



May , 2015  
Volume 4, Issue 4

# THE POST RIDER

*Marias River Livestock Association, 72 Sweetgrass Hills Rd, Sweet Grass, MT 59484*

## Mid-Year Membership Meeting

By Maggie Nutter

In October of 2011 the Montana Fish Wildlife and Parks proposed to place bison on the Marias River WMA (Old Charlie Lincoln Place). A meeting was held at the Toole County Courthouse and local land owners soundly voiced their opposition to the FWP plan.

"About 110 people packed into the court room at the Toole County Courthouse last Thursday, Oct. 6 to share their opinions about a Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP) proposal to relocate 40 head of bison to the Marias River Wildlife Management Area, formerly the ranch of the late Charlie Lincoln..... If Risley wanted public comment, he got plenty of it. Residents from as far north as Whitlash and as far south as Teton County voiced their overwhelming opposition to the proposal. During the public comment period, no one voiced support for the Draft Environmental Assessment, published last month." Article by Briana Wipf, Pioneer Press Oct. 12, 2011

In a recent Marias River Livestock Association Board Meeting, the "whys" of what started the Association were being discussed. Bob Thompson stated, "No one came to save us. We saved ourselves by being at that meeting and letting our voices be heard."

The importance of knowing the issues and speaking up about issues that would affect our area was a common theme of the discussion. Ensuring the political environment stayed agriculture friendly was a true concern then as it is now.

### Mid-Year Membership Meeting

June 1, 2015

No host social 6:00pm

Meeting starts at 6:30 pm

Ring Side Ribs, Shelby, MT

No meal is planned during the meeting.

Please eat prior to the meeting or feel free to stay after and order dinner.

*Draft Agenda page 2*

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## Department of Livestock Public Hearing

To consider the proposed amendment and repeal of Administrative Rule change giving MT State Veterinary Ability to Waive Import Requirements.

**May 21, 2015, 10:00 a.m.**

Auditorium at the Scott Hart Building,  
302 N. Roberts, Helena, Montana

Marias River Livestock Association  
Will be presenting concerns with the administrative rule changes.

Article on Page 11

## My Motivation to Honor the Past and Preserve the Future

By Maggie Nutter

When I get up in the mornings I can look out the kitchen window and gaze upon the same Hills and pasture I looked out on as a child. I love the view and I love where I live. It is the ranch that my Great Grandfather raised my grandmother on and it is where my grandparents raised my dad. I was raised here too, and though I did not live here as I raised my son he spent most summers and many Holidays here with my parents.

My grandsons live close and come frequently to stay a few days. They play in the creek east of the yard and the kid built tree house in the willow by the creek. They ride horses, hike the coulees and search for horns. Frog catching is a summer past time and we frequently have bugs in jars about the house.

My grandsons have been able to help feed cows with the team of draft mules and load pails of cake in the pick-up. They go along fencing and trailing cows. They see the baby calves in the spring along with kittens and puppies. They know where their meat comes from whether it be venison, beef or fish caught in a local pond. They have helped cut rhubarb for pies.

All of that is important to me. It is hard to put into words. Being able to operate this ranch and make a living is such a privilege. Ranching is an opportunity not everyone gets. Unfortunately it's an opportunity that some choose to pass up. Agriculture in general leads to a good life connected reality. Preserving this ranch is important. I would like to see the next generation coming up on this same land.

What I have truly begun to realize is that it is not enough to think about preserving just this ranch. You see an agriculture community is connected. There needs to be many people in need of a tractor or combine to keep an equipment dealer open. There needs to be a demand for fences post and wire for a local business to keep them in inventory. Feed Dealers and Vaccine suppliers go away if there is not enough demand. The local Veterinary needs enough business to pay his overhead for his well equipped truck to show up to your corral on preg check day.

Laws passed and Policies implemented affect our industry and your individual operation. I don't believe in letting life happen to us. I believe in grabbing on and directing it as best we can. If it's wrong oppose it. If it's right support it. I invite you to come to the Marias River Livestock Association Mid-Year Membership Meeting, June 1<sup>st</sup>, and share your thoughts on how to use our voices to preserve your future.



The view of the Sweetgrass Hill from Maggie Nutter's backyard. Pretty much the same as it was in 1904 when John Kiehlbaugh purchased the ranch.

