



P.O. Box 472
 Worland, Wyoming 82401
www.guardiansoftherange.org

Executive Director

Kathleen Jachowski
 307.587.3723

guardians@hughes.net

Board of Directors

- Dana Kerns - President
307.655.9463
- Bill Greer - Vice President
469.2352
- Barb Lee - Secretary 366.2445
- Todd A. Rhodes - Treasurer
347.8329
- Dave Fraley 217.0517
- Clay Gibbons 388.4145
- Rob Orchard 366.2450
- Wilford Tippetts, Jr. 548.2579
- Kay Weber 868.2206

BLM/FS Advisory

Board

(Producer Committee)

- Jack Baird - Chairperson
307.864.2069
- John Baird 388.2145
- Matt Brown 867.2422
- Stan Flitner 765.2905
- Chuck Fuller 406.343.2824
- Rob Orchard 366.2450
- Frank M. Rhodes 864.3085
- Dan Rice 366.2571
- Gary Rice 366.2273

Resource Committee

(Project / Allotment
 Improvements)

- Kay Weber - Chairperson
307.868.2206
- Terry Jones 762.3377
- Dave Slover 868.2465

Webmaster

- Craig Mead 402.415.6790

Newsletter Editor

- Echo Renner 307.868.9232
echo00@tctwest.net

Newsletter Printer

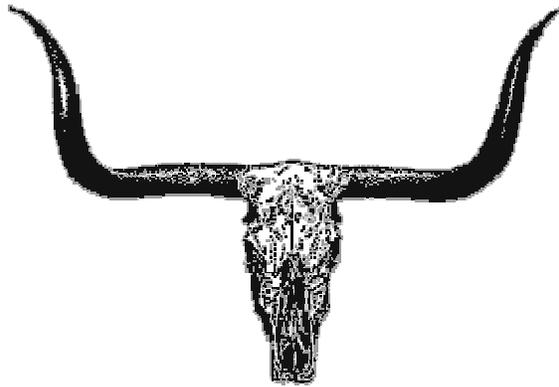
- Serlkay Printing, Worland

Guardians of the Range

Dedicated to the Multiple Use of Public Lands & the American Way of Life

Newsletter No. 93

January 2012



**Annual Meeting
 Saturday, February 4, 2012
 Worland Community Cultural
 Center**

1200 Culbertson, Worland

10:00 (registration)
 10:30 to 3:00

No host lunch \$12 provided by
 Washakie Cattle Women

Speakers:

- Steve Dondero
 BLM District Manager for Cody,
 Worland and Lander offices
- Sue Wallis
 State Legislator, point person on
 successful efforts on horse slaughter
 situation

- Jim Pehringer
 Wildlife Services, report on pilot
 project on Sage-grouse predation



**Y-Tex Corporation
 A Guardian Supporter**

~ by Echo Renner

Cody ~ Y-Tex Corporation has been working hand-in-hand with livestock owners for nearly 45 years. Started in 1967 by Norm Hays of Cody, the skilled staff and state-of-the-art facilities have helped expand Y-Tex into an international company, says Glenn Nielson, President of Y-Tex Corporation.

Y-Tex produces products that make a livestock owner's life easier and add to the bottom line, including a variety of animal identification, pest control and animal health delivery system products.

Ear tags were developed in Canada as early as 1913 as a means of identifying cattle when testing for tuberculosis. The first ear tags were usually steel with nickel plating. After WWII, larger flag-like plastic tags were developed in the USA. Designed to be visible from a distance, tags were inserted into a slit cut in the ear. In 1953, the first two-piece, self-piercing plastic ear tag was developed and patented.

Y-Tex offers one and two-piece ear tags that are durable, visible and have a great retention rate. They also offer a variety of insecticide ear tags, and tag reading...

*Please see **Y-Tex** on page 4*

**"I like pigs! Dogs look up to us. Cats look down on us. Pigs treat us as equals!" ~ Sir Winston Churchill (1874 – 1965)
 Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and journalist.**

Livestock Groups Hail Passage of Omnibus Spending Package

PLC, NCBA Urge President to Sign Bill Including Critical Grazing, Environmental Provisions

Washington ~ A \$915 billion omnibus spending bill to fund the federal government through September 2012 passed Congress over the weekend and is headed to President Barack Obama's desk. Dustin Van Liew, Public Lands Council (PLC) executive director and National Cattlemen's Beef Association (NCBA) director of federal lands, commended lawmakers for including critical policy provisions related to livestock grazing as well as greenhouse gas reporting requirements in the spending bill. He said PLC and NCBA encourage President Obama to waste no time in signing the bill into law.

