



ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COUNCIL

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GOVERNOR STEVE BULLOCK DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE TIM BAKER	HOUSE MEMBERS JERRY BENNETT--Vice Chair WILLIS CURDY JANET ELLIS ED LIESER THERESA MANZELLA KERRY WHITE	SENATE MEMBERS GENE VUCKOVICH--Chair JOHN BRENDEN JIM KEANE MIKE PHILLIPS RICK RIPLEY CARY SMITH	PUBLIC MEMBERS SCOTT ASPENLIEDER BROOKE ERB BERT LINDLER ROY MORRIS	COUNCIL STAFF JASON MOHR, Research Analyst SONJA NOWAKOWSKI, Research Analyst HOPE STOCKWELL, Research Analyst HELEN THIGPEN, Staff Attorney NADINE SPENCER, Secretary JOE KOLMAN, Legislative Environmental Analyst
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Jan. 14, 2016,

Dear (IBMP member)

This letter is to inform you that the Environmental Quality Council, an interim committee of the Montana Legislature, voted 8-7 in objection to the decision issued by Gov. Steve Bullock regarding year-round habitat for Yellowstone bison in Montana outside the confines of Yellowstone National Park.

As the IBMP considers adopting the governor's recommendations, the EQC urges the members to consider the detrimental effects allowing bison to inhabit parts of Montana will have on public safety, recreation, and the economy.

The EQC recommends against adopting the proposed changes to the adaptive management framework established by the IBMP.

Sincerely,

Gene Vuckovich, Chairman

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COUNCIL. 2015-16

January 14, 2016

Exhibit 15