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Western governors discuss land

Upcoming Free Webinars for Nonprofits in North and South America

Join us on Tuesday, May 1st for a **webinar regarding "My ConnectView."** This webinar will provide a demonstration of the new interactive broadband mapping application published by Connect Nevada called "My ConnectView." The interactive map offers unique tools to view the state's technology landscape and analyze broadband penetration down to the street level. Attendees will be shown some of the tool's basic features and can ask questions during the presentation about the underlying data and the map's functions.

To RSVP, please visit [this link](#).

Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2012
Time: 9:00 AM - 9:30 AM PDT

We hope you'll join us on May 1st for this look into our new mapping tool, "My ConnectView." [RSVP today](#) and share the link with your friends to encourage them to participate too!

We look forward to seeing you soon.

Regards, Lindsey Niedzielski

[Follow @ConnectNevada on Twitter](#) | [Like us on Facebook](#) | [Forward this email to a friend](#)

100 N. Stewart St. | Nevada State Library and Archives Building | Carson City, Nevada 89701

YSA is now accepting applications for two grant programs: our \$1,000 **State Farm Good Neighbor Student Achievement Grants** for K-12 public schools in the U.S. to engage students in a fall Semester of Service and our \$500 Get Ur Good On Grants for youth, ages 5-25, around the world to lead a service project during June - August 2012.

Please take a few minutes to share with teachers or young people in your network, and consider applying yourself.

State Farm Good Neighbor Student Achievement Grants

Deadline: May 31

State Farm™ is proud to team up with YSA to offer grants of up to \$1,000 for programs enhancing student achievement through service-learning in K-12 public schools in all fifty US states, the District of Columbia, and in the Canadian provinces of Alberta, Ontario and New Brunswick. Each grant engages participating teachers and students in a service and learning program that promotes academic achievement, workplace readiness, and stronger communities. The State Farm Good Neighbor Student Achievement Grant requires a 12 to 14 week Semester of Service™. www.YSA.org/goodneighbor

Get Ur Good On Grants

Deadline: May 27

If you're ready to make a positive impact in your community, Miley Cyrus and her friends at YSA want to help! With \$500 Get Ur Good On Grants, you'll have the inspiration, project support, and necessary funding to turn your idea into a reality. Kids and young adults ages 5-25 worldwide are eligible to apply for a \$500 Get Ur Good On Grant to support youth-led projects. Projects must address a demonstrated community need or issue, and must take place during June, July and/or August 2012. www.YSA.org/grants/gurgo

If you have questions about either grant program, please contact the YSA Grants team at grants@ysa.org

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[Senate Votes to Reauthorize Domestic Violence Act](#)

By JONATHAN WEISMAN

The Senate voted overwhelmingly on Thursday to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act and expand its reach to American Indians and homosexuals, after Republicans opted to sidestep an expected partisan brawl.

1 [How the Senate Voted](#)

From: Jennifer Palmieri, White House Deputy Communications Director

Re: New Health Care Law Provides Up to \$8,771,820 in Health Insurance Premium Rebates for People in Nevada
(Other states available from communications director)

President Obama's health care law – the Affordable Care Act – gives hard working, middle-class families the security they deserve and includes a number of important provisions that help control health care costs.

One way the law helps hold down health care costs are new rules that generally require insurance companies to spend at least 80 percent of your premium dollars on health care and quality improvements instead of other activities like advertising, executive bonuses, or overhead. If insurance companies fail to meet this standard, they must provide a rebate to their customers. Recognizing the variation in local markets, the law allows States to request a temporary adjustment in the percentage for up to three years to avoid disruptions to coverage in the individual market. Nevada's percentage for the individual market is 75 percent for 2011.

The law calls this the "medical loss ratio" rule, but it's commonly known as the 80/20 rule.

Yesterday, a new report from the Kaiser Family Foundation estimates that 75,633 consumers in Nevada will receive \$8,771,820 in rebates solely because of the 80/20 rule. This includes 28 percent of enrollees in the individual market in Nevada for an average rebate of \$96 per person. Rebates to consumers will be delivered by August 1. You can read the full report by visiting <http://www.kff.org/healthreform/8305.cfm>.

