

Land trust to protect 170 acres near Freedom: www.heraldtimesonline.com

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FREEDOM — Sycamore Land Trust has secured protection of its fourth property in Owen County, its 72nd overall.

The Malad family worked with the land trust to preserve 170 acres of woods and fields along Lick Creek and Brush Creek, southwest of Freedom, the group said in a news release.

Rick Malad, an Indianapolis-based attorney, joined with the land trust to craft a conservation easement. It allows Malad and his heirs to own the land and deed it to their heirs, or sell it if they choose.

The easement results in protection for the area's bald eagles, bobcats, river otters and great blue herons, which thrive in about 100 nests on the property.