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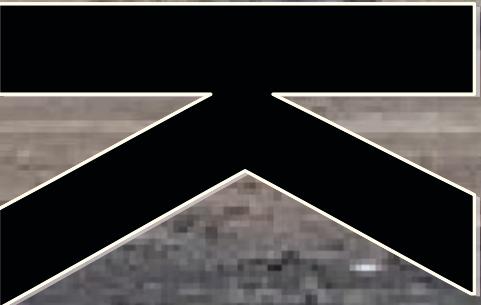
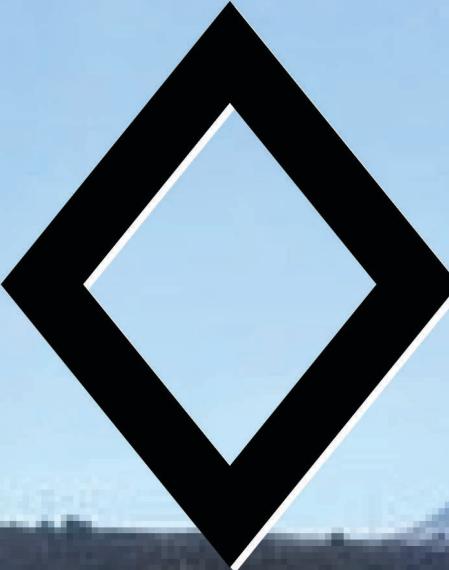
# Arizona CATTLELOG

Official Publication of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association



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CKP

## Back Cover

Bar T Bar Ranches

# Letter from the President



Earlier this fall the USDA, along with the Dept. of Interior and HHS, unveiled the new “Plan to Fortify the Beef Industry.” There is a short summary of the plan in this Cattlelog. There are many points in that plan that we have been pushing for years. One application for all FSA programs. How many times have you said to yourself while looking at a pile of FSA papers on your desk, “Didn’t I just fill this out?”. Another part of the plan is predator control, better depredation payments, and more importantly, Endangered Species Act reforms. ACGA and Greenlee County Cattle Growers actually played a role in getting the Mexican Grey Wolf acknowledged in the plan.

The section I am most interested in is the grazing reforms for federal permits. The plan puts a high priority on reopening vacant allotments. This also has been one of our issues. What I would like to see is the full use of existing active allotments. I believe this would have a much quicker impact on stabilizing the industry and the national cow herd. Many permits are stocked at a mere fraction of the historical stocking rate. BLM permits that were converted to ephemeral use, which means almost no use. National Monuments with grazing removed over thousands of acres, and normal forest allotments that are allowed about half the cows that granddad ran.

Years ago, a forest permit in Clint's Well was purchased by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, and the grazing rights extinguished immediately. I wondered at the time if that was even legal. I was interested in purchasing the allotment but had a hard time competing with outside groups with different motives. This specific allotment will be a good test case to see if the administration will implement their innovative ideas or is it all just for show. We will find out and be sure your ACGA leadership team will hold everyone's feet to the fire.

I hope you all have a prosperous New Year (that means rain and robust cattle prices).

*R Brian deGanahl*

Brian deGanahl

President of Arizona Cattle Growers' Association

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# LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

## A YEAR OF GROWTH AND GRATITUDE

Next month marks one full year since I joined the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association — and what a year it's been. When I first stepped into the role of Interim Administrative Assistant, I knew I was taking on a job that mattered, but I had no idea how quickly it would become such a big part of who I am. Since then, my responsibilities (and my appreciation) have grown right alongside each new opportunity — from becoming full-time Administrative Assistant, to editor/designer of the *Arizona Cattlelog*, and serving as Chair of the Membership Committee.

Each of these roles has given me a deeper look into the heart of this association — the people who make it run, the members who keep it alive, and the purpose that ties it all together.

I've learned that ACGA isn't just an organization; it's a family built on shared values, hard work, and the determination to protect and promote Arizona's ranching way of life.

It hasn't always been easy — juggling deadlines, events, phone calls, and new projects — but every late night and early morning has been worth it. I'm proud of what we've accomplished together this past year, and I'm even more excited about what's to come.

As I look ahead, my hope is to keep bringing our members the quality work, communication, and dedication you deserve — to continue strengthening the brand, building relationships, and doing my small part to help carry this legacy forward.

Here's to another great year with ACGA — and to all of you who make it such a meaningful one.

Regards,  
Sidnie Conerly  
Administrative Assistant & *Cattlelog* editor/designer  
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[Operations@azcattlegrowers.org](mailto:Operations@azcattlegrowers.org)



# CATTLE CALL

## From ACGA Executive Director Suzanne Menges

Happy New Year! There is nothing like turning the page for a new year to get the goal setting and project lists going. After a particularly challenging 2025 between the cattle markets, politics, government and weather, I'm looking forward to buying a 2026 calendar.



There are many improvements happening at ACGA, all designed to work more efficiently and effectively for our members. We will now be publishing the monthly *Cattlelog* in-house in order to streamline our processes and increase the information we share with our readers. I hope you enjoy this, our first redesigned issue.

With the legislative session gearing up, we now bring the work of our ad hoc working groups over the past few months to the table. This work includes amending the current language of the Arizona Revised Statutes Title 42 dealing with agricultural property definitions and requirements, clarifying that noncontiguous parcels can be part of the same operation, and supporting newer agricultural operations. We are also developing a strategy for supporting the rights of ranch lessees when faced with solar improvements being placed on their allotments. These important issues came from our members and, once the groups began meeting, indicated a surprising number of people facing similar problems from around the state.

It's a busy but exciting time. You can hear more about these projects when you attend our Winter Meeting in February. I have been blessed to work with a tremendous Executive Committee and Board of Directors. Here's to a productive and prosperous new year for you all!

## Legislative Watch

As the legislative session begins on January 12, several issues are already shaping up as early flashpoints that could complicate a smooth adjournment. While unexpected challenges are part of every session, two issues stand out for their potential impact on rural Arizona and agriculture: federal tax conformity and Colorado River negotiations.



### Federal Tax Conformity

One of the first major debates of the 2026 session will focus on federal tax conformity. In November, Governor Katie Hobbs issued an executive order launching her Cutting Taxes for Hard Working Arizonans initiative. The order directs the Arizona Department of Revenue to update 2025 tax forms to reflect the higher federal standard deduction enacted under H.R. 1 and to prepare guidance on deductions related to tips, overtime, vehicle loan interest, and enhanced senior deductions — all of which require legislative approval.

Republican leadership has indicated since July that they support updating Arizona's tax code to align with federal changes and may pursue retroactive conformity affecting 2025 earnings. However, Governor Hobbs' proposal does not fully align with President Trump's federal tax package, setting the stage for early disagreement between the executive and legislative branches.

Fiscal impact will be the central concern. The Joint Legislative Budget Committee estimates that full conformity could reduce state revenues by \$318 million, with an additional \$57 million in related impacts. With Arizona operating under a \$17.6 billion state budget already showing signs of strain, these costs will weigh heavily in budget negotiations. Decisions made here could influence funding for agriculture, rural services, state agencies, and long-term investments in water and natural resources.

### Colorado River Negotiations and Rural Water

Meanwhile, Colorado River negotiations remain stalled, creating uncertainty for Arizona's agricultural sector. With no agreement among the seven basin states on how the river will be managed after 2026, long-term water reliability is increasingly unclear — particularly for rural communities and producer's dependent on the Central Arizona Project or already facing groundwater pressures.

As reservoir levels continue to decline and dam infrastructure reaches critical thresholds, irrigation districts and utilities may be forced into difficult decisions around conservation and replacement supplies. Historically, agriculture has absorbed a significant share of shortage reductions. Without a negotiated agreement, federal intervention is likely, limiting state-level input.

For Arizona's cattle growers, water certainty is essential — not only for livestock and feed production, but for sustaining healthy rangelands and rural economies. ACGA will continue monitoring these issues closely and keep members informed as the session progresses.

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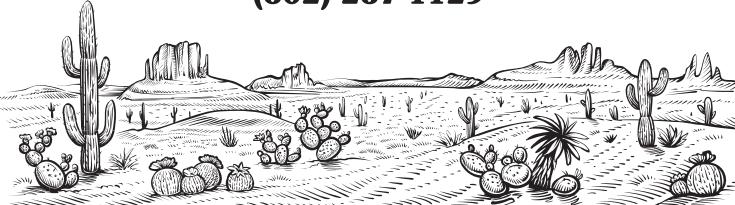
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# ACGA 2025

## Recap

As we review 2025, we're proud to look back on a year defined by progress, partnerships, and purpose. Every mile driven, meeting held, and project completed shared a single goal — to strengthen Arizona's ranching families and ensure our members continue to have a strong, united voice at the table.

One of the biggest milestones this year was the launch of ACGA's new Membership Program. Built around connection, recognition, and value, this program gives every member more ways to engage — and more benefits for their continued support. Thanks to the hard work of our dedicated staff, we're thrilled to now offer four statewide discount partnerships with trusted businesses who support the livestock industry. These partnerships not only reward our members but also highlight the strength of working together as a statewide community of producers, families, and industry allies.

Behind the scenes, ACGA has also been busy rebuilding and reimagining how we connect with sponsors and advertisers. Through refreshed sponsorship packages, a redesigned *Arizona Cattlelog*, and expanded advertising opportunities, we've created new ways for businesses to invest in Arizona ranching while helping our organization grow stronger and more self-sustaining. Every ad, every partnership, and every handshake helps us fund the advocacy, education, and outreach that keep our industry moving forward.

From policy discussions to event planning, from member outreach to youth engagement, ACGA has stayed hard at work — for you. None of this would be possible without the continued support of our members, sponsors, and friends. Together, we're building a more connected, more visible, and more resilient future for Arizona ranching.

Here's to carrying that momentum into 2026 — and to continuing the work that matters most: standing strong for Arizona's cattle producers.

Written by Sidnie Conerly

Administrative Assistant & *Cattlelog* editor/designer

## Celebrating Gila County's 2025 Rancher & Wrangler of the Year

The Gila County Cattle Growers' Association recently honored two outstanding individuals whose work, character, and commitment continue to strengthen the ranching community from the ground up. During the 2025 Salute to Ranching Dinner-Dance, GCCGA President Peter Oddonetto presented the prestigious Rancher of the Year and Wrangler of the Year awards—recognitions rooted in tradition, service, and the values that keep ranching strong in Gila County.