Specifically, Van Liew pointed to a two-year extension of a provision to allow federal lands grazing permit renewals, despite a backlog of National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) reviews, and a provision to allow grazing permits to be transferred without undergoing a NEPA analysis as long as the permit remains under current terms and conditions.

"This commonsense grazing provision will continue to provide livestock producers relief from the uncertainty and instability of the federal lands grazing permit renewal process," Van Liew said. "Livestock producers face a constant threat of environmental activists filing lawsuits to end grazing on federal lands. We commend Congress for taking a critical step to providing stability to the federal grazing permit process while also ensuring federal lands ranchers are able to continue producing safe, wholesome beef and lamb."

In addition to the grazing language, Van Liew said language was included to exempt the BLM from environmental law, litigation and regulation until the agency is able to complete environmental reviews of livestock trailing and crossing permits, the issuance of which is crucial to many ranchers on federal lands. He said the omnibus will also prohibit the USFS from using funds to reduce domestic sheep grazing due to management for bighorn sheep unless the management is consistent with a state wildlife plan, which Van Liew said is a "tremendous victory" for the sheep industry and the rural west.

Ashley Lyon, NCBA deputy environmental counsel, said overzealous regulators at the EPA who do not understand production agriculture have attempted to advance regulations that would harm America's farmers and ranchers. She said the omnibus spending bill will prohibit EPA from requiring livestock operations to obtain permits for emissions of greenhouse gases. She said the bill also will prohibit EPA from requiring reporting of greenhouse gas emissions from manure management systems.

Finally, Van Liew hailed Congress for including report

language requiring EPA, USFS and BLM to report fees paid by the agencies through the Equal Access to Justice Act (EAJA). "Initial studies have shown that millions of taxpayer dollars are being paid annually to wealthy special interest litigants. This is the first step to bringing accountability and transparency to EAJA," Van Liew said. "We encourage President Obama to sign the omnibus immediately."

From the Public Lands Council. For more information, contact Mike Deering at 202-879-9117 or mdeering@beef.org, or Mary Geiger, at 202-879-9138 or mgeiger@beef.org. ★

Shoshone National Forest is Picking Up the Pace of Forest Plan Revision

Cody ~ Shoshone National Forest managers will answer questions about forest plan revision at a series of public open houses in January 2012. Meetings will be hosted in local communities from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm.

Dubois – Tuesday, January 17, at the Headwater Art and Convention Center, 17 Stalnaker

Lander – Wednesday, January 18, at the Pronghorn Lodge, 150 East Main Street

Thermopolis – Thursday, January 19, at the Days Inn, 115 East Park Street

Cody – Monday, January 23, at Big Horn Federal, 1701 Stampede Avenue

"We've gotten pressure from our headquarters office to accelerate the timeline for revising the forest plan," said forest supervisor Joe Alexander. "Declining budgets and the federal deficit are the reality we're living in, so we need to be as efficient as possible with our funding. We've had to shorten the amount of time we're spending on this project, so we're asking the public to help us a little sooner than we had planned."

Public review of the proposed draft plan was supposed to begin in February. The document will be formally released for public review on January 4, 2012.

"We want people to have a couple weeks to read the draft plan, and then come to an open house. The local district ranger, resource specialists, forest supervisor, and I will be there to answer questions or address concerns people have about the draft plan," said Carrie Christman, forest planner. "Input on this preliminary plan will help us develop alternatives for the environmental analysis."

Public comments for this informal review are due February 2, 2012. A formal, 90-day comment period for the draft plan and draft environmental impact statement will begin in June.

For more information, contact Carrie Christman at 307.578.5118.



Direct from the Director: Tradeoffs

Wolf tales continue...was this action a tradeoff for the Keystone Pipeline going forward? Time will tell...

Associated Press, Cheyenne, Wyo. ~ Congress has dropped language that would have barred lawsuits over a proposal to end federal protections for wolves in Wyoming.

Rep. Cynthia Lummis, a Republican and Wyoming's lone voice in the U.S. House, had sponsored the language as a rider to a spending bill. Congress already passed similar language blocking lawsuits over delisting of wolves in other Western states.

The ban on lawsuits could be critical to the success of a deal that Gov. Matt Mead and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar reached this year over how to end federal protections for wolves in Wyoming.

