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First name: Debra

Last name: Ricketts

Organization:

Title:

Comments: To: Neil Bosworth and Kenna Bilsky

Dear Kenna

Thank you so much for your assistance with getting a copy of the Draft Land Management Plan. I look forward to attending the meeting set for Jan 23rd at the Mesa Ranger District Office at 5141 E. Ingram St in Mesa.

As a private citizen that enjoys the lower Salt River area and the Salt River Wild Horses, I have great concerns about the plan with the positioning of fencing that is actively happening. After looking at the areas designated for the fencing, it is apparent to me that it will impede the horses getting to the river for water, as I have observed their transition to the river in the morning and evening. With this being said, I feel it will force the horses to seek a different way to get to water which pushes them into areas populated with people and tourists. Many of our tourists don't know the behaviors and cautions with the horses. Therefore that becomes a public safety issue as well as a detriment to the horses for water and forage they have become accustomed to accessing. With the Mares being darted with PZP, this will start to decrease the foal population in itself. Adding to it a survival compromise due to lack of food and water, it could have an impact on sustainability.

These are my concerns and I hope I as one will be heard.

Thank you in advance,

Deb Ricketts