

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
AND  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE**

**NATIONAL WILD HORSE AND BURRO ADVISORY BOARD**

**CHARTER**

- 1. COMMITTEE'S OFFICIAL DESIGNATION:** Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Board).
- 2. AUTHORITY:** The Board is established pursuant to Section 7 (16 U.S.C. 1337) of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (16 U.S.C. 1331-1340) (Act), and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C. Appendix 2. In addition, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is subject to additional standards and procedures for the creation, operation, and termination of BLM advisory committees. Refer to the 1995 BLM regulations (43 C.F.R. Subsection 1784) for specific regulations regarding composition (1784.2-1); avoidance of conflict of interest (1784.2-2); calls for nominations (1784.4-1); notice of meetings (1784.4-2); open meetings (1784.4-3); records (1784.5-3); course of instruction for members (1784.6-1(f)); and quorum requirements (1784.6-1(h)).
- 3. OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITIES:** The Board will assist and advise the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the BLM, and the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Chief of the Forest Service (FS), on wild horse and burro policy formulation and oversight of the Wild Horse and Burro Program administered under the provisions of the Act.
- 4. DESCRIPTION OF DUTIES:** At the request of the Director of the BLM, and in an advisory capacity only, the Board will gather to analyze information and consider public comments in order to offer advice and develop recommendations for the Secretary of the Interior, the Director of the BLM, the Secretary of Agriculture, and the Chief of the FS on matters relating to their responsibilities under the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971. Those responsibilities include the protection and management of wild free-roaming horses and burros as components of the public lands; designation and maintenance of specific ranges on public lands as sanctuaries for their protection and preservation (where appropriate); management at the minimal feasible level to protect natural ecological balance of all wildlife species which inhabit such lands, particularly endangered wildlife species, and to ensure forage allocations on any such lands take into consideration the needs of other wildlife species which inhabit such lands.

Specifically, the Board may be directed to:

- a. Review current and proposed management policies on the protection and management of wild horses and burros;
- b. Review the disposition and humane handling of wild horses and burros and recommend appropriate changes that will facilitate these actions;
- c. Review current program guidance and procedures and advise the BLM and FS as to whether they are effective for implementing program policy;
- d. Advise the BLM and FS on ways to stimulate public and private participation to facilitate adoptions and sales;
- e. Advise the BLM and FS on ways to foster cooperation and provide liaison among Federal, state, tribal, and local governments, private organizations and affected interests, humane groups, the scientific community, and others;
- f. Advise the BLM and FS in assessing the scientific basis for managing populations of wild horses and burros; and
- g. Compile a written report to the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture highlighting the results of its deliberations and make recommendations concerning major policy issues as requested by the Director of the BLM and the Chief of the FS.

5. **OFFICIAL TO WHOM THE BOARD REPORTS:** The Board reports to the Secretary of the Interior, through the Director of the BLM, and the Secretary of Agriculture, through the Chief of the FS.
6. **SUPPORT:** Administrative support for activities of the Board will be provided by the BLM.
7. **ESTIMATED ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS AND STAFF YEARS:** The annual operating costs associated with supporting the Board's activities are estimated to be \$155,000, including all direct and indirect expenses and .70 staff years.
8. **DESIGNATED FEDERAL OFFICER:** The Designated Federal Officer (DFO) is the BLM's Assistant Director for Resources and Planning who is a full-time Federal employee appointed in accordance with Agency procedures. The DFO will approve or call all of the Board and subcommittee meetings, prepare and approve all meeting agendas, attend all Board and subcommittee meetings, adjourn any meeting when the DFO determines adjournment to be in the public interest, and chair meetings when directed to do so by the Secretary.

9. **ESTIMATED NUMBER AND FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS:** The Board will meet approximately one to four times annually, and at such other times as designated by the DFO.
10. **DURATION:** Continuing.
11. **TERMINATION:** The Board will become inactive 2 years from the date the Charter is filed, unless, prior to that date, it is renewed in accordance with the provisions of Section 14 of the FACA. The Board will not meet or take any action without a valid current charter.
12. **MEMBERSHIP AND DESIGNATION:** Members will be appointed and serve at the pleasure of the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. Members will be appointed as representatives or special Government employees from the following organizations or categories:
  - a. Wild horse and burro advocacy groups;
  - b. Wild horse and burro research institutions (especially genetics, population biology, and equine behavior);
  - c. Veterinary medicine (equine science);
  - d. Natural resources management organizations (especially rangeland science);
  - e. Humane advocacy groups;
  - f. Wildlife management organizations;
  - g. Livestock management organizations;
  - h. General public (with special knowledge about equine behavior); or
  - i. General public (with special knowledge about protection of wild horses and burros, management of wildlife, animal husbandry, or natural resource management).

The Board will have no more than nine members, and members may not be employees of the Federal or state governments.

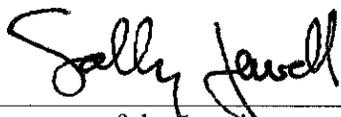
Members will be appointed to the Board to serve 3-year terms.

13. **ETHICS RESPONSIBILITIES OF MEMBERS:** No Board or subcommittee member will participate in any specific party matter including a lease, license, permit, contract, claim, agreement, grant, or related litigation with the Departments of the Interior or Agriculture in which the member has a direct financial interest. Members of the Board shall be required to disclose to the DFO their direct or indirect interest in leases, licenses, permits, contracts, claims, grants, or any specific party matter that involve lands or resources administered by the BLM or the Forest Service, or any litigation related to those matters.

For the purposes of this paragraph, indirect interests include holdings of a spouse, minor child, immediate family member, relatives, business partners, or employers that would benefit financially from the Board's recommendations. The DFO must report any required disclosures under this paragraph to the BLM Deputy Ethics Counselor who will coordinate with the Departments of the Interior or Agriculture Ethics Office as appropriate.

The Department of the Interior will provide materials to members appointed as special Government employees explaining their ethical obligations. Consistent with the ethics requirements, members will endeavor to avoid any actions that would cause the public to question the integrity of the Board's operations, activities, or advice. The provisions of this paragraph do not affect any other statutory or regulatory ethical obligations to which a member may be subject.

14. **SUBCOMMITTEES:** Subject to the DFO's approval, subcommittees can be formed for the purposes of compiling information or conducting research. However, such subcommittees must act only under the direction of the DFO and must report their recommendations to the full Board for consideration. Subcommittees must not provide advice or work products directly to the Agency. The Board Chair, with the approval of the DFO, will appoint subcommittee members. Subcommittees will meet as necessary to accomplish their assignments, subject to the approval of the DFO and the availability of resources.
15. **RECORDKEEPING:** The Records of the Board, and formal and informal subcommittees of the Board, shall be handled in accordance with General Record Schedule 26, Item 2, and other approved Agency records disposition schedule. These records shall be available for public inspection and copying, subject to the Freedom of Information Act, 5 U.S.C. 552.



Secretary of the Interior

JUN 27 2014

Date Signed

JUL 23 2014

Date Filed



Secretary of Agriculture

7. 11. 14

Date Signed

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
AND  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
FOREST SERVICE**

**NATIONAL WILD HORSE AND BURRO ADVISORY BOARD  
2014-2016 BYLAWS AND STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

**SECTION 1. PURPOSE:**

The purpose of the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Board) is to provide advice and recommendations on current issues facing the program.

**SECTION 2. AUTHORITY:**

The Board is established pursuant to Section 7 (16 U.S.C. 1337) of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (16 U.S.C. 1331-1340) Act, and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA), as amended, 5 U.S.C., App.2.

**SECTION 3. MEMBERSHIP SELECTION AND APPOINTMENT:**

Members of the Board shall be selected from persons who are not employees of Federal or state government. As appropriate, certain members may be appointed as Special Government Employees.

From among nominations submitted by individuals, national organizations, and associations involved with problems relating to protection, management, and control of wild horses and burros on the public lands, and after consultation with the Chief of the Forest Service, the Director of the BLM will submit to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture a list of individuals recommended for membership on the Board. The Secretaries may appoint members of the Board from this list or, at their discretion, other sources.

Members will be selected based on specific needs of the Board in order to balance those viewpoints required to effectively address BLM policy issues under consideration. The Act directs that membership reflect special knowledge about protection of horses and burros, management of wildlife, animal husbandry or natural resource management.

Vacancies due to resignation, death, or Secretarial removal will be filled for the balance of the vacating member's term in the same manner as the original appointment.

The Secretaries may, after written notice, terminate the service of a member if in the judgment of the Secretaries or the Designated Federal Official (DFO), removal is in the public interest. Members may also be terminated if they no longer meet their appointment requirements, fail or are unable to participate regularly in Board work, or have violated Federal law or the regulations of the Secretaries.

Board members are appointed to serve 3-year terms, on a staggered term basis, subject to renewal of the Board's charter, with one-third of the Board subject to appointment each year. At the Secretaries' discretion, the Board members from past Boards may be appointed or reappointed for additional terms.

The Board chair or co-chairs will be appointed by the DFO.

#### **SECTION 4. MEETINGS PROCEDURES:**

The DFO required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act will be the Director of the BLM or a designee, who will call and attend all meetings of the Board

A. Agenda: The DFO will approve the agenda for all meetings. BLM will distribute the agenda to the members prior to each meeting and will publish an outline of the agenda with the notice of the meeting in the Federal Register. Items for the agenda may be submitted to the DFO and/or the Chairman by a member of the Board.

B. Minutes and Records: The Boards DFO will prepare minutes of each meeting and will distribute copies to each Board member. Minutes of meetings will be available to the public upon request. The minutes will include a record of the persons present (including the names of Board members, names of staff, and a complete and accurate description of the matters discussed and conclusions reached, and copies of all reports received issued or approved by the Board. All documents, reports, or other materials prepared by, or for the Board constitute official government records and must be maintained according to BLM policies and procedures. The accuracy of all minutes will be certified by the Board Chair. Copies of the approved minutes will be maintained in the Office of the Assistant Director for Renewable Resources and Planning, Bureau of Land Management, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, and will be available for public viewing on the BLM's National Wild Horse and Burro website at [www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov](http://www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov).

C. Federal Register Notice: Absent urgent circumstances, the BLM will publish a notice of each meeting of the Board in the Federal Register and distribute to the news media 30 days in advance of the meeting. If urgent circumstances prevent a 30-day notice, not less than a 15-day notice will suffice. The notice sets forth the purpose, time and place of the meeting.

