

October 30, 2008

Suzanne Lewis  
Superintendent  
Yellowstone National Park  
P.O. Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190-0168

Re: Proposed Royal Teton Ranch Grazing Restriction and Bison Access Agreement

Dear Ms. Lewis:

I am sending you a copy of comments submitted on behalf of Western Watersheds Project (WWP) and the Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) to the Montana Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (MFWP) regarding their draft Environmental Assessment for the proposed Royal Teton Ranch Grazing Restriction and Bison Access Agreement (proposed action). Please consider this letter and the attached comments in addition to the previous letter sent by BFC, WWP and other organizations detailing new information and changed circumstances which necessitate state and federal agencies prepare a supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for bison and brucellosis management.

The proposed action is a major federal action, as Yellowstone National Park (YNP) has committed to contribute substantially in the amount of 1.5 million dollars. This requires YNP to prepare an EIS for the proposed action to comply with NEPA. Thus, YNP should prepare an EIS in conjunction with MFWP and other participating agencies before finalizing action regarding bison management on or in the area of Royal Teton Ranch lands.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to a timely response.

Sincerely,

Summer Nelson  
Montana Legal Counsel  
Western Watersheds Project  
PO Box 7681  
Missoula, MT 59807  
406-830-3099  
Fax 406-830-3085  
summer@westernwatersheds.org

cc: Montana Governor Brian D. Schweitzer  
Mary Erickson, Forest Supervisor Gallatin National Forest