

Volume XLIV, #8 | June 2021

PUBLISHED MONTHLY FOR THE NCA MEMBERSHIP

In-Person Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) Training and Certification Available July 16 and 17

By: Ron Torell, Nevada BQA Coordinator and Martin Paris, NCA Executive Director.

An in-person BQA training and certification session is scheduled to be held in conjunction with the Stockmanship and Stewardship demonstrations at the Elko County Fairgrounds July 16 and 17. This unique two-day educational experience will feature educational programs from both ANCW Women in Ranching Education and Development (WIRED) and NCBA's world renowned stockmanship clinicians. The two-day event starts with A Day with WIRED, where attendees will learn about chute demonstrations, cattle nutrition, and management software. Day two features Stockmanship and Stewardship clinicians Curt Pate, Dr. Ron Gill, and Dr. Dean Fish as they discuss cattle handling, horsemanship, and stock dogs. Attendees will get to see a live stock dog demonstration led by Curt Pate. Producers who attend not only receive hands-on training in best management practices to help improve their operation, but also the chance to get BQA certified!

The event is coordinated by ANCW Women In Ranching Education and Development (WIRED), Nevada Cattlewomen's Association, Nevada Beef Council,



— BQA Training continued on page 3 —

Nevada Cattlemen's Association June Update

With June here I hope everyone is well, that your grass and hay are green and there is enough moisture to get through the summer. This month marks the beginning of the return to normal as Nevada lifts most of its COVID-19 restrictions. I'm looking forward to getting back in the swing of things and hope to see all By Martin Paris, NCA Executive Director

of you soon somewhere down the road.

It's been a busy month at the NCA office. Rather than picking a single topic, I'd like to bounce around a bit. Last month U.S. Senator Barrasso of Wyoming introduced the Resiliency for Ranching and Natural Conservation Health Act (RANCH Act). If passed the

RANCH Act will:

- Allow for the temporary utilization of vacant grazing allotments during extreme events/disasters.
- Allocate funding for rangeland health and resiliency projects and public access agreements to land-locked public lands for co-benefits to hunting and recreation.
- Extend the period of grazing permits/leases for up to 20-years, when certain conditions are met; and
- Provide responsive and nimble management through the use of a categorical exclusion for renewal of certain grazing permits/leases and for certain actions during extreme events/disasters.

These changes would apply to both BLM and USFS grazing permits. We appreciate Senator Barrasso for leading the charge on this effort and look forward to working with him and our Nevada congressional

— June Update continued on page 2 —

NCA News

June Update: Continued from page 1

delegation on this bill and other efforts that seek to add much needed flexibility to our grazing permits.

Recently the Biden administration released the U.S Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior and Department of Commerce's joint report which provides somewhat of an outline regarding the administration's effort to conserve 30 percent of lands and waters by the year 2030. The "America the Beautiful" initiative, also known as the 30 x 30 initiative, recommends adhering to eight key principles.

- Pursuing a collaborative and inclusive approach to conservation building on cooperative conservation models.
- Conserving America's lands and waters for the benefit of all people urban and rural focus.
- Supporting locally-led and locally designed conservation efforts collaborative conservation of fish and wildlife habitats and corridors.
- Honoring Tribal sovereignty and supporting the priorities of Tribal nations.
- Pursuing conservation and restoration that creates jobs and supports healthy communities.
- Honoring private property rights and supporting voluntary stewardship of private landowners.
- Using science as a guide.
- Building on existing tools and strategies with an emphasis on flexibility and adaptive approaches.

The report still lacks a significant amount of detail and fails to define a baseline of current conservation practices, metrics for measuring progress, or provide a clear understanding of the word "conservation". However, the report does highlight and recognize both private and public ranching in the West as essential to maintaining the health of wildlife, the prosperity of local economies, and an important and proud way of life. We still have a long way to go before the initiative takes its final form, but NCA will continue working with our partners to make sure that livestock producers have a seat at the table and all involved understand the benefits livestock grazing has on the health and resiliency of private and public lands.

Nevada's 81st Legislative Session is also coming to a close. At the time of writing this article there are a few days left but many of the pieces of legislation NCA was working on have been decided. SB 54, which proposed to add several entirely new positions to the State Board of Agriculture at the expense of the current cattle representation has passed both the Senate and Assembly and is on its way to the Governor for signature. While it did not end up panning out exactly how we wanted, we were able to maintain two of the three semi-range/range cattle positions on the Board.

Another bill that looks to be headed to the Governor for signature is SB 94. SB 94 clarifies that an unlocked gate which is erected and maintained across a public road in a county whose population is less than 100,000 does not, in and of itself, constitute a public nuisance if the gate is erected and maintained in accordance with the rules and regulations of the board of county highway commissioners. Unlocked gates across public roads in counties with populations of 100,000 and above do not constitute a public nuisance if the gate is erected and maintained pursuant to an ordinance adopted or an agreement entered into by the board of county commissioners. We appreciate Senator Settlemeyer's efforts in working with us to make sure that landowners can continue to maintain a fence with a gate on their properties without being considered a criminal.

Last but not least, please be sure to clear your calendars from December 9-11 for the Nevada Cattlemen's Annual Convention in Elko. There is still a lot of planning to do but be sure to check out our website at nevadacattlemen.org for updates.

