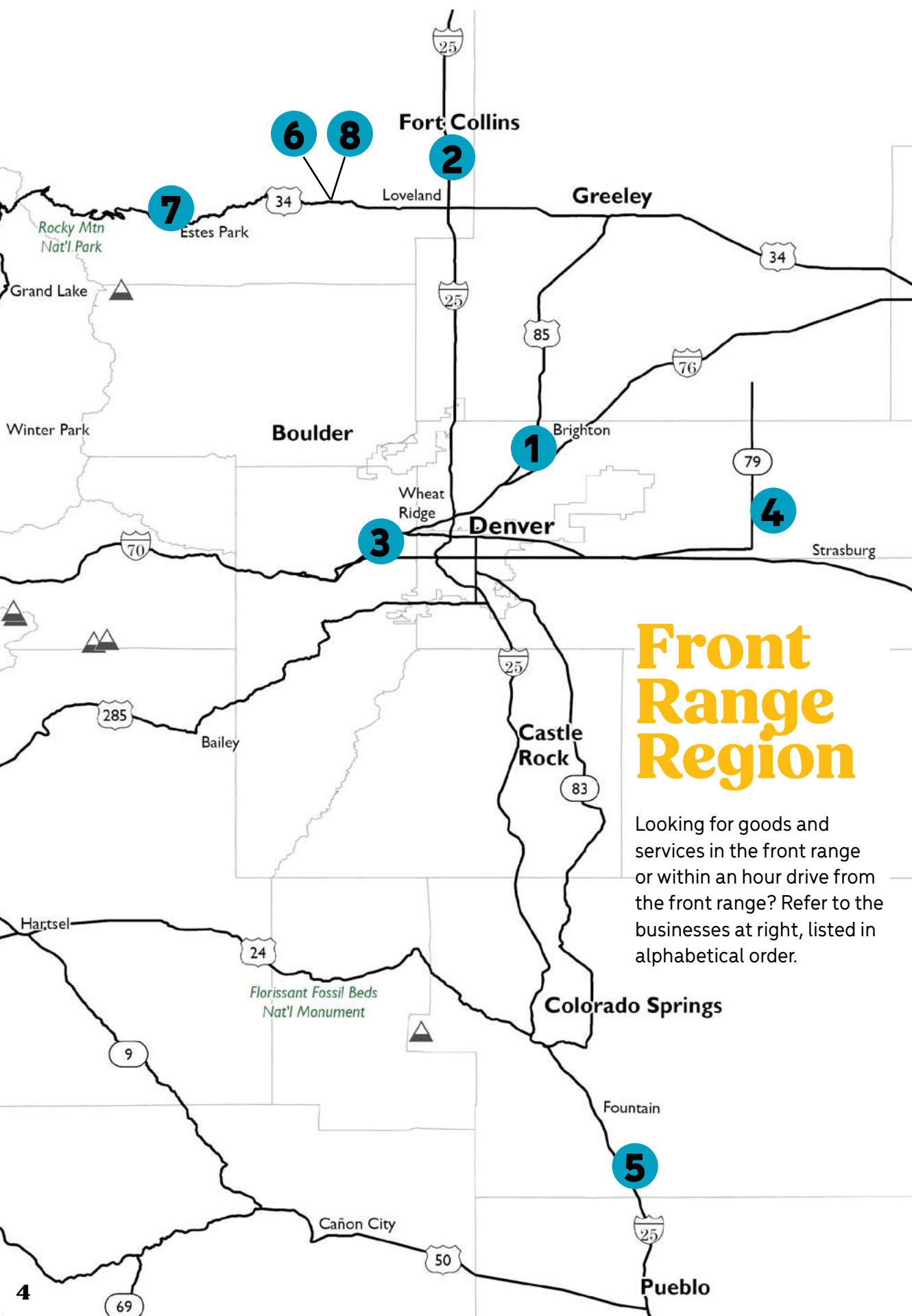
Llama & Horse-Related



Lodging & Guest Ranch



Recreation Opportunities



Front Range Region

Looking for goods and services in the front range or within an hour drive from the front range? Refer to the businesses at right, listed in alphabetical order.