D. Open Meetings: Unless otherwise determined in advance, all meetings of the Board will be open to the public. Once an open meeting has begun, it will not be closed for any reason. Members of the public may attend any meeting or portion of a meeting that is not closed to the public and may, at the determination of the Chairman, offer oral comment at such meeting. The Chairman may decide in advance to exclude oral public comment during a meeting, in which case the meeting announcement published in the Federal Register will note that oral comments from the public is excluded and will invite written comment as an alternative. Members of the public may submit written statements to the Board at any time.

## **SECTION 5: VOTING**

When a decision or recommendation of the Board is required, the Chairman will request a motion for a vote. Any member, including the Chairman, may make a motion for a vote. No second after a proper motion will be required to bring any issue to vote. Alternatively, approval of recommendations can be made by discussion and consensus at the discretion of the Chair.

## **SECTION 6. ROLE OF BOARD OFFICIALS**

**Chairperson:** The Chair person works with the DFO to establish priorities identify issues which must be addressed, determines the level and types of staff and financial support required, and serves as the focal point for the Board's membership. In addition, the Chairperson is responsible for certifying the accuracy of minutes developed by the Board to document its meetings.

**Designated Federal Officer:** The DFO serves as the government's agent for all matters related to the Board's activities. By Law, the DFO must: (1) approve or call the meeting of the Board; (2) approve agendas; (3) attend all meeting, (4) adjourn the meetings when such adjournment is in the public interest; and (5) Chair meetings of the Board, when so directed by the Secretary of Interior. The DFO can designate a representative as needed.

## **SECTION 7. EXPENSES AND REIMBURSEMENT**

Expense related to the operation of the Board will be borne by the Bureau of Land Management. Expenditures of any kind must be approved in advance by the DFO. The government will pay travel and per diem for non-government members at a rate equivalent to that allowable for federal employees.

## **BLM Response to Board Recommendations**

### **August 2014 Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Meeting**

#### **Recommendation 1**

Mr. Woehl will join the Support Volunteer Resources Working Group. Mr. Harvey will no longer be in the group. Thus, the Working Group members will be Mr. Woehl, Ms. Sewing, and Dr. Cope.

#### **Recommendation 2**

Mr. Harvey will join the Population Growth Suppression Working Group. Thus, the Working Group members will be Dr. Spratling (Chair), Mr. Harvey, Dr. McDonnell, and Dr. Cope.

#### *BLM Response*

The BLM accepts recommendations 1 and 2.

#### **Recommendation 3**

The BLM should redouble their efforts to furnish tools that District Office specialists need to manage their herds.

#### *BLM Response*

The BLM accepts this recommendation. Providing more effective population growth suppression (PGS) tools for use in the field to manage population levels is one of the highest priorities for the program. Current status of these efforts is as follows:

- The BLM is initiating new research, and continuing existing research, to develop PGS tools, as recommended by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) in their 2013 review of the Program. This includes pen and field trials to develop and evaluate surgical procedures to spay mares and pursuing improved contraceptive vaccines. In FY 2015, the BLM commissioned the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to carry out a suite of new research projects, and additional research is being launched with various academic institutions.
- The BLM is working with the Office of Science and Technology Policy and a variety of stakeholders to develop a Prize Challenge to find alternative ways to deliver a liquid vaccine (such as PZP) to wild horses and burros on western rangelands. The Challenge will be open to innovators and problem solvers throughout the nation. The Program is currently exploring options for raising private funds for the prizes.
- To enable new or improved PGS tools to be implemented in the field, the Program is considering a national Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) in FY 2015. The PEIS would analyze more aggressive use of new and traditional PGS methods and would amend resource management plans to provide a framework for implementation.

#### **Recommendation 4**

Regarding Advisory Board working groups, the BLM should:

- Clarify whether Board working groups can consult with outside experts in their deliberations.
- Provide a way for the public to communicate with the working groups on specific issues that the working groups are examining.

#### ***BLM Response***

The BLM accepts this recommendation and has addressed this recommendation as follows:

- As per the working group guidelines issued April 4, 2012, membership of the Advisory Board-formed working groups is limited solely to Advisory Board members and cannot include people external to the Board. The BLM-formed working groups consist solely of BLM staff and Advisory Board members.
- Working groups may seek out information from external sources and communicate with any individual who would be helpful to the working group for the issues the working group is considering. Information obtained from external sources must be shared with the full Board at an official meeting. The working group should communicate with the Chair of the Board prior to seeking information from external sources and should seek the Chair's guidance on the best way to present the information at an official Board meeting.
- To provide the public an easy way to submit comments or other information to Board working groups, the BLM has created a dedicated email account for Advisory Board comments. The email address is [blm\\_wo\\_advisory\\_board\\_comments@blm.gov](mailto:blm_wo_advisory_board_comments@blm.gov). At the Board's request, the BLM will invite the public to email comments to the Board working groups. The BLM will accomplish this by posting an invitation for comments and the email address on the program website and on Facebook. The BLM will then forward to the Board all comments received. The BLM has also updated its stakeholder list, and can issue emails to stakeholders inviting comments, if the Board requests this.

#### **Recommendation 5**

The BLM should provide an inventory of the Board's past recommendations, whether each recommendation was accepted, and the status of implementation.

#### ***BLM Response***

The BLM accepts this recommendation and provided this information to the Board in November 2014. The BLM's response to key past recommendations will be discussed further at the Advisory Board meeting in April 2015.

#### **Recommendation 6**

4/13/2015

The BLM should consult with the Board via the BLM-formed Eco-sanctuary Working Group prior to publishing a Request for Applications (RFA) for eco-sanctuaries.

*BLM Response*

The BLM accepts this recommendation and will consult with the Board prior to publishing future RFAs for eco-sanctuaries.

**Forest Service Report to  
Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board  
Columbus, Ohio  
April 22, 2015**

As noted in previous reports, the Forest Service and BLM have implemented a new national Interagency Agreement in 2014 with reimbursement provisions for long term care of Forest Service horses in BLM holding facilities. Since that time the Forest Service has not and does not plan to place any additional horses in BLM operated holding facilities during FY2015. When a National Forest desires BLM or its contractors to conduct gathers, removals, animal relocation, population flight survey, fertility control treatments or other wild horse and burro work, arrangements will need to be made through reimbursable Service First Agreements between the BLM State or District Office and the Forest Supervisor's Office.

**FY2014 Gather Statistics** - Forest Service gathers were limited to catch-treat-release gathers on the Jicarilla and Jarita Mesa Territories, Carson NF in New Mexico. Approximately 85 mares were given PZP vaccines. The Carson NF continued contract bait trap gathers to the extent that horses can be adopted out around the State (approximately 30 to 40 horses).

**FY2015 Gather Statistics** - Due to storage space limitations, there have been no Forest Service gathers in FY2015.

**FY2014 Population Surveys** - The Forest Service has an Interagency Agreement (IAA) with U.S. Geological Survey to design and analyze simultaneous double-count and/or photo mark-recapture aerial survey protocols. Forest Service contributed funding to BLM for survey flights on 13 Joint Management Areas; 11 surveys in Nevada/California, 1 survey in New Mexico, and 1 survey in Oregon. A primary focus in Nevada and California is in the designated habitat area for the Bi-State population segment of Greater sage grouse. One Forest Service repeat survey was completed in Arizona.

**FY2015 NEPA Planning** - Analysis and planning was initiated on three (3) territories, including Heber in Arizona, Murderer's Creek in Oregon, and Powell Mountain in Nevada. Planning is continuing on five (5) territories: Monte Cristo WHT near Ely, NV; Hickison WBT near Austin, NV, and Spring Mountain WHBT Complex (Spring Mtn, Johnnie & Red Rock JMAs) near Las Vegas, NV. The environmental assessment and decision notice for Devils Garden WHT near Alturas, CA notice was released in August, 2013; a supplemental economic analysis for that territory will be conducted this year.

**Litigation Update** - American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign et al. v. Vilsack et al. 1:14-cv-00485-ABJ (DC)

Plaintiffs filed suit March 24, 2014 against the Secretary of Agriculture and U.S. Forest Service (USFS) alleging that the agency violated the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), National Forest Management Act (NFMA), National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (WFRHBA) and the implementing regulations for those Acts by modifying the territory boundary for the Devils Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory and adjusting the existing Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs), to new upper and lower limits. The Forest Service motioned for dismissal of the case in March 2015. The Modoc National Forest Supervisor issued the decision in August 2013. The decision was affirmed following administrative review by the Pacific Southwest Regional Forester in January 2014.

# **Guidelines Regarding Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Members' Participation Outside Advisory Board Meetings**

Updated April 8, 2015

## **I. Advisory Board-formed Working Groups**

### Description:

- Ø Group is formed by the Advisory Board
- Ø Group is comprised solely of current Advisory Board members and participation in Working Groups terminates upon termination of Board membership.
- Ø BLM provides information as requested to the Group on the Group's subject area
- Ø BLM does not participate in Group discussions
- Ø Group reports findings/recommendations directly and only to the Advisory Board
- Ø Group may seek out information from external sources and communicate with any individual who would be helpful to the Group for the issues the Group is considering. Information obtained from external sources must be shared with the full Board at an official meeting. The Group should communicate with the Chair of the Board prior to seeking information from external sources and should seek the Chair's guidance on the best way to present the information at an official Board meeting.

### Reference:

General Services Administration 41 CFR Part 102-3.160

*"What activities of an advisory committee are not subject to the notice and open meeting requirements of the Act?"*

The following activities of an advisory committee are excluded from the procedural requirements contained in this subpart:

- (a) Preparatory work. Meetings of two or more advisory committee or subcommittee members convened solely to gather information, conduct research, or analyze relevant issues and facts in preparation for a meeting of the advisory committee, or to draft position papers for deliberation by the advisory committee; and
- (b) Administrative work. Meetings of two or more advisory committee or subcommittee members convened solely to discuss administrative matters of the advisory committee or to receive administrative information from a Federal officer or agency."

## **II. BLM-formed Group requesting Advisory Board External Experts**

### Description:

- Ø Group is formed by the BLM
- Ø BLM requests an external expert(s) from the Advisory Board
- Ø Advisory Board recommends Board members to serve on the Group
- Ø External Experts can meet with the BLM-formed Group to present their independent views and recommendations, participate as individuals, and contribute independent

opinions regarding issues, materials and questions posed to them by the BLM-formed Group.

- Ø External Experts cannot collaborate with the BLM-formed Group to develop findings and recommendations
- Ø The BLM-formed Group develops and presents the Group's findings and recommendations, and reports them to the Advisory Board.
- Ø External Experts from the Advisory Board must be current Advisory Board members and participation terminates upon termination of Board membership.

