

U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



National Wild Horse & Burro Advisory Board Meeting October 05, 2022

John Hall

WH&B Program Lead/Florence Prison Facility Manager

BLM Arizona State Office





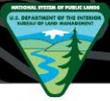
Arizona Wild Horses & Burros

- Arizona WH&B Team
 - 1 Lead/Facility Manager, 2 WH&B Specialist, and Staff Assistant
 - Management Support
- Facilities
 - 1 ORC: Florence Prison WH&B Training, Holding, and Prep facility
 - 1 staging facility in Kingman, AZ
- Satellite Adoption Team
 - Made up of the Arizona WH&B team along with other BLM employees and volunteers.



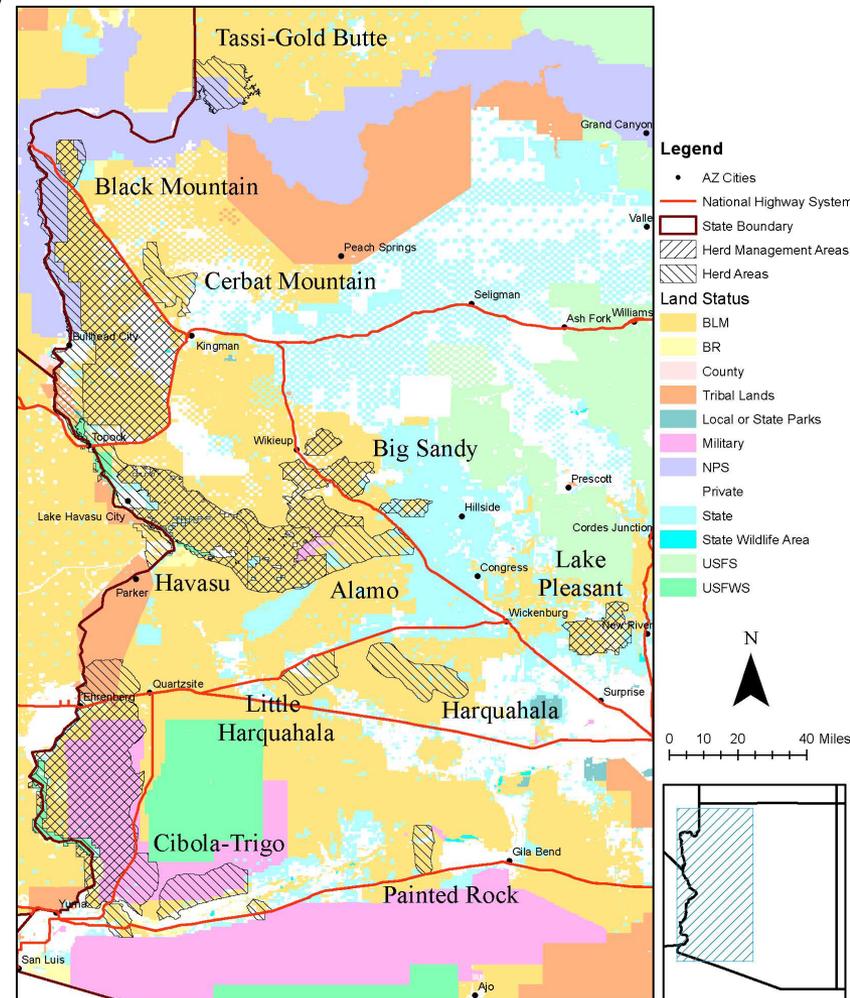
Arizona Wild Horse & Burro Management





Arizona Wild Horses & Burros – Where are they?

- Arizona BLM manages eleven HAs and six HMAs, covering over four million acres total
- Of the eleven HA's managed by Arizona BLM, six are closely related to the HMAs and overlap considerably.





