

## WYOMING LIVESTOCK BOARD (WLSB)

### Agency 051 Annual Report FY2018

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

**Mailing Address:** 1934 Wyott Drive; Cheyenne, WY 82002-051

**Other Locations:** 610 Fairground Rd, Riverton, WY

**Web Address (URL):** <http://wlsb.state.wy.us/>

**Agency Contact Person:** Steve True, Director-CEO

**Agency Contact Phone:** 777-7515

**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:** BFY17-18 budget, adjusted for the Governor's 8% reductions and additional 2017 General Session reductions, is \$18,143,997 of which \$6,232,044 is general fund, \$424,659 from federal funds and \$11,487,294 which is producer-generated revenue from the Brand Recording and Inspection activities of the agency.

#### **Basic Facts:**

WLSB has four operational units with 16 full-time staff following a reduction in the Law Enforcement Unit funding during the 2017 General Session. The divisions include 6 in Administration, 4 in Animal Health, 6 in Brands, as well as 96 At Will Employment Contract (AWEC) Brand Inspectors. The legislature also approved 1 Federal Grant funded AWEC position in Brucellosis division which

previously required B-11 approval annually. Currently, there are 14 full-time positions in the Cheyenne Office. The Riverton Office houses 2 full-time general funded positions and 1 federal grant funded contract staff with primary focus of Brucellosis Program support. The remaining positions 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; conducting surveillance activities which support our mission; and providing 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 Agency has improved greatly in building an integrated computer system. Animal Health has implemented the use of a new module. Brand Inspection is complete with a module that communicates with Animal Health. Law Enforcement now has a subscription service module that is stand alone for Criminal Justice compliance. However, officers will have "look in" capability on both Animal Health and Brand Inspection for access to certificates needed in investigations.

Brand Inspectors are using an online/offline capable tablet system to create electronic certificates. This system allows electronic reporting of inspections to the agency office, allowing for automatic entry of fees. This streamlines the auditing process to cut down on transcription and math errors and provide much improved research and data analysis for the agency and our clients.

As all aspects of the WLBMS system are live and operational, the goal of the agency is to increase integration and coordination of Agency units, to communicate more efficiently, and continue to streamline the process. We have supplied full time Brand Inspectors with smart phones and have Wi-Fi capability in order to efficiently operate the online uploading capabilities of their tablets in remote areas.

### **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 two formal trainings and two individual 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, Bighorn Sheep/Domestic sheep interactions, zoonotic diseases, and emergency response. Visits were made to the 4 Wyoming licensed livestock auction markets during the year 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, Equine Piroplasmiasis, and bovine Tuberculosis.

The WLSB held 5 meetings (4 face to face, 1 tele conference) 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 BFY17 Agency Budget, after the Governor's 8% and 2017 General Session reductions, is \$18,143,997 which is designated as follows:**

	<u>Biennium TOTAL</u>	<u>Expended/Distributed FY18</u>
<b>General Fund</b>	\$6,232,044	\$2,797,801
<b>Brucellosis</b>	\$ 910,732	\$ 497,308
<b>Federal Funds</b>	\$ 424,659	\$ 239,386
<b>Agency Funds</b>	\$9,382,082	\$4,148,070
<b>Predator Fund</b>	\$2,105,212	\$1,062,872

<b>Revenue received FY18</b>	<b>\$ 4,348,706 made up of:</b>
Brand Recording	\$ 321,706
Brand Inspection	\$ 2,964,128
Predator Fees	\$ 1,062,872

#### **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 Chapter 8 Import rules and Chapter 14 Presentation Of Official Forms By Licensed And Accredited Veterinarians rules were out for public comment at the end of FY17 with the comment period ending on August 4, 2017. The rules were signed into effect by Governor Mead. Subsequently, additional changes were needed in the Chapter 8 rules which were then sent out for public comment again and adopted and signed into effect on July 9, 2018.

