

OFFERING CANADIAN LIVESTOCK TO THE WORLD!

July 21 - Video Bison Auction

August 18 - Video Bison Auction

September 15 - Video Bison Auction

October 20 - Video Bison Auction



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; Westminister, CO

NBA Weekly Update for July 8, 2022

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.



NBA Reconvenes the State/Regional Association Committee

The NBA's State/Regional (SR) Committee met for the first time in a number of years this week, as the group has been reconvened to improve the communications among our various stakeholder groups.

The committee is now chaired by NBA member, John Graves, JG Bison in Sheridan, WY and President of the Rocky Mountain Bison Association. The NBA thanks John for stepping into this leadership role to share his time and talents.

Leaders from 12 bison associations joined the meeting, representing a vast majority of today's State/Regional organizations that focus on bison. The group provided updates on their respective associations and their current successes and struggles. NBA President, Chad Kremer, and Executive Director, Jim Matheson, also participated.

The group also developed a mission statement for the committee: "The mission of the NBA State/Regional Association Committee is to strengthen the channels of communication among all bison associations to better share information and support one another."

The group will meet on a quarterly basis moving forward.



New NBA Board Members for Region IV and VP Announced

The NBA Board of Directors met recently to reorganize a bit to fill a vacant seat left by Joe Graham, who resigned from his Vice Presidency. We thank Joe for his leadership, time and counsel he provided the NBA Board of Directors both as Secretary/Treasurer and as Vice President over the years.

The NBA would like to welcome Region IV Director, Mr. Ken Klemm, to the Vice Presidency, a position that he was unanimously voted to fill by his fellow board members. Ken is a longtime bison producer and NBA board member who has served the bison community with education, leadership, and marketing expertise. Said Ken, "It gives me great pleasure to continue to serve the membership of the NBA as Vice President and I look forward to moving our association and our industry forward."

Filling Ken's Region IV board seat is Mr. Stuart Schrag from Pratt, KS. Stuart works for the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. Said Stuart, "I really appreciate this opportunity to be more involved with the National Bison Association and am quite humbled that I have been entrusted with this new role. While there is much to learn, I will continue to do my part in promoting this magnificent animal and will make it a priority to be accessible and helpful to the NBA members and state associations within my region."

A little more about Stuart:

Stuart Schrag is the Director for the Public Lands Division of Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. He is also currently serving as the Acting Assistant Secretary of Operations for the Department.

In the 1920's, KDWP (then Kansas Forestry, Fish, and Game Commission) took an active

role in bison conservation by starting the first state-owned herd near Garden City, Kansas. Some of these initial animals originated from the Charles Goodnight herd. KDWP continues to manage this herd near Garden City on the Sandsage Bison Range as well as their largest herd at Maxwell Wildlife Refuge near Canton, Kansas. They also have a small display herd near the town of Pittsburg, Kansas and owns/manages the Big Basin Prairie Preserve where a private producer maintains a herd of bison.

Stuart grew up in and around the ranching and rodeo world, but it was not until he started working for the department part-time in 1993 that he had his first true exposure to bison at the annual roundup and auction at Maxwell Wildlife Refuge. His respect and admiration for bison began that fall of 1993. Since becoming Director of Public Lands in 2016, he and KDWP bison manager's have made efforts to re-kindle the department's stance on bison conservation and are taking a more active role not only at the state level but nationally as well.

It is KDWP's desire to: promote our state mammal; provide information and education on bison and the native prairie ecosystem in Kansas; manage the State's bison for optimum health; and to promote, support, and enhance the bison industry on the national level.

See all Board of Directors and their contact information at <https://bisoncentral.com/nba-leadership/>.

Center of Excellence for Bison Studies Competitive Grants Awarded

The Center of Excellence for Bison Studies is nearing its two-year anniversary, having been established in the Fall of 2020 as a partnership between South Dakota State University, the National Bison Association, and the National Buffalo Foundation. The Center, housed at SDSU's West River Research & Extension office in Rapid City, was formed in response to the bison industry's aspiration to advance research and education efforts.

