

OREGON CATTLEMAN

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE OREGON CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION

FEBRUARY 2026



BULL SALE EDITION

INSIDE THIS ISSUE >>>

PRIVATE LANDS COMMITTEE

Get to know the Chair & Co-Chairs

ANIMAL ATTACKS

USDA assistance available for livestock losses

10 NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

For life on the ranch

IRON LORENZEN

BULL SALE

MARCH 21, 2026

**CENTRAL OREGON LIVESTOCK
AUCTION IN MADRAS, OREGON**



N127
Hollywood x
Prospect
REG. # 5183429

CED	12
BW	-2.8
WW	86
YW	143
STAY	11
MARB	0.75
REA	0.32



N164
Hollywood x
Iron Abby
REG. # 5183425

CED	15
BW	-3.2
WW	84
YW	132
STAY	6
MARB	0.78
REA	0.4



N106
Hollywood x
Alliance
REG. # 5183427

CED	11
BW	-1.1
WW	97
YW	163
STAY	11
MARB	0.8
REA	0.48



N103
Hollywood x
Beverly Rose
REG. # 5183461

CED	15
BW	-1.9
WW	93
YW	157
STAY	11
MARB	0.83
REA	0.18

135 BULLS

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CALVING EASE BULLS



5023

Checkmate x
Lrnzn Mika
3/4 RA 1/4 SM
REG. # 5137689

CED	15
BW	-4.1
WW	88
YW	133
STAY	11
MARB	0.54
REA	0.88



5024

Checkmate x
Profitmaker
REG. # 5137629

CED	21
BW	-4.8
WW	82
YW	124
STAY	17
MARB	0.86
REA	0.27

IRON LORENZEN KILL DATA

PURCHASED AND
FED BY **AGRIBEEF**



112
HEIFERS

1458
PAY WEIGHT

28.82%
PRIME

99.09%
CH+

11.71%
YG4 & YG5

41.43%
YG1 & YG2

POWER BULLS



N172

Identity x
Chinook
REG. # 5183441

CED	13
BW	-2.1
WW	97
YW	150
STAY	16
MARB	0.49
REA	0.31



5995

Epiphany x
Liberty
REG. # 5114951

CED	13
BW	-3.6
WW	74
YW	120
STAY	17
MARB	0.59
REA	-0.16

AGE ADVANTAGE BULLS



M39

Captain x
Trophy
REG. # 5121455

CED	15
BW	-4.2
WW	68
YW	113
STAY	18
MARB	0.49
REA	0.17



M64

Merlin x
Charter
REG. # 5147395

CED	10
BW	-1.4
WW	84
YW	130
STAY	12
MARB	0.61
REA	0.29



M77

IL Merlin x
Mission Nexus
REG. # 5121523

CED	12
BW	-2
WW	77
YW	120
STAY	10
MARB	0.43
REA	0.24

BLACK BULLS



N233

Hollywood x
Beverly Rose
REG. # 5184973

CED	8
BW	0.7
WW	103
YW	173
STAY	8
MARB	1.01
REA	0.46



5017

Step Up x Asset
5/8 1/4 SM 1/8 GV
REG. # 5137641

CED	8
BW	0.1
WW	102
YW	161
STAY	10
MARB	0.62
REA	0.97



5013

Blue Chip x
Profitbuilder
13/16 AN 3/16 GV
REG. # 5137659

CED	17
BW	-5
WW	58
YW	85
STAY	20
MARB	0.78
REA	0.25

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FEBRUARY 2026

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Sign up for the Spring Quarterly Meeting & Legislative Day in the Capitol | February 23-24
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One of the bulls in the field from Rollin Rock Angus in Pilot Rock



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BULLS, OLD FRIENDS, POLITICS, WHISKEY & CREAM

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Bulls, Old Friends, Politics, Whiskey & Cream

Diana Wirth | 541-891-2295
OCA President

Growing up on our outfit, we recognized four seasons—and one of them was Bull Sale Season. I love this time of year, and like clockwork, it brings back a nostalgic wave of sale days gone by. Visiting with old friends we haven't seen in a bit is one of the best things about it. Also, early spring feels special and is a reminder that a new cycle of life is beginning and calving season is just around the corner.

As the days stretch a little longer, I can feel the shift from deep winter toward spring. I remember riding on the feed wagon as a young girl, our team of horses pulling us along while the sun warmed my face. I remember it all vividly: the slow rumble of the wagon, the soft blowing breaths of the horses, the smell of hay, the clinking of the single tree chains, and the cattle milling around us. The quiet conversations with my grandfather on those feeding days linger just as vividly.

As I write this, I realize in a couple of weeks we'll be heading back to Nashville for the annual NCBA convention. The last time I was in Tennessee was during the COVID (phase-out/back-to-normal) period in 2021. That year's convention was held in August, and if you've ever been to

Tennessee in August, you know it's hotter than blazes. Still, it was a refreshing change from the stuffy lockdown atmosphere of the time. Through the green back country of Tennessee, we toured the Nash Family Creamery and the Jack Daniel's Distillery in Lynchburg.

Many of you may know Stephanie Nash of Nash Family Creamery in Chapel Hill, who served as our tour guide. She's a young, outspoken advocate for agriculture and has appeared

on numerous talk and news shows. Her family began milking cows in California in 1929 but moved to Tennessee in 2013 to focus on direct-to-consumer sales and escape increasing regulatory pressure. Her father told us they could see the writing on the wall in California. Tennessee offered a brighter future, and today, their family is thriving in a state that values food production and understands its importance to the economy. During that same trip, I heard Tennessee Representative Sheila Butt speak. She is a dedicated, patriotic woman who serves her constituents wholeheartedly. Something she said, which I believe is attributed to the Greek philosopher Pericles, has stayed with me ever since:

“I want to stay away from politics, but politics won't stay away from me.”

Legislative Days at the Capitol are just around the corner, and I want to invite you to join us in Salem on February 23 and 24. We'll conduct association business, visit with legislators on our Capitol tour, and welcome back the Beef Days Luncheon hosted by the Oregon CattleWomen. If you were in attendance at the last Beef Days luncheon event, I am certain you remember the impact it had that day. If you weren't at the last event, it's something to behold. Our Board-approved priorities this year include Wolf Compensation Funding, Wildfire Gap Funding, the Preg Test Bill, Meat Labeling, and EDU/EFU zoning, which support our mission to strengthen

rural communities and encourage the next generation to return to the ranch. I suspect we'll be having one or two water discussions as well.

In Closing

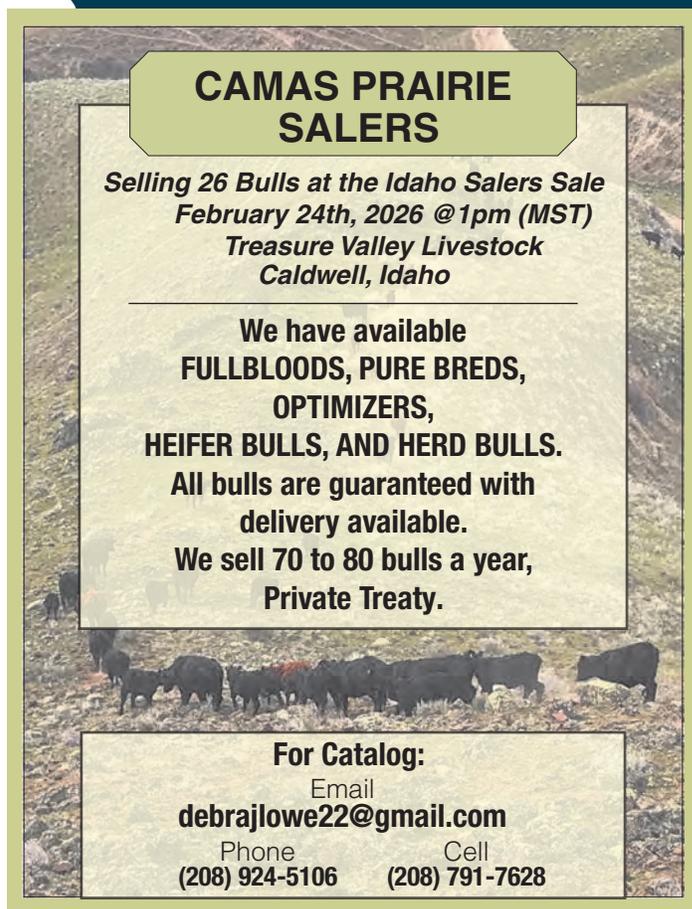
One comment can stay with you for years. Something can resurface in your mind at just the right time, reminding you of the wisdom a person once shared. I often think about the people who have influenced me with their words, and I wonder whether something I've said will, in time, have the same impact. Will those words help in some manner, and will they be passed on to another generation?

Speaking for you in Salem is an honor, but speaking for yourself is a fundamental part of democracy and is protected by the First Amendment. Come to Salem and exercise that freedom. Share your stories and your passion for this industry through the acts of engagement and testimony. Be part of the conversations that shape how others see the work you do and the value ranchers bring to this state. Will they remember the testimony I've offered on your behalf, rooted in passion for our industry—possibly. Will they remember your personal story—absolutely.

In Tennessee, at the Jack Daniels distillery, a quote on the wall attributed to Mr. Daniels himself stopped me in my tracks. Even though it was about whiskey, it struck me as something that applies just as well to the cattle industry:

“Every day we make it; we'll make it the best we can.”

