



Dear John,

Even as Americans hustle about preparing for the holidays, American Prairie Reserve donors like you are giving one of the greatest gifts of all: ensuring access for everyone to a landscape that forever shaped our nation's character.

We want to take a moment to share a recent example of such a visionary commitment: **With a gift of \$1 million, Susan and Roy O'Connor have endowed the Hut-to-Hut System's second hut.** With their remarkable gift, the O'Connors lead us in taking another big step toward the creation of American Prairie Reserve's Hut-to-Hut System. Their generosity echoes that of Gib and Susan Myers earlier this year when they established the hut system's western gateway and its first hut, enabling the launch of this permanent invitation for families, friends and solo trekkers to fall in love with an iconic landscape, its wildlife and its long history of exploration.

American Prairie Reserve's Hut-to-Hut System builds on the successful models of long-distance hikes around the world, from the Great Walks of New Zealand and the Mont Blanc Trail across the Alps to the High Sierra camps of Yosemite and Scotland's West Highland Way. Ten potential hut locations have been identified across the 200-mile-wide region of American Prairie Reserve, from the PN in the west to Timber Creek in the east. Huts will be added over time as our fundraising efforts are successful, eventually forming a complete system with sites that are a day's travel from each other via horseback, foot, bike, or even paddling.

What's more, the huts will build bonds between the community of travelers who explore the prairie. After their trips, visitors will be invited to share their tales of adventure, endless skies, wildlife sightings and personal triumphs – creating an even bigger network of people who feel a sense of pride and ownership in the Reserve.

"The Hut-to-Hut System is sure to be an unforgettable way to tour the prairie," said Mrs. O'Connor, who previously served on the Board of Directors for American Prairie Reserve. "Over the years, Roy and I have made many trips to the Reserve with family and friends. We are pleased to be in a position to help others learn more about this unique landscape and look forward to hearing all about their experiences."

Since launching **Land of Legacy** in January, we have announced **\$16 million in new major gift pledges and commitments alone. These new gifts support the six pillars of Land of Legacy:** elevate American Prairie Reserve to national prominence; accelerate land acquisition, augmenting the size and scope of the Reserve; design, fund and construct the Reserve's National Visitor Complex; design, fund and establish the Reserve's Hut-to-Hut System; establish a named National Prize awarded annually to a distinguished American; and transform the Reserve's giving societies into platforms inspiring gifts at all levels.

If you would like to review our progress to date, you can visit americanprairie.org/land-of-legacy to read the first eight Bulletins.

