

I respectfully wish to add my support of SCR 4014, encouraging the National Park Service and the U.S. Secretary of the Interior to preserve the wild horses in Teddy Roosevelt National Park for these reasons:

The horses in the Teddy Roosevelt National Park are North Dakotas only wild horse herd and should be protected as such.

They are descendants of the original Badland horses with historical lineages that trace all the way back to the horses surrendered by Sitting Bull in the late 1800s. They symbolize the American West and the history North Dakota and our nation.

Wild horses are integral to the scenery, native wildlife, and wilderness qualities of the Park the landscape that inspired President Theordore Roosevelt and continues to draw tourists even today. The wonders of the Park are a draw for visitors and contribute in many ways to the local economy. Oftentimes grazing only benefits a small slice of the economy or even a foreign corporation with no ties to the Park and its surroundings.

The herd needs to be kept a minimum level of 150 animals to maintain genetic diversity and to ensure that these horses remain healthy and vibrant for future generations. Many advocacy organizations report that a majority (even 80%) of Americans want wild horses protected on public lands, where they belong and can be horses, not pets.

Please vote YES on SCR 4014 to support humane, scientifically recommended methods of managing these wild horses on the public lands they call home.