



# MONTANA FARM BUREAU *News Brief*

*We Care for the Country*

August 2021

## TOP STORIES



Clinician Curt Pate explains to MFBF District 4 members how to move cattle easily and calmly during a low-stress cattle handling demonstration at Billings Livestock Commission.

### ***Cattle handling workshop teaches new skills***

As part of outreach to the ag community, county Farm Bureaus in District 4 held a free low-stress cattle handling demonstration July 10 at Billings Livestock Commission. District 4 consists of Big Horn, Carbon/Stillwater, Sweet Grass and Yellowstone Counties.

Clinician Curt Pate shared his personal experience incorporating effective stockmanship principles that support a “for profit” mindset and focus on highlighting the increased economic benefits of handling stock correctly. In addition, Curt addressed the growing public scrutiny surrounding livestock production and the impact that improved livestock handling practices create for the sustainability of the cattle industry.

“First, you should care about your animals. Your job as a stockman is to monitor how your cattle are handled and get them ready to work when they

get to a sale yard or feedlot,” said Pate. “They should work easily in the alley, load and be bunk broke.”

The group watched Pate work cattle in the alleys and into a pen as he explained how to weave behind the cattle like a cow dog and how to “draw on an eye” of the cow, which allows you to calmly move her wherever you want.

Big Horn County Secretary Gina Stevens said there was something for everyone to learn. “Even if you are a long-time cattleman, this demonstration helped make sense of things you might have known but didn’t know why. You know nervous cattle don’t gain weight easily, but Curt explained it’s because they are reacting with their right brain.

“Thanks to District 4 for educating ranchers about ways to make cattle handling easier and more profitable.”

### **Help available for ag during drought**

The severe drought across Montana has many ranchers and farmers very concerned about grass, hay prices and caring for their livestock.

At a recent Drought Summit hosted by Park County Farm Bureau and SpurLine Ranch and Pet Supply, Les Rispens, acting state executive director, Farm Service Agency, gave a review of programs for drought relief and urged members to get in contact with the local FSA office to make sure their information is up-to-date and applications are in. Once approved, other drought assistance would be automatic.

CHS Beef Cattle Nutritionist Cory Parsons advised visiting with your local feed supplier, having your hay tested, and begin implementing programs to stretch forage this winter.

Other sources regarding drought mitigation include Montana State University Extension which has several links on their website offering short-term and long-term strategies for dealing with the drought.

### **News Brief Plus**

Want more information regarding articles in this *News Brief*? Check out the *News Brief Plus* which can be found online. Full stories and press releases will be posted along with information gleaned from additional sources.

The *August 2021 NB Plus* contains:

- MDA Stress Assistance Program
- Filmtana video company
- MFBF drought assistance release
- Hay Hotline
- More county news!

Visit [mfbf.org/News/News-Brief](https://mfbf.org/News/News-Brief).

## Interim Committees

The 2021-2022 Interim Session has begun, and committees are getting to work. The first official meetings for Interim Committees is a time to hear from agencies, discuss committee work plans and elect leadership for the committee. Many committees met through the month of July to do just that. MFBF has been involved every step of the way attending the Water Policy Interim Committee, the Environmental Quality Council, and Economic Affairs.

The Department of Natural Resources held stakeholder meetings to allow voices to be heard and start the process to achieve goals set forth by the Red Tape Initiative.

The Department of Environmental Quality was charged with tasks set by SB 358 to address nutrients in the water. There have been Nutrient Standard Work Group meetings and Technical Subcommittee meetings, both of which MFBF has held a seat at the table.

The Environmental Quality Council started off their interim with an agricultural tour through Great Falls and Havre and MFBF took part in the event. In addition to interim committee meetings, the Montana Board of Livestock meets monthly and MFBF is a continual participant in those meetings.

New for this interim is the discussion on funds relating to the American Rescue Plan Act; MFBF is keeping close track on how those funds will be distributed to consider for the next legislative session.

## Filmtana videos

Filmtana is a video production company that is offering their expertise to develop videos local Farm Bureaus can use in recruitment and show their community and local industry impact. Cofounders Garrett Turner and Sonny Capece started Filmtana as a way to tell the stories of the state that they love while adding value to the people who tell them. Filmtana can develop generational farming documentaries to use as a marketing tool when new products are brought to market or land leases or transfers occur. For more information, call 406 475 0439 or email [filmtanaproductions@gmail.com](mailto:filmtanaproductions@gmail.com).

