

INSIDE WLJ

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- MEAT PRODUCTION DECREASE — The latest forecasts for meat production in 2022 project the first production decrease since 2014, along with declining meat consumption. **Page 9**
- A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

Predicting the future of any industry can be challenging, but *WLJ* columnist Steve Kay had an accurate idea of what the meat industry would look like today even back in April 2003: "I foresee a time when a significant percentage of U.S. beef will fall into the 'natural' category. Consumers will still buy on price. But in the coming decade, they will become increasingly demanding as to how their meat and poultry are raised. They will want a different product to what they are getting now. They will want a more natural product, with more flavor. This will likely lead to less use of growth promotants. I expect this trend to continue."

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BLM approves American Prairie bison plan

— Grazing on 63,500 acres

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has issued a proposed decision to allow American Prairie to proceed with their plan to convert cattle grazing allotments to convert bison across 63,500 acres of public lands in Montana.

Under the proposal, American

Prairie, which recently changed its name from American Prairie Reserve, will be able to graze bison on six of the seven allotments they requested in Phillips County, MT. The allotments currently allow close to 8,000 animal unit months (AUMs).

"We are extremely pleased with this decision," said Pete Geddes, vice president and chief external

relations officer for American Prairie. "It allows us to exercise our legal grazing privileges to sustainably grow our conservation herd of bison, continue good stewardship of the land and create more opportunities for visitors to experience Montana's prairie lands and wildlife."

Although American Prairie asked to graze bison on seven al-

lotments, one common allotment will remain approved for cattle-only grazing. Seasonal grazing will be allowed on four of the allotments, and year-round grazing will be permitted on three allotments—two of which had been previously authorized for year-round bison grazing. There will be

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The Bureau of Land Management has announced a proposed decision to allow American Prairie to run about 1,000 head of bison in Montana. Pictured here, bison graze in Lamar Valley in Yellowstone National Park.

Judge allows grazing on eastern Oregon pastures

— Denies temporary restraining order

A federal judge denied a temporary restraining order sought by environmental groups to block grazing on six allotments in eastern Oregon.

U.S. District Judge Michael Simon for the District of Oregon said the plaintiffs failed to show irreparable harm to the sage grouse population, public interest in science-based land management research and the balance of equities.

In addition to failing to show grazing would cause irreparable harm to the sage grouse population, Simon ruled any hardship to the plaintiffs is minimal, "especially in comparison to the burden on Cahill Ranches."

In his opinion, Simon wrote that an injunction on grazing would impose several hardships on Cahill Ranches.

"Cahill is a multi-generational family business that has grazed

cattle in the same part of rural Oregon for more than a century," Simon wrote. "Several families' livelihoods depend on Cahill, which in turn depends on the ability to use public lands for its livestock operations."

The opinion cites that if Cahill Ranches could not use its grazing allotments, the operation would have to dispose of 30 percent of its herd. If Cahill decided not to sell 30 percent, it would have to purchase hay, "which is exceptionally expensive this season due to a recent drought and the COVID-19 pandemic." Simon further cited if Cahill Ranches cannot move its herd onto its grazing allotments, it would prevent them from irrigating private pastures for hay production, causing financial harm and increasing the risk of wildfires to Cahill Ranches and neighboring ranches.

Cahill Ranches, located in Adel, OR, was a defendant intervenor in the suit brought by the Oregon

Natural Desert Association (ONDA), Audubon Society of Portland and Defenders of Wildlife against the Bureau of Land Management (BLM).

During oral arguments, Mac Lacy, attorney for the environmental groups, argued that Cahill Ranches overstated the economic harm, and "Economic harm never outweighs irreparable environmental harm." Lacy also asserted the permittees had ample notice from BLM two years ago to stop grazing on the allotments.

Background

Under the Obama administration in 2015, the BLM and U.S. Forest Service issued the 2015 Oregon Greater Sage-Grouse Record of Decision/Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment (ARMPA), which made 15 research natural areas (RNAs)

See ORDER on page 12

Trump's CWA rule reinstated... For now

— Pending 9th Circuit appeal

The Supreme Court has ruled a Trump-era waters of the United States (WOTUS) rule may remain in effect for the time being.

The case regarded whether or not the higher court should stay an October order by the District Court for the Northern District of California to vacate the Trump administration's Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 401 certification rule.

In a 5-4 decision on April 6, the Supreme Court's three liberal justices, along with Chief Justice John Roberts, dissented on the case, while the five conservative justices voted to reinstate the law, pending the appeal's fate in the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit. The order gave no reasons for the decision—typical for emergency applications.

"The case will be fully briefed in the Court of Appeals next month," wrote dissenting Justice Elena Kagan. "The applicants have given

us no good reason to think that in the remaining time needed to decide the appeal, they will suffer irreparable harm."

Kagan wrote that the handful of states and energy industry associations who requested the stay had not demonstrated an emergency need for a stay. She said the applicants did not cite a single project that a state has obstructed in the five months since the district court's decision or a project that is threatened by the ruling in the time before the appellate process concludes. Kagan also noted the applicants twice waited a month before seeking relief, further demonstrating the lack of emergency.

"By nonetheless granting relief, the Court goes astray," she wrote. "It provides a stay pending appeal, and thus signals its view of the merits, even though the applicants have failed to make the irreparable harm showing we have traditionally required."

She concluded that the decision

See CWA on page 7

Another week of the same old, same old

Cash trade was mostly steady over the week, as it has been for the past several weeks. Futures sank lower another week.

Live cattle futures traded generally steady over the week but closed lower. The April contract lost over a dollar to close at \$138, and the June contract lost about \$3 to close at \$134.

Through Thursday morning, about 90,000 head sold on the cash market. Trade started off early in the week, but it tapered off midweek. Live steers sold mostly from \$137-140, averaging closer to \$138.85. Dressed steers sold from \$219-225, averaging about \$222.

"Many believe fed cattle prices will hold the low-\$130s for a summer low, even though that would mean prices would drop only \$6 or \$7 from this week's price level," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef. "That might be possible, but it does not seem probable."

Cash trade through the first week of April totaled 97,797 head. Live steers averaged \$139.49, and dressed steers averaged \$222.62.

The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of March 28 to April 4 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$139.50.
- Formula net purchases: \$141.76.

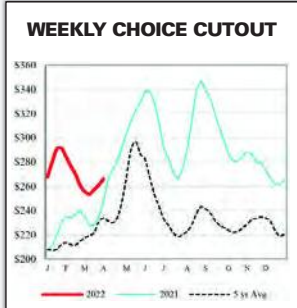
- Forward contract net purchases: \$146.03.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: \$140.14.
- On a dressed basis:
- Negotiated purchases: \$222.46.
- Formula net purchases: \$222.72.
- Forward contract net purchases: \$221.98.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: \$223.09.

"Fed cattle slaughter, while not anticipated to be as large as 2019, will be larger than the last 2 years' Q2 fed cattle slaughter levels," Fish said. "And it is widely known carcass weights are record high

and non-fed slaughter is really big because of the drought."

Slaughter through

See MARKETS on page 9



LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$138.72	\$222.28	\$155.59
WEEK ENDING: 4-7-22		

PERIODICAL: Time Sensitive Priority Handling

COMMENTS

Caution required

Bull sale season is slowly coming to an end. It's remarkable how many bulls were absorbed into a shrinking national cow herd, especially in the West. But on the other hand, salvage values of cull bulls are the best they have ever been. You've heard it a hundred times: Sell the old bulls and buy fresh new genetics, and improve your cow herd when the grass grows again.

Cattle markets were stable last week, trading between \$138-140 live and \$222 dressed. Cash markets were slightly stronger than the formula trade, which is rare. Cattle feeders will have a difficult time this summer when a wall of cattle is expected to develop around June.

The cost of gain with \$7.50 corn is translating into \$1.32 cost of gain, which has taken its toll on feeder cattle prices. April feeder cattle futures have dropped a full \$10/cwt. Even the deferred markets are down the same \$10 since the Russian/Ukrainian conflict began. Current feedlot breakevens and future placements show \$50-75 dollar losses going forward.

The planting intentions report came out last week and showed that corn acres may be down about 4 percent—89.5 million acres—from last year, with soybeans picking up those acres at 91 million acres.

The CME Daily Livestock Report said, "From a livestock perspective, this report has a negative tone. Corn prices will remain elevated as planting gets underway in a case to bid more acres into the mix. The current estimate for plantings would create a tight corn balance sheet and cause season average prices to move higher and significantly so. World corn production was already expected to be strained through the Ukraine conflict, and the U.S. planting of this few acres compounds the short situation. Next year's season average price will be over \$6 but how much higher is still being determined. Immediately following the report, December corn futures jumped more than 30 cents, before settling out and closing at \$6.83 per bushel.

"With trendline yields and conservative estimates on how much more corn in the U.S. will export because of Ukraine, carryout is easily pulled to 1 billion bushels or below, more than justifying a scenario closer to 25 percent jump in 1983-84 and could put the U.S. season average price closer to \$7 per bushel. At those prices, margins for livestock producers will be significantly compressed."

Hay acres are also expected to be down a quarter million acres. Texas, the largest hay producer, is expected to be down 11 percent. Further drought in the Southern Plains is the primary concern for the cow-calf sector. One thing is for sure: This may be the most expensive corn crop ever planted with fertilizer prices and diesel prices at all-time highs.

Moisture, rain and even late-season snows will be critical to the cattle business. The Drought Monitor shows that Corn Belt states are seeing spots of drought conditions. Our friends on the West Coast are perhaps in the worst of the drought. Irrigation and water diversions in the Klamath Basin have been halted, and much of the Central Valley will receive less water.

The Gavin Newsom administration in California unveiled a \$2.6 billion plan to fallow rice paddocks to divert water in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta for the salmon. Irrigation districts are asked to invest \$660 million into the habitat plan.

Western Video Market held their sale last Thursday, and it appears cattle are coming off pastures earlier than normal and lighter. You could tell that trucking was going to be an issue in California with fuel prices as high as they are, and it was reflected in cattle prices.

