

NATIONAL WILD HORSE & BURRO PROGRAM
MISSION STATEMENT

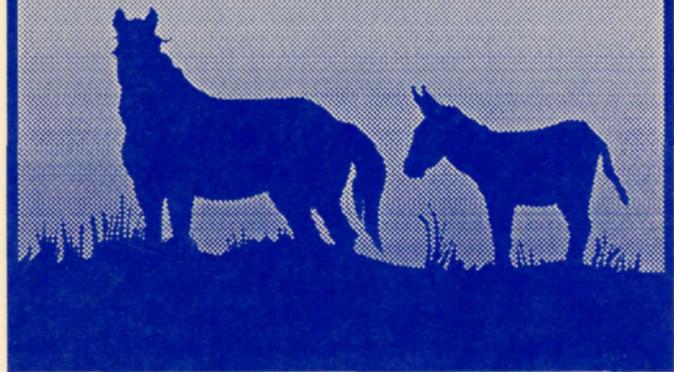
To affirm wild free-roaming
horses and burros
are a living legacy
of our American heritage,
ensuring that they are recognized
and maintained as
a part of the natural ecosystem
and are valued
for their biological, social,
and cultural attributes.



BLM MISSION STATEMENT

The BLM is responsible for the stewardship of our public lands. It is committed to manage, protect, and improve these lands in a manner to serve the needs of the American people for all times. Management is based on the principles of multiple use and sustained yield of our Nation's resources within a framework of environmental responsibility and scientific technology. These resources include recreation; rangelands; timber; minerals; watersheds; fish and wildlife; wilderness; air; and scenic, scientific and cultural values.

SO
YOU'D
LIKE
TO
ADOPT



AMERICA'S WILD HORSES & BURROS
ADOPT A LIVING LEGEND

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Photography by George McDonald; Denver, Colorado.



3. What kinds of wild horses and burros are available for adoption?

Wild horses are of no particular breed, but some exhibit characteristics associated with specific breeds. A typical wild horse stands about 14 to 15 hands (56-60") and weighs about 900 to 1,100 pounds. Horses are generally solid in color and predominantly sorrels, bays, or browns, although all colors occur. Horses offered for adoption range from several months to nine years of age. Most horses are five years or younger. Mares with unweaned foals, when available, are adopted together. Geldings are available at special locations, such as the prison training program facilities discussed in question 4, and occasionally at satellite adoptions.



Kiger Couger was gathered in eastern Oregon and now lives in California.

Burros average about 11 hands (44") and weigh about 500 pounds. They are usually gray in color, although brown and black animals may be available on occasion. Jacks and jennies of all ages are made available for adoption. As with horses, unweaned foals are adopted together with their mother.



4. How wild is a wild horse or burro?

When a wild horse or burro is offered for adoption it probably hasn't been more than 90 days since it was running in the wild. Therefore, they are not accustomed to people. With kindness and patience, they can be gentled and trained for many uses. Wild horses have become champions in dressage, barrel racing, jumping, endurance racing, and pleasure riding. They are best known for their sure footedness, strength, and endurance. Young animals gentle more quickly than older ones. Wild burros gentle quickly regardless of age.

The BLM cooperates with state prison systems in the west and midwest to halter and saddle train wild horses. Horses are available for adoption from these prison training facilities throughout the year. Most of these programs charge additional fees to cover their training costs. See pages 12 and 13 for locations.

5. How many wild horses and burros are available for adoption?

Between 6,000 and 8,000 horses and 500 to 1,000 burros are offered for adoption each year. The number of burros offered for adoption is much lower because the population and habitat of the wild burro is smaller.

6. What does it cost to adopt a wild horse or burro?

The adoption fee for each wild horse is \$125 and for each wild burro the fee is \$75. There is no adoption fee for unweaned foals if they are adopted with their mother. The adoption fee defrays the costs of gathers, medical treatment, transportation, and adoptions. Prison training programs often charge a fee which reimburses the state for gentling or saddle training the animal. Adopters are responsible for all costs following the adoption including recapture of escaped animals. Adoption fees are nonrefundable.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE
Interior

Bureau of Land Management
National Wild Horse and Burro Program
P.O. 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

Addendum to "So You'd Like to Adopt"

Due to new regulations taking effect March 7, 1997 concerning adoption fees charged for wild horses and burros, the following paragraph should be substituted for the information shown on page three, question six of the brochure "So You'd Like to Adopt".

