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Comments: I was attempting to post my comment to the USFS website comment page and it is now offline / unavailable.

my comment is re the intention to remove the wild horses from our public lands.

Here is my comment- please let me know that someone has added this to the review.

This is a chance, a real chance, for a US federal agency to show to the public that it listens and shows compassion and recognition for a very valuable asset which it is supposed to protect.

"To whom it may concern:

The USFS was challenged with the issue of wild horses on USFS (our) lands in the greater Phoenix, AZ area- specifically the Salt River herd, ~Apache Junction, NE of greater metro PHX.

Your agency initially planned to have the herd removed for several published reasons-

- risk to wild horses and vehicles along the Bush & Beeline Highways
- lack of oversight resources to assure the health & wellbeing of the herds
- assumption of lack of concern by the general public (of PHX, of AZ and across the nation / world) USFS had

several options:

- remove the horses and ~damn public sentiment
- work with the wild horse advocates to identify an immediate & long term solution I am certain that you know the outcome and the appreciation that WE ALL HAVE for the course of action that USFS chose. The herd is alive, supervised, in the public eye and they continue to be a significant point of joy for both locals and tourists. Literally 1000s & 1000s of people KNOW of that herd and enjoy seeing them- either in person or via online, social media posts. This serves as both a great example of private / public engagement, respect for the wildlife and respect for the Wild Free Roaming Horse & Burro Act which bestowed federal protection and mandated both BLM and USFS to protect them.

Right now, there are literally 10s of 1000s of wild horses & burros in dirt lot holding pens = all courtesy of mismanagement and disregard for the public and the federal mandate- and all carried out by the BLM.

Adding more wild horses to this bottleneck will only guarantee one thing- that these horses will end up injured, potentially fatally injured, or sold off for slaughter.

Please do the right thing-

PLEASE CANCEL THIS ROUNDUP

CALL FOR A SOLUTION FROM THE WILD HORSE ADVOCATES!!

COLLABORATION- NOT GENOCIDE

Because of BLM's arrogance, disregard for public relations and confusing / misleading statement of facts, the Dept Int & BLM have an extremely negative public position. Perhaps they don't care. We are all taxpayers; they should

care- those are our tax dollars funding their mismanagement.

Show them that you know the correct course.

Show We the People that the USFS does listen to public concerns and does want to respond to public outcries- in a positive and productive way.

I hope that my words will help shape your final decision and that we all can work together to protect these federally protected animals and most of all- give them the precedence to reside on our public lands which Congress and We the People bestowed upon them. "