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Washington Cattlemen’s Association

KETCH PEN

June 2019

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON CATTLEMEN’S & CATTLEWOMEN’S ASSOCIATIONS

Vol. 38 Issue 11
Cover More Ground with CKP

The USDA Risk Management Agency helps protect your Pasture, Rangeland, and Forage (PRF) from the elements.

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A Message from the WCA President
Sam Ledgerwood

You may all find this hard to believe, but I am not an article
"writing" person. Every month I struggle to come up with the
words to describe the month's activities, not to mention trying
to keep my thoughts and facts cohesive. With Sarah leaving us
I will try to keep you informed. That being said here is what's
going on from my perspective.

On April 23rd, the Executive Board met in Ellensburg. As
usual we had a full agenda. I appointed a hiring committee to
find a new Executive VP. Mark Streuli offered to chair this
committee. The WCA is actively accepting applications and have
a good pool of applicants. By
the time you read this, first round
interviews will have taken place.

District Reps. reported on many
events, field days, fairs and
general county meetings and
gatherings. The support our
individual county cattlemen give
to our youth through scholarships,
fair awards, contest sponsorship,
etc. is encouraging as an industry.

Dave Duncan gave a report on
wolves. While all producers are
affected, the northeast section of
the state has been the hardest
hit. These producers face
another year of physical and
financial danger. The Cattlemen's
Association, Dave and other
livestock representatives on the
Wolf Advisory Group (WAG)
are pushing hard to get the
WDFW to act quickly in the
event of a livestock attack.

While WDFW is actively doing
a status review and meeting
with county commissioners asking
for input, any delisting or down
listing will take time. The Federal
Government is actively seeking
comments on delisting wolves in
the lower 48 states. The comment
period has been extended until
July. Please take the time to go
online and comment or send hard
copy. Be it noted, any action by
the Federal Government will
likely be challenged in court.

Dave also brought us concerns
about pronghorns. These animals
are native, we will be strongly
objecting to them having status
as a game animal in Washington
state.

Sarah, Jeff Dawson, and Daryl
Asmussen attended the Colville
Forest plan meeting representing
you as grazers in the forest plan.
It is very hard for cattlemen
that have been grazing forest
allotments for extended periods
of time, some as long as 30-
50 years, to explain to Forest
Service officials who are new
on the scene, what works and
what is just simply unreasonable.
Hopefully a compromise that
works for all parties can be
reached and, sad but true, keeps
us out of court. Thank you Sarah,
Jeff, & Daryl for your time and
effort, I am sure you represented
us well.

Clay Schuster attended our board
meeting. As your Endowment
Trust Fund Chair, Clay, gave us
good news that the fund has now
exceeded $500,000. Clay and
his committee are also moving
forward with a raffle for the
WCA convention in November.
Please support them in their
efforts to continually grow this
account that supports the WCA
financially.

Public Land Commissioner Hillary
Franz called in at 2:00 to talk
to the board about SB 5996.
This was a bill brought forward
by Commissioner Franz to help
fund fire suppression. The board

Manuscripts and advertisements are welcome. The WCA reserves the right to edit all manuscripts and refuse advertisements.
Readers are welcome to submit letters to the editor. The Ketch Pen must know the full name and address of all writers. Letters are
accepted with the understanding that they may be condensed to fit the magazine format and edited for clarity. Letters contain the
opinions of the writer and may not agree with the opinions of the Washington Cattlemen's Association. Material appearing in this issue may be reprinted only with permission of the Washington Cattlemen's Association.
Almost halfway through the year already? It just doesn't seem like it could be. Where has 2019 gone? Spring has flown by and it seems I missed a lot of branding season, but I managed to still get one in so far while also getting my annual branding sunburn. Good news, there is still A LOT of awesome cattlewomen things coming our way including some exciting events and opportunities.

To recap, a few of our ladies attended the Region 5 CattleWomen's conference in Billings, MT in early May. They will be sharing their conference report at our upcoming meeting on June 24th in Lewiston, ID. The meeting will begin at 11:00AM in the Red Lion Hotel (621 21st St, Lewiston, ID). We will have a buffet lunch available for $12/person plus tax, so please RSVP to me by June 14th at the latest so I can give the hotel a head count for lunch (kadyporterfield@gmail.com).

The other main highlight of our meeting will be getting to introduce our new Washington Beef Ambassador Team: Miss Cheyanna Wing of Lincoln County and Miss Cassie Kayser of Klickitat County! We will present them with scholarships and hear a little more about them.

If you plan to volunteer at the Washington Brewer's Festival in Redmond at Marymoor Park, please shoot me an email with the day(s) you'd like to attend and I'll get you on the entrance list. This will take place June 14th-16th (Father's Day weekend). The CattleWomen play an important role by accepting donations for Food Lifeline, which helps with the Beef Counts food donation operation. When a festival attendee donates $5, they receive Beef Brisket on a Biscuit with a taste of brew from our great partner, Odin Brewing. Last year, we raised over $9,000 over this 3-day weekend alone! I hope you can bring your family and spend part of a day helping a great cause.

Another upcoming date to keep in mind is the ANCW Summer Meeting in Denver, CO on July 28 and 29 at the Gaylord of the Rockies. I will be attending this year and look forward to participating in leadership classes and hearing reports on the new WIRED program events that happened earlier this year.

