WyFB 102nd Annual Meeting
Nov. 11-13, 2021 in Cody

By Kerin Clark

Neighbors helping Neighbors. It’s what we do in agriculture and in the great state of Wyoming. For the 102nd year, agricultural neighbors will gather at the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) Annual Meeting to help their neighbors in the grassroots policy development process. The WyFB 102nd Annual Meeting is Nov. 11-13, 2021 at the Holiday Inn in Cody.

Farm Bureau’s grassroots policy development is the strength of the Federation. Voting delegates from the county Farm Bureau Federations participate in policy discussion, elect officers and ultimately chart the policy course for the coming year. Folks also enjoy networking with other farmers and ranchers, seeing old friends and making new friends. This year’s theme, “Neighbors Helping Neighbors,” is fitting for the work Farm Bureau Federation members do to keep agriculture strong in Wyoming and America.

Tour to kick-off meeting
Park County Farm Bureau Federation is sponsoring a tour and providing coffee, juice and donuts at the Wyoming Seed Company facility on Thursday, Nov. 11 at 8:30 a.m. The tour will be given by owners Dave Johnson and Ken Borchers. Mike Moore (Seed Certification) and Gary White (Allied Seed Company) will speak on regional seed production. Pre-registration is requested.

Meeting schedule snapshot
The annual meeting begins Thursday, Nov. 11 at noon. WyFB’s four standing committees

See ‘Annual Meeting’ page 4

Wyoming Needs Agriculture Day
at UW Football game Oct. 16

“Wyoming Needs Agriculture” Day is coming to a University of Wyoming Cowboy Football game on October 16, 2021 and the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is proud to sponsor the game day event.

Promoting Wyoming farmers and ranchers will be the premier focus of the event. Cowboy fans are encouraged to attend the Pre-Game Zone Tailgate Event. Stop by to participate in the “Ag Olympics” and visit with farmers and ranchers from around the state for some fun before the football game. A free game day t-shirt will be given to 400 fans at the pre-game zone area.

The Cowboys play Fresno State on October 16 with kickoff time to be announced. Wyoming Needs Agriculture! Agriculture; Keeping Wyoming Strong! Go POKES!

A look at legislative bills in the interim

By Brett Moline

The Wyoming Legislature’s Joint Agriculture Committee met September 9-10 in Riverton. One topic covered by this committee was trespass of wild, feral, and estray horses. While gathers will bring the horse numbers down to the appropriate management level (AML), concerns are real that the numbers will creep up again. While these horses graze on federal lands, they also graze on private, state, and county-owned lands.
Working Together to Find Solutions

By Zippy Duvall, American Farm Bureau Federation President

When you hear about what is going on in Washington, you often hear about the battle between political parties or special interests. Sometimes it’s easy to pick a fight with another group. But what’s harder – and often more productive – is working with groups that don’t always agree with you to find common ground. Over the past few years, I’ve been proud that Farm Bureau has taken a seat at the table with many other organizations so we can help build a better future for agriculture and the communities our members live in.

By bringing people with different viewpoints together, we achieve much more than any one group could accomplish on its own. We see the truth of this in our individual communities as neighbors help neighbors. It’s that spirit that led us a few years ago to partner with National Farmers Union and Farm Credit to launch a training program to help spot the signs of stress on the farm and offer help. Unfortunately, farmers and ranchers are more likely to commit suicide than those in any other occupation. The inability to control the cost of supplies, the weather and the price for their products can take a tremendous toll on a farmer’s mental health. Not to mention, farming can be rather solitary and it’s natural for us to keep fears and feelings hidden.

See ‘Working Together’ page 8

Private property rights are the cornerstone of this nation

By Todd Fornstrom, WyFB President

The proposal initiated by President Biden’s January Executive Order formerly known as 30 x 30 and now rebranded, Conserving and Restoring America the Beautiful, leaves too many questions unanswered. Original concerns about future utilization of federal lands by farmers and ranchers have intensified with additional concerns of infringement on private property rights.

Throughout history America’s farmers and ranchers have been the stewards of the vast majority of our country’s land. Farms and ranches have long been a cornerstone of the health of our lands through voluntary conservation. Whether the land was private or public, agriculture has managed the land for the long term. The health of the land not only provides for their livelihoods and future generations but the continuous improvement of the lands and waters that support the environment as a whole.

