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Photos Attached. Credit Photographer: Stephen Ingram

Eastern Sierra Land Trust Earns National Recognition
Accreditation Awarded by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission

(Bishop, California) – The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance, has announced that Eastern Sierra Land Trust has been awarded accredited status.

“Accredited land trusts meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever,” said Commission Executive Director Tammara Van Ryn. “The accreditation seal lets the public know that the accredited land trust has undergone an extensive, external review of the governance and management of its organization and the systems and policies it uses to protect land.”

“Eastern Sierra Land Trust’s accredited status demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation,” says Karen Ferrell-Ingram, Executive Director of ESLT. “ESLT is definitely a stronger organization today having gone through the rigorous accreditation program. We’d like to extend a sincere thank you to Sandy Hogan, Stephen Ingram, and Tony Taylor, volunteers on our Accreditation Committee who worked so hard to make this possible”

Eastern Sierra Land Trust was founded in 2001, and to celebrate ten years of working to preserve vital lands in the Eastern Sierra, ESLT invites everyone to attend a Tenth Birthday Party on March 26, 4pm to 7pm at the Crowley Lake Community Center. The land trust will be celebrating accreditation and the partnerships that have preserved over 6200 acres of critical habitat and working farms and ranches in the region. The party will feature live music by Idle Hands bluegrass band, appetizers, refreshments, and prizes. Visit www.eslt.org for more information and to reserve a place.

Eastern Sierra Land Trust was awarded accreditation this February and is one of 130 land trusts from across the country that has been awarded accreditation since the fall of 2008. Accredited land trusts are able to display a seal indicating to the public that they meet national standards for excellence, uphold the public trust, and ensure that conservation efforts are permanent. The seal is a mark of distinction in land conservation.

The Land Trust Accreditation Commission, based in Saratoga Springs, N.Y., awards the accreditation seal to community institutions that meet national quality standards for protecting important natural places and working lands forever. The Commission, an independent program of the Land Trust Alliance established in 2006, is governed by a volunteer board of diverse land conservation and nonprofit management experts from around the country. The Alliance, of which Eastern Sierra Land Trust is a member, is a national conservation group based in Washington, D.C. that works to save the places people love by strengthening conservation throughout America. More information on the accreditation program is available on the Commission's website, www.landtrustaccreditation.org. More information on the Alliance is available at www.landtrustalliance.org.

Photo Caption: Accreditation is a seal of approval that ensures that wildlife habitat on this property in the Round Valley mule deer migration corridor will be preserved in perpetuity. Photo by Stephen Ingram