




Mustang
HERITAGE
FOUNDATION



US FOREST SERVICE
WILD HORSE & BURRO PROGRAM

LEXINGTON, KY
JUNE 12-14, 2025



EXTREME

The Mustang Heritage Foundation and the US Forest Service Wild Horse and Burro Program extend our deepest gratitude. We wish you the best of luck and we will see you at the 2025 Mustang Heritage Spectacular Extreme Mustang Makeover!



SAVE THE DATE

12-14

June 2025

Alltech Arena
Lexington, KY

MUSTANG
HERITAGE
Spectacular

At its finest rider and horse are joined not by tack, but by trust. Each is totally reliant upon the other. Each is the selfless guardian of the other's well-being.

-Author Unknown



Wild Horse Territory (WHT): The Forest Service manages approximately 7,100 wild horses and 900 wild burros on 53 wild horse and burro territories on approximately 2.5 million acres of National Forest System lands in 5 Forest Service regions, 19 national forests, and 9 states. Of these 53 territories, 34 are active and 19 are inactive.

Joint Management Area (JMA): Of the 34 active territories, located in Arizona, California, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, and Utah, approximately 24 are jointly managed in cooperation with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) wild horse and burro program. Most of these jointly managed territories are in Nevada.

Herd Area (HA): HAs are federal lands that had wild horse or burro populations when the 1971 Wild Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act passed. HAs have multiple uses, but for a variety of reasons.

The Devil's Garden Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Devil's Garden WHT- The Devil's Garden Wild Horse Territory (WHT) is administered by the Devil's Garden Ranger District, Modoc National Forest.

Location/Habitat

The Devil's Garden Plateau WHT is in California approximately seven miles north of Alturas.

The topography is a relatively flat continuous lava plateau. Average elevation is 5,000 feet. Precipitation is primarily from winter snow between November and March. Average annual precipitation is 12.6 inches. Temperatures during winter can be severe for short periods of time, and summer temperatures frequently exceed 90° Fahrenheit.

Vegetation is typical of high desert plateau sagebrush-steppe ecosystems. It is uniform and consists primarily of western juniper, big sagebrush, perennial grasses, and increasing invasive annual grasses.

Wildlife present within the territory includes deer, antelope, cougar, rabbits, rodents, migratory birds and aquatic species dependent on delicate high-desert riparian areas.

The entire territory is within permitted livestock allotments.

History

Wild horses have been present on the Devil's Garden Plateau since shortly after the first pioneers arrived. Many of the early horses escaped from settlers or were released when their usefulness as domestic animals ended. The first roundup occurred as early as 1889. In later years, local ranchers and native tribal members turned horses out to graze and then gathered them as needed. Devil's Garden Horses contributed to the liberation of Europe in WWI. Not all were ever captured. With the passage of the 1971 Wild Horse and Burro Act (PL 92-195), private horse roundups ended. In 1974, as an initial step toward management, the Forest Service inventoried the Devil's Garden Wild Horse population for the first time. The new Devil's Garden Plateau Wild Horse Territory Management Plan, completed in 2013, set an Appropriate Management Level (AML) of a maximum of 402 adult total horses.

Herd Description

Horses can be seen in many colors and sizes. The dominant colors are roan, black and bay; however, gray, buckskin, palomino, and sorrel are also found with some frequency.

The Jarita Mesa Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Jarita Mesa WHT- The Jarita Mesa Wild Horse Territory (WHT) is administered by the El Rito Ranger District, Carson National Forest.

Location/Habitat

The Jarita Mesa WHT is located in New Mexico approximately 20 miles northeast of El Rito. The herd use area consists of 55,000 acres of National Forest land on the north end of the El Rito Ranger District. Wild horses on the Jarita Mesa WHT use this area year-round.

The topography is mountainous with elevations ranging from 7000 to 9700 feet. The climate is represented by cool summers and cold winters. Temperatures range from below zero in the winter to 80°+ F in the summer.

Vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush communities at the lower elevations. Ponderosa Pine and mixed conifer are present in the higher elevations.

Wildlife commonly viewed on the territory include black bear, mule deer, elk, turkey, redtail hawks, ravens, and a host of smaller terrestrial wildlife.

There are a few well traveled National Forest roads within territory and Jarita Mesa wild horses can occasionally be seen during travels through the area.

History

The history of the Jarita Mesa wild horses is tied to the local Hispanic communities that have been present in the area for some 300 years. The foundation blood for the horses is Spanish mustang, but genetic testing and physical appearance indicate that other bloodlines may have influenced the herd as well.

Herd Description

The appropriate management level for the herd is between 20 and 70 head of horses depending on range conditions. Common horse colors include Red and Bay roans along with black, bay and brown.

The Jicarilla Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Jicarilla WHT- he Jicarilla Wild Horse Territory (WHT) is administered by the Jicarilla Ranger District, Carson National Forest.

Location/Habitat

The Jicarilla WHT is located in New Mexico approximately 40 miles east of Bloomfield. The territory consists of 76,000 acres of National Forest land on the north end of the Jicarilla Ranger District. Wild horses on the Jicarilla WHT use this territory year round.

