

ISPMB
FALL
2020
NEWSLETTER

International Society for the Protection of Mustangs & Burros



Spirit of the Ancients

WILD HORSE & BURRO DIARY

A Publication of the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros
The Oldest Wild Horse and Burro Organization in the United States

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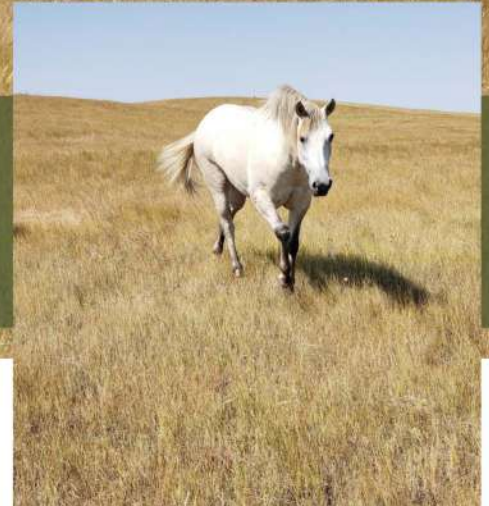




Mission Accomplished!

Our Horses Come Home

We couldn't have done it without your help and in the throes of a worldwide pandemic at that. Thank you!



Amber loves her beautiful pasture.

ISPMB successfully found transport for two of our beautiful horses that were adopted out when they were just yearlings. With life, there are always tragedies and unexpected circumstances that we don't count upon. It is precisely at these times that we reach out to each other and help each other through these difficult times. As it was with Amber and Valentino, each coming from different parts of the world. They both arrived safely and were thrilled to be wild and free on 500 acres of rolling green hills with an abundance of natural water.

This was quite a project to find transporters that were willing to take two unhandled semi-wild four-year-old beauties back home. This adventure had fortunate outcomes in that ISPMB has found a local hauler in Rapid City that does an outstanding job, pandemic or not.

The first to arrive was Valentino, a beautiful Gila stallion, who spent time assimilating back into the Gila herd. In the end, he now has two Gila mares and is the happiest young stallion in the kingdom of wild horses. He is learning quite a few lessons that these mares are teaching him which makes life interesting as we sit and watch from a behavioral standpoint. Valentino is assertive as he has the fighting spirit of his Gila ancestors who came to ISPMB in 2000. He has tenacity to fight for what he wants. He will add to the much-needed genetic diversity of our rare and endangered Gila herd.

Amber is our horse that will represent wild horses at our International Wild Horse and Burro Heritage Center. We had hoped that her mother, Beautiful Woman Who Stands, would have been that ambassador but this year she passed into the spirit world and is forever free. Beautiful Woman can be seen on ISPMB's website as she fought for her freedom from capture by the BLM in Colorado (see story on BLM's new holding facilities). She remained in the Colorado prison program for over three years until ISPMB adopted her and brought her to our ranch. Like many of the adopted horses that have had a very bad experience in the adoption program, she had no trust of human beings... *(continued on page 15)*

Your continued financial support helps ISPMB to bring the REAL TRUTH forward about America's Wild Horses and Burros. In these difficult times that we face in our nation and the devastating pandemic, we need your help more than ever.



President's REPORT

By Karen A. Sussman

ISPMB has always advocated that there is no overpopulation of wild horses or burros. There has never been an overall census of wild horses on public lands. Instead the BLM estimates population growth based on a 20% yearly increase. They have never followed the law to determine if there are "excess" animals. They base their numbers on "Appropriate Management Level" (AML), which was outlawed in an Interior Board of Land Appeals Court case in 1989 in which the term "excess" was defined. Yet, the BLM is back to creating this arbitrary and capricious number of animals known as AML. Excess can ONLY be determined if BLM monitors the habitat for damage. The damage must be attributed to wild horses and only those horses in the damaged area must be removed. With BLM's monitoring budget in the single digits, it is impossible for them to monitor the habitat. *(We know they have no desire to monitor the lands because cattle would have to be removed instead of horses.)* Therefore, all horses removed by the BLM have been removed illegally.

