

Information regarding backup materials provided in conjunction with HB186 – Wood Bison

### **Wood Bison – Proposed Rule to Downlist**

Contains valuable information about Wood bison and notice that status might change to threatened.

### **Federal Register/Vol. 76, No. 26/Tuesday February 8, 2001/Proposed Rules**

Substantiates the possible downlisting from Endangered to Threatened.

### **Quote from ADFG Wood Bison News – Issue Number 4, Winter 2008-09, p.6**

Shows that it is not likely that Wood bison will be removed from the ESA list. Hopefully they will be downlisted to “Threatened” but may even remain listed as “Endangered”. The article makes clear that a few years ago a similar situation existed where their status was being reviewed and it was hoped that they might be removed from the list completely, or be listed as “Threatened” rather than “Endangered” but the end result was the opposite of what was hoped for. Rather than being removed from the list completely, OR being downlisted, they were instead confirmed as “Endangered”.

### **Blog to Constituents – Wood Bison and Polar Bears**

This blog points out the similarity between Wood bison and Polar Bears. Polar bears are not listed as “Endangered”. They have the lower designation of “Threatened”. But, even with that lower listing FWS has taken the dramatic step of locking up 120,000,000 acres. This is what could happen in Interior Alaska if the Wood bison were in the wild and a federal judge somewhere was to strike down the anticipated 10J ruling.

### **ESA Blawg**

- 1.) Shows how emotional this issue is. Here sensationalism is employed to entice readers to the blog by headlining what people hope to read.
- 2.) RE: Five Factor Analysis – Shows that threats to Wood bison are still present in factors A,C,D, and E. Also to note that tougher regulations may be employed against existing businesses in areas near threatened species.

### **Endangered Species Law & Policy**

This document indicates that no 4(f) recovery plan has been issued yet because no wild population of Wood bison currently exist in the United States. Once they are introduced it is presumed that a 4(f) recovery plan will be written. How restrictive it will be remains to be seen but as seen from the previous supporting document it could have significant impact on existing businesses within the region.

## **Delta Bison Working Group Recommendations**

Although this document pertains to an entirely different type of bison, that are NOT listed as threatened or endangered, this report of the Delta Bison Working Group is included because it shows the extent of efforts that have been ongoing for many years in an effort to resolve a conflict that has existed for over 30 years with STILL no resolution by the state. There ARE unintended consequences that could be avoided by fully considering such things BEFORE the animals are released into the wild.

## **Estimated Bison Damage to Delta Agricultural Fields – 2010**

Shows the amount of damage in dollars that has continued unabated each year for many years in Delta while the state has done nothing about it. If similarly unintended consequences occur from release of Wood bison - should we expect the state to act differently towards us?

## **Bison on the Innoko – from my blog [www.alandistrict6.org](http://www.alandistrict6.org)**

Provides commentary to my constituents about this issue.

## **Intentional of Unintended Consequences – from my blog [www.alandistrict6.org](http://www.alandistrict6.org)**

Provides more commentary to my constituents about this issue.

## **Wood Bison – from my blog [www.alandistrict6.org](http://www.alandistrict6.org)**

Provides additional commentary to my constituents about this issue. I used this commentary as the basis for my video.

## **Wood Bison News**

Provides valuable information about Wood bison and the effort to have them introduced into the wild in Alaska. The introduction of Wood bison into the wild in Alaska is an exciting project as evidenced in these publications. I am supportive of the effort if they are removed from the ESA list but not just downlisted to “threatened”.