



National Bison Association

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Weekly Update from the National Bison Association

A news and update service **exclusively** for members of the National Bison Association.
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August 2, 2019

New App will Connect Members with New Customers. Update Your Buyer's Guide Listing Now

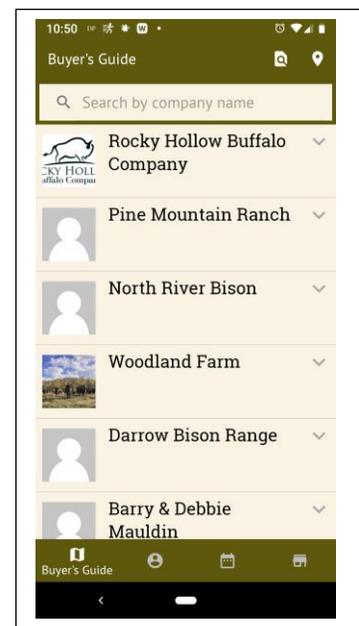
The National Bison Association announced today the launch of a new app offering bison consumers easy access the NBA's Online Buyer's Guide (photo above right) from their smart phones and tablets. The new app will replace the now antiquated BisonFinder app with a more highly functioning program that will promote and benefit all NBA members who participate.

The new app will amplify the outreach potential for all NBA members who list their products and services on the association's on-line buyers guide. To make sure you are listed in the buyer's guide, and the new app, log on to <https://bisoncentral.com/my-account/>, and follow the instructions at the bottom of this message.

The new buyers guide app comes on the heels of the NBA's release of its Bison Producer's App (<https://bisoncentral.com/production-resources/>)

Said project coordinator, Jim Matheson, "This app will be a huge improvement over the BisonFinder app in that this will directly connect consumers to our members, rather than connecting them to retail and food service establishments. Utilizing GPS technology, so local users can find local bison, is a great tool for us and I can't think of a better way to connect consumers directly to their local NBA members."

Dave Carter, NBA executive director, added, "The NBA will be helping to sponsor a major conference of food and lifestyle bloggers in October. As a part of our participation in that event, we will be providing bloggers with information on how they can connect with NBA members who sell meat and provide agritourism opportunities. This is a promotional opportunity you won't want to miss."



This is a sample page from the new app. Update your Buyers' Guide listing now, to optimize the value for your business.

Having your Online Buyer's Guide listing up to date and published is the first, and only, step to being included on the app. It's also important that your shipping address is up to date, as that is the address that the map will base your listing off of, should it be different from your billing address. If no address is listed, then you will not be included on the app's interactive map, so please be sure to confirm.

When consumers contact the NBA looking for all things bison, this is where we send them as to support our membership - <https://bisoncentral.com/buyers-guide/>. The Buyer's Guide features a variety of search features that allows members to promote anything from meat and breeding stock sales to agritourism and much more (photo below).

Checking and updating your Buyer's Guide listing is simple, please follow these steps to do so:

Follow this link to log in: <https://bisoncentral.com/my-account/>

Once logged in, click on the "Please be sure to complete your profile. Click here." link to update your information.

Fill out all applicable fields as they pertain to your operation, and be sure to complete the "Create Your Free Buyer's Guide Listing" section, which is auto populated with your contact information. You can also upload a photo or logo for your buyer's guide listing here and add your website.

Be sure to select "Yes" when asked "Do you want your Buyer's Guide Listing visible on the website?" in order for your listing to appear.

And this is the most important step... BE SURE TO CLICK THE "UPDATE" BUTTON AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE!

The app also features the NBA's website calendar of events, and access to the NBA online bison store, and a "Donate" button to support our many bison causes.

This project is funded by a grant from the USDA Farmer's Market Promotion Program.

Carter to Attend AAFCO Meeting Next Week

When animal feed regulatory officials gather next week in Louisville, KY, NBA Executive Director Dave Carter will be on hand to urge them to adopt two new proposals that will halt deceptively labeled water buffalo ingredients in pet food products.

