

**A RESOLUTION OF THE ARIZONA GAME AND FISH COMMISSION EMPLOYING THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO MEET THEIR OBLIGATION TO CONTROL EXCESSIVE POPULATIONS OF FERAL BURROS TO REDUCE ADVERSE IMPACTS TO WILDLIFE HABITAT AND PUBLIC SAFETY.**

**WHEREAS**, the Commission has received and supports the Mohave County Board of Supervisors' Resolution number 2015-127 encouraging the federal government to control the excessive population of burros in their county, and

**WHEREAS**, the Arizona Game and Fish Commission recognizes there is an extreme overpopulation of burros in Arizona that negatively impacts wildlife, wildlife habitat, and public safety, and

**WHEREAS**, the conservation of wildlife resources is the trust responsibility of the Commission on all lands within Arizona to ensure abundant wildlife resources for current and future generations, and

**WHEREAS**, the 1971 Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act requires the BLM to establish appropriate management levels (AML) that ensure a thriving natural ecological balance, and to remove excess burros to maintain this balance, and

**WHEREAS**, the AML for all the herd management areas in Arizona is 1,316 burros but the current statewide burro population is 4,183 animals, and

**WHEREAS**, the AML for the Black Mountain herd management area in Mohave County is 478 burros but the current population is 1,450 burros, and

**WHEREAS**, the non-native burros now outnumber the native bighorn sheep within the Black Mountains and are 340% above established AMLs Statewide.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Arizona Game and Fish Commission requests that the federal government immediately initiate all tools to control excessive populations of feral burros and formulate and implement a plan to reduce adverse impacts to wildlife habitat and public safety, and directs the Department to continue to pursue all available strategies designed to insure federal responsibility to reduce overpopulation of feral burros.

ADOPTED on the 15th day of January 2016 by the Arizona Game and Fish Commission.



Kurt R. Davis  
Chairman  
Arizona Game and Fish Commission

