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First name: Jean

Last name: Naples

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing as a physician and public health advocate, who strongly supports full protection for our migratory bison and their required wildlife habitat. At this time, I am very concerned because Forest Supervisor Mary C. Erickson has completely failed to include enforceable standards for protection and conservation of migratory bison and protection for their required wildlife habitat.

As someone who very much supports full protection for our migratory bison, I am very disturbed about the fact that Regional Forester Leanne M. Marten failed to examine any bison wildlife conservation data and has therefore failed to list the American bison as a Species of Conservation Concern in Region One.

I am writing to make you aware that the Forest's preferred Alternative F is weak and objectionable on several grounds. Unfortunately, at this moment, the Forest continues to define natural migrations for migratory bison that are based on "management zones". It is important to acknowledge that these natural management zones exclude bison from National Forest habitat.

At this time, I thank you for your consideration of my letter and I strongly urge the U.S. Forest Service and the Regional Forester to please list American bison as a Species of Conservation Concern. I also very much urge the Forest Supervisor to please adopt strong enforceable standards that will provide benefit and are the most protective provisions for wildlife that includes migratory bison and connectivity to their required wildlife habitat on our National Forests in Alternative D for Region One.

Sincerely,

Jean Marie Naples, MD-Ph.D.