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2022 POLICY PRIORITIES

As part of implementation of NAWG's Strategic Plan, the following policy priorities for 2022 were identified and approved by the Board of Directors at its annual conference meeting. The priorities adopted by both policy committees were split up into three policy areas.

FARM SUPPORT PROGRAMS

- Be a spokesperson for wheat growers with members of the Agriculture Committees and USDA officials.
- Protect farm programs and crop insurance during the annual budget and appropriations process.
- Continue working on improvements to quality adjustments in the crop insurance program.
- Engage USDA in improving FSA and NRCS staffing and program delivery.
- Identify improvements that need to be made to the farm safety net for consideration in the 2023 Farm Bill process.
- Analyze and advocate for beneficial conservation programs and policies in the next Farm Bill.
- Engage and message on the state of the farm economy, including ensuring that wheat growers' needs are addressed in COVID-19 relief programs and through disaster programs.
- Work across Congress to secure adequate funding for a strong farm safety net.

TRADE AND MARKET ACCESS

- Work with U.S. Wheat Associates on advocating before Congress for enforcement of existing trade agreements and on the importance of building new markets.
- Preserve and enhance funding levels for export promotion programs (MAP/FMD/ATP).
- Engage on infrastructure/transportation policy action that would affect our ability to get the crop to market and U.S. competitiveness in international markets.
- Collaborate with wheat value chain stakeholders towards implementation of a breadbasket checkoff.

CLIMATE/SUSTAINABILITY/REGULATORY ISSUES

- Engage in climate discussions in a constructive manner to represent wheat growers' interests.
- Engage with the USDA, EPA, and FDA to ensure that regulation of new technology is science-based and does not negatively impact affordability for growers.
- Fight against regulatory issues which place undue burden on wheat producers.
- Work collaboratively with industry to protect and secure use of crop protection products.
- Protect wheat growers' use of EPA approved crop protection tools and defend against unscientific attacks on that ability.
- Protect improvements made under the Navigable Waters Protection Rule: Definition of Waters of the United States.
- Lead wheat research advocacy on Capitol Hill.
- Maintain reliable access to cost-effective crop protection tools for wheat growers