The topography is mountainous with elevations ranging from 6000 to 8000 feet. The climate is represented by hot, dry summers and cold winters. Temperatures range from below zero in the winter to 90°+ F in the summer.

Vegetation consists of pinyon-juniper and sagebrush communities at the lower elevations. At the mid and lower elevations, sagebrush, rabbitbrush, serviceberry, snowberry, and winterfat are common along with grasses and forbs. Ponderosa Pine and mixed conifer are present in the higher elevations.

Wildlife commonly viewed on the territory include black bear, mule deer, elk, bald eagles, redtail hawks, ravens, and a host of smaller terrestrial wildlife.

Livestock grazing is permitted within the wild horse territory.

The Jicarilla Ranger District has many roads due to significant oil and gas development. Horses are accustomed to vehicle traffic and can generally be viewed from major roads within the territory.

History

The history of the Jicarilla wild horses is vague but appears to be based on cavalry stock and ranch horses from the area along with an influx of horses from the adjacent Jicarilla Apache Reservation. Genetic testing has indicated a mixed breeding background.

Herd Description

The appropriate management level for the Jicarilla herd is between 50 and 105 head of horses depending on range conditions. Colors vary from bay to paint.

The North Hills Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

North Hills JMA- The North Hills Wild Horse Territory is the Forest Service portion of the North Hills Herd Management Area, which is cooperatively managed by the Dixie National Forest, Pine Valley Ranger District and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Cedar City Field Office.

Location and Habitat

The North Hills Wild Horse Territory is in Southern Utah about two miles west of the town of Enterprise. The territory is part of the larger North Hills Herd Management Area, which includes federal, state, and private lands. The topography is mountainous with elevations ranging from 5,500 feet to 7,500 feet. Precipitation in the area occurs mainly in the form of snow between October and April. Rain events occur in late spring and summer with short duration, high-intensity rain in July and August. Average annual precipitation ranges between 14 and 20 inches with the higher values on the western side of the plateau. The predominant vegetation in the territory is pinyon pine and juniper with areas of Wyoming big sagebrush, black sagebrush, and grasslands. The territory is also home to variety of wildlife including deer, coyotes, red-tailed hawks, and mountain lions.

Four wild horses, three brown horses and a white horse.

Livestock grazing is not permitted within the Forest Service Territory but is permitted on the BLM administered lands.

History

Wild Horses have been in the North Hills Territory for over 100 years. The origin of the population is thought to be from local ranchers releasing domestic horses and then gathering the young. In the early 1970s, a jack burro was present in the herd and several mules became part of the herd.

Herd Description

The horses on the North Hills are various sizes and colors due to numerous infusions of domestic horses contributing to the gene pool of the herd.

The Moriah Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Moriah HA- The Moriah Herd Area (HA), about 48 miles northeast of Ely, Nev., is in the Ely District on public lands administered by the Bristlecone Field Office and Ely Ranger District, Humboldt Toiyabe National Forest.

The Moriah HA is typical of the Great Basin region, characterized by valleys and long, narrow steep mountain peaks covered with heavy pinyon-juniper woodlands. Elevations within the area range from approximately 5,000 feet to 10,200 feet.

Vegetation in the HA consists primarily of brush, fir and mountain mahogany in the higher elevations, pinyon-juniper and sagebrush on the lower mountain slopes and white sage, black sage, saltbush and other “salt desert shrub” type communities on the valley floors.

Precipitation normally ranges from approximately five to seven inches on the valley bottoms to 16 to 18 inches on the mountain peaks. Most of this precipitation comes in the form of snow occurring primarily in the winter and spring with the summers being quite dry. Temperatures range from greater than 90 degrees Fahrenheit in the summer months to minus 15 degrees or colder in the mountains in the winter.

The Murder's Creek Horse of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Murder's Creek WHT- The Murderer's Creek Wild Horse Territory is located southwest of John Day, Oregon, and includes 73,609 acres of Forest Service land, 34,879 acres of Bureau of Land Management land, 23,773 acres of private land, and 10,479 of state land.

The topography inhabited by these "timber horses" is mountainous terrain. They often stay at high elevations year-round ranging from 4,500 to 6,500 feet. They live in heavily timbered areas of ponderosa pine and mixed conifer. Climate is represented by hot, dry summers and cold winters with temperatures that vary from either below zero in the winter to 90°F in the summer. The average annual precipitation ranges from 11.5 inches in lower elevations to about 30 inches along the Aldrich Ridge. Primarily precipitation occurs as snowfall between November and April.

With snow depths of 2-4 feet in these timbered areas, these horses have adapted to the climate by using the timber thickets for shelter. When snow melts off in early spring, these horses tend to stay near springs and utilize the south slopes of ridges which tend to melt off first providing forage.

Coniferous vegetation dominates vegetation. These include white fir, Douglas-fir, grand-fir, and ponderosa pine. Principal plant species include; Sandberg's bluegrass, blue bunch wheatgrass, Idaho fescue, needlegrass, juniper, big sagebrush, low sagebrush, rabbitbrush, elk sedge, pine grass, and mountain snowberry.