Reference:

General Services Administration 41 CFR Part Parts 102-3.40

*“What types of committees or groups are not covered by the Act and this part?”*

The following are examples of committees or groups that are not covered by the Act

- (e) Groups assembled to provide individual advice. Any group that meets with a Federal Official(s), including a public meeting, where advice is sought from the attendees on an individual basis and not from the group as a whole;
- (f) Groups assembled to exchange facts or information. Any group that meets with a Federal official(s) for the purposes of exchanging facts or information.”

Reference Used:

Federal Register Notice – Thursday, July 19, 2001

### **III. The BLM 's Response to Recommendations**

The BLM will accept or not accept recommendations from the Advisory Board concerning Advisory Board formed Working Groups and BLM formed Groups requesting Advisory Board external experts within one month of the meeting. The BLM wants to enable the Advisory Board to participate and share their valuable assistance as soon as possible.

**Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Formed Working Groups**  
 (Updated to reflect recommendations from August 2014 Advisory Board Meeting)

<b>Title</b>	<b>Date formed</b>	<b>Objective/s as Recorded in the Minutes</b>	<b>Members</b>	<b>BLM POC</b>
Resources	March 4-5, 2013	Look at the resource itself, the interaction of the horses and burros and the habitat, and make pertinent recommendations.	Dr. Boyd Spratling, John Falen, Rick Danvir, Dr. Robert Cope, and Callie Hendrickson	On Range Branch Chief
Financial	October 29-30, 2012	To understand how BLM's budget works and help Board members better understand where costs are accounted.	Callie Hendrickson, Rick Danvir, and Fred Woehl	Holle' Hooks
Public Comment	October 29-30, 2012	To consider public comment.	Fred Woehl, June Sewing, and Tim Harvey	Debbie Collins
Support Volunteer Resources	October 29-30, 2012	To evaluate protocol for optimizing volunteers.	Fred Woehl, Dr Robert Cope, and June Sewing	Sarah Bohl
Population Growth Suppression	April 23-24, 2012	To expand the toolbox for population growth suppression and include all alternatives.	Dr. Boyd Spratling (Chair), Dr. Sue McDonnell, Dr. Robert Cope, and Tim Harvey	Research Coordinator
Ecotourism	April 23-24, 2012	Continue Board's April 24, 2012 discussion concerning (1) the possibility for a future eco-sanctuary proposal to include a breeding herd component; (2)the opportunity for field testing of population control research in its operation, (3) an educational component (4)opportunities for supporting local community benefits.	Callie Hendrickson (Chair), Tim Harvey, and Rick Danvir	Off-Range Branch Chief
Herd Area Repopulation	April 23-24, 2012	Discuss and refine Tim Harvey's proposal to re-populate, with non-reproducing herds, herd areas which have been zeroed out.	Tim Harvey (Chair), June Sewing, and Dr. Sue McDonnell	Dean Bolstad

### BLM-formed Working Groups

(Updated to reflect recommendations from August 2014 Advisory Board Meeting)

<b>Title</b>	<b>Date formed</b>	<b>Objective/s</b>	<b>Members</b>
Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program	April 23-24, 2012	Provide Board input for the development of BLM's Comprehensive Animal Welfare Program.	Dean Bolstad – lead External Experts: Dr. Boyd Spratling, Tim Harvey, and Dr. Sue McDonnell
Increasing Adoptions and Sales	April 23-24, 2012	Provide Board input on ways to increase adoptions.	Debbie Collins – lead External Experts: Fred Woehl, John Falen, and June Sewing
Eco-Sanctuary	April 23-24, 2012	Provide Board input into future eco-sanctuary solicitations.	TBA – lead External Experts: Tim Harvey, Fred Woehl, and Callie Hendrickson

<b>BLM POCs</b>	<b>Email</b>	<b>Phone</b>
Dean Bolstad	<a href="mailto:dbolstad@blm.gov">dbolstad@blm.gov</a>	(202) 912-7297
Debbie Collins	<a href="mailto:dacollin@blm.gov">dacollin@blm.gov</a>	(405) 790-1056
Holle' Hooks	<a href="mailto:hhooks@blm.gov">hhooks@blm.gov</a>	(405) 790-1066
Sarah Bohl	<a href="mailto:stbohl@blm.gov">stbohl@blm.gov</a>	(202) 912-7263

Note: the text of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, as amended by Congress since that time, has been compiled, organized, and reproduced below by the Bureau of Land Management as of January 2006

The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971 (Public Law 92-195) was amended as follows: Sections 1332 and 1333 were modified by the Public Rangelands Improvement Act of 1978 (Public Law 95-514); Section 1338 was modified by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (Public Law 94-579); the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-333) added Section 1338a.; and Section 1333 was again modified by the Fiscal Year 2005 Omnibus Appropriations Act (Public Law 108-447)

## **THE WILD FREE-ROAMING HORSES AND BURROS ACT OF 1971 (PUBLIC LAW 92-195)**

### **§1331. Congressional findings and declaration of policy**

Congress finds and declares that wild free-roaming horses and burros are living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West; that they contribute to the diversity of life forms within the Nation and enrich the lives of the American people; and that these horses and burros are fast disappearing from the American scene. It is the policy of Congress that wild free-roaming horses and burros shall be protected from capture, branding, harassment, or death; and to accomplish this they are to be considered in the area where presently found, as an integral part of the natural system of the public lands.

### **§1332. Definitions**

As used in this Act-

- (a) "Secretary" means the Secretary of the Interior when used in connection with public lands administered by him through the Bureau of Land Management and the Secretary of Agriculture in connection with public lands administered by him through the Forest Service;
- (b) "wild free-roaming horses and burros" means all unbranded and unclaimed horses and burros on public lands of the United States;
- (c) "range" means the amount of land necessary to sustain an existing herd or herds of wild free-roaming horses and burros, which does not exceed their known territorial limits, and which is devoted principally but not necessarily exclusively to their welfare in keeping with the multiple-use management concept for the public lands;
- (d) "herd" means one or more stallions and his mares; and

(e) "public lands" means any lands administered by the Secretary of the Interior through the Bureau of Land Management or by the Secretary of Agriculture through the Forest Service.

(f) "excess animals" means wild free-roaming horses or burros

(1) which have been removed from an area by the Secretary pursuant to application law or,

(2) which must be removed from an area in order to preserve and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance and multiple-use relationship in that area.

### **§1333. Powers and duties of Secretary**

(a) Jurisdiction; management; ranges; ecological balance objectives; scientific recommendations; forage allocations adjustments

All wild free-roaming horses and burros are hereby declared to be under the jurisdiction of the Secretary for the purpose of management and protection in accordance with the provisions of this Act. The Secretary is authorized and directed to protect and manage wild free-roaming horses and burros as components of the public lands, and he may designate and maintain specific ranges on public lands as sanctuaries for their protection and preservation, where the Secretary after consultation with the wildlife agency of the State wherein any such range is proposed and with the Advisory Board established in section 1337 of this Act deems such action desirable. The Secretary shall manage wild free-roaming horses and burros in a manner that is designed to achieve and maintain a thriving natural ecological balance on the public lands. He shall consider the recommendations of qualified scientists in the field of biology and ecology, some of whom shall be independent of both Federal and State agencies and may include members of the Advisory Board established in section 1337 of this Act. All management activities shall be at the minimal feasible level and shall be carried out in consultation with the wildlife agency of the State wherein such lands are located in order to protect the natural ecological balance of all wildlife species which inhabit such lands, particularly endangered wildlife species. Any adjustments in forage allocations on any such lands shall take into consideration the needs of other wildlife species which inhabit such lands.

(b) Inventory and determinations; consultations; overpopulations; research study; submittal to Congress

(1) The Secretary shall maintain a current inventory of wild free-roaming horses and burros on given areas of the public lands. The purpose of such inventory shall be to: make determinations as to whether and where an overpopulation exists and whether action should be taken to remove excess animals; determine appropriate management levels of wild free-roaming horses and burros on these areas of the public lands; and determine whether appropriate management levels should be

achieved by the removal or destruction of excess animals, or other options (such as sterilization, or natural controls on population levels). In making such determinations the Secretary shall consult with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, wildlife agencies of the State or States wherein wild free-roaming horses and burros are located, such individuals independent of Federal and State government as have been recommended by the National Academy of Sciences, and such other individuals whom he determines have scientific expertise and special knowledge of wild horse and burro protection, wild-life management and animal husbandry as related to rangeland management.

(2) Where the Secretary determines on the basis of:

(i) the current inventory of lands within his jurisdiction;

(ii) information contained in any land use planning completed pursuant to section 1712 of title 43;

(iii) information contained in court ordered environmental impact statements as defined in section 1902 of title 43; and

(iv) such additional information as becomes available to him from time to time, including that information developed in the research study mandated by this section, or in the absence of the information contained in (i-iv) above on the basis of all information currently available to him, that an overpopulation exists on a given area of the public lands and that action is necessary to remove excess animals, he shall immediately remove excess animals from the range so as to achieve appropriate management levels. Such action shall be taken, in the following order and priority, until all excess animals have been removed so as to restore a thriving natural ecological balance to the range, and protect the range from the deterioration associated with overpopulation.

(A) The Secretary shall order old, sick, or lame animals to be destroyed in the most humane manner possible;

(B) The Secretary shall cause such number of additional excess wild free-roaming horses and burros to be humanely captured and removed for private maintenance and care for which he determines an adoption demand exists by qualified individuals, and for which he determines he can assure humane treatment and care (including proper transportation, feeding, and handling): Provided, that, not more than four animals may be adopted per year by any individual unless the Secretary determines in writing that such individual is capable of humanely caring for more than four animals, including the transportation of such animals by the adopting party.

(C) The Secretary shall cause additional excess wild free-roaming horses and burros for which an adoption demand by qualified individuals does not exist to be destroyed in the most humane and cost efficient manner possible.

(3) For the purpose of furthering knowledge of wild horse and burro population dynamics and their interrelationship with wildlife, forage and water resources, and assisting him in making his determination as to what constitutes excess animals, the Secretary shall contract for a research study of such animals with such individuals independent of Federal and State government as may be recommended by the National Academy of Sciences for having scientific expertise and special knowledge of wild horse and burro protection, wildlife management and animal husbandry as related to rangeland management. The terms and outline of such research study shall be determined by a research design panel to be appointed by the President of the National Academy of Sciences. Such study shall be completed and submitted by the Secretary to the Senate and House of Representatives on or before January 1, 1983.