If these folks don't get water soon, it's going to be tough sledding for all of agriculture in the state. My friends at HedgersEdge.com said, "At this present time, 62 percent of the cattle inventory is in areas experiencing some degree of drought. In regard to the grains and the same measurements: Corn has 33 percent, sorghum 90 percent, soybeans 23 percent, and winter wheat 70 percent in areas with varying degrees of drought (per the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration) and long-term weather forecasts don't look great." So, keep on praying for rain. — **PETE CROW**



CROW



DITTMER'S TAKE

You may have heard corporate raider Carl Icahn has been in a running battle with McDonald's over how sows are treated in conventional farrowing operations. His daughter used to work at the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS), and she got him whipped up over sows several years ago. McDonald's hasn't moved fast enough to source their pork from operations not using gestation crates, so, with HSUS prodding him on, he has demanded board seats for two directors who hold his views.

Of course, the fact that McDonald's only buys 1 percent of U.S. pork production and doesn't own any hogs or control farrowing operations anywhere doesn't seem to matter to Icahn and his band of activists. Icahn and some of the activists want gestation crates eliminated. Sows are in those crates for heat detection, breeding, preg checking and gestational nutrition for 16 weeks. Some activists want neither gestational crates nor the farrowing crates designed to protect baby pigs, protect workers from angry sows and allow for helping sows during farrowing.

Now comes word that Icahn is picking the same fight with Kroger, the nation's largest grocery chain, again demanding two seats on the board. Kroger buys a much larger share of U.S. pork production and a wider array of products.

It's a fight cattlemen are not involved in directly, but it will bear monitoring to see how it develops. Both companies are major conduits for beef products.

Sens. Deb Fischer (R-NE), Chuck Grassley (R-IA), Jon Tester (D-MT) and Ron Wyden (D-OR) have amended their bill mandating all major packing plants source 50 percent of their fed cattle needs through negotiated cash or negotiated grid transactions. Now, they are calling for the plants to meet a minimum target in each region. That minimum target would be equal to the average negotiated cash trade for the years 2020 and 2021 in that region.

So, the bill would make the recent average the floor for negotiated cash and grid sales. That means the base period would include the increased negotiated cash percentages under the National Cattlemen's Beef Association's (NCBA) framework. So, they would set a minimum from averages already boosted voluntarily by the work of NCBA, feeders and packers.

The new proposal has the advantage of tailoring each region's targets to the region's tendency to use cash markets already, rather than forcing the same requirements on every

region. It also has the advantage of following the pricing and seasonal patterns of each region.

But the main problem remains: It puts the federal government in charge of marketing U.S. fed cattle by forcing cattle feeders and packers away from preferred marketing methods. It severely damages the value-added marketing methods that have raised the Choice and Prime percentages to 80-90 percent of harvest and have boosted beef demand to the highest level in 33 years. We would most likely never again see those high Choice and Prime percentages and that beef demand. For those feeders who want to sell through alternative marketing agreements (AMAs), it would seem to create a whole new game of trying to figure out whether a particular plant will be buying cattle through AMAs early in the week or at the end of the week.

By the way, congressmen apparently are slow learners about competition in the beef markets. The House Ag Committee has announced another hearing April 27, the seventh in an apparent series before four different congressional committees.

Perhaps the best news was that the Supreme Court of the U.S. has finally agreed to hear a case against California's Proposition 12 law prohibiting sales of pork from most American pig operations in California. A California court had put a stay on the regulations slated to take effect Jan. 1 this year because the state had not finalized the rules. Of all the suits filed, the one filed by the National Pork Producers and the American Farm Bureau is the one that will be heard this fall. So, we are at least a year from the resolution of a seemingly open and shut Commerce Clause constitutional case. At issue is whether one state can set livestock production standards that other states must meet or otherwise be barred from selling products in that state. California restaurants and grocers would be severely restricted if they could only buy pork from producers running group pig housing. Crates protect baby pigs and workers, help manage sows and produce pork cost effectively. There is not nearly enough pork from operations meeting HSUS-written rules in all of America to supply California. The law also covers laying hens and veal calves. — **Steve Dittmer, WLJ columnist**

(Steve Dittmer is the author of the Agribusiness Freedom Foundation newsletter. Views in the column do not necessarily represent the views or opinions of WLJ or its editorial staff.)

OBITUARIES



Ruth Anne Smathers; 1954-2022

The daughter of Ruth (Grant) and Tom Mitchell, Ruth Anne was born May 5, 1954. Our mother, grandmother and loving friend to all passed away on March 25 in an auto accident, taking her best horses and dogs with her.

Anne was a fourth-generation rancher raised in the Harney Hills of Wyoming, where her love for animals was firmly established. In August of 1971, she married Jim Bartschi. This marriage was blessed with Anne's only two children, Gynette and Toby.

Anne was a proud member of the Pony Express for over 25 years. She loved to share stories of her many rides and always got a reaction when she shared her adventures of sale barns, ranching, hunting and time spent with those she loved.

Anne was preceded in death by her parents.

She is survived by her brother, John Mitchell; daughter, Gynette King of Douglas; grandchildren, Melissa King and Samuel Mittleider; son, Toby Bartschi (Kit) of Lusk, WY; grandchildren, Derick Young (Brittany), Bryan Bartschi (Annahlis) and Shelby Bartschi; and great-grandchildren, Airelynn, Jackson, Michael and Wacey.



Nanna Marie Flesch; 1979-2022

Nanna Marie (Dickinson) Flesch passed away in a vehicle accident near Harrison, NE, on March 25. Nanna was born Sept. 4, 1979, in Sterling, CO, to James and Sandra (Sewald) Dickinson. Nanna was loved by all and loved all, especially her family. Her generous heart, giving spirit, and genuine personality defined the way she lived her life and cared for others.

Nanna spent her younger years showing steers and sheep in 4-H and FFA in Logan County. This began her love for agriculture and the outdoors. She also enjoyed volleyball and piano growing up. Nanna graduated from Sterling High School in Colorado in 1998. After graduation, she went on to attend Northwestern Junior College in Sterling and continued her education at Colorado State University (CSU). She received her degree in animal science in 2002. Nanna enjoyed her involvement and friends she made within the CSU Collegiate Cattlewomen and Block and Bridle associations. Nanna always took the time to nurture these lifelong friendships.

Through the ag community at CSU, she met her future husband,

Jeff. They were married in 2004 and made their home in Johnstown, CO, where she worked at Mountain Vet Supply. They moved to the Flesch family farm and ranch near Shelby, MT, in the fall of 2007.

As soon as Nanna arrived in Shelby, she began working for the Farm Service Agency (FSA) in Glacier County. She made instant friendships with coworkers and ag producers alike. She was always grateful for the people of Glacier County as they welcomed her with open arms, and she instantly felt at home in Montana. She ended her 13-year career with FSA closer to home in the Toole County office. She recently left that job to build a career as a realtor with Corder and Associates. She was just beginning to make her mark in realty, bolstered by her genuine heart and loyalty for her clients and friends. She was grateful for the opportunity to find a career that offered her the flexibility and the opportunity to be with those she loved the most at home on the ranch.

Nanna was an integral part of Flesch Angus. Her perspective and attention to detail while creating the annual bull sale catalog turned Jeff's visions into a reality. She enjoyed spending time helping Jeff and the kids in the barn, cultivating the passion for agriculture in the next generation.

Her professional successes were many, but her real accomplishment and passion was raising her beautiful family of rockstars—Preslee was born in 2008, Jagger in 2011 and Lennon in 2015. Nanna was her kids' biggest supporter at sporting events, 4-H activities and church. She traveled far and wide for her kids, usually throwing in a new adventure along the way: hiking, boating, visits

to friends' cabins and taking in the beauty of the Montana outdoors. Thankfully, time was taken to make priceless family memories on recent trips to Nebraska for the National Junior Angus Show, Kansas for her nephew Kolton's wedding, and Las Vegas for the National Finals Rodeo.

Nanna was blessed with the character to build lasting, lifelong relationships. She was the nucleus of a variety of friend groups, and she made each friend feel like they were her favorite! She always took the time to build new relationships and nurture existing ones. Nanna's infectious giggle and her mile-wide smile brought life to the room, along with her stylish outfits and stunning jewelry. Her legacy lives on through the meaningful relationships she developed and the hearts, character and courage of her children.

She is survived by her husband, Jeff, and children, Preslee, Jagger and Lennon of Shelby; parents, Jim and Sandra of Sterling, CO; brother, Eric (Nadine) of Newton, KS; nephew, Kolton (Ruthie) of Hutchinson, KS; numerous loving aunts and uncles: Carol (Mel) Weickman, Larry (Lori) Sewald, Tom (Dorea) Sewald, Kevin (Sheri) Sewald, Don Sewald and Sharon Sewald; in-laws, John and Jean Flesch of Shelby; brothers-in-law, Joe (Melissa) of Shelby and Jeremy (Jamie) of Laurel; and nieces and nephews, Kylee (Lucas, and son Rye), Brinlee, Celee, Morgan (Sam) and Kincaid. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Joseph and Philomena (Samber) Sewald, grandparents William Jr. and Betty (Marostica) Dickinson, cousin Marty Ballinger and uncle Robert "Bob" Dickinson.

Memorials can be sent to the Flesch Family Benefit, PO Box 778, Conrad, MT 59425.

Letters to the Editor: Letters for publication should be no longer than 675 words, must refer to an article that has appeared within the month, and must include the writer's name, address and phone number. Addresses and phone numbers will not be published. Letters may be shortened for space requirements. Send a letter to the editor by emailing editorial@wlj.net or mailing it to Western Livestock Journal Editorial, 7355 E. Orchard Road #300, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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Voluntary agreement reached to preserve Delta water in CA

— Pays farmers to grow less

State and federal officials, together with water agencies, have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to provide additional water flows in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta watershed by paying farmers not to plant some crops.

The result would provide a potential extra 824,000 acre-feet (an acre-foot is 325,851 gallons) of water flow.

The eight year, \$2.6 billion agreement would be funded by the parties participating in the MOU and provide new flows for the watershed to help salmon and other native fish recover and create new and restored habitats for fish and wildlife.

Habitat creation would range from targeted improvements in tributaries to large landscape-level restorations in the Sacramento Valley. Improvements include creating spawning and rearing habitat for salmon and smelt, completing high-priority fish screen projects, restoring and reactivating flood plains, and making fish passage improvements.

A new state multidisciplinary restoration unit would be created to accelerate permitting and implementation of habitat projects. Annual reports on whether commitments by voluntary agreement parties are being met would also be completed.

In the eighth year, state water quality regulators would determine if the voluntary agreements are achieving objectives and

whether they should be continued, modified or ended.

"We don't have to choose between healthy ecosystems or a healthy economy; we can choose a path that provides for both," Gov. Gavin Newsom (D) said. "This is a meaningful, hard-earned step in the right direction. I am thankful to our partners on this historic agreement and look forward to continued collaboration as we adapt for the future."

According to Karla Nemeth, California Department of Water Resources director, as part of the voluntary agreements, farmers would be paid to fallow approximately 35,000 acres of Sacramento Valley rice fields—about 6 percent of the valley's 550,000 acres of rice fields.

In a statement, California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson said they appreciate the parties working together on a collaborative agreement but encourage a commitment to finding collaborative solutions "to ensure healthy ecosystems and a healthy economy for those farming communities."

"We call for additional negotiations and continued refinements to reach a truly comprehensive solution," Johansson said. "Our farmers and ranchers need alternatives to flow-centric Bay-Delta policies that still fall short in safeguarding our environment and protecting California's economy, including the critical contributions of agriculture."

The voluntary agreement was signed by some of the state's biggest water users that get their water from the

rivers and tributaries that feed the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta watershed. They include not only the district that supplies water to rice farmers, but the city of Sacramento and its suburbs; the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California in Los Angeles; the Westlands Water District, the largest farm water agency in the San Joaquin Valley; and the Kern County Water Agency.

However, the agreement left out other stakeholders, including the water districts serving the cities of Modesto and Turlock, the surrounding farming community and the city of San Francisco.

Despite their objections to the agreement, the agencies said they are in negotiations with the state.

Environmentalists objected to the agreement, stating they and Tribes were left out of the negotiations, and the MOU does not go far enough to save imperiled species.

Regina Chichizola, executive director of Save California Salmon, said the MOU provides only half of the needs for water quality and salmon.

Doug Obegi, a lawyer with the Natural Resources Defense Council, concurred and was skeptical that a voluntary agreement would solve the state's water wars, say-

ing: "How do you bring peace to a process when you exclude from the room" environmentalists and Tribes?

Restore the Delta said in a statement the voluntary agreement "violates the legal principles of environmental justice inclusion and does not serve the public trust or the human right to water. Governor Newsom continues to serve the interests of the top 2 percent of agribusiness across California at the expense of Northern California Tribes, Delta communities, commercial fishing interests and communities in need of improved drinking water conditions."

The voluntary agreement

is a breakthrough after negotiations have been ongoing since 2016 to solve water issues in the Delta.

"The governor said kind of day one to us as a team, 'We need a different way of thinking about water in our state. We just have to end this crazy management by litigation. We have to end the water wars,'" said Jared Blumenfeld, secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency. "This is a really huge, big step in moving the system."

The agreement must go through a regulatory review process before becoming official. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**



YOUTH OPPORTUNITIES

(In an effort to serve the next generation of livestock producers, WLJ's Youth Opportunities calendar lists internship and scholarship information for agricultural- and livestock-focused students, listed by application deadline. If you have an internship or scholarship to announce, please email it to editorial@wlj.net.)

April 15 – The Kansas State University Department of Animal Sciences and Industry has opened applications for the Kansas State University Animal Science Leadership Academy, which will be held June 22-25 and June 29-July 2 in Manhattan, KS. The academy is available to high schoolers from across the U.S. Registration and more information are available at www.asi.k-state.edu.

April 30 – Certified Angus Beef's Colvin Scholarship Fund applications for all scholarships are open until April 30 for students pursuing a degree in meat science, animal science, economics, marketing, business, communications or another beef-

related field or trade. To apply, visit www.certifiedangusbeef.com/recruiting.

May 2 – The Oklahoma Cattlemen's Foundation will distribute more than \$25,000 in scholarships to students in 2022. The scholarships are available for current college students at an Oklahoma university with definite plans to continue in the fall or for graduating high school seniors who have an interest in the beef cattle industry. Details: www.okcattlemen.org.

June 15 – Tavaputs Ranch is honoring the memory of the late Tate Jensen through an annual \$2,500 scholarship. Applicants must be seniors in college or in a graduate student program and studying agriculture or natural resources. Applications must include an essay with the applicant's background, college involvement and their future plans. Applications can be submitted to jennie.m.jensen@gmail.com or by mail to Jennie Christensen at P.O. Box 725, Price, UT 84501.



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Researchers test industrial hemp as a potential feed source for cattle

As the movement to legalize marijuana across the country expands, many are left with confusion about the hemp plant that it comes from and its other byproducts, such as oils, seeds and fibers.

In the case of beef cattle, scientists and veterinarians are working together to study the possibility of industrial hemp as a feed source.

Talking on a recent Beef Cattle Institute "Cattle

Chat" podcast, Kansas State (K-State) University veterinarian Mike Kleinhenz said it is important to define what is being tested as a feed source.

"The plant, cannabis sativa, as defined by the USDA,

is one that has less than 0.3 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC)," Kleinhenz said. "This is considered industrial hemp."

He added: "If it is above that 0.3 percent threshold, then it is considered marijuana."

Kleinhenz said currently, there is no legal precedent that industrialized hemp can be fed to animals. But he and a team of scientists are studying industrial

hemp as a potential feed source.

"Cattle didn't find the plant particularly palatable. We had to grind it down and mix it with something sweet like molasses to get cattle to consume it," Kleinhenz said.

He also said the nutrient profile of industrial hemp was variable depending on the age of the plant and the part of the plant that was consumed.

"Hemp seeds, for exam-

ple, are really high in protein and have a nice amino acid profile and a decent fat content, while the stalk of the plant is not very nutritious," Kleinhenz said.

The results of K-State's research have been published in Nature and are available online. The researchers also recently published their results in Applied Animal Science. — **K-State Research and Extension**

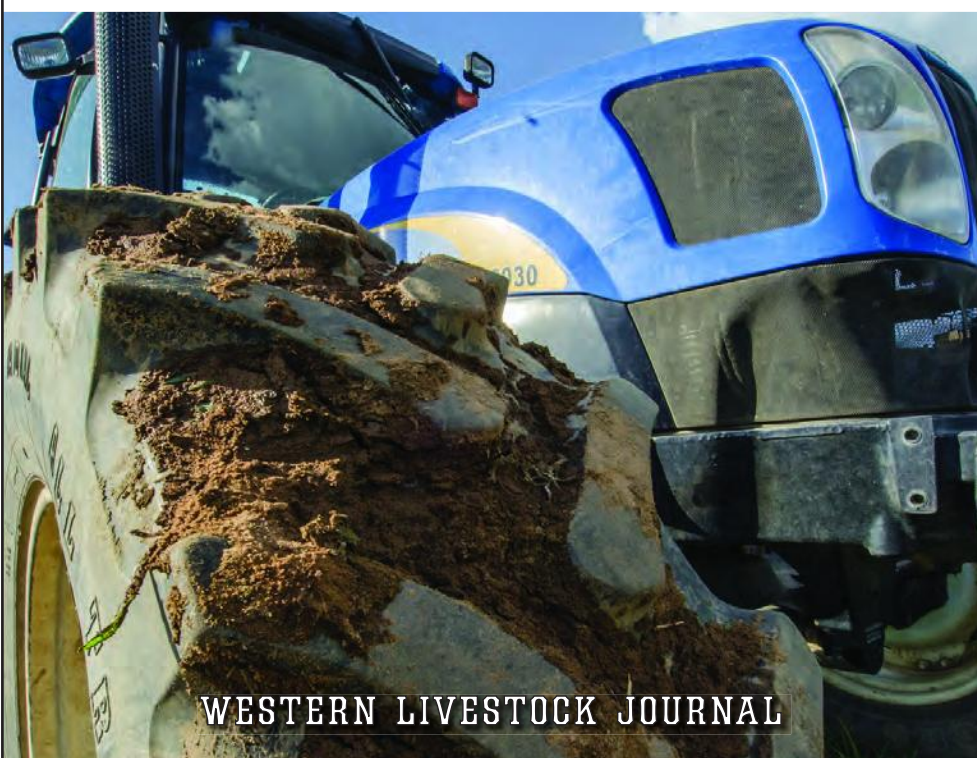
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NCBA, PLC denounce BLM's proposed decision

BLM
(from page 1)

no change in AUMs on any of the allotments, and the majority of internal fencing on BLM lands will remain intact.

"American Prairie's proposal generated significant public interest and opinions, both opposing and in favor of their request," said Mark Albers, BLM North Central Montana district manager. "We made sure interested publics had an opportunity to review and provide comment at each key stage of the (National Environmental Policy Act) process, and we received thousands of comments."

American Prairie estimates the decision will allow them to grow their herd of bison from 813 animals to 1,000 animals by 2025.

Scott Heidebrink, director of bison restoration for American Prairie, said any bison grazing on BLM allotments will comply with a disease management program approved by Phillips County officials in 2020.

"The health of our bison herd is just as important to us as the health of the regional livestock industry," Heidebrink said. "We will

continue to collaborate with Phillips County through our expansive disease management program and by sharing management information with our neighbors and local officials."

The group also said they modified their application in 2019 based on discussions with local cattle producers to "better reflect conditions on the ground," and the application was vetted and modified by hunters, economists, biologists, land managers and thousands of people who care about wildlife and public lands.

"We understand that not everyone agrees with allowing bison grazing on public lands, but the BLM's decision makes it clear that our proposal is based on sound science and will benefit wildlife, the rangeland and riparian areas," Geddes said.