ISPMB's monitoring studies have shown that our two wild herds grew at a rate of 9.73% in the Gila herd and an 8.33% in the White Sands herd and these rates were under the best of conditions with high-grade feed throughout the harsh winters in South Dakota. Even with this advantage, it is still under half of what the BLM claims. In the wild it is estimated that growth rates were around 4% as noted in the 1980 National Academy of Sciences Report. Our studies on our wild horses have allowed us to see the truth about wild horses' growth rates. It makes sense that actual herd growth rates in the wild are at 4% because, unlike ISPMB's horses, wild horses must survive the harshest of landscapes and weather conditions.

The lesson we have learned is that in order to win against the BLM and all of the adversaries of wild horses and burros, it takes the attainment of the wisdom and understanding of the true nature of wild horses as ISPMB has done over these past 20 years studying ISPMB's herds. Now that this part of ISPMB's journey has been accomplished, it will take tremendous funding to bring this truth forward.

An example of such is filing lawsuits. It takes *tens of thousands of dollars* to bring a court case against the BLM. ISPMB has so far been successful in doing so in the case of the Heber wild horses (*see Heber update*). Not only does it take a lot of money but the government will delay, delay, and delay more, creating the need for much more funding and critical time necessary to keep in their game. So far, the teamwork between ISPMB and our pro-bono attorneys has been extremely successful over the 15 years we have been fighting this one case.

Yes, it finally all comes down to funding now. Funding is the key to the success of the preservation of America's wild horses and burros and ISPMB's rare and endangered Gila herd.

We know the economy is suffering because of Covid-19. We are so very grateful for your continued generosity and support in these most difficult times. Because of your undying support, we will continue our march through history to save the last of America's wild horses and burros. May you all be safe from Covid-19.

Sincerely,



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Heber Herd *Update*

ISPMB's Attorneys Formally Request the FBI's Assistance

To date, the assault on the Heber wild horses has stopped for now, for whatever reason is yet unknown. However, in April of this year, ISPMB's attorneys wrote to the Phoenix office of the FBI requesting their assistance in finding those perpetrators involved in the killing of nearly 50 wild Heber horses. In addition, a copy of the letter was sent to the Forest Service (FS) attorney in New Mexico. ISPMB's attorneys were notified that, per policy, the FBI will not affirmatively acknowledge that they will or will not pursue this matter.

ISPMB expects the Forest Service to have the final Heber Territory plan completed by 2021. ISPMB sued the FS in a civil action in 2006 with one of the stipulations being that the FS must develop a Territory plan to manage the wild horses as required by law.


Attorneys on behalf of ISPMB sent a 200-page document to the FS earlier this year in response to the FS's draft Territory Plan, preparing for further court actions if necessary. ISPMB and our lead attorney, Anthony Merrill, have kept a vigilant eye over this most important case for the past 15 years. We are so very thankful to have such skilled attorneys working on this case.

About the Heber Herd: located in northern Arizona whose ancestors were known to roam the area in the early 1800s.

ISPMB remains the only litigant in a lawsuit filed against the Forest Service in 2006 with the resulting 2007 court action preventing the removal of the nearly 300 wild horses from the Heber Territory and the Black Mesa and Lakeside Ranger districts, which are considered the Sitgreaves National Forest. The horses have been roaming free in the forest for the past 15 years while litigation continues.

It may be the only herd left in our country that has lived freely without the devastating roundups that the federal government inflicts upon wild herds every four years. However, if the FS has its way in the proposed Territory Plan, the herd will be reduced to a non-viable number of 52 animals that will then be injected with the pesticide PZP to stop their breeding. ISPMB and our attorneys are prepared for the next battle with the Forest Service when the final Territory Plan is completed sometime in 2021.



A photograph of two horses grazing in a field. The horse in the foreground is a light tan color with a white blaze on its face and a light-colored mane. The horse behind it is dark brown. They are standing on reddish-brown soil with sparse green grass. In the background, there are dry, brushy hills.

