

Proposed Bison Management Plan Objectives

- 1) Cooperatively manage SRPB
- 2) Ensure long-term conservation
- 3) Achieve reduction in conflicts
- 4) Gather necessary information
- 5) Recognize and promote social/cultural importance



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1) Cooperative Management

- Sturgeon River Plains Bison are a regional resource
- Span jurisdictional boundaries
- Management requires cooperation
 - Local stakeholders/landowners
 - First Nations and Métis communities
 - Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment
 - Sturgeon River Plains Bison Stewards
 - Parks Canada



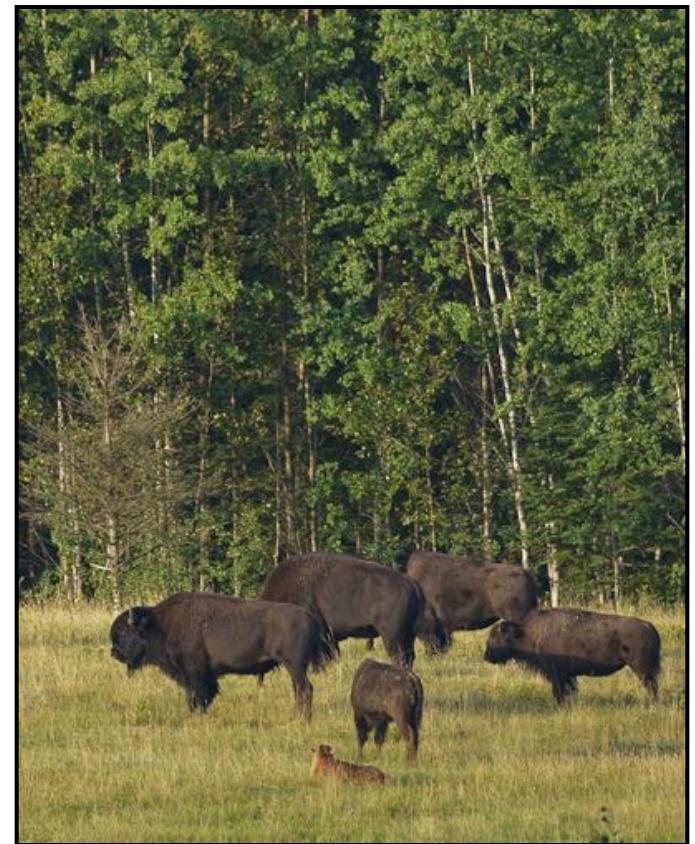
2) Long-term Conservation

- Maintain natural ecosystem processes
 - i.e. habitat, predator/prey relationships, and disease
- Conserve free-ranging status
- Ensure long-term genetic viability



3) Reduce Conflicts

- Increase residence time in PANP
 - Diversionary fencing
 - Salt-licks
 - Habitat restoration (prescribed burning)
 - Motion-sensor sirens
- Herd bison back into Park
- Bison Stewards Fencing Program



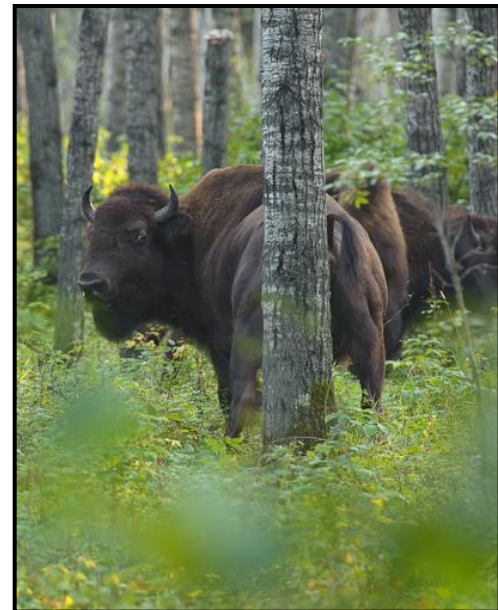
4) Gather Information

- Continued research with Laval University
- Explore new research collaborations
- Traditional ecological knowledge
- Monitor for disease
- Frequent population estimates
- Genetics research



5) Promote Social/Cultural Importance

- Recognize significance of bison herd to local residents, First Nation and Métis communities, and all other Canadians
 - Historic and cultural importance
 - Tourism and economic opportunities
 - Education opportunities
 - Promote conservation



The Plan-Building Process

- Bottom-up approach
 - All levels actively participate
- **Management Advisory Committee** provides input to plan through **Coordinating Committee**
- Advisory Committee has representatives from all interested/concerned parties
- Frequent workshops to discuss management options and provide input – strive for consensus
- Frequent opportunities to provide feedback

Potential Timeline

March 15 2011	First Advisory Committee Meeting - discuss process and management plan contents
May - June 2011	2 Workshops with Advisory Committee - work through management topics in stages - guest experts will provide background information
July – Aug 2011	Bison Stewards fencing demonstrations and management discussions
Sept – Dec 2011	3 Workshops with Advisory Committee
March 2012	Draft Management Plan Development Complete

Review Process

March 2012

Plan peer-reviewed by external experts

April 2012

Open houses for public to review draft management plan

May – August 2012

Finalize management plan

September 2012

Sign off on Sturgeon River Plains Bison management plan

Groups to be Represented

- Local Land Owners (Bison Stewards)
- RM of Big River, Canwood and Debden
- First Nations, Métis and other Aboriginal communities and organizations
- NGOs
 - Nature Conservancy of Canada
 - Nature Saskatchewan
 - Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society
 - Saskatchewan Wildlife Federation
 - World Wildlife Fund
 - Wildlife Conservation Society
 - National Wildlife Refuge Association

Groups to be Represented

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Saskatchewan Crop Insurance Corporation
- Tourism Saskatchewan
- Parkland Agri-Environmental Group Plan
- Prince Albert National Park and Area Destination Marketing Organization
- North Central Enterprise Region
- 55 West Enterprise Region
- Prince Albert Model Forest