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Organization:

Title:

Comments: It is my understanding that the US Forest Service's Territory Management Plan for the Heber horses is to reduce the number of wild mustangs to 50-104 on almost 20,000 acres.

1. That averages out to just 1 horse per 189 - 394 acres depending on the eventual number of horses left in the population range of 50-104. This certainly seems ridiculous to me when the US Forest Service will concurrently allow thousands of cattle to graze in that same amount of acreage.
2. This small size of a population will not allow for proper genetic variation necessary for sustaining a healthy herd into future years.
3. Instead of directly reducing the current herd population, I ask you to please use the PZP birth control method -- a proven effective and humane way to reduce the population.
4. If horses must be removed from that area, please do not add these horse to the thousands of already held wild horses. Instead wait to trap them until people are ready and wanting to adopt them.
5. It is appalling that anyone would shoot a healthy wild horse. Yet with 28 wild horses having been shot and killed during the last three years, much more needs to be done by the US Forest Service to protect the remaining wild horses and to find and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Thank you for considering my comments.