

## WWGA Backed Legislation Set To Take Effect

Several pieces of legislation that were either initiated or backed by the WWGA during the last Legislative session are set to go into effect July 1, 2011.

One of the most important of these is an initiative brought forward by the WWGA in regards to fencing in and near subdivisions. Prior to the WWGA legislation, all livestock in all situations were subject to Wyoming fencing laws which essentially required that cattle be “fenced out” and all other livestock had to be “fenced in” (which included sheep). While this has seemed to have worked fairly well in normal ranching situations, this was not the case when it came to subdivisions, many of which are established virtually overnight and often-times within the heart of heretofore undeveloped agriculture land. Responding to increasing reports and concerns, the WWGA sought Legislative changes to the statutes in order to rectify the situation. In a nutshell, the new statute requires that ALL livestock must be fenced OUT of platted subdivisions. It also limits the liability to livestock producers when livestock do breach a fence into a subdivision. This is the FIRST time under Wyoming law whereby sheep are now legally required to be fenced OUT.

Another important piece of legislation initiated and brought forward by the WWGA relates to the use of “proscriptive easement” or “adverse possession” by the Wyoming Game and Fish. Prior to the 2011 legislative session, the WGFD was prohibited from using eminent domain to acquire private

land. The organizations representing landowners believed our members were protected by this statutory prohibition from the WGFD using any means other than “willing buyer, willing seller” negotiations to obtain private land. This sense of security was removed when attorneys for the WGFD, in the “Lusby easement” lawsuit in 2009, claimed in court filings that they had the right to claim a “proscriptive easement” in the name of the “public” for recreational activities. This sent alarms off with the WWGA leadership. In order to make sure that the WGFD could not use proscriptive easement or adverse possession to take away private land from an owner, the WWGA approached state representative Lisa Shepperson of Midwest about sponsoring a bill. Rep. Shepperson agreed, and the bill was successfully passed through the 2011 legislature.

Other important legislation worked by the WWGA included changes to the Wyoming Livestock Board statutes to clarify that the WLSB has statutory authority only over livestock and not all animals (including pets), and changes to the animal welfare statutes that clarify the statutes regarding livestock as well as setting up a statutory framework to make sure that the welfare of companion animals can be assured through regulatory means when required.

For specifics on these new statutes as well as any others, contact WWGA Executive Vice President Bryce Reece at [b\\_reece@wyowool.org](mailto:b_reece@wyowool.org) or call the office at 307-265-5250.

## WWGA To Host USDA Undersecretary

In May, the WWGA sent a letter inviting Ed Avalos to Wyoming. Avalos is the USDA Undersecretary over Marketing and Regulatory Affairs. As such, he has direct oversight over several USDA agencies which are key to Wyoming and our industry. Among these are Wildlife Services (predator management), Veterinary Services (scrapie and brucellosis), Food Safety Inspection Service (meat inspection) and GIPSA (agriculture marketing). Having him visit Wyoming directly is seen as of great import given the areas under his oversight.

In June, the WWGA received a positive reply to our request, and we will be hosting the Undersecretary on July 13<sup>th</sup> here in Wyoming. We have a full day planned for him, with tours of Wildlife Services aerial and field operations in the morning, and then a series of presentations in the afternoon which will highlight and demonstrate our efforts in a wide variety of endeavors and areas which the

Undersecretary should find of interest. The day will cap off with a lamb chop and steak dinner for the Undersecretary and invited guests.

The WWGA is honored and appreciative for Undersecretary Avalos taking the time and making the effort to come to Wyoming and letting us have a day of his valuable time. We hope to make the most of it.

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## WWGA Executive Board Votes to Support Governor Mead's Wolf Proposition To U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

At a recent meeting, the WWGA Executive Board, following serious deliberation, voted to support a proposal Governor Mead had developed which would move Wyoming towards delisting wolves. Following the tremendous victory our coalition, in conjunction with the state, won in federal district court against the USFWS, Governor Mead began discussion with the USFWS in order to implement Judge Alan Johnson's decision. In ruling against the USFWS over its rejection of the Wyoming Wolf Management Plan, Judge Johnson did allow the USFWS to re-enter into discussion with the state in three narrow areas. One of those was the geographic size of the trophy game area.

While Judge Johnson found that the USFWS was "arbitrary and capricious" in rejecting Wyoming's plan, which included the current proposal for a trophy game area in northwestern Wyoming in and near the national parks, with everything outside being classified as "predator", he did allow the USFWS to discuss with the state the feasibility of slightly expanding the size of the trophy game area in order to alleviate concerns raised by the federal government over possible "inbreeding".

While no one on our side of the issue believes that this is of the remotest likelihood, Governor Mead did call the USFWS into his office and made a proposal to them which should satisfy the all edged concerns over unimpeded winter travel by wolves from Wyoming into Idaho, while at the same time fully protecting Wyoming's livestock industry, as well as, our wildlife populations. The WWGA leadership met with the Governor and discussed with him his concept and proposal. Following that meeting, the WWGA Executive Board met and deliberated on a position for the Association. At the end of those deliberations, the Board voted unanimously to support the Governor's concept and proposal as it had been presented to us.

We are now awaiting the results of the Governor's efforts to reach agreement with the USFWS and move forward with delisting of wolves and returning management of them over to the state. We are hopeful the Governor can prevail in this test against an adversary with little to lose and almost no motivation to reach compromise. Time will tell.

## U.S. House Defeats Anti Wildlife Services' Amendment

An animal-rights led amendment by the Humane Society of the United States and Natural Resources Defense Council to cut funding to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Wildlife Services (WS) by \$11 million was soundly rejected by the U.S. House of Representatives on Thursday with 287 members voting nay on the amendment and only 132 yeas.

"It sends a strong message when fully two-thirds of the House rejects an amendment to reduce funding for WS," commented Peter Orwick, executive director for the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI).

Reps. John Campbell (Calif.) and Peter DeFazio (Ore.) on Tuesday introduced an amendment to the 2012 Agriculture Appropriations Bill to reduce funding of the WS program by \$11 million.

Reps. Frank Lucas (Okla.) and Collin Peterson (Minn.), chairman and ranking member, respectively, of the House Agriculture Committee, and Rep. Cynthia Lummis (Wyo.), vice chair of the House Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, all took the floor and spoke out against the amendment citing the critical need to protect livestock, human health and safety as well as the importance of USDA's cooperative funding and management of wildlife damage conflicts nationwide. Lucas also penned a letter to Congress articulating strong arguments against the anti-livestock protection amendment.

Reps. Jim Matheson (Utah) and Mike Simpson (Idaho) sent a compelling "Dear Colleague" letter to all members of Congress also encouraging them to vote against the Campbell-DeFazio

amendment. They emphasized how any loss of funding that resulted in the reduction of trained WS personnel would have a direct impact on all functions of the agency.

ASI thanks Rep. Jack Kingston (Ga.), chairman of the appropriations subcommittee, for his leadership and tenacity in securing passage of the bill and defeating the amendment against WS. The vote on the final appropriations bill was close, 217-203, with all Democrats voting against the bill.

In addition to the dear colleague letter, ASI shared with the entire House a joint letter signed by 130 national and state organizations representing livestock, agriculture, sportsmen, including the National Rifle Association, and government, such as the National Association of Counties and National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, in opposition to attacks on funding for wildlife damage management.

