

INSIDE WLJ

CATTLE ON FEED UP — June cattle on feed numbers marked the second consecutive month of larger feedlot totals. Page 5

CANAL CASE — Supreme Court to allow interstate feud over Perkins County Canal dispute to proceed. Page 8

A LOOK BACK IN HISTORY

"We are not going to argue with any particular meat dealer, for he certainly has a right to his opinion, but a survey of the field of meat eaters would be sure to show that tender, juicy meat is what the populace wants. There is a narrowing field for heavy beef. Steamship lines, good hotels, diners on railroads, clubs and other meat outlets demand it. When well-fed, it is certainly good and satisfying, but, because these services demand it for particular reasons, usually embracing such feature as size of cut, is no reason why the young, juicy and tender little beef carcasses should not have their share of popularity," read the July 6, 1927, *WLJ* cover article from the New York Office Department of Agriculture.

INDEX

Opinion P-2

Markets P-4

Classifieds.....P-6

Sale Calendar.....P-7

Appeals court revives national monuments suit

—Utah monuments in question

A federal appeals court recently reversed a lower court decision that dismissed challenges to the monument designations of the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments in Utah.

On June 23, the 10th Circuit Court

of Appeals overturned a district court's dismissal of a lawsuit that claimed President Joe Biden's expansion of the two national monuments exceeded his authority under the Antiquities Act.

In 2021, Biden restored the boundaries of the two national monuments after President Donald Trump previously reduced their size

in 2017. Biden relied upon the Antiquities Act for his action, which allows a president to designate federal public lands or waters containing historic cultural or natural resources as national monuments, provided the monument size is the smallest required to protect the objects.

The state of Utah, two counties,

the BlueRibbon Coalition and others challenged Biden's designation, contending that the expansions exceeded the limits Congress placed on the president's authority under the Antiquities Act.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Utah dismissed their suit,

See UTAH MONUMENT on page 7



Adobe Stock
A district court will review challenges to the Bears Ears National Monument and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Pictured here, the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in southern Utah.

Lawmakers propose sweeping H-2A reforms for agriculture

—Would expand year-round access

A bipartisan group of lawmakers has introduced the Securing Agriculture's Workforce Act of 2026 (SAWA), designed to modernize the H-2A agricultural guest worker program for the first time since its creation in 1986.

Led by House Agriculture Committee Chairman Glenn "GT" Thompson (R-PA-15), the bill would expand the program beyond seasonal agriculture, overhaul wage calculations, streamline the application process and allow year-round industries such as dairy, livestock, forestry and portions of meat processing to access H-2A workers for the first time.

Speaking at a Capitol Hill news conference announcing the legislation, Thompson said the proposal was the result of years of work and extensive input from agricultural

organizations nationwide.

"This bill is years in the making, and its reforms are long overdue," Thompson said. "Congress has not updated the H-2A visa program since Ronald Reagan was president."

Although agricultural labor falls outside the House Agriculture Committee's formal jurisdiction, Thompson said producers repeatedly identified workforce shortages as one of their greatest concerns during farm bill listening sessions.

"The issue of agricultural labor kept being brought up," he said. "The lack of domestic workforce for these jobs, how cumbersome the H-2A visa program was, and the fact that the cost of ag labor was pushing some farmers to the brink of bankruptcy."

The legislation reflects recommendations developed by the committee's bipartisan Agricultural Labor Working Group, which spent the

previous Congress gathering input from producers and industry organizations.

Changes to the program

Current law limits H-2A visas to temporary, seasonal agricultural work. SAWA would remove the seasonal requirement and instead define eligibility based on temporary job contracts lasting up to 350 days, regardless of whether the underlying work itself is seasonal.

That change would allow industries such as dairy, forestry, controlled-environment agriculture, aquaculture, livestock markets and livestock harvest activities to participate in the program. A pathway to citizenship is not included.

The legislation would also transfer authority to define "agricultural labor or services" from the

See H-2A REFORM on page 8

Group urges competition reforms, herd rebuilding

—Highlights packers' role in prices

With consumers paying record prices for beef, Farm Action is urging policymakers to focus on rebuilding the U.S. cattle herd and restoring competition throughout the beef supply chain rather than relying on increased imports to lower prices.

In a new white paper, the organization contends that today's record beef prices are the result of decades of industry consolidation, declining domestic cattle numbers and weakened competition, not simply a shortage of supply. The report argues that policies designed to increase imports may offer little relief at the meat counter while discouraging the herd expansion needed to improve long-term supplies.

Farm Action is a nonprofit organization that advocates for policy reforms to promote fair competi-

tion and transparency throughout the agricultural and food system. The group frequently focuses on market concentration, antitrust enforcement and policies affecting independent farmers and ranchers.

"The recommendations show there is a better path: rebuild the cattle herd, restore competition, and lower prices by strengthening America's cattle sector rather than undermining it," said Sarah Carden, Farm Action research and policy director.

According to the organization, Americans are paying more than ever for beef. Farm Action noted ground beef prices are roughly 70% higher than six years ago, while steak prices have nearly doubled since 2020. The organization also pointed to concerns surrounding the spread of New World screw-worm as another factor creating uncertainty for cattle supplies.

See WHITE PAPER on page 3

Holiday week slows cattle trade

(Editor's note: This report contains market data available as of Wednesday, July 1, due to an earlier WLJ press schedule.)

The cattle markets headed into the Fourth of July weekend on a quieter note, with traders taking a cautious approach.

Live cattle futures through Wednesday closed lower. The August contract lost about \$6 to close at \$241.82, and the October contract lost about \$4 to close at \$236.72.

"With it being a holiday-shortened week, and everyone anxiously awaiting the celebration of America's 250th birthday, the livestock complex is trading lower at the week's start, as, frankly, there may not be much trader interest in the complex this week," wrote ShayLe Stewart, DTN livestock analyst, in her Monday midday comments.

Cash trade through Wednesday totaled about 8,000 head. Live steers sold from \$252-255, and dressed steers sold from \$400-403.50.

Cash trade for the week ending June 28 totaled 58,852 head. Live steers averaged \$259.18, and dressed steers averaged

\$407.81.

Slaughter through Wednesday totaled about 324,000 head, on pace with a week earlier. Total slaughter for a week earlier is estimated at 537,000 head. Actual slaughter for two weeks earlier was not yet released by WLJ press time.

Boxed beef prices closed lower ahead of the Independence Day holiday. The Choice cutout lost about \$5 to close at \$391.26, and the Select cutout also lost about \$5 to close at \$369.69.

WEEKLY CHOICE CUTOUT

5 AREA WEEKLY WTD AVERAGE STEER PRICE

See MARKETS on page 5

↑

LIVE STEERS
N/A

↑

DRESSED STEERS
N/A

↑

CME FEEDER
\$377.40

WEEK ENDING: 7-1-26

PERIODICAL : Time Sensitive Priority Handling

COMMENTS

A heartfelt thank you

I carry a vivid memory as a 6- or 7-year-old kid sitting on my grandfather's black leather couch and him reading the *Western Livestock Journal* at the kitchen table. He relied on the information on those pages. It was then that I started to respect what *WLJ* meant to ranchers. Later, I came home from college one him I was interviewing with the Association (AAA). As a staunch he asked if the American Here (AHA) had anything available, to go there! With the air let our seasonal life began shortly the the spring of 2007.



IPSEN

As the world would come full circle, in the fall of 2011, Jerry York and Pete Crow approached me about joining the *WLJ* team. Jerry was looking for a transition to slow down and ease into retirement, and Pete was looking for the next generation of field staff. I was having thoughts that I wanted to know if I had what it took to be a commission-based salesman and survive as a livestock marketer. It made sense for all of us, and we built our strategy to make the move. On Jan. 1, 2012, I started my tenure with *WLJ*. When I told Grandpa this is what I was doing, he was more than overjoyed with the news—more so than if I had gone to work for AHA! He passed away two months after I took this role, knowing me as a *WLJ* fieldman.

For the first few years, I held the Southwest states before Jerry fully retired, and I took over the six western states. Over the next few years, we would recruit Devin Murnin to replace Jerry Gliko and later Ty Groshans to replace Jim Gies. It's been a fun ride, and I've been part of two incredible field staffs for *WLJ*. I'm thankful for their mentorship and support. In all of this, Pete would always remind us that without good editorial, we don't have a business. That rings so true, and I've seen Anna Fortozo and Charles Wallace become a true force in the editorial realm of livestock publications. They were a cornerstone to what we were building. From there, a production team that expanded into a strong digital presence has helped keep *WLJ* atop the places that beef cattle news is sought after.

As *WLJ* approached its 100-year mark, I didn't realize the journey the last few years would be. Stepping into a leadership role and leading this team was a dream come true and I'm thankful for the support and trust in that role. My kids are growing older, and I don't want to miss their sports and activities. At this time, it makes complete sense from a multitude of angles to pursue other opportunities and ideas. I couldn't do this without *WLJ's* support over the last 14 years. I am eternally grateful to them.

The *WLJ* readership is a loyal and educated group. They are astute cattlemen who run large operations, study industry events, and stay current on genetics, business and trends. I cannot stress enough that this publication is nothing without its loyal readership. Over the years, they have become family, and I hope to have served you all with professionalism, dignity and respect. While some may not have always agreed with me on current affairs, there was always a level of respect when I talked to readers. Thank you so much for your continued support.

In a perfect world, *WLJ* continues for decades more, and I truly hope it does. I hope there is another young kid out there seeing his dad or grandpa reading the *WLJ* and gaining the respect that I did. Even though I am moving on to other things, my respect for *WLJ* will continue, and I pray my influence on this publication was for the best. Thank you all for your weekly support, and thank you to my team and staff that made the day-to-day operations so successful.

