



# Department of Livestock

## Overview

The Department of Livestock is the only Montana agency that retained an old-style governance method after state government was restructured in the early 1970s. That governance method puts the department under the auspices of the Board of Livestock, which is appointed by the Governor. The Board of Livestock then names the Board's executive officer, who oversees the department. The Board is statutorily created under 2-15-3102, MCA. Various commissions dating back to the late 1800s preceded formation of the current board. The department's creation statute, 2-15-3101, MCA, says, "There is a department of livestock. The department head is the board of livestock provided for in 2-15-3102."

## Department Duties

Some of the Department of Livestock duties and powers are found under 81-1-102, MCA. These include:

- General supervision over the livestock interests of the state and of alternative livestock (game farms as defined in 87-4-406, MCA).
- Protection of livestock interests from theft and disease. This includes appointment of stock inspectors and detectives along with authority to quarantine livestock suspected of carrying a contagious disease.
- Supervision of standards and sanitary conditions of slaughterhouses, dairies, and other premises involved in the sale or consumption of meat and milk products as well as eggs.

## Administratively Attached Entities

- Livestock Crimestoppers Commission, created under 2-15-3104, MCA
- Board of Milk Control, created under 2-15-3105, MCA
- Livestock Loss Board, created under 2-15-3110, MCA

## Legislative Audits

- Financial-Compliance Audit, 19-22, July 2020. Five recommendations.
- Brucellosis Management in the State of Montana, 16P-06, January 2017. Four recommendations. Follow-up, 18SP-09, June 2018. All recommendations implemented.
- Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory Performance Audit, 15P-04, May 2016. Five recommendations. Follow-up, 18SP-03, November 2017. Four recommendations implemented, one recommendation in progress.

## Economic Affairs Interim Committee Areas of Interest

- The Department of Livestock is currently conducting its decennial brand re-recording. The department anticipates to re-record over 55,500 Montana Livestock Brands during 2021.

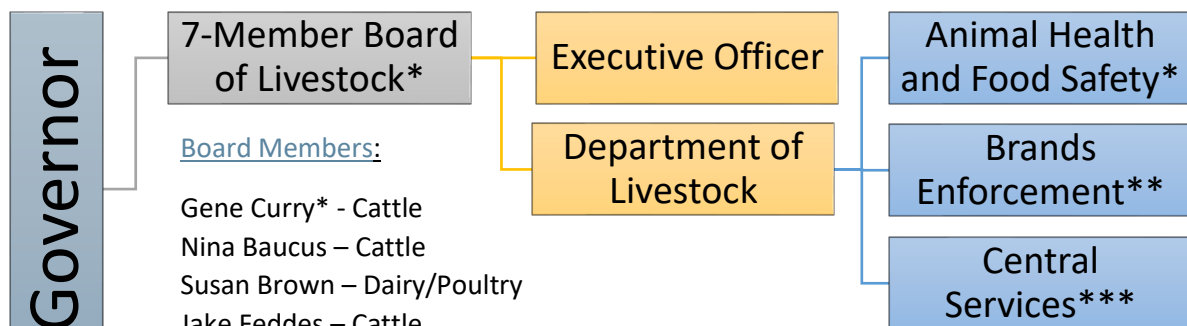
Department of Livestock Biennium Budget for FY 2022 and FY 2023

Divisions	FTE	House Bill 2	Enterprise	Statutory	Total All		
Attached Agencies		State Special Revenue*	General Fund	Federal Funds			
<b>Central Services Div.</b>	17.0	\$4,612,199	\$252,171			\$1,870,000	\$6,734,370
Executive, IT & Accounting	13	\$4,053,584					\$4,053,584
Predator Control	0					\$970,000	\$970,000
Board of Milk Control	3	\$558,615					\$558,615
Livestock Loss Board	1		\$252,171			\$900,000	\$1,152,171
<b>Animal Health &amp; Food Safety Division</b>	67.5	\$4,265,006	\$6,256,118	\$4,198,776	\$2,386,923		\$17,106,823
Animal Health Bureau	14.25	\$1,488,351	\$2,016,991	\$1,697,848			\$5,203,190
Diagnostic Laboratory	22	\$1,377,977	\$1,926,442	\$62,044	\$2,386,923		\$5,753,386
Milk & Egg Bureau	6.75	\$1,387,236		\$28,505			\$1,415,741
Meat & Poultry Inspection Bureau	24.5	\$11,442	\$2,312,685	\$2,410,379			\$4,734,506
<b>Brands Enforcement Division</b>	54.1	\$8,431,580					\$8,431,580
<b>Total</b>	138.6	\$17,308,785	\$6,508,289	\$4,198,776	\$2,386,923	\$1,870,000	\$32,272,773

\* State special revenues include per capita fees, brand fees, milk fees, and egg fees.

\*\* Livestock per capita fees obligated under a cooperative agreement with U.S. Dept. of Agriculture's Wildlife Services.

Organization Chart



Board Members:

- Gene Curry\* - Cattle
- Nina Baucus – Cattle
- Susan Brown – Dairy/Poultry
- Jake Feddes – Cattle
- Greg Wichman – Sheep
- Alan Redfield – Cattle
- Ed Waldner – Swine
- \* Chairman

\*Includes: Animal Health; Diagnostic Laboratory; Meat Inspection; Milk & Egg Inspection

\*\*Includes: Enforcement; Markets; Compliance

\*\*\* Includes: Accounting/ITS; Milk Control; Livestock Loss