

From: [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#)
To: [Robbe Austerman, Suelee - APHIS](#); [Herriott, Donald E - APHIS](#)
Cc: [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#); [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
Subject: FW: Proposal for making slaughter of Gonacon animals work
Date: Thursday, February 9, 2017 2:10:42 PM

Suelee and Don,

I approve of Matt's idea. We've done this several times in the past. We get a check to USDA and deposit it in the "imprest fund" for research animals. This is like the fund they use for vehicles only it is for research animals. Since we've been instructed to get these bison sent down the road ASAP, this reasoning makes good sense. Please give me your input and send it wherever you need to as we want to be sure and get it right.

Jack

From: McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Sent: Thursday, February 09, 2017 1:36 PM
To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS <Jack.C.Rhyan@aphis.usda.gov>
Subject: Proposal for making slaughter of Gonacon animals work

Jack,

I have been struggling to come up with a plan to make the slaughter of Gonacon animals work with all of the Montana slaughter plants being full with bison from YNP for the foreseeable future and I think I have a solution.

Here is my proposal: We take the 20 animals to slaughter in either SD or CO. Historically, we have taken animals to Western Meats in Rapid City South Dakota, to Brush Meat Processors in Brush, Colorado and to Double J Meats in Pierce, Colorado. We would like to take some samples from these animals to tie up the research and we have been able to do that at all of these places before. APHIS took the bison from the Meeteetse bison herd to Brush and Pierce and we have taken Gonacon animals to Rapid years ago. The proceeds from the sale of the animals will go to USDA and will be used to purchase animals for research in future. (cattle for transmission study, bison cows for venereal transmission study, goats for vaccine study, etc)

If I get approval for this plan, I will contact the slaughter plants and find out the price they are paying and also if they are still willing to allow us to collect samples from the carcasses. Also, I will coordinate with Becky Frey in MT on when she will be able to access the animals to load them out.

Please run this up the chain (or chains),
Matt

Matt McCollum

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