### Mid Year- Membership Meeting Topics Draft Agenda

Report on Stockgrowers

Report from Marias River Livestock  
Association Directors

Iinnii Initiative (10 minute video)

Report on MT Lab FMD exercise

Discussion of upcoming issues



# Revisiting Brucellosis In The Greater Yellowstone Area

By Maggie Nutter

While at the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP) Partners Meeting on April 23<sup>rd</sup> ([ibmp.info](http://ibmp.info)) there was a lot of interesting science presented that pertained to Bison genetics, Brucellosis, Bison Grazing and such. All of it is very interesting and pertinent to managing bison all over Montana not just the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA).

One of the interesting reports was given by Robin Schoen and Peggy Yih that the National Academy of Science via the National Research Council (NRC) will be doing a comprehensive up date evaluation of all the current science surrounding Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Area. This study review will be sponsored by USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Services (APHIS). The first compilation of research and review "Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone" was done in 1998 and sponsored by the National Park Services.

The NRC has selected a committee of scientist to review the current best science and evaluate how this information may help the IBMP and others with the management of brucellosis in wildlife and livestock. There will be four public meetings starting the end of June or first part of July in which presentations will be made to the Panel of Scientist. The presentation part of the meetings will be open to the public.

<http://dels.nas.edu/Study-In-Progress/Revisiting-Brucellosis-Greater-Yellowstone/DELS-BANR-14-03?bname=banr>

## About The Study

Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) is a disease caused by the bacteria *Brucella abortus*. Most likely introduced to North American by European cattle and then transmitted to wildlife, brucellosis was first detected in Yellowstone National Park bison in 1917 and has been present ever since. Brucellosis can be transmitted from one species to another, and concern has been expressed for many years over the potential for wildlife in the Greater Yellowstone Area to spread brucellosis to cattle that graze on land in or adjacent to it and for cattle then to transmit the disease to other species, including humans. The hallmark of the disease in cattle, bison, and elk is abortion or birth of nonviable calves.

A 1998 report from the National Research Council report examined whether brucellosis transmission by bison or elk (*Cervus elaphus*) is a threat to domestic livestock and whether vaccination or other management strategies might prove useful in controlling potential transmission.

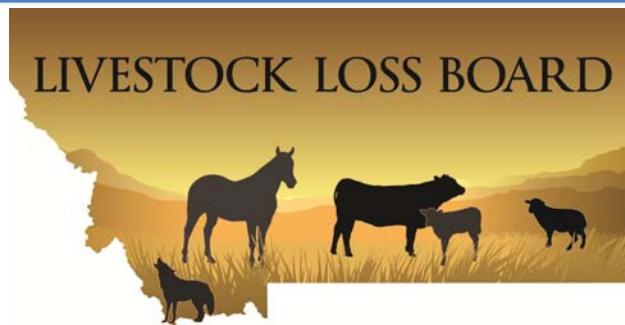
## Statement of Task

In this update of Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Area (NRC, 1998) an NRC-appointed committee will comprehensively review and evaluate the available scientific literature and other information on the prevalence and spread of *Brucella abortus* in the Greater Yellowstone Area (GYA) in wild and domestic animals and examine the feasibility, time-frame, and cost-effectiveness of options to contain or suppress brucellosis across the region. The study will examine factors associated with the increased occurrence of brucellosis transmission from wildlife to livestock and the recent expansion of brucellosis in non-feedground elk, including whether evidence suggests that brucellosis is self-sustaining in elk or if reinfection through emigration from feeding grounds is occurring. The study also will explore the role of feeding grounds, predators, population size and other factors in facilitating brucellosis infection. The study committee will examine disease management activities and vaccination strategies being undertaken or considered at the state, regional, and federal level, and evaluate the biological, animal-health, and public-health effects of those activities. The committee also will examine the current state of brucellosis vaccines, vaccine delivery systems, and vaccines under development for bison, cattle, and elk, as well as the effectiveness of currently available vaccination protocols. In the course of its review, the committee will explore the likelihood of developing more effective vaccines, delivery systems, and diagnostic protocols for cattle, bison and elk.

