



Board of Directors PROFILE

**DAKOTA
TERRITORY**
BUFFALO ASSOCIATION

James Degenstein

Executive Director

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Hello! My name is Jim Degenstein of Berthold, North Dakota. I am married to Teresa with two adult sons, Julian and Alex. Julian is married to Nicole and my Granddaughters are Cheyenne, Elsa and Grace, all of whom are involved with 4-H and an assortment of animals.

My wife and two sons have all assisted with our new start up bison operation, although I was in the bison business before from 1997 to 2006. I remember starting in 1997, with the 1st heifer calves that year, and bison became a part of my soul from that day forward. After that, I spent 16 years pursuing two different careers and visiting every bison operation around the 7 different states we lived in. In spring of 2018 we had an opportunity to purchase some land at home in North Dakota, and in the spring of 2019, we decided to build our forever home on that property. My oldest son had built down the road from us a few years earlier and that spring the house and pasture below us, that I was originally planning to rent, came up for sale. My youngest son will now live in that home.

In the fall of 2021 we jumped back into the bison business. We installed a corral system and handling facility, drilled in waterlines and waterers, and brought home 20 bred heifers and a 3-year-old bull. We have since purchased a top 5 DTBA Young Guns bull and secured additional pasture to expand yet again. I am so excited to be to be a part of this industry again and very excited to be a part of the DTBA board. I work full time for Trane Technologies as a Region Manager Factory to Distribution Rep., but I am looking forward to serving the membership of the DTBA!