

Nonprofit 'Wild Horse Fire Brigade' Takes Leadership Role in Wild Horse Advocacy with Best-In-Class 'ESG'

ESG represents 'environmental, social and governance,' providing enhanced stakeholder-centric approach to conducting business, in this case, nonprofit business

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/EINPresswire.com/ -- 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 as family units 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.



A new foal 'Buffy' shows an epigenetic response to being born in a cold climate. This response may come from older post Ice Age wild horse gene-lines



A family band of wild horses grazes a wilderness area

WHFB's approach is a novel, 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.

How WHFB Works


WHFB envisions repurposing native species American mustangs via humane relocation of family units away from areas where they are deemed to be in conflict with commercial public land use enterprises and from expensive off-range holding facilities and placing them into remote critical 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 WHFB 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.



A family band of wild horses grazing dry fuels - safer than any other fuel reduction method

WILD HORSE FIRE BRIGADE  **Wild Horse Fire Brigade – A Natural ESG Based Solution for Wild Horse Management**

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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.

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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.

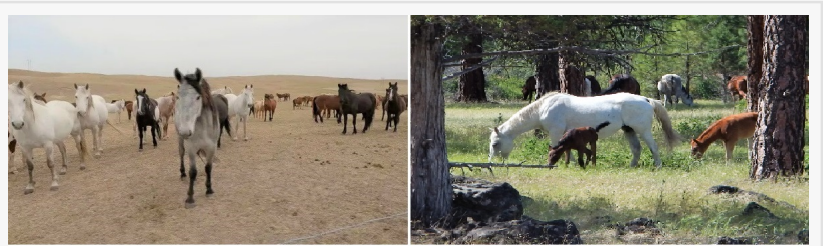
Learn more at WildHorseFireBrigade.org. Contact us at Contact@WildHorseFireBrigade.org 858.212.5762

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Wild Horse Fire Brigade 'Executive Summary' of ESG synergies

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Left Photo: CBS 4 Denver. BLM's Plan for Wild Horses

Right Photo: William E. Simpson II. Nature's Plan

The horses seen in the CBS image above on the left are wild horses that were rounded-up by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and relocated to the barren ground of the failed Haythorn cattle ranch in Maxwell Nebraska. Many decades of poor land management and over-grazing of these lands has stripped-off most of the native cover crop, leaving unproductive ground. The horses seen in the CBS photo are just part of the approximate 900 wild horses that are no longer living naturally as 'wild and free' horses pursuant to the intent of the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act (WFRHBA). Now, as captive horses, they must be cared-for at great taxpayer expense. The BLM pays the Haythorn family \$1-million annually to feed these now captive horses, which is just part of their flawed off-range grazing program nationally, costing taxpayers nearly \$100-million annually. Adding financial insult to injury, these horses will also require additional care that was unneeded when they were wild, including but not limited to population control. This is a human-created problem, because these horses are not living among their co-evolved predators (bears, mountain lions, wolves and coyotes). Science proves that wild horse must be allowed to live in immediate proximity to their co-evolved natural predators that provide the critical benefits of evolutionary Natural Selection. This evolved natural process eliminates sick, diseased and elderly horses from the herd, thereby maintaining the genetic vigor of the species. Therefore, as is the BLM's reckless practice, these captive horses will be treated with dangerous chemicals, like 'PZP' and 'GonaCon' that are posited as so-called 'contraception'. The use of PZP and/or GonaCon is by definition Selective Breeding, which science shows leads to genetic erosion and ultimately additional expenses that must be shouldered by taxpayers. The photo on the right, shows wild horses naturally grazing in a forest. They are Nature's keystone herbivores and they symbiotically reduce and maintain wildfire fuels (grass and brush). Their wildfire grazing is 'symbiotic' because horses, with a simple stomach, pass most of the seeds they consume undigested and intact and able to germinate in their droppings. This is naturally-evolved process that helps complete the life-cycle of the grasses and plants horses consume by spreading the undigested seeds in their humus and biome-rich dung. Wild horses also make trees more fire resistant by reducing flashy grass and brush wildfire fuels under and around trees, as well as breaking-off dead limbs from the trees (aka: fire ladders) via scratching, as well as fertilizing these trees, which they also use for year-round shelter.

