

YELLOWSTONE BISON POPULATION MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

This report summarizes management activities associated with implementation of the Record of Decision for the Final Environmental Impact Statement and Bison Management Plan for the State of Montana and Yellowstone National Park for the time period 1 September 2007 through 31 August 2008. The reporting period for this summary is **1 July through 31 July 2008**.

PARKWIDE DISTRIBUTION:

*The information in the following paragraph is **not** intended as a population estimate. This information provides an *approximate* number of bison in certain geographic areas that have been surveyed in the past month. In no way is this information complete and accurate enough for a population estimate.

On the northern range bison are utilizing Lamar Valley, Specimen Ridge and the Mirror Plateau to Flint Creek. Only scattered bulls remain on Blacktail Deer Plateau. In the interior bison are primarily utilizing Hayden Valley with less than 80 bulls in Pelican Valley.

HAZING OPERATIONS:

Hazing operations that occur near the North and West Boundaries are primarily conducted and reported by the YNP Division of Resource Management and Visitor Protection and MT Department of Livestock, respectively.

North Boundary Area: 0 hazing events were reported this period.

West Boundary Area: 0 hazing events were reported this period.

CAPTURE OPERATIONS:

Capture operations that occurred near the North and West Boundaries were primarily conducted and reported by the YNP Division of Resource Management and Visitor Protection and MT Department of Livestock, respectively.

North Boundary Area: 0 bison were reported captured this reporting period

West Boundary Area: 0 bison were reported captured this reporting period

Bison Transported to Slaughter

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>Bison to Slaughter this reporting period</i>	<i>Total to Slaughter (Sept 1 – pres)</i>
West	0	158
North	0	1276
Total	0	1434

Bison Transported to Quarantine:

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>Bison to Quarantine this reporting period</i>	<i>Total to Quarantine (Sept 1 – pres)</i>
West	0	0
North	0	112

Capture Pen Mortalities:

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>Capture Pen Mortality this reporting period</i>	<i>Total Pen Mortality this operating season (Sept 1 – pres)</i>
West	0	0
North	0	10

INTERAGENCY BISON MANAGEMENT PLAN SHOOTING OPERATIONS:

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>Bison Shot this reporting period</i>	<i>Total Shot this operating season</i>
West	2	2
North	0	6

14 July: 1 bull bison was shot on the [REDACTED] property, approximately 5 miles west of the park in zone 3. The removal was conducted by Montana DOL.

16 July: 1 bull bison was shot on the [REDACTED] property, approximately 5 miles west of the park in zone 3. The removal was conducted by Montana DOL.

HUNTER HARVEST:

The numbers are from reports by FWP wardens/biologists, hunters, NPS employees and BFC.

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Bison Hunt (Nov 15 – Feb 15)

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>FWP Hunter Take this reporting period</i>	<i>Total FWP Hunter Take this operating season (Nov 15 – pres)</i>
West	0	50
North	0	13
Total	0	63

Native American Tribal Treaty Right Bison Hunts

<i>Boundary</i>	<i>Nez Perce Hunter Take this reporting period</i>	<i>Total Nez Perce Hunter Take this operating season (Jan 26 – Mar 3?)</i>	<i>Confederated Salish and Kootenai Hunter Take this reporting period</i>	<i>Total Confederated Salish and Kootenai Hunter Take this operating season (Nov 15 – Jan 31)</i>
West	0	19	0	38
North	0	45	0	1
Total	0	64	0	39

Year	Boundary	Month	Hazing Events	Mngmt Shootings	Total Captured	Captured & Tested	Slaughtered & Not Tested	Slaughtered & Tested Positive	Slaughtered & Tested Negative	Released/Held & Tested Negative	Released & Not Tested	Vaccinated	Quarantine	Capture/Pen Mortality	Hunter Take
2007	West	September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	North	September	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	West	October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	North	October	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	West	November 1-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	North	November 1-14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2007	West	November 15-30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	10
2007	North	November 15-30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
2007	West	December 1-15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
2007	North	December 1-15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
2007	West	December 16-31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
2007	North	December 16-31	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
2008	West	January 1-15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	26
2008	North	January 1-15	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1

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Year	Boundary	Month	Hazing Events	Mngmt Shootings	Total Captured	Captured & Tested	Slaughtered & Not Tested	Slaughtered & Tested Positive	Slaughtered & Tested Negative	Released/Held & Tested Negative	Released & Not Tested	Vaccinated	Quarantine	Capture/Pen Mortality	Hunter Take
2008	West	January 16-31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
2008	North	January 16-31	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
2008	West	February 1-13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	16
2008	North	February 1-13	9	0	144	18	82	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	7
2008	West	February 14-29	0	0	30	0	30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
2008	North	February 14-29	7	0	496	0	375	0	17	0	0	0	0	1	39
2008	West	March 1-14	0	0	77	0	77	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
2008	North	March 1-14	15	0	292	0	290	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1
2008	West	March 15-31	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	March 15-31	31	0	406	201	187	61	0	66 held	0	0	74	0	0
2008	West	April 1-15	0	0	39	0	39	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	April 1-15	23	6	281	320	126	137	0	127 held	0	24	38	4	0
2008	West	April 16-30	0	0	3	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	April 16-30	22	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0
2008	West	May 1-15	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	May 1-15	13	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

Year	Boundary	Month	Hazing Events	Mngmt Shootings	Total Captured	Captured & Tested	Slaughtered & Not Tested	Slaughtered & Tested Positive	Slaughtered & Tested Negative	Released/Held & Tested Negative	Released & Not Tested	Vaccinated	Quarantine	Capture/Pen Mortality	Hunter Take
2008	West	May 16-31	11	0	9	0	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	May 16-31	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	191 released	124	0	0	0	0
2008	West	June 1-15	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	June 1-15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	West	June 16-30	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	June 16-30	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	West	July 1-31	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2008	North	July 1-31	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Summary			149	8	1794	539	1218	198	18	191*	124*	24	112	10	166

*18 test positive adult cows were also released but there is no room for an additional category at this time. The information is detailed above under the Capture Operations section. A total of 333 bison were released over the 19th and 20th of May.