

Beartooth Stock Association
PO Box 82
Absarokee, MT 59001

To: Department of Livestock
Re: Proposed Brucellosis Order – Comments
December 10, 2009

The new plan is too vague, it leaves too many questions unanswered and there is no mention of wildlife or even trying to work with agencies that deal with the wildlife. The following is a list of questions/comments that the Beartooth Stock Associations membership have regarding this new plan.

*What about the reporting process?

How are you finding out who has and who has not sent in their risk assessments?

Are you using brand ownership, land ownership, tax information?

However it is being done, it is not working; several producers who have completed their risk assessments and received documentation from the State, have been notified that they did not fill one out.

*There is only one person at the Department of Livestock that knows anything about the risk assessments. In trying to get answers to the above problem we found that only one person knew what was going on.

*Who is going to pay for needed hay and pasture should a herd need to be quarantined?

*Who is responsible for finances such as testing, etc?

*Why were producers excluded from this process?

*Says “picks up where the Brucellosis Action Plan left off.” What exactly does this mean?

*What form of individual animal identification is going to be used?

*Are you really going to require those who did not complete the risk assessments to do total herd testing; especially those that are in the areas that will no longer be in the DSA plan?

Thank you for allowing our comments,
Beartooth Stock Association

Bill Myers – President Nate Espeland – V.P. Cindy Donohoe - Sec/Treas
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