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INSIDE WLJ

HAY-MERGENCY – Some Midwestern livestock producers will soon be able to use select acres for emergency hay and grazing amidst severe drought. **Page 5**

BLM PROPOSAL – Ag groups ask BLM to withdraw proposal that will restrict grazing and timber harvesting activities. **Page 7**

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"A proposed rule change listed by the USDA on Jan. 5, 2007, caused quite a stir when the agency proposed changing the status of the Patagonia South region of Argentina, which Argentina claims is FMD free. Given the highly contagious nature of the virus, a number of groups have resisted the designation change as it would allow the export of livestock and fresh meat from Argentina to the U.S. The groups also oppose the idea of regionalizing the country into FMD "safe" and "unsafe" zones as FMD's ability to cross easily into areas thought to be disease free is well documented," read the July 21, 2008, *WLJ* cover story.

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Significant cuts proposed to Interior, EPA budget

— Possible partisan faceoff

The House Appropriations Committee's Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Subcommittee is seeking to rein in spending for the Interior Department and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) in fiscal year (FY) 2024, setting up a partisan fight on the House of Representatives floor.

The bill calls for a 39% cut in funding from FY 2023 for EPA to \$6.17 billion. It reduces spending for the Interior Department's Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's budgets to be reduced by 18% and 13%, respectively.

Additionally, the bill seeks to rein in regulations such as:

- The Biden administration's Waters of the U.S. regulations.
- Requirements for reporting livestock emissions under the Clean Air Act and reporting greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.
- Endangered Species Act regulations, including the listing of the bi-state sage grouse and the prairie chicken, introduction of bison to the

Charles M. Russell Wildlife Refuge in Montana, introduction of grizzly bears in the North Cascades Ecosystem, and reissue of the 2020 rule delisting the gray wolf.

The bill calls for protections for recreational sports and the oil and gas industry, and expands access to critical minerals. It also fully funds wildfire management, the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program.

"I will be honest—if you're looking for a pretty bill, this is not it," Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID-03), chairman of the subcommittee, said in the bill's markup. "This is a hard bill, but frankly, it is a necessary bill. Cutting funding is never easy and can often be an ugly process. But with the national debt in excess of \$32 trillion and inflation at an unacceptable level, we must do our jobs to rein in unnecessary federal spending."

Rep. Chellie Pingree (D-ME-01) said at the bill's hearing that the bill would cut back the progress made with funding through the Inflation Reduction Act and it virtually eliminates the Greenhouse Gas Reduction fund. Pingree continued the bill goes beyond climate funding and cuts the budget for agencies that

garner the support of members on both sides of the aisle. Pingree pointed to the proposed 13% cut in funding for the National Park Service at a time when visitors are at an

all-time high. Other Democrats on the committee echoed Pingree's sentiment about cutting funding for

See FUNDING on page 5



Claire Nicholson Taylor

The Interior Department and the Environmental Protection Agency may be seeing less appropriations dollars in the upcoming fiscal year. Pictured here, Hole-in-the-Wall, a remote pass in the Big Horn Mountains of Johnson County, WY.

Resolution supports Beef Checkoff program

— NCBA supports measure

A bipartisan congressional resolution was introduced in mid-July in support of commodity checkoff programs, including the Beef Checkoff. Sponsored by Alabama Rep. Barry Moore (R-02), the reso-

lution contends that checkoff programs support new and existing markets via research, education and promotion.

The resolution states that research and promotion boards return value to producers through strategies to expand a commodity's market value, along with promote

a commodity as a whole to create industrywide benefit through increased sales, consumer awareness and higher overall demand.

"Checkoff programs have made significant, measurable strides in raising the level of demand and

See BILL on page 6

Court rules solar developer can access rancher's lands

— Overturns ruling

The New Mexico Supreme Court ruled that a solar developer can access a rancher's private road in Quay County, NM, under a prescriptive easement following efforts by the ranch to pre-

vent the solar developer from accessing a solar array.

The Supreme Court overturned a Court of Appeals ruling and found "the law of public prescriptive easements in New Mexico does not require a showing of a minimum amount of use or

number of users."

McFarland Land and Cattle Inc. sought to stop Caprock Solar 1 LLC from developing a solar array on land owned by Robert and Billie Abercrombie by charging the company to use a low water crossing to reach leased land

on the Abercrombies' property for construction of the solar farm.

Background

The low water crossing is on a 6-mile-long road known as Quay Road A1, which runs

along land owned by Abercrombie and McFarland Land and Cattle Inc. and eventually reaches state-owned land. Sometime in 1954, a flood washed out a bridge used for crossing and the road was rerouted onto McFarland's land as a low

water crossing.

When negotiations broke down between McFarland and Caprock, McFarland filed a petition for a permanent injunction in district court to prevent Caprock

See RANCH ACCESS on page 5

Inventory reports expected to be bullish

With two big USDA reports to be released at the end of the week, traders were cautious to make any big moves.

Live cattle futures were several dollars higher over the week. The August contract gained about \$4.40 to close at \$181.32, and the October contract gained about \$3.60 to close at \$183.72.

"This has been a tedious and limited week for the negotiated fed cattle trade," wrote Cassie Fish, market analyst, in *The Beef* on Thursday. "Packers have either refused to bid or picked gingerly around the edges and this morning's week-to-date trade volume total was 3.7k. Prices are generally steady and most cattle feeders have cattle priced higher. Packers are loathe to pay up since their margins are red and the dead cash trade is proof."

Cash trade was slow to get moving until Thursday, when about 20,000 head sold. Through Thursday, about 24,000 head had sold. Live steers sold from \$180-190, averaging \$187.71. Dressed steers sold from \$294-295.

Cash trade for the week ending July 16 was about 64,500 head. Live steers averaged \$184.21, and dressed steers averaged \$291.63.

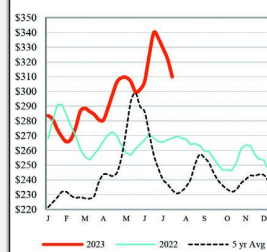
The national weekly direct beef type price distribution for the week of July 10-17 was the following on a live basis:

- Negotiated purchases: \$184.34.
 - Formula net purchases: \$184.51.
 - Forward contract net purchases: \$184.02.
 - Negotiated grid net purchases: \$184.48.
- On a dressed basis:
- Negotiated purchases: \$291.97.

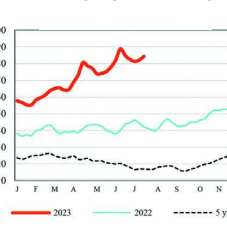
- Formula net purchases: \$290.52.

See MARKETS on page 9

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT



5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE



LIVE STEERS	DRESSED STEERS	CME FEEDER
\$186.31	\$291.23	\$237.83
WEEK ENDING: 7-20-23		

Time Sensitive
Priority Handling
PERIODICAL:

COMMENTS

How high?

Packers are perplexed on how to break this market. Two months ago, the futures market was pessimistic about the August fed cattle market, thinking the seasonal low would be in the low \$160s range. It's the end of July and we are still trading cash cattle in the \$180s in the North and \$175 in the southern Plains. There is still a wide disparity between southern and northern fed cattle markets. Packers have been slow to buy on the cash market; cutouts are falling, and they are losing money, so they will cut slaughter to support the beef cutout value.

The northern and southern fed cattle markets are distinctly different. Southern feeders feed the southern cross kind of cattle, as well as Mexican cattle and the beef-on-dairy cattle, and have fewer cattle grade Choice and Prime. Southern feeders also love their formula arrangements.

Last week, only 500 head traded on the cash markets in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico, which makes one wonder about their base price for formula cattle. Establishing a base price is becoming a problem once again. Remember two years ago when southern Plains cattle feeders were trying—perhaps not very hard—to trade more cattle on the negotiated cash markets to establish a more robust base price?

The Ag Center's Cattle Report opined recently about the base price for formula cattle: "Unfortunately, for many sellers, these scarce reports set the market for hundreds of thousands of cattle moving into the nation's beef plants for next week. The question of where the market was made is easy to answer—in the opaque world of private non-transparent trades that occur every day. The reported transactions are a small fraction of cattle purchased as packers rely on 'over the tops,' negotiated base prices with an agreed upon grid, and other non-discoverable prices, all combined to put together a kill.

"Many cash sellers are now reaping the rewards of private negotiations as they watch formula sellers take a back seat to aggressive buying in a time of short supplies. Cash sellers have long complained about bearing the burden of price negotiation while witnessing formula sellers take home premium prices. Grid selling is the most logical and natural outcome of the price signals necessary to form the genetic base for characteristics desired by the consumer, but the establishment of the base is key.

"For formula and committed sellers, the next chapter in marketing is developing. The short supply of fed supplies has changed the landscape and having a kill slot is not the driver today it has been in the past. Formula sellers will begin to disaffect opting for negotiating a base price rather than accepting the unreliable base provided by the few cattle reported in the cash markets."

Dry weather in the Corn Belt has created huge volatility in the corn markets; July has been tough on farmers. Between June and July, the September corn futures have swung up to \$6.20, down to \$4.75, then back to \$5.45. Yields will be lower unless they get rain soon. The Drought Monitor has shifted from the West to the Midwest—most of the West is in good shape.

Feeder cattle futures have been moving with the corn markets but are still on a bullish trajectory. One would think feeder cattle are trading near the top of the trading spectrum. I still can't believe that a set of 950-lb. steers sold for \$2.59 in the recent video sales—that's \$2,460 per head. What is the feedlot breakeven on those cattle? It must be over \$200/cwt when they're ready to harvest. December live cattle contracts are only showing us \$187/cwt.

This market cycle is much different than it was in 2014. We have the smallest cow herd in 50 years and this next midyear inventory is expected to be down another 2.3% for all cattle and another 1.4% in 2024. 2025 is projected to be down another tenth of one percent. Then herd building will begin in 2026.

There are lots of heifers on feed right now. Heifer slaughter was at a record level last year and is down 1% as of July 1 this year. When herd building started in 2016, heifer slaughter was at an all-time low. There have been more heifers than normal in the weekly slaughter mix.

Enjoy this market, who knows how high it might go. However, keep praying for midwestern rains, they need it. — **PETE CROW**



CROW

GUEST OPINION

In November of 2021, 145 countries including the U.S. and Brazil pledged to halt and reverse the loss of the world's forests by 2030. In doing so they acknowledged the key role forests play in meeting the world's climate, biodiversity and sustainable development goals.

