


The Family Farm
Alliance:
Advocating for
the West,
Connecting for
the Future

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Resources Association
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A young girl with reddish-brown hair tied in a ponytail with a blue bow, wearing a light blue long-sleeved shirt and dark overalls, stands in a field of tall, dry grass. She is looking down at the grass. Behind her is a large, dark wooden wagon wheel. The background is a soft-focus field of similar grass under a bright sky. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner of the image.

My transition into the FFA Executive Director role is based on a deep love for our western way of life and production agriculture.



Background

- **Agriculture –**
 - family farm dates back to 1830s
- **Conservation –**
 - Father worked for NM Dept of Game & Fish
- **Education –**
 - Not something that stops when you leave school

An aerial photograph of a rural landscape. In the foreground, there are large, rectangular fields. One section is bright green, another is dark brown, and a third is a lighter brown. A river flows through the middle of the scene, bordered by trees and vegetation. In the background, a small town or village is visible under a clear sky.

Key features of FFA leadership

- Collaboration
- Non-partisan advocacy
- Problem solving mindset
- Willing to work with anyone willing to work together
- Anyone who is a friend of farmers is a friend of FFA
- Education – keeping producers aware of their surroundings; help connect why locals (should) care about what’s happening on the federal level

Family Farm Alliance's work on the ground



We are **PROBLEM SOLVERS**

Our philosophy is simple: the best solutions come from the ground up and are driven locally by real people with a grasp of reality “on-the-ground.” We work across the federal government to find solutions through education on a policy level and in full partnership to fully use available funding and cost-share opportunities.

- *Proven Track Record of Success*

Since 2005, the Alliance has been asked to testify before Congress **99** times.

- *Grassroots Activism*

The individual family farmer is the most effective voice for preserving Western water. With the Alliance, these individuals have a voice in Washington.

- *Coalition Builders*

We have a frequent presence in Washington, DC and bring together other organizations from other sectors to tackle challenges we all have in common.

- *Innovative Solutions*

We seek innovative solutions to recover water supply certainty through modernizing and expanding infrastructure.

- *Curb Environmental Litigation*

We work with the executive branch and Congress to find ways to mitigate litigation and encourage collaboration and cooperation: critical elements to ensure that federal environmental laws are properly and effectively implemented on the ground.

