Wildlife Management Area Update

In July, the MSCA in collaboration with the Minnesota Farm Bureau and Minnesota Farmer's Union partnered with both Minnesota Departments of Agriculture (MDA) and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to streamline the application process for the grazing and haying on wildlife management areas (WMA). Producers have been able to graze and hay public lands before this announcement, but the application process was long and time-consuming. Year after year all parties have discussed interest in increasing public land disturbance using livestock. The backlog of cattle across the United States, wet spring in the north, and dry summer in central MN have resulted in a concern of forage availability for livestock in Minnesota. Similarly, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, DNR is having to rely on other methods of disturbance. A combination of these needs from both DNR and the MSCA simply sped the process up regarding increasing cattle disturbance on public lands. Department of Agriculture Wildlife Prairie Leader Greg Hoch understands and is up to date on research showing the positives from utilizing cattle to create disturbance needed on lands and has been instrumental in getting this streamlined application process live to producers.

The new streamlined application process was announced in early July for grazing and haying to start in August. The MSCA, MDA, and DNR all have goals of maintaining and growing these relationships to continue to increase public land grazing to help meet the needs of both cattlemen and land conservation programs. To do so, all organizations encourage producers who are interested in utilizing this program next year to start looking for potential lands this fall and contact their local wildlife managers then so they can develop grazing plans over the winter. To find contact information of local managers in your area, please reference the Conservation Grazing Website and Map: https://www. mda.state.mn.us/conservation-grazing-map. If you have general questions about grazing on DNR Wildlife Management Areas, please contact Greg Hoch, DNR at 218-443-0476 / greg.hoch@ state.mn.us, or Kelly Anderson, MDA at 320-808-4424 / kelly.anderson@state.mn.us.

National Cattlemen's Beef **Association's Summer Business**

National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Summer Busi-

The National Cattlemen's Beef Association's Summer Business meeting was held August 27-30th in Denver Colorado. Although COVID-19 resulted in a different structure to the summer business meeting, Federation, Cattlemen's Beef Board, Checkoff, and Policy meetings still occurred with a mix of in-person and virtual platforms. MSCA President Mike Landuyt, Vice President Mark Pankonin, Legislative Chair Glen Graff, and Executive Director Allison VanDer-Wal all attended the three-day conference to represent Minnesota Cattlemen.

Although many of our updates lately have been concerning COVID, NCBA and its contractor the Beef Checkoff has still worked too hard to finish their 2020 goals. One of those being the announcement of the 2021-2025 Beef Industry Long Range Plan. The vision of this five-year plan is "to be the protein of choice around the world, trusted and respected for our commitment to quality, safety, and sustainability." Demand for beef has stayed strong despite a global pandemic. Photos of empty beef shelves next to full meatless meat shelves were seen throughout the country and reassures us even through the hard times, consumers still turn to beef for comfort. To implement this vision and meet its mission, the committee developed four industry objectives:

Grow global demand for nected. U.S beef by promoting beef's health and nutritional benefits, satisfying flavor, and unparalleled safety.

Improve the industry-wide profitability by expanding processing capacity and developing improved value capture models

Intensify efforts in researching improving and communicating U.S. beef industry sustainability.

Make traceability a reality in the U.S beef industry.

For more information and details regarding the 2021-2025 long-range plan, please visit BeefLongRangePlan.com.

Traceability was a topic of conversation in both policy and board meetings this year. With advancements in technology, our food system, and now understanding of global health crisis, improvements to animal health traceability have continued to develop. Many of these conversations were related to the lag time it took to identify the positive animal in the BSE case back in 2005 and how much destruction a 3-4 day lag time in identification affected the U.S. beef industry and how as an industry we can decrease that time from days to minutes by implementing simple production practices. A new one is the use of Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags as official identification for cattle and bison moving interstates. A public comment period with the USDA-APHIS is currently open regarding this change. In September of 2018, the USDA established four overarching goals to increase animal disease traceability:

Advance electronic sharing of data among federal and state animal health officials, veterinarians, and industry.

Use of electronic identification tags for animals requiring individual identification to make the transmission of data more efficient.

Enhance the ability to trade animals from birth to slaughter through a system that allows tracking data points to be con-

Elevate decisions with States and industry to work toward a system where animal health certificates are electronically transmitted from private veterinarians to state animal health officials.

Under the current USDA Animal Disease Traceability (ADT) rule that went into effect in 2013 and only applies to interstate movement of cattle and bison. Starting in 2020, USDA APHIS began providing RFIS ear tags as a "nocost alternative" to metal clip tags currently available free of charge to States and accredited veterinarians. These tags are intended for replacement heifers vaccinated against Brucellosis and other replacement heifers. If you would like to learn more or submit comments please do so by October 5th, 2020 at the following Federal Register: http://www.federalregister. gov/07/06/2020-14463.

The most talked-about policy meeting of the Summer Business meeting was the Live Cattle Marketing Committee meeting. Two amendments to NCBA's Fed Cattle Price Discovery policy were brought forward and discussed. The basis of the two policies was the same in that they were in support of increasing the number of cash traded cattle to meet the regional volume outlined in research to achieve robust price discovery. However, the difference between the two was one was for the continued work on reaching these numbers via a voluntary approach and the other was that NCBA would be supportive of regulatory or legislative involvement to meet these levels. After this committee meeting and debate, the unanimous vote went in support of a compromise that resulted in a policy that states if the voluntary approach does not achieve robust price discovery as outlined by research, and meet established triggers that increasingly frequent and transparent negotiated trade to regionally sufficient levels by October 1st, 2020, NCBA would pursue a legislative or regulatory solution determined by the membership. NCBA membership, affiliates, and Minnesota State Cattlemen Board members are pleased a compromise was achieved and are hopeful advancements can be made to improve price discovery for not only fed cattle but also benefit the feeder market.

For more information on what was all discussed in Denver please reach out to those who attended!





VANDERWAL Executive Director

I am starting my 4th month here with the MSCA and in these months I have witnessed 65% slaughter capacity my first week on the job, record-high boxed beef prices coupled with bank-breaking feeder and live cattle prices, horror stories from other agricultural groups and countless other scenarios I never thought I would witness in my lifetime let alone first few months with the MSCA.

I know I am young and I have much to learn and experiences to gain in my professional career, but people who have been in their positions and respective industries for years have never been in situations like we are currently living in.

While we are continuing with our efforts at MSCA aid producers during this COVID-19 pandemic, state issues have been slowed down but are continuing to move through the system. One of those being the NPDES permits

I want to thank all those who reached out and submitted comments encouraged others to do so and helped spread the word on this issue. Starting

in February MSCA board members and other Minnesota agriculture associations met with MPCA to discuss their concerns regarding the NPDES 2021-2026 General Permit changes. The public comment period opened in early June and closed on July 23rd. Staff and board members received countless emails and phone calls regarding this permit and the impact it would have on producers around the state.

As an association, the MSCA submitted comments, signed on to a comment letter written and signed on to by most of the MN agriculture groups. The MSCA shared talking points and encouraged members to submit comments of their own. The review process has now begun. We are hopeful the

MPCA will take our comments and concerns seriously.

