



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF  
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

## Fiscal Note 2015 Biennium

**Bill #** HB0484

**Title:** Generally revise bison laws

**Primary Sponsor:** Redfield, Alan

**Status:** As Introduced

- |   |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Local Gov Impact     | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Needs to be included in HB 2 | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Technical Concerns   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Included in the Executive Budget | <input type="checkbox"/> Significant Long-Term Impacts           | <input type="checkbox"/> Dedicated Revenue Form Attached |

### FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2014</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2015</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2016</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2017</u> <u>Difference</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$181,183	\$101,811	\$103,368	\$104,450
<b>Revenue:</b>				
General Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
State Special Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Net Impact-General Fund Balance:</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

**Description of fiscal impact:** Passage of HB 484 will result in increased costs to provide immediate action for bison management.

### FISCAL ANALYSIS

#### Assumptions:

#### **Department of Fish Wildlife and Parks (FWP)**

- All bison migrating into Montana from Yellowstone National Park will fall under the new 87-1-216(3)(a), MCA. This provision refers back to implementing 81-2-120(1)(a) through (1)(d), MCA.
- FWP assumes all bison migrating into Montana from Yellowstone National Park are infected and will spread disease to persons and livestock, which will trigger 81-2-120(1)(a) through (1)(d), MCA.
- FWP has a current agreement for bison management with the US Department of Agriculture - the Inter-Agency Bison Management Plan (IBMP). The IBMP requires FWP to assist with bison hunts, bison property damage, hazing, and shooting of bison.
- To meet the requirement of "no tolerance" for bison, FWP would need wardens available in West Yellowstone and Gardiner to immediately assist with bison management.

5. Bison typically migrate out of Yellowstone National Park between September and mid-June (1,670 hours) which equates to a 0.80 FTE. (1,670 ÷ 2,088 = 0.80 FTE) Expenses for the two 0.80 FTE positions would include \$79,411 for personal services and \$22,400 for operating expenses.
6. In FY 2014, a one-time acquisition of supplies, materials, and equipment is required for the additional wardens to provide immediate action for bison management. Costs include \$30,970 in operating expenses and \$48,402 for equipment.

**Department of Livestock**

7. The Department of Livestock receives federal funding for bison operations in the Greater Yellowstone Area. HB 484 as introduced will not require the department to incur additional costs versus current law for those operations.

	<u>FY 2014 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2015 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2016 Difference</u>	<u>FY 2017 Difference</u>
<b><u>Fiscal Impact:</u></b>				
FTE	1.60	1.60	1.60	1.60
<b><u>Expenditures:</u></b>				
Personal Services	\$79,411	\$79,411	\$80,632	\$81,373
Operating Expenses	\$53,370	\$22,400	\$22,736	\$23,077
Equipment	\$48,402	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Expenditures</b>	<u>\$181,183</u>	<u>\$101,811</u>	<u>\$103,368</u>	<u>\$104,450</u>
<b><u>Funding of Expenditures:</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$181,183	\$101,811	\$103,368	\$104,450
<b>TOTAL Funding of Exp.</b>	<u>\$181,183</u>	<u>\$101,811</u>	<u>\$103,368</u>	<u>\$104,450</u>
<b><u>Revenues:</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>TOTAL Revenues</b>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<b><u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures):</u></b>				
State Special Revenue (02)	(\$181,183)	(\$101,811)	(\$103,368)	(\$104,450)

**Technical Notes:**

1. Under HB 484, FWP would be required to cooperate and coordinate with Department of Livestock in the management of Yellowstone bison per 87-1-216(3)(a) MCA and to develop a plan per 87-1-216(5) MCA for bison under FWP jurisdiction, but Department of Livestock has the primary authority over Yellowstone bison.

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Sponsor's Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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Budget Director's Initials

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date