

INSIDE WLJ

LET IT FLOW — Representatives for the Scott Valley Agriculture Water Alliance are rallying to get the water regulations governing their small ranching community lifted. **Page 5**

DAIRY FIRE — An explosion at a Texas dairy farm has left over 17,000 dairy cattle dead and one person in serious condition. **Page 12**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

As talk continues to swirl for the 2023 Farm Bill, let's take a look back at delays for the 2002 Farm Bill. "Last week, there were several delays in getting the farm bill back into debate. That slowdown further moves back the time that a full bill can be returned to both the full House and Senate for a vote. There were thoughts that the movement of the farm bill might be slowed even further since the bill already appears to be too late to help producers. That's because the 2002 planting season has already begun in some areas of the country and loan rates are already set for those crops," read the April 22, 2002, issue of WLJ.

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Cattle groups, states sue over prairie chicken listing

— Claim ESA, APA violations

Several cattle groups, the states of

Texas, Kansas and Oklahoma, and an oil industry group are suing the federal government over listing the lesser prairie-chicken (LPC), claim-

ing the feds failed to consider current conservation measures and the impact on ranchers and the oil industry.

Both suits are challenging the decision by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) to list two distinct population segments (DPS) of the LPC under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). In November, USFWS listed the southern DPS as endangered and the northern DPS as threatened with a 4(d) rule that tailors protections for the bird. The 4(d) rule would allow for agricultural practices and grazing to continue, provided a "prescribed grazing plan developed by a qualified party" is approved by USFWS.



David McGowen, Adobe Stock

A coalition of industry groups, along with several states, are suing the federal government over listing the lesser prairie-chicken under the Endangered Species Act. Pictured here, two prairie chickens in the Sandhills of Nebraska.

Background

The LPC was initially listed as threatened under the ESA in 2014, but the Permian Basin Petroleum Association challenged the listing. The listing was vacated in 2015, with the court citing USFWS violated its policies as it failed to consider conservation efforts already underway. In 2016, environmental groups petitioned to have the LPC divided into several distinct population segments and listed as endangered. In 2019, the environmental groups sued to list the bird under the ESA,

See SUITS on page 12

CO wolf reintroduction could be delayed from bill

— Experimental population in question

A pair of bills regarding wolf management in the state of Colorado passed through the state Senate on April 17, which could have wide implications for the state's initiative to reintroduce wolves by the end of 2023. The window of opportunity for collaboration on the restoration plan is narrowing, as the plan is set to be approved by the state's wildlife agency in just a few short weeks.

Bills move forward

Senate Bills (SB) 255 and 256 impact the management of gray wolves and depredation compensation and were widely passed by the Senate.

Under the Endangered Species Act's (ESA) 10(j) rule, wolves could

be designated as a "nonessential, experimental population." This would allow for the lethal taking of wolves, along with other non-lethal management options. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is currently in a rule-making process to finalize the 10(j) rule by mid-December, shortly before wolves are set to be brought into the state.

SB 256 would require that all legal challenges to the USFWS' 10(j) rule be completed before wolves can be introduced to the state.

"Because of gray wolf mobility, it is anticipated that wolves will occupy federal land areas after they are released," the bill's text read. "Therefore, it is critical that, before gray wolves are reintroduced in Colorado, a determination is made under [10(j)] and that the analysis required by the fed

See WOLVES on page 6

Livestock grazing authorized in Arizona conservation area

— Win for ranchers

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has decided to authorize livestock grazing in the San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area of southern Arizona, scoring a win for ranchers.

BLM's recent decision authorizes the use of grazing on four allotments within the conservation area, finding that renewing the leases would not have a significant impact on the environment. The agency has determined the lessees on the allotments are in substantial compliance with the terms and conditions of the leases, and no environmental impact statements need to be prepared. The leases will be good for terms of up to 10 years.

Green resistance

Conservation groups petitioned the BLM in 2018 to exclude livestock

grazing from the conservation area, claiming that if grazing was reauthorized, aquatic and riparian species would suffer. BLM moved forward with the authorization in 2019, and conservation groups sued in response. A settlement was reached, with BLM agreeing to revisit the impacts of livestock grazing in the conservation area.

BLM released their final grazing decisions in early April. Conservation groups called the decision a betrayal of public trust.

"Cows were supposed to be completely removed from this river," said Robin Silver, cofounder of the Center for Biological Diversity, in a statement. "With all the other threats the San Pedro River faces—groundwater depletion, climate change, the border wall, you'd think the land manager responsible for protecting it would have done more for the river and not capitulated to the livestock industry."

Conservation groups argue the

BLM's decision to allow livestock grazing violates the Endangered Species Act, and species such as the yellow-billed cuckoo, southwestern willow flycatcher and the northern Mexican gartersnake will suffer.

A survey released by the Center for Biological Diversity claims to document nearly 40 miles of "significantly cow-damaged" streamside habitat along rivers in the conservation area. The group alleges that cattle have trespassed on the San Pedro River more than 200 times over the past few years. In a September 2021 email to conservation groups, San Pedro Riparian National Conservation Area Manager Scott Feldhausen said he had not gathered trespassing cattle due to "fear of violence by local ranchers."

BLM's decision kicked off a 30-day appeal period, which will close in early May. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor

Time Sensitive
Priority Handling
PERIODICAL:

Beef demand begins to pick up ahead of summer

As we begin to enter the spring and summer grilling season, beef demand is starting to increase. The big question on everyone's mind right now though is how high will the market go?

Live cattle futures traded steady to lower over the week, with the April contract down \$1.40 to \$174.10 and the June contract down 15 cents to \$164.35.

Cash trade through Thursday was about 60,000 head. Live steers sold from \$172-183, and dressed steers sold from \$276-290.

"To feedlots' advantage is the fact that the futures complex is trading higher and that packers are still close to the knife and in desperate need of cattle," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her midday Thursday comments. "I tend to believe that those who wait for higher prices will be thankful they did this week"

Cash trade for the week ending April 16 was 86,778 head. Live steers averaged \$180.29, and dressed steers averaged \$289.75.

"The cattle industry is anxious to pick a spring top, pointing at other weather market April tops as evidence," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in The Beef. "But perhaps the more important question is how much can this market break in

May and June?"

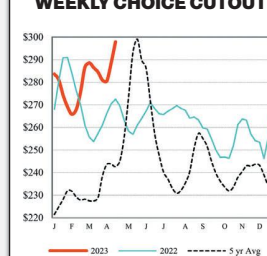
The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of April 3-10 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$179.85.
- Formula net purchases: \$173.84.
- Forward contract net purchases: \$172.61.
- Negotiated grid net purchases: \$170.70.

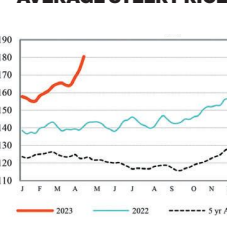
On a dressed basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$289.48.

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



- Formula net purchases: \$274.13.
- Forward contract net

See MARKETS on page 9

LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$177.62	\$287.49	\$203.91
WEEK ENDING: 4-20-23		

COMMENTS

Taking a breather

It looks like the cattle markets want to take a break after recent record-breaking prices. The five-area weighted average last week was \$180.44 on live steers and \$289.77 on delivered dressed steers. Many market analysts are thinking that the week ending April 14 marked the winter/spring high on fed cattle prices.



CROW

April futures were bouncing around last week, mostly down. The basis between cash and futures is around \$5 on the cash premium. The June live cattle contract is down to around \$163, and it will be interesting to see where it goes in supporting the cash market. It will be interesting if April live cattle actually converge when they fall off the board at the end of April.

There seems to be some controversy going into the summer months when fed cattle supplies tend to grow. The boys at CattleFax think we will have only 1-2% fewer fed cattle available than last summer, when the market was trading in the \$140 range. And there was plenty of beef available last summer. I'm thinking we will have about 5% fewer cattle available when you plug in cow slaughter. Salvage values on cows and bulls are at all-time highs, but again, this is the seasonal low for cow slaughter.

The guesstimates on the Cattle on Feed report for April 1 were down about 5%. Placements are expected to be down 5% and marketings down just 1%. Placements have been below year-ago levels for several months.

It is interesting that northern fed cattle are trading \$6 higher than southern Plains cattle. Northern cattle grade so much better than southern cattle, which shouldn't be a surprise to anyone trading in those markets. Packers are chasing quality because it sells. They seem to pay the most for cattle weighing 1,450-1,550 lbs., which after this past winter, cost a lot to produce. The last closeout I saw showed feeders earning about \$90 per head, which is about what packers are earning per head.

Our friends at the Ag Center's Cattle Report say, "From a supply standpoint, the rally in beef prices is entering the beginning, not the end, of the rally in prices. The most severe crunch for supplies of beef is months away and the end of the cycle is still two years out—weather cooperating.

"Everyone knows the supply side is only one part of the equation. Even in the best of times, beef shortages can kill demand with price. These are not the best of times, and an open question is the possibility or probability of a recession. The degree or magnitude of the recession will be unknown but losing market share is a certainty, and regaining beef market share following the rebuild of the herd will be difficult.

"The condition of the marketplace is bullish for cattle but that does not translate into an uninterrupted rise in prices. There will be adjustments along the way and the ultimate price level reached will depend on many factors—most of which are unknown at present."

One thing I learned recently was the dramatic difference between live hogs and live cattle spreads. May hog futures were at \$78.77, while April live cattle were at \$175.42. Last fall, hogs were trading in the \$120 zone and cattle were trading around \$150. This has more to do with shifting demand going forward. Hogs have seen a dramatic decline since January when they were trading at \$100/lb., and the competing meat situation will come into play this summer as hog producers will be trying to buy back market share and expect retailers to feature more pork items this spring.

So how low can this fed cattle market go during summer? The typical break is about 14%, which would suggest August fed sales to go down to \$156 or so. Honestly, I can't see that happening under the circumstances. However, August live cattle futures are priced at \$163.75 now. So, what's it going to be? I remain an optimist.

Now that we've seen the market respond to supply demand signals, do you really want to see the government get involved in cattle trading? Do you really want legislation governing how the market should operate? This may not be a typical cattle cycle. It's still dry in the central southern Plains states. Holding back replacement heifers may be difficult if they don't get those spring rains. — **PETE CROW**

GUEST OPINION

A NEW RAT RACE?

No, this is not an amended take on our hectic daily schedules, nor is it a preview to the sequel of the mediocre 2001 comedy film.

This, quite literally, is about rats. And the race to limit the ability of individuals and businesses to control them and other destructive and prolific rodents.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) seeks to drastically curtail how we manage rodent populations in the U.S. It's part of a broader effort to consider any adverse effects on wildlife species and habitats when evaluating the continued use of pesticides. Under the Endangered Species Act, these chemicals must be reviewed at regular intervals, with consultations among agency professionals and stakeholders to assess environmental impacts and potential threats to wildlife.

For many years, due to a workload that does not match agency resources, EPA has struggled to meet this obligation. After multiple lawsuits, EPA has now changed its tune, undertaking a new process for issuing regulations intended to protect wildlife that is not supported by science and has proven to be unrealistic for applicators.

The stakes for America's farmers and ranchers are high. Rodents can wreak enormous havoc at each stage of the food production process. If left unchecked, they can damage crops, infiltrate feed supplies, harass livestock and spread disease.

Farmers and ranchers are not alone in facing a future with stricter limitations on rodent control methods. These new regulations will affect pest control companies, restaur-

rants, schools, childcare and assisted living facilities, city subways, parks and other recreation areas, and other establishments that must keep pest populations at bay.

Losing access to rodenticides reminds us back to the days of classroom history lessons, when teachers regaled young students with stories of frequently treacherous ocean voyages. The voyages were perilous not solely because of the high seas or swashbuckling pirates, but because of deadly illness spread by stowaway rats.

Fast forwarding to today, we should take into account the lessons of previous plagues. We must have effective tools to combat the real hazards posed by rampant pest populations.

Destructive and disease-causing pests are nothing new in daily life on the farm. Rodents affect the rest of society too in myriad ways. Unfortunately, EPA's flawed proposal on rodenticides bodes poorly for the hundreds of other pesticides that could face a similar fate.

That's why the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) continues to challenge EPA on this troubling approach, encouraging more opportunities for substantive stakeholder consultation and emphasizing the importance of the best available science when restrictions on pesticide use are considered.

EPA must preserve modern scientific innovation and keep us in the race against rodent pests. Addressing environmental challenges by making it more difficult and costly to control rodents is not an acceptable answer. — **John Walt Boatright, AFBF director of government affairs**

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

"Iowa House votes to restrict carbon pipelines," March 31, 2023, wlj.net

Dear Editor,

The concept of "no eminent domain for private gain" is not a brand new rallying cry, but it is one of the most important ones in the history of democracy.

The concept goes back to the taking and use of personal property and private real estate by the English monarchy. Back then, this was one of the King's prerogatives, and it was possibly the most hated of all of his many ways of expropriating property. It was called the "purveyance" power.

Kudos to Iowans for standing up to King Pipeline and fighting for their farms.

Kimball Shinkoskey, Woods Cross, UT



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.)

May 1 – The American National CattleWomen (ANCW) Foundation is accepting applications for their Legacy Scholarship. Two collegiate members who are daughters, granddaughters or nieces of current ANCW members and are majoring in an ag-related field will receive a \$1,000 scholarship from the ANCW Foundation.

Applications: ancw.org/foundation.

May 12 – The GROWMARK Foundation will provide 55 scholarships of \$2,000 each to students pursuing agriculture and business-related degrees or certificates at colleges, universities and technical schools in the U.S. and Ontario, Canada. Application:

form.jotform.com/230585564689169.

June 9-11 – The 2023 American Simmental Association SimGenetics Training for Young Leaders and Entrepreneurs Conference will be held in Oklahoma City, OK. Info: Luke Bowman, lbowman@simmgene.com or 765-993-6681.

HOOVES & HORNS BY A.W. ERWIN



"My PawPaw says, folks will Buy a Lie quicker than the Truth. I'm gunna rake in the cash in this county!"



COMING EVENTS

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

April 24-25 – The Public Lands Council's 2023 Legislative Conference will be held in-person in Washington, D.C. Attendees will hear from congressional members, policy experts, scientists, partner group representatives and other industry professionals dedicated to Western lands, waters and perspectives. Details: publiclandscouncil.org/2023-legislative-conference.

May 4-5 – The 2023 Animal Agriculture Alliance's Stakeholders Summit is slated for May 4-5 in Arlington, VA. Full agenda and registration: whova.com/portal/registration/annua5_202305.

May 21-27 – Save the date for the Nebraska Sandhills Ranch Tour, presented by Western Livestock Journal. For more details, visit www.wljtours.com or contact Devin Murnin at 406-696-1502.

May 24-25 – The 2023 Cattlemen's Conference – Blueprint For The Future will be held in Stillwater, OK.

The program will address a variety of topics that are challenging the beef industry and promises to be informative, exciting and timely. Registration is \$200 and more information can be found at cattlemenscongress.com/conference.

May 24-26 – The California Cattlemen's Association Feeder Council and Arizona Cattle Feeders Association Meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, at the Marriott Marquis. Registration: calcattlemen.org/event/2023-feeder-meeting.

July 5-8 – The Wolf Point Wild Horse Stampede will celebrate its 100th year in Wolf Point, MT. Tickets are available after June 21 by calling 406-653-1770.

Jan. 21-Feb. 2, 2024 – Mark your calendars for the 2024 Cattle Industry Convention & National Cattlemen's Beef Association Trade Show, which is heading to the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. Additional information is available at convention.ncba.org.

WLJ

Letters to the editor: Letters for publication must 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, Attn: Editorial Dept., 7355 E. Orchard Road #300, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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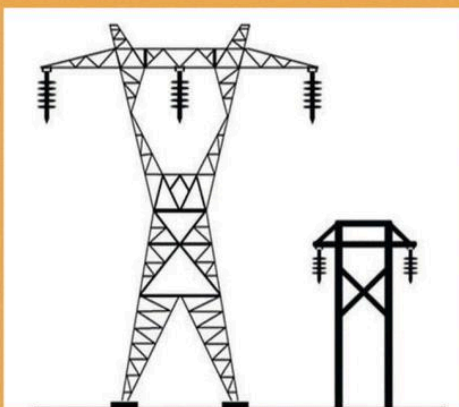
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Republicans plan debt ceiling SNAP provision

Amid reports that House Republicans plan to include a provision to limit access to benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Rep. David Scott (D-GA-13), the ranking member of the House Agriculture Committee, condemned the proposal.

House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA-23) outlined a one-year increase in the debt ceiling in a speech to the New York Stock Exchange on April 17. McCarthy sought to paint President Joe Biden as unwilling to negotiate as the president has called on Congress to raise the debt ceiling with no strings attached. McCarthy's plan called for freezing domestic spending levels as well as tightening the rules linking food assistance to work requirements.

In his speech, McCarthy said, "Right now, there are more job openings than people looking for jobs, in part because the Biden administration weakened work require-

ments. Incentives matter. And the incentives today are out of whack. It's time to get Americans back to work. Don't believe anyone who says our plan hurts America's social safety net. We're a generous nation, and when people fall on tough times, we help them. That will not change. But this is important: Assistance programs are supposed to be temporary, not permanent. A hand up, not a handout. A bridge to independence, not a barrier."

The Department of Labor reports the unemployment rate at 3.5%, and the number of unemployed persons at 5.8 million. The labor force participation rate is 62.6%, compared to 63.3% in February 2020—just prior to the pandemic.

The Main Street Caucus, a Republican group chaired by Rep. Dusty Johnson (R-SD-At large), sent McCarthy a letter earlier in April proposing that the debt ceiling measure "improve American competitiveness by closing SNAP work

requirement loopholes that have been abused by states."

"Work requirements would not apply to pregnant women, parents with young dependents, those with disabilities, or seniors," Johnson said.

Inclusion of the SNAP proposal is controversial even among Republicans, especially in the Senate, and it is unclear whether it would be included in the final bill. The Biden administration continues to say there should be no additions to the debt ceiling increase.

In a news release, Scott said, "Let me be perfectly clear: Holding food assistance hostage for those who depend on it, including 15.3 million of our children, 5.8 million of our seniors, and 1.2 million of our veterans, in exchange for increasing the debt limit is a non-starter."

"The ransom note that Speaker McCarthy unveiled in front of a crowd of Wall Street bankers today is dead on arrival," Scott said.

"Putting SNAP benefits at risk for millions of America's children, veterans and seniors is both un-American and ungodly. Republican attempts to punish low-income families to pay for tax cuts they pushed through under President Trump will not result in self-sufficiency; it will only drastically increase hunger for our American people," he continued.

"The radical work require-

ments Republicans are attempting to insert into the program, on top of our already existing, stringent work requirements, will not spur economic growth.

"The American people must know that we already have stringent work requirements for Americans that can work. By including these radical proposals as a lever in debt limit negotiations, Speaker McCarthy and his extreme Republi-

can colleagues are ensuring their failure.

"I encourage Speaker McCarthy to reconsider his strategy and come back to the American people—not Wall Street bankers—with a clean raise of the debt limit that does not burden our children, seniors, and veterans," Scott said. — **Chris Clayton, DTN agriculture policy editor, and Jerry Hagstrom, DTN political correspondent**

Now is the time for ranchers to prepare for flooding

Melting snow is causing challenges for North Dakota ranchers. North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension specialists advise ranchers to move available feed to accessible locations and develop plans to assist livestock at risk

of flood exposure.

The Red River Basin is at severe risk of flooding along rivers and overland flooding. Ranchers can take steps to ensure that livestock have safe housing and access to feed resources and clean water. Options may include safety in enclosed structures, higher pasture ground, evacuation to higher elevation, or relocation to local alternatives such as an auction barn or fairgrounds.

"Floodwaters can rise quickly, potentially cutting off access to feed and/or water sources for livestock," warned Miranda Meehan, NDSU Extension livestock environmental stewardship specialist.

"Beef cattle out on pasture are especially susceptible to displacement by flooding. Plans should be made ahead of a potential disaster, with consideration given to pens, loading facilities, transportation, evacuation routes and final destination of livestock," she said.

"Consider the location of barns used for livestock shelter," said Zac Carlson, NDSU Extension beef specialist. "If a barn is located in a flood plain, like most old barns built close to water, then provide an escape route for the cattle to leave if an overnight flood occurs. Do not shut the barn door unless you check livestock every few hours."

Floodwaters often prevent ranchers from reaching feed supplies, either directly or through damage to roads. Ranchers should ensure accessible storage facilities and an adequate supply of feedstuffs.

"Ranchers understand at-risk locations, and having a plan for high ground for both feedstuffs and animals is important," said Travis Hoffman, NDSU Extension and University of Minnesota Extension sheep specialist. "Provide forage as possible, but plan for grain supplementation at or near the barn for calving, lambing or kidding to support energy needs during lactation."

"Having feed supplies on hand is important because feed assistance may not be available during a flood," said Karl Hoppe, NDSU Extension livestock systems specialist at the Carrington Research Extension Center. "Ranchers should pre-select sites on high ground for hay, emergency water supplies, and fencing supplies or panels."

"Please consider that clean water can be a challenge," said Meehan. "Floodwaters may be

reservoirs for bacteria, viruses and parasites. Securing clean drinking water shortly after a flood event for rescued livestock assures adequate hydration and improved animal health. Make sure to test livestock water sources that may have become contaminated due to flooding to ensure sources are safe for livestock consumption."

Wet feeds can be a safety or fire hazard, and moldy feeds can harm animals. While options may be limited, work with your NDSU Extension county agent or a nutritionist on risks and best practices.

"Don't feed moldy or spoiled feed, as molds in feeds can cause abortions or may be toxic," said Dr. Gerald Stokka, NDSU Extension veterinarian and livestock stewardship specialist. "Contact your veterinarian, nutritionist, Extension agent or the NDSU Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory for post-flood analysis of feed safety and quality. Diseases caused by spore-forming bacteria such as Anthrax may be increased from the exposure of overland or river flooding. Consult your veterinarian post-flood if animal health concerns arise."

Post-flood management should include a physical evaluation of animals for water-related injuries. Flood waters with current can cause stress and muscle weakness, and debris could cause bodily injury.

While not all areas will experience flooding, mud will likely be an issue on many farms and ranches this spring. There are few options once muddy conditions are in place, so preventive practices are key.

These recommendations can aid in reducing muddy conditions:

- Scrape lots to maintain a 3-5% slope away from the feed bunk.
- Reshape mounds to ensure quick drainage.
- Move livestock to temporary feeding areas such as stockpiled pastures with adequate drainage or fields containing crop residue such as corn stalks.

"Ranches should evaluate their potential for flooding and plan accordingly," said Meehan. "If you do not have access to higher ground, you may need to consider moving livestock off-site until the risk of flooding subsides. If you need help evaluating options, contact your NDSU Extension agent or emergency management office." — **NDSU Extension**



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AgWA: Scott River Watershed's drought is over

The Scott River Watershed's drought is over, and California's emergency drought regulation should be rescinded immediately, a grassroots group told the State Water Resources Control Board (SWB) recently. Representatives of the Scott Valley Agriculture Water Alliance (AgWA) laid out their case to board members of the SWB: The emergency regulation currently governing Scott Valley's small ranching community in Siskiyou County, CA, has been unfair from the beginning and can no longer be justified after this winter's heavy snows.

"Scott Valley was regulated in an unprecedented and unfair manner last year, and now we've had a very decent winter," Theodora Johnson, a local rancher and AgWA spokesperson, told board members. "Our snowpack surveys so far are reading over 150%, yet we are still being required to reduce our groundwater use for the upcoming irrigation season by 30% to avoid 100% curtailment."

Recent official numbers show the Scott River Watershed snow water equivalent is 167% of historical averages.

Sari Sommarstrom, Ph.D., a retired watershed consultant in Scott Valley and co-founder of AgWA, gave a detailed description of Scott Valley's current hydrologic conditions, as well as figures on the larger Klamath Basin (snowpack ranging from 131% at Trinity to 165% in the Upper Klamath).

Johnson gave the board four reasons why AgWA believes Scott Valley's community of small family farms and ranches has been treated unfairly:

- The regulation mandated untenable summer flow standards that almost guaranteed curtailments.

- Scott Valley (and the Shasta) are the only ones in the whole state—or in history in California—to have had their groundwater curtailed.

- Similarly, the limits placed on how much livestock are allowed to drink during a curtailment are unprecedented.

- The regulation prohibited stockwater in earthen ditches between September and the end of March, regardless of curtailment status—harming cattle operations and the groundwater recharge that naturally takes place through winter ditch use.

