The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program continues to make progress toward the goal of managing healthy wild horses and burros on healthy public rangelands as required by the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. With limited available management tools and a rapidly growing population, the BLM continues to seek innovative and humane solutions to put the Wild Horse and Burro Program back on a sustainable track.

**Increased Gathers**

11,000 wild horses and burros were removed by the BLM from more than 50 Herd Management Areas (HMA) and Herd Areas in FY18, 3x more than the average of 3,500 over the previous five years. 1,000 animals

Average FY 2012 – 2017: 3,500 animals  
FY 2018: 11,000 animals

**Slowed On-Range Growth**

Due to increased removals, population growth on the range slowed from about 9,000 in FY17 to about 6,000 in FY18.

**FY 2017**: 9,000 animals  
**FY 2018**: 6,000 animals

An additional 4 HMAs reached an appropriate management level.

**More Good Homes**

The BLM continued to increase the annual number of animals placed into private care through adoptions/sales.

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<th>FY 2016</th>
<th>FY 2017</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>4,100</td>
<td>4,600</td>
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1,500 animals placed into private care with the help of BLM partners.

Caitlin Martin with Flash Gordon; Photo credit: BLM partner Beaty Butte Training Facility in Adel, Oregon

More than 100 adoption and sale events in FY18.
**Reduced Holding Costs**

$1,000,000 taxpayer dollars saved

Despite a slight increase in the average off-range population, the BLM transferred more animals from corrals to pastures, saving taxpayer dollars.

**Helping Veterans**

The BLM supported the launch of Mission Mustang™ — a new pilot program in coordination with the non-profit organization EquiCenter — focused on gentling wild horses and healing veterans.

*Pictured to the left, Trooper and 1SG (Retired) Mark Hansen, U.S. Army, Iraq/Afghanistan*

The first six wild horses arrived at the center in 2018.

**Public Off-Range Pastures**

The BLM renewed contracts for 3 public off-range pastures, and added a fourth one.

- Deerwood Ranch
  - Laramie, WY
- Mowdy Ranch
  - Coalgate, OK
- Svaty Ranch
  - Ellsworth, KS
- Wind River Ranch
  - Lander, WY

**Population Estimates**

80 census flights were conducted by the BLM to develop accurate population estimates for wild horses and burros.

For more information, visit BLM.gov/WHB or call (866) 468-7826.