

## **Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue to Lead Death Valley's Wild Burro Project**

DEATH VALLEY, CA., [date] /[news outlet]—Wild burros have existed as a non-native and increasingly invasive species in Death Valley and the Mojave Desert since the late 19th century. The National Park Service (NPS) has made several attempts in the past to remove the wild burros from the region in an effort to save the desert's fragile eco-systems which struggle because of the burros' increasing population.

The General Management Plan(s) of Death Valley National Park and Mojave National Preserve approved in April 2002, called on the NPS to adopt a "no burro or wild horse" strategy. Peaceful Valley's involvement is Phase 2 of NPS's management plan, Phase 3 calls for the destruction of any remaining burros.

Starting in the fall of 2017, the Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue (PVDR) will be working in conjunction with the NPS to safely relocate the estimated 2,500 wild burros from the Death Valley National Park and the Mojave National Preserve over the next five years. PVDR will be using only humane methods for capturing the wild burros before transporting them to training facilities where they will be made ready for adoption throughout the United States. In order to accommodate the influx of wild burros into the PVDR system, a new training facility is currently being built in northwest Arizona.

This project will be funded entirely by private donations, foundation grants and corporate sponsorships. No tax payer money will be used by Peaceful Valley.

About PVDR: Peaceful Valley has rescued over 9,000 donkeys in its 17 year career. They currently have over 3,200 donkeys under their direct care in over 30 locations. Peaceful Valley, with its nationwide network of Ranch Facilities, Sanctuaries and Satellite Adoption Centers, is the country's leader in rescue, sanctuary, adoption and education. Founded by Mark and Amy Meyers in 2000, PVDR has become the largest rescue of its kind, operating all across the United States and Caribbean.

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