For ANCW, we just applied to participate in the annual MOOVE Contest again. MOOVE stands for Making Our Outstanding Value Evident. Fitting right? I think so. We made some good headway last year, but have to complete a few more pieces to qualify for big winnings. Some things I hope we continue to achieve this year is to increase our state membership, grow our ANCW membership by 1%, and have at least one attendee at annual and regional meeting. Some new things I hope we can complete this year for extra points in this contest is to add collegiate and junior members by forming new membership opportunities (to be discussed at our June meeting), add an associate member, and add a lifetime ANCW member.
Since Senate Bill 5959 passed, folks understandably have a lot of questions. The good news is that we have a lot of answers, as a lot was stated specifically in the bill. Nevertheless, WSDA rule-making will also come into play as this moves forward.

Let's start with a brief recap of what actually passed:

• Provides for Brand Registration
• Expands the Livestock Advisory Committee
• In addition to WSDA inspectors, it provides for private livestock inspectors to be licensed and provide livestock inspection services.
• Expands the ECTR system to include all cattle for electronic transactions
• Provides for Electronic Identification as proof of ownership
• $20 Call Out Fee
• $4.00 Slick Cattle
• $1.21 Identified Cattle
• 10% Across the Board Fee Increase
• Annual report on the LID program starting in 2020 - Provided by WSDA to legislature
• Sunsets in 2023
• Bill takes effect 90 days after the end of the session (takes effect July 28th)

Now let's get to some questions and answers:

Q: Do we still get to register and brand our cattle?
A: Yes!

Q: What is the fee for a brand inspection, if my cattle are not identified?
A: Cattle branded with your registered brand pay the new "identified" rate of $1.21/head plus a $20 call out fee for the brand inspector.

Q: Does the $20 call out fee replace time and mileage?
A: Yes

Q: What is the fee to get an inspection if my cattle are not identified (branded or EID)?
A: An unidentified animal now must pay $4/head plus a $20 call out fee for the brand inspector.

Q: Why did the fee for a "slick" or "unidentified" animal go up so much?
A: To motivate people to identify their cattle (whether it's through brand or EID). Unbranded/unidentified cattle are a significant hole in our animal disease traceability system. (The good news is if you identify your cattle, you only pay the $1.21 rate).

Q: What about an EID being ownership?
A: Under the bill, an 840 EID tag can now be used for proof of ownership. So, if you prefer not to brand your cattle but also do not want to have them considered "slick" then you can apply an 840 EID tag.

Q: What is the fee if I need cattle inspected for ownership, that have 840 EID tags?
A: Cattle with an 840 EID pay the "identified" rate of $1.21/head plus a $20 call out fee for the brand inspector.

Q: Tell me about using ECTR (electronic cattle transaction reporting) for beef cattle.
A: ECTR was expanded through the bill, it is no longer specific to dairy cattle. Under the bill, any cattle with an 840 EID can use ECTR to report change of ownership electronically as an alternative to mandatory inspection. Includes moving cattle out of state.

Q: What is the current fee to use ECTR?
A: $1.30 per head

Q: What is the purpose of a field livestock inspector?
A: The field livestock inspector is a private individual, not an employee of WSDA, who has participated in training and is certified by WSDA to evaluate and provide brand inspection. A database of these individuals will be available through WSDA and on their website. The field livestock inspector charges the per head and call out fee, plus whatever they deem necessary to charge for their services.

Q: Did fees increase for all users of the brand inspection program?
A: Yes! Across the board fees went up by 10%, except the inspection fee for slick animals which went up to $4.00 (however they can choose the lower rate by either choosing to brand or use EID).

Examples of Fee Increases at 10%

• Brand Recording Fees increased from $120 to $132
• Inspection of Identified Cattle $1.10 to $1.21
• Audit fee for a certified feedlot increases from 25 cents to 28 cents per head

Look for more updates on this issue as WSDA moves forward with its rule-making process.

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The Idaho Cattle Association & Washington Cattlemen's Association present

SUMMER ROUND UP

LEWISTON, ID
JUNE 23-25
HELLS CANYON BOAT TOUR  INDUSTRY FOCUSED MEETINGS  GOLFING  RANGELAND TOUR
Fake meat, alternative protein, plant-based protein, lab grown meat -- whatever you do, don't call it beef!

There has been much in the news lately about meat alternatives which have been on the market for decades. What is new is that many in the beef industry, be it burger chains or packers, are investing in these products designed to give consumers alternatives to ground beef. In 2018, these so called beef alternatives represented 0.5% market share compared to beef's 99.5% market share. Also emerging on the scene is the development of lab grown proteins made from animal cell cultures that are NOT available to consumers at this time.

Producers can take heart in realizing that in 2019 the annual projected beef consumption is more than 58.3 pounds per capita compared to just a few ounces per capita for beef substitutes. Furthermore, demand for beef has increased by almost 15% since 2012. This increase in demand is being driven by consumer expenditures on beef, which reached an all-time high in 2018 of more than $105 billion in sales. Our true competition for market share remains poultry at 93 pounds per capita consumption.

So why all the fuss? It can be a bit confusing to sort out, but one thing to be sure of is that consumers love and are willing to pay record prices for the delicious, high quality beef that you produce. Your Beef Checkoff is not taking our meatless competition for granted and is working hard to ensure that beef is the number one protein choice for consumers.

Checkoff-funded market research is tracking changes in consumer attitudes and consumption of beef and meat alternatives. We monitor news media and social media chatter every day and provide factual information when appropriate. We are proactively telling the positive story of modern beef production through our Rethink the Ranch campaign designed to engage consumers and drive them to Checkoff-funded, research-based information on wabeef.org, beefresearch.org and beefitswhatsfordinner.com.

