



# **POLICIES**

**2006 - Present**

**Industry Pressures**

**Marketing and Trade**

**Private Property Rights and Environment**

**Product Safety, Health and Promotion**

**Resource Management**

**Other**

# Industry Pressures

## 2006

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) opposes outside industry pressures which burden livestock producers with regulations, taxes and encroachments detrimental to the Colorado livestock industry.
2. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) supports legislation to repeal the Endangered Species Act.
3. Whereas, there is not sufficient evidence to indicate that a mandatory national animal identification system would track livestock more efficiently or quickly than those identification systems already in place, and; Whereas, a cost/benefit analysis has not been conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture showing what the associated costs would be to individual producers, and; Whereas, oversight of livestock identification is a state's rights issue protected under the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, and only state, federal and tribal health officials who have statutory responsibility to maintain the health and welfare of the U.S. livestock industry should maintain proprietary information needed to carry out animal health-related responsibilities, and; Whereas, Colorado has an effective livestock identification program in place; Therefore, Be It Resolved: Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association opposes the U.S. Department of Agriculture's proposed mandatory national identification system for livestock.

## 2007

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association supports the Colorado Coalition Opposing Mandatory 4-H and FFA Premises Registration in its effort to seek an injunction against Colorado State University's Cooperative Extension Service and the Colorado State Fair with regard to implementing mandatory 4-H premises registration.

## 2008

1. WHERE AS: The Colorado Department of Agriculture is considering merging the Colorado State Board of Stock Inspectors and the Colorado Division of Animal Industries,  
AND WHERE AS: The proposed merger will result in no savings to the State of Colorado,  
AND WHERE AS: The producer-generated revenues of the Colorado State Board of Stock Inspectors should remain separate from the revenue of the State of Colorado.  
BE IT RESOLVED: That Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association opposes the merger of the Colorado State Board of Stock Inspectors and the Colorado Division of Animal Industries.
2. WHERE AS: The first lines of defense against animal disease are the borders of the United States and the borders of the state of Colorado,  
AND WHERE AS: The United States Department of Agriculture and the Colorado

Department of Agriculture have weakened the health importation standards required of livestock entering our borders,  
AND WHERE AS: Stronger animal health importation standards at our border will result in less need for animal trace back,  
BE IT RESOLVED: That Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association supports stronger animal health importation standards at the borders of the United States of America,  
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: That the Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association supports stronger animal health importation standards at the borders of the State of Colorado.

## 2009

1. WHERE AS: The Colorado Department of Agriculture has restrictions regarding the placement of livestock imported from states that no longer have "free status" for program diseases including those transmissible to humans,  
WHERE AS: the Colorado Department of Agriculture is currently allowing exemptions to these restrictions for the importation of livestock from these states that have lost their "free status",  
AND WHERE AS: this importation of livestock from these states has the potential to expose native Colorado livestock herds and Colorado Wildlife herds,  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association opposes relaxing these imports standards by allowing exemptions to Colorado Department of Agriculture Livestock Import Rules.
2. **DELETED Convention 2012:** [WHERE AS: The Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association cannot support "cap and trade", Waxman-Markey HR2454, unless and until an analysis can be completed regarding the impact on CICA members.]

## 2010

1. WHEREAS: Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association sees the need to expand a positive image of agriculture to the general public;  
THEREFORE: the Industry Pressures Working Group proposes that Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association develop a budget and marketing alliance with various media to develop a more accurate image, identifying and promoting diverse career opportunities for youth, and to produce and publish a regularly scheduled column in independent papers and other media.

## 2011

1. WHEREAS: USDA has proposed delisting the hot iron brand as a form of official animal identification;  
WHEREAS: CICA believes that the hot iron brand is the best form of permanent animal identification with a proven historical record of thousands of years. The hot iron brand is official animal identification for inter-state and intra-state movement;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes delisting the hot iron brand as official

animal identification.

2. WHEREAS: CICA sees the need to monitor regulatory agency rule-making;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA supports a continued monitoring and active engagement of all regulatory agencies affecting Colorado cattle producers.

