

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, April 30, 2019 9:20 AM  
**To:** Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** RE: Volunteer Service Agreement

Thank you so much Mike, we are very pleased as well, as it is a huge project, I appreciate that you appreciate it. Thank you for the contract , it has been our pleasure to help keep Butcher Jones just a little bit safer.

These Butcher Jones horses are unfortunately quite clueless of where the river is and we are having to move them along slowly because of that. Yesterday we had them all running in the right direction, but the cross fence stopped them, they did not find the opening, and they all came back again to the tunnel! Lol, that was a little frustrating so we are having to open some sections of that fence so that they can find their way through it next time. Im sure you heard that we flipped our atv the other day. Heres an update: It is now right side up and hidden so you wont get any more calls on it, but it is hard to get it out of there. 4x4 Joe is working on it.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by those who care about the future".  
-Simone Netherlands.

### The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, study and humanely manage the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help please visit: [www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Volunteer Service Agreement  
From: "Martinez, Michael - FS" <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>  
Date: Fri, April 26, 2019 9:02 am  
To: "simone@respect4horses.com" <simone@respect4horses.com>  
Cc: "Veerman, Rebecca - FS" <rebecca.veerman@usda.gov>, Jacquelyn Hughes <jhughes@azda.gov>

Simone, congratulations on successfully relocating the majority of the Butcher Jones horses to the west side of the Bush Highway. I enjoyed the brief moment I was out there to watch your operation in action. Although I understand that you are still in the process of tracking down a couple of stragglers, I want you to know that we are very pleased with this development.

As discussed, since there is no longer a need operate the gate at Butcher Jones, I have terminated the agreement and attached a final copy for your files. If you would still would like to meet to discuss the other options previously mentioned, or if you simply have questions, please feel free to reach out to me or District staff. Thank you for all your work.



**Mike Martinez**  
**Acting District Ranger**

**Forest Service**  
**Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District**

**p: 480-610-3301**

**c: 602-499-5818**

[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)

5140 E. Ingram St.

Mesa, AZ 85205

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



**Caring for the land and serving people**

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**From:** Martinez, Michael - FS

**Sent:** Thursday, April 18, 2019 2:50 PM

**To:** [simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)

**Cc:** Veerman, Rebecca - FS <[rebecca.veerman@usda.gov](mailto:rebecca.veerman@usda.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: Volunteer Service Agreement

Thanks Simone, once I have confirmed that the relocation operation is complete, I will terminate the current agreement and provide you with a final copy. As for establishing a new agreement to perform similar duties at Pebble Beach and Water Users, I recommend we set up a meeting to discuss. Let me know your availability.

Mike

---

**From:** [simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com) [[mailto:simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, April 16, 2019 11:02 AM

**To:** Martinez, Michael - FS <[michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us](mailto:michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us)>

**Cc:** Veerman, Rebecca - FS <[rveerman@fs.fed.us](mailto:rveerman@fs.fed.us)>

**Subject:** RE: Volunteer Service Agreement

Hi Mike, after the relocation of Butcher Jones horses I see no need for us to close the Butcher Jones gate, however we would like to switch that duty to the Pebble Beach gate and Water Users gates until further management strategies are implemented. Our people like the task and those areas would be much safer with closed gates in the evenings. We can discuss this further by phone or in person.

Gratefully,

Simone Netherlands, President

Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301

Cell: (928) 925 7212

<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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-Simone Netherlands.

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Volunteer Service Agreement

From: "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us](mailto:michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us)>

Date: Mon, April 15, 2019 12:57 pm

To: "[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)" <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Cc: "Veerman, Rebecca - FS" <[rveerman@fs.fed.us](mailto:rveerman@fs.fed.us)>

Simone, we are in the process of reviewing the status and need for various agreements. I'm checking in with you to determine if the attached Volunteer Service Agreement that allows SRWHMG to open and close the gate at Butcher Jones is still needed. I'm aware that current management strategies and other considerations may render this agreement unnecessary. If that is the case then the appropriate course would be to terminate the agreement. If, however, you believe this agreement is still necessary, we should set up a meeting to discuss past performance, ongoing administration, and future needs. Please let me know. Thank you.



**Mike Martinez**  
**Acting District Ranger**

**Forest Service**  
**Tonto National Forest, Mesa Ranger District**

p: 480-610-3301

c: 602-499-5818

[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)

5140 E. Ingram St.

Mesa, AZ 85205

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



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## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 18, 2019 11:08 PM  
**To:** Scott McCreary  
**Cc:** Martinez, Michael - FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Jacquelyn Hughes; Chris McCormack; Keith Mattson; Valerie Puleo; Brian Manwaring  
**Subject:** Letter to collaborative  
**Attachments:** Letter to collaborative 081719.pdf

I apologize for not being able to make it to the collaborative meeting tomorrow, (b) (6)  
(b) (6) Steve can also not make it. Please see attached letter of management plan and please feel free to distribute to collaborative members. It was also sent earlier to Scott and Jacquelyn, thank you.

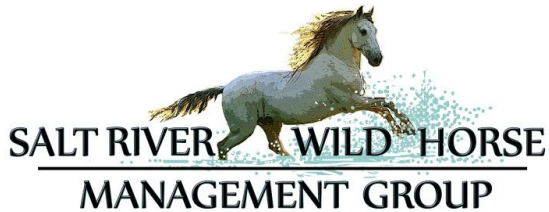
Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



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Cell: (928) 925 7212  
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August 18, 2019

Salt River Horse Collaborative  
Scott McCreary, Facilitator  
CONCUR, Inc.  
1832 Second Street  
Berkeley, CA 94710

Via email: [scott@concurinc.net](mailto:scott@concurinc.net)

Dear Members of the Collaborative (SRHC),

The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group and the American Wild Horse Campaign will be unable to attend the Monday, August 19 meeting of the Salt River Horse Collaborative. Subject to revision, we would like to offer additional draft comments as to our position on the management plan for the Salt River horses as follows:

1. Designate as Salt River horse habitat or territory the following geographic areas, as it is imperative for their survival that they retain these areas where they have historically lived.
  - Coon Bluff (excluding a fire restoration area with boundaries consistent with the actual incident area of the Cactus wildfire, per the Tonto National Forest Cactus Fire Map 4/25/17. <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/map/5167/5/62562>)
  - Usury with under/overpass
  - Goldfield (per Robin Silver's map)
  - Entire Bulldog area, in part, to address concerns (unfounded, in our view) raised about horse impacts on the watershed environment. By retaining this entire historic Salt River territory, horse concentrations in watershed and high visitor areas will be significantly reduced, especially during seasonal migration.

2. Fence out horses from the following areas, provided that all fencing and cattle guards are horse safe, and that areas are completely enclosed so that horses cannot enter from any direction, including the river side:
  - Recreation areas
  - Restoration area, as specified above.
  - Granite Reef area with fencing sufficient to prevent horse entry into the road and entire area from all directions. (Details to follow)
3. Fence both sides of Bush Highway from Granite Reef to Beeline Highway (maintained by government), including the south side of Bush Highway near Granite Reef where fencing is currently lacking. This will facilitate safer movement of horses related to the horse management plan. Provide that horse safe fencing (barbless wire) and horse safe cattle guards are used exclusively. (SRWHMG is offering as an interim measure, to close the existing gates to recreation areas between sunset and sunrise.)
4. Limit new USFS boundary fencing to the restoration area, as described above. The fence along the river as currently proposed will have irreversible negative impacts on both horses and recreational users of the Forest. The fence will arbitrarily separate the herd and irreparably alter their historic and current habitat, forage availability, migration patterns, social organization and genetic viability, as well as impede our ability to humanely manage the Salt River horses, who will be stuck there and threaten the ability of horses on both sides of the fence to survive. It will also prevent horses from returning to their home ranges on the lower Salt River and could result in concentrating horses onto the Tonto National Forest. The portion of the proposed fencing as a gate directly across the river at Coon Bluff is particularly problematic, not only with regard to horses but also with regard to recreation. We consider the impacts of the river fence to be inextricably linked to the development of a humane and effective management plan by the collaborative.
5. While not contemplated by state law, and likely to be strongly opposed by the public, we would consider accepting a major population reduction goal of more than 50% of the total population, resulting in a target population of 200 horses under the following conditions (as well as other provisions to be negotiated as part of an overall management plan):
  - A ten year period is provided to achieve this population reduction goal.
  - A five year period is provided for review of the PZP plan and its efficacy.
  - Reduction is achieved through only PZP fertility control and natural attrition.Adoption will be considered after 5 years if progress toward population targets is not achieved. At full implementation, we project that the PZP program will achieve a net attrition (death rate minus birth rate) of approximately 30 horses per year, which after 5 years would net 150 fewer horses.

- Parties agree to utilize the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group’s detailed demographic data as a basis for the population count. This total count is now at 460, including SRPMIC and FMYN horses, who are currently migrating back to their home ranges. A spreadsheet of changes, births and deaths is provided to the AZDA every 60 days.
6. If we ultimately accepted a roughly 20% reduction in habitat and more than 50% reduction in population, we expect the management plan to explicitly state that the concentration of horses in reduced habitat area will not be used as a purported rationale to remove horses and that no such removals will occur as long as aggressive fertility control efforts are underway and population reduction targets are being met.
7. We generally support the Draft SRHC Management Area Supporting Management Recommendations with the following additions:
- Refine the definition of “chase” under the law to include pursuing horses by dog(s), or by vehicle, drone, or aircraft, or on foot or on horseback or anything else that can pursue.
  - Develop an Arizona Department of Agriculture rule further defining harassment to include keeping a distance of at least 50 feet between people and horses, for the safety of all.
  - Evaluate options for reducing impacts of other uses on the Salt River horses in the foaling area during foaling season, such as restrictions on hunting and horseback riding activities. Improve the parking area (trailer parking) at Coon Bluff, so that day fees can be charged, and possibly close that particular non day fee area until that time, to reduce the overuse of the area.
  - Approve a permit for a permanent water source for horses on Forest Service land behind the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group property.
  - Authorize explicit and clear signage in horse management area to notify public of 50 ft rule, please do not feed and the Maricopa County leash law.
  - Rely on SRWHMG demographic data and database for identification of horses.
  - Authorize SRWHMG use of truck and/or ATV for management purposes. (horse health emergencies and/or feed program purposes.)
  - Consider authorization of a public SRWHMG facility attached to an existing recreation area.

We appreciate the opportunity to provide these comments. Please let us know if you have any questions. Meanwhile, thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Simone Netherlands".

Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group  
simone@respect4horses.com

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Suzanne Roy".

Suzanne Roy, Executive Director  
American Wild Horse Campaign  
[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)

Cc: Jacquelyn Hughes, Salt River Horse Liaison  
Arizona Department of Agriculture

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Friday, August 23, 2019 7:22 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes (b) (6) ; (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Christopher McCormack; (b) (6) ; Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** RE: Pesticide Applicator Certification

I am in receipt of your email regarding the pesticide applicator license for PZP.

As you know, you advised the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group in October 2018 that the we did not need to pursue the applicator license, because you would do so for the program. Since then you obtained the license and registered your number with the Science and Conservation Center. At your direction for the last ten months we have been purchasing the PZP and operating our program under your license.

We are happy to take the test and pursue the necessary license and thank you for providing that information. However, we are perplexed by this abrupt notice without explanation. Can you please clarify if by this notice you are halting our very successful fertility control program?

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fwd: Pesticide Applicator Certification  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Fri, August 23, 2019 11:02 am  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>, Steve Bloch (b) (6), Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>  
Cc: Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

Here is the attachment



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jacquelyn Hughes** <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 23, 2019 at 11:01 AM

Subject: Pesticide Applicator Certification

To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>, Steve Bloch (b) (6) >, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>

Cc: Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

Good Morning Simone,

Attached please find information for training for the AZ Agricultural Pesticide Applicator Certification that is required so that you and your organization can purchase and apply PZP fertility control to the Salt River horses.

If you have any questions please do hesitate to contact me.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 4:27 PM  
**To:** Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); (b) (6); Christopher McCormack; Robert Smook; Martinez, Michael - FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Protein blocks for the Horses

I apologize, I answered emails in the wrong order and did not see email below with response! We can wait until wednesday to see what the situation is like. We will keep an eye on them from the road. Thank you! Please see below with the location of the volunteer.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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-Simone Netherlands.

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Protein blocks for the Horses  
From: <simone@respect4horses.com>  
Date: Mon, September 23, 2019 4:24 pm  
To: "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <chandler.mundy@usda.gov>, "Jacquelyn Hughes" <jhughes@azda.gov>  
Cc: "Steve Bloch" <steve@capitolstrat.com>, "Suzanne Roy" <sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org>, "Mark Killian" <mkillian@azda.gov>, "Jeff Grant" <jgrant@azda.gov>, "Christopher McCormack" <cmccormack@azda.gov>, "Robert Smook" <rsmook@azda.gov>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <aaron.kendall@usda.gov>, (b) (6) - (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

Hi Chandler, I just confirmed with Kimberly that she did not have permission to go into the rec site and that she was not in the rec site. She was standing above the rec area right next to the bridge, off of the road, with permission of an MCSO deputy who was right by them, they asked him just to make sure they were ok. We understand we are not exempt from closure orders and we are very careful to always stick to the rules.

While I have you, I would like to respectfully request permission, so that we can still feed in the necessary feed stations for the rest of the week. With the exception of Goldfield road, the feed stations are away from the water. This is necessary to keep horses in good condition and away from the road and would be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



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Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Protein blocks for the Horses  
From: "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>  
Date: Mon, September 23, 2019 3:36 pm  
To: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>, Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, (b) (6) - (b) (6)  
(b) (6) >

I noticed a SRWHMG volunteer just posted on Facebook that she is out there right now. She is not exempt from the closure order (see attached).



**Chandler K. Mundy**  
**Range Program Manager**  
**Forest Service**  
**Tonto National Forest**

p: 602-225-5251  
[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)

2324 E. McDowell Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85006  
[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



Caring for the land and serving people

**From:** Jacquelyn Hughes [<mailto:jhughes@azda.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 3:23 PM  
**To:** Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>



**Cc:** Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>; Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>; Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>; Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>; Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>; Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Kendall, Aaron - FS <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>; (b) (6) <(b) (6)>

**Subject:** Fwd: Protein blocks for the Horses

Hello Simone,

Please review the email below from Director Killian for his thoughts on feed and his suggestions. At this time there is still no clearance for supplemental feeding or any type of monitoring of the Salt River horses. There is currently a Lower Salt River Emergency Public Safety Closure Order in effect on the Tonto National Forest.

The biggest concern is that no one knows what will happen out there with this much water being released at this time. More rain is expected over the next 24, therefore supplemental feeding will need to be suspended until at least Wednesday when this can be reviewed for public safety again. As soon as we have had an opportunity to discuss the public safety and the landscape conditions with the Forest Service and MCSO we will notify you of what can be authorized.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you,



Jacquelyn Hughes

Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

----- Forwarded message -----

**From:** Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>

**Date:** Mon, Sep 23, 2019 at 2:09 PM

**Subject:** Protein blocks for the Horses

**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>

Good afternoon Jackie: I have been thinking about the whole condition of the herd and it occurred to me on Friday as I drove in that area that we should be putting out Protein Blocks for the horses. There is no green forage any where...Lot's of dry grass, the only green grass I saw was at Butcher Jones camp ground...and there is not enough feed there to sustain one horse for a week.

