

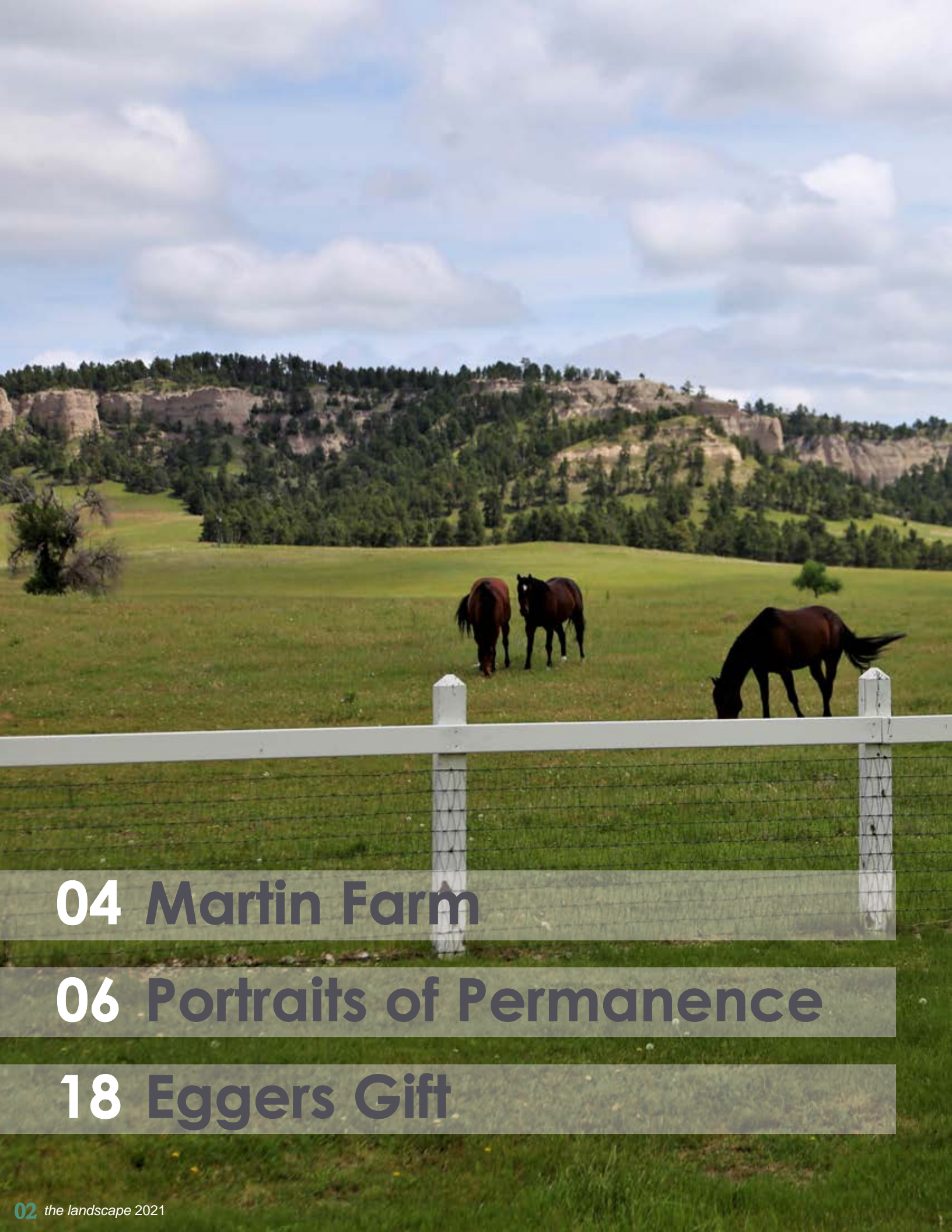


20TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

THE LANDSCAPE

"Preserving Our Agricultural, Historical And Natural Resources"

2021 IMPACT REPORT



04 Martin Farm

06 Portraits of Permanence

18 Eggers Gift

wild thoughts

from Dave Sands, Executive Director



The first time I visited the Martin farm, it seemed like a magical place. Nestled in its own small valley carved by a spring-fed creek, I was immediately transported from the urbanizing landscape of Sarpy County to a place of solitude that seemed far-removed from metro Omaha. The second time I visited, an October snow had created a fairyland with golden leaves dusted in white and snow encrusted grass that sparkled like jewels. But it wasn't until subsequent visits that I truly understood the farm's greatest asset; the stewardship of Evelyn Martin, her late husband Kenny and grandson Kevin, who cherished the farm for its natural beauty and wildlife above all else.

When you think about it, only a small percentage of people in America own a significant amount of land and only a tiny fraction of those make a decision to conserve it for the future. This makes people like the Martin family exceedingly rare. So, as we celebrate Nebraska Land Trust's (NLT) second decade of land conservation in this issue of *The Landscape*, we are celebrating the people that we've worked with as much as the lands they've conserved. Without them, the NLT would not have conserved 32,539 acres in 21 counties from Sarpy to Sioux, including 26,431 of those acres in the past decade! All of these rare land-owners have left a legacy that will transcend their lives and the lives of those who follow.

