Wyoming’s Efforts to Mitigate Brucellosis: 2013-2014
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Current Wyoming Brucellosis Situation Facts

- All of Wyoming’s Brucellosis cases since 1985 have been within the DSA
  - All cases have resulted from wildlife exposure

- Domestic Bison Herd
  - Still under quarantine (since Nov. 2010)
    - Trying to “test out” - making good progress
  - All suspect/positive animals are sold for slaughter or are under strict isolation, spatially separated from the rest of the herd until they can be fed and conditioned for slaughter
  - One negative whole-herd test has been completed as of July 2014
  - Next herd test scheduled for Oct. 24-25
Brucellosis in the Big Horn Mountains

• 4 Total Sero-positive Elk Found Outside DSA
  – 1st time Brucellosis has been found outside of DSA boundaries since Wyoming achieved Brucellosis-free status in 1985
  – 2 positive samples from hunter-killed elk during 2012 hunting season and 2 during 2013 hunting season
  – Hunt Area 40 = 30 miles east of DSA boundary
  – Entire North Bighorn Elk Herd Unit surveilled in 2013 and will be again in 2014
Wyoming Response

- **Wyoming Livestock Board (WLSB)**
  - Conducting risk assessments and testing on cattle herds in Big Horn and Sheridan counties
  - Testing being done on ranches and at all Wyoming markets as well as out-of-state markets in the area
  - Testing funded by WLSB and APHIS

- **Wyoming Game and Fish Department (WGFD)**
  - Increasing elk surveillance testing in area
  - Providing extra field help to collect blood and tissue samples

- WLSB will consider cattle and elk surveillance data in determining any rule or DSA boundary change
Requirements

• Wyoming requires Brucellosis vaccination statewide
  - DSA requirements are enhanced
• All sexually intact female cattle (regardless of age) leaving the DSA must be identified with Official/Approved ID
  - Brucellosis vaccination tags
    • Orange metal or RFID
  - Silver BRITE tags
  - Green WY tags - will be phased out by March 2015
  - RFID tags
  - Age/Source Verified tags as approved by the WLSB
• If leaving the DSA, all test eligible cattle must be tested within 30 days if moving between January 1 and June 30, and 60 days if moving between July 1 and October 31
• State of Wyoming pays for surveillance testing, and for Adult/Yearling booster vaccinations for producers with herd plans
Prevention Efforts: Vaccination

• From July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014
  – 277,201 head of cattle or domestic bison were vaccinated for Brucellosis statewide
    • This includes calfhood, Adult, and Yearling Booster vaccinations
  – Approximately 40 DSA-origin herds were adult/booster vaccinated
    • Total of 6,931 head
Surveillance Efforts: Testing

- From October 1, 2013 to September 30, 2014
  - 37,643 Cattle and Bison were tested for Brucellosis statewide
Producer Education

- 432 Producers in the DSA
  - Approximately 79,000 head of breeding cattle
  - 149 with Herd Plans
    - 35 Herd Plans outside the DSA
    - Herd plans are NOT mandatory except for affected herds
    - Herd plans are developed primarily in highest risk locations and are based on risk assessment

- Producer education efforts
- Wyoming Brucellosis Coordination Team
Our Present and Future

• We expect to find sporadic cases of Brucellosis among our cattle herds as long as there is a wildlife reservoir of the disease in our state.

• Our test and identification requirements provide good surveillance, traceability, and early detection.
Credits/Thank You

• April Peregoy – WLSB Brucellosis Field Office
• Lindsay Johnson – WLSB Cheyenne Office
• Hank Edwards – WGFD Laboratory
• Dr. Mary Wood – WGFD Wildlife Veterinarian