"The state expects us to reach instream flow standards, but we're not allowed to make an effort to recharge our aquifer in the winter, when streamflows are abundant," Johnson told the board. "Give us a chance to do environmental managed aquifer recharge!"

Sommarstrom explained an ongoing "environmental managed aquifer recharge" research effort in Scott Valley, which started in 2016 and is designed to add enough water to the aquifer in the winter so that the aquifer can then contribute to Scott River flows in the late summer and early fall, for purposes of salmon and steelhead habitat access.

A third AgWA co-founder, hay farmer Lauren Swezey, gave the board two examples of Scott Valley operations financially harmed by the regulation. One cattle rancher was forced to sell most of his herd at 50% of their value, and a hay farmer estimated a 25% loss in income because of the pumping restrictions.

Such losses were common

in Scott Valley last year, which speaks to the "extremely high rate of compliance with the regulation" in the valley, Johnson said.

Indeed, SWB staff reports that almost all eligible land in Scott Valley was included in local cooperative solutions (LCS), binding agreements which required a 30% reduction in groundwater use—with

no compensation. According to the third-party coordinating entities Siskiyou Resources Conservation District and California Department of Fish and Wildlife, LCS violations were not an issue.

In her conclusion, Johnson said, "We implore this board to recommend to Gov. Newsom that our emergency drought status be lifted, so that

when there truly is a drought emergency in the future, landowners will want to cooperate—and not feel like the state is the boy who cried wolf. If nothing else, please be sure that the next round of regulation operates on a sliding scale and does not ask us for 30% of our water—our livelihoods—on water years that don't merit it." — AgWA

Caring for calves separated from their mothers

On a cow-calf operation, the goal is always to have a calf be raised by its birth mother until weaning, but in a situation when the cow won't claim the calf as its own or she dies in calving, producers can be left with an orphan calf that needs immediate care.

How to manage these calves was the topic of a recent "Cattle Chat" discussion with the veterinary and nutrition experts at the Kansas State (K-State) University Beef Cattle Institute. Joining them was Amelia Woolums, veterinarian and professor at Mississippi State University College of Veterinary Medicine.

After the calf has received colostrum either from the cow that has been milked or via a colostrum replacer, the next step is to select the right type of milk replacer, said nutritionist Phillip Lancaster.

"I recommend giving the calf a milk replacer that is formulated with whey protein rather than a plant-

based protein because the whey protein is much more digestible in the first three weeks of life," Lancaster said.

Lancaster recommends that producers aim to feed the calf 10-20% of its birth weight divided into two equal feedings per day.

"In time, I try to get the calf to consume four quarts per day before I gradually step it down from the milk as it eats more feed," Lancaster said.

He begins to offer the calf a starter feed at two weeks of age and increases that in time.

"When they are two weeks old, I put a handful of starter feed in a raised pan for them to nibble at," Lancaster said. "That feed should be a textured feed, not pelleted, and should have some molasses added to make it appealing."

He also suggests making long-stem hay available early on even though the calf's rumen (one of the four compartments to its stomach) won't be able to digest that initially.

"When a calf is born, the rumen is sterile but over time as it is exposed to the environment and scratches from the feed and hay, it will develop the papillae to have an absorptive capacity," Lancaster said.

From a health standpoint, these young calves are prone to respiratory infections and diarrhea that can make them very ill, said veterinarian Brad White. However, Woolums offered one tip to help improve the calf's immunity.

"I suggest to my clients that they add a little colostrum replacer into the milk replacer because it will help coat the calf's intestines and decrease the likelihood of infection from the bacteria that cause diarrhea," Woolums said. "As much as 10% colostrum replacer can make a difference as we know that if the diarrhea agents can't attach to the intestine because of the an-

tibodies in colostrum binding to them they won't be able to make the calf sick."

She said one of her clients puts colostrum replacer in an ice cube tray and then drops a few cubes in when they mix up the milk replacer.

"It is also important to mix the replacer correctly because if there isn't enough water mixed in, it can lead to some serious health problems," Woolums said.

Additionally, to keep the calf healthy veterinarian Brian Lubbers stressed proper sanitation of the equipment used to feed the calf.

"Bacteria can reproduce quickly in a bottle that isn't properly cleaned," Lubbers said. "Producers need to make sure the milk and every piece of equipment used in preparing and feeding that milk is cleaned with hot water and even a bit of diluted bleach before it is used again." — K-State Research and Extension

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Document livestock death losses due to adverse weather

Inclement weather can cause newborn calves and other livestock to become smothered, trampled and die. These death losses can create an emotional and financial burden for livestock producers.

North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension specialists encourage ranchers to inquire about the Livestock Indemnity Program provided by the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA).

"The Livestock Indemnity Program provides benefits to agricultural producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government," said Karl Hoppe, NDSU Extension livestock systems specialist at the Carrington Research Extension Center.

"Eligible weather events include earthquake, hail, lightning, tornado, hurricane, flood, blizzard, wildfire, extreme heat, extreme cold, straight-line winds and eligible winter storms."

The Livestock Indemnity Program applies to the loss of

cattle, poultry, swine, sheep, horses, goats, bison and other eligible livestock.

A fact sheet for the livestock indemnity program is available on the FSA website, fsa.usda.gov. Search online for "FSA Livestock Indemnity Program."

The fact sheet identifies eligible livestock, eligible loss conditions, payment rates, how to file for the Livestock Indemnity Program and loss documentation.

"Ranchers must file a notice of loss with the FSA within 30 days of when the loss is apparent," said Hoppe. "They also must file an application for payment no later than 60 calendar days after the end of the calendar year in which the eligible loss occurred."

The Livestock Indemnity Program requires a deduction for normal mortality and these need to be documented, he adds. These normal mortalities do not have to be weather related.

The normal mortality rates for cattle in North Dakota are:

- Calves weighing less than 400 pounds: 4.6%.
- Calves weighing 400 to 799 pounds: 1.5%.

- Calves weighing 800 pounds or more: 1%.
- Adult cows: 1.6%.
- Adult bulls: 2%.

Hoppe advises ranchers to contact their local FSA office for Livestock Indemnity Program details and requirements as soon as possible so the proper records may be collected. These may include photos with time and date of dead livestock and/or a veterinarian's death certificate.

How to dispose of dead livestock

"If you experienced livestock deaths due to blizzard conditions, disposing of those carcasses will be one of your top priorities in the coming days," said Mary Keena, NDSU Extension livestock environmental management specialist at the Carrington Research Extension Center.

In North Dakota, animals that die for any reason must be disposed of in an approved method within 36 hours of death, said Keena. Rendering, incineration, burial, composting and landfiling are all ap-

proved methods of carcass disposal. Burning is also an approved method in certain situations but should be used as a last resort.

Due to the current weather conditions, landfiling and composting may be the easiest options for carcass disposal.

"If you are going to bury, be sure carcasses are placed 4 feet above the water table with 4 feet of cover," said Keena. "If possible, bury livestock in clay soils."

Dispose of carcasses at an approved municipal solid waste landfill. Search "DEQ municipal solid waste landfills" to find an approved landfill. Contact the landfill to determine disposal protocols.

Composting is an above-ground burial process that uses resources already on your operation.

The materials you will need include:

- Base material: Straw, old hay, coarse crop residues (corn stalks), sunflower hulls.
- Bulking material: Manure or spoiled fermented feed-stuffs.
- Cover material: Straw, old hay, sawdust.

To compost:

Step 1: Place 2 feet of base material in a pile or long row, depending on the number of dead livestock to be composted.

Step 2: Lay dead livestock on top of base. Have at least 1 foot of base material between the perimeter of the dead livestock and the edge of base.

Step 3: Cover dead livestock with 8 to 10 inches of bulking material.

Step 4: Cover the entire pile or long row with 2 feet of cover material.

Things to remember

- Small-sized dead livestock

(livestock you can lift by hand) can be layered next to or stacked on top of one another, given there is bulking material between them so they are not touching.

- If composting ruminants, puncture the rumen to prevent it from exploding.

- Make sure the pile always has sufficient cover material to keep bulking material and dead livestock covered.

- Aerate the compost every six months from early spring to late fall. To accelerate composting, aerate it every two months from early spring to late fall.

- Existing compost can be used to cover new piles or long rows. — NDSU Extension

Final CO wolf plan meeting approaching

WOLVES (from page 1)

federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, for the release of gray wolves is completed in order to enable the Colorado division of parks and wildlife to implement best management practices in light of the endangered species status of the gray wolf," the bill continued.

Opponents argue this could take years. Proponents say it's necessary.

"Having a 10J allows Colorado to have management of wolves in our state in cooperation with USFWS. This management flexibility is critical to the success of the wolf reintroduction plan," said Sen. Perry Will (R-New Castle), a co-sponsor of the bill, in a statement.

"Further, secure funding for conflict prevention and livestock depredation compensation is critical for success of the plan and non-lethal prevention techniques and compensation to producers' livestock loss is a must!"

SB 255 relates to the compensation to those who suffer damages due to gray wolf depredations. The bill would create a wolf depredation compensation fund to compensate landowners and producers for depredation of livestock and working animals. SB 255 would appropriate \$175,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 for the fund, and then \$350,000 for every fiscal year thereafter.

"By establishing a compensation fund for Coloradans who suffer livestock losses from wolves, we are doubling down on our commitment to protect our farmers, ranchers and the Western Slope way of life," said House Speaker Julie McCluskie (D-Dillon), a co-sponsor of the bill, in a statement.

"Our bipartisan legislative package works with the Colorado Parks and Wildlife to help mitigate the effects of wolf reintroduction, protect Coloradans' livelihood and respect the new regulations approved by voters in Prop 114," she continued.

The bills now move onward to the Colorado House of Representatives.

Final meetings

Colorado Parks and Wildlife

(CPW) presented its final draft plan for wolf restoration to the CPW Commission on April 6 in Steamboat Springs, CO, which was followed by a public input discussion. The final plan is set to be approved by the commission in Glenwood Springs, CO, during the first week of May.

The Steamboat Springs meeting lasted nearly seven hours, with 20 members of the public providing their input. Among ranchers, residents and others, Councilwoman Vanessa P. Torres for the Southern Ute Indian Tribe spoke at the meeting, saying the state did not consider the impact to Tribes when the measure to introduce wolves (Proposition 114) was allowed to be put on the 2020 ballot.

Torres asked the Commission to release wolves in the northern release zone to avoid releasing wolves into the Tribe's hunting grounds, as Tribal members have seen elk numbers drop. A commissioner acknowledged the lack of discussion with Tribes before the Steamboat Springs meeting and urged the commission to work more closely with Tribes. CPW responded that wolves would not be released within 60 miles of Colorado's state boundaries, which includes the Tribal boundary, but noted that wolf packs do travel.

Members of the public were able to voice their concerns at the meeting, and ranchers advocated for livestock loss compensation, and expressed concern with the cost of carcass removal.

The entire CPW Commission meeting is available on YouTube for those interested in watching. Search for "Colorado Parks and Wildlife Wolf Plan meeting" at youtube.com, posted by the CPW page on April 6.

The next CPW Commission meeting will be held May 3-4 in Glenwood Springs, but attendees may tune into the meeting virtually at www.youtube.com/user/coloparkswildlife/live at 8 a.m. MT. Comments are encouraged to be submitted ahead of time at engagecpw.org/comment-form. The meeting will discuss final considerations for gray wolf taking, along with depredation compensation. — Anna Miller, WJ/managing editor

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- 42 3 and 4-year-old 1,200 lb. cows sired by Vintage Angus bulls with 250 lb. calves. Calves sired by Vintage Angus bulls.
- 35 4 and 5-year-old 1,200 lb. BLK and BWF cows sired by Vintage Angus bulls with 250 lb. calves at side.
- 34 Older 1,200 lb. plus cows sired by Vintage Angus bulls with 250 lb. calves. Calves sired by Vintage bulls.

