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July, 2018

Summer Activities

Dear Friend,

I do hope you're enjoying your summer—it is a wonderful time of year! With Lassen Volcanic National Park barely 20 miles from us, the horses have become an attraction to visitors from around the globe. We hope you can visit too. There are a variety of up-coming events to enjoy and educate.



At a water hole.

Kathy Higgins ©

The abundant spring rains this year provided good grazing until June. So the horses are healthy and beautiful as a result. Of course, by July all is dry and it's time to start feeding hay again—and again we are thankful for our summer interns who have taken on this task. Our girls are also gentling some of the young horses that will be available for adoption on Sept 8th & 9th. Please mark your calendar and let others know that we have some great young horses available. (See our website for more info).

Of course, the interns along with other volunteers help us with the trail rides also. The rides help raise needed funds for hay and fencing as well as a myriad of other necessities to keep the horses safe and healthy.

Thank you so much for your help with this too. If you are able to join us, there are still a few openings available in our Fall Ride Season. What a great way to acquaint yourself with the wild horse's territory as they travel to new grazing areas or to water. There is always something new on every twist in the trail.

Open House will be held on August 18th this year—we look forward to a fun day with family and friends! Lots of horses to see and enjoy, free rides for the youngsters, 10 and under, demonstrations, children's activities, and more.

Immediately following Open House, we're happy to announce that Anna Twinney, founder of "Reach Out to Horses", will be with us again this year for a 7-day workshop. What a unique opportunity to observe wild horses in their natural habitat. Participants will begin to understand non-verbal communication with the natural world, will be introduced to herd dynamics and develop a bond through building a trust-based relationship. The young horses being socialized in this clinic have shown a natural desire to relate to humans. To make their futures less traumatic for veterinary care, foster homes, and permanent placement into loving, forever homes, our young horses will be the teachers.

When the Sanctuary was incorporated in 1979, all rescued stallions were gelded to prevent reproduction. Then in the 1980's an exciting opportunity to work with the University of CA at Davis (UCD), was presented to us. We then began to partner with UCD in infertility research on mares—our goal was a better solution for managing the wild horse populations on public lands. Of course to prove the efficacy of the research, we needed active stallions—so some breeding was allowed. Once the re-

search proved effective the studies moved elsewhere and now PZP, a vaccine preventing pregnancy in mares is used around the world in a wide variety of species. Following the PZP studies here, we allowed the stallions to remain and, every year until recently we were able to place every foal born on the Sanctuary. They have been amazing little ambassadors not only for the Sanctuary, but for all wild horses!

Last October however, we made the difficult decision to castrate our active stallions. While it was a hard decision to make we believe it was the right one. We're happy to report that after the surgeries, all the former stallions reclaimed their harems and life is beautiful. As I write, all the herds are living wild, well fed and free—as nature intended—in this beautiful home on their rugged 5,000 acres!



On the trail to new grazing.

Kathy Higgins ©

While life's challenges affect us all in today's turbulent world—I am always comforted and remain hopeful for our future.

As long as caring people continue to help the less fortunate and provide sanctuaries such as we have given our horses here, there is hope. Thank you for helping.

Warmest wishes,

Dianne Nelson

P.S. All our activities help raise needed funds to feed the wild horses - but - it's really your caring donations thru the year that make this Sanctuary possible.

I can never thank you enough for all you've done to help - please continue to give what you can -

Wild Horse Sanctuary Contribution and Order Form

Yes, I want to help!

Enclosed is my check for:

- ☐ \$50 to feed one unsponsored horse for one month
- ☐ \$150 to feed one unsponsored horse for 3 months
- ☐ \$500 to feed one unsponsored horse for a full year
- ☐ \$75 for 1 mineral supplement tub
- ☐ \$55 for 1 dewormer block
- ☐ \$12 for calendar (plus \$3 shipping)

Name

Address

City

State Zip

Email

Phone

Please Make checks payable to the Wild Horse Sanctuary • Mail to: P.O. Box 30 Shingletown, CA 96088

You may donate or purchase merchandise through our website: www.wildhorsesanctuary.org

Contributions are tax deductible #95-3611770

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

IT IS NOT TOO LATE TO SAVE OUR WILD HORSES AND BURRO'S – MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

Finally, some Good News! The U.S. Senate has created a version of an Appropriations Bill that will not kill tens of thousands of wild horses.

In addition, the U.S. Senate has directed the BLM (Bureau of Land Management) to come up with “humane and politically viable” solutions to wild horse management. Clearly, our Senators realize that killing our cherished wild horses or selling them for slaughter is neither humane nor politically tenable.

But the fight isn't over. In July 2017, the U.S. House passed the “Stewart Amendment” to 2018 spending legislation that would allow for the destruction of wild horses and burro's the BLM considers to be surplus. The fate of America's wild horses and burros will now be decided in negotiations between the House and the Senate to reconcile the two versions of the spending legislation.

You can still help. The next step is crucial to saving our wild horses and burro's. We need to turn the U.S. House. Here is what you can do.

You can send a free fax to House Representatives online at https://faxzero.com/fax_congress.php.

Sign the petition at https://www.thepetitionsite.com/910/642/866/congress-protect-wild-horses-and-burros-from-roundups-and-slaughter/?TAP=1007&cid=causes_petition_postinfo

Alternatively, you can call, email or write a letter. Contact information for your representatives can be found in the local phonebook under “Government” or online at www.house.gov. Making a telephone call will only take a couple of minutes of your time but could make all the difference to saving our wild horses.

Sample Template or script for fax/email/letter/telephone call
(Insert Date) 2017

The Honourable (Insert House Representative Name)

Re: Interior Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2018: Wild Horses and Burro's

Dear Mr/Ms/Mrs (Insert House Representative Name)

I do not want any federal funds used to kill healthy wild horses. I urge you to support the Senate version for funding the Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro program. Please support the use of temporary fertility control vaccines and strong data collection methods to address deficits in on range management. Humane management must be the objective for wild horses and burros.

Yours Sincerely

(Insert Your name)