Arizona Wild Horses & Burros

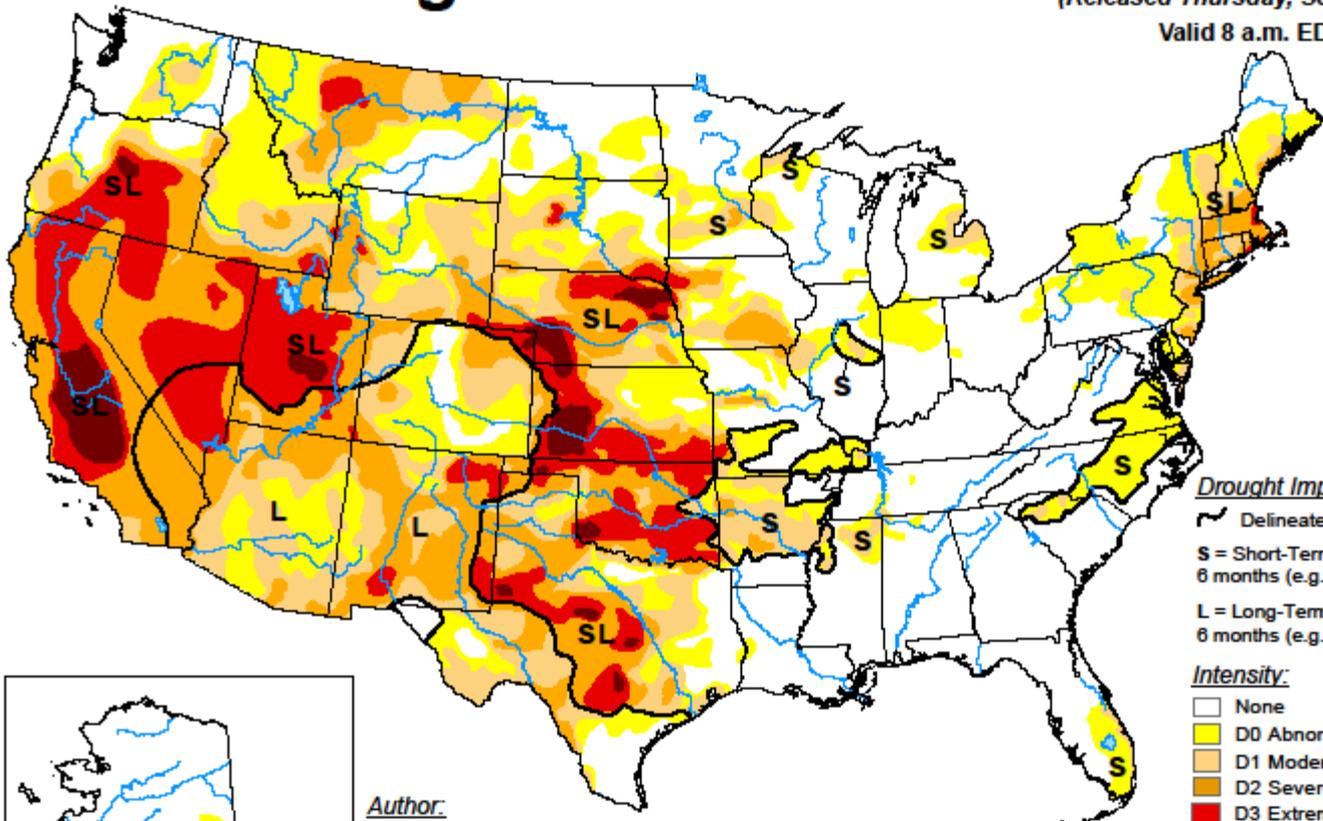
- Estimate as of *March 01, 2022* was = **9,496** 9,092 wild burros
404 wild horses
- Arizona AML = 1,676
(1,436 Burros & 240 Horses)
- FY-21 removals: 942
- FY-22 removals: 1,191





U.S. Drought Monitor

September 6, 2022
(Released Thursday, Sep. 8, 2022)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

