

New bison calves.

Ella does chores on Sunday.

Whenever possible I ride along.

This Sunday there were two newborn bison.

One was so recent that the cow had not completely expelled the placenta.

Farmers would say the cow had not “cleaned” yet.

Sometimes that takes a couple of hours.

One of the pictures shows that.

Can you tell?

In one photo the calf is standing under its mother’s throat.

That is a common position for a bison calf.

The cow knows exactly where the calf is, and she is in an ideal place to defend it.

Getting anywhere between the cow and her calf would be equivalent to getting between a bear and her cub.

I do not recommend it.



The cows have just begun shedding their winter coats. They look perfectly normal for bison at this season. It will take two to four months to shed their old coats completely. During that time, the bison will vigorously rub on every tree and bush they come upon. That is one the ways bison can turn thick woods into savannas. Like many other creatures, bison take an active role in forming their environment. Ella took these photos.
Best regards
Tom

spring 2024



Bison cow and day-old calf in defensive position.

Bison cow and one-hour old calf.



Bison cow and day-old calf.