Please note that ISPMB protects your name and address as we do not share or trade your personal information. If you prefer to receive an e-newsletter, send us your email address. E-newsletters will help save ISPMB money, which can be used to care for our horses.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

A great opportunity to increase giving to International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros is with AmazonSmile donations. Remember to shop at **smile.amazon.com**.

Why the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Should End

The nine-member National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board mandated by the 1971 Wild Horses and Burros Act was called into action only when needed by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture to advise and make recommendations pertaining to the management of wild horses and burros.

In fact, the first board appointed by the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Agriculture was in 1976 when ISPMB's first president, Wild Horse Annie, served on the board. The board was again called into service in 1986 and that time, Helen Reilly, ISPMB's second president, served on the board for two years. Then in 1990, the board was called into service with ISPMB's third president, Karen Sussman, serving the two-year term. Each time there were legitimate issues that the Secretaries wanted feedback about from these advisory boards.

Each board's nine-member panel was chosen by the Secretaries after reviewing qualifications of the many applicants who applied for these nine positions. With the nine-member panel, only three could truly be wild horse and burro advocates and the other members could actually be those who oppose wild horses and burros.

Then in 1997, the Board was called up and has become a *perpetual* Board at taxpayers' expense. Initially, this was to take pressure off the BLM's corruption scandal in 1997 because of the Del Rio Investigation but now the board has become a puppet of the BLM, which has always desired to eliminate wild horses and burros from their rightful rangelands.

In 1994, a federal grand jury was formed in Del Rio, Texas that collected evidence showing government officials allowed the slaughter of hundreds of wild horses taken from federal lands and falsified records and tried to prevent investigators from uncovering the truth. It was BLM's own law enforcement agents, six of them, who enlisted the help of ISPMB to bring attention to this matter since it was stalled in the grand jury.

To assist the six law enforcement officers of the BLM, ISPMB organized a Humane Summit in Albuquerque, NM in 1996. It was the Summit's press conference which caught national attention of the issue by Martha Mendoza from the Associated Press. *This was exactly what we had hoped for* as her excellent reporting on the BLM's corruption earned her a Pulitzer Prize. In January of 1997, there were seven front-page articles in national news about the vast corruption by the BLM within their Wild Horse and Burro program.

Alia Ludlum, assistant U.S. Attorney overseeing the investigation and the grand jury, wrote in a memo, "I think there is a terrible problem with the program and with government agents placing themselves above the law... I believe that my investigation was obstructed all along by persons within the BLM because they did not want to be embarrassed."



Wild Horse Annie and her horse Hobo

...(continued on page 15)



Utah's Confusion Wild Horse Herd to be Tortured and then Decimated

In early October, the BLM decided to go forth with sterilizing wild mares in the field. The first herd to suffer these draconian measures is known as the Confusion Herd Management Area (HMA) wild horses located in Juab and Millard counties located 30 miles north of Garrison, Utah. Their HMA covers 293,665 acres of public land. The BLM plans to reduce the herd from approximately 551 to under 100 animals. The few remaining will undergo sterilization.

The procedure to be used on these beautiful light-colored wild horses is known as ovariectomies (removal of the ovaries) via colpotomy. This involves the blind insertion of a metal rod through a vaginal incision to crush the ovaries while the animal remains conscious and alert. Not only is this a very painful ordeal for the animals but it is downright cruel. This procedure is rarely performed on any horse because of the extreme risk of hemorrhage, evisceration, infections, and death.

In its 2013 report on wild horse management, the National Academy of Sciences advised the BLM not to follow through with this type of procedure.

The BLM had a plan for the Warm Springs Oregon horses in 2018 to do precisely what they plan to do to the Confusion horses. The Oregon horses were saved when two major universities refused to participate.

Just recently a letter was written to Interior Secretary David Bernhardt and signed by 80 veterinarians stating, "Not only is ovariectomy via colpotomy far more invasive, inhumane, and risky than other nonsurgical methods of fertility control, it is also more invasive and inhumane than the techniques that veterinarians use on domestic horses in the rare circumstances where some form of ovariectomy is clinically necessary."

