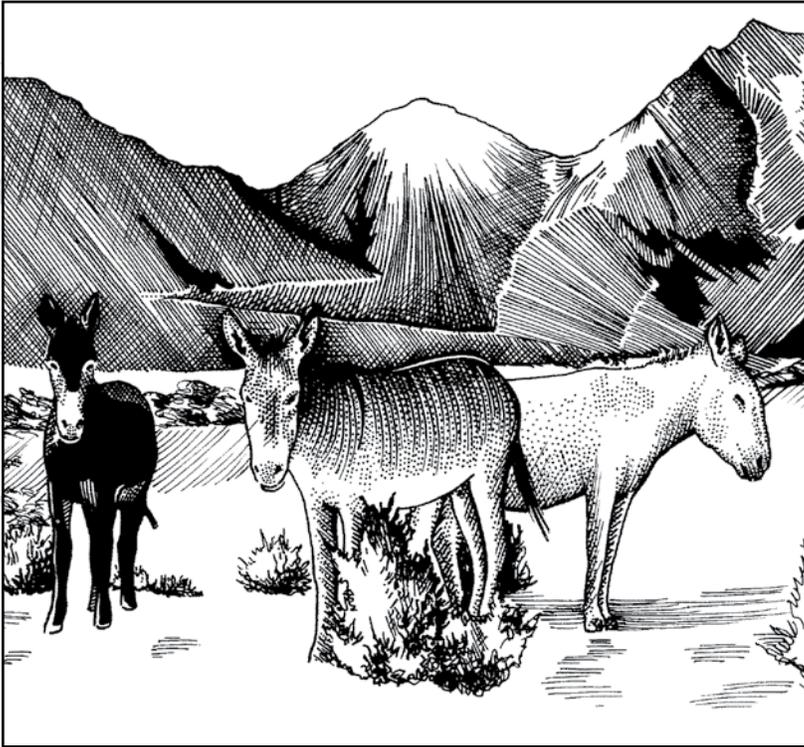


Horsing Around

When you think about wild animals of the West, you probably think of bears, mountain lions, elk, and deer. But did you know that nearly 50,000 wild horses and burros also make their homes on public lands?



These animals were once domesticated or tame. Many early explorers and settlers in the region used horses or burros to get from place to place and to carry their belongings. Some of the animals escaped from their owners or were set free. The wild horses and burros of the West are descendants of these animals.

The BLM protects wild horses and burros as living symbols of our country's history. It's against the law to harm them. But because they have few natural enemies, there's a danger that their numbers will

grow to the point where the land can't support their needs.

The horses and burros need food and water, as do the wildlife and grazing cattle that also live on the rangelands.

The BLM manages herd sizes by placing animals in short-term corrals or long-term pastures. The BLM makes these animals available for adoption or sale to qualified people.

To Find Out More:

Check out the website of the Wild Horse and Burro Program:
www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov

