

INTERAGENCY BISON MANAGEMENT PLAN

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE



USDA
ANIMAL AND PLANT
HEALTH INSPECTION
SERVICE



USDA
FOREST SERVICE



MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF
LIVESTOCK



MONTANA FISH, WILDLIFE &
PARKS



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Interagency Partners To Hold Bison Open House And Workshop In Bozeman

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The current and future management of bison in Montana will be the subject of an open house and workshop to be held later this month in Bozeman.

The public event is being hosted by the five agencies that work under the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP). The IBMP is a cooperative plan designed to protect Montana's brucellosis-free status while allowing for the conservation of a viable, wild bison population.

The open house and workshop will be held January 31, 2007 from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Hilton Garden Inn at 2023 Commerce Way in Bozeman.

Staff from Yellowstone National Park, the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, the Gallatin National Forest, the Montana Department of Livestock, and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks will conduct the open house and workshop.

During the open house which runs from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., the public will have a chance to talk with agency experts to learn about recent adaptive management strategies and how they impact bison management this year. It will include updates on the bison quarantine feasibility study, remote vaccination, Royal Teton Ranch land, and related wildlife habitat restoration projects.

Starting at 6 p.m., the IBMP partners will host a two hour workshop on topics that could impact future bison management. Small discussion groups composed of public members and agency experts will share ideas concerning future adaptive management changes, potential expansion of the bison hunt, and conservation of wild bison.

The fall bison population was estimated to be 3,900. So far this winter, 20 bison have been taken by hunters and two bison were captured and shipped to slaughter.

This is the seventh winter the IBMP has been used to guide brucellosis risk management actions.