

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
NEEDLES FIELD OFFICE**

**CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION  
DOI-BLM-CA-D090-2015-0021-CX**

**Needles, California and Chemehuevi Indian Reservation, California  
Nuisance Wild Burro Removal**

**Proposed Action:**

The Needles Field Office in cooperation with the Lake Havasu Field Office proposes to utilize wildlife friendly bait trapping techniques to capture and remove nuisance burros. Approximately one hundred sixty (160) burros outside the Chemehuevi Herd Area and Herd Management Area are affecting the City of Needles, California (20 burros), Park Moabi (40 burros) and the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation Tribal lands (100 burros), primarily near Havasu Landing, California. This action is in accordance with 43 CFR Part 4700; 4720.2-1: Removal of strayed animals from private lands.

The project would tentatively start early – mid August 2015 and would last approximately 6 – 10 weeks addressing removing 40 nuisance burros from Park Moabi near the city of Needles, California and 100 nuisance burros from the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation. Actions would continue as needed when requests or reports of burros creating a nuisance or public hazard within the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation, Park Moabi and/or the City of Needles, California are received.

The National Wild Horse and Burro Bait Trapping Contractor or BLM wrangler crews would conduct the bait and trapping operations. The work shall be accomplished in a safe and humane manner and be in accordance with the provisions of 43 CFR Part 4700 and the contract specifications for bait trapping. Typically 2- 3 bait traps would be placed within locations where burros are creating a nuisance. Location of the traps would be coordinated with the Chemehuevi Conservation Officer or the Private land owner, and would be surveyed by a BLM archaeologist prior to trap placement to ensure that they are not placed on or near cultural sites. No trap sites would be placed within the Chemehuevi Herd Area or Herd Management Area.

Each trap would be located in areas which are used by burros. Weed free or locally grown alfalfa, orchard grass or other types of hay and food supplements along with a water trough would be placed out as an attractant. Once the burros were feeding on the hay and watering, a capture pen would be constructed. Each capture pen would be approximately 50 feet by 50 feet using 5-6 foot high by 10-12 foot long portable steel pipe panels. The catch pen would have a break in the panels for burros to access the hay and water within the pen. When it was evident that the burros were fixated on the hay and water within the catch pen, a trigger gate would be erected. The trigger gate will be left open for a period of time so the burros become accustomed to coming in and out of the catch pen through the trigger gate. When it is determined the burros

would readily come into the catch pen for the hay and water, the trigger gate would be set. The trigger gate would allow the burros to enter the catch pen, but not exit.

Typically, during the summer months, burros forage during the night when it is cooler. The daytime average high temperature is 108<sup>0</sup> F and average low is 85<sup>0</sup> F. Most burros would be trapped during the night and early morning hours. The traps will be checked twice daily, once in the morning and again in the late afternoon.

If burros were found in the trap, personnel would set 2 wing panels for the stock trailer to back into and one of the catch pen panels would be swung open, allowing the burros access onto the stock trailer. The trapped burros would be minimally worked and the stress on the burro would be low.

The captured burros would be transported to a temporary holding pen located at the Needles Fairgrounds or on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation where they would be fed, watered and monitored daily. The captured burros would then be transported to the BLM holding facility where they would be placed into the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse or Burro Program.

For injuries and disease not requiring the immediate care of a veterinarian the animal would be transported to the BLM facility where the animal would be treated upon arrival. If the animal cannot be transported, or if the animal's condition is uncertain or it can't be transported without further injury, harm or undue pain, a veterinarian would make a determination on the treatment for the animal.

When personnel are not available to monitor the catch pens, the trigger gates would be removed.

**Location of Proposed Action:**

**County: San Bernardino County**

**Township and Ranges: San Bernardino Base and Meridian:**

**Needles, CA (whole or parts of the following – See Attachment 8):**

Township 9 North, Range 23 East, Sec: 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33 (Needles, CA)

Township 8 North, Range 23 East, Sec: 4, 5, 9, 15, 23, 26 and 36 (Between Needles, CA and Park Moabi)

Township 7 North, Range 23 East, Sec: 1 (Park Moabi)

Township 7 North, Range 24 East, Sec: 5 and 6 (Park Moabi)

The main focus are the burros which are creating a public safety issue and which pose a threat on getting onto Interstate 40, Highway 95 and other state highways and road ways.

**Chemehuevi Indian Reservation (whole or parts of the following – See Attachment 9):**

The project location will be on Tribal lands within the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation:

- In the surrounding community of Havasu Lake, California.

Township 4 North, Range 25 East, Sec: 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 and 18.

