

Bison Hazing and Capture Operations Winter 2007 - 2008

North Hazings

- 127 total
- 1st on December 12, 2007
- Last on May 20, 2008

West Hazings

- 22 total
- 1st on March 29th
- Last on June 16th

(A hazing event was defined as the movement of a group of bison, if a separate group was added to the movement it constituted an additional haze even if they all ended up moving together)

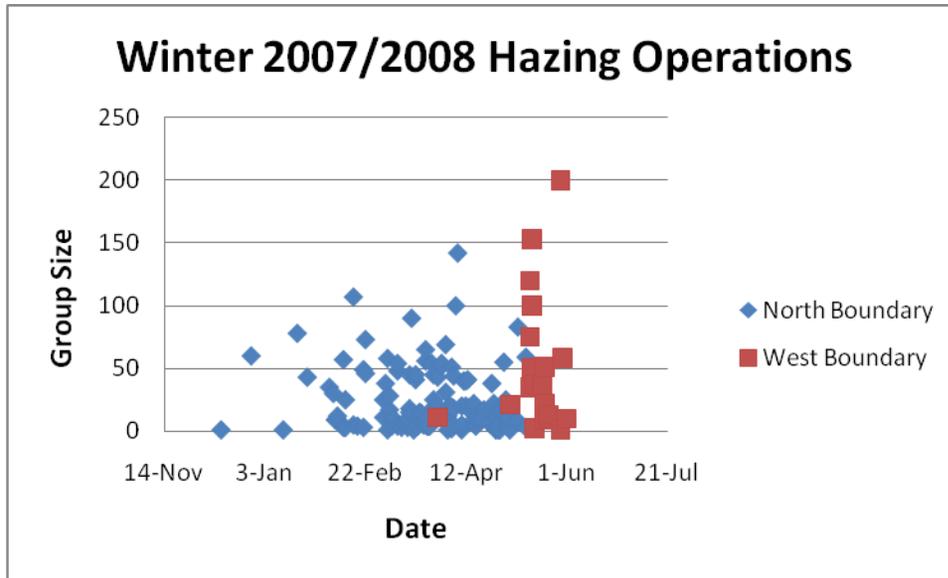
Hazings starting within park boundary: North (42) + West (4) = 44

Hazings starting outside park boundary: North (85) + West (18) = 103

Greatest hazing distance: I would suggest asking Brian Helms, Kevin Dooley, or Eric Morey as they were involved with nearly all hazings. I believe they hazed a group from Yankee Jim area – not sure exactly where back to Stephens Creek flats – about 5-8 miles I think. The greatest distance on the west boundary may be 9 miles on the 14th or 15th of May from the Horse Butte area to 7-mile meadow.

Date we shifted operations to population conservation: I'm not sure what shift you mean..hope this provides the answer. 3/25/08 is the day we began to test and hold bison. 4/8/08 is the day we began to hold positive adult cows if they were very pregnant, but continued to ship other bison. 4/14/08 was the last day bison were consigned and they were shipped to slaughter on 4/15/08.

Greatest hazing group #: North = 142 on 4/8/08; West = 200 on 5/29/08 (This excludes the release from Stephens Ck)



Hazing Operations conducted on the North and West boundaries (not including the Stephens Creek release hazing)

North Capture Operations

- 29 operations
- 1636 bison captured (probably closer to 1645 based on adding shipped bison, quarantine, morts, holds, etc. but 1636 is what was reported as captured)

West Capture Operations

- 8 operations
- 158 bison captured

Shipped to Slaughter: 1276 (North) + 158 (West) = 1434 total

Date we began to hold bison: 3/25/2008

Previously Collared bison captured and held at Stephens Creek: 21 cows

Bison collared at Stephens Creek: 5 adult cows

Bison equipped with eartransmitters: 14 vaccinated yearlings, 6 unvaccinated yearling controls

Calves provided to FWP/APHIS quarantine study: 112

Bison held at Stephens Ck: 193 (test negative) + 18 (test positive) + 27 research animals = 238 (not counting morts or newborns)
17 bulls were captured on May 5th and held untested until release on May 20th

Release dates/#'s for north boundary

5/19/2008: 316 Bison Released from Stephens Creek Capture Facility:

191 Test Negative Yearlings and Adults

26 untested radio collared research adult cows

1 untested very late born calf of last year whose mother is a collared cow

18 Test Positive Cows (were held because they were near calf delivery)

80 untested calves

5/20/2008: 17 untested bulls

Stephens Creek Capture Facility Mortality: 10 total bison died while in captivity

27 February: 1 calf with a **broken leg sustained outside the pen** was dispatched

2 March: 2-3 yr old bull was gored by an older bull in a holding pen and had to be dispatched

13 March: 1 adult cow with a severe shoulder injury was humanely dispatched (source and timing of injury unknown)

13 April: 3 newborn calves died from natural causes (they were born on the 9th and 10th)

14 April: 1 adult cow (mother to one of the calves listed above) died from natural causes

18 April: 1 adult cow died while trying to give birth (breeched)

22 April: 1 newborn calf (6 days old) died from natural causes

27 April: 1 3 yr old cow was nearly dead (unable to move or respond) from natural causes and was euthanized

Boundary	Hazing Events	Mngmt Shootings	Total Captured	Captured & Tested	Slaughtered & Not Tested	Slaughtered & Tested Negative	Slaughtered and tested positive	Held & Tested Negative	Vaccinated	Quarantine	Capture/Pen Mortality	Hunter Take
West	16	0	158	0	158	0	0	0	0	0	0	107
North	118	6	1636	539	1060	18	198	193	24	112	10	59
Total	134	6	1794	539	1218	18	198	193	24	112	10	166