This year's Rancher of the Year, Hal Earnhardt, is a man who has balanced two worlds with equal dedication: ranching and the family's iconic Earnhardt Auto Centers. Raised between the show ring and the saddle, Hal grew up helping his grandfather with cattle and horses, competing in youth rodeos, and learning the business from his father, Tex. Today he manages several cattle operations while helping guide the family enterprise—proof that the spirit of ranching stays alive when passion meets hard work. His integrity and lifelong commitment to the agricultural community make him a deserving recipient of this year's honor.

The Wrangler of the Year, Ashley Hall, has made an equally profound impact through her leadership in rangeland education, monitoring, and producer support. From her early work with University of Arizona Cooperative Extension to her regionally respected Reading the Range Program, Ashley has strengthened agency-producer relationships and helped shape drought tools, youth education, and collaborative land stewardship across the Tonto National Forest. Her dedication continues to uplift ranchers and resource managers alike.

Together, Hal Earnhardt and Ashley Hall represent the heart of Gila County ranching—resilience, community, and a steadfast commitment to preserving the land for generations ahead.

Information provided by Gila County Cattle Growers' Association.

# ARIZONA HERITAGE

**This history of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association was written by Richard Schaus, former ACGA historian (d. April 14, 1981), and originally appeared in the June 1982 issue of Arizona Cattlelog. His dedication to documenting the Association's story remains valued today.**

## Territorial Organization

Seventy-six years ago, on October 12, 1903, the Tucson Daily Citizen ran an account of a meeting held at the Elks Club in Tucson at which the preliminary organization of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association took place. This newspaper account was reprinted in full in the January 1954 issue of the Arizona Cattlelog. The same issue of the magazine also contained a reprint from the January 5, 1904, Arizona Republican with a report on the completion of the "Territorial Organization" in Phoenix, some three months later. The report concluded with a listing of the membership. The list of names in the fledgling association coincides with the "Charter Members" as listed in a small booklet containing the "Constitution and By-laws," apparently published by the ACGA in 1904. (W. H. McKittrick is listed as presi-dent). The 1954 issue of the Cattlelog cited above was, of course, dedicated to the 50th anniversary of the association. No other reports or accounts of these first two meetings have ever been turned up. The 50th anniversary convention in 1954 was held in Tucson.

The next issue of the Arizona Cattlelog, February 1954, contained an address that was given by Harry Heffner, the association's first secretary. Portions of his remarks are reprinted here,..."

To explain the early situation in Arizona, I will have to go back 60 years when, in the spring of 1893, I arrived at Pantano, Arizona, with several carloads of bulls and two carloads of cow horses from the Warner's Ranch in California, operated by Vail and Gates. All were consigned to Empire Ranch, owned and operated by Vail and Gates, with Walter L. Vail, senior member of the partnership in full charge, and Tom Turner, foreman. Frank Boice owns and operates the Empire today.

"The Livestock Sanitary Commission was functioning in 1893, having been created by the legislature in 1887. The original members appointed by the territorial governor were: Thomas Hallack (Halleck) of Mohave County; C. M. Bruce of Pima County; D. E. Norton of Graham County; Nathan Bowers of Yavapai County; W. C. Barnes of Apache County...

"I was told that a small group of representative cattlemen had sponsored the creation of the Livestock Sanitary Commission Board in 1887, but their activities had not received much support, due presumably to droughty conditions, low prices and general lack of interest in the cattle business. As a fair sample of values in 1893, Walter L. Vail purchased the entire herd and brand of the John Cross Cattle on the San Pedro River near Mammoth for \$2.50 per head with calves thrown in. He was to gather the cattle at his own expense.

In 1895, grass was better, prices started up and there was more interest in the cattle business. The Governor appointed Dr. A. J. Chandler veterinary surgeon for the Territory, and the Legislature revised the Livestock Code. Registration of brands in the territory became official and they authorized the publication of the first territorial brand book. Prior to that date the brands were registered in their respective counties, and it is very doubtful how accurately this was done. The brand book was finally compiled and published in 1897.



**A GROUP OF PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE ARIZONA CATTLE GROWERS' ASSOCIATION - PHOTO TAKEN IN EARLY 1950'S. LEFT TO RIGHT: NORMAN FAIN, CARLOS RONSTADT\*, CONE WEBB\*, FRED FRITZ, LOUIE HORRELL, WARREN PETERSON\*, FRANK BOICE\*, JOHN BABBITT, HARRY SAXON, HENRY BOICE, MANFORD CARTWRIGHT\*, RALPH COWAN**

"In 1895, the Commission was authorized to appoint livestock inspectors to inspect brands to see if cattle being sold, transferred or shipped were the property of the people making the deal. I was told that some of the prime movers amongst the group of cattlemen endorsing and bringing about these matters between 1887 and 1895 were: Judge E. R. Monk, James E. Bark, W. C. Colcord, Charles J. Babbitt, F. L. Criswell, D. B. Heard, M. A. Perkins, O. H. Christy, J. N. Porter, W. H. McKittrick, Walter L. Vail, N. W. Bernard, M. G. Samaneigo, Frank L. Proctor, Colin Cameron, J. J. Vosburg, James 1. Riggs, B. A. Packard, J. V. Parks, W. S. Sturges, W. W. Cook."

Heffner then went on to describe the formation of the Arizona Rangers which was authorized by the Legislature on March 1, 1901.

"In 1900," Heffner reported, "grass had improved so much that prices were better and cattle once more became desirable property. Cattle rustling became an acute problem, seemingly beyond the abilities of the local law officers. It was aggravated by an influx of rustlers and outlaws from Texas who came our way due to the work of the very efficient Texas Ranger Force.

The brief history of the Arizona Rangers has been the subject of countless articles, even books. They were ruthlessly efficient, just what the Territory needed. Heffner tactfully reported that the Rangers organization only lasted eight years, "Their methods did not meet with the approval of local law officers, their friends and supporters, and feelings ran high" In relating the events of the preliminary organization of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association Mr. Heffner said, "At the end of the meeting, by standing vote, which was unanimous, the meeting endorsed the Livestock Sanitary Board for their accomplishments, help and cooperation; the Governor for his help; the Rangers and their methods in cleaning out most of the out-laws: the Brand Registration book: the Livestock Inspectors for their efficient work..." They adjourned, to meet in Phoenix early in 1904 to complete the organization, and the Secretary was instructed to contact all the cattlemen in Arizona as listed in the Brand Book and invite them to attend a meeting of cattlemen in the legislative council chamber, State Capitol Building, Phoenix, January 4th and 5th, 1904; there to consummate the organization of the Arizona Cattle Growers' Association. .

If the secretary carried out the job of contacting all the cattlemen as listed in the brand book, it must have been quite a deal, as the 1898 brand book lists some 4,600 brands and 3,600 owners.

Prior to the 1903-04 organization of the ACGA, there had been several attempts to establish Territory-wide associations, but they seem to have faded away. In 1887, there was a "Stock Growers' Association of Southern Arizona" and in 1884 at a "Territorial Convention of Stock Growers" held in Prescott, a "permanent organization had been formed.

Formation of an effective and cohesive cattlemen's association in 1904 rounded out the livestock economic structure of the developing industry in the Territory. The Rangers handling the outlaw and rustling problems; the Livestock Sanitary Commission, under several highly competent successive veterinarians, handling animal health problems (Glanders, Texas ticks, "scabs", etc.) and bringing some sort of order out of a chaotic brand recording situation, incompetent inspectors, etc.; and a policy forming association, some members of which were articulate and of subsequent national stature - all three developments sort of meshed together. That isn't to say all problems were solved. Far from it. Many remained and new ones came up - piratical railroad rates, distant markets, apprehension over the newly created Forest Reserves allotment systems, droughts, price fluctuations and so on.

But just what specific actions the newly formed ACGA took at its first annual conventions are not clear. Detailed records of these meetings have never surfaced. (This writer is convinced records were made and are now probably buried in the archives of some academic institution, some library or even in the trunk in some attic on some ranch.)

In 1916, when the Association held its 9th annual convention in Prescott, a complete, 143-page transcript of all the proceedings was published - word for spoken word. Even "laughter" and "applause" are indicated when some speaker cracked a joke or made some ringing remark of which the members approved. Publication of the annual proceedings continued each year through 1920. They make a fascinating study of the industry and its problems and of the varied people who sounded off with criticisms, suggestions and observations, some of rich pungency.

L. L. Harmon was ACGA president in 1916; W. M. Riggs, first vice president; D. A. Millett, second vice president; Walter Shute, third vice president; Fen S. Hildreth, treasurer; Sam Bradner, secretary. (Bradner was also secretary to the Livestock Sanitary and post offices of the 444 members. This list was followed by the rosters of the various County associations.

Even as today, not all of the three-day convention was preoccupied with problems. A report by C. E. Gentry, Prescott, said, in part, "Not an idle moment was given the cattlemen and their wives and the reception and entertainment committee. .. and the Yavapai County Chamber of Commerce are to be complimented upon the manner in which they conducted the smoker, card parties, banquets and dances... old time quadrilles and dances of the range, intermingled with the newer ones to form an important part of the program.

Footnote: the 1920 report of 159 pages list the members, with their post offices - 1532 members! During those five years the membership committees must have been busy.

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## Why Every Young Producer Should See Beef at Scale

I think every young producer, if given the opportunity to tour large-scale corporate beef systems, should do so. This summer, I was able to do so by attending NCBA's 2025 Young Cattlemen's Conference.

While we retain ownership through a feedlot on a percentage of our cattle every year, we have dealt with the same feedlots in the southwest for more than 20 years. An impressive part of the tour was touring the Five Rivers Kuner feedlot outside of Greeley, CO. I've been to many feedlots across the southwest and Texas panhandle, this is easily the nicest as far as infrastructure and cattle handling facilities go. The facility underwent an \$18 million renovation in 2011. This feedyard boasts one of the largest and most advanced on-site feed mills in the country. It really is a flagship facility, and I can see why NCBA takes young cattlemen here.

As a cow-calf producer who ranches near Safford, Arizona I had the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour the largest packing plant (by capacity) in the country. Tyson Fresh Foods in Dakota City, Nebraska has 42 acres under one roof, processes 7,000 head per day and employs 4,800 people.

We went to Wooster, Ohio to tour Certified Angus Beef. As an angus producer, I view this as one of the highlights of the tour. CAB was the brainchild of Harold Etling, who started the CAB brand in 1975 after a poor eating experience of an Angus steak. The brand sets standards for quality to incentivize the production of superior Angus beef. Today more than 15,000 restaurants and grocery stores advertise Certified Angus Beef. CAB also has an in-house chef talk about good meals!