## 2012

1. WHEREAS: the World Trade Organization (WTO) ruling on Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) requires changes in the way COOL has been implemented, that can be corrected through the rulemaking process;  
WHEREAS: American consumers have shown a desire to know the origin of the food products they purchase;  
WHEREAS: the meat processing industry is currently using a loophole in the WTO rule to label U.S.A. origin cattle in a group with Canadian and Mexican origin cattle under one label;  
THEREFORE: BE IT RESOLVED, that Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association (CICA) requests the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) make the needed changes in COOL implementation to require U.S.A. born, raised, and slaughtered cattle be labeled U.S.A. origin;  
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: that CICA requests USDA make the needed rule changes in COOL to require cattle slaughtered in the U.S.A. be labeled as Canadian or Mexican origin.
2. WHEREAS: in response to the recent audit of the National Beef Checkoff, which exposed corruption and misuse of funds;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association opposes the National Beef Checkoff and urges all beef producers to work to rescind the National Beef Checkoff.

## 2015

1. WHEREAS, the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB) is an effort to control the U.S. live cattle supply chain;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) opposes the GRSB.
2. WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has implemented regulations requiring adult cattle to be individually identified with official identification (ID) when moving in interstate shipment;  
WHEREAS, the individual enumeration of official ID frequently requires additional handling of adult cattle, causing undue stress;  
WHEREAS, the USDA regulations allow for states to cooperatively agree to other forms of ID for moving adult livestock across state lines;  
WHEREAS, Colorado and many of its neighboring states currently utilize good working brand laws;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) requests the Colorado State Veterinarian to take action necessary to implement cooperative working agreements with adjacent states to allow movement of adult cattle of U.S. origin with legible brands as long as there is no change in ownership.

3. WHEREAS, Congress is currently considering legislation to repeal part or all of our U.S. Country of Origin Labeling (COOL) laws and legislation to make our COOL laws voluntary; WHEREAS, Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) believes mandatory COOL is extremely important to our members and to the American public; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes any legislation that would undermine any portion of the COOL laws, whether by outright COOL repeal on any food or by converting the mandatory COOL laws to a voluntary program. BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: CICA urges Congress to stand up for America's consumers, farmers, and ranchers by rejecting any effort to unilaterally repeal or weaken this popular food label, even before the World Trade Organization (WTO) process has concluded.

## **2016**

1. WHEREAS, all commodity check-off programs have not been providing any information to the public, nor to those paying the check-off tax; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA demands transparency and accountability in accordance with federal law.
2. WHEREAS, government agencies are not following rules and regulations to manage and oversee all public lands; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA demands that all Federal and State agencies abide by the law and regulations, follow the Constitution, and work with all tenants to do what is in the lands' best interest.

## **2017**

1. WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation has proposed ELD (Electronic Logging Device) rules to be implemented December 18, 2017; WHEREAS, those rules will seriously hamper the well-being of livestock being transported; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: the ELD rules be delayed three years for livestock transportation to allow adequate time for industry concerns to be addressed.

# Marketing and Trade

## 2006

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) believes the U.S. domestic cattle market is the most lucrative in the world; Therefore, CICA supports strong and appropriate defense and preservation of US cattle markets through: Implementation of mandatory country of origin labeling; packer ownership of cattle ban; elimination of forward contracting for cattle without negotiated or settled prices; meaningful and transparent price reporting; enforcement of the Packers and Stockyards Act; education of domestic consumers; education of legislators at the state and national levels.
2. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) strongly supports the inclusion of the following in international trade agreements to protect U.S. and Colorado cattle producers: A perishable and cyclical classification of cattle; and rules of origin. CICA strongly supports a delisting of cattle from the "J" List.
3. Whereas, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has submitted a Final Rule to the Office of Management and Budget to begin accepting over 30 month age of cattle and beef derived from over 30 month of age cattle from Canada, and; Whereas, CICA opposes this rule, and; Whereas, Canada has a total of nine confirmed cases of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), four of those confirmed in 2006 alone, with four of these cases born well after Canada implemented its 1997 feed bans, and; Whereas, lucrative international export markets have refused to accept beef from the U.S. unless it is EXCLUSIVELY U.S. beef and not a product co-mingled with foreign imported beef, particularly Canadian, and; Whereas, USDA refuses to reconsider its import policies with regard to Canada; Therefore Be It Resolved, that CICA encourages the R-CALF USA Board of Directors to pursue whatever means necessary to halt the implementation of USDA's rule to accept Canadian imports of over 30 month cattle and beef derived from over 30 month cattle.

