Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/7/2021 4:36:17 AM
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: We travel frequently to the Rim and White Mountains area and enjoy driving the back roads to find the Heber Wild Horses. Sometimes over many trips we don't find any horses, including in the management area. I feel the wild horses draw visitors to the forest, and see many comments from people that had the luck of seeing them roaming freely. I would hope that the management plan is not followed through with, it will reduce the numbers and area they can be seen to to small. If the killings in the last few years were to continue, that would reduce the numbers even more.
Having followed what has happened to the Salt River wild horses management plan, this is not in the best interest of the horses or the public. Stallions fight regularly over their family bands, food and limited space. The public has become mobs of people mingling in with the horses taking pictures, touching, and feeding the horses, which makes for a dangerous situation. The population is being controlled via pzp which has left abscesses on some of the mares, also lowers the odds of a viable herd as all the mares not currently pregnant are being treated.
Round ups are happening all across the US, and many horses are injured or killed in the process, be it trying to escape the helicopter or the traps, exhausted, foals separated from mothers, ect. Wild horses are an American icon, what the west was known for in the past. Please leave them wild and free!