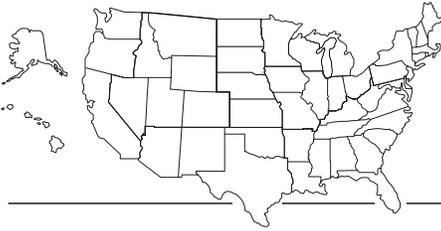


The LandReport

A Monthly Report for the
American Landowner



Newsletter

MARCH 2017 • LANDREPORT.COM



THE 13-MILLION-ACRE MAN

Go behind the scenes with Texas Land Commissioner George P. Bush in our Texas issue.

The Magazine of the Texas Landowner brings you an **exclusive interview** with George Prescott Bush, the 28th Commissioner of Texas's General Land Office. The Commissioner sat down with *Land Report* Editor Eric O'Keefe and discussed his wide-ranging responsibilities, including maximizing revenues from more than 13 million acres of surface and subsurface rights owned by the State of Texas as well as overseeing the Alamo and more than 360 miles of Texas coast. The native Houstonian attended Rice University (Class of '98), where his grandfather was an adjunct professor at the Jones School of Business prior to serving as the 43rd vice president of the United States and our country's 41st president. In 2003, he earned a JD from the University of Texas. In 2014, he won more votes than any other candidate running for office on Texas ballots and took office on Jan. 2, 2015. Read more [HERE](#).



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COURT



WEST

UTAH LANDOWNERS LOSE ESA CHALLENGE ON APPEAL.

The 10th US Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a 2014 ruling that limited the ability of federal officials to use the Endangered Species Act (ESA) to protect a species located in a single state. Utah landowners had challenged a US Fish and Wildlife Service regulation that prohibits trapping or shooting Utah prairie dogs as an unjustified burden, saying that the creatures were a nuisance. A three-judge panel disagreed, citing data that indicates 68 percent of the species the ESA protects live in only one state. In affirming the federal government's broad power to protect threatened species, Judge Jerome Holmes wrote that "excising purely intrastate species would leave a gaping hole" in the Endangered Species Act.



PACIFIC

SOLD

CALIFORNIA RANCHLAND

BLUE APRON ACQUIRES SUSTAINABLE MEAT PRODUCER BN RANCH.

Niman Ranch founder Bill Niman has sold his BN Ranch brand to California-based meal delivery service Blue Apron. BN Ranch has been a supplier of grass-fed beef to Blue Apron for two years. Terms were not disclosed. Niman will remain as president and founder of BN Ranch. In addition to supplying Blue Apron, BN Ranch will support and expand its current base of retail, institutional, and restaurant customers with responsibly raised beef, lamb, and poultry. Launched in 2012, Blue Apron ships millions of pre-portioned meals to subscribers each month. Read more [HERE](#).



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GREAT PLAINS

ENERGY

WIND FARM

XCEL ANNOUNCES 600MW WIND FARM IN SOUTH DAKOTA.

The nation's largest producer of wind power will add 1,550 megawatts of new wind generation in the upper Midwest, including 600 megawatts at a wind

farm located in South Dakota's Codington, Deuel, and Grant Counties. According to Xcel Energy, the proposed Crown Ridge Wind Project will utilize more than 100 wind turbines and be capable of producing enough energy to power more than 300,000 homes.

In addition, the project is anticipated to generate \$75 million in property taxes and create approximately 600 jobs. Pending approvals, the project will

be in service by 2020. Crown Ridge marks Xcel's second farm in the state. The MinnDakota Wind Farm in Brookings County, which began operating in 2008, produces 54 megawatts of electricity.



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NORTHEAST

SALE

CONSERVATION PROPERTY

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE SELLS SCENIC FARM FOR \$1.84 MILLION.

The Ivy League institution sold New Hampshire's Hudson Farm to The Trust for Public Land, which immediately deeded the 175-acre tract to the



National Park Service as an addition to the Appalachian Trail. A mixture of forest, fields, and wetlands, the estate is located just three miles from Hanover's Main Street and was seen as a prime development opportunity. Several generations of the Owens family farmed the property in the 1800s. According to a Dartmouth spokesman, the college bought the property in 1963, rented the house, and worked the land.

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SOUTH

HONORED

FLORIDA BROKER HITCHCOCK SELECTED AS FLORIDA LAND REALTOR OF THE YEAR.



David Hitchcock of Coldwell Banker Commercial Saunders

Real Estate in Lakeland was honored as the REALTORS Land Institute “Florida Land Realtor of the Year” by the Florida Chapter of the REALTORS Land Institute. “The Florida Land Realtor of the year award is given annually to a member of the Florida Chapter of the REALTORS Land Institute who best exemplifies professionalism and service in the land industry and is an active and contributing member of the chapter,” said Caleb McDow, president of the Florida chapter of REALTORS Land Institute. McDow went on to add that Hitchcock was selected because of his strong record in land sales as well as years of service as president of the Florida chapter from January 2015 to December 2016. A 40-year veteran of agribusiness in the Sunshine State, Hitchcock specializes in Central and South Florida agricultural properties, agricultural transitional properties, and residential development properties.

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