



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

Legislative and
Public Affairs

Freedom of
Information

4700 River Road
Unit 50
Riverdale, MD
20737-1232

August 17, 2012

Mr. Darrell Geist
Habitat Coordinator
Buffalo Field Campaign
P.O. Box 957
West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Mr. Geist:

This is in response to your November 2, 2011, Freedom of Information Act request (FOIA). You requested "Records that disclose the appropriation of funds by the U.S. Congress and expenditure of funds by the USDA APHIS for its Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study using bison captured in Yellowstone National Park". A copy of your request is attached to this response. Your FOIA request was received in this office on November 2, 2011, and assigned case number 2012-APHIS-00515-F. We apologize for the delay of this response.

With respect to your request for appropriation funding by the U.S. Congress, agency employees conducted a complete search of their files and were unable to locate any records responsive to this portion of your request. The following three APHIS programs conducted searches for responsive records: the Offices of Veterinary Services (VS), Wildlife Services (WS) and the Policy Program and Development program (PPD). VS provided this office with a no records response and indicated "there was not an earmark for the Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study, this project is funded as part of the brucellosis program. There is no separate budget for the Bison Study project, therefore there is no way to identify a "balance of funds" for the project and we did not separately track spending on that project". WS and PPD searched within their respected program components and indicated they do not have responsive records pertaining to the amount of appropriations used for the Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study.

Enclosed are 301 pages of documents that are responsive to your request for the expenditure of funds by the USDA for the Bison Quarantine Feasibility Study. These records consist of awarded contracts for services provided for the Study.

The CD-ROM contains the responsive records and a copy of Adobe® Acrobat® Reader™ which is needed to view the responsive records. By opening rp505enu.exe and following the on-screen instructions, you will install Adobe Reader. After installation, the Adobe Reader should render the PDF files correctly.

Mr. Darrell Geist
2012-APHIS-00515-F

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You may appeal our release determination. If you choose to appeal, your appeal must be in writing and received within 45 days of the date of this letter. Please send your appeal to:

Administrator
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Ag Box 3401
Washington, DC 20250-3401

If you have any questions, please contact me at (301) 851-4102.

Sincerely,

ja *Tony G. Woods* *camp*

Tonya G. Woods
Director
Freedom of Information & Privacy Act Staff
Legislative and Public Affairs

Enclosures