



## WOMEN IN RANCHING

## OVERVIEW

---

HISTORY	01.
MISSION	02.
PHILOSOPHY	03.
SESSIONS	04.
EXPERIENCE	06.
RANCH PARTNERS	06-09
WHO WE ARE	10-18
GET INVOLVED	19.





## OUR HISTORY

Founded and led by landowners dedicated to the health and prosperity of working lands in the American West, the Western Landowners Alliance (WLA) advances policies and practices that promote sustainability, landscape connection, and the conservation of native species. Women in Ranching is a core program of WLA, designed to empower female ranchers and increase their leadership capacity.

The next generation of ranch leaders will have new opportunities, as well as unique pressures. We are building a movement of women working in land management; reinforcing their confidence, providing them with the skills they need to embrace leadership opportunities, and helping them spread regenerative agriculture practices across our western rangelands.





## OUR MISSION

We provide the tools for women working in land and natural resource stewardship to take the lead in the management of their landscapes and their communities.

In our facilitated gatherings, we:

- + **CREATE** opportunities for leadership development.
- + **BUILD** a strong peer network for support and knowledge sharing.
- + **PROMOTE** land management practices that regenerate landscapes and rural communities.

Women in Ranching envisions a culture that acknowledges and celebrates the diversity of our land stewards. We create a space for women to come together and find renewal in the work needed to shape whole, healthy landscapes and sustainable food systems.



## PHILOSOPHY

The changes and challenges necessary for practicing regenerative agriculture benefit from a safe space where transformational learning is supported by a strong network of peers who share similar core values.

---

In this male-dominated industry, **Women in Ranching** creates gatherings where women's voices are heard as experts. These women return to their communities-ready to lead change-with the support and enthusiasm they need to thrive.

---

When women feel heard, understood, and appreciated for their work, it furthers their potential to commit, care, and affect sustained change for the future.



## OUR SESSIONS

Women in Ranching is built on a cohort leadership model. We bring women together for one-year courses that consist of two gatherings with ample opportunities for peer-to-peer learning, leadership building, and community development.

Our team of facilitators guide our groups, or "Circles," through 3-day gatherings using an immersive learning style. These women lead with compassion, creating a space to ignite conversations that put participant's voices, experiences, and goals at the forefront.

In this safe space, women find traction for making change. We pair moments of deep self-reflection and hands-on learning with our ranch hosts, external professionals, and one another. At the end of our gatherings, participants walk away with a better understanding of various ranch management models and the practical leadership skills they need to transition to regenerative and adaptive management practices.

