

# NIBS External Advisors



McKenzie  
Beals Weber



Homer Buell



Laura Field



Alicia Hardin



Kevin  
Hennessy



Jud Jesske



Chris Kalkowski



Shelly Kelly



Ginger  
Langemeier



Lisa Lunz



Clay Mathis



Rob Mitchell



Jeff Nichols



Trey Patterson



Sara Place



Logan Pribbeno



David Schuler



Adam Smith



Craig Uden

**Not Pictured:**  
Charlie Arnot  
Jess Hinrichs  
Tim Schellpeper

# NIBS External Advisor Biographies

**Charlie Arnot**, CEO Look East, Center for Food Integrity, Gladstone, MO

**McKenzie Beals Weber, D.V.M.**, Associate Veterinarian, Broken Bow Animal Hospital, Broken Bow, NE.

I grew up on a small farm in Nebraska with cattle and other livestock. I attended the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (A.S., Agriculture Production Systems), University of Nebraska - Lincoln (B.S., Animal Science), and finally the Professional Program in Veterinary Medicine cooperative program between Nebraska and Iowa State (D.V.M., food animal track). My current role as an associate veterinarian at Broken Bow Animal Hospital consists of beef cattle production medicine, equine medicine, and as the on-site veterinarian for a local dairy. I am also the lead veterinarian-on-site for a large scale on-ranch research trial. My additional roles as a veterinarian include bovine artificial insemination certification, Beef Quality Assurance (BQA) and BQA-Transportation trainer, and Nebraska Livestock Emerging Disease Response System (LEDRS) member. The perspective I bring to the Nebraska Integrated Beef Systems Hubs is beef cattle veterinary medicine and the views of my Central Nebraska beef clients.

**Homer Buell**, self-employed, Land Steward/Rancher

Homer attended Graduate Business College at UNL, then came back to the family ranch in 1971 to help manage our cow calf, backgrounding, and yearling operation. He has been actively involved for many years for the Nebraska Cattlemen or Ag Builders of Nebraska in an advocacy and advisory role with IANR. He added that various research around cattle and land management coming from the University of Nebraska have been very important to our ranch's profitability.

**Laura Field**, Legislative Coordinator, Nebraska Department of Agriculture,

I'm a sixth generation member of a purebred Brahman seedstock operation on the Texas Gulf Coast. I have loved cattle as long as I can remember, grew up showing livestock and obtained my American FFA degree. I hold dual bachelor of science degrees in Animal Science and Agricultural Education from Texas Tech University and a Master's of Agriculture degree from Colorado State University. A policy internship with Colorado Cattlemen's Association turned into a 20 year career in public policy advocacy. I spent 10 years in Colorado representing a number of business and agriculture clients. After moving to Nebraska 10 years ago, I was Vice President of Government Affairs for Nebraska Cattlemen, and I have been with NDA for two years. My husband, Tom and his brothers own and operate a commercial cattle ranch in Gunnison County, Colorado. Together we have five children and live just north of Lincoln.

**Alicia Hardin, M.S.**, Wildlife Division Administrator, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission.

My degrees and background are in wildlife management. My work experience and perspective has given me a background in private lands conservation and the close tie between ranching and our grassland ecosystem. I enjoy hunting, fishing, wildlife viewing, and traveling around the state.

**Kevin Hennessy**, Director of Perishables, B&R Stores Inc.

I have been in the Meat/Grocery Business for over 30 years both at retail and wholesale.

**Jess Hinrichs, D.V.M.**, Zoetis

Jess Hinrichs is a Beef Technical Services Veterinarian with Zoetis. He provides technical support to colleagues and customers in 4 states including Nebraska. As a native Nebraskan, he received his BS in Agriculture from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln and a DVM degree from Kansas State University in 1998. The majority of his practice career was spent in Sutton, Nebraska and as a co-owner in a 3-4 doctor food animal practice. Over his 18 years of practice the primary focus was in feedlot consultation and swine production medicine. In 2016 Dr. Hinrichs became a veterinary medical officer for the US Meat Animal Research Center in Clay Center, Nebraska where he provided clinical care and veterinary oversight to their many ongoing research projects.

**Jud Jesske**, Vice President – Capital Markets, Farm Credit Services of America

I received a B.S. Agricultural Sciences degree from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and have been a lender to the beef industry since 1993. I have worked with financing beef producers from all over the United States and look forward to participating in the Beef Systems Hub.

**Chris Kalkowski**, Vice President, First National Bank of Omaha (FNBO)

Chris is an Agribusiness Lender for FNBO, where he has been for the last 23 years. He has a Bachelor of Science from Creighton University (Computer Science) and a Master of Business Administration from Bellevue University. Chris has operated a family ranching operation with his family in Boyd County, near Lynch, NE for the last 30 years. Chris grew up in Bassett, NE and has lived in Omaha for the last 30 years. He spent 5 years in the Air Force before joining FNBO. Chris is a current Board of Director for CattleFax and is an alum of the Nebraska Lead Program.

