



United States Department of the Interior
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
National Headquarters
Washington, DC 20240
<https://www.blm.gov>



**DECISION MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,
RESOURCES AND PLANNING**

DATE: July 10, 2023

FROM: Holle' Waddell, Division Chief, Wild Horse, and Burro Program

SUBJECT: Request for Approval to Sell Wild Burros, up to 3,000 over the next five years to Mark Meyers of Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue.

INTRODUCTION

Per IM No. 2018-066: Guidance for the Sale of Wild Horses and Burros, the Wild Horse and Burro (WHB) Program is requesting approval for Mark Meyers or Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue (PVDR) to purchase up to 3,000 sale-eligible wild burros, over a five-year period. The burros will be placed with PVDR burro adoption centers throughout the US for placement into private care.

PVDR will purchase the animals for \$25 each.

BACKGROUND

Peaceful Valley, with its nationwide network of Ranch Facilities and Satellite Adoption Centers, is the country's leader in rescue, sanctuary, adoption, and education. PVDR strives to provide solutions to the many problems that plague wild burros.

Since 2005, PVDR has purchased and found homes for approximately 1,500 BLM burros. Once the burros arrive and rest at their rescue facilities in Arizona and Texas, they will be transported to one of PVDR's training facilities and made ready for adoption throughout the US. Even when adopted, the burros remain a part of the PVDR program through a "reverter clause" in their adoption policy.

Under this clause, ownership reverts back to the PVDR location in which they adopted the burro(s) in any case when the adopter can no longer provide proper care. Any burros with medical conditions or deemed too wild or aggressive for adoption will be placed on one of PVDR sanctuaries where they will live for the remainder of their lives.

POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

PVDR is a respected organization and has a good track record of caring for and adopting hundreds of BLM burros and other Federal and state burros.

RECOMMENDATION

Myers, through PVDR, has provided homes for approximately 1,500 donkeys in the past 20 years. It is supported by Arizona and recommended that Bureau of Land Management enter into an agreement with Mark Meyers of Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue for the next five years, be approved.

ASSISTANT DIRECTOR'S DECISION

APPROVE

DISAPPROVE

DISCUSS

Brian St George
Acting Assistant Director
Resources and Planning

Date