At our ranches in the fall when the grass is really dry and through the winter we put out Mix-30 or we use protein blocks to make up the difference in the protein content of the grass. Most people do not understand that when the grass goes dormant the feed value plummets to very low levels and does not keep an animal in very good condition. Thus the Protein blocks make up the difference.

Jackie please pass this along to Simone and let her know that I feel very strongly that she needs to put out protein blocks for the horses now. She should contact Made-rite feeds in Wilcox and they can make them for her. In the long run it will keep those horses in pretty good shape so you don't have the yo-yo effect of the body condition. Please let me know her response asap. thanks Markk

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## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, August 26, 2019 2:47 AM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes; Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy  
**Cc:** Christopher McCormack; Mark Killian; Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** Status Report SRWHMG, SOP's  
**Attachments:** Status Report SRWHMG.pdf

Please accept this attached Status Report. Please disregard any previous versions, thank you.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>



# SALT RIVER HORSE MANAGEMENT **Status Report**

August, 2019





## I. Introduction

The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group (SRWHMG) on a daily basis continues to perform the scope of work under contract with the State with excellence, vigilance, integrity and humanity for all of the horses in the Salt River Herd as well as what we consider SRPMIC and FMYN horses when they are present on the TNF. With more than 100 volunteers and daily presence in the Tonto National Forest, we exceed our mission through rescue, range stewardship, public education, a PZP birth control program and supplemental feed program, which keeps the entire population in good condition and body scores. Through use of our database we record every injury, birth, death, band change and movement of Salt River horses. We also provide safe sanctuary to the horses whose lives we have saved. We are proud to take care of an invaluable natural and recreational resource in the Tonto National Forest in the exact manner we have always promised -- for the public and by the public.

## II. Scope of Work

### A. Assess, monitor and provide veterinary treatment for any injured/ill Salt River horses

#### 1. Horses Monitored

Since the beginning of 2019, we have monitored 27 injured Salt River horses, all of whom have recovered or are recovering. Please see attached spreadsheet for full monitoring details. A few examples:

- **Jay**, a young bachelor had a chunk of flesh missing from his hind quarters that was open and infected. He has recovered with only a scar as evidence.
- **Tiffany**, a young mare who was down and in shock. When we got to her she had a swollen and bleeding knee. She recovered completely within one month.
- **Reagan**, a young mare suffered pneumonia for approximately one month and has recovered.
- **Rohana**, a filly with a stiff hind leg, has fully recovered.
- **Ducey**, a young stallion who had symptoms of colic has fully recovered.
- **Houston**, a lead stallion who was limping with no visible signs of swelling, has fully recovered.
- **Pan**, a two month old colt with signs of colic has fully recovered.
- **Prince Ike**, a lead stallion who was witnessed running into a metal Forest Service sign and cut his face. Initially he appeared to be bleeding badly, however the injury healed and he has fully recovered.
- **Arco**, a lead stallion with a likely fracture in his upper leg, which was very swollen. Arco disappeared with his band and reappeared 8 weeks later without a limp. He did lose half his band, but he has fully recovered from the injury.

The attached spreadsheet provides further detail on the monitored horses.

## 2. Horses Removed from the River

Upon assessment and consultation with Jacquelyn Hughes, we have removed 6 Salt River horses who were in urgent need of veterinary treatment. Had we not rescued them they would have died a slow death. Of these horses, three have survived and remain in our care.

- **Peanut** - a newborn foal found in the Forest alone without a mother. We captured him by hand and immediately fed him milk replacer in the field, while looking for a mare who had recently given birth. Because he was so new, we had never witnessed who his mother was. We did not find her. We then executed our newborn critical care protocol, which entails constant monitoring and intensive feeding every hour around the clock. Peanut suffered two bacterial infections, C- Diff and Salmonella. They were resolved through antibiotics and Peanut is now happy and healthy growing up together with Rosy at our facility.
- **Prince** - a newborn foal we observed draped over the saddle of two horseback riders in the Forest. We approached the riders and they surrendered the foal to us. We immediately implemented newborn critical care, providing intensive, round –the-clock feeding of milk replacer. Prince had to be kept in an air conditioned room for a while as he was sensitive to heat. He is doing well and growing up at our property with Rosy and Peanut.



- **Rosy** - A 2-month-old orphaned foal. We first noticed that Rosa, the oldest mare on the river was missing from her band. This is not usually cause for alarm when both are missing as they could have joined another band. However, when we spotted Rosy all alone one week later across the river, we knew that Rosa had died, as the mare would never leave her foal. We quickly organized Rosy's rescue with a team of volunteers who crossed the river and with the help of Jacquelyn Hughes, who arranged for assistance from MCSO by means of the fan boat. Rosy's veterinary care consisted of hernia surgery as well as antibiotics to combat her bacterial infections. She is now thriving.



Our SRWHMG rescue/sanctuary is licensed with the State of Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) (Registration number #74).





### 3. Horses Who Died or Were Euthanized

We attempted to save three others who did not survive. Despite our best efforts, they could not be saved.

- **Baby Blue Eyes**. – Newborn. Captured by hand. This newborn was found without his mother. We fed him milk replacer and took him immediately to the vet. He was too dehydrated and septic. He was euthanized by AZ Equine Hospital.
- **Paulo** – one month old colt, captured by hand. This colt was witnessed having problems from birth. His older sibling did not let him nurse and his mother was not good about kicking her yearling off to allow Paulo to nurse. Paulo was exhibiting symptoms of pain and colic. We transported him to Chaparral Veterinary Clinic, where he was diagnosed with fluid around his heart. We attempted to treat him with IV fluids, but the next day he had a seizure and died.
- **Aiko** – a newborn was witnessed with the wrong band. We searched and found his rightful mother. We carried him over to her and returned him. His mother accepted him and nursed him, however he died the next day, most likely because he became too dehydrated during the period without his mother.

Further, after consulting with Salt River Liaison, Jaquelyn Hughes, we have performed or facilitated the humane euthanasia of nine fatally injured wild horses.

- **Squiggle** - a very old lead mare in Half Tail's band. She broke a hip and was immobilized. Dispatched in the field by gunshot.
- **Dakota** - a lead stallion, suffered a broken front cannon bone from road accident, dispatched by gunshot.
- **Rue** – a bachelor stallion was hit on the road and suffered a broken leg. He was dispatched by gunshot.
- **Sultan** – a yearling from King's band suffered a broken front leg, was dispatched in the field by gunshot.
- **Vera** – a mare found with a horrific open wound on her shoulder blades, which appeared to be from a mountain lion. She was dispatched in the field by gunshot.
- **Cactus Fire** – a two-year old colt (born during the Cactus Fire). He suffered from a bad case of pneumonia and did not appear to be getting better. He was dispatched in the field by gunshot.
- **Rhett** – a two-year old stallion was hit on the road and was found on the side of the road, immobile. He was dispatched by gunshot.
- **Bach** – a yearling colt from Brahm's band who suffered a broken shoulder and was found standing, immobile. He was dispatched in the field by gunshot.

See attached spreadsheet for full account of all 2019 deceased including graphic picture warning.

## B. Remove dead horses from the Salt River horse area

We have arranged and paid for the removal of 4 deceased horses from the Salt River horse area by Trails end Removal. **Chase**, **Cinnamon** and **Rhett**, because they were on the side of the road, and **Emerald** because she was chemically euthanized. We covered the carcasses up with tarps until they were picked up to protect the public from seeing them. We left the other deceased carcasses that were located in remote areas of the forest to nature and predators. The carcasses were scavenged until they were completely gone.

In total, 30 horses have died between January 1 through August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019. All of these occurrences are within normal range observed during previous years of monitoring at 10% to 12% attrition of the herd per year. Most wild animals have higher mortality rates than domestic or captive counterparts. Wild horses are no different. Interestingly, that is in line with mortality rates in wild elk and deer herds. The natural attrition is what makes reduction of the herd number possible through the use of a successful PZP program. Please see spreadsheet for details on each death.

## C. Implement emergency plans for drought and other situations to manage the Salt River Horse Herd (SRHH)

Last year, we implemented an emergency feed program for the Salt River horses when forage resources became scarce because of the drought. Body scores were 2's and 3's and we had to rescue two horses who were emaciated because of underlying health issues (Red) and old age (Old Lady). The program ended in November 2018 when forage resources became sufficient. The range and the horses were in great condition for six months after the end of the feed program. By April of 2019, for lack of precipitation we noticed the forage drying up again. Together with Jacquelyn Hughes, we assessed the situation in May.

Starting in June of 2019 we instated a large-scale feed program again to improve the body condition of the Salt River horses. With the exception of a few older horses who are not easy keepers, currently most horses are a 3 to 4 on the Henneke body scale.





## SRWHMG 24-hour Emergency Response

We continue to provide 24-hour emergency response for any situation involving a Salt River horse. When we get a call on our hot-line (480)-868-9301, by either a volunteer or the public, we immediately send field team leads to the location of an injured horse. They will assess the situation and send pictures and video to the team and/or Simone. We will then decide the appropriate response. See monitored horses spreadsheet for results of emergency response.

Our road patrol program provides for emergency response in cases of horses on the road. Our volunteers follow a protocol for moving horses off the road and warning oncoming drivers of the horses in the road. It may include creating an opening for them to get back inside the fencing and repairing immediately after. During road patrol duties our volunteers sometimes end up helping human life as well, by being first on the scene of accidents and calling for help.

### **Provide and distribute any necessary supplemental feed and/or water**

At the request of the Forest Service and AZDA, SRWHMG relocated 46 horses who were frequenting the Butcher Jones Beach Recreation site. We accomplished the move by setting up a trap, baiting them into the trap with feed and pushing them from the trap through the tunnel under Bush Hwy. Subsequently we provided large 300 gallon water troughs, which were moved and refilled on a daily basis. Each day we provided 1200 gallons of water to 46 horses. We used human chains to push them towards the water and feed each day. We ended behind the SRWHMG property from where we then lured them to the river with more feed. 2 out of the 4 bands now live on the river. The two remaining bands continue to live behind the hills behind the SRWHMG property. The move was accomplished without injury or accidents to any horses or people. The move was accomplished without horse back riders or force of any kind.



D.

### **1. Turn branded and/or gelded/spayed horses over to the owner or applicable government agency.**

The SRWHMG has removed two domesticated horses from the area last year, but fortunately there have been no other cases of abandonment in the Tonto National Forest since. We are giving care and sanctuary to the two stray livestock horses, one has a broken hip and one has a bad hoof problem. We are planning on adopting them out soon.

### **2. Receive written authorization from the AZDA or MCSO prior to interacting with a Salt River horse.**

The SRWHMG routinely and consistently texts Jacquelyn Hughes, the Salt River Horse Liaison, before taking any actions or interacting with the Salt River Horses and receives confirmation back before taking any action.

000020



**Provide a comprehensive herd health assessment within 60 days of the contract start date and provide updated assessments each quarter.**

Via email, the SRWHMG has sent the herd health assessments to Jacquelyn Hughes. The first assessment being comprehensive and the successive assessments consisting of updates as well as a spread sheet which includes changes, injuries, deaths and births, including total numbers of mares and stallions as well as total number of Salt River Horses and SRPMIC and FMYN horses. Simone has also provided live information and the smaller details per text message to Jacquelyn Hughes.

**Create and administer an equine birth control program designed to control the population of the SRHH**



PZP stands for Porcine Zona Pellucida and is an immuno-contraception. It can be darted in the field without capturing wild horses. It does not harm nor influence their hormones and therefore does not harm or influence their behaviors, social structures and herd dynamics. It has been demonstrated safe and effective through adequate published research.

- It has history of use on many horse populations.
- It has been proven more than 90% effective
- It has no known negative side effect to horses.
- It cannot go into bloodstream (affects predators)
- Implementation is possible without capture of horses

Our PZP immuno-contraception program is ongoing and continuing. For a successful PZP program, a minimum of 80% of reproductive-age mares need to be vaccinated. After less than 10 months of darting, SRWHMG has surpassed this goal and has vaccinated 96% of mares, which includes all mares that have their home territories on the SRPMIC reservation and Fort McDowell reservations.

At the current time our 6 certified darters have inoculated 175 breeding age mares and have boosted 147 of those mares and are currently concentrating on the last yearlings who will become of breeding age soon.

As safety measures we film and document every darting. We keep meticulous records on each horse. Our program is expected to yield great results and a significant reduction in the amount of foals that will be born in 2020. We expect to see full implementation of the program in 2021.

At full implementation, we project that the PZP program will achieve a net attrition (death rate minus birth rate) of approximately 30 horses per year, which after 5 years would net 150 fewer horses and after 10 years 300 fewer horses. (natural attrition rate of approximately 45 horses per year, and approximate birth rate of only 10-15 foals) Our target ideal population is 200 horses. Each mare is carefully followed through her cycles, pregnancy and efficacy of the PZP.



000021





The Salt River Wild Horse Management group is a professional organization that does what is required within the scope of work, but also does so much more;

- SRWHMG has repaired and maintained 18 miles of fencing.
- SRWHMG has installed horse proof gates
- SRWHMG replaced miles of old barbed wire fencing with barbless wire.
- SRWHMG has closed Usury Pass Road.
- SRWHMG performs Nightly Road Patrol.
- SRWHMG Public Education about road safety
- SRWHMG designed Public Information signs.
- SRWHMG spends countless volunteer hours on
- clean up of the forest and the riverbanks
- SRWHMG cleans recreation sites from manure.
- SRWHMG rescues stray pets and abandoned animals
- SRWHMG Clean fire pits, remove nails
- SRWHMG Douses smoldering fires.
- SRWHMG removes dangerous old fence posts
- SRWHMG cleans up Graffiti
- SRWHMG removes old Downed barbed wire
- SRWHMG Participate in other organization's Cleanups
- SRWHMG Adopted Phon D Sutton and Coon Bluff Roads from MCDOT.



We are providing the following information as was requested via email. Please note that all information provided herein is subject to the same proprietary and confidential/non-disclosure governance and expected within the contractual relationship with AZDA. Please see attached:

- Standard Operating Procedures
- Accounting of Hay donations
- Spreadsheets of deceased and monitored horses.

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 31, 2019 9:11 AM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes; Chris McCormack; Director Killian; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** [FWD: RE:]  
**Attachments:** eelgrass dinner.jpg; horses at granite reef.jpg; red mountain.jpg; river eelgrass.jpg

Hi Jackie, I'm sorry that you are not in receipt of this email, see below the time and date that I sent it please. August 29th 3.22pm. Is there a better email for me to use? Please confirm receipt of this email.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by those who care about the future".  
-Simone Netherlands.

