IDAHO FARM BUREAU

Quarterly

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Winter 2016 Volume 16, Issue 1

History of Harriman State Park – page 4

Idaho Farm Bureau Policy for 2016 – page 8

AFBF Elects New Leadership – page 35

The Ag Agenda

Protecting Our Freedom to Farm in 2016

By Zippy Duvall
President American Farm Bureau Federation

I am honored to begin serving alongside you all as the new president of the American Farm Bureau Federation. For almost a century, AFBF has been the leading voice of agriculture, standing up for farmers and ranchers across our great country. But the real strength of Farm Bureau is our active grassroots membership. Like you, I learned a long time ago that I'd have to step outside my fencerows if I wanted to have a say in the matters affecting my farm. You are the backbone of the organization, and together we can address the toughest issues facing U.S. agriculture in 2016.

Freedom from Government Overreach

Farmers and ranchers need to be free to work our land. We have a deep respect for our natural resources—our living depends on it. But some federal agencies, far removed from the

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The President's Desk

Collaboration or Confrontation?

By Bryan Searle
President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

The ongoing conflict associated with the takeover of a federal wildlife refuge in Oregon is a misguided effort. However, it has surfaced many of the frustrations felt in western states over majority ownership and federal control of the land within our borders.

Instigating an armed conflict with the federal government isn't going to solve the challenges we face in the rural West. But the takeover of the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge has brought problems associated with federal control of western states into the national discourse. It has provided an opportunity to discuss those problems and seek out solutions that are viable.

Many westerners are fed up with the heavy hand of the federal government. Some counties struggle to provide basic services because they can't tax land owned by the federal government. Things that most Americans take for granted, like fire and police protection, schools,

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Inside Farm Bureau

10,000 Hours

By Rick Keller
CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

I recently attended a mid-year commencement ceremony at the University of Colorado Denver Business School. Our daughter-in-law was receiving her Master of Science degree in Global Energy Management, exclusively designed to develop future leaders in the energy industry. The commencement speaker, described by Forbes as a self-made oil and gas billionaire, spoke to the graduates and gave sound, practical counsel.

The speaker warned of the industry's boom and bust cycles and counseled the graduates to save when times were good and curtail spending in good times to better weather the storms when times bust, for the cycles always happen. He then cited personal examples when fortunes were lost; when demand dried and markets plummeted or government regulations (his business is global so it deals with many differ-

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Cover: Snowpack in most of Idaho's mountains is above average this year. Some basins are slightly below normal but several are in the 110 to 190 percent of normal range, according to the Natural Resources Conservation Service. January 8 marked the midpoint of the water year. *Farm Bureau file photo*

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has an interesting history and is an Idaho treasure anytime of the year
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Cattle cross U.S. 20 near Island Park and move into Harriman State Park for fall grazing in early October.

Harriman State Park:

A Rich History of Agriculture and Recreation

By Steve Stuebner

Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission

A big group of cowboys came together at the break of dawn on a Saturday morning to trail cattle about three miles into Harriman State Park.

Ranchers had gathered about 800 cattle the night before along Mesa Falls Road, a designated open range area. Two men on horseback led the drive. They had lots of riders on the flanks and pulling up the rear to keep the cattle moving in the right direction.

As they left the road and rode through the forest, the cowboys keep the cattle moving. On the highway, rancher Ron Wilcox and his daughter rode alongside the sheriff to get in position to stop the traffic.

The cattle crossed the highway in the same spot where they have been driven into the park for decades. In a matter of minutes, the cattle moved into the park while the traffic was stopped on U.S. 20.

Rancher Ron Wilcox was pleased with the cattle drive. "It went really well," Wilcox says. "We didn't lose anybody or any cows."

Their friends love to help. "A lot of them are friends, hey, can we help you when you do it. They want to get a piece of the old action. Live history a little," Wilcox says.

Cattle have been grazing at Harriman State Park since long before the park was created in 1977. The Island Park Land & Cattle Company began grazing the park in the 1890s, when several men from the Oregon Short Line Railroad established the "Railroad Ranch."

In 1908, the ranch came up for sale. The owners approached E.H. Harriman in New York, chairman of Union Pacific Railroad, about buying it.

"They approached him as it being one of the premier grazing spots in the area, there was waterfowl and great fishing, and things like that," says Bert Mecham, assistant manager of Harriman State Park. "And E.H. Harriman bought it sight-unseen."

Over time, prominent railroad and mining executives including E.H.'s two sons, Averell and Roland Harriman, Solomon Guggenheim and Charles Jones bought shares in the Railroad Ranch, allowing them to build cabins next to the prized "Millionaires Pool" on the Henrys Fork.

"It was a matter of love at first sight for all of us," said Roland Harriman. "The glorious scenery and weather, the fishing, the hunting, the horseback riding and learning the lore of cattle handling all combined to lure us back there summer after summer."

In the old days, cattle ranching and fishing co-existed without conflict. But in modern times, it's a balancing act to keep anglers

happy on the world-renowned Henrys Fork as it winds through Harriman State Park, while ranchers run cattle in the park's vast, grassy pastures in the fall months.

"By and large, I think we co-exist pretty well here," says Brandon Hoffner, executive director of the Henrys Fork Foundation. "Thru the founders, we knew all along that grazing was going to be part of the management of Harriman State Park, and I think overall, the foundation has been supportive of that."

"We appreciate having Harriman, in large part because of their corral system there," says Shane Quinn Jacobson, a Rigby rancher. "We're not alone. There's half a dozen ranchers graze in the forest around the park, and then come into park in the fall, and use the corral system to sort and load and get back down off the mountain."

The corral system at Harriman Park has a lot of value to ranchers so they can sort cattle before bringing them to the home ranch in late fall.

The Railroad Ranch has a deep history that shapes what Harriman State Park is today. Unlike many state parks, there is no camping allowed. The park's main mission is to provide a refuge for waterfowl and wildlife, showcase the ranch's history, offer summer and winter recreation trails and seasonal livestock grazing. They also rent cabins and yurts to the public.

A few miles from the main park, visitors can tour Upper and Lower Mesa Falls, spectacular water falls on the Henrys Fork. The Upper Falls, the taller of the two, plunges 115 feet before it flows downstream through pine and fir trees in the Caribou-Targhee National Forest.

Park staffers frequently give historical tours of the ranch buildings and barns at the park. Each building contains interpretive information about its historical use and occupants. The Jones cabin provides hints of the hunting and fishing lifestyle with big game trophies on the wall and capes on the floor.

The horse, cow and sheep barns all contain some of the original tack and equipment. Cattle, sheep and even elk were raised at the ranch in the early days.

"One of the pastures out here is called the elk pasture," Mecham says, while giving us a tour. "They had quite a few head of elk and they released them into the Island Park area to help create the elk herd up here."

A lot of the early farm implements are still on display. Harriman Park hosts a special event called Heritage Days each year for school children and park visitors to learn about early farming techniques. "And of course they had horses to work the land and harvest hay, and things like that," Me-

Roland and Gladys Harriman look over park plans with former IDPR Director Steve Bly in the early 1980s. The Harrimans donated 16,000 acres of land to the state to begin the process of creating Harriman State Park.

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HARRIMAN STATE PARK

Continued from page 5

cham says.

About 1,000 cattle grazed on the home ranch and in the nearby forest. The meadows were irrigated as well. When it came time for the fall cattle roundup at the Railroad Ranch, everyone participated. They rounded up the cattle by horseback, sorted them in the corrals and then shipped them by rail car to the market.

The same corral system is used to sort cattle today. "There are relatively good facilities in the park to sort and load out of. It's good all the way around," says rancher Ron Wilcox.

The Harrimans and Charles Jones also were avid fishermen. Their fishing waders are still hanging in their cabins.

Nowadays, the Henrys Fork is a super popular fly fishing stream. Brandon Hoffner tells us why.

"We're approaching Harriman Park headquarters," Hoffner says, while rowing a drift boat through the placid waters. "This stretch of river of course is world-renowned for its hatches, loved by dry fly aficionados, also known as the place where you come to get your Ph.D. in fly fishing. Really challenging to hook a fish here, but also a challenge to land it."

The Harriman family inspired the creation of the whole Idaho State Park system when they offered to donate the 16,000-acre Railroad Ranch to the state of Idaho. The terms of the Harriman donation required that it be managed by park service professionals. That meant Idaho would need a parks system.

They drew up the agreement in 1961, but the Idaho Legislature didn't create a state park system until 1965. The park was officially conveyed to the state of Idaho in 1977. It opened to the public in 1982.

The gift deed made it permissible to allow cattle grazing and fly fishing in the park. By the mid-1980s, however, it became evident that fencing off the Henrys Fork to cattle would be essential to keep the peace between anglers and ranchers.

Henrys Fork rainbows are sought after by fly fishers from all over the world.

"There was bank degradation, and we had issues with cattle in the river, and tense feelings between the people running cattle and the anglers utilizing Harriman State Park," Hoffner says.

As a solution, a lay-down barbed-wire fence was built for eight miles along the west side of the Henrys Fork, and a solar hot-wire fence was put up on the east side. The fencing projects were one of the largest of their kind at the time.

Ranchers and the Henrys Fork Foundation are responsible for maintaining certain sections of the fences. Park officials no longer maintain the fences.

"The riparian fencing was one of the cornerstone projects of the Henrys Fork Foundation," Hoffner notes. "Even 30 years later, it's still something that our organization focuses on, knows about, they understand that history.

"It's almost funny in a way that they'll see a couple of cows in the river, they'll call us immediately. Even though there's just a couple of cows in the river is not a big deal, they get out, it's nothing like we had before. It would never cause the kind of damage they had before. It's still an issue that our membership pays close attention to."

The ranchers are used to getting calls about the fences being down as well. The problem is sometimes caused by elk tearing down the fence before cattle are even in the park, sometimes weeks before cattle are in the park.

"The park has been calling me pretty regular in the last month," Wilcox says. "The fence was down here, and there, I told them we weren't coming on till the 10th, and they were, you need to hurry and get it up."

Adds Jacobson, "I just went in there yesterday, we put up a fence four days ago, the elk had it 1/2 miles's worth, where it's just a little electric fence, it doesn't take much, they had it knocked down pretty bad ... I had to go put it back up yesterday, and they may have it knocked down again already."

Fence maintenance is an ongoing issue to keep everyone happy. "We're doing our best to keep cows off the river," Mecham says.

Harriman has three areas where it allows livestock grazing, Bert Mecham explains

Volunteers from the Henrys Fork Foundation helped put up barbed wire fence in 1986. Eight miles of the Henrys Fork are fenced on both sides of the river to keep cattle out of the river, protect streambanks and fish habitat. Ranchers and HFF are responsible for maintaining the fences, even before cattle are in the park in the fall.

while showing us a big-picture map. Grazing is allowed on the Harriman East unit for three months, with a maximum of 400 AUM's or animal unit months. In the ranch section, 1,600 AUM's are allowed from mid-September to mid-November. The largest grazing unit in the park is the Sheridan unit, near Island Park Reservoir, with 4,600 AUM's.

"It's a really big pasture, it's all pasture, and it's all irrigated, so it's pretty valuable, and it's coming up for renewal. This month we're having an auction for it," Mecham says.

Grazing fees have been going up at Harriman Park in recent years to help increase income for the park. The budget for Idaho State Parks got slashed during the recession, so the pressure is on for park managers to increase revenue.

In the last two years, Harriman Park has held sealed-bid auctions and oral auctions for grazing opportunities, and the bid prices have been soaring to heights never seen before.

Ranchers Ron Wilcox and Shane Jacobson are paying $27 per AUM in the ranch section of the park through sealed bids. But they were amazed to see an oral auction for the Harriman East unit go to $45 per AUM last year. "In order to keep the lease, we're paying through the nose for it, but not as much as this other lease that came up in the last few months," Wilcox says.

"Well, there's competition for grass right now," Jacobson adds. "And one challenge we had when our permit expired, it's a bid system, park wanted to do a closed bid, forced us to pay private land lease prices for fear of losing the corral system. As a group, we had a big meeting, and decided we better bid high, so we can keep it."

The ranchers are working with higher levels of state government to look at the grazing fees charged at the park and find something that's sustainable over the long haul. They want to keep grazing in the park.

Harriman Park officials say they want to continue to allow grazing in the park as well. The leases are set up to last for five years, with an option to renew for another five years. "If they didn't like the rate of the lease, we could terminate it and go out for bid again. Or if the park doesn't like the way things are going, it gives either party an out," Mecham says.

"I fully believe that if we work together, manage our resources not only can we provide feed for the public, also can improve the range for wildlife," Wilcox says. "It's got to be a win-win situation or one of us will lose obviously. That's the key is sustainable."

"We try to be as supportive of agriculture, both farming and ranching, as we can be," says Hoffner. "We live in this community, we're supportive of the people who live here and work here, our neighbors, and we're looking for solutions to work out these issues so we can have a win-win in the end."

Steve Stuebner is the writer and producer of Life on the Range, an educational project sponsored by the Idaho Rangeland Resource Commission.

IDAHO FARM BUREAU

IFBF Policy for 2016

The following policy statements were developed over the past 76 years by Idaho Farm Bureau volunteer members. Every year Idaho Farm Bureau volunteers meet to discuss, amend, delete and create the policy statements that guide the organization. The process takes place in the county and district levels throughout the calendar year. Then in early December the entire organization meets to update the policy book. This year delegates from 36 county Farm Bureaus met in early December. The policy comes from our grassroots members and is then used to guide the organization's lobbying, public relations and membership efforts throughout the year.

BASIC PRINCIPLES

Purpose of Farm Bureau

Farm Bureau is a free, independent, non-govern-mental, voluntary organization governed by and representing farm and ranch families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity, environmental awareness and social advancement, and thereby, to promote the national well being.
Farm Bureau is local, statewide, national, and international in its scope and influence and is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-secretive in character.

Farm Bureau Beliefs and Philosophy

America's unparalleled progress is based on freedom and dignity of the individual, sustained by basic moral and religious concepts. Freedom to the individual versus concentration of power, which would destroy freedom, is the central issue in all societies.

We believe the definition of marriage is a union between one man and one woman.

We believe in the sanctity of innocent human life from conception until natural death. We must protect the right to life to preserve the rights to liberty and property.

We oppose abortion. In the event that the mother's life is in danger, we support all measures aimed directly at saving the life of the mother.

We oppose euthanasia (intentionally ending a life) and physician-assisted suicide.

We believe that since the beginning of time, man's ability to provide food, fiber, and fuel for himself and his dependents has determined his independence, freedom and security.

We believe that a strong and viable agricultural industry is one of the most important cornerstones in the foundation of our national security, and the importance of that role in society must never be taken for granted. Economic progress, cultural advancement, ethical and religious principles flourish best where men are free, responsible individuals. The exercise of free will, rather than force, is consistent with the maintenance of liberty. Individual freedom and opportunity must not be sacrificed in a quest for guaranteed "security".

We believe that America's system of private ownership of property and the means of production has been, and is, one of the major foundation stones of our republic. This element of our economic system and the personal rights attendant to private property, including grazing and water rights, must be maintained and protected.

Ownership of property and property rights are among the human rights essential to the preservation of individual freedom. The right to own property must be preserved at all costs.

We will take every opportunity to publicize, defend and promote our position, and we will stand firm on basic constitutional rights.

We believe in government by law, impartially administered, and without special privilege.

We support agricultural programs and organizations that give equal opportunity for developing skills, knowledge and leadership ability.

We believe in the representative form of government; a republic as provided in our Constitution; in limitations upon government power; in maintenance of equal opportunity; in the right of each individual to worship as he chooses; in separation of church and state as set forth in the First Amendment to the Constitution; and in freedom of speech, press, and peaceful assembly.

The U.S. Supreme Court imposed one man one vote rule should be overturned and return the United States to the republican form of government that was envisioned by the framers of the Constitution. Individuals have a moral responsibility to help preserve freedom for future generations by participating in public affairs and by helping to elect candidates who share their fundamental beliefs and principles.

