

The wild horses in Theodore National Park are beautiful and wonderful. Visitors come from all over the world to see them. Theodore National Park had 900,000 visitors last year. This number is expected to increase significantly every year particularly with the 2026 opening of the Theodore Roosevelt National Library. The wild horses are always in the top three reasons why people visit the park. Using an average daily expense of \$125 for 300,000 people a year is \$37,500,000. Removal of the wild horses would be a terrible tragedy.

The wild horses lived here before the park was founded. They are descended from the famous Nokata horses of Sitting Bull. In the 1800's the famous artists Frederick Remington and George Caitlin depicted the wild horses. President Theodore Roosevelt who ranched in the Little Missouri between 1883-1886 describes the wild horses living here.

The wild horses living in Theodore Roosevelt National Park are an economic boon. They are historically important. Please pass this bill to protect them and keep them in the park.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Jane Purtzer