

October 19, 2024

Ian Reid, Acting Forest Supervisor
Modoc National Forest
225 West 8th Street
Alturas, CA 96101

**Re: Objection to Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory Management Plan,
Final Environmental Assessment**

Dear Acting Supervisor Reid:

I would like to take this opportunity to object to parts of the recently issued Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory Management Plan, Final Environmental Assessment (TMP/EA) and the Draft Decision Notice (DDN). My previous comments on the Draft TMP/EA were submitted on May 10, 2024, and are attached for reference.

I am a member of the Devil's Garden Preservation Group (DGPG) and the Modoc County Coordination Group and concur with their submitted objections.

It is with my unique position in mind, I base my objection. I own the only private property in the Middle Section: the Avanzino Ranch and 240 acres in Boles Meadow.

Specifically, **I object to the inclusion of the Middle Section in the Wild Horse Territory (WHT).** As has been said before by me and DGPG, "Inclusion of the Middle Section in the WHT is unwarranted and the Forest Service should instead reestablish the 1975 WHT boundary. Adequate tools already exist under the WHBA to manage wild horses in between the East and West Home Ranges and the Service has not adequately explained why the area should be added to the WHT."

There already exists the requirement that the Forest Service "must gather anything outside the territory," thus making private property a priority **AND**, currently the Middle Section, which is "outside the territory."

As someone whose Devil's Garden private property operation/business is critically affected by horses "outside the territory," I would much prefer the Middle Section remain as is so that horses thereon are a priority to remove, just as those on private property are supposed to be. I would not like to see that "priority" disappear.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Carey

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