1 BERRY PATCH FARMS, LLC



13785 Potomac Street | Brighton, CO 80601
 (303) 659-5050
 bpf@qwestoffice.net
berrypatchfarms.com
 Purchase Method: At Address, Online

2 COLORADO YOUTH OUTDOORS



4927 E. County Road 36 | Fort Collins, CO 80528
 (970) 663-0800
coloradoYO.org
 Purchase Method: Online

3 FIVE FRIDGES FARM



11100 W. 38th Avenue | Wheat Ridge, CO 80033
 (720) 432-9437
 amanda@5fridgesfarm.com
5fridgesfarm.com
 Purchase Method: By Phone, By Email

4 FLYING B BAR RANCH



7300 Yulle Road | Strasburg, CO 80136
 (303) 887-8735
 Margaret@FlyingBBar.com
FlyingBBar.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, By Phone, By Email,
 At Address, At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

5 FROST LIVESTOCK CO.



17825 Hanover Road | Fountain, CO 80817
 (719) 930-0700
 frostlivestock1@gmail.com
frost-livestock.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address (appointment only), By Phone, By Email

6 HEART-J CENTER AT SYLVAN DALE RANCH



2939 N. County Road 31D | Loveland, CO 80538
 (970) 690-4221
 explore@heartjcenter.org
heartjcenter.org
 Purchase Method: At Address (appointment only),
 By Email

7 MACGREGOR RANCH



180 MacGregor Lane | Estes Park, CO 80517
 (970) 586-3749
 office@macgregorranch.org
macgregorranch.org
 Purchase Method: Online, By Phone, By Email

8 SYLVAN DALE GUEST RANCH



2939 N. County Road 31D | Loveland, CO 80538
 (970) 667-3915
 ranch@sylvandale.com
sylvandale.com
 Purchase Method: Online, At Address, By Email,
 By Phone



Llama Trekking Experience

The Watkins Homeplace in Westcliffe was originally homesteaded by Brianna Evert’s great-grandpa, Gus Watkins, in 1918 and has been an agricultural property in the same family for over 100 years. The property was conserved by the family to preserve the Watkins family heritage, as well as the valuable land and water resources. Cattle, hogs, horses, and potatoes have all been part of the lands’ history, and for the last 5 years, so have llamas!

Brianna acquired her first llama when she was 11 years old and had always dreamed of having a trekking business. In 2019, a good friend sent her a message about the increase in popularity of llama trekking in the United States, and soon after speaking with her husband, John, her dream became a reality. Brianna says, “We are so blessed to live where we do and be able to share our agricultural history and provide an unforgettable llama experience for our wonderful guests!” Even their two children, ages 5 and 11, help with the llamas, from daily ranch work to assisting on llama treks. Most recently, Brianna and

John even started offering llama yarn and finished products like scarves and hats made out of 100% Colorado Proud™ llama wool!

Llama Trekking by Lookin’ Up Outfitters in Westcliffe

See page 11 for full listing.



Conserved with San Isabel Land Protection Trust – now part of Colorado Open Lands.



A Community Vision

Highwater Farm in Silt was born out of a community vision to increase availability of fresh produce and provide meaningful job opportunities for local teens. In 2020, the farm broke ground. With a team of only two, the farm was able to grow 8,000 pounds of produce on 0.5 acres, half of which was directed to hunger relief efforts during the critical early months of COVID-19. Two cohorts of eight young people were employed in Highwater’s Summer Youth Program in 2021 and 2022. Teens completed the program with an understanding of local agriculture, respect for the land and labor necessary to grow food, and improved communication and job skills.

Highwater Farm leases land from the Silt River Preserve, a 132-acre conserved space in Silt, Colorado. As an area once slated for development with extreme soil compaction caused by heavy machinery, Highwater Farm now uses stewardship practices such as diversifying production, rotating crops, cover cropping, integrating animals for fertility/pest control, and water conservation techniques to help create systems for food production that restore the health of the soils and surrounding ecosystem. Located along the Colorado River, the preserve is now home to bald eagles, herons, migratory elk, and more. A walking trail allows the public to stroll through open meadows and alongside a stretch of the river with an abundance of native cottonwood and willow trees.

Highwater Farm has a 25-year, 5-acre lease with the Town of Silt at the Silt River Preserve. This provides protection for the organization’s longevity and sustainability. The partnership helps both entities connect local community members with the land through hiking, birding, farming, food, wildlife conservation, and land stewardship.

