

Advisory Board Recommendations to BLM and USFS

January 2025 Advisory Board Meeting

- 1) The Board recommends in 2025 that the USFS and the BLM create detailed, measurable 5-year plans describing how they will incrementally reduce population size and growth in order to ultimately achieve range-wide AML. The plans should prioritize application of fertility control, administered remotely and/or in concert with gather-removals.
- 2) The Board recommends in 2025, and going forward, even if removals are constrained by availability of off-range holding space, application of fertility control should be prioritized as a tool to stabilize population growth in every HMA or WHT. This should include HMAs or WHTs where AML has not been achieved, and should be applied by gather, hold, release and/or by remote darting.
- 3) The Board recommends that the BLM acquire a contractor for developing an immediately implementable, 2025-onward fertility control management protocol framework to maintain AML at the 45 HMAs currently at or near AML.
- 4) To the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior, the Chief of the Forest Service and the National Director of the Bureau of Land Management: the Board recommends the formation of an interagency task force/planning group during the 2025 calendar year to investigate the feasibility and cost benefit of an interagency Wild Horse & Burro adoption center/facility to be located specifically in the Eastern United States.