

R2 Individual Species Recommendations

TAXON	Scientific Name			Common Name	
Mammal	Bos bison			American bison	
FWS	FS	BLM			
G Rank	CO S Rank	WY S Rank	SD S Rank	NE S Rank	KS S Rank
G4	SX	S1	S3	SX	SX
	CO Status	WY Status	SD Status	NE Status	KS Status
IUCN	PIF – Area Importance		PIF – Population Trend		
CD					
FS Experts assigned Species Evaluation			Non-NFS Experts assigned Species Evaluations		
Sensitive Species Recommendation (Please check 1 box below)					
	R2 Sensitive Species (SS)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not R2 SS, but should be considered for other Emphasis Species Lists		
	Not R2 SS and Not of Concern Now		Insufficient Information Available to make a recommendation		
Recommendation Rationale					
<p>The evaluation and recommendation is strictly limited to wild plains bison, and does not apply to commercial herds. In the 1800s, wild plains bison declined from about 30 million individuals to about 500. By 2008, there were about 20,500 wild plains bison in conservation herds. The bison is a keystone species on the Great Plains, and its removal may have had cascading effects on grassland ecosystem function and the diversity of native plant and animal species. In its finding on a petition to list the wild plains bison (Federal Register 76(37):10299-10310, Feb. 24, 2011), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) concluded that it found no information to suggest that threats are acting on the wild plains bison such that the species may become extinct now or in the foreseeable future. FWS noted that several National Grasslands and National Forests are of sufficient size and provide suitable habitat that could support wild plains bison herds. At this time no self-sustaining herds of wild plains bison exist on National Forest System lands. Forests should consider working towards the possibility of restoring wild plains bison where feasible on NFS lands in the future.</p>					
Name/Title	Nancy Warren Regional TES Species Program Leader			Date	4/29/11