

Idaho Wool Growers Association

Organized September 1893, At Mountain Home, Idaho

OFFICERS

February 23, 2026

Jack Blattner
President
Kuna

J.C. Siddoway
Vice President
St. Anthony

Liz Wilder
Executive Director
Caldwell

TO: Members of the Senate Resources & Environment Committee

H587

The Idaho Wool Growers Association (IWGA) was established in 1893 as the primary voice for the sheep industry. Our members raise and run sheep across the entire state of Idaho on private, state, and federal lands. Currently, the sheep industry has approximately 220,000 animals across the state. **The IWGA SUPPORTS H587.**

DIRECTORS

Frank Shirts
Western District

Blake Ball
Eastern District

Mark Henslee
Central District

Dino Vinci
Northern District

During the 2024 legislative session, the legislature passed the Rangeland Improvement Act that provides a framework to assist producers in seeking resources and funding to carry out grazing improvement projects across the state. These projects could consist of rangeland improvement and maintenance through the development of water sources or additional cross fencing.

When the original Act passed, no General Fund money was appropriated, but Idaho State Department of Agriculture staff could apply for federal grants or receive private donations to put towards rangeland projects. H587 would allow funding from outside donations to be continuously appropriated. Additionally, H587 would provide transparency as the department would have to report on projects as well as sources and uses of monies continuously appropriated.

DIRECTORS

AT LARGE

Forrest Arthur

Carol Finney

Elizabeth Moss

IWGA supports **H587.**

Sincerely,

Jack Blattner
President

Liz Wilder
Executive Director