### The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, monitor and study the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help to save this historic herd, please visit: [www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE:  
From: <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Date: Thu, August 29, 2019 3:22 pm  
To: "Jacquelyn Hughes" <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Cc: "Steve Bloch" <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, "Suzanne Roy" <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, "Mark Killian" <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, "Christopher McCormack" <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, "Mike Martinez" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>

Good afternoon,

Thank you, we have reviewed the email and pictures. It is not out of the ordinary to find horses foraging off the ground for scraps and mesquite beans while they are traveling through.  
Feed schedule: At Coon Bluff we have recently increased the feed to 4 times per week. As you know we adjust the amount of bales to accommodate the number of bands that are visiting there at the current time. Many of bands that visited our Coon Bluff feed station last month have now moved downriver to take advantage of the abundant river eel grass there.

Please see attached pictures as well as the following informational post on the migrating on fb

<https://www.facebook.com/saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup/photos/a.756494724433288/2391538274262250/?type=3&theater>

We are currently feeding 15 to 16 bales there of which there is still some left the next day, which indicates that this is about the right amount. Should we see more bands coming in, we will increase accordingly. The current schedule seems to be keeping them in good condition. With the exception of a few hard keepers (the older horses and sick horses), we currently do not have skinny horses on the forest. Your attached pictures corroborate that by showing horses in good condition.

AZDA request of every day weekend feeding; we will do our utmost best in order to facilitate that request over the upcoming holiday weekend.

Please do let us know if Sheep's Crossing will be opened as there are currently 5 bands of horses there --indeed a little over 60 horses. If necessary, we could station some volunteers there to give information to the public.

As you know, current restrictions prevent us from driving into the forest, meaning that our volunteers have to pull the hay bales on a sled or wagon into the forest. In weather conditions that sometimes reach 115 degrees, we worry about their safety and health. We also worry that pulling the hay on sleds and wagons can habituate horses. A solution to both of these challenges would be giving us authorization to drive a pick up truck approximately 800 feet into the forest on an existing road/trail at Coon Bluff so that volunteers can then throw the hay off the back of a truck instead.

It is our understanding that we currently only have clearance to use a UTV and only at the Coon Bluff location. This is a logistical problem, since it is not feasible to have yet another volunteer drive a second trailer carrying a UTV from our property to Coon Bluff and then transfer the bales onto the UTV from the trailer.

With a truck we could be in and out very fast and could more easily facilitate the request for daily feeding since it would then take fewer volunteers. We would only use this access on feed days, around 530 pm when very little public is present, and in a truck that is clearly marked with our logo. We would be in and out in approximately 15 minutes.

Another great solution would be to allow us to resume the feed station across the river from Foxtail. We would need clearance to drive there with a UTV from our property through the wash. It would work out fantastic if we could keep horses on the other side of the river in the Goldfield area. We also will need this clearance in order to take the last two bands of horses to the river. We are still providing them water as they do not know where the river is.

Securing of hay: Our weed free certified hay supplier SouthWest needs 30 days notice in order to grow a field of certified weed free alfalfa. This will provide us with approximately 4 truckloads and we can do that twice. It will be possible to grow a better quality of hay in October when the temperatures will be cooler. We've requested email confirmation from them on this, which we will forward to you. We currently have one truckload coming in September and one in October from supplier Rocker7. Therefore all months of the year will be covered in case it is needed.

Finally, as we do on most holiday weekends we will be glad to educate the public through our social media and website.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group





Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Fwd: [FWD: RE: 2020 weed free certified alfalfa]  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Thu, August 29, 2019 8:13 am  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>

Good Morning Simone,

Please review the email attached as well as the pictures that I took last night at Coon Bluff recreation site.

As I walked to the river this group of horses was following 2 members of the public towards the parking lot. Both women were moving quickly and as they approached me they stated the horses had come right up to them and as they moved away the horses were following them.

I hazed the horses away from them and the horses proceeded to look through the dirt for feed. By the pictures you can see that there is no available forage in the area and the mesquite trees are hedged beyond any of the horses reach.

The lack of feed added to the horses being accustomed to being fed at this point is causing an increased concern for public safety. Having the horses following people also increases the risk of the public attempting to pet the horses because they appear docile enough to do so.

Please provide the current feed schedule including the amount of hay in which you are distributing. Please also respond to the request in the email chain that I sent to you on 8-23-19 regarding what has been secured for feed until the hay you have secured for next year is available.

AZDA would like to request that at this time, for the holiday weekend, that the horses are fed not only extra hay but daily to keep them from moving into rec sites among the forest visitors for safety.

I have included the FS in this email because we will also need to know if they intend on opening the Sheeps Crossing rec site for the over flow of holiday visitors. This may cause SRWHMG to adjust the feed schedule in that area to feeding the horses before the rec site fills or after the rec site closes for the day. Hay will also need to be placed further away from the rec site area as I have been made aware that there can be as many as 60 horses in the area looking for feed.

Please respond to this email before close of business today. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007  
office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Jacquelyn Hughes** <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

Date: Fri, Aug 23, 2019 at 10:24 AM  
Subject: Re: [FWD: RE: 2020 weed free certified alfalfa]  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Chris McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Steven lobby Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>

Good Morning Simone,

Thank you for providing the information that you have secured certified weed free alfalfa for May/June 2020.

Could you please provide the arrangements that you have made for the time period from current until that hay is available? Please include the amount of certified weed free hay for this time period and the farm from which it will be coming from. If you have information regarding what you anticipate feeding weekly that information would also be appreciated.

Currently the USGS national water information system is reporting 1.0 inches of precipitation for the Lower Salt River area for the last 60 days.

The concern is that with the current precipitation, current forest conditions, and the document that you have provided showing 460 horses in the area that forage moving forward is of concern for sustainability of the Salt River horses health.

Attached please find pictures of the horses eating the current hay you are receiving from Rocker 7 farms and what I have observed to be available at your facility on Monday of this week and from yesterday.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007  
**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

On Thu, Aug 22, 2019 at 7:26 PM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:  
Dear Jackie and Chris,

We have made arrangements for next year weed free certified alfalfa, please see below.

Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

### The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, monitor and study the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help please visit: [www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: 2020 weed free certified alfalfa

From: "Eric Perez" <[eric@wesellhay.com](mailto:eric@wesellhay.com)>

Date: Tue, August 20, 2019 3:31 pm

To: <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Hi Simone,

We can guarantee you a supply of 4-6 loads of certified weed free alfalfa for 2020. The best cutting to certify would be at the end of May or early June. We only need a 30 day notice in order to have the fields inspected and certified before harvesting. We can store the hay at our facility and deliver it to you as you need it. Let me know if you need any other information.

Thanks,



**Eric Perez**

**Controller**

11926 W. Southern Avenue

Tolleson, AZ 85353

P (623) 936-4339

F (623) 936-7360

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000029



*R. Gene Driggs*  
ARTIST PHOTOGRAPHY

000030





*R. Glenn Driggs*  
WWW.DRIGGSARTS.COM

000031



000032

PAUL MARTIN  
IMAGES.COM



## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 1, 2019 5:08 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Christopher McCormack; Mark Killian; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; (b) (6) - (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Sheeps Crossing and the horse known as Shadowfax

Jackie,

### In response to your email of this morning (9/1):

1. Equine veterinarian (b) (6), assessed the horse (Shadowfax) this morning, from 915 - 1015 am. We were successful in obtaining a swab directly from the draining abscess on Shadowfax's head. (b) (6) took the sample and informed us that the results of the culture will be available this Friday (9/6) or Monday (9/9).

(b) (6) is preparing a written opinion, which I will provide to you as soon as available. In speaking with him, he did not believe that isolation of the horse was warranted at this time, since he has been exhibiting symptoms for several weeks already and because his wounds are drying up presently.

2. We responded to this incident with a team of 10 volunteers, led by (b) (6), who each had identification. Based on this identification, the volunteers were admitted to the site by Forest Service law enforcement. An additional individual who was a member of the public and not a SRWHMG volunteer, was also onsite, she left. However I do not have a problem reinforcing with volunteers that they need to wash their t shirts and wear their t-shirts.

The feed team arrived ahead of the veterinarian to feed the horses and draw them in. The panels were then delivered and unloaded by the response team, which then went looking for Shadowfax. He was located at a distance that made hand carrying the panels logistically impossible and he also did not want to come closer.

The team then brought (b) (6) to Shadowfax. The volunteers fed and gentled him enough to get the swab, which took about an hour. (This is similar to what (b) (6) did yesterday to assist you in obtaining a sample. Unlike the sample you and (b) (6) got from the hay yesterday, this morning's sample was taken directly from the abscess.)

3. Regarding the report from MCSO that the ill/thin horse (Shadowfax) was at Foxtail yesterday afternoon, as far as we know, he was at Sheeps crossing all day. You saw Shadowfax at Sheep's Crossing in the morning as well and we saw him in the afternoon in the same location again. However, we don't have a problem with stating his location as being between Foxtail and Sheep's crossing and will be glad to post this, if you would like.

### In response to your email of yesterday (8/31):

1. I did not state that I was not aware of Shadowfax's condition. As you know and as we texted about on Friday August 30, both horses who had been exhibiting symptoms appeared improved, with no visible abscesses. You advised via text that there appeared to be no reason to post about this since "we have no confirmed Dx [diagnosis] and it is healing and all the horses are recovering well." At that time, neither of us was aware that

Shadowfax had an abscess under his forelock that was not visible upon observation. You had seen him yourself very recently and agreed that he had improved.

On Friday evening, I received a report that Shadowfax had a burst abscess on his head, apparently from this previously undetected site under his forelock. However it was dark and I did not receive pictures to be able to send to you and it was too late for texting. I made sure the next morning volunteers would come to assess Shadowfax further. Our volunteer (b) (6) was there in the morning to do just that.

It was at this time when you phoned me, before I had received an update.

Our assessment was that while the draining pus and blood made the horse look bad, it did not appear to be life threatening. Additionally, his previous abscesses drained and healed, as this one likely will. He did decline in body condition, however, with daily feeding and easy access to the river for watering, we have every expectation that he will recover. The veterinarian who examined him this morning concurred. (b) (6) appeared to concur as well.

2. I am unclear as to why you asked the SRWHMG volunteers, acting in an official management capacity to assess the situation, to leave. I believe that you have mischaracterized the nature of our communications and your interactions with our volunteers, and that this is an issue that we should discuss and resolve at our meeting on September 10.

3. Your email states, *The failure to report the condition of this horse is concerning*. With all due respect, as our texts confirm, on Friday August 30, you concurred that Shadowfax was looking better and that his abscesses were healing. It was not until that evening that he was observed with a ruptured abscess. By the following morning, we had volunteers onsite to assess his condition. Yesterday around 230 pm, you requested that we get a vet out to assess Shadowfax's condition. Despite the fact that this is a holiday weekend, we had a vet out there by 9.15 am this morning. As stated above, his opinion is that the horse has a chance of recovery and that confining him at this time is not necessary.

4. Your email states: *The horse is also appearing at a body score condition below a 2 on the Henneke Body score condition chart*. As confirmed in our texts, you personally observed this horse just a few days before that and also felt he was improving. We are providing him with daily feed which he is eating. At this time, and upon consultation with the veterinarian, we do not believe euthanasia is warranted, as he is still with his band, eating and drinking and has a chance of recovery. As you know we have euthanized or facilitated the humane euthanasia of many horses already this year and if he goes down and it is his time, we will provide him with the merciful ending.

5. Regarding your statement, *This horse and his band should be contained in the area of Sheeps Crossing. They should have access to certified weed free hay and water at will for the remaining holiday weekend*. Please see response above about our emergency response this morning. The horses are being provided daily access to certified weed free alfalfa and they maintain easy access to the river, which provides adequate opportunity for hydration.

Regarding your directive that the entire band should be contained in Sheep's Crossing, we did bring panels to the site. However, we have determined that is not feasible to create an area large enough to safely contain a band of 12 horses -- that includes 3 healthy stallions -- for an extended period of time-- with paneling. Any area less than 1 acre in size will result in horses crashing panels, creating a safety risk for volunteers as well as horses. With the continued feed every day, we are fairly sure that they will not go far.

Also at this time, as stated above, the veterinarian does not believe that it's necessary to contain the horses, since they have already been symptomatic for several weeks (although we did not know it at the time) and remaining abscesses are drying up.

6. You state: *Please also note that another horse in this band appears pregnant and recently recovered from the same type of abscess. Her picture is attached.* We have identified this horse as Misha. It is very difficult to see anything on her in the field, but from your picture it looks like a healed abscess.

7. You requested that we make a post about Shadowfax and I complied. In turn, you received phone calls about him, which is to be expected. There are downsides to informing the public about every sick horse, because it creates confusion when people come looking for the horse, make posts about the horse, leading to other people looking for and posting about the horse, etc. This results in harassment to the horse and potential danger to the public, especially when it comes to parking next to a closed recreation site. Your current request is that we disclose the exact location of the sick horse, which I am not sure is a good idea, given that 70,000 people follow our social media pages. This could result in dozens more people trying to access a closed recreation area to find the horse. I leave it to AZDA to determine what warnings are appropriate for horseback riders. We will follow.

Everyone in this email thread, thank you for your concern. Have a good weekend.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Sheeps Crossing and the horse known as Shadowfax

From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

Date: Sat, August 31, 2019 4:20 pm

To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, (b) (6) - (b) (6)

(b) (6)

Good Afternoon Simone,

This morning I responded to Sheeps Crossing to assess the gray stud horse known as Shadowfax.

Per the phone conversation that you and I had approximately 1 hour earlier while I was driving to Sheeps Crossing, you were in Prescott and stated that you were not aware of his poor condition this morning. You also stated that you had sent me a text message regarding the horse last night (Friday pm) because you were aware of a new ruptured abscess on his forehead. I explained that the last text message from you was with a photograph Thursday showing this particular horse recovering and you acknowledged that you had received the emails I sent to you on Thursday.

To clarify you stated that you did not hit the send button for the text last night. You also stated that you did respond to my email from Thursday. At this time you have forwarded me the email response that did not come to my email Thursday.

I asked the MCSO to respond with me the horse may need a dispatch. I also asked that your volunteers not be present at Sheeps Crossing. You stated that they had left. Upon arrival (b) (6), and one other SRWHMG volunteer were there I asked them to leave. I explained to (b) (6) that per your instruction I was not to talk to any SRWHMG volunteers. I also explained that as in the past I do not need to have SRWHMG taking pictures of me or MCSO or anyone else involved with a horse emergency. (b) (6) stayed the other two volunteers left.

While speaking to (b) (6) you sent me a text: For the record, we do not believe SF needs to be euthanized yet at this point, because he recovered from a worse abscess earlier, While he looks terrible, and is skinny, we would like to give him a chance. Should he go down or lose his band we will make sure he gets a merciful ending. Thank you for checking.

You have also made a social media post referencing euthanasia and this horse.

The result of your comments has caused me to receive several phone calls from the public accusing me of dispatching this horse this am. You may considered posting specifically about this horse and where he is located as I have been contacted several other horse activist groups demanding the horse be removed from the Lower Salt River.

