



EST 1884

**MONTANA STOCKGROWERS
— ASSOCIATION —**

— Billings, Montana —

ANNUAL CONVENTION *& Trade Show*

December 10 - 12, 2025



Registration Brochure
Montana Stockgrowers Association

NorthWestern[®]
Energy



From Butte to Billings, Havre to Hebgen, we work 24/7/365 to build stronger communities through the production, generation and delivery of electricity and natural gas. We're proud to make sure your lights and heat come on, but that's not everything we do. We also add critical infrastructure that allows our communities to grow. We partner with people in our communities to increase the reliability of our service. We help customers save money with energy efficiency programs, products and rebates. And we remain committed to decreasing emissions until we reach net zero.

We're passionate about the communities we serve, and meeting the needs of our customers today while working to deliver everyone a **bright future**.

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Providing EDUCATION, INFORMATION, NETWORKING and POLICY DECISION-MAKING OPPORTUNITIES for Montana’s cattle industry’s leading members EVERY YEAR.

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IF YOU'RE IN THE CATTLE BUSINESS THIS IS ONE EVENT YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS!

— REGISTER TODAY! —

www.mtbeef.org

REGISTRATION HOURS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10

DoubleTree Hotel: 11:30 am - 6:30 pm

THURSDAY, DEC. 11

DoubleTree Hotel Registration: 7:30 am - 12:30 pm | 1:30 - 4:30 pm

Northern Hotel Registration: 7:30 - 10:00 am | 11:30 am - 2:00 pm

FRIDAY, DEC. 12

DoubleTree Hotel Registration: 7:00 - 11:30 am | 12:30 - 4:00 pm

Northern Hotel Registration: 9:30 am - 12:30 pm | 4:30 - 8:00 pm

REGISTRATION PRICES

All Inclusive Member Pricing

Early registration \$225/attendee

On-site registration..... \$250/attendee

All Inclusive Non-Member Pricing

Early registration \$300/attendee

On-site registration..... \$325/attendee

Daily Passes

Friday Pass \$125/attendee

Thursday Pass..... \$100/attendee

Wednesday Pass \$50/attendee

Grand Finale Banquet Ticket..... \$50/ticket

Sponsored by



— Event Schedule —

DOUBLE TREE BY HILTON - RED

NORTHERN HOTEL EVENTS - BLUE

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

2 – 6 pm

Montana Stockgrowers Board Meeting
Northern Hotel, Babcock, 2nd floor

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 10

8 am – 12 pm

**Montana Stockgrowers Foundation
Trustee Meeting**
Northern Hotel, Babcock, 2nd floor

8 - 10 am

MPLC & MASGD Joint Board Meeting
Northern, North Ballroom, 2nd floor

10 am - 12 pm

MPLC Annual Meeting
Northern, North Ballroom, 2nd floor
*Sponsor: Yellowstone Boys & Girls Ranch
Foundation*

10 am - 1 pm

Trade Show Vendor Move-In
DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor

**11:30 am -
6:30 pm**

DoubleTree Registration
Double Tree, 3rd floor lobby
Sponsored by MH Equipment & Ag Resources

12 – 1:30 pm

Water Symposium
DoubleTree, Conf Rm 5, 3rd floor
*Speakers: Abby Brown and Anna Pakenham
Stevenson*

1:30 - 5 pm

**Land Use & Environment Committee
Meeting**
DoubleTree, Skyview 1 & 2, 20th floor

1 - 6:30 pm

Trade Show Open
DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor

5 - 6:30 pm

Kick Off Social
DoubleTree Hotel, Conf Room 5, 3rd floor
Sponsored by CKP Insurance

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:30 am - 4:30 pm
(Break 12:30 - 1:30)

DoubleTree Registration
Double Tree, 3rd floor lobby
Sponsored by MH Equipment & Ag Resources

8 - 10 am

Northern Registration
Northern, 2nd floor lobby

8 - 10 am

Trade Show Vendor Move-In
DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor

8 - 10 am

Opening General Session
Northern, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor
Speaker: Janette Barnard, Prime Future
Sponsor: Montana Livestock Ag Credit, Inc.

10 am - 8 pm

Trade Show Open
DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor lobby

10:15 am - 12 pm

Women of the West
Northern, Babcock, 2nd floor
*Speaker: Holly Stoltz, Stoltz Ranch & Sego
Lily Skincare*

10:15 – 11:15 am

**COLLEGE: Understanding Carbon
Marketsby Kateri Carbon**
DoubleTree, Skybridge 1, 2nd floor
Speaker: Ford Smith

10:30 – 11:30 am

**COLLEGE: Implants: New & Current
Usage and Guidelines by Zoetis**
DoubleTree, Skybridge 2, 2nd floor
*Speaker: Dr. Bryan Bernhard, Ruminant
Nutritionist*

10:30 – 11:30 am

**COLLEGE: Precision Sire Selection for
Commercial and Seedstock by Allied
Genetic Resources**
DoubleTree, Skybridge 3, 2nd floor
Marty Ropp, Founder

10:45 – 11:45 am

**COLLEGE: Markets of the
Future–100% Montana Beef in Every
Montana Schools by MPECH**
DoubleTree, Skybridge 4, 2nd floor

10:45 – 11:45 am

**COLLEGE: True West Beef and the
Modernization of Both Quality and
Yield Grading**
DoubleTree, Conf Room 5, 3rd floor
Speaker: Dan Gehno, AgriBeef