Highwater Farm in Silt

See page 9 for full listing.



Conserved with Aspen Valley Land Trust.





West-Central Colorado Region

Do you live in western Colorado or are you heading to the mountains from the front range? Refer to the below businesses, listed in alphabetical order.

9 ACES AT ROCK BOTTOM RANCH



2001 Hooks Spur Road | Basalt, CO 81621
 (970) 927-6760
 pbanks@aspennature.org
aspennature.org
 Purchase Methods: At Address, At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

11 DWYER GREENS AND FLOWERS



4730 County Road 335 | New Castle, CO 81647
 (970) 984-0967
 brett@dwyergreens.com
dwyergreens.com
 Purchase Methods: By Phone, By Email

12 ELA FAMILY FARMS



30753 L Road | Hotchkiss, CO 81419
 (970) 872-3488
 info@elafamilyfarms.com
elafamilyfarms.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address, By Phone, By Email, At Farmers Markets & Stores (see pg. 18-19)

10 DESERT WEYR, LLC



16870 Garvin Mesa Road | Paonia, CO 81428
 sales@desertweyr.com
desertweyr.com
 Purchase Methods: Online

13 HIGHWATER FARM



7001 County Road 346 | Silt, CO 81652
 (909) 844-6116
 sara@highwaterfarm.org
highwaterfarm.org
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address (appointment only), By Phone, By Email, At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

16 THE FARM COLLABORATIVE



220 Juniper Hill Road | Aspen, CO 81611
 (970) 900-3276
thefarmcollaborative.org
 Purchase Method: At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

14 MARIGOLD LIVESTOCK CO.



543 Hooks Spur Road | Basalt, CO 81621
 alyssa@marigoldlivestock.com
marigoldlivestock.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address (appointment only), At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

17 TWO ROOTS FARM



100 Sopris Creek Road | Basalt, CO 81621
 (970) 376-6039
 farmers@tworootsfarm.com
tworootsfarm.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address (appointment only), At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