Isn't that the truth? Each day, ranchers get up, face the day, and whatever it may bring. We are resilient, strong, resourceful (baling wire, then twine is proof of that), and each season we cycle through, whether it be Bull Sale Season, calving, fall works, or hay season, we make it the best we can. See you in Salem! **DW** •

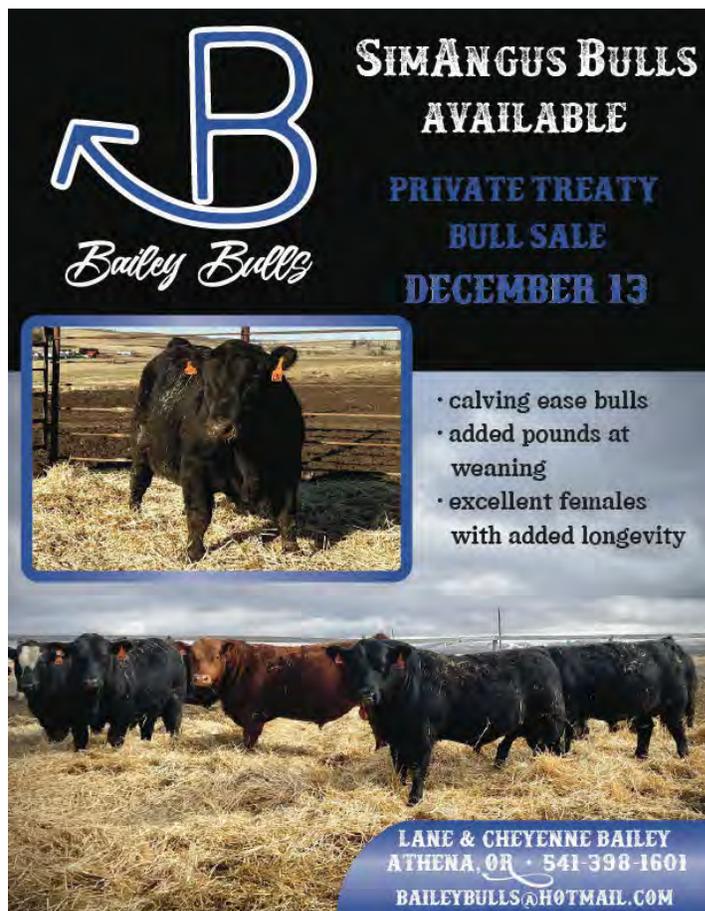


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From the desk of your Executive Director

Tammy Dennee, CMP, CAE | 541-980-6887
OCA Executive Director

The month of January flew by as we focused on the leadership transition and welcomed new board members and committee chairs to the OCA team. Alongside these efforts, we have processed more than 700 member renewals and new member applications. Please accept my sincerest appreciation for your membership and for your efforts in reaching out to businesses in your area and family and friends to invite them to membership. OCA is deeply dependent on membership revenue, and we take our commitment to serving our members seriously. Thank you for your ongoing support and trust. If you have not yet renewed your membership for 2026, you can do so online at any time (www.

[www.orchattle.com](http://www.)) or return the renewal notice with your payment to the office. The renewal deadline is March 31.

We have an inventory of “Eat Beef” license plate frames carried over from last year’s membership campaign that we would love to send your way to get them out in the countryside. The cost is just \$10 each (helps to cover our postage). Feel free to call the office to place your order.

February 2nd was the start of the Short Legislative Session (just 35 days in length). The OCA Legislative Committee meets weekly on Tuesday mornings to discuss committee hearings and to organize participation by our members who wish to offer testimony in person, virtually, or in writing. The Legislative priorities include funding for wildlife and wolf compensation; wildfire funding (one-time funding for the second half of the biennium); Preg Check; Meat Labeling (identifying cultured products); and EDUs/Allotments (providing for county decision-making). We will be deep into the session by the time this issue of the magazine reaches you. Please know we welcome your participation, however much time you can make to come to Salem and/or to provide testimony on the committees. Weekly updates on the Hearing Schedule and bills will be published in the e-newsletter. Please feel free to reach out if you need assistance navigating the Oregon Legislature website to find the links to sign up to testify.

February 23-24 offers a unique opportunity for rancher engagement. On the evening of the 23rd, we will welcome members of the legislature to a reception hosted by OCA, with support from Painted Hills Natural Beef.

CONTINUED PAGE 12...

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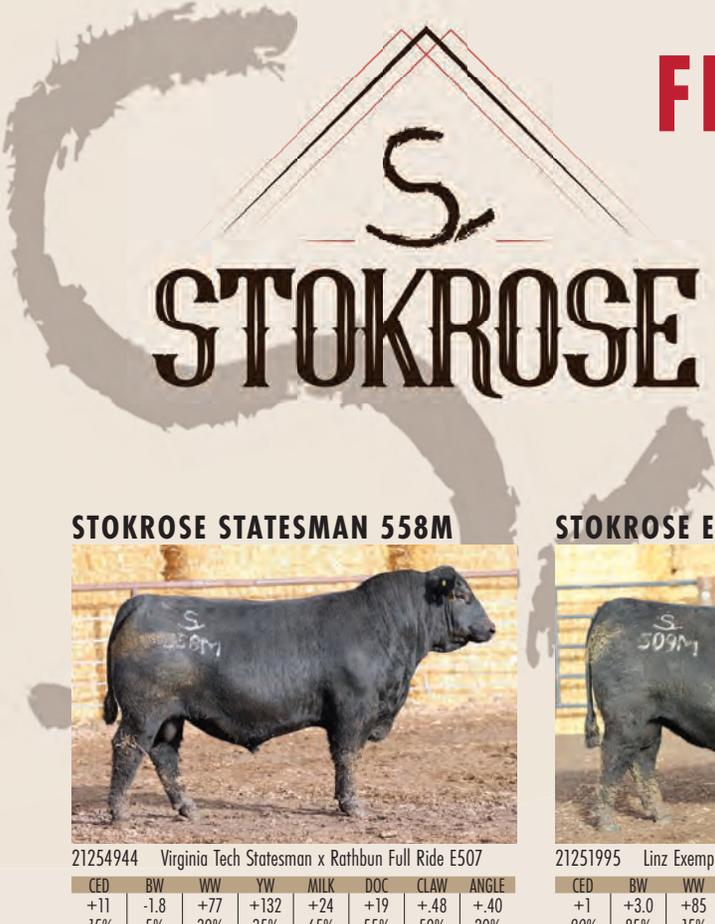
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75%	5%	30%	35%	65%	55%	50%	20%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+63	+1.01	+79	+89	+80	+103	+67	171	+311
35%	30%	40%	10%	20%	35%	30%	30%	20%

STOKROSE EXEMPLIFY 509M



21251995 Linz Exemplify 71124 x Rathbun Timeless D507

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	DOC	CLAW	ANGLE	
+1	+3.0	+85	+152	+25	+23	+50	+40	
90%	85%	15%	10%	60%	35%	60%	20%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+90	+90	+94	+59	+73	+143	+69	+213	+335
2%	35%	25%	70%	35%	2%	25%	10%	10%

STOKROSE STATESMAN 906M



21254984 Virginia Tech Statesman x S Whitlock 179

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	DOC	CLAW	ANGLE	
+9	+2	+81	150	+26	+13	+56	+51	
30%	30%	20%	10%	50%	80%	80%	70%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+66	+85	+55	+58	+77	+107	+55	+162	+268
30%	40%	70%	70%	25%	30%	50%	40%	50%

STOKROSE EXEMPLIFY 518M



21256099 Linz Exemplify 71124 x Rathbun Full Ride E507

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	DOC	CLAW	ANGLE	
+3	+1.6	+76	+131	+25	+13	+37	+30	
75%	60%	30%	35%	60%	80%	15%	2%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+63	+1.10	+1.14	+72	+72	+117	+85	+202	+334
35%	25%	10%	40%	35%	15%	15%	15%	10%

STOKROSE TANKER 613M



21254966 LVF Tanker 14 x Rathbun Results X714

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	DOC	CLAW	ANGLE	
+2	+1.3	+81	+149	+25	+17	+64	+37	
85%	50%	20%	15%	60%	65%	95%	10%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+78	+74	+1.25	+55	+79	+135	+66	+201	+316
70%	50%	5%	75%	25%	3%	30%	15%	20%

STOKROSE EXEMPLIFY 594M



21256033 Linz Exemplify 71124 x S A V Cattlemaster 4873

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	DOC	CLAW	ANGLE	
+5	+3.1	+103	+169	+24	+22	+48	+42	
60%	90%	1%	2%	65%	40%	50%	25%	
CW	MARB	RE	SM	SW	SF	SG	SB	SC
+90	+1.05	+1.22	+77	+95	+132	+78	+210	+349
2%	25%	10%	30%	4%	4%	20%	10%	10%

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All day on the 24th, our rancher members will meet with Legislators to discuss priority issues. Every team will have a leader, and the talking points will be drafted in advance to make your participation very easy and comfortable. If you are interested in participating, please let us know in advance so we can assign you to a team. The registration is online at www.orcattle.com. We look forward to welcoming you to Salem.

In March, the Scholarship Application window will open. If you know of a college student who meets the criteria, please urge them to watch for details in the March edition of this publication.

OCA committees are up and running and meet at the Chair/Co-Chairs' call. We continue to publish the meeting details in the e-newsletter as they are scheduled. Remember, all members are welcome to join the committee's discussions.

