

## SUPPORT SB 1534

# Natural and Working Lands

Our Natural and Working Lands shape the beauty, culture, and economy of Oregon. They are a source of life-sustaining resources, community wealth, and pride.



*Grazing cattle in Wallowa County. © Aaron Huey*

## About SB 1534

SB 1534 is rooted in the voluntary stewardship of our natural and working lands. This bill will:

- Define NWL, establishing the policy direction to advance carbon sequestration and storage and resilience strategies.
- Create an NWL Advisory Group at the Oregon Global Warming Commission (OGWC).
- Direct Oregon State University to develop metrics, an NWL inventory, and a workforce and economic development study.
- Direct state agencies to report on metrics and the inventory.

The same practices that sequester and store carbon also contribute co-benefits that support farmers, ranchers, foresters, and entire communities.

- Healthy soils produce more crops, retain more moisture, and improve water quality, while increasing the producer's net earnings over time.
- Healthy forests provide clean drinking water, habitat for fish and wildlife, and protection from wildfire.
- Healthy wetlands and coastal areas sequester blue carbon as they filter water, provide critical habitat, and protect from floods.

Supporting strong conservation and management practices will ensure that Oregon's resources remain abundant and resilient while maintaining our economy.

**Support and fund SB 1534 for Natural and Working Lands.**



LEFT: Winter Lake near Coquille. © Brady Holden. RIGHT: Preparing trees for restoration planting projects near Tillamook. © Mitch Maxson/TNC

## **Extreme temperatures, wildfire, drought, pests, and flooding are setting all-time records.**

We see the impact on farmers, ranchers, and foresters as they address these challenges on narrow profit margins. These problems demand an adaptive approach to stewarding the health of our forests, farms, wetlands, and coastal habitat.

## **Existing and emerging practices for conservation, agriculture, and forestry show real promise for the future.**

SB 1534 creates a framework to advance the strategies identified in the [Natural and Working Lands Proposal](#), adopted by the Oregon Global Warming Commission in 2021 after broad stakeholder engagement.

---

### **For more information, please contact:**

Jan Lee  
Oregon Association of Conservation Districts  
(503) 545-9420 or [Jan.Lee@oacd.org](mailto:Jan.Lee@oacd.org)

## **We urge you to support and fund SB 1534 for Natural and Working Lands.**

- 6 Ranch
- American Farmland Trust
- American Forest Foundation
- Cape Arago Audubon Society
- Carman Ranch
- Coalition of Oregon Land Trusts
- Coast Range Association
- Grant Co. Commissioner Jim Hamsher
- Grant Co. Commissioner Sam Palmer
- Harney Co. Commissioner Patty Dorroh
- Harney Co. Judge Pete Runnels
- Hyla Woods
- Knudsen Vineyards
- L&C Carbon
- Lake Co. Commissioner Barry Shullanberger
- Lake Co. Commissioner Mark Albertson
- League of Women Voters of Oregon
- Malheur Co. Judge Dan Joyce
- Oregon Assoc of Conservation Districts
- Pilgrims' Pause (a family-owned forest)
- Port Blakely U.S. Forestry
- Portland Audubon
- Rietmann Ranch
- Shaniko Wool Company
- Sustainable Northwest
- The Nature Conservancy in Oregon
- Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership
- Tillamook Estuaries Partnership
- Treekeepers of Washington County
- Urban Greenspaces Institute
- Wahl-3 Livestock
- Willowa Co. Commissioner John Hillock
- Zena Forest LLC