## LOCATION MAP

### WHERE WE'VE BEEN 2019

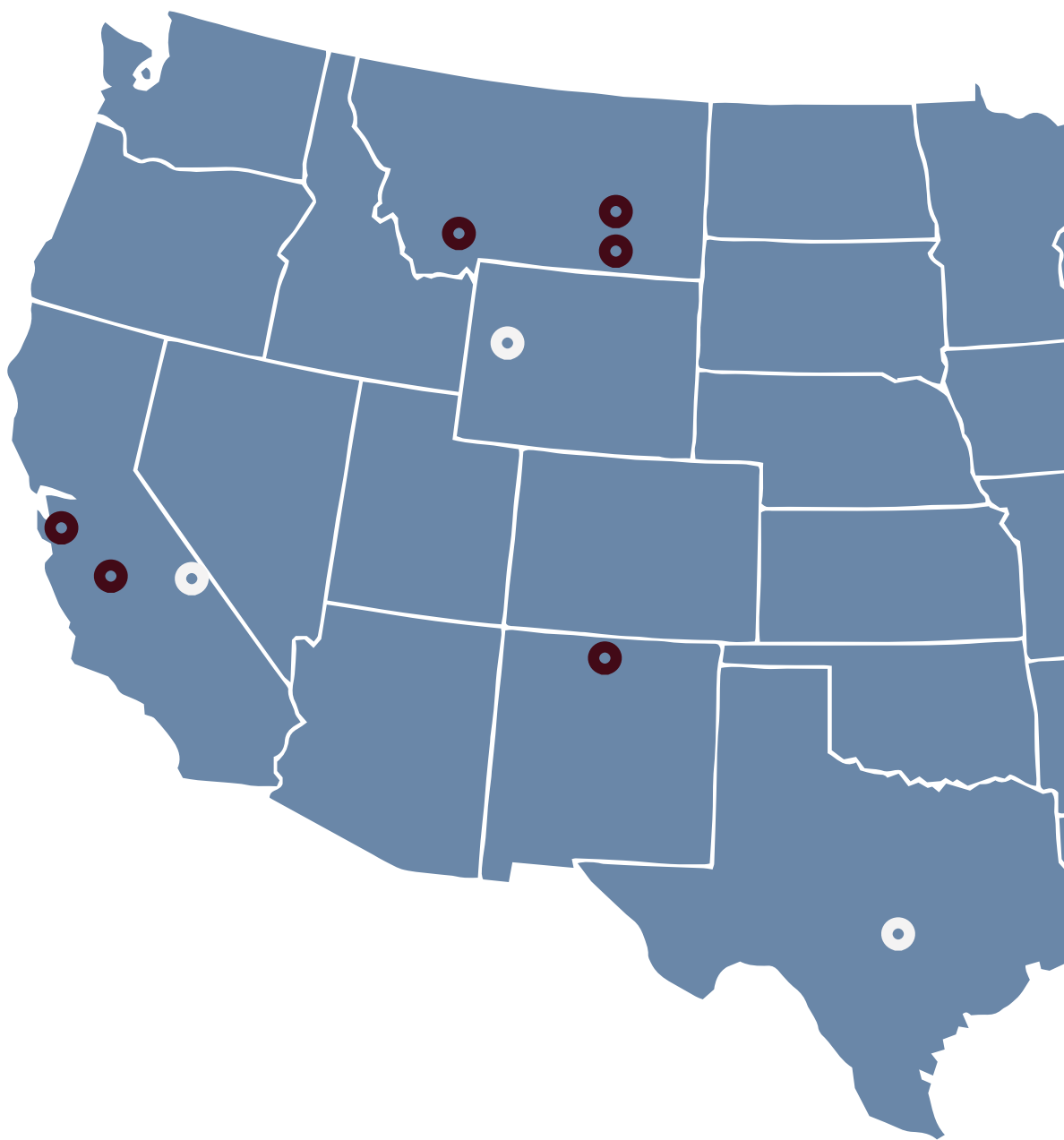


- + Paicines Ranch
- + TomKat Ranch
- + Trout Stalker Ranch
- + Diamond Cross Ranch
- + J Bar L Ranch
- + Wild Rose Center, Northern Cheyenne Reservation

### NEW LOCATIONS FOR 2020



- + Roam Ranch
- + PT Ranch
- + Double J Ranch





## THE EXPERIENCE

Women in Ranching Circles catalyze action. Books are written, partnerships form, business concepts become realities, and monthly rural women's groups take shape. Women walk away from our Circles with a sense of leadership that helps them take charge in realizing their goals.

Our facilitators challenge women to listen deeply, trust their own voices, and be bold when creating change.

These gatherings foster progress in ranching by building a network of social capital that is centered around empowering and supporting women's work on the land, holding space for women to explore roadblocks, and finding strength in their unique voices.



## WHERE WE WORK | RANCH PARTNERS

---

We pair moments of deep self-reflection and values alignment, with time on the land learning from the host ranch team. Our partners emphasize adaptive management including everything from soil health to the well-being of people stewarding the land, giving our participants an inside look into the why and how of regenerative agriculture.

These environments allow participants to learn in the field with real-world examples and provide the concrete tools for creating change in their land management practices and practical leadership skills.

## RANCH / TROUT STALKER

Trout Stalker Ranch is a 1,500-acre ranch located in the Chama Valley of New Mexico. The environment surrounding the property serves as a guide for all they do—conservation and regeneration being key factors in their mission.

Conservation, holistic management, and education are three initiatives that guide their land management practices. The ranch uses natural migration corridors, calving grounds, fire management plans, and water and stream conservation in their initiatives. They utilize holistic solutions to improve soil health, promote climate stability, water quality, animal welfare, human health, economic prosperity, and biodiversity.

Through hospitality, workshops, and retreats, Trout Stalker Ranch invites visitors into their landscape to connect with nature and wildlife as a key part of their educational initiatives.



## RANCH / DIAMOND CROSS RANCH

The 122,000-acre Diamond Cross Ranch is located in the Tongue River Valley of southeast Montana. Purchased in 2017, the ranch has shifted its direction to pursue a vision that encompasses three approaches:

- + Taking care of ecosystems by improving the vitality of the soil, increasing the diversity of plants, and promoting the well-being of animals.
- + Safeguarding biodiversity across the ranch.
- + Acknowledging the important roles that all life-forms have on the ranch.

The crew rides horseback moving cattle from one pasture to the next using low-stress livestock handling techniques. Over the past two years, the ranch crew has planted a variety of forage crops in the irrigated meadows with the goal of grazing and finishing the cattle for a grass-fed, grass-finished market. Montana is known for its hardy grass and cool water, scenic views and abundance of life—resources the owners and the crew are working diligently to protect long into the future.





## RANCH / WILD ROSE CENTER

The Wild Rose Center is the realized dream of many sage women, ambitious volunteers, and generous contributors.

