

Research Update



Advisory Board Meeting
Redmond, Oregon
April 14, 2016

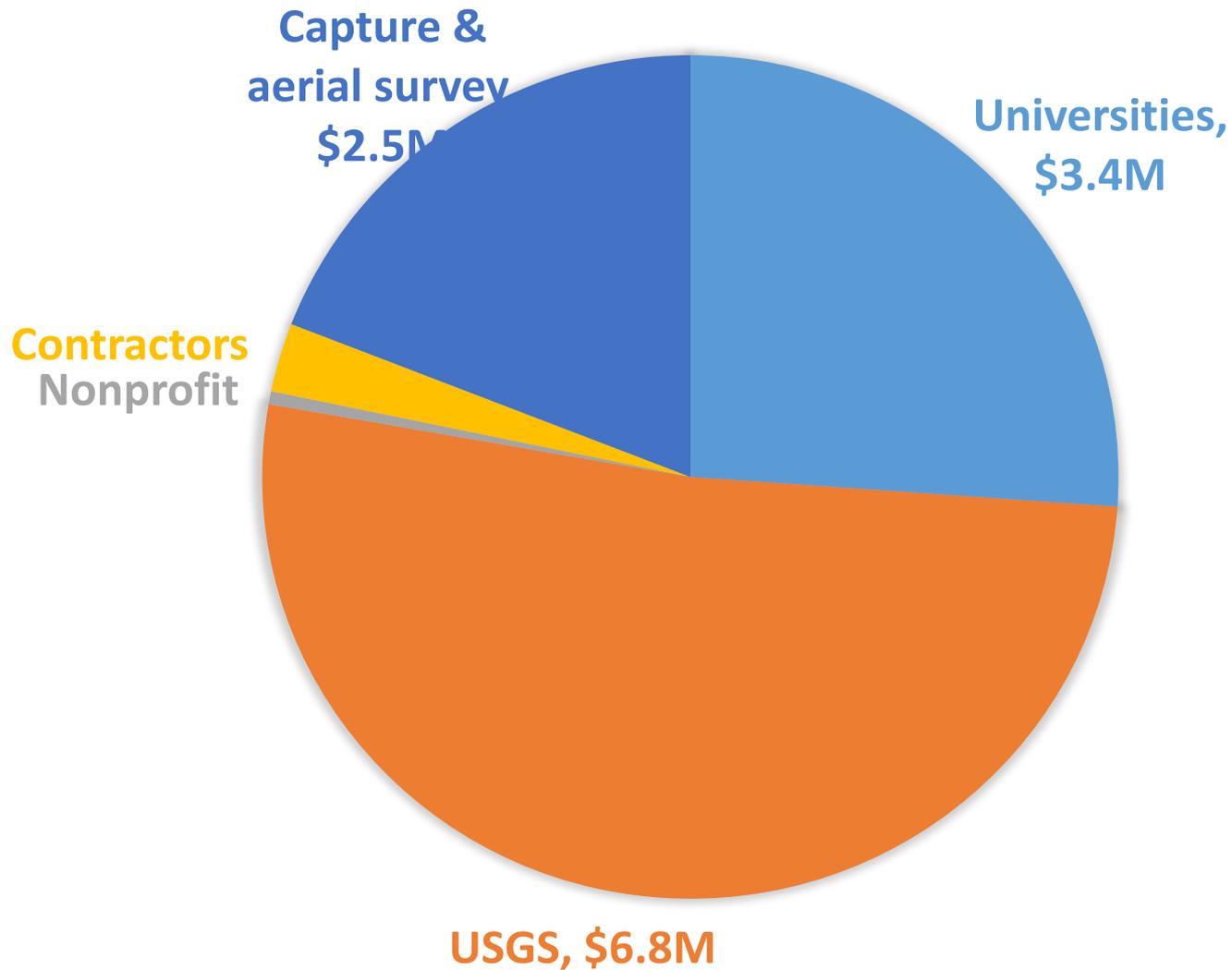
Wild Horse and Burro Program Research Advisory Team

- Reviews research proposals
- Collaborates with field staff
- Makes recommendation to division chief
- Current members, appointed by division chief
 - + Sue McDonnell, DVM (Advisory board liaison)
 - Paul Griffin (BLM WH&B research coordinator)
 - Brian Fuell (BLM WH&B on-range division chief)
 - Alan Shepherd (BLM Nevada WH&B state lead)
 - Al Kane, DVM (USDA APHIS veterinarian)

