

ISPMB
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2022
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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PO Box 435, Rapid City, SD 57709
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Let's Act to Save the Alpine 'Wild' Horses

They are not 'livestock' and should be protected under the federal law

What does it take today to effect change in our global world? We no longer live isolated in countries, states, communities or within family circles. Every action creates a reaction. Those reactions are national and global and then become individual actions maybe saving "threatened" species. And for those who cradle a threatened species in our hearts, the question is: how many of us are *taking action* when it comes to saving the very last of America's wild horses and burros?

Maybe we should define an action by remembering that every form of energy helps to change the trajectory of the action. Action comes in all forms including writing letters, becoming educated on key issues, speaking out, volunteering, and financial support.

For ISPMB, this meant being the only organization to take legal action against the Forest Service in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest to save nearly 200-plus Alpine wild horses.

Our key action was to stop the potential slaughter of these ancient animals that have lived in this forest for hundreds of years. These wild horses existed there before any white settlers claimed the lands and brought millions of non-native cattle to this area.

It is thought that these horses existing in the forest today are descendants of the horses that the 16th-century Spanish explorer, Vazquez de Coronado, and his co-conquerors, rode in their search for the Seven Golden Cities marching from Mexico to Canada in 1540. During this time, they violently clashed with the native peoples in their search for gold.

Regardless, whether they are of Spanish origin or not, they should have been protected under the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act and were not. The FS claimed these animals as unauthorized livestock, meaning they did not fall under the purview of the Act.

We know otherwise because the star witness in our case against the FS, one who would know, told ISPMB president Karen Sussman first-hand that these animals were here before the witness's family settled in Alpine in 1882. Our witness attested to this, taking a very vital action. This action catapulted ISPMB and its dedicated attorneys, the FR Law Group, into continuing proceedings against the FS. It wasn't until this action gained awareness by the opposition that several forces came down on this very important witness who really wanted to save these ancient horses. The witness, due to intense pressure, backed down.

Due to rising costs and what appeared as an insurmountable mountain to climb fighting the FS, we finally agreed that we would dismiss our lawsuit. Heartbreaking as that was to all of us at ISPMB, we appreciate so much the actions of our two attorneys, Troy Froderman and Rita Gara, who committed hours and hours of their time and service to these magnificent horses, sometimes at no charge.



Looking back at how actions effect change, no other organizations called ISPMB to offer funding assistance that would have prolonged our lawsuit.

Those who did effect change were our dedicated donors, all of you, who contributed to help us continue with this extremely important lawsuit, and those smaller groups who do not have funding but gave us their time and energy to assist in every way possible.

Yes, not everyone has the ability to file a lawsuit against a federal agency without millions of dollars behind them, but each and every one of us can contribute in some small way.

Now, ISPMB marches onward to our ongoing efforts to save the Heber herd located on the western side of the forest. They are the counterparts to the Alpine horses located on the eastern side of this 2-million-acre national forest.

We are calling each and every one of you to action. Whether that is calling or writing to your Congresspeople or other government officials or contributing to ISPMB financially or in volunteering.

YOUR action will stop the extermination of YOUR wild horses on YOUR public lands. ■

Massacre of the Alpine Wild Horses

Since ISPMB filed its lawsuit against the Forest Service in June, more than 25 wild Alpine horses have been shot by an unknown single assailant or multiple ones. It is estimated that 13 additional horses are missing. While the FS and law enforcement agencies are conducting an "investigation," of course no leads have come forth in the horses' brutal deaths. Some of the horses are still walking the forest with gaping wounds in their jaws and other places. The wound-strikes appear strategically marked, alluding to the possibility of professional killers. Shot between their eyes or in their gut, which is how many wild horses have died over the last 50 years of the Act.

We might say that it is rare that there are any convictions of the killers who have so frequently perpetrated their acts of cruelty on our national treasures since 1971.

In the early 1990s, ISPMB was the instrumental force in creating how fines for killing wild horses and burros were structured, notably changed from \$2,000 per animal to \$100,000 per animal. This was done by BLM's own law enforcement agents through the Sentencing Reform Act of 1988 before they themselves were ousted from the agency after filing charges against BLM employees, who allegedly were selling the animals they were supposed to protect to slaughter. Yet, the fee-change has been downplayed by the BLM and FS (Agencies) in every advertisement of any crime against our wild horses and burros. They still list \$2,000/each animal killed.

