



## AZSFWC and 30 Organizations Support the Humane Removal of Unauthorized Livestock from the Apache National Forest

## Center Biological Diversity Arizona Wildlife Federation

Anglers United AZ Antelope Foundation AZ Bass Nation

AZ Big Game Super Raffle

AZ Chapter of Backcountry Hunters & Anglers

AZ Chapter of Safari Club International

AZ Council of Trout Unlimited

AZ Deer Association

AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society

AZ Elk Society

AZ Flycasters Club

AZ Houndsmen's Association

AZ Outdoor Adventures

AZ Outdoor Sports

AZ Predator Callers

AZ State Chapter of National Wild Turkey Federation

Ben Avery Clay Busters

Christian Hunters of America

Diablo Trust

Maricopa Audubon Society

Mogollon Sporting Association

Mule Deer Foundation

No Excuse Hunting and Outdoors

Outdoor Experience 4 All

Southern AZ Quail Forever

Southwest Wildlife Foundation

SRT Outdoors

The Bass Federation of AZ

Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership

Valley of the Sun Quail Forever

Yuma Valley Rod and Gun Club

AZSFWC Members supporting Humane Removal of Unauthorized Livestock on Apache NF - 4-5-2022



## WHY ARE WE REQUESTING THE **HUMANE REMOVAL** OF THE HORSES?

In 2011, The Wallow fire consumed vast portions of the Apache National Forest. It also destroyed parts of the White Mountain Apache Tribal lands (WMAT). With the fire, the boundary fences between the WMAT and the Apache National Forest were destroyed.

During the next 11 years, horses from the WMAT came over to the Apache National Forest and migrated to the portions of the riparian areas that are home to the New Mexico Meadow Jumping Mouse and a recovery area for the Apache trout.

The photos that have been provided were taken by Dr. Robin Silver from the Center For Biological Diversity during 2019 and 2021. He documented that over 80% of the tracks and droppings were from horses.

While horse advocates may try to claim that the horses were there for centuries, the truth is that they have migrated from tribal lands since the Wallow fire to the forest and need to be removed.

During extensive studies for the Wild Horse and Burro act in 1971 and 1973, there was no evidence of wild / feral horses on the Apache National Forest. The feral horses are growing in numbers each year and the head count exceeds over 400 animals.

The habitat degradation that they have caused is severe and removal is the only means of rebuilding these areas for all wildlife.