We understand importance of water quality and stewardship of the land and our livestock because without it we cannot produce.

We understand weather and conditions are not predictable and therefore to ensure we are doing as best we can we need to have permits that don't make blanket statements but allow us to make decisions that are not only best for our animals but also the land we farm.

Please stay tuned for updates regarding the NPDES permit and feel free to reach out to me with any questions you may



JAKE THOMPSON Chairman, Cow/Calf Council

Hello fellow Cattlemen and Cattlewomen,

Where has the summer gone? We are already toward the end of July and things are busier than ever here at our farm between spraying, cattle paddock rotations, setting up for ultra sounding, and trying to make dry hay.

Crops and pastures sure have grown with the heat and moisture we have been receiving.

With these conditions the fly population has also grew, which always seems to lead into some eye and feet issues with the cattle. We have been trying pasture applications of Clean-Up 2 and feeding mineral with garlic in it to help combat that problem.

I have had one meeting thus far for the MN DNR Grey Wolf advisory committee. I have a second scheduled for the end of the month. The first meeting just consisted of introductions of the different committee members and getting a feel for the survey information that was collected by MN DNR on the different public attitudes toward the grey wolf. We will be getting into more of the DNR current management plan at our next meeting.

Feeder calf futures are hovering around \$145. Some of the marketing advisors I work with



JOE WAGNER Chairman, Feeder Council Greetings,

I hope everyone has been receiving adequate rainfall. The crops in our area look tremendous. What a contrast in temperatures versus last year. Year over year we are way ahead on GDU's. Hopefully, we can have an early harvest with both dry ground and crop. Something to keep an eye on is the US drought index. Large dry areas are developing mainly to the west and southwest. This

could certainly impact cattle movement, particularly if the drought areas worsen or expand.

In early July we lost 3 calves to wolf kills. This seems to be a problem that is not going away anytime soon.

We pulled bulls on the heifers early to mid-July after running them for 45 days after an initial AI period. We are scheduled to ultrasound for pregnancy on the heifers in early August. We typically run about 12% opens. In the last publication, I commented on genetics and how they play a vital role in value. Recently we harvested a pen of 196 home raised calf fed steers, June 29th harvest date. The data on them is as follows:

... continued on page 3

1485 lb 3.8 lb ADG

... continued on page 3

The old saying "Make hay while the sun shines" is certainly true! Being so busy in the hayfield means the garden and lawn tends to be forgotten for a while. Just when we think there will be a couple of days to work on weeding and mowing, the blueberries and raspberries are ready and need picked. There is always plenty to do around the farm! But when you look at the canned and frozen food and a freezer full of delicious, nutritious beef, all provided from your land and through your hard work, that will be enjoyed in the coming months. It is worth the time and the work, just as making hay for our cattle is worth the effort.

not been able to do any activities or events due to the pandemic we are all living through. We have been busy posting articles and videos on social media, and planning for when we can hold in-person events and meetings. Every day we hear about more cancellations.

The most recent is the Minnesota Beef Expo. Our Minnesota CattleWomen members have hosted the Beef Ambassador contest during the Beef Expo weekend for several years. The Beef

Ambassador chair and committee are working on alternate plans. When these are finalized, we will share them. We will do what needs to be done to keep people safe and healthy.

American National CattleWomen will hold their Summer Business Meeting via Zoom on August 12 and 13. More information can be found at ancw.org.

During these busy summer days, stay safe. Remember to take an extra minute to check your equipment and the area around you. Hearing about just one farm accident is too many.

The date for our fall quarterly meeting has not been set vet; it is usually in October.

We hope we can meet in person. Details will be posted on our Facebook page and website. and emails will be sent to our members. We welcome anyone to join us at our meetings and

Watch your email for more details and the agenda. If you are not a member and would like more information, contact me. You can reach me at (218)330-0042 or dchute59@gmail.com.

"Beef – it's What's for Dinner! Breakfast, lunch, or anytime you are hungry!"

Cattlemen's Association PO Box 12

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Minnesota Cattleman

THE MINNESOTA CATTLEMAN® newspaper the official publication of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association. "THE MINNESOTA CATTLEMAN®" is published on a contract basis 6 times per year and is provided to all MSCA members. Minnesota Cattleman Publications reserve the right to decline paid advertising that is not consistent with the goals and objectives of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Associaion.

For Advertising Contact:

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Minnesota Cattleman Publications PO Box 12 • Maple Plain, MN 55359



DEBBIE CHUTE **Cattlewomen President**

Hello from Central Minne-

As we all know there is always work to be done on the farm. During the heat of the summer, one of the areas of work we prioritize is making hay to feed our cattle during the long, cold winter. That is what has taken most of our time in the past few weeks.

Unfortunately, Minnesota CattleWomen have



MIKE LANDUYT **President, Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association**

There are many things I should be writing about in this edition, so many things we didn't get to do this summer. As I write this, we should have all been together for the Summer tour. It was very strange for me to not get to see so many of you at that event. We did still have a great in-person quarterly meeting in July and it was good to see those who made that meeting. We have been busy working on what we can do to replace the income we usually get from FarmFest, another summer highlight of time spent with my cattleman's friends that will be missed.

Even with all of these things not happening this year we have still been busy working for all of our members. Though the pace has slowed down since the beginning of Covid-19, we are still monitoring what is going on in D.C. There are always bills to watch and congressional staffers to keep in touch with.

As I write this we haven't been to Denver yet for NCBA's summer business meeting. We have been reviewing the submitted policy and comparing it

to our current policy. We will be able to report back later.

The pace in St. Paul has been slower, but agencies always need to be kept in touch with. We have been working closely with the Department of Ag. These folks have been doing a great job working with us through the pandemic. From working on the easing of regulations for trucking to helping communicate with the DNR, they have put a lot of time in to help where ever they can. Hopefully, you have all heard about the collaboration between the MDA, DNR, Farm Bureau, Famers Union, and MSCA. We all worked together to streamline the process to graze DNR owned land. This should help with the added forage needs during this unusual summer. We also worked with other producer groups to submit comments to the MPCA for the new proposed feedlot rules. Hopefully, you all received the talking points and also submitted your comments. They were sent out in a special Policy Pen. If you have not signed up for the Policy Pen yet you still can. It is how we are getting the week's happenings out to members. Contact the office to get signed up.

We are currently planning for the September quarterly meeting. This year it is being held at my farm. I know the September meeting can conflict with chopping, but it would be great to get to see you all attend. It is the last chance to see my Cattlemen friends before harvest.

MSCA Boots on the Ground

The MSCA members and board of directors have been busy over the past few months on Zoom and conference calls. During this time our board has also been working hard #stillrasingcattle.

Keep up with the daily activities of MSCA and the MSCA board of directors - like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter (@CattlemenMN) and sign up for our E-Newsletter by emailing aimee@mnsca.org. Be sure to use the MSCA hashtag #CattlemenMN when sharing your story!

