

Meeting Date: January 28, 2025
Agenda Item No. 17
Distribution Date: January 24, 2025
Batch No. 02

From: [Kathleen Hayden](#)
To: [Desmond, Jim](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [FGG, Public Comment](#)
Cc: [Bill Simpson](#); kats27735@gmail.com
Subject: Re: [External] Re: Prioritizing Wildfire Safety in San Diego County
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025 3:44:10 PM
Attachments: [Board of Supervisors approve Heritage Herd June 2013.pdf](#)
[Dr. Tom King 5-16-13 to Supervisor Jacob.pdf](#)
[State Parks Historian II Alexander D. Bevil.docx](#)
[BLM Russ Kaldenberg Letter to SD County Supervisor Jacob.docx](#)
[ALDF Letter re Judd Helenza Eviction.pdf](#)
[RS 2477 Resolution for San Diego Co 052302 \(draft copy\) will get you the formal final copy ASAP.msg](#)

RE Comments

Honorable Supervisor Jim Desmond,
Hunter McDonald Land Use Policy Advisor

Thank you, Hunter, for your kind response and notice of the Board Meeting

Given the volume of Coyote Canyon wild horse documents provided to the San Diego Board of Supervisors for over two decades, it may be more appropriate to maintain the Board's jurisdiction over the issue instead of Parks and Rec.

For the official record and meeting on Tuesday's Board of Supervisors hearing (January 28, 2025), please include all correspondence and attachments regarding the Coyote Canyon horses' as supporting comments.

Please also note that the restoration of the Coyote Canyon horses to public lands was endorsed in 2014 by Supervisors Bill Horn and Supervisor Dianne Jacobs, Congressman Duncan Hunter, and Darrell Issa, and State Senators Bill Morrow and Dennis Hollingsworth. Additional documents are attached.

Please consider a feasibility analysis on modern brush management best practices, including the use of livestock such as cattle, goats, and sheep, by restoring all prior allotments for livestock use.

Brush abatement on RS 2477 easements would provide necessary and imperative access. See attached for Board RS2477 dedication.

To include livestock on the MSCP without the Coyote Canyon Heritage herd as a Resource is an injustice and may render the MSCP fatally flawed.

Please make the necessary amendments to facilitate this.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Hayden, POB 236, Santa Ysabel CA 92070

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/environmental-practice/article/perspectives-from-the-field-wild-horses-are-cultural-resources/9A1E06EA91DD57630C2E1FB2312251D1>.



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

County of San Diego

JUN 10 AM 10 56

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

THOMAS J. BEKA
CLERK
OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2070

DATE: June 18, 2013
TO: Board of Supervisors
SUBJECT: Coyote Canyon Heritage Herd (DISTRICTS: ALL)

SUMMARY

Overview

It is believed that the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd has roots dating back to 1769 when the first mission was built in San Diego. The herd is the ancestral remnants of horses that carried a Spanish military expedition into California in the late 1700s. The missions supplied Spanish bloodstock horses to the nearby Rancherias, run by the Ranchos and Native Americans. Over the next 200 years, most of the horses were driven into Utah or removed from Coyote Canyon.

In 2010, a group of citizens was concerned with the Heritage Herd becoming extinct and formed a 501(c)(3) called the Coyote Canyon Caballos d'Anza (CCCd'A). CCCd'A is a non-profit dedicated to restoring this genetically viable horse herd back to the wild, primarily on public lands. Fourteen mares were brought from the Southern Utah herd to be bred with the four remaining Coyote Canyon stallions. At the moment, the 14 mares and 4 stallions are being held on private land. Today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd to federal lands.

Recommendation(s)

Supervisor Dianne Jacob

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to the Bureau of Land Management requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage horse herd on federal lands.

Fiscal Impact

There is no fiscal impact.

Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

SUBJECT: Coyote Canyon Heritage Herd

Background

It is believed that the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd has roots dating back to 1769 when the first mission was built in San Diego. The herd is the ancestral remnants of horses that carried a Spanish military expedition into California in the late 1700s. The missions supplied Spanish bloodstock horses to the nearby Rancherias, run by the Ranchos and Native Americans. Over the next 1200 years, most of the horses were driven into Utah or removed from Coyote Canyon.

