



THE CONFEDERATED SALISH AND KOOTENAI TRIBES
OF THE FLATHEAD NATION

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A People of Vision

A Confederation of the Salish,
Upper Pend d'Oreilles
and Kootenai Tribes

Suzanne Lewis
Superintendent of Yellowstone National Park
USDI, National Park Service
Yellowstone National Park

TRIBAL COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Bud Moran – Chairman
Joe Durglo – Vice Chair
Steve Lozar – Secretary
Jim Malatare – Treasurer
Michel Kenmille
Carol Lankford
Reuben A. Mathias
Charles L. Morigeau
Terry L. Pitts
James Steele Jr.

January 28, 2010

Dear Superintendent Lewis,

In regard to your September 17, 2009 letter, please consider this letter as formal acceptance from the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Reservation (CSKT) to participate in the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP). CSKT staff had previously notified your office of our acceptance via telephone on October 26, 2009.

The CSKT certainly appreciates the consensus of the IBMP partners to invite a tribal government to become part of the IBMP management. The CSKT fully expect to attend all meetings, participate in a constructive manner and commit to all IBMP partner obligations to the best of our ability. Drawing upon our treaty rights, tribal history, cultural connection with the bison, as well as our present-day bison management, we hope our perspective on implementing the IBMP will be a positive addition to the partners group.

Additionally, the CSKT found the informal meeting between the IBMP members, Nez Perce Tribe and the Intertribal Bison Cooperative held in September 2009 quite helpful and informative. The CSKT would like to thank the IBMP team for the welcoming atmosphere and thank Mr. Pat Flowers from Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks in particular for inviting us to that meeting on behalf of the partners.

The CSKT Tribal Council has formally designated the following two representatives to participate with the IBMP:

- Charlie Morigeau, CSKT Tribal Council Representative (charliem@cskt.org 406-675-2700 ext. 1200).
- Tom McDonald, CSKT Natural Resources Department, Division Manager of the Fish, Wildlife, Recreation and Conservation Division (tom@cskt.org 406-675-2700 ext. 7288).

Thank you again for the positive response we received from all the IBMP partner agencies during our meetings in September and November of 2009. We are proud to be officially recognized as a part of the IBMP partnership and look forward to our participation as a team member as we move forward with the IBMP process. Hopefully, all of our respective governments can continue to work together in order to ensure a successful future for wild bison in the Yellowstone National Park area for this new year and well into the future.

Sincerely,



Ernest F. "Bud" Moran, Chair Tribal Council
Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Cc: IBMP Managers