Yet in 2022, the first full year after the pledge, the tropics lost 10% more primary or old-growth rainforest than in 2021, according to the World Resources Institute and the University of Maryland. Especially startling was Brazil's role in this trend.

Brazil lost 15% more forest in 2022 than in 2021, and the vast majority of that loss was in the Amazon. And because Brazil is the country with the most tropical forest, its 2022 loss of 4.4 million tropical-forest acres accounted for 43% of the world's total loss.

"Amazonas state, home to over half of Brazil's intact forests, has nearly doubled its rate of primary forest loss in just three years," the World Resources Institute said. "Primary forest losses in this part of the Brazilian Amazon are mainly large-scale clearings—likely for cattle pasture—along existing highways."

The institute noted the election of President Luis Inacio Lula da Silva could reverse the forest-losing trend; 2022 was the last year in office of Lula's anti-environmentalist predecessor, Jair Bolsonaro. Maybe, but in a recent article, the Economist argued that Lula's plans to save the Amazon are unrealistic; the resistance from the country's powerful agribusiness and energy lobbies is too powerful.

What should American farmers, and especially ranchers, make of all this? Some may be tempted to stand in solidarity with their Brazilian counterparts. Their argument: An attack on agriculture anywhere is an attack on agriculture everywhere. As long as farmers are providing the world with enough food, the world shouldn't worry too much about how or where farmers produce it.

Many cattlemen, though, see their Brazilian competitors' illegal clearcutting as yet another reason to restrict their access to the U.S. market. Meatpackers, including JBS, the largest in both Brazil and in the U.S., have signed agreements with environmental groups and Brazilian prosecutors promising not to source cattle from ranches that clearcut the rainforest. But "cattle laundering"—moving animals from illegal operations to legal ones for further sale—is widespread.

This would have mattered less to U.S. cattlemen back when the U.S. didn't allow imports of Brazilian beef owing to food-safety concerns. But that ban was lifted three years ago and Brazil quickly became one of the top exporters to the U.S. American imports of Brazilian beef surged in 2021 and again in 2022. It's no

BRAZILIAN BEEF PRODUCERS KEEP DEFORESTING THE AMAZON

coincidence that in 2022 Brazilian cattle ranchers were increasing their clearcutting of the Amazon.

The relationship between imports and clearcutting has grabbed Washington's attention. On June 22 the Senate Finance Committee held hearings. Oregon Sen. Ron Wyden (R), the committee chair, blasted the Brazilian government for blocking access to certain cattle-shipment records.

Wyden also criticized JBS for saying it couldn't monitor its indirect suppliers when "outside investigators that lack JBS's considerable resources were able to analyze records that proved the existence of deforestation in the company's supply chain."

Testifying for JBS, Global Chief Sustainability Officer Jason Weller said the company traces indirect suppliers using a blockchain-based platform that currently covers 45% of the cattle processed by JBS. The goal is 100% participation by 2025. "Beginning in 2026, all direct suppliers and tier 1 indirect suppliers who wish to do business with JBS must be on the platform," he said.

Montana rancher Leo McDonnell testified on behalf of the United States Cattlemen's Association, offering a detailed refresher course on the problematic history of Brazilian beef. McDonnell charged Brazilian beef producers with deforesting the Amazon, peddling unsafe products, exploiting workers and bribing Brazilian officials to finance expansion. Brazil, he said, is "a bad actor in the global marketplace," especially in beef.

McDonnell outlined seven steps his organization would support to protect U.S. cattlemen from Brazil. To me, one stood out—legislation introduced in a previous Congress to restrict "access to U.S. markets for commodities originating from illegally deforested land."

It's not just that the European Union has already done something similar. Laws like this are justified by economics as well as ecology.

Clear cutters, like polluters, impose a cost on society that isn't reflected in the market price of their cattle. By economic logic, it should be. Tariffs or taxes are one way to fix these market failures, which economists call "negative externalities." Outright bans are another.

How much either would discourage clearcutting is uncertain. Most Brazilian beef is consumed domestically. China is the biggest export market. And as cattle laundering shows, clear cutters know how to foil efforts to clamp down on them.

Still, even if it didn't work perfectly, a clear-cutting tariff or ban would be a step in the right direction. — **Urban Lehner, DTN editor emeritus**

GUEST OPINION

RAMPING UP FOR RECESS

August Recess is just around the corner in Washington D.C., starting on July 31 for both the House and Senate. While the halls of Congress will be quiet as members clear out until September, this is a busy time for them to be visiting their home districts, meeting with the men and women they represent. It's also a prime time for American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) grassroots members to engage on top issues for agriculture as our senators and representatives will be right in our hometowns and neighborhoods.

The formal practice of August Recess goes back more than 50 years. It was established by an act of Congress in 1970, after legislating at the national level had become a full-time job. Members of Congress recognized then, and now, the importance of getting back home to meet with constituents.

From county fairs to town hall meetings, there are a number of opportunities to meet with your representatives and for them to hear from you. I encourage you to get out there, show up to these events and maybe even host an event in your community. Your county or state Farm Bureau is a great place to start to learn more about how you can be involved.

Nothing can replace sitting down for a face-to-face conversation. We can solve some of our greatest challenges by sitting down and talking things through. Our team in Washington often hears from members of Congress and their staff about how much they value meeting with farmers and ranchers, and how those meetings help shape their work throughout the year.

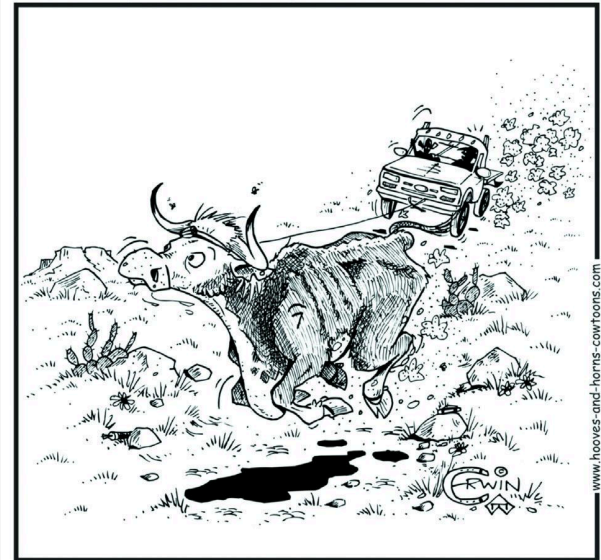
At American Farm Bureau, we are honored to host hundreds of farmers every year when you come to Washington to visit congressional offices. But this is the time of year when Washington comes to you, and I urge you to take advantage of this time. You can reach out to your congressional district and state offices now to schedule a visit with your representative while they're back home.

Invite members of Congress and their staff out to your farm or ranch. They will surely carry that experience with them. What they see firsthand—how you and your family pour your heart and soul into caring for the land and growing the food, fiber and fuel we all rely on—will inspire them and impact their decisions back in Washington.

Finally, I'd be remiss if I didn't remind you that, among all those members of Congress heading home for recess, there are 260 who have never worked on a farm bill. Does one of those members represent you? Now is the time for them to meet a farmer and hear directly from you about how important this legislation is to your farm and our food supply. Every meeting, every conversation makes a difference.

Let's work together to engage our lawmakers and help them make the most of their August Recess. And let's send them back to Washington with a clear assignment this fall: to pass an effective 2023 farm bill that protects our farms, ranches and food security for all Americans. — **Zippy Duvall, AFBF president**

HOOVES & HORNS BY A.W. ERWIN



"HA-HA!! What are the odds that we blow an engine at the same time this high-octane psycho wanders by?"

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., 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

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THE VIEWPOINT

with Sarah J. Bohnenkamp

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.

Sarah Bohnenkamp is a leadership coach who feels that if the industry can work together to make the small shifts, it will help to break down barriers between the industry and consumers.

Sarah was born and raised in Idaho and worked in the financial world in Arizona, where she met her husband, Chris. Sarah became the director of training in her company and helped organizations with leadership development and sales. She and Chris eventually moved to Colorado, where he grew up, and settled in Parker. Sarah no longer wanted to work in the financial industry and, in her words, "believed in the whole idea of anti-average." She continued, "I couldn't just go and work for a small, mediocre credit union, and thought 'There's got to be another way.'"

Sarah applied for an opening at American National CattleWomen (ANCW) as a program manager. She had always been a cowgirl at heart, growing up around horses and agriculture in the "potato country" of Idaho.

Sarah used her leadership skills to run the National Beef Ambassador program, helping young women develop their leadership skills, and assisting with other Beef Checkoff-funded programs.

"I got hired by ANCW and found a deep love for working within agriculture, not only doing the leadership development, but I love the policy aspect," Sarah told WLJ.

Sarah said she had the opportunity to work with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack on checkoff reform, and it was an interesting lesson in leadership with the history and legacy of the checkoff program and the emotion and opinions regarding the program.

She said the time with ANCW and her previous experience led her to start her own business, Sarah J. Bohnenkamp Coaching and Consulting, focused on leadership and coaching with leaders and organizations in agriculture. Sarah said each client is different, but the focus always includes leadership brand and effective communication.

"Once you determine your leadership brand, everything else becomes really easy because you use that lens to make your decisions."

— Sarah J. Bohnenkamp

Keys elements of leadership

"Can you identify what your leadership brand is?" she asked. The leadership brand is how you want people to feel and how you want to be. What are the beliefs that you know are true because everything flows from the inside out like an inter-

nal compass?

"Once you determine your leadership brand, everything else becomes really easy because you use that lens to make your decisions," Sarah said. "You use that lens to manage your people, and you use that lens to decide what you won't do."

The second part of leadership is communication is code for leadership and vice versa. Leadership is about being an effective communicator and the most essential skills are curiosity and empathy. She said the agriculture industry is good at education, but it needs to be better at listening and asking more questions to gauge how the other side feels in order to connect around a shared understanding.

The third piece of leadership is being "anti-average." While the agriculture community talks about continuous improvement and sustainability, it cannot "rest on its laurels" and continue to say, "Look at all the great things we are doing," Sarah said. It must continue to look at ways of improvement.

