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See Owyhee Round Up Picture

Wild horse adoption a success

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KUNA — Record attendance helped U.S. Bureau of Land Management organizers find adoptive homes for more than 75 wild horses Saturday, and there are still more than 100 available today as the event comes to a close.

Anyone interested in adopting a horse — the minimum fee is \$125, and an extra \$25 will get you a “buddy horse” as well — can visit the BLM’s Wild Horse Corrals at 12449 S. Pleasant Valley Road.

Environment: Mare gives birth before buyers arrive at event to provide homes for Owyhee equines

The event will start at 8 a.m. and end at noon or later. The wild horses range from one day to five years old, and from yearlings to mustangs to mothers with foals.

BLM spokeswoman M.J. Byrne said Saturday’s highlight happened before the first buyer even set foot on the adoption grounds, when one of the mares gave birth to a foal at 5 a.m. That pushed the total number of horses to 192.

According to Byrne, at least 500 people came out Saturday for what she called “an incredibly good day.” She said many in attendance commented on how healthy the horses looked, and how exemplary their mood and behavior was.

The horses came from two herd management areas in Owyhee County, from which animals are taken every few years in order to keep the herds at a manageable size.