The full environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact are available on BLM's planning website, eplanning.blm.gov, by searching for "American Prairie Reserve."

Reactions

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and Public Lands Council (PLC) denounced BLM's decision.

"In addition to an unacceptable disregard for animal and rangeland health, this decision fails to address the long-standing, science-based concerns raised by Montana ranchers, land managers and conservation experts," said Executive Director of PLC and NCBA

Natural Resources Kaitlynn Glover.

"This decision poses clear threats to rangeland and riparian ecosystems and is in direct conflict with the agency's mandated responsibility to uphold multiple use."

The industry groups said bison follow different grazing patterns and behaviors than cattle, and the decision would alter the grazing authorizations and seasons of use on the six allotments. If the decision is finalized, the conversion will result in land degradation and undermine the stewardship of existing grazing permittees, the groups said. They also called into question the legality of the conversion under existing federal grazing law.

BLM's proposed decision is followed by a 15-day protest period. Once BLM reviews any substantive protests, they will issue a final grazing decision, which will then kick off a 30-day appeal period.

Montana Sen. Steve Daines (R) and Rep. Matt Rosendale (R-At large) wrote to Department of the Interior Secretary Deb Haaland and BLM Director Tracy Stone-Manning and requested to extend the protest period by 75 days.

"Due to the broad interest in the proposed change of use, which would affect over 100,000 acres, we urge you to extend the protest and appeal period to give the public and interested parties sufficient time to review and answer BLM's revised EA and Public Comment Report," the letter read. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

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Dec. 12, 1943, Vol. 22,
Issue 7

Washington Cattlemen Get Response from Solons

Recognizing the unsatisfactory livestock market situation in the state of Washington, particularly the difficulty of getting full value out of hogs and thinner grade cattle, the Stevens County Livestock Protection Association asked for a reduction in point value of meat, abandonment of the permit system of farm slaughter, improvement in the labor situation in packing plants, and encouragement to local slaughtering and packing

plants to operate to capacity. This resolution was backed by the Washington Cattlemen's Association, and individually by numerous stockmen of the state.

Within a two weeks' period the permit requirement for farm slaughtering of hogs was temporarily suspended, the point rationing value of pork was reduced, and really vigorous efforts were put into effect to improve the packing house labor situation in the northwest.

LEGAL LEDGER

New emergency drought, fire aid

USDA has announced that producers who were approved through the 2021 Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) for forage losses due to severe drought or wildfire will also receive emergency aid through the Farm Service Agency's new Emergency Livestock Relief Program. Payments will cover increases in supplemental feed costs in 2021. "Producers of grazing livestock experienced catastrophic losses of available forage as well as higher costs for supplemental feed in 2021," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack in a press release. "Unfortunately, the conditions driving these losses have not improved for many, and have even worsened for some, as drought spreads across the U.S." To be eligible for the new payments, in addition to being approved for the 2021 LFP, producers must have suffered grazing losses in 2021 in a county rated by the Drought Monitor as having D2 drought for eight consecutive weeks or D3 or higher drought. For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov.

MCOOL bill introduced in House

The House of Representatives has introduced companion legislation to the American Beef Labeling Act, which would reinstate mandatory country-of-origin labeling (MCOOL) for beef. The bill was introduced by Reps. Ro Khanna (D-CA-17) and Lance Gooden (R-TX-05) and would require the secretary of Agriculture and the U.S. trade representative to determine a way to reinstate MCOOL without violating the World Trade Organization's rules. "Consumers should be able to know that they are truly supporting American farmers and ranchers from labels at the store," Khanna said. Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America and the U.S. Cattlemen's Association have each come out in support of the bill.

Senate passes shipping reform act

The Senate recently passed the Ocean Shipping Reform Act, which aims to strengthen the oversight of ocean shipping in order to clear up ship backlogs and empty containers. The bill was sponsored by Sens. John Thune (R-SD) and Amy Klobuchar (D-MN). The act would prohibit ships from unreasonably declining opportunities for U.S. exports and give more authority to the Federal Maritime Commission to investigate business practices and make enforcements. Before moving to the president's desk, final negotiations must take place. "American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) encourages lawmakers from both chambers to work quickly to reconcile differences in each version of the legislation and get it to the president for his signature so farmers can continue putting dinner on the table for families in America and overseas," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall in a press release.

Canadian org to sue beef processors

Option consommateurs, a Canadian nonprofit consumer organization based in Montreal, plans to sue the Big Four on claims of price fixing. The class action lawsuit targets four major U.S. beef processors and their Canadian subsidiaries: Cargill, JBS, Tyson Foods and National Beef Packing Company. The organization said the "beef giants" control 85 percent of the Canadian market and have been plotting since at least 2015 to fix the price of beef. "In this time of high inflation, it is unacceptable to make the price of beef even more expensive than it already is. This situation affects everyone who buys this meat," said Sylvie De Bellefeuille, lawyer and budget adviser at Option consommateurs. The group said the price of beef has risen by nearly 17 percent over the past year.

USDA: Enroll grasslands into CRP

USDA is encouraging producers and landowners to enroll in the Grassland Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) through May 13. The program provides annual rent payments to landowners to maintain and conserve grasslands while allowing producers to graze, hay and produce seed on the land, according to the department. "Grassland CRP is an important working lands conservation tool that offers a win-win to both our country's producers and the environment by supporting and enabling grazing activities, while at the same time promoting plant and animal biodiversity and stemming rangeland conversion," said Farm Service Agency Administrator Zach Ducheneaux. To sign up, contact your local USDA Service Center. For more information, visit fsa.usda.gov/crp.

R-CALF: Table market bills

Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA) submitted a recommendation to Congress for the competition provisions in the new Cattle Market Price Discovery and Transparency Act of 2022 and urged Congress to table the bill. "The group identified several substantive concerns including that the measure locks in for up to at least two years, if not indefinitely, the very market structure that facilitated and incentivized the alleged anti-competitive conduct alleged in R-CALF USA's class action antitrust lawsuit against the four largest beef packers, as well as the conduct currently under investigation by the U.S. Department of Justice," a press release read. The group said the bill should be tabled until the lawsuit and investigation are complete to avoid what would constitute congressional approval for the current proportion of cash versus non-cash purchases in the marketplace.

Mexican wolf numbers continue to increase

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) reported the population of Mexican gray wolves in the U.S. has increased for the sixth consecutive year. However, a slower growth in 2021 was attributed to low pup recruitment in the wild.

In 2021, the wild population increased by 5 percent since the year prior, raising the total number of Mexican wolves in the wild to 196 animals. From November through February, the agency conducted ground and aerial counts of the wolves in Arizona and New Mexico. USFWS' Interagency Field Team (IFT) said 112 wolves are located in New Mexico, with the remaining 84 in Arizona.

"We are happy to see the wild population of Mexican wolves continue to grow year after year," said Brady McGee, USFWS Mexican wolf recovery coordinator. "The Service and our partners remain focused on recovery through improving the genetic health of the wild population and reducing threats, while also work-

ing to minimize conflicts with livestock."

IFT's other findings included 45 packs in the two states; a minimum of 144 pups born in 2021, with at least 56 surviving through the year; a minimum of 25 breeding pairs; 92 collared wolves; and 25 mortalities.

"I am encouraged by the increase in breeding pairs and the number of packs present. These measures continue to increase and bode well for future recovery for the Mexican wolf," said Jim deVos, Arizona Game

and Fish Department Mexican wolf coordinator.

Conservation group Western Watersheds Project expressed disappointment with the slow growth and said the 2021 growth numbers were lower due to illegal killing, low pup survival and a "deepening genetic crisis that continues to threaten the wild population." The group also claimed the agency has held back packs in captivity instead of releasing them back into the wild due to political reasons. "They need to immedi-

ately implement plans to release well-bonded packs versus relying on cross-fostering of pups to recover this population of highly endangered wolves," said Sandy Bahr, chapter director for Sierra Club's Grand Canyon (Arizona) Chapter. — Anna Miller, *WLJ* managing editor

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CA announces plan to accelerate prescribed burning

— **Treats 400,000 acres annually**

The recently relaunched Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force in California announced the release of the “Strategic Plan for Expanding the Use of Beneficial Fire” to expand prescribed burns and cultural burns for forest management and wildfire mitigation.

The strategic plan was developed by state, federal, Tribal and local entities to increase the pace and scale of beneficial fire to 400,000 acres annually across the state through 2025.

“As climate change continues to exacerbate wildfire conditions, we’re bringing federal, state, Tribal and local partners together to more effectively address the scale of this crisis,” said Gov. Gavin Newsom (D). “California is putting in the work to help protect our communities from the devastating impacts of wildfires, build

for the long term and safeguard our treasured state for generations to come.”

The strategic plan states while the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) have conducted prescribed burns in previous years, there are still between 10 and 30 million acres in California that would benefit from some form of fuel reduction treatment.

“California cannot completely address the current treatment deficit in the four-year life of this strategic plan. However, the state and its partners can establish a shared framework of policies, capacity, and infrastructure necessary to bring ecosystems into balance in the long term,” the plan states.

The plan would scale up prescribed burning with USFS to treat up to 1 million acres per year by 2025. While CAL FIRE and USFS

would treat the majority of acres in the plan, it would also enlist the help of state agencies, range improvement associations, the California Cattlemen’s Association (CCA), California Tribes and cultural fire practitioners.

To expand the pace and scale of prescribed fire activities, the plan calls for establishing a training center to grow, train and diversify the state’s prescribed fire workforce.

It would expand the capacity of the private prescribed fire workforce, launch an online prescribed fire permitting system to streamline the process, promote the Burn Boss program and establish the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund to reduce liability for private burners.

CCA wrote in its Legislative Bulletin on April 4 that CCA leadership and the Fire Subcommittee worked to provide input to the task force’s prescribed fire work group as it developed the

strategic plan.

