



# BLM Resource Advisory Councils

Partners Across The West

## COLORADO NORTHWEST RESOURCE ADVISORY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2014-001a

### **Resolution in Support of a Pilot Population Control Program at the Sand Wash Herd Management Area**

**Whereas:** The Colorado Northwest Resource Advisory Council has a history of advocating the Bureau of Land Management use additional methods to keep wild horses and public rangelands healthy (see Resolutions 2009-03 and 2012-002), and

**Whereas:** The current methods the BLM uses to control wild horse numbers have proven not only inadequate, with currently 14,000 excess horses causing significant rangeland degradation on BLM lands in 11 western states, but also unsustainable with more than 48,000 head of wild horses in holding facilities nationwide, costing taxpayers \$46 million (64% of BLM's annual horse & burro budget), and

**Whereas:** The BLM is actively seeking additional thoughts and ideas for effective methods for managing the nation's wild horses and burros, and

**Whereas:** A chemical vasectomy technique developed by Dr. Kirk Shiner in which stallions are tranquilized by dart shows much promise as a cost-effective means for helping control wild horse numbers without affecting the social structure and behavior of wild horses, and

**Whereas:** The Sand Wash Herd Management Area in northwestern Colorado offers an excellent location to field test a chemical vasectomy pilot program due to its accessible terrain and its individually identifiable horses.

**Therefore Be It Resolved:** The Northwest Colorado Resource Advisory Council supports and encourages the BLM to use the Sand Wash Herd Management Area for a pilot program to treat stallions using the chemical vasectomy technique developed by Dr. Kirk Shiner.

Passed, approved, and adopted Sept. 12, 2014.

Received by Designated Federal Officer  
Wendy Reynolds

Dean Riggs, Chair  
Northwest Resource Advisory Council