"ASI appreciates all the organizations, both state and national, that worked on this successful effort to protect the federal arm of wildlife damage control," concluded Bob Benson (Ind.), sheep producer and chair of the ASI Legislative Action Council.

Orwick added that the roll of votes, dear colleague letters and joint industry letter are all posted to [www.sheepusa.org](http://www.sheepusa.org) as provided by the ASI Washington, D.C., representatives of Meyers and Associates.

## WWGA/WACPAB Seek Changes To Predator Statutes

The Wyoming Association of County Predatory Animal Boards (WACPAB), along with the Wyoming Wool Growers Association (WWGA), will be proposing legislation to the Joint Interim Agriculture Committee at its fall meeting to make changes to the current statutes.

Following more than a year of discussion and study, the two organizations will propose to the Legislature that the refund provision for out-of-state livestock coming into graze in Wyoming be eliminated (the refund provision will remain in place for in-state livestock). It is well documented that the vast majority of refund requests for predator fees come from out-of-state livestock owners who have sent livestock to Wyoming to graze. Conversely, the vast majority of resident livestock owners in Wyoming (including livestock producers who themselves are running “grass” livestock) very seldom request refunds from their local predator board. The amount of refunds from these out-of-state owners has cost some local predator boards tens of thousands of dollars of lost income.

“It has become apparent to us that an overwhelming majority of Wyoming producers all across the state have come to know and value the benefits and services afforded them through their local predator management programs, whether it be prevention of di-

rect loss to their livestock, or whether it be indirect benefits such as increased wildlife numbers that are also valued by producers,”



said Bryce Reece WWGA Executive Vice President and WACPAB Coordinator. “The ones who are gathering up their money and taking it with them when they leave the state are producers who come here, utilize our tremendous grass and water resources, and then they pack up and move on leaving very little other than other than minimal annual rental income payments. They derive benefit from the work of the local boards and programs, but because they aren’t here long enough to understand and see it, they simply pull their refunds and leave. We don’t think that’s fair and equitable, nor does it provide much benefit to the state or local communities,” said Reece.

In addition to removal of refunds to out-of-state livestock producers, the bill will also clarify when funds that are made are to be paid, and cleans up some outdated and antiquated statutes that are in need of updating. To obtain a copy of the draft bill, contact Bryce Reece at [b\\_reece@wyowool.org](mailto:b_reece@wyowool.org).

## WWGA Receives Truly Amazing Gift

Since assuming the duties of the Executive Vice President in December of 1993, Bryce Reece has had a long held dream and goal---to one day secure a sheep wagon for the Association through which industry promotional and educational efforts could be enhanced. The old saying “all good things come to those who wait” is paying out in Casper in a big way.



Bryce Reece

The donated sheep wagon in front of the Wool Growers Building in Casper.

While working with WWGA’s summer intern Kelly Thompson earlier this summer, Reece described his “sheep wagon dream”. Thompson, the granddaughter of Vern and Della Vivion of

Rawlins (Vern is a former WWGA President), thought she might have a way to help fulfill that desire. After visiting with her grandparents and her parents, Bill and Kristy Thompson of Casper, Thompson informed the WWGA that the Vivion family would be making a truly special gift to the WWGA. The Vivion’s had lent a sheep wagon to the State Parks Department several years ago with the understanding that the wagon would be placed on display at Fort Steele in Carbon County. The State Parks Department had never found an opportunity or venue in which to carry out the terms of the agreement with the Vivion’s, so the Vivion Family decided that the wagon should be permanently donated to the WWGA.

When Reece and Thompson went to Fort Steele to pick up the wagon, Reece about fell over. Not only is the wagon in incredible shape, but it is not any “ordinary” sheep wagon. The wagon is 126 years old and was built by James Candlish himself. Candlish, who resided in Rawlins in the 1880’s, is generally regarded as the “inventor” of the sheep wagon! It has been estimated that there are likely less than half a dozen “Candlish” sheep wagons left in the world!

The wagon will now be taken to Buffalo, where noted sheep wagon restorer Dr. Bill Novotny has agreed to “work his magic” on an already magical historical treasure. The WWGA expresses it’s true thanks to the Vivion Family for this remarkable gift and promises to hold it in a place of honor and prestige within the Association!!

# The “Sheep Wagon Project” and Plan

The long-term plan for the sheep wagon is to have it fully restored into a show piece that both the Association, and the Vivion Family, will be proud of. Following that, it is our intention to develop an exhibition that we can use to demonstrate, promote and exemplify both the sheep industry of Wyoming and the WWGA.

We want to secure a “parade ready” team of horses to pull the wagon (obviously it simply won’t do to have a James Candlish wagon pulled with a motorized vehicle---Mr. Candlish didn’t

even conceive of such a thing when he developed it----). We also intend to put together a vehicle/unit that we can transport the wagon, team, and everything else we need all together. For parades, demonstrations, exhibitions, we fully intend to call upon our members who are Border Collie handler “extraordinaire’s” to escort a small band of sheep with the wagon as it makes its way through a parade or as a demonstration/exhibit.

We can foresee tremendous use and exposure for this “living” show piece, and can’t wait to work towards pulling it all together!! Look for us (hopefully) soon!!! (Please see page five for



## **NOTICE:**

**ALL sheep and goats, excluding lambs/kids entering slaughter channels, MUST be identified with official Scrapie identification.**

**\*\* Always contact destination state for requirements which may exceed USDA regulations\*\***



**FREE** tags and applicators may be obtained from the USDA by calling  
**307-432-7960 or 1-866-USDATAG**

# Want To Be Part Of Our “Sheep Wagon Project”??

Obviously to put this together in the manner in which we intend, many things have to come together, funds will have to be raised, and we will (once again) need the help, support and generosity of our members and supporters to make this dream come true. There are many ways you can participate and help!

Cash contributions dedicated to the Sheep Wagon Plan. Obviously, all things can be made to happen with enough financial resources. Here’s the way you can contribute financially at various levels:

“Bronze Sponsor”: For a \$100 contribution, you’ll receive a special **bronze** WWGA Sheep Wagon lapel pin and a listing as a BRONZE sponsor in any promotional/educational materials developed in conjunction with the Sheep Wagon Project.

“Silver Sponsor”: For a \$1,000 contribution, you’ll receive a special **sterling silver** WWGA Sheep Wagon lapel pin, a specially designed “Sheep Wagon Team” embroidered jacket, your name listed in smaller type on the vehicle/trailer developed to transport the Wagon and horses and a listing as a SILVER sponsor in any promotional/educational materials developed in conjunction with the Sheep Wagon Project

“Gold Sponsor”: For a \$5,000 contribution, you’ll receive a special **14K Gold plated** WWGA Sheep Wagon lapel pin, a specially designed “Sheep Wagon Team” embroidered jacket, your name/ranch/logo/brand prominently displayed on the vehicle/trailer developed to transport the Wagon and horses and a listing as a GOLD sponsor in promotional/educational materials developed in conjunction with the Sheep Wagon Project.

