

Letter of Intent for Range Management Advisory Committee

January 22, 2020

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to inform you of my interest in the State of California Range Management Advisory Committee. I have provided a resume showing appropriate qualifications.

As a fourth generation cow calf producer, I feel the urgency to promote the grazing of our rangelands for maintenance and protection of these vital resources. In the past few years, California has experienced an increase in wildfires that could be reduced with proper management. Reducing fuel loads by grazing and timber removal could be beneficial for wildfire reduction, rangeland soil and vegetation health, and promote habitat for wildlife that utilize these lands. I strongly believe that our rangelands can be productive for producers who graze them, as well as the public who enjoy them for hiking, hunting, four wheeling, camping and fishing.

A little more about me: I am fourth generation cow calf producer outside of Susanville, California, in Willow Creek Valley. My great grandfather homesteaded the ranch in 1904, which we still run today. Over the past 115 years, we have continuously run our cattle on both private land and BLM permits. Our cattle graze private ground or BLM permits from the day they are born until they are sold, spending the entirety of their time at Hagata Ranch, in Willow Creek Valley or adjacent BLM permits. We also have a custom hay operation in the summer for local producers.

I attended California State University, Chico, majoring in animal science with an emphasis in rangeland cattle production. After graduating college, I returned to the family cattle operation and quickly noticed a need to educate the public and government agencies on issues that face cattle producers who graze public and private lands. Since, I have been organizing presentations and tours of our ranch for numerous organizations including NRCS, Point Blue, The California Wolf Center, and Defenders of Wildlife. My hope is to educate participants on the importance and key roles cattle producers play in helping keep public and private land productive and healthy, not only for the cattle, but the wildlife and overall health of our rangelands.

I am active in organizations locally and on the state level, including California Farm Bureau and Lassen County Cattlemen's Association. I have served as a member, director, delegate, and officer, including president for our local Farm Bureau. I am currently a director for the Lassen County Cattlemen's and serve on the Public Lands Committee at the state convention. I am constantly educating myself by attending conferences and field days for organizations such as the Partners of Conservation and the Sage Grouse Working Group, to name a few. Our ranch also participates in programs such as the Conservation Stewardship Program and the California Healthy Soils Program, with hopes of gaining outside perspective and education on methods to preserve our rangeland.

I appreciate you considering me for this position and look forward to using my producer prospective to provide ideas and effective solutions, with the ultimate goal of promoting and protecting our rangelands.

Sincerely,

Taylor Hagata

---

# Taylor J. Hagata

---

## Professional Experience

---

2011-Present Hagata Ranch Cattle and Custom Hay Susanville, CA

### Manager and Owner

- Manage a 450 head cow calf operation.
- Manage/operate a custom hay operation.
- Manage cattle on BLM public lands.

---

2008-2011 Chico State Meats Lab Chico, CA

### Kill Floor Manager

- Operate a USDA certified slaughterhouse from harvesting to retail.
- Oversee the processing, packaging, and marketing of meat products for retail and distribution to Sierra Nevada Brewery.
- Organized and maintained records and data to meet USDA regulations.

---

## Education

---

August 2007 – May 2011 California State University, Chico Chico, CA

### Bachelors of Science

- Bachelor degree in animal science with an emphasis in rangeland cattle production.

---

## Organizations

---

California Farm Bureau - State delegate 2012-2019

Lassen County Farm Bureau - President 2018-Present, Vice President 2016-2018, Treasure 2014-2016, Board of Directors 2011-present

California Cattlemen's Association - State Public Lands Issues Advisory Committee 2012-2016

Lassen County Cattlemen's Association - Board of Directors 2011-present

Partners for Conservation- Attended meetings and conferences organized by Partners for Conservation. 2011-Present

Point Blue – Regularly meet with the bird conservation group, Point Blue, to discuss problems and solutions with grazing cattle with sage grouse habitat and showing how California cattle producers graze cattle on private and public lands 2011-Present. Held a presentation on grazing cattle with predators for the Point Blue board and staff. 2015

California Healthy Soils Program participant - Hagata Ranch participates in the California Healthy Soils program to improve the vitality of soil on our private lands. 2019-present

Working Circle - Committee member for the Working Circle, a group organized to address issues and possible solutions for livestock producers battling wolves in California. This committee is livestock producers and members of organizations such as Defenders of Wildlife and the California Wolf Center. 2017-present

Conservation Stewardship Program - Participant in the Conservation Stewardship Program where producers are asked implement management practices that benefit wildlife, soil health, reduce fuel loads for wildfire, while benefiting farming and ranching production. 2015-2019

Sage Grouse Working Group - Committee of producers and government agencies working to improve public and private lands with sage grouse habitat. They advise and implement strategies to promote sage grouse habitat such as juniper removal, riparian protection and restoration, fuel load reduction, soil erosion prevention, and grazing management. 2011-present