



NEWS RELEASE

US DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR ■ BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
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WANTED: NEW HOMES FOR WILD AMERICA'S LIVING LEGENDS

(Claremore, Okla. – July 16 - 17). Wild horses and burros representing the spirit of the historic West will be available to qualifying homes July 16 and 17, at an adoption event sponsored by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at the Expo Center in Claremore, Okla.

These animals and their historic herds are truly unique animals that embody the best characteristics of endurance and agility. Throughout the 30-plus-year BLM program, adopted horses have found their way not only into the hearts of thousands of recreational riders, but into show arenas in both Western and English specialties. Burros have been successfully used for mountain packing and make great companion animals.

“The animals are noted for their endurance, sure-footedness, and strong sense of loyalty to their care-taker,” says Bob Mitchell, Wild Horse and Burro Manager.

Promising to be entertaining and educational, this event presents an opportunity for adopters to share a part of their American heritage. All of the wild horses and burros are gathered from many different herd management areas throughout California, Oregon, Nevada, New Mexico, Wyoming, Colorado, Utah, and Arizona.

“Each BLM-designated area has distinct terrain and herd characteristics that help adopters identify the history of the animal,” explained Mitchell.

The BLM has placed more than 200,000 horses in approved homes across the country. But more homes are needed. Eighty wild horses – 50 yearlings, 20 mares and 10 studs – as well as 20 wild burros are looking for new homes in the Claremore area.

Preview of the wild horses and burros begins Thursday, July 15, at 4 p.m. Previews begin again Friday at 8 a.m., followed by an orientation and adoption kick off with an oral competitive bid at 10 a.m. Walk up adoptions will continue until noon on Saturday. The minimum bid to adopt is \$125 for qualified individuals. Applications are available and can be approved on site.

-more-



www.nm.blm.gov

2-2-2-2 Wild Horses and Burros Available for Adoption in Claremore, Oklahoma

To qualify, bidders must be at least 18 years of age and have no record of animal abuse or other criminal activity. Adopters must have specific facilities and no one individual can adopt more than four animals. Individuals must have an approved trailer (solid floors and sides – no drop ramp, or two horse trailers) to transport animals home. **All animals must be picked up on Sat. by noon. If adopters come on Saturday only, they should be sure to bring their trailers with them.** Applications to adopt are accepted on site. In addition, individuals are eligible to apply for a title after one year if all conditions are met.

Directions: To reach the Claremore Expo Center 400 Veterans Parkway Claremore, Okla. from Interstate 44, take exit HWY 20 West Claremore. (When arriving in Claremore, Hwy 20 West is Patti Page Blvd.) Turn right on HWY 66 East (Lynn Riggs Blvd). Drive one block and turn left on Will Rogers Blvd (HWY 20 West, Hwy 88 North). Go north through three traffic lights. Get in the left lane and turn left at the Hwy 20 West sign. The Claremore Expo Center is on the left side around the curve.

For those unable to attend this event, be sure to visit the Wild Horse & Burro Adoption Center in Pauls Valley, Okla. Adoptions are held the second Tuesday of each month.

For more information visit www.wildhorseandburro.blm.gov or call toll free at 866.4.Mustangs.

The Bureau of Land Management is responsible for managing the nation's public lands. With the passage of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971, the Bureau gained the responsibility to care for wild horses and burros on these lands in harmony with other natural resources. When an over-population of wild horses and burros exists on these public lands, some animals are removed and offered to the general public for adoption.

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