

## **Reserve Design Proposal (by Craig C. Downer, Wildlife Ecologist)**

The following are the basic steps for a professional reserve design analysis and Ecological consultative work, with estimated associated costs and durations:

[1] Review literature on Reserve Design. Consult government, private and non-profit organizations. Research University, government, and public libraries as well as the internet.

[2] Consult authorities on Reserve Design and consult official implementers of nature reserves. Visit government and university offices and conduct interviews, particularly of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the United States Forest Service (USFS). Universities to be visited: University of California-Berkeley, Stanford University, Colorado State University-Ft. Collins, University of Colorado-Boulder, University of Nevada-Reno. (Note: I received my A.B. from U.C.-Berkeley and my M.S. from U.N.-Reno, and am a lifetime alumni at both.) Visit United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) offices, particularly national wildlife refuges (NWR) containing or involving wild horses, especially Sheldon-Hart NWR in northern Nevada and southern Oregon and Malheur NWR in southeastern Oregon. My visit to the Malheur would be in combination with a visit to the Steen Mountain National Conservation Area. This is home to the famous Kiger mustang herd that spills east into the Alvord Desert. I would visit the Montgomery Pass wild horse herd on the Nevada-California border near Bishop, the Cibola-Trigo and Cerbat wild horse herds in Arizona, and Utah's Sulphur wild horse herd. The first two herds are believed by many to be naturally self-stabilizing. National Parks offices and the parks themselves that have a history or actual presence of wild horses and burros would also be visited. These would include Grand Canyon, Death Valley, and eastern California portions of the Mojave Desert and the Southern California National Conservation Area. Also included would be Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota, for its authentic old Indian wild horse herd. Various non-profit groups would be consulted, especially the International Society for the Preservation of Mustangs & Burros in Lantry, South Dakota, in combination with my trip to Theodore Roosevelt National Park, The Cloud Foundation of Colorado Springs, Colorado (of which I am a board member), the Pryor Mountain Wild Horse Range, and Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area in Wyoming and Montana.

[3] Intensive survey of maps and documents concerning BLM and US Forest lands as well as other appropriate – especially adjoining – land where wild horses and burros are presently found or could reasonably be established per Section 6 of the WFHB Act. This phase will identify those regional centers of actual or potential wild horse/burro presence that constitute complete and long-term viable habitats for long-term viable populations and would be most appropriate for Reserve Design. I would consult with those most familiar with the regions being considered as appropriate for Reserve Design.

Duration for Phases 1, 2 & 3: 9 months.

[4] Final composition of Reserve Design proposal. Based upon my findings I would prepare a professional proposal for the establishment of Wild Horse/Wild Burro Reserves throughout America. These Reserves would be precisely mapped and the justifications for each would be presented. This proposal would be presented to the public and to government as well as private entities. I would give presentations to legislative and executive branches of both state and national governments as well as to the BLM and the USFS, the two agencies charged with carrying out the mandate of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971. I would also address counties and cities.

Duration for Phase 4: Three months.

Total Time Required: One Year.

The robust aim of Reserve Design is to restore wild horses and burros where they belong throughout America and to secure their long-term future. This would, in effect, restore the true and original intent of the Wild Free-Roaming Horses and Burros Act of 1971.

For more information on how to support this proposal, please contact Craig Downer. Unless otherwise indicated, full acknowledgement of supporter(s) will be in the proposal.

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You can order his book from the website [www.andeantapirfund.com](http://www.andeantapirfund.com) or through Amazon either as a printed book at [www.amazon.com/Wild-Horse-Conspiracy-Craig-Downer/dp/1461068983](http://www.amazon.com/Wild-Horse-Conspiracy-Craig-Downer/dp/1461068983) or as an eBook at [www.amazon.com/dp/B009XJ64P4](http://www.amazon.com/dp/B009XJ64P4)