



Gallegos Ranch, Archuleta County

High estate taxes threatened the sale of this property following the death of the family matriarch. With some creative planning and the use of a conservation easement, the family was able to keep this 4,500-acre cattle and horse ranch in production and protect the critical deer and elk habitat it provides. The Gallegos family has completed three conservation easements with CCALT over the past several years, and they hope to complete the protection of the ranch by 2008. The family was able to utilize conservation easements to achieve two primary goals: Preserving their family history and lifestyle of ranching forever, and using the Colorado state income tax credits to help stabilize the finances for the family.