



# Grasslands grazed, hayed to help cattle

By Kevin Bottrell  
Colby Free Press  
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With six new counties added Thursday, more than half the state is currently authorized for either emergency conservation reserve program haying or grazing.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm Service Agency allows emergency grazing and haying on conservation reserve program land when a natural disaster, in this case severe drought, threatens livestock. Once the national or state offices approve grazing or haying, it's up each county's agency office to request it. To be approved, they have to document the loss of 40 percent or more of the normal hay and pasture land.

Haying is approved until Aug.

31. Trish Halstead, communications coordinator for the Farm Service Agency, said in a release Thursday that emergency haying is limited to less than 50 percent of each field. Hay has to be taken from the field by Sept. 30. The hay can't be sold, but farmers without livestock can rent or lease haying privileges.

For emergency grazing, farmers have to leave at least 25 percent of each field ungrazed. Livestock must be removed by Oct. 31.

The latest to be added to the list are Butler, Chase, Cowley, Hamilton, Lyon and Marion counties in central Kansas. In the northwest, Wallace, Logan, Gove, Graham and Ellis counties have been approved for grazing while Trego has been approved for grazing and

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## Police looking to identify vandal



The Colby Police Department is looking for three people who may have vandalized the rest rooms at Fike Park on Thursday. A police surveillance camera showed an unidentified man who vandalized the door of the men's rest room at 9:24 p.m. Thursday while two women watched. Police Chief Randy Jones said several other people were in the park at the time, and the police are asking anyone with information on these three people to call 460-4460.

# State crops suffering under heat

By Roxana Hegeman  
The Associated Press

WICHITA – Another month of scorching heat and drought has dealt a heavy beating to the outlook for Kansas crops, a newly released government forecast shows.

Kansas Agricultural Statistics Service estimated on Thursday in its monthly crop production forecast that the size of the state's corn crop would come in at 495 million bushels, down 15 percent from last year.

"The August crop report obviously isn't very uplifting reading for Kansas," said Sue

Schulte, spokeswoman for the Kansas Corn Growers Association. "It shows reductions for Kansas across the board."

That downgraded forecast comes even though Kansas farmers planted 5.1 million corn acres this spring – more than at any time since 1936. But much of the corn acreage was devastated after another month of triple-digit temperatures during a critical stage of development.

The revised forecast for harvested acres is down to 4.5 million acres, meaning 300,000 acres were lost in just the past month when compared to the forecast issued in June.

With the extreme dryness and extreme heat this past month in Kansas, many of those acres are being cut and chopped up as silage for livestock feed, Schulte said.

"The dry weather was there, but then it spread. It got larger and then that heat came in behind it," she said. "That is not a very good combination for anything that wants to grow."

At this rate, Kansas growers are anticipated to actually harvest 150,000 fewer acres than they harvested last year.

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## Senator to visit area on tour next week

U.S. Sen. Jerry Moran will stop in Atwood, St. Francis, Sharon Springs and Tribune next week to talk to voters.

On Thursday, Moran will be on Main Street in Atwood from 4 to 5 p.m. and at St. Francis High School from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. Next Friday, he will be on Main Street in Sharon Springs from 8 to 9 a.m. and at the Greeley County Library in Tribune from 9:45 to 10:45 a.m.

Moran recently voted against the debt ceiling deal, saying it would not reduce the national debt.

"This plan also ignores the stark warnings from credit rating agen-

cies," he said. "which stated a \$4 trillion deficit reduction plan would be necessary to prevent a downgrade in the U.S. credit rating."

He voted for a short-term reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration to end the work stoppages, but said Congress should work on a multi-year plan.

He also joined 44 other senators in opposing an arms trade treaty that he felt would restrict the rights of civilian gun owners.

"Our country's sovereignty and the rights of American citizens must not be infringed upon by the United Nations," he said.

## Navy band to play here on 10th anniversary of 9/11

The U.S. Navy's premier country and bluegrass band will kick off the Western Plains Art Association's fall season with a concert in Colby on Sept. 11, the 10th anniversary of the 2001 New York terrorist attacks.