And even if you don't you receive a rebate, you may be benefitting from the new rule. Many insurance companies changed the way they do business or lowered their premiums to comply with the 80/20 rule.

The 80/20 rule is just one way the Affordable Care Act is already making a difference. Thanks to the Affordable Care Act:

- 2.5 million more young adults have health insurance on their parent's plan.
- 5.1 million people with Medicare saved an average of \$635 on the cost of their prescription drugs. And everyone on Medicare can get preventive services like mammograms for free.
- Insurance companies cannot raise your premiums by 10 percent or more with no accountability.
- It's illegal for insurance companies to deny coverage to children because of a pre-existing condition. And in 2014, discriminating against anyone with a pre-existing condition will be illegal.

While some want to go back to the days when insurance companies could deny your coverage or jack up your rates whenever and however they pleased without any accountability, we are committed to moving forward, implementing the Affordable Care Act and delivering the benefits of reform to the American people. For more information on the new health care law, go to www.HealthCare.gov.

Upcoming Free Webinars for Nonprofits in North and South America

Nonprofits anywhere in the world can attend these webinars, but if you are located outside of North or South America odds are that the webinars will take place outside of normal working hours. That said, again please note that the webinars will not be recorded for later viewing. Learn more and register:

May 31: [Social Media for Social Good: A How-To Webinar for Nonprofits](#)

June 6: [10 Common Mistakes Nonprofits Make in Social Media](#)

As Bison Return to Prairie, Some Rejoice, Others Worry

By [NATE SCHWEBER](#)

nyt

April 26, 2012

WOLF POINT, Mont. — Sioux and Assiniboine tribe members wailed a welcome song last month as around 60 bison from Yellowstone National Park stormed onto a prairie pasture that had not felt a bison's hoof for almost 140 years.

That historic homecoming came just 11 days after 71 pureblood bison, descended from one of Montana's last wild herds, were released nearby onto untilled grassland owned by a charity with a vision of building a haven for prairie wildlife. Some hunters and conservationists are now calling for bison to be reintroduced to a million-acre wildlife refuge spanning this remote region.

"Populations of all native Montana wildlife have been allowed to rebound except bison; it's time to take care of them like they once took care of us," said Robert Magnan, 58, director of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation's [Fish and Game Department](#), who will oversee the transplanted Yellowstone bison program.

But with several groups now navigating a complex and contentious path to return bison to these plains, agribusiness is fighting back. Many farmers and ranchers fear that bison, particularly those from Yellowstone, might be mismanaged and damage private property, and worry that they would compete for grass with their own herds.

"Bison are a romantic notion, but they don't belong today," said Curt McCann, 46, a Chinook rancher who this month drove four hours to a public meeting in Jordan to speak against bison reintroduction.

When the explorer Meriwether Lewis followed the Missouri River through this region in 1805, he came across bison herds [he described](#) as "innumerable." Just eight decades later, a young Theodore Roosevelt [noted that](#) all that remained were "countless" bleached skulls covering the Montana badlands.

Scientists estimate that tens of millions of bison once roamed America, but by 1902 there were only 23 known survivors in the wild, all hiding from poachers in a remote Yellowstone valley. For decades, attempts to transplant bison from the rebounding Yellowstone herd were thwarted, despite requests from tribes to steward some of the animals.

“I call them my brothers and sisters because they are a genetic link to the same ones my ancestors hunted,” said Tote Gray Hawk, 54, a Sioux who has brought the Fort Peck bison hay and water each day since their arrival. Their meat, lower in cholesterol than beef, will feed elderly tribe members and their skulls will be used in traditional sun dance ceremonies, he said.

The last hunt for indigenous bison on the Fort Peck reservation happened in 1873. In the 1880s, hundreds of tribe members starved to death on the barren land. Around them homesteaders from Europe began wresting an agricultural living from this windswept expanse of rolling amber in northeast Montana. Most of the neighboring farmers and ranchers today are descendants of those pioneers, and they safeguard their traditions with generational grit.