Shortly after its launch, the Center announced the start of an annual competitive grants program to fund research and outreach projects that align with bison industry priorities such as animal health and nutrition, end-products and marketing, cultural aspects, educational outreach, and ecological impacts. In 2021, the Center announced support for eight selected projects:

- A baseline inventory assessment of biological and cultural impacts of buffalo restoration in Indian country (InterTribal Buffalo Council)
- An integrated approach to assess parasite burden and anthelmintic treatment success in North American bison (Kansas State University)
- Benchmarking live animal and carcass quality outcomes at slaughter to identify factors impacting bison carcass value (Colorado State University)
- Bison on the move: How translocations affect bison production and disease prevalence across space, time, and organization (South Dakota State University)
- Characterization of bovine viral diarrhea virus (BVDV) in bison (South Dakota State University)
- Comparison of ground nesting bee (Apoidea) abundance and diversity between bison wallows and adjacent prairie (USDA – Agricultural Research Service)
- Habitat use and avoidance in a large, patchy landscape by American plains bison: Implications for management and conservation of the species (University of Nebraska – Kearney)
- Investigating the ruminal metagenome of grass-fed bison to uncover metabolic activities that impact the efficiency of forage utilization (South Dakota State University)

These projects are now entering their second year, with several expected to be completed by next summer.

In the second year of the grants program, the Center again received numerous applications from across the country that were highly competitive and addressed

numerous issues important to the bison industry. The Center is excited to announce the two projects selected for funding in 2022:

- Assessing factors that influence the virulence of *Mycoplasma bovis* in bison (University of Wyoming)
- Investigating mineral and vitamin status and needs for bison (Colorado State University)

These new projects will continue to add to the volume of research being supported by the Center. Details and deadlines regarding next year's competitive grant program are expected to be announced in early fall. For more information about these projects and other COE projects, visit us at www.sdstate.edu/bisoncoe or contact Center Director Kristi Cammack at kristi.cammack@sdstate.edu or 605-394-2236.

It Takes a Village (of dedicated, passionate helpers)

From The NBA Blog, By Jim Matheson

As many of you know, the National Bison Association (NBA) is currently undergoing a significant organizational transition, the likes of which we haven't seen in over 20 years. With the departure of longtime Executive Director Dave Carter, as well as its Director of Development, Eloise Mongillo, in May, the NBA has been working double-time to keep the ship upright and moving in the right direction while we fill out the NBA staff and continue our important work.

Despite the many challenges that have sprung up in the bison business since May, we are forging ahead at full speed. These hurdles include, but are not limited to, the United States Congress mandating that the USDA facilitate listening sessions about whether bison should become an amenable species, ongoing drought in buffalo country, the publishing of groundbreaking bison genetic research, and the NBA's ambitious outreach activities targeting consumers and producers this summer. There has not been a lull in our work.

Our success in recent months can be attributed to the tireless efforts of the current NBA staff and our dedicated volunteers. Everyone has had to take on new and different duties while we search for an additional full-time employee to round out the team. We hope our continued efforts to keep moving forward are evident to the NBA membership and our colleagues.

Being a national organization, we often get puzzled looks when NBA members and others ask about our staffing, and we explain that we have the equivalent of two full-time employees. The NBA being a nonprofit, collaboration and doing work outside your job description comes with the territory, but our staff has taken that arrangement to a new level. As such, I wanted to take a chance to recognize these efforts, particularly those of our bookkeeper, Barb Dowdy, and our Director of Communications, Karen Conley, for assisting me with keeping things afloat. Barb works part-time as our bookkeeper, Karen works under an NBA contract to essentially write and edit Bison World magazine, and I, as executive director, am full-time. Barb and Karen have been tasked with new duties that I no longer have time to do as executive director, and they have both taken on these new tasks with aplomb. I thank them for their dedication and performance in these challenging times.

I also want to recognize the efforts of our many volunteers, from our board of directors to our committee chairs and members. NBA President, Chad Kremer, is a prime example and definition of a great leader and volunteer, working tirelessly and making himself available to any given NBA project. NBA Region II Director, Moritz Espy, attended the recent summer conference of the Montana Bison Association to update the group on NBA and industry activity. NBA Secretary/Treasurer, Kevin Leier, hosted the NBA's inaugural Regenerative Ranching Workshop that same weekend. Newly appointed Commercial Market Committee Chair, Dick Gehring, has taken personal time and expense to attend the aforementioned amenable listening session and advise on the matter.

If you come across any of these folks, please take a moment to shake their hand and say thanks for your efforts because these can be thankless jobs that are vital to maintaining a

healthy and growing herd. It truly does take a village! A village of dedicated, hardworking, passionate individuals, to be exact.

