

**Bison Management Operations Winter 2016-17:**

**Table 1.** Summary of Yellowstone bison removed through state and treaty harvests and culled through consignment to slaughter, quarantine, or research facilities, or dying within containment. Table abbreviations are adult (A), yearling (Y), calf (C), and unknown sex (Unk). Harvest numbers are preliminary, in-season totals that may change.

Date	Removal Method	NORTH						WEST					
		Male		Female		Unk		Male		Female		Unk	
		A	Y	A	Y	Unk	C	A	Y	A	Y	Unk	C
Nov 1 – March 1	Harvest (Mont)	25		9		0	0	12		16		0	2
	Harvest (CSKT)	27		72		0	25	24		18		6	9
	Harvest (NPT)	7		4		51	0	0		0		8	0
	Harvest (CTUIR)	25		23		0	22	0		0		0	0
	Harvest (SB)	6		5		6	2	0		0		0	0
	Harvest (YN)	4		9		0	0	0		0		0	0
	NPS <sup>1</sup>	0		1		13	0	0		0		0	0
Feb 8 - March 3	Consigned to Tribes					470							
	Held <sup>2,3</sup>					0							
<b>Year to Date</b>	<b>HARVEST</b>	94	0	123	0	70	49	36	0	34	0	14	11
	<b>CULL</b>	28	56	212	76	0	100	0	0	0	0	0	0
	<b>TOTAL</b>	122	56	334	76	70	149	36	0	34	0	14	11
							<b>808</b>						<b>95</b>

<sup>1</sup> - Wounded animals shot by NPS.

<sup>2</sup> - Approximate number of animals being held in the Stephens Creek Facility for release during spring

<sup>3</sup> - As winter operations began in early January, 40 bison captured in winter 2016 were still held at Stephens Creek facility: 15 females were transferred to tribes for slaughter on February 8, 1 male was dispatched due to injury on February 7, and 24 males remain in captivity at the facility. These animals are not included in the summary tables.

**Table 2.** Bison tested for brucellosis exposure (positive + negative -) within the Stephens Creek Capture Facility.

Date	Male						Female					
	Adult		Yearling		Calf		Adult		Yearling		Calf	
	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-
Feb 8- March 2	16	7	22	37	4	49	141	70	24	58	4	60
<b>Total</b>					<b>135</b>						<b>357</b>	

<u>Disposition of Captured Bison:</u>	<u>Year to Date</u>
Transferred to Tribes:	470
Transferred for research:	0
Being held for potential quarantine:	0
Mortalities within the Stephens Creek Facility:	2
Released:	1
Approximate number of animals being held within the Stephens Creek Facility for eventual consignment or release:	177

**Table 3.** Numbers of bison counted in the Gardiner basin by ground observers during winter 2016-17. Bison held within the Stephens Creek Capture Facility are not included in counts.

Date	Mammoth to Gardiner	North Entrance Station to Stephens Creek Facility	Stephens Creek Facility to Park Boundary	North of Park Boundary	Eagle Creek SMA	Total
1/3/2017	80	29	0	37	0	<b>146</b>
1/5/2017	30	70	0	40	0	<b>140</b>
1/9/2017	56	128	0	31	0	<b>215</b>
1/11/2017	182	25	6	0	0	<b>213</b>
1/20/2017	78	80	4	0	3	<b>165</b>
1/23/2017	50	75	0	1	5	<b>131</b>
1/25/2017	158	7	6	22	4	<b>197</b>
1/30/2017	52	116	7	78	0	<b>253</b>
2/6/2017	160	67	11	1	13	<b>252</b>
2/9/2017	264	60	58	10	0	<b>392</b>
2/13/2017	23	472	2	1	0	<b>498</b>
2/21/2017	189	67	36	1	7	<b>300</b>
2/27/2017	210	76	24	0	6	<b>316</b>

**Table 4.** Daily number of bison counted by ground observers outside the northern boundary of Yellowstone National Park, daily estimated number of bison captured in the Stephens Creek Facility, and unconfirmed estimates of animals harvested by hunters.<sup>3</sup>

Date	Out-of-park maximum Count	Harvests	Captured
1/7 – 1/20/2017		95	197
1/21/2017	2	1	
1/22/2017	3	3	
1/23/2017	4	1	
1/24/2017	26	11	15
1/25/2017	26	14	
1/26/2017	20	11	
1/27/2017	35	0	
1/28/2017	50	0	26
1/29/2017	185	35	14
1/30/2017	100	18	77
1/31/2017	110	13	65
2/1/2017	86	5	7
2/2/2017	75	6	
2/4/2017	19	2	2
2/5/2017	13		
2/6/2017	13		
2/7/2017	22	1	
2/8/2017	50		97
2/9/2017	29	5	
2/10/2017	32		
2/11/2017	52		
2/12/2017	55	8	
2/13/2017	28		
2/14/2017		1	
2/15/2017		4	
2/16/2017	22	9	
2/17/2017	0		
2/18/2017	5	4	
2/19/2017	0		
2/20/2017	5	8	
2/21/2017	20	5	
2/22/2017	19	8	
2/23/2017	26		24
2/24/2017	24	10	18
2/25/2017	24	9	52
2/26/2017	4		
2/27/2017	8		
2/28/2017	15		56
3/1/2017	40	3	
3/2/2017		2	

<sup>4</sup> Numbers of bison counted outside the park in tables 3 and 4 may not match because counts were conducted by different observers and at different times of the day.