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 11 *Cont..*

12 - 2 pm	Northern Ag Network & the Best of Beef Lunch Northern, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor <i>Speaker: Ray Starling, Farmers vs. Foodies Author</i> <i>Sponsor: AgWest Farm Credit</i> <i>Speaker Sponsor: Eide Bailly</i>
2 - 5 pm	MCW Annual Meeting Northern, Babcock, 2nd floor <i>Sponsor: AgWest Farm Credit</i>
2:30 - 5 pm	Tax & Ag Finance Committee Meeting DoubleTree, Skyview 1 & 2, 20th floor <i>Sponsor: WIPFLI</i>
5 - 6 pm	MCW Installation, Social & Past Presidents Northern, Babcock, 2nd floor
6 - 7 pm	MCW New Board Of Directors Meeting Northern, Babcock, 2nd floor
6 - 8 pm	Trade Show Celebration Dinner DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor lobby <i>Sponsors: Mountain West Ag Services, Tractor & Equipment Co.</i>

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

7 am - 4 pm <i>(Break 11:30 - 12:30)</i>	DoubleTree Registration Double Tree, 3rd floor lobby <i>Sponsored by MH Equipment & Ag Resources</i>
7 - 8 am	Beef Breakfast DoubleTree, Ponderosa, 22nd Floor <i>Speakers: Tory Johnson and Gary Heilig Jr.</i> <i>Sponsor: Marsh McLennan Agency</i>
8 - 10 am	Beef Production & Marketing Committee Meeting DoubleTree, Skyview 1 & 2, 20th Floor
10 am - 4 pm	Trade Show Open DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor lobby
10:15 - 11:15 am	General Session II Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor <i>Speaker: Greg Hanes, CBB CEO and Gene Copenhaver, NCBA President-Elect</i> <i>Sponsor: Montana Ag Safety Program</i> <i>Speaker Sponsor: Northern Hotel</i>
11:30am-12:30pm	Presidents Lunch Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor <i>Speaker: Brian Bledsoe, Weather Outlook and Chief Justice Cory Swanson</i> <i>Speaker Sponsor: Silveus Insurance Group</i>

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12 *Cont..*

12:30 - 1:30 pm	Young Stockgrowers Meeting DoubleTree, Conf Rm 5, 3rd floor <i>Sponsor: Superior Livestock</i>
1:30 - 2:30 pm	COLLEGE: Emerging Issues in Montana's Livestock Industry: Insights from DOL Leaders DoubleTree, Skybridge 1, 2nd floor
1:30 - 2:30 pm	COLLEGE: Woody Encroachment Impacts on Water and Forage by Working Lands for Wildlife DoubleTree, Skybridge 2, 2nd floor <i>Speakers: Dr. Scott Morford, Associate Director and Shea Coons, Outreach Scientist</i>
1:30 - 2:30 pm	COLLEGE: The Genomic Payout of the 2025 Cattle Drive by Neogen DoubleTree, Skybridge 3, 2nd floor <i>Speaker: Kelsey Luebke, Technical Services Scientist</i>
1:30 - 2:30 pm	COLLEGE: Common Ground Coalition DoubleTree, Skybridge 4, 2nd floor <i>Speaker: Devin Murnin, Region Exec Officer, LMA</i>
1:30 - 2:30 pm	Cattle Feeders Meeting DoubleTree, Conf Rm 5, 3rd floor
3 - 4:30 pm	Second and Third Reading of Resolutions DoubleTree, Skyview 1 & 2, 20th floor <i>Sponsor: Bank of the Rockies</i>
4 - 8 pm	Trade Show Vendor Move Out DoubleTree, Ballroom ABC, 3rd floor
5 - 6:30 pm	MAPA Reception Northern, Hart Albin, 2nd floor
5:30 - 7 pm	Grand Finale Social Northern, 2nd floor lobby
7 - 9 pm <i>Doors Open @ 6:30</i>	Grand Finale Banquet Northern, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor <i>Sponsor: Producer Partnership & Little Belt Cattle Co.</i>
9 - 10 pm	Grand Finale After Party Northern, Grand Ballroom, 2nd floor <i>Band: Fast Forward</i> <i>Sponsor: Visit Billings</i>

Trade Show

DATES & HOURS

Wednesday, Dec. 10
1:00 pm - 6:30 pm

Thursday, Dec. 11
10:00 am - 8:00 pm

Friday, Dec. 12
10:00 am - 4:00 pm

TRADE SHOW EXHIBITS INCLUDE:

PRIME BOOTHS

701x Autonomous Rancher
ABS Global
Agri Beef & True West Beef
Agri-Best Feeds
AgRisk Advisors
AgWest Farm Credit
Bank of the Rockies
Better Fed Foods
Big Sky Land Management
Boehringer Ingelheim
Bullseye GX
CKP Insurance
Ellis Equipment
Envu
Fera Diagnostics & Biologicals
Gallagher Animal Management
Grassroots Carbon
Hall & Hall
Halter HQ

IMI Global (Where Food Comes From)
Kateri Carbon
Merck Animal Health
Mishima Reserve American Wagyu Beef
MJE Livestock Equipment
Montana Ag Safety Program
Montana Department of Environment Quality
Montana Ford Stores
Montana Livestock Ag Credit, Inc. (MLACI)
Montana Massey Ferguson Dealerships
Mountain West Ag Services
MT Wild Rags
Neogen
Northern Ag Network
NRCS
Nutra-Lix
Pinion
Precision Risk Management

Producer Partnership
Select Sires
Steer Inc.