Carter will be attending the annual meeting of the Association of American Feed Control Officials (AAFCO) which effectively sets regulations regarding pet food and animal feed products. At the urging of the National Bison Association, AAFCO's Ingredients Definitions Committee (IDC) will be considering two new definitions:

- "Bison" – would allow any bison ingredients to be labeled as "bison" or "North American buffalo."
- "Water Buffalo" – would require any meat or ingredients from the species bubalis bubalis to be labeled as "Water Buffalo."

The request from the NBA came after a number of pet food products began appearing in the U.S. marketplace with water buffalo ingredients identified only as "buffalo."

Last week the NBA issued a call to action to its members to contact their state feed officials, of those officials serve on AAFCO's IDC.

Carter said, "I am very grateful to the members who took the initiative to contact their feed officials. They helped us generate a lot of support among those officials to address this issue."

Board Nominations Due Sept. 1st

September 1st is the deadline for NBA members interested in running for election in Regions II, IV, VI and VIII to submit nominations to the NBA office. The elections will be conducted from September 16 – 30 with the 2-year terms starting in January 2020.

According to the NBA bylaws, regional directors "shall be elected by a mail in, or electronic ballot during September of each year prior to the expiration of the regions' directors' terms. If after the initial ballot, no one person in any region has more than 50% of the ballots cast, then a run-off election will occur during November, involving the two persons having the most votes cast in the September balloting. In case of a tie, a coin will be tossed to determine the winner. Only active and lifetime members residing within a region may vote in each region's election." Regional directors are eligible to serve two two-year terms.

The directors elected in September will begin serving in January 2020.

In this election cycle, directors will be elected for two-year terms from Regions II, IV, VI and VIII. The regions up for election for, and the states included are:

Region II, representing CO, WY. Deb Thieman is the current director and is eligible for re-election.

Region IV, representing IL, IN, KS, MO. Keith Yearout is the current director, but is term-limited and is ineligible for re-election.

Region VI, representing AR, LA, MS, NM, OK, TX. Dr. Gerald Parsons is the current director, but is term-limited and is ineligible for re-election.

Region VIII, AL, DC, FL, GA, KY, MD, NC, SC, TN, VA, WV. Kristopher Kelley is the current director and is eligible for re-election.

Nominations for candidates to serve as regional director can be submitted to the NBA at david@bisoncentral.com.

Generic Labeling Petition Posted by FSIS

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) this week acknowledged receipt of a petition filed by the NBA to allow bison marketers to utilize the same streamlined process available to marketers of beef, pork, and other amenable species for gaining approval of modest label changes.

The petition has been referred to the FSIS Office of Policy and Program Development for review

While all new labels, and significant label changes require formal approval from FSIS, marketers of amenable species meat can make modest changes without undergoing formal review. Bison

marketers, however, must submit any change for formal review and approval. That process sometimes requires 6-8 weeks.

The National Bison Association believes that this inequity can be corrected through a simple amendment to the current regulation regarding generic approval. The association is filing a petition to amend 9 CFR §412.2. The proposed amendment is included as underlined text below:

§412.2 Approval of generic labels.

(a)(l) An official establishment, or an establishment certified under a foreign inspection system in accordance with part 327, or part 381, subpart T of this chapter, or an establishment receiving voluntary inspection services in accordance with 9 CFR Part 352, is authorized to use generically approved labels, as defined in paragraph (b) of this section, and this is free to use such labels without submitting them to the Food Safety and Inspection Service for approval, provided the label, in accordance with this section, displays all mandatory features in a prominent manner in compliance with part 317 or part 381, and is not otherwise false or misleading in any particular.

The association is also requesting that this petition be handled under a process known as “direct-final” rule. That process is reserved for non-controversial changes, and eliminates the lengthy period requires for most proposed regulations.

To facilitate this process, the Washington, D.C. firm of Morgan Lewis has been engaged to work with FSIS on the petition consideration. To date, the cost of engaging that outside firm has been borne by one major bison marketer. The NBA has asked all marketers impacted by this label approval process to contribute to the effort, and has established a dedicated fund for this purpose.

