

The LandReport

*A Monthly Report for the
American Landowner*



Newsletter

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Wasatch Peaks Ranch Sells

**12,740-acre alpine tract in Utah's Wasatch Mountains offers 11 miles of
ridgeline atop the Wasatch Mountains as well as 24 peaks and 15 bowls.**

On February 8, Mirr Ranch Group announced the sale of picturesque Wasatch Peaks Ranch in Morgan County, Utah. The property spans 20 square miles and rises from 4,820 feet to 9,570 feet at the ridgeline. Its central location is unparalleled: just 10 minutes from Ogden and 35 minutes from Salt Lake City. Major recreational areas are equally accessible. Snowbasin Resort sits 10 miles north of the ranch. Park City lies 45 minutes to the south. The ranch boasts 11 creeks that descend from alpine and subalpine zones to the Weber River, and it features superb fly-fishing along nearly two miles of the Weber. Wasatch Peaks Ranch is known for its big game hunting, and it also enjoys plentiful turkey and blue grouse. The ranch participates in an innovative Utah Division of Wildlife Resources program that designates privately owned Cooperative Wildlife Management Units (CWMUs). In addition to fishing and hunting, other activities on the property include hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking on more than 80 miles of trails — not to mention unlimited access to the adjacent Uinta-Wasatch-Cache National Forest, which the ranch shares 25 miles of boundary with. Read more [HERE](#).

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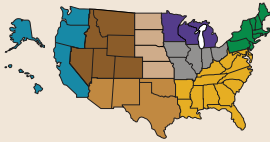
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WILDLIFE



NATIONAL

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE

SPREADING. The deadly neurological disorder Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is found in deer, elk, and moose. Since its 1967 discovery in Colorado, it has spread to 24 states in the US and to Canada (plus Norway and South Korea), but there have been no reports of CWD spreading to humans. However, Canadian researchers recently found that macaque monkeys contracted CWD after eating infected deer — the first time it spread to a primate through ingestion. With some researchers in Colorado calling CWD the “zombie disease,” concerns among hunters have understandably heightened. The Chronic Wasting Disease Alliance in Fort Collins urges hunters to test animals for CWD, and not to eat the meat if it tests positive — just to be on the safe, non-zombie side. Read more [HERE](#).



WEST

SALE

COLORADO RANCHLAND

O'NEILL RANCHES SELL. One of the top elk-hunting destinations in the Western US came off the market when Hall & Hall sold O'Neill Ranches, which was listed at \$15 million. With over 8,500 contiguous

deeded acres in the Sangre de Cristo Mountain foothills, O'Neill Ranches is bordered by Hill Ranches on the west. To the south, it neighbors Ted Turner's Vermejo Park Ranch. (Turner ranked No. 2 on the 2018 Land Report 100.) “The location of the O'Neill Ranches was a large factor in the buyer's interest in the property,” said Tom McFarlane of Whitetail Properties, which represented the buyer. “Stewardship was also something that was of great importance to the buyers on this ranch. The O'Neill family had concentrated their efforts over many years in being thoughtful land stewards. The new owners will continue those efforts and have plans to build upon that foundation of habitat and wildlife management,” said McFarlane. Read more [HERE](#).

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MIDWEST

AUCTION

ILLINOIS FARMLAND

FARM OWNED BY HONEST ABE ON THE BLOCK. Farmland once owned by Abraham Lincoln sold for \$300,000 at auction on Feb. 12 — Lincoln's birthday.

Of the 590 total acres auctioned, 30 were once owned by Lincoln. According to the *Journal Gazette & Times-Courier*, the Best family decided it was time to part with its farmland and link to history. In 1841, Abraham bought the land from his cash-strapped father, Thomas. It's rumored to be the only farm Abraham ever owned, although Thomas continued to farm it. The Best family has always farmed those 30 acres, noting the entire farm has been productive. Ron Best, who spoke to the *JG-TC*, has a copy of the original deed of land sale to Abraham Lincoln. Best told the newspaper he and his family never thought to use the land for anything other than farming, but "it's hard to value Lincoln land." Read more [HERE](#).



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HITLER BIRTHPLACE

COURT ORDERS AUSTRIAN GOVERNMENT TO PAY \$1.7 MILLION TO OWNER OF DER FÜHRER'S CHILDHOOD HOME. After trying

(and failing) for decades to negotiate the purchase of Adolph Hitler's birthplace with its owners, the Austrian government expropriated the home in 2016 for 310,000 euros, reports *The New York Times*. Gerlinde Pommer, a descendant of the owners with whom the government could not reach a deal, filed suit. She protested the expropriation and the price she was paid (US\$350,000). She stated it had been appraised at €1.5 million — and a district court ordered the federal government to pay her exactly that amount. Even if the financial details are settled with the ruling, the matter of what to do with the home is far from settled. Proposals range from demolition to turning it into a refugee center or an anti-Nazi center. It's not clear whether the government will appeal the ruling. Read more [HERE](#).

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