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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 August 26, 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.

Less than Two Weeks Left to Register!

Register Here!

NBA Regenerative Ranching Field Day #2

Sept. 10th - Antelope Creek Bison - Mission, SD

Just \$30 per person!

Register at bisoncentral.com/product/nba-south-dakota-regenerative-workshop/



Saturday, September 10th:

- 9:30 am: Register and network
- 10:00: Welcome from NBA and Host Ranch
- 10:15: Pasture walks and bison herd tour
- Noon: Lunch
- 1:30: NRCS Presentation - What can NRCS do for my bison operation?
- 2:30: Break
- 3:00 - Chad Kremer - Custer State Park & Kremer Buffalo - Regenerative/Holistic Bison Management
- 4:00 - Antelope Creek Bison Ranch corral and handling facility tour
- 5:00 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Social
- 6:00 - DTBA 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
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USDA Disaster Assistance Programs Available

USDA offers a variety of programs to help farmers, ranchers, communities, and businesses that have been hard hit by natural disasters.

Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP) provides compensation to eligible livestock producers who have suffered grazing losses due to drought or fire on land that is native or improved pastureland with a permanent vegetative cover or that is planted specifically for grazing. [Learn more about LFP.](#)

Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP) provides benefits to livestock producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by

the federal government. [Learn more about LIP.](#)

Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honeybees, and Farm-Raised Fish (ELAP) provides emergency assistance to eligible producers of livestock, honeybees and farm-raised fish for losses due to disease (including cattle tick fever), adverse weather, or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, not covered by LFP and LIP. [Learn more about ELAP.](#)

Emergency Livestock Relief Program (ELRP) provides livestock producers, who have approved applications through the 2021 Livestock Forage Disaster Program for forage losses due to severe drought or wildfire, emergency relief payments to compensate for increases in supplemental feed costs. No producer applications are required.

Additional resources include farm loans, farmland damage, and crop losses. To check eligibility for your location, click [here](#).

Producers are encouraged to contact their local Farm Service Agency to check if they need to report any losses or should sign up for any disaster programs at this time.

Visit farmers.gov for additional USDA programs that can help agricultural producers recover.

Bulls and Heifers Higher in Latest USDA Report

Prices paid on dressed young bull carcasses were higher in July according to the latest USDA monthly wholesale price report released last Friday.

Dressed young bulls brought an average of \$3.86/lb. in July, which was \$.13 higher than the previous month, and equal to the previous July.

Dressed heifer carcasses were about the same as the previous month, which averaged \$3.62/lb. in July, and just \$.02 higher than July 2021.

Through July 15th, 41,198 bison have been processed under USDA inspection this year.

The monthly USDA price report is available [here](#).



New Episode of the Minnesota Bison Assn. Bison Insider Podcast Now Available

A new episode of the MnBA's Bison Insider Podcast is now available. Take a listen to this special themed episode as we explore regenerative agriculture and holistic management with:

1. Allen Williams of Understanding Ag, LLC & the Soil Health Academy
2. Stephanie McLain, Minnesota state soil health specialist with NRCS
3. Mimi Hillenbrand of the 777 Bison Ranch

Also, within this episode, we get our monthly update from Jud Seaman of Quality Auction Services on what's happening within the bison markets. To listen to the latest episode, please [click here](#)!

A special thanks to our sponsors at Rockie Hill Bison, the Rolling R Ranch, Nationwide Insurance & Turner Ranches!

NBA Bison App Webinar Tutorial #3 – August 31st at 4 pm MT

The NBA will host its third Bison Producer App How-To Webinar next Wednesday for members to learn how to use this powerful herd management tool, which is free to NBA members. Next week's webinar will focus on the transfer and traceability functions of the app, as well as how to participate in the NBA's [Conservation Management Plan](#) via the app. No registration is required, simply follow this link to participate -

The webinar will include:

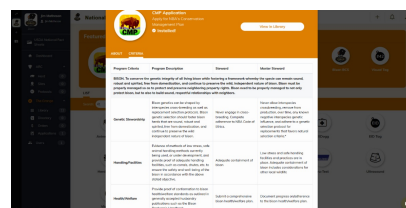
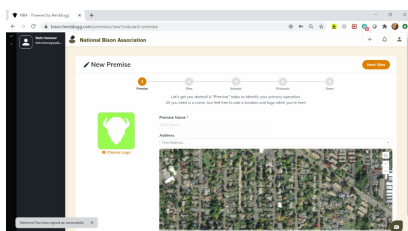
1. How to participate in the Conservation Management Plan (CMP)
2. Go through the process of transferring animals from one premise to another
3. Demonstrate traceability via herd.ly
4. QR settings for data sharing

Watch the previous two webinars at <https://bisoncentral.com/publication/conference-presentations/>.

