

From: [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
To: keith.roehr@state.co.us
Cc: [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#); [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#); [Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS](#)
Subject: 1-27 and CVI for bison from MT to CO
Date: Thursday, January 15, 2015 9:55:45 AM

Keith,

Attached are the documents for the 10 bison we are bringing back to CO today. They are brucella -exposed but negative on serology. Please let me know if you cannot read them.

Thanks!

Pauline

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
To: [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Subject: 1-27
Date: Tuesday, June 30, 2015 7:59:16 AM
Attachments: [ATT00001.txt](#)

ATT00001.txt

Sent from my iPhone

From: [Stephens, Stephanie H - APHIS](#)
To: [Willard, Tracy A - APHIS](#); [Clark, Terry W - APHIS](#); [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Washington, Phillip E - APHIS](#)
Subject: 10/5/2011 Conference Call Notes: GonaCon Bison Tribal Issues
Date: Thursday, October 06, 2011 2:36:04 PM

Hi Terry, Jack, Tracy and Pauline-

Thank you again for participating in the conference call yesterday on tribal consultation issues for the GonaCon bison experiment, I think it was really useful and productive!

This is a quick summary of what we talked about, the actions we agreed to, our respective responsibilities and some proposed deadlines based on the notes I took. Please review and let me know if anything looks incorrect or if you think the proposed deadlines are not possible.

Purpose of Call: To initiate discussions on tribal consultation issues associated with GonaCon bison experiment and associated NEPA document being written by ERAS

Participants: Jack Rhyan, VS Project Principle Investigator
Pauline Nol, VS Project Investigator
Terry Clark, VS Tribal Liaison
Tracy Willard, ERAS NEPA Project Staff
Stephanie Stephens, ERAS NEPA Project Lead

Summary: Terry provided background information to the call participants on the increasing importance of tribal consultation issues in APHIS. The group discussed the design and timing of the GonaCon study. The group also discuss the NEPA and pesticide (FIFRA) aspects and requirements of the project as they related to tribal issues.

Terry raised several issues that he initially thought tribes might be concerned with, including whether the bison from the study would be rereleased into Yellowstone National Park, whether study animals would be available for hunting and eventual human consumption, how tribes might perceive that the proposed study could limit their access to bison, and how tribes' spiritual feelings about bison might be raised in the context of the study. Terry said that he felt some of the potential issues could be discussed and maybe resolved by providing information on the study and the regulatory limitations in place.

Terry recommended that letters with a general summary of the project be written and sent to identified tribes as a first step in communicating on tribal issues. Depending on the responses to the initial letters, a decision can be made on whether a more formal consultation process needs to take place. The group agreed with Terry's recommended approach to send out initial project information to tribes. Terry also proposed that the procedures outlined in the draft Tribal Consultation Directive prepared by the APHIS BPI Tribal Consultation Team (which will be finalized soon) be followed for the GonaCon bison project. The group also agreed with this proposal.

Actions/

Responsibilities: Identify tribes to contact—Terry Clark, by 10/21/11
Write draft letter to tribes summarizing GonaCon bison project—Terry Clark, by 10/21/11
Review and comment on draft tribes letter—Jack Rhyan, Pauline Nol, Stephanie Stephens and Tracy Willard, by 10/26/11
Schedule follow up group conference call to discuss tribal consultation issues status—Stephanie Stephens, week of 10/24/11
Determine who in VS will sign letter—Terry Clark and Jack Rhyan, by 10/26/11
Send letters to tribes—Terry Clark, with assistance as necessary, by 11/4/11
Next steps tbd

Stephanie H. Stephens
USDA-APHIS-Environmental and Risk Analysis Services, Unit 149
Headquarters: 4700 River Road, Riverdale, MD 20737
Office Phone/Fax: (435) 658-5134

From: [Rhyon, Jack C - APHIS](#)
To: [Herriott, Donald E - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Robbe Austerman, Suelee - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Subject: Activities update
Date: Friday, August 23, 2013 4:48:23 PM
Attachments: [WILDITActivitiesUpdateAug2013.docx](#)

Don,

Attached is the activities update for WiLDIT you requested.

Jack

From: [Patrick R Clarke](#)
To: [Jack C Rhyan](#); [Pauline Nol](#); [Matt McCollum](#); [Rebecca K Frey](#)
Subject: After the GonaCon call tomorrow.
Date: Monday, April 25, 2011 12:16:00 PM

All,
Could everyone could stay "on" the GonaCon call tomorrow..... (after YNP has disconnected)
....so that we can discuss some Bison Quarantine/MTFWP issues?