Country Current, the Navy's seven-member ensemble, will perform at 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, in the Colby High School auditorium. The band perform for presidents and generals along with active duty soldiers, veterans and civilians.

Other concerts in Colby include The Hunt Family, a band that performs a variety of music from bluegrass to rock and roll, on Oct. 30 at Colby Community College; the Ozark Jubilee and Doofus from Branson, Mo., on Dec. 11 at Colby High; and the Dallas Brass on April 24 at Colby High.

To get season tickets, call Amie Kendrick at 460-3837, Joan Albers at 460-6448 or Pat Ziegelmeier at 460-5518.

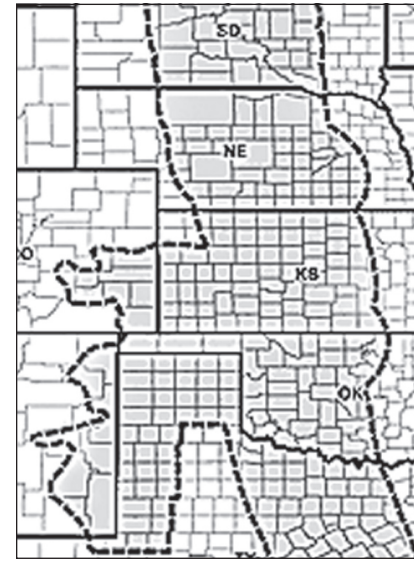
## Public comment sought on wind energy impact

As part of a new initiative to develop wind energy projects across the nation, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has begun an environmental impact study across a 200-mile corridor extending from the Canadian to Mexican border through the central part of the United States. Included in the study area is part of Thomas County and most of western Kansas.

The study is part of Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar's "Smart from the Start" initiative to evaluate the environmental impact of wind energy development along the study area.

Several public meetings are planned for August and September. The nearest meeting to Colby will be held from 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, in Kearney, Neb., at the Holiday Inn on Second Avenue. A meeting is also planned in Great Bend on Wednesday, Aug. 31.

Residents who live in the study area are encouraged to attend a public meeting to ask questions and raise concerns about possible wind energy development. Topics to be covered



This map shows the area being studied, including the eastern third of Thomas County.

include risks to wildlife and overall environmental impact from possible development. More information can be obtained from Laila Lienesch at (505) 248-6494.



TOMI MILLER/Colby Free Press

## High school marching band begins training

Jake Thompson (above, left) clapped to keep time for returning band members Jennilee Gray, Leighton Koel and Braden Sager plus some new freshmen during the Marching Band Academy on Thursday at Colby High School. New and returning band members trained on both marching and music during the week-long academy. Members of the woodwind section (left) practiced in the band room between marching sessions.



# Weather



**National Weather Service**  
**Tonight:** Patchy fog after 1 a.m. Otherwise, partly cloudy, with a low around 59. Northeast wind between 10 and 15 mph becoming calm.

**Saturday:** Patchy fog before 1 p.m. Otherwise, mostly sunny, with a high near 84. Calm wind becoming east between 5 and 10 mph.

**Saturday Night:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms after 1 a.m. Partly cloudy, with a low around 64. Southeast wind between 10 and 15 mph.

**Sunday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms before 1 p.m. Partly sunny, with a high near 88. Breezy, with a south wind between 10 and 20 mph, with gusts as high as 30 mph.