I firmly believe beef cattle production is a relationship enterprise. Without relationships, we really don't have much to show. When I would write a column, I would wonder how it was going to affect my relationships with the readers. As I have traveled to sales and events, the one thing I always looked forward to was catching up with people. I'm thankful for the relationships in this business and I am excited for the future to build more. So, for the last time at *WLJ*, thank you again, and God Bless You. —

LOGAN IPSEN

LOGAN IPSEN

 GUEST OPINION

We are halfway through the 2026 International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists (IYRP), and key issues in rangelands and for pastoralists are being highlighted from the local to global levels. The month of June highlighted sustainable rangeland use and restoration. Throughout June, IYRP has been celebrated through educational webinars and events around the world tied to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification's "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought."

The challenges faced by pastoralists, people who practice extensive livestock production and have high levels of mobility, and rangelands, were at the forefront of these events, with sustainable pastoralism practices highlighted as a key need for healthy rangelands.

Pastoralists, including many ranchers, serve as custodians of rangelands and their practices can help to conserve and restore many rangeland areas through techniques, such as increased rotations for grazing.

— *Society for Range Management*

In North America, we know that good grazing makes sense. When ecologically appropriate grazing is applied to rangelands across Canada, the U.S. and Mexico, it can help to control invasive species, ameliorate soils, reduce catastrophic wildfires, maintain biodiversity and help preserve pollinator populations that are on the brink of collapse. While good grazing makes sense, pastoralist livelihoods are at risk from conversion of rangelands to other land uses.

Across North America, rangelands face pressures for land conversion, such as building developments across California, conversion to row crop production in the Great Plains from Canada to Mexico, clearing of land for solar panels two times the area of Las Vegas in rangelands surrounding Las Vegas, and extreme land clearing for mining in Canada, the U.S. and Mexico.

On top of pressures from land conversion, rangelands are faced with many drivers of degradation, including spread of invasive species, alterations in wildfire patterns, and intense droughts and heatwaves.

Invasive species, such as cheatgrass (*Bromus tectorum*, annual grass) in the Great Basin, eastern redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*, tree) in the Great Plains, buffelgrass (*Cenchrus ciliaris*, perennial grass) in the Sonoran Desert and bird vetch (*Vicia cracca*, forb) in the North American Tundra, threaten the biodiversity and economic productivity of many rangeland ecosystems because of their ability to outcompete local native plants and alter distur-



OBITUARY



Michael Pettit; 1962-2026

Michael (Mike) Parker Pettit was born on March 7, 1962, in Bakersfield, CA, to Arnold and Linda Pettit. He was raised in the country and in

the mountains alongside his sister, Tracy, where he developed a deep appreciation for hard work, the outdoors and family.

Mike attended Foothill High School and was a standout athlete, later being inducted into the school's Hall of Fame as a member of the 1980 football team. Shortly after high school, he married Carol Black and built a life centered on family, raising two sons, Justin and Brandon, who were his greatest pride and joy.

Following in his father's footsteps, Mike dedicated 20 years to the Kern County Fire Department. He loved being a firefighter and earned numerous recognitions throughout his career. Some of his

bance regimes.

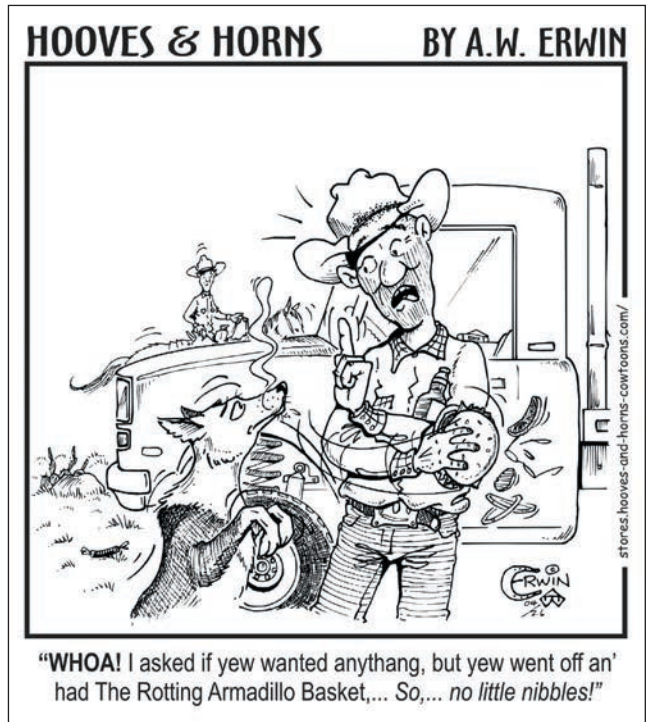
Some of these species are the major causes of alterations in wildfire patterns because they change fuel loads and fire intensities. Intense droughts and heatwaves further exacerbate the challenge.

While the degradation of rangelands in North America can often seem like an overwhelming battle, many people across the three countries are coming up with ingenious ways of fighting back. Collective action is often key. For example, the Central Grasslands Roadmap Initiative has brought together over 250 ranchers, Indigenous partners, government agencies, conservation groups and others to collectively preserve the working landscapes of the Great Plains with a shared voice and reduced land conversion.

Numerous regional groups have come together in rangeland ecosystems across Canada, the U.S. and Mexico to combat invasive species, recognizing that their neighbor's problem could become their problem if they don't work together to solve landscape scale issues.

Halting land conversion and degradation is critical and the first step toward improving rangeland health. Pastoralists, including many ranchers, serve as custodians of rangelands and their practices can help to conserve and restore many rangeland areas through techniques, such as increased rotations for grazing. However, some areas with extreme levels of degradation require more than just passive restoration. They require active restoration paired with appropriate land management.

Recognizing the importance of rangelands through the IYRP is highlighting the need to conserve and restore rangelands. As we move through this year and beyond, hopefully, we can continue to build upon the momentum that has been generated with IYRP. — **Society for Range Management**



"WHOA! I asked if yew wanted anythang, but yew went off an had The Rotting Armadillo Basket,... So,... *no little nibbles!*"



the mountains alongside his sister, Tracy, where he developed a deep appreciation for hard work, the outdoors and family.

most cherished moments were sharing fire stories with his sons when they worked on Hotshot crews.

After retiring, Mike devoted himself fully to his lifelong passion—cattle ranching. He spent years building a ranch and herd he was deeply proud of. In the last decade, he co-founded Santa Carota Beef with his son, Justin, a venture that took them across the country and allowed them to serve others through both business and generosity.

In late 2025, Mike was diagnosed with an aggressive form of cancer. He faced his illness with strength and faith, spending his final months in Texas surrounded by his sons and

grandchildren, cherishing time that meant everything to him.

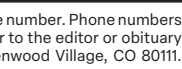
On June 21, Mike went home to be with the Lord, reuniting with his father on Father's Day in a way that felt uniquely fitting.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, Arnold Pettit and Linda Pettit Charlton. He is survived by his sister, Tracy Studebaker (Curt); his sons, Justin (Corinne) Pettit and Brandon (Gina) Pettit; and his five grandchildren, Luke, Hank, Cora, Gracie and Kendall Pettit.

Those who knew Mike considered themselves fortunate. He lived a life defined by faith, family, hard work, service and generosity. He will be deeply missed, lovingly remembered and never forgotten.



Letters to the editor: Letters for publication must be longer than 675 words and must include the writer's name, location and phone number. Phone numbers will not be published. Letters may be shortened for space requirements. Obituaries must be no longer than 700 words. Send a letter to the editor or obituary by emailing editorial@wlj.net or mailing to Western Livestock Journal, Attn: Editorial Dept., 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111.



The national livestock weekly • Since 1922 • Western Livestock Journal LLC • 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111
www.wlj.net • 303-722-7600 • Fax 303-722-0155

PRESIDENT	ADVERTISING@WLJ.NET	FIELD REPS	CIRCULATION@WLJ.NET
LOGAN IPSEN <i>New Plymouth, ID</i> 916-947-2392 logan@wlj.net	KIRBY BRINCEFIELD <i>Operations Manager</i> 720-716-3363 kirby@wlj.net	JARED PATTERSON <i>Caldwell, ID</i> 208-312-2386 jared@wlj.net	HANNAH JACKSON <i>Circulation Manager & Copy Editor</i> 720-370-8275 • hannah@wlj.net
EDITORIAL@WLJ.NET	MIKE OLD CORN <i>Advertising Coordinator & Graphic Design</i> 720-370-9095 mike@wlj.net	TY GROSHANS <i>Akron, CO</i> 970-818-6016 ty@wlj.net	CLASSIFIED@WLJ.NET
ANNA MILLER FORTZOZO <i>Managing Editor</i> 720-372-2353 • anna@wlj.net	TRISTAN MARTIN <i>Advertising Coordinator & Graphic Design</i> 720-372-1763 tristan@wlj.net	KEVIN MURNIN <i>Worden, MT</i> 406-853-4638 kevin@wlj.net	TOM WHITE <i>Classifieds Manager</i> 720-370-7977 • tom@wlj.net
CHARLES WALLACE <i>Contributing Editor</i> 303-722-7600 • charles@wlj.net			PUBLISHER EMERITUS
			PETE CROW <i>Publisher Emeritus • pete@wlj.net</i>

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL (ISSN 0094-6710, USPS 678660) is published weekly (52 issues annually, plus special features) by Western Livestock Journal LLC, 6021 S Syracuse Way, Ste #103, Greenwood Village, CO 80111. Website: www.wlj.net. Email: advertising@wlj.net or editorial@wlj.net. U.S. subscription rate: 1 year - \$55. Periodicals postage paid at Denver, CO, and at additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Western Livestock Journal, P.O. Box 370930, Denver, CO 80237-0930.