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Final meetings

Colorado Parks and Wildlife



SALE REPORTS

FBA RANCH BULL SALE
April 3, Havre, MT
41 Yearling bulls . . . \$4,896
Auctioneer: Kyle Shobe
TOPS: FBA Tribute 223, 2/24/22 by McCumber Tribute 9180; to Shipwheel Cattle Co., Chinook, MT, \$8,500. FBA Influence 262, 2/18/22 by McCumber Influence 7121; to Triangle Cattle Co., Carter, MT, \$6,750. FBA Scottsman 2505, 2/27/22 by RM Scottsman 9625; to Jeremy Couch, Havre, MT, \$6,500. FBA Keystone 272, 2/28/22 by Master Keystone 7129; to TNT Livestock, Havre, MT, \$6,000. FBA Tribute 235, 2/13/22 by McCumber Tribute 9180; to Triple K Farms, Chinook, MT, \$6,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

HINMAN ANGUS RANCH ANNUAL BULL SALE
April 4, Malta, MT
174 Yearling bulls . . . \$6,457
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS: HA PSI K031, 2/5/22 by HA Scale Boss H677; to Big Rok Angus, Detroit Lakes, MN, \$30,000. HA Front Porch K182, 2/26/22 by Schiefelbein Showman 338; to Dry Fork Livestock, Kaycee, WY, \$17,500. HA Cow Man K114, 2/15/22 by HA Cow Man 7939; to Dry Fork Livestock, Kaycee, WY, \$17,000. HA Showman K218, 3/1/22 by Schiefelbein Showman 338; to Flesch Angus, Shelby, MT, \$16,500. HA Believe K143, 2/21/22 by S A V Bloodline 9578; to Thiessen's Regency Acres, Lambert, MT, \$16,000. HA Showman K248, 3/4/22 by Schiefelbein Showman 338; to Masterfare Cattle Co., Johnstown, OH, \$15,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

ARNTZEN ANGUS RANCH ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
April 6, Hilger, MT
203 Yearling bulls . . . \$6,979
19 Registered open heifers . . . 3,776
Auctioneer: Roger Jacobs
TOPS—Bulls: AAR Justified K012, 1/30/22 by KG Justified 3023; to Basin Angus Ranch, Reed Point, MT, \$35,000. AAR Justified K090, 2/7/22 by KG Justified 3023; to Benoit Angus, Esbon, KS and Genex, Shawano, WI, \$29,000. AAR Justified 2616, 2/26/22 by AAR Justified 8293; to Nelson Angus, Salmon, ID, \$26,000. AAR Tahoe 2017, 2/1/22 by Tehama Tahoe B767; to Nelson Angus, Salmon, ID, \$18,000. AAR Hannibal 2901, 1/24/22 by Pine Coulee Hannibal H316; to Pine Coulee Angus, Hardin, MT, \$15,500. AAR Tahoe 2907, 1/29/22 by Tehama Tahoe B767; to Quintin Smith Family Angus, Lebanon, TN, \$14,500. **Open heifer:** AAR Blackbird Kay K001, 1/27/22 by KG Justified 3023; to Richard McKay, Lewistown, MT, \$5,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

MIDLAND BULL TEST
April 6-7, Columbus, MT
330 Angus bulls . . . \$5,898
23 Salers bulls . . . 5,315
10 Red Angus bulls . . . 4,350
13 South Devon bulls . . . 5,077
8 Simmental bulls . . . 5,969
3 Hereford bulls . . . 4,167
4 Charolais bulls . . . 8,688
3 Gelbvieh . . . 6,417
6 Chi-Angus . . . 3,833
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins and Greg Goggins
TOPS—Angus: Moore No Doubt 481A, 2/3/22 by Hart No Doubt 9517 consigned by Moore Angus, Artesian, SD; to Webo Angus, Lusk, WY, \$34,000. Moore Rainfall 018, 1/24/22 by SAV Rainfall 6846 consigned by Moore Angus, Artesian, SD; to ST Genetics, Navasota, TX, \$32,000. Moore No Doubt 481C, 2/2/22 by Hart No Doubt 9517 consigned by Moore Angus, Artesian, SD; to MR Angus, Wheatland, WY, \$30,000. Moore No Doubt 481D, 2/2/22 by Hart No Doubt 9517 consigned by Moore Angus, Artesian, SD; to MR Angus, Wheatland, WY, \$30,000. Moore Rainfall 020, 1/27/22 by SAV Rainfall 6846 consigned by Moore Angus, Artesian, SD; to Krebs Ranch, Gordon, NE, \$27,000. GSAR Logo 35M, 2/8/22 by Sitz Logo 8148 consigned by Gem State Angus Ranch, Jerome, ID; to McDonnell Angus, Columbus, MT, and Lucky 7 Angus, Riverton, WY, \$26,500. 8N Rangeland 2202, 1/18/22 by Ellingson Rangeland consigned by Aiton Angus, Harlowton, MT; to Merit Cattle Co., Radville, SK, CAN, \$20,000. RVF No Doubt 1112, 1/11/22 by Hoover No Doubt consigned by R Value Farms, Rosebush, MI; to TLC

Angus, Bliss, ID, \$20,000. **Salers:** ECR 238K of 43A, 2/2/22 by TSB Hunter 10C consigned by Elm Creek Ranch, Hebron, ND; to Jacobsen Ranch, Sun River, MT, \$7,000. ECR 270K of 41Z, 2/19/22 by TSB Hunter 10C consigned by Elm Creek Ranch, Hebron, ND; to Fox Grape Farm, Amherst, VA, \$7,000. PRK Karat 034K, 2/18/22 by PRK Gold Rush 213G consigned by Parke Ranch, Drummond, MT; to Rugg Ranch, Plevna, MT, \$7,000. **Red Angus:** Stenberg Trophy 2423, 4/12/22 by McPhee Trophy 36 consigned by J Bar Stenberg Ranch, Denton, MT; to Redland Red Angus, Hysham, MT, \$8,500. **South Devon:** JVM Komoto 253K, 3/2/22 by MJB Dillon 689D consigned by MJB Ranch, Lodge Grass, MT; to Bezan Cattle Corp., Regina, SK, CAN, \$9,250. Royal Klondike RBG 206K, 3/14/22 by VL Hunter Down 003H consigned by Royal Beef Genetics, Starbuck, MN; to Parr Farms, Ferryville, WI, \$7,500. **Simmental:** Mallett Easy Going K201, 1/1/22 by Mallett C556 consigned by Mallett Simmental, Lampasas, TX; to commercial producer, \$9,250. Mallett Outlook K14, 2/10/22 by Mallett Waze G199 consigned by Mallett Simmental, Lampasas, TX; to commercial producer, \$8,000. **Hereford:** Diamond Longhair 09K9, 1/18/22 by NJW Long Haul 36E ET consigned by Abby Stevenson, Hobson, MT; to Clint Stevenson, Hobson, MT, \$6,250. **Charolais:** JBSR Red Dawn 2928, 4/14/22 by LCR Red Dawn 6653 PLD consigned by J Bar Stenberg Ranch, Denton, MT; to Hidden Springs Farms, Cabool, MO, and Daulke Ranch, Las Vegas, NV, \$20,000. **Gelbvieh:** CTR Franchise 152K, 2/5/22 by DBRG Mr Franchise 0247H consigned by Cedar Top Ranch, Stapleton, NE; to Paul Johnson, Stuart, NE, \$7,500. **Chi-Angus:** Rock Mr Denali 299K, 4/3/22 by MEFC Denali 864F consigned by Clarahan Farms, Harper, IA; to Chad Green, Craig, CO, \$5,000. Rock Mr Denali 88K, 4/8/22 by MEFC Denali 864F consigned by Brandon Rock, Long Valley, SD; to Brian Stoltenburg, Watertown, SD, \$5,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

C SPEAR ANGUS BULL SALE
April 10, Billings, MT
83 Yearling Bulls . . . \$5,490
Auctioneer: Greg Goggins
TOPS: C Spear Chaperone K09, 3/24/22 by Vermilion Chaperone H542; to Bar JV Angus, Fairview, MT, \$26,000. C Spear Roughrider K117, 2/5/22 by Vermilion Roughrider; to Sluggett Ranch, Winnett, MT, \$10,500. C Spear Thedford K333, 2/28/22 by Hoffman Thedford; to Sluggett Ranch, Winnett, MT, \$10,000. C Spear Fair N Square K006, 2/1/22 by Myers Fair-N-Square M39; to Palisades Livestock, Red Lodge, MT, \$9,500. C Spear Commerce K226, 2/18/22 by Sitz Commerce 670F; to Ponessa Ranch, Jordan, MT, \$9,250. C Spear Commerce K221, 2/6/22 by Sitz Commerce 670F; to Botts Angus, Huntly, MT, \$9,000. C Spear E143 Spur K347, 1/31/22 by Vermilion Spur E143; to MR Land and Livestock, Shepherd, MT, \$9,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

HILLTOP ANGUS RANCH ANNUAL PRODUCTION SALE
April 11, Denton, MT
83 Yearling bulls . . . \$7,000
140 Commercial open heifers . . . 1,809
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
Sale Manager: Ron Frye Marketing
TOPS: Hilltop Patriarch 747, 2/5/22 by Tehama Patriarch F028; to Arntzen Angus, Hilger, MT, \$26,000. Hilltop Patriarch 607, 2/7/22 by Tehama Patriarch F028; to Lisonbee Angus, Roosevelt, UT, \$22,500. Hilltop Executive Decision 5, 1/25/22 by PM Executive Decision 517; to Timberline Ranch, Belgrade, MT, \$13,000. Hilltop Rally 578K, 2/17/22 by Hoffman Rally 9919; to Evers Ranch, Geraldine, MT, \$12,000. Hilltop Rally 553K, 2/10/22 by Hoffman Rally 9919; to Doug Winter, Denton, MT, \$12,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

JOCKO VALLEY CATTLE BULL AND FEMALE SALE
April 13, Missoula, MT
46 Yearling bulls . . . \$3,625
21 Pairs . . . 2,728
23 Open heifers . . . 2,091
Auctioneer: Greg Goggins
TOPS—Bulls: JVC Tahoe 232, 2/3/22 by Tehama Tahoe B767; to

Coffee Cattle Co., Miles City, MT, \$5,750. JVC Growth Fund K22, 12/8/21 by Deer Valley Growth Fund; to George Ruffato and Sons, Florence, MT, \$5,000. JVC Spur K234, 2/22/22 by Vermilion Spur E870; to Coffee Cattle Co., Miles City, MT, \$5,000. **Openheifer:** JVC Evergreen 25, 12/24/21 by Vermilion Spur E870; to Tobias Martin, Missoula, MT, \$3,100. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

5L RED ANGUS PROFIT SEEKER SALE
April 14, Sheridan, MT
190 Yearling Red Angus bulls . . . \$4,925
31 Black 'Profit-Plus' bulls . . . 4,145
17 Char x Red Angus 'Opti-Bulls' . . . 3,882
177 Commercial open red heifers . . . 1,656
Auctioneer: Trent Stewart
TOPS: 5L Top Deal 3418-41K, 2/1/22 by 5L Top Deal 7006-219F; to Wedel Red Angus, Leoti, KS, \$21,000. 5L Who Dat 1208-78K, 2/7/22 by 5L Who Dat 558-06H; to Loosli Red Angus, Ashton, ID, \$16,000. 5L Life Is Good 449-164K, 2/18/22 by 5L Life Is Good 1201-52H; to Udy Cattle Company, Rockland, ID, \$13,000. 5L Life Is Good 3330-134K, 2/14/22 by 5L Life Is Good 1201-52H; to Flynn Ranch, Townsend, MT, \$12,000. 5L Cow Boss 2218-66K, 2/6/22 by 5L Cow Boss 5684-124D; to Calvo Family Red Angus, Bassett, NE, \$11,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

STUBER RANCH ANNUAL SALE
April 15, Bowman, ND
102 Yearling Hereford bulls . . . \$5,414
11 Fall Hereford bulls . . . 7,341
113 Total bulls . . . 5,602
54 Registered open heifers . . . 3,033
82 Commercial open Hereford heifers . . . 1,655
45 Commercial F1 baldy open heifers . . . 1,957
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins and Greg Goggins
TOPS—Bulls: SR Pinpoint 252K, 3/15/22 by UU Bakken 8027F; to Doyle Hereford Ranch, Garland, TX, and Z Arrow T Ranch, Bowman, ND, \$20,000. SR Lyric 522K, 3/23/22 by CL 1 Domino 0186H; to Milligan Herefords, Kings, IL, \$16,000. SR Stellar 862K, 3/12/22 by Stardance M8086; to Stangle Herefords, Marsland, NE, \$16,000. SR Dominator 1172K ET, 3/30/22 by BCC Dominator 619D; to Rankin & Sons Inc., Draper, SD, \$15,500. **Openheifer:** SR WS Pinata 2026K, 3/18/22 by UU Bakken 8027F; to Loehr Hereford Farms, Peoria, IL, \$8,000. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

