# LandReport A Monthly Report for the American Landowner Very Sletter

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# WYOMING "OWNS" THE WIND

Cowboy State tax that generates millions from wind power imperils multi-billion-dollar Anschutz project.

Wyoming prides itself on its status as a low tax haven. It has no individual income tax, no corporate income tax, and according to the Tax Foundation, the nation's best tax climate for businesses. The Anschutz Corporation has good reason to dispute that last point. Two of its subsidiaries have invested millions of dollars and countless man-hours planning the Chokecherry and Sierra Madre Wind Energy



Project, one of the world's

largest wind farms on Philip Anschutz's Overland Trail Ranch in Carbon County. The region features some of the best wind conditions in the Lower 48. In 2012, however, Wyoming became the first and only state in the Union to levy a tax on power generated at wind farms. The current rate is \$1 per megawatt-hour produced, and according to the *Los Angeles Times*, that rate could possibly increase. One possible outcome: taxing the multi-billion-dollar project out of existence. Read more HERE.

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# **NAVAJOS SUE EPA OVER** GOLD KING SPILL. On August

16, the Navajo Nation filed a lawsuit against the Environmental Protection Agency and more than a dozen other entities, alleging mismanagement of Colorado's shuttered Gold King mine. The suit says that 440 tons of metals spilled out when the mine's seal was accidentally broken; three million gallons of toxic sludge colored the Animas River bright yellow before flowing into the San Juan River and Navajo lands. The suit is one of several actions the federal agency faces following the 2015 debacle, including a criminal investigation by its own inspector general. In addition, the State of New Mexico has sued the EPA and the State of Colorado over spill. Read more HERE.



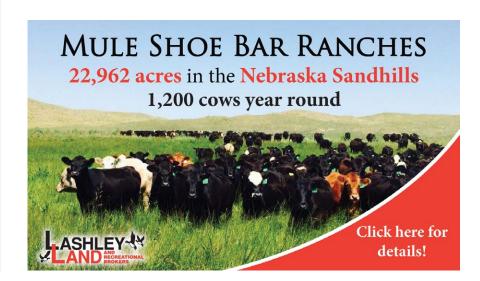
LISTED

### CALIFORNIA RANCH

# APPLE EXEC RELISTS CARMEL VALLEY **RANCH FOR \$45 MILLION.** Apple

chairman Mike Markkula has listed his 14,000-acre Carmel Valley cattle operation

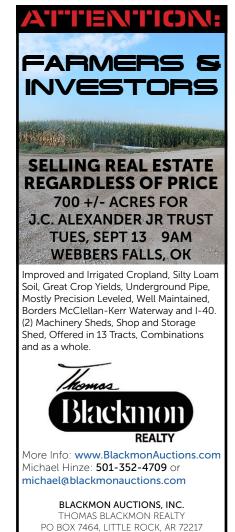
with Bill Mitchell and Steve LaVaute of Carmel Realty Company. Previously listed for \$59.95 million in 2013, Rana Creek Ranch is the largest private holding in Carmel Valley and is located 19 miles from Carmel-by-the-Sea and Pebble Beach. In addition to the 5,413-square-foot main house, improvements include a guest house, offices and homes for the ranch manager and staff, two barns, and a riding arena. The ranch has a private lake and a 2,900-foot landing strip. Markkula paid \$8 million for a substantially smaller version of the ranch in 1982. At the time, it included 9,000 acres. Thanks to several acquisitions by Markkula, the ranch has since grown by 55 percent. Read more HERE.



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# **COLORADO CATTLE RANCH**

### STEAMBOAT SPRINGS RANCH

**CONSERVED.** A fourth-generation Routt County ranching family has finalized a conservation easement on their 656-acre ranch. The Stankos conserved 141 acres of

their ranch in 2000; the central 152 acres were conserved in 2014. The final conservation easement protects the remainder of the ranch – some 363 acres. The Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust partnered with the Stankos to conserve the final portion with support from the Routt County Purchase of Development Rights Program and the Upper Yampa River Habitat Partnership Program. All told, the land trust has partnered with Routt County on the conservation of more than 11,500 acres, assisting 16 ranching families across the county. Colorado Cattlemen's Agricultural Land Trust holds conservation easements on an additional 16,000 acres in Routt County and has conserved more than 465,000 acres statewide. A major focus of CCALT's work in Routt County and across the state is to help ranchers with the intergenerational transfer of their properties. Read more HERE.



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# LändReport Newsletter

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## **FLORIDA AG**

RED STAG SANCTUARY AND LITTLE
CYPRESS SELL. Dean Saunders and Brian
Beasley of Coldwell Banker Commercial
Saunders Real Estate brokered the sale of two

Florida agricultural properties totaling 2,524 acres. The 1,784-acre Red Stag Sanctuary, which formed the northern portion of the Smith Ranch in Okeechobee and St. Lucie counties, sold for more than \$8.29 million on July 22. (Coldwell Banker Commercial Saunders Real Estate has the listing on the 6,984-acre southern portion of the Smith Ranch, which lies in the heart of Florida's cattle country. It is on the market for \$25.142 million.) Red stag, axis, and sika deer complement native whitetails and turkey in the high-fenced area of the ranch. Little Cypress sold for \$2.1 million on July 27. Formerly a 640-acre citrus grove in southern Hendry County, it will be cleared and converted to a row crop operation. Read more HERE.

