

**ELK MANAGEMENT CITIZEN ADVISORY GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS
FWP STAFF ASSESSMENT
AUGUST 31, 2022**

Understand and Mitigate the Disease of Brucellosis in Elk

Division/Unit/Bureau	Staff Assessment
Accounting Bureau	No comment.
Comm Ed	Continue with communication efforts to help the public understand wildlife diseases, like brucellosis. Evaluating our messaging and how effective it is on this topic would help improve efforts. That can be done quickly.
Enforcement Division	No comment.
Legal Unit	No comment.
Licensing Bureau	No comment.
Parks and Outdoor Recreation Division	If hunting opportunity were used as part of this recommendation, additional FTE for the regional access programs, operations funding, and vehicles might be needed to successfully implement the outcomes. Access staff help manage access opportunities through signage, maps, and direct management and coordination of hunters in certain areas.
Technology Services Division	No comment.
Wildlife Division	FWP is already implementing many of the components of this recommendation through the annual work plan for management of elk in areas with brucellosis. FWP has and continues to conduct surveillance and research into brucellosis distribution, prevalence, and risk to livestock. The surveillance program is one of the most progressive in the country and is done in collaboration with MT DoL, USDA, and APHIS. This information has informed management actions geared to keep elk and livestock separated and reduce risk of elk to cattle transmission. FWP seeks input on this plan annually from a citizens elk-brucellosis work group and through the Commission approval process. FWP is interested in other reasonable steps that could be implemented.