Guidance for Engaging Public Officials for the IYRP With Proclamations or Resolutions

The international Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP) will kick off in 2026. These guidelines instruct as to how to engage your public officials in creating a proclamation or resolution for your city, county, or state government in support of rangeland resources. We have a set of materials including example drafts for resolutions or proclamations and recommendations on how to go from drafts to passage. The end goal is not just the proclamation, but rather the initiation of sustained efforts to raise awareness for rangelands and range resource users at all levels of government. Our hope is to generate the much-needed attention that our vital rangeland resources deserve. Please be prepared to follow up on action items as this process is opening the door for many future conversations.

What is a proclamation? In short, a proclamation is an executive (mayor, county commissioner, governor, etc.) action to promote or celebrate momentous events.

What is a resolution? In short, resolutions are legislative actions that direct policy decisions.

# Steps to Engage

1. Identify Targets (ASAP)
   1. City
      1. Major- Proclamation
      2. Council- Resolution
   2. County
      1. Contact County Commissioners- Resolution
   3. State, Governor- Proclamation
   4. State, Legislature- Resolution
      1. Contact your district representative or state legislator leading on agriculture/environmental policy to help compose a message
      2. Many state legislators are only in session in the first few months of the year. This will be the time to garner support and prepare for swift passage in the 2026 session.
      3. [2025 State Legislative Session Calendar](https://www.ncsl.org/about-state-legislatures/2025-state-legislative-session-calendar)
2. Set up preliminary meetings with public officials (agriculture or natural resources staff members) (April 2025 or ASAP)
3. Modify Proclamation/Resolution
4. Ask other local groups for sign on (Summer 2025)
5. Send letter to officials
6. Provide support and outreach as needed
7. Encourage adoption in early 2026 (Check in with your Point of Contacts later in 2025)

# Potential Action Requests

1. Proclamation
   1. Designation of a day/week for Rangeland Celebration
      1. Potentially alongside an existing rangeland event
   2. Rangeland Awareness/Education Day
      1. Film Festival
      2. Field Day
      3. Barbeque 😊
2. Resolution
   1. Policy request
   2. Funding support
   3. LINK TO POLICY BOOK

# Materials

1. Cover Letter
2. Proclamation Draft
3. Resolution Draft