#### **Brand Inspection and Recording Rules:**

In FY 2018 the Brand division experienced another significant cut in general fund contribution to the Brand Inspection, which amounted to \$1.6 million in total cuts. While the Brand Recording unit continues to be totally self-funded, the Brand Inspection unit requires general fund contribution to fund those statutorily required duties, performed by Brand Inspectors, that are not fee based e.g. assisting Law Enforcement with livestock owner identification and removal from highways etc. The Livestock Board formed a working group from Board members and industry stakeholders. This group examined program changes to both identify possible program cuts, changes and fee increases to keep the program financially sound. The findings indicated there are very few areas where cuts can be made without drastically reducing inspectors and therefore services to the industry. Approximately 84.83% of the Brand inspection budget goes directly to Brand Inspector Salary and Benefits. Another 9.02 % is used for In-State travel, i.e. mileage expense. An additional 3.14% of the budget goes to Cost Allocation charges. That leaves approximately 3% of the budget going to all other expenses. However, the working group did determine that the current system of In-State Movement permits and Out-of-State Accustomed Range permits add very little to the fee income used to provide inspection services. Updating the range permit system so that it bears an equitable share of the Inspection costs has become a

priority and the Wyoming Livestock Board is working with Legislators and stake holders to find a better solution. In the interim, to partially offset the new cuts in general funding, the Wyoming Livestock Board adopted another increase in brand inspection fees of approximately 15%. The Chapter 9 Rules, Brand Inspection and Recording Fees, were changed accordingly.

