

WYOMING LIVESTOCK BOARD (WLSB)

**Agency 051
Annual Report
FY2016**

Director's name and official title: Steve True, WLSB Director and CEO

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Agency Contact Person: Steve True, Director-CEO

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Statutory References: The agency's statutory authority was established under Chapter 85, Laws 1933.

Its activities are described in:

Title 6, Chapter 6, Statute 6-1-101

Title 7, Chapter 2, Statute 7-2-101

Title 9, Chapter 2, Statute 9-2-1102

Title 11, Chapter 6, Statute 11-6-201 and 11-6-210

Chapter 18, Statutes 11-18-101 through 11-18-119

Chapter 19, Statutes 11-19-101 through 11-19-506

Chapter 20, Statutes 11-20-101 through 11-20-409

Chapter 21, Statutes 11-21-101 through 11-21-104

Chapter 22, Statutes 11-22-101 through 11-22-119

Chapter 23, Statutes 11-23-101 through 11-23-305

Chapter 24, Statutes 11-24-101 through 11-24-115

Chapter 26, Statute 11-26-101

Chapter 27, Statutes 11-27-101 through 11-27-107

Chapter 28, Statutes 11-28-101 through 11-28-108

Chapter 29, Statutes 11-29-101 through 11-29-114

Chapter 30, Statutes 11-30-101 through 11-30-114

Chapter 31, Statutes 11-31-101 through 11-31-301

Chapter 32, Statutes 11-32-101 through 11-32-104

Chapter 37, Statutes 11-37-102 and 11-37-107

Title 31, Chapter 5, Statute 31-5-102

Clients Served: Livestock producers, licensed veterinarians, and general public.

Budget Information: BFY15-16 budget, adjusted for the austerity measure reductions, is \$ \$17,694,437 of which \$7,641,437 is general fund, \$425,092 from federal funds and \$9,627,908 which is producer-generated revenue from the Brand Recording and Inspection activities of the agency.

Basic Facts:

WLSB has four operational units with 19 full-time staff including 6 in Administration, 7 in Animal Health, 6 in Brands, as well as 96 At Will Employment Contract (AWEC) Brand Inspectors and 1 part-time AWEC Law Enforcement officer. Currently, there are 14 full-time staff members in the Cheyenne Office. The Riverton Office houses 2 full-time general funded staff members and 1 federal grant funded contract staff with primary focus of Brucellosis Program support. The remaining staff members are distributed throughout the state to provide services to WLSB clients.

The WLSB's main functions are livestock identification/ownership verification, outreach/education, disease surveillance and prevention/response. All units strive to prevent animal diseases and theft through education/enforcement; conduct surveillance activities which support our mission; and provide timely and appropriate response to disease reports/outbreaks and reports of missing livestock.

Administration provides management and support to WLSB units.

Animal Health has numerous functions including monitoring and responding to Wyoming reportable diseases, foreign animal disease investigations, epidemiologic investigations, disease prevention, mitigation, quarantine and monitoring, livestock disease tracing, emergency management and response, outreach activities/education, and development and management of cooperative agreements with federal agencies. The Unit is very proactive in maintaining rules for Brucellosis, Trichomoniasis, Scrapie and Import Requirements with the goal of animal health protection for Wyoming's livestock.

Brand The Brand program is the principal means of determining and verifying livestock ownership in the state of Wyoming in order to protect livestock owners from theft or loss. It provides for recording and issuing livestock brands; renewal and or transfer of brand ownership; publishing brand books and updates; physical inspection of livestock for brands and ownership; legal transfer of title to livestock during any change of ownership; inspection of livestock hides and pelts for brands and ownership; determination of ownership and or return estray livestock or the proceeds of the sale of estray livestock to their lawful owners; assisting law enforcement officers investigating violations of livestock laws; supporting disease traceability efforts and compliance with animal health requirements; and providing for collection of predatory animal control and Wyoming Beef council fees.

Law Enforcement provides criminal investigations, Livestock Board Rules and Regulations enforcement, and emergency management services to the people of Wyoming.

