

THE HORRIFIC COST OF THE DONKEY SKIN TRADE AND ACTIONS TO END IT

Ejiao (e-gee-yow) is a gelatinous substance derived from boiling the hides from any members of the *Equus asinus* family which includes donkeys and burros. The demand for this product, which is used in unproven medicinal applications, has increased. Donkey and burro populations are being exploited and put in danger of extinction to meet that demand.



The Wild Burros in the United States, which are supposed to be legally protected as stipulated in the 1971 Wild Free Roaming Horse and Burro Act, have been put in jeopardy with the Bureau of Land Management's (BLM) plans for massive roundups in 2026.

The 103,000-acre Lake Pleasant Herd Management Area (HMA) is comprised of 61,031 acres overseen by the BLM and about 42,440 acres of Private, state and Bureau of Reclamation land. The BLM is planning to conduct a roundup and reduce the burro population at Lake Pleasant from its current 1,000 to just 166. With the promised double doses of immunosuppressant birth control on any captured and released animals, the herd will be far below the numbers required for genetic viability.



The Ejiao Act **HR 5544** is before the 119th (2025-2026) Congress

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It is a Bill to prohibit the transportation, sale and purchase of donkeys or donkey hides for the purpose of producing ejiao and to prohibit the transportation, sale and purchase of products containing ejiao.

With donkey populations around the world dwindling, the price that can be brought by the sale of captured Wild Burros from the United States herds is escalating. The BLM roundups, the presence of the active slaughter pipeline feeding animals to both

Canada and Mexico, and unscrupulous kill buyers combine to become the triple threat that is sending our Wild Burros to horrendous treatment and cruel deaths in slaughter plants.

Passage of the Save America's Forgotten Equines (SAFE) Act and the Ejiao Act would end the cruelty that horses and burros suffer on the way to slaughter and while being slaughtered. Unnecessary roundups, mismangement and wasteful spending should also be stopped.



- ✓ Burros thrive on range land in the United States that is not hospitable to other grazing species.
- ✓ Burros left on the range cost the taxpayers Zero dollars.
- ✓ The Appropriate Management Levels (AML) that determine how many animals can exist on any given Herd Management Area (HMA) are based on guesses, estimates and fictitious overblown reproduction rates.
- ✓ These sentient beings which populate and decorate our American landscape are the property of every American citizen. If you want them to survive and want to keep them out of the horror of abusive roundups and the slaughter pipeline, take action!

Call and write to your Representative in Congress and request that they support both **HR 5544- The Ejiao Act**
Call and write your Senators and ask the to support **S775, The Save America's Forgotten Equines Act**

202-224-3121 will connect you to your Congressional Representative and Senators

Simply say, "Hi, I am (state your name), a constituent of (state the name of you Representative or Senator). I am calling to ask you to support HR5544, the Ejiao Act (or S775, The Save America's Forgotten Equines Act). This is important to me because (tell them your 'why'..... cruelty, abuse, birthright ownership of the animals, etc). Thank you for your time and serious consideration."

*United States Wild Burro Photos
courtesy of Heather Hellyer*

Equine Collaborative International

www.equinecollaborativeinternational.org

