

To Whom it May Concerns,

I am writing in support of maintaining the Teddy Roosevelt wild horse herd in North Dakota through approval of SCR 4014.

I am a veterinarian and we know from research and attempts to control overpopulation in other species that eradication programs do not work. What we do know is that sterilization programs are highly successful. These programs are also more humane and more appealing to the public at large. Approximately 80 percent of Americans want wild horses protected and not removed from their habitat.

This herd in particular has a special meaning to all Americans for their historical value. The herd has the potential to bring tourism to North Dakota. These tourists would include historians, horse and animal lovers, and ecotourists. I personally will not travel to North Dakota for tourism if the herd is removed.

In addition, this herd's lineage can be traced back to Sitting Bull in the late 1800's and is part not only of our national heritage but a part of the heritage of our indigenous people.

Thank you for taking the time to hear my concerns and support for SCR 4014.

Sincerely,
Catherine Pienkos DVM