The petition can be viewed here. <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/b4f03775-6c9a-4485-8851-52634dd44963/19-02-petition-national-bison-association-072219.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

The NBA Growth Fund – Consider Donations to this Vital Resource

Have you heard about the Growth Fund? This fund has been around for a number of years, but the name was changed and a new logo created to better reflect what it’s all about. Formerly known as the Checkoff Fund, the Growth Fund was established to raise important funds that support the efforts of the NBA.

Building strong markets, and a profitable production environment, is expensive. That’s why we ask you to support the National Bison Association’s voluntary Growth Fund. We are asking that you consider donating \$1 for every animal sold, be it to the processor, a broker or a fellow producer, which will be used to keep our market strong and growing. Donations of any amount are welcome at any time; the above is merely a suggestion that will allow everyone to participate.

Growth Fund dollars support the ongoing work of the National Bison Association, supports the

mission of the Science and Research Committee and assists in product promotion and producer recruitment programs. Growth Fund dollars have been used for marketing brochures, outreach to groups and organizations such as FFA, National Association of Farm Broadcasters and even the Ag Bankers conference. Additional projects supported by the Growth Fund contributions include Bison Advantage promotions, trademarking the "Nature's Original Plant Based Protein" slogan, Bison One Million and Hump Day promotions and so much more.

Continued growth and profitability demand that we aggressively promote both our product, and the advantages of bison with the mission of creating a sustainable future. The Growth Fund fully supports that mission and your contributions will enable the continued outreach and growth of the bison business via the NBA.

Click on the DONATE button to make your contribution today!

<https://bisoncentral.com/product/nba-growth-fund-program/>

Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship Now Accepting Applications

The National Bison Association (NBA) has announced the 2019 Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship amid continued growth in consumer demand for healthy, natural bison meat.

The Throlson American Bison Foundation is named after its founder, 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 Dave Carter, executive director of the NBA.

In January 2020, 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 a student pursuing a degree in agriculture economics, agribusiness, or accounting. Ideally this student will have future interest in livestock and specifically bison.

The online scholarship application is available at <https://bisoncentral.com/our-partners/> and must be completed by Oct. 1, 2019. Award announcements will be made no later than Nov. 11, 2019. For more information, contact the NBA office at (303) 292-2833, or jim@bisoncentral.com.

Fall Bison World Advertising Available

Production is just getting underway on the Fall issue of Bison World. Our major focus will be an in-depth look at handling equipment called the Chute Out. We'll also recap our upcoming Summer Conference and ranch tours. The Fall issue will focus on production as we enter into the roundup and herd working season.

There are a variety of advertising options available, from 1/8 page all the way to full page. Lifetime and Active NBA members will enjoy discounted rates as part of their membership perks. For those wanting to commit to long-term advertising, contract rates are available.

For more information about advertising your ranch, business or events, contact Karen@bisoncentral.com.

2019 Bison Food Booklet Now Available

Our popular Bison Food Booklet is being offered as a stand-alone publication suitable for promotional use and distribution to consumers and food enthusiasts! These booklets are perfect for handing out at farmers' markets or at your on-farm store. They also make great promotional tools for your food truck or trade-show booth.

If you have an opportunity to do outreach to the general public or sell any type of meat product, these booklets are a great resource and they are very well received by consumers. The smaller size makes it economical to purchase and easy for customers to pick up and take along.

The 8-page booklet contains nutritional, cuts, cooking and preparation technique information as well as plenty of delicious recipes. This year's theme, *Have it all With Bison* features Easy Weeknight Meals and Decadent Dinners. **Price is \$1 per booklet.**

Booklets are available to order in our online store by clicking here:

<https://bisoncentral.com/product/2019-bison-promotional-brochure/>

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More Vehicles Hitting Bison At Wind Cave National Park

(From The Rapid City Journal)

A park ranger and a half dozen tourists gathered around a bison lying dead at the side of a road in Wind Cave National Park Sunday morning. Bloodstains marked where a vehicle had hit the animal the night before.

The group moved when a giant bison walked over to his fallen brother, sniffing and licking him before moving away.

