

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Please, please help to keep our western heritage alive! Please, please do your own research on how stock contractors and Rodeo contestants take care of their animals. They are much more than “humanely” treated. The livestock of rodeo are worth hundreds of thousands of dollars and are treated with respect, love, and the best care. If more people understood that all rodeo events originated on ranches in daily activities such as branding and inoculating cattle, I think it may help them understand where their next burger actually came from. Good horses were an integral part of daily life. They were trained by great horsemen and they were a cowboy’s most valuable possession, because that animal helped him to do his job. The cowboy of today is no different. He relies on his partner-his horse-to help him compete at the top level. For many of the rodeo contestants it is their life. Many own ranches and raise the cattle we all eat when they are not rodeoing. The stock contractors too, live the western life everyday and do everything they can to take excellent care of their stock. The bucking animals aren’t used very often, so they raise huge Remudas of horses and bucking bulls. This insures that they animals are rotated and are allowed plenty of rest and relaxation in between their turn at a rodeo. As I stated, please, do not take my word for it, go talk to some stock contractors, ask them for a tour of their ranches. Go see for yourself the lives the rodeo animals lead. I believe you will come away with a fresh perspective and maybe even a love of rodeo. Thank you for your time. Sincerely, Suzanne Lang