

I strongly oppose the removal of any wild horses in Theodore Roosevelt National Park. These animals are indigenous to the land and this is their home. They are part of the history and flavor of TRNP and must be protected. This seems to be an ongoing problem where wild horses and burros are the subject of removal by the Bureau of Land Management. The horses are to be protected by the wild horse and burro act of 1971. Herd management areas should be managed for these animals based on scientific methods and appropriate birth control like PZP which has proven to be effective on Assateague Island to contain the population. The BLM has failed miserably conducting inhumane round ups and not assessing and conducting plans and ways to manage the different HMA's (herd management areas); where each environmental setting is unique to the horses and burros on how they live and forage. A lot of them are sold to kill buyers and end up sent to slaughter. The same thing applies to TRNP. The correct step is to protect them and manage them not cull them. It seems everything that we do not want anymore in wildlife is being eliminated. The wolves, the bears and now the wild horses. There are scientific ways and humane strategies to handle animal populations in order to preserve them. Managing the area through analysis of scientific data collected so they have the ability to thrive and use effective non-invasive birth control. These horses are historic Nakota wild horses and are unique and are a drawing card for people who visit the park. They are the only wild horses in North Dakota and should not be deemed as livestock. Colorado is also trying to save their wild horses from the BLM round ups and are opening up over 20,000 acres for a sanctuary for them. Theodore Roosevelt was part of the Rough Riders. I am sure he would want to save the horses in his park if he would have been able to comment on this proposed resolution.