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Comments: Dear Tonto National Forest Supervisor,

I am writing in response to the request for public participation on the Tonto National Forest Draft Land Management Plan.

Arizona is filled with such grandeur that is being eroded in favor of human activity and special interests who do not take into account what's best for the wild side of Arizona. What if the reason Arizona is so special is because of that wildness, places with Wild Horses, for example, the iconic symbol of the Western Frontier. We shouldn't have to go to museums to appreciate life on the range, when it can be maintained right in front of our eyes.

There is so much debate on whether the horses are really wild but the truth is they have been living in the area longer than modern day residents. Whether a wild animal is allowed to exist shouldn't just be because a human and hunt and kill it, sometimes the value is in the beauty and symbolism they represent - majestic, wild, free.

Humans need to intervene and protect what's left of our rugged and beautiful heritage. For that reason, I would like to propose the following changes to the Forest Service's "desired conditions" for the Salt River Horses to make them consistent with the intent of the state law protecting these cherished wild horses in their historic habitat along the Lower Salt River.

- The Forest Service shall prioritize minimizing user conflicts in these areas. Uses of the forest in areas that comprise the Salt River Horse herd habitat should not negatively impact or conflict with the protection of the horses.

- Any Forest Service action in the Forest that could cause detrimental impacts to the Salt River horse herd or habitat areas, even those actions that fall under a Categorical Exclusion under NEPA, shall be publicly disclosed and analyzed in consultation with the Arizona Department of Agriculture and their 3rd party contractor. Such actions include, but are not limited to, herbicide use and fence maintenance, and construction.

- The Forest Service shall provide 30 days' notice for any activity or project that may impact the Salt River Horse herd or habitat areas.

Thank You.