In addition to cash, there are other ways you may be able to help us achieve this goal (and save us the corresponding net funds to outright purchase these items). These include:

Donation of a serviceable and usable heavy-duty (re: semi) truck tractor unit with which we can pull the wagon/horses/ accouterments which will go with the Display. For the first person or entity that donates this (we need one), they will receive the same as a GOLD-level sponsor as outlined above.

Donation of a serviceable stock trailer for use in transporting just the team, or the sheep needed for parades and demonstrations. Have a good serviceable 16-foot stock/horse trailer sitting around not being used? If so this donation you will receive the same as a GOLD level sponsor as outlined above.

Donation of a “parade ready” matched team of horses. For the first person or entity that donates this, they too will receive the same as a GOLD-level sponsor.

Donation of a “parade quality” harness set for the team. For the first person or entity that donates this, they too will receive the same as a GOLD-level sponsor as outlined above.

“Wintering” the horses. Those of you familiar with the WWGA building and property obviously know we are not set up (nor will the city of Casper ever allow us to be set-up) to house and particularly winter the team we hope to obtain. If you have the ability to do this for us and will commit to do this on an annual basis, you will receive the same as a GOLD level sponsor as outlined above.

We know this is a large and ambitious project, and list. We also know that it is achievable and obtainable WITH your support and help! For more information, contact Bryce at the WWGA office by calling 307-267-3113 or emailing [b\\_reece@wyowool.org](mailto:b_reece@wyowool.org)

# It's Set, We're On to Idaho Again!

Following careful consideration and discussion, the WWGA Executive Board voted to hold another joint convention with the Idaho Wool Growers Association this November. This will be the second year in a row for this event, following an extremely successful, fun and exciting convention in 2010. The WWGA Board agreed to a second year in Idaho following agreement that a reciprocal arrangement will be made for 2012 with a joint meeting here in Wyoming.

The convention will again be held at the beautiful Sun Valley Resort in Sun Valley, ID. The dates for this year's meeting will be November 11-13, 2012. Everyone who attended the 2010 event agreed that no finer facility of its type had ever been made available to the WWGA for our annual convention. The site location and facilities were a significant factor in the Executive Board's decision to proceed out-of-state for a second year.

The WWGA is exploring the feasibility and interest in

chartering one or more tour buses to carry attendees over to Idaho. We currently have quotes that would make the round-trip fare approximately \$125. The buses will transport approximately 50 people/bus in safety and comfort. In order to be able to definitively book the buses, we must have your name and a non-fundable \$25 down payment received in the WWGA office no later than September 15, 2011. If there is sufficient interest, we may send one bus off to Idaho from Casper through Riverton and on over to Sun Valley while a second will leave Casper and make the trip to Idaho through Rock Springs, allowing attendees to be picked up and returned along those routes. This will only occur if we have enough interest to warrant two buses.

If you are interested, please fill out the enclosed form and return it ASAP to the office along with your \$25 deposit.

Plans are under development, so check back often to keep updated.

## *90th Annual Idaho State Ram and Ewe Sale*



**July 9, 2011**



*Twin Falls County Fairgrounds  
Filer, ID*

*For More Information Call: 208-344-2271*

# Sheep Center Nominations Priority Action It

The executive board of the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) will be holding its summer meeting in Indianapolis, Ind., on July 14-15.

An important action item that will be taken up by the board will be nominations of members to the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) board. Three director seats are up for nomination, two producer slots and one marketing position.

"It seems like nominations were just submitted and appointments made for the sheep center," commented Peter Orwick, ASI executive director. "The initial terms were staggered to create a rotation on the board with some directors appointed for a single year term."

Linda Campbell (Va.) and Rochelle Oxarango (Idaho) hold the producer positions that expire. Both are eligible for reap-

pointment. Dave Johnson (Wis.) holds the marketing seat that will expire, and he is also eligible for reappointment. The WWGA has again submitted Kemmerer, WY producer, Dave Julian, for consideration. Julian is the immediate Past President of the WWGA.

It is expected that the U.S. Department of Agriculture will want to receive nominations by July 15. ASI makes nominations for the producer seats on this board.

The primary agenda of the executive board will be the recommendation of the national wool program budget and the legislative budget of ASI for the 2011-2012 fiscal year. The wool budget will be provided by the American Wool Council, which is meeting in San Angelo, Texas, on June 29-30, to review recommendations for the upcoming budget year.

# Global Wool Prices Warming Up

Rising prices are likely to lead to higher consumer prices for woolen products.

Wool prices in Australia may extend gains from the highest level in at least 16 years before new supplies later in the year bring down costs, according to Indian company, Raymond.

Benchmark prices in Australia have surged 39 percent this year, heading for the best annual gain in nine years. Prices touched A\$14.31 a kilogram this week, the highest since at least July 1995, according to Bloomberg data, as supplies shrank and European buyers restocked.

In South Africa, wool is at the highest level in more than a decade.

"Wool prices have been on an exceptional rise," Aniruddha Deshmukh, president of textiles with Raymond, India's biggest maker of woolen fabrics, said in emailed responses to Bloomberg News. "While it is believed that the price of wool would continue to move up, we expect that in another two or three months, when the new clip hits the market, there may be a price drop, only to firm up later in the year."

Global wool output has fallen to the lowest level in about 85 years, with Australian production at similar lows, according to the International Wool Textile Organization (IWTO).

Wool is catching up with rallies in other farm commodities from cotton to wheat and corn, as rising raw material costs stoke inflation worldwide.

"Demand and supply are looking strong enough at least to keep these prices going," Anthony Boatman, risk manager for wool at Landmark, a unit of Calgary-based Agrium, said. "Supply is fairly constrained and that's particularly showing at the moment."

Wool in Australia climbed to a record A\$15.84 in April 1988, Landmark said in February. Cotton prices surged to a record \$2.197 a pound in New York on March 7. Wheat is up 47 percent in the past year, while corn has increased 72 percent. Wool's 39-percent gain this year exceeds that of corn, silver, coffee and gold.

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"Initially, this rise was attributed to inflation, later it was related to abnormal increase in prices of other fibers led by cotton," Deshmukh said. "Currently, at the end of the season, the short supply of wool is further increasing its price."

Global wool output will be 1,098.8 million kilograms clean weight in 2011-2012, little changed from a year earlier, Wilcox said. That's the lowest in about 85 years. In Australia, production is forecast at 340 million kilograms greasy weight in 2010-2011, the lowest since 1924-25, he said.

Higher wool prices may increase the cost of clothing in India next winter, with wool purchased now to make garments for the next cold season, DK Nair, secretary-general of the Confederation of Indian Textiles Industry, said recently.

More expensive wool would increase costs for textile and apparel makers and may add to inflationary pressures as

consumers face pricier clothes. Central banks from China to India and the European Union have been raising rates to restrain the pace of price gains.

"Economies are slowly getting back on track, and demand is increasing for luxury items, which wool is," said Landmark's Boatman. "Most retail sectors are fairly cutthroat in the way that they price, but if the demand's there, then people will pay the price."

Activity levels are expected to move back to normal levels over the next six months. The good news is that stock levels were reported to still be below normal levels in most sectors, notably in the early stage processing and spinning sectors, and are expected to move only slowly back towards normal levels in the next six months. This suggests excess stocks will not be an immediate concern. At the Congress, although the mood was positive, there was moderate unease among some of the Chinese mills and traders about the current high wool prices in U.S. dollar terms. Mills from Europe were more comfortable. Overall, there is good reason to be positive about the next six months.

