

# Feral Pigs - Wild Horses – Predators

## Good Ole New Mexico’s Parallel Plans . . .

*Kill, kill, kill...*



By Patience O’Dowd 7/30/2013

The State of New Mexico has an aggressive plan to kill all the feral pigs in New Mexico<sup>1</sup>. So too the wild<sup>2</sup> and free roaming horses of New Mexico....

Understanding that New Mexicans<sup>3</sup> would never condone horse slaughter, the State of New Mexico has instead worked to mislead and even *cause* humanitarian and safety issues, due to imposed horse overpopulation, whereby New Mexicans would then come to the conclusion there was no other way.

Wild Horses are a reintroduced native<sup>4</sup> species which evolved here, and only here, in North America, for over 50 million years. They were gone less than 8000 years, and did not change in that time<sup>5</sup>. Still, New Mexico’s Secretary of Agriculture, Jeff Witte, recently likened the wild horses of New Mexico to “feral hogs”<sup>6</sup> in his Governor’s work to have all free roaming horses eradicated from New Mexico. This includes the much revered tribal horses of New Mexico, the well known and loved wild horses of Placitas, and other areas across New Mexico such as Cuba.

The state of New Mexico received their first victory today when a horse tribe, the Navajo tribe, finally relented to sale and even possible slaughter of many of their free roaming horses. How did the state accomplish this you might ask?

### The Cover Up

The state of New Mexico’s systemic and underground pro-slaughter actions include:

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<sup>1</sup> [http://www.currentargus.com/ci\\_23483408/drought-curbs-spread-feral-hogs-southeastern-new-mexico](http://www.currentargus.com/ci_23483408/drought-curbs-spread-feral-hogs-southeastern-new-mexico)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.coronadoswcd.org/News.htm> Plan to pass legislation kill New Mexico’s Wild Horses. Also see attachment.

<sup>3</sup> A Lake research Poll of New Mexicans, and the 2012 NM state legislative session, both show why NM could not even pass a state bill in to look at the feasibility of Horse Slaughter in NM. <http://www.aspca.org/about-us/press-releases/new-research-reveals-new-mexicans-strongly-oppose-slaughter-horses-human>, <http://www.bloodhorse.com/horse-racing/articles/76053/new-mexico-slaughter-facility-bill-rejected>

<sup>4</sup> Horses evolved only in North America with our native grasses and their natural predators. This has been proven scientifically by mitochondrial DNA and they have not changed though bred in captivity. <https://awionline.org/content/wild-horses-native-north-american-wildlife>

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1-zNiS1uqCWZ9PimwJpaVdY7NC57hxdGKDCLXbCEYb8c/edit?pli=1>, <http://www.nativetimes.com/news/environment/5505-are-wild-horses-native-to-us-blm-view-challenged> Horses as top down grazers are beneficial and increase biodiversity. Restoring Heterogeneity on Rangelands: Ecosystem Management Based on Evolutionary Grazing Patterns. SamulD.Fuhlendorf and David M.Engle DOI:10.1641/0006-3568(2001)051(0626:RHOREM02.0CO:2 BioOne Vol 51, Issue 8(August) 2001), A Generalized Model of the Effects of Grazing by Large Herbivores on Grassland Community Structure, D.G. Milchunas, O.E. Sala, W.K. Lauenroth, The American Naturalist Vol. 132, No. 1,(Jul.1988) pp87-106, Extirpation or Coexistence? Management of a Persistent Introduced Grass in a Prairie Restoration, Scott D. Wilson and Meelis Pärtel

Department of Biology, University of Regina, Regina, Saskatchewan, Canada, S4S 0A2

<sup>5</sup> Horses exhibit wild zebra behavior. Wild Horse Conspiracy Craig Downer

