The Bureau of Land Management’s (BLM’s) Wild Horse and Burro Program made significant progress during fiscal year 2019 toward achieving its goal of managing healthy wild horses and burros on healthy public rangelands. Through the work of its dedicated staff, partners, and volunteers, the BLM placed a record number of animals into private care, provided training for more wild horses and burros, and continued an accelerated pace of gathers to address overpopulated herds on public lands.

**Adoptions and Sales**

The launch of the BLM’s Adoption Incentive Program, which offers up to $1,000 to adopt an untrained wild horse or burro, contributed to a significant increase in the number of animals placed into good homes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Adoptions Placed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FY 2017</td>
<td>4,100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2018</td>
<td>4,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FY 2019</td>
<td>7,100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

54% \[\text{Annual Increase}\]

More than half were adopted through the Adoption Incentive Program.

The BLM offered adoptions and sales through offsite events and its Online Corral and conducted compliance checks to ensure adopted animals were receiving proper care.

**Training Through Partnerships**

BLM partners and contractors helped train wild horses and burros to improve their chances for adoption.

1,451 Animals Trained

At least one trainer was located in each of the Lower 48 states.

**Public Off-Range Pastures**

Four public off-range pastures provided opportunities for visitors to see and learn about wild horses and their management.

- **4 Public Off-Range Pastures**
  - SVATY RANCH IN ELLSWORTH, KS
  - DEERWOOD RANCH IN LARAMIE, WY
  - WIND RIVER RANCH IN LANDER, WY
  - MOWDY RANCH IN COALGATE, OK

- **700 Animals Offered**
- **418 Animals Placed into Good Homes**
- **2,800 Compliance Checks Conducted**

More than 100 offsite events

More than half were placed in a single year since 2002.

The BLM continues to make progress toward its goal of managing healthy wild horses and burros on healthy public rangelands.
**RESEARCH**

The BLM continued supporting research and development of a better, longer lasting fertility control method for wild horses and burros.

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ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS FOCUSED ON FERTILITY CONTROL, POPULATION MODELING, AND MORE

**SURVEYS**

The BLM continued efforts to survey at least one-third of all herd management areas (HMAs) every year using widely acceptable wildlife survey tools and methods.

75

HMAs SURVEYED IN FY 2019 OUT OF 177 TOTAL HMAs

31

WILD HORSE AND BURRO HERDS AT APPROPRIATE MANAGEMENT LEVEL AS OF MARCH 1, 2019

**PROGRAM**

The biggest cost of the Wild Horse and Burro Program continued to be feeding and caring for unadopted and unsold wild horses and burros in off-range corrals and pastures.

**GATHERS AND FERTILITY CONTROL**

The BLM conducted gathers to protect animal and habitat health from the effects of overpopulation. The BLM also continued implementing fertility control to slow herd growth and reduce the need for gathers. In addition, the BLM began using microchips to better track and manage wild horses and burros.

NEARLY 7,300 ANIMALS GATHERED FROM 30 WILD HORSE AND BURRO HERDS

12 HERDS WITH ONGOING FERTILITY CONTROL PROGRAMS

NEARLY 6,400 ANIMALS IN HOLDING AND PLACED INTO PRIVATE CARE RECEIVED MICROCHIPS

**EXPENDITURES**

67% OFF-RANGE HOLDING COSTS

35% OFF-RANGE CORRALS

32% OFF-RANGE PASTURES

19% OTHER ACTIVITIES

10% ADOPTIONS

4% GATHERS AND REMOVALS

SVATY RANCH PUBLIC OFF-RANGE PASTURE IN ELLSWORTH, KANSAS

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

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