With a \$21 million appropriation from Congress in 2020, it appears that the BLM will try to bypass the research route entirely *leaving science behind* and integrating ovariectomies into its fertility control plans. This appropriation covers removals, adoptions, and the use of the poisonous birth control, PZP.

The question looms as to whom the BLM will recruit in the line of veterinarians. Only heartless people could vie for this undertaking. It was noted that during a training exercise in Arizona, a wild jenny bled to death during a procedure to remove her ovaries.

Please write to your senators and ask that they stop the BLM from this cruel practice of ovariectomies. The more Congress hears from you, the better the chance of preventing this barbaric practice.

Senators: https://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm



Who is to Blame for the Surgical Assault on Utah's Wild Mares and the Eventual Demise of America's Wild Horses and Burros?

No, It's Not Only the BLM! Don't be Surprised

On August 1, 2018 a private meeting was convened by Congressman Chris Stewart (R -UT) in Salt Lake City to discuss the management of wild horses and burros. This meeting was not open to the public and it was off limits to any media. When one NPR reporter showed up, the BLM refused to speak to her.

There were three humane groups present and a fourth that posed as a humane group; otherwise, the rest of the participants were not pro-wild horse advocates. In fact, Chris Stewart is known in Congress for his anti-wild horse and burro stance. If it were up to this congressman, we wouldn't have wild horses and burros on public lands.

The following are notes from a BLM e-mail (*received under the Freedom of Information Act 'FOIA' by the Wild Horse Freedom Federation*) regarding the meeting in which these "advocates" sold out America's wild horses and burros.

In the e-mail, a BLM employee said, "A lot of common ground was found among the stakeholders, including advocacy groups, on the **need to reduce population and achieve appropriate management level quickly through gathers**. The advocates also expressed desire for the BLM to follow gathers with intensive fertility control." (Emphasis in bold added by ISPMB.)

READY TO TAKE ACTION?

Find your representatives and senators using these links:

<https://www.house.gov>

<https://www.senate.gov>

BLM: Find your local office by going online or calling **202-208-3801**

<https://www.blm.gov/office/national-office>

Tara Rigler, Assistant Director, Communications

Phone **202-208-6913** | Email blm_press@blm.gov

Yes, when these humane groups agree with the cattle industry and those congressional people who want to rid the public lands of wild horses and buy into **their** myth that there are too many wild horses – this has led to this moment giving carte blanche to the BLM and the opposition to do just that – rid the public lands of wild horses and burros by any means necessary including the tortuous sterilizations.

Of course, an added incentive of these humane groups to agree with the opposition is the 6-million-dollar appropriation that they will receive of your tax dollars to shoot these horses with the pesticide fertility control drug, PZP. That is after the BLM removes thousands of wild horses and burros leaving few animals left to receive this drug which can sterilize them permanently in as little as four years.

Let ISPMB make clear about the law of what is truth and reality which is undermined by groups that push PZP alluding to the overpopulation of America's wild horses and burros:

FIRST – There is **no overpopulation** of wild horses and burros.

SECOND – Setting an Appropriate Management Level (AML) **was outlawed** by the Interior Board of Land Appeals (IBLA) in 1989 when IBLA defined the term “excess” in the 1971 Act.

THIRD – BLM is **not allowed** to set an arbitrary and capricious number of horses and burros by setting an AML.

FOURTH – ISPMB's annual herd growth was **less than half** (8%-9%) of what the BLM states their herd growth is (20%); this shows that stable populations, not disrupted by roundups, grow at half the rate as purported by the BLM.

FIFTH – The 1971 Act explicitly states that wild horses and burros are to be managed at the “minimum feasible level.”

