

For immediate release:

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**Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board Meeting to be held by
Bureau of Land Management**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) today, announced that its Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board will hold a meeting October 28-29, 2002 in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Advisory Board will discuss matters pertaining to management and protection of wild free-roaming horses and burros on the Nation's public lands.

"I am looking forward to a productive meeting, where the Advisory Board will help the Bureau move forward in achieving its goals related to healthy herds and healthy lands," said Linda Rundell, Acting Assistant Director for Renewable Resources and Planning.

The meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 28, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Tuesday, October 29, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., at the Best Western Salt Lake Plaza Hotel, 122 W. South Temple. Written comments pertaining to the Advisory Board meeting should be sent to: Bureau of Land Management, National Wild Horse and Burro Program, WO260, Attention: Ramona Delorme, 1340 Financial Boulevard, Reno, NV 89502-7147. Written comments should be submitted no later than October 18.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages more land—262 million surface acres—than any other Federal agency. Most of the country's BLM-managed public land is located in 12 Western states, including Alaska. These lands, once remote, now provide the growing communities of the West with open space that gives the region much of its character. The Bureau, which has a budget of \$1.8 billion and a workforce of 10,000 employees, also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the Nation. The BLM's "multiple use" mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. The BLM accomplishes this by managing for such resources as livestock grazing, energy and mineral development that helps meet the nation's energy needs, providing opportunities for outdoor recreation and by conserving natural, historical, cultural, and other resources on the public lands.