“Bison is a big issue that could really impact our livelihood,” said Brett Dailey, 52, who ranches near Jordan.

Today there are three million cattle in Montana and agribusiness is the state’s biggest industry, but not a single bison roams free. A 2011 [survey](#) commissioned by the [National Wildlife Federation](#) showed that a majority of state residents support reintroducing huntable bison to the vast Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge, similar to a Utah herd created in 1941 from the last few bison allowed out of Yellowstone.

“Within this sea of agriculture there is room for small islands of conservation,” said Sean Gerrity, president of the [American Prairie Reserve](#), the charity that brought the group of genetically pure bison back to a pasture just north of the refuge.

The arrival of Yellowstone bison was welcome news around the troubled Fort Peck reservation. When the first calf was born on Sunday, a rust-colored baby bull, tribal flags still hung at half-staff for a teenage boy who had committed suicide days earlier. Rates of poverty, unemployment, disease and addiction hover stubbornly above national averages here.

Census data shows that around northeast Montana, a prairie expanse almost the size of Indiana, most county populations peaked in the early 1900s and have since dropped by almost half.

The region’s fastest growing economic engine, oil production, is proving a mixed blessing. In 2010 the Environmental Protection Agency reported that toxic chemicals from nearby drilling contaminated drinking water supplies for Poplar, a reservation town of around 3,000. This year a schoolteacher from Sidney, near the North Dakota border, was kidnapped during her morning jog and murdered. The suspects are two Colorado roughnecks.

“These bison represent healing,” said Iris Greybull, 62, of Poplar.

The bison debate has dredged up old tensions between tribes and their neighbors. Before Ms. Greybull, a Sioux, spoke in favor of the animals last fall at a fractious meeting in Glasgow, dozens of farmers and ranchers walked out in protest.

She and other tribe members say they see an ugly double standard in the fact that there are more than 130 private bison ranches in the state, including one belonging to the mogul Ted Turner housing dozens of controversial Yellowstone bison, and yet only the Fort Peck herd has been visited by protesters.

But some say the bison on the ranches do not pose the threat that the wild ones do.

“Unless they have the German wall and a moat with a bunch of crocodiles and piranhas, they’re not going to contain those woolly tanks,” said State Senator John Brenden of nearby Scobey, who has long done battle on the bison issue in the state Legislature.

Around a century ago some Yellowstone bison contracted disease from domestic livestock and in recent decades thousands have been slaughtered in an effort to protect ranchers’ herds. At the direction of Gov. Brian Schweitzer of Montana, a few of these bison were quarantined for years and certified healthy. Some may soon go to the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation, about 170 miles west of Fort Peck, pending the outcome of a lawsuit filed by opponents.

“I took a lot of arrows for this, but it was the right thing to do,” Mr. Schweitzer said. “If you want to get into a fistfight in Montana, go into a bar and share your opinion about bison or wolves.”

“Green” Blogs

- [AutoBlog Green](#)
- [Blue Marble Blog](#)
- [Climate Progress](#)
- [Climate Shifts](#)
- [Coal Tattoo](#)
- [Conscious Consuming](#)
- [Cool Green Science, The Nature Conservancy](#)
- [Dominion Energy's E-Conserve Blog](#)
- [Environmental Economics](#)
- [Forrest for the Trees](#)
- [gGadget.org](#)
- [GoodCleanTech](#)
- [Green Business](#)
- [Green Energy Reporter](#)
- [Green Herring](#)
- [Green Trust Sustainability](#)
- [Groovy Green](#)
- [Joel Makower](#)
- [Livable Future Blog](#)
- [Los Angeles Times: Greenspace](#)

- [MapAWatt Blog](#)
- [RealClimate](#)
- [Reuters Environment Forum](#)
- [Sustainablog](#)
- [The Goat](#)
- [The Inspired Economist](#)
- [The Oil Drum](#)
- [The Vine](#)
- [World Changing](#)

