

U.S. Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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## NEWS

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **WILD HORSE EVENTS STEADY FOR NEXT 6 WEEKS**

**HINES, Oregon** – Several wild horse events scheduled over the next 6 weeks across Oregon and Washington should give horse enthusiasts plenty of opportunity to get out and see mustangs up close and maybe even take one home.

On April 22, the High Desert Museum in Central Oregon will host its annual mustang adoption event. Each year, the High Desert Museum partners with Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program to host, train, and adopt out a mustang from one of Oregon's wild horse herds. The animal available this weekend is 3 ½-year old 'Buckaroo' – a buckskin buttermilk paint with a black mane and multi-colored tail from the south Steens Mountain area in Harney County. Buckaroo is smart, willing to learn, and trained professionally by Lauman Training of Prineville, Oregon. Buckaroo's adoption takes place at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, April 22 in the Birds of Prey Pavilion at the High Desert Museum in Bend, Oregon.

Next up on the adoption schedule is a weekend event in Medford, Oregon, hosted by the Litchfield Corral Facility from California. The April 27-29 adoption, held at the Jackson County Fairgrounds, gives event-goers access to 20 wild burros and 26 mustangs, mostly yearlings. Viewing and registration begins at 2:00 p.m. on Friday, April 27. The silent bid adoption process is Saturday at 9:00 a.m. with walk-up adoptions afterward on a first come, first serve basis.

The first weekend in May offers a different look at mustang ownership: training. A 'Teaching and Achieving Mustang Excellence' clinic, scheduled for May 4-6 at Prineville, Oregon's Crook County Fairgrounds Indoor Arena, features professional horse trainers Clint Surplus and Matt Fournier working with adopted wild horses with a host of common training obstacles such as loading and spooking. A handful of special presenters will also be available to discuss a wide variety of animal care issues and needs. In addition, two mustangs will be available for adoption. The horses are both 3-year old red roan geldings from the Warm Springs herd southwest of Burns, Oregon. A silent bid adoption is set for 1:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 6.

A week-long adoption event scheduled for May 7-13 at Oregon's Wild Horse Corral Facility in Hines offers over 100 animals ranging in age from 1-5 years old from a variety of herd management areas across the state. Animals at this event are adopted 'walk-up' style, on a first come, first serve basis from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day, except Sunday when adoptions end at 12 noon. For successful adopters at the Hines event, BLM provides free hauling up to 400 road miles one-way before May 27.



The last spring adoption for Oregon/Washington BLM is set for June 2-3 in Monroe, Washington at the Evergreen State Fairgrounds. In cooperation with 4-H and Backcountry Horsemen, the event offers 35 mustangs for competitive oral bid adoption, a series of gentling demonstrations, and a raffle-style drawing for one gentled mustang. Animal viewing and adopter registration begins at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday. The raffle drawing for the one gentled horse is set for 1:00 p.m. on Saturday while the oral bid process for the 35 mustangs is at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday.

All horse enthusiasts are encouraged to consider becoming adopters so these wild horses can be placed in good, safe homes. With their stamina, hardiness, and quick intelligence, Oregon's wild horses make excellent partners for any discipline. Only qualified adopters – those who have registered and been approved to adopt through the Wild Horse Program – can take an animal home from an adoption event. Minimum bid per animal \$125.

For more information on the upcoming adoptions, contact the Burns District BLM Office at (541) 573-4400 or go online to [www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index](http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index).



*Animals from the South Steens Herd Management Area*

