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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 October 15, 2021

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 NBA Regional Webinars

There is still time to register for one of the four upcoming interactive webinars offering information specifically targeted to address regional bison production and marketing issues.

The four webinars—East, West, North and South, are scheduled from October 19-27, and will feature speakers with expertise in addressing an array of bison management topics in that region.

Bison producers throughout the country face different challenges in maintaining herd health, managing pastures and marketing the meat," said Jim Matheson, NBA assistant director. "This is our inaugural effort to offer our members with information that is specifically based on factors in their region.

All webinars are free to NBA members and will be hosted on the Zoom platform. Presentations will be recorded for later viewing in the NBA member's area. Use the links below to view the full agenda, and to register for one of the upcoming webinars.

East, October 19 -

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_G0vU5PAjST6CPwLJUSoXnw

West, October 20 - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_WGSE-lrWTCaocw_CBGsntw

North, October 25 - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ij7060DwQWY5WcgFVvr0Gg

South, October 27 - https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_2iL7rhorTbSvcQSyM7Jd-A

Liz Riffle to Join NBA Board in January

Elizabeth “Liz” Riffle of West Virginia will join the National Bison Association Board of Directors for a two-year term in January as the Region VIII representative, which includes most of the Southeastern United States.

She was unanimously elected in September by the NBA Region VIII members voting in the director’s elections. Re-elected to two-year terms on the board were Region II representative Boyd Meyer of Wyoming, Region IV representative Ken Klemm of Kansas and Region VI representative Campbell Burgess of Texas.

Riffle owns and operates Riffle Farms a small bison farm nestled in Eastern West Virginia. She is a U.S Navy veteran, and a registered nurse by trade.

a serial entrepreneur since the age of 12, Riffle has taken her years of military and healthcare management experience into niche farming; add her love for animals and passion for food and you have one tough “head of the herd!”

Liz runs a grass-fed and finished operation and is working with the Savory Institute to implement a regenerative grazing model.

She said, “Thank you all for the votes and support. The bison business is a bit different here in the East and I am looking forward to helping my fellow producers become successful ranchers and stewards of our National Mammal!”

Carter to Promote Bison at International Food Show in Milan

NBA Executive Director Dave Carter will be promoting American bison next week at the Tutto Food Show, an international food exhibition in Milan, Italy.

Carter was invited to represent the bison business by the Colorado Department of Agriculture, which is covering all travel and lodging expenses during the event.

Tutto is an annual food fair that welcomes businesses from all over the world. It is designed exclusively for business-to-business connections, along with showcasing innovations in food and beverage production. In addition to helping to host a booth featuring bison, beer and spirits, Carter will be meeting with several European retailers during the event.

Matheson to Present NBA Update at Wisconsin Bison Meeting

NBA Assistant Director, Jim Matheson, travels to Hudson, WI this weekend to present at the Wisconsin Bison Producer's Association Fall meeting. Matheson will provide an update on the national bison industry and the activities of the NBA Saturday morning. He will then facilitate a Bison Advantage workshop.

Other presentations include a session on low-stress bison handling from Turner Enterprise's John Halstead, as well as a presentation on bison slaughtering from Crescent Meat's owner, Wayne Lautsbaugh.

Attendees will then tour Jeremy Allemann's Big Creek Bison in Baldwin, WI on Sunday. Jeremy also serves as the NBA's Region V director.

Learn more at <http://www.wibison.com/>.

Chief Old Person, Leader in National Mammal Campaign, Dies at Ag 92

Chief Earl Old Person, one of the three Honorary Chairpeople of the Vote Bison Campaign that resulted in National Mammal designation, died Wednesday at the age of 92, following a battle with cancer.

He was the longest-serving elected tribal official in the United States and met every president from Harry Truman to Barack Obama.

From 2012-2016, Old Person served as an honorary chairperson of the campaign to designate bison as the National Mammal of the United States. He served alongside then-Colorado Governor John Hickenlooper and Ted Roosevelt V.