LEGAL LEDGER

Bill urges permanent horse slaughter export ban

Following the suspension of live horse exports to Mexico to help combat New World screwworm outbreaks, a coalition of lawmakers is now calling for permanent protections to ban the export of horses for slaughter. "There is broad opposition among Americans to horse slaughter, and ending this export pipeline would align federal policy with those views while advancing animal welfare," read a letter to President Donald Trump led by Rep. Vern Buchanan (R-FL-16) and signed by 16 other Republican lawmakers. "A permanent ban on the export of American horses for slaughter would help protect horses from cruelty, strengthen our defenses against New World Screwworm and uphold American values." Buchanan introduced the Save America's Forgotten Equines Act earlier last year, which would ban the transportation of horses for slaughter for human consumption. Companion legislation was introduced in the Senate by Sens. Lindsey Graham (R-SC) and Ben Ray Lujan (D-NM).

NWS production plant opens in Mexico

On June 27, the U.S. and Mexico inaugurated a New World screwworm (NWS) sterile fly production plant in the southernmost Mexican state of Chiapas. The plant began operations on June 28 and is expected to produce 28 million sterile flies per week by mid-July, gradually increasing to 100 million flies by the end of the year. The \$50-million Metapa de Domínguez facility will add its production to that of the sterile fly production plant in Panama, which has been producing 100 million sterile flies per week. "Our countries have defeated this pest before, 40 or 50 years ago, and we are going to do it again thanks to the extraordinary work we will carry out with this plant," said USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins. As of the afternoon of June 30, there were 20 active NWS cases reported in the U.S., and seven inactive cases.

American Foods Group to close NE plant

American Foods Group will be closing its Skylark Meats facility in Omaha, NE, by the end of August. The plant specializes in liver and variety meat products, including pork feet, neckbones and hocks, and beef marrow bones, tripe, liver and others. In a filing with the Nebraska Department of Labor, Skylark said the closure is expected to be permanent, and the last day of business will be Aug. 25. A total of 218 employees is expected to be laid off, and the company said it is "encouraging employees to apply for positions at affiliated facilities." The plant becomes the second meat plant in the state to close this year, following Tyson Foods' closure of its Lexington, NE, beef plant in January.

Trump lifts duties on phosphate fertilizer imports

President Donald Trump on June 29 signed an order temporarily suspending certain duties on phosphate fertilizer imports from Morocco. "The temporary suspension will increase phosphate fertilizer availability, improve competition, and help lower one of agriculture's largest production expenses while supporting a stable and reliable fertilizer supply ahead of future planting seasons," USDA said. Supplies from major Middle Eastern producers have been cut by the closure of the Strait of Hormuz. "The United States' largest foreign source of phosphate fertilizer has experienced supply chain disruption, placing additional pressure on the farm economy and the production of certain categories of domestic food," Trump wrote in his proclamation.

USDA launches small beef processor program

USDA recently announced the Strengthening Processing for U.S. Ranchers (SPUR) Program that is intended to provide temporary support for small- and mid-sized beef processors. Through SPUR, USDA will provide up to \$500 million to eligible entities to support opportunities for American ranchers. "USDA is taking targeted action to preserve the independent processing capacity that ranchers rely on, strengthen competition across the American beef supply chain, and support rural communities across the country," said USDA Secretary Brooke Rollins. The action follows the department's Plan to Fortify the American Beef Industry released last fall. "Competitive supply chains help ensure American ranchers have reliable markets for their cattle," said Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Richard Fordyce. Eligible entities must be U.S. owned and cannot be nationally dominant in beef processing, or owned by an entity that is.

BLM advances NV solar project

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is moving forward with a proposed 400-megawatt solar project near the Nevada/California border. The agency issued its final environmental impact statement and resource management plan amendment for the Purple Sage Energy Center, which would cover 4,534 acres on public land in Clark County, NV. If approved, the solar-generation project would be one of the largest in the state. Comments may be submitted on the plan documents by July 13 at tinyurl.com/yvbtvtdbe.

Farm Action outlines several policy recommendations

WHITE PAPER (from page 1)

Consolidation in the industry

The white paper argues that increasing beef imports would do little to reduce retail prices due to concentration in the beef processing sector.

Farm Action notes that the four largest beef packers controlled about 36% of the market during the 1970s. Today, the organization estimates four companies control roughly 85% of U.S. beef processing, leaving ranchers with fewer marketing options and less negotiating leverage.

The white paper states that cattle producers once received approximately 60-65% of the retail beef dollar, but that share declined to roughly 35-40% by 2020, even as beef prices continued to climb. According to the report, stronger cattle prices have improved returns for many producers, but those gains reflect historically tight cattle supplies rather than a healthier cattle industry. Farm Action contends that increasing beef imports could put downward pressure on the prices ranchers receive for their cattle without delivering meaningful savings to shop-

pers. The organization argues that because a small number of processors and retailers dominate the market, much of the financial benefit from lower-cost imports would likely remain within the supply chain rather than be passed along at the grocery store.

Policy recommendations

Farm Action outlines several policy recommendations intended to increase domestic production while improving long-term affordability for consumers.

Among its recommendations is restoring mandatory country-of-origin labeling for beef, arguing that clearer labeling would allow consumers to distinguish between imported and U.S.-raised beef while strengthening market incentives for domestic production.

To address processing capacity, the report recommends expanding regional and independent meat processing facilities through financing, technical assistance and procurement support. Farm Action urges the federal government to prioritize domestically raised beef in purchasing programs while creat-

ing more opportunities for regional processors, cooperatives and independent suppliers to compete for government contracts.

The organization also proposes creating a temporary federal tax credit of approximately \$500 for retained breeding heifers to encourage herd expansion. Farm Action additionally recommends establishing a temporary "Build Your Pasture" program that would encourage producers to convert marginal cropland back to grazing land through multi-year payments and assistance for fencing, water infrastructure and pasture establishment.

The group urges policymakers to protect working grazing lands by ensuring federal conservation programs do not unintentionally reduce livestock production. The report argues maintaining a strong grazing base is essential for rebuilding the national herd while also improving drought resilience, soil health and the long-term viability of rural communities.

Competition reforms emphasized

Beyond its recommendations, Farm Action said herd rebuilding alone will not solve

structural problems within the cattle industry unless accompanied by stronger competition policies.

Farm Action recommends increased antitrust enforcement, stronger implementation of the Packers and Stockyards Act, greater market transparency and expanded reporting of negotiated cattle transactions and packer procurement practices.

The organization also calls for reforms to the Beef Check-off program, arguing mandatory producer assessments should better align with the interests of domestic cattle producers. Additional proposals include investigating pricing and margin expansion throughout the beef supply chain, creating a federal price gouging law for periods of severe market disruption and considering use of the Defense Production Act during major supply chain emergencies.

Farm Action concludes that rebuilding the national herd, restoring competition and strengthening domestic production capacity offer the most durable path toward a more resilient cattle industry and more affordable beef for American families. — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**



STELLPFLUG
EST 1913
Cattle Company

Second Annual **A NEW FRONTIER**
HEREFORD AND ANGUS FEMALE SALE

JULY 24, 2026 • 1 PM MST
AT THE RANCH • 516 S GUERNSEY RD • GUERNSEY, WY 82214

Selling **45+ BRED ANGUS HEIFERS, 20 BRED HEREFORD HEIFERS, AND 80 ANGUS AND HEREFORD PAIRS**

Plus! Picks of heifers that are full sisters to Stellpflug Bighorn and Stellpflug Open Range, along with interest in several outstanding donor females, like the dams of Prolific, Resilient, Barricade, Thomas County, and more!

Andy Stellpflug 307.351.1712 | andy@greatcattle.com
STELLPFLUGCATTLE.COM

SCAN FOR MORE INFO!

CHEYENNE FRONTIER DAYS
World's Largest Outdoor Rodeo & Western Celebration

All registered buyers will receive tickets to join our family at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Rodeo on July 25!

