

10 Reasons to Place a Conservation Easement

1. Keep your ranch or farm economically productive and open; manage your land for the good of all.
2. Pay off ranch debt.
3. Protect family unity by removing the ability to divide your ranch or farm.
4. The program is voluntary.
5. The integrity of the Easement is maintained because a trustworthy organization, such as the Land Conservancy of SLO County, is the holder of the easement and does the monitoring.
6. Reduce the value of your ranch or farm for inheritance tax valuation.
7. Give a permanent home to all the other critters that live on the ranch. (like deer, birds, rabbits, coyote, etc.)
8. It's time to pay back the land for the good life it has given your family.
9. Private property rights are maintained just as they were before the Easement.
10. Leave behind a proud legacy for future generations. *Do we set aside some open land or are we so greedy that we pave it all over?*

Adapted from **Jack Varian, owner and operator of V6 Ranch** of Fresno and Monterey Counties & member of **California Rangeland Trust**