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First name: Regina

Last name: Whitman

Organization:

Title:

Comments: The United States District Court, D. Columbia ROSEMARY M. COLLYER, District Judge. stated: "It would be anomalous to infer that by authorizing the custodian of the wild free roaming horses and burros to "manage" them, Congress intended to permit the animals' custodian to subvert the primary policy of the statute by harassing and killing and capturing and removing from the wild the very animals that Congress sought to protect from being killed and harassed and captured and removed from the wild."

Judge Collyer spoke very logical and wise words. However, the Forest Service HWHT management plan calls for culling the herd down to a non viable population. This proposed cull will involve harassing, killing, capturing, and removing the very horses that the Forest Service has the lawful duty to protect. The end result will be the destruction of the Heber wild horse herd.

The fact that the Territory boundaries were never drawn in accordance with THE WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS ACT OF 1971 which states: "they are to be considered in the area where presently found, as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands." But the Forest Service did no surveys before arbitrarily drawing lines on a map and designating that area to be the Heber Wild Horse Territory.

The Territory that the Forest Service designated for the Heber herd is divided by cattle pasture fences and natural terrain which prevents the horses from roaming throughout the territory for water, forage, shelter, and each other. So this arbitrary territory cannot even be used in it's entirety by the horses.

Even though there has never been a Heber Wild Horse Territory management plan the Forest Service opted to do an Environmental Assessment (EA) instead of a more thorough and comprehensive Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). Taking the EA shortcut is just a way to push the management plan through as fast as they can so they can move ahead with removing horses. If you read through the management plan and EA it will become clear that this is not about protecting and preserving the Heber herd and all about removing them and destroying the herd.