Throughout the study, the committee will meet with wildlife managers, animal health officials, land managers, native peoples, and other stakeholders, including the members of the public, to understand the implications of brucellosis control efforts on other goals and activities in the region and nationally. The committee will examine the societal and economic costs and benefits of implementing various measures to reduce or eliminate the risk of brucellosis transmission to cattle and within wildlife relative to the costs and benefits of allowing the persistence of brucellosis in the GYA. In a consensus report, the committee will summarize the findings and conclusions of its analysis and based on the scientific evidence, describe the likely effectiveness and trade-offs of options that could be used to address brucellosis in the GYA.

In addition, the report will describe and prioritize further research needed to reduce uncertainties and advance the knowledge base on brucellosis vaccines, vaccine delivery mechanisms, and diagnostics.





## Depredation Prevention Projects Receive Grant Funds

*By George Edwards*

Montana's Livestock Loss Board is a state program that provides loss prevention grants to help reduce wolf and grizzly bear depredation when funding is available. This year the board provided \$25,000 for five projects in an attempt to reduce grizzly bear depredation and \$100,000 was provided for eight projects to help reduce wolf depredation. Grant recipients were Miller Colony (Teton County), Madison County, Granite County Conservation District, Big Hole Watershed Committee (Beaverhead County), Centennial Valley Association (Beaverhead County), Tom Miner Association (Park County), Blackfoot Challenge (Missoula & Powell Counties), Keystone Conservation (Glacier County), and Mark Robinson (Ravalli County). Currently the board does not have any more funds available for 2015. The board is applying for federal funding to use in 2016. Limited state funding may also become available on July 1, 2016. Check the board's website [www.llb.mt.gov](http://www.llb.mt.gov) in January 2016 to download a grant application. We also have a Facebook page "Livestock Loss Board" where we will be notifying everyone when funding becomes available.

Our board's primary purpose is to provide payments to livestock owners who have had confirmed or probable livestock losses due to wolves or grizzly bears. Before a payment can be made, USDA Wildlife Services must perform an investigation and determine if the loss was caused by wolves or grizzly bears. Losses caused by other predators are not covered by our state program. If you suspect your loss is due to wolves or grizzly bears, call Wildlife Services ASAP to request an investigation. Call your local Wildlife Services specialist or if you don't know your local specialist, call their state office at (406) 657-6464 or Western District Supervisor at (406) 458-0106. If Wildlife Services determines the loss was either confirmed or probable due to wolves or grizzly bears, the livestock owner will be given a form to submit to our board for compensation. Eligible animals are cattle, sheep, horses, mules, goats, swine, llamas and livestock guard dogs.

If you have any questions about the Livestock Loss Board, call our office at (406) 444-5609 or by email [aedwards@mt.aov](mailto:aedwards@mt.aov).

## Extra Opportunity Offered During Homesteader Days In Valier

Homesteader Days/ Gentle Hand Livestock Conference Marias River Livestock Association is excited to host a couple of great speakers and the opportunity to become certified in Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) during Homesteader Days in Valier, Montana, June 20, 2015. We are happy to be hosting Curt Pate again after having him in Shelby last summer for the Gentle Hand Livestock Conference with Temple Grandin. Bill Pelton will speak following Pate and this combination of speakers will allow those who sign in and out attending both talks to qualify for the BQA certification.

It is hard to find time to sit at the computer and run through the BQA course and some livestock producers just don't feel real confident or motivated to share that much time with the computer. This will offer a way to get Certified in an easy and fun afternoon.

Beef Quality Assurance is a nationwide program that provides guidelines for beef producers in livestock handling, vaccinations and other health topics. It addresses issues that affect beef quality. The American consumer expects high quality beef for their dollar and the BQA program helps to build consumer confidence through offering proper management techniques and a commitment to quality within every segment of the beef industry.

The program is not a government program and is totally voluntary. Producers have the option of becoming certified because good handling and health practices are good for both the producer and the cattle. You can also attend just for the information presented as it is open and free to the public.

*Continued pg 5 Bill Pelton BQA*

### Curt Pate

For more than a decade Curt has conducted demonstrations and clinics on stockmanship, horsemanship and safety. His abilities conducting both horsemanship and stockmanship demonstrations along with his ability as an effective communicator make him one of the most sought after clinicians on both the national and international scene.



## Cowboy's Prayer

(Written for Mother)

By Charles Badger Clark Jr (copyright 1915)

Oh Lord, I've never lived where churches grow.

I love creation better as it stood  
that day You finished it so long ago  
and looked upon Your work and called it good.