Looking back is also a time to remember milestones that were reached along the way. In 2013, NLT became the first (and still the only) land trust based in Nebraska to receive national accreditation; a mark of distinction that considers every aspect of a land trust's operations. Additional recognition came from articles about our work in national magazines, from the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation's *Bugle to Working Ranch*. NLT also cemented its reputation as an agricultural land trust with an invitation to join the Partnership of Rangeland Trusts; a premier association of land trusts that focus on conservation of working ranches in the west.

As we look to the future while also looking back, I'm reminded of a quote by the late Stephen Hawking who said, "We are all time-travelers, journeying together into the future. But let us work together to make that future a place we want to visit." Thank you to all who have made this journey with us!

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Martin Family Farm

170 acres in the Schramm Bluffs

At 96-years-old and counting, Evelyn Martin has a lot of memories and she readily shares them, from tales of a local hermit named Dynamite Pete to the stories behind each beautiful wood table crafted by her late husband, Kenny. There is a reoccurring theme in Evelyn's memories as her happiest times are tied to her cherished farm. In December of 2020, her love of the farm became a legacy when she completed a conservation easement with the Nebraska Land Trust (NLT), achieving permanence for 170 acres of rolling wooded hills in southwestern Sarpy County.

When asked what the farm means to her, Evelyn said "Everything! Just everything!" It is easy to understand why because when it comes to the Martin Farm, "everything" means a lot. One of the most unique aspects of the farm is its seclusion. Sarpy County is Nebraska's smallest county geographically with the fastest growing population in the state, but suburban Omaha feels far away once you crest a hill and descend into a small valley that shelters the farm. It is a refuge of grass with remnants of oak savannah on the hills and mature woodlands shading a spring-fed stream as it spills over waterfalls created by outcrops of limestone. It is a refuge for deer, birds, bobcats and solitude.

The farm is also a refuge for family and Evelyn says her grandson, Kevin Gibson, "spent half his time here" growing up. Kevin, who supported his grandmother's decision to place a conservation easement on the farm, recalled walking all the way to the Platte River along the stream that flows through it. He recounted how the adults would have him wear a red hat, so they could find him in the fields. He remembers when an old sawmill on the property was actively used by his grandpa Kenny, who "could do anything with a hunk of wood."

Evelyn fondly remembers when she and Kenny purchased the farm in the 1960s. They had been living nearby on rented land that ultimately became part of Schramm State Park. The farm had previously been used as a park for Omaha youth and Kenny had run cattle on it. When it was listed for sale, Evelyn described her initial visit as “love at first sight.” They knew it would be a stretch to buy it, but Evelyn recalled her mother’s favorite saying, “Where there’s a will, there’s a way.” Evelyn was certainly no stranger to hard work and determination. Although she was raised as a city girl in Bellevue, Evelyn detasseled corn as a summer job and outworked the other kids to become boss of her crew.



Evelyn Martin with her grandson, Kevin Gibson, on the family farm

Like many families the NLT works with, the Martin family loves the land for its beauty, wildlife and history, like the old barn with signatures carved into its sandstone foundation that date back to 1927. But to them, it is more than just land. It is a part of who they are and a part of their family history. It is almost like a member of their family that they never want to see harmed. As Evelyn put it, “I hate the thought of someone coming with a bulldozer and changing it forever.” She could also see that it was a very real threat in Sarpy County.

“Suburban Omaha feels far away once you crest the hill and descend into a small valley that shelters the farm.”

In a September 3, 2021 article about conservation easements in the *Omaha World-Herald*, it was reported that Sarpy County farmland had been reduced from 89,573 acres in 2010 to 78,722 acres in 2021; a 12% decline in 11 years. In addition, Sarpy County Assessor Dan Pitman pointed out that much of that farmland may already be owned by speculators who are just waiting to develop it. In the article Pitman was quoted as saying, “Best way to put it is, every piece of land is in the path of development.”

However, thanks to Evelyn and five other families who have worked with the NLT to permanently conserve their land over the years, the path of development in southwestern Sarpy County will never touch 1,416 acres – an area more than four times the size of nearby Schramm State Park. Conservation in this area is also supported by the Sarpy County Comprehensive Plan, which identifies the 11,000-acre “Schramm Conservation Overlay District” as an area where permanent land conservation should be pursued. A 2017 grant from the Nebraska Environmental Trust made protection of the Martin Farm possible, along with a very generous donation from Evelyn through a “bargain sale,” which allowed the easement to be purchased well below its appraised value.



Over the years, many had approached Evelyn to sell off small parcels for houses, but she says “I’d turn over in my grave if that happened. We want the family to keep it going.” It’s also about more than family to Evelyn. “This is a good place,” she said, “It’s not made for houses. They can go somewhere else.” She wants it conserved for her family and all “who come after.”

