



Whickers, Whinnies, Nickers and Neighs

The Fresh Start Horse Rescue News November 2006

More about S. 1915: The American Horse Slaughter Prevention Act

Official Title: A bill to amend the Horse Protection Act to prohibit the shipping, transporting, moving, delivering, receiving, possessing, purchasing, selling, or donation of horses and other equines to be slaughtered for human consumption, and for other purposes.

Remember: S. 1915 **MUST** pass in the Senate in 2006 with **NO** amendments to ban horse slaughter in the U.S. at last. With the election now over, if you have not written to your U.S. Senators on this issue NOW is the time to do so.

Points against

Opponents of the bill point out that it will have unintended consequences such as an increase in the number of abandoned and neglected horses; that BLM Mustangs will have to compete with such horses for adoption; that proponents of the bill have failed to address the economic impact of the upkeep of such horses; and the interesting fact that a lot of the horse meat goes to developing countries (Source: Animal Welfare Council: The Unintended Consequences of a Ban on the Humane Slaughter (Processing) of Horses in the United States).

These are all thought-provoking points that give pause to the knee-jerk reaction to the idea of slaughter.

Yes, but

Yes, compelling arguments and scary statistics are put about by opponents to the slaughter ban. But they refer to it as the removal of a “humane” end-of-life option for the horse. If only that were true. Some of the horses have traveled a thousand miles over several days without

adequate rest and water in double-decked trailers, forcing them to hold their heads in a bent position causing suffering and injury. The actual method of slaughter was designed for placid cattle, not horses which are natural claustrophobics and therefore face terror and pain as they jump and plunge in a hopeless attempt at escape. Theoretically, “processing” may be “humane,” but in practice it is quite the opposite for horses. Also, since horses are not raised as food animals, they can be full of drugs and chemicals that are not even safe for humans to eat!



Starbright, a BLM adoptee, and Lady Black, an auction rescue that came to us completely wild but is now halter-broke and trusting of people. Lady is available for adoption.

If the current proposed legislation fails to address the economic impact of the slaughter ban, how about introducing new legislation that does address it? After all, it isn't the availability of slaughter that prevents horse abuse and starvation. It's responsible horse care and management that does. Our government allocates millions for plenty of interests more stupid than education, assistance, and research into solutions for the problem of the upkeep of

these faithful servants, these symbols of America's heritage.

Failing everything, methods should be researched and laws should be made to make the "processing" humane, since they claim it is. Perhaps that would be easiest. If "processing" is legally termed "humane," a tighter definition of the word is certainly in order. Several states have outlawed double-deck trailering of horses, which is a start.

Okay, *ENOUGH RANTING ALREADY!*

Rescue News

This past month, Fresh Start Horse Rescue has

- Built two more pens with covered areas entirely with materials on hand. Imagine threading cargo pallets with tipi poles. That's one side of the donkey pen—for now. (Hey, anybody wanna trade some corral panels for 'em?)
- Begun two entirely indoor stalls (in what was the tool shed—heck with the tools!)
- Written letters to some candidates (who did not respond, *Er!*)
- Networked with other organizations at the Rocky Mountain Horse Expo
- Brought home a proud and beautiful BLM Mustang that was suffering from neglect of an old case of founder. Our farrier has given him a preliminary trim and the prognosis is (guardedly) good.
- Given some fun trail rides on the rescue/rehabbed horses!

Ziggy's proud flesh continues to be a challenge. It was about all gone from his front leg and then it began to grow back. We've had all kinds of suggestions—from Furacin to golden seal (during an infection scare) to Preparation H! "shrinks swelling"? Yeah, we'll try it.

Several of our horses are up on temporary winter pasture, donated in exchange for work on building fence. Many thanks to the owner, it helps immensely!

Still looking for horsy people to join our board

We particularly need an accountant to help with filing for 501(c)(3), and someone with contacts to help set up a placement program to match up folks who want a horse with other folks who have one they don't want/can't keep. Interested individuals please call Daniel at 970-394-4120.



Brrr! The cold weather's on its way.

