



APACHE NATIONAL FOREST

THIS IS A RIPARIAN AREA IN ITS NATURAL STATE



**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



PHOTO BY: ROBIN SILVER©

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.









A photograph showing a deep, narrow, muddy gully in a forest. The gully is filled with dark brown mud and has a small stream of water flowing through it. The surrounding area is a mix of dry, brown brush and green pine trees. The background shows a dense forest of tall pine trees under a cloudy sky.

**THIS IS THE HABITAT
DESTRUCTION
CAUSED BY FERAL HORSES**

***THIS IS WHY ALL THESE GROUPS SUPPORT THE HUMANE REMOVAL
OF UNAUTHORIZED LIVESTOCK FROM THE APACHE NATIONAL FOREST***