

Online Only Bison Auction

ANTELOPE ISLAND STATE PARK • SYRACUSE, UT

Monday, November 16 • First Lots Close at 10 A.M. MDT



OFFERING
APPROXIMATELY:

90 - Bull Calves
90 - Heifer Calves
7 - Yearling Bulls
35 - 2YO Bulls
30 - Yearling Heifers
10 - Open Cows



Photos, video, description
and registration coming soon to
www.qas.hibid.com



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

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NBA Weekly Update for October 23, 2020

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.

Please participate in the NBA Winter Conference Survey

NBA member, as you have likely heard by now, the 2021 NBA Winter Conference will take place in Rapid City, SD February 19 - 20, 2021 in conjunction with the [Dakota Territory Buffalo Association](#), and the Gold Trophy Show and Sale. The conference and sale will be offered both in-person and virtually on a live-streaming platform, such as Zoom.

As we finalize lodging, meeting space, etc. we need to estimate how many would potentially attend in person. As such, please participate in this very brief, anonymous survey to help us answer those questions to determine registration fees, etc. While we have not finalized registration fees, please answer these questions assuming the in-person registration will cost approximately \$125/person (including meals), and the virtual option at \$50/person for a 2-day conference.

Take the survey by October 28th at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/J7NRPN2>.

Nominate the 2020 NBA Member of the Year by December 1st

Please complete this online [nomination form](#) by December 1st to nominate the 2020 National Bison Association Member of the Year! Nominations are welcome from current NBA members only, one nomination per membership please.

The National Bison Association's Past President's Council will announce the Member of the Year at the NBA Winter Conference on Friday, February 19th in Rapid City, SD. The member of the year award recognizes one NBA member each year who has gone above and beyond to promote our collective business and the American bison.

- The nominee should be a rancher, farmer, or citizen whose efforts enhance the bison industry for all.
- The nominee should support and promote the NBA and state and regional organizations.
- The nominee should be a role model to persons in the bison industry. Role model status will be weighed heavily in the decision process.
- State and regional involvement is encouraged
- The Council is now accepting nominations from the NBA membership through December 1st.

To nominate an outstanding NBA member who has gone above and beyond to promote bison and move our industry forward, please take a moment to complete a nomination form quickly online at <https://bisoncentral.com/documents-record/member-of-the-year-nomination-form/> by December 1st.

Herd Health Resources Webpage Updated and Expanded

The NBA's member's area of www.bisoncentral.com was updated this week with an update to its Herd Health Resources web page. It now includes three sections to help bison producers improve their herd's health on the farm or ranch.

The new sections include an overview of the diseases of bison, bison nutrition, and managing the health of bison. The diseases of bison overview covers bacterial, viral, parasitic, nutritional and toxic threats to herds, and includes articles and studies on key bison diseases, such as MCF, M. bovis, Anthrax, etc. The bison nutrition section covers basic bison nutrition, but also offers more in depth research articles on protein requirements, mineral supplementation and more. The health management section includes facility designs to reduce stress, suggested vaccination programs for bison and much more.

Said project director, Jim Matheson, "This greatly expands our online offering of bison herd health threats, which every producer should review, as many health issues are avoidable through proper management."

Log in and check it out at <https://bisoncentral.com/herd-health-resources/>.

Special thanks to Dr. Murray Woodbury and the University of Saskatchewan for their willingness to share this information with the members of the NBA.

What do you have planned for National Bison Day? Let us know!

National Bison Day has been formally designated by the U.S. Senate as November 7th this year, offering ranchers and marketers with an opportunity to promote the deliciously healthy meat, just as the Holiday season gets underway.

NBA members are encouraged to share their Bison Day plans with us next week so that we can help get the word out to the public.

"The annual Bison Day celebration has become an important part of our marketing calendar," said Dave Carter, NBA executive director. We're always interested in the new and creative ways that our members are using to help educate the public, and promote the

meat on this important day.”

One NBA member, Brent and Stacy Nofziger – Bracy Gold Bison Ranch in Swanton, OH – sent in a great idea for this year’s National Bison Day after the NBA Summer Webinar series to draw in attendees:

“Hi Jim. In a follow up from the last webinar. National Bison Day on the 1st Saturday in November is also the 1st Saturday after Halloween. People are looking for ways to get rid of jackolanterns and pumpkins. We had a “Great Pumpkin Drop-off” event on that day last year and over 150 people brought out pumpkins (which the bison would later feed on), took tours, and bought bison meat. It wasn’t until the day before that I realized that our event was scheduled for National Bison Day. Just an idea to spread around.”

