



September 10, 2010

Jim Branham
Executive Officer
Sierra Nevada Conservancy
11521 Blocker Drive, Suite 205
Auburn, CA 95603

RE: Support for Penobscot Ranch Easement

Dear Mr. Branham:

The California Rangeland Conservation Coalition (Rangeland Coalition) is proud to support our partner's, California Rangeland Trust, efforts to acquire funding to place a conservation easement on the Penobscot Ranch in El Dorado County.

The Rangeland Coalition is an unprecedented group of California ranchers, researchers, environmentalists and local, state and federal agencies. Together, we are working to preserve private working landscapes, support the long-term viability of the ranching industry and to protect and enhance California rangeland for protected and common species.

The Penobscot Ranch is located in one of the fastest growing regions of the state, and is under severe pressure for residential development. The 330 acre working ranch includes blue oak woodland rangelands and irrigated pasture. The ranch is also home to myriad amphibians, mammals, plant species and more. The California Rangeland Trust's Penobscot Ranch Easement Project exemplifies the founding principles of our partnership, outlined within the California Rangeland Resolution. The conservation easement will be voluntarily placed on a working ranch that is within the Rangeland Coalition focus area. This easement will simultaneously preserve habitat for hundreds of different species, natural resources and a stewardship ethic.

The Rangeland Coalition respectfully supports Sierra Nevada Conservancy awarding a grant to the California Rangeland Trust to acquire a conservation easement on the Penobscot Ranch. This project is important to furthering the goals of the Rangeland Coalition and we look forward to showcasing the easement on the Penobscot Ranch as a conservation success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tracy K. Schohr".

Tracy K. Schohr
Rangeland Conservation Director
California Cattlemen's Association

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Pelayo".

Pelayo Alvarez
Conservation Program Director
Defenders of Wildlife