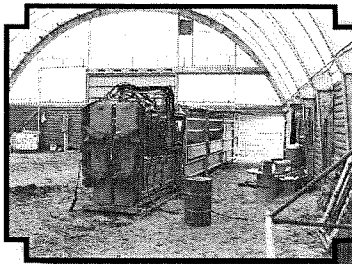


## Cammack Ranch Tour August 25

In a valiant effort to bring much needed rain to their ranch, John and Melanie Cammack, along with their family, will be hosting a Ranch Tour at Cammack Buffalo Ranch near Stoneville, South Dakota. John has been keeping his fingers crossed that the promise of lots of visitors to the ranch will bring on the rain. For most of us in the grip of a nasty drought, well, it's a sure bet there would not be any complaints if it did rain!

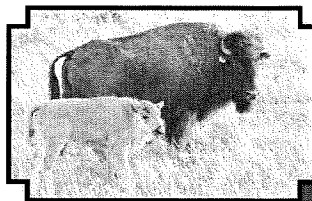


All kidding aside, the Cammacks are very excited to open up their ranch on behalf of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association. The association board of directors decided earlier this year that it would be a good time for a more "hand's on" approach to the numerous Bison Advantage workshops that have been taking place in the last couple of years. The DTBA has done a number of ranch tours over the years, but it has been a while since the last one and everyone felt it would be a beneficial learning tool for established and new or prospective producers alike.

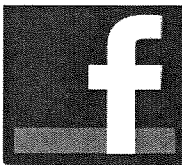
The ranch tour will take place on Saturday, August 25 and will begin at 9 a.m. mountain time. John is planning to work a few head of yearling bulls through their handling facility at that time and this will offer an opportunity for everyone to see their handling facility in operation as well as ask questions and discuss the pros and cons of various set ups. During the morning's presentation, John will also share how his family got started in the buffalo business as well as some insight and comparisons on raising cattle and buffalo, as the ranch currently does both.

There will also be a presentation from the National Bison Association on their upcoming release of the next video in their Risk Management Training Series project. This is an exciting project that has been taking shape over the past year, with NBA staff traveling around the country filming various aspects of bison production and handling and interviewing numerous people involved in the industry. These training videos cover many aspects of the business and are a valuable resource for anyone in the industry. With the imminent release of the next video, this will be a great opportunity for attendees to get a jump on the video's content and get updated information on bison handling and management.

*Continued on page 4*

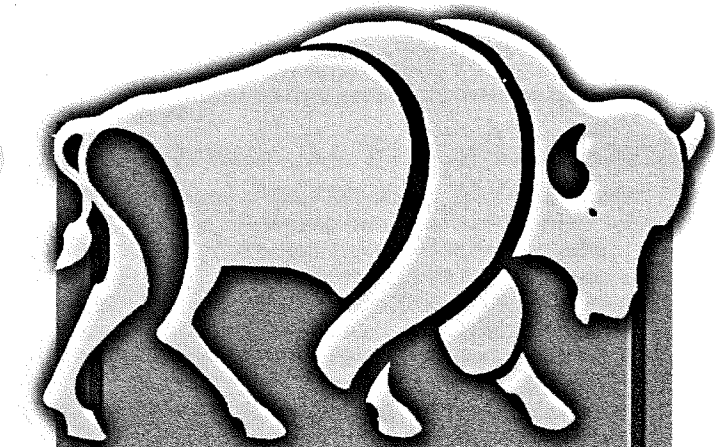


## Follow And Like Us On Facebook



The association recently launched our own page on the popular social networking site, Facebook. With so many people visiting there, the board felt that it would be a beneficial place for the association to share our message and be a valuable tool to help keep our Facebook friends updated on current happenings. We are posting updates and photos for both the Young Guns and Girlz Gone Wild classes, and our upcoming ranch tour.

If you are not already on Facebook, considering joining. We'd love to have you stop by our page and like us! Your comments and feedback are also welcome and needed so we can make this an area that is beneficial for you to use.



# DAKOTA TERRITORY BUFFALO ASSOCIATION

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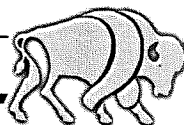
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**DTBA OFFICE**

RAPID CITY, SD • (605) 858-0961  
info@dakotabuffalo.com





# Cammack Buffalo Ranch Tour Slated For August 25

Continued from page 1

Following the morning's activities, everyone will gather for a buffalo burger lunch. The afternoon will consist of tours of the Cammack herds, with opportunities to ask questions and see the ranch's management practices firsthand. One of the herds that will be showcased in the afternoon is the DTBA Girlz Gone Wild yearling heifers. Cammack Buffalo Ranch is the host ranch for this first time class. A group of yearling heifers from ten consignors was sent to the ranch in early February. They will be at the ranch until February 2013, at which time they will be returning to Rapid City as part of the DTBA Black Hills Buffalo Classic. The idea behind this class is to bring the yearling heifers to a host ranch and then return them to the show the following year as two-year-old bred heifers. They will be judged and placed based on several criteria and winners will be announced at the show and sale and the heifers will all be offered for sale at the live animal auction on February 3.

This will be a great opportunity for people to see an operation that has come a long way in a few short years. The Cammacks started out in the buffalo business in 1998 with the purchase of 22 head. Today, their herds number into the hundreds and they have established themselves solidly in the business. They began showing their animals exclusively at the Black Hills Buffalo Classic back in 2006 and have won trophies every year since then, culminating in being named Producer of the Year in 2008. Their animals have placed in numerous live animal classes as well as the Reality Based Carcass class, a testament to the fact that this operation is well rounded and has put the effort into producing top quality animals.

Several vendors will be set up out at the ranch for the day. Cammack Ranch Supply in Union Center will have a display set up with ranch equipment, livestock supplies and fencing materi-

als. Doug Woodall from Big Sky Ranch in Granville, North Dakota, is planning to bring a new chute system for attendees to look over. DTBA will have a booth set up with information and items for sale such as the Bison Breeder's Handbook and some new DTBA promotional clothing items. We are also planning for the NBA to set up a display with promotional materials and information.

The ranch is located 11 miles north of Union Center (located on Highway 34) on Stoneville Road, then go right on Old Stoneville Road and it's the first place on the right. There is a large Cammack Ranch sign at the entrance. Watch for directional signs as you enter Union Center.

From Rapid City: East on I-90 to New Underwood, Exit 78, turn left and head north across the bridge then approximately 32 miles north on New Underwood Road to the junction of New Underwood Road and Highway 34. Turn east on Highway 34 for 8 miles to Union Center. Watch for signs and then head north on Stoneville Road. It's about an hour and a half traveling time from Rapid City (approximately 80 miles)

From Sturgis: East on Highway 34 for 46 miles to Union Center. Watch for signs and then head north on Stoneville Road. It's about an hour traveling time from Sturgis (approximately 60 miles).

Coming from the east on I-90: Take Exit 78 at New Underwood and turn right at the top of the off ramp onto New Underwood Road. Remaining directions are the same as from Rapid City.

For those needing overnight accommodations, both Rapid City and Sturgis offer a variety of hotels. Wall also has several hotels if you are coming in from the east. If you need assistance with any details, please contact the DTBA as shown below. John and Melanie also welcome anyone that would like to bring a camper or tent out to the ranch and stay. They will accommodate you as best they can and John mentioned something about fishing and a skeet shooting range for entertainment! Sounds fun!

The cost for attendees is for the Ranch Day Tour is \$10 per person to help offset the cost of the lunch. Registration forms are included in this newsletter and are also available on the DTBA website at [www.dakotabuffalo.com](http://www.dakotabuffalo.com) and links can be found on our Facebook page at Dakota Territory Buffalo Association. Registrations should be postmarked by August 20 to ensure enough food will be prepared for all attendees. Registrations the day of the tour are welcome and we will do our best to accommodate any and all for the lunch, but only pre-registered attendees will be guaranteed lunch.

For more information, please contact the DTBA at (605) 858-0961 or email to [info@dakotabuffalo.com](mailto:info@dakotabuffalo.com).

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## Drought Task Force Website

### From South Dakota Ag Connection

South Dakota Gov. Dennis Daugaard's Drought Task Force has established a website that includes links to drought-related news releases, drought designation information, recommended feed-finder sites and other drought-related links for agricultural producers and other interested parties.

The site can be found at: <http://drought.sd.gov>

On July 23, U.S. Agriculture Tom Secretary Vilsack released emergency haying and grazing outside of the Primary Nesting Season to all counties with a drought level of abnormally dry (D0) or higher, as measured by the U.S. Drought Monitor.

"South Dakota producers interested in emergency haying and grazing of CRP must contact their local FSA offices to obtain approval to hay or graze CRP," said Craig Schaunaman, USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director.

For more information on the Governor's Drought Task Force or the Drought Task Force website, please contact Jamie Crew at (605) 773-4073.

## Conservation Grazing Workshop

The Society for Range Management is hosting the 2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop to be held at the Dakota Magic Casino near Hankinson, ND on August 21 and 22. The 2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop will bring together natural resource professionals and livestock producers from ND, SD and MN to learn more about the application of livestock grazing as a grassland management and conservation tool. On August 21, participants will learn about the current opportunities, information, and challenges of managing grassland habitats and achieving conservation objectives with livestock. On August 22, the workshop will consist of a field tour and on-site discussions about livestock grazing for conservation objectives.

