

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/4/2020 12:52:25 AM

First name: Rev.

Last name: Mark Mealing Ph.D.

Organization:

Title:

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

Dear Supervisor Erickson,

I 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.

Please 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.

As a Canadian, I am concerned for the bison: first, since they are an integral part of the Great Plains/Prairie ecosystem; & second, because the restoration stock came from Canada's Wood Buffalo Park, so there is a real connection. Mistreating them is thus an international disgrace.

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.

Sincerely,

Rev. F. Mark Mealing Ph.D.

Box 191

Meadow Creek, BC V0G 1N0