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INSIDE WLJ

MUDDY WATERS — An environmental group is suing an Idaho feedlot for violating the Clean Water Act by dumping manure and other waste into the Snake River. **Page 4**

STEAKS ARE HIGH — As grilling season approaches, all eyes are on beef demand as the tightening of beef supplies increases pressure for higher wholesale and retail beef prices. **Page 9**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

This week we are looking back to the May 14, 2007, issue of WLJ reporting on research and development efforts intended to help the U.S. become more energy independent. "Kansas is among 12 north central states with the potential to produce up to two-thirds of the nation's perennial bioenergy crops and crop residues, which brings the region into the national spotlight as the U.S. Congress considers federal farm policy that will help shift energy reliance from the Middle East to the Midwest," read the article.

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CO wolf management plan finalized

— Bills could affect introduction

The Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW) Commission has given the green light to move forward with wolf introduction in the state, finalizing a contentious plan that has been in the works for more than two years.

On May 3, the commission finalized the Final Colorado Wolf Restoration and Management Plan at a meeting in Glenwood Springs, CO. The meeting was the last of a series of public and commission meetings to gather feedback and make amendments to the plan. CPW received about 4,000 comments online and heard from more than 230 people at the five public meetings held earlier this year.

Following the plan's approval, CPW will begin to introduce wolves into the Western Slope area by the end of the year. However, there are two pieces of legislation that could impact the introduction process, SB23-255 and SB23-256, which are on their way to Gov. Jared Polis' (D) desk.

Final plan

The plan was adopted in a two-step approval process that began at an April commission meeting in Steamboat Springs, CO. At the meeting, the commission reviewed

many of the final edits to the plan.

Here are some of the highlights:

- The compensation cap for livestock and working animals killed by wolves is \$15,000 per animal.
- There is a separate compensation cap for veterinary expenses up

to \$15,000, bringing the total compensation possibility up to \$30,000 per animal.

- Producers who implement conflict minimization practices may

See CO WOLVES on page 7



Evelyn, Adobe Stock

Colorado is moving forward with its final plan to introduce wolves into the state by the end of the year.

Possible water cuts for ID junior water rights holders

— Amid healthy snowpack

Up to 900 junior water rights holders in the Eastern Snake Plain Aquifer (ESPA) could be subject to water curtailments under a new methodology order by the Idaho Department of Water Resources (IDWR) despite a healthy snowpack this year.

The ESPA encompasses nearly 10,800 square miles of the southeastern portion of the state. According to the ESPA Comprehensive Aquifer Management Plan, there are roughly 2.1 million irrigated acres (60% of the state's total) in the region, which produces 21% of all goods and services, totaling \$10 billion. Of the 2.1 million irrigated acres, 871,000 acres are irrigated from surface water, 889,000 acres are irrigated from groundwater and 348,000 acres are irrigated from both sources.

On April 21, IDWR projected a 75,200 acre-foot (an acre-foot is 325,851 gallons) shortfall to the senior priority surface water users' water supplies during the irrigation season. The new methodology will affect junior groundwater rights holders after Dec. 30, 1953, who are not protected by an approved mitigation plan.

Currently, there are seven approved mitigation plans for the aquifer that if the water users continue to comply with their plans, they will not need to show how they can mitigate projected water shortfalls, the order said. They include the Idaho Ground Water Appropriators Inc., Southwest Irrigation District, Goose Creek Irrigation District, Coalition of Cities, the Water Mitigation Coalition and A&B Irrigation District.

According to IDWR, the predicted shortfall is based on the

See CUTBACKS on page 6

Senate approves removal of LPC listing

On May 3, the Senate approved a resolution overturning the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) decision to list the lesser prairie chicken (LPC) under the Endangered Species Act.

The Senate voted 50-48 on S.J. Res. 9, a Congressional Review Act (CRA) resolution brought by Sen. Roger Marshall (R-KS) to reverse the decision by USFWS to list the Northern distinct population segment (DPS) as threatened and the Southern DPS as endangered.

A companion resolution introduced by Rep. Tracey Mann (R-KS-01) passed the House Natural Resources Committee on April 28 by a 16-12 vote.

The CRA is a tool for Congress to block federal agency actions. It provides Congress with special procedures, such as a joint resolution of disapproval, to consider

legislation overturning rules.

Conservation groups expressed disappointment with the vote to advance the resolution and noted that this is the first time Congress has used CRA to overturn protections for endangered species.

"This vote sets an extremely dangerous precedent and would put one of our most unique species at risk of disappearing forever," said Stephanie Kurose, a senior policy specialist at the Center for Biological Diversity, in a statement.

Marshall Johnson, National Audubon Society chief conservation officer, also expressed disappointment with the vote, stating that the species will disappear without protection.

According to the Audubon Society, the population of the LPC has diminished by 97% across

their range since the 1960s.

Both groups applauded the announcement by the White House that if the resolution should pass Congress, President Joe Biden would veto it.

"By overturning a science-based rulemaking that follows the requirements of the law, S.J. Res. 9 undermines the ESA," the White House said in a statement. "Overturning common-sense protections for the (LPC) would undermine America's proud wildlife conservation traditions, risk the extinction of a once-abundant American bird, and create uncertainty for landowners and industries who have been working for years to forge the durable, locally led conservation strategies that this rule supports." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**

Time Sensitive
Priority Handling
PERIODICAL:

Fed cattle trade slow to get started

Cash trade was slow to get started over the week, but futures remained green on the board.

Live cattle futures traded steady to higher, with the June contract up a little over a dollar to \$162.95 and the August contract also up a little over a dollar to \$160.80.

The bulk of cash trade took place Thursday, although the week's volume was still lighter at less than 50,000 head. Live steers sold from \$169-177, and dressed steers sold from \$275-278.

Cash trade for the week ending May 7 totaled 86,560 head. Live steers averaged \$174.14, and dressed steers averaged \$280.91.

"The price spread between the northern Plains and southern Plains isn't going away this week," wrote the Cattle Report. "With smaller numbers offered this week in the south, packers may lose some of the leverage to transport cattle north because they will be needed for southern beef plants. The Choice/Select spread will continue to play a role in the spread. Younger animals from last year's calf crop have historically

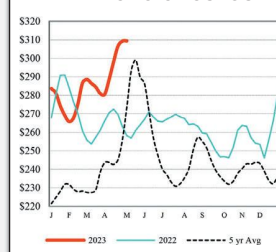
contributed to lower grading percentages in the north."

Slaughter through Thursday was estimated at 506,000 head, 10,000 head more than a week earlier. Projected slaughter for a week earlier is 623,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending April 29 was 626,853 head. The average dressed steer weight was 890 lbs., down 2 lbs. from the prior week.

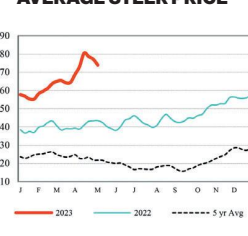
Boxed beef prices were lower, with the Choice cutout down about \$4 to \$305.72 and the Select cutout down about \$3 to \$284.58.

"By cheapening up their
See MARKETS on page 9

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$171.58	\$276.70	\$199.40
WEEK ENDING: 5-11-23		

COMMENTS

Seasonal market

We're going to see some ups and downs in the cattle markets in the short term. However, long term, we are in a full-on bull market. Summer or near-term beef supplies are short; we can already see cattle feeders pulling cattle forward. Carcass weights are 20 pounds lighter than last year, and grading for Choice and Prime is falling to 80%, somewhat of a low in recent history.



CROW

It appears that fed cattle will be steady to a bit higher for the week ending May 12. But trading hadn't taken place yet by Wednesday, a typical cat-and-mouse game. Slaughter was expected to approach 640,00 head for the first week of May, which would be a relatively high number over the past five months.

Mother's Day, Father's Day and Memorial Day are huge beef holidays, and beef prices will get higher. The Choice cutout is currently at \$307 and could top out at \$322 coming into fall. Most market watchers still expect a summer low around \$160 or so for August fed cattle, but August inventory is the lowest it's been in years. The Livestock Marketing Information Center expects May 1 placements to be 97.6% of last year, marketings down 10% and total cattle on feed at 96.6% of a year ago.

The boys at HedgersEdge.com say, "Although the current cash basis is a positive factor longer term, currently it is leading some hedgers to 'sell now,' prior to any basis gains slipping away. Front-end fed cattle supplies are projected to trend lower beginning in early June and continue that trend of lower supplies into the fall. Eight consecutive months of lower y/y placements is the dominant piece that has set the stage for a continued decline in marketable front-end fed cattle supplies. This industry is currently knocking on the door of marketing the November placements, given the current average time on feed. To maximize the benefit to the declining placements, marketings need to remain positive and the low in weekly harvest rates needs to move to the rearview mirror."

Packers are searching for the good stuff and want Prime or high Choice. At the cash fed cattle auctions in the Midwest, heavy cattle over 1,500 lbs. were trading between \$177-187. As an example of value difference, Prime ribs were marked at \$572/cwt. While branded programs were at \$482, Choice was at \$473 and Select was at \$392 on the recent comprehensive cutout report. That's a lot of value difference per carcass.

Corn values appear to be declining according to the futures market; new crop corn for fall is around \$5/bushel for December contracts. Meanwhile, feeder cattle are getting more expensive. Western Video Market had a tremendous sale on California yearlings and calves. Many yearlings weighing 800 lbs. or more were selling for \$210/cwt. Light calves sold over \$300/cwt. and I saw a set of 680-lb. steers trade for \$265/cwt. Ellington Peek and Johnny Rodgers and the crew did a heck of a good job.

The summer video sales will be starting in earnest soon and should be awfully good on fall-delivered calves and yearlings. August feeder futures have them marked at \$225 and they climb to December, trading at \$231. This will be a good year for cattle raisers with existing inventory. I would have to think that going forward folks will need to do their arithmetic on new stocker placements or yearlings into feedlots. But then again, the big cattle feeders always seem to come up with the big money for the right feeder cattle.

