



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Media Contact

Cheryl Fox
Chief Executive Officer
435-640-1171
cheryl@wesaveland.org

SUMMIT LAND CONSERVANCY CELEBRATES ACCREDITATION RENEWAL AFTER RIGOROUS APPLICATION PROCESS

The accreditation seal recognizes land trusts that meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust, and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent



(Park City, Utah) February, 2023 – The Summit Land Conservancy, along with 26 other land trusts across the country, is celebrating renewal of accreditation through the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. Based in Washington D.C., the Land Trust Alliance is a national conservation organization that works with land trusts to increase the pace of conservation,

enhance the quality of conservation through using best practices, and ensure the permanence of conservation by creating the laws and resources needed to defend protected land over time. The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, incorporated in April 2006, is an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance built to recognize strong land trusts, foster public confidence in land conservation and help ensure the long-term protection of land.

In 2011, the Summit Land Conservancy became the first land trust in Utah to become accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission after an extensive, external review process. Since then, the Conservancy has renewed their accreditation two times.

“It is not easy to get through the re-accreditation process,” said Chief Executive Officer of Summit Land Conservancy, Cheryl Fox. “At the Summit Land Conservancy, we want our work to last as long as the mountains, meadows, and rivers we love. This is our third time through accreditation, and our success is a testament to the excellent work of our entire team, everyday.”

By completing the accreditation process, the Commission certifies that Summit Land Conservancy lives up to the rigorous professional guidelines of the Land Trust Alliance’s Standards and Practices for nonprofit management. The accreditation seal recognizes land conservation organizations that meet national standards for excellence including fiscal accountability, strong organizational leadership, sound transactions and lasting stewardship.

Learn more about the Land Trust Alliance and the Land Trust Accreditation Commission at www.landtrustaccreditation.org.

###

About Summit Land Conservancy

Founded in Park City in 1998 as a project of Leadership Park City, the Summit Land Conservancy works with Summit County’s communities to protect and preserve land and water along the Wasatch Back for the benefit of people and nature.

In 2011, the Conservancy became the first land trust in the state of Utah to be nationally accredited by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission. It currently holds 48 permanent conservation easements and manages 2 preserves on over 13,000 acres of open space, much of it with public access in and around Park City. It protects swathes of Round Valley, Quarry Mountain, Empire Canyon, and the McPolin Farmlands, as well as farms and ranches along the Weber and Provo Rivers. It is currently working to preserve an additional 5,000+ acres across the Wasatch Back.

The Conservancy's goal when it started in 1998 was to raise money locally to save land locally, and that hasn't changed. Since 2011, the Conservancy has brought in over \$31 million federal dollars for local land conservation.

As a regional land trust, the Conservancy understands that open space is the heart of our rural and recreational communities. Area residents' sense of place is clearly defined by the shared landscapes that anchor them here. The mountains, trails, farms, and rivers connect people to each other and to the natural world. The Summit Land Conservancy cares for these lands forever, nurturing a healthy community that is founded on its strong connection to the places it has protected together.

More information is available on the Conservancy's website (wesaveland.org) and on Facebook (facebook.com/WeSaveLand), Instagram (instagram.com/wesaveland) and Twitter @Summit_Land (twitter.com/summit_land).