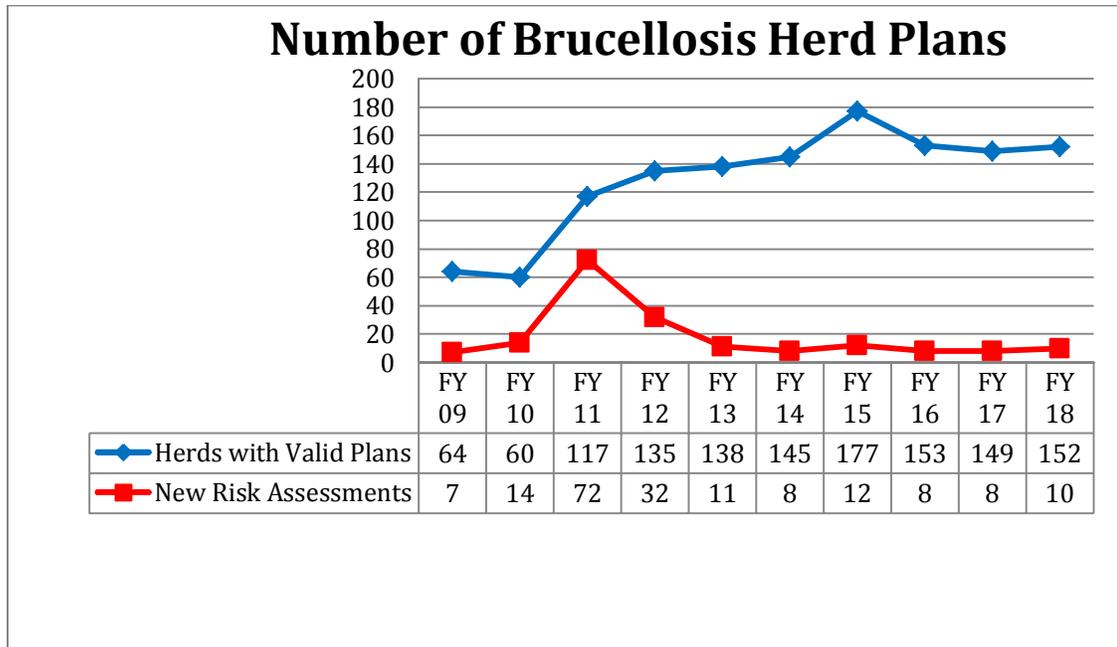
**Emergency Planning for Livestock:**

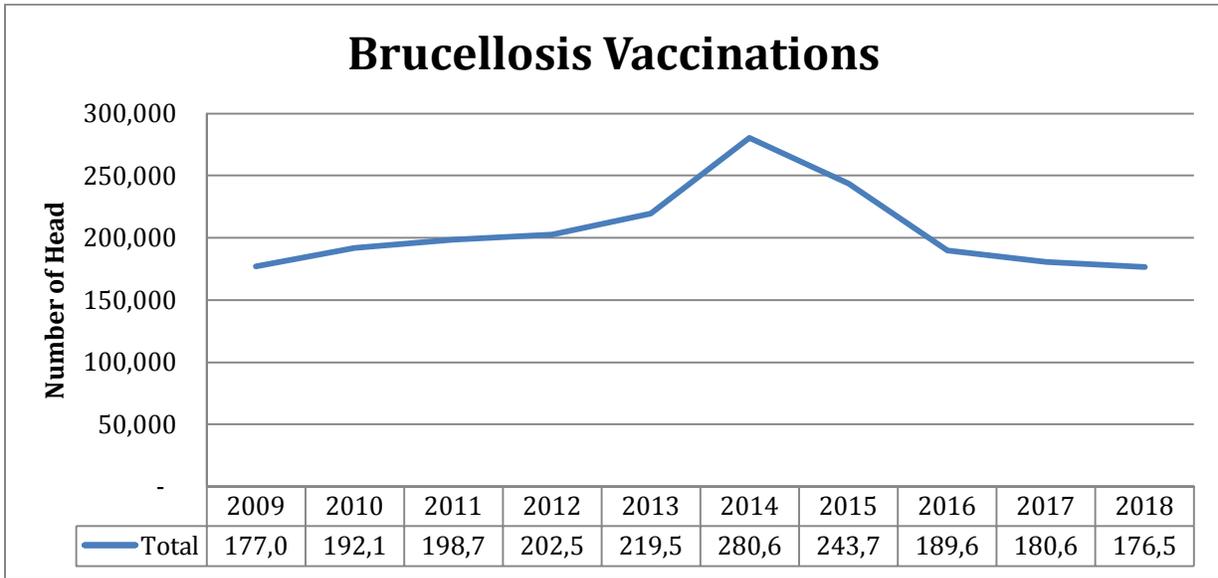
Work continued in the process of developing an MOU with USDA APHIS Veterinary Services to activate the National Veterinary Stockpile (NVSP) in the event of a major disease outbreak. This effort requires coordination between the WLSB and several other agencies, including WYDOT, WDH, and county emergency management coordinators, and is ongoing. The WLSB veterinary staff began planning for a tabletop exercise with USDA APHIS to evaluate its ability to receive the NVSP. The exercise is scheduled for August 29, 2018.

WLSB Animal Health personnel are continuing to work with the University of Wyoming’s Agriculture Extension Service on emergency management response and preparedness. We participated in several training events during the fiscal year. 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 –**





FY18 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)

60 veterinarians conducted testing for Brucellosis on cattle from the Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) and the Brucellosis Area of Concern during Fiscal Year 2018. 55,496 DSA-origin cattle/bison were tested on Wyoming ranches and at livestock markets and 3,567 cattle were sampled at WY slaughter plants to comply with WLSB Chapter 2 Brucellosis rules. The WLSB with Governor Mead’s approval modified the boundaries of the Brucellosis Area of Concern from all of Big Horn and Sheridan counties down to only the area within WGFD Hunt Areas 39, 40, and 41 on the west side of the Big Horn mountains.

We had no Brucellosis affected herds in Wyoming during FY18.

The WLSB paid approximately \$366,087 to veterinarians and slaughter plant managers to conduct Brucellosis testing, and adult/booster vaccination of DSA and Brucellosis Area of Concern-origin cattle. In addition, the WLSB contracted \$101,915 with the Wyoming State Veterinary Laboratory during the period July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018 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>
Brucella ovis	4	1	Sheep
Campylobacter species	1	1	Sheep
Caprine Arthritis			
Encephalitis	6	1	Goat
Enzootic Abortion of Ewes	1	1	Sheep
Equine Herpes Virus	6	1	Horse
Equine Influenza	2	1	Horse
Johne's Disease	19	3	Cattle/Sheep/Goat
Lyme's Disease	1	1	Dog
Malignant Catarrhal Fever	1	1	Bison
Marek's Disease	1	1	Chicken
Ovine Progressive			
Pneumonia	3	1	Sheep
Plague	1	1	Prairie Dog
Porcine Reproductive &			
Respiratory Syndrome	1	1	Pig
Q-Fever	4	2	Sheep/Goat
Rabies	52	4	Skunk/Bat/Horse/Cattle
Salmonella Infection	1	1	Cattle
Scabies	1	1	Dog
Tularemia	2	1	Cat
West Nile Virus	4	2	Horse/Avian