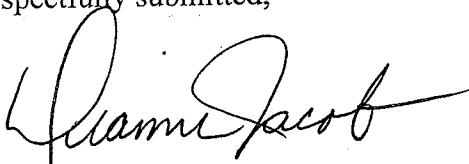
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Currently, the Coyote Canyon Herd is listed by the international equine conservation non-profit Equus Survival Trust as a critically endangered/nearly extinct breed. CCCd'A would like to create a working plan with BLM for the re-designation and relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Herd on the appropriate Herd Areas (HA's) designated to them under the 1971 Congressional Act "The Free Roaming Wild Horse and Burro Act." CCCd'A considers the Heritage herd the living icons representing 243 years of Spanish Mexican occupation, Native American Ranching and Western pioneering in San Diego County. Today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to BLM requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd to federal lands.

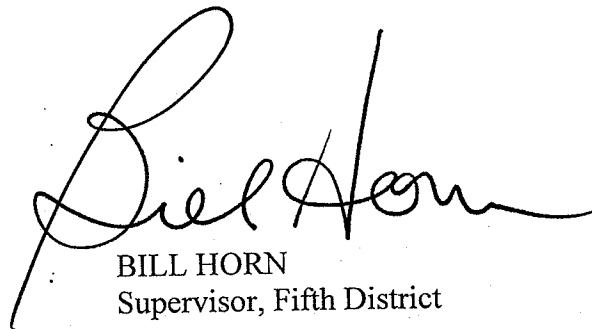
Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

N/A

Respectfully submitted,



DIANNE JACOB
Vice-Chairwoman, Second District



BILL HORN
Supervisor, Fifth District

ATTACHMENT(S)

N/A

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED
 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:
N/A

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:
N/A

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:
N/A

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:
N/A

ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):
N/A

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: District 2, Board of Supervisors

OTHER CONCURRENCE(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Janice Downs

Name
619-531-5522

Phone
Janice.Downs@sdcounty.ca.gov

E-mail

Edward Sprecco

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619-531-5555

Phone
Edward.Sprecco@sdcounty.ca.gov

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Thomas F. King, PhD, LLC
PO Box 14515, Silver Spring MD 20911, USA
Telephone (240) 475-0595 Facsimile (240) 465-1179
tfking106@aol.com, <http://crmplus.blogspot.com/>

*Training, writing, consultation, dispute
resolution in cultural resource & heritage
management, environmental impact assessment*

Author of *Our Unprotected Heritage* (Left Coast Press 2009) and other books on cultural resource management

May 16, 2013

Supervisor Dianne Jacob
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Jacob:

Although I am not a resident of San Diego County, I have done a good deal of work there over the years for academic institutions, government agencies and Indian tribes, focusing on management of the County's rich cultural heritage. With this as background, I want to add my voice to those encouraging the County to allow the Heritage Wild Herd horses to remain on the Highland Valley pasture.

In my opinion, the United States and California state governments have slipped sadly away from the national policies established by Congress in the National Historic Preservation Act, by interpreting as "historic properties" only the dead leavings of the past without consideration for its living, breathing elements – like wild horses. Several years ago we attempted to nominate Coyote Canyon to the National Register of Historic Places as a step toward restoring its wild horse herd to residence there, but were thwarted by state officials who simply could not understand that wild horses, as living creatures, could be part of the heritage that Congress created the National Register to protect. Wild horses, like other culturally significant species, tend to fall into a bureaucratic crack between sites and buildings that all can recognize as "historic" and species that specialists find to be endangered.

Though the federal and state governments may lack the vision and creativity to recognize wild horses as heritage assets that should be preserved and managed, I am very glad to learn that the County of San Diego seems to be more broad-minded. I applaud your efforts to provide living space for the herd, and encourage the County to make vigorous efforts to prevail upon the Bureau of Land Management and other federal and state agencies to be similarly responsible.