Thanks,
Ryan

P. Ryan Clarke, D.V.M.
USDA/APHIS/VS
Regional Epidemiologist- GYA
Belgrade, MT.
(406) 388-5162
(406) 539-6899-cell

From: [Nol, Pauline \(APHIS\)](#)
To: [Rhyan, Jack C \(APHIS\)](#)
Subject: amendment document for the IACUC
Date: Friday, July 01, 2011 2:46:00 PM
Attachments: [ACUC Proposal GonaConBisonStudy2011amendmentform7.1.11.docx](#)



This will be attached to the original document after approval.

Pauline Nol, DVM, MS, PhD
Wildlife Livestock Disease Investigations Team
USDA APHIS VS WRO
National Wildlife Research Center
4101 LaPorte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521
Phone: (970) 266-6126
Mobile: (970) 218-1418

Amendment Form
Animal Care and Use Protocol
Bison Quarantine Facility Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee

Study Title:	Evaluation of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as a means of decreasing shedding of <i>Brucella abortus</i> in bison
Study Director:	Jack Rhyan

Amendments:

DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITIES

The end date to this project should be changed to October 1, 2019

STUDY PROTOCOL

2. Testing Facilities

Montana Veterinary Diagnostic Laboratory will also be receiving serum for Brucellosis testing.

7. Objective/Hypotheses

In this section, Major Objective (2) will be added and will deal with evaluating efficacy of GonaCon™. Consequently, an additional hypothesis (2) will be added. The original Major Objective number 3 will be changed to come under the Minor Objectives section.

This section will read as follows:

Major Objectives:

1. Evaluate the effect of infertility produced by immunocontraception of *B. abortus*-seropositive female bison on *B. abortus* shedding in a bison herd.
2. Evaluate the efficacy of GonaCon™ as an immunocontraceptive in female *B. abortus*-infected bison
3. Evaluate the effects immunocontraceptive vaccine-induced prolonged anestrus has on *B. abortus* colonization in naturally-infected female bison

Minor Objectives:

1. Determine the nature of infection (transient or ongoing) in calves due to birth to and suckling of seropositive cows; determine pregnancy outcomes in calves born to seropositive dams.

Hypotheses:

1. Immunocontraception of *B. abortus*-seropositive female bison will not reduce shedding of *B. abortus* among penmates.
2. Vaccination with GonaCon™ will not reduce pregnancy rates in female *B. abortus*-infected bison
3. Immunocontraceptive vaccine-induced prolonged anestrus will have no effect on *B. abortus* colonization in naturally-infected female bison.

8. Methods/Procedures

Serologic testing for anti-GnRH antibodies will also be conducted in this project. The paragraph below will be added to the section.

Serology evaluating antibody production against GnRH will be conducted at the National Wildlife Research Center. Serology will be conducted prior to vaccination and at least annually thereafter.

10. Experimental Design and Statistical Analyses

This section will be changed to add sample size justification in reference to efficacy testing of GonaCon™ to prevent pregnancies in female bison. In addition, we will add the term “shedding” as a response variable in addition to “abortion”. This section will read as follows:

If we expect an abortion/shedding rate of 5-10% in the vaccinated group and a 30% abortion/shedding rate in the non-vaccinated group, then, with 18 seropositive animals per pen we have an 82% power to detect a 23% change (30% to 7% abortions/shedding occurrence). Two replicates of the two pastures will be conducted.

As we consider power to be acceptable at a level of approximately 80% for evaluating vaccine efficacy, the number of animals involved in this study is appropriate. The vaccine will be deemed successful if the number of births in non-vaccinates exceeds that of vaccinates by 60% or more. Using a power calculation in SAS (power for comparing 2 independent proportions), a sample size of 10 or greater per group was calculated to be sufficient in order to determine efficacy of the vaccine under the above-stated power constraint.

