

ANNUAL REPORT 2021



APRIL 1, 2021-MARCH 31, 2022

Aerial photo of South Park ranch conserved in 2021

16,939

CONSERVED
ACRES ADDED IN
FISCAL YEAR 2021

638,375

TOTAL ACRES
CONSERVED SINCE
1981

21

PROJECTS COMPLETED
IN FISCAL YEAR 2021

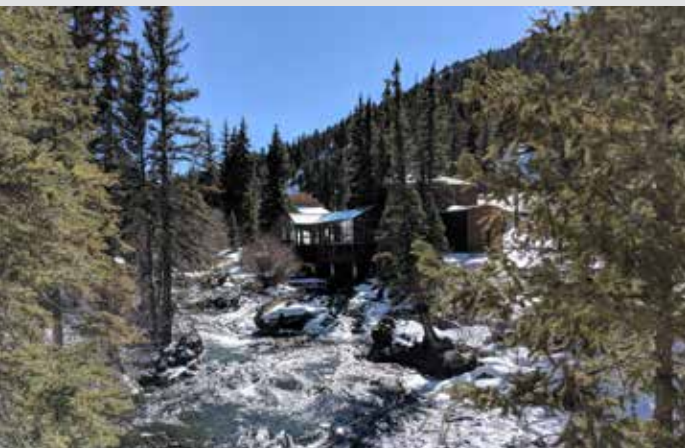
A RECORD NUMBER OF PROJECTS COMPLETED

Colorado Open Lands had another successful year of land protection in 2021! We finalized 21 projects across thirteen counties, for over 16,000 acres of land permanently protected! This year featured a particularly diverse set of projects as well. Projects include many historic Colorado cattle ranches, as well as our first easement in the incredibly scenic San Miguel County. We also protected publicly accessible river frontage in Lake County and trails in Larimer County. We protected four historically and culturally significant acequia properties in the San Luis Valley, as well as the water supply for the Town of Alma. Finally, we completed our first ever species conservation bank, which protects habitat for the threatened Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse!



Buckskin Gulch, Park County

Clockwise from top left: Slumgullion Center, Lake County; Sheep ranch, Park County; T L Bar Ranch, San Miguel County; Table Top, Larimer County



EXPANDING OUR RESTORATION PROGRAM

COL's Restoration Program is a strategic ecosystem restoration and enhancement initiative. Our vision is a Colorado with healthy, resilient, and productive landscapes and landowners with the knowledge, resources, and land ethic to steward them. Leveraging COL's trust and longstanding relationships with landowners, we recognize an opportunity to support individuals and communities that are facing changes to the land.

In 2021, COL hired our first Restoration Program Manager to create a holistic vision for this initiative and bring together the elements of our past success to build a program that is strategic, impactful and sustainable. These efforts support COL's mission and will be critical during the coming decades to mitigate the increasing threats from population pressure, habitat fragmentation, and climate change.

553

EASEMENTS
MONITORED

2

PROPERTIES IMPROVED
WITH LANDOWNER
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

1

RESTORATION PROGRAM MANAGER
HIRED TO LEAD NEW DEPARTMENT

MORE THAN
13,500
EMAIL SUBSCRIBERS AND SOCIAL
MEDIA FOLLOWERS OF COL

80K
ACRES OF LAND WITH
PUBLIC ACCESS

1,746
HOURS DEDICATED TO
INDUSTRY LEADERSHIP



The Bluff Park, previously owned by San Isabel Land Protection Trust and under the permanent stewardship of Colorado Open Lands. Photo by Bill Gillette.

GETTING NEW PEOPLE OUT ON THE LAND

With our traditional outreach and education programs still on hold out of an abundance of caution for public health, we made extra efforts to get more Coloradans outside and visiting conserved landscapes. We did this through a variety of landscape tours. Each tour was led by expert staff and was attended by Coloradans interested in learning more about how conservation is done, and what different challenges exist in different parts of the state. Attendees could experience these landscapes first hand in the outdoors, creating a deeper connection to land and water conservation.



