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Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern:

As an Arizona resident, I'm very concerned that you want to use taxpayer's dollars to round up horses that are protected by the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971.

While the Apache Sitgreaves EA claims that there were only 7 horses in 1974 (according to one short walkabout), it is not hard to find actual proof that the Heber wild horses have been around, since at least 1907 and of course likely centuries before. (They were brought over by the Spanish, even before most of our own ancestors arrived here.)

This is not a very clear photo, but anyone can look this evidence up in the AZ State archives, Holbrook Argus, 1907.

They are also the last herd in Arizona on Forest Service land that is protected by the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971. So we ask the Apache Sitgreaves Forest Service don't treat these treasures like trash!

The Heber wild horses are a historic population that merits real protection and sincere humane management by the Forest Service

There is a better, more sustainable, cheaper, and more humane way to manage wild horse population numbers that has been proven with the Salt River herd. It is a proven safe and efficient method called PZP that can be darted in the field without capture. This is what the forest service must try first, before any extreme removals to unsustainable numbers.

Please reconsider this horrendous decision for our state and those beautiful horses!

Sincerely, Kristin Zevely