

# **WILD HORSE AND BURRO ECONOMICS**

In 2005 advocates acquired adoption data from BLM over a period ranging from the adoption program's inception through December 31, 2004. The data was separated according to various states plus the District of Columbia, based on adopter zip codes. The purpose for this data was to estimate the economic contribution of the Adopt-a-wild Horse or Burro Program.

Most of the money adopters spend on adopted animals stays in the region's economy where the animals are located, as opposed to the export of dollars for foreign made consumer goods. We wanted to calculate what benefits were derived when citizens directed portions of their disposable incomes into the agricultural sector in support of adopted animals.

We used as a basis a 1990 estimate on the average costs of maintaining horses published by Sonoma State University. The schedule on the following page was based on these calculations.

Since the schedule was published, Texas A&M University has published new horse maintenance estimates that nearly double the values presented in 2004 dollars, at least with respect to calculating forward.

**Contributions to State Agricultural Economies by Adopted Wild Horses & Burros**

State	# Adopted	\$ Contribution (1)	(Rankings by # Animals Adopted)			
AK	85	1,700,000	1	CA	22,288	445,720,000
AL	3,815	76,300,000	2	TX	16,393	327,860,000
AR	4,604	92,080,000	3	SD	10,071	201,420,000
AZ	5,162	103,240,000	4	OK	9,919	198,380,000
CA	22,288	445,720,000	5	OR	8,429	168,580,000
CO	7,336	146,720,000	6	TN	7,391	147,820,000
CT	157	3,140,000	7	CO	7,336	146,720,000
DC	9	180,000	8	ID	7,101	142,020,000
DE	159	3,180,000	9	WY	6,767	135,340,000
FL	4,234	84,680,000	10	UT	6,589	131,780,000
GA	3,498	69,960,000	11	NE	6,011	120,220,000
IA	4,041	80,820,000	12	MO	5,712	114,240,000
ID	7,101	142,020,000	13	MT	5,289	105,780,000
IL	2,572	51,440,000	14	NV	5,196	103,920,000
IN	2,113	42,260,000	15	AZ	5,162	103,240,000
KS	3,775	75,500,000	16	KY	4,849	96,980,000
KY	4,849	96,980,000	17	AR	4,604	92,080,000
LA	2,918	58,360,000	18	FL	4,234	84,680,000
MA	245	4,900,000	19	WA	4,113	82,260,000
MD	581	11,620,000	20	MS	4,111	82,220,000
ME	143	2,860,000	21	IA	4,041	80,820,000
MI	2,304	46,080,000	22	AL	3,815	76,300,000
MN	2,299	45,980,000	23	KS	3,775	75,500,000
MO	5,712	114,240,000	24	GA	3,498	69,960,000
MS	4,111	82,220,000	25	NC	3,232	64,640,000
MT	5,289	105,780,000	26	OH	3,176	63,520,000
NC	3,232	64,640,000	27	PA	3,004	60,080,000
ND	2,673	53,460,000	28	LA	2,918	58,360,000
NE	6,011	120,220,000	29	ND	2,673	53,460,000
NH	205	4,100,000	30	WI	2,633	52,660,000
NJ	312	6,240,000	31	IL	2,572	51,440,000
NM	2,121	42,420,000	32	SC	2,505	50,100,000
NV	5,196	103,920,000	33	MI	2,304	46,080,000
NY	1,318	26,360,000	34	MN	2,299	45,980,000
OH	3,176	63,520,000	35	NM	2,121	42,420,000
OK	9,919	198,380,000	36	IN	2,113	42,260,000
OR	8,429	168,580,000	37	VA	1,791	35,820,000
PA	3,004	60,080,000	38	NY	1,318	26,360,000
RI	38	760,000	39	WV	918	18,360,000
SC	2,505	50,100,000	40	MD	581	11,620,000
SD	10,071	201,420,000	41	NJ	312	6,240,000
TN	7,391	147,820,000	42	VT	250	5,000,000
TX	16,393	327,860,000	43	MA	245	4,900,000
UT	6,589	131,780,000	44	NH	205	4,100,000
VA	1,791	35,820,000	45	DE	159	3,180,000
VT	250	5,000,000	46	CT	157	3,140,000
WA	4,113	82,260,000	47	ME	143	2,860,000
WI	2,633	52,660,000	48	AK	85	1,700,000
WV	918	18,360,000	49	RI	38	760,000
WY	6,767	135,340,000	50	DC	9	180,000
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>204,453</b>	<b>4,089,060,000</b>				
<b>AVERAGE:</b>	<b>4,089</b>	<b>81,781,200</b>				

This schedule is proudly presented by the  
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(1) Projections based on average 20 year life expectancy after adoption and average costs for hay, grain, corral & shelter, equipment & professional services (e.g., farrier, veterinarian, etc.)

