



# NATIONAL BISON ASSOCIATION 2022 WINTER CONFERENCE

## FORAGING AHEAD



January 20 & 21, 2022  
**Renaissance Central Park Hotel**  
Denver, Colorado



*42nd Anniversary Gold Trophy Show & Sale*  
*January 19-22, 2022*  
*National Western Stock Show*

## Tuesday, January 18, 2022

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
12 - 4 pm	Animal Check in at NWSS	NWSS

## Wednesday, January 19, 2022

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
7:30 - 4 pm	GTSS Animal Check in at NWSS	NWSS
8:00 - 10 am	NBA 2021 Board Meeting	
1:00 PM	Exhibitor Setup	Conference foyer
3:00 PM	Registration Open	Conference foyer
3 - 6 pm	Tradeshow Open	Conference foyer
4 - 6 pm	Foundation Welcome Reception - Whiskey tasting	Ballroom

## Thursday, January 20, 2022

<u>Time</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
7:30 - 5 pm	Registration Open	Conference foyer
8 - 5 pm	Tradeshow Open	Conference foyer
8 - 11 am	<b>Mentor Session:</b> <i>Introduction: John Roller and Dave Carter</i> <i>Bison Working System - Doug Woodall, Zane Berlinic</i> <i>Bison Business Planning Panel - John and Jen Graves, Erich Erlich</i> <i>Bison Herd Health - Dr. Tom Bragg</i>	
	<b>Concurrent Sessions</b>	
8:30 am	<b>How to Engage with Science</b> <i>Dr. Rachel Short,</i> <i>Chase Brooke,</i> <i>Dr. Jill Zaretsky</i>	
9:30 am	<b>Bison Public Relations 101</b> <i>Matt Skoglund</i>	
11 - 11:45 am	<b>Bison: An Indigenous Culinary Original</b> <i>Matt Chandra, Tocabe Restaurant</i>	
11:45 a.m.	<b>USDA Assistance for Bison Producers</b> <i>Zach Ducheneaux, Administrator, USDA Farm Service Agency</i>	
12:15 pm	<b>Lunch - HerdDogg Pilot Project Discussion</b>	
1:30 pm	<b>Meet My Neighbor Documentary Trailer</b> <i>Shauna and Charlie Rankin</i>	
1:40 pm	<b>Introducing the Turner Institute of Ecoagriculture</b> <i>Dr. Carter Kruse</i>	
2:00 pm	<b>A Strategy for Managing Mycoplasma in the Feed Yard</b> <i>Tyrell Anderson</i>	
2:50 pm	<b>2022 International Bison Convention</b>	
3:00 PM	<b>Break - Visit the Vendors</b>	Conference foyer
3:15 - 4:45 pm	<b>Bison Marketers' Panel Discussion</b> <i>David Adams, Intermountain Bison Co.</i> <i>Bob Dineen, Rocky Mtn. Natural meats</i> <i>Alex Heim, Dakota Pure Bison</i> <i>Jessi Deardorf, Benjamin Lee Bison</i> <i>Jim Wells, North American Bison, L.L.C.</i>	
4:45 - 5:30 pm	<b>Today's Bison Conservation Efforts</b> <i>Cristina Mormorunni, Wildlife Conservation Society</i>	

## Friday, January 21, 2022

Time	Event	Location
7:30 am	Consignors' Meeting	
8 am - Noon	Registration Open	Conference foyer
8 - 1 pm	Tradeshow Open	Conference foyer
8 am - 9 am	Voter Registration Open	Conference foyer
9 am - noon	Larry Higgins Junior Judging <i>Hosted by RMBA</i>	NWSS
9:30 -10:45 am	Annual Membership Meeting <i>Elections</i> <i>President's Report</i> <i>Financial Report</i> <i>Executive Director's Report and IBC Promo</i>	
10:45 am	Greeting from the InterTribal Buffalo Association	
12:00 pm	Food Truck at NWSS	NWSS
12:45 pm	Ribbon Cutting - Del Hensel Working Facility	NWSS
1:00 pm	Buffalero Q&A & Buyer's Reception	NWSS
2:30 pm	GTSS Awards Ceremony at NWSS	NWSS
5:00 pm	Social Hour	Conference foyer
6:00 pm	Friday Banquet Dinner	

## CONFERENCE SPEAKERS



### John Roller

John and Becky Roller started Back Forty Bison in Dadeville, MO in 2012 and now provide premium starter herds for smaller operations. In addition, Back Forty Bison provides wholesale grass-fed bison meat products to local retailers. John has a background in computer software consulting and Becky is a clinical psychologist specializing in marriage and family. They are both actively involved in their local church and founders of Sac River Institute – a local charitable non-profit. They are currently engaged in their own software consulting business to help fund the growth of their “bison addiction.”

### Doug Woodall

### Zane Berlinic

### John and Jen Graves

**Erich Erlich**

**Tom Bragg**



**Dr. Rachel Short**



**Chase Brooke**

Chase Brooke is the Agriculture and Natural Resources County Extension Agent with Texas A&M AgriLife Extension. He works with local farmers, ranchers, and residents to implement best management practices in conservation, production, and land management. Twice a graduate of Texas A&M University, he received a B.S. in Spatial Science and an M.S. in Ecosystem Science and Management with a certificate in leadership study and development. Chase is a native to the DFW area, and has previously worked in forestry, research, and higher education before starting as a County Extension Agent in 2018.

**Jill Zaretsky**



**Matt Skoglund**

Matt Skoglund is the founder and owner of North Bridger Bison in Wilsall, MT. Prior to starting North Bridger Bison, Matt was the Director of the Northern Rockies Office for the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), where he worked on various conservation issues in Montana and the Northern Rockies for a decade. Prior to NRDC, Matt was an attorney in the litigation group of a large law firm in Chicago. He is a graduate of Middlebury College and the University of Illinois College of Law. Matt and his wife, Sarah, have two young kids, Otto and Greta.



**Matt Chandra**



**Shauna and Charlie Rankin**





### **Dr. Carter Kruse**

Carter Kruse is the Director of Conservation and Science for Turner Enterprises and the newly established Turner Institute of Ecoagriculture. Carter grew up in central North Dakota and received his Bachelor's degree in Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences from South Dakota State University in 1993 and a Master's and PhD in Zoology from University of Wyoming in 1998. Carter joined Turner Enterprises in 2000 and has spent the past 21 years coordinating natural resource conservation projects, as well as ecological and agricultural research investigations.

### **Tyrell Anderson**



### **Bob Dineen**

Bob Dineen, the founder and President of Rocky Mountain Natural Meats, received his BS in Agriculture and Animal Science from West Virginia University in 1978. Five years later, he started working in the bison industry, where he managed a herd of 250 head of bison. In 1986, he started Rocky Mountain Natural Meats with the goal to be the best in the business. For more than 30 years, Bob has been active in the industry, championing our ranchers and dedicating his time to ensuring that customers receive a consistently delicious, natural, and super-healthy protein.



### **David Adams**

### **Alex Heim**



### **Jessi Deardorf**



### **Jim Wells**

Jim Wells, President and CEO of North American bison, L.L.C., is a business executive with a background in sales, marketing, operations, and analytics extending over 30 years of dynamic leadership. His recent roles include ingredient manufacturing, baking finished goods, distribution and sales and he is currently pursuing a passion for and promoting within the Bison meat industry. Jim draws on his overall business development and general management skills, combined with an entrepreneurial spirit, to steer his leadership efforts toward success.



### **Cristina Mormomoni**

Cristina Mormomoni has worked in conservation for over 25 years. Most recently, Cristina led the Wildlife Conservation Society's Rocky Mountain Program and directed the Program's Indigenous-Led Conservation Initiative and place-based buffalo reintegration project's like the linnii Initiative, which is grounded in Blackfoot Territory. Cristina's work focuses on connecting and deepening the relationships that link culture, environment, and economy. She bridges worlds—sitting with equal comfort in boardrooms, on fishing boats, at kitchen tables, in courtrooms, and at ceremonies. Cristina received her academic training at Connecticut College and the University of Washington's Graduate School of Marine Affairs.

