

BOB MILLER
Governor

STATE OF NEVADA

4/21/97
✓
CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director



COMMISSION FOR THE
PRESERVATION OF WILD HORSES

1105 Terminal Way
Suite 209

Reno, Nevada 89502
(702) 688-2626

April 21, 1997

Ms. Fran Hull
Carson City District
Bureau of Land Management
1535 Hot Springs Road
Carson City, Nevada 89706-0638

Subject: Off Road Races - Carson District

Dear Ms. Hull:

Thank you for consulting the Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses concerning planned races this spring and summer. One of the scheduled races is within the Horse Mountain Wild Horse Management Area.

Concerns for this herd area are moot. During the drought in the early 1990's, the Horse Mountain Wild Horse Herd was eliminated.

We encourage the District to amend its land use plan to dissolve this herd area. It is our fear that in the future, the Bureau of Land Management will dispose of unadoptable horses into this herd area. The herd had sought water outside its area; therefore, the area is not suitable to sustain a viable herd. It would be unfortunate and not cost effective to re-establish a herd in a non-functional herd area.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Catherine Barcomb".

CATHERINE BARCOMB
Executive Director

9/29/92



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

NEVADA STATE OFFICE
850 Harvard Way
P.O. Box 12000
Reno, Nevada 89520-0006

IN REPLY REFER TO:

4700
(NV-03480)

SEP 29 1992

Ms. Catherine Barcomb
Commission for the Preservation of Wild Horses
Stewart Facility, Capitol Complex
Carson City, Nevada 89701

Dear Ms. Barcomb:

This is in response to your letter of September 2, 1992, commenting on the emergency wild horse removal conducted in the Horse Mountain Herd Management Area (HMA) this past July. As you stated in your letter, immediate action was necessary to prevent these horses from dying due to dehydration. While all but five horses have been removed, we plan on releasing additional horses into the HMA when dependable water is available.

The boundary of the HMA has been the subject of confusion by others in the past primarily due to their misunderstanding regarding land ownership and natural water availability.

The only natural source of water within the Horse Mountain Allotment is a hot geothermal spring east of Highway 95 which is outside of the HMA and has been fenced for public safety. Furthermore, there is no naturally occurring water within either the Desert Mountain or Cleaver Peak Allotments which are adjacent to the Horse Mountain Allotment. Historically, the horses have always relied on the TCID drainage ditch for water during the spring and summer months. This ditch is located totally on lands not administered by the BLM and is approximately 2 miles north of the HMA. With the exception of the geothermal spring, there is no natural water occurring on public lands in the entire area.

There are several wells which are controlled by the permittee and pumped during the winter months for livestock. We have approached the owner in the past with regard to entering into a cooperative agreement to provide water during the summer months, however, he has not been interested in doing so.

Although the TCID drainage ditch has provided dependable water for more than 20 years, the extended drought has now affected the entire water supply and irrigation system in the Lahontan Valley. However, the Carson City District is planning to take a closer look at the Horse Mountain HMA this winter to see if alternative water sources are feasible and can be developed.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Billy R. Templeton".

Billy R. Templeton
State Director, Nevada