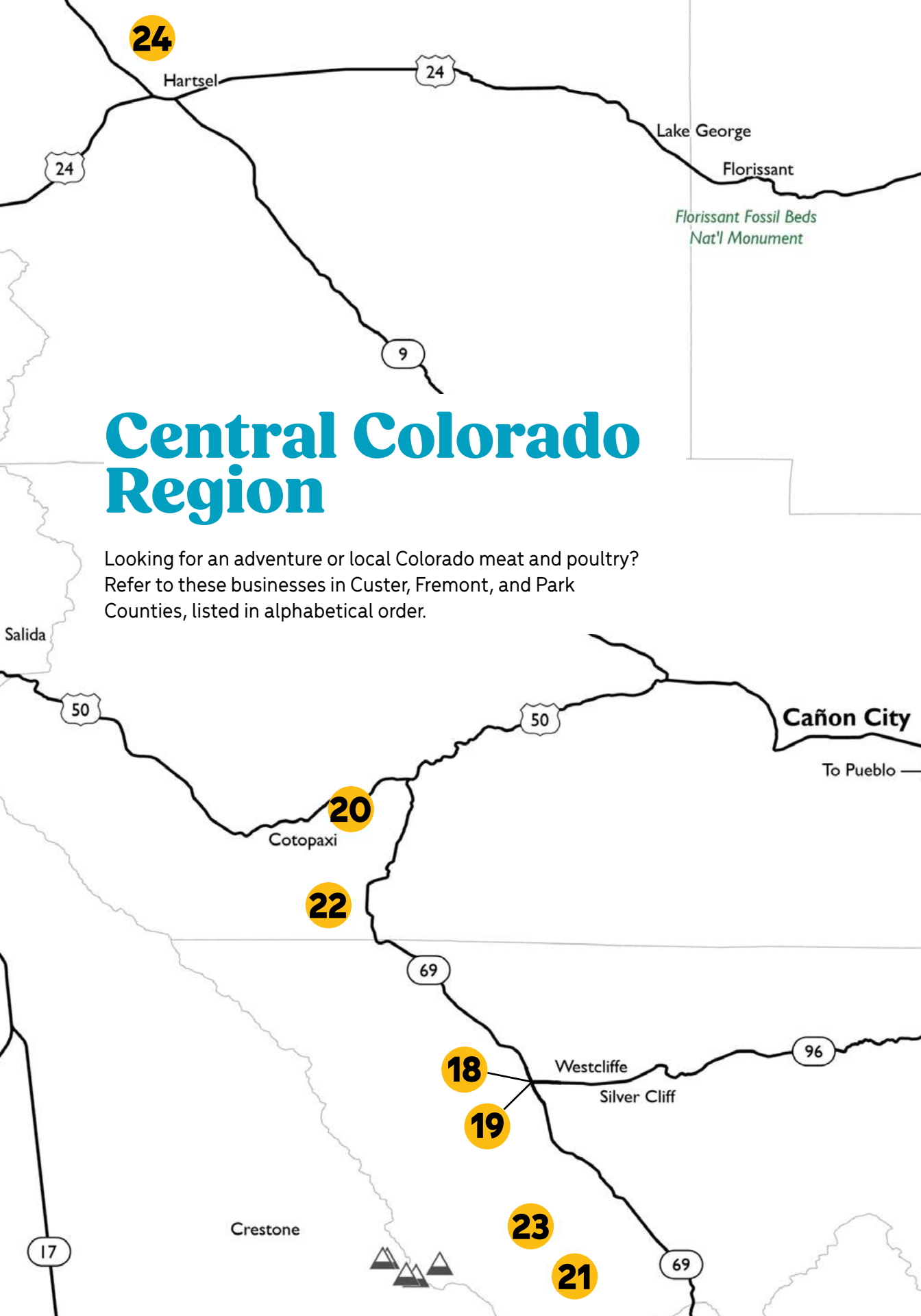
15 SEED PEACE



Carbondale, CO 81623
seedpeace.org
 Purchase Method: At Farmers Market (see pg. 18)

Central Colorado Region

Looking for an adventure or local Colorado meat and poultry? Refer to these businesses in Custer, Fremont, and Park Counties, listed in alphabetical order.



18 LISA AND THE CRITTERS



Westcliffe, CO 81252
 (707) 321-5728
 sallyforth@pon.net
lisaandthecritters.biz
 Purchase Methods: By Phone, By Email

19 LLAMA TREKKING BY LOOKIN' UP OUTFITTERS



Westcliffe, CO 81252
 (719) 371-4839
 brianna0215@yahoo.com
llamatrekwestcliffe.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, By Phone, By Email

20 LOCO MOUNTAIN OUTFITTERS



4700 County Road 37 | Cotopaxi, CO 81223
 (719) 371-1447
 LocoMountainOutfitters@hotmail.com
locomountainoutfitters.com
 Purchase Methods: By Phone, By Email

21 MUSIC MEADOWS GUEST RANCH



6076 County Road 119 | Westcliffe, CO 81252
 (719) 783-2222
 elin@musicmeadows.com
musicmeadows.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, By Phone, By Email

22 OSWALD CATTLE CO



2241 Country Road 1-A | Cotopaxi, CO 81223
 (719) 942-4361
 stepheno@centurylink.net
oswaldgrassfedbeef.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address, By Phone, By Email

23 SANGRES BEST GRASS FINISHED BEEF



6076 County Road 125 | Westcliffe, CO 81252
 (719) 300-5344
 elin@sangresbest.com
sangresbest.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, By Phone, By Email

24 SANTA MARIA RANCH FLY FISHING



Hartsel, CO 80449
 (303) 478-1349
 info@nfrgs.com
santamariaflyfishing.com
 Purchase Methods: By Phone, By Email



Music Meadows Ranch in Westcliffe, photo by Dan Ballard



Synergy between Food, People, & the Land

The Farm Collaborative in Aspen was founded in 2008 with a vision to connect children more directly to their food sources and help create and bolster a healthy, sustainable, regional food system. The Farm Collaborative’s focus is to nourish the community and the land on which we thrive, all within nature’s timeless framework for today, tomorrow, and generations to come. Modeling an innovative community-farm system inspired by land stewardship, led by curiosity, and motivated by hope, the Farm Collaborative strives to stimulate a global movement toward healthier relationships between food, people, and the land.