We oppose the use of public funds for financing political campaigns. People have the right and the responsibility to speak for themselves individually or through organizations of their choice without coercion or government intervention.

We believe in the right of every man to choose his own occupation; to be rewarded according to his contribution to society and to save, invest, spend, or convey his earnings to his heirs.

These rights are accompanied by the responsibility that each man has to meet the financial obligations he has incurred.

We support a society free of drug abuse.

We support English as the official language of Idaho and the United States.

We support English as the language that students should learn and use in public schools.

We support that public schools start the day with reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Constitution

Stable and honest government with prescribed and limited powers is essential to freedom and progress. The Constitution of the United States was well designed to secure individual liberty by a division of federal authority among the Legislative, Executive and Judicial branches. The Tenth Amendment assures that liberties are further secured for the states and the people through the retention of those powers not specifically delegated to the federal government. The constitutional prerogatives of each branch of government should be preserved from encroachment.

We support the Constitution as the supreme law of the land. Changes should be made only through constitutional amendments, not by federal policy or regulation. One of the greatest dangers threatening our republic and system of private, competitive enterprise is the socialization of America through the centralization of power and authority in the federal government. The centralization of power and responsibility in the federal government violates constitutional purposes. It has usurped state sovereignty and individual freedom and should be reversed.

In defense of our Constitution, and of the sovereignty of the U.S.A., we oppose the centralization of power worldwide into one world government.

States' Rights and Sovereignty

We support the protection and defense of states' rights and state sovereignty over all powers not otherwise enumerated and granted to the federal government under the 10th amendment to the constitution. The federal government must respect state laws and state agencies. All lands within the boundaries of Idaho, excluding those lands deeded to the federal government,

shall be subject to the laws and jurisdiction of the state.

Religious Life
Our nation was founded on spiritual faith and belief in God. Whereas the Constitution of the United States was founded on moral and religious principles, moral, ethical and traditional family values should get equal support and consideration in the public schools as do the atheistic and humanistic views.

We support the right to have religious beliefs and symbols of those beliefs presented in our communities.

We vigorously support retention of:

1. "So Help Me God" in official oaths;

2. The phrase "In God We Trust" on our coin;

3. The fourth verse of the "Star Spangled Banner";

4. The phrase "Under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Capitalism-Private Competitive Enterprise
We believe in the American capitalistic, private, competitive enterprise system in which property is privately owned, privately managed, operated for profit, individual satisfaction and responsible stewardship.

We believe in a competitive business environment in which supply and demand are the primary determinants of market prices, the use of productive resources, and the distribution of output.

We support the continuing freedom of the people of Idaho to manage, develop, harvest and market the useful products of our natural resources.

We believe in man's right to search and research to select the best ways of maintaining quality production of food and fiber.

We believe every individual in Idaho should have the right to a job without being forced to join or pay dues to any organization.

Government operation of commercial business in competition with private enterprise should be terminated.

We also believe that no element of society has more concern for, understanding of, or a greater stake in, the proper husbandry of poultry, livestock, fur-bearers, game animals and aquaculture than the producer.

Economy in Government
We consider the proliferation of government with its ever increasing cost to the taxpayer a major problem.

State expenditures and growth of personnel on the public payroll should not be allowed to expand faster than the population and should be compatible with the percentage of economic growth of the state.

We believe that Article 8, Section 1, "Limitation of Public Indebtedness" of the state Constitution is the main reason for the healthy financial condition of Idaho's government. We will oppose any attempt to amend this section of the Constitution.

Tax exemptions granted by the state Legislature that reduce county income should at the same time require appropriation of sufficient funds to replace county revenue losses caused by such exemptions.

We support economy at all levels of government.

Education
We believe that agricultural education is critical in creating and maintaining a strong and viable agricultural industry.

We believe education starts with the parent or guardian and is extended to the schools as a cooperative partnership in which parents and guardians have the right to review any and all methods and materials used in the educational processes of school systems.

We believe parents have the right to choose how best to direct the upbringing and education of their children.

We believe local school boards must be elected by the people to maintain control of public school systems and must have authority to establish policy for dress standards, personal conduct standards, testing standards, fiscal controls and curriculum.

We believe all school systems must be accountable to provide opportunities for all students to obtain proficiency in the basics of reading, writing and mathematics. Parents and guardians must be kept informed by the school system of the educational progress of their children.

We believe parents and guardians have an inherent right and obligation to discipline their own children.

Political Parties
Strong, responsive political parties are essential to the United States system of elective government.

We recommend that Farm Bureau members support the political party of their choice.

We believe that government should in no way be involved directly in the political process but should lay down certain rules to assure fair and proper elections.

We strongly favor retaining the county central political committees composed of county precinct committee people and their existing functions within the party structure.

We are opposed to shifting the functions of county committee to a district committee.

COMMODITIES

(1) Agrichemicals/Pesticides
We oppose establishment of zones of agricultural land in which any kind of legal application or storage of agricultural chemicals is curtailed without sound, scientifically validated evidence to warrant curtailment.

We support increased research and labeling for minor-use pesticide registrations.

We recommend that compliance with federally approved label instructions should absolve farmers or commercial applicators from liability claims of environmental pollution.

We support the continued use of approved pesticides and/or related products until conclusive scientific evidence proves there is an unacceptable risk.

We oppose fumigant buffer zone limitations proposed by the EPA without research giving substantial evidence that current practices are negatively affecting bystanders.

(2) Commodity Commissioners
We support commodity commissions that collect more than $5,000,000 annually have a board elected by the growers.

(3) Commodity Diseases
We urge the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to do all within its power to prohibit the importation of Anthracnose virus into Idaho.

We support the quarantine of all sources of the potato wart virus.

We support active research and the dissemination of information to all interested parties related to rhizomania and urge that any imposed restrictions be based on scientific data.

We support any phytosanitary action taken by the Idaho Department of Agriculture to protect the Idaho potato industry from the threat of the "Pratylenchus Neglectus" nematode.

We support the re-write of the Idaho Plant Pest Act to include language to protect growers from being subject to unnecessary search and seizure without probable cause and advanced warning to enter a premises.

We support a federal and state PCN (Pale Cyst Nematode) program that is based on good science, stakeholder participation, and minimal impact to grower operations.

(4) Commodity Promotion
We support the organization of commodity commissions for promotion and research purposes of any commodity.

We support compulsory deduction of funds if producers can establish the commodity commission through referendum, with assessments being established or increased by a majority vote of the producers, or if producers can easily obtain refunds of their assessments.

We support a periodic referendum if assessment is

made mandatory.

We support the exclusion of crops and livestock from compulsory deductions to commodity commissions when producers or growers come under regulation from quarantinable pests or diseases.

(5) Commodity Sales
We support expansion of Idaho agricultural markets, domestic and foreign. We also support trade missions abroad to better inform our producers and the hosting of foreign delegations to our state in efforts to increase our market share.

We support changes to crop insurance that truly reflect a safety net.

We oppose double discounts by grain dealers.

We support licensing and bonding of all commodity brokers by the State of Idaho.

We support amending the Idaho Pure Seed Law to fully disclose the contents of all seed lots by requiring the tag or label to list each plant species therein by name and rate of occurrence.

(6) Commodity Testing Equipment
Commodity buyers' moisture meters and other commodity testing equipment for the purpose of grading should be certified for accuracy by the ISDA Bureau of Weights and Measures.

(7) Environmental Studies
We recommend that any individual or group doing environmental studies be held accountable for claims or assertions of damage by agricultural practices to the environment. Claims or assertions should be treated with skepticism until they have been subjected to critical peer review and tested by practical application.

(8) Fair Trade
We support strict adherence to bilateral and multilateral trade agreements to which the United States is a party to prevent unfair practices by competing nations and to assure unrestricted access to domestic and world markets. All trade agreements should be continuously monitored and enforced to ensure they result in fair trade.

(9) Field Testing Biotechnology Products
We support effective field testing of new biotechnology products to promote commercial use of products that will benefit agriculture and the general public.

We oppose any law or regulation requiring registration of agriculture producers who use or sell biotech-based products or commodities.

We oppose any law or regulation requiring registration or labeling of agricultural products containing GMOs (Genetically Modified Organisms).

We oppose attempts to restrict or prohibit planting of biotechnology crops on either a statewide or county by county basis.

We support actively educating the public about the benefits of GMOs.

(10) Food Safety/Government Accountability
We strongly believe a government agency making public health decisions that result in product recalls, product seizures or destruction of perishable goods must be held accountable when such decisions prove false. Such agencies must be required to compensate or indemnify individuals and companies for the monetary losses that occur because of poor or false regulatory decisions.

(11) Forage/Soil Sample Testing
We recommend that action be taken to set uniform guidelines for all testing labs in the analysis of forage and soil samples, with the Idaho Department of Agriculture to administer them.

(12) Hay Certification
We support a uniform state noxious weed free hay certification program.

(13) Idaho Food Freedom
We support legislation that would allow the cottage food industry to produce, process, and sell non-potentially hazardous food products from an unlicensed home kitchen operation.

(14) Industrial Grade Hemp
We support legalizing the production of non-THC industrial grade hemp in Idaho.

We support the requirement that growers of industrial grade hemp register their fields with the appropriate regulatory or enforcement agency. 30

(15) Lien Law
We oppose any attempt to alter the system of centralized filing or first-in-time, first-in-right system of lien priorities, either in revised UCC Article 9, or any other legislation.

Delivered feed shall not be encumbered by a blanket lien from a financial institution until the grower/supplier is paid in full.

(16) Potato Seed Management
We support a potato seed management program that encourages the use of certified seed potatoes in seed and commercial production for the control of diseases and pests.

LIVESTOCK

(17) Animal Care
We support the rights of owners and producers to raise their animals in accordance with commonly accepted animal husbandry practices.

We oppose any legislation, regulatory action or funding, whether private or public, that interferes with commonly accepted animal husbandry practices.

We oppose legislation that would give animal rights organizations the right to establish standards for the raising, marketing, handling, feeding, housing or transportation of livestock and production animals and any legislation that would pay bounties to complainants.

We oppose any animal care legislation that would impose a stricter penalty than the 2012 law (Title 25- 14 3504).

We support fines and/or reimbursement for animal research lost and all costs and damage incurred, when farms or research facilities are willfully damaged. Responsible persons or organizations should pay all costs.

We further support the role of a licensed veterinarian in the care of animals and support current licensing standards for veterinarians.

We support the Idaho Veterinary Practice Act and oppose any efforts to weaken it or the licensing standards.

We oppose the creation of an Idaho livestock care standards board.

(18) Animal ID
We support procedures and or equipment for an animal ID program that makes it possible to trace an animal back to its original location.

We support the right of the owner to choose among the acceptable methods of identification and to leave their animals unidentified prior to movement from the premises of origin.

We support having the Idaho State Department of Agriculture determine acceptable methods of identification, including hot or cold brands, for the state.

(19) Bioterrorism
We support legislation that would make it a felony for any person to purposefully spread any type of contagious, communicable or infectious disease among livestock or other animals.

We support legislation that would make it a felony for any person who intentionally attempts to transfer, damage, vandalize, or poison the product, water, or facilities of a posted commercial aquaculture operation.

(20) Bovine Tuberculosis
We support an ISDA surveillance testing program for Bovine Tuberculosis and its continued funding.

(21) Brucellosis
We oppose all efforts to eliminate the mandatory vaccination law and require its complete enforcement.

We insist that the National Park Service eradicate brucellosis in Yellowstone and Grand Teton Parks.

We support regulations requiring the appropriate state and federal agencies to control and eradicate this disease in wildlife.

We oppose separating the state into zones for definition of brucellosis-free status.

We oppose the establishment of any herds of free roaming buffalo outside of Yellowstone National Park.

(22) CAFO Regulations
We support efforts by all livestock associations to create MOUs with the appropriate state and federal agencies.

We believe that counties should have the sole right, responsibility and authority under existing laws for the siting of CAFOs (Confined Animal Feeding Operations).

We would encourage the counties to consult the local extension personnel, state agencies and soil and water agencies in determining the parameters to write siting guidelines.

Matters pertaining to CAFO regulation other than siting should be under the jurisdiction of the state.

(23) Cattle Liens
Liens should not be attached to livestock until ownership can be proven and verified.

(24) Data Confidentiality
We support the confidentiality of data collected on farms and feedlots. Only final reports or conclusions should be made a matter of public record. No data collected from individual operations should be made public.

(25) Domestic Cervidae
We support the right of domestic cervidae owners to use private trophy ranches as a means to ethically harvest their animals.

We support the right of domestic cervidae owners to breed, raise, harvest, and market all members of the cervidae family indigenous to Idaho that can be legally acquired.

(26) Equine
We oppose any attempt to eliminate the right of the equine owner or BLM to the minimal stress slaughter of their equine for consumption or any other purpose.

We support construction of new slaughtering facilities and/or use of existing processing facilities in Idaho to slaughter equines without duress.

We support the right of individuals and non-governmental organizations to save horses from slaughter as long as they take possession of the horses and are responsible for their care and feeding.

We support the continued classification of equines as marketable livestock and oppose any efforts to classify them as pets or companion animals.

When an equine is in the custody of a government agency and an adoption has not been able to take place within 6 months, that equine should be harvested or euthanized with minimal stress and without delay.

We support funding for USDA food service inspectors in facilities that harvest horses.

(27) Federal Inspectors of Small Meat Processing Plants
We support federal meat inspectors being made available to small meat processors.

(28) Foot and Mouth/BSE Disease
We support stringent controls to protect Idaho's livestock industry from foot and mouth disease and bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE). In addition, the United States must impose restrictions on importation of animals and animal products that could carry other contagious infectious diseases.

We oppose importation of live cattle over 30 months of age until sound science proves this does not threaten to spread BSE to the United States.

We oppose any announcement to the media of BSE suspects in the United State until the final scientific determination is made whether they are positive or negative.

We support allowing entities to voluntarily test all slaughtered animals for bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) in order to ship products to countries that require individual tests.

(29) Foot Rot in Sheep
We support a continued stringent foot rot control program for sheep in Idaho.

(30) Livestock Brands
We support the concept that livestock may be left unbranded at the discretion of the owner except for those livestock grazing on federal/state managed lands.

We support research into alternative methods of permanent livestock identification and ask that the Brand Department be authorized to recognize these methods.

(31) Livestock Theft
We support a mandatory prison term, fine, and restitution as a minimum sentence for a felony livestock theft conviction.

(32) Manure Management
We believe that manure and manure/compost are nutrient-rich residue resources.

We oppose manure being classified as industrial, solid, or hazardous waste or as raw sewage.

We encourage research on manure management including such areas as odor reduction and waste and nutrient management.

We encourage programs that educate livestock operators on techniques regarding properly managed organic nutrient systems, especially if implemented with consistent Best Management Practices (BMPs) developed by extension, university and the livestock industry.

We support the Idaho State Department of Agriculture allowing certification of third-party soil sampling for nutrient management plan compliance purposes.

We support changes to the Dairy Environmental Control Act so it applies only to dairy livestock and not other livestock.

(33) State Veterinarian
We believe the Animal Health Division of the Idaho Department of Agriculture should be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

WATER

(34) Aquifer Recharge
We support the beneficial use of managed basin-wide aquifer recharge with the state being involved with both financial support and implementation.

All water users both large and small must consider aquifer recharge as a component of all water uses with consideration for existing rights and acknowledgment by the Department of Water Resources.

(35) Artesian Wells
We support the current law regarding artesian wells, if adequate funding for the cost-sharing of well repairs is provided.

We oppose the designation of the heat value from a geothermal source as being the only beneficial use.

(36) Bureau of Reclamation Reservoirs

Release of water in power head space in Bureau of Reclamation reservoirs shall be controlled solely by state water law.

(37) Bureau of Reclamation Water Contracts
When renewing irrigation contracts with Bureau of Reclamation; irrigators should retain full quantity of water and be allowed conversion of water service contracts to repayment contracts as required by law.

(38) Cloud Seeding
We support the application of cloud seeding and we encourage continued investment in the application and research of cloud seeding.