A local woman driving a sedan north on U.S. 385 hit the bison at 9:48 p.m. Saturday, said park spokesman Tom Farrell. It was the sixth vehicle-on-bison crash and third fatal one at the park this year — a significant increase from previous years.

No bison were hit last year, Farrell said. Two bison were hit in 2017, but they didn't die, while two bison died from crashes in 2016.

Farrell said he's not sure what's behind the increase this year but said drivers need to stay under the speed limit and look out for the animals, especially at night. Bison can often weigh as much as a ton.

"It's almost like looking at a black hole, they're very hard to see" at night, he said.

Read more. https://rapidcityjournal.com/news/local/more-vehicles-hitting-bison-at-wind-cave-national-park/article_7e183685-0b89-51fe-a8e2-5d81e9bf30d8.html

No One Should Ever Be Injured by a Bison

(From Outside)

The timing was not intentional. On Tuesday, we published a video we shot in Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park imploring viewers to stay as far away from wildlife as possible. On Wednesday, a 9-year-old girl was thrown into the air by a bison after her family approached within five feet of the wild animal.

The idea behind our video wasn't to make people safer. It was to make the animals safer. The park service isn't currently commenting on Wednesday's incident as the investigation is ongoing, but the girl was treated for minor injuries and released the same afternoon. She's fine. The bison who charged her might not be. Animals in Yellowstone who get into conflicts with humans often have to be put down.

While filming in the park, we were chaperoned by a ranger. I asked him what the most important piece of information we could communicate to viewers was. His response was predictable: Stay at least 25 yards away from most wildlife and 100 yards away from wolves and bears. It's the same advice given to all visitors as they enter the park, and it's repeated on signage and informational materials throughout the area and online.

It would also seem to be common sense. Bison weigh up to 2,200 pounds. Bears will eat you. Walking right up to a wild animal should produce the kind of instinctual fear response that has allowed our species to survive. But, for some reason, Yellowstone seems to function as an off switch for reasonable behavior. There are so many animals, and it's so easy to see them, that it just interferes with the usual feelings of wonder and surprise that might otherwise keep you at a safe distance.

Read more. <https://www.outsideonline.com/2400206/girl-thrown-by-bison-yellowstone>

Herd Of 75 Buffalo Returning To Sharon Springs Farm After A Week On The Run (Video)

(From NewYorkUpstate.com)

Nearly a week after an angry bull broke through the gate and let his [herd of bison loose in Upstate New York](#), the roaming buffalo are headed home.

Brian Grubb, owner of the Bison Island farm in [Sharon Springs, NY](#), told the [Albany Times Union](#) that the journey home will be slow, but that he's confident he'll get them back safely.

"I'm looking at them right now," Grubb told the paper. "It could be one day, it could a week" before they all get home, he added.

Grubb said he was luring them with apples. The herd of 30 adult buffalo and 45 calves originally [broke into separate groups](#), but had reformed into two groups by Wednesday afternoon, and were headed back in the direction of Bison Island.

They had traveled about 10 miles from the farm after escaping, crossing the Schoharie County line into Otsego County. They stopped to graze at local hayfields in the area, including one at Honey Hill Farm in Roseboom, where they caused some damage to unharvested hay.

Grubb posted a video with the herd to his Facebook page on Thursday AM: "We just need patience and some cooperation," he said in the video. "Mostly these guys just need to be left alone."

Jim Matheson, assistant director of the National Bison Association, in Westminster, Colo., explained that the bison are likely able to find their way back to the farm without much help. "They all want to be together," Matheson told the Times Union. "I wouldn't say they are lost. They've got a great sense of direction."

Full story and video here. <https://www.newyorkupstate.com/central-ny/2019/08/herd-of-75-buffalo-returning-home-a-week-after-escaping-upstate-ny-farm.html>

17-Year-Old Girl Gored By Bison At National Park In North Dakota

(From CBS News)

A young tourist was attacked by a bison at a national park in North Dakota over the weekend, marking the second such known incident in the U.S. in a week. A 17-year-old girl who was visiting from Colorado was on a Theodore Roosevelt National Park trail Saturday when the teen encountered two bull bison fighting each other, park officials said in a statement.

