Data Submitted (UTC 11): 9/24/2024 1:43:56 AM
First name: Jessica
Last name: Younger
Organization:
Title:
Comments: To the Bureau of land management
Thank you for your time on this matter:
My name is Jessica Younger. I live in Bishop California.
This letter is in support of what is best for the wild Mustangs who reside in Inyo, Mono and Nye County. Yes do our wild horses need better management ? Yes then let's have that conversation.
Another conversation that I believe needs to be had is how far these herds date back. These herds need DNA tests before a round up. A round up as currently described has the potential to eradicate a possibly protected species. As we have a limited amount of mares in the protected land zone. As an indigenous person native to the land. These horses are part of my culture, and our stories they are part of us, and we are part of them.
We want these herds to have their DNA tested. Let's let Science speak some clarity in a highly charged conversation.
My journey
The first time I encountered them, I was delivering a package because I worked for FedEx on the outskirts of Benton CA. I was having a rough day a lot was going on in my life. My job was really hard long hours. I was at a breaking point. I encountered a wild heard that day of about 14. It was the first time I had ever sat my eyes upon a while horse. The first thing that struck me was how many scars they had obviously from wounds in the wild. I'm not gonna lie they were pretty rugged for ware. But that didn't hinder them from living free. Thats what spoke to me that day, even though I was wounded and felt oppressed by troubles that I too could be free. I sat and watched them for about 30 minutes and weeped. As they jumped and played standing on their back legs playing with one another, something changed in my heart on that day, parts of me that were so wounded by life were healed , they gave me strength and a knowing that I would be OK. It also made me a little sad because I do believe nothing is as free as an animal living in the wild. To remove them would be a travesty now when my family comes to visit from the city, we go and see the wild horses. My granddaughter has grown up watching them and looks forward to seeing them on her drive from her moms house in Round Mountain Nevada to her Dads house in Bishop CA weekly.
As indigenous people these animals are strong piece of our culture.
There presence fills our souls and our spirits. Please do not remove these beautiful animals and do the DNA test. I guarantee that they date back far beyond the Spaniards and we need an environmental impact report done ASAP

Sincerely, yours
Jessica DayYounger
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