



Arizona Senate passes bill to protect Salt River wild horses

BY ASSOCIATED PRESS | April 11, 2016 @ 3:22 pm



PHOENIX — The Senate has passed a bill that would offer protections to the herd of wild horses living near Arizona's Salt River.

Rep. Kelly Townsend of Mesa is sponsoring a proposal that would make it illegal to harass, shoot, kill or slaughter a horse that is part of the Salt River herd of about 100 horses that have historically lived around the Lower Salt River and Saguaro Lake.

The proposal comes after the U.S. Forest Service planned to remove the horses. The Forest Service has since reversed its decision facing public pressure.

Townsend amended her proposal with additional protections after meeting with The Salt River Wild Horse Management Group.

The Senate passed House Bill 2340 on 27-2 vote Monday. It now moves back to the House for a final vote.