



OCA & OCW 2025 Annual Convention Pendleton Convention Center December 4-6, 2025

Wednesday, December 3 –

Staff & Exhibitor Set up

Thursday, December 4

7:30 – 11:00 Oregon CattleWomen General Membership Meeting (West 1 & 2)

8:00 – 11:00 Beef Quality Assurance Certification (Pre-Registration Requested)

Overview of BQA principles: cattle care, recordkeeping, herd health, handling, and beef safety. Session concludes with certification exam - Sergio Arispe, Juliana Ranches, Pete Schreder, Chuck Estill **(East 5 & 6)**

8:00 – 11:00 The Price of Wolf Conflict – A Conversation to Assist the Research Community in their efforts – Ethan Doney, OSU & Elle Gage (West 4)

Exhibitor Set up no later than 11:00 am

11:00 Registration Desk Opens (Lobby)

11:30 – 2:00 Convention Opening Lunch (Buffet) & General Session (Main Hall)

- Welcome – Matt McElligott, President
- Posting of Colors & Pledge of Allegiance – Pendleton FFA Chapter
- National Anthem – Erica Stewart, City of Pendleton
- Nominating Committee Report – Todd Nash, Immediate Past President
- Meet the OCA Board/Officer Nominees –
- Opening Session Speaker Patrick Linnell, CattleFax – The latest data on the Cattle Markets

2:00 Exhibit Hall Opens

2:30 – 5:30 OCA Committee Meetings

2:30-3:30 Legislative – (West 1)

3:30-4:30 Water – (West 2)

4:30-5:30 Public Lands – (West 3 & 4)

2:30 - 3:15 Educational Workshops (attendees choose one)

- *What does the One Big Beautiful Bill mean for your ranch operation?* Paul Neiffer, CPA (East 5)

In this session, Paul will review the major income tax law changes from the One Big Beautiful Bill plus the related ag provisions.

- *Wolves & Sage Grouse* – Lawson Fife, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt (East 6)

This workshop will focus on updates from recent wolf decisions and legislation and on sage grouse & mitigation.

- *Oregon Water Rights, Legal & Legislative Updates* – Elizabeth Howard, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt (West 4)

This workshop will focus on updates from recent Oregon water rights and groundwater quality legislation and rulemaking.

3:15 Coffee & Snacks with Exhibitors

2:30 – 4:15 *BLM Grazing Permits, Agency Updates* – Barry Bushue, State Director (East 7)

This is your opportunity to learn more about what is happening in BLM under the new Administration and find out about open allotments? The State Director and his team will bring their wealth of knowledge to this workshop as well as listen to your questions.

3:30 – 4:15 Educational Workshops (attendees choose one):

- *What does the One Big Beautiful Bill mean for your ranch operation?* - Paul Neiffer, CPA (East 5)

In this session, Paul will review the major income tax law changes from the One Big Beautiful Bill plus the related ag provisions. Federal Tax Code Updates

- *Virtual Fencing – Hear from Ranchers* – Roundtable organized by Dr. Mulliniks and Dr. Bohnert (East 6)

Producers with real world experience using virtual fence collars from Vence, Nofence, Halter, and Gallagher will discuss their insights and experiences integrating VF technology into their operations. Attendees will have opportunity to interact with the roundtable during a question-and-answer session.

4:15 - 5:00 Educational Workshops (attendees choose one):

- *What is an Estate Plan, and Do I need One?* – Joe Morton, Attorney (West 1)

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Oregon has an estate plan for you, but does it work? This session focuses on why people plan and what happens if they don't. Topics to be covered include intestate succession, unintended disinheritance, conservatorship and guardianship, the dynamics of second marriages, blended families, children from previous marriages, and tips on choosing the correct advisors.

- *Young Cattlemen College – Curious about the NCBA YCC Program?* – Trevor Meyer, 2025 YCC Participant (East 7)

In this session you will hear firsthand about the National Young Cattlemen's Program from OCA's 2025 participant, Trevor Meyer. Come ready to ask questions to determine if you want to submit your application for a future class.

5:00 **Exhibit Hall Opens**

5:30 Social & Reception (Main Hall)

6:30 **Dinner and Inspirational Speaker** – Rodney Nulik

The beef cattle industry is now experiencing unprecedented success. What can we do to prepare for the opportunities that lie ahead?