## 2008

1. CICA supports any bill that prohibits the importation of ruminants and swine, or any fresh, chilled or frozen meat or product of any ruminant, or swine born, raised or slaughtered in any country until the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture certifies to Congress that the countries are free of disease that are on the reportable foreign animal disease list.
2. CICA opposed movement of infectious disease research facility from Plum Island, New York, to any continental U.S. location.
3. CICA opposes the use of NAIS to implement COOL.
4. CICA adamantly opposes JBS Swift acquisition of National Beef, Smithfield Beef Group, and 5 Rivers Feeding Operations.

## **2009**

1. Be it resolved that the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association recognizes that captive supplies, open-ended non-priced forward contracts are detrimental to the profitability of our industry and therefore seek enforcement of the Packers and Stockyard Act for the benefit of producers and consumers.
2. Be it resolved that the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association request the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture to investigate the farm to retail spread of all commodities; to stand up for agriculture in regard to EPA rule making; and repeal the proposed mandatory NAIS based on producer/citizens testimony of recent listening sessions.
3. Be it resolved that Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association urge Congress to halt the relocation of the infectious disease research facility and the facility should stay at Plum Island, New York.

## **2010**

1. WHEREAS, the Marketing & Trade Working Group recommends that Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association supports proposed Grain Inspection, Packers Stockyards Administration rule changes and clarifications of definitions to the Packers & Stockyards Act that were announced on June 22, 2010.
2. WHEREAS, the Marketing & Trade Working Group recommends pursuing action with the United States Department of Justice and the Colorado State Attorney General to object to the JBS acquisition of the McElhaney Cattle Company of Arizona.

## **2011**

1. Be it resolved, that the CICA requests the USDA and Department of Justice investigate the staggering 25% loss in the farm to retail spread of the beef industry.
2. CICA affirms its support of R-CALF USA's policy on international trade. Pursuant to this policy, CICA vehemently opposes the Colombian, Korean and Panamanian Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) now pending before Congress. Among other rationale, this opposition is based on concern for the loss of U.S. sovereignty and the give-away of the U.S. beef markets to foreign supply.
3. CICA urges Secretary Vilsack and USDA to expedite the implementation of GIPSA Rule changes and clarifications.

## **2012**

1. WHEREAS, due to the severe drought in the United States and the forced liquidation of the national cow herd, and the possibility of easing health and safety standards to allow the importation of live and slaughtered cattle from other countries;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association opposes the lowering of U.S. Health and Safety Standards for imported cattle, even where a lowering of such standards is required to comply with international trade agreements in order to protect the U.S. cattle producer regardless of conditions reducing the size of the U.S. cowherd such as drought, infectious disease outbreak, or any other natural disaster.

## 2013

1. CICA opposes the Trans-Pacific Partnership Free Trade Agreement. Among other rationale, this opposition is based on concern for the loss of United States sovereignty and the potential loss of the U.S. beef markets to foreign supply.
2. Where foreign ownership of businesses and companies critical to U.S. food production is counter-productive to the well-being of U.S. agriculture producers;  
Where foreign ownership of businesses and companies critical to U.S. food production is not in the best interest of a consistent, healthy food supply for the U.S. consumer;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes acquisition or primary ownership by foreign governments and/or entities of companies critical to the U.S. food supply.

## 2014

1. Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) opposes the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) efforts and rules which allow to open expanded beef imports (fresh and/or chilled beef products) from ~~Brazil~~ or any country or regions of any country with documented and/or suspected cases of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) virus or from any region or any country not free of FMD without vaccination. [**AMENDED Convention 2015**]

## 2016

1. WHEREAS, the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) is a tool that has become too volatile with undue influence on cash cattle markets;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA recommends that the Chicago Futures Trading Commission (CFTC) institute rules that tie all trades to actual U.S. beef production and fundamental domestic supply factors.