As always, we are here to serve you. Feel free to reach out to me directly, our officers, or the committee chairs/co-chairs to ask questions and get more deeply involved in OCA.

God bless you and yours as we head into Spring, Tammy Dennee, OCA Executive Director •

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Rocky Dallum
Political Advocate

The February edition of this column is always one of the toughest to write. By the time the magazine goes to print and hits your mailbox, the February Legislative Session will be well underway. Still, we have a decent idea of the major themes we will encounter this February, as well as the priorities for the Oregon Cattlemen's Association.

By early January, Transportation was already the top item on the debate agenda amongst state policymakers. With gas tax opponents successfully gathering signatures and submitting by year-end, the proposed increases were set to head to voters in November. However, in early January, Governor Kotek announced her request for the Legislature to repeal her hard-fought

transportation package. While there are some consensus components within the full bill passed last fall, unclear whether legislators will repeal the entire bill, just the tax increases, and most importantly, how they will address ODOT's continued budget and project management woes.

If Legislative days in January were any indication, a broad number of Democratic legislators will continue to push for tax code changes for Oregonians. While Congress passed a number of tax relief measures last summer, Oregon could effectively disallow those tax benefits on your state tax returns. Proponents of this "disconnect" package are characterizing these tax changes as loopholes for billionaires,

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but the impacts could be felt by businesses and individuals as they file their taxes in the coming years.

Finally, the Governor (and a number of legislators) are noticing Oregon's stubbornly high unemployment rates and tax-base erosion. Several bills have been introduced to try to retain and recruit employers. The Governor has launched a "Prosperity" plan, hired one of her Republican rivals, former Senator Tim Knopp (R - Redmond), as the state's Chief Prosperity Officer, and will attempt to identify ways to bolster Oregon's competitiveness.

In the midst of these broader themes, OCA will work on our own priorities and coordinate with Legislators who share the same vision. OCA continues its leadership on wildfire funding, supporting once again the request for a \$9 million investment in fire suppression to offset landowner costs. Ranchers will be advocating for wolf compensation funds once again, likely through a direct funding bill, a renewed proposal to create a conservation fund using hotel taxes, and a dedicated funding source for wolf compensation. This effort, while opposed by restaurants and hotels, may be one of the first times conservationists and ranchers joined together around a wolf compensation concept.

We also anticipate packaging for meat to be a popular topic this February. Senator Nash will be working on a bill to require better disclosure when protein products are not derived from animals. Secondly, with the implementation of Oregon's sweeping new recycling law, the House Climate, Energy & Environment committee will introduce a bill to exempt meat packaging from the law and related fees. Both of these bills could indirectly benefit producers.

Undoubtedly, we will see additional bills that OCA will potentially support, oppose, or work to amend. The engagement of OCA leadership and the Legislative Committee is critical in guiding our work and keeping members up to speed. Finally, the quarterly meeting is on February 23rd, followed by a Legislative reception that evening. Most importantly, the completion of construction in the Capitol has allowed the return of Beef Day on 2/24! •



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2026 Spring Quarterly Meeting & Legislative Day in the Capitol Registration Form

February 23 - 24 – Salem Convention Center and Oregon Capitol

Registration Deadline: February 9th

Schedule

<u>February 23</u>	9:00 am-12:00 pm	Spring Quarterly Board Meeting
	12:00 pm	Lunch
	1:00-3:00 pm	Issue Briefing (Preparation for Day in Capitol) <small>Please plan to attend briefing if attending Legislative Day, surrounding events not required.</small>
	5:00-8:00 pm	Legislative Reception <small>An evening with elected officials, heavy hors' d'oeuvres served.</small>
<hr/>		
<u>February 24</u>	6:30 am	Breakfast - House and Senate Leadership Briefing
	8:30 am	Legislative Day in the Capitol begins <small>A full day of meetings in the Capitol with Elected Officials. Attendance at Issue Briefing requested to attend.</small>
	12:00 pm	Lunch

Name:

Ranch Name:

(As you'd like it to appear on your name badge.)

Email:

Phone Number:

Additional Attendee(s):

<u>February 23</u>	Qty			
Spring Quarterly Board Meeting, Lunch, and Briefing	<input type="text"/>	x	\$25.00	= <input type="text"/>
Legislative Reception	<input type="text"/>	x	\$25.00	= <input type="text"/>
<u>February 24</u>				
Breakfast - House and Senate Leadership Briefing	<input type="text"/>	x	\$25.00	= <input type="text"/>
Legislative Day in the Capitol <small>Registration fee covers lunch.</small>	<input type="text"/>	x	\$25.00	= <input type="text"/>
Total:				<input type="text"/>

Please complete and return this form to the OCA Office or scan the QR Code below to register online



Select Payment Method:

CREDIT CARD Or CHECK

Credit Card Details

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration Date CVC Zip Code

Accommodations:
Contact The Grand Hotel to inquire about available rooms
(503) 540-7800

Visit the events page on our website, orcattle.com to view the Spring Quarterly online registration form

Please complete and return this form to the OCA Office or to jem.connelly@orcattle.com

OCA Office Address: 1320 Capitol St NE Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301

Questions? Contact Jem Connelly, Member Services Manager at 503-361-8941

Northwest Hereford Breeders Bull Sale ★18th Annual★

60+ Bulls, Horned & Polled
Performance Tested Fall & Spring Yearlings
8 Pens of 3 Replacement Heifers

Registered Hereford
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New Additions

Angus Bulls
Single lot registered Hereford Heifers

Consignors:

Alder Livestock • Bird Herefords
430 Cattle Company • Stephenson Herefords
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Wagenblast Richardson Ranch
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Mon. Mar. 9, 2026 • 1pm (PST)
Double M Ranch Sale Facility
30256 Stanfield Meadows Rd., Stanfield, Oregon

CONTACT: Mark Haueter • 541-216-8511
Marty Wilcox • 509-953-2535

CATALOG at: Hereford.org • owniherefordassn.org
Facebook – Northwest Hereford Breeders Bull Sale

Auction will be broadcast live

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2.0



Wildlife Committee Update: Wildlife Damage

Dennis Sheahy | 541-398-0224

OCA 1st Vice President & Animal Health, Brand & Theft Committee Chair

Introduction

The Oregon Cattlemen’s Association (OCA) has been the voice of livestock producers since its founding in 1913. Within the OCA, various committees have been formed to enable the OCA to interact with situations and entities that affect the well-being of its members and the livestock production system.

Currently, the Wildlife Committee is one of ten committees in the OCA. As such, it is responsible for informing the OCA about wildlife matters, addressing wildlife interactions with livestock production, and working with state and federal agencies to resolve problems affecting livestock producers. Since the 1980s,

a major focus of the Wildlife Committee has been resolving damage to private property by wildlife, especially by large wild ungulates such as deer and elk, and by large carnivores such as coyotes, cougars, and bears [Wolf depredation of livestock is addressed by the Wolf Committee].

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IONE
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Kristy Nelson
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Jon McPhee
541-475-7296

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Jed Myers
Stacie Talbot
541-889-4464

PENDLETON
Mike Short
Tracy Hamby
541-276-6509

Issue of Wildlife Damage

Since the 1970's, damage to private property by wildlife has been a contentious issue between property owners and Oregon's Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW). Farmers and ranchers complain that damage to crops, forage, infrastructure, and facilities by elk, deer, pronghorn, wild turkey, and geese, and more recently to livestock by wolves, is causing them significant monetary loss.

In response, considerable funds were spent, studies were conducted, and efforts were made by the Oregon Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Federal Resource Management agencies, and property owners to resolve the issue of wildlife damage. Despite these efforts, most property owners subject to ongoing wildlife damage consider damage to

be escalating and becoming a state-wide issue. While the damage to private property is not directly the fault of wildlife or the state, most property owners believe the state has legal and management responsibility for most wildlife. Consequently, damage to private property by wildlife should be addressed by the state.

Factors Causing Wildlife Damage

There is a developing consensus among owners of private property that poor conditions of public land is a major factor influencing wildlife, especially large ungulate wildlife, to seek habitat on private property. Changes to public land rangeland and forested habitat on public land that contribute to wildlife damage of private

property include: i) poor structural characteristics of forested habitat on public lands provides less security and shelter for wild and domestic ungulates, ii) lack of managed timber harvest to create openings in the forest canopy to enable growth of herbaceous forage, iii) inadequate "backgrounding" of forage by domestic ungulates to improve nutritional content of forage for large wild ungulates and reduce herbaceous fuel loads, and iv) increasing dominance of both public and private rangeland invasive and weedy vegetation.

Wildlife Committee Initiatives

Representative Bobby Levy (House District 58) has submitted two legislative bills to the Oregon Legislature

CONTINUED PAGE 21...