I know that others find You in the light  
that's sifted down though tinted window panes,  
and yet I seem to feel You near tonight  
in this dim, quiet starlight on the plains.

I thank You, Lord, that I am placed so well,  
that You have made my freedom so complete:

That I'm no slave of whistle, clock or bell,  
nor weak-eye prisoner of wall and street.

Just let me live my life as I've begun  
and give me work that's open to the sky;  
Make me a pardner of the wind and sun,  
and I won't ask a life that's soft or high.

Let me be easy on the man that's down;  
Let me be square and generous with all.

I'm careless sometimes, Lord, when I'm in town,  
but never let 'em say I'm mean or small!

Make me as big and open as the plains,  
as honest as the hawse between my knees,  
clean as the wind that blows the rains,  
free as the hawk that circles down the breeze!

Forgive me, Lord, if sometimes I forget.

You know about the reasons that are hid.  
You understand the things that gall and fret;  
You know me better than my mother did.

Just keep an eye on all that's done and said  
and right me, sometimes when I turn aside,  
and guide me on the long, dim trail ahead  
that stretches upward toward the Great Divide.

## Marias River Livestock Membership Application

DATE \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

MAILING ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

TELEPHONE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Marias River Livestock Association  
Carrie Sue Lerum  
PO Box 56  
Galata, Mt 59444

Active Membership is per individual not per ranch or corporation.

This a new membership \_\_\_\_\_

This is a renewal \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Active Member \$50

Any individual 18 years of age or older, active in the livestock production industry in the counties of Glacier, Liberty, Pondera, or Toole, Montana is eligible for active membership in the Marias River Livestock Association

\_\_\_\_ Youth Member \$10

Youth are under 18 years of age and interested in learning about livestock production, promoting the livestock industry and willing to volunteer 5 hours a year.

\_\_\_\_ Associate Member \$50

An individual, firm, corporation or partnership, no matter where it's or his/her place of business or residence may be eligible for non-voting Associate Membership



Bill Pelton  
2735 Eastfork Lane  
Billings, MT 59106-4222  
Phone: 406-671-5100  
Email: [bill@billpelton.com](mailto:bill@billpelton.com)



### Bill Pelton

Bill Pelton is the Montana State Coordinator for the Beef Quality Assurance Program. You also will recognize his name from Pelton Livestock Marketing & Consulting. He owns and operates Bill Pelton Livestock in Billings Montana and has over forty years of Agriculture production and marketing experience. Bill also serves as a Board Member and Merit Heifer Committee Chair at NILE. Bill is glad to share with others the current best management practices for the livestock industry.

## Marias River Livestock Association Representative Attends National Advisory Committee Meeting

Travis Kocurek, 970-494-7412,  
[travis.a.kocurek@aphis.usda.gov](mailto:travis.a.kocurek@aphis.usda.gov)

Dena Fritz, of Chester, MT serves on the National Wildlife Services Advisory Committee (NWSAC) and recently traveled to the Washington, D.C. area to participate in the group's annual committee meeting. The NWSAC advises the Secretary of Agriculture on policies and activities of USDA's Wildlife Services program, which seeks to address and prevent damage caused by wildlife. Fritz is one of 20 members appointed to the committee, representing the Marias River Livestock Association and ranching interests. "I appreciate the opportunity to serve on the committee because it allows me to voice the concerns of farmers and ranchers, as a whole" said Fritz. "By serving on the NWSAC, I have the unique opportunity to engage positively and productively with stakeholders who may fall on the other side of the fence in terms of our values towards wildlife damage management. It's as if we can meet in the middle, lean on the fence from our respective sides and share concerns. This sort of exchange is important to ensure the policy recommendations made by the committee will improve WS' ability to serve a public with diverse needs and values," she added.

Wildlife Services provides federal leadership assisting governments and stakeholders in reducing or preventing damage due to wildlife. The programs often assist farmers and ranchers, when requested, by reducing crop and livestock losses due to pests and wildlife, and rely on a range of management techniques as a part of WS' integrated damage management approach.

NWSAC membership represents a broad range of agriculture, animal welfare, and wildlife interests. Members represent academia, airport safety, animal welfare, farmers and livestock producers, and state wildlife agencies, among other interest groups. The NWSAC serves as an open forum for members with diverse interests to have a voice in the policies and guidance in the Wildlife Services program. The NWSAC facilitates the mission of APHIS/WS by advising the Secretary of Agriculture on the committee's recommendations, and supports WS' implementation of its Strategic Plan (2013-2017).