TREASURE BULL TEST PERFORMANCE SALE
April 18, Great Falls, MT
106 Black Angus bulls . . . \$6,351
Auctioneer: Joe Goggins
TOPS: Granger Pacific 224, 2/17/22 by Sterling Pacific 904 consigned by Granger Angus, Great Falls, MT; to Sunburst Angus, Sunburst, MT, \$30,000. HCC Growth Fund 2100, 1/19/22 by Deer Valley Growth Fund consigned by Harwood Cattle Co., Geyser, MT; to Severson Farms, Stevensville, MT, \$14,000. RKP F411-Y100 202, 2/22/22 by Baldrige Flagstone F411 consigned by RK Perry, Power, MT; to Gary Pimperton, Belt, MT, \$13,500. Granger Homestead 218, 3/10/22 by Big Dry Homestead F7 consigned by Granger Angus, Great Falls, MT; to C Spear Angus, Huntly, MT, \$12,500. JD Exclusive 22, 1/4/22 by Musgrave 316 Exclusive consigned by Dalbey Angus, Corvallis, MT; to Jacobsen Ranch, Sun River, MT, \$11,500. — **DEVIN MURNIN**

HANSINE RANCH RED ANGUS PRODUCTION SALE
April 8, Hayes, SD
63 Yearling bulls . . . \$8,440
15 Registered heifers . . . 9,216
120 Commercial heifers . . . 1,690
Auctioneer: Ty Thompson
TOPS—Bulls: HRP Captain 2009K, 2/5/22 by PIE Captain 057; to Koester Red Angus, Steele, ND, and Genex, Shawano, WI, \$42,000. HRP Complete 2020K, 2/10/22 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Klompien Red Angus, C Bar T Red Angus and CK Red Angus, Manhattan, MT, \$32,000. HRP Raisland Quarterback 2704, 1/18/22

by PIE Quarterback 789; to Dan Chappell, Mill Hall, PA, \$32,000. HRP Complete 2015K, 2/8/22 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Adam Glienke, Washta, IA, \$22,000. Raisland Stockmarket 2700, 1/9/22 by Bieber CL Stockmarket E119; to Barentsen-Bullinger Red Angus, Powers Lake, ND, \$18,000. Heifers: HRP Abigrace 0018 K213, 2/9/22 by KJL/CLZB Complete 7000E; to Staveland Red Angus, Haswell, CO, C Bar Red Angus, Brownell, KS, and Gregg Ranch, Carter, SD, \$20,000. HRP Abigrace 17H K223, 1/27/22 by PIE Quarterback 789; to Ryan Boner, Glenrock, WY, \$14,500. — **JIM GIES**

MCCLUN'S LAZY JM RANCH SPRING SALE
April 13, Torrington, WY
14 Angus fall bulls . . . \$7,464
29 Angus yearling bulls . . . 7,147
7 Angus 2-year-old bulls . . . 3,429
15 Hereford fall bulls . . . 4,567
13 Hereford yearling bulls . . . 4,346
18 Hereford 2-year-old bulls . . . 3,833
Auctioneer: Lander Nicodemus
TOPS—Angus bulls: Mc Easy Answer K102 DTM, 3/30/22 by Mc Easy Answer 24E; to Mills Cattle Co., Casper, WY, \$19,500. Mc Summation 96K, 3/4/22 by K C F Bennett Summation; to Mills Cattle Co., Casper, WY, \$19,000. Mc Iconic J48 DTM, 8/29/21 by DB Iconic G95; to Mills Cattle Co., Casper, WY, \$12,500. Mc Magnitude J44 DTM, 8/26/21 by Mead Magnitude; to Bedtick Ranch, Douglas, WY, \$12,500. **Hereford bulls:** MC Red Baron 241J, 9/1/21 by Churchill Red Baron 8300F ET; to Marsh & Ellis Ranch, Chugwater, WY, \$8,500. MC Validated 146K, 3/27/22 by EFBEEF BR Validate B413; to Bedtick Ranch, Douglas, WY, \$7,500. — **JIM GIES**

JORGENSEN LAND & CATTLE BULL SALE
April 17, Ideal, SD


170 Yearling Angus bulls . . . \$8,764
Auctioneer: Roger Jacobs
Sale Manager: American Angus Hall of Fame

TOPS: Ideal Accolade 2558, 2/20/22 by Ideal Encore of 9524 Lady; to 7BE Sires, Winner, SD, and Clark Farms, Hustontown, PA, \$100,000. Ideal 2382 Emulous of Rnfl, 2/6/22 by S A V Rainfall 6846; to Ede Breitmeier, Chinook, MT, and Shipwheel Cattle Company, Chinook, MT, \$31,000. Ideal 2658 Eldorado of ENCOR, 2/27/22 by Ideal Encore of 9524 Lady; to Vern Stipe, Moiese, MT, \$24,000. Ideal 2042 Rito of RES, 2/28/22 by S A V Resource 1441; to Troy and Tanner Best, Winner, SD, \$20,000. Ideal 2210 Rito of 9105, 2/23/22 by S A V Eliminator 9105; to Blake Nielsen, Winner, SD, \$19,000. Ideal 2020 Rito of 7075, 2/13/22 by Rito 707 of Ideal 3407 7075; to Dan and Patricia Duffy, Winner, SD, \$18,000. Ideal 2916 Skymere of P11, 5/2/22 by Skylandmere 2058; to Jason Willis, Colts Neck, NJ, \$17,000. Ideal 2085 Rito of REN, S A V Renown 3439; to Todd Tamplin, Texline, TX, \$17,000. Ideal 2022 Rito of 7075, 2/14/22 by Rito 707 of Ideal 3407 7075; to Todd Tamplin, Texline, TX, \$17,000. Ideal 2018 Rito of 7075, 2/13/22 by Rito 707 of Ideal 3407 7075; to Todd Tamplin, Texline, TX, \$16,000. — **JIM GIES**

BART BAR RANCHES BULL SALE
April 8, Winslow, AZ
135 Bulls . . . \$5,864
Auctioneer: Eric Duarte
Sale Manager: Leachman Cattle of Colorado
TOPS: MR Black Cross 2088, 3/11/22 by G A R High Security JSF 4005; to Rancho Grande and Rancho Cieneguita, Sonora, Mexico, \$13,250. MR Black Cross 2305 ET, 4/5/22 by HCC Whitewater 9010; to Warner Beef Genetics, Beaver City, NE and Pacific Genetics, Australia, \$12,500. MR Black Cross 2086, 3/11/22 by Leachman Headline K038H; to

Flying M Ranch, Flagstaff, AZ, \$11,000. MR Black Cross 2093, 3/12/22 by Leachman Headline K038H; to Perkins Ranch, Chino Valley, AZ, \$10,500. MR Red Cross 2013 ET; a 3/11/22 Red Balancer son of MR Black Cross 9201; to Rancho Grande and Rancho Cieneguita, Sonora Mexico, \$10,000. ANGUS Division: BTBR MR Black Cross 2015K; a 3/3/22 Angus son of G A R High Security JSF 4005; to Rancho Grande and Rancho Cieneguita Sonora Mexico, \$11,000. — **JARED PATTERSON**

GENEPLUS CHIMNEY ROCK SPRING BULL SALE
March 28, Concord, AR
130 Yearling Brangus and Ultrablack bulls . . \$5,975
16 Long Yearling Brangus and Ultrablack bulls . . . 5,500
56 Fall bred heifers . . . 2,216
122 Spring open heifers . . . 1,738
Auctioneer: Doak Lambert
TOPS: CRC Trail Boss 53K7, 2/8/22 by Suhn's Trail Boss 30B3 consigned by Chimney Rock Cattle Company; to Schmidt Farms, Texarkana, TX, and Lake Majestik Farms, Flat Rock, AL, 2/3 interest, full possession, \$35,000. LM Signal 102K, 2/11/22 by Suhn's TTT LM Signal 30E13 consigned by Lake Majestik Farms; to McDaniel Brangus, Columbia, LA, 1/2 interest, full possession, \$25,500. CRC Signal 919K21, 2/10/22 by Suhn's TTT LM Signal 30E13 consigned by Chimney Rock Cattle Company; to Lake Majestik Farms, Flat Rock, AL, 2/3 interest, full possession, \$19,000. CRC Masterpiece 30K6, 2/4/22 by OB Masterpiece 2051F consigned by Chimney Rock Cattle Company; to Giffin Brangus, Rogers, AR, and Rock Creek Ranch, Paragould, AR, 2/3 interest, full possession, \$16,000. LM Business Line 2051K, 2/17/22 by Suhn's Business Line 30D26 consigned by Lake Majestik Farms; to Lawman Ranch, Okmulgee, OK, full interest, full possession, \$12,000. — **PETE CROW**




GARDINER ANGUS RANCH

8th ANNUAL

Meating Demand

BULL SALE

MONDAY, MAY 1, 2023 • 10 AM
 AT THE RANCH NEAR ASHLAND, KANSAS



SELLING APPROXIMATELY 325 HEAD





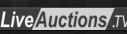
100 14- TO 17-MONTH-OLD BULLS

89 19- TO 20-MONTH-OLD BULLS

150 GAR-INFLUENCED BRED COMMERCIAL HEIFERS

(HEIFERS SELL WITH METHOD GENETICS EPDS & INDEXES)

Featuring the complete dispersal of the longtime Gardiner customer Ute Creek Cattle Co., near Bueyeros, New Mexico. Approximately 210 cow-calf pairs from Ute Creek will sell immediately following the Meating Demand Sale.

1182 CR Y | Ashland, Kansas 67831 | Office (620) 635-2156 | GAR@GardinerAngus.com | www.GardinerAngus.com
 The Henry & Nan Gardiner Family | Mark (620) 635-5095 | Greg (620) 635-0233
 Grant (620) 635-0382 | Cole (620) 635-0727 | Ransom (620) 635-0283
 Proud to be a founding member of U.S. Premium Beef.
 More than \$12.06 million in premiums and dividends have been paid to GAR customers using USPB delivery rights.

GARDINER SERVICE AFTER THE SALE

Free Delivery | USPB Delivery Rights | Repeat Buyer Discount | Feedlot Relationships | Marketing Assistance
 Revenue Sharing Semen Interest | G² Age & Source | High Accuracy Progeny Proven Genetics
 Method Genetics Benchmarking | Genetic Consultation | THE Gardiner Angus Ranch Guarantee

MARKET NEWS

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

MARKET AT A GLANCE	This Week: 4/20/2023	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	177.62 ▼	179.09	142.89
CME Feeder Index	203.91 ▲	199.77	153.90
Boxed Beef Average	306.99 ▲	300.42	270.17
Average Dressed Steers	287.49 ▼	289.83	231.90
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,374 ▲	1,369	1,384
Weekly Slaughter**	613,000 ▲	603,000	634,000
Weekly Beef Production***	502.8 ▲	495.0	527.7
Hide/Offal Value	12.85 ▼	13.92	13.35
Corn Price	6.64 ▲	6.52	8.00

*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 14	5,896	294.34	194	333.21	1,191	296.21	1,664	293.27	627	279.51	2,220	260.52
April 7	6,152	286.42	223	326.03	1,183	288.42	1,846	285.74	692	273.08	2,209	255.36
March 31	6,510	283.79	248	323.18	1,411	283.41	2,021	282.61	629	269.59	2,201	249.98
March 24	7,274	282.67	249	324.05	1,554	283.72	2,202	281.00	704	270.99	2,566	249.43

Cutouts						FED BOXED BEEF		
DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT	50% LEAN	90% LEAN			
Apr 20	306.99	288.74	217.19	182.05	270.14			
Apr 19	305.92	291.46	220.80	179.53	279.98			
Apr 18	307.06	291.61	218.30	174.84	271.67			
Apr 17	305.98	289.32	216.71	173.37	273.22			
Apr 14	302.62	283.87	217.04	158.66	277.34			

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	4/14	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	High*	Low*
Apr.	17475	17575	17648	17543	17410	17108	13055
Jun.	16373	16488	16520	16360	16435	16548	14003
Aug.	16270	16378	16405	16275	16343	16245	15388
Oct.	16660	16780	16795	16695	16773	16325	15310