Registration is \$50/day until the day of the workshop. Please visit the 2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop web site at: <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/2012conservationgrazingworkshop> to register, or register by phone at: (800) 627-0326 extension 456 (please mention 2012 Tri-State Conservation Grazing Workshop). Limited space is available.

The Society for Range Management is the professional society dedicated to supporting persons who work with rangelands and have a commitment to their sustainable use. Rangelands comprise almost one-half of all the lands in the world. They are important to society for the goods and services they produce and for the ecological services they provide. SRM is dedicated to the conservation and sustainable management of rangelands for the benefit of current societies and for future generations.

For more information please contact Mark Hayek at 218-681-6600 ext108, or email [mark.hayek@mn.usda.gov](mailto:mark.hayek@mn.usda.gov).

## Emergency CRP Usage Authorized

### From South Dakota Ag Connection

USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Executive Director for South Dakota, Craig Schaunaman, recently announced that in response to drought conditions, FSA has authorized emergency haying and grazing use of Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) acres for all South Dakota counties.

"South Dakota producers interested in emergency haying and grazing of CRP must contact their local FSA offices to obtain approval to hay or graze CRP," said Schaunaman. Any approved emergency haying and grazing of CRP cannot begin until August 2, 2012, which is after the end of the primary nesting and brood rearing season in South Dakota. "Producers will also need to obtain a modified conservation plan from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) that includes haying and grazing requirements," he said.

Under CRP emergency haying and grazing provisions, haying activity may not exceed August 31, 2012, and grazing activity may not exceed September 30, 2012. The acreage eligible for emergency haying and grazing is limited to those conservation practices eligible under the emergency release of CRP for haying and grazing purposes. Currently there are approximately 532,000 acres of CRP available for emergency haying and grazing in South Dakota. There are an additional 19,000 acres of Conservation Practice 25, Rare and Declining Habitat available for emergency grazing purposes only. Wetland and farmable wetland conservation practices are considered to be environmentally sensitive; therefore, are not eligible for emergency haying and grazing.

On July 11, 2012, Secretary Vilsack announced that the 25 percent CRP payment reduction will be reduced to 10 percent for all 2012 emergency haying and grazing authorizations in order to provide greater flexibility to farmers and ranchers in response to the drought conditions.

Under emergency haying and grazing provisions, producers are reminded that the same CRP acreage cannot be both hayed and/or grazed at the same time. For example, if 50 percent of a field or contiguous field is hayed, the remaining unhayed 50 percent cannot be grazed; it must remain unhayed and ungrazed for wildlife habitat purposes.

In an effort to proactively serve South Dakota farmers and ranchers, the South Dakota Farm Service Agency and the South Dakota Department of Agriculture are encouraging producers to utilize the on-line hay finder services available via [www.hayexchange.com](http://www.hayexchange.com) and [www.haybarn.com](http://www.haybarn.com).

For more information and to request approval for emergency haying and grazing of CRP acres contact your local FSA office.



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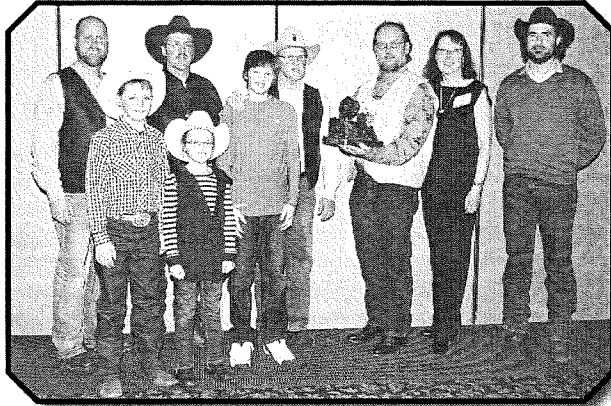
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# 2012 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale Results

Hosted By Dakota Territory Buffalo Association  
February 5, 2012 • Rapid City, SD



Above: At left, the Nolz family is named the 2012 Producer of the Year. Awarding the bronze are sponsors Rod and Lynnette Sather from Mosquito Park Enterprises and Joe Dickman with Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch.

**Producer of the Year:** Nolz Poor Farm Bison, Ed & Deanna Nolz, Sioux Falls, SD

**Rookie of the Year:** Heart River Bison, Doug Paulson, Manning, ND

**Grand Champion Male:** Yearling Bull from Tatanka Hills, Kevin & Joan Stormo, Lake Norden, SD. Bull sold for \$7,250 to John Bourk of Sturgis, SD.

**Reserve Champion Male:** Young Guns Yearling bull from Cold Creek Buffalo Company, Boyd & Allison Meyer, Windsor, CO. Bull sold for \$7,000 to Scott and Jon Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Belle Fourche, SD.

**Grand Champion Female:** Heifer Calf from Nolz Poor Farm Bison. Heifer sold for \$2,400 to Larry and Dixie Byrd, Trails End River Bison, Presho, SD.

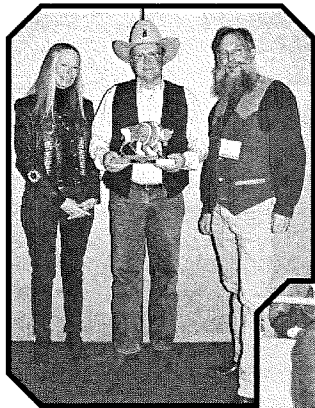
**Reserve Champion Female:** Pen of Five Heifer Calves from Nolz Poor Farm Bison. Heifers sold for \$1,750 per head/\$8,750 for



Above: Sponsor Peter Cook, with Ken Mar Buffalo Ranch, awards Doug Paulson the Rookie of the Year bronze.

the pen, to Dan Huber, Elk Pass Ranch, Redfield, SD.

**Yearling Heifer** : 1. KenMar Buffalo Ranch, Peter Cook & Ryan Homelvig, New Rockford, ND; 2. KenMar Buffalo Ranch



Above: Ed Nolz, center, accepts the Grand Champion Female trophy from sponsors Michael and Kathleen Gear.

**Top Five Heifer Calves:** 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison; 2. Riata Bison Ranch, Kevin & Mary Casey, Rapid City, SD

**Heifer Calf:** 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison; 2. Tatanka Hills; 3. Riata Bison Company

**Bull Calf:** 1. Nolz Poor Farm Bison; 2. Riata Bison Ranch  
**Top Five Bull Calves:** 1. Heart River Bison; 2. Riata Bison Ranch

**Yearling Bulls:** 1. Tatanka Hills; 2. Cammack Buffalo Ranch, John, Lane & Mike Cammack, Stoneville, SD; 3. KenMar Buffalo Ranch; Honorable Mention: Tatanka Hills

**Young Guns Yearling Bulls:** 1. Cold Creek Buffalo Company; 2. Cold Creek Buffalo Company; 3. Tatanka Hills

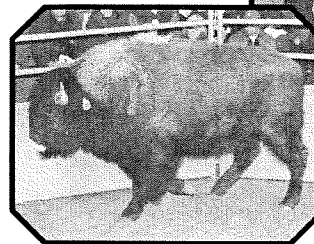
**Reality Based Carcass Class Bull:** 1. Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Sandy & Jacki Limpert, Buffalo, SD; 2. Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Brodie & Samantha Limpert, Buffalo, SD; 3. Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Sandy & Jacki Limpert, Buffalo, SD

**Reality Based Carcass Class Heifer:** 1. Blue Valley Ranch, Perry Handyside, Mgr.,

Tim Robertson Livestock Foreman, Kremmling, CO; 2. Riata Bison Ranch; 3. KenMar Buffalo Ranch



Above: At left, sponsors Sandy and Jacki Limpert present the Grand Champion Bull award to Joan and Kevin Stormo.



## Sale Results

**Yearling Heifer:** 2 head sold. Average price was \$1700 per head.

**Heifer Calf:** 4 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,250 to \$2,400 per head with an average of \$1,663 per head.

**Top Five Heifer Calves:** 2 pens/10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,200 to \$1,750 per head with an average of \$1,475 per head.

**Top Five Bull Calves:** 2 pens/10 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,450 to \$1,750 per head with an average of \$1,600 per head.

**Bull Calf:** 2 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,600 to \$2,700 per head with an average of \$2,150 per head.

**Yearling Bull:** 7 head sold. Prices ranged from \$2,800 to \$7,250 per head with an average of \$3,957 per head.

**Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge:** 13 head sold. Prices ranged from \$3,200 to \$7,000 per head with an average of \$4,085 per head.

**Premium Yearling Heifers:** 16 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,450 to \$1,750 per head with an average of \$1,563 per head.

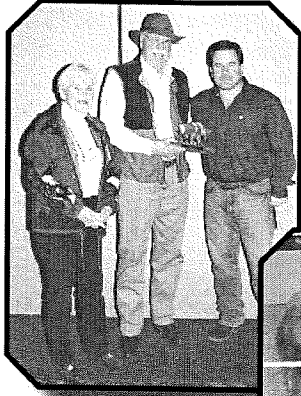
**Premium Heifer Calves:** 19 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,100 to \$1,525 per head with an average of \$1,354 per head.

