



# WILD HORSE AND BURRO PROGRAM

## Highlights from Fiscal Year 2018

The Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) Wild Horse and Burro Program continues to make progress toward the goal of managing healthy wild horses and burros on healthy public rangelands as required by the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act. With limited available management tools and a rapidly growing population, the BLM continues to seek innovative and humane solutions to put the Wild Horse and Burro Program back on a sustainable track.

### INCREASED GATHERS

# 11,000

 wild horses and burros

were removed by the BLM from more than **50 Herd Management Areas (HMA) and Herd Areas in FY18**, 3x more than the average of 3,500 over the previous five years.

 = 1,000 animals



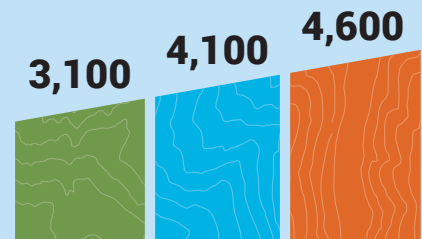
Average FY 2012 – 2017



FY 2018

### MORE GOOD HOMES

The BLM **continued to increase** the annual number of animals placed into private care through adoptions/sales.



FY 2016

FY 2017

FY 2018

### SLOWED ON-RANGE GROWTH

Due to increased removals, **population growth on the range slowed** from about **9,000 in FY17** to about **6,000 in FY18**.

FY 2017

**9,000 animals**

FY 2018

**6,000 animals**

An additional **4 HMAs** reached an **appropriate management level**.



Caitlin Martin with Flash Gordon; *Photo credit: BLM partner Beaty Butte Training Facility in Adel, Oregon*

# 1,500

 animals placed into **private care** with the help of BLM partners.

More than **100** adoption and sale events in FY18.



## REDUCED HOLDING COSTS

**\$1,000,000**  
taxpayer dollars saved

Despite a slight increase in the average off-range population, the **BLM transferred more animals from corrals to pastures**, saving taxpayer dollars.

## HELPING VETERANS



The BLM supported the launch of **Mission Mustang™** — a new pilot program in coordination with the non-profit organization EquiCenter — **focused on gentling wild horses and healing veterans.**

*Pictured to the left, Trooper and 1SG (Retired) Mark Hansen, U.S. Army, Iraq/Afghanistan*

The **first six wild horses** arrived at the center in 2018. 

## PUBLIC OFF-RANGE PASTURES

The BLM renewed contracts for **3 public off-range pastures**, and **added a fourth one.**



**Deerwood Ranch**  
Laramie, WY



**Mowdy Ranch**  
Coalgate, OK



**Svaty Ranch**  
Ellsworth, KS



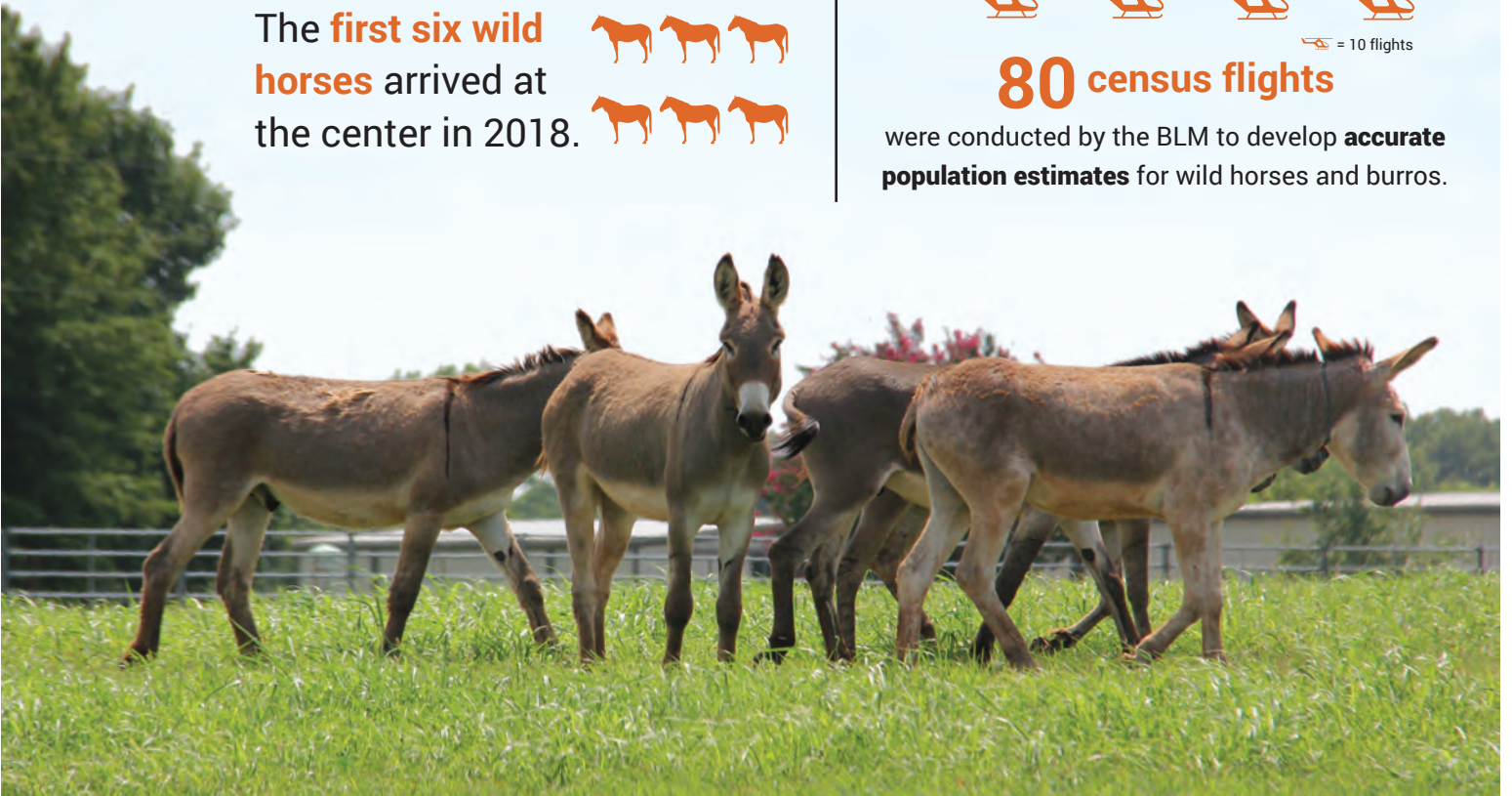
**Wind River Ranch**  
Lander, WY

## POPULATION ESTIMATES



**80 census flights**

were conducted by the BLM to develop **accurate population estimates** for wild horses and burros.



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Land Management  
Wild Horse and Burro Program

For more information, visit [BLM.gov/WHB](https://www.blm.gov/WHB)

or call (866) 468-7826 •    