



**Board of County Commissioners**

970-328-8605

970-328-8629(f)

[eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us](mailto:eagleadmin@eaglecounty.us)

[www.eaglecounty.us](http://www.eaglecounty.us)

August 13, 2019

Board of Directors  
Great Outdoors Colorado  
1900 Grant Street, Suite 725  
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Board of Directors:

We have a unique opportunity to protect the Ridgway property, the last parcel of its kind in the Brush Creek Valley, located south of the Town of Eagle, in unincorporated Eagle County. We are writing this letter as a partner, in support of Eagle Valley Land Trust's application to Great Outdoors Colorado for Seven Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$700,000) and encourage your careful consideration and support.

The approximately 129 acre property is located in the middle of the existing Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space which would not have been realized without your generous support. Today we ask that Great Outdoors Colorado help Eagle Valley Land Trust, Eagle County and its residents complete the effort.

The Ridgway property is not only the centerpiece to the existing Brush Creek Valley Ranch and Open Space but is spectacular in its own right. The project is visible, scenic, honors our ranching and agricultural heritage, and offers important access to Brush Creek as well as nearby public land. The property provides opportunities for recreation in a remarkable natural setting. The property is host to wetland fen systems, avian habitat, abundant wildlife and Brush Creek, an important cold water fishery. The property meets each of the County's identified open space criteria.

The Eagle County Open Space Fund has finally recovered from the Brush Creek Valley Ranch Open Space purchase, and is excited for the opportunity to preserve the Ridgway property. The Town of Eagle has indicated that it expects to budget a small amount from its modest open space budget and Eagle Ranch Wildlife Committee is contributing \$200,000 toward the effort. Additional contributions are anticipated from grassroots fundraising efforts by Eagle Valley Land Trust. These contributions illustrate the strong community support for the project and desire to see the preservation of the Brush Creek Valley brought to conclusion.

Thank you for your generous support to date and we urge you to approve the Eagle Valley Land Trust's Open Space grant application.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners

Jeanne McQueeney  
Chair

Kathy Chandler-Henry  
Commissioner

Matt Scherr  
Commissioner