Performance Measure #1 is Agency Computerization:

Core System:

The WLSB acquired the spending authority from the 052 Brand Fund in the FY11-12 Supplemental Budget of \$361,185 to further the efforts of agency computerization – specifically the brand inspection unit. After a review of all Information Technology projects at the beginning of the Mead administration, it was determined the best option for the agency was to submit an Exception Budget request for the FY13-14 budget which would provide additional funding to enhance the agency's computerization efforts and provide funding to create a core integrated system for the agency's functions. The total amount authorized for the project was \$920,400. WLSB staff worked closely with Enterprise Technology

Services (ETS) staff to develop a Request for Proposal (RFP). Following the RFP and bid procedure the contract was awarded to Happy Jack Software Inc. of Laramie, Wyoming.

Computerization Project Update:

Program Development Contract, Happy Jack Software Inc.,	\$ 686,575.00
Development Costs Paid to 6/30/2016 (68% Complete)	<u>\$ 468,151.00</u>

Remainder on Contract (32% Remaining) \$ 218,424.00

Performance Measure #2 is Education / Outreach:

One of the primary functions of the WLSB staff is to provide educational opportunities and outreach, and to keep the livestock industry updated on issues of importance. Toward that goal, we sponsored, participated in, or presented at numerous meetings, conference calls, webinars, and seminars during the fiscal year. These meetings included producer education meetings on Brucellosis, Trichomoniasis, Scrapie, and other relevant topics. We held six trainings to certify Wyoming veterinarians to conduct official Trichomoniasis testing in Wyoming. Many interagency meetings were held to coordinate efforts with the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory, Wyoming Department of Health, Wyoming Department of Agriculture, USDA-APHIS, Wyoming Game and Fish Department, UW Extension, Department of Transportation, and others in response to disease issues including Brucellosis, Big Horn Sheep/Domestic sheep interactions, zoonotic diseases, and emergency response. Visits were made to the 4 Wyoming licensed livestock auction markets during the year and meetings were held with auction market management to assure knowledge of and compliance with WLSB animal health statutes and rules. In addition, the field veterinarian visited designated feedlots located throughout the state to educate them about ID requirements, and to help management determine whether they should become approved tagging sites.

WLSB animal health unit personnel participated in numerous interstate and/or national meetings and teleconferences to foster coordination with other states, USDA-APHIS, and national organizations to help maintain marketability of Wyoming livestock. WLSB personnel also held or participated in meetings with Wyoming producers, veterinarians and county and state livestock event managers to share information about animal ID requirements, agency rules, and interstate movement requirements, and to provide updates and information on reportable diseases such as Brucellosis, Trichomoniasis and Vesicular Stomatitis.

WLSB Law Enforcement personnel conducted a total of 8 training sessions throughout the state providing 115 Deputy Sheriffs and Animal Control Officers continuing education, outreach and updates on current Livestock Laws and procedures.

The WLSB held six meetings (2 face-to-face and 4 teleconferences) during the fiscal year to conduct business and discuss issues relevant to the livestock industry. Many meetings were participated in by WLSB staff and board members to educate and coordinate efforts with Wyoming industry and organizations, other agencies, other states, and national organizations to foster our livestock industry.

Performance Measure #3 is Program Management & Oversight:

Administration Unit:

Budget Management and Oversight:

The BFY15 Agency Budget, after austerity measure reductions, is \$17,694,437 which is designated as follows:

	<u>BFY15 TOTAL</u>	<u>Expended FY16</u>
General Fund	\$7,641,437.00	\$3,402,594.79
Brucellosis (includes federal grant brucellosis dollars built into standard budget)	\$1,375,488.00	\$729,950.77
Federal Funds	\$ 425,092	\$213,877.91
Agency Fund	\$9,627,908	\$3,800,429.69
Revenue received FY16		\$ 2,942,703.33 made up of:
Brand Recording		\$ 272,063.75
Brand Inspection		\$ 2,521,174.53
Interest Income		\$ 149,465.05

Statutes and Rules:

WLSB staff conducted a thorough review of the current rules we administer. As a result of the Governor's rules initiative, all chapters of rules were reviewed by the agency. The review resulted in a reduction of the number of rules from 20 to 15. Revisions to the chapters 2 (Brucellosis), 6 (Brucellosis Reimbursement), 13 (Scrapie), and 15 (Trichomoniasis) rules were approved and signed into effect by Governor Mead. The chapter 2 rules were out again for public comment at the end of FY 16 to amend one requirement.

