

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/1/2020 1:47:52 PM

First name: Ceil

Last name: Slauson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The Plan must prioritize keeping natural wild horse behaviors. The following should be precluded from management actions:

- sex ratio skewing which causes stallion aggression due to the unnatural ratio of males to females;
- castration, ovariectomy and other surgical sterilization that alters the animal's ability to produce natural hormones; and
- any fertility control that alters the production of natural hormones.

Management and Fertility Control: Given the unique situation regarding the Heber wild horses and the history of catastrophic fires in the area, the Management Plan must include managing horses outside of the Territory through PZP and relocations not removals. The Heber wild horses in and outside of the Territory can be easily controlled and reduced through natural attrition and with the use of PZP. Volunteer organizations would be happy to work with USFS to implement this humane management that prevents and excludes removals, and allows wild horses to live and die wild as intended by the WFRHBA.