

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 8/9/2020 6:00:00 AM

First name: Kevin

Last name: Crupi

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Protect habitat and list American bison as a species of conservation concern.

Dear Supervisor Erickson,

I'm writing to object to your decision for failing to include habitat standards for American bison in the Custer Gallatin land management plan.

I also object to Region One Regional Forester Leanne M. Marten's decision for not designating American bison a species of conservation concern on our National Forests in the Northern region.

The buffalo roaming these lands are the descendants of the millions of these animals which once roamed the North American Great Plains. In what amounts to a scorched Earth campaign, the U.S. government in the late 19th Century began to exterminate bison to force Native Americans who relied on these animals to move to reservations. We must act now to protect the surviving bison to help correct this shameful action and preserve the species.

To help, I urge you to include habitat standards in the Custer Gallatin land management plan for American bison to freely roam our National Forests in the Yellowstone ecosystem.

Please designate American bison a species of conservation concern to ensure a viable future for the migratory giants on our National Forests.

The distinct and unique American bison herds remaining in the wild deserve standards and legal designations securing their presence on our National Forests for future generations. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Kevin Crupi