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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 June 10, 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.

Still Time to Register for Next Weekend's Regenerative Ranch Tour in North Dakota

[Registration is still open](#) for the June 18th NBA Regenerative Ranching Field Day at Heartland Bison Ranch in Rugby, North Dakota! Please [register here](#) by June 15th. Just \$30/person to attend which includes lunch, ranch tour, and more. Don't miss out on this great educational opportunity!

NBA Regenerative Ranching Field Day #1

June 18th - Heartland Bison Ranch - Rugby, ND

Just \$30 per person!

Register at bisoncentral.com/nba-north-dakota-regenerative-workshop/



NORTH DAKOTA
BUFFALO
Association



Saturday, June 18th:

- 9:30 am: Register and network
- 10:00: Welcome from NBA and Host Ranch
- 10:15: Pasture walks and bison herd move
- Noon: Lunch
- 1:00: NRCS Presentation:
 - Yolanda Schmidt - Principles of regenerative agriculture and grazing principles
 - Brad Jacobs - NRCS overview, EQIP and cost-share programs
- 2:15: Break
- 2:30 - Ken Klemm - Regenerative/Holistic Bison Management
- 3:30 - Q&A, networking
- 4:00 - Heartland Bison Ranch corral and handling facility tour
- 5:00 - NDBA general membership meeting
- 6:00 - NDBA dinner



Thanks to North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Education and Research (SARE) and the University of Minnesota for their support in this project. Learn more at <https://www.sare.org/>.



Sustainable Agriculture
Research and Education

NBA Attends Traditional Bison Harvest and Tour on Pine Ridge

NBA Executive Director, Jim Matheson, and President, Chad Kremer, were invited to join the InterTribal Buffalo Council (ITBC) this week in providing a tour to members of the USDA's Food Safety Inspection Service and Food Nutrition Service who were in town for the tribal listening session on the topic of bison becoming an amenable species in Rapid City on Tuesday.

The tour showcased the tribe's bison restoration efforts and included a traditional buffalo harvest on the Pine Ridge reservation in the Black Hills of South Dakota. Tribal member harvested a five-year-old bull in the field, which was then dressed at a nearby tribal member's home with everyone



pitching in to process the animal on the spot with harvested meat to be donated to families in need on the Pine Ridge reservation.

The ITBC wanted to show the USDA leadership the importance of retaining their rights to traditionally raise and harvest buffalo on their lands, which could be impacted if bison were to be designated as an amenable species from its current non-amenable status. FSIS will facilitate a bison industry stakeholder listening session on Monday at noon at Colorado State University in Fort Collins.

Learn How to Get Started on the FREE NBA Bison Producer's App Next Thursday, June 16th

The NBA Bison Producer's App is a member benefit that is available on Android and Apple devices as a free app that you can download today and start tracking your herd's vital data and statistics. Download the app on your computer, phone or tablet here using the code "bisoncentral" when prompted and join us next Thursday at 5 pm Mountain Time to learn how to get your herd's profile started and growing with live demonstrations and step by step instruction. No registration, simply join us at <https://meet.google.com/yzi-tacp-cbo?hs=224>. These tutorials will be recorded and available for later viewing in the NBA's member's area of the website under Video Archives.



National Bison Producer's App

APP TRAINING SERIES: #1 - GETTING STARTED

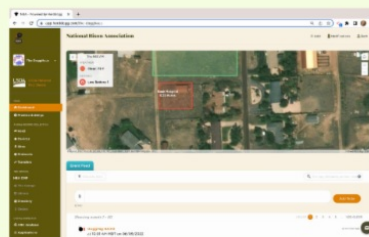
Thursday, June 16th - 5 pm MT

Join us at no charge at:

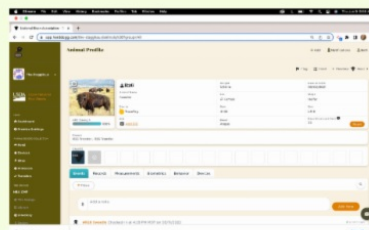
<https://meet.google.com/yzi-tacp-cbo?hs=224>

Webinar Agenda:

1. Create your account
 - a. Your email address
 - b. Create your password



2. Onboarding
 - a. Premise creation
 - b. Add animals
 - c. Adding users



3. Site Navigation
 - a. Herd List
 - b. Editing premise details
 - c. Sites



Get Registered for the 2022 IBC!

You are invited to a four-day convention for bison producers, marketers, researchers, and industry experts.



