

As outlined in the 2024 Bison Management Plan, the National Park Service (NPS) coordinates with state, federal, and tribal partners to maintain a sustainable population of 3,500–6,000 wild, migratory bison and to reduce the risk of brucellosis transmission from bison to cattle outside the park. As identified in the management plan, when the population exceeds the Population Assurance Threshold of 5,200 at the start of winter, the NPS increases capture operations to help maintain the population within the desired range. With the population exceeding 5,400 animals at the start of this winter, the NPS increased capture activities while also allowing bison to move towards the park boundary. The NPS did not capture several groups of bison that approached the boundary to provide opportunities for harvest, but few of those animals ultimately moved into areas where hunting could occur. This report summarizes bison removals conducted by the NPS. For information on bison harvested outside the park, contact Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks for state-licensed hunts, the Montana Department of Livestock for removals related to brucellosis risk, and individual tribal nations for treaty hunts. Tribes exercising their treaty rights to hunt bison outside Yellowstone National Park include the Blackfoot Nation, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Crow Nation, Nez Perce Tribe, Northern Arapaho Tribe, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, and Yakama Nation. This is the final report for winter 2024-25.

**Table 1. Bison placed in the Bison Conservation and Transfer Program (BCTP).** The NPS places bison in the BCTP to support tribal restoration efforts. Through the BCTP, bison that complete brucellosis quarantine are transferred to the Fort Peck Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes and distributed to Tribes across North America in coordination with the InterTribal Buffalo Council.

male 1 year-old	12
male calf	0
female 1 year-old	35
female calf	50
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>97</b>

**Table 2. Bison donated through the Tribal Food Transfer Program (TFTP).** The NPS donates bison to Tribes through the TFTP to support food sovereignty and cultural practices. These bison include animals that test positive for brucellosis and do not qualify for the BCTP, as well as other animals removed to help manage the Yellowstone bison population within the NPS target range of 3,500–6,000 animals. Recipient Tribes receive the bison and promptly transport them to processing facilities, where they are harvested for meat, hides, and other cultural uses.

Recipient Tribe	Male			Female		
	adult	1 year-old	calf	adult	1 year-old	calf
CSKT	63	114	111	329	72	79
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>768</b>

**Table 3. Lethal removals of bison by the NPS.** This table reports bison lethally removed by the NPS. It includes bison that were captured but died before being placed in the BCTP or donated to the TFTP. Additionally, it reports bison injured during state hunts and Tribal harvests outside YNP that were dispatched by the NPS upon returning to the park.

	Male			Female		
	adult	1 year-old	calf	adult	1 year-old	calf
capture mortality	0	0	1	0	0	0
dispatched	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>1</b>