The failure to report the condition of this horse is concerning. Not only does he have several open draining abscesses he also has what appears to be several other bumps that may rupture and drain. The horse is also appearing at a body score condition below a 2 on the Hennekee Body score condition chart.

At this time SRWHMG will need to contact the veterinarian that you use so that this horse can receive medical attention and a professional opinion provided. I was able to swab the puss dripping from his head from the hay that your volunteer (b) (6) was feeding him by hand. This horses will walk up to you therefore I am certain a veterinarian can approach, assess, and provide a professional opinion of the situation. He is appearing to have no sight in his right eye at this time as well.

This horse and his band should be contained in the area of Sheeps Crossing. They should have access to certified weed free hay and water at will for the remaining holiday weekend.

Please also note that another horse in this band appears pregnant and recently recovered from the same type of abscess. Her picture is attached.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me. Please also respond to this email regarding your plan of action, an update as to the veterinarian responding, and an update for what time you will be containing the horses.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture  
address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007  
office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430



## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 2, 2019 2:39 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Russ -; Traci -; Brian -; John -; Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** RE: Beware, horses at Granite Reef

Jackie, I'm glad to give additional information any time.

Our team indeed drives up and down Bush Hwy in the the late evening hours in an effort to increase safety on Bush Hwy. I believe the incident you are referring to is when horses were on the shoulder of Bush Hwy at approximately road 2.2. and were moved off the road by our volunteers within 15 minutes.

The motorcycle incident is one that we heard about from a bus driver, but were not witness to. We called MCSO to obtain information. The only information they had was that there was a motorcycle accident at approximately water users and that according to the driver, there was a horse. We did not have a discription of the horse or even know if the horse was hit, so we looked for any injured horse. We found a grey horse that had a lot of stiffness but no broken bones, it is possible that this was the horse, but also possible that he was not. We have found no other injured horses.

The good news is that between February of 2019 and August 2019 there have been no accidents involving a horse. There has not been a horse hit since the installation of the three way stop.

The situation at Granite Reef is as you know not our only concern, but it is a big concern. The difference between that area and the rest of Bush Hwy is that there is no fencing on either side which gives the horses free access to the road. It prevents us from getting horses safe behind the fence, because there is no fence.

The traffic also comes in fast from power road which has low visibility around the corner. We are concerned because we are witnessing them crossing most mornings and nights in that exact location. It is of course impossible for our volunteers to be there at every instance.

We are glad to move that band of horses as soon as fencing is installed. Thank you for trying to make Bush Hwy a safer place. In the mean time we hope that some temporary quick solutions, something as simple and quick as some flashing construction cones, might be available? Thank you so much for your consideration.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Beware, horses at Granite Reef

From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

Date: Sat, August 31, 2019 3:15 pm

To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Cc: Mundy FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, Russ -

<[R\\_Skinner@mcso.maricopa.gov](mailto:R_Skinner@mcso.maricopa.gov)>, Traci - <[TraciRuth@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:TraciRuth@mail.maricopa.gov)>,

Brian - <[BrianNeves@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:BrianNeves@mail.maricopa.gov)>, John -

<[JohnCounts@mail.maricopa.gov](mailto:JohnCounts@mail.maricopa.gov)>, Michael Martinez

<[michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us](mailto:michaelmartinez@fs.fed.us)>

Simone,

Thank you for passing along the horse activity information to MCDOT. Please also include the information that you have from the motorcycle accident last weekend by water users and the incident last night with horses running up and down Bush Hwy from Pebble Beach to Sheeps crossing. One of your volunteers arrived and the public assisted with getting the horses off the hwy and into the rec site behind the fence.

We appreciate SRWHMG for keeping us updated and informed about the horses activity on the entire stretch of Bush Hwy.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

On Sat, Aug 31, 2019 at 1:31 PM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:

ALERT:

We want to make you aware that we have a band of wild horses frequenting the Granite Reef Rec site at this time. It is the only area where we were never authorized by the previous Mesa Ranger to install fence on either side of the Bush Hwy, therefore they have free access back and forth across the road in that location. There is a horse crossing sign there and it does have the message board also before the corner.

The horses come from the south side to cross the road and then enter the rec area. We have put out a warning to the public and also our volunteers are doing their best to warn oncoming traffic when they cross back to the south side in the evenings and the north side in the early mornings. This band was at coon bluff frequenting our feed station there all summer, however they have just now fallen back into their migrating patterns, and Granite Reef is this bands home range, they will continue to do this until it is fenced. The band consists of 8 horses, the stallions name is Lancelot. They are the only band that frequents the rec area. We consider this corner the most dangerous corner of Bush Hwy, because of low visibility and people come flying in from Power Road. 3 horses in Lancelots band have been hit in this location in the past 3 years.

Our volunteers will continue to try and prevent accidents by alerting oncoming traffic and we have also put out an alert on our social media. This is as much as we are authorized to do.

For short term quick safety solutions please consider the following:

- Add anything with flashing lights in that corner, perhaps solar flashing lights on top of to the horse crossing sign, or after the horse crossing sign and if possible some construction cones with flashing lights temporarily, or any kind of additional warning signs.

- and/or reduce the speed limit around that corner for the busy holiday weekend.
- Change the variable message board to say, Caution, watch for horses, crossing the road! (delete the "next 4 miles" as that removes the urgency and its really 15 miles of Bush Hwy instead of 4 miles)
- Add extra MCSO presence there to catch speeders.
- Add a VMB for the other side of traffic right at the last pullout before Granite Reef, there is a lot of space for one there.

We can move this band of horses, and we have before, however both sides of the road will need to be fenced so they cannot come right back. As we were not authorized by the Forest Service to fence this section we hope that either the FS or MCDOT can fence it, as soon as possible. It is perhaps approximately 1500 feet until the guardrail. Thank you for your attention to this urgent matter.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group

Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 12, 2019 12:32 PM  
**To:** Scott McCreary; Martinez, Michael - FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Francisco, Tolani - FS; Chris McCormack; Jacquelyn Hughes; Keith Mattson; Brian Manwaring; Valerie Puleo  
**Subject:** RE: Transmitting Draft Monday Sept 16 SRHC Agenda

Hi all, thank you, I would like the opportunity for 10 minutes to bring the map on the screen and point some problem areas out as well as some slides pointing out our solutions. I am also wondering if it would be possible to have one of our members audit the meeting with me, she will not speak but just audit.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Transmitting Draft Monday Sept 16 SRHC Agenda  
From: Scott McCreary <[scott@concurinc.net](mailto:scott@concurinc.net)>  
Date: Wed, September 11, 2019 4:59 pm  
To: "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Francisco, Tolani - FS" <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>, Chris McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>, Keith Mattson <[kmattsonllc@gmail.com](mailto:kmattsonllc@gmail.com)>, Brian Manwaring <[manwaring@udall.gov](mailto:manwaring@udall.gov)>, Valerie Puleo <[puleo@udall.gov](mailto:puleo@udall.gov)>

SRHC Members,

We are transmitting the agenda for the upcoming **Monday, September 16** meeting. As usual, we will meet at the Fountain Hills Community Center. The address is 13001 N La Montana Drive Fountain Hills, AZ 85268.

**Scheduling Note:** As our AZDA Lead Agencies colleagues have a morning meeting, we are asking SRHC members plan to arrive at 9:15 for a 9:30 start. We will adjourn the meeting at 3:30pm.

**Reminder:** We have asked the proponents of the four current Management Area proposals to provide updates to their proposals. We will discuss each proposal update and identify any essential final information needed to complete our deliberations on the Management Area proposals.

We look forward to seeing you on Monday, September 16th.

Regards,  
Scott and Keith

--

Scott McCreary, PhD  
Principal

CONCUR, Inc.

1832 Second Street

Berkeley, CA 94710

(510) 649-8008 / 649-1980 (fax)

[www.concurinc.com](http://www.concurinc.com)

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Saturday, September 14, 2019 2:24 PM  
**To:** Keith Mattson; Steven Bloch  
**Cc:** Scott McCreary; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; Jacquelyn Hughes; Christopher McCormack; Francisco, Tolani - FS; Brian Manwaring; Valerie Puleo  
**Subject:** RE: Important next steps for SRHC

Dear Keith and Scott,

We have not received the August 19th meeting supporting materials and presentations mentioned in your email below. Can you please provide those to us before Mondays meeting, we will try to provide our update beforehand. Thank you.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by those who care about the future".  
-Simone Netherlands.

### The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, monitor and study the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help to save this historic herd, please visit: [www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Important next steps for SRHC  
From: Keith Mattson <[kmattsonllc@gmail.com](mailto:kmattsonllc@gmail.com)>  
Date: Fri, August 23, 2019 2:05 pm  
To: Steven Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, [simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)  
Cc: Scott McCreary <[scott@concurinc.net](mailto:scott@concurinc.net)>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Tolani - FS <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>, Brian Manwaring <[manwaring@udall.gov](mailto:manwaring@udall.gov)>, Valerie Puleo <[puleo@udall.gov](mailto:puleo@udall.gov)>

Steve and Simone,



We hope you are both doing well. We understand that circumstances caused you to miss the last SRHC meeting. Today, we're writing on some key and timely SRHC next steps with the aim of enabling progress on several fronts.

1. August 19 Meeting Summary and Handouts. As we always strive to do, we turn around the draft meeting summary for Lead Agency review in two to three days. As soon as the agencies complete their review, we'll forward the summary and the various supporting attachments to the SRHC.

2. Management Area Proposals. We are working hard to get complete and final Management Area proposals in hand for the next Work Team meeting, which we intend to hold about two weeks from now. You will both be notified about scheduling this.

3. Mesa Boundary Fence. We understand from the FS that they stand ready to meet with you on the Mesa Boundary Fence project. Our understanding is that gaining clarity on this fence project is a key factor for your Management Area proposal, so we strongly encourage you to please move ahead and schedule this meeting as soon as possible.

4. Map of Your Management Area Proposal. As well, Chandler stands ready to meet with you and work with you to delineate precise boundaries for your Management Area proposal. Please move ahead and schedule that meeting.

5. Other information needs. Please let us know what other information you may need to complete your Management Area proposal.

6. Two-Phase Management Area Approach. Robin Silver has identified four contingent requirements to move from his proposed Phase 1 Management Area to a larger Management Area. These requirements include third party funding for underpasses or overpasses and a coherent adaptive management program to track and monitor the quality of the landscape. Your ideas about how to make these and the other requirements a reality would be most helpful.

Please give this email serious consideration and let us know if you have any questions or would like to discuss these items in more detail.

Thanks,

Keith and Scott

**Keith Mattson, LLC**

Urban Planning and Policy Analysis

900 Hahaione Street Honolulu, HI 96825

Phone: 808 722 0207

[kmattsonllc@gmail.com](mailto:kmattsonllc@gmail.com)

<http://www.accord3.com>

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

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**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 7:27 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes; Kendall, Aaron - FS  
**Cc:** Mark Killian; Robert Smook; Christopher McCormack; Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Francisco, Tolani - FS; (b) (6) -  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Strangles Sign or approval

Thank you all, working on it and I will send the proof one more time for your approval so they can be installed by tomorrow afternoon.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Strangles Sign or approval  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Wed, September 18, 2019 6:47 pm  
To: "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>  
Cc: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsnook@azda.gov](mailto:rsnook@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Francisco, Tolani - FS" <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>, (b) (6) - S (b) (6) (b) (6) >

Hello Aaron,

In the past, if the FS received calls on the SRh's the public is directed to the TNF home page under features to Salt River horses. My contact info is there along with other SRh info and links.

When the calls reach me, depending on the question, I direct them to SRWHMG if applicable or to any other appropriate departments such as public information officers.

Thank you  
Jackie

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019, 5:28 PM Kendall, Aaron - FS <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)> wrote:

Sorry for being late to the conversation, I'm out of the office. Will the signs have a line about, "any questions about this can be addressed by calling...SRWHMG or AZDA". Being that the signs will be on the Forest, our District frontlines will undoubtedly be bombarded with phone calls. Since the Forest isn't the agency issuing the warning, it would be helpful to direct inquiries to folks that speak about this problem.

Aaron

Aaron M. Kendall  
Acting District Ranger  
Forest Service  
Tonto National Forest  
Mesa Ranger District  
p: 480-610-3301  
c: 928-821-8581  
[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)  
5140 E. Ingram St.  
Mesa, AZ 85205  
[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)  
Caring for the land and serving people

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**From:** Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 5:02:12 PM

**To:** Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

**Cc:** Director Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>; Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>; Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>; Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>; Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Francisco, Tolani - FS <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>; Kendall, Aaron - FS <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>; Aaron Flowers - SHERIFFX <[a\\_flowers@mcso.maricopa.gov](mailto:a_flowers@mcso.maricopa.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: Strangles Sign or approval  
Good Afternoon Simone,

The Forest Service has authorized the signs to be placed at all rec sites along the lower Salt River area from Water Users to Granite Reef Rec Site. Please be sure to include the dirt parking lot where you may typically find trucks and trailers that are transporting domestic horses for pleasure riding near Coon Bluff rec site.

Please be sure to use the corrected language that Chris sent recently, "" WARNING!!! Strangles outbreak confirmed in Salt River horses. Not contagious to humans, but humans can transmit it to domestic horses. Please keep a distance of more than 50' from Salt River horses."

Please also be sure to remove the word "wild" in reference to the Salt River horses.

Respectfully please direct your questions about the lab report that was provided to you this morning, with the positive indicator, to the veterinarian that you most recently used when SRWHMG had the horse "Shadowfax" evaluated on 9/1/19. I have attached the letter you submitted to AZDA on 9/9/19.

Please indicate that you are in receipt of this email. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 3:34 PM Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> wrote:  
Sorry Simone, I tried reaching out because I had an error on the language. rather than saying "observed" can it read, "A strangles outbreak is confirmed in Salt River horses. . . ." Please let me know your thoughts.

Chris McCormack  
Associate Director, Animal Services Division  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
1688 W. Adams St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602-542-7186

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 12:51 PM Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> wrote:  
Simone,  
Would it be possible to change the language to read:

" WARNING!!! Strangles outbreak observed in Salt River horses. Not contagious to humans, but humans can transmit it to domestic horses. Please keep a distance of more than 50' from Salt River horses."

The FS has indicated they are OK with this language and would authorize you to put up signs that said this.  
Let us know if there is a problem with this.

Chris McCormack  
Associate Director, Animal Services Division  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
1688 W. Adams St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602-542-7186

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 10:59 AM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:  
Thank you, was the test positive for the live streptococcus or dead bacteria? Please see attached strangles warning for approval to be hung at the 2.2 gate and Sheeps Crossing.



Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301

Cell: (928) 925 7212

<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by those who care about the future".  
-Simone Netherlands.

### The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, monitor and study the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help to save this historic herd, please visit:  
[www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Strangles Sign

From: (b) (6) >

Date: Fri, September 13, 2019 10:35 am

To: (b) (6), (b) (6),  
[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)

Attached is a copy of the latest Strangles sign.