We concluded the trip in Washington D.C., meeting with congressional representatives from our respective states and a reception and PAC fundraiser at the NCBA office.

I want to thank the Arizona Cattle Industry Research and Education Foundation for funding the entirety of my trip, it was truly an unforgettable experience.

-Ben Menges



ACGA leadership also wants to thank the foundation for sending our young leaders on a once in a lifetime experience.

# THE CATTLEMEN'S CHRONICLE

## JOURNALIST

### THE VIEW FROM HERE

The Boulder Creek Ranch never stays the same, and that's why it feels like home. Down in Black Canyon City at the foot of the Bradshaw Mountains, this place runs from about 1,800 feet elevation clear up to roughly 6,000 feet. You can ride all day and be in a different kind of country by sundown.

Down low it's creosote, palo verde, mesquite, and cactus; everything from jumping cholla, patty cactus to big saguaros. The Agua Fria River winds through creating canyons. Cattle learn early how to travel and work for what their food and water. The higher you go, the rougher it gets. The mountains turn rocky and steep, and they'll test a horse, a cow, and a man.

Keep climbing and the desert fades into oak brush, and manzanita, then finally pine trees pop up where the air's cooler.

Running cattle here means adjusting every day. What works down low won't work up high. You learn patience and how to be resilient, or you don't last long.

This country will humble you quick. It teaches respect and hard work, and it reminds you that ranching ain't about owning the land it's about learning how to live on it. And from right here, that view is worth every mile.

Jacob Conerly  
The Boulder Creek Ranch

### ON THE FENCE LINE

I was asked to write a short blurb on lessons I have learned from ranching. That is a hard one as I have done it all my life and pretty much everything I know (which isn't much) came from ranching.

I grew up on a family ranch started by my grandfather and grandmother, with their five children as partners. As I was much older than my sister or cousins, I was around and aware of the family dynamics that went into a family partnership. There were some pretty gigantic arguments on the direction and even the end objective of the ranch/family business.

I left the family ranch for several years in my twenties and traveled the western United States with my saddle and maybe a horse or two. What a great experience. Seeing how other people operate is a good way to learn. Some of it was better than I already knew, a lot was worse, but it all contributed to my education.

When I did return to the family ranch, I had a lot more to contribute because of my travels. My son is now a partner in our own family operation. He also left for several years and came back a more mature and knowledgeable person. In my opinion, nothing can replace the experience of leaving the nest and it makes for a stronger operation if and when the next generation decides to come home.

Brian deGanahl  
DeGanahl Cattle Co.

# THE CATTLEMEN'S CHRONICLE

## JOURNALIST

### RANCH LIFE LESSONS

I have been blessed to be raised in this lifestyle, and I believe it is one of the most fulfilling and educational ways of life. Among the many things cowboying teaches you, I think the most important lesson is that you should never stop learning. If you believe you know everything there is to know about ranching, you have a long road ahead of you. I'm lucky enough to come from long lines of ranching on both sides of my family, and despite having all of that generational ranching knowledge at my disposal, I never stop seeking more.

My curiosity has opened many doors for me, especially as a young woman making her way in cowboying. Being curious and coachable will not only earn you a wealth of knowledge, but also the respect of those who have been there and done that. The moral of the story is simple: go out and work for different ranches, listen to an old-timer's advice, and learn why people do things differently than how you grew up doing them or learned them yourself.

So take the time to try or learn something different, because at the end of the day, you may have discovered something new — or you just spent the day doing what you love. Either way, you win.

— Kasey Leist



### CATTLEMEN CHRONICLES — YOUR TURN

Every ranch has a story, and every hand has one worth telling.

Cattlemen Chronicles is built from the real experiences of our members and the people who live this life — the long days, the hard lessons, the moments of humor, and the stories that stay with you long after the work is done. These are the memories shared around the pickup tailgate, at the kitchen table, or by the fire after a long day. Stories that reflect the grit, resilience, and pride of Arizona ranching.

We're looking for short stories to feature in upcoming issues. Got a funny branding day? A monsoon that tested your fences and nerves? A close call with wildlife, a tough loss, or a small win that meant everything? Whether it's lighthearted or serious, if it's part of ranch life, it belongs here.

Remember this column is open to anyone and everyone.

- Max 250 words
- Photos encouraged

Email submissions to:  
[Cattlelog@azcattlegrowers.org](mailto:Cattlelog@azcattlegrowers.org)

# ACGA 2026 WINTER MEETING

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 18TH

## AGENDA

Arizona Industrial Commissions Building | 800 W Washington St, Phoenix, AZ 85007

\*Agenda is subject to change

8:30 a.m. Registration	1 p.m. - Senate Caucus Room - Open
9:00 a.m. Welcome Brian deGanahl, President	4:00 p.m. House
9:20 a.m. Agency Speakers	5:30 p.m. Reception at Frasher's Tavern
9:50 a.m. 15 - Minute Break	4180 N Drinkwater Blvd, Scottsdale, AZ 85251
10:05 a.m. Bylaw and Policy Update	
10:35 a.m. ACGA General Meeting	6:00 p.m. Legislative Dinner
12:00 p.m. Lunch and Bills Currently Affecting Ranchers	

**Thursday, February 19th**

10 a.m. ACGA Board of Directors Meeting

U of A Scottsdale Center - 7135 E Camelback Rd Ste, 2nd floor, Scottsdale, AZ 85251

**\*Please register by 2/14/2026. Prices will increase on 2/15/26\***

**Lodging: The Monarch Scottsdale 4000 N Drinkwater Blvd, Scottsdale AZ 85251 (623) 352-7272**

Registration Includes:

- Winter Meeting - February 18th
- Lunch & Legislative Dinner at Frasher's Tavern

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State:

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Additional Attendees' Names:

# of people \$175 =Grand Total =

Registrations can be made online or by mailing this form to the office with a check.

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# A Plan for the Future of America's Beef Industry

Anyone who makes a living in the cattle business knows we are operating in a tough season — and I don't just mean the weather. While beef demand remains strong, the national cow herd is at its lowest level in more than 75 years. Rising costs, drought, limited processing options, market volatility, and increasing regulatory pressure have made it harder than ever to stay in the business. Since 2017 alone, more than 150,000 cattle operations have disappeared.

That reality is what prompted the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to release its Beef Industry Plan — a long-term strategy aimed at strengthening the entire beef supply chain, from the ground we graze to the beef consumers buy at the store. Rather than offering short-term fixes, the plan focuses on structural improvements that support ranchers, improve market function, and help ensure the U.S. beef industry remains strong for generations to come.

## Supporting the Business of Ranching

At its core, this plan recognizes that ranching is both a business and a way of life — and it needs to be treated as such. USDA outlines steps to improve access to grazing lands, modernize disaster and risk-management programs, and expand access to capital for producers facing drought, wildfire, predation, and increasingly unpredictable conditions.

Notably, the plan does not rely on direct subsidy payments. Instead, it focuses on strengthening the tools and infrastructure ranchers already depend on, allowing producers to make their own decisions while weathering the ups and downs that come with this industry.

## Grazing: A Foundation We Cannot Ignore

Grazing and rangeland management sit at the heart of the beef industry, and USDA's plan finally puts that front and center. The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) together manage roughly 240 million acres of rangelands across 28 states, supporting more than 23,000 permittees and lessees. Nationwide, there are approximately 29,000 federal grazing allotments, and nearly 10 percent — about 24 million acres — are currently vacant.

These working landscapes are essential to rural economies. Grazing on USFS lands supports an estimated 14,200 jobs and \$645 million in GDP, while grazing on BLM lands supports roughly 35,000 jobs and \$2.7 billion in economic output. Beyond the numbers, grazing plays a critical role in maintaining healthy rangelands, reducing wildfire risk, and preserving open space.

As part of the Beef Industry Plan, USDA and the Department of the Interior (DOI) are expected to launch a USDA-DOI Grazing Action Plan through a Memorandum of Understanding anticipated in November 2025. This agreement is intended to streamline and expand grazing on federal lands, reduce administrative barriers, modernize permitting processes, and elevate grazing as a federal priority.

Most importantly, it puts producer voices back into the conversation. By expanding access and reducing red tape, this coordinated effort is designed to support herd rebuilding, strengthen rancher resilience, and keep working rangelands working.

## Processing, Markets, and Transparency

Processing bottlenecks remain one of the most frustrating challenges producers face. The plan prioritizes expanding small and regional meat processing capacity through grants, workforce development, and modernization efforts. Tools like remote grading are highlighted as a way to give producers more marketing options without being tied exclusively to large facilities.

USDA also places renewed emphasis on market transparency and fair competition. Improved reporting, stronger enforcement of competition laws, and truthful labeling — including accurate "Product of USA" claims — are all aimed at giving producers clearer price signals and consumers' confidence in domestic beef.

## Building a More Stable Future

Herd rebuilding will take time, and USDA acknowledges that supply growth must move in step with demand. The goal is stability — not another boom-and-bust cycle that leaves producers holding the bag. By investing in grazing access, processing infrastructure, and market clarity, the plan aims to create a beef industry that is more resilient and less reactive.

No plan will solve every challenge overnight. But for producers who care deeply about the future of ranching, the USDA Beef Industry Plan represents a meaningful step toward addressing the issues that have weighed on this industry for far too long.

This article is reprinted with permission from the USDA Beef Industry Plan White Paper.



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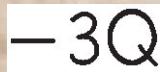
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# Ranching Among the Nesters

**Forty acres brings out the Eastie Beasties**

**Words by Casey Murph Photos by Meggan Murph**

The term “nester” is an old one from ranching in the West before barbed wire closed it in. Cattlemen came first to the western ranges, and later the government created public domain on the range. The government would grant a 160-acre plot of land to anyone willing to improve it and start a farm there. Multitudes went west, built sod shacks, adobe, log cabins, or dugouts into banks, and began plowing. Unfortunately, the homestead plan led to conflict right off the bat. Many homesteaders were recent European immigrants who didn’t understand what they were about to encounter. They did not know there would be range cattle on the land before they arrived, and they didn’t know they would be required to fence their homesteads off to keep these cattle out. They sometimes got angry and took out their frustrations by shooting or stealing the cattle.