An advocate for the advancement of the Blackfeet people and the preservation of cultural traditions, Old Person was elected to his first term as a tribal council member in 1954, at the age of 25, and had been chief of the Montana tribe in 1978.

He died at the Blackfeet Community Hospital, the tribe announced Wednesday night: "A chapter of our history has come to a close," the tribe said.

The news of Old Person's death rippled across the Big Sky State on Thursday, with Montana Sens. Jon Tester and Steve Daines mourning his loss on Twitter.

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.



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Midwin National Tallgrass Bison Crawl Celebrate America's National Mammal

(From The Times Weekly)

The America's National Mammal with Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie and partners celebrate on National Bison Day: Look for bison at Midwin National Tallgrass Prairie in Illinois; learn about historic rock art and more at First Peoples Buffalo Jump State Park and the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Montana; and talk with

historians at the Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump World Heritage Site in Alberta Canada! The virtual cross-country expedition will happen from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. on National Bison Day, which is Saturday, November 6. In the weeks before National Bison Day, learn about bison through displays, activities and more at nearly a dozen partner sites on the Bison Crawl.

“Bison and Owls” Go live with us to the trails at Midewin National Tallgrass Prairie where specialists with the USDA Forest Service and the Forest Preserve District of Will County will provide updates as they look for the bison! Will they see bison? Learn about the amazing relationship between bison and short-eared owls and the best places to watch for them this winter!

“Bison in Art and Culture” Go live with us to the Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail Interpretive Center in Montana (Helena-Lewis and Clark National Forest). See a historic drawing of bison and learn about the history of bison in art. The "Sacred Bison, Source of Life" presentation will provide an overview of the critical role of bison in the survival of Native people. This program will be presented from a very special bison-shaped canvas.

Read more here. <http://thetimesweekly.com/news/2021/oct/14/midewin-national-tallgrass-bison-crawl-celebrate-a/>

Bison Meat Becoming More Popular as Chicken and Beef Alternative

(From 9&10 News)

Bison meat is becoming more popular, as research shows it's a healthier alternative to meat like chicken and beef.

What started out as a vision, quickly turned into a reality when Jim and Krista Pohl took an anniversary trip out West to Wyoming in 2008.

“After that we just started talking about “what if, you know... do you think?” That light bulb kind of went off,” Krista Pohl, Co-Owner of Pohl Bison said. “Two weeks after we came home, we bought our first three. We bought our two heifers and a bull seed stock to start.” They've been growing ever since.

The couple owns Pohl Bison Ranch, Pohl Bison Bed and Breakfast, and Black Horn Boutique, a women's clothing brick and mortar.

“I had always wanted my own boutique. I loved clothes. I would play Barbie's when I was little, and just beg my Mom... like, “please buy some more clothes, they're wearing the same every other day.”

The couple are also members of the National Bison Association. They currently own 70 bison.

Read More here. <https://www.9and10news.com/2021/10/12/bison-meat-becoming-more-popular-as-chicken-and-beef-alternative/>

EPA, Corps Seek Nominations for WOTUS Roundtables

(From AgriPulse)

The Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers are asking for nominations of locations and dates for a series of regional roundtables on redefining “waters of the U.S.” in the Clean Water Act.

EPA and the Corps plan to hold meetings in December and “potentially” January, the agencies said in a not-yet-published Federal Register notice.

The agencies are inviting stakeholders to organize regional participants that will comprise up to 15 representatives.

Each nomination must have a proposed slate of participants representing perspectives from “agriculture; conservation groups; developers; drinking water/wastewater management; environmental organizations; environmental justice communities; industry; and other key interests in that region,” the agencies say.

White House Unveils Plan to Ease Supply Chain Bottlenecks

(From Meatingplace.com)

President Joe Biden on Wednesday said ports in Los Angeles and Long Beach and major retailers have agreed to move to 24/7 operations to help ease delays and congestion in the transportation supply chain.

The plan is the result of discussions among business, port and union leaders convened by the administration and involves commitments from the International Longshore and Warehouse Union (ILWU) and companies including Walmart, Target, UPS and FedEx, the White House said.

The Port of Los Angeles is adding new off-peak night shifts and weekend hours, joining the Port of Long Beach, which expanded operations in mid-September. The Los Angeles port expansion will nearly double the hours that cargo will be able to move out of its docks.

The ILWU said its members are willing to work the extra shifts, the White House said, noting the port commitments will help unlock capacity in the rest of the system, including highways, railroads and warehouses, by reducing congestion during the day. In addition:

- Walmart is committing to increase its use of night-time hours, which could boost throughput by as much as 50% over the next several weeks;
 - UPS will increase use of 24/7 operations and enhanced data sharing with the ports, which could allow it to move up to 20% more containers from the ports;
 - FedEx is increasing night-time hours and making changes to trucking and rail use to increase the volume of containers it will move from the ports, with the aim of doubling the volume of cargo it can ship at night;
 - Target, which currently moves about 50% of its containers at night, has committed to increasing that amount by 10% during the next 90 days.
-

Rising Meat Prices Push Dollars Far Above Record 2020 Levels

(From Meatingplace)

This item is contributed by Anne-Marie Roerink of 210 Analytics LLC, based on her research.

In September, at-home meal preparation remained far above the July low. Nearly 80% of total meals were prepared at home last month, according to the IRI primary shopper survey. Some food dollars that had returned to foodservice moved back to retail.

At the same time, the survey found that more people returned to buying groceries online. During the height of the pandemic, as many as 20% of trips were online. This dropped to a low of 11% in July. In August, the online share of trips increased to 13% and in September the share reached 14%.

An opportunity gap remains for fresh meat when comparing how often center-store and frozen items land in online baskets versus perishables. Produce is leading the way for fresh items, representing 12 out of the top 15 fresh items in household penetration with regard to online baskets within IRI's household panel. Meat is represented by ground beef and bacon, providing ample room to improve and secure the same share in online and offline baskets across proteins, cuts and brands.

Read more. <https://www.meatingplace.com/Industry/News/Details/101656>

Healthy Quarterly Earnings Ahead for Protein: Analyst

(From Meatingplace)

Higher pricing and demand trends for beef, chicken and pork should result in strong earnings reports among U.S. protein companies in the most recent quarter of 2021, according to one industry analyst.

Ben Bienvenu of Stephens Inc. is updating his estimates for upcoming earnings for Pilgrim's Pride Corp., Sanderson Farms Inc. and Tyson Foods Inc. based on strong prices, solid fundamentals and higher demand. His estimate for Pilgrim's third-quarter earnings is now 80 cents a share versus a consensus of 74 cents and 21% higher than the 66 cents a share the processor reported one year ago. His adjusted earnings estimate for Pilgrim's for all of fiscal 2021 also increased to \$2.43 a share from \$2.17, based on higher-than-expected chicken prices.

Bienvenu also lifted the fourth-quarter earnings estimate for Sanderson Farms to \$15.64 from \$13.69 a share, driven by higher-than-expected chicken prices and lower-than-expected feed costs. Earnings for all of fiscal 2021 moved to \$27.95 a share from \$26.01 as a result of the prices and feed costs movements, he added.

Increases in beef and pork sales prompted the analyst to increase his estimate for Tyson to \$2.63 a share from \$1.45 in the fourth quarter and the fiscal 2021 earnings estimate to \$8.61 a share from \$7.42. Tyson's gains in beef and pork this year are expected to be partially offset by a moderation in profits in Tyson's prepared foods segment.

All of the companies are expected to report their most recent quarterly results over the coming weeks.

Read more. <https://www.meatingplace.com/Industry/News/Details/101654>

Farm-To-Market Grants to Help Create Greater Resilience in Colorado's Food Supply Chain

(From Colorado Department of Agriculture)

To strengthen local food systems and create greater supply chain resilience, the Colorado Department of Agriculture will distribute grant funding to be used for agricultural processing projects. Up to \$2 million will be awarded through a competitive Farm-to-Market Infrastructure Grant Program to help farmers, ranchers, food processors and manufacturers improve local food systems and drive the development and expansion of agricultural value-added projects.