Township 5 North, Range 24 East, Sec: 2, 11, 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 34 and 35.

Township 5 North, Range 25 East, Sec: 6, 7, 18, 19, 30 and 31.

Township 6 North, Range 24 East, Sec: 26, 35 and 36.

- In the surrounding community of Havasu Palm, California.  
Township 4 North, Range 26 East, Sec: 31 and 32.

The areas described, including both Federal and non-Federal lands, aggregate 25,600 acres (See **Attachment 1 and 2**).

**PURPOSE AND NEED FOR PROPOSED ACTION:**

The purpose of this action is to respond to complaints from private land owners for removal of nuisance burros impacting residential areas and creating a threat to public safety in the Chemehuevi Reservation, Park Moabi and the city of Needles, California.

The Chemehuevi Herd Area (HA) / Herd Management Area (HMA) is located in southeastern California along the Colorado River, south of Needles, California within San Bernardino and Riverside Counties, California. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan of 1980, as amended through the Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan (NECO, 2002) and adopted by the Lake Havasu Field Office Resource Management Plan (LHFO-RMP, 2007), identified the southern portion of the HA as an HMA with an appropriate management level (AML) of 108 burros (See **Attachment 3**).

A burro population survey utilizing the Simultaneous Double Count Method was conducted from May 22 -24, 2012 for the Chemehuevi and Havasu Herd Areas and the Chemehuevi Herd Management Area, which estimated a population of 649 burros. Currently, there is an estimated 742 burros, 634 burros over the AML of 108 burros.

**Needles, California:** Initial attempts will focus on removing up to 40 burros from Park Moabi. There are approximately 60 burros outside the northern portion of the Chemehuevi Herd Area between Needles California and Park Moabi. Burros are following the river corridor from Park Moabi to the city of Needles. Written complaints and residents have been notifying the Needles BLM Field Office that burros are causing damage to private property. City of Needles Animal Control has also contacted the Needles Field Office. Problems include water supply lines for homes being dug up, bark stripping of fruit trees and burros within the Needles Cemetery.

Within the month of May, 2014, several reports by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to the Needles Field Office Law Enforcement regarding burros getting onto Highway 95 and Interstate 40. The Needles Field Office Law Enforcement staff coordinated with the California Highway Patrol on moving burros off highway 95 and from Interstate 40 on/off ramps. One burro had been put down by a CHP Officer, due to the wild burro creating a hazardous situation along Interstate 40 east of Needles.

On May 22, 2014 - 11 burros removed from the Needles Cemetery.

On June 2, 2014, the Needles Field Office received a letter from the City of Needles, California requesting burros be removed from areas in and around the City (**See Attachment 4**). Current reports, burros are close to the City's golf course.

On June 22, 2015, received letter from the manager of Pirates Cove Resort at Park Moabi referencing 40 burros which are adversely impacting the resort (**See Attachment 5**). This letter and issue have been forwarded to the Lake Havasu Bureau of Land Management Field Office.

On July 27, 2015, Kingman Wild Horse and Burro Specialist received information from the Mohave County Sheriff regarding an incident with a burro crossing Interstate 40 on the California side of the Colorado River.

**Chemehuevi Indian Reservation:** Initial attempts will focus on removing up to 100 burros from the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation. The Chemehuevi HA / HMA borders the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation and burros move off from the HA/HMA seeking shade, water and food on the Tribal lands, especially in the summer months. The Chemehuevi Conservation Officer reported to the Ridgecrest Wild Horse and Burro Specialist on (6/23/2015) of approximately 60 burros on the Reservation near Havasu Landing with small groups getting onto the Havasu Landing Road creating a safety issue.

On October 28, 2013 and on June 13, 2014, the Needles Field Office received letters from the Chairman of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe (**See Attachments 6 and 7, respectively**) requesting burros be removed from their Reservation lands because they are causing a public nuisance and a public safety hazard.

On April 17, 2014, the Ridgecrest Field Office Wild Horse and Burro Specialist received an e-mail from the manager for Vista Del Lago property (**See Attachment 8**), stating that burros are getting hit on the highway and roads within the reservation, creating a public nuisance and a safety issue with visitors at Havasu Landing.

Complaints from the Vista Del Lago property manager include:

1. Burros jumping fences and walls.
2. Extensive damage to irrigation lines and plumbing lines.
3. Landscaping eaten and destroyed in common areas and on personal property.
4. Burro waste on streets, yards, patios, driveways, and empty lots.
5. Burros gather on private patios, yards, sometimes creating a threatening situation with occupants and

Vista del Lago management state that much time and money has been expended to keep animals off of the property and has been a serious issue.

