



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
Green River District, Price Field Office
125 South 600 West
Price, UT 84501
<http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/fo/price.html>

IN REPLY REFER TO:
4720, (UT-652B, UTG020)
Sinbad Gather, Removal, Research Plan

Dear Reader:

The Decision Record (DR) for the Sinbad Wild Burro Gather, Removal and Research Environmental Assessment (DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2015-050-EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available for review on-line at:

http://www.blm.gov/ut/st/en/prog/wild_horse_and_burro.html or on the e-Planning web page at:
https://eplanning.blm.gov/epl-front-office/eplanning/nepa/nepa_register.do; search for project name "Sinbad."

Hard copies are available from the Price Field Office at the above address.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) analyzes two alternative actions to address management of the Sinbad Wild Burros: Alternative 1 proposes to gather, remove excess wild burros and conduct research; Alternative 2 would continue the current management with no gather or research.

No other alternatives were determined to be reasonable, in meeting the purpose and need as stated in Chapter 1 of the EA (DOI-BLM-UT-G020-2015-050-EA). See Chapter 2 of the EA for alternatives eliminated from further analysis.

The FONSI documents BLM's determination that Alternatives, including the Proposed Action, will not result in significant environmental impacts to the human environment.

Alternative 1, the Proposed Action, is designed to achieve a thriving natural ecological balance, collect information on herd characteristics, determine herd health, maintain sustainable rangelands, and maintain a healthy wild burro population within the Sinbad Herd Management Area. The Proposed Action includes gathering and removing excess wild burros and the collection of data over a five year period.

The BLM is required to sustain the health of the land while managing for multiple uses. The removal of excess wild burros is necessary to protect rangeland resources from deterioration and degradation.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the BLM's *Price Resource Management Plan (RMP)*, approved October, 2008.

Alternative 2, the No Action, proposes no direct management of wild burro numbers. Population of wild burros would continue to increase. Wild burros would be allowed to regulate their numbers naturally through old age, predation, disease, genetic-inbreeding and forage, water and space availability. Gather

operations would not be used to directly manage the wild burro population. No research would take place, and no information would be obtained on wild burro ecology.

Under Alternative 2, wild burros would continue to relocate in increasing numbers to areas outside the HMA boundaries due to competition for limited water, forage and space within the HMA, adversely impacting public land resources not designated for wild burro management. The No Action Alternative also increases the likelihood of emergency conditions occurring, which is expected to lead to the death or suffering of individual animals or to an emergency gather in order to prevent suffering or death due to insufficient forage or water.

Alternative 2 is not in conformance with the Price Resource Management Plan (RMP), approved October, 2008.

The letter is being sent to you, as an affected party and interested public. If you wish to appeal the decision, please follow the steps outlined in the DR on how to do so.

Your participation in the management of your public lands is very much appreciated. If you have any questions, please contact me at the Price Field Office at (435) 636-3600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ahmed Mohsen". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Ahmed Mohsen
Field Manager