



Focusing on Our Common Ground

Dear Doris,

We hope you're enjoying some beautiful Fall weather! While, sadly, this month brings a whole new level of complex challenges to global conflicts, we remain hopeful that focusing on local issues and solutions are providing some relief to our collective angst.

First off, ROC is organizing another big in-person event celebrating local regenerative meat as part of our [Meat Supply Chain Transformation](#) project. Please **SAVE THE DATE: Monday, March 11, 2024**. Local producers, chefs and butchers will gather for a seminar during the day and the public will be invited to attend the dinner. The event will take place at restaurant and event space [TOAST](#) in Novato, 20 min North of San Francisco. Stay tuned for details!

Secondly, ROC is supporting the promotion efforts for the new documentary [Common Ground](#). The film showcases the power of regenerative agriculture to rejuvenate our world, bridging the gap between people, food systems, and the environment; it provides hope for future generations with concrete ways to fix a broken planetary system. **See below where you can join members of the ROC team at a screening!**

Join Us at the Movies!

**We Hope to See you in Person at a Screening of
"Common Ground"**

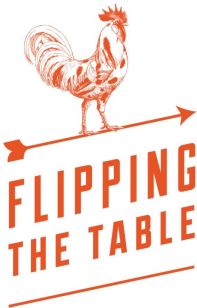
The screenings are hosted by filmmakers [Josh and Rebecca Tickell](#), other film participants and special guests and followed by panel discussions. **Lesley Kroupa**, ROC's policy specialist, will be on the panel in Encinitas, and **Michael Dimock**, ROC's Executive Director, in Santa Cruz, San Rafael and San Francisco.



Wed, 10/18 (TONIGHT!):
[La Paloma Theater, Encinitas](#)
Sat, 10/21:
[Rio Theater, Santa Cruz](#)
Sun, 10/22:
[San Rafael Smith Center](#)
Fri, 10/27:
[Roxie Theater, San Francisco](#)

[Watch the Trailer](#)

The film is being screened across the US. To see if it's playing somewhere close to you, check [here](#).



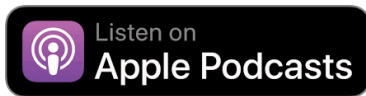
Flipping the Table Podcast

Common Ground filmmakers Josh and Rebecca Tickell share their story of why regenerative agriculture must become the norm

In this episode, Josh and Rebecca Tickell who made the new and powerful [Common Ground](#) film, share their story of the making and why regenerative agriculture must become the norm.

It is a compelling look at the expanding acceptance of regenerative agriculture as an antidote to many of the challenges faced by farmers, ranchers, consumers and

policy makers. Josh and Rebecca share why they included a powerful diversity of voices and perspectives to compellingly convey their hopes for regenerative agriculture. They describe it as a love letter to all our children as well as a call to the nation's farmers to embrace regenerative agriculture as the future. Click below - **don't miss this one!**



Policy Update

By Lesley Kroupa, ROC's Policy Specialist



Federal Legislative Updates

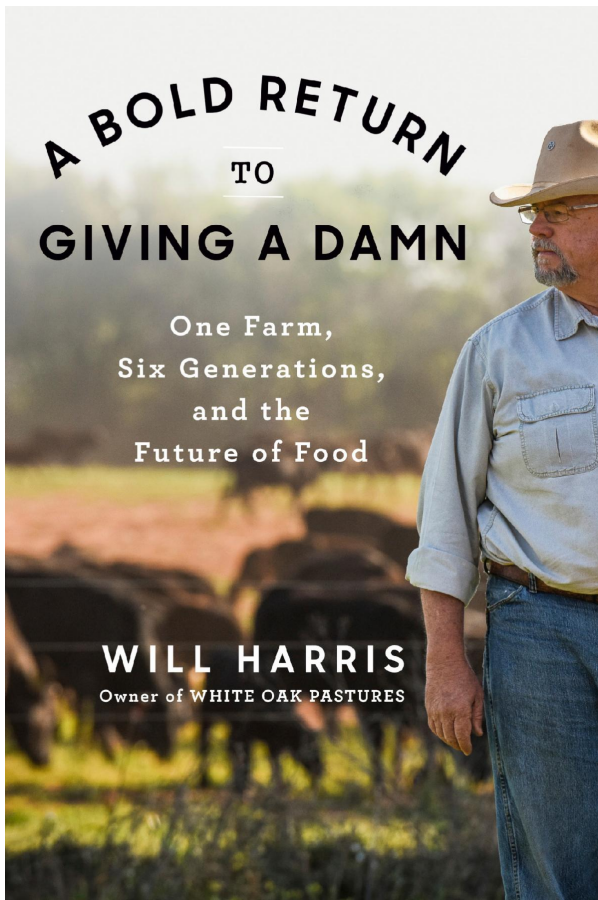
Two federal processes key to agricultural and nutrition programs: passage of the fiscal year 2024 budget and the reauthorization of the farm bill, have been further delayed and remain in limbo until the House of Representatives fills the vacant speaker position. The farm bill, which is reauthorized every five years, has two key expiration dates, the end of the fiscal year (September 30th) and the end of the crop year (December 31st). While the fiscal year expired on September 30, 2023, most USDA programs are continuing in ordinary course. However, if the crop year expires with no extension or reauthorization, there is **risk of food price inflation** and

other adverse food system repercussions.

The federal budget was temporarily extended until November 17. Until a new speaker of the House is in place, Congress cannot move forward with the appropriations process or farm bill negotiations. With multiple appropriations bills yet to leave committees for a floor vote, another continuing resolution will need to be passed to avoid a federal government shutdown.

State Legislative Updates

Governor Newsom's deadline to sign or veto bills passed by the legislature expired on October 14, 2023. Despite a challenging legislative year due to a large budget deficit, some improvements to the agriculture and nutrition landscape made progress. The Governor signed SB 348 **Healthy Meals for Kids** (Skinner) into law on October 8. The bill aims to: ensure that every school-aged child has access to two healthy meals every day; increase student access to lower-added sugar and sodium meal options; and provide students with adequate time to eat at school. Governor Newsom also signed AB 652 Department of Pesticide Regulation Environmental Justice Advisory Council (Lee), which establishes an **environmental justice advisory committee** at the Department of Pesticide Regulation.



Reminder:

Support a Regenerative Hero!

Will Harris of White Oak Pastures wrote a book that everyone needs to read:

[A Bold Return to Giving a Damn!](#)

From a pioneer of the regenerative agriculture movement, a memoir-meets-manifesto on betting the farm on a better future for our food, animals, land, local communities, and our climate.

Please note: our *Flipping the Table* November podcast will be with Will Harris!

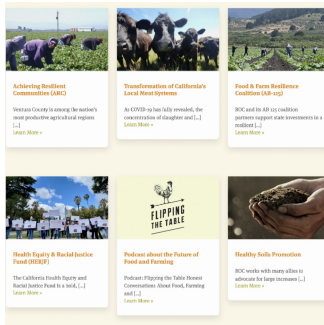
Click Here to Order the Book: "A Bold Return to Giving a Damn!"

Thank you for your interest and support of our work!

Doris Meier
Editor of the *PULSE*
Roots of Change

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2022 Policy Work



Podcast



Roots of Change is a program of the [Public Health Institute](#)

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