We encourage the Idaho Legislature and the Idaho Department of Water Resources to study and allocate funding for cloud seeding efforts that are proving beneficial to increasing precipitation.

(39) Comprehensive State Water Plan
We urge the Governor to appoint Water Resource Board members who will be protective of the waters of the State of Idaho.

We oppose all minimum stream flows unless sufficient

storage is built to supply priority needs first.

We support requiring legislative approval before establishing minimum stream flow, river basin plans and state water plans.

We support repealing Idaho Code 42-1503 (e)ii which allows "Minimum Stream Flows" proposed by the Idaho Department of Water Resources to become final if no specific action is taken by the legislature.

We support amending the Idaho Constitution, Article XV Water Rights Section 7, State Water Resource Agency to read "That any change shall become effective only by approval of the legislature."

We support a mandatory requirement for legislative approval of agreements made by state agencies with federal agencies when dealing with commitments on water.

We support the Swan Falls Agreement as originally written in October of 1984.

(40) Dams
We support legislation that would focus the attention of the Northwest Power Planning Council's authority on planning, to provide for present and future power needs of northwest power states and away from other secondary issues.

We support the construction, improvement and increased size of storage facilities that provide beneficial multiple uses of Idaho's water, and encourage municipalities, federal agencies and tribal agencies to advocate and fund additional storage to help meet their increasing demands for water, thus avoiding the need to take irrigation water from agriculture.

We support the continued existence and current usage of all dams on the Columbia and Snake Rivers. We oppose any efforts to destroy or decrease production of those dams.

We support construction of the Galloway Dam on the Weiser River.

(41) Effluent Trading
We support the concept of effluent trading.

(42) Flood Control
We recommend that steps, including additional storage facilities, increased recharge and land transfers from federal to state ownership, be taken to control future flooding within the state of Idaho.

We support Idaho water law that denies flood control releases as being considered a beneficial use.

(43) In-Stream Flows and Reconnect Process
We support in-stream flows and reconnect permits of government agencies going through the same process as minimum stream flow permits, and through the legislative process before being allowed.

(44) Moratorium
We support the current Idaho Department of Water Resources moratoriums on critical groundwater development.

(45) Outstanding Resource Waters
We support the Basin Advisory Groups (BAGs) and Watershed Advisory Groups (WAGs) process, recognizing that Outstanding Resource Waters (ORWs) are part of this process.

We oppose nominations of ORWs by parties other than BAGs and WAGs.

(46) State Purchase of Water Rights for Mitigation
We support having the State of Idaho purchase water rights for mitigation purposes to be held by the State Water Board, so water trade may benefit recharge and pump conversions.

(47) Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLS)
We support mandating Idaho's Department of Environmental Quality to conduct an Economic Impact Analysis of an area's businesses (including the agribusiness and agricultural operations of that area) before initiating a TMDL process for that geographic area. The analysis shall be provided to the Watershed Advisory Group before consideration is given to develop and implement a TMDL. A copy of the analysis shall also be provided to the germane committees of the Idaho Legislature.

(48) Transfer of Water Rights
We oppose the transfer of water rights to the Bureau of Reclamation (BOR).

We oppose the taking of water for fish flushing. Water held by the Idaho Water Resources Board will be held and used for purposes intended and in accordance with state law.

We believe all water in Idaho should be used beneficially. In the event the BOR or IDWR desires use of water they would have to negotiate on a yearly basis for rental-pool water in accordance with state water law.

We oppose out-of-basin transfers of irrigation water from lands enrolled in the federal cropland set-aside program for use on lands that have not historically been used for agricultural development.

We oppose the continued use of the 427,000 acre feet of water for flow augmentation.

(49) Waste Management
We oppose mandatory facility construction without scientific proof of environmental pollution on an individual basis.

(50) Water Development on New Non-Ag Development
We support legislation that would require developers to supply water and water-delivery systems using existing water rights or gray water to new developments.

(51) Water Quality
We support the continued management of water quality, both underground and surface, by utilizing "Best Management Practices" (BMPs) as contained in USDA's "Natural Resource Conservation Services Field Office Technical Guide" and Idaho's "Forest Practices Act". Changes in these BMPs should be based only on scientifically monitored data rather than "best professional judgment".

We support the development of BMPs for recreational uses.

We oppose the Forest Practices Act Streamside Retention Rule (Shade Rule) unless accompanied by fair market appraised value compensation to landowners for loss of property rights.

We support the efforts of canal and irrigation districts to halt unwanted drainage into their water systems.

The EPA should not have the authority to arbitrarily impose penalties on landowners without first identifying the problem and giving the landowner an opportunity to correct the problem. If there is a difference of opinion concerning the extent of the problem, a reasonable and cost-effective appeal process of the EPA decision should be available to the landowner.

We oppose the deletion of the word "navigable" from the Clean Water Act.

We oppose levying fees associated with State NPDES program implementation, operation and permit issuance on agriculture and aquaculture producers.

(52) Water Quality Standards
Water quality standards must be site specific and realistically achievable for each water body. These standards must at least partially support designated beneficial uses.

(53) Water Rights
We support state ownership and control of Idaho water held in trust for the residents of the State of Idaho, and will oppose any policy, program, or regulation, including Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing, which would infringe on this right.

We support defining local public interest, under water right law, to give priority to beneficial uses and agricultural viability, with local vested interest and use, a priority.

We support sanctions upon any party making frivolous claims against water right applications.

Frivolous claims are not reasonably grounded in fact or law causing unnecessary delay, increased cost, or harassment.

We are opposed to the Water Resources Board accepting any further applications for water rights on surface stream water of the state that has been over decreed and adjudicated. Adequate water for domestic and agricultural purposes should have priority over other uses when the waters of any natural stream are

insufficient, as per Article 15, Section 3 of the Idaho Constitution.

Permittees on federal land must be recognized and acknowledged as the owners of stockwater rights in their allotments as their livestock provide beneficial use under state law. We therefore support codifying the Idaho Supreme Court Joyce / LU decision.

Minimum stream flows should not jeopardize water rights and should be financed by the benefit recipients.

We favor the continued wise development of all Idaho's rivers and their tributaries as working rivers.

We support first in time, first in right, and state control of water issues within appropriate Idaho agencies without federal regulatory or legislative intervention.

We support the privatization of Idaho irrigation canal systems.
We support the protection of canal and drain ditch easements from arbitrarily being taken over by cities, counties, states, federal or private developers or private landowners and developed into green belts or bike paths.

We support the concept of conjunctive-use management when scientific evidence is available to support such management.

We support efforts by local groundwater districts to provide supplemental or water bank water to senior surface water users to prevent curtailment of junior water rights. Irrigation districts shall have no net loss of irrigated acres due to growth and development.

We oppose changing the historical beneficial use of water rights when that change will have a negative impact on other water right holders.

We oppose the federal government changing the historic priorities and uses of water storage reservoirs.

We oppose any diminishment of storage fill rights due to flood control or other discharge prior to se son use including efforts by any entity that would count flood control releases against the storage rights of water right holders.

We oppose any federal agencies' use of priority dates, in regard to water rights, that are not in accordance with Idaho Water Law. 37

(54) Water Spreading
We support voluntary conservation of water use by updating irrigation systems. Increases in irrigated acres (water spread acres) due to redesigning or remodeling irrigation systems or development of areas within a recorded water right, should not be excluded from irrigation. Conservation should not adversely affect the full use of an irrigation water right.

(55) Water Use - International Water Agreements
We support renewal of the Columbia River Treaty with Canada in such a manner as to maintain its original focus upon flood control and power generation.

LAND USE

(56) Conservation Reserve Program – Grazing
We support managed grazing every three years or other mid-management tools of CRP acres to enhance the health of vegetation at the discretion of local committees.

We support the separation of haying and grazing on CRP acres and the use of both as separate management tools.

(57) Experimental Stewardship Program
We support and encourage the continuation and expansion of the Experimental Stewardship Program and Coordinated Resource Management Program, (CRMP) as long as producer control is maintained in all decisions concerning range management.

(58) Government Land Transactions
We support no net loss of private property.

We urge enactment of legislation to require prior legislative approval for any state land acquisition on a parcel-by-parcel basis.

We support prohibiting the sale of state land to the federal government or agencies of the federal government, except for the purpose of building federal facilities or structures.

When federal land is sold, traded, or exchanged, all holders of grazing preference must be fairly compensated. When land is to be sold, the current grazing permit holder must have the first right of refusal. If there is no permit holder, the adjacent landowner should be given the first right of refusal based on appraised value.

We oppose any land exchanges involving publicly owned land unless there is strong local support.

When any entity acquires property from the federal government, that entity should be required to compensate grazing preference holders on the former federally administered lands for the loss of their property rights if that entity does not continue to maintain and protect those rights.

We support the enactment of legislation to ensure that none of the valid existing private rights are lost in any land exchange between Idaho and the federal government or in the transfer of federal lands to Idaho.

(59) Government-Managed Lands
We support multiple-use management of federal and state lands with due regard for the traditional rights of use.

We urge county governments to have a land-use management plan with which both state and federal agencies would coordinate in order to protect the land within their tax base.

We urge the legislature and the governor to assert their authority and take all necessary measures to protect the citizens and counties of the state of Idaho from federal agency overreach.

We support the equal-footing doctrine and insist on the passage of legislation to establish a deadline for complete transfer of public land back to state jurisdiction and management.

We support the Idaho Legislature joining with other states of the West, in an interstate compact, with respect to the transfer of public lands.

Holders of grazing permits or leases should not be penalized or removed from allotments because of administrative errors or omissions of the land-managing agency.

On state and federal government grazing permits and/or lease rules, the word "grazing" needs to be further defined as livestock consumption of forage and brush for livestock production with benefits of weed and fire control.

We support grazing contracts on non-grazed public lands to reduce excess fuel that contributes to range or forest fires.

We support the timely salvage of trees in burn areas within our state.

We support legislation that would promote harvest of trees and forage on federal and state land to help prevent and control wildfire.

We encourage the release of federal, state and local government held lands for development or private use.

(60) Grazing Fees
We support the current state grazing fee formula and the PRIA formula concept.

(61) Grazing Permit Transfer
We oppose the U.S. Forest Service ruling that will prevent transferring grazing permits for 25 head or less.

(62) Idaho Forest Practices Act
We support the Idaho Forest Practices Act.

We support legislation requiring all forest land owners, even tribal forest land owners, to comply with standards at least as stringent as the rules placed in the act.

(63) Idaho Grazing Land Conservation Initiative (GLCI)
We support the Idaho Grazing Land Conservation Initiative.

(64) Landfills on BLM Lands
We encourage the development of new, as well as the continued use of, county landfills on BLM lands.

(65) Local, State or National Land Designation
We oppose any infringement upon private property

rights through any designation of land by any government entity, including highway scenic byways/corridors, National Heritage Areas, National Monuments and National Parks.

We oppose any change to federal or state land designation when there is the potential to harm agriculture.

(66) Mineral Rights
We support legislation that would transfer government-retained mineral rights to current landowners (at no expense to the landowners), where there has been no meaningful mineral activity for 10 years.

We support requiring that property deeds state the name and address of the person or entity who owns the mineral rights for each property. If mineral rights are sold or transferred, the deed should be updated. The surface owner should be notified and offered first right of refusal.

(67) Mining
We support the continuation of mineral extraction in Idaho as long as the appropriate mine reclamation and environmental protections are in place and followed.

(68) Notification of Property Damage
We support notification to land owners when fences or property sustain damage due to accidents.

(69) Open Range
We oppose any changes to Idaho open range and fence laws.

(70) Pest Control
We support enforcement of current laws to give counties authority to spray and control insect infestations on private land, with the cost of the spraying to be assessed to the current tax base of the present owner of the land.

We support any safe and effective methods of mosquito control and the ISDA grasshopper control program, as long as private property rights are respected, and the landowner whose property is to be treated is notified and allowed the opportunity to exclude any areas that will negatively affect the commodity being produced.

We support legislation that requires state and federal governments to manage their lands and control their noxious weeds and pests so that no harm is done to adjoining lands, crops and animals.

(71) Protecting Farm Land
We ask all units of government to give high priority to the protection of farm land and/or grazing land when considering other uses of such lands for public purposes. There should be no governmental taking of private property rights by restriction of use without just and due compensation.

We support the federal and state "takings" law in support of the U.S. Constitution, Article V.

We oppose any infringement of private property rights caused by regulation of rivers and dams for endangered species.

We oppose infringement on private property rights caused by highway districts and transportation departments.

(72) Range Management Plans
We believe that range management plans developed by the Idaho Department of Lands, BLM or U.S. Forest Service should be based on current factual information. If any plan is proposed without current information, we will join with others to persuade BLM and U.S. Forest Service or Idaho Department of Lands to revert to the pre-existing plan until current factual data is obtained.

We support voluntary forage monitoring and oppose mandatory forage monitoring by livestock permittees on federal lands as proposed by the Federal Land Management Policy Act.

We support the development of a certification process recognized by the Idaho Department of Lands, BLM, and U.S. Forest Service which would allow grazing permit holders to submit monitoring data that must be recognized and considered in the development and creation of range management plans.

(73) Rangeland Resource Commission
We support the Rangeland Resource Commission and the fees assessed.

(74) Regulation of Agricultural Practices
We recognize and support long-standing sound agricultural practices such as field burning, including grass seed, straw, residue burning, timber slash burning and animal-waste disposal, cultivation and harvest practices.

We support farmer participation in voluntary airshed quality programs.

We oppose any legislation or regulations that would segregate any agricultural industry, agricultural crop, cropping practice or geographical area and would impose a higher air quality, water quality or environmental standard than is required of any other person, entity, industry or geographical area within the state.

We oppose regulations on agricultural practices that are not validated by sound peer reviewed scientific process and supported by scientific fact.

The Idaho State Department of Agriculture should not have the authority to impose sanctions on livestock operators without first identifying specific problems and giving the operators an opportunity to correct said problems.

We oppose mandatory registration or licensing of farms and ranches.

We support the farmer's right to farm by being able to carry on sound farming and forestry practices and to be free from environmental regulations that are not proportionately beneficial to the implementation cost.

We support access of agricultural implements of husbandry and vehicles to any and all local, county and state roads/ highways in Idaho and oppose the imposition of any minimum speed requirements.

(75) Right to Farm
We support the right-to-farm law, and the concept behind it, and encourage legislative changes to strengthen the law so it can be enforced at the local governmental levels through conditional use permits or other permitting processes.

We support local, state, and federal agriculture exemptions from dust rules.

(76) Riparian Management
Proper multiple-use management of riparian areas is essential.

We believe these highly productive areas can be properly harvested with modern forest or livestock Best Management Practices (BMPs) and still improve riparian habitat for all uses.

We believe these areas should be properly used but not abused. However, management of the entire allotment should not be governed by forage utilization of riparian areas.

We support the concept that all existing roads along Class 2 streams be given grandfather rights approval.

(77) Sheep Grazing
We believe that sheep grazing is a valuable use of Idaho forage and resist attempts to terminate grazing permits and/or move domestic sheep because of their proximity to bighorn sheep.

We support the Best Management Practice concept for dealing with this issue.

(78) State and County Noxious Weed Control
We support stronger enforcement of Idaho's noxious weed law by the state and counties, together with appropriate use of special management-zone provisions.

We urge that Idaho Transportation Department weed control policies, at both the state and district levels, be changed to require that the ITD be in compliance with the Idaho noxious weed law each year, by controlling all infestations each year in a timely and effective manner and by controlling noxious weeds on the full width of all rights of way.

We urge the Idaho State Department of Agriculture to require timely and effective noxious weed control by all railroads on their rights of way within the state.

We urge that state and county authorities direct more emphasis to rights of way.

We request that the Idaho Department of Agriculture add dog rose (Rosa canina) and sweet briar (Rosa eglanteria) to the Idaho noxious weed list.

(79) Timber Management
We support all efforts by the Department of Lands to optimize the timber yields and stumpage prices as mandated by the Idaho Constitution.

