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Comments: Horses are native and adapted to this area (and North America) and are part of a healthy and diverse ecosystem. Horses should be managed by nature which naturally results in an ecologically healthy number of horses.

This happens by the healthy ecosystem having predators (such as wolves and cougars) as well as herbivores. This natural balance of wild animals can be hampered by putting cattle interests above ecosystem needs e.g. by offering cattle grazing allotments which tends to contradict the healthy number of predators needed by natural and wild animals including horses to keep healthy populations.

The periodic presence of human-supported horses from the reservation coming into this area also can adversely impact the balance of nature.

The horses and other wild animals need to have continual access to a diverse range that includes high and low elevation lands so that the horses and other naturally-migrating large mammals can access essential food and water in all seasons and years.

A small horse population of less than 100 individuals is unlikely to be genetically healthy over the long run and hence can not be kept isolated without corridors to reach other horses (my experience is with a small population of critically endangered goats).

Therefore, efforts should be made to keep the wild horse herd from mixing with domestic (unmanaged) horses; to enlarge the horse management area to include both high and low elevation areas; to encourage more healthy predator populations so nature itself manages these horses and they are actually wild (and manage cattle so they don't upset natural balances that require predators); and to ensure these horses have the ability to keep genetic health by not being isolated and genetically bottle-necked.