



DAKOTA  
TERRITORY  
BUFFALO ASSOCIATION

# TERRITORY BUFFALO NEWS



Photo: Strategy Bison

*Calving Season  
In Buffalo Country!*

**Contact the DTBA Office**

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*Dakota Territory Buffalo Association Newsletter*

*April, 2021*



## Notes From the President - Liz Schroth, Ellsworth, NE



Hello from your president. As we enter spring, I hope you are all well. Springtime is a season of new life in the form of grass greening, birds returning, trees budding and, most importantly to many of us, calves! I love to see God's miracles in the form of new life. After a long winter with inclement weather and short days it is just good for the soul to see sunshine, green grass, and playful calves. My wish for all of you is to have a prosperous calving season. I pray for healthy vibrant calves and good mothers.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns regarding DTBA, please don't hesitate to call me, our DTBA Executive Director, Tammi Cooley, or any of the other Board of Directors.



The vision of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association is to perpetuate buffalo as the great North American native animal

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## Center of Excellence for Bison Studies Inaugural Grants Program Underway

In the Fall of 2020, South Dakota State University teamed up with the National Bison Association (NBA) and the National Buffalo Foundation (NBF) to create the Center of Excellence for Bison Studies. The Center is housed at the SDSU West River Research & Education facility in Rapid City, and is well on its way to advancing research efforts to address issues facing the bison industry.

Shortly after its launch, the Center announced the start of annual competitive grants program. The grants program aims to fund research and outreach projects that align with bison industry priorities, including: animal health and nutrition, end-products and marketing, cultural aspects, educational outreach, and ecological impacts. The first step in the grant process was a broad call to the research community to send a Letter of Intent to apply for grant funding. In this Letter of Intent, researchers provided a brief outline of their research plans and the expected impacts of their proposed studies. These Letters of Intent were then reviewed by the Center Board of Directors, and selected researchers were invited to submit a full proposal for consideration. These full proposals were due on March 15th, and will be reviewed by members of the NBA's Science & Research Committee for funding recommendations. Once funding decisions are made

in mid-May, successful applicants will be notified and expected to start their research activities this summer.

The goal of the competitive grants program in this first year was to cover a broad range of research and/or outreach topics. In future years, the grants program may focus on only a single topic or two, but this initial year allowed the Center to discern the expertise and interests of the research community as well as the industry.

The response to the competitive grants program was tremendous, with 36 Letters of Intent received from researchers across the country and North America. The letters received not only included researchers from a number of a highly respected institutions, but also included producer and industry partners. The quality of research proposed is high caliber, and the final decisions will be difficult indeed!

For more information on the Center of Excellence for Bison Studies or how to become involved in ongoing and upcoming research, contact the Center Director Kristi Cammack at [kristi.cammack@sdstate.edu](mailto:kristi.cammack@sdstate.edu) or the Center Director of Research Jeff Martin at [jeff.martin@sdstate.edu](mailto:jeff.martin@sdstate.edu); both can also be reached at 605-394-2236.



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## DTBA Post-Conference Updates - Tammi Cooley, Executive Director

**Time Marches On** - It seems like only yesterday we were gearing up for our combined Winter Conference with the National Buffalo Association and now we are already starting to plan for next year's conference. We voted at the General Membership meeting to change the conference to the weekend before President's Day, which makes the conference dates February 18th-19th, 2022, so please mark your calendars! One reason for the change is we would like to bring the competition animals back to town and get away from the Stock Show weekend. This year we have 31 bulls in the Young Guns competition from 14 consignors. Unfortunately, we were not able to find a host ranch for the heifers, so we are offering those consignors that entered the Young Guns competition a chance to consign heifers for the sale next February. These consignors can enter a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 10 yearling or 2-year-old bred heifers (or both). This way we can continue to offer some fine females for the sale. While we may have a couple of people interested in being a host ranch for next year, if you are interested, please let us know.



We are also looking for someone to be on the Winter Conference planning committee. This committee has monthly conference calls to come up with ideas for a theme, speakers, food and other interesting things that would keep our members entertained and educated. Right now, the committee members include Board Member Greg Nott, Ilana Xinos from the National Bison Museum, and Grace Seivert, Queen of Photography. If you are interested, please contact either Greg at 720-891-5810, or me at 605-430-0532.

