



October 18, 2010

Contact: Liz Brimmer 307-690-1910

## **QEP Donates \$125,000 to Wyoming Land Trust**

Pinedale – QEP announced today its donation of \$125,000 to the new statewide Wyoming Land Trust.

QEP, one of Wyoming's top natural gas producers, said the support for the Wyoming Land Trust is an important part of the company's community outreach plan.

Launched August 2010, the Wyoming Land Trust is a statewide land trust that works for conservation and energy mitigation as tools to maintain Wyoming's unique character, scenic and cultural values.

Mike Smith, QEP Director of Regulatory Affairs, said, "QEP believes in Wyoming, and the Wyoming Land Trust helps Wyoming stay Wyoming. It's that simple – and the Wyoming Land Trust has a great mission that we are proud to support."

Smith, who is also a board member of the Wyoming Land Trust, said the funds will be used to support outreach and enable conservation easements that will enhance wildlife resources, scenic viewsheds and production agriculture in Wyoming.

QEP was a partner with the land trust in its Corridor Conservation Campaign, Phase I, an effort that seeks to successfully modify more than 500 miles of fences in Sublette County so that antelope, mule deer, elk and moose can migrate safely. The CCC program paid for wildlife friendly fencing for those private ranchers who voluntarily agreed to have the land trust change their fencing.

QEP's most recent contribution is intended to fund several programs and the launch of WLT, but also particularly to help fund the CCC Phase II, focused on mule deer.

The QEP donation follows another major gift announced just weeks ago from EnCana of \$100,000.

The Wyoming Land Trust began as the Green River Valley Land Trust in 2000, working in one of the most intensive energy production areas of Wyoming.

Expanding into a statewide land trust, the Wyoming Land Trust will work further in energy mitigation for key projects, facilitate conservation easement donations, purchase conservation easements, steward conservation easements, educate the public and work collaboratively with other land trusts with the same mission of helping Wyoming landowners stay on their lands or in production agriculture. These services will help landowners conserve Wyoming's natural and agricultural resources privately and voluntarily.

"QEP is a great partner. An important part of the Wyoming Land Trust's mission to do good work – on the ground, with balance in mind," said Lara Ryan, executive director of the Wyoming Land Trust.

As a land trust experienced in energy balance and working positively to help preserve Wyoming's agriculture heritage, the Wyoming Land Trust is actively engaged in many projects already around the state.

"We are grateful for the support we've received and the enthusiasm around Wyoming for fencing projects and easement projects. Keep your calls coming – and we'll be there as a solid partner for those interested in helping wildlife, helping communities and helping families," Ryan said. "It's been humbling and we are so thankful to our supporters."

\*\*\*\*\*

And please see this link which highlights one of the land trust's key wildlife corridor programs: [www.youtube.com/grvlandtrust#p/a/u/1/8T6lR1hSw10](http://www.youtube.com/grvlandtrust#p/a/u/1/8T6lR1hSw10)

A video link explains the statewide Wyoming Land Trust: [www.youtube.com/grvlandtrust](http://www.youtube.com/grvlandtrust).

For more information on the Wyoming Land Trust, please visit: [www.wyominglandtrust.org](http://www.wyominglandtrust.org)

-End-