

From: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
To: [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Subject: Re: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
Date: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 3:41:45 PM

Chances are we have 8 hd in this category. Lets go straight to commercial option. FWP will run from this, they want no part of buffalo.

Becky
USDA APHIS VS
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 12, 2013, at 3:23 PM, "Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS" <Jack.C.Rhyan@aphis.usda.gov> wrote:

[Forgot to cc ya'll. Sorry.](#)

From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 3:21 PM
To: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
Off the top of my bald head:

I like the bastard question best. I think with those we donate their little bastard carcasses to the food bank, as they have no special value for conservation. As for the dumb question: The FWP thing didn't work out so well last time. We carefully avoided the issue of ownership by calling them "wildlife" which was our desire. However, reality has conquered desire and now I just want to avoid the political games if we can. We found several homes for them last time only to be shot down by the FWP thing. I think this time if we can find a state park or tribe well ahead of time, we'll transfer the critters to them. Maybe we'll ask to get bloods once in the next 5 years as a follow-up surveillance. If things get sticky, we'll utilize the last option and collect tissues from them looking for latent infection.

What do you think about those random thoughts?

Jack

PS: we might should delete these emails.

From: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 2:52 PM
To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

This may be a dumb question..... but why aren't the seronegative bison that graduate from the GonaCon study (and have met the BQFS protocol)....why aren't they wildlife and the property of FWP just like the BQFS graduates? What makes them different when they came from the same source?

Which brings up another question....some females were bred by SD bulls....what do we do with their negative offspring?(i.e. the impure Yellowstone bastards!)

P. Ryan Clarke, DVM, MPH

Regional Epidemiologist-GYA
USDA-APHIS-VS-WR
406-388-5162

From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 12:14 PM
To: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS; Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
2 pm today will work for a talk with Rick and PJ. I will call you all from here. Okay?
Jack

From: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 10:06 AM
To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
I'm home. We are talking about two conference calls now. I haven't heard back from
Matt about times for our inter-APHIS on the 19th or 20th.
As for a CC with YNP.....I'm available for the rest of today and after 3pm tomorrow.
Ryan
P. Ryan Clarke, DVM, MPH
Regional Epidemiologist-GYA
USDA-APHIS-VS-WR
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From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 9:25 AM
To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS; Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
What times today or tomorrow are you available? Is Ryan still at Plum?
Jack

From: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 9:21 AM
To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?
Probably not until Thursday, so if there is a pressing time issue we should do a CC
Rebecca Frey
Wildlife Disease Specialist
USDA APHIS Veterinary Services
Montana
406-333-4425

From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS
Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 9:20 AM
To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS; Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS
Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS
Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

So maybe the best thing is if we get on the phone with Rick and PJ and hash out our concerns. I'm sure they are trying to make it acceptable to whoever in NPS is grouchy about giving animals away, but I think you two both have good points. Can you guys get to Mammoth for a face to face with me on the phone? Or should we try to organize a conf call?

Jack

From: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 8:57 AM

To: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS; Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS

Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS

Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

I think once they give us "ownership" they no longer get to dictate the terms of the disposition. We already stated in our plan that we will attempt to place appropriate bison, but we should not be told by them what to do. I agree that we need dates....or x number of days/months after the study ends to dispose of them.

Also, as to use of any bulls, they do state the pastures at "Corwin Springs", so if they can only be there....we could not even move them to CO, unless we feel like the movement to Corwin only means "initial" movement from Park. Probably need to edit Article VI part D by removing "this" in front of research....so it doesn't limit us to the GonaCon Study.

Did we pick a time yet for the conference call?

Rebecca Frey

Wildlife Disease Specialist

USDA APHIS Veterinary Services

Montana

406-333-4425

From: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS

Sent: Tuesday, February 12, 2013 8:28 AM

To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Cc: Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS

Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

They give us ownership in article VI (A), but then dictate what happens to the bison 4-5 years later. Remember how we were stuck feeding and caring for BQFS for a year+, because we could not get rid of them. A think there should be another clause that says something like

" APHIS will give YNP as much notice as possible as to when certain bison will be leaving the study. It will be YNP responsibility to find suitable parties [as dictated in Article VI (B) & (C)] to accept the eligible bison by the date of their redundancy. If YNP cannot find suitable a suitable party by the redundancy date, APHIS will exercise it's default for excess research animals which is to have a local slaughterhouse process the animals and give the meat to the Montana Food Bank Network.

We do not want to be stuck with thse animal for months and months and months with out certain deadlines in place.

P. Ryan Clarke, DVM, MPH

Regional Epidemiologist-GYA

USDA-APHIS-VS-WR

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From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 4:15 PM

To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Cc: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS; Nol, Pauline - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS

Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

Becky, will you be my lawyer? I think you could keep me out of trouble.

I guess I read the "and/or" and thought we could live with it but maybe I'll take it out. I

think if I add "or paddock" to pasture, we could bring them here. What do you think?

Thanks for the scrutiny, Becky, Esquire.

Jack

From: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 3:50 PM

To: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS

Cc: McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS; Nol, Pauline - APHIS

Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

You don't have any heartburn about the "statement of work" stating overectomy as a part of the study, the preferences on disposal of bison at end of study, or the limits on where the bison can be used for research? My first blush would keep us from sending sero-positive bulls to you in CO, especially if you have ANY other research or samples you would want to take from them, ie...embryo transfer, semen collection etc....I think since you are considered "KEY"...what a word...for both facilities, we could probably send them, it is just that they will no longer be part of the GonaCon study.

Rebecca Frey

Wildlife Disease Specialist

USDA APHIS Veterinary Services

Montana

406-333-4425

From: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 1:51 PM

To: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS; Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS

Cc: McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS; Nol, Pauline - APHIS

Subject: RE: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

Either would work for me. Also, Rick has been asking me to get the Coop agreement in place as they have about 200 bison in the Gardiner basin and he thinks the next 2-3 weeks will be prime for capture. I sent it to Mark and asked him to call me. Are ya'll okay with it if I go ahead and try to get signatures on it and get it back to Rick? I read it over and I think its benign.

Jack

From: Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS

Sent: Monday, February 11, 2013 1:36 PM

To: Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS

Cc: Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS; McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS; Nol, Pauline - APHIS

Subject: Re: Conference call about GonaCon (2nd rendition) ? Elk study at Brogan's?

Before noon on 20th, or before 2:30 on 19th

Becky
USDA APHIS VS
Sent from my iPhone

On Feb 11, 2013, at 12:31 PM, "Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS"
<Patrick.R.Clarke@aphis.usda.gov> wrote:

All,
I think we need to put our heads together about what we want to do
about the Brogan facility, the 2nd rendition of GonaCon, an elk study, etc.
What is everyone availability next Tuesday (19th) or Wednesday (20th) to
have a conference call?
P. Ryan Clarke, DVM, MPH
Regional Epidemiologist-GYA
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