Wildlife commonly viewed coexisting on this territory include elk, deer, antelope, bighorn sheep, bear, cougar, and smaller terrestrial forest animals.

History

The history of the Murderer's Creek wild horses is debatable. However, it is believed that the horses found in the area are those left behind by early explorers. The Murderer's Creek horses are descendants from Native American herds and those lost or released by settlers and ranchers. Prior to the passage of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act Of 1971 (Public Law 92-195) (PDF) early ranchers managed the wild herds by turning out their own stallions and then gathered the young horses in the spring.

Dr. Gus Cothran performed a genetic analysis of this herd in 2000-2001 and found that the herd bears the least similarity to the other herds found in Oregon that have also been studied. His studies conclude that this herd bears closest genetic resemblance to the American light racing, saddle breeds and the New World Iberian breeds.

Herd

The timber horses tend to be quite small and relatively uniform in color and conformation. These horses range from 13.5 to 15 hands in size. In respect to color, they tend to be black, brown, and bay. Horses on the western portion of the territory tend to be gray, dun, or sorrel.

The Triple B Horses of the 2025 Mustang Spectacular

Triple B JMA- Location: The Triple B HMA is located about 30 miles northwest of Ely, Nevada, in White Pine County.

Size: The area consists of 1,230,579 acres of BLM land and 1,915 acres of a mix of private and other public lands for a total of 1,232,494 acres.

Topography/Vegetation: The Triple B JMA is typical of the Great Basin region, characterized by north-south trending mountain ranges. Significant features are large flat valley bottoms and steep mountains with elevations ranging from about 6,000 feet on the valley floors to 9,000-plus feet atop the mountain peaks. The area is remote and rugged. Vegetation in the JMA consists primarily of brush, fir and mountain mahogany in the higher elevations, pinion-juniper and sagebrush on the lower mountain slopes and white sage, black sage, saltbush and other "salt desert shrub" type communities on the valley floors. The area falls within the Great Basin Desert which encompasses much of Nevada and western Utah, portions of southern Oregon and small parts of California and Idaho. The Great Basin is effectively cut off from the westerly flow of Pacific moisture due to crossing air masses created by the Sierra and Cascade mountain ranges that cool and precipitate much of the moisture out. The result is a cold, dry desert. Precipitation in the Triple B JMA ranges from approximately 7 inches on the valley bottoms to 16 to 18 inches on the mountain peaks. Most of this precipitation comes in the form of snow during the winter months. Summers are hot and dry, with high temperatures in the 90's or higher. Winters are cold, with temperatures dropping below freezing and below zero degrees.

Wildlife within the territory include elk, mule deer, antelope, sage grouse, and various species of reptiles, small mammals, rodents, and raptors.

History

There is no specific information regarding the original breeds. It is known that the horses descended from ranch stock and horses that belonged to miners in the area during the 1800's that were released or escaped and became wild. Curly horses are found within, as they were introduced in the area by Tom Dixon in 1874.

Herd Description

horses are average size for wild horses, 13-15 hands. Colors are varied and include roans, greys, buckskin, bay, sorrel, brown, black, and white.



[**CLICK HERE TO SEE HORSES**](#)

We will have blank selection lists, horse Lists and horse lists by pen available @
Selection and Pickup

No guarantee of which horses will go to each pick-up



*Taking care of a horse is not just a duty. it's a heartfelt responsibility.
- Author unknown*

Glen Rose, Tx- Tentative Schedule

December 6th, 2024	8:00 - 11:30	Welcome, Check-In & Viewing
	11:30 - 12:00	Draw
	12:00 - 12:30	Questions & Lunch Break
	12:30 - 1:30	Selections
	1:30 - 7:00	Paperwork & Loading
December 7th, 2024	7:00 - 4:30	Adoption Event, Paperwork & Loading

Sign up for a loading time at the Check-in Desk

Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your allotted time to complete Paperwork, Loadout Slip & Load Checkout



Cross Plains, Tn- Tentative Schedule

December 13th, 2024	8:00 - 12:00	Welcome, Check-In & Viewing
	12:00 - 12:45	Draw
	12:45 - 1:15	Questions & Lunch Break
	1:15 - 2:15	Selections
	2:15 - 7:00	Paperwork & Loading
December 14th, 2024	7:00 - 4:30	Paperwork, Loading & Adoption Event
December 15th, 2024	7:00 - 12:00	Paperwork & Loading <i>As needed</i>

Sign up for a loading time at the Check-in Desk

Please arrive at least 30 minutes prior to your allotted time to complete Paperwork, Loadout Slip & Load Checkout

2025 Mustang Spectacular - Selection Preparation Sheet

Rank	Tag	Gender	Age	Height	Color	Gather Area	Notes
1							
2							
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							
14							
15							
16							
17							
18							
19							
20							

Selection Preparation notes:

We will have blank selection lists, horse Lists and horse lists by pen numbers available at the Selection and Pickup event