Steffes Group
Stockman Bank
Tractor & Equipment Co.

Trader's Dispatch
USDA NRCS Working Lands for Wildlife
Western Ag Network
Western Ag Reporter
Western Ranch Supply
Y-TEX Corporation
Yellowstone Land Management
Zoetis

CHOICE BOOTHS

Cow Camp Mercantile
Elanco Animal Health
Hayden Outdoors Real Estate
Headwaters Livestock Consulting
Lallemand & Animal Nutrition

LC Cattle Co LLC (Wild Rags)

Montana Hereford Association

Montana Simmental Association

Montana State Library
Montana Stockgrowers Foundation

Mountain West Farm Equipment

National Cattlemen's Beef Association

Ranchbot Monitoring Solutions

Simplot Western Stockmen's

USDA Farm Service Agency

Your Hats MT

SELECT BOOTHS

Corteva Agri Science
Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Montana Beef Council
Payback Feeds & SmartLic Supplements
Pheasants Forever

For the most up-to-date list of exhibitors and to plan your trade show schedule, visit

WWW.MTBEEF.ORG

STOCKGROWERS COLLEGES at ANNUAL CONVENTION

These 60-minute sessions offer attendees valuable educational tips and a chance to enjoy face-to-face talks and hands-on technology education.



Understanding Carbon Markets

Thursday, December 11 | 10:15 – 11:15 am | DoubleTree, Skybridge 1, 2nd Floor

Speaker: Ford Smith



Kateri works for you to unlock carbon grazing programs that cover ranch advisory, animal tracking technology, and other adaptive grazing support. Secure the resources to graze better and ensure that you get paid top dollar for carbon and other credits by working with the Ranchers' Carbon Company: Kateri.

 **Kateri**

Precision Sire Selection for Commercial and Seedstock

Thursday, December 11 | 10:30 – 11:30 am | DoubleTree Hotel, Skybridge 3, 2nd floor

Speaker: Marty Ropp, Founder, Allied Genetic Resources



Marty is the founder and executive officer of Allied Genetic Resources, one of the largest coordinated seedstock service networks in the U.S., marketing more than 10,000 bulls annually. Originally from Normal, Illinois, Marty earned his B.S. from Kansas State University and M.S. from the University of Missouri, where he also served as an Adjunct Instructor and Livestock Judging Coach. He later worked as a Regional Livestock Specialist for the University of Missouri and Michigan State University before joining the American Simmental Association in Bozeman, Montana, where he spent 12 years as Director of Commercial Programs and Field Services. A past President of the Beef Improvement Federation, Marty continues to lead innovation in the beef industry. Most recently, he founded New Acres, a nonprofit tackling agricultural labor challenges across America's production agriculture sector.

 **ALLIED**
GENETIC RESOURCES

True West Beef and the Modernization of Both Quality and Yield Grading

Thursday, December 11 | 10:45 – 11:45 am | DoubleTree, Conf Rm 5, 3rd Floor

Speaker: Dan Gehno



Dan Gehno grew up in central Florida and south Texas on commercial cattle operations. He studied at Utah State University for his undergrad degree in animal science and Texas A&M University for his graduate degree in meat science. Dan worked at Cargill for seven years working in grading and carcass utilization. During that time, he also consulted for Bettcher in processing equipment and consulting. Dan has been with AgriBeef for the last five years. He and his wife of 14 years, Lexie, have five children.

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Implants: New & Current Usage and Guidelines

Thursday, December 11 | 10:30 – 11:30 am | DoubleTree, Skybridge 2, 2nd Floor

Speaker: Dr. Bryan Bernhard, Ruminant Nutritionist, Zoetis



Dr. Bryan Bernhard is a Ruminant Nutritionist on the Beef Strategic Technical Services team at Zoetis. He has been with Zoetis since 2016 and helps support customers in Texas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Kansas.

Prior to joining Zoetis, Dr. Bernhard was on faculty at Texas Tech University in a teaching and research capacity. His research focused on starter calf programs and growth promoting technologies. Dr. Bernhard earned both his BS (animal science) and MS (ruminant

nutrition) degrees from Texas Tech University and his doctorate in ruminant nutrition from Oklahoma State University.

Dr. Bernhard was raised near Seguin, Texas, on a diversified farming and ranching operation. He currently lives in Lubbock, Texas with his wife LJ. and their son Brigham.



Markets of the Future--100% Montana Beef in Every Montana Schools

Thursday, December 11 | 10:45 – 11:45 am | DoubleTree, Skybridge 4, 2nd Floor

Speaker Panel: Staci Skogas, Marlo Spreng, Michal DeChellis, Jeri Delys

Not every Montana school needs an animal donation to serve Montana beef in school meals! This Stockgrowers College shares tips and tools for moving Montana cattle into Montana school meals at market price. Learn how to make that happen for yourself and help Montana reach a statewide goal of serving 100% Montana beef to kids in Montana schools. And, if you want or need to make a cull animal donation, we'll talk about that, too!

Staci Skogas, food service director at Fairview School, shares how she partnered with a local rancher to bring Montana beef into her school meal program.

Marlo Spreng, nutrition director at Hardin Public Schools, discusses how her district and others across the state are paying market price for Montana beef.