**Sunday Night:** A 30 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy and breezy, with a low around 66.

**Monday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Partly sunny, with a high near 89.

**Monday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 63.

**Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 91.

**Tuesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 64.

**Wednesday:** Mostly sunny, with a high near 93.

**Wednesday Night:** Partly cloudy, with a low around 65.

**Thursday:** A 20 percent chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly sunny, with a high near 90.

Thursday: High, 87; Low 62  
 Precip: Thursday 0.04 inches  
 Month: 2.88 inches  
 Year: 20.38 inches  
 Normal: 16.36 inches  
 (K-State Experiment Station)

**Sunrise and Sunset**  
 Saturday 6:55 a.m. 8:43 p.m.  
 Full Moon at 1:58 p.m.

Sunday 6:56 a.m. 8:41 p.m.  
 Moon: waning, 99 percent

Monday 6:57 a.m. 8:40 p.m.  
 Moon: waning, 96 percent  
 (U.S. Naval Observatory)

**Colby Water Use**  
 Thursday 1,690,000 gal.  
 (Colby Public Works)

# More CRP land opened for haying

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hay. So far 57 counties are on the list. The area roughly corresponds with the drought conditions recorded by the U.S. Drought Monitor. South central Kansas is rated D4, or exceptional drought, with other areas of the state listed as extreme, severe and moderate drought. Much of northwest Kansas is no longer under any drought conditions, a far cry from the spring, when parts

of Thomas County were under moderate drought and the rest listed as "abnormally dry." The U.S. Climate Prediction Center's latest model says the area of south central Kansas from Liberal to Coffeyville and as far north as Hutchinson is not likely to see any improvement in the next three months and may even get worse. A corridor through the middle of Kansas from Garden City to Salina to Pittsburg is likely to see some im-

provement, while an area in western Kansas from Tribune to Hays is likely to see a lot of improvement. Halstead said farmers should check with their local Farm Service Agency offices often to see if their county has been added, as that can change on a daily basis. For the Colby office, call 462-7671. For the Oakley office, call (785) 672-4861.

# Kansas crops suffer

From "CROPS," Page 1

The other part of the equation for the forecast is expected yields that are running an average of 15 bushels lower than a year ago. The new forecast yield averages of 110 bushels per acre would be the lowest since 1983. The outlook for other crops:   
 • Sorghum production is forecast at 123.8 million bushels, down 28 percent from a year ago. This would be the lowest sorghum production in the state since 1983.   
 • Anticipated soybean production of 100.1 million bushels is also down 28 percent from last year. It would be the smallest soybean crop in Kansas since 2007.   
 • Unchanged is the estimate of 273 million bushels of winter wheat harvested in Kansas. The

forecast is unchanged from last month, but is down 24 percent from last year's crop to make this harvest the smallest since 2002.   
 • Alfalfa hay production at 1.95 million tons is down 21 percent. That is the lowest production since 1956. Other hay production at 2.85 tons is down 12 percent from last year, tying with 2000 for the lowest production since 1994.   
 • Cotton production is expected total 63,000 bales, down 23 percent.   
 Schulte took some solace on the possibility that there is still a lot of grain sorghum left that could still benefit from recent rains and more reasonable temperatures. "That crop may not be done," she said.

# Twelve charged in illegal hunting case

WICHITA (AP) — Federal prosecutors charged 12 people on Thursday in the ongoing investigation of a Kansas camp where hunters paid thousands of dollars to kill deer illegally. Court records show the U.S. attorney's office filed a misdemeanor charge against out-of-state hunters, alleging they violated the Lacey Act, a federal law that prohibits interstate transport of any wildlife taken in violation of state regulations. The defendants, who all live in either Texas or Louisiana, were issued a summons to appear in a federal courtroom in Kansas on Sept. 8. The federal investigation into Camp Lone Star near Coldwater is believed to be one of the largest criminal prosecutions involving the illegal taking of deer. Court documents show the government at one time targeted as many as 60 hunters who illegally killed more than 119 deer between the 2005 and 2008 hunting seasons at Camp Lone

Star, near Coldwater. Search warrants were executed in Louisiana, Kansas and Texas. Camp owner James Butler Jr. was sentenced in June to 41 months in prison and ordered to pay a \$25,000 fine and \$25,000 in restitution to the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks. His brother, Marlin Butler, who worked as a guide, was sentenced to 27 months in prison and ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and \$10,000 in restitution. The brothers, both from Martinsville, Texas, had pleaded guilty to conspiracy to violate the Lacey Act and violation of the Lacey Act. James Butler also pleaded guilty to obstruction of justice. Prosecutors said the Butler brothers charged out-of-state hunters \$3,500 per hunt with archery equipment and \$5,000 per hunt with a firearm for guided hunts at Camp Lone Star and some 50,000 nearby acres leased for hunting activities in Kansas.