Sarah said producers and the industry should first seek to understand and not over-inflate themselves. "This may sound real hippie-dippie, but I think we have to move at it with a lot more love and a lot less fight," Sarah said. "If we could approach the whole conversation, the whole opportunity with a little bit more love, then I think that we would be having to waste so much energy on the walls and the barriers."

Sarah works with the Montana Farm Bureau and their ACE (Advocate. Communicate. Educate.) Leadership Program participants on their leadership brand and coaching them through executing big ideas and project management.

Sarah's said her passion for horses sometimes spills into her leadership discussions where she can speak the "language of the herd" or ask "What would the lead mare do?"

"Dare to piss someone off. That sounds pretty bold, but we're so afraid of making people uncomfortable, even when we preach that growth is spurred outside of your comfort zone."

— Sarah J. Bohnenkamp

Sarah said producers should engage with others in ways that feel comfortable, and there is no "right" prescription for what works best. Producers think there is a need to reach out to lawmakers or have the right video on social media, but the best conversations often are those with our neighbors

(aka grassroots), she said. Additionally, producers should talk about the truth and shouldn't feel the need to hide practices such as dehorning, castration, branding and pain management.

Sarah said, "We shouldn't be shy about the topics and if we're shy it's just a mirror that's showing us that perhaps something needs to be shifted." Producers shouldn't be hiding behind the curtain; traceability is one of those hot-button issues the industry hides behind because many don't want to share their information. Sarah said traceability is an issue that leadership has to happen around.

Sarah said another opportunity for leadership is participation in associations and volunteering for boards. She often hears people talk about the need to connect with peers, go to conferences and make a difference, and participation in associations is a perfect way to do those things.

"If we don't have strong

leaders coming up, we won't have the next generation that's interested in serving," Sarah said. "That's going to be a problem for us in the long term. So I think that's a big conversation."

To entice young leaders into associations and boards, Sarah said the conversation should be more than what is being offered through scholarships, internships and travel opportunities. The associations should create meaningful dialogues and connections and not shy away from risky topics, she said.

"Just dare to be friggin different," Sarah said. "Dare to piss someone off. That sounds pretty bold, but we're so afraid of making people uncomfortable, even when we preach that growth is spurred outside of your comfort zone. I think that when you are trying to market to everyone, then you speak to no one. Associations need to be a little bolder and make some stances, some bold beliefs that people can get excited about." — Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor

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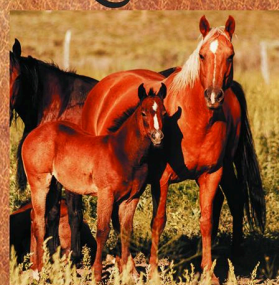
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COMING EVENTS

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

Aug. 17-18 – R-CALF USA will host its 24th Annual National Convention and Trade Show at the Monument in Rapid City, SD. Details: www.rcalfconvention.com.

Aug. 21-25 – Roots of Resilience will host its 12th New Cowgirl Camp at the Lazy R Ranch in Cheney, WA. Attendees will explore the basics of grazing planning, ecosystem monitoring, low-stress livestock

handling and veterinary medicine with a celebratory, supportive group of women. Details: rootsofresilience.org/newcowgirlcamp.

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.

BLV's influence on cow productivity

When traveling abroad to regions that experience different disease threats, there can be some preventative measures that can keep a person from experiencing sickness that occurs in a particular area of the world.

And in some cases, those diseases are carried by insects. In much the same way these vectors can also transmit bovine leukemia virus (BLV) to beef cattle, say the veterinarians at the Kansas State (K-State) University Beef Cattle Institute on a recent "Cattle Chat" podcast.

"Bovine leukosis is a viral infection that infects the immune system of cattle and once cows have the virus in their bodies it stays with them for life," said K-State veterinarian Brian Lubbers.

He said that while most cattle have the virus in their bodies, it is not common for the virus to develop into cancer.

"Clinical signs of cancer include swollen lymph nodes and rapid weight loss, but those leukosis cases are uncommon compared to the

number of animals that carry the bovine leukemia virus," Lubbers said.

Along with spreading this through biting insects because this is a bloodborne disease, Lubbers said humans can also transmit the virus by using palpation sleeves or equipment such as needles, ear taggers and tattoo guns on multiple animals.

To learn more about the impacts of the disease in beef cattle, K-State veterinarian Bob Larson joined with his veterinary colleague, Shaun Huser, and several others to see if there was a connection between BLV and cow fertility.

Larson said the study was done with 2,820 cows from 43 beef herds in 13 counties in northeast Kansas. The researchers looked at the age of the cow, the size of the herd, the proximity to other herds in the area and whether or not the cows became pregnant during the breeding season. All of the animals were also tested for the virus presence as well as the virus load.

"We found that this virus is very common, as about 55% of the cattle were BLV positive ... Once the cattle were four to five years of age, that number increased to about 80% of the herd," Larson said.

Regarding the connection to fertility for BLV-positive cows, Larson said: "We found no effect on the probability of getting pregnant early in the breeding season."

Because of the high level of spread in the herds of this virus, there is no treatment currently and it is difficult to prevent the transmission, according to the veterinarians.

Depending on whether

they are working with a commercial or purebred herd, some producers may regularly test for the disease and look at different management strategies.

"Some producers may group the infected cows away from the others that don't carry the virus as a way to reduce the risk of virus spread, but that comes at a cost," Larson said. "The cost may not warrant an invention at this time, but looking ahead we hope that this research can help us find a cost-effective way to manage this virus." — **K-State Research and Extension**



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. **Aug. 28** – The National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the Public Lands Council 2024 public policy

internship applications are now open. Applicants must be junior or senior undergraduate students, or graduate students, have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and be available for the duration of the internship in Washington, D.C. (January 2024-May 2024). A background in agriculture or the beef industry is preferred. Apply here: jobs.keldair.com/ncba/jobs/58192/public-policy-internship-spring-2024.



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STORY SHORTS

GOP forms ESA reform group

Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04), the Congressional Western Caucus and the House Committee on Natural Resources have formed an Endangered Species Act (ESA) Working Group to reform the ESA. The group plans to evaluate how the act is being implemented by federal agencies, the impact on people, the use of litigation driving ESA decisions and how success is defined under the ESA. "Only in the federal government would five percent be deemed a passing grade, but that is exactly how 'successful' the Endangered Species Act has been at recovering species," Newhouse said in a statement. Members of the group include Reps. Bruce Westerman (R-AR-04), Mark Amodei (R-NV-02), Cliff Bentz (R-OR-02), Paul Gosar (R-AZ-02), Harriet Hageman (R-WY-At large), John Duarte (R-CA-13), John Carter (R-TX-31), Jerry Carl (R-AL-01) and Lauren Boebert (R-CO-03).

Groups express farm bill support

A group of 20 trade associations in the ag, food and environmental sectors have launched a campaign called "Farm Bill for America's Families: Sustaining Our Future" to encourage lawmakers to pass a new farm bill this year. "Our mission is to protect America's food security, support future job security, advance environmental sustainability and ensure farmers are able to continue stocking America's pantries," the Farm Bill for America's Families' website reads. The website makes a call to action for both members of the public and industry organizations to join the campaign. Group members include the American Farm Bureau Federation, state Farm Bureaus, Ducks Unlimited, Farm Credit and The Nature Conservancy, among others.

USDA discrimination application opens

USDA has opened a financial assistance application for producers and forest landowners—including veteran farmers—who have experienced discrimination in USDA farm lending programs. The program is open to those who have experienced discrimination for any reason. "The Farmer Veteran Coalition's longstanding relationship with USDA has served many of our members well, but not all members have been served fairly," said Jeanette Lombardo, executive director of Farmer Veteran Coalition, in a statement. "Opportunities for (Farm Service Agency) loans may not have been made available to all farmers that are protected against discrimination." Applications are due by Oct. 31. To access the application, visit 2007apply.gov. The process is not on a first come, first served basis, and applications will be reviewed in the months following the deadline.

OSU launches Meat Mastery program

Oklahoma State University's (OSU) Robert M. Kerr Food and Agricultural Products Center (FAPC) and the Osage Nation have launched a hands-on program to educate participants on multi-species meat harvesting and value-added meat product processing. "To combat the critical shortage of meat industry workforce, FAPC developed a hands-on training to train the meat industry workforce," said Ravi Jadeja, associate professor and principal project investigator, in a news release. "The project's goal is to leverage OSU's existing relations with two-year colleges and meat industry partners to prepare the next generation of the meat industry workforce." Over the next three years, 60 students will receive hands-on meat processing training in federally inspected meat processing facilities.

Cal Poly funded for cattle grazing research

California Bountiful Foundation, California Farm Bureau's research organization, has awarded California Polytechnic State University (Cal Poly), Humboldt with \$520,000 to support cattle grazing research. Dr. Justin Luong, a Humboldt professor of rangeland resource science, is studying the benefit of grazing on wetlands. "Our team is excited to combine field vegetation surveys and aerial imagery in collaboration with local and regional stakeholders to quantify the benefit and multi-use utility of rangeland management for biologically diverse wetland ecosystem plant communities and ecosystem services," Luong said. The research includes partnerships with the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District and the Mendocino County Farm Bureau. More information on the study can be found at www.cfbf.com/california-bountiful-foundation/research-studies.

Proposal would protect OR federal land

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) has released an amendment to designate over 400,000 acres of federal land in southeastern Oregon as having "wilderness characteristics." The Southeastern Oregon Resource Management Plan Amendment would protect more land from off-highway use and also review grazing practices in the area. The planning area encompasses approximately 4.6 million acres for the Malheur Field Office of the Vale District BLM. Under the proposed amendment, 417,190 acres would be prioritized due to its wilderness characteristics, and 319,501 acres would be limited from off-highway vehicle use to only existing routes. BLM contends grazing permits would not be affected by the wilderness characteristics, and the limits on off-highway vehicles would not affect ranchers with permits. However, if grazing is found to be harming rangeland standards, then grazing permits would be adjusted. A protest period over the amendment closed on July 17.

Emergency CRP haying and grazing opens up in some states

Livestock producers and landowners in drought-stricken areas of Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska will be able to tap Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for emergency haying and grazing once they have filed a request with their local Farm Service Agency (FSA) offices.

