Data Submitted (UTC 11): 2/27/2020 2:46:03 AM
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Comments: I am happy the Forest Service values pubic input and participation. I am very interested in learning more about how this land is managed. Here are questions I have regarding the wild horse Heber herd.

What is the science-based rationale used for allocating forage and habitat resources to various uses within the constraints of protecting range land health and various species given the multiple-use land mandate?

How are the Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) for wild horses established and monitored?

Has any scientific study concluded that an AML of 50-104 horses provides genetic diversity sufficient for a healthy and self-sustaining herd over the long run? Please disclose that study if it exists.

What are the current migration patterns of the existing Heber herd and what is the likelihood that 50-104 horses will stay put on their designated 19,700 acres territory that is not fenced in?

How many cows are permitted to graze annually on the 19,700 acres designated as the HWHT? What impact do those livestock have on the range. How many cows are permitted to graze annually on the 616,000 acres of the Black Mesa District of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest (ASNF)? When does overgrazing become a problem?

What impact do those livestock have on the range land health of the entire ASNF ecosystem?

What is the cost for removal of 200 wild horses from the range and incarceration in long-term government holding pens for the remainder of their lives if adoptive homes are not available?

What are the estimated economic impacts caused by a loss of tourism to the Heber-Overgaard communities and the State of Arizona when the wild horse population is drastically reduced?

Thank you, I look forward to learning more about the Heber herd and public land use management.