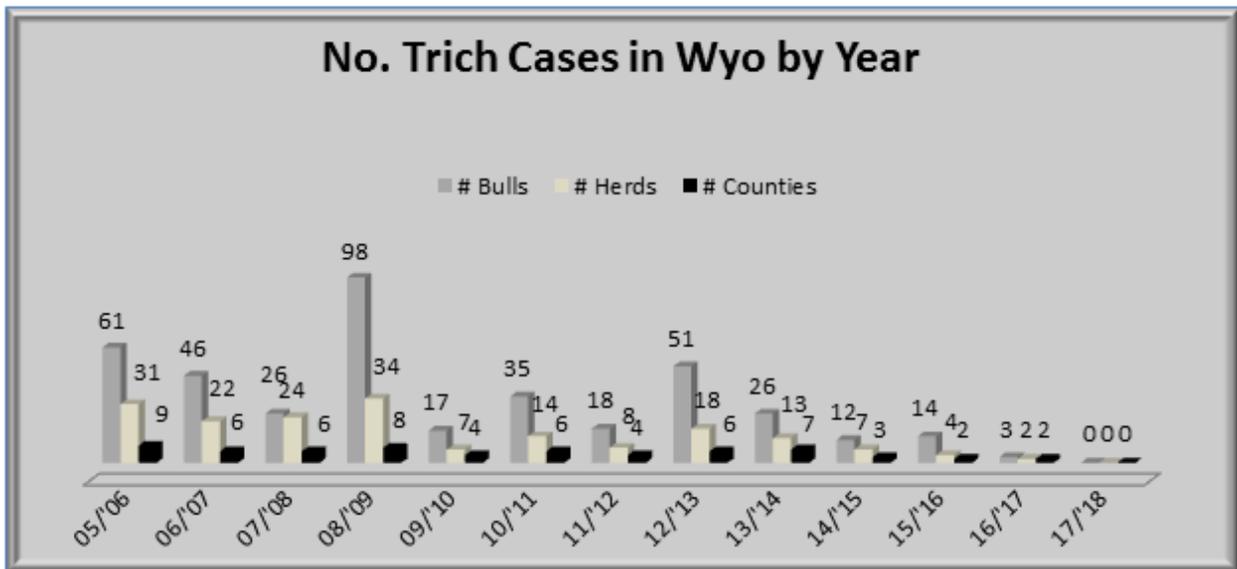
The WLSB Animal Health staff cooperated with USDA APHIS to conduct an epidemiologic and testing response to bovine Tuberculosis traces from an infected South Dakota herd during the fiscal year 2017. Some of the testing and epidemiologic investigation continued into FY18. One Wyoming cattle herd was tested as a potential "source herd" to the SD herd. Over 900 cattle were tested from this herd with all being test negative. We also had traces from the SD herd that had been sold into WY. 86 TB exposed beef heifers had been purchased from the SD herd and were imported into WY prior to the SD herd being identified by animal health officials as an affected herd. These animals were traced to a WY ranch where some of the animals remained. Others had been sold to other ranches in WY, CO, NE, and MT. Those that remained in WY were tested and although test negative, as per federal rule as exposed animals were required to be sent to slaughter with federal indemnity. Cattle in WY that had been exposed to the exposed heifers were also tested for TB and found to be negative and were released from quarantine. No bovine TB was found in Wyoming as a result of the epidemiology and related testing.