Sincerely,



July 11, 2001

Alexander D. Bevil, Historian II

Kathleen Hayden

PO Box 236

Santa Ysabel, CA 92070

Dear Mrs. Hayden,

In response to your e-mail, I must assure you that, as a State Park Historian, I am committed to identifying, preserving, and interpreting all known and potentially significant historical resources within Anza-Borrego Desert State Park to the best of my abilities. However, as you can well imagine, the park contains hundreds, if not thousands, of such resources. These include, but are not limited to buildings, structures, prehistoric as well as historic archaeological sights, features, artifacts and cultural landscapes. Although the park was established in 1933, its historical history goes back centuries. The park's historical landscape contains evidence of attempts by Native American, Spanish Colonials, Mexican settlers, and early Anglo-American ranchers and homesteaders' attempt to survive in the harsh desert environment. There are historical resources that reflect the park's development and use after it's founding in 1933. These include park-related buildings and structures as well as those built by the U.S. Military during World War II and others that are now under park ownership.

The Department of Park and Recreation's responsibility toward the preservation and stewardship of these important resources is quite clear. In addition to Executive Order W-26-92, the California Public Resources Code (PRC) 5024 and an operational Memorandum of Agreement with the State Office of Historic Preservation (SHPO) mandate that DPR preserve and protect the park's historical resources by avoiding any adverse effects to the resources. I will strive to incorporate a clear understanding of DPR's responsibility in the identification, protection, and interpretation of Anza-Borrego Desert Park's significant historical resources in the upcoming General Plan. The means to do this is through a series of Goals and Guidelines.

For example, a Goal might be to Preserve and interpret historic Civilian Conservation Corps sites, structures, and features within the park, while providing for DPR staff and visitor use. Guidelines for their preservation may include that they be preserved and protected through the implementation of applicable DPR policies and the application of professional standards for their maintenance, repair, and rehabilitation. Another Guideline would recommend that further study be undertaken to better understand the CCC contributions to the park and to develop management goals and an interpretive plan for the CCC structures and features.

Regarding the National Historic Preservation Act, DPR is not obligated to comply with NHPA unless a Federally assisted or licensed undertaking has the potential to have an effect on a State-owned property that is eligible or on the National Register of Historic Places. For example, a Federal grant to assist in the restoration of one of the CCC buildings.

However, all projects undertaken by DPR pertaining to historical resources are subject to the California Environmental Quality Act. The Act recognizes that historical resources are part of the California environment. According to CEQA, a "historical resources" is "a building, structure, object, district or landscape that is significant in the architectural, engineering, scientific, economic, agricultural, educational, social, political, military or cultural annals of California" that is listed or eligible for listing in the California Register. The latter is "an authoritative guide to the State's historical resources to which properties are considered significant for the purposes of a CEQA review." Therefore, DPR must determine if any proposed projects will have any significant effect on historic resources. If they do, an effort must be made to avoid or mitigate significant effects, where feasible.

Finally, the California Department of Parks and Recreation is required to follow departmental directives regarding the management of historic resources. According to the directives, historic resources are to be regarded as equally important as natural resources. Specifically, the directives state that DPR shall devise and implement a continuing program for the identification, evaluation and description of significant historic resources throughout California. Regarding Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, the management of its historic resources must be built around their interpretation as part of a continuous flow of human experience within the park, with appropriate emphasis on key features and circumstances.

While DPR is mandated to take appropriate steps to preserve, protect, restore and interpret historic resources, the ultimate responsibility lies in people like you. There is no "CEQA" compliance police force compelling us to comply

with CEQA. That is why those of us charged with preserving Anza-Borrego's historic resources appreciate your concern and diligence.

If you have any further questions or issues regarding the stewardship of the park's historic resources, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Alexander D. Bevil, Historian II
Southern Service Center

14044 Hemlock St.
Trona, CA 93562
May 14, 2013

San Diego County Supervisor Dianne Jacob
1600 Pacific Hwy, Room 335
San Diego, CA 92101

Dear Supervisor Jacob,

As a former field manager for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) in the Palm Springs-South Coast Field Office and responsible for administering BLM lands in western San Diego I personally witnessed wild horse herds on public lands in Beauty Mountain and Coyote Canyon. I also had the pleasure of watching the public enjoy their presence. I am happy with the presence of the Heritage Wild Herd in the Highland Valley pasture and encourage San Diego County to allow them to remain and reconstitute the important Coyote Canyon herd.

