

2023 Great Plains Conservation Network Annual Meeting Program

November 29, 2023 9:00—12:00 (MST)

9:00-9:05	Welcome (Cliff Wallis, Alberta Wilderness Assn./Nature Canada)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Land Acknowledgment of Indigenous Peoples • What is the Great Plains Conservation Network? • Introduction of GPCN Steering Committee
9:05-9:45	Bison Working Group (Chamois Andersen, Defenders of Wildlife)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason Baldes, Eastern Shoshone, Wind River Native Advocacy Center, Executive Director • Chamois Andersen, updates on American Bison issues <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Yellowstone bison draft management plan and EIS ◦ Buffalo Treaty ◦ Montana Buffalo Network ◦ Laramie Foothills, Southern Plains Land Trust, American Prairie bison herds ◦ Denver Zoo ◦ Buffalo Nations meeting in Bozeman ◦ Charles Goodnight herd, Caprock State Park (TX) • Priorities for 2024 and Implementation of Working Group Products • <i>Q&A with the Bison Working Group</i>
9:45-10:00	Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance (Libby Khumalo)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grasslands for Generations: Introduction to the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance presentation and Q&A
10:00-10:10	International Briefs (Cliff Wallis, Canada; Submission from Rurik List, Mexico)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cliff Wallis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Canada: Tribes to receive Yellowstone bison ◦ Mexico: Bison updates
10:10-10:20	Break	
10:20-10:50	Prairie Dog and Mapping Working Groups (Kristy Bly, WWF , and Ana Davidson, CSU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highlights of 2022-3 work of the Prairie Dog Working Group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Kristy Bly, overview and team introduction ◦ Ana Davidson, implementing Homes on the Range • Priorities for 2023-24 and Implementation of Working Group Products • <i>Q&A with the Prairie Dog Working Group</i>
10:50-11:30	Case Studies – Rewilding the Great Plains (Henry Pollock, SPLT and Daniel Kinka, American Prairie)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • American Prairie (Daniel Kinka, American Prairie) • An integrative approach to rewilding the Southern Plains of North America (Henry Pollock, SPLT) • Q & A

11:30-12:00	Free Range Discussion	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Updates from attendees<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Henry Pollock – Creation of a GPCN Bird Working Group○ Kate Wilkins – Effects of drought to global grasslands ecosystems● What would you like to see from GPCN in the future?● Recap and discussion – <i>Where do we go from here?</i>
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