More than 38 wild Heber horses have been heartlessly shot and, again, no convictions.

ISPMB will again take action soon to stop the removal of these historic horses. We will need your help, your action. ■



First Sale of Alpine Wild Horses *Held August 10*



While ISPMB stopped the first sale of horses scheduled for July 12, 20 and 21, due to the judge's partial restraining order against the Forest Service, we were unable to stop the August sale in which 18 horses were sold to the highest bidder. This, of course, means without federal protection, they can be sold for slaughter and trucked usually to Mexico.

ISPMB had several informants at the auction who related that there was a force of 17 law enforcement agents who were armed and ready for action. One had to get a bidder's ticket for the sale giving personal information to the contractor handling the sale. Absolutely no photographs were allowed in the arena area where the horses were located or for that fact in any area where the FS or other agents were. Cameras would have been confiscated.

One mare that had a young foal and a yearling at her side was about to be loaded and she crashed through a gate breaking her neck. It was obvious that those who were loading these animals had literally no experience in loading wild horses. To prevent horses crashing through gates, colorful orange netting must be draped over the areas where horses must stop; otherwise, horses simply don't see the fencing rails.

Our informants watched in horror as this beautiful mare took her last breath, no doubt severing her cervical spine located behind her ears. We were pleased that the foals were taken by another group there who adopted ten of the horses.

Then there were the young bachelors that they tried to load in a big stock trailer (those used to take large numbers of horses to slaughter). They simply released them in the huge arena where they kept running in circles in a frenzy creating the highest of anxiety. This was no way to load wild animals. There was no loading chute guiding them to move right into the trailer.

Then imagine the next step in these young bachelors' lives. No doubt a long frightening ride to Mexico provided they were being sold for meat. Then the horrific anxiety of walking the plank at the kill place, trembling, as their throats were slit and they bled to death.

Yes, when we talked about action and reactions in our previous article, this is what sadly happens when ALL of us are not engaged in action. The Alpines will now be wiped from existence. ■



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**.



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.



JOIN OUR SPIRIT OF THE ANCIENTS SPONSORSHIP PROGRAM. TO DONATE:

SPONSORSHIP PAGE

<https://ispmb.org/sponsor-a-horse/>

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Heber Herd *Update*

A recap for our new readers and a reminder to our current readership, saving the Heber horses is critical to the future of all wild horses and burros on public lands. ISPMB has asked all of our readers to write or call Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack, who oversees the Forest Service. He just must make this Heber herd a “study” herd for the next 7 to 10 years. Under Section 10 of the 1971 Act, the Secretary of Agriculture or the Secretary of the Interior *“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 provision of this Act.”*

ISPMB has had over 20 years of observing wild horse herd behaviors from its own herds and we know that stable family bands actually limit their own populations. That means that every time the Agencies round up wild horses, they are destroying the very fabric of the highly-evolved social orders.

This same behavior of stable bands is well-noted in the Heber herd, which has not been rounded up since before 2005 when ISPMB filed suit against the Forest Service. Stopping the removal of these animals has allowed for a very stable growth showing less than 3 percent annual growth.

Compare this to the Agencies which always tout a 20 percent yearly growth and doubling of populations every four years.

If that were the case among the Heber horses, there should be 4,800 wild horses in the forest when the actual count was 414 animals in 2021.

Remember that this is the LAST untouched herd left on public lands and must be studied. Once this herd is disrupted—as the FS plans to do in January 2023—there will be no evidence left to show that undisrupted herds self-limit their populations.

