

What can Barack Obama do to help Yellowstone's wild buffalo?



As President of the United States, Barack Obama would be in a powerful position to stop the slaughter and hazing of the wild buffalo in and near Yellowstone National Park, where more buffalo were killed this winter than at any time since the 19th century.

Buffalo are managed under the Interagency Bison Management Plan (IBMP); of the five agencies that are partners of the IBMP, three are federal agencies under direct control of the President (the National Park Service, United States Forest Service, and the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service). This plan has killed thousands of America's largest wild herd at great cost to taxpayers under the guise of preventing the spread of brucellosis from bison to cattle - something that has never happened, something that cannot happen in areas where cattle don't even exist, and something that if it did happen would not cost anywhere near as much as what it does to kill and torture these wild animals.

As you read this, more than half of Yellowstone's buffalo have died this winter. Hundreds are being held in a capture facility; others are being hazed. While other issues are certainly important and need federal attention, let us not forget about these uniquely iconic American animals - Barack Obama could help.

Please ask Barack Obama to commit to the following steps as President:

- 1. End the hazing and slaughter of Yellowstone's bison populations immediately by withdrawing federal support for the IBMP.**
- 2. Re-negotiate a bison management plan with the state of Montana and indigeous peoples that respects buffalo as wildlife first and not as a disease control issue.**
- 3. Increase range and habitat for bison populations outside of Yellowstone National Park**
- 4. Work with Montana's ranchers and citizens to ensure win-win solutions - like fences and cattle vaccinations so that all interests are met.**
- 5. Involve true bottom-up input (as Obama's rhetoric promises) from the public in policymaking.**

What can we in Bozeman do for the buffalo?

Buffalo in Yellowstone is a local issue for those of us in the Gallatin Valley; if change truly does come from the bottom up, then we have a remarkable opportunity to do right by the buffalo.

We meet a lot of people who know what is happening to the buffalo is wrong but feel powerless to do anything about it. We created a new group - Buffalo Allies of Bozeman - to give people opportunities to take effective action on behalf of the buffalo.

On Monday, June 30, at 6:30 PM, at the Bozeman Public Library, we are going to hold a forum discussing the various advocacy tools that are available for helping the buffalo. The options are many; they include legislation before the Montana legislature put forward by the Gallatin Wildlife Association, volunteering with a field organization, like Buffalo Field Campaign, media work (like writing letters to the editor), online advocacy, and many other things besides. We are creating more and more ways for you to take action right here in Bozeman, and we would like for you to get involved. We have meetings open to the public every Wednesday at Montana State University's student union building in the 2nd floor cafeteria (NW corner) at 7 PM. If you don't want to commit to meetings, get to know us at a **community potluck this Sunday at 7 PM at Bogart Park** (no strings attached - just good food and good people.) At the very least, check us out on the Web and learn more.

Barack Obama and the federal and state governments won't get the message unless we do more. We need your help; the buffalo in Yellowstone need your help. If you have the inclination to do something, it can be done. **Join us as we take action.**

See the back of this flyer for more information about Buffalo Allies of Bozeman.



www.buffaloallies.org - Buffalo Allies of Bozeman

You can help
Yellowstone's
Buffalo herds!



Here's how!
Get involved with
Buffalo Allies of Bozeman

Our Mission:

Buffalo Allies of Bozeman is a consensus-based grassroots organization in the Bozeman area that focuses on:

- stopping the hazing and slaughter of Yellowstone's wild buffalo herds;
 - promoting the expansion of free-roaming buffalo outside of Yellowstone National Park;
 - conserving the natural habitat of the buffalo herds;
 - allying with and giving solidarity to groups working on related missions; and,
 - supporting a diversity of strategies and tactics to achieve the previous tenets of our mission.
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We meet:
Every Wednesday at 7 PM
@ MSU's Strand Union Building
2nd floor cafeteria in the NW corner

For more info, see <http://www.buffaloallies.org>.