So, try and get involved in a marketing group and wean your calves right, but then again, demand will be so strong they may pay the same for bawling calves; it's happened before, be prepared.

We have had some widespread moisture this past week. The May rains have come for a lot of folks in the West and western Plains, and low-pressure systems have been hanging over the Four Corners area, which typically bring rain to the Southwest. All we need is more heat to get things popping. Keep on praying. But then again, it will accelerate the snow melt and pose flood threats to many areas.

The market is backing up on typical seasonal patterns shifts, albeit smaller. Beef prices will go higher, and let's just hope that we will be able to keep demand strong despite low pork and poultry prices. Keep praying for spring rains and some heat to make the grass grow. — **PETE CROW**



DITTMER'S TAKE

I remember when talking about billions of dollars was a deal. Anything that cost hundreds of billions was a *really* big deal. Using a term like "trillions" was as rare and apocryphal as "zillions."

Now, with a gargantuan national debt and higher interest rates, it's been said we're looking at \$1.5 trillion a year just on interest on the debt.

President Joe Biden made it plain all this year that he had no interest and no intention of meeting with anyone regarding raising the national borrowing limit. Congress was supposed to just OK it and go on with finding ways to spend more money.

The general media made it out to be a big deal when the House Republicans took days of wrangling and caucusing to select a speaker. They were right. It was a big deal—because it made the bunch focus on what was most important, made them more determined to take advantage of the opportunity a horrendous national political situation afforded them and made them spell out on paper what they expected of Rep. Kevin McCarthy (R-CA-23).

So, when the House passed a bill spelling out the conditions for them to accept a debt ceiling increase, it put Biden and the Senate on their back foot. Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) had not even managed to get a bill introduced in the Senate. Minority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) actually signed a letter with 40 GOP senators saying they would not back any bill "without substantive spending and budget reforms."

That forced Biden into a corner and a meeting recently with congressional leaders that produced no movement. We hope Republicans hold their ground. We need serious hobbles on the government's ruinous spending binge.

An agreement to cut spending would reduce inflation, reduce pressure on our banks with lower paying bonds and cut the money supply that's putting pressure on supplies and prices.

The Secure the Border Act may have received a vote in the House by now. This bill would end asylum fraud and catch and release, finish the border wall, boost support for the Border Patrol, mandate E-Verify and prohibit amnesty. This would slow down the flow of illegals, drugs and hundreds of those on the terrorist list.

Agriculture needs more *legal* workers but not the security risks, expenses to local governments and harassment of

POLITICS, ECONOMICS CONTINUE TO BE INTERESTING

border ranchers and farmers the Biden administration's wide-open border allows.

The left in Congress is going after the Supreme Court because they are quite upset they are no longer able to get via high court rulings what they could not get through Congress. Most voters felt like regardless of everything, including lower taxes and fewer regulations, the most important long-term effect of Trump's term was nominating Supreme Court justices who held to the original meaning of the Constitution.

So, the left is trying to find something scandalous on Justice Clarence Thomas, pushing for unprecedented oversight over the conduct of the justices, in the past or present, as well as making up recusal rules that would hamper the court's ability to even field a quorum on major cases.

This amounts to revising the Constitution without a vote of the people and violating the independence of the branches of government.

FDR failed to pack the court with "his" justices long ago. The Democrats want to try again. That would give us more big government, more business harassment and more infringement on our liberties and rights.

Of the 243,000 jobs added in April, 25,000 workers were hired in food service and drinking establishments, according to a restaurant industry trade publication. That still is 2.4% below pre-pandemic levels but staffing levels have improved in 2023, with 99,000 folks added in January, 70,000 in February and 50,000 in March.

That is good news for the beef industry, as after beef and overall food quality, service is a key factor in providing an enjoyable eating experience. We will get an objective reading on the public's feeling on beef quality in the soon-to-be released 2022 National Beef Quality Audit report. But judging by retail movement and the busy restaurants and steakhouses, customers must be pleased with the quality of beef and beef preparation. After all, these are not bargain-basement prices they are paying. Busy airports and hotels indicate people's willingness to travel and spend money at this point. If the incredible retreating recession keeps moving back, this could be an unusual summer for beef prices and none too soon for the cattle industry. — **Steve Dittmer, WLJ columnist**

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

OBITUARY



Jack Callihan Parnell; 1935-2023

Col. Jack Callihan Parnell was born May 7, 1935, in Leavenworth, WA. He passed away April 30 at home on the Parnell Ranch in Sandpoint, ID.

Jack grew up on his father's dairy. His life and work ethic began there. Jack went on to work for Crystal Creamery. He owned and operated Regal Janitorial Service. He later became a field editor for Pacific Stockman, Stockman Weekly, and published the California Cattleman magazine.

He was a renowned livestock auctioneer, director of the California Department of Fish and Game, secretary for the California Department of Food and Agriculture, deputy secretary of the USDA, a government relations advisor and

founder/chairman of Auburn Bank of Commerce.

In addition to all the positions Jack held during his career, he found time to serve many different community and agriculture causes. He served as chairman of the board for both Neogen Corporation and Siller Brothers; he was a board member for Farmers Insurance, Inc., American Angus Association and California Production Credit Association; he was president of the California Angus Association and 20th District Agriculture Association/Gold Country Fair; and he was a member of the Pacific Fisheries Management Council and the California Air Resource Board.

Jack was voted California Livestock Man of the Year by the Grand National Rodeo and Stock Show and California Chamber of Commerce. Jack owned and operated Dunipace Angus Ranch/Parnell Ranch Clydesdales. He was inducted into the Clydesdale Breeders of the United States Hall of Fame and was founder of the Draft Horse Classic in Grass Valley. In addition to his love of ranching, he also owned and operated family businesses that complemented the ranch: Headquarter House Restaurant, Headquarter House Country Meat Shop and Angus Hills Golf Course.

Jack authored three books espousing his philosophy and beliefs: "My Name is Ramsey,"

"The Old Apple Tree and Friends," and "The Old Apple Tree Talks Happiness."

Whether in a board room or in Washington, D.C., he couldn't wait to get back to his ranch. Mowing hay, checking cows, harrowing a pasture or watching the Clydesdale foals develop, he was happiest on the land.

From a humble beginning to becoming a successful businessman, his greatest accomplishments were being a beloved hus-

band, father, grandfather and great grandfather, with many extended family members and friends. He touched all our lives in different ways and will be missed.

His faith and love for his Lord and savior Jesus Christ has served him well. He's home.

A Celebration of Life for Jack will be held at the Parnell Ranch in Sandpoint, ID, on Sept. 16, 2023, at 2 p.m. God bless you, Papa. We sure blessed us with you. We love you.

HOOVES & HORNS BY A.W. ERWIN



"Well-Well-Well,.... Looky who we have here."

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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STORY SHORTS

Tyson earnings reported lower

Tyson Foods Inc. released its second quarter report showing a loss, particularly in the beef and pork segments, and revised its full-year revenue forecast downward. Tyson reported a second fiscal quarter net income loss of \$97 million compared to a net income of \$829 million in the same quarter last year. Tyson's beef segment had an operating income of \$8 million, down from \$638 million a year ago. Beef sales totaled \$4.6 billion in the quarter, down from \$5.03 billion a year ago. Volume was down 2.9%, and prices fell 5.4%. The pork segment posted an operating loss of \$31 million, down from gains of \$59 million a year ago. According to Reuters, JPMorgan analyst Ken Goldman said beef margins were Tyson's worst since 2015, while pork margins were the worst in more than two decades at negative 2.2%. "While the current protein market is challenging, we have a strong growth strategy in place and are bullish on our long-term outlook," said Donnie King, president and CEO of Tyson Foods. "We saw strong performance in our branded foods business and continue to be laser-focused on meeting customer needs and planning the future with them." Sales of the prepared foods business were \$634 million, up 12.2% year over year.

Taco Bell/Cargill partner for conservation

Taco Bell's parent company Yum! Brands announced it is partnering with Cargill and the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) to support ranchers in implementing regenerative agricultural practices and conservation across the Intermountain West. "Collaboration with ranchers and other supply chain partners is needed now more than ever, especially with food and farming being critical avenues for positive climate solutions," said Jon Hixson, chief sustainability officer at Yum! Brands. "We're proud to have partners in (NFWF) and Cargill that acknowledge the great responsibility we carry to both Taco Bell fans and the environment." Cargill and Taco Bell will allocate \$2 million and an additional \$2 million in federal funds, along with the expertise of NFWF, to support beef producers with technical and financial tools to expand their regenerative ranching practices, they said.

Generic treatment for parasite control

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved Tauramox as the first generic moxidectin injectable solution for "beef and nonlactating dairy cattle for the treatment and control of internal and external parasites in cattle." Tauramox is an antiparasitic drug that contains the same concentration of moxidectin in the same injectable dosage form as the approved brand name drug product, Cydectin. Tauramox comes in 250- and 500-mL bottles, each containing moxidectin at a concentration of 10 mg/mL. The recommended rate of administration for Tauramox Injectable is 1 mL for each 110 pounds of body weight to provide 0.2 mg moxidectin/2.2 lbs. body weight. FDA stressed it is important to have an accurate animal body weight to avoid over- or under-dosing.

OSU, CSU will lead regional food center

USDA has selected Oregon State University (OSU) and Colorado State University (CSU) for a \$30 million regional food business center. The center will support farmers, ranchers and other food-related businesses to access new markets and navigate federal, state and local resources. The Northwest and Rocky Mountain Regional Food Business Center will serve Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming. The center will focus on four main objectives: strengthening local supply chains for animal proteins, connecting and scaling food entrepreneurs, supporting climate-resilient agriculture, and right-sizing investment and infrastructure. The center is one of 12 USDA centers nationally focused on small and mid-sized farm and food businesses in historically underinvested and underserved communities in their region.

