





The definitive voice for
public lands ranchers.

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About Us

Since 1968, the Public Lands Council has been the only national organization solely dedicated to representing cattle and sheep producers who hold approximately 22,000 federal grazing permits across the West. Public lands ranchers face unique political, environmental, and economic challenges, and we work with government policymakers and private-sector partners to reach creative policy solutions.

“Public lands ranchers form the backbone of many rural communities and local economies while leading the way in responsible and innovative stewardship of some our nation’s most iconic landscapes.”

Our Vision

The definitive voice for public lands ranchers.

Our Mission

PLC works to support and maintain livestock grazing on public lands by advocating for and educating decision makers of the many values livestock grazing contributes to our natural resources and to the public.

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Letter from the President

Friends,

So much can change in a year. Most of us have been on the range a long time, and most of us feel like we've seen just about every variation of what a year can look like. Drought, fire, fat calves and early rains, every year is some combination of it all. We often feel like the Public Lands Council has seen it all, too. Created just before the inception of the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act, PLC has weathered political changes as our members have withstood Mother Nature's flux.

This last year has shown us that we haven't seen it all, not yet. As soon as the final lines of the oath were spoken in the swearing-in on January 20, the Trump administration moved full speed ahead. PLC's work ahead of the inauguration brought early action on rescission of the BLM Public Lands Rule, righting of the ship on unnecessary regulatory burdens imposed by the last administration, and a return to a traditional views of multiple-use that have long guided public lands management.

While these early victories allowed space for many of us – myself included – to take a deep breath in our daily operations, it is clear that these next three years are ours to make of it what we will. On so many issues, permittees and lessees have been caught in the middle of a political pendulum that swings wider and farther as administrations change.

“ Over the next three years, we have the opportunity to create and sustain durable, lasting change that will cement the role of cattle, sheep, and our stewardship on the future of the West. ”

From restoring the security of grazing across rangelands, forests, and grasslands to aligning federal processes with the needs on the ground, PLC's work is cut out for us. As always, I invite you to join us, lend your experience to this important work, and help us build the legacy of public lands ranching for generations ahead.



TIM CANTERBURY
President





Letter from the Executive Director

As I look back over the last year, I have a profound sense of gratitude for the resiliency and thoughtfulness that are at the core of the public lands ranching community. In hard times, ranchers reach a helping hand out to others facing greater hardship. In good times, celebrations are always interrupted with questions about how to get ahead, be better, be more prepared for times ahead.

Over the last year, this preparedness was on full display as the hard work PLC has done for decades prepared us to be the first to reach the new administration with the needs of Western rangelands, grasslands, and forests. Thanks to the longstanding work of our policy leadership, PLC's recommendations on shaping the next generation of grazing regulatory policy were among the first policy frameworks delivered to the Department of the Interior. PLC leveraged voices nationwide to retain key policy functions while supporting transformative changes at federal agencies, because we know what it takes for the public lands system to work. Permittees' voices rose above the fray as principled, trusted, reasoned sources of honest feedback in countless rooms across Washington.

I continue to be thankful – and immensely proud – that no matter what is happening at home, PLC members continue to *show up*. They mentor young professionals, they volunteer time for associations near and far, they always answer the call to lead.

“ In a country of more than 340 million people, just over 20,000 individuals have created, promoted, and protected a huge set of federal policy for nearly 70 years, and it's all due to the tenacity of this group. ”

It continues to be a privilege to serve as PLC's Executive Director, working for every cattle and sheep producer across the West. I appreciate your trust and support as we continue to forge ahead with the audacity to believe that a stronger future for public lands ranching is not only possible, but within reach.

KAITLYNN GLOVER
Executive Director

Financial Report

Since 1968, the Public Lands Council has been the unifying voice across the West, bringing the collective voice of the grazing industry to bear on decisions in Washington, D.C. We evolve with the needs of the landscape and the ever-changing political trends.

“ In lean times and in times of plenty, PLC has made strategic investments to ensure that we are as effective as possible with the set of circumstances in front of us. ”

Because PLC is an affiliate-based organization, we are able to leverage the individual impacts of our 14-member states and 3 national affiliates on a variety of policy issues and across a broad range of platforms. While PLC traditionally focuses on achieving policy victories through regulatory, statutory, and judicial reform, we also spend a great deal of time investing in public education and partner recruitment. This year, PLC invested heavily in video media production to educate neighbors and partners on key issues like wildfire and wildlife management, as well as developing a new call to action for permittees who have not been involved in PLC in the past. We made several investments to help states bolster their in-state PLC infrastructures, because we believe that our national council is only as strong as our individual members.

