



WHO A SPECIAL EDITION

March 2016

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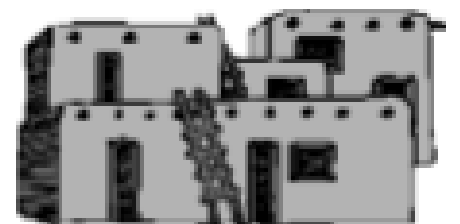
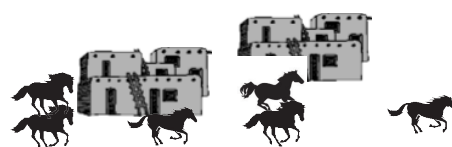


WHO A WINS vs NMLB in NM Supreme Court

Thanks to Placitan donations: Whoa filed suit against the NM Livestock Board for their illegal treatment and round ups of NM's wild horses in Placitas. The District Court Judge ruled initially against WHOA. However, upon appeal to the NM Appellate Court, 3 judges to 0 ruled in favor of WHOA. The New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB) and intervenors, represented by David Reynolds, then appealed to the NM Supreme Court. The NM Supreme Court ruled 4 to 0 against the NMLB and David Reynold's request for appeal. The case was then remanded back to the Appellate Court which issued a mandate to the District Court Judge in favor of WHOA. Hence, 7 judges to 1 have ruled in favor of the wild horses of New Mexico. A number of wild horses have already been saved due to these thoughtful and well based rulings. Please stay tuned to whoanm.org for court updates. It's not over yet! See whoanm.org for updates and court decisions.

Ramifications Include

- ◆ Wild horses in NM are not livestock as contended by the New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB). Hence they cannot be treated as trespass livestock on BLM lands.
- ◆ The BLM can no longer deem thousands of Placitan public comments in favor of the wild horses as "out of scope"!
- ◆ The horses of Placitas are wildlife, and are protected wildlife. If permitted to capture, the New Mexico Livestock Board (NMLB) has to have their DNA tested. Moreover, It is LEGAL to manage NM wild horses with PZP contraception.
- ◆ It is not legal to kill/auction NM's wild horses.
- ◆ NM Wild Horses are covered by the NM Animal Cruelty Law, unlike livestock, which are exempt from any protections.
- ◆ New Mexico's Sheriffs are statutorily tasked with protection of protected wildlife.
- ◆ The San Felipe Pueblo proposal for a Wild Horse Sanctuary CAN stop the plans for mining, highway, and more on the Buffalo Strip, and these wild horses CAN be on the Bureau of Land Mgt. lands.



Native Spanish Wild Horses of Placitas

91 to 97% !

WHO A protective wild horse legislation of 2007, carried by the Honorable Senator Komadina, has been upheld by the NM High courts! Therefore, the last 4 horses illegally rounded up after the Appellate Court ruling, were DNA tested by the NMLB. These tests prove that they are not "dumped" horses as has been incorrectly stated. The DNA results ranged from 91 to 97% Spanish! Importantly, a wild horse does NOT have to be Spanish to be wild or wildlife since horses have never actually domesticated. Upon release, they reform their natural family units.

Horses evolved here and ONLY here on the continent of North America for 55 million years! The current horses evolved here over 1 million years ago. By contrast, our native Bison evolved originally in Asia have only been here for 200,000 years.

In the last 30 years, a new science utilizing mitochondrial (maternal) DNA has shed new light on the natural history of many species. This is utilized by the foremost Natural History Museums and scientists. Mitochondrial DNA has proven definitively that the horse that "left" less than 8000 years ago is genetically the same horse, which later returned.

Moreover, domestication is a genetic change, but "taming" or "habituating" a wild animal to human contact is not domestication, biologically or legally speaking. Importantly, neither the grasses nor the natural predators of the horse changed in the horse's brief absence. Hence, horses are a re-introduced native species. As a true top down grazer, the horse has upper front teeth that mow, rather than pull, unlike bovines and all other ruminants (except camels). Unlike cattle, horses and Bison also roam naturally.

These Placitas horses, like ALL wildlife, are a **Natural Treasure**. They are environmentally important like wolves, Mt Lions, Bears, and Prairie Dogs!