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Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am a full time resident of Overgaard, AZ. I've lived here since year 2000. I have enjoyed seeing and filming the wild horses herds. I've compiled a lot of information on the protective act, that has been in place since 1971. I do not understand how you can actively interfere with these herds of horses and diminish there numbers down to unsurvivable numbers. The horses are native to this area. The cattle and elk are not. They do much more damage to our forest than the horse. The horses are no threat, they are beautiful, gentle, and graceful. They are an asset to our community. God created these creatures and you have no right to remove them.

How can the Forest Service permit UTV rallies of 200 plus vehicles to track through the forest with emissions deadly to plant and animal life, in an already moisture depleted area. The noise and scars they leave behind and the threat of fire from so many engines, oil and gas residue and human waste. How about the careless campers and their fires and you believe the wild horse is the problem.

Leave the horses alone and get rid of the cattle. Quit pleasing the ranchers and pay more attention to people - the real problem. It is shameful, disgusting, and hateful plan you have made.

I recently talked to Mr. Lopez, head of Forest Service Security. I hop he taped the call because I did. When I tried to find out why the Forest Service was issuing permits for these large UTV rallies his comment is as follows: "ma'am, with the growth of the population in the White Mountain it won't be long until the forest is gone, the wildlife will be gone and you won't have to worry about it anymore." Nice statement, correct? Made a difference now. Preserve and protect, that's what we pay you to do. Leave the horses alone and do what you are supposed to do.