SUBJECT: Improved Management Actions are Needed for Wild Horses & Burros and Our Public Rangelands

Dear **Senator/Congressman/Congresswoman NAME**,

As your constituent and a citizen who supports the sustainable management of our nation’s natural resources, I am writing to request your action to improve management of our nation’s wild horses and burros to protect our public rangelands.

Federal agencies currently tasked with managing our wild horses and burros, including the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the US Forest Service (USFS), are failing at obtaining the mission prescribed in the Wild and Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of maintaining wild horses and burros in a “thriving natural ecological balance.” Current management strategies, combined with Congressionally-imposed restrictions on management options, have created a dire situation that risks the health of our public rangelands, wildlife, wild horses, livestock, and all other multiple uses of the range.

More than 67,000 horses and burros are currently on our public lands managed by the BLM and USFS, while these agencies estimate that these lands can sustainably support no more than 30,000 individuals. Populations exceed appropriate management levels by well over 115%, degrading the habitat and harming the functionality of our important rangeland ecosystems.

More importantly, these wild herds continue to grow at 18-20% per year, doubling in size every 4-5 years. Within 4 years, we will have over 130,000 horses and burros on our rangelands unless changes to our management strategies are made. The need and the costs of management options continue to increase.

I join a wide range of sportsmen, livestock producers, wildlife enthusiasts, and land conservationists – and organizations that represent these interests – to request your attention to this matter. Our nation needs immediate action to ensure our public rangelands, and all of the multiple uses that rely on them, are protected.

Please visit the National Horse & Burro Rangeland Management Coalition at [www.wildhorserange.org](http://www.wildhorserange.org) for more information.

Sincerely,

**NAME OF CONSTITUENT**