Full Conference Registration*: \$441.00 CAD

Full Conference Family Registration*: \$892.50 CAD – Ticket includes admission for three persons (16+) in the same family (SAVE \$430.50)

IBC 2022 - Convention Agenda

Tuesday, July 12 – TCU Place

6 PM – 11 PM | Opening Night Reception - Taste Saskatchewan

Come socialize at TCU Place and enjoy a selection of appetizers and drinks from some of our favorite local breweries and distilleries.

Wednesday, July 13 - TCU Place

9 AM - 12 PM: Keynote speaker and presentations

1 PM - 5 PM: Tours (must be pre-registered. Sales close July 10, 2022. If you would like to book the tour after the date, please check in with the INFORMATION DESK at TCU Place.)

6 PM - 11 PM: Banquet

Dinner and networking

Thursday, July 14 - TCU Place

9 AM - 4 PM: Keynote Speakers and Breakouts

For more details, please visit our website

6 PM - 11 PM: Banquet

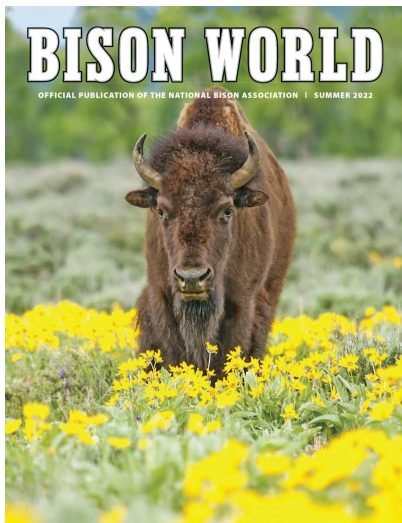
Dinner and networking

Friday, July 15 - TCU Place

9 AM - 12 PM: Speakers and Breakouts

12 PM - 2 PM | Farewell Luncheon

Learn more and register for the IBC at <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/international-bison-convention-2022-registration-126340121705>.



Advertising Opportunities in the Fall Issue of Bison World

Production will soon be underway on the Fall issue of the Bison World magazine.

Within the pages of the Fall magazine, there are a variety of advertising options available, from 1/8 page to full page. Lifetime and Active NBA members will enjoy discounted rates as part of their membership perks and contract holders will receive a 5% discount for pre-paid advertising. Karen can work with you to tailor an advertising campaign that fits your budget and targets your message!

The advertising space reservation deadline is July 10 with final materials being due by August 1. Editorial submissions and suggestions are welcome at any time but will also be subjected to the same deadline for the Fall issue.

For more information about editorial submissions or advertising your ranch, business or events, contact Karen@bisoncentral.com or call (605) 381-3738.

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.



100% PURE CANADIAN WILD GAME MEAT

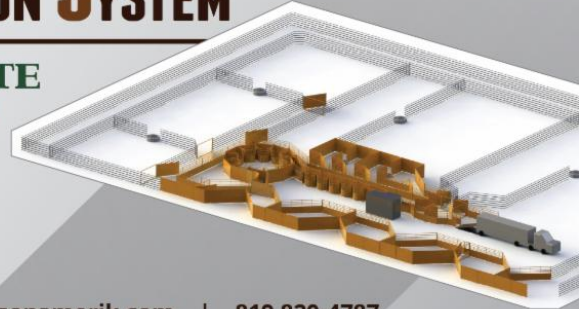
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Fish and Wildlife to conduct a review on Yellowstone bison endangered status

From Wyoming Public Radio

Last Friday, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced they will conduct an environmental survey of bison in Yellowstone National Park. This came after a federal judge ruled that the feds did not justify in 2019 that the bison don't need Endangered Species Act protections.

The nonprofit Buffalo Field Campaign filed the original lawsuit. Their executive Director James Holt said they will be following the investigation closely.

"We're going to initiate our own threats analysis, so that we can parallel the Fish and Wildlife Service process to ensure that to the best of our knowledge," he said "They're doing it holistically and appropriately because we won twice in a row now, because they've failed to adequately uphold our public trust."

Holt said he is very disappointed with how the federal government treats bison.

"It's a shame the way that America allows the Fish and Wildlife Service to continue to mismanage the species and push that onto the National Park Service and the US Fish and Wildlife Service," he said.

Holt said Buffalo Field Campaign is against the slaughter of bison in the park, but he added that this does not include the yearly tribal buffalo hunts that happen just outside the park.

Read [more](#).

