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March 10 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB.
March 11 - Irish Creek Bull Sale - Camrose, AB.
March 25 - SBA Cream of the Crop - Yorkton, SK.



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Weekly Update



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

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NBA Weekly Update for January 13, 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.

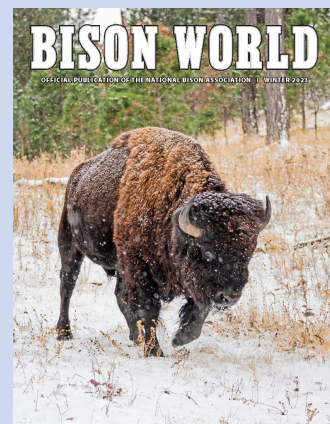
Bison World Available Online and Coming to your Mailbox Soon!

One of the perks of NBA membership is access to the Bison World magazine before the printed copies arrive in the mail! Production on the Winter issue has wrapped up, and it is now available on the Bison World bookshelf on the NBA website. You must log in to the member area to access the magazine.

We have also posted the annual Membership Directory online next to the Winter issue.

You can view the flipbook version of the magazine right on your computer. Handy links allow you to open it into a new window, make it larger, and even magnify certain features. The realistic page-turning sounds make it feel like you are reading the printed version of the magazine. We are also incorporating links that will take you directly to websites and other areas of interest. Hover and click over links or ads to enable this feature.

The hard copy magazine and the directory are currently being printed and will mail shortly.



NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION *Gold Trophy Show and Sale*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 21, 2023 • 10 AM MST

National Western Stock Show Stockyards Event Center • Denver, CO
Bid live in person or online at cci.live

Offering Approximately

[6] Two Year Old Bred Heifers	[4] Pens of 5 Heifer Calves
[3] Pens of 2 Two Year Old Bred Heifers	[11] Two Year Old Bulls
[12] Yearling Heifers	[19] Yearling Bulls
[4] Pens of 3 Yearling Heifers	[10] Bull Calves
[9] Heifer Calves	

Consignors include: Arizona Buffalo Co., CO; Brown's Buffalo Ranch, OR; 2J Bison, ID; Trails End River Bison, SD; Buffalo Dance Bison, SD; Cammack Buffalo Ranch, SD; Platte River Power Authority/Rawhide Energy Station, CO; 101 Buffalo Ranch, CO; Indian Pass Ranch, CO; Heim Land & Bison, SD; Miller Bison, NE; Deep Creek Ranch, MT; Tatonka Ranch, Sask.; Shoemaker Ranch, ID; Wolverine Bison, Sask.; Cherukara Ranch, OK; Snyder Land & Development, WY; Buffalo Run Ranch, UT; Badger Basin Ranch, CO.

Animals will be available for preview at the National Western Stock Show Stockyards Event Center sale pens Friday, January 20 in the afternoon and on Saturday, January 21 until 9:30 am.

Sale catalog is available online at www.bisoncentral.com or cci.live.

For more information, view the sale catalog online or contact Sale Coordinator Karen Conley at 605-381-3738.

Nearly 100 Top Quality Bison Headed to the National Western Stock Show

The nation's premier bison show and sale will culminate with a live animal auction at the National Western Stockyard Event Center starting at 10 a.m., Saturday, January 21 at the National Bison Association's 43rd annual Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS).

See the 2023 GTSS sale catalog [here](https://bisoncentral.com/gold-trophy-show-and-sale/), and get all the details at <https://bisoncentral.com/gold-trophy-show-and-sale/>. Bid live in person, or online at <https://cci.auction/orgs/93/auctions/2899> on Saturday, January 21 at 10 a.m. MT.

Here's an overview of consignments and consignors for 2023:

Females:

2-Year-Old Bred – 4 head
Pen of 2 – 2-Year-Old Bred Heifers – 2 pens
Yearling Heifers – 10 head
Pen of 3 Yearling Heifers – 3 pens
Pen of 5 Heifer Calves – 4 pens
Heifer Calves – 9 head

Males:

Two-Year-Old Bull – 11 head
Yearling Bull – 16 head
Bull Calves – 10 head

Per the GTSS rules, "The NBA acts only as an agent and assumes no responsibility in the event of injury or death to any animal or for any discrepancy between the buyer and the consignor."

