

INDEPENDENT BEEF ASSOCIATION OF NORTH DAKOTA

Your state wide voice in the cattle industry!

PO Box 2

Sterling, ND 58572

www.i-band.org

2025-2

Presidents Message

Welcome Spring!!

What an odd Spring we're having. Beautiful calving weather, enough moisture here to start the grass growing, plenty of heat to warm the ground, and now torrential rain. Gotta Love Mother Nature.

I've always tried to be a guy that calls a spade a spade. And for the most part, I do; you can even ask any of my neighbors. But when it comes to the legislature, we're told we must show respect, act cordially, stay calm, be honest, and never interrupt. This past legislative session, I've seen I-BAND members do all of that. And I've seen others (even legislators) break all the rules.



I-BAND has never gotten a lot of respect; we've been labeled radical-checkoff-hating cowboys, mostly from lies and misconceptions brought forth by jealous members of a different organization. It's tough to gain ground and respect with such lies. Now, I-BAND has also been accused of telling lies, but our so-called 'lies' are backed by quoting policies and laying out facts from state agencies, all of which are substantiated by research we've done and not by coffee-shoptalk passed around board rooms.

We at I-BAND are not compensated for anything we do. Neither I nor any I-BAND member has ever been given a stipend for testifying at the Capitol. It has been asked of us: why do you only testify on specific bills and then are not heard from again until the next legislative session? Quite frankly, we go to the legislature on our own time and at our own expense. We need to keep that time and those dimes running our ranches. Most of us are completely independent, without anyone else doing our chores. A big shoutout to my wife, Krista, for doing half the chores every time I got up at 4:30 to do the other half and then making it to Bismarck before 9 am to testify. We also get the twine cut and finish small jobs the night before, so there's not so much to do the next morning. In reality, we don't have the

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President Message, Cont

time to testify on 144 bills, nor do we feel it is necessary to testify on 144 bills just to butter up and sugarcoat all the legislators into thinking that everything that comes out of our mouths is gospel truth.

Everyone needs a fair chance to testify on the bills. When any opposition is given ample time to dispute testimony, extra time should also be given to the presenter of that disputed testimony. All testimony should be HONEST and stay on course, without allowing speakers to babble about unrelated topics that confuse committee members into thinking that what they say is somehow relevant to the original bill!

Some things I've seen at the 69th Legislature make me wonder if certain people engage in similar behavior in their own towns, farms, and families, the sidwinding, backstabbing, and favoritism displayed at various committee hearings I've attended. And people wonder why the majority of North Dakotans want term limits!

I'm still hearing ads funded by our checkoff dollars asking for NCBA membership and telling us how well our dollars are being spent. In closing, I'm just calling a spade a spade.

Have a GREAT summer!!



SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 4, 2025

20TH

ANNUAL

MEETING

BISMARCK, ND

Government Overreach Disguised as Traceability

The USDA's new mandatory EID rule is a clear example of government overreach. This isn't about disease traceability—it's about control of the cattle industry. Just look at Denmark and Ireland, both of which have EID mandates. Denmark has imposed a "cow tax" under the banner of climate change, and Ireland is pushing for a 40% reduction in its cattle herd for the same reason. If that's not a warning, what is?

The USDA drastically underestimated the cost of implementing this program. Now, states are running out of tags, and the added costs are falling squarely on producers—many of whom are already operating on thin margins. The new Secretary of Agriculture needs to recognize this and repeal the rule.

The Beef Checkoff: Time for a Reset

The Beef Checkoff may have started with good intentions, but today it's a broken system. What was once meant to promote beef has turned into a cash cow for lobbying groups who siphon off millions through "administrative fees" and use those funds to advocate against the very producers footing the bill. It's time to demand full transparency—or better yet—scrap the current system and rebuild it as a **voluntary** program that truly serves producers.

Don't Confuse High Prices with a Healthy Industry

Yes, cattle prices are at record highs—but that doesn't mean we can rest easy. The same issues that drove tens of thousands of independent producers off the land are still here. Without serious reforms, today's high prices won't prevent tomorrow's decline.

Food Security Is National Security

Record beef imports from countries with weak safety standards pose a direct threat to our food supply—and, by extension, our national security. An America-first policy should mean that consumers can confidently know where their beef comes from, and that U.S. producers are rewarded for raising the safest, highest-quality beef in the world. That's why mandatory Country of Origin Labeling (MCOOL) is just common sense—and long overdue.

Fix the Market: Ban Unpriced Contracts

Unpriced fat cattle contracts have tilted the playing field in favor of large corporate feedyards and meat-packers, forcing independent feeders out of business. Over the years, this has gutted rural economies and destroyed competition. To restore a fair market, we must:

- Ban unpriced contracts
- Require 100% cash cattle trade
- Enforce the Packers and Stockyards Act (P&S Act)

If we want to keep young families in rural America and bring life back to Main Street, we need common-sense reforms—not more top-down mandates.