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	4/14	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	High*	Low*
Apr.	20340	20555	20593	20468	20503	20063	16958
May	20790	21075	21150	21048	21235	20540	17595
Aug.	22395	22535	22608	22678	22953	20445	18303
Sep.	22760	22868	22933	22958	23203	22535	18755

*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	15,133	1,414	177.62
Live FOB Heifer	6,392	1,314	177.23
Dressed Del Steer	6,172	912	287.49
Dressed Del Heifer	2,217	815	287.93
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	14,507	1,421	179.09
Live FOB Heifer	8,646	1,307	178.25
Dressed Del Steer	9,627	923	289.83
Dressed Del Heifer	3,385	811	289.50
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	36,840	1,455	142.89
Live FOB Heifer	18,439	1,331	142.70
Dressed Del Steer	13,004	937	231.90
Dressed Del Heifer	3,459	831	230.98

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: APRIL 16		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	25,414	4,948
Formula	258,531	1,411
Negotiated Cash	92,995	206
Negotiated Grid	39,339	1,240
Packer Owned	12,054	N/A
Total	428,333	7,805

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,585
Apr. '23	167,186	Neg. Sales 21+ days	687
May '23	114,604	Formula sales	3,550
Jun. '23	91,079	Forward contract sales	73
Jul. '23	62,633	Domestic sales	5,277
Aug. '23	62,070	NAFTA Exports	88

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	237.20	+3.72	
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	234.84	-0.14	
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	N/A	N/A	
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs	130.46	-3.11	

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, April 7, 2023				
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario	
501-600 lbs	352.09	352.75	320.35	
601-700 lbs	342.54	333.41	305.35	
701-800 lbs	308.74	306.33	296.38	
801-900 lbs	280.82	271.86	280.81	
Heifers:				
401-500 lbs	327.17	337.40	273.00	
501-600 lbs	312.60	317.23	293.87	
601-700 lbs	297.76	295.79	278.54	
701-800 lbs	274.22	277.76	263.28	

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
Feeder Steers	4/10/2023	4/3/2023		
Feeder Heifers	20,241	14,586	353,802	270,456

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE			
Friday, April 14, 2023			
Mexico to TX. & NM. Weekly Feeder Cattle Import Summary			
Receipts EST: 16,000	Week Ago Act: 12,522	Year Ago Act: 6,682	
Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings sold 1.00 higher. Heifers steady. Trade active, demand good. The bulk of the supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-700 lbs.			
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 228.00-240.00; 400-500 lbs 208.00-220.00; 500-600 lbs 188.00-200.00; 600-700 lbs 173.00-185.00. Medium and large 2&3, 300-400 lbs 213.00-225.00; 400-500 lbs 193.00-205.00; 500-600 lbs 173.00-185.00.			
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 190.00-200.00; 400-500 lbs 180.00-190.00; 500-600 lbs 170.00-180.00; 600-700 lbs 160.00-170.00.			
(slide 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)			

Selected Auction Week Ending April 20, 2023										Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2		
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	PAIRS		
									SLAUGHTER BULLS	REPLACEMENTS		
April 14	Blackfoot, ID	N/A		220-271	215-270	190-245	177-214	162-188	89-108			
April 13	Burley, ID	522		251-268	252-261	219.50	205	125.75-182	81-102			
No report available												
April 15	Emmett, ID			244-249	240-244	234			113-124.50			
No report available												
April 17	Eugene, OR	782	205-229*	170-199*	168-209*	165-215*	170-217*	142-180*	90-124	960-1300		
April 17	Madras, OR	297	265-280	250-280	235-266	220-244	175-219	170-180	87-105			
April 12	Vale, OR	903	237-269	238-279	244-265	192-240	180-217	162-181	98-121			
April 19	Davenport, WA	390	200-258	170-266	190-256	76-231	138-196	120-181	60-122	1,300-2,300		
April 13	Toppenish, WA	1,450	207-226	150-226	46-231	94-215	66-195	85-160	81-129			
April 13	Toppenish, WA			277-300*	229-275*	245-255*			86-105			
April 13	Toppenish, WA			261*		211-227*		150*	113-130.50			
No report available												
April 17	Orland, CA											
April 17	Escalon, CA	N/A	160-200		150-210		125-170	100-125	80-92	800-1500		
April 17	Escalon, CA		150-181		145-178		125-160	95-115	65-98	700-1300		
No report available												
April 12	Famoso, CA											
April 12	Galt, CA	933		245-300	240-286	220-277	150-195		50-110	1,600-2,450		
April 18	Turlock, CA	2,058	250-300	280-350	240-317	223-268	220-245	180-217	87-113			
April 11	Salina, UT	1,419	230-300	240-299	225-262.50	210-243	170-210	160-175	108-138.50			
April 11	Salina, UT		215-277	180-270	170-265	162-238.50	158-218	140-193.50	77.50-120			
April 11	Salina, UT		185-267.50	165-264	150-252.50	145-227.50	132.50-199	117.50-175	115.25-165.50			
April 17	Iowa	12,522	253	232-290	205-285	180-280	191-253	180-230	176-214.75	90-139		
April 18	Iowa			210-293	206-264	168-252	175-233	168-220	139-209	60-139		
April 18	Miles City, MT	453				222.50-246	238-249	206	191	81-104		
April 18	Miles City, MT						212.50-237		206	114-134		
No report available												
April 15	Bassett, NE											
April 15	Ericson, NE	4,760	290-292.50	262-296	242.50-287	226-265	206-233	183-212	1675-2,500			
April 15	Ericson, NE		265-275	236-257.50	207.50-241	202-231	184-208	174.50-186	1,325-1,975			
No report available												
April 12	Imperial, NE											
April 12	Kearney, NE	4,000	251-267	229-245	212-239	190.50-225.22	188-207.50	181-214	90-108			
April 14	Lexington, NE	1,428	270-292	254-267	225-248	204-231.50	188-198.25	179.75-194.35	110-133.50			
April 14	Lexington, NE		245	224-246	219-230	224-226		170-183.50				
No report available												
April 13	Ogallala, NE											
April 13	Valentine, NE	3,620	309	288-312.50	283-301.50	257-274	213-225.50	174.50-223.75	84-106			
April 14	Valentine, NE		268-279	258-283	227-262.50	223-244	184-223	154-200.90				
April 14	Herreid, SD	5,256	267.50-291	243-256	224.50-258	205-227.75	191-225.75	189.25-224.50	183-200			
April 19	Torrington, WY	3,470	315-325	195-309	252-299	242-260	205-235	191.50-197				
April 19	Torrington, WY		300	249-262	240-251	216-231	184-209.50	178-195				
April 13	Wilcox, AZ	1,314	220-253	226-262	192-240.50	191-220	182-225		75-110	1,175-1,800		
April 13	Wilcox, AZ		209-215	200-225	185-210	174-195	162-185		50-125	1,400-1,525		
April 17	Colorado	6,730			260-275	234-270	200-258	190-220.50	164-204	52.50-108	1,225-3,000	
April 17	Colorado				211-247.50	201						

Keeping an eye on beef demand



VIDEO AUCTION

April 13, Hudson Oaks, TX

Superior Livestock Auction hosted their April 13 video auction live from the Superior Livestock Auction Studio in Hudson Oaks, TX. Cattle producers offered over 42,500 head of calves, yearlings and bred stock from 24 states for this auction. Cattle were sold on contract to deliver immediately through December 2023. A week of favorable conditions proved to be the perfect blend to help pro-

duce one of the most bullish market reports pushed out in 2023.

Regions 3/4/5/6 feeder steers witnessed very strong buyer participation on all classes in a range from steady to \$8 higher. The spotlight was on a consignment of 8,800 head of steers from one ranch coming off wheat; 2,911 head at 785 pounds sold for \$216-219, followed by 5,612 head at 875 lbs. selling at \$205. Program steers followed with premiums of \$15-25 higher than their counterparts.

Regions 3/4/5/6 feeder heifers saw strong advances of \$2-7 higher than the last auction. Regions 1 & 2 feeder steers and heifers were \$4-8 higher. Beef-dairy crosses were well received at steady to mostly \$6 higher. Regions 3/4/5/6 calves on cows for deferred deliveries were in very strong demand, showing advances of \$4-12 higher than the last offering. Weaned calves were met at steady to \$6 higher than the last auction.

HOME OF CHOICE SANDHILL & WESTERN NEBRASKA CATTLE

Ogallala
LIVESTOCK AUCTIONS
MUSKOGEE, OKLAHOMA
OGALLALA, NE ~ 308-284-2074

Special Stock Cow & Cow-Calf Pair Sale w/ Regular Sale

Cow-Calf Pairs

Stock Cows

CLM Cattlemen's LIVESTOCK MARKET

CLM REPRESENTATIVES

Jake Parnell.....	916-662-1298
George Gookin.....	209-482-1648
Rex Whittle.....	209-996-6994
Mark Fischer.....	209-768-6522
Kris Gudel.....	916-208-7258
Steve Bianchi.....	707-484-3903
Jason Dailey.....	916-439-7761
Brett Friend.....	510-685-4870
Tod Radelfinger.....	775-901-3332
Bowdy Griffen.....	530-906-5713

SPRING & SUMMER FEEDER SALES

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26
WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
MONDAY, MAY 22*
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7
MONDAY, JUNE 12*
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

*ANNUAL AES CATTLEMEN'S SPECIAL FEEDER SALES

SPECIAL BRED COW SALE

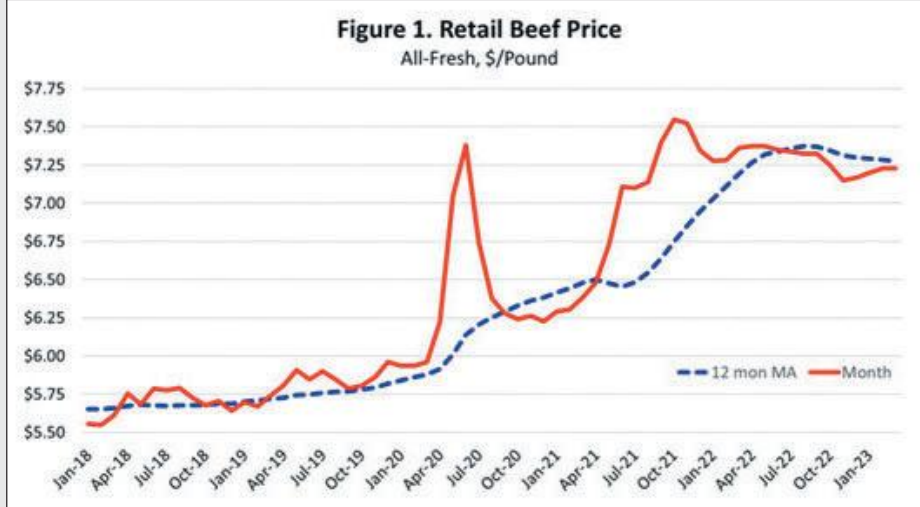
WEDNESDAY, MAY 3
12:00 NOON
FEATURING 500 BLACK FALL BRED COWS,
3-4 YEARS OLD, BRED TO ANGUS BULLS.
CALVE SEPTEMBER 1 FOR 60 DAYS.
THREE LOADS OF FANCY SPRING PAIRS.