Last year, we anticipated a significant increase in litigation expenditures ahead of expected regulatory changes. While some of those did come to fruition – suits involving challenges to the Biden-era Endangered Species Act rules, efforts to overturn the BLM’s Public Lands rule, and continued defense of the lower-48 gray wolf delisting – others did not. With the change in administration in January, many of PLC’s primary

policy grievances became regulatory targets rather than judicial challenges. For the upcoming year, we do expect an uptick in legal engagements as anti-grazing groups begin to challenge the regulatory process PLC expects to see from the Trump-led agencies.

This year’s transition to a rolling grant and contract process proved successful. PLC was able to nimbly invest in video media, legal research, range research, and communications projects throughout the year. As we look ahead, I am eager for this rolling model to continue to grow as demand for PLC’s support in projects continues to grow.

Each PLC state affiliate contributes annual dues based on a billing calculation of 1.3 cents per animal unit month (AUM) permitted by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or the U.S. Forest Service for federal lands grazing in their state. These funds directly fund PLC’s policy work in Washington, D.C., educating policymakers about our industry, and influencing the decisions of legislators and regulators. Our affiliate dollars also help PLC leverage contributions from sponsors, partners, and other supporters.

This last year required us to come together as an industry in ways we haven’t typically seen condensed into a single calendar year. Many of us had planned for wildfire and regulatory burdens, but few among us were individually prepared for the changes in trade policy, market prices, weather, and public sentiment we’ve seen over the last 12 months. At every turn, I was reminded that PLC remains strong and nimble because we have prepared carefully for the full interests of the industry, so we are able to adapt and invest when surprises come our way.

BRENDA RICHARDS
Treasurer



46 > 47 - THE TRANSITION -

As the country prepared for Donald J. Trump to return to the White House, PLC set an ambitious agenda for the transition.

Before the ink was dry on his oath of office, PLC had secured a number of policy victories, remedying some of the most serious regulatory burdens facing the federal lands ranching community today: from withdrawal of the U.S. Forest Service’s Old Growth plans to putting regulatory red tape on the chopping block.

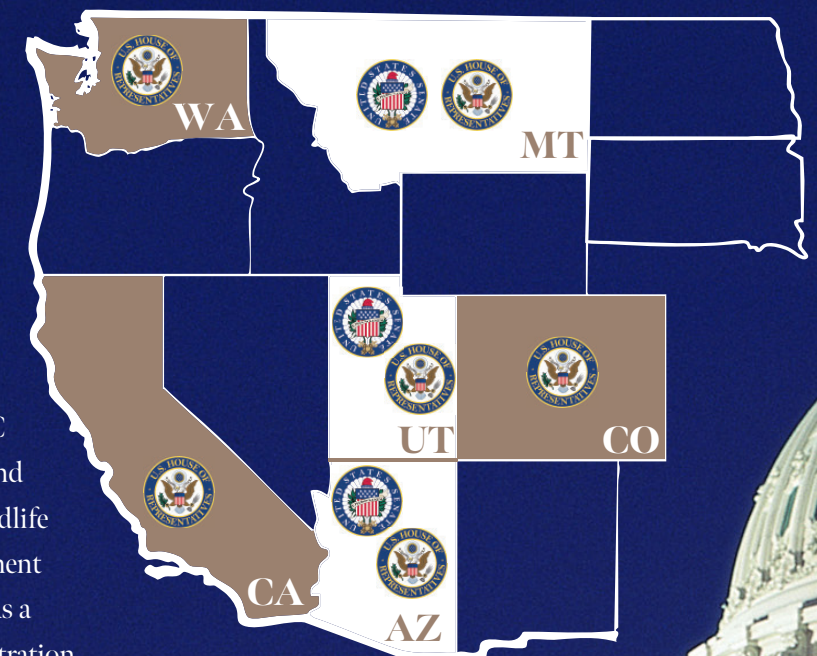
The Trump Administration came in with a clear directive: eliminate waste, fraud, and abuse in the federal bureaucracy. When early reports indicated that Wildlife Services staff contracts within the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) were at risk under interim policy of the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE), PLC acted quickly to mobilize producers and existing relationships to reinstate Wildlife Services’ contracts ahead of the imminent start to calving and lambing season. As a result of our engagement, the administration reversed its stance and reaffirmed its support for these programs.

