

February 8, 2023

In support of SCR 4014

To Whom It May Concern:

As an appraiser for many years and a lifetime horse person, I bring years of research and equine industry experience to bear on this subject. Currently, I am researching and appraising two rare breed equine herds. This research has led me into a complex niche in an industry that packs an economic punch and which is held in high regard by people who simply love the horse.

The herd you would eradicate is one proven to trace back genetically to the Asian steppes. It is a part of the Native American story no less integral to their culture than is the buffalo.

It is the contention of the many organizations in the world saving rare breed mammals that these genetics offer strengths that are lost through over-industrializing for high volume production. Our chickens, beef, pigs, buffalo and anything we eat is vulnerable to disease from inbreeding and breeding for specific traits such as size for commercial use. In time, it is likely that only these few, saved rare breeds can reintroduce immunity and survival through genetic diversification.

This herd should be considered a rarity worth saving. Science has dramatically improved the ability to reinforce ancient lines by matching one genetic equine with a close relative that is equally ancient. Thus, both are preserved and thrive.

Plus, tourism attraction should justify its continued existence. To view a wild herd is a rarity in itself.

Best -

Tania Evans

Tania Evans  
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Expert Witness, Research, Consulting  
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