

Dear Federal Grazing Permittee:

Since the earliest settlement of the West, and particularly Montana, ranchers have been the caretakers and stewards of open, federal rangeland. Lessees of federal lands are responsible, environmentally-conscious land managers in partnership with the federal government. These lands, in combination with private lands, help to create many viable ranching operations for Montana's number- one industry: agriculture.

Through your participation as a member of Montana Public Lands Council (MPLC), we can continue to advocate our excellent stewardship on these lands and meet the extreme environmental groups' numerous challenges and objections to our use of this land head-on. MPLC has been the leading organization representing Montana's federal land grazing ranchers, producing solid results and advancing our shared values with local, state and national government and agency officials. In order for MPLC to continue our efforts to protect your future, we must have your support. From community issues and action to lobbying on a national level, your membership helps you take action on issues that can affect you.

The MPLC is also an affiliate of the National Public Lands Council (NPLC) in Washington, D.C. The National NPLC provides assistance and leadership on a number of state and national issues affecting federal grazing lands. The MPLC works in cooperation with the National NPLC on such issues as: legislation to halt proposed monument designations in Montana, the Endangered Species Act, Estate Tax reform, the Forest Service Planning Rule revision, and opposition to the Clean Water Restoration Act.

Join Us !

Membership dues go toward continued protection of grazing on federal lands. You can become a member by:

- Filling out the MPLC Membership form and mailing it to the MPLC office
- Visiting us online at www.mtbeef.org/Partners
- Contacting a MPLC Board of Director in your area
- Contacting the MPLC Office

By becoming a member of the MPLC, you will have access to valuable resources including:

- *MSGA Update* email with links to the latest local, national and international news headlines concerning issues that could have an impact on your operation
- Automatic membership into the National Public Lands Council
- Biannual Newsletter
- Strong representation at the Montana Legislature and in Washington, D.C.
- Educational opportunities to protect your grazing leases, like "Monitoring for Success"

We hope you will *join us as we work together to preserve your grazing rights on federal lands.*

Together we must continue to fight for the future of Montana's family ranches. Please help MPLC secure the future for Montana's federal land ranchers by becoming a member today. If you have any questions, please contact Jay Bodner the MPLC office at (406) 442-3420 & jay@mtbeef.org or one of the MPLC board members in your area.

Sincerely,



George Trischman
Chairman, Montana Public Lands Council