“As a result, CCA is the only private organization explicitly identified in the strategic plan as a partner in achieving the state’s prescribed fire target,” the bulletin said. “CCA’s Fire Subcommittee will work with interested ranchers to facilitate the deployment of prescribed fire on private lands over the next three years, and CCA will continue to work with CAL FIRE and the Legislature to ensure the use of ‘beneficial fire’ is further expanded beyond 2025.”

The strategic plan also calls for California Tribes, Tribal organizations and cultural fire practitioners to revitalize cultural burning across their ancestral territories, a practice significantly limited by USFS in the last century.

Don Hankins, professor at California State University, Chico and cultural fire practitioner, said in a statement the strategic plan “takes an unprecedented step for the

state to address shortcomings of current fire policy and use. Most significant is the recognition of the role of Native American Tribes, organizations and practitioners to revitalize traditional fire stewardship.”

The strategic plan calls for land managers to consult with Tribes to determine how traditional ecological knowledge, Indigenous expertise and cultural objectives may be incorporated into projects. The state and its partners will support the establishment of Indigenous fire workshops or other training opportunities led by Tribes, Tribal organizations and cultural fire practitioners.

Hankins told CNN the change would take time before cultural burns lead to a visible difference, as some Tribal members need to retrain.

“We’ve got to build the capacity around it again. It’s not like flipping a switch and everybody’s back out

lighting those fires,” Hankins said. “There’s a lot of learning that needs to take place in our communities and figuring out how we can work together with our neighbors, agencies and the public to make it widespread again.”

The state will monitor, assess and mitigate the potential adverse public health impacts of smoke and educate the public on the benefits of the use of prescribed burns.

Newsom announced in April 2021 the relaunch of the Forest Management Task Force to deliver commitments in the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan released by Newsom in January 2021. The action plan is backed by the governor’s \$1.5 billion investment in forest health and wildfire resilience and a proposed \$1.2 billion additional investment for fiscal years 2022-23 and 2023-24. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**



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Lot 75: KW 2XLent Acclaim 111

Sire: 2XL Bronc 8153

**AAA#:
19994151**

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
850	1162	2.79	82	3.16	98	95

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
74	816	100	1242	104

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$B	\$C
15	-1.2	75	131	0.36	23	82	81	88	146	271



RKP 9513-0213 133

Sire: Poss Rawhide

AAA#: 20198879

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
959	1373	3.70	109	3.81	119	114

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
80	926	115	1424	119

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$B	\$C
7	1.1	78	135	1.07	27	41	80	140	216	321

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Champion WDA Bull!!! Lot 59 Lewis Declaration 135



Lewis Declaration 135

We are proud to offer Lots 56-61, which have phenotype to go along with their numbers! If you are looking for calving ease, added pounds at weaning, or want to improve your carcass quality, look at these bulls!

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
909	1370	4.12	121	3.81	119	117

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
86	792	115	1383	116

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$B	\$C
5	1.0	77	147	0.27	32	48	85	140	178	279

**AAA#:
20160088**

Jackpot Champion!!! Lot 31 Will Resilient J055.



This bull did it all! Champion ADG and TBT High Index!

Will Resilient J055

AAA#: +20289407

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
951	1489	4.80	142	3.67	114	119

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
82	807	101	1366	115

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	\$M	\$W	\$F	\$B	\$C
7	0.5	64	122	0.42	36	53	76	81	124	214

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TBT HIGH INDEX. CHAMPION ADG. JACKPOT CHAMPION. SELLING 2/3 INTEREST AND FULL POSSESSION.



Supreme Court will review additional CWA case

CWA

(from page 1)

renders the court's emergency docket not for emergencies at all, and the docket becomes "only another place for merits determinations—except made without full briefing and argument."

Background

The 2020 Trump-era rule limited states' and Tribes' authority to impose conditions on federal permits for projects that would create discharges into state or Tribal waters, such as pipelines or other en-

ergy projects. The administration said the rule would help fast-track energy projects.

The October ruling effectively restored the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) prior rule, which was adopted in 1971, until the Biden administration rewrites the rule.

Applicants requesting a stay wrote in a March filing that the district court vacated the Trump rule without finding any aspect of the rule unlawful, based on its own doubts about the rule's propriety.

"A district court vacated nationwide a landmark rule adopted by the prior administra-

tion, without even engaging with the (Administrative Procedure Act), and without bothering to discuss most of the rule's provisions," the applicants wrote.

"Absent a stay, applicants will suffer irreparable harm from the loss of the rule's protections, which protections applicants had successfully sought to stop certain states' abuses. Now, these states will return to their abusive practices, infringing upon applicant states' sovereignty, while financially harming all applicants."

Later in March, the Biden administration wrote to the

Supreme Court justices and agreed the district court had indeed lacked the authority to vacate the rule without first determining its validity. However, the administration said the applications had not demonstrated the need for a stay and requested the rule not be reinstated, as officials have already reverted back to the 1971 regulations.

"That effort would divert time and resources away from the agency's rulemaking, which remains ongoing," wrote Solicitor General Elizabeth Prelogar.

Environmental groups expressed criticism of the court's

ruling. "The court's decision to reinstate the Trump administration rule shows disregard for the integrity of the Clean Water Act and undermines the rights of Tribes and states to review and reject dirty fossil fuel projects that threaten their water," said Moneen Nasmith, senior attorney at Earthjustice.

The Biden administration is currently reviewing the CWA rule and will likely issue a new rule sometime in 2023. In June 2021, the administration gave notice that it would begin an administrative process to revise the Trump administration's Section 401

rule.

"We have serious water challenges to address as a nation, and as EPA administrator, I will not hesitate to correct decisions that weakened the authority of states and Tribes to protect their waters," said EPA Administrator Michael Regan in a statement in May.

The Supreme Court will also hear the CWA case Sackett v. EPA et al. later this year, which will determine whether the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals followed the proper determinations for classifying a wetland as a WOTUS. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

Circle L Angus

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Circle L Payweight 05J

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
959	1362	3.60	106	3.27	102	104

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
81	696	103	1224	103

AAA#:
+20070517

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	SM	SW	SF	SB	SC
0	2.7	73	125	0.67	31	54	78	108	157	258

Embryo transplant sired by Basin Payweight 1682, known for producing moderate, high volume, easy fleshing cattle with strong maternal ability. DAM IS A HIGH PRODUCING DONOR AND FULL SISTER TO CONNEALY ONWARD. 05J ranks in the top 25% for 9 traits while genomic percentile rankings are top 5% WW, top 13% YW, top 4% YH, top 12% Doc, top 2% MW, top 1% CW, top 13% RE. SELLING 2/3 INTEREST AND FULL POSSESSION.

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Feature Bull! Lot 5 HARB Plus One 110



HARB Plus One 110

Entry Wt	Final Wt	ADG	ADG Ratio	WDA	WDA Ratio	TBT Ratio
920	1393	4.22	124	3.80	118	116

BW	205 Day Wt.	205 Day Ratio	365 Day Wt.	365 Day Ratio
67	855	109	1384	116

AAA#:
20243605

CED	BW	WW	YW	SC	MILK	SM	SW	SF	SB	SC
17	-2.3	74	130	0.40	44	76	104	83	144	263

Dam has a good disposition with good feet and a more moderate frame and excellent udder. Very good calving ease **HERD SIRE PROSPECT!**



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MARKET NEWS

WLJ compiles its market reports, ODJ stories and statistics from USDA and independent marketing organizations.

MARKET SITUATION REPORT

MARKET AT A GLANCE	This Week: 4/7/2022		Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	138.72	▲	138.69	121.74
CME Feeder Index	155.59	▼	155.76	139.98
Boxed Beef Average	271.00	▲	268.39	270.50
Average Dressed Steers	222.28	▼	222.93	195.18
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,372	▼	1,394	1,449
Weekly Slaughter**	639,000	▼	659,000	609,000
Weekly Beef Production***	534.8	▼	552.6	499.2
Hide/Offal Value	13.34	▼	13.41	10.52
Corn Price	7.58	▲	7.49	5.80
*Average weight for previous week. **Total slaughter for previous week. ***Estimated year-to-date figure in million pounds for previous week.				

BEEF REPORT: Weekly Composite Boxed Beef												
WEEK ENDING	COMPREHENSIVE Loads/Price		PRIME Loads/Price		BRANDED Loads/Price		CHOICE Loads/Price		SELECT Loads/Price		UNGRADED Loads/Price	
April 4	6,554	266.06	256	291.80	1,282	268.38	1,910	264.18	640	254.64	2,466	240.42
March 28	7,580	263.66	309	289.60	1,532	267.50	2,250	260.62	726	251.50	2,763	239.68
March 21	7,339	261.49	260	285.96	1,535	264.29	2,375	259.06	686	250.06	2,482	237.57
March 14	7,449	261.16	327	260.06	1,435	260.69	2,303	258.40	818	250.21	2,565	236.26
Cutouts ----- FED BOXED BEEF -----												
DATE	CHOICE		SELECT		COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN		90% LEAN			
April 7	271.00		261.22		227.22		N/A		279.27			
April 6	271.04		261.05		228.27		134.51		281.26			
April 5	271.53		262.90		229.10		132.75		280.97			
April 4	268.04		261.70		229.79		131.56		N/A			
April 1	267.14		262.52		229.44		131.10		N/A			

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle						
	4/1	4/4	4/5	4/6	4/7	High* Low*
Apr.	13865	13800	13680	13770	13800	14783 10920
Jun	13585	13493	13333	13423	13410	14385 12525
Aug.	13690	13620	13465	13570	13610	14355 13055
Oct.	14393	14315	14190	14260	14335	14662 14003
CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle						
	4/1	4/4	4/5	4/6	4/7	High* Low*
Apr.	16158	15838	15613	15710	15640	17025 15328
May.	16613	16248	15900	15995	15948	17275 15425
Aug.	17635	17410	17138	17270	17428	17755 16373
Sep.	17873	17663	17430	17543	17723	18665 17430
*High and low figures are for the life of the contract.						

