

**CoP17 Prop 1. [Canada] Delete Wood Bison *Bison bison athabasca* from Appendix II**

The Wood Bison *Bison bison athabasca* is one of two recognized subspecies of the American Bison. *B. b. athabasca* is native to Canada and the USA, where it has recently been re-introduced to the wild in Alaska. *B. b. athabasca* and also introduced to the Russian Federation. The population (currently ca. 9000) has increased in recent years, although further increase is unlikely owing to available habitat constraints. *B. b. athabasca* was listed in Appendix I in 1975 and downlisted to Appendix II in 1997. Trade reported in the CITES Trade Database from 2000 to 2014 is at a very low level and there have been no reports of illegal trade. It would appear that harvest for international trade has a negligible impact on the subspecies. Furthermore, the current listing of *B. b. athabasca* in Appendix II while *B. b. bison* is outside the Appendices is inconsistent with recommendations for split-listing.

**ACCEPT**