The bison were on either side of the trail when the teen walked between them, according to park officials. Then, one of bison charged the teen in the back and gored her in the thigh — before tossing her six feet in the air.

The injured teenager was treated by park rangers and paramedics until she was taken to a local hospital via helicopter. The teen is in stable condition, authorities said.

The Bismarck Tribune reported the victim was a girl. Theodore Roosevelt National Park spokeswoman Eileen Andes told the newspaper, "National parks are pretty safe places, but visitors are responsible for their own safety."

Park regulations require visitors to stay at least 25 yards — the length of two full-length buses — away from large animals such as bison, elk, deer and wild horses.

Last week, a bull bison tossed a 9-year-old Florida girl into the air when the animal charged a group of about 50 tourists at Yellowstone National Park. Dramatic video of the incident shows a man and woman run away from the animal as the little girl is thrown high into the air by the bison. She was taken to a hospital and later released.

Read more. <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/bison-attacks-teen-attacked-by-bison-north-dakota-national-park-after-yellowstone-attack-2019-07-30/>

Bison Attacks Rare In National Park Despite Number Of Animals, Visitors

(From the Bismarck Tribune)

The bison attack on a 17-year-old teenager at the South Unit of Theodore Roosevelt National Park that has drawn national attention is a rare occurrence, despite the amount of bison in the park and number of visitors there each year, the park's spokeswoman says.

The park had 755,967 visitors in 2018 and is home to about 700 bison at the North Unit and South Unit, said Eileen Andes, the park's chief of interpretation.

"We've had some close calls and a couple of people who have been head-butted, but other than a goring in 2017 and this one on Saturday, we haven't had any other major incidents," Andes said. "Which is a good thing."

The 2017 goring occurred the evening of June 30 in the North Unit, when 51-year old Michael Turk of Ocean Springs, Miss., was hiking the Buckhorn Trail to take photos of the sunset. He encountered a bison and gave it a wide berth but stopped to take a photo of another bison he saw while on his way back. The flash of the camera startled the animal, which charged and gored him in his inner left thigh.

Full story here. https://bismarcktribune.com/news/bison-attacks-rare-in-national-park-despite-number-of-animals/article_1f42b9db-78c3-5d60-8097-14abe773b282.html

Feds Remind On Labels For Bison, Elk, Yak, And Deer Products

(From Sustainable Foods News)

Labels of meat products from exotic species, such as bison, elk, yak, and deer cannot be generically approved, the USDA said on Friday.

Unlike labels of products that include meat from exotic species as an ingredient such as pork sausage with bison meat, which are eligible for generic approval.

The agency said such labels must be submitted to its Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) for sketch approval before they can be used on a product, there are some label changes that are permitted that do not require label submission to the agency for a new approval.

These changes include:

- varied weights
- adding a date
- any non-mandatory product codes
- graphic design changes to the label that do not affect the mandatory features or any claims

Submitting blanket applications for exotic species labels speeds up the approval process and reduces the number of submissions companies need to make. For example, single-ingredient cuts and ground product may be grouped together as one blanket application.

To submit a blanket application, the company should send one complete example of the label and include a list of all possible single-ingredient cuts or ground products they will produce at their establishment using the label.

If FSIS approves the blanket application, the blanket approval will cover all cuts or ground products listed in the application, eliminating the need for the company to submit multiple labels for sketch approval.

(Editor's note: See related story above).

Residents Push For Bison Hunt Restrictions On Yellowstone Border

(From The Idaho State Journal)

A group of Gardiner, Montana, residents offered wildlife managers a few ideas Wednesday with hopes of improving the safety and aesthetics of the annual Yellowstone bison hunt just outside the park's borders.

Members of the Bear Creek Council offered six recommendations at a meeting of the various tribal, state and federal agencies involved in the Interagency Bison Management Plan. The group's ideas focused on two heavily used hunt areas near Gardiner, which is just north of Yellowstone — one west of the Yellowstone River known as Beattie Gulch and the other along the road running from Gardiner to Jardine.