8:00 Entertainment – Joni Harms

9:30-11:00 Hospitality Suite Open (Oxford Suites) – Old West Federal Credit Union staff to host

Friday, December 5

6:15 – 7:45 County Presidents Breakfast with OCA Board & Committee Chairs (West 2 & 3)

7:00 am Registration Desk Opens (Lobby)

8:00 Coffee with Exhibitors (Exhibit Hall)

8:30 – 9:30 **General Session – (Main Hall)**

Public Lands Council Update– Kaitlynn Glover, PLC Executive Director
NCBA Update Through the Eyes of the President – Buck Wehrbein, NCBA President

9:45 -12:30 OCA Committee Meetings

9:45-10:45 **Marketing/Beef Cattle Improvement** – (West 3)

10:45-11:45 **Animal Health & Brand** – (West 1)

11:30–12:30 **Wildlife** (West 4)

10:15 – 11:00 Educational Workshops (attendees choose one)

- *Virtual Fencing – Hear from Company Representatives* – Facilitators Dr. Mulliniks and Dr. Bohnert (West 2)

Representatives from the virtual fence companies Vence, Nofence, Halter, and Gallagher will showcase their products and discuss practical applications of the technology in livestock operations in an engaging roundtable session to help answer any questions attendees may have related to virtual fence.

- *Alternative Energy Contracts: Avoiding Common Pitfalls* - Elon Hasson (East 7)

Renewable energy leases and easements can create lasting opportunities—or long-term headaches. This session walks landowners through key contract terms, negotiation strategies, and common mistakes to avoid when approached by developers. We'll also discuss how the Oregon Broadband Bill (OB BB) may affect property rights and future energy development in rural communities.

- *Tools & Resources to Advance your Conversation about Succession* – Oregon Agricultural Trust - Tess Baker/Andrea Krahmer (East 6)

Successfully passing on a farm or ranch can happen! This session will discuss case studies with family conflict scenarios and potential solutions to common farm business management challenges. Learn about tools to advance the succession conversation, where to find guidance with the process and explore how a Succession Advisor could be a helpful strategy in the conversation.

11:00 Coffee and Snacks with Exhibitors

11:15-12:00 Educational Workshops: (attendees choose one)

- *OSU Beef Research Update: Campus, Burns, Union research* – Dr. Travis Mulliniks and Dr. David Bohnert (West 2)

Hear about current research being conducted by scientists located in Corvallis and the Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center that benefits Beef Cattle Producers in Oregon and the Region.

- *Creating your Estate Plan* – Joe Morton, Attorney (West 3)

This session focuses on the nuts and bolts of creating an estate plan. Topics to be covered include wills and trusts, property ownership, probate, estate tax basics, providing for spouses, and helping plan for family members with challenges like addictions, poor money management skills and overbearing family members.

- *ODA Brand Department Updates* – Lindsay Eng & Casey Prentiss, ODA (East 5)

The Oregon Department of Agriculture will provide updates on the Brand Program Budget overview, alternative inspection ideas, and Brand Advisory Committee in rule. This workshop provides an opportunity for interaction with Brand Program leaders.

- *Wolves & Sage Grouse* – Lawson Fife, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt (East 6)

This workshop will focus on updates from recent wolf decisions and legislation and on sage grouse & mitigation.

- *Oregon Water Rights, Legal & Legislative Updates* – Elizabeth Howard, Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt (East 7)

This workshop will focus on recent Oregon water rights and groundwater quality legislation and rulemaking.

11:00-12:30

- **Equine Center A** – Farmer/Rancher Transport Training*

Low-stress cattle handling, safe trailer loading/unloading, stocking densities, and fitness for transport.

- **Equine Center B** - Herd Health Management Practice*

Proper vaccine storage, injection site techniques, withdrawal times, and recordkeeping.

**BQA Continuing Education Units communicated at the beginning of the session.*

12:30 Steer-a-Year Program Updates & Student Introductions – Matt Kennedy & OSU Students (Main Stage)

Lunch with Exhibitors – (Main Hall)

Exhibit Hall Open

1:30-4:30 Committee Meetings

1:30-2:30 - Wolf – (West 3 & 4)

2:30 -3:30 - Associate Council & Young Cattlemen – (West 2)

3:30-4:30 – Private Lands – (West 1)

1:30 – 2:15 Educational Workshop – (attendees choose one)

- *Farm-Centric Innovation: a different approach to supporting new technology* (West 1)

Learn about the national partnerships putting farmers in the middle of the product development and innovation process. The Northwest Ag Innovation Hub, based in Oregon's Willamette Valley and managed by the Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR), supports agricultural innovation across the Northwest. This initiative partners with AgLaunch, an innovation engine built around a national network of forward-thinking farmers advancing agricultural technology through farm trials, knowledge, market access, data and investment. Through the AgLaunch365 program, AgLaunch has created an industry-leading commercialization process which provides two-year support of startups from proof of

concept through Series A. The program consists of its accelerator, farmer-centered business development approach, and multi-year farm trials across the U.S.

Hear about how the model works, meet a participating producer, and see how you could join and monetize your intuition.

- *Writing & Using Business Plans for your Ranch* – Oregon Agricultural Trust – Tess Baker/Andrea Kraemer (East 5)

This workshop walks you through a sample outline and key steps for creating a ranch business plan. You'll learn the purpose behind each section and how to tailor the format to your needs. Discover how a business plan supports decision-making in times of growth or succession, aids in internal and external communication, and helps establish and achieve goals.