This women's retreat center rests in the beautiful Wolf Mountains of southeast Montana. Located on the Northern Cheyenne Reservation, and bordering the Crow Reservation, this unique setting is a safe and quiet place where women of all races, cultures, and spiritual beliefs are welcome.

Native American tradition teaches that we are all related and models that philosophy to their extended community. Respectfully and creatively, Wild Rose collaborates with local and regional partners to leverage their resources and provide opportunities to the communities the Center serves.



## THE WOMEN BEHIND THE SCENES

---

## AMBER SMITH

Women in Ranching Program Manager

Amber has been ranching in rural communities for 14 years with her husband and two young children. Her passion is rooted in building a future where rural families thrive and all people are empowered and supported in pursuing work that aligns with their personal goals. Her time working with NGO's in the Middle East, and six years as an Activity Director in a rural nursing home, has helped her develop a unique passion for creating spaces of dignity, joy and acceptance. Women in Ranching has provided a platform to create and support human synergy around regenerative agriculture.

With the help of her team, she's actively working to grow the Women in Ranching program to reach as many women as possible. Amber tripled the impact of the program in one year and remained well under budget. She is hiring two more facilitators for the 2020 season.





## CHRISTINE AGETON

Women in Ranching Consultant + Educator

---

Christine Ageton works with the Women in Ranching leadership team to leverage and solidify the existing strengths of the program. She's working hard to promote a level of efficiency that will allow the program to grow to its fullest capacity as a network of connected leaders.

By supporting distributed leadership development, collaborating with stakeholder groups, and providing the team with vital network and leadership resources, she ensures that sound practices underpin the entire program.



## WENDY MILLET

Co- Creator of Founding Circle

---

Wendy holds a B.A. in Literature from Harvard. She studied Environmental Economics at the University of Washington and Environmental Planning at the University of Virginia.

Wendy is currently the Ranch Director of TomKat Ranch, TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation and LeftCoast Grassfed. For more than twenty years, she has worked to bridge conservation and working landscapes with practical economic solutions and effective partnerships. She serves on the board of the California Council of Land Trusts, the Farmland Advisory Committee for Peninsula Open Space Trust, and the Board of Councilors of the Save the Redwoods League.





## ELAINE PATARINI

Co- Creator of Founding Circle

---

Elaine graduated from the University of Maryland and continued her education with a master's degree in Health and Nutrition Education from Hawthorn University. Through the Globetrotter Foundation, she created the original Circle of Women in Ranching to provide connection and leadership among a growing resource of female land managers.

She is currently the Director of Education and Innovation Sharing at Paicines Ranch, working to inspire and empower individuals in ways that move us toward a more regenerative agriculture system.



## EVA REIL

Women in Ranching Program Participant

---

Eva is raising and homeschooling her four young children while co-managing the Buffalo Creek Ranch on the Montana-Wyoming border. She started as a singer in Nashville, but her love of the ranching tradition brought her back West. Holistic grazing and recreating paradigms keep her moving electric fence daily and riding with all of the kids in tow.

"Women in Ranching. Women... joined in hearts and spirit, driven with grit and perseverance, sharing wisdom and knowledge, resigning doubts, fears, and insecurities, embracing aspirations, powered with love."

Eva Reil  
Buffalo Creek Ranch, MT  
Circle 03, MT





## LIZ BARBOUR

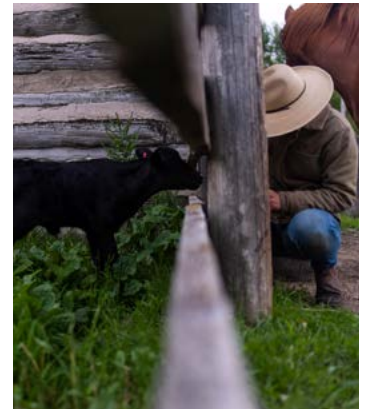
Women in Ranching Program Participant

Liz manages the Cinch Buckle Ranch with her husband and two small children. Her natural skill in connecting with others and her never-ending curiosity has brought new life and energy to the sagebrush steppe of eastern Montana. She has donated countless hours of her time to support the Women in Ranching program and is actively learning about regenerative management techniques to create more opportunities for her land and ecosystem processes alongside her blossoming family.

"Women in Ranching provided a space for me to evaluate my personal steps in attaining my dreams and goals, all while being supported by women with past experience and great advice. There was amazing food, incredible women, fantastic scenery, and great memories made."

Liz Barbour  
Cinch Buckle Ranch, MT  
Circle 03, MT







## GET INVOLVED

---

### DONATIONS -

- + Sponsor an individual: \$500 covers travel and participation fees
- + Sponsor a Circle: \$7.5k covers food, facilitation, and education services
- + Become a title sponsor: \$10k helps us build this movement!

### HOST A CIRCLE

### MAKE AN IN-KIND DONATION







THANK YOU.

---