Ranchers would often respond with violence. Without effective law enforcement in the territories, the conflict turned into range wars. The Johnson County War in Wyoming and the Pleasant Valley War in Arizona are famous examples of violent conflicts exacerbated by cattlemen and farmers/homesteaders on western ranges. Many were shot or hanged and cabins were burned. Those were dark times in U.S. history.

Behind this range war lay a fatal flaw in the homestead plan. In the arid West 160 acres would not make a productive agricultural operation. It is too dry in most of the West to farm without access to irrigation, and creeks are scarce. Many homesteaders clung to the idea that “rain follows the plow” and if they just put in the work to sow the land, God would reward them with the rain they needed for crops to flourish. Many hearts were broken when these labors and prayers were not answered, and today the West is scattered with the ruins of many of these failed homesteads.

Coincidentally, many giant cattle ranches failed around that same time. The winters were significantly worse in the 1880s than they had been a decade before, and the number of cattle that could be sustained on western rangelands turned out to be a lot lower than the eastern and European cattle barons expected. By the 1890s and early 1900s, these large cattle outfits had gone the way of the failed homesteads. Many of the few that survived had abandoned farming and collected some of the cheap cattle baron herds left behind to raise cattle, using their homesteads as their headquarters and grazing cattle on the public domain in a more conservative way. By this use of the land, a family could make a living.

By the 1930s the federal government agreed that livestock ranching was the best use of public domain, and the 1934 Taylor Grazing Act gave a homestead an allotment of land to exclusively graze its cattle. Fencing was installed between allotments and a new chapter of ranching in the American West began. A great many of today’s ranches in the Intermountain West originated on this model. After the first transcontinental railroad was completed in 1869, the federal government continued seeking entrepreneurs to build railroads connecting the East with California. One proposed route was along the Santa Fe Trail, across northern New Mexico and Arizona to the coast near San Bernardino. It followed Beale’s Wagon Road which Edward Fitzgerald Beale blazed in 1857. It was a good route for a railroad, avoiding the worst of extreme mountainous terrain.

The fledgling Atchison, Topeka & Santa Fe railroad was offered a grant by the government of every other section of public domain, like a giant checkerboard. It could choose what land it wanted for the railroad grade and then sell the rest. It was a generous offer which was readily accepted. By the late 1870s, the ATSF railroad had surveyed its railroad grade and sold their sections. One buyer was the Aztec Land and Cattle Company, based in New York City. Its private holdings from this purchase cut a swath 60 miles wide across half of northern Arizona. Besides newly purchased private property, Aztec also had exclusive access to public domain property in every other section. Called the Hashknife for the shape of its brand, Aztec was one of the largest cattle ranches in our history.

Too large, it turned out, to control. It was impossible to hire enough loyal cowboys to patrol the ranch. The rustling of cattle was rampant and much of it was by the Hashknife’s own cowboys, who started ranches of their own by the method of the “running iron,” a branding iron specifically designed to alter brands. This drama has been the inspiration for countless western novels and movies. To add to the Hashknife’s challenges, the 1890s brought drought. Like other huge cattle ranches of the time, Aztec turned out too many cattle. The bosses in New York City refused to listen to their cowboy ranch managers who begged them to cut back the herd, and by 1900 cattle began to die on the devastated rangelands. By 1904, the Aztec Land and Cattle Company had sold its surviving cattle to local ranchers. Some of these cattle,



and their brand, were sold to the Babbitt brothers, merchant storekeepers from Flagstaff. They took their cattle north and east and established a cattle ranch north of Flagstaff that remains today. Other surviving cattle were purchased by family ranchers like my great-grandfather, who borrowed enough money from the bank to quit his mule-freight business and run cattle on 200 sections of former Aztec land.

But by the '30s, many of those family ranches experienced their next challenge. Banks worldwide had made severe mistakes and mismanaged their funds. The Great Depression began, and banks were desperate to save themselves by calling in loans early. Ranchers like my great-grandfather were usually unable to pay the note off so suddenly without notice, and their properties were foreclosed on.

Much of this land wound up in the hands of speculators, and by the 1950s many decided to sell off these properties in smaller lots of 40 acres each. Advertising in urban newspapers, they sold to people who thought buying 40 acres of arid Arizona rangeland would make them ranchers.

Meanwhile many larger ranchers survived. They still held leases to every other section of government land, which gave them "adverse" access to the other sections. It worked out fine for these ranchers for a while, but by the 1960s, there was more public interest in the 40-acre parcels. They were quite cheap because they were undeveloped with no water and no roads to them. Advertised as "wilderness ranches," dreamers often fell into the trap. They often were short of funds so they dragged old, condemned travel trailers to their parcels or built shanties made of pallets or scrap. Since these parcels were so remote, county and state zoning applications were not enforced.

People owning these 40-acre parcels would often build roads through land that wasn't theirs. When they failed to reach water digging wells, they would steal water from ranchers' stock reservoirs. Many were shocked to learn that cattle ranchers were not required to fence their livestock out of their parcels, and that, by law, they had to fence their property in, which turned out to be another huge expense. They were also shocked to learn that the Taylor Grazing Act prohibited small-parcel owners from turning their own livestock out on government sections. This conflict is still going on. Jon Marvel, the anti-cattle ranching activist, might well trace his hatred for ranchers to his own family's private land parcel in the middle of the public domain cattle range. Here in northern Arizona, I know of more than a few times when these conflicts erupted in violence, as frustrated 40-acre nesters, unable or unwilling to build proper fences around their parcels, have shot and killed range cattle. One recent case in Navajo County made national news, earning the shooter felony convictions and a prison sentence. Many people attracted to these cheap parcels are so attracted for nefarious purposes. Meth labs are not rare in the old travel trailers and shanties on these parcels. It's a rough element, notorious in northeastern Arizona. The people living on parcels east of Snowflake have earned themselves the local nickname "The Eastie Beasties." Navajo and Apache county law enforcement will not enter the stronghold lands of the Eastie Beasties without an armored vehicle and SWAT officers.



In my younger days I worked for rancher Dennis Hall. He obtained a lease on one of these subdivided ranches east of Snowflake in the '80s. He brought me along to evaluate the place. We came across an old windmill next to the two-track road we were driving on and he sent me up the ladder to try to turn it on and see if it still produced water. I was halfway up the ladder when suddenly someone jumped out from the thick cedar breaks in mismatched camouflage and armed with a Chinese SKS rifle. He pointed that rifle at me and angrily screamed at us, demanding to know what we were up to.

Another complication to this story is the unfortunate fact that Dennis was a combat Marine with three Vietnam tours under his belt. He produced his own weapon and while I tenuously hung on to the ladder feeling like a bottle set up as a target, there was a standoff that seemed to last an hour, but probably lasted 45 seconds. I was relieved when this Eastie Beastie agreed to lower his rifle and go back to his shanty if we would agree to move along and not come back "snooping around." Dennis very quickly let go of that particular grazing lease.

In 2020, I discovered that someone had killed one of my cows. I found their tracks and followed them to a parcel of this subdivided land and the old camper shell and shanty on it. I contacted the sheriff and met a deputy at my gate to guide him to the site. Once the parcel was in sight, the deputy asked me to remain at a distance so as not to inflame the tension. I kept watching with my field glasses. Suddenly I saw a man climb through a hole in the wall of the shanty and run off, hiding in the saltbush. My first thought was that he had harmed the deputy, so I rushed to the place with my own sidearm and ordered him to surrender. I told him I was not a cop, but was the rancher, and would not feel obligated to wrestle with him should he attempt to challenge me. I was gratified to see the deputy walking over the ridge unharmed. The culprit had heard the deputy drive up and tried to escape. It turned out that the man was a fugitive with several violent felony warrants and was arrested by the deputy. My wife and I purchased this parcel and burned the shanty to the ground, and then I buried the charred debris with my bulldozer.

One of my best friends, Dean Harris, runs a nearby ranch which is quite literally covered with these "nests." Dean often hires me to help with gathering cattle and branding. One of the biggest challenges there is with feral dogs. Eastie Beasties are fond of acquiring many dogs of all breeds, but not so fond of keeping them at home. Invariably they join with other loose dogs and become feral, running the rangelands and attacking cattle and wildlife like pronghorn. It is an unfortunate fact that when I go to Dean's place I have to carry a pistol in my chap pocket to deal with these dogs.

I was disappointed to see the recent news that our new Interior secretary, Doug Burgum, has indicated support for offering a considerable part of federal land up for sale to relieve the housing shortage. I think that the idea may come from a good place, but I am confident that opening federal rangelands up to low-cost housing will end up in many more of the circumstances I have described here. Every city has areas of abandoned buildings, vacant condemned homes and blight. I believe these would be the best places to build new housing, if that is what is needed, in order to leave federal rangelands intact. We westerners who supported Trump did so largely to stop the development of industrial wind and solar on our public rangelands, and the idea of covering it in favelas is every bit as bad—or worse—than those industrial uses of rangeland.

We ranchers have seen enough Eastie Beasties and nesters.

Casey Murph lives on the H Bar Y Ranch in Navajo County, Ariz. His family has ranned in the Grand Canyon State since 1904.



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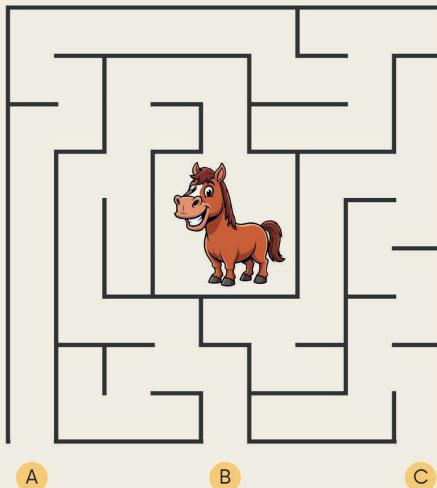


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## Suggested Bylaws Amendments for 2026 Winter Meeting

We received proposed amendments to Article 5 and Section 6.4.3 of our bylaws. These amendments will be presented for a vote at the Winter Meeting on February 18, 2026.

**Article 5 – Membership.** The proposed updates clarify that our organization currently recognizes two classes of members: voting and non-voting.

- Voting Members: Cattle Producers and Business Members (no change).
- Non-Voting Members: Ranchers for Tomorrow, Associate Members, and Friends of the Industry (no change).
  - The amendments would also create a new non-voting membership category, the Arizona Junior Cattle Club (previously referred to as AJLA). In addition, the Business Associate non-voting category would be removed.