On March 17-19, 2015, NWSAC convened at APHIS headquarters in Riverdale, MD and crafted 19 recommendations to present to Secretary of Agriculture, Tom Vilsack. Recommendations included issues related to airport hazard and rabies management programs, communications efforts, outreach information about management methods, and wildlife health. Dena Fritz is a farmer/rancher from Chester, MT. In addition to being a commercial cattle producer, Ms. Fritz is 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade Ag teacher.



Pictured from left to right: Ed Avalos, USDA Under Secretary for Marketing and Regulatory Programs, Dena Fritz, Rancher & Teacher, and Kevin Shea, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service Administrator



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Bryan Ratzburg 405-937-5858

John Goggins 406-698-4159

Ernie Ratzburg 406-788-3244

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 Western Livestock Auction



## Issue of Chronic Concern For Registered Bull Producers Trichomoniasis Testing Regulations

Because Registered Livestock Producers frequently ship animals out of State they are forced to deal with multiple sets of rules. Rules for Trich testing are set by each State. We ask Dr Tahnee Szymanski to update us on this issue.

Thanks for interest in sharing this information. At last fall's United States Animal Health Association meeting, a resolution was passed encouraging states to adopt some uniform import requirements as they pertain to trichomoniasis. We have been monitoring states progress towards this goal and just recently surveyed all states as to where they stand. In our recent newsletter we covered this very issue. I have attached the newsletter if you would like to read it. The trich portion is on the last page. Additionally we put together a summary that we provided to veterinarians and anyone else interested that summarizes state import requirements for trichomoniasis, which I also included. Please note this is current as of 3/15/15. Our plan is to repeat the survey every 6-12 months. Please let me know if you would like any additional detail.

Thanks,  
Dr. Tahnee Szymanski

*Article from StockQuotes: Animal Health Newsletter*

TRICHOMONIASIS SAMPLE SUBMISSION PROTOCOL:  
By Tahnee Szymanski, DVM

We updated our submission protocol for trichomoniasis submissions to the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory. The updated protocol includes new information on alternate media, shipping of samples and outdated pouches. The protocol is available on our website at <http://goo.gl/7CbIXj>.

**HARMONIZATION OF INTERSTATE REGULATIONS:**  
Trichomoniasis regulations are in place in 27 states. We recognized several years ago that differences in state regulations are making it exceedingly complicated to move bulls interstate, and have been working with other states to bring greater uniformity to requirements.

*Continued on Pg 10*

## BULL BUCKS 2013 Participating Producers

**Flesch Angus**– Sale March, 2016 [www.fleschangus.com](http://www.fleschangus.com)

**Holden Hereford**– Sale March, 2015  
<http://www.holdenherefords.com/>

**Turner Angus**– Sale April 2016 Paul Turner 406-434-2823  
[www.TurnerAngus.com](http://www.TurnerAngus.com)

**Diamond D Angus**– Sale Nov 2015 and some Spring Private Treaty [www.diamonddangus.com](http://www.diamonddangus.com)

**Bobcat Angus**– Sale Nov 2015 [www.bobcatangus.com](http://www.bobcatangus.com)

**Curry Cattle Inc**– Gene & Cheryl Curry 279-3561  
Replacement Angus females

**Diemert Ranch Herefords**– Ace & Tara Diemert 432-3412  
[http://www.ngrbulls.com/diemert\\_ranch\\_herefords.htm](http://www.ngrbulls.com/diemert_ranch_herefords.htm)

**Apex Angus** Sale March 3, 2015  
<http://www.apexangus.com>

**Superior Livestock Video Auction**–  
Steve Reeverts 450-4586

**Hawks Angus**– [www.hawksangus.com](http://www.hawksangus.com)

**Kicking Horse Ranch Gelbvieh**– Sale March, 2016  
[www.kickinghorseranch.com](http://www.kickinghorseranch.com)

**Gillespie Show Cattle**– Butch & Doreen Gillespie 337-2943 or 949-4453, [www.gillespieshowcattle.com](http://www.gillespieshowcattle.com)

**Enneberg Angus Ranch**– Jason and Pamala Enneberg  
406-845-4901 [EnnebergAngusRanch@ymail.com](mailto:EnnebergAngusRanch@ymail.com)