The Farm Collaborative is located on conserved land owned by the City of Aspen, which includes open space, an equestrian facility, an archery facility, and Cozy Point Ranch. The Farm Collaborative has evolved tremendously in the past 14 years, from the renewal of John Denver’s Earth Keepers nature connection program; creating a free public FarmPark; expanding food-growing, educational, and farmer-support programs onto 15 acres; merging with 2Forks Club and Seed Peace; publishing 9 issues of Edible Aspen magazine with more to come; and hosting many annual community events. As the Farm Collaborative’s mission expanded to include more programs and education focused on regenerative agriculture, carbon drawdown, and food equity, the organization was selected to be the long-term agriculture leaseholder at Cozy Point Ranch, now occupying 15 acres on this conserved open space parcel in rural Pitkin County.

The Farm Collaborative in Aspen

See page 9 for full listing.



Conserved by Aspen Valley Land Trust.



Photos courtesy Britta Gustafson

A Community of Agriculture

Kay and David James raised their five children in rural Durango, enriched with a love of the land, animals, plants, and family. Twenty-seven years ago, the now adult children began migrating back to the family ranch seeking the joy of rearing their own families here and utilizing and improving the land.

Today, seven different agriculturally-based enterprises are flourishing at James Ranch. The family has a quality of life goal that dictates the ranch remain in agriculture as a lifestyle preference for the families and open space for the community.

James Ranch is ten miles north of Durango, Colorado, in the beautiful Animas River Valley. They offer 100% grass fed and finished beef; whey-fed pork; artisan cheese and raw milk; from 100% grass-fed, grazing Jersey cows; eggs produced from pastured hens; a spruce tree nursery; a regenerative vegetable and flower garden; guided tours; a homestead school; and a thriving grill and market. These busy families, who utilize regenerative growing practices, bustle in the day-to-day operation of the ranch and its enterprises.

James Ranch in Durango

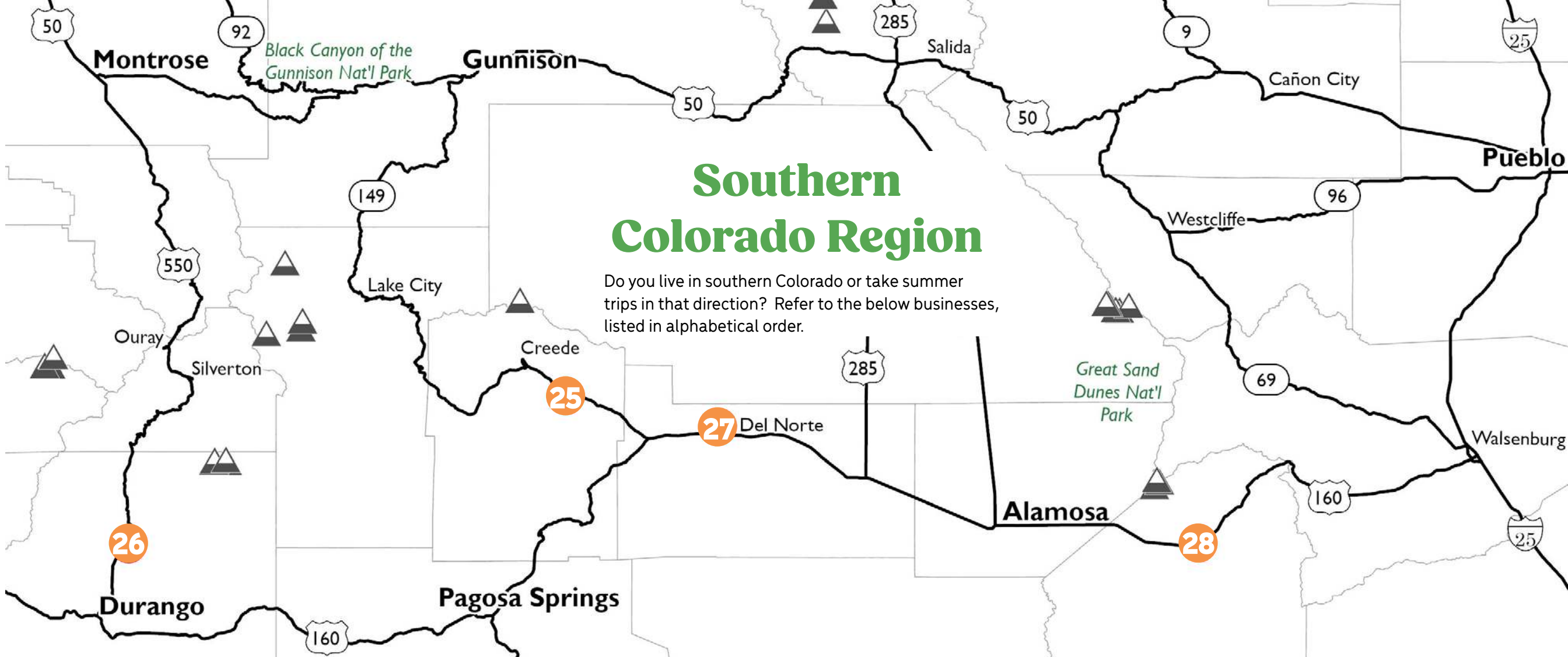
See page 14 for full listing.



