Data Submitted (UTC 11): 3/6/2020 3:52:28 AM

First name: Jeanne Last name: McKimpson

Organization:

Title:

Comments: Americans want our wild horses and burros protected, and living in freedom and safety. In regard to the Heber Wild Horse Territory Management Plan, these are issues that I believe should be addressed: The number of horses first needs to be counted, with a photo mark-capture methodology used in the next census. For a viable herd, the management level needs to be at least 150 horses. That recommendation is in the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Handbook. According to the WFRHABA, the Heber horses should be allocated a minimum of 50% of the forage in their Territory. A management plan should preserve the natural behavior of the horses, avoiding any sex-ratio skewing or surgical sterilization. Equine populations can be easily managed with humane, reversible PZP fertility control.(Volunteer organizations are happy to assist with this.) There is no need to remove horses. Fences that prevent horses from utilizing the Territory should be removed, and the boundaries of the Territory should be re-addressed, taking into account the seasonal movement and needs of the horses.