**Tomsheck Angus**, Darold and Lorna Tomsheck,  
406-937-3726 [www.blackranchesinc.com](http://www.blackranchesinc.com)

# International Agency for Research on Cancer



## World Health Organization

### Why should we care about IARC?

By Maggie Nutter

Why should we care about the International Agency for Research on Cancer (IARC), because they are about to evaluate red meat. Perhaps after October of 2015 all red meat will come with a warning label on the side and only be sold to those over 18 years of age. Perhaps you would get carded at McDonalds and have to smuggle the Happy Meal to your car in a plain brown wrapper so people wouldn't know you were feeding burgers to your children.

Okay, I don't really think that people will totally stop eating red meat if IARC give is some rating of a cancer causing agent but it will affect Policy. Policies such as the Dietary Guidelines and certainly the laws in the State of California which loves to ban any and every sort of food. Most people do not read the Dietary Guidelines everyday and try to follow them BUT the Guidelines are certainly used to formulate School Lunches, Military meals, and any other Federally subsidized food programs menu.

IARC is an arm or special research agency of the World Health Organization (WHO). WHO is the health branch of the United Nations. WHO through IARC tries to identify current and emerging cancer threats worldwide. IARC looks at food, chemicals, herbs, any and all the stuff may affect humans. They try to clarify the role of environment and lifestyle mixed in with human genetics in causing cancer. IARC promotes the theory that most cancers are linked to environmental factors and there for preventable. Their goal is to find all the factors or mixes of factors that could cause cancer, seek out early detection methods and determine possible prevention strategies.

So how is this all done? The procedure starts when IARC puts out a notice that they will be evaluating a substance, which in this case is Red Meat and Processed Meat. Then they call for scientist to apply to be on the panel. The call for "Experts" was put out and closed February 6, 2015. When certain industry groups found out that they were going to evaluate Red and Processed meats they encouraged research scientist that they thought would have good knowledge to apply. Hopefully some beef industry experts were selected for the panel. Next IARC calls for Data. So again industry groups are encouraging research to be sent in and encouraging those who have research that needs published and peer reviewed to get it published and reviewed. The

close for Data will be September, 2015.

There is also another closing date which is "Request for Observer Status." What this does is allows individual with interest and sufficient scientific credentials apply to attend and hear the proceedings. Observers are not allowed to give input or try to influence the outcome of the panel by contacting the selected Experts prior to or during the meeting. IARC selects the Observers to try to get a balance of different views.

There is no Public Comment Period. The merits of red meat will not be considered. The fact that it is dense nutrition with lots of iron and B12 will not be part of the decision making process. What they decide it what they decide.

So Industry Groups are trying to be proactive and find out what research is out there. Do we need to be concerned? If Red Meat is rated into one of IARC categories how will we handle it. They are trying to find positive messages that the industry can stand unified in and promote. What is being said is they do not want a replay of the headlines like when the Dietary Guidelines Committee report came out and the more the industry indignantly protested the more the headlines shouted things like "LESS BEEF RECOMMENDED" and "Beef is bad for the environment."

The goal is to be proactive for the industry and not reactive. Keep your ears to the ground on this one.

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## Save The Date

**May 18-19** Montana Board of Livestock Meeting, Rm 472 at the Capitol Bldg. Starts at 1:00pm Monday and 8:00 am Tuesday.

**May 21** Montana Department of Livestock 10:00 a.m., will hold a public hearing in the auditorium at the Scott Hart Building, 302 N. Roberts at Helena

**May 27** IBMP Pre-Hunt Meeting, Down Town Holiday Inn, Missoula MT.

**June 1** Marias River Livestock Association Membership Meeting, 6:00pm Ring Side Ribs, Shelby MT

**June 4-6** Montana Stockgrowers Midyear Meeting, Bozeman

**June 5-6** Montana Bison Association will be holding Summer Meeting & Ranch Tour, Choteau, MT for more info contact Julie @ 406-392-5321 or email [direddig@nemont.net](mailto:direddig@nemont.net)

**June 9-11** Montana Farm Bureau Summer Conference, Sidney

**June 15-17** Montana Range Days, Harlowton

**June 16- 18** Executive Committee Interagency Grizzly Bear Committee Meeting, Many Glacier Hotel, Glacier National Park [www.igbconline.org](http://www.igbconline.org)

**JUNE 20** Homesteader Days & Gentle Hand Livestock Conference in Valier. Speakers Curt Pate and Bill Pelton. Bison Display Don "Doc" Woerner.

