

RC 11

Pilcher, Nissa R B (DFG)

From: Bruning, Darren L (DFG)
Sent: Wednesday, February 12, 2014 2:48 PM
To: Pilcher, Nissa R B (DFG)
Subject: FW: Bison management Opinion

Comment to BOG re: Delta Bison/Interim Management Plan.
Darren Bruning
Delta Junction

From: tim cook [mailto:tim@delatunjunction.com]
Sent: Monday, February 10, 2014 7:40 PM
To: Bruning, Darren L (DFG)
Subject: Bison management Opinion

Darren,

It has come to my attention that there is a possibility the State of Alaska could be held responsible and may consider paying to build fences and compensate farmers to mitigate damage caused by Bison in the Delta area. I understand the frustration a land owner may have when trying to make a living when wildlife destroys ones hard work. I also understand folks that may not even know bison exist in the state would not want to pay out of their pocket for others problems when they have made the decision to live where they do. I would support a compromise allowing local farmers to harvest Bison to compensate them for their damage. There is a very good market for this meat. I know because I buy it here in the Anchorage area every chance I get. I am a hunter but I do not expect a farmer to raise up or fatten game for my use. On this one, we hunters should be satisfied with the excess animals. Having said this, I also know that a good amount of Delta farm land that I used to hunt is now owned by some of my wealthy neighbors here in Eagle River and is off limits to me.

Regards,
Tim Cook