The following *alleged wild horse advocate* participants at this “secret” meeting:

Neda DeMayo – RTF – Return to Freedom

Nancy Perry – ASPCA – American Society for the Prevention to Animals

Gillian Lyons – HSUS – Humane Society of the United States

Drew Lesofski – American Mustang Foundation
(a group that has been in operation for one year and poses as a wild horse group)

BLM and Utah state participants:

Ed Roberson – BLM State Director

Bruce Rittenhouse – **Acting** BLM Wild Horse and Burro Program Chief

Redge Johnson – Utah Public Lands Policy Coordinating Office representative

Eric Thacker – Utah State University Range Specialist

Tammy Pearson – Cattle rancher, Beaver County

Any group that advocates for birth control as the above groups have at this meeting, including other groups such as AWHC (American Wild Horse Campaign) and the multitude of smaller groups that follow this path, are also guilty of the demise of America's wild horses and burros. This is beyond a travesty and this must stop.

Funding is the name of these groups' game and defunding may be the only way to stop them.





Kurt, the First-ever Cloned Przewalski Horse, Preserves Rare Breed

San Diego Zoo collaborated with ViaGen Equine, a cloning company, and Revive & Restore, a wildlife conservation group, to create the first cloned horse who is an actual copy of a Przewalski stallion named Kuporovic that once lived at the San Diego Zoo between 1975 to 1998.

Little Kurt was born on August 6, 2020 at Timber Creek Veterinary facility in Texas. He was named after Dr. Kurt Benirschke, a UC San Diego geneticist, who was pivotal to the creation of the 'Frozen Zoo' at the San Diego Zoo. The Frozen Zoo has the largest and most diverse collection of its kind in the world containing 10,000 living cell cultures, oocytes, sperm, and embryos representing 1,000 taxa, according to the Zoo.

The Przewalski horse (also known as the Mongolian wild horse) was native to central Asia. The last confirmed sighting of one in the wild was in 1969. The breed was named after the Russian geographer and explorer, Nikolaj Przewalski.

Twelve ancestors of these wild Mongolian wild horses were captured between 1899 and 1902 and were put into a breeding program which, over time, spawned 2,000 of these horses.

In 1990, the horses were reintroduced back into the wild in central Asia at the Khustain Nuruu National Park, Takhin Tai Nature Reserve, and Khomiin Tai.

The birth of Kurt is so important since he carries a rare DNA and can contribute to the much-needed diversity of his breed. The plan when Kurt is weaned from his surrogate mother is to live at the San Diego Zoo Safari Park with others of his species and someday become a breeding stallion.

We wish this little healthy foal the best that life has to offer him since his breed nearly went extinct.

BLM to Build More Holding Corrals to Speed up Removal of Wild Horses

Under the Trump Administration, three new holding corrals will be built in Colorado, Utah, and Wyoming to speed up capture and removal of 130,000 wild horses over the next ten years. In a plan they call, "The Path Forward," BLM plans to reduce populations to less than 27,000 animals and those left on public lands will receive birth control drugs which will surely destroy the future of these magnificent wild animals.

As we state over and over again, there is no overpopulation of wild horses and burros. There is an overpopulation of non-native cattle on public lands that cost the taxpayers nearly ½ billion dollars in subsidies paid to public lands ranchers. The cost to feed one cow and calf on public lands for one month is \$1.35. One can't afford to feed a mouse for a month at those costs.

Supporting this removal of horses include the National Cattlemen's Beef Association and the American Farm Bureau Federation, which pushed for slaughter of excess horses that compete for forage with livestock grazing on public lands. Also supporting the Path Forward are the following organizations who stand to benefit from the 21-million-dollar appropriation from Congress to administer the pesticide, PZP drug: ASPCA, HSUS, Return to Freedom and American Mustang Foundation.

While these organizations benefit with grants and funding from taxpayers that will eventually cause the demise of wild horses on public lands, we hope that the public will see through this terrible travesty and fund only organizations that do not advocate for removals and the use of PZP.



BLM Roundups are cruel. These are photos of Beautiful Woman Who Stands when she was captured in Colorado.



