



BUFFALO FIELD CAMPAIGN

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December 28, 2014

Jennifer Carpenter
Acting Chief, Yellowstone Center for Resources
PO Box 168
Yellowstone NP, WY 82190-0168

RE: Comments Yellowstone World Heritage Report

Dear Ms. Carpenter,

Buffalo Field Campaign was founded in 1997 to stop the slaughter of Yellowstone's wild buffalo herds, protect the natural habitat of wild free-roaming buffalo and native wildlife, and to work with people of all Nations to honor the sacredness of wild buffalo.

Buffalo Field Campaign is located in West Yellowstone, Gallatin County, Montana, and is supported by volunteers and citizens in Montana, Idaho and Wyoming, and by people from around the world who value America's native wildlife and the ecosystems upon which they depend, and enjoy the natural wonders of our irreplaceable public lands.

As an organization and on behalf of our members, Buffalo Field Campaign is deeply concerned and actively involved in protecting the last remaining indigenous buffalo in North America to occupy their original range. Buffalo Field Campaign publicizes the plight of the buffalo, works to end their slaughter and abuse by government agencies, and advocates for the long-term protection of viable populations of wild buffalo and their year-round habitat.

Buffalo Field Campaign actively engages the American public to honor and protect our cultural heritage by allowing wild buffalo to exist as an indigenous wildlife species fulfilling their ecological role on their native landscape. Buffalo Field Campaign volunteers patrol habitat where buffalo migrate within the Yellowstone and Madison River drainages. These direct experiences with buffalo on their native habitat inform our actions and strengthen our commitment to gaining permanent protections for America's last wild buffalo.

We now submit our organization's comments on the Yellowstone World Heritage Report 2014:

Yellowstone National Park is failing to protect America's last wild, migratory bison populations.

Regulatory mechanisms are inadequate to protect the Yellowstone bison. Because the Yellowstone bison are an isolated remnant population, they are susceptible to threats such as disease outbreaks, natural catastrophes, and impairment of genetic and population structure due to ongoing management activities. These management actions do not protect bison from disease, limit bison access to essential range, result in the death or removal of many animals with differential effects on subpopulations, and are a threat to Yellowstone bison conservation.

Substantial evidence of the endangered status and current mismanagement of the Yellowstone bison is included here as part of our comments with a copy of an **emergency rule-making petition** filed with the National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service by Buffalo Field Campaign and Friends of Animals Wildlife Law Program on September 15, 2014.

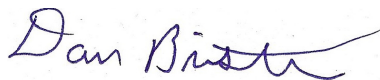
<http://www.buffalofieldcampaign.org/media/press1415/pressreleases1415/Bison-Petition-Final-91514.pdf>

We also include as part of our comments the overwhelming evidence of the endangered status and current mismanagement of the Yellowstone bison with a copy of an **Endangered Species Act petition** to list the Yellowstone bison as threatened or endangered, filed with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service by Buffalo Field Campaign and Western Watersheds Project on November 13, 2014.

<http://www.buffalofieldcampaign.org/ESAPetition20141113.pdf>

Thank you for considering all of the information in our comments. We look forward to Yellowstone National Park making the appropriate and necessary changes to ensure the evolutionary potential of the Yellowstone bison, America's last wild, migratory populations.

Sincerely,



Daniel M. Brister
Executive Director
Buffalo Field Campaign