Mixed messaging or lack of messaging is a big source of... See ‘Property rights’ page 10
Award nominations due no later than Oct. 10

Outstanding Membership Worker Award nominations

Nominations for the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Outstanding Membership Awards are due in the state office no later than Oct. 10th. This award recognizes those hard workers in the state for their outstanding dedication and effort in recruiting Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation members. There are three categories:

1) Volunteer
2) Agent
3) County Office Staff

The nomination award form is available at wyfb.org by clicking on the specific day of Oct. 10 under the Calendar of Events.

The awards will be presented at the WyFB Annual Meeting. Contact Dee Brewer at 307-721-7719 or dbrewer1@wyfb.org for more details.

WyFB Distinguished Service and Leadership Award nominations

Nominations for the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Distinguished Service and Leadership Awards are due in the state office no later than Oct. 10th. These awards recognize those individuals/couples who have devoted much time to the betterment of agriculture in Wyoming and the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation.

Nominees for the Distinguished Service Award must be active in Farm Bureau and/or other areas that relate directly to agricultural interests.

Nominees for the Farm Bureau Leadership Award must be an agricultural operator and active on a statewide basis.

Award nominations may be made by any county Farm Bureau Federation. Only one nomination per award may be made by the county.

Judging for these awards will be handled by the Administrative Advisory Committee of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors.

This committee is not limited to considering only nominations from participating county Farm Bureau Federations but may make an independent selection.

The nomination award form is available at wyfb.org, by clicking on the specific day of October 10th under the Calendar of Events.

The awards will be presented at the WyFB Annual Meeting on Nov. 12th during the evening banquet. Contact Dee Brewer at 307-721-7719 or dbrewer1@wyfb.org for more details.

*Must be a new regular membership and not attached to Farm Bureau Financial Services.
Words Paint Pictures .... but don’t be fooled by Cons

By Chelsea Baars, WyFB YF&R State Chair

We’ve all heard the saying, “A picture is worth a thousand words.” Safe to say that it must be true as evidenced by the pieces that grace the walls of our homes and workspaces. But have you ever stopped to consider the flip side of that saying? Is it not true that our words paint pictures in our minds?

Consider some of the most powerful imageries of all time. “The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures. He leads me beside still waters.” (Psalm 23:1-2) or “Oh beautiful, for spacious skies for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesty, how far we are from the natural state. Is it not true that our words paint pictures in our minds?

Now consider these – “a wolf in sheep’s clothing” or “a rotten apple”. Your mind has quietly shifted away from the former thoughts and has been hampered by the reality of our world that employs false impressions on a daily basis. Unfortunately, we live in a sinful world where the “truth is enhanced” daily by the best – storytellers, salesmen, bureaucrats…

The county Farm Bureaus of the Southeast District recently hosted an informational event about the “30 x 30 Plan”, featuring Margaret Byfield, Executive Director of American Stewards of Liberty. For those who don’t know, this plan was adopted through a Biden Administration Executive Order (E.O.) on January 27, 2021. Section 216 of E.O. #14006 spells out that “30 X 30” means they plan “to achieve the goal of conserving at least 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030.”

Pause for a second. Personally, two words have always caused me to hesitate – “conserve” and “sustainable” – and our government loves to use them. In and of themselves, those words aren’t bad. But the administrations that use them so frequently, do so in such a vague context. Use the two words together and you have something that means “to save for long periods of time.” In the framework of our government, I relate those words to the idea of a mother bird who won’t let her chick leave the nest. While the mother feels good about what she’s done, the choice is crippling to the health, growth, and overall well-being of her baby.

Picking up where we were – The “30 X 30 Plan” has been readily adopted by a variety of groups, especially under the new name the Biden Administration has given it – “America the Beautiful”. Whatever you call it, “30 X 30”/”America the Beautiful”, vice versa, please do not be fooled by the pictures these words paint. According to data from the 2010 Census, the total land and water area of Continental 50 United States is 3,795,742 sq. miles. No doubt it’s a big country. It’s easy to think that we could spare 30%. But consider this – 30% converted to acres is 728,974,464 acres. Millions and millions of acres that will simply be “conserved”. The kicker? The government refuses to spell out exactly what that means.

From what we learned at the SE District’s Informational 30 X 30 Meeting, the bureaucracy utilizes a system to lump land-use into 4 different categories. Simplified, these categories mean no-use, single-use, multiple-use, any use/no restrictions. From language used in various government documents related to this topic, the American Stewards of Liberty have safely assumed that the administration wishes to put all of this area underneath restrictions. This would mean no residential, recreation, hunting, fishing, grazing, logging, or mining use. “America the Beautiful” would just sit and rot. They have also assumed that they will acquire this land through various government conservation and sustainable environmental stewardship programs. Can you smell the wolf in sheep’s clothing now?

