



Wild Horse Fire Brigade – A Natural ESG Based Solution for Wild Horse Management

Wild Horse Fire Brigade (WHFB) is a California-based all-volunteer 501-c-3 nonprofit public-benefit corporation that has developed a novel “nature based” solution that will help prevent catastrophic wildfire and at the same time help save and protect America’s wild horses.

Right now, over 60,000 American mustangs are in government holding pens and roundups are continuing at an alarming pace. At the same time, wildfires continue to rage across our Western states year after year causing \$-billions in losses. WHFB envisions repurposing these mustangs via humane relocation from areas of conflict and from expensive off-range holding facilities and placing them into ‘critical wilderness’ areas that are ecologically and economically appropriate, where **their naturally evolved symbiotic grazing will mitigate annual vegetative growth that is a root cause of ongoing wildfire risk.**

WHFB’s approach is a cost-effective, ecologically-sound natural resource management paradigm driven by a sustainable nature-based solution that will help prevent catastrophic wildfire and climate impacting toxic smoke, among many other proven benefits, including naturally recycling and sequestering carbon compounds into soils and plants. The plan is synergistic with the highest environmental socially conscious ESG standards.

The plan also facilitates more livestock grazing in appropriate areas as it saves and protects America’s iconic wild horses, a goal desired by the millions of American horse enthusiasts and owners.

US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is spending \$150M/year of taxpayer money to hold publicly-owned American mustangs in less than desirable off-range facilities. WHFB’s plan can set them free, prevent wildfires and save taxpayers millions of dollars annually by reducing the frequency, size and intensity of wildfires. Reducing wildfire also reduces homelessness of families displaced by thousands of burned homes.

How WHFB Works

WHFB envisions repurposing these mustangs via humane relocation from areas of conflict and from expensive off-range holding facilities and placing them into wilderness areas that are ecologically and economically appropriate, where their naturally-evolved symbiotic grazing will mitigate annual vegetative growth that sustains ongoing wildfire risk. Each mustang that is deployed pursuant to this model will graze 5.5-tons of wildfire fuels annually, and will harmonize with the natural environment and while doing so, will economically eliminate one of the root causes of wildfire: overgrown grass and vegetation.

The Plan works via the natural maintenance of grass and brush wildfire fuels in remote wilderness areas beyond the Wildland Urban Interface (‘WUI’) via the introduction of large-bodied herbivores (wild horses). This makes defensible spaces around homes and communities on or near the WUI far more effective.

Science supports the fact that vegetative fuel reduction reduces both the frequency, size and intensity of catastrophic wildfire. Wild horses are native keystone herbivores in north America and reduce fuels at the rate of 5.5-tons per horse, per year. They are symbiotic to forest ecosystems because they make trees fire resilient by grazing fuels under the trees they use for shelter year-round, and their scratching breaks-off low limbs also known as fire ladders. Wild horse droppings fertilize trees and unlike ruminant livestock, horses don’t digest the majority of the native plant and grass seeds they eat, resulting in natural reseeding of native flora, which is beneficial to all wilderness ecosystems and resident fauna, right down to pollinators.

Another goal is to support the amendment of Section 1339 of the 1971 Free-Roaming Wild Burro and Horse Protection Act, to allow federal managers to also directly rewild horses into suitable designated wilderness.

Learn more at WildHorseFireBrigade.org. Contact us at Contact@WildHorseFireBrigade.org 858.212.5762



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