USDA allows emergency haying and grazing on CRP acres under certain drought conditions or disaster declarations following the primary nesting season. For Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska—three of the worst states for drought conditions—the primary nesting season ended July 15. This will allow landowners to hay or graze the ground without any reduction in their CRP rental pay-

ment. Producers located in a county designated under the U.S. Drought Monitor in severe drought (D2) or worse before or after the last day of the primary nesting season qualify for emergency haying and grazing on all eligible acres, USDA stated.

Under USDA rules, producers can cut hay or graze on the ground after the nesting season, but they must file a request with their county FSA office before the activity begins.

Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska are now the dominant areas of the country with larger swaths of land that fall into the U.S. Drought Monitor designations for D2 severe drought or worse. According to the latest Drought Monitor, at least 55% of Kan-

sas is in D2 or worse conditions. In Missouri, more than 58% of the state falls into those conditions. For Nebraska, just under 48% of the state meets those conditions, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor released on July 13.

If there is another natural disaster in which 40% of forage production is lost, that can also open up emergency haying and grazing. A group of counties in northwest Missouri, which falls below the D2 severe drought standard, have filed a request with the state FSA office to allow for emergency haying and grazing in those counties as well, but that request has not yet been approved by the state FSA committee.

Other states with areas facing D2 or higher drought

conditions such as Iowa, Illinois, Minnesota and Wisconsin will see eligibility open up for emergency haying and grazing after Aug. 1, when the primary nesting

season ends in those states, according to USDA's nesting season map.

Under USDA rules, producers would have 60 days to complete one cutting of hay

on CRP ground in emergency conditions. They would have up to 90 days of grazing on their ground. — **Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor**

How to price CRP hay

There have been some questions recently about how to price Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) hay.

CRP is a federally funded voluntary program that contracts with agricultural producers so that environmentally sensitive agricultural land is not farmed or ranched. Participants establish long-term, resource conserving plant species, such as approved grasses or trees known as "covers."

There are two ways to hay CRP land, either via emergency authorization or a non-emergency haying and grazing option. In general, non-emergency haying may be done every two years, but may re-

duce annual CRP government payments.

After we clear the hurdle of harvesting CRP land for hay, the next question to arise is how to price the hay either for your own use or for sale. In this case, knowing the quality of hay can help producers get a better idea of the forage market value. Hay quality can affect the bottom line and/or have negative consequences for herd health and fertility.

Once a producer has an idea of the quality of forage there are multiple sources to get an idea of going rates for your hay, such as hay auctions (broken down by region and type of hay), as well as the USDA weekly hay

report.

If you are feeding your hay to your cattle, the Nebraska farm custom rates report at cap.unl.edu calculates the costs of haying. The value of standing forage can be evaluated using the UNL Standing Forage Excel Tool at cap.unl.edu/forage.

Finally, the University of Nebraska-Lincoln Feed Cost Cow-Q-Lator (found most easily by Googling "Feed Cost Cow-Q-Lator") can help calculate costs within a ration. Knowing the forage quality is helpful whether you are feeding your own livestock or planning to sell it. — **Shannon Sand, Nebraska Extension educator**

Petition filed to prevent solar company road access

RANCH ACCESS (from page 1)

from accessing the crossing. According to court documents, McFarland did not attempt to prevent others from accessing the road.

The Abercrombies and the county stated the low water crossing is a public prescriptive easement and that McFarland had no right to interfere with the public's use of the road.

According to the Quay County Sun, McFarland posted a "No Trespassing" sign stating access would be given with written permission.

The district court ruled in favor of Caprock and the county, ruling the defendants proved the elements of a public prescriptive easement "by clear and convincing evidence." The court documents state the district court made additional findings of Quay Road AI as being a county road by citing McFarland never pre-

vented others from using the road and the title company for the solar company identified it as a county road.

The state Court of Appeals reversed the district court, finding no clear and convincing evidence that the general public used the road, and that travel by neighboring ranchers and those granted permission to cross the land did not constitute use by the general public.

The Supreme Court overturned the state Court of Appeals' ruling, stating, "We conclude that the Court of Appeals erred in requiring evidence establishing frequency of use or a minimum number of users, given the other evidence presented at trial and findings of the district court that sufficient evidence proved a public prescriptive easement existed for the low water crossing on (Quay Road AI)." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

Bill approval requires full GOP support

FUNDING (from page 1)

environmental programs that address climate change and clean water and air.

Rep. Tom Cole (R-OK-04) thanked the committee and its members for "trying to address the many years of neglect and broken trusts and treaties" by working on a bipartisan basis to ensure funding for Native American agencies and causes was fully funded.

Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04) offered an amendment prohibiting funds from being used to finalize the BLM's proposed landscape and conservation health rule or any substantially similar rule.

Pingree said the amendment would negate the efforts the BLM has engaged in to date. She added the agency needs to respond to the over 200,000 comments it received during the comment period.

The amendment was ap-

proved on a voice vote.

Approval of the bill will require support from all Republican members of the closely divided House. The Freedom Caucus sent a letter to Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-CA-23), expressing their expectation that all appropriations measures align with FY 2022 levels of \$1.471 trillion.

"Absent adhering to the \$1.471 trillion spending level—and/or achieving significant policy victories such as forcing President Biden to sign H.R. 2 (Secure the Border Act of 2023) and take the steps necessary to secure the border—we see an impossible path to reach 218 Republican votes on appropriations or other measures," the letter read.

After several hours of debate on amendments to the bill, the motion passed 33-27 to proceed to the House floor for a vote just ahead of the August recess. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

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 FROSTY CREEK ANGUS
 GUESTS: WEST WIND ANGUS RANCH
 A BAR ANGUS
 VERMILION RANCH

THURSDAY SEPT. 21ST
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 GUESTS: GREEN ANGUS
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Now is the time to manage livestock winter feeding areas

Whether farms have cattle, horses, sheep or goats, summer management of the winter feeding area is important.

"Most of the management in your winter feeding area begins with manure," said Mary Keena, North Dakota State University (NDSU) Extension livestock environmental management specialist. "That is true whether your winter feeding area is corrals or a specific area of a field that you now feed on."

While summer tasks and activities often take precedence this time of year, Keena urges ranchers to look back on what went wrong last winter and take note of what needs maintenance this summer.

"An easy place to start is pushing up manure in the winter feeding areas," said Keena. "Making stockpiles of manure allows the pen or field surface to dry. It also allows the manure to start heating, reducing total volume and, in turn, reducing total loads hauled when removed."

Composting livestock manure will increase the volume

reduction compared to stockpiling, as well as reduce internal and external parasites, pathogens and weed seeds. To compost manure, turn the piles every 10-14 days while maintaining 50% moisture.

When animals are still present in winter feedings areas, fly control via manure management is also important. Flies lay their eggs in the top few inches of manure, and the eggs can hatch every seven days. By pushing the manure into a pile and turning the piles, you can compost manure and stay ahead of the fly cycle.

Often the nutrients from manure can help fertilize undesirable weeds in your feeding areas. If the weeds have already gotten away from you, several management strategies can help reduce weed population and spread.

"Repeated mowing reduces weeds' competitive ability, depletes carbohydrate reserves in their roots, and reduces seed production," said Penny Nester, NDSU Extension agent in Bowman County. "Mowing

can kill or suppress annual and biennial weeds. It also can suppress perennials and help restrict their spread."

A single mowing will not satisfactorily control most weeds. However, mowing three or four times per year over several years can greatly reduce and occasionally eliminate certain weeds. Mowing along fences and borders can help prevent the introduction of new weed seeds. Regular mowing helps prevent weeds from establishing, spreading and competing with desirable grasses and legumes.

Another option for weed control is to apply herbicides, said Nester. It is best to apply herbicides to weeds that are still young because they will absorb the chemicals more effectively than their mature counterparts. Herbicide can also be effective to treat actively growing weeds in the weeks following mowing.

Ideal temperatures for applying most herbicides are between 65-85 F. Avoid applying volatile herbicides such as 2,4-

D ester, MCPA ester and dicamba during hot weather, especially near susceptible broadleaf crops, shelterbelts or farmsteads.

Cleaning pen and field surfaces is a great time for reflection of the past season. What worked? What didn't? What should be fixed, changed or maintained now to make the next winter feeding season successful?

Keena and Nester offer some considerations for maintenance:

- Notice and manage stress. The "winter" season started in October 2022 for some animal owners and lasted through May 2023. While commiserating with family and friends will sometimes help, consider exploring NDSU Extension's "Coping with Stress" resources available at nds.edu. Sometimes we need the help, and sometimes we are the help. Either way, a refresher is good practice.

- How do the fences look? Are there any places that need fixing?

- Did the watering system work during the winter feeding period? What changes or fixes can help prevent leaking or freeze-ups?

- How level are pen surfaces? Are there holes to be filled? Are any areas holding water? Gravel and clay are commonly used to backfill these areas and re-

gain proper slope and drainage in the pen.

If you are experiencing challenges in your livestock winter feeding areas or need a list of for-hire custom manure applicators in your county, contact your county Extension agent for resources and help. — NDSU Extension

Resolution has support of industry groups

BILL (from page 1)

awareness for our farmers, ranchers and foresters' products," Moore said in a statement. "This resolution expresses Congressional support for checkoffs due to the research, education and promotion efforts they have provided to our producers."

The Cattlemen's Beef Board returns \$11.91 for every \$1 invested, and increased American beef demand by 12.8 billion pounds, according to the resolution.

"The Beef Checkoff was created by cattle producers, is run by cattle producers, and provides immense benefit to cattle producers," said National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) President Todd Wilkinson in a statement. "I hope more members of Congress listen to farmers and ranchers and reject animal rights activist-led proposals like the OFF Act that undermine producer control of checkoffs."

The OFF (Opportunities for Fairness in Farming) Act was introduced earlier this year and would reform commodity checkoff programs. In July 2020, Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund United Stockgrowers of America (R-CALF USA) launched a petition calling for a referendum on the termination of the Beef Checkoff but was unable to acquire the necessary number of signatures.

The Cattlemen's Beef Board collects a dollar from each head of cattle sold in the U.S. Members of the board are appointed by the secretary of Agriculture and work to determine which proposals to fund with the Beef Checkoff monies.