**July 16-19** Marias Fair, Shelby MT

**Aug 5 & 6** Interagency Bison Council Meeting , Lapwai ID [www.IBMP.info](http://www.IBMP.info)

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# Wanted

Members willing to serve!

June 20 -Gentle Hand Livestock Conference. To help set up Valier Community Center for speakers and help host talks. We will need a person or two to man the sign-in table for the Beef Quality Assurance Certification.

We will need persons to help Don "Doc" Woerner to get bison display out of trailer and into Park.

June 5-6-Would appreciate person attending the Montana Bison Association Meeting and Ranch Tour in Choteau and giving report on it.

Call Maggie Nutter  
937-2751  
E-mail  
[nutter@northerntel.net](mailto:nutter@northerntel.net)

**APEX ANGUS**  
A COMMITMENT TO EXCELLENCE

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Valier, MT 59486

Daryle & Pamela 279-3548  
Kurt 279-3341  
Kirby 472-3245

Annual Sale: March 3, 2015

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[www.apexangus.com](http://www.apexangus.com)



# News Nibbles

The Montana Cattlemen's Association has their Brand Book and Reference Manual for sale. These are deluxe hard cover books. You can order the whole set of three- Western, Central, and Eastern or just the one for your area. They make great gifts and are truly handy to have around. Order online at [www.montanacattlemen.org](http://www.montanacattlemen.org)

The 2015 Women Stepping Forward for Agriculture Conference will be September 11-12 in at the Big Horn Resort in Billings, MT. The plans for speakers and entertainment are sounding pretty hot, so you might want to jot those dates on your calendar AND find a partner to share the good time with you.

Bill Layton at the Montana Veterinarian Diagnostic Laboratory in Bozeman reports that they completed the Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) exercise to see how the Lab would function if such an outbreak occurred. He is working on the summary report and will give it at the MT Board of Livestock Meeting. It is good to know that they are working on preparedness.

We got good news from the Marias River Livestock Association Secretary/Treasurer.

4/26/2015

Hello!

I just wanted to inform the board of directors that MRLA has received a generous donation of \$537.50 from Paul Turner.

He donated 25% of the sale of a heifer sold at the Golden Triangle Breeders Bull sale.

Thanks Paul! Your donation is greatly appreciated!  
Sincerely,  
Carrie Sue Lerum

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May 5, 2015

Hello!

I can't believe it! I just had Dwayne Irvin walk into my office and write a check to MRLA for \$1000.00!!!

I asked him if he would like to sponsor anything or have an advertisement in the newsletter and he doesn't want any of that.

He said, "I just like what you are doing and I want to help".

I thanked him multiple times, and will of course, send him a thank you from the board.  
Pretty cool!

Carrie Sue

*Continued from Pg 7 Trichomoniasis*

At the 2014 meeting of the United States Animal Health Association, a resolution was passed encouraging states to adopt the following standard requirements:

- ☐ A single negative PCR.
- ☐ A length of test validity of 60 days.
- ☐ Recognize virgin bulls up to 18 mo of age.

Of the 27 states that have trichomoniasis regulations only four (AZ, NM, NV, UT) are expected to remain outside the established standard for the long term.

For a detailed summary of all states' trichomoniasis import requirements, please contact Dr. Szymanski at [tszymanski@mt.gov](mailto:tszymanski@mt.gov).

For questions on the Trich Test Protocol, please contact Dr. Szymanski, or Dr. Layton, Director of the Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory.



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continued from pg 1 Department of Livestock Hearing

## Montana Department of Livestock Hearing on Administrative Rule Changes

At the January 27<sup>th</sup> Board of Livestock meeting State Veterinarian, Dr. Marty Zaluski offered up Action Items revising the Administrative Rules to give authority to the State Veterinarian to waive importation requirements, importation identification requirements and the need for documentation where livestock was raised had been in the last 6 months in order to get a health permit to enter the State.

Board of Livestock Member, John Scully, had suggested at the meeting that producers should have the right to present their position and science prior to waiver being made and moved to authorize the proposal with changes that would allow such decisions to be made subject to the Board of Livestock's approval. There was discussion and Dr. Tahnee Szymanski offered to wordsmith options so that there would be limits on what could be waived by the State Veterinarian and situations would need the Board's approval. The majority of the Board, on that day, voted to allow the action items to pass as presented by Dr. Zaluski.

