Data Submitted (UTC 11): 4/9/2021 11:00:00 AM
First name: Mary
Last name: Murray
Organization:
Title:
Comments: The reintroduction of wolves into Yellowstone has shown that hooved species are an asset to the general environment when they are made to move around by predators instead of being allowed to stay in once place, streambeds and the like, and become a source of pollution. This is what cattle do, with the protection from predation that cattlemen insist upon.

The purpose of public land is not to benefit a few people in a monetary way. Our lands should be preserved in as pristine a condition as possible. Activities that degrade it should simply not be allowed. Horses and burros have a place in the natural ecosystem along with deer and other herbivores whos numbers should be kept in check by predation by native species.

I am adamantly opposed to the alteration of the natural ecosystem to facilitate grass production. With climate change looming, deforestation by the removal of juniper trees is a ludicrous proposal. Only a fool would believe you are doing this for horses. You are using tax payer money to pander to the cattlemen's association. This would permanently degrade the ecosystem from a scrub forest to a grassland to a desert.

I am opposed to any removal of wild horses under present conditions because the cattle population is so much higher than equines. Cattle should be discontinued first. The methods of horse removal (helicopters) are also inhumane, terrifying, injuring, maiming, and killing them.