And there is light at the end of this tunnel. I have received over 50 applications for the Program Manager position that we hope to start on August 1st. The NBA is performing very well financially, membership is growing and we're managing to keep up with our many projects and activities. Thank you, Karen and Barb, our many volunteers, and the NBA membership for weathering the storm while offering us your grace and patience as we see this through.

There are some great things on the horizon for the NBA and the bison, and we're well on our way to seeing them through!

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.

An advertisement for Noble Premium Bison. It features a close-up of a cooked bison steak on a wooden cutting board, garnished with fresh herbs. To the left is a roasted vegetable. A circular logo with a bison head is in the upper center. Text overlays include "EAT BETTER. EAT BISON.", "Premium product. Premium cuts.", "Wholesale and retail in Canada and Europe.", "noblepremiumbison.com", and "NOBLE PREMIUM BISON". A small text box at the bottom left states: "Ranch-raised in Canada by Canadian producers without added hormones or antibiotics" next to a red maple leaf icon.

EAT BETTER. EAT BISON.
Premium product. Premium cuts.
Wholesale and retail in Canada and Europe.
noblepremiumbison.com
NOBLE
PREMIUM BISON

Ranch-raised in Canada by Canadian producers without added hormones or antibiotics

An advertisement for Hi-Hog equipment. It features two large green metal cages, likely for transporting livestock. The background is a solid red color. Large white text at the top reads "PROVEN TOUGH". In the center is the Hi-Hog logo, which includes the text "HI-HOG", "PARRIS RANCH EQUIPMENT LTD.", "SINCE 1974", and "THE OUTSTANDING BRAND". Below the logo, it says "Proud supporters of the National Bison Association" and "Canadian Bison Association". At the bottom, a dark green banner contains the phone number "1-800-661-7002" and the website "hi-hog.com".

PROVEN TOUGH

HI-HOG
PARRIS RANCH EQUIPMENT LTD.
SINCE 1974
THE OUTSTANDING BRAND

Proud supporters of the
National Bison Association
Canadian Bison Association

1-800-661-7002 hi-hog.com

House wants troops to chow down bison meat bought from native tribes

From The Military Times

Want a hot bison sandwich on rye? The uncommon food product may soon be on the table for troops as Congress has proposed in its annual defense bill the Department of Defense

purchase bison meat from native tribes and organizations.

House lawmakers passed their \$840 billion version of the National Defense Authorization Act out of committee on June 23, incorporating a series of amendments that included, among others, a procurement measure for bison meat. The final annual defense bill must still be passed by the full House, and later agreed to by the Senate, which earlier in June passed its own version out of committee.

If passed, the Pentagon will begin “increasing procurement of bison meat...with the goal of procuring two million pounds of bison meat annually to promote bison as a healthy and sustainable food source and further treaty and trust responsibilities and Native American agriculture,” according to the amendment text.

The amendment would also direct the secretary of defense to provide a briefing to the House Committee on Armed Services by Feb. 1, 2023, outlining opportunities to increase the procurement of bison meat and other agricultural products from native tribes and organizations.

The amendment was introduced by Rep. Ruben Gallego, an Arizona Democrat and Marine veteran.

Read [more](#).

What’s with all the bison attacks lately?

From The Washington Post

It has been a tumultuous summer for Yellowstone National Park. Following catastrophic rain and flooding at the beginning of peak visitor season last month, the park was closed as officials assessed and repaired damaged roads and bridges. As it reopens in phases, tourists are returning — and getting into trouble with wildlife.

This year, three people in a short period of time were attacked after getting too close to bison.

First was a 25-year-old visitor from Ohio, who was gored and tossed 10 feet into the air by a bison after getting within 10 feet of the animal on May 30. The next incident took place on June 28 — a week after Yellowstone reopened some portions to the public — when a 34-year-old tourist from Colorado was charged and gored near Giant Geyser. A day later, a 71-year-old visitor from Pennsylvania was gored by a bull bison near Storm Point at Yellowstone Lake when she inadvertently approached the animal.

While the incidents may have been shocking to the public, they weren’t to experts.

“I think that three in a row, that’s just a coincidence, but we see it every year,” says Jared Beaver, a wildlife management [specialist](#) and assistant professor in Montana State University’s Department of Animal and Range Sciences. “These days, more and more people are visiting the park, and bison numbers are at an [all-time high](#).”

Read [more](#).

Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship now accepting applications

From The Fence Post

WESTMINSTER, Colo. — The National Bison Association has announced the 2022 Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship, an annual scholarship that supports students pursuing studies related to the American bison.

