



Trail News

March 7th, 2019

From the

Meeteetse Conservation District

www.meeteetse-conservey.net

P.O. Box 237 • 1906 State Street • Meeteetse, WY 82433

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EXTREME COLD: Northern Plains & Midwest

On-going extreme cold along with wind will spread over the Northern Plains into early March. Near record cold temperatures are very likely. Sub-zero temperatures are not common in March. Above average precipitation chances will add to the difficulties. Check local NWS offices for more current information: www.weather.gov. **PLEASE PROCEED WITH CAUTION:** The USDA and NOAA partnered to provide information about a cold front expected to move through the Northern Plains and Midwest March 6 – 10 – the information includes potential impacts to agricultural producers. [Click here to view the information](#), and please share with others as you see appropriate. Make note of details such as reminding producers to document calving/new livestock losses for the USDA FSA Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). [Click here to learn more about the LIP program](#), including eligibility. **LIVESTOCK:** Continue to closely monitor livestock health, feed and water availability throughout the event. Provide shelter/wind breaks where possible. Livestock have increased energy needs during extreme cold. Calving/new livestock obviously is the largest risk. But be sure to maintain records of losses to document losses for LIP. Monitor water sources; under

extreme cold water can quickly freeze limiting access. Similar actions should apply to other farm animals/pets. **HUMANS:** Be aware of ongoing stress from additional workload working outside managing livestock. Rest/seek help whenever possible. **HUMANS:** People who need to be out for any length of time, make sure all precautions are taken. Despite being late winter, temperatures are still going to be very severe. Many roads are still difficult to access in rural areas. **WATER:** Continue to monitor water lines to houses and livestock operations. Consistent cold has driven frost depths to 3-5' in places. Depth could go slightly deeper through the end of winter. **SNOW:** Begin preparations for snow melt and wet conditions. Cold will delay snow melt. Snow melt is likely to lead to significant runoff and muddy conditions. **OUTLOOK:** Overall cold is still likely into mid-March. • Precipitation chances are slightly above average for this same time. • Monitor outlooks for additional information – including possible larger storm events. • Check with local extension staff for more detailed agricultural support.



BILL INTRODUCED TO PERMANENTLY DE-LIST GRIZZLIES

In response to a joint resolution of Wyoming's House and Senate, Wyoming Senator Mike Enzi and Congresswoman Liz Cheney last week introduced a bill into the US Congress that would permanently de-list the grizzly bear. On February 15th, the Wyoming State Legislature adopted House Joint Resolution 1, which requests congressional action to delist the grizzly bear in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem. The Governor signed the bill on February 19th. Cheney and Enzi issued statements last week regarding their support for the Grizzly Bear State Management Act, which directs the Department of the Interior to re-issue its delisting decision and prohibits further judicial review of this decision. In 2018, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determined that the grizzly bear population had rebounded from as few as 136 bears in 1975 to an estimated 700, and meets all the criteria for delisting. Despite those findings, a Federal District Court Judge in Montana blocked the Department of the Interior's rule to delist the grizzly bear last year. In his statement, Enzi pointed out that under the Endangered Species Act, grizzly bears in the Yellowstone region are fully recovered, adding that they should be delisted and management returned to the states. Cheney agreed, saying that the Grizzly Bear State Management Act would stop what she calls "the abuse of the court system by environmental extremists", and would safeguard the scientifically proven delisting determination. The measure would put management of the grizzly bear back in the hands of state managers.



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HOOF ROT CONFIRMED IN IDAHO

Idaho Fish and Game confirmed a case of Treponema Associated Hoof Disease (TAHD) in an elk harvested in 2018 by a hunter near White Bird, a small town in western Idaho about 15 miles from the Oregon state line. It marks the first animal diagnosed with TAHD in Idaho. The Idaho Department of Fish and Game is asking people to report elk showing symptoms. The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife established a research project at Washington State University to learn more about the TAHD and its effect on elk populations. Idaho sent its samples to WSU for definitive diagnosis and testing of TAHD. TAHD is caused by a spirochete bacterium that causes hoof abnormalities and lameness in elk. This is the same hoof disease that has been observed in elk in Washington and Oregon. While TAHD is not a bacteria associated with domestic livestock, Fish and Game is coordinating with the Idaho State Department of Agriculture on the issue. TAHD is a relatively new condition in elk that was first recognized in 2000 in Washington. Since then, the condition has been identified in several elk herds in Washington, and in 2014, it was found in Northwest Oregon.



LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.70 billion pounds in January, up 2 percent from the 4.59 billion pounds produced in January 2018. Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 1 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.83 million head, up 3 percent from January 2018. The average live weight was down 13 pounds from the previous year, at 1,363 pounds. Veal production totaled 6.6 million pounds, 1 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 53,800 head, 10 percent above January 2018. The average live weight was down 22 pounds from last year, at 213 pounds. Pork production totaled 2.37 billion pounds, 4 percent above the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 11.0 million head, 3 percent above January 2018. The average live weight was up 2 pounds from the previous year, at 288 pounds. Lamb and mutton production, at 12.5 million pounds, was slightly below January 2018. Sheep slaughter totaled 186,800 head, 6 percent above last year. The average live weight was 134 pounds, down 8 pounds from January a year ago.



BLM WYOMING TO HOST INCREASED WILD HORSE ADOPTIONS IN 2019

As part of its commitment to placing healthy horses in caring homes, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Wyoming is pleased to announce a trailblazing schedule of adoptions in 2019. The BLM has planned 10 adoption events across the state, as well as online adoption opportunities throughout the year. The scheduled adoption events are as follows: **March 15-16** at Rock Springs Corral in Rock Springs, WY - **April 12-13** at Rock Springs Corral in Rock Springs, WY - **May 17-18** Wyoming Honor Farm in Riverton, WY.



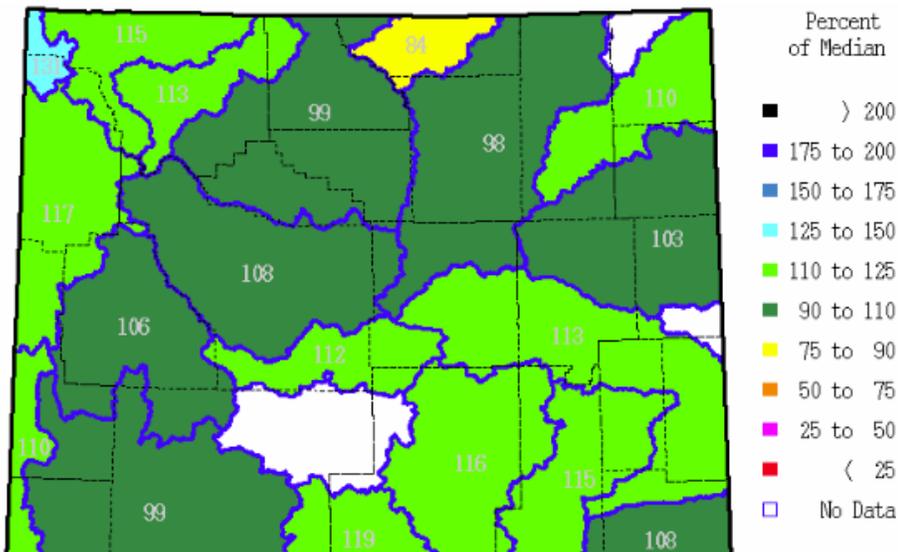
MAR
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Open House Season Setting Meeting in Meeteetse

Visit with local Game and Fish personnel about the 2019 hunting season recommendations for big game, small game and upland game in the Bighorn Basin. 6-8 p.m. at the Meeteetse Conservation District "Ferret Den" in Meeteetse 1906 State Street.

Snow Water Equivalent 3/7/19

SWE: Is the amount of water contained within the snowpack



NEXT MCD BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, MARCH 18TH
1:00 P.M. 1906 STATE STREET
MEETEETSE
~ PUBLIC IS WELCOME ~