Red meat exports' value for corn, soybeans

An independent study released by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF) showed a record value of beef and pork exports brought significant returns to the U.S. corn and soybean industries in 2022. The study found U.S. beef and pork exports contributed an estimated total economic impact of 15% per bushel to the value of corn and 13% per bushel to soybeans in 2022. "For every bushel of corn we marketed in 2022, a little over \$1 was attributed to red meat exports, and with soybeans, pork exports contributed \$1.94 per bushel," said USMEF Chair Dean Meyer in a statement. "Pork and beef exports bring critical support to our bottom lines." Beef and pork exports accounted for 503.4 million bushels of U.S. corn usage, which equated to a market value of \$3.4 billion (\$6.75 per bushel) and 3.42 million tons of dried distillers grains usage. Pork exports accounted for 89.7 million bushels of U.S. soybean usage, which equated to a market value of \$1.33 billion (\$14.83 per bushel).

Selecting replacement heifers with reproductive tract scoring

In a normal year in Oklahoma, sometime during the spring, replacement heifers would be selected from the yearling females coming off wheat pasture. Individual producers' selection criteria and breeding objectives would determine which heifers were to be retained. It would be safe to assume most heifers coming off wheat pasture would have achieved a target weight of reaching 65% of their mature weight by 14-15 months of age, and over 90% would be fully pubertal and ready for their first breeding season.

At worst (in a normal year), heifers would reach 55% of their mature weight and the majority of those heifers would be ready for breeding. However, the past year or two haven't been "normal" years regarding precipitation and wheat pasture grazing. As a result, producers may be evaluating a group of replacement heifers that are a little behind schedule with regard to target weights and body condition.

If this sounds familiar, there is a management tool available that can be very helpful in determining if heifers are ready for breeding, called reproductive tract scoring (RTS). RTS is a subjective measurement which involves the rectal palpation of the heifer reproductive tract (uterine horns and ovarian structures) and the subsequent assignment of a reproductive tract score, ranging from 1 to 5 (1 = immature, 5 = presence of a corpus luteum), to assist the producer in making replacement heifer decisions.

Since age at puberty is difficult to measure directly, RTS can estimate pubertal status, and if performed before the onset of the breeding season, it can be a predictor of heifer reproductive performance, allowing for heifers with a poor breeding potential to be removed from the breeding group before any further costs are incurred. The RTS system has been shown to be a repeatable measure between and within practitioners and to be moderately heritable.

An RTS of 1 refers to a prepubertal heifer, an RTS of 2 or 3 refers to a peripubertal heifer (transitional stage) and an RTS of 4 or 5 refers to a pubertal (cycling) heifer. The reproductive performance of heifers with an RTS of 1 or 2 is less than that of heifers with an RTS of 3 or greater. Heifers with an RTS of 1 or 2 are less likely to be cycling at the beginning of the breeding season and therefore are less likely to become pregnant, or an RTS do become pregnant, do so later in the breeding season, suggesting that heifers with an RTS of 1 should possibly be eliminated from the breeding group.

It is worth mentioning that some heifers do not exactly fit a particular RTS score, and it is up to the producer and/or practitioner to decide on which of the measures are to be given the most emphasis.

RTS should be done about one month or less prior to breeding if the score is to be used as a culling tool as an indicator of a heifer's ability to conceive early during the first

breeding season. If RTS is to be used as a selection tool to place pressure on age at puberty, the best time to evaluate the heifers is when approximately 50% of the heifers are thought to be cycling based on age, weight, and occasional observations for estrus.

Another possible application of the RTS system is to assess the nutritional program being utilized by the producer. If RTS is taken within a sufficient time before the start of the breeding season (approximately 30-60 days), based on the results of the tract scores, the producer can adjust the ration to help the heifers reach developmental goals prior to the beginning of the breeding season or the beginning of the breeding season can be adjusted.

Consult with your veterinarian about RTS. It can be informative and beneficial in the selection process of yearling replacement heifers. — **Mark Z. Johnson, Oklahoma State University Extension beef cattle breeding specialist**

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JR Simplot sued for CWA violations

An environmental group is trying to stop an Idaho feedlot from discharging manure and other waste into the Snake River as it has without a federal discharge permit since 2012.

The group Snake River Waterkeeper filed a Clean Water Act (CWA) lawsuit in the U.S. District Court for the District of Idaho in Boise recently against J.R. Simplot Company and Simplot Livestock Company. The group alleges the pollution discharges continue to the present day from the company's 150,000-head feedlot near Grand View, ID, in the Snake River Canyon.

The lawsuit said the Grand View feedlot meets the requirements of a pollution point source in the CWA, meaning it is required to have a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit. Such discharges are allowed with NPDES permits.

J.R. Simplot did not respond to DTN's request for comment.

"The middle Snake River in southern Idaho has been abused by industrialized agriculture for decades," the lawsuit said. "Defendants have failed and continue to fail to properly manage manure at the Grand View Feedlot. Among other problems,

defendants are unable to control rain and snowmelt that flows onto the feedlot, defendants overapply manure to nearby fields and defendants fail to otherwise adequately collect, contain and dispose of manure. As a result, manure and manure-laden water from the Grand View feedlot course through streams, canals and ditches and flow into the nearby Snake River.

"Defendants previously had a Clean Water Act permit, but they let it expire in 2012 and never sought a new permit."

According to the complaint, the feedlot was issued an NPDES permit that became effective on April 3, 1997. That permit was administratively extended on Jan. 7, 2002.

On Dec. 18, 2012, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) informed J.R. Simplot that because it had not timely submitted a new notice of intent and a nutrient management plan to receive coverage under the EPA Region 10's NPDES general permit, "any discharges from the Grand View feedlot would be unauthorized and would fail to comply with Section 301 of the Clean Water Act," the lawsuit said.

"Defendants never subsequently obtained an NP-

DES nor IPDES (Idaho Pollution Discharge Elimination System) permit for the Grand View feedlot."

The lawsuit calls for the court to require J.R. Simplot to pay fines for each day it discharged pollution without a permit. According to the complaint, that adds up to five years and 60 days—or as high as \$121.8 million.

The environmental group also asks the court to require J.R. Simplot to remediate any damage caused by non-compliance.

The lawsuit outlines where feedlot waste is accumulated and how it is moving to the Snake River.

"Precipitation that runs onto the Grand View feedlot mingles with and becomes contaminated by large quantities of animal waste, feed, sediment, and other pollutants," the lawsuit said.

"Based on aerial and satellite imagery, and defendants' own admissions as discussed below, defendants have not installed diversion structures, adequate wastewater containment structures, or alternative conservation measures such as wastewater treatment facilities to control and detain all precipitation falling on the Grand View feedlot site and any related stormwater entering the

site. The contaminated water then discharges to the Snake River via tributaries such as the Middle Line Canal, Low Line Canal, Jack Creek, Corder Creek and other tributaries and conduits."

According to a news release from Snake River Waterkeeper, the feedlot houses up to at least 65,000 cattle that generate at least 47,450 tons of manure each year.

During a six-year period, the environmental group said it conducted water quality sampling in the Snake River at the Ted Trueblood Wildlife Management Area and other locations near the feedlot.

"For decades, J.R. Simplot's Grand View feedlot has used the Snake River as a sewer system to move manure downstream, externalizing catastrophic bacterial pollution to downstream communities and aquatic life," said Buck Ryan, Snake River Waterkeeper's executive director. "It is time Idaho stopped offering zero accountability to the nation's biggest corporate polluters."

The Idaho Department of Environmental Quality classifies the stretch of the middle Snake River near the feedlot as impaired for failing to meet water quality standards. — **Todd Neeley, DTN staff reporter**

LEGAL LEDGER

CBB proposes membership changes

USDA is proposing a rule to change the membership of the Cattlemen's Beef Board (CBB) to reflect cattle inventory levels and changes in cattle and beef imports. The changes would decrease the CBB's membership from 101 to 99 members, as well as update the list of Qualified State Beef Councils after the Maryland Industry Beef Council voted to dissolve their state beef council. Under the proposal, Idaho would gain one member, and Montana, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin would each lose one member. Board membership is recalculated at least every three years. Comments on the proposed rule may be submitted until June 1. To submit a comment, search for document No. AMS-LP-22-0002 at regulations.gov.

Greens: Ban low-carbon beef claims

The Environmental Working Group (EWG) recently petitioned USDA to prohibit meat producers from claiming their beef is "low carbon" and to require independent verification of other climate claims on beef. The petition also asks USDA to require food companies to disclose their carbon emissions on product labels. "There is no such thing as low-carbon beef," Scott Faber, EWG senior vice president for government affairs, claimed in a statement. "No food choice results in more greenhouse gas emissions than beef." The group said the claims are based on offsets that are hard to measure and not independently verified. EWG also submitted comments on the Federal Trade Commission's Green Guides update, a guide that aims to prevent companies from making misleading environmental claims. "Consumers are willing to pay for foods that reduce greenhouse gas emissions," Faber said. "But many of the climate claims made on food are either misleading or false."

TX passes alt-meat label bill

In early May, the Texas Legislature passed Senate Bill 664 and its companion bill, House Bill 1788, which relate to the labeling of analogue and cell-cultured products. If a product is an analogue product of meat or animal products, the label must say so in the same size font as the name and surrounding type. Acceptable label terms include: "analogue," "meatless," "plant-based," "made from plants" or a similar qualifying term or disclaimer to prevent consumer confusion. "These bills ensure consumers are more informed and understand the source and origin of their food," said Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association President Arthur Uhl in a statement. The bill now heads to Gov. Greg Abbott (R) for his signature.