Find us on: **facebook**

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: 7/1/2026		Week Ago	Year Ago
Choice Fed Steers	N/A	▲	260.00	229.17
CME Feeder Index	377.40	▲	375.83	314.10
Boxed Beef Average	391.26	▼	396.32	389.75
Average Dressed Steers	N/A	▲	408.00	369.29
Live Slaughter Weight*	1,457	▼	1,463	1,415
Weekly Slaughter**	537,000	▲	526,000	560,000
Weekly Beef Production***	477.6	▲	469.6	483.6
Hide/Offal Value	14.17	▼	14.18	11.62
Corn Price	4.22	▲	4.16	4.35
*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	
June 26	6,513	390.94	358	406.34	1,184	397.70	1,953	387.40	612	373.09	2,407	360.06
June 19	6,322	391.26	304	398.89	1,116	397.77	1,840	390.35	486	375.50	2,576	360.35
June 12	5,970	391.76	281	402.33	1,112	398.46	1,846	391.37	514	376.86	2,216	364.09
June 5	6,392	393.97	359	401.40	1,195	398.54	1,907	391.99	473	383.81	2,458	369.93
Cutouts			FED BOXED BEEF									
DATE	CHOICE		SELECT		COW BEEF CUTOUT		50% LEAN		90% LEAN			
July 2	N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A		N/A			
July 1	391.26		369.69		360.46		180.66		463.74			
June 30	393.16		371.68		358.52		181.59		N/A			
June 29	391.44		374.18		360.11		177.64		468.74			
June 26	391.03		371.58		359.46		189.51		N/A			

CATTLE FUTURES: CME Live Cattle						
	6/26	6/29	6/30	7/1	7/2	High* Low*
Jun.	25745	25740	25825	24375	N/A	25873 16853
Aug.	24583	24358	24448	23853	N/A	25598 16668
Oct.	23920	23738	23795	23800	N/A	25120 17005
Dec.	23850	23695	23743	23853	N/A	25093 18068
CATTLE FUTURES: CME Feeder Cattle						
	6/26	6/29	6/30	7/1	7/2	High* Low*
Aug.	36985	36748	36775	36755	N/A	38103 21920
Sep.	36768	36575	36603	36545	N/A	38280 22268
Oct.	36460	36293	36303	36248	N/A	38020 22460
Nov.	36138	35978	35978	35933	N/A	37860 24118
*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		N/A		N/A		N/A
Live FOB Heifer		158		1,400		256.00
Dressed Del Steer		N/A		N/A		N/A
Dressed Del Heifer		N/A		N/A		N/A
SAME PERIOD LAST WEEK						
Live FOB Steer		419		1,566		260.00
Live FOB Heifer		589		1,455		260.00
Dressed Del Steer		227		1,036		408.00
Dressed Del Heifer		N/A		N/A		N/A
SAME PERIOD LAST YEAR						
Live FOB Steer		14,067		1,472		229.17
Live FOB Heifer		5,299		1,324		227.49
Dressed Del Steer		3,844		965		369.29
Dressed Del Heifer		345		852		368.00
NATIONAL WEEKLY FED BEEF SLAUGHTER VOLUME: JUNE 28, 2026						
		Domestic		Imported		
Forward Contract		32,408		2,316		
Formula		208,546		2,757		
Negotiated Cash		74,865		108		
Negotiated Grid		40,981		1,803		
Packer Owned		9,652		N/A		
Total		366,452		6,984		
SLAUGHTER FORWARD CONTRACTS				FORWARD BEEF SALES		
Delivery Month				Neg. Sales 0-21 days		1,599
Jun. '26		134,018		Neg. Sales 21+ days		1,042
Jul. '26		95,543		Formula sales		3,651
Aug. '26		146,805		Forward contract sales		221
Sep. '26		83,661		Domestic sales		5,821
Oct. '26		111,998		NAFTA Exports		65
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				250.59		-0.12
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs				248.50		+0.30
Ontario Auctions						
Slaughter Steers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1300-1500 lbs				244.55		-1.21
Slaughter Heifers, mostly Choice & Select 1-3, 1200-1400 lbs				241.50		-2.12
Slaughter Cows, Cutter and Utility 1-3, 1100-1400 lbs				169.87		-4.43
*Price comparison from one week ago.						
Average feeder cattle prices (CND) for week ending Tuesday, June 30, 2026						
Steers:		Alberta		Saskatchewan		Ontario
501-600 lbs		493.76		N/A		458.79
601-700 lbs		446.28		N/A		437.88
701-800 lbs		397.96		N/A		399.14
801-900 lbs		353.24		N/A		368.89
Heifers:						
401-500 lbs		463.37		N/A		497.88
501-600 lbs		435.94		N/A		434.54
601-700 lbs		393.35		N/A		391.48
701-800 lbs		362.53		N/A		343.62
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	
		6/15/2026	6/8/2026			
Feeders		IMPORTS SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE		0	230,638	
USDA WEEKLY IMPORTED FEEDER CATTLE						
July 1, 2026						
Mexico to United States Feeder Cattle Import Summary						
Receipts EST: N/A		Week Ago EST: N/A		Year Ago Act: N/A		
THIS REPORT WILL NOT BE PUBLISHED AFTER MAY 12TH 2025. THE BORDER WILL BE CLOSED FOR LIVESTOCK IMPORTS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.						
Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2			Feeder heifers: Medium and large 1&2			
500-600 lbs		N/A		500-600 lbs		N/A
600-700 lbs		N/A		600-700 lbs		N/A
700-800 lbs		N/A		700-800 lbs		N/A
Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2			Feeder steers: Medium and large 1&2			
500-600 lbs		N/A		500-600 lbs		N/A
600-700 lbs		N/A		600-700 lbs		N/A
700-800 lbs		N/A		700-800 lbs		N/A

Selected Auctions Week Ending July 1, 2026					Feeder prices for steers & heifers reflect medium and large 1 cattle, unless otherwise noted; * Indicates medium and large 1-2					
DATE MARKET		200-300 lb.	300-400 lb.	400-500 lb.	500-600 lb.	600-700 lb.	700-800 lb.	800 lb. -up	SLAUGHTER COWS SLAUGHTER BULLS	PAIRS REPLACEMENTS
Northwest										
No report available Blackfoot, ID										
June 25 Burley, ID	276	640	530-540	547	445-467	390	368	284-331	159.50-198 213-224	
No report available Emmett, ID										
June 27 Eugene, OR	899		420-440* 425-442*	360-485* 350-442*	310-385*	345-410* 290-327*	348-355* 270-373*	275-335*	150-173 211-230	2,950-3,400 2,200-3,200
No report available Madras, OR										
June 24 Vale, OR	607				465-522.50		361-410	335-360	168-179 200-225	
June 24 Davenport, WA	91		540-550	400-477.50 207.50	382.50-470	375 285	317.50 327.50-350	277.50 178-255	132-222 169-297.50	2,850-4,700 2,900-3,050
June 25 Toppenish, WA	1,645		630-632.50* 620*	445*	445-525* 401-447*	405-475* 365-420*	376* 360*	356*	163-190 195-240	3,025-4,000
Farwest										
June 26 Orland, CA	1,920			350-475 330-428	350-470 330-431	325-433 305-400	300-396 280-341	300-357 280-320	170-196 180-234	2,500-4,500
No report available Escalon, CA										
No report available Famoso, CA										
No report available Galt, CA										
June 30 Turlock, CA	1,447		450-600 470-530	445-500 460-516	435-500 425-477.50	400-440 375-415	380-402 330-372.50	340-377.50 300-331	158-195 173-209	
No report available Salina, UT										
North Central										
June 28 Iowa	6,036		630-770 630	557.50-672.50 508-575	490-550 410-503	420-492 376-437.50	350-431.50 333-383.50	323-389 289-365	155-280 187.50-305	
June 30 Miles City, MT	468					440*			145.50-188 181-235	4,650
June 24 Bassett, NE	7,830			565-606 520-540	505-575 445-520	464-512 413-482	416-465 352.50-420	340-412 317.25-402		
No report available Ericson, NE										
No report available Imperial, NE										
No report available Kearney, NE										
June 26 Lexington, NE	1,483			517	512 423	431 370-409	390-391 344.50	312.25-378 310-344		4,500
No report available Ogallala, NE										
No report available Valentine, NE										
June 26 Herreid, SD	3,500					477 392.50	417-436 354-391	332.75-397 302.50-330		
June 24 Torrington, WY	1,105			565-577	446-476	428 405-420	413-424.50 369-385	314-397 299-371		
South Central										
June 25 Willcox, AZ	N/A	610-620 515	509-615 480-492	479-535 443-498	431-502 392-430	376-398 356-384			150-201 179-205	2,500-2,900
No report available Colorado										
June 24 La Junta, CO	754		557.50-662.50 512.50-547.50	502.50-582.50 455-500	412.50-485 375-430	362.50-435 342.50-362.50	340-377.50 325-340	332.50-335	166-184 208-228	1,275-1,875
June 29 Loma, CO	619		565-640 510-600	510-580 455-580	430-515 415-455	375-450 350-405	350-405 320-350	250-360 250-330	165-190 195-250	3,700-5,500
June 24 Dodge City, KS	1,581		565-602.50 518-605	443-505	490-494 414-442	382.50-440 362-407	340-342.50	324-337.75	110-188 221-280	2,350-4,375 1,850-4,250
June 25 Pratt, KS	787		532.50-575	520-527.50	453 470	425 374-432.50	355-389 357-380	330-371 321-340.50	165-227.50 201-234	2,550-3,900 2,550-3,250
No report available Salina, KS										
June 25 Clovis, NM	1,112	730-750 600	600-660 555-605	440-600 460-565	420-525 390-525	335-457 352-395	337-375 350-367	222-346.50 310-333	158.25-180 183.50-212	2,500-4,300 1,325-3,800
June 24 El Reno, OK	7,804	660 540-630	590-650 445-580	545-615 445-510	455-545 380-465	400-467.50 340-420	385-402.50 335-370	315-377.50 316-352.50		
June 30 McAlester, OK	600		478-650 395-585	450-505 420-590	428-475 375-418	353-440 355-390	315-370 290-364	323	164-192 202-222	1,450-3,550
June 29 Oklahoma City, OK	3,581	650 525	560-615 470-525	510-575 437.50-510	450-527.50 392.50-457.50	408.50-463 358-397	369-405 317-356	321-379 300-334		
June 26 Cuero, TX	879	609-790 582-760	532-655 475-550	464-560 433-650	437-505 390-515	402-515 370-440	323-380 325-342		151-187 205-230	2,750-3,550 3,100-3,700
June 25 Dalhart, TX	1,619		605 535-572.50	522.50-560 437.50-490	472.50-490 450-462.50	370	382-407 346-350.50	321 290-326	169-188.50 167.50-200	2,535-2,625
June 25 San Angelo, TX	804		483-530 393-525	449-505 414-475	442-480 371-430	379-430 336-380	340-370 286-335		146-175 197-215	2,750-4,300 2,000-4,300
June 25 Tulia, TX	937	690 650	615-645 540-595	540-580 482-520	467-533 415-469	360-478 347-422	397 348	321	165-176.50 185-200	
East										
June 26 Alabama	7,139	580-700 520-570	515-640 450-570	475-570 420-500	410-490 375-470	370-475 320-442.50	322-387.50 300-360		150-205 154-231	1,700-5,200 1,425-5,000
No report available Lexington, KY										
June 29 Joplin, MO	9,786		620	520-600 455-510	460-535 405-460	400-455 372-420	365-410 343-390	319-375 327-338		
June 29 Tennessee	7,010	545-700 440-640	515-630 420-600	435-550 375-495	370-520 322.50-445	345-435 275-401	310-402.50 270-346	220-369.75 255-335	148-209 170-260	2,350-4,750 1,650-4,500
June 29 Virginia	2,860	580-625 515-575	455-570 409-505	431-525 350-457.50	393-508 350-425	390-440 315-395	330-427.50 290-379	255-350 265-321		

Cattle on feed is up, but beef production is down

The June Cattle on Feed report showed a feedlot inventory 2.1% larger year over year. This was the second consecutive month of larger feedlot totals (May was up 1.8% year over year) after 17 months of year-over-year decreases in cattle on feed inventories.