6. What does it cost to adopt a wild horse or burro?

The adoption fee for each wild horse or burro is a minimum of \$125. Mares with unweaned foals are adopted for \$125 each. In addition, some adoptions may be conducted using a competitive bidding process. The adoption fee defrays the costs of gathers, medical treatment, transportation, and adoption. Prison training programs often charge a fee which reimburses the state for gentling or saddle training the animal. Adopters are responsible for all costs following the adoption including recapture of escaped animals. Adoption fees are nonrefundable.

For more information regarding regulation changes or to review the regulations, please visit our web site at <http://www.blm.gov/whb>. A link to adoption fee regulation changes has been established on the wild horse and burro home page.

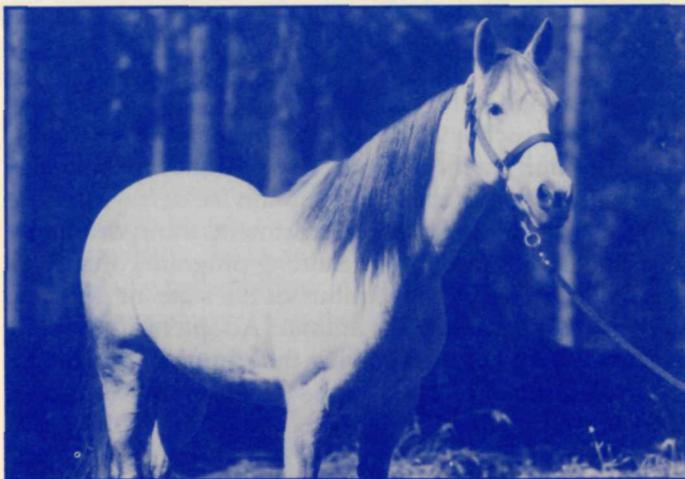
7. What does it cost to care for a wild horse or burro?

The annual cost of caring for a wild horse or burro can range from \$300 to \$1,000 or more depending on local costs and conditions. The adoption fee will be the smallest expense. Consider the following types of costs when figuring a "wild horse/burro budget":

| | | |
|---------------------|---------|-------------------|
| Stall/Corral rental | Feed | Medicine |
| Veterinarian | Tack | Training |
| Vaccinations | Shoeing | Salt/Supplements |
| Insecticides | Worming | Grooming Supplies |

8. Where can I learn more about horses or burros?

There is a wealth of reading and viewing material on wild horses and burros. Libraries, book stores, video stores, tack stores, and feed stores have books, pamphlets, and videos for sale, rent, or free for the asking. The local county extension office may be an excellent source of help. Popular books on horses include *The Wild Horse: An Adopters Manual* by Barbara Eustis-Cross and Nancy Bowker (1992. McMillan Publishing Company); *Horses: A Practical Approach* by Melvin Bradley (1981. McGraw-Hill Book Company); and *Horses and Horsemanship* by M.E. Ensminger (1977. The Interstate Printers and Publishers Inc.).



Mustang Lady is an endurance horse with an Olympic size heart. She lives near Boise, Idaho.

9. Where can I adopt a wild horse or burro?

Adoptions take place at locations across the United States. Some BLM locations, prison training program facilities, and BLM contract facilities have horses available year round. Adoptions also occur at satellite (temporary) adoption centers throughout the nation. Exact times and dates are available from the offices listed on pages 12 and 13.

10. Have the animals received medical care?

Every wild horse and burro offered for adoption is examined by a veterinarian. Each animal receives all necessary medical treatment, is tested for disease, immunized, and wormed. A record of the animal's medical history is given to each adopter.

Before you decide to adopt a wild animal, you should talk to local specialists and extension agents about horse care and training. Horse trainers can advise you about training needs and other considerations. A veterinarian will be able to provide you excellent advice on vaccinations, worming programs, diet, care of teeth and the other costs of caring for a horse or burro. A farrier can explain the cost of and requirements for foot care.