Zoo euthanizes one of world's oldest bison days before birthday, officials say

MADISON, Wis. (WMTV/Gray News) - One of the world's oldest bison was euthanized earlier this week at a Wisconsin zoo after its health sharply declined.

WMTV reports the Henry Vilas Zoo decided to put the bison, named Beefcake, down on Tuesday after he had trouble standing. The animal also had been suffering from a variety of age-related issues.

Beefcake's death came just two days before he would have celebrated his 25th birthday. Zoo officials said its staff was prepping for a party, complete with a cake filled with his favorite treats. He was even going to get more goodies for a video to showcase how the zoo cares for its bison.

"We still wanted to share how our keepers care for these iconic animals. Beefcake was an amazing ambassador for his wild counterparts and will be truly missed," the zoo wrote in a Facebook post.

Officials at the zoo shared that staff members had closely monitored Beefcake's health for months. They noted how, in addition to the ailments that come with age, older animals face more risks of getting injured. Zookeepers were keeping a close eye on his diet and for any behavioral changes.

Read [more](#).

Beefalo, a bison-cattle hybrid, is being touted as the healthy meat of the future

From NPR

Bison produce very lean meat, but they are wild animals that can be difficult to raise on a farm. Cattle are very docile, but their meat can be high in fat and not very healthy. That's why proponents of a crossbreed — called beefalo — say they have what should be the future of U.S. meat production.

"As we like to say, when they created beefalo, they bred out the meanness but kept the leanness of the bison, so kept the good qualities of the bison," said Kelly Dietsch.

She and her husband, Andrew Dietsch, run A&K Ranch in Raymondville, Mo., where they have about 25 beefalo females that they attempt to calve every year.

The bovine is bred to include more cattle traits than bison. The American Beefalo Association says beefalo with 37.5% bison genes are considered full-blood beefalo and the perfect mix for the breed. But bovines with as low as 18% bison genes are labeled purebred beefalo.

While there was some unintentional cross-breeding between cows and bison over the centuries, it wasn't until the 1970s that a reliable, fertile crossbreed was produced. The intent was to get the lean meat of bison into an animal that could be raised as easily as a cow.

Read [more](#).

Yellowstone: Do Not Take Selfies With Bison Even If They Appear Like They Want To

From Cowboy State Daily

A series of photos circulating on social media have led Yellowstone National Park officials to, again, warn visitors to not stand too close to any wildlife, including bison.

Facebook user Ken Carleton shared photos on Tuesday of a bison at the park that walked up to one of the boardwalks and laid its head down to rest.

Unsurprisingly, people in the vicinity began taking photos of the wild animal and got close to it, as shown in Carleton's photos from the encounter.

Yellowstone spokeswoman Linda Veress told Cowboy State Daily that all of the people captured in Carleton's photos, including the photographer himself, were too close to the sleepy bison.

"If wildlife are on or near a boardwalk in a thermal area within 25 yards (from wildlife such as bison or elk) and 100 yards (for bears and wolves) [of a person], people should move away to maintain that distance," Veress said. "On a boardwalk, they should go back the way they came and wait for the animal to leave. All of the people in the Facebook photo[s] were much too close and this was an unsafe situation.

"The animals in Yellowstone are wild and unpredictable, no matter how calm they appear to be, and bison can run three times faster than people," she continued.

Read [more](#).

Record spring of bison calves bodes well for conservation program

From The Star Tribune

Interspersed with their behemoth mothers, dark and heavy like the skies overhead one morning this week, bison calves looked the image of spring in the prairie of Minneopa State Park near Mankato.

They also are the picture of health.

Sixteen calves were born at the state park in the last month, the most in any spring since wild bison were settled in the park. Last year, 13 calves were born there.

The iconic animals are part of the Minnesota Conservation Bison Herd, which also exists at Blue Mounds State Park near Luverne, Minn., and is well-established in the state's historic bison range, as well as at the Minnesota Zoo and in Oxbow Park & Zollman Zoo in Byron, in Olmsted County. The calves at Minneopa bring the park's size to 47. Blue Mounds added 25 calves this spring. As of fall of 2021, the entire herd was 114.

All are part of a still-expanding partnership managed by the Department of Natural Resources and the Minnesota Zoo whose chief aim is preserving the genetics and building the population of a mammal nearly hunted to extinction in the 19th century.

The conservation herd has thrived since it was introduced at Minneopa as the second state park unit in 2015. Now, Dakota County Parks is preparing for a reintroduction of bison this fall at Spring Lake Park Reserve near Hastings. Some of its herd will draw from Minneopa and the other sites based on their genetics, said Ed Quinn, DNR natural resource program supervisor in the Parks and Trail Division. They'll be a mix of adults (born 2020 or earlier) and yearlings (2021).

