

Discussed the Memorandum of understanding and the need to receive feedback from both the State and APHIS. They have had the MOU since June and we have not received any feedback to date.

We learned that on the September 19th visit by Dr. Shere, Washington, who will be accompanied by Dr. McClusky and Don Herriott Fort Collins, along with staff in Montana will visit both the holding facility in in Yellowstone but are also planning to visit the Quarantine Facility at Fort Peck.

My take home from the discussion is that Dr. Shere, perhaps along with Dr. McClusky are key to moving bison. I also believe that they will receive resistance, if not outright opposition, from local APHIS staff.

I still believe that the state will allow the bison to be moved if determined by APHIS to be acceptable. The state veterinarian, and perhaps the Department of Livestock, will resist any uncertainty or ambiguity that APHIS might show to the movement of bison to Fort Peck. I believe APHIS's determination will need to be a powerful, unequivocal, statement.

Any conversations to reinforce the importance to move these bison from Yellowstone to Fort Peck will certainly be helpful and may be necessary.

Questions let me know.

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