FED CATTLE TRADE	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES			
Live FOB Steer	34,462	1,480	138.72
Live FOB Heifer	16,706	1,327	138.58
Dressed Del Steer	11,519	957	222.28
Dressed Del Heifer	3,274	878	221.88
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	18,290	1,468	138.69
Live FOB Heifer	11,044	1,294	138.18
Dressed Del Steer	3,738	974	222.93
Dressed Del Heifer	255	835	222
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	37,249	1,449	121.47
Live FOB Heifer	14,540	1,540	121.60
Dressed Del Steer	7,504	958	195.18
Dressed Del Heifer	1,275	815	195.07

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	41,542	5,740
Formula	245,824	242
Negotiated Cash	99,339	241
Negotiated Grid	38,776	0
Packer Owned	10,952	0
Total	436,433	6,223

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,520
Apr. '22	244,925	Neg. Sales 21+ days	1,281
May '22	157,557	Formula sales	3,355
Jun. '22	142,354	Forward contract sales	398
Jul. '22	116,145	Domestic sales	5,609
Aug. '22	97,511	NAFTA Exports	63

CANADIAN LIVESTOCK PRICES & FEDERAL INSPECTED SLAUGHTER FIGURES		
Alberta Direct Sales (4% shrink)	Price	Weekly Change
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	N/A	N/A
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	N/A	N/A
Ontario Auctions		
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	138.03	+0.75
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	136.71	+1.11
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs	81.43	+0.15
*Price comparison from one week ago.		

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, April 1, 2022			
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	183.75	194.92	183.57
601-700 lbs	174.53	174.68	172.31
701-800 lbs	160.08	157.55	159.37
801-900 lbs	149.70	150.52	150.90
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	163.91	159.08	146.69
501-600 lbs	155.09	152.03	153.05
601-700 lbs	147.56	147.14	149.34
701-800 lbs	140.51	141.63	147.53

USDA MEXICO TO U.S. WEEKLY LIVESTOCK IMPORTS				
Feeder cattle imports weekly and yearly volume.				
Species	Current Week	Previous Week	Current Year-to-date	Previous Year-to-date
	4/2/2022	3/26/2022		
Feeders	18,758	22,717	242,337	316,564

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE				
Friday 4/1/22				
Mexico to TX. & NM. Weekly Feeder Cattle Import Summary				
Receipts EST: 15,000 Week Ago Act: 17,721 Year Ago Act: 18,720				
Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings sold steady to 2.00 higher. Heifers 1.00-2.00 higher. Trade active, demand good. The bulkof the supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700lbs.				
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 180.00-196.00, few 197.00; 400-500 lbs 165.00-180.00, few 181.00; 500-600 lbs 150.00-165.00,few 166.00; 600-700 lbs 142.00-152.00, few 153.00. Medium and large 2&3, 300-400 lbs 165.00-181.00; 400-500 lbs 150.00-165.00; 500-600 lbs 135.00-150.00.				
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 155.00-168.00, few170.00; 400-500 lbs 145.00-158.00, few 160.00; 500-600 lbs 135.00-148.00,few 150.00; 600-700 lbs 127.00-138.00, few 140.00.				
(All sales fob port of entry.)				

Selected Auction Week Ending April 7, 2022				Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2						
		STEERS / HEIFERS								
DATE	MARKET	200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS REPLACEMENTS
April 1	N/A			170-190	160-187	150-183	140-168	130-146	83-91	
Blackfoot, ID		150-176	150-168	140-164	137-163	135-149	120-135	89-112.5		
March 31	N/A	224-241	197-216	177-179		146.50	107-144.25	85.50-92.50		
Burley, ID		184-200	174-183.50	148-170	131-159		119.25-130.50	104.50-105		
No report available										
Emmett, ID										
April 2				155-191	160-182.50	135-159	132-150	128-149	80-92	690-1,150
Eugene, OR	1,027	130-144	135-154	109-134	120-137.50	108-129	106-118	103-119		590-1,070
April 4				170-191	158-175	150-160		87-94		
Madras, OR	1,204		155-170	148-170	140-150	130-143		108-112		
March 30		155-193	177-208	165-197	140-168			79-93.50		
Vale, OR	1,153	135-160	139-177.50	130-167		126-140		81-115		
April 6		163-168	151-201	123-205	92-175.25	122-156	126-158	66-105		1,100-1,800
Davenport, WA	463	111-125	46-154	97-165	23-152	120-155	87-123	94-140		
March 31				197-207*				81-91.75		1,100-2,300
Toppenish, WA	2,350		170*	148*				95-120		

No report available												
Orland, CA												
April 4												
Escalon, CA			130-171	125-156	125-160		120-141	100-125	78-93			
					120-153		100-135	95-115	86-110			
No report available												
Famoso, CA												
March 30												
Galt, CA					150-165	145-150	140-153		72-100			
					130-149.50	130-143			90-137			
No report available												
Turlock, CA												
April 5												
Salina, UT	1,237	165-187.50	162.50-189	155-179.25	150-174	146-168	133-150	112.50-147	76-89.75			
			145-168	135-160	130-160	125-154.50	118-142	105.25-138	101-110.75			

April 4 Iowa	9,133		207-247 170-208	194-235 141-199	170-222 151.25-178.25	160-199 138-173	149.50-179 135-156.25	134-164 125-152.50	70-110 70-120		
April 5 Miles City, MT	1,293			212.50	196	176-190 167	149-155 139-152		75-88 80.50-115		1,325-1,475
April 6 Bassett, NE	6,590		223 202-208	209-225 172-199.50	189-214 165.25-184.75	180-207 142.25-179	153-186 139-155	136-160 124-155			
No report available Ericson, NE											
April 5 Imperial, NE	1,800			204-209 180	183-191 156-168	171-187.50 145.75-166	150-153 140.25-150.50	132.50 117-145.25			
March 30 Kearney, NE	2,230			223-226 169-198	200-218 169-181	179-193.50 146-172.75	158-181.25 140-160	140-157 130.50-139.50			
April 1 Lexington, NE	2,807		210 192	200-215 173-186	192.50-212.50 171-181	179-194 148.50-164.75	147-171 146.75-150	137.50-162 129-147.75			
No report available Ogallala, NE											
No report available Valentine, NE											
April 1 Herreid, SD	2,967			222 177.50	194-219 169-175	167-205 151-166.75	163-178.25 139.50-158.50	144.25-159.25 136-156.50			
March 30 Torrington, WY	3,853	217	235-245 193-201	215-225 179-198	195-212 175-190.50	170-194 163-184.50	162-175 148-162.50	155-162 145-153			

NORTH CENTRAL

Meat production and consumption is decreasing

Declining beef and pork production may offset increased broiler production and lead to a decrease in total meat production in 2022. The latest forecasts from the Livestock Marketing Information Center suggest that total red meat and poultry production will total 106.25 billion pounds, down slightly year over year. If realized, this would be the first decrease in total meat production following seven consecutive years of increasing production since 2014.

Total 2022 per capita meat consumption is forecast at 222.4 lbs., down from 224.2 lbs. last year. Pork, broiler and beef production represent 94 percent of total meat production in the U.S. Most of the remaining 6 percent is turkey production, along with small totals of veal, other poultry and sheep and lamb production.

Pork production is forecast to decrease to 27.19 billion lbs. in 2022, down 1.8 percent year over year. The March Hogs and Pigs report showed that inventories of both market hogs and breeding hogs were down from last year. Per capita pork consumption is projected to be 50.3 lbs. in 2022, down from 51 lbs. last year. Pork exports are expected to decrease in 2022 on weaker exports to China. This will offset some of the decrease in production, thus muting the decrease in domestic pork consumption.

Broiler chicken production is forecast to increase 2.3 percent in 2022 to a record 45.44 billion lbs. Per capita broiler consumption is projected to be 97.8 lbs. this year, up from 96.4 lbs. in 2021. Highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) is a threat to all poultry markets but has so far mostly impacted laying

hens and turkeys.

However, broiler export bans are already restricting exports and could expand further. HPAI could result in some reduction in broiler production, but export bans could result in more broiler meat being directed to the domestic market, thereby increasing domestic consumption even more.

Beef production in 2022 is forecast to decrease by 2.2 percent to 27.39 billion lbs., down from the record level of 28.01 billion lbs. last year. Beef consumption is projected to be 57.2 lbs. in 2022, down from 58.8 lbs. last year. Declining beef cattle inventories will result in reduced cattle slaughter this year and declining beef production through the year. Beef exports are expected to decrease from the 2021 record levels.

High feed prices will impact all livestock industries

and may moderate meat production going forward. Feed costs increased significantly in 2021 and will push even higher in the coming months. Beef will be additionally impacted by drought conditions and the reduced production of pasture and hay. Drought may impact the timing of beef production, with drought liquidation potentially increasing beef production temporarily but leading to a larger decline in beef supplies later.

Retail prices are high for all meats. Reported retail prices in February were up 14 to nearly 16 percent year over year for beef, pork and broilers. Meat prices are not expected to continue rising, but they may stabilize and hold near current higher levels. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**



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Feeders see another week of losses on the board

MARKETS (from page 1)

Thursday is estimated at 495,000 head, several thousand head more than a week earlier. Slaughter through the last week of March is projected at 639,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending March 26 totaled 657,471 head.

"Packers will be able to sell more pounds per head than anytime in history during this coming May and June—considered to be one of the best beef demand times of any year," Fish said.

Boxed beef prices traded mostly steady but closed slightly higher over the week. The Choice cutout gained about \$2 to close at \$271, and the Select cutout gained about a dollar to close at \$261.22.

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures felt the brunt of the losses over the week. The April contract lost about \$5 to close at \$156.40, and the May contract lost about \$7 to close at \$159.47.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index lost 17 cents to close at \$155.59.

Corn made some gains over the week. The May contract gained about 9 cents to close at \$7.57, and the July contract gained 17 cents to close at \$7.50.

"April showers bring May flowers (and grass), so grass calf buyers will be watching the forecast to calibrate their optimism for the coming months, even if corn prices get another boost on Friday," wrote Elaine Kub, DTN contributing analyst, in her Thursday closing comments.