The Throlson American Bison Foundation is named after its founder, Dr. Ken Throlson, DVM, a pioneer of the modern bison business and awards outstanding college students

with an interest in the burgeoning bison industry.

“The Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship program has been established to recognize, encourage and promote leadership among future bison industry professionals,” said Jim Matheson, executive director of the NBA.

In November 2022, the Throlson American Bison Foundation will award scholarships totaling, but not limited to, \$10,000 to outstanding college junior, senior or graduate students studying fields related to the bison industry.

A minimum of \$2,000 of the \$10,000 amount will be awarded in the memory of Richard Zahringer to students pursuing a degree in agriculture economics, agribusiness or accounting. Ideally this student will have future interest in livestock and specifically bison.

Read [more](#).

As It Were: Once in the millions and reduced to hundreds, bison are back

From The Columbus Dispatch

Traveling west on U.S. Route 36 from Delaware, Marysville and points east, one is immediately struck by how much rich open farmland remains in rural Ohio.

This land was met with astonishment by early settlers from the East. Many people from New England had become convinced that the only real crop in their world was rock, which is from whence all of those picturesque stone fences were made. Arriving in Ohio, one found topsoil that was 4 to 6 feet deep. That soil repeatedly produced fine fields of wheat, corn and other crops.

That land still does just that.

The rich soil of Ohio also provides grass and provender to a wide variety of wild and domesticated livestock. Driving along Route 36, one will see groups of domestic cattle, horses, sheep, swine and even an occasional llama herd. And as one approaches Urbana, a field of grazing bison can be seen.

It is a remarkable sight.

At one time, when the Ohio Country was first explored by French, Spanish and English colonists in the 1700s, large herds of bison were still present in Ohio. They were complemented by equally large herds of elk and deer, as well as by immense flocks of pigeons that often blackened the sky for hours as they flew past.

Read [more](#).

Wyoming Hunter Wins Coveted Bison Tag, Says She'll Donate it to a Disabled Veteran

From Outdoor Life

For the third year in a row, Governor Mark Gordon has helped raise money for wildlife conservation by raffling off a bison hunting tag to one lucky Wyoming resident. The winner of the 2022 Wild Bison Raffle was [Norma Winder](#), but the 71-year-old woman made a surprising announcement when her name was called on June 23. She said she would give it away to a female disabled veteran, the [Cowboy State Daily](#) reports.

The longtime hunter explained that she has been fortunate enough to chase big game all over the world alongside her husband. And since she was able to take a bison several years ago, she wanted to give someone else the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to hunt the largest mammal in North America.

“We have other opportunities to shoot a [bison] cow or whatever we want to do, so why not give it to someone else who can never afford to put in for one of those permits?” she told the local newspaper. “The joy of doing it is absolutely fantastic.”

Winder explained that she and her husband have recently made a habit of donating elk and mule deer tags to disabled veterans. They see this as one of the best ways to thank military for their service, and together they’ve given around 20 of those service members the opportunity to hunt big game in Wyoming, according to Cowboy State Daily.

Read [more](#).

Tara Riddle: Meatball skewers that come to fruition

From The Nevada Appeal

Grilling a meatball is not as easy as it sounds. Grilling one on a skewer is an even harder feat. I have some tips and tricks to help make this come to fruition.

Korean Barbecue Bison Meatball Skewers

Serves 2-3

Ingredients

Pita
1 egg
1 pound ground bison- Black Rock Bison
¼ cup breadcrumbs
1 squash
1 zucchini
1 red bell pepper
1 cup Miso-ginger broth—Trader Joes
1 cup coconut milk
Golden Goddess Seasoning- Butler Meat
1 cup Basmati Rice
1 can diced pineapple
Cilantro

For the bison meatballs you will need 1 pound of ground bison. Head on over to your local Carson City Farmer’s Market to get your package of ground bison from Black Rock Bison. Get out your mixing bowl and add the ground bison, 1 egg, and ¼-cup breadcrumbs. Season the meat with whatever your favorite steak or burger seasoning is and mix it up well.

First tip: Don’t add extra stuff to the mix. Less is more!

Read [more](#).

Montana meat processing co-op gears up, hires manager

From Meatingplace.com

A member-owned meat harvesting and processing cooperative in Montana is closer to opening with the hiring of a general manager, according to a press release.