**Premium Bull Calves:** 12 head sold. Prices ranged from \$1,150 to \$1,450 per head with an average of \$1,375 per head.

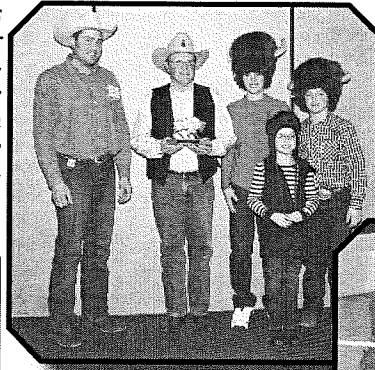
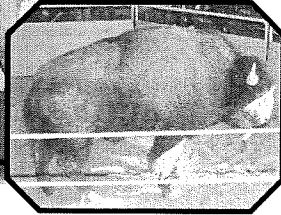
**Premium Yearling Bulls:** 13 head sold. Price was \$1,550 per head.



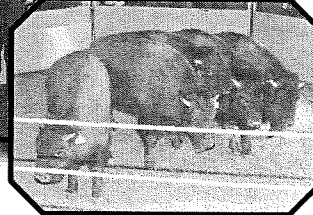
# 2012 Black Hills Buffalo Classic And Winter Conference



At left, sponsors Pat and Dan Huber present Boyd Meyer with the Reserve Grand Champion Bull trophy for his Young Guns Yearling Bull entry.



At left, John Cammack stands in for sponsor Heath Peterson and presents the Reserve Grand Champion Female trophy to Ed Nolz and his grandsons.



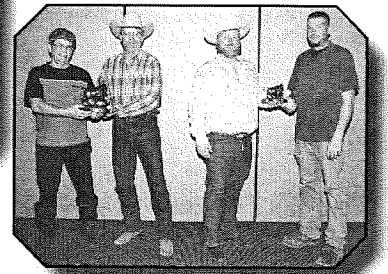
Gaylynn Flocchini, center, accepts the bronze for the outgoing Black Hills Buffalo Classic Judge. Sponsor Rod Bakken is on the left with DTBA President, John Cammack on the right.



Winners in the Bull Calf class included, left to right: Silver trophy, sponsored by Lance & Tahma Kuck, presented to Martin Waage on behalf of Riata Bison Ranch and Gold, presented by Evie Woodall for the North Dakota Buffalo Association, awarded to the Ed Nolz family.



Winners in the Heifer Calf class included, left to right: Kevin Casey accepting the Bronze from sponsor Dakota R.V.; Larry Carr presenting the Silver trophy for sponsor Linweld, to Joan and Kevin Stormo and Ed Nolz accepts the Gold from sponsor Travis Mickelson.

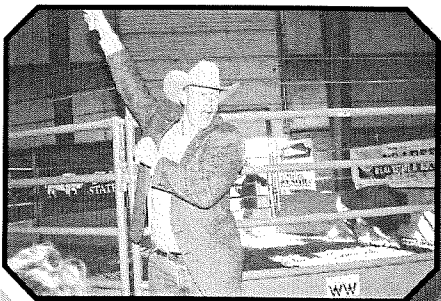


Left to right: Doug Paulson accepts the Gold for his Top 5 Bull Calves entry from sponsor Zane Holcomb while sponsor Moritz Espy presents the Silver to Martin Waage with Riata Bison Ranch.

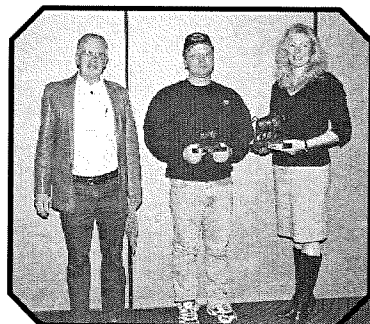
At right, standing left to right: Sponsor Dan Huber presents Joan and Kevin Stormo the Gold trophy for their Yearling Bull entry while Peter Cook accepts the Bronze trophy from Jacki and Sandy Limpert, standing in for sponsors Brodie and Samantha Limpert, and sponsor Fischer Rounds and Assoc. presents the Silver trophy to John Cammack.



Below, left to right: Mary and Kevin Casey accept the Silver award from sponsor Boyd Meyer in the Top 5 Heifer Calves class while sponsor Moritz Espy awards the Gold to Ed Nolz.

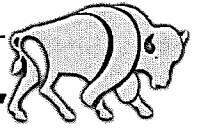


Auctioneer Jeff Storm catches bids during the Black Hills Buffalo Classic auction. Jeff also helped with our Fun Auction Saturday evening. Photo by Dawn Englebert.

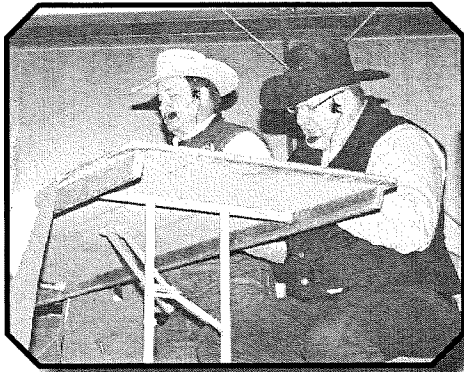


At left, sponsor Sam Holland presents Ryan Homelvig with the Silver trophy and Felicia Sargeant, in for sponsor Longreach Buffalo Company, presents the Gold trophy to Homelvig for his entries in the Yearling Heifer class.

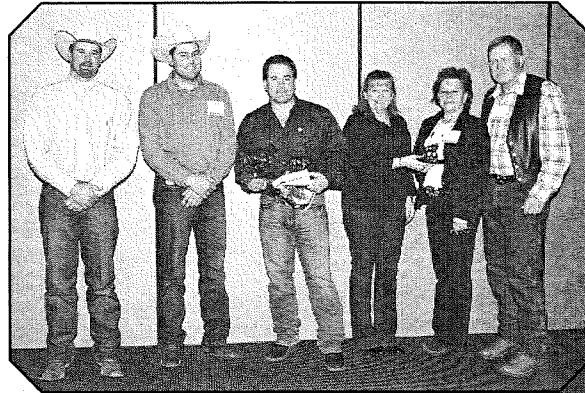




# 2012 Black Hills Buffalo Classic And Winter Conference



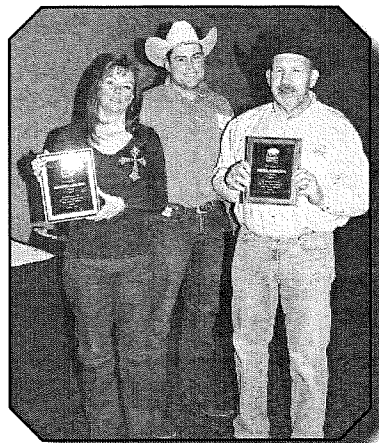
Our favorite buffalo auctioneers, Ron Bradeen and Jud Seaman, working the sale crowd on auction day. Photo by Dawn Englebert.



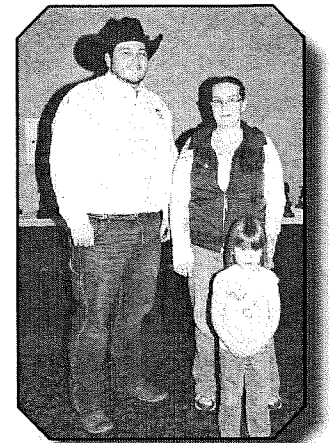
Boyd Meyer, third from left, took home both the Gold and Silver trophies for his Young Guns Yearling Bull Challenge entries. Gold was presented by sponsor Tim Robertson of Blue Valley Ranch and Silver was sponsored by John Cammack. Diesel Machinery, Inc., was the sponsor of the Bronze trophy in the class, with Joan and Kevin Stormo taking that trophy home.



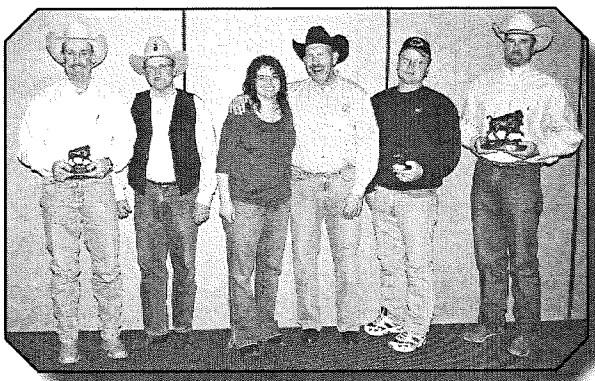
Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch made a clean sweep of the Reality Based Carcass Class Bulls, with Jacki Limpert accepts the Gold trophy from sponsor Ed Nolz while sponsor Tim Robertson waits to hand her the Bronze trophy for their entries. Steve McFarland, representing sponsor Erickson's Meat Market, presents the Silver trophy to Sandy Limpert, who accepted on behalf of Brodie and Samantha Limpert.