# Looking for a home



CHRISTINA BERINGER/Colby Free Press  
 The Colby Animal Clinic has two female kittens available for adoption. This 6- to 7-week-old, black and white long hair is ready for a new home.

# Briefly

## Sign up open now for Prairie Land Food

Sign up for Prairie Land Food is open until Monday at the State Farm Insurance office, 905 E. Fourth St. Delivery will be from 1 to 2 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 27, at Sacred Heart School gym. For information, call 460-3579.

## Back-to-school night planned at Colby church

The Colby Wesleyan Church is sponsoring a free back-to-school fun night at 7 p.m. Sunday at the church, 320 W. Pine. Children in preschool through fifth grade and their parents are welcome. There will be free food, a free T-shirt, Bible stories, music and puppets to introduce children and parents to the Wednesday Kid's Klubhouse ministry. Free school supplies will be available at the end of the evening. For information, call (785) 462-8391.

## Meet museum's quilt exhibitor on Sunday

The Prairie Museum of Art and History will hold a meet and greet reception for quilter Thesia Aschenbrenner from 2 to 4 p.m. Sunday at the museum. Her quilts have been on display since July, and will continue to be exhibited through Labor Day. Refreshments will be served, and there is no cost to attend. For information, call 460-4590.

## Volleyball team to meet Wednesday

The Colby Middle School volleyball team will have a meeting at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday in the school cafeteria. Practices begin next Thursday. For information, call coach Shirley Arnberger 462-6464.

## Finish hunter education at next week's class

The Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism will hold a hunter education course Friday at Colby Community College. The course is a wrap-up session to the online testing, which students must complete prior to the course. Anyone interested must pre-register by calling 462-7602, 462-3367 or 462-7793.

## Students raising money to attend conference

Lynnsey Elling and Hayden Reinert will hold a spaghetti lunch from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 21, in the Sacred Heart Catholic Church basement to raise money to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference in Washington D.C. in September. For information, call James Elling at 443-0783.

## Library, museum plan hot dog feed

The Brewster Library and Museum will hold a hot dog and watermelon feed at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Aug. 26, at Hunter Hall Park. Donations will be accepted to go to the library and museum. For information, call Betty Wolf at (785) 694-2401.

# Lockheed testing new spacecraft in Colorado

DENVER (AP) — A spaceship Lockheed Martin is building for NASA is being prepared for the next round of tests as engineers attach an "abort tower" designed to lift the ship and its astronauts to safety if something goes wrong during launch. Lockheed Martin said Friday the Orion Multi-Purpose Crew

Vehicle and abort system will be subjected to sound vibration tests at the company's facility near Denver. The vibrations will emulate the sound pressure levels of a launch and deployment of the abort system. Lockheed Martin of Bethesda, Md., has a \$7.5 billion contract

to build the Orion capsule. It was originally intended for use in a Moon mission that President Barack Obama canceled last year. NASA says Orion will take four astronauts on 21-day trips. The destination hasn't been determined.

# More Kansas lakes infested with toxic algae

WICHITA (AP) — Kansas health officials have added more lakes to the list of waters unsafe for wading, swimming and water skiing because of high levels of toxic blue-green algae. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment on Thursday put Augusta City Lake in Butler County and Harvey County's East Lake on the warning list. High levels of toxic algae make the water unsafe for any direct contact.

KDHE also issued a less serious advisory for Milford Lake in Clay, Geary and Dickinson counties and for Cheney Lake in Reno, Kingman and Sedgwick counties. An advisory means activities like boating and fishing may be safe, but wading and swimming are strongly discouraged. Meade State Lake in Meade County is no longer under a warning or advisory.

