

# Meeting #4 of 7 Agenda

## Interagency Bison Management Plan

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*Held at: Federal Building  
10. E. Babcock  
Bozeman, MT*

*Host: Gallatin National Forest  
Date: October 2-3, 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.

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

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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.

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## Thursday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>

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### Afternoon session

12:00 noon	<b>Scott Bischke (facilitator); all present</b>	<p>Welcome, meeting overview</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Timeline—where we've been, where we are going</li> <li>• Desired outcomes from Oct 2,3 meetings</li> <li>• Introductions of all present</li> <li>• Meeting logistics, format, process, expectations, agenda modifications as needed</li> </ul>
<p><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>.</i></p>		
12:15	<b>GNF MFWP DoL/APHIS YNP/APHIS YNP APHIS</b>	<p>(10 min) utilization at HB, carrying capacity at HB; answer to the questions—does GNF permit to the max value possible; status of the Mum's (now Gallanas) permit</p> <p>(10 min) breakdown of hunting harvest by sex ratio over the last two years</p> <p>(15 min) inventory of vaccination status on the west side and on the north side</p> <p>(10 min) Briefing paper on persistence data (Glenn Plumb, Ryan Clarke)</p> <p>(30 min) Bison genetics (Rick Wallen)</p> <p>(10 min) Potential for special Yellowstone area brucellosis status</p>
1:45	<i>Break (here or as called for by partners)</i>	
2:00	<b>All partners</b>	<p>Continuation of West side adaptive management plan with goal to arrive at ver2.0 (2:30)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Begin with Scott presentation on his compilation of the ver1.0 edits presented to him by the partners; focus on areas of disagreement and areas of agreement</li> <li>• Partner discussions focussed on resolving areas of disagreement</li> </ul>
4:30	<b>Observers</b>	Public comment period (2-4 min, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
5:00	<b>Adjourn</b>	<i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>

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**Friday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>**

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**Morning session**

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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>• Meeting logistics, format, process, expectations, agenda modifications as needed</li><li>• Recap yesterday's meeting and set today's goals</li></ul>
8:40	<b>All partners</b>	Discussion of North Side AM plan with goal to arrive at ver 1.0 (begin with Pat Flowers briefing on RTR process and current status Partner discussion)
10:30	<i>Break (here or as called for by partners)</i>	
10:45	<b>Scott Bischke</b>	Planning for subsequent meetings; discussion: based on progress to this moment are we on track to make December goal?
11:30	<b>Observers</b>	Public comment period (2-4 min, depending on level of sign-up sheet)
12 noon	<b>Adjourn</b>	<i>(partners please huddle to debrief before departure)</i>