Consider, for a moment, the “Save the Forest” initiative - a direct result of the media circulating images of decimated forests in foreign countries. In an effort to “save the forest,” the government sprang into action issuing a limited number of logging permits, and enforcing hefty rules and regulations on the practices of the dwindling number of logging companies. But what we hope were well-intentioned bureaucrats, likely never had any premonition of the disastrous results that would ensue.

During a summer road trip through the Medicine Bow National Forest, I witnessed the thousands of acres that had been burned during the Mullen Fire of 2020. Even now, the areas that were rescued from the savage flames still hold thousands upon thousands of dead trees. The permits, rules, and regulations that were enforced have left many people to deal with unsightly views and the looming peril of the extreme fuel load of a dying forest. To say these lands are “beautiful” and better off in their natural state…is absurd.

However, if you drive through this very same Medicine Bow National Forest, on Highway 330, there is a place near Woods-Landing that will enrapture you. As a direct result of years of meticulous care and attention, you’ll find something that is quite amazing to behold. Against a backdrop of brittle, dead, and dying trees, are small oases, thick with luscious little evergreens – their height ranging from mere inches to 6 feet, or taller. These colonies of evergreens stand on their own, forming a pretty landscape. I couldn’t help but think how breathtaking the entire vista would look if people had been able to realize that the key to “saving the forest” was to let the loggers continue managing the forest in a way that they have always done. Not only do their methods benefit their businesses, they benefit the health of the entire landscape.

My friends, my point is be discerning. Open your eyes, ask questions, and don’t be conned by the pictures painted by the words of others. I’m reminded of the Bible verse that says, “Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.” (1 Peter 5:8) So many of us refer to Farm Bureau as a family – especially here in Wyoming. And families look out for the welfare of one another. My Farm Bureau family, please be mindful of the words you use. In a world filled with so much stress, chaos, and hatred, the least we can do is use our words to paint pictures that are full of life and reflect the truth.

Chelsea Baars is the Niobrara County Farm Bureau President and WyFB YF&R State Chair: She works on her family’s ranch near Lusk, WY.
It’s your future. Let’s protect it.
Together we’ll create a plan to protect what matters most to you.

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M199-WY (9-21)
A century of grassroots policy development

It’s a tradition that is going on 102 years strong… that of farmers and ranchers gathering to discuss current agriculture issues and develop Farm Bureau Federation policy. The Farm Bureau Federation’s grassroots policy development truly begins at the grassroots with resolutions discussion at the county level. Attending your county Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting is an important part of your membership in Farm Bureau.

WyFB President and Laramie County Farmer Todd Fornstrom providing an issues update at the Niobrara County Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting. Kerin Clark photo.

WyFB President and Laramie County Farmer Todd Fornstrom providing an issues update at the Niobrara County Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting. Kerin Clark photo.

Weston County’s Tucker Hamilton shared Young Farmer & Rancher (YF&R) opportunities during the Weston County Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting in Newcastle. Hamilton serves as the At Large member on the WyFB YF&R Committee. Kerin Clark photo.

BINGO! The Weston County Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting featured a fun game of Bingo throughout the meeting led by Brittany Hamilton. Members and potential members were able to have a bit of fun while learning some organization history. Kerin Clark photo.

Platte County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member Sandy Dovey and Emma Douglas drew names of members to win door prizes at the annual meeting in Wheatland. Kerin Clark photo.

The Uinta County Farm Bureau Federation annual meeting featured Harriet Hageman as the keynote speaker. Ken Hamilton photo.

The Sweetwater County Farm Bureau Federation meeting featured entertainment by Fly Over Town as well as prize drawings. Brooke Roes photo.

Goshen County’s Lee Hageman was the recipient of the 2020 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Outstanding Membership Volunteer. The Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation recognized her at their recent annual meeting. Shown here Hageman receives her award recognition from GCFBF Board Member Tami Greenwald. Kerin Clark photo.

Niobrara County Farm Bureau Federation Board Member Kevin Baars (right) presented the VIP award to brothers Ray and John Robb during the annual meeting Sept. 20 to thank them for their years of Farm Bureau involvement. Kerin Clark photo.