## Recommendations from Bighorn Sheep Meeti

Support of continued research into vaccine treatments of wild sheep and domestic sheep; the consolidation of Best Management Practices (BMP) for ease of use and recommendations; in-field research to evaluate the existing BMP; and implementation of collaborative working groups that include all affected parties to create accountability for finding solutions.

These are just a few of the recommendations from the bighorn meeting held in Denver, Colo., on June 13-14. Three working groups met to discuss possible options to resolve

### Superior Closes Iowa Plant

Superior Farms on May 11, 2011 closed its lamb slaughter plant in Hawarden, Iowa.

California-based Superior said it will keep open a six-employee station that buys lambs from area producers. In addition, the company will leave the equipment in the plant, which has the capacity to slaughter up to 240,000 lambs annually.

"We really feel there is a lot of potential for the lamb industry in that area, and we want to be a resource for grow-

ers so they can stay in business," Superior spokeswoman Angela Gentry said.

The complete list of recommendations is available on the American Sheep Industry Association website at [www.sheepusa.org](http://www.sheepusa.org) by clicking the Policy & Programs tab and then the Industry Programs tab.

The American Sheep Industry Association reminds the industry that many of the lambs that have previously supplied the Iowa plant are entering into the nontraditional market instead, leaving the plant with less supply. Through the push to rebuild the national flock, it is forecast that industry growth will result in adequate lamb supply for both the traditional and nontraditional markets in that region.

"As livestock becomes more available, and the flocks start growing, we will re-open as we are able to," said Gentry.

# Capitol Hill Hears from Sheep Industry

More than 70 American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) producer leaders from 21 states converged on Capitol Hill the week of May 2nd to represent the collective interests of the American sheep industry. Representing Wyoming were: Gene Hardy, WWGA President, Bryce Reece, WWGA Executive Vice President, Frank Moore, Past WWGA President, JW & Thea Nuckolls, Past WWGA President and WWGA Auxillary President, and Kelly Thompson, WWGA's summer intern. These leaders visited the offices of their U.S. senators and representatives for the opportunity to talk about the industry's top national issues.

Pursuing the continuation of the livestock protection program of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service's Wildlife Services Agency was a priority as producers talked with their respective congressional offices.

Another topic of discussion included a resolution to the perceived conflict between domestic and bighorn sheep.

During their time with policymakers, producers relayed the facets of the twoPLUS campaign released April 29 to increase sheep numbers and meet rising demand. Another key topic of conversation was maintaining a strong H-2A program for labor.

Continued funding for the eradication of scrapie and the 2012 Farm Bill were also topics of discussion.

"This annual visit to the Capitol keeps the issues of the sheep industry in front of our decision makers," commented Bob Benson, co-chair of ASI's Legislative Council. "Having a large number of producers all on the Hill at the same time helps us to accomplish the goal of communicating our key issues."

Issues throughout the industry vary depending on location and size; however, many things remain consistent across all operations. This annual event for producer leaders provides a chance to advocate the industry's united efforts to federal policy makers.

As part of the American Sheep Industry Association's (ASI) spring trip to Washington, D.C., nearly 50 producers from 21 states gathered at the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) to review key department programs involving the American sheep industry.

"USDA offered an excellent line-up of speakers who have firsthand knowledge of the sheep-related issues," commented Margaret Soulen Hinson, ASI president. "Their in-depth understanding of the industry provided for an environment of significant interaction and sharing of information. As an in-

dustry, we appreciate all of the work they do on behalf of sheep producers in the United States."

Anne MacMillan, senior advisor to Secretary Tom Vilsack, stopped in to take back to the secretary the main issues of the sheep industry.

"The secretary is an advocate for third-option thinking," said McMillan. "He believes there are multiple solutions to an issue and encourages broad thinking to solve any problem."

The continuation of the livestock protection program and the urgency of a resolution to the bighorn sheep controversy were two topics producers encouraged McMillan to carry back to the secretary. Both issues have an effect on the industry as a whole and need immediate attention.

Brandon Willis, deputy administrator of USDA's Farm Service Agency, opened the session with a review of the livestock indemnity program, which helps producers in death loss occurs due to adverse weather. The program expires this year, however, if included in the upcoming Farm Bill, it could be written to better address services for range operators. He is scheduled to join Secretary Vilsack's mediator staff next week as a senior policy advisor to the secretary on the 2012 Farm Bill.



"MacMillan and Willis, both whom I have known from their days on Capitol Hill, are able and knowledgeable advisors to the secretary who believe in the future of agriculture and rural America," commented Fran Boyd, ASI's senior Washington representative. "We are lucky to have them working for Secretary Vilsack as both will be important advisors to him on the 2012 Farm Bill."

"Sheep need to be protected," these were the words from Gregory Parham, DVM, administrator of USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). "The work done by the Wildlife Services Agency (WS) is important; however, the curtain is going to fall on projects that are funded by earmark dollars, not because WS chooses to discontinue these programs but because Congress has made that choice for us."

APHIS will be releasing a proposed rule on scrapie that will update procedures, modify policy, set reasonable state compliance regulations and address import rules. According to Parham, we are planning to fund the scrapie eradication program at near the 2010 level this year and next.

The industry stressed apprehension to sheep being lumping into a *(Continued on Page 10)*

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disease management group with horses, cervids and goats. There is concern that scrapie funding will be diluted and used for other species programs within the new management group rather than for scrapie work.

Ann Wright, deputy undersecretary for USDA's Marketing and Regulatory Programs, advised attendees that it would behoove the industry to fully implement the National Sheep Industry Improvement Center (NSIIC) programs allowed for in the 2008 Farm Bill prior to the 2012 Farm Bill. When discussions begin on the 2012 Farm Bill, committee members will be focused on measurable results as they decide future program funding in this tight budget.

Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) will be putting out a new online dashboard with lamb market news shortly. According to Warren Preston, associate deputy administrator with AMS, this dashboard will allow producers to view market reports in a new and more user-friendly way. With the roll out of the lamb and swine dashboards, all species covered under the mandatory price reporting rule will have the same access to markets.

Preston indicated that AMS recently completed its mandatory management review of American Lamb Board (ALB) activities and spending. The review is done to insure that producer dollars are being spent as directed and to document internal controls. The next ALB review will be held in 2013.

Finally, Preston discussed the continuing work being done on the lamb instrument grading project with the prediction standards for tenderness, grade and quality moving forward.

Last week, slaughter numbers were not available and this is a point of concern for the industry. Without these numbers, the model that provides rates for the Livestock Risk Protection-Lamb insurance cannot be run and the industry is without this price protection product. USDA is well aware of the absence of slaughter reporting.

The message brought forward by Jay Jensen, deputy undersecretary of Natural Resources and Environment, and Jim Pena, associate deputy chief for the National Forest System (FS), was that the over-arching philosophy of the FS is the restoration and resilience of its lands. The activities that are carried out on FS lands, like sheep grazing, are not always understood and, therefore, it is the responsibility of the FS and the sheep industry to educate the public about the value of these activities.