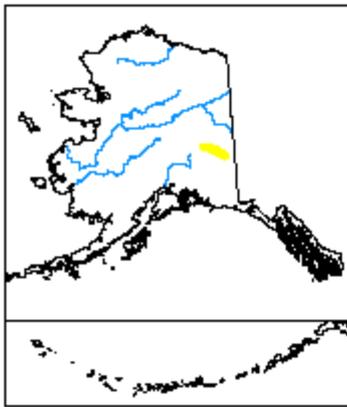


Drought Impact Types:

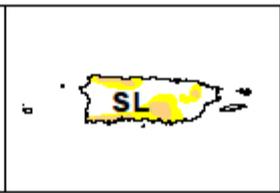
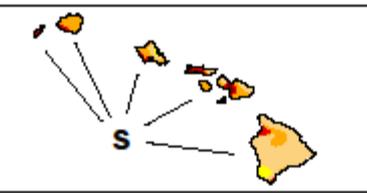
- Delineates dominant impacts
- S** = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)
- L** = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought



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Western Regional Climate Center



The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



droughtmonitor.unl.edu





BLM Arizona WH&B Strategy FY21-FY26

- Establish AML ranges for all areas to be managed.
- Gather to AML, then maintain AML within established ranges.
 - Large contract gathers to achieve AML ASAP.
- Smaller, periodic in house gathers to maintain AML
- Two additional WH&B Specialist positions were identified.
- Implementation has been fluid with fluctuation of funding.





Black Mountain HMA

- Located in extreme NW Arizona approximately 15 miles West of Kingman, AZ
- Largest HMA in Arizona at 1.1 million acres
- This region is volcanic in origin, resulting in an area that is characterized by large mesas, steep cliffs, slopes, rocky foothills, alluvial fans and sandy washes.
- AML is approximately 478
- Approximate population as of March 2022: 2,976 burros



Black Mountain Wild Burro Gather May FY22

- Helicopter gather of approximately 1,100 Wild Burros due to overpopulation and habitat destruction
- Gather took approximately one month
- 9 females from the HSUS project were treated and released
- No deaths or significant events occurred during the gather
- Largest burro gather in Arizona history



Cibola Trigo

- Located in SW Arizona North of Yuma, AZ along the Colorado River
- Approximately 179,000 acres
- This region This region of the lower Sonoran Desert is characterized by broad valleys and desert plains having gentle slopes and sparse vegetation, with rocky, sharply eroded desert mountain ranges abruptly ridging the gentle terrain
- AML is approximately 165 burros, 150 horses
- Approximate population as of March 2022: 378 burros, 307 horses





Lake Pleasant

- Located 25 miles NW of Phoenix, AZ
- Approximately 103,000 acres
- The area's rugged mountains, numerous small canyons and open rolling hills cut across the HMA landscape.
- Large of the HMA falls within the Lake Pleasant Regional park which is Managed by Maricopa County Parks.
- The vegetation is typical of the upper Sonoran Desert, where paloverde and mixed cacti are common.
- AML is 166-208
- Approximate population as of March 2022: 869 burros