Consignors include: Arizona Buffalo Co., CO; Brown's Buffalo Ranch, OR; 2J Bison, ID; Trails End River Bison, SD; Buffalo Dance Bison, SD; Cammack Buffalo Ranch, SD; Platte River Power Authority/Rawhide Energy Station, CO; 101 Buffalo Ranch, CO; Indian Pass Ranch, CO; Heim Land & Bison, SD; Miller Bison, NE; Deep Creek Ranch, MT; Tatonka Ranch, Sask.; Shoemaker Ranch, ID; Wolverine Bison, Sask.; Cherukara Ranch, OK; Snyder Land & Development, WY; Buffalo Run Ranch, UT; Badger Basin Ranch, CO.

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Thank You 2023 Winter Conference and Gold Trophy Show and Sale Sponsors!



National Bison Association Annual Conference Commences Next Week Under Theme of *The Bison Benefit - Good for Us, Good for our Planet*

Under the theme of "The Bison Benefit - Good for US, Good for our Planet", preparations are in full swing to welcome roughly 500 North American bison ranchers, processors and marketers who will convene at the Westin Westminster Hotel January 18-21. This is the annual meeting of the industry's largest bison organization, the National Bison Association (NBA).

The action-packed two days of conference programming features member recognitions, a bison junior judging contest, expert insight on topics and issues pertinent to bison health and marketing, and so much more. Amazing speakers include world-renowned regenerative soil specialist, Nicole Masters, who will serve as keynote speaker. There will also be a new producer mentor session, a bison hauling panel discussion, and the annual

bison marketer's panel session.

Preeminent bison-specific research will also be showcased with Turner Enterprises, Inc. sharing research results from their Grass v. Grain and Weaning Systems studies, and the Center of Excellence for Bison Studies' many research projects will feature a student-led poster session.

We'll also see the premier clip of Ken Burn's new documentary, debuting this Fall, that focuses on the American bison with Mr. Burns himself presenting the film clip virtually along with his producer.

The week concludes with the NBA's annual Gold Trophy Show and Sale, which is the premier bison breeding stock auction with animals coming from across the continent. The Winter Conference is preceded this year by a two-day workshop facilitated by Indigenous Led, which is a bison conservation and tribal-focused organization with works with the NBA to continue the restoration of the bison species.

Please note that the NBA office will be closed next week due to all staff participating in the conference. We'll get back to you as soon as we can the week of January 23rd.

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.



<https://bisoncentral.com/eat-bison-to-restore-bison/>

National Bison Association Junior Judging Contest Offered at 2023 National Western Stock Show

DRG News

Individuals 8-21 years of age are invited to compete in the Larry Higgins Bison Junior Judging Contest January 20, 2023, at 9 am in the Yards at the National Western Stock Show. This event is hosted by the National Bison Association and the Rocky Mountain Bison Association and held in conjunction with the Gold Trophy Show and Sale (GTSS) during the National Western Stock Show in Denver.

The GTSS has been the industry's premier bison breeding stock auction at the National

Western Stock Show for over 40 years, and participants will judge bison that are already there for the show and sale. Students will judge four classes of bison and provide oral reasons on one class, to be selected by the judges.

Top three individual contestants are eligible to earn up to \$1,500 in college scholarships. Additional recognition will be provided for the top three registered teams and the top three junior participants (12 years of age or younger). There are no entry fees. This event is open to individuals 8-21 years old who are academically eligible. Registration in advance is encouraged.

Registration and full competition rules are available at: <https://bit.ly/3ePi8gw> .

[Read more.](#)

Where the Bison Could Roam

From *The New York Times*

MALTA, Mont. — Around 200 chocolate-brown bison raise their heads, following the low growl of a pickup truck slowly motoring across the sagebrush-studded prairie.

Snorting and quietly bellowing, their feral odors riding the wind, they slowly trot across the prairie hills, eager to maintain distance from the truck.

This knot of bison — colloquially referred to as buffalo, though they are not the same species — is part of a project to rebuild a vast shortgrass prairie not only to return large numbers of bison here, but also to eventually restore the complex and productive grassland ecosystem the animals once engineered with their churning hooves, waste, grazing and even carcasses.

“When you have large numbers on the landscape, they impact everything,” Scott Heidebrink, the director of bison restoration for American Prairie, a nonprofit conservation group, said of the animals. “There are ways that bison were impacting the landscape that we haven’t even thought about.”

Since 2001, American Prairie — formerly known as American Prairie Reserve — has been working to create a fully functioning wild prairie, complete with herds of bison thundering across the landscape and playing their historical ecological role.

