

Meeting #5 of 7 Agenda

Interagency Bison Management Plan

*Held at: State Capitol, Room 172
Helena, MT*

*Host: Montana Department of Livestock
Contact: Steve Merritt (406)444-9431*

Date: October 15-16, 2008

IBMP Principal Representatives

Jerry Diemer, Associate Regional Director, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor, Gallatin National Forest
Pat Flowers, Region 3 Supervisor, Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks
Suzanne Lewis, Superintendent, Yellowstone National Park
Christian Mackay, Executive Officer, Montana Board of Livestock
Marty Zaluski, State Veterinarian, Montana Department of Livestock

Purpose/Needs Statement for Series of Seven Meetings

The Federal and State Records of Decision in December 2000 for the Long-Term Interagency Bison Management Plan for Montana and Yellowstone National Park (IBMP) were the result of extensive deliberation and legal proceedings that yielded an unprecedented agreement amongst federal-state agencies (National Park Service, USDA Forest Service, USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Montana Department of Livestock, and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks). Under the IBMP, these agencies harness their respective skills and operational resources to work cooperatively within an adaptive management framework to conserve a wild, free-ranging bison population while concurrently protecting against transmission of brucellosis from bison to cattle.

Partner agencies are committed to the adaptive management framework of the IBMP. In keeping with this commitment, the partners have scheduled multiple working meetings between August and December 2008. These meetings will be open to the public with agendas designed so that partner agencies can effectively deliberate on recent recommendations by the US Government Accountability Office; assess the effectiveness and outcomes of IBMP management activities (highlighting winter 2007-2008); and considering prevailing conditions, develop and incorporate short- and long-term adaptive management adjustments to the IBMP for winter 2008-2009 and beyond.

Goals of the Seven Meetings: for the IBMP Partners...

1. ... to effectively deliberate on recent recommendations by the US Government Accountability Office;
 2. ... to assess the effectiveness and outcomes of IBMP management activities (highlighting winter 2007-2008);
 3. ... considering prevailing conditions, to develop and incorporate short- and long-term adaptive management adjustments to the IBMP for winter 2008-2009 and beyond.
-

Wednesday, October 15th

Afternoon session

12:00 noon	Scott Bischke (facilitator); all present	<p>Welcome, meeting overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Timeline—where we've been, where we are going • Desired outcomes from Oct 15, 16 meetings • Introductions of all present • Meeting logistics, format, process, expectations, agenda modifications as needed
<p>Information Sharing. <i>Please 1) use agreed upon briefing page format, 2) bring copies for partners, staff, public, and 3) bring electronic copies for posting to www.ibmp.info.</i></p>		
12:15	MFWP DoL APHIS YNP	<p>(15 min) Discussion with Nez Perce and Salish Kootenay on tribal hunts</p> <p>(15 min) Status of cattle vaccinations on the west and north sides</p> <p>(30 min) Update on status of immunocontraception (Jack Ryan)</p> <p>(45 min) Update on EIS status for remote vaccine vaccination</p>
2:00	Break (here, or as called for by partners)	
2:15	All partners	<p>Beginning discussion of north side adaptive management plan ver1.0 with goal to arrive at ver2.0 by end of meeting tomorrow (2:15)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Begin with Scott short overview reminder of how we have arrived at west side and north side AM plans to date, and timelines for completion • Partner discussions focused on issues unique to the north side that have not been addressed and/or are points of disagreement • GNF-- Rewrite management activity 1.4c (was 1.4b) to inform AM not to direct AM using the verbiage of method 2
4:30	Observers	Public comment period (2-4 min per person, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
5:00	Adjourn <i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>	

Thursday, October 16th

Morning session

8:30 AM	Scott Bischke	Abbreviated welcome, overview <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Introductions of anyone new from yesterday• Meeting logistics, format, process, expectations, agenda modifications as needed• Recap yesterday's meeting and set today's goals
8:40	All partners	Continued discussion of North Side AM plan with goal to arrive at ver2.0
10:30	<i>Break (here, or as called for by partners)</i>	
11:00	Scott Bischke	Planning for subsequent meetings; discussion: based on progress to this moment are we on track to make December goal?
11:30	Observers	Public comment period (2-4 min per person, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
12 noon	Adjourn	<i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>