

R-CALF USA 2026 National Convention Agenda

Fire in the Brand

Tuesday, June 16

- 3 – 7 p.m.** Trade Show Set Up
- 3 p.m.** Committee Meetings
- 5 p.m.** Affiliate Council Meeting
- 6 p.m.** **Welcome Reception** *Sponsored by American Stewards of Liberty*
- Committee Reports**—Shad Sullivan, Property Rights; Kenny Fox, Animal ID; Brett Kenzy, Checkoff; Eric Gropper, Country-of-Origin Labeling; Max Thornsberry, Animal Health; Eric Nelson, Trade; and Bill Kluck, Sheep; and Theresa Fox, Membership
- Branding Party *Sponsored by W&W Ventures*

Wednesday, June 17

- 7 a.m.** Trade Show Set Up and Registration Open
- 8 a.m.** Trade Show Open
- Convention Welcome
- 8:30 a.m.** **Annual Prayer Breakfast** — Dr. Max Thornsberry, Animal Health Chair; Former President
- 9:45 a.m.** Trade Show Break *Sponsored by Kent Nutrition and Circle 5 Cow School*
- 10:30 a.m.** **Connecting Consumers to American Beef** — Ben Spell, Founder and CEO, Good Ranchers
- 11:15 a.m.** **The Power of a Dollar** — Brett Kenzy, South Dakota Rancher; Checkoff Chair; Former President *Sponsored by Rosebud Farmers Union Coop*
- 12 p.m.** Lunch and Trade Show Break *Sponsored by Valentine Livestock Auction and Farm Credit Services of America*
- 1 p.m.** Speaker to be announced
- 1:45 p.m.** **Wolf Issues** — Dave Duquette, Founder and Executive Director, Western Justice
- 2:30 p.m.** Break *Sponsored by Becker Ranch, Volk Ranch, and Huron Continental Marketing*

- 3:15 p.m.** **Tariffs, Trade Policy, and Their Impact on American Ranchers** — Charles Benoit, Trade Counsel, Coalition for a Prosperous America
- 4 p.m.** **EID Panel: Where Policy Meets Practice** — Dr. Jim Stangle, Veterinarian (SD); Dr. Julie Trask, Veterinarian (SD); Kenny Fox, Animal ID Chair *Sponsored by Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming*
- 5 p.m.** Trade Show Closed
- Social Sponsored by *Producers Livestock Marketing, Moly Manufacturing, K4 Cattle, and Farm Credit Services of America*
- Branding Party *Sponsored by W&W Ventures*
- 6 p.m.** Banquet and Supper *Sponsored by Tri-State Livestock News*
- Keynote Address** — Speaker to be announced

Thursday, June 18

- 8 a.m.** Registration and Trade Show Open
- R-CALF USA Membership Breakfast *Sponsored by Ft. Pierre Livestock Auction*
- CEO Report** — Bill Bullard, CEO
- Antitrust Litigation Update** — Patrick McGahan, Partner, Scott + Scott
- EID Litigation Update** — John Vecchione, Senior Litigation Counsel, New Civil Liberties Alliance
- 9:30 a.m.** Trade Show Break *Sponsored by South Dakota Farmers Union, Carruth Ranch, and Clark & Associates Land Brokers*
- 10:15 a.m.** Speaker to be announced
- 11:30 a.m.** **A Primer and Update on Federal Land Grazing** — Hayden Ballard, J.D., LL.M., M.S.; Utah/Arizona Rancher and Attorney *Sponsored by Korman Ranch*
- 12:15 p.m.** Lunch *Sponsored by Ag West Feeds*
- Competition and Buyer Power in the US Beef Packing Industry** — T. Jake Smith, Assistant Professor, Agricultural Economics, University of Nebraska–Lincoln *Sponsored by Bar N Cattle*
- 1:15 p.m.** Trade Show Break *Sponsored by Mobridge Livestock Market and Independent Cattlemen of Wyoming*

- 1:30 p.m.** **Narco-Ranching and New World Screwworm** — Dr. Lora Bledsoe,
Policy Advisor, Office of Health Security, U.S. Department of Homeland
Security
- 2:15 p.m.** **Why It All Matters** — Shad Sullivan, Texas/Colorado Rancher; Property
Rights Chair *Sponsored by Vander Wey Ranch*
- 3 p.m.** Trade Show Break *Sponsored by Trask Family Seeds and The Cattle Business
Weekly*
- 3:30 p.m.** Business Session, Board Nominations, and Policy Resolutions
- 5 p.m.** Trade Show Closed

*Social Sponsored by Jenner Equipment, County Line Helicopter, Bar N Cattle,
and Leininger Ranch*
- 6 p.m.** Denim and Diamonds Gala: Dinner, Auction, and Dance featuring JJ Kent and the
Aces and 8's *Sponsored by Weinreis Brothers*

***Agenda subject to change. Additional speakers to be announced.*