As always, PLC is focused on delivering results for public lands ranchers and rural communities. With the regulatory overreach of the prior administration still fresh in mind, PLC worked to unwind damaging policies, restore balance to federal rulemaking, and create a proactive policy agenda that emphasized multiple-use, local input, and science-based management. This requires not only a focus on executive action, but successful Congressional engagement.

A NEW GENERATION OF LAWMAKERS

The 2024 general election brought one of the largest classes of freshman members of the House and Senate in history: 9 new Senators and 65 new Representatives and Delegates.

THE CHANGING ELECTORAL MAP



Since the West saw significant congressional turnover – 3 new Senators (AZ, MT, and UT) and 18 new Representatives (AZ, CA, CO, MT, UT, WA) – PLC undertook an education campaign to turn these new members into advocates for public lands issues like permitting reform, tax policy, and more.



PLC has a unique role in Washington: we combine all of the best ideas and toughest issues from our 14 state affiliates and 3 national partners that distill into a single message.

PLC’s advocacy since our establishment in 1968 has continued to evolve with contemporary needs and discussions. While many of these issues remain the same – access to land, land health, conflicts among multiple use groups, and industry profitability – this year posed a unique opportunity to highlight the utility of grazing both

as a legitimate use of federal land as well as an incredible management tool. Too often, grazing legislation has been pigeonholed into one category or the other; even agencies have had a difficult time thinking outside the box to use grazing as a management tool outside of allotments. The 119th Congress has been the friendliest Congress for grazing legislation in recent memory. PLC’s priorities like the *Ranching without Red Tape Act*, the *Strategic Grazing to Reduce the Risk of Wildfire Act*, and the *Fix Our Forests Act* expand the use of targeted grazing for wildfire prevention and streamline approvals for fixing critical infrastructure for grazing activity.

The Trump Administration responded early to PLC’s calls to withdraw harmful grazing Instructional Memoranda that resulted from unapproved agreements

between the BLM and environmental groups during the Trump Administration. At PLC’s urging, BLM and the Department of the Interior swiftly took up revision of grazing regulations.

At PLC’s urging, BLM swiftly moved to withdraw the harmful BLM “Public Lands Rule”, better known as the “Conservation and Landscape Health Rule”. This illegal rule, while finalized, was never implemented, due in large part to the relentless advocacy from public lands ranchers and stakeholders who saw how disruptive the rule would be. Completely upending the Federal Land Policy and Management Act would have ultimately pushed grazing off the land, threatening our nation’s food security, environmental health, and the Western way of life.

USFS finalized their directives and handbooks related to grazing across USFS lands. PLC will continue to advocate for consistency and parity for all permittees and flexibility for grazing associations across the National Forest System.

“ Working together with the Chief, PLC secured a clear statement from USFS Chief Schultz that there is a need to make permitting more efficient, open vacant allotments, assess USFS lands for grazing potential, and generally prioritize grazing across USFS’s 93 million acres of rangeland – more than half of their agency portfolio. ”

OUR CORE MISSION

GRAZING IS GOOD.





Eliminating Frivolous Litigation

For decades, anti-grazing groups have exploited frivolous litigation to force agencies to make policy changes that would not otherwise withstand scrutiny in an administrative process. In 2018, PLC was successful in securing passage of “sunshine” provisions surrounding the Equal Access to Justice Act, requiring federal agencies to make a public disclosure of funds paid to groups who sued the federal government and won, or settled. Armed with 6 years of data, PLC worked with communities across the country to take the next step - ending the exploitation of EAJA by tightening eligibility requirements and working with the administration to bring a permanent end to needless settlements that squeeze agency budgets and result in bad policy.

Promoting Cooperative Monitoring for Rangeland Health

Data-driven range management remained at the center of PLC’s policy priorities this year. Building on PLC’s existing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with USFS on cooperative monitoring, PLC signed a parallel MOU with BLM this year. Across much of the West, USFS and BLM lands are adjacent and many permittees have permits with both agencies, so PLC initiated a working group to develop a common monitoring method to give permittees and their agency counterparts consistency across the range. Cooperative trainings and certifications are the next step in this process to ensure all range management is data driven, scientifically-sound, and legally defensible.

