

## **News Release**

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Contact: Lisa Reid (435) 743-3128

## BLM seeks public comment of environmental analysis for proposed population control of wild horses within the Onaqui Herd Management Area

**SALT LAKE CITY, Utah.**— The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Salt Lake Field Office is seeking public comment on an environmental assessment (EA) analyzing a proposed wild horse gather and removal in the Onaqui Herd Management Area (HMA).

The Onaqui HMA is located in Tooele County, approximately 60 miles west of Tooele, Utah. It consists of approximately 206,252 acres of public and state lands, with a current estimated population of 450 wild horses. The Appropriate Management Level (AML) has been established at 121-210 wild horses.

The EA analyzes a proposal to gather and remove excess wild horses in response to several issues currently occurring in the HMA. This includes, but is not limited to, emergency stabilization and restoration of land affected by wildfires, reduction of impacts due to overpopulation of wild horses, greater sage-grouse and vegetation treatment interactions, and the actions to comply with the Utah Greater Sage-Grouse Approval Resource Management Plan Amendment.

The EA, including maps, is available on ePlanning at: <u>https://go.usa.gov/xQQFE</u>

Written comments will be accepted by letter or ePlanning until July 12, 2018. Special attention will be given to those comments that contain new technical or scientific information relevant to the proposed action. Comments should be as specific as possible. Comments that contain only opinions or preferences will not receive a formal response but may be considered in the BLM decision-making process. Please reference "Onaqui Wild Horse Herd Management Area Population Control" when submitting comments.

Written comments may be mailed or e-mailed using the following:

Mail BLM Salt Lake Field Office Attn: Tami Howell 2370 Decker Lake Blvd. West Valley City, UT 84119 Fax: (801)977-4397

ePlanning https://go.usa.gov/xQQFE

Those who provide comments are advised that before including their address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information, they should be aware that the entire comment – including the personal identifying information – may be made publicly available at any time. While those commenting can ask in their comments to withhold personal identifying information from public review, the BLM cannot guarantee that they will be able to do so.

For additional EA-specific information, please contact Tami Howell at (801) 977-4359. Persons who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 to leave a message or question with the above individual. The FIRS is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Replies are provided during normal business hours.

## -BLM-

The BLM manages more than 245 million acres of public land located primarily in 12 Western states, including Alaska. The BLM also administers 700 million acres of sub-surface mineral estate throughout the nation. The agency's mission is to sustain the health, diversity, and productivity of America's public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations. Diverse activities authorized on these lands generated \$75 billion in sales of goods and services throughout the American economy in fiscal year 2016—more than any other agency in the Department of the Interior. These activities supported more than 372,000 jobs.

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