



## PARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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December 4, 2009

Interagency Bison Management Plan Committee

Martin Zaluski, Chair

State Veterinarian

PO Box 202001

Helena, MT 59620

Dr. Zaluski:

The Interagency Bison Management Plan currently includes five state and federal agencies that are tasked with the following missions:

- Maintain a wild, free-ranging bison population;
- Reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission from bison to cattle;
- Manage bison that leave Yellowstone National Park and enter the State of Montana;
- Maintain Montana's brucellosis-free status for domestic livestock.

One of the parties that should be included as a partner or a contributing voice in all the discussions is County Government. Many of the adaptive strategies the committee develops depend on access to private lands and County property. In addition, many times local law enforcement is called upon to assist with the operations carried forth by Department of Livestock.

It is therefore requested that a representative of County Government from one of the affected Counties surrounding the Park should have a voice in any adaptive management strategies that is reached by the Committee.

Thank you for your consideration.

Marty Malone

Park County Commissioner

Randy Taylor, R.S.

Park County Commissioner

James Durgan

Park County Commissioner