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— June 20–27, 2021 -

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nevada.rangelands.org/youth-range-camp

Stockmanship & Stewardship/

Women in Ranching

Education & Development

Joint Program

— July 16–18, 2021 —

Elko County Fairgrounds

Elko, Nevada

stockmanshipandstewardship.org

NCBA Cattle Industry **Convention & Trade Show**

- August 10-12, 2021 -Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center

Nashville, Tennessee

https://convention.ncba.org

Nevada Cattlemen's Association

Annual Convention

and Trade Show

December 9-11, 2021

Elko Convention Center

Elko, Nevada

BQA Training and Certification: Continued from page 1

National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Nevada Cattlemen's Association and the University of Nevada, Reno Beginning Farmers and Rancher Development Program.

Established as well as beginning farmers and ranchers are encouraged to attend. The entire ranch crew is welcome and encouraged to participate. You can find a tentative agenda as well as register for the event at https://www.stockmanshipandstewardship.org/events/elko-nv. Your \$75 registration includes all events and meals.

Raising "BEEF" following BQA guidelines has recently been recognized by the various segments of the feedlot and packing industries as well as our consumers as adding value to our product. Beef Quality Assurance is a nationally coordinated, state implemented program that provides systematic information to U.S. beef producers and beef consumers of how common-sense husbandry techniques can be coupled with accepted scientific knowledge to raise cattle under optimum management and environmental conditions. BQA guidelines are designed to make certain all beef consumers can take pride in what they purchase - and can trust and

have confidence in the entire beef industry.

BQA programs have evolved to include best practices around good record keeping and protecting herd health, which can result in more profits for producers. When better quality cattle leave the ranch and reach the marketplace, the producer, packer, and consumer all benefit. When better quality beef reaches the supermarket, consumers are more confident in the beef they are buying, and this increases beef consumption.

Many of the video markets, large feedlot and packers are asking for BQA certification as cattle are marketed. Do not wait until you market your cattle to become certified or re-certified. There are two ways to become BQA certified. One is to participate in this in-person opportunity, or you and your ranch crew can take the training and become BQA certified or recertified for free at https://www.bqa.org/

BQA training and certification is a voluntary educational effort open to all who have a hand in the production of beef. Join the effort. Get it done! Not only could it add value, "It is the right thing to do".

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

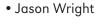
We would like to thank the following people for joining or renewing their membership with Nevada Cattlemen's Association between April 24 and May 24, 2021. (New members are in **bold**.)

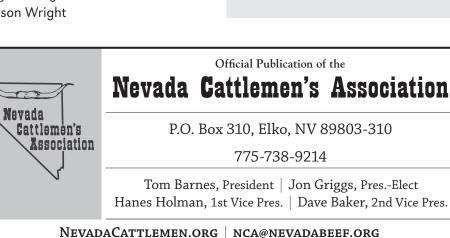
• Congressman Mark Amodei

- Barbara Bailey
- Biddinger Ranch, Steven Biddinger, Lara Biddinger
- Boehringer Ingelheim, Kent Evans
- Ira & Kim Brackett
- John Bunyard
- Burrows Farms, Incorporated, Ron & Amanda Burrows
- C Ranches Inc., Billie Filippini
- Cardey Ranches/Roadrunner Angus, Don & Diana Cardey
- Demar Dahl
- Damonte Ranch, Louis Damonte
- Diamond M Ranch, Manny & Ramona Oros
- Double Bar J Enterprises, Betsy Macfarlan & Jeff Weeks
- Easterly Romanov Ranch
- Assemblyman John Ellison
- Jennifer Garrett
- Mackie Griggs
- Ted Guazzini
- Joe A. Heguy

- J & M Livestock LLC, Jason & McKenzie Molsbee
- J & S Land & Cattle LLC, James Kent
- J S L Angus, Mark Ferguson
- Key-Lix Supplements, Jed Archibald
- Kings River Ranch, James Buell D.V.M.
- Dr. Bill Kvasnicka
- Lia McQueary
- Mattie Merritt
- Dana Stuart-Moore
- Mori Ranches, Nelo & Ida May Mori, Sam Mori, Peter Mori, Anthony Mori, Quinn Mori, Michael Mori,
- Andrea Sestanovich
- Paris Ranch, Bert Paris
- Quinn River Crossing Ranch, Wallace Slough
- Redd Summit Advisors
- Roche Ranches, Inc., Dusty C. Roche
- Leanna Sarman
- Sawtooth Gelbvieh, Dick or Jean Williams
- Schroeder Law Office, Therese Ure
- Scoular, Jed Hutchison

- Sweet Pro Northwest By The Rising B, **Alvin Baptiste**
- Paul T. Tueller Ph. D. CRMC
- UNR College of Agriculture, Biotechnology & Natural Resources, Dr. Bill Payne
- Upper Hot Creek Ranch, Swainia & Gilbert Cochran
- Western Video Market, Ellington Peek
- James J. Wright Ranch Inc., J. J. &
- **Glynis Wright**





