



BLM NEWS RELEASE

U.S. Department of the Interior • Bureau of Land Management • Washington, D.C., Office • 1849 C Street N.W. • Washington, D.C.

Bureau of Land Management
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BLM Seeks Nominations for Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board

The Bureau of Land Management, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, is requesting public nominations to fill three vacancies on its National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board. The three categories to be filled include individuals that represent: Natural Resource Management, Wild Horse and Burro Research, and a new position: Public Interest with special knowledge of equine behavior. The board advises the BLM and the USDA Forest Service on the management, protection, and control of wild free-roaming horses and burros on public lands and national forests administered by those agencies. Nomination packages must be submitted by August 5, 2010.

“We realize that many citizens feel strongly about how wild horses and burros are managed by the BLM,” said BLM Director Bob Abbey. “We are part of an agency that prides itself on a commitment to collaboration and cooperation, and we recognize that it’s time to improve the way we engage the public when it comes to the Wild Horse and Burro Program. That’s why I’ve taken steps to revise citizen representation on the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board.”

With this call for nominations, formally announced in today’s *Federal Register* at:

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2010/pdf/2010-14924.pdf>

the BLM is changing the current makeup of the nine-member board to better represent a balance of interests. One of two livestock positions, for which the term expired June 14, 2010, is being replaced with a second public interest position that requires special knowledge of equine behavior. Each board member has knowledge or special expertise that qualifies him or her to provide advice in one of the following categories: wild horse and burro advocacy, wild horse and burro research, veterinarian medicine, natural resources management, humane advocacy, wildlife management, livestock management, and public interest – both general and with special knowledge of equine behavior. Members must also have a demonstrated ability to analyze information, evaluate programs, identify problems, work collaboratively, and develop corrective actions.

Any individual or organization may nominate one or more persons to serve on the Advisory Board; individuals may also nominate themselves. In accordance with Section 7 of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, members serve three-year terms on a staggered-term basis, with one-third of the board subject to appointment each year. Federal and state government employees are not eligible to serve on the board. The board meets at least two times a year, and the BLM Director may call additional meetings when necessary. Members serve without salary but are reimbursed for travel and per diem expenses according to government travel regulations.

The BLM is accepting nomination letters, along with requisite resumes with a complete work history, that include the nominee’s name, mailing address, e-mail address, telephone number, profession, relevant

biographical information, references, endorsements, and specific category of interest. Nomination packages must be submitted by August 5, 2010, to the National Wild Horse and Burro Program, Bureau of Land Management, Attn: Sharon Kipping, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, or by fax to (202) 912-7182, or by e-mail at Sharon_Kipping@blm.gov. For further information, please call Ms. Kipping at (202) 912-7263.

The 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act mandates the protection, management, and control of these animals to ensure healthy herd populations at levels consistent with the land's capacity to support them. The BLM manages more than 38,000 wild horses and burros that roam public rangelands in 10 Western states. For more information, please visit www.blm.gov, where there is a direct link to the Wild Horse and Burro Program.

The BLM manages more land – 253 million acres – than any other Federal agency. This land, known as the National System of Public Lands, is primarily located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The Bureau, with a budget of about \$1 billion, 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. The Bureau accomplishes this by managing such activities as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing, mineral development, and energy production, and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on public lands.

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