On July 21, 2015, the Needles Field Office received a letter from the Chairman of the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe requesting that burros be removed from the area due to public safety concerns (**See Attachment 9**).

The need for this action is established by BLM's responsibility under 4720.2-1 Removal of strayed animals from private lands.

Letters of notification would be issued to the affected interest groups for all related burro gather activities under this CX.

**SPECIAL DESIGNATION AREA:**

There are no Special Designation Areas impacted by this proposed action.

**LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE:**

The proposed actions are in accordance with the:

- Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 (Public Law 92-195)
- Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-579)
- Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-514)
- California Desert Conservation Area (CDCA) Plan of 1980 and associated CDCA Plan Environmental Impact Statement and resulting Record of Decision and associated amendments within the Northern and Eastern Colorado Desert Coordinated Management Plan, 2002.
- Lake Havasu Field Offices Resource Management Plan (LHFO-RMP, 2007)
- Codes of Federal Regulations 43 CFR 4700 prescribe the authorities, objectives, and policies that guide the protection, management, control, and disposition of wild free-roaming horses and burros in accordance with the Act. Under 4720.2-1 Removal of strayed animals from private lands: states:

“Upon written request from the private landowner to any representative of the Bureau of Land Management, the authorized officer shall remove stray wild horses and burros from private lands as soon as practicable. The private landowner may also submit the written request to a Federal marshal, who shall notify the authorized officer. The request shall indicate the numbers of wild horses or burros, the date(s) the animals were on the land, legal description of the private land, and any special conditions that should be considered in the gathering plan.”

## EXCEPTIONS REVIEW:

The Department of the Interior Manual 516 2.3 requires that before any categorical exclusion is used, the exceptions must be reviewed for applicability. The proposed action cannot be categorically excluded if one or more of the exceptions apply.

The proposed action qualifies as a Categorical Exclusion pursuant to 516 DM 11.9, D. Rangeland Management, (4) Removal of wild horses or burros from private lands at the request of the landowner.

**2.1** Has significant impacts on public health or safety. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** The capture and removal burros from in and around Needles, California and the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation lands will have no significant impacts on health or safety. This action will be beneficial for the City of Needles and the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe, it will also eliminate or reduce the safety risks caused by wild burros crossing Interstate 40, U.S. Highway 95 and Havasu Lake Road, including other roads in the community.

**2.2** Has significant impacts on such natural resources and unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources; park, recreation or refuge lands; wilderness areas; wild or scenic rivers; national natural landmarks; sole or principal drinking water aquifers; prime farmlands; wetlands (Executive Order 11990); floodplains (Executive Order 11988); national monuments; migratory birds; and other ecologically significant or critical areas. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** The capture and removal of burros from the project area will have no significant impacts to cultural resources. The Chemehuevi Conservation Officer will be coordinating with the capture crew on location of trap sites.

**2.3** Has highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources [NEPA Section 102(2)(E)]. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** The removal of wild burros from the project areas will not have highly controversial environmental effects or involve unresolved conflicts concerning alternative uses of available resources.

**2.4** Has highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involve unique or unknown environmental risks. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** As the wild burros are being gathered for their own safety and for the safety of the public, and as prior gathers have been previously conducted in the same manner as will be carried out here, this action will not have highly uncertain or potentially significant environmental effects or involve unknown environmental risks.

**2.5** Establishes a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will not establish a precedent for future action or represent a decision in principle about future actions with potentially significant environmental effects as wild horse and burro gathers are common. This action was initiated at the request from the city of Needles, California and the Chemehuevi Indian Tribe Chairman on whose lands the wild burros are currently located, and is being conducted to address their needs for removal of those burros and for the safety of the public and animals.

**2.6** Has a direct relationship to other actions with individually insignificant but cumulatively significant environmental effects. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will not have a direct relationship to others actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant environmental effects as the burro population in the Chemehuevi HMA is significantly above the AML and the burros being removed are outside the herd area and herd management area. Wild burros removed will be transported to a BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Holding Facility where they will be placed into the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse or Burro Program.

**2.7** Has significant impacts on properties listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places as determined by either the bureau or office. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** Pursuant to the State Protocol Agreement between the California State Director of the Bureau of Land Management and the California State Historic Preservation Officer (2015) and in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800, the BLM has reviewed this undertaking for any actions that would include public or private lands. The BLM is not authorized to complete the Section 106 review on Tribal Lands, which is under the purview of the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

In order to assure no Historic Properties would be affected by the burro gather, the BLM will conduct a Class III survey on any private or public lands that are proposed to serve as a capture area. If potential Historic properties are identified, the BLM archaeologist will work with the BLM archaeologist or head of the wrangler crew to identify an alternative location that is void of cultural resources.

**2.8** Has significant impacts on species listed, or proposed to be listed, on the List of Endangered or Threatened Species, or have significant impacts on designated Critical Habitat. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** The project area is not within desert tortoise habitat. As an extra precaution, the terms and conditions for this project specify extra protective measures for the desert tortoise that will be followed during the project.

**2.9** Violate a Federal law, or a State, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will not violate a federal law, or a state, local, or tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment. On the contrary, BLM was requested to take action for the removal of strayed animals from private lands consistent with the provisions of CFR 4720.2-1.

**2.10** Has a disproportionately high and adverse effect on low income or minority populations (Executive Order 12898). **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will not have a high or adverse effect on low income or minority populations as the gather will take place within and around Needles, California and on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation lands. The burros will be either transported to a temporary holding location at the Needles Fairgrounds or within the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation, then transported to a BLM Wild Horse and Burro Holding Facility, where they will be placed into the BLM's Adopt-A-Horse or Burro Program.

**2.11** Limits access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites (Executive Order 13007). **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will impose no limits on access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites on Federal lands by Indian religious practitioners or significantly adversely affect the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

**2.12** Contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species (Federal Noxious Weed Control Act and Executive Order 13112). **Comment: Exception does not apply.**

**Rationale:** This action will not contribute to the introduction, continued existence, or spread of noxious weeds or non-native invasive species known to occur in the area or actions that may promote the introduction, growth, or expansion of the range of such species. The gather will take place on lands previously disturbed by these wild animals and locally grown hay or certified weed free hay will be used for baiting the traps.

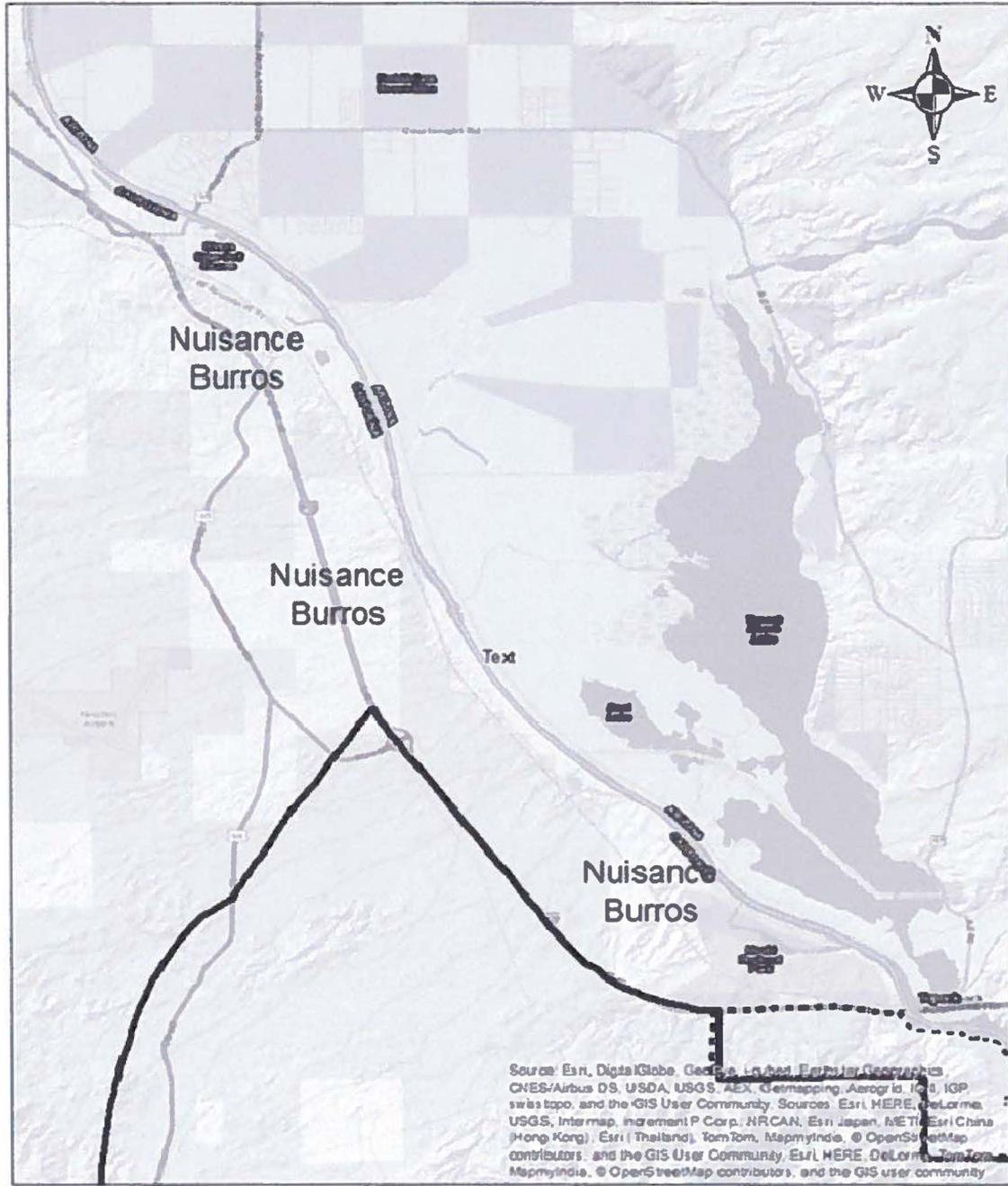
**APPROVED:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mike Ahrens, Needles Field Office Manager

