

June 18, 2019

Natasha Kline Forest Biologist North Kaibab Ranger District Kaibab National Forest 800 South Sixth Street Williams, AZ 86046

RE: HRWA Bison Management Improvements Project

Ms. Kline:

On behalf of Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the proposed improvements project on the House Rock Wildlife Area (HRWA) for bison management by the Arizona Game and Fish Department (AZGFD).

AZSFWC has supported the AZGFD's ongoing efforts to manage bison on the HRWA specifically, as well as the Kaibab National Forest (KNF) in general for many years. This project addresses the most immediate needs required by the AZGFD for on-the-ground bison management necessary at HRWA.

The implementation of this project will not only provide the necessary infrastructure and flexibility needed to help fulfill the AZGFD management actions, but it would be critical in helping anchor the new House Rock bison herd to the HRWA, per the KNF's Land and Resource Management Plan.

AZSFWC supports your analysis and application of the categorical exclusion to proceed with the proposed action.

Thank you for your consideration!

Jim Unmacht Executive Director

AZSFWC letter supporting HRWA Bison Management Improvements Project – 6-18-2019