This electronic message contains information generated by the USDA solely for the intended recipients. Any unauthorized interception of this message or the use or disclosure of the information it contains may violate the law and subject the violator to civil or criminal penalties. If you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 19, 2019 1:43 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** Kendall, Aaron - FS; Mark Killian; Robert Smook; Christopher McCormack; Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Francisco, Tolani - FS; (b) (6) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Strangles Sign for approval  
**Attachments:** final sign.jpg

See attached final version without the word wild. Of course we beg to differ, but we have compromised on that point. Please let me know asap so that we still have time to print today.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Strangles Sign for approval  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Thu, September 19, 2019 8:14 am  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Francisco, Tolani - FS" <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>, (b) (6) <[\(b\)\(6\)@maricopa.gov](mailto:(b)(6)@maricopa.gov)>

Good Morning Simone,

Unfortunately this sign cannot be authorized until the word "wild" is removed.

As you know, the Salt River horses do not reside in an area that is considered under the 1971 WH&B Act.

If you would please revise this sign by removing the word "wild" and resend this to all of us, we would be happy to take another look for authorization.

Thank you,



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007  
office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

On Thu, Sep 19, 2019 at 7:57 AM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:  
Please see attached proof sign for your approval.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Strangles Sign or approval  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Wed, September 18, 2019 6:47 pm  
To: "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>  
Cc: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Francisco, Tolani - FS" <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>, (b) (6)  
(b) (6) (b) (6)

Hello Aaron,

In the past, if the FS received calls on the SRh's the public is directed to the TNF home page under features to Salt River horses. My contact info is there along with other SRh info and links.

When the calls reach me, depending on the question, I direct them to SRWHMG if applicable or to any other appropriate departments such as public information officers.

Thank you  
Jackie

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019, 5:28 PM Kendall, Aaron - FS <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)> wrote:  
Sorry for being late to the conversation, I'm out of the office. Will the signs have a line about, " any questions about this can be addressed by calling...SRWHMG or AZDA".  
Being that the signs will be on the Forest, our District frontlines will undoubtedly be bombarded with phone calls. Since the Forest isn't the agency issuing the warning, it would be helpful to direct inquiries to folks that speak about this problem.

Aaron

Aaron M. Kendall  
Acting District Ranger  
Forest Service  
Tonto National Forest  
Mesa Ranger District

p: 480-610-3301

c: (b) (6)

[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)

5140 E. Ingram St.

Mesa, AZ 85205

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)

Caring for the land and serving people

---

**From:** Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, September 18, 2019 5:02:12 PM

**To:** Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

**Cc:** Director Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>; Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>; Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>; Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>; Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Francisco, Tolani - FS <[tolani.francisco@usda.gov](mailto:tolani.francisco@usda.gov)>; Kendall, Aaron - FS <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>; Aaron Flowers - SHERIFFX <(b) (6)@maricopa.gov>

**Subject:** Re: Strangles Sign or approval  
Good Afternoon Simone,

The Forest Service has authorized the signs to be placed at all rec sites along the lower Salt River area from Water Users to Granite Reef Rec Site. Please be sure to include the dirt parking lot where you may typically find trucks and trailers that are transporting domestic horses for pleasure riding near Coon Bluff rec site.

Please be sure to use the corrected language that Chris sent recently, "" WARNING!!! Strangles outbreak confirmed in Salt River horses. Not contagious to humans, but humans can transmit it to domestic horses. Please keep a distance of more than 50' from Salt River horses."

Please also be sure to remove the word "wild" in reference to the Salt River horses.

Respectfully please direct your questions about the lab report that was provided to you this morning, with the positive indicator, to the veterinarian that you most recently used when SRWHMG had the horse "Shadowfax" evaluated on 9/1/19. I have attached the letter you submitted to AZDA on 9/9/19.

Please indicate that you are in receipt of this email. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you,





Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 3:34 PM Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> wrote:

Sorry Simone, I tried reaching out because I had an error on the language. rather than saying "observed" can it read, "A strangles outbreak is confirmed in Salt River horses. . . ." Please let me know your thoughts.

Chris McCormack  
Associate Director, Animal Services Division  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
1688 W. Adams St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602-542-7186

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 12:51 PM Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> wrote:

Simone,  
Would it be possible to change the language to read:

" WARNING!!! Strangles outbreak observed in Salt River horses. Not contagious to humans, but humans can transmit it to domestic horses. Please keep a distance of more than 50' from Salt River horses."

The FS has indicated they are OK with this language and would authorize you to put up signs that said this. Let us know if there is a problem with this.

Chris McCormack  
Associate Director, Animal Services Division  
Arizona Department of Agriculture  
1688 W. Adams St.  
Phoenix, AZ 85007  
602-542-7186

On Wed, Sep 18, 2019 at 10:59 AM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:

Thank you, was the test positive for the live streptococcus or dead bacteria? Please see attached strangles warning for approval to be hung at the 2.2 gate and Sheeps Crossing.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group

Office: (480) 868 9301  
Cell: (928) 925 7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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[www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

----- Original Message -----

Subject: Strangles Sign

From: (b) (6) >

Date: Fri, September 13, 2019 10:35 am

To: (b) (6) (b) (6) >,  
[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)

Attached is a copy of the latest Strangles sign.

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# WARNING!!!

**STRANGLES (STREPTOCOCCUS EQUI)  
CONFIRMED IN SOME SALT RIVER HORSES**

**NOT CONTAGIOUS TO HUMANS, BUT HUMANS  
CAN TRANSFER IT TO DOMESTIC HORSES**

**Please keep a distance of more  
than 50' away from horses**



## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, September 23, 2019 12:07 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Mark Killian; Jeff Grant; Christopher McCormack; Robert Smook; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Lower Salt River Closure Order

Thank you, all of our volunteers have left the area and are safe, we currently have 2 volunteers left on Bush Hwy patrol only.

Yesterday (Sunday) morning was a full feed day and all of the feed stations were stocked. We are feeding daily at SC and 2.2, in order to improve the health of those bands. Both of those stations have lots of room for volunteers to stay away from the water. I will cancel that feed for tonight, please let us know how to proceed from there.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Lower Salt River Closure Order  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Mon, September 23, 2019 11:21 am  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>, (b) (6), (b) (6)  
(b) (6)



Hello Simone,

Attached is the closure order for the Lower Salt River area.

At this time, due to the rain event currently taking place, this area is not safe for human travel. We will work with Tonto National Forest today to determine how and when it is safe to supplemental feed the Salt River horses. Please also be aware that AZDA will be providing SRWHMG guidance for the supplemental feed program after we discuss the safest way to proceed with the Tonto National Forest Staff.

We did receive an email from you late Saturday evening. Could you please provide the last date that SRWHMG fed the Salt River horses?

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes

**Salt River Horse Liaison**

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Friday, September 27, 2019 1:11 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes  
**Cc:** Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Mark Killian; Jeff Grant; Christopher McCormack; Robert Smook; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Wages, Andrea - FS; Kendall, Aaron - FS  
**Subject:** RE: Supplemental feeding Authorization

Hello all,  
We want to make you aware that there is a dead horse in proximity of Fox Tail. We are checking on that. However I will not be able to email since I will be in the field all day.

We are hoping to be able to go up in a helicopter with N5 later this afternoon to do a count and a health check and check the banks of the river for any other deceased horses. Please let us know immediately when you hear of any other deceased horses and we will do the same.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Supplemental feeding Authorization  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Fri, September 27, 2019 10:11 am  
To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>  
Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>, Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Wages, Andrea - FS" <[andrea.wages@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.wages@usda.gov)>, "Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>

Thank you!  
Please be safe out there.



Jacquelyn Hughes  
Salt River Horse Liaison

Arizona Department of Agriculture

address: 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

office: (602) 542-0942 mobile: (602) 339-5430

On Fri, Sep 27, 2019 at 9:41 AM <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)> wrote:  
Got it, we will do a big feed tonight, a lot of hungry horses, thank you.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301

Cell: (928)-925-7212

<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Supplemental feeding Authorization

From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>

Date: Fri, September 27, 2019 8:57 am

To: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Cc: Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy  
<[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>,  
Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack  
<[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsmook@azda.gov](mailto:rsmook@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez  
<[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS"  
<[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Wages, Andrea - FS" <[andrea.wages@usda.gov](mailto:andrea.wages@usda.gov)>,  
"Kendall, Aaron - FS" <[aaron.kendall@usda.gov](mailto:aaron.kendall@usda.gov)>

Hello Simone,

Attached please find the termination order for the Closure on the Lower Salt River area.

Supplemental feeding is authorized at this time. Please review the areas that SRWHMG is able to travel on the Lower Salt River safely.

Coons Bluff-

Foxtail

Sheeps Crossing

2.2 administrative road- please do not take this road all the way down to the river with a vehicle because of the water levels this area near the river has not yet been determined to be safe.

Please do not use the emergency access road from Goldfield (bus stop 4) to the mud cliffs. This road is not safe for vehicle travel as the water levels washed out areas under the existing road.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes

**Salt River Horse Liaison**

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** Jacquelyn Hughes <jhughes@azda.gov>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 1, 2019 11:34 AM  
**To:** Simone Netherlands  
**Cc:** Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Mark Killian; Jeff Grant; Christopher McCormack; Robert Smook; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Lane, Matthew A -FS; (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Granite Reef Closure Order  
**Attachments:** 03-12-03-19-366 MAP.pdf; 19-09-26 drft 03-12-03-19-366 Granite Reef Closure final ADOBE.pdf

Hello Simone,

I wanted to share with you that there is a closure order in place for the Granite Reef Dam recreation site.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes

Salt River Horse Liaison

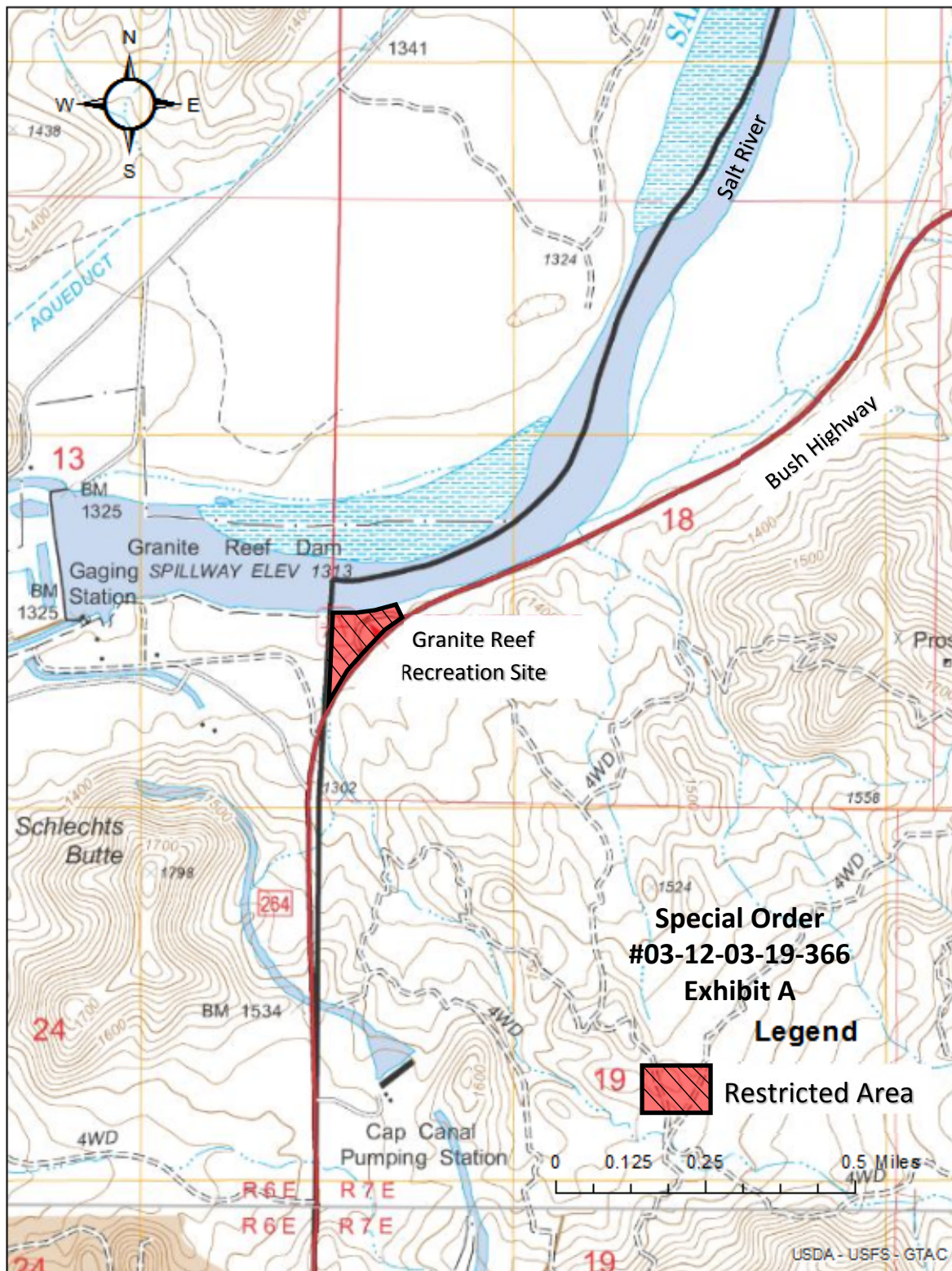
Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430



# Granite Reef Recreation Site Closure



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE  
TONTO NATIONAL FOREST  
MESA RANGER DISTRICT**

***Granite Reef Recreation Site Public Health and Safety Closure Order***

**PROHIBITIONS**

Pursuant to 16 U.S.C. § 551 and 36 C.F.R. § 261.51(a), the following act is prohibited on all National Forest System lands as described in this Order (the “Restricted Area”), and as depicted on the attached map, hereby incorporated into this Order as Exhibit A, all within the Tonto National Forest, within the state of Arizona.

1. Going into or being upon the Restricted Area. 36 C.F.R. § 261.53(e).

**EXEMPTIONS**

Pursuant to 36 C.F.R. § 261.50(e), the following persons are exempt from the provisions of this Order:

1. Any Federal, State, or local officer, or member of any organized rescue or fire fighting force in the performance of an official duty.

**RESTRICTED AREA**

The Restricted Area is located at the Granite Reef Recreation Site north of Bush Highway at approximate mile post 21.8, which includes portions of R7E, T2N, Section 18. Specifically, it includes all National Forest System lands within the boundary starting at the eastern edge of the recreation site parking lot pavement where it intersects with the northern side of Bush Highway, then following north to the edge of the Salt River, then following the southern edge of the Salt River west to the National Forest boundary, then following the Forest boundary south until it intersects with Bush Highway, then following the northern edge of Bush Highway east back to the point of beginning at the intersection with the eastern edge of the recreation site parking lot pavement, as depicted in the map in Exhibit A.

**PURPOSE**

The purpose of this Order is to protect National Forest visitor health and safety due to unsafe conditions near the Granite Reef dam.

