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First name: Cherie

Last name: Gudanowski

Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am writing in protest of your proposed action to reduce the Heber wild horse herd.

The Wild Free-roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 Require the FS to take a good hard 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.

Reducing the heard to 104 and containing them to 20 acres is a plan to kill them off.

I am insisting you provide scientific data proving overpopulation of these horses, 40 thousand acres of FS land and a couple hundred horses does not sound like an overpopulation issue.

Provide data on the usage of water and forage consumption of every grazing species in the forest both wild and domestic.

The WFHBA states: "It is the policy of Congress that wild free-roaming horses and burros shall be protected from capture, branding, harassment, or death; and to accomplish this they are to be considered in the area where presently found, as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands." Dozens of horses have been fatally shot in the lasts couple of years.

Provide a plan for their protection that would include signage stating the Heber wild horse herd is federally protected and that penalties for capturing, branding, harassment, or death can result in fines up to \$100,000 and a year in prison for each offense. A plan that would call for the Forest Service law enforcement to respond in a timely manner to reported deaths and other violations against the wild horses and conduct their investigations in a complete and thorough manner which would include calling in other agencies who can offer more experience in investigating criminal acts if necessary.

Let our Wild Horses live a boundary free and protected life as promised.