Because it is her property right to determine the future of her farm, Evelyn questions the recent politicization of conservation easements in Nebraska, explaining that “I’ve never been a Democrat or a Republican – there’s just doing what’s right for the world.” Upon signing the conservation easement, both Evelyn and Kevin shed tears of happiness knowing that they had done what’s right for the world, and knowing that Kenny would have approved.

PORTRAITS OF PERMANENCE

PINE RIDGE

Sioux, Sheridan and Dawes Counties

Fisher Ranch, Dawes County



Sandwiched between the Ponderosa Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and the Nebraska National Forest, 546 acres of the Fisher Ranch provide a migration bridge for bighorn sheep, elk and other wildlife between these large parcels of public land. Gary and Nancy Fisher understood that this migration bridge could be closed by subdivision and ranchettes. A conservation easement provided the answer they were looking for by protecting the land from development while keeping it in private ownership and ranching.



546
acres conserved



conserved since
2011

West of Fort Robinson State Park, 1,121 acres owned by Chief Dull Knife College (CDKC) of Montana provides critical habitat for bighorn sheep, wetlands and scenic views from the park and Hwy 20. It is also hallowed ground for the Northern Cheyenne, where many of their ancestors were killed in an attempted escape from inhumane imprisonment at the Fort. With protection, the Northern Cheyenne and all people will always be able to appreciate the land's grandeur, while also learning about the determination of the Northern Cheyenne to return to their beloved homeland.



1,121
acres conserved



conserved since
2012

Chief Dull Knife College, Sioux County

DEF
CE

A look at Nebraska Land Trust Conservation 2011-2020

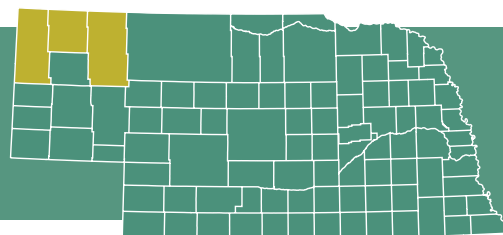
As the Nebraska Land Trust celebrates its second decade of land conservation, we offer a look back at the properties conserved during those years. We also want to thank all of the landowners who are the true heroes in these Portraits of Permanence and all of our supporters who made this work possible!



9,495
total acres



7
easements



In protecting his family's land north of Crawford along Cottonwood Creek, Wade Anderson said, "The main reason we went the conservation easement route is because we wanted to protect this land from potentially being broken into smaller tracts and to preserve the ranching heritage on it...Agricultural conservation easements are a viable option to help keep ranchers on the land and provide natural landscapes for the public to enjoy and benefit from."



Anderson Ranch, Sioux County



548
acres conserved



conserved since
2018



Sowbelly Ranch, Sioux County

With weather-sculpted buttes, pines and a trout stream, Sowbelly Canyon was once voted "the most beautiful place in Nebraska in an informal poll by the *Omaha World-Herald*. At the heart of this scenic canyon is the 1,304-acre Sowbelly Ranch. Jim and Chris Voeller were especially keen on conserving the unfragmented habitat that their ranch provides for elk and bighorn sheep. In fact, it is the only place where the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission received permission to reintroduce bighorns on private land.



1,304
acres conserved



conserved since
2015

PINE RIDGE

Sioux, Sheridan and Dawes Counties

From the start, elk have played a prominent role in management decisions on the MJD Ranch. Ultimately, this led Mike Raymer and his partners to permanently conserve their ranch. According to an assessment by Nebraska Game and Parks Commission, the ranch is a unique place holding elk and other wildlife throughout the year and “due to Mike’s management, this property has become an iconic place for wildlife.” Now, it always will be.



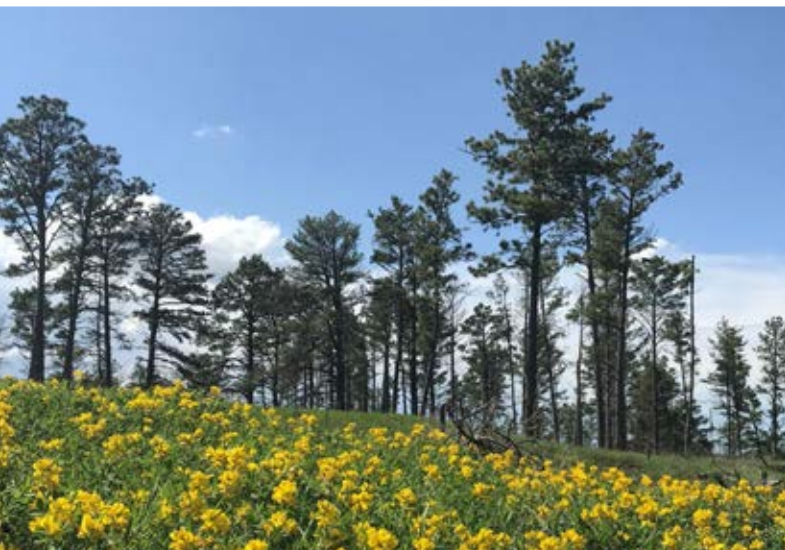
2,444
acres conserved



conserved since
2018



MJD Ranch, Dawes and Sheridan Counties



Wohlers Ranch, Dawes County

Wohlers Ranch was homesteaded by Henry “Dutch” Wohlers in 1884 on 640 acres at the head of West Ash Creek Canyon. As the fifth generation to make a living off this land, Taylor and Tamara Wohlers represent a conservation ethic that has been with the Wohlers family for 137 years and counting. “Our land is our livelihood,” Tamara explained. “So, our land means everything to us. We would take any measure to preserve the land so it continues to provide for us. With the history of the property and having been in the family for so long, it was definitely something worth protecting.”