SIGNATURE PAGE

Study Director _____ Date_____

Concur

IACUC Chair _____ Date_____

From: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
To: [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); [Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
Subject: Another long term study question.....
Date: Friday, February 06, 2015 12:05:19 PM

Sorry, I have just been working with the database a lot lately.....anyway, we started the GC project using Rivanol as one of the regular tests, however, the reagents have been off..(a known lab issue)... and we have been getting some bizarre results from Rivanol....almost everybody has rivanol titer at +50 or more. Soooooo, we have quit....at labs discretion....using Rivanol. They and we felt it was not telling us anything anyway. I have no idea if they will resolve the rivanol issue before we finish this study. Presumably they will, but who knows. That being said, what do we plan to do with the Rivanol test results, and if we don't have a complete set of tests over the years as with FP and CF and others....do we want to keep that data at hand or ignore it? I plan to "hide" that column for now....but I may delete in future.....we still have all of the paper results filed away in my most secret GC stash. ☺

Wildlife Biologist/Disease Specialist
USDA APHIS VS
Montana
406-333-4425 office/fax

From: [Laura B Greiner](#)
To: [Pauline Nol](#)
Subject: another search
Date: Wednesday, March 02, 2011 9:19:00 AM
Attachments: [test substance = GonaCon.rtf](#)

Hi Pauline,

Sorry, I should have also included a search on GonaCon (attached).

Laura

(See attached file: test substance = GonaCon.rtf)

NWRC STUDY RECORDS
(Test Substance = 'GonaCon')
(March 2, 2011)

<i>Study Director</i>	<i>QA Number</i>	<i>Title</i>
Campbell	1549	Chemical sterilization of captive male shoats with a GnRH vaccine
	1783	Oral vaccination of feral swine with a GnRH vaccine
Carlson	1763	Inoculation of European starlings (<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>) with killed <i>Mycobacterium avian</i> subspecies paratuberculosis
Eisemann	1209	GonaCon Immunocontraceptive Vaccine for White-tailed Deer (<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>): Pivotal target animal safety study
	1451	GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for use in cervids: EPA data submission
Fry	1585	The efficacy of GonaCon in raccoons
	1656	Using hormone antibody levels to evaluate the effectiveness of Gonacon in raccoon pups
Gionfriddo	1112	Pivotal field study of GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for use in the contraception of white-tailed deer in Maryland
	1277	Pivotal field study of GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for use in the contraception of white-tailed deer in New Jersey
	1417	Collection of ancillary data on GonaCon Immunocontraceptive vaccine use during autumn and winter for the contraception of female white-tailed deer in Maryland
	1445	Field study of GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for use in the contraception of Fallow deer (<i>Dama dama</i>) at Point Reyes National Seashore, California
	1523	Field study of GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for use in the contraception of elk (<i>Cervus elaphus</i>) at Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado
	1633	Field efficacy of GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine for contraception of fox squirrels (<i>Sciurus niger</i>) in California
	1657	Field study of GonaCon Immunocontraceptive Vaccine for use in the contraception of feral horses (<i>Equus caballus</i>) at Theodore Roosevelt National Park, North Dakota
Kemp	1601	Efficacy testing of new GnRH peptide lots, adjuvant formulation changes for GonaCon production, and a novel French Immunocontraceptive protein
Nichols	1791	The effect of the immunocontraceptive GonaCon on chronic wasting disease propagation
O'Hare	1421	Product chemistry: color, physical state, odor, pH, and viscosity - USDA APHIS GonaCon immunocontraceptive vaccine (EPA reg. no. 56228-xx)
Yoder	1382	Effect of GnRH vaccine on black-tailed prairie dogs
	1383	Field efficacy of GonaCon for black-tailed prairie dogs
	1534	Field efficacy of GonaCon for reducing Eastern Grey Squirrel populations
	1563	Transdermal application of a recombinant GnRH vaccine

From: [Keirn, Gail M - APHIS](#)
To: [Eisemann, John D - APHIS](#); [Fagerstone, Kathleen A - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Clark, Larry - APHIS](#)
Subject: APHIS Twitter Report - fyi
Date: Friday, April 19, 2013 2:32:06 PM
Attachments: [image007.png](#)

FYI - (b) (5) Below is a link that was posted on Twitter by someone opposed to APHIS research with bison. It includes an email string among John Eisemann, Kathy Fagerstone, Matt McCollum, Pauline Nol, Jack Rhyan and others discussing the GonaCon-bison study.

(b) (5) Just a heads-up...

GAIL KEIRN

Legislative and Public Affairs
USDA-APHIS-WS National Wildlife Research Center
4101 LaPorte Avenue, Fort Collins, CO 80521
Desk: 970-266-6007 | Fax: 970-266-6010
www.aphis.usda.gov/wildlife_damage/nwrc/



[Join the APHIS Stakeholder Registry Today](#)

Baby Finch @babyfinch12h

FOIA docs posted by BuffaloFieldCampaign re: disturbing US Wildlife Services **APHIS** experiments done w/our tax dollars <http://tinyurl.com/cd788vx>



INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
between the
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
and the
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ARTICLE I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

To evaluate sterilization by use of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as means of decreasing the potential for transmission of *Brucella abortus* in bison. This agreement is between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park.