Ultimately, keeping wild horses from living in our critical wilderness areas and putting them into captivity in expensive and ecologically obtuse off-range holding is like putting the fire department in jail during wildfire season. There is a natural, holistic and humane solution to managing America's wild horses!

Learn about a proven solution at: <https://www.WildHorseFireBrigade.org>

Side by side comparison between current BLM wild horse management vs. Wild Horse Fire Brigade's re-wilding and relocating model

How Wild Horse Fire Brigade's Plan takes the leadership role in ESG regarding wild horse advocacy:

Positive 'Environmental' Effects

1. Reduced catastrophically-hot wildfires that incinerate forests, wildlife and wildlife habitat.
2. Reduced toxic wildfire smoke and it's impact on climate change.
3. Reduced need for dangerous prescribed burning that also sends more greenhouse gases (smoke) into the atmosphere. Reduced need for toxic herbicides.
4. Reseeding of native flora cover-crops that enhance ecosystems and co-evolved dependent fauna (deer, birds, pollinators). This also maintains the carbon-sink made-up of living grasses and plants, which also produce oxygen.
5. Grazing wild horses sequester carbon compounds back into the soils via their dung, rich with seeds of native plants.
6. Reseeding of native flora cover-crops enhances refreshment of the aquifer via precipitation and reduces catastrophic erosion and adverse impacts on water quantity, quality. Reduced

erosion and water turbidity into streams and rivers benefits fisheries.

Positive 'Social' Effects

1. Reduced frequency, size and intensity of catastrophic wildfires reduces the numbers of homes and businesses incinerated by wildfires, which reduces the numbers of people made homeless by burned homes. Currently, thousands of homes are destroyed by wildfires annually causing thousands of people and families to become homeless. This in turn puts even more stress on publicly-funded social services.
2. Reduced wildfire smoke reduces health impacts of the smoke on the health of humans and children who are most vulnerable.
3. Businesses that are spared being burned or adversely impacted by wildfire and smoke benefit, providing relief from lost jobs and economic impacts.
4. Wildfire related mental health issues are reduced.
5. Rewilded horses saves taxpayers \$-millions in costs of off-range holding of wild horses; and reduced wildfires saves taxpayers and insurers \$-billions annually, These huge saving can fund other worthy programs that benefit communities and society.

Positive 'Governance'

1. WHFB's board membership is made-up of a diverse group of dedicated people supporting ongoing considerations of the best available science, research and adaptive management principles for the holistic, natural and humane management of American wild horses.
2. WHFB's board is a leader in role-modeling volunteerism at the officer and board-level.
3. WHFB's board supports transparency of operations through extensive stakeholder education and communication.

Wild Horse Fire Brigade is in the business of implementing a nature-based wild horse management paradigm that saves native species American Wild Horses.

And uniquely in the world of nonprofits supporting wild horse advocacy, Wild Horse Fire Brigade's plan to accomplish the goal of saving wild horses is synergistic with the highest environmental socially conscious ESG standards.

What is ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance)?

ESG represents 'environmental, social and governance,' providing an improved stakeholder-

centric approach to conducting business, in this case, a nonprofit business whose mission is to: Reduce catastrophic wildfire and save American Wild Horses through better management.

ESG is based on the principle that the environment is one of several important factors in determining an organization's commitment to sustainable solutions. As ESG increasingly becomes top of mind for company directors, it's important to consider holistic impacts of sustainable conservation solutions.

To help frame the concept and understanding of ESG, we can identify some the issues and how they fit into the categories of environmental, social and governance. Examples in multiple corporate business segments might include these issues and categories:

Environmental - Preservation of our natural world

- Climate change
- Carbon emission reduction
- Water pollution and drought
- Air pollution
- Deforestation
- Greenhouse gas emissions

Social

Consideration of humans and our inter-dependencies

- Success for taxpayers and advocates of wild horses and nature
- Gender and diversity inclusion
- Community relations
- Mental health

Governance

Logistics and defined process for running a business or organization

- Board of directors and its makeup
- Transparency of operations

William E. Simpson II

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