11. How many animals can I adopt?

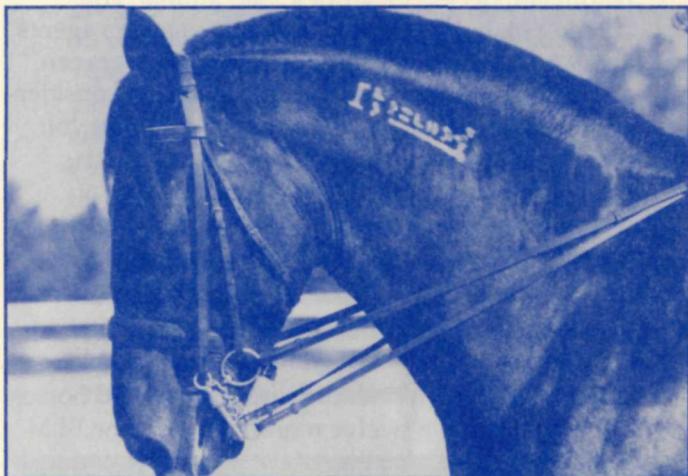
A qualified person can adopt up to four wild horses or burros within a twelve month period. The BLM can approve the adoption of more than four animals if the adopter can prove they have the facilities and the financial ability to humanely care for all animals. However, an adopter may not receive title to more than four animals within a twelve month period.



12. How can I qualify to adopt a wild horse or burro?

You must be at least 18 years old, be a resident of the United States, and have no convictions for inhumane treatment of animals. You must also have, or have arranged for, adequate facilities and the financial means to provide for the number of animals adopted. An individual who has expressed an intent to commercially exploit the wild nature of a wild horse or burro may not adopt a wild horse or burro.

Parents or guardians may adopt, then allow younger family members to care for the animal. Many young people have cared for and trained wild horses or burros as projects for 4-H, Future Farmers of America, county fairs, and scouts.



The freeze brand is clearly visible on the neck of J.B. Andrew, a champion dressage horse gathered in Nevada and now living in Colorado.

13. What facilities are required for a wild horse or burro?

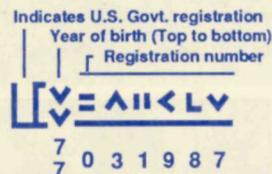
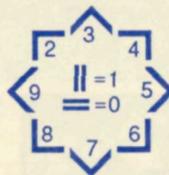
Newly adopted wild horses or burros must be kept in an enclosed corral with a minimum area of 400 square feet (20' by 20' or larger) per animal. This amount of space allows an animal to exercise. Gently adopted animals must be exercised daily and should have a box stall of at least 144 square feet (12' by 12' or larger) that is well ventilated, drained, and frequently cleaned.

Fences must be at least 4½ feet high for burros and 6 feet high for ungentled horses. Horses under 18 months of age may be kept in corrals with fences 5 feet high. Fences should be of pole, pipe, or plank construction and must not have dangerous protrusions. Barbed wire is not allowed in stalls or corrals.

An animal is considered gently adopted when it can be approached, handled, haltered, and led without the animal attempting escape. Ungently adopted animals should not be released into any large open area (pasture).

Adopted wild horses and burros must be provided shelter where severe weather (heat, cold, rain, snow, or wind) occurs. Burros are much more susceptible to cold than horses.

ALPHA ANGLE CODE FOR FREEZE MARK INTERPRETATION



The alpha angle code for the wild horse and burro freeze mark. The Arabian registry uses a similar freeze mark.

14. How can I adopt an animal?

Complete the enclosed application and mail it to the BLM office serving your area. If you wish to adopt at a different location, send your application, and a note explaining why, to the office serving that location. You will be contacted during the application review process. If your application is approved, you will be notified of upcoming adoptions. At the adoption you may have the opportunity to adopt at least one animal. If and when you adopt you will be required to sign a contract, agreeing to provide humane care and treatment for each animal you adopt.



15. Will the animal belong to me or the Federal Government?

A wild horse or burro belongs to the government until the BLM issues a title to an adopter. When the adopter signs an adoption contract he/she automatically applies for title to an animal. After one year, BLM will send the adopter a Title Eligibility Letter. The adopter must obtain a statement from a qualified person (such as a veterinarian, county extension agent, or humane society representative) verifying that the adopter has provided humane care and treatment. The adopter must return the Title Eligibility Letter and the humane treatment statement to BLM. BLM will then mail the title to the adopter. There are no additional fees involved in the title process.