**Section 6.4.3 – Duties of the Treasurer.** At the Summer Convention, the membership approved a change to our fiscal year—from July 1–June 30 to January 1–December 31. To reflect this adjustment, the annual financial report would now be presented at the Winter Meeting rather than at the Summer Convention.

If you have any questions, please contact Leatta McLaughlin at [leattamc@yahoo.com](mailto:leattamc@yahoo.com) or (623) 330-1779.

# EMPTY SADDLES



Rose Awtrey- July 29, 1946 - October 10, 2025

Rose Awtrey passed away on the 10th day of October 2025 at her VM Ranch and home on the Blue. Rose was born on July 29th, 1946, in St. Helens OR. Only because her mother, Kathren Lee had a sister that lived there, which reasoned her birthplace. Two weeks later she returned to the Blue where she called home her entire life.

Rose's Grandfather, Tolles Cosper, was among the first to settle and run cattle on the Blue River range. Following the footsteps of her grandfather and father DeWitt Cosper she never wavered from the life of ranching and raising cattle on the Blue.

Over the years Rose was a member of the Blue School board, an officer in the Greenlee County Cattle Growers, served on the Blue Precinct Election Board, and a member and officer of the Blue River Cowbells. In fact, she attended the first chartered meeting of the Blue River Cowbells in 1954.

Above all Rose was rancher and a cattle woman thru and thru and had a passion for cattle, horses and dogs. She loved the mountains and trails in which she rode her entire life. She also loved the people of the Blue. Many of which were her lifelong friends and were considered like her brothers and sisters.

Rose's marks on the Blue River are as deep as they are long, and they will never be lost nor forgotten.

Rose's immediate remaining family are son, Duane Coleman, and daughter, Leddy Hughes along with four grandchildren and three great grand children.

## The Ranger's Cabin

by Bryce Angell

The higher mountain, autumn air came early with a bite. We made our stop at the ranger station cabin for the night.

We locked the horses in the barn. Each got a share of oats. Then grabbed our saddlebags along with heavy overcoats.

The outpost cabin's Franklin Stove was ready for a fire. We chopped some kindling, lit a match, and watched the flames grow higher.

We warmed our hands, then held our boots above the stove for heat. I finally rubbed some circulation back to my cold feet.

The rustic old guard station was now feeling toasty warm. We'd stay here for the night and weather out the mountain storm.

Our Coleman propane lantern gave us precious light to see. It must have been nostalgia, at least a feeling over me.

I gazed around the quarters, not a plug-in on the wall. No internet to check on and no cell phone use at all.

I only could imagine 'bout this cabin long ago. Two rangers eating biscuits, prob'ly made from sourdough. One ranger was much older. He was tall and extra lean. His face was weather chiseled, didn't show an ounce of mean.

The other ranger, young in years, yet smart enough to know he could profit more from listening than just to talk for show.

Were they eating steaks of venison or rations from canned beef? Did the younger get a sip of gin that later caused him grief?

Did they talk about their lives out in the vastness all alone? The older ranger said this was the only life he'd known.

I'm sure he told the young buck, "Just keep thinkin' 'bout your work. Those gals are mighty pretty, but they'll drive you plumb berserk!"

They finished eating supper. The oldest rolled a Bull Durham smoke. The younger ranger moved on back. Tobacco made him choke.

They washed and dried the dishes. Dumped the coffee from the pot. Then they turned in for the evening, sleeping bag and army cot.

The rangers used the cabin for their safety and for rest. Now it's used for recreation. Did the rangers ever guess?

Has the cabin seen life's changes from the day that it was new? And does it miss the rangers over men like me and you?



# RANCH RASCALS



## WORD SEARCH

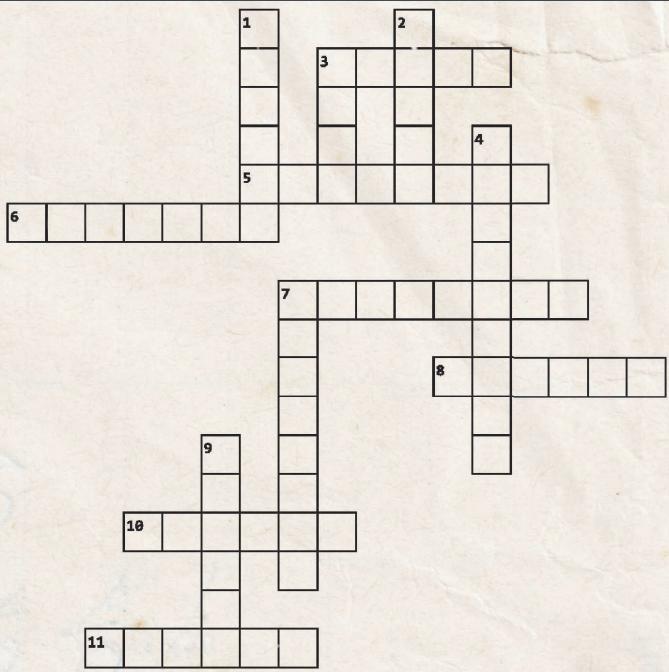
Words to Find: brand, saddle, heifer, rope, cactus, boots, pasture, steer, cowboy, lasso, haystack, corral

R Z V T O X Z B S X Q B I A Y W V C B X  
K Y F A Q G Y F T K C E R D Y G O E Z V  
K H T L Q V V S Q B F U F P A R R V K F  
C T C T V B K I A O D H Z T R U H W Y Z  
A N S S Z C Z P L D S C A A T U H P P M  
T U V V U U S H O Q D S L S B C Y U V E  
S H A C H T R Q A O H L A H P B N S M V  
Y L R E E G C J D E E P E L G V Z D S U  
A S K E Z B M A P B T I S T O O B A R I  
H I R M K J H O C D F B W R Y O B W O C  
U O R D N A R B O E G V E J F G N D I H  
J W D V Q W F B R Q T H Q X G D E V R V

## CROSS WORD PUZZLE

### Across

3. Tool used to mark cattle for identification
5. Cattle breed known for its wide horns
6. Grassland used for grazing animals
7. Ranch hand who takes care of horses
8. Person who herds and tends cattle
10. Leather headgear used to control a horse
11. Enclosed area for holding livestock



### Down

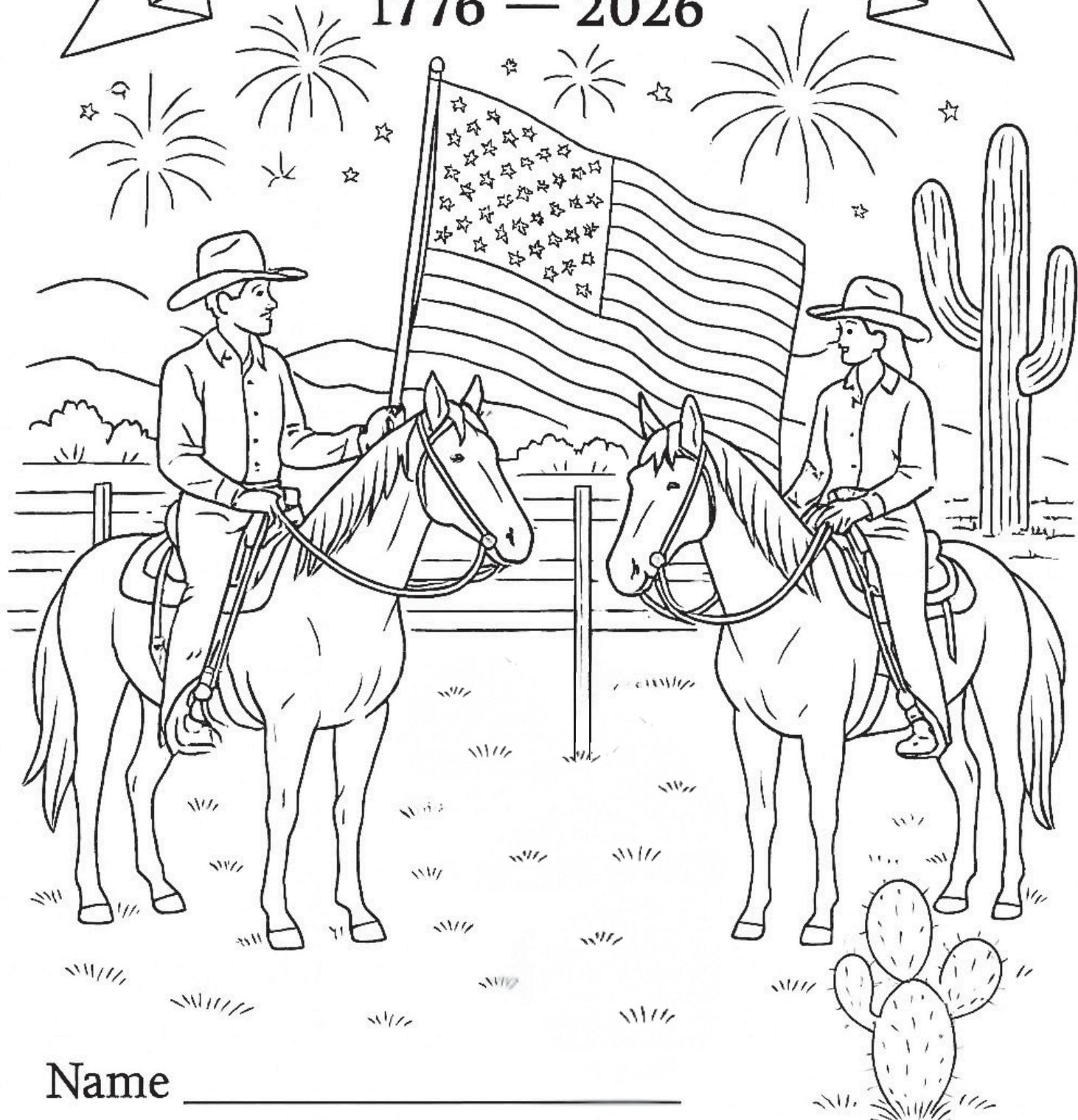
1. Leather seat fastened on a horse for riding
2. A large farm for raising cattle or other livestock
3. Main building used for storing hay or livestock
4. Leader of a cattle drive
7. Pumps water from the ground on ranches
9. Young female cow that hasn't calved

**AMERICA'S 250: RANCHERS RIDE FOR FREEDOM**  
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SODAK MOLLY 5123 (FL 1.04), the Bull Maker, produced just 3 daughters in her 14-years. Those daughters each remained in the herd until over 15 years old, with the oldest dying at 17, just 2-months after having her 15<sup>th</sup> calf. The oldest Molly granddaughter in the herd today is approaching 12 years old with 10 calves.