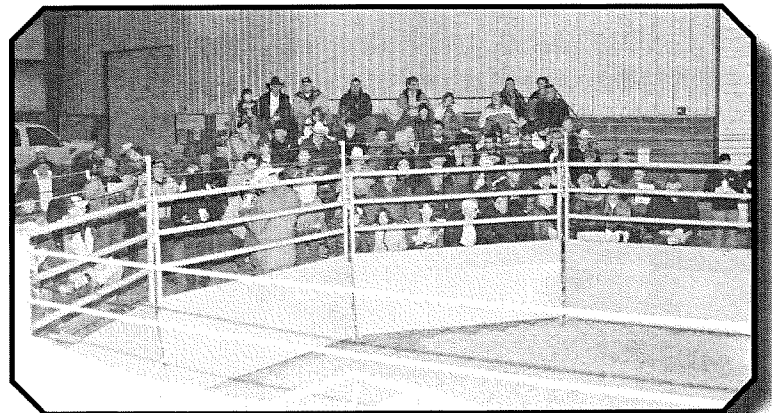
DTBA President, John Cammack, center, presents outgoing board members Mimi Hillenbrand (accepted by Kara Espy) and Bruce Anderson with an appreciation plaque for their service to the association. Both of them served two terms on the Board of Directors, with Bruce serving as the Immediate Past President.



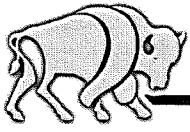
National Bison Association President, Peter Cook, congratulates the newest NBA member, Samantha Sullivan from Vivian, SD.



From left to right: Kevin Casey accepts the Silver trophy from Ed Nolz, representing sponsor Renner Corner Locker, for his Reality Based Carcass Class Heifer entry while Martha and Bruce Anderson, sponsoring Gold and Bronze, award the Bronze to Ryan Homelvig and the Gold to Tim Robertson.



The sale ring all set up and ready to go on sale day. We had a full house for the live animal auction with lots of familiar faces and a few new ones in the crowd.



## Many Thanks To Our Sponsors

Every year we are very fortunate to have a host of sponsors step forward and lend their support to our Winter Conference and Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show and Sale. We truly appreciate everything these generous sponsors do for us and we could not have our events without them. Please take a moment the next time you see them or do business with them, and thank them for their continued support of our association and our industry in general.

- Mosquito Park Enterprises - Rod and Lynnette Sather*
- Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch - Scott and Susan Peterson; Joe Dickman*
- KenMar Buffalo Ranch - Peter Cook and Ryan Homelvig*
- Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch - Sandy and Jacki Limpert*
- Elk Pass Ranch - Dan and Pat Huber*
- Red Canyon Ranch - Michael and Kathleen Gear*
- Prairie Rose Buffalo Ranch - Heath and Danielle Peterson*
- North Dakota Buffalo Association*
- Holcomb Buffalo Ranch - Zane Holcomb*
- Blue Valley Ranch - Perry Handyside and Tim Robertson*
- Mickelson Buffalo Ranch - Travis and Haley Mickelson*
- 777 Ranch - Mimi Hillenbrand and Moritz and Kara Espy*
- Longreach Buffalo Company - Wendy Hutchinson, Kelly Hardy and Roy and Amy Liedtke*
- Custer State Park Resort Company*
- Nolz Poor Farm Bison - Ed and Deanna Nolz*
- Western Buffalo Company - Bruce and Martha Anderson*
- Laughing Water Ranch - Lance and Tahma Kuck*
- Fischer Rounds & Associates, Inc.*
- Cammack Buffalo Ranch - John, Melanie, Lane and Mike Cammack*
- Linweld - Bryce Lutz*
- Cold Creek Buffalo Company - Boyd and Allison Meyer*
- CB Buffalo Company - Sam Holland*
- Hofer-Loewen Ranch - Harold and Darla Loewen*
- Renner Corner Locker - Dean and Sandy Sorum*
- Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch - Brodie and Samantha Limpert*
- Diesel Machinery, Inc. - Mark Barry*
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- Custer State Park*
- The Little Print Shop - Alan and Marilyn Sewell*
- Cammack Ranch Supply - Gary Cammack*

## A Heartfelt Thanks To Everyone

On behalf of the DTBA, we'd like to take the opportunity to thank everyone who makes our winter conference and show and sale a success. Your support of the association, be it in your time, your donations or your financial contributions, is vital to our organization and all of YOU are what makes it click, year after year. The generosity shown by our members is second to none and that is what allows us to continue moving forward.

### *2012 BHBC, Premium and Carcass Class Consignors*

Cammack Buffalo Ranch, John, Melanie, Lane and Mike Cammack; Cold Creek Buffalo Company, Boyd and Allison Meyer; Elk Pass Ranch, Dan and Pat Huber; Heart River Bison, Doug Paulson; Horse Creek Bison Co., Steve and Roxann McFarland; Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Scott and Susan Peterson; KenMar Buffalo Ranch, Peter Cook and Ryan Homelvig; Nolz Poor Farm Bison, Ed and Deanna Nolz; Oglala Sioux Parks and Recreation Authority, Tom Fast Wolf, Jr., Unit Mgr.; Riata Bison Ranch, Kevin and Mary Casey; Summit Lake Bison, Chris and Stacey Kremer; Tatanka Hills, Kevin and Joan Stormo; Wishbone Ranch, Ken Cassens; Blue Valley Ranch, Perry Handyside, Mgr. and Tim Robertson, Livestock Foreman; Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Sandy and Jacki Limpert; Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch, Brodie and Samantha Limpert.

### *2012 BHBC and Premium Auction Buyers*

Curt Hepper, Flying H Buffalo, Inc.; Dan Huber, Elk Pass Ranch; Larry and Dixie Byrd, Trails End River Bison; Craig Lidel; Duane Lammers; Lance Kuck, Laughing Water Ranch; Fred Dubray; Rod Sather, Mosquito Park Enterprises; Steve Hein, Hein Buffalo; Doug Woodall, Big Sky Ranch; Boyd Meyer, Cold Creek Buffalo Company; John Bourk; Dwight Slovek, Prairie Moon Ranch; Gary Winkler, Winkler Buffalo Ranch; Roger Ball, Intermountain Bison; Doug Olson; Steve McFarland, Horse Creek Bison Co.; Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch and Dale Heid.

### *Volunteers Who Help...Anytime, Anywhere!*

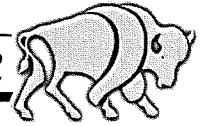
Chad Kremer; Felicia Sargeant; John Cammack; Melanie Cammack; Doug Woodall; Larry Carr; Sandy Limpert; Jacki Limpert; Brodie Limpert; Sam Limpert; Zane Holcomb; Marty Waage; Wendy Hutchinson; Kelly Hardy; Susan Maass; Peter Cook; Bruce Anderson; Scott Peterson; Joe Dickman; Mimi Hillenbrand; Moritz Espy; Marielle Graese; Roy Liedtke; Ron Bradeen; Jud Seaman; Jeff Storm; Renee Carr; Evie Woodall; Todd Goetz...the list goes on and on! At the risk of leaving someone out, we'll stop there, but every person's contributions are greatly appreciated, be it time, talent, attendance at the meetings...there is nothing that can be overlooked or taken for granted.

## A Very Special Thank You!

While it takes a giant effort from everyone involved to make our winter events happen, every once in a while you come across someone who goes the extra mile and they cannot know how much their assistance is appreciated.

I would like to take the opportunity to offer my sincerest and heartfelt thanks to Marilyn and Alan Sewell at the Little Print Shop. They have been good friends and business associates for many years and right when I needed them most, they came through for me, which in turn came through for the DTBA.

Due to some technical difficulties, coupled with some miscommunications and "oops" moments, the show and sale catalog was not done in time to go to print on the usual Friday afternoon. Upon hearing my plight and after offering some technical assistance, Marilyn and Alan graciously offered to come in on Saturday morning...they are not normally open on weekends...and print our show and sale catalog so it would be ready for the banquet that night. I cannot thank them enough for going the extra mile, not only for myself, but for our association. THANK YOU!!!



## Coalition Launches Campaign To Make Bison National Mammal

### From the National Bison Association

The Wildlife Conservation Society, Intertribal Buffalo Council, and National Bison Association earlier this summer launched a campaign to make the North American bison the national mammal of the United States. The announcement coincides with the introduction of the National Bison Legacy Act in the U.S. Senate, which if passed would officially designate bison as the national mammal.

The bill, which was introduced by U.S. Sens. Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Tim Johnson (D-SD), acknowledges the efforts that Native Americans, bison producers, conservationists, sportsmen, educators and other public and private partners, are making in recognizing bison for its cultural, economical and ecological significance across the American landscape. Sens. Enzi and Johnson introduced the legislation at the request of a coalition of bison producers, tribal representatives and conservationists that plan to celebrate the first Thursday of each November as National Bison Day.

The coalition's campaign will ask the public to "vote for bison," while highlighting the many ways that bison have shaped America's history, economy, culture, and landscapes. The public in turn will have the opportunity to follow the national campaign and be involved in the passage of the bill by visiting [www.votebison.org](http://www.votebison.org). Steering members of the coalition are WCS, the Intertribal Buffalo Council (which has a membership of 57 tribes in 19 states), and the National Bison Association (which has more than 1000 members across all 50 states). Additional coalition members have signed on and more are anticipated as the campaign kicks off. (DTBA has signed on as a member of the coalition)

The bison—America's largest land mammal—is celebrated for its cultural relevance and power to inspire. In the early 1900's, bison numbered less than 1,100 individuals after ranging across North America in the tens of millions a century earlier. In 1905, President Theodore Roosevelt, William Hornaday of WCS (then the New York Zoological Society), and others convened a group of diverse stakeholders at the Bronx Zoo in New York City and formed the American Bison Society. The Society developed a new conservation ethic and helped save bison from extinction. In 1907, fifteen Bronx-born bison were sent by the Society to the first big game refuge in the U.S.—the Wichita Reserve Bison Refuge. Today, bison number in the hundreds of thousands in the United States and are found in state and national parks, wildlife refuges, and on tribal and private lands.

