



### **Words to Live By**

Trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean and reverent.

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Boy Scouts Shooting Sports Special Permit Unanimously Approved**

DENVER, COLO – January 7, 2009 – On, Wednesday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, the Elbert County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved a Special Use Permit for the Denver Area Council, Boy Scouts of America to build a Sporting Clays Course and move the historical shooting sports ranges (trap, skeet, 22 caliber rifle and black powder) in the Travis Family Shooting Sports Area to a new location at their Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch located on about 3,000 acres in Elbert County, south of Kiowa. “When neighbors started complaining about a year ago, we decided to accommodate the neighbors and assist Elbert County by offering to move the traditional ranges deeper into our property. We had been using the same site since 1965,” said Jeff Herrmann, Scout Executive of the Denver Area Council. Several neighbors were not satisfied and continued to fight the permit approval.

Herrmann also stated that, “we have done extensive due diligence in preparing this Special Use Permit application. The professional qualifications of the engineers and experts we have hired to help steer us through this process are tops in their respective disciplines and have national reputations for their expertise and thoroughness.” Both the Elbert Board of County Commissioners and the Planning Board also added to the record their compliments to the Denver Area Council, Boy Scouts of America for “raising the bar and setting a new standard for Best Management Plans for shooting ranges not only in Elbert County but in the state of Colorado.” The next step will be to retain a certified shooting range designer that can finalize the council’s plans so that building permits can be approved. So far the permit process and defending the lawsuit from several neighbors has cost the council nearly \$600,000. The Denver

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Area Council will also need to embark on a new capital campaign to replace this money and raise the additional amount needed to construct the new ranges. Shooting Sports are the most popular activity for Scouts at Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch. Nearly 10,000 Scouts attend Peaceful Valley Scout Ranch annually.

#### About Denver Boy Scouts

The Denver Area Council serves over 58,000 youth through the assistance and mentorship of over 11,000 adult volunteers. In 2007, the Denver Area Council once again received the distinction of "National Quality Council" and continues its nearly 100-year tradition of strengthening youth and their families through the delivery of time-honored Scouting programs. The Boy Scouts of America provides youth the opportunity to try new things, provide services to others, build self-confidence, and reinforce ethical standards. Scouting prepares young people to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetime by instilling in them the values of the Scout Oath and Law. For more information visit [www.denverboyscouts.org](http://www.denverboyscouts.org) or call 303-455-5522.