The marketing for meat substitutes focuses primarily on false or misleading environmental and health claims about beef. Your Beef Checkoff is targeting consumers online with factual information about beef's positive contributions to the environment and nutritious diets. The “Nicely Done” ad below has reached 700,000 consumers and is one in a series of social media ads using tongue-in-cheek humor and beef's swagger to address alternative proteins on-line.

Arming consumer influencers (bloggers, reporters, dietitians, retailers, chefs to name a few) with factual information via our annual Explore Beef Experience, consumer events, influencer events and communications are key initiatives in 2019 to combat the misinformation that might make meat substitutes attractive to some consumers in the first place.

The Beef Checkoff will continue to take our meatless competition seriously. There is no doubt that beef wins every time when it comes to its delicious taste. Side-by-side comparisons easily demonstrate the nutritional superiority of beef and we have a great story to tell regarding beef's contributions to environmental sustainability. Our greatest challenge remains the huge influx of capital going into the development and marketing of these alternative meat products.

For more information about meat alternatives or any program funded with your $1.50 Beef Checkoff investment contact Patti Brumbach at 206.444.2902 or e-mail her at pbrumbach@wabeef.org. Follow our activities targeting millennial consumers on social media at wabeef.org, Facebook.com/WABeef, Twitter@wabeef, YouTube@WABeef or Instagram@WABeefLove.
Cattle Grazing is Critical for a Healthy Ecosystem
By Amanda Radke / Beef Magazine

The war against beef is greater now than it’s ever been. As discussions about climate change heat up, the focus seems to largely be on the cow, and the solution proposed by so many is for society to move toward a plant-based diet.

This recommendation is wrong on so many levels, and I think I’ve defended meat eating and beef production more ways than I can count. However, it’s critical for cattlemen and women to continue to have these conversations to redirect the narrative that cow farts (or rather, cow burps) are destroying the environment with excessive greenhouse gas emissions.

No matter which way you look at it, ruminant animals like cattle are critical components of a healthy ecosystem.

From a nutritional standpoint, beef packs the greatest punch per calorie. Loaded with zinc, iron, protein, B vitamins and healthy fats, beef satiates while fueling our bodies and brains.

Plus, cattle utilize land that would otherwise remain unproductive for humans. By grazing this steep, hilly, rocky and rough land, cattle convert non-edible cellulosic material into nutritional beef. If sat unused, these grasslands would quickly turn to empty desert wastelands.

I promise you, broccoli and almonds aren’t going to grow on the rangelands of the South Dakota prairie. Much of the Plains can’t be used for anything else besides livestock grazing. And the result is a great-tasting, nutritional product (and by-products) that nourish the world.

On the note of sustainability, I’ve rounded up some recent headlines worth checking out. Here is what’s being said about cattle and land use in recent news stories:

1. “Critical role of grazing animals in an ecosystem” from the Journal of Advances in Modeling Earth Systems

   Here’s an excerpt: “The sight of animals—horses, cattle, sheep, and goats—grazing in a field or pasture is pleasantly bucolic. But in addition to being picturesque, these herbivores play a critical role in local and global ecosystems.

   “For example, the presence of grazing herbivores is known to have an effect on plant health and productivity, biodiversity and species composition, nutrient cycling, and other processes. Also, because grass has a higher albedo than bare soil, grazing reduces the amount of sunlight that is reflected back into Earth’s atmosphere, which impacts the global climate.”

2. “Grazing to heal the Earth” by Wendy Pratt for TEDxIdahoFalls

   According to TEDx Talks, “Wendy Pratt shares a rancher’s experience to an age-old relationship of grazing animals and grassland ecosystems. She shows how utilizing the planet’s naturally occurring cycles helps heal our world plus how one individual can make a difference.

   “Wendy is a fourth-generation cattle rancher near Blackfoot. She advocates for regenerative grazing and for blurring the lines between urban and rural viewpoints. She writes a ranch blog and can be found at The Pastoral Muse. She and her husband Mark have three children.”

3. “Losing Ground — Urban Sprawl Documentary” featured on Angus TV

   https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=suAlYGyzfNs&feature=share

   In this film, viewers are exposed to the impact of urban sprawl on American agriculture.

4. “Beef is healthier and more sustainable than ever before” by Hillary Makens, National Cattlemen’s Beef Association

   Makens writes, “In the U.S. today, the same amount of beef is produced with one-third fewer cattle as compared to the mid-1970s, according to USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service. If the rest of the world were as efficient as the U.S., global beef production could double while cutting the global cattle herd by 25%.”

5. “Grazing crop residues and cover crops” from Penn State Extension

   A synopsis reads, “Grazing has been largely excluded from our croplands but is receiving new interest as an additional profit center for farmers as well as a way to improve soil.”
National Cattlemen’s Beef Association President Jennifer Houston issued the following statement on May 17, 2019 regarding the announcement from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) that Japan will allow products from U.S. cattle, regardless of age, to be imported into that country for the first time since 2003:

“This is great news for American cattle producers, and Secretary Sonny Perdue and the Trump Administration deserve a lot of credit for helping knock down this non-tariff trade barrier in Japan. This underscores the safety of the U.S. beef herd, and it will hopefully send a signal to other Asian nations that non-science-based trade barriers like this one should be eliminated in their countries, as well.

“Tariff rates grab all the headlines, but non-tariff barriers are often just as important, if not more so, when it comes to determining market access. Hopefully this will help spotlight this important point and lead to more trade victories in the near future.”