The resolution has the support of nearly two dozen industry groups, including NCBA, American Farm Bureau Federation, American Sheep Industry Association, Texas Cattle Feeders Association and Texas & Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association. — Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor

Colorado Beef Council appoints board directors

The Colorado Beef Council (CBC) announces new appointments to their board of directors, Kris Musgrave and Joanie Shoemaker. Both Colorado livestock and meat industry experts were appointed to their positions by Gov. Jared Polis (D). As Kris and Joanie serve their respective 4-year terms on CBC's board, they will direct state Beef Checkoff investments in research, promotion and education programs—all in order to increase demand for beef.

Musgrave will be joining the board as a marketing representative. He brings with him extensive experience in the beef industry in Colorado. As a native Colorado rancher, his accomplishments in beef production, processing and marketing have helped develop local marketing channels. Musgrave is a dedicated business owner who attributes his success to his commitment to the industry.

"The Colorado Beef Council does so much for the beef industry and ranching communities within the state. I look forward to doing my part and contributing to the success of such a dynamic industry," said Musgrave, who owns Stagecoach Meat Company, LLC. Joanie Shoemaker, a native Coloradoan and cattle rancher, is joining CBC for her second term on the board. Shoemaker continues to sit on the board of directors as a marketing repre-

sentative and additionally serves as CBC's secretary/treasurer. She brings with her a wealth of industry knowledge and experience. Along with her family, Shoemaker is a cattle producer and owns Bunk House Burgers in Canyon City, CO. Joanie also serves in several leadership roles with the Colorado CattleWomen's Association. The industry is lucky to benefit from her expertise and leadership experience.

"Our appointed board members represent each segment of the beef industry and provide valuable insights into consumer marketing. They are the industry's representatives on the design and execution of Checkoff programs throughout Colorado," said Todd Inglee, CBC executive director. "We are fortunate to have such knowledgeable and experienced board members to guide what we do."

CBC would like to extend its gratitude to Robbie LeValley. Robbie is stepping down after serving the maximum two term limit (eight years), as a CBC Board Member. Her extensive experience in meat marketing and meat science, along with her leadership skills, has made her time as a board member extremely impactful. Robbie's extensive state and national leadership experience added to the long list of valuable contributions she made during her service. — CBC



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Farm groups: BLM proposal could limit public land uses

Ranchers, foresters and others who use public lands have urged the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to withdraw a proposed rule they fear would radically restrict activities such as grazing and timber harvesting in favor of conservation as the predominant land management priority.

If the rule is implemented in its current form, agricultural users of public lands say it would have wide-ranging impacts on rural businesses and communities, with unintended consequences on the more than 245 million acres of public lands—located primarily in 12 western states—that BLM manages.

Those who hold permits on federal lands also say they were blindsided by the proposal, which the U.S. Department of the Interior unveiled in late March with no stakeholder discussion or advance notice that it was developing the rule. The public was initially given 75 days to comment on the proposed BLM Conservation and Landscape Health rule, but the department later extended the deadline to July 5.

Now that the department is reviewing stakeholder comments, opponents of the proposed rule say they hope their concerns will send BLM back to the drawing board.

The department said the proposed plan is meant to address a current gap in BLM regulations that “directly promote conservation efforts for all resources ... so that conservation is applied more broadly across the landscape to all program areas.” It characterized the proposal as a tool for BLM to respond to pressures from climate change, including wildfires, droughts and severe storms across the West.

The proposed rule includes three major changes to how public lands are currently managed. It would add conservation as a land-use category and allow BLM to issue conservation leases for “restoration or land enhancement,” or for mitigation. It would also expand the identification and designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern. In addition, it would apply land health standards to all BLM-managed lands; currently, BLM only uses those standards to evaluate grazing permits.

BLM said the proposal does not change its multiple-use mandate, adding that grazing, timber, mining, energy development, recreation and other uses will continue. The agency also maintains that the proposed rule “does not elevate conservation above other uses” but rather

puts conservation “on an equal footing with other uses.”

Furthermore, it said conservation leases would “generally be a compatible use” with grazing allotments that meet land health standards and that the new rule would allow ranchers with grazing permits opportunities to enter into a conservation lease to improve land health.

But Modoc County rancher Sean Curtis, who also works as the county’s planning director, said BLM’s proposal does not address how it would manage conflicting goals. For example, he said he wondered what would happen if an environmental group wanted to fence off a piece of ground for restoration but the same ground already had a grazing permit on it.

“How do you facilitate that?” he asked. “You’re creating a conflict there that doesn’t exist today.”

BLM acknowledged that uses deemed incompatible with conservation activities would not be allowed during the term of a conservation lease, though it’s unclear if those lands would then be available for other uses after the lease ends. Under the proposal, conservation leases could be extended after an initial maximum term of 10

years.

Opponents of the proposed rule point out that historically, federal lands that have been designated for conservation protections largely are not managed for other purposes. They say they’re concerned that if BLM were to issue conservation leases or expand designation of Areas of Critical Environmental Concern to large swaths of land, that activities such as grazing and logging would be prohibited on those lands indefinitely.

In a letter to the Department of the Interior, a coalition of agricultural groups, including the California Farm Bureau, said BLM defines conservation so broadly throughout the proposed rule that it establishes inter-annual conflict with other programs and creates unnecessary conflict among users of public lands.

“The proposed rule clearly contemplates, and the agency has confirmed, that the compatibility assessment under the proposed conservation leasing system will necessarily require the agency to pick winners and losers in the existing land management structure,” the groups said.

The coalition also voiced objections to BLM’s attempt to create new uses of public lands under the Federal Lands Policy and Manage-

ment Act, or FLPMA. Congress, not BLM, the groups said, has primary authority to manage and create uses on public lands. The coalition further pointed out that Congress did not authorize elevating conservation activities as a “use” covered by FLPMA.

“There are red flags both in policy and process from BLM,” said American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall.

BLM held five public meetings on the proposed rule, two of which were virtual, including in California. In a letter to BLM, California Farm Bureau President Jamie Johansson called the sessions “deficient” because “they lacked meaningful dialogue,” noting that BLM could not answer many questions related to the rule’s implementation.

Johansson’s letter urged BLM to scrap the proposed rule and start over, “this time engaging with stakeholders in a forum that would promote open dialogue.”

Legislation has been introduced in the House requiring BLM to withdraw the rule. H.R. 3397 would also prevent BLM from issuing a similar rule in the future. An identical bill, SB 1435, was introduced in the Senate.

Rancher Curtis, who also serves as president of Modoc County Farm Bureau, said BLM’s proposals are of such magnitude that they should

be vetted through an environmental impact statement rather than introduced as simply a rule change. He said the proposed changes could have significant economic, social and cultural impacts in rural communities such as Modoc County, which relies heavily on public lands for grazing and forestry activities.

“It’s a big deal,” he said. “We’re surrounded by the forest. It’s an integral part of our local economic stability. Our economy is dependent to a great extent on the decisions that the agencies make on how they manage their ground, or in some cases the decisions they don’t make.”

If the proposed rule is adopted, it is widely expected that BLM will face legal challenges. By creating conflict between multiple uses and among existing statutes, the agricultural coalition in its letter said BLM “has proposed a system where litigation is inevitable.”

Conflicts that could arise between conservation lease holders and other permittees would certainly result in litigation, Curtis said. He noted several attorneys general from western states have already said they would sue.

If BLM chooses not to withdraw the rule, he said, “at least stop the process and have some additional discussion.” — **Ching Lee, assistant editor of Ag Alert, California Farm Bureau Federation**

Russia pulls out of Black Sea grain agreement

Russia on July 17 declined to extend the year-old agreement that has allowed Ukrainian grain to move out of Black Sea shipping ports, a move that immediately drove up commodity prices in response.

Russia stated the shipping agreement was suspended. The announcement came following an attack on a key bridge in Russian-occupied Crimea, the Kerch Strait Bridge, that connects Crimea to Russia. Officials in Russia blamed the attack on Ukraine. The bridge is considered a major artery for Russian supplies and troops moving into Ukraine.

The move is likely to drive up commodity prices for major exporters in response to the shutoff of Ukraine’s major export corridor to the world. Early Monday, grain prices immediately opened higher with September corn up more than 7 cents early, September soybeans up more than 15 cents and September wheat up more than 19 cents per bushel.

Russia will face serious diplomatic costs for pulling out of the grain deal, said Jake Sullivan, national security adviser to President Joe Biden in an interview Sunday with CBS.

“If Russia pulls out of this initiative, the rest of the world will look at it and say that Russia has turned its back on providing the countries of the Global South—Africa, Latin America and Asia—with the food they need at affordable

prices. And I think that in the future it will cost Russia huge diplomatic costs,” Sullivan said.

Within Europe, countries bordering Ukraine have tightened their own policies in recent months for importing Ukrainian commodities because those importers were harming domestic prices.

Officials in Russia maintain the Black Sea deal was being terminated until Russia sees better terms for its own exports for grain commodities and fertilizer.

“Unfortunately, some of the agreements concerning Russia have not yet been fulfilled, so the deal is being terminated,” Kremlin spokesperson Dmitry Peskov was quoted in the Washington Post. “As soon as the Russian part of the agreements is fulfilled, the Russian side will return to the implementation of this deal immediately.”

Russia is already the world’s largest wheat exporter. USDA recently bumped up Russia’s wheat exports for the 2023-24 crop to 47.5 million metric tons (mmt) while Ukraine’s wheat exports were pegged at 10.5 mmt. Before the war, Russia was exporting 36 mmt of wheat while Ukraine was exporting 24 mmt.

USDA also bumped up Ukraine’s estimated corn exports to 19.5 mmt. Prior to the war beginning in February 2022, Ukraine was projected to export 32 mmt of corn for the year.

Over the past year the grain

deal had allowed Ukraine’s Black Sea ports to export more than 32.7 mmt of commodities to 45 countries, the United Nations (U.N.) noted. Corn has made up more than half those exports and wheat takes up 27% of the volume. Sunflower meal and sunflower oil make up another 11% of the volume.

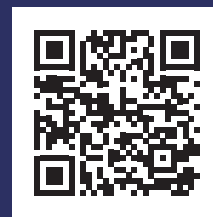
In mid-July, the U.N. proposed to remove some of the restrictions on financial transactions through the Russian Agricultural Bank—one of Russia’s demands—as part of negotiations to keep Ukrainian grain moving through the Black Sea. U.N. officials cited the importance of moving grain and fertilizer from both Russia and Ukraine.