The Montana Premium Processing Cooperative (MPPC) will provide year-round, live-to-package processing for cattle, hogs, sheep and bison using a service-fee-based business model, according to the co-op’s website.

MPPC has hired industry veteran Bill Jones as general manager of the USDA-inspected facility, which is in the final stages of construction in Havre, Mont., the release from the Montana Farmers Union (MFU) said. MFU is spearheading the project.

Jones previously worked at Amsterdam Meat Shop and Feddes Family Meats.

The cooperative also plans to help train students for work in the industry in a partnership with Montana State University-Northern, which is developing a meat processing curriculum to offer meat cutting and business skills, MFU said. The cooperative would give students hands-on experience.

Read [more](#).

CEO of billion-dollar beef plant project answers skeptics

From Meatingplace.com

The head of the company proposing to build a \$1.1 billion beef processing plant in Rapid City, S.D., addressed concerns voiced by an audience eager to learn how the project can compete with the big four packing companies, according to a KNTB-TV report.

With plans to process 8,000 head of cattle and bison a day sourced from a six-state region, the plant would be among the world's largest.

Megan Kingsbury, CEO of Western Legacy Development Corp., and planning and development board members from the company invited livestock industry leaders and the community to meet at the Wall (S.D.) Community Center last week and bring their questions.

Kingsbury was quoted as saying that most of the products produced at the facility would be destined for large foodservice customers rather than retail stores. The business has contracted with a Fortune 100 foodservice group for beef products, and negotiations with other buyers are underway, the report said.

Kingsbury told those gathered that the livestock would be purchased through cash trade sales rather than alternative marketing agreements. If needed, feedlots that have closed could be brought back online, she was quoted as saying.

Read [more](#).

USDA-ARS Scientist Enlists Cattle to Create Fire Breaks

From Drovers.com

According to rangeland experts, wildfires in the western Great Basin region scorched more than 14,600 square miles in just 10 years-nearly the land mass of Maryland and Delaware combined.

It seems that a few herds of cattle could have helped prevent some of the devastation caused by wildfires.

A scientist from USDA's Agricultural Research Service (ARS) is managing a research project that uses livestock to create firebreaks through targeted grazing. His program requires the cooperation of area ranchers to strategically target the grazing patterns of cattle. The goal is for livestock to eat extensive strips of highly flammable cheatgrass down to 2- to 3-inch stubble. This reduces the fuel load that could otherwise turn small rangeland fires into megafires in just a few hours.

"Wildfires have become more frequent, threatening human lives, property, and critical natural and cultural resources," said Pat Clark, a rangeland scientist based at the ARS Northwest Watershed Research Center, in Boise, ID. "Suppressing wildfires costs more than \$2.4 billion annually across all wildlands."

"The current experiment involves projects in Idaho, Nevada, and Oregon," Clark said. "Timing of the grazing is critical and is complicated by the dynamics of weather, plant

growth cycles, and livestock herd management."

Read [more](#).



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!

- 7/12/2022 - International Bison Conference - Saskatoon, SK
- 7/21/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 8/15/2022 - TNC Joseph H. Williams Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Auction - Online
- 8/18/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 9/10/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Mission, SD
- 9/15/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 9/24/2022 - Rocky Mountain Bison Assn. Fall Ranch Tour - WY
- 10/14/2022 - Wisconsin Bison Producer's Association Fall Meeting - WI
- 10/15/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Villa Grove, IL
- 10/20/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 11/05/2022 - Custer State Park Annual Buffalo Auction - SD
- 11/09/2022 - Antelope Island State Park Bison Auction - Online
- 11/19/2022 - Coyote Trail Buffalo Ranch Simulcast Production Auction - SD
- 11/25/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Bison Fundamentals - MN
- 11/26/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Legends of the Fall Sale - MN
- 11/27/2022 - Rocking P Ranch Simulcast Production Auction - SD
- 11/14/2022 - TNC Joseph H. Williams Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Auction - Online
- 12/01/2022 - Kansas Buffalo Association Sale - KS
- 12/01/2022 - Western Bison Association Meeting and Show/Sale - UT
- 1/07/2023 - Turner Bison Exchange Prairie Performance Simulcast Auction - SD
- 1/18/2023 - NBA Winter Conference - Westminster, CO
- 1/21/2023 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - Denver, CO
- 2/11/2023 - Dakota Dynamite Buffalo Sale Simulcast Auction - SD
- 3/09/2023 - Eastern Bison Association Winter Conference and Auction - PA

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