Heartstone Hawkeye U413 (FL .98), a Molly grandson we used for nearly 7 years, has daughters that have remained in our herd for 10+ years. His oldest daughter, Heartstone Z238, is now the oldest producing dam in our herd at 13 years old with 11 calves.

**HOW DO YOU DEFINE  
FUNCTIONAL LONGEVITY?**



## Topical Drug Approved for NWS: Another Case Detected in Mexico

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service recently confirmed a new case of New World Screwworm (NWS) was found about 120 miles south of the Texas border in Montemorelos, Nuevo León, Mexico. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) also conditionally approved a topical medication for the prevention and treatment of NWS infestations.

A 22-month-old bovine was confirmed positive after being transported from Veracruz to a feedlot in Nuevo León. The detection is the northernmost active case currently in Mexico, and the second detection at the same feedlot since October.

"We will keep working shoulder to shoulder with USDA, Mexican animal health authorities, and our own state agency partners to defend our border and Texans from this dangerous threat," said Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller.

On Dec. 4, the FDA conditionally approved Exzolt Cattle-CA1 (fluralaner), a topical solution for the prevention and treatment of NWS larval infestations and the treatment and control of cattle fever tick. The drug is authorized for beef cattle 2 months of age and older and replacement dairy heifers less than 20 months of age. The product should not be used on lactating dairy cattle, dairy calves, veal calves or bulls at least 1 year old that are intended for breeding.

The sponsor, Intervet Inc. of Rahway, NJ, has up to five years to generate the additional effectiveness data needed to support a full FDA approval.

The topical is available by prescription only and dispensed in 250-milliliter, 1-liter and 5-liter bottles. The product is applied directly to the hair and skin in a narrow strip from the top of an animal's back from between the shoulder blades to the base of the tail. The slaughter withdrawal period is 98 days.

By Anna Miller Fortozo, WLJ managing editor. Republished with the permission from Western Livestock Journal.

## Little Indication of Heifer Retention in 2025

As 2025 wraps up, there is still little indication of significant heifer retention for herd rebuilding though some retention may be beginning slowly. The July Cattle inventory report showed the smallest beef replacement heifer inventory in the history of the report back to 1973, although no comparison to last year was possible (the report was not available last year). The October Cattle on Feed report showed that the percentage of heifers in feedlots was unchanged from July and still above average as it has been since late 2018.

It is true that heifer slaughter is down 6.6% so far this year and is falling faster than steer slaughter, which is down 4.4% for the year to date.

Figure 1. Heifer Slaughter  
12 Month MA

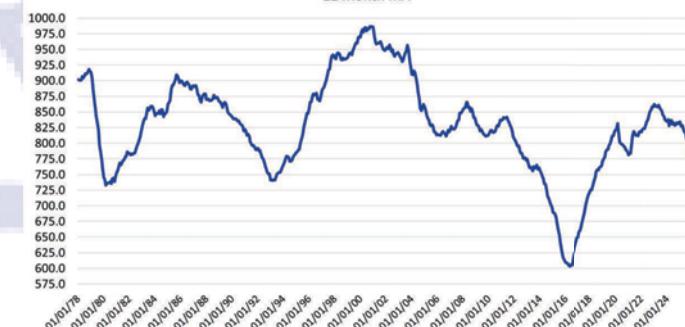


Figure 1 shows average monthly heifer slaughter since January 1978. Average heifer slaughter peaked most recently in January 2023 and has declined 9% percent as of October 2025. Heifer slaughter is quite variable and does decrease during periods of herd expansion. However, at this point the decrease in heifer slaughter is not enough to indicate significant heifer retention.

Figure 2. Steer:Heifer Slaughter Ratio  
12 Month MA

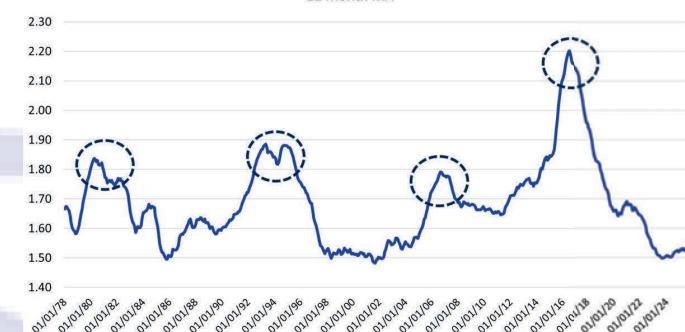


Figure 2 shows the ratio of steer to heifer slaughter over the same 49-year period. The obvious spikes in the ratio (dotted circles) correspond to herd expansions in the years 1979-1982, 1990-1996, 2004-2006 and 2014-2019. The ratio increases when heifer slaughter drops relative to steer slaughter during herd rebuilding. The current steer to heifer ratio has begun to increase but appears to indicate only the slightest beginning of heifer retention. Additional heifer retention may build in 2026 but the pace appears to be slow.

By Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist. Republished with the permission from Western Livestock Journal.

# Greens Seek to Dismiss Challenge to Gila Feral Cattle Removal

The Center for Biological Diversity filed a court motion in early December to dismiss a lawsuit brought by the New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association (NMCGA) challenging the U.S. Forest Service's (USFS) removal of feral cattle from the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico in 2023.

"The Forest Service did right by the Gila Wilderness, its endangered animals and the public by finally ending decades of damage from feral cattle," said Taylor McKinnon of the Center. "Now that the job's finished, the industry's lawsuit has no leg to stand on. Our motion calls for the lawsuit to be thrown out."

The environmental group had intervened in the livestock group's suit to block the agency's 2023 estray cattle removal plan. That case is currently before the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals after the District Court for the District of New Mexico earlier this year ruled to uphold the agency's plan.

The Center for Biological Diversity called on the court to dismiss the livestock industry's suit as moot, since USFS has not detected any feral cattle since operations concluded in 2023. In addition, USFS withdrew its decision authorizing the plan in mid-November.

## Background

In early 2023, the USFS initiated aerial shooting operations to cull feral cattle in the Gila National Forest, citing environmental degradation and threats to wildlife habitats and public safety.

The NMCGA, along with private ranchers and the Humane Farming Association, had attempted to stop the agency from shooting the estray cattle by filing suit in February 2023. The groups argued the agency violated federal regulations by not following proper procedures for removing unauthorized livestock.

NMCGA said it was concerned about the precedent the shootings would set, and the impacts on private property. In addition, the association said lethally removing the cattle was a waste of beef, and there would be consequences to the agency's improper carcass management.

The groups were denied their requests for a temporary restraining order and preliminary injunction.

"The plaintiffs express concerns regarding the operation's impact on goodwill and the potential loss of customers, but these potential harms are not sufficient to justify the granting of injunctive relief here," the court wrote in its opinion.

Shortly after the livestock groups filed suit, the Center for Biological Diversity intervened in the lawsuit in support of USFS. Later that fall, the court granted the group the right to intervene.

A year after the aerial shooting operations took place, in February 2024, a four-hour-long hearing was held between the involved parties. Nearly another full year later, in January 2025, the district judge maintained that USFS complied with all laws, and the livestock industry lawsuit against the agency was dismissed. The ruling gave the Gila National Forest full legal authority to remove feral livestock from federal lands. NMCGA then appealed the decision to the 10th Circuit.

In November 2025, the agency withdrew its decision authorizing the project, explaining "the desired outcomes of this project have been achieved" after there have been no signs of feral cattle since removal efforts concluded in 2023.

— Anna Miller Fortoz, WLJ managing editor. Republished with the permission from Western Livestock Journal.

# AZFAR Museum & Hall of Fame

## 2026 Arizona Farm and Ranch Hall of Fame

The Arizona Farm and Ranch Hall of Fame have announced the 2026 honorees to be inducted into the Hall of Fame at a dinner in their honor on March 21, 2026 at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass in Chandler. The honorees are Gary Thrasher DVM, Hereford; Bruzzi Vineyard, Young; Greenback Valley Ranch, The Conway's, Tonto Basin and The Brophy Family, statewide ranching and farming. Earl Platt, cattle rancher, St. Johns, is honored posthumously. Our Hall of Fame website, [www.azfarmandranch.org](http://www.azfarmandranch.org) has information on sponsorships and ordering tickets to the dinner. Please join us honoring our 2026 Hall of Fame inductees.

### Snap Shots From 2025



# PLC Update

Not too long ago, I read that by the end of January more than 80% of New Year's resolutions will have been abandoned, cast aside as idealistic notions that seemed workable in the wee hours of January 1, but look a bit bleaker by February. Each year, we commit to going to the gym, giving up a vice, or starting a new hobby, only to realize that there's no magic change that happens when the calendar turns to a new year.

Unlike my resolution to drink less coffee, PLC's work began as soon as the President and new Congress were sworn in by the end of January. PLC had already started conversations with the Trump transition team, and our "resolutions" called on the new administration to act on a long list of priorities for federal lands grazing permittees. By the end of February, we had already started seeing meaningful policy change.

PLC's early wins included working with BLM to rescind an Instructional Memorandum that would have prevented renewal of grazing permits and directed the agency to take unscientific action in sage grouse plans. At PLC's urging, BLM immediately took steps to rescind the ill-fated Public Lands Rule. USDA announced plans to rescind the 2001 Roadless Rule that has certainly exacerbated – if not been directly responsible for – some of the worst forest conditions in the West over the last 25 years. The Trump Administration stripped NEPA back to its original and most efficient form, requiring agencies to decrease NEPA delays and make environmental reviews more effective. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service rescinded some of the most problematic changes to the Endangered Species Act from the Biden-era rules, restoring common-sense and efficient process to identification and designation of habitat and critical habitat.

As part of PLC's priorities for this administration, PLC provided a clear set of recommendations to BLM as part of our request for them to move as early as possible on reforming grazing regulations. We've been working with USFS for the last number of years to improve the directives that govern grazing program administration, and there is potential in this administration to enshrine some of the most positive changes in regulation.

Never inclined to be left out of the conversation, the first session of the 119<sup>th</sup> Congress delivered on grazing priorities in a way we haven't seen for decades. This last year was the friendliest I have ever seen for grazing priorities. From bipartisan support of bills like the Ranching Without Red Tape Act to enable permittees to move forward with maintenance of range improvements, to House passage and Senate progress on the Fix Our Forests Act to increase the use of targeted grazing across National Forest System lands to prevent wildfire, the message from Congress was clear: they heard permittees' message loud and clear, and they want to deliver lasting policy change.