"The public should understand that sheep grazing on public lands is one of the main reasons these lands are in such great shape and are so desirable for mixed uses," stated Bob Benson, chair of ASI Legislative Action Council. "Sheep grazing reduces the risk of fire and promotes foliage growth."

The FS has issued a planning rule that is out for comment. The purpose of the rule is to update the 1982 rule that is currently being followed by the FS. According to Jensen and Pena, the new rule works to manage habitat, connect people to FS land and to better provide for land management and ecosystem protection.

Brian Grunenfelder, acting deputy administrator for the Office of Agreements and Scientific Affairs with USDA's Foreign Agriculture Service, told producers that because of the strong Australian dollar, the drought in that country and a focus on other markets, the performance of Australian exports to the United States has declined. Exports from New Zealand have also decreased for some of the same reasons. The Trans-Pacific Partnership trade agreement was discussed since it would include both countries.

Concluding the line-up of speakers was Bill Clay, deputy administrator for WS. His main message to producers was that additional money will need to be found to keep WS functioning at its current level; however, that funding will need to be non-federal funding. There were 100 WS employees tied to the congressional earmarks that funded WS predator management projects and, as of Oct. 1, 2010, that funding is no longer available. The earmarks allotted for \$3 million of predator management work, which included livestock protection programs in nine states.

"Not only is this the time of year when producers have new lambs on the ground that are especially vulnerable to predation; it is incredibly poor policy to have wolves entirely under management of government and no funds to control problems that arise with them," indicated Peter Orwick, ASI executive director.

"The lack of funding for predatory management programs, in particular livestock protection, is very concerning for the sheep industry," commented Benson. "Last week, the industry launched its twoPLUS campaign to strengthen the lamb and wool industry's infrastructure by increasing the number of sheep in production. An important aspect of being able to accomplish this expansion is predator control and the role of WS. It is vital that WS is able to retain its trained employees in these critical positions to help with livestock protection."

Other WS projects include collaboration with Australia on a new toxicant for feral hog control that utilizes lethal doses of sodium nitrate and the possible introduction of new guardian animals from Europe for use against the increasing wolf population.

"The speakers were very open to hearing feedback from attendees today," concluded Soulen Hinson. "It is through an environment of open communication and mutual respect that we will be able to work through the issues facing the sheep industry today."

# Biologists Launch Sage Grouse Mortality Study

Biologists have launched a study of sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin to better understand the bird's movements and the threats it faces.

Jim Pehringer, district supervisor with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services in northwest Wyoming, said the study began earlier this month and will continue through 2016 if funding allows.

While the basin's sage grouse population remains healthy, Pehringer said, the average number of observed birds continues to linger below peak levels recorded in 2006. The study aims to determine when and where the grouse move, along with the causes of their mortality.

"It's dealing with the predation rate and the major predators of sage grouse," Pehringer said. "Secondarily, it also looks at the human impact on sage grouse in the Bighorn Basin."

Pehringer said the basin's sage grouse are hunted by predators including coyotes, bobcats, badgers, skunks and raccoons. Ravens, magpies and golden eagles have also been known to prey on grouse. Scientists speculate that sage grouse in the basin didn't evolve under the current predation pressures.

Pehringer said that monitoring elsewhere in Wyoming, such as Fremont County, found that 48 percent of sage

grouse nests were damaged or destroyed by predators. It also found that common ravens and black-billed magpies accounted for nearly 87 percent of all documented incidents of nest predation.



"I've seen a lot of sage grouse studies, and this is the first one that singles out predation as a possible cause of mortality on sage grouse," Park County Commissioner Joe Tilden said. "I'm in favor of this."

The study has also gained the support of several energy companies.

"There are a lot of oil fields that want to see this project happen," Pehringer said.

Despite the lower numbers, Pehringer said, the basin's sage grouse population is strong.

"We have a lot of grouse in the Bighorn Basin that are currently hunted year to year," he said. "Yet we seem to be under the same restrictions as other states that don't have the sage grouse population that we do."

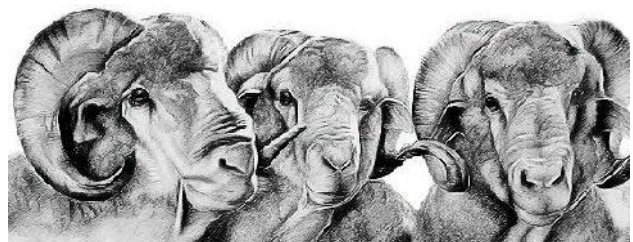
# State Inspected Meat Crosses State Lines

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced a final rule on Tuesday that will broaden the market for smaller state-inspected plants. By participating in this voluntary cooperative interstate shipment program, select establishments will have the option to ship meat and poultry products, bearing an official USDA mark of inspection, across state lines. Until now, only federally inspected meat and poultry was allowed into interstate commerce.

"We're excited to announce this new rule that offers smaller plants the opportunity to expand their market and sell their products to new customers," said FSIS Administrator Al Almanza. "Allowing these state-inspected establishments to ship their products across state lines has the potential to expand rural development and jobs, increase local tax bases, strengthen rural communities and ensure that food is safe for consumers."

In participating states, state-inspected establishments selected to take part in this program will be required to comply with all federal standards under the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA) and the Poultry Products Inspection Act (PPIA). These establishments will receive inspection services from state inspection personnel that have been trained in the requirements of the FMIA and PPIA.

To view the final rule, visit [www.fsis.usda.gov](http://www.fsis.usda.gov)



## University Researcher Tests New Wild Sheep Vaccine

A Washington State University (WSU) wildlife disease researcher produced an experimental vaccine that appears to have protected four bighorn sheep against deadly pneumonia.

Subramaniam Srikumaran, the WSU professor in Pullman, Wash., says his findings are promising but concedes years of work remain to help safeguard bighorn herds from periodic die-offs that have plagued the species in Idaho.

His research comes at a time when domestic sheep that roam the same habitat as bighorns are blamed for spreading disease to their more vulnerable wild cousins. That's led federal managers to close sheep grazing allotments in Idaho's Payette National Forest to protect the wild sheep. That move has angered the region's ranchers who see the federal government as protecting wildlife over their livelihoods.

Srikumaran told the Lewiston Tribune this week that he developed the vaccine in his laboratory then gave it to four bighorn sheep. They all survived after being exposed to a pathogen that causes pneumonia. Sheep not given the vaccine died within days of exposure. He acknowledged the sample size of inoculated bighorns was small, but "100 percent is something convincing to me."



Idaho bighorn numbers have dwindled by half since 1990, to about 3,500. Die-offs such as ones where 300 sheep died in 1995 and 1996 in Hells Canyon have contributed to the declines. Most scientists believe contact between the wild sheep and domestic sheep during the

spring and summer has contributed to transmission of deadly pneumonia.

Some see a vaccine along the lines of what Srikumaran is working on as a solution to allowing historic ranching activities and wild sheep to coexist in the high country - not just in Idaho but in other states including Washington and California where similar efforts to separate the animals are under consideration.

Wildlife biologists following the debate say a solution remains elusive despite the positive rumblings from Srikumaran's lab. For instance, relying on a vaccine given to wild sheep can be problematic, because it probably would require capturing all the wild animals that live in steep and remote terrain.