However, a bigger feedlot total does not mean that cattle numbers are increasing. Feedlot inventories increased year over year in May and June because feedlot marketings have decreased more than feedlot placements. In the past 12 months, feedlot placements have decreased 6.1% while feedlot marketings have decreased 7.8%. Figure 1 shows that average feedlot placements and marketings have decreased sharply in recent months.

Decreased feedlot flows (placements and marketings) follow from ever-tighter feeder cattle supplies. The 2025 calf crop was the eighth consecu-

tive smaller calf crop and was the smallest in 84 years. The resulting slowdown in feedlot production, while maintaining feedlot inventories, is accomplished by an increase in average feedlot days on feed and heavier final weights for fed cattle.

The Kansas Focus on Feedlots data shows average of 188 days on feed for the last year, with recent months up to 198 days. Final fed steer weights in Kansas feedlots have increased 105 pounds in the past 18 months, currently averaging 1,523 lbs.

Lower feedlot production means declining cattle slaughter and beef production. Fed cattle (steer plus heifer) slaughter in the first half of 2026 is down 8.7% year over year. Decreased fed cattle slaughter is partially offset by increased carcass weights.

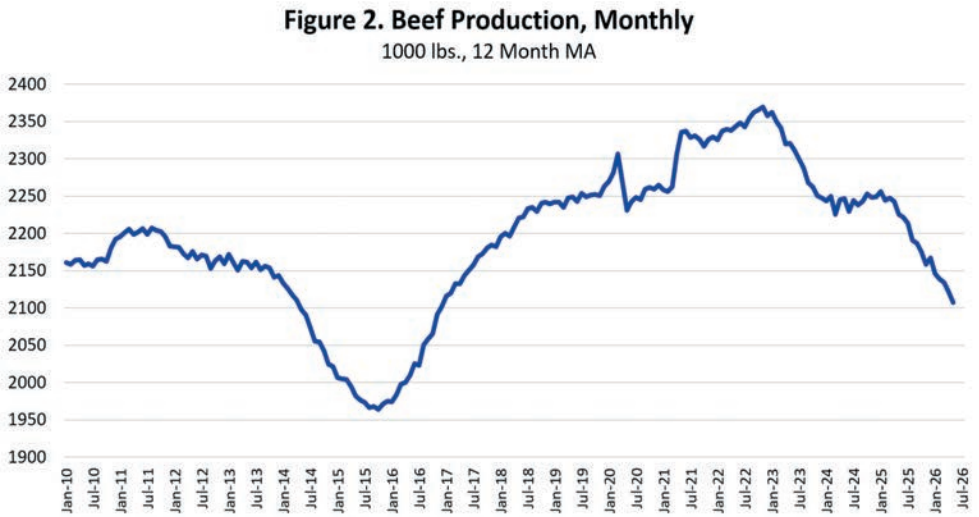
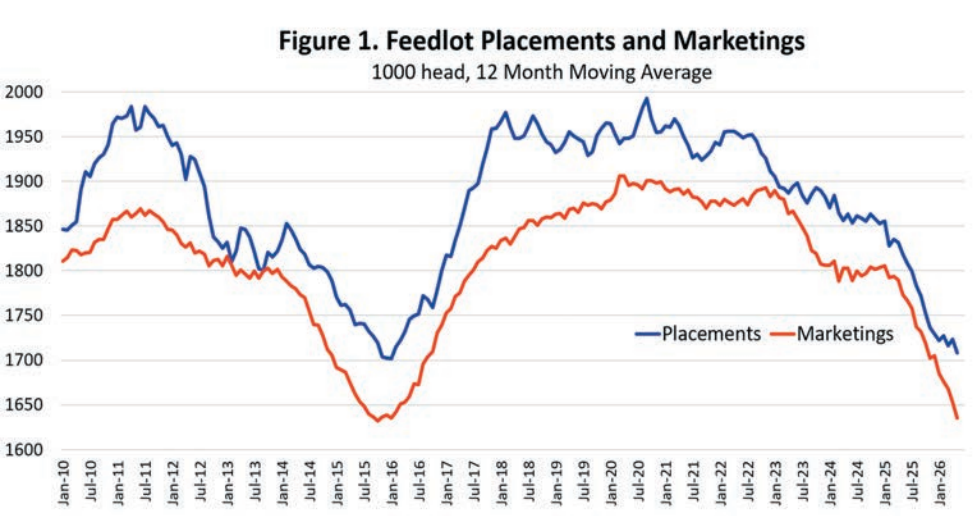
Steer carcass weights are currently at 968 lbs. Steer carcass weights have averaged 35

lbs. heavier thus far in 2026. Heifer carcass weights are currently 884 lbs. and are averaging 26.6 lbs. more than one year ago. Cow slaughter is down 5.3% this year, leading to total cattle slaughter down 8.1% for the year to date.

Total beef production is down 5.5% year over year through the first half of 2026. Average fed beef production is currently at the lowest level since 2017, and average nonfed (cull cow and bull) beef production is now at the lowest level since 2006.

Average monthly commercial beef production is at the lowest level since late 2016. Total beef production is projected to be down 4.5-5% in 2026 compared to last year and is expected to decrease again in 2027 to the lowest beef production since 2015 (Figure 2).

— **Derrell S. Peel, Oklahoma State University Extension livestock marketing specialist**



Boxed beef prices trend lower ahead of holiday

MARKETS (from page 1)

“Following the strong market move lower over the past couple of weeks, traders remain concerned about the ability to sustain beef values and product support through the last summer and fall months,” DTN wrote on Wednesday.

“At this point, the ability to move additional domestic product at higher price levels this year has gone well,” DTN said. “But the underlying concern remains about the economy, whether consumers will start cutting budgets, and where the first and most drastic cuts will be seen.”

Feeder cattle

Feeder cattle futures lost steam over the week. The August contract lost about \$9 to close at \$364.15, and the September contract also lost about \$9 to close at \$362.17.

“With markets closed Friday for the Fourth of July holiday, and overall trade interest subdued through the entire week due to holiday and vacation schedules, it is not surprising that overall market participation has been limited

during the entire week,” DTN said.

The CME Feeder Cattle Index gained about \$1.50 to close at \$377.40.

Corn futures traded higher. The July contract gained 7 cents to close at \$4.21, and the December contract gained 9 cents to close at \$4.42.

Missouri: Joplin Regional Stockyards in Carthage sold 9,786 head on Monday. Compared to the previous sale, feeder steers under 800 lbs. sold steady to \$8 lower, and heavier weights sold steady to \$5 higher. Feeder heifers sold from \$7 lower to \$5 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 772 lbs. sold from \$365-397, averaging \$377.65.

Oklahoma: Oklahoma National Stockyards in Oklahoma City sold 3,581 head on Monday. Compared to week earlier, feeder steers and heifers sold unevenly steady in a light comparison. Heavier weight feeder steers appeared cheaper on paper but the quality was not as attractive. Steer calves sold from \$10-20 higher and heifer calves sold \$5-15 higher. Benchmark steers averaging 763 lbs. sold from \$369-391.75, averaging \$380.69. — **Anna Miller Fortozo, WLJ managing editor**

Contact:
WVM Rep
John Rodgers
(559) 730-3311

Max Olvera
(209) 277-2063

WVM western
video market

JULY 13-15

FAITH RANCH
COMPLETE DISPERSAL

Complete Dispersal of the Historic Faith Ranch Cow Herd
Built on 30+ years of proven Vintage Angus genetics, Faith Ranch has developed a cow herd known for maternal strength, performance, and ranch-raised durability. These first calf heifers through running age cows are bred to elite Vintage and Donati Angus Ranch bulls, offering buyers a rare opportunity to acquire 700+ head of fall-calving cows.
Bred to calve August - October.

Two exceptional lots of pairs, including one load of 3-7 year olds and one load of 8-12

**SELLING IN OUR BREEDING STOCK SECTION
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON**

ALSO OFFERED IN THIS SALE
Entire 2026 calf crop sorted into load lots to fit anybody's needs
- 620+ head of feeder cattle
- Minimum 50-day weaning period
- Full vaccination program

LOTS 7161 - 7163, 7213 - 7217

\$Value of Bulls	
\$M	55
\$W	79
\$F	112
\$G	78
\$B	191
\$C	303

CALENDAR

COMING EVENTS

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

Sept. 15-17 – The Stockmanship & Stewardship event in Grand Island, NE, will help ranchers gain practical, hands-on knowledge that strengthens animal care, enhances cattle handling skills and supports the sustainability of their operations. Details: stockmanshipandstewardship.org.

