

REM 151, Rangeland Principles Fall 2019

Wild Horses & Feral Animals

Visit <https://www.blm.gov/programs/wild-horse-and-burro>, to answer the questions below:

- Describe the “Wild-Free Roaming Horses and Burros Act”
- How are wild horses and burros defined by federal law?
- Who is Velma B. Johnston?
- Does the BLM remove wild horses to make room for more cattle grazing on public rangelands?
- As of March 1, 2019, what was the wild horse population estimate in Idaho?
- Define HMA.

Horse Rich, Dirt Poor *(adapted for the NCL Education, Interpretation, and Partnership video discussion guide).*

Watch https://youtu.be/q6h242vy_q8 and answer the following questions.

- What management strategies are used in the thriving meadow?
- What is the limiting resource in the meadow?
- How much money does the BLM spend each year caring for the over 50,000 excess wild horses?
- What impact does the overpopulation of wild horses and burros have on trout, and how specifically is trout habitat affected?
- What is the “worst case scenario” for the future?
- What are the pros and cons of interventions such as fertility control and increased adoptions?

Wild vs. Feral

- The term “Wild” and “Feral” is controversial in many Natural Resource issues, especially concerning horses.
 - Define “Wild”
 - Define “Feral”
- **Read the following article, “Feral vs. wild horses”** (High Country News, April 11, 2013)
[https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.hcn.org/blogs/range/feral-vs-wild-horses_!MhfXWAnT7Wk!2Jf9hhIpoBEdkRRI6xQ-IZR1XPzJUYyMCgAR1WeSXLXKJC29U2B99SevDOCWFDf\\$](https://urldefense.com/v3/_https://www.hcn.org/blogs/range/feral-vs-wild-horses_!MhfXWAnT7Wk!2Jf9hhIpoBEdkRRI6xQ-IZR1XPzJUYyMCgAR1WeSXLXKJC29U2B99SevDOCWFDf$)
- In your own words, answer the follow question, *“does the label really matter?”*