Brand Inspection and Recording Rules:

Every tenth year after recording a brand, brand owners are required to rerecord the brand and failure to do so is abandonment of the brand. At least sixty days preceding the expiration date of the brand, the livestock board is required to notify by mail the brand owner that the brand must be rerecorded. If the brand is not rerecorded within sixty days from the expiration date of the brand, under current law, a brand is considered delinquent and if not rerecorded during the delinquent period, the brand is declared abandoned and available to be applied for by the general public. In the upcoming 2017 recording period, 8,374 brands are up for renewal.

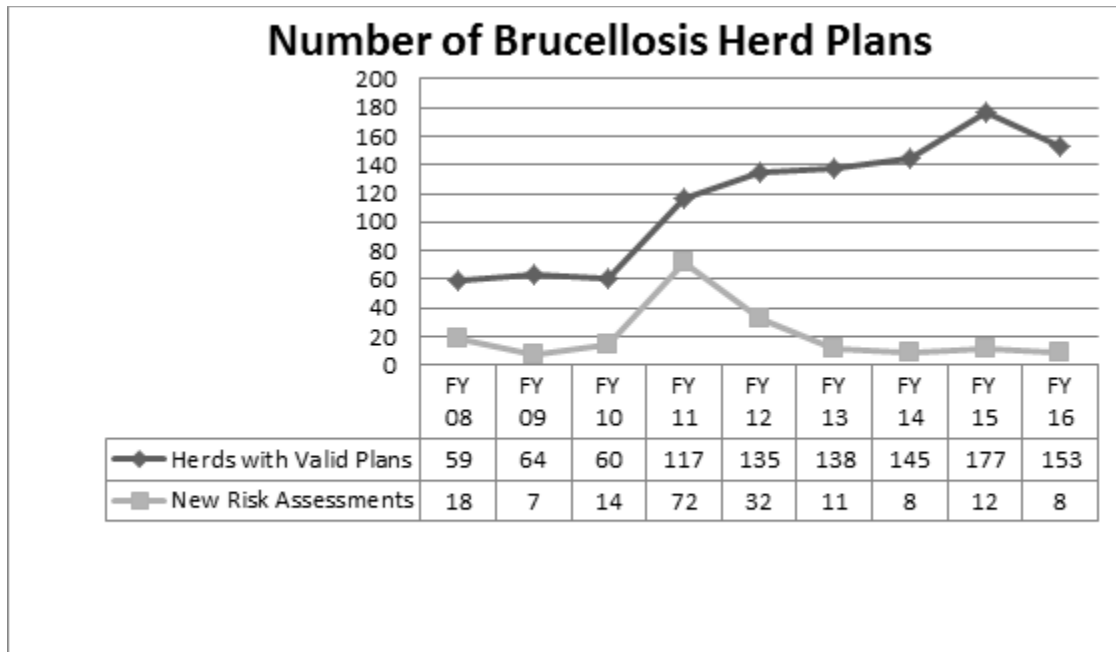
Emergency Planning for Livestock:

