



*Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance*  
GRASSLANDS FOR GENERATIONS

BUFFALO NATIONS GRASSLANDS ALLIANCE, PO Box 246 / 22695 Little Bend Rd, Lower Brule, SD 57548,  
605-473-5666, [www.bngalliance.org](http://www.bngalliance.org)

RESOLUTION

**Title: Support for the Recovering America's Wildlife Act**

Resolution No. 2022-002

WHEREAS, the mission of the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance (BNGA), a native-led 501(c)3 organization, is to ensure that Native Nations have the technical and financial resources to plan and act on the vision for their traditional lands and waters; and

WHEREAS, the BNGA was established to ensure that tribal members thrive by sustainably stewarding and connecting with natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the BNGA was established to support efforts of Native Nations to ensure grasslands and native wildlife are restored or enhanced; and

WHEREAS, the BNGA was established to ensure Tribal Fish and Game Departments have the capacity to deliver conservation impacts at scale; and

WHEREAS, the BNGA supports 15 Native American Tribes located within the Northern Great Plains ecoregion that have similar histories, cultures, and goals including the conservation and restoration of grasslands; and

WHEREAS, this nation is blessed with a diverse array of fish and wildlife, and while some of these species are thriving, many more are facing increasing challenges and are in steep decline – increasing their possibility of becoming endangered. Nationwide, 12,000 species have been identified that are in need of proactive conservation action, and we must rise to the challenge that confronts us; and

WHEREAS, tribal lands and waters are essential for wildlife conservation and conservation opportunities on tribal lands overshadow any other non-public land conservation opportunity; and

WHEREAS, tribes own and influence the management of a natural resource base of nearly 140 million acres, including more than 730,000 acres of lakes and reservoirs, over 10,000 miles of streams and rivers, and over 18 million acres of forested lands; and

WHEREAS, tribal lands provide vital habitat for more than 525 federally-listed threatened and endangered plants and animals, many of which are both biologically and culturally significant to Tribes; and

WHEREAS, Tribes are proven leaders in the protection of these landscapes and their wildlife that provides a model and lessons for other natural resource managers; and

WHEREAS, current funding for both Tribes and states only provides a mere fraction of what is needed to conserve wildlife species; and

WHEREAS, despite a history of underfunding and exclusion from federal funding, Tribes have some of the most accomplished natural resource programs in the nation and protect hundreds upon hundreds of wildlife species and their habitat.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance hereby supports the Recovering America's Wildlife Act and similar legislation for the recovery of fish and wildlife species and preventing them from becoming endangered by dedication \$1.3 billion annually to assist states with wildlife conservation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance respectfully requests that an additional \$97.5 million each fiscal year be dedicated directly to Tribes to assist with wildlife conservation; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance supports that such legislation meant to recover wildlife species must be inclusive of Tribes and that resources must be dedicated to assist Tribes with their wildlife conservation efforts on tribal lands.

#### Certification

This resolution was enacted by the affirmative vote of the Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance Board of Directors held on January 11, 2022. The vote is \_\_6\_\_ voting in favor, \_\_0\_\_ voting against, \_\_0\_\_ abstaining, and \_\_1\_\_ absent.

Dated this 10th day of January, 2022.



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Shaun Grassel, President

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Monica Rattling Hawk, Vice-President

Attest:

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Emily Boyd-Valandra, Secretary/Treasurer  
Buffalo Nations Grasslands Alliance