

OFFERING CANADIAN LIVESTOCK TO THE WORLD!

VIDEO BISON AUCTIONS

March 11 - Camrose, AB.
March 30 • April 27

PREMIER BREEDING STOCK SALES

February 25 MBA Great Spirit - Brandon, MB.
March 10 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB.
March 11 - Irish Creek Bull Sale - Camrose, AB.
March 25 - SBA Cream of the Crop - Yorkton, SK.



Let's Have A Sale!

www.jackauctiongroup.com

1-306-641-9285



Weekly Update



bisoncentral.com

303-292-2833

The National Bison Association (NBA) Weekly Update is an exclusive service for NBA members.

Reprint is encouraged and permission is granted when the following credit appears:

©National Bison Association; Westminster, CO

NBA Weekly Update for February 24, 2023

The Weekly Update is a service designed to provide National Bison Association members with news and information affecting bison production and marketing. Many items in the Weekly Update are reprinted from outside sources. The content of those articles does not necessarily reflect the policy position of the National Bison Association. The articles are reproduced here only as a means to keep our membership informed as much as possible of all information and opinions relating to bison that is circulating publicly.

National Bison Association Regions

2023

Confirmed:
June 24- Ohio- Cherokee Valley Bison (SARE Grant)
September 30 - Wisconsin- Double J Bison (SARE Grant)
October 7- West Virginia/ Region 8- Riffle Farms, Eastern Bison Association (GLCI Grant)

Pending:
TBD- Minnesota- Sleepy Bison Acres (SARE Grant)
TBD- Idaho/ Region 1- Shoemaker Bison (GLCI Grant)
TBD- South Dakota/ Region 3- 777 Ranch, Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (GLCI Grant)
TBD- Kansas/ Region 4- Black Kettle Buffalo, Kansas Buffalo Association (GLCI Grant)



2023 Summer Events Planning Underway

Having just now wrapped up the Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Sale, the NBA is on to its summer and fall event planning. We want you to offer a glimpse at what is in the works. Three events are confirmed, and four are still being finalized, but we are confident that we will offer events in the North, South, East and West of the U.S. this summer.

This new approach to multiple events instead of one summer conference is driven by two primary reasons. First, the NBA wants to bring the summer conference closer to our busy members, particularly in the summer months, to reduce time and expense away from home. The second is that as the collective herd grows along with our business, the need for more region-specific education does as well. We will work with the local State/Regional bison association to share resources and collaborate on having quality conferences that will offer our usual mix of education, networking, farm/ranch tours, and fun.

Please see a list of our confirmed and pending summer and fall events below and we'll update you as we confirm more dates. A big thank you to all of these ranches, farms, and associations that are participating in this awesome lineup to share the story of the regenerative power of bison!

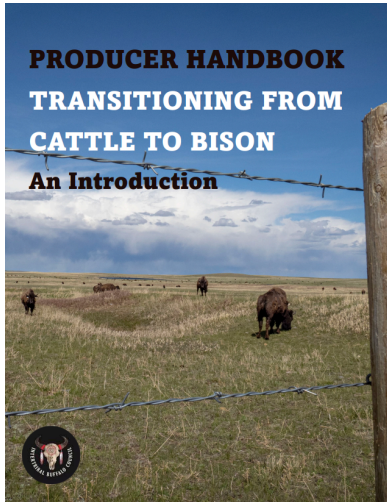
Note, the "GLCI Grant" indicates pending ranch tours that are somewhat dependent on a grant from the US Department of Agriculture that would fund this outreach, and develop bison-specific grazing standards for the USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service. However, we hope to follow through with these events regardless of the grant outcome.

Confirmed:

June 24- Ohio- Cherokee Valley Bison Field Day (SARE Grant)
September 30 - Wisconsin- Double J Bison Field Day (SARE Grant)
October 7- West Virginia/ Region 8- Riffle Farms, Eastern Bison Association (GLCI Grant)

Pending:

TBD- Minnesota- Sleepy Bison Acres Field Day (SARE Grant)
TBD- Idaho/ Region 1- Shoemaker Bison (GLCI Grant)
TBD- South Dakota/ Region 3- 777 Ranch, Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (GLCI Grant)
TBD- Kansas/ Region 4- Ranch TBD, Kansas Buffalo Association (GLCI Grant)



The Producer Handbook: Transitioning from Cattle to Bison, An Introduction Now Available to NBA Members

This handbook serves as an introductory tool to inform interested cattle producers about the process, costs, and factors involved in transitioning to bison production. The book was produced by the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) with support from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of Tribal Relations, and Indigenous Food Sovereignty Initiative. Thank you to ITBC for sharing this resource with NBA members!