Goshen County’s Lee Hageman was the recipient of the 2020 Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Outstanding Membership Volunteer. The Goshen County Farm Bureau Federation recognized her at their recent annual meeting. Shown here Hageman receives her award recognition from GCFBF Board Member Tami Greenwald. Kerin Clark photo.
A good story sticks with you.
So do your financial decisions.

As you close the books on this year, you know your choices are shaping your financial future. Let us help you make the best decisions for you and your family.

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Working Together

From page 2

ings bottled up. No one should feel hopeless or that they have to go it alone. Partnering with these organizations, we reached more people than we could have on our own – and our communities are better off because of it. I have no doubt that lives have been saved thanks to that partnership.

Another issue that we have been working with a diverse group of stakeholders is around climate policy. A few years ago, it became clear this was a rising topic in both the public and private sectors. Farmers and ranchers have made notable strides in reducing our environmental impact and in caring for our soil and water. At the American Farm Bureau, we stepped up to engage more fully in the conversation. We’re putting a spotlight on advances in climate-smart farming to better tell the world our story. And together with other agriculture, forestry, food processing and environmental groups, we formed a historic alliance: the Food and Agriculture Climate Alliance. This coalition represents people who may not always think alike. Still, we focus on areas where we agree, without compromising our grassroots’ policies, and put forward responsible policy solutions to support farmers and ranchers as we work together to achieve sustainability goals. Because of it, the focus in Washington is very different from a decade or so ago, with much talk of respecting farmers and ranchers as partners.

A much broader conversation is underway about advancing climate-smart farming. There are groups far removed from the farm, like the United Nations, that seek to set goals for farmers. Unfortunately, the UN has a track record of omitting some facts and failing to fully rely on science, in addition to closing its doors to U.S. farmers and ranchers. We must have a seat at the table if we hope to set the record straight and stop damaging policies and commitments. Coalitions like U.S. Farmers and Ranchers in Action are also doing important work to ensure agriculture is represented and farmers have a seat at the table, including at tomorrow’s UN Food Systems Summit. If we want the UN to recognize the remarkable leadership shown by U.S. agriculture in advancing sustainability goals, then we darn well better have a seat at the table.

One thing farmers and ranchers know how to do is work together. We work to improve our communities and push for policies that will help us successfully deliver the food, fiber and fuel our country needs. From our work ensuring food bank shelves were restocked early in the pandemic, to packing meals for kids to replace school lunches, and even sewing masks to donate when there was a shortage, our commitment to giving back continues. Our Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee is coming up on 20 years of working together to give back through our Harvest for All program. In 2020 alone, YF&R programs across the country donated nearly 52 million pounds of food, spent 22,570 hours volunteering, and donated over $1.4 million to their local food banks. Bottom line, that spirit of cooperation inspires me. Whether it’s improving our communities or improving the policies that impact us and our communities, I am proud to take a seat at many different tables to represent agriculture as we work to find solutions.

New member benefit announced with Office Depot/OfficeMax

Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation members can save up to 75% off on office, home and school supplies at Office Depot®! Enjoy exclusive pricing and discounts on office essentials, toner, paper, cleaning products, breakroom items, furniture and more. Save online and in-stores. Visit the “Benefits” tab at www.wyfb.org to utilize this benefit.

Exclusive Benefits Include:
- Up to 75% off Best Value Products – plus thousands of items discounted below retail
- Ink & Toner Discounts – save on the products you need
- Low Copy/Print Pricing – save online & in stores
- Cleaning & Breakroom Items – 400+ products with savings up to 51%
- Promotional Products – last column pricing
- Next Business-Day Delivery – FREE on qualifying orders over $50

Details:
- Need not be present to win.
- Entry is tax deductible.
- Drawing November 2021 at WyFB Annual Meeting.
- Background check must be completed by Federal Firearms Dealer.
- Opportunities to purchase tickets:
  - At county annual meetings from WyFB Staff
  - At the 2021 WyFB Annual Meeting
  - Donation check payable to WyFB Foundation and mailed to: WyFB, ATTN: Dee Brewer, PO Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073-1348. Please mail by October 30, 2021.
- Proceeds benefit Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation which works on educational and legal efforts to keep agriculture strong.
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Property rights

uneasiness. An example of this is the range from one federal agency applauding landowners for voluntary conservation and stressing protection of private property rights to another federal agency pressing for preservation with little to no mention of property rights. Discussion during an information session hosted by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) added to this uneasiness as it became evident from the groups present that many of the activist groups are pressing for more of a preservation approach.

We are concerned that members of this Administration are working quietly behind the scenes to ensure the outcome will morph into a stronger preservationist effort. There has been little information and activity from the Administration on this proposal since the Executive Order was released.

