



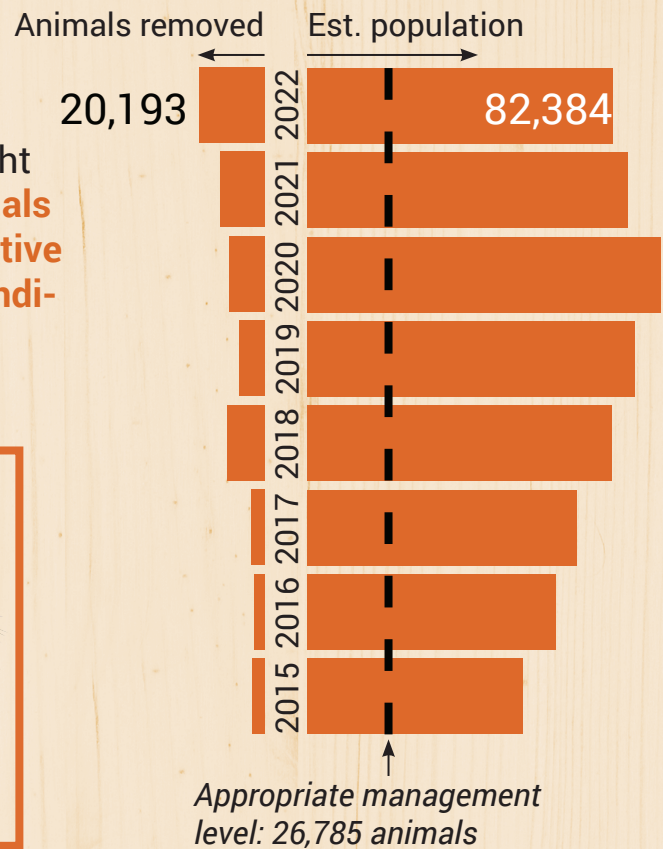
WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM

Highlights from Fiscal Year 2022

Following a year marked by severe drought and an increased number of emergency actions, the Bureau of Land Management's Wild Horse and Burro Program made significant progress in Fiscal Year 2022 toward achieving and maintaining healthy wild horse and burro populations on healthy public lands. Below are some key highlights of the work that was completed in FY2022.

Overpopulation continued to decline

The estimated wild horse and burro population on BLM-managed public lands fell for a second consecutive year as BLM continued to gather and remove more animals to protect herds from drought and overpopulation. **Gathering and removing animals for adoption is the safest, most humane and effective way to reduce overpopulation, improve habitat condition and ensure healthy resilient landscapes.**



Overpopulated herds threaten land and animal health, including more:



safety issues on highways



starvation and thirst



invasive weeds

Animal care and safety remained a top priority

The BLM continues to lead the way in safe and humane standards to care for and handle wild horses and burros.



25 Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program Internal Assessments completed

with average ratings of...

95% for 7 gathers

89% for one adoption/sale event

88% for 17 off-range corrals

99.76%

Nearly all animals (99.76%) were gathered without injury that resulted in death.

Less than one quarter of one percent (52 of nearly 22,000 animals gathered) were lost due to an injury that occurred at a gather event.

Records set for gathers and fertility control

The BLM gathered, removed and treated with fertility control more wild horses and burros in one year than has ever been done since the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act became law in 1971. Adoptions continue to remain strong, thanks to the demand created by the Adoption Incentive Program as well as the efforts of BLM's partners to train and place animals into private care.

Gathered	21,975	100+	Online and in-person adoption/sale events
Removed	20,193	2,000+	Animals trained
Treated	1,622	7,000+	Compliance checks
Adopted	6,669	73	Population surveys
Sold	1,098	58	Herds gathered in part
Transferred	26	34	Herds treated with fertility control

Budget and expenditures

The largest expense of the Wild Horse and Burro Program continues to be the care and feeding of unadopted and unsold wild horses and burros in off-range corrals and pastures. As more wild horses and burros are removed from public lands and inflation drives costs upwards, holding costs are expected to increase. The BLM's goal remains to place as many wild horses and burros into private care as possible to reduce this burden on taxpayers.

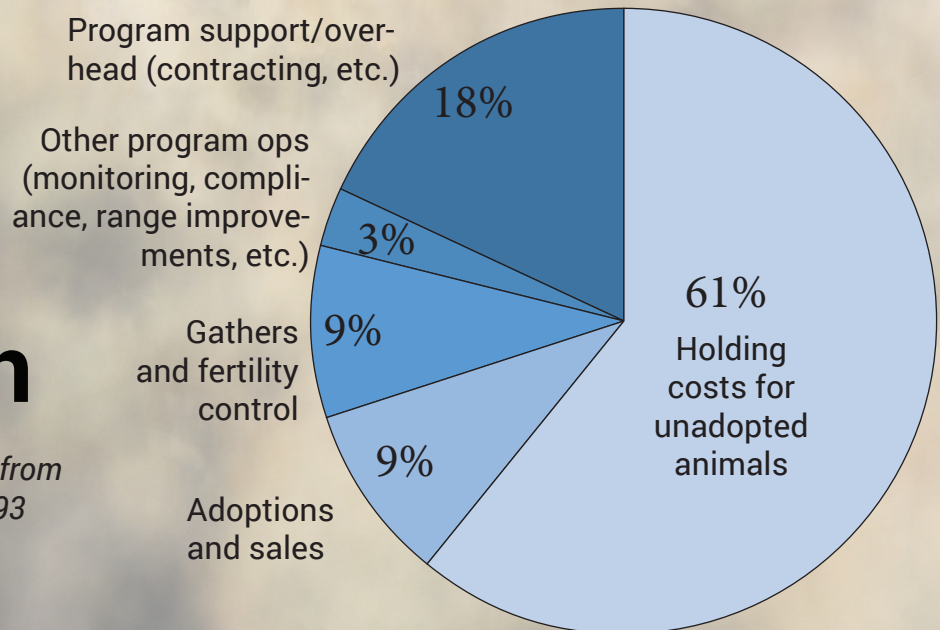
\$29,000

estimated average total lifetime cost savings of adopting, selling or transferring one wild horse or burro.

\$223 million

total estimated lifetime cost savings from adopting, selling and transferring 7,793 animals in FY22.

Total Expenditures: \$138.5 million



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Wild Horse and Burro Program

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