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF WORK

A. During the period of performance, up to 63 live bison (8-16 seronegative bulls, 32-40 seropositive cows, 5-7 seronegative cows) may be transferred by the National Park Service from the Stephens Creek capture facility in Yellowstone National Park to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for transport to fenced quarantine pastures in Corwin Springs, Montana. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will conduct an experimental research study with these bison to determine whether:

- Immunocontraception can prevent the shedding of *Brucella abortus* bacteria in young, recently infected bison;
- Immunocontraception with GonaCon™ vaccine can prevent shedding of *Brucella abortus* bacteria throughout the infection cycle; and
- Recovery from the contraceptive treatment and the brucellosis infection can be completed without any further shedding of the bacteria during subsequent pregnancies.

B. Any bulls that seroconvert to positive may, with notification of the National Park Service Key Official, be transferred to an Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service quarantine facility in Fort Collins, Colorado, for a venereal transmission study.

C. Additional Yellowstone bison may be transferred by the National Park Service to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for this research study in subsequent years based on written bilateral modification of this agreement.

D. All data collected by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service during this research study will be provided to the National Park Service in the form of data releases and/or interim and final reports.

E. Changes to this agreement may be affected by issuance of a written modification hereto which both parties execute.

ARTICLE III. TERM OF AGREEMENT

The period of performance of this agreement will be from February 19, 2013, through January 31, 2017 at which time both parties will review and evaluate the agreement for possible extension.

ARTICLE IV. KEY OFFICIALS

National Park Service
Yellowstone Center for Resources
Rick Wallen, Wildlife Biologist
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-2285

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Jack Rhyan, DVM
National Wildlife Research Center
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-266-6140

ARTICLE V. PAYMENT

A. The National Park Service will not charge the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service a fee for the bison that are provided to it. The National Park Service cannot guarantee a specific number of bison to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in any given year.

B. The National Park Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will use their own respective funding sources to accomplish their respective tasks. The National Park Service will not pay for or provide equipment, funding, or personnel for bison transport or security to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or vice versa.

C. This agreement may be renewed yearly if agreeable to both parties. Renewals shall be in the form of a written bilateral modification. It is mutually understood that renewals are subject to the availability of funds for future work; and it is hereby agreed that, if funds are not available, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall release the National Park Service from any liabilities and future commitment under this agreement.

ARTICLE VI. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION

A. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will assume ownership of the bison in Yellowstone National Park once they are loaded, secured, and manifested into trailers or other vehicles appropriate for transporting bison.

B. When any Yellowstone bison are no longer needed for the purposes of the research experiment described in Article II, Statement of Work, they should be consigned based on their brucellosis status as described in QA 1858 – “Evaluation of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as a means of decreasing shedding of *Brucella abortus* in bison” and the Environmental Assessment – “Evaluation of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as a means of decreasing transmission of *Brucella abortus* in bison in the Greater Yellowstone Area” (USDA, May 2012):

- “At the end of the study, all seropositive animals will be euthanized and necropsied with specimens collected for culture. All carcasses, with the exception of those vaccinated with GonaCon™, will be donated to local food banks or Indian tribes. Ova and semen will be collected and frozen for genetic conservation utilizing embryo transfer techniques.
- All or a subset of offspring that remain or become seropositive for *B. abortus* after weaning will be maintained and monitored through their first parturition. Adults and offspring that remain negative for brucellosis based on serology and culture (blood, milk, swabs) and satisfy the bison quarantine requirements as published in the UM&R will be used for bison conservation.”

Bison that test negative for brucellosis exposure will be:

- Consigned to a quarantine location for further diagnostics;
- Consigned to a managed for public trust conservation program to supplement population genetic diversity;
- Consigned to an introduction program to establish a new conservation population of wild bison on tribal or public lands; or
- Utilized in an embryo transfer program for bison genetics conservation.

If no such opportunities exist, bison will be consigned to a private not-for-profit bison conservation program, or as a last choice, to any private party that requests transfer of ownership. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will be responsible for organizing the final disposition of the GonaCon™ research animals whether for conservation or transfer to other research.

C. Pursuant to 36 CFR part 10, Yellowstone bison transferred to individuals and private institutions cannot be slaughtered or released without adequate protection from premature hunting. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will notify parties receiving bison of this regulation. Once the bison have left the research facilities, however, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service does not have the ability to enforce 36 CFR 10.

D. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service agrees that the live Yellowstone bison in the experimental research study described in this agreement are to be used solely for research purposes, are to be used only at the organization's facilities in Corwin Springs, Montana or Fort Collins, Colorado, and only under the direction of their Key Official for this agreement or others working under his supervision, and will not be transferred to anyone else without notification of Yellowstone National Park.

ARTICLE VII. PRIOR APPROVAL

The National Park Service authorities for entering into this agreement are 16 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., 16 U.S.C. § 3, and 16 U.S.C § 36.

During 2011, the National Park Service transferred 52 bison (4 males, 48 females) from the Stephens Creek capture facility in Yellowstone National Park to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for transport to fenced quarantine pastures in Corwin Springs, Montana. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service began conducting an experimental research study with these bison as described in Article II, Statement of Work. This agreement allows additional bison to be transferred for use in research studies at the above specified locations.

ARTICLE VIII. REPORTS AND/OR OTHER DELIVERABLES

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall provide annual and final reports to the Key Official for the National Park Service on this agreement for all data collected during this study.

ARTICLE IX. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate the agreement by providing 14 days advance written notice to the other party.

ARTICLE X. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the parties hereto have signed their names and executed this Interagency Agreement.

National Park Service:

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:

Signature: _____

Daniel N. Wenk
Superintendent, Yellowstone NP
February _____, 2013

Signature: _____

Mark Davidson
Director, Western Region, USDA, APHIS, VS
February _____, 2013

Signature: _____

Tina Holland
Contracting Officer
February _____, 2013

From: [Jack C Rhyan](#)
To: [Kathleen A Fagerstone](#); [John D Eisemann/CO/APHIS/USDA](#); [Pauline Nol](#); [Matt McCollum](#); [Lowell A Miller/CO/APHIS/USDA](#)
Subject: bison contraception project
Date: Thursday, December 02, 2010 10:46:00 AM

Kathy et al,
We should meet soon to strategize on the bison project. I'm around mostly til Christmas.
Jack

From: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
To: [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
Subject: bison in January
Date: Monday, November 24, 2014 10:23:16 AM

Hello,

I have 3 negative cows, and 1 that was negative, had a couple suspect tests, then went negative again.....that you can have if you want them. I have more than enough sentinel animals for the control group.

I also have 7-9 calves that you can take, 3 males and 4 females for sure, and maybe a couple more females. I need to confirm with Ryan how many he wants to keep.

Then we need to know what if any bulls or cows or anything from Yellowstone you want. They are maybe planning on not testing and just shipping everything to slaughter, so we need to have our ducks in a row on our needs. That includes what needs sniffed too; so we can get them to at least test a few days for us.

Thanks,
Becky

From: [Jack C Rhyan](#)
To: [Pauline Nol](#); [Matt McCollum](#); [Rebecca K Frey](#); [Patrick R Clarke](#); rick_wallen@nps.gov; margaret_wild@nps.gov; Jenny_powers@nps.gov
Subject: bison proj
Date: Wednesday, May 11, 2011 11:52:00 AM

All,
Jenny had good advice and I called Brant Schumaker to consult on the study design. His thought was to focus on the individual animals and shedding and use a few sentinels only as proof of concept. I think that makes sense so we will try to find 16 to 18 seropositives per pasture next year and only use about 4 sentinels per pasture. We may not be able to find enough animals by next year so we will write it such that we can do staggered starts. That is next year we at least start with one control and one vaccinate pastures. Then if need be, we can start the other 2 pastures the following year. Brant said that would not impact the stats. What do you all think?
Wagged by stats,
Jack

From: [Sahaja Templin-Hladky](#)
To: [Nol. Pauline - APHIS](#)
Subject: bison sample log spread sheets
Date: Monday, January 14, 2013 3:01:05 PM
Attachments: [Montana Bison GnRH sample log.xlsx](#)
[San Dune Bison GnRH study QA-1923.xlsx](#)

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Sahaja Templin-Hladky
DVM Candidate 2015
M.S. Toxicology
B.S. Environmental Health
Colorado State University
sahaja@rams.colostate.edu