The pasture is an important component of the reestablishment of the historic herd, involving the partnership of the BLM with the Coyote Canyon Caballos d'Anza, a not for profit organization established to ensure that adequate resources exist for a healthy herd. The proposed addition of the pasture to the Grassland Preserve while supporting the County's Multiple Species Conservation Program and Historic preservation commitments is of great value to the community. I am a firm believer that animals are a major component of the historic setting of cultural landscapes, traditional cultural places, and historic sites. I support the presence of wild horses in your area and wild burros in other parts of southern California. Thank you for your concern. If you would like to have any staff member talk with me you may do so at 760 585-5280.

Very truly yours,

Russell L. Kaldenberg, Historic Preservation Specialist, MA, RPA

February 10, 2014

VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mark D. Feinberg
HEINZ & FEINBERG
707 Broadway, Suite 1800
San Diego, CA 92101
(619) 238-5454
mark@heinzfeinberg.com



**Re: Eviction of Coyote Canyon Caballos D'Anza by Judd
Halenza, Jr., Owner, Judd RR Investments, LLC**

Dear Mr. Feinberg:

I am writing on behalf of Ms. Kathleen Hayden, co-founder of the Coyote Canyon Caballos D'Anza ("CCCdA"), who received a 30-day Notice of Termination of Tenancy under California Civil Code Section 1946 from your client, Judd Halenza. The thirty days have since expired and Mr. Halenza recently contacted Ms. Hayden to inquire about the removal of horses she has kept on his property.

You may be aware that the herd on Mr. Halenza's property consists of wild horses who are protected by the Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act ("the Act"), 16 U.S.C. §§ 1331-1340. These horses belong on federally managed land, which the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") has acknowledged and pledged to provide. Unfortunately, their transition back to public lands has been delayed by a series of agency missteps. Until these missteps are remedied, your client's land serves as the only available habitat for these critically endangered horses.

Ms. Hayden is currently working vigorously to force the relevant agencies to reestablish a permanent habitat for the herd on local public lands to ensure the continuity of this precious heritage. In the meanwhile, I urge you to suspend the eviction proceedings to spare both Mr. Halenza and Ms. Hayden the expense of litigating the issue.

I understand Mr. Halenza's land will become dedicated open space as mitigation for the loss of burrowing owl habitat, with an easement due to be granted to the San Diego Nature Conservancy in 2018. In the interim, I urge you to pursue adding the horses to the inventory of wildlife on the property so they can be included in the Habitat Conservation Plan. It is possible that Mr. Halenza could receive additional mitigation credits for their presence. Please let me know if we can assist you in the process in any way.

I appreciate your consideration of these important matters and look forward to speaking with you further, should you have any questions on the relevant laws.

Yours truly,

Jenni James, Litigation Fellow

170 East Cotati Avenue
Cotati, California 94931

T 707.795.2533
F 707.795.7280

info@aldf.org
aldf.org

Winning the case against cruelty

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From: [Robert & Kathleen](#)
To: [Highway Market](#)
Subject: RS 2477 Resolution for San Diego Co 052302 (draft copy) will get you the formal final copy ASAP
Date: Thursday, July 18, 2002 5:00:47 PM
Attachments: [header.htm](#)

RESOLUTION

Resolution No. xx-xx

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO, ASSERTING ROAD RIGHTS-OF-WAY CREATED UNDER UNITED STATES REVISED STATUTE 2477 THROUGHOUT SAN DIEGO COUNTY

Section 1. WHEREAS:

