

CALIFORNIA CATTLE RANCHERS ARE CLIMATE CHAMPIONS

The Golden State is a global leader in sustainability. It's no coincidence that California cattle ranchers are also champions in the climate arena.

ACCORDING TO THE  CALIFORNIA AIR RESOURCES BOARD

1.1% OF ALL GHG EMISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA RESULT FROM BEEF CATTLE.¹

METHANE FROM BEEF CATTLE IS

0.96% OF TOTAL GHG EMISSIONS IN CALIFORNIA.¹



THE U.S. IS ALSO A LEADER ON BEEF EMISSIONS

Research cited by USDA shows 3.7% of total national GHG emissions are from beef production and consumption.²

U.S. cattle ranchers produce 18% of the world's beef with only 6% of the world's cattle.³

Since 1996 the U.S. has had the lowest beef GHG emissions intensity in comparison to other top beef producers.⁴

HOW CALIFORNIA RANCHERS ARE LEADING THE WAY

394,609 ACRES

of privately-owned rangeland are forever conserved through the California Rangeland Trust. Thousands more acres are conserved with other organizations. Research found that these lands provide roughly \$1 billion in environmental benefits annually, including habitat, climate regulation, food, and watersheds.⁵

112,571 METRIC TONS

of carbon dioxide equivalent emissions are sequestered by farmers and ranchers who participate in the state's Healthy Soils Program each year.⁶ Grazed lands have more efficient carbon sequestration as they retain more moisture, which supports better plant growth.⁷

30 MILLION ACRES

conserved by 2030 is the goal ranchers are working with the California Natural Resources Agency to achieve. Ranchers are also partnering with the state on ecological grazing solutions on state owned lands to reduce hazardous fuel loads throughout the state to reduce carbon emissions if a fire occurs.

1. California Air Resources Board. Retrieved from <https://ww2.arb.ca.gov/applications/greenhouse-gas-emission-inventory-0>.
2. Rotz, C.A. 2023. Impact of Beef Cattle on the Environment[abstract]. American Dairy Science Association Proceedings. p. 1.
3. UN FAO. 2021. FAOSTAT Database – Food and agricultural data. Available at: <http://www.fao.org/faostat/en/#home>
4. Beef Research. 2021. Quick Stat Calculations - Sustainability Research: U.S. vs. Global Emission Intensity. <https://www.beefresearch.org/programs/beef-sustainability/sustainability-quick-stats/us-vs-global-emission-intensity>
5. CRT: Ranching conservation. California Rangeland Trust. (2024b, March 5). <https://rangelandtrust.org>
6. California Climate Dashboard. Retrieved from <https://calepa.ca.gov/climate-dashboard/#Agriculture>
7. Shafer et al. 2016. Optimizing Managed Grazing for Soil Health and Sustainable Production Systems. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1e3ofjB3v2BUMe62uPgYrcX7nHwLvDQKt/view>

 **CATTLEMEN'S FOUNDATION**

CALIFORNIA CATTLE COUNCIL 