Hello friends of the cattle industry! I don’t want to spend much time on the pleasantries for it was a busy month and a good month so let’s get right to work. It started when the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association and Newmont Mining Corporation sponsored a successful Ecological Site Description (ESD) and State Transition Model (STM) Workshop. Held in early June in Elko, the workshop was well attended and well organized. This workshop was the kick-off to the start of many educational programs we are doing to show permittees how we will help Sage Grouse Habitat and become better stewards of the land while maintaining our way of life. The ESD workshop revealed what potential your permit has when it comes to many things like fire control, how you utilize the feed and water for your herd and yes, how to better improve rangeland for a healthy ecosystem which includes cattle and sage hen. As more areas have the necessary studies completed we will continue these ESD workshops in Winnemucca in the fall.

On June 3rd the NCA held its spring/summer Board of Directors meeting in Elko and thank you to all who attended! The day started off with a visit with several agency folks; Ted Koch of U.S. Fish (USFWS) and Wildlife Service; Tony Wasley, Director of Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW); and John Ruhs, Nevada State Director of Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Many issues were discussed and yes the Sage Hen was at the top of the list. The discussions were great and very productive as to understanding each other and our roles. There’s only one particular discussion I wanted to let you in on and it was very much anticipated, it was an exchange with Ted Koch and the NCA B.O.D. Mr. Koch characterized the USFWS as already having bitten into the apple when it came to developing the GRSG conservation plan and the infamous table 2-2. It is now in the hands of BLM and the Forest Service to implement the plan. Please remember this characterization as we move forward for it’s the one area we need to have a cautious optimism on how the future unfolds as to implementation of 2-2.

Please stay alert as for the rest of the board meeting unfolded two not surprising requests that will be discussed fully in the future. First, Jim Barbee, Director of Nevada Department of Agriculture, discussed that the brand department will be broke by year’s end and that he will be holding hearings to help him determine the best path to pursue. Of course, increasing fees were discussed as well as doing away with brands all together. As your President I do not think doing away with brands is an option, on the other hand I do not think the industry should carry the full load. With that said, the second non surprise was a request by Lucy Rechel for forming a committee to look at the possibility of proposing a state checkoff. The reason being is that the checkoff revenue is based on a per head basis, which is currently down. With decreasing herd numbers it means less beef checkoff dollars to adequately fund Nevada beef promotion programs. All of this means, I’m sure, an increase to the checkoff at the end of the day. A motion was made to place the feasibility of the idea into the hands of the Animal Health and Livestock Issues Committee. As I look at this issue as your president I have one concern right now, and it is that the people who pay into beef checkoff should be the ones deciding the future!

And finally the Permittee Outreach Workshops, they were held in five locations throughout the state during the week of June 5 through June 10. Again, communication was one of the many goals and this goal was achieved. My sincere thanks to everyone who helped make these workshops a huge success including the BLM state office and Kathrine Dyer, the NDA and Megan Brown and our Executive Director Kaley Sproul. Thank you to all who attended and for those who could not attend there will be more of these outreach workshops as we move forward. I can’t tell you how much the BLM has gone out of its way to help the industry understand what table 2-2 means in order to continue running cows and babies on our permits! We now know that these are goals that we have to try to achieve. These goals will be site specific with NO “one-size-fits-all” approach and most of all that cattle can help to protect and increase Sage Grouse habitat! However, remember when I said we need to keep a cautious optimism. There were several conflicts during the workshops and one was a disagreement between USFWS and BLM. BLM never blinked an eye and stayed consistent in their message throughout the week. The other conflict was not too much of an issue but it does deserve noting. It seems a range consultant did not care for the presentation BLM was giving on table 2-2. Once again, I’m reminded that some professional services cannot survive unless there is conflict. As always, thank you for your support and see ya next time!
Permittee Outreach Workshop a Success

**by Kaley Sproul, Executive Director**

The Nevada Bureau of Land Management in collaboration with the Nevada Cattlemen’s Association and the Nevada Department of Agriculture recently hosted a series of Permittee Outreach workshops around the state of Nevada to share information on the Greater Sage Grouse Land Use Plan Amendment and implementation of Table 2-2. The series began on Monday, June 6 in Ely and ended on Friday, June 10 in Fallon. Other locations included Elko, Battle Mountain and Winnemucca. The goal of this workshop was to encourage cooperation between agencies and permittee holders to work out a solution and clear up any confusion on the future implementation of the GRSG plans.

