**What should the BLM do about over population of wild horses? | 9th Grade Samples**

SAMPLE 1 | *Argues for fertility control by contrasting it with current practice of the roundup*

Dear Director of the Bureau of Land Management:

 The increasing population of horses is a problem the must be ~~elimin~~ solved. However, the use of roundups is not the best solution available. As suggested by Dr. Guy Palmer, fertility control drugs is the best way to manage the growing horse population. This is due to the fact that it can be used in a “consistent, widespread manner”, as Dr. Palmer stated was necessary, it does not break horses’ social ties, and it does not require the horses to be placed outside of their natural habitat.

 Dr. Guy Palmer, a veterinarian at Washington State University, suggests that that fertility control is the best way to manage the wild horse population. This is because it can be used in a consistent, widespread manner.” While it is relatively easy to administer fertility control drugs to many wild horses, it is not as simple to attempt to roundup the necessary amount of horses. This means that fertility control would be a ~~me~~ more long-lasting, effective way to reduce wild-horse population.

According to Suzanne Roy of In Defense of Animals, wild horses have close social ties to each other. Fertility control drugs makes it so that these social ties do not have to be broken. Foals will be able to stay with their mothers, and families will not be shattered. Roundups, on the other hand, do break social bonds between horses, putting them in an unnatural situation. This means that fertility drugs allow for the horses to feel more comfortable than roundups do.

Roundups, by definition, require horse to be placed outside of their natural habitat. This poses two problems. One is that the horse are placed in an unnatural position. This could cause stress on the animals and cause physical harm. Another problem is that places to put the relocated horses are limited. Tom Gorey, a BLM spokesperson, affirmed the fact that holding space to place horses were running out. Fertility control drugs would allow for the horses to stay in their natural habitat. This eliminates both of these issues; proving that the use of fertility control drugs is a more effective way to manage wild horse population than the bureaus’ current method.

In conclusion, although the BLM is doing what they believe is best, fertility control drugs would be a better method to manage wild horse population. It eliminates the breaking of social ties and need of holding space that roundups require, and can be used in a consistent, widespread manner. This is why, the Bureau of Land Management should use fertility control drugs to manage wild horse population.

SAMPLE 2 | *Argues government should control wild horse population, dismisses fertility control and implicitly argues for the round up*

Dear Bureau of Land Management,

The increasing size of the wild horse population has become an overwhelmingly debated issue. Some say the horses should stay because they help the environment. Others believe, the horses need to be moved.

I think it is time for the government to take charge and start controlling the population. The 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burrows Act states that the government must manage the size of their population.

There are a couple options when it comes to controlling the population. One way, fertility control may seem like a good option, but it isn’t very effective. If the government was to use it, they would have to be used every two years. This will just waste a lot of time and money.

Another option is roundups. Roundups are when officials move part of the population to other areas in order to control the population. This would be helpful because the horses are currently hurting the environment. There are three to five times as many horses as their environment is able to ~~withs~~ sustain.

Also, not only is the environment being harmed, so are the horses. Due to the abundance of horses, there has been a lack of food. The ~~lack of~~ shortage of food the horse are causing is affecting animals that rely on the same environment

Horses have been causing many accidents as well. Between 1997 and 2000, 93 vehicle accidents and 23 personal injuries relating to horses were reported. They have also been causing problems on people’s property. Many complaints have been made of wild horses messing with people’s private property. If roundups were made, it certainly wouldn’t allow for the horse related accidents to stop, but they would decrease.

Finally, these wild horses have no natural predators. Their population will just continue to grow unless efforts such as relocating ~~a~~ some of the horses are made. The natural re~~a~~sources need to be kept balanced and the ecosystem needs to thrive. ~~in order to~~ In order to do this, significant efforts to control the population must be made.

SAMPLE 3 | *Argues for the removal of horses as the best solution to the current problem; counters arguments against relocation by proposing a nuanced solution and against fertility treatment as not solving the immediate problem*

Dear Director,

The drastic increase in size of the wild hors herds has grown to a point where the land in which they graze can no longer support them. This could lead to future starvation and damage to the species of the animals that the wild-free rome hourses and burro act attempts to protect. The horses can’t be supported forever and because of this something must be done to further the quality of life and future of this great species.

I believe the best system is to relocate the horses. The primary argument against the relocation of horses is that its unatural for the families of horses to be split up but in ~~truth~~ nature animals die, its just the circle of life. Also by keeping these horses from being moved they are slowly starving them; ~~be~~ the land they graze on was intended to hold 1 / 5 of the heard currently their.

The other proposed solution is to instriment fertility drugs to the animals to help reduce the number of possible horses but this wouldn’t solve the current problem. Cows still wouldnt have grazing land and horses could still potentialy starve. This also seems more cruel than relocation especsialy if relocate entire families together.

In conclusions if the animals are simple removed from their heard as families the herd would quickly and effecertly be split into parts allowing for ~~m~~ a better quality of life for the horses.