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Title:

Comments: I have read your very detailed report. It is a report that a plan for the humane and compassionate management of up to 104 horses in a fenced "Wild Horse Territory." I have a few questions:

Specifically, the numbers of current estimated horses (likely over 400, if I am reading this correctly) is so much larger than the 104 maximum for the "Territory," that I am wondering what exactly will be done with the current excess horses, when, and how long this process is planned for.

Conspicuous by its absence was a timeline to "whittle" the herd down to the manageable number. I read that birth control and sterilization would be used, and I assume that would occur immediately upon implementation of this plan so attrition would take place, but the lifespan of horses is 25 to 30 years. I also read about plans for adoption and relocation, but I also read of the difficulty and cost of these methods.

I believe I understand both sides of this issue, but we have property that these horses travel through, and we love seeing them. I am abhorred that some have been shot, and I cannot fathom a huge helicopter roundup, and then finding placement for 300 +/- horses, which would result in highly probable citizen outrage over the inevitable injury and destruction of some horses.

I have an idea that hopefully might be considered, that would perhaps appease both sides of this contentious issue. A timeline could be implemented that first maybe temporarily triples the size of the current fenced "Territory," with active birth control/sterilization and less human "management" of the food sources (the horses are not malnourished currently fending for themselves). Then in 5 years, a reduction in this acreage, based on the reduction in horse numbers and perhaps more habitat/food management as needed. Then in another 5 years, another reduction, etc. until attrition has brought the herd to the size that can be managed on the original "Territory." Although not an immediate fix, the horse herd increase has been ongoing for almost 50 years, so a calmer, kinder, systematic approach seems logical and ultimately more humane.

I doubt that you have the personnel to respond to my suggestion, but if possible, I would like to hear back. Thank you in advance for considering my plan ("Lynn's Plan).