If you were a betting person, what do you think the FS is going to do? Will you take ACTION? ■



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Take Action on the Heber Herd

Please Write to Secretary Vilsack



Address your letter to:

The Honorable Secretary Tom Vilsack
1400 Independence Ave. S.W. Ste 200A
Washington, D.C. 20250 or call 202-720-3631

1. We are asking that you declare the Heber herd in northern Arizona in the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest a "study" herd with your authority in Section 10 of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act.
2. The National Academy of Sciences recommended a 7 to 10-year study in 1980-1982 to understand the behaviors of these wild horses and burros.
3. Your Agency, the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management decided not to do this study and stated the following in 1984: *"The most pressing question concerning future research for the Agencies is whether the benefits of increased knowledge and efficiency will justify the costs."*
4. The Heber herd has cost the Forest Service very little over the past 18 years and the herd remains stable and intact. This herd is doing a great job at reseeding the forest after the big fire in 2005.
 - There were 300-400 wild horses in 2005, and in 2021, there were only 414 horses, which is less than a 3% growth.
 - According to your Agencies' miscalculated data of a 20% annual growth that they use, there now should be 4,800 wild horses in the forest.
5. The yearly costs of removing wild horses from their rightful land, separating them from their families, and storing them in privately-owned pastures has cost taxpayers \$77 million dollar annually. *Certainly, the study that should have been done in 1982 and onward would have saved taxpayers millions and millions of dollars and would have saved the herds.*
6. Finally, is this not the administration that believes in science guiding your decisions? Then this study will TRANSFORM how wild horses should be managed.

In writing or calling, you are taking action that might just save these magnificent forest horses. And remember, there is power in numbers. ■



PLEASE WRITE TO YOUR CONGRESSPEOPLE

1. Ask that Congress appropriate funding to study the Heber herd residing in the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest in northern Arizona.
2. State that this study must be done, not by the FS or the BLM, but by independent scientists who are well-versed in wild horse ecology and behaviors of equids from around the world.
3. Ask that there is a moratorium on removals to allow the band structures within the herds to stabilize once again.
4. Demand that the Agencies stop using birth control of any kind which permanently sterilizes horses within three consecutive years of use.
5. Repeat points 2-6 in the above-mentioned letter to Secretary Vilsack.



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What Do You Know about the Agencies Mandated to Protect Our Wild Horses and Burros?

It's Time For An Education: In Knowing, There Is Power

The Agencies never wanted to manage for wild horses and burros because the culture of many of their long-standing employees was and continues to be a culture of those in ranching and livestock grazing. Livestock grazing is the main competitor to the survival of wild horses and burros on their rightful lands.

In the Apache-Sitgreaves Forest, many of the Forest Service employees have family, or are themselves, permitted livestock grazers in the forest.

The BLM was previously known as the Grazing Service. During the 1930s, the Grazing Service ordered the extermination of tens of thousands of wild horses. This policy lasted nearly 30 years resulting in the near eradication of wild horses in the West.

Yet, it was these Agencies put in charge of our wild horses and burros in 1971 which our first president, Wild Horse Annie, railed against. She wanted the Park Service to be the managers.

However, at that time, the Agencies termed our National Heritage Species as “feral” and non-native to our continent which disqualified them for the Park Service. This was far from the truth as we know that wild horses are native to the North American continent and did not die out until 5,000 years before Columbus. We expect these stats to change as the permafrost continues to melt in the Yukon. Then there is even the possibility that they never died out at all, according to the Native peoples on our continent. For in their songs, they sing about the horses being ever-present.

Not only do the Agencies have ties to livestock grazing but many of our Senators do too. At one time 36 senators were associated with livestock producing making Congress a huge obstacle for wild horses and burros.

The last thing to remember is that cultures do not change rapidly, if at all. This ranching culture permeates the Agencies who make decisions that are unfavorable to wild horses and burros—and the majority of these decisions have been illegal. ■



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If You Repeat a Lie Enough, *It Is Believed to be True*

For the past 30 years the Agencies developed a marketing strategy that would eventually eliminate wild horses and burros from their lands that were legally mandated by the people and Congress in 1971. This was insidious in the beginning but now it is blatant and accepted widespread by the competitors for public lands, like wildlife, hunting, game and fish interests, and on and on.

This lie is that wild horses double every four years and grow at a rate of 20 percent yearly. The Agencies have no idea how many animals they have on public lands. They use this misguided computer model which the National Academy of Sciences warned against using in 1980. The 20 percent growth rate DOES NOT include deaths. The more likely growth figures were well under 10 percent as suggested by the Academy.