<sup>6</sup> <http://www.coronadoswcd.org/News.htm>

1. Blocking or trying to block the use of wildlife contraceptives<sup>10</sup> on New Mexico's wild horses
2. Covering up the actual source of the "tens of thousands" of abandoned horses in New Mexico; Kill buyer dumping of horses rejected at the Mexican Border<sup>11</sup>.
3. The state has labeled wild horses and abandoned horses rejected from slaughter together into one pot, as estrays<sup>12</sup>, abandoned domestic horses. WHOA has NM inspection of public records (IPRA) proof<sup>13</sup> that the Governor and State agencies know the actual source of these abandoned horses.
4. The State has intentionally and with malice, blamed these abandoned horses on poor New Mexicans, the economy, and specifically on nameless Indians<sup>14</sup>, relying on racism and classism to carry the day.
5. This Governor and her administration have ignored state law and continue to do so. The state statute passed in 2007 by Governor Richardson, the Honorable Senator Komadinda, with Wild Horse Observers Association (WHOA), defined and protects New Mexico State's Wild Horses (SB655<sup>15</sup> codified as NMSA 77-18-5).
6. Covering up the dumping of unhealthy horses from all over the country with New Mexico's wild horses, thus giving our wild horse herds the appearance that they just cannot make it here in the desert. If there are 3 or 6 destitute horses out of 200, the 3 will color everyone's view of wild horses capabilities. Some of the traits of abandoned slaughter rejects are, missing eyeballs, stranglers, starvation, an occasional brand, and ignorance of how to survive in the desert.
7. Predator hunting, and trapping<sup>16</sup>.
8. Tribes with wild horses on their lands are caught in the middle with both classes of horses. Hit by drought, a lack of predators (systematically killed by US predator Control), kill buyer dumping of horses which don't know how to survive, and wild horses. These tribes become easy targets of blame for the resultant "humanitarian" issues, though it is the killer buyer who has been criminally dumping, unbeknownst to the Indians who is culpable. This also strains the eco- system against the wild horses as does the lack of predators.
9. The State of New Mexico understands the root cause of these issues: **1) Proximity to slaughter in Mexico, 2) the condoned systematic killing of predators, even predator kill contests, for which New Mexi-KILL has now become infamous for, and finally, 3) the block on the use of wildlife contraceptive for wild horses in New Mexico.**

The "Task Force" on Horse Over Population<sup>17</sup> functions as both the mouthpiece, and planning center for this Cover-Up which New Mexico's horse advocates have come to know as "**New Mexico's PR campaign**"<sup>18</sup>. This "Task Force", now called a "Working Group", is replete with closed meetings<sup>19</sup> and with no website notification as required per statute<sup>20</sup>. It

<sup>10</sup> April 25<sup>th</sup> 2013 Most recent declaration to the Wild Horse Observers Association (WHOA) by New Mexico State Veterinarian Dr. David Fly "A written agreement with the legal owners of any animals that are to be treated must be in place." This though NMSA 77-18-5 defines a New Mexico State's wild horse which is not an stray, and therefore does not have an owner from which to gain permission.

<sup>11</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act\\_getPDF.cfm?PDF\\_ID=9501](http://ec.europa.eu/food/fvo/act_getPDF.cfm?PDF_ID=9501) See page 24 of 2011 Report on Slaughter Rejects at the Mexican Border: "19,203 live horses in 2,154 consignments out of 58,300 animals were rejected. Rejections were due to various reasons e.g. illness, injuries, inadequate identification and documentation etc."

<sup>12</sup> Statutes, Rules and Const. > NMSA (Unannotated) > CHAPTER 77 Animals and Livestock > ARTICLE 2 Livestock Board > 77-2-1.1. Definitions. (2001) <http://public.nmcompcomm.us/nmpublic/gateway.dll/?f=templates&fn=default.htm> See N.

<sup>13</sup> <http://whoanm.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/UNITED-STATES-equine-slaughter-feasibility.pdf> see pg 43

<sup>14</sup> <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/environment/horse-overpopulation-runs-wild-in-nm> Blame poor people and Navajo, no actual counts, no mention of kill buyer dumping, the reason the Task Force was put together. Over 19,000 horses rejected at the Mexican Border in 2011 alone!

<sup>15</sup> <http://www.nmlegis.gov/lcs/legislation.aspx?chamber=S&legtype=B&legno=%20655&year=07> SB655 NM State Wild Horse Bill

<sup>16</sup> [http://www.wildearthguardians.org/site/PageServer?pagename=priorities\\_wildlife\\_war\\_wildlife](http://www.wildearthguardians.org/site/PageServer?pagename=priorities_wildlife_war_wildlife)

[http://www.wildearthguardians.org/site/PageServer?pagename=priorities\\_wildlife\\_war\\_wildlife\\_livestock\\_losses](http://www.wildearthguardians.org/site/PageServer?pagename=priorities_wildlife_war_wildlife_livestock_losses)

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.krqe.com/dpp/news/environment/horse-overpopulation-runs-wild-in-nm> Blame poor people and Navajo, no actual counts, no mention of kill buyer dumping, the reason the Task Force was put together. Over 19,000 horses rejected at the Mexican Border in 2011 alone!