Within the year after the adoption, the BLM or an agent of the BLM, may visit an adopter to inspect the animal(s), to ensure the conditions of the adoption agreement are met, and to answer any questions the adopter may have.



Ivan, trained for performance drills, is owned by the Westernaires of Golden, Colorado.

16. What restrictions are there on using my adopted animal?

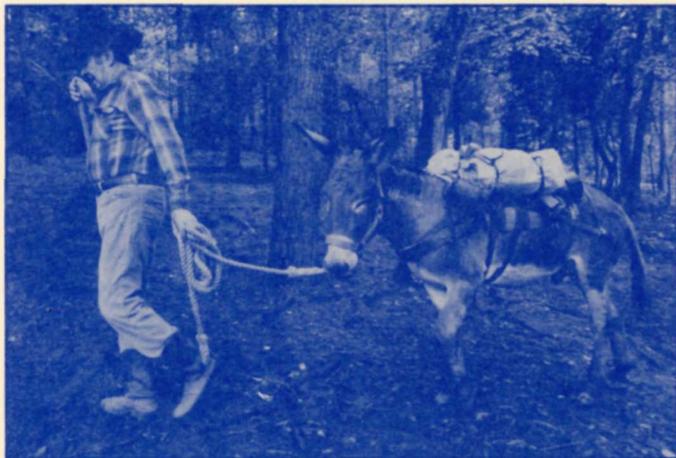
In general there are no federal restrictions on how you use your adopted wild horse or burro, other than a wild horse or burro cannot be exploited for commercial purposes that take advantage of the wildness of the animal. After leaving the range all wild animals are protected by state livestock and humane treatment laws.



Wolf and Bear pull the BLM chuckwagon in Rock Springs, Wyoming.

17. What should I bring to the adoption?

- A. Cash, money order or certified check is required for payment of the adoption fees. Some adoption centers may accept VISA or Mastercard. Please check with the office conducting the adoption. Checks should be payable to: USDI-BLM.
- B. A halter and lead rope for each animal. A double stitched nylon webbing halter is recommended. The lead rope should be about 8-20 feet long, made of cotton or nylon, and of sufficient strength to hold a 1,000 pound animal. The halter buckle should be of similar strength.
- C. A trailer that meets the requirements as discussed in question 18.



Tumbleweed, once roaming free in Nevada, now lives in Travelers Rest, South Carolina.

18. What kind of trailer is required to transport a wild horse or burro?

Adopters must provide transportation for their animal from the adoption site to the new home. Another person may transport the animal, but all trailers must meet these standards:

- A. Covered top, sturdy walls/floors, and a smooth interior, free from any sharp protrusions.
- B. Ample head room.
- C. Partitions or compartments to separate animals by size and sex if necessary.
- D. Floor covered with a non-skid material.
- E. Adequate ventilation.



Gathered in Oregon, Little Black is a combined training champion mesmerizing neighbors in Evans, Georgia.

Stock trailers are preferred, but other trailers that meet the standards may be used. **Drop ramp and two horse trailers are strongly discouraged; some adoption centers may refuse to load a horse into a trailer so equipped.** All trucks and trailers may be inspected by BLM before loading. If you have questions about the suitability of a trailer call the BLM office before adoption day.

19. What should I feed my animal?

Good quality grass hay is adequate for a wild horse or burro. Horses and burros are very sensitive to abrupt changes in when and what they're fed. Additional information about feeding your new friend will be available at the adoption. Your veterinarian can also provide information on proper care and feeding.

20. What are some tips I should know before the adoption?

- A. If you are not experienced in driving a vehicle towing a trailer, arrange for someone with experience to do it for you.
- B. Plan the travel route in advance. Avoid large cities, rush hours, and bumpy roads.
- C. Allow plenty of time to view the animals before the selection process begins. Most adoptions draw names to determine order of selection.
- D. Animals should not be transported longer than 24 hours without unloading for a food, water, and exercise break. Corrals used for rest breaks must meet the requirements discussed in question 13.
- E. If your journey crosses state lines, check with each state for requirements of brand inspection, health certificate, clearance documents, etc.