That's one reason why Srikumaran is also working on a method that would treat the domestic sheep that are rounded up annually instead of the bighorns.

Frances Cassirer, a wildlife research biologist for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game in Lewiston, said Srikumaran's experimental vaccine may prove a valuable tool in the fight to learn more about what causes wild sheep to contract pneumonia from domestics or if there is more than one cause.

For instance, Srikumaran exposed the sheep to a pathogen known to be deadly, but some researchers believe there is another bacterium that weakens the bighorns' immune systems and makes them more susceptible to deadly bacteria.

"If you could inoculate bighorn with the vaccine and expose them to domestic sheep and they survived, at least you would know that is the organism; it suggests that is the organism we have to get rid of in domestic sheep," Cassirer said.

## Australian Flock Numbers Fall in 2010

Final Australian livestock numbers, as released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, reported lower cattle and sheep numbers for the year ending June 30, 2010. Ongoing drought throughout 2009 contributed to the decline with the cattle herd back 5 percent year-on-year, to 26.55 million head, while the sheep flock also shrunk 5 percent, to 68.1 million head.

The sheep flock continued its decline for the year with numbers at their lowest levels since 1905. Sheep numbers fell uniformly across most states, with 5 percent less sheep

in New South Wales, Victoria and Tasmania than a year earlier. Flocks also dropped in Queensland (15 percent), South Australia (10 percent) and Western Australia (7 percent).

Reflecting the strong prices and outlook for lambs in recent years, the number of breeding ewes bucked the declining trend, rising 3 percent on the previous year, to 42.3 million head. With the breaking of the drought across eastern Australia in 2010 and the wet start to 2011, and with producers retaining breeding ewes, the national flock is expected to increase for the year ending June 30, 2011.

# ASI Makes Nominations to WS Advisory Committee

The American Sheep Industry Association's (ASI) executive board finalized the industry's nominations to the National Wildlife Service's Advisory Committee (NWSAC). The committee was reinstated by the secretary of agriculture for a two-year period.

Bryce Reece (Wyo.) was nominated as an incumbent member to the NWSAC. Burdell Johnson (N.D.), Joel Dennis (Texas) and Lee Bloodworth (Texas) were also nominated for a seat on the committee.

Reece has served as the executive vice president of the Wyoming Wool Growers Association since 1993. The association works to protect, preserve and enhance the lamb and wool industries as well as the ranching lifestyle of Wyoming and the West. He has worked with legislators, governmental officials and the general public to provide education and information on the latest technology and production practices. Reece has been one of the leading advocates and proponents for professional, effective, well-managed predator control and management programs.

From North Dakota, Johnson has been raising sheep and cattle for more than 35 years. He is an active member of many state associations and has been involved with ASI as a board member and president. As an ASI officer, Johnson

helped lead several national initiatives to strengthen the U.S. sheep industry and predator management, including the use of control tools such as the M-44.

Dennis has spent the last 33 years raising sheep and cattle in Texas. He has firsthand experience dealing with predators on his ranch and has served as president of the Texas Wildlife Damage Management Association as well as the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers' Association (TSGRA).

Another longtime Texas sheep rancher, Bloodworth has been involved with the TSGRA for over 40 years. He is familiar with various methods of controlling predators through ranching and as a former agriculture science instructor.

He supports his community on the advisory committee of the Texas Predator Board.

The NWSAC advises the secretary on policies, program issues and research needed to conduct the Wildlife Services (WS) program. The committee also serves as a public forum enabling those affected by the WS program to have a voice in the program's policies. Members selected for the committee will serve two-year terms.

# Wool Added to Body Armor for Added Protection

Wool, that wonder fabric used in the finest of fashions, has a new use - making body armor even more bullet resistant. Researchers at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology (RMIT) school of fashion and textiles discovered that a blend of wool and Kevlar, the synthetic fiber widely used in body armor, was lighter and cheaper and worked better in some conditions than Kevlar alone.

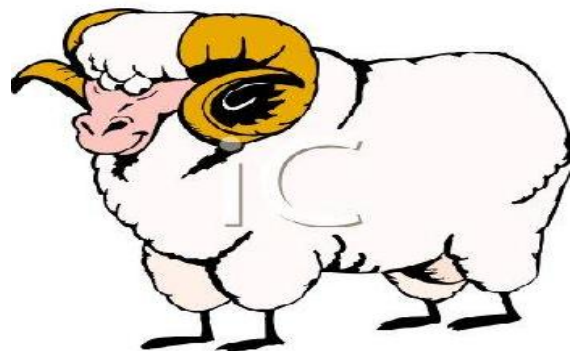
The RMIT textile technologist, Rajiv Padhye, Ph.D., said the standard bullet proof vest was generally made of Kevlar, a dense, strong and expensive fiber. For military use, a heavy ceramic plate provides greater protection over vital areas.

A Kevlar vest typically comprises some 36 layers of Kevlar fabric; however, it loses about 20 percent of its effectiveness when wet, requiring an expensive waterproofing process.

"What we did was kept the Kevlar but added a wool yarn into this," he said.

The increased friction of the wool in a tight weave means a vest comprising 28-30 layers of fabric provide the same level of bullet resistance as 36 layers of Kevlar.

"Because wool fibers expand naturally in water by up to 16 percent, the wool-Kevlar blend actually becomes more effective in wet conditions," he said. "The result is a cheaper bullet-resistant vest that works even better when it's wet." That's a significant matte, considering Kevlar costs about \$70 a kilogram compared with about \$12 a kilogram for wool.



# H-2A Changes Could Benefit Dairy

Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate that would allow dairy farmers to utilize a federal visa program to bring foreign workers to the United States.

Sens. Patrick Leahy (Vt.), Mike Enzi (Wyo.), Herb Kohl (Wisc.), Kirsten Gillibrand (N.Y.), Bernie Sanders (Vt.) and Charles Schumer (N.Y.) introduced the H-2A Im-



provement Act (S.852), which will authorize foreign dairy workers and sheepherders to remain in the United States for an initial period of three years, and gives the U.S. Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services the

authority to approve a worker for an additional three-year period.

The legislation also states that an employer filing a petition to employ H-2A workers in positions such as dairy workers or sheepherders will not be required to show that such positions are of a seasonal or temporary nature. The dairy industry has coordinated with the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) in its efforts of recent years to design a program similar to the sheep industry's labor provision.

We plan to work with the senators from sheep states, including Enzi, to codify the key provisions of the sheepherder H-2A program," said Margaret Soulen Hinson (Idaho), ASI president.

## Rules for Reporting H-2A Abandonment/Termination

The Department of Labor published specific procedures to be used in reporting worker abandonment or termination for cause for H-2A workers. The notice became effective on the same day it was published.

The H-2A worker visa program enables farmers and ranchers to employ foreign workers on a temporary basis. Occasionally, H-2A workers abandon their employment or are terminated for cause before the contract expires.

A 2010 Final Rule provided that an employer will not be responsible for transportation, subsistence expenses and/or the three-fourths guarantee related to H-2A worker when the worker abandons employment or is terminated for cause before the end date of the contract if the employer notifies the Office of Foreign Labor Certification National Processing Center (NPC) and, in the case of an H-2A worker, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) of the abandonment or termination.

