

Brent or Shawn,  
B.C. Conservation Officer Service  
Fax # 774-7703

January 30, 2002

Greetings,

It would appear we spend an equal amount of time on the trail, away from the office. I am faxing this, as I don't have another means of connecting with you. Perhaps you could send me a response, as well as a mailing address, to my e-mail address above. That way I can leave any future correspondence online, for when your duties allow you to return to the office.

I am concerned about the rising numbers of buffalo road kills from Liard River to Coal River. There have been at least 6 kills since last fall. Aside from these numbers being too high, there is certainly going to come a time when a collision will result in serious human injury or death. I would like to first try for local residents to request funds for better signing from the Muskwa Kechika. We would be willing to volunteer to erect the signs ourselves. I think something similar to the Caribou and Moose signs seen in the summit Lake area and on the highway south. This application would bear more weight if the CO service were to show support by a letter. I think two small mobile signs which could follow the herds movements might act as a proximity warning. I would be willing to move them as often as I make trips through that zone and may be able to convince others to take an interest in helping. My only concern is involving s.22 in a litigation if we take on the responsibility for warning of the herds whereabouts and they move beyond the signs and someone hits one. I'll ask for advice from my superiors on that. Finally, these critters tend to move out on the road surface more often in the dusk periods. If we meet sometime, perhaps we can discuss attaching reflective tape (like what is on highway vests) to their horns or banding their tails whenever tests require they be corralled or anesthetized. At least the truckers would then recognize that they are ahead of them. I don't believe any of the trucks seriously want to risk hitting one. They are just taken by surprise, more from being over-used to them in the area. Some of the lodges where trucks stop might be willing to display a small card at each table reminding drivers to watch for wildlife and to expect the buffalo to be on the road. This might be a good project for Toad River school.

These are just some ideas I'd like to bat around with one of you some day. s.22 has an interest here as well, but I don't plan the budgets so I would like to try the personal route first.

Sincerely,  
s.22

I DIDN'T KNOW HOW TO  
CHANGE FORMATS AT  
THAT TIME. ANDY EITHER?  
BY THE LOOK OF IT. I  
THOUGHT BRENT OR SHAWN,  
FT. NELSON CO. GOT WORD  
TO ANDY AS IT WAS DISCUSSED  
LATER WITH HIS NAME,  
AS IF ADVISED.

Andy Ackerman,  
B.C. Conservation Officer Service

Feb 14, 2002

EMAILED TO ANDY HE SAID HE COULDN'T  
OPEN IT. I THINK IT WAS RETURNED BY SEAN BRINGS

Greetings Andy,

I am concerned about the rising numbers of buffalo road kills from Liard River to Coal River. There have been at least 7 kills since last fall. Aside from these numbers being too high, there is certainly going to come a time when a collision will result in serious human injury or death. I contacted you today about requesting funding for signs from Muskwa Kechika. Since then, I discussed the issue with s.22 He instructed me to buy the signs I was after. That issue is resolved, however signs do not always make safety.

The herd tends to move out on the road surface more often in the dusk periods. Perhaps we can discuss attaching reflective tape (like highway vests use) to their horns or banding their necks or tails should tests require they be corralled or anesthetized. At least the truckers would then recognize that the herd is ahead of them. Some of the lodges where trucks and tourists stop are willing to display a small card at each table reminding drivers to watch for wildlife and to expect the buffalo to be on the road. I approached Toad River school to see if they were interested in such a project. The teacher responded quite favorably.

We have a small group of interested locals who met to discuss options and "Trapper Rays" lodge manager offered to provide power to light a sign. That would be an excellent location. We also discussed starting a highway channel radio program with regular truckers and highway maintenance trucks informing other trucks of the herds existence and location. This happens to some extent already but could be stepped up to increase awareness.