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.)

Sept. 15 – The Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) is encouraging students to apply for its 2026 Annual Convention and Trade Show internship program. The internship will take place Dec. 2-6 in Billings, MT. To apply, visit mtbeef.org or contact the MSGA office at 406-442-3420.

CLASSIFIED CORRAL

WESTERN LIVESTOCK JOURNAL

 WWW.WLJ.NET

 720-370-7977

 1-303-722-0155

 CLASSIFIED@WLJ.NET

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING
GENERAL INFORMATION

ADVERTISING RATES
BY THE WORD: 90 cents per word for each insertion.
MINIMUM WORD RATE: 17 words or fewer, \$15.30 one time.
MAD RATES: (Bold headline) \$2 more per insertion for your phone number, email and/or website, plus first 2 or 3 words in bold print. (Applies to word ads only)
BOXED AND BOLD: (Boxed with bold text) \$5 more per insertion. (Applies to word ads only)
BLIND BOX AD: We will assign your confidential number and forward replies to you. **Cost is \$12 per 3 issues** for mail and handling service.
BOKED DISPLAY ADS: \$30 per column inch for each insertion.
MINIMAL ARTWORK: No additional charge.
BLACK AND WHITE PHOTO: \$10, LIMIT OF ONE.
COLOR PHOTO: \$35 EACH.
DISCOUNTS: 5% for running your ad 3 to 5 times; 10% for 6 times or more; up to 35% for 52 times.
SUGGESTION FOR CORRECT WORD COUNT: Be sure to include your name, address and phone number in the count, as well as all initials and abbreviations. Hyphenated words count as two.
TEARSHEETS: Available upon request only. Can be faxed or mailed.
CONDITIONS
EMPLOYMENT WANTED ADS: Must be paid in advance.
DEADLINE: Tuesday at 4:30 p.m. MT, the week prior to publication date. Newspaper is published on Mondays.
LIABILITY: Advertiser is liable for content of advertisement and any claims arising therefrom made against the publication.
Publisher is not responsible for errors in phoned-in copy. Publisher reserves the right to refuse any advertising not considered in keeping with the publication standards.
COMMISSIONS: Classified advertising is NOT agency commissionable.

CLASSIFIED INDEX

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1.....Employment Wanted | 20H.....Northeast Real Estate For Sale |
| 2.....Help Wanted | 20I.....Foreign Real Estate For Sale |
| 3.....Situations Wanted | 21.....Real Estate Wanted |
| 4.....Distributors Wanted | 22...Real Estate Rent/Lease/Trade |
| 5.....Appraisers | 23.....Pasture Available |
| 6.....Auctions | 24.....Pasture Wanted |
| 7.....Auctioneers | 25.....Mineral Rights |
| 8.....Feedlots | 26.....Hay/Feed/Seed |
| 9.....Lost Cattle | 27.....Irrigation |
| 10.....Cattle for Sale | 28.....Ag/Industrial Supplies |
| 11.....Cattle Wanted | 29.....Fencing/Corrals |
| 12.....AI/Semen/Embryos | 30.....Equipment For Sale |
| 13.....Brands | 31.....Equipment Wanted |
| 14.....Dogs for Sale | 32.....Building Materials |
| 15.....Horses/Mules | 33.....Trucks/Trailers |
| 16.....Bison/Buffalo | 34.....Tractors/Implements |
| 17.....Sheep/Goats/Hogs | 35.....Business Opportunity |
| 18.....Livestock Supplies | 36.....Loans |
| 19.....Ranch/Livestock Services | 37.....Insurance |
| 20.....Real Estate Opportunities | 38.....Financial Assistance |
| 20A.....Pacific Real Estate For Sale | 39.....Tech/Books/Art/Etc. |
| 20B.....Intermountain Real Estate For Sale | 40.....Miscellaneous |
| 20C.....Mountain Real Estate For Sale | 41.....Lost/Found |
| 20D.....Southwest Real Estate For Sale | 42.....Personal |
| 20E.....Plains Real Estate For Sale | 43.....Schools |
| 20F.....Midwest Real Estate For Sale | 44.....Auctioneering Schools |
| 20G.....Southeast Real Estate For Sale | |

CLASSIFIED CORRAL

720-370-7977 • Fax: 303-722-0155
www.wlj.net • classified@wlj.net

DO NOT PHONE IN RESPONSES TO BLIND BOX ADS.
ADVERTISERS' NAMES AND LOCATIONS ARE CONFIDENTIAL.
INCLUDE THE AD DEPARTMENT NUMBER IN YOUR EMAIL
RESPONSE OR ON YOUR ENVELOPE AND YOUR REPLY WILL BE
PROMPTLY FORWARDED.



2FOR1

PLACE A CLASSIFIED
AD, SEE IT IN PRINT
& ONLINE

CLASSIFIED ADS WORK!
www.wlj.net

Call & schedule your classified
ad today!
720-370-7977

classified@wlj.net
303-722-0155 Fax

Cattle
For Sale

10



To a pasture near you

2 Bar Angus

Bulls - Females - Embryos - Semen

Prime by Design

Female Sale

OCTOBER 3, 2026

*At the Hereford Vet
Clinic Sale Facility
Hereford, TX*

Spring Bull Sale

MARCH 18, 2026

3rd Wednesday

1-806-344-7444
Hereford, Texas
STEVE & LAURA KNOLL
www.2BarAngus.com



GENTLE AMERICAN
BEEF TYPE GRAY
BRAHMAN

Loren Pratt
520-709-1554
44996 W. Papago Rd.
Maricopa, AZ 85139

Livestock
Supplies

18

POWDER RIVER
LIVESTOCK EQUIP.
Best prices with delivery available.
Conlin Supply Co., Inc.
Oakdale, CA
Ask for Larry or Albert
209/847-8977

Real Estate
Pacific

20A

KNIFE LAND

(208) 345-3163
knipeland.com

BURNS CATTLE/HAY
RANCH - NEW LISTING

1,112± acre ranch - 792±
deeded, plus the seller's
interest in a contiguous
320± acre state lease.
Water rights for 380± acres
3 pivots, several wells,
and 1980's water rights.
Includes a home, shop,
700± ton hay storage, and
cattle set-up. **\$3,400,000**

NEED EXTRA
INCOME?

Advertise a hunting
or fishing lease!
CALL NOW!
(800) 850-2769

Pasture
Wanted

24

WANTED:
Winter/Fall pasture for cow/
calf pairs & yearlings.
CA/NV area.
Established CA/NV operation.
Call/text (530) 304-7575

Irrigation

27



**WESTERN
POLYPIPE**

HDPE PIPE for Ranch Water Systems
Fair Prices • Good Service • Rancher Owned
DELIVERY THROUGHOUT THE WEST
CALL TODAY: 800-718-7784



720-379-8275

Subscribe to WLJ today!

Phone in your order

Loans

36

RATES AS LOW AS 5.5%!
Business & Financial Consulting.
*Designed for the Farmer/Rancher
(Not the Banker)*
www.agrionefinancial.com
303-773-3545
You Call Steve, I'll Come to You.



Schools

43

GET THOROUGH PRACTICAL
TRAINING IN:
*Pregnancy testing—A.I. herd
health—calf delivery and care.
Many additional subjects.*

CATTLEMEN

Our business is to help you
improve your business.
*Learn more by working with live
animals under expert supervision.*

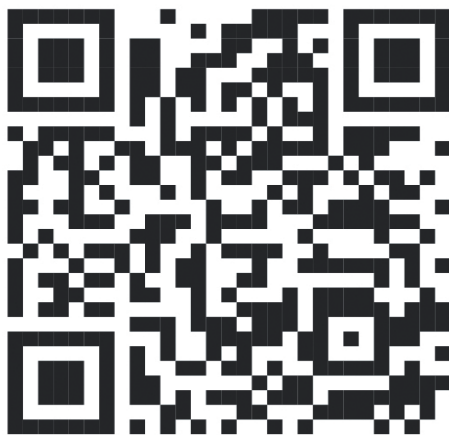
GRAHAM SCHOOL, INC.
641 W. Hwy 31 Garnett, KS 66032
785/448-3119
www.grahamschoolforcattlemen.com
**Over 100 years of
continuous service**

**STAY UP TO
DATE WITH WLJ**



HAVE SOMETHING TO
SELL?

With the
new *WLJ*
Classifieds
and Property
listings you
can now
upload a video
and up to 10
photos!



VISIT **WLJ.NET**

Groups on both sides eager for court ruling

UTAH MONUMENT (from page 1)

finding that the court could not review the case because of sovereign immunity. Plaintiffs appealed, contending the court ignored the “raft of precedent” that allows lawsuits against a president when the president exceeds its powers granted under Congress (ultra vires exception).

The 10th Circuit Court of Appeals in a 2-1 decision found that the district court erred in dismissing the plaintiffs’ claims, and that the lower court based its determinations on a flawed view of sovereign immunity’s ultra vires exception.

The case was remanded back to the U.S. District Court in Utah, although the 10th Circuit affirmed the lower court’s dismissal of BlueRibbon Coalition and the individual plaintiffs from the case. Biden’s boundaries for the national monuments will remain in place as the case proceeds.

Background

President Bill Clinton created the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in 1996, and President

Barack Obama created the Bears Ears National Monument in 2016, with the monuments totaling 3.05 million acres.

