



FREES POST-SUMMIT SURVEY RESULTS

10/30/2020

Action items for the Population Management Working Group:

1. Identify and support comprehensive research that includes wildlife management, sustainable horse management, other uses and users, to better address the comprehensive analyses necessary for managing HMAs. Research should engage and communicate with stakeholders.
2. Conduct comprehensive research that includes wildlife management, sustainable horse management, other uses and users, to better address the comprehensive analyses necessary for managing HMAs. Research should engage and communicate with stakeholders.
3. Identify and support collaborations with local groups to accomplish monitoring such as the 'cooperative monitoring agreement' programs that exist with BLM and NGOs.
4. Identify and support comprehensive research on when and how to use different fertility control tools using multiple replicates, and how they affect equid behavior and social structure.
5. Create a repository for fertility control options based on published research, publish current and upcoming fertility control options, collaborate with other groups to inform recommendations.
6. Collaborate with local groups to accomplish monitoring such as the 'cooperative monitoring agreement' programs that exist with BLM and NGOs.
7. Define what a thriving ecological balance is
8. Create an inventory for monitoring HMA's (Find where data is available, identify data gaps, map HMA's)
9. Create a repository for fertility control options based on published research, publish current and upcoming fertility control options, collaborate with other groups to inform recommendations

10. Create a riparian area and watering site disturbance metrics that work on a site-specific scale rather than an AIM scale. We need upland too but riparian would be the priority.
11. Conduct comprehensive research on when and how to use different fertility control tools using multiple replicates, and how they affect equid behavior and social structure. Also need a better understanding of horse and native wildlife interactions, plus livestock, across a range of ecosystems and how this is affected by AML

Action items for the Rangeland Conditions Working Group:

1. Identify and support comprehensive research that includes wildlife management, sustainable horse management, other uses and users, to better address the comprehensive analyses necessary for managing HMAs. Research should engage and communicate with stakeholders.
2. Identify and support research leading to a better understanding of horse and native wildlife interactions, plus livestock, across a range of ecosystems and how this is affected by AML.
3. Analyze conditions on HMA's to determine departure from ecological potential, identify cause of disturbance, define, recommend, and implement actionable solutions
4. Define thriving ecological balance.
5. Draft riparian area and watering site disturbance metrics that work on a site-specific scale rather than an AIM scale. We need information on upland areas, but riparian areas would be the priority.

Communication and Outreach Actions Items

1. Create a consistent message that we can use to communicate the immediacy of the wild horse problem.
2. Identify the top knowledge gaps from the public knowledge survey and craft next survey questions to educate urban residents.
3. Build a stakeholder communication or engagement plan to identify and prioritize each group or individual that identifies as a stakeholder regarding WHB management. FREES

Network reaches out to each to ask how they would like to be involved in and communicate with the Network.

4. Create a plan of how to use the survey to inform communications (social, press, etc).
5. Develop a congressional outreach/tour program to educate Congressional members and staff specifically targeting staff from House and Senate Natural Resource Committees.
6. Create a repository for horse and range related peer reviewed science.
7. Create cost estimates for communication outreach methods available to FREES.
8. Define thriving ecological balance.
9. Create a repository for all relevant case law and precedence.
10. Create an education promotion that we can present at state and county fair booths, and elementary schools that addresses key knowledge gaps.
11. Create a Facebook promotion that addresses the Gen Y and Baby Boomers for each of these videos, post to Twitter to get the younger generations.
12. Develop information on how other cultures and countries use and manage horses.
13. Take each question of the survey and create a YouTube video/channel that is available to the public that explains current knowledge and the different aspects of the opinion questions

Business/Implementation Plan Actions Items

1. Create a network of regional working groups that provide a local opportunity to share science, discuss issues, and recommend sound decisions.
2. Create a shared Vision statement for FREES network
3. Identify funding partners for the FREES network.
4. Encourage Western States to identify resource needs including holding facilities and contractors for private Government partnerships.
5. Develop transparent processes and communications regarding seeking and spending endowment funds.

6. Create and plan a facilitated multi-day working group meeting next Spring.
7. Determine how endowment funds are prioritized.

Additional Comments:

- I think it all depends on the COVID Pandemic and what will be allowed. If we can all meet in person, I would suggest a more hands-on approach utilizing tours of rangelands and holding facilities if economically feasible.
- In all the statements you have identified in this survey... I never once saw the word DIVERSE I still see a propaganda agenda...there needs to be balance and a need to identify, in totality the problem... which has multi-facets."... what is the whole truth? Understand the effects of Geoengineering, solar minimal etc. I have 3-4 others that would also participate and will send them the emails/zoom info when I receive Thank you.
- Tools to support holistic management and best practices for communication/network management so that FREES is successful in supporting BLM.
- I think more areas need to be highlighted, the horse issue is not just CA, NV and WY. In the SW, we have issues with horses and NMMJM habitat, MSO habitat and wolves of course.
- Better communication if virtual again. Science and advocacy groups - how to work together, how we see things differently with different biases and how to reach across the table to work together - might want a good mediator for that!
- This summit was excellent in presenting new information, being open and friendly to everyone and in providing group participation even over ZOOM. Zoom should continue since not everyone will be able to afford the time or money for attendance.
- Congressional update on plans and progress for maintaining necessary funding commitments for management needs
- Let's all hope we can meet in person next time...
- Science talks should be geared toward a lay audience.
- Increase discussion time, but have breakouts only in small groups

- I know there was a lot of concern over the in person part of the symposium. I made connections that would have never occurred online and have a renewed interest and list of tasks for this winter to support the outreach and rangeland conditions work groups. thank you for providing this opportunity.
- keep up the good work.
- We need more interaction with BLM & Congressional reps We need more time for discussion in the working groups A spring working group conference would be helpful, but needs to include actual BLM people from the Ground Up
- More time spent in small groups doing problem solving.... MUCH less time on the presentations. We need to know the new science but it should be kept to just the newest and best.
- Have presenters on-site