



# *BLM News*

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CONTACT: Mark Struble (775) 885-6107

## **Living Legends Looking For Good Homes By Helyse Sina**

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the State of Nevada, Department of Agriculture will offer fifteen saddle-trained gelding horses and one halter-trained jenny burro for competitive-bid adoption at the Warm Springs Correctional Center in Carson City on Saturday, June 3 at 10:00 a.m. Bidding for all horses begins at \$150.

The ten BLM horses and five State of Nevada estray horses have received up to 120 days of training by the prisoners at the Warm Springs Correctional Center under the direction of Hank Curry, Nevada Department of Corrections trainer. The nine-month-old burro, Dawn, was born at the National Wild Horse and Burro Center at Palomino Valley. Dawn was raised by Dawn and Bert Lappin of Wild Horse Organized Assistance (WHOA). Dawn was named after Dawn Lappin, current WHOA chairwoman. The proceeds from Dawn's adoption will be donated to WHOA, which was started in 1971 by Velma Johnston, also known as Wild Horse Annie, Dawn Lappin and other supporters.

The animals may be viewed on June 3 from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m., with oral-competitive bidding beginning at 10 a.m. Potential adopters must be at least 18 years of age and must either be approved in advance by BLM wild horse and burro specialists in their area or applications will be accepted the day of the adoption by the BLM and the Virginia Range Protection Association adoption agent for the State of Nevada estray horses. Adequate facilities for humane care are required.

As part of the adoption activities, four palomino wild horses from BLM public lands in northern Nevada will join the U.S. Marine Corps Mounted Color Guard. Three Marines in dress blue uniform will take possession of these trained horses prior to the beginning of the competitive bid adoption.

Each adopter will receive their adopted animal's health care record, which shows that the animal has received a set of initial inoculations for all major equine diseases, including West Nile Virus. A current Coggins test has also been administered to each animal to check for Equine Infectious Anemia.

Adopters must provide their own transportation. Stock trailers with side-swinging gates are required. Two- horse trailers and trailers with drop ramps are not acceptable. Individuals are asked to bring a halter and lead rope appropriate for the size of animal(s) adopted.

Photos and information about each animal are posted on the BLM Nevada website at: [www.nv.blm.gov](http://www.nv.blm.gov) (click on June 3 Adoption on right-hand column) or by calling 1-866-4MUSTANGS. An application form may be downloaded from the BLM website. For more information, contact Susie Stokke at (775) 861-6469.

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The Warm Springs Correctional Facility training program is a cooperative venture between the State of Nevada, Department of Agriculture, Nevada Department of Corrections (Silver State Industries) and the Bureau of Land Management to help perpetuate the animals and the rangelands these animals live on. When the number of horses surpasses the Appropriate Management Level in a designated Herd Management Area, the additional animals are gathered and brought to a BLM preparation and holding facility. Horses in the prison program are selected from a prison-run wild horse holding facility contracted by BLM Nevada. The prison training program, which started in 2000, has proven extremely successful in adopting wild horses to good homes and in easing some of the stress on over-grazed rangelands.

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