The Biden and Trump administrations took opposing sides on whether the national monuments’ size was the smallest required to protect the contained objects, as mandated under the Antiquities Act. Trump in 2017 reduced the land reserved to 1.1 million acres, followed shortly by Biden in 2021 reversing the order and expanding the national monuments to 3.23 million acres.

Utah government officials and local residents took issue with Biden’s designation, complaining that “once-thriving rural Utah communities and their citizens are suffering economic deprivation at the hand of their own federal government, which a national monument tourism economy fails to alleviate,” according to court documents.

The state of Utah and Kane and Garfield counties sued the Biden administration to enjoin the expansion of the monuments. Soon after, the BlueRibbon Coalition—a group that fights to preserve recreational access to public

lands—and several individuals also filed suit. The district court consolidated the cases. Several Tribes and environmental groups intervened on behalf of the defendants.

Reactions

Although they differ on the desired outcome, parties on both sides agree the issue should ultimately be resolved by the courts.

“Today’s ruling is a win for Utah, and for every Western state that has watched federal administrations treat the Antiquities Act like a blank check to lock up millions of acres,” said Utah Attorney General Derek Brown in a statement.

He continued that for years, the federal government has said that a president’s monument proclamation is unlimited and can’t be reviewed.

“The Tenth Circuit has rejected that argument, and agreed with our argument that federal courts do have the authority—and even the responsibility—to check these designations against the limits Congress deliberately wrote into the statute over 120 years ago,” Brown said.

The National Parks Conservation Association (NPCA) said the national monuments

form the backbone of Utah’s tourism economy and are culturally significant to many Tribes in the region.

“By remanding this case back to the U.S. District Court in Utah, this decision gives us

a renewed opportunity to defend a president’s authority under the Antiquities Act and justify the boundaries President Biden decided upon,” said NPCA Southwest Campaign Director Erika Pollard.

“The Antiquities Act is clear: it gives presidents the authority to designate national monuments, but no president has the authority to dismantle them.” — Anna Miller For- tozo, *WLJ* managing editor

USFS announces emergency logging project over 5M acres

The U.S. Forest Service (USFS) published an 8-page emergency plan that it says addresses catastrophic wind damage done to federal forest land after two weather emergencies.

The project’s scoping document doesn’t disclose which parcels of federal forest land will be logged and treated as part of the emergency plans, but a table shows it could involve more than five million acres spanning across Montana and Idaho’s panhandle.

The notice, issued by the USFS Northern Regional office in Missoula, MT, said that the “emergency salvage” effort is a response to the straight-line and high wind events in December 2025 and April 2026. USFS said that the windstorms created large patches of overturned or “downed” trees.

“Wind-felled and damaged trees of conifer species native

to the Northern Rockies are highly susceptible breeding material for associated native bark beetles, including pine engraver beetles, spruce beetle, Douglas-fir beetle and potentially fir engraver and several species of wood boring insects,” the documents said.

The report also said that several years of drought conditions have stressed trees throughout the two states, making them more susceptible to insects.

“The recoverable value of downed and damaged trees decreases with time,” USFS said.

The announcement, which was released on June 22, only allowed public comment through June 29—one week.

USFS officials say that laws addressing emergency conditions allow the government to begin the project before an environmental assessment

takes place and before a finding of “no significant impact” is given.

“This project will not be subject to the pre-decisional objection review process,” it said.

USFS said that the emergency orders also allow it to build new temporary roads or conduct road maintenance on existing roads for the timber haul. No clearing actions can happen on land designated “wilderness,” though.

It said the removal project will likely last from three to five years.

The counties in Montana that will be a part of this plan include Lincoln, Flathead, Sanders, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Powell counties. In Idaho, the counties will be Boundary, Bonner, Kootenai, Benewah, Shoshone, Latah, Idaho and Clearwater counties. — **Daily Montanan**



SALE CALENDAR

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

ANGUS

- Aug. 22** – Riverbend Ranch, Female Sale, Idaho Falls, ID
- Sep. 3** – Vintage Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, La Grange, CA
- Sep. 4** – Byrd Cattle Co., Production Sale, Los Molinos, CA
- Sep. 5** – Dunipace Angus Ranch & Bar KJ Angus, Bull Sale, Farmington, CA
- Sep. 5** – Rhoades Angus Ranch, Production Sale, Cambria, CA
- Sep. 6** – Heritage Bull Sale, Wilton, CA
- Sep. 8** – O’Neal Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Madera, CA
- Sep. 9** – Teixeira Cattle Co., Bull Sale, Pismo Beach, CA
- Sep. 10** – Donati Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA
- Sep. 11** – Tehama Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Gerber, CA
- Sep. 12** – Arellano Bravo, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 14** – The Chosen Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
- Sep. 15** – Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 16** – Gonsalves Ranch, Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
- Sep. 17** – Dal Porto Livestock & Rancho Casino Angus, Bull Sale, Denair, CA
- Sep. 18** – O’Connell Cattle & Dixie Valley Ranch, Bull Sale, Galt, CA
- Sep. 19** – Ward Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Minden, NV

- Sep. 23** – Westside Connection, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
- Sep. 24** – Beef Solutions Bull Sale, Lone, CA
- Sep. 27** – Traynham Cox, Production Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
- Oct. 2** – Elwood Ranch, Bull Sale, Red Bluff, CA
- Oct. 3** – Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
- Oct. 8** – Bar KJ Angus, Female Sale, Wasco, CA
- Oct. 9** – Kern Cattle, Female Sale, Visalia, CA
- Oct. 10** – Vintage Angus Ranch, Female Sale, Modesto, CA
- Oct. 11** – Arellano Bravo, Female Sale, Walnut Grove, CA
- Oct. 13** – 9 Peaks Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Fort Rock, OR
- Oct. 15** – Thomas Angus Ranch, Bull Sale, Baker City, OR
- Oct. 17** – Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA
- Oct. 30** – Birch Creek Angus, Bull Sale, Ruby Valley, NV
- Oct. 31** – Evergreen Exclusive, Female Sale, Ellensburg, WA

HEREFORD

- Sep. 7** – Genoa Livestock, Bull Sale, Minden, NV
- Oct. 2** – Elwood Ranch, Bull Sale, Red Bluff, CA
- Oct. 3** – Colyer Hereford & Angus, Female Sale, Bruneau, ID
- Oct. 17** – Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

RED ANGUS

- Sep. 19** – Stegall Cattle, Production Sale, Colusa, CA
- Sep. 26** – McPhee Red Angus, Production Sale, Lodi, CA

SIMANGUS

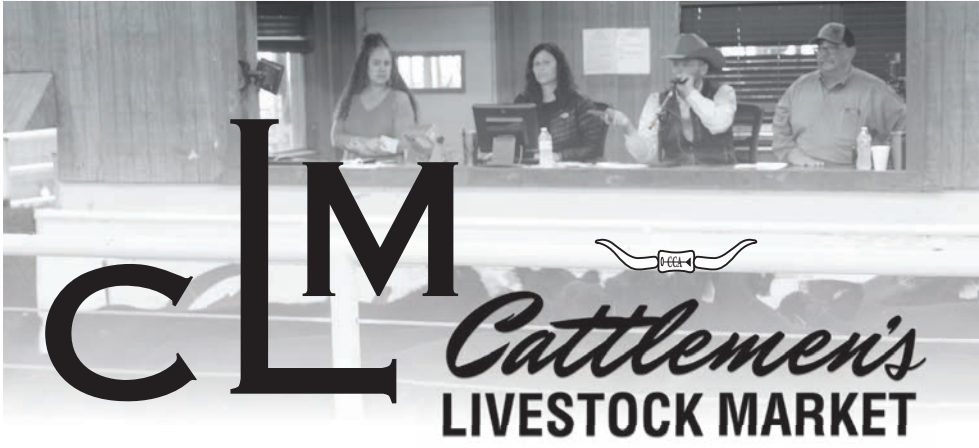
- Sep. 16** – Gonsalves Ranch, Bull Sale, Modesto, CA
- Sep. 23** – Westside Connection, Bull Sale, Dos Palos, CA
- Sep. 24** – Beef Solutions Bull Sale, Lone, CA
- Sep. 27** – Traynham Cox, Production Sale, Fort Klamath, OR
- Oct. 17** – Lambert Ranch, Bull Sale, Oroville, CA

COMMERCIAL

- Jul. 6** – Superior Livestock Auction, Video Sale, Steamboat Springs, CO
- Jul. 7** – Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Female Sale, Turlock, CA
- Jul. 13** – Western Video Market, Video Sale, Reno, NV
- Jul. 25** – Cattlemen’s Livestock Market, Female Sale, Galt, CA
- Aug. 1** – Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Bred Female Sale, Turlock, CA
- Aug. 4** – Cattle Country Video, Video Sale, Gering, NE
- Aug. 17** – Superior Livestock Auction, Video Sale, Sheridan, WY
- Sep. 2** – Superior Livestock Auction, Video Sale, Hudson Oaks, TX
- Sep. 13** – Visalia Livestock Market, Bull Sale, Visalia, CA
- Sep. 10** – Cattle Country Video, Video Sale, Cheyenne, WY
- Oct. 3** – Turlock Livestock Auction Yard, Bull Sale, Turlock, CA
- Oct. 4** – Cal Poly Bull Sale, San Luis Obispo, CA

HORSE

- Jul. 11** – High Desert Quarter Horses, Horse Sale, Redmond, OR
- Aug. 22** – Memory Ranches, Foal Sale, Wells, NV



- WEEKLY SALE
EVERY WEDNESDAY -

CLM REPRESENTATIVES

- Jake Parnell..... 916-662-1298
- Walter Schalla, *Manager*..719-252-6607
- George Gookin.....209-482-1648
- Rex Whittle.....209-996-6994
- Mark Fischer.....209-768-6522
- Kris Gudel 916-208-7258
- Steve Bianchi 707-484-3903
- Jason Dailey 916-439-7761
- Brett Friend.....510-685-4870
- Tod Radelfinger 775-901-3332
- Bowdy Griffin.....530-906-5713

AUCTION MARKET

- Address 12495 Stockton Blvd., Galt, CA
- Office.....209-745-1515
- Fax.....209-745-1582
- Website/Market Report..clmgalt.com
- Web Broadcast.....cci.live

WEDNESDAY WEEKLY SCHEDULE

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

SPECIAL FEEDER SALES

- W E D N E S D A Y -
JULY 8 • JULY 22

PAIR & BRED COW SALES

We will have large offerings of quality bred cows from reputation outfits the next couple of weeks.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8

- 200 - 3-YR-OLD FALL BRED COWS, AI'D TO ANGUS BULLS TO CALVE SEPT. 1
- 300 - AI-BRED COWS, ORIGINATED OFF THE GI RANCH, OR

SATURDAY, JULY 25 - 11AM

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA FOR SALE UPDATES AND UPCOMING DATES OR VISIT CLMGALT.COM.