Read [more](#).

Economists: Soaring input costs to weigh on farm income for years

From Agri-Pulse

Farm input costs are likely to remain at elevated levels well after commodity prices come off their historic highs, and farm bill programs could provide only limited help, economists warned lawmakers Thursday.

Joe Outlaw, co-director of Texas A&M University's Agricultural and Food Policy Center, told a House Agriculture subcommittee that it took input prices four to five years to decline to traditional levels after the drought-induced commodity price spikes of 2012.

Commodity "prices are going to decline, but input prices are going to stay up for a while, and they always do, and that's going to leave people with what we call the cost-price squeeze," said Outlaw.

Outlaw said lawmakers should increase the reference prices in the Price Loss Coverage program to account for the impact of higher input prices.

PLC triggers payments when the average annual price for a commodity falls below the reference price. The current reference prices are \$3.70 a bushel for corn, \$8.40 for soybeans and \$5.50 for wheat, far below the average market prices USDA is forecasting: \$6.75, \$14.40 and \$10.75 per bushel, respectively.

Another option for lawmakers is to create a program to trigger payments when the differences between production costs and commodity prices narrow, similar to the Dairy Margin Coverage program for milk producers.

However, Outlaw said Congress would likely need to experiment with pilot programs for margin coverage first because input costs can vary significantly between commodities. Outlaw also recommended Congress eliminate the requirement that farmers choose at the beginning of each year between PLC and Agriculture Risk Coverage, which triggers payments when market prices decline from a five-year rolling average. Farmers should automatically receive payments from whichever program is the most beneficial in a particular year, he said.

Read [more](#).

Senate confirms Jacobs-Young as USDA undersecretary

From The Fence Post

The Senate today confirmed President Biden's nomination of Chavonda Jacobs-Young as agriculture undersecretary for research, education and economics. The vote was 95 to 4.

The Senate Agriculture Committee held a hearing on the Jacobs-Young nomination on Nov. 17, 2021, but the nomination was subject to holds by senators.

In a floor statement before the vote, Senate Agriculture Committee Chairwoman Debbie Stabenow, D-Mich., said Jacobs-Young "is extremely qualified" and noted she "will be the first woman of color to serve in the USDA's highest scientific post." Stabenow also thanked Sen. John Boozman, R-Ark., the committee ranking member, for his help in advancing the nomination.

Read [more](#).

Farmers at high risk for tick-borne illnesses do little to prevent exposure

From HealthDay News

American farmers are at increased risk for tick bites, but new research shows they are doing little to defend themselves against the insects and the illnesses they cause. Tick-borne diseases include Lyme disease, Rocky Mountain Spotted fever, Powassan

virus, anaplasmosis, tularemia, ehrlichiosis, heartland virus and Alpha-gal syndrome, and these diseases cost the U.S. health care system up to \$1.3 billion a year, the investigators said.

Farm workers have a high risk of exposure to ticks due to the large amount of time they spend outdoors, so scientists from the University of Illinois created an online survey to learn more about their knowledge about ticks and how to prevent tick bites.

To date, 36% of farm workers who have participated in the survey said they have a low level of knowledge about ticks. Fifty-six percent said they rely on friends and family for information about ticks and the diseases they carry; 48% rely on medical professionals, and 40% rely on university extension education programs.

Only 38% of respondents say they are concerned about tick-borne diseases, but 90% do self-checks for ticks.

Read [more](#).



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Save the Date!

- 6/17/2022 - Montana Bison Association - MT
- 6/18/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Rugby, ND
- 6/23/2022 - Western Bison Association Spring meeting - UT
- 6/23/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 7/06/2022 - ITBC 3rd Annual Buffalo Worker Safety Workshop - SD
- 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 - Gillette, WY
- 10/13//2022 - ITBC 3rd Annual Buffalo Worker Safety Workshop - SD
- 10/15/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Villa Grove, IL
- 11/05/2022 - Custer State Park Annual Buffalo Auction - SD
- 11/9/2022 - Antelope Island State Park Bison Auction - Online
- 11/25/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Bison Fundamentals - MN
- 11/26/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Legends of the Fall Sale - MN
- 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 - CO
- 1/21/2023 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - Denver, CO
- 2/11/2023 - Dakota Dynamite Buffalo Sale Simulcast Auction - SD

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 | bisoncentral.com
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