Minnesota Beef Alliance Members

THANK-YOU to the following businesses that have committed to support members of the Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association as part of the Minnesota Beef Alliance for 2020. If you are interested in learning more about the Beef Alliance program, contact Aime Sitter at 269-804-9185 or email aimee@mnsca.org

Prime

American Foods* Carlson Wholesale Wulf Cattle Minnesota Beef Council Minnesota Corn Growers Association'

Choice

Artex Elanco Wieser Concrete

<u>Select</u> Haggenmiller Lumber

Presidential

Phileo Lasaffre* Purina Animal Nutrition Summit Livestock Facilities

* Indicates giving above base level for that category!

Upcoming Events/Important Dates:

For more details on events listed below, visit www.mnsca.org.

September: 12th: September Quarterly Meeting, Walnut Grove.

December: 3-5th: MSCA Annual Convention, Hinckley MN

Ruminate on That -Commentary from Dr. Joe.

I tried to wrap up everything before my first child arrived, but I was unsuccessful. To be completely honest, I lost track of this article in the chaos of him arriving. As I write this, I am racing to get the words on paper between his short naps iust days before the editing deadline. If I ramble or wander off, hopefully, you understand due to my lack of sleep.

Speaking of planning ahead, I am going to give you the punchline upfront. You should

be thinking about pregnancy diagnosis for your cows already. True, it's summer, and many of you may have recently put the bull out around the popular date of July 1, but the benefits of an early preg check are too significant to be ignored.

I will make one big assumption as we move further in this discussion - that you have a defined calving window (and therefore a defined breeding window), and that this calving window is timely (42-90 days). There are many reasons to have a defined calving window and tight calving distribution, but really it comes down to profitability, cow health, and calf health. I won't go into much more detail, because we just don't have time to cover that subject (maybe in another article).

What is early for pregnancy diagnosis?

When I say early, I mean 30 days after the end of your breeding season. Let's take the example of the bull going in July 1. If you have my preferred calving window of 60 days, your breeding season

ends September 1. Pregnancy diagnosis can happen 30 days later on October 1.

Age distribution at preg check and ultrasound

Checking 30 days after a 60 day breeding season with an average calving distribution will make 60% of the fetal calves between 75 and 90 days of age at pregnancy diagnosis. This is important because if you wait much longer, you will lose access to some of the information

your veterinarian can provide with ultrasound. Aging is most accurate with fetuses under 90 days of age. Twins are most easily seen with early pregnancy, and sex can be consistently determined for fetuses between 55 and 75 days old.

- Accurate calving dates make planning for calving season more manageable, and cows can even be sorted before calving based on calf age.
- Who wouldn't love to know about twins ahead of time, especially in heifers? The viability of these twins can be evaluated using ultrasound at pregnancy diagnosis.
- Sexed fetuses can give you an idea about projected bull and heifer calves for marketing decisions and planning for replacements.

If you wait much longer than 30 days after the breeding window to ultrasound, most cows in your herd will be too far along to consistently take advantage of this valuable information.

Dr. Joe . . . continued on page 4

Jake Thompson... continued from page 2

are suggesting some type of protection at this level for around 50% of your calf crop. We as a board of directors are fully disappointed that there is no will be able to have an in-person annual meeting.

May your pastures stay green and your bulls stay busy, until next time.

Joe Wagner... continued from page 2

96% Ch or better with 10% prime 43% CAB

24% yield grade 4's

The steers were harvested and put on FarmFest this year. Hopefully, we a grid that returned a premium of \$60/ hd. Not bad considering the choice select spread was quite narrow at the time. Good genetics do not cost, they pay. Until next

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Visit our website to check out the latest educational opportunities available for Cattlemen.

https://www.mnsca.org/resources/educational-oppertunities







Minnesota Beef Council Announces Schmidt as New Chief Executive Officer



The Minnesota Beef Council has hired Kelly Schmidt as the new Minnesota Beef Council Chief Executive Officer. Schmidt will be responsible for managing the staff and board of directors through Beef Checkoff programming and budget oversight. He will also serve as the lead liaison between Minnesota Beef Council and Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association.

"I am really excited to work with Minnesota's beef farmers and ranchers in doing everything we can to grow beef demand. We have dedicated people, producing a healthy, great tasting product - that's a wonderful story to share," said Schmidt.

Kelly Schmidt grew up in the seedstock cattle business and is now a family-owner in

Double E Cattle Company. The family raises Simmental and SimAngus cattle, marketing females and bulls throughout the Midwest. Together, they exhibit cattle at state and national shows.

Most recently, Schmidt served as an agribusiness instructor at South Central College in Mankato, Minnesota. His professional career includes seven years as a field representative for the American Simmental Association and five years working in professional cattle sale management and marketing. Schmidt also previously worked in animal nutrition sales for Cargill Animal Nutrition.

Schmidt is a graduate of the University of Minnesota with a B.S. in agricultural education. He is a member of the executive committee for the Minnesota Beef Expo, serves on the Minnesota Simmental Association Board and assists with 4-H youth livestock programs at the county and state level. Kelly and his wife, Sarah, are the proud parents of three daughters: Aubree (12), Kate (10) and Britta (6). They live near New Ulm, Minnesota, where they enjoy raising cattle and showing heifers.

"Kelly brings years of experience to this role, and we are excited for him to use his passion and knowledge to advance our organization's initiatives," said Mark Malecek, Minnesota Beef Council Chairman.

MBC Board Meeting

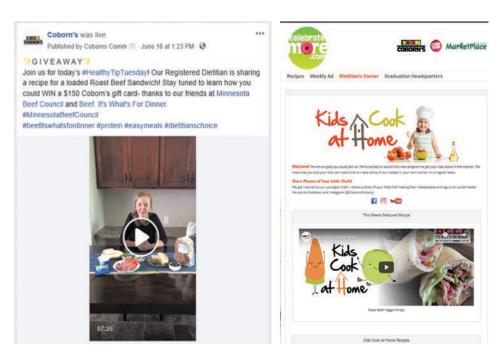
The next Minnesota Beef Council board of directors meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16.

Minnesota Beef Council Events

• November 16 – Minnesota Beef Council Board of Directors Meeting

Coborn's RD Partnership

The Minnesota Beef Council partnered with the Coborn's retail dietitians to do beef promotions in the month of June. The week of June 14th, the dietitians did a Facebook Live showing how to make roast beef sliders. The week of July 5th, they featured a "Kid's Cook at Home" video showing how to make kid-friendly roast beef veggie wraps. This included a YouTube video and social media promotion, both of which garnered great response.



Dr. Joe ... continued from page 3

Early identification of open cows

Early pregnancy diagnosis's real value is the early detection of open cows and cows that are pregnant but fall outside your desired calving window. The earlier you identify cows that should leave your herd, the less you spend on feed. Why feed a cow, or have them take up valuable pasture, that will not produce a calf? Instead, you can market your opens or feed them as feedlot animals for market later. Pregnant cows that fall outside your calving window likely fit perfectly into another producer's calving window and can be marketed.

Do I need to take my bull out to define my calving window?

In short, no. Your veterinarian can determine age very accurately if the pregnancies are not too far along and make cuts based on your calving window. As discussed earlier, you can then market these cows as opens or pregnant for a specific calving window (just not yours). There is no need to pull the bull as long as you are willing to define your calving window and stick to it.