## 2017

1. WHEREAS, U.S. beef producers have been net deficit recipients in all years of the NAFTA agreement;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes continued participation and recommends we initiate a bilateral trade agreement between United States and Canada as well as the United States and Mexico.
2. CICA supports implementation of the "Fair Practices Rules" promulgated by the GIPSA (Grain Inspection Packers & Stockyards Administration).



3. CICA strongly urges USDA to rewrite COOL (County-of-Origin Labeling) rules that would be compliant with WTO (World Trade Organization) rules and that would include all aspects of the food service industry.

# Private Property Rights and Environment

## 2006

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) supports efforts and legislation to protect individual property rights.
2. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) supports future legislation to prohibit the use of eminent domain (governmental taking of private property from an unwilling owner) for the benefit of private use, government revenue enhancement, or government control.
3. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) opposes the conversion of ownership or management of property acquired through eminent domain to ownership or management other than private taxpaying entities.
4. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) ~~supports Congressman Ron Paul and House Bill 1146 to urge the United States government~~ urges Congress to get us the United States out of the United Nations. [AMENDED Convention 2012]
5. Whereas, the membership of R-CALF USA voted overwhelmingly in 2006 to establish a Property Rights Committee, and; Whereas, expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS) is a clear and present danger to individual property owners in Southeastern Colorado; Therefore Be It Resolved, that CICA urges the R-CALF USA Board of Directors to immediately implement policy opposing the PCMS expansion and to devote appropriate resources to engagement of this policy, and; Whereas cattle producers across America face significant property rights challenges; Be It Further Resolved, that CICA urges the R-CALF USA Board of Directors to support the overall efforts of its Property Rights Committee by devoting appropriate resources to the committee's goals.

## 2007

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) views premises registration as a private property rights issue. CICA opposes any national mandatory privatized animal identification system, and any movement from the voluntary system in place towards a mandatory system. Furthermore, CICA adamantly opposes any move by the state or state agencies to force 4-H and FFA members to register their premise to be able to show their livestock.
2. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association (CICA) supports existing animal traceback systems, including but not limited to brands, bangs tags, TB, and Johne's disease. CICA supports efforts to protect 4-H and FFA member's rights. Therefore, CICA supports the Colorado Coalition Opposing Mandatory 4-H and FFA Premises Registration.

3. Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association (CICA) opposes increased Endangered Species Act regulations and guidelines. CICA opposes the use of Army Compatible Use Buffer Zones (ACUB's) to protect wildlife and private land around military bases, as private property owners are the best stewards of the land.

## **2008**

1. CICA opposes the proposed Pre-Draft Oil and Gas Rules and Regulations from the passing of HB 1298 and HB 1341 and any wildlife takings by the Colorado Department of Natural Resources and Colorado Division of Wildlife on private property rights. Cause No. IR Docket No. 0803-RM-02.
2. While CICA endorses clean water and sound management practices, CICA opposes the proposed current Clean Water Restoration Act.
3. CICA opposes the building of a new proposed railroad, Eastern Colorado Railroad Relocation, in Eastern Colorado to move coal to Texas as proposed by the Colorado Department of Transportation. Colorado Department of Transportation has proposed two plans (Plan A and Plan B). CICA considers this a taking and are therefore against the proposed new railroad.
4. CICA opposes the Colorado 2008 Severance Tax Initiative 113 as filed.
5. CICA understands that there are climate changes occurring naturally. However, CICA opposes using the concept of global climate change for funding action plans.