Private property rights are the cornerstone upon which this nation was built. WyFB has reached out to Wyoming’s Congressional Delegation to address these concerns. Protecting private property rights is the mission of the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation and is of utmost importance to the ability for our state and our nation to produce feed for our nation and the world.

Cooking With the Modern Ranch Wife

HARVEST BAKED BEANS
By Connie Werner

Ingredients
- 8 strips bacon, diced
- 2 medium onions, quartered and sliced
- ¾ cup brown sugar
- ½ cup vinegar
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 teaspoon ground mustard
- 1 (16 oz) can baked beans, undrained
- 1 (16 oz) can kidney beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 (15.5 oz) can butter beans, rinsed and drained
- 1 can beans of your choice
- I use great northern or navy

Directions
1. In a skillet cook bacon until crisp. Drain, reserving 2 tablespoons drippings; set aside.
2. Sauté onions in drippings until tender. Stir in brown sugar, vinegar, salt, mustard, and garlic powder. Simmer uncovered for 15 minutes or until onions are golden brown.
3. Combine the beans in a slow cooker. Add onion mixture and bacon; mix well. Cover and cook on low 6-7 hours or until the beans are tender. Serve with slotted spoon.

Note: This recipe is easily doubled for a crowd.
### Statement of Ownership, Management, and Circulation

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NOTICE

CLASSIFIED POLICY:

1) Wyoming Farm Bureau members are entitled to free classified advertising in this publication for the purpose of selling items they grow or make themselves, selling used machinery or household items, for posting wanted advertising. Real estate sales not included. Each member family is entitled to two (2) free ads per month, for 3 months, of up to 40 words each. Member ads will be accepted by e-mail to kclark@wyfb.org or by mail to WyFB, ATTN: CLASSIFIEDS, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073. Please include member’s name and county.

2) Non-Wyoming Farm Bureau members and WyFB members acting as agents or dealers of products produced outside the member’s family may purchase commercial classified advertising at $0.50 per word, at a minimum of $5.00 per ad. Discounts: 5% for 4 to 9 insertions, 10% for 10 or more insertions. Commercial ads must be submitted in writing, and an agreement regarding payment must be made between Farm Bureau and the advertiser.

DEADLINE:
Ads should be received (via mail or email) by the 3rd Thursday of the month in order to appear in the next month’s issue. Advertisers are asked to check your ad and report any errors. Paid ads must be mailed, typed or neatly printed, together with any payment due, to Wyoming Agriculture, Farm Bureau, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073. Free ads must be resubmitted by mail or e-mail after running three months. Ads for which there is payment due will run according to agreement between Wyoming Farm Bureau and the advertiser. Advance payment is preferred for first-time advertisers.

NOTE:
The appearance of any ad in Wyoming Agriculture does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the product or service offered. The advertiser is liable for content of the advertisement and any claims arising therefrom against this publication. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation reserves the right to refuse any advertising not considered in keeping with its publication’s standards.

EQUIPMENT

EQUIPMENT LISTED FOR SALE.
4020-Diesel-John Deere tractor (Good Unit); 2420-Swather-12 ft head-Diesel (Good Unit); 10 ft stock tank-New condition, hardly used; Older model long pickup rack-Slide in type; 2 Powder River Squeeze Chutes-Older styles; Small cake feeder-pickup bed style-New; was never used; Old style rubber tied farm trailer 4 wheels—Good running gears-needs new box; All metal flat bed for pickup. Call 307-351-3340 or 307-358-5060.

BRANDS

TWO WYOMING LIVESTOCK BRANDS.

Advertised Members

2021 Wyoming Farm Bureau Members

ALBANY
Emma & Christopher Cowdery, Laramie; Patricia Jacobsen, Laramie; April & Matthew Leonard, Laramie; Gabriel McDonald, Laramie; Kerri & Michael Skelton, Laramie

BIG HORN
Christopher Breaux, Basin; Katherine Broyles, Greybull; Faye & Thomas Farr Greybull; Clarence Mayer, Greybull; Kenneth & Riley Powell, Lovell; Kenneth Tucker, Greybull; Boyd Van Fleet (REG), Greybull; Margaret Laycock & David Vukelich, Big Horn

CAMPBELL
Tom Davis/ Hines Ranch LLC (REG), Gillette; Elaine & Nick Jessen, Gillette