Our scholarship committee is anticipating applications from High School Seniors for the DTBA \$1000 scholarship that we have been awarding annually. Members of this committee are President Liz Schroth, David Lautt, Suzi Kremer and our newest Board member Christopher Seivert. In our summer newsletter we will let you know who the recipients are and their plans for college.

We slimmed down our Show & Sale Committee this year. That committee consists of Board Member Bob Wesley and Vice President Alex Heim, Chad Kremer, Boyd Meyer, and Kevin Leier representing the Host Ranch for the Young Guns. This committee has monthly calls to stay updated on the competitions and makes adjustments to the competition operation annually to keep everything running smoothly.

Kevin Leier is also the Executive Director for the North Dakota Buffalo Association, which has once again proposed merging with the DTBA. The following points are proposed by the NDBA:

- Dakota Territory Buffalo Association would retain the current name while looking at a revamping of the logo to incorporate a more regional appeal, thus signifying a new chapter in the storied history of the DTBA along with a respectful closure of the

NDBA as a leading regional association.

- 1 Board Position on the DTBA would be a North Dakota Resident as the NDBA has strong ties to its state and federal legislative leadership, and this should be continued with a direct North Dakota contact on the DTBA Board of Directors. North Dakota also has a position on the state board of animal health and the century code specifically states that a bison representative is to be seated. This is another important position to keep in contact with a North Dakota Representative for the DTBA Board of Directors.

- After 4 successful Simulcast Production Auctions, the NDBA strongly encourages the DTBA to continue the simulcast auction going forward, with the live portion of the sale taking place at the National Buffalo Museum in Jamestown, North Dakota. This would offer 2 specific industry leading auctions for the DTBA on each side of the Dakota state border.

- Through the merger efforts, the group should look to strengthen and support the work of both the National Buffalo Museum, as well as the Center of Excellence for Bison research.

- The NDBA currently has a rotation for Board Members to represent North Dakota at the annual legislative roundup in Washington D.C., initiated by the National Bison Association. This would be a significant chance to establish and continue this process moving forward for the DTBA to support the regional bison ranching efforts across the upper Midwest. Along with these specific points, the NDBA Board of Directors recognizes that the merger of these two associations has the potential to significantly strengthen the Dakota Territory region with both human and financial capital.

As always, if you have any questions or comments, please call me at 605-430-0532. I look forward to hearing from you.



The mission of the Dakota Territory Buffalo Association is to promote buffalo and furnish a positive forum for creativity and camaraderie among a diverse membership.





# Girlz Going Wild

## Yearling Heifer Challenge

*Congratulations To  
Our 2021 Winners!*



### 1ST PLACE

Heim Ranch - Alex Heim  
Sponsor: Dakota Pure Bison



### 2ND PLACE

Cold Creek Buffalo Company - Boyd Meyer  
Sponsor: Icon Meats



### 3RD PLACE

Skull Creek Bison—Wayne Buchholz  
Sponsor: Big Heart Bison



### 4TH PLACE

Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch-Cody Cloeckl  
Sponsor: Strategy Bison



### 5TH PLACE

Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch—Sandy Limpert  
Sponsor: Agri-Prime