<sup>18</sup> <https://www.facebook.com/NewMexicoAgainstHorseSlaughter>

<sup>19</sup> From: "Sample, Penny B., NMLB" <Penny.Sample@state.nm.us> To: Patience O <patience\_odowd@yahoo.com> Cc: "Goetz, Katie" <kgoetz@nmda.nmsu.edu>; Bill Sauble <circledot@bacavalley.com>; "Jeff.witte@nmda.nmsu.edu" <Jeff.witte@nmda.nmsu.edu>; "Culbertson, Myles, NMLB" <Myles.Culbertson@state.nm.us> Sent: Monday, December 24, 2012 1:16 PM Subject: RE: Task Force (Horse Over population) The Horse Stakeholders meetings is not an agency function, it is a public discussion. No documents, no official actions, no official representatives, open record requirements, public meeting requirements, nor governmental websites. The attendees consist of members of the livestock industry and licensed equine shelters. If you wish to be recognized as some kind of official part of the group, you need to send a request to Bill Sauble or Department of Agriculture Cabinet Secretary, Jeff Witte. Neither Ms. Goetz nor I have any type of authority. **Best Regards Penny Sample, Administrator New Mexico Livestock Board 300 San Mateo, NE; Suite 1000 Albuquerque, New Mexico 87108 (t) 841-6156**

<sup>20</sup> Statutes, Rules and Const. > NMSA (Unannotated) > CHAPTER 10 Public Officers and Employees > ARTICLE 16D Sunshine Portal Transparency > 10-16D-3. Sunshine portal; department duties. (2011) : (14) a link to an open meeting tracker web site upon which each state

took 6 months and many letters and phone calls in order for the writer to find and attend these meetings. This appears to be a violation of the NM Open Meetings Act. The Task Force has misinformed and blamed the public, while sideways promoting horse slaughter, planning Auschwitz style “area euthanasia” and defaming Navajo’s by outlandishly slamming Navajo’s for “90,000” horses, with no census<sup>21</sup>, and no permission, for the last year.

## Proactive vs Reactive “Solutions”

1. Contraception versus Horse Slaughter or Area Euthanasia of New Mexico’s Wild Horses, including the Placitas Wild Horses.
2. End Kill Buyer Dumping in New Mexico legislatively, as other states have done by closing the border to Canada for horses to be slaughtered. Kill buyer dumping in New Mexico can be accomplished by also closing our New Mexican border to Mexico for horse slaughter, rather than *Beating the False Drum for Horse Slaughter*<sup>22</sup>, at the expense of New Mexico’s First Americans and their horses .
3. End Horse Slaughter.<sup>23</sup>

## First American’s Wild Horses - Proactive Solutions

### PZP immuno-Contraceptive and DNA Testing

Horses are not game animals and State Fish and Game departments have no jurisdiction over them. Natural predators were wiped out largely to protect the livestock industry and are replaced by hunters for deer and other ungulates, but for most wild horses there is no replacement for population control and this again plays into the rhetoric against wild horses.

The wild horses on tribal lands which are respected as wildlife, are caught in the middle without their massacred natural predators for population management. Ordinarily, in a severe drought, wild horses will just roam farther, and farther to find enough forage to survive. They can naturally roam 20 miles in one day for food and water. These amazing adaptations have kept wild horses alive in New Mexico for hundreds of years, even through the current 120 yr drought<sup>24</sup>.

However, in this instant, tribes are being blamed and vilified for issues caused by the policies of the United States government, in conjunction with the policies of the State of New Mexico. More is spent on predator control than on the entire Wild Horse and Burro Program.

The San Felipe Pueblo in New Mexico has augmented its Wild Horse Program to include wildlife birth control along with Windmill regeneration for water. The contraceptive is known simply as native PZP<sup>25</sup>. It is a feasible, non-toxic, and non-sterilizing, contraceptive, made from proteins of a pig’s uterus.

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agency shall post open meetings scheduled for the current month and the next month, including the time and place of the meeting, the subject of the meeting and an agenda;

<sup>21</sup> Some tribes actually have been hit by horse dumping by kill buyers if you go by missing eyes and brands.

<http://www.krge.com/dpp/news/environment/horse-overpopulation-runs-wild-in-nm> and also

<http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/02/26/1189605/-False-Drums-Beat-On-Horses-and-Tribes-in-New-Mexico#commentsars>

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.dailykos.com/story/2013/02/26/1189605/-False-Drums-Beat-On-Horses-and-Tribes-in-New-Mexico#comments>

<sup>23</sup> <http://whoanm.org/wordpress/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/UNITED-STATES-equine-slaughter-feasibility.pdf> See pg 43 Letter obtained by WHOA inspection of public record request (IPRA) to the Governor of New Mexico regarding kill buyer dumping and a request for a working group to deal with this problem.