That's a tough time of year doc, a lot is going on

I know. I sometimes paint things as black and white with recommendations, but rarely does the real-world work that way. 30 days post-breeding window is a goal, not an absolute. Try as hard as you can, and remind yourself of the value of finding your open cows and your late calving cows when you haven't fed them already for a large part of the winter. Talk with your veterinarian about checking early, trust me, they won't turn down the opportunity to work cattle during one of our beautiful fall days instead of the cold and dark winter.



Summer Campaign Puts Beef on the Grill

With warm weather comes the traditional backyard barbecues; families are grilling burgers, steaks and more. Research conducted by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA), a contractor to the Beef Checkoff, shows one-third of consumers are planning to grill more this summer than they have in the past. This points to a prime opportunity to remind consumers that beef is the protein of choice for summer grilling 1..

The Checkoff-funded Beef. It's What's for Dinner. brand, managed by NCBA, has kicked off summer grilling season with a campaign aimed at connecting producers and consumers in their love of beef. This multi-pronged campaign encourages consumers to cook beef on the grill and serve up beef recipes all summer long.

To launch the campaign, a new video was released featuring beef farmers and ranchers from around the country working hard to provide consumers with nutritious beef. The video reminds consumers that this summer, grilling season is brought to them by beef farmers and ranchers.

Beef. It's What's For Dinner. also declared May 28 as National Beef Burger Day. Recipes and images demonstrating how to build and cook the perfect burger were shared on Beef. It's What's for Dinner. social channels. Nationally-known bloggers also shared beef burger content on their blogs and social media platforms, while segments on Good Morning America's website and Celebrity Page TV showcased how to grill the perfect beef burger.

To further encourage consumers and producers to unite in their shared love of beef, Beef. It's What's For Dinner. released "United We Steak" as the centerpiece of the summer grilling season campaign. While challenging circumstances and uncertainty continue across the U.S., beef on the grill can unite everyone and connect consumers to the producers who raise their food.

"United We Steak" has been delivered to consumers through a series of still photographs and videos featuring 50 hand-carved, state-shaped steaks published on social media platforms, as well as through streaming TV services and YouTube advertising. A new series of radio ads was released and shared nationally as well as locally through state beef councils. These advertising efforts drive consumers to UnitedWeSteak.com, where they can find an interactive map of all 50 state-shaped steaks forming the entire nation. Each state has a profile page, complete with state-themed beef recipes, a "meet your state beef producer" section and other fun and informative facts about the state.

While every state has special traditions and recipes when it comes to grilling beef, some of those unique to Minnesota are featured on UnitedWeSteak.com:

- Meet a Minnesota Farmer: Jake Thompson
- Recipe: Steak and Vegetable Kabobs with Wild Rice
- Intro: Great lakes, great steaks. Get out the grill, Minnesota, and join America in a beautiful celebration of United We Steak before breaking out the boats.
- Minnesota Fact: Minnesota is a leading producer of red kidney beans, sugar beets, sweet corn and green beans and is 10th in the nation for cattle production with over 2 million cattle.

Running from May to Labor Day, this new campaign promises to be the most extensive and longest running Beef. It's What's For Dinner. campaign. This is just one of the programs the Beef Checkoff will execute over the summer to inspire consumers to unite around the grill.

In just one week the campaign reached more than 40 million consumers, the videos have received more than 15 million video views, and the website UnitedWeSteak.com has had more than 163,000 visits. All of this suggests that consumers are loving the new campaign.

1. 2020 National Cattlemen's Beef Association Checkoff-funded Summer Grilling Survey

The Beef Checkoff program was established as part of the 1985 Farm Bill. The checkoff assesses \$1 per head on the sale of live domestic and imported cattle, in addition to a comparable assessment on imported beef and beef products. States may retain up to 50 cents on the dollar and forward the other 50 cents per head to the Cattlemen's Beef Promotion and Research Board, which administers the national checkoff program, subject to USDA ap-





STEAK AND VEGETABLE KABOBS WITH WILD RICE

This no-sweat Beef Kabobs recipe is a breeze thanks to a flavorful marinade and the grill. Try these kabobs today.





- beef Round Tip Steak, cut 1 inch thick (about 1 pound)
- ½ small red onion, cut into ¾-inch wedges small yellow summer squash, cut lengthwise in half then crosswise into 1 inch slices
- small red or green bell pepper, cut into

1-inch piece: Marinade:

- tablespoons water
- tablespoons coarse-grain Dijon-style
- tablespoons red wine vinegar
- teaspoons minced garlic teaspoons vegetable oi
- teaspoon coarse grind black pepper

2 teaspoons vegetable oil

- cups thinly sliced mixed mushrooms such as cremini or shiitake
 - package (6 ounces) wild rice blend

COOKING

- 👚 Cut beef Round Tip Steak into 1¼-inch pieces. Combine marinade ingredients. Place beef and marinade in food-safe plastic bag; turn to coat. Close bag securely and marinate in refrigerator 6 hours or as long as overnight, turning occasionally.
- Heat 2 teaspoons oil in large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add mushrooms; cook and stir until tender. Remove and keep warm. Meanwhile cook rice according to package directions, omitting salt and butter. When rice is done, stir in mushrooms.
- Soak eight 9-inch bamboo skewers in water 10 minutes: drain. Remove beef from marinade; discard marinade. Alternately thread beef, onion, squash and pepper evenly onto skewers. Place on grid over medium, ash-covered coals. Grill, covered, 8 to 10 minutes (over medium heat on preheated gas grill, covered, 9 to 10 minutes) for medium rare (145°F) to medium (160°F) doneness, turning occasionally.
- Serve kabobs over wild rice.

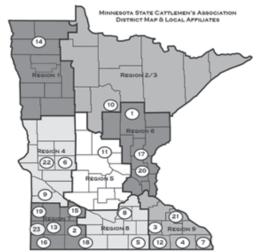


For more great beef recipes, visit

MSCA



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- Cottonwood Cattle Producers Three Rivers Cattlemen Fillmore County Cattlemen

