



CHAMPIONS OF ® RURAL AMERICA

ABOUT WCF

OUR MISSION

The Western Caucus Foundation (WCF) is a 501(c)(3) not for profit organization committed to educating public policy makers and communicating with the public in an effort to enhance, sustain, and preserve the principles and culture of the American West and rural America. The Foundation is a non-partisan and non-political organization.

The Foundation provides a much needed cultural exchange to bring people together to gain a mutual understanding of and appreciation for the challenges facing the western states and rural America.

While a separate organization from the Senate and Congressional Western Caucuses, the Foundation works in cooperation with the Caucuses to inform and educate policy makers and the public on 'Western' ideals the Western Caucus Community supports. This includes individual and private property rights, a strong state and local government influence instead of federal bureaucrats, optimistic self-reliance, utilization of our abundant natural resources, and boundless economic growth and opportunities.

The Senate and Congressional Western Caucuses know first-hand that policy decisions made by politicians and bureaucrats in Washington, DC disproportionately affect the West and rural America, and that the people who live on these lands are the best stewards.

The Foundation provides support, education, outreach, and networking opportunities to advance the public policies critical Western and rural communities through a robust agenda of meetings, conferences, education programs, and communications.

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WESTERN CAUCUS LEADERSHIP



REP. DAN NEWHOUSE (WA-04)

CHAIRMAN, CONGRESSIONAL WESTERN CAUCUS

Representative Dan Newhouse is a thirdgeneration Yakima Valley farmer in Central Washington. He is honored to represent Washington's 4th District by bringing conservative solutions to Congress.



SEN. CYNTHIA LUMMIS (WY)

CHAIR, SENATE WESTERN CAUCUS

Born on a cattle ranch near Cheyenne, Cynthia Lummis has spent her career fighting for Wyoming's families, communities, and values. From the Wyoming House to the U.S. Senate, she has always focused on securing a strong future for her state.

ABOUT THE CONGRESSIONAL WESTERN CAUCUS

The Congressional Western Caucus seeks to enhance, sustain, and preserve the West's dynamic and unique culture, and to find innovative solutions that address the distinctive concerns facing western and rural communities.

View Membership Here

ABOUT THE SENATE WESTERN CAUCUS

The Senate Western Caucus (SWC), Chaired by Senator Cynthia Lummis, is made up of Senators from Western and rural states who are committed to upholding the fundamental principles of the West.

View Membership Here

WESTERN CAUCUS FOUNDATION ACTIVITIES AND COMMUNICATIONS

Regional Western Roundtables and Field Tours

The Western Caucus Foundation hosts several Field Tours around the nation annually where Members and staff of both Caucuses, stakeholders, private sector representatives, and western leaders can participate in educational meetings and visit unique sites related to Western Caucus issues.

These are cultural exchange opportunities where we also invite non-western members and staff to participate in our education meetings and visit nearby unique sites related to western and rural economic activity.

Policy Education Communications

The Foundation produces and distributes educational videos, op-eds, and white papers from policy events or for research-driven education on issues being promoted by the Senate and Congressional Western Caucuses and important to Foundation stakeholders.

CAPITOL HILL EVENTS &

The Foundation hosts widely attended events and receptions throughout the year on Capitol Hill and nationwide with Senate and Congressional Western Caucuses leaders, members, and staff.

These events are a chance to informally interact with Western Caucus members and staff on topical issues or a 'Meet and Greet' to know them with opportunities to hear Congressional leaders discuss Western, rural, and national issues

Digital Connect Policy Events

To expand the reach of the Western Caucus Foundation and to promote interaction with Senate and Congressional Western Caucus members, Digital Connect (DC→Connect) events facilitate the exchange of ideas and information to address critical issues facing the West and rural America.

DC←Connect programs allow stakeholders to promote new policies and personal relationships and have conversations with Western Caucus members and staff.



Senate Western Caucus Staff and Stakeholder Briefings

We host briefings with Senate Western Caucus Staff, Senate Committee staff, and policy experts to discuss current Congressional agenda and policy issues.

Digital Communication Platforms

WCF utilizes social media, email, and its website to deliver information to Western stakeholders about Caucus activities and Western policy information.

Champions of Rural America®

Champions of Rural America® is our awardwinning TV show featuring leaders from the Western Caucuses and policy influencers discussing the vital role that rural communities play in the fabric of the nation. The show broadcasts on digital media channels and is also available for free on YouTube.

Western Caucus College

The Western Caucus College is a 4-day inperson staff training program that provides staff of Western Caucus members an indepth, professional training and bespoke curriculum on the landmark land and environmental laws undergoing modern policy discussion.

