

# NAS

National Academy of Sciences (NAS):  
Neutral, nonprofit, non-governmental organization.

Founded in 1863 as a result of an Act of Congress:  
NAS is charged with "providing independent, objective  
advice to the nation on matters related  
to science and technology.

Approached by APHIS in early 2015



Safeguarding Animal Health



# Changed conditions

**Increased occurrence of brucellosis transmission from wildlife to livestock**

**The recent expansion of brucellosis in non-feedground elk**

**Factors that greater concern not only APHIS but also the regional and national livestock industry.**



Safeguarding Animal Health



# Changed conditions

**A subject of great interest to many citizens of widely divergent backgrounds and experience.**

**Aspects of this issue illicit considerable emotional responses.**

**With this in mind, we want science to inform the future course of any actions used to address brucellosis in the GYA. Because the NAS is viewed as a neutral and nonaligned body, we asked them to consider doing this project.**



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# Changed conditions

Since the publication of *Brucellosis in the Greater Yellowstone Area (NRC, 1998)*

- ❖ there has an explosion of research conducted on brucellosis and brucellosis related subjects
- ❖ specifically
  - ❖ brucellosis diagnostics,
  - ❖ brucellosis vaccines/vaccination,
  - ❖ economics of controlling brucellosis
  - ❖ wildlife movement/behavior, etc.



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# Changed conditions

**This new research is extensive and needed to be evaluated:**

- ❖ **in the context of what future actions could be employed to limit or curb the spread of brucellosis from wildlife to cattle.**
- ❖ **costs, feasibility, usefulness, timing.....**



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**Bozeman, Montana**  
**Charge to NAS Committee on Revisiting**  
**Brucellosis in the GYA**  
**July 1, 2015**



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# Charge

**Charge: through the lens of your experience, knowledge, and research we would like you to assemble and analyze the information relevant to brucellosis in the elk, bison, and cattle of the Greater Yellowstone Area. Taking this information we would like you to lay a scientific foundation for any future actions that could be applied to contain or suppress brucellosis across the region**



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