

February 5, 2025

Cathy Weeks
52 Silver Spur Rd W
Cairo, NY 12413

RE: SCR 4006

Dear Chair and Committee Members:

My name is Cathy Weeks and I am in support of SCR 4006 and would like to respectfully ask you to please vote in favor of this resolution.

I would like to ask you to please vote to establish federal protection for the wild horse herd of Theodore Roosevelt National Park to ensure the health and preservation of the herd for generations to come. These horses are not protected under the Wild and Free Roaming Horse and Burro act.

During the last three years, the park has very aggressively been trying to remove the historic wild horse herd. In addition, since 2009 they have been using Gona Con aggressively which is known to cause sterilization in mares. It should not be used for fertility treatment. I can only hope and pray that you look into more scientific options/solutions for keeping a viable herd, such as PZP which has been proven to be effective and much safer. The park has been removing, year after year, the younger horses which leaves a very aging population and compromises maintaining a viable herd.

I live in New York and have been driving out each summer for the last couple of years to spend time with the wild horses and enjoy the wide open spaces. I met my first wild horses at the age of 63, but have dreamed of them since I was a little girl growing up on the streets of Astoria, New York City. I come to Theodore Roosevelt National Park for the wild horses.....not the buffalo, which can be found in so many other parks. The wild horses are the draw for me, and the hills and buttes in your park present a stunning background.

Also, I hope you will consider the impact this herd has on your local economy. Chasing Wild Horses focuses on this wild horse herd and carries merchandise showcasing the beauty of Theodore Roosevelt National Park along with it. While here, folks such as I spend time in your local restaurants, motels and businesses.

Please, let's protect these wild horses for future generations and allow everyone an opportunity to view and spend time with these majestic and magical beings. Please vote in favor and pass this very important, and much needed resolution.

I thank you very much for allowing me this opportunity to have my thoughts heard and for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Cathy Weeks