"The bison is quintessentially American," said WCS Executive Vice President of Public Affairs John Calvelli. "What better way to celebrate the bison's remarkable history in U.S. culture than to make it the national mammal? We encourage everyone to Vote Bison, and officially make the bison part of our national iconography."

Among other findings, the National Bison Legacy Act recognizes that bison are integrally linked to Native American culture, are a keystone species that benefit grassland ecosystems, hold significant value for private producers and rural communities, and are considered a symbol of the American West.

WCS Senior Conservationist Keith Aune said, "Recent discoveries by western scientists combined with ancient traditional knowledge have described many important relationships that large herds of bison maintained with other animals such as birds, amphibians and prairie dogs in a complete prairie system. Bison were a force of nature and served a key role in maintaining an

entire eco-system while providing important ecological services to mankind."

Bison currently appear on two state flags, on the seal of the Department of the Interior, and on U.S. currency. In addition, bison have been adopted as the state mammal of Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Kansas. The coalition believes that the bison is the nation's most culturally recognizable animal and as such deserves recognition through designation and celebration.

"The North American Bison is an enduring symbol of America, its people and a way of life," said Senator Enzi. "Bison are linked to the economic and spiritual lives of many Indian tribes and this animal, through our history, has been used to represent the strength and will of the American people."

Senator Johnson said, "The historical, cultural, ecological and economic significance the bison has in South Dakota and across the nation makes it well deserving of this designation. Throughout history, the bison has been the center of the economic and spiritual lives of American Indians and is an important historical symbol of the United States."

Based to some extent on the health benefits derived from consumption of bison as a red meat source, bison today are an economic driver as well. The total value of privately owned bison on more than 4000 bison ranches in the U.S. was estimated to exceed \$250 million in 2011,

creating jobs and contributing to the nation's food security.

"The grassland environments of North America were all shaped by the hoof print of the American bison," said Dave Carter, executive director of the National Bison Association. "As we introduce healthy bison meat to a new generation of Americans, we are also restoring a vital part of the ecological health to our grasslands. Just as the bison are a proud part of our past, they are a growing part of our future as well."

Bison continue to sustain and provide cultural value to Native Americans. Today, bison remain integrally linked with the spiritual lives of Native Americans through cultural practices, social ceremonies and religious rituals. ITBC member tribes have a combined herd of over 15,000 bison on more than one million acres of tribal land.

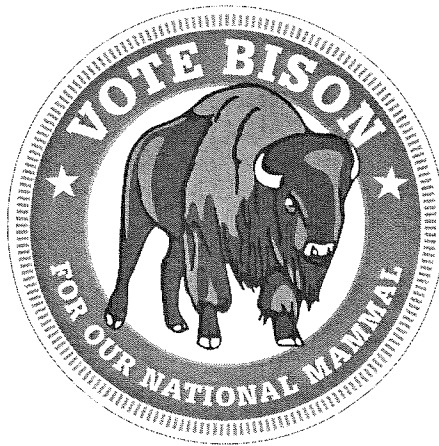
"The buffalo was once the center of life for the Native peoples and today, as we work to restore that relationship, we would like to pause and honor the buffalo as the national mammal," said Jim Stone, Executive Director of the Intertribal Bison Cooperative. "We would like to see this done in order to draw attention to the diverse groups that have played a role in restoration and that continue to work on restoring an original American icon."

Sens. Enzi and Johnson were joined as original co-sponsors of the legislation by Sen. Michael Bennet (D-CO), Sen. Kent Conrad (D-ND), Sen. John Hoeven (R-ND), Sen. Mike Johanns (R-NE), Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS), Sen. John Thune (R-SD), Sen. Mark Udall (D-CO), Sen. Tom Udall (D-NM), and Sen. Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI).

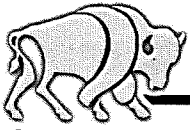
### Information from [www.votebison.org](http://www.votebison.org)

The National Bison Legacy Act would designate the American bison as the 'National Mammal of the United States.' Bison—our largest land mammal—embody our country's history, heritage and character. Once ranging from Oregon to New Jersey and Alaska to Mexico, bison herds inspired awe in western explorers, like Lewis and Clark. Bison were integrally linked with the eco-

*Continued on page 11*







## Coalition Launches Campaign To Make Bison National Mammal

*Continued from page 10*

conomic, physical and spiritual lives of Native Americans, central to their sustenance, trade, ceremonies and religious rituals. Bison are a symbol of frontier culture in the United States and sustained early settlers and traders. A monumental effort to save bison from extinction began in 1905, initiated by men and women from all walks of life, including ranchers, Native Americans, industrialists, Teddy Roosevelt, and general citizens. This grassroots campaign to save bison on small refuges in Oklahoma, Montana, and South Dakota served as the world's first successful wildlife restoration effort.

### **BISON TODAY**

Bison are an important animal in many sectors of modern American life. Bison continue to sustain and provide cultural value to Native Americans and Indian Tribes. Over 60 tribes are working to restore bison to over 1,000,000 acres of Indian lands in places like South Dakota, Oklahoma, New Mexico and Montana. Bison production on private ranches is in its strongest economic condition in more than a decade. The total value of privately-owned bison on more than 4,000 bison ranches in the U.S. was estimated to exceed \$250 million in 2011. This trend bodes well for bison ranches in states like South Dakota, Nebraska, Colorado, North Dakota and Montana, which create jobs, provide a sustainable and healthy meat source, and contribute to our nation's food security.

Bison are highly desired by the sporting public as a valued game animal. Utah, Alaska, Montana, and Wyoming are managing this species and hosting successful annual hunts helping to finance management efforts. Bison provide enjoyment and education to millions of visitors who recreate in America's great outdoors and tourists eager to view both public and private bison herds contribute to the economies of rural communities. Bison herds for public enjoyment and use are found on state and federal lands including Yellowstone National Park, Wind Cave National Park, Custer State Park, Caprock Canyon State Park, and Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge.

### **WHY SHOULD BISON BE DESIGNATED AS THE NATIONAL MAMMAL?**

As an American icon, bison are profiled on coins, designated as the state mammal of Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Kansas, depicted on the Department of the Interior's seal, and featured on logos of sports teams, businesses, and academic institutions. In bison, we recognize aspects of our character like fortitude, boldness, and independence. More than any other animal, the bison symbolizes America.

Designating the bison as the National Mammal would celebrate the animal's special place in our national heritage, as well as the contributions bison make to American life now and will for centuries to come. The designation recognizes a time when people from diverse backgrounds and political leanings united to save something precious and uniquely American, and provides a platform for stakeholders to again come together in a common cause.

### **THE NATIONAL BISON LEGACY ACT WOULD:**

1. Designate the North American bison as the 'National Mammal of the United States' to recognize its historical, cultural, economic, educational, and ecological significance.

2. Recognize that Native Americans, bison producers, conservationists, sportsmen, educators and other public and private partners will spearhead a national celebration of this American icon, the North American bison, annually the first Thursday of November.

According to an unpublished survey of attitudes toward bison, 74% of respondents said that bison were a living symbol of the American West.

**1. Why should the U.S. government go through with the designation?** We believe the bison is the nation's most culturally recognizable mammal, and as such, deserves recognition through designation and celebration. As an American icon, bison are pro-

filed on coins, represented on two State flags, depicted on the Department of the Interior's seal, and featured on logos of sports teams, businesses, and academic institutions. The designation will raise the national profile of bison to the benefit of all stakeholders including producers, conservation organizations, and tribes, while also honoring our national heritage.

**2. What is the precedent for a 'National Mammal' designation in other countries?** Dozens of countries have designated national mammals. Many of these countries have multiple animals designated, or have designated them based on taxonomical class (i.e. - national bird, national mammal, national reptile, etc.). For example, Finland has a national animal, a national bird, and a national fish. India has a national animal, bird, reptile, marine animal, and heritage animal. Mexico has a national bird, animal, arthropod, dog, mammal, marine mammal, and reptile.

**3. What animals are currently designated in the U.S.?** The bald eagle was designated as the 'National Emblem of the U.S.' on June 20, 1782 at the Second Continental Congress. States have dozens of specific designations including the following potential categories: animal, fish, insect, beverage, dance, flower, song, rock, tree, etc. The American bison is recognized as the state mammal of Wyoming, Oklahoma, and Kansas.

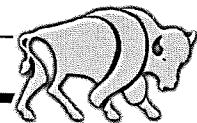
**4. How are bison doing in the U.S.?** Bison were rescued from the brink of extinction in the early 20th Century. Bison are found in national parks, wildlife refuges, state parks and on tribal and private lands. Additionally, bison production is an important economic driver in many states. There are approximately 20,000 bison in U.S. public herds, 198,000 bison in private production herds, and 15,000 bison in tribal herds.