- 5. Freeborn County Cattilemen 6. Glacial Ridge Cattlemen 7. Houston County Cattlemen 8. Le Sueur County Area Catti 9. Midwest Cattlemen
- Minnesota Cattlemen
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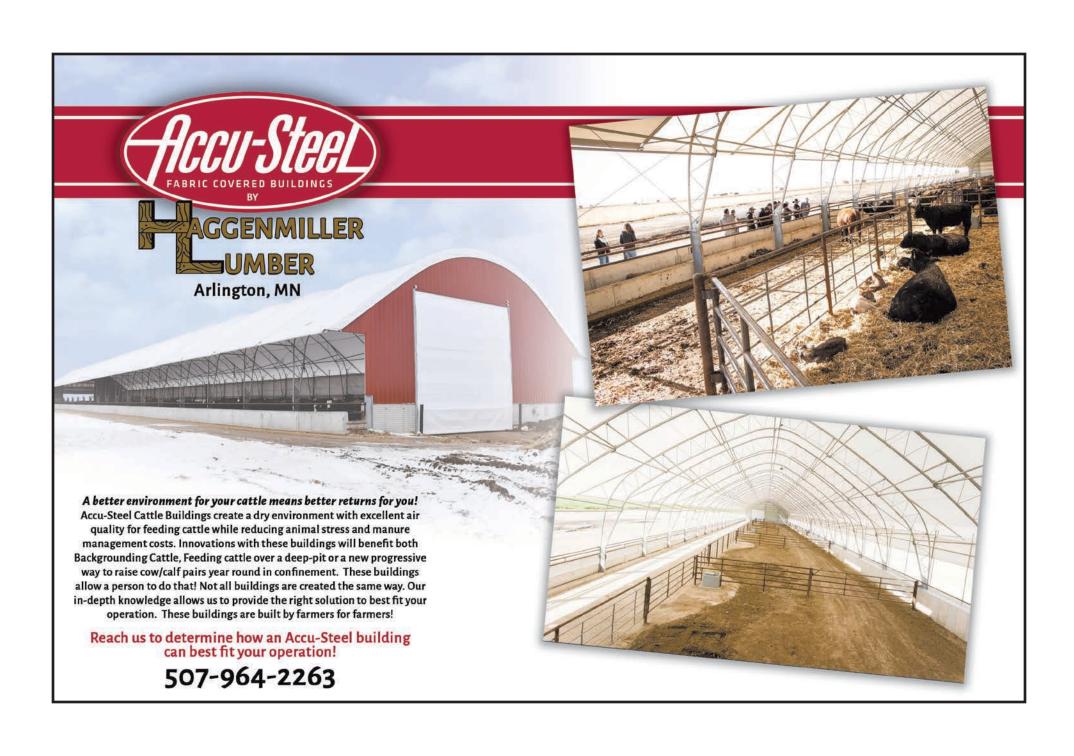
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- Wabasha County Cattle
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- 23. Pipestone Cattlemen

https://www.mnsca.org/become-a-member/membership-application

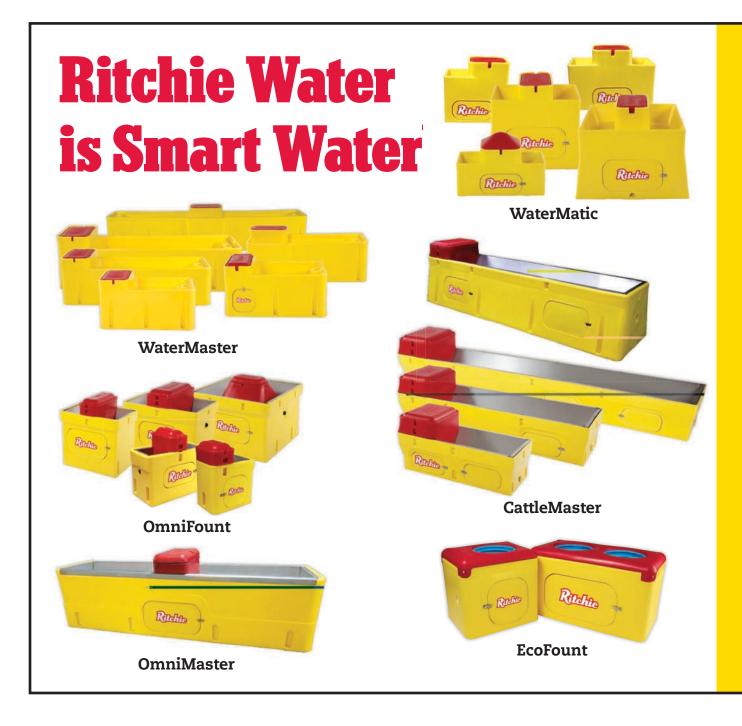












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Promoting Beef AS Summer Grilling Season Kicks Off

Courtesy of NCBA's National Cattlemen

Summer isn't summer without grilling. Grilling isn't grilling without beef. And beef isn't beef without farmers and ranchers. These are the key ideas that Beef. It's What's For Dinner., funded by the Beef Checkoff and managed by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association, is making clear to consumers this grilling season.

Starting the weekend prior to Memorial Day, Beef. It's What's For Dinner. released a video stating that this summer grilling season is brought to you by beef farmers and ranchers. The video spot, called "The Original Sponsors of Summer Grilling Season," features real beef farmers and ranchers from around the country working from sunup to sun-down to raise cattle, and ends with one of the

producer-families enjoying a meal of real beef burgers, with a voiceover saying "Summer Grilling Season: Brought To You By Beef Farmers and Ranchers." As of mid-June, this video has had more than 1.6 million views. As we move into summer, the video will continue to be promoted to consumers through advertising on YouTube, Connected TV (like Hulu) and some state beef council partners may be using a version of it on local broadcast television buys in their state. Visit BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com and click the YouTube icon at the bottom of the page to see this and other videos on the Beef. It's What's For Dinner. YouTube channel.

Recognizing that consumers were ready to get outside and grill, Beef. It's What's For Dinner. declared May 28, 2020 the first official National Beef Burger Day. The team also placed a segment featuring real beef burger recipes on Celebrity Page TV, which reaches an audience of more than 10 million. The segment aired two times. Well-known blogger influencers, such as Crème De La Crumb, also created beef burger recipes and shared them on their own social media platforms to inspire their followers to enjoy a real beef burger. Beef. It's What's For Dinner. got in on the fun by serving up a variety of drool-worthy beef burger content and encouraged consumers to share their favorite #BeefBurgerBrag photos on social media for a chance to win grilling swag. Visit the Beef. It's What's For Dinner.



Facebook page to see some of this great burger content. With a reach of more than 3.7 million and social media engagements of more than 28,000, five winning beef burger recipes were selected, including:

- Griddle Grilled Beef Burger, complete with Zinfandel pickled turnips and whipped mustard-dill cheese spread
- Basic Bodacious Beef Burger, loaded with smoked sausage and grilled pork belly
- Smoked Beef Burger, topped with pulled BBQ beef brisket and provolone cheese on a pretzel bun
- Smash Beef Burger, complete with bacon, egg, and cheese
- Traditional Grilled Beef Cheeseburger, topped with lettuce tomato and fresh red onion

Several major media outlets were also pitched, with positive stories about beef placed in major news outlets that reach consumers around the country. For example, FoxNews.com, which has a reach of more than 72 million nationwide, featured Bridget Wasser, NCBA meat scientist and butcher, sharing simple steak swaps in case consumers can't find their favorite cut of beef at the grocery store. Similarly, the Daily Meal, which has a reach of 2.2 million nationwide, interviewed Wasser for a story about how to make a steakhouse-worthy steak at home.

In June, Beef. It's What's For Dinner. is encouraging Americans to get grilling by showcasing drool-worthy images of 50 hand-carved state-shaped steaks as part of the "United We Steak" Campaign. Visit UnitedWeSteak.com where you'll find an interactive map of all 50 state-shaped steaks that form the entire nation, along with state-themed beef recipes, a "meet your state beef producer" section and other fun and informative facts about beef. Follow Beef. It's What's For Dinner. on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LinkedIn, Pinterest and visit BeefItsWhatsForDinner.com to continuously see new content.