- (a) The United States Congress, intending to promote the settlement of the Western United States by establishment of highways, granted the right-of-way for the construction of highways over public lands, not reserved for public uses in Section 8 of the Mining Act of 1866, re-enacted and recodified as revised Statutes 2477 (R.S. 2477) 43. U.S.C. Section 932; and
- (b) San Diego County, when established in 1850, included considerable areas for ranching, farming, and mining, with intensive prospecting and exploration for valuable minerals, forest and agricultural products; and
- (c) Much of the mountains, desert and valley areas of the County became laced with networks of wagon roads, trails, horse and footpaths constructed, maintained and used to facilitate such activities; and
- (d) Many of these roads, trails and paths have been in general use by the public since that time, and many have been further developed into mining roads, logging roads, and access roads, for the removal of minerals, forest products, agricultural products; and
- (e) Other of these roads, trails and paths have continued in use by the general public for hunting, fishing, hiking, horseback riding and other recreational uses; and
- (f) The Board of Supervisors recently affirmed the importance of recreational trails as a public facility and has directed ongoing planning activities for Regional and community trails to address countywide needs; and
- (g) There now exists in San Diego County, an extensive network of roads, mining roads, logging roads, trails, truck trails, horse trails, hiking trails and footpaths, all of which provide access to and throughout National Forest, Bureau of Land Management lands, Anza Borrego Desert State Park (previously much of which was federal land), and other federal lands, representing a substantial portion of the land within San Diego County; and
- (h) These rights-of-way are essential to the County's Transportation and Public Access Systems and the public has relied on and continues to rely on them since prior to October 21, 1976; and

- (i) Search and Rescue, Resource Management, Fire Protection, Health and Law Enforcement Personnel rely on these access roads to carry out important functions; and
- (j) Public access to routes of travel are essential to the economic, social and political well being of the communities within the County; and
- (k) These rights-of-way are important to the free flow of commerce in the United States; and
- (l) Other property owners may have succeeded the United States as owners of servient estates traversed by rights-of-way acquired by the County and the public pursuant to the grant in R.S. 2477 and the rights of those property owners in the servient estate is limited by the obligation to honor the rights-of-way accepted by the public pursuant to the grant offered under R.S.2477; and
- (m) The elderly, physically handicapped and disabled persons require and have used routes of travel accessible by motor vehicle to gain access to the public lands, resources and private property within the County; and
- (n) These rights-of-way also provide access to a variety of improvements made upon the public lands by the public, Federal permittees and citizens, including wells, springs, corrals and watering facilities for wildlife, and such maintenance has been historically performed, and such maintenance cannot be performed in the absence of these customary vehicle routes; and
- (o) The County's right, title and interest in these rights-of-way include the right, but not the obligation, to perform construction and maintenance which is reasonable and necessary for safe passage for the uses established prior to the repeal of R.S. 2477 and as those uses may increase over time based upon currently applicable safety standards; and
- (p) The rights-of way acquired pursuant to R.S 2477 have not been abandoned or waived except where formal procedures provided under State law have been followed; and
- (q) It is the policy of the County to ensure that all rights-of-way acquired pursuant to R.S 2477 be retained in perpetuity for the use and the benefit of the public unless abandoned in accordance with applicable law.

Section 2. NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Diego, State of California, as follows:

- (1) That all of the above facts are true and that this Board has jurisdiction over the subject matter of this Resolution.
- (2) The County and the public have acquired rights-of-way pursuant to R.S. 2477 in those certain ways provided by California and Federal Law, including, but not limited to, the following:
 - a. Use by the County or public with the intention of creating a public highway over public lands; or
 - b. Construction or maintenance of a highway; or
 - c. Inclusion of the right-of-way in a State, County or Municipal road system, plat, description, or map of county roads; or
 - d. Expenditure of any public funds on the highway; or
 - e. Execution of a Memorandum of Understanding or other agreement with any other or

private entity or agency of the Federal Government that recognizes the right or obligation of the County to construct or maintain a highway or a portion of a highway; or

f. Any other act by the County or the public consistent with State or Federal Law indicating acceptance of a right-of-way; or

g. Used by the public for a period required by the California Civil Code.