**Shelly Kelly**, Executive Director, Sandhills Task Force, Broken Bow, NE.

Growing up on a family Sandhill ranching and farming operation near Brewster helped Shelly gain a sincere appreciation for the Sandhills ecosystem and the associated ranching industry. A college degree in Range Science from South Dakota State University and previous employment with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) as Range Management Specialist allowed her to gain new perspectives about ranching and conservation and how the two can fit together. She has a passion to ensure ranching remains viable in the Sandhills and that the grassland remains intact. She also has a small cattle operation with her son. Shelly has worked for the Sandhills Task Force since 2014

**Ginger Langemeier**, Legislative Affairs Coordinator, Farm Credit Services of America and Frontier Farm Credit,

I have served as an agriculture policy advisor to a United States Senator and Member of the House of Representatives. I have over 15 years of policy experience at the state and federal level on agriculture, energy and trade issues.

**Lisa Lunz**, Ag. Builders of Nebraska, President-Elect

I am a graduate of UNL with an Animal Science degree. I grew up on a diversified family farm south of Wakefield. After graduating from UNL, I worked at three different feedlots in Nebraska. After getting married in 1988, my husband and I have farmed north of Wakefield. We have raised 3 children and we have 3 grand children. I have worked at the Haskell Lab in Concord as a Research Technologist in Agronomy. I was on the Nebraska Soybean Board for 12 years, was a School Board member and was a member of LEAD 17. I am currently a Dixon County Supervisor and President Elect of Ag Builders. My passion is with agriculture education. As a farmer, I am concerned about the carbon and sustainability conversations that are happening with very little input from agriculture.

**Clay Mathis, Ph.D.**, Director, King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management - Texas A&M Kingsville,

Dr. Mathis received his M.S. in Physiology of Reproduction - Texas A&M University and Ph.D. in Ruminant Nutrition - Kansas State University

**Rob Mitchell, Ph.D.**, ARS

I was born and raised in Elm Creek, Nebraska and completed my B.S., M.S., and Ph.D. at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. I've been conducting grassland research on all aspects of grasslands since 1989. I've been with USDA-ARS in Lincoln since 2002.

**Jeff Nichols**, State Rangeland Management Specialist, Natural Resources Conservation Service,

I have a BS from the University of Nebraska- Lincoln with a major in Agronomy, crop production option with a secondary emphasis on range management. I have worked for SCS / NRCS for 34 years delivering technical assistance and program assistance to primarily private landowners in west central Nebraska. My primary areas of expertise include grazing system infrastructure, resource inventory and livestock forage balance, perennial seedings, cedar encroachment control and prescribed burning.

**Trey Patterson, Ph.D.**, CEO, Padlock Ranch, Ranchester, WY, CEO

My graduate programs at Colorado State University and The University of Nebraska were focused on applied range cattle nutrition and range management. I then served in an extension and research appointment as a Beef Specialist with South Dakota State University for five years. I now lead a large production-based agribusiness built around the integration of ranching, farming and feedlot operations. I hope to be able to offer perspectives from an outreach, research, and management point of view.

**Sara Place, Ph.D.**, Technical Consultant, Sustainability, Elanco, Inc., Technical Consultant Sustainability

Sara received an AAS in Agricultural Business from Morrisville State College, BS in Animal Science from Cornell University, and PhD in Animal Biology from UC Davis. Sara has spent time on faculty at Oklahoma State University in the Department of Animal Science and at the National Cattlemen's Beef Association prior to Elanco.



**Logan Pribbeno**, President, Wine Glass Ranch, Inc.,  
Producer, Cow/calf and stocker

**Tim Schellpeper**, President, Fed Beef Business Unit, JBS USA, Stanton, NE,

**David Schuler, B.S.**, Ranch Manager Schuler Olsen Ranches, Inc.

I have a degree in Animal Science from the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources with a Minor in the Beef Industry Scholars Program. I am a third generation Red Angus and Simmental Seedstock producer in the Western Panhandle of Nebraska.

**Adam Smith**, Forestry and Fire Bureau Chief, Nebraska Forest Service.

I completed my bachelor's degree at UNL majoring in Fisheries and Wildlife and master's degree also at UNL majoring in Natural Resource Sciences, with an emphasis in Agroforestry. As Forestry and Fire Bureau Chief, I oversee the forestry and fire programming and staff at the Nebraska Forest Service. Trees and forests play a unique role in agriculture--providing crucial protection for livestock and crops, while also impacting range land productivity. Involvement in complex discussions about the future of livestock production is important for shaping the future of agroforestry in Nebraska, and beyond.

**Craig Uden**, Darr Feedlot Inc., Agri Steer Inc., Owner

Craig is a UNL Graduate in Animal Science, Past President of National Cattlemen's Beef Association, Past President of Nebraska Beef Council, Partner in Darr Feedlot Inc., a 45000 head feeding operation in central Nebraska, Owner of Agri Steer Inc, which feeds cattle and owns and operates three cow calf operations. Craig also sits on many boards on a local, state level, as well as involved in some University functions at MARC and CASNR