Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/18/2021 4:36:20 AM
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: 1. I am sorry to say that your "management" plan is actually a destruction plan. The plan sets the AML extremely low at just 50-104 wild horses on 19,700 acres. This range is far too low to maintain a self-sustaining, genetically viable population of wild horses in the Territory.
2. This plan favors cows over horses. I thought this was about horses.
With the new 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. The Forest Service must adjust livestock use in the Territory in order to give wild horses their fair share of the resource.
3. Herd size through birth control must be humane! Consider how:
(a) the use of these options will impact the health of the herd when the population is maintained at such a small population.
(b) PZP has over 30 years of proven efficacy and should be the preferred tool for use in the Territory.
(c) IUDs have not been proven humane or effective in wild, free-roaming herds and should be eliminated from further analysis.
4.I am not advocating this, but IF horses will be removed, then it should be done exclusively through bait-trapping and over time, to meet adoption demand and ensure that the Forest Service does not add to the thousands of wild horses already in off-range holding facilities across the country.
5. What serious steps has the Service taken regarding illegal shooting of horses?