

Thank you for this opportunity to share my Testimony In Support of SCR-4014. My name is Carol Priestley Magamoll, and hobby photographer, and almost daily visitor to Theodore Roosevelt National Park - South Unit since 2013.

I have been a documenter and volunteer in TRNP for North Dakota Badlands Horse non-profit organization for the past several years also, and not just a private citizen who loves these wild horses in TRNP. Over this time I have photographed and documented this herd including weekly head-counts, monitoring band structures and behaviors, births, deaths and injuries for documentation purposes, as well as sharing photographs and stories to the public that is well over 100,000 + social media followers. I have put in thousands of hours as a volunteer, and can tell you unequivocally how much these wild horses enhance the visitor's experience in the park. It is commonplace for visitors to approach me and state how much they not only love these horses but are the reason they come to TRNP annually and more frequently. Many are from other states in the United States, and some from as far away as Germany. It is not just the fact that these wild horses are indeed native to this land but historically and culturally are responsible for facilitating the building of what we all know as the American West. This is something Teddy Roosevelt himself experienced and I believe was a great part of his reasoning to preserve this cultural heritage for the public to always have and enjoy. The wild horses in TRNP should definitely be considered as a traditional cultural property provision and guideline inclusion in federal policies governing our federal lands and national parks. Anything short of these horses remaining on the land they have rights to would be an injustice and gross oversight by the Federal Government and the National Park Service. It would definitely be a travesty to today's visitors, our children and future generations. Many park visitors have stated they come only to see the horses in this park and should they be taken away they will not return to TRNP. Visitor loss will be of great impact on TRNP, the City of Medora and its shops, restaurants, museums, new Theodore Roosevelt Library to come, the State of North Dakota, and the Great North Dakotan Spirit overall. Therefore, I Support SCR-4014 and wish to thank Governor Burgum, our ND State Legislature Assembly Members, Congressional Delegates, and the Department of Tourism for being in Support of Saving the Wild Horses of Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Sincerely,

Carol Priestley Magamoll