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

Butcher Cows.....	8:30am
Cow-Calf Pairs/Bred Cows.....	11:30am
Feeder Cattle.....	12pm

UPCOMING WESTERN VIDEO MARKET SALES

JULY 10, 11, & 12 - RENO, NV



Retail All-Fresh Beef prices in March were \$7.23/lb., unchanged from February and down 1.8% from one year ago. Retail beef prices have been mostly steady since late 2021 (Figure 1). The 12-month moving average of monthly retail beef prices has been above \$7.25/lb. since April 2022 (blue line, Figure 1). This indicates strong beef demand given record beef production in 2022 and the highest beef consumption per capita at 58.9 lbs. (unchanged from 2021) since 2010. Retail All-Fresh Beef prices averaged \$7.30/lb. in 2022, the highest on record and up 5.1% over 2021 average retail prices. The highest monthly price ever was in October 2021 at \$7.55/lb. It does not appear that consumer beef buying behavior has changed significantly thus far with higher retail beef prices. There is little indication of consumers "trading down," i.e., switching to lower-value products and away from more expensive beef cuts. Wholesale beef prices continue to be led

by strong middle meat prices with tenderloins and ribeyes up 12-15% year over year. Chucks and round wholesale values are mixed across a range of products, but chuck primals are up 10% year over year and rounds are unchanged. Briskets remain weak compared to last year. Both 90% and 50% lean beef trimmings have advanced significantly thus far in 2023, pushing ground beef prices higher. Higher ground beef prices are probably partly due to stronger demand but are mostly due to decreasing supplies of processing beef. Choice boxed beef price averaged \$297.91/cwt in mid-April, the highest weekly boxed beef price since late September 2021 and up 9.3% year over year. Boxed beef prices are pushing higher as a result of decreased beef production and supported by continued strong beef demand. Beef production is down 4.6% for the year to date compared to last year. Decreased beef production

is the result of declining cattle slaughter and lower carcass weights in 2023. Total cattle slaughter is down 2.9% thus far in 2023. Daily slaughter totals for the year to date show that steer slaughter is down 2.3% year over year, with heifer slaughter up 0.4% year over year, leading to total fed slaughter down 1.2% for the year thus far. Total year-to-date cow slaughter is down 3.6% year over year with dairy cow slaughter up 4.6% year over year and beef cow slaughter down 10.3% year over year. Bull slaughter is down 9.6% thus far in 2023. Carcass weights for all classes of cattle are lower year over year with average cattle carcass weights down 15.2 lbs. year over year. Steer carcass weights have averaged 14.7 lbs. lighter this year, with heifers averaging 19.2 lbs. lighter and cow carcass weights smaller by 11.6 lbs. compared to one year ago. — **Derrell Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Feeders continue to see good demand

MARKETS (from page 1)

purchases: \$262.26.

- Negotiated grid net purchases: \$271.87.

Slaughter through Thursday was projected at 502,000 head, compared to a week earlier at 489,000 head. Total slaughter for the week prior is estimated at 613,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending April 8 was 604,551 head. The average dressed steer weight was 892 lbs., down 6 lbs. from the prior week.

"Three things happen in the cattle market in May and June. One, peak beef demand. Two, typically the largest fed slaughters of the year. Three, a seasonal increase in market-ready fed cattle supplies," Fish said.

"Usually packers enjoy the first two and use the third factor to pressure cattle prices. But 2023 will see the smallest Q2 fed cattle supply since 2017. "That is what will make the seasonal decline in fed cattle prices smaller than normal. So how much will the market break?" she asked.

Boxed beef prices were higher, with the Choice cutout up \$6.57 to close at \$306.99 and the Select cutout up \$5.36 to \$288.74.

Feeder cattle

"The combination of spillover support from a slightly stronger live cattle market to the fact that corn prices are dipping considerably lower all helps strengthen the feeder cattle complex," Stewart said.

Feeder cattle futures were several dollars higher. The April contract gained \$2.35 to close at \$205.02, and the May contract gained \$4.55 to close at \$212.35.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained \$4.14 to close at \$203.91.

Corn futures were mostly higher, with the May contract up 11 cents to \$6.63 and the July contract up a penny to \$6.26.

Colorado: Winter Livestock in La Junta sold 767 head on Tuesday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers and heifers sold mostly steady in a light run. Benchmark steers averaging 818 lbs. sold from \$192-194.50, averaging \$194.21.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 8,500 head Monday. Compared to the last auction, at the mid-session, feeder steers and heifers sold steady. Benchmark steers averaging 730 lbs. sold for \$210.

Nebraska: Tri-State Livestock in McCook sold 2,100 head Monday. Compared to the last auction, steers sold steady to \$6 higher, except 600 weights were \$11 lower. Heifers were \$4-7 higher. A group of steers averaging 614 lbs. sold between \$224-239 and averaged \$237.57.

New Mexico: Roswell Livestock Auction in Roswell sold 829 head on Tuesday. Compared to a week earlier, 350-400 lb. steer calves were \$10 higher, while 400-450 lb. steers sold \$15 higher. Steers 450-500 lbs. were \$2 higher, and

500-600 lb. steer calves sold sharply higher. Heifer calves 400-450 lbs. were \$20 higher, and 450-500 lb. heifers sold steady. Heifers 500-600 lbs. sold \$10 higher. A group of steers averaging 636 lbs. sold between \$214-225, averaging \$220.51.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 9,400 head Monday. Compared to the last auction, at the mid-session, feeder steers and heifers were not well tested in early rounds, but demand was good. Steer calves opened firm and heifer calves were \$8-10 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 723 lbs. sold between \$185-209 and averaged \$195.83.

South Dakota: Sioux Falls Regional Cattle in Worthing sold 3,903 head Monday. Compared to the last auction, feeder steers sold steady to \$3 higher, with instances of \$21 higher. Feeder heifers sold \$2-5 higher, with instances of \$12 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 783 lbs. sold between \$214.50-231 and averaged \$222.

Wyoming: Torrington Livestock Feeder Cattle in Torrington sold 3,470 head Wednesday. Compared to the last auction, steer and heifer calves traded \$3-5 higher, with a few instances of \$10 higher on steer calves under 550 lbs. Steer and heifer calves over 700 lbs. traded mostly steady. Benchmark steers averaging 731 lbs. sold between \$223-235, averaging \$229.06. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

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 ALZADA, CARTER COUNTY, MONTANA

AUCTION
MAY 1, 2023 @ 1:00 PM
 MOOSE LODGE, 399 STANLEY ST, BELLE FOURCHE, SD

RANCH LOCATION: The Finger Buttes Ranch is located approximately 23 miles north of Alzada, MT, on Hwy 323.

RANCH DESCRIPTION: The Finger Buttes Ranch is centered in the heart of the strong grass cattle country of eastern Montana and the western Dakotas. Consisting of 7,716± deeded acres, 640± State of Montana lease acres (98 AUM's) and 1,561± BLM acres (299 AUM's), for a total of 9,917 acres. The land is comprised of rolling hills and flat-top buttes with minimal unproductive ground. Approximately 3,560± acres are tillable with over 1,000 acres currently planted to mixtures of grass and alfalfa for grazing and haying. Underground pipelines provide water to numerous tanks located throughout the ranch in addition to multiple seasonal reservoirs. The ranch includes two homes, corrals, livestock barns, grain bins and two Quonsets. Southeast Montana is well known for large populations of mule deer and whitetail deer, as well as antelope and upland birds, of which Finger Buttes Ranch has a strong population of each. There is an active EQIP Program in place that may allow for the construction of additional pipeline, water tanks and fencing if the new owner qualifies. In addition, there are approximately a total of 2,000 FSA (1,950+/- Wheat Base Acres) base acres on the ranch. **The ranch will be offered in 2 tracts as well as one complete unit, selling in the manner realizing the greatest return to the Seller.**

FINGER BUTTES RANCH WEST PARCEL: West Finger Buttes Ranch consists of 2,800± total acres: 2,360± deeded acres, 440± BLM acres (80 AUM's) fenced into four pastures. There are 1,052 acres of tillable ground of which approximately 532.5 acres has been planted in 2021 to hay/grass introducing perennial grass and legume. The balance of the tillable acres is already in hay/grazing production. Water is provided from dams and reservoirs located throughout the ranch. There are no improvements.

FINGER BUTTES HEADQUARTERS PARCEL: The Finger Buttes headquarters consists of 5,356.48± deeded acres, 640± State of Montana lease acres and roughly 1,121 BLM acres (219 AUM's), for a total of 7,117 acres. The ranch is fenced into 10 pastures. There are currently 2,437.4 acres of tillable ground with 258.5± acres in hay/grazing production. Improvements include two houses, calving barn, pipe corrals, two Quonsets, grain bins and other outbuildings. A 2,900-foot water well supplies water to several tanks located throughout the ranch.

AUCTION TERMS
EARNEST MONEY: At the conclusion of the auction, the successful bidder shall make a 10% nonrefundable earnest money deposit, with the balance due in cash or certified funds at closing. **CLOSING:** Closing to take place on or before June 1, 2023. **TAXES:** All 2022 and previous years taxes shall be paid by Seller. The 2023 taxes shall be prorated to the day of closing. All subsequent years taxes shall be paid by Buyer. **INSPECTIONS:** The property will be sold in "As-Is" condition without any warranties, either expressed or implied, as to the nature, condition or description of any improvements. Buyer shall inspect property to the extent deemed necessary and shall rely upon own judgment when bidding. **FINANCING:** Property sells without Buyer contingency of any kind. Please have all financial arrangements secured prior to bidding. **LEGAL DESCRIPTION:** Property sold by legal description only, which will be included in the owner's title insurance commitment that will be provided by Security Abstract, Miles City, Montana, and made available on or before the day of the auction. Acreages and square footages are approximate and determined by the Carter County Assessor and/or Treasurer. **CLOSING COSTS:** Closing firm's fee shall be shared equally between the Buyer and Seller. Security Abstract, Miles City, MT, shall be the closing agent. Buyer and Seller shall be responsible for their own closing costs as customary. **GENERAL TERMS:** Property will be transferred by Warranty Deed subject to easements, assessments and reservations of record. The Auctioneers/Brokers are representing the Seller's interests as the Seller's Agent in this transaction. Please see the Real Estate Brokerage Disclosure for agency relationship definitions. All information is derived from sources deemed reliable; however, neither Seller nor Auctioneers/Brokers are making any warranties or warranties, actual or implied. Any announcements made day of auction supersede any and all previously printed material and any other oral statements made. **METHOD OF SALE:** The ranch will be offered in two tracts as well as one complete unit, selling in the manner realizing the greatest return to the Seller. Seller shall require an all cash sale. The Seller reserves the right to effectuate a 1031 tax-deferred exchange.

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How to manage hardware disease

Anyone who has spent time with toddlers knows that they need to be watched closely to make sure they don't put non-food objects into their mouths to avoid a hazard. Much like toddlers, cattle also like to explore with their mouths and sometimes eat objects that they shouldn't, said the veterinarians at the Kansas State (K-State) University Beef Cattle Institute.

Speaking on a recent "Cattle Chat" podcast, veterinarians Brian Lubbers, Brad White and Bob Larson discussed the signs of hardware disease and offered suggestions on ways to manage it once it is suspected to be impacting an animal.

"Hardware disease happens when cattle put metal or sharp objects in their mouth, swallow it and then it gets into one of their stomach compartments where it can puncture a hole and move into other parts of the animal's body," Lubbers said.

White said items cattle might inadvertently eat include wires, nuts and bolts. Sometimes those get into the silage by accident in the harvesting and ensiling process.

Lubbers explains that the foreign object can migrate to other places in the body, which can cause a significant health risk to the animal.

"When the object moves out of the stomach it is carrying the bacteria that was in the digestive tract with it and that can lead to infections," Lubbers said. "Often-

times the body develops abscesses to wall off the disease, but sometimes that wire can get into the sac surrounding the heart and lead to an infection."

Larson said cattle with heart trouble will stand with their elbows out and show signs of labored breathing. Animals that show these symptoms need to be evaluated quickly by a veterinarian.

Often times, Larson said this disease is hard to detect.

"For cattle that 'ain't doing right,' hardware disease is one of the first things we suspect when we evaluate them," Larson said.

Treatment options are limited, said the veterinarians. However, one way to try to keep the foreign objects from moving where they shouldn't go is to deposit a magnet down the cow's throat that will settle in the reticulum (one of the cattle's four stomach compartments).

"The idea is that the metal will stick to the magnet making it less likely to migrate, but it is better if we can keep them from eating these things in the first place," Larson said.

He said that there are magnets used in the feed milling process that keep the loose metal from inadvertently ending up in the silage.