Groups push back on OFF Act opposition

A group of over 60 industry groups submitted a letter to the Senate and House Agricultural Committees in response to opposition to the Opportunities for Fairness in Farming (OFF) Act. The letter was led by Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund, United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA) and Farm Action Fund. "The OFF Act does nothing to impair the ability of commodity checkoffs to fulfill their intended purpose of promoting specific commodities," the groups wrote in the letter. "However, it does establish basic financial accountability and transparency for the over \$850 million dollars in government-mandated assessments collected from farmers and ranchers. Currently, there is almost no publicly available expenditure and budget information." The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) has voiced its opposition to the bill, with President Todd Wilkinson saying, "The introduction of the Opportunities for Fairness in Farming Act of 2023 represents Sens. Booker, Lee, Paul, Warren and Gillibrand working to subvert the will of U.S. cattle producers. NCBA will always stand firm in its support of the U.S. Beef Checkoff program and will continue to fight the animal rights groups and the members of Congress who assist them in their efforts to end animal agriculture."

USCA supports DRIVE Act

Rep. Josh Brecheen (R-OK-02) recently introduced the Dereregulating Restrictions on Interstate Vehicles and Eighteen Wheelers (DRIVE) Act, which would prohibit the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration from implementing regs on vehicles over 26,000 pounds to use speed-limiting devices. "Our members are responsible for the daily transportation of millions of animals. Livestock haulers must take into consideration the welfare of their cargo which means avoiding rough-road conditions, adjusting speed, and being more aware of their surroundings to prevent animal injury," said U.S. Cattlemen's Association Transportation (USCA) Committee Chairman Steve Hilker. "USCA is opposed to any federal mandate that limits a driver's autonomy over their own truck and trailer."

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THE VIEWPOINT

with Dr. Phil Bass

This exclusive column found only in WLJ features unique perspectives from some of the nation's top producers, marketers, animal health experts, economists and more.



Dr. Phil Bass

Courtesy photo

It's easy to get excited about the future of the meat industry when there are leaders like Dr. Phil Bass at the forefront, encouraging young adults from all types of backgrounds to become involved. Phil is the first professor in-coming students at the University of Idaho meet day one

of their animal science classes, and it's clear he embraces students wholeheartedly into the program, regardless of their background in agriculture or their urban roots.

"What an opportunity it is for us in the agricultural community to embrace these folks and show them all the different aspects that are involved in agriculture, especially animal agriculture, where they can get their fix of loving animals," Phil told WLJ.

Phil teaches the introductory animal science class, along with a meat science class. His background is in meat science, although he always knew he would one day teach. Upon finishing his Ph.D. at Colorado State University in 2009, he first took a job with Certified Angus Beef (CAB) as a regional representative on the international team in Canada, eventually moving into more of a teaching role and a sales support role. This is where he was able to focus on his training in meat fabrication, troubleshooting for packers and processors, and teaching about beef, he said.

After eight years with CAB, Phil was given the opportunity to take a meat scientist position at the University of Idaho. There, he teaches classes as well as conducts research on the beef business.

"There are no common days in good research, as far as I'm concerned," Phil said. "You should be exploring and seeing new things pretty much every day. We use tried-and-true methods to continue to grow our knowledge of the subject."

Phil is a strong proponent of the land grant university system, explaining the land grant mission is to teach people from a variety of backgrounds, but that land grant institutions were originally started because of agriculture.

"Our country at the time in 1862 was going through some pretty difficult spots. And the leadership at that time was worried that we wouldn't have enough food to feed everybody once the Civil War was open. We needed to be able to teach everybody, not just the elite," he said.

The pre-veterinary option is one of the most popular options for students enrolling in the Department of Animal Veterinary and Food Sciences, but Phil said the reality is less than 10% of students will end up continuing to vet school. This is why he places such an emphasis on sharing the other potential career paths that can be reached through the business, production, dairy or food science options.

Phil gets particularly excited about the business option, which still allows students to take the animal science classes they are interested in, but also accounting, sales, marketing and other business classes.

"That is like a jack-of-all-trades that we need in animal agriculture and especially in the meat business, because we need students who want to learn about the animals and all the systems that are involved, all the way from genetics and reproduction, down to animal products," Phil said.

"But we also need them to put that thinking into 'How can we make money for a business?' and 'How can we continue to grow fiscally?'"

There can be a path for everyone in the degree. The pre-vet option is usually the most popular choice when it comes to animal science, but oftentimes it's because it is the most well-known career path.

That doesn't necessarily make it the best fit for everyone. "You have to want any doctorate more than anything in the world," Phil said. "So, if you hesitate at all, that's OK, let's focus on something else."

He continued, "That's where I start asking, 'What do you like to do? What gets you excited about getting up in the morning?' And let's start finding things that are along those lines."

He explained that for those who like the animal side of things and want to work with live animals, the meat business actually has numerous opportunities, even for working with live animals. The industry needs cattle buyers, cattle handlers and customer educators.

Many students, once they become involved with the meat program, find an interest

in the processing system and what it takes to turn an animal into meat. Students who enjoy learning about the biochemistry side of things are able to learn about the mechanisms of the muscles and the cells. Those who love talking to people can find a career path in sales or marketing, consulting for a customer and finding the best fit for them. Students with a mind for mathematics can find opportunities in logistics and transportation in the industry.

"We don't necessarily need a lot more scientists," Phil said. "We just need people who are enthusiastic and driven and want to work in the meat business and see the value of it and how many rewarding careers there can be in that area."

Phil said animal agriculture, especially the cattle business, is an integral part of a sustainable future for everyone, and he wants to get more people involved in agriculture.

"I think good times are coming," he concluded. "As long as we can keep feed prices reasonably priced, producers should be making some pretty good money in the next couple years. Let's keep beef on the table and keep cattle products on the table because they add so much to the world."

For those interested in learning more about the meat science industry, tune in to Phil's weekly podcast, "MeatsPad," or read his new book, "It's Not a Cow." — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor

Principles for low-stress cattle handling

Cattle producers have long recognized and fulfilled the need to properly care for livestock. Sound care and handling practices, based on years of experience and research, are known to impact the well-being of cattle, individual animal health and herd productivity. Cattle are raised in very diverse environments and geographic locations.

One specific set of production practices will not work for all cattle producers, but personal experience, Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) program principles and professional judgment serve as valuable resources for proper animal handling and care. Animal behavior knowledge will facilitate proper animal handling to the benefit of both the handler and the livestock.

Knowledge of vision characteristics of cattle will help direct movement. Due to the location of their eyes, cattle have a wide-angle field of vision in excess of 300 degrees. This means they have a narrow blind spot which is directly behind them. They can see some colors and can distinguish between individuals/objects based on shape. Cattle have a tendency to move from dark areas to lighter areas, provided the light is not glaring. Shadows can often appear extreme to cattle.

Handling issues related to vision-related behaviors include:

- Keep them in visual contact

with other cattle.

- Try to ensure loading ramps and handling chutes are designed to minimize the animals seeing distractions outside of the working area. If cattle can see moving objects and people through the sides it may impede their movement forward.

- Check for chains, backstops, dogs or people distractions if cattle are not moving readily through the alley or chute.

- It may help to make sure the area you are moving the cattle into is adequately lighted.

- Paint the handling facilities a single uniform color because cattle may balk at a sudden change in color.

Cattle have a wider range of hearing than most humans. However, they can locate the source of sound as well as human hearing allows. They are sensitive to high-frequency sounds. With this in mind, we can expect that loud noises in working facilities should be

avoided, but a small amount of noise can assist in moving livestock. Noisy gates and other equipment can cause cattle to balk and resist moving forward.

Producers have long been aware that proper handling management based on their knowledge of animal behavior will reduce stress and behavior-related issues. Improper handling that does not consider animal behavior may lower conception rates, reduce immune and rumen function, increase other health problems and cause excessive shrink and bruising. Make sure to adequately instruct employees of your expectations for low-stress cattle handling techniques.

For more information on the BQ program, or to become a BQA-certified producer, visit BQA.org or contact your county Extension agriculture educator. — Bob LeValley, Oklahoma BQA coordinator



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.)

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.



COMING EVENTS

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

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 cattlemencongress.com/conference.

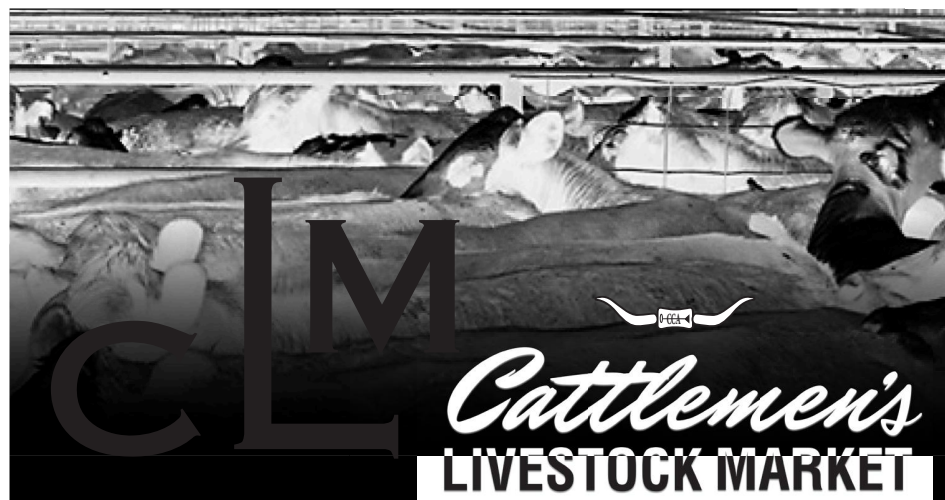
May 24-26 – The California Cattlemen's Association Feeder Council and Arizona Cattle Feeders Association Meeting will be held in San Diego, CA, at the Marriott Marquis. Registration: calcattlemen.org/event/2023-feeder-meeting.