THOMAS

ANGUS RANCH

ANNUAL SPRING SALE

FEBRUARY 24, 2026
BAKER CITY, OR
12PM PST



THOMAS HEAT SEEKER 4626 | AAA# 21296678
SIRE: Baldrige Heat Seeker H925
CED BW WW YW Milk Marb RE \$G \$B \$C
6 -.1 66 118 24 1.83 .69 111 230 374



THOMAS HEAT SEEKER 4585 | AAA# 21296692
SIRE: Baldrige Heat Seeker H925
CED BW WW YW Milk Marb RE \$G \$B \$C
5 2.5 73 135 32 1.71 .85 107 240 374



THOMAS SALVATION 5165 | AAA# 21420783
SIRE: SG Salvation
CED BW WW YW Milk Marb RE \$G \$B \$C
7 2.1 82 141 14 1.31 1.12 91 233 348



THOMAS BLACKBIRD 5059 | AAA# 21419345
SIRE: Connealy Commerce
CED BW WW YW Milk Marb RE \$G \$B \$C
11 1.1 81 137 30 .91 .94 67 168 290



Sale managed by Cotton & Associates
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(i.e., the short session in 2024 and the long session in 2025) that solicit state support to address wildlife damage. Both legislative bills requested the state to fund wildlife damage pilot areas that would inform the state about: i) the type and cost of damage occurring, ii) wildlife involved, and iii) identify potential solutions to the damage problem. Both bills unanimously passed through the respective House and Senate Resource Committees but failed to obtain funding from the Ways and Means Committee. A third legislative bill addressing wildlife damage is being prepared by Representative Levy and the Wildlife Committee. This bill will be submitted to the House by Representative Levy during the 2027 Legislative Session.

In the absence of State support to address wildlife damage, the Wildlife Committee has initiated action. The two activities are:

1. The selection of regional wildlife damage pilot areas that represent the state’s diversity relative to: i) wildlife causing damage, ii) agriculture production activities, iii) topography and vegetation, and iv) climate and weather. The regional wildlife damage pilot areas represent three counties in the Northeastern part of the state (Wallowa, Union, and Baker), one county (Malheur) in the Southeastern part of the state, one county (Douglas) in the Southwest region, and two counties (Yamhill and Tillamook) in the northwestern region (Dashboard Link: <https://arcgis/1Submb0>).

2. Preparation of “White

Papers” that: i) explains the wildlife damage issue, ii) details the impact of wildlife damage on Farmers and Ranchers, iii) facilitates improvement of wild and domestic ungulate habitat on federal lands, iv) suggests an approach to implementing a county wildlife damage prevention and compensation program, and v) proposes a process to address prevention of wildlife damage and compensate farmers and ranchers for damage that occurs.

Future Initiatives

Rocky Mountain and Roosevelt elk. Both elk species are major causes of statewide wildlife damage. However, both elk and deer are the primary huntable wild ungulates, and the primary prey species for a large and growing population of large carnivores in the state.

Ranchers and farmers with livestock are beginning to realize that a significant decline in wild ungulate populations could make livestock the primary prey for large carnivores [Note: Mule Deer populations in the state have declined by 50% since the 1980s]. They also realize that predation by large carnivores may be causing elk to seek security on private property and to stay there.

The Wildlife Committee believes that Wildlife Damage Pilot Areas could be utilized to provide information about large carnivore impact on the stability of elk herds and damage to private property. •

Scan for a Deeper Dive



1. OCA’s Position Statement: Controlling Elk Depredation in the Blue Mountains Region



2. An approach to resolving Rocky Mountain Elk Depredation in the Blue Mountains region of Oregon



3. Oregon Wildfire Damage Prevention and Compensation Program



4. A common sense approach to management of wildlife



5. Implementing a county Wildlife Damage Program



6. Oregon Wildlife Damage Insurance Program

RANGE-RAISED • FEEDLOT-TESTED • CARCASS-MEASURED • DNA EVALUATED

PRICE BULL AND FEMALE SALE

FEBRUARY 25

Cattle Company

Double M Ranch Sale Facility, Stanfield, OR • 12 PM

50 REGISTERED ANGUS BULLS • 50 SIMANGUS BULLS
40 RED ANGUS BULLS FROM MURDOCK CATTLE CO.
25 SELECT ANGUS AND SIMANGUS REPLACEMENT HEIFERS
10 ELITE RED ANGUS HEIFERS

5137 AAA 21442615



ANGUS

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	\$M	\$C
9	0.4	71	127	24	1.06	44	284

Fireball x Bruiser

558 RAAA 5106989



RED ANGUS

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	HB	GM
13	-3.0	75	130	23	0.99	40	112

Paycheck x Iron Ore

5172N ASA 4620247



SIMANGUS

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	\$API	\$TI
19	-4.0	97	156	28	0.81	176	107

Dynamic x Big Timber

5232 AAA 21442622



ANGUS

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	\$M	\$C
9	0.0	61	109	28	0.80	65	287

Whitewater x Bruiser

567 RAAA 5106743



RED ANGUS

CED	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	HB	GM
10	-0.1	90	147	29	0.44	32	60

Jumpstart x Outlier

5072N ASA 4620187



SIMANGUS

CE	BW	WW	YW	MILK	MARB	\$API	\$TI
18	-3.6	82	135	26	0.79	176	100

Enhancement x Tahoe

ANGUS Sires

HCC WHITEWATER 9010 • GB FIREBALL 672
B A R DYNAMIC
SITZ ACCOMPLISHMENT 720F
SITZ ESSENTIAL 731J
G A R HOME TOWN
SYDGEN ENHANCE
G A R APEX

RED ANGUS Sires

FEDDES DRIFTER 181-3201
BIEBER JUMPSTART J137 • STRA RANCH HAND
2010 • KJL/CLZB COMPLETE 7000E
DKK REMARKABLE 3017
BIEBER CHECKMATE K126
BIEBER PAYCHECK K102 • TJS LAREDO H247
DKK GRINDSTONE 2044 • NIO PALERMO 2273

SIMANGUS Sires

LCDR PROGRESSIVE 106G
WS ENHANCEMENT 25H • CCR BOULDER
TJ ARROWHEAD 263G
TEHAMA TAHOE B767
SITZ ACCOMPLISHMENT 720F
SITZ ESSENTIAL 731J • G A R HOME TOWN
B A R DYNAMIC



Proof of Performance - All calves from our registered cowherd not meeting our standards for breeding stock are fed to finish at Beef Northwest Feeders in Boardman, Oregon. Late born March and April 2024 calves killed in September and October - ADG 4.18 - Feed Conversion 5.26 lbs dry feed/pound of gain - ALL 100% Prime and Choice - 82% Yield Grade 1, 2, 3 - \$720 profit per head

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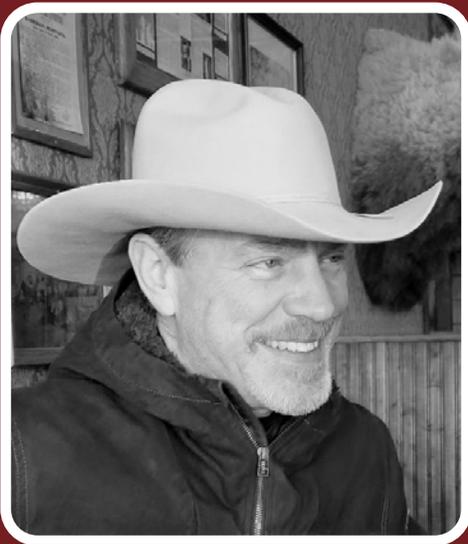
ALL BULLS ON TEST AT DOUBLE
M FEEDLOT, STANFIELD, OR.

AUCTIONEER:
Rick Machado 805-501-3210

LUNCH SERVED
AT 11:00 AM.

BULL DETAILS and SALE BOOK LINK PRICECATTLECO.com

Meet the 2026 Private Lands Committee Chair and Co-Chairs



Dan Leahy | Chair

As Chair of your Private Lands Committee, I look forward to serving you, the members. My wife, Maggie, and I have worked with ranching families for 20 years, providing on-the-ground operational support. Maggie is also a nurse and works to improve nutrition in rural communities. We have worked all over the West, but our home is Eastern Oregon. Our motto is 'stay and fight'!

Our purpose as your representative on the Private Lands Committee is to hear from you when you share your concerns. Every ranch is different, but with a common voice, we will have an assured future of free and strong communities and a thriving industry. Thank you for this opportunity to serve! Please reach us at ranchresource@gmail.com or 503.704.9096.



Thomas White | Co-Chair

As an Ag Banker covering Oregon and beyond, I work with producers daily and understand the financial impact that policy can have on private lands. As one of the Co-Chairs for your Private Lands Committee, I look forward to championing your issues at the state level. My wife and I are raising the fourth generation on our small operation in Southern Oregon, and hope one day they will have the opportunity to continue in the footsteps of prior generations. I have previously served as Chairman for OCA's Young Cattlemen's Committee and have spent more than a decade serving the Jackson County Stockmen's Association, holding each of the officer positions. This experience has shown me the value of grassroots initiatives and the impact our association can have on state-level policy. Please reach out to me at thomas_b_white@hotmail.com or 541.941.8241.

CONTINUED PAGE 26...



DILLE RED ANGUS

Annual Production Sale

Tuesday, March 3, 1 p.m. | At the Ranch in Buhl, ID

70 Red Angus Bulls

20 Replacement Heifers

6 Registered Ranch Broke Horses



Jackson Dille

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DilleRedAngus.com

Monday, March 2

Cattle available for viewing, all day

Tuesday, March 3

11 a.m. Complimentary Lunch

ONLINE BIDDING





Tara Millan | Co-Chair

The morning sun still hits the side of the barn the same way it did when I was growing up. I get to strike out every day from the same house I grew up in and drive out through the same front gate. Continuity like this is not accidental, and it is certainly not guaranteed. I am acutely aware every day of how fortunate I am to still be here, on the ranch where I was raised.

Ranching is home, history, connection, and daily reality. Families invest decades of labor, capital, and care into land they intend to pass on. Family ranches preserve open space, manage water and pasture, and sustain rural communities precisely because they are long-term, multigenerational commitments. Policies affecting our ranches must be grounded in reality, respect private ownership, and recognize that keeping pasture as pasture matters. Stewardship happens on private land.