640
acres conserved



conserved since
2018

West of Fort Robinson State Park, the White River’s crystal-clear water has trout darting for the shadows amid expansive grasslands, pine savannah and towering buttes. At its heart, with more than four miles of the river is the 2,892-acre Kreman Ranch. Jack and Marie Kreman wanted to assure that future generations have the same opportunity as they did to make a living from the land because, as Marie put it, “You can’t make a living off of small parcels.” The conservation easement will assure that their life work of assembling an economically viable ranch will not be undone by subdivision.



2,892
acres conserved

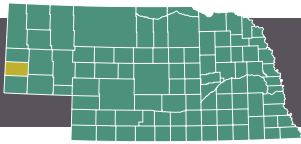


conserved since
2020

Kreman Ranch, Sioux County



WESTERN NEBRASKA



Lazy 3J Ranch

Wildcat Hills in Banner County

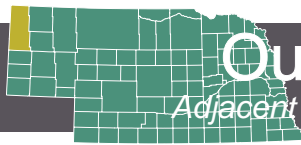
In 1887, John McNett crept up a slot canyon in the Wildcat Hills west of Chimney Rock to leave his mark by etching his name and year into the sandstone. In time, this land became the Lazy Three J Ranch and Dee Burchfield decided to leave a mark of her own, by permanently conserving its lofty buttes, native prairie and prime habitat for bighorn sheep. Like many of NLT's protected lands, conservation was leveraged by adjoining public land; the Williams Gap WMA. Unlike a name scratched into sandstone, Dee Burchfield left a mark that will last forever.



984
acres conserved



conserved since
2015



Our Heritage Ranch

Adjacent to Toadstool Park in Sioux County

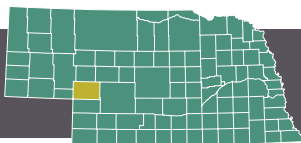
The Nebraska badlands shine like a white jewel set into the dark crown of the Pine Ridge. At the heart of this landscape, is Toadstool Geologic Park in the Oglala National Grassland. Right next door is a 3,621-acre ranch started by Jean Norman's family in 1886. It is still in the family today and by conserving it, Jean says, "I am protecting my ancestors hard work." In stating her reasons for protection, Jean said, "I have three children." After giving the names of each she added, "I also have a fourth child, my land." Like her children, she wanted to see it protected from harm.



3,621
acres conserved



conserved since
2018



Baumann Ranch

Keith County

As the largest, private undeveloped parcel on the north side of Lake McConaughy, the Baumann Ranch represents a significant step toward Keith County's planning goal to maintain "significant stretches of open space (and) agricultural land" on the north shore. Thanks to Loy and Jean Baumann, travelers on Hwy 92 will see nothing but prairie, wildflowers and the blue waters of Big Mac just beyond. Loy conserved the land to honor his father and says, "I'm glad I did it and the longer I think about it, the happier I am!"

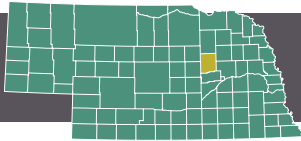


240
acres conserved



conserved since
2015

CENTRIAL



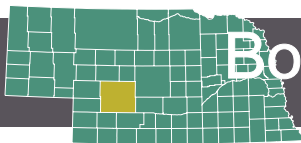
Hosford Farm

Boone County

With woodlands, restored tallgrass prairie and a meandering stretch of Beaver Creek, Albion-Petersburg elementary students visit the Hosford Farm to learn about nature and Native Americans since the family has carefully preserved cultural sites scattered across the 546-acre farm. As Paul Hosford explains, “It is our place now...and we understand that by settling this land it is now our responsibility to protect it, to hold it as dear as every people before us.”

 **546**
acres conserved

 conserved since
2011



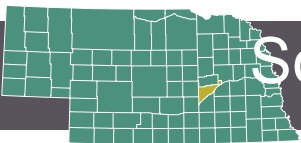
Boerkircher Ranch

Loess Canyons, Lincoln County

The 1,038-acre Boerkircher Ranch stands on its own merits with habitat for central Nebraska’s only wild herd of elk. Its conservation was leveraged by the adjacent 987-acre Dunse Ranch conserved by NLT in 2008, which adjoined the 1,920-acre Wapiti WMA, creating a nearly 4,000-acre block of protected habitat in Nebraska’s scenic Loess Canyons southeast of North Platte. As Mary Boerkircher put it, “The conservation easement gives us peace of mind to know that our investment in stewardship will be preserved for generations to come.”

