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Soldier Meadows Ranch and Lodge Website
History Section
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HELP NEEDED

You may not realize that thousands of feral horses have been breeding unchecked for many years increasing in numbers as they roam the area basically unmanaged. It is important for all to understand that severe damage has been inflicted upon many of the springs in the region. This damage is the direct result of the springs surfaces having been compacted by thousands of feral horses.

Although these horses have gone wild, these horses are not native to the region. They are for the most part akin to unwanted dogs, cats and other pets which many of us care for in shelters and some of us adopt. However, if no one adopts a specific dog, cat, or other animal, after a reasonable period of time, unwanted animals are kindly put down.

At Soldier Meadows we love the horses, however the sheer numbers of non-native-feral horses in the region have and continue to significantly damaged critical desert water resources, These resources must be repaired for the benefit of people, ALL wildlife and our livestock. Even though the spring repairs will be a lot of work, even with the use of modern equipment, the challenge is not the spring repairs. Instead the real challenge in the modern world is: gaining cooperation from government agencies and variuos special interest groups to establish simple procedures to allow the repair and protection of the spring heads themselves from the herds of horses so they “free flow” after repair.

The natural springs of this region have flowed freely for thousands of years as is evidenced by the geography of the area. However, in recent years special interest groups led by those who like “WILD” horses have tied the hands of good public and private managers in such a way that they have been forced to allow the high desert water resources (especially the natural springs) to be severely damaged.

If the damages are not repaired and the Wild Horses are left to roam and breed unchecked, it will lead to the demise and extinction of not just the “WILD” horses but also the demise and extinction of most other wildlife species in this region.

Please help your own senators and representatives understand the damaged springs in the west. If you do not understand the problem come to the Ranch for a private tour which we will extend to you.

Your Senators and Representatives can direct the BLM, Fish and Wildlife Service, Forest Service and other agencies to establish policies to better manage the feral horses and to fund repairs badly needed immediatly at the springs which are damaged. Together, with your help, all the wildlife can be saved from this disaster in the making.