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Kari Goldade

Independent Beef Association of North Dakota

Email: kari@i-band.org

Date: 5-15-2025

I-BAND Distributes Disaster Relief Funds to Local Families and Producers

Sterling, ND—In the wake of recent fire-related hardships, I-BAND has successfully distributed disaster relief funds to impacted individuals and families throughout North Dakota.

The funds were made possible through the generous contributions of individuals, businesses, and community partners who rallied together to support those facing losses. Recipients received direct financial assistance to help with rebuilding efforts, livestock losses, feed and fencing replacement, emergency supplies, and medical bills.

“This distribution represents the strength and resilience of our rural communities,” said Frank Tomac, President. “We are incredibly grateful to everyone who donated and helped make this relief effort possible. These funds provide a helping hand to producers and families who were hit hard through no fault of their own.”

Recipients were identified based on nominations, submitted forms, or need assessments, and funds were distributed without strings attached to ensure timely support during this critical period.

“Recovery isn’t just about dollars—it’s about hope,” said August Heupel, Vice President. “This effort reminds us that rural America looks after its own.”

I-BAND remains committed to serving local communities and will continue to advocate for resources and policies that support independent producers and rural families.

For more information about the relief effort, how to get involved, or to donate to future emergency support efforts, don't hesitate to get in touch with Kari Goldade at Kari@i-band.org or visit www.i-band.org.

Dear Members,

We would like to inform you that the Board has set an interim policy to address updates to our mission statement. This policy will remain in effect until further notice and is designed to align our goals with our evolving priorities.

Please take a moment to review the policy details below to familiarize yourself with the changes. If you have any questions or need further clarification, do not hesitate to reach out to Kari G.

Thank you for your attention to this important update.

'The Independent Beef Association of North Dakota (I-BAND) is dedicated to supporting the market interests of North Dakota cattle producers. Its primary goal is to combat threats to the domestic cattle industry, particularly those stemming from unfair and illegal trade practices and imports. I-BAND focuses on addressing any other issues that impact the profitability of North Dakota beef producers, ensuring a sustainable and competitive beef market in the state, additionally, promoting local producers on social media, collaborative events, local partnerships, online directories, and educational programs to show support to the community and foster sustainable practices. By implementing these strategies, I-BAND can help strengthen the local economy and promote a sense of community.'



Affiliates



Social Media



All of our links in one place!

(We have added a few new ones)

<https://linktr.ee/independentbeefnd>

Gun Raffle

**GUN \$20
RAFFLE**

**HENRY 3030
HENRY 22**

SPRINGFIELD ARMORY 22

OCTOBER 4, 2025

Drawing to be held at our annual meeting

www.I-BAND.org



Permit # 2025-014



Contact any of your board members to purchase a ticket or call or email Kari G.

Kari Goldade
@I-BAND



venmo

USCA Applauds USDA's Decisive Action to Close U.S. - Mexico Border in Response to New World Screwworm Threat

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

May 12, 2025

CONTACT

Kalina Reini

USCA Director of Policy and Public Affairs

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(202) 870-0156



WASHINGTON — The United States Cattlemen's Association (USCA) expressed its sincere appreciation for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) decisive action to close live animal imports at the southern border, in response to the surge of New World Screwworm (NWS) cases across Mexico. This is an issue USCA members shared widely in Washington, DC last week across USDA agencies and congressional offices. This coordinated measure, grounded in scientific expertise and decades of cross-border collaboration, is critical to preserving the health of America's cattle herd and the future of the U.S. beef supply.

"We are grateful to Secretary Rollins and the USDA for recognizing the urgent threat posed by the New World Screwworm and making the hard decision to halt animal movement across the southern border," USCA President Justin Tupper said, following an in-depth USDA-APHIS stakeholder briefing that included USCA policy staff. "Closing the border to Mexico will protect the U.S. beef supply and U.S. producers from the New World Screwworm. This is an issue that was resolved in the 1970s after the parasite caused severe and lasting damage to America's cattle herd. Its re-emergence is a very serious issue with potentially catastrophic consequences if left unchecked."

According to recent APHIS data shared with USCA and industry stakeholders, there have been over 1,400 detections of NWS across Mexico as of May 9, with outbreaks progressing steadily northward. Notably, active cases are now present in Chiapas, Tabasco, and as far north as central Oaxaca — just 127 miles from Mexico's crucial secondary barrier. The ongoing increase in detections includes new cases in Veracruz, a major cattle movement corridor. Quick action is a necessity.