8-5-15  
Date

# Attachment 1

## Outside Chemehuevi Herd Area Needles, California Proposed Gather Areas June 2014



### Legend

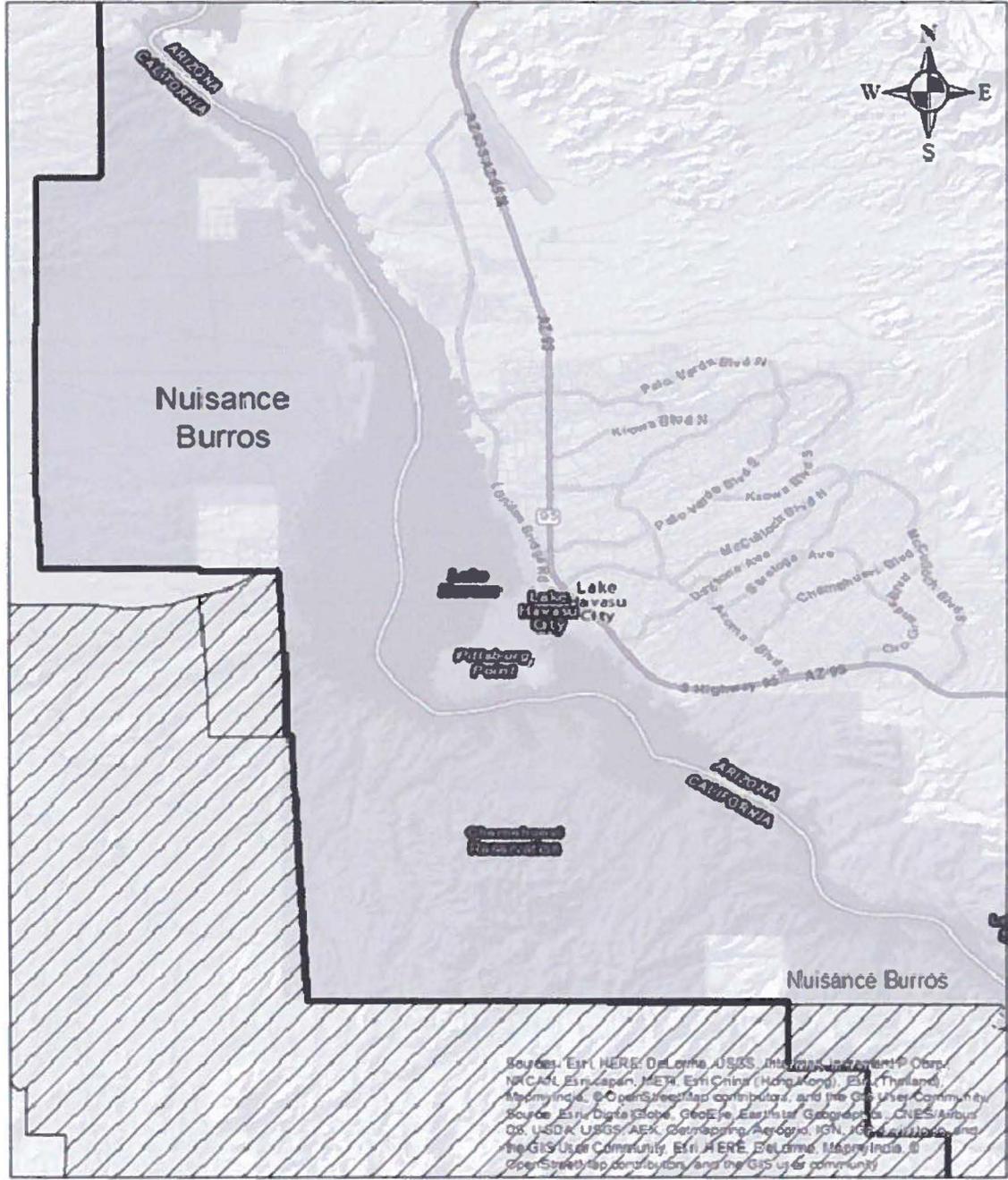
- Chemehuevi Herd Area
- Navajo Herd Area
- Bureau of Land Management

- Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- State
- Private



## Attachment 2

### Outside Chemehuevi Herd Area Chemehuevi Indian Reservation Nuisance Burro Locations



Source: Esri, HERE, DeLorme, USGS, International, P Corp., NRCAN, Esri Japan, METI, Esri China (Hong Kong), Swis, Thailand, Myanmar, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS User Community  
 Source: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, iGeo, and the GIS User Community, Esri, HERE, DeLorme, Mapbox, India, © OpenStreetMap contributors, and the GIS user community

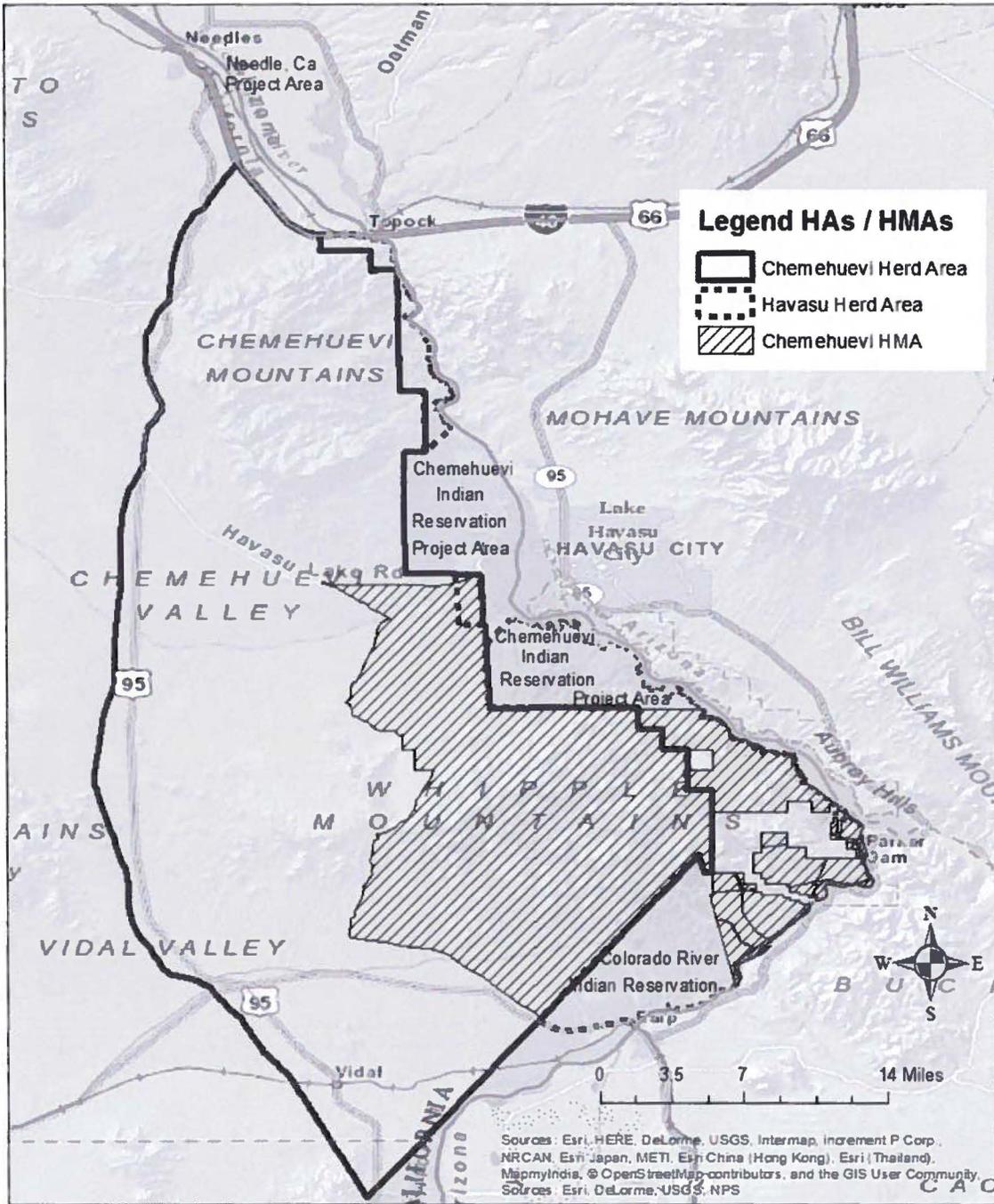
**Legend**

-  Chemehuevi Herd Area
-  Fish and Wildlife Service
-  State
-  Chemehuevi HMA
-  Chemehuevi Indian Reservation
-  Private
-  Bureau of Land Management



### Attachment 3

### Vicinity Map Chemehuevi HA/HMA and Havasu (CA) HA/HMA



Attachment 4



**CITY OF NEEDLES**

817 Third Street • Needles, California 92363  
(760) 326-2113 • FAX (760) 326-8750

Mayor Edward J. Patel, M.D.  
Vice Mayor Terry Campbell  
Councilmember Tony Frazier  
Councilmember Jim Lopez  
Councilmember Steve Gudmundson  
Councilmember Linda Kell  
Councilmember Tim Lacey  
City Manager Rick Daniels

RECEIVED  
CITY OF NEEDLES  
JUN 4 11 59  
NEEDLES FIELD OFFICE  
NEEDLES, CA

June 2, 2014

Mr. Mike Ahrens  
Field Manager  
BLM, Needles Field Office  
1303 U.S. Hwy 95 S.  
Needles, CA 92363

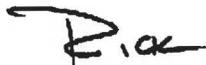
Dear Mr. Ahrens,

As you know, wild burros have found their way down from the mountains and into the City of Needles with the BLM recently removing eleven from the Needles Riverview Cemetery grounds. It's my understanding that there have been other cases of burros roaming on private property and possibly along the golf course area in their trek down to the Colorado River.

Naturally, in a situation like this, our primary concern is for the safety of our residents and the traveling public as well as that of the burros, so please accept this letter as our request that the BLM continue its actions in removing the wild burros which are coming into and around the City. We'd also encourage you and your staff to work with private property owners within our community to remove and relocate the burros as they move around the area.

Thank you for your continued support of Needles and its residents as we work through this unusual situation.

Sincerely,

  
Rick Daniels  
City Manager

c: Needles Mayor & City Council

oks