A few of the recommendations centered on educating hunters and locals about the hunt, ideas that are largely uncontroversial. But others were aimed at expanding an existing clean zone near Beattie Gulch and adding a new one in the area northeast of Gardiner.

Rick Lamplugh, a member of the Bear Creek Council, said adding a zone northeast of town where shooting and gutting of animals was blocked could help deal with what residents have complained about for years — gunfire near homes and bison remains left to rot on the side of the road long after hunting season.

"It would eliminate a whole bunch of issues and problems," Lamplugh said.

But some tribal officials pushed back, not wanting to see any additional restrictions placed on hunters exercising their treaty rights to go after Yellowstone bison. Tom McDonald, a wildlife manager for the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, said he thinks there are other ways to deal with safety problems that could be tried before further limiting where hunters can hunt.

Read more. https://www.idahostatejournal.com/news/local/residents-push-for-bison-hunt-restrictions-on-border-of-yellowstone/article_3484082e-2dcd-579c-aeaa-0a072a64b6a6.html

FSIS Issues New Directive on Firearms Safety in Meat Plants

USDA's Food Safety and Inspection Service has issued a new directive providing safety procedures for inspection program personnel (IPP) to follow when firearms are used in official establishments to render animals immediately unconscious.

The directive establishes a safe location that provides protection from a ricocheting bullet or bullet fragments as agreed upon by the establishment and the Inspector-in-Charge (IIC).

The new directive can be found here. <https://www.fsis.usda.gov/wps/wcm/connect/77e6947a-4f3b-46fe-8e6f-8305d1829b28/6090.1.pdf?MOD=AJPERES>

Bison Is Connecting With Americans' Eating Habits

(From AgWeek)

Bison furnish highly nutritious meat that is naturally lower in fat than most animals consumed by Americans who enjoy eating meat. How this foraging animal converts plants that humans don't eat into meat, and its esteemed regard among Native Americans, enhances the appeal of bison meat.

Three weeks ago, I had the opportunity to address the summer conference of the National Bison Association, which uses the same initials, NBA, as a major association of professional basketball players uses. This hardy and hearty group of ranchers and allied people in the industry who produce what is colloquially called buffalo met in Bismarck, N.D.

It wasn't a coincidence that my son, his father-in-law and I coordinated my speaking opportunity with a fishing trip to Devils Lake, also in North Dakota. Both were highly beneficial experiences!

Bison in North America now number nearly a half million, after their near extermination during the 19th century. Most bison are raised for food and assorted other uses, but the natural course of life by about 20,000 animals is protected in national or state parks and in other sanctuaries in the U.S. and Canada.

My talk at the NBA conference followed an informative session on regenerative agriculture involving bison. Bison, I learned, graze specific areas that have the most nutritious young grasses and other edible plants, then they move to new sites to repeat their selective grazing.

They seek out prairie dog towns, if they are available, because these areas usually harbor new grass shoots after the prairie dogs have consumed or stored the plants surrounding their towns. The bison also use the cleared ground nearest to burrows as spas in which they wallow by rolling on their backs and stirring up the dust.

Dust on their hairy bodies deters flies and parasites under their hair. The size of the dust clouds created by bulls signals the status of bison bulls in the herd and rolling soothes itchy backs that might need scratching.

Full story here. <https://www.agweek.com/opinion/columns/4641249-bison-connecting-americans-eating-habits>

Project From MSU, Fort Peck Tribes Aims To Connect People And Bison

(From The Bozeman Chronicle)

When Suzanne Turnbull of Poplar, Montana, talks about bison, she uses words like connection and healing.

Bison, she says, are inherently tied to the culture of the Sioux and Assiniboine people on the Fort Peck Indian Reservation, which is why they call themselves “the buffalo people.” “We refer to (buffalo) as our relatives as a way to honor them, and to have our people feel closer to wildlife and the land,” Turnbull said.