PLC supported 7 witnesses who testified before Congress in 2025. This record-setting number is a clear recognition from Congress that they value federal lands grazing permittees' perspective on a wide range of issues. PLC President Tim Canterbury testified on the "State of the Rangeland" at the beginning of the year. Hearings included the need for ESA reform, gray wolf delisting, producer burdens resulting from inefficient federal policy, the consequences of catastrophic wildfire, and the need for meaningful reform to litigation incentives like the Equal Access to Justice Act. Witnesses came from across the West: California, South Dakota, Colorado, New Mexico, Washington, and more.

Certainly, 2025 had its share of challenges, but we begin 2026 with strong relationships with Congress, federal agencies and the White House. When faced with challenges, PLC meets them head-on, advocating for producer confidence, security, and profitability. We see the light at the end of some decades-long tunnels like restoring grazing to vacant allotments, improving grazing regulations, and resolving regional inconsistencies in management flexibility. This year also provides a once-in-a-generation opportunity to highlight the history, culture, and value of federal lands grazing as part of the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists. This global effort makes connections between ranchers in Oregon, herders in Mongolia, and producers in Ethiopia – and everywhere in between.

This year, PLC will celebrate our 58<sup>th</sup> anniversary. This year, like all the others before it, we don't need New Year's "resolutions" because we have a policy book full of strong directives. Last year showed us what working with the federal government can look like when stakeholders provide clear priorities and are met with agencies willing to listen.

I hope you all had a restful holiday season and are ready to get back at it – there's work to do!

Kaitlynn Glover  
Executive Director, PLC

We are happy to announce that Marci Schlup-Hall will be rejoining the Public Lands Council as a contractor, providing valuable support to PLC affiliates, board members, and external outreach efforts. Marci grew up on her family ranches in northeastern Wyoming. She attended the University of Wyoming, graduating in 2009 with a bachelor's in political science. After graduation she worked for U.S. Senator John Barrasso before joining PLC & NCBA in the Washington, DC office from 2013-2017. She returned to help manage the family ranches in Wyoming for a couple years, before moving to Arizona after her marriage to rancher and ag lender, Trever Hall. Marci has 4 stepchildren, Dee, Ashley, Hannah, Trever Jr and 1-year old son, John. Please join us in welcoming Marci—back—to the PLC team.



## Beef Council Update

It's safe to say that protein...is having a moment. It's everywhere – protein-enhanced snacks, coffee, water, and even beer. Trends may come and go (I can't imagine protein Pop-Tarts are here to stay), but one thing remains constant: beef is still the king of protein. And for good reason. Beef delivers a nutrient-dense package of 10 essential nutrients, including high-quality protein that supports strong, lean bodies by building and replenishing muscle, helps us feel satisfied longer, and, let's be honest, tastes great.



Some protein trends do have staying power. One is the rise of GLP-1 medications. Today, about 1 in 8 Americans uses these drugs for weight management, diabetes, heart disease, or a combination. The top nutrition recommendation for people starting GLP-1s? Prioritize lean protein at every meal to minimize muscle loss that often accompanies rapid weight loss. Beef fits that guidance perfectly.

Another trend is simple but powerful: growing awareness of protein's importance. Protein was top-of-mind at our 2025 nutrition events, from the Arizona Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and the School Nutrition Association of Arizona to our ongoing work with university master's-level nutrition programs. Nutrition professionals are more positive about protein, especially beef, than ever before in my career, and the research supports it.

A 3-ounce cooked serving of beef provides 25 grams of protein, or 50% of the Daily Value, making it an excellent source. Beef's essential nutrients benefit every stage of life: heme iron for babies starting solids at six months; protein, zinc, choline, and B vitamins for growing kids; iron for young women and pregnant mothers; protein for athletes, farmers, and ranchers; and key nutrients like protein, zinc, and B vitamins for peri- and menopausal women and older adults to combat muscle loss, fatigue, and bone density decline.

Looking ahead to 2026, beef is well positioned to meet emerging trends. As consumers navigate price concerns, we'll continue highlighting beef's nutritional value, great taste, and budget-friendly cuts while aligning with interest in balance, smaller portions, whole-body wellness, snacking, and meal prep.

Lauren Maehling  
Arizona Beef Council Executive Director  
lmaehling@arizonabeef.org



## NCBA Update

Members of the Arizona Cattle Growers Association,

My name is Denny Atchley, and I have the pleasure of working on the membership team at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA). In my role with NCBA, I have had the great privilege of meeting many of you at the ACGA meetings, and I look forward to meeting many more of you in the future.



Founded in 1898, NCBA is the oldest and largest national trade association representing the American cattle producer. It is our mission to serve the cattle and beef industry by improving the business climate, growing beef demand and increasing the world's access to U.S. beef. NCBA is working every day to fight for your rights with policy created by cattlemen, for cattlemen.

We have seen a lot of big wins over the last year in Washington, D.C. We secured tax relief to keep our operations financially sustainable, helping cattle producers save more of their hard-earned money. We expanded market access to improve demand for American beef. We protected private property rights and defended the industry from harmful policies pushed by extremist animal rights groups.

None of this would have been possible without the support of NCBA members nationwide, supporting this association and getting involved in the grassroots policy-making process.

If you are already a member of NCBA, I want to sincerely thank you for investing in the future of our industry and our way of life. If you have not yet joined NCBA, I would love the opportunity to speak with you and discuss how an NCBA membership can benefit you and your operation, while supporting our policy efforts in Washington, D.C.

Please feel free to reach out to me at [datchley@beef.org](mailto:datchley@beef.org) or call (303) 850-3365.

To learn more about NCBA, explore exclusive member benefits, and stay up to date on industry news, visit [NCBA.org](http://NCBA.org).



National Cattlemen's  
Beef Association



## NEW WORLD SCREWWORM

### Background

New World Screwworm (NWS) infestation occurs when NWS fly larva feed on living tissues of mammals, including humans. If left untreated, NWS can be fatal. Female NWS flies lay their eggs, which develop into larva, at body orifices or open wounds. Cattle are at an increased risk for NWS infestations due to the numerous possibilities for open wounds including castration, dehorning, and fresh branding sites that provide an excellent environment for NWS flies to lay their eggs. NWS flies have a short reproduction cycle. NWS eggs hatch into dangerous parasitic larva (maggots) within 24 hours after eggs are laid in an area. After feeding for 5-7 days, the larva leaves the body tissue and drops to the ground and pupate into adult NWS flies within an additional 3-5 days.

### Stop NWS by Protecting Your Herd:

Preventing an infestation of NWS is key – treatment can be difficult, and eradication is expensive. NWS are attracted to the open wounds and mucus membranes where they lay their eggs, and they can be carried by both domestic and wild animals. We recommend taking steps to quickly identify and treat open wounds and keeping wildlife away from your cattle to the extent possible.

- Frequently inspect cattle and pay close attention to insect bites, cuts, and dehorning/branding sites. Immediately treat any open wounds, scratches, or scabs.
- Closely monitor new calves and mothers. NWS flies often lay eggs on the navel areas of calves, and the vulva and perineum of cows. On bulls and steers, monitor the sheath/prepuce as well.
- Pay close attention to nasal passages and eyes for signs of larvae (maggot) infestation.
- Minimize access of wild animals (birds, feral hogs, etc.) to cattle to the greatest extent possible.
- Practice biosecurity measures like frequently cleaning clothing, boots, vehicles, and equipment on your farm or ranch.

### Animals suffering from NWS infestation may exhibit the following signs:

- Bloody or light-colored drainage from a cut or wound.
- A cut or wound that rapidly enlarges for seemingly no reason.

- White or cream-colored runny substance (the eggs) in and around a wound.
- Presence of fly larvae (maggots) in wounds.
- Irritated behavior, foul odor, fever, reduced appetite, and signs of pain, including repeated head shaking.

If you see any of these signs in your cattle, contact your veterinarian immediately and then contact USDA APHIS. Remember to kill and preserve the larvae by placing directly into concentrated (70%) ethyl or isopropyl alcohol to help with future identification efforts.

### What is NCBA doing?

NCBA has a strong, grassroots policy on combating pests and foreign animal disease. Under that direction, NCBA will continue working with Congress and USDA to fund and expand the sterile male fly program to properly protect the American cattle herd from NWS infestation. NWS are devastating parasites that can be lethal for livestock, wildlife, and humans. NWS was previously eradicated from the United States in the late 1960s using sterile male NWS flies. Sterile insect technique (SIT), using sterile male NWS flies to mate with female NWS flies, who only mate once in their lifetime, is a technique that has been very successful in eradicating and halting the spread of NWS.

This Article is sponsored  
by The Arizona Cattle  
Industry Research and  
Education Foundation



## Cowbelles Update

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! I hope everyone has enjoyed their holidays and were able to spend some extra time enjoying old and new traditions with family and friends. As we look into this new year making goals and resolutions, I hope supporting Arizona State Cowbelles and their locals will be on the top of your list! If there is not a local in your area, maybe you would consider starting one and being a part of this great Arizona tradition.

I would like to take this month to 'introduce' you to the Arizona State Cowbelles. It is the association that brings together women of the ranching communities and women who support our industry. We depend upon each and every lady to add to the collective voice of the Arizona beef industry. The Arizona State Cowbelles meets a few times a year but has affiliates, called 'locals'. They meet at a more local level and each host different events for their areas promoting beef as well as supporting their communities.

Beginning where it all began, The Cowbelles is located in Douglas, Arizona. They meet the third Tuesday of the month September through May in The Cowbelles Hall in the city of Douglas, AZ. The hall is well worth the trip to see historical pictures and artifacts. They are welcoming anyone that would like to be an associate member. The fees will be used for the upkeep of the hall.

North of there, Willcox Cowbelles is adjusting their meeting times and dates for monthly meetings September through May. They are very active in their community. Look for them, at Rex Allen Days, Willcox Bull Sale and they may have a Dinner/Dance fundraiser in the spring

Greenlee County Cowbelles is experimenting with different meeting times to accommodate more members and their work schedules. Their biggest event is Ranch Days for 4th graders in the spring. They host 4 schools over 2 days teaching the students about all aspects of ranching.

