

# DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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## FEDERAL WILDLIFE AGENCY ANNOUNCES SURPLUS BUFFALO SALES

Live buffalo and buffalo meat again will be available this fall through sales of 581 surplus animals at three national wildlife refuges, the Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service announced today. Herds are being reduced to the carrying capacity of the ranges they graze.

At Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, Cache, Okla., 118 live buffalo, two and three years old, will be sold at public auction on November 4. 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. This will be the Service's only sale of buffalo meat for this year.

At Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge near Valentine, Neb., 45 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 Moiese, Mont., is disposing of 74 live buffalo, mostly long yearlings and two-year-olds, through sealed bids which were submitted prior to September 7.

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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