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Comments: The Custer Gallatin should recognize buffalo as a focal species in the Forest Plan!

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Buffalo Field Campaign's evaluation of the Custer Gallatin's Draft Assessment found there is a need to change the Forest Plan to identify wild buffalo as a Species of Conservation Concern and Focal Species.

1. The best available scientific information supports placing wild buffalo on the list of Species of Conservation Concern to be decided by the Regional Forester.

Buffalo qualify as a species of conservation concern and the Custer Gallatin should recognize this fact in the agency's Forest Plan.

2. The best available scientific information supports evaluating and identifying wild buffalo as a Focal Species in the Forest Plan.

Buffalo are an ideal focal species for monitoring grassland and watershed health, fire, and diversity of native plant and animal species. The Custer Gallatin should recognize buffalo as a focal species in the Forest Plan.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide input!

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