

Peaceful Valley Donkey Rescue Wild Burro Project Fort Irwin/NASA Goldstone, CA Capture Plan: Phase 1



When released by the US Army and NASA, PVDR will begin wild burro operations in a location to be determined and agreed to by all parties. The primary method will be bait trapping at a location that meets the requirements listed below. The actual traps will be constructed of portable corral panels approximately 50' in diameter and contain shade, a feeder and a water trough gravity fed from a 500 gallon water trailer. The traps will be monitored by PVDR trail cameras and base personnel. Alfalfa is the preferred bait as donkeys are naturally drawn to its smell and taste.

Basic Requirements:
Cleared area 75-100 yards off of both sides of the road
Trailer access
Visibility from the road
Along a straight section of road with no depressions that could hide a burro from traffic

Initially the traps will not be set, allowing the burros to come and go freely. This will allow us to draw in more burros to the area of our choosing rather than allow them to determine where they will be caught. Ideally the trap location should be along the road leading from the Goldstone Main Facility to one of the antenna locations. PVDR will supply temporary rumble strips, Burro Crossing Signs and additional signs explaining the project.

This portion of the project could easily begin in the next few weeks.

Once PVDR has established the burros watering/feeding patterns from the trail cameras, the traps will be set. The burros will trap themselves. NASA personnel would be given a quick response telephone number when burros are seen in the traps. As PVDR is a non-profit organization, and we are fully funding this project, we prefer water trapping as the least costly method.

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As the Summer 2018 "Window Of Opportunity", that period of reduced military operation on the base, is closing, we would plan on doing a full scale roundup during the next "Window" which we assume would be sometime in December. Prior to that time, arrangements would be made with base personnel as to where the operation would take place and proper clearances received.

This capture would include a helicopter, drones, mounted horsemen and ground personnel. The burros would be caught and removed from the base and taken to a staging facility we have prepared in Barstow, CA. As the burros move freely throughout the entire region, it is unknown as to how many burros may be available for capture. We would prepare ourselves for 2,000-2,500.

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