Rescinding Old Growth Policies

PLC secured a major, early win when the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) withdrew its flawed Old Growth strategy proposal. This decision came after sustained pressure from PLC and our partners, who made clear that the proposed plan ignored decades of producer-led conservation and risked worsening wildfire threats. PLC praised the agency for recognizing the scientific and historical evidence that supports active land management.

“ ...formalizing this kind of old growth strategy would have been a direct affront to the work cattle and sheep producers have been doing for decades to protect lands and waters. In one fell swoop, the Forest Service would have taken decades of work to prevent pinyon juniper encroachment and turned it on its head, penalizing the very people who prevented total woody conversion of grasslands and rangelands. ”

KAITLYNN GLOVER *PLC Executive Director*

Catastrophic wildfire is the biggest threat to Western landscapes.

Grazing reduces the risk by up to 50%.

While USFS and DOI firefighting forces underwent significant structural changes this year, the need to effectively combat fire risk only increased.

Today, ranchers manage nearly 250 million acres across the West. They are the front-line defense against catastrophic wildfire, and other threats to America’s vast rangelands. Ranchers are the primary protectors of the rich open spaces which all Americans enjoy.

Endangered Species Act (ESA)

PLC has long advocated that in order to alleviate regulatory overreach and successfully recover species, the Endangered Species Act (ESA) is in need of significant reform. Our work with House Natural Resources Chairman Westerman resulted in reintroduction of the ESA Amendments Act of 2025. While statutory reform is at the core of our advocacy, PLC also recognizes that permittees and western communities suffer significant harm from a variety of species that require us to engage to alleviate species-specific burdens.

- Together with a large coalition of industry groups, PLC continues to challenge the Biden Administration’s ESA rules that complicated Sections 4, 4(d), 7, and 10. Our coalition brought our case in the District Court of the District of Columbia and is an active amici in a second case in the Northern District of California.

Mexican Wolf

Across Arizona and New Mexico, the Mexican Wolf has wrought havoc for livestock, wildlife, and rural communities. This year, PLC again secured significant funding to compensate producers for depredation events and made APHIS walk back the ill-conceived depredation verification standards that would have prevented fair compensation for loss of livestock. Representative Gosar’s (AZ) Enhancing Safety for Animals Act would delist the U.S. population and decouple the U.S. population from the population in Mexico. When PLC led industry comments in 2024 on the proposal to expand the critical habitat for this population, PLC soundly opposed the move. PLC believes the U.S. and Mexico populations should be decoupled now because much like expanding critical habitat, a single population that crosses international borders places the sole recovery burden on livestock producers in Arizona and New Mexico who face multi-million dollar losses.

Monarch Butterfly

Too often, litigation turns ESA into a regulatory bludgeon, but typically these burdens are felt by specific communities or isolated regions. The 2024 proposed rule by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to protect the monarch butterfly under the ESA would affect all states in the lower-48, putting everything from grazing management to transportation projects in jeopardy. While USFWS acted as a result of a litigation settlement, PLC opposed the proposed threatened status with a 4(d) listing for the monarch butterfly because permittees and private landowners have already protected habitat in the U.S. through robust voluntary conservation efforts, highlighting the voluntary conservation efforts that producers are already implementing. PLC made it clear that the USFWS should support the work that producers are doing rather than impose additional regulatory burdens that they are not equipped to enforce.



Gray Wolf

PLC continues to be the lead voice in Washington on the need to delist the long-recovered gray wolf across the 48 contiguous states. During the Trump Administration’s first term, the USFWS issued a delisting rule PLC was proud to support. Like other delisting rules before it, that rule was challenged in federal court. Four years on, PLC continues to defend the rule in the Ninth Circuit, while also advocating the current Trump team issue a new delisting rule to secure nationwide relief. Congressional attention through the Pet and Livestock Protection Act sends a crucial signal to the court and to the agencies that a celebration of the wolf’s recovery is long past due.

Grizzly Bears

Efforts to expand grizzly bear populations and reintroduce bears in new territories saw swift opposition from PLC this year. For permittees in the Pacific Northwest, adding bears to an environment already saturated with gray wolves would be a recipe for disaster. PLC led livestock industry comments opposing the expansive Grizzly Bear Distinct Population Segment (DPS) proposal for the lower 48 states, which undermines decades of progress and shifts recovery targets once again.

