

Guardians of the Range

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



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Save the Date: Come & Help Us Celebrate Our 10th Anniversary



Taxes & Great Gift Giving Idea

A meaningful gift that keeps on giving!
A tax deductible contribution
to the Guardians - Craig Thomas
Endowment!

Checks can be made out to
Guardians of the Range
with CT Endowment in the notation.
We'll take care of the rest.

Mail to: GOR, P.O. Box 472, Cody, WY
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Barrasso Bill to Preserve Grazing Rights Moves Forward

**Senate Energy Committee passes
Barrasso bill to extend grazing permits
and deliver certainty and stability to
Wyoming's ranching families.**

November 21, 2013

WASHINGTON, DC -Today, U.S. Senator John Barrasso (R-Wyo.), praised the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee's passage of [S. 258](#), The Grazing Improvement Act. Barrasso's bill provides greater certainty and stability to the livestock grazing community in the face of constant environmental legal challenges.

"For too long, ranching families have dealt with uncertainty and been the target of anti-grazing litigation that puts their much needed grazing permits in jeopardy," said Barrasso. "My bill will streamline the permitting process and protect Wyoming's livestock producers, their jobs and their ability to provide for our communities and our nation. Now, I'm going to push for the Senate to pass this bill immediately and finally give America's hard working ranching families the certainty and stability they need."

Background:

S. 258, The Grazing Improvement Act, was introduced by Senator Barrasso on February 7, 2013 and is co-sponsored by Senators Mike Crapo (R-ID), Mike Enzi (R-WY), Jeff Flake (R-AZ), Orrin Hatch (R-UT), Dean Heller (R-NV), John Hoeven (R-ND), Mike Lee (R-UT) and Jim Risch (R-ID).

Under current law, livestock grazing permits are valid for 10 years. After 10 years, new environmental analysis is required before a permit can be renewed.

*Please see **Barrasso** on page 2*

**"Great minds discuss ideas; average minds discuss events;
small minds discuss people."**

Eleanor Roosevelt (1884-1962)

First lady & wife of Franklin D. Roosevelt, President

Empty Saddles: George Brown

George Ellis Brown, 83, of Cody died peacefully surrounded by his family Nov. 16, 2013, at Spirit Mountain Hospice House.

He was born March 3, 1930, in Merrill, Ore., to Matt and Margaret Brown, the second youngest of seven children.

As a child George spent summer vacations on his grandmother's ranch on Owl Creek near Thermopolis. Wanting to be a "real Wyoming cowboy," and after the death of his father, he moved to the ranch at age 8.

He graduated from high school in Thermopolis in 1948. He married Donna Lee Anthony on December 27, 1951, and they had three children.

He and Donna bought a family ranch on Owl Creek from his aunt and lived there until moving to the Hoodoo Ranch near Cody as its manager in 1967. He held that position for 43 years until retiring in 2010.

George was well known and respected in the cattle industry and was on the board of directors of several organizations including the Buffalo Bill Historical Center and Shoshone First National Bank.

George is survived by his wife Donna; son Don (Linda) Brown of Las Vegas; daughters Mamie (Jim) Knadler of Laramie and Mary (Marvin) Haugen of Gillette; grandchildren Mark (Shelley) Musser, Rhys (Kitt) Haugen, Michael Haugen, Blake (Amanda) Knadler, Afton Brown, Tony Brown; great grandchildren Forrest, Tyler, Carson and Jacob; sisters Jean Burtis and Mary of Portland, Oregon; and many nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, one brother and three sisters.

Funeral services were Monday, November 25, at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, with viewing preceding services at 10 a.m. A luncheon followed at the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. A private family burial will be at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, donations are suggested to Spirit Mountain Hospice or the Buffalo Bill Center of the West. ★

The Community Collaborative Rain, Hail and Snow Network CoCoRaHS

If you are interested in precipitation and in helping to build a comprehensive data base we suggest you take a look at this website. It is worthwhile and very interesting.

I came upon this effort when I attended the Wyoming Water Association educational seminary in Sheridan last month. I now have one of their gauges on our fence and look forward to many years of contributing precipitation readings that will help to give a better picture of what is happening where! <http://cocorahs.org/> ★



Your Culture Calls

Don't let others tell your story and define who you are!

Do you have diaries, stories, pictures, letters or other records that tell about people in the Bighorn mountains? Did you or your family run livestock, hunt, log, mine or work with the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) in the Bighorns?

If you do, and you'd like to honor and respect that history than just contact Ruth Beckworth with the BNF. She is spearheading a wonderful project to tell the story of who and how the Bighorns were settled.

Contact: 307-674-2639 or e-mail her at: rbeckwith@fs.fed.us **Bighorn National Forest**

This project will help to record the real history and culture of the area you call home or did call home in your earlier years.

Caring about your culture is a 'forever gift to the future'. ★

Barrasso continued from page 1

However, agencies cannot complete the required environmental analysis due to the backlog of lawsuits filed by extreme environmentalists intended to delay the permitting process. For over a decade, grazing permit holders and public land management agencies have relied on Congress to temporarily grant continued use of grazing permits every year.

The Grazing Improvement Act fixes this by allowing the BLM and Forest Service to continue issuing grazing permits while an environmental analysis is being completed. It also provides more flexibility with categorical exclusions and other needed reforms to grazing permits.

In May 2011, Senator Barrasso originally introduced the Grazing Improvement Act. ★

Direct from the Director: Guardians Celebrate 10 Years of Success in 2014!

Congratulations to the membership, and a large thank you to your Board of Directors, is in order as we celebrate our 10th anniversary.

Staying power (lasting over time) is recognized as the weakest link in the world of non-profits and grassroots organizations. Many come but many also go.....into the halls of good, but unrealized, best intentions.

I think there are very few, if any, non-profit organizations in Wyoming like the Guardians of the Range. We work at the local (field and district offices), state, and national levels on public policies, and rules and regulations that affect your interests on federal lands; and we work on projects on the ground to improve both rangeland health and range improvements. This dual division of focus (policy and ground work) is where we differ significantly from any other grassroots organizations in Wyoming.

My personal observations, over the last 25 years, have witnessed many natural resource/agricultural related groups fall victim to weak leadership, weak funding mechanisms, burnout, discouragement and lack of a strategic plan to help guide the efforts and meet the needs of its membership.

Don't assume, however, that the Guardians have not gone through serious growing pains, ups and downs and 'all things discouraging'.

We have, and we still are, dealing with these realities. The difference, however, is that your Guardian leadership, and your continued support and expressions of confidence, have made it possible, through sheer determination and perseverance, to stay the course and weather the highs and lows.

We are not nearly as effective as we could be if we had more resources. This reality is a disappointment for your Board of Directors, as it knows that much more needs to be done, and they know that the Guardians strategic plan, if fully implemented, could make us a nationally effective voice for public land grazing and serve as a role model for how to operate effectively within the federal land framework.

Public land grazing is a proud and historic thread in the fabric of American culture. It will remain strong and visible with your continued support.



by Kathleen Jachowski

So take pride in celebrating this 10th anniversary, a benchmark very few natural resource/agricultural grassroots organizations ever reach. Keep in mind not the things we haven't yet fine-tuned or accomplished, but take quiet pride in the future and what we can and will accomplish through your continued commitment to a proud way of life.

Kathleen

Kathleen Jachowski, Executive Director

307.587.3723 guardians@hughes.net



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.

**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:

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\$250	RANGE RIDER
\$500	TOP HAND
\$1,000	GUARDIAN of the RANGE

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

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