Conserved with La Plata Open Space Conservancy.



Photo courtesy James Ranch



Southern Colorado Region

Do you live in southern Colorado or take summer trips in that direction? Refer to the below businesses, listed in alphabetical order.

25 4UR RANCH



One Goose Creek Road | Creede, CO 81130
 (719) 658-2202
info@4urranch.com
4urranch.com
 Purchase Method: By Email

26 JAMES RANCH



33846 Highway 550 | Durango, CO 81301
 (970) 385-6858
Info@jamesranch.net
jamesranch.net
 Purchase Methods: At Address, By Email, At Farmers Markets & Stores (see pg. 18-19)

27 KNOBLAUCH RANCH/ LAZ EWE 2 BAR GOAT DAIRY



10530 County Road 15 | Del Norte, CO 81132
 (719) 850-9914
lazu2bar@gmail.com
lazewe2bargoatdairy.weebly.com
 Purchase Methods: Online, At Address, By Phone, By Email, At Farmers Market & Stores (see pg. 18-19)

28 TRINCHERA RANCH



24492 Trinchera Ranch Road | Fort Garland, CO 81133
 (719) 379-3263
emma.roybal@trinceraranch.com
trinceraranch.com
 Purchase Methods: By Phone, By Email



4UR Ranch in Creede

Index

Looking for a specific product or service? Use this index to find businesses by product or service, and then navigate to their full listing by page number for more information.

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Photo courtesy Casey Piscura



Products from Conserved Land at Farmers Markets

Summer is the time for farmers markets and you may spot many businesses in this guide there! Refer to the below markets, listed in alphabetical order. See their full listing on the referenced page.

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South Pearl Farmers Market (Denver)

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People + Produce Farmers Market (Denver)

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Two Roots Friday Farm Stand (Basalt)

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Products from Conserved Land at Retail Stores

Some businesses even sell in stores across the state. See their full listing on the referenced page.

Ela Family Farms (pg. 8)

Marczyk Fine Foods – Denver
Select Whole Foods Markets and Natural Grocers
Spinelli's Market – Denver

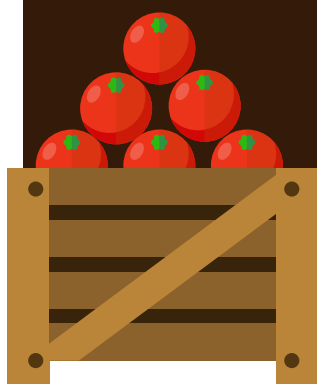
James Ranch (pg. 14)

Durango Natural Foods
James Ranch Market – Durango
Nature's Oasis – Durango

Knoblauch Ranch/Laz Ewe 2 Bar Goat Dairy (pg. 14)

Cheese Importers – Longmont
Durango Natural Foods
Gunnison Vitamin & Health Food
Lowe's Market – Del Norte
Mountain Earth Organic Grocer – Crested Butte
Nature's Oasis – Durango
Simple Foods Market – Del Norte
Southwest Farm Fresh Cooperative – Cortez
Tap Root Cooperative – Online
Valley Roots Food Hub – Mosca
Wilders Organic Market – Gunnison
Zuma Natural Foods – Mancos

Note: Please check websites or social media before visiting the market to ensure attendance on a given date.





Conserved Land for Recreation

When you're planning your summer adventures, consider recreating on conserved public land! As you observe the sights, sounds, and experiences of that landscape, know that the land around you will remain open in perpetuity. See below a list of open spaces conserved by Colorado Open Lands, sorted alphabetically by county.