The connection between bison and Native Americans is the foundation of a project coming to life on the reservation. Montana State University and the Fort Peck Tribes have partnered to create an interactive, four-mile prayer path through the Turtle Mound Buffalo Ranch. Its official name will be the Tata’ga Baha Omaskaskan Buffalo Trail.

Planning for the project has been in the works for years, but it got a boost in June when the Fort Peck Tribes received a \$50,000 grant from Montana State Parks. That money, along with a grant from the Butler Foundation, makes it possible for the tribes to break ground on the trail this month.

The 15,000-acre ranch is 25 miles northeast of Poplar and home to nearly 400 genetically pure bison. The presence of bison there has been controversial among ranchers, who worry bison will contaminate their cattle with disease.

However, the tribes built a \$500,000 quarantine facility and the National Park Service signed off on a plan to move Yellowstone bison to the reservation [last year](#).

Full story here. https://www.bozemandailychronicle.com/outdoors/project-from-msu-fort-peck-tribes-aims-to-connect-people/article_fd346415-6883-522c-b2ad-a33f96dc4ed4.html

Fort Peck Bison Dies in Brucellosis Quarantine

(From Yellowstone Public Radio)

A bison in the Fort Peck Tribes’ quarantine program died last week. The bull was one of five that were set to join Fort Peck’s burgeoning bison herd this fall.

A freak accident. That’s how Robert Magnan, director of the Fort Peck Tribes’ Fish and Game Department, describes the bison’s death.

He said the bison were fine during a Thursday night check-in. Then on Friday morning, he found one of the bulls tangled in a 9,000-volt electrical fence, with porcupine quills in its face.

He said he doesn’t know what happened—if another bull ran him into the fence or if the porcupine spooked him.

All he said he knows is that the bison was shocked to death.

Over a poor cell phone connection, Magnan said this was an expensive test of the quarantine's fencing system.

"It's kind of a high cost to learn that, but we know we're sure that they're going to stay in it," Magnan said.

In 2014, the Fort Peck Tribes spent half-a-million dollars constructing a state-of-the art quarantine facility for brucellosis.

Full story here. <https://www.ypradio.org/post/fort-peck-bison-dies-brucellosis-quarantine#stream/0>

Texas Anthrax Situational Update No. 4

Texas Animal Health Commission News Release

Austin, TX - Since the July 22, 2019 update, anthrax has been detected on four new premises. One premises is in southeast Crockett County, one premises is in south Sutton County, one premises is in northwest Uvalde County and one premises is in northeast Val Verde County.

The Texas Animal Health Commission quarantined the premises after animals tested positive for the reportable disease. Anthrax quarantines are typically lifted 10 days from vaccination or the last death loss.

To date, 14 premises in 5 Texas counties have had animals confirmed with anthrax. Animals include the following species: antelope, goat, horses, deer and cattle. Producers have been advised on vaccinating exposed animals and instructed on the proper disposal of affected carcasses, as outlined by TAHC's rules.

It is common to see an increase in anthrax cases after periods of wet, cool weather, followed by hot, dry conditions. During these conditions, animals ingest the anthrax bacteria when they consume contaminated grass and hay, or inhale the spores. Outbreaks usually end when cooler weather arrives.

Full text: <https://www.tahc.texas.gov/>

Once Again, Groups Push For Brashears Confirmation In Food Safety Post

(From Meatingplace.com)

A number of groups representing the animal agriculture industry sent a letter to legislators this week once again pushing for Dr. Mindy Brashears to be confirmed as USDA's Under Secretary of Food Safety.

In a letter to Sens. Mitch McConnell, Chuck Schumer, John Thune and Dick Durbin, the groups asked for swift confirmation on the Senate floor.

The groups stated that Brashears is eminently qualified to fulfill the critical role of overseeing the safety of the nation's meat, poultry, and egg products. Prior to her nomination, she served as a professor of food safety and public health at Texas Tech University and is widely recognized as an international leader in pre- and post-harvest environments and their relation to foodborne pathogens. Brashears also has led global efforts to improve food safety and ensure food security in underserved areas.

For more than five years, the United States Department of Agriculture has not had a confirmed undersecretary for food safety.

