

From: [Rae Hanna](#)
To: [Committee on Public Lands](#)
Subject: Nevada Legislature Subcommittee on Public Lands - Meeting July 12, 2024 at 1:00pm
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Please include in Public Comments - Agenda Item IV B #12 County Presentations on Issues Related to Public Lands and Natural Resources (Eureka County)

In the spring of 2013 the National Academy of Sciences issued a report, Using Science to Improve the BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program: A Way Forward. Since that time the recommendations of that publication have been largely ignored. A notable exception is the cooperation between the Carson City District Office of the Bureau of Land Management and the Wild Horse Preservation League based out of Dayton, Nevada. The horse population of the Pine Nut Horse Management Area has now been scientifically documented and is tracked. Birth control efforts using PZP are now meeting designated goals. The establishment of such a program has not been easy, but has cost the government very little. Several wild horse advocacy groups do assist with volunteers, some funding and expertise.

Roundups and holding facilities on the other hand are extremely expensive and are an increasing burden unattractive to the taxpayer. Imagine if that funding could be diverted to longer-lasting humane management practices.

Present day free roaming horses may not represent an exact genetic model of those last uniquely created in North America - those that lived with native plants and animals that survive here to this day. They are closely related in form, behavior, and dietary habits - so close that it is likely that if those animals still existed and were bred with the present horses they would create viable offspring. Nevada today has a delicate desert environment, and yet we don't question its carrying capacity for humans who by far represent the greatest challenge to healthy Nevada lands . . . or introduced domestic cattle and sheep, who vastly outnumber horses.

Respectfully,

Rae Hanna, President

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