**5. Where are bison herds located?** Bison herds are located in all fifty states. Public bison herds are managed in several National Parks, State Parks and wildlife management areas, and National Refuges in the western and Midwestern states. Tribal bison herds are managed on over 1,000,000 acres of tribal lands mostly in the west. Private production herds are found in every state.

In a response as to why the commercial sector of bison should support this bill, NBA Executive Director, Dave Carter, noted the following:

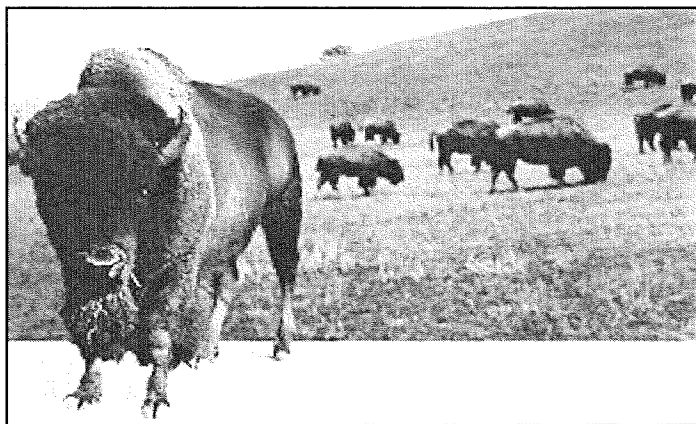
The National Bison Association represents a diverse group of members who are bound together by their commitment to this animal. Our membership is primarily composed of private ranchers, but we also have conservation groups, tribes, and many consumers among our membership.

The most visible sign of the multi-faceted role that ranchers, conservationists and tribes have played in restoring the animals in North America is the united effort between the Wildlife Conservation Society, the Intertribal Buffalo Council, and the National Bison Association to pass legislation that will officially designate bison as the national mammal of the United States. The language in the bill, which was introduced last month by U.S. Sens. Michael Enzi (R-WY) and Tim Johnson (D-SD), specifically mentions the importance of private, public and tribal herds. You can also find more information at [www.votebison.org](http://www.votebison.org). Bison producers have worked hard to develop a market-based connection with the American public. The public has responded, and demand for bison is growing sharply. Even as we work to meet that demand, we recognize that our customers expect us to protect the integrity of this magnificent animal. We believe that bison can be raised for meat without compromising that integrity. It's important to recognize that the relationship between humans and bison has always been based on consumption. Giant ancestors of bison shared the North American continent with woolly mammoths more than 150,000 years ago. As humans developed the ability to hunt in teams, the lumbering, large species of animals had to adapt or die. Woolly mammoths became extinct. Bison adapted. The instincts that our herds have today reflect that historical relationship.



## The Last Great Buffalo Roundup *One man in his 70s led the charge to drive a herd of buffalo to Canada*

Written by Martha Deeringer • Published March 29, 2011  
Reprinted with permission from True West Magazine



**Editor's Note:** Thanks to Chris Sullivan from the Montana Bison Association for making arrangements to have this article printed in the April MBA newsletter and allowing us to share it with DTBA members.

By 1880, the great herds of buffalo—estimated at 60 million in America—were all but gone, leaving behind them a dismal story of human greed and shortsightedness.

William T. Hornaday of the New York Zoological Society traveled throughout the West in 1889 to conduct a census of the remaining buffalo. He found only 541.

An unlikely hero in the person of a Flathead Indian named Samuel Walking Coyote did a great service for the buffalo in the course of trying to save his own hide. Sam paid a prolonged visit in the early 1870s to Montana's Blackfoot tribe, which allowed warriors to have more than one wife. Although he was already married to a Flathead woman, Sam tied the knot with a lovely Blackfoot girl. In time he began to pine for his home, but he had to take the Blackfoot wife home with him to avoid making her many male relatives angry. Sam knew the Flathead tribal elders would not be happy at his return with wife number two. The Flatheads, influenced by the Jesuits, practiced strict monogamy.

This circumstance caused Sam Walking Coyote to take gifts to his tribal leaders in hopes of avoiding punishment. He captured four young buffalo calves, two bulls and two heifers, and he took them along when he returned home. The tribal elders did not wait to hear Sam's reasoned pleas when they discovered he had taken a second wife. They flogged him immediately and cast him out of the tribe.

Over the next few years, Sam's buffalo herd increased. In 1883 the animals caught the attention of Michel Pablo, the son of a Spaniard and his Blackfoot wife, reportedly born circa 1836. Pablo was a shrewd businessman and saw an opportunity in the small herd. With his partner Charles Allard Sr., Pablo bought Sam's herd, which had increased to 13 buffalo, and turned them loose on the 1.5-million acre Flathead Reservation, along the Jocko and Pend d'Oreille Rivers in Montana, to forage for themselves. Buffalo are good at this. They went forth and multiplied.

In 1906, the U.S. government decided to open the Flathead Reservation to settlers. The decision spelled the end for Pablo's free-ranging buffalo herd. Allard had died in 1896, and his share of the herd, which by that time numbered about 300, was

scattered among his heirs, but Pablo's share continued to multiply. Pablo did his best to interest the government in acquiring the buffalo and setting up a refuge where they could be protected from the sad fate of their ancestors, but the government was not interested. Pablo finally accepted an offer from the Canadian government, which needed the animals to restock an area in Alberta where buffalo had roamed in the early part of the century. The Canadians offered Pablo \$250 a head, and he had little choice but to accept.

"Many people today, while appreciating the fact that Samuel Walking Coyote, Michel Pablo, Charles Allard and Andrew Stinger were the ones who saved the buffalo from extermination, question their motives," said Tony Barnaby, Pablo's son-in-law. "Some say that the plan was to build up a vast herd that later could be sold at a great profit."

The profit motive was not true, Barnaby argued. "Michel Pablo did not consider a buffalo as just a great, shaggy beast of the plains, but rather as symbolic of the real soul of the Indians' past."

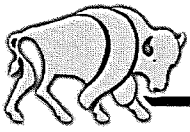
Regardless of Pablo's feelings for the animals, the contract was signed and the roundup began.

At the time of the 1907 roundup, Pablo was 71 years old. Well over six feet tall, with a shaggy head of white hair and an impressive white handlebar mustache, he still spent most of his time on horseback. Pablo was wise in the ways of buffalo and knew the roundup would not be a cakewalk. He hired a crew of the best riders in the area, many of them Indians. Hours of hard riding ensued, after which the "buffalo boys," as Pablo called them, had assembled a fair-sized herd. Surveying the shaggy animals, Pablo made a fateful decision; he decided to drive the entire lot at once to the Ravalli Railroad Station.

The buffalo were irritated after a day of being chased by men on horseback. When the men attempted to drive them off their home range, they rebelled. First one group and then another made a break for home. While the cowboys chased the runaways, another group of the beasts took advantage of the distraction by racing off in another direction. By the time the crew reached the railroad station, only 30 buffalo were left in the herd. Pablo must have sighed with relief when these galloped into the corrals at the station. Inside the corrals, Pablo had built a wing which would funnel the animals right up into the waiting railroad cars. Led by a huge bull, the buffalo trotted up the ramp, crashed through the opposite side of the box-car and stampeded off through the valley to freedom.

After this first unhappy attempt to gather the herd, Pablo put off further roundups for a year. During that time, he built a new set of pens from much stouter material. A steep cliff formed the back of the pens. But the buffalo boys had hardly chased the last animal through the gate of this new pen before the first one scaled the cliff like a mountain goat, pausing when he reached the precipice to look down at the crew below and snort his contempt. The others followed.

An impregnable back fence was added to the pens, and the buffalo boys went out again. They found a small bunch nearby and drove them into the corral where they milled anxiously, sizing up the wall of two-by-six planks spaced six inches apart. After a couple of rounds, a bull inserted his horns through the space under the top plank and lifted it from the posts, tossing it over his shoulders like a toothpick. Backing up a pace or two, he led the others in a coordinated assault on the fence and a gleeful rush to freedom.



# Montana Bison Association Takes Lead In Research Challenge Grant

The Montana Bison Association (MBA) partnered with both the National Bison Association (NBA) and National Buffalo Foundation (NBF) in January 2012 to present a challenge to all other State and Regionals and individuals that they would match up to \$10,000 towards bison animal research.

The Dakota Territory Buffalo Association pledged \$5,000 to the NBF to support bison herd health research. The North Dakota Buffalo Association is pledging an additional \$2,500.

NBF is a 501-c3 nonprofit organization allowing entire donation to be tax deductible. Along with that advantage, NBF is the bison industry's foundation that is the front-and-center group supporting bison-related research.

Beginning in the fall of 2011, the NBA began, and continues, facilitating research amongst a number of agencies, veterinarians and private ranches on Mycoplasma bovis (M. bovis). Over 1,000 pastured bison fatalities occurred from Mycoplasma bovis during the summer of 2011.

The MBA Board requested their funds (up to \$10,000) to be used first for the Mycoplasma project, and second, for other bison health issues. An agreement between NBA and NBF was made that NBA may submit a grant to access donations to support M. bovis research.