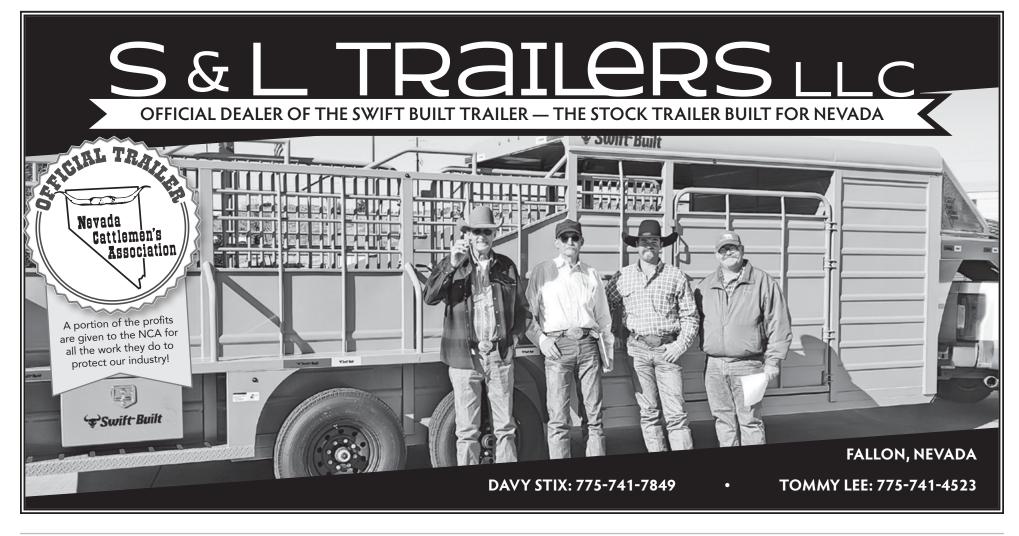
WWW.NEVADACATTLEMEN.ORG

Women in Ranching Education & Development, Stockmanship/Stewardship Beef Quality Assurance to Address the Needs in an Ever-changing Beef Industry

This symposium will be held in Elko, NV on July 16-17. This two-day event is hosted by: Nevada CattleWomen, American National CattleWomen, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Nevada Cattlemen's Association, Nevada Beef Check Off, and The University of Nevada, Reno Beginning Farmers and Rancher Development Program.

The symposium is open to women and men engaged in ranching or other pursuits within the Beef Industry. This symposium has been tailored for people new to the beef industry as well as seasoned pros. Events include: Hitting the Books the tools you need for running your business; Importance of Information Management Software; Chute side mannerisms and give it your best shot; Cattle nutrition, trace minerals & their effects on reproduction, immunity & your bottom line along with, body condition scoring; beef carcass grading and fabrication; low stress handling for cattle by horseback and with livestock herding dogs. All breakout sessions are building to the main focus and that is the Beef Quality Assurance Certification Test at the end of this event. The goal is to have people trained in the latest livestock practices that can be implemented back at the ranch. In an ever-changing world the more men and women BQA Certified means a more educated and informed agriculture produced to meet the needs of today's consumer. Several years ago, The American National CattleWomen developed a program after listening to members and a target training was developed, by industry leaders and WIRED was born; Women in Ranching Development and Education, in case of some members they have retired from one career and want to get back to the ranch but not sure of new practices and technology. Or in other cases the death of a spouse, where management of the ranch was done by a team and now is the sole responsibility of one. Years ago, for some women that the only answers were to sell the family ranch. They just did not have the support they needed to stay in business. But new numbers show that women in agriculture are on the rise. According to a United States Department of Agriculture Report (USDA), The number of farms and ranches operated by women has more than doubled since 1978. Today, more than 300,000 women serve as the principal operators on 62.7 million acres in the United States, producing some \$12.9 billion in farm products.

Not surprising, many of the real-life women behind the USDA numbers, have ties to the land going back generations, an independent nature and a strongly held set of ethics and values based on that background. I know that women from across the state that are planning on attending this event in some form that have been ranching in Nevada for serval generations such as, Emily Fulstone. Emily is



not only the president of the Western Nevada CattleWomens Affiliate but has also volunteered to serve on the Nevada WIRED Event planning board. "I can't wait for this event. It is wonderful to get additional education from great experts and meet other women in the cattle industry. What better way to improve my own cattle knowledge than with other women who also live on a ranch", said Emily. Also, attending will be Julie Irish who is the Elko County CattleWomen President and has also been a member of the Nevada WIRED planning board. "Many of our young members join CattleWomen looking to expand their hands on knowledge of the beef industry. I am excited to be able to offer this education opportunity to not only our members but the community," said Julie.

The presenters will be coming from across the United Sates and some from Nevada. NCBA will be having Curt Pate, Dr. Ron Gill, Dr. Dean Fish and Ron Torell, (NV BQA Coordinator) to present for low stress cattle handling and herd health. The financial session will be Kelly Barnes, from American AgCredit and from USDA, FSA Claire Kehoe and Micki Wines. Tim Davis form Midwest MictoSystem will present software systems. Dr. Don Goodman from Multimin USA, trace minerals for cattle nutrition. Moly Manufacturing will have a livestock chute for you to see and work and a representative will be there to answer all of your questions. Charlie Mori with UNR Extension will be showing the new Mobile Processing Trailer and the benefits it can have on your home-grown beef program. Our friends from Merck, Alltech, Moly Manufacturing, Multimin and Datamars are part of our team of sponsors that support the men and women in production agricultural.