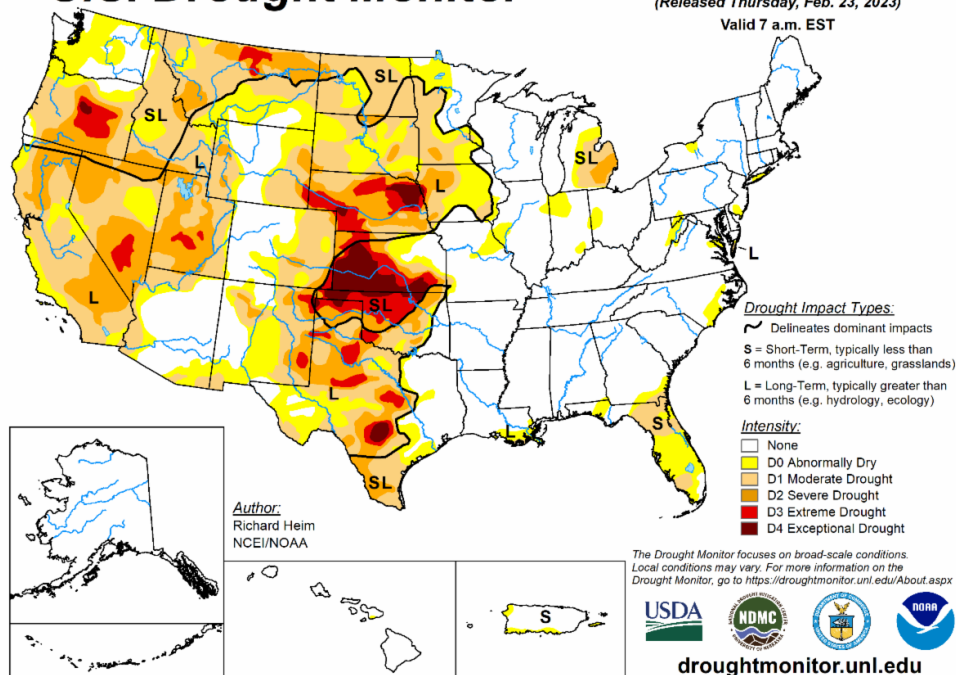
The goal for this project supports a broader initiative across Indian Country for restoring buffalo to the land, preserving indigenous foodways and their historical, cultural, traditional, and spiritual relationship for future generations. This manual supports those interested producers by providing an outline of the variables to consider and prepare for. We are grateful to InterTribal Buffalo Council for sharing this resource for all to use. It can be found in the members section of the NBA website under "Video and Print Archives" or [Click to Download](#).

Drought Management Decision-Support Tools from RMA

Recent drought monitoring results indicate continued stress on landscapes across the Western United States. The National Drought Mitigation Center through the University of Nebraska has a collection of important [decision making tools](#). Tools include [financial decision](#) making tools, [tax implications of drought sales of livestock](#), monitoring feed and livestock markets, links to [USDA FSA Disaster Assistance Programs](#) and [FSA Emergency Farm Loans](#). There is also [Federal Crop Insurance](#) for Pasture Rangeland Forage and Annual Forage.

U.S. Drought Monitor

February 21, 2023
(Released Thursday, Feb. 23, 2023)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Partners Offering Bison Related Job Opportunities

It is an exciting time for the bison industry! Please share the following opportunities.

South Dakota State University's (SDSU) College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) is offering an exciting career opportunity as an Assistant Professor in bison research and teaching. This is a 9-month, tenure-track position with a 60% research and 40% teaching appointment. [Click to learn more!](#)

InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) is advertising for a "[Buffalo SeedKeepers Crew Lead](#)" to help with project planning and implementation and lead field crews for the Summer 2023 native seed collection season.

ITBC is also offering [Summer Youth Opportunities](#), with a [webinar](#) on 3/2/23 at 11am, 3pm or 6pm to learn more. Roles include Yellowstone National Park Summer Buffalo Internships, Buffalo Seedkeepers Traveling Summer Field Crew, Summer Office Internships, and Red Calf Cohort: HS Summer Program.