- (3) The County hereby finds that any roads located in the County, which fall in the purview of the conditions above set forth, are R.S. 2477 rights-of-way and the County expects all Federal agency actions to be consistent with this assertion.
- (4) The County has had a good working relationship with local federal land managers on several large projects and plans to continue to foster that relationship in the interest of achieving common goals and the public good.
- (5) The County shall not be deemed to consent or have consented to the exchange or abandonment of any R.S 2477 rights-of-way unless a formal written resolution specifically so stating has been passed at a duly called public meeting of the County Board of Supervisors. No employees or agents of the County have been given authority to abandon, waive or exchange any R.S 2477 right-of-way and any prior action by any employee or agent purporting to take such action was void when taken, unless in the case of exchange, later ratified by formal action of the Board of Supervisors.
- (6) Where an R.S 2477 right-of way has been acquired through public use, the failure by the County to conduct mechanical maintenance of said right-of-way shall not affect in any way the status of said right-of-way as a highway acquired by the public pursuant to R.S. 2477.
- (7) The omission of any right-of-way from any plat, description, or map of County roads or highways, whether required by State law or otherwise, shall not be deemed to waive or be failure to acquire the grant offered under R.S 2477.
- (8) Scope of Right-of-Way:
 - a. Scope of the R.S 2477 Right-of-Way is that which is reasonable;
 - b. The scope of R.S. 2477 Right-of-Way includes the right to widen the highway as necessary to accommodate the increased travel associated with all accepted uses, up to where applicable, improving a highway so travelers can safely pass each other, and to modify or change horizontal alignment, and/or vertical profiles where the roads require for public safety and to meet current design standards.
- (9) This resolution is not intended to include any street or highway into the County maintained road system, nor affect any roads previously included in such system, and the County does not accept any obligation or responsibility for maintenance of any roads not already in the County maintained system.
- (10) Inclusion of roads in the County maintained road system shall be solely in accordance with Streets and Highways Code Section 941 et seq.
- (11) The County encourages good communication with federal land managers and solicits their cooperation in identifying common goals and acknowledging the important public benefits associated with public access.
- (12) The County prefers, whenever possible, to resolve specific disputes over public rights-of-

way by working cooperatively with federal agencies to find administrative remedies.

- (13) The Clerk of the Board shall also cause copies of this Resolution to be sent to the following:
- (a) County Administrative Office
 - (b) County Counsel
 - (c) Director Public Works
 - (d) Director Planning and Land Use
 - (e) Director Parks and Recreation
 - (f) Sheriff
 - (g) **Fire Chief**

 - (h) Senator Barbara Boxer
U.S Senate
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C 20510-0505
 - (i) Senator Dianne Feinstein
U.S Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C 20510-0504
 - (j) Congressman Duncan Hunter
U.S House of Representatives
2265 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C 20515-0552
 - (k) Congressman Darrell Issa
U.S House of Representatives
1725 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515-0548
 - (l) Bureau of Land Management, California State Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W-1834, Sacramento, California 95825-1886
 - (m) Bureau of Land Management, California District Office,
6221 Box Springs Blvd., Riverside, California 92507
 - (n) Honorable Gale Norton, Secretary of the Interior, U.S. Department of the Interior, 1849
C Street, NW, Washington, D.C.
20240
 - (o) Mendel Stewart, Project Leader, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 2722-D Loker Avenue
West, Carlsbad, CA 92008
 - (p) Honorable Ann Veneman, Secretary of Agriculture, 14th & Independence Ave, SW,
Room 200A, Washington, D.C. 20250
 - (q) Anne Fege, Forest Supervisor, Cleveland National Forest, 10845 Rancho Bernardo Road
#200, San Diego, Ca 92127-2107
 - (r) David Van Cleve, District Superintendent – Colorado Desert District, Anza-Borrego
Desert State Park, 200 Palm Canyon Drive, Borrego Springs, CA 92004

From: [William E. Simpson II](#)
To: [Kathleen Hayden](#); [Desmond, Jim](#); [McDonald, Hunter](#); [EGG, Public Comment](#); [Glen Morgan](#)
Cc: kats27735@gmail.com; [Bill Simpson](#)
Subject: [External] Re: Prioritizing Wildfire Safety in San Diego County - Wild Horse Fire Brigade - A Proven, Wildfire Tested Plan!
Date: Thursday, January 23, 2025 7:38:31 PM
Attachments: [Screenshot 2025-01-12 at 2.22.22 PM.png](#)
[Screenshot 2023-12-01 at 6.53.23 PM copy.png](#)
[Screenshot 2025-01-23 at 7.35.37 PM.png](#)
[Screenshot 2025-01-21 at 10.41.26 AM.png](#)

Greetings:

Honorable Commissioner Desmond, Captain Morgan, Mr. McDonald and Mrs. Hayden

Using our herd of 200 wild horses, we created and maintained large grazed areas (thousands of acres) of reduced-managed grass and brush fuels.