Nebraska Webinar Series

The Nebraska Cattlemen, Minnesota State Cattlemen and Kentucky Cattlemen are presenting a webinar each first Tuesday of the month. The next webinar will be held August 4th @ 7pm

The recent Black Swan Events brings light to the fact that beef producers of all sectors have a reason to learn more about risk management. We are encouraging feeders, backgrounders as well as cow/calf producers to join us in deepening your knowledge of the futures market, alternatives for risk management, and tools to utilize when creating your risk management plan going forward.

We are busy working with CIH and FCStone, University of Nebraska and University of Kentucky to present another educational webinar. If you wish to submit a question prior to the webinar please email info@necattlemen.org and we will forward to our speakers.

Keep an eye out in the Policy Pen for upcoming webinar announcements and registration

Member Spotlight

A phone interview with a cattleman is always an interesting experience, you never quite know what you are going to hear in the background. Cattlemen know that time is a valuable commodity and if an interview can be done while

feeding cows, baling hay, or moving gravel, it helps to keep everything moving. Patrick Hackley, the MSCA Region 1 Director's phone interview took place in the cab of a tractor, the conversation hummed along with the rhythm of the engine, covering a wide variety of topics related to the

cattle industry. Some of the major topics covered included his interest in consumer education and sharing the story of the beef industry. He also discussed his passion for the association and his involvement. Patrick has always been interested in advocating for the cattle producers. He regularly takes time to answer calls to action and speaks with local legislators on issues that directly impact agriculture. He also takes time to call and thank local legislators when things move in the favor of cattlemen, understanding that relationships are so vital in creating lasting change and fostering transparency within the industry.

Patrick grew up in eastern Montana on his family's farm. The farm was located 140 miles north of Miles City and functioned as a small grain and beef farm. Patrick grew up loving agriculture and cattle, shaping the career and lifestyle

he chose to pursue as an adult. Patrick farmed with his dad and grandpa until 2012 before venturing out on his own operation, farming in eastern Montana for 5 years. In 2017 Patrick along with his wife and two sons moved to Grygla,

Minnesota. Patrick currently works at a corn and soybean farm, as well as runs a couple of head of cattle, practicing rotational grazing and grass management. The farm is also home to a bottle calf named Rico. Patrick's sons take care of the calf, learning responsibility, animal husbandry along with a love of agriculture and cattle.



Patrick is passionate about trying to shake policy and direct it to the best interest of the American cattleman. While living in Montana Patrick was a member of the Montana Stockgrowers Association as well as heavily involved in the Farm Bureau Young Farmers/ Young Ranchers program. Along with his wife, Patrick served on the Young Farmers/ Young Ranchers State Board and National Committee. Upon moving to Minnesota in 2017, Patrick quickly became involved with Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association. He became a member of the Northwestern Stockmen affiliate. The affiliate holds meetings to keep members informed and participates in funding events such as steak feeds to raise money for local scholarships. At the December 2018 MSCA annual meeting, Pat-



Like A Rock...Since 1898
By Colin Woodall, NDBA CEO

In the early 1990s, Chevy had an advertising campaign touting the dependability of their

trucks by using the tag line "Like a Rock." To this day, I still drive a 1994 Chevy pickup. I change my own oil, I rotate the tires, I gap my spark plugs, and do everything to keep that truck running. It has covered most of Texas, western Kansas, and the panhandle of Oklahoma. It took my wife and me on our honeymoon as we traveled from Texas to Washington, D.C., and it has gone up and down Pennsylvania Avenue more times than I can count.

In the 26 years I have owned that truck, it has never left me stranded or put me in a dangerous position. It has been truly dependable.

I have thought about my truck numerous times as I look at how NCBA has responded to the COVID-19 crisis on behalf of our members and stakeholders. I can count on that truck cranking every time I turn the key. It is always there for me. Much like my truck, we have been there for you by engaging on the front lines of the COVID-19 fight since the early days of the pandemic.

For more than three months, members of your staff were working every day of the week to ensure we were advocating for you and your family during our engagement with consumers, legislators, regulators, and the President of the United States. If you were working during this battle, we knew we needed to be, too. We were there to take calls and input from concerned members and state partners while updating our stakeholders with nightly emails highlighting our efforts. Effective communication has been key

in letting you know that we were always on the offensive.

A half-ton, two-wheel-drive truck doesn't always give you a smooth ride on bumpy roads. This pandemic has been nothing but a bumpy road, and it definitely hasn't been a smooth ride for our association. The anger and the emotion you have felt has been warranted, and one of the reasons we exist is to provide an outlet for that frustration.

Every day, dealing with COVID-19 brought new challenges, and in most cases, challenges we hadn't anticipated. Who would have expected that stay-athome orders and the resulting lack of driving and fuel demand would lead to ethanol plants shutting down and leaving our industry with a shortage of carbon dioxide needed to keep carcasses and beef cool during processing and shipping? It was just another section of that bumpy road, but we kept both hands on the wheel and kept us out of the ditch.

While dependable, that truck has disappointed also me. Most of last year the air conditioner didn't work. A/C while driving during a sweltering D.C. summer is not pleasant. We know we haven't been perfect, and in some cases, disappointed have you. We were always open to the criticism and found ways throughout the crisis to adjust our efforts and messaging in order to do a better job. We didn't start our response by advocating

for relief from Congress, but with the feedback we received through our grassroots policy process, we adjusted course and delivered on getting money appropriated for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP). Even Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue gave us the primary credit for securing the funding for all of agriculture. Now we know CFAP isn't perfect, but as you read this, we are working to address the shortcomings, most notably by getting the arbitrary April 15th date extended to cover the losses we are still seeing.

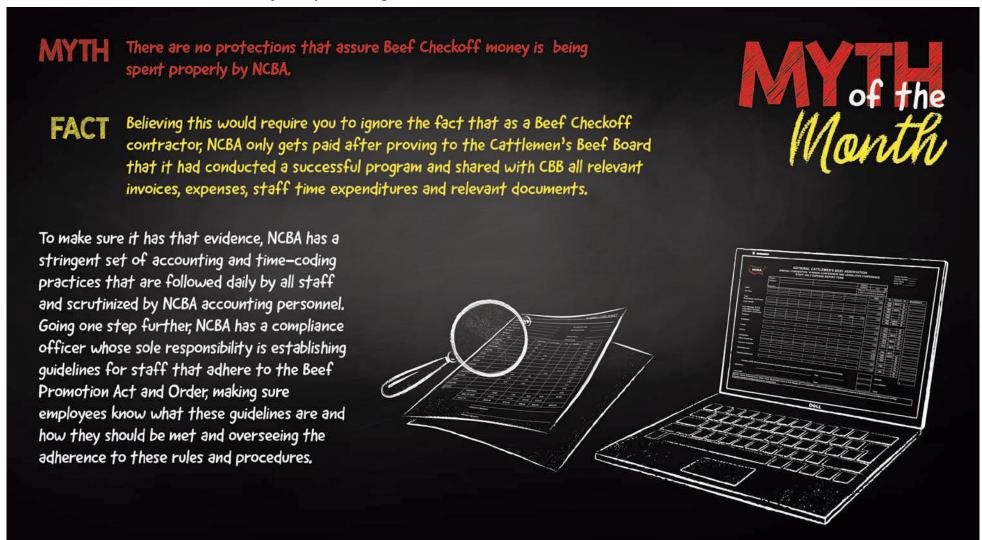
Twenty-six years on the road can be hard on a truck, but it is amazing what a new set of tires and a fresh wax will do. Given all we have come through, we felt it was important to look at how we can improve. This led to a review of our NCBA Vision and the need to make a few improvements. Our improved vision is "to be the trusted leader and definitive voice of the U.S. cattle and beef industry." We added "U.S. cattle" to the vision to make it clear that we are here for the producers. Our

volunteer leaders are cattle producers, our committee members are cattle producers, and we are here to serve cattle producers. This vision makes that clear. The NCBA Officer Team and Executive Committee made the decision to adopt these improvements, and I believe it will help us as we continue to find ways to improve.

