

PRESS RELEASE:

In what can only be described as a heinous and horrific act of animal abuse, Madeleine Pickens has learned that criminals have trespassed on her property, the Spruce Ranch in Elko County, NV, and cut fences and shut of water supplies to a herd of horses she rescued from the slaughter house pens. A number of horses have died in the most brutal manner possible, writhing in pain and lacking the strength to regain their feet, or their lives. Madeleine personally discovered one of her favorites, one she fondly named Scarlet, lying dead near a fence post and it literally took her breath away.

This is a continuation of trespass activities that have plagued the ranch operation since she bought the ranch many years ago to try and create a place where the American people could come and see wild horses in their natural setting. But the powers that be in the Congress and the BLM, the federal agency that manages the wild horses, have never been willing to put their whole-hearted support behind the project and the illegal trespass acts have continued. But no one could ever imagine that the criminal element of horse haters would ever resort to an act so cruel as virtually terrorizing wild animals on private property that were no threat, nuisance or bother to anyone.

Millions of Americans love the wild horses, Congress passed a law over 40 years ago to protect them and stop what had been a pattern of abuse that spanned centuries, and yet we are left with this kind of criminal behavior. They can and have gotten away with this because the American people have never seen the carcasses of horses, dead from a lack of the most basic element of survival, water. You have to ask yourself how many more horrific acts must occur before Congress and the BLM decides to step up and provide the oversight necessary to stop this abuse.

Madeleine is offering a reward of \$100,000 for information leading to arrest and conviction of the perpetrators of this vile act and will proceed to provide information to the American people about what has happened here to create awareness about a problem that must be addressed. This isn't the Wild West anymore, and while those committing these criminal acts may act like outlaws, they are simply cowardly criminals killing defenseless wild horses that are truly America's treasures.