



News from American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign

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BLM Nevada Roundup Will Leave Just 3 Wild Horses Behind
Letters Opposing Capture and Removal of 180 Wild Horses and Burros Needed Now!



Will this mustang be one of the few left after the BLM roundup?

We need your comments on another Bureau of Land Management (BLM) roundup. This time, the agency is paving the way for zeroing out wild horses from the Montezuma Peak and Paymaster Herd Management Areas (HMAs) in Nevada.

It's hard to believe, but the BLM only allows 3 (three) horses and 10 (ten) burros to live on Montezuma Peak HMA's 78,000 acres. In addition, the BLM only allows 38 horses in the Paymaster HMA which is comprised of more than 100,000 acres. If the proposed roundup of 119 horses and 61 burros from this 279-square-mile area is conducted, this will be the genetic destruction of these herds.

This sort of BLM policy - either directly zeroing out herd areas, or indirectly by leaving post-roundup herds so small that they are not genetically viable - has resulted in the loss of over 20 million acres of federally-designated wild horse habitat since 1971.

BLM states that scarce water resources are the reason for ridiculously low wild horse and burro Appropriate Management Levels, but does nothing to restore the many springs in the area that have been damaged by a century of livestock use.

What You Can Do

Please personalize the email message below, cut, paste and send it to the addresses below. *Remember to share this action alert with your friends and family. Every voice raised in opposition helps.*

Thank you.

Public Comments are due by July 15, 2010.

And if you have not yet done so, please take action [here](#) to oppose the roundup of Utah mustangs.

Sample Letter

TO: Montezuma_gather@blm.gov, Thomas_Seley@blm.gov, Dustin_Hollowell@blm.gov, Chair@ceq.eop.gov, feedback@ios.doi.gov, Director@blm.gov, Sylvia_baca@ios.doi.gov, in.approp@mail.house.gov, INT@appro.senate.gov, Dustin_Hollowell@blm.gov

Subject: Public Comment Opposing BLM Roundup in Montezuma Peak & Paymaster HMAs

To Whom It May Concern,

I oppose the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) plan to waste tax dollars by capturing and removing 180 wild horses and burros from the Montezuma Peak and Paymaster Herd Management Areas (HMAs) in Nevada. The proposed action leaves behind on 41 horses on 276 square miles putting at risk the genetic viability of these herds. This action is detrimental to the survival of these horses and continues the BLM's unsustainable cycle of mass roundups, removals and stockpiling of America's wild horses in government holding facilities.

There is strong societal opposition to the proposed action, creating tension among stakeholders. As per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), BLM is required to consider the "related social and economic effects of their proposed actions." Accordingly the Environmental Assessment (EA) must analyze the social response/impact to the



Burros living in the Montezuma Herd Management Area

Proposed Action, any and all alternatives that can achieve the goal of maintaining a "thriving ecological balance," and the economic effects of the Proposed Action.

The EA on this roundup plan states that scarce water resources justify such low wild horse and burro numbers. However the same document notes that just six of 24 springs in the gather area are known to be properly functioning. BLM should undertake a program of range enhancement, including ecologically sound restoration of springs and protection of spring heads, on this range as an alternative to inhumane and costly wild horse and burro roundups. As a part of the "human environment" it is imperative that public opposition to the Proposed Action and the negative social impacts be considered, analyzed and included in the EA. I value having wild horses on our public lands and oppose the BLM's continued waste of tax dollars to unnecessarily remove wild horses from the range when viable alternatives of on-the-range management are available. By removing wild horses from these HMAs and failing to conduct on-the-range management to control populations, the BLM ignores viable alternatives available. In addition, the Proposed Action has negative environmental impact by jeopardizing the long-term genetic viability and well being of the Montezuma Peak and Paymaster herds by reducing the herd numbers to unsustainable levels.

The Proposed Action must be tabled until all alternatives and impacts are adequately evaluated.

President Obama promised Americans change, it is time the BLM work in good faith to utilize Adaptive Management, as outlined above, to adhere to the public's opposition to roundups and stop the agency's ongoing mismanagement of America's wild horses and burros which is continued in the current Proposed Action.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

The [American Wild Horse Preservation Campaign](#) (AWHPC) is dedicated to preserving the American wild horse in viable free-roaming herds for generations to come, as part of our national heritage. Its grassroots efforts are supported by a coalition of over forty organizations.

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