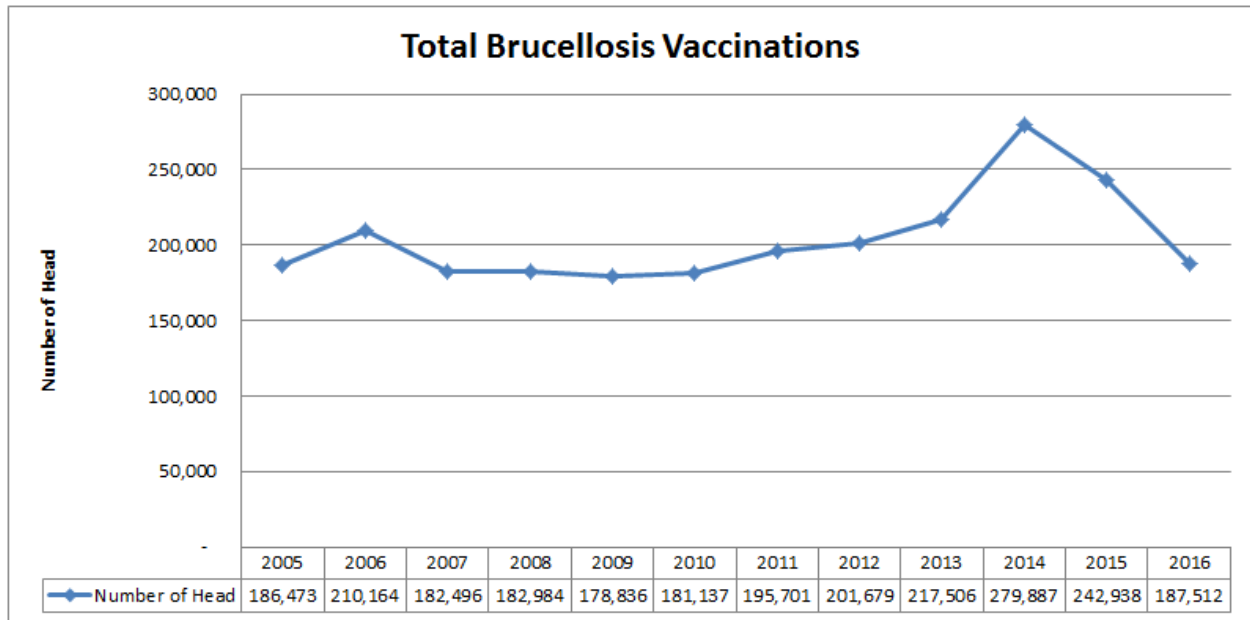
Progress continued in the process of developing an MOU with USDA APHIS Veterinary Services to activate the National Veterinary Stockpile in the event of a major disease outbreak. This effort requires coordination between the WLSB and several other agencies, including WYDOT, WDH, and county emergency management coordinators, and is ongoing.

WLSB Animal Health personnel are continuing to work with the University of Wyoming's Agriculture Extension Service on the Animal Health Network, which is an emergency notification network that includes veterinarians, feed stores, implement dealers, and other agriculture-related businesses who will help notify the public of animal health emergencies through their customer contacts. We are also working with adjacent states in developing cross-border emergency livestock response protocols. Both of these initiatives are ongoing and will continue to be works in progress.

Animal Health Unit:

Brucellosis Measurables –





FY16 Brucellosis Surveillance Statistics for Cattle Grazing in the Wyoming Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) and the Brucellosis Area of Concern (Big Horn county and Sheridan county)

40 veterinarians conducted testing for Brucellosis on cattle from the Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) and the Brucellosis Area of Concern during Fiscal Year 2016. 43,875 DSA-origin cattle/bison were tested on Wyoming ranches and at livestock markets and 2,094 cattle were sampled at WY slaughter plants to comply with WLSB Chapter 2 Brucellosis rules. The domestic bison herd that had been under quarantine as a Brucellosis-affected herd was released from quarantine in October, 2015. Two new Brucellosis affected cattle herds found in October, 2015 were placed under quarantine pending three consecutive negative herd tests. One was in Park county and one in Sublette county.

The WLSB paid \$262,588 to veterinarians and slaughter plant managers to conduct Brucellosis testing, spaying of exposed heifers in infected herds, and vaccination of DSA and Brucellosis Area of Concern-origin cattle. U.S. Department of Agriculture contributions specifically for brucellosis testing and vaccination efforts was \$33,823 for a grand total of \$296,411 paid for these activities. In addition, the WLSB contracted \$218,000 with the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory during the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2016 for support of laboratory costs associated with brucellosis testing.

