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First name: Jessica Last name: Lucas Organization:

Title:

Comments: To whom it may concern,

The Heber Wild Horses are an American icon. That must be preserved for future generations. The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 - Require the Forest Service to take an in depth look at all the internal cattle pasture fences and how the fences affect the ability of the horses to migrate for forage and water and to intermingle with each other. The internal fences give principle use to livestock when wild horses are to have principle use. Enlarging some gates and leaving them open at certain times does not allow for the free roaming of wild horses. The drought of 2018 is a perfect example of what can go wrong due to the fences having prevented bands of wild horses from accessing water. The Forest Service also states "Unmanaged horses increase in population rapidly". Where is the documentation/proof that numbers from 2005 to the present day substantiate this claim that the Heber herd population has grown rapidly. Factual herd population numbers and proof as in photos and other documentation since 2005 to the present day must be provided. The Forest Service must provide scientific data that shows there is an overpopulation of horses in the Heber herd. Before any cull could be executed. Without accurate data, the ramifications could be detrimental to the horses, that our nation has been protecting for generations.

Thank you, Jessica Lucas