## **2009**

1. Whereas, National scenic by-ways and scenic landscapes, which are promoted by economic development, governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies, create any and all adverse takings of private property. Therefore, be it resolved that the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association oppose all national scenic by-ways, scenic landscapes and acquisitions without due process and appraisal at highest and best use under the uniform appraisal standards for federal land acquisition.
2. Be it resolved that the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association opposes the use of condemnation and eminent domain for benefits to others, such as governmental agencies, non-governmental agencies, private entities and entities of the proposed North American Union. And, be it further resolved that land acquired by eminent domain cannot be sold or re- dedicated, unless it is to the original owner, heirs, or assigns entity.
3. WHERE AS: the United Nations has proposed and passed Agenda 21, which is a collectivist planning document,  
WHERE AS: Agenda 21 alienates you from your owner rights in private property stated in the United States Constitution,  
WHERE AS: the USA is a constitutional republic and neither debated or voted in favor of

Agenda 21,

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association opposes Agenda 21.

4. WHERE AS: the Colorado State Land Board of Commissioners has a publicly stated policy of consolidating their holding through "non-simultaneous land exchanges,"  
WHERE AS: the Colorado State Land Board of Commissioners is not transparent nor fully disclosing of their intention when communicating with their current lessees,  
WHERE AS: the Colorado State Land Board of Commissioners policy of consolidating their holdings results in a small number of lessee's bearing the financial burden of these "non-simultaneous land exchanges,"  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: That CICA work with our legislative leaders and the Colorado State Board of Land Commissioners to craft and enforce policy(s) upon the state land board to fully disclose to the public and especially the current Colorado School State trust lands property lessee(s) within the affected taxing entities, their anticipated actions, the obligation of the public if they proceed, and the environmental and financial impacts on the public and especially their lessees if they complete their anticipated actions.

## 2010

1. **Directive to CICA Board of Directors Only:** WHEREAS, The Private Property Rights and Environment Working Group directs the Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association Board of Directors to actively pursue clarification as to who may access CLSS COIN (Colorado Livestock Security System Identification Number) numbers and how CLSS COIN numbers will be used. Additionally the Board should actively pursue obtaining absolute assurance that no one has access to this information except in the event of a disease outbreak.

## 2011

1. CICA opposes the building of a new Transportation/Utility Corridor in Eastern Colorado to move freight as proposed in any plans. CICA considers this a taking of private property and, therefore, opposes the new proposed transportation corridors.
2. CICA opposes any agreement including Memoranda of Understandings (MOUs) between government and government subsidized entities, including The Nature Conservancy (TNC), due to the government's historic lack of transparency.
3. CICA opposes the proposed Colorado Rail Plan and the transportation/energy corridor due to the loss in revenue and reduction in all rural tax bases.

## 2012

1. WHEREAS, government agencies are using drones to spy on and monitor landowners' use of their private property;  
WHEREAS, the government does not obtain search warrants or issue notice to the landowners before using such drones, which constitutes trespass;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association opposes the use of drones or any other aircraft or device to observe and acquire data of property owners and the use of their private property.
2. Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association adamantly opposes any Colorado constitutional amendment and any future legislation that would: 1) extinguish or subordinate current water rights to a new super water right for environmental and recreational uses; and 2) create public access easements across private property. Creating a new super water right violates Colorado water law. Creating public access easements across private property would violate the Fifth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution as a taking without just compensation. Further, any public use of private property to access navigable waters is a trespass and could lead to injury to livestock and other property.
3. WHEREAS, some livestock producers are being improperly prosecuted in the State of Colorado for cruelty and neglect to their livestock;  
WHEREAS, the Colorado Department of Agriculture is simultaneously acting as an accuser and an expert witness in recently tried cruelty and neglect cases;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association (CICA) promotes increased local government oversight of production livestock cruelty and neglect investigations and CICA advocates amending C.R.S., Title 18, Article 9, Part 2, Cruelty to Animals.

## 2013

1. WHEREAS, the United Nations is implementing its Agenda 21 sustainable development initiatives through local government agencies and economic development associations, and other non-governmental organizations (NGOs);  
WHEREAS, these Agenda 21 initiatives include, but are not limited to, national heritage areas, wilderness designation areas, national scenic by-ways, scenic landscapes, national blueways, and national greenways;  
WHEREAS, these initiatives are disguised as being implemented for the purpose of "preservation" and "conservation", but are implemented for the true purpose of taking away private property rights by removing landowners' rights to make use and enjoyment of their land;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association (CICA) opposes Agenda 21 and all of the initiatives and programs that are being pushed to implement it;  
THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: CICA vehemently opposes any effort by government or other organizations, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to infringe on private property rights.