Internship Wanted

My name is Mikayla Lacher, and I'm currently a second-year veterinary student at Kansas State University and a current National Bison Association member. I am from Christine, ND where I help manage the family bison ranch resulting in my interest in bison medicine as well as rural mixed animal general practice. I have four years of experience at a mixed animal practice in Enderlin, ND in addition to my experience with husbandry, and treatment on my family's farm. I am reaching out to see if there are any members of this organization who are bison veterinarians in North Dakota or other states that would be willing to allow me to shadow them this summer for a few weeks. I have [attached my CV](#) for your reference. Please let me know if you know of someone who would be able to

help or have any clarifying questions. My phone number or email would be best, 701-429-7800 or mikayla.lacher@gmail.com. Thank you for your consideration.

Editor's Note: The following news stories were distributed by organizations not affiliated with the National Bison Association. They may not reflect the opinions or the positions held by the NBA on matters such as genetic integrity, animal management, and other issues.

North Dakota Bison Processing Plant Expands as More People Seek Healthier Protein

From In Forum

NEW ROCKFORD, N.D. — North American Bison finds itself riding a rise in demand driven by a growing consumer appetite for healthy protein choices that were given a nudge by the pandemic.

The plant, established here in 1993, has recently undergone an expansion project enabling it to increase capacity from processing 11,000 bison per year to more than 17,000 — an increase of 54%, the biggest in the company's history.

"This is a big deal," said Jim Wells, North American Bison's president and CEO. "We're trying to keep ahead of the growth curve. We want to stay ahead of consumers."

The \$550,000 expansion project got a boost when the North Dakota Agricultural Products Commission approved a \$250,000 grant on Feb. 16. The plant has been upgraded with advanced technology to elevate quality and safety, Wells said.

"It covers a portion of the advances in technology," he said, referring to the state grant.

[Click to read more.](#)

Kristi Cammack Named Assistant Dean of West River Operations for South Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences

From Tri-State Livestock News

Brookings, S.D. – The South Dakota State University College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences (CAFES) has appointed Kristi Cammack as Assistant Dean of West River Operations and Director of SDSU West River Research and Extension in Rapid City, South Dakota. In this position, Cammack will guide the operations of SDSU's Cottonwood Field Station near Philip and the West River Research Farm at Sturgis. She will also continue to provide oversight of staff, research and outreach activities at the West River Research and Extension Center.

Cammack has served as Director of West River Research and Extension since 2016. "Dr. Cammack's role and contributions have increased dramatically during her time at SDSU, and we are excited to provide her with an opportunity to move into this position that better reflects her contributions to the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences," said Joe Cassady, South Dakota Corn Endowed Dean of the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Sciences.

During her time at SDSU, Cammack has been instrumental in establishing the Wizipan Leadership and Sustainability Program, a collaboration between the Indian University of North America, the Crazy Horse Memorial Foundation and South Dakota State University. In her role as Wizipan Program Director, she has coordinated this immersive, semester-

long academic experience which is grounded in Lakota philosophy. Students receive an experiential education combining coursework in American Indian studies, natural resource management, global food systems and leadership.

When the SDSU Center of Excellence for Bison Studies was formally launched in September 2020, Cammack was named the first Director. The center focuses on research activities to improve bison herd health and the economic viability to benefit both private and tribal bison producers. The Bison COE is a partnership between SDSU, the National Bison Association and the National Buffalo Foundation.

[Read more.](#)

ICONS OF THE WEST

From Texas Parks and Wildlife Magazine

The Plains bison, with its woolly flanks, upturned horns and baleful stare, is a revered and protected symbol of the American West. But in the 1800s, these animals came dangerously close to extinction. The nearly 300 bison that make up the Texas State Bison Herd are living history of a brutal past — and the care and compassion of conservationists.

The Great Plains of Texas have hosted bison for generations, and Native people relied on them as an essential food source. When white settlers arrived in Texas, bison were plentiful.

“I’ve read accounts of bison herds that could stretch 10 miles wide and 100 miles long,” says Donald Beard, Caprock Canyons State Park superintendent. “If you were standing on top of a hill looking out at the Texas Panhandle, all you could see would be bison.”

That began to change in the late 1800s when commercial hunters arrived on the Plains to profit off the animals. Unlike the Native Americans, who often used every part of the bison, these hunters would use only a fraction — typically the hide, which was used to make conveyor belts and other leather goods, and the tongue, which was sold as a delicacy.

In 1872, 20,000 bison were killed in the Texas Panhandle alone, and by 1895, only 541 bison were left of the millions that used to roam the plains.

Often, hunters would kill mother bison and leave the babies alone on the Plains. Mary Ann “Molly” Goodnight, married to the legendary Texas rancher and cattleman Charles Goodnight, was haunted at night by the cries of the abandoned baby bison.