WATCH THE WEEKLY AND SPECIAL SALES AND BID LIVE ON CCI.LIVE!

UPCOMING WESTERN VIDEO MARKET SALES

JULY 13-15 - RENO, NV
AUGUST 10-11 - CHEYENNE, WY
CONSIGNMENT DEADLINE JULY 23

H-2A legislation does not include pathway to citizenship

H-2A REFORM (from page 1)

Department of Labor to the secretary of Agriculture.

Other reforms include:

- Creation of a single online portal for H-2A applications involving multiple federal agencies.
- Staggered worker entry dates.
- Faster processing deadlines for labor certifications and visa petitions.
- Authority to waive certain visa interview requirements.
- Limits on annual adverse effect wage rate changes.
- Elimination of mid-contract wage increases.
- Updated wage calculations using Bureau of Labor Statistics data.

The bill also includes a limited waiver allowing certain existing unauthorized agricultural workers to apply for H-2A visas if they voluntarily leave the country, satisfy background checks and meet all program requirements.

Lawmakers chime in

Rep. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-04) said labor shortages continue to threaten the viability of farms across the country.

Representing Washington's labor-intensive fruit, hop and wine grape industries, Newhouse said growers continue relying on H-2A because they cannot find enough domestic workers, but rapidly increasing labor costs have become unsustainable.

"When you couple that with inflation and the high costs of

inputs that people are facing, very few producers are actually making money," he said. "There's not a single grower of Washington apples that has made a profit."

Rep. Josh Riley (D-NY-19) said dairy producers throughout upstate New York consistently identify labor as their biggest concern.

"The immigrants who work our dairy farms are some of the hardest working people you will ever meet," Riley said. "This bill gives them the legal protections they have earned while cutting red tape for farmers who should be focused on feeding our communities, not fighting against bureaucracies."

Rep. Mike Simpson (R-ID-02) said labor has remained the top issue he hears from producers.

"Every farmer I talk to, every single one, the number one issue is labor and getting a legal workforce," Simpson said. "These people produce the food that feeds America and feeds the world."

Ag groups rally behind bill

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall called agricultural labor the industry's most urgent challenge and described his own decision to leave the dairy business because he could not hire dependable workers.

"It wasn't because I didn't want to milk cows anymore," Duvall said. "I absolutely loved milking my cows."

Instead, after years of strug-

gling to find reliable labor, he closed the dairy operation his family had built over three generations.

"The H-2A program currently doesn't allow for dairy-men to use it because it doesn't allow for year-round workers," he said. "This act will help us

be able to provide a way for them to find workers and be able to continue to do what their families have done for many, many generations."

Dave Puglia, president and CEO of Western Growers, said many producers now rely on H-2A "not by choice, but of

necessity." He noted that the national average adverse effect wage rate climbed from \$12.20 per hour in 2018 to \$17.74 in 2025, an increase of about 45%.

Greg Dowd, CEO of the National Milk Producers Federation, said the dairy industry has never had access to H-2A de-

spite requiring employees every day of the year.

"On the Fourth of July they're going to be milking cows. On Christmas Day they're going to be milking cows," Dowd said. "Without help, the cows don't get milked." — **Charles Wallace, WLJ contributing editor**

Supreme Court lets Perkins County Canal case proceed

The U.S. Supreme Court will hear Nebraska's claims about whether Colorado has violated a century-old water compact or obstructed Nebraska's plans for building a canal.

In a brief motion filed June 29, the nation's highest court granted the request from Nebraska Attorney General Mike Hilgers and his office to file its complaint. Colorado has 30 days to file an answer. It's the first major hurdle for claims stemming from the 1923 South Platte River Compact between the states and the proposed construction of what's termed the Perkins County Canal.

The Supreme Court will appoint a special master to oversee proceedings, conduct hearings and submit recommended findings. It could be years before a resolution is reached.

"Nebraska will finally have the opportunity to prove that

Colorado has violated the Compact and to hold Colorado accountable for depriving Nebraska of water that rightfully belongs to our state," Hilgers said in a statement.

Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser said Colorado is complying with the compact and is not interfering with Nebraska's plans to build the Perkins County Canal.

"Today's court decision merely opens the door for Nebraska to bring its claims against Colorado," Weiser said in a statement. "Nebraska's burden to prove those claims is incredibly high, and we will vigorously defend Colorado's full entitlements under the compact."

The compact dictates that Colorado is to deliver an average of 120 cubic feet of water per second to Nebraska during the irrigation season, between April 1 and Oct. 15. Nebraska

is not guaranteed that much water, but it gives priority water access to Nebraska over newer, or "junior," water users that have popped up over the last century.

The complaint alleges that Colorado has allowed "junior" water users to access water while Nebraska has not received its promised water flows.

The compact gives Nebraska the right to 500 cubic feet per second of water in the non-irrigation season, between Oct. 15 and April 1, if a canal is built. Nebraska is afforded "eminent domain" over some Colorado land to build the canal, meaning the state could seize private land if needed, which has caused consternation for some landowners in the area.

Then-Nebraska Gov. Pete Ricketts, now a U.S. senator, revived the canal idea in 2022.

Hilgers was speaker of the Nebraska Legislature at the time.

Nebraska lawmakers have repeatedly defended the canal and set aside more than \$600 million in funding, even dipping into cash reserves and sweeping various state cash funds to help balance the state budget.

U.S. Solicitor General John Sauer, the federal government's lead lawyer before the Supreme Court, had advised the justices to take just part of Nebraska's claim. Those were allegations that Colorado was not delivering enough water to Nebraska in the irrigation season, which Sauer called a "classic case."

However, Sauer called Nebraska's argument over the Perkins County Canal and supposed interference from Colorado "unripe." — **Zach Wendling, Nebraska Examiner**



TURLOCK LIVESTOCK AUCTION YARD

CALIFORNIA CATTLE MARKETING CENTER

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY, JULY 21

MIDSUMMER SPECIAL FEEDER SALE

Featuring 2,000 calves and yearlings

SATURDAY, AUGUST 1 - 10 A.M.

20TH ANNUAL CALIFORNIA CATTLE PRODUCERS FEMALE SALE

Featuring an outstanding lineup that includes over 800 females from these leading ranches:

Dal Porto Livestock (20) Fancy 1st calf Angus heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

John Ginochio (20) Fancy 1st calf Angus heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Lawrence Ginochio (15) Fancy 1st calf Angus heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Renz Ranches (35) Outstanding 1st calf Angus heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

RM Livestock (40) Outstanding Angus and Angus cross 1st calf heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Art Anderson (40) Top quality 1st calf Angus & black/white face heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Gililand Livestock (150) Top quality 2nd and 3rd calf Angus & Simangus cows (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Bell Ranch (40) Fancy 1st calf Angus heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Pine Ranch (80) Excellent quality 1st calf Angus & black/white face heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

Molinar Cattle Co. (65) Fancy Angus black/white face heifers (foothill and anaplas exposed)

UPCOMING MIDSUMMER FEEDER SPECIALS

JULY 21

AUGUST 4

AUGUST 18

SEPTEMBER 1

SEPTEMBER 15

Each sale will feature a good run of calves and yearlings

WMwesternvideo market

JULY 13 - 15

WESTERN VIDEO MARKET

UPCOMING AUCTION

Make plans to join us for a tremendous offering of fall-calving heifers and cows on Wednesday July 15.

The lineup will include the complete dispersal of the Faith Ranch cow herd and top-quality consignments of fall-calving heifers and cows from leading ranchers.

TLAY REPRESENTATIVES

Max Olvera 209-277-2063

Steve Faria 209-988-7180

Justin Ramos 209-844-6372

John Bourdet 831-801-2343

Celeste Settrini 831-320-1527

Jake Bettencourt 209-262-4019

Tim Sisil 209-631-6054

Travis Johnson 209-996-8645

Matt Miller 209-914-5116

John Luiz 209-480-5101

Bud Cozzi 209-652-4480

Watch live and bid on
LMAAuctions.com

CALL TODAY TO CONSIGN CATTLE TO THESE UPCOMING EVENTS!

July 13-15

SILVER LEGACY CASINO RESORT
RENO, NV
DEADLINE JUNE 25

August 10-11

LITTLE AMERICA
CHEYENNE, WY
DEADLINE JULY 23

September 15

HAYTHORN RANCH
OGALLALA, NE
DEADLINE SEPT. 7