

Breaking news! CALT's *It's for the Birds!* Campaign has received a generous donation to create a matching challenge! **Your contribution will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$20,000!**

Your donation today will double in value to help CALT conserve prime bird habitat on the Agua Fria River in Dewey-Humboldt. This conservation effort will ensure that nesting yellow-billed cuckoos and southwestern willow flycatchers and 125 other bird species can call Coldwater Farm and the Agua Fria River home forever.

All of these birds require quality riparian habitat to exist. Coldwater Farm provides the unique resources necessary for our feathered friends to flourish.

Give before December 31 and your donation will reap very special rewards. Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity to double your donation today!

Your donation today will guarantee that this rare habitat will be conserved now and into the future for our children and grandchildren to enjoy.

Special Donor Rewards

Donation Levels	Special Rewards
\$250	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 tickets to our celebratory <i>It's for the Birds!</i> Spring Fling event at Mortimer's Farm • A high resolution, digital photo of a Southwestern willow flycatcher • Donor acknowledgement in CALT's biannual newsletter, <i>For Lands' Sake</i>
\$500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Signed copy of <i>Birds of Dewey-Humboldt</i> by author and landowner Garry Rogers • 2 tickets to our celebratory <i>It's for the Birds!</i> Spring Fling event at Mortimer's Farm • Donor acknowledgement in CALT's biannual newsletter, <i>For Lands' Sake</i>
\$1,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An exclusive, VIP tour of Coldwater Farm for two, guided by ornithologist, Felipe Guerrero, during prime nesting season for the Southwestern willow flycatcher and the Yellow-billed cuckoo (early to mid June). Picnic lunch included. • 2 tickets to our celebratory <i>It's for the Birds!</i> Spring Fling event at Mortimer's Farm • Donor acknowledgement in CALT's biannual newsletter, <i>For Lands' Sake</i>

Make your donations today on the dedicated webpage for Coldwater Farm at <http://www.centralazlandtrust.org/coldwater-farm.html#coldwater-donation-anchor>, or by check to CALT, PO Box 1050, Prescott, AZ 86302. Please mark checks "*It's for the*

Birds!” All donations will be used specifically for establishing a permanent conservation easement on the Coldwater Farm. As CALT is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization, donations may be tax deductible.

What’s the money for?

Our fundraising goal is \$65,000. This amount is needed to cover the required components associated with establishing the conservation easement – including an appraisal, natural resource baseline reports, surveys and a stewardship contribution. The stewardship contribution ensures that CALT has the financial ability to oversee the conservation easement in perpetuity. The funds are held in trust with the Arizona Community Foundation.

Landowners with a vision

Inspired by the flowing waters of the Agua Fria River that runs through their property, owners Garry and Denise Rogers chose to call their home Coldwater Farm. Nestled in the heart of Humboldt, the lushness of the property allows you to feel as if you have entered the Secret Garden. Noticing an abundance of bird species, Garry began keeping a bird list that is now up to 127 species. For instance, the southwestern willow flycatcher and the yellow-billed cuckoo are using the Coldwater Farm for breeding, according to surveys by the Audubon Society, Arizona Game and Fish Department, and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These two species are considered Neotropical migrants and are federally listed as endangered and threatened, respectively.

Following the exciting results that the property was supporting two rare species, the Rogers contacted CALT to begin considering a conservation easement for Coldwater Farm. Conservation easements are defined by state law (ARS 33-271) and serve to protect land for specific “conservation purposes” that include “protecting a relatively natural habitat of fish, wildlife or plants or similar ecosystem.” The property has high potential for habitat improvement, thereby increasing plant and animal diversity and abundance across the property. Additionally, the water resources attached to the land will be protected by the easement, thus further supporting the conservation values.

Unique collaboration between the community and local nonprofits

In an impressive collaborative effort, the Town of Dewey-Humboldt and local chapters of conservation groups have come together to save Coldwater Farm’s natural habitat in perpetuity, including the Highlands Center for Natural History, the Prescott Audubon Society, the Citizens Water Advocacy Group, the Sierra Club-Yavapai Group, the Arizona Native Plant Society-Prescott Chapter, the Arizona Riparian Council, Friends of the Agua Fria National Monument, and the Upper Agua Fria Watershed Group. CALT is ever so grateful for its partners’ support and expertise.

The importance of the Coldwater Farm

Water in Arizona is a rare occurrence. The Agua Fria River, its aquifer and watershed have been the lifeblood of our environment and the economy in the Dewey-Humboldt area. As our southwestern climate becomes hotter and drier, with more unpredictable, severe storms, only conservation guarantees that water will remain to sustain humans, plants and animals into the future. Coldwater Farm, under a permanent conservation easement, will become one of the water and land conservation and education projects that will serve as a model for similar Agua Fria conservation projects up and down the river.

CALT background

CALT has been dedicated to its mission, “*to preserve and protect open space, wildlife habitat, working agricultural lands, and the scenic and cultural values of central and northern Arizona for future generations*” since 1989. As the sole land trust serving central and northern Arizona, CALT’s role in the community is to develop conservation easements, which are agreements between a landowner and CALT that protect the land from future subdivision and development. For more information about CALT visit: centralazlandtrust.org.

Conservation easements

A private landowner grants a conservation easement to a qualified land trust. Easements are legally binding agreements that permanently restrict subdivision and additional development. The donation of a conservation easement is different from the donation of land outright. With a conservation easement, the land remains in private ownership with the donor and subsequent owners. The land trust makes annual visits to ensure that the terms of the easement agreement are being met. Conservation easements provide a win-win scenario that allows for protection of precious resources while assuring the landowners retain the right to live on the land, sell the land, and pass it on to their heirs. In all cases, the land is kept in private ownership and remains on the tax rolls. Furthermore, the land remains under the watchful eye of a land trust to ensure that it will not be divided or developed to protect the conservation values for future generations. Landowners may receive significant tax deductions. Please consult a professional tax advisor.