Klickitat County 2019 Cattleman of the Year Field Day

Cattleman of the Year
Ray Willis

photos courtesy of Lauren Schuster
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CAUTION: Pulmonary reactions may occur for about 30 seconds after injection. A slight swelling may be observed at injection site for a few days after administration. Use aseptic technique during administration of injections to reduce the risk of injection site abscesses or lesions.

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[Table of dosage requirements for cattle groups and ages]

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Ketch Pen | June 2019
Modernizing the Livestock Inspection Program
By Jodi Jones - Animal Service Division

In April, Gov. Jay Inslee signed legislation intended to restore financial solvency to our Livestock Inspection Program (LID).

The program, which has roots dating back to the 1860s, is entirely funded by fees paid by the livestock industry and receives no state general fund dollars.

But in recent years, the program has been in financial crisis. The inspection fees it relies on are set in statute and had not been adjusted since 2006. Over time, rising costs outpaced fee revenue.

The livestock industry worked with the Washington State Legislature to develop a new fee structure to fully fund the program. Here are some of the major program changes taking effect this summer.

Program changes

The LID Program provides asset protection and theft deterrence for the livestock industry through inspections, verifying ownership documentation, and issuing a clear “title” to the new owner. We conduct proof of ownership inspections at five critical points:

• At change of ownership.
• At out-of-state movement.
• When offered for sale at a public livestock market.
• When delivered to a USDA slaughter facility.
• When delivered to a certified feedlot.

The new law

• Expands the Livestock Identification Advisory Committee from six to 12 members.
• Modifies livestock inspection fees.
• Allows WSDA-certified private livestock inspectors to perform livestock inspections.
• Expands the Electronic Cattle Transaction Reporting (ECTR) system for dairy cattle to all cattle.
• Takes effect July 28, 2019.

The following sections expire on July 1, 2023

• Livestock Identification Advisory Committee.
• Inspection fees.
• Certified feedlot audit fees.
• Public livestock market inspection fees.

Legislation will be required to extend LID program fees and inspection activities beyond that date.

New inspection fees

Under the bill passed by the Legislature, fees for livestock inspections rose by 10 percent, except the inspection fee for unidentified cattle which are defined as cattle that have a brand that is not recorded to the owner and cattle that are not identified with an official electronic individual identification tag. The fee for unidentified cattle changed from $1.60 to $4 per head.

Details

• The inspection fee for identified cattle is $1.21 per head.
• The inspection fee for horses is $3.85 per head.
• The audit fee for certified feedlots is 28 cents per head.
• A $20 call-out fee replaces the time and mileage fee and will be collected for all inspections.
• The annual license fee for a certified feedlot will be $935.
• Annual fees for livestock markets are $165, $330, or $495, depending on average gross sales.
• The brand-reading fee is increased from $120 to $132.
• Applications to transfer a brand carries a $27.50 fee.
• The transfer fee for “legacy brands,” that have been in use for at least 25 years, is $100.

Livestock Identification Advisory Committee

Through July 1, 2023, Livestock Identification Advisory Committee membership is increased from six to 12 members with two members from each of the groups currently represented. No more than two members of the committee may reside in the same county. The committee must meet at least twice per year.

Veterinarian certification and field livestock inspectors

Veterinarians and others who apply to be certified to perform livestock inspections must submit an application and complete training. The bill requires WSDA to maintain a list of field livestock inspectors for at least six geographic regions who are certified to perform livestock inspections.

Training will include:

• Reading of printed brands.
• Reading of brands or other marks on animals, including the location of brands on animals.
• Reading of an electronic ID or other electronic official individual identification of cattle.
• Completion of official documents.
• Review of satisfactory ownership documents.

WSDA may adopt fees to cover the costs associated with providing training. A certified veterinarian or a field livestock inspector is not considered a WSDA employee. Livestock inspection certification of certified veterinarians and field inspectors may be suspended or revoked under certain circumstances.

Electronic Cattle Transaction Reporting System

The use of the Electronic Cattle Transaction Reporting (ECTR) System, which is currently used only to report changes of ownership for unbranded dairy cattle, is expanded to all cattle. The ECTR system may be used to report transactions electronically as an alternative to mandatory inspections. ECTR may also be used to report the inspection of animals that are being moved out of state. Use of the ECTR system for reporting cattle ownership changes or out-of-state movement requires a WSDA license. All cattle that are reported in ECTR must have an official electronic individual identification tag.

WSDA may adopt ECTR application, licensing and reporting fees by rule. Fees must be adjusted by rule to match, as closely as practicable, amounts needed to cover ECTR system costs. If surplus ECTR revenues are generated because a substantial number of cattle owners use ECTR to report electronically, the current ECTR reporting fee of $1.30 per head will be reduced substantially by rule.

Moving toward modernizing cattle identification

On April 10, 2019, the USDA announced a phased transition to increased official electronic identification of cattle until official electronic identification becomes an industry-wide requirement at the beginning of 2023.

Coordinating a reassessment of the new LID program fee structure with the new federal policy is appropriate. Legislation will be required to extend LID program inspection activities beyond the July 2023 expiration. The ECTR fee section for reporting electronically identified cattle transactions does not expire.

Official electronic identification is a step forward for animal disease traceability, food safety, international trade, and the long-term economic viability of the livestock industry.

Expectations and uncertainties

Fee revenues are expected to cover program costs through July of 2023. The new $4 fee rate on unidentified animals may be an incentive for producers to identify their animals at a lower fee. This creates some fiscal uncertainty because we don’t know which identification options producers will favor most. We do however expect the legislation to increase electronic official identification and help modernize Washington’s cattle identification system, supporting a more robust animal disease traceability program.

