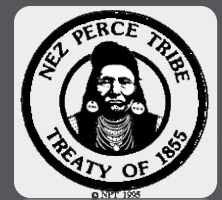


INTERAGENCY BISON MANAGEMENT PLAN MEETING

8 December 2010
Chico Hot Springs, MT
(Host: GNF)



2000 Record of Decision (ROD)

▣ IBMP Goals

- ...to “maintain a wild, free-ranging population of bison

and

address the risk of brucellosis transmission to protect the economic interest and viability of the livestock industry in Montana.”

Logistics

- ▣ **These are business meetings...**
 - ...with long-range goals, deliverables, products as defined in the 2000 ROD (and re-emphasized in the 2008 GAO report)

- ▣ **Partners remain committed to transparency**
 - These working meetings are open for the public to observe
 - Briefings/content available as hard copies or on at www.ibmp.info

- ▣ **Two methods for public comment**
 - Comment periods at the end of each day (3 min)
 - Informal interactions at breaks
 - Potential for Citizens' Working Group

Logistics (continued)

- ▣ **What these meetings are not about:**
 - Dumping the IBMP and starting over
 - Elk and brucellosis (occurring under different venues)

- ▣ **Why?**
 - → Partners' roles and authority constrained by the confines of the existing IBMP

(Self) Introductions

Briefly, all in attendance

Meeting tone is spirited, creative,
and respectful with a focus on
mutual understanding

Where have we been?

**For the benefit
of any new visitors...**

A (very) Brief IBMP History

- ▣ **Dec 2000: The State and Federal Records of Decision (EIS) for the Long-Term IBMP for MT and YNP**
- ▣ **Mar 2008: GAO Report on improvements needed for IBMP**
- ▣ **Aug-Dec 2008: 7 Partner meetings to create AM plan (Dec08)**
- ▣ **Jan 2009: 1st Ops Plan created based on Dec08 AM agreement**
- ▣ **Aug 1, 2009: First year post-AM plan report**
- ▣ **Nov, 2009: Addition of Tribal reps, discussions of citizens groups**
- ▣ **Feb, 2010: Discussion regarding county representation to the table**
- ▣ **Aug, 2010: 2nd year post-AM plan report**

What is Adaptive Management ?

Adaptive Management is an iterative approach to natural resource policy that embodies a simple imperative:

Policies are experiments – learn from them, modify your plans, measure again, repeat !

– Kai N. Lee

Thought for the Day...

“The aim of argument,
or of discussion,
should not be victory,
but progress.”

—*Joseph Joubert*

Progress toward twin IBMP goals since GAO report

1. Transparency (e.g, information portal ibmp.info)
2. **Operating under AM plan**
3. Added tribal entities to the deliberative table
4. **RTR lease/fencing on the north side to increase tolerance (public/private partnership)**
5. Greatly increased numbers of bison on HB
6. **Ongoing injection of science into the debate with persistence data, population data**
7. Working toward vaccination as described in ROD
8. Strong efforts at creating Citizens Working Group
9. **Meeting with landowners on the ground (X2)**
10. No brucellosis transfer from bison to cattle