Blue River Cowbelles celebrates Christmas and Easter with their community, food sales and cemetery cleanup. Last year, they donated money to send Ginger Cheney to Washington D.C. to fight for the removal or delisting of the Mexican Grey Wolf from the Endangered Species list. Thank you, Ginger, for being a voice for the Arizona ranchers in our nation's capital.

Yavapai County Cowbelles sell tickets for a beautiful quilt each year for their scholarship fund. They promote beef and attend various events in their area including the Bar T Bar Bull Sale, Cowpunchers Reunion Rodeo, Yavapai Cattle Grower's Calf Sale and others.

Heading back down south, the Santa Cruz County Cowbelles is separated by Mt. Wrightson and has two locals. Each local has events they organize. They also work as a collective for other Santa Cruz County events such as the Santa Cruz Rodeo, Fair and Empire Ranch Booth. Elgin/Sonoita is a group on the east side of the mountain. They meet on the first Wednesday of the month at 10am. On the west side of the mountain, Tubac/Amado meets on the first Tuesday of the month.

If you are not that far south, Tucson Cowbelles meets the second Tuesday of the month in various locations. Their big events include their MO Christmas Party and their big beef promotion booth at the U of A's Tucson Festival of Books in March.

If you ever thought about joining, I would encourage you to do it now! Arizona will be hosting the ANCW Region VI meeting - being incorporated with the WIRED (Women in Ranching Education Development) event in Kona, Hawaii. Two days will be spent touring two different ranches on the big island while learning different cattle handling, chute side skills and anything you would want to know about raising cattle. It will be a great time to meet cattlewomen from across the country and make connections and memories to last a lifetime.

Look up more information about ASC and their locals online at [arizonacowbelles.org](http://arizonacowbelles.org). More information about American National Cattle Women can be found at [ancw.org](http://ancw.org).

Micaela McGibbon  
President of Arizona Cowbelles

## U of A Update



1. The FPSL and Wildcat country Market will be closed for the U of A winter closure from December 23-January 4th.

2. ACBS still has an open faculty search for a Livestock Extension Specialist and applications are being reviewed as they are submitted. Additionally, we have a Professor of Practice in Animal Science faculty position that is newly open and accepting applicants for individuals to teach animal science courses.

See the following URL for details: <https://arizona.csod.com/ux/ats/careersite/4/home/requisition/24132?c=arizona>

As always, I'm happy to answer any questions that you may have ([dscottmerrell@arizona.edu](mailto:dscottmerrell@arizona.edu)) and wish you all the very best as we wrap up the summer months.

Dr. D. Scott (Scotty) Merrell  
Director of the School of Animal and Comparative Biomedical Sciences  
The University of Arizona

# USDA Update

## USDA Announces Farmer Bridge Assistance Program

In December, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the \$12 billion Farmer Bridge Assistance (FBA) Program, aimed at helping farmers and producers manage ongoing market disruptions, higher input costs, and lingering impacts from weather and supply chain challenges during the 2025 production year. While the program does not provide direct payments to cattle operations, it carries important implications for Arizona's cattle producers and the broader agricultural systems they rely on.

Under the FBA Program, up to \$11 billion will be directed toward major field crops, with an additional \$1 billion reserved for specialty crops and other eligible commodities. These funds are designed to provide short-term financial stability to crop producers facing tight margins, rising production costs, and uncertainty heading into the next growing season.

For Arizona cattle ranchers, the connection is indirect but significant. Feed availability and affordability remain ongoing concerns, particularly during prolonged drought conditions and periods of limited forage. Supporting hay, grain, and forage producers helps stabilize the supply chain that livestock producers depend on, easing pressure on feed costs and maintaining access to essential inputs. When crop producers can stay in business, livestock operations are better positioned to weather volatile markets.

USDA officials emphasized that the Farmer Bridge Assistance Program is intended to strengthen the overall agricultural economy, recognizing the interconnected nature of crop and livestock production. By supporting producers upstream, the program aims to reduce ripple effects that often reach cattle producers through higher feed prices and reduced availability.

Producers with eligible crops must ensure their 2025 acreage reports are accurately filed with their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) office by December 19, 2025. Commodity-specific payment rates are expected to be announced later this month, with payments anticipated to begin in early 2026. USDA encourages producers to work closely with their local FSA offices to confirm eligibility and reporting requirements.

While the Farmer Bridge Assistance Program may not directly put dollars into cattle producers' pockets, it reflects a broader approach to agricultural stability. Programs like this play a role in keeping the systems that support ranching intact — from feed production to supply chain resilience — helping ensure Arizona's cattle industry remains viable through continued uncertainty.

Adapted from U.S. Department of Agriculture Press Release No. 0239.25.

## Arizona Department of Ag Update

### NW Screwworm Workshop

Between 11/9-11/10, a two-day workshop was held in Willcox, AZ organized by the New Mexico Livestock Board, Arizona Department of Agriculture, NM State University and University of Arizona. This workshop invited two guest speakers from Mexico's SENASICA (equivalent of USDA) who specialize in Foreign Animal Disease investigation and response, and a retired New World Screwworm (NWS) Subject Matter Expert from the USDA Agricultural Research Service and Foreign Services to provide background info and boots-on-the-ground experience with the current NWS outbreak in Mexico to livestock officers, inspectors, University Cooperative Extension staff, Arizona and New Mexico ALIRT veterinarians, and other allied industry professionals to provide the tools to train others in the examination of animals for potential infestation. This training was highly valuable and really drove home how thorough these examinations will need to be to facilitate animal movement and commerce out of an infested zone should the United States get a NSW incursion. Mr. Sonny Shores and the Willcox Livestock Auction kindly supported the facility and animals for the hands-on component of this training and the workshop organizers would like to extend a special thank you to Sonny and his team for supporting this effort.

### Why This Matters to Cattle Producers

The Farmer Bridge Assistance Program doesn't send checks directly to cattle operations, but it still matters on the ranch. Feed costs remain one of the biggest pressures producers face, especially during drought and limited forage conditions. By supporting crop producers who supply hay and grain, the program helps stabilize the feed system cattle operations depend on. When crop producers struggle, the impact shows up quickly in higher prices and tighter supplies. Programs like this are meant to prevent those ripple effects. While indirect, the FBA helps keep the broader agricultural economy functioning — and that stability matters to every cattle producer.



**AZDA**  
ARIZONA  
DEPARTMENT  
OF AGRICULTURE

**Licensing Section**

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# Proposed BRANDS

The official location for notice of proposed brands is the Arizona Department of Agriculture's website at <http://searchagriculture.az.gov/mastercontent/brandsnotice.aspx>. To view the complete list of proposed brands, be sure to check the AZDA website. Below are a few of the brands submitted in accordance with A.R.S § 3-1261(C).

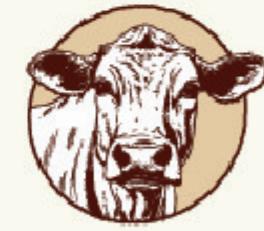
These brands are not available for sale by the Arizona Department of Agriculture. The "End Date" shown is the deadline for receiving protests for the proposed brand. All protests or objections must be submitted in writing and postmarked before the "End Date" in the chart below. Protests that are postmarked after the End Date will not be considered.

Brand	Brand No.   End Date	Location	Brand	Brand No.   End Date	Location	Brand	Brand No.   End Date	Location
	Brand No.: 30663 End Date: 1/9/2026	Cattle: LR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30662 End Date: 1/7/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30661 End Date: 1/4/2026	Cattle: LH Horse: LS Sheep: LR Goat: LR
	Brand No.: 30658 End Date: 1/3/2026	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30659 End Date: 1/3/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30660 End Date: 1/3/2026	Cattle: RS Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30657 End Date: 1/2/2026	Cattle: RR Horse: RT Sheep: B Goat: RR		Brand No.: 30656 End Date: 1/2/2026	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: RH Goat: RH		Brand No.: 30637 End Date: 12/31/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30653 End Date: 12/31/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30655 End Date: 12/31/2025	Cattle: NO Horse: RS Sheep: RS Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30654 End Date: 12/31/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 11644 End Date: 12/28/2025 AMEND	Cattle: LH Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30401 End Date: 12/28/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30419 End Date: 12/28/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 30367 End Date: 12/26/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30354 End Date: 12/25/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: LT Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30356 End Date: 12/25/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: LS Sheep: RH Goat: RH
	Brand No.: 20322 End Date: 12/21/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RS Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30323 End Date: 12/21/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RT Sheep: RH Goat: RH		Brand No.: 30321 End Date: 12/21/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20318 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LT Sheep: LR Goat: LR		Brand No.: 20316 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LS Sheep: LR Goat: LR		Brand No.: 20317 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20315 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30320 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: LH Goat: LH		Brand No.: 20319 End Date: 12/20/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20313 End Date: 12/18/2025	Cattle: NO Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30314 End Date: 12/18/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20312 End Date: 12/18/2025	Cattle: RT Horse: RT Sheep: RR Goat: RR
	Brand No.: 20311 End Date: 12/17/2025	Cattle: LS Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30310 End Date: 12/17/2025	Cattle: RT Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20309 End Date: 12/14/2025	Cattle: NO Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20308 End Date: 12/14/2025	Cattle: RR Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30307 End Date: 12/13/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20306 End Date: 12/12/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20305 End Date: 12/12/2025	Cattle: LR Horse: NO Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 30303 End Date: 12/7/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20302 End Date: 12/7/2025	Cattle: RS Horse: LS Sheep: NO Goat: NO
	Brand No.: 20304 End Date: 12/7/2025	Cattle: RH Horse: LH Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20299 End Date: 12/5/2025	Cattle: RT Horse: RT Sheep: NO Goat: NO		Brand No.: 20300 End Date: 12/5/2025	Cattle: RT Horse: RT Sheep: RS Goat: RS
	Brand No.: 20301 End Date: 12/5/2025	Cattle: LH Horse: LT Sheep: LH Goat: LH						

# DROUGHT = Extra Expense and Loss of Income

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# GENETICS THAT MATTER



## Bar T Bar Ranches **ANNUAL BULL SALE**

**Saturday, April 11**

**1:00 p.m. PDT**

**Winslow, Arizona**

**Selling 200 Bulls**

*100 Balancer*

*40 Balancer x SimAngus*

*40 Southern Balancer*

*25 Angus & High% Angus*

*70 Calving Ease Specialists*

*150 Blacks • 50 Reds*

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and give you a marketing advantage.*



*Bulls out of the most proven range cow herd  
in the Southwest.*

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**Bob & Judy Prosser**  
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**SEEDSTOCK HERD MANAGER**  
Kristin Hovey  
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