"Generations of ranching families remember the devastation the last NWS outbreak caused. Thanks to USDA's vigilance and strong partnership with Mexico, we have the tools, surveillance, and sterile insect technology to respond, but controlling animal movement and closing ports of entry are essential first steps," Tupper continued.

The NWS eradication effort relies on three science-based pillars: animal movement control, rapid identification and education, and the sterile insect technique. The USDA's sterile insect facility in Panama is currently operating at maximum capacity, releasing over 100 million sterile insects weekly in Mexico, with increased aerial dispersal flights and covering 3,000 – 6,000 insects per linear nautical mile — far surpassing historic levels. Technical teams are in the field, evaluating surveillance and helping Mexican partners expand monitoring and outreach. It is essential that the population of sterile flies is maintained for prevention efforts.

USCA also appreciates the regular and transparent communication with USDA and international partners, as well as the swift implementation of animal health safeguards, enhanced tick rider monitoring along the border, and ongoing evaluation of port activities to ensure safety is maintained at every level.

While understanding the significant impact this temporary closure may have on cross-border commerce and producers, USCA stands firmly behind USDA and APHIS in prioritizing animal health and the long-term viability of the American beef industry. Disease prevention and eradication measures will be more impactful and financially feasible than any emergency management strategy that would result from an outbreak.

“We must remain vigilant. The lessons of the past, combined with today’s cutting-edge surveillance and eradication tools, give us the best possible chance to halt this outbreak,” Tupper concluded. “USCA will continue to work hand-in-hand with USDA, state veterinarians, and our neighbors in Mexico to eradicate the New World Screwworm once again and safeguard America’s cattle ranching heritage.”

R-CALF Annual Convention

For Immediate Release

By: R-CALF USA Marketing Director Jaiden Moreland

Contact: R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard

Phone: 406-252-2516; r-calfusa@r-calfusa.com



DEADWOOD, S.D., May 15, 2025 — R-CALF USA is set to host its 2025 National Convention and Trade Show, themed “All In,” from June 17-19, 2025, at The Lodge at Deadwood.

The convention is expected to draw hundreds of cattle producers, industry leaders, journalists and policy experts from across the country for industry updates, networking, and policy and strategy development. It is the largest event of its kind for independent cattle and sheep producers in the United States.

“This year’s convention is about equipping producers with the information, tools and community they need to defend their operations and strengthen their voice,” said R-CALF USA Marketing Director Jaiden Moreland. “We’ve worked to build a program focused on education, legal updates and grassroots action, and we look forward to uniting producers who are all in to restore profitability and prosperity in the U.S. cattle and sheep industries.”

Pre-convention activities begin Tuesday, June 17, with policy development meetings, an affiliate council meeting and a welcome reception.

The main program opens Wednesday, June 18, following a convention welcome and prayer breakfast led by Max Thornsberry, D.V.M. Scheduled speakers include *Barons: Money, Power, and the Corruption of America’s Food* Author Austin Frerick; trade expert and senior vice president of Revere Copper Products Brian O’Shaughnessy; Iowa State University Animal Science Professor Brad Skaar; R-CALF USA Private Property Rights Chair Shad Sullivan; and Washburn University School of Law Professor of Agricultural Law and Taxation Roger McEowen.

Wednesday afternoon will include litigation updates from attorneys Kara Rollins on R-CALF USA’s electronic ID eartag lawsuit, Patrick McGahan on its antitrust lawsuit against the Big Four packers, and David Muraskin on its beef checkoff lawsuit. A social and steak dinner will follow, featuring a presentation from international journalist Alex Newman.

Thursday, June 19, will begin with a membership breakfast and updates from R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard and the R-CALF USA committee chairs.

R-CALF Cont

Speakers for Thursday will include Wyoming rancher and attorney Tracy Hunt; American Stewards of Liberty Executive Director Margaret Byfield; South Dakota ranchers Charles and Heather Maude; U.S. Rep. Harriet Hageman, R-Wyo.; and U.S. Sen. Mike Rounds, R-S.D.

Thursday afternoon will feature a live recording of the *Lonesome Report* podcast with Jim Mundorf and Shad Sullivan, followed by the organization's annual business meeting, where current R-CALF USA members will present proposed policy resolutions. Final voting will take place via mail-in ballot.

The convention concludes Thursday evening with the Denim and Diamonds Gala, which will include a steak dinner, live auction and dance featuring JJ Kent and the Aces and 8's. Cowboy cocktail attire is encouraged but not required.

Early bird attendee registration is now open and may increase June 1. All events listed are included in the full convention registration. For the complete agenda, hotel room block information and registration, visit www.rcalfconvention.com.

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Ranchers Cattlemen Action Legal Fund United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA) is the largest producer-only lobbying and trade association representing U.S. cattle and sheep producers. It is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to ensuring the continued profitability and viability of the U.S. cattle and sheep industries. Visit www.r-calfusa.com or call 406-252-2516 for more information.