Michal DeChellis, Cultivating Minds, presents data on beef served in Montana schools and potential statewide consumption.

Jeri Delys, The Producer Partnership, outlines a 3-year program supporting a circular beef economy in Central Montana.



Staci Skogas



Michal DeChellis



Marlo Spreng



Jeri Delys

STOCKGROWERS COLLEGES at ANNUAL CONVENTION

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The Genomic Payout of the 2025 Cattle Drive

Friday, December 12 | 1:30 – 2:30 pm | DoubleTree, Skybridge 3, 2nd Floor

Speaker: Kelsey Luebbe, Technical Services Scientist, Neogen



A Montana native, Kelsey Luebbe grew up with deep roots in livestock production and has built her career at the crossroads of science and the ranch gate. She serves as a Technical Services Scientist with Neogen, where she helps cattle producers, feedyards, and seedstock operations put genomic tools like Igenity Beef, Igenity Feeder, and Igenity BCHF to work in practical ways. Kelsey earned her PhD in Animal Science from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, specializing in ruminant nutrition, and her MS in quantitative genetics. For more than a decade, she has led projects that connect research with the day-to-day decisions of ranchers. She is known for making complex science easy to understand—whether at producer meetings, national conferences, or one-on-one at the chute. Beyond her technical role, Kelsey and her husband custom feed cattle in southeast Iowa, where they now call home. Having both ranch and research experience, she understands the challenges of balancing genetics, management, and markets—and works to connect science with everyday decision-making.



Emerging Issues in Montana's Livestock Industry: Insights from DOL Leaders

Friday, December 12 | 1:30 – 2:30 pm | DoubleTree, Skybridge 1, 2nd Floor

Speakers: Mike Honeycutt, Tahnee Szymanski, DVM, Jay Bodner, Alicia Love

This session will provide updates from the Montana Department of Livestock on new and emerging programs and services. Topics include developments in animal health and emerging diseases, meat processing and direct marketing, and the rollout of the new Brands lookup system.

Mike Honeycutt, Executive Officer since 2016, brings experience as an agricultural educator, National FFA team leader, grain supply chain buyer, and Managing Director for the National Council for Agricultural Education. He lives in Helena with his wife and twin daughters.

Dr. Tahnee Szymanski, State Veterinarian since 2023, oversees animal health, food safety, and Montana's veterinary diagnostic laboratory. A Montana native, she joined the Department in 2008 after working in large animal practice.

Jay Bodner, Brands Enforcement Division Administrator since 2022, protects Montana livestock from theft, manages brand registration, and regulates livestock movement. He previously served 20 years with MSGA and remains active in ranching.

Alicia Love, Meat, Milk, and Egg Inspection Bureau Chief, holds an MPH and oversees food safety and regulatory programs in Montana.



Mike Honeycutt



Tahnee Szymanski, DVM



Jay Bodner



Alicia Love

STOCKGROWERS COLLEGES at ANNUAL CONVENTION

These 60-minute sessions offer attendees valuable educational tips and a chance to enjoy face-to-face talks and hands-on technology education.



Woody Encroachment Impacts on Water and Forage

Friday, December 12 | 1:30 – 2:30 pm | DoubleTree, Skybridge 2, 2nd Floor

Speakers: Dr. Scott Morford, Associate Director and Shea Coons, Outreach Scientist



Dr. Scott Morford is the Associate Director of the Working Lands for Wildlife Science Team at the University of Montana, where he leads the group's spatial science initiatives. With over 20 years of experience in remote sensing, machine learning, and programming, Scott develops innovative science products to advance WLFW's core conservation objectives. Scott holds a Ph.D. from the University of California and a B.S. from the University of Montana.



Shea Coons is the Outreach Scientist for Working Lands for Wildlife where she translates science into on-the-ground applications. Her work centers on preserving Montana's ranching legacy and rangeland health by providing geospatial and technical assistance to partners seeking to address conifer encroachment across Montana. Specific outreach efforts include educational resources and assessments that highlight local and regional impacts to forage production and water resources. Shea holds a Master's degree in Wildlife Biology from the University of Montana and has a diverse research background in wetland dynamics and avian ecology.

Common Ground Summit

Friday, December 12 | 1:30 – 2:30 pm | DoubleTree, Skybridge 4, 2nd Floor

Speaker: Devin Murnin, Region Executive Officer, LMA



Devin Murnin grew up in Miles City, MT on a commercial cow-calf ranch. He went to college at Colorado State University where he livestock judged at the collegiate level. After 10 years of working with the Western Livestock Journal traveling to production sales and bull sales helping market cattle for producers, Devin is now with the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA). LMA is a member-led organization that works as an advocate for the livestock marketing industry. They provide a voice on state and federal legislative and regulatory issues, all while representing over 80 percent of livestock markets in the United States. Devin is the Region Executive Officer covering the 11 Western states. His role as Region Executive Officer is to work with partnering auction barns on an assortment of business services such as industry information and insurance.



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AND LOADER FOR 200 HOURS OR 4 MONTHS



THE BLUE & GOLD MASSEY TRACTOR RAFFLE

50% of proceeds benefit local
Montana FFA Chapters



*Scan to purchase
your tickets online!*

1 FOR \$20 OR 6 FOR \$100



Sponsored by Montana Stockgrowers Association
& Montana Massey Ferguson Dealerships

Raffle will be held at the MSGA Annual Convention December 10-12, 2025, in Billings, MT. Send raffle tickets to 420 N. California St. Helena, MT 59601 by December 1, 2025, to be entered.