**IMPLEMENTATION**

1. This Order will be in effect at 06:00 a.m. on September 27, 2019, and shall remain in effect until October 15, 2019, or until rescinded, whichever occurs first.
2. A map identifying the Restricted Areas is attached and made part of this Order as Exhibit A.
3. Any violation of this prohibition is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor by a fine of not more than \$5,000 for individuals or \$10,000 for organizations, or by imprisonment for not more than six (6) months, or both (*see* 16 U.S.C. 551, 18 U.S.C. 3571(b)(6), 18 U.S.C. 3581(b)(7)).
4. Further information regarding this Order may be obtained at the Tonto National Forest Supervisor's Office in Phoenix, Arizona, (602) 225-5200, Mesa Ranger District Office in Mesa, AZ, 480-610-3300.
5. This Order supersedes any previous orders prohibiting the same acts covered by this Order.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of September 2019, at Phoenix, Arizona.

---

Neil Bosworth  
Forest Supervisor  
Tonto National Forest

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Tuesday, October 1, 2019 12:37 PM  
**To:** Jacquelyn Hughes; Mark Killian  
**Cc:** Steve Bloch; Suzanne Roy; Jeff Grant; Christopher McCormack; Robert Smook; Martinez, Michael - FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Lane, Matthew A -FS; (b) (6) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Granite Reef Closure Order

Hi, thank you so much for the notice, and thank you Director Killian, we are concerned with one band of horses (Lancelot' band) at the Granite Reef Rec Site who would potentially cross the road from the South side and not be able to get into the rec site like they like to do, (because that is the area that is lacking fencing) , but we will put out some extra SRWHMG road patrol for that area tonight, like we did when all of the rec sites were closed. Do we know how long it is projected to be closed for? Thank you so much, we appreciate your concern.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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-Simone Netherlands.

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Re: Granite Reef Closure Order  
From: Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)>  
Date: Tue, October 01, 2019 12:04 pm  
To: Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>  
Cc: Simone Netherlands <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>, Steve Bloch <[steve@capitolstrat.com](mailto:steve@capitolstrat.com)>, Suzanne Roy <[sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org](mailto:sroy@americanwildhorsecampaign.org)>, Jeff Grant <[jgrant@azda.gov](mailto:jgrant@azda.gov)>, Christopher McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>, Robert Smook <[rsnook@azda.gov](mailto:rsnook@azda.gov)>, Mike Martinez <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, Matt Lane <[matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov)>, (b) (6) (b) (6)  
(b) (6) >

Last that I had heard, there are approximately 30 horses that potentially utilize this area.

I have not had any recent reports of horses in this area by other agencies since 9/16/19 when MCSO reported horses on the road by Granite Reef.

I have not received any horse concerns from SRWHMG.

Thank you,



Jacquelyn Hughes

**Salt River Horse Liaison**

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430

On Tue, Oct 1, 2019 at 11:44 AM Mark Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)> wrote:

Jackie: Any horses impacted by this??? Markk

On Tue, Oct 1, 2019 at 11:34 AM Jacquelyn Hughes <[jhughes@azda.gov](mailto:jhughes@azda.gov)> wrote:

Hello Simone,

I wanted to share with you that there is a closure order in place for the Granite Reef Dam recreation site.

Thank you



Jacquelyn Hughes

**Salt River Horse Liaison**

Arizona Department of Agriculture

**address:** 1688 W. Adams St. Phoenix, AZ 85007

**office:** (602) 542-0942 **mobile:** (602) 339-5430



## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Sent:** Friday, October 11, 2019 2:22 PM  
**To:** simone@respect4horses.com; Steve Bloch; Scott McCreary  
**Cc:** Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Jacquelyn Hughes; Chris McCormack; Keith Mattson; Brian Manwaring; Lane, Matthew A -FS  
**Subject:** Map for your proposal  
**Attachments:** Horse\_Management\_PlanningAreas Minus Inciweb Cactus Fire.pdf

Simone, attached please find a map that depicts the original four management areas with a polygon highlighting the exclusion of the Inciweb Cactus Fire Map area. I believe this map is consistent with the proposal description provided in your August 18, 2019 letter that was transmitted on this email thread below. This map should help round out your proposal to meet the final deadline for submittal of complete proposals by COB Monday, October 14. Let me know if you have any questions, thanks.



**Mike Martinez**  
**Ecosystem Staff Officer**

**Forest Service**  
**Tonto National Forest**

**p: 602-225-5252**

**c: 602-499-5818**

[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)

2324 E McDowell Rd  
Phoenix, AZ 85006

[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



**Caring for the land and serving people**

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com [mailto:simone@respect4horses.com]  
**Sent:** Sunday, August 18, 2019 11:08 PM  
**To:** Scott McCreary <scott@concurinc.net>  
**Cc:** Martinez, Michael - FS <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>; Kendall, Aaron - FS <aaron.kendall@usda.gov>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <chandler.mundy@usda.gov>; Jacquelyn Hughes <jhughes@azda.gov>; Chris McCormack <cmccormack@azda.gov>; Keith Mattson <kmattsonllc@gmail.com>; Valerie Puleo <puleo@udall.gov>; Brian Manwaring <manwaring@udall.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter to collaborative

I apologize for not being able to make it to the collaborative meeting tomorrow, (b) (6) Steve can also not make it. Please see attached letter of management plan and please feel free to distribute to collaborative members. It was also sent earlier to Scott and Jacquelyn, thank you.

Gratefully,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480) 868 9301

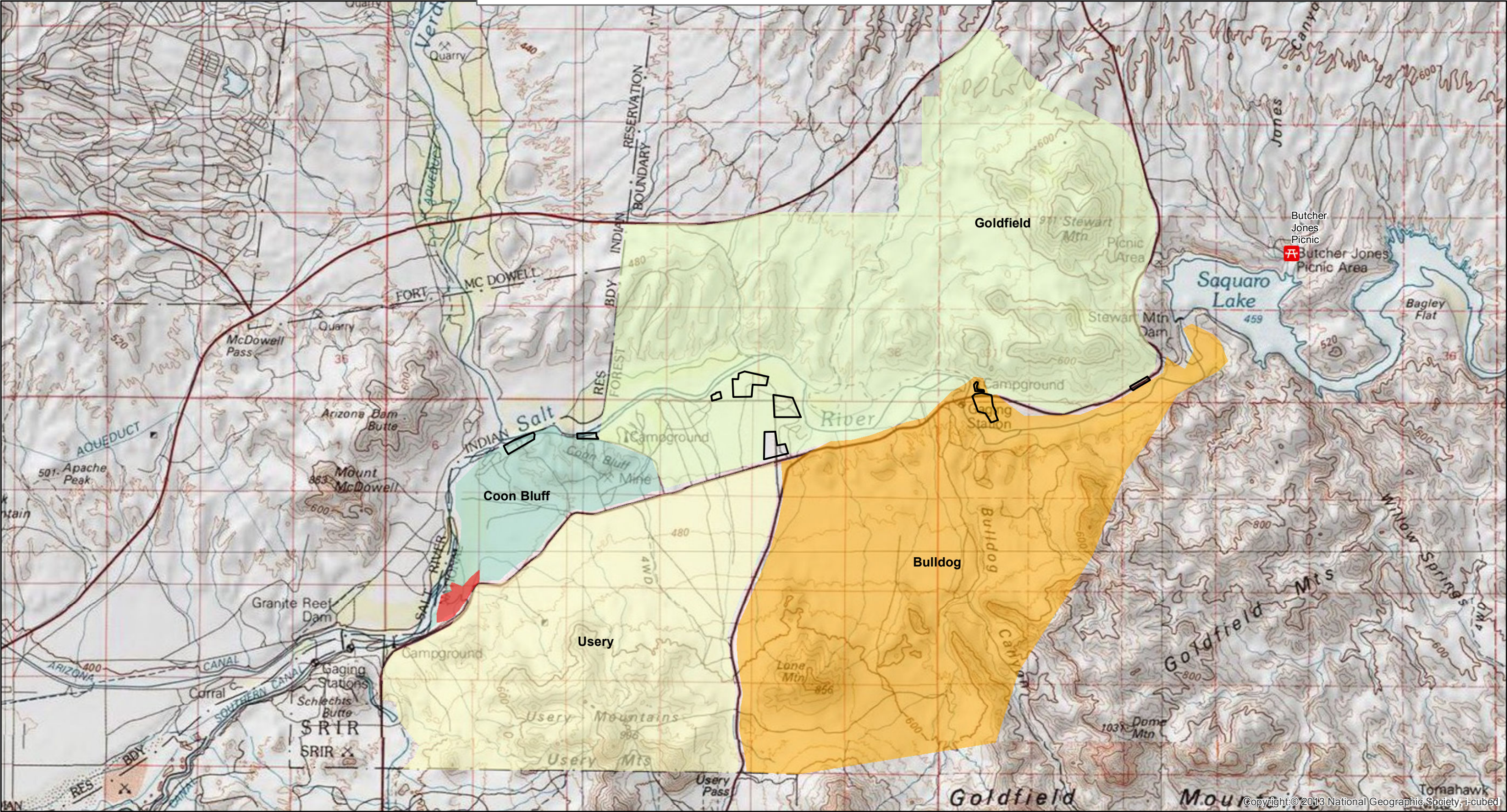
Cell: (928) 925 7212

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# Salt River Horse Managment Planning Areas



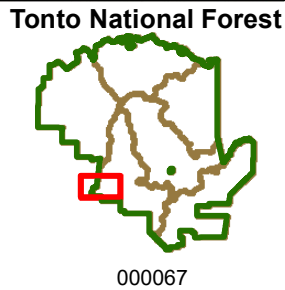
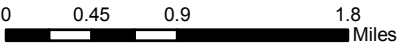
**Legend**

**Planning Areas**

- Bulldog
- Coon Bluff
- Goldfield
- Usery

**Other Features**

- Developed Site
- Unofficial Cactus Fire Perimeter





## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2019 3:26 PM  
**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS; Chris McCormack; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS; Bosworth, Neil -FS; Director Killian  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent issues.

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----- Original Message -----

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From: "Lane, Matthew A -FS" <matthew.lane@usda.gov>  
Date: Mon, November 25, 2019 3:02 pm  
To: "simone@respect4horses.com" <simone@respect4horses.com>, Chris McCormack <cmccormack@azda.gov>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <chandler.mundy@usda.gov>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>, "Bosworth, Neil -FS" <neil.bosworth@usda.gov>, Director Killian <mkillian@azda.gov>

Hi All,

After further discussion, we would ask that AZDA and its contractor not cut the fence. Each time the fence is cut, the cost of replacement is substantial as large sections (up to a half-mile) must be replaced. Additionally, the added expense of rebuilding these sections could take away the ability to complete future fence sections.

That being said, I want to be as flexible as possible in placing gates where needed for AZDA to manage the movement of the horses. Please continue to work with Chandler on gate placement and we will do our best to get to a solution that works.

Thanks,



**Matthew A. Lane**  
**District Ranger**

**Forest Service**  
**Mesa Ranger District Tonto National Forest**

**p: 480-610-3301**

**c: 480-589-4490**

**[matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov)**

5140 E. Ingram St.  
Mesa, AZ 85205

**[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)**



**Caring for the land and serving people**

---

**From:** [simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com) [<mailto:simone@respect4horses.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2019 1:22 PM

**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS <[matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov)>; Chris McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Bosworth, Neil -FS <[neil.bosworth@usda.gov](mailto:neil.bosworth@usda.gov)>; Director Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>

**Subject:** Urgent issues.

Hello gentlemen,

Since I have not heard back, as a follow up I want to offer some additional explanations about the issues we are having on Bush Hwy as a result of the new fencing. Most particularly the problems at "the CB 3-way stop horse crossing" and at Water Users. Please take into account that SRWHMG is trying to mitigate these problems and solve them in collaboration with you. There is one fairly simple solution we could implement right away.

Our organization does have the duty to explain the issues we are having and most often in the form of posts on facebook. With that, I am hoping to illustrate clearly what the horses are doing, but at the same time please note that we have not posted any phone numbers or email addresses to contact, and we are not planning any protests or anything of the sort on this issue. Our people, as well as our supporters, are simply politely asking to solve these safety issues that were not there before.

As you know for years we have worked on safety improvements on Bush Hwy and the 3-way stop is the best thing that has happened to Bush Hwy since then. This horse crossing has been a very safe place for horses to cross back and forth, and we have never had an accident there. Our volunteers are there every night to make traffic aware when horses are crossing. On an average night we cross 110 horses, and the other more dangerous crossings are no longer used.

However like mentioned previously, just 3 days ago, their old way of getting to the 3-way stop has been closed off by the barbed wire fence. This old migrating path was a safe entrance/exit because it was behind bushes away from traffic, and they had a bit of easement to be away from the road.

So once it was closed, the horses did was continue to walk up Flag Hill on the wrong side of the fence. We have since constructed a cross fence out of caution tape to keep the horses from walking up flag hill and that is working. We have no more horses walking up Flag Hill.



However, they now have no choice but to take a different route, which requires them to use the opening on Coon Bluff road and then cross coon bluff road and when moving from north to south, they get to the 3 way from the other side of the road. This is not a safe way and it makes for lots of traffic standing still to watch them on Coon Bluff road, which poses a safety hazard. I want to thank Chris very much for coming out to see how the horses are reacting.the horses react to this.

We had so many challenges again last night with bands taking several different wrong paths including diverting to Phon D horse crossing. This is exactly what we don't want them to do. There is no 3 way stop there and we have no volunteers there, so it is much more dangerous.

Last night a lady got into an accident swerving to avoid a horse at Phon D, an ambulance took her to the hospital. This is upsetting since it is a direct consequence of closing the one safe exit/entrance where horses came in out of Coon Bluff to cross at the 3-way. I filmed yesterday how it diverted some of the bands to Phon D, if you are interested in seeing it.

IF the horses do not have a familiar path that they trust, the process of getting horses inside of the fencing that is currently being constructed, is going to be impossible this way as well. A brand new gate in an unfamiliar area is just simply not going to work. In short, you are in fact fencing horses out of the area, that we want them to be in. In the process Bush Hwy will be unsafer until all measures are finished.

As Ive mentioned before, when fencing horses in or out, it is of most importance to start with the areas where you least want them to go. It cannot be done backwards because we will not be able to get horses out of those unsafe/undesired areas once they have diverted to them and established new patterns.

The solution to these problems is to open the old safe path at Coon Bluff back up until we have;

1. The CB recreation area closure (by the river) finished and horse safe cattle guards finished and installed. If this is not done first, then horses will get out right where the fence ends at the rec area, which will result in them walking the entire length of Coon Bluff Road, very unsafe for the public.
2. The Granite Reef area will need to be closed on both sides of the road with fencing or they will all divert to crossing there.This area is the worst possible option for horses to end up since they can then also start walking up Power Road.
3. The Phon D area, same process, it will need to be closed or they will divert to crossing there.
4. The 4-way area, same process, it will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards, or they will divert to crossing there and walk up usury pass road.
5. The Water users area, same process, will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards or they will divert to crossing there.
6. The Water Users area will need an extended length of fencing next to the guard rail on the north side, or horses will walk right past the end of the fencing, and start crossing at Saguaro lake ranch and even the marina.