The workshop consisted of three sections: Habitat Objectives, Habitat Assessment Framework (HAF) and monitoring guidelines. The information was presented by Kathryn Dyer, BLM NV Range Program Lead. She will work directly with the permittees in implementing the GRSG plan into their permit if necessary.

Table 2-2 is a broad perspective important to the Greater Sage Grouse. A key point made throughout the presentation was that the plans recognize – as does the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – that well-managed livestock grazing can be compatible with long-term sage-grouse conservation. BLM will continue to coordinate/communicate with stakeholders during the permit renewal process. Livestock grazing management processes will follow existing procedures including Permittee involvement. “We are getting better at effectively communicating”, states Kathryn.

The plans do not close greater sage-grouse habitat to livestock grazing, nor do they require a one-size-fits-all approach to grazing allotments. Instead, the plans are structured to focus BLM’s limited resources on identifying improper grazing in the habitat that is most important for sage grouse conservation and work with permittees to more quickly address any identified problems.

NCA feels that the series of permittee outreach workshops around the state is the first step in the right direction to be collaborating and effectively working with the federal agencies. When it comes to GRSG conservation, proper cattle grazing is the best ally the Sage Grouse has. If you would like further information about these workshops or material that was presented please contact the NCA office at 775-738-9214 or email us at nca@nevadabeef.org.
The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association and Newmont Mining Corporation sponsored a successful Ecological Site Description and State and Transition Model Workshop. Held in early June in Elko, the workshop provided:

- An overview of rangeland soils
- A synopsis of rangeland plant physiology, morphology, and response to defoliation
- A summary of ecological sites and their identification
- An explanation of state and transition models and disturbance response groups
- An exploration of rangeland management based on state and transition models
- A review of interpretation of indicators of rangeland health
- An in depth discussion of Table 2-2 (Habitat Objectives for GRSG) of the Approved Resource Management Plan Amendment

A multi-stop field exercise to identify soils, determine ecological sites and associated states and thresholds, analyze rangeland health, explore vegetation response to disturbance, and site restoration

Over 30 people – predominantly ranchers and ranch managers – participated in the two-day event. Several Bureau of Land Management staff and managers also attended. The instruction cadre of Tamzen Stringham (University of Nevada – Reno), Patti Novak (USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service), Brad Schultz (University of Nevada Cooperative Extension), and Kathryn Dyer (USDI Bureau of Land Management) was expert and effectively conveyed their information to the participants. The setting and tone of the session was conducive of not only successful knowledge transfer but, perhaps even more significant, enabling great discussion on the subject and the policy and management implications.

Patti and Tamzen are renowned experts in Nevada rangeland soils, ecological sites, the associated state and transition models and disturbance response groups, and rangeland management. Brad is a recognized authority in rangeland plant physiology, response to defoliation, and rangeland management. Kathryn, as range program lead for a key land management agency, fully engaged the participant group in a very productive discussion of Table 2-2 and worked with the participants to build a collective understanding of the policy and implementation aspects of the habitat objectives.

The workshop achieved its primary objective of creating a common understanding and language among agencies, scientists, land users/managers, and producers. The Nevada Cattlemen’s Association is working to hold another such workshop this fall in Winnemucca. Thank you for your support of this important session.

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Oversight Hearing on Challenges and Potential Solutions for BLM’s Wild Horse & Burro Program

by Kaley Sproul, Executive Director

On Wednesday, June 22, 2016 the Subcommittee on Federal Lands of the House Committee on Natural Resources met in Washington D.C. to hear testimony on the Bureau of Land Management’s Wild Horse & Burro Program. This committee is in place to restore sound scientific management to the public lands; this includes preventing over-population of species.

On this day the committee heard from the five panel witnesses: Steve Ellis, Deputy Director of Operations for the Bureau of Land Management; Keith Norris, Director of Government Affairs & Partnerships with the Wildlife Society and chairman of the National Wild Horse & Burro Management Coalition; Callie Hendrickson, Executive Director of the White River and Douglas Creek Conservation Districts, and chairman of the American Farm Bureau Federation Federal Lands Issue Advisory committee; Ginger Katherens, Executive Director of the Cloud Foundation; and J.J. Goicoechea, fourth generation rancher, State Veterinarian and Eureka County Elected Official, representing the Public Lands Council, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association, and Nevada Cattlemen’s Association.