MONTANA CATTLEWOMEN

MCW SCHEDULE

Thursday, December 11
Northern Hotel, Babcock, 2nd floor

- 10:15 am - 12 pm Women of the West
- 2 - 5 pm MCW Annual Meeting
- 5 - 6 pm MCW Installation, Social and Past Presidents
- 6 - 7 pm MCW New Board of Directors Meeting

A MONTANA CATTLEWOMAN IS A STRONG, ENTHUSIASTIC WOMAN, WILLING TO STAND UP FOR WHAT SHE BELIEVES IN.

She is equally at home on a ranch, in a meeting, at a social function, or a legislative venue. She is someone who strongly supports the cattle industry and Montana's agricultural heritage through education and promotion.

WOMEN *of the* WEST

Holly Stoltz, Stoltz Ranch & Sego Lily Skincare



Holly Stoltz was raised on a dairy in the Paradise Valley near Livingston, Montana, where the values of hard work and stewardship were woven into daily life. After college, she married her husband Trent and joined him on his family ranch near Valier. While raising their family, Holly revitalized the local newspaper, founded and ran a screen-printing and embroidery business, and actively supported community programs, from mentoring start-ups to serving as a dedicated 4-H leader. In 2021, after the Stoltz family sold their ranch back to the Blackfeet Tribe, they relocated to Pompeys Pillar, east of Billings, where they now operate Stoltz Ranch with additional ground in the Hysham Hills.

Stoltz Ranch has gained recognition for its innovative approach, transitioning away from a traditional cow-calf model toward custom feeding and stocker cattle operations. They are also early adopters of virtual collar technology, which allows them to manage grazing patterns and pasture health with greater precision. Beyond ranching, Holly serves as the Supply Chain Director for Western Sustainability Exchange, where she helps build new markets and connections for Montana ranchers. She is also the founder of Sego Lily Skincare, a tallow-based skincare line inspired by her own transformation and rooted in her belief in the value of Montana's agricultural products.



Together with her husband Trent, Holly has raised three children, including a son who has returned as the fifth generation on the ranch, a daughter who lives in Oregon, and their youngest son, who is building his career in Texas. Holly continues to champion innovation and resilience in agriculture, ensuring that ranching families have the tools, markets, and support needed to thrive.

YOUNG STOCKGROWERS *Annual Meeting*

FRIDAY , DECEMBER 12 AT 12:30 - 1:30 PM

DoubleTree Hotel, Conference Room 5, 3rd Floor

Sponsored by



ROCKY FORSETH
JAKE FEDDES

KICK-OFF *Social*

Help us kick off Annual Convention & Trade Show in style!

Grab a drink with us to catch up with old friends & meet some new ones along the way.

WEDNESDAY , DECEMBER 10 AT 5:00 - 6:30 PM

DoubleTree Hotel, Conference Room 5, 3rd Floor

Hosted by



CKP
SPECIALIZING IN PRF & LRP

PART OF THE BROWN & BROWN
INSURANCE SERVICES, INC. TEAM

GRAND FINALE BANQUET & After Party

FRIDAY , DECEMBER 12 at 7:00 pm
STEAK DINNER • LIVE MUSIC • PRIZES & DRAWINGS

Sponsored by



Beef provided by



LITTLE BELT
CATTLE COMPANY



Join us for the Grand Finale
After Party to dance the night
away to Fast Forward!

Sponsored by

VISIT
BILLINGSMT
DO MIGHTY THINGS

FEATURED *Events*

CAN BE SEEN ON THE WESTERN AG NETWORK STAGE!



OPENING GENERAL SESSION



Janette Barnard, Prime Future

Thursday, December 11 | 8:00 am | Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Janette is bullish on the future of animal protein, and passionate about the intersection of animal agriculture and innovation. Janette is currently on the Ventures team at Merck Animal Health. She is the creator of Prime Future, a weekly newsletter for innovators in livestock, meat, and dairy while drawing from her background in agribusiness (Elanco, Cargill, McDonald's Global Supply Chain) and the startup ecosystem as a founder, then executive in a venture-backed company.

SESSION
SPONSOR



FEATURED *Events*

CAN BE SEEN ON THE WESTERN AG NETWORK STAGE!



NORTHERN AG NETWORK BEST OF BEEF LUNCH



Ray Starling, *Farmers vs. Foodies* Author

Thursday, December 11 | 12:00 pm | Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd Floor

Ray Starling is an attorney, public policy professional, law professor, ag system thought leader, former Special Assistant to the President for Agriculture, and farm kid from Auryville, North Carolina with a tremendous passion for the agriculture industry. With almost three decades of experience in navigating how public policy impacts farmers and agribusiness leaders, Ray has seen a lot, but readily admits we are in the midst of a new era of outside influence in agriculture.

In his role as Executive Advisor for Aimpoint Research, Ray Starling serves as invaluable resource on public policy and legal developments that have the potential to impact the agri-food value chain. He continues to serve as general counsel for the NC Chamber of Commerce and president of the NC Chamber Legal Institute as well. The NC Chamber is the leading business advocacy organization in North Carolina. It's core business is to work in the legislative, regulatory, and political arenas to proactively drive positive change, ensuring that North Carolina is one of the best places in the world to do business. That work paid off recently when North Carolina was named by CNBC as "America's Top State for Business," including agribusiness.