<sup>24</sup> <http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/>

<sup>25</sup> <http://www.sccpzp.org/what-is-pzp/>

Unfortunately, the problem of horse dumping by kill buyers has complicated, as well as exacerbated, drought issues in New Mexico and this Pueblo is considering expanding its Wild Horse Program to include DNA testing to protect the wild herd, as well as to identify and assist horses that have been dumped as these dumped horses have not been able to thrive in this climate especially with the 120 yr drought. Moreover, they may dilute the genetics as well as diminish the grazing of the wild horse herd roaming there for hundreds of years.

**Please CALL and WRITE Governor Martinez**

**ASK her nicely to:**

1. Promote Contraception; remove the road-blocks with no legal basis requiring owner permission for darting NM state's wild horses.
2. End Kill Buyer Dumping in New Mexico legislatively.
3. Try respect the sovereignty of tribes.
4. Adhere to the New Mexico State's Wild Horse Bill. If a horse does not have an owner, it does not necessarily mean it is lost livestock - an estray.
5. Ban Horse Slaughter in New Mexico (Court is not required to stop horse slaughter in NM.)

Attachment 1

----- Original Message -----

**From:** Water Prisms

**To:** Orlando Lucero ; [nscherzinger@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:nscherzinger@sandovalcountynm.gov) ; [Don Chapman] ; [gwalters@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:gwalters@sandovalcountynm.gov) ; [D.Madalena] ; [Sheriff Douglas C. Wood](#) ; [kwiese@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:kwiese@sandovalcountynm.gov) ; [patrujillo@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:patrujillo@sandovalcountynm.gov) ; [Parker, Timothy, NMDOT](#) ; [kenneth.murphy@state.nm.us](mailto:kenneth.murphy@state.nm.us) ; [Phillip Rios](#) ; [Mike Neas]

**Cc:** [Sen. John M. Sapien](#) ; Rep. James E. Smith ; [aturrietta@da.state.nm.us](mailto:aturrietta@da.state.nm.us) ; [Ray E. Baca](#) ; [Bobby Pierce](#) ; [dave.fly@state.nm.us](mailto:dave.fly@state.nm.us) ; [Morgan, Cid H -FS](#) ; [susana.martinez2@state.nm.us](mailto:susana.martinez2@state.nm.us) ; [Barb Belknap](#) ; [Rosalie Rayburn](#) ; Carol Kennedy ; [Lynn Montgomery]; [agreenfogel@hearst.com](mailto:agreenfogel@hearst.com) ; [rda@hearst.com](mailto:rda@hearst.com)

**Sent:** Friday, June 28, 2013 1:53 PM

**Subject:** Re: Coronado SWCD's Order to Remove Livestock

## **Coronado Soil & Water Conservation District**

**P.O. Box 69 Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004**

***Will Ouellette, Chairman***

***Jim Pike, Vice-Chairman***

***Ted Montoya, Sec.-Treas.***

*Lynn Montgomery, Supervisor*

*Jon Couch, Supervisor*

**PRESS RELEASE**

## **Conservation Districts Support Horse Removal**

**Region 1 of the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts has adopted a resolution proposed by Coronado Soil and Water Conservation District that " the New Mexico Association of Conservation Districts (NMACD) provide assistance, inworking cooperatively with this and other SWCD's and with any and all relevant State and Federal agencies, to pursue removing these free-roaming estray horses not only from this District but throughout the State." Region 1 of the NMACD has seven member districts covering Bernalillo, Sandoval, Valencia, McKinley, and San Juan Counties. "Estray" horses are defined by state law as those running at large on public or private land, fenced or unfenced, whose owner is unknown.**

**The resolution was adopted on June 26 in Cuba at the regional meeting of the NMACD which was attended by supervisors and district managers from Regions 1 and 2, as well as representatives of the Forest Service, BLM, Game and Fish, USDA, NM Department of Agriculture and others. N.M. Secretary of Agriculture Jeff Witte told the gathering that he thought there are tens of thousands of free-roaming horses in New Mexico and he has formed a task force to address the problem. He said there are two issues, what to do with them, and how to educate the public about the horses' impact on the land. He compared the horse problem to the destructive feral hog expansion northward in the Rio Grande Valley.**

**The horse resolution will go before the state meeting of the NMACD in Raton October 9th. If adopted it will become policy of the NMACD and the organization will work to incorporate it into future state legislation.**