

Oregon Cattlemen's Association

2021 Legislative Priorities



Wildlife Management

Oregon's ranchers are the original conservationists! We aim to ensure Oregon's wildlife is appropriately managed to achieve healthy habitats and ecosystems while protecting the rights and needs of our producers.



Elk population and damage control.



Working with biologists on endangered species protection for Sage Grouse in Eastern Oregon.



Appropriate wolf pack management and tracking. More resources for ranchers impacted by wolf packs.

Water Quality & Quantity

Water is a critical and precious resource for sustaining animal life and our families. Oregon has a century-old water appropriation process and a modernized approach to ag water quality.



OCA's Water Resources Chair is also a water law attorney and a few focuses this year for ranchers have been Klamath Water Rights, Groundwater Regulation under the Clean Water Act, and proposals from Oregon's Water Resources Department regarding water use reporting.

Public & Private Lands

Protecting Oregon lands and the environment is critically important to cattle ranchers and for the health of the cattle operations in this state. Many private lands owned by OCA members provide habitat for Oregon's fish and wildlife. OCA partners with local, state and federal government to keep working lands working!

Carbon sequestration is the long-term storage of carbon from the atmosphere in soil and plants. Beef cattle play an important role in increasing carbon sequestration through the production of human food from untilled pastures and grasslands, and the integration of cattle grazing into "no-till" cropping systems.

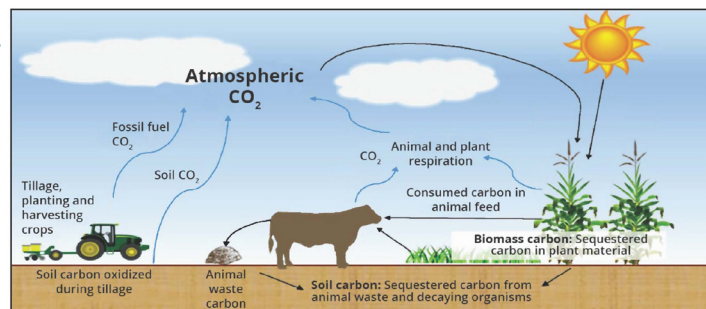


Figure 1. Carbon cycle demonstrating both additions to and removal of atmospheric carbon dioxide (CO₂).

Market Access & Operating Costs

The beef industry faces constant challenges in a competitive, global commodity market. OCA strives to deliver the best opportunities for producers to provide quality beef products to market. In doing so, we help producers avoid additional undue regulatory or compliance costs, which may disadvantage Oregon producers in comparison to those in other states and around the world.

Budget & State Finance

Beef is one of the top agricultural commodities in Oregon! Cattle producers rely on partnerships with state agencies and are vulnerable to continued tax increases. OCA advocates for funding that both directly and indirectly supports the broad range of necessities for Oregon's rural communities to thrive.



OCA's MISSION

OCA advocates on behalf of ranchers and their families to ensure continued success of their operations and contributions to Oregon communities. OCA members are committed to sustaining the economic and cultural tradition of caring for Oregon's working lands while producing one of the state's top agricultural commodities. OCA works to educate legislators on the challenges facing citizens in the rural and frontier areas of Oregon.

Cheryl Martin, OCA Legislative Committee Chair | Tammy Dennee, Executive Director (541) 980-6887

Learn more about the work we do at www.oregoncattlemen.com & Follow us on Facebook!