Prior to joining the NC Chamber team, Ray served as the Chief of Staff to U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue where he coordinated execution of the Secretary's policy agenda for the U.S. Department of Agriculture. At the time, the agency employed over 100,000 public servants, and received a budget of over \$160 billion annually. Ray focused on regulatory and deregulatory initiatives and acted as a point of contact for stakeholders throughout agriculture and rural communities.

He has also served as the principal agriculture advisor to the President of the United States at the White House, as a staff member of the National Economic Council. Ray has served as chief of staff, lead agriculture advisor, and chief counsel for U.S. Senator Thom Tillis, and was general counsel to Tillis when Tillis was Speaker of the House in the North Carolina legislature. Early in his career, Ray was general counsel to the N.C. Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, serving alongside the state's beloved elected Commissioner of Agriculture, Steven Troxler.

Licensed to practice law in North Carolina, Ray has private practice experience and has taught agricultural and food law for several years. He has a bachelor's degree in agricultural education from North Carolina State University (magna cum laude) and a law degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (with honors).

SESSION
SPONSOR

AgWest
FARM CREDIT



SPEAKER
SPONSOR



FEATURED *Events*

CAN BE SEEN ON THE WESTERN AG NETWORK STAGE!



BEEF BREAKFAST

Friday, December 12 | 7:00 am | DoubleTree Hotel, Ponderosa, 22nd Floor



Tory Johnson, Marsh McLennan Agency

Tory grew up on a small cow-calf operation, which instilled in him a deep appreciation for the agricultural community. He pursued his education at Montana State University, earning a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business.

Tory began his career in Ag Risk Management, where he dedicated himself to assisting farmers and ranchers across the nation in navigating the complexities of marketing and price risks. To enhance his expertise, he obtained a Master of Science in Applied

Economics and Predictive Analytics, equipping him with the tools to better understand commodity markets and provide tailored solutions for his clients.

Driven by a desire to make a meaningful impact closer to home, Tory joined Marsh McLennan Agency, focusing on supporting ranchers in Montana and the surrounding regions. He possesses extensive knowledge of the Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) and Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage (PRF) Federal Crop Insurance Programs, and is passionate about implementing these programs to strengthen ranching operations.

Tory is committed to empowering ranchers with the insights and resources they need to thrive in today's dynamic agricultural landscape.



Gary Heilig Jr., Crop West Insurance

Gary Heilig Jr. is owner and president of Crop West Insurance with 27 years in the crop insurance industry. He was raised on his family's farm in Central Montana, he is still actively farming winter wheat, spring wheat, durum, malt barley and canola. This provides valuable insight and passion for the crop insurance industry as he knows the coverages personally as well as how they work and how they perform. Gary started as an independent insurance adjuster in Wichita, Kansas then retired from Rain & Hail

where he was Sr. Vice President and Division Manager for the Northwest Division. Crop West Insurance Inc. is a large managing general agency headquartered in the Spokane Valley of Washington. Crop West currently represents six large crop insurance carriers including RCIS, NAU, Rain & Hail, Great American, AgriSompro and ProAg. Gary is currently licensed and has business in 20 states. Gary is a proud partner with Marsh McLennan Agency.

SESSION
SPONSOR



**MarshMcLennan
Agency**

FEATURED *Events*

CAN BE SEEN ON THE WESTERN AG NETWORK STAGE!



GENERAL SESSION II

Friday, December 12 | 10:15 am | Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd Floor



Greg Hanes, Cattlemen's Beef Board CEO

Greg Hanes became CEO of the Cattlemen's Beef Board in summer 2019. The CBB oversees all domestic and international beef checkoff related research, marketing, and promotion. Prior to joining CBB, he served as Vice President of International Marketing at the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) in Denver, Colorado, where he was responsible for global strategic marketing and program direction since 2009. Before returning to the U.S. in 2009, he was USMEF's Japan Director, based in Tokyo. As Japan

Director, he was responsible for all activities occurring in Japan, the largest red meat market for the United States.

Gene Copenhaver, NCBA President-Elect

Gene Copenhaver is a fifth-generation cattleman whose family dates to the 1850s in Washington County, Virginia. Copenhaver currently manages his family's stocker operation in southwest Virginia with his son, Will. Copenhaver was an agriculture loan officer for 38 years and served his clients who were primarily cattle producers in five East Coast states.

Copenhaver served as NCBA Vice President, chair and vice chair of the Policy Division, chair and vice chair of NCBA's Tax & Credit Committee, and chair and vice chair of NCBA's International Trade Committee. He is a past president of the Virginia Cattlemen's Association and past chairman of the Virginia Cattle Foundation. He and his family have long been active members and supporters of NCBA, Virginia Cattlemen's Association, Smyth-Washington Cattlemen's Association and the Virginia Cattlemen's Foundation.

Copenhaver graduated from Virginia Tech with a degree in animal science. He has been married to his wife, Jodi, for more than 35 years, and they have three grown children, Brad, Will and Jaymee, and one granddaughter.

SESSION
SPONSOR

**Montana
Ag Safety Program**

Cultivating a Culture of Safety



SPEAKER
SPONSOR



FEATURED *Events*

CAN BE SEEN ON THE WESTERN AG NETWORK STAGE!



