

.....WILD LANDS.....  
**WILD HORSES**

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Dear Governor Burgum and North Dakota State Legislators!

First and foremost, thank you for being the strong, logical leaders that this genetically unique and historical herd of free roaming horses in Theodore Roosevelt National Park so deserve.

We support SCR 4014. Let us introduce ourselves.

We are two gals from different parts of America, Minnesota and New Jersey, who met because of this herd and have been actively working to bring the beauty of TRNP to America since 2015. We lead adventures in the park to connect humans to a landscape they may not ever experience any other way. Both of us have extensive knowledge of the herd, Deb having worked for the park and Colorado State University as a research tech on the contraceptive research study that was done on the herd, both of us have adopted horses from TRNP.

We value the legacy of T.R. and his historical contribution to the region of North Dakota that was the 'romance of his life'. Where he fought battles with wild horses, called the 'Man Killer' and the 'Devil'. Where he was inspired to roam the badlands on horseback alone and wrote about those experiences. Where T.R. came to seek solace and later to inspire a nation. We also understand the impact TRNP has had on the native nations and their sacred grounds.

We are submitting for testimony for the SCR 4014 hearing, the 400 plus impact stories from across North Dakota, America, and the world, that we collected and submitted to the NPS during the most recent public comments. Each of these powerful stories is proof of the intangible cultural heritage of this herd, and the impact they have had over generations, near and far, in person or via social media.

Even though we are not North Dakota residents, our group calls the great state of North Dakota our heart home. We are in this fight with you, every step of the way, for however long it takes. WLWH does not want to see a fissure of immense proportion, a rift that may never heal, come between the NPS and a community steeped in the traditions of honoring their culture and history. This is an opportunity to come together, to be the solution, and finally find a common ground and provide NPS with the tools and resources needed to manage this historical landscape, to its full potential, and at the same time honor and embrace the history and culture it was built on.

Sincerely,  
Co-Founders of Wild Lands Wild Horses  
Jamie Baldanza (732-241-5027)  
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Attachments (1)