Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/17/2020 2:19:19 PM First name: Rebecca Last name: Ross Organization:

Title:

Comments: Management of the feral horses near Heber needed to consider their value as listed in the Multiple Use Sustained Yield Act of 1960. Sec 2 says the Sec of Ag is authorized and directed to develop and administer the resources for multiple use and sustained yield of the products of the forest. These horses do not fall under this act. They actually detract from growing a food source for citizens. They do not provide hunting or food opportunities. People seeking out to see and photograph these animals have desensitized them to humans and that creates safety issues for drivers and residents. They damage private property. They are not wild horses and should not be included under the Wild Horse and Burro Act.

The romanticized version of these horses is creating a huge social problem and this problem needs to stop now before it grows even bigger. Ranchers and landowners are not the enemy to these horses and are actually victims to people that neglected their animals when they turned them loose on the forest. After years of inbreeding we now have a much bigger problem than if they were removed 10-20 years ago. People need to understand that these are feral horses, just like dogs that have escaped the dog catcher. Does the Apache-Sitgraves want to have to build fences to keep these horses off the road, like what is happening on the Salt River? This is a waste of taxpayer money with feral animals that have no value.