2. WHEREAS, the National Security Agency (NSA) and other state and federal agencies are actively monitoring and surveying the transactions and activities of private, law-abiding, sovereign citizens of the state of Colorado and of the United States of America; WHEREAS, the surveillance, monitoring, and sharing of this information constitutes an unlawful search under the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution; THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes the surveillance, monitoring, and sharing of information of private, law-abiding, sovereign citizens by all state and federal government agencies.

## 2014

1. WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers propose to amend the definition of “waters of the United States” within the Clean Water Act, thereby expanding the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act; WHEREAS, the federal government is improperly prosecuting agricultural producers for violating Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act permitting requirements are a means to control the use and enjoyment of private property and create an economic burden on livestock production; WHEREAS, it was not the intent of Congress to impede agricultural production in the United States through the enactment of the Clean Water Act; WHEREAS, the Clean Water Act includes exemptions from Section 404 permitting requirements, including those for farming and ranching activities, upland soil and water conservation practices, and the construction and maintenance of stock ponds and irrigation ditches; THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Colorado Independent CattleGrower’s Association supports strict interpretation of the original Congressional language and opposes the creation of any law, including, but not limited to, statutes, regulations, executive orders, and judicial decisions, which would effectuate an expansion of the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act.
2. WHEREAS, the establishment of National Heritage Areas adversely affects private property rights by influencing local officials to pass zoning laws not otherwise needed and by altering well established processes for land use regulation; WHEREAS, Congress has designated National Heritage Areas encompassing vast amounts of privately held land since the 1980s in order to highlight specific areas of interest. The Colorado Independent CattleGrower’s Association appreciates efforts to encourage economic development, but opposes blanket designations that put dissenting private landowners in the unreasonable position of having to “opt out” of federally mandated boundaries; WHEREAS, a National Heritage Area designation invites interference in local affairs by special interest groups who claim to be stakeholders, such as the National Park Service, The Nature Conservancy, animal rights activists, and environmental groups who do not have the historical perspective or deeply felt stewardship responsibility of owners who work the land; WHEREAS, the United States of America can no longer afford to borrow money to engage in endless expansion of dependency, and each of the National Heritage Areas in existence today started out with sunset dates that were never enforced, resulting in chronic dependence rather than free market activity;

WHEREAS, a fundamental interdependence exists between individual liberty and the ability to own property, and the members of Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association are very concerned that National Heritage Area designations deprive landowners of their ability to use and enjoy their property as they see fit;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association opposes any National Heritage Area designation in Colorado and does not wish to confer upon an unelected regional management entity the ability to establish land use policy within the boundaries of the state of Colorado.

## 2015

1. WHEREAS, historic preservation groups are surveying large areas of private property to include in maps and National Park Service forms for the purpose of supporting or proving additional context to the listing of individual sites on the Colorado Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places;

WHEREAS, the historic preservation groups do not provide notice to or receive consent from the private property owners before using their property for such purpose;

WHEREAS, the appropriation of any interests in private property for the use of and benefit to the historic preservation groups is a deprivation of the rights and benefits of private property ownership;

WHEREAS, when the historic preservation groups receive state or federal funding to conduct their surveys and prepare the National Park Service forms, such use of federal and state funding causes an unauthorized invasion of the private property owner's constitutional right to exclude others from their property;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association opposes the use of private property to support the listing of sites on the Colorado Register of Historic Places or the National Register of Historic Places, including, but not limited to, listing private property on a National Park Service Multiple Property Documentation Form, without the private property owner first receiving notice and providing written and authorized consent for their property to be used for that purpose.

2. WHEREAS, Congress has included language in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) reauthorizing historic preservation and environmental initiatives of the federal agencies;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association supports restricting the scope of the NDAA to the national defense of the United States of America.

## 2016

1. WHEREAS, the Department of Defense seven-year Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site expansion funding ban was discontinued;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes any land acquired by private means or eminent domain by any private or public entity for the expansion of the Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site or any other land by state or federal entities; in essence, CICA opposes any net loss of private property.

