



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

September 29, 2015

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 Yellowstone Bison Quarantine Program aimed at achieving disease-free bison. Disease-free bison coming out of the quarantine program will serve a number of purposes including but not limited to the existence of a source herd, bison as part of conservation programs, and for education, health, and research.

The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation stand ready to work in partnership with Yellowstone National Park toward the goal of disease-free bison. Please accept this letter as a humble but urgent request to facilitate the utilization of the Fort Peck Indian Reservation as part of the Yellowstone Bison Quarantine Program to not only prevent the spread of bovine diseases to other animals and livestock but to bring about realization of environmental and conservation goals.

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

Yours truly

*Chief*  
Name: *Charles Weesehead* Signature: *[Signature]* Nation: *31000 TRIBE* Date: *Sept. 29. 16*

Address:

*Chief*  
Name: *Mark Aron* Signature: *[Signature]* Nation: *FT BECKWA* Date: .....

Address:

Name.....Signature.....Nation.....Date.....

Address:



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

Name Leonard Gray Signature [Signature] Nation CS&KT Date 9-29-16  
Address:

Name Robert Magnan Signature [Signature] Nation Fort Peck, MT Date 9/29/2016  
Address:

Name Hank Sneed Signature [Signature] Nation Wesley Date 9/29/16  
Address:

Name.....Signature.....Nation.....Date.....  
Address:

Cc: Jonathan B. Jarvis, Director  
National Park Service  
1849 C Street  
Washington, DC 20240

Sue Masica, Regional Director  
Intermountain Region  
National Park Service  
12795 Alameda Parkway  
Denver, Colorado 80225

Superintendent  
Yellowstone National Park  
PO Box 168  
Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming 82190-0168



## YELLOWSTONE BISON QUARANTINE PROGRAM 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 Yellowstone bison are considered by scientists to be the only ecologically and genetically viable population of plains bison and as a valuable resource for restoration purposes due to its genetic lineage;

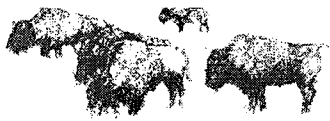
in view of the fact that Yellowstone bison have been infected with brucellosis in the past by other bovine animals such as elk and deer;

the National Park Service is in the process of developing a multi-stage quarantine program to ensure disease-free bison and reduce the number of Yellowstone bison being sent to slaughter;

the Fort Peck Reservation is a preferred alternate quarantine situs for the National Park Service;

the Assiniboine and Sioux tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation have the capacity to contribute towards disease-free bison by being a part of the planned quarantine program;

the National Park Service planned quarantine program will contribute to a healthy gene pool for plains bison;



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

and whereas a quarantine situs on the Fort Peck Reservation will contribute and fulfill the intent of the buffalo treaty;

It is hereby resolved that the signatories of the buffalo treaty, as witnessed by their signatures herein, humbly but urgently request the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the National Park Service to implement the Yellowstone bison multi-stage quarantine program utilizing the Fort Peck Reservation as part of the quarantine program for the achievement of disease-free Yellowstone bison.

Name.....	Chief Charles Weaselhead	Nation.....	BLOOD TRIBE
Signature.....		Date.....	
Name.....	Chief Mark Azuko	Nation.....	FT. BELKNAP
Signature.....		Date.....	
Name.....	Chief Fred Fisher	Nation.....	Siksika
Signature.....		Date.....	
Name.....	Vincent Verbal of the	Nation.....	Pikani Nation
Signature.....		Date.....	Sept 29/16
Name.....	Lowell Yelleahorn	Nation.....	Blackfeet
Signature.....		Date.....	9/29/2016
Name.....	Chief Kurt Buffalo	Nation.....	Sambor Cree
Signature.....		Date.....	Sept 29/2016
Name.....	Dean Marywounds	Nation.....	Tsu Tina Nation
Signature.....		Date.....	Sept 29/16



THE BUFFALO: A TREATY OF COOPERATION, RENEWAL AND RESTORATION

and whereas a quarantine situs on the Fort Peck Reservation will contribute and fulfill the intent of the buffalo treaty;

It is hereby resolved that the signatories of the buffalo treaty, as witnessed by their signatures herein, humbly but urgently request the Secretary of Agriculture, the Secretary of the Interior, and the National Park Service to implement the Yellowstone bison multi-stage quarantine program utilizing the Fort Peck Reservation as part of the quarantine program for the achievement of disease-free Yellowstone bison.

Name.....	GEORGE MURD	Nation.....	CREE NATION
Signature.....	<i>George Murd</i>	Date.....	9/29/16
Name.....	BRAIN LINAY	Nation.....	PEE PEE KISSIS CEE NATION
Signature.....	<i>[Signature]</i>	Date.....	Sept 29/2016
Name.....	Mii ni i po ka (Elder)	Nation.....	Weasel Tribe
Signature.....	<i>Peter Weasel man</i>	Date.....	Sept 29 / 2016
Name.....	NORBERT FOX	Nation.....	Blood (Elder)
Signature.....	<i>Norbert Fox</i>	Date.....	Sept 29/2016
Name.....	.....	Nation.....	.....
Signature.....	.....	Date.....	.....
Name.....	.....	Nation.....	.....
Signature.....	.....	Date.....	.....
Name.....	.....	Nation.....	.....
Signature.....	.....	Date.....	.....