The Agencies frighten the public by saying that by 2030 there will be over one million wild horses on public lands. It sounds as if they reproduce like rabbits. The Agencies have picked an arbitrary number of 26,715 animals that the lands can sustain, which is another outright lie and illegal.

This is why the Heber herd must be studied because it defies the Agencies' growth-data model. It appears as no one has questioned this model except for ISPMB.

ISPMB has first-hand experience in managing wild herds for over 20 years. It is the Agencies' lack of understanding of these animals as wildlife species, managing them as domestic livestock, that is actually pushing our wild horses to the brink of extinction. ■

Stable family bands limit their own herd size. Stable means not interrupted by roundups or injected with birth control.



50,000 Wild Horses *Should Never Have Been Removed...*

...and Those Few Remaining are Given Unnecessary Birth Control

The continued onslaught of removals of wild horses by the Agencies continues with literally no opposition from nearly all groups that advocate and collect funding from the public while purporting to save wild horses. (There are 50,000 wild horses languishing in holding pastures that should be on public lands with their families.)

In fact, many of these groups have bought into the lie that wild horses reproduce rapidly and need birth control. How would they know because they only have the statistics from the Agencies fraught with deception and lies?

Then there are those groups who advocate that wild horses will never have to be removed if given this pesticide (EPA registers these birth control drugs as pesticides, which they are—toxic to the horse and to the environment.) Yet, there is rarely a herd that isn't removed after receiving a lot of birth control, such as the Colorado horses.

Even so, ISPMB has been speaking for several years now about the Heber herd that shows that stable band structures in the herd actually limits their growth! This is what the 1971 law declared when it mandated "minimal feasible management."

We must finally ask why these humane and wild horse groups don't come on board with ISPMB? Could it really be that these groups stand to gain millions of dollars in Congressional appropriations to administer this toxic drug to wild horses that will cause permanent infertility in just three years of consecutive use? Last year, \$11 million was appropriated by Congress for the use of birth control. Groups are literally begging the FS to dart wild horses with these poisonous drugs as if this will really save wild horses. What it is doing, along with massive removals, is leading down the path to their eventual elimination – extermination – extinction.

ISPMB is on the road "less-traveled" now and our voice must be heard. We are the lone organization speaking in the wilderness.

What action are you going to take and what group will you support? Will it be those that are leading wild horses to extinction under the guise of "saving" them? Or will it be those who speak the truth, as ISPMB has done? ■

In 2005, 300 to 400 Heber wild horses lived in the Apache Sitgreaves National Forest. In 2021, there were 414 horses, less than a 3% growth. The Agencies miscalculate that wild horses have a 20% annual growth rate; if so, 4,800 wild horses would be living in the Forest. This is why ISPMB keeps calling for a study of this historical herd.



President's REPORT

By Karen A. Sussman

How horse-herd knowledge directs our urgent campaign

Following in the footsteps of my predecessors has been a real task walking in their moccasins. One aspect of wild horses that both Wild Horse Annie, our first president, and her faithful secretary, Helen Reilly, our second president, never had the opportunity to do, was to study wild horse herds.

In 2,000 I realized that working together with all the groups involved at that time still was not leading to saving our wild horses from capture and removals by the Agencies. It was then that I set course, the beginning of understanding wild horse behaviors in herds and accepting entire herds. This, I was sure, would set me on the course to ultimately saving our wild horses.

Every day was an adventure in learning. We were blessed to have two herds that hadn't been rounded up in 25 to 50 years, giving me a great baseline of knowledge in healthy functional herds

I began riding ponies and horses when I was four years old. I was taught to ride without a saddle and just feeling the power and strength of these animals beneath me was exhilarating. As I grew, my knowledge grew and I began to show horses with some of the top trainers in the United States. They happened to be Quarter Horses.

It was then when I adopted my first wild horse in 1981 that truly transformed my life. This horse was like no other. This horse was filled with expression and life untampered or suppressed by trainers. My eyes were open to the spirit and love of life by these "born wild" steeds.

I was told by the Agencies that one cannot do anything with an older wild horse. That is when I adopted my second beloved horse who was ten years of age and was the actual band stallion. He also became one of the most trustworthy horses I have ever had. We were shown in Steven Spielberg's ad for his movie "Spirit."