## Welcome new members

*Montana Farm Bureau gives a hearty welcome to new members who realize the importance of belonging to the state's largest ag organization.*

Cascade County Farm Bureau - Montana Sheep Company • John Dymond • Brett Hatler • Katey Marquis • William and Marian Rau • Carl Zimmerman; Chouteau County Farm Bureau – Cecil Goodman • Copper Horse Farm LLC • Janice Goodman • Kelsi Hartley; Dawson-Wibaux County Farm Bureau – Logan Verschoot; Fergus County Farm Bureau – Keith and Becky Meckling • John Niebur • William Plouffe • Zachary Prove • Ronald and Valerie Rowton • Bob and Vicky Ruckman • Matthew Sass, Sass Land LLC • Mike and Chris Schmitt; Gallatin County Farm Bureau – Konnor and Kelly Kelsey, Kelsey Valley Ranch; Judith Basin County Farm Bureau – Rod and Traci Mikkelsen; Lewis & Clark County Farm Bureau – Doyle and Karen Davis; Musselshell County Farm Bureau – Bob and Katie Stayer; Northwest Counties Farm Bureau – Lauren and Josh Klucewich • Jane Locker, Lower Valley Farms • Renee Normandeau • Patrick and Sheree Ann Schweiger • Thane Tobol; Park County Farm Bureau – Juliana and Eric Robinson • Dave Shockey, Muddy Creek Ranch; Phillips County Farm Bureau – Bill Rock; Ravalli County Farm Bureau – Dana Dreissigacker • Julie Schram; Richland County Farm Bureau – David Hardy, Hardy Ag, Inc.; Southwest Counties Farm Bureau – John Anderson, Ruby Dell Ranch • Bowman Neely • Brett and Rita Owens • Paula Weller; Yellowstone County Farm Bureau – Miles Kobold



Mark your calendars for the new YF&R Leadership Conference in October in Bozeman.

## YF&R Conference

The Montana Farm Bureau Young Farmer & Rancher Committee announced that the 2021 YF&R Leadership Conference is slated for Oct. 15-17 at the GranTree Inn in Bozeman. The top-notch agenda for this event will include relevant keynote speakers, educational breakout sessions, agricultural industry tours, networking events and more.

Montana Farm Bureau Federation's Young Farmer & Rancher Chair J.M. Peck says the committee is, "proud to continue the tradition of this conference, formerly known as the Young Ag Leadership Conference."

Peck said the committee is developing a mixture of fun networking activities, great speakers, informative breakout sessions and tours.

Keep watching for more details as well as registration information at [www.facebook.com/MTYFRConference](http://www.facebook.com/MTYFRConference).

Find out more about the MFBF YF&R Committee at [mfbf.org](http://mfbf.org) or call Sue Ann Streufert, 406-587-3153, [sueanns@mfbf.org](mailto:sueanns@mfbf.org).

## Calendar

**MFBF Board Meeting**  
September 13-14—Bozeman

**YF&R Leadership Conference**  
October 15-17—Bozeman

**MFBF Annual Convention**  
November 8-11—Billings

## People

**Joel Krautter**, Richland County FB, has been selected to serve on the Lower Yellowstone Advisory Committee, a new committee convened by Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks and sponsored by Gov. Greg Gianforte.

**Gwynn Simeniuk**, Valley County FB, was named Montana Young Professional of the Year and interviewed by Northern Ag Network and Tri-State Livestock News.

**Mike and Nancy Ereaux**, Phillips County FB, were interviewed about grasshoppers/drought by ABC News, aAgri-Pulse and Tri-State Livestock News. **Craig French** interviewed about grasshoppers with Agri-Pulse.

**Tim Feddes**, Gallatin FB and **Jim Hagenbarth**, SW FB, were interviewed about the drought/hay shortages by the Bozeman Daily Chronicle. **Butch Gillespie**, Front Range FB, interviewed with KRTV about grizzly bears.