The Goodnights saw the value in conserving the animals, and in 1878 Charles Goodnight rescued a handful of bison calves — around five to seven — and began his own herd.

[Click to read more.](#)

Podcast: Hemp-fed Bison of Brush Mountain

From Lancaster Farming

This week on the hemp podcast, we talk to Herb Grove, hemp farmer and bison rancher from Centre County, Pennsylvania.

Grove’s family has been farming the land around Brush Mountain for generations, but Grove didn’t get into raising bison until 2011.

“We started out with two cows, two yearlings and two calves,” Grove said. “That was our first six animals and we had no clue what we were getting into.”

After getting into it without any information whatsoever, Grove said, he joined the EBA — the Eastern Bison Association, and started networking with a lot of local bison farmers. He “fell in love with the people and what the purpose was, and from that point on it’s just kind of history,” he said.

Grove now has one the larger bison herds east of the Mississippi with over 220 head, he said.

Grove got his start growing hemp in 2019 when he contracted with Groff North America in Red Lion, York County, to grow about 150 acres of fiber hemp. He also tried his hand at growing hemp for grain, which he took to Susquehanna Mills in Muncy to press for oil.

“At that point we had the byproduct of the seeds after the oil’s out of it, and what better opportunity to do then start feeding it to your animals,” he said.

[Listen.](#)

Climate Change Threatens the Great Plains, but Bison May Hold a Key to Resilience

From Harvest Public Media, Celia Llopis-Jepsen

MANHATTAN — The prairie of the Great Plains evokes a certain image: A vast expanse of grasses stretching as far as the horizon.

And you can see plenty of those grasses swaying in the breeze along Interstate 70 through the Flint Hills.

But take a tour sometime of land grazed by bison and you’ll see a strikingly different landscape.

The sheer variety and numbers of wildflowers that grace the hills near Manhattan where scientists reintroduced these massive grazers more than three decades ago creates a parade of ever-changing blooms from spring through fall. Even the grasses are more varied here.

The scene is distinct from what you see looking out over a swath of *ungrazed* tallgrass. It’s even different from *cattle*-grazed prairie.

The diversity carries implications for supporting pollinator populations and for resilience against global warming, Kansas State University researchers say.

Put simply, the wider range of plants on grazed land could help as a shifting climate brings higher temperatures and more severe droughts and downpours — changes that are all projected for Kansas.

[Click to read more.](#)

This Week in Fish and Wildlife: Elk testing negative for brucellosis

From 7 KBZK Bozeman

This Week in Fish and Wildlife we talk about brucellosis. When most people in southwest Montana think of brucellosis, bison is the animal that first comes to mind.

FWP's Morgan Jacobsen notes that bison are not the only animal to carry the disease that can cause cattle to abort. Jacobsen says each year Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks biologists also test elk for the disease. He says this year the testing was done on elk in the Pioneer Mountains.

According to Jacobsen FWP tested 149 elk and all of the tests came back negative. He says the elk are tested in different areas each year to see where and how prevalent the disease is in Region 3, which is most of southwest Montana. He also tells MTN's Chet Layman that testing elk is no easy endeavor. Elk are netted from helicopters then a blood sample is taken and analyzed. Now duplicate that process, in this years testing 149 times.

Jacobsen also notes the fact that the tests in the Pioneers this year all coming back negative, which is a good sign for landowners and others in the area of those elk.

[Source.](#)

Bill would give landowners near Yellowstone preference to hunt bison

From Billings Gazette

As bison move north out of Yellowstone National Park this winter in one of the largest migrations in a decade, a Montana legislative committee considered a bill on Tuesday that would set aside a portion of state hunting licenses for some landowners to kill the shaggy bovines.

House Bill 522, sponsored by Rep. Marty Malone, R-Pray, would allot 15% of the state's bison hunting licenses to landowners and corporations owning a minimum of 20 acres whose property is used by bison.

Malone said a lot of the landowners next to the park are getting "hammered" by "these very large critters" and he thinks it is important to take action.

A calculation by Fish, Wildlife & Parks License Bureau chief Emily Cooper estimated almost 90 landowners would qualify under the guidelines outlined in the bill, 51 in Hunting District 385 north of the park and 36 in HD 395 west of the park.

[Click to read more.](#)

MGBHLM First Nation Sees Return of Bison

From Meadowlake NOW

It was a joyous occasion for the Mosquito, Grizzly Bear's Head, Lean Man (MGBHLM) community Monday when a thundering herd of bison were released on the First Nation's lands, off Highway 4 South.