(c) Title of transferee to limited number of excess animals adopted for requisite period;

Where excess animals have been transferred to a qualified individual for adoption and private maintenance pursuant to this Act and the Secretary determines that such individual has provided humane conditions, treatment and care for such animal or animals for a period of one year, the Secretary is authorized upon application by the transferee to grant title to not more than four animals to the transferee at the end of the one-year period.

(d) Loss of status as wild free-roaming horses and burros; exclusion from coverage

Wild free-roaming horses and burros or their remains shall lose their status as wild free-roaming horses or burros and shall no longer be considered as falling within the purview of this Act-

(1) upon passage of title pursuant to subsection (c) except for the limitation of subsection (c)(1) of this section, or

(2) if they have been transferred for private maintenance or adoption pursuant to this Act and die of natural causes before passage of title; or

(3) upon destruction by the Secretary or his designee pursuant to subsection (b) of this section; or

(4) if they die of natural causes on the public lands or on private lands where maintained thereon pursuant to section 4 and disposal is authorized by the Secretary or his designee; or

(5) upon destruction or death for purposes of or incident to the program authorized in this section.

(e) Sale of excess animals;

(1) In general. Any excess animal or the remains of an excess animal shall be sold if-

(A) the excess animal is more than 10 years old; or

(B) the excess animal has been offered unsuccessfully for adoption at least 3 times.

(2) Method of sale

An excess animal that meets either of the criteria in paragraph (1) shall be made available for sale without limitation, including through auction to the highest bidder, at local sale yards or other convenient livestock selling facilities, until such time as-

(A) all excess animals offered for sale are sold: or

(B) the appropriate management level, as determined by the Secretary is attained in all areas occupied by wild free-roaming horses and burros.

(3) Disposition of funds

Funds generated from the sale of excess animals under this subsection shall be-

(A) credited as an offsetting collection to the Management of Lands and Resources appropriation for the Bureau of Land Management; and

(B) used for the costs relating to the adoption of wild free-roaming horses and burros, including the costs of marketing such adoptions.

(4) Effect of sale. Any excess animal sold under this provision shall no longer be considered to be a wild free-roaming horse or burro for purposes of this Act.

**§ 1334. Private maintenance; numerical approximation; strays on private lands; removal; destruction by agents**

If wild free-roaming horses or burros stray from public lands onto privately owned land, the owners of such land may inform the nearest Federal marshal or agent of the Secretary, who shall arrange to have the animals removed. In no event shall such wild free-roaming horses and burros be destroyed except by the agents of the Secretary. Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit a private landowner from maintaining wild free-roaming horses or burros on his private lands, or lands leased from the Government, if he does so in a manner that protects them from harassment, and if the animals were not willfully removed or enticed from the public lands. Any individuals who maintain such wild free-roaming horses or burros on their private lands or lands leased from the

Government shall notify the appropriate agent of the Secretary and supply him with a reasonable approximation of the number of animals so maintained.

**§ 1335. Recovery rights**

A person claiming ownership of a horse or burro on the public lands shall be entitled to recover it only if recovery is permissible under the branding and estray laws of the State in which the animal is found.

**§ 1336. Cooperative agreements; regulations**

The Secretary is authorized to enter into cooperative agreements with other landowners and with the State and local governmental agencies and may issue such regulations as he deems necessary for the furtherance of the purposes of this Act.

**§ 1337. Joint advisory board; appointment; membership; functions; qualifications; reimbursement limitations**

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture are authorized and directed to appoint a joint advisory board of not more than nine members to advise them on any matter relating to wild free-roaming horses and burros and their management and protection. They shall select as advisers persons who are not employees of the Federal or State Governments and whom they deem to have special knowledge about protection of horses and burros, management of wildlife, animal husbandry, or natural resources management. Members of the board shall not receive reimbursement except for travel and other expenditures necessary in connection with their services.

**§1338. Criminal provisions**

(a) Violations; penalties; trial.

Any person who-

- (1) willfully removes or attempts to remove a wild free-roaming horse or burro from the public lands, without authority from the Secretary, or
- (2) converts a wild free-roaming horse or burro to private use, without authority from the Secretary, or
- (3) maliciously causes the death or harassment of any wild free-roaming horse or burro, or

(4) except as provided in section 1333 (e), processes or permits to be processed into commercial products the remains of a wild free-roaming horse or burro, or

(5) sells, directly or indirectly, a wild free-roaming horse or burro maintained on private or leased land pursuant to section 1334 of this Act, or the remains thereof, or

(6) willfully violates a regulation issued pursuant to this Act, shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000, or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both. Any person so charged with such violation by the Secretary may be tried and sentenced by any United States commissioner or magistrate designated for that purpose by the court by which he was appointed, in the same manner and subject to the same conditions as provided for in section 3401, title 18.

(b) Arrest; appearance for examination or trial; warrants; issuance and execution.

Any employee designated by the Secretary of the Interior or the Secretary of Agriculture shall have power, without warrant, to arrest any person committing in the presence of such employee a violation of this Act or any regulation made pursuant thereto, and to take such person immediately for examination or trial before an officer or court of competent jurisdiction, and shall have power to execute any warrant or other process issued by an officer or court of competent jurisdiction to enforce the provisions of this Act or regulations made pursuant thereto. Any judge of a court established under the laws of the United States, or any United States magistrate may, within his respective jurisdiction, upon proper oath or affirmation showing probable cause, issue warrants in all such cases.

#### **§ 1338a. Transportation of captured animals; procedures and prohibitions applicable**

In administering this Act, the Secretary may use or contract for the use of helicopters or, for the purpose of transporting captured animals, motor vehicles. Such use shall be undertaken only after a public hearing and under the direct supervision of the Secretary or of a duly authorized official or employee of the Department. The provisions of section 47 (a) of title 18 shall not be applicable to such use. Such use shall be in accordance with humane procedures prescribed by the Secretary. Nothing in this Act shall be deemed to limit the authority of the Secretary in the management of units of the National Park System, and the Secretary may, without regard either to the provisions of this Act, or provisions of section 47 (a) of title 18, use motor vehicles, fixed-wing aircraft, or helicopters, or to contract for such use, in furtherance of the management of the National Park System, and section 47 (a) of title 18 shall be applicable to such use.

#### **§ 1339. Limitation of authority**

Nothing in this Act shall be construed to authorize the Secretary to relocate wild free-roaming horses or burros to areas of the public lands where they do not presently exist.

**§ 1340. Joint report to Congress; consultation and coordination of implementation, enforcement, and departmental activities; studies**

After the expiration of thirty calendar months following the date of enactment of this Act, and every twenty-four calendar months thereafter, the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture will submit to Congress a joint report on the administration of this Act, including a summary of enforcement and/or other actions taken thereunder, costs, and such recommendations for legislative or other actions he might deem appropriate.

The Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture shall consult with respect to the implementation and enforcement of this Act and to the maximum feasible extent coordinate the activities of their respective departments and in the implementation and enforcement of this Act. The Secretaries are authorized and directed to undertake those studies of the habits of wild free-roaming horses and burros that they may deem necessary in order to carry out the provisions of this Act.

## **Wild Horse and Burro Adoption and Sales Update**

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<u>Adoption State</u>	<u>Adoption Total(4/4/14)</u>	<u>Adoption Total(4/7/15)</u>
Arizona	29	35
California	114	153
Colorado	62	124
Eastern States	195	337
Idaho	23	22
Montana/Dakotas	1	0
Nevada	34	70
New Mexico	174	172
Oregon	76	63
Utah	36	70
Wyoming	6	44
National Facilities-NE & NV	<u>52</u>	<u>54</u>
Total animals adopted	802*	1144**
Total animals sold	54(50-burros)	169(128-burros)

\*Peak adoption season starts in April. In 2014, the BLM placed 2,173 into private care. The program exceeded the FY14 target of 818 by 1,355 animals.

\*\* Peak adoption season starts in April. The BLM has over 40 satellite/EMM/Prison adoption events planned from April 11 through September 30, 2015. As of April 7, 2015, the BLM has placed 1,313 animals into private care. The FY15 target is 1,980 animals.





The Platero Project is a 5 year \$765,000 grant received by The Humane Society of the United States in April of 2013. The grant is aimed at 2 main goals dealing solely with BLM managed wild burros.

**Goal 1:** Help BLM place burros that have already been removed from the wild into qualified adoptive homes or sanctuaries (both adoptable and sale animals). At the time the grant was received there were 1300 burros in BLM holding facilities, there are currently 882 burros in holding.

**Goal 2:** Help initiate fertility control research on BLM wild burros in an effort to help manage the burros on the range so that fewer burros would be entering BLM holding facilities.

To date The Platero Project has been very successful in helping place burros into sanctuaries and adoptive homes through The Platero Project Burro Training Program that offers trainers an incentive to gentle a wild burro and find a home for them. The Platero Project has also been successful in placing sale burros into sanctuaries, rescues, and with private purchasers interested in helping older animals. However, The Platero Project has not been successful in working with the BLM to begin a fertility control study using PZP on wild burros. The HSUS has submitted a research proposal in May 2014 with regards to PZP use on wild burro herds but has not received any notification from the BLM about this proposal. The Platero Project has \$300,000 specifically allocated for fertility control research and has not been able to use this funding to date.

Below is a table summarizing the numbers of animals The Platero Project has been responsible for placing since its inception in April 2013. The Platero Project has also helped promote BLM adoptions through our Facebook pages, reaching hundreds of thousands of potential adopters. This has undoubtedly helped increase BLM adoptions of burros however there is currently no way to measure the effectiveness of these efforts. The burro training program began late in 2013 after a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between BLM and The HSUS.