June 19-21 – The Colorado Cattlemen's Association's (CCA) 2023 Annual Convention will be held in Steamboat Springs, CO. To register, call the CCA office

at 303-431-6422, or visit ccaa.memberclicks.net.

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.



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
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CONSIGN BY JUNE 22

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

Grazing before pastures are ready can have lasting impacts

Winter precipitation was not enough to overcome the soil moisture deficit from three years of below normal precipitation for much of Nebraska.

Grazing pastures early causes the plant to use nutrients stored in the roots to regrow, which can cause a reduction of future growth. If delaying grazing is unavoidable, minimize impacts by moving through multiple pastures quickly.

Although near record snowfall this winter brought many challenges in areas of Nebraska, the moisture the snow provided was welcomed after three years of below normal precipitation. However, soil moisture is still below average, and drought conditions are persisting in many areas of the state.

In the spring, plants rely on nutrients stored in the roots during previous years to initiate and sustain growth until

enough leaf area is available to conduct photosynthesis. Without adequate growing season and fall moisture in previous years, nutrient storage is often limited. Not reducing grazing pressure during periods of below-normal precipitation can compound this deficit and reduce production in subsequent years. Although fall and winter precipitation can recharge soil moisture levels, growing season precipitation (April to

September) typically accounts for most of the total annual precipitation and is vital to plant production and rangeland health.

When feed is expensive and hard to find and feeder cattle futures are optimistic, delaying pasture turnout or destocking to reduce grazing pressure are not appealing. Especially if the available feed is low-quality and fails to meet a lactating cow's nutrient requirements, causing

negative impacts to calf performance and delaying return to estrus and her ability to rebreed.

Unfortunately, not delaying turnout or destocking is robbing Peter to pay Paul by saving the cost of feeding hay at the expense of reducing pasture production and further degrading pastures. Grazing before pastures are ready causes the plants to use additional nutrients from already low root stores to recover. If there are not enough nutrients stored in the roots, the plant may go dormant and stop growing, reducing the total annual production. In contrast, allowing pastures additional rest to build nutrient storage by delaying turnout could pay dividends in additional growth later in the year.

When pastures will be ready to graze depends on plant condition and characteristics. Plant condition results from previous grazing seasons management as well as soil moisture and soil temperature which control the start and speed of plant growth. Cool season plants are the first to break dormancy and the first to reach maturity before the hot summer months. Warm season grasses wait for soil temperatures to get above 50 F and continue to grow during the hot months until August.

Determining if a plant is ready to graze is as simple as counting leaves. The number of collared leaves that wrap all the way around the plant stem like a shirt collar indicates whether the plant is ready to be grazed. The rule of thumb is three collared leaves for cool season grasses and four collared leaves for

warm season grasses. When grasses reach these minimums, enough photosynthesis occurs to sustain growth and allow storage of nutrients which can be used to recover from grazing. Not waiting for the minimum number of leaves stresses the plant at a critical time and may reduce total annual production potential.

If grazing before pastures are ready is unavoidable, the negative impacts can be spread lightly across multiple pastures by only grazing each pasture for a few days before moving. The key is to not stay too long and only lightly grazing the fresh growth. Grazing will stress the vulnerable plants, however impacts can be limited if the plant is not grazed repeatedly, and sufficient recovery time is allowed before being grazed again. As always, avoid grazing a pasture at the same time of year multiple years in a row. As a last resort, a sacrifice pasture can be designated to limit damage to a single pasture, however the negative impacts may last for many years.

Another option is to lightly graze introduced pastures, hay fields, or subirrigated areas while allowing native pastures to reach leaf minimums. Be cautious not to reduce hay production later in the year by grazing these forages too short, not providing adequate rest following grazing, and if growing season precipitation is limited.

Resist the temptation to turn cattle out before grass is ready and use caution if there is no other option. Management practices now can have lasting impacts. — **Jack Arterburn, Nebraska Extension educator**

Bedke hopes for spring runoff to replenish aquifer

CUTBACKS (from page 1)

April 7 joint forecast by the Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers of 3.7 million acre-feet of water flow at the Snake River Gage in Heise from April 1 through July 31. The forecast is based on a mountain snowpack and predicted streamflow runoff of 112% of average.

"Even though this has been a remarkable winter and water year for many basins in Idaho, it has not been uniformly great everywhere," said Mat Weaver, IDWR deputy director, in a statement. "Because of the past two years of drought, very low reservoir storage carryover from last year, uncertainty as to whether the reservoirs will

fill, very low soil moisture conditions from last fall and near-normal snowpack in Upper Snake basins, water supply conditions are still resulting in an injury determination at this time."

IDWR will recalculate the shortfall in early July for senior rights holders and any obligations to junior groundwater rights based on irrigation usage and water supply.

The curtailment notice has been put on hold temporarily for junior rights holders pending a hearing on June 6-10 at the agency's state office in Boise.

Ag impact

Jennifer Ellis, a fifth-generation rancher in Blackfoot, told the Idaho Capital Sun the uncertainty of prospective

water cuts would make it difficult to plan for the irrigation and growing season.

"Farmers and ranchers have to have stability in their operation, and it's not year-to-year and it's definitely not month-to-month of whether you have water or not," Ellis said.

Ellis said she sold most of her land in Bingham County last year due to the uncertainty of a stable water supply.

Cameron Mulrony, executive vice president of the Idaho Cattlemen's Association, told *WLJ* while the association does not have an official policy on the curtailments, it is imperative that proper water use and management continue for agriculture production and prac-

tices in Idaho.

According to the Post Register, Idaho Lt. Gov. Scott Bedke (R) stated he understands farmers and ranchers are concerned about the potential for water curtailments, but "the good news is that nearly every farmer is covered with the mitigation plan."

Bedke continued the methodology order needed to be updated as it has been nine years since the last order. Bedke hopes some of the spring runoff can be used to replenish the aquifer.

"You've got a lot of snow to melt that's got to go someplace, and it's going to come off pretty quick as late as it is," Bedke said. "There's going to be issues around flooding and handling all this water. We don't just want it all to go into the river and leave the state. Let's use that to recharge our aquifers when we can and retain that water in the state for as long as we can." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ editor**

AL farm awarded with ESAP honor

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) announced that Carter Cattle Company, LLC, of Pintlala, AL, is the 2022 National Environmental Stewardship Award Program (ESAP) winner. The award, which annually recognizes the outstanding stewardship practices and conservation achievements of cattle producers, was presented to the Carter family during NCBA's annual Spring Legislative Conference in Washington, D.C. in late April.

"Carter Cattle Company is an excellent example of how cattle producers across the country undertake stewardship efforts unique to their environment, landscape and resources," said NCBA President Todd Wilkinson. "The Carters are keenly focused on conserving natural resources for future generations."

Sustainability began as a lifestyle more than a practice seven generations ago in the mid-1820s when the farm was established. The Carters make management decisions with the future in mind, utilizing rotational grazing for their forage-based feeding program. Rotational grazing has been vital to improving the overall health of the farm ecosystem, soil health, forage base, watershed, livestock and wildlife.

"It is an honor and lifelong dream to receive this award, and extremely humbling," said Dr. Will Carter of Carter Cattle Company. "We are in the cattle business, but we are in the grass business first. Our job is to manage the grass and allocate it to the cattle that then take the resource and produce something of greater value."

Through conservation incentives offered under the Watershed Project and Environmental Quality Incentives Program, the Carters installed 2,000 feet of water lines to two new water troughs, protected 1,250 square feet of heavy use areas and built 1,300 feet of fence to exclude cattle from Pintlala Creek. These efforts help the Carters utilize the land in the most effective way for their cow herd while protecting natural resources. In addition, being good stewards doesn't stop at the farm gate, as both Will and Monnie Carol Carter are veterinarians who care for other animals in their community.

"Cattle and a clean environment go hand and hand," Carter said. "This place wouldn't be in the condition it's in and improving each year if it weren't for the cattle."

Established in 1991, ESAP identifies outstanding land stewards in the cattle indus-

try. Each year, seven families are recognized with regional Environmental Stewardship awards, with one being honored as the national winner.

2022 Regional Winners:
Region I: Lamb Farms, Inc., Oakfield, NY.

Region II: Carter Cattle Company, LLC, Pintlala, AL.

Region III: Huth Polled Herefords and S&H Livestock Enterprises, LLC, Oakfield, WI.

Region IV: Parks Ranch, Goliad County, TX.

Region V: Mannix Brothers Ranch, Helmsville, MT.

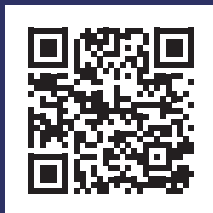
Region VI: Fulstone Ranches, Smith, NV.

Region VII: Jorgensen Land & Cattle Partnership, Ideal, SD.

ESAP is generously sponsored by companies and federal agencies who share the cattle industry's commitment to caring for the environment and protecting natural resources. Sponsors including USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service, Corteva Agriscience, McDonald's, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service partner with NCBA to promote environmental stewardship throughout the beef supply chain. For more information, visit www.environmentalstewardship.org. — **NCBA**

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Polis may veto CO wolf bills

CO WOLVES (from page 1)

claim up to 1.25 missing yearlings for each confirmed cattle depredation. Those who do not implement the conflict minimization practices may claim up to 1 missing yearling for each confirmed cattle depredation.

- If conflict minimization practices are implemented, up to seven missing calves and sheep may be claimed for each cattle or sheep depredation. If the practices are not implemented, up to five missing calves and sheep may be claimed for each depredation.

- Wolves will be delisted from endangered to threatened status when there is a minimum winter-time count of 50 wolves for at least four successive years.

- Wolves will be delisted and reclassified as non-game wildlife when a minimum count of 150 wolves are observed in the state for two successive years, or there is a minimum count of 200 wolves anywhere in the state.

