



Shahan Ranch, Archuleta County

In 2001, the Shahan family protected their family ranch along the Navajo River by selling a conservation easement. This not only secured their heritage in this little known mountain valley, but also allowed them to expand their ranch operations. They used the proceeds from the easement to purchase another ranch in New Mexico, giving them a base for winter operations. Since they no longer have to feed their cows all winter, they now have the high quality mountain hay they raise on the ranch as a new crop for sale.