



Policy Update

September 16th, 2022

SDFB President VanderWal Tells Senate Committee Farmers Are Voluntarily Reducing Climate Impacts

South Dakota Farm Bureau (SDFB) President and American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) Vice President Scott VanderWal testified in Washington, D.C. to the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee Wednesday. The Volga, S.D. producer gave testimony in support of the Livestock Regulatory Protection Act of 2021.

President VanderWal's written testimony can be viewed by following this [link](#).

GFP Seeking Comments on Draft Prairie Grouse Management Plan 2022-2031

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) is seeking comments on the draft "Prairie Grouse Management Plan for South Dakota, 2022-2031."

The draft revision of the prairie grouse management plan includes updated research results to target grassland habitat conservation and management with interested landowners and public land managers, best management practices, and avoidance mitigation recommendations for permanent above-ground development. All individuals interested in prairie grouse management in South Dakota have from now through September 30, 2022, to provide suggestions and comments on the revised plan in its current form.

The draft prairie grouse management plan can be found online at: <https://gfp.sd.gov/management-plans/>. Written comments on the plan can be sent to 523 E. Capitol Ave., Pierre, S.D. 57501, or emailed to prairiegrouseplan@state.sd.us. Comments must be received by the deadline and include your full name and city of residence.

ACTION ALERT on EPA's Proposed Additional Mitigations for Atrazine

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released for public comment "Proposed Revisions to the Atrazine Interim Registration Review Decision." Atrazine is an important tool for weed mitigation in several crops. The use of atrazine, especially in corn and sorghum production, provides benefits for farmers seeking to utilize practices that conserve soil, preserve, improve water quality, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Without atrazine, many farmers would not be able to utilize these methods, which will result in negative environmental outcomes.

Click [here](#) to send a message to South Dakota's elected officials.

Federal Officials Approve Electric Vehicle Plan

Federal officials have approved a plan for a series of electric vehicle charging stations along South Dakota's two interstates. Along I-29, there would be sites at Beresford, Sioux Falls, Brookings, Watertown, and Summit. The new I-90 sites would be at Hartford, Mitchell, Kimball, Kennebec, Murdo, Kadoka, Rapid City, and Spearfish. The sites would be privately operated and would be in addition to 59 charging infrastructure locations of various sizes that are in South Dakota. The funding will be split with 80% federal funds and 20% private. The estimated cost for each charging station is between \$700,000 and \$1,200,000.

Click [here](#) for more information on the plan.

Contact for Questions

Krystil Smit

SDFB Executive Director

Email: k.smit@sdfbf.org

Cell: (605) 261-2960

Matthew Bogue

SDFB State Public Policy Director

Email: Matthew@sdfbf.org

Cell: (605) 377-8833