 **1038**
acres conserved

 conserved since
2013



Schutz Grassland

Merrick County

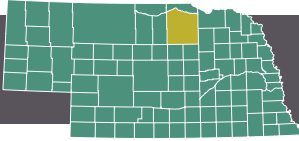
John Schutz and his sister, Mary Helen Shortridge, wanted to honor generations of their family’s stewardship in Merrick County. “Over time, with all that is changing in this world, we have come to realize the importance of preserving a parcel of native woods and grassland that has been in our family for five generations,” John explained.

 **80**
acres conserved

 conserved since
2013



NEBRASKA



Penry Prairie

Holt County

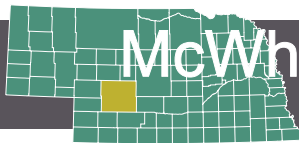
Claudine and Francis Penry of Atkinson did not want their cherished 160-acre native prairie to be converted to cropland, so they protected it from the plow “out of respect for Claudine’s parents,” says Francis. “They loved the land and broke up only what was necessary to produce grain to feed their livestock. Our quarter of land is one of the few places where the jack rabbit survived so we call the land Jack Rabbit Flats. We contacted the NLT and discovered that they offered what we desired; protection of the land after we depart this life.”



160
acres conserved



conserved since
2013



McWha/Waite Ranches

Birdwood Creek, Lincoln County

In Nebraska’s southern Sandhills, the pristine Birdwood Creek is a magnet for migratory waterfowl and grassland wildlife. Recognizing that their land was unique, neighbors Todd and Laura McWha and Terry and Karen Waite chose to simultaneously conserve their adjacent ranches, totaling 1,413 acres, with more than two miles of the creek. For Terry, “Choosing to partner with the Nebraska Land Trust was an easy choice. We wanted to work with folks who had both a proven track record and an appreciation for the beauty of the terrain in Nebraska.”

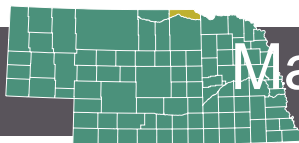


1413
acres conserved



conserved since
2014-15

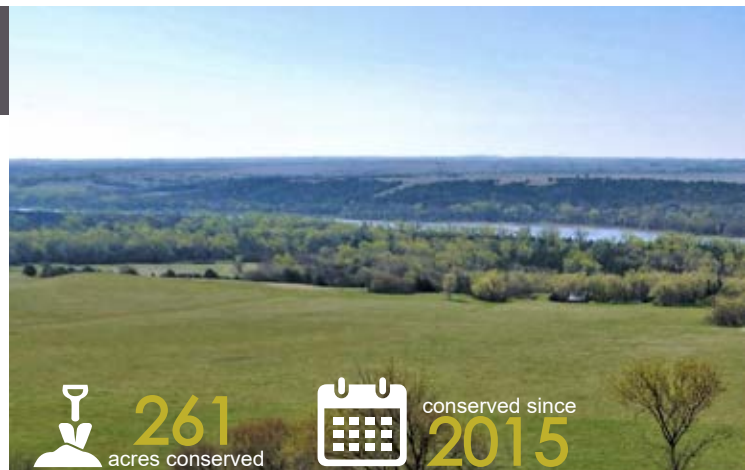
Photo Credit: Laura McWha



Marshall Grassland

Niobrara River, Boyd County

In college, Gary and Laura Marshall fell in love with 261 acres on the Niobrara River in Boyd County, so they bought the land at a time when many peers hadn’t bought their first car. Little did they know, it once housed the original Ponca Agency and is now on the National Register of Historic Places. With the conservation easement, Laura explained, “It is important to us to preserve and protect the historical significance as well as the native rangeland, while our sons and their families are able to continue using this property in the same manner as we have in the past.”

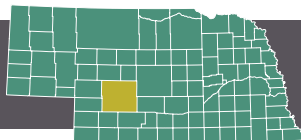


261
acres conserved



conserved since
2015

CENTRIAL



McWha Ranch

Loess Canyons, Lincoln County

After conserving their land along Birdwood Creek, Todd and Laura McWha added to their conservation legacy by protecting their 304-acre native prairie in the Loess Canyons south of Brady. “Agricultural roots run deep in our family,” Todd explained. “We wanted to protect one of the more unique ecological areas of Nebraska and preserve a way of life for ranchers, to ensure the property can be used for cattle grazing by generations to come.”