Could your branch and the B.C. Forest Service look at the area to see if regular wildlife burns in the mountains behind the Liard might keep them off the highway right of way? The grass would have to be pretty good to compete with the highway. They are a tourism resource and nice to view for we who live here. There could be a spot which could produce adequate forage and still leave the herd close enough to be viewed by binoculars.

For your information there are three problem areas which kill wildlife too regularly.

**MacDonald River, km 620 - 625. Sheep, Moose and Caribou.**

**Racing to Toad River, km 641 - 651 Deer, Elk and Caribou.**

**Liard to Coal River, 763.8 - 831.7 Buffalo.**

Perhaps the M.K. would consider providing signing for the first and second. They are presently signed with the 24" highway signs but too many animals are still being hit. The loss of wildlife has been substantial over the years. I feel the larger signs would be more effective in alerting travelers. Before we took notice of the high Buffalo mortality, a small group of us wanted to approach the M.K body for funding for better signs. I called s.22 this fall and he gave me some names. It stalled from there. I am sure s.22 would vouch for the need in these two areas. Can you bring this up with the appropriate people? The signs are made by Graphic Image, FSJ 785-9111. We would use local volunteers to erect them in the appropriate locations, as regulated by hwy standards.

Sincerely,

s.22

Subject: Ackerman, Andy WLAP:EX  
RE:

-----Original Message-----

From: Ackerman, Andy WLAP:EX [SMTP:Andy.Ackerman@gems6.gov.bc.ca]  
Sent: Friday, February 15, 2002 9:27 AM  
To: s.22  
Subject: RE:

s.22 I could not open this. Would you please re-send it down in a regular format. Thanks.

Andy Ackerman  
Manager, Environmental Stewardship  
400-10003- 110 Ave  
Fort St John BC V1J 6M7  
(250) 787-3426  
(250) 787-3219 (fax)

-----Original Message-----

From: s.22  
Sent: February 15, 2002 9:10 AM  
To: Ackerman, Andy WLAP:EX  
Subject:

Apologies for the delay. This connection very poor. Satellite problems.  
<<CO Letter 2.lwp>>

**From:** [Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX](#)  
**Cc:** [Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX](#); [Rande, Keith E ENV:EX](#); [Hansen, Al H ENV:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Bison at Liard  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 26, 2006 9:37:33 AM

---

The only thing I can answer to is the broken back legs, That may be the case as I have on occasion (and communicated the same to parks) refused to put down a bull with a rear broken leg as they seem to function fine and there have been bulls up there that have lived long productive legs with a gimpy back leg due to a injury ( MVA).

Shawn B

---

**From:** Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Mon, September 25, 2006 4:18 PM  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Baccante, Nick ENV:EX; Elliott, John ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Bison at Liard

I received a call from a s.22 at Fort Nelson at s.22 She had a few complaints about the bison at Liard, namely:

- Her parents at s.22 are having a constant problem with them charging them and their family, charging their car, wrecking trees, etc.
- They get more aggressive during the rut and they feel very unsafe.
- A mule at Fireside was gored and had to be put down.
- Two of the bison up there have broken back legs and the "park ranger at Liard" said that they would leave them to Mother Nature to take care of.
- The bison have gone after some horses at Liard
- Two elderly people hit a bison last year and the woman subsequently died of a heard attack.
- Her father hit two in 2004
- They are a general road hazard
- Can we put reflective tags on them so that they can be seen at night

It is obvious s.22 has been talking to a lot of folks up there. Helen, is the bison workshop still on for up there this fall?

Thanks

Andy Ackerman  
Manager, Environmental Stewardship  
400-10003- 110 Ave  
Fort St John BC V1J 6M7  
(250) 787-3426  
(250) 787-3490 (fax)

**From:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: BISON AND ROADS WORKSHOP - update  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 22, 2006 12:33:39 PM

---

Helen,

I will be there.