Maverick, Montezuma, Peking and Marianas are among former wild horses that comprise the Marine Corps Mounted Colorguard from Barstow, Calif.

For more adoption information, call or write the office serving the area where you wish to adopt.

ALASKA 907-271-5555

Alaska State Office
222 West 7th Avenue #13
Anchorage, Alaska 99513-7599

ARIZONA 602-780-8090

Phoenix District Office
2015 West Deer Valley Road
Phoenix, Arizona 85027

Kingman Resource Area ^H 520-757-3161

CALIFORNIA 916-979-2800

California State Office
2135 Butano Drive
Sacramento, California 95825-1889

Bakersfield District Office ^P 805-391-6049
Ridgecrest, California ^H 619-446-6064
Eagle Lake Res. Area 916-257-5381

COLORADO 719-269-8500

Canon City District Office ^P
3170 East Main Street
Canon City, Colorado 81212

IDAHO 208-384-3300

Boise District Office
3948 Development Avenue
Boise, Idaho 83705-5389

**MONTANA, NORTH DAKOTA,
AND SOUTH DAKOTA 406- 238-1540**

Billings Resource Area
810 East Main Street
Billings, Montana 59105-3395

NEVADA 702-475-2222

National Wild Horse & Burro Center
Palomino Valley ^H
P.O. Box 3270
Sparks, Nevada 89432

**NEW MEXICO, KANSAS,
OKLAHOMA, & TEXAS 1-800-237-3642**

Oklahoma Resource Area ^P
221 North Service Road
Moore, Oklahoma 73160-4946

OREGON & WASHINGTON 541-573-4400

Burns District Office
HC 74-12533 Highway 20 West
Hines, Oregon 97738

UTAH 801-977-4300

Salt Lake City District Office ^H
2370 South 2300 West
Salt Lake City, Utah 84119

WYOMING & NEBRASKA 307-382-5350

Rock Springs District Office ^{HP}
P.O.Box 1869
Highway 191 North
Rock Springs, Wyoming 82902-1869

Elm Creek, Nebraska 308-856-4498

**AL, AR, FL, GA, KY, LA,
MS, NC, SC, TN, & VA 601-977-5430**

Jackson District Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206

Cross Plains, Tennessee ^H 615-654-2180

**CT, DE, DC, IL, IN, IA, ME, MD,
MA, MI, MN, MO, NH, NJ, NY,
OH, PA, RI, VT, WV, & WI 1-800-293-1781**

Milwaukee District Office
310 West Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 450
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203

^H - Holding Facility

^P - Prison Training Program

Form 4710-10
(June 1994)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

FORM APPROVED
OMB NO. 1004-0042
Expires: December 31, 1996

APPLICATION FOR ADOPTION OF WILD HORSES(S) OR BURRO(S)

| | | | | |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|-----------|------|
| APPLICANT'S LAST NAME | | | FIRST | M.I. |
| STREET ADDRESS OR P.O. BOX | | | | |
| CITY | STATE | ZIP CODE | | |
| DRIVER'S LICENSE NO. | | STATE | BIRTHDATE | |
| HOME PHONE (Include area code) | BUSINESS PHONE (Include area code) | | | |

Number of animals requested for adoption: Horses _____ Burros _____

- Attach map to show where wild horse(s) or burro(s) will be located.
- Have you read and do you understand the PROHIBITED ACTS and the TERMS OF ADOPTION on the reverse side? Yes No
- Facility information
 - Describe your corral size, fence height and construction materials:
 - Describe your shelter size, height, and construction materials:
 - Describe the type and amount of feed you will provide:
 - Describe the type of watering system you will provide:
 - Describe the trailer used to transport the adopted animal:
- Will more than four untitled wild horses or burros be kept at the location where you will keep the animals requested in the application? Yes No
- Will someone other than you select or care for the animals requested? Yes No
- Have you previously adopted animals through the Federal Government's Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program? Yes No
If yes, what was the date and location? _____
- Have you ever been convicted of abuse or inhumane treatment of animals, violation of the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act or the Wild Horse and Burro Regulations? Yes No

(Signature of Applicant)

(Date)

Title 18 U.S.C. Section 1001, makes it a crime for any person knowingly and willfully to make to any department or agency of the United States any false, fictitious or fraudulent statements or representation as to any matter within its jurisdiction.