Going Forward

We will be closely monitoring how producers respond to the new fees and reforms to make sure program expenditures don’t exceed program revenues. We are hopeful that the new fee structure will provide sufficient revenue to bring the livestock inspection program back to solvency.

Email LivestockID@agr.wa.gov for questions on the new fees.
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Daughters & service sell!
A Message from Ag in the Classroom
Kristen Hinton

School is out for the summer which means fairs and summer planning meetings are right around the corner!

We are busy making our school year accomplishments for the 2018-19 year and are really excited to see Ag@School subscriptions soaring! Please feel free to promote throughout the summer so we can continue to increase readership!

Our summer meeting will be July 17th at 10:00 am and all are welcome! Location is yet to be determined so look for that announcement. Join us for light refreshments and an overview of Washington Ag in the Classroom.

Please remember WAIC as you plan summer activities and let us know if we can provide any materials or be of assistance! Check out our website – www.waic.net this summer and explore the curriculum matrix, literacy project lesson plans, Robyn Meenach's celebration agriculture presentation and much, much more! Spend the summer enjoying your products, the fruits of your labor, your family and celebrating agriculture!

Aesop, the Sixth Century B.C. author of fables, illustrated a point which we at EX-CEL FEEDS would like to dwell upon as the eve of your 50th year cattlemen's association meeting approaches.

A worker had a quarrelsome family. After trying in vain to reconcile them he called them all together and gave them an example.

He had them gather a large number of sticks and tie them in a bundle. One by one he challenged each to break the bundle but try as he may, none could do so. Then he ordered one son to untie the bundle and he gave them the sticks one by one which they broke easily.

Speaking to them he said, "My sons, as long as you remain united, you are a match for all your enemies; but differ and separate, and you are undone."

Your Washington Cattlemen's Association is made up of members who support it with their dues and then those who go a step further and make themselves available for work on committees and as officers, who speak highly of it and defend it against all who would try to weaken it. There is also a professional staff whose job it is to see that your best interest is looked after and your wishes are carried out.

This is the bundle of sticks which Aesop referred to.

But isn't it true that the "bundle" could be larger and still more invincible? We offer this as food for thought to anyone, cattlemen or those in the allied industry, who could belong to the Cattlemen's Association but has chosen not to do so.

From the WCA 50th Anniversary Publication
A Share of Pride

Courtesy of: Bill & Linda Stonecipher
In a major victory for the Washington Farm Bureau Federation (WFB) and the Washington Cattlemen’s Association (WCA), the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on Monday reversed a District Court decision concluding the two associations—representing the state’s farmers and ranchers—did not have a right to intervene in a lawsuit brought by environmental group Northwest Environmental Advocates (NEA) involving nonpoint source pollution. Nw. Envtl. Advocates v. U.S. Dept. of Commerce, et al., 2:16-cv-01866 (W.D. Wash.).

The lawsuit specifically challenged federal regulators’ approval and funding of nonpoint source pollution plans under the Clean Water Act and Coastal Zone Management Act. In its complaint, NEA claimed that federal grants benefitting nonpoint source management infrastructure projects for the coast and for the rest of the state had to be halted, and that any prior money spent should be returned. Importantly, farmers and ranchers have directly benefited from these grants in a variety of ways. In NEA’s view, no funding should have been approved because the nonpoint source management plan for the coast was only conditionally approved, while the statewide plan was not stringent enough. Remarkably, the Justice Department opposed WFB and WCA’s motion to intervene to help defend the case, while even plaintiff NEA did not oppose the groups’ participation. In response, the District Court granted intervention to the State of Washington, then denied WFB and WCA’s motion—despite plaintiff’s claim that farmers and ranchers are the biggest source of nonpoint source pollution in the state and that the management practices governing farm and ranch practices in Washington’s plans were not adequate to control nonpoint pollution.

The Ninth Circuit reversed the District Court decision, holding that the District Court erred in finding WFB and WCA lacked a significant interest in the outcome of the case. Citing the potential loss of funding and imposition of more burdensome requirements on farm and ranch operations, the appeals court found WFB and WCA members’ interests were squarely implicated in the case: “Because the constituents of WFB and WCA are the intended beneficiaries of the grant program and bear the burdens of any additional management requirements imposed on their operations, they have an immediate existing interest in the subject of the controversy.”

The Ninth Circuit also held that the District Court erred in concluding that the State of Washington (through the Department of Ecology) represents the same interests as WFB and WCA because of the state’s focus on achieving the “highest possible standards’ for water purity” regardless of the economic feasibility of achieving those standards. Thus, the Ninth Circuit found that WFB and WCA had a “specialized expertise” in on-the-ground pollution control measures not shared by the State of Washington. In the 2-1 panel decision, a dissenting judge would have upheld the District Court’s denial of intervention for largely the same reasons as the District Court.

A postscript about fairness: If WRLC had argued that WFB and WCA had the same interests as the State of Washington and therefore Washington should not be allowed to intervene, we would have been laughed out of court.
Forest and Range Owners Field Day Scheduled for Southcentral Washington

Glenwood, Wash. – A unique opportunity is coming for family forest and rangeland owners and managers in southcentral Washington and surroundings. Instructed by the state-recognized experts in forest and range management, wildlife habitat, and other land stewardship disciplines, this “out-in-the-woods” educational event will provide useful, timely, and unbiased information sure to meet the needs of landowners with five or 500 acres. The field day has not been held in southcentral Washington for eight years, so landowners should not miss this opportunity to get a bounty of information in one day.

