Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/9/2020 6:49:52 PM

First name: Sally Last name: Blevins Organization:

Title:

Comments: From an ecological standpoint, the black-tailed prairie dog is a keystone species. Without prairie dogs, grassland ecosystems collapse, and numerous rare species, including burrowing owls, ferruginous hawks, swift foxes, and mountain plovers, begin to disappear. Black-tailed prairie dogs are a Sensitive Species designated for enhanced conservation by the Forest Service, and, thanks to a systematic program of extermination by the livestock industry, are down to only 0.01% of their historic range in Wyoming. The black-footed ferret, one of America's most endangered land mammals, absolutely requires active prairie dog towns for their habitat and as their food source.

Please protect the black-tailed prairie dog.