[Click for more.](#)

Crash that killed 13 Yellowstone bison renews push for wildlife crossings on Highway 191

From *The Bozeman Daily Chronicle*

Two weeks after a semitruck struck and killed 13 bison on U.S. Highway 191 north of West Yellowstone, wildlife advocates are calling on officials to seek out transportation funding for wildlife crossings along the route.

Buffalo Field Campaign, an organization that advocates for wild, free-roaming bison, launched a petition to support the construction of a “Buffalo Wildlife Bridge” at the Madison River crossing along Highway 191.

According to the group’s spokesperson Tom Woodbury, members would like to see a wildlife-friendly bridge built over Highway 191 where it crosses the Madison River, between mile markers 2 and 4. As of Tuesday afternoon, over 2,200 people had signed the petition.

Ideally, the bridge would be designed for bison, but it would be capable of supporting other wildlife species. Fencing would be installed along the highway to funnel animals over the crossing and away from the road, and tunnels could eventually be added to accommodate species that aren’t privy to the bridge.

The organization’s petition calls on U.S. Interior Secretary Deb Haaland, Yellowstone

National Park Superintendent Cam Sholly and Custer Gallatin National Forest Supervisor Mary Erickson to earmark federal transportation funding for such a project.

[Click for more.](#)

Bison documentary focuses on Canadian producers in 2023.

From *Yanasa TV*

Producers of *NATIVE | The Prodigies of an Icon* have announced their plans to film Canadian bison producers and indigenous groups in 2023.

NATIVE | The Prodigies of an Icon is a feature documentary film project about North America's most iconic mammal, the American Bison (aka Buffalo). The film features ranchers and indigenous producers across North America and Native American Territories.

The bison documentary aims to highlight the history of bison and its relationship with mankind, the regenerative significance bison has on our ecology, and the industry that has made its comeback both possible and economically sustainable in a modern world. You can watch the pilot to the documentary filmed in 2021 [here](#), *Bison Documentary*.

Together bison ranchers, conservationists, and indigenous people are running one of the largest conservation programs in the world. They have reestablished a species from the brink of extinction while restoring, managing, and protecting grasslands that are essential to our ecosystem all while developing an industry that is contributing to everything from food security to clothing.

[Click for more.](#)

Back to Basics: To restore America, let us restore our frontier, by restoring the bison.

From *The American Conservative*

By and large, resolutions are a little silly. If it was really going to change your life so definitely for the better, you should probably have done it already. Why would you wait for New Year's Day to do what is needful? It's not even a solstice. But we are creatures like other creatures, of rhythms and seasons, and so, silly or not, January is a month for getting back to basics, for looking ahead with resolve and making grand plans. Yes, perhaps we ought to have taken another course, or started this new one sooner, but here we are in 2023 with another chance to get on track and now is better than never, and late can be left for historians.

Bring back the bison. The significance of the frontier in American history is now a cliché, fought about in the way only something obviously true can be. Frederick Jackson Turner was simply right that winning a wilderness shaped the national psyche in a powerful way. The west provided a vital myth to American identity that could appeal across partisan lines and act as a release valve for regional faction—trapped wherever, there was always somewhere else to go. And as the land remade pioneer men and women, they remade the land, too. Turner was right that the closing of the frontier marked a shift in national consciousness. No longer winning a wilderness we won a world, exporting our preoccupations to every far flung corner of the earth. But perhaps the American character can be renewed in the renewal of wilderness, and perhaps that renewal can begin by renewing North America's great herds of bison.

[Click for more.](#)

Hunters see strong bison migration out of Yellowstone as capture operations begin

GARDINER — Hundreds of bison congregated just inside the edge of Yellowstone National Park's northern border on Thursday afternoon. Not far away, vehicles lined Old Yellowstone Trail road outside of the park, where hunters and their families pulled bison carcass parts on sleds.

Driven in part by strong winter weather, bison have been crossing over the border of Yellowstone National Park into the state of Montana in more abundance this winter than during the previous two seasons, officials report.

Yellowstone bison migrate out of the park's high country toward lower elevations in search of forage each winter. They often cross over its northern and western border into Montana, where state and Tribal hunters have opportunities to harvest them.

While the numbers are still tentative, since harvest reports continue to filter in, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks spokesperson Morgan Jacobsen estimated on Wednesday that hunters have killed approximately 170 Yellowstone bison in total so far this winter season. Individuals from multiple Tribal nations have harvested the majority of those bison, and they include hunters from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Nez Perce Tribe, Blackfeet Nation, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation.