Kansas: Winter Livestock in Dodge City sold 2,462 head on Wednesday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers under 700 lbs. sold on a light test with a weak undertone noted, while those over 700 lbs. sold \$5-8 lower. Feeder heifers under 550 lbs. sold \$6-8 lower, 550-650 lbs. sold \$2-4 higher and over 650 lbs. sold \$4-6 lower.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 6,000 head on Monday. Compared to the previous sale, feeder steers and heifers traded steady. Benchmark

steers averaging 717 lbs. sold between \$162-168 and averaged \$164.50.

Nebraska: Tri-State Livestock in McCook sold 1,340 head Monday. Compared to the last auction, weights over 850 lbs. were steady to \$3 higher on good demand. Otherwise, there were not enough sales to show any other comparisons. Benchmark steers averaging 780 lbs. sold between \$150.50-158 and averaged \$156.46.

New Mexico: Roswell Livestock in Roswell sold 904 head Monday. Compared to the previous auction, steer calves and feeders under 500 lbs. sold \$3 lower, 500-700 lbs. were mostly \$5 lower and a few over 700 lbs. traded \$1 higher. Heifer calves and feeders under 500 lbs. sold \$3-6 higher, over 500 lbs. were \$3 lower and a few over 600 lbs. traded \$10 lower. A group of steers averaging 736

lbs. sold for \$148.50.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 8,000 head on Monday. Compared to the previous sale, at the mid-session, feeder steers and heifers sold steady to \$3 lower. Steer calves and heifers sold \$6-10 lower. Benchmark steers averaging 730 lbs. sold between \$152.85-175.25, averaging \$159.30.

South Dakota: Sioux Falls Regional Cattle Auction in Worthing sold 1,906 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers sold \$2-4 lower, except 600-650 lbs., which sold \$2-4 higher. Feeder heifers sold \$1-3 lower, except 700-850 lbs., which sold steady to \$2 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 740 lbs. sold between \$158-169 and averaged \$165.13. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

COMING EVENTS

(Send calendar of events information to editorial@wlj.net.)

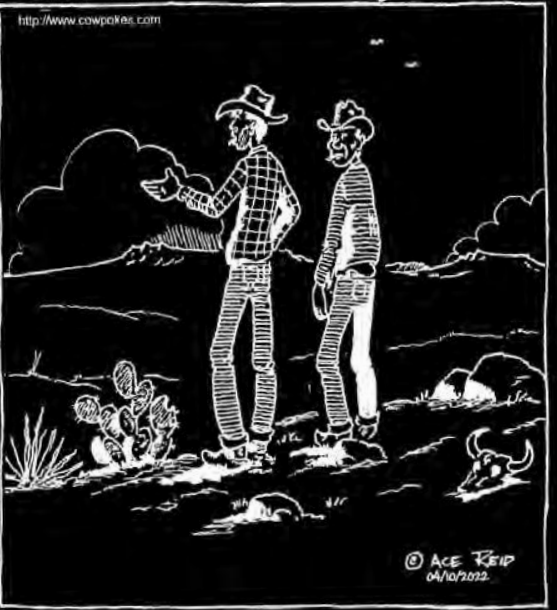
May 20-21 — Registration is now open for three National Cattlemen's Beef Association Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, with the first stop in Blacksburg, VA, May 20-21. Details: www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending a Stockmanship and Stewardship event are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant.

silience Grant.

June 16-18 — Registration is now open for three National Cattlemen's Beef Association Stockmanship and Stewardship regional events, with the second stop in Leavenworth, KS, June 16-18. Details: www.StockmanshipAndStewardship.org. Cattle producers attending a Stockmanship and Stewardship event are eligible for reimbursement through the Rancher Resilience Grant.

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Cattle
For Sale

10

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13

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Dogs
For Sale

14

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18

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Southwest

20D

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COLFAX CO., NM, GETAWAY – 1,482.90± ac. grassland (1,193.59± ac. deeded, 289.31 ac. state lease), great location near all types of mountain recreation.

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• South Park Mercantile is for sale, rare opportunity, located at 12787 Highway 24, Hartsel, CO.

• 14 acres for sale in the city of Wellington, CO. Currently used as cattle ranch, ideal for subdivision, totaling 52 sites.

• 61 acre turnkey horse and cattle ranch. Barn and outbuildings, Wellington, CO.

• 4 acre horse property. Backs up to lake, four bedroom, three bath, Longmont, CO.

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Real Estate
Rent/Lease/Trade 22

LOOKING FOR a ranch to lease/working partnership. SD, WY, NE, TX, OK, IA, MO, KS, NM, NV. Don't mind where or how remote. David Tanner, 352-807-8203, [roughridecattleservices@yahoo.com](#).

Pasture
Wanted

24

YEARLING PASTURE NEEDED. Looking for summer feed for anywhere from 300-1,350 head of spayed heifers or 300-4,000 head of steers. Please contact Duane Martin Jr. of Duane Martin Livestock at 209-481-5355.

WINTER PASTURE wanted in California for yearlings. Large quantities. 541-823-2933

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Wanted

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For Sale

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SALE REPORTS

**CATTLEMAN'S WEEKEND
22ND ANNUAL ARIZONA
ANGUS ASSOCIATION
BULL SALE, 34TH ANNUAL
PRESCOTT ALL-BREED
BULL SALE & 24TH
ANNUAL AMERICAN WEST
HORSE SALE**
March 18-19,
Chino Valley, AZ
49 Horses \$10,983.67
16 Registered Angus
bulls..... 3,978.13
34 All-breed bulls .. 1,772.06
Auctioneers: Justin Mebane
& Steve Friskup



CROW

TOPS—
Horses: Reebish, a mare from Kruger Performance Horses; \$47,000. Metallic Stylin, a gelding from Lazy JWC Ranch; \$36,000. **Angus bulls:** LKK Accomplishment 1176, from Diamond K Angus Ranch, Springerville, AZ; \$5,900. LZS Elite Tendency, from Lazy S Angus Ranch, Willcox, AZ; \$5,200. **All-breed bulls:** High selling bull from Red River Farms, Blythe, CA; \$2,600. Reserve high selling bull from Red River Farms, Blythe, CA; \$2,500. — **PETE CROW**

**VERTICAL EDGE
GENETICS**
March 25, Bancroft, ID
1 Draft horse team. . . \$17,000
51 Bulls..... 4,357
35 Open yearling
heifers 1,506
Auctioneer: Kade Rogge



MURNIN

TOPS: VE
J U N E A U
ROSTER 1J, by OCC Juneau x Soo Line Motive; to Peak Genetics, Broadus, MT, \$9,750. **VE C U T R**
ECLIPSE 32J, by VE Cut Right x KCC Saginaw; to Brick Pugsley, Park Valley, UT, \$8,250. **VE ELIP**
BLACKSMITH 57J, by VE Raider Elip x Brooks Above Par; to Caleb Valdez, Montrose, CO, \$5,750. **VE BRICK SIOUX** 130J, by TCM Tri-Star Mr Brick x Mohnen Hulk; to Hawbush Ranches, Holden, UT, \$5,750. — **DEVIN MURNIN**



SALE CALENDAR

Sale Calendar is a service to our advertisers. There is a minimum advertising requirement to be eligible to be listed in the Sale Calendar. Contact your fieldman for more information or to have your date added to the Sale Calendar. We will only run auction sale dates or private treaty start dates.

ALL BREED

Apr. 19 — Treasure Bull Test, Bull Sale, Great Falls, MT

ANGUS

Apr. 11 — Cook Angus, Bull Sale, Billings, MT

Apr. 11 — Herbster Angus Farms, Bull Sale, Marysville, KS

Apr. 11 — Jorgensen Land & Cattle, Production Sale, Ideal, SD

Apr. 12 — Hilltop Angus, Production Sale, Denton, MT

Apr. 14 — Carr Angus, Production Sale, Hobson, MT

Apr. 14 — Jocko Valley Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Missoula, MT

Apr. 14 — McClun's Lazy JM Ranch, Bull Sale, Torrington, WY

Apr. 15 — DeGrand Angus, Bull Sale, Baker, MT

Apr. 18 — Pharo Cattle Company, Bull Sale, Burlington, CO

Apr. 20 — Milk River Genetics, Bull Sale, Chinoook, MT

Apr. 23 — Herring Angus, Bull Sale, Encampment, WY

Apr. 26 — Currant Creek, Bull Sale, Miles City, MT

May 1 — Poppe Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Fallon, MT

May 4 — ELK Angus, Bull Sale, Buffalo, WY

May 13 — Loma Livestock/Diamond Peak Cattle Co., Bull & Female Sale, Loma, CO

May 23 — TK Angus, Mature Cow Dispersion, Valentine, NE

**OPEN GATE RANCH
ANNUAL BULL SALE**
March 31, Simms, MT
80 Simmental/SimAngus
bulls..... \$4,988
22 Open heifers 1,439
Auctioneer: Roger Jacobs
TOPS: JD518, 1/29/21 by Bobcat Blue Sky; to Makala Butterfield, Stuart, NE, \$8,500. JF800, 1/27/21 by Bobcat Blue Sky; to Makala Butterfield, Stuart, NE, \$8,000. JF723, 2/6/21 by WS Proclamation E202; to Jeff Beck, Fairfield, MT, \$7,500. JE569, 1/29/21 by WS Proclamation E202; to Jeff Beck, Fairfield, MT, \$7,500. JD499, 1/29/21 by Bobcat Blue Sky; to Makala Butterfield, Stuart, NE, \$7,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

**BROOKS CHALKY BUTTE
ANGUS RANCH ANNUAL
PRODUCTION SALE**
April 2, Bowman, ND
137 Bulls..... \$4,141
476 Commercial open Angus
heifers 1,271
77 F1 Baldie open
heifers 1,137
Auctioneers: Lynn Weishaar,
Seth Weishaar & Scott
Weishaar

