The Piceance-East Douglas Herd Management Area (HMA) in Colorado is one of four wild horse HMAs in the state. The White River Field Office manages the area in the Bureau of Land Management's Northwest Colorado District. The BLM is committed to maintaining a healthy wild horse herd over the long-term as part of our multiple-use mission.

#### National Wild Horse and Burro Program

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The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages more than 8.3 million acres of public lands and more than 27 million acres of mineral estate in Colorado. BLM lands in Colorado range from alpine tundra, colorful canyons and mesas, to rolling sage covered hills. The BLM has activities and programs for all public land users to enjoy. Visit www.blm.gov to learn more about your public lands.

BLM Colorado values diversity and is committed to creating a strong workforce that reflects the face of our Nation. Public lands are inclusive for all people and groups. Come out and share your public lands with neighbors and friends today!

#### Accessibility

The BLM is dedicated to ensuring that everyone has an equitable opportunity to access their public lands by providing access to facilities, programs, services, and activities for people with disabilities. To learn more visit www.blm.gov/accessible-recreation.

BLM/CO/GI-23/007

## **About the Herd**

Bays, blacks, sorrels and browns are dominant in the Piceance-East Douglas HMA, as well as some grays, roans and pintoes.

Most horses range from 14 to 15 hands and weigh between 800 to 1,000 pounds.

# Piceance-East Douglas Herd Management Area

NATIONAL CONSERVATION LANDS



Under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free–Roaming Horses and Burros Act, BLM manages and protects wild horses and burros as part of its overall multipleuse mission. The Bureau works to ensure that population levels are in balance with rangeland resources and other uses of the public lands. Wild horses have virtually no predators and can double in population about every four years if they are not properly managed. As part of our multiple-use mission, we are mandated to protect habitat to support wild horses. Periodically, the field office gathers and removes excess horses from the range to prevent or reduce stress on the land. These gathers are important to maintaining healthy rangelands. BLM Colorado also uses fertility control to reduce the need for gathers.

### **Herd Management Area Details**

The 190,130-acre Piceance-East Douglas HMA was designated in 1980 and is southwest of Meeker and east of State Highway 139. The BLM considers this area to be the most suitable area for wild horses throughout the White River Field Office. The Piceance-East Douglas HMA has a good balance of winter and summer ranges, and is large enough to support horses at a genetically viable level. In 1997, the Piceance-East Douglas HMA was expanded by 30,000 acres. Since then, the field office has increased the appropriate management level by more than 65 percent to manage for a wild horse herd of 135 to 235 animals.