	2013	2014	2015 (to date)
Burro Training Program	47	93	34
Sale burro placements	29	61	128
Total	76	154	162
<b>The Platero Project total for 18 months</b>			<b>392</b>

## MUSTANG HERITAGE FOUNDATION COMPLETED, PENDING AND PROJECTED ADOPTIONS

### COMPLETED ADOPTIONS BY STATE - OCTOBER 1, 2014 - MARCH 31, 2015:

2014-15 ADOPTIONS Oct.1, 2014 -March 31, 2015	Arizona	California	Colorado	Idaho	Montana	ES - MS	Nebraska	Nevada	New Mexico	Oregon	Utah	Wyoming	ES - WI	TOTAL
October	2	10		2		5		2	9	2	13		2	47
November	2	21		1		6	1	2	4	15	11		5	68
December	1	2				7		1	3	1	8		3	26
January	1	14		2		6	3	1	26	7	2		4	66
February	6	6				7	1	1	5	1	1	1	1	30
March	1	5				9		3		1	12		23	54
April														0
May														0
June														0
July														0
August														0
September														0
<b>LOCATION TOTALS</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>58</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>291</b>

### PENDING ADOPTIONS BY PROGRAM/EVENT (horses currently in training):

TIP	98
EMM AZ	36
EMM CA	33
EMM CO	45
EMM NV	27
EMM MO	57
EMM MA	33
EMM ID	44
<b>TOTAL PENDING:</b>	<b>373</b>

### PENDING ADOPTIONS BY PROGRAM/EVENT (horses not yet in training):

EMM TX	111
EMM GA	39
<b>TOTAL PENDING:</b>	<b>150</b>

<b>TOTAL ADOPTED</b>	<b>291</b>
<b>TOTAL PENDING</b>	<b>523</b>

## 2015 Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Schedule

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April 12	Fairview Farm	Orange, Massachusetts
April 14	BLM Corrals	Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
April 17	Canon City Correctional Center	Canon City, Colorado*
April 21 – May 5	BLM.GOV/Adoptahorse	Internet*
April 24 – 25	Ford Park	Beaumont, Texas
April 24 – 25	Madison County Fairgrounds	Marshall, North Carolina
April 24 – 25	Horseshoe Park & Equestrian Center	Queen Creek, Arizona***
April 24 – 25	Champion's Center	Springfield, Ohio
April 25 – 26	Lake County Fairgrounds	Lakeport, California
May 12	BLM Corrals	Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
May 15 – 16	Nacogdoches County Expo Center	Nacogdoches, Texas
May 15 – 16	Eastern Carolina AG Fairgrounds	Florence, South Carolina
May 15 – 16	George Ingalls Equestrian Center	Norco, California***
May 15 – 16	Wyoming Honor Farm	Riverton, Wyoming*
May 29 – 30	Library Farm LLC	Cassopolis, Michigan
May 29 – 30	The Ranch Events Complex	Loveland, Colorado***
May 30	Northern Nevada Correctional Center	Carson City, Nevada*
June 2 – 16	BLM.GOV/Adoptahorse	Internet*
June 5 – 6	Hutchinson Correctional Facility	Hutchinson, Kansas
June 9	BLM Corrals	Pauls Valley, Oklahoma
June 12 – 14	Napa Valley Horsemen's Assoc.	Napa, California
June 20 – 21	Reno Rodeo Grounds	Reno, Nevada**
June 26 – 27	Golden Hills Trail Rides	Raymondville, Missouri
July 7 – 21	BLM.GOV/Adoptahorse	Internet*



## 2015 Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Schedule

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<b>July 10 – 11</b>	<b>National Equestrian Center</b>	<b>St. Louis, Missouri***</b>
<b>July 10 – 11</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Rock Springs, Wyoming</b>
<b>July 13 – 17</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Rock Springs, Wyoming</b>
<b>July 14</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Pauls Valley, Oklahoma</b>
<b>July 17 – 18</b>	<b>Saline County Fairgrounds</b>	<b>Benton, Arkansas</b>
<b>July 17 – 25</b>	<b>Cheyenne Frontier Days</b>	<b>Cheyenne, Wyoming</b>
<b>July 25 – 26</b>	<b>Idaho Horse Park</b>	<b>Boise, Idaho</b>
<b>August 7 – 8</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Rock Springs, Wyoming</b>
<b>August 7 – 8</b>	<b>Topsfield Fairgrounds</b>	<b>Topsfield, Mass. ***</b>
<b>August 11</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Pauls Valley, Oklahoma</b>
<b>August 11 – 15</b>	<b>Wyoming State Fair</b>	<b>Douglas, Wyoming</b>
<b>August 14 – 15</b>	<b>BLM Meadowood Rec Area</b>	<b>Lorton, Virginia</b>
<b>Aug 18 – Sept 1</b>	<b>BLM.GOV/Adoptahorse</b>	<b>Internet*</b>
<b>August 21 – 22</b>	<b>Chicopee Woods AG Center</b>	<b>Gainesville, Georgia**</b>
<b>September 4 – 5</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Mequon, Wisconsin</b>
<b>September 8</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Pauls Valley, Oklahoma</b>
<b>September 10 – 12</b>	<b>Will Rogers Complex</b>	<b>Fort Worth, Texas***</b>
<b>September 11 – 12</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Ewing, Illinois</b>
<b>September 11 – 12</b>	<b>Wyoming Honor Farm</b>	<b>Riverton, Wyoming*</b>
<b>September 11 – 12</b>	<b>BLM Corrals</b>	<b>Rock Springs, Wyoming</b>
<b>September 17</b>	<b>Northern Nevada Correctional Center</b>	<b>Carson City, Nevada</b>
<b>September 19 – 20</b>	<b>Monterey County Sheriff's Posse</b>	<b>Salina, California</b>
<b>September 25 – 26</b>	<b>Laredo International Fair &amp; Expo</b>	<b>Laredo, Texas</b>

\* Trained and Untrained animals available.

\*\* Extreme Mustang Makeover(EMM) Event in partnership with Mustang Heritage Foundation.

\*\*\* EMM Event that includes untrained animals available for adoption or the TIP program.

Prepared April 13, 2015

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## Solicitation for New Off-Range Pastures for Wild Horses



As part of its efforts to provide humane, cost-effective care to wild horses, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) contracts with private landowners for pasture space to accommodate wild horses that have been removed from the range. Pastures vary in size and capacity, but must be large enough to allow for free-ranging behavior and provide all necessary food, water, facilities, personnel and supplies necessary to maintain wild horses in a healthy condition. For additional requirements, see the [Frequently Asked Questions](#) document. As of January 2015, there were more than 31,000 wild horses being cared for in off-range pastures.

The BLM obtains off-range pasture space for wild horses through an open-bid, competitive solicitation process. The BLM is currently accepting proposals for new pasture space with a minimum capacity of 100 head in the following states: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas and Wyoming. For helpful information regarding the solicitation, see the items posted below the Resources section.

To locate the solicitation: (1) go to [www.fedconnect.net](http://www.fedconnect.net); (2) click on "Search Public Opportunities"; (3) under Search Criteria, select "Reference Number"; (4) put in the solicitation number (L15PS00182); and (5) click "Search" and the solicitation information will appear. The solicitation form describes what to submit and where to send it.

Deadline for proposals: April 22, 2015

Note for applicants who have never conducted business with the government: you must first obtain a Duns and Bradstreet number at [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com) before registering at [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov) to complete the initial process. There is no fee involved for either step. Once both steps are completed, you are ready to apply to the solicitation.

### Resources

- [Frequently Asked Questions \(.pdf\)](#)
- [News Release: BLM Seeks Bids for New Off-Range Pastures to Care for Wild Horses \(2/25/15\)](#)
- [Video: Example of a Wild Horse Off-Range Pasture](#)  
Transcript of the video is available [here \(.pdf\)](#).  
Download version in higher resolution [here \(.wmv\)](#).

BLM's Second Annual Long-Term Pastures Public Tour  
El Dorado, Kansas  
June, 2012

### Contact Us

[http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/2015\\_off\\_range\\_solicitation.print.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/2015_off_range_solicitation.print.html)

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### Social Media



For general questions regarding the Wild Horse and Burro Program, visit our [Contact Us page](#).

For assistance regarding the 2015 Off-Range Pasture Solicitation, visit BLM's [Financial Assistance page](#), or contact:

Eric Pagal, (202) 591-5079 or [epagal@blm.gov](mailto:epagal@blm.gov)

Ken Lund, (202) 912-7034 or [klund@blm.gov](mailto:klund@blm.gov)



# Off-Range Pasture Solicitation FAQs

Updated 3/16/15

## **Why does the BLM have off-range pastures?**

Under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, as amended, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) manages and protects wild horses and burros while working to ensure that population levels are in balance with other public rangeland resources and uses. Wild horses and burros have virtually no natural predators and can double in population every four years.

The current free-roaming population of BLM-managed wild horses and burros is estimated to be 49,209, as of March 1, 2014, which exceeds by more than 22,500 the number determined by the BLM to be the appropriate management level. The BLM is using population growth-suppression (PGS) measures, and is supporting research to improve existing and develop new PGS tools. As of January 2015, there were more than 31,000 wild horses being cared for in off-range pastures.

## **What is an off-range pasture solicitation?**

An off-range pasture solicitation is the mechanism used by the BLM to request interested parties to submit a proposal that demonstrates they can provide a free-roaming environment for wild horses removed from Western public lands. If the proposal is accepted, a contract may be awarded to do business with the Federal government, in this case the BLM.

## **What are the general requirements for an off-range pasture contract?**

The general purpose of the contract is to continue the maintenance of the federally protected animals, removed from Western public lands, in pastures large enough to allow free-roaming behavior. To meet the general requirements of the contract, the contractor shall provide all necessary land, food, water, facilities, personnel and supplies necessary to maintain the wild horses in good condition. The contractor must provide humane care for a one-year period, with a renewal option under BLM contract for a four-year or nine-year period. The BLM may require one or two public and/or media tours hosted by BLM staff and the contractor during the life of the contract.

## **Which states can apply to the current off-range pasture solicitation?**

Proposals will be accepted from the following states: Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming. Historically, the states in the Great Plains Region have a higher chance of meeting the targeted specifications for the contract. If additional proposals are needed, a second solicitation will be announced for the remaining lower 48 states.

## **What are the steps in applying to an off-range pasture solicitation?**

Applicants who have never conducted business with the government must first obtain a Duns and Bradstreet number at [www.dnb.com](http://www.dnb.com) before registering at [www.sam.gov/](http://www.sam.gov/) to complete the initial process. The System for Award Management (SAM) is the official U.S. government system that consolidated the capabilities of Central Contractor Registration (CCR), Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), and Excluded Parties List System (EPLS). There is no fee involved for either step. Once both steps are completed, you are ready to apply to the solicitation.



### **Where do I locate the off-range pasture solicitation?**

To locate the solicitation: (1) go to [www.fedconnect.net](http://www.fedconnect.net); (2) click on “Search Public Opportunities”; (3) under Search Criteria, select “Reference Number”; (4) put in the solicitation number “**L15PS00182**”; and (5) click Search” and the solicitation information will appear. The solicitation form describes what to submit and where to send it. **Deadline for submitting proposals to current solicitation: MUST arrive on April 22, 2015 by 3pm EST.**

For further assistance, visit [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) or the BLM’s [Financial Assistance page](#). You may also contact Eric Pagal at (202)-591-5079/[epagal@blm.gov](mailto:epagal@blm.gov) or Ken Lund at (202)912-7034/[klund@blm.gov](mailto:klund@blm.gov). They can assist with general questions and/or coordinate a meeting for you with a local BLM contracting officer and small business specialist.

