

AZSFWC Resolution of Support for the AZ Game & Fish Commission's position on Feral Burros in Arizona

Whereas, Arizona Sportsmen for Wildlife Conservation (AZSFWC) has received the Arizona Game and Fish Commission's (Commission's) January 15, 2016 Resolution "Imploring the Federal Government to Meet Their Obligation To Control Excessive Populations Of Feral Burros To Reduce Adverse Impacts To Wildlife Habitat And Public Safety" and supports said Resolution, and

Whereas, AZSFWC also supports the Mohave County Board of Supervisors' Resolution number 2015-127 which encourages the federal government to control excessive populations of burros in their county, and

Whereas, AZSFWC recognizes there is an extreme overpopulation of feral burros in Arizona, and they are having a drastically negative effect on our Sonoran desert habitat and the native wildlife that lives there, and

Whereas, the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act requires the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to establish appropriate management levels (AML) that ensure a thriving natural ecological balance, and to remove excess burros to maintain this balance, and

Whereas, the AML for **ALL** herd management areas in Arizona is 1,316 burros, but the current statewide burro population is estimated at 4,183 animals and rising, and

Whereas, the AML for the Black Mountain herd management area in Mohave County is 478 burros, but the current population is almost three times that number at 1450 burros, and

Whereas, the non-native burros now outnumber our native bighorn sheep within the Black Mountains and are 340% above the established AML numbers statewide, and

Whereas, Arizona is home to a great diversity of wildlife, many of which rely on riparian areas for subsistence including threatened and endangered species like the Southwestern Willow flycatcher and the Yellow-billed cuckoo, and others with sensitive subsistence requirements like the Sonoran desert tortoise, all of which are being negatively impacted by the feral burros' habitat destruction, and

Therefore be it resolved, that AZSFWC strongly urges the BLM to undertake whatever steps are necessary to reduce the feral burro population across the state of Arizona to meet the AML and reduce the negative impacts on our State's wildlife and habitat.

Adopted and approved by 23 Member Organizations represented on the AZSFWC Board on March 16, 2016.

AZSFWC Resolution supporting the AZ G & F Commission's position on feral burros in AZ – 3-16-2016



AZSFWC Member Organizations supporting the Resolution from the AZ Game & Fish Commission on Feral Burros in AZ

Anglers United AZ Antelope Foundation AZ Bass Federation Nation AZ Big Game Super Raffle AZ Bowhunters Association AZ Catfish Conservation Association AZ Chapter National Wild Turkey Federation AZ Chapter Safari Club International AZ Council of Trout Unlimited AZ Deer Association AZ Desert Bighorn Sheep Society AZ Elk Society AZ Houndsmen **AZ Outdoor Sports** Coconino Sportsmen Mohave Sportsman Club **Outdoor Experience 4 All** South Eastern AZ Sportsmen Club Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership **SRT Outdoors** The BASS Federation **Xtreme Predator Callers**

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