We oppose actions by the Land Board or Department of Lands that would inhibit or further restrict these processes, including, but not limited to, habitat conservation plans and conservation easements.

(80) Timber Trespass
We support legislation that would award delivered log values to landowners with no deduction for logging for incidental timber trespass. Additional penalties would be established for intentional trespass.

(81) Wilderness and Restrictive Zones
We oppose all dedication of land in Idaho for wilderness and roadless areas and support the release of lands currently held in Wilderness Study Areas (WSA) back to multiple-use management. All lands designated as non-suitable for wilderness must be immediately released from WSA status.

We support the traditional balanced multiple-use practices on all federal/state lands and that access to existing wilderness be free and accessible for everyone.

We oppose designation of lands in Idaho as biosphere reserves, corridors or buffer zones, using the Lands Legacy Initiative, the Antiquities Act and the National Monument Declarations by the executive branch of the government.

We support adding adequate fire breaks in existing wilderness areas.

We oppose any expansion of the boundaries of the Sawtooth National Recreation Area (SNRA).

We oppose any reinterpretation of the mandates of the SNRA which would impose further use restrictions.

We oppose the reduction or curtailment of any grazing or farming activity for the creation or recognition of wildlife corridors.

(82) Wildfire Control
We recommend changing fire-control policy to put out any fire upon arrival or as soon as safely possible.

Local landowners must be allowed to protect private property. Local entities (such as counties, fire districts, and forest or rangeland protective associations) and private landowners and individuals need to be allowed to act as first responders. When the protection of the health, safety, and property of the citizens are in jeopardy, the local protective associations must be allowed to act beyond the first response and initial attack phase of a fire.

We support changing state and federal wildfire policy to require that state and federal fire managers and incident commanders coordinate with county and local fire departments and landowners.

We support a provision that state and federal agencies will allow forest or rangeland protective associations in neighboring states, that meet the requirements of their home state, to enter into mutual aid agreements with forest and rangeland protective associations across state lines.

We support an increase in management activities, such as thinning and grazing, to achieve federal agency goals of reducing the potential for catastrophic wildfires.

We support a provision that state and federal agencies maintain a fire break strategically located to protect private property and to control large wild fires.

We oppose landowners being held accountable for fire suppression costs except in cases of gross negligence.

FISH AND WILDLIFE

(83) Animal Damage Control
We support animal damage control programs to control and manage predators, rodents and destructive wildlife.

We recommend bees and beehives be added to the animal damage compensation list.

(84) Animal Threat and Public Safety
It shall be the responsibility of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services and any state agencies, that manage predatory or proven problem animals, to notify all residences within a 5-mile radius using a 911 reverse calling system of potential conflict in their area.

(85) Emergency Feeding of Wild Game
We oppose feeding big-game animals except in emergency situations defined by criteria such as snow depth, temperature, wind chill, and available forage.

All money collected by Fish and Game for the emergency feeding of wild game should be used only for feed and feeding, fencing for hay stack protection, and control of predators that are displacing big game animals and preying on them.

(86) Endangered Species Act
We oppose any effort to create a State Endangered Species Act (ESA).

We believe that modern society cannot continue to operate on the premise that all species must be preserved at any cost.

We support a revision of the ESA to include a more thorough consideration of agricultural, mining, logging and tree farming in such a manner that these activities will be sustained and made part of any recovery plan. Recovery of threatened or enda gered (T/E) species should not receive higher priority than human uses or rights.

We believe basic requirements of human life have priority over protection of other species, including T/E species. A thorough consideration of all potential adverse impacts to human economic and social welfare should be an integral part of any consideration to list any T/E species.

A species cannot be listed before its critical habitat is identified within its scientifically established historical range. Habitat site specific assessments and recovery plans must include comprehensive appreciation and inclusion of the protection of private property rights.

No critical-habitat designation should be allowed until it has been established beyond scientific doubt that the species in question is actually present and that endangered or threatened status is actually warranted. The data to satisfy the scientific criteria should meet the guidelines of the Data Quality Act under federal statutes sections 3504(d)(1) and 3516 of title 44, United States Code. The agency, organization or individual requesting the critical- habitat designation must bear the cost of proving presence of the species and this must be done through the use of the best available peer reviewed science.

We oppose road closures and restrictions imposed on land and water in the name of critical habitat.

Anadromous hatchery fish and wild fish should be treated equally under the ESA. Hatchery fish should be counted toward recovery of the species.

We support eliminating the marking of hatchery fish.

We believe that introduction/ reintroduction of any species must be approved by the state legislature and must be consistent with local government natural resource plans. Therefore, we urge the passage of legislation that requires federal agencies to coordinate and determine consistency per federal statutes with the proper state agency and local governments when those federal agencies have received a petition to list a species.

We support the right of landowners to protect themselves, their families, livestock and properties from all predators including grizzly bears and wolves without legal retaliation.

If lethal action is taken against any threatened or endangered species for the preservation of public safety, all investigations should be conducted by the local officials of the county involved. All applicable state and government agencies are to be notified so as to provide assistance when called upon.

We urge Congress to seek depredation funding for losses or damage resulting from endangered species and to mandate responsibility to deal with such losses.

We oppose implementation of the endangered species pesticide labeling program, other than in critical habitat.

We oppose the listing of the Giant Palouse Earthworm (Driloleirus americanus) and the Greater Sage Grouse (Centrocercus urophasianus) as an endangered species.

We support livestock grazing as an effective tool to reduce wildfires and enhance plant and wildlife habitat.

(87) Fish and Game Department
We oppose the acquisition of additional land by the Fish and Game Department.

We encourage the department to use good- neighbor management practices on the land they now own, including fences, pests, noxious weeds, and provide sportsmen with guidance and marked boundaries.

We oppose any increase in funding for the Idaho Department of Fish and Game from either the general fund or license fees without showing a specific need or use for the funds.

The Fish and Game Department must control the concentration of wildlife numbers on all lands and should be prohibited from entering into agreements to limit access to any area, without approval of the local governing authority.

We support retaining the present composition and selection method of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission.

Hunting license fees and tags should cost disproportionately more than at present for nonresidents compared to residents.

We support a Habitat Improvement Program and request Idaho Fish and Game Commission to reflect strong emphasis on multiple use.

We propose that the $1,000 depredation deductible be reduced. Compensation by IDFG for crop loss due to depredation shall be for actual loss minus the one-time deductible and should be expediently paid with no pro-rating.

We support oversight of the depredation account by the Idaho Department of Agriculture with technical support provided by Idaho Fish and Game.

We support using leftover depredation funds to build a one-year reserve to be used in heavy loss years.

Fish and Game should be responsible to pay for damages caused by management decisions.

We support Idaho Fish and Game issuing emergency depredation permits to ag producers and landowners to harvest animals that are causing verifiable damage to crops, livestock and property.

The issuance of these depredation permits by IDFG and other actions by IDFG to relieve depredation shall be free of conditions that landowner must allow hunting on their land. Emergency depredation permit holders should have the option to retain possession of harvested animals.

We support creating depredation areas for landowners who are annually affected by depredating animals and support mechanisms for quicker response in those areas.

We believe the Landowner Appreciation Program (LAP) should be available to anyone owning 320 acres or more and recipients of these tags should be free to do what they wish with the tags.

Transactions between the Idaho Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game may represent a conflict of interest and should be investigated.

We oppose the erection of either permanent or temporary hunting or viewing blinds within 100 feet of a developed livestock watering site on public lands.

(88) Fish and Game – Prior Notification
The Idaho Department of Fish and Game must have permission from the land owner before entering private property.

(89) Fish and Game – Private Reservoir Companies
Fish and Game Department shall pay private reservoir companies for the use of that reservoir for fish habitat. The Department should also pay up- keep assessments on reservoirs in which they own water.

(90) Fish and Game / U.S. Fish & Wildlife Responsibility
We support reform of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game to create local management of the wildlife of Idaho. This program should be site specific to control damage caused from over populated species of both game and non-game animals.

We oppose the relocation of wild game and non- game species without proper notice being given to residents and property owners in the area where they are released.

The Idaho Fish and Game Department should not engage in activities that encourage only non-consumptive uses of fish and wildlife species in Idaho.

The state or federal wildlife personnel shall be required to file an environmental and economic impact statement before they can release non-native insects or plants in Idaho or make regulations that affect the counties and/or the state.

We support the Idaho State Department of Agriculture's ban on the release of deleterious exotic animals into the State of Idaho.

All state and federal agency personnel must go through the elected county sheriff for all law enforcement.

(91) Fish Species Population Management
We support alternative scientific applications to modify fish species population without affecting contractual agreements or causing detrimental effects on flood control, irrigators, recreation and economies.

(92) Grizzly Bear
We support the delisting of the grizzly bear from the endangered species status.

We support a hunting season on the grizzly. The costs associated with grizzles, including triple damages for depredation costs, should be borne by the federal government, and its agencies such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

Compensation should be paid to state and local agencies when any assistance in the management, control, or defense of the public is needed from such agencies. Compensation to state and local agencies should be paid regardless of whether a request has been made by a federal agency for assistance until such time as the current grizzly bear policy can be changed to allow less conflict with humans and livestock namely the delisting of the grizzly bear and transfer of management to individual states' authority.

We support requiring the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services to coordinate all grizzly bear related activities with the Idaho Fish and Game and local county officials.

(93) Invasive Species
We support efforts to remove Asian clams from the waters of Idaho.

We support the listing of quagga mussels as an invasive species.

We support adequate state funding for inspections of all water craft and other vessels to prevent the spread and infestation of quagga/zebra mussels in Idaho waters.

(94) Sage Grouse
We support predator control as a method to increase sage grouse populations. We encourage the use of bounties to control all non-protected sage grouse predators.

We support grazing on public lands as a primary method of increasing sage grouse populations by controlling the amount of vegetation that fuels wild fires.

We support private sector rearing and releasing of sage grouse.

(95) Introduction of Salmon
We oppose the introduction of salmon above the Brownlee Dam.

(96) Salmon Recovery
We support the following salmon-recovery alterna-

tives:
1. Physically modifying the dams rather than tearing them down or lowering water levels.
2. Improving barging such as net barge transportation.
3. Privatizing salmon fisheries for stronger fish.
4. Controlling predators of salmon.
5. Utilizing new hydroelectric turbine technologies to achieve the goals of increased power production and reduced hazards to fish.
6. Regulating harvest of off-shore and instream fish.

(97) Snake River Basin Snails
We support the delisting of snail species in the Snake River Basin and the grouping of snail species based on taxonomic/biological similarities.

We oppose the future listing of new snail species.

(98) Wolves
We support hunting and trapping of wolves in all hunting units.

We support enforcement of Idaho Code that requires the Idaho Fish and Game to coordinate with local government. The costs associated with wolves, including triple damages for depredation costs, should be borne by the federal government, and its agencies such as U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services.

We support adding wolves to the IDF&G depredation list so that depredation on livestock can be paid by the IDF&G Big Game Depredation and Prevention Fund.

We request that all wolf carcasses be presented for testing for communicable diseases.

We request that human Hydatid Disease be returned to the Idaho Department of Health and Welfare's reportable disease list.

EASEMENTS

(99) Conservation Easements and Scenic Easements
We support continuation of conservation easement agreements and scenic easements or agreements only if the real property involved remains on the tax rolls according to use.

ENERGY

(100) Affordable Energy
We support
1. Transparency in how energy monopolies plan to incur expenses and make investments that are passed on to ratepayers.
2. Thorough, fair and publicly involved process for evaluating rate requests and setting rates.
3. Increased focus on removing barriers to widely available and affordable sources of energy.

(101) Alternative Energy
We support the development of alternative energy.

We oppose a broad moratorium on alternative energy projects.

We support county control in the siting of these projects.

We support sales tax incentives to assist in the development of alternative energy projects of less than one megawatt constructed on or by existing agriculture operations.

We support that alternative energy should not receive subsidies beyond the bulk market rate. Any such contracts shall be allowed to expire.

(102) Bonneville Power Administration Credit
We support some type of BPA credit that allows all citizens of Idaho to benefit from the BPA's use of Idaho water for power generation.

(103) Electrical Energy

Hydroelectric Dams:
As future demands for electrical energy increase, we support the continued careful use of water as one of our renewable natural resources through existing and the construction of new hydro projects.

We encourage the adoption of hydro projects to generate power for sale.

We support the relicensing of dams, including the Hells Canyon Complex, using a least cost mitigation plan reflecting the desire of the customers to have a reliable power resource at reasonable rates.

Renewables:
We encourage utilities operating in Idaho to develop economically feasible renewable energy portfolios.

We support the construction of economically feasible power generation facilities in Idaho, including those that use plant and/or animal residue or logging slash.

We support an annual true-up for net metering rather than a monthly true-up.

Regulations:
We encourage state agencies to remove barriers that prevent utilities from increasing Idaho's power generation capacity.

We oppose any deregulation, reorganization, merger or consolidation of power generation or transmission which could result in loss of water rights, less service or increased rates.

We support current laws that require coal fired plants be held to strict standards in the construction, operation and retirement of the facility.

Transmission:
We support upgrades in transmission and distribution. Routing of utility corridors should be placed on public land first and then to the areas of least impact to private property owners.

We support the initiation of on and off ramps in transmission lines within the State of Idaho.

(104) Farm Produced Fuel
We support grants, cost share programs and bio-fuel production tax credits for farm-scale bio-fuel projects.

(105) Fossil Fuels
We support the mining and drilling of fossil fuels.

We encourage the State of Idaho to adopt rules for oil and natural gas production that safeguard the water aquifers for all citizens and protect property owners' rights to use their property. If a local government entity bans the development of mineral rights in its jurisdiction, it should be considered a property rights "taking" and compensation should be provided to the property owner.

(106) Nuclear Energy
We support the generation of electricity from nuclear reactors in meeting our future energy needs and urge the development of permanent disposal sites for radioactive waste material where it will not endanger the aquifer in Idaho.

We support research and development of further usage of radioactive waste materials and safer ways of storage.

We support development of the fast burn sector of nuclear technology which massively reduces or eliminates the need for nuclear waste disposal.

We support the utilization of the Idaho National Laboratory to provide the lead role in advancing the continued development of this technology.

(107) Power Demand Control Program
We support demand control programs as long as current water rights and power usage contracts are protected. These programs must remain on a voluntary basis.

(108) Renewable Fuels
We support the promotion and use of alternative fuels made from agricultural products, as long as they are driven by open markets and not economically supported by mandates and government subsidies.

We encourage all state and local governments to assist in developing renewable fuel projects in Idaho.

We support the availability of low-cost fuels, including off road bio-fuels, for the operation of farms and ranches.

(109) Utility Companies
Utility companies that damage public roads should be responsible for restoring roadways to their original state for at least a period of two years.

LABOR

(110) Labor
We support legislation to ban slowdowns or strikes by unions at ports.

(111) Legal Aid
We oppose state funding of Idaho Legal Aid Services. We oppose the uninvited presence of Legal Aid personnel soliciting business on private property.

(112) Minimum Wage
We oppose any state minimum wage that is higher than the federal minimum wage.

(113) New Hire Reporting
We support changes in the Idaho New Hire Reporting Law to extend the reporting date to 60 days.

We support not having to report seasonal temporary workers that work less than 45 days in a year.

(114) Unemployment Insurance
Eligibility requirements should be made realistic to reflect agriculture's seasonal employment practices.

Business owners should not have to pay unemployment tax on themselves.

The minimum basic-period wage criteria for unemployment benefits should be increased proportionately to increases in the minimum wage.

(115) Workers Compensation
Workers compensation for agricultural employers should provide:
1. Cost control measures and fair base rates.
2. Mediation for agricultural concerns.
3. Protection from third party lawsuits.
4. Employer protection from worker caused injuries (i.e. drug & alcohol).

Corporate officers should not be required to be covered by workers compensation. Business owners should not be required to pay into workers compensation on themselves since they are prohibited from collecting as business owners.

We support changes in the existing Workers' Compensation Law that would take into consideration the employee's responsibility when an accident occurs.

