



# Trail News

May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018

From the

## Meeteetse Conservation District

[www.meeteetse-conservevy.net](http://www.meeteetse-conservevy.net)

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

### **WILD HORSE AND BURRO ‘ONLINE CORRAL’ CONNECTS AMERICANS WITH ADOPTABLE ANIMALS**

The Bureau of Land Management announced the launch of the Wild Horse and Burro “Online Corral”—a new website focused on connecting the American public with wild horses and burros available for adoption or purchase. The BLM also announced the 2018 wild horse and burro event schedule, featuring nearly 70 events nationwide that focus on placing wild horses and burros in good homes. To access the 2018 schedule visit the BLM wild horse and burro adoption events page at: <https://on.doi.gov/2wVltz0>; the Online Corral can be accessed at: <https://wildhorsesonline.blm.gov/>. “Wild horses and burros make great companions that are superb at performing a wide variety of tasks,” said Brian Steed, BLM Deputy Director for Policy and Planning. “I urge everyone to attend a wild horse and burro event or visit the new Online Corral to learn how to bring one home.” The new Online Corral is geared toward increasing the number of wild horses and burros placed into private care each year. The website, which replaces a 10-year-old system, features a modern, streamlined interface that enables users to more easily find their desired wild horse or burro. It also includes new filtering features and

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*District Conservationist*

an interactive web map. Users can now submit and track the status of their applications directly through the website. Approved applicants can browse available animals and participate in the competitive bid. All animal bids start at \$125. Known for their intelligence, endurance and loyalty, wild horses, with the right training, are outstanding for ranching and trail riding and have successfully competed for awards in numerous fields from endurance riding to dressage. Wild horses and burros have routinely been adopted for important tasks such as patrolling the border and local policing. Read stories from recent wild horse and burro adopters and purchasers on the BLM’s Flickr page. Wild horses and burros can still be adopted or purchased in-person at one of the nearly 70 BLM-hosted events across the country this year or by visiting one of 17 wild horse and burro off-range corrals. Event locations and dates are subject to change. Please contact the National Wild Horse and Burro Information Center at 866-468-7826 or [wildhorse@blm.gov](mailto:wildhorse@blm.gov) for the most up-to-date information. Potential adopters and purchasers should visit the BLM website to learn more about the rules and requirements for adopting or purchasing a wild horse or burro. To get started visit the BLM wild horse and burro adoption and sales web pages at: <https://on.doi.gov/2fSrZJi>. These announcements are part of the BLM’s effort to confront a growing overpopulation of wild horses and burros on public rangelands and in taxpayer-funded off-range facilities. As of March 1, 2018, the wild horse and burro population on public lands was estimated at 82,000 animals, which is more than triple the number that public lands can support along with other legally mandated land uses.

### **GAME AND FISH TO BEGIN GRIZZLY BEAR RESEARCH AND TRAPPING FOR MONITORING PURPOSES IN NORTHWEST WYOMING**

As part of ongoing efforts to monitor the population of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem, the Wyoming Game and Fish Department will conduct capture operations in areas of northwest Wyoming beginning this spring and continuing through early fall. All areas where trapping for research is being conducted will have major access points marked with warning signs, as well as area closure signs in the direct vicinity of research sites. It is critical that all members of the public heed these signs. When captured, animals are collared, released on site and monitored in accordance with strict guidelines developed jointly by the Game and Fish and the Interagency Grizzly Bear Study Team. The annual monitoring of this population is vital to the ongoing management and conservation of grizzly bears in Wyoming. Information obtained through these efforts is used to assess the status and health of grizzly bears in the ecosystem and provides insight into population dynamics critical to demonstrate the continued recovery of the Greater Yellowstone population.

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## LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM SEES CHANGES

Agricultural producers who have lost livestock to disease resulting from a weather disaster have an additional way to become eligible for a key U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) disaster assistance program. USDA Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation Bill Northey announced an administrative clarification nationwide to the Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP). In the event of disease, this change by USDA's Farm Service Agency (FSA) authorizes local farm Service Agency county committees to accept veterinarian certifications that livestock deaths were directly related to adverse weather and unpreventable through good animal husbandry and management. The committees may then use this certification to allow eligibility for producers on a case-by-case basis for LIP. "This change is part of USDA's broader effort to better serve America's farmers, ranchers and foresters through flexible and effective programs," said Northey. "America's farmers feed our nation and much of the world, and throughout history, they have known good years and bad years. But when disaster strikes, USDA is ready to step in and help." LIP provides benefits to agricultural producers for livestock deaths in excess of normal mortality caused by adverse weather, disease or by attacks by animals reintroduced into the wild by the federal government. Eligible weather events include: earthquakes, hail, tornadoes, hurricanes, storms, blizzard and flooding. Producers interested in LIP or other USDA disaster assistance programs should contact their local USDA service center.

## WYOMING STATE FAIR NEW SCHEDULE

The schedule of the 2018 Wyoming State Fair (WSF), which will take place Aug. 15-18, is now complete and available to the public. The Wyoming State Fair worked closely with multiple stakeholders including Wyoming FFA and Wyoming 4-H to make sure the schedule would fit their needs. This schedule still includes all of the youth events that make the fair great while creating a more active and busy grounds each day the fair is open. "This schedule offers more activity on the grounds each official day of the fair," said James Goodrich, director of the Wyoming State Fair. "This schedule will provide a more action packed and exciting fair experience while requiring fewer days away from home for exhibitors and vendors from across the state." A PDF of the full schedule can be found at [www.wystatefair.com/news](http://www.wystatefair.com/news). While the schedule is complete, some events and times still may change over the coming weeks. Please check back and download the schedule periodically as changes may happen. The schedule will also be available on the Wyoming Stat Fair App in the coming weeks.

### MEETEETSE WEATHER

Date	Precip in.
05/01/2018	0.60
05/02/2018	0.15
05/03/2018	0.00
05/04/2018	0.00
05/05/2018	**
05/06/2018	**
05/07/2018	0.00 *
05/08/2018	0.00
05/09/2018	0.00
05/10/2018	0.00
05/11/2018	0.08
05/12/2018	**
05/13/2018	**
05/14/2018	0.76 *
05/15/2018	0.04
05/16/2018	--
05/17/2018	T
05/18/2018	0.04
05/19/2018	**
05/20/2018	**
05/21/2018	0.00 *
05/22/2018	0.03
05/23/2018	1.17
<b>Totals :</b>	<b>2.87 in.</b>

\* Indicates Multi-Day Accumulation

### WATER SUPPLY

The snow water equivalent (SWE) across Wyoming is above normal at 110%. The year-to-date precipitation average for Wyoming basins is now at 102%, varying from 65%-145% of average. Monthly precipitation for the basins varied from 56%-165% of average for an overall average of 102%. Forecasted runoff varies from 40%-145% of average across Wyoming basins.

### \*\*\*\*\*REMINDERS & UPDATES\*\*\*\*\*

## Greybull River Watershed Study

*Please join the Wyoming Water Development Commission, South Big Horn Conservation District, Meeteetse Conservation District and Woodard & Curran for a public Status Update meeting to discuss the Greybull River Watershed Study. When: June 14, 2018 at 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Emblem Gym, Emblem, WY*

**NEXT MCD REGULAR BOARD MEETING**  
**~ WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13TH ~**  
**3:00 P.M. 1906 STATE STREET, MEETEETSE**  
**\* PUBLIC IS WELCOME \***  
**HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU!**