**Matt Pierson**, Producer Partnership, was featured in the American Farm Bureau News.



## Challenge deadline looms

Ag entrepreneurs face unique challenges—from limited broadband access to high transportation costs. Great ideas combined with support and funding have the power to transform startup businesses.

Launched in 2015, the Challenge continues to identify the next ag entrepreneurs to watch and support innovation essential to Farm Bureau member businesses.

Submit your application by August 20 for a chance to win \$165,000 in startup funds. Visit [fb.org/challenge](https://fb.org/challenge).

## New Ford hybrid pick-up

The all-new Ford Maverick is the first standard full-hybrid pickup in America and the most fuel-efficient truck on the market. This has been added to MFBF's already existing Ford benefit where members can receive \$500 Bonus Cash back on purchase or lease of a new Ranger, F-150, Super Duty and now the Maverick. Members can print a special savings certificate at [FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com](https://FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com).

The 2022 Ford Maverick goes on sale this fall. The build and price website is live at [Ford.com](https://Ford.com).

## Mental health help

If you're a farmer or rancher, the summer of 2021 is turning into the toughest in recent memory. It's hard to combat all of these factors.

If you are experiencing depression, know you're not alone. The American Farm Bureau and Montana Farm Bureau are there for you. Visit [fb.org/land/fsom](https://fb.org/land/fsom) to find resources to help with your mental health. In Montana, visit [msuextension.org/wellness/stress-management/mt-farm-stress-clearing-house](https://msuextension.org/wellness/stress-management/mt-farm-stress-clearing-house).

## AFBF Survey on the drought in the West

With intensifying drought conditions across the American West, Southwest and Northern Plains, AFBF designed and distributed a survey to assess drought's impact on farm and ranch businesses.

On average, states scored selling off portions of the herd/flock, increases in local feed costs linked to drought, and traveling long distances to acquire feed and forage as prevalent or higher. Notably, the selected drought-related issues are directly linked to the profitability of a farm or ranch. Numerous herd/flock sell-offs flood local auctions with young animals, increasing supply and crashing local prices.

Many respondents spoke of weaning animals earlier, reducing grazing time on rangeland, hauling water through mountain terrain and relocating herds across state lines. High feed costs attributed to abysmal precipitation levels further reduces achievable margins on livestock.

Even with the stark conditions, many producers have relied on good ol' American ingenuity, transitioning acreage to more drought-resistant crop varieties such as Sudan grass, dry beans and rye.

The survey results offer a window into operational-level hurdles farmers and ranchers face in coping with persisting water shortages.

For a detailed report on the survey, visit [www.fb.org/market-intel/afbf-survey-assesses-how-farmers-and-ranchers-are-dealing-with-drought](https://www.fb.org/market-intel/afbf-survey-assesses-how-farmers-and-ranchers-are-dealing-with-drought).



## AFBF applauds recent hearings on beef supply chain

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall commented on the U.S. Senate Judiciary Committee and U.S. House Agriculture Committee hearings on the current state of the beef supply chain.

"American Farm Bureau appreciates the work of the committees in both houses of Congress to investigate the strengths and weaknesses of our country's food systems, specifically livestock markets," Duvall said.

"We welcome the discussion held by the Judiciary Committee to restore a competitive playing field for America's farmers and ranchers. It was also important for the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Livestock and Foreign Agriculture to explore and call attention to the difficult trajectory cattle markets have followed over the last two years. Prices at the grocery store continue to rise while ranchers receive the bare minimum prices for their livestock.

"AFBF continues to urge Congress to reauthorize Livestock Mandatory Reporting, create a beef contract library, and publicize the results of the Department of Justice investigation into livestock markets to ensure farmers and ranchers have the best tools at their disposal when it comes to selling their livestock.

"We will continue to work with Congress and the administration to ensure all farmers and ranchers receive a fair price for their products."

## August recess great time to visit with Congressmen

Farm Bureau has a long-standing commitment to actively work with lawmakers on the issues affecting farmers, ranchers and rural communities. August is a prime opportunity for grassroots engagement as legislators return home hoping to hear directly from the voters they represent. These weeks help to shape the political direction for the fall months and provide the best opportunity to weigh in on legislative actions while trying to shape future ones.