CARBON
Celia Weber, Baggs; Yvonne & Sheldon Weber (REG), Baggs; North Fork Gulch, LLC, Pasaden

CONVERSE
Keith Bowers, Glenrock; Nancy & Randy Mayer, Douglas

CROOK
Mary & Dave Colvin, Hulett; Elizabeth & Steven Uttecht (REG), Aladdin; Cassie Watson-Wilson & Jed Wilson (REG), Sundance

FREMONT
Enedina Vasco & Joshua Green (REG), Riverton; Roxie & Jay Harrison, Riverton; Jim Logan (REG), Shoshoni; Randy & Richard Mathey (REG), Lander; Crysta White, Riverton

GOSHEN
Susan & Shawn Dovey (REG), Lingle; De Centennial LLC, El Rancho

HOT SPRINGS
Christine & Steven Francis, Thermopolis

JOHNSON
Emily & Walter Farwell, Buffalo; Randy Hauck, Laramie; Casey & Aaron Rodriguez, Buffalo

LARAMIE
Kathy & Ricky Adkins, Cheyenne; Amy & Scott Hayes, Cheyenne; Elizabeth & Mark Marston, Cheyenne; Lauri Million, Cheyenne; Kenneth Nelson, Cheyenne

LINCOLN
Lois & Richard Carr (REG), Thayne; Colter Draney (REG), Alton; Joy & Harold Nate (REG), Midvalle; Denise & Brad Olsen (REG), Smoot; Janet & Robert Rode, Kemmerer

NATRONA
Melissa & Richard Carpenter, Casper; Jennifer Cowell, Casper; Amanda & Sawyer Daniels, Casper; Simone Debevec, Casper; Todd Durdahl, Casper; Amanda & Patrick Lewallen, Casper; Bobbi & Ken Milne, Casper; Tonya & Michael Munari, Casper; Twila & Tony Tenant, Casper; Ellen & Richard Verow, Mills

NIOBRAA
Cady & Dax Dockery (REG), Lusk; Daniel Thompson/ Thompson Seed Potato (REG), Alliance; Billie Tillard, Lance Creek; Tracieanne & Brian Zerbe (REG), Lusk

PARK
Elaine & Dan Clemons, Wapiti; Bonnie Dallinger, Wapiti; Alexander Mitchell, Cody; Dawn & Daniel Odasz, Cody; Shelly & Dustin

See ‘New Members’ page 13
These landowners receive no compensation for having these horses on their property, and the landowners cannot manage the number of horses. A draft committee bill is going forward that will charge the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) the state AUM grazing fee for these horses if the numbers are below the AML. Should the numbers be above the AML, the BLM would be charged three times the State AUM fee. WyFB supported this bill.

Another topic covered by the Ag Committee was reorganizing weed and pest. Currently, weed and pest management on school trust lands is managed by the State Land and Investment Board. A bill was taken forward which will move weed and pest management to the Wyoming Department of Agriculture. WyFB supported this bill with the hopes those leasing school trust lands will receive more assistance in weed and pest control, especially highly invasive weeds.

This committee deferred draft legislation to establish a program for industrial bonds for increasing agricultural processing of Wyoming agricultural products in the state. This legislation was deferred to the Committee’s October meeting. WyFB supports this type of program because it should improve the profitability of Wyoming farmers and ranchers.

Predator management issues was also a topic of discussion. The proposed legislation would allow the Animal Damage Management Board to contract directly with federal, state, county, and other agencies to coordinate predator control measures. WyFB supported this bill because it should help districts improve predator control.

Legislation was also moved forward by the Joint Ag Committee which would require that livestock water permits on a federal grazing allotment must have the permittees’ name on the water right. This would keep the federal agencies from being able to take away water sources on federal lands. Should the permitter change, the water right would transfer to the new permittee. WyFB supported this draft bill.

This committee also was updated on the proposed changes to the College of Agriculture. Some of the proposed changes include moving Human Nutrition, Ag Communications, and Agricultural Economics out of the College of Agriculture. WyFB expressed our concerns with these moves. Not only would the College lose expertise, but Extension would likely diminish or disappear. Wyoming residents rely on Extension for up-to-date knowledge transfers and to provide other support for agriculture.

In other legislative interim work, the Corporations Committee is assigned with the task of redistricting. This is done every ten years, after the census information is developed and received by the State. Each legislative district must be plus or minus five percent of the average population of all districts. It is likely each legislative district will have at least some changes with some districts changing a great deal. The following link shows the mapping for this round of redistricting: https://redistricting.wyoleg.gov/Default.aspx.