### **What are some of the specific requirements that must be met for consideration?**

(Refer to “General Services” section of the solicitation for a complete list of the requirements.)

1. Provide land, forage, salt, minerals, water, and fences necessary to properly care for and maintain a minimum of 100 up to a maximum of 5,000 wild horses (based on what the applicant is proposing).
2. Pastures, or combination of pastures, shall be of sufficient size to allow horse’s freedom of movement and the ability to exercise for good health, natural hoof trimming, and to continue their free-roaming behavior.
3. Pastures must be capable of producing sufficient standing forage for a period of at least 8 months or longer. Supplemental feeding may need to occur for a period of up to 4 months. Contractor must also provide supplemental feed as necessary to maintain the horses in good condition (i.e. during periods of drought, deep snow, ice storms, fire, during times when the forage is depleted of protein content or when other circumstances warrant).
4. Pastures should have sufficient rock and soil type to maintain proper hoof size and shape without trimming. In situations where pastures do not have sufficient rock and soil type, horses will have to have their feet trimmed by the contractor (a chute will be provided).
5. Perimeter fences shall be a minimum of 48” in height and completely enclose the facility and shall be of barbed wire. All division fences shall consist of four strands of barbed wire or other acceptable fencing materials. In some areas, wildlife-friendly fences will need to be constructed. The need for modification of any existing fences or the construction of any new fences to meet wildlife-friendly guidelines will be identified as mitigation during the BLM’s Environmental Assessment (EA) process. The one constant is that the height of the fencing shall not be any lower than 48”. Gates, rather than cattle guards, should be used at all road crossings or fence openings to keep horses in pastures.
6. Provide corrals and adequate facilities to load and unload wild horses on an as-needed basis.
7. Any land that is included in the proposal must be privately owned lands owned by the offeror or controlled by the offeror for a period of time no less than the contract period. The offered lands cannot include unfenced public lands; therefore, **Forest Service or BLM lands may NOT be included** in the proposal. If any unfenced public lands are located within the privately owned or controlled lands, the public lands must be fenced out.



**Is there anyone that can assist me in developing the proposal?**

The BLM is aware of two companies, but you may google the internet to see if you can find additional sources. The BLM does not endorse any company, but the following two companies have provided us with permission to release their names: 1. Fed Biz Solutions, Inc., Attn: Dale Wells, 970-660-7100/303-895-8822 [www.FedBiz-si.com](http://www.FedBiz-si.com); 2. Reba Payne, 405-401-9718, rebap@allegiance.tv

**How many off-range pasture contracts will be awarded?**

The BLM expects to award several contracts; however, the total number of contracts awarded will be based on the number of acceptable proposals received and number of animals each proposal can accommodate to meet the BLM's needs.

**What does the BLM pay a contractor to hold horses on an off-range pasture?**

The applicant must submit a business plan that supports the dollar amount needed per head/day to conduct business with the government. The BLM cannot provide a suggested rate.

**Will the BLM visit my property before making a decision?**

Yes. If your proposal meets the BLM's needs, several BLM technical experts will complete an on-site visit before making a final recommendation to award a contract. Additionally, throughout the contract's period of performance, a BLM contract specialist will be your immediate point of contact, and he/she will closely monitor your performance for compliance.

**If awarded a contract, when would BLM begin shipping horses?**

The BLM will begin shipping animals to a facility only after the offered property meets the minimum requirements outlined in the contract specifications together with any mitigation or additional requirements identified in the BLM's EA. Shipment of animals to the facility is anticipated to occur within 120-150 calendar days from the date of award. No payments shall be made until after animals are received at the facilities and have resided at the facility for one month.

**If awarded a contract, how many horses are shipped and when?**

Horses are typically shipped 34-36 animals at a time using a semi-truck and trailer. Contractor will need to be able to offload horses using a loading chute. Access to facility should be on all-weather road or when conditions permit trucks getting into the facility. A BLM representative will coordinate all loads prior to arrival at the facility.

Each awarded contract will receive all mares or all geldings. The BLM does not ship a mix of genders to any contractor to reduce the chance of any additional animals born in captivity. However, the contracts that receive all mares will have to wean some foals during the first year. The BLM does not do a pregnancy check on mares removed from the range.

**What is the standard payment timeframe for an off-range pasture contractor?**

Each contractor keeps track of the number of horses on the off-range pasture facility and invoices the BLM once a month. After approval of the invoice, funds are distributed on a monthly basis.

**How do I find out when the BLM is soliciting for additional off-range pasture facilities?**

The BLM posts all solicitations on the official Government-wide Point of Entry (GPE) portal at [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov) and [www.fedconnect.net](http://www.fedconnect.net). Once a solicitation is posted, a press release/announcement is posted at [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) and through media outlets. Advertising is procured based on budget availability.

**How many off-range pasture facilities are currently under contract with the BLM?**

The BLM has more than 20 off-range pasture contracts that range in size from 1,000 acres up to 35,000 acres; the average size is 20,000 acres. The pastures are currently located in Iowa, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and South Dakota. There are nearly 32,000 wild horses living in the current off-range pastures. They were gathered from one of nine Western states: California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, or Wyoming. There are no off-range pastures for wild burros.

**What are the BLM's current population numbers on and off the range?**

Per population estimates as of March 1, 2014, the BLM estimates that about 49,209 wild horses and burros (about 40,815 horses and 8,394 burros) are roaming on BLM-managed rangelands in 10 Western states, which exceeds by more than 22,500 the number determined by the BLM to be the appropriate management level. As of January, 2015, there were 47,925 wild horses and burros fed and cared for at current off-range corrals and off-range pastures.

**Why does the BLM continue to remove animals from the range?**

Under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act, as amended, the BLM manages and protects wild horses and burros on western public lands while working to ensure that population levels are in balance with other public rangeland resources and uses. The BLM removes animals from the range to control the size of herds, which have virtually no predators and double in population every four years. The BLM plans to remove from the range about the same number of animals for which private care can be found each year. For animals that remain in holding, the BLM is seeking high quality, lower cost holding space.

**What health care does the BLM provide to wild horses before shipping to off-range pasture facilities?**

When wild horses are removed from the range, they are shipped to an off-range corral for an overall health inspection by a veterinarian. They are also vaccinated, dewormed, freeze marked, tested for EIA, and aged. A health and gather history is created for each animal and entered into the BLM's national database for tracking until the animal is adopted, sold, or dies.

In the case of wild horses shipping from an off-range corral on to an off-range pasture, a four-digit hip freeze mark is added to assist in visual tracking by the BLM compliance inspectors and contractors.

**What health care does the BLM expect for the wild horses after arrival to off-range pasture facilities?**

In the event a wild horse is observed to have a health issue, unless it is impacting the quality of life, the BLM expects the contractor to leave the horse alone to heal naturally as it does in the wild. In the case of a health issue that impacts the animals quality of life, the animal will be evaluated consistent with BLM policy.

**What is the life expectancy of wild horses living on off-range pastures?**

The horses may live up to 30-plus years of age. Wild horses that are six years old or older may live out the rest of their lives on an off-range pasture.

**Are population growth suppression measures used on the off-range pastures?**

All wild horses that go to off-range pastures live in non-reproducing herds. Prior to shipment, all males are gelded. The mares and geldings are kept in separate pasture contracts to prevent possible reproduction. If mares are pregnant upon arrival, they will foal in the large off-range pastures. After the foals are weaned, they are shipped to off-range corrals for placement in the adoption program.

**How do I obtain general information about the BLM's Wild Horse & Burro Program?**

You may visit BLM's Website at [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) or phone 866-468-7826 or e-mail [wildhorse@blm.gov](mailto:wildhorse@blm.gov). You can also follow the program on [Face Book](#) to see great adopter stories and updates.



# BLM SEEKS BIDS FOR NEW OFF-RANGE PASTURES TO CARE FOR WILD HORSES



The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is seeking bids for new off-range pastures for the care of wild horses in the following states: AR, CO, IA, KS, MO, MT, ND, NE, OK, SD, TX, and WY. Each facility must be able to provide humane care for a one-year period, with a renewal option for a minimum of 100 horses to a maximum of 5,000 horses. The BLM manages and protects wild horses and burros while working to ensure that population levels are in balance.

This solicitation is open until April 22, 2015, but the application process can take several days to complete. Do not wait until the last minute to check out this opportunity or it may be too late! Visit [blm.gov](http://blm.gov) to learn more!



