

AZ-NM TRIBAL PERSPECTIVES OF EXCESS HORSES ON TRIBAL RANGELANDS

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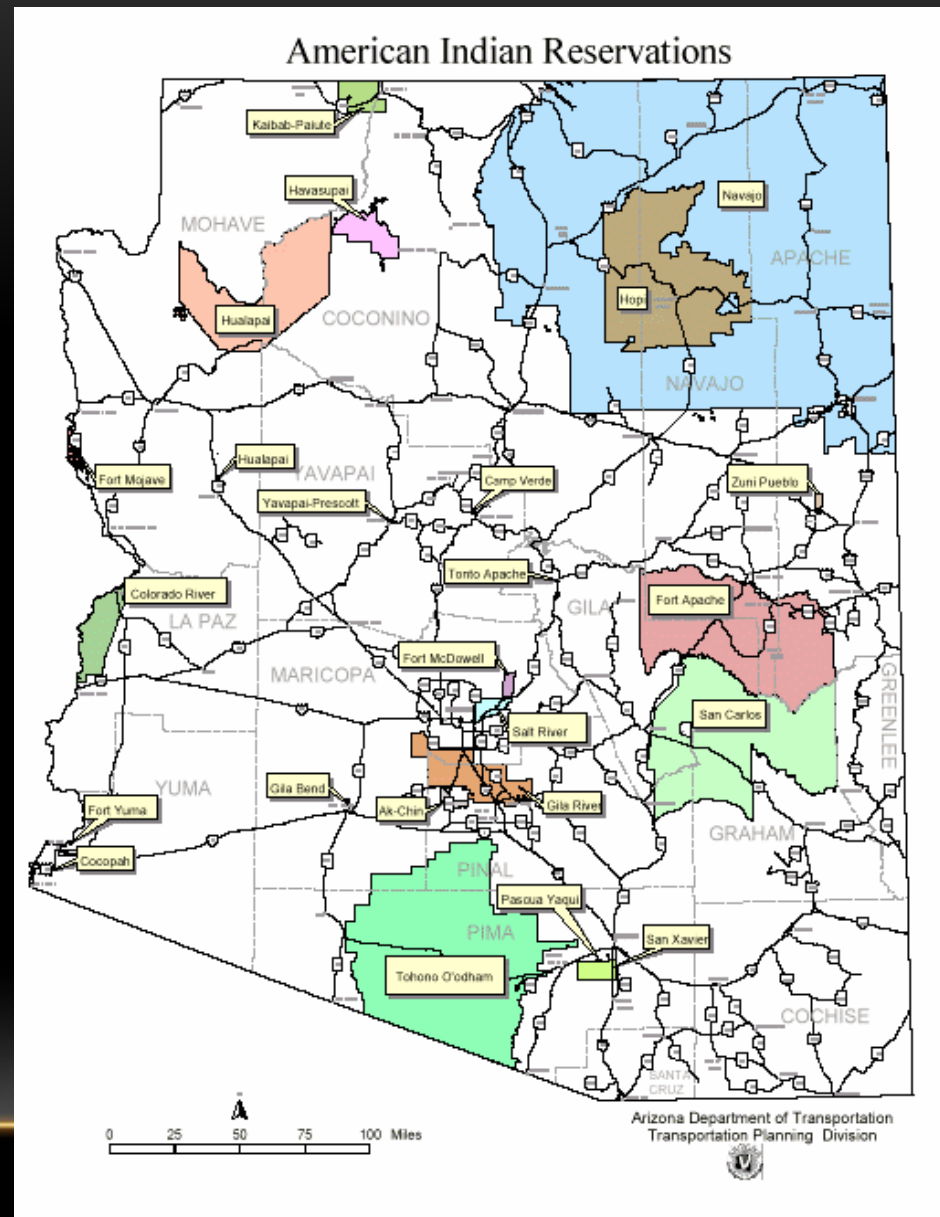
PURPOSE

- Role AZ Section-SRM Native Range Committee – 3/11/11
- Role SRM Native Range Initiative – Feb 2010

SRM commitment to Education and Technical
Assistance of Range Managers

ARIZONA TRIBAL RANGELANDS

- 21 Federally Recognized Tribes
- ¼ of AZ land area – 18.2m acres
- 2010 census – 335K
- Large integral range units
- High value – forest units
- High value – watershed units
- High value – recreational units
- High value – cultural units
- High economic output



SRM POSITION* – “WILD HORSES & BURROS...”

- SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE EFFECTS TO RANGELAND ECOSYSTEMS
- ...“THRIVING NATURAL ECOLOGICAL BALANCE” IS ESSENTIAL
- ...“RANGELAND HEALTH STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES ARE EQUALLY APPROPRIATE FOR ALL HERBIVORES”
- SRM URGES BLM & USFS TO ADOPT & IMPLEMENT HERD MANAGEMENT STRATEGY, STANDARDS AND GUIDELINES

- NO POSITION ON TRIBAL RANGELANDS

* SRM Policy Statements, Position Statements and Resolutions 2002

BACKGROUND – NATIVE RANGELANDS

- 2010 – SRM designates committee to focus on Western Tribal Rangelands
→ Native Range Committee
- 2010 – SRM looks to follow “Model” used by AZ Section
- 2011 – SRM National Meeting hosts 1st Native Range Workshop focus on planning needs
- 2012 – SRM National Meeting – focus on “who’s doing what” & “What should we do?”
- **2013 - SRM Native American Rangeland Initiative** – focus on “Effective Tools and Strategies for Equipping Rangeland Managers on Tribal Lands” ; contact [Dr. Diana Doan-Crider at d-crider@tamu.edu](mailto:d-crider@tamu.edu)

NATIVE AMERICAN RANGELAND FORUM
Thursday, February 7, 2013
66th Annual Meeting of the Society for Range Management

Effective Tools and Strategies for Equipping Rangeland Managers on Tribal Lands

The mission of the newly established SRM Native American Rangeland Initiative is to facilitate capacity building and training of rangeland managers on tribal lands.

Presentation and Strategy Session Includes:

- Rangeland Inventory & Monitoring
- Data Management
- Remote Sensing for Tribal Needs
- Planning for Drought & Wildfire
- Invasive Species Control and Protection for Culturally Sensitive Species
- Carbon Credit Opportunities on Tribal Lands
- A Database for Tribal Funding Opportunities
- Rangeland Health Considerations for Oil and Gas Leasing
- Updates Regarding Horse Management on Tribal Lands

We invite all tribal rangeland managers (and related fields) to participate in a day-long presentation and strategy session, which will include the possible establishment of a Native American section in the SRM, and planning for future training workshops that meet tribal needs.

GALLUP MEETING – AUG 2012

- Focus on problem of “Excess Horses on Tribal rangelands and how to assist range managers
- Invited 8 entities; 35 other asked to participate
- Composition: BIA, Navajo Agencies, BLM-NM, USFS, East-Central-Northern AZ Tribes, Northern- Southern NM Tribes, Navajo and Hopi farmers, ranchers, and private citizens

GALLUP MEETING RESULTS — Al Medina -AZ Section & Bob Alexander -NM Section

- Develop and implement management plans to protect rangelands
- Funding sources needed to implement reduction plans
- Horses are not necessarily used for traditional work functions; more recreational
- Modern life styles may conflict w/ traditional values
- Education (young - elders) of sources of problem, e.g. responsible ownership
- Objective discussion to further developing plans for managing excess horses
- SRM meeting was good source to access information for solutions
- Meeting – good start; want greater involvement at SRM Meetings (ID hurdles)
- Most considered excess horses an emergency situation; drought, herd numbers
- Stray horses on/near roadways constitute hazard to travelers
- Trespass adjoining land ownerships; problems of administration on public lands
- Different Tribes – Different Management Policy

NRC –

SCIENCE BASED FRAMEWORK FOR DISCUSSION

- Private-Local Managers Perspectives
- Management Perspectives
 - BIA Director, Sharon Pinto – Navajo Region
 - BIA Director, rep. David Smith – Western Region
 - USFS Regional Specialist, Tom Frolli – SW USA (AZ, NM, UT, CO, NV)

Problem-Solution Sharing Workshop

- Inter-Tribal Range Managers
- AZ Fed-State-Tribal - Hurdles
- Funding Sources ??
- SRM support for Tribal management plans, i.e. Washington liaison ??

Randy Helm gives a demonstration of gentle and patient horse training using one of the wild horses from the Bureau of Land Management Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program's herd of adoptable animals.





Healthy Horses on Healthy Ranges

Photo Courtesy BLM: http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/whbprogram/herd_management.html