A Buck Better Spent

If you want to see your state check off dollar go to work for you, consider requesting your refund and donating it back to I-BAND.

Your support and contributions are greatly appreciated.



DONATE NOW



TOWN HALL MEETING

Time to start scheduling
town hall meetings

in your area.

Call Kari to schedule

701-214-0639

Membership

The Independent Beef Association of North Dakota is North Dakota's statewide voice in the cattle industry for the cattle producer. Our membership is primarily made up of cow calf operations in North Dakota. We're a non-profit organization that works in conjunction with other organizations as your statewide and national voice in the cattle industry. We have represented our membership on issues including the Farm Bill, COOL, Waters of the US, HSUS bills, Horse Slaughter, the National Animal Identification System, EPA, Foot and Mouth disease in South America, and the Beef Checkoff. There are numerous issues of importance to cattle producers in the coming year. Strength comes in numbers and I-BAND needs a strong membership to carry out your voice within and outside of North Dakota. We're a grassroots cattle-men's organization, addressing the market interests of North Dakota cattle producers.

I-BAND has been going strong for 20 years now. If you are a new member, a past member or an existing member, we would like you to let us know what you like about this organization and the direction you would like to see this organization take in the future. We take pride in having a membership association where every member's voice is heard through a one member one vote policy. Without the backing of membership, I-BAND would not be in existence. We wish to thank each and every one of you for your support. Any comments can be directed to any I-BAND board member or drop us a line at: I-BAND, Box 2, Sterling, ND 58572.

Strength comes in numbers and I-BAND needs a strong membership to carry out your voice within and outside of North Dakota. Please feel free to pass this newsletter on to any friends, neighbors or businesses that may be interested. If anyone would like to schedule an informational meeting in their area please contact any I-BAND Director.



___ 1 Year Voting \$75 ___ 1 Year Associate \$75
___ 2 Year Voting \$150 ___ 2 Year Associate \$150
___ 3 Year Voting \$ 200 ___ 3 Year Associate \$200

Do you own cattle? ___yes ___no

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

County _____

Phone _____

E-Mail _____

Signature _____

District One (1) will be west of the Missouri River from the South Dakota border north to Interstate 94 and west of US Hwy 83 from Interstate 94 north to the Canadian border. District Two (2) will be on the east side of said boundaries.

District Residing In:

District One _____ **District Two** _____

- Voting Members must own cattle (one member/one vote).
- Associate Members do not own cattle and do not have voting rights.
- Please mail application and dues (cash, check or money order) to the address below. Contributions or gifts to I-BAND are not tax deductible as charitable contributions. However, they may be tax deductible as ordinary and necessary business expenses.

I-BAND, Box 2, Sterling, ND 58572

Farm and Ranch Classifieds




Pearson Squeeze chute, self-catching headgate, palpation cage, brisket bar, right-hand opening door on the side, steel floor. Good shape. Asking \$4000 OBO. **Kerry Dockter Home # 701-884-2754 Cell # 701-220-7941 (5-19)**

\$30 Issue
Newsletter and online




ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS!

New Opportunity for Our Community!

We're excited to announce that we are now offering **Classified Listings** and **Business/Ranch Advertisements**!

-  Got something to sell?
-  Looking to promote your livestock, hay, equipment, or services?
-  Want to get your ranch or business in front of the right audience?

Now's your chance! Whether you're buying, selling, or just spreading the word, our new classifieds and advertising options are designed to help **rural folks connect with rural folks.**

-  Affordable rates
-  Great exposure
-  Easy to submit!

To get started or learn more, message us here on Facebook or email us at kari@i-band.org. Let's help each other grow, connect, and support rural businesses!



Keeping Dakota
Businesses in Perfect
Balance.

Dakota Balance Bookkeeping

Kari Goldade
701-214-0639

dakota.balance.bookkeeping@gmail.com

Newsletter and online

Business Card Size 1

Issue \$ 30

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Business Card Size 2

Issue \$ 60

Full year \$ 200

1/4 page

Issue \$75

Full Year \$380

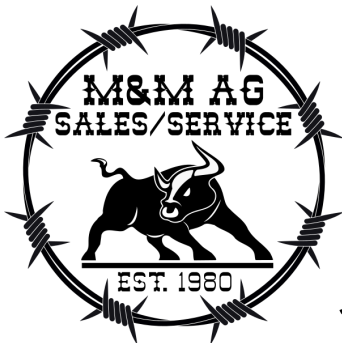
1/2 page

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Sponsors

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Larry Kinev

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Kyle Shively

701-208-0398

Medora Kologi

701-516-0087



May is National Beef Month, a month-long celebration of everything beef-related. From juicy steaks and burgers to flavorful roasts and stews.