Consumers

- [Climate Ark](#)
- [Green-e](#)
- [Greener Choices](#)
- [Grist](#)
- [Jamble Magazine](#)
- [MetroGreen+Business](#)
- [National Geographic Green Guide](#)
- [Solar Buzz](#)
- [The Daily Green](#)
- [Treehugger](#)

Institutions

- [DOE: Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy](#)
- [Energy Star](#)
- [European and Chicago Climate Exchanges](#)
- [European Commission Directorate General for Environment](#)
- [European Federation for Transport and Environment](#)
- [International Energy Agency](#)
- [National Renewable Energy Laboratory](#)
- [United Nations Environment Program](#)
- [United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change](#)
- [US Department of Energy](#)
- [World Meteorological Association](#)

Jobs

- [Bright Green Talent](#)
- [Clean Edge Jobs](#)
- [CleanTechies](#)
- [CleanTechRecruits.com](#)
- [EcoEmploy](#)
- [Green Career Central](#)
- [Green Dream Jobs](#)
- [GreenCareers from Monster](#)
- [GreenJobs from Treehugger](#)

- [Grist Jobs](#)
- [Renewable Energy Jobs](#)

News Sources

- [Alternative Energy Investments](#)
- [Alternative Energy News](#)
- [BBC News: Global Climate Change](#)
- [Clean Edge, Inc.](#)
- [Climate Biz](#)
- [Climate Change News Digest](#)
- [CNet: Green Tech](#)
- [Consumer Reports: Greener Choices](#)
- [Environmental News Network](#)
- [Green Business News](#)
- [Green: From the Washington Post](#)
- [GreenBiz.com](#)
- [Greentech Media](#)
- [Greenwire](#)
- [Grist](#)
- [High Country News](#)
- [Point Carbon](#)
- [Renewable Energy World](#)
- [The Environment Report](#)
- [The Green Blog](#)
- [Yale Environment 360](#)

Organizations

- [American Society of Landscape Architects](#)
- [American Wind Energy Association](#)
- [Association for the Study of Peak Oil](#)
- [Carbon Disclosure Project](#)
- [Center for Climate and Energy Solutions](#)
- [Climate Matters @Columbia](#)
- [Environmental Defense](#)
- [Friends of the Earth](#)
- [Independent Energy Producers Association](#)
- [Interstate Renewable Energy Council](#)
- [Johns Hopkins Center for a Livable Future](#)
- [National Biodiesel Board](#)
- [Natural Resources Defense Council](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Institute](#)
- [Solar Energy Industries Association](#)
- [Sustainable Buildings Industry Council](#)
- [The Post Carbon Institute](#)
- [United States Energy Association](#)

May 25, 2012 - May 27, 2012 16th Annual Standing Bear PowWow

Location: Carnival Lot

Event Details:

- Open to the Public
- May 25th ~ 5pm to 10pm
- May 26th ~ 10am to 10pm
- May 27th ~ 10am to 6pm
- Admission ~ \$6.00
- Children under 10 years old ~ Free

Contact Infomation 661.589.3181 and/or standingbearpowwow@yahoo.com

From: Marcia Ackerman <mlackerman@frontiernet.net>

Wildland fire in ecosystems: effects of fire on cultural resources and archeology

This just out, at least 5 years later than expected, but likely very useful nonetheless. It took almost 5 minutes to download.

http://www.fs.fed.us/rm/pubs/rmrs_gtr042_3.html

[TRPA: Lake Tahoe environmental report nets promising results](#)

Jeff Munson, Carson Now

Several environmental gains over the last five years have been made at the Lake Tahoe Basin, according to the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's "Threshold Evaluation Report" released Wednesday, which highlights water quality as a continued area of concern.

John Blom on Wednesday April 11, 2012 with some of the southwest Indian artwork he has collected.

