

5/29/85

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United States Department of the Interior

IN REPLY REFER TO:

4700
(NV-033)

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
CARSON CITY DISTRICT OFFICE
1050 E. William St., Suite 335
Carson City, Nevada 89701

MAY 29 1985

Ms. Dawn Y. Lappin, Director
Wild Horse Organized Assistance
P.O. Box 555
Reno, Nevada 89504

Dear Mrs. Lappin:

I am replying to your letter dated May 2, 1985, which contained comments concerning the Draft Flanigan-Fort Sage Wild Horse Removal Plan and Environmental Assessment.

First, the reason Carson City District entitles Wild Horse Removal Plans as removal plans and not gather plans is because the Washington Office Wild Horse and Burro Program Guidance (Instruction Memorandum No. 83-289, Change 2, dated August 29, 1983) refers to removal plans.

Numbers of Wild Horses III

There are many possible reasons why the actual numbers of horses removed from the herd areas mentioned were different than BLM's estimates. However, until further studies can pinpoint the reason, Carson City will in the future use only actual counts for purposes of removal plans and removal contracts.

Claiming IV

The occurrence of trespass animals will be determined during the capture operations and appropriate action will be taken. We will provide you with this information following the removal and upon your request.

Capture Operations V

Limitations on the distance wild horses can be brought to a trap depends on a variety of factors and cannot be specified in a removal plan. The topography, rate-of-movement, temperature, etc., all influence the distance wild horses can be brought. However, these factors cannot be foreseen prior to the actual removal operations. Therefore, the BLM employee on site must judge these factors and the condition of the animals upon trapping. If the employee sees a problem, he will bring the matter to the attention of the contractor for correction.

Roping is kept to a minimum in most circumstances, however, in areas planned for total removal, roping is necessary. Once a horse has spilled from a trap, he has realized that a trap exists and that he can escape under the helicopter. The animal can no longer be herded with the helicopter. In a total removal area, the only alternative is to rope these spilled horses.

Responsibility VII

The Nevada State Office Contracting Specialist has developed a new "Basis for Payment" (enclosed) which addresses your concern about delivery of live animals.

As mentioned above, the BLM employee on site can determine from the condition of the animals if they were brought in too fast or too far.

Destruction VIII

During the capture operation, an animal may become seriously injured and must be destroyed as an act of mercy. Should this be necessary, the animal will be destroyed with a large caliber rifle.

Safety X

As mentioned above, roping is sometimes necessary.

Temperature

There is a specification (l.,c.) regarding temperature in the enclosed Invitation for Bid.

Assessment

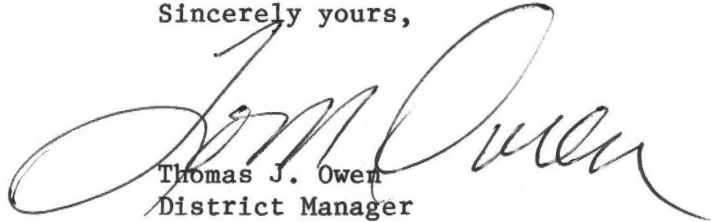
Any collared horses captured at Flanigan will be released to remain in the herd area.

In reference to "primarily grazed by wild horses," the Carson City District has conducted utilization studies in areas of the Flanigan Herd Area prior to livestock turnout. Therefore, documentation does exist.

The Flanigan Herd Area is scheduled for a census on June 6, 1985. The census results shall be available the week of June 10th. You may contact Mike Phillips, Lahontan Area Manager, for the results that week. Enclosed

is an Invitation for Bid (IFB) for the Garfield Flat Wild Horse Removal.
The specifications contained in this IFB are very similar to those proposed
for the Flanigan-Ft. Sage Wild Horse Removal.

Sincerely yours,



Thomas J. Owen
District Manager

Enclosures:

Sample Basis for Payment
Garfield Flat Wild Horse Removal IFB

cc:

State Director, Nevada (NV-930) without/enclosures

5/29/85
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(NV-033)

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*Condition
FY76*

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~~7s7~~ THOMAS J. OWEN

Thomas J. Owen
District Manager

Enclosures:

Sample Basis for Payment
Garfield Flat Wild Horse Removal IFB

cc:

State Director, Nevada (NV-930) without/enclosures

TRewsat:sd:05/28/85

SAMPLE

BASIS FOR PAYMENT

1. Payment shall be made for Schedule Items No. 1a and 2a at the Unit Price shown on the Bid Schedule for the number of animals captured by helicopter trapping which have been 1) delivered live to Palomino Valley, (Reno), Nevada or, 2) killed or destroyed at the Government's direction) without any fault or negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees. The contractor shall not be entitled to payment for any animals which are killed or destroyed due to the fault or negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees.
2. Payment shall be made for Schedule Items No. 1b and 2b at the Unit Price shown on the Bid Schedule for the feeding and care of those animals which have been 1) delivered live to Palomino Valley, (Reno), Nevada or, 2) killed or destroyed (at the Government's direction) without any fault or negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees. The contractor shall not be entitled to payment for any animals which are killed or destroyed due to the fault or negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees.
3. Payment shall be made for Schedule Items No. 1c and 2c at the Unit Price shown on the Bid Schedule for those animals which have been transported and 1) delivered live to Palomino Valley, (Reno), Nevada or, 2) killed or destroyed (at the Government's direction) without any fault or negligence of the contractor or his employees. The contractor shall not be entitled to payment for any animal which is killed or destroyed due to the fault or negligence on the part of the contractor or his employees.
4. Payment shall be made for Schedule Items No. 1d and 2d based on each flying hour ordered and received (to the nearest 1/10) at the Unit Price shown on the Bid Schedule.