Oregon agriculture is among the most diverse in the world, and our regulatory system must remain flexible enough to accommodate this diversity. Farm Bureau promotes cooperation, collaboration, and communication for the benefit and longevity of Oregon’s many different farm and ranch families, ag commodities, farm practices, markets, and operation sizes.

“So much of public policy directly impacts farmers and ranchers’ ability to do their jobs, including policies involving land use, labor, water, taxes, transportation, energy, and wildlife. Farm Bureau’s goal is to help Oregon’s farm and ranch families succeed, survive, and remain sustainable.”

Sharon Waterman
Oregon Farm Bureau President
Coe County farmer and rancher

ENHANCE RURAL COMMUNITIES
Oregon’s heritage is rooted in and exemplified by our rural communities. Agriculture is a generations-old economic driver and cultural foundation for many of these areas. OFB supports policies that will create new opportunities for rural Oregonians and begin to address the unique challenges associated with living and working in remote, agriculture-based areas.

“As a fourth-generation farmer, I’m proud that our farm grows high-quality fruit and makes it difficult for us to remain competitive and keep our family farm going.”

Catherine Kiyokawa
Hood River orchardist

STRENGTHEN OREGON’S ECONOMY
As Oregon’s second-most-traded sector, agriculture plays an important role in growing the state economy. Most farm and ranch families are cost-takers, meaning they cannot adjust the price of their product to reflect the true cost of doing business.

Oregon’s world-class ag products are successful because we can compete in the marketplace, which in turn strengthens our viability and the economy. Farmers and ranchers work very hard to take excellent care of their crops and animals, contribute to statewide and rural economies, innovate with modern technologies to do more with less, and preserve our land, wildlife, air, and water for future generations.

“We’re proud to advocate for policies that will protect the Oregon ag community, promote environmental stewardship, and benefit our membership of 6,700 farm and ranch families.”

Jenny Freeborn
OFB Region 10 (John Day, Wheeler Counties); Chair of state Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee

FARM BUREAU PROGRAMS
OFB Government Affairs Team

OFB GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS TEAM
OFB Government Affairs staff advocates for Farm Bureau members in the legislature, within regulatory agencies, and in the courts, working closely with grassroot leaders at all levels of engagement. Having full-time OFB staff allows our members to spend their time working on the farm or ranch, knowing their interests are being well represented in Salem and Washington, D.C.

Mary Anne Cooper
OFB Board of Directors

THE OFB POLICY BOOK
The OFB Policy Book is developed by OFB’s government affairs staff and advocacy work on behalf of our grassroots membership. See OregonFB.org/policybook.

Mary Anne Cooper
Vice President of Public Policy
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FROM ASTORIA TO THE JORDAN VALLEY, HOOD RIVER TO BANDON, FARM BUREAU REPRESENTS FAMILY AGRICULTURE IN OREGON.

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Safeguard Water and Land Use

Oregon Farm Bureau represents ag producers from all corners of the state, from small farms with a local customer base to large-scale farms that ship internationally. Access to water and land is vital for all farmers and ranchers, regardless of their operation size. It’s also essential for wildlife, our natural areas, and the future of our rural communities.

“Nothing is more critical to farming in our basin than a reliable water supply. We work hard to be efficient, conserve, and make the most of our water resources. But many of the new laws from Salem aren’t workable for us. We need lawmakers to recognize and appreciate the decades of investment we’ve made in water conservation and efficiency. We need policies that will allow us to keep irrigating, implementing conservation practices, and exploring irrigation technologies — without the burden of constantly increasing and costly regulations.”

Charlie Bartone
Malheur County farmer

PROTECT ACCESS TO PRODUCTION TOOLS

Oregon’s farmers and ranchers use modern technology to conserve water, minimize soil erosion, apply nutrients precisely, and manage crops for peak and disease pressures. With changing market and environmental conditions, ag producers must be able to innovate in order to stay viable. Farm Bureau advocates for all farmers and ranchers — regardless of commodity type or farming method — to have access to the tools and practices that work best for their specific operations.

“Oregon agriculture is known worldwide for its diversity. On my farm, I grow everything from broccoli to cherries to hops. As an organic and conventional farmer, I know that Farm Bureau supports all types of farms and farming methods. Coexistence between crops and practices is not only possible, it’s something Oregon farmers should be proud of.”

Molly McGarigle
Marion County farmer

Environmental Stewardship

Oregon’s lands, water, air; livestock, and wildlife all benefit from the environmental stewardship of farmers and ranchers. These activities in our state are amplifying Oregon's ability to grow a diverse abundance of food and sustain Oregon’s lands, water, air, livestock, and wildlife all benefit from the environmental stewardship of farmers and ranchers.

“Professionals are ever-changing, learning from the past, and innovating for the future. Farmers and ranchers work hard to reduce their environmental impact, promote healthy ecosystems, and steward our natural resources for future generations.

“Our family has farmed in Oregon for four generations. It's a privilege and responsibility to manage our farm for multiple uses and benefits, both private and collective. We take seriously our role in protecting our land and water for many reasons, not least of which is that our daughter has the opportunity to continue the tradition of sustainable practice into the next 80 years.”

Allen & Lorina Fujikuma
Lincoln County farmers

Meet Our County Farm Bureau Presidents — Each County Farm Bureau is unique and geared toward the local membership.

Alfalfa County
Baker County Farmers
Benton County Farmers
Clackamas County Farmers
Clatsop County Farmers
Coos County Farmers
Columbia County Farmers
 Curry County Farmers
Coos Bay Farmers
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