FOR BLM USE ONLY

Application (Check appropriate box) Approved Disapproved (If "disapproved," give reason.)

(Signature of Authorized Officer)

| | | | | |
|------|-----|----|-------|--|
| DATE | | | STATE | |
| Mo | Day | Yr | | |

(Instructions on reverse)

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Carefully read the PROHIBITED ACTS and TERMS OF ADOPTION printed below.
2. Carefully read the information provided in the pamphlet "So You'd Like to Adopt a Wild Horse... or Burro?"
3. Submit your completed Application for Adoption of Wild Horse(s) or Burro(s) to the BLM office serving your State. (For the correct address, refer to the pamphlet "So You'd Like to Adopt a Wild Horse... or Burro?")
4. So that we may notify you when and where the animal(s) you requested are available, provide the Bureau of Land Management office serving your State within 10 days of any change in your address or telephone number.

TERMS OF ADOPTION

The following terms apply to all wild horses and burros adopted under this Private Care and Maintenance Agreement:

- (a) Adopters are financially responsible for providing proper care;
- (b) Adopters are responsible, as provided by State law, for any personal injury, property damage, or death caused by animals in their care, for pursuing animals that escape or stray, and for costs of recapture;
- (c) Adopters shall not transfer animals for more than 30 days to another location or to the care of another individual without the prior approval of the authorized officer;
- (d) Adopters shall make animals available for physical inspection within 7 days of receipt of a written request by the authorized officer;
- (e) Adopters shall notify the authorized officer within 7 days of discovery of an animal's death, theft or escape;
- (f) Adopters shall notify the authorized officer within 30 days of any change in the adopter's address;
- (g) Adopters shall dispose of remains in accordance with applicable sanitation laws; and
- (h) Title shall remain with the Federal Government for at least 1 year after the Private Maintenance and Care Agreement is executed and until a Certificate of Title is issued by the authorized officer.

Failure to comply with these terms may result in the cancellation

of the agreement, repossession of the animals, and disapproval of requests for adoption of additional animals. In addition, violation of any term of a Private Maintenance and Care Agreement is a prohibited act. Any person who commits a prohibited act shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each violation.

PROHIBITED ACTS

- (a) Maliciously or negligently injuring or harassing a wild horse or burro;
- (b) Treating a wild horse or burro inhumanely;
- (c) Removing or attempting to remove a wild horse or burro from the public lands without authorization from the authorized officer;
- (d) Destroying a wild horse or burro without authorization from the authorized officer, except as an act of mercy;
- (e) Selling or attempting to sell a wild horse or burro or its remains;
- (f) Branding a wild horse or burro;
- (g) Removing or altering a freeze mark on a wild horse or burro;
- (h) Violating an order, term, or condition established by the authorized officer under this part.
- (i) Commercially exploiting a wild horse or burro;

Any person who commits a prohibited act shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$2,000 or imprisonment for not more than one year, or both, for each violation.

NOTICE

The Privacy Act of 1974 and the regulation in 43 CFR 2.48(d) provide that you be furnished the following information in connection with information required by this agreement.

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 1333

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: The information is to be used to process your agreement for private maintenance of wild horses or burros.

ROUTINE USES: (1) Documentation of public information. (2) Information from the record and/or the record will be transferred to appropriate Federal, State, or local agencies, when relevant to civil, criminal, or regulatory investigations or prosecutions.

EFFECT OF NOT PROVIDING INFORMATION: Disclosure of the information is voluntary. If all the information is not provided, your application cannot be processed.*

PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT AND BURDEN HOURS STATEMENT

The Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980 (44 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.) requires us to inform you that:

This information is being collected to process your application to adopt a wild horse or burro.

This information will be used to determine your qualifications to provide proper care to a wild horse or burro.

Response to this request is voluntary.

Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this form to U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, (Alternate) Bureau Clearance Officer, (WO-771), 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240, and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1004-0042), Washington, D.C. 20503.

*NOTE: If your driver's license and Social Security number are identical, disclosure of the driver's license number is voluntary. Failure to disclose your license number in this case will not result in the disapproval of this Agreement.