In my professional life, I am a plaintiff's litigation attorney. I represent individuals and families in David and Goliath disputes; cases where people without power or resources stand up to much larger institutions. I love a good fight. Both my upbringing on the ranch and my lawyering have shaped how I view private lands advocacy. When landowners are excluded from the process or treated as an afterthought, the outcomes are rarely just or sustainable.

Keeping pasture as pasture and creating real opportunities for the next generation to remain on, or return to, the ranch is what drives me at my core. I very much look forward to continuing this conversation as we move forward together to protect ranching in Oregon. I welcome hearing about the challenges you face and the solutions you believe will keep our ranching heritage healthy and viable. You can email me at yankeecreekranch@gmail.com or call me on my cell at 541-622-5456.

About the Committee

The Private Lands Committee of Oregon Cattlemen's Association continues to work on behalf of all Oregon ranches to preserve and protect private property rights. Current resolutions support legislation and efforts that emphasize private property rights, ranchlands and agricultural properties, and give greater priority to private property and food production than to regulatory rule-making. Ongoing threats to private property rights and the value of those properties include unfair and non-essential condemnation for rights-of-way to accommodate heavily subsidized electricity transmission. Water rights are essential to the free and productive use of private property, and OCA opposes any organization or government agency that restricts access to water or asserts water rights for the benefit of one class of recipients when the result is harm to another class. The succession of Oregon ranches from one generation to the next is hampered by taxation and regulation. OCA works to prioritize, protect, and encourage the transition of family ranches and farms to coming generations, ensuring the security of food resources for all Oregonians.

Your new leadership on the Private Lands Committee encourages members to actively join with us in the work of property rights for ranching. We invite you to bring your issues and concerns forward so you can be heard and represented.

BAKER ANGUS RANCH

ANGUS ADVANTAGE BULL SALE

BASIN JAMESON 1076



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+8	+2.3	+108	+170	+29	+1.72	+87	+214	+365

J TRADEMARK 1037



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+3	+6	+79	+135	+22	+84	+53	+165	+286

TEHAMA PATRIARCH F028



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+13	-1.7	+69	+132	+29	+95	+71	+163	+298

B A R DYNAMIC



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+15	-2.6	+89	+152	+21	+1.18	+63	+178	+286

CONNELY COMMERCE



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+13	+1.6	+84	+147	+20	+1.02	+1.02	+181	+296

SS IDENTIFIED 7551



CED	BW	WW	YW	MK	MRB	RE	SB	SC
+6	+2.9	+81	+152	+29	+1.25	+83	+228	+390

ADDITIONAL ANGUS AI SIRES

J Trademark 1037
GB Fireball 672
S S Brickyard
TAR Dominance 0031

ANGUS HERDSIRES

Stokrose Legendary G564
V A R Hemisphere 1181
HAVE Bomber 168 1850
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Our age-advantaged bulls are available in volume! These bulls out of top sires can increase consistency and marketability in your calf crops.

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Volume and repeat discounts are available, and delivery is free. Bulls are backed by a Zoetis HD50K DNA evaluation, ultrasounded with complete performance and fertility evaluation, and backed by an industry best guarantee. Many bulls qualify for the CAB *Targeting the Brand* Program.



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AUCTIONEER Rick Machado (805) 801-3210

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Samuel Mahler, Herdsman
(208) 739-0475



Have you been affected by 2024 or 2025 wildfires?

There are resources available!

Scan the QR Code below for a comprehensive list of available resources



Scan the QR code below for OCA's Wildfire Assistance Application



If you do not have an internet connection, visit your local FSA or OSU Extension Office for information on available resources.

Or call the OCA office at 503-361-8941 and we will mail you a printed copy.

OCA is now accepting donations to the Oregon Cattlemen's Association Wildfire Fund

Your generosity is very much needed and appreciated.

Wildfire Fund Donation Form

Name:

First

Last

Email:

Donation total:

Select Payment Method: CREDIT CARD CHECK

Credit Card Details

Name on Card

Card Number

Expiration Date

CVC

Zip Code

Complete and return this form to the OCA Office:
1320 Capitol St NE, Ste 150
Salem, OR 97301

Or

To donate online: scan the QR code or go to orcattle.com/wildfire-fund-donations/



Thank you for your voluntary donation. | Wildfire Fund Tax ID #:93-1252622

Questions? Contact Jem Connelly, Member Services Manager at (503) 361-8941 or jem.connelly@orcattle.com

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 - » 60 Angus Yearling Bull
 - » 30 Hereford Reg. Heifers
 - » 80 Comm'l Hereford/Black Baldy Heifers
 - » 25 Harrell-Mackenzie Quarter Horses
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Ranch 541/523-4402
Baker City, Oregon

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M3 Marketing, Matt Macfarlane, 916/803-3113



5134
Sire: H5 988 Advance 277
CED 10.5 BW 1.6 WW 63 YW 102 Milk 38 REA .61 MARB .27 \$M 144



49N
Sire: Connealy Craftsman
CED 1.0 BW 2.5 WW 85 YW 151 Milk 31 REA .72 MARB .73 \$M 86 \$C 290

LiveAg

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514
Sire: Churchill Doc Holiday
CED 4.7 BW 1.4 WW 64 YW 98 MM 32
REA 1.08 MARB .45 CHB 165



525
Sire: CL1 Domino 0186H
CED 1.3 BW 2.5 WW 67 YW 108 MM 35
REA .78 MARB .26 CHB 156



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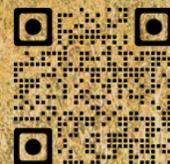
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USDA assistance for livestock losses due to animal attacks

Tootie Smith

Oregon FSA - State Executive Director

Producers who suffered livestock losses exceeding normal mortality, due to attacks by federally protected animals, could be eligible for assistance. The USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) provides assistance through the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP).

Eligible attack means an attack by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government or protected by federal law, including wolves and avian predators that directly results in either injured livestock having to be sold at a reduced price or death of eligible livestock in excess of normal mortality.

For 2025 eligible losses, livestock producers are required to submit a notice of loss and application for payment to FSA by March 2, 2026 (normally March 1 of the year following the loss event, but March 1, 2026 falls on a weekend so the deadline is pushed to the next business day). For losses occurring in 2026, the deadline is March 1, 2027.

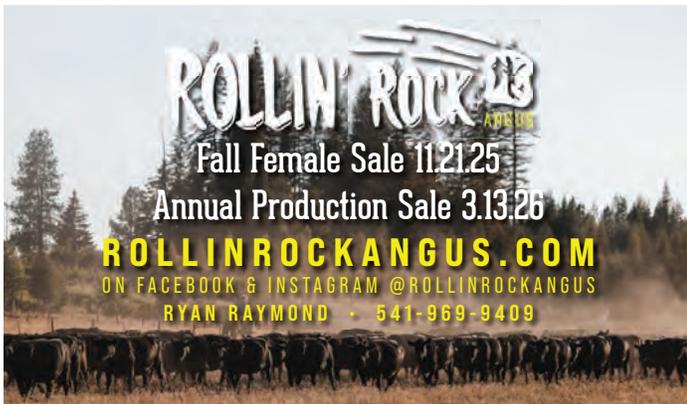
Livestock producers must provide proof of an attack and proof that the livestock death was a direct result of an attack. Additionally, livestock producers should provide supporting evidence, which may include:

- Records of the number and type of livestock that died,
- Photographs or video evidence to substantiate the loss,
- Purchase records, veterinarian records, production records, and other relevant documents.

Owners who sold injured livestock at a reduced price due to injuries from an attack must provide verifiable evidence of the reduced sale price of the livestock.

LIP benefits may also be available for livestock death losses that exceed normal mortality rates due to an adverse weather event, including losses resulting from hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat and extreme cold.

Producers can apply for LIP assistance at their local FSA office. To find your local office, visit farmers.gov/working-with-us/service-center-locator.



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NCBA 2026 Policy Update

An update from NCBA's Center for Public Policy



National Cattlemen's
Beef Association

2025 was a busy policy year for NCBA, with final passage of the 'Big Beautiful Bill' (BBB) in July. When this legislation was signed into law, many of the policy priorities that NCBA has been working on for years were accomplished. This includes the permanent increase of the Death Tax and the 20% small business deduction, along with equipment expense deductions being raised to \$2.5 million under Section 179. When these provisions are coupled with the newly permanent 100% upfront bonus depreciation, producers in 2026 and beyond will now be able to keep more of what they earn and reinvest in their own operations. The BBB also strengthened the "three-legged stool" by increasing annual funding from 150 million to 233 million through 20230. This funding

goes directly to housing the vaccine bank and emergency supplies for responding to a foot-and-mouth disease (FMD) outbreak, which protects the cattle industry from foreign animal disease.

As we start 2026 and the second session of the 119th Congress, the first order of business for Congress will be working to fund the government. Last year, we saw the longest government shutdown in U.S. history that lasted a total of 43 days, and the impacts were felt across America, despite the Trump administration working to lessen the negative impacts. Congress reopened the government by passing a Continuing Resolution that partially funded the government through January 30, 2026. At the time of

publication of this article, it is unlikely that the government will shut down again in January, but if funding lapses, it would not impact USDA because the Continuing Resolution also included a one-year extension of the 2018 Farm Bill and a full-year FY2026 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration appropriations bill. This legislation provides \$26.65 billion in total funding, with key investments in nutrition, rural development, and agricultural research, and expires on September 30, 2026.

