



# COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

1600 PACIFIC HIGHWAY, ROOM 335, SAN DIEGO, CALIFORNIA 92101-2470

### AGENDA ITEM

**DATE:** June 18, 2013

**17**

**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**SUBJECT:** COYOTE CANYON HERITAGE HERD (DISTRICTS: ALL)

#### **Overview**

It is believed that the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd has roots dating back to 1769 when the first mission was built in San Diego. The herd is the ancestral remnants of horses that carried a Spanish military expedition into California in the late 1700s. The missions supplied Spanish bloodstock horses to the nearby Rancherías, run by the Ranchos and Native Americans. Over the next 200 years, most of the horses were driven into Utah or removed from Coyote Canyon.

In 2010, a group of citizens was concerned with the Heritage Herd becoming extinct and formed a 501(c)(3) called the Coyote Canyon Caballos d'Anza (CCCd'A). CCCd'A is a non-profit dedicated to restoring this genetically viable horse herd back to the wild, primarily on public lands. Fourteen mares were brought from the Southern Utah herd to be bred with the four remaining Coyote Canyon stallions. At the moment, the 14 mares and 4 stallions are being held on private land. Today's action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd to federal lands.

#### **Recommendation(s)**

##### **VICE-CHAIRWOMAN JACOB AND SUPERVISOR HORN**

Direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to the Bureau of Land Management requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage horse herd on federal lands.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

There is no fiscal impact

#### **Business Impact Statement**

N/A

#### **Advisory Board Statement**

N/A

**SUBJECT: COYOTE CANYON HERITAGE HERD (DISTRICTS: ALL)**

**Background**

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Currently, the Coyote Canyon Herd is listed by the international equine conservation non-profit Equus Survival Trust as a critically endangered/nearly extinct breed. CCCd’A would like to create a working plan with BLM for the re-designation and relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Herd on the appropriate Herd Areas (HA’s) designated to them under the 1971 Congressional Act “The Free Roaming Wild Horse and Burro Act.” CCCd’A considers the Heritage herd the living icons representing 243 years of Spanish Mexican occupation, Native American Ranching and Western pioneering in San Diego County. Today’s action directs the Chief Administrative Officer to draft a letter to BLM requesting that they explore the relocation of the Coyote Canyon Heritage Horse Herd to federal lands.

**Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan**

N/A

Respectfully submitted,

DIANNE JACOB  
Vice-Chairwoman, Second District

BILL HORN  
Supervisor, Fifth District

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

N/A

**SUBJECT:** COYOTE CANYON HERITAGE HERD (DISTRICTS: ALL)

**AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET**

**REQUIRES FOUR VOTES:**        Yes      No

**WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED**  
   Yes      No

**PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:**  
N/A

**BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:**  
N/A

**BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:**  
N/A

**MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:**  
N/A

**ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):**  
N/A

**ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT:** Districts 2 and 5, Board of Supervisors

**OTHER CONCURRENCES(S):**   N/A

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

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