The Corporations Committee is also looking at changing how we vote in Wyoming with three options being discussed. One option not likely to advance is an open primary, where all the candidates are on the same ballot, with no party affiliation.

Another voting option being discussed is ranked choice. The ballot would be based on political parties, but instead of voting for only one person, the voter would rank all of the choices.

If no one person receives a majority vote, the lowest ranked person falls out, and the ballots are recounted. The low person drops out until one person receives a majority of the votes.

The third option is the only voting bill which WyFB will support and is a run-off election. Should no one person receive a majority of the votes, the top two candidates would advance to a run-off election. This would require quite a few changes in how Wyoming elections are run. The primary would be in May, the runoff in July, and the general election in November. A runoff would increase the cost of the elections roughly $1.2 million.

The Revenue Committee will again be looking at ways to increase tax and fee income to the State. The same increases will be on the table, including eliminating sales tax exemptions, placing sales taxes on services, income taxes, gross receipts taxes, etc. WyFB policy is quite clear: we do not support losing exemptions or increasing taxes.

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**Iowa Farmer uses horse product to help heal an injured foot.**

On September 9, 2020 Iowa farmer Dan Burck injured his left foot in a grain auger. He was rushed to University of Iowa Hospital in Iowa City, Iowa.

His hospital stay lasted 10 days and included 6 separate surgeries. In January 2021 while recuperating at home he read a story about a Minnesota woman, Liz Hershberger, who had used a horse product called Miracle Heel to help heal her severely injured foot.

Dan was hoping to find a way to speed up his healing process and contacted Steuart Labs about the product Miracle Heel. Steuart connected him with Liz Hershberger who recommended that he use Miracle Heel.

About 10 days after beginning to apply Miracle Heel to his foot, Dan did notice an improvement in the healing process.

In February, his doctors at U of I commented on how well his foot was healing.

On April 13, Dan’s foot was almost completely healed except for a small, discolored area on the top of his foot. An MRI revealed a small pocket of fluid just below the surface. His doctor scheduled a surgery appointment for May 6 to remove the pocket of fluid. At his pre-op appointment on May 4, the discolored area looked normal, and an MRI showed that the pocket of fluid was gone.

Dan and his wife Kris farm 800 acres of cropland and have 138 beef cows. With the help of a prosthetic insert in a specially made boot, Dan was able to return to farming in March.
Livestock producers have several options available to manage price risk such as insurance policies, futures and options contracts, and forward pricing. Using an insurance product such as Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) is one way to manage price risk for a given production cycle. This policy could also be part of a long-term risk strategy.

Any major risk management decision should be carefully examined through a long-term lens. However, the question then becomes how to effectively analyze the long-term implications of a decision or strategy. Typically, we would evaluate alternatives using a partial budget approach, but that method does not normally account for the time-aspect of uncertainty like changing prices or the time value of money.

The professionals at Right-Risk.org developed the Multi-Temporal Risk Analyzer (MTRA) tool to address these long-term questions. MTRA combines spreadsheet-based partial budgeting with additional capacity to evaluate variability over time. In the following example, we examine how a producer could evaluate the possibilities of using LRP as a long-term strategy.

**Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Overview**
- LRP is designed to insure against a decline in market price (fed and feeder cattle, swine, and lamb)
- Contracts are available ranging from 70-100% of expected ending value
- Contract length range from 13 to 52 weeks
- Indemnities are paid if the actual ending index is lower than the coverage price
- Prices are determined by CME indexes
- Total number of head insurable under LRP varies by species
- The cash sale price received has no bearing on insurance coverage

![Image](https://example.com/image)

Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Overview

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Useful LRP Links:

Consider a long term approach to managing risk

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**Livestock Risk Protection Insurance Overview**
- LRP is designed to help manage livestock market price risk. Coverage is available in Wyoming for feeder and fed cattle, swine, and lamb. The producer selects a production period and corresponding coverage levels to purchase a policy.
- Consider an example Goshen County producer, Bill Bates*, who is looking to protect against price declines on 100 head of 650 pound steer calves. Bill typically markets in October, so he selects a 21-week contract at 96 percent coverage, with a premium of $3.16/cwt ($2,054 total). The contract price is listed at $159, resulting in a coverage price of $153/cwt ($99,450).

**The MTRA Tool from Right-Risk.org**
The Multi-Temporal Risk Analyzer is a budgeting tool designed to provide users a way to examine the long-term variability of a proposed business change or strategy. Results include probability analysis for the expected outcomes and also includes the time value of money.

