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Comments: Good Morning,

BLM is rounding up horses under the pretense of an "emergency" to balance environmental factors. These wild horses are being rounded up so that cattle and sheep have more grazing room. Ranchers pay \$1.35 per animal, per month to graze on public lands. The taxpayer foots the bill for federally subsidized livestock grazing on public land.

For the cattle industry, wild horses are rounded up to spend the rest of their lives in small pens. Yet, it will cost the taxpayers \$175 million to house these wild horses in cramped facilities for the remainder of their lives.

The BLM states these horses are available for adoption but this does not state the reality that adoptees are paid \$1000 per horse by the BLM using taxpayers dollars. The BLM does not track the adoptions, so many of these horses end up at slaughter. Individuals make their money in adopting, then double down by selling the horse at auction.

The number of horses that die during these round ups or are euthanized for unnecessary reasons is atrocious. For example, recently a 20-year-old horse was euthanized because he had a club foot, yet he lived freely for 20 years with the club foot. Another, euthanized because he had a bad tooth. There are countless other examples of this, just in the recent weeks.

The BLM is currently trying to remove more than 50% of all the wild horses in Wyoming. The Rock Springs Grazing Association is a strong entity that is working closely with the BLM to make sure these wild horses are removed.

It's interesting to see pictures this last week of Wyoming wild horses being taken away in trailers as they pass by herds of beef cattle grazing on the land they roamed, some of them for roaming it for decades in their family bands.

Please, research the information provided at the American Wild Horse Campaign and other sites. There are alternatives through birth control and planning in which these wild horses would not need to be rounded up and spend their whole lives in captivity.

The public deserves to know the truth behind these round ups. The multitude of voices advocating for America's wild horses should be heard, along with the facts about the BLM's motivation to remove these horses and the lives these horses face once captured.

The American wild horse is an iconic part of our history and horses have served humans for centuries. America's wild horses deserved to remain free.

Thank you.