Data Submitted (UTC 11): 10/13/2025 7:59:15 PM
First name: Lynn
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Organization:
Title:
Comments: To: United States Forest Service
Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest
Black Mesa Ranger District
Heber Wild Horse Project
Could not find name of responsible official and Forest Service has not returned my call

Re: Objection/Suggestion Heber Wild Horse Project

Maybe six years ago (actually, it could be ten), I wrote a letter to the Forest Service regarding a solution to the ever-increasing Heber wild horse herd, which I never received a response to. I hope this qualifies as a follow-up to my original letter. The shortened version of it is as follows:

Depending on whether you place the origins of the wild horses in the 16th or 17th century with the horses left behind by Spanish explorers or Magellan; or with the 1974 Wild Horse Act; or with the release of horses during the Rodeo Chedeski fire; this is not a new problem. But, I HAVE THE SOLUTION:

1. Using the appropriate allowance of the humane number of horses per acre, fencing in a portion of the National Forest would be required. Horses would need to be enclosed Into, at first, a large area. I am certain that wild horse lovers and cattlemen alike would donate materials and time to this project. This fence would require a person or persons to continually monitor the congruity of this fence.

2. Horses would need to be identified, and numbered. Also a volunteer-assisted job.

3. Mares would then be injected with birth control. This would need to be continued until all newborns and missed mares were injected. Donations could fund this.

4. Periodic identification and counting of the wild horses. These horses in the wild usually live 15 or 16 years. Again, by volunteers.

5. Attrition - As the herd depletes in population, the fenced area would be reduced accordingly.

6. Culmination- discussion would have to ensue about what the appropriate number is, as well as how to maintain that number in perpetuity.

Conclusion: This problem took decades if not centuries (depending on what one believes) to become what it is now, and an amazing amount of "over-discussion" has delayed a decision that could have already been in place for 6-10 years. The only costs would be fencing, monitoring, and birth control, much of which may be able to be done by volunteers.

This solution is cheap and solves all the problems. This cost-effective solution will work and satisfy everyone involved!

Let's DO IT!

(Signature)

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