

## **LEGALLY ESTABLISHED WILD HORSE AND BURRO HABITAT NO LONGER MANAGED FOR WILD HORSES OR BURROS (“ZEROED OUT”)**

Since 1971 the BLM has, in violation of the plain language of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Protection Act, reduced the total amount of habitat available for wild horses and burros by 19,177,468. Based on statistical data obtained from the BLM it has been determined that the amount of wild horse and burro habitat that has been lost was the product of several management decisions made by the BLM including:

1. Not managing for wild horses and burros in dozens of Herd Areas in the ten western states where wild horses and burros exist. As reflected in Table 1 (see attached) this decision removed a total of 13,724,395 acres of wild horse and burro habitat. This land area included 9,604,771 BLM-administered acres of land and 4,119,624 acres of other lands including private and state lands as well as lands administered by other federal agencies.
2. Reducing the amount of wild horse and burro habitat available in Herd Management Areas in the ten western states. As reflected in Table 2 (see attached) the amount of wild horse and burro habitat available in existing Herd Management Areas is less than the amount of habitat within the remaining Herd Areas managed for wild horses and burros in the western United States. For lands administered by the BLM there are 3,586,267 fewer acres of wild horse and burro habitat in Herd Management Areas compared to Herd Areas. For other lands, including state and private lands and lands administered by other federal agencies, there are 1,866,806 fewer acres of wild horse and burro habitat in Herd Management Areas compared to Herd Areas. When the habitat loss figures for both BLM-administered lands and other lands are total, the BLM has eliminated 5,453,073 acres of wild horse and burro habitat within existing Herd Management Areas compared to the amount of habitat available in Herd Areas currently managed for wild horses and burros.

In summary, when these lost acres of wild horse and burro habitat are combined (see Table 3), a total of 19,177,468 acres of habitat that, by law, must be available to wild horses and burros are no longer available. This is a blatant violation of the plain and indisputable language of the Wild and Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Protection Act.

**TABLE 1**

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
HERD AREAS NOT MANAGED FOR WILD HORSES AND BURROS  
SUMMARY FOR TEN WESTERN STATES**

STATE	BLM ACRES	OTHER ACRES	TOTAL ACRES
ARIZONA	253,570	80,385	333,955
CALIFORNIA	1,766,092	672,210	2,438,302
COLORADO	254,103	26,638	280,741
IDAHO	43,376	5,800	49,176
MONTANA	76,079	110,377	186,456
NEVADA	2,925,773	974,973	3,900,746
NEW MEXICO	64,148	33,767	97,915
OREGON	615,424	337,524	952,948
UTAH	429,058	113,456	542,514
WYOMING	3,177,148	1,764,494	4,941,642
TOTAL	9,604,771	4,119,624	13,724,395

Compiled from BLM state by state statistics

**TABLE 2**

DIFFERENCE IN ACREAGE FOR HERD AREAS AND HERD MANAGEMENT AREAS MANAGED FOR  
WILD HORSES AND/OR BURROS BY STATE

STATE	HA ACRES (BLM LANDS)	HMA ACRES (BLM LANDS)	DIFFERENCE	HA ACRES (OTHER LANDS)	HMA ACRES (OTHER LANDS)	DIFFERENCE	COMBINED DIFFERENCE FOR BLM AND OTHER LANDS
ARIZONA	1,766,362	1,756,086	10,276	1,537,613	1,327,777	209,836	220,112
CALIFORNIA	3,346,686	1,946,590	1,400,096	1,179,451	471,855	707,596	2,107,692
COLORADO	404,016	366,098	37,918	49,934	38,656	11,278	49,196
IDAHO	385,045	377,907	7,138	43,435	40,287	3,148	10,286
MONTANA	28,282	28,282	0	8,865	8,865	0	0
NEVADA	16,838,610	15,772,485	1,066,125	2,113,96	1,695,925	417,971	1,484,096
NEW MEXICO	24,505	24,505	0	4,107	4,107	0	0
OREGON	2,944,511	2,703,409	241,102	447,726	259,726	188,000	429,102
UTAH	2,721,162	2,379,850	341,312	563,399	362,817	200,582	541,894
WYOMING	4,120,630	3,638,330	482,300	1,265,516	1,137,121	128,395	610,695
TOTAL	32,579,809	28,993,542	3,586,267	7,213,942	5,347,136	1,866,806	5,453,073

Compiled from BLM state by state statistics

**TABLE 3**

**TOTAL AMOUNT OF BLM-ADMINISTERED LANDS AND OTHER LANDS LOST  
AS WILD HORSE AND BURRO HABITAT**

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT (acres)
Amount of BLM-administered lands in Herd Areas not managed for wild horses and burros	9,604,771
Amount of other lands in Herd Areas not managed for wild horses and burros	4,119,624
Difference in the amount of BLM-administered lands available for wild horses and burros in Herd Management Areas compared to Herd Areas	3,586,267
Difference in the amount of other-lands available for wild horses and burros in Herd Management Areas compared to Herd Areas	1,866,806
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>19,177,468</b>