Winter's coming! Your horses need your help.

Ask yourself these questions:

- Does my horse need to be wormed? On a three-month rotating schedule, Montezuma Vet recommends Ivermectin in November.
- Does she need a dental exam? When the teeth are worn to sharp edges by side-to-side chewing motion, food is not processed as efficiently as it should be. If your horse seems thin and is up on her worming, she may need her teeth floated.
- Am I providing a balanced diet with enough protein and roughage, with the energy to keep him warm?
- Have I done all I can to provide adequate shelter from the storm?

We've got some needs for the winter as well:

- Ziggy still needs funds to have his proud flesh removed by a veterinarian.
- Volunteers to help build strong covered pens
- Feed: hay and Equine Senior

- Volunteers to ride horses and clean pens, etc.
- Four-horse stock-type trailer
- Old carpeting (any condition), straw, shavings
- Veterinary care credit (call Montezuma Vet at 970-565-7567)
- Feed credit (call Geisinger's Feed Grains at 970-565-4311)



Talon: Unique of a breed, the Awesome Mountain Horse. An auction rescue, he's kid gentle and reliable uphill, downhill, upside-down and in an emergency. Friendly, full of personality. We'll cry when he gets adopted!

Word Search

A N D A L U S I A N M T Q T
 R R I S S O H V P A N N U H
 G U A B H A E C P I A A A O
 A Q Y B C K T F A S I Z R R
 G O T N I P L P L E R I T O
 N C O B L A A C O I E P E U
 A M P S A R N L O R V P R G
 T O H B E I D H S F O I H H
 S R O N I M O L A P N L O B
 U G N Q U Y E N K C A H R R
 M A V N N Z A Y G A H S S E
 V N F E L L P O N Y R Z E D

How many horse breeds can you find?
 Answers next month!



Talon and Conor, left, with Peanuts and Erin, right.

Order Form

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

T-shirt @ \$35 ea.....\$ _____

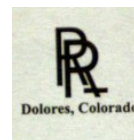
Size _____ Qty _____ Color _____

CD @ \$20 ea.....\$ _____

Tape @ \$15 ea.....\$ _____

Total order.....\$ _____

Make check payable to Fresh Start Horse Rescue, 17390 CR 23, Dolores CO 81323. Allow up to six weeks for delivery.



We now have T-shirts available for a \$35 donation. Shirts are natural with black or chocolate printing. Sizes S, M, L.

breast



back



We also have Celtic music CDs and tapes. Beltaine was a local Durango, CO band for 10 years. CD: \$20 donation Tape: \$15 donation

Beltaine, Any Port in a Storm

These items and more are also available in **Simpler Times** in the Durango Mall or order from our Web site using PayPal, at www.happyryan.com/freshstart.

Horse of the Month:



Peanuts, an auction rescue

Peanuts is a sorrel overo paint mare about 6 years old. She's a good riding horse, 8-year-old Erin's mount of choice. She trailers and handles well. She holds her own in a herd. We're at capacity with winter coming. In order to save more horses, we **MUST** adopt some out!

Fresh Start Horse Rescue was incorporated as a Colorado nonprofit on September 19, 2006. We are located on Ryan Ranch & Rescue, 40 acres of pasture and piñon-juniper forest near Dolores, CO. We're filing to become a 501(c)(3). **Our mission** is to provide a fresh start for horses (all breeds) that are abused, neglected, unwanted or potentially slaughter-bound, by rescue, care/rehab, and placement in loving homes where they will have a future; or, if unadoptable, by providing them with a permanent home ourselves. FSHR will not accept any horse on the premises without a prior brand inspection.

Schedule an appointment to come see Peanuts, Lady Black, Talon or any of the others we have available for adoption or sponsorship by calling Daniel at 970-394-4120 or 970-882-7522. For more information about Fresh Start, our horses, adoption and sponsorship opportunities, visit our Web site, www.happyryan.com/freshstart or contact us directly. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of our equine friends.

FRESH START HORSE RESCUE
17390 CR 23
DOLORS, CO 81323

