Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/16/2024 4:31:38 AM First name: Michelle Last name: Mather Organization:

Title:

Comments: I am the proud mama/person/owner of a mustang, purchased at an Extreme Mustang Makeover event in 2005. He is one of the lucky ones that made it through the inhumane round ups, the holding pins, the "incentive" programs that send wild horse directly into the slaughter pipeline.

I do not agree with or support the proposed removal of part of the Montgomery Pass herd for many reasons. The aerial count was done in 2020 before 2 winters, one of them historic causing the loss of many animals, wild horses, big horn sheep, deer to name a few. To say that the herd still stands at 654 is ridiculous and not accurate. Also not accurate is that they are irreparable damage to the vegetation and sage grouse habitat. All propaganda being pushed by a group of figure heads that don't even live locally but have the financial means to get their agenda pushed forward. Why are you not exploring other options such as birth control if you are so worried about the herd size and its expansion?

Helicopter round-ups cause stress and even the death of these beautiful creatures. Sticking them in crowded holding pins to live out their lives is not humane. And offering incentive programs so they can be sold to someone and then sold to a kill lot is not the answer. All of these things cost money and are a huge burden on the tax payer. Most of all, do we not have any value for life and coexistence? Why not offer tours so people could see and learn about them? We are so quick to eradicate anything that isn't convenient for us or might make us have to think about things differently. It's time to stand up and protect our wild horses. They symbolize everything that America proposes to be but has lost. Let's not lose them too and do something to protect them before it's too late.