Montana: Gonacon Bison

	Treatment	May-12	1/9/2013
R01	vax		
R03	control		missing
R02	vax		
R04	vax		
R05	vax		
R06	control		
R07	control		
R08	control		
R09			
R10	vax		missing
R11	vax		
R12	control		missing
R13	control		
R14			
R15	control		
R16	control		
R17	control		
R18	control		
R19	vax		
R20	vax		
R21	control		
R22	control		
R23	vax		
R24	vax		
R25	control		
R26	vax		
R27	vax		
R28	vax		
R29	vax		
R30	control		
R31			
G2			
G3			
G4			
G5			
G8			
G9			
G10			
G14			
G15			
G17			

From: [Rhyon, Jack C - APHIS](#)
To: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#)
Cc: keith.roehr@state.co.us; carl.heckendorf@state.co.us; [Linfield, Thomas F - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
Subject: bison ship on 127
Date: Wednesday, June 17, 2015 3:34:59 PM

Becky,

I visited with Dr. Heckendorf and explained the paucity of accredited vets in the area due to the bird flu wars. He thought it would be fine to ship on the 127 and an import permit.

Jack

From: [Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS](#)
To: [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); keith.roehr@state.co.us; [Linfield, Thomas F - APHIS](#); mzaluski@mt.gov; [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Subject: Bison to NWRC
Date: Wednesday, August 20, 2014 3:47:39 PM
Attachments: [MT HC 81-454415 Bison to NWRC.pdf](#)

Please find attached a copy of a CVI (w/ permit number)for bison being transported from the GonaCon facility to NWRC (Ft Collins) on Friday August the 22nd.

P. Ryan Clarke, DVM, MPH
Regional Epidemiologist-GYA
USDA, APHIS, VS, District 5
406-388-5162

TO ACCOMPANY SHIPMENT

CONSIGNEE NAME AND ADDRESS APHIS, VS, Gena Con		CONSIGNEE NAME AND ADDRESS APHIS, VS, NWRC		PERMIT NO. 20KX08-01		DATE ISSUED 20 Aug 14											
ORIGIN ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE) Corwin Springs, MT		DESTINATION ADDRESS (IF DIFFERENT THAN ABOVE) 4101 La Porte Ave Ft Collins, CO. 80521		BRAND INSP. NO.		DATE INSPD. 20 Aug 14											
PURPOSE OF MOVEMENT: <input type="checkbox"/> BREEDING <input type="checkbox"/> SLAUGHTER <input type="checkbox"/> FEEDING <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXHIBITION, ETC. Research		AREA OF ORIGIN STATUS: <input type="checkbox"/> TB MODIFIED ACCREDIT <input type="checkbox"/> TB FREE <input type="checkbox"/> BRUCELLOSIS FREE <input type="checkbox"/> PRV STAGE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: DSA		CARRIER: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRUCK <input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: APHIS VS		REPLICA CERTIFICATE YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>											
SPECIES: <input type="checkbox"/> CATTLE <input type="checkbox"/> HORSES <input type="checkbox"/> SHEEP <input type="checkbox"/> SWINE <input type="checkbox"/> POULTRY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER: Bison		NAME & ADDRESS: 4101 La Porte Ave Ft. Collins, CO 80521		LAB:		VACCINATION OR TREATMENT FOR (EXCEPT BRUCELLOSIS) DATE: 20 Aug 14											
ORIGIN OF SHIPMENT: Park		A) County: Park B) Market:		RECORD NEGATIVE TEST RESULTS		DATE: 20 Aug 14											
EAR TAG NO. TATTOO OR OTHER PERMANENT IDENTIFICATION		LINE NO.		REGISTRATION NAME AND NUMBER OR DESCRIPTION		VACCINATION TATTOO SYMBOL OR DATE		AGE		SEX		BREED		Disease: Type of Test: DATE		Disease: Type of Test: DATE	
81 ASW 3760		1		Bumble Tag		N/A		14		M		Bison					
81 ASW 3757		2		Red 69		24		14		24		24					
81 ASW 3774		3		Red 61		24		14		24		24					
YNP 930781		4		Red 63		24		14		24		24					
YNP 930786		5		Red 66		24		14		24		24					
YNP 930797		6		Red 59		24		14		24		24					
YNP 930798		7		Red 62		24		14		24		24					
		8															
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		13															
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		15															
		16															
VETERINARY CERTIFICATION: I certify as an Accredited Veterinarian that the above described animals have been inspected by me and that they are not showing signs of infectious, contagious, or communicable disease (except as noted). The vaccinations and results of tests are as indicated on the certificate. To the best of my knowledge the animals shown on this certificate meet State of Destination and Federal Interstate requirements. No warranty is made or implied. Date: 20 Aug 14 Accredited Veterinarian Signature: CL ARKE License #: 1081																	
OWNER/AGENT STATEMENT (where applicable) *The animals in this shipment are those certified to and listed on this certificate.* Signature of Owner/Agent: Michael Address: 20 Aug 14																	