For this combined event our goal was to make it easy to register, just go to either website for American National Cattlewomen at ANCW.ORG or National Cattlemen's Beef Association at NCBA.ORG. If you have any questions don't hesitate to call me at 775-385-3619 and I would be happy to pass on more information.

Evelyn Greene, ANCW President, will be attending this symposium along with Jill Ginn, ANCW WIRED Program Manager. They are both excited to travel to Elko, NV for this event.

The 2021 Cattle Industry Summer business meeting and Annual Convention will be August 8-12 in Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center, Nashville, TN. This event is for anyone in cattle or agriculture business. The 2021 event will be one of the largest on record. This convention will have Cattlewomen and Cattlemen from across the country. Event organizers expect to have over 9,000 people attend this convention. The trade show will be truly unbelievable with over seven acres of agriculture booths for livestock production and business management. The businesses at this convention will help make every animal and acre on a ranch more profitable. These meetings are educational and the hands-on workshops are from industry leaders. More information can be found at ANCW.ORG or NCBA. ORG. If you have any questions, please give me a call.

My last topic is the Nevada CattleWomen fundraiser for 2021. Thanks to our friends at Smith Valley Garage, NVCW is able to raffle off a Kubota Four Wheel Drive Gasoline Utility Vehicle! A maximum of 200 tickets will be sold for the Kubota Four Wheel Drive Gasoline Utility Vehicle RTV-XG850 Sidekick at \$100/ticket. The drawing will be held August 1, 2021. Need not be present to win. Must be 21 years of age to purchase a ticket. Get your tickets now before they are sold out – only 200 tickets sold. Contact your NVCW Executive Board for tickets: Maddie Bowers (775) 388-3259, Ana Dagenhart (775) 790-5892, Staci Emm (775) 312-0424, Keri Pommerening (775) 721-4888, Erin Costa (775) 720-3760, or myself Melinda Sarman (775) 385-3619.

Until next time,

Melinda Sarman Nevada CattleWomen Inc, President



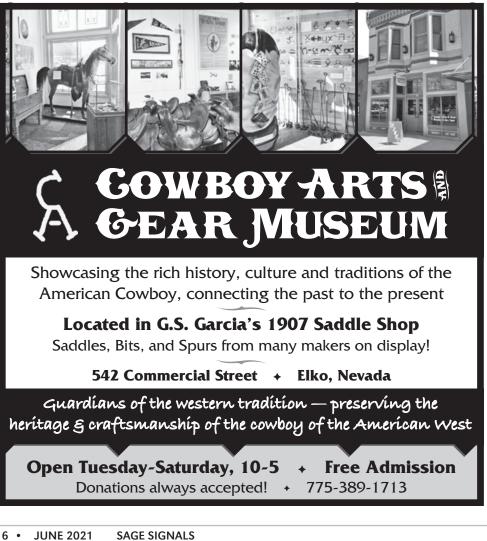
Bureau of Land Management Seeks Nominations for Nevada's Resource Advisory Councils

RENO, Nev. - The Bureau of Land Management is seeking public nominations for the Mojave Southern Great Basin and Sierra Front Northern Great Basin Resource Advisory Councils (RAC). These citizen-based councils assist in the development of recommendations that address public land management issues. The nomination period is open for 45 days.

The BLM maintains RACs chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) and the Federal Policy and Land Management Act (FLPMA) across the West. The RACs consist of 15 members from interests in local communities as a means of gaining expert advice, ideas,

and diverse opinions on issues including land use planning, fire management, off-highway vehicle use, recreation, oil and gas exploration, noxious weed management, grazing issues, and wild horse and burro herd management issues.

The Mojave Southern Great Basin RAC consists of 15 members from diverse interests in local communities, including ranchers, energy and mineral development representatives, recreationists, environmental groups, State and local government officials, and the public at large. It covers the areas managed by



These citizen-based councils assist in the development of recommendations that address

public land management issues.

the Battle Mountain, Ely and Southern Nevada Districts and the Designated Federal Official is rotated among the District Managers for the three districts. For more information on the Mojave Southern Great Basin RAC contact Kirsten Cannon at k1cannon@blm.gov or 702-515-5057.

The Sierra Front Northern Great Basin RAC consists of 15 members from diverse interests in local communities, including ranchers, energy and mineral development representatives, recreationists, environmental groups, State and local government officials, and the public at large. It covers the areas managed by the Carson City, Elko and Winnemucca Districts and the Designated Federal

Official is rotated among the District Managers for the three districts. For more information about the Sierra Front Northern Great Basin RAC contact Lisa Ross, Carson City District Office, lross@blm.gov, (775) 885-6107.

"We look forward to reengaging with the RACs and moving forward with new members and ideas," said Nevada State Director Jon Raby. "I encourage people from across the state to apply to ensure we have representation from all communities and user groups who have an interest in their public lands."

Individuals may nominate themselves or others to serve on the RAC. Nominees, who must be residents of Nevada, will be reviewed based on their training, education, and knowledge of the RAC's geographic area. Nominees should also demonstrate a commitment to consensus building and collaborative decision-making. Nominations must include a completed application, a letter(s) of reference, and any other information that addresses the nominee's qualifications. The application form can be downloaded at https://www.blm.gov/sites/blm.gov/ files/1120-019_0.pdf.