Other Species/Efforts

- Support simplified listing for the Lesser Prairie-Chicken
- Oppose Critical Habitat expansion of Foothill Yellow Legged Frog
- Support proposed definition change to “harm” under the ESA



BACK TO BASICS

NEPA

The 1970s brought generational change to the federal government’s role in environmental issues with the enactment of the Clean Water Act, Endangered Species Act, but most especially the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). NEPA was always intended to be a process statute, guiding methods of investigation around a wide variety of project proposals to ensure analyses included consistent information. NEPA was never intended to be a decision document, or one used to make a judgement call about whether a project *should* go forward. At the end of 2024, courts across the country were considering various cases that examined the scope and utility of NEPA documents. In May 2025, the U.S. Supreme Court issued a unanimous 8-0 decision in *Seven County Infrastructure Coalition v. Eagle County*. The decision confirmed what permittees see on a regular basis: NEPA has become a bloated,

“ **Simply stated, NEPA is a procedural cross-check, not a substantive roadblock. The goal of the law is to inform agency decision-making, not to paralyze it** ”

BRETT KAVANAUGH
Associate Justice, US Supreme Court

complicated, costly statute where compliance is entirely subjective. The ruling confirms that agencies need only evaluate environmental effects that are directly connected to the project under review.

As a result, the White House Council on Environmental Quality withdrew the 1970s guidance for implementing NEPA, streamlined agency NEPA requirements, and adopted cross-agency Categorical Exclusions (CEs) to improve efficiency. At PLC’s urging several CEs adopted by the BLM will improve grazing permit renewal processes and range improvement management.

Protecting an Industry Under Threat



Despite the positive outlook on federal lands grazing from Washington, challenges to federal lands grazing came at every turn. This year saw endless litigation from activists who oppose livestock production and meat consumption and political activists threatening to eliminate key parts of cattle and sheep industry infrastructure.

PLC joined many industry partners to fund efforts to combat Colorado State Ballot Initiative #309. If it had succeeded, the ballot initiative would have sent a strong signal to anti-agriculture activists across the country that food production and food security were not a public priority. By funding this public relations campaign, PLC helped protect the Greeley lamb plant that processes nearly 20% of the nation’s lamb.

DEFEATED:

-  USFS Roadless Rule
-  USFWS BIDEH Rule

SECURED:

-  Tax provisions in the One Big Beautiful Bill Act to protect family ranches
-  Appropriations provisions to protect permit renewals, prevent greenhouse gas reporting, and guard against ESA listings

Defending Ranchers from Overreaching Governments

Permittees’ relationships with federal agencies is part and parcel of grazing on federal allotments, but long-term success demands trust and consistency. When that trust is violated and relationships break down, state PLC affiliates step in to resolve issues at the local level. When those efforts are unsuccessful, PLC engages leadership across Washington to protect permittees’ rights and interests and hold agencies accountable for being good partners. PLC has guarded against policy that would require disclosure of emissions data and other proprietary business information. PLC also intervened on behalf of a number of permittees facing grazing cuts, permit vacature, and even legal charges over the last year - each resulting in a favorable outcome.





PLC on the Hill

Congressional engagement is a cornerstone of PLC’s presence in Washington. To advance legislation, highlight producer perspectives, and bring real-world solutions, public lands ranchers travel to the capitol city to sit before Congressional committees. Over the last year, permittees’ perspectives were at the center of some of the most pressing conversations in the natural resource space.

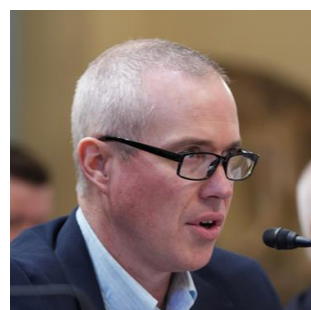
HIGHLIGHTS



“ All grazing removes dangerous fuels... High intensity grazing for a short time can reduce up to 42% of fuels on the landscape, which not only reduces the intensity of fire but improves post-fire regrowth. Targeted grazing has similar fuel management benefits, but can be shaped and directed to make the best use of the grazing activity to remove the most amount of fuel from the highest risk locations.... This flexibility makes it a cost-effective, nimble tool, in contrast with other mechanical tools that cost double or triple the base cost. ”

California permittee Sherri Brennan testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands in support of a bill introduced by Representative LaMalfa to direct agencies to be strategic when considering fuels management tools and increase the use of targeted grazing. The bill was the result of years of PLC advocacy to direct the agencies to formalize the use of grazing as a landscape management tool as well as a permitted use.