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Monday Evening										August 15, 2011				
	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30				
KAKE/ABC	Bachelor Pad				Castle		Local	Nightline	Jimmy Kimmel Live					
KBSL/CBS	How I Met	How I Met	Two Men	Mike	Hawaii Five-0		Local	Late Show Letterman	Late					
KSNK/NBC	America's Got Talent				Harry's Law		Local	Tonight Show w/Leno	Late					
KSAS/FOX	Hell's Kitchen		MasterChef		Local									
<b>Cable Channels</b>														
A & E	Hoarders		Hoarders		Intervention		Intervention		Hoarders					
AMC	GoodFellas								GoodFellas					
ANIM	Fatal Attractions		Drug Kingpin	Hippos	My First Kill		Fatal Attractions		Drug Kingpin	Hippos				
BRAVO	Housewives/NYC		Matchmaker		Most Eligible Dallas		Most Eligible Dallas		Matchmaker					
CMT	Texas Women		Texas Women		Texas Women		Smarter	Smarter	Smarter	Smarter				
CNN	Anderson Cooper 360		Piers Morgan Tonight		Anderson Cooper 360		John King, USA		Piers Morgan Tonight					
COMEDY	American Pie		Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Sunny	Daily	Colbert	South Pk	South Pk				
DISC	Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival		Dual Survival					
DISN	Good Luck	Shake It	The Suite Life Movie				Good Luck		Wizards	Vampire	Wizards	Wizards		
E!	Sex-City	Sex-City	Kardash	Kardash	E! Special		Chelsea	E! News	Chelsea					
ESPN	NFL Football						SportsCenter		NFL Live	Baseball				
ESPN2	MLB Baseball				Baseball Tonight		World, Poker		SportsNation					
FAM	Secret-Teen		The Lying Game		The Lying Game		The 700 Club		Whose?	Whose?				
FOOD	Unwrapped	Diners	Diners	Diners	The Best	The Best	Food Network Star		Diners	Diners				
FX	Armageddon								Archer	Archer				
HGTV	House	Hunters	Design Star		Dina's Pa	House H.	House	Hunters	Design Star					
HIST	Pawn	Pawn	American Pickers		Pawn	Pawn	Top Shot		Pawn	Pawn				
LIFE	Deadly Sibling				The Protector		The Protector		Chris	How I Met				
MTV	Teen Wolf		Teen Wolf		Teen Wolf		Teen Wolf		Awkward.	Awkward.				
NICK	My Wife	My Wife	George Lopez		70s Show	70s Show	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez	Lopez				
SCI	Eureka		Warehouse 13		Alphas		Eureka		Warehouse 13					
SPIKE	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die	Ways Die				
TBS	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Conan		Lopez Tonight					
TCM	Hunchback				Phantom-Opera				The Unholly Three					
TLC	Undercover Boss		Kate	Kate	Surprise Homecoming		Undercover Boss		Kate	Kate				
TNT	The Closer		The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles		The Closer		Rizzoli & Isles					
TOON	Adventure	MAD	King-Hill	King-Hill	Amer. Dad	Amer. Dad	Fam. Guy	Fam. Guy	Chicken	Aqua Teen				
TRAV	No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation		No Reservation					
TV LAND	M*A*S*H	M*A*S*H	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	The Nanny	The Nanny	Divorced	Divorced				
USA	NCIS		WWE Monday Night RAW				Suits		Law & Order: SVU					
VH1	Basketball Wives		Basketball Wives		Behind the Music		Behind the Music		Basketball Wives					
WGN	Chris	Chris	Funniest Home Videos		WGN News at Nine		Scrubs	Scrubs	South Pk	South Pk				
<b>Premium Channels</b>														
HBO	Ghosts-Girlfrnd		Gloria: Words		The Town				Ninja Assassin					
MAX	Beth Coop	Phone Booth			The A-Team				Life-Top					
SHOW	The Ghost Writer				Weeds	The Big C	Weeds	The Big C	Jackass: The Movie					

## Farmers & Merchants Bank of Colby

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## Can Make A Difference