- *Biosecurity Workshop* – Sergio Arispe, OSU; Dr. Ryan Scholz, ODA State Veterinarian and Dr. Jamie Umber, ODA (East 6)

Participants will learn about biosecurity and continuity of business planning in the event of a possible foreign animal disease such as foot-and-mouth disease. Participants will learn foundational biosecurity practices, how to prepare their operations to continue business during a potential outbreak, and where to access additional resources from the Oregon Department of Agriculture and the OSU Extension Service.

- *A chance to Get More in-depth with the Steer-A-Year Program* – OSU Steer-A-Year Students (East 7)

Do you want to know more about the Steer-A-Year program or chance to reconnect with it? We welcome the chance to sit down and have an open conversation about the program and all that we do for any potential new donors but also the chance to talk with previous/current donors. We are looking forward to learning more about your cattle operations and the beef industry to further ourselves.

1:45 – 3:15

- **Equine Center A** - Farmer/Rancher Transport Training*

Low-stress cattle handling, safe trailer loading/unloading, stocking densities, and fitness for transport.

- **Equine Center B** - Herd Health Management Practice*

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**BQA Continuing Education Units communicated at the beginning of the session*

2:15 – 3:00 Educational Workshop – (attendees choose one)

- *Safety strategies to reduce costs* - Chelsea Imdieke, SAIF Senior Safety Management Consultant (East 5)

This fast-paced session blends real-life stories, behavioral science, and practical safety strategies to help farmers, ranchers, and agricultural workers reduce injuries. Attendees will learn how to identify common hazards, and understand how the risk-taking cycle, habits, and decision-making affect safety—and how to shift from autopilot to intentional action. The session also highlights free resources and how safety can save time and money.

- *Societal Role of Meat and Livestock* – Dr. Carol Lorenzen, OSU (East 6)

This session will discuss how researchers from different disciplines have come together to use science to educate and shape policy around meat and livestock and their roles in nutrition, environment, and society. It is a look back at two international conferences that reveal how NCBA research investments and other professional societies are positively impacting the landscape of the beef industry.

- *Update Following the Long Legislative Session* – OWRD Director, Ivan Gall, OWRD Director (East 7)

The 2025 Legislative Session resulted in numerous program changes and elevated expectations for the Oregon Water Resources Department. This workshop will provide an overview of the regulatory updates and the Director will respond to your questions.

3:15 – 4:00 Refreshments with Exhibitors – (Exhibit Hall)

3:15 – 5:00 *US Forest Service Updates* – Jacqueline Buchanan, Regional Forester, Forest Service – PNW Region (East 6)

3:30 – 5:00 **OCA Resolution Committee** – (West 2)

4:15 – 5:00 Educational Workshops: (attendees choose one)

- *Youth in the Cattle Industry* – Matt Liscom, BMCC Instructor (East 5)

The workshop will focus on the future of the beef cattle industry and attracting young ranchers into the profession.

- *Controlling your Workers' Comp Costs* - Lyn Zielinski-Mills, SAIF Marketing & Groups Director -- (East 7)

This is your opportunity to learn everything you need to know about how workers' comp insurance is priced. More than just rates, this class covers experience rating and other tools that can be used to control costs.

- *Farm-Centric Innovation: a different approach to supporting new technology* (West 1)

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Oregon's Willamette Valley and managed by the Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR), supports agricultural innovation across the Northwest. This initiative partners with AgLaunch, an innovation engine built around a national network of forward-thinking farmers advancing agricultural technology through farm trials, knowledge, market access, data and investment. Through the AgLaunch365 program, AgLaunch has created an industry-leading commercialization process which provides two-year support of startups from proof of concept through Series A. The program consists of its accelerator, farmer-centered business development approach, and multi-year farm trials across the U.S.

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- *ODFW Updates Workshop* – Brian Wolfer, ODFW (West 4)

ODFW Team will provide updates on wildlife management and predator control efforts. Brian Wolfer is the Wildlife Division Deputy Administrator for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. He will provide ODFW updates including changes to mule deer hunts for 2026, implementation of the 2024 Mule Deer Management Plan, progress on three focal areas of wolf management, and current wildlife research projects.

- 5:00-6:30 Social & Reception – (Exhibit Hall) – Sponsored by Baker County Livestock Association and Baker County CattleWomen
- 6:30-8:30 Dinner – (Main Hall)**
*Oregon CattleWomen – Awards Presentations – President Kromm
*Oregon Cattlemen's Association – Honor Outgoing Board Members; Industry Leaders; Outstanding Volunteers - OCA President McElligott
- 8:30-9:30 Entertainment – Zac Grooms
- 9:30-11:00 Hospitality Suite Open (Oxford Suites) – AgWest staff to host

Saturday, December 6

- 8:00 am Registration Desk Open (Main Lobby)
- Coffee & Snacks to be served in meeting room
- 9:00 - Noon **OCA General Membership Meeting (East 5, 6, 7)**
- Nominating Committee Report/Board Elections
 - Resolutions
 - Budget Review