We support having the settlement reduced by the percentage that was determined that the worker was responsible.

TAX

(116) Agricultural Property Tax Shifts
We are opposed to shifting property tax to agricultural real estate.

We support removing the Idaho Housing Price Index from the 50 percent / $75,000 homeowners' exemption.

(117) Assessed Value of Ag Production Land
We believe all land being used for commercial agricultural production should be appraised for tax purposes according to its current use, eliminating any consideration of its speculative value, using realistic productivity figures, realistic cost deduction, including government mandated control of noxious weeds, taking into account the USDA's annual report on farm real estate values in Idaho and that only the landlord's net share of production be used in computing value for tax purposes, as prescribed by Idaho State Tax Commission rules and regulations.

We support the retention of the five-acre minimum productivity option and the Bare Land & Yield Option for forest lands.

(118) Budget Caps
We oppose the loosening, removal or alteration in any way or the granting of an exemption from limitations and restraints placed by present Idaho law on units of local government, community colleges, school districts, etc., in increasing local property taxes.

We oppose the creation of additional tax entities that could be exempt from such limitations and restraints.

(119) Fuel Tax
We oppose repealing the refund of tax paid on fuel used off-road.

We oppose taxing dyed fuel.

(120) Impact Fees
We support local impact fees on new or expanding developments to pay for the services required to support growth.

We support simplification of current impact fee rules and procedures.

(121) Investment Tax Credit
We support retention of the current three percent investment tax credit provisions, or an increase in the credit.

(122) Local Option Taxation
We support local option taxation when used specifically for projects that would have been paid for with property tax dollars.

(123) Maximum Levy Rates
We oppose raising the maximum statutory levy rates for any taxing authority. 35

(124) Personal Tax Privacy Rights
We oppose the county tax assessor's office requiring personal tax information to establish land use.

(125) Property Tax
We oppose budget increases and foregone balances that current Idaho State Law allows for local governments.

We support limiting yearly property assessment increases to a maximum of the state inflation rate.

We support legislation that would allow county tax assessments and collection on property that has been purchased by non-profit groups and placed in tax exempt status, such as a tax code that covers environmental tax exempt classification.

We support exempting all equipment used in the production of agricultural commodities from personal property tax.

(126) Property Tax - Funding Local Government and Schools
We support gradually reducing the property tax burden to fund public schools and local government.

We are opposed to judges being allowed to levy taxes.

We support legislation mandating that plant facilities levy monies can be used only for capital expenditures related to school operation and maintenance.

We oppose school districts carrying over these funds to finance the construction of new buildings or the acquisition of additional property.

We support removing the school budget stabilization levy that was authorized in the 2006 Special Legislative Session, unless it is supported by a local vote.

We support the creation of standardized mandatory full disclosure of the school district's revenues and expenditures that are related to extracurricular activities; separated into curriculum and athletics, and budgeted in standard categories of salaries, transportation, supplies and capital expenditures.

We oppose indefinite or permanent supplemental school levies on taxpayers, regardless of the number of consecutive levies passed.

(127) Sales Tax
We oppose removing the sales tax exemption on production items.

We support legislation that would exempt non- profit organizational fund-raising from paying sales tax on those receipts.

We oppose the collection of use tax on out-of-state goods purchased by Idaho residents. 43

(128) Services Tax
We oppose all tax on services.

(129) Special Taxing Districts
We support county commissioners approving special taxing districts budgets, except independent road districts, before such budgets are published for public review.

We support a requirement that all new taxing districts must be approved by a 66-2/3 percent majority vote of the registered voters within a district.

We support legislation allowing special taxing districts to be funded by a household fee. All taxing

districts that charge fees should be under the same three percent cap that applies to counties and municipalities.

We support giving library districts the option to be funded by a household fee rather than through an ad valorum tax. If the library district chooses the household fee option, any bonds they pass mustalso be paid through household fees.

We support a 10 year sunset on all special taxing districts, after which they would require re- authorization by the voters to continue.

(130) State Budget
We support zero-based budgeting.

We support a constitutional amendment limiting state spending to a calculation determined by population growth and economic growth of thestate.

We oppose balancing budget shortfalls by any tax increase.

We oppose any state funding of Planned Parenthood.

(131) Super Majority
We support retaining the 66-2/3 percent majority vote as required in the Idaho State Constitution for bond levies.

We oppose circumventing the required two-thirds majority by creative financing options.

(132) Tax Compensation for Federal and State Managed Lands
We recommend that a fee in lieu of taxes be assessed on all lands removed from tax rolls by state or federal agency management.

We favor an annual fee equivalent to local private property tax on land.

(133) Tax Liens
We oppose the recording of federal tax liens (IRS) by the county recorder without due process of law.

(134) Tax Refund Extension
We support income tax assessments and income tax refunds having the same statute oflimitations.

(135) Taxing Districts Sharing Administrators
We encourage similar taxing districts to share administrators and secretaries on a county-wide or multi-district basis to help ease the tax burden of administration.

(136) Urban Renewal Districts
We support the repeal of urban renewal laws.

LOCAL AFFAIRS

(137) Annexation
We are opposed to areas adjacent to a city being annexed into the city unless a two-thirds majority of those owning property in the area proposed for annexation vote in favor of the annexation.

(138) County Commissioners
We encourage county commissioners to develop a Natural Resource Plan per NEPA guidelines that clearly states the objectives and policies of the county in regards to management of the natural resources located on public lands in their county.

We encourage county commissioners to invoke the "coordination mandate" of Congress set forth in federal statutes with the public land management agencies plans and actions that may negatively impact the county's economy, culture and heritage.

(139) Distribution of Federal Fines
We support legislation that would require public notification of the distribution of fines collected by the governmental agencies in that county.

We support legislation that would require federal agencies to return a portion of federal fines collected in the county where the infraction occurred.

(140) Elections
We support restricting local school bond and levy elections to primary and general electiondates.

We support a mandatory pre-registration requirement to be eligible to vote in all local bond elections.

We support requiring photo identification, proof of residency and proof of U.S. citizenship for new voter registration.

Pay raises for elected officials shall not take effect until the official stands again for election.

(141) Emergency Response Fees
We oppose the imposition of a "crash tax" to cover the cost of cleaning up spills at the site of an accident.

We favor reducing regulatory burdens which prohibit low-cost clean-up solutions.

(142) Indigent Care Funding
We support the use of the interest from the tobacco settlement monies to reduce the indigent care deductible now being paid for by the property owners. The deductible should continue to decrease incrementally as the settlement monies increase, not to drop below $1,000. The reduced deductible for tobacco-related illnesses should be expanded to include a reduced deductible for all health-related situations.

(143) Notice of Zoning Change
Water-right holders or recipients of water delivered through property that is proposed tobe rezoned should receive the same notification of public hearings as surrounding landowners.

(144) Public Hearings
Public hearings that affect a given area of the state must be held in the area that is affected, at a reasonable time and date for those impacted. 39

(145) Zoning
County commissioners should control all zoning in the county. Zoning should be site specific within the county; we oppose the use of blanket zoning ordinances, including sustainable development and smart-growth initiatives.

We recognize and encourage the use ofplanning tools allowed under state law to encourageplanned and orderly growth in or near agriculturalareas.

EDUCATION

(146) Adolescent Nutrition
We support school districts offering dairy products, healthy nutritional snacks and fruit juices in vending machines on school premises.

(147) Ag in the Classroom
We support "Ag in the Classroom" in school curriculum to increase student literacy ofagriculture.

We support an increase in funding for Ag inthe classroom.

(148) Contracts for Teachers
We recommend that the tenure system for school teachers be eliminated and replaced with contracts based on evaluation andperformance.

We support the concept of incentive pay that will improve teacher excellence.

School teachers should have the option of being able to negotiate their own contract with the school district as a private contractor. 23

(149) Education Standards and Assessments
We support using:
1. Professionally established standards and assessments that can be modified to reflect locally recognized educational values, goals and philosophy.
2. Standards to ensure the progression of a student that reflect a comprehension of the subject.

(150) Knowledge of Constitution
We support requiring students graduating from Idaho schools to have a thorough understanding of the Constitution and the form of government that it gives us in accordance with the original intent ofthe founders.

(151) Local Control of Education
We encourage the State Board of Education and the Idaho Legislature to refuse federal funds aimed at promoting control of educational programs in public schools by the federal government.

We support the repeal of the federal education program, Common Core and SBAC testing, in the State of Idaho.

We oppose the gathering of personal information of students that is not related to their academic education without parental consent.

(152) No Increase in School Time
We oppose increasing required school hours beyond 990 hours per year.

(153) Parental Choice in Education
We support the voucher system for education.

We support the continuing freedom, of Idaho parents, to choose private school, parochial school, home school, public charter school or public school as prescribed in the Idaho Constitution and in the Idaho Code.

We support optional kindergarten.

We oppose public funding of pre-kindergarten.

(154) Professional Technical Education
We support enhanced funding for Idaho's Professional Technical Education Agricultural Science and Technology courses and programs.

(155) Veterinary Students
We support an increase from eleven (11) to fifteen (15) seats per year for Idaho residents in the Washington-Idaho Cooperative Veterinary Medical Education Program.

STATE AFFAIRS

(156) Agricultural Research and Extension
We support the University of Idaho Agricultural Research and Extension Service and urge the Legislature to adequately fund this vital program.

We support adequate funding to the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to allow research to develop new improved varieties of seed that are classed as public varieties.

We request the legislature examine the role of the University of Idaho as the land grant college, and take steps to ensure the university honors its commitment as our agricultural research facility. The university should be on the same budgeting system as the State of Idaho.

We support expanded research and education in all crop areas relative to Idaho. This must also include new and improved plant and animal varieties along with effective insect, pest, disease and weed controls.

We also support an informational exchange and cooperative effort within the tri-state area in agchemical registration and research as well as plant/animal variety improvement research.

Every effort should be made by state and county officials and the University of Idaho to retain an agricultural extension agent in each county as an extension service of our land grant university.

Strong pressure must be exerted to revitalize and improve the agricultural information and education programs.

We recommend that extension activities assist farm programs on a first-priority basis, including the integrated Farm Management Program.

We also believe that county agents should be first and foremost county agricultural agents.

We support the hiring of new extension educators in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with primary training and experience in commercial agriculture and forestry.

We support full funding, from both federal and state governments, for operations and research at the current U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, including continuous research on the effects of grazing and sage grouse habitat, and the relationship between wildfire and grazing.

(157) ATV Safety
We oppose the creation of a mandatory class or special license for the ability to ride an ATV on private or public land.

(158) Bicycle Safety
We support bicyclists using public roadways be subject to the same laws that motorists must obey.

(159) Cell Phone Use
We oppose any legislation that would ban cell phone use in vehicles for voice communication.

(160) Commercial Auction Company Bonding
We support legislation that would require licensing and bonding of commercial auction companies.

(161) Cross Deputization of Law Enforcement Officers
We believe that cross deputization of county sheriffs and any tribal law enforcement officers should be voluntary.

(162) Definition of Agricultural Buildings
We support changes to Idaho Code to define agricultural buildings as follows:
1. They are buildings where agricultural products are stored, housed or grown.
2. They are buildings where agricultural equipment, including licensed vehicles that are used in the production of agriculture can be fixed, repaired or stored.
3. They are buildings that are used for the normal servicing of an agricultural business.
4. They can be used by employees as a place of employment as well as a place to have meals and take bathroom breaks as required by GAAP (Generally Accepted Agriculture Practices).

(163) Executive Branch MOU/MOA
We oppose actions by the governor entering into Memorandums of Understanding or Memorandums of Agreement without legislative oversight and approval.

(164) Falsifying Reports
Knowingly filing a false report and/or complaint to any agency shall be considered a misdemeanor and the perpetrator should be required to pay damages and/or expenses to the individual that was falsely accused as well as the investigating agency.

(165) Hazardous Waste
We believe that each state should, to the extent possible, take the responsibility for treatment and disposal of hazardous waste generated in its state and that these waste products be disposed of in the most feasible manner that will not endanger life or resources.

We believe that hazardous material and hazardous waste should be kept separate in the law.
We support a statewide hazardous materials clean-up day.

(166) Health Insurance
We support private optional health insurance.

We oppose the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act and fines for individuals and employers who refuse to carry health insurance.

We support legislation that permits, promotes, and/or assists:
1. In the inclusion of out-of-state health insurance companies participation in the marketplace of health insurance in Idaho.
2. In individual health savings accounts with tax free withdrawals for all health insurance premiums.
3. In free market solutions to health care costs and access.
4. In the establishment of defined contribution programs as opposed to defined benefit programs.
5. In free clinics funded by local community/faith-based organizations.
6. In development of Direct Primary Care in Idaho supporting the offering of wraparound health insurance policies.

We support health insurance as a risk management tool by reducing and/or eliminating the number of mandated services.

We oppose any legislation to require employers to carry health insurance on their employees whether they are seasonal or full-time.

(167) Inmate Care
We do not support taxpayer funded procedures that prolong the life of inmates with life sentences.

(168) Judicial Confirmation
We support the repeal of the "Judicial Confirmation," Title 7, Chapter 13, Idaho Code, for ordinary and necessary expenses.

(169) Liability and Tort Claims
We support current Idaho Statutes dealing with liability and tort claims and will resist any effort to weaken or erode them.

(170) Medicaid

We support a required co-pay by Medicaid recipients and non-insured persons who use hospital emergency room visits for non-life threatening health care.

We oppose Medicaid expansion and support Medicaid reform.

(171) Private Property Rights/Eminent Domain
Private property should be defined to include, but not be limited to, all land, crops, timber, water rights, mineral rights, all other appurtenances and any other consideration associated with land ownership.

Landowners having lands adjacent to federal and or state lands should not be forced through coercion/ or fear of imprisonment to allow new easements across their land for public access to federal and state lands. The taking of property or easements should be permitted only when there is eminent domain.

We oppose the use of eminent domain for recreational purposes, for private economic development or to expand the land holding of wildlife agencies.

We support an Idaho Constitutional Amendment defining public use as found in the eminent domain doctrine to prohibit the condemnation of private property for economic development or any use by private parties. If private property is taken, compensation must be prompt, just and adequate.

In the cases of partial taking of real property, the landowner must be compensated when government-imposed regulations cause a loss in value of private property. Landowners or tenants shall not be held liable for any damages incurred as a result of the condemnation. Entities condemning property
shall assume liability for any damages incurred by landowners.

(172) Proprietary Information
We oppose laws requiring insurance companies or other private business entities to provide proprietary information to state or federal agencies.

(173) PUC Rates
We oppose any action by the PUC to move in the direction of inverted block rates or in any major rate design revision that would be detrimental to agriculture.

(174) Public Employees Bargaining
We believe that public employees, when negotiating contracts, should be separate entities in themselves, and by statute not allowed to delegate or reassign their negotiating rights to professional negotiating forces.

(175) Public Trust Doctrine
We oppose the use of the Public Trust Doctrine to force private property owners to allow trespass and/or hunting/fishing on their private property. 10

(176) Re-Establish Congressional Lawmaking Responsibility
We support the state legislature in its efforts to encourage Congress to reclaim its constitutional responsibility of making law.

Proposed rules or regulations by federal bureaus or agencies should have congressional approval before becoming law.

Presidential directives or executive orders should be limited in scope and subject to congressional approval in a timely manner.

We support passage of legislation ensuring that no treaty can supersede the Constitution or reduce the protections we enjoy under the Constitution. 25

(177) Refugees in The United States
We oppose sheltering refugees who do not agree to uphold American constitutional government and values.

(178) Regulation Reform
We support:
1. Complete review of existing regulations to determine their effectiveness and appropriateness prior to assigning more restrictive regulations.
2. Peer review of the existing regulations to determine their potential to mitigate the problems they address.

(179) Regulatory Fines
The remedy for any violation of federal and state agency rules should be to fix the problem rather than to pay fines unless the violation rises to the level of a felony.