Foreign Animal Disease investigations and response activities were conducted on 7 reports potentially involving the following suspect diseases: Foot and Mouth Disease, Avian Influenza, and Equine Piroplasmiasis. One premises in Uinta County with horses infected with Equine Piroplasmiasis remains under quarantine pending further testing and treatment following the disease being found in FY17. There

were no other foreign animal diseases found in Wyoming during FY18. (*Foreign Animal Disease investigations information courtesy of Wyoming Area APHIS Office.*)

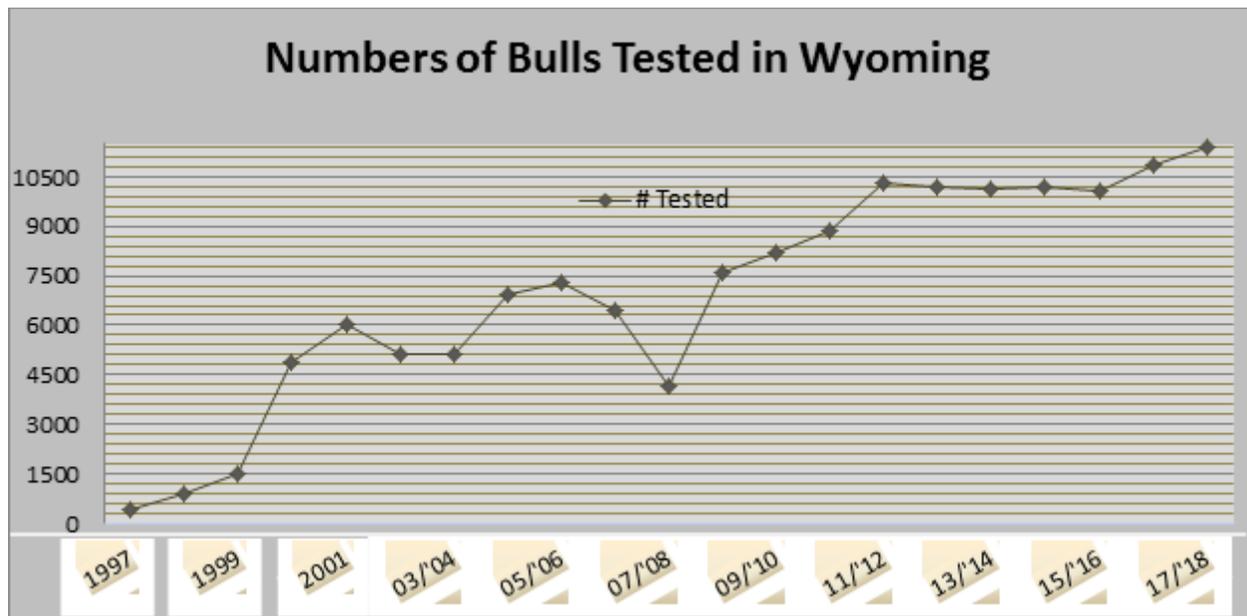
The WLSB conducts surveillance testing for Avian Influenza funded by a USDA APHIS cooperative agreement grant. This surveillance is important for both livestock and human health in Wyoming and the US. Avian Influenza is caused by viruses that can affect wild and domestic poultry, humans, and potentially other species and it is important to conduct surveillance testing for the protection of animal and human health. 18 county fairs and the state fair, and a few poultry premises were targeted for AI surveillance during FY2018. Samples were collected from 1,273 poultry during the period. No avian influenza was found in domestic poultry in the state during FY18.