# Girlz Going Wild

## Yearling Heifer Challenge

## 2021 Black Hills Buffalo Classic Show & Sale Results

<u>Tag #</u>	<u>Consignor</u>	<u>Price</u>	<u>Buyer</u>
140	Heim Land & Bison	\$4,000	Taylor Bergmann, Sky High Bison, Clayton WI
137	Cold Creek Buffalo Company	\$7,000	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
106	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Wayne Buchholz	\$7,000	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
143	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$7,000	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
130	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$4,000	Taylor Bergmann, Sky High Bison, Clayton WI
117	Heim Land & Bison	\$2,250	Jake Skabelund, Bison on the Bear, Wellsville UT
127	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Jon Peterson	\$2,500	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
145	Karen Conley/Buffalo Heard Productions	\$5,500	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
157	McFarland Ranch	\$2,500	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
141	Rafter K Bar	\$2,500	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
115	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$4,500	David Lutt, Sheyenne River Bison, Harvey ND
114	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Wayne Buchholz	\$4,500	David Lutt, Sheyenne River Bison, Harvey ND
134	Cammack Buffalo Ranch	\$2,800	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
144	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Jon Peterson	\$2,500	Cody Kloeckl, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
105	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Conner Buchholz	\$2,800	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
129	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$2,500	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
118	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$2,500	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
113	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$2,500	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
152	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$3,000	Jake Skabelund, Bison on the Bear, Wellsville UT
102	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$3,000	Jake Skabelund, Bison on the Bear, Wellsville UT
101	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$3,750	Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby, ND
131	Heim Land & Bison	\$3,250	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
132	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$3,000	Jake Skabelund, Bison on the Bear, Wellsville UT
148	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$3,000	Jake Skabelund, Bison on the Bear, Wellsville UT
122	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$2,700	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
112	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Conner Buchholz	\$3,100	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
133	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Wayne Buchholz	\$2,700	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
116	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Conner Buchholz	\$2,600	Bob Penn, Falcon Ridge Buffalo Ranch, Sturgis SD
155	Cammack Buffalo Ranch	\$3,100	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
158	Prairie Ridge Buffalo Ranch	\$2,600	Bob Penn, Falcon Ridge Buffalo Ranch, Sturgis SD
124	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Conner Buchholz	\$4,000	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
126	Cammack Buffalo Ranch	\$2,750	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
100	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$2,500	Cody Kloeckl, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
120	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Wayne Buchholz	\$2,500	Bob Penn, Falcon Ridge Buffalo Ranch, Sturgis SD
160	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Jon Peterson	\$2,500	Cody Kloeckl, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD
138	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$2,500	Bob Penn, Falcon Ridge Buffalo Ranch, Sturgis SD
128	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$2,400	Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby, ND
119	Kenmar Bison Ranch	\$2,100	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
159	Cammack Buffalo Ranch	\$2,500	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
109	Kenmar Bison Ranch	\$2,500	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
110	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Wayne Buchholz	\$2,100	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
146	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$2,000	Bob Penn, Falcon Ridge Buffalo Ranch, Sturgis SD
103	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Brodie Limpert	\$2,000	Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby, ND
135	Prairie Ridge Buffalo Ranch	\$2,000	Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby, ND
123	Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch/Scott Peterson	\$2,000	Heartland Bison Ranch, Rugby, ND
107	Skull Creek Bison Ranch/Conner Buchholz	\$2,400	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
154	Kenmar Bison Ranch	\$2,400	Bob Lawson, Red Canyon Ranch, Thermopolis WY
125	Slim Buttes Buffalo Ranch/Sandy Limpert	\$2,500	Renee Ryckman, Sturgis SD
	Feeder Pen	\$12,255	Scott Peterson, Jumpoff Buffalo Ranch, Buffalo SD





## Update on Bovine Tuberculosis in Corson County, South Dakota

**By Dr. Dustin Oedekoven, DVM, DACVPM  
State Veterinarian and Executive Secretary,  
South Dakota Animal Industry Board**

Bovine tuberculosis (TB) has been identified in a Corson County beef herd. The index cow had been culled and sold through a South Dakota livestock auction market in late January 2021 and was shipped from the market directly to a federally inspected slaughter establishment in Minnesota. USDA Food Safety Inspection Service (FSIS) inspection staff collected suspect lymph nodes observed during routine slaughter inspection, and *Mycobacteria bovis* was cultured and detected by a PCR test at the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL) in Ames, IA. The slaughter lot included 34 cows sourced from multiple sellers through livestock auction markets in 2 states. The index cow did not have an official identification eartag or backtag. Several other cows in the lot did retain the market-applied backtag and/or had an official eartag. Market records were used to identify potential source herds. Caudal Fold Tuberculin (CFT) testing was conducted in the most likely herd of origin in Corson County. CFT suspect animals were necropsied at ADRDL and additional infected animals were confirmed through laboratory testing at NVSL.