The purpose of this hearing was to discuss challenges and find potential solutions for BLM’s Wild Horse and Burro Program. The subcommittee chairman, Congressman Tom McClintock, gave a brief history on the Wild Horse & Burro Protection Act of 1971 prior to hearing from the witnesses. The BLM is currently holding over 45,000 wild horses and burros in BLM holding facilities. Within the lifetime span of either the horse or burro it is costing $55,000 of taxpayers’ dollars. Furthering the problem is the existing congressional imposed limitations on BLM’s ability to sell healthy horses and humanely euthanize old dying or sick horses.

“By the time we wait even four or five more years, the wild horse population will double again if current policies remain in place,” said Goicoechea. McClintock quoted Hobbes saying, “That in a state of nature life is nasty, brutish, and short. Nature will eventually stop this population explosion quite brutally. It will either decimate these horses by disease or it will slowly methodically mercilessly starve them to death.” That is the future we condemn these animals to if we don’t intervene now.

J.J. makes it clear within his testimony that wild horses have a great impact on the rangelands in the West and that the lack of management is affecting not only rangeland health, but animal health and welfare. He provided insight and advice on how the problem could be solved. Norris was in agreement that the solution includes the use of gatherers to remove older horses and the use of permanent surgical sterilizations, (spay and neuter) on younger horses.

This is just a brief recap of what took place during the hearing. I encourage you to watch the whole YouTube video of this hearing at https://youtu.be/emdcNleRdN8.
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Representing Nevada Cattlemen's Association, Joe Glascock participated in the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association’s 2016 Young Cattlemen's Conference. More than 50 cattle producers from across the country and across the industry attended the conference. Joe was selected by his fellow producers to participate in the 2016 class.

Joe Glascock grew up cowboying from a very young age on several large cattle operations in the west. After graduating Oregon State University with a BS in Animal Science, he then received a master’s degree in Rangeland Ecology from University of Wyoming. Joe currently serves as the Beef Quality Assurance Coordinator for the State of Nevada.

Following nine years at the BLM as a Range Conservationist, Joe returned to the ranching industry for Barrick Gold of North America that owns several ranches in North Central Nevada. He oversees the livestock which is primarily a cow-calf operation that covers over a million acres of public and private land. He manages the cow herd and grazing program, in which he works closely with the BLM and is responsible for all grazing/BLM planning. He rewrote grazing plans that worked effectively with adversarial districts and planned and implemented rehabilitation projects involving BLM, mining, and public interest groups for sage-grouse mitigation credits. Joe understands the importance of team work and integrated communications that is necessary for a successful profitable cattle operation.

Faith and family is first and foremost in Joe's life as he's able to share his passion for his work with his five young children. When they're not in school, they have spent many days in the saddle pushing cows, sorting, processing, and their favorite season branding. Joe's wife Shannon of 11 years, homeschooled the youngest, cooks for the cowboy crews, and takes care of the children.

NCBA’s YCC program is an opportunity for these young leaders to gain an understanding of all aspects of the beef industry from pasture to plate, and showcase the industry’s involvement in policy making, issues management, research, education and marketing.

Beginning at the NCBA headquarters in Denver, Colo., the group got an inside look at many of the issues affecting the beef industry and the work being done on both the state and national level to address these issues on behalf of the NCBA membership. While in Denver, participants were given an organizational overview of NCBA and the Beef Checkoff Program and CattleFax provided a comprehensive overview of the current cattle market and emerging trends. At Safeway, the participants received a first-hand account of the retail perspective of the beef business and then toured the JBS Five Rivers’ Kuner feedyard, one of the largest in the nation, and the JBS Greeley packing and processing plant.

From Denver, the group traveled to Chicago where they visited McDonald’s Campus and OSI, one of the nation’s premiere beef patty producers. After the brief stop in Chicago, the group concluded their trip in Washington D.C., for an in-depth issues briefing on current policy issues including international trade and increasing environmental regulations. Following the issues update, the participants were given the opportunity to visit one-on-one with members of their state’s congressional delegation, expressing their viewpoints regarding the beef industry and their cattle operations. John Deere then hosted a reception in the evening at their office.

The following morning, the group then traveled to Aldie, Va., for a tour and barbeque at Whitestone Farms, one of the nation's elite purebred Angus operations.