Butch Gillespie and Maggie Nutter were at the meeting and brought this issue back to the Marias River Livestock Board of Directors. The MRLA Board decided that such concentration of power to one person was not wise for the Livestock Industry in Montana and a hearing was requested with the Board of Livestock to have further discussion on the proposed Administrative Rule Changes.

The Department of Livestock Hearing is, Thursday, May 21, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., in the auditorium at the Scott Hart Building, 302 N. Roberts at Helena, Montana. It is open to the public and all are welcome to attend. The comment period on the proposal remains open.

*Concerned persons may submit their data, views, or arguments concerning the proposed actions either orally or in writing at the hearing. Written data, views, or arguments may also be submitted to Christian Mackay, Department of Livestock, 301 N. Roberts St., Room 308, P.O. Box 202001, Helena, MT 59620-2001, by faxing to (406) 444-1929, or by e-mailing to MDOLcomments@mt.gov to be received no later than 5:00 p.m., May 28, 2015.*

If anyone wishes more information on the topic or a link to the Public Hearing Notice they can e-mail Maggie at [nutter@notherntel.net](mailto:nutter@notherntel.net) or call 406-937-2751.



Don "Doc" Woerner gives presentation to Billings Class. Credit Billing Gazette for photo.

## "Doc" Knows Bison Inside and Out

What do you do with the old bull bison in your back yard?? Well Don Woerner, a Billings area Veterinarian, created a one of a kind educational mount with his. He butchered and saved all the bones. Months of boiling bones and recreating the skeleton followed. He also had the hide tanned and mounted on half of his display. Now he can show and tell about a bison inside and out.

Doc has a passion for bison and enjoyed studying them and owning a few. He also has a passion for education and has given many presentations on the bison. He has had it in multiple states at schools and bison conferences. Marias River Livestock was lucky enough to get him to come to Homesteader Days in Valier on his way from a presentation in Helena Montana to the International Symposium on Bison Health to be held at the Radisson Hotel in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada on June 24-26, 2015.

Woerner will have the bison set up in Miller Park (weather permitting) and hopefully will be able to give his presentation to those who want to listen about 12:30 or so.

**Homesteader Days/  
Gentle Hand Livestock Conf.  
June 20, 10am  
Bison Presentation about 12:30pm  
Miller Park, Valier, MT**



**Marias River Livestock  
Association**

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406-937-2751

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nutter@northerntel.net

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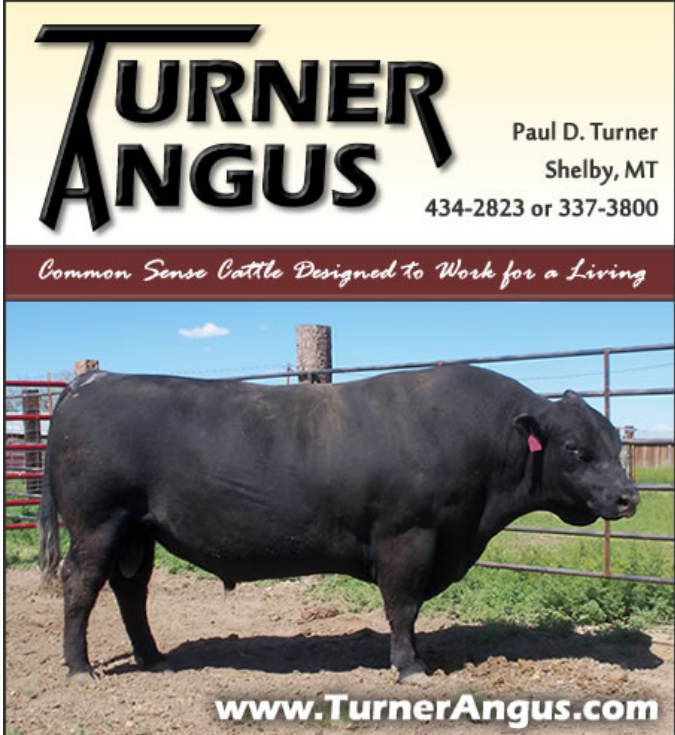
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