It is still uncertain where the wolves will be coming from. CPW said it is most desirable for wolves to be sourced from the northern Rockies states, or Oregon or Washington. However, this has yet to be confirmed. The agency will plan to capture 10-15 wolves annually from several different packs over the course of 3-5 years.

Wolves will be released west of the Continental Di-

vide, a minimum of 60 miles from Colorado's borders with Wyoming, Utah and New Mexico, along with a similar buffer to Tribal lands. All wolves will be fitted with GPS collars.

Pending legislation

SB23-256, Management of Gray Wolves Reintroduction, would require a 10(j) rule to be granted to Colorado from the Department of the Interior prior to wolves being introduced. The rule would allow the state to designate wolves as a "nonessential, experimental population." This would authorize the legal take of wolves, in addition to other non-lethal management options. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is currently in the process of finalizing the 10(j) rule by mid-December.

"This bill works to ensure there are proper tools and resources to manage gray wolves before their introduction and provide producers certainty and management flexibility to protect their livestock and livelihoods," the Colorado Cattlemen's Association (CCA) said in support of the legislation. "Our state's livestock producers have been an important part of our economy, communities and state's heritage for generations and deserve full support."

CCA encourages members to share their support of the bill with the governor. Comments may be shared by calling the

Governor's Office front desk at 303-866-2471 or emailing governorpolis@state.co.us.

"The Polis administration opposes Senate Bill 256, although the governor's office claims it supports the state seeking the 10(j) ruling," CCA said. "Despite administration's claims that the governor supports the state getting that 10(j) designation, the reasons for his opposition to SB 256—which seeks the same thing but with guardrails—is unclear. That position also raises the specter of a gubernatorial veto."

SB23-255, Wolf Depredation Compensation Fund, would create a compensation fund for producers and landowners who suffer wolf depredation of livestock and working animals. The bill would appropriate \$175,000 in fiscal year 2023-24 for the fund, and then \$350,000 for every fiscal year thereafter.

"Colorado voters passed the wolf initiative with the narrowest of margins, but they did it with the knowledge that ranchers must be compensated for their losses and have the ability to manage problem wolves," said Carlyle Currier, Colorado Farm Bureau president, in support of the legislation. "We are hopeful that the governor will follow the will of the legislature and sign these bills into law."

As of *WLJ* press time, the governor had taken no action on the bills. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

Beef exports show signs of rebound

While below last year's high volume, March beef exports were the largest since October, according to data released by USDA and compiled by the U.S. Meat Export Federation (USMEF).

Beef exports totaled 120,495 metric tons (mt) in March, down 5% from a year ago. Export value fell 17% to \$892.6 million, but both volume and value were the highest in five months. Through the first quarter, beef exports were down 8% year over year to 326,494 mt, valued at \$2.35 billion (down 22%).

March beef exports to Mexico were well above last year,

while export growth to the Caribbean was highlighted by a record month for the Dominican Republic. Exports also increased year over year to the Philippines, while beef variety meat demand strengthened in South Africa and Peru. March exports to South Korea were below last year but were the largest in 10 months, while exports to China/Hong Kong were the largest since October.

"U.S. beef exports faced considerable headwinds late last year and at the beginning of 2023, but the March results show some encouraging trends," said USMEF President and CEO Dan Halstrom.

"Most Asian markets showed renewed momentum in March, while exports continued to trend higher to Mexico, the Caribbean and South Africa."

March exports of U.S. lamb muscle cuts totaled 218 mt, down 5% from a year ago, but export value still climbed 11% higher to \$1.4 million. First quarter exports increased 35% to 664 mt, valued at \$3.7 million (up 23%). First quarter lamb exports to Mexico were the largest since 2017, while exports also increased to the Netherlands Antilles, the Bahamas, Guatemala and Taiwan. — **USMEF**

Using garlic for horn fly control

Many livestock producers have shown a strong interest in using garlic to reduce horn flies on pastured cattle. Garlic is commercially available in a pre-mix mineral or can be purchased and mixed by the producer in mineral or salt, normally at a concentration of 2% garlic.

Garlic powder contains a mixture of volatile sulfur-based bioactive compounds, which have been shown to exhibit insect repellent and anti-viral properties. It has been theorized strong odors emitted from the skin of the animals come from organosulfur compounds metabolized after consuming garlic-based products and these

volatile metabolites of garlic are transported in the blood and emitted from the skin and thus discourage flies from taking a blood meal.

Few scientific studies have been conducted to explore the activity of garlic against the horn fly. A two-year study conducted in Canada demonstrated in the first year that horn fly numbers were reduced by 47% on cattle offered a free choice 2% garlic-infused salt compared with an untreated group. Results from the second year demonstrated no differences in horn fly numbers between the garlic treatment and the control.

The question often raised is does it work in reducing

horn fly numbers? To address that question, we conducted two studies with garlic, mixed with either mineral or salt and presented to cattle in a free choice arrangement. A control group (untreated cattle) was included in both studies and used as a comparison to determine efficacy. In both studies, horn fly numbers exceeded the economic injury level of 200 flies throughout the fly season. One study required a rescue treatment to reduce horn fly numbers. A significant reduction in horn fly numbers with garlic was not observed. — **Dave Boxler and T.L. Meyer, Nebraska Extension educators**

Practice tick safety to avoid getting an allergy to red meat

Spring is an appropriate time for tick education. Ticks may be active all year long if temperatures outside are above freezing, but May and June are the months when people pick up the most ticks. There are three tick species established in Nebraska that carry and spread diseases to humans and animals, including the lone star tick. Lone star ticks are widely distributed across the east, south and central U.S., extending across the southeastern portion of Nebraska. It is the second most frequently reported tick and its bite may trigger a potentially life-threatening allergic reaction in humans after they eat red meat.

The red meat allergy, also called alpha-gal syndrome, is a delayed allergic reaction to red meat. The source of this allergy is a sugar molecule, alpha-gal (galactose-alpha-1,3-galactose) that is found in meat and other products from non-primate mammals, including beef, pork, venison and rabbit. Alpha-gal is also in the saliva of lone star ticks and enters the human body by a tick bite.

When people with alpha-gal in their body eat red

meat, the human immune system has a strong response. Symptoms of red meat allergy can occur 2-8 hours after a person eats red meat and can range from mild to severe to life-threatening anaphylaxis. Symptoms may include itching, hives, vomiting, diarrhea, swelling of the tongue and throat, difficulty breathing, dizziness and gastrointestinal pain.

There is no cure for red meat allergy. Mild symptoms can be treated with antihistamines while severe allergic reactions require emergency medical attention and epinephrine. To prevent allergic reactions in the future, a person diagnosed with red meat allergy must stop eating red meat. In some individuals, the severity of the allergy diminishes over time (sometimes several years) if there are no further exposures to lone star tick bites and saliva.

To prevent the red meat allergy, avoid bites by lone star ticks.

- Reduce the number of ticks brought into the house by putting field clothes in a clothes dryer on high heat for 30 minutes.

- Repellents applied to

skin have limitations, but permethrin-treated field clothes can be worn several times and still reduce tick exposure.

- Regular, full body, tick checks on your person should be performed after coming in from the pastures. Lone star ticks are aggressive and will bite on the lower legs.

- Remove ticks from body as soon as possible. Use care when removing embedded ticks.

- Record or report tick activity to Tick Tag Go

If you do find a tick, do not discard it before identification and documentation. Tick Tag Go is a community-science project designed to passively survey ticks found in Nebraska. By joining the iNaturalist project you can submit your tick photos for identification and contribute and view maps of tick species found in the state.

If you have questions about how to protect humans from tick bites, email Jody Green, entomologist and extension educator with Nebraska Extension in Douglas-Sarpy counties, jgreen17@unl.edu. — **Jody Green, Nebraska Extension educator**



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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: 5/11/2023	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	171.58 ▼	174.07	142.17
CME Feeder Index	199.40 ▼	201.53	156.61
Boxed Beef Average	305.72 ▼	309.52	257.20
Average Dressed Steers	276.70 ▼	281.04	229.21
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,357 ▼	1,373	1,377
Weekly Slaughter**	623,000 ▲	620,000	657,000
Weekly Beef Production***	508.5 ▲	507.9	545.5
Hide/Offal Value	13.92 ▲	13.07	13.63
Corn Price	6.32 ▼	6.47	8.14

*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	
May 5	6,573	305.85	213	335.34	1,188	311.27	1,962	307.87	778	286.23	2,432	274.04
May 1	6,476	305.80	223	337.38	1,235	309.33	1,993	306.02	705	287.83	2,320	272.20
April 24	6,351	302.05	239	338.58	1,255	305.39	1,905	302.26	662	285.61	2,289	271.41
April 14	5,896	294.34	194	333.21	1,191	296.21	1,664	293.27	627	279.51	2,220	260.52

Cutouts					
DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT	50% LEAN	90% LEAN
May 11	305.72	284.58	224.42	203.52	N/A
May 10	306.87	284.54	244.43	202.08	280.56
May 9	307.38	284.89	222.26	196.29	277.01
May 8	308.56	285.12	220.31	199.98	268.64
May 5	309.19	288.16	219.53	199.78	272.53

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	5/5	5/8	5/9	5/10	5/11	High*	Low*
Jun.	16193	16243	16393	16300	16295	16548	14003
Aug.	15950	16008	16155	16118	16080	16385	15388
Oct.	16358	16413	16533	16500	16455	16783	15310
Dec.	16815	16888	17000	16950	16868	17178	16853

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	5/5	5/8	5/9	5/10	5/11	High*	Low*
May	20253	20343	20593	20538	20413	21240	17595
Aug.	22143	22310	22613	22515	22608	23158	18303
Sep.	22505	22665	22965	22838	22930	23453	18755
Nov.	22750	22900	23200	23078	23170	23553	22750

*High and low figures are for the life of the contract.