(180) Rights-of-Way
Easement rights-of-way obtained by public or private sectors shall not be committed to any new or additional purpose, either during their original usage or after abandonment, without consent of the owner of the land underlying the easement. Upon abandonment of railway or utility rights-of-way or leases, all property and rights associated with such rights-of-way or leases should revert to the current owner of the original tract.

We urge enactment of legislation to require that adjacent landowners be given priority to purchase at fair market value lands that have been vacated by railways, power companies, roadways, etc. And require that public agencies obtaining title to abandoned rights-of-way be responsible for maintaining fences, drainage systems, all field and road crossings and for controlling weeds on any such acquired rights-of-way.

We support access to or through federal lands using RS2477.

We support allowing county commissioners the ability to determine the validity of an RS2477 claim, the right to move an RS2477 when it occurs on private land and the ability to temporarily close an RS2477 for resource reasons. To prevent the misuse of RS2477 claims, we recognize the superiority of a property's title over RS2477 claims.

We will not support the use of RS2477 as a tool for the taking of private property without just compensation as prescribed in the Constitution.

Any party who controls a railroad right-of- way for use as a trail or any other purpose that prevents the corridor from reverting back to the adjacent landowners, must continue to honor all historical maintenance agreements that the railroad formerly performed including fencing, weed control and any other agreement that may have been in existence before the corridor changed management.

(181) Right to Bear Arms
We oppose any abridgment of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution which protects the right to keep and bear arms.

We support current law that allows law-abiding citizens the right to bear arms and be free from legal jeopardy when protecting themselves, their families and their property.

We oppose the retaining of personal records collected by the FBI as a result of firearms purchase background checks. The dangerous weapons code should be updated to reflect these rights in the home, the place of business or in motor vehicles.

We declare all firearms and ammunition made and retained in-state are beyond the authority of the federal government.

We support expanding the reciprocity with other states for concealed carry permits.

(182) Road Closures
We believe that when a federal or state agency closes a road, commodity production use on these roads should be exempted from the closure.

We oppose the closure of any existing roads.

(183) Speed Limit
We support increasing the speed limit for trucks to match the speed limit of autos on Idaho's interstate highways.

(184) State Agencies
We oppose regulating any phase of farm and ranch business by any state agency that does not have an agricultural representative as a member of its policy-making board or committee.

We oppose combining, splitting or changing government agencies without the approval of users of the services.

We support the concept of the Soil Conservation Commission or successor entity to advise and aid local Soil Conservation Districts by providing technical support and a mechanism to receive financial support at no less than fiscal year 2010 levels.

We recommend representation by an agricultural producer on the Board of Regents for Idaho's land grant university and on the Idaho Fish and Game Commission.

We urge and will support legislation to require that government rules and regulations, wherever applicable, be based upon supportive disciplinary peer reviewed scientific data and that wherever policies, rules or regulations do not meet this standard the responsible individual and/or individuals can be held liable.

When a state law enforcement agency makes an arrest there should be a means provided to reimburse the county for all costs associated in maintaining the prisoner.

We support the legislature reviewing agency rules. In order to approve a new rule, both the House and Senate must agree. A rule shall be rejected if either the House or Senate does not approve.

(185) State Building Code
We support amending the State Building Code to prevent infringement on private property rights through excessive permit requirements.

(186) State Commissions and PERSI
We support the development of a policy at the state level that allows for opting out of PERSI for State Commission board members to preserve their IRAs.

(187) State Hatch Act
We favor restoring the State Hatch Act, 67-5311 Limitation of Political Activity, to its original form and content.

(188) State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)
We oppose the expansion of the authority of the SHPO and oppose any state funding.

(189) State Legal Reform
We support reform of the state's civil justice system, which would cure or substantially solve many of the problems farmers face with hostile, harassing legal services lawsuits. Any person or organization that sues to prevent livestock operation siting, or the use of agriculture or resource management practices, should be required to post a bond in a reasonable amount, which will be forfeited to the defendant to help defray their costs in the event that the suit is unsuccessful.

We support legislation by the Idaho Legislature that would require any entity bringing such lawsuits to post substantial bonds based on the potential harm of the lawsuit. Individuals who file complaints against an agricultural operation and request an investigation must pay a fee to cover administration costs. Complete names, addresses and phone numbers are required on each complaint.

We support legislation to restore the election of district judges.

We support the open and full disclosure of the actions of the Idaho Judicial Council.

Entities from outside the jurisdiction of taxing districts that file lawsuits against public entities should be required to pay all legal expenses.

We support legislation to amend Idaho State Statutes and the Equal Access to Justice Act to make it clear that state courts may award attorney fees against the United States.

We support Idaho courts only use United States and Idaho Laws in the court system.

(190) States' Rights and Sovereignty
We support a law stating that Idaho and all politi- cal subdivisions of the state are prohibited from using any personnel or financial resources to enforce, ad- minister or cooperate with an executive order issued by the President of the United States that has not been affirmed by a vote of the Congress of the United States and signed into law as prescribed by the Con- stitution of the United States

(191) Term Limits
We oppose term limits on statewide offices, legislative offices and county and local levels, with individual counties given the choice to adopt or oppose term limits.

(192) Transportation
We support continuation of independent road districts without oversight by county commissioners.

We oppose a tax or fee increase on fuel.

We oppose a tax or fee increase on vehicles.

We support the Idaho Department of Transportation utilizing revenue sources efficiently to maintain and construct Idaho roads.

We support the Idaho Department of Transportation increasing their cost saving efforts.

We support the sales tax collected from vehicles (vehicles, batteries, tires and other general parts) to go to road maintenance.

We support increases in gross weights with axle weights non-changing.

We support any current and potential 129,000 pound Idaho weight limit pilot projects on our state and federal highways.

We support the future legalization of this weight limit becoming permanent law on all state and federal roadways.

We support the continued use of long combination vehicles (LCVs).

We support the Idaho Department of Transportation policy of issuing oversize load permits for Idaho public roads.

We support the continued improvement of Idaho's agricultural roadways.

We support accountability of highway transportation department's engineers for the cost over-runs and/or miscalculations for wrongful designs of highway projects.

We support increasing permit fees on loads exceeding 200,000 GVW to be comparable with fees in surrounding states.

We support the review of current Idaho Transportation Department policies regarding economics of maintenance versus new construction of roadways.

We oppose the removal of the Port of Entry system from the Department of Transportation. Expenses for environmental studies and the expenses required to meet the mandated environmental standards must be calculated and tabulated on an environmental budget and not included in the Highway Construction and Maintenance budget.

We support construction and/or improvement of a North-South Highway to the Canadian border.

(193) Trespass
We support programs to educate the public about private property rights and about trespass laws.

Landowners retain the right to refuse access within the current law.

IDFG shall make a concerted effort to educate hunters about private property rights and the location of private property in their hunting regulations and maps. It is the hunters' responsibility to know where they can hunt and not the landowners' responsibility to mark or post their property.

We support making it unlawful to enter any facility, legally or illegally, to use or attempt to use a camera, video recorder, or any other video or audio recording device without permission from the owner or authorized agent.

We support a law placing the burden of trespass on the trespasser instead of the landowner. 46

(194) Unfunded Mandates
All new laws passed by the legislature that put financial burdens on the counties or cities should be funded by the state.

(195) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs)
We support the commercial use of UAVs for natural resource management.

(196) U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals
We support the division of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals to add a new northwest U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

DUVALL

Continued from page 2

of farming, seem not to care. Instead of respecting our expertise, they produce unworkable regulations that ignore our concerns and trample our rights. The courts and the Government Accountability Office have called out the Environmental Protection Agency for its unlawful advocacy and legal overreach with the Waters of the U.S. rule. Farmers and ranchers can't wait through the years of litigation it may take to resolve this in the courts. We're pleased that Congress has recognized this and joined in the call to ditch the rule. The EPA must draft a new rule that acknowledges our concerns and respects our freedoms.

Free to Innovate

Technology plays a critical role in improving efficiency and reducing our environmental footprint. We are using less pesticide on our crops, farming with fewer acres and using water more efficiently thanks to smarter farm equipment, data services and genetically modified seeds. Emerging technologies like drones and CRISPR gene modification mean we've yet to see the limit of what we can do to make our farms even more efficient and productive.

Scientists, federal agencies and industry leaders all agree that GMOs are safe, but the push for mandatory labeling sends a mixed message to consumers. When it comes to knowing what's in our food, consumers deserve the facts, not scare tactics. We want to have an honest discussion about what biotechnology is and how it's used for everyone's good. It's up to Congress now to create a national, voluntary labeling program that gives farmers and consumers choices.

New Markets Freed Up

America's farmers and ranchers are proud to feed and fuel the world. Our agricultural exports are higher than ever before thanks to important trade agreements that break down barriers like high tariffs and non-scientific restrictions on our food. We have some of the highest quality products available, and our ability to sell American-grown products around the world will keep U.S. agriculture prospering. New trade agreements like the Trans-Pacific Partnership will open up some of the fast-growing markets in the world. AFBF will be working with Congress and the administration this year to move this agreement forward to set a more level playing field for U.S. agriculture.

Of course, these aren't the only issues we're facing in the months ahead. We'll continue to work to help farmers face an uncertain economy, press on for a workable solution to farm labor, and continue working tirelessly to ensure all consumers have access to safe, affordable food, just to name a few.

I'm eager to serve with all of you at the national level and am confident that we'll continue to protect the business of agriculture for future generations. We'll step outside those fencerows and make our voices heard. At Farm Bureau, we've shown time and again that we are stronger when we stand together.

SEARLE

Continued from page 2

internet access, roads and other infrastructure are lacking in many rural counties.

Jobs and commerce that could come from access to renewable resources are in decline or are no longer available. Public lands in the West are largely either being mismanaged due to federal bureaucracy, or unmanaged due to court challenges and other legal entanglement instigated by environmental groups.

All these scenarios create a dearth of hope and lead to rural depopulation, one of the most alarming and overlooked trends in Idaho and other western states. People who have established their livelihoods here are being driven out and young people cannot envision enough opportunity to make them want to stay.

Violence is not a solution and we hope the situation in Oregon doesn't escalate. Many voices are calling on the federal government to bust down the doors and put people in jail. It's fair to question the strategy put in play by these vigilantes, but it's also important to understand that they wouldn't have acted out if they weren't desperately trying to perpetuate their way of life. They have no more patience and federal land managers and politicians need to better understand the situation they have helped create.

Somehow lost in all the media coverage is the tragic case of the Hammond family. The Hammond family are cattle ranchers whose land borders the Malheur National Wildlife Refuge. They started a backfire in 2006, on private land that later burned 127 acres of public land. They started the fire to protect their property from a lightning-caused wildfire. The strategy worked to stop the wildfire but they were later charged and prosecuted as terrorists. The fire burned 127 acres of public land.

Initially, the vigilante group showed up in Harney County, Oregon to support the Hammond's cause. The Hammond family has since denounced the occupation of the bird refuge.

So where to go from here?

We believe that compromise and collaboration are the way forward. If common sense was the only criteria, the land within our state should be turned back to state ownership – the same as it was with every other state that lies east of Colorado. According to studies underwritten by the Idaho Legislature, it's not legally possible or fiscally responsible for Idaho to take over all of the federal land within its borders. It's also evident that public opinion does not support this option.

However, taking back some of the land from the federal government is reasonable. We believe options still exist that can free up natural resources and save our rural way of life. Our task is to uncover those options, flesh them out and move them into the national discourse. Statesmanship is a much better option than armed conflict.

KELLER

Continued from page 2

ent governments and their conflicting regulations) depleted hard-earned profits, each disaster often beyond their personal control or influence.

He congratulated the graduates for their diligence in their studies but then, in fatherly wisdom, counseled that book and school education was only the beginning of their learning. He then counseled each to embrace the 10,000 hours of practice principle.

In the book *Outliers*, author Malcolm Gladwell says that it takes roughly ten thousand hours of practice to achieve mastery in a field. Gladwell studied the lives of extremely successful people to find out how they achieved success. In the early 1990s, a team of psychologists in Germany studied violin students. Specifically, they studied their practice habits in childhood, adolescence, and adulthood. All of the violinists began playing at roughly five years of age with similar practice times. However, at age eight, practice times began to diverge. By age twenty, the elite performers averaged more than 10,000 hours of practice each, while the less able performers had only 4,000 hours of practice. The elite had more than double the practice hours of the less capable performers.

One fascinating point of the study: No "naturally gifted" performers emerged. If natural talent had played a role, the authors would expect some of the "naturals" to float to the top of the elite level with fewer practice hours than everyone else. But the data showed otherwise. The psychologists found a direct statistical relationship between hours of practice and achievement. No shortcuts. No naturals.

Gladwell then identified examples of those who exemplified the 10,000 hour practice, such as Bill Gates, Steve Jobs, and even the rock band, the Beatles. Gladwell concluded that the elite don't just work harder than everybody else. At some point the elites fall in love with practice to the point where they want to do little else. The elites are in love with what they do, and at some point it no longer feels like work.

The Farm Bureau policies included in this issue are developed by agriculturists who have tenured at least 10,000 hours in their chosen profession. They have seen the boom and the bust. They have experienced government's help and harm. They have learned from their own experiences and also have suffered from the experiences of others. Their learning is both scholastic and practical. They know from which they speak, for they have lived it. Knowing from whom Farm Bureau policy is developed aids in its understanding. Their 10,000 hours of practice is the core of Farm Bureau's sound policies. We should all exhibit the 10,000 hours of practice in our own lives and use the developed talents in bettering our lives and the lives of others.

WORD SEARCH: THINK ABOUT SAFETY IN THESE AREAS

A	M	K	E	H	F	O	O	D	S	R	E	W	O	M	W	L
N	L	W	R	B	I	C	Y	C	L	E	K	T	H	F	A	O
O	T	L	O	S	R	D	K	P	L	C	N	N	F	C	T	O
S	U	D	T	L	E	B	D	A	S	E	K	O	I	S	E	T
S	P	E	C	E	F	G	C	E	M	G	E	M	R	F	R	D
E	W	T	A	S	R	I	T	P	N	K	E	R	E	M	E	N
R	D	O	R	M	R	R	I	N	A	H	H	L	A	R	P	A
T	A	U	T	T	W	U	A	T	C	R	A	W	R	Y	T	H
S	O	R	C	Y	Q	G	R	I	P	A	S	Z	M	D	O	F
T	R	E	G	E	L	E	O	K	N	G	N	P	A	M	B	M
A	L	P	M	L	W	R	A	R	D	V	H	A	E	R	P	N
E	I	R	P	O	T	M	D	W	H	B	E	A	L	K	D	U
H	A	O	P	L	K	S	W	H	S	W	L	H	D	S	T	S
F	R	P	T	R	W	C	A	B	N	O	P	Y	I	R	F	M
G	R	A	I	N	R	N	Y	A	N	I	M	A	L	C	N	L
P	R	N	O	S	I	O	P	E	S	R	E	D	D	A	L	P
K	M	E	R	B	L	H	I	G	H	V	O	L	T	A	G	E

All-Terrain Vehicle
Animal
Bicycle
Canals
Chemical
Detour
Electrical
Farm Equipment
Fire
Firearm
Food
Germs
Grain
Hand Tool
Heat Stress
Hidden Hazards
High Voltage
Home Alone
Knife
Ladders
Mowers
Poison
Power Take-Off (PTO)
Propane
Railroad
Roadway
Sun
Tractor
Water

ANSWERS ON PAGE 34

Photo by Steve Ritter

Focus on Agriculture

On the Farm, Labor = Work

By Katie Heger

People are needed to keep a farm running. From repair tasks to driving machinery and checking crops—there's no shortage of work to be done. Seems simple right? But farm work is real labor. It's not easy. The job doesn't include an ergonomic chair, cubicle, scheduled vacation or sick days. Farm work requires long days in often undesirable weather conditions and comes with an unpredictable schedule. It requires ongoing training, knowledge of crops and how they grow, plus many hours of twisting, turning, bending, climbing, shoveling and heavy lifting. There's no way around it: It is labor and most Americans do not want to do it.