\\Needles\er\Cheryl\city mgr\BLM burro monitoring & removal of burros (June '14).docx

## Attachment 5



June 22, 2015

Bureau of Land Management-Needles Field Office  
1303 U.S. Highway 95 South  
Needles, CA 92363

California State Office  
2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834  
Sacramento, CA 95825

Attn: Robert Pawelek  
Chief – Resources, Wild Horses & Burros

Attn: Lead Supervisor  
Wild Horse & Burro Program

Re: Pirate Cove Resort – Park Moabi  
Burro Herds

Dear Mr. Pawelek,

Pursuant to your instruction and as a follow-up to our telephone conversations regarding the Burro population at Park Moabi, please consider this letter my formal request for BLM assistance in resolving the damage and safety issues caused by these Burros.

At the last sighting, a herd in excess of 40 Burros was observed eating our landscaping, plants, grass and trees in all of the green-belts and along all of the perimeter slopes; more of this damage is being done on a daily basis. Further, school is now out and the Park is full of families with children who have a natural curiosity about the Burros. So far, the herds have not been overly aggressive, however, they are becoming more and more brazen standing their ground when the Park guests approach. We fear this is an accident waiting to happen.

Again, we ask for your assistance in effecting a solution to this dangerous situation; please relocate the Burros or utilize some other means to keep the Burros permanently out of the Park.

Thank you in advance for your consideration and action.

Sincerely,



Matthew M. Tate  
Owner/Manager

Corporate Office  
1100 London Bridge Rd. Suite G102, Lake Havasu City, AZ 86404 Ph: 928.453.6600 • 888.453.6600 Fax: 928.453.2233  
[www.PirateCoveResort.com](http://www.PirateCoveResort.com)

Chemehuevi/Needles Burro Removal  
DOI-BLM-CA-D090-2015-0021-CX

Attachment 6



*Chemehuevi Indian Tribe*

P.O. Box 1976, Havasu Lake, CA 92363 - (760) 858-4219 - Fax: (760) 858-5400

---

October 28, 2013

VIA FAX

Mr. Rusty Lee, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management  
Needles Field Office  
1303 S. Highway 95  
Needles CA 92363

Dear Mr. Lee:

I would like to bring to your attention a severe problem we are having on the Reservation with the wild burros. Please give me a call at 760-858-4219 at your earliest convenience to discuss the roundup and removal of these animals from the Reservation. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Edward D. Tito".