Shawn B

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wed, November 22, 2006 12:30 PM  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'conrad.theissen@gov.bc.ca'; Rowe, Mike R ENV:EX; Hatter, Ian ENV:EX; 'shean.sharpe@gov.bc.ca'; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; Parker, Blake E ENV:EX; Rande, Keith E ENV:EX; 'al.hansen@gov.bc.ca'; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; s.22 'Jason Lee (jlee@treaty8.bc.ca)'; 'matt.besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'jacki.gerwing@gov.ab.ca'; 'margo.pybus@gov.ab.ca'; 'damien.joly@gov.ab.ca'; 'thomas.jung@gov.yk.ca'; 'todd.powell@gov.yk.ca'; 'dan.drummond@gov.yk.ca'; 'philip.merchant@gov.yk.ca'; 'michelle.oakley@gov.yk.ca'; 'brett.elkin@gov.nt.ca'; 'john.nishi@gov.nt.ca'; 'nic\_larter@gov.nt.ca'; 'troy\_ellsworth@gov.nt.ca'; 'david.dickson@icbc.com'; 'wcpp@bccf.com'; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 'ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca'; s.22 's.22'; Leverkusen, Sonja E FOR:EX; Gremaud, Ryan R FOR:EX; Krahn, Bob O FOR:EX; LaRiviere, Larry J FOR:EX; 'tourism@northernrockies.org'; 'todd.shury@pc.gc.ca'; 'Norm.Cool@pc.gc.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'; s.22; 'gecollins@gov.mb.ca'  
**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX; 'droger@conceptdesigns.ca'  
**Subject:** BISON AND ROADS WORKSHOP - update

Hi all,

Our organizing committee has confirmed a few more details on the workshop.

Please let us know if you will attend so that we know numbers.

I will be contacting you soon regarding who will be speaking, but I would rather have volunteers - each jurisdiction managing bison should appoint a speaker if possible.

Many thanks!

Helen

<< File: Bisonandroads Nov18.doc >>

*Helen M. Schwantje*

*Wildlife Veterinarian*

*Ecosystems Br., Ministry of Environment*

*PO Box 9338, Stn Prov Govt*

*2975 Jutland Road, Victoria, BC*

*Canada V8W 9M1*

*phone: 250-953-4285*

*fax: 250-356-9145*

*cell: 250-361-7619*

*email: helen.schwantje@gov.bc.ca*

**From:** [Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - next call  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 15, 2006 3:23:45 PM

---

fine

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wed, November 15, 2006 3:23 PM  
**To:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - next call

How about 3 PST?

---

**From:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wed, November 15, 2006 3:13 PM  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - next call

Friday is fine

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Wed, November 15, 2006 3:12 PM  
**To:** Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 ; 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'; 'Thomas.Jung'; 'ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca'; Rowe, Mike R ENV:EX

**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX; Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Subject:** Bison workshop - next call

Hi all,

Time is speeding by and there are some details that are important to sort out. Would a call to discuss in the next two days be possible? Preferably on Friday? Please let me know as we need to make some final decisions on venue, costs and agenda.

Thanks  
Helen

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Fri, October 27, 2006 2:29 PM  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 ; 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'; 'Thomas.Jung'; 'ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca'; Rowe, Mike R ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - draft agenda

<< File: Bisonandroads Oct27.doc >>

The new draft agenda, feedback is most welcome! Please note the new date. Once I have

the OK from you all I can send to others for their information. I will send an email to the larger group re the new date.

Helen

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX

**Sent:** Fri, October 27, 2006 12:49 PM

**To:** Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 : 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'

**Cc:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Nelson, Cait ENV:EX

**Subject:** Bison workshop - draft agenda

<< File: Bisonandroads Oct23.06.doc >> << File: BisonandroadsFtNelson06.xls >>  
For the call this afternoon...in 10 minutes!