PRESIDENTS LUNCH

Friday, December 12 | 11:30 am | Northern Hotel, Grand Ballroom, 2nd Floor



Brian Bledsoe, Weather Outlook

As part of MSGA's exclusive member benefit, the MSGA Ranch Weather Radar, Brian Bledsoe will present weather modeling and forecasting for the upcoming summer season and beyond.

Brian believes his extensive background in agriculture and meteorological communication (spent 28 years as a broadcast meteorologist) makes him unique. His goal is to take complex weather forecasts and make them meaningful and actionable to agriculture producers, insurance companies, event planners, and any other businesses. Whether you need a forecast for a specific day or for months in advance, Brian can provide the accuracy that you need to properly manage your risk. Brian started consulting for his family farm and ranch over 20 years ago and continue to do so today. That means he has skin in the game. So while you can get weather information anywhere today, Brian believes that it is the personal touch that he provides that truly sets him apart from the rest.

SPEAKER
SPONSOR



Chief Justice Cory Swanson, Montana Supreme Court

Chief Justice Cory Swanson attended Montana State University studying Animal Science before transferring to Carroll College and graduating in 2000 with a BA in Political Science. After taking off a year for military education, Cory attended the University of Montana School of Law and received his JD with Honors in 2004.

Cory has worked in government service at the state and federal levels in the executive, legislative, and now judicial branches of government. He was an associate and then named partner in a private civil law firm in Helena from 2006-2012, then served as Deputy Attorney General at the Montana Department of Justice in 2013-2014. In that role, he was lead in-state counsel for the Montana v. Wyoming water trial before a Special Master of the US Supreme Court.

Cory was elected Broadwater County Attorney in 2014, then was re-elected without opposition in 2018 and 2022 (the final campaign while he was deployed in the Middle East). It was his humble duty and honor to serve the people of Broadwater County for a decade. Cory ran for and was elected Chief Justice of the Montana Supreme Court in November 2024.

Cory enlisted as an Infantryman in the Montana Army National Guard in June 1997, and deployed three times to the Middle East with the 1-163rd Combined Arms Battalion.

DRAWINGS & RAFFLES

THE BLUE & GOLD MASSEY TRACTOR RAFFLE

Raffle held at the Grand Finale Banquet on Friday, Dec. 12

Each year the Montana Stockgrowers Association and Massey Ferguson partner and raffle a four (4) month tractor lease. This year, MSGA and Massey Ferguson are offering an opportunity for FFA chapters around the state to use our partnership as a fundraising tool for their chapters to help raise funds from travel, state convention, chapter activities, or national convention. Participating Montana FFA Chapters will receive 50% of the proceeds from the tickets they sell. Tickets are one (1) for \$20 or six (6) tickets for \$100. The raffle ticket prize is use of a Massey Ferguson Tractor and Loader for 200 hours or 4 months. Scan the QR code to purchase your tickets online!



MASSEY FERGUSON



NUTRA-LIX SADDLE DRAWING

Drawing held at the Northern Ag Network Lunch on Thursday, Dec. 11

Enter to ride away on a brand-new saddle! This handcrafted saddle is generously sponsored by our friends at Nutra-Lix. One lucky MSGA member will win the saddle at the Northern Ag Network Lunch on Thursday, December 11. Tickets will be available on-site at the registration desk. Must be present to win!

NUTRA-LIX SUPPLEMENT DRAWING

Drawing held at the Grand Finale Banquet on Friday, Dec. 12

Nutra-Lix is giving away one ton of liquid supplement during MSGA's Annual Convention & Trade Show to one lucky attendee! Must be present to win.



WRS CERTIFICATE DRAWING

Drawing held at the Grand Finale Banquet on Friday, Dec. 12

Our friends at Western Ranch Supply are supporting Montana's ranch community by giving away a \$500 gift certificate. Must be present to win.



AGRI-BEST FEEDS DRAWING

Drawing held at the Grand Finale Banquet on Friday, Dec. 12

Win one ton of SweetPro Feed AND one pallet of Redmond Natural Trace Mineral sponsored by Agri-Best Feeds! All current MSGA rancher, feeder/stocker and young stockgrower members have a chance to win.

Must be present to win! Tickets can be found at the registration desk.



LIVE AUCTIONS

MONTANA SEEDSTOCK & COMMERCIAL CATTLE DIRECTORY PRIORITY PAGE AD AUCTION

Auction will be hosted on Friday, December 12 at the Grand Finale Banquet.

Priority Page buyers will secure a premium full-page, full-color ad with priority placement in the 2026 Montana Seedstock & Commercial Cattle Directory, the most trusted resource for Montana cattle. Published each August and mailed nationwide to MSGA members, livestock markets, feeders, and cattle buyers, this directory reaches your ideal audience. Don't miss your chance to showcase your operation in front of thousands of industry leaders and buyers!

PRODUCER PARTNERSHIP HAY AUCTION

Auction will be hosted on Friday, December 12 at the Grand Finale Banquet.

The Producer Partnership has generously donated 27 tons of hay to be put up for auction to benefit the Montana Stockgrowers Association. High quality, never been rained on, alfalfa grass hay. Hay will be delivered to the auction winner.



Thank you to our SPONSORS

Please help us extend our appreciation to all the 2025 Annual Convention & Trade Show sponsors.
Without their generous support, these events would not be possible.



Bylaw and Expiring Policy can be found at the membership portal.

Within your member portal, you will be able to view the ByLaw Changes and 2025 Expiring Policy, as well as other things like manage your membership, update your contact information, and access the MSGA policy manual, important legislative/policy documents, archived newsletters, and past donations/event registrations.