A statement from a spokesperson for U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said, “His overriding concern remains for vulnerable people around the world, who stand to lose the most from any unraveling of the Istanbul arrangements and a likely subsequent rise in global food and fertilizer prices.”

Exports through the initiative slowed in recent months because Russia slowed inspections. The U.N. cited that the average of 11 daily ship inspections last October had fallen to below five inspections from April through June of this year. Monthly exports hit 4.2 mmt last October but were down to only 1.3 mmt in May. — **Chris Clayton, DTN ag policy editor**

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THE NATIONAL LIVESTOCK WEEKLY
SINCE 1922

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: 7/20/2023	Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	186.31 ▲	181.78	140.40
CME Feeder Index	237.83 ▼	239.69	170.67
Boxed Beef Average	302.56 ▼	306.91	267.76
Average Dressed Steers	291.23 ▲	290.82	227.14
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,343 ▲	1,340	1,340
Weekly Slaughter**	633,000 ▲	539,000	677,000
Weekly Beef Production***	511.6 ▲	435.5	546.9
Hide/Offal Value	13.42 ▲	N/A	13.82
Corn Price	5.38 ▼	5.93	5.76

*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
July 14	7,112	306.19	191	342.08	1,308	318.94	2,087	310.80	964	281.51	2,562 278.36
July 7	5,202	216.60	147	346.84	997	237.78	1,463	217.66	497	293.24	1,999 280.00
Jun 30	6,801	319.15	191	347.80	1,309	329.89	1,901	321.53	787	296.97	2,613 284.24
Jun 23	6,604	325.29	198	346.76	1,247	336.30	1,961	327.21	733	303.14	2,465 288.94

Cutouts						FED BOXED BEEF			
DATE	CHOICE	SELECT	COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN	90% LEAN			
Jul 20	302.56	274.71	233.17		165.26	292.56			
Jul 19	303.59	275.96	233.72		160.20	293.06			
Jul 18	304.68	276.61	233.88		173.50	293.93			
Jul 17	306.78	275.74	235.00		164.54	295.21			
Jul 14	305.94	276.61	233.28		169.99	292.59			

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle							
	7/14	7/17	7/18	7/19	7/20	High*	Low*
Aug.	18018	18013	18128	18133	18033	18150	14003
Oct.	18263	18225	18355	18373	18275	18173	15388
Dec.	18578	18585	18700	18703	18598	18498	15310
Feb.	18850	18858	18948	18965	18885	18820	16853

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle							
	7/14	7/17	7/18	7/19	7/20	High*	Low*
Aug.	24665	24925	24800	24680	24510	24790	17595
Sep.	24923	25143	25000	24933	24830	25138	18303
Oct.	25048	25235	25108	25055	24983	25315	18755
Nov.	25040	25213	25118	25058	24998	25323	22750

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

FED CATTLE TRADE	Head Count	Avg. Weight	Avg. Price
WEEKLY WEIGHTED AVERAGES			
Live FOB Steer	653	1,457	186.31
Live FOB Heifer	80	1,350	184.00
Dressed Del Steer	518	932	291.23
Dressed Del Heifer	262	857	290.00
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK			
Live FOB Steer	2,527	1,452	181.78
Live FOB Heifer	1,672	1,314	183.63
Dressed Del Steer	873	921	290.82
Dressed Del Heifer	175	732	287.03
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR			
Live FOB Steer	12,768	1,454	140.40
Live FOB Heifer	10,552	1,285	138.76
Dressed Del Steer	6,959	914	227.13
Dressed Del Heifer	2,913	823	226.84

NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: JULY 16		
	Domestic	Imported
Forward Contract	16,649	3,978
Formula	270,166	122
Negotiated Cash	75,928	89
Negotiated Grid	57,259	162
Packer Owned	12,840	N/A
Total	432,842	4,351

SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS		FORWARD BEEF SALES	
Delivery Month		Neg. Sales 0-21 days	2,222
Jul. '23	80,561	Neg. Sales 21+ days	1,158
Aug. '23	79,439	Formula sales	3,589
Sep. '23	95,861	Forward contract sales	143
Oct. '23	90,918	Domestic sales	6,226
Nov. '23	119,776	NAFTA Exports	197

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		181.72	-2.84
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		N/A	N/A
Ontario Auctions			
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs		179.46	-3.10
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs		N/A	N/A
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs		101.51	-0.84

*Price comparison from one week ago.

Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Friday, July 7, 2023				
Steers:	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Ontario	
501-600 lbs	263.82	N/A	246.90	
601-700 lbs	250.31	N/A	233.07	
701-800 lbs	235.55	N/A	248.49	
801-900 lbs	221.79	N/A	231.41	
Heifers:				
401-500 lbs	228.92	N/A	195.72	
501-600 lbs	230.71	N/A	204.93	
601-700 lbs	223.29	N/A	199.60	
701-800 lbs	213.63	N/A	180.98	

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
	7/10/23	7/3/23		
Feeders	18,814	15,205	642,191	466,938

USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE			
July 18, 2023			
Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary			
Receipts EST: 7,250	Week Ago Act: 6,200	Year Ago Act: 11,422	
Columbus, NM		Santa Teresa, NM	
Compared to last week, steer calves and yearlings sold 3.00 higher. Heifers 4.00-5.00 higher. Trade very active, demand very good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-600 lbs.		Compared to Monday, steer calves and yearlings sold mostly steady. Heifers steady. Trade very active, demand very good. Supply consisted of steers and spayed heifers weighing 300-600 lbs.	
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2	Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2		
300-400 lbs	240-250	300-400 lbs	240-250
400-500 lbs	230-240	400-500 lbs	230-240
500-600 lbs	220-230	500-600 lbs	220-230
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2	Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2		
300-400 lbs	290-300	300-400 lbs	290-300
400-500 lbs	270-280	400-500 lbs	270-280
500-600 lbs	250-260	500-600 lbs	250-260

(slide 10 cents on steers and heifers basis 300 lbs. All sales fob port of entry.)

Selected Auction											
Week Ending July 20, 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	
July 14	Blackfoot, ID	N/A							94-50 119-132		
July 20	Burley, ID	185		256	105 248-267	140-266.75 250	219-229	224 144-226	85.50-149 133-136.50		
No report available											
Emmett, ID											
No report available											
Eugene, OR											
July 17	Madras, OR	391		265-284	265-295	270-286	255-273	220-235	100-123 117-127		
July 12	Vale, OR	290			257	248 150-202	190-206 187	177-205	98-115 114-136		
No report available											
Davenport, WA											
July 13	Toppenish, WA	2,450		310-312.50* 270*	291-314.50* 266-279*	247.50-270* 259-261*	207.50-230* 195*		97-115.50 120	2,950-3,275 1,400	
July 13	Orland, CA	1,940		200-337 180-285	185-330 165-250	170-270 150-246	160-235 140-228	150-224 130-199	100-116 105-151	1,500-2,300 1,300-2,300	
July 17	Escalon, CA	N/A	200-275 175-225		200-260 175-215		160-215 115-175	115-145 90-120	80-92 65-98	800-1,500	
July 17	Famoso, CA	820	250-290 200-270	260-277 200-270	250-270 200-263	185-240 190-224	175-182 160-170	135-165	100-135 100-128.50		
July 12	Galt, CA	2,403		260-335 230-305	250-321 240-290	230-290 230-265	200-262 180-240	175-232 170-215	85-120 100-136		
July 11	Turlock, CA	1,256		140-260 120-232.50	132-245 117-228	124-240 110-200	112-235 100-201	97-225 90-180	96-121 100-132.50		
July 11	Salina, UT	866	285-300.50 160-290		207.50-274.50 145-260	185-260 179-222.50	177-232.50 142.50-219	132.50-215 120-200	85-131 113-133.50		
July 17	Iowa	6,198		290-308 240-297.50	261-317.25 230-276.75	230-287.25 216-269	241-264 225-242	210-255.60 217.50-223	92-121 95-160		
No report available											
Miles City, MT											
No report available											
Bassett, NE											
July 15	Ericson, NE	3,501		269	291.50-295 250-269	266-285 249-260.50	254-271.50 228-250.75	214-268.50 208.50-238.50			
No report available											
Imperial, NE											
July 12	Kearney, NE	2,050		282.50	267 256	269-276.50 249.50-257	256-264 246.25	241.50-255.25 233-234.50	110-129.50 110-133.50		
No report available											
Lexington, NE											
No report available											
Ogallala, NE											
No report available											
Valentine, NE											
July 14	Herreid, SD	2,713		300		252.75-281 226-243	262	212.25-258.75 228.50-229.75			
No report available											
Torrington, WY											
No report available											
Willcox, AZ											
July 17	Colorado	886				197.50*	187-194*	201* 142-186.50*	80-120 110-135.50	2,125-2,850	
July 12	La Junta, CO	574	271-338 250-265		251-265.50 215-250	251-265.50	216-238 183-222	175-206	109-128 125-141		
No report available											
Loma, CO											
July 19	Dodge City, KS	815	255-259	215-225	240-258 247.50	232-241 217	250 204-220	215-242.50 203-206.50	93.50-121 108-131	1,575	
July 20	Pratt, KS	582	287.50 253	251 254	233-262 240-256	241-255 220	236-261.50 197.50-213	221-241.50 178-197	105-123 119-140.50	1,300-1,700	
July 13	Salina, KS	2,553	279 307	267.50-287.50 271-285	268-298.75 242-268	257-280.75 230-254.50	245-266 225.50-242	230.50-245.50 223.50-231			
July 20	Clovis, NM	1,539	282	298-360 276-307	241-321 235-278	273.50-288 235-258	231-296 203-251	225-236 194.50-220	181-220 157-185	92.50-112.50 70-132.50	935-2,600 925-1,925
July 18	El Reno, OK	1,800	315	310-345 280	282.50-325 240-277.50	272-300 235-260	248-270 227-250	243-252 233-234			
July 18	McAlester, OK	970		284-320 228-256	265-290 231-250	230-268 223-245	222-245 215-236	204-234 182-219	171-202 175-195	98-121 105-127	925-1,500 925-1,435
July 17	Oklahoma City, OK	6,300	324 274	275-315 253-277	262.50-296.50 235-271	240-288 234-258.50	235-258 224-245	195-244 200-226			
July 20	Cuero, TX	1,895	227-310 185-285	238-302 202-285	212-270 201-254	220-266 202-260	210-236 193-285	207-217 175-217	91-109 110-135	975-1,975	
July 14	Dalhart, TX	2,898	255-263	314-337 280-295	300-330 273-302	291-299 245-277	242-264 236.50-241.50	233-243 224-229	179-231.50 150-172	70-114 106-132	
July 13	San Angelo, TX	842		284	239-245 220-228						

Weather sends corn prices higher

MARKETS (from page 1)

• Forward contract net purchases: \$269.81.
• Negotiated grid net purchases: \$294.39.