From: [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
To: [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#); [Held, Karl E - APHIS](#); [Bartlett, Justin H - APHIS](#)
Subject: bison tomorrow (Tuesday) morning 8am
Date: Monday, January 26, 2015 10:39:00 AM

Hey there,

I can't remember if I sent out an email last week, but the plan is to work the west pen bison (the 10? youngsters brought from Montana last year) to collect blood for brucella titers/culture. These data will be useful for the Gonacon study and will also serve as baseline for the RB51 dart study.

Thanks!

Pauline

Pauline Nol, DVM, MS, PhD
Wildlife Livestock Disease Investigations Team
USDA-APHIS-VS-STAS
National Wildlife Research Center
4101 LaPorte Ave.
Fort Collins, CO 80521
Office: 970-266-6126
Cell: (b) (5)
Fax: 970-266-6157

From: [Rhyon, Jack C - APHIS](#)
To: [Davidson, Mark L - APHIS](#); [Herriott, Donald E - APHIS](#)
Cc: [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#); [Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS](#); rick_wallen@nps.gov; [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#); [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
Subject: bison transfer agreement
Date: Tuesday, February 19, 2013 4:05:44 PM
Attachments: [APHIS_BisonTransferAgreement_19Feb2013.docx](#)

Mark and Don,

We have worked through this document among ourselves and with our Yellowstone colleagues. This is a draft we have agreed on. It is an agreement to allow us to receive bison from the trap this spring for the second cohort of the contraception study. Please review it. We're hoping to get signatures on it this week as the bison will likely be in the trap shortly.

Thanks much,

Jack

INTERAGENCY AGREEMENT
between the
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE
and the
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

ARTICLE I. BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

To evaluate sterilization by use of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as means of decreasing the potential for transmission of *Brucella abortus* in bison. This agreement is between the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services and the U.S. Department of Interior, National Park Service, Yellowstone National Park.

ARTICLE II. STATEMENT OF WORK

A. During the period of performance, up to 63 live bison (8-16 seronegative bulls, 32-40 seropositive cows, 5-7 seronegative cows) may be transferred by the National Park Service from the Stephens Creek capture facility in Yellowstone National Park to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for transport to fenced quarantine pastures in Corwin Springs, Montana. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will conduct an experimental research study with these bison to determine whether:

- Immunocontraception can prevent the shedding of *Brucella abortus* bacteria in young, recently infected bison;
- Immunocontraception with GonaCon™ vaccine can prevent shedding of *Brucella abortus* bacteria throughout the infection cycle; and
- Recovery from the contraceptive treatment and the brucellosis infection can be completed without any further shedding of the bacteria during subsequent pregnancies.

B. Any bulls that seroconvert to positive may, with notification of the National Park Service Key Official, be transferred to an Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service quarantine facility in Fort Collins, Colorado, for a venereal transmission study.

C. Additional Yellowstone bison may be transferred by the National Park Service to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for this research study in subsequent years based on written bilateral modification of this agreement.

D. All data collected by the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service during this research study will be provided to the National Park Service in the form of data releases and/or interim and final reports.

E. Changes to this agreement may be affected by issuance of a written modification hereto which both parties execute.

ARTICLE III. TERM OF AGREEMENT

The period of performance of this agreement will be from February 19, 2013, through January 31, 2017 at which time both parties will review and evaluate the agreement for possible extension.

ARTICLE IV. KEY OFFICIALS

National Park Service
Yellowstone Center for Resources
Rick Wallen, Wildlife Biologist
P.O. Box 168
Yellowstone National Park, WY 82190
307-344-2285

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Veterinary Services
Jack Rhyan, DVM
National Wildlife Research Center
Fort Collins, CO 80521
970-266-6140

ARTICLE V. PAYMENT

A. The National Park Service will not charge the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service a fee for the bison that are provided to it. The National Park Service cannot guarantee a specific number of bison to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service in any given year.

B. The National Park Service and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will use their own respective funding sources to accomplish their respective tasks. The National Park Service will not pay for or provide equipment, funding, or personnel for bison transport or security to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, or vice versa.

C. This agreement may be renewed yearly if agreeable to both parties. Renewals shall be in the form of a written bilateral modification. It is mutually understood that renewals are subject to the availability of funds for future work; and it is hereby agreed that, if funds are not available, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall release the National Park Service from any liabilities and future commitment under this agreement.