The early days of the COVID-19 pandemic revealed weaknesses in the U.S. food production and supply chain systems. With that in mind, Colorado's legislature adopted Senate Bill 21-248, creating the Farm-to-Market Infrastructure Grant Program within the Colorado Department of Agriculture. Grant funds can be used only for agricultural processing projects — meaning the transforming, packaging, sorting, storage, or grading of Colorado livestock, livestock products, agricultural commodities, plants, or plant products.

“When the pandemic showed the vulnerabilities of our local food systems, Colorado producers stepped up to fill the gaps. What we heard them say was that the ability to quickly adapt business practices to counteract global supply chain issues requires investment into new equipment and technologies,” said Tom Lipetzky, Markets Division Director at the Colorado Department of Agriculture. “The Farm-to-Market Grants will help producers across our state create a more resilient and profitable food supply chain. We want to invest in Colorado producers to help them expand their businesses and their offerings of value-added agricultural projects.”

Value-added products generally go through a production or manufacturing process. A product could be considered value-added if there has been a change in the physical state or form (such as making meat into jerky or fruit into jam); the manner of production enhances the value of the product (such as processing of barley into malt or fruit into juices); or the product is segregated in a way that enhances value (such as medium and

large eggs).

Farmers, ranchers, and agricultural processing businesses are eligible to apply if they are residents of and operate in the state of Colorado. The maximum grant award amount for any one project is \$150,000.

Applications will be reviewed in two Award Periods. Those applications received by November 30, 2021, will be reviewed for Award Period #1 and those received by February 28, 2022, will be reviewed as part of Award Period #2. For each award period, \$1 million will be available for grants, with up to \$2 million to be awarded by June 30, 2022.

To apply, businesses must submit the online application form*. Applications will be received on a rolling basis during the two Award Periods outlined above.



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Save the Date!

- 10/15/2021 - Wisconsin Bison Producers Association Fall Meeting - WI
- 10/18/2021 - Middle Creek Ranch Annual Production Webcast Auction - CO
- 10/30/2021 - Texas Bison Association Fall Ranch Tour - TX
- 11/03/2021 - Maxwell Wildlife Refuge Annual Bison Auction - KS
- 11/6/2021 - Custer State Park Annual Bison Auction - SD
- 11/8/2021 - Antelope Island State Park Production Auction - UT
- 11/13/2021 - Oklahoma Bison Association Fall Auction - OK
- 11/15/2021 - TNC Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Fall Bison Auction - OK
- 11/20/2021 - Coyote Trail Buffalo Ranch Production Simulcast Auction - SD
- 11/21/2021 - Canadian Bison Association Convention, Show and Sale - SK
- 11/26/2021 - Minn. Bison Association's Bison Fundamentals Workshop - MN
- 11/27/2021 - Minn. Bison Association's Legends of the Fall Bison Auction - MN
- 11/28/2021 - Rocking P Ranch Annual Production Simulcast Auction - SD
- 12/4/2021 - Kansas Bison Association Sale - KS
- 12/4/2021 - Western Bison Association Wild West Buffalo Stampede Auction - UT
- 12/7/2021 - Northern Range Buffalo Simulcast Auction - SD
- 1/1/2022 - Prairie Legends Bison Webcast Auction - Online
- 1/8/2022 - Turner Bison Exchange Prairie Performance Simulcast Auction - SD
- 1/19/2022 - 1/22/2022 - National Bison Association Winter Conference - CO
- 1/22/2022 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - National Western Stock Show - CO
- 2/12/2022 - Dakota Dynamite Buffalo Simulcast Sale - SD
- 2/19/2022 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Simulcast Auction - SD
- 2/26/2022 - Beltway Bison Consignment Live Bison Auction - PA
- 3/04/2022 - Rocky Mountain Bison Association's Spring Conference - Location TBD
- 7/12/2022 - International Bison Conference - Saskatoon, SK

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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