



## **Wild Horses & Renegades Comes to Santa Fe From Showing on Capitol Hill in Washington, DC**

**Acclaimed documentary screens at 7 pm Wednesday, July 27, 2011 at The Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center.**

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Following a successful showing in Washington, DC on July 7, 2011, James Anaquad-Kleinert's award-winning documentary, "Wild Horses & Renegades," receives its Santa Fe premiere at 7 pm Wednesday, July 27, at the Lensic, Santa Fe's Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco Street.

The screening intends to raise awareness of how one of our land's most potent living natural resources is being mismanaged to near- extinction by the US Bureau of Land Management. It will also provide information for attendees on how to urge support of proposed federal action to reinstate protection of America's wild horses and burros on our public lands.

With dramatic footage, "Wild Horses & Renegades" exposes how millions of taxpayer dollars are being used to corral the few remaining American wild horses. Many of the animals are then underfed and forced into inhumane and disease-prone holding pens. A few are sold for adoption, but many are exported to Mexico slaughterhouses and killed for meat. The Bureau of Land Management itself estimates it has over 40,000 wild horses in holding facilities, costing taxpayers \$120,000 a day.

In "Wild Horses & Renegades," Anaquad-Kleinert weaves shocking footage of actual roundups with the story of a horse named Traveler, and his journey from a strong stallion on the range to a broken inmate at a Bureau of Land Management processing center in Canon City, Colorado. Shot in high definition, this film's incredible aesthetics contrast with the sad plight of the pictured herds.

The film has drawn tremendous support from both celebrities and politicians who appear in it, including Willie Nelson, Sheryl Crow, Viggo Mortensen, Raoul Trujillo, Daryl Hannah, and "Dances with Wolves" author Michael Blake, as well as former New Mexico Governor Bill Richardson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author and scholar Scott Momaday, and Rep. Raul Grijalva (D-AZ) – who hosted the DC screening. They speak

with passion and precision in the film of what the wild horse means as both a symbol and natural resource, and how the majesty and magic of these noble animals needs to be preserved.

The film also shows the corporate benefits of wild horse roundups, including clearing land for uranium mining claims, oil and gas pipelines, and corporate cattle grazing. Anaquad-Kleinert is offering the film as a tool to spark support for an executive order ending BLM roundups and a congressional investigation into the Department of the Interior. As Anaquad-Kleinert explains, “Whereas most Americans would be shocked that the very symbol of the American West is ending up being sold for human consumption, the Bureau of Land Management shows very little regard for the life of wild horses. This federal attack on the American wild horse is an indicator of what is to come of our public natural resources.”

Wild horse advocates are seeking:

//A moratorium of roundups in all but verifiable emergency situations while the entirely wild horse program undergoes objective and scientific review;

// Higher Appropriate Management Levels (AML) for wild horses on rangelands designated for them;

// Implementation of in-the-wild management, which would keep wild horses on the range and save taxpayers millions annually by avoiding the mass removal and stockpiling of wild horses in government holding facilities.

Rep. Grijalva not only hosted and served as advocate for the DC showing of “Wild Horses and Renegades” – he is circulating a letter to his House of Representatives colleagues urging their signature on a letter to Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) director Bob Abbey regarding the inhumane and costly mismanagement of the Wild Horse and Burro Program. The letter expresses grave concerns to Secretary Salazar and the BLM regarding the creation of non-reproducing herds—especially the extreme danger of spaying wild horse mares.

“We are so appreciative of Congressman Grijalva’s efforts to protect our nation’s wild horses from the cruel and invasive procedures BLM is planning,” Anaquad Kleinert said. “Wild horses and burros need congressional intervention fast—otherwise BLM will manage these iconic symbols of freedom to extinction.”

Grijalva’s letter also expresses concerns about BLM’s failure to conduct accurate censuses on wild horse and burro herds. BLM often over inflates the numbers of wild horses and burros on the range and comes up short during roundups. As a result, nearly all animals in a herd are eliminated from their legally designated ranges. This has led Anaquad-Kleinert and many others to conclude that wild horse populations are far lower than BLM estimates.

The Congressman’s letter also underscores the financial costs—citing the burden placed on American taxpayers due to the agency’s massive and unnecessary roundup

and removal practices. The American Wild Horse Campaign urges the public to contact their U.S. Congressional representative and request they sign onto Grijalva's letter before it is delivered to Secretary Salazar and Director Abbey.

"If the public could view what's being done to wild horses, the public would stand up and take action," said "Wolves" author Blake. "This is not a film just about America's wild horses, this is a film about what is happening to America itself.

"Wild Horses & Renegades" won several awards at the International Wild Life Film Festival in May 2011. It has been accepted into the Albuquerque Film Festival this coming August and will be appearing in a number of prestigious festivals/special screenings this fall (to be announced).

For more information or to set up an interview with Anaquad-Kleinert, call Craig Smith at 505 603 1750 or visit at [www.theamericanwildhorse.com](http://www.theamericanwildhorse.com).

About James Anaquad-Kleinert

Always ready to tackle challenges, James Anaquad-Kleinert, a former World Cup competitor in aerial freestyle skiing, has been hailed for both his high action winter sports films and his in-depth environmental films with a strong Native American element. Anaquad-Kleinert produces from his company, Moving Cloud Productions, based in Santa Fe, New Mexico ([www.movingcloud.com](http://www.movingcloud.com)). Other works include "The Edge of Telluride" and "Spirit Riders," an award-winning documentary that aired in part on HBO.com ([www.spiritridersmovie.com](http://www.spiritridersmovie.com)).

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What: Santa Fe fundraiser screening of "Wild Horses & Renegades"

When: Wednesday, July 27, 2011

Time: 7:00pm

Where: The Lensic Performing Arts Center, 211 W. San Francisco St., Santa Fe

Who: Director James Anaquad-Kleinert, Michael Blake (author of "Dances with Wolves"), Raoul Trujillo (NM actor in "Cowboys & Aliens") will be in attendance

This showing is a collaboration with Spirit Riders Foundation, a 501c3 not-for-profit organization, with additional support from The Lensic.

Tickets are \$5, \$10, and \$25 (which includes a complimentary film poster), available by calling the Lensic box office at 505 988-1234 or visiting [www.ticketssantafe.org](http://www.ticketssantafe.org)