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Outlook

Public Comment - Weds 11/13 Meeting

From Danielle Cady <danielle@renocounselingcollective.com>

Date Tue 11/12/2024 8:01 PM

To Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Cc: Hillary Schieve <SchieveH@reno.gov>; Naomi Duerr <DuerrN@reno.gov>; Devon Reese <reesed@reno.gov>; Jenny Brekhus <BrekhusJ@reno.gov>; Miguel Martinez <MartinezMi@reno.gov>; Kathleen Taylor <TaylorK@reno.gov>; Meghan Ebert <EbertM@reno.gov>

City Council Meeting Weds 11/13 - Public Comment

Re: Bella Vista II Development

Dear City Council Members,

I am writing again in regards to proposed motions relating to the Bella Vista II development. I am asking you to please keep our wildlife in mind when considering development in South Reno and near the Virginia Range. Please work with advocacy groups like Wild Horse Connection, American Wild Horse Conservation, and consider our South Reno community. It is important to consider Virginia Range wild horses and their access to land, forage, and water, as well as continued safety (i.e., installment of fences, signs, etc.) which in turns, helps keep our human community safe.

I, like many in our community, witnessed devastating and inhumane incidents this summer from the development of Sunny Hills. Please do not let our community have a repeat of this tragedy. Please do the right thing and help protect wildlife. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Thank you,

Danielle Cady

Ward 6 Resident & Nevada Native

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Danielle M. Cady (she/her)

Marriage and Family Therapist Intern

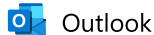
Reno Counseling Collective

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Public Comment Virginia Range horses NATIVE Mega Fauna

From Kim Sheppard <blueribbonone@aol.com>

Date Wed 11/13/2024 3:51 AM

To Public Comment - CC <PublicComment@reno.gov>

Cc Kim Sheppard <blueribbonone@aol.com>; Patience O'Dowd <patience_odowd@yahoo.com>

Wild and free roaming horses are part of Nevada's rich culture, so much that their likeness is honored on Nevada license plates.

As with other wildlife that has benefited from shared water among communities that have grown in the area, so also should the existing Virginia Range horses. Water sources should be provided in more remote areas where they aren't a nuisance or near road ways.

Humans lack of control on their own population and affects of their short sightedness ARE WHAT HAS CAUSED these water shortages for wildlife, by pumping down groundwater, drying up other sources and causing snow drought; thereby starving perennial waters in streams and springs.

Nevada is a fence out state. Furthermore, not only is it legal to provide water to wildlife in nearby Herd Management Areas, but Elk and Deer have been FED AND WATERED on federal lands for almost 100 years in the USA.

Wild Horses have no horns, and do not charge. But all other ungulates do and they are allowed everywhere, though significantly more dangerous.

On private lands, hunters even put out blocks so they can get trophy horns from game wildlife.

Additionally, it is very important to note that the species of wild, free roaming horses is in fact native to North America. The field of molecular biology that uses mitochondrial-DNA analysis "has recently revealed that the modern or caballine horse, *E. caballus*, is genetically equivalent to *E. lambei*, a horse, according to fossil records, that represented the most recent *Equus* species in North America prior to extinction. Not only is *E. caballus* genetically equivalent to *E. lambei*, but no evidence exists for the origin of *E. caballus* anywhere except North America"Ref:

Wild Horses as Native North American Wildlife

Posted on May 1, 2021 by whoa

by Jay F. Kirkpatrick, Ph.D. and Patricia M. Fazio, Ph.D. (Revised January 2010) <https://whoanm.org/wordpress/wild-horses-as-native-north-american-wildlife-2/>

Hence, it is clear that the wild, free roaming horse that migrated multiple times from and back to North America and lived at least into our last ice age, and those that live today are the same equine living in their wild state in Nevada.

Additionally, neither "feral" nor "wild" equines in Nevada can meet the criteria for Livestock, including as defined in the Federal Definitions because they weren't domestically raised and domestic parentage is unknown and they are unowned. "§ 780.120 Raising of "livestock." The meaning of the term "livestock" as used in section 3(f) is confined to the ordinary use of the word and includes only domestic animals ordinarily raised or used on farms." Ref: <https://www.ecfr.gov/current/title-29/subtitle-B/chapter-V/subchapter-B/part-780/subpart-B/subject-group-ECFRd236f5a25dee61f/section-780.120>

Therefore, the Virginia Range horses are subject to applicable animal welfare protection laws and they should not be removed from their natural rangeland or subjected to abuse, neglect or slaughter.

Sincerely,
Kim Sheppard
Liaison WHOA member
21105 South Coleman Road
Peculiar, MO 64078