Nominations are being accepted for the following categories:

- Category One Representatives of organizations associated with energy/ mineral development; Federal grazing permit holders; the timber industry; transportation or rights-of-way; off-highway vehicles users; and commercial and developed outdoor recreation.
- Category Two Representatives of archeological and historic organizations; dispersed recreation users; wild horse and burro organizations; and nationally or regionally-recognized environmental organizations.
- Category Three Representatives of State, county, or local elected office; Indian tribes located within or adjacent to the area for which the RAC is organized; academicians employed in natural resource management or natural sciences; employees of a State agency responsible for management of natural resources; and the public at large.

As published in a notice in the Federal Register, the BLM will consider nominations for 45 days until June 14, 2021. For more information, please contact Rudy Evenson, BLM Nevada State Office, phone: 775-861-6411; email revenson@blm. gov. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf may call the Federal Relay Service (FRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question for the above individual. The FRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

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Jenna Chandler, EBA Product Manager 916-769-2442 | jenna@hygieialabs.com

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Water Quality Effects on Cattle

by Stephen S. Foster, Extension Educator, UNCE, Pershing County

As we deal with drought conditions in many areas of Nevada, water quality that cattle drink may also be affected. Water quality is important in maintaining water consumption of cattle. Physio-chemical (pH, total dissolved solids, hardness, and total dissolved oxygen), organoleptic (odor and taste), compounds present in excess (nitrates, iron, sodium, sulfates, and fluorine), toxic compounds (arsenic, cyanide, lead, mercury, hydrocarbons, organochlorides and organophosphates) and bacteria are criteria for evaluating drinking water for humans and livestock.

Surface water supplies to which livestock have ready access are always potential candidates for contamination. Shallow dug wells without good surface drainage away from the well may be subject to infiltration of contaminants. The presence of coliform bacteria in a well is an indication that surface water is finding its way into the well.

Water can serve as a reservoir for many different disease organisms and toxins. Stagnant water contaminated with manure or other nutrients may develop bluegreen algae, which can poison livestock, causing muscle tremors, liver damage, and death. Farm pond water needs to be observed for the presence of algae and other harmful organisms during hot, dry weather.

In 2011, 33 cattle died in Montana from drinking water with toxic concentrations of salt. Water high in salt content can compromise performance and health of cattle in three ways: 1) reduced water and feed intake; 2) toxic levels of sulfur ingestion; and 3) induced trace mineral deficiencies.

Beef cattle may consume less poor-quality water, which in turn results in reduced consumption of dry matter. Factors that affect water requirements include size of the animal, dry matter intake, physical exertion, lactation, and temperature. A study conducted by Dr. Trey Patterson, Extension Beef Specialist, South Dakota State University, conducted a series of experiments that evaluated the effects of "salts" in drinking water. Earlier work showed that cattle performance was not depressed when sodium chloride (table salt) was added to cattle drinking water. However, when sodium sulfate was added to drinking water, water consumption was reduced by 35%, feed consumption by 30% and there was more weight loss in heifers compared to heifer's drinking water without sodium sulfate.

Dr. Cathy Bandyk, published a summary of studies which showed that when dietary sulfur (not sulfate) went from .42 to .65% of dry matter intake, intakes were depressed by 9%, gains were reduced by nearly 12% and carcass weights were reduced by 40 lbs. Workers at the University of Nebraska showed that when sulfur (not sulfate) in the diet was .46%, the incidence of polio was just .13% but when the diets contained .56% sulfur, over 6% of the cattle exhibited polio.



Table 1. Guide to the Use of Saline Water

Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) mg/l or ppm				
Less than 1,000 ppm fresh water	Presents no serious burden to livestock			
1,000 – 2,999 ppm slightly saline	Should not affect health or performance but may cause temporary mild diarrhea			
3,000 – 4,999 ppm moder- ately saline	Generally satisfactory, but may cause diar- rhea, especially on initial consumption			
5,000 - 6,999 ppm saline	Can be used for reasonable safety for adult ruminants but should be avoided for pregnant cattle and baby calves.			
7,000 - 10,000 ppm very saline	Should be avoided if possible. Pregnant, lactating, stressed or young animals can be affected.			
Greater than 10,000 ppm brine	Unsafe, should not be used under any conditions			

Water with very high levels of sulfate has been shown to cause a condition called "star gazing" or polio or more correctly polioencephalomalacia (PEM). Symptoms noticed in animals with polio include lethargy, anorexia, blindness, muscle tremors, gastrointestinal stasis, incoordination, staggering, weakness, convulsions and death.

Salinity of the water is another factor that should be monitored. Salinity refers to the amount of dissolved salts in water and is measured by total dissolved solids. These dissolved salts are primarily sodium chloride but may include carbonates, nitrates, sulfates, calcium, magnesium and potassium. The following Table was adapted from Nutrients and toxic substances in water for livestock and poultry, NAS, 1974.

If there is a question of water quality, it should be tested to obtain optimum

production. The following chemical/biological properties should be considered when evaluating the quality of water for livestock: Salinity (Total Dissolved Solids), Sulfates, Nitrates, pH and Coliform levels (Microbiological Properties).

