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Comments submitted in opposition of removal of the wild horses located in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

I note that the wild horses in TRNP are the biggest draw for visitors to the park and local economies in towns around TRNP will suffer with the loss of tourist visits if the wild horses are removed. In addition, the horses in TRNP are an historic herd of Nakota wild horses with unique genetics rarely found elsewhere. In fact, the native species wild horses have been observed in the area of Theodore Roosevelt National Park for centuries and were only fenced in when the park was formed.

The horses in TRNP are the only wild horses roaming free in the state of North Dakota and should be considered a treasured resource. The park's Environmental Assessment needs to have a new alternative added that includes scientific and humane management of the wild horses in the park. The TRNP must redesignate the wild horses as wildlife; they are not to be designated as livestock.

I believe that these horses are essential elements in North Dakota and will influence the plans of myself and many others who would otherwise travel to this lovely state.