

Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/17/2021 7:53:00 PM

First name: Aggie

Last name: Monfette

Organization: retired

Title:

Comments: The plan sets the AML extremely low at just 50-104 wild horses on 19,700 acres. Even at high AML, that's one horse for every 394 acres! This range is far too low to maintain a self-sustaining, genetically viable population of wild horses in the Territory.

With the new AML, at low AML, wild horses are provided just 600 Animal Unit Months while cattle are permitted 5,730 Animal Unit Months to graze within the Territory. Thus, the Forest Service must adjust livestock use in the Territory in order to give wild horses their fair share of the resource.

The last population survey in the Territory found that many of the horses were outside of the Territory boundary. Instead of immediate removal, the Forest Service should make every effort to relocate those horses within the boundary.

Finally, the Heber wild horses have been the target of illegal hunting since 2018. The Forest Service must work harder to protect these federally protected wild horses from harm and to find the person(s) responsible.