Monitoring water intake for livestock is mandatory for a farm/ranch manager. Ample supply of good quality water is necessary for maximum production. Consumption of water is determined by many factors and basic life functions require it. Easy access to quality and plentiful water supplies may increase livestock productivity.

For a good publication on Water Quality for Livestock go to: Water Quality for Livestock Drinking, Donald L. Pfost and Charles D. Fulhage Agricultural Engineering Extension, Stan Casteel, Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Laboratory. https://extension.missouri.edu/publications/eq381

WWW.NEVADACATTLEMEN.ORG

Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest Seeks Comments on Monitor-Toquima Range Vacant Grazing Allotment Project

Tonopah, NV, May 13, 2021 – The Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest's Austin-Tonopah Ranger District is seeking public comment on the Notice of Proposed Action (NOPA) for the Monitor-Toquima Range Vacant Grazing Allotment Project for the next 30 days. The NOPA describes the proposed action, an initial assessment of potential effects, and provides information on how to provide comment.

"We're requesting feedback on the potential for these allotments to be used for future livestock authorizations," said Lance Brown, Austin-Tonopah District Ranger. "There is a lot of interest in this proposed project as these allotments have been vacant for nearly 30 years and the rangelands are in good condition."

Interested parties are invited to review the NOPA and provide comments. These comments will be considered by the USDA Forest Service to improve the proposed action that will be analyzed in the Environmental Assessment (EA). During the EA process for this project, the Forest Service will analyze authorizing livestock grazing on the McKinney, Meadow Canyon, Monitor Valley East, Monitor Valley West, Silver Creek, and Table Mountain allotments located in the central portion of Monitor Valley.

The proposed action description and other information is available for review at http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=59389 or upon request

by calling (775) 482-6286 and scheduling an appointment.

Comments on this project may also be submitted electronically through the project website at http://www.fs.fed.us/nepa/fs-usda-pop.php/?project=59389. Use the "Comment on Project" link on the "Get Connected" menu tab on the right-hand side of the page. If uploading a file with comments, file formats for comments must be in the form of plain text (.txt), Word (.doc, .docx) or PDF (.pdf). Email comments may also be submitted to comments-intermtn-humboldt-toiy-abe-austin-tonopah@usda.gov.

Comments may also be mailed to: Lance Brown, Austin-Tonopah District Ranger, 1400 S. Erie Main St., P.O. Box 3940, Tonopah, NV 89049, or submitted by fax at 775-482-3053.

For additional information on the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest, please visit www.fs.usda.gov/htnf or participate in the conversation at https://twitter.com/HumboldtToiyabe and https://www.facebook.com/HumboldtToiyabeNF/.

The Humboldt-Toiyabe's spectacular 6.3 million acres make it the largest national forest in the lower 48 states. Located in Nevada and a small portion of eastern California, the Forest offers year-round recreation of all types.

Interior and Agriculture Departments Outline Wildland Fire Preparedness, Climate Resiliency Plans

WASHINGTON, May 13, 2021 – Secretary of the Interior Deb Haaland and Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack today shared their vision for the Biden-Harris administration's wildland fire preparedness and response, including supporting science and research into the effects of climate change on wildland fire.

Secretaries Haaland and Vilsack outlined their goals for wildland fire management in a joint memo to wildland fire leadership. Paramount to this issue is promoting climate resiliency across landscapes and communities, modernizing the firefighter workforce while creating good jobs, and protecting the safety and long-term wellbeing of our wildland firefighters and incident responders.

"With so little room for error, we must remain steadfast in our commitment to wildland fire preparedness, mitigation, and resilience. To do so, we must confront the reality that a changing climate is fueling these fire disasters," said Interior Secretary Deb Haaland. "The Interior Department will continue to leverage our valuable partnerships with state and local governments, Tribes, and the private sector to address and mitigate wildfire risk."

``We used to call it fire season, but wildland fires now extend throughout the entire year, burning hotter <math display="inline">% f(x) = f(x) + f(

and growing more catastrophic in drier conditions due to climate change," said Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. "USDA will increase the resiliency of communities at risk for wildfire with more effective land management decisions and partnerships with local communities and Tribal Nations to address climate adaptation, conservation, and ecological resilience."

The Secretaries received a virtual operational briefing today from wildland fire experts at the National Interagency Fire Center in Boise, Idaho, about the formidable challenges that lie ahead. With much of West seeing drought conditions worsen, fire experts are predicting an above average wildfire potential to continue to expand northward into the Great Basin, Rocky Mountains, and Pacific Northwest throughout the year.

The Biden-Harris administration previously announced the formation of an Interagency Working Group to address worsening drought conditions in the West and support farmers, Tribes, and communities impacted by ongoing water shortages.

The President's American Jobs Plan aims to invest billions in forest restoration, hazardous fuels manage-

ment and post-wildfire restoration activities across America's national parks, forests and grasslands. The administration's recently released America the Beautiful initiative also recognizes that restoring forests through collaborative, locally-led, incentive-based practices creates jobs and reduces the threat of catastrophic wildfire.

The combined resources for wildland fire response across the Department of the Interior's land management agencies – including the Bureau of Indian Affairs, Bureau of Land Management, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – and the Department of Agriculture's U.S. Forest Service include 15,000 firefighters, more than 500 helicopters, 91 single engine airtankers or SEATs, up to 34 airtankers, 360 pieces of heavy equipment, and more than 1,600 engines.