JOINING FORCES FOR PERPETUAL STEWARDSHIP OF PROTECTED LANDS

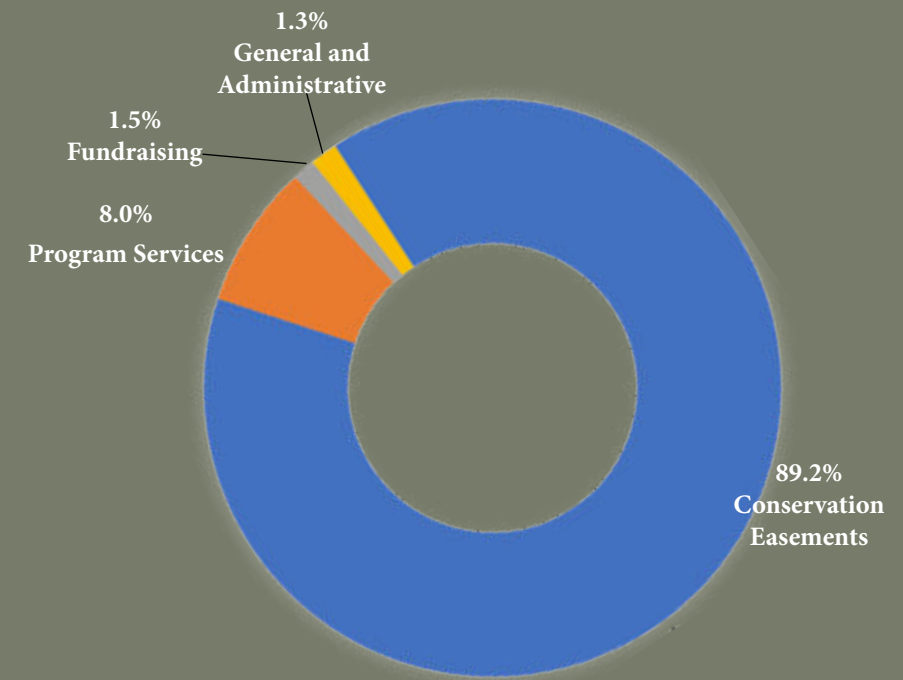
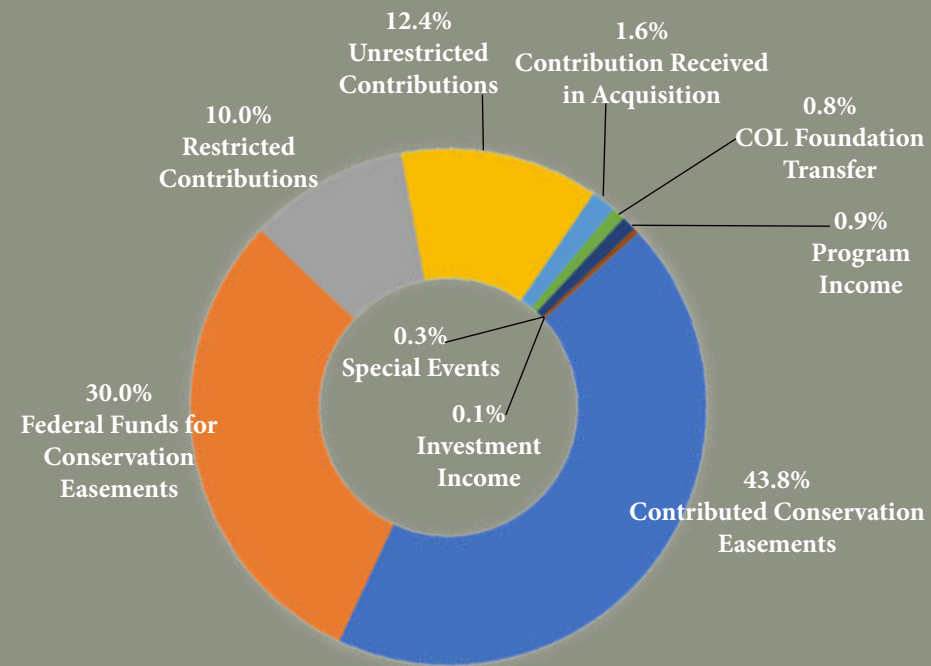
San Isabel Land Protection Trust (SILPT) was founded in 1995 by a group of Custer County residents concerned about increasing development pressures and the potential loss of agricultural lands, scenic vistas, and wildlife habitat. Since that time, SILPT had permanently protected 42,434 acres in Custer, Fremont, Huerfano, and Pueblo counties through partnerships with more than 120 landowners and families. At the time of our December 2021 merger, staff had identified nearly 100 additional potential projects in the area. Along with keeping staff and an office in Westcliffe, CO, COL established a local advisory committee in the region to provide area expertise and community connection going forward. Through this merger, we can permanently steward land protected by SILPT, and conserve additional land in the Wet Mountain Valley and beyond.

1
MERGER COMPLETED
IN 2021

MORE THAN
42,000
ADDITIONAL ACRES OF LAND
PERMANENTLY STEWARDED

MORE THAN
10,000
ANNUAL VISITORS TO
PUBLIC OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES

AUDITED FINANCIALS APRIL 2021 - MARCH 2022



SUPPORT & REVENUE

Category	Audited Financials
Contributed Conservation Easements	\$15,200,535
Federal Funds for Conservation Easements	\$10,438,754
Restricted Contributions	\$3,490,723
Unrestricted Contributions	\$4,324,436
Contribution Received in Acquisition	\$542,828
COL Foundation Transfer	\$287,840
Program Income	\$324,596
Special Events (net)	\$94,339
Investment Income (net)	\$35,079
Total	\$34,739,130

EXPENSES

Category	Audited Financials
Conservation Easements	\$27,059,200
Program Services	\$2,431,789
General and Administrative	\$384,217
Fundraising	\$460,775
Total	\$30,335,981



Conserved ranch, Park County

RECOGNIZING SPECIAL CATEGORIES OF DONORS

APRIL 1, 2021 - MARCH 31, 2022



Donations were made in honor of:

Alyssa Acosta
Amazing COL staff
Kelsea & Keanan Anderson
Ed & Peggy Baack
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Tony Caligiuri & his most accomplished team
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Karin Heine

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Perennial Partners is Colorado Open Lands' vital monthly giving program, which helps sustain and accelerate conservation projects across Colorado. Recurring gifts help Colorado Open Lands plan for the future with predictable and steady funding.



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At left: Aragon Ranch, Costilla County

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