Opening their familiar path back up will only require us cutting a small piece of fence, just 10 or 20 ft wide. Then they could go back to the safer walking patterns, until all of the other areas are done. Also then the fencing along the rest of Coon Bluff road can continue. This will make the transitions "doable".

Please authorize us to cut that 20 ft piece of fence in their familiar old path immediately and add one of our gates there later.

Thank you in advance. Again please call me anytime. Please let me know your response as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301

Cell: (928)-925-7212

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Urgent issues.

From: <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Date: Fri, November 22, 2019 12:00 pm

To: [matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov), "Chris McCormack" <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> ,

"Mundy FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)> , "Michael Martinez"

<[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

Good morning gentlemen,

We had a difficult evening last night trying to prevent horses from going on the wrong side of the new fence. With the busy weekend coming up we are concerned.

I had put pink tape on the horse path at CB where they are used to heading in and out, to install one of the green gates we dropped off, but it may not have been noticed and it was fenced off. I know you have been made aware by Chris, but because this is urgent, and for the record, I hope it is ok if I communicate with us all in one email to explain further.

Granted the opening for the new gate at Coon Bluff is not far, but the horses do not know that it is open so they walk right past that opening towards the old opening and when they notice that is closed, they turn in circles for a while , then proceed past the old opening, then over flag hill and they end up on the wrong side of the fence for a long way. They cannot get back in until the 4 way at usery pass because the old gates at mm26 have been removed. (I flagged mm 26 for a green gate to solve that problem but it has already been fenced shut) We also had some bands that chose to walk down CB road instead all the way to the trailer parking opening.

6 green gates that we paid for have been delivered to Sheeps Crossing. The solution would be one of our gates in the spot where they are used to going in, right below Flag hill, immediately. And one on Coon Bluff road in the first small pullout before they fence it off. I have flagged both spots. This would make the transition easier to accomplish. The problem is that the gate they poured is in a spot that they are used to being closed, so they do not check that spot. Those gates should be there before the rest of Coon Bluff road is fenced off otherwise I cannot even tell you how many horses will be on the road in a panic. The crew has been pouring corners but does not seem to be doing anything at the pink flags I placed. This is concerning as they will probably fence tomorrow.

We try very hard to mitigate issues but we cannot stay all night. Teaching horses to change their paths is a gradual process that has taken us years to do. If we closed one option, we always had the next option they walk to, open. Then when ready to close that option, they always had the next one open and so on and so on, we did that from both sides until we created a major crossing in the safest place, which is now the 3 way. If we teach them that this pathway is closed and we then they get used to walking all the way on the wrong side of the fence towards the 4 way, that would be an undesired consequence and would be difficult to change, once they learned it.

The other serious issue is at Water Users. The fence stops abruptly and too soon and is not connected to the guard rails. We don't want horses walking all the way to the lake, so to solve that issue we will need cross fence towards the mountain and to the guardrail. If horses successfully walk past the corner towards the lake we will have a much bigger problem, therefore these issues require immediate solutions. I took a piece of video there yesterday with the horses that had already walked passed the end of the fencing.

In addition, the space between the water users parking lot not being fenced off is a serious issue if it will continue. There is a band of bachelors frequenting the area right now. If it is fenced then we can close the water users gates at night. It is unwise to have one side of the road fenced off but not the other.

Also can you tell me what is the intent with the trailer parking opening? If it will be a people opening or not an opening at all, to prevent double work and cost, then we will also need an emergency horse gate in that location in addition to the feed spot where we need to get in with hay. Also please if you can tell me if you know if the fencing project along the river will start or not?

Again, we try, we work hard even in the rain, and we are there at the peak hours to mitigate horse issues, but we cannot stay all night. All of these issues are predictable and we would have liked to work them out with you before the commencement of the project. We know the horses' patterns, our concerns are honest and they are valid. Please halt the fencing further down Coon Bluff road, until we address these issues first, for the sake of public safety and horse safety.

All of the spots for the gates have orange tape on each side where a post should go. In one spot there are only trees so I tied it to those. I'm available to show it to the fencing crew any time. Please don't fence them out without these emergency gates.

Thank you in advance. Please call me anytime, I will make myself available today to show you where and why these issues are occurring.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group

Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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you believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender and delete the email immediately.

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2019 3:26 PM  
**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS; Chris McCormack; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS; Bosworth, Neil -FS; Director Killian  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent issues.

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**District Ranger**  
**Forest Service**  
**Mesa Ranger District Tonto National Forest**

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3. The Phon D area, same process, it will need to be closed or they will divert to crossing there.

4. The 4-way area, same process, it will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards, or they will divert to crossing there and walk up usury pass road.

5. The Water users area, same process, will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards or they will divert to crossing there.

6. The Water Users area will need an extended length of fencing next to the guard rail on the north side, or horses will walk right past the end of the fencing, and start crossing at Saguaro lake ranch and even the marina.

Opening their familiar path back up will only require us cutting a small piece of fence, just 10 or 20 ft wide. Then they could go back to the safer walking patterns, until all of the other areas are done. Also then the fencing along the rest of Coon Bluff road can continue. This will make the transitions "doable".

Please authorize us to cut that 20 ft piece of fence in their familiar old path immediately and add one of our gates there later.

Thank you in advance. Again please call me anytime. Please let me know your response as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Simone Netherlands, President

Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301

Cell: (928)-925-7212

<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by people who care about the future".

-Simone Netherlands.

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Urgent issues.

From: <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Date: Fri, November 22, 2019 12:00 pm

To: [matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov), "Chris McCormack" <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>,

"Mundy FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>, "Michael Martinez"  
<[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

Good morning gentlemen,

We had a difficult evening last night trying to prevent horses from going on the wrong side of the new fence. With the busy weekend coming up we are concerned.

I had put pink tape on the horse path at CB where they are used to heading in and out, to install one of the green gates we dropped off, but it may not have been noticed and it was fenced off. I know you have been made aware by Chris, but because this is urgent, and for the record, I hope it is ok if I communicate with us all in one email to explain further.

Granted the opening for the new gate at Coon Bluff is not far, but the horses do not know that it is open so they walk right past that opening towards the old opening and when they notice that is closed, they turn in circles for a while, then proceed past the old opening, then over flag hill and they end up on the wrong side of the fence for a long way. They cannot get back in until the 4 way at usery pass because the old gates at mm26 have been removed. (I flagged mm 26 for a green gate to solve that problem but it has already been fenced shut) We also had some bands that chose to walk down CB road instead all the way to the trailer parking opening.

6 green gates that we paid for have been delivered to Sheeps Crossing. The solution would be one of our gates in the spot where they are used to going in, right below Flag hill, immediately. And one on Coon Bluff road in the first small pullout before they fence it off. I have flagged both spots. This would make the transition easier to accomplish. The problem is that the gate they poured is in a spot that they are used to being closed, so they do not check that spot. Those gates should be there before the rest of Coon Bluff road is fenced off otherwise I cannot even tell you how many horses will be on the road in a panic. The crew has been pouring corners but does not seem to be doing anything at the pink flags I placed. This is concerning as they will probably fence tomorrow.

We try very hard to mitigate issues but we cannot stay all night. Teaching horses to change their paths is a gradual process that has taken us years to do. If we closed one option, we always had the next option they walk to, open. Then when ready to close that option, they always had the next one open and so on and so on, we did that from both sides until we created a major crossing in the safest place, which is now the 3 way. If we teach them that this pathway is closed and we then they get used to walking all the way on the wrong side of the fence towards the 4 way, that would be an undesired consequence and would be difficult to change, once they learned it.

The other serious issue is at Water Users. The fence stops abruptly and too soon and is not connected to the guard rails. We don't want horses walking all the way to the lake, so to solve that issue we will need cross fence towards the mountain and to the guardrail. If horses successfully walk past the corner towards the lake we will have a much bigger problem, therefore these issues require immediate solutions. I took a piece of video there yesterday with the horses that had already walked passed the end of the fencing.

In addition, the space between the water users parking lot not being fenced off is a serious issue if it will continue. There is a band of bachelors frequenting the area right now. If it is fenced then we can close the water users gates at night. It is unwise to have one side of the road fenced off but not the other.

Also can you tell me what is the intent with the trailer parking opening? If it will be a people opening or not an opening at all, to prevent double work and cost, then we will also need an emergency horse gate in that location in addition to the feed spot where we need to get in with hay. Also please if you can tell me if you know if the fencing project along the river will start or not?

Again, we try, we work hard even in the rain, and we are there at the peak hours to mitigate horse issues, but we cannot stay all night. All of these issues are predictable and we would have liked to work them out with you before the commencement of the project. We know the horses' patterns, our concerns are honest and they are valid. Please halt the fencing further down Coon Bluff road, until we address these issues first, for the sake of public safety and horse safety.

All of the spots for the gates have orange tape on each side where a post should go. In one spot there are only trees so I tied it to those. I'm available to show it to the fencing crew any time.

Please don't fence them out without these emergency gates.

Thank you in advance. Please call me anytime, I will make myself available today to show you where and why these issues are occurring.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group  
Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

"History is only made by people who care about the future".  
-Simone Netherlands.

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## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2019 3:21 PM  
**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS; Bosworth, Neil - FS; Director Killian  
**Subject:** RE: Urgent issues.

Thank you, I will be at the location of the CB 3-way between 4 pm and 7pm, in case you'd like to meet with me there to see for yourself what is happening? Would you be able to text or call me instead of email? I will not see email until I get home. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



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Cell: (928)-925-7212  
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----- Original Message -----

Subject: RE: Urgent issues.  
From: "Lane, Matthew A -FS" <matthew.lane@usda.gov>  
Date: Mon, November 25, 2019 1:46 pm  
To: "simone@respect4horses.com" <simone@respect4horses.com>, Chris McCormack <cmccormack@azda.gov>, "Mundy, Chandler K -FS" <chandler.mundy@usda.gov>, "Martinez, Michael - FS" <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>, "Bosworth, Neil -FS" <neil.bosworth@usda.gov>, Director Killian <mkillian@azda.gov>

Hi Simone,

We are having a quick discussion on the issue. I will contact you today with a response.

Thanks,





**Matthew A. Lane**  
**District Ranger**  
**Forest Service**  
**Mesa Ranger District Tonto National Forest**

p: 480-610-3301  
c: 480-589-4490  
[matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov)

5140 E. Ingram St.  
Mesa, AZ 85205  
[www.fs.fed.us](http://www.fs.fed.us)



**Caring for the land and serving people**

---

**From:** [simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com) [<mailto:simone@respect4horses.com>]

**Sent:** Monday, November 25, 2019 1:22 PM

**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS <[matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov)>; Chris McCormack <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Bosworth, Neil -FS <[neil.bosworth@usda.gov](mailto:neil.bosworth@usda.gov)>; Director Killian <[mkillian@azda.gov](mailto:mkillian@azda.gov)>

**Subject:** Urgent issues.

Hello gentlemen,

Since I have not heard back, as a follow up I want to offer some additional explanations about the issues we are having on Bush Hwy as a result of the new fencing. Most particularly the problems at "the CB 3-way stop horse crossing" and at Water Users. Please take into account that SRWHMG is trying to mitigate these problems and solve them in collaboration with you. There is one fairly simple solution we could implement right away.

Our organization does have the duty to explain the issues we are having and most often in the form of posts on facebook. With that, I am hoping to illustrate clearly what the horses are doing, but at the same time please note that we have not posted any phone numbers or email addresses to contact, and we are not planning any protests or anything of the sort on this issue. Our people, as well as our supporters, are simply politely asking to solve these safety issues that were not there before.

As you know for years we have worked on safety improvements on Bush Hwy and the 3-way stop is the best thing that has happened to Bush Hwy since then. This horse crossing has been a very safe place for horses to cross back and forth, and we have never had an accident there. Our volunteers are there every night to make traffic aware when horses are crossing. On an average night we cross 110 horses, and the other more dangerous crossings are no longer used.

However like mentioned previously, just 3 days ago, their old way of getting to the 3-way stop has been closed off by the barbed wire fence. This old migrating path was a safe entrance/exit because it was behind bushes away from traffic, and they had a bit of easement to be away from the road.

So once it was closed, the horses did was continue to walk up Flag Hill on the wrong side of the fence. We have since constructed a cross fence out of caution tape to keep the horses from walking up flag hill and that is working. We have no more horses walking up Flag Hill.

However, they now have no choice but to take a different route, which requires them to use the opening on Coon Bluff road and then cross coon bluff road and when moving from north to south,

they get to the 3 way from the other side of the road. This is not a safe way and it makes for lots of traffic standing still to watch them on Coon Bluff road, which poses a safety hazard. I want to thank Chris very much for coming out to see how the horses are reacting. the horses react to this.

We had so many challenges again last night with bands taking several different wrong paths including diverting to Phon D horse crossing. This is exactly what we don't want them to do. There is no 3 way stop there and we have no volunteers there, so it is much more dangerous.

Last night a lady got into an accident swerving to avoid a horse at Phon D, an ambulance took her to the hospital. This is upsetting since it is a direct consequence of closing the one safe exit/entrance where horses came in out of Coon Bluff to cross at the 3-way. I filmed yesterday how it diverted some of the bands to Phon D, if you are interested in seeing it.

IF the horses do not have a familiar path that they trust, the process of getting horses inside of the fencing that is currently being constructed, is going to be impossible this way as well. A brand new gate in an unfamiliar area is just simply not going to work. In short, you are in fact fencing horses out of the area, that we want them to be in. In the process Bush Hwy will be unsafer until all measures are finished.

As Ive mentioned before, when fencing horses in or out, it is of most importance to start with the areas where you least want them to go. It cannot be done backwards because we will not be able to get horses out of those unsafe/undesired areas once they have diverted to them and established new patterns.

The solution to these problems is to open the old safe path at Coon Bluff back up until we have;

1. The CB recreation area closure (by the river) finished and horse safe cattle guards finished and installed. If this is not done first, then horses will get out right where the fence ends at the rec area, which will result in them walking the entire length of Coon Bluff Road, very unsafe for the public.
2. The Granite Reef area will need to be closed on both sides of the road with fencing or they will all divert to crossing there. This area is the worst possible option for horses to end up since they can then also start walking up Power Road.
3. The Phon D area, same process, it will need to be closed or they will divert to crossing there.
4. The 4-way area, same process, it will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards, or they will divert to crossing there and walk up usury pass road.
5. The Water users area, same process, will need to be closed including horse safe cattle guards or they will divert to crossing there.
6. The Water Users area will need an extended length of fencing next to the guard rail on the north side, or horses will walk right past the end of the fencing, and start crossing at Saguaro lake ranch and even the marina.

Opening their familiar path back up will only require us cutting a small piece of fence, just 10 or 20 ft wide. Then they could go back to the safer walking patterns, until all of the other areas are done. Also then the fencing along the rest of Coon Bluff road can continue. This will make the transitions "doable".

Please authorize us to cut that 20 ft piece of fence in their familiar old path immediately and add one of our gates there later.

Thank you in advance. Again please call me anytime. Please let me know your response as soon as possible. Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



Office: (480)-868-9301

Cell: (928)-925-7212

<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Urgent issues.

