



Executive Department  
State of Idaho

The Office of the Governor  
**Proclamation**

State Capital  
Boise

WHEREAS, rangelands are natural ecosystems in which the native vegetation is predominantly grasses, grass-like plants, forbs or shrubs which cover up to 19.8 billion acres of land globally (54% of the terrestrial surface), a similar proportion of Idaho's total landmass; and

WHEREAS, in Idaho these natural ecosystems include alpine, desert, forests, grasslands, prairies, sagebrush steppe, and wetlands; and

WHEREAS, rangelands are economically, socially, and culturally important to human communities through an array of ecological services; and

WHEREAS, pastoralists are stewards of rangeland who raise livestock or semi-domesticated animals on rangelands, including ranchers and nomads, who have played a foundational role in the original development of Idaho through deep knowledge and connections with the land for the betterment of a healthy landscape coupled in economic prosperity; and

WHEREAS, shared values of land, livestock and rangeland stewardship contribute both directly and indirectly to a variety of experiences in Idaho's rural and urban economies to support ranching families, local businesses, and jobs that sustain overall community vitality; and

WHEREAS, the International Communities, in recognition of the important nature of rangelands and the significance of pastoralism to the stewardship and societal benefits of rangelands, designated 2026 the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists; and

WHEREAS, recognizing the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists provides a timely opportunity to reaffirm Idaho's support for sustainable livestock grazing, balanced public land use, and collaboration among producers, conservation partners, and land management agencies to ensure healthy working landscapes throughout the state

NOW, THEREFORE, I, BRAD LITTLE, Governor of the State of Idaho, do hereby proclaim 2026 to be the

**INTERNATIONAL YEAR OF  
RANGELANDS AND PASTORALISTS**

in Idaho.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the State of Idaho at the Capitol in Boise on this 17<sup>th</sup> day of February in the year of our Lord two thousand and TWENTY-SIX.

BRAD LITTLE  
GOVERNOR

PHIL MCGRANE  
SECRETARY OF STATE