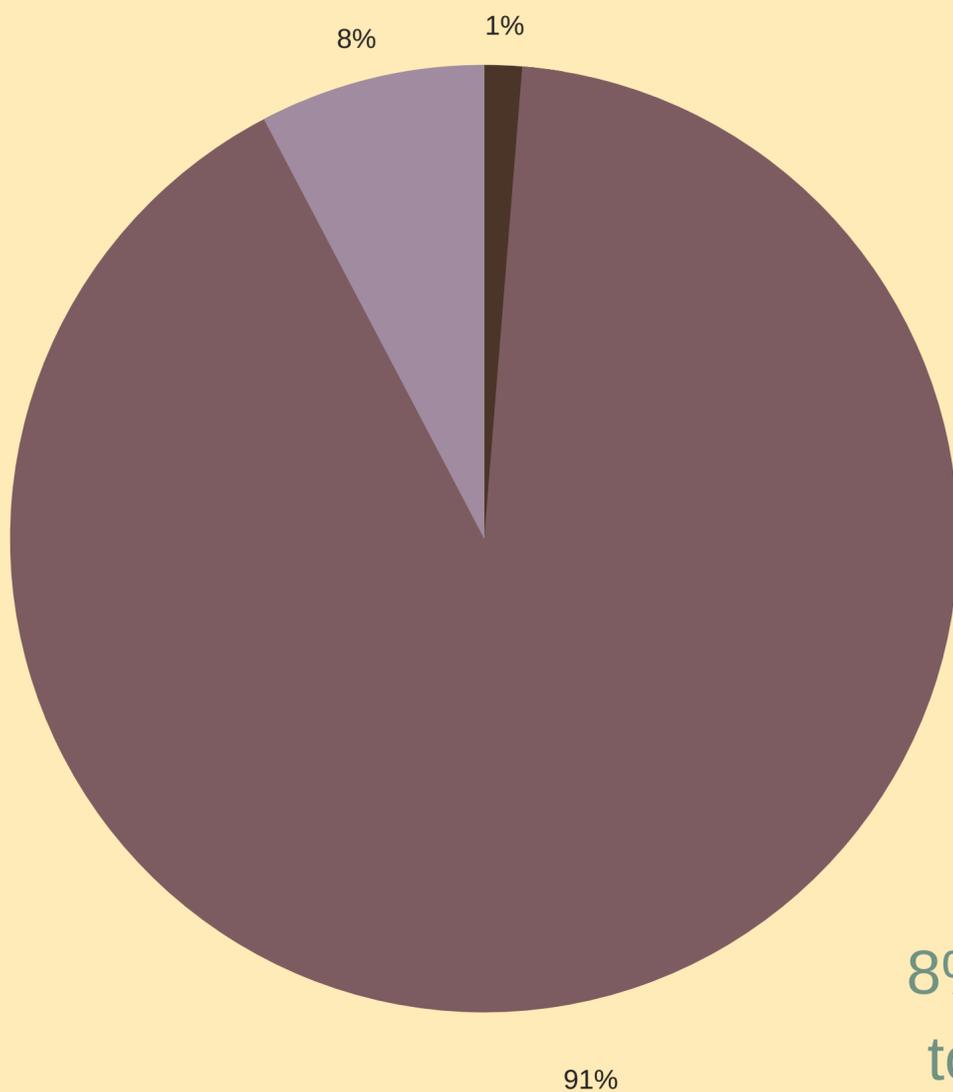


What Do You Think?

CAN WE HAVE FREE-ROAMING BISON? LISTENER RESPONSES



1% - Keep things as they are - it's a complicated issue that requires further review and discussion.

91% - Move the bison that want to migrate out of the park to the Fort Peck quarantine facility and then on to other tribes/wildlife refuges.

8% - Cull the herd down to a more manageable size, there are too many animals to properly manage.

Here's what you had to say

"Let them roam free everywhere."

"Let the bison migrate on some of the federal land surrounding the park"

"Dedicate more public land in the Greater Yellowstone area to winter range for Bison. It is a shame that the cattle industry controls the management of our wildlife. And no, I don't eat beef."

"Slaughtering bison because of 'over population ' seems like a waste. Find a place within the brucellosis DSA to quarantine them like they did on Ted Turner's ranch. MT & WY seem to manage bison so much differently, they coexist next to cattle in the Moran area of GTNP without the same fear as MT has. Let's put an end to the slaughter and allow them to roam free where desired"

"manage based on science and with local input"

"Remove all cattle from National forest lands surrounding Yellowstone. Purchase remaining private ranches, apply conservation easements allowing free roaming bison and give to park or forest service"

"Let them live...cattle suck."

