

My name is Sheila Williams, and although I'm a resident of the state of Missouri, I have been a tourist in North Dakota a number of times and I strongly oppose the removal of any of the wild horses located in Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

It's well known that the wild horses in TRNP are the biggest draw for visitors to the park. It's very likely that the local economies in towns around TRNP will suffer with the loss of tourist visits if the wild horses are removed.

The horses in TRNP are an historic herd of Nakota wild horses with unique genetics rarely found. 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 they should be considered a treasured resource.

A new alternative to the park's Environmental Assessment must be added with 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.

Should the wild horses be removed, I will not be visiting North Dakota again for any reason, as the main draw for me coming there has always been seeing the wild horses in their natural habitat. My family members, friends, and work associates feel the same about not coming to North Dakota again if the wild horses are purged from the magnificent Theodore Roosevelt National Park.

Thank you for considering my comments. (2/7/2023)