



ECOLOGICAL FUTURE OF THE NORTH AMERICAN BISON
Denver, Colorado
October 23-25, 2006

MONDAY, OCTOBER 23

- 3:00 P.M. Registration and refreshments
Promenade/Ballroom A
(For your Convenience the Conference Registration desk will open at 11:00 A.M.)
- 4:00 P.M. Start of meeting
- Introduction to the day**
Kent Redford, Director, WCS Institute and Vice President, Conservation Strategies
- Welcome and Prayer**
Clement Frost, Chairman, Southern Ute Tribe
- Cultural Role of Bison**
Dick Baldes, Wind River Alliance
- 4:20 P.M. **Ecological Restoration of the Bison**
Steve Sanderson, President, Wildlife Conservation Society
- 4:45 P.M. **Institutional Perspectives on the Ecological Future of Bison Panel**
- Bruce Runnels, Regional Managing Director/VP, Rocky Mountain Region, The Nature Conservancy
 - Lawrence Linden, Executive Committee, World Wildlife Fund-US and Advisory Director, Goldman Sachs
 - Michael Duncan, National Bison Association
 - Michael Fox, Interim Executive Director, Intertribal Bison Cooperative
 - Michael Soukup, Associate Director for Natural Resources Science and Stewardship, National Parks Service
 - Stephen Woodley, Chief Scientist, Parks Canada
- 6:15 P.M. Break
- 6:30 P.M. **Legacies and Lessons of the History of the Bison**
Andrew Isenberg, Professor of History, Temple University
- 7:15 P.M. Q&A
- 7:45 P.M. Buses Depart for Denver Public Library from Comfort Inn Lobby
- 8:00 – 10:00 P.M. **Welcome Reception and Bison Exhibit**
Denver Public Library
Gates Western History Reading Room/Western History/Genealogy Department, Level 5

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24

- 7:00 A.M. Conference Registration Desk Opens
Promenade/Ballroom A
- 7:30 A.M. Continental Breakfast
Promenade/Ballroom A
- 8:30 A.M. Start of meeting
- Introduction to the day**
Kent Redford
- 8:45 A.M. **Poem and Reading**
Sandra Alcosser, Poet Laureate of Montana
- 9:00 A.M. **Multiple Facets of Bison Conservation**
1. American Bison: The Ultimate Genetic Survivor
James Derr, Asst Professor, Texas A&M
 2. Bison and Fire: Managing Together at Increasingly Larger Scales
James Shaw, Professor of Natural Resources Ecology & Management, Oklahoma State University
 3. IUCN - the World Conservation Union Status and Action Plan for Conservation and Recovery of North American Bison
John Gross, Ecologist, National Parks Service
 4. Role of Wild Cattle Advisory Group in Recovery of Bison
Sharon Joseph, Head of Wild Cattle Taxonomic Advisory Group, Association of Zoos and Aquaria
- 10:00 A.M. Break
- 10:30 A.M. **Multiple Facets of Bison Conservation - Continued**
5. The Economy of American Grasslands
Ray Rasker, Executive Director, Headwaters Economics
 6. The Role of Ranchers and Private Landowners
Tom Olson, Chairman, Bison Producers of Alberta
- 11:00 A.M. **Constraints and Opportunities for Ecological Management Across the Range Panel**
- Rodrigo Medellin, Conservation Biologist Mexico, Instituto de Ecologia, UNAM
 - Nicholas Larter, Dehcho Regional Biologist, GNWT Department of Environment & Natural Resources
 - Keith Aune, Research Chief, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- 11:30 A.M. Questions and Comments on Morning Session
Kent Redford
- 12:00 P.M. Instructions for break-out groups
Kent Redford
- 12:30 P.M. Boxed Lunch
Pick up from Ballroom B to take to breakout groups

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 24 - CONT'D

- 1:00 P.M. Breakout groups convene to discuss current and future role of stakeholder groups in the ecological recovery of bison
1. Producers, ranchers, and sportsmen
 2. Native Americans and First Nations
 3. Non-governmental organizations (science, conservation and zoos)
 4. Agencies (national, state and provincial)
 5. Social and natural sciences
- 4:00 P.M. Break
- 4:30 P.M. Breakout groups back in plenary: each group reports
- 5:20 P.M. Break
- 5:30 P.M. **Linking the Recovery of Bison to Habitat Restoration and Diversified Food Production in Bison Nation**
Gary Nabhan, Director, Center for Sustainable Environments, Northern Arizona University
- 6:30 P.M. Reception
Promenade/Ballroom A
- 7:00 P.M. Dinner
Ellyngton's Restaurant

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25

- 7:00 A.M. Conference Registration Desk Opens
Promenade/Ballroom A
- 7:30 A.M. Continental Breakfast
Promenade/Ballroom A
- 8:30 A.M. Start of Meeting
- Introduction to the day
Kent Redford
- 8:45 A.M. **Meeting Summary, Impressions and Next Steps Panel**
- Florence Gardipee, University of Montana
 - Stuart Strahl, President and CEO, Chicago Zoological Society
 - Ron Hiebert, Research Coordinator, Colorado Plateau, US National Parks Service
 - Justina Ray, Director, WCS Canada
- 10:00 A.M. Break
- 10:30 A.M. Open discussion
Kent Redford

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 - CONT'D

- 11:30 A.M. **The Ecological Future of Bison: Meeting Summary and Next Steps**
Steve Sanderson
- 11:50 A.M. Concluding poem and reading
Sandra Alcosser, Poet Laureate of Montana
- 12:00 P.M. Meeting close