The field day will be held on Saturday, June 8, from 9 am to 4:30 pm at the Mt. Adams Community Forest, Pine Flats Tract, near Glenwood, Wash. The location is within easy driving distance from Clark, Skamania, Klickitat, Yakima, and Kittitas Counties in Washington, as well as the Hood River and other Columbia Gorge communities in Oregon.

The field day prepares landowners for planning and executing management activities that meet their personal objectives, reduce risks and protect their financial investment. Absentee landowners with property in eastern Washington are especially encouraged to attend.

Participants can choose from a wide variety of classes and activities taught by specialists in forest and rangeland health and management, livestock forages, wildlife habitat, weed control, wildfire protection, post-fire restoration, timber and non-timber forest products, technology applications and mapping, chainsaw safety and maintenance, forest and rangeland security and safety, financial assistance programs, and more. The presenters will be available to answer questions specific to your property situation. Come and sign up for a free walk-in-the-woods with a forester, wildlife biologist, or both! Youth activities will be available all day.

The fee for those who register by Monday, June 3, is $30 per person or $40 for a family of two or more. After that date the fee is $40 per person or $50 per family. An optional BBQ lunch will be available for $10 per person to benefit the local youth programs. Lunch reservations must be received by June 3.

A brochure with more detailed schedule, information, driving directions and the registration form can be found at http://forestry.wsu.edu, or contact your local WSU Extension office.

For more information contact WSU Extension Forester Andy Perleberg at 509-667-6540 or by email at andyp@wsu.edu

WSU Extension programs and employment are available to all without discrimination. Evidence of noncompliance may be reported through your local Extension office.

WCA Welcomes New Executive Vice President - Danny DeFranco

Danny DeFranco has been a resident of Kittitas County since 2000. He grew up in Issaquah, WA where he attended Issaquah High School and was part of the graduating class of ’97.

In 2000, Danny moved to Ellensburg and attended Central Washington University (CWU) for a year before taking a position as a horse trainer in the Ellensburg area. During that time Danny acquired knowledge in horsemanship and stockmanship while working with various ranches, horse trainers and hobby horse owners around the nation.

In 2008 Danny went back to CWU and graduated in 2010 with a BA in Information Technology and Administrative Management. Since graduating Danny has worked on various ranches as well as attending schools such as Lost Rivers Grazing Academy and Ranching For Profit.

In 2013 Danny purchased a small cow herd and started Bar D Livestock which he still operates today.

Danny and his wife, Ryder, have two boys, Bodie two and half and Levi eight months.

“Thank you to the WCA for the opportunity to represent members of the livestock industry and I look forward to working together on the challenges facing our industry.”

Phone: 509-859-4949

Summer Round Up
JUNE 23RD, 24TH, AND 25TH
LEWISTON, IDAHO

We invite you to join us in Lewiston, Idaho on June 23rd-25th for Summer Round Up! This year the Idaho Cattle Association is welcoming the Washington Cattlemen’s Association as co-hosts of this great annual event. We hope to bring our membership together to converse and work towards the same goal of promoting, protecting, and preserving our great industry! We will be hosting a jet boat tour, 18 holes of golf, a rangeland tour, social hours, and meetings. Registration will be mailed out to all Idaho and Washington members by April 1st and also available on our website idahocattle.org. Feel free to call the ICA office with questions at (208) 343-1615.
CHOICE MEMBERS

Please remember these fine businesses when you need to make a purchase.

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Scholarship Opportunity

2019 Jenny Lynn Stiles-Hudson Memorial Scholarship
Deadline: September 16, 2019

Jenny was a young, energetic woman who advocated for agriculture and was dedicated to God, her family and the Beef Industry. She never took no for an answer and knew she could accomplish anything she set her mind on. She truly exemplified the hope of the future for the Beef Industry.

$500: Scholarship: Awarded at the beginning of Fall Semester/Quarter

Eligibility
• Must be a Washington resident
• Undergraduate or Graduate Student.
• Must be enrolling in a 2 year community/technical college or a 4 year college/university.

Scholarship recipient will be announced in November 2019 at the WCA Convention. Applications should be sent to:
Washington Cattlemen’s Association (WCA)
PO Box 96
Ellensburg, WA 98926

Application are for the 2019/2019 academic year and are available at www.washingtoncattlemen.org
expressed concerns about 1. new taxes, 2. how money would be spent. Ultimately the bill died this year but will likely return next year. WCA will be watching.

WCA approved a contract with Mark Streuli, Public Affairs, to represent us thru the summer and fall watching for upcoming legislation, helping with rule making for the new brand bill, writing letters, helping to hire a new Executive Vice President, etc. With Mark on board, WCA will be represented as we look for and hire a new EVP.

A group of WCA Bull Test & Sale consignors attended the board meeting. While there are still some issues to settle, I feel we are working toward closing the books on 2019 and beyond and moving toward the future.

On April 30th, the WCA met with Dept. of Natural Resources and Washington State Patrol concerning the problems, challenges and successes of the 2018 fire season. It was very apparent that this group was not aware of some things that were happening or not happening on the ground during a fire. It is always good to discuss these issues when temperatures (literally) and tempers are cooler. While progress has been made, there is still room for improvement. Keeping the lines of communication open is important in working toward solutions. I am thankful they are willing to meet with us as we represent you. I have found that making an effort to know your local fire chief, sheriff, commissioners, etc. is helpful not only for you but for them when there is an issue.

