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Reasons that the Elko County Board of Commissioners oppose the conversion of the Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch from a livestock operation to a holding facility for wild horses:

1. The Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch is presently an enterprise that creates revenue which contributes to the economy of Elko County. If the Ranch becomes a holding facility for wild horses, it will become an enterprise supported by the American tax payers which will cost millions of dollars.
2. The National Wild Horse Committee has invited groups who are interested in wild horse management to provide an area upon which they can manage wild horses at their own expense. The Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch does not meet this requirement as the cost of managing horses on the ranch would be paid for by the tax payers.
3. There are many wild horses in the state of Nevada. If that were not the case there may be some justification for having wild horses on a controlled area such as the Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch to provide a place for the public to view wild horses. However, because of the large number of horses in the state, they are visible from nearly every highway in the state.
4. Before wild horses could be placed on the Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch, the Wild Horse Act of 1971 would have to be changed because wild horses did not exist in that area prior to 1971. To open the 1971 Wild Horse Act for this reason would set a bad precedence that may result in the wild horse ranges expanding through out the state.
5. Containment of the wild horses within the ranch boundary would be difficult if not impossible, resulting in wild horses moving on to neighboring ranches which then would have to be gathered and returned to the Wine Cup/Gamble Ranch which would create additional expenses.
6. Most importantly, this is only a temporary solution to the over population problem of wild horses within the state of Nevada. This only diverts attention from the serious problem that needs to be dealt with, that of controlling the wild horse population in order to protect the ranges upon <sup>which</sup> they live.