Then in July of 2018, when a wind-driven grass and brush wildfire broke out on I-5 Freeway, it raced over the privately-owned landscape that was choked with grass and brush (where our wild horses did not graze), and was headed towards the old growth forest (Cascade-Siskiyou Monument) and the college town of Ashland Oregon, which was placed on 'standby' for immediate evacuation.

By the time that deadly (took human life) wind-driven wildfire reached the landscape managed by the wild horses, it had already incinerated 38,000-acres of primarily grass and brush. But once it reached the huge grazed-in fire breaks, the fire lost it's ferocity... less fuel = less heat and less flame. CALFIRE stopped that deadly wildfire in the immediate area where the horses created thousand-acre fire breaks!



William E. Simpson II speaking to investigative film maker, Micah Robin from Colorado College, during primary filming for the documentary '*Fuel, Fire & Wild Horses*' in May 2018, *2-months before* the deadly, 38,000-acre grass and brush fueled *Klamathon Fire*. In the background are the horses managing wildfire fuels, which created several large fire-breaks (including a 3,000 acre fire break at Agate Flat that protected the old-growth forest just 2-miles to the north), which ultimately benefited CALFIRE's suppression efforts in July 2018, two months later. The wind-driven blaze was stopped before it incinerated the college town of Ashland, OR. William Simpson was on the Camp Creek fire-line for 9-days serving as a technical advisor to CALFIRE.



These wild horses stood as guardians of the old growth forest where they live during the deadly Klamathon Fire. They cost-effectively grazed-in large-scale wildfire breaks that kept the grass and brush fuel wildfire from entering the forest.



A family band of wild horses calmly graze wildfire fuels even as the deadly 2018 Klamathon Fire approached. Wild horses have evolved on the North American landscape over millions of years and over that period have been subjected to times of volcanic eruptions and thousands of wildfires. Unlike domestic horses, which usually panic in the face of wildfire, wild horses on the range will calmly graze, even as a wildfire is approaching, instinctively knowing what to do, and when to do it. Photo: William E. Simpson II – July 9, 2018.

Our mixed herbivory plan can **cost-effectively** and naturally help protect urban and rural areas.

 **Wild Horse Fire Brigade** ...
Published by William Simpson II
🔒
· January 17 at 11:20 AM · 🌐

4th Major Award for wild horse documentary film *HORSE of NATURE*
HORSE of NATURE will screen at AmDocs in Palm Springs, CA in March
(See Image)
Trailer & Film Images: <https://filmfreeway.com/projects/3241287...> See more





This is the 4th major award for this powerful documentary!

Synopsis: In the remains of the wildfire stricken rural town of Hornbrook, CA lives a resilient slice of the Wild West. A spectrum of wild individuals, wild horses, and a vision of hope and healing for the people and the land after a devastating Wildfire.



See insights and ads

Boost again

 570

17 comments 97 shares

Our new documentary, ***HORSE of NATURE*** recounts the struggles of a small town of 400 people (Hornbrook, CA) and how Wild Horses made the difference for our survival and recovery.

WATCH NOW:

HORSE of NATURE – The Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/998882803/001b27d9c1?share=copy>

Film Images: <https://filmfreeway.com/projects/3241287>

We teach wild horse ecology and wildfire fuels management with CALSTATE UNIV.