With the beef industry changing rapidly, identifying and educating leaders has never been so important. As a grassroots trade association representing the beef industry the NCBA is proud to play a role in that process and its future success. Over 1,000 cattlemen and women have graduated from the YCC program since its inception in 1980. Many of these alumni have gone to serve in state and national committees, councils and boards. YCC is the cornerstone of leadership training in the cattle industry.
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Take a look back at the past hundred years of beef production and an interesting trend begins to emerge. Here in America, at the turn of the twentieth century, it was unheard of to purchase beef that was not raised by yourself or your next door neighbor. There was no reason to look for food to put on the table, because nearly half of the population participated in some form of agriculture. They were, to put it clearly, self-sustained. As time went on, advances in technology, research, and science resulted in a mere two percent of today’s American work force being founded in agriculture. (Dimitri) Even less than that rely on beef as a main source of income. With so few people depending on this way of life, beef producers are confronted with a new issue; ensuring that the millions of millennials, who are quickly overtaking our world, understand the production, nutrition, and cultural importance of beef.

All over our country are children, teenagers, and adults who have little to no idea how their food is produced. As a result, the masses rely on the media to tell them what is healthy and worth eating. Citizens across the country, thanks to multiple animal rights groups and activists, see cattle, sheep, goats, pigs, and chickens as “pets” and as having the emotions and feelings of people. While this presents a challenge to any agricultural business, it is especially detrimental to the beef industry. They fail to see that cattle are raised specifically for slaughter or dairy production, and refuse to invest in any sort of meat or dairy products because of misleading articles, television shows, or statements heard on the radio. There is a wave of vegans and vegetarians sweeping the nation, because it helps people, especially the millennials who are “feeling disgusted with society.” (The Glowing Fridge) feel like they are making a difference in our world. Americans are so convinced that beef producers are cruel, conniving men and women that they refuse to try and find the evidence proving them wrong. It is the responsibility of the beef industry to inform the public of these untruths. As the select few that have been blessed with the opportunity to carry on this historical business, cattlemen must change the minds of the millennials in regards to the cow.

Beef producers are some of the few that know the truth about beef and the benefits to our health that it possesses. For Americans who are concerned about nutrition, statements like this are the forefront of their mind: “[a recent Harvard study found meat-eating to be positively associated with increased overall mortality, including increased cancer and heart disease mortality.” (Gregor) As the people that eat, raise, and slaughter the cattle that go into every United States product, American cattlemen can testify to the opposite. Too often, their voices are quieted by others in an effort to preserve equality and stop any sort of prejudice against those who wish not to eat meat. Yet these very articles are detrimental to our business by not stating the benefits of dairy and red meat. Millennials across the country read articles that are so anti-beef, they have an unbalanced view on its nutrition. Studies in universities across the nation, such as the one completed above, explore solely the negative probabilities associated with meat and dairy consumption. They do not address life style choices such as exercise, other foods eaten, and environment. If you have an individual that sits in an office all day, eats fast food that includes an all-beef burger, goes home and watches television, all while also eating a bag of potato chips, of course they are going to have an increased risk of heart disease and multiple cancers! In contrast, if you study typical ranchers, they are riding horses, wrangling calves, eating lots of beef, and living an all-around healthy life style. Those are the types of studies that need to be completed, and cattlemen across the nation need to support these studies. It is the only way to expose millennials to the truth about beef and the nutritional benefits it possesses.

Our country was founded on agriculture and the culture that has evolved from this fact can be seen throughout history. Today, however, there is a lack of understanding as to how important this agricultural based culture is to society. There has been a turning of tables on America’s perception of the beef producer. No longer are cowboys the good guys, no longer do children see farming and ranching as a viable career choice, and no longer is our culture understood or appreciated. Many millennials see agriculturists as murderers who are too illiterate to understand the folly of their ways. By stating that workers “punch, kick, and whip sick and injured animals” (MFA) organization are painting a skewed picture of the beef industry as on that murders and abuses innocents. This next generation has been so taken in by the notion that they are doing a good thing by putting agriculturists out of business that they fail to see this as a way of life for families going back hundreds of years. They do not address the fact that these animals were raised specifically for slaughter, nor do they show the millions of humane and sanitary operations that significantly outweigh the occasional “bad egg,” so to speak. In order to reach the millennial, cattlemen need to inform them about how they are truly treating their livestock. They need to show evidence that supports the industry, in order to silence those who have convinced the next generation of the beef industries maliciousness.