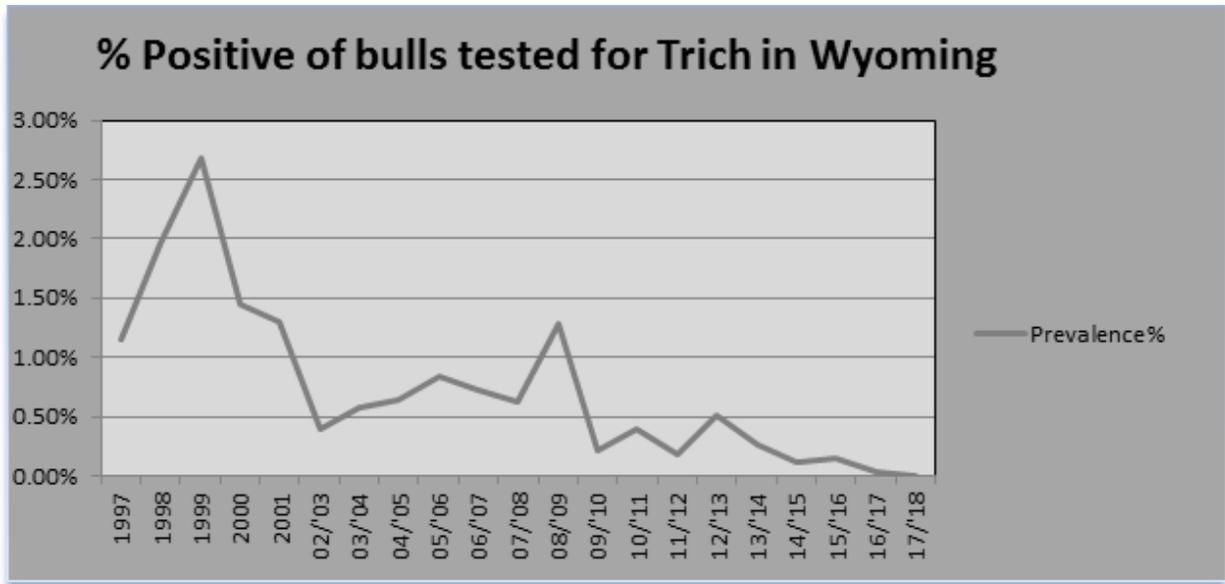
Trichomoniasis continues to be an economically significant disease impacting the cattle industry in Wyoming and other western range states. This venereal disease causes reproductive loss in female cattle thereby causing lowered and un-uniform calf crops and infertility. This is a reportable disease in WY and results in quarantine of infected herds with required culling of test positive bulls. No Trichomoniasis infected bulls were found in the state during FY18. From September 1, 2017 through August 1, 2018, 11, 369 bulls were tested.



## Numbers of Bulls Tested in Wyoming and its Trichomoniasis Special Focus Area (SFA)

	Total Bulls Tested	Negative	Suspect	Positive	Total Herds Tested	Special Focus Area
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>11,369</b>	<b>11369</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,160</b>	<b>246</b>
	SFA Numbers					
Lincoln County	914				94	
Sweetwater County	495				22	
Uinta County	993				130	
<b>Total SFA</b>	<b>2,402</b>					<b>246</b>





<b>Number of Quarantines Issued by Disease FY18</b>	
Brucellosis Positive	0
Brucellosis Test Bulls Imported from ID	14
B. ovis Test Due on Arrival	1
Trichomoniasis Positive	0
Tuberculosis Positive	0
Equine Piroplasmiasis	1
Equine Herpes Virus	7
Tuberculosis Test Due on Dairy Calves	2
Adult Brucellosis Vaccination on Arrival	13
Calfhood Brucellosis Vaccination on Arrival	5
Scrapie Susceptibility Test on Arrival	3
Trichomoniasis Test on Arrival	1
Illegal Import	2
<b>Total # Quarantines Issued/Continued for FY18</b>	<b>47</b>

### **Tags Distributed by the WLSB for official identification purposes**

There were 31,525 Wyoming green tags or silver USDA tags distributed to Wyoming producers. There were 67,310 Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) Brucellosis Vaccination tags distributed to 54 Wyoming veterinarians during the Fiscal Year 2018.

### **Brand Unit – Brand Recording:**

At the end of FY2018, 27,853 brands were recorded in Wyoming. Every tenth year after renewing a brand, brand owners are required to rerecord 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. By statute, if a brand is not rerecorded within sixty days from the expiration date of the brand, a brand is considered delinquent. If a brand is not rerecorded during the delinquent period, the brand is declared abandoned and available to be applied for by the general public at the end of the renewal year.

The 2019 renewal period will start in the fall of 2018. In this next recording period, 5,019 brands are up for renewal. In 2017, 216 delinquent brands were renewed, up from 164 in the last renewal. During FY 2018, 123 new brands were recorded, 487 abandoned brands were reissued and there were 645 other brands transactions including brand transfers, name changes, and other brand transactions. In FY 2018, the Brand recording unit served 4,999 phone calls from customers and 252 walk in customers.