Our farm has run into a worker shortage for the past 13 years. We advertise in local papers and spread the word through our neighbors. We have offered bonuses and additional benefits, but get minimal response. We have been unable to hire any of the people who respond, and we are left each year looking to hire qualified foreign seasonal labor through the H2A, ag worker visa program, and the H2B visa program.

When I reflect on the process, all I can say is that it is cumbersome, untimely, expensive, uncertain, and ultimately lacks an understanding of agriculture and our labor needs. Over the years, the amount of personal, business and farm production information we have to present to prove our need for labor increases. But the speed of getting visas cleared does not. The time frame for approval and having an employee arrive and ready to work has become unmanageable and costly. We start the application process months in advance, adhere to dates and guidelines requested and then wait for someone at the Department of Labor—with little to no knowledge of farming in my region—to approve, deny or delay a request. We have had employees arrive anywhere from three days to one month after the date we needed them. This simply doesn't work. We cannot run a business without people to help get the work done. When our employees arrive significantly late, our time frame for training to ensure safety procedures are followed is condensed, and our ability to get a crop planted and cared for is hindered.

The H2A worker program has faults. For example, the workers are only able to work

See FOCUS ON AG, page 31

INSURANCE MATTERS

MIKE MYERS — *Farm Bureau Mutual Insurance Co. of Idaho*

Texting and Driving Kills 11 U.S. Teens Per Day

As any parent will attest to, raising kids is challenging enough before they even think about driving an automobile. From baby gates and crib bumpers to dating and peer pressures, you've spent the last 15 years protecting your child and teaching them everything you know to keep them safe and healthy.

Once your teenager gets behind the wheel, you can't always be there to help them make the right decision. This is why it's important to educate your teen on the dangers of driving while using a mobile device.

National Highway Transportation Safety Administration (NHTSA) research found that texting causes drivers to take their eyes off the road for 4.8 seconds over a six-second interval. That means at 65 miles per hour, a texting driver would travel almost one-and-a-half football fields without looking at the road, essentially driving blind. That driver's brake reaction is reduced by 18 percent and they are 23 times more likely to get in an accident.

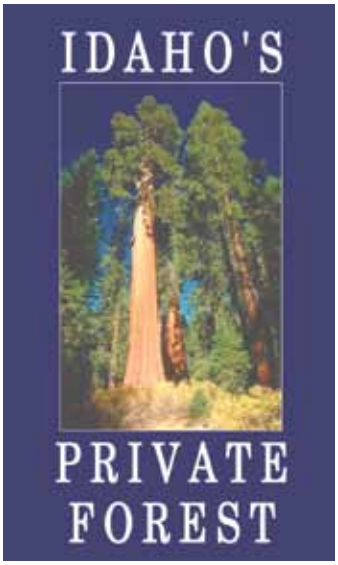
Know: texting and driving is illegal in Idaho. Not only is it dangerous, it's punishable by fine. Texting (or even reading a text) at a stoplight or stop sign is still considered a distraction. You must be off the road to text.

In fact, according to NHTSA, texting while driving is an equivalent impairment to drinking four beers. The newly-formed urban term "intextication" refers to just that.

Texting while driving is dangerous at any age, but a 2013 AAA survey reported that 60 percent of America's driving teenagers said they had texted or emailed while driving. 26 percent admitted to surfing the internet on their mobile device while driving. 97 percent of these teens recognized the dangers but "did it anyway".

According to a study by Cohen Children's Medical Center, texting while driving is

See TEXTING AND DRIVING, page 31



Deer and Elk Damage to Tree Seedlings

By Chris Schnepf

Most forest owners value deer and elk on their property. However, these animals can be a problem in new tree plantings. Deer and elk can kill or injure tree seedlings by eating buds and succulent new growth or pulling seedlings from the ground. Browse damage stifles seedling growth and ultimately increases reforestation costs. This situation is often worse in places where these animals tend to congregate and conifer seedlings are the only green thing in the area (often winter range).

Distinguishing Deer and Elk damage

Many animals can injure tree seedlings. Deer and elk damage is often higher off the ground than that caused by other animals. Deer and elk also leave a ragged, splintered break, because they grasp foliage between their lower incisors and the upper palate. Hares, porcupines and pocket gophers leave a clean 45 degree angle clip. Mice usually girdle a seedling (chew the bark off) rather than clip. Pocket gophers girdle seedlings too). The only time deer and elk damage is easily confused with other damage is when new succulent growth is consumed.

Deer and elk damage can be hard to predict. Damage is usually worse on sites next to standing timber, which provides cover. Look for signs that deer are present in the area when their preferred grasses and woody shrubs are unavailable (usually during late winter or early spring). Ask neighbors and local natural resource professionals about deer damage in your area. If deer damage seems likely, many prevention tools are available, with varying degrees of effectiveness for different situations.

Fencing deer and elk out of a plantation with tall mesh or electric fences is the most consistently effective browse prevention method. However, it is usually only cost effective for high value plantations - seed orchards, woody ornamentals, etc. Also, you may want deer in the plantation, for their own sake or to reduce competing vegetation.

Mechanical devices can be effective until seedlings grow out of them. Rigid tubes (Vexar, Tree shelters, Tubex, etc.) staked with the seedling are the most commonly used method to prevent browse in Idaho reforestation plantings. Tubes must be well staked so they remain upright (many people use two stakes per tube). Tubes should also be checked in the spring to re-stake tubes knocked down by winter snow.

Plastic nets and bud caps are often used in the eastern U.S. and coast, but haven't been effective here. Deer often pull these devices off, and flexible nets may constrict terminal

Rigid plastic tubes prevent deer damage to seedlings.
Photo by Chris Schnepf

growth if they are improperly applied or maintained.

All of these devices usually biodegrade within 5 - 10 years, unless they are shaded.

Repellents come in three types. Contact repellents (ex: Hot pepper sauce, Thiram, Big Game Repellent, Deer Away, Hinder) are applied directly to plants and repel by taste (some also repel by smell). They are the most commonly used type of repellent for reforestation plantings here. Area repellants are applied near plants, hung in bags, or other methods and repel by smell. Some are synthetic (ex: Animal Browse Control, bone tar oil). Others can be lumped into a "home brew" category (ex: human hair, mothballs, blood meal, soap, putrefied meat scraps, big cat feces).

There has also been some research with systemic repellants, which are absorbed through seedling roots. Unfortunately most of the trials with these substances have either been ineffective, or poisoned tree seedlings.

Repellant effects often last less than three months. However, repellents may condition browsers to shy away from seedlings even after the active ingredient has dissipated. Where practical, visually remind animals what repelled them with bright ribbons, colors, or distinctive shapes. Be sure to follow manufacturers label instructions closely.

Some have tried planting forbs and grasses in or near plantations to attract deer or elk away from trees. Such plantings must be "ready to eat" when deer would otherwise be damaging seedlings. Thorough under-

See UI FORESTRY, page 33

Deer leave a ragged, splintered break.
USDA photo

FOCUS ON AG

Continued from page 26

for nine months. This presents a problem for us since we farm year-round: preparing soil, planting, caring for the crops, harvesting, and hauling our crop to point of sale. Another issue with the program is that we are not guaranteed to be approved for hiring year after year, and even if we are approved, we do not know if we will be able to hire the same employees back. This causes a lot of stress and uncertainty. We can't afford to not know who will be on our workforce. Initial training, orientation and licensing take a lot of time. Time we can't afford to take away from running our business. A revised ag worker visa program is desperately needed and needs to include options for year-round employment, renewability of employment, and should account for reasonable wages, manageable expenses and additional benefits like housing, transportation and meals. Foreign labor is not just a need for select states or specific sectors of farming: it is a need for all. I begin my farm's journey into 2016, hopeful that change will be made and that we will be able to hire a dependable, willing workforce.

Katie Heger, dedicated advocate for agriculture, blogs at hegerfamilyfarms.wordpress.com and shares at Heger Farms on Facebook. Katie and her husband farm corn, soybeans and wheat in central North Dakota.

TEXTING & DRIVING

Continued from page 27

now the leading cause of death among teenagers. Teens are especially vulnerable to distractions while driving and are more likely than other age groups to be involved in a fatal crash where distraction is reported. On average, eleven teens die every day in the US as a result of texting while driving.

While your teen may have aced the Driver's Ed course, and be able to recite the rules of the road, it's important to take the time to make sure they really understand the risks of driving while distracted. Have them review the tips below and be sure to always set a good example by following these yourself.

Turn the ringer/notification sound off before starting the car. This will limit the temptation of answering calls or texts.

Keep your cell phone in the glove compartment or in the back seat while driving.

Install an app that prevents texting & driving. These apps monitor the phone's ground speed and disable the texting function when the phone is in motion.

If you need to place or take a call, pull over to a safe place, preferably a parking lot or rest stop.

UI FORESTRY

Continued from page 29

standing of local deer herds and feeding habits is critical for this approach. This method can backfire if you attract more deer and elk to the area than you can feed – the hungry ones will move on to your tree seedlings.

Planting stock selection can influence browse damage. Some species bounce back from browse better than others. For example, Douglas-fir and larch have internodal buds that can promptly form a new leader. Larger seedlings (if practical) have more resources to sustain and grow past damage. Some landowners opt to overplant seedlings, however this may require more costly pre-commercial thinning later, if everything survives.

All these methods vary considerably in their effectiveness and cost, depending on the unique site, and availability of more desirable browse. Think carefully about which tool or combination of tools will work best for your situation. Study the costs of different browse prevention strategies relative to the likely cost of damage. Tubes may seem expensive, but how much would it cost to replant seedlings?

Try to integrate deer browse prevention with other pest management efforts. For example, burying the bottom of rigid mesh tubes (Vexar) into the soil an inch or so when planting can also help prevent pocket gopher and mice damage as well.

Some tree species must be protected. Deer and elk love to browse on western redcedar seedlings, especially those which are fresh from the seedling nursery. If you decide to experiment with hardwood trees, such as black cherry or maples, they must also be protected.

The Internet Center for Wildlife Damage "Prevention and Control of Wildlife Damage Handbook" (http://icwdm.org/handbook/index.aspx) has some excellent, research-based publications on all manners of vertebrate wildlife that damage trees, crops or livestock, including deer and elk. Many of their publications go into great detail about the biology and ecology of these species, so you can fine tune strategies to minimize damage to your seedlings.

Most landowners enjoy seeing deer and elk on their property. These animals can cause serious damage to tree seedlings, but with a little forethought and planning you can accommodate both!

Note: Mention or a display of a trademark, proprietary product, or firm in text or figures does not constitute an endorsement by the US Department of Agriculture or University of Idaho Extension, and does not imply approval to the exclusion of other suitable products or firms.

Chris Schnepf is an area extension educator – forestry – for the University of Idaho in Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai and Benewah counties. He can be reached at cschnepf@uidaho.edu

WORD SEARCH

ANSWERS from page 25

A	M	K	E	H	F	O	O	D	S	R	E	W	O	M	W	L
N	L	W	R	B	I	C	Y	C	L	E	K	T	H	F	A	O
O	T	L	O	S	R	D	K	P	L	C	N	N	F	C	T	O
S	U	D	T	L	E	B	D	A	S	E	K	O	I	S	E	T
S	P	E	C	E	F	G	C	E	M	G	E	M	R	F	R	D
E	W	T	A	S	R	I	T	P	N	K	E	R	E	M	E	N
R	D	O	R	M	R	R	I	N	A	H	H	L	A	R	P	A
T	A	U	T	T	W	U	A	T	C	R	A	W	R	Y	T	H
S	O	R	C	Y	O	G	R	I	P	A	S	Z	M	D	O	F
T	R	E	G	E	L	E	O	K	N	G	N	P	A	M	B	M
A	L	P	M	L	W	R	A	R	D	V	H	A	E	R	P	N
E	I	R	P	O	T	M	D	W	H	B	E	A	L	K	D	U
H	A	O	P	L	K	S	W	H	S	W	L	H	D	S	T	S
F	R	P	T	R	W	C	A	B	N	O	P	Y	I	R	F	M
G	R	A	I	N	R	N	Y	A	N	I	M	A	L	C	N	L
P	R	N	O	S	I	O	P	E	S	R	E	D	D	A	L	P
K	M	E	R	B	L	H	I	G	H	V	O	L	T	A	G	E

All-Terrain Vehicle
Animal
Bicycle
Canals
Chemical
Detour
Electrical
Farm Equipment
Fire
Firearm
Food
Germs
Grain
Hand Tool
Heat Stress
Hidden Hazards
High Voltage
Home Alone
Knife
Ladders
Mowers
Poison
Power Take-Off (PTO)
Propane
Railroad
Roadway
Sun
Tractor
Water

Zippy Duvall and Scott VanderWal

Farm Bureau Elects New Leaders

ORLANDO, FLORIDA, January 12, 2016 – Delegates at the 97th American Farm Bureau Federation Annual Convention elected Zippy Duvall of Georgia as president and Scott VanderWal of South Dakota as vice president for two-year terms.

Delegates elected seven state Farm Bureau presidents to the AFBF board of directors: Carl Bednarski, Michigan; Rich Felts, Kansas (Midwest Region), Harry Ott, South Carolina; Jeff Aiken, Tennessee; Gerald Long, Georgia (Southern Region), Rick Ebert, Pennsylvania (Northeast Region) and Bryce Wrigley, Alaska (Western Region).

Eleven other state Farm Bureau presidents were re-elected to represent their regions on the AFBF board of directors: Jim Holte, Wisconsin; Blake Hurst, Missouri; Steve Nelson, Nebraska (Midwest Region), Mark Haney, Kentucky; John Hoblick, Florida; Mike McCormick, Mississippi; Jimmy Parnell, Alabama; Wayne Pryor, Virginia; Randy Veach, Arkansas (Southern Region), Ryck Suydam, New Jersey (Northeast Region) and Hank Combs, Nevada (Western Region).

Denise "Denny" Hymel of Louisiana, Joan Myers of Pennsylvania, Lillian Ostendorf of Montana and Deb Walsh of Indiana were re-elected to two-year terms on the Women's Leadership Committee.

Cole Coxbill, a cattle rancher and crop grower from Wyoming, was elected the new chair of the AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers Committee, which also makes him a member of the AFBF board of directors during his one-year term.

Farm Bureau members will gather for the 98th AFBF Annual Convention and IDEAg Trade Show, Jan. 6-10, 2017, in Phoenix, Arizona.

TVWU Explains Irrigation Concerns

By Clinton Pline

In the January Gem State Producer, Lynn Tominaga criticized Treasure Valley Water Users for opposing the State of Idaho's assertion that we have no right to store water after water is released from the Boise River reservoirs for flood control.

Mr. Tominaga irresponsibly suggests that reservoir operators have a "free hand" to "release any amount of water they see fit," without considering "how to balance flood control and irrigation storage rights." He suggests there is a conflict between flood control and storage that should be resolved by subordinating Treasure Valley storage rights. Mr. Tominaga is completely wrong.

Unlike the Upper Snake and Payette River Basins, the relationship between flood control and storage in the Boise River reservoirs was resolved over 60 years ago through a congressionally approved reservoir operating plan that was collaboratively developed by the Bureau of Reclamation, the Corps of Engineers, the State of Idaho and Treasure Valley water users to provide desperately needed storage water and flood protection.

The "spill and fill" operating plan requires open reservoir space during the winter and spring to capture peak runoff and control releases from Lucky Peak Dam to prevent flooding. Water cannot be stored in these "flood control spaces," and must be released before it can be used. This is the "spill" portion of the plan. As runoff declines, less flood control space is required, and the reservoirs are safely filled for irrigation and other uses. This is the "fill" portion of the plan.

The plan by no means gives reservoir operators a "free hand" to release water. The plan requires reservoir operators to use runoff forecasts and "rule curves" developed with IDWR's assistance to schedule reservoir releases to maintain the prescribed balance between flood control space and water storage during flood control season (November to June).

The operating plan provides high levels of assurance that flooding will be prevented, and the reservoirs will be filled to meet the Treasure Valley's water supply needs. The plan could not have been approved without assuring that flood control operations will not impair Treasure Valley storage rights. And without the plan, the Treasure Valley would be subject to devastating flooding.