— SHERRI BRENNAN —



“ We’ve seen time and again that the federal government is willing to gamble with rural communities to see if they can create more species stability, but we bear the burden of their experiment. The process should demand more collaboration with local communities – and adopting our concerns. We need better management tools to reduce the risks we face from new entrants to our ecosystem. It always seems that 10(j) is the way the Service gets a foothold in an area for an ESA listing that will last decades. ”

House Natural Resources Chairman Bruce Westerman heeded PLC’s call to focus on legislative reform of the Endangered Species Act in 2025. Washington permittee Kent Clark testified in the Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, calling for Congressional support for producers facing compounded effects from already-protected gray wolf populations and introduced grizzly bear populations.

— KENT CLARK —



“ Grazing is the tool that makes true “multiple use” possible. Grazing reduces wildfire risk by more than 40%. Without grazing, hikers, bikers, hunters, and climbers would all lose out to damage from catastrophic wildfire or other land loss. Public lands are crucial to the domestic agricultural supply chain, too. Approximately 63% of the Western cattle herd and more than 50% of the national sheep herd spend time grazing on public lands. . . Loss of these lands would cripple regional and national livestock production. ”

PLC President Tim Canterbury’s testimony in the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands was 2025’s “State of the Rangelands.” In his testimony, Canterbury emphasized the need to ensure multiple use is balanced across the range and the role grazing plays in making all other multiple uses possible.

— TIM CANTERBURY —



“ The bill [H.R.9062] removes the false choice between legal compliance and landscape health. It would allow the agency and permittee to work together to determine the kind of flexibility in management needed to make best use of the allotment – and best use of grazing as a land management tool. . . By fostering flexibility in grazing management, we can help bolster the resilience of the landscape, protect our natural resources, and ensure that the ranching community continues to thrive for generations to come. ”

Jeff Young testified before the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Federal Lands on two bills to address flexibility in federal grazing programs and removing barriers for permittees to conduct maintenance on range improvements.

— JEFF YOUNG —



“ Across the country, the ESA has become a barrier to sound management of land and wildlife resources. Populations introduced under Section 10(j) have all of the burdens of the Act, without any of the regulatory certainty. In a time where Congress is considering how best to reduce ESA burdens and make recovery more effective, there is huge opportunity to address landowner concerns and make the existing tools provided by the Act work for both wildlife and the ranchers that interact with these animals the most. ”

PLC Secretary Robbie LeValley brought her ESA expertise and her perspective on the recent introduction of experimental, non-essential population of gray wolves in her state.

— ROBBIE LeVALLEY —



Investing in the Next Generation

Each year, PLC makes the Nick Theos Scholarship available to students to support their participation in our annual legislative conference here in Washington, D.C. These funds make it possible for young people interested in Western issues, public lands ranching, and natural resources policy to attend briefings and issue updates from agency officials, congressional staff, and policy experts. This year's recipients were Nicole Nimlos from Wyoming and Madison Orem from Utah.

Hear from Our Scholars

“ **The Nick Theos scholarship gave me the incredible opportunity to join the Wyoming Stock Growers Association at the Public Lands Council Legislative Conference in Washington D.C. I am grateful I was able to attend, connect with other state affiliates, hear industry updates from policymakers and agency leaders, and engage directly with Wyoming’s Senators Cynthia Lummis and John Barrasso, as well as Congresswoman Harriet Hageman. I will forever be grateful for this experience to witness firsthand how business is conducted and policy is shaped in our nation’s capital.** ”

NICOLE NIMLOS
(2025 Nick Theos Scholar)

“ **Being selected as a Nick Theos Scholar was an incredible opportunity that allowed me to gain a deeper understanding of the Public Lands Council and the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association. I learned about the legislative and policy issues that impact ranchers across the country, and how we, as producers, can be strong advocates for our way of life. I was able to take that knowledge a step further by traveling with fellow producers from my state to meet with lawmakers and communicate our priorities directly. It was an empowering experience that showed me the importance of being informed, engaged, and united in our industry.** ”

MADISON OREM
(2025 Nick Theos Scholar)

Internships

Each spring, summer, and fall, PLC also hosts two interns every semester here in our Washington, D.C. office to learn directly from our Government Affairs team. Over the course of several months, they work with our policy team and contribute to our policy work, social media campaigns, and association management.

