I purchased a copy of *The Buffalo Wolf* while attending the 2003 World Wolf Congress in Banff, Alberta, and started reading it on my long flight back to Anchorage. Much to my surprise, I quickly became completely engrossed and in a few hours had read the entire book. *The Buffalo Wolf* is a first-person account of the joys and difficulties of conducting field research in the remote Canadian North, set amidst the bureaucratic wrangling over management of bison in Wood Buffalo National Park. Lu Carbyn, a respected scientist retired from the Canadian Wildlife Service after 36 years, tells the story of his field research in the area, including the scientific revelations, personal fulfillment and hardships, and his love for the wildlife and environment of the Peace-Athabasca Delta.

The book is divided into 12 chapters that are roughly chronological, although Carbyn has a somewhat stream-of-consciousness style that may distract some readers. A handful of black-and-white photos and a couple of maps provide some reference to the place and its inhabitants. Most of the book focuses on wonderful descriptions of observations of wolves, bison, and the delta environment and the day-to-day life of a field researcher. The author mixes in insights on a wide variety of topics such as the history and management of bison in the region, his experiences conducting ecological research, the Native way of life in the region, bureaucracy and politics of government agencies, etc. The first 2 chapters set the stage by providing insights into what is to come, as well as describing Lu’s background, the region, and the history of bison management and politics. Chapters 3 and 4 describe observations of bison and wolves via an elevated observation tower and radiotelemetry studies of wolves, respectively, and the insights gained into wolf-bison relationships. Passages from field notes kept by Carbyn and his students are scattered throughout these chapters.

The next 6 chapters feature other observations of wolves and bison, but also relate Lu's efforts to continue the work after political change in Canada resulted in his reassignment to other projects. At first he continued the work as best he could by taking leave from his job and paying expenses out of his own pocket. Later he managed to get back to the Delta by helping a variety of filmmakers. Once Lu teamed up with filmmaker Jeff Turner in 1994, their collaboration took on the grander goal of telling to the world the story of wolves and bison in the Canadian North.

Chapters 10 and 11 summarize the debate over proposals since 1990 to eradicate bison from the Peace-Athabasca Delta to eliminate the wood bison–plains bison hybrids that occur there and the diseases introduced with plains bison in the 1920s. Carbyn’s summary of this wildlife management