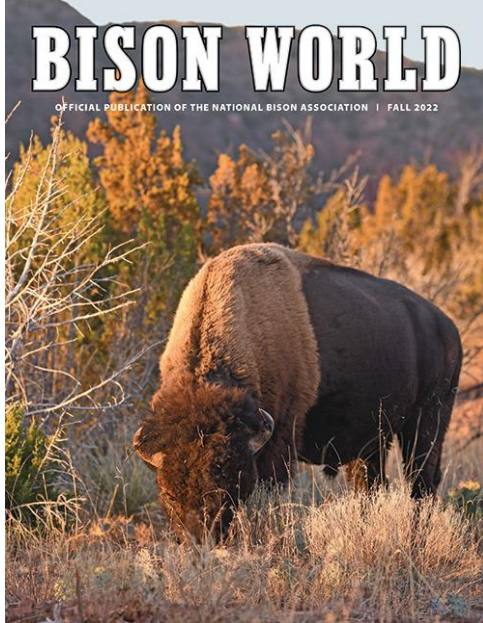
The app, which was developed five years ago through the support of the USDA's Risk Management Agency, is the only bison-specific field app in today's marketplace. The app allows users to track their herd's vital data in the field, no internet or cell access is required, which includes weight, calving rates, vaccination schedules, herd moves, and much more.

Enhance your herd management with HerdDogg DoggTags. Patented ear tag technology that collects animal identification, location, movement, and welfare at long range. The data is delivered directly to your phone—allowing you to check on your herd from anywhere at anytime. Learn more at herddogg.com/the-shop/.

Learn more about the Bison App and download on Apple and Android devices at <https://bisoncentral.com/conservation-item/nba-producers-app/>.



**Fall Bison World Magazine
Now Available Online**



One of the perks of NBA membership is access to the Bison World magazine before the printed copies arrive in the mail! Production on the Fall issue has wrapped up, and it is now available on the [Bison World](#) bookshelf on the NBA website. You must log in to the member area to access the magazine.

You can view the flipbook version of the magazine right on your computer. Handy links allow you to open it into a new window, make it larger, and even magnify certain features. The realistic page-turning sounds make it feel like you are reading the printed version of the magazine. We are also incorporating

links that will take you directly to websites and other areas of interest. Hover and click over links or ads to enable this feature.

The hard copy magazine is currently being printed and will mail shortly.

Advertising Opportunities in the Winter Issue of Bison World

Production will soon be underway on the Winter 2023 issue of the Bison World magazine. This issue will also include our annual Membership Directory.

Various advertising options are available within the Winter magazine pages, 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 October 10, with final materials due by November 1. Editorial submissions and suggestions are welcome at any time but are subject to the same deadline for the Winter 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.



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BISON A GREAT STORY OF AMERICAN AGRICULTURE

From Pacific Northwest Ag Network

The bison industry is a unique part of the world of agriculture. The American Bison, whose population once exceeded 30 million animals, was decimated in the late 19th century. However, the bison now numbers over 400,000 head across North America. And according to Jim Matheson, Executive Director of the National Bison Association, this tremendous comeback is thanks to a unique collaboration.

"We work very closely with tribal entities, who are also restoring bison to their tribal lands for commercial and cultural reasons, as well as conservationists. We work with public agencies, public herd managers, conservation groups, and we're all collectively restoring the species back to its native landscape here in North America."

Bison were never domesticated, which allows bison to remain "Regenerative by Nature". That prevents bison from putting on much fat, meaning they are a very lean and nutrient dense protein.

"The result is you've got a meat that does not marble very much, and as such, is a very lean protein. And if you look at the USDA's nutrient data library, bison really does come out on top in terms of things like iron and B12, the good stuff, and among the lowest in fat and cholesterol."

[Click Here](#) to learn more about the National Bison Association.

By the way, in case you missed it, July was National Bison month.

Our entire conversation with Matheson is available right here:
[Pacific Northwest Ag Network: Matheson Talks About National Bison Month.mp3 on Apple Podcasts](#)

An ice-age bison was discovered! Then soon eaten — once the foul taste was smothered

From NPR

In 1979, researchers unearthed the mummified body of a 55,000-year-old Steppe bison in the Alaskan tundra. Shortly after, they sliced off a piece of its neck — to eat!