US To Hit More Chinese Goods With Tariffs Amid Talks

(From AgriPulse)

President Donald Trump said Thursday he will hit roughly \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods — effectively the only goods remaining untaxed in the ongoing trade war — with a 10% tariff on Sept. 1, raising concerns that the recently renewed trade talks are not going well.

Trump, in a series of tweets, chastised China for not following through on promises to increase imports of U.S. farm goods and stop shipping fentanyl to the U.S.

It was soon after U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer and Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin returned Thursday after two days of talks in Shanghai that Trump tweeted: "Trade talks are continuing, and during the talks the U.S. will start, on September 1st, putting a small additional tariff of 10% on the remaining 300 Billion Dollars of goods and products coming from China into our Country ... We look forward to continuing our positive dialogue with China on a comprehensive Trade Deal, and feel that the future between our two countries will be a very bright one!"

It's unclear what the Chinese reaction will be. Back in early May, after the U.S. first threatened to hit the remaining \$300 billion worth of Chinese goods with a 25% tariff, China's Finance Ministry [threatened to raise tariff](#) rates on \$60 billion worth of U.S. products, including farm commodities such as citrus fruit, berries, vegetables and nuts.

The new U.S. tariff is expected to impact importers who rely on glyphosate and 28 other pesticide products from China.

China may not be living up to all of its promises, but the country is buying U.S. soybeans. The USDA [is reporting](#) Thursday net sales of 66,800 metric tons of U.S. soybeans to China during the week of July 19-25 and exports of 531,800 metric tons.

The White House on Wednesday announced with little fanfare that the Shanghai talks had wrapped up and U.S. and Chinese negotiators will meet again in early September.

But the new tariffs are an escalation that China watchers thought had been avoided. Lighthizer, reacting to what he called broken promises from China, announced on May 8 plans to hit the remaining untaxed Chinese goods with a 25% tariff, but Trump put that on hold after a June 29 meeting with Chinese President Xi Jinping on the sidelines of a G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan.

New Bipartisan Bill Simplifies Food Dates, Saving Perfectly Good Food

(From Forbes)

Today, Congress took a step to “ensure Americans do not throw out perfectly good food.” The [Food Date Labeling Act](#), introduced by U.S. Representatives Chellie Pingree (D-Maine) and Dan Newhouse (R-Washington), would standardize the “use by,” “sell by,” “enjoy by,” and many other phrases that accompany dates on food to just two. In doing so, it aims to reduce confusion that leads people to throw food out unnecessarily. In addition, the bill would help increase food donations by eliminating current date-label based restrictions.

“Food labeling is important for consumer education, but the current practice is confusing and outdated. This bill takes a step toward reducing food waste by helping consumers understand the meaning behind date labels.” said Congressman Dan Newhouse (R-Washington).

Consumers often mistakenly believe that dates on food are about the food’s safety, when in fact the vast majority of dates are only meant to indicate a food’s freshness or peak quality. This leads people to discard food when it could actually still be safely eaten. However, because the terms that accompany dates are not regulated, there is no way for a consumer to know their meaning. One company might use “use by” to indicate a product could get stale after that date, whereas another might use it because they calculate the risk of foodborne illness to be higher beyond the date. Furthermore, in the absence of federal regulations, date labeling regulation has been left up to states, resulting in a patchwork of confounding terms and rules.

The bipartisan Food Date Labeling Act establishes an easily understood, standardized food date labeling system. A quality date, “BEST If Used By,” would communicate that quality of the food product may begin to deteriorate after the date. A discard date, “USE By,” would communicate an estimated shelf life, after which the company does not recommend consuming the product. Under the legislation, food manufacturers would decide which of their products carry a quality date or a discard date.

Full story. https://www.forbes.com/sites/danagunders/2019/08/01/new-bipartisan-bill-simplifies-food-dates-saving-perfectly-good-food/?utm_source=Agri-Pulse%2BDaily%2BHarvest%2B2018&utm_campaign=fec0969f8b-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2019_08_02_09_56&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_6978e27d37-fec0969f8b-48790993#15d9bc11440d