Now, I often look at the new truck models and think that it might be time to try something else. Maybe even one that allows me to play a cattle market report podcast or two. But I know my truck is dependable and will always provide the steady ride I need to get the job done. Like a rock, since 1898, NCBA has been that steady and dependable voice that provides leadership in times of crisis. This fight is not over, so I hope you'll jump in the cab with me and help us stay the course.

Like A Rock...Since 1898 By Colin Woodall, NCBA CEO YOUR RIGHTS WORKING TO PROTECT YOUR LEGACY & 2020 Policy Priorities Fake Meat Trade and Market Access Climate Policy Cattle Markets Regulatory Reform www.NCBA.org KEEP US WORKING FOR YOU! JOIN TODAY!





The Minnesola Cattleman®

NCBA Celebrates Implementation of USMCA Trade Deal Courtesy of NCBA's National Cattlemen

"We Are the Envy of Many Countries," Cattle Groups Say

WASHINGTON (July 1, 2020) — The National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) today celebrated the successful implementation of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) by sending a joint letter of thanks to the leaders of all three nations. The letter was sent to President Trump, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, and Mexican President Andrés Manuel López Obrador. It was signed by NCBA President Marty Smith, Canadian Cattlemen's Association President Bob Lowe, and CNOG President Oswaldo Chazaro Montalvo.

"Together, our organizations worked in unified support of USMCA because it protects market-based principles while making improvements in other sectors to reflect the needs of a modern North American economy," the leaders of the three cattlemen's organizations wrote. "We are the envy of many countries because of the marketplace freedom USMCA will continue to provide both producers and consumers.

"International trade is fundamental to the success of North American farmers and ranchers and the full value of the products we sell can only be achieved when we have access to the markets that most value them," the letter continued. "In the face of the economic hardships of COVID-19, it is timely and welcome that USMCA enters into force, providing a foundation of economic stability for our rural communities and food systems."

Congress last winter overwhelmingly approved the new USMCA deal, with the Senate voting 89-10 in support of it a few weeks after the U.S. House of Representatives passed it with a strong bipartisan vote of 385-41. NCBA worked hard to build support for USMCA on Capitol Hill, and then-NCBA-President Jennifer Houston led a delegation of more than a dozen members to the White House to attend the official signing ceremony on Jan. 29.

"We believe that our economies and our countries will be stronger together through USMCA," the letter concluded

New Research Supports Lean Beef in Healthy Diets

New Beef Checkoff research adds to the body of science showing that lean beef can be a daily part of a healthy diet that supports metabolic and heart health.

Kevin C. Maki, an Adjunct Professor in Applied Health Science at the Indiana University School of Public Health, conducted a highquality, randomized controlled trial, the gold standard in research design, and found that substituting lean beef for carbohydrates, primarily from refined starches, in a healthy dietary pattern does not adversely affect the cardiometabolic risk factor profile in men and women at risk for type 2 diabetes. Specifically, this new research shows that about 6 ounces of lean, unprocessed beef daily in a healthy diet, as a replacement for carbohydrates, does not increase risk factors for heart disease or diabetes.

"This study is important because it shows that red meat can be part of a healthy eating pattern," said lead researcher Dr. Kevin Maki. The research compared the USDA Healthy U.S.-Style Eating Pattern, similar to that recommended by the current Dietary Guidelines for Americans containing 1.2 ounces of red meat per day, to a modified version of that same diet that included 6 ounces of lean, unprocessed beef per day as a caloric equivalent replacement for refined starches. The research measured various markers for cardiometabolic disease risk such as insulin sensitivity and LDL cholesterol for each participant. Insulin sensitivity is a measure of how effectively the body can use carbohydrates and can be used as an indicator for development of type 2 diabetes. LDL cholesterol is also commonly referred to as "bad" cholesterol because it increases the risk of heart disease. "Insulin sensitivity and LDL cholesterol did not differ between the two diets. The only significant difference observed was a shift toward a greater percentage of cholesterol carried in larger, more buoyant LDL particles during the higher beef condition. This difference is potentially important because larger, more buoyant LDL particles may be less likely to promote atherosclerosis," said Dr. Maki.

The take home message: This new research supports that Americans have increased flexibility to include almost 6 ounces of lean, unprocessed beef into their daily healthy diets without adversely affecting their risk for developing cardiovascular disease or type 2 diabetes. This scientific evidence provides further support that lean beef can be part of a higher-in-protein, healthy diet and is important science to consider with the 2020 Dietary Guidelines for Americans currently underway

Marty Smith NCBA president

Courtesy of NCBA's National Cattlemen

Over the past few months, NCBA, like the rest of the world, has been very focused on the Coronavirus pandemic and the personal and economic devastation it left at its wake. Until a vaccine or an effective treatment is developed, we will all continue to focus on the virus — and on rebuilding our economy. But as our states and businesses continue to reopen and we all develop a "new normal" in the way we live our lives and run our operations, it's a good time to step back and look at some of the policy work that NCBA has done and some issues not directly related to COVID.

* In mid-June, the Dietary Guidelines Advisory Committee held its Draft Advisory Report Meeting to review the DGAC draft conclusion statements posted online and discuss the Committee's overall deliberations and decisions regarding their draft advisory report. This was one of the final important steps in a 2-1/2-year long process that NCBA has been involved in since day one.

Throughout this process, NCBA has provided extensive written and oral commentary through both the Center for Public Policy and the Beef Checkoff. NCBA, on behalf of the Beef Checkoff, submitted 21 sets of unique comments, providing over 100 research studies that comprehensively review the scientific evidence supporting the critical role beef plays in a healthy diet at every life stage.

Stay tuned for your opportunity to make your voice heard: on July 15, U.S. Department of Agriculture and the Department of Health and Human Services are expected to post their final report online and open up a 30-day public comment period. Following release of the report, NCBA will be calling on our affiliates and members to submit comments based on the findings in the final DGAC report.