Recently the Regional Forest Service office was making their rounds talking to county commissioners asking for input on how to proceed with the Blue Mtn. Forest Plan. I was able to talk with my local commissioners as well as Andrew Engell and Victor Valerio from Cathy McMorris Rogers office (Mike Polson has retired). I tried to reiterate to them we need to follow the Forest Service mandate of multiple use; access, recreation, logging, grazing, public use and overall management. The effects on our local economies by Forest Service policy need to be considered as well.

May 10th, Sheree and I took the WCA booth to the FFA Ag Expo during the FFA Convention on the WSU campus in Pullman. We visited with FFA students, instructors and chaperons about the WCA and the beef industry in general. Many were familiar with the WCA, but more were unaware of what the WCA and the beef industry represent. I would like to encourage our members to engage your local FFA and 4-H members by either attending one of their meetings or inviting them to join you for a local cattleman meeting or event. I would also be open to having students sit in on one of our board meetings. It is important to get our youth involved in our organization.

Not long ago an individual visited my ranch. He asked me “What do you raise/grow on your ranch?” After telling him the usual, cattle, hay, and wheat, it occurred to me that I should have said “the next generation of farmers and ranchers” because without them we are history.

Looking forward to seeing you in Lewiston for our mid-year “Summer Roundup” with the Idaho Cattlemen Association.

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TRI-TIP ROAST
Boneless and fairly tender with full flavor. Roast or grill then slice across the grain.

SIRLOIN TIP ROAST
This boneless, lean cut is great value. Best when roasted and carved into thin slices.

CHUCK SHORT RIBS
A crowd favorite, known for their richness and meatiness. Flavorful, moist and tender when slow-cooked.

BACK RIBS
A great value and beef’s signature ribs for the BBQ, this flavorful cut is great with a dry rub on the grill.

BOTTOM ROUND ROAST
Great value and very lean. Best for roasting or slow-cooking and slicing thin.
Without water, here in the arid West, most of us couldn’t do much with our property. Which is why water is, and will continue to be, a major topic of debate. One of the biggest debates lately seems to be jurisdictional. The Federal government wants to expand jurisdiction under the guise of WOTUS, Waters of the United States. For the last several years, the WCA has been one of the entities willing to fight WOTUS and take a stand against government overreach. As a quick refresher, the Federal government has jurisdiction over navigable waters. Waters that are continuous and flow year-round, like the Columbia River or the Snake River. When President Trump took office he ordered the EPA to come up with a revised WOTUS that limited the definition to what the Federal government actually has jurisdiction over. The WCA reviewed the new proposed WOTUS rule and joined Pacific Legal Foundation in submitting comments in April 2019 to ask the EPA to go back to the drawing board and try again. Even after President Trump’s order for a revised document, the EPA has proposed rules that still exceed their jurisdiction. Through the new WOTUS rule, the EPA still proposes to regulate intermittent drainages, lands adjacent to navigable waters, as well as any lands the EPA believes fall under their revised definition. Not only does the proposed WOTUS rule expand the jurisdiction of the Federal government, it also leaves too much grey area, open to Federal government interpretation. Thankfully PLF and the WCA have taken a hard line asking the EPA to go back to the drawing board and draft a WOTUS rule that accurately reflects what the Federal government can and cannot do. Rules should be clear, concise, and allow WCA membership assurances on what they can and cannot do.

On top of comments being due, the WCA is also involved with PLF in a lawsuit against the EPA which was also filed in April 2019. This is a lawsuit asking the Court to limit the EPA’s power. The EPA can only act on “navigable waters” yet with the newly proposed WOTUS rule, that definition far exceeds what Webster’s Dictionary defines a navigable water as. The Court will be asked to find that the EPA definition violates the Clean Water Act and violates the Constitution. This is a very active lawsuit, requiring declarations from members as well as the filing of a preliminary injunction, which will propose to stop the EPA from enforcing this expanded jurisdiction until the Court has had time to rule on the facts of the case. Preliminary injunctions, if granted, are very useful tools in litigation as they simply keep the status quo during the pendency of a lawsuit. The WCA has policy adopted in 2018 to oppose the WOTUS rule. The WOTUS rule has become just a hot topic at the WCA that not only does the Water and Ecology committee have a policy, but Land Planning also has policy adopted which pertains to WOTUS. As WOTUS itself is a threat to private property rights, it is a very important precedent setting case that will impact all membership of WCA. The WCA is very lucky to have PLF on board to fight this battle.

As the water war continues, WCA, through Western Resource Legal Center, had a huge victory in the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals where the court reversed the District Court decision to deny WCA and WFB to right to intervene on a case involving nonpoint source pollution. In 2016 The Northwest Environmental Advocates sued the US Dept of Commerce alleging that federal government funding of nonpoint source pollution plans under the Clean Water Act because of conditional approval of the nonpoint source management plan. The WCA and WFB moved to intervene on the case because part of the suit required grant funds that had been disbursed to be returned. WCA has members that have gotten grant funds through these programs. Interestingly enough, the the Department of Justice opposed the WCA WFB motion to intervene claiming that the government does a good enough job protecting ag interests. Within the lawsuit itself, the plaintiff (NEA) has claimed that farmers and ranchers are the biggest source of nonpoint source pollution in the STATE and that management practices in WA are not adequate. Even with that claim in the body of the complaint, the Court denied WCA and WFB’s right to defend its members, agreeing that the government would do an adequate job, and further stating that the WCA and WFB didn’t have “significant interest in the outcome of the case.” On May 6, 2019 the Court ruled in favor of WCA and WFB, and found that the District Court had erred in denying the motion to intervene. This will allow WFB and WCA to be a party to the litigation and to defend agriculture and members in the case itself. There is still a long way to go on this case, but again, the WCA is very thankful for WRLC, another non-profit that represents the interests of farmers and ranchers in the Pacific Northwest. At no time, ever, should the agriculture community have to rely upon the government to defend our way of life. We must be hands on and make sure we are representing ourselves when environmental groups make baseless accusations claiming that ag is harming the environment.

