

## United States Department of the Interior

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Battle Mountain Field Office 50 Bastian Road Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820 http://www.nv.blm.gov



In Reply Refer To: 4700 (NV060)

Dear Interested Public:

APR 1 1 2006

The Battle Mountain Field Office is currently completing a Gather Plan and Environmental Assessment to conduct a wild horse gather within the South Shoshone and Bald Mountain Herd Management Areas (HMAs), located within the Carico Lake Allotment. The gather area is located south of Battle Mountain, Nevada in Lander County, between Nevada State Route 305 and Grass Valley. Refer to the enclosed map of the gather area.

The gather operation would commence after the issuance of the Environmental Assessment/Gather Plan, Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) and Decision Record (DR). The gather may take place between October 1, 2006 and February 28, 2007.

The Appropriate Management Levels (AMLs) for both HMAs were established within the Final Multiple Use Decision (FMUD) for the Carico Lake Allotment, signed September 30, 2005. The proposed gather operation would implement these AMLs, through the capture of approximately 600 wild horses followed by the release of approximately 157 wild horses. The objective of the gather would be to achieve the low range of AML of 129 wild horses for the Bald Mountain HMA and 60 wild horses for the South Shoshone HMA. Based on the most recent census flight completed for both HMAs in March 2005, the current population is estimated to be 338 for the Bald Mountain HMA and 300 for South Shoshone HMA.

If you would like to receive a copy of the completed Gather Plan/EA, FONSI, and DR, for the Fish Creek Complex Gather, please submit your request in writing to Shawna Richardson, Wild Horse and Burro Specialist.

If you would like to provide comments, issues, alternatives, or other input for inclusion into the Gather Plan/EA, please make your submissions in writing to be received in this office by May 15, 2006.

For more information, please contact Shawna Richardson of my staff at 775-635-4181.

Sincerely,

Douglas W. Furtado Assistant Field Manager

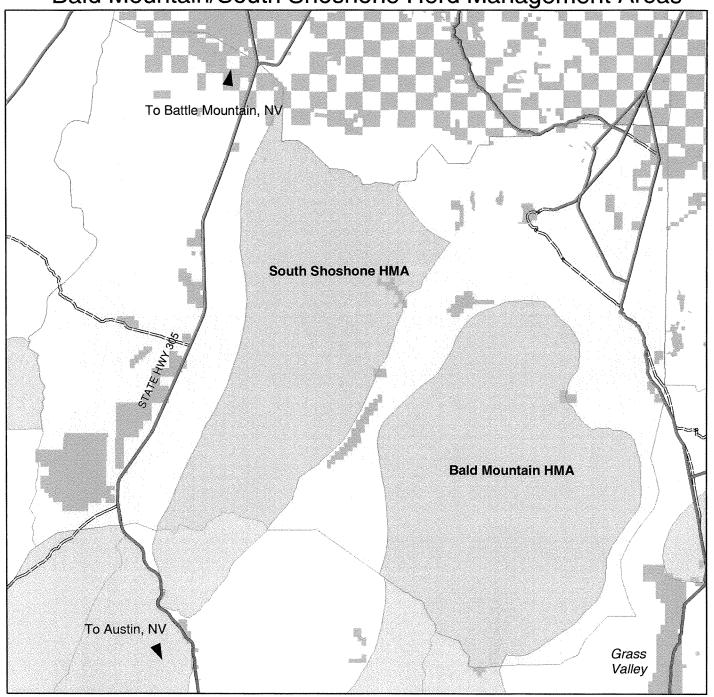
Renewable Resources

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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR BUDGET AND PLANNING DIVISION

## Bald Mountain/South Shoshone Herd Management Areas





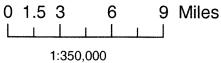
United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Land Management Battle Mountain Field Office

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