Other Animal Health Measurables

The WLSB maintains a list of animal diseases, called the “Reportable Disease List”, that are required to be reported to the state veterinarian when they are identified. These diseases are important for many reasons including their impact on herd health, public health (zoonotic diseases), or economics and marketability of the WY livestock industry. The table below includes the number of cases reported by disease for the reporting period.

	<u># of Cases</u>	<u># of Species</u>	<u>Species</u>
Anaplasmosis	2	1	Cattle
Brucellosis abortus	2	1	Cattle
Brucellosis canis	1	1	Dog
Brucella ovis	19	1	Sheep
Campylobacter species	14	3	Cattle/Swine/Sheep
Caprine Arthritis			
Encephalitis	20	1	Goat
Johne's Disease	14	2	Cattle/Goat
Listeriosis	1	1	Cattle
Marek's Disease	2	1	Chicken
Ovine Progressive			
Pneumonia	2	1	Sheep
Plague	4	1	Cat
Rabies*	13	4	Cat/Skunk/Cattle/Bat
Trichomoniasis	4	1	Cattle
Tularemia	6	3	Cat/Dog/Rabbit
Vesicular Stomatitis	146	2	Horse/Cattle
West Nile Virus**	4	2	Horse/Avian

* Rabies information courtesy of Wyoming Department of Health and WSVL.

**West Nile Virus information courtesy of Wyoming Department of Health.

Wyoming experienced a significant outbreak of Vesicular Stomatitis during the summer and fall months of 2015. Vesicular Stomatitis Virus (VSV) is a viral disease that is spread primarily by flies and midges and predominantly affects horses and cattle. It causes blister-like lesions in the oral cavity, on the coronary band and, occasionally, on the udder and genitals of affected animals. The Wyoming outbreak was part of a larger national outbreak that affected 823 premises in 8 states including Arizona, Colorado, Nebraska, New Mexico, South Dakota, Texas, Utah and Wyoming.

The first case of VSV in Wyoming was discovered July 20 at the Cheyenne Frontier Days Park in Cheyenne. Over the course of the next four months, 146 confirmed or suspect cases were reported in the following 10 counties: Albany, Converse, Crook, Fremont, Goshen, Laramie, Natrona, Platte, Sublette and Weston. Fremont County had the most cases with 75, followed by Platte County with 38. The last VSV quarantine was released on December 2 in Fremont County.

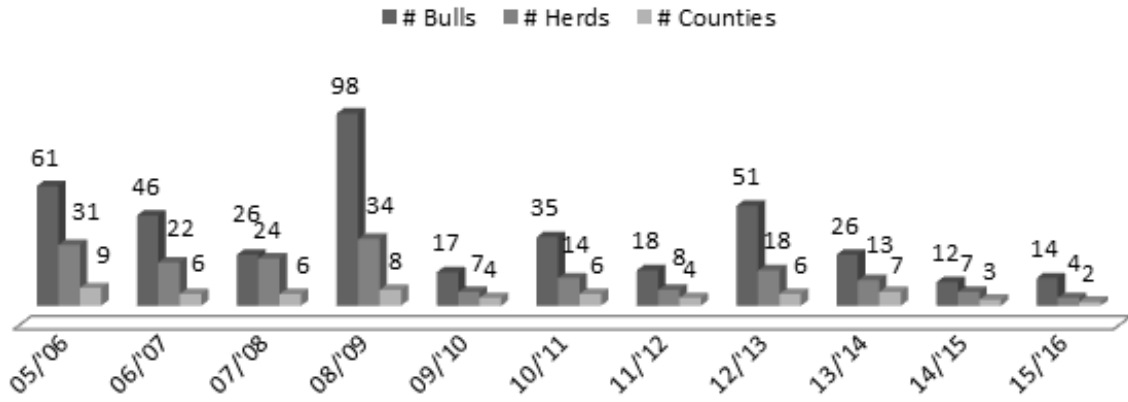
County	Confirmed Positive Premises	Suspect Premises	Total Premises
Albany County	2	2	4
Converse County	4	6	10
Crook County	1	0	1
Fremont County	23	52	75
Goshen County	5	6	11
Laramie County	3	0	3
Natrona County	1	0	1
Platte County	9	29	38
Sublette County	2	0	2
Weston County	1	0	1
TOTAL: 10 COUNTIES	51	95	146