Selected Auction Week Ending May 11, 2023										
DATE	MARKET	200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS REPLACEMENTS
May 5	Blackfoot, ID	N/A	180-210	220-263 180-217	190-260 175-237	190-258 170-222	185-240 167-207	172-205 162-190	86-08 103-119.50	
May 4	Burley, ID	302		246 227	222	226 202	187-189	171-199 175	85-109.50 118-129	
No report available Emmett, ID										
May 8	Eugene, OR	780	220-258 211-250	211-251 190-233	207-240 200-236	212-259 148-194	202-251 152-197	174-208 134-160	95-115 117-132	650-1360 500-1300
May 8	Madras, OR	132		275-285 240-250	240-275 230-245				90-111 110-121	2,000-2,625
May 3	Vale, OR	559		235-250 202-227.50	220-250 200-215	199-221 178-193	178-201		90-102 102-122	1,750-2,200
No report available Davenport, WA										
May 5	Toppenish, WA	1,540	201*	290*		206-211*			88-103.50 109-132.50	1,900-2,700

FED CATTLE TRADE	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES			
Live FOB Steer	12,538	1,397	171.58
Live FOB Heifer	4,739	1,266	170.75
Dressed Del Steer	814	895	276.70
Dressed Del Heifer	685	843	272.76
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	25,593	1,412	174.07
Live FOB Heifer	13,774	1,280	173.81
Dressed Del Steer	9,126	927	281.04
Dressed Del Heifer	3,410	799	280.92
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	24,743	1,427	142.17
Live FOB Heifer	13,074	1,296	141.48
Dressed Del Steer	13,571	921	229.21
Dressed Del Heifer	3,504	836	229.72

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: MAY 7		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	29,279	3,715
Formula	260,729	190
Negotiated Cash	89,343	239
Negotiated Grid	42,945	1,726
Packer Owned	10,685	N/A
Total	433,072	5,870

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS	FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month	Neg. Sales 0-21 days	1,820
May '23	114,950	989
Jun. '23	104,993	3,632
Jul. '23	64,559	133
Aug. '23	64,478	5,651
Sep. '23	75,836	206

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	246.98	-3.11
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	247.75	-0.06
Ontario Auctions		
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs	246.54	-0.94
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs	N/A	N/A
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs	135.61	-2.4

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, April 28, 2023			
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario
501-600 lbs	377.26	367.55	322.50
601-700 lbs	356.64	349.09	321.40
701-800 lbs	330.04	322.62	319.08
801-900 lbs	294.71	293.48	300.64
Heifers:			
401-500 lbs	345.95	345.14	261.66
501-600 lbs	335.93	332.07	266.43
601-700 lbs	317.46	314.27	267.36
701-800 lbs	292.83	293.98	259.14

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	5/1/23	4/24/23		
	18,998	27,721	427,134	231,865

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE			
Friday, May 5, 2023			
Mexico to TX. & NM. Weekly Feeder Cattle Import Summary			
Receipts EST: 14,000	Week Ago Act: 21,251	Year Ago Act: 11,908	
Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings sold mostly steady. Heifers mostly steady. Trade active to very active, demand active to very 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 239.00-250.00; 400-500 lbs 219.00-230.00; 500-600 lbs 199.00-210.00; 600-700 lbs 184.00-195.00. Medium and large 2&3, 300-400 lbs 224.00-235.00; 400-500 lbs 204.00-215.00; 500-600 lbs 184.00-195.00.			
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2, 300-400 lbs 198.00-208.00, few 209.00; 400-500 lbs 188.00-198.00, few 199.00; 500-600 lbs 178.00-188.00, few 189.00; 600-700 lbs 168.00-178.00, few 179.00.			
(side 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)			

April 27	Orland, CA	2,865	240-338 220-288	210-289	220-281 200-265	200-263 180-239	175-226 155-196	145-201 140-180	95-118 100-136	1,300-3,225
May 8	Escalon, CA	N/A	200-250 190-240		200-240 190-230		170-210 130-190	115-145 105-135	80-92 65-98	800-1,500
May 1	Famoso, CA	302	175-250 165-200	175-240 150-180	130-230 150-180	170-210 140-173	150-190	140-170	90-120 80-120	
May 3	Galt, CA	2,424	220-285 240-285	190-271 210-250	185-235 180-201	170-215 165-195	140-195	77-115 90-130	1,500-2,500 1,500-2,600	
May 9	Turlock, CA	1,645	240-270 210-247.50	244-288 220-262.50	240-270 215-263	200-237.25 200-225	190-227 165-181.50	160-180 155-170	87-114 110-129	2,800-2,985
May 2	Salina, UT	759	205-295 187.50-255	195-285 180-250	180-249 170-235.50	167.50-236 160-223	155-230 155-187.50	147.50-189	84.95-110.75 101.30-134.35	

May 8	Iowa	8,315	258-306 226-280	239.50-292.50 183-254	211-295 200-244.50	195-252 173-218	186-225 182.25-202	177-205.50 160-196	85-114 87.50-131	
May 9	Miles City, MT	1,019			257.50-279 232-243	211-219.50	192-209	220	85.50-102 103-119	1,850-2,750 1,600-1,900
May 10	Bassett, NE	4,990	300-318 275-301	287-312.50 270-287	270.50-307.25 230-300	241.50-275 221-239.75	233.50-238 199-201.50	202-206		
No report available Ericson, NE										
No report available Imperial, NE										
May 3	Kearney, NE	3,100		265 224-246	244-275.50 216-245	221-241 191-221	204-219 178.50-203	187-199 176-187	91-106.50 105-128.50	
No report available Lexington, NE										
No report available Ogallala, NE										
No report available Valentine, NE										
No report available Herreid, SD										
No report available Torrington, WY										

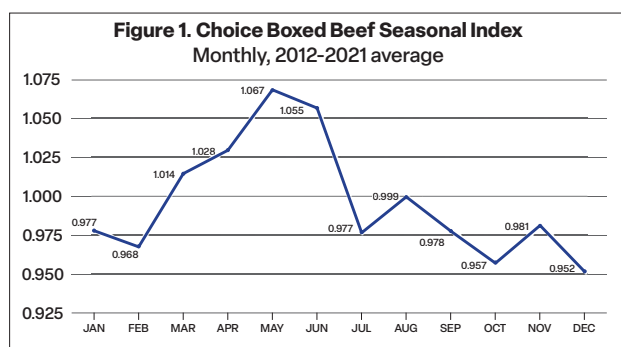
May 5	Wilcox, AZ	N/A	211 160-220	213-250 186-229	211-245 180-207	202-246 171-195	178-201.50 143-179.50		90-125 100-122	1,200-1,400 1,025-1,275	
May 8	Colorado	6,122	299	260-296 243-252.50	251-268 235-250	222-266 207-237	218-243 200-229	201-205.50 188-198	190-195 173-187.25	71-110 94-147	1,350-2,025 1,270-1,675
May 3	La Junta, CO	1,492		233-279 201-207	228-254 204-218	231-265 205-223	212-222 198-213	202-211 180-198	87-105.50 103-124	1,385-1,735 1,350-2,025	
No report available Loma, CO											
May 10	Dodge City, KS	1,454		270 215-235	230-256 208-239	220-243 196-229	202-235 185.50-200	191-207 181-190	172.50-193 165.50-178.10	82-111 91-124.50	2,275 1,075-1,575
May 11	Pratt, KS	2,200		242.50-275 230-256	229-252 232-249	211 200-236	213-221 215-229	186-210.50 175-194.25	159-181.50		
May 4	Salina, KS	2,688		285-305 243-252.50	265-285 235-250	235-278 207-237	213-243 200-229	195-220 188-198	183.50-202.50 173-187.25		
May 4	Clovis, NM	1,131	274-288 234-240	238-287 220-251	232-268 206-240	207-253 200-226	191-217 170-189	176-190 167-175	142-189 146-172	90-114 53-121	800-2,300 700-1,675
May 10	El Reno, OK	1,500	320	270-275 260-287	280-302.50 242-258	238-270 220-252.50	220-249 199-225	183.50-196 176-184.50			
May 9	McAlester, OK	1,375		228-252 221-239	207-245 211-226	220-239 211-226	204-220 196-218	179-201 154-178	174 118-145	82-98 109-126	1,005-1,525 850-1,385
May 9	Oklahoma City, OK	8,319	315	275-301 236-248	252-300 207-269	234-277 207-245	220-246 189-214	193-221 177.50-198	162.50-201 124-183		
May 5	Cuero, TX	1,373	244-292 225-290	239-268 198-264	213-262 196-255	203-229 189-223	192-217 178-200	174-206 149-199	80-95 93-124	1,075-1,375	
May 5	Dalhart, TX										

The summer grilling season is near

May is upon us, with all the weather uncertainty that is typical of the month, but also the assurance that summer is coming. The Memorial Day holiday at the end of the month will kick off the summer grilling season. Lots of attention is being focused on beef demand as the tightening of beef supplies will increase the pressure for higher wholesale and retail beef prices. How high can they go and how fast?

In the first full week of May, Choice boxed beef prices averaged \$309.41/cwt, up over 9% from the beginning of the year and 20% higher year over year. The boxed beef price increase thus far in 2023 is following quite close to an average seasonal pattern as shown in Figure 1. Boxed beef prices typically peak in May with wholesale buying ahead of summer grilling season, before dropping lower in the second half of the year. The seasonal pattern of boxed beef prices reflects the net impact of seasonal demands for the various beef products that are included in the boxed beef price as reported by the Agricultural Marketing Service.

Current daily boxed beef reports include prices for more than 40 different beef cuts and subprimals. The price seasonality of each of these products varies according to the different uses of the products and the alternative supply chains in which they are mostly marketed. Beef products may flow primarily through the supply chains of retail grocery, food service



(including restaurants) or export markets. Nearly all of the reported wholesale beef prices are currently higher year over year.

