

BLM Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Meeting July 10-11, 2019 Recommendations

Present: Sue McDonnell, Barry Perryman, Celeste Carlisle, Fred Woehl, Jr., Dr. Tom Lenz, Jim French

1. Strongly encourage and recommend that the USDA Forest Service Chief and the BLM Director along with key USDA Forest Service and BLM staff meet within 90 days to discuss and resolve relevant issues and work together to jointly manage wild horses and burros on all designated lands.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.

2. Encourage and recommend that BLM develop and promote standardized training (e.g. Eastern States State Office pilot program) for all persons interested in volunteering to assist the Wild Horse and Burro Program.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.

3. Recommend that BLM/USDA Forest Service develop a programmatic NEPA document for the application of all safe and humane methods of fertility control.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.

4. Recommend that BLM/USDA Forest Service research and develop the appropriate programmatic NEPA document that covers management actions for wild horse and burro management that fall within the statutes and authorities of the Wild Horse and Burro Program.

Approved. Five in favor, one opposed, Ms. Carlisle.

5. In order to improve the health and adoptability of wild horses and burros, the Advisory Board strongly encourages the BLM/USDA Forest Service to provide desirable equine conformation education and training by experts to all field personnel.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.

6. Encourage and recommend that BLM/USDA Forest Service remove, sterilize prior to returning to the range, or euthanize animals with serious acquired, congenital or heritable physical defects.

Approved. Five in favor, one opposed, Ms. Carlisle.

7. The Advisory Board is forming a working group to include key BLM staff to analyze modern, state-of-the-art, low stress, stock-handling approaches to gathering and handling of wild horses and burros with a report to be presented at the October meeting. We recommend BLM appoint this staff and fund any meetings necessary.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.

8. We strongly encourage and recommend that BLM/USDA Forest Service review 43 CFR Subpart 4700 (Protection, Management, and Control of Wild and Free-Roaming Horses and Burros) and 36 CFR Subpart D (Management of Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros) and update where needed.

Approved. Vote was unanimous.