Fracking Linked to Rare Birth Defect in Horses

A study published recently in a science journal has linked contaminated water from fracking to birth defects in horses. This first-known study, seen in the May issue of *Science of the Total Environment*, focused on a Pennsylvania horse-breeding farm. The study coincides with research linking fracking to a myriad of health problems in humans, including pre-term births and high-risk pregnancies.

Pennsylvania is known for its tremendous beauty, mountains, and topography. It is also known for its richness in fossil fuels and most recently for its multitude of fracking operations. Pennsylvania has some lush pastures and is home to a number of horse farms. The owner of one such horse-breeding farm has operations in both Pennsylvania as well as New York.

In 2014 veterinarians at Cornell University Hospital for Animals in Ithaca, NY diagnosed 5 out of 10 foals born on this farm in Pennsylvania with a rare dysphagia causing milk to enter the trachea instead of the normal route from the esophagus to the stomach. This piqued their interest because none of the foals had a problem in the New York location. Also, this defect is so rare among the general population of horses that only one study could be found from a large university's neonatal intensive care and only five cases in over 1,000 hospitalized foals.

The Cornell researchers found there were 28 fracking wells within seven miles of the Pennsylvania farm. Two of the wells were within 1,500 feet of the property's two water wells.

Over the next two years, researchers analyzed samples of feed, soil, air, and water at both farms along with blood and tissue samples from the mares and foals at both farms. During that time, 65 foals were born and 17 of them had dysphagia and all were from the PA farm. The only difference in the analyzed samples was the water. The researchers found four kinds of polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) — chemicals commonly used in fracking in the water at very high levels in the PA farm that weren't seen at those levels in the NY farm.

The farmer installed a water filtration system which brought the PAHs down to a very low level which ultimately reduced the rate of this rare defect. Cornell researchers believe that more research is needed to evaluate the toxicity of those chemicals at the levels they observed.

As we see with our wild horses, they are often the “canary in the coal mine,” noting potential problems that could affect the human population as did these Pennsylvania horses. We believe that one of the many reasons to rush to remove wild horses and burros from their rightful lands is to prevent any investigations into deaths of wild horses and burros required by law if they were to die from the environmental toxins from oil and gas drilling.

(There are many more instances of cattle succumbing to the ill effects of fracking throughout the United States.)



Lasting Memories in Our Garden of Hope

Obituaries

A gift to the wild horses and burros in your will or trust will help ensure the safeguarding of their future. Your name will be displayed at the Garden of Hope at our Heritage Center. We are extremely grateful to all of our members who have notified us of their intent to remember our wild horses and burros.



Remembering Dr. Betty L. Kelly, co-founder of Wild Horse Spirit

We are sad to say goodbye to a very accomplished physician and protector of wild horses, Betty Kelly, who died on May 26, 2019. Betty was a wonderful supporter of ISPMB and many other wild horse causes. She was a pediatric neonatologist located in Reno, Nevada. During the 1990s, living in Hidden Valley and semi-retired, Betty co-founded Wild Horse Spirit along with Bobbi Royle who continues to run the organization, a wild horse advocacy group that rescues and cares for many wild horses. Betty was an avid wild horse photographer and dedicated her life to helping animals and people. She will be sadly missed.



Remembering Samuel Jacob Willmott, grandson of ISPMB's president Karen Sussman

Sammy spent many vacations with his older sisters coming to South Dakota to visit his Gramma at ISPMB's wild horse ranch. Although under age, like so many farm boys, he did learn to drive the tractor. He loved to play games, hike, and explore the fossil fields while visiting the horses. He was an avid bicyclist in Scottsdale and loved working on cars. He was able to drive the back roads of South Dakota before he even had a driver's license. He also fell in love with his kitten, Gracie, whom he adopted from Gramma's barn. It was love at first sight and soon they became soulmates. While we never expect to lose a sweet child just 16 years of age, Sammy reminds us how every day on this earth is sacred, especially the moments we have with loved ones. He will be dearly missed.