The May peak in boxed beef price is largely driven by retail grocery demand for strip loins and sirloin cuts that move primarily through retail grocery channels. Chuckroll prices are also very strong currently, which may be driven by export demand and retail grocery demand, including ground beef. The most valuable cuts of tenderloin and ribeye are not typically seasonally strong this time of year, but both have been higher all year so far in 2023, reflecting continued strong restaurant demand.

Ground beef demand typically increases in the summer, not only because of grilling demand but also because more people are traveling and utilizing drive-throughs. Food service ground beef demand, especially the quick service restaurants, rely heavily on beef trimmings as sources for ground beef production. The price of 90% lean trimmings (mostly cow beef), have beef prices rising all year and are currently moving higher than

year-ago levels. More dramatically, the price of 50% lean trimmings has moved sharply higher to a current level that is unprecedented except for a brief spike during the pandemic in 2020.

Tightening beef supplies, underlying general strength in beef demand and seasonal grilling demand are all pushing wholesale beef prices higher. Consumer beef demand has continued to be remarkably resilient, and wholesale beef prices are likely to go higher yet as beef production continues to decrease going forward. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

Steady demand continues for feeders

MARKETS (from page 1)

cattle cost, aided greatly by the fifth week of continued small weekly fed cattle slaughter, and boxed beef values holding together, packers saw another profit margin improvement," Cassie Fish, market analyst, wrote in *The Beef* on Monday.

Feeder cattle

"The feeder cattle complex is trading mostly higher as the market warmly welcomes the onset of cheaper corn prices again this week amid a live cattle market that's also trading higher," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her Thursday midday comments.

Feeder cattle futures also traded steady to higher, with the May contract up just under 50 cents to \$204.12 and the August contract up about \$3 to \$226.07.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index lost \$2.13 to close at \$199.40.

Corn futures were lower, with the May contract down 14 cents to \$6.32 and the July contract down 7 cents to \$5.82.

Iowa: Russell Livestock in Russell sold 3,152 head Monday. Compared to the previous auction, steers under 600 lbs. sold mostly \$2-9 lower, while 600-650 lbs. steers sold \$3 higher. Heifers under 500 lbs. sold \$7 higher,

while 500-600 lbs. sold steady to \$7 lower. Benchmark steers averaging 784 lbs. sold between \$193-212.85 and averaged \$208.90.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 10,000 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, at the mid-session, feeder steers sold steady to \$4 lower, with feeder heifers under 600 lbs. selling \$3-5 lower. Heavier steers sold steady. Benchmark steers averaging 785 lbs. sold from \$209.25-212.50, averaging \$209.82.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 8,200 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, at the mid-session, feeder steers and steer calves sold steady to \$2 higher. Feeder heifers sold steady on a light demand. Heifer calves sold \$6-8 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 775 lbs. sold from \$193-218.50, averaging \$204.31.

South Dakota: Sioux Falls Regional Cattle Auction in Worthing sold 3,663 head on Monday. Compared to the prior sale, feeder steers sold steady to \$2 higher, except 750-850 lbs. Sold \$1-5 lower. Feeder heifers sold steady to \$3 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 786 lbs. sold from \$205-218.50, averaging \$214.91. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**

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JULY 10-14

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Consignment Deadline - July 14

JULY 31- AUG. 4

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AUG. 21-25

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LIABILITY: Advertiser is liable for content of advertisement and any claims arising therefrom made against the publication.
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COMMISSIONS: Classified advertising is NOT agency commissionable.

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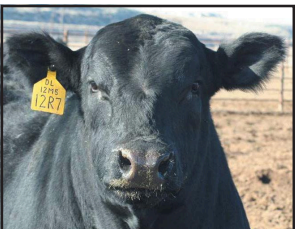
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Cattle For Sale 10

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Pasture Wanted 24

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 805-431-3802.

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Real Estate Opportunities 20

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Real Estate Pacific 20A

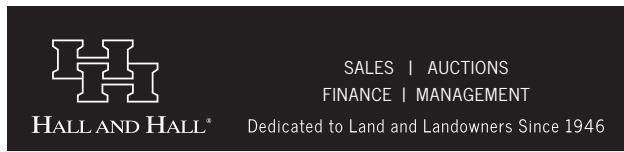


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Real Estate Mountain 20C

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Real Estate Opportunities 20



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Real Estate Mountain 20C

Real Estate Mountain 20C

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Tracts I-7 • 3,724.2± deeded acres and 14,678± BLM acres • Excellent trophy elk, mule deer, and pronghorn hunting • Demonstrated history of producing elk scoring in excess of 370" Boone and Crockett • Located on Colorado's GMU 2 • 2,403± square foot home, with attached 741± square foot three-bay garage • Four spring-fed trout ponds with fish up to 26" and seven pounds	Tracts 8-12 • 2,693.3± Deeded acres and 2,305± BLM acres • Over 3 miles of Lay Creek • Excellent hunting for Mule Deer, Pronghorn Antelope and Migrating Elk • Located in Colorado's GMU 3 • Ideally suited for nearly year-round cattle grazing
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United Country-Stockmen's Realty celebrates award-winning auction marketing

United Country-Stockmen's Realty has been recognized by United Country Real Estate for their excellence in the production of marketing materials for their client's properties. Awarded

by United Country Real Estate and presented in sponsorship with Shearer Printing & Office Solutions, United Country-Stockmen's Realty won first place in the auction video category and

overall Best in Show in the 2022 United Country Auction Marketing Competition.

United Country-Stockmen's Realty is an Arizona-based real estate and auction company with over 30 years of real estate experience and a proven track record of serving the unique needs of buyers and sellers of Arizona and New Mexico cattle ranches, farms, equestrian prop-

erties and other rural lifestyle properties.

"We are excited and honored to have our work recognized. It is a testament to the hard work our team consistently puts into creating high quality marketing materials for our sellers," said Nancy Belt, owner-broker of United Country-Stockmen's Realty.

Through the annual contest, United Country's most success-

ful auction marketing companies competed for coveted awards that highlighted the most innovative and effective auction marketing campaigns. This year's competition received more than 190 entries, and each was judged by a third-party panel of marketing and advertising professionals. Criteria included creativity, effectiveness, message clarity and visual appeal. Win-

ners of the contest were formally awarded and recognized during the 2023 United Country Training & Awards Convention, March 17 in Gulf Shores, AL.

To learn more about United Country-Stockmen's Realty and find information about their upcoming auctions, please visit www.ucstockmensrealty.com or call 520-455-0633. — **United Country-Stockmen's Realty**

SALE CALENDAR

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

ALL BREEDS

Sep. 17 — Visalia Livestock, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA

ANGUS

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

Jun. 24 — Baldrige Performance Angus, Female Sale, North Platte, 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

HEREFORD

Sep. 11 — Genoa Livestock, Bull & Female Sale, Minden, NV

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

HORSE

May 20 — Feather River College Horse Sale, Quincy, CA

Jun. 3 — Ranchers Horse Sale, Juntura, OR

Jun. 10 — Shelman Family Horse Sale, Burns, OR

Jun. 24 — Fort Ranch Horse Sale, Corrinne, UT

Jun. 24 — Memory Ranches, Horse Sale, Wells, NV

Study seeks farmer/rancher input on well-being

North Dakota farmers and ranchers are invited to participate in a focus group interview to investigate how a worksite well-being program could be designed to effectively decrease stress and increase well-being.

Do you deal with a lot of stress in farming or ranching? You are not alone.

Change is everywhere in agriculture. While some changes are anticipated, such as fluctuations in market prices, others, such as unpredictable weather events or unexpected disease, can be hard to cope with.

To better understand how the

opportunities and constraints faced in their daily operations impact well-being, Caroline Homan, doctoral student in Human Development and Family Science at North Dakota State University (NDSU), is seeking North Dakota farmers and ranchers to participate in a focus group.

"Responding to change in agriculture requires flexibility," says Homan. "It can be a challenge that stimulates personal and organizational growth, or it can be a source of severe stress that has devastating effects on families."

North Dakota farmers and

ranchers over the age of 18 are invited to participate in a 60-minute focus group interview to investigate how a worksite well-being program could be designed to effectively decrease stress and increase well-being.

The goal of this research is to learn how to best support farmers and ranchers' physical health, social relationships, psychological well-being and work adjustment.

The focus group interview will be held virtually using Zoom. Six to 10 participants will be in each group. Participants will not use their real names and will agree to

respect the privacy of others, and all identifying records will be kept private.

Prior to the focus group, participants will complete a brief online questionnaire to gather demographic information and consider questions related to topics to be discussed during the focus group, such as, "What are your primary sources of strength?"

To participate, please email caroline.homan@ndsu.edu. Each participant will receive a \$20 Amazon gift card as a small token of gratitude. — **NDSU Extension**

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WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

Real Estate Plains 20E

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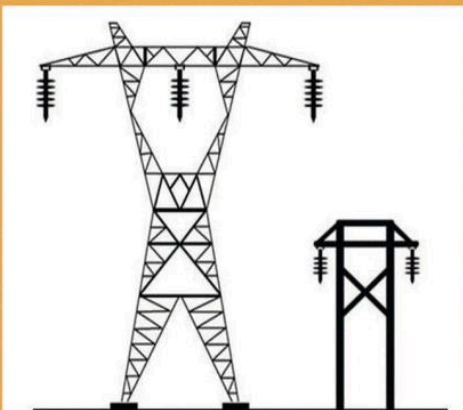
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- Must be Transmission Power Lines
- Must be 115 Kv to 345 Kv

Please Note the Four Essential Requirements Below

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300 or more acres (must be in recent cultivation or in pasture or clear open range)

No timberland or clear cuts

State or county maintained road bordering the property

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