If you have issues setting up for membership portal password, contact the MSGA office at (406) 442-3420. Click the button below to view a step-by-step guide.

Log into your account

[MSGA Member Portal Guide - Log into your account](#)

[MSGA Member Portal Guide - Create an account](#)

DONATED BY
THE PRODUCER PARTNERSHIP



27 TONS OF HAY

AVAILABLE
FOR AUCTION

AT THE GRAND FINALE BANQUET
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

ALFALFA GRASS HAY

HIGH QUALITY

NEVER BEEN RAINED ON

WILL BE DELIVERED



MONTANA PUBLIC LANDS COUNCIL

The main responsibility of the Montana Public Lands Council is to develop and coordinate unified policy positions and pursue legislative and regulatory actions that most effectively represent Montana public lands grazing users. The Montana Public Lands Council is a leading state organization in monitoring, initiating and coordinating actions on priority public lands issues in the state.

www.mtpubliclandscouncil.org



MONTANA ASSOCIATION OF STATE GRAZING DISTRICTS

Of all the western states, Montana alone has a statutory network of State Grazing Districts cooperative areas of diverse ownership that allow for the greatest use of range forage while conserving limited natural resources. Grazing districts are non-profit, cooperative associations of ranchers and farmers who raise livestock. The Montana Grass Conservation Act of 1939 organized these cooperative grazing areas into 26 districts which include federal grazing lands mingled with state, county and private lands-encompassing more than 10 million acres. Today there are 29 total districts, concentrated in the eastern part of the state.

www.mtgrazingdistricts.org

MEETING DATES & TIMES

The Northern Hotel, 2nd Floor Ballrooms

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10
8:00 am - 10:00 am
MPLC & MASGD Joint
Board Meeting

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 10
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
MPLC Annual Meeting



Go Further.

**The Official Truck of the
Montana Stockgrowers Association**

**MONTANA FORD STORES AND MSGA ARE
GIVING A \$2,000 INCENTIVE TO MSGA
MEMBERS WHO BUY A NEW FORD VEHICLE!**

Valid October 1, 2025 - December 31, 2025

Contact MSGA @ (406) 442-3420 for more information

www.mtbeef.org

**Show your incentive number to
any Montana Ford Store & receive your incentive.**

**Must be a Rancher Member, Young Stockgrower, or Ranch Package
Member by October 1, 2025, to be eligible to receive the incentive.**



MSGA ANNUAL EVENTS

Our yearly events provide **EDUCATION, INFORMATION, NETWORKING** and **POLICY-DECISION-MAKING OPPORTUNITIES** for Montana's cattle industry's leading members **EVERY YEAR.**

Don't Miss Out.

AGRICULTURE LABOR SUMMIT

JANUARY 20-21, 2026 | NORTHERN HOTEL, BILLINGS

The Summit is designed to bring stakeholders together for a focused conversation on workforce issues impacting our industry. The Summit will explore potential solutions including strengthening domestic labor pipelines, and improving access to non-immigrant labor programs such as H-2A.

MIDYEAR MEETING

MAY 27 - 29, 2026 | GREAT FALLS, MONTANA

Join Montana ranchers for our summer meeting with educational workshops, foundation social and fundraiser, policy meetings, and a semi-formal dinner event with live entertainment.

TBONE CLASSIC GALA DINNER & GOLF TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 12 - 13, 2026 | BRIARWOOD GOLF COURSE, BILLINGS

Join leaders of Montana's ranching and business communities for a gala dinner and golf tournament at one of the best locations in Big Sky Country!

Event benefits Montana Stockgrowers Foundation.



More info at www.mtbeef.org

REGISTRATION FORM

— Billings, Montana —

ANNUAL CONVENTION & Trade Show

December 10 - 12, 2025

Attendee(s): _____

Company/Ranch Name: _____

Email: _____

Office Phone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

REGISTRATION PACKAGE	COST	# ATTENDING	TOTAL
EARLY BIRD MEMBER All Inclusive Pass (On-site registration \$250)	\$225/attendee		\$
EARLY BIRD NON-MEMBER All Inclusive Pass (On-site registration \$325)	\$300/attendee		\$
Wednesday Pass (Includes all events on Wed, Dec. 10)	\$50/attendee		\$
Thursday Pass (Includes all events & meals on Thurs, Dec. 11)	\$100/attendee		\$
Friday Pass (Includes all events on Fri, Dec. 12)	\$125/attendee		\$
Extra Grand Finale Banquet Ticket	\$50/ticket		\$
GRAND TOTAL			\$

Pre-registration is encouraged to ensure availability! Children 12 years and younger are FREE to attend convention. Children 13 years and older must register.

Your registration form must be received by the MSGA office by December 1, 2025, to receive pre-registration discounts. Registration is also available online at www.mtbeef.org for your convenience. Please call the MSGA office if you have any questions about the convention or registration! THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATION TO MSGA!

PAYMENT DETAILS

☐ Check (Please make payable to MSGA)

☐ Send Invoice

☐ Credit Card (Visa or Mastercard please)

Credit Card Number _____

Expiration Date: _____ Billing Zip Code: _____ CVC: _____

Signature _____

Please mail this form and payment to
MSGA by November 29, 2025.

420 N. California St.
Helena, MT 59601

Email keni@mtbeef.org
(406) 442-3420