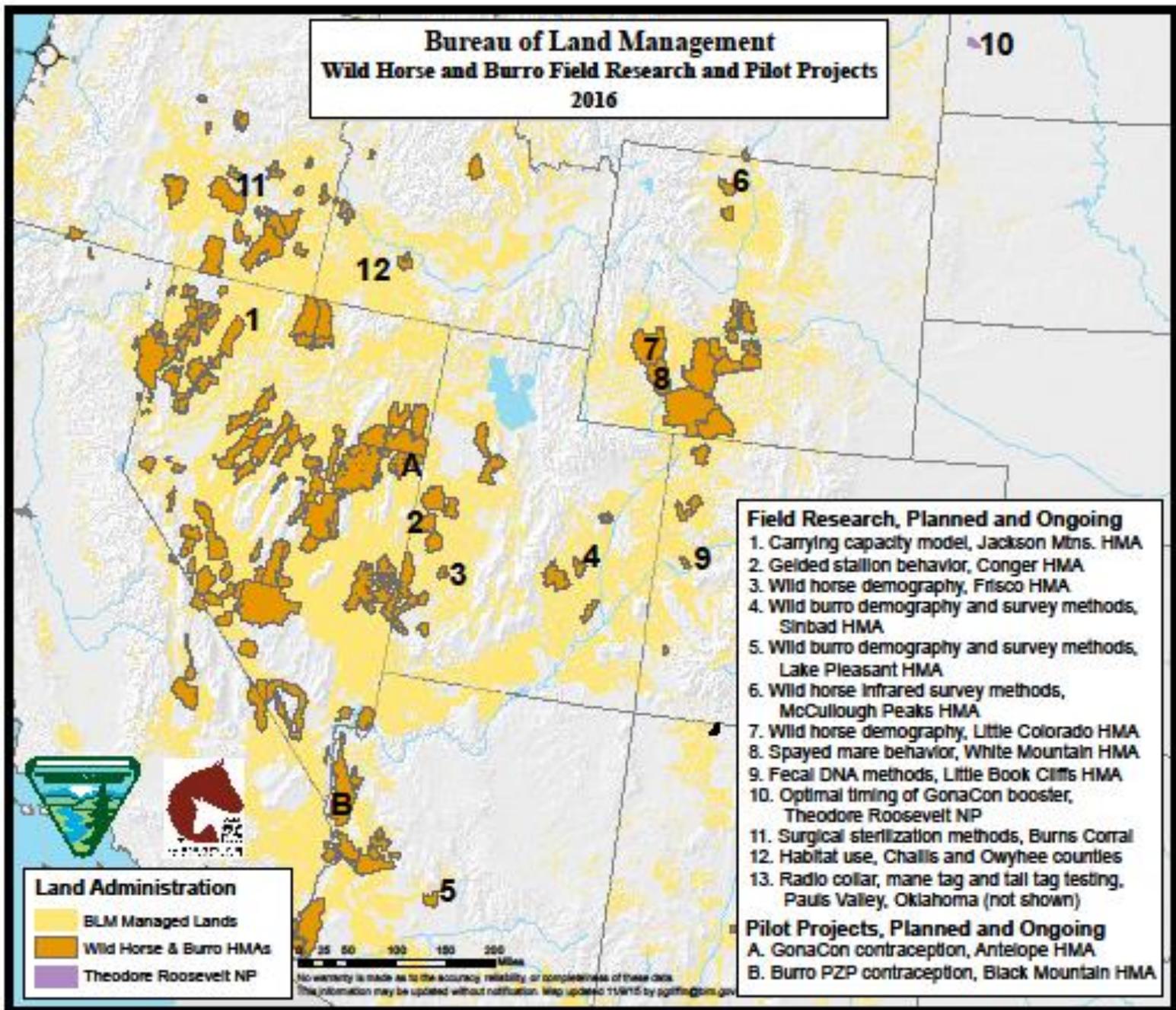
Research & Pilot Projects

- Evaluate Spay & Neuter effects
- Improve WH&B contraception
- Improve population models
- Improve burro survey methods
- Gauge public opinion, improve marketing
- Improve understanding of ecology and genetics

\$13.1 MILLION, FY14-FY20 FUNDS



**Bureau of Land Management
Wild Horse and Burro Field Research and Pilot Projects
2016**



Focus: Spay safety in Oregon

Location: Burns corrals

Researcher: Oregon State University

Evaluate:

1. Spay technique
2. Tubal ligation
3. Laser ablation of oviduct papilla

Focus: Burro studies in Utah

Location: Sinbad HMA

Researcher: US Geological Survey

Evaluate:

1. Burro demography
2. Aerial survey
 - Use data from radio collars
 - Infrared camera aerial survey

Population estimation

- Most estimates come from aerial surveys, then account for annual growth and animals removed
- New surveys widely used since Feb. 2014
- Most HMAs surveyed with new methods by end of FY16
- Interagency agreement with USGS for technical assistance; USGS is re-hiring the position