Great idea, Brent! Please send in your National Bison Day ideas to jim@bisoncentral.com.

Bulls Lower, Heifers Higher in Latest Market Report

Prices paid on dressed young cull carcasses dipped in September, but dressed heifer carcasses rose, according to the latest monthly wholesale bison price report released by USDA’s Grain and Livestock Market Reporting Service.

Dressed young bulls brought an average of \$396.19/cwt. in September, which was \$3.97/cwt. lower than in August and \$35.34/cwt. lower than the previous September. Dressed heifers averaged \$386.83/cwt. in September, which was \$13.43/cwt. higher than the previous month, but \$31.89/cwt. lower than September 2019. Older bulls and cows we both lower than the previous month.

According to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service, 47,594 bison have been processed under federal inspection through mid-October. This is 14 percent more than during the comparable period in 2019, and represents the highest number of bison processed during this time frame on records.

See the report here - <https://bisoncentral.com/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/Meat9.20.pdf>

See archived reports here - <https://bisoncentral.com/board-listing/bison-auction-results/>

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.

MISSOURI BISON ASSOCIATION



24TH ANNUAL FALL SHOW & SALE

Thursday, **December 10, 2020** – 11:00 am
Lolli Brothers Livestock Market, Macon, MO
Dinner & Fun Auction: Dec 9th, Apple Basket Restaurant, 6pm

22ND ANNUAL SPRING SHOW & SALE

Saturday, **March 20, 2021** – 11:00 AM
Mo-Kan Livestock Market, Butler, MO
Dinner & Fun Auction: March 13th, Sale Barn Cafe, 6:30pm

To Consign, Call:
Carol Morris: 660-998-0990 or
Peter Kohl: 816-585-4779



Bison Meat Purchase Supported

(From AgInfo.net)

Twelve U.S. Senators sent a letter last week to Department of Agriculture undersecretary Greg Ibach urging approval of the National Bison Association's request for a \$17 million purchase of bison meat under the Section 32 surplus removal program. The effort was led by John Hoeven, a North Dakota Republican, and Michael Bennet, a Colorado Democrat.

Dave Carter executive director of the National Bison Association says the bison industry has been hit by Covid-19 and other factors.

Carter says he recently heard from the Agriculture Marketing Service, and as they enter the new fiscal year, evaluations will be done and the bison industry should know more within the next month.

Full story and audio [here](#).

Native American Heritage Month Activities #SupportTheReturn of Buffalo

(From Business Wire)

KYLE, S.D.--([BUSINESS WIRE](#))--In honor of National Bison Day on November 7 and national Native American Heritage month during November, a leading Native nonprofit, Tanka Fund, is dedicating an entire month of online activity to help support the return of the Buffalo to the lives, land, and economy of indigenous peoples. The coordinated fundraising and education effort will #supportthereturn of buffalo, a keystone species, to *one million acres of reservationland* in the United States. Tanka Fund, Native-led and operated on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota, provides leadership, direction and expertise to make *The Return* of the Buffalo a reality in Indian Country.

"The Return of the Buffalo will help Native ranchers overcome the obstacles they face in growing economically and environmentally sustainable buffalo herds that can feed reservation communities and build community wealth," said Dawn Sherman, member of the Lakota, Shawnee and Delaware tribes, and board member of Tanka Fund. "Natural bison will drastically improve access to healthy foods for so many that struggle with high rates of diabetes and heart disease on the reservation." Dawn is CEO of Native American Natural Foods, creator of the renown bison and berry Tanka Bar which was developed in 2007, and resulted in the new retail meat snack bar category. Tanka's bison and fruit grab-and-go meat snack is made from a traditional Native recipe that is still used today, called *wasna*. Sales of the bars online and in stores nationwide will help #supportthereturn of the Buffalo. <https://shop.tankabar.com/>

[A series of activities](#) will be held throughout November during Native American Heritage Month to #supportthereturn. With two contests, videos, a Facebook Live panel and an education series, the Tanka Fund has set the goal of raising \$50,000. Daily social media posts using #TankaFund and #SupportTheReturn will lead interested donors to www.tankafund.org/return.

"As more people learn about our social justice work in Indigenous communities, we will grow our following and raise funds to provide tools and solutions to improve the health of our reservations," said Trudy Ecoffey, Executive Director of Tanka Fund. "The funds will directly impact Native buffalo ranchers to support and sustain ranch planning, financing and operations."

Read more. <https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20201022005351/en/>

Reckless Yellowstone Tourists Cause Bison Stampede

(From USA Today)

After leaving Lamar Valley in Yellowstone National Park, Lisa Stewart stopped when she saw a bunch of people by the river, thinking it might be a wolf sighting.

Instead, it was several tourists acting recklessly as they approached a herd of bison and caused a stampede.

Stewart told USA Today/For The Win Outdoors that for up to 10 minutes she witnessed bison grunting and stomping the ground and slowly moving down the hill.

“The people saw them and started walking closer and closer toward the bison,” Stewart explained. “They [the bison] kept getting more agitated by the minute. They walked farther down. Out of my sight, but I could still hear them grunting and blowing.

“While I had my iPhone up taking a picture, I heard the rumble of the stampede and immediately moved my camera from still photos to video and captured the video you see.

Full story and video [here](#).

Wood Bison Reintroduced In Southwest Alaska See Another Year Of Loss, But With A Silver Lining

(From Alaska Public Radio)

An experimental wood bison herd introduced to the western Interior region five years ago experienced a decline this year due to harsh winter weather, but scientists say there’s still some good news.

According to a population survey conducted in June, there are 94 bison, including nine calves, in the population, which lives largely along the lower Yukon River. The population has declined by 19 animals since last year’s survey.

Biologist Tom Seaton attributes the decline to deep snow and cold temperatures late last winter in March and April. Bison need to eat grass to replenish the nutritional reserves they’ve depleted over the long winter, when layers of snow and ice prevented the animals from eating plants. Some could not survive.

The bison, which are native to the area, were reintroduced with enthusiastic local support in 2015. Since they were introduced, the population grew for three years and declined for two years. The declines align with harsh late winter conditions like those seen recently.

The good news is that the 2020 decline was less dramatic than the one in 2018, when there was a winter with similarly harsh conditions. That shows that the bison may be adapting to these conditions and learning to survive despite the challenging weather, said Seaton.

He said the bison have developed numerous skills since they were released from captivity: They’ve learned to navigate their range, avoid predators and find the best food.

Seaton says he sees the population as well-established at this point. And he expects that barring unusually harsh weather conditions, the population will continue to grow in the future.

[Source](#).

Day In The Life Of A Bison Hauler

(From American Trucker)

Moving buffalo pays the bills for one Alberta driver who has found peace working with North America’s largest — and perhaps most ornery — land mammal.

The American bison was fittingly named the U.S. national mammal in 2016. Its size, power and mercurial potential for both gentleness and aggression all represent what the nation stands for. The way they were hunted to near extinction, as well as how they have been brought back from the brink, also tell a lot about the nation’s history. The population went from 30 million when Europeans found the continent to about 1,000 when the West was

tamed around 1900.

That number is back up to 400,000, [according to the National Bison Association](#), with 90% on North American ranches to support a \$350 million/year bison meat industry. The effort to sustain the population's growth requires genetic diversity, which in turn necessitates the relocation of bison throughout the year.

Hauling these bison is no easy task, but it's become the life's work for Tim Omilusik. The 41-year-old Canadian from Coronation, Alberta, runs a long haul livestock moving business called Eastland Transport and shares his bison-moving adventures on Twitter with the handle [@eastland09](#). *American Trucker* just had to know what it takes to do this job and has found out it's one of the most dangerous and rewarding trucking jobs out there.

Full story [here](#).

More Bison To Join Island Herd

(From The Catalina Islander)

Bison have played a significant role in the cultural heritage of Catalina Island for nearly 100 years and will be roaming Catalina Island far into the future. Catalina Island Conservancy is working with the Laramie Foothills Bison Conservation herd to bring two pregnant female bison to Catalina Island. The new additions will arrive in early December and supplement the genetic diversity of the current bison herd on Catalina Island with the valuable genetics of heritage bison.

The herd – managed by Colorado State University, the city of Fort Collins, Colorado, and Larimer County – was established with nine adult females and one male calf in November 2015. It has now grown to over 100 bison, which has made it possible to share bison with tribal and conservation herds across the country. The bison have valuable genetics from the Yellowstone National Park herd and, thanks to science implemented at CSU by Assistant Professor Jennifer Barfield and her team, the animals are also disease-free.

“We are proud to continue our mission of collaborating with conservationists through this new partnership with Catalina Island Conservancy,” said Barfield, a reproductive physiologist. “We look forward to watching our animals find a new home with the herd on Catalina Island, where they can contribute to the growth of a truly unique and iconic herd.”

