

Prehistoric: Modern horses lived in North America as a native species in the American West until around 14,000 years ago. New evidence suggests they survived in central Alaska up to 7,500 years ago.

Historically: This horse was reintroduced to North America by Spanish conquistadors around 500 years ago. White explorers and fur trappers found many native peoples with well-established horse cultures when they ventured across the American West in the early 1800's. A Nevada Paiute story suggests the horse as a wild animal, pre-dated whites here.

Numbers: In the early 1900s millions of wild horses existed in the United States. But by 1958, numbers had been decimated through mustanging. At that time, the Department of the Interior estimated only 20,000 remained. In 1971, the **Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act**, designated 51 million acres in the American West for protection of wild horse and burros. Unfortunately, over the past 40 years, that area has been reduced to less than 32 million. In 2004, the Burns Amendment: attached to the 2005 federal Appropriations Bill - gutted federal protection for America's wild horses, again making them susceptible for slaughter.

Wild Horse Behavior: Horses on open range usually move in separate bands and have their own self-enforced methods to prevent inbreeding. In a band, when a young stallions reach the approximate age of two, lead stallions will usually force them out. These young horses often form "bachelor bands," or follow other family bands until they are able to steal a mare or two and start their own.

Healthy Breeding Populations: The strongest will survive to continue producing equally strong, healthy and beautiful offspring. This is why it is essential to keep viable numbers of breeding-age horses on our public lands.

Population Control: Natural predators have been limited by expanding human populations. The result has had an adverse effect on both plant and animal communities. Natural predators target the old, sick and weak, making prey populations healthier. Because of the present imbalance, we support the limited use of contraceptives, selective castration, and small gathers when necessary. The Bureau of Land Management's prison training programs, as well as wild horse adoption agencies, are excellent. But large-scale roundups must cease.

Information: www.wildhorsepl.org or call: (775) 720-5134





**WILD HORSE
PRESERVATION LEAGUE
Membership Application**

The Wild Horses need your help! Please join us in protecting and preserving our National Heritage. Yearly memberships are as follows:

**Individual - \$15.00 Family - \$20.00
Corporate \$25.00**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Date & Amount sent: _____

Donation: _____

Send your check or money order to the:

Wild Horse Preservation League
P.O. Box 1958, Dayton, Nevada 89403

For more information call: 775 720-5134

Bonnie@WildHorsePL.org

www.wildhorsepl.org

TO PROTECT & PRESERVE OUR WILD HORSES

The Wild Horse Preservation League is a non-profit 501 C 3 informational organization founded in 2001. It is dedicated to preserving wild horses in the United States and works with other wild horse advocacy groups across the country. We are a "VOICE" for wild horses. We support local, state and national legislation helpful to wild horses, and speak out against laws and proposals that harm. We seek to work with government agencies for better management and support adoption efforts. We embrace fresh ideas.

WILD HORSE ECOTOURISM

The Wild Horse Preservation League, with funding from the Nevada Commission on Tourism and Horse Power, has produced a brochure titled **Wild Horse Adventure of Nevada**. Through this process we have developed a statewide wild horse ecotourism program. We continue to add more providers of guided tours and lodging. We believe that wild horses can help rural Nevadans prosper in what would be a "win-win" situation for all. Please check our website at:

www.wildhorseadventure.net

THE NEVADA STATE QUARTER

Nevada residents chose the image of wild horses to grace our state quarter. This coin received international awards and was also judged the 2nd best quarter from the United States Mint's 50 State Quarters Program.

WE NEED YOUR HELP - JOIN US!

Wild horses need your help. Our meetings, open to the public, are on the 4th Wednesday of every month, at 7 P.M. at Round Table Pizza in the Smith's shopping center in Dayton, Nevada.

One way we put out information is by staffing booths at public events. We also provide information directly to realtors, developers and home buyers about existing Nevada statutes. These stipulate that property owners must fence their land adjacent to open range if they don't want livestock or wildlife on their land. We also seek to make roadways safer for people and horses.



Today there are more wild horses being held in Bureau of Land Management holding facilities than run free in the wild. Yet, BLM continues a schedule of massive roundups.

Photos: Cover, Mark Terrell, Dayton, Nevada (NV).
Upper left: Karen Hopple, Reno, NV. Above right: Willis Lamm Stagecoach, NV. Lower right: Dorothy Nylen, Dayton, NV.