

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife

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Carroll 343-5634

FEDERAL WILDLIFE AGENCY ANNOUNCES SURPLUS BUFFALO SALES

Live buffalo and buffalo meat again will be available this fall through sales of 339 surplus animals at three National Wildlife Refuges, the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife announced today. Herds are being reduced to the carrying capacity of the ranges they graze.

At Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Okla., 149 buffalo, live or butchered, will be available. Live animals, two and three years old, will be sold at public auction on November 5. A sale of butchered buffalo will be held later in the year. A whole carcass, unfrozen, will sell for \$220; a half carcass at \$110. Freezing adds \$40 to the price of a whole carcass or \$20 for a half.

At Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge near Valentine, Neb., 100 buffalo will be available for disposal. Live sales, mostly of long yearlings and two-year-olds, will be by public auction October 13.

The National Bison Range at Moises, Mont., will dispose of 90 bison-- mostly long yearlings and two-year-olds. Live sales at National Bison Range will be through sealed bids accepted from now until September 8.

Buffalo meat will be available only at Wichita Mountains.

Anyone wishing additional information on the surplus buffalo sales should write the Refuge Manager, Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Oklahoma 73527; Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge, Hidden Timber Route, Valentine, Nebraska 69201; or National Bison Range, Moiese, Montana 59824.

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