In Wyoming, a Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) investigation is conducted whenever a case of VSV is suspected in cattle and whenever there is a first suspected case in a county, regardless of species. Of the 42 Foreign Animal Disease (FAD) investigations conducted in the state of Wyoming over the past fiscal year, 23 of them were confirmed cases of VSV. Other FAD investigations involved the following suspect diseases: Foot and Mouth Disease, Bluetongue, High Path Avian Influenza and Marek's Disease. Of these, four cases were confirmed positive: 2 cases of Marek's Disease in poultry and 2 cases of Bluetongue in cattle. (*Foreign Animal Disease investigations (none positive) information courtesy of Wyoming Area APHIS Office.*)

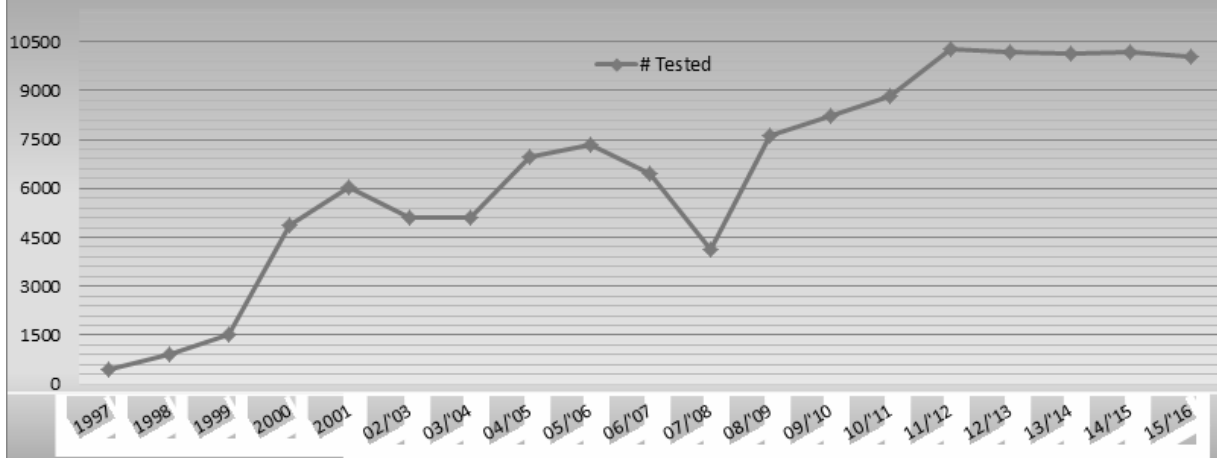
The WLSB conducts surveillance testing for Avian Influenza funded by a USDA APHIS cooperative agreement grant. This Surveillance is important for both livestock and human health in Wyoming and the US. Avian Influenza is caused by viruses that can affect wild and domestic poultry, humans, and potentially other species and it is important to conduct surveillance testing for the protection of animal and human health. 16 county fairs and the state fair, and a few poultry premises were targeted for AI surveillance during FY2016. Samples were collected from 949 poultry during the period.

