



Paul's Pride Cattle Ranch, Bakersfield, California

Cattle Ranch Uses Rain Bird® Technology for Intelligent Water Management

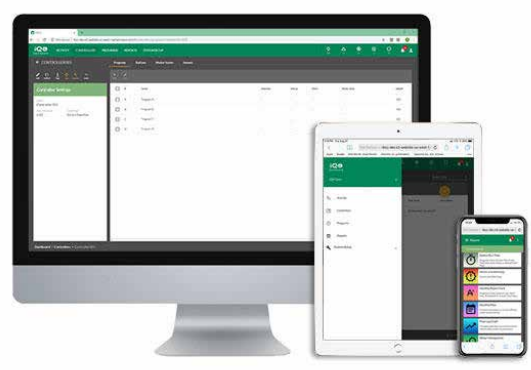
Retired veterinarian, Paul Blackmer, is the owner and operator of Paul's Pride, a 35-acre cattle ranch in Bakersfield, California. With around 100 Angus cows and calves to feed, the ranch uses approximately 54 million gallons of water per year to maintain high-quality grass for intensive grazing.

THE CHALLENGE

Bakersfield has a hot, arid climate with little rainfall each year and irrigation is essential to producing the quality of grass necessary for the cattle. With only two other part-time employees, however, Blackmer struggles to coordinate the irrigation schedules with the cattle's grazing habits. Additionally, water and energy savings are a key consideration when evaluating irrigation options for the ranch.

THE SOLUTION:

Blackmer has partnered with local Rain Bird distributor, Kern Turf Supply, to improve irrigation efficiency and streamline operations with a brand new irrigation system. The upgraded, water-conscious system will include state-of-the-art monitoring, programming and control features from Rain Bird, the industry leader in intelligent water management.



IQ™ Central Control

Core Products Used:

- IQ™ Central Control
- ESP-LX Series Controller
- WS-PRO2 Weather Station
- WR2-48 Series Wireless Rain/Freeze Sensor
- 8005 Series Rotors
- PGA Series Valves
- GSP 24-Hour Service Support

KEY OBJECTIVES

- ✓ **Maintain Healthy Grazing Grass**
- ✓ **Enable Remote Management**
- ✓ **Optimize Irrigation Schedules**
- ✓ **Save Water & Energy**



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APPROACH:

Implement Remote Management

Upon the recommendation of Kern Turf Supply, and after attending a Rain Bird informational session, Blackmer installed Rain Bird's **IQ™ Central Control platform (IQ)**. IQ will give Blackmer remote, mobile access to his irrigation system, making it very easy to monitor schedules and respond to problems. IQ's Flow Monitoring capabilities can pinpoint issues, such as excessive flows, and automatically shut the system down, saving time and preventing unnecessary water waste.

Respond to Changing Conditions

A Rain Bird **Weather Station** will collect and store weather data that the IQ Central Control platform will interpret to automatically adjust irrigation schedules. These reports will be supported by a highly responsive **WR2 Wireless Rain/Freeze Sensor**, and will save Paul's Pride a significant amount of water by halting irrigation in the event of rain. By using ESP-LX Series Cycle + Soak™ setting, water cycles can also be split over time to promote healthy plant growth while preventing runoff and puddling.

“ IQ has made intelligent water management possible for me. I could not efficiently manage my irrigation system until IQ allowed me to monitor all of the irrigation system components and performance via the computer at my desk, or using my iPad when I am on the road. It's user friendly, and with a little bit of training, it's extremely easy to maximize all the benefits it provides.

PAUL BLACKMER

OWNER, PAUL'S PRIDE BLACK ANGUS CATTLE

RESULTS:

Water Savings with High-Quality Grazing

Blackmer is now able to maintain the highest quality grass to feed his cows while simplifying irrigation management. IQ's schedule optimization shifts irrigation schedules based on time of use, allowing the ranch to benefit from Pacific Gas and Electric's lowest energy rate program. Using ESP-LX Series Controller's SimulStations™, Blackmer can operate up to five stations at the same time, allowing him to maximize the capacity of his well and well pump. Best of all, Blackmer can monitor irrigation from his iPad, even when traveling out of state.