Each learning I had disputed what the Agencies were telling me.

As an ICU nurse and a pre-collegiate piano teacher and mother of two wonderful girls, I began my quest into saving wild horses and burros. After investigating the organizations at that time (only four), I chose to commit my life to ISPMB. There was no need for me to start another organization. However, now there is a plethora of groups.

In Arizona, we started the first rescue program that saved over 100 wild horses and burros in the state preventing them from being slaughtered when they were sold at auction. This program was so successful that from 1995 to 2000, not one wild horse or burro was sold for slaughter in the state of Arizona. We bought every one!

How did we do that with such a success rate? I became friends with the biggest kill buyer in the state. I never attended an auction because this buyer bought all of our horses at the cheapest cost ever and then we reimbursed him. *(continued)*

President's Report (continued)

Finally, the buyer would tell people, "Just donate your horse because this woman will buy it anyway."

In 2000, the opportunity came to move to South Dakota with our first wild herd. There hasn't been a day gone by that I don't learn something about the interactions of these grand animals.

I don't consider myself an expert because I know these animals still have so much more to teach me. I realize, however, that armed with all of the knowledge I now have, I must get to Congressional people who can make a difference for our wild horses. I am working on this at the present time.

Committing to preserving and protecting wild horses and burros has been my direct action. I am honored to give of my volunteered time because this hopefully will effect change.

I hope you will help me by spreading the word about making the Heber Herd a study herd. The truth must win out! This is the only way that we are going to create change—and change we must—before it is too late.

Your support is vital,



Karen A. Sussman
President, ISPMB



Colorado Herds Decimated

As we reported about the total zeroing out of the 400 wild horses in the West Douglas herd located in northwestern Colorado in our last newsletter, we can now report more than 1,850 of the state's wild horses have been removed in just three roundups.

With the removal the Piceance Basin horses recently, 75 percent of Colorado's wild horse population has been removed in just one year. Removals were made in the Sand Wash Basin and West Piceance in the past year.

The Agencies are on target to reduce populations far below what populations were in 1974. That count was nearly 60,000 wild horses and burros. The Agencies plan to reduce horse numbers to 26,715.

Not only is band destabilization happening to our herds but another factor is the loss of genetic diversity and then the continuation of the use of birth control on the remaining animals which causes ovarian dysfunction and more loss of diversity.

These captured Colorado horses are transported to Canon City where there is continual overcrowding and a recent outbreak of equine influenza A which killed over 145 horses there recently.

Our horses are under the care of those whose desire is to rid the landscape of wild horses.

Our voices must be heard. Will you take ACTION and help? ■



DO A FACEBOOK FUNDRAISER FOR ISPMB

A great opportunity to increase giving to International Society for the Protection of Mustang and Burros is with a Facebook Fundraiser.

Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/fund/ISPMB>

Safeguarding *their* FUTURE

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.

GIFT AN ACRE OF LAND \$2,500

Gifting an Acre of Land assures that our wild horses will be running free and assures your name will be inscribed on our donor wall as a founding member of the International Wild Horse and Burro Heritage CENTER.



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Chincoteague Ponies

Origins Verified

The origin story of the famous ponies located in Virginia's Chincoteague Island can now be authenticated. Locals have always claimed that these ponies are descendants from horses that swam ashore from a sinking Spanish galleon somewhere around 1750.

Then those who denigrate wild horses say they are just from progeny of domestic stock that were either turned loose or ran away.

With no documentation of the lost Spanish ship, the debate was always in the air. But recently, and with the advent of DNA, a preserved fossilized tooth was found 1200 miles away in the Caribbean which could lend credibility to the shipwreck.

According to Nicolas Delsol, a zooarchaeologist at the University of Florida, both the Caribbean horse and the Chincoteague ponies share an evolutionary lineage that originated in the Bronze Age in Spain.

Delsol came across a 450-year-old shard of a horse tooth at the early Spanish colony called Puerto Real. Founded in 1503, just ten years after Columbus reached the Caribbean, Puerto Real was a prominent ranching area where Spanish horses were imported to herd the large cattle herd in this area.

The tooth yielded an extraordinary amount of genetic information. This enabled Delsol and his team to sequence a complete mitochondrial genome - the earliest "mitogenome" from a domesticated horse in the Western Hemisphere.