Fighting fire with fire, and thankfully we have the resources to do it. PLF and WRLC are two of our greatest allies when facing this anti-ag movement. Luckily both of these entities are non-profit and work within our limited budget. Without the power to fight back, enviros would continue to work us over in Court, which we cannot allow. WRLC and PLF understand the importance of ag in our community and are fighting with us to protect private property, water rights, and our ability to feed the world.
The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) has announced that they will extend the public comment period on their Proposed Rule to delist gray wolves in the contiguous United States. The comment period, originally set to end May 14th, will now close on July 15th. As of May 13th, approximately 150 comments have been submitted through the NCBA portal. By contrast, over 70,000 comments have been submitted by environmental activists. NCBA and PLC will continue our media campaign to encourage members to submit their own comments through policy.ncba.org.

As part of the comment period extension, FWS also announced that they plan to hold public meetings to receive comments in-person. We expect there will be two meetings: one in the West and one in the Great Lakes region. We will pass along information regarding those meetings as it becomes available, but once locations and dates have been set, it will be critical to turn out as many ranchers as possible to show support for delisting.

NCBA, PLC, and the American Sheep Industry Association have a draft of detailed, technical comments which were prepared by the Western Resources Legal Center. As we draw nearer to July 15th, we will send a copy to state execs for affiliates to sign on to those comments.

Lastly, we have seen some activity on Capitol Hill related to the delisting effort. Reps. Dan Newhouse (R-WA-5) and Collin Peterson (D-MN-7) are leading a bipartisan letter to Sec. Bernhardt in support of the delisting. Unfortunately, they tried to make the letter bicameral by including the Senate, but no western Republican Senators expressed interest in leading the charge in the upper chamber. The primary reason for this disinterest is that wolves are already delisted in the states represented by western Republicans. It is critical to reiterate that producers who reside in areas where the species is currently delisted should still submit comments as well. Not only is it helpful to gather the perspective of those who have seen state management firsthand, but finalization of this rule is the only way to ensure that wolves remain delisted in those areas. Any litigation on other DPS or regions could open up those rules for re-examination.

Please continue to keep the pressure up on the urgency to file comments through policy.ncba.org. Additionally, tell your congressional delegations that you support the proposed delisting rule.

As always, feel free to reach out with any questions or concerns.

After graduation, Bill attended WSU, where he was on the Collegiate Judging Team. While at WSU, he lived and worked in the beef barn, gaining insight and training in the beef industry from Mr. Bill Bennett. Bill always said that studying under Mr. Bennett was what ignited his passion for cattle. He graduated in 1964 with a degree in Animal Science.

While at WSU, Bill met and married the love of his life, Beverly Irwin. They were married for 57 years. Following graduation, they returned to the family ranch. They raised two children there, Dean McLean and Deanna Rice. Bill always liked to tell people that he lived in the same house his entire life.

Bill got his start in the cattle business raising Shorthorn Cattle. After many years, he decided Angus Cattle were the way to go. He purchased a small herd of Angus which grew and gained him a strong reputation in the Angus industry.

Bill judged regional, national, and international cattle shows, as well as many fairs. He was an active member of the Washington State Angus Association and the American Angus Association. Bill was also a member of the Washington State Cattlemen’s Association. Up until his passing, he served on the National Cattlemen’s Beef Board and was an advisor to the Washington State Beef Commission. He spent many hours working to promote the beef cattle industry.

Bill loved meeting new people. He never met a stranger and would gladly share his knowledge, experience, and opinions with anyone. As a passionate cattlemens, he was more than happy to provide tips to people purchasing beef at meat counters.

Bill was a loving husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather. He delighted in playing with his great-grandchildren. Bill is survived by his wife, Beverly; daughter Deanna Rice (Wayne); daughter-in-law, Linda McLean; grandchildren: Lee McLean (Vanessa), Cheyenne Rocha (Jose), Sam Rice (Akaycia), Emily Rice; great-grandchildren: Henry McLean, Landry Rocha; and sister-in-law, Kathy Pierce (Sam).

He was preceded in death by his son, Dean McLean; his parents, Harold and Winnie McLean; and his mother-in-law and father-in-law, Robert and Lena Irwin.

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WCA Happenings

County Picnics

Benton County
Date: June 11th @ 5:30 pm
Place: Barker Ranch in West Richland
Contact: Linda Card 509-788-1005

Grant County
Date: June 22nd
Place: Sackmann’s in Warden
Contact: Jaime 509-989-5970

Okanogan County
Date: July 21st
Place: Stoney Ridge Farms in Everson
Contact: Branden Brink 360-441-8375

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Date: July 14th
Place: Stoney Ridge Farms in Everson
Contact: Branden Brink 360-441-8375

Annual Convention

Looking to the Future

2019 WCA/WCW Annual Convention
November 13 -15, 2019
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By Honoring the Past

THANK YOU WCA MEMBERS FOR YOUR SUPPORT
April 20, 2019 through May 17, 2019

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