Remembering Noland Thuss

ISPMB met Noland on a retreat in the Black Hills organized by Zen Peacemakers Organization whose members visited our ranch in 2016. After a tour of our horses, Noland and his partner, Min Zaw Oo, adopted two of ISPMB's horses and transported them to North Carolina where they resided until Noland's death this year. Noland traveled through many Asian countries to learn Buddhism and together Min and Noland organized many Buddhist retreats in Thailand and the United States. He was a kind-hearted, gentle soul who would help anyone at a moment's notice.

Spirit of the Ancients

Sponsorship Program

ISPMB manages an extremely rare Spanish herd of wild horses.
Your sponsorship will help us keep them running free!

Become a part of the sponsorship program with the International Society for the Protection of Mustangs and Burros (ISPMB), the oldest wild horse and burro organization in the United States.
Your sponsorship helps with the care of our Gila herd and supports ISPMB's conservation goals.



Sponsor a Wild Horse \$150/year

Sponsor a harem stallion, mare, foal, bachelor or stallion and receive a certificate with a photo of your horse and the history of the Gila Herd.



Sponsor a Mare and Foal \$500/year

Sponsor this beautiful mare and her foal showing their close bond and follow them as the foal grows. Receive a certificate with their photo. This makes a wonderful gift that someone you love is sure to cherish.



Sponsor a Wild Horse Band \$1,000/year

Receive a certificate featuring a unique band from the Gila herd. You'll also receive an 8x10" colored photo along with the herd's history.



Sponsor a Wild Horse Herd \$5,000/year

Receive a certificate, an 8x10" colored photo and a three-day vacation viewing, photographing and interacting with the herds. Your name will be inscribed on our donor wall as a founding member of our International Wild Horse and Burro Heritage Center.

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SPONSORSHIP PAGE

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Mission Accomplished!

(continued from p2)

Amber's mother Beautiful Woman Who Stands

In my 40 years of experience with wild horses and the trauma that many have suffered under the BLM program, there is no doubt that many suffer from PTSD.

Amber, on the other hand, looks just like her mother and is as sweet as ever. She has bonded well to her group of mares that are in a pasture all to themselves. Not only has she bonded but she has taken on the role of "protector" and keeps her cohorts from any danger. Being a descendent of a Sand Wash mare and Gila stallion, she carries all the positive attributes of both.

After her long journey back home, she came off the van and ran toward her family frolicking and whinnying for joy. She is at home forever now with a new role to play in her young future.

She will be that great ambassador at our Center as visitors stroll by and learn the story of America's wild horses. Yes, she will be a great teacher.

Thank you again to so many of you who donated and helped us pay for their transportation back to their forever home. We know this pandemic has caused financial hardships for so many people including non-profits.

Why the National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Should End

(continued from p2)

The grand jury foreman in the investigation wanted to bring criminal indictments against officials of the BLM, but the case was closed down in July of 1996 after federal officials outside the investigation intervened. Had the investigation been able to continue and not squashed, there would have been more than ten high-ranking BLM officials in Washington, D.C. that would have been charged with obstruction of justice which carried a five-year prison term.

After the investigation closed, Alia Ludlum was promoted to a federal magistrate judge at the courthouse in Del Rio which serves West Texas.

Now you know the story behind the perpetual board and how it is designed to cover for the BLM's corruption and destroy the wild horse and burro program. There have been no real accomplishments for the horses and burros in these past 23 years of this board's service. Every two years new members filter onto this board, staggered over that time. The board is fixated on the overpopulation of wild horses and burros and their need to be controlled which has been a message perpetuated by the BLM. That means sterilizations, removals, and giving them a poisonous birth control that destroys the true nature of wild horses. The board has lost its true meaning since the days when all three of ISPMB's presidents once served on it.



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\$5 Carrots for one horse

\$10 Small bale of hay for one horse

\$20 Senior feed for our elders

\$90 Large bale of hay*

\$150 Sponsor a horse for a year

\$500 Sponsor a mare and foal for a year

\$1,000 Sponsor a band for a year

\$5,000 Sponsor a herd for a year

\$35,000 ... Feed Gila herd for a year**

*Feeds an average horse for approximately a month

**Become a lifetime member of ISPMB