

**THE BUFFALO COMMONS AND THE CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM: THEIR
SHARED IMPACT ON THE POPULATION OF THE NORTHERN GREAT PLAINS**

An Abstract of
A Thesis
Presented to the
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ABSTRACT

Population decline has been a fact of life on the northern Great Plains for many years. Even though this area of the United States has been an important producer of agricultural products over the past century, the population has declined, fueled by such factors as agricultural mechanization, more competitive global markets, and federal subsidies favoring corporate agriculture. Other factors may exacerbate the outmigration

~~of people from this region. One such factor is the~~ ~~Government's~~ ~~policy~~

strength of the relationship between the dependent variable and independent variables.

Third, a regression analysis was conducted to determine the type of relationship between the