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Comments: Hello. I am writing to comment on the issue with the Heber wild horses in Arizona. This wild horse herd needs additional,protection, not reduction. This herd has already suffered at the hands of human beings in a disgusting fashion. They have been "hunted" over the last 3 years with at least 28 horses being shot and killed illegally. Yet no person or persons have been brought up on charges let alone brought to justice for these crimes. It is heartbreaking to the majority of Americans who love these iconic beloved animals that are part of our American heritage. Most Americans would be outraged over the current state of affairs of all the American Wild Horses and Burros being rounded up in ridiculous numbers due to political lobbying by pro rancher groups...the number of horses per acre nation wide as in Arizona is unfairly low while the number of cattle pairs is at whatever level the lobbying groups want...these horses suffer during round ups and they suffer more in round up pens...

The Heber Arizona herd should be protected for any more terrible in humane practices or policies affecting them. Their numbers are not to high and culling the herd to a number of 1 horse per 394 acres is again ridiculous and that low of an AML is far too low at only 50-104 horses in the territory.

Also as it has been found that many of the horses are already located outside of the territory border and if completely necessary the horses remaining should be relocated over time at a level that matches adoption demand utilizing bait trapping. They should not be rounded up immediately and put in holding pens leading to an increase in wild horses already in that dire situation of being in holding pens. Also if absolutely necessary which is highly doubtful because the herd numbers are not inflated at all for the area...then PZP should be used as the preferred method of fertility control for the herd.

Thank you. Please save these horses in the wild. Do not round them up. Please find the people responsible for hurting/hunting/shooting them illegally.

Lezlie Martin