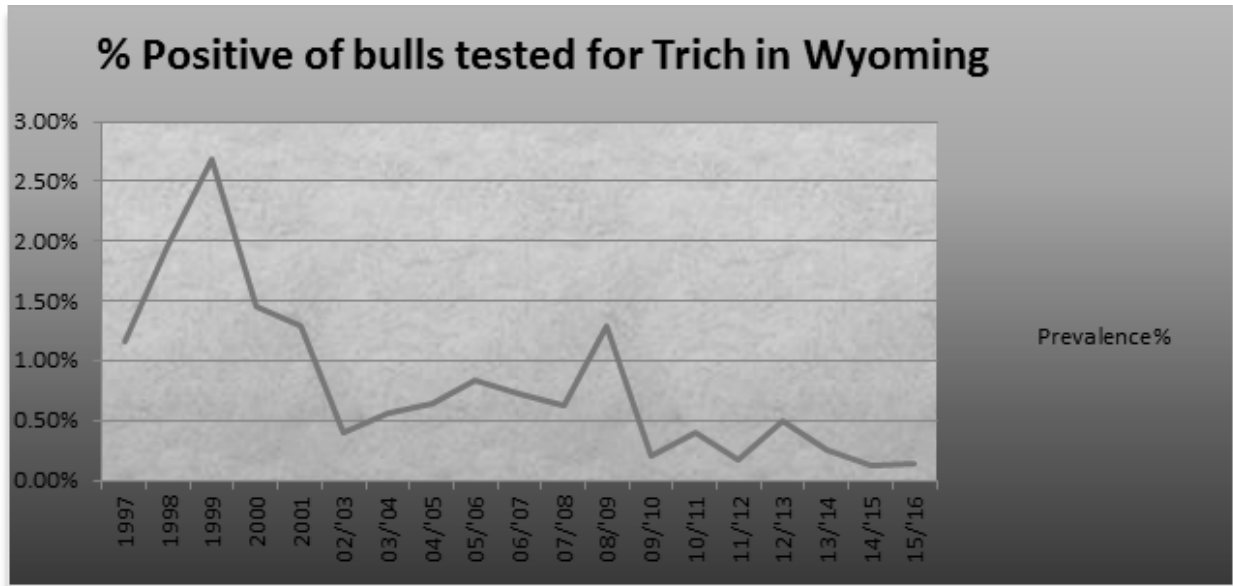
Trichomoniasis continues to be an economically significant disease impacting the cattle industry in Wyoming and other western range states. This venereal disease causes reproductive loss in female cattle thereby causing lowered and un-uniform calf crops and infertility. This is a reportable disease in WY and results in quarantine of infected herds with required culling of test positive bulls. From July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, 10,657 bulls were tested and 14 infected bulls were identified. The positive bulls originated from (2) counties and (4) Wyoming herds.

No. Trich Cases in Wyo by Year



Numbers of Bulls Tested in Wyoming





Number of Quarantines by Disease FY16	
Brucellosis Positive	3
Brucellosis Test	6
Trichomoniasis Positive	4
Tuberculosis Test	20
Adult Brucellosis Vac on Arrival	6
Calfhood Brucellosis Vac on Arrival	14
Scrapie Susceptibility Test on Arrival	2
Trichomoniasis Test on Arrival	2
Vesicular Stomatitis	155
Total # Quarantines Issued/Continued for FY16	212

Tags Distributed by the WLSB for official identification purposes

There were 20,424 Wyoming green tags or silver USDA tags distributed to Wyoming producers. There were 82,168 Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Brucellosis Vaccination tags distributed to 54 Wyoming veterinarians during the Fiscal Year 2016

Brand Unit – Brand Inspection

The 2012 drought caused a sell off of the Wyoming Cattle inventory. This led to lower inspection numbers on cattle in 2013 and 2014. It takes approximately two years after a drought

sell off of cattle, for numbers to start to rebound. This is what happened in the last year. In 2014, inspection numbers on cattle bottoming out to their lowest numbers in a generation and started to increase again in 2015. While there were drought conditions in certain parts of Wyoming, especially in parts of Campbell, Weston, Converse, Niobrara and Crook, most of the state had decent moisture and good grass production. This has benefited most of the livestock producers. Sheep inspections continue to rebound, in part because of increased feedlot activity in the Big Horn Basin. This trend is expected for at least the following year.

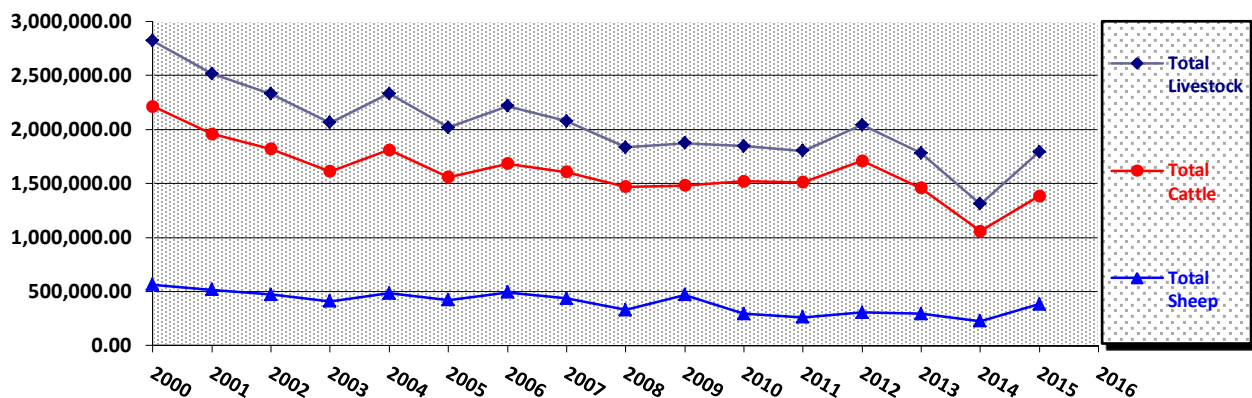
Total Inspections for Calendar Year 2015

In 2015 there were 1,385,407 cattle inspected, 384,469 sheep inspected and 20,271 horses inspected, and 3,226 hides inspected for a total of 1,793,373 livestock inspections. 39,222 brand inspection certificates were issued in the county, with the remaining inspections being done at the 4 licensed livestock markets in the state. Livestock inspections were up when compared with the previous year, as livestock growers rebuilding their herds toward optimum carrying capacity.

In total, cattle inspections were up 2.11%. Sheep inspections were up significantly, by 20.73%. Horse inspections followed a downward trend, decreasing by 9.3%. This decrease in horse inspections is likely a reflection of the downturn in the overall all state economy. Total livestock inspections for the year were up 5.98%, and country Inspections forms issued were up 5.5%. Overall we are seeing livestock numbers are recovering gradually from the previous low of 2014. The following table contains calendar year information for comparison purposes for calendar years 2000 through 2015.

WY Cattle and Sheep Inspections Calendar Year 2000-2015

Brand Unit – Brand Inspection: Total Livestock Inspected



Brand Unit – Brand Recording:

Historically, all brands were renewed in each year ending in the number five. This was changed during the 2015 renewal where brands renewal was staggered out every two years depending on the initial issue date. During the 2005 renewal, brands were prorated out into two year segments. The Wyoming Livestock Board has gone through that initial ten year cycle and brands are now renewed at a uniform fee.

Since there are a disproportional amount of brands registered in renewal years, there are more brands registered in years ending in five and six than any of the other staggered segments. This means the upcoming renewal for 2017 is our largest portion in recent years. As of date, 8,374 brands are up for renewal. Our next renewal will start soon, in the fall of 2016. Historically approximately 80% of brands are re-recorded. Therefore, we are planning for approximately 6,700 brands being renewed and over 1,670 brands becoming delinquent and or abandoned. In addition, during FY2015, there were 152 new brands issued, 386 abandoned brands reissued, and 581 brand transfers.

Law Enforcement Unit:

The core functions of the Law Enforcement Unit include conducting criminal investigations of suspected violations of State/Federal laws and Wyoming Livestock Board rules; investigate reported cases of livestock theft, illegal livestock movement, illegal import/export, animal cruelty/welfare; and train/educate and assist other Wyoming law enforcement agencies.

An electronic case management system is used to track the number of reported violations, investigations and trainings.

The table below provides information regarding cases worked in FY15.

Type of Case	Number Worked
Animal Welfare	55
Brand Inspection Violations	45
Civil Matter	31
Missing / Theft Reports	73
Agency Assist	30
Animal Health Violations	23
Livestock Check Points	29
Citations	11
Warnings	2
Livestock Rustling	13
Training Classes Conducted	8
Total Number	320

WLSB Organizational Chart

