

# PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL



## THE VOICE OF THE WESTERN RANCHING INDUSTRY

Since 1968, the Public Lands Council (PLC) has served as the only organization in Washington, D.C. whose sole mission is to **represent the rights, interests, and views of cattle and sheep ranchers** who hold federal grazing permits.

PLC works with federal agencies, members of Congress, state governments, and partner groups to highlight public lands ranchers' role as **stewards of the American landscape**. Public lands ranchers face unique operational challenges. PLC tackles those challenges with creative policy solutions. From fire and flood to tax and trade, **we do it all**.

### What do we do?

- **Provide congressional testimony**
- **Work with agencies & Congress to resolve individual rancher issues**
- **Engage in legislative and regulatory negotiations**
- **Develop educational campaigns for consumers & media**
- **And more!**

**We're in Washington  
so you don't have to be!**



**Kaitlynn Glover**  
Executive Director  
kglover@beef.org  
202-879-9128

**Allie Nelson**  
Director of Operations  
anelson@beef.org  
202-879-9135

PLC knows public lands ranchers are key to the **stability of the American agriculture industry**. Without ranchers and the investments ranchers make to these landscapes, our domestic livestock industry would look much different.

# PUBLIC LANDS RANCHING BY THE NUMBERS



## HERITAGE

Ranching plays a unique part in our American heritage. Over time, ranchers adapted their operations to meet domestic and international needs, while optimizing the health of our land and water resources.

### 1934

The year the Taylor Grazing Act gave grazing preference to established ranchers who were making beneficial use of the forage and water on a given range

### 24,500

Grazing permits on federal lands today

### 14

States contain federal lands used for grazing today

### 22,000

Public lands ranchers in the United States



## CONSERVATION

Public lands ranchers are committed to environmental stewardship. Through grazing and other ecosystem services, ranchers reduce the intensity and frequency of wildfires. Their work reduces significant, harmful carbon emissions and protects valuable wildlife habitat.

### 7 MILLION +

Acres of grazing improvements to enhance range habitat through the Sage Grouse Initiative

### 2.7 MILLION

Acres conserved or enhanced through rancher participation in the Sage Grouse Initiative

### 11

States in which ranchers work with the USDA to conserve, restore, and maintain sage grouse habitat



## ECONOMICS

Ranching keeps landscapes open and wild for wildlife, recreation, and other uses of public lands. Much of our domestic livestock spend time on public lands, highlighting the key role these lands and ranchers play in securing our American food supply.

### \$150

Average cost per acres of manual fuels treatments by the BLM

### 40%

Of the western cattle herd spend time on public lands

### 50%

Of the nation's sheep herd spend time on public lands