The community and many visitors gathered for a ceremony to welcome them home. Chief Tanya Aguilar-Antiman said it's a historic moment for the First Nation.

"We do our best to bring wealth and good to our community, for all," she said. "We truly believe that the spirit of the buffalo is going to help us, each and every one of you, nation to nation. All our visitors that come from the North, the South, the East and the West, thanks for coming out here and supporting us."

[Click to read more.](#)

Bashful Bison Market in Downtown Rapid City features a strictly South Dakota-grown menu

From News Center 1 Staff

South Dakota is home to a variety of produce and protein sources which are harvested and processed in-state.

Scott Brinker, chef and owner of Bashful Bison, is committed to taking advantage of those locally grown goods and serving them to the Black Hills.

Bashful Bison is a market and deli which features an assortment of products from local farmers and ranchers throughout the state of South Dakota. The deli menu offers sandwiches showcasing South Dakota's finest beef, sourced directly from South Dakota Pure Bison at Evergreen Ranch, paired with cheese from Käsemeister Creamery in Frankfort, South Dakota. Each sandwich on the menu is named after a South Dakota town and stacked with a variety of fresh produce from local farms.

[Click to read more.](#)

USDA Announces Conservation Reserve Program Signup for 2023

USDA-FSA

WASHINGTON, Feb. 16, 2023 Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack announced that agricultural producers and private landowners can begin applying for the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) General signup starting February 27 through April 7, 2023. CRP is a cornerstone voluntary conservation program offered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and a key tool in the Biden-Harris administration's effort to address climate change and help agricultural communities invest in the long-term well-being of their land and natural resources.

"The Conservation Reserve Program is one of the largest private lands conservation programs in the United States, offering a range of conservation options to farmers, ranchers and landowners," Vilsack said. "CRP has and continues to be a great fit for farmers with less productive or marginal cropland, helping them re-establish valuable land cover to help improve water quality, prevent soil erosion, and support wildlife habitat. Under this administration, we have made several updates to the program to increase producer interest and enrollment, strengthen the climate benefits of the program and help ensure underserved producers can find a pathway to entry into CRP."

Producers and landowners enrolled more than 5 million acres into CRP through signups in 2022, building on the acceptance of more than 3.1 million acres in the largest Grassland CRP signup in history. There are currently 23 million acres enrolled in CRP, with 1.9 million set to expire this year. USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) is aiming to reach the 27-million-acre cap statutorily set for fiscal year 2023.

[Read more.](#)

USDA Foods Vendor with a New, Easier Financial Assessment Process

From USDA Press Release

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced it has made the process easier for suppliers to apply to be approved USDA food vendors by removing a significant barrier to

participation. The Agricultural Marketing Service's Commodity Procurement Program (CPP) has changed how it assesses the financial responsibility of suppliers interested in selling to USDA.

To streamline the new vendor process and increase vendor participation, in December 2022, CPP removed the need for vendors to provide audited or reviewed financial statements. Instead, to determine financial capability, CPP will obtain a Contractor Responsibility Assessment Report (CRA) from FedDataCheck.

"Due to the cost and time involved, the requirement to provide certified financial statements has long been a barrier keeping both small and large businesses from participating with USDA as approved vendors," said USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs Jenny Lester Moffitt. "As part of creating more and better markets, USDA is working to remove prohibitive barriers like this and enable more market opportunities and more profit for American producers. This new process is one more instance of USDA transforming America's food system by promoting competition and fairer markets for all producers."

Under the new system, in order to pull the CRA report, it is essential for vendors to be registered and active in the System for Award Management (SAM) and have a Unique Entity Identifier.

For assistance in SAM, please contact the SAM HelpDesk: 1-866-606-8220. For questions regarding CRAs and FedDataCheck, please contact the Senior Contracting Officers: Felicitas Lofton, Felicitas.Lofton@usda.gov, 202-720-9199 and James Sprandel, James.Sprandel@usda.gov, 202-720-9191.

[Source.](#)

Request for Proposals for Farmers for Soil Health

The submission deadline for full proposals is February 28, 2023.

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, in partnership with the Farmers for Soil Health collaboration, anticipates awarding competitive grants to accelerate the voluntary adoption of cover crops on corn and soybean farms in 20 states.

NCAT is a partner in this project. The program is expected to award approximately \$15 million in grants in 2023. Applicants should propose state-level or multi-state programs to support Farmers for Soil Health in one or more of the 20 eligible states.