NBA's estimate on the cost of the current Mycoplasma effort is \$18,000 - \$23,000. NBA currently has \$6,000 in their Mycoplasma project fund, so the outstanding amount required will be about \$12,000 - \$17,000. NBA shared that Canadian Bison Association is confident that they can obtain some funds from their government agencies, so the actual amount needed to complete their project may be lower than the additional \$13,000-\$17,000.

Additional funds received related to the MBA's Challenge will be designated by NBF for continued bison-related research.

NBF conducted a survey of NBA members in November 2011 to give them direction on what research was needed by or interested the NBA members. As reported at NBA's 2012 Winter

Conference, the survey resulted in the below top five most frequently cited responses, for the 105 completing the survey, to the question:


*"Please share ideas of what project(s) specifically you would like to have the Foundation consider directing its funds towards"*

1. **Animal Research** - Nutrition, genetics and disease research.
2. **Financial** - Money for new producers; Help obtaining grants or loans for startup costs.
3. **Parasites** - Prevention and treatments known to be effective and safe.
4. **Educate the public on the bison and industry**
5. **Mycoplasma research • MCF • One time thru TB • Market Meat to consumer**

These survey responses will assist in guiding the NBF board, who for sixteen years has demonstrated a fiduciary responsibility in their decision making when awarding grants for additional research.





To make a contribution towards herd health research and this challenge grant contact Gail Griffin, NBF President; 507-452-8951/buffalo@hbc.com or mail gift to NBF, Attn: Bud Flocchini, Treasurer; 1330 Capitol Blvd Suite A; Reno, NV 89502.

**Editor's Note:** Inside this newsletter, you will find a Disease Survey insert. The NBA and CBA are conducting this survey to gather information on diseases in herds as well as identify the areas that have the most impact and are at greatest need for research funding. Please complete the survey and return to the NBA at the address or fax shown at the top of the survey page or you may bring with you to the Ranch Tour and give to Karen and she will send them in to the NBA.





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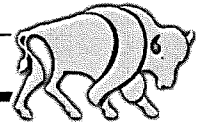
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## Producer Encouraged By Success With Agri-Dynamics Products

By Phil Jerde, Great Plains Buffalo

Fellow DTBA producers,

We are Great Plains Buffalo of Reva, SD. Our family consists of Phil and Jill Jerde, along with children Emmy, Payton, Eva, Hannah, John, Bo, Jack, Jesse, and Viggo. Yep, that's nine kids! We run about 400 buffalo cows, along with a beef herd that runs right with the buffalo most of the year.

After hearing the first hand experiences from several area producers regarding mycoplasma, I began researching what I could do to get my buffalo's immune systems functioning better.

In the fall of 2010, we lost several good calves to a respiratory illness called Pasteurella Multocida. My vet informed me that some virus most likely had weakened the immune system, which then allowed the pasteurilla bug free-reign into the lungs. This last fall, 2011, we again had a handful of good calves perish from what I am guessing was the same bug.

Personally, I don't believe that we buffalo producers are going to vaccinate our buffalo herds to health. The bugs just keep changing, and they will stay ahead of us. Guaranteed. The cattle industry has gone down this road to where they now give shots at branding, pre-weaning, weaning, post-weaning, feed antibiotics, etc. and yet, still have health issues. Do we really want to go down that road?

Agri-Dynamics is a holistic animal health company that takes a different approach to whole herd health. Its' founder, Jerry Brunnetti, cured his own lymphoma in 1999 with nutrition and immune system improvements. See Jerry's story on the link

"About Jerry" on the <http://agri-dynamics.com/> website.

A friend that raises grass fed beef in Minnesota put me in contact with Jerry and I heard Jerry speak at the Northern Plains Sustainable Ag Conference in Aberdeen in February 2012. I would definitely recommend listening to Jerry speak if you ever get the chance.

Will Winter, DVM, is also an Agri-Dynamics dealer in Minnesota and a wealth of information on holistic veterinary care. Will sent me the following link about mycoplasma. While it deals with mycoplasma and cattle, the key concepts are the same with our buffalo. We would be happy to visit with you regarding your buffalo's health. <http://pubs.ext.vt.edu/400/400-304/400-304.html>.

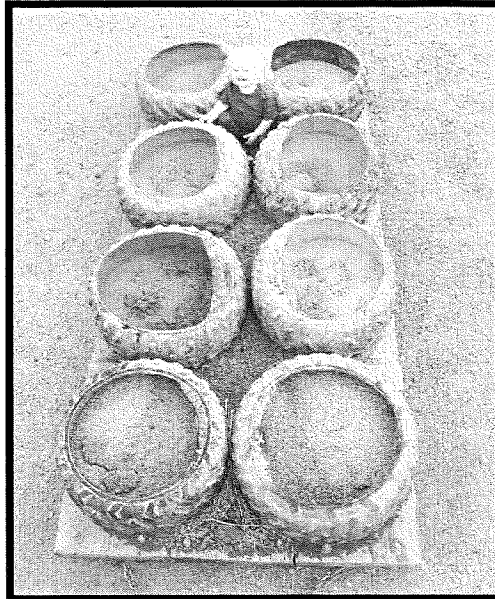
Starting in December 2011, we put our herd on Agri-Dynamics mineral program. You will notice that many of the ingredients and formulations are not found in conventional mineral programs. Kelp, for example, is a major ingredient in many of the formulations. There is another mineral called Parasite Control that works to help the animals fight off parasites without the use of chemicals. Another one called Winter Mune is high in vitamins animals lack in the dormant season. A whole list of Agri-Dynamics minerals is available on

the website under the "Livestock" section.

This winter was unusually mild, but our buffalo herd wintered with the calves on the cows and came out in really good shape. We fed no hay or supplements, just the Agri-Dynamics minerals and Redmond Salt. The buffalo just have a look to them and that they really feel great. We currently have six different minerals out free-choice, plus the Redmond Salt, letting the animals decide for themselves what they need. The photo in this article is a feeder we built using bridge plank and four wheeler tires.

The closest dealer to us was located in Minnesota and shipping costs significantly increased the cost to me. So I have now become a dealer for Agri-Dynamics. I can sell it to you at a savings because you will not have the extra freight charge. We normally get to Spearfish, SD every other week if that helps any of you. Or just call me at (605) 866-4888 to make other arrangements. My email is [peggycreekranch@sdplains.com](mailto:peggycreekranch@sdplains.com).

If you're happy doing what you're doing, that's fine. If you want to head in a different direction, please contact me. Any of you are welcome to come to the ranch and view the buffalo, and see what we're doing.





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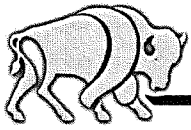
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# Experienced Producer Enjoys Challenge Of Judging New Class

By Susan Maass, Colorado Bison Company

She may be on a "leave of absence" having sold all but eight yearling heifers from the Colorado Bison Co. herd, but the Show and Sale Committee at Dakota Territory Buffalo Association (DTBA) quickly decided she would be the perfect judge for their new class; Girlz Gone Wild.

Consignors enter yearling heifers, coming two year olds, at their February Show and Sale, the Dakota Classic and the heifers go to a "host ranch" for the ensuing year to be raised and bred and returned (if bred) to the Classic the following year. Like the "Young Guns" class for bull calves, data is kept during the year to include their weights before going to pasture, their weights in the fall to know their gain on grass, then they are weighed again, pregnancy checked in addition to pelvic measurements taken, and ultra sounded for carcass traits. They are judged twice; within a month of arriving at the host ranch and again at the host ranch prior to the Classic by judges chosen for the 2013

show. Due to the confines of the pens at the Sale, it was decided to have all the judging at the host ranch. Hosting this new class is Cammack Buffalo Ranch; Lane, Mike, and John Cammack. John Cammack is currently the president of DTBA.

Susan was flattered to be asked to judge this new class commenting that "DTBA is adapting to changes in the marketplace

by providing this class which gives the buyer more information on these heifers when they are sold and the producers can honestly know how their stock compares because they are all raised under the same conditions. Associations need to adapt to buyers of new stock because they want more data on the breeding stock they buy. Otherwise more and more private sales will develop." said Susan, which she discussed in the last Bison Review.

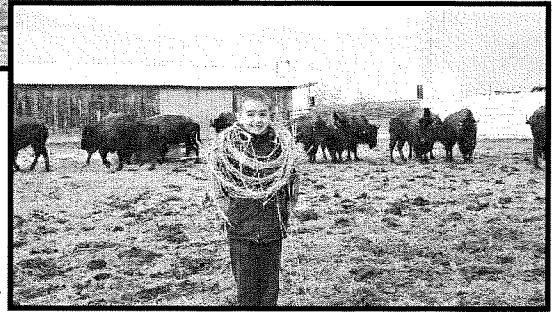
"What they didn't tell me was that all 20 heifers entered had to be placed from 1 to 20 and while the stress was much reduced for the animals by being at the host ranch, judging through 20 heifers without sorting pens, took a bit of time." she remarked and "This would never happen without the generosity of people like the Cammacks



Above: Susan Maass looks over the Girlz Gone Wild class as she judges them at the Cammack Buffalo Ranch.

At right: John's boy, Tabor, helps collect twine from the Girlz Gone Wild pen earlier this spring.

Photos by John Cammack.



to give pasture and time to hosting these heifers."

