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July, 2020

Dear Friend,

What an uncertain and unprecedented time we all are living in. Our sincerest hope is that you and your family have been able to escape the Covid-19 that has wreaked havoc on the world. As the country went into lock down, though it pained us greatly, we had to lock the Sanctuary's gates to visitors and to our treasured volunteers for the first time in our history. Our spring trail rides were cancelled. Thankfully, the majority of our guests were able to reschedule for the fall, hopeful that life will attain normalcy by then.

Sadly, also due to the uncertainties we all face, we will not have our 2020 open house. We look forward to the time when we once again can share the beauty of our horses with visitors and weekend riders, and are able to host our events.

On a positive note, our office administrator is working from home and our ranch maintenance worker, is focused on the Sanctuary's 14 miles of perimeter fence, allowing both of them to continue working during the shutdown. Checking and repairing fences after winter storms, and strengthening the older sections of fence, is critical work. Much of our fence line is in extremely steep, rocky, brushy terrain and can be accessed only on foot. This is important, hard work – not to mention a great way to stay socially distant!



Rob makes sure all fences are safe.

We are fortunate that our resident volunteers have shouldered whatever tasks have been necessary to take care of the daily feeding and other necessary upkeep.

So—while the world grapples with the pandemic, the horses here continue their lives blissfully unaware of the crisis. Thinking of the resiliency of nature and the wild horses helps me stay optimistic. I hope that you are able to stay positive. It is one way to fight a foe like this virus.

We shared with you in a previous letter our commitment to neutering all of our resident stallions. Most of our established bands are no longer having foals. Yet, with 5,000 rugged acres to call home, there are a few stallions that do not come to our normal feed grounds where we can “feed them into” corrals for handling. Antonio is a stallion who grew up on the northwest corner of the sanctuary and was somewhat of a recluse with his harem. Eventually we were able to feed him into

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an area that allowed us to make him available for surgery. He will still have his family, but he will not be making babies anymore! We will continue to alter all males as we are able.

I look forward to the time when it is safe for you to visit. Until then, I hope that knowing the horses are safe and well cared for will give you something to feel good about during this trying time.

The economic downturn has affected us here, as I fear it may have affected you – yet in all our 40 years, the horses have never missed a meal thanks to caring people like you. I have always trusted and had faith in your caring support. Thank you in advance for whatever you can do to help us keep the horses fed.



Antonio won't be making babies anymore.

You are our hero – please be safe and share something positive with whoever you can.

Looking forward to happier trails.

Warm regards,

Dianne Nelson
Co-Founder

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
- ☐ \$15ea. for calendar (includes S&H)

Name

Address

City

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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

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