From: <[simone@respect4horses.com](mailto:simone@respect4horses.com)>

Date: Fri, November 22, 2019 12:00 pm

To: [matthew.lane@usda.gov](mailto:matthew.lane@usda.gov), "Chris McCormack" <[cmccormack@azda.gov](mailto:cmccormack@azda.gov)> ,

"Mundy FS" <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)> , "Michael Martinez"

<[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

Good morning gentlemen,

We had a difficult evening last night trying to prevent horses from going on the wrong side of the new fence. With the busy weekend coming up we are concerned.

I had put pink tape on the horse path at CB where they are used to heading in and out, to install one of the green gates we dropped off, but it may not have been noticed and it was fenced off. I know you have been made aware by Chris, but because this is urgent, and for the record, I hope it is ok if I communicate with us all in one email to explain further.

Granted the opening for the new gate at Coon Bluff is not far, but the horses do not know that it is open so they walk right past that opening towards the old opening and when they notice that is closed, they turn in circles for a while , then proceed past the old opening, then over flag hill and they end up on the wrong side of the fence for a long way. They cannot get back in until the 4 way at usery pass because the old gates at mm26 have been removed. (I flagged mm 26 for a green gate to solve that problem but it has already been fenced shut) We also had some bands that chose to walk down CB road instead all the way to the trailer parking opening.

6 green gates that we paid for have been delivered to Sheeps Crossing. The solution would be one of our gates in the spot where they are used to going in, right below Flag hill, immediately. And one on Coon Bluff road in the first small pullout before they fence it off. I have flagged both spots. This would make the transition easier to accomplish. The problem is that the gate they poured is in a spot that they are used to being closed, so they do not check that spot. Those gates should be there before the rest of Coon Bluff road is fenced off otherwise I cannot even tell you how many horses will be on the road in a panic. The crew has been pouring corners but does not seem to be doing anything at the pink flags I placed. This is concerning as they will probably fence tomorrow.

We try very hard to mitigate issues but we cannot stay all night. Teaching horses to change their paths is a gradual process that has taken us years to do. If we closed one option, we always had the next option they walk to, open. Then when ready to close that option, they always had the next one open and so on and so on, we did that from both sides until we created a major crossing in the safest place, which is now the 3 way. If we teach them that this pathway is closed and we then they get used to walking all the way on the wrong side of the fence towards the 4 way, that would be an undesired consequence and would be difficult to change, once they learned it.

The other serious issue is at Water Users. The fence stops abruptly and too soon and is not connected to the guard rails. We don't want horses walking all the way to the lake, so to solve that issue we will need cross fence towards the mountain and to the guardrail. If horses successfully walk past the corner towards the lake we will have a much bigger problem, therefore these issues require immediate solutions. I took a piece of video there yesterday with the horses that had already walked passed the end of the fencing.

In addition, the space between the water users parking lot not being fenced off is a serious issue if it will continue. There is a band of bachelors frequenting the area right now. If it is fenced then we can close the water users gates at night. It is unwise to have one side of the road fenced off but not the other.

Also can you tell me what is the intent with the trailer parking opening? If it will be a people opening or not an opening at all, to prevent double work and cost, then we will also need an emergency horse gate in that location in addition to the feed spot where we need to get in with hay. Also please if you can tell me if you know if the fencing project along the river will start or not?

Again, we try, we work hard even in the rain, and we are there at the peak hours to mitigate horse issues, but we cannot stay all night. All of these issues are predictable and we would have liked to work them out with you before the commencement of the project. We know the horses' patterns, our concerns are honest and they are valid. Please halt the fencing further down Coon Bluff road, until we address these issues first, for the sake of public safety and horse safety.

All of the spots for the gates have orange tape on each side where a post should go. In one spot there are only trees so I tied it to those. I'm available to show it to the fencing crew any time. Please don't fence them out without these emergency gates.

Thank you in advance. Please call me anytime, I will make myself available today to show you where and why these issues are occurring.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group

Office: (480)-868-9301  
Cell: (928)-925-7212  
<http://www.SaltRiverWildHorseManagementGroup.org>

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## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Sunday, January 12, 2020 2:36 PM  
**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS; Chris McCormack; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS; Bosworth, Neil -FS; Director Killian  
**Cc:** Steven lobby Bloch; Suzanne Roy; simone@respect4horses.com  
**Subject:** Press Release  
**Attachments:** SRWHMG press release fencing Jan20.pdf

Hello,

We did not get any advance notice of the Forest Service press release and you also did not send it to us.

As a sign of respect, (which we hope one day will be mutual), herewith we send you our press release before it's release. As discussed with Chandler Mundy, we are not currently planning legal action over the river fence, however this does not mean that we should not give the public an opportunity for input. (which they did not get through a NEPA process.) Please take it seriously into account.

The river fence will not solve anything and will create unintended consequences. We hope you will still consider moving the river fence towards the road instead, and please accomplish an overpass before closing the entire South side of the road.

There ARE ways to accomplish the same goals without detrimental affects to the public and to the Salt River wild horses. We look forward to the day that there will be real cooperation and communication between our NGO and Forest Service and we will continue to work hard towards that goal.

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



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Cell: (928)-925-7212  
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**For Immediate Release**

Contact: Simone Netherlands, 928-925-7212

**FOREST SERVICE IS FENCING THE LOWER SALT RIVER**

- **MANAGEMENT GROUP WARNS PUBLIC OF DETRIMENTAL IMPACTS**
- **SALT RIVER WILD HORSES TO LOSE HABITAT**
- **TUBERS/KAYAKERS TO BE HINDERED BY RIVER CROSS FENCE**

*Mesa, AZ (January 12, 2020)....* The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group (SRWHMG) today reacted to news that the Tonto National Forest intends to begin construction of a nearly four-mile, metal fence along the banks of the lower Salt River, warning that the fence will have devastating impacts to protected wild horses as well as to Forest visitors.

The management group urged the Forest Service to drop plans to construct the fence and criticized its failure to disclose and analyze the boundary fence's many serious impacts, which include blocking wild horses from accessing their critical river and historic habitats on both sides of the river, creating a risk of starvation and dehydration. The fence will also harm tubers and kayakers by forcing them to pass through a gate in the fence across the river, raising public safety and aesthetic concerns.

"We are alarmed that the Forest Service did not consider the fence's negative impacts to the Salt River wild horses, who are protected under state law, and to the thousands of kayakers, tubers, hikers and wildlife viewers, who enjoy this beautiful area of the Tonto National Forest," said Simone

Netherlands, President of the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group. "We call on the Forest Service to suspend construction immediately and explore alternatives."

The group is also concerned about Forest Service fencing along Bush Hwy. While SRWHMG shares the goal of keeping horses out of the roadway, the current fencing, once closed, will cut off horses from the entire south side of Bush Hwy, almost half of their historic habitat. This will result in a severe concentration of horses exactly where the most people are, putting people and horses on a course to collision, making future wild horse removals highly likely. SRWHMG has advocated for a wildlife overpass over Bush Hwy as a solution, but this is NOT currently included in the fencing plan.

"We believe that cutting the Salt River wild horses off of half of their historic habitat and building fences to keep them away from the river is not consistent with the state law that protects the Salt River wild horses, which mandates that they be protected 'where they have historically lived,'" Netherlands concluded.

Today, SRWHMG, with its national coalition partner the American Wild Horse Campaign, are launching a **Week of Action to Save the #SaltRiverHorses** to protest the fence and weigh in on the Arizona Department of Agriculture's pending decision on a permanent management plan for the horses (see below).

#### Background:

The Salt River horses are protected by a state law that protects them in their historic habitat in the Tonto National Forest and makes it illegal to harass, slaughter or kill a Salt River horse. The law directs the Arizona Department of Agriculture (AZDA) to enter into an agreement with the Forest Service for management of the horses and authorizes the department to hire a third party contractor to implement management activities.

In May 2018, the state awarded the contract for management of the horses to the all-volunteer Salt River Wild Horse Management Group (SRWHMG), which has spent hundreds of thousands of dollars and volunteer hours since that time managing the horses. This includes emergency rescue when needed, supplemental feeding to keep the horses in good condition, and curbing population growth through a wide-scale humane fertility control program.

This unique public/private partnership has been successful, however, despite state law, the future of the Salt River horses is threatened by the Forest Service's fencing plan, as well as by proposed management plans produced by the Salt River Horse Collaborative, a biased stakeholder process convened and paid for by the Forest Service. The collaborative, which was stacked with anti-wild horse interests, produced three proposed management plans, two of which would result in severe habitat reduction and large-scale removal of wild horses from the Tonto Forest. The decision on a final management plan rests with the AZDA.

*#The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group is an Arizona non-profit organization dedicated to protect, study and humanely manage the Salt River wild horses. To learn more or to pledge your help, please visit: [www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)*

## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** simone@respect4horses.com  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 23, 2020 10:12 PM  
**To:** Lane, Matthew A -FS; Chris McCormack; Mundy, Chandler K -FS; Martinez, Michael - FS; Bosworth, Neil -FS; Director Killian  
**Cc:** Steven lobby Bloch; Suzanne Roy; simone@respect4horses.com  
**Subject:** Media advisory  
**Attachments:** ride for the Salt River Wild Horses.jpg

To whom it may concern,

This Saturday the annual Ride for the Salt River wild horses is expected to draw twice the amount of riders and citizens than previous years. We do not now how many exactly to expect, but 600 people have confirmed and 2200 people are interested so it may be much larger than we expected. The ride always goes smoothly without any problems and this year we will do our utmost again to make sure it goes off without a hitch. We will have many volunteers along the road trying to guide riders and visitors and we will have constant monitoring at the 3 way stop. We have tried to reach MCSO several times about the ride and would appreciate traffic back up and their presence for safety. While we could ofcourse have turned this into one enormous protest at Coon Bluff we organized it as a peaceful group picture in support of the horses instead. See media advisory below. We are still looking for a workable compromise. Thank you

### **Saturday: Public to Turn Out in Force for Salt River Wild Horses** ***Annual Ride & Rally Expected to Draw Hundreds***

Mesa, AZ (January 23, 2020).... On Saturday, the [5th Annual Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses](#) is expected to draw more than 500 confirmed motorcyclists and other citizens to the Tonto National Forest to rally in support of the famed herd.

What: Ride & Rally in support of the Salt River Wild Horses  
When: Saturday, January 25, 2020

- Ride starts at 9:00 am at the American Legion Post 58, 16837 East Park View Avenue in Fountain Hills, AZ85268
- Peaceful rally at Coon Bluff Recreation Area off of Bush Hwy, at 11 a.m
- After-ride festival at Superstition Harley Davidson, Noon - 4 pm, 2910 west Apache Trail, Apache Junction AZ85120, with music, food trucks, vendors and a raffle to benefit the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group.

The annual event takes place this year amidst new threats to the long-term survival of the herd. The herd, which, under state law, is protected in their historic habitat along the lower Salt River. The threats include loss of critical habitat due to new boundary fencing along the river under construction by the Forest Service.

"The public continues to strongly support protecting the Salt River wild horses and the overwhelming response to this year's event is testimony to that support," said Simone Netherlands, President of the Salt River Wild Horse Management Group. "We hope that the Forest Service will take this public support into consideration and work toward a compromise that can lessen the damage that the fence along the river will cause for these cherished wild horses."



"We're grateful to the motorcycle community and all the citizens across the world who are taking a stance for the Salt River wild horses at this critical time," Netherlands concluded.

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[www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org](http://www.saltriverwildhorsemanagementgroup.org)

Sincerely,  
Simone Netherlands, President  
Salt River Wild Horse Management Group



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# *Ride for the Salt River Wild Horses*





## Tsosie, Helena -FS

---

**From:** Robin Silver <rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2019 5:41 PM  
**To:** Martinez, Michael - FS  
**Subject:** RE: \$ for horses question

Thanks!

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**From:** Martinez, Michael - FS <michael.a.martinez@usda.gov>  
**Sent:** Friday, November 15, 2019 11:21 AM  
**To:** rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <chandler.mundy@usda.gov>  
**Cc:** Lane, Matthew A -FS <matthew.lane@usda.gov>  
**Subject:** RE: \$ for horses question

Robin, I went back and looked at our workplans and financial plans. I also spoke with Brian at Udall. Here's a more accurate breakdown of some of those pieces:

In 2017 we sent \$3800 to AZGFD to assist with the aerial survey. We also spent somewhere between \$10-15k on the helicopter use.

The initial agreement with the U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution (Udall) was put together at the WO level and was ultimately invoiced for \$221,321. The second agreement with Udall was put together at the Forest level for \$288,761 and has been invoiced for \$172,441 to date. This is for all the pre-collaborative and collaborative work accomplished over the past two years.

The contract for fencing, both boundary and interior, that we recently awarded was for \$671,000. This is obligated dollars, not invoiced. Additionally, Gary Hanna had crews fix some fences and conduct some land surveying, but I don't have those costs. Also, we will be obligating more money this year for additional fence needs.

So far we have obligated \$141,250 for the AZDA Liaison, which is now vacant. Again, this is what we've obligated, not necessarily what AZDA has invoiced to date.

I don't currently have numbers for the work provided by the University of Arizona and Rocky Mountain Research Station. I'm waiting on RO staff to dig that up.

None of this includes staff time spent on developing the IGA, participating in the collaborative, or day to day management on the ground. Those are significant. Anyway, let me know if you have any questions.



**Mike Martinez**  
**Ecosystem Staff Officer**

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**From:** Robin Silver [<mailto:rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org>]

**Sent:** Friday, November 1, 2019 1:59 PM

**To:** Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>; Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: \$ for horses question

Does this include the UA study and Dyess study? And the woman who talked about contraception?

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**From:** Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

**Sent:** Friday, November 1, 2019 10:11 AM

**To:** [rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org](mailto:rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org); Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: \$ for horses question

The pre-collaborative planning and the collaborative were to the tune of \$900k and change. We've spent about \$700k on fencing thus far, with more to come. And we've thrown about \$100k at the liaison position. None of this counts staff time, which would be more difficult to calculate.



**Mike Martinez**  
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**From:** Robin Silver [<mailto:rsilver@biologicaldiversity.org>]

**Sent:** Saturday, October 26, 2019 8:46 PM

**To:** Mundy, Chandler K -FS <[chandler.mundy@usda.gov](mailto:chandler.mundy@usda.gov)>; Martinez, Michael - FS <[michael.a.martinez@usda.gov](mailto:michael.a.martinez@usda.gov)>

**Subject:** \$ for horses question

Chandler, Mike,

In the collaborative, we were told that "the horses are not costing the public anything."

We are trying to do an accounting of whether or not this statement has any veracity and/or exactly how much money the Salt River horses have cost USFS since the USFS/AZDA IGA was signed on December 1, 2017.

How much money has your agency spent on horses since December 1, 2017 to date (facilitators, money to AZDA, fencing, personnel time, travel expenses, studies, consultants, meeting room rentals, etc. plus)? And if you know, how much more are you planning on spending in 2020? Thanks! Robin Silver

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