

# Santa Fe Conservation Trust

Protecting the Land. Preserving Our Quality of Life



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Santa Fe Conservation Trust Earns National Recognition** *Accreditation Awarded by the Land Trust Accreditation Commission*

**Santa Fe, New Mexico** – The Santa Fe Conservation Trust has been awarded accreditation from the Land Trust Accreditation Commission, an independent program of the Washington, D.C.-based Land Trust Alliance.

With this distinction, SFCT has joined an elite group of land conservation organizations in America. Of the 1,700 land trusts in the U.S., only 280 are accredited. Santa Fe Conservation Trust is the first Santa Fe-based land trust to earn accreditation.

“The Santa Fe Conservation Trust’s accredited status demonstrates our commitment to permanent land conservation that benefits the entire community,” says Charlie O’Leary, Executive Director. “Our land trust is a stronger organization today having gone through the rigorous accreditation program. It will provide our community with the assurance that we meet the highest nationally recognized standards for ethical, legal and technical practices for the responsible operation of a land trust.”

The Santa Fe Conservation Trust was founded in 1993 to balance development with the need to preserve open lands and trail access around Santa Fe. Over the course of 20 years, the Trust has conserved over 35,000 acres of iconic landscapes, working farm and ranch lands, wildlife habitat and watersheds in Santa Fe, San Miguel and Rio Arriba counties.

Santa Fe Conservation Trust has been a leader in the development of a regional public trail system that is connecting people to nature, creating new opportunities for recreation and advancing the health and wellbeing of the young and the old. The Trust played a key role in the Dale Ball Trails, the new La Piedra Trail, the Santa Fe Rail Trail, and the network of trails in La Tierra and others.

The work of Santa Fe Conservation Trust benefits the entire community. Visit [sfct.org](http://sfct.org) to learn how.

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