<http://www.rgj.com/apps/pbcs.dll/gallery>

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[Prehistoric artists left mysterious marks](#)

Apr 19, 2012 | Nevada Commission on Tourism ... , directions to water sources or ceremonial activities. Ben Aleck, a member of the Pyramid Lake **Paiute** Tribe, explains it this way in a video made by the Nevada Rock Art ...

[Amazon.com gives Canal group donation](#)

The Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal works to educate and inform the public of the role the canal plays in the lives of Fernley residents, and the group can continue their mission thanks to a hefty donation from Amazon.com.

Paul Pace, Amazon.com general manager, presented members of the Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal a \$1,000 check last Tuesday afternoon at the online retailer’s local plant.

According to Rod Windle, Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal Information Officer, the group’s goals are to educate the public of the water resources in the area, adding, “We can’t survive without it (canal).”

Pace noted prior to the check presentation, he had done research on the Truckee Canal and found that one of the longest running legal battles is between the Truckee Carson Irrigation District and the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe.

He went on to say of the significance of the canal, “It’s important for us (Amazon.com) to be aware as participants in the community. Everyone knows how central the canal is.”

Pace noted that Amazon.com has given donations to groups involved on both sides of the water wars.

According to its website the goals of the Friends of the Historic Truckee Canal include the following:

- » “To provide aid for the defense against the degradation imposed upon the project community by the unlawful acts of removing and re-allocating our project water as appropriated by Congress to the Newlands Reclamation Project pursuant to the reclamation act of 1902 and secured onto the project under the ORR ditch decree of 1944.
- » Complete the required repairs to the Truckee Canal and restore the safest maximum flow rate.
- » Revise, repair or replace the irrigation drainage system to minimize flooding issues in the future.
- » To educate and inform ALL citizens about their water resources within the project area.
- » Improve the public relationships between all of the agencies involved in protecting the water resources to the optimal benefit of the citizens of the project.
- » Keep the community informed on legislation that may threaten our water, specifically - but not limited to, Senate or Assembly Bills.”

American Indians questioned about Nevada bear hunt by FBI

Apr 10, 2012 | By Jeff DeLong | jdelong@rgj.com ... looking at their legal options after Bonta's questioning and the questioning of another, Northern **Paiute** Daniel Thayer, at his workplace the following day. Another, AIM chapter president Raquel Arthur ...

Western governors discuss land

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — Seeking a unified front on common concerns, the governors of four Western states held discussions Friday on issues ranging from federal land control to immigration.

“The Western states need to bind together and unite their voices,” said Utah Gov. Gary Herbert, who hosted the talks at the governor’s mansion near downtown Salt Lake City.

“We have a uniqueness that other people don’t understand.”

The participating governors, all Republicans, included Idaho’s Butch Otter, Wyoming’s Matt Mead and Nevada’s Brian Sandoval, who joined the conference by phone.

The all-day gathering, which Herbert dubbed the Rocky Mountain Roundtable, focused heavily on the management of public lands by the federal government.

All of the states represented have large swaths under federal control, whether it’s national forest, national parks or acreage owned by Bureau of Land Management.

The participating governors say that federal policies can impede energy development, which can be important catalysts for job creation and increased tax revenue. But they worry their concerns are downplayed or ignored in Washington.

Regional cooperation is important because it ensures that the needs of states with smaller populations are still respected, Otter said.

“We find more balance when we ask for more input,” he said. “When we have rules and regulations promulgated by a federal agency without that input, there is a problem.”

Herbert has said that he hopes future meetings would include Democratic governors who were invited but couldn’t attend.

Mead echoed that sentiment, saying that many of the issues transcended political affiliation. He said this is especially true for energy-producing states where industry issues often collide with environmental concerns, such as clean air and water or endangered species.

One of the areas where political affiliations will play a role, however, is a burgeoning legal battle between states and the federal government over control of federal lands.

A Utah law signed by Herbert this year requires the federal government to relinquish its ownership of land in the state by 2014, despite warnings from legislative attorneys that the law was probably unconstitutional.

A similar bill passed the Arizona Legislature and next goes to Republican Gov. Jan Brewer for a signature or veto.