*Helen M. Schwantje  
Wildlife Veterinarian  
Ecosystems Br., Ministry of Environment  
PO Box 9338, Stn Prov Govt  
2975 Jutland Road, Victoria, BC  
Canada V8W 9M1*

*phone: 250-953-4285  
fax: 250-356-9145  
cell: 250-361-7619  
email: helen.schwantje@gov.bc.ca*



From: [Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX](#)  
To: ["Gayle Hesse"](#)  
Cc: [s.22](#)  
Subject: RE: Map for Bison - Comments?  
Date: Monday, June 18, 2007 11:22:26 AM

---

I will defer to [s.22](#) ideas, he knows best.

Shawn Brinsky  
Officer i/c  
Fort Nelson District  
Conservation Officer Service

---

From: Gayle Hesse [<mailto:wcpp@bccf.com>]  
Sent: Tuesday, June 12, 2007 9:31 AM  
To: Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; [ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca](mailto:ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca)  
Subject: Map for Bison - Comments?  
Importance: High

Hello Ron and Shawn,

[s.22](#) and I are working on developing bison collision awareness signs in 2 places along the highway and also at Liard Hot Springs. The sign layout will be the same as the other kiosk signs that my program has around the province, but the content and images will be bison specific.

I haven't received any confirmed funding for this signage project so far, but I have spoken to Tom Fulton from NE BC Wildlife Committee and he seems fairly confident that his organization can contribute some funding, so I am doing some preliminary work.

I want to include a map showing the range of bison along the highway, and Mike Rowe at MoE in Fort St John has done up the attached map. I asked him to make it quite simple and non cluttered so it would be easy to read for tourists.

Do you have any comments or suggestions? Have we missed any landmarks? Is it clear?

Mike Rowe is leaving MoE in a few weeks so I am looking to finalize this fairly soon.

Cheers,  
Gayle

\*\*\*\*\*

Best Regards,  
**Gayle Hesse**  
Wildlife Collision Prevention Program  
British Columbia Conservation Foundation  
Ph: 250.962.1001  
Fx: 250.962.1004  
Web: [www.wildlifecollisions.ca](http://www.wildlifecollisions.ca)

**From:** [Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX](#)  
**To:** [Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX](#); [Thiessen, Conrad D FLNR:EX](#); [Baccante, Nick FLNR:EX](#); [Kuzyk, Gerald FLNR:EX](#); s.22  
**Cc:** [Nelson, Cait FLNR:EX](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Bison newspaper ad  
**Date:** Friday, November 9, 2007 10:47:56 AM

---

One of you folks have the contact info from the ICBC rep who was on the Bison Steering committee.

Shawn Brinsky  
*Field Supervisor*  
*Atlin-Liard Zone*  
*B.C. Conservation Officer Service*

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX  
**Sent:** Friday, November 9, 2007 9:06 AM  
**To:** Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Baccante, Nick ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; Kuzyk, Gerald ENV:EX; s.22  
**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX  
**Subject:** FW: Bison newspaper ad

I think this is a super proactive idea, can we get a note out to the Bison and Roads group to consider a similar thing for the AK highway? Cait can you get the note out to call for a meeting to talk about it or shall I just send this out? Comments???

Helen

---

**From:** Reynolds, Hal [Edm] [<mailto:Hal.Reynolds@EC.gc.ca>]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 9, 2007 8:54 AM  
**To:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX  
**Cc:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Matt Besko [AB]  
**Subject:** FW: Bison newspaper ad

Cait & Conrad:

I don't know who is taking up the reins from Andy on the Bison & Roads Steering Committee, but I just received this newspaper ad that Alberta (Public Information, Education, and Outreach Program) is running in the Peace Country re an alert to road travelers about bison on the roads and the possible danger. It may be of interest to the BC Bison and Roads Group. Thanks. Cheers,

...Hal

---

**From:** Matt Besko [<mailto:Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca>]  
**Sent:** November 8, 2007 7:26 PM  
**To:** Reynolds, Hal [Edm]  
**Subject:** FW: Bison newspaper ad

---

**From:** s.22  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 07, 2007 11:59 AM  
**To:** s.22 ; Dave Moyles  
**Cc:** s.22 ; Matt Besko  
**Subject:** FW: Bison newspaper ad

For your files.