Farmers and ranchers have a critical perspective on issues that Congress is considering. Two priority issues for agriculture this year are Protect Stepped-Up Basis for American Family Farms and Expand Rural Access to Broadband Service.

Each and every voice across Farm Bureau is critical in sharing agriculture's story and explaining why these and other issues are essential to America's farmers and ranchers.

As an advocate for agriculture, schedule meetings with your senators and representatives and share personal stories about why maintaining stepped-up basis and expanding access to broadband in rural areas are so important to you and your community. Build a relationship with your legislators so you become their trusted resource.

MONTANA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION  
502 S. 19th Ave., Suite 104  
Bozeman, MT 59718

**ISSN: 1555-788X**

The Montana Farm Bureau Federation News Brief is published monthly except for January, April, July and October by the Montana Farm Bureau Federation at 502 S. 19th Ave., Suite 104, Bozeman, MT 59718. Subscription rates are \$4 per year, covered by annual dues to the Montana Farm Bureau Federation. Non-member subscriptions are \$25 per year. Mail at periodical postage rate in Bozeman, MT and at additional mailing offices.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Montana Farm Bureau Federation News Brief, 502 S. 19th Ave., Suite 104, Bozeman, MT 59718. 406-587-3153.

PERIODICAL  
POSTAGE  
PAID  
Kalispell, MT

**News Brief Plus**  
**More News. More Details.**  
[mfbf.org/news/news-brief](http://mfbf.org/news/news-brief)  
**Check it out.**

## COUNTY NEWS

### County Farm Bureaus have busy summer with fairs, sales and events

**Chouteau County** served breakfast to over 150 people and drove the Bandel's 28 International in the parade at the Fort Benton Summer Celebration. The event was co-hosted by Chouteau County Farm Bureau and Mountain West Farm Bureau agent, Jared Vielleux.

**Dawson-Wibaux County** held their summer membership picnic July 11 with the Attorney Generals' Liaison, Alan Doane, and their local representative, Rep. Bob Phalen, in attendance.

**Cascade County** provided custom labeled bottled water at

the Cascade County 4-H Livestock Show and Sale.

**Rosebud/Treasure County** had a booth at the Rosebud Treasure County Fair July 21-24.

**Yellowstone County** will have the opportunity to host an agriculture education display at the Montana Fair August 13-21. Four display barns will cover the region's ag industry, with county volunteers hosting Ag Accurate readers and conversations with farmers and ranchers.

*Left: Cascade County members hand out custom bottled water at the 4-H Livestock Sale.*

*Below: Waine Milmine, Rosebud/Treasure County Fair.*



*Judith Basin County bought the shade canopy sporting the Judith Basin County banner while providing shade, cold water and a free lunch for EMS volunteers from Geyser and Stanford at the CM Russell Stampede Rodeo July 18. Pictured are Mary Hill (JBC Vice President & EMS), Mike Bosen (JBC EMS), Pat McNulty (President JBC), Jeanne Rankin (JBC Director and EMS), Anna Peterson (EMS), Sally Murphy (EMS) and Jerome Kolar (director JBC). The EMS volunteers—including new EMS Jeanne Rankin—were recognized by the Stampede Club for their service.*



*During the Custer/Fallon event at Otium Brewery in Miles City, Sen. Bogner and Rep. Holmlund received Silver Windmill Awards from C/F President Kim Gibbs and MFBF's Nicole Rolf.*



*Above: Chouteau County members served breakfast at Fort Benton's Summer Celebration.*



*Right: Dawson-Wibaux picnic.*





# COUNTY NEWS, PLUS

## Custer/Fallon County Farm

**Bureau** held a membership event at Otium Brewery in downtown Miles City. C/F President Kim Gibbs described how Farm Bureau serves the local community. Tina Rutledge, meat processing program coordinator at Miles Community College, provided updates on the program, enrollment and answered some questions, especially from legislators in attendance. MFBF's Nicole Rolf talked about the Legislative Session, then introduced Sen. Bogner and Rep. Holmlund who thanked Farm Bureau for their awards and talked about big wins for ag. Dustin Strong, who owns Otium with his wife, Hannah, talked about the Foundation's Centennial Community Initiative Grant they received and how it helped them. He thanked the Foundation for the support.