Here's a news story told in rhyme:

*This is not a traditional story.
Not many names or dates, so don't worry.
It's also not incredibly timely,
But it's about an ice age Steppe bison
And a man whose thought process defies me.
Let's start with the creature, lived more than 55,000 years ago
Was brought to his knees by a lion-ancestor foe.
Down went the bison on permafrost ground,
Which kept him from being eaten or found.
Neither predator nor man disturbed the behemoth mass
As it remained encased in a protective frozen glass.
Leaping forward to 1979,
a team of explorers venture out to mine
Gold is what they are on the lookout for,
on the spot where the bison hit the floor
With a hydraulic mining hose, they melted away,
Some frozen sludge, 'til someone said, Whoa! Stop! Hey!*

Read [more](#).

Attorney General Knudsen Asks Federal Panel To Overturn BLM's Bison Grazing Decision From Montana Dept. of Justice

HELENA – Montana Attorney General Austin Knudsen today asked a federal board to overturn the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) decision to grant a permit change allowing bison grazing in Phillips County. The permit is a part of the American Prairie Reserve's broader effort to expand bison grazing on the plains across northern and eastern Montana.

Attorney General Knudsen's appeal asks the U.S. Department of the Interior Office of Hearings and Appeals to overturn the decision and issue a stay until the appeal is resolved to prevent irreparable harm to the grazing allotments and surrounding communities.

"The BLM's decision ignores the real concerns of rural communities and ranchers who rely on the land in favor of elitist attitudes of those seeking to transform Northeast Montana into a wildlife viewing shed for tourists. Agriculture is not an easy way of life, but Montana ranch families – including my own – are proud of their history and heritage that is still a part of our state today," Attorney General Knudsen said. "As American Prairie Reserve occupies more and more land here, it pushes out ranching communities, threatens our livestock industry, and will ultimately add to the instability of the world's food supply."

BLM's decision violates the Taylor Grazing Act, Federal Land Policy, and Management Act, Public Rangelands Improvement Act, which all aim to improve public range lands and uplift ranching communities.

Read [more](#).

The Uneasy Future of Catalina Island's Wild Bison From Smithsonian

In 1924, during Hollywood's first golden age, 14 American bison arrived on Santa Catalina Island, 22 miles off the coast of Los Angeles.

The animals were to appear in two movies being filmed on the island, The Vanishing American and The Thundering Herd, both adapted from Zane Grey novels.

Alas, the animals didn't make it into the former, and we don't know if they played a part in the latter—the footage vanished long ago. But the bison remained, and some of their progeny finally made it to the big screen, in Stanley Kramer's 1971 Bless the Beasts & Children.

Descendants of the founding beasts still have star power, helping attract hundreds of thousands of visitors every year, but perhaps their most salient role over the decades is to bedevil conservationists.

Today, the herd presents benefits and challenges for local ecology. Visitors take bison tours, enjoy bison burgers (made from mainland meat) and quaff "buffalo milk" cocktails (featuring Kahlúa, vodka, half-and-half, crème de cacao and crème de banana—and no bison milk). Such tourism helps fund the nonprofit Catalina Island Conservancy (CIC), which controls 88 percent of the island and works to restore and protect native flora.

Read [more](#).

Sixteen bison calves born to Banff herd this year

From Rocky Mountain Outlook

BANFF – Banff's bison herd has grown to between 85 and 90 animals after 16 bison calves were born in the spring.

Parks Canada officials say the herd is doing well, but will update in more detail on the progress later this year.

"Overall, the bison are doing well in the 1,200 square kilometre re-introduction zone," said Kat Trivers, strategic communications advisor for Parks Canada, in a statement.

Trivers said what has been learned from the five-year pilot bison reintroduction plan will inform future decisions regarding the feasibility of managing a wild bison herd in Canada's first national over the long-term.

She said Parks Canada is currently preparing a summary report on the pilot project.

"This summary report is expected to be released in the winter of 2022," she said.

Bison, considered a keystone species that help hold an ecosystem together, were absent from Banff National Park for about 160 years before being brought back as part of a \$6.4 million reintroduction project.

Read [more](#).

Canterbury bison environment near Blean could be expanded

From The BBC

Conservationists who reintroduced wild bison to Kent during the summer are hoping to expand the project.

The Kent Wildlife Trust and Wildwood Trust want to open up a larger area of woodland for the animals to live in, in the hope they will help return it to its ancient state.

The bison clear undergrowth, allowing other plantsThe countryside is one of the largest areas of ancient woodland in the UK, with parts of it over 1,000 years old.and insects to move in.

The trusts wants to connect different areas of West Blean and Thornden Woods near Canterbury.

The bison, once indigenous to the UK, were introduced to Blean woods in July, after two years of preparation.

Before being bought by the Kent Wildlife Trust it was used for commercial timber production, because of this almost half the wood is covered by non-native conifers.

Read [more](#).

