Kiger wild horse adoption set for October 6, 7, 8

HINES, Ore. – More than 100 mustangs from the Kiger and Riddle Mountain wild horse Herd Management Areas in southeastern Oregon will be available for public adoption Oct. 6-8, 2011. This is the first offering of the Kiger horses since they were last gathered from the range in 2007. The adoption and event activities will be at Oregon’s Wild Horse Corral Facility in Hines.

Photographs and statistics for each horse available for adoption, a complete event schedule, and special shipping information for non-local adopters can be found at www.blm.gov/adoptahorse. Click “Facility Photos,” then click “Kiger Adoption” to locate all the important details. The 3-day event gives those in attendance the opportunity to closely view mustangs up for adoption, and watch and participate in a variety of equine clinics, presentations, gentling demonstrations and trained mustang displays. Numerous vendors and home-cooked barbeque will be on-site for those interested.

The oral competitive bid adoption for the Kiger mustangs is noon on Saturday, Oct. 8. Anyone planning to participate in the bidding process must have an approved adoption application and bidder number before 11:30 a.m. that day. Submit an adoption application early to the Bureau of Land Management’s Burns District Office at 28910 Hwy 20 W, Hines, Oregon, 97738, or visit the adoption office at the Corral Facility during the event.

No other horse in America is quite like the Kiger mustang. Most wild horses are of mixed influence and characteristics, while the Kiger mustangs possess many characteristics of the original Spanish Mustang. The Spanish Mustang was a part of early American history, having roots in Native American history, and is the horse that helped settle the west. The Kiger mustang exhibits physical color characteristics known as the "dun factor" which were also common to many of the horses the Spaniards reintroduced to North America in the 1600's.

Kiger mustangs have developed a tremendous following with private adopters. The Oct. 6-8 event is expected to bring 100-200 people from across the United States and even overseas to Harney County for the chance to submit the winning bid for one or more of these unique horses.

For information about the Kiger mustang adoption, call the BLM Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400. Oregon’s Wild Horse Corral Facility is located along Hwy 20 W near milepost 122 in Hines.

Additional information about the BLM’s Wild Horse and Burro program is available online at:

http://www.blm.gov/or/resources/whb/index.php

About the BLM: The BLM manages 245 million acres of public land known as the National System of Public Lands. The lands are primarily located in 12 Western states, including 75 million acres in Alaska. With a budget of about $1 billion, the bureau also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The BLM’s multiple-use mission is to sustain the health and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

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