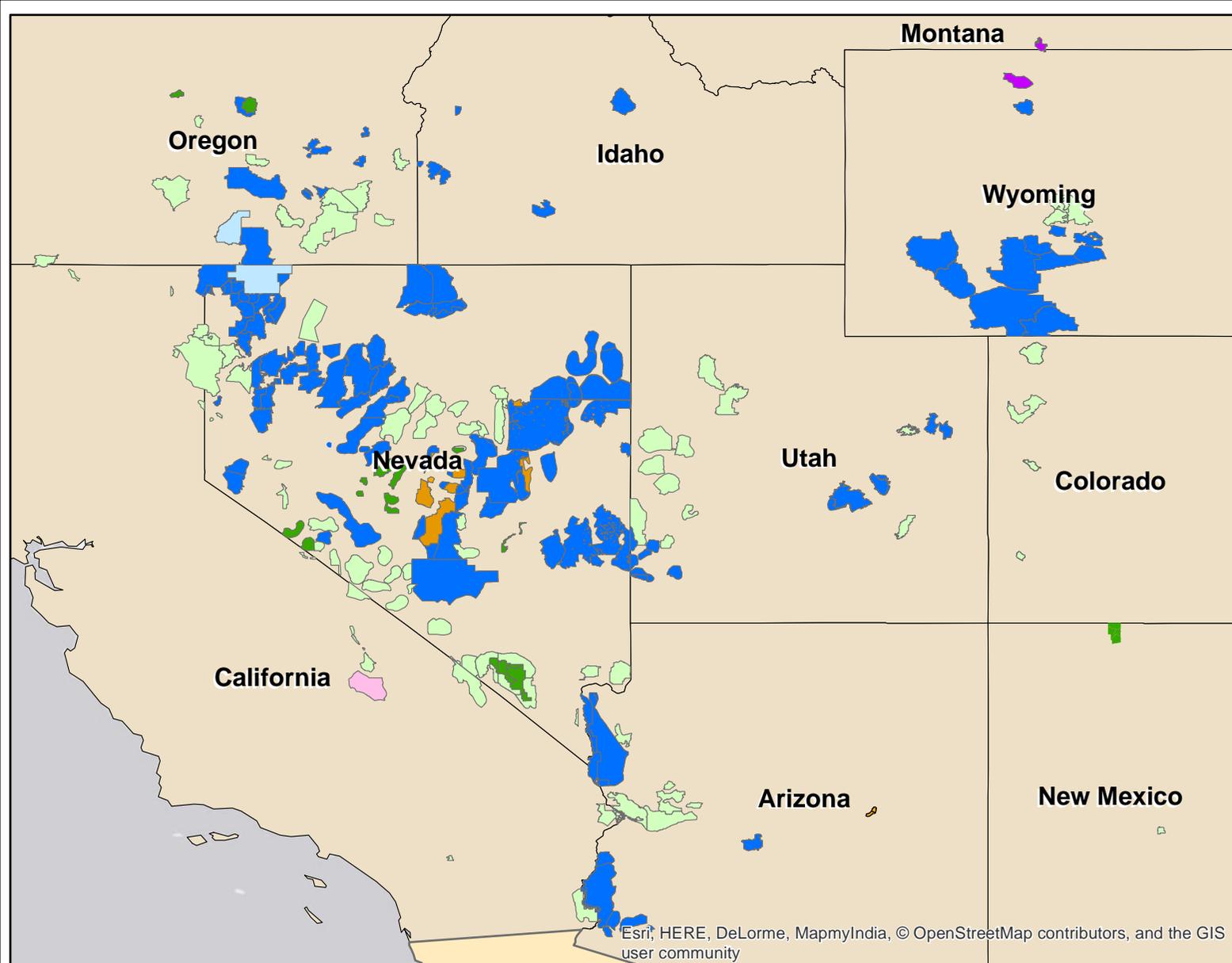
866-4MUSTANGS (866-468-7826)

[blm.gov](http://blm.gov)

[facebook.com/BLMWildHorseAndBurro](https://www.facebook.com/BLMWildHorseAndBurro)

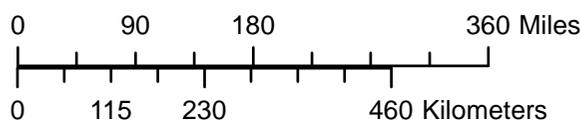


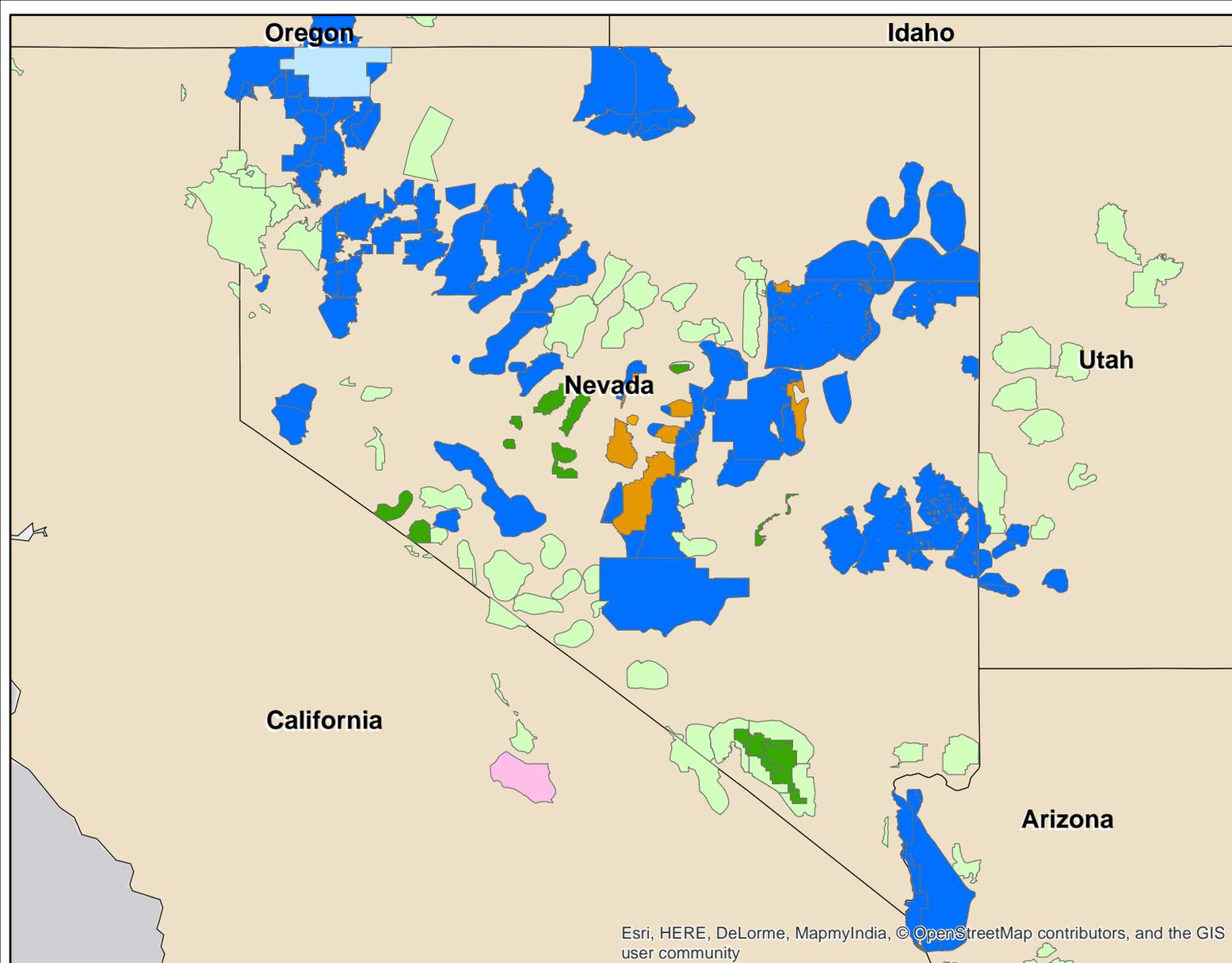
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Wild Horse and Burro Program



## Wild Horse and Burro Surveys February 2014 to April 15, 2015

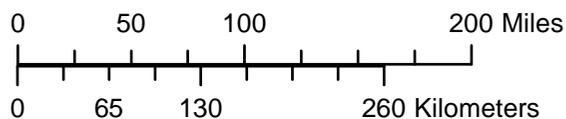
- BLM, HMA or HA surveyed with new methods
- BLM, HMA surveyed with ground counts
- USFS, WHT surveyed with new methods
- US F&WS, Refuge surveyed with new methods
- BLM Herd Management Area (HMA), not surveyed
- USFS Wild Horse Territory (WHT), not surveyed
- DOD lands with incomplete WH&B survey





## Wild Horse and Burro Surveys February 2014 to April 15, 2015

- BLM, HMA or HA surveyed with new methods
- BLM, HMA surveyed with ground counts
- USFS, WHT surveyed with new methods
- US F&WS, Refuge surveyed with new methods
- BLM Herd Management Area (HMA), not surveyed
- USFS Wild Horse Territory (WHT), not surveyed
- DOD lands with incomplete WH&B survey



**Wild Horse and Burro Numbers in Holding Facilities**  
**(Report Date: March 24, 2015)**

State	Short-Term Holding Facilities		Horses	Burros	Total
	Facility Name	Working Facility Cap	3/24/2015	3/24/2015	3/24/2015
Arizona	Florence Prison	950	796	55	851
California	Elk Grove Prison	20	22	0	22
California	Litchfield	950	764	23	787
California	Redlands	20	13	4	17
California	Ridgecrest	950	916	42	958
Colorado	Canon City/Mens Training	50	29	0	29
Colorado	Canon City Prison	2,950	2,620	19	2,639
Idaho	Boise	130	99	5	104
Idaho	Challis	130	0	0	0
Illinois	Ewing	250	46	0	46
Kansas	Hutchinson Prison	325	387	0	387
Kansas	Scott City	1,400	1,372	0	1,372
Mississippi	Piney Woods	0	117	21	138
Montana	Britton Springs	20	0	0	0
Nebraska	Elm Creek	475	361	5	366
Nevada	Carson City Prison	1,950	1,812	4	1,816
Nevada	Fallon	3,150	2,979	15	2,994
Nevada	Palomino Valley	1,800	1,385	14	1,399
Oklahoma	Pauls Valley	550	408	11	419
Oregon	Burns	725	625	6	631
Utah	Axtell/Burro	950	297	594	891
Utah	Delta	275	219	11	230
Utah	Salt Lake Staging	0	0	0	0
Wisconsin	Mequon	20	1	0	1
Wyoming	Mantle/Chugwater Training	200	198	12	210
Wyoming	Rock Springs	750	733	0	733
Wyoming	Riverton Prison	170	169	3	172
	<b>Total</b>	<b>19,160</b>	<b>16,368</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>17,212</b>
State	Long-Term Holding Pastures		Horses	Burros	Total