Retail meat volume tops pre-pandemic levels

From Meatingplace.com

Despite some consumers saying they would plan to eat out less often to save money during these inflationary times, 80% of consumers have ordered from or eaten at a restaurant in the past few weeks. More than half — 54% — have ordered restaurant takeout and 49% have dined in.

Restaurant engagement is far higher among households in their prime child-rearing years — that is, older millennials and Gen X shoppers ages 32 to 56. The early pandemic months saw lower consumer mobility and more time in the kitchen. As life's hecticness has resumed, the eternal battle between time/convenience, healthfulness and money has intensified in the past year. This has resulted in complex consumption and shopping patterns.

We see the same household take to scratch cooking one day and value-added or deli solutions the next. We see ultra-premium and pure value items in the same basket. We see consumers switch seamlessly between quick frozen meal solutions or fresh meal kits and spending hours on cooking meat on the smoker. There is no one-size-fits-all way to handle inflationary pressures in 2022.

Read [more](#).

Vilsack: USDA may take step-by-step approach to ag debt relief

From Agri-Pulse

Some farmers could face foreclosure on USDA loans as soon as this fall,

so the department may begin providing some newly authorized debt relief through a phased-in approach in order to address the immediate need for help, Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack said Wednesday.

The Inflation Reduction Act signed into law earlier this month included \$3.1 billion earmarked for farmers that USDA deems to be "distressed." The program replaces an earlier one that was limited to minority farmers; several judges ruled that basing the aid on race or ethnicity was unconstitutional.

Although USDA will need time to define eligibility for the new program, Vilsack noted that a current foreclosure moratorium will be lifted when the federal government's public health emergency expires. It is currently set to end in October but could be extended again. Vilsack said about 22% of USDA farm loans are delinquent or have been delinquent.

"We are certainly focused on making sure that we have in place ideas and thoughts about how best to proceed to help and assist those distressed farmers, who when the moratorium is lifted could be faced with the possibility of foreclosure or additional action," Vilsack said.

Since the moratorium could end as soon as October, "it very well could be that we do this in steps and a series of steps," he said of the debt relief.

He stressed that the purpose of the program is to "keep people on their land."

Read [more](#).



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Save the Date!

- 9/10/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Mission, SD
- 9/15/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 9/24/2022 - Rocky Mountain Bison Assn. Fall Ranch Tour - WY
- 10/14/2022 - Wisconsin Bison Producer's Association Fall Meeting - WI
- 10/15/2022 - NBA Regenerative Ranch Tour Workshop - Villa Grove, IL
- 10/17/2022 - Middle Creek Ranch Production Webcast Auction - Online
- 10/20/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Bison Auction - Online
- 11/02/2022 - Maxwell Wildlife Refuge Annual Auction - KS
- 11/05/2022 - Custer State Park Annual Buffalo Auction - SD
- 11/09/2022 - Antelope Island State Park Bison Webcast Auction - Online
- 11/17/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online

- 11/19/2022 - Coyote Trail Buffalo Ranch Simulcast Production Auction - SD
- 11/25/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Bison Fundamentals - MN
- 11/26/2022 - Minnesota Bison Association Legends of the Fall Sale - MN
- 11/27/2022 - Rocking P Ranch Simulcast Production Auction - SD
- 11/14/2022 - TNC Joseph H. Williams Tallgrass Prairie Preserve Auction - Online
- 12/01/2022 - Kansas Buffalo Association Sale - KS
- 12/01/2022 - Western Bison Association Meeting and Show/Sale - UT
- 12/06/2022 - Northern Range Buffalo Consignment Simulcast Auction - Online
- 12/15/2022 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 1/02/2023 - Prairie Legends Bison Webcast Auction - Online
- 1/07/2023 - Turner Bison Exchange Prairie Performance Simulcast Auction - SD
- 1/17/2023 - Jack Auction Group Video Auction - Online
- 1/18/2023 - NBA Winter Conference - Westminster, CO
- 1/21/2023 - NBA Gold Trophy Show and Sale - Denver, CO
- 2/02/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Winter Conference - SD
- 2/04/2023 - Dakota Territory Buffalo Assn. Simulcast Auction - SD
- 2/11/2023 - Dakota Dynamite Buffalo Sale Simulcast Auction - SD
- 2/24/2023 - Beltway Bison Consignment Auction - PA
- 3/09/2023 - Eastern Bison Association Winter Conference and Auction - PA

Please visit <https://bisoncentral.com/calendar/> for details and more up-to-date events. If you have a bison event coming up that's not listed, please send the details to jim@bisoncentral.com and the NBA will post the event on its website at no charge.

[Click Here for NBA Calendar of Events](#)

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