Millennials are detached from the reality that is the beef industry. Thanks to the internet, skewed and misleading “truths”, and a need to feel empowered, there has been a significant move towards veganism and vegetarianism. A nation that was once founded upon agriculture and reliant on beef, is now pointing fingers at the men and women living a life that’s hardships are never truly understood. Without the proper knowledge of the nutrition, production, and cultural importance of beef, this next generation is headed towards eradicating the cattleman and his place in America. Agriculturists have the right and the responsibility to ensure that there is before for the millennial.

### Resources:
For the Nevada Beef Council, being responsible stewards of the checkoff dollars invested by beef producers has always been of the utmost importance. Both the staff and the producers who serve on the board work hard to ensure the beef promotions and campaigns carried out each year are as effective as possible, and that our checkoff dollars are invested in efforts that make a positive impact on beef demand.

Some years, however, no amount of fiscal responsibility can offset budgetary realities. Unfortunately for the NBC, this is the case for the current fiscal year, which started July 1.

As we gathered for our annual budget-setting meeting in May, the picture was grim. The number of cattle being sold in Nevada over the last year has declined significantly from years past, which means the dollar-per-head checkoff funds that allow us to carry out important beef education and promotion efforts have also declined. And unfortunately, the difference is not a small one.

In 2014, Nevada checkoff collections totaled $286,170. Just one year later, however, the checkoff collections were nearly 20 percent lower, at $233,439 – the lowest amount in a 10-year period. When you consider that half of the checkoff dollars collected in Nevada go to the Cattlemen’s Beef Board for investment in things like extensive national consumer campaigns; important research on beef nutrition and other beef production issues; national and international partnerships designed to increase global beef demand; and much more, that would leave a little over $116,000 for the NBC to carry out statewide campaigns. Looking ahead, we are anticipating a similar pattern and do not expect revenues to increase.

What makes this more difficult for us is that none of us, not the staff nor us as producers, have a crystal ball when we set our budget in May of every year for the ensuing fiscal year, which runs from July to June. So when we set the budget, we are guessing how many cattle will be sold – and thus how much in checkoff revenue will be collected – over the next 12 months.

The reason I’m spelling this out in so much detail is that the decrease in revenues means a decrease in the programs we can fund throughout the state. Over the coming year, the reality is that you will not see or hear about quite as many Nevada Beef Council promotions and campaigns. However, that doesn’t mean the NBC team won’t be working hard to continue to promote beef.

The programs and partnerships carried out over the coming year will be selected carefully, with an eye toward those that can achieve the biggest bang for your checkoff buck. What’s more, the NBC team will work to find additional opportunities for funds – such as grants from the Federation for State Beef Councils – for programs and campaigns that are not currently within budget.

As we start our new fiscal year, we do so with significant reductions in our budget, but with a
resolve to continue working hard on your behalf and remain steadfast in promoting positive beef messages throughout the state.

And because transparency with producers is deeply important to all of us at the NBC – both the staff members who work hard on your behalf, and the producers like myself on the board who also pay into the checkoff – I’d like to share the following budgetary updates to give you a glimpse of our current financial situation. As you can see in the tables provided in this article, here are the expenditures for the fiscal year that ended June 30, 2015; the projected total expenditures for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016; and the approved budget for coming fiscal year, July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017.

As you read through these figures, it’s important to note a couple of things. As you can see, line items under “Supporting Services” don’t fluctuate too greatly from year-to-year. That’s because these include a variety of fixed costs that enable the Nevada Beef Council to conduct its business. This includes costs such as collection fees paid to the Nevada Department of Agriculture, and investment in national programs through the Federation of State Beef Councils, which also ensures Nevada representation on the Federation.

Further, administrative expenses includes costs such as bookkeeping, auditing, and insurance. In addition, this line-item includes all costs and overhead expenses – which have been reduced by nearly 15 percent this year in light of the budgetary challenges – associated with contracting with the California Beef Council for the full-service staffing and support of five team members. All of this for less than what most organizations pay for a single staff member when you consider salary and benefits.

As always, you can access our annual reports for previous years at www.nevadabeef.org, and reach out to me or the NBC staff at (877) 554-2333 should you have any questions for us.

Thank you for your support, and most of all, thank you for the hard work you put in, day in and day out, to produce high-quality beef for our consumers.

For more about the NBC or beef checkoff, visit www.nevadabeef.org or www.mybeefcheckoff.com.
Senate Holds Oversight Hearing on Sage Grouse Habitat Management

WASHINGTON (June 28, 2016) – Today, the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests and Mining held an oversight hearing on the Federal sage grouse plans and their impact to successful ongoing state management of the species. Brenda Richards, Owyhee County Idaho rancher and president of the Public Lands Council, testified on behalf of the PLC and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association. Richards said that any Federal management plan must first recognize the essential contribution of grazing to conservation.

“Ranchers across the west have a vested interest not just in the health of their livestock, but in the rangelands that support their herds and the wildlife that thrive alongside them,” said Richards. “The businesses they operate form the economic nucleus of many rural communities, providing jobs and opportunities where they wouldn’t exist otherwise. Additionally, ranchers often serve as first responders in emergency situations across vast, remote stretches of unoccupied federal lands. Simply put, public lands ranchers are an essential element of strong communities, healthy economies, and productive rangelands across the west.”

Across the west, roughly 22,000 ranchers steward approximately 250 million acres of federal land and 140 million acres of adjacent private land. With as much as 80 percent of productive sage grouse habitat on private lands adjacent to federal permit ground, this makes private partnership essential in increasing sage grouse numbers. However, concern remains that local stakeholder input is being ignored by the Bureau of Land Management.

“Items such as Focal Areas, mandatory stubble height requirements and withdrawals of permits impose radically severe and unnecessary management restrictions on this vast area in opposition to proven strategies,” said Richards. “Rather than embracing grazing as a resource and tool for conservation benefit, these plan amendments impose arbitrary restrictions to satisfy requirements for newly minted objectives such as Focal Areas and Net Conservation Benefit. Wildfire, invasive species and infrastructure are the major threats to sage grouse habitat and they are all most effectively managed through grazing.”

According to the latest data from the Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies’ August 2015 report – Greater Sage Grouse Population Trends: An Analysis of Lek Count Databases 1965-2015, the number of male grouse counted on leks range-wide went from 43,397 in 2013 to 80,284 in 2015. That’s a 63 percent increase in the past two years and contributes to a minimum breeding population of 424,645 birds, which does not include grouse populations on unknown leks.

“The results of these voluntary, local conservation efforts around the west are undeniable; habitat is being preserved and the sage grouse populations are responding,” said Richards. “Proper grazing specifically addresses the biggest threats to sage grouse habitat, while reduced grazing allows these threats to compound. To arbitrarily restrict grazing when it’s needed most is a recipe for failure. Local input and decades of successful, collaborative conservation efforts must be the starting point for future Federal involvement, not an afterthought as it is now being treated.”

Public lands ranchers encourage the BLM and Federal agencies to work with them to continue to conserve and protect sage grouse habitat.

Interior Appropriations Bill Advances through Committee

WASHINGTON (June 15, 2016) - Today, the House Committee on Appropriations favorably reported the FY 2017 Interior and Environment appropriations bill to the House of Representatives by a vote of 31-18. The bill addresses a number of priorities for the livestock industry, including language regarding the Greater Sage Grouse and full defunding of EPA’s problematic “waters of the United States” rule.

“The bill maintains the one-year delay on further rulemaking or listing of the Greater Sage Grouse under the Endangered Species Act and prevents implementation of federal management that is inconsistent with successful, ongoing state management of the species,” said Ethan Lane, executive director of the Public Lands Council and National Cattlemen’s Beef Association Federal Lands. “Additionally, the bill fully defunds EPA’s ‘waters of the United States’ final rule and begins to address the abuse of the Antiquities Act by limiting the President’s ability to make sweeping designations at the stroke of pen and over local objections.”

The bill also blocks the President’s proposed administrative fee on top of the grazing fee. Additionally, it reduces funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund to $322 million, restoring some responsibility and prioritizing state and local projects while reducing funding for federal land acquisition. Payment in Lieu of Taxes was fully funded, offsetting the loss of local tax revenue for public lands, and the bill increases funding for wildfire suppression to $3.9 billion. Furthermore, the bill provides some additional flexibility and management for the overpopulation of wild horses.

“We applaud the members of the Appropriations committee for taking an active stance in addressing some of the most pressing needs of the livestock industry,” said Lane. “As the Senate works to mark up their companion bill later this week, we hope this bill will move quickly to a vote on the House floor.”
Industry News

Controlling Disease-Carrying and Blood-Feeding Flies in Pastured Beef Cattle

By Dr. Mike Catangui, PhD, Livestock Entomologist and Parasitologist, MWI Animal Health Technical Services

Fly pests of pastured beef cattle

Face Fly (Musca autumnalis)
Horn Fly (Haematobia irritans)
Stable Fly (Stomoxys calcitrans)

Importance

Face flies are known vectors of the bacterium that can cause pinkeye disease in cattle. Pinkeye disease, if not treated immediately, can lead to cattle blindness. Horn flies and stable flies are irritating blood feeders that can reduce calf weaning weight and weight gain and milk production of cows.