2. WHEREAS, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) lack adequate transparency pertaining to their funding and disbursements;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA proposes that NGOs be subject to adequate disclosure as to their funding and disbursements to promote transparency in public funding.

## 2017

1. WHEREAS, industrial hemp has become a viable agricultural product;  
WHEREAS, industrial hemp is still classified as a schedule 1 drug under the Controlled Substances Act resulting in legal issues relating to production;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, in order to remediate legal issues involved in industrial hemp production, CICA is in favor of declassifying industrial hemp as a schedule 1 drug and separating industrial hemp from the Controlled Substances Act.
2. WHEREAS, Camp Amache, Granada, Prowers County, Colorado is being considered for national park status and represents another federal government taking;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes the formation of Camp Amache, Granada, Prowers County, Colorado as a national park. CICA opposes any expansion of federal property and opposes any net loss of private property.
3. WHEREAS, livestock producers can own allotments on split estate federal land (which includes grazing/forage, water, right-of-way, and range improvement rights) and patented land that are statutorily established under the Stock Raising Homestead Act and protected under the Fifth Amendment of the United States Constitution;  
WHEREAS, tragedies and injustices can occur and have occurred when said livestock producers are not knowledgeable of their private property rights;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA shall help educate livestock producers of their private property rights on split estate federal land and patented land.



# Product Safety, Health and Promotion

## 2010

1. WHEREAS, Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association recommends state animal health officials maintain a foot-and-mouth disease vaccine bank in the event of a United States of America outbreak with the vaccine being furnished by the United States Department of Agriculture free to producers.
2. WHEREAS, Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association resolves that in case of a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak that a fair economic value be placed on all animals, prior to animals being destroyed.
3. WHEREAS, it is mandatory that all cattle producers participate in mandatory check-off dollars; and  
WHEREAS, it is detrimental for one policy agricultural organization to control check-off dollars; Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association supports a transparent check-off program controlled by all producers promoting United States of America beef production.

## 2013

1. CICA opposes the use of growth promoting drugs in cattle sixty days prior to slaughter.

## 2014

1. WHEREAS, product contamination continues to be an issue in the beef industry;  
WHEREAS, the U.S. Food Safety Inspection Service continues to move the meat processing industry toward self-regulation;  
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association supports maintaining and improving the prevention of product contamination at all beef processing and slaughter facilities;  
THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association supports complete and accurate inspections of slaughter facilities by the U.S. Food Safety Inspection Service and the traceability of all beef products from their point of slaughter to the final sale to the consumer.

## 2015

1. Until there is an accountability structure in place for infectious, contagious, and/or foreign animal disease, Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) opposes the opening of our borders to foreign meat products.
2. Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) opposes any mandatory increase in beef checkoff fees.

3. Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) supports the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to prioritize and expand the capability of the National Animal Health Emergency Response Core (NAHERC) to respond to livestock disease outbreaks.

## **2016**

1. Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) opposes further regulations of all antibiotics to be used by cattle producers and large animal veterinarians. CICA opposes requirements of documentation of these antibiotics. CICA supports the same requirements or stricter requirements for cattle imported into the United States.

## **2017**

1. WHEREAS, there has been a U.S. District Court ruling that upheld that it is a violation of the First Amendment to compel producers to subsidize private speech involuntarily;  
WHEREAS, the Beef Checkoff is used to promote imported beef as well as domestic product;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association supports change of the Beef Checkoff from a mandatory fee to a voluntary fee at the point of collection.
2. WHEREAS, USDA-APHIS is proposing to require mandatory animal ID on all cattle less than 18 months of age in interstate commerce;  
WHEREAS, the cost of mandatory animal ID will be borne by the producer with no means of recovering that expense;  
WHEREAS, USDA-APHIS has developed policies and roles contradictory to the protection from disease threats to the U.S. livestock industry;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, CICA opposes the proposed mandatory animal ID for cattle less than 18 months of age.

