



**BUFFALO FIELD CAMPAIGN**  
**P.O. BOX 957 \* WEST YELLOWSTONE, MONTANA 59758**  
**406-646-0070 \* [bfc-media@buffalofieldcampaign.org](mailto:bfc-media@buffalofieldcampaign.org)**

Joe Maurier  
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Director

Dear Joe:

Buffalo Field Campaign (BFC) is a nonprofit conservation organization based in West Yellowstone, Montana. BFC works to stop the slaughter and harassment of wild bison, protect the natural habitat of native wildlife, and work with First Nations to honor the sacredness of wild bison. Our primary goal is to create year-round protection for bison and their habitat and respect for the migration of this essential and iconic species.

BFC is deeply concerned about a proposal by FWP to capture 500 elk over the next 5 years in an attempt to survey for the presence and prevalence of brucellosis in southwest Montana elk herds (*Proposed Surveillance Plan for Brucellosis in Elk, 2010-2014*).

As we understand it, elk will be captured and tested, some collared, and at least some of these elk will be slaughtered by FWP if they test sero-positive for exposure to *Brucella abortus* bacteria.

**We believe the potential scope of this project warrants the FWP conducting a thoroughly scoped and publicly reviewed environmental assessment if not an environmental impact statement before any elk harassment or capture begins. We also contend this project should come before the FWP Commission at a public meeting before approval.**

Please advise us as to your intentions in regards to this request. We suggest a formal public process and scientific analysis is warranted to thoroughly understand, debate and outline the potential consequences of this proposal should it proceed.

Sincerely,

Stephany J. Seay  
Buffalo Field Campaign