ABC NEWS RENO: <https://www.kolotv.com/video/2024/06/13/could-wild-horses-help-prevent-wildfires-one-non-profit-is-making-it-happen/>

NBC NEWS REPORT: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P0czRsK1RIY>

Insurance Industry Analysts Doc about our Plan: <https://www.ambest.com/video/video.aspx?s=1&rc=wildhorses323>

The Guardian: <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2023/jul/27/are-americas-wild-horses-the-answer-to-wildfires-a-photo-essay-aoe>

NPR National Science: <https://www.npr.org/2022/10/30/1131042723/preventing-wildfire-with-the-wild-horse-fire-brigade>

The Cool Down: <https://www.thecooldown.com/green-business/wild-horses-wildfire-prevention-william-simpson/>

Reasons To Be Cheerful: <https://reasonstobecheerful.world/could-wild-horses-help-fight-wildfires/>

Here are a few important 2-min videos for your consideration... Please watch them...

1. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XEFEzq47Xmw>
2. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yRUNFYgiSnc>
3. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Sr-Y9kcSRbA>
4. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XFAK798pgGw>

ABC NEWS Medford: https://www.kdrv.com/video/more-wild-horses-equals-less-fire-fuels/video_8b3c4ab9-9e43-5c6f-ae4b-89351b795ab1.html



We are available to discuss how we can cost-effectively Prevent further wildfire disasters in San Diego County, surrounding counties, and other western states.

Regards, William

Capt. William E. Simpson II - USMM Ret.
Founder - Exec. Director - Wild Horse Fire Brigade
Ethologist - Author - Conservationist
Wild Horse Ranch
P.O. Bx. 202 - Yreka, CA 96097
Phone: 858. 212-5762
[Wild Horse Fire Brigade \(https://www.wildhorsefirebrigade.org/\)](https://www.wildhorsefirebrigade.org/)

William E. Simpson II is an ethologist living among and studying free-roaming native species American wild horses. William is the award-winning producer of the micro-documentary film 'Wild Horses'. He is the author of a new [Study](#) about the behavioral ecology of wild horses, two published books and more than 500 published articles on subjects related to wild horses, wildlife, wildfire, and public land (forest) management. He has appeared on [NBC NEWS](#), [ABC NEWS](#), [CBS NEWS](#), theDoveTV and has been a guest on numerous talk radio shows including the [Lars Larson Show](#), the Bill Meyer Show, [NPR Jefferson Public Radio](#) and [NPR National Radio](#), [Global News](#), [The Guardian](#), and [AM BEST TV](#).

Check out William's Film Freeway account for films, studies, TV & radio interviews, and more [HERE: https://filmfreeway.com/WilliamESimpsonII](https://filmfreeway.com/WilliamESimpsonII)

On Thursday, January 23, 2025 at 06:49:14 PM PST, Glen Morgan <captainglenhmorgan@yahoo.com> wrote:

Received, thank you.

[Sent from Yahoo Mail for iPhone](#)

On Thursday, January 23, 2025, 3:43 PM, Kathleen Hayden <kats@ehayden.org> wrote:

RE Comments

Honorable Supervisor Jim Desmond,
Hunter McDonald Land Use Policy Advisor

Thank you, Hunter, for your kind response and notice of the Board Meeting

Given the volume of Coyote Canyon wild horse documents provided to the San Diego Board of Supervisors for over two decades, it may be more appropriate to maintain the Board's jurisdiction over the issue instead of Parks and Rec.

For the official record and meeting on Tuesday's Board of Supervisors hearing (January 28, 2025), please include all correspondence and attachments regarding the Coyote Canyon horses' as supporting comments.

Please also note that the restoration of the Coyote Canyon horses to public lands was endorsed in 2014 by Supervisors Bill Horn and Supervisor Dianne Jacobs, Congressman Duncan Hunter, and Darrell Issa, and State Senators Bill Morrow and Dennis Hollingsworth. Additional documents are attached.

Please consider a feasibility analysis on modern brush management best practices, including the use of livestock such as cattle, goats, and sheep, by restoring all prior allotments for livestock use.

Brush abatement on RS 2477 easements would provide necessary and imperative access. See attached for Board RS2477 dedication.

To include livestock on the MSCP without the Coyote Canyon Heritage herd as a Resource is an injustice and may render the MSCP fatally flawed.

Please make the necessary amendments to facilitate this.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Hayden, POB 236, Santa Ysabel CA 92070
<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/environmental-practice/article/perspectives-from-the-field-wild-horses-are-cultural-resources/9A1E06EA91DD57630C2E1FB2312251D1>.