Scholarship winners were recognized, including Sage Zook, Skyler David and Robert Phipps.

MFB Foundation was a sponsor of the first ever Montana FFA Junior Ag Mechanics (JAM) contest held at the Montana State Fair in Great Falls. **Cascade County Farm Bureau** members, Todd Standley and Frank LaLiberty were volunteer judges for the livestock equipment portion.

*Below: Pictured with one of the winners, Coulter Rein, a senior at Sweet Grass County High School and his impressive metal fabricated gate for the entrance of the new school farm*



*MFBF District 5 Director Gary Heibertshausen, former District 5 Director Don Hoffman and former District 6 Director Wes Jensen, catch up at the event.*



*Cascade County members, the Goulds, at the 7 Bar Heart Cattle Co used a load of hay to wish everyone driving I-15 on the 4th of July Holiday weekend a Happy 4th!*





**August 9, 2021**

## **Cattle maintenance in drought takes ingenuity, perseverance and caution**

Stockmen throughout much of the West are dealing a “grand slam” of tough events—severe drought, grasshoppers, fire and extreme heat. Trying to keep cattle healthy and well fed when there is little hay or grass, as well as keeping your business afloat, has called for hard decisions and creativity. The Montana Farm Bureau Federation has put together a resource page on their website where producers can find links to help. This includes everything from the Montana Department of Agriculture’s Hay Hotline to the Managing Drought Risks on the Ranch Guide through MSU Extension. Visit [www.mfbf.org](http://www.mfbf.org) for drought resources.

According to Cory Parsons, CHS nutritionist, who spoke to Park County Farm Bureau during their drought summit, said the key is to put pencil to paper and figure out the nutrient requirements of your cows.

“Remember, there are different nutrient requirements for different cattle at each stage of their lives,” Parsons said. “See what you can do to both balance your checkbook and then see what you have to pull together with grains, hay and other commodities. Be sure to do a feed analysis and see how much protein your cows need.”

Parsons explained that often ranchers will feed dry distiller grains, beet pulp and barley sprouts to supplement protein intake, but this year, even those supplemental feed stuffs aren’t readily available. The other challenge is the labor and equipment needed to make feed changes. If you’re not set up with a cake feeder to feed cake and store cake, you need to get creative. Do you have the labor to do it?

“The ethanol plants aren’t running like they were, people aren’t drinking as much beer so there is less barley in production, and when feedstuff like beet pulp or DDGs are available, they are expensive and everyone is in competition for them,” Parsons cautioned. “I’ve seen some wheat fields in windrows, waiting to be baled. A lot of people are going to be culling at least some of their animals. It’s important to pregnancy test early, then get the open cows shipped down the road quickly. I reiterate, when you buy protein, buy it on a unit basis. Run a cost of feed analysis.”

MSU Extension researchers have written articles, given drought tours, and posted booklets on dealing with the drought. Dr. Megan Van Emon, USDA-ARS, Fort Keogh, echoed Parsons regarding feed alternatives.

“It’s critical to get a feed analysis, as some feeds are highly variable in nutrient content. Currently, there are non-traditional feedstuffs being fed such as wheat midds and straw, as well as grazing cereal grains,” said Van Emon. However, one needs to use caution. “Corn, barley and wheat are highly digestible in the

rumen and could potentially lead to acidosis or bloat if fed at too high level in the diet too quickly. Adapt cattle to grains over a period of time to allow the rumen to adapt to the new feedstuff. If feeding or grazing cereal grains or weeds, get nitrate tests done. Many weeds, like kochia, and cereal grains accumulate nitrates and are especially high this year due to drought. Most local Extension Agents have the ability to test for nitrates using the Nitrate Strip Test, which is a quantitative measurement, meaning that an approximate concentration of nitrates in the sample can be provided.”

“We have been asked about feeding cattails, which are very thick stemmed and not eaten well. They should be ground and mixed with other hay to improve intake of them, but remember, they have little nutrient content,” Van Emon added. Although there is talk about feeding hemp, it has not been approved as a cattle feed and should not be fed.