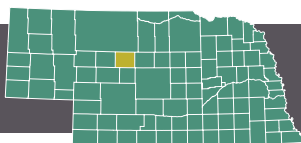


304
acres conserved



conserved since
2015

Photo Credit: Laura McWha



Licking Ranch

Thomas County

Riley and Jacob Licking grew up on a ranch, but when they wanted to strike out on their own by purchasing a 4,580-acre property on the Dismal River, it was a daunting financial challenge for beginning ranchers. The purchase of a conservation easement by the NLT made it possible and helped to keep two young families in the Thedford community. “We were able to use the easement to help secure a loan to buy the ranch where we are raising our family,” Riley explained. “We are forever grateful to have found the Nebraska Land Trust.”

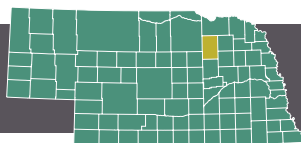


4,580
acres conserved



conserved since
2018

Photo Credit: Pam Reed



Ritter Prairie

Antelope County

Harold Ritter had a passion for natural beauty and conservation that drove him to plant nearly 1,000 trees, mostly pines, at the edge of virgin tallgrass prairie on 77-acres of his farm. To honor their uncle’s love of Nebraska, its land, prairie and trees, his nieces and nephew wanted to donate the land to a conservation organization. They gifted it to NLT so it could be protected with a conservation easement, then sold so the proceeds could be used to establish the Harold Ritter Operating Endowment. This created a double legacy – permanent protection of Harold’s cherished land and an endowment that will help the NLT to conserve additional land across Nebraska.

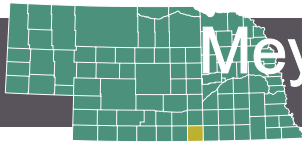


77
acres conserved



conserved since
2019

NEBRASKA



Meyer Prairie

Webster County

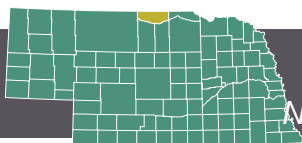
Inspired by seemingly endless grasslands near Red Cloud, Willa Cather captured the beauty of Nebraska’s prairies in words. A visitor to the 612-acre Willa Cather Memorial Prairie can still experience the prairie that inspired Cather, especially when they gaze at the adjacent 1,147-acre native prairie owned by Brandon and Kami Meyer. Thanks to the Meyer family, this prairie view will remain as timeless as Cather’s novels. In Kami’s words, “It is our hope that this pasture can be a part of our legacy that is passed down to our children and someday grandchildren, and that they will be able to enjoy it in the same natural state that we do.”



1,147 acres conserved



conserved since 2020



Thornton Prairie

Niobrara Valley, Keya Paha County

“We hadn’t yet moved into our partly built log cabin and were still camping in our truck near the edge of a hill amidst the buckbrush and overlooking the Sandhills,” recalled Rosemary Thornton. As Rosemary and her husband Mel gazed at the Niobrara River Valley from their land, Mel remarked, “I feel like we own our own state park.” Mel wanted to keep the land from being subdivided, said Rosemary, and “I was equally determined to save the wonderful prairie.” The Thornton land also adjoins the NLT’s 1,124-acre Sunny Brook Ranch Easement, creating 1,284 acres of protected land just above Rocky Ford on the Niobrara National Scenic River.



120 acres conserved



conserved since 2020



Anderson-Swanson Property, Sarpy County

Although small in size, Connie Anderson’s and Stan Swanson’s 36 acres are representative of the natural resources found in the Schramm Bluffs, with eastern oak/hickory forest that includes a rare grove of black oaks. These woodlands provide superb habitat for songbirds, which is why nearby Schramm State Park has been designated as an Audubon Important Bird Area. Since the park is only 330 acres, private lands provide the bulk of this habitat since birds pay no attention to property lines.



36
acres conserved



conserved since
2018

SCHRAMM BLUFFS

Sarpy County



998
total acres

The 262-acre Kennedy Farm has the first grove of Chinquapin oaks ever documented in Sarpy County but it does not take a botanist to appreciate its beauty. The farm is across the river from Platte River State Park and clearly visible from the observation tower. The farm is also one of a few area properties that stretch from the river into the bluffs. “We have a responsibility to future generations to preserve the land for their enjoyment,” says Colleen Kennedy Smart, referring to her family’s desire for permanent conservation.

Kennedy Farm, Sarpy County



262
acres conserved



conserved since
2018

After four conservation easements over seven years, the 700-acre Patterson Farm is now the second largest protected property in Sarpy County after Fontenelle Forest. More important than the acres are the resources conserved, including terraced cropland, prime soils, spring-fed streams, oak/hickory woodlands and scenic views along a mile of Highway 31 as it winds toward Schramm State Park. As a headline in the *Omaha-World-Herald* proclaimed, "Farm now, farm forever."

