# United States Department of the Interior 

## BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Ely District Office
Star Route 5, Box 1
Ely, Nevada 89301
JUL 011985
Memorandum
To: Monte Cristo File
From: Bob Brown, Wild Horse Specialist
Subject: Census of Monte Cristo Wild Horse Herd
On May 28 and 29, 1985, Wayne Swenson, Supervisory Range Conservationist for the Humboldt National Forest - Ely Ranger District, and I conducted an aerial census of the Monte Crista Wild Horse Herd Area. A Bell 47G3 B-2 helicopter from El Aero Services was used to conduct the census. Jack Fulton was the pilot.

The weather for both days was clear and hot with some winds, especially near the mountains. Visibility was excellent both days.

Transects were generally in a north-south direction with some transects in an east-west direction due to topography. Total flight time was 8.8 hours. The census was intended to be as complete a count as possible to establish numbers to be gathered this summer under the Tonopah-Egan Wild Horse Removal Contract.

Only 3 of 14 collared horses in the area were counted and it is felt that a considerable number of horses may have been missed on the census. The hot dry conditions and dense pinyon juniper cover on the west slope of the White Pine Range most likely contributed to an incomplete count.

A breakdown of horses counted by general location follows:
North Pancake Range

19 adults 2 colts
South Newark Valley
37 adults 5 colts
Buster Mountain - Hamilton
11 adults $\quad 3$ colts
North Railroad Valley
11 adults $\quad 4$ colts

Sub Total: 21

Sub Total: 42

Sub Total: 14

Sub Total: 15

Freeland Canyon/Mustang Spring

58 adults 11 colts
Blackrock Canyon/Vanover Spring 75 adults 17 colts

Census Total
211 adults
42 colts

Sub Total: 69

Sub Total: 92

Total: 253

The enclosed map shows the individual bands counted by specific location and adults/colts counted in each bands.



