



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

September 29, 2016

Ms. Sally Jewel, Secretary of the Interior
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street
Washington, DC 20240


Dear Ms. Jewel


At the Second Anniversary meeting of the Signatories to the Buffalo Treaty (copy hereto attached) held in Banff, Alberta in conjunction with the American Bison Society's 2016 Conference, the Signatories past the attached resolution on the National Bison Range located on the reservation of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes in the state of Montana. Please accept this letter as a humble but urgent request to act on the National Bison Range pursuant to the resolution.


The return of the said Range to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will have both short and long term benefits including but not limited to conservation and restoration of buffalo, cultural practices, education, health, and research.

We, the Signatories, want to thank you, in advance, for your time and attention to this very important issue for our people.

Yours truly

Signature  Nation BCOOD TRIBE Date 16-09-2016
Address:

Signature  Nation FT BULLENT Date 16-09-16
Address:

Signature  Nation G. K. G. K. Date 16-09-16
Address:

Cc: Jeff King, Project Leader
U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service
58355 National Bison Range
National Bison Range Road
Moiese, Montana 59824



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NATIONAL BISON RANGE RESOLUTION

Whereas

a treaty was signed by the undersigned signatories, namely “The Buffalo: A Treaty of Cooperation, Renewal, and Restoration” in September, 2014 (‘the Buffalo Treaty’ from herein);

the signatories promised to welcome back the buffalo and collectively work together to provide a safe environment for the buffalo;

the signatories recognize the buffalo as a practitioner of conservation and collectively agree to perpetuate conservation by respecting the interrelationship between us and ‘all our relations’ including animals, plants, and mother earth; to perpetuate and continue our spiritual ceremonies, sacred societies, sacred languages, and sacred bundles as a means to embody the thoughts and beliefs of ecological balance;

the buffalo is foundational to our customs, practices, harvesting, beliefs, songs, and ceremonies;

the National Bison Range was established within the Flathead Indian Reservation in 1908;

the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have been attempting to become part of the operation and management of the National Bison Range for over 20 years;

and whereas the transfer of the operation and management of the National Bison Range to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes will fulfill the conservation, cultural, education, and research intent of the Buffalo Treaty;

It is hereby resolved by the signatories of the Buffalo Treaty, as witnessed by their signatures herein,

to humbly but urgently request Congress to expeditiously enact legislation to remove the National Bison Range from the National Wildlife Refuge System and restore said Range to once again be held in trust by the United States for the benefit of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes with requirements for continued bison conservation and continued public access;

Be it further resolved that we request the Secretary of the Interior, through the Fish and Wildlife Service and the Bureau of Indian Affairs, to actively support such legislation.



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NATIONAL BISON RANGE RESOLUTION

Name *Chris Charles*
Wahkiheapi

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *Chief*
Muske L. Azans

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *[Signature]*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *howell ellsworth*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *John D. Murray*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *Chief Kurt Dullab*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *Den Maymounds*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name *Leonard Gray*

Signature *[Signature]*

Name

Signature

Nation *BLOOD TRIBE*

Date

Nation *FT BELKNAP*

Date

Nation *Siksika*

Date

Nation *Pikuni*

Date *Sept 29/10*

Nation *Blackfoot*

Date *9/29/2016*

Nation *Samsan Cree*

Date *Sept 29/2011*

Nation *Tsotina Nation*

Date *Sept 29/16*

Nation *CS & KT*

Date *9-29-16*

Nation

Date



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

NATIONAL BISON RANGE RESOLUTION

Name Robert Magnan

Nation Fort Peck Tribes

Signature Robert Magnan

Date 9/29/2016

Name Frank Snee

Nation Moksada Weasles

Signature Frank Snee

Date 9/29/16

Name Clifford Powder Cove

Nation Chitika Nation

Signature Clifford Powder Cove

Date 9/29/2016

Name GEORGE MUNRO

Nation CREE NATION

Signature George Munro

Date 9/29/16

Name BLAIN PIXAY

Nation PEE PEE KISSICU Water

Signature Blain Pixay

Date Sept 29/2016

Name Miihiiipolaa (Elder)

Nation Weasel Tribe

Signature Miihiiipolaa

Date Sept 29/2016

Name NORBERT FOX

Nation Blood (Elder)

Signature Norbert Fox

Date Sept 29/2016

Name

Nation.....

Signature.....

Date.....

Name

Nation.....

Signature.....

Date.....