Patterson Farm, Sarpy County



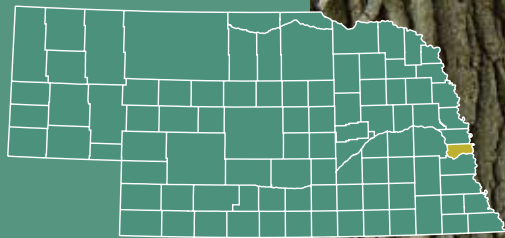
700
acres conserved



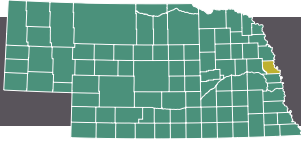
conserved since
2013



5
easements



EASTERN



Hansen Farm

Washington County

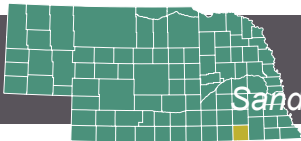
For more than 50 years, Ken Hansen (pictured) has farmed 67 acres in the undulating hills and valleys overlooking the Missouri River Valley north of Blair. Ken wanted to protect the farmland and woodlands where bitternut hickories grow in the shade of old oak and walnut trees, with a seasonal carpet of Virginia waterleaf, Dutchman's breeches, violets and native sedges. In Ken's view, "The Nebraska Land Trust and conservation easements are for those farmers and ranchers who understand that long-term preservation is worth much more than short-term gain."



67
acres conserved



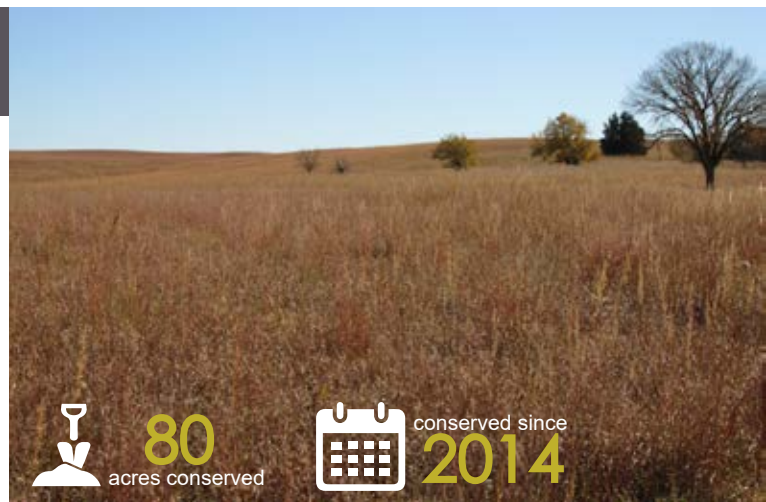
conserved since
2014



Robart Prairie

Sandstone Prairies, Jefferson County

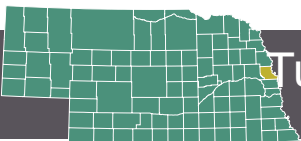
Bob Robart enjoys Nebraska's wild places, which is why he and his wife Cheryl purchased a virgin prairie in Jefferson County. After buying the land, Bob says "It became evident that our lifelong commitment to conservation could be enhanced by placing a conservation easement on this beautiful piece of original tallgrass prairie."



80
acres conserved



conserved since
2014



Turkey Creek Preserve

Washington County

Mary Lou Chapek achieved the rare feat of "reverse fragmentation" by reassembling small parcels into 595-acres known as the Turkey Creek Preserve. With oak/hickory woodlands and tallgrass prairie blanketing steep hills above marshes, ponds and its namesake creek, the property was permanently made whole through a conservation easement. "I have devoted over 20 years of my life to preserving this beautiful place for generations yet to come," Mary Lou explained. That future includes University of Nebraska Omaha students and faculty who use the land for education and research.



595
acres conserved



conserved since
2016

NEBRASKA



Sisters of Mercy

Platte River, Douglas County

The Sisters of Mercy in Omaha believed that their property known as Mercy Acres “Is land that speaks to us of God’s goodness and generosity,” according to Sister Catherine Kuper. “As responsible stewards and grateful recipients of God’s gift, we wish to preserve and share this gift in a way that will endure.” The Sisters achieved this wish through a conservation easement, conserving 700 feet of pristine river frontage, mature woodlands and a large pond that attracts migratory waterfowl and bald eagles.



22
acres conserved



conserved since
2018



Dalbey Prairie

Gage County

When Dwight Dalbey gifted his prairie to the University of Nebraska Foundation in 1944, he stated, “The tract of land hereby conveyed is virgin prairie, untouched by the plow and now in the same state as it was at the time the sturdy pioneers came west in search of opportunity...Among these pioneers...was Ford Lewis, the father of my beloved wife...Hannah Virginia Lewis Dalbey...It was her wish, as well as it is mine, that this bit of this great inland empire be preserved in its natural state.” When the Foundation decided to sell the land in 2020, they honored Dwight’s wish by donating a conservation easement to NLT.



503
acres conserved



conserved since
2020

Eggers Gift

Lynne Eggers Creates a Double Legacy with Gift of Farm



 Lynne Eggers

Like native grass on the prairie, Lynne Egger's roots in Nebraska run deep, firmly grounded in the Saunders County farm where she was raised by her parents, Herman and Frances. Just as prairie roots solidify an attachment to the soil, Lynne's memories solidify her attachment to the land.

