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Comments: Regarding: Heber Wild Horse Territory Plan

The AML is too low. It's much too low to keep a self-sustaining, genetically viable population of wild horses in the Territory.

This new AML provides wild horses with a mere 600 animal unit months, while cattle are permitted 5,730 animal unit months to graze in the Territory. The Forest Service must adjust the use of livestock in order for horse to have their fair share of the resource.

The recent population survey in the Territory found that many horses were outside the boundary. Instead of removal, the Forest Service should use their resources to try hard to relocate the horses within the boundary.

Use the plan for fertility control to control the populations growth rate of the horses. The Forest Service must consider how :

- The use of these options will impact the herd's health when the population is kept so small.

- Because of PZP proven efficacy, it should be the preferred tool.

- IUD's have been neither humane nor effective in wild, roaming herds. Therefore, it is time to eliminate it from further analysis. It's a waste of resources on something that doesn't work.

If you MUST remove horses within the Territory, they should only be done by bait-trapping over time to meet the adoption demand and to make sure that the Forest Service does not add to the thousands of wild horses already in holding facilities across the country.

And in ending [ndash] the Heber wild horses have been the target of illegal hunting since 2018. It is essential that the Forest Service works hard to protect these federally protected wild horses from harm AND to find the people that are responsible for illegally hunting these horses.

These iconic horses are part of our history. They deserve our protection. Please do everything possible to keep them safe and to PROTECT their EXISTENCE!