

**This Official Order is open for a 30 day public comment period starting on November 16th, 2009.
Comments can be submitted electronically to dsa-comments@mt.gov or sent to:**

**DSA Comments
Animal Health Division
Department of Livestock
P.O. Box 202001
Helena, MT 59620-2001**

**DEPARTMENT OF LIVESTOCK
ANIMAL HEALTH DIVISION
OFFICIAL ORDER NO. 09-02-D**

DATE: (_____)

DATE EFFECTIVE: **January 11, 2010**

DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL: (_____)

SUBJECT: **Surveillance Requirements for Brucellosis and Establishing a Designated Surveillance Area**

STATUTORY AUTHORIZATION: 81-2-102(1)(d), Montana Code Annotated § 32.3.103, 32.3.104, 32.3.105, 32.3.116, Administrative Rules of Montana

ORDERED BY: **Martin A. Zaluski, State Veterinarian**

REVIEWED BY: **Christian Mackay, Executive Officer, Dept. of Livestock**

ORDER

Brucellosis infected wild ungulates including elk and bison pose a real and continuing risk of transmission of *Brucella abortus* to livestock in Montana. Surveillance for brucellosis in livestock in the high risk area has been successful in detecting previous transmissions. It is imperative that surveillance and risk mitigation activities including brucellosis vaccination continue in this area to rapidly detect disease and to enable the continued marketability of Montana's livestock.

This Official Order shall apply to livestock producers operating within the counties of Beaverhead, Madison, Gallatin, Park, Sweet Grass, Stillwater and Carbon Counties who have not submitted a Operation Specific Risk Survey to the Montana Department of Livestock or completed a whole herd brucellosis test since January 1, 2009.

This Official Order shall also apply to cattle in the following geographical area which shall be known as the Designated Surveillance Area (DSA) and described as:

- Park County south of I-90, Gallatin County south of I-90 and Hwy 84, The Southeast and Central portion of Madison County, and the extreme Southeast portion of Beaverhead County.
- The Southern border of the DSA is the South eastern Beaverhead/Idaho border, the Madison County/Idaho border, the Gallatin County/Idaho border, the Gallatin County/ Yellowstone National Park (YNP) border, the Gallatin County/YNP border and the Park County/YNP border.
- Pastures/grazing areas divided by the DSA line will be considered to lie within the DSA.

Boundaries of the DSA may be adjusted by the Board of Livestock based on wildlife disease prevalence, wildlife use and migration information, land use, and other factors.

The following requirements will apply. Variances or exceptions to requirements will be considered on an individual basis by the Montana State Veterinarian or his designee based on an official herd plan.

A. Testing of age eligible animals (12 months or older sexually intact male and female cattle)

1. Annual whole herd brucellosis testing of all sexually intact cattle or domestic bison.
2. Brucellosis test within 30 days prior to movement out of the DSA.
3. Brucellosis test within 30 days prior to change of ownership.
4. Exceptions/variances:
 - 1) Steers and spayed heifers do not need to be tested.
 - 2) Animals moving to an approved Montana Livestock Market may be tested on arrival.
 - 3) Animals moving directly to slaughter.
 - 4) Testing for change of ownership is not required if the animal(s) are included in an entire herd test (DSA) if the animals are sold within 30 days of the entire herd test.
 - 5) Testing within 30 days of change of ownership is not required if the animal(s) are included in an entire herd test conducted between July 15, 2009 and January 15, 2010 and the animals remain in Montana.

B. Individual animal identification

1. Official identification of sexually intact cattle or domestic bison 12 months-of-age and older prior to sale/change of ownership or permanent movement outside DSA.
2. Identification options
 - 1) OCV eartags (orange metal)
 - 2) USDA, or USDA approved eartags (metal clips or RFID) or other identification approved by the state veterinarian.

C. Official Calfhod Vaccination

1. All OCV eligible animals shall be Official Calf hood Vaccinates prior to change of ownership. Unvaccinated OCV eligible animals may:
 - 1) Become official calfhod vaccinates at ranch of origin, OR
 - 2) Become official calfhod vaccinates at a Montana approved livestock market, OR
 - 3) Be moved under quarantine to a final destination in Montana and remain under quarantine until officially calfhod vaccinated within thirty (30) days with written approval of the Montana State Veterinarian.
 - 4) Be sold to a state that accepts non OCV animals
2. Female cattle or domestic bison that are not OCV eligible may become official adult vaccinates (AV) following a negative brucellosis test along with written permission from the Montana State Veterinarian.

ADDITIONAL:

This Official Order rescinds:

Official Order 09-01-D; Brucellosis Requirements for Brucellosis Action Plan