---

**From:** Julie Desrochers  
**Sent:** Wednesday, November 07, 2007 11:45 AM  
**To:** s.22  
**Subject:** Bison newspaper ad  
<<Bison Ad.pdf>>

*Julie Desrochers*

Public Information, Education and Outreach Program Officer

Sustainable Resource Development

Peace/Upper Hay Management Area

Bag 900-37, 9621-96 Ave

Peace River, Alberta T8S 1T4

Office: (780) 624-6196 Cell: (780) 625-1521

Fax: (780) 618-4350

This email and any files transmitted with it are confidential and intended solely for the use of the individual or entity to whom they are addressed. If you have received this email in error please notify the system manager. This message contains confidential information and is intended only for the individual named. If you are not the named addressee you should not disseminate, distribute or copy this e-mail.

Page 12 to/à Page 13

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Page 14 to/à Page 17

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

Page 18 to/à Page 21

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

s.14

Page 22 to/à Page 31

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE

**From:** Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX  
**To:** Schwantje, Helen FLNR:EX  
**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - next call  
**Date:** Wednesday, November 15, 2006 3:12:56 PM

---

Friday is fine

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX

**Sent:** Wed, November 15, 2006 3:12 PM

**To:** Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'; 'Thomas.Jung'; 'ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca'; Rowe, Mike R ENV:EX

**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX; Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX

**Subject:** Bison workshop - next call

Hi all,

Time is speeding by and there are some details that are important to sort out. Would a call to discuss in the next two days be possible? Preferably on Friday? Please let me know as we need to make some final decisions on venue, costs and agenda.

Thanks  
Helen

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX

**Sent:** Fri, October 27, 2006 2:29 PM

**To:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'; 'Thomas.Jung'; 'ron.miciuk@rcmp-grc.gc.ca'; Rowe, Mike R ENV:EX

**Cc:** Nelson, Cait ENV:EX

**Subject:** RE: Bison workshop - draft agenda

<< File: Bisonandroads Oct27.doc >>

The new draft agenda, feedback is most welcome! Please note the new date. Once I have the OK from you all I can send to others for their information. I will send an email to the larger group re the new date.

Helen

---

**From:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX

**Sent:** Fri, October 27, 2006 12:49 PM

**To:** Thiessen, Conrad D ENV:EX; Ackerman, Andy ENV:EX; 'Todd.Powell'; 'Brett Elkin'; 'John\_Nishi@gov.nt.ca'; Hansen, Al H ENV:EX; Brinsky, Shawn ENV:EX; McLean, Dean R ENV:EX; 'paddy.whidden@pwgsc.gc.ca'; s.22 'Dickson, David'; 'dave.moyles@gov.ab.ca'; 'Matt.Besko@gov.ab.ca'; 'Hal Reynolds (HAL.REYNOLDS@EC.GC.CA)'

**Cc:** Schwantje, Helen ENV:EX; Nelson, Cait ENV:EX

**Subject:** Bison workshop - draft agenda

<< File: Bisonandroads Oct23.06.doc >> << File: BisonandroadsFtNelson06.xls >>  
For the call this afternoon...in 10 minutes!



*Helen M. Schwantje  
Wildlife Veterinarian  
Ecosystems Br., Ministry of Environment  
PO Box 9338, Stn Prov Govt  
2975 Jutland Road, Victoria, BC  
Canada V8W 9M1*

*phone: 250-953-4285  
fax: 250-356-9145  
cell: 250-361-7619  
email: [helen.schwantje@gov.bc.ca](mailto:helen.schwantje@gov.bc.ca)*

Page 34

Withheld pursuant to/removed as

DUPLICATE