TOPS: Brooks Accomplishment 1425, 3/15/21 by Sitz Accomplishment 720F; to Rollin' Rock Angus, Helix, OR, \$16,000. Brooks Blueprint 1260, 2/25/21 by Woodhill Blueprint; to Wilson Ranch, Watford City, ND, \$14,000. Brooks Stellar 1424, 3/15/21 by Sitz Stellar 726D; to Maus Angus, Galva, ND, \$12,000. Brooks Blueprint 1423, 3/14/21 by Woodhill Blueprint; to Dunn Ranch LLC, Scranton, ND, \$9,500. Brooks Accomplishment 135, 2/14/21 by Sitz Accomplishment 720F; to Lukens Angus, Medicine Lodge, KS, \$8,000. Brooks Blueprint 1354, 3/9/21 by Woodhill Blueprint; to L Double Bar Ranch, Bowman, ND, \$8,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

**HINMAN ANGUS RANCH
ANNUAL BULL SALE**
April 5, Malta, MT
150 Bulls..... \$5,403
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS: HA Diamond J791, 2/5/21 by Connealy Emerald; to Knox Brothers, San Angelo, TX, \$27,000. HA Cool Country J482, 2/9/21 by Sitz Resilient 10208; to Masterfair Cattle Co., Johnstown, OH, \$20,500. HA Playbook J869, 2/25/21 by TEX Playbook 5437; to Ba JV Angus, Fairview, MT,

\$14,000. HA Resilient J437, 2/3/21 by Sitz Resilient 10208; to Darnell Ranch Inc., Harrisburg, NE, \$12,500. HA Resilient J457, 2/6/21 by Sitz Resilient 10208; to Keith Oatken, Crawford, NE, \$12,500. HA Cowboy Kind J425, 2/2/21 by HA Cowboy Kind 8157; to Dry Fork Livestock, Kaycee, WY, \$12,500. HA Cowboy Kind J420, 2/1/21 by HA Cowboy Kind 8157; to Dry Fork Livestock, Kaycee, WY, \$12,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

**PIEPER RED ANGUS 32ND
ANNUAL PERFORMANCE
LEADER PRODUCTION
SALE**
April 1, Hay Springs, NE
4 Herd sires \$49,250
172 Yearling Red Angus
bulls..... 6,977
50 Red Angus open
heifers 3,531
197 Commercial Red Angus
replacement heifers ... 1,381
Auctioneer: Ty Thompson



GIES

bon, NE, \$100,000. **Bulls:** PIE

Asset 1276, 2/20/21 by RED MRLA Resource 137E; to Bieber Red Angus, Leola, SD, \$35,000. PIE Hercules 174, 2/1/21 by PIE Quarterback 789; to Greg Sanders, Clinton, MS, \$32,000. PIE Midas 154, 1/30/21 by PIE Quarterback 789; to DK Red Angus, Grenora, ND, \$30,000. PIE Complete 172, 1/30/21 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Hansine Ranch, Pierre, SD, \$28,000. TKP Quarterback 1173, 2/12/21 by PIE Quarterback 789; to Ryan Boner, Glenrock, WY, \$26,000. PIE Long Haul 1344, 2/26/21 by Bieber Hard Drive Y120; to Lemke Cattle, Lawrence, NE, \$20,000. PIE Complete 127, 1/26/21 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to George Mcfall, Lake-side, NE, \$19,000. **Females:** PIE Lakota Logan 197, 2/3/21 by RED MRLA Recharge 139G; to Travis Shaffer, Pierre, SD, \$15,000. PIE MS Rambo Tuo 1479, 3/1/21 by RED MRLA Regard 121G; to McCune Marketing, Perkins, OK, \$10,000. — **JIM GIES**

**MAGNESS LAND & CATTLE
ANNUAL BULL SALE**
April 2, Loma, CO
73 1/2 Yearling bulls .. \$3,539
Auctioneer: Ronn
Cunningham
TOPS: MAGS Jameson 1125J
ET, 1/16/21 by MAGS Federal

Reserve ET; to J6 Cattle, Gibbon, NE, \$16,000. MAGS Jerky, 2/3/21 by PBRS Encore 7195E ET; to Hidden Valley Ranch, Pine, CO, \$9,000. MAGS Jin 112J, 1/16/21 by MAGS Federal Reserve ET; to Marjon Farms, Kentland, IN, \$7,700. MAGS 108J, 1/15/21 by TNGC Empire 736E; to Brandon Whiting, Neola, UT, \$7,000. — **JIM GIES**

**DAIGGER-ORR ANGUS
BULL SALE**
April 5, North Platte, NE
71 Angus yearling
bulls..... \$5,721
30 Red Angus yearling
bulls..... 5,642
Auctioneer: Kyle Schow

TOPS—Angus: J D 67 Charger 127, 1/18/21 by Mohnen 67 Charger; to Bobbie Jo Christensen, Arnold, NE, \$11,500. Orr Pay Dirt 141, 1/22/21 by J D Pay Dirt 546; to Matt and Hannah Burch, Tryon, NE, \$10,250. Orr Drover 150, 1/27/21 by Orr Drover 958; to Bobbie Jo Christensen, Arnold, NE, \$10,000. Orr Capitalist 169, 2/2/21 by LD Capitalist 316; to Jeff Arensdorf, Tryon, NE, \$9,500. **Red Angus:** 1DRA Leading Edge 1004, 1/16/21 by 5L Leading Edge 15383-117C; to Westphal Red Angus, Grass Range, MT, \$14,000. 1DRA Leading Edge 1003, 1/15/21 by 5L Leading Edge 15383-117C;

to Gill Red Angus, Timber Lake, SD, \$13,500. — **JIM GIES**

**DEBRUYCKER
CHAROLAIS 38TH ANNUAL
BULL SALE**
April 2, Great Falls, MT
677 Total bulls \$4,445.35
80 Long yearling
bulls..... 5,593.75
597 Yearling bulls. . . 4,291.46
Auctioneers: Trent Stewart
& Dustin Layton



IPSEN

TOPS:
Lot 162
1/21/21 by
D C / C R J
TANK E108
P; to Mat-
thew Brent,
Alton, KS,
\$32,000.
Lot 47,
9/10/20 by DC/MD SHARK
F1366 P; to Rooster Syndica-
tion, College Station, TX,
\$20,000. Lot 176, 1/27/21 by
DC/CRJ TANK E108 P; to Wienk
Charolais, Lake Preston, SD,
\$18,500. Lot 75, 8/16/20 by JDJ
TRANSACTION C3243; to Joe
Sozinho, Hanford, CA, \$16,500.
Lot 48, 8/11/20 by DC/MD
SHARK F1366 P; to Louis Ahle-
meyer, Sedalia, MO, \$11,000.
Lot 155, 2/3/21 by DC/CRJ
TANK E108 P; to Steve Bales,
Cody, WY, \$10,500. — **LOGAN
IPSEN**

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Public interest benefits BLM and Cahill Ranches

ORDER (from page 1)

unavailable for grazing.

According to court documents, the RNAs designated in the 2015 ARMPA comprise 21,779 acres within 197,867 acres of grazing pasture.

The RNAs would be used as control data for research on the restoration of sage grouse habitat. Two of the RNAs were closed off to grazing, and BLM would need to construct 39 miles of fencing and remove corrals and water structures on the remaining 13 RNAs.

In 2017, Cahill Ranches filed a lawsuit challenging the 2015 ARMPA. Shortly after the lawsuit, a new ARMPA was issued in 2019, making the RNAs available for grazing. Western Watersheds Project brought suit, and the Idaho District Court prohibited BLM from implementing the 2019 ARMPA and reinstated the 2015 ARMPA.

After the injunction, BLM began a site-specific National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis for the fencing and issued two-year notices to grazing permittees and lessees for pastures containing the RNAs. BLM also conducted two 30-day scoping periods in December 2021 and January 2022, seeking public comment on the proposed fencing.

In 2019, the environmental groups notified BLM that the RNAs needed to be closed immediately. Still, BLM notified them the NEPA analysis and notice to permittees were required as part of the 2015 ARMPA. BLM informed the environmental groups in December 2021 that it was "unlikely that all 13 closures will be implemented before the 2022 grazing season." The environmental groups filed for a temporary restraining order on Feb. 24, 2022.

In addition to irreparable harm to the sage grouse population, Simon ruled against the environmental plaintiffs' statements that grazing hinders the groups' ability to use and enjoy the RNAs. Simon cited that sagebrush habitat takes years to fully restore and pointed to a letter from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife in 2017, which stated that fencing would cause harm to the sage grouse and that the issue affecting sage grouse habitat is juniper encroachment.

Simon further cited that closing land not designated as an RNA would burden the permittees of those pastures, and "The court finds that the public interest in sustaining rural communities favors denial of the motion for a (temporary restraining order)."

Simon concluded that the public interest favors BLM

and Cahill Ranches.

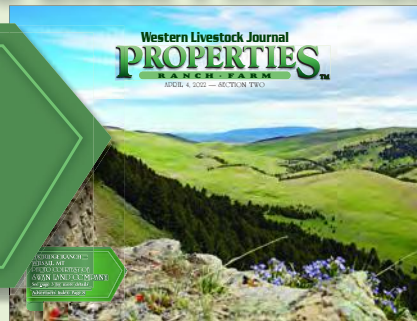
ONDA told *WLJ* in an email, as part of the 2015 ARMPA, BLM set aside "tiny slivers" of land—less than 0.02 percent of grazed BLM lands in Oregon—to understand the potential of livestock grazing on the declining sage grouse population across the "12 million acres authorized for grazing use."

"But after seven years, the agency still hasn't implemented its own direction," ONDA said. "While the court declined to order its implementation in 2022, ONDA will continue to advocate that BLM fully implement the plan they adopted in 2015 to help reverse the decline of iconic sage grouse." — Charles Wallace, *WLJ* editor

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Chinook, Mt
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DHRA Stunner 3161 #20267272



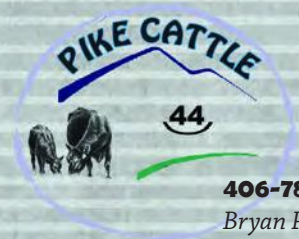
WW North Country 25J #20260638



NF Ideal 4223 J208 #20265666



NF Morgan's Homeraised J914 #20155947



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