"WYOMING! the Livestock Board & the Wyo Game & Fish have declared bison to BE WILDLIFE in more than 1/3 of the State, yet management practices for the animals that try to leave the GYE have not changed. There is the vast Red Desert, the "checker board" lands that are neighbors to the Wind River Reservation (Shoshoni & Arapahoe tribes). This could truly be "mitigation" for the creeping industrialization from oil & gas extraction. It could solve economic diversity, sage grouse conservation & poor economics/habitat for cattle/sheep in the area. The problem is resolving public land lease control--my idea is to guarantee lease-holdings will not be changed for 3 generations if bison count reaches a minimum level on leased public lands."

"We need to make a strong effort to restore the bison to as much of their original range as possible to honor the bison, Native Americans, and God."

"I think our ultimate goal should be to have wild, truly free-roaming bison, but I think the second option is a good intermediate step."

"Bison should be allowed to migrate to public lands outside the Park.

Surplus animals should be used to start additional herds on reservations and wildlife refuges. It is not a bison issue, it is a people issue. Ranchers in Wyoming have much more tolerance for brucellosis, are willing to vaccinate their cattle, and live with bison (just like they do with elk)."

"Let them move freely like other species."

"Some surplus bison should be sent to Fort Peck, but the bison that wander out of the park should be managed cooperatively by the national park, the state, and local communities, in the same vein as the free-ranging Sturgeon River Plains Bison Herd near Prince Albert National Park in Saskatchewan, Canada. Yellowstone isn't alone in facing these challenges, but is just unique in terms of scale."

:The question that needs to be addressed is the sustainability of the park. Overcrowding of animals, where wildlife or domestic, on the landscape is detrimental to the animal and the landscape. The park was never intended to be home to an excessive amount of bison."

"Since the herd is too large and won't stay in the park, some are going to have to be killed. Instead of slaughtering them I would have a hunt with the fees to be given back to the park or to the WY DNR. But the Bison to be shot would have to first be selected by a DNR specialist who would pick the older and/or weaker Bison."

"Afford them the same rights as any other native wildlife species, allow them to roam on all public lands and those private lands that want them."

"Auction them off to the highest bidder then split the revenue between the National Parks and the tribes."

"Manage as the animals they are...wild. Let them roam!"

"Help the Blackfeet obtain more bison."

"LET THEM ROAM FREE. Stop killing just to cull or kill. Create adequate winter range for wild bison. Instead of killing or sterilizing, allow bison to be relocated onto other public lands and Indian reservations. This is a biased survey that does not allow for options that seek to allow bison to be wildlife, which they are, NOT livestock. Protect the remaining genetic diversity of wild bison. Get cattle off of lands bison need for winter range. Allow free movement in and out of the park. Killing is violent, expensive, and disgusting."

"All Wild life matters, the wild beings are what makes human beings have such a rich experience on this earth. Coming from a ranch/ and agracultural family I believe that both cultural sides; I have an appreciation for the land we use. As stated in the interview this focus is on what has always been and we have always done; this way doesnt make it the best way! History proves this. I so loved the very last gentlemen who said what he felt we all could use to join together as humans and how this could help the wild places and animals as well...all life must be respected this means animals, plants, Water, Air and People. New Ideas and better ways must start. We all know and to most we agree that the old ways of doing things have not necessarily been the ideal. So I say try something new and do it with gratitude in presentation and respect for all including the Buffalo and the land for they inhabited long before man. "

"Let bison move where they want for the most part, especially if it is in public lands. Restore public and reservation ecosystems with bison. Encourage current public land livestock grazers to switch to bison."

"Tear down all the barbed wire from Yellowstone far up into Canada and let her buck! Power to the red people!"

"After listening to your series starting with sending bison where they are wanted is the place to start. Then see if that opens up other possibilities"

"While the relocation of bison to Fort Peck and other tribes does have its issues, transferring Yellowstone bison to other federal, state and tribal lands should be the immediate solution. Culling the animals not only wastes the animal's life but also wastes purebred genetics that are almost entirely unique to Yellowstone bison and a few other herds. Most bison are polluted with cattle genetics elsewhere and this is where the value is in the long run for the species. Transfers to research institutions is another excellent solution. Here is an example of a great partnership between a city and a university."

"Repeal MCA 81-2-120. Manage bison like elk. Expand bison habitat to public land around YNP, implement fair chase hunting. Vaccinate cattle."

"Best idea.....leave them the hell alone."

"Cull on the basis of genetics...select for "wild bison" genes and move those to wildlife refuges"

"buy as much land from ranchers around Yellowstone as possible"

"This could be an interim measure while all parties continue to search for a more comprehensive solution to find a place in MT for wild bison"

"Look into gene scrubbing research that's taking place at Colorado State University... we might be able to use it to eliminate the disease."