They compared the Puerto Real horse's mitogenome with a comprehensive analysis of more than 80 mitochondrial genomes of horse populations around the world. The closest relative was the Chincoteague pony.



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The Chincoteague ponies were made famous when author, Marguerite Henry, wrote her 1947 novel, *Misty of Chincoteague*.

The Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company, which owns the prized herd, maintains the number of ponies on the windswept island at approximately 150. Each year the ponies swim from nearby Assateague Island to the shore where the fire company auctions them off to the public. They average about 50 to 60 ponies auctioned each year, with some going as high as \$28,000.

It appears very likely now that these animals did come from a shipwreck as the island itself sits at a treacherous stretch of the mid-Atlantic, crisscrossed by hazardous shoals, according to Delsol.

Knowing their lineage makes them evermore priceless. ■



World's Oldest Genome *and the Przewalski Horse*

Understanding this science of DNA sheds a light on our past and actually connects it to our future as related in the Chincoteague article.

Samples from a horse leg bone more than 700,000 years old have now yielded the oldest full genome to date. Up to this time, the oldest full genome came from the mastodon and polar bear fossils which were about 50,000 to 110,000 years old.

Ludovic Orlando, an evolutionary geneticist with the Natural History Museum of Denmark at the University of Copenhagen, believes there may be the ability to go further back in time in genomic testing.

The Pleistocene horse genome Orlando and colleagues pieced together helped them determine that the ancestor to the Equus lineage—the group that gave rise to modern horses, zebras, and donkeys—arose 4 to 4.5 million years ago, or about 2 million years earlier than previously thought.

The ancient horse genome also allowed the team to determine the evolutionary relationship between modern domestic horses and the endangered Przewalski's horse, a native to the Mongolian steppes that represents the last living breed of wild horse.

The team found that Przewalski's horses were an offshoot of the lineage that gave rise to domestic horses. The two groups diverged around 50,000 years ago.

The six-inch (15-centimeter) horse leg bone the team analyzed originated in the Yukon Territory of western Canada. Permafrost kept the remains in a kind of cold storage for about 735,000 years until scientists dug it out in 2003.

Orlando believes that cold is good for the preservation of the DNA samples. Studies on the half-life of DNA suggest that even under ideal circumstances, DNA sequences older than 1.5 million years will be too short to be readable. So, it's highly unlikely that DNA will be recovered from dinosaurs, since they disappeared 65 million years ago, except for the lineage leading to modern birds. ■



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Ukraine Przewalski Horses *at Chernobyl*



Due to the ongoing war in Ukraine, we still don't have an update about the welfare of the Przewalski horses who roam wild at the nuclear contamination site at Chernobyl. The site in northern Ukraine is uninhabitable by humans but is home to wildlife including wolf and these rare Mongolian horses. When we have an update, we will let everyone know.

We do know that, in 2021, the National Bank entered into circulation a coin with the image of these rare wild horses. The coin was dedicated to the symbol of the revival of wildlife, the iconic animal of the reserve, the Przewalski horse.

This specie of horse has survived to this day in its original form and is truly a wild horse that has never been domesticated. ■



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Lasting Memories *in Our Garden of Hope*

We honor and cherish the memories of our donors who have remembered us in their wills. It is because of their dedication and commitment to our efforts to save the last of America's wild horses and burros that we will forever remember them in our Garden of Hope. We know this year has been especially hard on so many of our members due to the COVID virus. We wish everyone good health as we slowly climb out of this pandemic which has affected so many people's lives.

**YOUR DONATION WILL HELP ISPMB IN OUR CONTINUING EFFORTS
TO SAVE AMERICA'S WILD HORSES AND BURROS.**

Your donations are so important to ISPMB. In an effort to be as efficient as we can with your contribution, we will not acknowledge any donation under \$5.00 with a receipt.

Your support is critical

to the future of all wild horses and burros in our country. Please help us in our fight to bring the truth forward that there is no overpopulation of wild horses and transform how these animals are managed on public lands.

We are so grateful for your support.



Your Generosity Helps the Horses!

WE CAN PUT ANY SIZE DONATION TO WORK:

\$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*