In 2020, more than 10.3 million acres burned in the United States – a record year and more than 50 percent above the 10-year average for acres burned. From August through October, the most extreme conditions caused thousands of evacuations, homes and structures lost, and tragic fatalities of 11 people in Oregon and 34 people in California.

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NCBA and PLC Pleased to See Ranchers and Farmers' Input Adopted In 30x30 Guidelines

WASHINGTON (May 6, 2021) – Today, the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) and Public Lands Council (PLC) recognized the inclusion of agricultural producers' recommendations in the Biden administration's conservation goals report. The report details the administration's approach to conserving 30 percent of the nation's land and waters by the year 2030 — an initiative previously called 30x30 and now dubbed "America the Beautiful." The report lays out a 10-year roadmap for conservation that includes many of the priorities that are most important to cattle and sheep producers, including the protection of private property rights, learning from successful working lands management, and leveraging the expertise of ag producers for the benefit of lands, wildlife, and all land users.

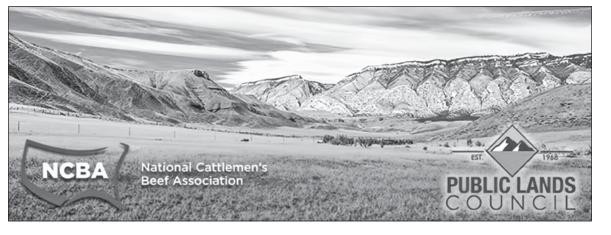
"We are pleased to see USDA and DOI incorporate many of the

recommendations of America's farmers and ranchers into this conservation plan. This is a productive starting point that builds on the input of a diverse array of stakeholders — and moving forward, our focus will be on holding the administration and federal agencies to it," said Kaitlynn Glover, NCBA Executive Director of Natural Resources and PLC Executive Director. "Over the next decade, livestock producers will continue doing what they've done for generations — manage their lands in a way that promotes conservation and good environmental outcomes, and share that expertise with federal agencies."

"If you want to see successful examples of protecting open spaces, improving the health and resiliency of public lands, and balancing durable conservation with multiple use, look no further than American cattle and sheep producers," added Glover. "We look forward to continuing our dialogue with the administration to make sure that the agencies implementing 30x30 leverage the expertise of our producers and reward them for their good work on the ground."

One of the report's six initial recommendations for the "America the Beautiful" initiative focuses specifically on agricultural producers. NCBA and PLC have been in constant and proactive communication with the administration to make sure the White House understands the vital role ag producers play in safeguarding our natural landscapes. The report includes recommendations to:

• Incentivize voluntary conservation efforts and provide new sources of income for American farmers, ranchers, and foresters

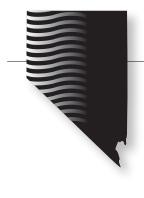


- Improve the effectiveness of relevant USDA conservation programs through the 2023 Farm Bill
- Support the voluntary conservation efforts of private landowners
- Leverage public-private partnerships and voluntary measures to improve targeted populations of wildlife
- Create jobs in rural America that support science-driven stewardship and conservation efforts

NCBA and PLC have long advocated for conservation policy that is based on science and fact, not emotion or political rhetoric. Livestock producers have an excellent story to tell on conservation, climate, and environmental issues:

- Direct emissions from cattle account for only two percent of the United States' overall greenhouse gas emissions.
- Livestock grazing significantly improves soil health, increasing the capacity of grasslands to sequester carbon out of the atmosphere.
- The U.S. cattle and beef industry has had the lowest greenhouse gas emissions intensity in the world since 1996.
- Between 1961 and 2018, the U.S. beef industry reduced emissions by more than 40 percent through continued sustainability efforts and improved resource use.
- Last year, corn going to feed beef cattle represented only 7 percent of all the harvested corn grain in the United States.





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NCBA Welcomes Bicameral Push for Swift Conclusion to DOJ Investigation

WASHINGTON (May 17, 2021) – Today, Senator John Thune (R-SD) and Representative Dusty Johnson (R-SD-AL) led a bicameral letter to U.S. Attorney General Merrick Garland, urging the Department of Justice to move forward with their investigation into anticompetitive practices in the meatpacking industry.

"Despite strong consumer demand and reopening across much of the country, cattle producers face significant business challenges. The farmers and ranchers NCBA represents are contending with high market volatility, drought, and extreme input costs, and they can't capture the value they deserve for the high-quality product they supply," said NCBA Vice President of Government Affairs Ethan Lane. "We have a high supply of cattle at one end of this equation and a high demand for U.S. beef at the other, but the middle is being absolutely choked by the lack of processing capacity. It's in the best interests of both producers and consumers for the Department of Justice to get to the bottom of the current market dynamics, and assess why they seemingly always result in producers getting the short end of the deal. Cattle producers deserve to know whether or not the price

disparity that has plagued our market is the result of anti-competitive or other inappropriate practices in the packing sector. We thank Senator Thune and Congressman Johnson for keeping up the drumbeat on this critical issue. We hope their bicameral request for a progress report will be met at DOJ with the urgency it warrants, and we hope to see results from the Attorney General soon."

NCBA has long worked to increase processing capacity and expand opportunities for producer profitability by lowering the hurdles for small and medium size processing facilities.

The text of the bicameral letter is below. A copy of the actual letter can be found at https://tinyurl.com/v44ncxad

May 17, 2021

The Honorable Merrick Garland Attorney General U.S. Department of Justice 950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, DC 20250

Dear Attorney General Garland:

We want to bring to your attention our concerns with potential instances of improper and anticompetitive activities in the live cattle and beef industry. Nearly a year ago, on May 22, 2020, the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Antitrust Division sent civil investigative demands (CIDs) to the nation's four biggest meatpackers. Since that time, the American people have seen no public results from the investigation. In fact, there is no information to even suggest whether the investigation has concluded or is still ongoing. Due to the change in leadership at DOJ since these CIDs were issued and the new allegations of anticompetitive activities since that time, we encourage the Antitrust Division to continue its civil investigation of these entities. Additionally, to the extent allowed by statute, we request that DOJ provide Congress updates on any investigations or ongoing vigilance.

Cattle producers have faced significant challenges over the last few years. In 2019, a fire at a single beef plant in Kansas, a facility that accounted for approximately 6 percent of our nation's beef processing capacity at the time, created significant market disruptions. In 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic-related plant closures led to additional processing capacity shortfalls and supply chain disruptions throughout the country. It appears plant labor shortfalls remain an issue today. While black swan events do not always prove wrongdoing, additional attention can reinforce confidence in the system.

Cattle producers, especially small feeders, are again experiencing difficult conditions that are threatening their ability to stay in business. With a tight supply chain, any changes in processing capacity can have a dramatic impact on cattle prices, preventing producers from capturing margin from boxed beef rallies.

It is critically important that producers have fair and transparent markets for the commodities they produce. We urge the DOJ Antitrust Division to continue vigilance and where possible, provide updates of findings.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this request.

		Sincerely,	
JOHN THUNE	DUSTY JOHNSON	JOHN HOEVEN	DEB FISCHER
United States Senator	Member of Congress	Member of Congress	Member of Congress
CHARLES E. GRASSLEY	JOHN BARRASSO, M.D.	KELLY ARMSTRONG	RANDY FEENSTRA
United States Senator	United States Senator	Member of Congress	Member of Congress
KEVIN CRAMER	STEVE DAINES	LIZ CHENEY	MATTHEW ROSENDALE, Sr.
United States Senator	United States Senator	Member of Congress	Member of Congress
CYNTHIA LUMMIS	JONI K. ERNST	MARIANNETTE MILLER-MEEKS, M.D.	ASHLEY HINSON
United States Senator	United States Senator	Member of Congress	Member of Congress

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Santa Fe Grilled Beef Steaks & Corn

A simple chili glaze is used as a spicy finishing touch for savory butter on grilled corn and steaks.



INGREDIENTS:

- 2 beef T-Bone Steaks, cut 1 inch thick (about 2 pounds)
- 4 ears sweet corn, in husks
- 3 tablespoons butter

Chili Glaze:

- $\frac{1}{2}$ cup prepared steak sauce
- 2 teaspoons minced garlic
- + $1\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoons chile powder
- + $\frac{1}{2}$ teaspoon ground cumin

COOKING:

- 1. Peel corn, leaving husks attached at base; remove silk. Rewrap corn in husks; tie closed. Soak in cold water 30 minutes. Combine glaze ingredients; remove and reserve ¼ cup.
- 2. Drain corn. Place on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, covered, 20 to 30 minutes, turning frequently.
- 3. After 5 or 10 minutes, place beef T-Bone Steaks on grid with corn. Grill, covered, 11 to 16 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, 15 to 19 minutes) for medium rare (145°F) to medium (160°F) doneness, turning occasionally and brushing with glaze during last 5 minutes.
 - *Cook's Tip:* Two Strip Steaks Boneless, cut 1 inch thick (about -1/4 pounds) may be substituted for T-Bone Steaks. For charcoal, grill, covered, 11 to 14 minutes (for gas, grill 11 to 15 minutes) for medium rare to medium doneness, turning occasionally
- 4. Combine reserved ¼ cup glaze and butter in 1-cup glass measure. Microwave on HIGH 1½ to 2 minutes, stirring once. Carefully peel corn; brush with chili butter. Serve with steaks and remaining chili butter.

NUTRITION:

Nutrition information per serving: 369 Calories; 162 Calories from fat; 18g Total Fat (8.5 g Saturated Fat; 0.35 g Trans Fat; 1.2 g Polyunsaturated Fat; 6.6 g Monounsaturated Fat;) 72 mg Cholesterol; 670 mg Sodium; 26 g Total Carbohydrate; 2.5 g Dietary Fiber; 27 g Protein; 4.1 mg Iron; 595 mg Potassium; 6.1 mg NE Niacin; 0.5 mg Vitamin B6; 2 mcg Vitamin B12; 5.1 mg Zinc; 10.1 mcg Selenium; 114.8 mg Choline.

This recipe is an excellent source of Protein, Iron, Niacin, Vitamin B6, Vitamin B12, Zinc, and Choline; and a good source of Potassium, and Selenium.





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- Certificates of free sale documenting that the products are official, inspected and ready for export



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