This is the 5th instance of *M. bovis* infection in South Dakota beef herds since 2010. Past attempts at identifying the source of infection have been unrewarding. As in other South Dakota cases, whole genome sequencing of the *M. bovis* isolate in this case revealed a novel strain from a family of isolates primarily identified in samples collected from cattle and people in Mexico. Investigators will include questions about the possibility of Mexican-origin feeder or event cattle, as well as any human visitors or workers from Mexico. However, as in previous cases it is unlikely that a source of pathogen introduction will be found, and this is quite frustrating.

Initial efforts will be focused on managing the infected herd, which may include a complete herd depopulation by slaughter of test negative animals, or development of a long-term test and removal plan. Both approaches have been successfully used to stop the spread of TB in previous South Dakota cases. Additionally, trace-in and trace-out investigations will be conducted to test at-risk herds and determine the extent of the infection. Wildlife officials will conduct surveillance in small mammals and deer.

Concerned livestock producers often ask about signs to look for regarding TB. To date, lesions have been found and infection confirmed in only 3 adult cows from one herd in this case. These cows were in good condition and showed no clinical signs of illness, despite having extensive tuberculous lesions in multiple organs. Two were carrying near-term calves at necropsy. Clinical signs appear to be an unreliable indicator of TB infection, and perhaps that is an indication that producer management and slaughter surveillance is detecting infection before chronic disease has time to develop.

If production is minimally impacted, why do we continue to be concerned with this disease? Besides the historical

zoonotic implications, there are significant economic consequences to allowing the disease to become established, or to go unchecked. The U.S. bovine tuberculosis eradication program is over 100 years old and has been largely effective in eliminating TB from the U.S. cattle and bison herd. Risk factors, while not entirely clear at this point, appear to be different from those previously addressed in the earlier years of the eradication program. Still, the regulatory framework, while due for an overhaul, continues to penalize the cattle and bison industry in states where multiple cases of TB are found. USDA reviewed South Dakota's cooperative TB eradication program in 2018 and found it to be compliant, resulting in a continued recognition of "TB Accredited Free" status. It is important to maintain this designation and the confidence of the cattle and bison industry throughout our region and nation so that costly testing will not be required of South Dakota cattle and bison herds moving interstate.

Finally, this investigation highlights once again the importance of maintaining compliance with animal disease traceability efforts. Accurate and timely certificates of veterinary inspection including animal identification records are critical tools for animal health official in appropriately responding to findings of bovine tuberculosis. Animal identification records and livestock auction market records help investigators to quickly locate animals at risk and conduct additional testing as timely as possible. Thank you for your efforts to promote compliance with animal identification and interstate livestock health requirements.



Dr. Dustin Oedekoven



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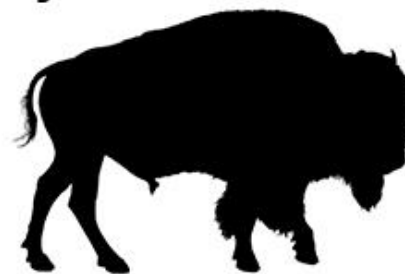
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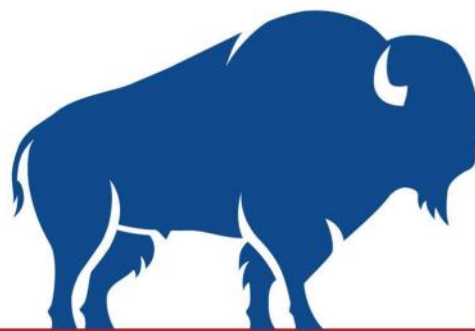
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Photo: Strategy Bison

*Do you like photography? Have some great bison, wildlife, or ranching related photos you would like to share? Send them to us, along with the photo credit and a caption or short story, and we'll put them in the newsletter. You'll be famous!*

Photo: Custer State Park







April, 2021

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DAKOTA  
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Telephone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

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\_\_\_\_ Other By Products

\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_ Production Auction - Date \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

I agree to allow the DTBA to publish this information in a Membership Directory and on their website.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Dakota Territory Buffalo Association**  
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