



JUNE 2019

# FACTS

## AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

### *New Wild Horse Deal*

Program offers cash for adoptions

### *Oregon Wild Horse Wins!*

Mare and trainer win Texas expo

### *Wild Horse Partner Kudos*

Nonprofit key to finding good homes

The Bureau of Land Management Oregon & Washington



# Adopt a Wild Horse, Earn \$\$

The new incentive program offers up to \$1,000 for qualified adoptions

**Fact:**

83,000 wild horses live on public land in the U.S.

**Fact:**

The BLM estimates there is space for 27,000.

Thousands of visitors to state expos in the Pacific Northwest told BLM wild horse and burro staffers what they are most excited about: The new \$1,000 incentive adoption program.

The program began in March and attendees to the Northwest Horse Fair & Expo in Albany, Oregon, and the Washington State Expo in Ridgefield, were eager to learn more about how it all works.

“Visitors to our booth were really receptive to this new aspect of the adoption program,” said Derek Hammer, wild horse wrangler at the BLM Burns District Office. “Many had heard about it through social media and were excited to hear it was real and that they could begin taking advantage of it immediately.”

Through the program, qualified adopters are eligible to receive \$500 within 60 days of adoption and an additional \$500 within 60 days of titling for each animal, which normally occurs one year from the adoption date. The incentive is available for all untrained animals that are eligible for adoption, including animals at BLM facilities, off-site events, or on the agency’s corral website.

Managers hope the new incentive will help confront the growing overpopulation of wild horses and burros on fragile rangelands and in off-range holding facilities, which cost taxpayers nearly \$50 million every year to maintain.

Additional information about the new incentive program is available at [wildhorsesonline.blm.gov](http://wildhorsesonline.blm.gov).

## Oregon Wild Horse is No. 1!

Cold Springs mare won first prize at Mustang Magic

**Fact:**

4,200 wild horses live on Oregon public land.

**Fact:**

The BLM manages 18 distinct herds in Oregon.

An Oregon wild horse from the Cold Springs Herd won a recent competition in Texas hosted by the Mustang Heritage Foundation.

The Mustang Magic event at the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo teamed horses and trainers together in competition for \$10,000 in cash and prizes.

Trainers had 100 days to gentle their wild horse and prepare for the show. After the finale, all the horses were sold at auction.

Luke Castro rode his 6-year-old sorrel mare from Oregon to the first place finish with 168 points. All of the other wild horses in the competition were from Utah and Wyoming.

The trained mustang from Oregon, named Maybe Shez Gold, sold for \$2,100 at auction and now lives in central Texas.

As of a 2016 BLM population estimate, there were 230 horses on the Cold Springs Herd Management Area in southeast Oregon. That HMA is big enough to sustain approximately 75 to 150 horses.

The HMA is located approximately 25 miles southwest of Harper, Oregon, near Star Mountain.

This herd originated from the offspring of horses that escaped from homesteaders, ranchers and farmers in the area.







# BLM Thanks Wild Horse Partner Foundation

The Mustang Heritage Foundation teamed with BLM in 2007

The Bureau of Land Management recently recognized the Mustang Heritage Foundation for their incredible work since 2007.

It is estimated that the nonprofit foundation and BLM partner is responsible for placing more than 11,000 wild horses and burros into good homes.

“The Mustang Heritage Foundation’s commitment and contribution is a testament to the positive impact a committed, successful partner can provide the program,” said BLM Deputy Director Brian Steed. “We’re grateful for all the group’s help and support in finding good homes for the animals.”

The primary mission of MHF is to create and promote programs and activities that elevate the image, trainability, and placement of wild horses

and burros, while educating the public about the program.

The BLM manages and protects wild horses and burros under the authority of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. As of last year, the wild horse and burro population on public lands was estimated at approximately 81,950 animals, which is now more than triple the size the land can support along with other legally mandated uses.

Chronic overpopulation increases the risk of damage to rangeland resources through overgrazing, and raises the chances of starvation and thirst for animals in overpopulated herds.

Learn more about the MHF online at [mustangheritagefoundation.org](http://mustangheritagefoundation.org).

## Fact:

MHF created Extreme Mustang Makeover.

## Fact:

3,866 wild horses adopted at those events.

## Fact:

The Beaty Butte Wild Horse Training Facility opened in 2016.

## Fact:

The nonprofit corral east of Lakeview can train 30 wild horses.



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