Edward D. "Tito" Smith, Chairman  
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe

RECEIVED  
BUREAU OF LAND  
MANAGEMENT  
OCT 29 AM 11:28  
NEEDLES FIELD OFFICE  
NEEDLES, CA

Attachment 7



*Chemehuevi Indian Tribe*

P.O. Box 1976, Havasu Lake, CA 92383 ~ (760) 858-4219 - Fax (760) 858-5400

---

June 13, 2014

Mr. Michael Ahrens, Acting Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management—Needles Office  
1303 South Highway 95  
Needles CA 92363

Dear Mr. Lee:

I am writing to solicit your assistance with the burro problem we are having at Havasu Landing, both on and off our Reservation. For the last several years, due to the sequester or other reasons, the Bureau of Land Management has not held a burro round up on the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation. Every year you miss a round up, the burros multiply.

The burro population on the Reservation is causing havoc on our tribal member's property, costing thousands of dollars in repairs. We, like other people throughout our Great Nations, would like peace and enjoyment of our neighborhood; the burros are causing deep emotional stress to our membership. Several residents have been injured when attempting to protect their property from the burros. Vehicle damage is also a great concern \$\$\$\$. The burros are everywhere; in our streets, on the highway, in our yards and parks, destroying our farming efforts, and our businesses.

We respectfully request you zero out the burro population this year, hopefully this summer, 2014.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Edward D. Smith".

Edward D. Smith,  
Chairman

## Attachement 8

Marie Vaught <[REDACTED]>  
4/17/14

to me  
Hi Alex,

It was nice talking with you the other day. Our problems with burros on Vista Del Lago property continue. They jump our fences and walls to get in and out. We have a herd of 6-7 that come in. Below is a list of the problems we are having:

1. Extensive damage to irrigation lines and plumbing lines.
2. Landscaping drippers ripped out of the ground.
3. Landscaping is being eaten and destroyed in common areas and on residents personal property.
4. Fences and walls are being damaged and have to be repaired.
5. Burro waste is everywhere on the property (on streets, in yards, on patios and driveways and empty lots).
6. They are a danger and concern to residents/guests and Vista Del Lago Management. They gather on patios, in yards and on common areas while resident/guests are at their homes. One recent incident was of a child on the patio with a small group of 3 burros (there was a young baby burro with them) approximately 8-10 feet away. One burro put his ears back and looked at the child. The parents quickly got the child back into the house for fear of an attack.
7. Our employees spend a lot of hours chasing burros off the property.

This has been a serious problem for a year and a half now. Something has to be done to control this situation and protect our property, residents and guests. Vista Del Lago has had to spend a lot of time and money repairing damage and trying to keep the burros out of the property.

You mentioned something about a barrier gate being put up. This would have to be approximately 3 miles +/- of gate to keep the burros out of the property.

Thank you.

Marie Vaught  
Property Manager

**Attachement 9**

17 July 2015

Charles F. Wood, Chairman  
Chemehuevi Indian Tribe  
PO Box 1976  
Havasu Lake, CA 92363

Michael Ahrens, Field Manager  
Bureau of Land Management [BLM]  
1303 S. Highway 95  
Needles, CA 92363

Mr. Ahrens:

I write today to ask your assistance in the burro conditions on and near the Chemehuevi Indian Reservation.

Recent surveys have shown as many as 70 burros in the Chemehuevi Wash area adjacent to the approach to the reservation. In addition, residents are reporting smaller groups of up to 12-15 now being seen in the Housing Area or on the road between the Housing Area and the Resort.

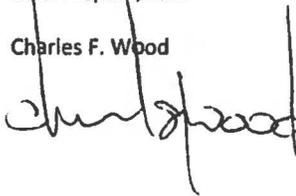
Both areas present the potential for serious vehicular injury.

I know in the past that BLM has assisted us with 'burro round-ups'. I ask that we be considered in the next scheduled round-up.

Thank you for considering my request.

With respect, I am

Charles F. Wood



NEEDLES FIELD OFFICE  
NEEDLES, CA

JUN 10 AM 4 37

RECEIVED  
BUREAU OF LAND  
MANAGEMENT