

Buffalo

(Bison bison bison)

**Distinct Population Segment of Wild Buffalo: Yellowstone National Park
Last Continuous Wild Herds of Buffalo in North America**

Also known as: Bison, Plains Bison, American Buffalo, Qolqalx (Nez Perce Native Tribal Language)

Current Status: Under review as an Endangered or Threatened Species (Endangered Species Act 16 U.S.C. 1531-1544)
Docket No. FWS-R6-ES-2022-0028-0001

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife
and Plants; 90-Day Finding for Three
Petitions To List the Yellowstone
Bison



8yr. BFC Court Battle Won!

June Listing Decision
Decision-Maker / Federal Agency: USFWS

Send in Comments Now @ Docket#!

Use Science and Transparency in
ESA Candidate Decision for Buffalo
Don't let Buffalo go extinct!

Historic Population: 30 - 60 Million

Population Loss: Slaughter

Inter-Agency Consensus Estimation of Population:

Northern Herd: 5,000

Central Herd: 1,200

Role in Ecosystem: Keystone Species

Sacred Being to Indigenous
Tribes, Nations, and Buffalo Communities

Biodiversity Knowledge:

Males: Bull
Average Weight: 2,000 lbs. Average Height: 6 ft. tall
Breeding Season • "Rut": June - September
Age Range for Dominant Bulls: 6 - 10 yrs.

Females: Cow
Average Weight: 1,000 lbs. Average Height: 4 - 5 ft. tall
Calving Season: late March to May
Breeding Age: 2 (1 calf/birth)
Reproductive Gestation: 9.5 months
Reproductive Interval: Once a year

Young: Yearling, Calf, Red Dog
Weight at Birth: 30 - 70 lbs.
Nurse for 7 - 8 months
Age to Maturation:
Females: 2 years
Males: 2.5 - 3 years
Born orange-red in color

Max Speed: 35 mph
Vertical Jump and Spin
Strong Swimmers
Average Life Span: 10 - 20 years

Habitat Range:
Grasslands

**Great
Plains**

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Ecological Significance

Keystone Species

Birds: Key Regulator of 51 Avian Species including the Greater Sage Grouse

Small and Large Mammals: Bison Foraging increases diversity and abundance of seed-bearing plants

- Cascading effect is the herbivorous diet of Mammal Assemblages for Population Abundance
- Reptiles regulate Populations from availability of prey

Insects: ~10,000 Species found in the Northern Mixed-Grass Prairie Ecosystem

- Currently, 720 with possible estimates of 3,000 species are known or suspected to be species at risk of extinction
- Dung deposited in foraging patterns sustains Insect Populations
- Arthropods influx in 11 species that only exist in Northern Mixed-Grass Prairie Ecosystem

Amphibians - Wallows, shallow dirt basins formed from "Buffalo Rubs", Full Body Buffalo Back Rubs on the ground layer, create egg-laying and metamorphosis pools of fresh water for Frogs and Toads • Biological Indicator Species for Health of the Environment • Invertebrate / Amphibian Population Growth Numbers for Fish Populations

Soil

Carbon Sequestration

Herd Patterns produce optimal Soil Quality for the Ecosystem through dung deposits and native hoof movement that aerates the composition

Winter Herd Movements form trails through snow for Wildlife for forage, prey, and water

Global Responsibility

There is a Global Responsibility to, hold in Trust, through Public Lands, Co-Management, and Tribal Treaties, Keystone Species that mitigate against Environmental Disaster and provide resiliency to a Natural Ecosystem through buffering Global Weather Patterns

Local Responsibility

There is a Local Responsibility for Clean Water and Air, access to the Outdoors, and to the next Generation to Coexist with Wildlife in Sustainable Numbers through intrinsic respect of their niche in the native Ecosystem

Sacred Responsibility as Relative

Balance of the Earth is in presence



Current Threats

Population Size

Population Demographics (M:F)

Lack of Coexistence with the Livestock Industry

Climate Change

Restriction of Wildlife Corridors

Non Science-Based and Unethical Hunting Strategies and Culls