2023 WCF EVENTS



ACROSS 4 FIELD TOURS

the Western Caucus Foundation welcomed

Over 170 **Congressional Staffers**

Nearly 40 **Members of Congress**

March 2023 | Agriculture

FORT WORTH, TX

- Farm Bill Summit broadcast live on the Cowboy Channel with attending
- Western Caucus Members on Panels and Texas Ag Commissioner, Sid Miller
- Tour of Eden Green High-Tech, Hydroponic Growth Facility
- Ag Technology and Research Lunch & Learn Exhibition



August 2023 | National Park Management

YOSEMITE NATIONAL PARK

- National Park Service Briefing
- Yosemite National Park Tour
- House Natural Resources Hearing
- Policy Forum on Water & Drought



June 2023 | American Mining SALT LAKE CITY, UT

• Tour of the Kennecott Copper Mine

- Western Caucus Members and Staff Panels on Energy and Strategic Minerals at the Americans for Conservation Coalition Summit
- Salt Lake AirBoat Tour with Utah DNR



December 2023 | American Rodeos LAS VEGAS. NV

- Tour of the Hoover Dam
- Tour of the Allegiant Stadium
- Policy Briefing with House Committee Chairs
- Senate Forum on the Importance of Rodeos to Rural America
- Member Panel with the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation



30TH ANNIVERSARY GALA



The premier caucus in Congress representing Western and Rural America celebrated its 30-year anniversary in September.

The Western Caucus was founded in 1993 by four Representatives from

Western states Jim Hansen (UT), Joe Skeen (NM), Barbara Vucanovich (NV), and Bob Stump (AZ). The Senate Western Caucus was founded by Sen. John Barrasso (WY) in 2016.

NOTABLE D.C. EVENTS

FORUMS

- Forestry and Wildfire Policy Forum
- Energy Policy Forum

POLICY

- Senate Staff Briefings and Meet & Greets
- ESA at 50 WCF Report Staff Briefing, and Updates
- Bicameral Staff Briefings

NETWORKING

- Caucus Member Meet and Greets
- Caucus Member & Chief Of Staff Receptions
- 4 Widely Attended Receptions

DIGITAL CONNECT POLICY EVENTS

- Critical and Strategic Minerals
- NuclearEnergy in America

2024 WCF EVENTS



ACROSS 6 FIELD TOURS

the Western Caucus Foundation welcomed

Over 200 **Congressional Staffers**

Nearly 50 **Members of Congress**

April 2024 | Wildfire

S. LAKE TAHOE, NV/CA

- Panels on Wildfire, Insurance Access for Rural America, and Tribal Lands
- Wildfire Commission Report Briefing
- Tour of Camp Richardson
- Tour of locations impacted by wildfire and prescribed fire



August 2024 | Accessibility in Rural America IACKSON, WY

- Tours of Grand Teton National Park and Bridger Teton National Forest
- Panel on Rural Connectivity
- Panel on future prospects for the West under a new Administration
- Celebration of Smokev Bear's 80th Birthday

Tour of the National Interagency

Agriculture and Wildfire Panels

September 2024 | Agriculture and Wildfire

• Tour of the Simplot Potato

Processing Plant



June 2024 - Senate Chiefs of Staff Retreat **JACKSON, WY**

• Briefings on Visitor Use, Housing and Vendor-Park Relations, and Wildlife Management

- Tour of Grand Teton and Yellowstone National Parks
- Tour of Bridger-Teton National Forest

June 2024 | Offshore and Coastal Energy Production

- NEW ORLEANS, LA • Tour of Venture Global LNG
- Tour of Chevron Oronite Refinery
- Panel discussion on Rice's Whale issue & America's Energy Security



Member Briefing on ESA

BOISE, ID

Fire Center



- Tours of the Palms Casino and TKO
- Panel Discussion on Tribal Issues
- Roundtable on Natural Resources





N CAUCUS COLLEG



The first two classes of the Western Caucus College completed their program, successfully gaining the knowledge needed to enhance policies impacting western and rural America.



Champions of Rural America® received two Telly Awards for the episode "U.S. Immigration Policies."

The episode won Gold in the Political & Commentary category for general television and Silver in the Government Relations category for general television.

NOTABLE D.C. EVENTS

FORUMS

- Farm Bill Forum
- D.C. Digital Connect Discussions

POLICY

- Western Caucus College Spring and Fall sessions
- **Bicameral Staff Briefings**

NETWORKING

- Caucus Member Meet and Greets
- Caucus Member, Legislative Director & Chief Of Staff Receptions
- Receptions with the Western Caucus Community

DIGITAL CONNECT POLICY EVENTS

- Critical and Strategic Minerals
- The Benefits of Natural Gas Energy and LNG Exports
- Affordable, Reliable American Energy