

517 Gold Ave., S.W.
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

2210 Goldfield
Allotment

2260

November 15, 1979

Mr. Perl Charles
1014 East Oregon
Phoenix, Arizona 85014

Dear Mr. Charles:

This is in reply to your October 25, 1979, letter concerning horses along the Salt River, Tonto National Forest.

Since the horses were claimed and those observed branded, they were correctly inventoried as ineligible for classification as wild free-roaming. They were and still are unauthorized feral animals. As you state, several unsuccessful attempts have been made to remove the horses. We fully agree with you that they are wild and untamed by the character of their environment and their cunning nature developed from numerous attempts to corral them. Assuredly, most, if not all, of the progeny since the inventory are unbranded. The key point is the fact that historically these animals came from the reservations and have been claimed by Indian stockmen.

Goldfield Allotment has not been stocked for the last one and one-half years. However, Goldfield Associates still hold a term grazing permit on the allotment. They have not relinquished their permit. Rather, they have discussed restocking the allotment with the District Ranger. Even if the allotment is not restocked, the problem of protection of key eagle nesting sites from people as well as feral horses must be solved.

Thank you for your interest in the Tonto National Forest.

Sincerely,

M. J. HASSELL

M. J. HASSELL
Regional Forester

cc: Range (WO)
Tonto N.F. ✓

FS	RECEIVED	AO	_____
DFS	TONTO N. F.	B&F	_____
RR&W	NOV 20 1979	C&P	_____
R&L		PM	_____
TFV	ACTION	RSS	3rd
PIO	X	HR	_____
ENG	INFO	CDR	_____
ENC REC		"	_____
B.A. Hassell			_____

copy to D-
CS-R.H