John Cammack is passionate about buffalo as is his wife Melanie, and their four children, Jada, Rachael, Tabor, and Shanni.

# National Bison Association Announces Scholarship Opportunity

From the National Bison Association

The National Bison Association (NBA) has announced the 2012 Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship amid continued growth in consumer demand for healthy, natural bison meat.

The Throlson American Bison Foundation is named after its founder, Dr. Ken Throlson, a pioneer of the modern bison business and awards three outstanding college students with an interest in the burgeoning bison industry.

"The Throlson American Bison Foundation Scholarship program has been established to recognize, encourage and promote leadership among future bison industry professionals," said Dave Carter, executive director of the NBA.

The scholarship program will offer a total of \$4,000 in scholarships for outstanding students who are currently enrolled in a recognized livestock, animal science, veterinary, agriculture, or human nutrition program in the United States or Canada.

Eligible students include juniors and seniors in undergraduate programs attending school full-time, as well as graduate students. Applications are available for download at the NBA's website, www.bisoncentral.com, or just click here.

Applications must be completed and mailed to the NBA no later than Oct. 1, 2012. Recipient announcements will be made no later than Nov. 5, 2012. For more information, contact the NBA office at (303) 292-2833, or jim@bisoncentral.com.

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## Latest Update From Mycoplasma Bovis Working Group

The Mycoplasma (*M. bovis*) working group convened late last year by the National Bison Association met this week by conference call to review the progress being made in the search for factors that allow the organism to cause disease, and for a potential vaccine for bison.

Researchers from the United States and Canada have been tackling various aspects of the disease in bison during the past seven months. Wednesday's conference call provided an opportunity for them to share the status of their research, and to discuss how to begin preparing a consensus document for presentation at the upcoming International Bison Conference next month.

Dr. Clair Windeyer of the University of Calgary discussed the initial results of the recent survey conducted among producers in the United States and Canada. She noted that 21 out of the 83 respondents reported that they had experienced something similar to *M. bovis* in their herds. Yearlings were the largest category of animals impacted by the disease, but many of the respondents reported a high impact throughout their herds.

The researchers are also looking into potential impacts of *M. bovis* in bison other than pneumonia. Preliminary studies suggest infected bison that do not exhibit any outward signs of the disease may harbor the organism in other tissues including uterine and fetal tissues, causing abortion.

"We've tracked a number of cows that did not show any signs of *M. bovis*, and that went out pregnant last fall, but did not come back in with a calf this spring. That indicates that it may have gone septicemic," said one producer-member of the working group.

Dr. Murray Woodbury of the Western College of Veterinary Medicine in Saskatchewan noted that there has been some progress made in documenting the potential for abortions and uterine infections in animals that do not exhibit visible signs of *M. bovis*.

The working group hopes to eventually develop sufficient information on the bison immune response to the organism that can be used to develop a vaccine for bison. Funding proposals have been submitted to agencies in Canada and the United States to support that research. NBA Executive Director Dave Carter told the group that the U.S. and Canadian bison industries have been raising funds that could be utilized to leverage some of those funds.

The *M. bovis* working group consists of researchers from the USDA Livestock Disease Research Unit, the University of Florida, several Canadian universities, Canadian provincial governments and the State of Montana, with participation by several private veterinarians and bison producers.

## North Dakota Eases Import Requirements on Minnesota Bovines

BISMARCK – The North Dakota State Board of Animal Health has relaxed importation requirements for Minnesota-origin cattle (and bison) from all areas of Minnesota, except a small tract, formerly known as the "Bovine TB Management Zone."

"Minnesota's livestock producers, the Minnesota state veterinarian, and the Minnesota Board of Animal Health and Department of Natural Resources have worked hard to eradicate bovine tuberculosis and to restore Minnesota's TB-free status," said Dr. Susan Keller, North Dakota state veterinarian. "North Dakota is confident that Minnesota cattle can be imported without additional testing."

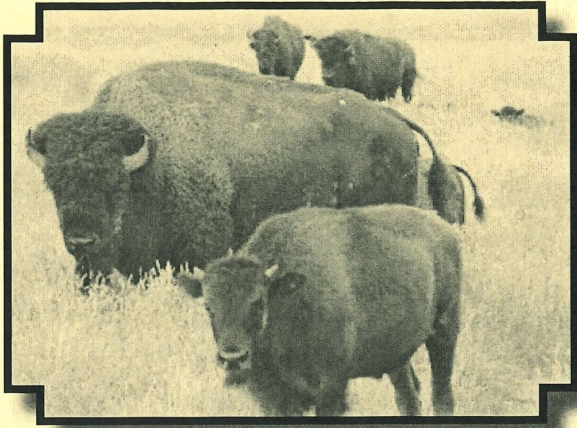
Keller said North Dakota will continue to require a negative, whole herd TB test and a 60-day, negative TB test for individual animals from herds within the former bovine TB management zone, a small area in northern Minnesota.

For more information, please contact Dr. Susan Keller, Dr. Beth Carlson or Dr. Jesse Vollmer at (701) 328-2655 or [doa-bah@nd.gov](mailto:doa-bah@nd.gov).



# CAMMACK BUFFALO RANCH TOUR AND LUNCH

## Saturday, August 25, 2012



**WHAT:** Cammack Buffalo Ranch Tour - John and Melanie Cammack and family.

**WHERE:** Cammack Buffalo Ranch, Stoneville, SD. 11 miles north of Union Center.

**WHEN:** Saturday, August 25. Starts at 9:00 a.m.

**WHO CAN COME:** Anyone interested in learning more about buffalo and buffalo production. We especially encourage anyone interested in getting into the buffalo industry or any newcomers to make plans to attend. DTBA membership is not required.

**COST:** \$10 per person. Lunch will be included. Please fill out the form below and send in with payment to confirm your registration.

**QUESTIONS OR INFORMATION:** (605) 858-0961 or [info@dakotabuffalo.com](mailto:info@dakotabuffalo.com).



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First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_

Ranch Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Number of People Attending Cammack Buffalo Ranch Tour @ \$10 Per Person \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Those Attending \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

(Optional) 2012 (if not yet paid) or 2013 DTBA Membership Dues @ \$50 Each \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO THE DAKOTA TERRITORY BUFFALO ASSOCIATION or DTBA  
REGISTRATIONS MUST BE POSTMARKED BY Monday, August 20, 2012.**

Mail to: DTBA, PO Box 4104, Rapid City, SD 57709-4104



PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN TO:

National Bison Association
8690 Wolff Ct, #200, Westminster, CO 80031
or fax to: (303) 845-9081



Survey on Increased Disease and Death Rates in Bison Herds

There has been a recent increase in the occurrence of some diseases and death in the bison industry. We would like your help to answer some basic questions about this event. All information gathered will be kept confidential and we will not identify individual producers or contact you without your permission.

1. In which state and county is your herd located? \_\_\_\_\_

2. What is your type of operation (circle all that apply): cow-calf (growers) cow-calf (replacements)
feedlot (growers) feedlot (finishing)

3. How many bison do you currently have? (Please fill in a number for each category that applies to you)

Mature Cows: \_\_\_\_\_ First Calf Heifers: \_\_\_\_\_ Yearling Replacement Heifers: \_\_\_\_\_

Mature Bulls: \_\_\_\_\_ Two-year Old Bulls: \_\_\_\_\_ Yearling Replacement Bulls: \_\_\_\_\_

Feedlot Yearlings: \_\_\_\_\_ Feedlot Calves: \_\_\_\_\_ Pre-weaned Calves: \_\_\_\_\_

4. Have you purchased or brought in animals from another herd (circle all that apply):

a.) Within the last: 2 months? 1 year? 2 years? 5 years? 10 years?

b.) Source: auction direct sale Other? (specify) \_\_\_\_\_

5. Within the last 10 years, has your herd experienced a period of abnormally high levels of disease and death of mature animals and/or young stock, where sick animals showed weight loss, sluggishness, difficulty moving, difficulty breathing, and/or coughing, often resulting in death or euthanasia?

Yes No

If yes:

b. When? (season and year; eg. fall, 2007) \_\_\_\_\_

c. In which age groups? (see question #3) \_\_\_\_\_

d. How long did the problem persist within the herd? \_\_\_\_\_

e. Around the same time, did your herd have reduced fertility (open cows or abortions)?

Yes No

f. Check off any stressful event(s) that occurred in your herd at or near at that time:

- [ ] parasites [ ] change of pasture [ ] recent handling/processing
[ ] poor pasture conditions [ ] mixing of groups [ ] animal introductions
[ ] bad weather [ ] fighting [ ] other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

g. Were any post-mortems performed?

Yes No

If yes, by whom? (Circle all that apply) veterinarian owner staff other (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

What were the diagnoses? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Are some or all of your bison (Circle all that apply):

a. currently in fence-line or direct contact with: cattle sheep neither

b. in the past, have been in contact with: cattle sheep neither

7. If you are willing to participate in future studies regarding bison health, please provide your name and other contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this survey or disease in your herd, please contact Dr. Claire Windeyer at c.windeyer@ucalgary.ca, Dr. Dave Hunter at Dave.Hunter@tedturner.com or the Executive Director of the NBA, Dave Carter at david@bisoncentral.com.