Slaughter through Thursday was estimated at 495,000 head, down about 10,000 head from the same time a week earlier. Total slaughter for a week earlier is projected at 633,000 head. Actual slaughter for the week ending July 8 was 536,330 head. The average dressed weight for steers was 892 lbs., 8 lbs. above the prior week.

"That is the second highest average steer carcass weight behind 2020's 896 pounds," Fish said. "Carcass weights won't top until November and will be well over 920 pounds when the top is established. This benefits packers as it adds tonnage per head, giving them more pounds to sell."

Boxed beef prices continue their downward seasonal trend. The Choice cutout lost about \$3.30 to close at \$303.59, and the Select cutout lost about \$4.20 to close at \$275.96.

Expected to publish on Friday were the monthly Cattle on Feed Report (COF) and biannual Cattle Inventory report. Both reports were expected to be bullish.

"The week will provide a look at the mid-year cattle

inventory as well as a monthly COF report," wrote the Cattle Report on Thursday. "This year's calf crop is expected to decline by a million calves to a little over 33 million. Next year should see the bottom for calf inventories before beginning to build in 2025. The large decline in heifers placed on feed and held for breeding is just beginning."

Feeder cattle

"The market sees the opportunity in Thursday's marketplace with corn prices down slightly, but the problem long term is that right now all the corn market is a weather market—meaning that the market could see drastic swings until the corn crop is harvested and feeders know what to expect for feed supplies and feed prices," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her Thursday midday comments.

Feeder cattle futures were modestly higher, with the August contract up \$1.80 to \$246.80 and the September contract up \$2 to \$249.32.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index lost about \$1.85 to close at \$237.83.

Corn prices continue to jump up, down and around. The September contract was up about 50 cents to close at \$5.45, and the De-

cember contract gained 53 cents to close at \$5.53.

"Widespread rains across much of the country is providing grazing opportunities for many pasture operators," the Cattle Report wrote. "For many, heat has been overwhelming. Grazing will pull many replacement cattle away from grow yards and feedyards. At some point many heifers will be held for breeding—further diminishing the supply of feeder cattle available for feedlot placement. That event is currently in the early stages of development."

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 5,000 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers and heifers sold steady. Benchmark steers averaging 729 lbs. sold from \$235-244, averaging \$241.24.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 6,300 head on Monday. Compared to a week earlier, feeder steers sold steady to \$2 higher and feeder heifers sold steady. Steer calves sold steady, and heifer calves sold steady to \$3 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 776 lbs. sold from \$235-249.50, averaging \$242.24.

South Dakota: Hub City Livestock in Aberdeen sold 3,281 head Wednesday. Compared to the previous

Cow and heifer slaughter still strong but declining

Heifer slaughter remained strong in the first half of 2023 but does show signs of declining going forward. For the first half of the year, total heifer slaughter was down 0.5% year over year with a decrease of over 4% in the month of June. The July Cattle Inventory report will be released by USDA on July 21 and the industry is looking to see if there are any indications that herd liquidation has ended, and herd rebuilding might begin.

The report is expected to show that herd liquidation continued in the first six months of the year but may slow in the remainder of the year. There is no data currently to support the idea that heifer retention is underway, but it may have started with recent improvements in range and pasture conditions.

The beef replacement heifer number in the upcoming report will be of keen interest and is likely to show a still smaller number compared to last year but could show a

slight increase year over year if heifer retention has begun.

The Cattle Inventory report will show that the beef cow herd continued to decline in the first half of the year. While beef cow slaughter is down thus far—down 12% year over year in the first six months of the year ... the current pace suggests a herd culling rate over 12% for the year. Beef herd expansion requires a herd culling rate below 10% and likely below 9% for a year or more.

Beef cow slaughter is likely to decrease more significantly in the second half of the year but is unlikely to drop enough to come close to stabilizing the beef cow herd this year. Total cow plus heifer slaughter through June averaged 51.8% of total cattle slaughter. This percentage indicates continuing herd liquidation. Total female slaughter will drop below 45% of total slaughter during active herd expansion. This is unlikely to happen before 2024 at least.

The July Cattle Inventory

report is expected to show that herd liquidation continued in the first half of the year. The report is unlikely to show definitive signs of strong heifer retention but could indicate the beginning of retention if the beef heifer inventory is down just slightly or possibly even up slightly.

The monthly Cattle on Feed report released the same day will also include a quarterly breakdown of steers and heifers in feedlots. The number of heifers on feed decreased modestly compared to last year in the January and April data but a sharper decline in the number of heifers in feedlots in this July report would be the first significant data indication of heifer retention. In short, the upcoming reports are unlikely to show that herd liquidation has stopped but might provide indications that the situation will begin to stabilize in the remainder of the year. — **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**

auction, steers 900-949 lbs. sold \$3-4 higher. There were not enough sales for

an accurate comparison of heifers. Benchmark steers 774 lbs. sold between \$247-

264.50, averaging \$256.99. — **Anna Miller, WLJ managing editor**



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BAR KJ ANGUS, BAKERSFIELD, CA

- 35 AI BRED HEIFERS TO CALVE AUGUST 31 AND 60 BULL BRED HEIFERS TO CALVE SEPTEMBER 15 FOR 60 DAYS. FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS VACCINATED. REGISTRATION PAPERS AVAILABLE. COWS HAVE BEEN RUNNING IN ANGELS CAMP, CA.

RANCHERIA LAND & LIVESTOCK, BAKERSFIELD, CA

- 123 BRED HEIFERS TO CALVE SEPTEMBER 25 FOR 30 DAYS AND 80 BRED HEIFERS TO OCTOBER 25 FOR 45 DAYS. FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS VACCINATED. BRED TO FANCY CALVING EASE ANGUS BULLS.

80 HEAD OF OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER CALVING COWS

- FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED. BRED MAINLY TO VINTAGE, EZ ANGUS AND 44 FARMS ANGUS BULLS.

BRUIN ANGUS, AUBURN, CA

- 30-45 PUREBRED ANGUS BRED COWS. 3-5 YEARS OLD. FOOTHILL EXPOSED. BRED TO POWERFUL ANGUS BULLS.

RENZ RANCH, TRES PINOS, CA

- 40 FIRST CALF HEIFERS
- 35 3-YR OLD FIRST CALF HEIFERS
- FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS EXPOSED, FOOTHILL VACCINATED
- BRED TO START CALVING SEPTEMBER 1ST TO THOMAS ANGUS BULLS FOR 30 DAYS.

DUANE MARTIN LIVESTOCK, IONE, CA

- 60 BRED HEIFERS
- FOOTHILL RAISED AND EXPOSED
- BRED TO MCPHEE AND LORENZEN RED ANGUS BULLS TO CALVE SEPTEMBER 1-NOVEMBER 1.

R&R LIVESTOCK, HOLLISTER, CA

- 48 FALL BRED COWS. FOOTHILL AND ANAPLAS RAISED. BRED TO POWERFUL THOMAS, BUCHANAN, FIVE STAR ANGUS BULLS. START CALVING SEPTEMBER 1 FOR 40 DAYS.

7 LAND AND LIVESTOCK

- 2 LOADS OF SEPTEMBER CALVING COWS. 3 AND 4 YEAR OLD COWS BRED TO POWERFUL ANGUS BULLS.

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CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE JULY 27

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CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE AUGUST 24

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Cattle department manager wanted for historic, family owned ranch on California's Central Coast.

Send resume by email: Classified@wlj.net (Subject line: WLJ Box #917) or mail to: Western Livestock Journal, ATTN: Box #917, 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.

Help Wanted: Ranch Manager
 Responsible for internal improvements. Must have track hoe experience along with some fence and road work. Ranch has 14,500 acres, no cows. More job details upon interview.
 Compensation: \$5,000.00 a month. 5-days a week accommodations provided.

The ranch is located seventy-eight miles east of Prineville. (SE Paulina Hwy)
 Send Resume: Attn Gina (ginah@gunnerllc.com)

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Scott Land Company, LLC
 RANCH & FARM REAL ESTATE
We need your listings on any types of ag properties in TX, NM, OK & CO.
NEW LISTING! GUADALUPE CO., NM - Enjoy ranch life on this 401.38 ac. ranch, 12 mi. W of Santa Rosa. Good location and access. One windmill, pipeline to four drinking troughs, comfortable rustic home, good fences, etc.
DUMAS, TX. - Commercial building currently set up as fitness facility w/large workout area, two bathrooms/showers and an office. The property is a newer building with an excellent location on busy First Street in Dumas, Texas.
ANGUS, NM - 250± acres with over a 1/2 mile of NM 48 frontage. Elevations from 6,800 to 7,200 feet. Two springs along a creek. Ideal for future development or build your own getaway home.
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US reclaims status as a top beef supplier to Japan

The U.S. has long been a top supplier of beef to Japan.

U.S. market share collapsed in 2004 after a single case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), commonly referred to as "mad cow disease," was detected in a cow shipped from Canada to the U.S. In response, Japan placed an embargo on all U.S. and Canadian beef products. Ja-

pan reduced its imports of U.S. beef to almost zero in 2004 after importing 267,000 metric tons the previous year.

During those two years, the U.S. share of Japan's beef imports fell from 46.4% in 2003 to nearly zero in 2004, and Japan increased its imports of beef from Australia, which had never reported a case of BSE. In 2006, Japan began

phasing out the ban on U.S. beef and fully lifted it in May 2019. Over this period, U.S. beef imports rebounded nearly to pre-ban levels, shipping 233,000 metric tons to Japan in 2021.

