

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-7010

June 9, 2014

The Honorable J. J. Goicoechea
Chairman
Sagebrush Ecosystem Council
201 Roop Street, Suite 101
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Chairman Goicoechea:

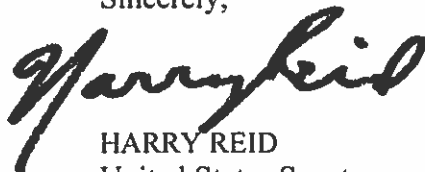
Thank you for taking the time to contact me and share the Sagebrush Ecosystem Council's wild horse and burro management recommendations for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service's (USFS) Environmental Impact Statement. I appreciate the Council's dedication to issues surrounding sagebrush and rangeland health.

Our nation's wild horse and burro populations are estimated to grow at rates as high as 20 percent per year. The impacts of these growing herds, persistent drought, and subsequent wildfires in the west have compelled our public lands managers, including the BLM and USFS, to adapt their land management strategies to ensure the health of our nation's wild horses and burros and promote the responsible use of available natural resources. I agree that it is important that we continue to work together to balance the use of Nevada's natural resources to protect Nevada wildlife, rangelands, and vital sagebrush habitat. I look forward to working with the Council on these important issues.

Again, thank you for sharing the Council's recommendations with me. If I may be of assistance in the future, please do not hesitate to contact me.

My best wishes to you.

Sincerely,



HARRY REID
United States Senator