"If you are producing your own feed, magnets in the mill or feeder wagon are recommended," Larson said. — K-State Research and Extension



SALE CALENDAR

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ALL BREEDS

- Sep. 17** — Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
- Sep. 30** — Turlock Livestock, All Breeds Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
- Oct. 1** — Cal Poly Bull Test Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA
- Oct. 14** — FAMOSO All Breeds Bull Sale, Famoso, CA
- Nov. 4** — World of Bulls Bull Sale, Galt, CA

ANGUS

- Apr. 25** — Currant Creek, Bull Sale, Miles City, MT
- May 1** — Gardiner Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Ashland, KS
- May 13** — Diamond Peak Cattle, Bull Sale, Loma, CO
- May 20** — Western Summit Female Sale, Galt, CA
- Jun. 3** — Vintage Angus Ranch, Bred Heifer Sale, Galt, CA
- Jun. 6** — Stone Point Cattle Angus, Female Sale, Tecumseh, NE
- Jul. 29** — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 1** — Byrd Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Los Molinos, CA
- Sep. 7** — Vintage Angus, Bull

- Sale, LaGrange, CA
- Sep. 9** — EZ Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA
- Sep. 10** — Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA
- Sep. 12** — O'Neal Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA
- Sep. 13** — Teixeira Cattle, Bull Sale, Pismo, CA
- Sep. 14** — Golden Opportunity Bull Sale, Oroville, CA
- Sep. 15** — Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA
- Sep. 16** — Arrelano Bravo Bull Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 18** — Rhodes Ranches, Bull Sale, Cambria, CA
- Sep. 20** — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
- Sep. 21** — Rancho Casino/ Dal Porto Livestock, Bull Sale, Denair, CA
- Sep. 24** — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
- Sep. 26** — Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 28** — Beef Solution Bull Sale, Lone, CA
- Oct. 7** — EZ Angus, Female Sale, Porterville, CA
- Oct. 8** — Vintage Angus Ranch, Female Sale, Modesto, CA
- Oct. 10** — 9 Peaks Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Fort Rock, OR
- Oct. 19** — Thomas Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Baker City, OR
- Oct. 27** — Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV
- Oct. 28** — California Angus Day's Female Sale, Modesto,

- CA
- Nov. 2** — Stokrose Land & Livestock, Bull Sale, Moses Lake, WA
- Nov. 11** — HD Dunn Angus, Bull Sale, Teton, ID
- Nov. 16** — JR Ranch, Female Sale, Othello, WA
- Nov. 18** — TLC Ranch & SugarTop Angus, Bull Sale, Jerome, ID
- Nov. 25** — Spring Cove Ranch, Female Sale, Bliss, ID

HEREFORD

- Sep. 11** — Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV
- Sep. 22** — Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale, Oakdale, CA
- Oct. 7** — Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
- Oct. 21** — Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA
- Dec. 1** — Western States Hereford Sale, Reno, NV

RED ANGUS

- May 11** — Koenig Reds, Bull Sale, Glasgow, MT
- Sep. 23** — McPhee Red Angus, Production Sale, Lodi, CA
- Sep. 24** — Stegall Cattle, Bull & Female Sale, Colusa, CA
- Nov. 4** — Bet on Red Sale, Reno, NV

SIMANGUS

- May 13** — Diamond Peak Cattle, Bull Sale, Loma, CO
- Sep. 20** — Bulls Eye Breeders Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
- Sep. 24** — Traynham Ranches, Bull & Female Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
- Sep. 27** — Eagle Pass Ranch,

- Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
- Sep. 28** — Beef Solutions Bull Sale, Lone, CA
- Oct. 14** — Trinity Farms, Female Sale, Ellensburg, WA
- Nov. 18** — Yardley Cattle Co., Female Sale, Beaver, UT

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- May 13** — Diamond Peak Cattle, Bull Sale, Loma, CO

COMMERCIAL

- Jul. 29** — Cattlemen's Livestock Market, Female Sale, Galt, CA
- Jul. 29** — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA
- Aug. 5** — Turlock Livestock Auction, Female Sale, Turlock, CA
- Nov. 17** — Rollin Rock Bred Heifer Sale, Pilot Rock, OR
- Nov. 25** — Spring Cove Ranch, Female Sale, Bliss, ID

HORSE

- May 6** — Pendleton Cattle Barons, Horse Sale, Pendleton, OR
- May 20** — Feather River College, Horse Sale, Quincy, CA
- Jun. 3** — Ranchers Horse Sale, Juntura, OR
- Jun. 10** — Shelman Family Horse Sale, Burns, OR
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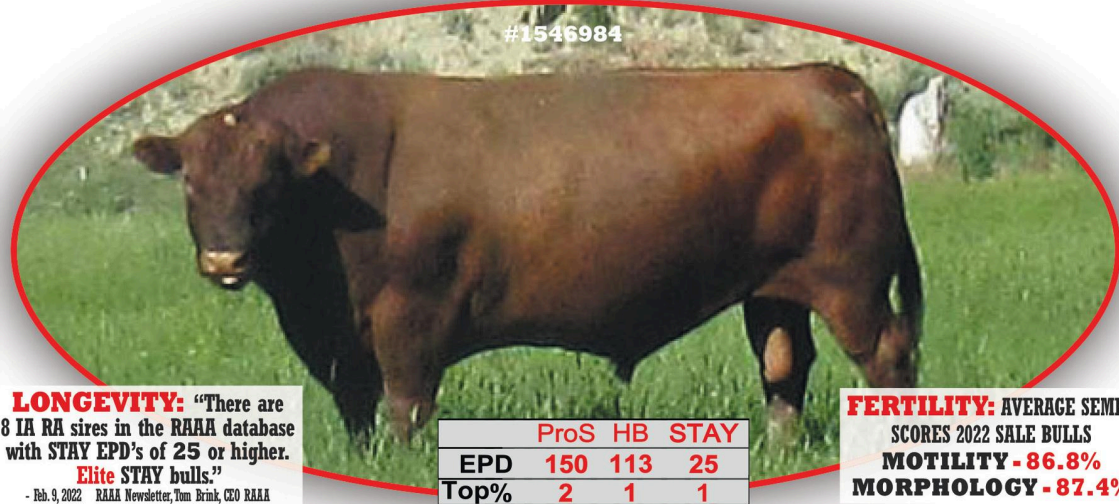
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KRP OLY T'S ANSWER 8689 #3984648	#4526189	4/18/21	75	813	22	105
KRP KANYON MAKER 3853 #1622622	#4525957	4/21/21	76	744	23	99
KRP EPIC WANDER 6407 # 3564494	#4526019	4/16/21	78	717	20	101
KRP HOLY PAY DAY 8221 #3984374	#4525997	4/18/21	75	701	24	100
KRP OLY'S WANDER 7500 #3783603	#4525853	4/29/21	81	746	23	101
BUF CRK THE RIGHT KIND U199 #1260155	#4526235	4/05/21	72	712	18	100
RED U2 MALBEC 195D #3721545	#4526251	3/29/21	75	713	19	100
BUF CRK FINAL ANSWER W004 #1329487	#4526233	3/30/21	74	710	25	101
KRP EPIC KAN ANSWER 9689 #4172818	#4526093	4/15/21	72	733	23	103
KRP DOK KANYON BRITE 7359 #3783459	#4526095	4/28/21	69	768	24	103

Groups ask for judge to vacate prairie chicken rule

SUITS (from page 1)

citing USFWS' inaction, and USFWS agreed to make a new determination of the LPC's status by May 2021.

The suit by the Permian

Basin Petroleum Association, National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the cattle associations of Kansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma and Texas contends USFWS not only failed to consider existing conservation efforts, but arbitrari-

ly divided the LPC into two distinct population segments in violation of its policy on evaluating population segments. The suit contends USFWS did not provide a reason when it changed the buffer from 200 to 300 meters in the final rule in November for oil and gas operations.

Additionally, the suit states the ESA's 4(d) rule does not allow USFWS to delegate authority to third parties for enforcement.

"Because of the Service's listing decision, Plaintiffs and their members have incurred and will continue to incur expenses necessary to avoid actions now prohibited by the ESA," the suit states.

Ben Shepperd, president of the Permian Basin Petroleum Association, told the San Antonio Express-News the listing and the additional buffer requirements would add time

and uncertainty to the permitting requirements.

"We think significant portions of oil and gas could be shuttered or negatively impacted, dramatically impacted, in such a way that it would disrupt the state of Texas' economy, and frankly our national security and our energy security," Shepherd said.

The second suit by the states of Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas raises similar issues regarding dividing the bird into two segments and the activities that can occur within the LPC's range. The suit states the 4(d) rule is vague and contains "a more serious defect" of allowing a third party "power to write and implement grazing management plans without federal or state oversight." The suit continues the listing of the LPC puts in jeopardy conservation efforts by the states and private landowners and that

"to achieve conservation while enabling economic development is crucial to the success of lesser prairie-chicken conservation."

Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton initially filed the suit but was later joined by Kansas and Oklahoma earlier this month. At the time of filing, Paxton said the Biden administration's policy reduced states' autonomy and harmed Texans' property rights.

"The lesser prairie-chicken's change in classification puts many of Texas' conservation efforts at risk, all while bringing immeasurable harm to Texans' property rights," Paxton said in a statement. "My lawsuit aims to preserve both individual and states' rights that are threatened by this rule and stop this Biden administration policy in its tracks."

Oklahoma Farm Bureau

President Rodd Moesel thanked Oklahoma Attorney General Gentner Drummond for joining the suit, saying that farmers and ranchers are stewards of the land.

"Tying agricultural producers' hands by restricting which land-management practices they can use unnecessarily restricts our members' generations-deep boots-on-the-ground experience as caretakers of the land," Moesel said.

Both suits question USFWS' estimates of habitat and population loss as USFWS acknowledged population data was unreliable in previous decades and wasn't accurate until aerial surveys were conducted recently.

The suits are asking the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Texas to vacate the rule. — Charles Wallace, WLJ editor

Study shows economic impact of auction markets

A study prepared for the Livestock Marketing Association (LMA) found the economic activity associated with the livestock market helps to support a wide variety of industries. The 2023 study, "Economic Contribution Study of Livestock Auction Markets," conducted by Decision Innovation Solutions, found the total value-added impact to the community was \$2 million.

The study found the market studied directly provides 12 jobs, \$580,000 in labor income and \$1.47 million in value-added money for the community. After adding indirect and induced effects, this contribution grows to 17 jobs, \$888,050 in labor income and nearly \$2 million in added value.

The study was based on an auction market in Missouri selling all classes of livestock. The market used in the analysis was convenient for sellers and close to small beef processing facilities making it easy for travel, stress and shrinkage on the cattle.

According to LMA, the study's case auction market was selected as a representative example of LMA member-livestock auctions.

"Without the presence of the particular auction market, which is the subject of this study, many area producers would have to take their livestock elsewhere, causing them to incur higher transportation costs and leading to a loss of economic activity in and around this auction market to other neighboring communities," the study said.

The study also found the on-site cafe contributed approximately \$17,000 in labor income and one job to the local community.

The 2023 study updated a previous study by LMA in 2017, showing a value-added economic impact of \$1 million. The 2017 LMA Economic Impact Report was also conducted by Decision Innovation Solutions, which analyzed the economic contribution of a livestock market in Iowa. — Charles Wallace, WLJ editor

Dairy explosion in TX ruled accidental

The Texas State Fire Marshal's Office ruled the explosion at the Southfork Dairy Farm in Dimmitt, TX, was accidental, according to local news outlet KAMR. On April 10, emergency personnel received reports of an explosion at the dairy, which spread to a building housing cattle. The explosion caused the death of more than 17,000 dairy cattle. According to the Castro County Sheriff's Of-

fice, one person was trapped inside the facility and was airlifted to a Lubbock hospital, where they are now reported to be in serious condition.

The fire investigation revealed the fire started at the northern end of the dairy in a pen and resulted from a piece of equipment used daily at the operation. Officials said the explosion was a result of flammable liquids,

including liquid fuel, hydraulic oil and other flammable and combustible materials, expanding rapidly, or what is known as a smoke explosion.

Officials said due to the size of the fire, the number of cattle killed and two other pieces of equipment that caught fire, including one at the same dairy, "There will be a more in-depth investigation of the reason for the failure by other origin and cause

investigators and engineers that are experts in the field of equipment failures."

KAMR reported Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) officials were onsite at the dairy "to provide assistance to South Fork Dairy to ensure that dead livestock and any other debris is disposed of in accordance with TCEQ rules and regulations." — Charles Wallace, WLJ editor

TURLOCK LIVESTOCK AUCTION

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SALE DAY IS PAY DAY

When marketing your calves at TLAY, don't forget how essential the 2nd round of shots is. Make sure to include a Modified Live vaccination.

SPRING ROUNDUP TLAY SPECIALS

Sat., April 29: Burgers at the Barn
Featuring Special Weigh Cow Sale Plus Recreational Cattle and Industry Speakers Beginning at 10 a.m.

Tues., May 2, 16, 30: TLAY Spring Feeder Sales
Special Dedicated to Showcasing Calves and Yearlings from Consignors with 50 Head or Less at 9 a.m.

Tues., May 9, Special Female Sale
Featuring 100 Angus and BWF 3-6-year-old, 1 Iron Fall Calving Cows. These Top Quality Cows are bred to Adams Angus Bulls.

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