



## Nevada Association of Counties

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[www.nvnaco.org](http://www.nvnaco.org)

June 23, 2017

Honorable Brian Sandoval  
Governor of Nevada  
101 N. Carson Street  
Carson City, NV 89701

Dear Governor Sandoval:

As you know, Nevada has far more wild horses than any other state and, though this species has an important place on our landscape and in our Western Heritage, the significant and continued overpopulation of the horses is having a dramatic impact on the ability to manage our rangelands and is threatening or already causing damage to ecosystems, local resource based economies, and the western way of life. Examples abound of the severe degradation of natural springs and riparian areas, unhealthy and dying horses, and negative effects on native vegetation and wildlife including Sage Grouse. The effects of this overpopulation have reached a critical stage and can be seen in nearly every region of our State.

The Board of Directors of the Nevada Association of Counties respectfully asks for your leadership to help ensure that wild horse and burro populations return to a sustainable level. We ask this motivated by the desire that the rangelands in Nevada's counties are healthy and managed to support a balance of multiple uses, including wild horses, wildlife, resources dependent industries, and recreation.

At the Board's request I have also attached the recommendations approved by the Bureau of Land Management's National Wild Horse and Burro Advisory Board at their September 9, 2016 meeting in Elko.

NACO looks forward to your response and stands ready to assist you and your staff in addressing wild horse and burro management in our State.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Phillips". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Kevin Phillips  
President

Cc: NACO Board of Directors