

Briefing

Date: March 3, 2003

For: DMG

Title: Burro Management Update

BLM has completed the gather for China Lake and removed more than 200 burros from the Argus, Panamint and Slate Range HMAs. BLM is working with Picacho State Park, bait trapping along the river as well as collecting vegetative monitoring data. BLM is also working with a local rancher doing water trapping of burros in the Clark Mountains. BLM's invitation still stands concerning any burros captured (that are protected under the Act. The only outstanding gather in CDD this year is the Chemehuevi HMA, where should be completed in April. The goal is to remove up to 530 burros to try to reach appropriate management levels this year.

Later this spring, BLM Burro Coordinator and DOI Coordinator will draft a brochure be used to attract financial support for burro capture, adoptions, education, and management on federal and state lands in the California deserts (see attached). Assistance will be needed for brochure layout and design.

Contact: Dave Sjaastad

Outline
Information Brochure/Report
Burro Management in the Cal deserts

Purpose and Scope: Generate financial support for burro capture, adoptions, education, and management on federal and state lands in the California deserts

Target Audience:

- Prospective partners and donors
- Private foundations
- Elected officials
- Non government organizations.

Products/Format:

1. trifold color brochure
2. 3-5 page report providing addition detail and specific needs/projects

Brochure/Report Outline:

1. Background (Hamill)
 - a. History of burros in the Cal deserts
 - b. Problems associated with wild burros
 - high rate of reproduction
 - lack of natural predators
 - competition with native wildlife (e.g, desert tortoise, bighorn sheep, deer)
 - habitat degradation (springs)
 - c. Federal and State mandates and goals related to burros
 - BLM
 - NPS
 - Other
 - d. Interagency cooperation—role of DMG
2. Burro adoption programs/options (Sjaastad)
3. Current distribution, abundance and management goal by area (Sjaastad)
4. Summary of progress to date for captures and adoptions (Sjaastad)
5. Management Needs – brief project descriptions (Sjaastad et al)
 - Captures
 - Adoptions
 - Monitoring
 - Management
 - Education
6. How you can help (Hamill)