

WHOA a non-profit corp.
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PLACITAS: Home of the Legally Wild Horses

Dear Friends and Neighbors of the Placitas Wild Horses,

Wow! What a year for our **LEGALLY WILD** Horses! They have new babies, new legal status, a new 2 mile fence, other fences repaired, an agreement with Santa Ana Pueblo on fencing, and a group in place called Equine Drought Relief (EDR) to feed them through severe droughts. By the way, feeding during severe drought does not domesticate them. Since there are no predators (mountain lions, bears) it mitigates long suffering. It is no different than a bird feeder. WHOA's future plans include herd size management in line with grazing allotments and utilization of dartable birth control in lieu of predators, as needed.

These very horses may be the Placitas ticket to keeping the BLM as an open space, though the BLM would not like to acknowledge this. The BLM knows what Placitas' land is worth; let's leave it at that. Placitan affidavits show these horses have been here for many years (in much greater numbers) with no ill environmental effect. Also, your property investment in Placitas will appreciate more/quicker if these lands are maintained as open spaces.



PLACITANS PROTECTING THEIR WILD HORSES SANTA ANA PUEBLO - BLM - OPEN SPACE FENCING

WHOA contracted Affordable Fencing for a 2 mile fence with 100% of each donation from kind Placitans, realtors, developers, animal lovers, and their business'. This fence is on BLM land surrounding La Farge to keep the horses off Santa Ana lands.

To complete this project, WHOA must contract another 2 mile fence this summer along the entire southern boundary of the Abq. Open Space in Placitas. This along with the fence above, will keep the horses out of the subdivisions, off the frontage road, and therefore, finally, out of Santa Ana lands. Gates at trails, and pass-throughs at each home, will be provided. It is permissible to change the fence to a different style adjacent to each home if desired.

PICTURES

Placitans and Equine Drought Relief repaired fences with materials supplied by WHOA, and herded horses as needed for safety purposes. The kind stewards pictured here even rappelled down steep canyons with heavy materials to provide fencing. They and others have given their ALL on many days, nights, and weekends. Thank you!

Photos by Lina Sosa, a La Mesa resident and fencer

LEGALLY WILD LEGISLATION!

Thanks to the honorable Senator Komadina (R) and Presidential candidate Governor Bill Richardson (D), New Mexico has set a nationwide precedent by having a legal state definition of a wild horse. Please thank them both! SB655 passed unanimously in the State House and only lacked one vote to be unanimous in our State Senate! Two other WHOA memorial bills passed unanimously, SM13 and SJM8. SJM8 requests the BLM and Forest Service (FS), to protect and preserve horses, like those in Placitas, on federal lands. This is the second time the State Senate has made this request to the BLM and this time the State House joined in the request. The unanimous votes these three bills have received prove the horses have statewide support.

This adds to the existing protections for the wild horses. The horses had already fit the definition of a wild animal on Albuquerque Open Space. The horses have been declared protected as Cultural Historic Properties under a state statute by a NM tribe. WHOA has 13 affidavits that prove that they are also protected under the 1971 Act as federally wild horses. In addition, data previously published in the Signpost shows that their Spanish Ancestry is of a significant level. New Mexico is still a free range state as well and WHOA will help you fence any animals out of your property. **And lastly, these free roaming horses could be the best ticket for Placitans to keep the BLM as an open space versus highway, oil drilling, long term mining, etc. WHOA and Las Placitas are both working toward preserving the BLM as an open space.**

BLM MINING ALERT! (SOUTH OF POWER LINES!!)

BLM Mining Permit Requests: Two local residents, who have had longstanding grazing permits, have now applied for MINING PERMITS SOUTH of the power lines, the same area for which WHOA has applied for the horses grazing. This is public information discovered through a Freedom of Information Act Request to the BLM; submitted and paid for by WHOA.

EAST PLACITAS WILDLIFE CORRIDOR SAVE HAVEN

Placitans at the east end of Placitas are also working for the wild horses. They have held people accountable who have trapped the horses, they have filed police reports on new comers harassing the wild ones, and with the help of the Albuquerque police, they have recovered and released a colt. Also, Laura Robbins and Peter Callan have started a petition to ensure safe passage/haven for the wild ones through a wildlife corridor. Others are setting aside acreage. **PLEASE sign this petition for a Wildlife Corridor on the WHOA website (<http://whoanm.org/projects.htm>).**

For those who are new to the area, we ask for you to understand that you are moving into a rural area and that the wildlife, including the horses, was here prior to us and are deserving of a space in our animal friendly community.

WHO A FUNDING NEEDS

ROCKIN HORSE ART GALLERY (Saturday!)

WHO A Silent Auction Fund Raiser on June 2nd, at 10am-3pm- during Placitas Appreciation Day. There will be BBQ! To donate art pieces, call David Cramer, 771-0236, or email at david@davidcramer.com.

WISH LIST

2 mile fence on south side of Albq. Open Space, targeted for July, \$13K needed. Send checks directly to WHOA (see address in letterhead) or deposit directly to WHOA at First State Bank in Placitas. You may also Paypal us, see instructions on our website,

THANK YOU! TO THE PLACITAS ORGANIZATIONS WHO CARE

LAS PLACITAS ASSOCIATION (LPA)
ROCKIN HORSE ART GALLERY
CORONADO ENTERPRISES
WILD ABOUT HORSES ART STUDIO
LA PUERTA REALTY
TACO CABANA
XERICO NURSERY

THOMAS J ASHE DEVELOPER
ASH COLLINS
ILLUMINARIA, DAVID CRAMER
PLACITAS ANIMAL RESCUE
AFFORDABLE FENCING
ERNESTO LOPEZ,
FARRIER / HERRERO

ANIMAL RIGHTS MOBILIZATION (ARM)
EQUINE DROUGHT RELIEF
ACME
HEARTS FOR HORSES
PLACITANS EAST TO WEST!!!
LA FARGE
DIAMOND TAIL

Have an idea or question? Have a gripe, or need assistance? Please call the WHOA, we'd like to help.

Thanks for your support and respect of the horses and open spaces,

Patience O'Dowd and Cindy King co-founders

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