The employer must notify NPC and DHS in writing by e-mail, fax or U.S. mail within two working days after the abandonment or termination. Abandonment begins when



an H-2A worker fails to report for work at the regularly scheduled time for five consecutive work days without the consent of the employer.

To process the notification, NPC and DHS must receive the following information: reason for notification, date of abandonment or termination, name and address of each worker affected, employee's application/certification number and the employer's name, address, telephone number and Federal Employer Identification Number.

# Support for Government Litigation Savings Act

The Public Lands Council (PLC), the American Sheep Industry Association (ASI) and the National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) strongly support the Government Litigation Savings Act, legislation introduced Wednesday by Rep. Cynthia Lummis (Wyo.) and Sen. John Barrasso (Wyo.) to bring much-needed transparency and accountability to the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). NCBA President Bill Donald, PLC President John Falen and ASI President Margaret Soulen Hinson agree that while EAJA was intended to level the playing field between private citizens and the vast resources of the federal government, radical environmental groups have abused the system to target private citizens.

"Well-funded environmental activists have abused EAJA to advance their agenda to ultimately end grazing and other multiple-use activities on federal lands," Donald said. "Congress intended EAJA to level the playing field between private citizens and the powerful federal government, not to provide a means for radical environmentalists to use taxpayer dollars to target family farmers and ranchers."

EAJA allows plaintiffs to recover attorney fees and other expenses from the federal government when they prevail in a case against the government. Falen said the government often settles cases and pays plaintiffs through EAJA instead of devoting time, staff and resources to a trial.

"Farmers and ranchers pay to defend themselves against these frivolous lawsuits and at the same time their tax dollars are paying the attorney fees for the environmental activists attacking them. In what world can this be construed as being right and just? This legislation will finally shed light onto these abuses and reform EAJA," Falen said.

Specifically, the Government Litigation Savings Act will prohibit organizations with a net worth exceeding \$7 million from filing for EAJA funds; require that EAJA filers show a "direct and personal monetary interest" in the action to be eligible for payments; and cap the attorney fees environmental activists claim to be owed. According to a letter signed by PLC, NCBA, ASI and 34 other organizations representing livestock ranchers, the Government Litigation Savings Act "will help protect our members from the injustice of funding their own demise."

"As the producers of food and fiber for a growing global population, livestock producers take very seriously our obligation to responsibly use and manage natural resources," said Soulen Hinson. "Unfortunately, EAJA payments are not encouraging conservation or wise resource use - they are encouraging destructive behavior on the parts of powerful special interest groups. We commend Lummis and Barrasso for their leadership on this issue and urge all members of Congress to support this important legislation."

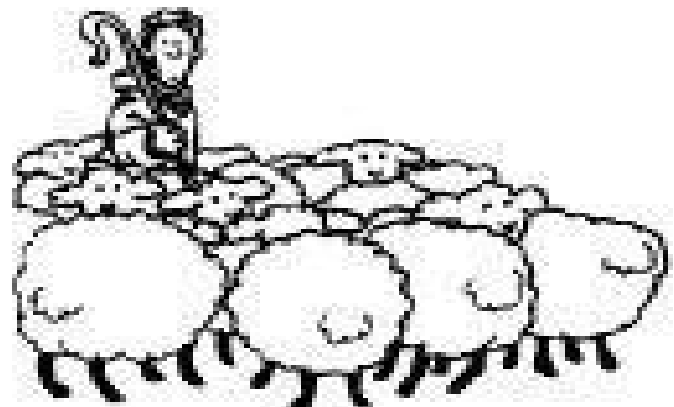
## Sens. Introduce Bill to Help Ranchers and Farmers Stay Competitive

U.S. Sens. Mike Enzi (Wyo.), Tim Johnson (S.D.), Chuck Grassley (Iowa) and Jon Tester (Mont.) on Thursday introduced the Livestock Marketing Fairness Act. The proposed bill targets unfair meat packer practices that negatively influence and impact independent ranchers and farmers.

The Livestock Marketing Fairness Act would put ranchers and farmers on equal footing with packer-owned herds by amending the Packers and Stockyards Act of 1921 to end certain anti-competitive forward marketing contracts and ensure that ranchers have full access to the marketplace.

In recent years, the meat packing industry has become increasingly concentrated with only a handful of firms controlling the majority of the domestic cattle and hog slaughter. As a growing number of large packing operations own their own livestock or control them through forward con-

tracting agreements, these firms are able to buy from themselves when prices are high and buy from others when prices are low.



# Genetics Show Eastern Wolves Are Coyote Hybrids

A new genetic study finds that wolves in the eastern United States and Canada are actually hybrids of gray wolves and coyotes, while the area's coyotes are wolf-coyote-dog hybrids, according to a recent Associated Press (AP) report.

The research advances a long-standing debate over the origins of two endangered species -- the red wolf, *Canis rufus*, in North Carolina and the eastern Canadian wolf, *Canis lycaon*, in Ontario.

The authors of the current study concluded that these hybrid wolves developed relatively recently, over the last few hundred years. However, some scientists believe the wolves evolved from an ancient eastern wolf species distinct from the larger gray wolf, *Canis lupus*, found in western North America. They say the current study is interesting but does not explain why hybrids appear only in some places. Furthermore, western wolves don't hybridize with coyotes but often kill them, they say.

In the current study, a team of 16 international scientists, led by Robert Wayne of the University of California-Los Angeles, used data from the dog genome to assess the genetic diversity in dogs, wolves and coyotes. The research was the most intensive genetic study of any wild vertebrate species to date, using sophisticated molecular genetic techniques to examine more than 48,000 markers throughout the entire genome, study co-author Roland Kays, curator of mammals at the New York State Museum, told AP.

In the West, wolves were pure wolf, while in the western Great Lakes, they were 85 percent wolf and 15 percent coyote, on average. Wolves in Algonquin Park in eastern Ontario averaged 58 percent wolf, the study found. The endangered red wolf in North Carolina was found to be 24 percent wolf and 76 percent coyote. Northeastern coyotes, which only colonized the region in the past 60 years, were found to be 82 percent coyote, 9 percent dog and 9 percent wolf.

The study was published online earlier this month in the peer-reviewed journal *Genome Research*.

# Veterinary Services Investment Act Introduced

Sens. Debbie Stabenow (Mich.), chairwoman of the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition and Forestry, and Thad Cochran (Miss.) introduced the Veterinary Services Investment Act. The legislation would help address the shortage of veterinarians in rural agricultural areas by supporting veterinary education and rural recruitment. Many of the targeted areas to benefit from the legislation specialize in livestock and other large animals, whose health is integral to the safety of consumer food products.

The Veterinary Services Investment Act would create a competitive grant program administered by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and would allow states to customize their own veterinary programs in accordance with the needs in rural and underserved areas of that state. According to an American Veterinary Medical Association study, the demand for food supply veterinarians will increase by 12 percent to 16 percent

over the next seven years, but the rate of veterinarian school graduates is projected to decrease by 4 percent to 5 percent annually, over the same period.

Grant-eligible entities would include rural veterinary clinics, state veterinary medical associations and accredited veterinary schools. Preference would be given to those applicants demonstrating a plan to meet veterinary workforce or food protection needs.



