



# STATE OF IDAHO

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
DIVISION OF ANIMAL INDUSTRIES

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February 18, 2010

Marty Zaluski, DVM  
State Veterinarian  
Montana Department of Livestock  
Helena, MT

Dr. Zaluski,

Thank you for providing me with the Montana Department of Livestock's DSA Official Order 10-01-D. I have reviewed the document and find that it is consistent with the approach Idaho is taking in managing brucellosis within our Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) and is a pro-active approach to address the ongoing risk of brucellosis transmission from wildlife. This risk based approach is congruent with the principles outlined in USDA's Concept Paper for a New Direction for the Bovine Brucellosis Program that is supported by the United States Animal Health Association.

Because each of the GYA states face unique challenges in managing brucellosis, it is appropriate that management plans be tailored to meet those unique challenges. Developing plans based on sound epidemiological principles and risk based surveillance is critical to the success of the program. Brucellosis vaccination of livestock and separation of livestock and potentially infected elk are vital risk mitigation practices but, in the absence of surveillance testing for the presence of the disease, are insufficient to assure sustained marketability to trading partner states.

The Official Order that Montana has established provides a standard for disease surveillance and management that will allow Idaho to continue to import Montana origin animals without further restrictions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bill Barton".

Bill Barton, DVM  
Administrator/State Veterinarian