2026 is a midterm election year, and historically, Congress does not get a lot of legislative work done during election years. This midterm season is shaping up to be particularly contentious, and aside from those two must-pass funding bills in January and September, we do not expect to see Congress accomplish as much in 2026 as they did in 2025. After next September, members of Congress will most likely leave D.C. to campaign back home for all of October, giving one last pitch to their constituents on why they should be reelected. It is still too far out to predict with any certainty what the balance of power will look like in Congress

CONTINUED PAGE 38...



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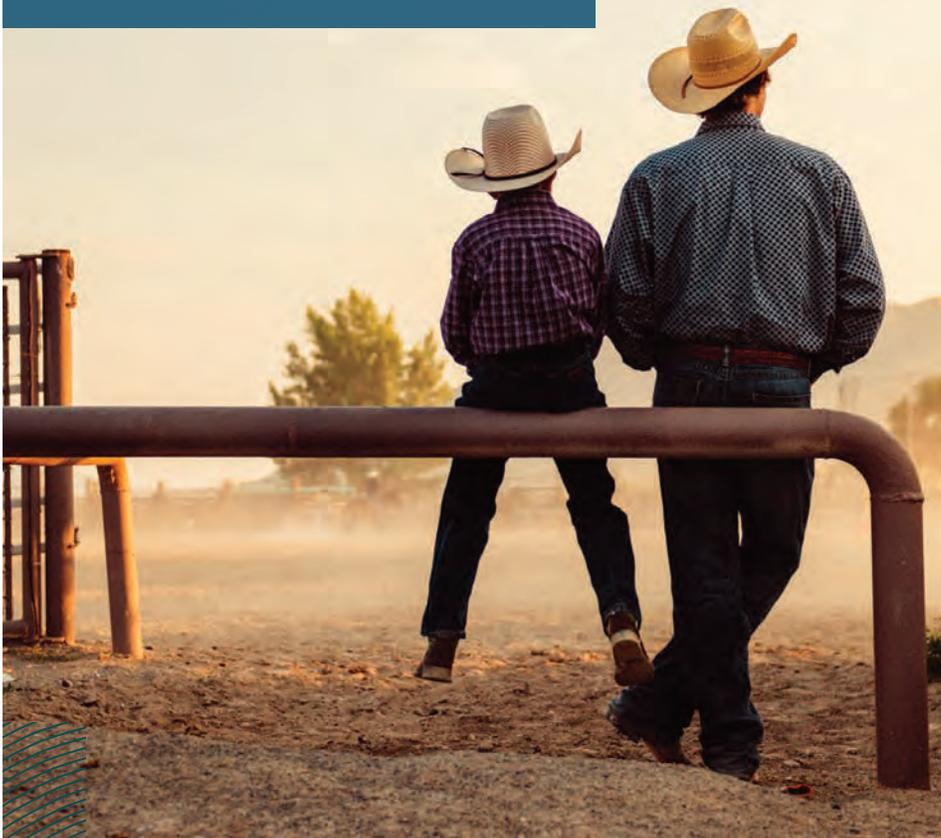
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after the midterms, but NCBA is experienced in working with full Republican and Democrat controlled Congresses, as well as divided government.

Even with the midterm elections, there will still be quite a lot of policy work to do in 2026. NCBA will be releasing the annual policy priorities at convention in Nashville in early February, with more details on the legislative agenda for the year, and there will for sure be a focus on executive branch rulemakings. One of the rulemakings that is expected to be finalized in 2026 is the rescission of BLM's "Conservation and Landscape Health" rule, also referred to as the "Public Lands Rule". In September, BLM announced they have started the process to rescind this onerous rule that would have paved the way for the federal government to remove cattle from public lands. We are also looking forward to the finalization of the new Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) rule. EPA released its new WOTUS rule at the end of 2025, and it ensures that only large bodies of water and their main tributaries fall under federal jurisdiction and keeps the federal government from regulating small water features on family cattle operations. These were also big wins from 2025, and we are looking forward to them being the law of the land in 2026. No matter if it is an election year or an off-year, NCBA continues the fight against overregulation and is working to provide the best possible environment for producer profitability. •

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Here's how to leave different amounts to adult children without causing a family rift.

Brenna Baucum, CFP
Founder, Collective Wealth Planning

You're equally proud of your investment banker daughter and her sister, the kindergarten teacher, but it's clear to you who needs your money more. Maybe one of your children has hit hard times – say, a prolonged layoff or a costly divorce – while the others have flourished. Possibly you've already lent a big financial hand to one of your offspring, anything from the down payment on a home to paying off debt, while the others have never asked you for a dime. Whatever the personal circumstances that led you to this point, you're now considering leaving different amounts of money and assets to your children in your will, either to even the scales or

to direct help to whoever needs it most. You're also worried about the possible emotional repercussions of that decision on your family – the hurt feelings and sibling rifts that could result.

The most difficult question in estate planning is how I can be fair to my children," says Larry Macklin, president of the National Association of Estate Planners & Councils. It's a challenge that's likely to grow as aging baby boomers transfer an unprecedented amount of wealth – an estimated \$84 trillion or more in the next 20 years – to the children who follow them. Combine money, grief, and family dynamics,



and the potential for drama about inheritances is high, even when parental assets are divided evenly among children, experts say. Add a different split to the mix and tensions can boil over – unless you take steps in advance to mitigate the potential fallout. The solution is not necessarily to change your plans for distributing your assets, but to do what you think is right and fair, and then clearly communicate your intentions and reasoning to the people you love.

Here's how experts suggest you go about it.

Have the talk - Children, whether they're young or adults, tend to equate a sibling getting more money or resources from a parent with love and affection, says Laurie Kramer, a professor of applied psychology at Northeastern University who has researched parental differential treatment. In the absence of an explanation, she says, children tend to form their own ideas about why their parents are treating them differently and what it signifies. "When they feel that one sibling is getting more love and affection from a parent, there's nothing that they can say to themselves to make it okay," Kramer says. Kramer's research also shows, though, that when people believe their parents are giving more to a sibling to meet an important need that their brother or sister has, they can understand it. Kramer says, "They can think it's fair or warranted, and in that case, there is no negative impact on family relationships." The clear

takeaway for anyone who plans to bequeath different amounts to their children?

Explain yourself ahead of time - The first step, says Mitchell Kraus, a certified financial planner in Santa Monica, California, is to document your wishes in a formal will or estate plan, then have a conversation with your children about the approach you've taken. You don't have to get specific about the numbers, he says, but give them a general idea of what to expect when it comes to the division of your assets and why you've chosen to do things this way. If your children have no inkling about your plans, they might feel blindsided after your death, no matter where they are in the inheritance divide. Macklin recalls a client with two adult children, a spendthrift son who had trouble keeping a job and no savings, and a married daughter with children who was well off financially. Concerned the son would plow through his inheritance, the father left money to him in a trust so it would last his lifetime, while the daughter received her inheritance outright. His children didn't discover this until the father died, and it upset the son, especially because the father named the sister to manage her brother's trust. The daughter was so uncomfortable that she hired a bank as co-trustee. That way, Macklin says, "she could always blame the bank for making decisions that the brother didn't like."

CONTINUED PAGE 42...

If you're worried you'll strain your relationship with your kids by letting them know in advance you're planning an unequal distribution, Kramer suggests you write each child a letter explaining your reasons. Then give the letters to the lawyer who drafted the will, who can give them to the kids upon your death.

Aim for equity instead of equality - The default choice to minimize sibling struggles is to split assets evenly, but every family dynamic is different, Kraus says. There could be outstanding loans the parents made to their children, money given unevenly while the parents were alive, or a special-needs child who requires additional resources. One child might have helped the parents more as they aged. "There is no single right answer," says Kraus. Kramer suggests thinking about the division of your assets in terms of equity rather than equality, considering each child's circumstances and needs. If that exercise leads to an unequal asset distribution, that's OK, as long as you let your children know your thinking. Keith Singer, a CFP and estate planning attorney in Boca Raton, Florida, agrees that children can get on board with an unequal distribution if they understand why it's fair. One of his clients, he says, has a business worth a few million dollars and several million in other assets. One of his three sons worked with him in the business; the other two built successful companies of their own. The father plans to give his business to the son who worked with him and split the remaining assets equally. When Singer pointed out that the client would be giving one child significantly more than the others, the father said, "Well, he earned it, because he helped build that business." Singer said the father subsequently discussed his intentions with his sons, who all agreed with his decision.

Get creative to achieve balance - You can lessen the sting of an unequal inheritance for the child receiving less money by leaving other assets that will help them feel valued – say, a treasured painting or family heirloom. "That shows them, in a different way, that they are loved," Kramer says. The key, says Brenna Baucum, a CFP in Salem, Oregon, is to "think through the types of assets that you have and what fits each child." For example, she says, if one child is struggling with housing, you might consider leaving that child in your house instead of a portion of the investment portfolio.

Ask a neutral party for help - If you're uncomfortable discussing your plans with your children, enlist help from a financial planner, estate planning attorney, financial psychologist, or other pro trained in financial matters and family dynamics. The expert can coach you on how to handle a conversation with your kids or be present at the meeting to guide it. Gary Shunk, a coach consultant with Aligned Family in Chicago, often works with families and financial advisers to help broker these discussions. He recalls working with a widow in her seventies who had two children, one who never married and another who was married with three kids. "There was a potential conflict, since there were more heirs on one branch," he says. Shunk coached the mother to meet with both children and focus on explaining her interest in investing in the grandchildren's education. The single child accepted that, with no hard feelings. If you plan for the emotions attached to an uneven split of assets, as well as the physical division, that's the type of outcome you can get, as well. "The hard-earned assets that you've worked your life for will live beyond you," Baucum says. "That's what most of my clients want to see – their kids utilize this money meaningfully to live an enjoyable life."