Adams County

- Elaine T. Valente Open Space
- Pelican Ponds Open Space

Arapahoe County

- Lee Gulch Open Space
- Marjorie Perry Nature Preserve
- South Platte Park

Boulder County

- Boulder Creek Path
- Heil Valley Ranch
- Sugarloaf Mountain

Costilla County

- Batenburg Meadows

Custer County

- Bluff Park

Denver County

- Heron Pond Open Space

Eagle County

- Red Dirt Open Space

El Paso County

- Cheyenne Mountain

Gunnison County

- Snodgrass Mountain

Larimer County

- Boyd Lake State Park
- Cathy Fromme Prairie Natural Area
- Cattail Chorus Natural Area
- Eagle's Nest Open Space
- Hughey Open Space
- Kingfisher Point Natural Area
- McMurry Natural Area
- McWhinney-Hahn Sculpture Park
- Morey Wildlife Preserve
- Namaqua Park
- Red Tail Ridge Open Space
- Running Deer Natural Area

Park County

- Cline Ranch State Wildlife Area

Summit County

- Cow Camp
- Doig Meadow Open Space
- French Gulch Open Space
- Iron Springs Open Space
- McCullough Gulch
- Meadow Creek Wetlands
- Mesa Cortina Wilderness Open Space
- Willow Grove

To view details about each open space, visit ColoradoOpenLands.org/public-access-easements.



Bluff Park, Custer County



Snodgrass Mountain, Gunnison County



Batenburg Meadows, Costilla County



Cattail Chorus, Larimer County

Conservation 101 & the Land Trust Industry

Sixty percent of our state's land is owned by private individuals and organizations, but only 2% is permanently protected. As Colorado continues its rapid pace of population growth, we need a tool to protect the best of it while we still can.

Conservation easements are that tool. They are voluntary legal agreements between a land trust and a landowner, tailored to each property. Conservation easements can limit future building, the creation of new parcels, and changes to the land that harm the natural features. The current use – be it farming, ranching, hunting, or recreation – is written into the easement that protects the land and its use in perpetuity. Permanent land conservation provides many benefits for the public, including maintaining healthy waterways, supporting local agriculture, protecting viewsheds, providing education and recreation opportunities, and providing intact corridors and healthy habitat for wildlife populations. Besides the intrinsic value of conserving land in perpetuity, conserving land may qualify landowners for a variety of financial benefits. These benefits are established at the federal, state, and local levels and by private organizations in order to encourage landowners to conserve their land.

Want to learn more about why we help landowners conserve land?
Visit coloradoopenlands.org!

Land Trusts in this Guide

Colorado Open Lands is one land trust operating statewide in Colorado. However, there are many local land trusts and government organizations that operate in specific regions that work to conserve land! Some of the businesses listed in this guide have their land conserved with COL. See additional land trusts and organizations at right whose landowners or business owners are represented in this guide.



Trinchera Ranch in Fort Garland

The History & Future of this Guide

Conserved Colorado started out as Bountiful Conservation by Tax Credit Connection, Inc. in 2008. After years of running a successful guide, they handed it off to Colorado Open Lands for its future. It has been adapted and reinvented multiple times and is now on its way to become a robust program.

Conserved Colorado is a collaboration of people, all in support of land conservation. At Colorado Open Lands, we connect these people – whether they are landowners, consumers, or businesses. This guide provides the direct connection between landowners and consumers, but we acknowledge that many landowners who have conserved their land may also sell to businesses such as restaurants. As this program grows, consumers will be able to support both businesses who source from conserved land, as well as directly from landowners.

As you explore the state with this guide in your hand, keep in mind the following:

- Let us know if you know of a landowner with conserved land who would like to be listed in this guide or if you know of a business who sources primarily from conserved land.
- Take the time to learn more about land conservation and what you can do to support by visiting coloradoopenlands.org.
- Tell a farmer, rancher, or other landowner about conservation easements and their benefits.



To see a full list of land trusts in the state of Colorado, visit keepitco.org/meet-your-local-land-trust!



If you have feedback, questions, or comments regarding this guide or Conserved Colorado, please contact Yvonne Schramm at yschramm@coloradoopenlands.org.