



# Wild Horse Sanctuary

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June 2004

*Heartbreaking  
News*

Dear Friend,

First, I want to thank you for all you've done to help the Sanctuary care for our wild horses. The horses have never been healthier or looked more beautiful. Your help with our land costs and feeding programs enabled us to provide a home for horses that were suffering or faced destruction. These horses now live as they should: protected and running wild.

I do, however, have heartbreaking news. I recently learned that on July 12, 2004, 2,300 acres of our leased land will be sold on an internet auction. There is not enough time to send a letter by U.S. Mail so we are posting this letter on our web site.

Exactly one year ago we wrote to tell of a miracle when a benefactress purchased this acreage for the wild horses to use. Now, only a year later, medical needs and financial reverses have forced her to sell the land. We are grateful that she allowed us time to secure financing to buy at least one more parcel from her.

By the end of June the Sanctuary will have secured 2,000 acres as a permanent home. We are desperately trying to raise enough funds now to purchase just one more parcel of land that is critical to the survival and ongoing welfare of the Sanctuary and its 200 resident wild horses – we need your help!

Due to steepness, rugged rock out cropping and brush, much of the Sanctuary land is inaccessible to riders on horseback. The critical section that we are attempting to purchase is Section 13. Section 13's openness for riding programs, and the grassy slopes that the wild horses feed on, make it a critical component of the Sanctuary. Our education programs and the natural feeding patterns of the horses could be compromised if we can't raise the additional funds needed to purchase this one section.

We also have fencing concerns. Our wild horses have grazed this area for 21 years without the need for interior fences. After the land sells on July 12<sup>th</sup> to an unknown entity, a minimum of one mile of new fence will be imperative. Fencing in dense rock and across steep slopes can cost up to \$20,000 per mile. The fence must be built. Again, we need your help!

We always wish only good things for everyone – yet, we live in a turbulent and harsh world at times. We are sorry for the circumstances that necessitate the selling of this land

on the part of our benefactress. It seems unfair that she tried so hard to help the wild horses and now faces such hardship herself! As always, we trust and hope that all things will work out for the best.

Help the Wild Horse Sanctuary ride into the best of all possible futures before the July 12<sup>th</sup> sale. Please help as much as you can toward the land and fencing crisis we face.

Thank you again for caring and for all you've done in the past to help. Your kindness and generosity creates a wonderful, natural world for the Sanctuary's wild horses.

Sincerely,



Dianne Nelson

DN/gc

P.S. – If you are interested in purchasing this land to help the horses and the Sanctuary, it is being sold by Shasta Land Services. More information is available at [www.auctions-west.com](http://www.auctions-west.com) The land is being marketed as Battle Creek Bottom Ranch and Ash Creek Rancho.