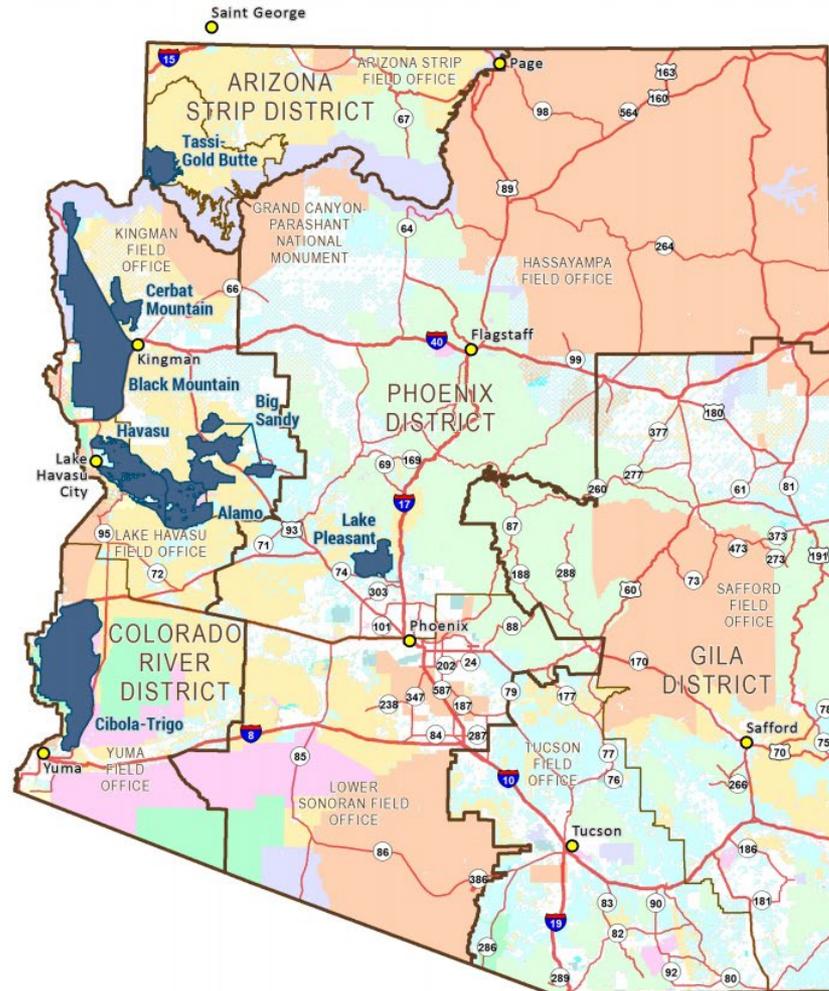
Three Rivers (Alamo, Big Sandy, Havasu HMAs)

- Located on the Big Sandy River, near Alamo Lake, and Lake Havasu.
- Combined approximately 1 million acres.
- The area's rugged mountains, numerous small canyons and open rolling hills cut across the HMA landscape.
- Vegetation includes plants typical to Arizona's interior chaparral, grasslands and lower Sonoran Desert shrub communities.
- Combined AML is 372-465.
- Combined approximate population as of March 2022: 3,818 burros





BLM Arizona Herd Management Areas



- | | | |
|----------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| City | Surface Management Agency | National Park Service |
| Herd Management Area | Bureau of Land Management | Other |
| BLM District Office | Bureau of Reclamation | Private |
| BLM Field Office | Bankhead-Jones Act | State |
| Interstate Highway | County | State Wildlife Area |
| US Highway | Indian Lands | US Forest Service |
| State Highway | Local or State Parks | US Fish and Wildlife Service |
| | Military | |



No warranty is made by the Bureau of Land Management as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of these data for individual use or aggregate use with other data.

Map Produced by the BLM Arizona State Office Date: 9/6/2019



BLM Arizona Adoptions/Sales

- Arizona BLM averages 700 adoptions/sales a year
- Placement is a combination of direct from Florence, TIP, Satellite events, and sales.
- Arizona BLM typically holds 5-7 adoption or demo events yearly.







Partnerships: Florence Prison Training and Holding Facility





Partnerships: University of Arizona School of Veterinarian Medicine





Management Challenges:

Significant overpopulation of WH&Bs across AZ

- All HMAs are over AML – several 4-5 times the established AML
- Shortage of water is impacting HMAs annually
- Program-wide budget limitations and other Program priorities is limiting Arizona's ability to achieve AMLs.
- Increasing private property and public safety concerns across the state due to expanding populations.
 - Vehicle collisions are a major concern with burros given their curious nature.





QUESTIONS ?