MTRA offers entry blanks to outline any projected inflows (added returns and reduced costs) and projected outflows (reduced returns and added costs) associated with the change. One of the unique features of MTRA is the ability to turn on/off each projected change over a possible twenty-year period (shorter time periods are also possible). This allows the user an opportunity to describe the long-term expectations for the project and associated decisions.

The basic variables needed to estimate net returns over time for Bill’s example LRP strategy include: the cash sale price, the potential indemnity payment, and the projected cost of the LRP premium. Under Added Returns we enter steer calf sales (coverage price x total steer weight = $99,450). In addition, we expect sales to vary between $91,450 to $107,450 and enter these as the expected low and high.

The expected LRP indemnity payment is $2,054 (roughly equal to the LRP premium), with a potential low of zero and high of $10,000. Under Added Costs we enter the LRP premium $2,054 and keep it constant by also entering this value for the expected low and high. We also select all 20 years for each variable by clicking All, rather than checking the box for each individual year.

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See ‘Managing risk’ page 15
Managing risk

Risk Analytics

MTRA is designed to evaluate risk scenarios for single or multi-year periods by using a set of random draws to simulate the possible actual cost and returns to account for uncertainty. Results include annual and cumulative net returns on a cash and net-present value basis via the output screen after clicking RUN.

One example draw for Bill’s LRP strategy yields an average cash-basis net return over 20 years of $100,951, with a low of $93,857 and a high of $105,500. This particular draw results in a majority of years (14 out of 20) with a positive net LRP indemnity payment. Other patterns are also possible if more draws are considered (press RUN).

Probability analysis is one of the key features of MTRA, allowing users to see both the range of possible net returns, as well as the associated probabilities from the data entered. MTRA generates numerous charts (eight in total) reporting various aspects of the simulation runs. One of those charts compares the investment net returns for cash-only with present value analysis incorporating a positive time value of money. Multi-draw results are also available that describe expected returns if the project were repeated 1,000 times.

One of the main reasons to consider this type of analysis is to better understand what the chances (probabilities) are for the strategy of buying LRP coverage to improve net returns over time compared to straight cash sales. For our example, we assume a 5 percent interest rate when estimating the time value of money and view the multi-draw Investment Net Return analysis to evaluate repeating Bill’s 20-year LRP strategy 1,000 times (Figure 1).

The golden-colored line in Figure 1 shows the expected values and associated probabilities for Bill’s proposed LRP strategy in a single curve, summing across the entire 20-year project. From this we can see that if we repeated the 20-year LRP strategy 1,000 times, we would expect the annual return to be about $65,720/year ($1,314,398/20) on average (around 50 percent of the time). Furthermore, we would expect returns would not fall below $58,489/year ($1,169,777/20) or result in returns greater than $75,496 ($1,509,918/20).

The reader will no doubt note that the purple-colored curve results in higher values (to the right) in all cases as it depicts the cash-basis analysis assuming the time value of money is equal to $0, and would be an unusual situation. In addition, for this example as with many risk management strategies, it is important to remember that purchasing insurance is intended to mitigate risk not guarantee a payout.

From this analysis, Bill better understands that using LPR as a price risk management strategy would likely increase his annual return by around $11,500/year and would make that annual income much more consistent under the assumptions we’ve outlined here.

For More Information
Visit RightRisk.org to learn more about the MTRA tool. The MTRA page offers other examples, as well as a detailed user guide. MTRA is just one of the many risk analytics tools available from RightRisk.org: covering machinery costs, budgeting, and many others.

The Bates operation is a case study example created to demonstrate RightRisk tools and their application. No identification with actual persons (living or deceased), places, or agricultural operation is intended nor should be inferred.

John Hewlett is a farm and ranch management specialist in the Department of Agricultural and Applied Economics in the University of Wyoming College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. Hewlett may be reached at (307) 766-2166 or hewlett@uwyo.edu and James Sedman is a consultant to the department.

Table 1 MTRA Input Table, Bates LRP Strategy
Here’s your chance to order Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation branded apparel and caps! Go to www.wyfb.org and click on the online store link found on the home page and on the specific calendar date of October 5.

There’s a wide variety of items and colors from which to choose for both men and women so be sure to scroll through and check out all the options! We are also offering the limited edition “Centennial Proud Member” sign while supplies last. This metal sign is on sale for just $15.

Please note merchandise will not be ready for shipping until the end of October as all orders are made once the store closes October 5.