* Also, in mid-June, NCBA led the fight to make sure that the voice of cattle producers was heard in the Capitol Hill debate over the so-called "Great American Outdoors Act." We think a more appropriate name for the legislation would be the "Great American Land Grab Act," since a federal



land grab is exactly what it will

Whatever you call the bill, it would permanently remove Congressional oversight of funding of the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) by making the fund mandatory spending at a level of \$900 million per year. It's beyond me why any Member of Congress would voluntarily surrender his or her ability to exercise oversight into how the Executive Branch spends billions of taxpayer dollars, but the bottom line is this legislation would reduce federal accountability when it comes to Washington buying up more and more private lands. The U.S. Senate approved the bill on June 17, but NCBA is going to continue to lead the fight against this ill-advised legislation every step of the way.

* NCBA has continued to work with U.S. trade negotiators in support of a bilateral trade deal with the United Kingdom that will improve access for American beef producers. Britain is still working its way through the Brexit process with the European Union but the goal remains to have a U.S.-U.K. deal that includes agriculture by the end of this

* NCBA, joining other regulated industries, recently filed motions to intervene in California, South Carolina, and Colorado litigation on the Navigable Waters Protection Rule. The Trump Administration's rewrite of the 2015 Waters of the United States (WOTUS) definition provides much-needed clarity for agricultural producers and maintains important agricultural exemptions. The 2015 WO-TUS Rule represented a massive overreach by the Federal government, unnecessarily burdening livestock producers. NCBA will continue working to defend the Trump Administration's deregulatory agenda, including the Navigable Waters Protection Rule

* In June NCBA Chief Veterinarian Dr. Kathy Simmons was named to a Task Force on Gene Editing in Animal Agriculture led by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) and the Association of American Veterinary Medical Colleges (AAVMC). Recognizing the potential for gene editing to increase food security and safety, the 11-person panel is comprised of scientists and industry leaders who will map out recommendations for regulating this emerging genomic technology in animal agriculture with appropriate safeguards and procedures.

* EPA Administrator Andrew Wheeler also recently announced the appointment of 33 members to the Farm, Ranch, and Rural Communities Committee (FRRCC). Established in 2008, the FRRCC provides independent policy advice, information, and recommendations to the EPA administrator on a range of environmental issues and policies that are of importance to agriculture and rural communities.

NCBA was very pleased with the strong representation of the beef cattle industry. Tom McDonald, of Five Rivers Cattle Feeding, has a long history and deep expertise in environmental and agricultural issues. Tom will provide resolute leadership to the committee as its new Chairman. Farmers and ranchers now have a seat at the table with our federal regulators thanks to President Trump and Administrator Wheeler.

Of course, we all understand that the Coronavirus hasn't gone away and that our economy and our industry still face a long road back to recovery. NCBA will continue to fight on that front. We'll continue to build support for the PAS-TURE Act, which will provide grazing flexibility to cattle producers during the pandemic. We'll push for additional and better-targeted relief under the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program (CFAP), and our Working Group on cattle markets will continue working to improve price discovery and reduce the market volatility we saw after the onslaught of the virus and after events like last year's fire in Holcomb, Kansas.

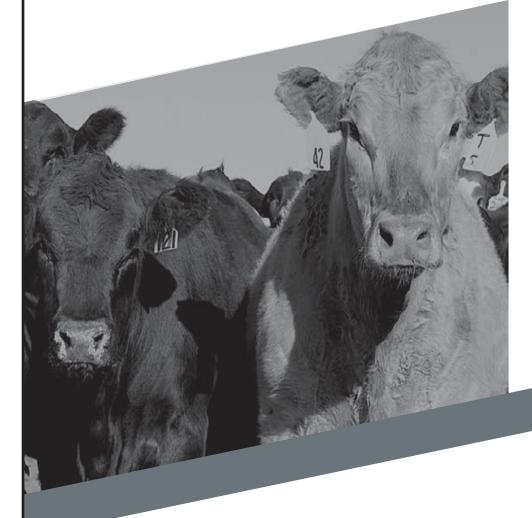
We're a producer-led organization, and like all cattle producers, we're used to doing more than one thing at a time. And with your ongoing support, that's exactly what we're going to continue to do.





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Member ... continued from page 8

rick was voted in as the Region 1 Director. During his time as a regional director, Patrick has had the opportunity to attend hill visits with the MSCA board and meet with local legislators and state agencies. During the hill trip visits, Patrick also and the opportunity to sit in on hearings and see how the process worked in person. He considered this a truly eye-opening experience into the dedicated work that the MSCA dose for members.

Patrick's dedication and interest to the MSCA are apparent through his actions and words. Serious issues affecting livelihoods are being brought to light through the work of a true grassroots movement. During Patrick's time as a regional director, he has had the opportunity to build relationships with other board members as well as MSCA lobbyist Bruce Kleven. Relationships are so important to a membership organization and help to gain knowledge and comradery amongst members. Patrick believes it is important to be involved, even if that means actively staying up to date on what the association is doing. Time is a valuable commodity

in a membership-driven organization as well as on a farming operation. Valuable resources are available at the tip of your fingers such as the association website, social media, and weekly Policy Pen.

Patrick urges producers to get involved with their local affiliates and the State Association. The knowledge you gain from older members is invaluable and the connections you make within the association will benefit you and your operation in the long run. Serious issues affecting livelihoods are being brought to light through the work of a true grassroots movement. Producers can share their voice and be heard from a place that matters, however, the association needs involvement from a wide range of operation sizes and ages to stay active, well rounded, and relevant. All membership is vital to pull the entire state together and work as a strong state cattlemen's association. Patrick stated "It doesn't matter if you have 5 or 5000 head of cattle, you can have just as much of an impact on the association. You don't need to be the John Wayne of the industry to hold a position on the MSCA leadership team. Every member's voice is heard and valued."



Sign Up a New Member Today - Help MSCA Grow! Minnesota State Cattlemen's Association/National Cattlemen's Beef Association MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form

MSCA/NCBA Partnered Membership Application Form Name YES I would like to receive the Policy Pen E-Bulletin Address _ MN State Cattlemen's Association Dues **\$50 Junior Dues \$25** _____ State _____ Zip ___ Local Cattleman Association Dues (Optional) **Type Ops:** □ Feeder □ Cow-Calf □ Seedstock □ Stocker □ Dairy □ Associate Local = (Local Dues →) _ Method of Payment: ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card ☐ Invoice Me NCBA Membership Dues (Optional) Credit Card Type: __ Master Card __ Visa __ Discover (Select the appropriate classification and add to MN State Cattlemen dues) Card # Stocker/feeder - \$150 + \$0.38/head 1-100 - \$150 Expiration Date _____/___ Signature _____ 101-250 -\$300 251-500 - \$450 **Associate Dues** Make Checks Payable to: "MSCA" (No Cash Please) Individual - \$150 (NCBA Dues →) ___ 501-750 - \$650 Return Form & Payment To: MSCA Treasurer 751-1000 - \$900 Business - \$200 PO Box 12, Maple Plain, MN 55359 1001 -1250 - \$1150 Student (24 or younger) - \$50 1251 - 1500- \$1400 1501 - 1750 - \$1600 Questions Call: (612) 618-6619 or email: mnsca@mnsca.org **Total Dues Enclosed This Membership** 1751 - 2000 - \$1900