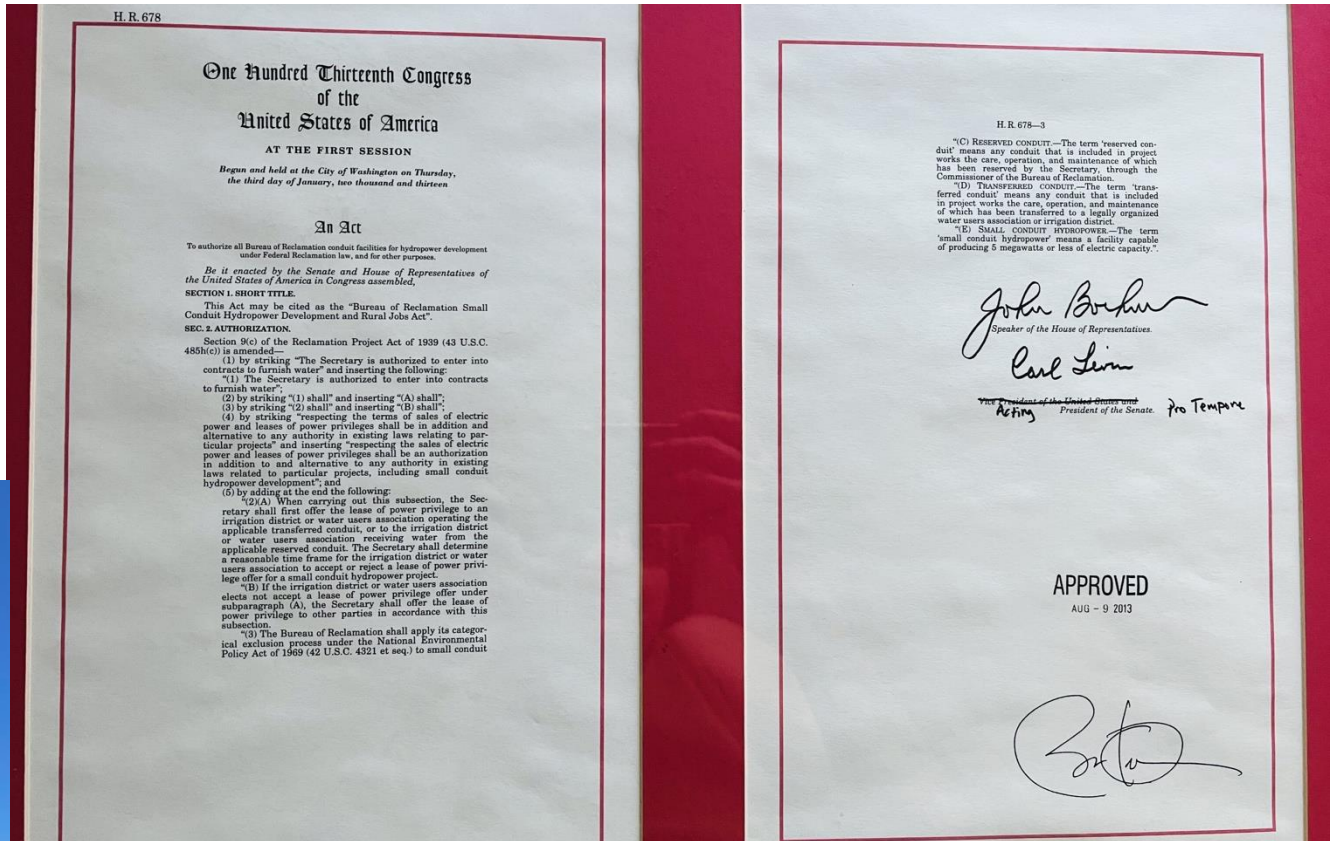
- *Modernize Antiquated Laws*

We work to streamline and modernize implementation of federal environmental laws written nearly 50 years ago, so they work better for food production, ecosystems, and rural communities.

Building big things together –
educating through ‘show and tell’

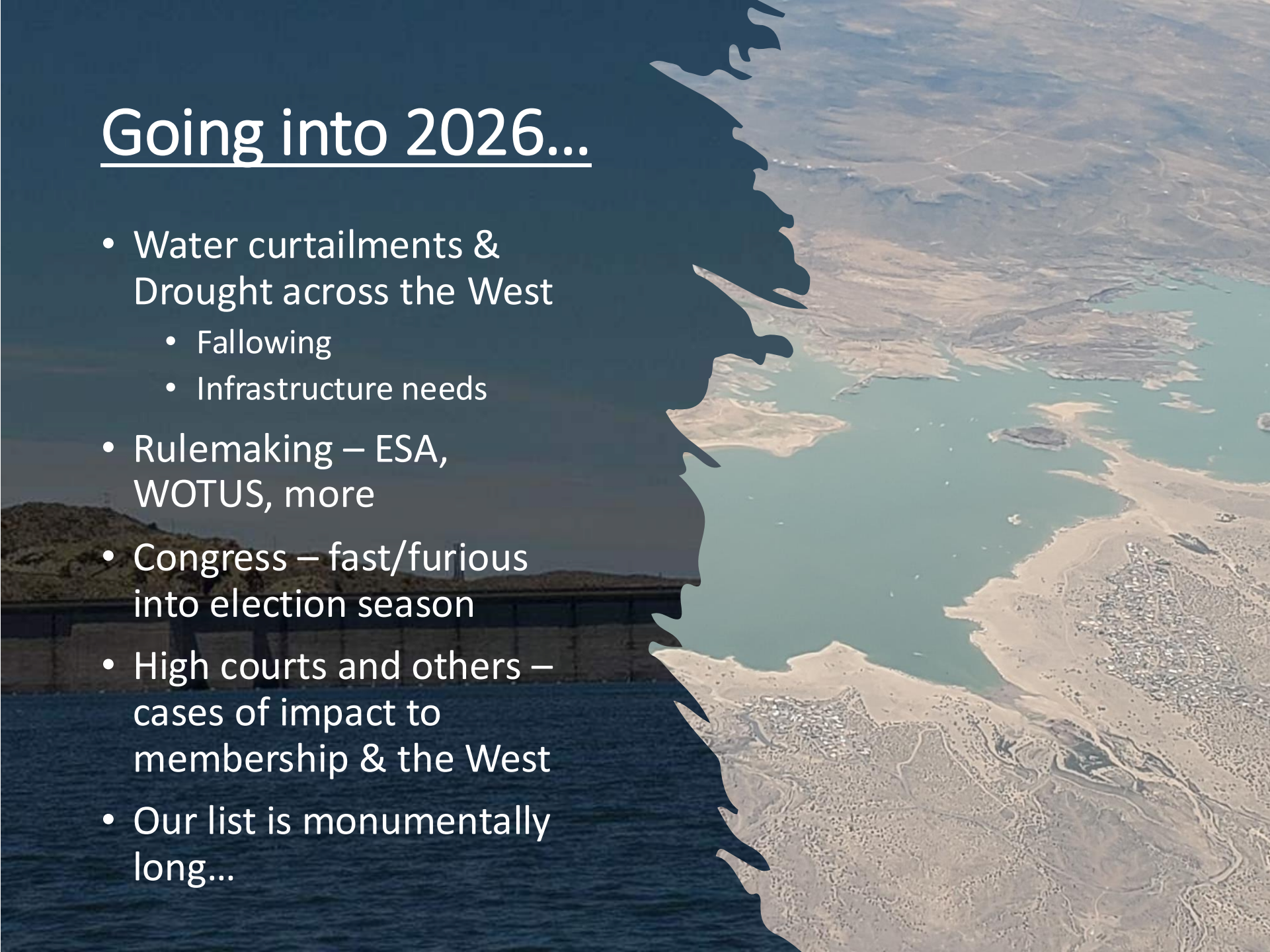


Building big things together – educating through ‘show and tell’



Going into 2026...

- Water curtailments & Drought across the West
 - Fallowing
 - Infrastructure needs
- Rulemaking – ESA, WOTUS, more
- Congress – fast/furious into election season
- High courts and others – cases of impact to membership & the West
- Our list is monumentally long...





Goals for the West as we move forward:

1. Collaboration – all horses pulling in the same direction
2. Education – more ‘show and tell’
3. More storage! – surface & underground infrastructure



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