Lummis issued a statement on Friday claiming that radical environmentalists used what she called "their considerable sway in the White House" to remove the language. An attempt to reach her for comment on Friday was unsuccessful.

Kathleen

Kathleen Jachowski, Executive Director
307.587.3723 guardians@hughes.net

Pasture Needed

Guardian member seeks pasture starting in 2012.

Interested in either short-term or long-term leasing for about 70 head of cows/calves

Please contact Pepper Fipps at Rafter Star Ranch
307-737-2680 or 702-501-4243.

CRAIG THOMAS GUARDIANS OF THE RANGE ENDOWMENT

Supporting this endowment is a wonderful tax exempt way to show your support for the Guardians' effort, or to honor a family member or friend. We want to have a sustainable financial resource base to achieve our goals and objectives.

For more details, please contact a board member or Kathleen Jachowski (307)587-3723 or guardians@hughes.net.

Board Positions

The Guardians Board of Directors is accepting nominations of members who might like to serve on the board.

If you wish to be considered for such a position, or know of a fellow member who might make a good candidate, please contact:

Dana Kerns, President at 655-9539
or

Bill Greer, Vice President at 272-3723 for more information.

Terms of service begin in February.

Join Guardians of the Range

LIVESTOCK OPERATORS

\$100.00 up to 50 head of cattle
\$2.00 / head 51 to 1,500 cattle
40 cents / head for sheep

BUSINESSES, INDIVIDUALS & ASSOCIATIONS

without federal grazing permits:

\$25 - \$100	WRANGLER
\$250	RANGE RIDER
\$500	TOP HAND
\$1,000	GUARDIAN of the RANGE

Fairness Fee: One-time \$500 fee

Applicable to any new livestock operator membership that needs help within 90 days of joining the Guardians of the Range.

The Board of Directors recently voted to adopt a special one-time \$500 Fairness Fee (FF), or 'catch up fee, to cover situations where a permittee chooses to join only because they need help on an immediate issue. The FF recognizes the time, money and effort of past supporters who made it possible for an organization like the Guardians to be right at the end of the telephone and ready to step in immediately to help. The FF is appropriate and respectful of the past and ongoing support and organizational vision of current members. The FF is payable concurrent with initial dues.

You may join on line:
www.GuardiansoftheRange.org

To pay by check, please make checks payable to:
Guardians of the Range
mail to:

Guardians of the Range, P.O. Box 472, Worland, WY 82401

Guardians of the Range

P.O. Box 472
Worland, Wyoming
82401

Address Service Requested

PSRT STD
US Postage Paid
Worland, WY
Permit No. 16



Bighorn NF Big 6 EIS Appealed by Western Watersheds Project on November 4

This environmental impact statement, which covers 26 allotments across all three districts has been appealed by anti-grazing organization known as Western Watersheds Project (WWP). There are many assertions of legal challenge which may or may not be viable. These are non-compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act, National Forest Management Act, Clean Water Protection Act and the Administrative Procedures Act and the Endangered Species Act.

The appeal effort appears to challenge all three of the Records of Decision (RODs) covering all three districts on the BNF.

Page 14 begins an in depth attack on public land livestock grazing and contends that the BNF did not satisfactorily address threatened and sensitive species such as the water vole; ignored plant diversity; did not satisfactorily address effectiveness of management scenarios on such species avoided adaptive management and the list goes on.

We'll keep you posted. If you would like the appeal e-mailed to you just let Kathleen Jachowski know.



Y-Tex continued from page 1

equipment, as well as dust insecticides, syringes and horse care products.

The Farmers of North America website notes "over 80 independent studies conducted in universities across the US from 1995 - 2000 conclude that using Y-Tex insecticide tags in a rotation program will yield an average weight gain advantage of 43 lbs. in calves, 47 lbs. in stocker steers and open heifers, and 26 lbs. for cows."

Nielson says challenges facing companies like Y-Tex include increasing costs, steep competition, government regulation and political instability. "Industry economic conditions are also a factor. While livestock prices are high, input costs have pinched margins and profitability for our customer base, and the US cattle herd continues to shrink."

Nielson continues, "At Y-Tex, we realize our business depends on livestock and food production. Our mission is to supply products that make producer's jobs easier and more efficient. Y-Tex and Guardians share the mission of sustainable ranching and food production, which requires public land grazing for the wellbeing of the public - the ultimate consumer - and ranchers."

For more information, call 888.600.YTEX (9839) or log onto www.ytex.com.