Brenna Baucum, CFP® is a financial planner and founder of Collective Wealth Planning, based in Salem, Oregon. Her firm specializes in practical estate, tax, and wealth-transfer planning that helps families make thoughtful, fair decisions with their hard-earned assets. She was quoted in Kiplinger on strategies for parents considering unequal inheritance distributions to meet individual needs while preserving family harmony.

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5 Key Factors To Have Covered For Calving Season

1. Be Prepared

Build a complete calving kit so you have what you need, when you need it.



2. Proper Calving Facilities

Have a safe, reliable area to bring animals in when assistance is needed.

3. A Strong Veterinarian Relationship

Having an established relationship with a veterinarian before an emergency matters.

4. Adequate Feed & Protein

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Beef and the New DGA: Dietary Guidelines for Americans

Will Wise

CEO of the Oregon Beef Council



The Dietary Guidelines for Americans (DGA) were released in January for a five-year period from 2025 to 2030. I think you may be interested in them. Perhaps you know that some highly qualified beef industry professionals work on these to benefit the industry and promote health.

There has always been a lot of buzz around these guidelines when they are renewed for five years. In agriculture, results are sometimes favorable and

sometimes not. For beef and dairy, this time it looks pretty good. One thing I can say is it is good to have dietitians and health professionals working with the cattle and beef organizations to provide data that accurately describes our product when the DGA guidelines are being reviewed. The Beef Checkoff submitted 17 sets of public comments as the DGA guidelines for 2025-2030 were being reviewed. They provided data on beef's role

in a healthy diet, and you may be interested in some of their top talking points.

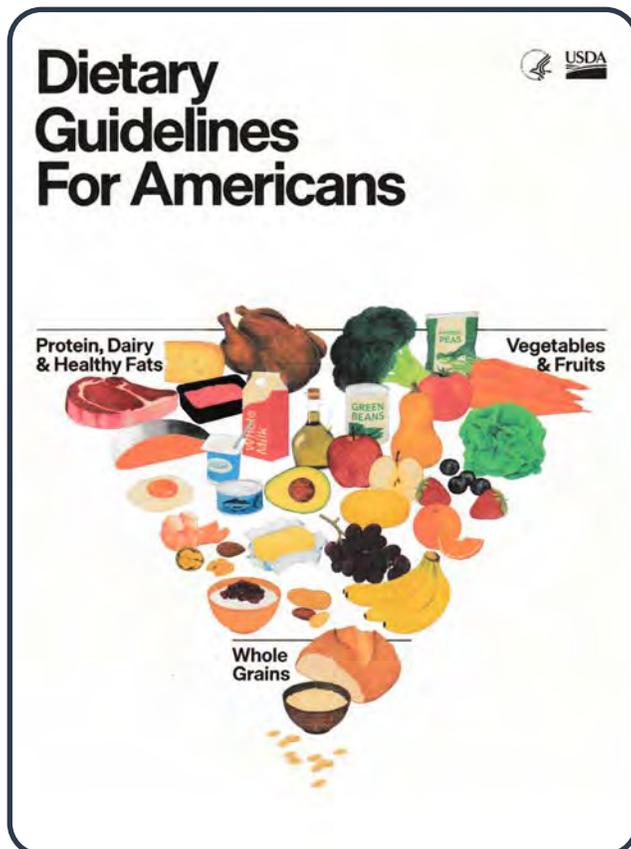
These can get lengthy and complicated. However, the DGA guidelines that were released were much shorter than the 100 or so pages I've seen in the past. On my desk is a 13-page outline that I've gone through, and while concise, it goes into the weeds. Here is my take on some key information on how beef is included in

the new DGA:

Beef is a nutrient-dense whole food that nourishes Americans at every life stage. For example, the beef checkoff has reviewed research showing that beef and protein help address nutrient shortfalls during childhood development. I am not sure this point would be recognized without their work.

High-quality scientific research shows beef supports heart health. Maybe you have been aware of this, and I think this is a great area to talk about for beef. The outline on my desk talks about positive aspects of cholesterol and blood pressure, and many of us can relate to that when we get a checkup. I am also impressed that the famous heart-check logo from the American Heart Association has been approved for some lean sirloin beef cuts.

Beef is a popular and versatile protein that can help people follow the Dietary Guidelines for Americans. I liked the statement in the review I read that "today's leaner, high-quality beef supply is the result of determined efforts by the beef industry to produce meat that is consistent with U.S. government issued dietary guidance...today more than 65%



of beef cuts sold at retail meet government standards for lean.”

Most Americans are not over-consuming protein or beef. The average American consumes 1.5 ounces of beef daily which is well within dietary recommendations and has not increased their percentage of calories from protein in the past 20 years.

Some Americans may benefit from more nutrient-dense beef in their healthy diet. Older Americans don't get enough protein and vitamin B12, and research involving young women shows undernourishment for zinc and iron. This reminds me of the ZIP campaign that was prominent on Team Beef shirts marathoners wore to promote zinc, iron, and protein for athletes.

The evidence about saturated fat is evolving. A growing body of scientific evidence demonstrates that naturally occurring fats in whole foods may have unique properties that support heart health. New DGA recommendations took into consideration information from nutrition scientists, noting that “there is no strong scientific evidence that the current population-wide upper limits on commonly consumed saturated fats in the US will prevent cardiovascular disease or reduce mortality.” Sitting in on NCBA Nutrition Committee meetings, I heard this was being looked into, and the professionals and scientists working on it deserve our attention.

Beef offers unique value as a

protein food source, and beef farmers and ranchers work hard to produce the highest quality beef in the world. Value was measured nutritionally and economically. Per gram of protein, beef was shown to be more cost-effective than many other protein options, including protein bars and plant-based proteins.

There is a lot to be looked at in the newest version of

the Dietary Guidelines for Americans for 2025-2030. I think it will be worthwhile to learn more about the specifics in meetings this year. For the Oregon Beef Council, I think it is valuable to have health professionals, registered dietitians, and Ph.D. experts talking to ranchers at meetings and writing about these details. We would not do this work on our own. •

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10 New Year's resolutions for life on the ranch

Morgan Kromm | 805-801-9960
OCW President | orcattlewomen@gmail.com



February on the ranch is when New Year's resolutions meet real life. The excitement of a fresh calendar has faded, winter chores are in full swing, and calving season is knocking on the door (or already here) for spring calvers. It's the month when ranchers start to see which good intentions are holding strong, and which ones have been postponed until "after calving," "after branding," or maybe just "next year."

Ranchers are not immune to New Year's resolutions. We just tend to make them with a little more dirt under our fingernails and a lot more realism. Our resolutions are scribbled on feed tags, discussed over pickup hoods, or most commonly, quietly committed to ourselves while going down the road. Some are serious. Some are aspirational. And some... well, we make them every year, knowing full well how this usually goes.

Here are a few ranch-tested New Year's resolutions for you to consider, some being more serious than others.

1. Fix the one piece of equipment that's been "Almost Working."

This is the year the gates won't sag, the squeeze chute latch will close on the first try, and that one pickup won't require a prayer and a downhill start. Or at least, that's the plan. If nothing else, we resolve to finally admit it might need more than baling twine and optimism.

2. Keep better records (and actually use them)

Weights, treatments, breeding dates, pasture moves - this is the year everything gets written down and looked at later. Because somewhere between calving and shipping, we all promise ourselves that future-us deserves

better information than "I think we did that sometime in March."

3. No lost tools (or at least fewer lost tools)

A lofty goal, considering fencing pliers have a way of disappearing into tall grass, snowbanks, or alternate dimensions. But this year, we resolve to put tools back where they belong... or at least stop buying duplicates of the same socket every few months. I started putting hot pink tape on my fencing tools - a real game changer when you're looking for them while working on a brushy fenceline.

4. Improve stockmanship, even on the hard days

When cattle are wild, the weather is bad, and patience is thin, this resolution is quickly tested. Still, most ranchers agree: calm cattle, clear communication, and good handling make everything better, for the animals and the people working them. Every interaction with an animal teaches them something, so try to make it positive.

5. Take better care of our bodies

Ranching is physical, but that doesn't mean it's balanced. This year's promise usually sounds like stretch more, drink more water, eat something besides convenience-store snacks (although I do love a donut), and maybe admit that soreness isn't a personality trait. Longevity matters both on the ranch and off it.

6. Get ahead of fence work (Before it gets ahead of us)

Every year starts with the best of intentions: We will fix that fence before turnout. And every

year, cattle find the weakest spot at the worst times possible, such as the middle of the night or the day you run to “the big town” for a quick shopping trip. Still, hope springs eternal, and wire prices haven’t scared us off yet.

7. Read, learn, and stay engaged

Whether it’s an industry article, a research update, or a legislative summary, many ranchers resolve to stay more informed. Not because we have extra time, but because decisions affecting our livelihoods are being made whether we’re paying attention or not.

8. Raise better cattle than last year

This one is universal. Better calves. Better genetics. Better health. Better management. Ranchers are, at heart, optimists, always believing the next calf crop can be just a little better than the last.