A total of 1636 bison were handled at the Stephens Creek Capture Facility during the winter of 2007/2008. Of these 1276 were shipped to slaughter, 112 calves were sent to Quarantine, 211 were tested and held (193 test negative and 18 test positive but pregnant cows), 27 were held as untested previously marked research animals, and 17 adult bulls were captured and held untested prior to release. 333 were released including 80 newborn calves (four test negative animals died in pen).

For the purpose of the following classification calves are born in spring 2007, newborn calves were not included in this classification

	Male Adult	Male Yearling	Female Adult	Female Yearling	Total Calves	Calves/100 Cow	Male/Female
All Handled	22.3	10	38	5.9	23.8	63	0.81
All Held	11.5	15	43.5	10.4	19.6	45	0.98
Negative Pen (held and tested negative)	6.6	19.7	34.8	13.6	25.3	72	0.98
Released	11.7	14.8	43	10.5	19.9	46	0.98
Shipped	27.6	9.8	39.9	5.4	17.2	43	0.83

The ratio of 80 newborn calves to 110 adult cows released gives 73 calves per 100 cows.
45% of the 1636 animals handled were sero-positive and 55% were sero-negative

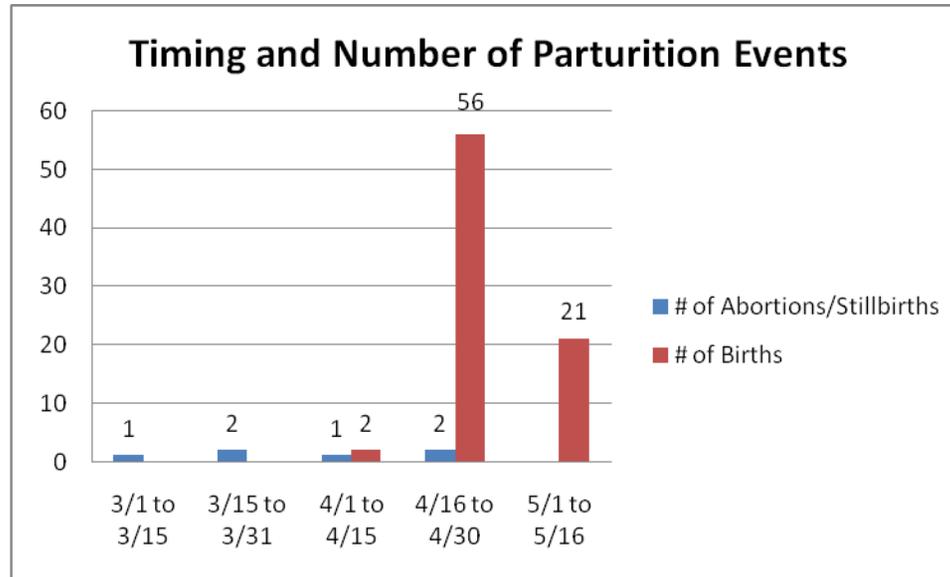
	Male Adult	Male Yearling	Female Adult	Female Yearling	Calves
Serology	62% positive 38% negative	35% positive 65% negative	61% positive 39% negative	35% positive 65% negative	11% positive 89% negative

	Calf	Yearling	2 Year	3 Year	4 Year	5 Year and up
Serology	13% positive 87% negative	35% positive 65% negative	52% positive 48% negative	67% positive 33% negative	69% positive 31% negative	69% positive 31% negative
Sample Size	190	96	23	30	26	146

Female serology split into age class based on dental formula

Stephens Creek Capture Facility Birthing Summary

- 1st bison was born on 4/6/2008 in the outer holding pen to a collared cow (Yell-050)
- Last bison was born on 5/16/2008 in the collar holding pen to a seropositive pregnant cow held back because she was very pregnant at last shipment to slaughter date
- The middle 80% of calves were born from 4/20/2008 to 5/3/2008
- 80 total calves were born within the Stephens Creek Capture Facility (that survived, 4 calves died after birth)
- 6 Abortions/Stillbirths occurred (4 in outer holding pen – 2 events sampled, both positive; 1 premature fetus in collar pen, no sample; 1 in negative holding pen – sampled negative)
- 1 breached birth occurred in the negative holding pen
- 4 calves died 2-6 days after birth



Monitoring for shedding of *B. abortus* in captive animals

- 14 fresh tissue samples were sent to the Montana Department of Livestock Diagnostics Laboratory (MTDOL) in Bozeman within 3 days for *Brucella* culture testing.
- 3 samples tested positive
- 1 of the positive samples came from a cow thought to be sero-negative and held in the negative holding pen. The sample was collected on 5/10/2008.