Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area

Forest Service News Release

Contact: Carlin Lewis, Public Affairs Specialist Phone: (270) 540-1426 Email: carlin.lewis@usda.gov www.landbetweenthelakes.us

Land Between the Lakes to Host Bison Auction

Land Between the Lakes, Ky./Tenn.-Jan. 30, 2023 -The USDA Forest Service announces a public bison auction to manage herd size at Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area on Feb. 11 at the South Bison Range corral. Bidder registration and viewing begin at 8 a.m. before the auction starts at 9 a.m. Bison can be purchased with cash, credit card, or personal check at time of bid acceptance.

The Forest Service will sell approximately 32 bison, each separately to the highest bidder(s), including:

- 1 cow born 2015, tested for pregnancy
- 9 large young bulls born 2020
- 4 cows born 2020, tested for pregnancy
- 6 yearling heifers born 2021
- 7 yearling bulls born 2021
- 4-5 bull and heifer calves born 2022



Preliminary details regarding age, sex, and weights of all animals to be sold will be available after 2 p.m. Feb. 7 with the final list available at 8 a.m. on auction day. All animals will be tested for brucellosis and tuberculosis by a licensed veterinarian before the auction. Additional services may be purchased from the on-site veterinarian by cash or check to include vaccinations at time of bid acceptance.

An on-site veterinarian will issue Certificates of Veterinary Inspection as required for interstate transport immediately after the auction. Import permits will be on hand for the states of Tennessee, Kentucky, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Alabama, and North Carolina. Purchasers must know the import regulations of their state **before** they place a bid. If a different state import permit is needed than listed here, call 270.924.2061 on or before Feb. 6 for it to be available at time of sale.

Because of size and temperament, closed-topped trailers or vehicles are required to transport bison. Once bison step off the loading chute and into a buyer's trailer, the animal becomes the property and responsibility of the buyer. Buyers must load animals immediately following the auction. For an additional fee of \$30 per animal, arrangements can be made at time of payment to load bison on Feb. 13 between 8 a.m. and 10 a.m. only.

The South Bison Range corral is located on the west side of the Woodlands Trace National Scenic Byway (TN461) just south of the Ky./Tenn. state line in Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area. This location is across the road from the Homeplace 1850s Working Farm, located at 4512 The Trace, Dover, TN 37058. For a preliminary list of animals to be sold or for any questions, call Curtis Fowler at 270.924.2061 or email <u>frederick.fowler@usda.gov</u>. More information on the bison auction can be located on the official Land Between the Lakes <u>website</u>.

The Forest Service manages two herds of American Bison at Land Between the Lakes. All bison bloodlines originated from three sources: in 1969 from Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota; in 1988 and 2012 from Fort Niobrara National Wildlife Refuge in Nebraska; and in 1996 from Wind Cave National Park in South Dakota.

####

USDA is an equal opportunity provider, employer, and lender.

To find more information about Land Between the Lakes, visit the official website at <u>www.landbetweenthelakes.us</u> or call (800) 525-7077 or (270) 924-2000.

Photos available on Flickr at www.flickr.com/photos/lblkytn/albums