Bison have freely roamed Catalina Island since 1924. Fourteen bison were brought to the island for the filming of an adaptation of a Zane Grey novel, believed to be “The Vanishing American.” There are currently approximately 100 bison on Catalina Island. The new animals will integrate into Catalina Island's free-ranging bison herd in December and are expected to give birth in the spring.

Read more [here](#).

Sharpshooters Could Target Grand Canyon Bison By 2021 Under Herd Plan

(From KOLD tv)

WASHINGTON – State and federal officials have agreed on a plan that includes bringing in volunteer sharpshooters to cut the number of bison on the North Rim of the Grand Canyon.

Lethal removal has long been discussed as a way to reduce the herd, along with hazing and relocation, but the [Sept. 25 agreement](#) between the Arizona Game and Fish Department and the National Park Service clears a path for it to begin as soon as next year.

Scott Poppenberger, Flagstaff regional supervisor for the Arizona Game and Fish

Department, said “the lethal removal component is a big part of this recent agreement,” and believes that the measures to reduce the population will help provide balance to the damaged ecosystem.

It comes amid growing concerns from the public and the park service about the impact the nonnative bison have on natural resources, and worries that they could pose a danger to park visitors.

The animals, descended from early 20th-century attempts to cross-breed cattle and bison, have proliferated in Grand Canyon National Park, where they currently cannot be hunted. The goal of the agreement is to reduce the current herd of 400 to 600 bison to as few as 200, which would do less damage to the environment.

“In the absence of any large carnivores, or sufficient natural mortality, people really have to step in and make sure that these different ecosystems, from wildlife, to plant life, and everything else requires some management to stay functional and stay in balance,” Poppenberger said. “And lethal removal is a part of the environment, it’s a part of the ecosystem.”

Read more [here](#).

Meat Groups Weigh In On Cultivated Meat Labeling

(From Meatingplace.com)

The North American Meat Institute and the Alliance for Meat, Poultry and Seafood Innovation (AMPS Innovation) sent a joint letter to USDA calling on the agency to support mandatory labeling of cell-based/cultured meat and poultry products and to solicit input on what that labeling should look like through an Advance Notice of Public Rulemaking, the groups said in a joint press release.

AMPS Innovation is an industry coalition representing the makers of cell-based/cultured meat, poultry and seafood.

Under a joint framework for regulation of cell-based/cultured meat, poultry and seafood products, which was agreed to by USDA’s Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in March 2019, the agencies will work together to ensure the safety and labeling of cell-based/cultured meat and poultry products. Among other provisions of the framework, FSIS will have oversight of the labeling of cell-based/cultured meat and poultry, as it does for all meat and poultry sold in the United States, while the FDA will oversee the labeling of cell-based/cultured seafood, as it does for most seafood sold in the United States.

In a recent public presentation, the agencies committed to joint principles for product labeling and labeling claims, and NAMI and AMPS Innovation said their letter was shared with the FDA to support the continued collaboration between the two agencies’ responsibilities and processes. Separately, on Oct. 6, 2020, the FDA issued a Request for Information (RFI) regarding the labeling of cell-based/cultured seafood products.

To read NAMI and AMPS Innovation's letter in its entirety, [click here](#).

Minnesota To Provide CARES Relief To Farmers, Processors, Producers

(From Meatingplace.com)

Minnesota has joined the roster of states to offer financial support to agriculture stakeholders adversely affected by the coronavirus pandemic.

Gov. Tim Walz announced plans to launch a \$7.7-million program aimed at helping farmers, meat processors and agricultural producers who experienced market disruptions from COVID-19. Agricultural operators may be eligible to apply for various forms of

financial support under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, [according to a news release from the governor's office](#).

The funding plan includes \$1 million for cost share aid to individuals and companies considering expanding or opening meat processing facilities, \$500,000 for local food systems and \$250,000 to cover Farm Business Management Scholarships. The program also will offer \$5.74 million in direct payments to Minnesota-based turkey and pork processors to compensate for market disruptions and associated costs stemming from COVID-19.

Minnesota joins such states as Alabama, Arkansas, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Montana, North Carolina, Oklahoma, Wyoming and others in providing direct CARES Act funding to support COVID-19-related business disruptions.

CARES ACT Funds Available For Colorado Farmers, Ranchers

(From Fox 31)

Colorado agricultural producers may be eligible for a portion of the \$1 million CARES Act funding, the Colorado Department of Agriculture (CADA) announced on Tuesday.

