



JACKSON HOLE LAND TRUST NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 10, 2011

Contact: Laurie Andrews, 307-733-4707

Jackson Hole Land Trust Receives \$350,000 for Alta Open Lands Project from the Wildlife Trust Fund

Jackson Hole, Wyoming –The Jackson Hole Land Trust is honored to be the recipient of a \$350,000 grant from the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust (WWNRT) for its Alta Open Lands Project, an initiative launched by the Land Trust in 2010.

“We are incredibly honored that the statewide community, which the WWNRT board represents, supports our work to protect important farmland and wildlife habitat in Alta,” said Pete Lawton, Jackson Hole Land Trust board president. “This funding is pivotal in enabling us to successfully work with landowners to protect the crucial wildlife habitat and multigenerational agricultural operations that the private lands of the area support.”

In recent years, the Alta community has seen development pressures intensify. It was in response to these pressures and the desire of area residents to protect the remaining farmlands, scenic viewsheds and wildlife habitat of the area that the Jackson Hole Land Trust launched the Alta Open Lands Project, a ten-year effort to conserve 1,500 acres of high-value farmland and wildlife habitat, about one-third of the currently undeveloped land in Alta.

“This money will go directly to acquiring conservation easements to protect open space in Alta. We are already working with several families in Alta to protect the irreplaceable open space that they and the rest of the community value. It is our goal that in the coming years, by partnering with landowners, we can make a truly landscape-scale impact on the future of this part of Teton County,” said Laurie Andrews, Jackson Hole Land Trust executive director.

Funds from WWNRT add to a 2010 grant received by the Land Trust for roughly \$1.7 million from the Natural Resource Conservation Service’s Farm and Ranch Lands Protection Program. Other funders include Wells Fargo and the Community Foundation of Jackson Hole. The funds will be used to acquire conservation easements from private landowners.

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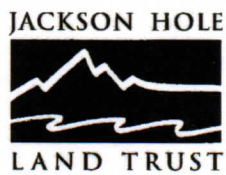
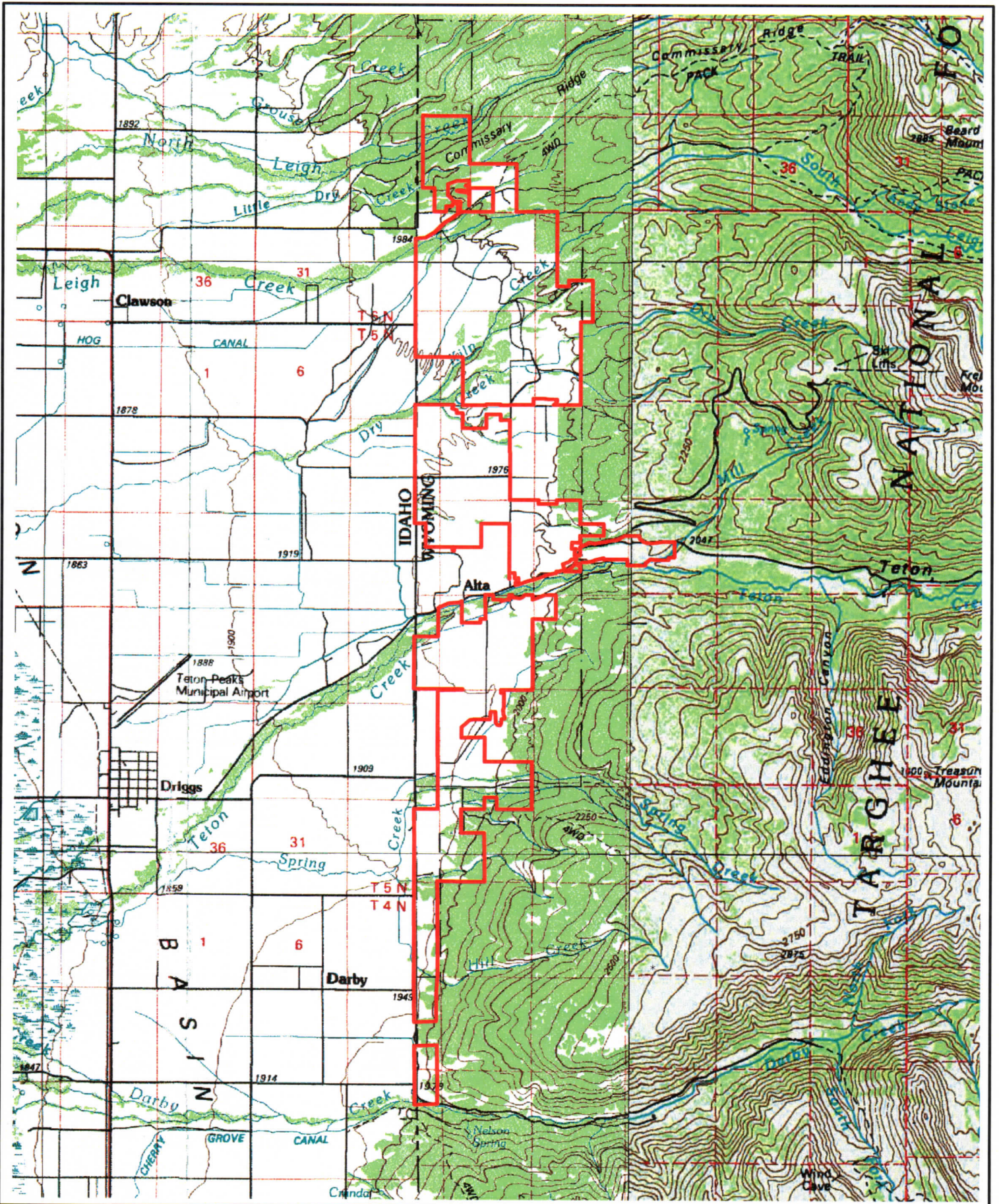
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The Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resource Trust was started in 2005 by the Wyoming legislature with the goal of funding the enhancement and conservation of wildlife habitats and the natural resource values throughout the state.

This is the third grant that the Land Trust has received from the WWNRT. In 2009, the Land Trust received over \$500,000 in two separate grants for conservation work in the Torrey Creek area near Dubois, Wyoming.

The Jackson Hole Land trust is a private, non-profit organization that works to protect the scenic, ranching and wildlife values of Teton County and the surrounding areas. Since its inception in 1980, the Jackson Hole Land Trust has protected over 20,000 acres of open lands in and around Jackson Hole. For more information please visit www.jhlandtrust.org.



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Project Location
 Alta Open Lands Project
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