Age of Horses in STH			
0-4 yrs	5-10 yrs	11+ yrs	Unmarked
5,673	8,165	2,216	314

Age of Burros in STH			
0-4 yrs	5-10 yrs	11+ yrs	Unmarked
274	506	64	5

Age of Horses in LTH

	Facility Name	Facility Cap	3/1/2015	3/1/2015	3/1/2015
Iowa	Mt Ayr/Geldings	400	390	0	390
Kansas	Cassoday/Geldings	2,011	1,962	0	1,962
Kansas	Grenola/Mares	2,600	2,561	0	2,561
Kansas	Matfield Green/Mares	606	467	0	467
Kansas	Teterville East/Geldings	1,600	1,599	0	1,599
Kansas	Teterville West/Mares	670	576	0	576
Montana	Ennis/Geldings	1,150	1,024	0	1,024
Nebraska	Atkinson/Mares	1,000	852	0	852
Oklahoma	Bartlesville/Geldings	2,175	2,006	0	2,006
Oklahoma	Catoosa/Geldings	2,000	1,929	0	1,929
Oklahoma	Foraker/Geldings	1,400	1,357	0	1,357
Oklahoma	Foster/Mares	750	738	0	738
Oklahoma	Gray Horse East/Mares	1,735	1,821	0	1,821
Oklahoma	Gray Horse West/Geldings	1,015	938	0	938
Oklahoma	Hickory/Mares	1,600	1,562	0	1,562
Oklahoma	Hominy/Mares	1,059	1,035	0	1,035
Oklahoma	Hulah/Geldings	2,648	2,629	0	2,629
Oklahoma	Nowata/Mares	850	869	0	869
Oklahoma	Pawhuska/Mares	2,800	2,814	0	2,814
Oklahoma	Strohman/Mares	850	862	0	862
Oklahoma	Tishomingo/Mares	600	626	0	626
Oklahoma	Vinita/Geldings	200	198	0	198
South Dakota	Mission Ridge/Geldings	1,000	1,068	0	1,068
South Dakota	Whitehorse/Geldings	400	392	0	392
Subtotal		<b>31,119</b>	<b>30,275</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,275</b>
<b>State</b>	<b>Eco-Sanctuaries</b>		<b>Horses</b>	<b>Burros</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>Facility Cap</b>	<b>7/1/2014</b>	<b>7/1/2014</b>	<b>7/1/2014</b>
Oklahoma	Coalgate/Mares	150	153	0	153
Wyoming	Centennial/Gelding	300	290	0	290
Subtotal		<b>450</b>	<b>443</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>443</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>31,569</b>	<b>30,718</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>30,718</b>
	<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>50,729</b>	<b>47,086</b>	<b>844</b>	<b>47,930</b>

0-4 yrs	5-10 yrs	11+ yrs	Unmarked
260	7,131	23,334	0





**Wild Horse and Burro Advocacy**

(Representative)  
Ms. June Sewing  
P.O. Box 1367  
Cedar City, UT 84720  
(435) 867-1024 (Home)  
[mustangs@infowest.com](mailto:mustangs@infowest.com)  
Term Expires: 3/30/2018

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Term Expires: 04/03/2017

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Term Expires: 03/11/2016

**Livestock Management**

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(775) 272-3351 (Home)  
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Term Expires: 03/11/2016

**Natural Resources Management**

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[cowdoc75@hotmail.com](mailto:cowdoc75@hotmail.com)  
Term Expires: 04/03/2017

**General Public<sup>1</sup>**

(Representative)  
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[jen\\_sall@nols.edu](mailto:jen_sall@nols.edu)  
Term Expires: 3/30/2018

**Veterinary Medicine**

(Representative)  
Dr. Julie Weikel, DVM  
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541-490-1959  
[jweikeldvm@yahoo.com](mailto:jweikeldvm@yahoo.com)  
Term Expires: 3/30/2018

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<sup>1</sup> Protection of wild horses and burros; management of wildlife; animal husbandry; or natural resource management.



## **Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Member Biographies**

### **Dr. Robert E. Cope, DVM – Salmon, Idaho (Natural Resource Management)**

Dr. Cope, who earned his DVM at Kansas State University, has practiced veterinary medicine since 1975. After relocating to Idaho, he was elected Lemhi County Commissioner in 2001 and still serves in that position. Dr. Cope has been active in the National Association of Counties (NACo), serving as chair or vice chair of NACo's Environment, Energy, and Land Use Steering Committee for nine years. As a veterinarian for nearly 40 years, Dr. Cope has focused on large animals, particularly range livestock.

### **Mr. Rick Danvir - Evanston, Wyoming (Wildlife Management)**

Mr. Danvir is a professional wildlife biologist with a Bachelor of Science degree from Utah State University in Wildlife and an Associate of Applied Science degree in Fisheries and Wildlife Technology from State University of New York. Currently working with the Deseret Land and Livestock ranch – a northern Utah operation known for its multiple-use management of wildlife and domestic livestock – he is presently Wildlife Manager of Deseret Western Ranches. Mr. Danvir is affiliated with several wildlife-related organizations. These include the Utah Wildlife Board, the Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit Association, the Utah Foundation for Quality Resource Management, the Society for Range Management, the Center for Holistic Resource Management, and the Nature Conservancy.

### **Mr. John Falen – Orovada, Nevada (Livestock Management)**

Mr. Falen, a graduate of the University of Idaho with a Bachelor of Science degree in Animal Husbandry, is a longtime advocate of responsible wild horse management and has spent years dealing with wild horse issues, both on and off the range. He has 20 years' experience serving on numerous boards and committees regarding wild horse management, including the Mustang Heritage Foundation (MHF) and the Public Lands Council's Wild Horse and Burro Committee. A respected leader in the livestock community at both the state and national levels, Mr. Falen is Past President of the Public Lands Council and serves on the Board of Directors of the National Cattlemen's Beef Association. (Mr. Falen, a member of the MHF Board of Trustees, will recuse himself from issues concerning MHF, which is a BLM partner in promoting public adoptions of wild horses and burros.)

### **Mr. Timothy J. Harvey – Campton, New Hampshire (Humane Advocacy)**

Mr. Harvey, owner of the Merry-Go-Round Pens, LLC, Western Safety Stirrups, LLC, and Journey Horses Farm, has been a horse professional and experienced trainer for the past 20 years. An established clinician who organizes training seminars and clinics with several top trainers, Mr. Harvey specializes in colt starting and foundation training based on natural horsemanship and traditional vaquero (cowboy) training methods. Mr. Harvey is an innovator who has also operated a



therapeutic riding program centered on fostering the emotional well-being of victims of abuse and people with anger-management issues.

**Dr. Sue M. McDonnell, Ph.D – West Chester, Pennsylvania (Wild Horse and Burro Research)**

Dr. McDonnell is Clinical Associate and Adjunct Professor of Reproduction and Behavior at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. Also, as a certified applied animal behaviorist, she consults privately on equine behavior and welfare. Dr. McDonnell, who holds a Ph.D. from the University of Delaware, co-edited the current leading academic book on horse behavior, titled “The Domestic Horse: The Evolution, Development and Management of its Behaviour,” published by Cambridge University Press.

**Ms. Jennifer Sall – Lander, Wyoming (General Public –wild horse protection; wildlife management; animal husbandry; or natural resource management)**

Ms. Sall has 25 years of experience caring for and training horses, including as manager of the National Outdoor Leadership School's (NOLS) Three Peaks Ranch. There she managed a herd of 75 horses and trained halter-broken mustangs to become dependable working mountain horses. Ms. Sall is currently the Program Manager for the Rocky Mountain Branch of the National Outdoor Leadership School. Previously as a NOLS instructor, Ms. Sall logged more than 100 weeks in the field on public lands teaching leadership, outdoor skills (including leading horse-packing trips), and environmental studies. She has a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Bates College in Lewiston, Maine.

**Ms. June Sewing – Cedar City, Utah (Wild Horse and Burro Advocacy)**

Ms. Sewing is the Executive Director and Secretary for the National Mustang Association, for which she has worked since 1985 carrying out various responsibilities, including managing the association's wild horse sanctuary. Ms. Sewing has also served as the president of local charitable organizations – as trustee on the Cedar City hospital board for 20 years, and on a committee dealing with the endangered Utah prairie dog. Ms. Sewing has received a Citizen Volunteer award from the Chamber of Commerce, Board of Realtors, and Southern Utah University.

**Dr. Julie Weikel, DVM -Princeton, Oregon (Veterinary Medicine)**

Dr. Weikel earned her Master of Veterinary Science and DVM from Washington State University and has practiced as a large animal veterinarian for 42 years with an equine and bovine focus. As a Professor in the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University, she taught advanced large animal medicine, radiology, and large animal clinics. Dr. Weikel has served on the Southeast Oregon Advisory Committee (in the wild horse and burro position). She has also served as a member of the Oregon Natural Desert Association; on the Morrow County School Board; and as a court-appointed special advocate volunteer.



**Mr. Fred T. Woehl, Jr. – Harrison, Arkansas (General Public – Equine Behavior)**

Mr. Woehl has been involved in the horse community for more than 40 years as a trainer, natural horsemanship clinician, and educator. He is actively involved with the Equine Science Department at the University of Arkansas and taught Equine Science at North Arkansas College. He has served as a volunteer for the BLM's Wild Horse and Burro Program for 10 years, conducting demonstrations of wild horse versatility and assisting with adoptions. Mr. Woehl worked as a senior agricultural adviser for the U.S. State Department from October 2008 to November 2009 in Iraq, where he was responsible for the development and implementation of agricultural programs and policy for the Ninewa Province.

866-4MUSTANGS (866-468-7826) [blm.gov](http://blm.gov)  
[twitter.com/BLMNational](https://twitter.com/BLMNational)  
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[youtube.com/BLMNational](https://youtube.com/BLMNational)



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Wild Horse and Burro Program

# Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Membership Nomination Process

Each year, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requests nominations for the Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board (Board) from individuals, national organizations, and associations involved with, and interested in, the protection and management of wild horses and burros on public lands administered by the Department of Interior through the BLM and by the U.S. Forest Service (USFS).

One-third of the Board positions are vacated each year. The Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act directs that Board membership reflect special knowledge about protection of horses and burros, management of wildlife, animal husbandry, or natural resource management. The positions on the Board are specified in the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Charter. The Board members are appointed to serve 3-year terms.

Before a Board position reaches its expiration date the BLM starts the selection process. The selection process is as follows:

- The BLM Washington Office issues a public announcement in the *Federal Register* ([www.federalregister.gov](http://www.federalregister.gov)) and a press release calling for nominations. The public announcement is shared with state and local news media and posted at [www.blm.gov](http://www.blm.gov) and at [www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram.html](http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram.html).
- After the nomination period closes, all nominations are reviewed. Nominees are evaluated based on their education, training, and experience that qualify them to serve in the position for which they have been nominated; experience or knowledge of wild and horse and burro management; experience or knowledge of horses and burros (equine health, training, and management); and experience in working to achieve collaborative solutions on challenging issues where there are diverse viewpoints. Consideration is also given to the BLM's advisory committee regulations (43 CFR 1784), that require each committee to be structured to provide fair membership balance, both geographic and interest-specific, in terms of the functions to be performed and points of view to be represented.
- The Director of the BLM and BLM's Assistant Director for Resources and Planning (who serves as the Designated Federal Officer for the Board) are briefed on the nominations received.
- The nominations are sent to the Department of Interior's (DOI) Office of the White House Liaison for vetting.
- After concurrence by the Office of the White House Liaison, the appointments are approved by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture. After the appointment letters are mailed to the appointees, all other nominees are notified that they were not selected and encouraged to reapply. The BLM issues a news release announcing the selection of the members.

