

**VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO
RESOLUTION 2021-03**

CALLING FOR THE NEW MEXICO LIVESTOCK BOARD TO COMPLY WITH ITS STATUTORY DUTY TO RELOCATE WILD HORSES LOCATED WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO AND CALLING FOR THE MAMMAL DIVISION OF THE MUSEUM OF SOUTHWESTERN BIOLOGY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW MEXICO TO EXERCISE ITS STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO CONTROL THE WILD HORSE POPULATION WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO.

WHEREAS, the Village of Ruidoso (“Ruidoso” or “the Village”) has experienced a sizable influx of wild horses inside the boundaries of the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Ruidoso has a statutory duty to manage and control all of the property belonging to the Village; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village Ruidoso is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the residents and guests of the Village of Ruidoso; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Ruidoso is committed to protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the wild horses within the boundaries of the Village of Ruidoso; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Village of Ruidoso recognizes the historical importance of wild horses descended from the horses of the Spanish colonial period as expressly protected in New Mexico State Statutes; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Court of Appeals has held that the New Mexico Livestock Board has a statutory duty to test and relocate wild horses captured on public lands; and

WHEREAS, the Mammal Division of the Museum of Southwestern Biology at the University of New Mexico is authorized by New Mexico State Statutes to determine that a wild horse herd exceeds the number of horses that is necessary for preserving the genetic stock of the herd, and it may control the wild horse population through the use of birth control and other means; and

WHEREAS, real property owned by the Village within the boundaries of the Village is public land.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO call for the New Mexico Livestock Board to comply with its statutory duty as interpreted by the New Mexico Court of Appeals to relocate the wild horses roaming within the boundaries of the Village of Ruidoso to other public lands outside of the boundaries of the Village of Ruidoso.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO call for the Mammal Division of the Museum of Southwest Biology at the University of New Mexico to exercise its statutory authority to determine that the wild horse herds roaming within the boundaries of the Village of Ruidoso exceeds the number of horses that is necessary to preserve the genetic stock of the herds, and to control the wild horse population within the boundaries of the Village of Ruidoso through birth control or any other lawful means.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT THIS RESOLUTION be transmitted immediately upon adoption to the New Mexico Livestock Board, the Mammal Division of the Museum of Southwest Biology at the University of New Mexico, and the Office of the Governor of the State of New Mexico.

PASSED, APPROVED, and ADOPTED by the GOVERNING BODY of the VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO this _____ day of _____ 2021.

VILLAGE OF RUIDOSO

By: _____
Lynn D. Crawford, Mayor

**(SEAL)
ATTEST:**

Ronald L. Sena, Village Clerk