

# Pacific Northwest Cattle Vaccination Guide

**"What vaccinations does my herd actually need based on my location, herd type, and risk factors?"**

The PNW has unique environmental challenges, including high humidity west of the Cascades (risk of foot rot/parasites) and arid conditions east of the Cascades (risk of dust-borne respiratory issues). A custom protocol developed with your veterinarian is essential.

## 1. The Core Vaccinations (Essential for ALL PNW Herds)

Disease	Vaccine Target	Protection Goal
<b>BVD</b>	Bovine Viral Diarrhea (Types 1 & 2)	Reproductive health, fetal protection, respiratory disease.
<b>IBR</b>	Infectious Bovine Rhinotracheitis	Respiratory disease ("rednose"), abortion.
<b>PI3</b>	Parainfluenza-3	Mild respiratory virus that opens the door to secondary bacteria.
<b>BRSV</b>	Bovine Respiratory Syncytial Virus	Severe respiratory illness, particularly in young stock.
<b>Clostridial</b>	<b>7-Way or 8-Way</b> Bacterin	Sudden death diseases ( <b>Blackleg</b> , Malignant Edema, Tetanus).

## 2. PNW Risk-Based & Regional Considerations

These vaccines are added based on your specific location and herd management habits.

### A. Location & Environmental Risk

- **Wet/Marshy Areas (West of Cascades):**
  - **Leptospirosis (5-way):** Critical to prevent abortions and kidney disease.
  - **Foot Rot:** Vaccination can help reduce incidence in wet conditions.
  - **Liver Fluke Control:** While not a vaccine, control is necessary in wet areas.
- **High-Dust/Dry Areas (East of Cascades):**
  - **Pinkeye:** High risk due to dust and flies. Vaccine recommended for calves and bulls.
- **Regional/Wildlife Interface:**
  - **Brucellosis (Bangs):** Required in many areas, especially near the Greater Yellowstone Area (Idaho borders) where elk/bison may roam.

### B. Herd Type & Management Risk

- **Cow-Calf Operations:**
  - **Scours Vaccines:** Rota/Corona virus + *E. coli* toxoid given to cows 3–6 weeks before calving to protect calves through colostrum.
- **Stockers/Feedlots (High Turnover):**
  - High risk for **Bovine Respiratory Disease (BRD)**. Requires strong **IBR/BVD/PI3/BRSV** coverage plus **Mannheimia haemolytica/Pasteurella** to prevent pneumonia.

### Critical PNW Notes

- **MLV vs. Killed: Modified-Live (MLV)** vaccines offer superior protection but can cause abortions if used in pregnant cows not previously vaccinated with MLV. Use **Killed** vaccines for pregnant cows or consult your vet.
- **Selenium Deficiencies:** Much of the PNW has low soil selenium. This doesn't require a vaccine, but it requires supplementation to prevent **White Muscle Disease**.
- **Colostrum:** The best vaccine in the world won't help a calf that didn't receive high-quality colostrum within the first 6 hours of life.

### 3. Creating Your Custom Checklist

Question	Assessment	Potential Vaccine Needed
<b>What is my area known for?</b>	Ticks, floods, dusty summers?	Anthrax (rare), Anaplasmosis, Pinkeye
<b>Are my cows pregnant?</b>	Needs safe vaccines for gestation.	<b>Killed</b> IBR/BVD, Scours
<b>Do I buy stockers?</b>	High stress, respiratory risk.	BRD Complex, Pasteurella
<b>What is my soil type?</b>	Rocky, sandy?	7-way or 8-way (Tetanus)