Biology

Face flies and horn flies breed in newly-excreted cow dung on open range-lands. Adult face flies feed on liquids around the eyes of cattle; horn flies feed on blood. Stable flies are also blood feeders and breed in decaying vegetation.

Control

Insecticidal ear tags and on-animal insecticide capsule and pour-ons can be used to control horn flies and face flies. On-animal sprays can be used to control stable flies, horn flies, face flies and other blood-feeding ectoparasites. On-animal sprays can either be water-based or oil-based. Also available are insecticides that can be used in dusters or backrubbers.

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TENTATIVE AUCTION SCHEDULE

MONDAY, AUGUST 1
Broadcast Live from Superior Livestock’s Studio in Ft. Worth, TX
Superior Sunrise @ 7:30 am
Video Auction @ 8:00 am (CDT)

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 3
Superior Sunrise @ 7:30 am
Video Auction @ 8:00 am (PDT)
5:00 pm (PDT) - 18th Annual Superior Livestock Cowboy Golf Tournament

THURSDAY, AUGUST 4
Superior Sunrise @ 7:30
Video Auction @ 8:00 am (PDT)
6:00 pm (PDT) - Steak Cookout & Live Entertainment

FRIDAY, AUGUST 5
Superior Sunrise @ 7:30 am
Video Auction @ 8:00 am (PDT)
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John Lee Ham is an American country music singer known professionally as Johnny Lee. His 1980 single "Lookin' for Love" became a crossover hit. He racked up a series of country hits in the early and mid-1980s

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NEVADA CATTLEMEN’S ASSOCIATION
WASHINGTON, June 14, 2016 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced today that the nomination period for farmers and ranchers to serve on local Farm Service Agency (FSA) county committees begins Wednesday, June 15, 2016.

“Through the county committees, farmers and ranchers have a voice. Their opinions and ideas get to be heard on federal farm programs,” said FSA Administrator Val Dolcini. “I encourage all eligible farmers and ranchers across the spectrum of American agriculture, to get involved in this year’s elections. We have seen an increase in the number of qualified nominees, especially among women and minorities, and I hope that trend continues.”

To be eligible to serve on a FSA county committee, a person must participate or cooperate in an FSA administered program, be eligible to vote in a county committee election and reside in the local administrative area where they are nominated.

Farmers and ranchers may nominate themselves or others. Organizations representing minorities and women also may nominate candidates. To become a candidate, an eligible individual must sign an FSA-669A nomination form. The form and other information about FSA county committee elections are available at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections. 2016 nomination forms must be postmarked or received in the local USDA Service Center by close of business on Aug. 1, 2016.

FSA will mail election ballots to eligible voters beginning Nov. 7, 2016. Ballots must be returned to the local county office via mail or in person by Dec. 5, 2016. Newly-elected committee members and alternates will take office on Jan. 1, 2017.

Nationwide, there are approximately 7,800 farmers and ranchers serving on FSA county committees. These individuals make decisions on disaster and conservation programs, emergency programs, commodity price support loan programs, and other agricultural issues. Committees consist of three to 11 members that are elected by eligible producers, and members serve three-year terms.

To learn more about county committees, contact your local FSA county office or visit http://offices.usda.gov to find a county office near you.

Since 2009, USDA has worked to strengthen and support American agriculture, an industry that supports one in 11 American jobs, provides American consumers with more than 80 percent of the food we consume, ensures that Americans spend less of their paychecks at the grocery store than most people in other countries, and supports markets for homegrown renewable energy and materials. USDA has also provided $5.6 billion in disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; expanded risk management tools with products like Whole Farm Revenue Protection; and helped farm businesses grow with $36 billion in farm credit. The Department has engaged its resources to support a strong next generation of farmers and ranchers by improving access to land and capital; building new markets and market opportunities; and extending new conservation opportunities. USDA has developed new markets for rural-made products, including more than 2,500 biobased products through USDA’s BioPreferred program; and invested $64 billion in infrastructure and community facilities to help improve the quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit www.usda.gov/results.

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