### **Brand Unit – Brand Inspection:**

Cattle inspections appear to have rebounded from the low of 2014. That year, inspection numbers on cattle bottomed out to their lowest numbers in a generation and started to increase again in 2015 and 2016. While there have been drought conditions in certain parts of Wyoming, most of the state has had good grazing conditions. The 2017 numbers were extremely close to the 20 year average of livestock inspections. Going forward in 2018, early indications are that livestock numbers have leveled off and will remain steady, or even decrease slightly, barring any unforeseen weather and market factors.

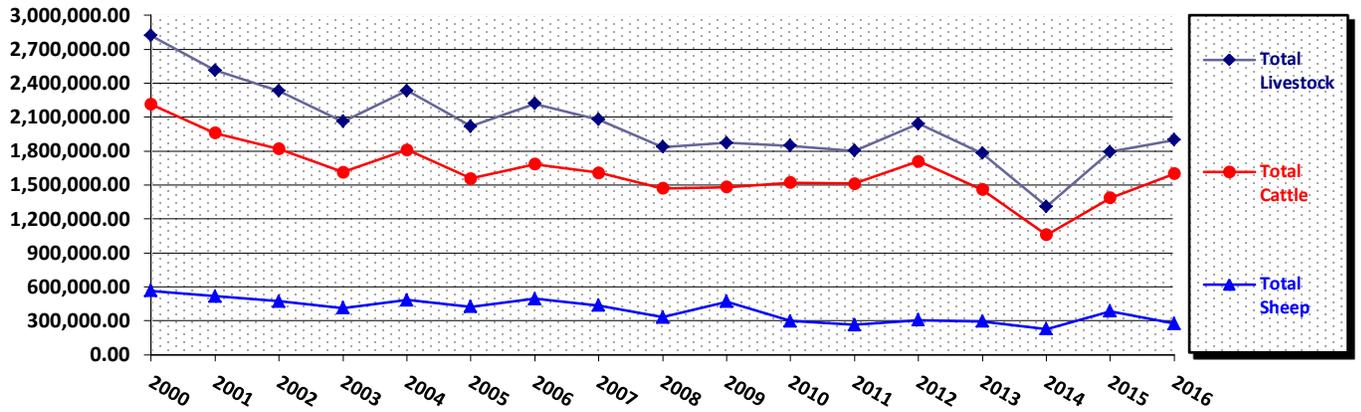
### **Total Inspections for Calendar Year 2017**

In 2017 there were 1,642,402 cattle inspected on all forms, 276,001 sheep inspected on all forms, 20,789 horses inspected on all forms, and 3,118 hides inspected for a total of 1,942,310 livestock inspections. 46,006 brand inspection certificates were issued in the country, with the remaining inspections being done at the 4 licensed livestock markets in the state. With the exception of horse inspections, livestock inspections were up when compared with 2016. This follows a trend of livestock growers rebuilding their herds after the last drought period. Cattle inspections were up 2.71%. Sheep inspections were nearly the same, increasing by only 0.37%. Horse inspections decreased 6.92%. Total livestock inspections for the year were up 2.36%, and country inspections forms issued were also nearly the same, increasing by 0.37%. 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 2016.

## WY Cattle and Sheep Inspections Calendar Year 2000-2017

*Brand Unit – Brand Inspection: Total Livestock Inspected*



**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; investigating reported cases of livestock theft, illegal livestock movement, illegal import/export, animal cruelty/welfare; and training/educating and assisting 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 FY18.

<b>Type of Case</b>	<b>Number Worked</b>
Animal Welfare	8
Brand Inspection Violations	41
Civil Matter	20
Missing / Theft Reports	69
Agency Assist	31
Animal Health Violations	23
Livestock Check Points	5
Citations	45
Warnings	28
Livestock Rustling	43
Training Classes Conducted	13
Recovered Livestock	17
<b>Total Number</b>	<b>343</b>

# WLSB Organizational Chart