[Click for more.](#)

'Bison' on the loose in Indiana turn out to be yaks

From *UPI*

Jan. 10 (UPI) -- Authorities in Indiana said a herd of loose animals initially thought to be bison turned out to be something even more unusual: yaks.

The Noblesville Fire Department, Noblesville Police Department and Hamilton County Sheriff's Office responded Monday to a report of large animals on the loose in Noblesville. "There are bison loose near 161st Street east of Hazel Dell Parkway. Please use alternative routes so they can be safely returned to their home," the fire department wrote in a social media post.

The police department later clarified that the animals weren't bison.

"Animal identification was not covered at the academy. These are yaks, and while they may not be as regal as bison, it was still a fun call," police wrote in a Facebook post. The yaks, native to Tibet and Nepal, were safely corralled and returned to their owner's property.

[Read more.](#)

USDA Expands Eligibility, Enhances Benefits for Key Disaster Programs

From *USDA FPAC Press*

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10, 2023 ? The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) made updates to several conservation, livestock and crop disaster assistance programs to give more farmers, ranchers, and tribes the opportunity to apply for and access programs that support recovery following natural disasters. Specifically, USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) expanded eligibility and enhanced available benefits for a suite of its programs. These updates will provide critical assistance to producers who need to rebuild and recover after suffering catastrophic losses of production and infrastructure due to natural disasters.

FSA has updated the following programs: The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP),

the Emergency Forest Restoration Program (EFRP), the Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-raised Fish (ELAP), the Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP), the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) and the Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP).

More Information

The updates to these programs build on other Biden-Harris administration efforts to improve disaster assistance programs, including additional flexibility in obtaining Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) basic coverage for socially disadvantaged, beginning, limited resource and veteran farmers and ranchers.

Previous enhancement to the ELAP provide program benefits to producers of fish raised for food and other aquaculture species as well as cover above normal expenses for transporting livestock to forage and grazing acres and transport feed to livestock impacted by qualifying drought. And earlier updates to the LIP payment rates better reflect the true market value of non-adult beef, beefalo, bison and dairy animals.?

Yesterday, FSA announced it would begin accepting applications for the Emergency Relief Program (ERP) Phase Two and the new Pandemic Assistance Revenue Program (PARP) on Jan. 23, 2023, through June 2, 2023. ERP Phase Two is designed to fill gaps in the delivery of program benefits not covered in ERP Phase One and improves equity in program delivery to underserved producers. PARP will help address gaps in previous pandemic assistance, which was targeted at price loss or lack of market access, rather than overall revenue losses. Learn more in the Jan. 9, 2023 news release.

[Read more.](#)

USDA Offers Disaster Assistance for Producers Impacted by Inclement Weather

From *USDA Farm Service Agency*

USDA also offers disaster assistance programs, which is especially important to livestock, fruit and vegetable, specialty and perennial crop producers who have fewer risk management options.

It's critical to keep accurate records to document all losses following this devastating cold weather event. Livestock producers are advised to document beginning livestock numbers by taking time and date-stamped video or pictures prior to after the loss.

Other common documentation options include:

- Purchase records
- Production records
- Vaccination records
- Bank or other loan documents
- Third-party certification

Additional details - including payment calculations - can be found on our NAP, ELAP, LIP, and TAP fact sheets. On farmers.gov, the Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool, Disaster-at-a-Glance fact sheet, and Farm Loan Discovery Tool can help you determine program or loan options.

While we never want to have to implement disaster programs, we are here to help. To file a Notice of Loss or to ask questions about available programs, contact your local USDA Service Center. All USDA Service Centers are open for business, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments because of the pandemic.

[Read more.](#)

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.](#)

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)



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Save the Date!

- 1/17/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 1/18/2023 - NBA Winter Conference - Westminster, CO
- 1/20/2023 - Larry Higgins Junior Bison Judging Contest - Denver, CO
- 1/21/2023 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - Denver, CO
- 1/30/2023 - TNC Smoky Valley Ranch Webcast Auction - Online
- 1/31/2023 - Gehl's Buffalo Hill Ranch & Guest Webcast Auction - Online
- 2/02/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference - SD
- 2/04/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Simulcast Auction - SD
- 2/11/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction, Grande Prairie, AB - Online
- 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
- 3/09/2023 - Eastern Bison Association Winter Conference and Auction - PA
- 3/10/2023 - BPA Wildrose - Camrose, AB
- 3/11/2023 - Missouri Bison Assn. & Oklahoma Bison Assn. 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
- 3/30/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 4/27/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online

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

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