Hear from Our Interns

“ **Interning with the Public Lands Council in Washington, D.C. gave me a front-row seat to the policy process and its direct impact on ranching families who utilize public lands. Coming from a production background, I had always known the importance of public land ranching, however working on federal issues helped me see how decisions made in D.C. affect operations on the ground. I conducted research to be included in policy memos, tracked agency actions, and drafted outreach to PLC members. Learning from experienced advocates who’ve spent their careers defending public land ranchers taught me how critical strong communication and clear policy work are in this space. I am beyond grateful for this internship and it confirmed my desire to advocate for public land ranching in my career.** ”

ELEEZA WAGGONER
(Winter 2024)

“ **Interning with the Public Lands Council in Washington, D.C. was truly a transformative experience – one that not only deepened my understanding of public lands ranching, but also my perspective on the critical role policy plays in preserving it. Working alongside some of the industry’s most dedicated and knowledgeable policy leaders, I had the opportunity to engage directly with ranchers, agency staff, and decisionmakers at the federal level. The experience gave me an up-close look at the real-world impact of federal policy and inspired a passion for federal land management issues. My time at PLC was more than just an internship – it was a defining moment that shifted my career goals and sparked a passion for supporting public lands ranching through thoughtful, effective policy.** ”

SARAH ROSASCO
(Winter 2024)

“ **Coming to Washington, D.C., I was not sure what to expect – but I left with a deeper understanding of public lands policy and a genuine appreciation for the people I’ve met and the experiences I have had. This internship has confirmed my passion for the intersection of agriculture and law. Because of this experience, I am committed to staying involved in agriculture and continuing to be an advocate for our industry. The PLC staff have all been great mentors to learn from throughout this experience. I am incredibly grateful to have been a part of an organization that works every day to protect the future of our working lands – I have loved every minute of being a small part of that mission.** ”

MADELYN SCHMIDT
(Spring 2025)



“ Interning with the Public Lands Council was an invaluable opportunity to see how federal policy, advocacy, and natural resource management intersect in a practical setting. Throughout my internship, I gained firsthand insight into the unique challenges facing ranchers who depend on public lands, as well as the critical role stakeholder engagement plays in shaping effective solutions. From researching policy issues to drafting essential materials for PLC members, I was able to see how advocacy organizations serve as the vital link between producers and policymakers. This experience not only deepened my understanding of natural resource and agricultural law but also affirmed my commitment to pursuing a career that combines policy, law, and service to rural communities. ”

GRACE STEENBERGEN
(Summer 2025)

“ My internship with PLC was truly a life changing experience. I was able to enhance my knowledge about grazing permits on federal lands, while making valuable connections with producers, staff, and congressional members. I’m excited to continue to advocate and share the story of each of these producers. It takes a village in this industry, and I’m thankful I was able to be a part of that village this summer. ”

BRITTLEY BOWERS
(Summer 2025)

NATIONWIDE IMPACT:
BY THE NUMBERS

f Facebook

FOLLOWERS

6.9K + 125%
INTERACTIONS
(FROM PREVIOUS
333 DAYS)

Instagram

1.1K
FOLLOWERS

X

1.5K
FOLLOWERS

Email

AVG. OPEN RATE
(INDUSTRY RATE 11%)

38% + 6%
(LAST 12 MONTHS)

4K
SUBSCRIBERS



Western Work, National Impact.

OUR STATE PARTNERS

- Arizona Cattle Growers Association
- California Cattlemen's Association
- California Wool Grower's Association
- Colorado Cattlemen's Association
- Colorado Livestock Association
- Colorado Wool Growers Association
- Idaho Cattle Association
- Idaho Wool Growers Association
- Montana Stockgrowers Association
- Montana Wool Growers Association
- Nebraska Cattlemen
- Nebraska Sheep & Goat Producers Association
- Nevada Cattlemen's Association
- Nevada Wool Growers Association
- New Mexico Cattle Growers' Association
- North Dakota Stockmen's Association
- North Dakota Lamb & Wool Producers Association
- Oregon Cattlemen's Association
- Oregon Sheep Growers Association
- South Dakota Cattlemen's Association
- South Dakota Sheep Grower's Association
- Utah Cattlemen's Association
- Utah Woolgrowers Association
- Washington Cattle Feeders Association
- Washington Cattlemen's Association
- Washington State Sheep Producers
- Wyoming Stock Growers Association
- Wyoming Wool Growers Association



OUR NATIONAL AFFILIATES



American Sheep Industry Association



Association of National Grasslands



National Cattlemen's Beef Association