Grantees are limited to state corn, soy, or pork commodity affiliate organizations or their designated partners.

[Learn more.](#)

Texas A&M meat scientist developing 'no nitrite-added' cured meats

From AgriLife Today

Imagine your favorite cured meat like beef jerky, pepperoni or bacon without any added sodium nitrite from any source currently necessary for color and shelf life. Wes Osburn, Ph.D., is doing exactly that.

Osburn, associate professor in meat science in the Texas A&M College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Department of Animal Science, has set out to find an innovative method to

generate the nitric oxide and residual nitrite needed to cure meat and poultry products, but without the addition of natural or synthetic nitrite sources.

Conventional curing of most processed meat products involves adding sodium nitrite to meat to preserve it and reduce the potential growth of bacteria like *Clostridium botulinum* or perfringens during cooking and chilling.

Osburn has been researching the idea of a novel amino acid alternative curing system for meat for many years. In 2022, he received a \$500,000 U.S. Department of Agriculture–Agriculture and Food Research Initiative grant to determine the feasibility of adding amino acids to activate the nitric oxide synthase system.

[Read more.](#)

USDA provides \$59M in new grants to support processors

From Meatingplace

The USDA has announced a new round of funding for the nation's meat processing sector, with nearly \$59 million in funding going to five facilities across the country.

"The Biden-Harris Administration and USDA are taking action to advance a sustainable vision of agriculture that prioritizes the needs of our resilient producers and small businesses, strengthens our food supply chain and brings value back to rural people and places," stated Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack.

The processors receiving the grant funds are:

- Riverbend Meats in Idaho, which is receiving \$25 million for "a new state of the art, vertically integrated, environmentally friendly beef processing plant." The new facility is expected to double the plant's processing capacity from 300 to 600 head of cattle per day.
- CNF Enterprises in South Dakota, which is receiving \$3.3 million "to help offset the costs associated with the construction of a new 30,000 square foot processing facility," which will "have the capacity to process 4,000 head per year including beef, pork, lamb, and buffalo."

[Read more.](#)

farm crisis center

Even in the best of times, farming can be an incredibly high-stress occupation. Unpredictable weather, crop disease, volatile markets, heavy workloads, and social isolation are just a handful of the challenges that farmers may face.

These conditions force many family farmers and ranchers to make tough financial decisions that will impact their families, communities, and the entire country.

National Farmers Union compiled resources to help farmers through stressful times. Find them at:

<https://farmcrisis.nfu.org/>

National Suicide Hotline - 800-273-TALK (8255)



Quality
AUCTION SERVICES, INC.

With more than 30 years of experience, Jud has the knowledge and resources to effectively and professionally market your animals at auction.

Call today to discuss your options!

Jud Seaman, Auctioneer
605-390-1419
qasbuy.com



Save the Date!

- 2/24/2023 - Beltway Bison Consignment Auction - PA
- 2/25/2023 - MBA Great Spirit - Brandon, MB
- 3/04/2023 - RMBA Spring Conference - Fort Collins, CO
- 3/06/2023 - Bare Bison Webcast Auction - Online
- 3/07/2023 - OK Trophy Ranch & Middle Earth Farms Webcast Auction - Online
- 3/09/2023 - Eastern Bison Association Winter Conference and Auction - PA
- 3/10/2023 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB
- 3/11/2023 - Route 66 Bison Roundup Show & Sale - MO
- 3/11/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction, Camrose, AB - online
- 3/11/2023 - Irish Creek Bull Sale - Camrose, AB
- 3/25/2023 - SBA Cream of the Crop - Yorkton, SK
- 3/31/2023 - Minnesota Bison Association Spring Education Conference - MN

- 3/30/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 4/27/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 6/10/2023 - Texas Bison Assn. Spring Conference - Waco, TX
- 6/17/2023 - Montana Bison Association Summer Meeting - MT
- 6/24/2023 - NBA Regenerative Ranching Field Day - Thornville, OH

Please visit <https://bisoncentral.com/calendar/> for details and more up-to-date events. If you have a bison event coming up that's not listed, please send the details to jim@bisoncentral.com and the NBA will post the event on its website at no charge.

[Click Here for NBA Calendar of Events](#)

National Bison Association | info@bisoncentral.com | 303-292-2833 | [@nationalbison](https://bisoncentral.com)



National Bison Association | 8690 Wolff Court #200, Westminster, CO 80031

[Unsubscribe jim@bisoncentral.com](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by info@bisoncentral.com powered by



Try email marketing for free today!