

# Meeting #7 of 7 Agenda

## Interagency Bison Management Plan

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*Held at: MFWP Offices  
Bozeman, MT*

*Host: MFWP  
Contact: Mel Frost (406) 994-6931*

*Date: December 17/18, 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

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### **Purpose/Needs Statement for Series of Seven Meetings**

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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, December 17<sup>th</sup>

#### Afternoon session

		Welcome, meeting overview
12 noon	<b>Scott Bischke</b> <i>(facilitator); all present</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeline—where we've been, where we are going</li> <li>• Desired outcomes from Dec 17/18 meetings</li> <li>• Introductions of all present</li> <li>• Meeting logistics, format, process, expectations, agenda modifications</li> </ul>
12:15	<b>Scott Bischke</b>	Overview of final (ver4) IBMP AM Plan
12:45	<b>All Partners</b>	Partner comments on overview
1:00	<b>All Partners</b>	Signature of IBMP Adaptive Management Plan
1:15	<i>Break</i>	
1:30	<b>PIOs</b>	Discussion on communications associated with announcement of IBMP AM Plan
2:15	<b>Glenn Plumb</b>	Discussions and planning for 2008/09 operations based on IBMP AM Plan
3:00	<b>All Partners</b>	(see handout) Discussion to set actions items, dismiss, or set aside until tomorrow: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parked items from meetings 1-6</li> <li>• Review of Partner-rated concerns from summer 2008</li> </ul>
4:30	<b>Observers</b>	Public comment period (2-4 min per person, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
5:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	<i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>

### Thursday, December 18<sup>th</sup>

#### Morning session

8:30 AM	<b>Scott Bischke</b>	Abbreviated welcome, overview <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introductions of anyone new from yesterday</li> <li>• Recap yesterday's meeting and set today's goals</li> </ul>
8:45	<b>DoL/APHIS</b>	<b>Information Sharing.</b> <i>Please 1) use agreed upon briefing page format, 2) bring copies for partners, staff, public, and 3) bring electronic copies for posting to <a href="http://www.ibmp.info">www.ibmp.info</a> (electronic copies should be given to Scott).</i>
	<b>Tech Comm</b>	<i>(5 min)</i> Updated status of adult cattle vaccinations, appended to the briefing paper already provided at Oct 2,3 meeting
	<b>Partners</b>	<i>(10 min)</i> Map showing reset the North side boundaries to match reasonable on-the-ground conditions

		(5 min) Update on RMEF meeting, if applicable
9:00	<b>All Partners</b>	Continue discussion (as needed) on Parked items from meetings 1-6 and review of Partner-rated concerns from summer 2008
10:00		<i>Break (here, or as called for by partners)</i>
		Partner planning exercise: What comes next now that AM plan is signed?
10:15	<b>All Partners</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Discussion of further engagement of Institute for Conflict Resolution and/or the planning options outlined by Larry Fisher</li> <li>• Creation of 2009 timeline for Partner agencies <i>including</i> setting schedule for 2009 IBMP Partner meetings</li> <li>• Determination of lead agency for 2009/2010 season</li> <li>• Review of GAO report &amp; Partner response. Are Partners complete with GAO recommendations? Any further GAO-related tasks to plan for?</li> </ul>
11:30	<b>Observers</b>	Public comment period (2-4 min per person, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
12 noon	<b>Adjourn</b>	<i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>