# WWGA Calendar of Events

- July 09** Idaho Ram & Ewe Sale, Filer, ID
- July 20-22** Mountain States Lamb Co-op Ann. Meeting- Loveland, CO
- July 27-28** 84th Annual Colorado Wool Growers Convention, Montrose, CO
- August 12-14** Jack Knox Stock Dog Clinic, Green River Lstck., Kemmerer
- August 25-26** Legislature's Joint Travel, Rec., Wildlife Committee, South Pass City
- August 26-28** Green River Livestock Stock Dog Trial, Kemmerer
- August 30-31** Legislature's Joint Judiciary Committee, Sundance
- August 30-31** Legislature's Joint Transportation Committee, Guernsey
- Aug 31** Final Weigh WWGA/MSLC/UW Ram Test
- September 7-11** Meeker Classic Sheepdog Championship Trials, Meeker, CO
- September 12-13** Legislature's Joint Minerals Committee, Guernsey
- Sept 13** Annual WWGA Ram Sale Membership Meeting- Douglas
- September 13-20** 2011 National Sheepdog Finals, Carbondale, CO
- September 26-27** Legislature's Joint Agriculture Committee, Afton
- Nov. 11-13** Joint WWGA/Idaho Wool Growers Convention- Sun Valley, ID
- January 25-28, 2012** ASI's Annual Convention, Scottsdale, Arizona

## 2011 Dues Paid Update

The following members have paid their 2011 dues at the levels indicated, or made other contributions to the WWGA.

**The WWGA THANKS YOU!!!!**

*(as of July 07, 2011. Members names (other than Business Associates) will appear only once per year)*

Please Note— We have made every effort to make sure all who have paid their dues or made contributions to the WWGA are recognized, BUT if you have paid your dues or made a donation or contribution and do not see your name: (1) accept our apologies and (2) let us know so that we can rectify the problem (email [wyowool@wyowool.org](mailto:wyowool@wyowool.org) with info).

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### Business Associates- \$200.00 minimum

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(the WWGA wants to extend a special "THANK YOU" to the following "Business Associate" members for their contributions and encourages all of our members and industry supporters to patronize these businesses whenever possible. Without their support, many of the functions the WWGA undertakes could not be possible!!

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- |                                      |                                |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| WY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SER         | FARM CREDIT SERVICES Jim Palm) |
| MOUNTAIN PLAINS AGRICULTURAL SERVICE | CENTER OF THE NATION WOOL, IN  |
| WYOMING LIVESTOCK ROUND              | LATHROP EQUIPMENT COMPAI       |
- 

### Gold- \$2000.00 and above

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Hardy Ranch, LLC

Truman & Marie Julian

Tom & Renee Davis

Don & Peter Meike

Wm. I Moore

Jerry Dilts

Green River Livestock (Bill Taliaferro)

**Silver- \$1,000 and above**

Bob Innes

Warren Ranch Co. (Doug and Susan Samuelson)

Gene and James Anderson

Joseph Broadbent

Mark Lyman

Fred Roberts

**Bronze- \$500 and above**

William Mills

Chris and Kelly Burrows

Raymon Turk

Phil & Randy Marton

Bart & Gay Byrd

Shannon Bruegger

Mary Thoman

J.W. & Thea Nuckolls

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Bruce Barker & Teri Barker

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**Purple- \$250 and above**

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Isenberger/ Litton Livestock, LLC

Dale & Jeanne Bulkley

Isenberger Children (Bob, Jess or Chris)

Ronald Heward

**Blue- Active Producer Member<sup>2</sup>- \$100 and above (includes full voting priveleges)**

Mae Ann Manning

Ralph Foster

Jim and Teena Lynn

David Moore

John J Hines

Keith & Brandi Forgey

Dean & Charlene Von Krosigk

Kathleen Jackson

J. Kem Nicolaysen

Mart Madsen Sheep Co.

Bruce Pheasant

Eric Barlow

Laurie Thoman-Hernandez

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Kenna Duvall

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Hageman Sisters

David Birch

Mick & Lynn Botkin

Robert Stoddard

Robbie & Pat Duncan	Tom & Kay Wright	Frank (Pinky) Ellis
Mark & Jennie Gordon	Barbara Dilts	Lee & Peg Isenberger
Joel Ohman	R D Saunders	Gerald & Marcia Federer

**Associate Producer Member- \$50 and above (no voting priveleges)**

James Kelso	Kenneth Duvall	Warren & Judith Manning
Herman & Karen Strand	Jim & Stephanie Logan	Je Hahn
Jim McDonald	Billie Jo & Jason Norsworthy	Dorothy Edwards
Michael Rabel	John Etchepare	Jim Durfee
Melvin Riley	Dawes Garre	Carol & Rod Geisinger
Martha Hellyer	John Fowler	Andy Moore
Gerald or Alyce	Gary Lathrop	Ansel Luxford
Jesse & Marjorie Ruby	Jerry Ista	Dick & Ruth Mankin
David & Susan Horton	Margo Sabec	William Laycock
Bill & Kristy Thompson		

**ASI Dues (the following members have generously contributed additional dollars to help pay Wyoming's dues to the American Sheep Industry Assoc.(ASI), THE ONLY national voice of the American sheep producer. THANK YOU!!!)**

Keith & Linda Hamilton	Gene C. Anderson	Kenna Duvall
David Birch	Tom & Renee Davis	William A. Mills,
Frank (Pinky) Ellis	Bob and Judy Hageman	Hageman Sisters
Jim & Kathi McDonald	Everett & Joeann Joi	Billie Jo & Jason Norsworthy
Micky (Mary A.) Thoman	John & Tracie Curuchet	Joel Ohman
W.I. Moore	Lee & Peg Isenberger	Wyoming Livestock Roundup
Gerald & Marcia Federer	Ginny Southwick	Tom & Lea Edwards
Rita Campbell	Ellen & Jack Baird	Jennings Rams
Keith Moore	Doug & Susan Samuelson	David Moore
Guy W. Edwards	JW and Thea Nuckolls	Julian Land & Livestock
Pete Arambel	Fred and Alberta Roberts	Ann & Rick Wehri
Dale & Jeanne Bulkley	Fenster Sheep	Ted & Renae Edwards
Joseph S. Broadbent	Clyde Peterson	Shannon and Terri Bruegger
Ronald Heward	Keith & Brandi Forgey	John B. Joyce
Laurie Thoman-Hernandez	Don and Peter Meike	Phil and Randy Marton
Isenberger/ Litton Livestock,	Chris & Kelly Burrows	Bruce & Barb Kilmer
Mart Madsen Sheep Co.	J. Kem Nicolaysen	Dean & Charlene Von Krosigk
John J. Hines	Randall M. Jones	Scott Kerl
Thomas & Beverly Reed	Bonnie J. Miller	Mike Kimsey
Stephen Smith	Carl Nielsen	Jim & Rosemary Forbes

**Donations/Memorials/ WWGA Building/Garden Fund**

-Barbara Dilts (to Memorial Garden Fund) —4 trees to be planted in memory of Cindy Innes, Anne Boner Joy Hardy and Thelma Ohman

-Bill Taliaferro- In memorium of Eddie Moore



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***The Best The West Has To Offer!!***

**83<sup>rd</sup> Annual Wyoming State Ram Sale**

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