## **News Release**

BLM Southeastern States District, Eastern States

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## BLM HOSTING WILD HORSE AND BURRO EVENT IN JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

FLOWOOD, Miss.— The Bureau of Land Management is scheduled to host a wild horse and burro placement event, offering a limited number of excess animals gathered from western rangelands, from Thursday Feb. 22 through Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024 at the Mississippi State Fairgrounds in Barn 11, next to the Coliseum.

"The BLM has placed more than 29,000 wild horses and burros into private care since 1971," said Southeastern States District Manager Robert Swithers. "Many of those animals have become excellent pleasure, show, or work horses."

The event is planned to kickoff at 8 a.m. CT each day, ending at 4:30 p.m. CT Thursday and Friday and noon CT on Saturday. This event is open to the public. Adopters and buyers must be at least 18 years old and able to verify the animal's access to food, water, and adequate shelter. Animals that are adopted or purchased must be transported from the event site in an approved trailer.

The BLM's Adoption Incentive Program (AIP) was designed to help improve rangeland health in overpopulated herd management areas in the western states and to save taxpayer costs for animals held at off-range holding facilities. Through AIP, qualified adopters are eligible to receive a \$1000 incentive payment upon title issuance for an untrained wild horse or burro. The incentive is available for all untrained animals eligible for adoption with an adoption fee of \$125 per animal.

Animals that are over 10 years old or younger animals who were unsuccessfully adopted out to new homes three times may be sold. BLM staff will be available to identify these animals to interested, qualified buyers. Purchasers will receive immediate ownership of the animals. To learn more about BLM's Wild Horse and Burro program, visit <a href="https://www.blm.gov/whb.">https://www.blm.gov/whb.</a>

## -BLM-

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