ARTICLE VI. PROPERTY MANAGEMENT AND DISPOSITION

A. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will assume ownership of the bison in Yellowstone National Park once they are loaded, secured, and manifested into trailers or other vehicles appropriate for transporting bison.

B. When any Yellowstone bison are no longer needed for the purposes of the research experiment described in Article II, Statement of Work, they should be consigned based on their brucellosis status as described in QA 1858 – “Evaluation of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as a means of decreasing shedding of *Brucella abortus* in bison” and the Environmental Assessment – “Evaluation of GonaCon™, an immunocontraceptive vaccine, as a means of decreasing transmission of *Brucella abortus* in bison in the Greater Yellowstone Area” (USDA, May 2012):

- “At the end of the study, all seropositive animals will be euthanized and necropsied with specimens collected for culture. All carcasses, with the exception of those vaccinated with GonaCon™, will be donated to local food banks or Indian tribes. Ova and semen will be collected and frozen for genetic conservation utilizing embryo transfer techniques.
- All or a subset of offspring that remain or become seropositive for *B. abortus* after weaning will be maintained and monitored through their first parturition. Adults and offspring that remain negative for brucellosis based on serology and culture (blood, milk, swabs) and satisfy the bison quarantine requirements as published in the UM&R will be used for bison conservation.”

Bison that test negative for brucellosis exposure will be:

- Consigned to a quarantine location for further diagnostics;
- Consigned to a managed for public trust conservation program to supplement population genetic diversity;
- Consigned to an introduction program to establish a new conservation population of wild bison on tribal or public lands; or
- Utilized in an embryo transfer program for bison genetics conservation.

If no such opportunities exist, bison will be consigned to a private not-for-profit bison conservation program, or as a last choice, to any private party that requests transfer of ownership. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will be responsible for organizing the final disposition of the GonaCon™ research animals whether for conservation or transfer to other research.

C. Pursuant to 36 CFR part 10, Yellowstone bison transferred to individuals and private institutions cannot be slaughtered or released without adequate protection from premature hunting. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will notify parties receiving bison of this regulation. Once the bison have left the research facilities, however, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service does not have the ability to enforce 36 CFR 10.

D. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service agrees that the live Yellowstone bison in the experimental research study described in this agreement are to be used solely for research purposes, are to be used only at the organization's facilities in Corwin Springs, Montana or Fort Collins, Colorado, and only under the direction of their Key Official for this agreement or others working under his supervision, and will not be transferred to anyone else without notification of Yellowstone National Park.

ARTICLE VII. PRIOR APPROVAL

The National Park Service authorities for entering into this agreement are 16 U.S.C. § 1 et seq., 16 U.S.C. § 3, and 16 U.S.C § 36.

During 2011, the National Park Service transferred 52 bison (4 males, 48 females) from the Stephens Creek capture facility in Yellowstone National Park to the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for transport to fenced quarantine pastures in Corwin Springs, Montana. The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service began conducting an experimental research study with these bison as described in Article II, Statement of Work. This agreement allows additional bison to be transferred for use in research studies at the above specified locations.

ARTICLE VIII. REPORTS AND/OR OTHER DELIVERABLES

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service shall provide annual and final reports to the Key Official for the National Park Service on this agreement for all data collected during this study.

ARTICLE IX. TERMINATION

Either party may terminate the agreement by providing 14 days advance written notice to the other party.

ARTICLE X. AUTHORIZING SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS HEREOF, the parties hereto have signed their names and executed this Interagency Agreement.

National Park Service:

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service:

Signature: _____
Daniel N. Wenk
Superintendent, Yellowstone NP
February ____, 2013

Signature: _____
Mark Davidson
Director, Western Region, USDA, APHIS, VS
February ____, 2013

Signature: _____
Tina Holland
Contracting Officer
February ____, 2013

From: [McCollum, Matthew P - APHIS](#)
To: [Clarke, Patrick R. - APHIS](#); [Frey, Rebecca K - APHIS](#); [Rhyan, Jack C - APHIS](#); [Nol, Pauline - APHIS](#)
Subject: Bison working plan
Date: Monday, May 07, 2012 2:32:36 PM

Hi all,

So the plan is to work the GnRH bison next week. We (Jack, Pauline?, and I) will drive up on Monday, we'll bleed, swab, and sniff them and hopefully be done in a day, but it might take Tuesday and Wednesday. So we'll come down Wednesday or Thursday.

Matt