Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/4/2020 2:49:41 PM

First name: Rhonda Last name: Johnson Organization:

Title:

Comments: The proposed plan will restrict the herd's territory to an area of 21 square miles-a tiny fraction of the public land that makes up the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. The numbers do not allow enough genetic diversity to keep the herd going. This aggressive culling will eventually lead to the herd's extinction. The herd has suffered due to livestock fences that were built long after the herd was established in the area. The fences keep the herd from roaming, and during a 2018 drought, they cut off many horses from water. The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 should have prevented those fences. The Forest Service is prioritizing the needs of livestock over the previously established herd of wild horses. There is no need to cull. It is a disgrace. The numbers allowed are stupid. Leave them alone, for God's sake. Why do you hate horses and put cattle, an invasive species, above them? It is wrong.