9. Ask for help (and accept it)

This might be the hardest resolution of all. Ranchers are independent by nature, but the truth is no operation runs well alone. Whether it’s family, neighbors, or industry organizations, resolving to lean on others is often the difference between surviving and thriving.

10. Remember why we do this

On the toughest days when the weather turns, markets drop, or plans unravel, it’s easy to forget. This year’s final resolution is to pause long enough to remember the why: the land, the livestock, the lifestyle, and the responsibility we carry to steward all three well.

Whether they last until spring or fizzle out before the grass greens up, ranchers’ resolutions matter. They remind us that we’re always trying to improve our cattle, our operations, and ourselves. And if we’ve already fallen short on a few by February, there’s still a lot of the year left to get it right. •



Getting Ready for Calving Season: Tips for Success

David W. Bohnert

Oregon State University – Eastern Oregon Agriculture Research



Oregon State
University



For spring calving operations, preparation starts now. The last 90 days before calving are critical for cow nutrition and management, and the decisions you make today will impact calf health, survival, and your bottom line. Every year, some producers are caught off guard by calving difficulties or chilled calves, scrambling

for supplies that should have been ready weeks earlier. Here are practical steps to help ensure a smooth calving season.

Nutrition: The Foundation of Calf Health

Late gestation nutrition is key. Inadequate protein intake during the final trimester can lead to “weak calf syndrome,” where

calves are unable to stand or nurse and may suffer joint swelling or respiratory issues. Research shows cows need at least 2 pounds of crude protein (CP) per day during this period. For example, a cow eating 25 pounds of 6% CP straw gets only 1.5 pounds of CP—so supplement with about 2.5 pounds of 20% CP alfalfa to meet requirements.

Protein isn't the only concern. Poor nutrition reduces colostrum quality and immunoglobulin levels in calves, weakening their disease resistance. Calves from thin cows take longer to stand and are more vulnerable to scours and death loss. Aim for a body condition score (BCS) of 5-6 at calving. First-calf heifers should be closer to 5.5 to 6 since they'll be growing, lactating, and preparing to rebreed. Avoid over conditioning (BCS > 7), as this can increase calving difficulty.

Timing Matters: Feed for Daylight Calving

Want more calves born during daylight? Feed cows in the early evening. Studies show feeding after 5 p.m. increases daytime calving

from about 50% to 80%. This makes monitoring and assistance easier and safer. Evening feeding also helps cattle maintain body heat during cold nights, thanks to fermentation heat peaking about 12 hours after feeding.

Vaccinations: Don't Skip This Step

Three weeks before calving, work with your veterinarian to vaccinate for clostridial diseases (7- or 8-way) and, if needed, Rota/Corona/E. coli. These vaccines boost antibodies in colostrum, protecting calves from early disease challenges. Remember: vaccines don't work without good nutrition—cows must be in adequate condition to respond effectively.

Facilities and Supplies: Be Ready Before the First Calf

Inspect calving facilities now. Check gates, pens, head catches, and lighting. Cold, wet conditions can lead to hypothermia, so have warming tools ready: calf blankets, heat lamps, hot boxes, and towels. For mild hypothermia (94-100°F), warm colostrum and drying can help; severe cases may require warm baths or calf warmers.

Stock essential supplies before calving starts. Here's a quick checklist:

- Breeding and expected calving dates
- OB chains, handles, and calf jack
- Tube feeder and colostrum (fresh, frozen, or commercial)

CONTINUED PAGE 53...



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- New Member**
 Renewal

Submit one form per person or business. If you are signing up additional members under a "Parent" or Ranch or Business account, please use a separate form for each person.

Associate Council is for Business entities and professionals who support the cattle industry through products and services. If that applies to you, select Associate Council.



Member Information

NAME: _____ RANCH/BUSINESS NAME: _____
 MAILING ADDRESS: _____
 CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
 EMAIL ADDRESS: _____ PRIMARY PHONE: _____
 COUNTY AFFILIATION: _____

Select Level of Membership Below

- \$200 | **Producer | 51 cattle or more** | one vote
 \$100 | **Producer | 50 cattle or less** | one vote
 \$500 | **Stocker/Feeder** | one vote
 \$50 | **Additional Member** | one vote
 Parent Account: _____
 \$150 | **Associate Council** | allied business one vote
 \$75 | **Friend of the OCA** | no cattle/no vote
 \$20 | **Student** | no vote

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Oregon CattlePAC - The Oregon Cattle Political Action Fund allows OCA to engage in the election cycle & ballot measure initiatives. \$ _____

*OCA's **Stewardship Fund** provides scholarships to college students pursuing a career in agriculture. These funds may be distributed to ranchers who have experienced natural disasters. \$ _____

*If you would like to donate in someone's honor, please provide the name of the person of whom you are making this charitable donation below:

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Questions? Contact Jem Connelly, Member Services Manager at 503-361-8941 or email at jem.connelly@orcattle.com

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-Or- Provide credit card information and return this form to the OCA office (listed above)

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- Plastic sleeves, gloves, and lubricant
- Flashlights and spotlights
- Disinfectants (iodine, chlorhexidine)
- Medications and treatments (electrolytes, probiotics, antibiotics) as advised by your vet

Having these items on hand can mean the difference between saving a calf and losing one.

Special Attention for Heifers

Replacement heifers represent years of investment and the future of your herd. Thin heifers are more likely to struggle during calving because they lack strength and stamina. Don't underfeed—research shows that while calves from well-conditioned heifers may be slightly heavier, calving difficulty does not increase. In fact, thin heifers often have more problems. Keep heifers gaining weight, maintain clean calving areas, OREGON CATTLEMAN | WWW.OREGONCATTLEMAN.COM

and have colostrum ready for newborns that don't nurse promptly.

Bottom Line

Calving season is demanding, but it's also rewarding when you see healthy calves thriving. By focusing on nutrition, timing, health protocols, and preparation, you can reduce stress, improve calf survival, and boost herd productivity. For more detailed guidance, check out the OSU Calving School Handbook: OSU Beef Cattle Sciences - Calving School. •

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2024 and 2025

Fire Season Wildfire Assistance Application

Application Submittal Deadline to OCA Office by March 31, 2026

Contact Information:

Applicant Name/Owner: _____

OCA Member Yes No

Contact Name: _____		Title (Agent, Employee, Owner) _____		Date: _____
Address: _____				
City: _____	State: _____	County: _____	Zip: _____	
Phone: _____		E-Mail: _____		

2024 and 2025 Fire Season Wildfire Assistance Application Instructions:

Wildfire Assistance Applications are due into the OCA Office by March 31, 2026 with final expenditure receipts/documentation due no later than December 1, 2026. Mail to: Oregon Cattlemen's Association, 1320 Capitol St. NE, Suite 150, Salem, OR 97301; fax to: 503-361-8947; or email to: oca@orcattle.com.

- Qualifying Entities or individuals: OCA members and Oregon cattle producers incurring losses from 2024 and 2025 Wildfires. Funds were received by OCA as private donations for 2024 and 2025 Wildfire Assistance (no public funds).
- Assistance applications (with supporting documentation) will be considered for reimbursement of expenses or losses incurred by individuals or entities as a direct result of 2024 and 2025 wildfires in Oregon counties.
- Assistance applications will be considered for incurred expenses or losses suffered from: A) Emergency Feed, Transport or Pasturing; B) Fencing Loss; C) Structural Losses; D) Re-seeding Cost; G) Other losses or expenses.
- The format for reviewing received assistance applications, reviewing applicant's supporting documentation, and issuing disbursements to applicants will be determined by OCA. The wildfire fund may not be sufficient to meet all requests and may be prorated between applicants at the committee's discretion. If you have any questions please contact the Oregon Cattlemen's Association office at 503-361-8941.

Assistance Claim:

* On the back of this form please provide a brief description of how the assistance funds requested were or will be utilized.

A. Emergency Feed, Transport or Pasturing for Displaced Livestock:	\$ _____ (attach supporting receipts)
B. Permanent or Temporary Fencing:	
1. Supplies and Materials, Labor or contracted services :	\$ _____ (attach receipts/estimates)
2. Other Costs - describe below:	\$ _____ (Attach supporting documents)
Please indicate length or number of miles of fencing to replace/repair _____	
C. Structural Losses (structures, water improvements, corrals, etc.)	\$ _____ (attach receipts/estimates and describe on back)
D. Seeding Cost for _____ acres burned:	\$ _____ (attach receipts/estimates)
E. Other Losses, Costs or Expenses Incurred:	\$ _____ (attach receipts/estimates and describe on back)
F. Equipment, Supplies or Materials Losses, Used or to be Replaced	\$ _____ (attach documentation and describe on back)
Fire Name(s) _____	



Please provide a brief description of losses, assistance funds requested:

The undersigned certifies that:

- Assistance funds requested on this form have or will be spent according to the terms outlined within the agreement.
- Assistance funds requested have not been reimbursed or are not expected to be reimbursed by another program or source.
- To the best of my knowledge the information provided within this Assistance Claim is true and accurate.
- I understand and agree that the Oregon Cattlemen's Association may request additional information or documentation.
- I am authorized by the Assistance award recipient to execute this document and legally bind the recipient by this signed execution.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Printed Name: _____ **Title:** _____

Any additional needs or comments: _____

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Date of Application Review: _____

Project Location: _____

Payment Amount: _____ *Payment Date:* _____

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FEBRUARY 27, 2026

Consignment Deadline:
February 19, 2026

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Consignment Deadline:
March 12, 2026

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