Even so, Australia still supplied most of Japan's beef imports (40.7%), followed by the U.S. (39.8%), Canada (8.5%), New Zealand (4.7%) and

Mexico (3.3%). Recently ratified trade agreements between Japan and these partner countries are expected to contribute to changes in Ja-

pan's market for imported beef.

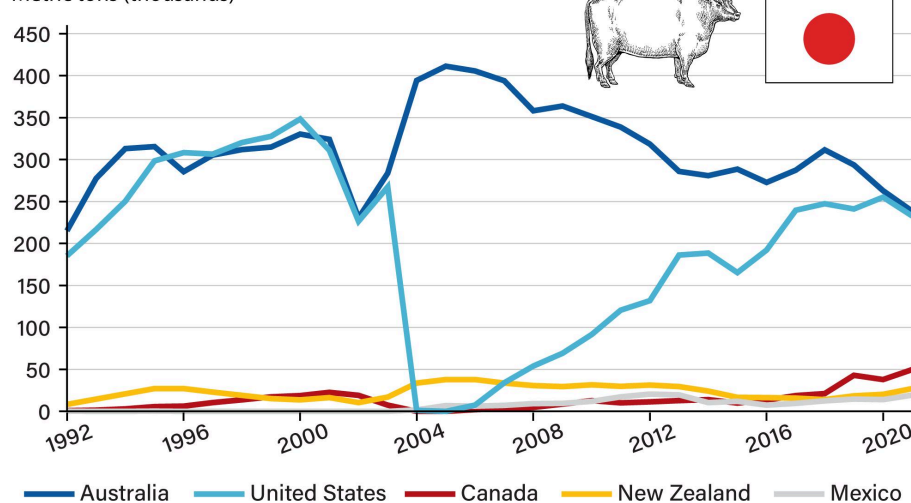
Researchers at USDA's Economic Research Service (ERS) estimate that by 2033, annual

scheduled reductions in Japan's import tariffs will increase imports of U.S. beef by 27%, or \$413.8 million, from 2018 levels. — **USDA ERS**

Japan's beef imports by supplier, 1992-2021

USDA Economic Research Service
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Metric tons (thousands)



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service based on Trade Data Monitor data.

RODEO STANDINGS



PRCA July 2023 world standings

The top five contestants and earnings are listed as provided on the Professional Rodeo Cowboy Association (PRCA) website, www.prorodeo.com, as of July 18.

All Around

1. Stetson Wright, \$280,444.07, Milford, UT. 2. Brushton Minton, \$118,223.49, Witter Springs, CA. 3. Nelson Wyatt, \$112,452.71, Clanton, AL. 4. Coleman Proctor, \$64,613.63, Pryor, OK. 5. Marcus Theriot, \$63,380.56, Lumberton, MS.

Bareback Riding

1. Keenan Hayes, \$189,023.65, Hayden, CO. 2. Leighton Berry, \$140,450.87, Weatherford, TX. 3. Kade Sonnier, \$107,957.58, Carencro, LA. 4. Cole Reiner, \$98,710.27, Buffalo, WY. 5. Tim O'Connell, \$97,270.15, Zwingle, IA.

Saddle Bronc Riding

1. Sage Newman, \$178,741.55, Melstone, MT. 2. Stetson Wright, \$156,292.08, Milford, UT. 3. Zeke Thurston, \$153,112.59, Big Valley, AB. 4. Kade Bruno, \$145,820.54, Challis, ID. 5. Dawson Hay, \$116,097.88, Wildwood, AB.

Bull Riding

1. Stetson Wright, \$179,812.18, Milford, UT. 2. Ky Hamilton, \$169,322.01, Mackay, QL. 3. Josh Frost, \$150,736.34, Randlett, UT. 4.

Sage Kimzey, \$125,739.43, Salado, TX. 5. Jestyn Woodward, \$115,979.40, Custer, SD.

Steer Wrestling

1. Dalton Masse, \$149,868.68, Hermiston, OR. 2. Jesse Brown, \$99,596.13, Baker City, OR. 3. Tyler Waguespack, \$89,593.33, Gonzales, LA. 4. Ty Erickson, \$87,087.32, Helena, MT. 5. Will Lummus, \$84,653.64, Byhalia, MS.

Team Roping (Headers)

1. Rhen Richard, \$108,638.06, Roosevelt, UT. 2. Nelson Wyatt, \$108,174.55, Clanton, AL. 3. Dustin Egusquiza, \$102,514.14, Marianna, FL. 4. Kaleb Driggers, \$91,171.07, Hoboken, GA. 5. Andrew Ward, \$80,765.85, Edmond, OK.

Team Roping (Heelers)

1. Jeremy Buhler, \$108,638.06, Arrowwood, AB. 2. Levi Lord, \$102,514.14, Sturgis, SD. 3. Junior Nunes Nogueira, \$91,171.07, Presidente Prudente, SP. 4. Buddy Hawkins, \$80,765.85, Stephenville, TX. 5. Patrick Smith, \$77,628.23, Lipan, TX.

Tie-Down Roping

1. Riley Webb, \$182,255.87, Denton, TX. 2. Shad Mayfield, \$108,746.05, Clovis, NM. 3. Haven Meged, \$103,200.95, Miles City, MT. 4. Ty Harris, \$95,803.09, San Angelo, TX. 5. Brushton Minton, \$94,118.95, Witter Springs, CA.

Steer Roping

1. Cole Patterson, \$82,294.98, Pratt, KS. 2. Scott Snedecor, \$69,536.15, Fredericksburg, TX. 3. Cody Lee, \$64,243.82, Gatesville, TX. 4. Reo Lohse, \$56,485.37, Kaycee, WY. 5. Jess Tierney, \$51,077.19, Hermosa, SD.

Barrel Racing

1. Jordan Briggs, \$99,303.33, Tolar, TX. 2. Hailey Kinsel, \$73,693.01, Cotulla, TX.

3. Brittany Pozzi Tonozi, \$73,295.43, Lampasas, TX. 4. Kassie Mowry, \$72,105.70, Dublin, TX. 5. Emily Beisel, \$65,728.77, Weatherford, OK.

Breakaway Roping

1. Hali Williams, \$104,766.29, Comanche, TX. 2. Shelby Boisjoli, \$79,077.67, Stephenville, TX. 3. Martha Angelone, \$66,396.24, Stephenville, TX. 4. Cheyanne Guillory, \$62,498.61, Kingston, OK. 5. Sarah Angelone, \$61,106.31, Lipan, TX.

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SALE CALENDAR

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ALL BREEDS

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 — Donati Ranch Bull

Sale with O'Connell Ranch, Oroville, CA

Sep. 15 — Tehama Angus, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA

HEREFORD

Sep. 7 — Sierra Ranches, Bull Sale at Vintage Angus Ranch, La Grange, CA

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

Sep. 14 — Holden Herefords, Female Sale, Valier, MT

COMMERCIAL

Jul. 29 — Cattlemen's Livestock Market, Annual Female Sale, Galt, CA

Jul. 29 — Rancheria Land & Livestock, Bred Female Sale, Galt, CA

Aug. 5 — Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Female Sale, Turlock, CA

HORSE

Oct. 13-14 — Fall Round Up Horse Sale, Heber City, UT

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GENETIC EDGE FEMALE SALE

SATURDAY | AUGUST 26, 2023 | 11 AM MST
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO

Vintage Blackbird 7260 +*18748526



CED +9; BW +1.3; WW +73; YW +125; MILK +19
PAP +36; CW +58; MARB +.78; RE +.75; \$M +74
\$W +65; \$F +106; \$G +59; \$B +165; \$C +288

Anchoring the famous Riverbend Blackbird family, two daughters of this \$110,000 valued foundation Riverbend and Pollard Farms donor sired by the now-deceased ST Genetics sire, Clarity and the \$280,000 outcross sire, Whitewater. Also headlining this foundation Riverbend Ranch family with a pregnancy out of the \$250,000 Blackbird 7480, by the record-selling Riverbend and Spruce Mountain Ranch sire, Bougie 1588; a daughter of the \$20,000 Riverbend and Wilmore Angus donor, Blackbird H028, by the \$235,000 Incentive 704H; and a daughter of the \$40,000 Riverbend donor, Blackbird 0293 by Man In Black.

Spruce Mtn Rita 0028 +*19681898



CED +6; BW +2.1; WW +70; YW +138; MILK +26; PAP +1.63; CW +65
MARB +1.25; RE +.90; \$M +52; \$W +61; \$F +112; \$G +88; \$B +200; \$C +311

Rita 0028 is a foundation member of the Riverbend Ranch donor program and is a powerful and proven daughter of the \$160,000 now-deceased former Spruce Mountain Ranch and Express Ranches donor, Rita 527. Selling a 2/22/23 heifer calf, sired by LAR Man In Black and sells due 11/6/23 to Poss Ratified.

Riverbend Blackbird H028 +*19720861



CED +6; BW +1.7; WW +76; YW +130; MILK +26; PAP +2.63; CW +51
MARB +.84; RE +.65; \$M +86; \$W +75; \$F +81; \$G +65; \$B +145; \$C +274

Blackbird L311 is a direct daughter of the second-generation powerful Blackbird in the Riverbend donor program, Blackbird H028, shown above, sired by the \$235,000 record-selling Sitz Angus and JC Heiken and Sons sire, Incentive 704H.

Basin Lucy 9132 +*19466927



CED +4; BW +3.6; WW +76; YW +132; MILK +31; PAP +4.23; CW +55
MARB +1.50; RE +.43; \$M +63; \$W +67; \$F +98; \$G +93; \$B +191; \$C +311

Two daughters of this second-generation Riverbend Ranch donor lead-off the 2023 Genetic Edge Female Sale by the balanced-trait Select Sires roster member, Tahoe B767 and the proven Baldrige and Express Ranches sire, Alternative E125.

Riverbend Rita K1103 +*20662802



CED +2; BW +3.1; WW +72; YW +138; MILK +29; PAP +4.43; CW +63
MARB +1.63; RE +.93; \$M +70; \$W +63; \$F +109; \$G +105; \$B +215; \$C +349

Rita K1103 is a royally bred Marb. \$B and \$C prospect produced by the \$40,000 top-selling female of the 2020 Gardiner Angus Sale, Sure Fire 7003 sired by the proven multi-trait sire, Cache.



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