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Buffalo Reading List

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Buffalo Reading List

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Welcome to this reading list on buffalo, also known as bison. The list gathers together literature focused on buffalo to support ongoing efforts to restore this iconic species to its keystone cultural and ecological role. Once the thundering heartbeat of Turtle Island or the North American continent, buffalo were nearly exterminated by the end of the 19th century in the course of westward colonial expansion and settlement. Today, across the continent, Indigenous Nations are at the forefront of initiatives to bring buffalo back to their homelands. Conservation practitioners, researchers, parks and government officials, and bison ranchers join Tribal communities to play key roles in advancing a place for buffalo.

The books and articles compiled here are grounded in a wide range of academic disciplines and approaches, representing many distinct ways of thinking about buffalo within the realm of Western sciences. This is not intended to be an exhaustive account of what is known about buffalo, much of which is held in Indigenous knowledge systems and communities.

We hope that this list provides a resource for those working towards buffalo restoration. It is divided into categories according to either discipline or thematic focus, each containing a subset of pertinent literature. Note that buffalo (*Bison bison*) are a being with many names. Here we have generally used buffalo and bison interchangeably, with an emphasis on the term ‘buffalo’ to respect the worldviews and contributions of Indigenous communities.

This list is intended as a living document to grow with the increasingly rich scholarship on buffalo. It will be maintained at this link: <https://shorturl.at/IKLMZ>. Please send any comments or suggested additions to Madison Stevens at mstevens@boisestate.edu.

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Paleobiology of Bison

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Buffalo restoration, reintroduction, & rewilding

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Buffalo and climate change: effects, adaptation, and resilience

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