She urged ranchers to discuss feeding options with Extension agents or beef cattle nutritionists to make sure they’re meeting nutrient demands of the herd.

###



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

July 26, 2021

**CONTACT:**

[Chelsi Bay](#), Montana Department of Agriculture, (406) 444-3684

**Montana Hay Hotline Available for Producers Affected by Drought**

*Producers can list hay for sale or donation using Montana Hay Hotline*

**Helena, Mont.** – As severe drought conditions and wildfires persist across the state, the Montana Department of Agriculture is reminding agricultural producers of the availability of the Hay Hotline, an online tool that connects those interested in buying, selling, or donating hay or pasture.

The Hay Hotline allows producers to enter new listings with descriptions of the forage they have available to sell or donate. It also provides users with an option to search for available hay or pasture. The online tool is maintained by the Montana Department of Agriculture as a service to the agricultural industry with the expectation that all buyers and sellers will treat each other in an equitable and lawful manner.

The Hay Hotline is housed on the MDA website at [agr.mt.gov/Hay-Hotline](http://agr.mt.gov/Hay-Hotline). For more information on the Hay Hotline, contact the Agricultural Development & Marketing Bureau at (406) 444-2402 or [danielle.jones@mt.gov](mailto:danielle.jones@mt.gov).

The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit [agr.mt.gov](http://agr.mt.gov).

###





**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

July 21, 2021

**CONTACT:**

[Chelsi Bay](#), Montana Department of Agriculture, (406) 444-3684

## **Montana Department of Agriculture Prioritizes Mental Health Through New Stress Assistance Program**

*MT Dept. of Agriculture announces plans for comprehensive stress assistance program*

**Helena, Mont.** – The Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) is pleased to announce its plans to prioritize mental health through a comprehensive program aimed at alleviating stress for Montana farmers and ranchers.

The Montana Department of Agriculture recently secured a \$500,000 grant from the United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN), a program authorized through the Farm Bill to connect individuals engaged in farming, ranching, and other agriculture-related occupations to stress assistance programs.

"Working in Agriculture is stressful—plain and simple," said Christy Clark, Acting Director at Montana Department of Agriculture. "Montana's farmers and ranchers are carrying heavy workloads, braving the elements no matter the weather, not to mention taking care of equipment, animals, family members, and everything else that comes along with their work of feeding the world. Our department is excited to roll out resources to ensure our producers are taken care of first and foremost, because they are truly the most important part of their operation."

The Montana Department of Agriculture's stress assistance program includes Montana-specific initiatives to reduce the negative stigma tied to mental health and connect producers with tangible, effective resources. To address the limited access to mental healthcare services in the state, the department will provide vouchers to Montana farmers and ranchers for free, confidential counseling services, both in-person and tele-health, to be provided by in-state providers who have ties to Montana communities and an appreciation for agriculture. MDA will also work in partnership with Montana agricultural groups and organizations to provide grant funding that can be used to help pay for mental health programming, such as a speaker or workshop.

Montana has ranked in the top five states for national suicide rates for the past three decades and suicide rates among agricultural producers and workers are higher than national averages. These unfortunate statistics can be attributed to the inherently high-stress nature of the



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

August 3, 2021

**CONTACT:**

[Chelsi Bay](#), Montana Department of Agriculture, (406) 444-3684

## **MT Dept. of Agriculture Shares Best Practices for Hay Shipments to Prevent Noxious Weeds and Pests**

**Helena, Mont.** – As Montana agricultural producers strive to find adequate feed for livestock during severe drought conditions and a damaging wildfire season, the Montana Department of Agriculture (MDA) is issuing guidance for out-of-county or state shipments of hay to prevent the spread of noxious weeds and other invasive pests.

“The need for hay far outweighs our supply right now in Montana,” said Acting Director Christy Clark. “We recognize the need to find hay for our producers, but there can be some very serious consequences if we don’t do our due diligence in making sure that hay donations and shipments from other states aren’t bringing weeds and insects that are not currently present in Montana with them.”