# Resource Management

## 2010

1. WHEREAS, the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association acknowledges that specie habitat has declined because of development and population growth.  
BE IT RESOLVED, that Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association strongly recommends that Colorado Division of Wildlife and US Fish and Wildlife Service correlate target specie population to current available habitat in lieu of historical numbers and habitat when developing their 5 year game management strategy.
2. WHEREAS, Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association supports legislation to add language to the Endangered Species Act and require peer reviewed science with supporting documentation to propose listing or delisting a species.
3. **DELETED Convention 2012:** [WHEREAS, Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association would consider participation in a model project on foot-and-mouth disease at Colorado State University on a voluntary basis with individual producer confidentiality.]

## 2013

1. WHEREAS, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has a program in place and the Colorado Parks and Wildlife supports the introduction of the black footed ferret into the habitat of the black tailed, Gunnison, and white tailed prairie dog;  
WHEREAS, the three prairie dog species are destructive to forage production;  
WHEREAS, the FWS black footed ferret reintroduction program is not specific as to the effects this program will have on the lands where the reintroduction occurs or on the adjacent lands;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: CICA opposes the reintroduction of the black footed ferret on public or private lands in the United States.

## 2014

1. Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association opposes the listing of the Lesser Prairie Chicken under the Endangered Species Act and the designation of critical habitats for the Lesser Prairie Chicken.

## 2015

1. WHEREAS, prairie dogs on many cattle and forage operations in Colorado continue to damage property, agricultural production, and present potential human health risks;  
THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: Colorado Independent CattleGrower's Association (CICA) urges both the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) and the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CDA) to recognize this rodent problem and assist landowners in managing prairie dogs where they conflict with forage, agricultural production, and human health.

# Other

## 2006

1. Whereas, CICA is Colorado's state affiliate to R-CALF USA, and; Whereas, the R-CALF Board of Directors largely consists of directors elected from various regions throughout the nation, and; Whereas, the success of R -CALF is directly related to grassroots representation and development and implementation of policy upwardly from the grassroots to enhance the voice of producers; Therefore Be It Resolved, that CICA encourages R-CALF USA directors from each region to engage their respective affiliates in policy decisions for more effective representation within their national organization.
2. **DELETED Convention 2012:** [CICA urges the R-CALF USA Board of Directors to have a Fall Stampede to Washington D.C., similar to the first Stampede in February 2006.]

## 2007

1. **Bylaws Change:** Article III: Directors, Section 2. Terms be amended to read: "The directors shall be nominated and elected by the majority vote of the membership in their district by mail-in ballot as described in Section 3. Director terms shall be for two years. No director may serve more than three consecutive terms. Directors elected by mail-in ballot shall assume office at the first meeting of the board following completion of the mail-in election process. The terms of the directors from each district will be staggered to ensure continuity in the Association's work."

## 2008

1. Colorado Independent Cattle Growers Association is opposed to the formation of the North American Union where the United States, Canada and Mexico are one. We are Americans and we want to remain so.

## 2009

1. **Bylaws Change:** Article IV: Officers, Section 3. Term of Office be amended to read: "Each officer, with the exception of Treasurer, shall hold office for one year, with a limit of two consecutive years, or until a successor is elected and qualified. Following the two consecutive year limit, an individual will not be eligible for re-election to an officer's position until one year has passed."

## 2017

1. WHEREAS, the members of the Colorado Independent CattleGrowers Association have been living the Code of the West since its beginning in 2005; WHEREAS, there has never been a formally written document to guide how we live and

interact with others, but rather an unwritten way of living an honorable life handed down from one generation to the next;

WHEREAS, CICA members are concerned with what they see happening across America with the decline in morals and ethical living;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED: The Colorado Independent CattleGrowers adopts the Code of the West as our code of ethics:

Code of the West

- 1) Live each day with courage.
- 2) Take pride in your work.
- 3) Always finish what you start.
- 4) Do what has to be done.
- 5) Be tough, but fair.
- 6) When you make a promise, keep it.
- 7) Ride for the brand.
- 8) Talk less and say more.
- 9) Remember that some things aren't for sale.
- 10) Know where to draw the line.