Growing up with her brother George, they played outside making roads, bridges and racetracks to ride their bikes on. There are memories of being pulled behind Herman's tractor through snow tunnels created by plows on the county road and taking lunch to her father in the field. She fondly recalls their two large white draft horses, Kate and Judy and riding make-believe horses with George. There are memories of the Omaha stockyards, where they would take their longhorn cattle to market and get treated to breakfast. "There are millions of wonderful memories," says Lynne, "living with lots of space out in the country...we liked working on the land. We appreciated our rural life. We all liked working outside with plants, animals and nature."

Eventually Lynne moved away, but she never lost her attachment to the farm and began to think about its future. Ultimately, she decided to donate the farm to a conservation organization because "I wanted to keep this land as farmland." Given its proximity to Omaha, Lynne worried that it might eventually be used in a manner that would harm the farm and environment. So, she decided on permanent conservation to honor her father, mother and brother who loved it as much as she did.

This led Lynne to donate the 74-acre farm to the Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) in 2021, with an understanding that its prime farmland would be protected by a conservation easement, then sold back into private ownership so the proceeds could endow NLT's work throughout Nebraska. "I selected NLT because an easement will impose some limits on how the land can be treated and how it must be cared for," Lynne explains. "Additionally, I am happy to protect our farmland and contribute to the protection of land across the state through NLT's ongoing work." Her motives for supporting NLT are also tied to the natural world, because she knows that when farms and ranches are conserved, so are the natural areas that come with them.



 Herman and Frances Eggers

In Lynne's view, growing up in rural Nebraska was a gift that shaped her life. Support for conservation of agricultural, historical and natural resources in the state was a way to give something back. In making her gift, Lynne has created a double legacy. She has permanently conserved her family heritage of prime farmland, so it will always be available to grow food in a region projected to have 2,000,000 people by the year 2050. In addition, her gift will generate an endowment that supports NLT's work throughout the state. Like a rock thrown into a pond, her generosity will continue to ripple outward, touching many people and landscapes over time.

If you are interested in creating a legacy like Lynne, please contact NLT at: 402/438-5263 or dsands@nelandtrust.org.

You can be a Partner in Permanence!

The Nebraska Land Trust (NLT) supporters are partners in achieving permanence for agricultural, historical and natural resources. Whether it is an annual donation that supports ongoing projects or an Endowment Gift that supports future projects, please consider the NLT in your charitable giving. For more information, contact Dave Sands at dsands@nelandtrust.org or call 402/438-5263.



 *Martin Farm, Sarpy County*

Partners in Permanence

The Nebraska Land Trust is deeply grateful for the following partners who helped to create permanence for land in a changing world during the past 12 months.

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Evelyn Martin

Donations In Memory Of Marcel Vinduska

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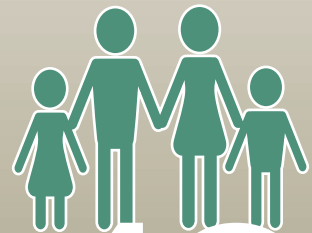
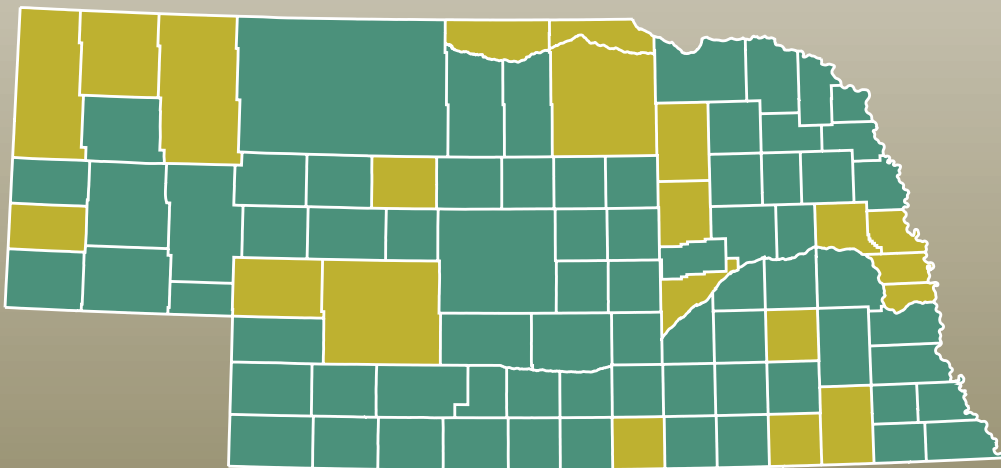
SNAPSHOTS OF SUCCESS



21
COUNTIES

32,540
ACRES

Preserved for future generations



42
families

Make up the Nebraska Land Trust Easement Holders.

The Nebraska Land Trust offers the E-Landscape to provide more current updates on our work and other timely information. If you'd like the E-Landscape delivered to your email inbox, please contact Jacob Alishouse at jalishouse@nelandtrust.org or sign up online at www.nelandtrust.org



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ON THE COVER
Martin Farm, Schramm Bluffs