Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/21/2021 11:35:40 AM First name: Suzanne Last name: Shepherd Organization:

Title:

Comments: The current plan to remove all the horses except a small number within a limited area is cruel and bad management. The cattlemen do not own the forests and should not determine what animals live in them. The wild horses are a cultural icon that needs to be managed not destroyed. With proper management, the number of horses can be brought down without drastic surgeries and dangerous implants. PZP is very effective. Bringing a herd to 50 will cause inbreeding which reduces the quality and the genetic health of the herd. I am a domestic horse breeder who understands what happens when there is not enough genetic diversity. OUtcrossing is vital to the physical and genetic health and quality of equines. Rather than make arbitrary and senseless decisions that are not based on good equine management, meet with successful wild horse management groups who have learned to reduce herd size while maintaining reproductive health and genetic variance in the bands. Learn from them how to create and market a sustainable plan to maintain and manage herds without killing them or warehousing them in large pens.