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First name: Arnold Last name: Maupin Organization:

Title:

Comments: In response to the Heber Wild Horse Territory issue, I would like to tender my Opinion at this time.

(NO)

I have read the Forest Service proposal and have deemed it grossly inhumane, cruel, and completely lacking in the cares/wishes of the vast majority of Taxpayers in order to further benefit the few ranching interests within the area(s) described.

I would like to Suggest an alternative solution, one that the BLM, I've read is testing in other areas of the west. In addition to the relocation of the horses, they have been performing a SPAY/NEUTER program vs the Slaughter of these defenseless creatures. Granted, a management program should be adopted, but the "easy - out solution" of dispatching these horses is UNACCEPTABLE to anyone w/ a soul.

I've been asked, as to where would the costly funds for a SPAY/NEUTER program be obtained from. My answer to that is to Significantly INCREASE the grazing fees from the cattle ranchers who are to further enjoy and reap the benefits from the removal of said horses in grazing their 'property' on the Public's/Taxpayer's property. The present fee of \$1.35 per AUM is a complete SHAM against to the Public of which are swiftly becoming aware of, thanks in part to this controversy, and are mostly Appalled! Also; the tax "write offs", and other Federal Subsidies to cover the cattle ranchers costs up to 75% should be Eliminated Immediately instead of these horses. Funding for a S/N program would then be Quickly acquired. The cattle ranchers need to 'Pony Up to the bar', feed their own livestock, raise something else less destructive, or find other work without 'Sponging' off the Public's/Taxpayer's Money!!!