Hay being transported from other states and counties has the potential to introduce or spread noxious and invasive weed species, insect pests, and plant diseases. Use the following best management practices to mitigate and prevent their introduction and spread:

- Ask where the hay was grown/donated from, and use certified weed free forage, if available
- Feed hay in an area that can be easily monitored for new weeds for several years
- Coordinate with your local weed district or MSU Extension office to monitor areas and identify unknown weeds and pests
- Control weeds before they produce seed, and defer moving livestock through any area with a new weed species until it is removed or contained.

The MDA Noxious Weed Program is available to assist producers in their decision to use hay from out of state. Please contact [Jasmine Reimer](#), 406-444-3140, for more information.

The Montana Department of Agriculture is serving Montana Agriculture and growing prosperity under the Big Sky. For more information on department programs and services, visit [agr.mt.gov](http://agr.mt.gov).

###



## FWP DIRECTOR, DEPUTY DIRECTOR AND STAFF TO HOST OPEN HOUSES AROUND STATE

Aug 2, 2021 3:47 PM

**HELENA** – Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks director, deputy director and members of their staff will be visiting regional offices during a tour of the state. FWP Director Hank Worsech and Deputy Director Dustin Temple invite the public to join them at regional FWP offices for open houses. All meetings will be held on Tuesday, August 3, 2021. The schedule is as follows:

- Aug. 23: Region 2 Headquarters in Missoula, 3201 Spurgin Road
- Aug. 24: Region 1 Headquarters in Kalispell, 490 North Meridian Road
- Aug. 31: Region 4 Headquarters in Great Falls, 4600 Giant Springs Road
- Sept. 1: Region 6 Headquarters in Glasgow, 1 Airport Road
- Sept. 7: Region 3 Headquarters in Bozeman, 1400 South 19th
- Sept. 8: Region 5 Headquarters in Billings, 2300 Lake Elmo Drive
- Sept. 9 Region 7 Headquarters in Miles City, 352 I-94 Business Loop

"It's been a busy year and we know people have a lot of things they're interested in discussing," said Worsech. "This is a great opportunity for us to hear about topics they're passionate about."

FWP ensures its meetings are fully accessible to those with special needs. To request arrangements, call FWP at 406-444-3186.

-fwp-

[BUY AND APPLY \(/BUYANDAPPLY\)](#)

[REPORT A VIOLATION \(/ABOUTFWP/ENFORCEMENT\)](#)

[MYFWP LOGIN !\[\]\(0d5ec72f61334709c3fc9450209b754f\_img.jpg\) \(HTTPS://MYFWP.MT.GOV/FWPEXTPORTAL/LOGIN/LOGIN.JSP\)](#)

[ABOUT FWP \(/ABOUTFWP\)](#)

[MONTANA OUTDOORS MAGAZINE \(/MONTANA-OUTDOORS\)](#)

[CONTACT FWP \(/ABOUTFWP/CONTACT-US\)](#)

[EMPLOYMENT \(/ABOUTFWP/EMPLOYMENT\)](#)

[VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES \(/ABOUTFWP/EMPLOYMENT\)](#)



## **Filmtana:**

### **Video options for Montana agricultural producers**

Filmtana is a video production company born out of the same soil as Montana agriculture. We tell the story of the men and women who till the fields, brand the cows and shear the sheep. We are focused on bringing the products, services and stories of Montana producers to the world and helping push Montana's economy forward. From generational ranch documentaries to commercial media production for all sectors of agribusiness we can bring your brand and story to life outside ranch and stockyard fences. We love Montana and the people who work hard to make it the way it is. Let us ride for your brand too.

Filmtana is a Montanan owned and operated company. Cofounders Garrett Turner and Sonny Capece started Filmtana as a way to tell the stories of the state that they love while adding value to the people who tell them. Garrett received a degree in Business Journalism from Baylor University and a Masters in Broadcast Journalism from Emerson College. After finishing school Garrett spent 10 years as a news anchor and reporter in local television. Sonny spent his life working in agriculture and the trades before earning a degree from the University of Montana in Political Science. Through Sonny's work in government he has met many Montanans with a story to tell. Garrett and Sonny are both avid outdoorsmen and make it a priority to recreate and capture the beauty of the state from the rugged mountains of the Cabinet Wilderness to the rolling plains of Carter County.

For more information, call 406 475 0439 or email [filmtanaproductions@gmail.com](mailto:filmtanaproductions@gmail.com).