



# United States Department of the Interior



## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Phoenix District  
Hassayampa Field Office  
21605 North 7th Avenue  
Phoenix, Arizona 85027  
[www.blm.gov/az/](http://www.blm.gov/az/)

August 21, 2014

In Reply Refer To:  
4700 (P010)

Dear Reader:

Due to safety hazards along Arizona highways in Peoria, AZ, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Hassayampa Field Office will gather from private and state lands, 40 nuisance burros. Once gathered, the burros will be placed in the Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program. The gather is in accordance with the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act, 1971, as amended, and Regulations at 43 CFR 4720.2-1.

There have been 27 documented vehicle collisions with burros this year. The collisions injure or kill the wild burros and create a safety hazard for motorists. The BLM is working with the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) to increase warning signs and fencing. Nevertheless, the BLM continues to receive complaints regarding wild burros on roadways from drivers, police agencies, private land owners, and ADOT officials.

The BLM has hired a contractor for the gather operation, which will take place from as soon as August 25 through September 30, 2014. Temporary corral traps will be placed away from traffic and in the vicinity of Highway Loop 303 and south of State Route 74. Alfalfa hay will be placed to attract and gather the burros. The burros will be moved to a temporary holding area, receive food and water, and then will be transported to the adoption facility.

The BLM prepared a Categorical Exclusion and Decision Record pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. You are receiving this letter because you or your organization asked to be added to our list of interested publics. Our list of interested publics is updated each year. Unless you request in writing to be removed from our mailing list, you will continue to receive information and mailings.

Because the gather will take place on private and state properties, the BLM will not be able to offer humane observation areas to the public out of respect to private land owners and due to access limitations on state land. For information about the progress of the gather, we invite you to see our website: <http://www.blm.gov/az/st/en/prog/whb/pdo-gather.html>, which will be updated daily.

If you have any questions, please contact Steve Bird, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist, at (623) 580-5655.

Sincerely,

Field Manager