

SAVE THE COWBOY



STOP American Prairie Reserve

STAND UP SPEAK OUT SAVE THE COWBOY STOP American Prairie Reserve

HOW TO HELP

- Encourage landowners not to sell their land to APR and/or give their neighbors the opportunity to make a counter offer.
- Write an opinion piece addressing your concerns about APR and send it to Montana newspapers.
- Ask your elected officials how they plan to address APR's goal to create a multi-million acre prairie reserve in your backyard.
- Participate in the BLM's public meetings about APR's request to convert 18 grazing allotments from cattle to bison.
- Display Save the Cowboy signs and distribute brochures to show your objections to the prairie reserve (available by emailing contacts listed on back).
- Write to Interior Secretary Zinke and state your objections to APR's plan to create an American Serengeti and gain operational control over millions of acres of public land. (Secretary Ryan Zinke, Dept. of the Interior, 1849 C St, N.W., Washington D.C. 20240)

“Burn down your cities and leave our farms, and your cities will spring up again as if by magic;

but destroy our farms and the grass will grow in the streets of every city in the country.”

William Jennings Bryan



FOR MORE INFORMATION

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ABOUT MONTANA AGRICULTURE

- Agriculture is the number one industry in the region and is the economic backbone that keeps the area's communities and businesses viable.
- Local ranchers produce beef while grazing the prairies and river breaks regions of Montana, creating food, jobs, and money that drive the economy while utilizing a renewable resource.
- Montana agriculture generates more than \$4.6 billion each year, a full \$1.5 billion more than tourism. Cattle account for \$2.1 billion of that revenue.

ABOUT US

- Contrary to the impression the APR gives, this area is populated by hard-working families who have built businesses, raised children, and developed communities for more than 100 years.
- Ranchers have cared for this land for generations, and the land takes care of them, resulting in the rangeland's current healthy condition that visitors have proclaimed to be "just as Lewis and Clark found it."
- Production agriculture cannot co-exist with the American Prairie Reserve's goal of an "American Serengeti" complete with free-roaming bison and unchecked populations of large predators.
- If the APR's goals are realized, Montana stands to lose a significant percentage of its cattle industry, thousands of acres of farmland, and the families that comprise the area's communities and rural heritage.

ABOUT THE APR

- The American Prairie Reserve (APR) plans to purchase 500,000 acres of private land in Montana and control an additional 3 million acres of state and federal land to establish a **3.5 million acre** nature reserve with free roaming bison as well as predators such as grizzly bears and wolves.
- The APR seeks to shift the base of the economy from agriculture to tourism, although past efforts to increase tourism in the rugged breaks and prairie terrain have failed. Instead of producing food and employing families to sustain rural communities, the APR would provide only recreation and a few service jobs.
- With financial support from domestic and foreign donors and the support of national and international environmental groups, the APR has the financial resources and the tax-exempt status that enables the organization to outbid agricultural interests for property.



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