Grant awards of up to \$12,500 are available to Colorado agricultural producers. Colorado farmers, ranchers, food hubs and processors are eligible for up to \$50,000.

The CARES Act funds are part of the COVID-19 relief grants to provide Colorado agriculture support and minimize the pandemic's effect on the food supply chain.

"COVID-19 has had serious impacts on agriculture and underscored how vital our food systems are," said Colorado Commissioner of Agriculture Kate Greenberg. "It is critical that farmers, ranchers and processors receive financial support to ensure their operations continue in the wake of this unprecedented pandemic."

The [Colorado Farm & Food Systems Respond & Rebuild Fund](#) will administer the grants. [Applications](#) are open now and will be accepted through Nov. 9.

[Source](#).

Potential Second Year Of COVID Cases Has Farm Lenders Concerned

(From AgriPulse)

Financial conditions in rural America have stabilized after being rocked by the coronavirus pandemic earlier this year, but some ag lenders say they're concerned about the prospect of another wave of economic hardship if the virus were to intensify once again.

What's more, the impact of another wave of coronavirus-related shutdowns of agricultural infrastructure like processing plants and key demand outlets could be exacerbated by questions about the prospects for additional ad hoc support.

"Neither Farm Credit East nor our customers are anticipating the same level of support in 2021 or beyond that we received this year, so certainly a change is anticipated," Mike Reynolds, the CEO of Farm Credit East, which serves a region stretching from New Jersey to Maine, told reporters on a webinar Wednesday.

"The bigger fear from my perspective is what happens if there is another second wave of COVID," he added. "In absence of the same type of level of support, I believe the results could be significant."

But some would argue cases are already experiencing a prolonged resurgence, especially in rural Midwestern states. According to tracking of case figures by [The Washington](#)

Post, North Dakota, South Dakota, Montana, and Wisconsin are among the states experiencing the biggest spike in cases (when adjusted for population) as the country approaches a seven-day rolling average of new cases that is approaching the peaks observed this summer. New daily cases have risen 9.7% in the last week and hospitalizations are up 7.8%, while deaths are up about 5% over the same time period.

Earlier this year, economic shutdowns across the country had a prolonged and diverse impact on agriculture. COVID-19 outbreaks at packing plants led to facility closures that resulted in a backlog of animals to be processed or, in some cases, depopulated if they were unable to make it into facilities. The closure of restaurants and food service facilities also forced the redirection of products to the retail sector. Less movement also led to less fuel needed for motor vehicles and a plummeting demand for ethanol.



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Save the Date!

- 10/17/2020 - Texas Bison Association Virtual Fall Meeting - Online
- 11/02/2020 - Konza Prairie Biological Station Sealed Bid Auction Opens
- 11/07/2020 - 55th Annual Custer State Park Fall Classic Bison Auction - SD
- 11/09/2020 - TNC Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Online Only Auction - OK
- 11/09/2020 - Diamond Land & Livestock Online Bison Auction Closing Day - WY
- 11/15/2020 - Oklahoma Bison Association Fall Sale, Payne County Stockyards - OK
- 11/16/2020 - Brownotter Buffalo Ranch Annual Production Sale - SD
- 11/16/2020 - Antelope Island State Park Bison Auction - UT
- 11/17/2020 - Bison on the Bear Annual Production Auction - ID
- 11/21/2020 - Coyote Trail Buffalo Annual Production Auction - SD
- 11/28/2020 - Minnesota Bison Association's Legends of the Fall Show/Sale - MN
- 11/29/2020 - Rocking P Ranch Production Auction - SD
- 12/05/2020 - Kansas Buffalo Association Annual Production Sale - KS
- 12/05/2020 - Western Bison Association Meeting and Show/Sale - UT
- 12/8/2020 - Northern Range Buffalo Simulcast Consignment Auction - SD
- 12/19/2020 - North Dakota Buffalo Assn. Meeting/Simulcast Auction - ND
- 1/02/2021 - Prairie Legends Bison Auction - NE
- 1/08/2021 - Montana Bison Assn. Winter Conference - MT
- 1/9/2021 - Turner Bison Exchange Prairie Performance Auction - SD
- 2/19/2021 - NBA - DTBA Joint Winter Conference - Rapid City, SD/Online
- 2/20/2021 - NBA GTSS & DTBA Girlz Going Wild Auction - Rapid City, SD/Online
- 6/27/2021 - National Bison Assn. Summer Conference - Cheyenne, WY

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 jjim@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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