After the plan was updated in 1985, IDWR Director Higginson explained that it "contains new rule curves and procedures aimed at providing greater flood protection through early season operations and increased assurance of refill for irrigation during the late runoff season." "We feel that the new manual responds well to current conditions on the Boise River and provides a balance between flood protection and refill of storage."

Now, the State disregards the operating plan, saying that Treasure Valley water users must fill the reservoirs first to store water under our storage rights, leaving no open space to capture peak runoff and prevent flooding. According to the State, flood control releases count against our storage rights, so we have no right to store the water that subsequently fills the reservoirs. This "fill and spill" philosophy is the opposite of the plan's carefully crafted balance between flood control and storage.

No water user would have agreed to the plan if flood control releases were to be counted against our storage rights. The State's position penalizes Treasure Valley water users for flood control, and subjects the reservoir operating plan and our storage rights to needless doubt, confusion and controversy.

The Snake River Basin Adjudication Special Master who recently rejected the state's position, explained that, "the state's legal theory essentially makes the priority (of storage rights) meaningless in a flood control year. Without the ability to capture the water in the Boise River reservoirs, under a protectable water right, and store such captured water until such time as the same may be used, the Bureau and water users are left with little to no means to ensure that the water historically used for beneficial purposes can continue to be used in the future."

Clinton Pline

Mr. Tominaga incorrectly suggests that storing water in the Boise River Reservoirs after flood control releases violates a so-called "one fill rule" - a phrase IDWR Director Higginson coined for the Upper Snake River reservoir system to address concerns that eastern Idaho water users were exceeding their rights by storing and using water multiple times. It should be obvious that the policy cannot be applied to water released for flood control that Treasure Valley water users are not allowed to store or use.

Treasure Valley water users do not seek multiple fills and uses of storage water rights as Mr. Tominaga suggests. We seek only what the federal government and the State of Idaho assured us over 60 years ago: that flood prevention will not adversely impact Treasure Valley storage rights, and that water will be stored during flood control season for irrigation and other beneficial uses in accordance with the reservoir operating plan.

Clinton Pline is president of the Treasure Valley Water Users Association, a regional organization whose members consist of irrigation delivery entities, farming organizations and individual operations, homeowners, area businesses and other water users in the Boise River Basin, spanning some 350,000 acres from Boise to Parma.

Consumers

Social Media Connects Farmers and Consumers

Finding common ground between farm families and consumers is easier than ever thanks to social media.

How You Can Connect

FoodDialogues.com

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American Farm Bureau on Facebook (facebook.com/AmericanFarmBureau) and Twitter (@FarmBureau)

Real Farmwives of America and Friends (facebook.com/TheRealFarmwivesofAmerica) on Facebook

#AgChat on Twitter

Did You Know?

About ***8 percent*** of U.S. farms market foods locally, through direct-to-consumer or intermediated sales (farmers' markets, food hubs, etc.). Farmers' markets are great places to talk to those who grow or produce fresh fruits and veggies, flowers, meats, cheeses, baked goods and other value-added foods. Look for a farmers' market in your state: **farmersmarkets.usda.gov/**.

Sources: AFBF; ERS

Innovators Combine Hydroponics and Aquaculture

Article and photos by Paige Nelson

With increasing consumer interest regarding food production and the advancing idea of sustainability, the art of gardening has been revisited by many.

Urban rooftop gardens, community plot gardens, backyard gardens, they all exist as alternative food sources for people interested in decreasing their dependence on the grocery store. However, these types of gardens are limited in their production as they typically only grow fruits, vegetables and herbs.

However, an emerging gardening method, aquaponics, may be the answer to providing fruits, veggies and protein to gung-ho gardeners.

Gene Weller is a biology professor at Brigham Young University-Idaho. For the past 10 years, Weller has used aquaponics in his instruction.

The raising/growing of fish in a controlled environment is commonly referred to as aquaculture. The raising/growing of plants in a non-soil medium is called hydroponics. When the fish wastewater is pumped through the hydroponics system, the marriage of the two can be called aquaponics.

Weller says the goal with his aquaponics system is about co-production.

"When you raise fish in high concentrations, you get water with a lot of nitrogen in it. That's the most needed nutrient for plant growth, and it's a very expensive fertilizer," he said.

Ron and Becky Rhead produce vegetables and tilapia in an aquaponics system at their home in Jefferson County.

"I just thought, 'Wow that would be kind of cool if you could tag team those two (fish and plants) together and involve some students and see what they learn from it.'"

So, that's just what he did. Weller built his aquaponics system as a one-way water flow. The rich fish water is pumped from two 250-gallon fish tanks, treated for harmful bacteria, given additional fertilizer and filtered through the hydroponics system but does not circulate back into the fish tank.

Weller chose to use a one-way water system for water purity and plant cleanliness.

To begin, Weller stocks his two tanks with about 40 tilapia each. He chose tilapia because if they were ever released into a river or pond system, they wouldn't survive Idaho's weather conditions.

At about two pounds the tilapia reach maximum size for the tank and Weller begins pulling individuals.

Because he is constrained to less than a semester-long growing season, he chooses to grow micro greens, a combination of kale, cauliflower and cabbage.

"For students, we can grow those in a three-week cycle, and that works well for a semester-long system," he notes.

Weller's botany students get to see firsthand the difference the fish water makes in growing speed. Their experiment has three steps, he explains. The control is plain water.

"[The students] can see how well plants grow in just plain water, and they don't grow very well at all because there are no nutrients in it for them."

Next comes straight fish water, high in nitrogen but low in other key plant nutrients.

"The water in the fish tank isn't some sort of miracle solution that grows everything," he clarifies. "You have to start off with a basic balanced fertilizer and then you're adding fish water to it."

The next step for the students is

Melding aquaculture with hydroponics has yielded good results for Ron and Becky Rhead, who live near Rigby.

adding a balanced fertilizer to the fish water and watching for changes in the plants.

Knowing how much additional fertilizer to use is based on an average of the nitrogen levels in the water. Two to three times a year Weller tests his fish water, then bases fertilizer estimates on those numbers.

Because he already had access to BYU-Idaho's greenhouse, Weller says his system only cost $700 to $800 to build. But he also builds most of the parts himself. For instance, he says, his hydroponics system is made from vinyl fence posts rather than the more traditional plastic pipe.

Overall, Weller says it isn't an overly expensive system to operate, but he clarifies that, like gardening at home, aquaponics won't save money in the long haul.

Most of all, the aquaponics system allows Weller to work with growing organisms like fish and plants, and he enjoys seeing the "gee whiz" response in his students as they learn.

Another eastern Idaho aquaponics pioneer Ron Rhead and his wife, Becky, of Rigby, Idaho view the practice as a tool for educating their children, but also as a well-rounded food source for their family.

Two years ago, the Rheads invested in their first greenhouse aquaponics system.

Ron says, "With 12 children and 45 grandchildren I was looking at avenues of self-reliance to help our family in case that proverbial time of collapse came. I also wanted to have a system that would not only grow vegetables and herbs but provide a protein source, that's renewable."

Today, their greenhouse sits in the backyard where it has the ability to produce both plants and fish year-round.

Like Weller, Ron has chosen to use tilapia in his system because they grow faster.

"You can get about six inches on a trout in about a year. With tilapia, you can go from four inches to 12-14 inches in nine months if you feed them good and keep the water temperature up. With tilapia you have to keep the water above 65 degrees," he explains.

Ron's aquaponics system is continuous circulating flow, meaning after the plants have been watered, the water flows back into the fish tank. The fish water is pumped into grow beds made from 50 gallon barrels cut in half lengthwise and filled with pea gravel.

Deposited in the gravel is a concentration of bacteria and red worms, which form a symbiotic relationship with the plants. According to Ron, the fish waste enters the grow box as ammonia. One type of bacteria converts the ammonia to a nitrite. Another bacteria convert the nitrite into a nitrate, which is basically nitrogen that the plants can then absorb.

Rheads operate their grow boxes on a 24/7 fill-and-drain system. For 10 minutes the grow box fills with water. Then, using what Ron calls a bell siphon, for a minute and a half the grow box drains.

Living in eastern Idaho's cottonwood belt is a challenge for the Rheads. Direct hours of sunlight are about 8-9 hours. To compensate for less sunlight, the Rheads aligned their greenhouse in harmony with the solstices of each season. This allows for optimum available sunlight with minimal heat loss. Ron uses a one-pound of

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AQUACULTURE

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fish per one square foot of grow box ratio. He says that is the rule of thumb for most situations. He also keeps a one fish per five gallons of water ratio in his tank.

For fish care, Ron emphasizes the need for a constant oxygen supply.

"Oxygen is critical. Two large air stones in the tank run all the time. The fish are very active which indicates that the oxygen level is good. If the power goes out, we have a battery converter backup system which turns on automatically, providing oxygen for the fish." he said.

Once a season, Ron drains and disinfects the entire piping system, not including the fish tank or the grow boxes. He says by maintaining a rigorous cleaning schedule he can avoid bacteria buildup in the pipes and avoid disease carryover.

Another regular item on the greenhouse housekeeping agenda is pest control. Because the water recycles through the grow beds back into the fish tanks "we are careful to use all non-toxic products for fish health and safety. We also use ladybugs. We put about 5,000 ladybugs in the greenhouse this spring," states Ron.

During the winter months, the Rheads use a rocket stove to fuel the underground heating system, generating heat from the ground up. If outside temperatures drop below 30 degrees, a daily fire will maintain temperature throughout the day. For bitter cold days, tank heaters in the fish tank maintain the 65-degree water. Harvesting the fish by November and buying young ones in the spring allows the Rheads to shut down their system during the coldest months.

Gardening outside in tandem with the aquaponics has given the Rheads a chance to compare growth rates between the two gardening techniques. They have concluded the aquaponics system grows significantly faster in the greenhouse than the plants grown solely in outdoors hydroponic grow boxes.

They have learned along the way however, which plants are better grown in the soil altogether.

"Some plants don't grow well in high-nitrate or nitrogen situations such as root crops like carrots and beets. Plants such as the greens, herbs, onions, tomatoes, flowers and strawberries do very well with the aquaponics system. We have grown tomatoes as high as 8 feet tall," Ron reports.

For those interested in learning more about aquaponics, Ron offers this advice, "Ask yourself what is the why? What am I trying to accomplish? Then educate yourself on what you are doing."

For more information contact Weller at WELLERG@byui.edu or Ron at ronrhead@gmail.com.

$500 Farm Bureau Rebate

Idaho Farm Bureau Program With General Motors

Eligible Farm Bureau members in Idaho can receive a $500 rebate on each qualifying 2015, or 2016 model year Chevrolet, GMC, or Buick vehicle they purchase or lease. This Farm Bureau member exclusive is offered for vehicles purchased or leased at participating dealerships through Farm Bureau's—GM PRIVATE OFFER at a participating GM dealership. Members simply go to **www.fbverify.com**, enter their Farm Bureau membership number (i.e. 123456-01) and zip code, and print off a certificate to take to the dealership. Discount must be processed at time of purchase. To qualify for the offer, individuals must have been a Farm Bureau member for at least 30 days prior to the date of delivery of the vehicle selected. The Farm Bureau discount is stackable with some incentives and non-stackable with others. See dealership for full details or call Joel at (208) 239-4289.

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CLASSIFIEDS

Animals

Dog Kennel. Chain link. 3 sides w/gate. Chain link can be added to 4th side. 6'x9'. $150.00. Pocatello, Id 208-251-6937.

AQHA Registered stallion, Grullo, Foundation bred. Great conformation and disposition. $350 breeding fee + mare care. For more info call (208) 880-5363.

Registered Angus and Salers bulls for sale. Two years old in April. Calving ease bloodlines. Starting at $3500. Delivery possible. Will be semen and trich tested. 208-347-2345

Farm Equipment

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J.D.4430 tractor with duals and front weights. 10,150 hours, good condition. Hazelton, ID 208-731-4181

New Squeeze chute, green, hand pull, $1,300. Midvale, Id 208-355-3780.

Balewagons: New Holland self-propelled or pull-type models. Also interested in buying balewagons. Will consider any model. Call Jim Wilhite at 208-880-2889 anytime

Three point, arena maintainer. Like new 5.5' ABI - TR3 with optional hydraulic top link, optional rock teeth and a full set of replacement scarifier tips. Bought new in 2010 but used very little, so it looks like new. Paid $4700.00, delivered to Kuna. Taking offers. 208-867-8240

Farm King 4 inch x 16 foot hydraulic grain auger with brackets and spout $500. Potlatch, Idaho 208-301-1472

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Camelina meal, a natural high protein/omega 3 feed grown and processed in eastern Idaho. Fed to any animal it improves their overall health/productivity. For information and prices for Truck load, 1300# tote, 50#, or 5#' bags. Call/text 307-413-2791.

Pasture grass for sale - $150/ton - 75 lb 2-string bales or 3X4 bales. You haul. Swan Valley, ID. Call - 208-483-2305.

Household

Two antique legal size four drawer file cabinets and a matching shelf cabinet. Built around 1900 and are made of solid oak. Made by Sole Library Bureau. Asking $1,200 for the set of three or make an offer. Salmon, ID. Phone 208-339-0476.

Pioneer 55" HD TV - Older cabinet model. Very nice. Sold As-Is Condition. $200. Pioneer Receiver - Used. As-Is condition. $75. Shelley. Call 528-5337.

Miscellaneous

Maytag wringer washer, still like new, barely used although about 50 yrs old. Pocatello, ID 208-238-7547

Saddle - Brahma by Tex Tan of Yoakum, 14" Rawhide tree, excellent condition, complete. Twin Falls, Id 208-731-3246.

New Sharper Image SOGO white Hover Board. Normally retails for $550 will sacrifice for $429. Reason for sale - California will not allow riders to be under 16 years of age and granddaughter is only 10. 208-731-6306

Woodmaster outdoor wood stove for sale. Sits outside and heats your home, hot water, shop or barn. Works well with small homes or large homes. Safe and efficient way to heat your home. Easy to install. John 208-781-0691.

Real Estate/Acreage

Cedar Hills Condo in Pocatello - Aspen model, 2 bedroom, 1.5 bath, completely remodeled floor to ceiling in 2014. All new decks, front and back. Unfinished basement, a blank slate. Call 406-570-5878

Small acres in desert wanted in Idaho or Nevada, no power - water. 208-358-7475.

Small cabin, $30,000. Natural gas, claw foot tub, city water and sewer. Large corner lot with second set city utilities. Excellent local hunting, fishing and recreations. Bovill, ID. 208-669-2138

Lot for Sale - 3/4 Acre Country Lot. City water, Gas, Utilities. $25,000. Shelley. Call 528-5337.

Real Estate/Acreage

Nice horse or whatever facilities in Richfield, Id. 3.7 acres. Gravity flow irrigation. 3 bedroom house, office, large family room, attached garage. Barn with panel corrals, outbuildings. 40x80 shop. Lots of large trees. $200,000. 208-320-3502.

Vehicles

2014 Nissan Sentra, Like new, 22,000 miles, great gas mileage. Twin Falls, ID Call 208-420-9195.

1975 International farm truck 1700 Loadstar with good Harsh hoist, 392 v-8, grain and stock racks, good rubber. $2500. Potlatch, Idaho 208-301-1472

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Older camp trailer wanted. 50s rounded style, up to 15, 16 long. Just retired and need a project. Prefer no water damage and will consider all available. Please call 208-865-2100 and leave a message if I don't answer.

Paying cash for German & Japanese war relics/souvenirs! Pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, flags, scopes, optical equipment, uniforms, helmets, machine guns (ATF rules apply) medals, flags, etc. 549-3841 (evenings) or 208-405-9338.

Old License Plates Wanted: Also key chain license plates, old signs, light fixtures. Will pay cash. Please email, call or write. Gary Peterson, 130 E Pecan, Genesee, Id 83832. gearlep@gmail.com. 208-285-1258

Paying cash for old cork top bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

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