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Comments: The Forest Service is working to push through their plan to destroy the Heber wild horse herd by managing it to extinction.

The Heber Wild Horse Territory Management Plan that the Forest Service intends to implement as soon as possible is 33 pages long. Beginning on page 5 the majority of the plan is devoted to population control of the horses including how they will cull the herd and the use of birth control on the majority of the few horses they leave in the forest. And future culls in years to come.

This is your chance to be a voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. The innocent horses have no idea what the Forest Service has planned for them that will result in the death of the herd through culling the herd and leaving a population too small to be viable and implementing birth control to most of the few left in the forest..

There is a likely possibility of death of individual horses as a result of the cruel capture methods which may include bait trapping and helicopter roundups. Also, the death of individual horses that the Forest Service deems unfit to live based on a variety of reasons they may choose.

Please Speak Out for the Heber Herd Now.

You do not have to comment on all the failures in the plan. You may pick what you feel you would like to address in your comment(s). You may make multiple comments.

A few examples of HWHT management plan failures:

1) "It is the policy of Congress that wild free-roaming horses and burros shall be protected from capture, branding, harassment, or death;"

The Forest Service management plan fails to address how they will protect the few horses they leave in the forest from capture, harassment, or death. Three January killing sprees in a row resulting in the deaths of dozens of horses yet they have not put forth a plan on how they intend to protect them.

2) The Forest Service uses an exaggerated and failed method to calculate population growth of the Heber herd. Using the population of 200 horses provided by the Forest Service in 2002, if the growth rate were 19.5% per year as the Forest Service claims, there would presently be 5,902 horses in the Heber herd. That's ridiculous! The Forest Service itself estimates the current herd population to be 270-420 horses. But they want you to believe that the estimated high end of the population is accurate and it will increase by an average of 19.5% annually if something isn't done immediately. The Forest Service population growth numbers are highly inflated, most likely in an attempt to show urgency to reduce the herd population as fast as they can. A more than 20 year history of the Heber herd, including their own population estimate shows their (Wild Horse Territory WinEquus Population Modeling Analysis) is just another fail.

3) THE WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS ACT OF 1971 states:

It is the policy of Congress that wild free-roaming horses and burros shall be protected from capture, branding, harassment, or death; and to accomplish this they are to be considered in the area where presently found, as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands.